

Cambridge Enterprise

What we do and how we can help

Dr Nathalie Muller / Commercialisation and Academic Relations Manager



Who are we?

Cambridge Enterprise

We help researchers to use commercial avenues to develop their ideas and expertise for the benefit of society, the economy, themselves and the University



What is research commercialisation?

Commercialisation is a process that turns research, ideas, discoveries, inventions and know-how into **products and services** that have **impact**.

It is not an end result – it's a process or journey

More than 'just' spin outs



Why commercialise?

Discover **real-world problems** that can be solved by your research, or new areas of research

Grow a **network** of non-academic partners to support future research directions

Scale up your project beyond what is possible in a university

Tackle a **new challenge** – build a new solution

Benefit to society - having a **positive impact** on the outside world

Find opportunities for an **industrial secondment** or even a new **career**

Develop your **skills and reputation**



There are various ways to commercialise

Consultancy

Deliver academic expertise and technical services to third parties

"I want to use my **expertise** to advise another organisation"

Non-exclusive Licensing

Flexible licences to ready-for-market tools like reagents and software

"I want my **research tools** to be used by other researchers"

Technology Development for Licensing

Manage, develop and protect IP

Find a route to market, find customers

License to third parties, including spin outs

"I have a research idea that could solve a significant **commercial** problem"

Spin out and investment

Start up a business to take the developed idea to market

Seek investors to scale your product or service

"I'm ready to set up a **company or social enterprise** to scale my impact"

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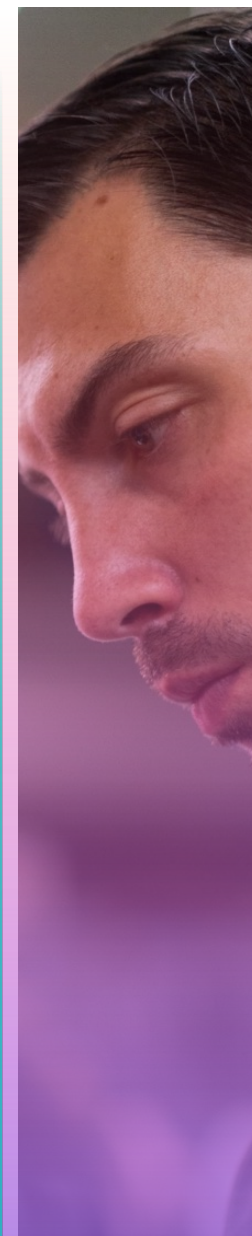
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CE consultancy services vs DIY

CE Consultancy Services	PRIVATE
Professional contract negotiation and fee collection supported by legal and insurance services	
Cover from University's professional indemnity and liability insurance	Private insurance cover for a min of six years after contract completed
Use UoC address and affiliation	Home address and use of personal letterhead
Use of UoC facilities (FEC costing)	
Time commitment a matter for individual and their Head of Department	University staff performing work in a private capacity do so entirely at their own risk and must make a clear distinction between private work and their University duties



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Why protect IP?

It enables inventions to be made public to the world, whilst giving advantages to those who own it.



To encourage
investment in further
development and
innovation



Can drive economic
growth and
competitiveness

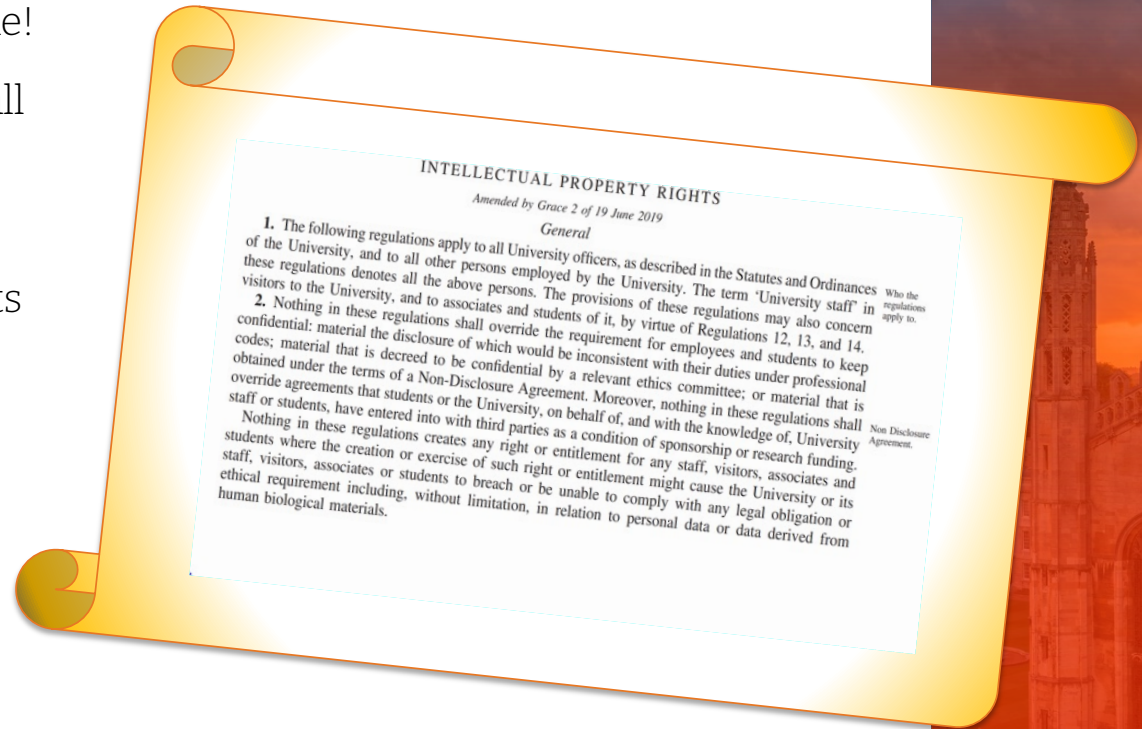


Rewards creators,
inventors and
entrepreneurs



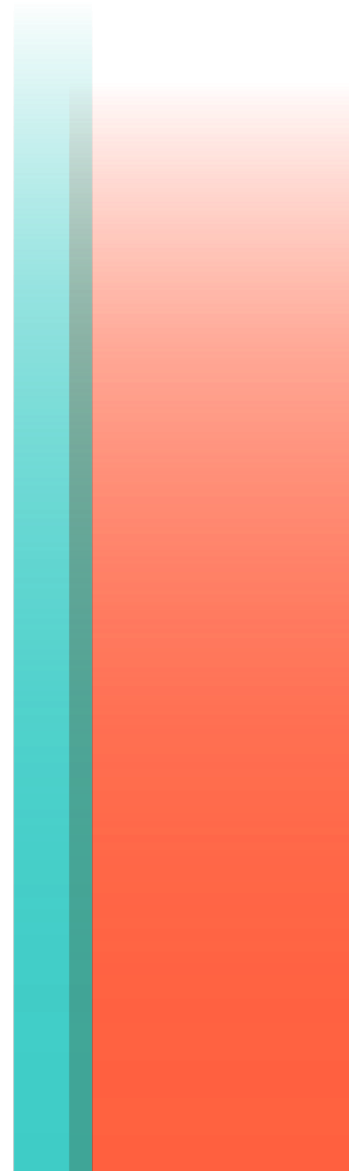
Ownership of IP

- Authorship and ownership are not the same!
- In industry: [employer](#) automatically owns all IP rights
- [In universities: it depends!](#)
- At UCam, the decision to commercialise sits with the academic, and the University provides options for how to commercialise research IP
- Part of Cambridge Enterprise's role is to help [apply the University's IP Policies](#)
- Dependent on third party funding
- University has a revenue share in place to reward the inventors/creators.

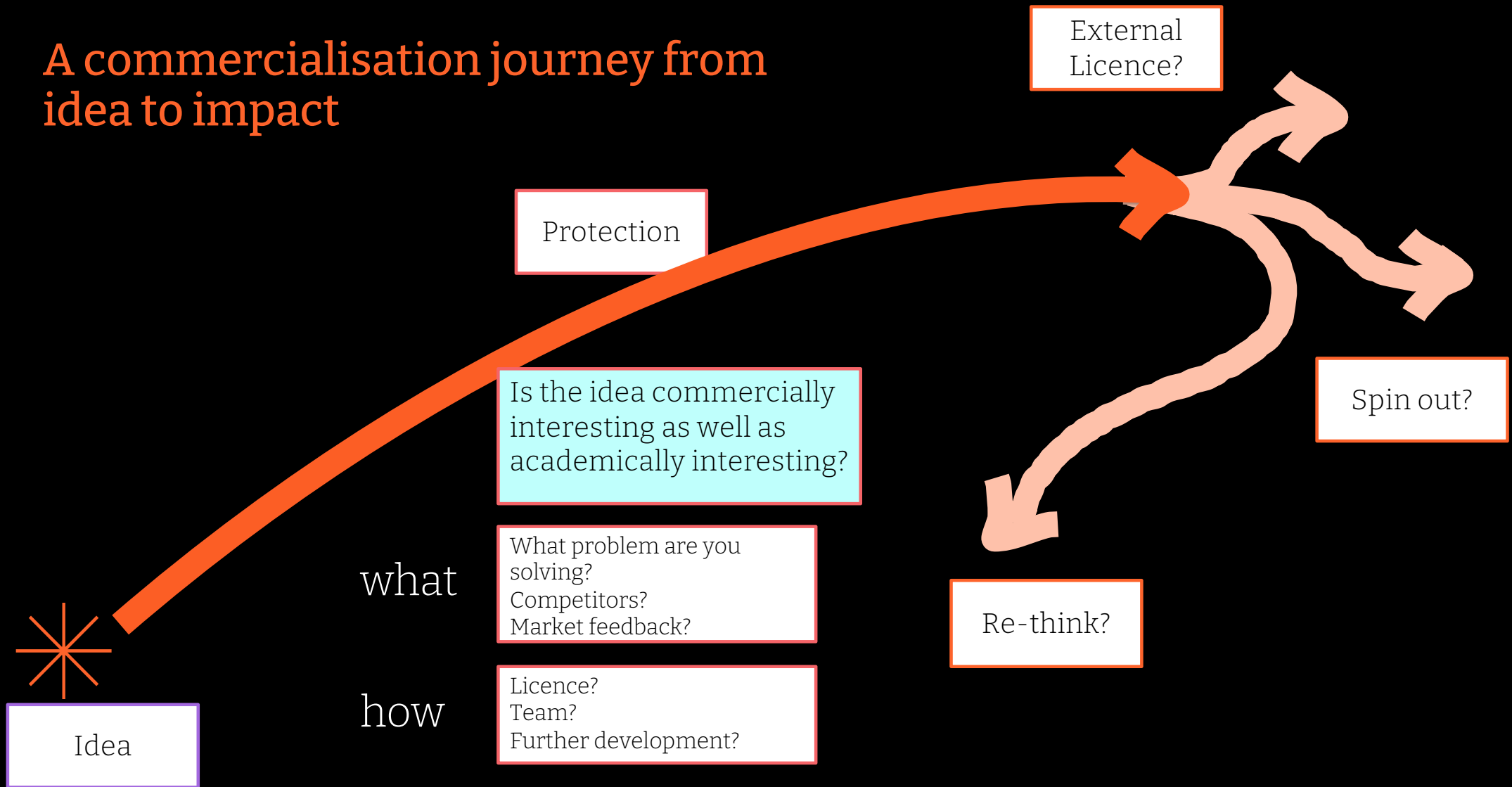


How to avoid a disclosure

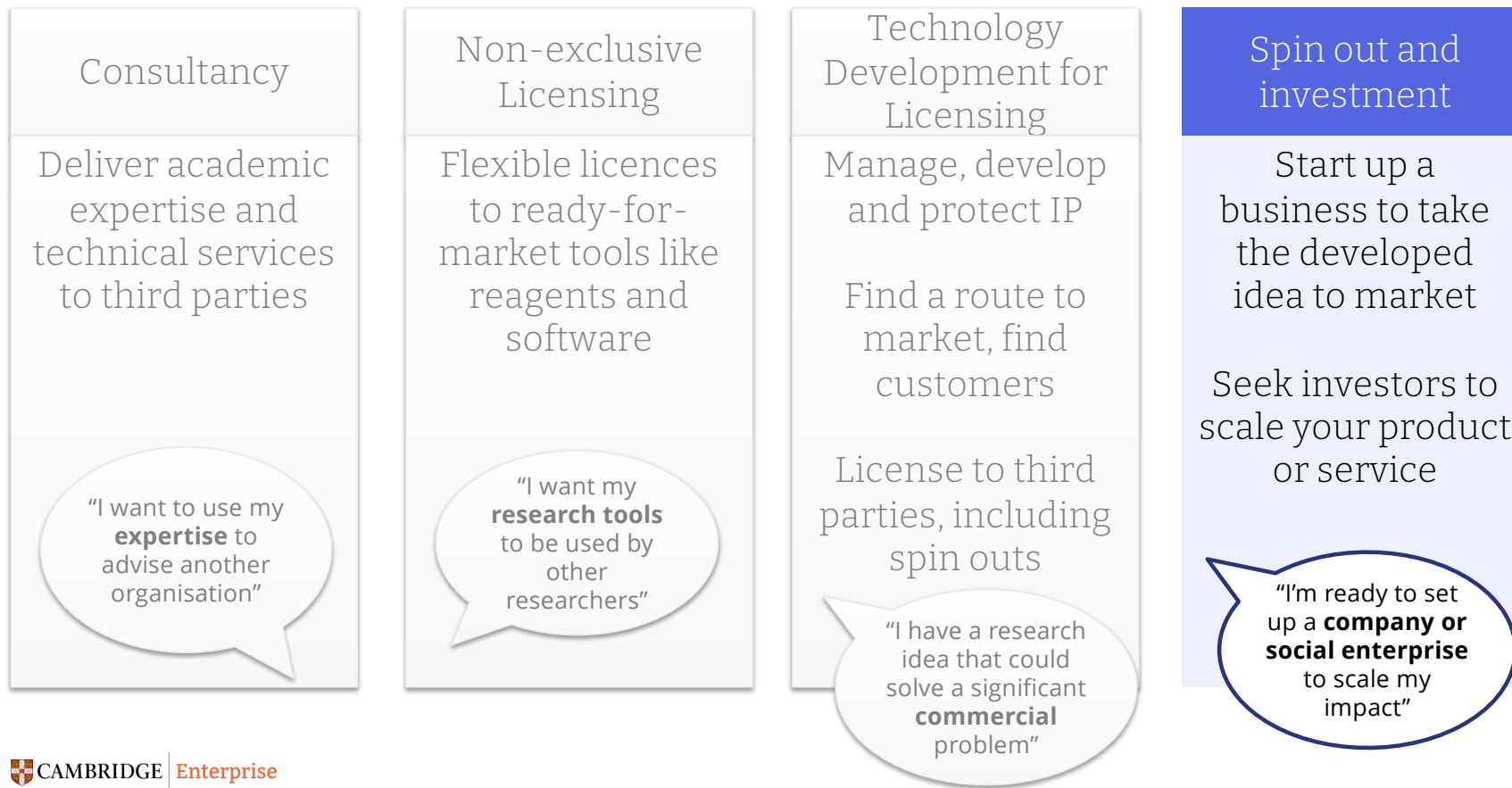
- *Your own work* also counts as prior art
- Typical disclosures
 - Academic papers, Online theses
 - Public conferences
 - Interviews
 - Explaining your ideas to friends & family
- But filing a patent lets you do all of the above AND protect your idea
- Closed discussions can be covered by Confidentiality Agreement
 - With funders/companies/collaborators
 - Talk to Cambridge Enterprise



A commercialisation journey from idea to impact



There are various ways to commercialise



Spinning-out?

Founders:
Why you and
your team?

Stage and
timing:
Why spin-out
now?

Commitment:
Will
you persevere
(for a decade)?

Fundraising:
How much,
from where
and what
terms?

Agreements: Is
everyone clear
about where
they stand?

Value creation:
How will you
deliver a return
on investment?

We bring experience, support, networks and money



Co-investor (70+) network



We follow our investment



Patient capital



Founder-friendly

Strongly
principled

Extensive
networks

Active and
engaged

Non-executive directors
Entrepreneurs in residence



Industry introductions



We help maintain
strong university
research links



Seed-stage board experience



We invest in every research discipline

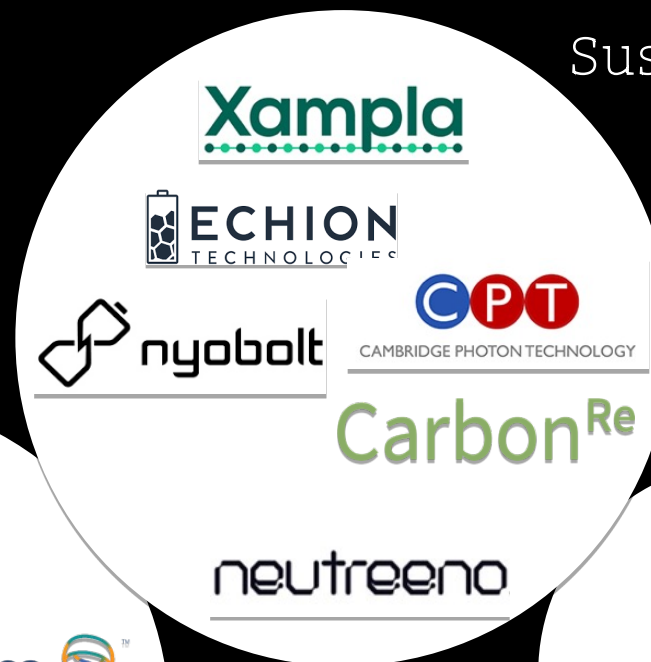
Deep Tech



Life Sciences



Sustainability



Social Ventures

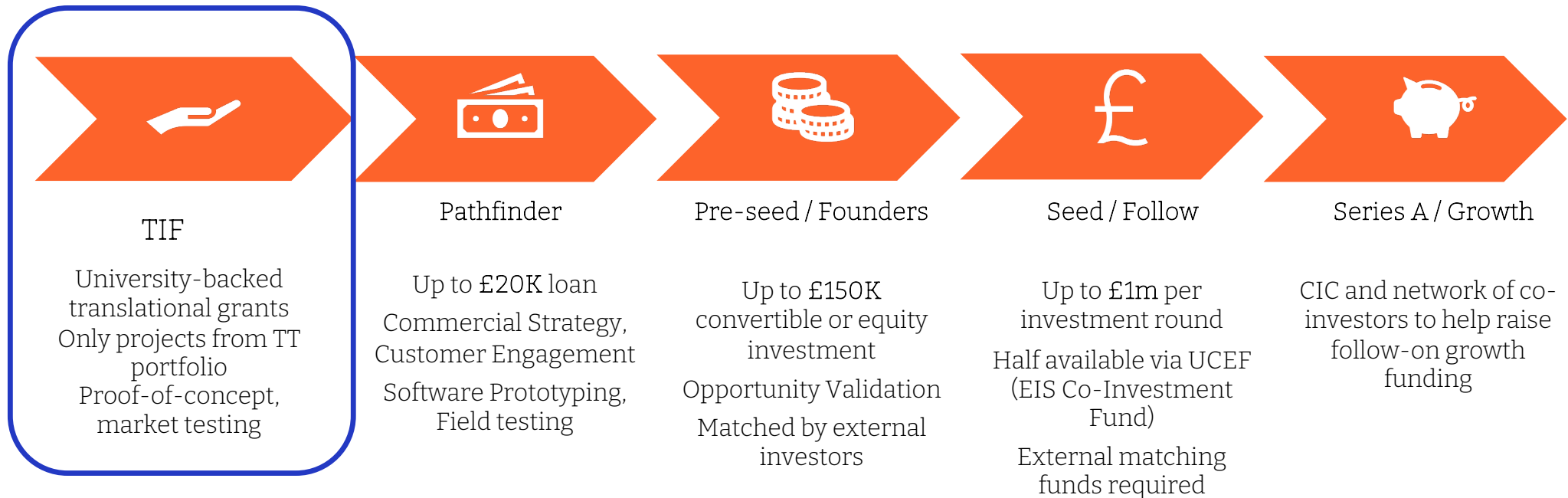


New CE initiatives

- [Technology Investment Fund](#) = translational funding
- [Founders](#) at the University of Cambridge = accelerator
- [IE Cambridge](#) = portal to help (budding) entrepreneurs navigate the Cambridge eco-system
- [Academic Portal](#) = data management tool for commercialisation projects per academic (or department)



Cambridge Enterprise backs Cambridge ideas



The Cambridge Ecosystem



Supporting the translation of world-leading
university research to create globally leading
economic and social impact

Innovation Services



Cambridge University Ecosystem — COMPLEX

Our strength lies in the 'richly chaotic' support ecosystem, but this is challenging to navigate

HC HOMERTON
CHANGEMAKERS

Venture
Creation
Weekends



MTFCAMBRIDGE.

Deeptech
Labs



entrepreneurial postdocs
ePOC
of cambridge

ACCELERATE
UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE
Judge Business School

COTEC

DE DOWNING
ENTERPRISE

The
Parmee Prize

JOHNIAN
ENTREPRENEURS' CLUB

EnterpriseTECH

Enterprise
Tuesdays



King's
Enterprise
Award

Hughes Hall
Entrepreneurs
Society (HHES)



Centre for
Global
Equality



TRINITY
HALL
ENTREPRENEURS
NETWORK

startcodon

Social Venture
Incubator

CAMentrepreneurs

SEED FUNDS
CAMBRIDGE | Enterprise

Postdoc Business
Plan Competition

entrepreneurs

MEDxCambridge

Carbon13



Cambridge
Femtech
Society

CAMSTART



Social
Venture
Weekends

Pathfinder Grants

Cambridge Social
Innovation Prize

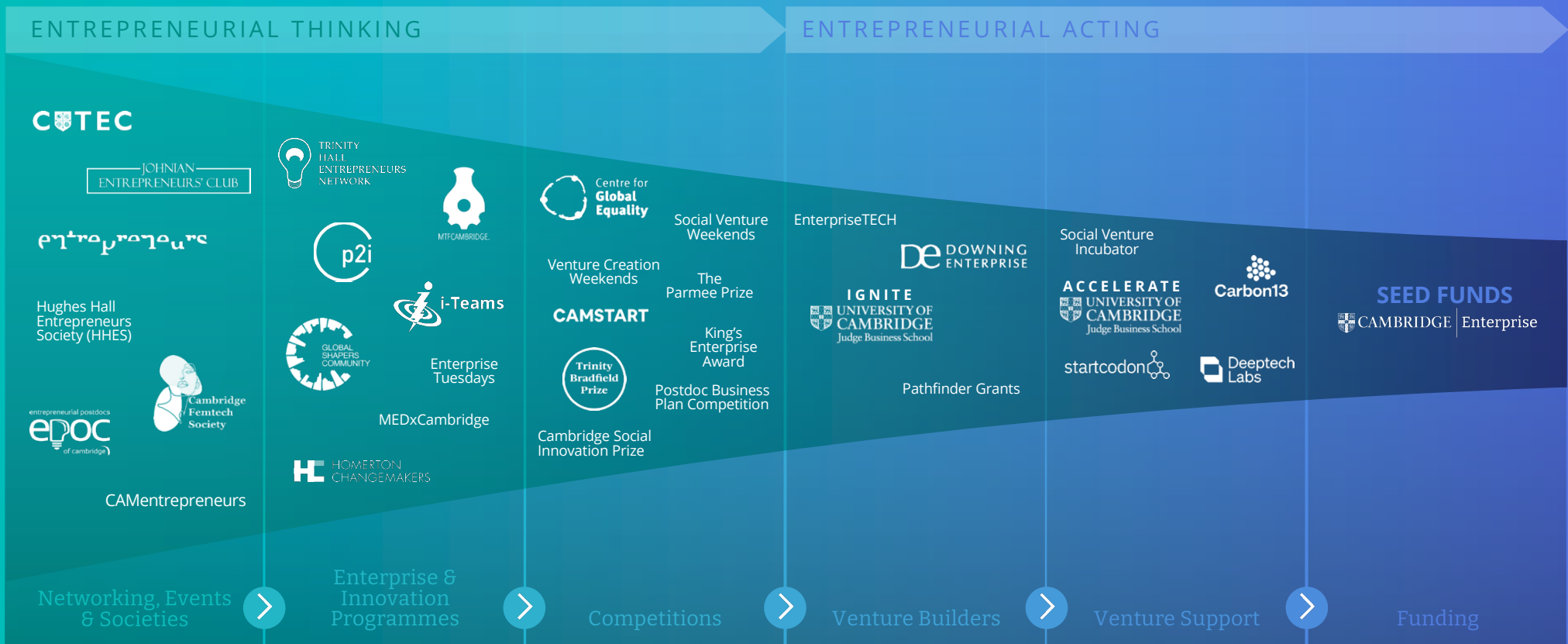


i-Teams

IGNITE
UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE
Judge Business School

Cambridge University Ecosystem — COHERENT

Making it accessible & easy to navigate, maintaining our interconnectedness



IE Cambridge

The official community hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Cambridge.

Located online at ie.cam.ac.uk.

IE Cambridge is here to support, inspire and develop your entrepreneurial thinking.



ideaSpace

A community of founders and entrepreneurs across 3 great locations in Cambridge.

We are focused on community and providing a supportive space where you can work alongside other founders and grow your venture.



Ideas to Reality: Spring Programme



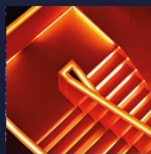
1 May - Consultancy 101
9.30 - 2.00 pm, The Pitt Building



1 May - Research Tools 101
1.00 - 5.30 pm, The Pitt Building



13 June - Commercialisation 101
9.30 - 2.00 pm, The Pitt Building



13 June - Venture Building 101
1.00 - 5.30 pm, The Pitt Building



Find out more
and register



Riverlane

2016: Steve Brierley from the Department of Applied Mathematics & Theoretical Physics founded Riverlane in to build the error correction stack for quantum computers

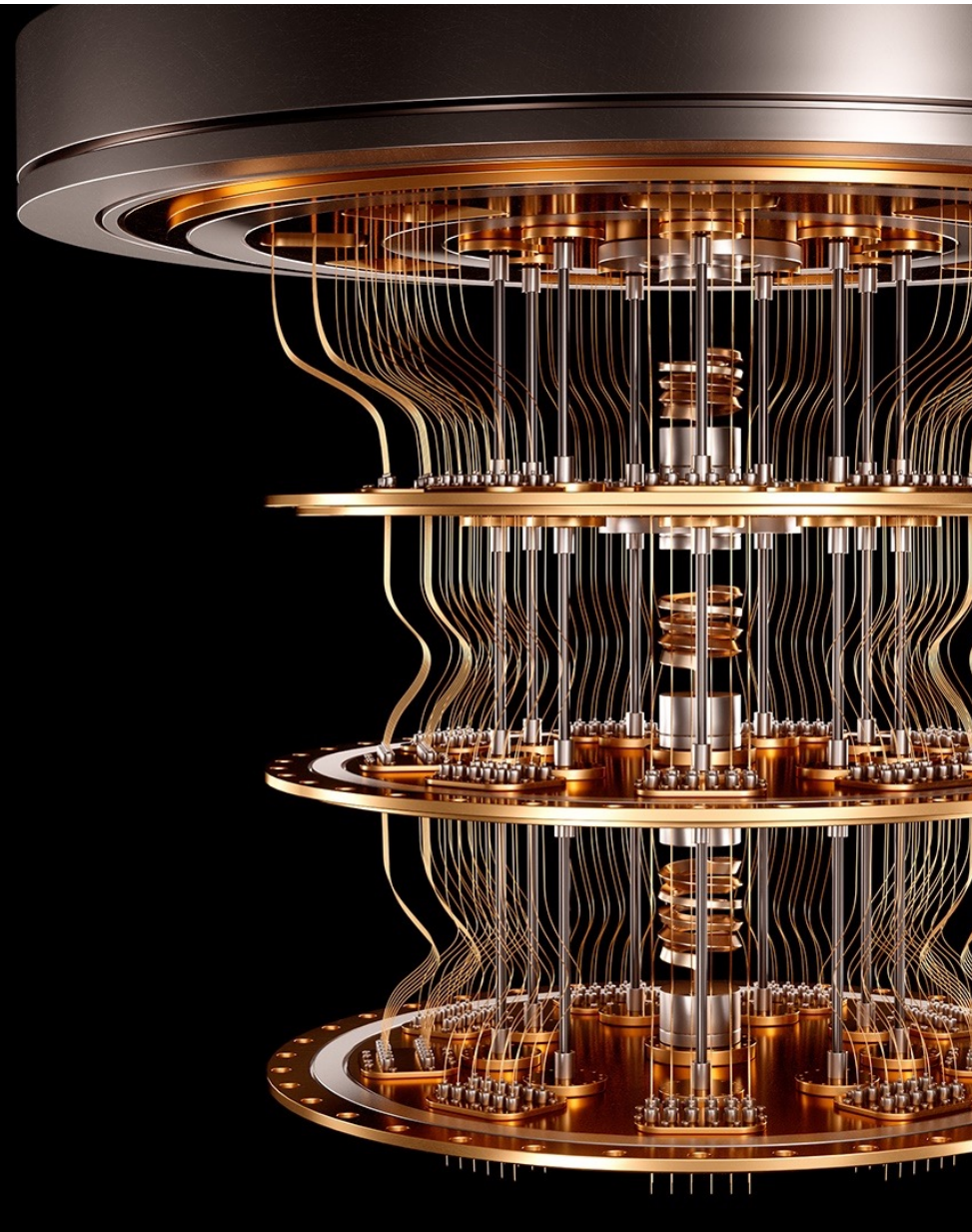
2020: It was the first company to demonstrate a viable Quantum Operating System in August

2023: Riverlane announced the world's most powerful quantum decoder for quantum error correction. Raised £15 million in series B funding with support from Cambridge Enterprise

2024: Steve was awarded an OBE for services to quantum computing in the New Year Honours 2024



Founder
Dr Steve Brierley



Carbon Re

A joint spin-out between the University of Cambridge and University College London.

AI platform initially focused on the cement industry, utilizing Deep Reinforcement Learning to simulate chemical and physical processes within operations to create a 'Digital Twin' of cement plants.

In 2022 raised a £4.2M seed round to expand across industries.

Founding Team:

Sherif Elsayed-Ali, Buffy Price, Dr Daniel Summerbell and Professor Aidan O'Sullivan



Thank you

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