The background of the slide is a photograph of a particle accelerator's internal components, showing various metal structures, cables, and a large cylindrical component. The lighting is dim, with some blue and green highlights.

# What can a particle accelerator do for industry? Consulting Academia as a Business Model.

Dr. rer. nat. Gerd Datzmann MBA

Founder & Managing director  
Datzmann interact & innovate GmbH

Hidden topic:

# “Technology Transfer”

## My Passion

Particle accelerators and  
their applications in  
industry and society

## My Expertise

Unique material  
characterization  
Proton therapy  
Radiation hardness testing

## My Mission

Bridging the gap  
between science and  
industry and enforcing  
technology transfer &  
innovation

# Agenda

- Entrepreneurship as a career path
- What can a particle accelerator do for us?
- Selling Products vs. Selling Service
- My personal story
- How to start your business?

# Entrepreneurship as a Career Path

# Career path for a Scientist

~~1990's~~ 2020's

Academic career

Career in industry

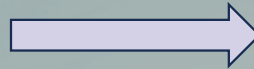
Start-up  
Spin-off

You have a 3. option



# Start-up versus Spin-off

Everybody can launch  
a start-up!



You just need:

- Business idea
- Start a venture

Spin-off is a  
subcategory



You develop an idea  
at a university / institute  
Based on this, you start a  
venture outside of academia



Both considered to be  
Technology Transfer Activities

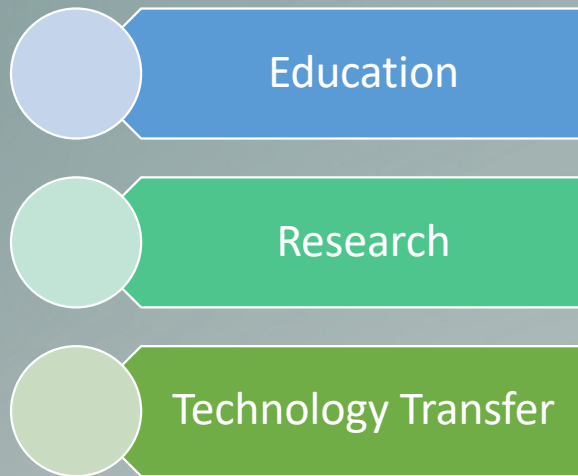
# Technology transfer activities

## Study on **University – Business Cooperation:**

Area	Activity
<b>Education</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. curriculum co-design</li> <li>2. curriculum co-delivery (e.g. guest lectures)</li> <li>3. mobility of students (i.e. student internships/placements)</li> <li>4. dual education programmes (i.e. part theory, part practical)</li> <li>5. lifelong learning for people from business (e.g. executive education, industry training and professional courses)</li> </ol>
<b>Research</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. joint R&amp;D (incl. joint funded research)</li> <li>7. consulting to business (incl. contract research)</li> <li>8. mobility of professionals (i.e. temporary mobility of academics to business and vice versa)</li> </ol>
<b>Valorisation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. commercialisation of R&amp;D results (e.g. licencing/patenting)</li> <li>10. academic entrepreneurship (e.g. spin offs)</li> <li>11. student entrepreneurship (e.g. start-ups)</li> </ol>
<b>Management</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12. governance (e.g. participation of academics on business boards and businesspeople participation in university board)</li> <li>13. shared resources (e.g. infrastructure, personnel, equipment)</li> <li>14. industry support (e.g. endowments, sponsorship and scholarships)</li> </ol>

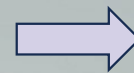
Quelle: Galan-Muros et al.

# Pillars of Academia



## 3. pillars of Academia

Pushed by governmental and  
academic institutions



Funding programs and  
support activities



# Products for Research

**50 years ago:  
Scientists built everything on their own**

Hard- and Software:

- Magnets
- Power supplies
- Vacuum components
- Electronics
- Detectors
- Software (simulation, control systems etc.)
- ...

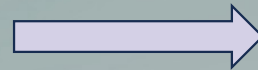
**Today:  
Academia buys from  
commercial suppliers**

# Motivation for Outsourcing

Not inventing the wheel again

Lack of own resources and time

Speeding up your research



Using the expertise and the workforce of professional suppliers

Potential benefits:

- Companies can be faster
- Products off-the-shelf (cheaper?)
- Custom-tailored products
- Companies are a reliable
- Documentation
- Maintenance
- Lifelong support
- Warranty

# Selling Products to Academia



Europe's Big Science organisations' future investments and procurements worth **37 billion euros** (2022 – 2026)



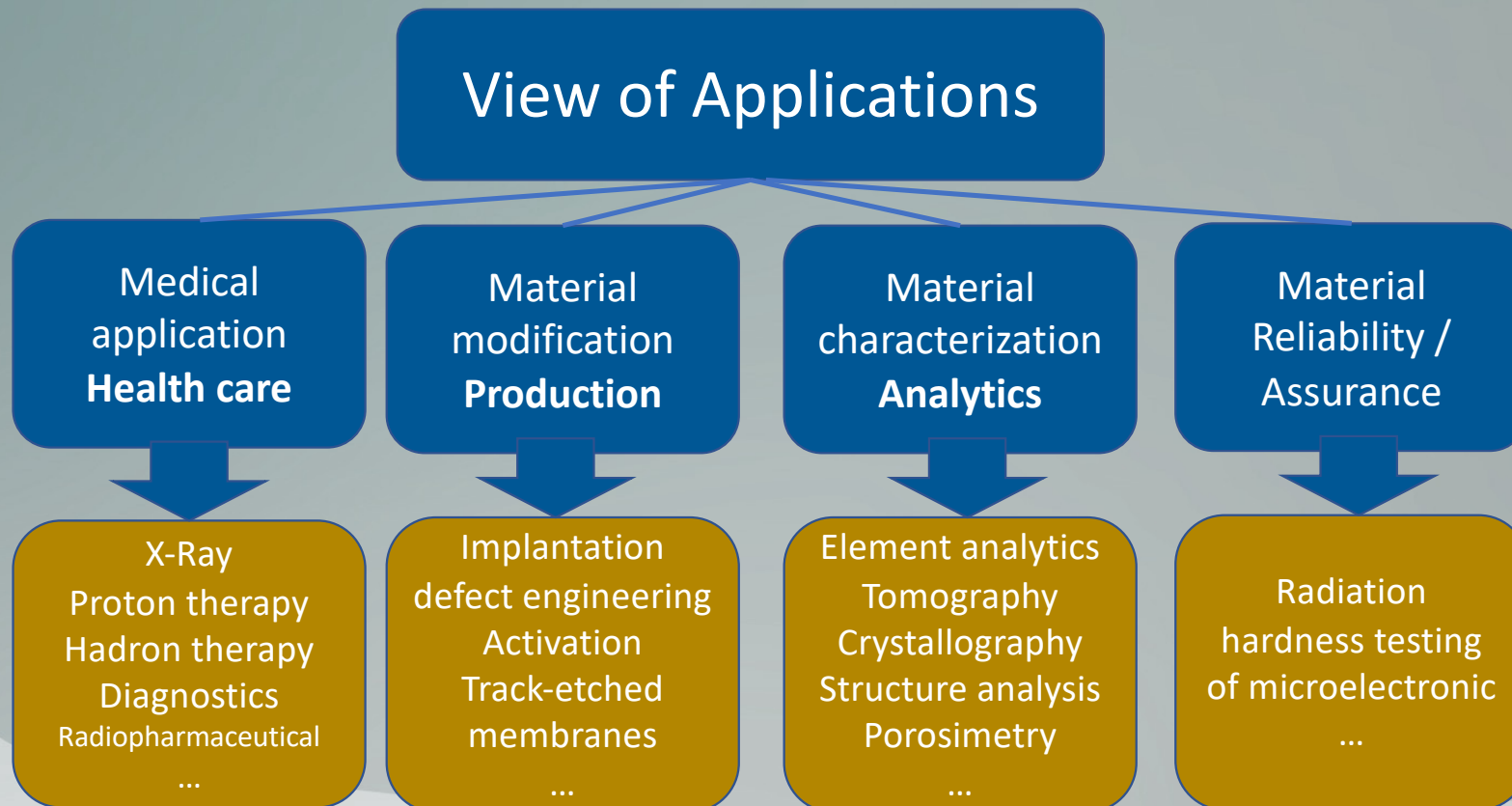
**Hardware  
Software**

# What can a Particle Accelerator do for Industry and Society?



Many of these companies are spin-offs from Academia

# What can a Particle Accelerator do for Industry and Society?

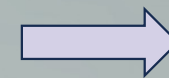


Selling services not products?  
-  
Consulting Academia



# Barriers for offering Products

- Challenge to transfer from prototype to “mass”-production
- Is the demand from the market large enough (niche product)
- **Potentially high investments costs**



Need for external funding



High financial risk

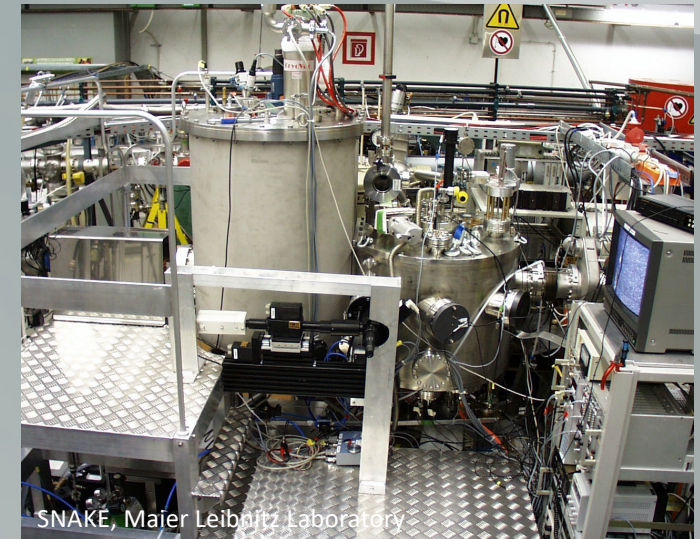
# My Personal Story

How did I become a Consultant for Academia?

By chance!

“Standard” career path:

- PhD in physics
  - Building an ion microprobe for material analysis and radiobiology
- Left university
- Worked at company building a Proton Therapy Center



# My Personal Story

How did I become a Consultant for Academia?

University professor approached me  
(supervisor of my PhD)

## The Project:

Built new experimental setup for  
novel research capabilities

Motivation to outsource:

- Did not have the specific knowledge
- He knew, my PT expertise was a fit
- No personal resources in his team
- Not suited for a student
- Lack of time

Not inventing the  
wheel again

Lack of own  
resources and time

Speeding up research

# Selling Services to Academia

## Why did it work?



### The Rationale:

- Low financial risk
- First customer
- Topic was interesting
- My expertise was a good fit
- Trustful relationship
- Large project

2016: I founded  
within one month



Most time consuming:  
Select name of company

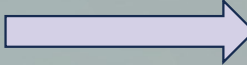
# Selling Services to Academia

## Feasibility study

- Technical project study for a proton booster at an existing particle accelerator
- To be used for research in the field of radiobiology

## Cost estimation study

- What does it cost to build up a new Accelerator laboratory dedicated for materials research and medicine, **from scratch?**



It is a  
collaboration

## My tasks:

- Discuss with stakeholder / experts (scientist, industry, constr. engineers...)
- Read papers
- Travel to accelerator facilities, companies
- Organize workshops
- Produce CAD drawings
- Co-supervise PhD candidate
- Write Reports





My Engagement in  
Technology Transfer Activities  
BMBF study



# Technology Transfer

## BMBF Study

Research on matter at large-scale facilities.  
Focus on material characterization with ion  
beam and nuclear probes

BMBF funded study in the framework  
of ErUM, (2019-2022) in cooperation  
with Universität der Bundeswehr  
München



Funding for Technology transfer activity

Phase 1:

- Study on status of cooperation between university groups (KFSI) and industrial users

Phase 2:

- Identifying the relevance of services for industry

Phase 3:

- Trial of proactive measures to attract potential industrial customers

Accelerator physicist  
MBA degree

# Phase 2 and 3

Selecting on characterization method:

Potential interest for industry

**Service: Porosimetry for Membranes with Positrons**

Developing a business plan

Advertising at EuroMembrane conference

- Scientific conference with **industry engagement**
- 4-day conference Nov. 2021
- Talk by Marcel Dickmann on the method

Booth for 4 days:

- **20+** people showed interest in the method
- Thereof, **9 companies**



# Outcome and Impact

- 2022 Chair of the 1. Technology transfer session at KFSI Ionenstrahltreffen
- 2022 Chair of the technology transfer session at SNI conference (Berlin)

## My motivation:

- Report on the TT Study
- Show technology transfer activities with accelerators
- Highlight Spin-off companies
- Motivate **young scientist** for this career path

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND TRANSFER			
Time	Place	Presenter	Title
Tue 10:45-11:00	Hörsaal 2	Thomas SHEPPARD	<a href="#">New Horizons for Catalyst Characterisation using Hard X-ray Tomography</a>
Tue 11:00-11:15	Hörsaal 2	Arnold MÜLLER	<a href="#">The Ionplus AG – An example of commercializing new innovations in ion beam technologies</a>
Tue 11:15-11:30	Hörsaal 2	Sophie BOUAT	<a href="#">What do large-scale facilities bring to industry?</a>
Tue 11:30-11:45	Hörsaal 2	Simon JACQUES	<a href="#">Lubricating Industrial Science</a>
Tue 11:45-12:00	Hörsaal 2	Alberto DEGIOVANNI	<a href="#">High frequency linacs for proton therapy: the journey from conception to industrialization</a>
Tue 12:00-12:15	Hörsaal 2	Ralph GILLES	<a href="#">Neutrons are a perfect tool to study in-situ and/or operando industrially relevant topics for innovation and transfer, e.g. electromobility and gas turbines</a>

Manufacturer (company)

Intermediary (company)

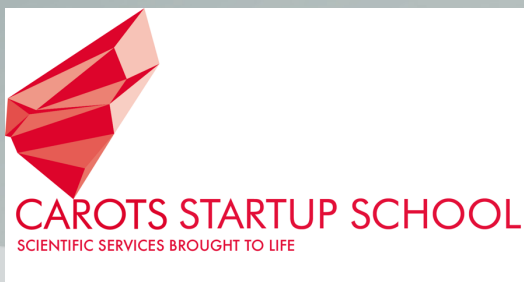
Technology Transfer office



# Outcome and Impact

A lot of technology transfer discussions with the “Projekträger DESY”

- Actionplan: BMBF-Transfer (2023)
  
- 2021: I was mentor and lecturer at





# My Engagement in Technology Transfer Activities Radiation hardness testing

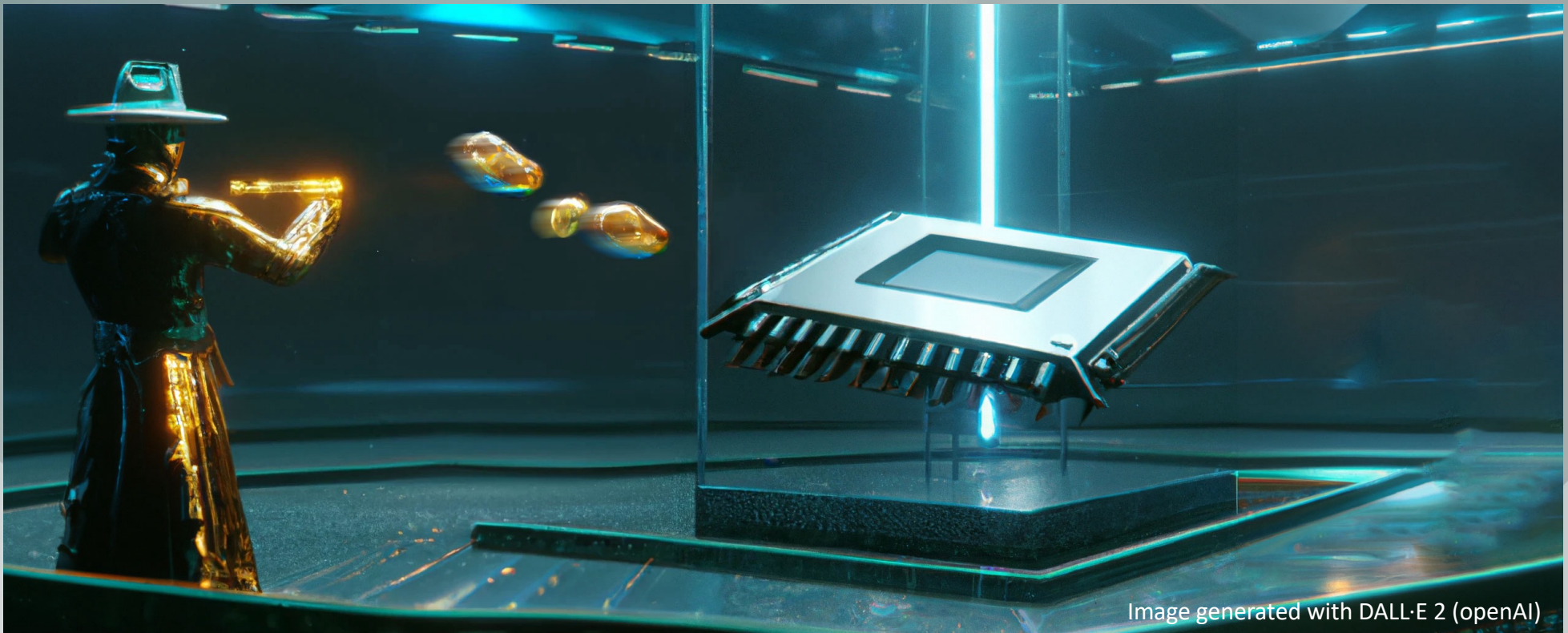
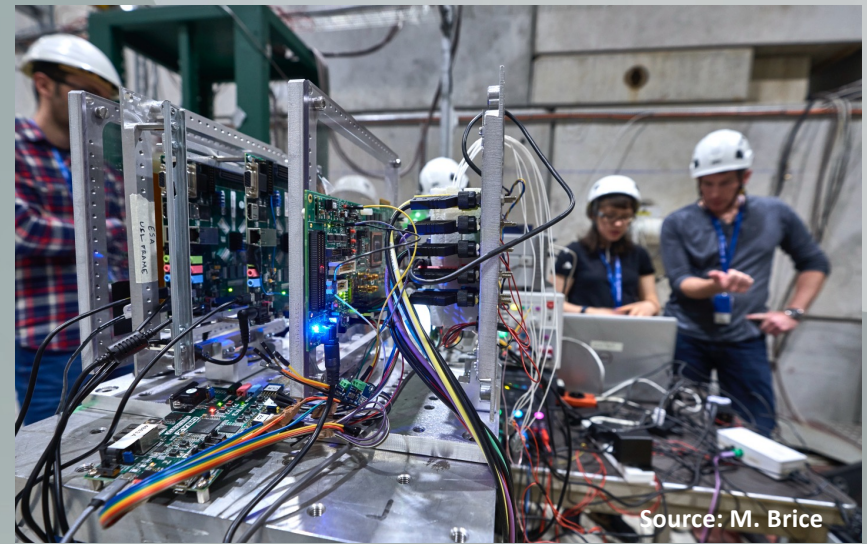


Image generated with DALL-E 2 (openAI)

# Radiation Hardness Testing

- EMBA study program
- Need a Master Thesis
- Approach ESRF
- Big survey



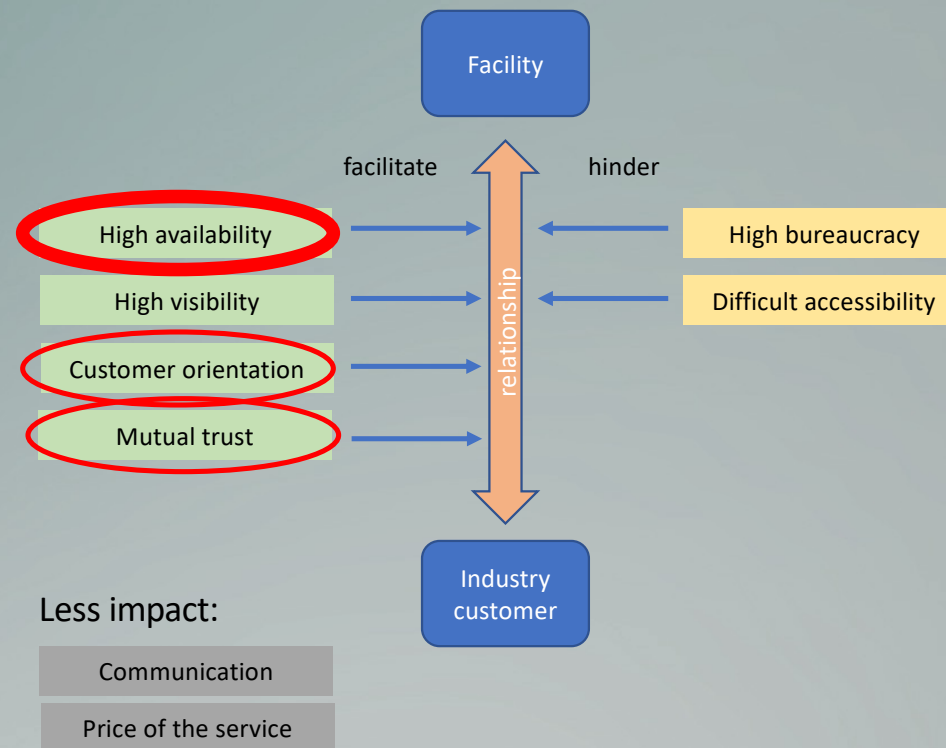
Expert-Interviews with stakeholders from	facilities	customers
Facilities / customers interviewed	15	9
Interviews conducted	22	11
Average length of recorded interviews	50 min.	50 min.

**Success factors and barriers in university-  
industry cooperation:**

**Case study of radiation hardness testing  
services for microelectronic devices**



# Influencing factors for successful relationship



# In a Nutshell

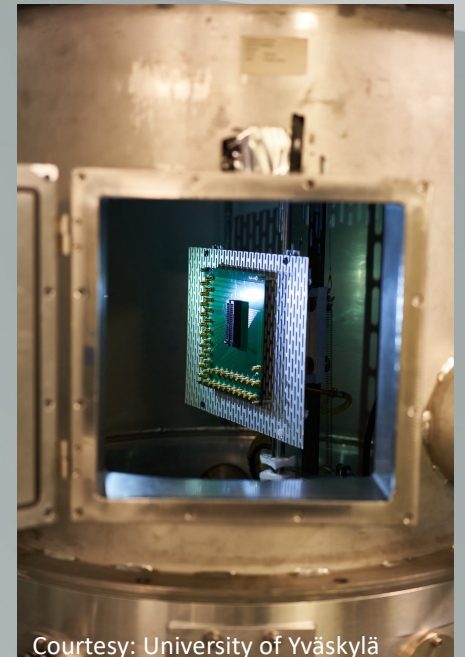
The key to successful relationship **facility – customer**

**Creating availability** for the service  
**Willingness to fill** it with industry customers

Facility needs an **intrinsic motivation**

## Challenges:

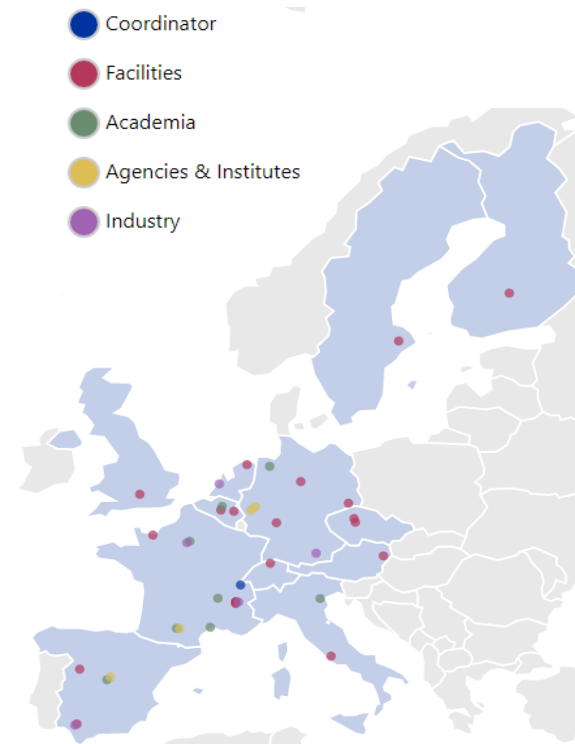
- The demand for tests is growing (New space, functional safety, etc.)
- The supply for beamtime is not a free market



Courtesy: University of Yväskylä

## EU-facility infrastructure project

- Master Thesis was my “passkey”
- Jan. 2020 contribute to proposal preparation
- Nov. 2020 RADNEXT approved
- RANDEXT Start June 2021



### Coordinator:



- **21 irradiation facilities**
- **8 academic partners** and 9 academic supporters
- **4 agencies and research institutes**
- **5 industrial partners** and over 20 industry supporters



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No **101008126**

# My engagement in RADNEXT



## Study on best practices:

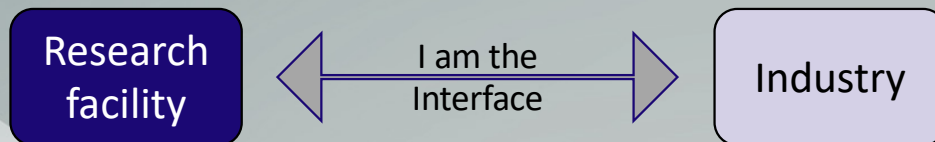
- Goal to improve the service
- Develop a training program

- Build the link to industry
- Organize workshops dedicated for industry
- Represent / Promote RADNEXT at Conferences (Booths, talks)
- Facility survey and database
- General outreach and dissemination

# Outcome and Impact

With regards to the program:

- Matching needs from industry with facility offer
- Create more availability for testing services
- Beamtime at facilities for free (funded by EU)
- Support newcomers (Start-ups) from industry
- Connect the community (facilities, users, academics, agencies)
- European non-dependance and competitiveness



My company

- I gained a lot of visibility
- Met stakeholders in the field (conf.)
- Learned a lot about the field



**New customers**

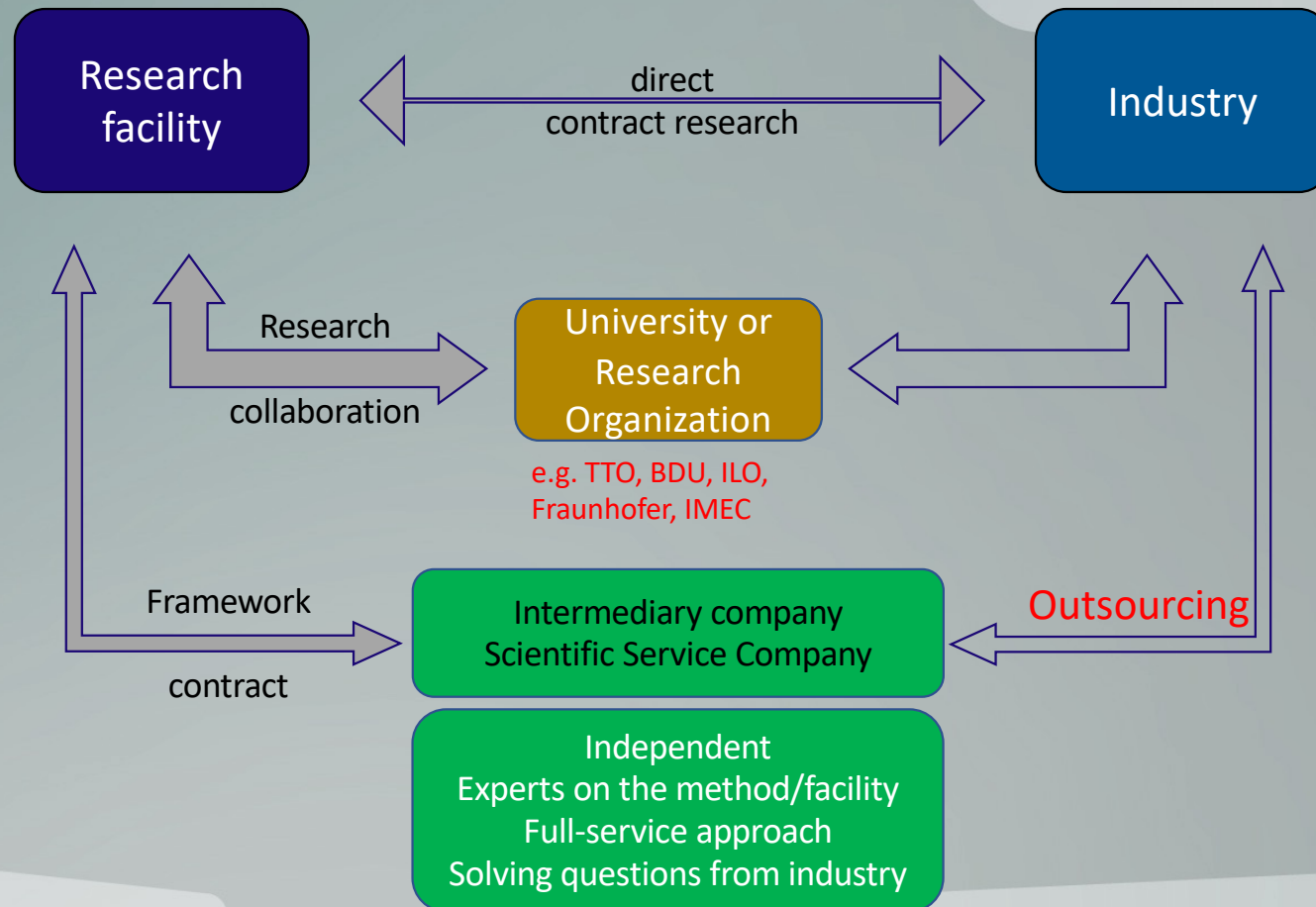
Topics

- Consulting facilities
- Developing business models

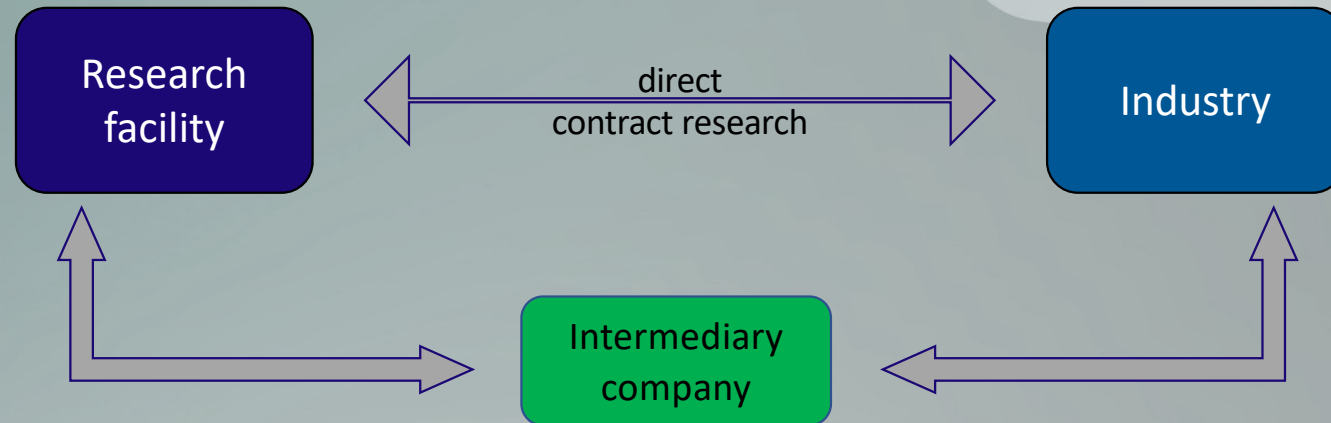
# Intermediary Companies Scientific Service Companies



# Material Characterization as a Service



# Material Characterization as a Service



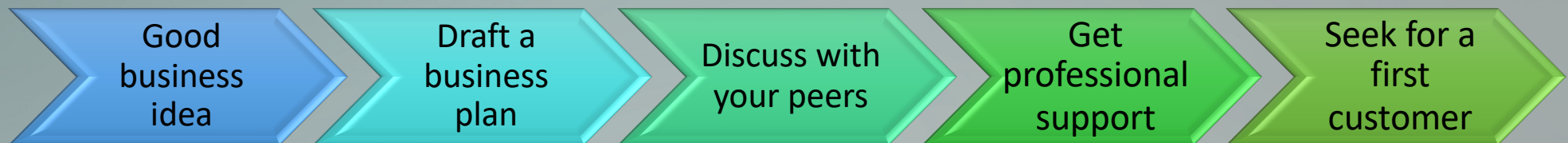
Intermediary Companies in the framework of

Synchrotron X-rays facilities

Radiation hardness testing

# How to start your business?

# The First Steps



# 4 P's in Marketing

Product /  
Service

Price

Place

Promotion

# Develop your Business Plan

## Shaping your business idea

- What is your expertise?
- What is your Unique Selling Proposition (USP)?
- What is your Intellectual Property?
- What resources do you need?
- How do you acquire your customers?
- What kind of competition do you have?
- Why should your client contract you?
- How can you position yourself as an expert?
- ...

Start with a business model canvas

Perform a SWOT Analysis

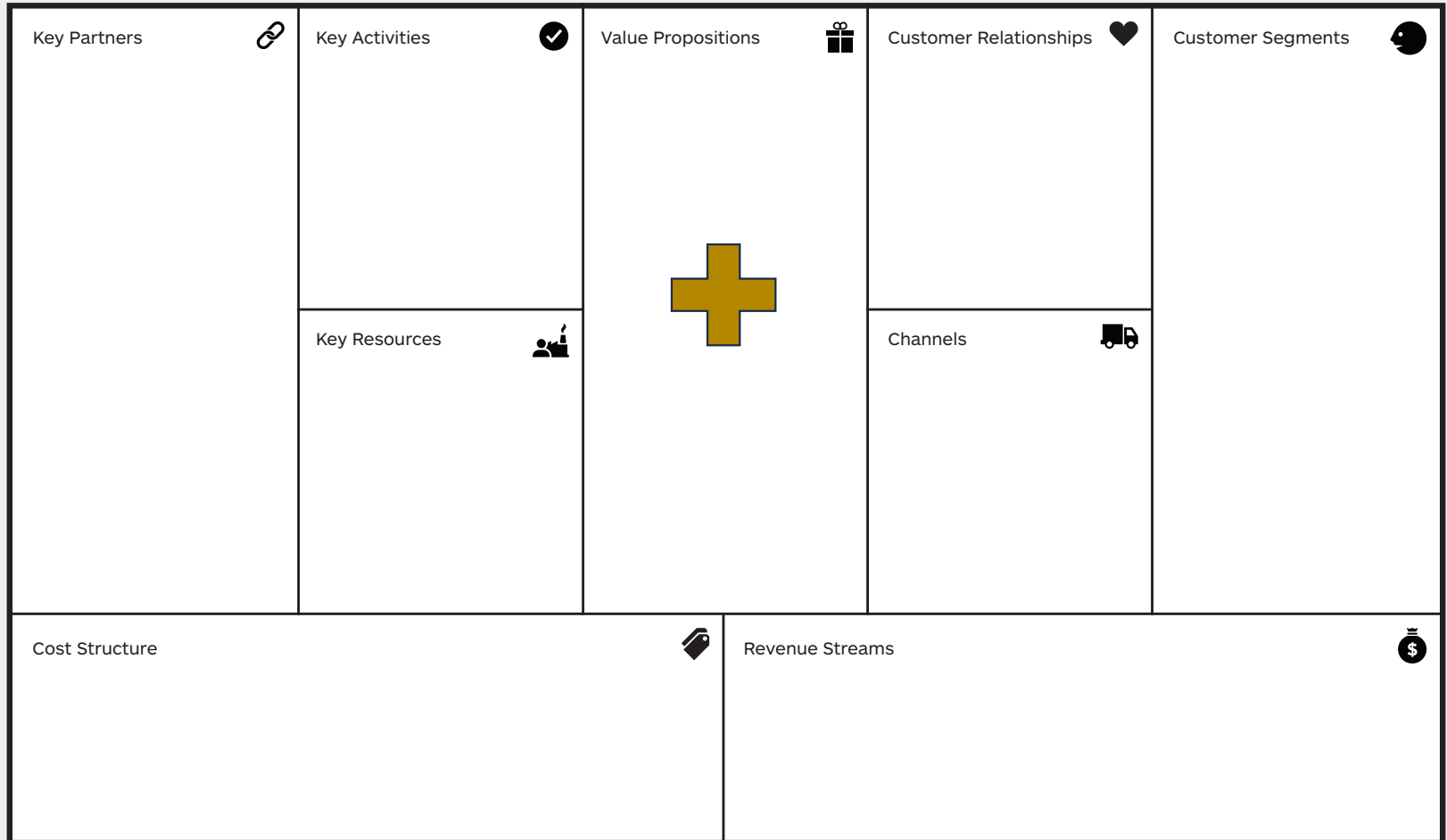
# The Business Model Canvas

Designed for:

Designed by:

Date:

Version:



Discuss with your peers

Pitch your ideas (Sell yourself)

Do interviews with stakeholders

16.04.2024

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DESIGNED BY: Strategyzer AG  
The makers of Business Model Generation and Strategyzer

Dr. Gerd Datzmann

Strategyzer  
strategyzer.com



# Focus your Offer

- In case you have more than one value proposition
- Fill a canvas for each proposition
- Evaluate the best option
- Focus on this option

Don't try to be a  
"general store"  
"Gemischtwarenladen"

Start with a simple and easy  
service provision

# SWOT analysis

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

# Support for You

- Attend Start-up schools
- Look for mentors
- Get support from your university / institution
  - Start-up consultancy
  - Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs),
  - Business Development Units (BDUs)
  - Industry Liaison Offices (ILOs)

Schools dedicated for scientists:

- HEPTrepreneurs Training School @GSI/FAIR
- DESY Start-up school
- CERN

# 4 P's in Marketing

Product /  
Service

Price

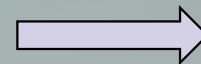
Place

Promotion /  
Sales

# Sales in the academic environment

## Channels:

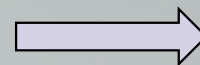
- Scientific conferences / workshops (select)
  - Oral presentations / Posters
  - Moderate or chair sessions
  - booth
  - Networking
  - Contacting (renowned) speakers
  - Conducting interviews or surveys (questionnaire)
- Social Media (**LinkedIn**, Research gate)
- Webinars
- Website (a colorful business card)
- Scientific publications
- Be part of associations, committees, platforms



Visibility is key



Thought leadership



Engage in the  
community (for free)

## Dare to START - UP

There is a huge potential!

There is lots of support!

There is plenty of funding options!

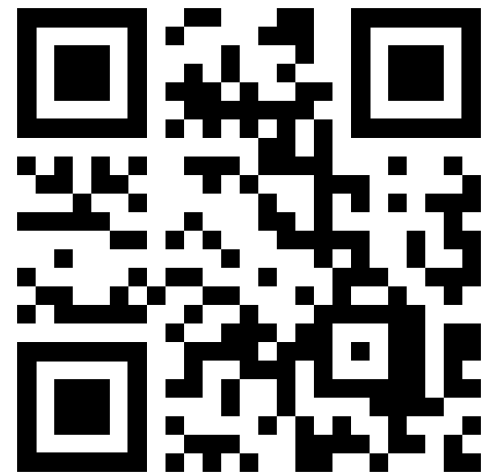
Black  
0% start-up

White  
100% start-up

There might be options to stay part-time at academia while starting a business



Thanks for your attention



[www.datzmann.eu](http://www.datzmann.eu)  
[contact@datzmann.eu](mailto:contact@datzmann.eu)