

Oliscience

project proposal and status report

by

Andrea Borga

andrea.borga@nikhef.nl

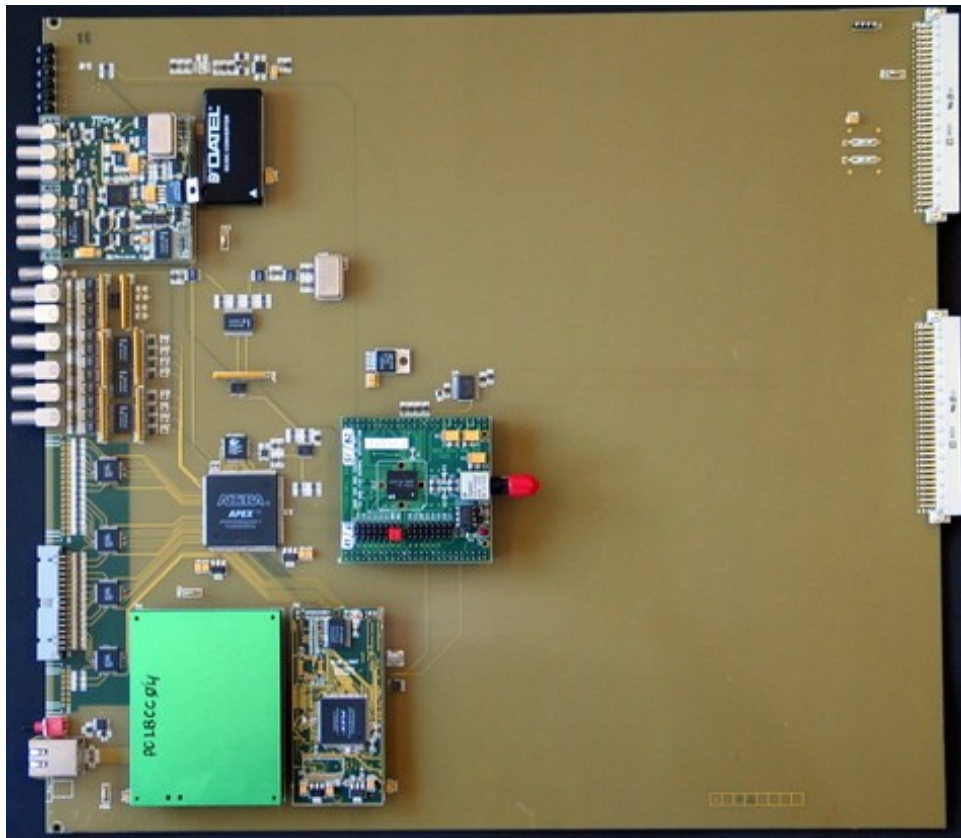
presently Electronics Technology department

Who am I

- In the engineering world most commonly known as a “Digital Designer” or... “the FPGA guy”

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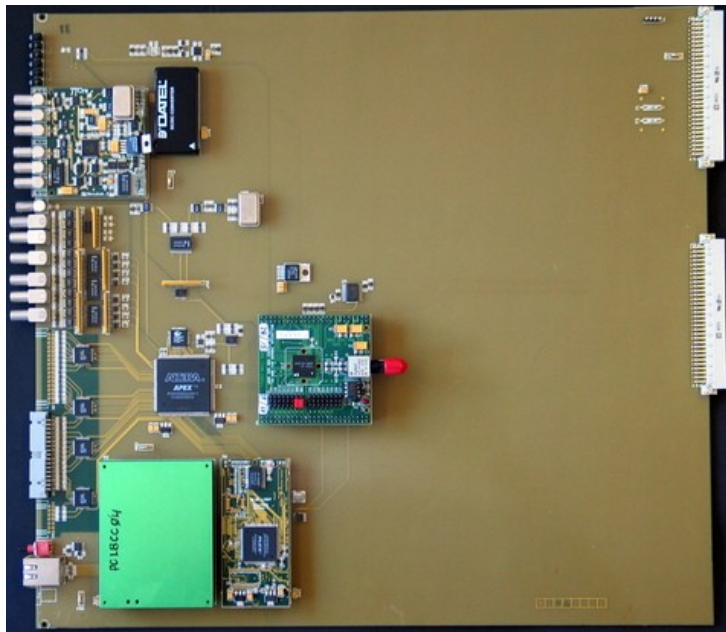
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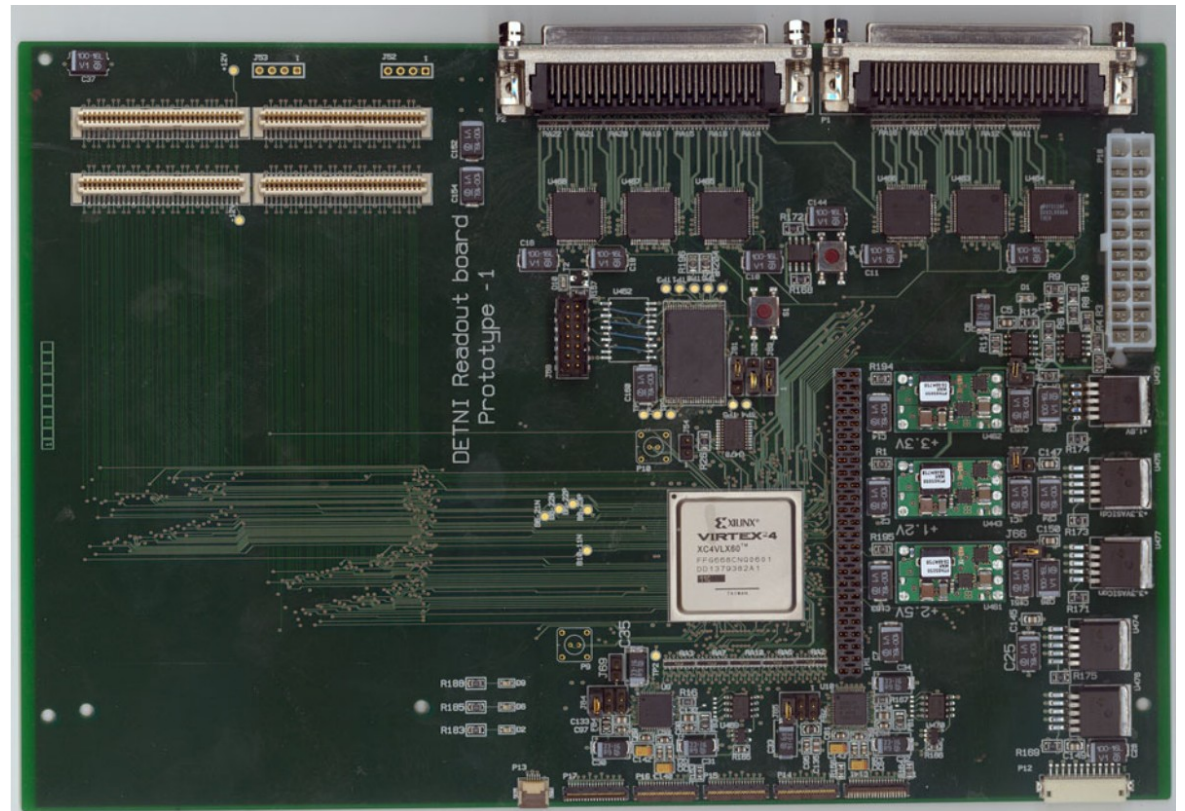
CERN – LHCb (2004)

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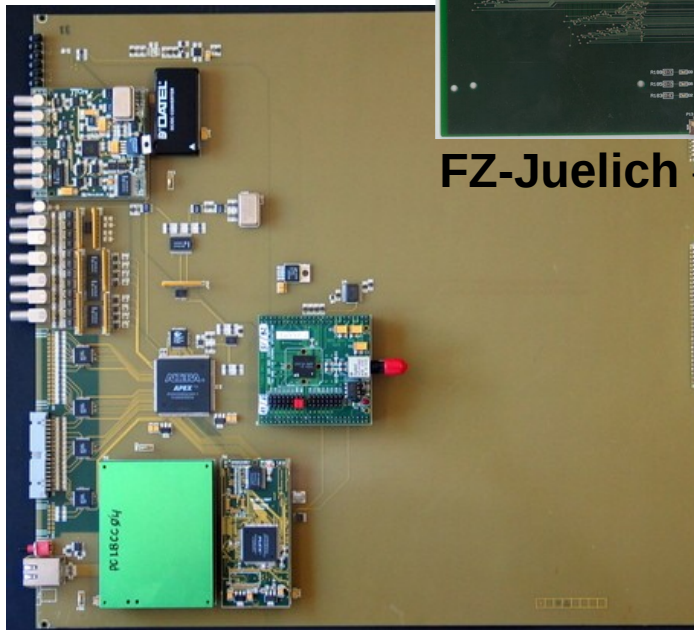
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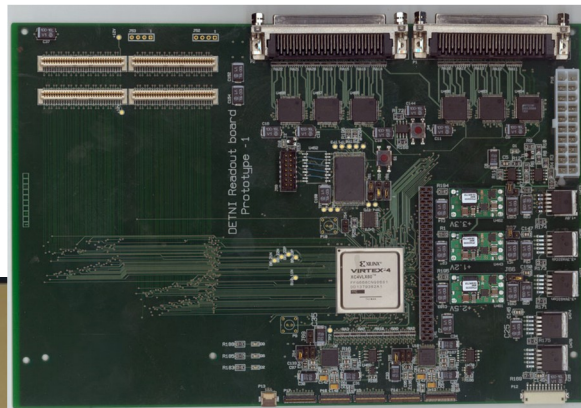
FZ-Juelich – DETNI (2007)

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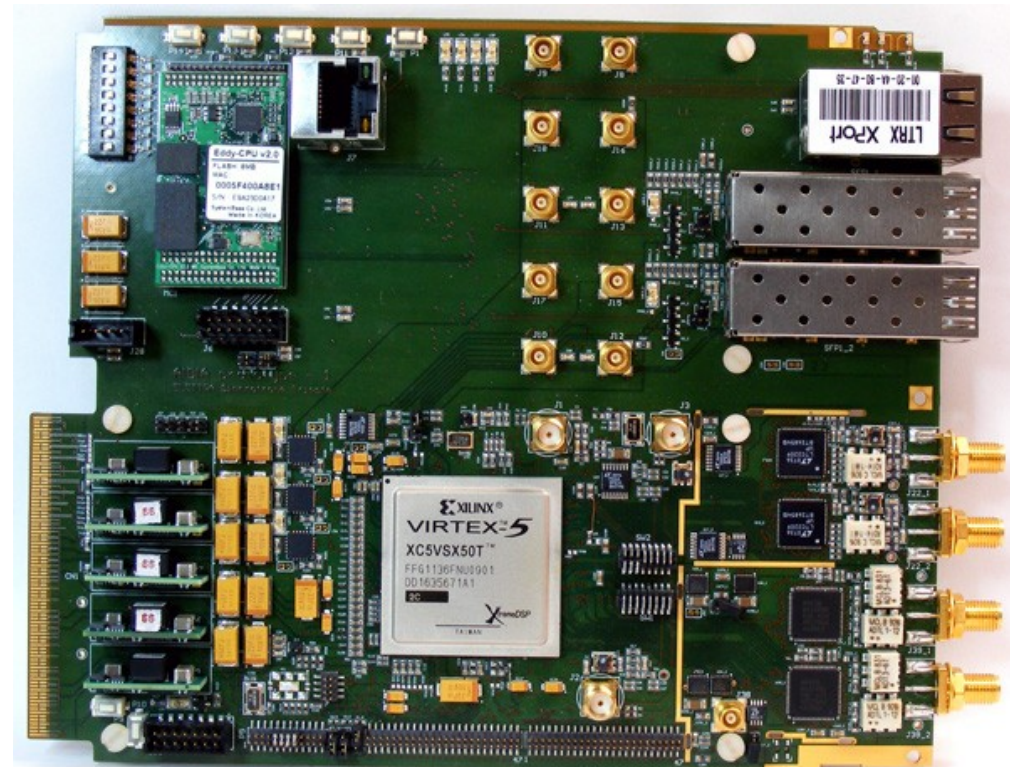
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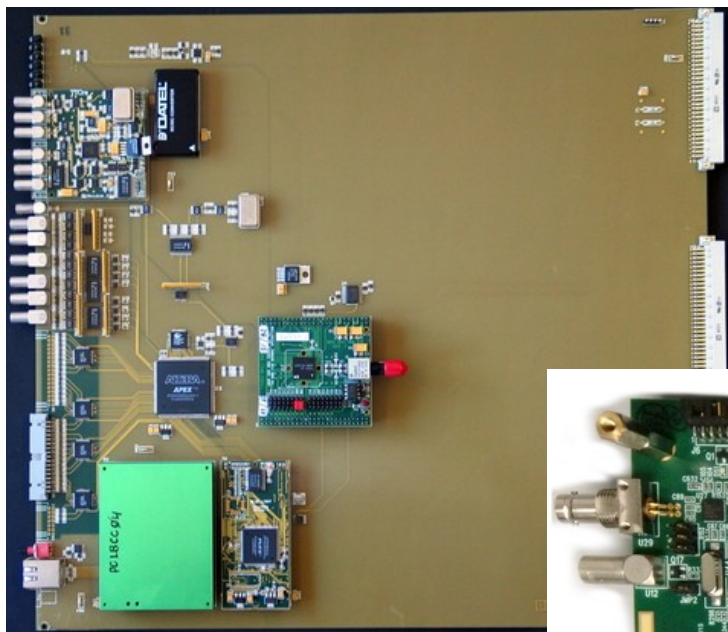
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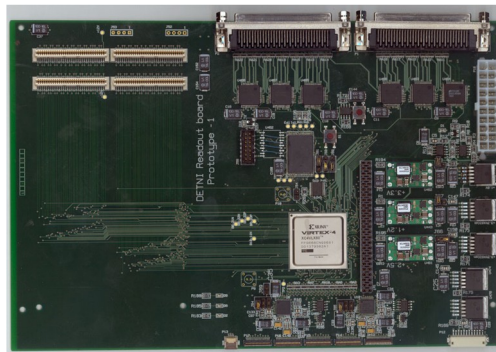
Elettra – Fermi@Elettra (2011)

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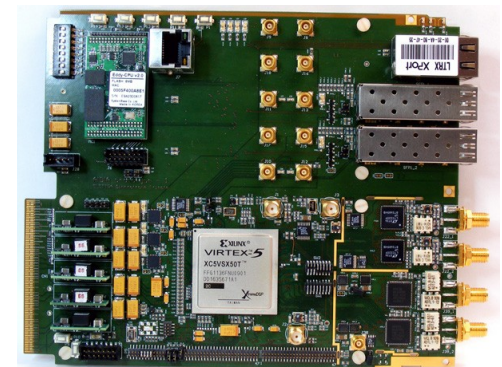
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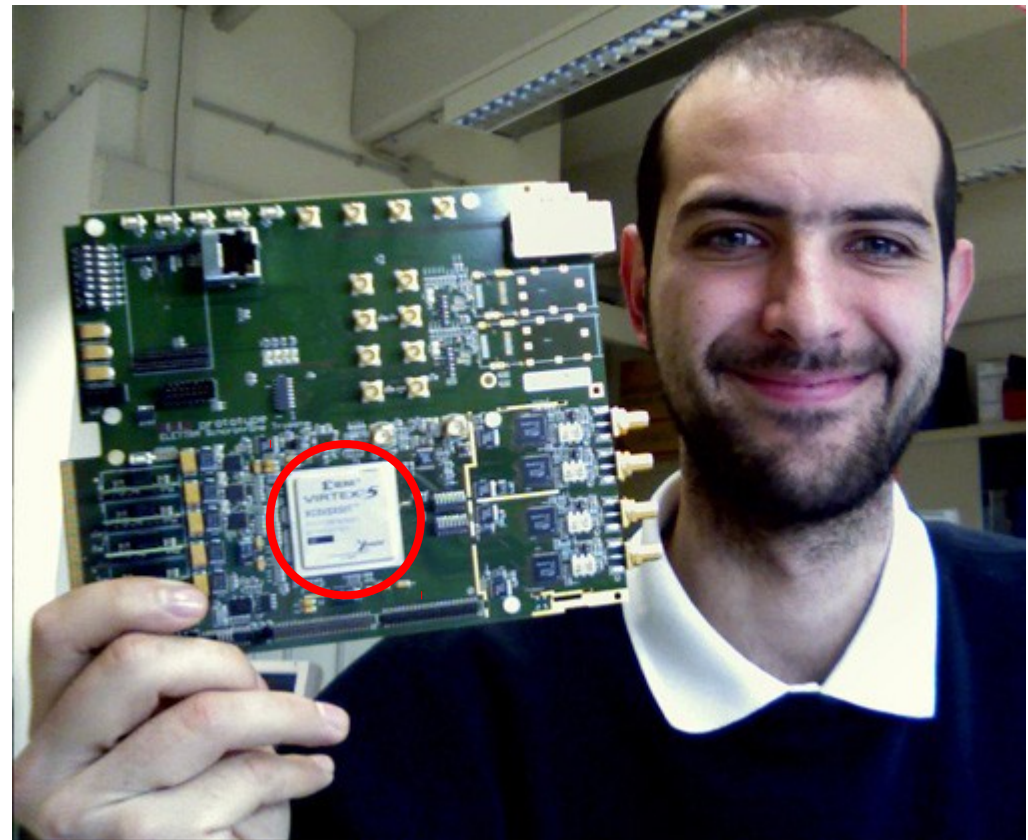
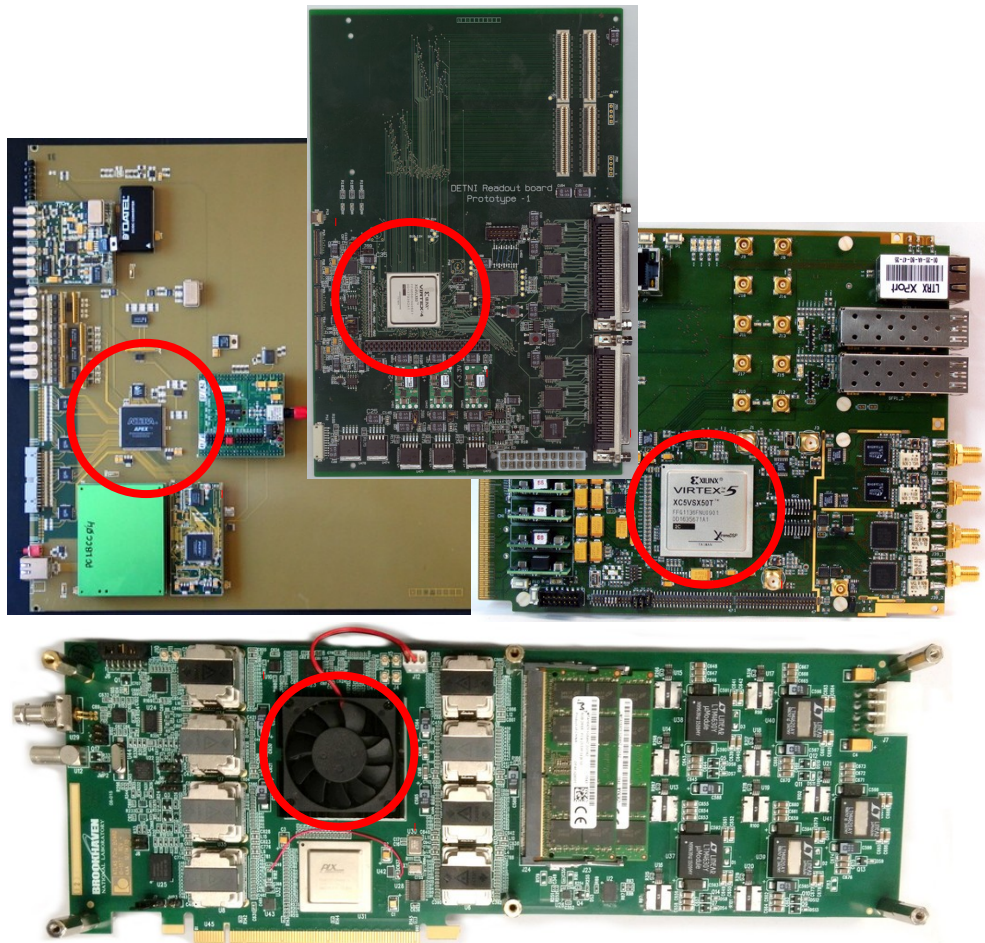
Elettra – Fermi@Elettra (2011)



Nikhef – ATLAS (today)

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The problem



- There is no solid definition of gateway and its boundary → this I want to fix
- There is a lot of effort duplication especially in our scientific community → this I want to fix
- There is no solid metrics to measure the strength of digital designers → this I want to fix
- **I see business opportunities in open source paradigms applied to my field of expertise
→ here is where I want to succeed next**



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Andrea.

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Tools

Google™ Custom Search

What is OpenCores?



the #1 community within open source hardware IP-cores

OpenCores is the world's largest site/community for development of hardware IP cores as open source.

OpenCores.org host the source code for different digital HW projects (IP-cores, SoC, boards, etc) and support the users with different tools, platforms, forums and other useful information. Please join us!

Projects



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Professional support



Professional support for OpenCores technology based products.

If you plan to use IPs from OpenCores in your next design and need support, please contact ORSoC AB.

They are experts in SoC design based on the OpenCores technology and have extensive experience all parts of FPGA/ASIC development.

Please contact [ORSoC](#) for further information.

Registered OpenCores users



274470

[OpenCores statistics](#)

Last updated projects

- [Reed Solomon Codec](#)
- [Boost Converter](#)
- [Yet Another Hamming Encoder and Decoder](#)
- [Double Clocked FFT Core](#)
- [Another Wishbone Controlled UART](#)
- [OpenArty](#)
- [Wishbone Scope](#)
- [XuLA2-LX25 SoC](#)



Most popular projects

- [OpenRISC 1000](#)
- [minsoc](#)
- [I2C controller core](#)
- [SPI controller core](#)
- [SPI Master/Slave Interface](#)
- [Alwcpu - A light weight CPU](#)
- [SPI Verilog Master & Slave modules](#)
- [openGFX430](#)



News

OpenCores.org

- A portal that since 2003 collected >250.000 professionals in the field of gateway IPs
- Generates ~500.000 views per month
- Strong identity, established trademark, consistent community, very specialized, potentially business oriented
- Unkempt since 2012, but it is still the largest community for such niche market
- **I regard this as the most strategic starting point for my endeavour**

Oliscience goals

- *Open Logic Interconnects science*
- **Acquired** the portal
- **Activate** the community
- **Offer** an “impact metrics” to asses performance and motivate designers to contribute (for **labs**)
- **Propose** “hardware platform matching” as a sort of advertisement opportunity (for **industry**)
- **Provide** consultancy services via the portal in the field of gateway design and support

Competitive analysis

- Other unrestricted non-commercial initiatives
- LibreCores (FOSSi foundation):
trying to rebase the OpenCores community
- OHWR (CERN initiative):
generic open “hardware” portal for sharing
various projects

Added values

- For **designers**: engaging experience encourages to contribute and participate
- For **labs**: showcase their capabilities, find new partnerships, approach funding agencies
- For **companies**: **potential market place** popular among users in the field
- For all: **let professionals take care of the infrastructure**
- For all: **a partner that knows fundamental research needs in first person**

Planning for this year

- **Taken** ownership of the website
- **Probe** the community for changes
- **Search** for partners especially in the scientific community
- **Develop** business model and marketing strategy
- ... **found** tools to get my ideas in motion:
contacted a CERN Business Incubator!

Where do I need support?

- Develop new **licensing schemes** for gateway distribution, with an eye on labs' needs for “measuring the impact on society”
- Further extend my network with **labs**, since they are expected key clients
- Attract **industry** through the portal
- **Product development**: a new service for a sector in need but not (yet) receptive

Develop the business

- ... comes with a series of open questions
- “premium subscription” for labs and commercial enterprises?
- Option to sell compatible hardware via the site: Oliscience gets a % on the sale?
- Companies offer consultancy services on their products via the site: Oliscience gets a %?
- Oliscience offers direct consultancy services via the site?

Personal experience with BIC

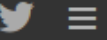
- How can an electrical engineer get the most out of those “business tools”?
- Learning curve is really steep
- BIC, IXA, ACE, etc.: how to get a grip?
- There is a gap between business oriented minds and technical problem solvers
- An engineer’s approach: convergence through a slow iterative process
- Possibilities to speed this up?



startups



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Netherlands Safe Search: Strict All Sizes



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