

European Research Council Established by the European Commission



ERC Frontier Research in Physical Sciences and Engineering

This series of factsheets provides an overview of the projects funded by the European Research Council (ERC), in the Physical Sciences and Engineering domain, in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)

Mathematics (PE1)

Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2)

Condensed Matter Physics (PE3)

Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences (PE4)

Synthetic Chemistry and Materials (PE5)

Computer Science and Informatics (PE6)

Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7)

Products and Processes Engineering (PE8)

Universe Sciences (PE9)

Earth System Science (PE10)

Data as of December 2021



Mathematics (PE1)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Mathematics' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 231 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 17 EU Member States and 3 Associated Countries (ACs)



Host institutions with ≥7 funded projects



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)





- Algebraic geometry and Varieties grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Geometry, Mathematical Physics, Differential equations and Graph theory were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Discrete mathematics and Stochastic Processes were used more in CoG projects and Number theory, Applied mathematics and Quantum Field Theory in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Analytic methods, Geometric methods* and *Probabilistic methods* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Computer Science and Informatics (PE6), Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7), and Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2) panels through the disciplines Mathematical physics, Applied mathematics and Discrete mathematics
- LS domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Fundamental Constituents of Matter' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 326 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 15 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)







Host institutions with ≥7 funded projects

National Centre for Scientific Research (FR)24Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres (DE)13Max Planck Society (DE)13French Alternative Energies and
Atomic Energy Commission (FR)10University of Amsterdam (NL)9European Organization for Nuclear Research (CH)7



- Quantum physics, Physics at accelerators and Physics beyond Standard Model grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Mathematical physics and Strong, electroweak interactions were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Particle, nuclear astrophysics, Optics and laser physics, and Quantum optics were used more in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Experimental methods in physics, Theoretical, mathematical methods* and *Quantum methods* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Condensed Matter Physics (PE3), and Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7) panels through the disciplines Optics and laser physics, and Quantum physics
- LS domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there is some connection with the Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7) panel
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

Condensed Matter Physics (PE3)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Condensed Matter Physics' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 294 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 18 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)



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Host institutions with ≥7 funded projects



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)



% of projects **Most-used topics** % of projects Most-used disciplines Mesoscopic device physics 21% Condensed matter, solid state 67% Low-dimensional materials 20% 20% Biophysics Strongly correlated systems 17% 15% Quantum physics Superconductivity 17% Electronics, photonics 13% Transport in condensed matter 16% Soft condensed matter physics 10% Magnetism and condensed matter 12% Nanoscience 8%

Scientific landscape of ERC-funded projects in this panel

- Quantum physics, Soft condensed matter physics and Non-equilibrium dynamics grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Condensed matter, solid state, Strongly correlated systems, and Magnetism and condensed matter were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Biophysics, Lowdimensional materials and Transport in condensed matter were used more in CoG projects
- Around 1/5 of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Microscopy* and *Computational modelling, simulations* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together







- **PE domain**: the main interactions are with the Products and Processes Engineering (PE8), Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2), and Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences (PE4) panels through the disciplines *Quantum physics*, *Electronics*, *photonics* and *Biophysics*
- LS domain: the main interactions are with the Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics (LS1), Cellular and Developmental Biology (LS3), and Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7) panels through the disciplines *Biophysics* and *Cell biology*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences (PE4)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see ERC panel structure). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014-2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 267 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 17 EU Member States and 3 Associated Countries (ACs)











- Biochemistry, Biophysics and Chemical reactions grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Theoretical chemistry, Heterogeneous catalysis and Electrochemistry were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Biochemistry, Spectroscopy and Surface science were used more in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel aim at generating methodological developments. Spectroscopic techniques, Experimental methods in chemistry and Computational modelling, simulations are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together







- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Products and Processes Engineering (PE8), Synthetic Chemistry and Materials (PE5), and Condensed Matter Physics (PE3) panels through the disciplines *Materials science, Nanoscience, Physical chemistry* and *Biophysics*
- LS domain: the main interactions are with the Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics (LS1), and Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering (LS9) panels through the discipline *Biochemistry*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Synthetic Chemistry and Materials' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 335 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 14 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)



Host institutions with ≥8 funded projects



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)



*Data as of December 2021



- Homogeneous catalysis and Chemical biology grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Biological, medicinal chemistry was used more in CoG projects compared to those funded in StG and AdG schemes while Chemical synthesis, Supramolecular chemistry, Chemical biology and Organic chemistry were used more in AdG projects
- More than half of the projects in this panel generate methodological developments. Synthetic methods and Experimental methods in chemistry are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences (PE4), and Products and Processes Engineering (PE8) panels through the disciplines *Materials science, Nanoscience* and *Physical chemistry*
- LS domain: the main interactions are with the Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering (LS9), and Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7) panels through the disciplines *Biochemistry* and *Biotechnology*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

Computer Science and Informatics (PE6)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Computer Science and Informatics' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 348 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 19 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)



Host institutions with ≥9 funded projects





- Applied computer science, Algorithms, algorithm development and Machine learning grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Applied mathematics, Machine learning and Parallel, distributed computing were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Software engineering and ICT security were used more in AdG projects
- More than half of the projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Theoretical, mathematical methods* and *Computational modelling, simulations* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains

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- PE domain: the main interaction is with the Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7) panel and to a lesser extent with the Mathematics (PE1), and Products and Processes Engineering (PE8) panels through the disciplines Applied mathematics, Applied computer science and Software engineering
- LS domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there is some connection with the Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7) panel
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there are some connections with The Human Mind and Its Complexity (SH4), and Institutions, Values, Environment and Space (SH2) panels

Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Systems and Communication Engineering' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 276 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 17 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)



Host institutions with ≥7 funded projects



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)





- Control engineering and Adaptive, learning, autonomous systems grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Electronics, photonics, Biomedical engineering, Photonics, nano/non-linear optics, and Optical devices and systems
 were used more in StG and CoG projects compared to those funded in AdG scheme, while Control engineering was
 used more in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Experimental methods in engineering, Computational modelling, simulations* and *Validation, demonstration, prototyping* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Products and Processes Engineering (PE8), Computer Science and Informatics (PE6), and Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2) panels through the disciplines Materials engineering, Biomedical engineering, Optics and laser physics, Electronics, photonics and Applied mathematics
- LS domain: the main interaction is with the Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7) panel through the discipline *Biomedical engineering*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there are some connections with The Human Mind and Its Complexity (SH4), and the Institutions, Values, Environment and Space (SH2) panels through the disciplines Artificial intelligence and Neuroscience

Products and Processes Engineering (PE8)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Products and Processes Engineering' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 369 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 18 EU Member States and 4 Associated Countries (ACs)



Host institutions with ≥10 funded projects



Number of projects

Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)



*Data as of December 2021

Most-used disciplines **Most-used topics** % of projects % of projects 57% Materials engineering Fluid mechanics 13% Chemical engineering 21% Microfluidics, nanofluidics 10% Energy 19% **Biomaterials** 9% Physics of fluids 17% Nanomaterials 8% **Biomedical engineering** 16% Optoelectronic, photonic systems 8% Manufacturing engineering 14%

Scientific landscape of ERC-funded projects in this panel

- Materials science and Fluid mechanics grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Energy was used more in StG and CoG projects compared to those funded in AdG scheme, while Chemical engineering, Physics of fluids, Manufacturing engineering, Fluid mechanics and Microfluidics, nanofluidics were used more in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Computational modelling, simulations* and *Micro/nanoengineering* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interactions are with the Systems and Communication Engineering (PE7), Physical and Analytical Chemical Sciences (PE4), and Synthetic Chemistry and Materials (PE5) panels through the disciplines *Materials engineering*, *Biomedical engineering*, and *Materials science*
- LS domain: the main interactions are with the Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health (LS7), and Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology, and Molecular and Biosystems Engineering (LS9) panels through the disciplines *Biomedical engineering* and *Biotechnology*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there is some connection with the Institutions, Values, Environment and Space (SH2) panel through the discipline *Energy*

Universe Sciences (PE9)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Universe Sciences' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see ERC panel structure). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014-2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 242 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 16 EU Member States and 3 Associated Countries (ACs)





Number of projects

Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)

Scientific landscape of ERC-funded projects in this panel Most-used disciplines % of projects Most-used topics % of projects



- Planetary science and Exoplanets grew in use from 2014 to 2020. Noteworthy is the increase of projects studying the
 atmospheres and climates of (exo)planets, analysing their habitability and searching for signatures of life beyond Earth
- Cosmology, High-energy astronomy and Stellar systems were used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Solar, stellar physics and Stellar structure, evolution were used more in CoG projects and Galaxy formation, evolution and Galaxy dynamics in AdG projects
- Around 3/4 of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Computational modelling* and *Observations* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the main interaction is with the Fundamental Constituents of Matter (PE2) panel and to a lesser extent with the Earth System Science (PE10) panel through the disciplines *Fundamental interactions*, *Gas and plasma physics*, *Atmospheric science* and *Interstellar medium*, *star formation*
- LS domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, there are no particular panels or disciplines highlighting any synergy

Earth System Science (PE10)

This fact sheet provides an overview of the projects funded in the 'Earth System Science' panel in the Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE) domain (see <u>ERC panel structure</u>). The projects were funded under the Starting Grant (StG), Consolidator Grant (CoG) and Advanced Grant (AdG) calls launched in the H2020 Framework Programme (2014–2020)*



Distribution of ERC-funded projects in EU Member States and Associated Countries in H2020

The 262 funded projects (numbers in the graph) are in 16 EU Member States and 3 Associated Countries (ACs)



Country of origin of grantees other than EU or ACs (≤3 grouped together)



Host institutions with ≥6 funded projects



*Data as of December 2021



- Geophysics, geodynamics, Tectonics, geomagnetism, Earth's mantle and crust evolution, and Natural hazards monitoring grew in use from 2014 to 2020
- Atmospheric science, Geochemistry, petrology, Tectonics, geomagnetism and Natural hazards monitoring were
 used more in StG projects compared to those funded in CoG and AdG schemes, while Geology in the critical zone
 was used more in CoG projects and Geophysics, geodynamics was used more in AdG projects
- A high number of projects in this panel generate methodological developments. *Computational modelling* and *Experimental methods in earth system research* are the main ones

Connections between disciplines and topics in this panel

The strength of the connection between disciplines (blue) and topics (grey) is represented by the thickness of the arcs, which is proportional to the number of times they appear together



Synergies with other panels and domains



- PE domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there are some connections with the Products and Processes Engineering (PE8), and Universe Sciences (PE9) panels
- LS domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there is some connection with the Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (LS8) panel through the disciplines *Biogeoscience*, and *Palaeobiology and palaeoecology*
- SH domain: the interaction is not very strong, but there is some connection with The Study of the Human Past (SH6) panel through the discipline Palaeobiology and palaeoecology



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