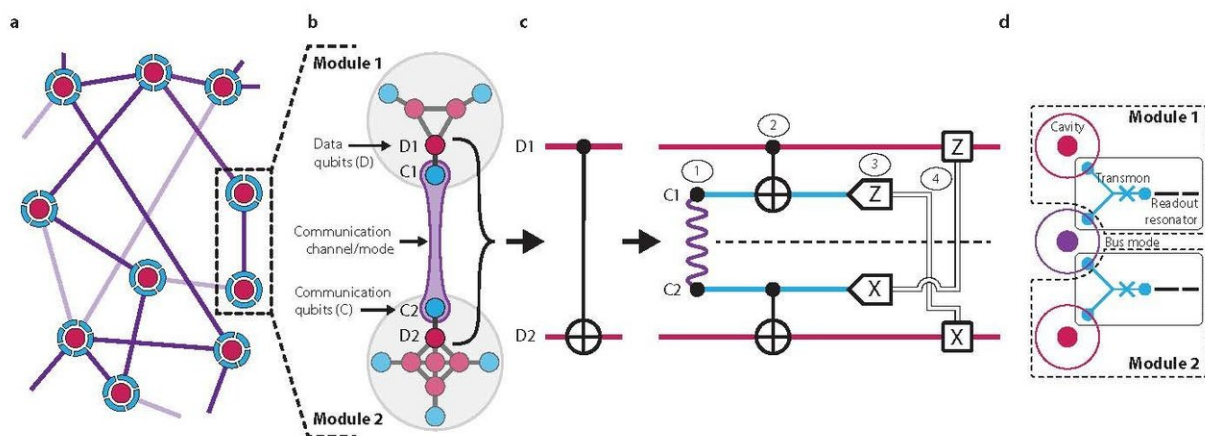


Best of Last Week – Teleporting a quantum gate, a mini space elevator and problems with jet-air hand dryers

September 10 2018, by Bob Yirka



Network overview of the modular quantum architecture demonstrated in the new study. Credit: Yale University

It was another good week for physics as a team with members from the University of Queensland and the NÉEL Institute found [quantum weirdness in the 'chicken or egg' paradox](#)—suggesting they could both come first. And a group at Yale University ['teleported' a quantum gate](#)—a key step in the development of a useable quantum computer.

In space news, a team at Shizuoka University announced that they had

set in motion plans [to a test a mini 'space elevator'](#)—it will consist of a box just six centimeters long moving along a 10-meter cable held in place between two orbiting satellites. And a team at the University of Central Florida [suggested that Pluto should be reclassified as a planet](#) because the standard for classifying planets is not supported in the research literature.

In other news, an international team of researchers found that [large wind and solar farms in the Sahara would increase heat, rain and vegetation](#)—which they suggest would likely benefit the area. And a team with members from the U.S. Geological Survey, Oregon State University and the University of Canterbury found that [new imagery solved the mystery of why Mount St. Helens is out of line with other volcanoes](#)—a giant subsurface rock formation has forced the volcano out of line with the Cascade Arc. Also, a team at Wake Forest School of Medicine found that ['mindful people' feel less pain](#)—their study involved using MRI imaging to pinpoint brain activity in people. And a team with members from several institutions in the U.S. and one in the U.K. found that [ancient farmers spared us from glaciers but profoundly changed Earth's climate](#). They found evidence suggesting that early farming practices caused the planet to warm. And officials at Dulles airport revealed plans for installing [two new kinds of face recognition systems, touting them as user friendly systems for airports](#).

And finally, if you have occasion to stay in or visit someone at a hospital any time soon, you might want to rethink how you dry your hands as an international team of researchers found that [jet-air dryers should not be used in hospital toilets](#)—they lead to the spread of more germs than paper towels.

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