NEWS LETTER

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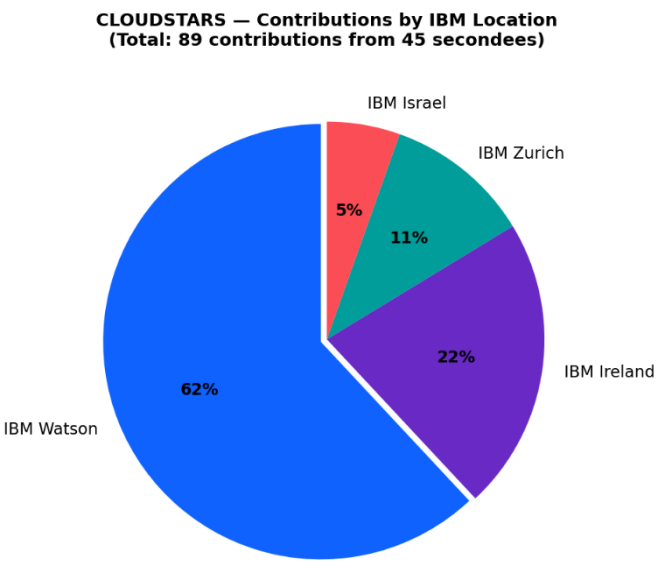
CLOUD STARS

Three Years of IBM Secondments: 45 Researchers, 89 Research Contributions, and Growing

by Aleksander Slominski (IBM Research)

As CLOUDSTARS approaches its final year, we are proud to reflect on the remarkable impact of our staff exchange programme with IBM Research. Since 2023, 45 researchers from 15 European partner institutions have completed secondments across four IBM Research locations — TJ Watson (New York), Zurich, Israel, and Ireland — producing 89 research contributions and 34 verified peer-reviewed publications.



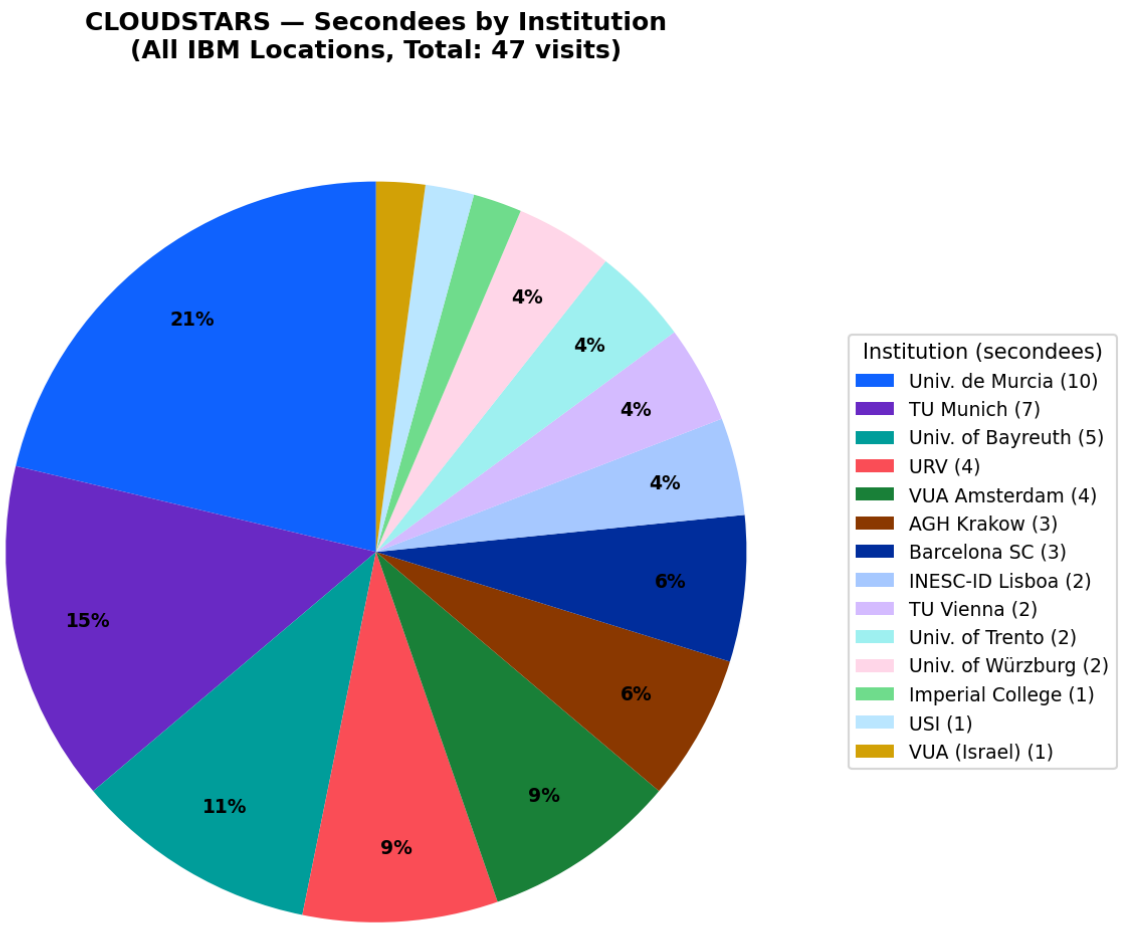
IBM Watson has served as the flagship hub, hosting 21 secondees and generating 63% of all programme research contributions. Researchers visiting Watson have published at top-tier venues including USENIX NSDI, ACM SoCC, NeurIPS, ICML, EuroSys, and IEEE ICDCS, spanning topics from serverless computing and confidential containers to LLM inference optimization and graph neural networks. IBM Ireland has been equally vibrant, welcoming 20 secondees working on federated learning, cross-domain telemetry, and AI systems for the cloud-edge continuum.

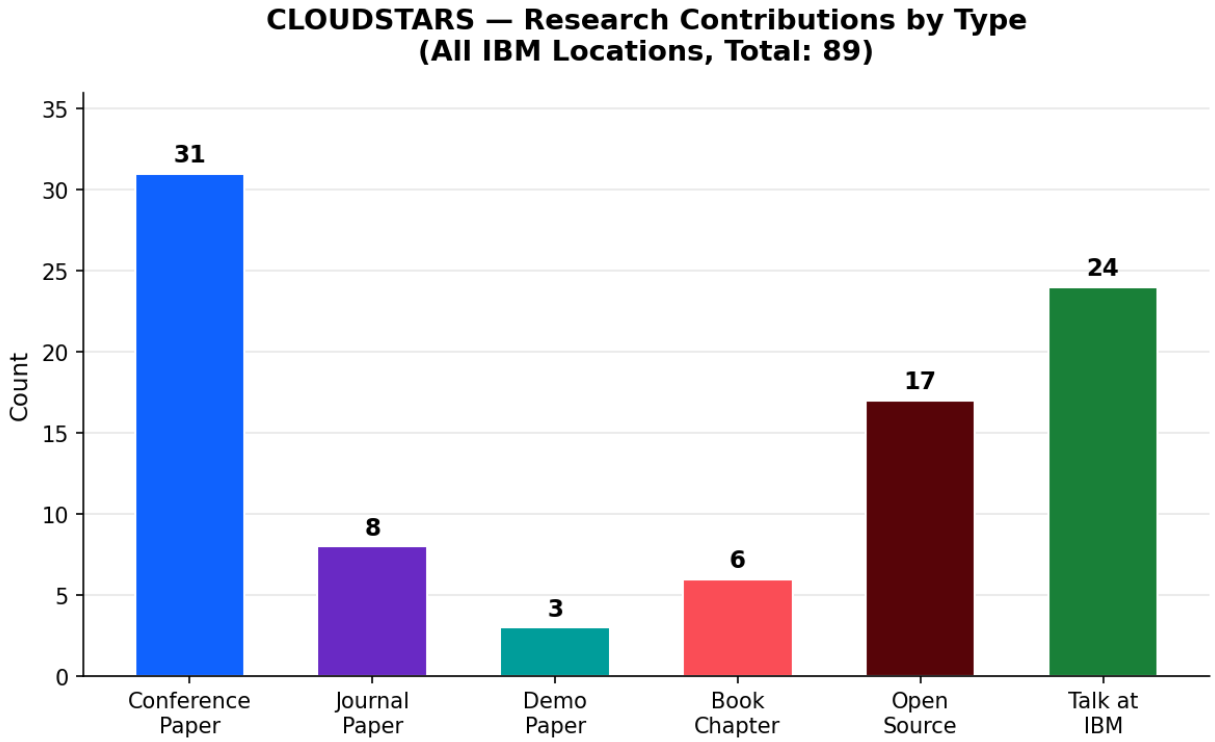
The breadth of contributing institutions reflects the programme's pan-European reach. Universidad de Murcia leads with 10 secondees and 24 contributions, followed by TU Munich (7 secondees, 12 contributions), University of Bayreuth (5 secondees), and Barcelona Supercomputing Center (3 secondees, 11 contributions including publications at NeurIPS, ICML, and IEEE CLOUD). Researchers

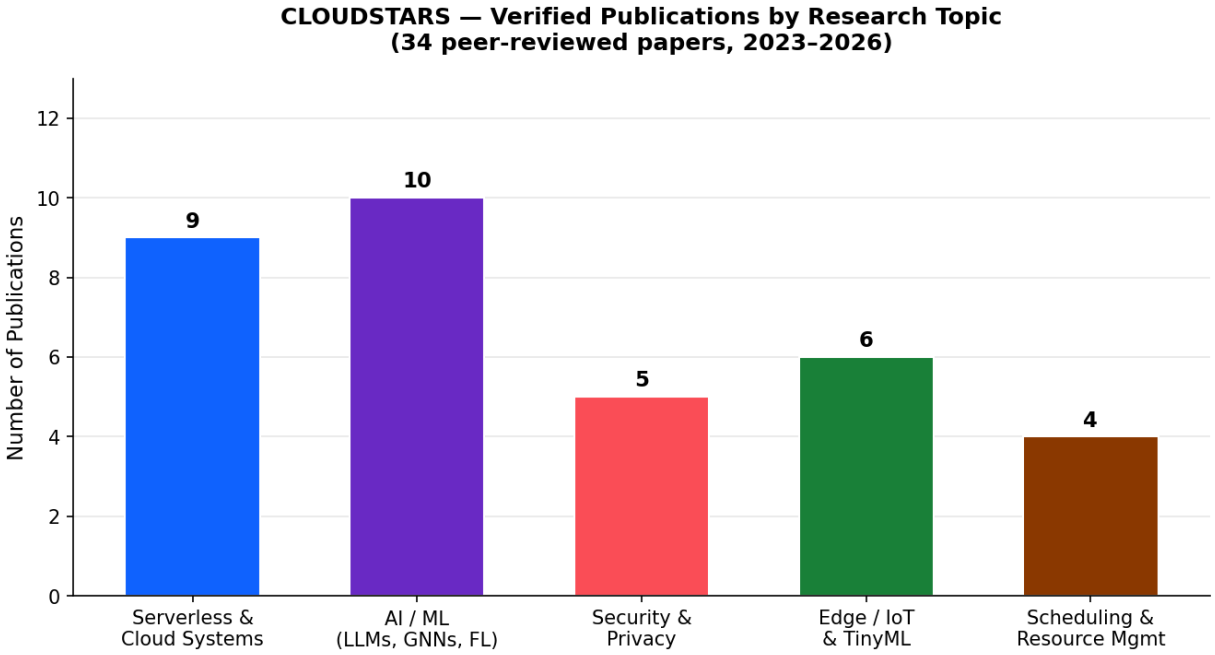
from AGH Krakow, Imperial College London, INESC-ID Lisboa, TU Vienna, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, and others have all made significant contributions to both open-source projects and high-impact publications.

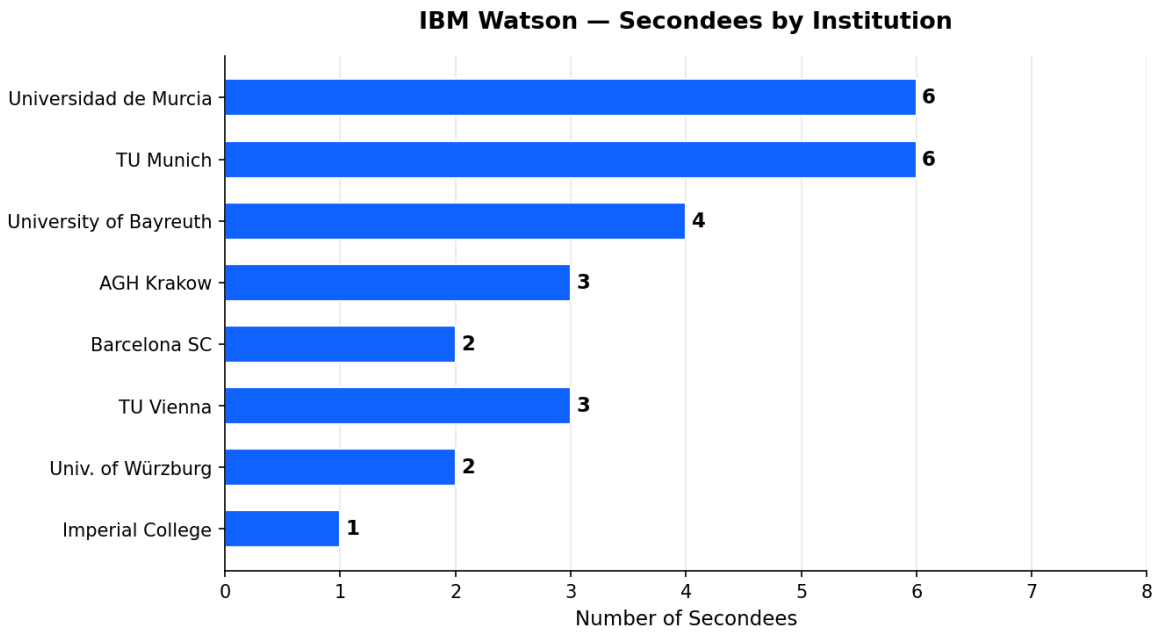
Looking ahead, the programme continues to grow. New secondments are underway in 2026, and the community is transitioning its workshop series towards AI with the inaugural WoAIS1 (Workshop on AI and Serverless) planned for June 2026. CLOUDSTARS has demonstrated that structured mobility programmes can drive sustained, high-quality research collaboration between academia and industry at scale.

CLOUDSTARS Results — IBM Secondments at a Glance




CLOUDSTARS — Research Contributions by Type
(All IBM Locations, Total: 89)
Count
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
31
8
3
6
17
24
Conference Paper
Journal Paper
Demo Paper
Book Chapter
Open Source
Talk at IBM


CLOUDSTARS — Verified Publications by Research Topic
(34 peer-reviewed papers, 2023–2026)
Number of Publications
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
9
10
5
6
4
Serverless & Cloud Systems
AI / ML (LLMs, GNNs, FL)
Security & Privacy
Edge / IoT & TinyML
Scheduling & Resource Mgmt



CloudStars @ IBM Watson: Summary (2023–2026)

Research Contributions by Type: Conference Papers (31), Talks at IBM (24), Open Source (17), Journal Papers (8), Book Chapters (6), Demo Papers (3)

Publications by Topic: AI/ML incl. LLMs, GNNs, Federated Learning (10); Serverless & Cloud Systems (9); Edge/IoT & TinyML (6); Security & Privacy (5); Scheduling & Resource Mgmt (4)

Top Venues: USENIX NSDI, ACM SoCC, NeurIPS, ICML, EuroSys, IEEE ICDCS, IEEE CLOUD, ICAPS, IEEE ICDM, USENIX ATC

CLOUD STARS

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