

Quantum Computation and Simulation with Trapped Ions Martin Ringbauer, University of Innsbruck



The requirements for QIP

- I. Scalable physical system, well characterized qubits
- II. Ability to initialize the state of the qubits
- III. Long relevant coherence times, much longer than gate operation time
- IV. "Universal" set of quantum gates
- V. Qubit-specific measurement capability
- VI. Ability to interconvert stationary and flying qubits
- VII. Ability to faithfully transmit flying qubits between specified locations

The seven commandments for QIP



The DV criteria for an experimentalist

- Find two-level systems,
- II. that can be individually controlled



- III. that are stable and don't decay while you work on them
- IV. that interact to allow for entangling operations
- V. that can be efficiently measured



~100%

- VI. Find a way to interconnect remote qubits
- VII. Make sure, your interconnection is good





1. Trapping and Cooling Ions

1.1 How to trap an ion

1.2 lon strings for quantum computation

1.3 Choosing an ion

1.4 Laser-ion interaction

1.5 Laser cooling in ion traps

1.6 Gate Operations & Decoherence

1.7 Entanglement





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Interactions for particle traps



Atomic or molecular ions



Trapping in electro-static potentials

Ion with mass m, charge e in a 1D harmonic potential

$$\phi = \frac{U}{2} \left(\frac{x}{x_0}\right)^2$$



<u>Exercise</u>: Calculate the required voltage for a trap depth of 1eV at x_0 =1mm,

as well as the trap frequency for a \mbox{Ca}^{+} ion



D. Leibfried, et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281-324 (2003)

Trapping in 3D

Want: $\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \Phi_0 \sum_i \alpha_i (r_i/\tilde{r})^2$, $\mathbf{i} = \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}$

Poisson equation: $\Delta \phi = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} = 0$

Cannot trap in 3D with static potentials

Penning: $\Phi_0 = U_0 + \text{axial magn. field}$

Paul: $\Phi_0 = U_0 + V_0 \cos \Omega t$



D. Leibfried, et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281-324 (2003)

Trapping with dynamic potentials





D. Leibfried, et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281-324 (2003)

Micromotion





Paul trap (rf – quadrupole trap)







Paul trap: stability diagram

$$a_{z} = -\frac{8eU_{0}}{mr_{0}^{2}\Omega^{2}} = -2a_{r}, \quad r = x, y$$

$$q_{z} = -\frac{4eV_{0}}{mr_{0}^{2}\Omega^{2}} = -2q_{r}, \quad r = x, y$$

$$x_{i}(t) = C\left(1 - \frac{q_{i}}{2}\cos\Omega t\right)\cos\omega_{i}t$$

$$i = x, y, z$$

$$\omega_{i} \ll \Omega(a_{i}, q_{i} \ll 1) \qquad \beta_{i}^{2} = a_{i} + \frac{q_{i}^{2}}{2}$$





Quantum mechanical motion

$$x_i(t) = C\left(1 - \frac{q_i}{2}\cos\Omega t\right)\cos\omega_i t, \ i \in \{x, y, z\}$$

classical ion motion =

micromotion + secular motion

secular approximation $a_i, \ q_i \ll 1 \ (
ightarrow \omega_i \ll \Omega)$

neglects micromotion and interprets motion as generated by a "pseudo-potential"

$$e\Psi = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i} m\omega_i^2 x_i^2, \ i \in \{x, y, z\}$$

Thus, we define

and obtain the Hamiltonian

H =

 $\sum \hbar \omega_i \left(a_i^! a_i + \right)$

$$a_{i}^{\dagger} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega_{i}}{2\hbar}} x_{i} + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega_{i}}} p_{i}$$
$$a_{i} = \sqrt{\frac{m\omega_{i}}{2\hbar}} x_{i} - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega_{i}}} p_{i}$$



Single trapped ion













Linear ion traps



Trap designs differ primarily in effective distance & optical access



Linear Paul trap: Stability diagram





D. Leibfried et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281 (2003)

Non-linear configurations





M. D'Onofrio et al, arxiv:2021.12766 (2020)

Innsbruck linear ion trap (2000)





How does it look like?







How it looks like





How it looks like





Ion loading

1) An oven (or laser ablation) produces a weak atomic beam of neutral atoms crossing the trap





Summary

Charge particles cannot be trapped in 3D by static fields

✓ Radio-frequency Paul traps are 3D harmonic oscillators

✓ Motion of particle: Mathieu equation have stability region



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Ion crystals

Equilibrium positions: Minimize potential energy of ions in a linear chain:

$$V = \frac{m\omega_z^2}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N z_i(t)^2 + \frac{(Ze)^2}{8\pi\varepsilon_0} \sum_{\substack{j,i=1\\n\neq i}}^N \frac{1}{|z_j(t) - z_i(t)|}$$

Coulomb repulsion defines a length scale





PhD thesis, Petar Jurcevic www.quantumoptics.at

Ion strings: experimental positions





H.C. Nägerl et al., Appl. Phys. B 66, 603 (1998)

lon strings as quantum registers





Normal modes of motion

At low temperatures, ions oscillate around their equilibrium positions

Coulomb interaction: coupling of ion motion









Ion strings: mode frequencies and positions



Mode frequencies are nearly independent of ion number N

 $\nu_n = \nu \{1, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{29/5}, 3.05, 3.67, 4.23, 4.86, 5.44, \ldots \}$



A. Steane, Appl. Phys. B 64, 623 (1997) D. James, Appl. Phys. B 66, 181 (1998)



Summary

Ions in the chain act as coupled oscillators with normal modes

✓ Mode frequencies are nearly independent of ion number

✓ Ion spacing decreases with ion number



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Physicists like it simple





Ion trappers' favorites



For elements with no stable isotopes, the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life is in parentheses.

1	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
1	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
	Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr



Possible qubits

universität innsbruck

Storing and keeping quantum information requires long-lived atomic states:



Innsbruck ⁴³Ca⁺, Oxford ⁴³Ca⁺;

Maryland ¹⁷¹Yb⁺;

 optical transition frequencies (forbidden transitions, intercombination lines)
 S – D transitions in alkaline earths: Ca⁺, Sr⁺, Ba⁺, Ra⁺, (Yb⁺, Hg⁺) etc.



Our ion of choice





It's a two-level system?



Required lasers





Lasers and Electronics



Qubit measurement





Summary

✓ Alkali-earth ions are particularly simple

✓ There are different possibilities for encoding qubits into ions

✓ All ions are multi-level systems



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Laser-ion interaction



k, v, ϕ :wavenumber, frequency and phase of laser radiation *m*: mass of the ion

$$\sigma^{\pm} = (\sigma_x \pm i\sigma_y)/2$$



Laser-ion interaction – Lamb-Dicke Parameter

Define Lamb-Dicke parameter
$$\eta = kx_0 = k\sqrt{\langle (a+a^{\dagger})^2 \rangle} = k\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}$$

$$H_I = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega(\sigma^+ + \sigma^-) \left(e^{i(kx-\nu_L t+\phi)} + e^{-i(kx-\nu_L t+\phi)}\right)$$
$$H_I = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega(\sigma^+ + \sigma^-) \left(e^{i(\eta(a+a^{\dagger})} - \nu_L t+\phi)} + e^{-i(\eta(a+a^{\dagger})} - \nu_L t+\phi)}\right)$$



Laser-ion interaction – Interaction Picture

$$\begin{split} H_{I} &= \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega(\sigma^{+} + \sigma^{-})\left(e^{i(\eta(a+a^{\dagger})-\nu_{L}t+\phi)} + e^{-i(\eta(a+a^{\dagger})-\nu_{L}t+\phi)}\right) \\ \text{Transform to the interaction picture} \\ H_{I} &= e^{iH_{0}t/\hbar} H e^{-iH_{0}t/\hbar} \int H_{0} = \frac{\hbar\omega_{0}}{2}\sigma_{z} + \hbar\omega_{m}(a^{\dagger}a + \frac{1}{2}) \\ H_{I} &= \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega(e^{i\omega_{0}t}\sigma^{+} + e^{-i\omega_{0}t}\sigma^{-}) \cdot \\ & \left(e^{i(\eta(ae^{-i\omega_{m}t} + a^{\dagger}e^{i\omega_{m}t}) - \nu_{L}t+\phi)} + e^{-i(\eta(ae^{-i\omega_{m}t} + a^{\dagger}e^{i\omega_{m}t}) - \nu_{L}t+\phi)}\right) \\ & \text{define} \quad \hat{a} = ae^{-i\omega_{m}t} \end{split}$$



Laser-ion interaction – Rotating Wave Approximation

$$H_{I} = \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega(e^{i\omega_{0}t}\sigma^{+} + e^{-i\omega_{0}t}\sigma^{-})\cdot$$

$$\left(e^{i(\eta(ae^{-i\omega_{m}t} + a^{\dagger}e^{i\omega_{m}t}) - \nu_{L}t + \phi)} + e^{-i(\eta(ae^{-i\omega_{m}t} + a^{\dagger}e^{i\omega_{m}t}) - \nu_{L}t + \phi)}\right)$$

Rotating Wave Approximation (drop rapidly oscillating terms)

$$H_{I} = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \left(e^{i\eta(\hat{a}+\hat{a}^{\dagger})}\sigma^{+}e^{-i\Delta t}e^{i\phi} + e^{-i\eta(\hat{a}+\hat{a}^{\dagger})}\sigma^{-}e^{i\Delta t}e^{-i\phi} \right)$$

with $\hat{a} = ae^{-i\omega_{m}t}$
 $\Delta = \nu_{L} - \omega_{0}$



Laser-ion interaction – Lamb-Dicke regime

In the Lamb-Dicke regime $\ \eta^2(2n+1)\ll 1$

we expand $\exp(i\eta(\hat{a}^{\dagger}+\hat{a})) = 1 + i\eta(\hat{a}^{\dagger}+\hat{a}) + \mathcal{O}(\eta^2)$





D. Leibfried et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281-324 (2003)

Interaction in the ladder structure





Coupling strength beyond the Lamb Dicke regime





D. Leibfried et al, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 281-324 (2003)

Quantum state manipulation: Carrier and Sidebands





P. Schindler, at al., New. J. Phys. 15, 123012 (2013)

Ca40 Spectroscopy



Summary

Lamb-Dicke regime:

Extension of the ion's wave function Ψ much smaller than optical wavelength

$$\eta \sqrt{\langle \Psi | (a + a^{\dagger})^2 | \Psi
angle} \ll 1$$

Taylor expansion to first order:

$$H_{int} = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2}\sigma_{+}\{1 + i\eta(e^{-i\nu t}a + e^{i\nu t}a^{\dagger})\}e^{-i\delta t + i\phi} + h.c.$$



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Laser cooling

In the Lamb-Dicke regime, spontaneous photons rarely change the motional state |n>:



Physical processes that change n, in lowest order of η









S. Stenholm, Rev. Mod. Phys. 58, 699 (1986)

Sideband cooling





Measuring temperature using sidebands **RED** sidebands **BLUE** sidebands $-v_z - \sqrt{3}v_y - v_y \quad v_y \quad \sqrt{3}v_y$ v_Z 0.6 D-state population 0.5 0.4 P_0 P_0 P_0 0.3 > 95% > 96% 98% 0.2 0.1 -3.68 -3.63 -2.12 -2.07 2.07 2.12 3.63 3.68 -4.4 4.4 4.45 -4.45 Detuning at 729 nm (MHz)



Measuring the temperature of an ion





Measuring temperature using Rabi flops





Cooling and Heating





Ch. Roos et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 83, 4713 (1999)

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Single ion addressing

Option 1: Move the ions



V. Kaushal et al, AVS Quantum Sci. 2, 014101 (2020)





The required operations





Resonant Operations





P. Schindler, at al., New. J. Phys. 15, 123012 (2013)

Off-resonant Operations





P. Schindler, at al., New. J. Phys. 15, 123012 (2013)

Decoherence – phase damping (T2)

To keep the "quantumness" of the qubit, the phase of the driving laser and the two-level system needs to be preserved.





Single ion as an atomic clock

Schrödinger Equation: Relative phase evolution ∞ energy difference

$$|0\rangle + |1\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle + \exp(i \ \Delta E \ t)|1\rangle$$

Evolution at about 10¹⁵ Hz Linewidth between Hz and mHz

Need to track the clock



Z



Ramsey experiments





Chwalla et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 023002 (2009)
Qubit coherence





Magnetic Field Stabilization

1) μ -metal shield: 2ms \rightarrow 100ms



to test feedback performance

2) Magnetic field feedback

3) Magnetic field feedforward





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Normal modes

Perform Taylor expansion around equilibrium positions to find normal modes.

Analogous to 3D classical coupled harmonic oscillator: 3N modes.





C. Marquet, F. Schmidt-Kaler, and D. F. V. James, Applied Physics B 76, 199 (2003)









Generating Entanglement







I. Cirac, P. Zoller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 74, 4091 (1995)

Generating Entanglement





1. Cirac, P. Zoller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 74, 4091 (1995)

Mølmer-Sørensen entangling operation

Recall: in the Lamb-Dicke regime the interaction Hamiltonian becomes

$$H_{int} = \hbar \frac{\Omega}{2} \left\{ \left(e^{-i(\Delta t - \phi_L)} \sigma_+ \left[1 + i\eta \left(a e^{-i\omega_t t} + a^{\dagger} e^{i\omega_t t} \right) \right] + h.c. \right\}.$$



Exercise: Derive the interaction Hamiltonian for a bichromatic drive

$$H_{\rm Bic} = \hbar \eta \Omega \sigma_x \left(a e^{i\Delta_t t} + a^{\dagger} e^{-i\Delta_t t} \right)$$



Mølmer-Sørensen entangling operation

$$H_{\rm MS} = \hbar \eta \Omega \left(a e^{i\Delta_t t} + a^{\dagger} e^{-i\Delta_t t} \right) \left(\sigma_x^{(1)} + \sigma_x^{(2)} \right)$$





Mølmer-Sørensen entangling operation



Off-resonant coupling to the sidebands Unwanted populations interfere destructively



G. Kirchmair, et. al. New. J. Phys. 11, 023002 (2009) K. Mølmer and A. Sørensen, PRL 82, 1835 (1999)

Mølmer-Sørensen gate: thermal states



Gate operation after ground state cooling



G. Kirchmair et al., New. J. Phys. 11, 023002 (2009)

Mølmer-Sørensen gate: thermal states



Gate operation after Doppler cooling



G. Kirchmair et al., New. J. Phys. 11, 023002 (2009)



Multi path interferometer





Multi path interferometer – 8 ions



Mølmer-Sørensen Entangling Operation





T. Monz et al., *PRL*. **106**, 130506 (2011).

K. Mølmer and A. Sørensen, PRL 82, 1835 (1999).

n+1





T. Monz et al., *PRL*. **106**, 130506 (2011). V. Pogorelov et al., *PRX Quantum* **2**, 020343 (2021).



The Innsbruck Ion Trappers 2023







