



IAPP Canada Symposium 2026

Privacy | AI governance | Cybersecurity law

Conference 4-5 May

Workshops 6 May

Training 6-7 May

TORONTO

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QUANTUM SHIFT: PRIVACY PERILS & PROMISES

A Family Perspective, on Star Wars Day



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WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS



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WHAT WE'LL COVER TODAY

- ✓ Why quantum computing is now on our profession's radar
- ✓ Quantum Computing 101
- ✓ Why quantum matters for people working in data protection
- ✓ Risks for privacy and digital trust
- ✓ Benefits of quantum for data protection
- ✓ Top tips to prepare
- ✓ What quantum does *not* change
- ✓ Helpful resources
- ✓ A few little Star Wars references (can't help it; it's in our DNA)

WHY QUANTUM IS ON THE RADAR: RULES OF THE GALAXY ARE CHANGING

Three main reasons:

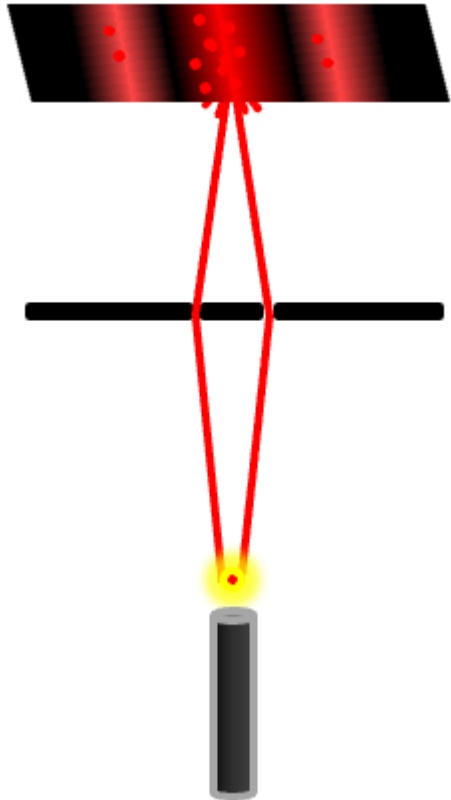
1. Quantum capability is advancing beyond theory, and the tech is becoming real: <5 years to Q-day
2. The sensitive information we're collecting and producing now will outlast today's encryption
3. Post-quantum standards are emerging



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QUANTUM COMPUTING FUNDAMENTALS: NO SCIENCE FICTION!



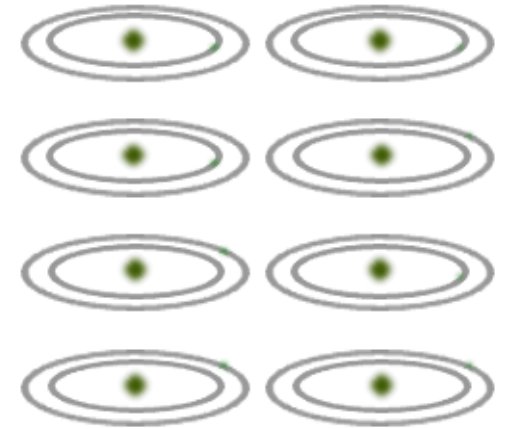
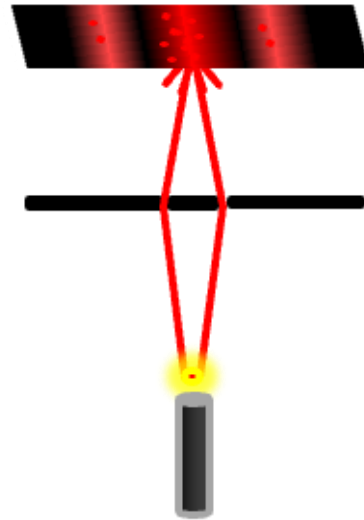
Fact 1: Everything is wavy in quantum mechanics

Fact 2: Mutually exclusive states can coexist



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QUANTUM COMPUTING FUNDAMENTALS: NO SCIENCE FICTION!



All the usual computing
we know and love

Interference and
superposition

Exponential growth

GOOD FOR DETECTING EXPONENTIALLY LONG PATTERNS



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WHY IT MATTERS: PROTECTING THE REPUBLIC

- There is **no privacy** in a digital world without secure cryptography
- Encryption protects confidentiality, identity and integrity
- If cryptography weakens, so do digital trust and safety

RISKS TO PRIVACY & DIGITAL TRUST: THE DARK SIDE



- Widely deployed public-key systems can fail at scale
- Encryption and digital signature protocols would be compromised
- Previously encrypted long-term data could become readable
- Global digital trust infrastructure depends on these systems
- The systematic impact would be profound
- This is a *known* vulnerability that cannot be understated

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BENEFITS FOR DATA PROTECTION: A NEW HOPE

- Cryptographic agility improves future-proofing
- Migration planning can modernize security architecture
- Proactive governance reinforces digital trust
- *Bonus:* Post-quantum cryptography strengthens long-term resilience – you don't need to trust your cloud

TIPS TO PREPARE: THE RESISTANCE STRATEGY

- Very simple in most cases
- Understand where encryption underpins your data protection program
- Monitor for reference implementations of post-cryptographic protocols and guidance
- Ensure your organizations migrate to them
- Migration should also apply retroactively
- Pressure vendors to get in line
- Strengthen data minimization and retention discipline

WHAT QUANTUM DOES NOT CHANGE

- Quantum will not revolutionize technology on the scale of AI - don't believe all the hype
- It remains a specialized capability
- Quantum does not change:
 - Privacy principles and obligations endure
 - Accountability, risk assessments, data minimization and governance remain essential
 - Episode 5 is still the best of the saga



HELPFUL RESOURCES TO STAY CURRENT

[NIST Post-Quantum Cryptography Resource Center](#)

[What makes quantum computers so hard to explain?](#)
[\[article\]](#) [\[video\]](#)

Major platform updates:

- i. [Google](#)
- ii. [Apple](#)
- iii. [AWS](#)

[Mandalorian and Grogu trailer](#)

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THANK YOU

STAR WARS DAY™
MAY THE 4TH®
BE WITH YOU

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How Did Things Go? (We Really Want To Know)

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Thank you!

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