

D-Wave “Quantum Computer“ in Time Magazine

February 15, 2013 (HP69). The “Time“ weekly published in the US, and having also a worldwide international edition, is a rather popular and influential magazine. In its February 17th, 2014, issue it published a popular article entitled “Quantum Leap” and devoted to the “Quantum annealing” computing machine developed and marketed by the company D-Wave of Burnaby, Vancouver, Canada. Both the effectiveness of the used computing approach and its very quantum nature are heavily disputed by many if not most respected researchers in quantum computing. Nevertheless, until present, five such machines of type D-1 and D-2 (128 and 512 qubits, respectively) were sold to customers such as Lockheed-Martin, NASA or Google. In our opinion, this popular article presents to lay readers rather aptly and fairly both the approach used in the D-Wave machines and the current controversy. As the machine uses superconducting embodiment of its “qubits”, and it happens very rarely that the popular press notices the existence and uses of superconductivity, we attract the attention of our readers to that “Time” article.