Exploring the Quantum with Ion Traps

Exploring the Quantum with Ion Traps

- Ion Traps: A Tool for Quantum Optics and Spectroscopy
- The Paul trap and its application to quantum physics
- Why quantum computers ?
- Quantum bits, Q-registers, Q-gates
- Exploring Quantum Computation with Trapped Ions
- Quantum Toolbox with Ions
- Quantum Simulations, analog and digital
- Scaling the ion trap quantum computer

Rainer Blatt

Institute for Experimental Physics, University of Innsbruck, Institute for Quantum Optics and Quantum Information, Innsbruck, Austrian Academy of Sciences



der Wissenschaften

Exploring Quanta ...



Exploring the Quantum

Atoms, Cavities, and Photons

Serge Haroche and Jean-Michel Raimond

OXFORD GRADUATE TEXTS





Exploring Quanta ...



Exploring the Quantum

Atoms, Cavities, and Photons

Serge Haroche and Jean-Michel Raimond

OXFORD GRADUATE TEXTS



... with trapped ions

The development of the ion trap (W. Paul, 1956)

DK 537.534.3 535.336.2

FORSCHUNGSBERICHTE DES WIRTSCHAFTS- UND VERKEHRSMINISTERIUMS NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN

Herausgegeben von Staatssekretär Prof. Dr. h. c. Dr. E. h. Leo Brandt

Nr. 415

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wolfgang Paul Dr. rer. nat. Otto Osberghaus Dipl.-Phys. Erhardt Fischer

Physikalisches Institut der Universität Bonn

Ein Ionenkäfig

Als Manuskript gedruckt





Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wolfgang Paul

Dr. rer. nat. Otto Osberghaus Dipl.-Phys. Erhardt Fischer

Physikalisches Institut der Universität Bonn

Ein Ionenkäfig

The development of the ion trap (W. Paul, 1956)





Prof. Dr.-Ing. Wolfgang Paul Dr. rer. nat. Otto Osberghaus Dipl.-Phys. Erhardt Fischer

Physikalisches Institut der Universität Bonn

Ein Ionenkäfig

In the first place it is fair to state that we are not *experimenting* with single particles, anymore than we can raise Ichtyosauria in the zoo.

..., this is the obvious way of registering the fact, that we *never* experiment with just *one* electron or atom or (small) molecule. In thoughtexperiments we sometimes assume that we do; this envariably entails ridiculous consequences.



E. Schrödinger

British Journal of the Philosophy of Science III (10), (1952)

Paul trap in the 70s: a single laser-cooled ion



W. Neuhauser, M. Hohenstatt, P. Toschek, H. Dehmelt Phys. Rev. Lett. **41**, 233 (1978), PRA (1980)



Applying the Paul trap in the 80s...



The Nobel prize in 1989



"for the development of the ion trap technique"



Exploring the quantum with ion traps in the 90s ...

Theory and experimental progress....

- Quantum optics, correlation functions, new treatment of cooling in traps,
 I.Cirac, R. Blatt, P. Zoller, W. Phillips, Phys. Rev. A 46, 2668 (1992)
- Equivalence: ion trap <=> cavity QED system ("CQED without a cavity")
 C. Blockley, D. Walls, H. Risken, Europhys. Lett. 17, 509 (1992)
- 1994: ICAP Boulder quantum information talk (A. Ekert),
 -> Paul trap application for quantum information processing
- 1995: Cirac-Zoller proposal, quantum computation with trapped ions
 I. Cirac, P. Zoller, Phys. Rev. Lett. 74, 4091 (1995)
- Quantum optics and quantum information experiments
 Boulder, Innsbruck, Oxford, C. Monroe et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 75, 4714 (1995)

Development of tools and methods for measuring and manipulating individual quantum systems

Exploring the quantum with cavities and ion traps

Lasers are used to cool, control and measure the trapped ions.

*

T



Rydb sent one b S

Photons bounce back and forth between two mirrors. The distance they travel is as long as one trip around the Earth.



2012

Electrode Sup

Nobel Prize 2012 "for ground-breaking experimental methods that enable measuring and manipulation of individual quantum systems"

Why Exploring Quantum Computers ... ?

applications in physics and mathematics

factorization of large numbers (P. Shor, 1994) can be achieved much faster on a quantum computer than with a classical computer

factorization of number with L digits:

classical computer: $\sim \exp(L^{1/3})$, quantum computer: $\sim L^2$

fast database search (L. Grover, 1997) search data base with N entries: classical computer: O(N), quantum computer: O(N^{1/2})

simulation of Schrödinger equations hot topic !



spectroscopy: quantum computer as atomic "state synthesizer"

D. M. Meekhof et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 76, 1796 (1996)

quantum physics with "information guided eye"

The requirements for quantum computation

D. P. DiVincenzo, Quant. Inf. Comp. 1 (Special), 1 (2001)

- 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. Measurement capability specific to implementation
- VI. Ability to interconvert stationary and flying qubits
- VII. Ability to faithfully transmit flying qubits between specified locations

The seven commandments for QC !!



Quantum bits and registers

- classical bit: physical object in state 0
- or in state 1

• register: bit rows 011...

quantum bit (qubit): superposition of two orthogonal quantum states

$$|\Psi\rangle = c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle$$

quantum register: L 2-level atoms, 2^L quantum states

2^L states correspond

to numbers 0,...., 2^L – 1



most general state of the register is the superposition

 $\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle &= c_{000}|000\rangle + c_{001}|001\rangle + \dots + c_{110}|110\rangle + c_{111}|111\rangle \quad \text{(binary)} \\ &= c_0|0\rangle + c_1|1\rangle + \dots + c_6|6\rangle + c_7|7\rangle \qquad \qquad \text{(decimal)} \end{aligned}$

Superpositions -> Quantum Parallelism

... many computational paths "interfere" and produce the result



With 300 qubits, the number of computational paths exceeds the number of atoms in the universe ...!

Universal quantum gate operations

Operations with single qubit: (1-bit rotations)

together universal !

Operations with two qubits: (2-bit rotations)

CNOT – gate operation (controlled-NOT)

analogous to classical XOR



0 angle 0 angle	\rightarrow	0 angle 0 angle
0 angle 1 angle	\rightarrow	0 angle 1 angle
1 angle 0 angle	\rightarrow	1 angle 1 angle
1 angle 1 angle	\rightarrow	1 angle 0 angle

control bit

target bit

How quantum information processing works



Input is computation: sequence of quantum gates is output

Quantum Computation with Trapped Ions

15 MAY 1995

VOLUME 74, NUMBER 20 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Quantum Computations with Cold Trapped Ions

J. I. Cirac and P. Zoller*

Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universiät Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria (Received 30 November 1994)

A quantum computer can be implemented with cold ions confined in a linear trap and interacting with laser beams. Quantum gates involving any pair, triplet, or subset of ions can be realized by coupling the ions through the collective quantized motion. In this system decoherence is negligible, and the measurement (readout of the quantum register) can be carried out with a high efficiency.

PACS numbers: 89.80.+h, 03.65.Bz, 12.20.Fv, 32.80.Pj







J. I. Cirac

P. Zoller

other gate proposals (and more):

- Cirac & Zoller
- Mølmer & Sørensen,
- Milburn, Zagury, Solano
- Jonathan & Plenio & Knight
- Geometric phases
- Leibfried & Wineland

Quantum Computation with Trapped Ions

15 MAY 1995

VOLUME 74, NUMBER 20 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Quantum Computations with Cold Trapped Ions

J. I. Cirac and P. Zoller*

Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universiät Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria (Received 30 November 1994)

A quantum computer can be implemented with cold ions confined in a linear trap and interacting with laser beams. Quantum gates involving any pair, triplet, or subset of ions can be realized by coupling the ions through the collective quantized motion. In this system decoherence is negligible, and the measurement (readout of the quantum register) can be carried out with a high efficiency.

PACS numbers: 89.80.+h, 03.65.Bz, 12.20.Fv, 32.80.Pj





controlled - NOT:

 $|\varepsilon_1\rangle|\varepsilon_2\rangle \rightarrow |\varepsilon_1\rangle|\varepsilon_1 \oplus \varepsilon_2\rangle$

0 angle 0 angle	\rightarrow	0 angle 0 angle
0 angle 1 angle	\rightarrow	0 angle 1 angle
1 angle 0 angle	\rightarrow	1 angle 1 angle
$ 1\rangle 1\rangle$	\rightarrow	1 angle 0 angle
`†´`†´		

control bit

target bit

other gate proposals (and more):

- Cirac & Zoller
- Mølmer & Sørensen,
- Milburn, Zagury, Solano
- Jonathan & Plenio & Knight
- Geometric phases
- Leibfried & Wineland

Qubits with Trapped Ions

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

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



Innsbruck ⁴⁰Ca⁺

 microwave transitions (hyperfine transitions, Zeeman transitions) alkaline earths: ⁹Be⁺, ²⁵Mg⁺, ⁴³Ca⁺, ⁸⁷Sr⁺, ¹³⁷Ba⁺, ¹¹¹Cd⁺, ¹⁷¹Yb⁺



Boulder ⁹Be⁺; Michigan ¹¹¹Cd⁺; Innsbruck ⁴³Ca⁺, Oxford ⁴³Ca⁺; Maryland ¹⁷¹Yb⁺;

Linear Ion Traps



Boulder, Mainz, Aarhus

Innsbruck, Oxford

Innsbruck linear ion trap (2000)



 ω_zpprox 0.7 - 2 MHz $\omega_{x,y}pprox$ 1.5 - 4 MHz

Quantum Computer with Trapped Ions

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

L lons in linear trap

- quantum bits, quantum register
 - narrow optical transitions

2-qubit quantum gate

- groundstate Zeeman coherences



$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{\underline{x}} c_{\underline{x}} |x_{L-1}, \dots, x_0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle_{\mathsf{CM}}$$
$$|0\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle|0\rangle$$
$$|0\rangle|1\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle|1\rangle$$

 $|1\rangle|1\rangle$



- control bit 🚺 target bit
- needs individual addressing, efficient single qubit operations
- small decoherence of internal and motional states
- quantum computer as series of gate operations (sequence of laser pulses)

The Quantum Information Processor with Trapped Ca⁺ Ions

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

Experiments with trapped Ca⁺ ions



Quantized Fluorescence Detection of an Ion String



 Coherences are destroyed

Quantized ion motion: superpositions and entanglement





Coherent state manipulation



Quantum information processing with trapped ions

algorithms:
sequence of single qubit and
two-qubit gate operations



gate operations:

sequences of laser pulses (carrier and/or sideband pulses)

analysis:

measure density matrix of state or process (tomography)

measure entanglement via **parity oscillations** $\begin{array}{ll} R(\vartheta,\varphi), & R^+(\vartheta,\varphi) \\ \text{carrier} & \text{sideband} \end{array}$



Push-button preparation and tomography of Bell states



C. Roos et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **92**, 220402 (2004)

Scalable push-button generation of GHZ states



C. Roos et al., Science **304**, 1478 (2004)

Eight – Ion W-state



Quantum procedures and fidelities

single qubit operations	$ \psi angle = lpha g angle + eta e angle$	> 99 %
2-qubit CNOT gate	$ arepsilon_1 angle arepsilon_2 angle ightarrow arepsilon_1 angle arepsilon_1 anglearepsilon_1arepsilon arepsilon_1 angle$	~ 93 %
Bell states	$\Psi_{-}=rac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(SD angle- DS angle)$	93-95 %
W and GHZ states	$ \psi\rangle_{GHZ} = SSS + DDD\rangle$	85-90 %
Quantum teleportation	$ \Psi angle_A \longrightarrow \Psi angle_B$	83 %
Entanglement swapping	$ Bell\rangle_{ab}, Bell\rangle_{cd} \longrightarrow Bell\rangle_{ad,bc}$	<mark>~ 80</mark> %
Toffoli gate operation	$ a angle b angle c angle ightarrow a angle b angle c\oplus ab angle$	71 %

BUT: for fault-tolerant operation needed

Mølmer – Sørensen gate operation



Measuring entanglement

C. A. Sackett et al., Nature 404, 256 (2000)

entangling operation:

$$|SS
angle \longrightarrow |SS\pm DD
angle$$
 correlates states

parity **II** witnesses entanglement:

 Π oscillates with 2 ϕ !



F. Schmidt-Kaler et al., Nature 422, 408 (2003)
Deterministic Bell states using the Mølmer-Sørensen gate



J. Benhelm, G. Kirchmair, C. Roos Theory: C. Roos, New Journ. of Physics **10**, 013002 (2008)

measure entanglement via parity oscillations



Entangling gates with more than two ions

Two-body interaction by off-resonant spin-motion coupling



Effective spin-spin interaction

 $H_{
m eff} \propto \sigma_x^{(1)} \sigma_x^{(2)}$

Many ions:



C. Roos, New J. Phys. 10, 013002 (2008), J. Benhelm et al., Nature Phys. 4, 463 (2008)

Mølmer-Sørensen gate with two ions: Bell states

A. Sørensen, K. Mølmer, PRL **82**, 1971 (1999)



 $|SS\rangle \longrightarrow (|SS\rangle + i|DD\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

Creating GHZ-states with 4 ions



Creating GHZ-states with 8 ions



 $|SSSSSSS\rangle \longrightarrow (|SSSSSSS\rangle + |DDDDDDDD\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$

n - qubit GHZ state generation with global MS gates



T. Monz, P. Schindler, J. Barreiro et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 130506 (2011)

n - qubit GHZ state generation with global MS gates



T. Monz, P. Schindler, J. Barreiro et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 106, 130506 (2011)

Quantum computing with global and local operations



Quantum information processing with CNOT gate ops.



Input i computation: sequence of quantum gates i output

Quantum computation with global and local operations



Laser-ion interactions: Geometry

collective operations

 $S_{x,y}(\theta)$

Entangling (bichromatic) operation





Individually addressed operation



Gradient ascent algorithm: (GRAPE - algorithm) N. Khaneja *et al.*, J. Magn. Res. **172**, 296 (2005)

The Quantum Way of Doing Computations

Algorithms to implement:

- Grover algorithm
- Quantum Fourier Transform
- Phase estimation algorithm
- Shor algorithm
- Order finding
- Quantum error correction
- Analog quantum simulations
- Digital quantum simulations





MICHAEL A. NIELSEN AND ISAAC L.CHUANG

CAMBRIDGE

Analog quantum simulator

Simulate the physics of a quantum system of interest by another system that is easier to control and to measure.

Approach

Goal

Engineer a Hamiltonian $H_{\rm sim}$ exactly matching the system Hamiltonian $H_{\rm sys}$ $H_{\rm Sim} \propto H_{\rm SyS}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots)$

Examples:

 Ultracold atoms in optical lattices (MIT, Harvard, MPQ, NIST,...)

Ion crystals
 (JQI, MPQ, IQOQI ...)



I. Buluta, F. Nori, Science 326, 108 (2009)

Quantum simulations with spin chains



N ions interacting with a transverse bichromatic beam simulating the Hamiltonian

$$H_{Ising} = \hbar \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \sigma_i^x \sigma_j^x + \hbar B \sum_i \sigma_i^z$$

Coupling matrix J_{ij} has an approximate power law dependence with a tunable exponent α

$$J_{ij} \sim \frac{1}{|i-j|^{\alpha}} \begin{cases} \alpha = 0 & \text{infinite range interactions} \\ \alpha = 1 & \text{Coulomb interactions} \\ \vdots \\ \alpha = 3 & \text{dipole-dipole interactions} \end{cases}$$

for $B \gg max(|J_{ij}|)$ hopping $H_{XY} = \hbar \sum_{i < j} J_{ij}(\sigma_i^+ \sigma_j^- + \sigma_i^- \sigma_j^+)$

Spread of correlations in interacting quantum systems



Quantum simulations with spin chains



 $\begin{array}{ll} \Omega_i \mbox{ Rabi frequency } k = 2\pi/\lambda \mbox{ wavenumber } \omega_n \mbox{ transverse mode frequency } \\ m \mbox{ Ion mass } \Delta \mbox{ detuning } \eta_{i,n} \mbox{ Lamb-Dicke factor of i}^{\rm th} \mbox{ ion in n}^{\rm th} \mbox{ mode } \end{array}$

Quasiparticle dynamics following quenches



Entanglement distribution following a local quench



Break-down of the light-cone picture

With increasing interaction range($\alpha \rightarrow 0$) the spin waves propagate faster than what is allowed by the nearest-neighbour light-cone (**Lieb_Robinson** bound)



Digital Quantum Simulator

Simulate the physics of a quantum system of interest by another system that is easier to control and to measure.

Approach

Goal

Use a quantum computer as a quantum simulator



Decompose dynamics induced by system Hamiltonian into sequence of quantum gates



 $U_{\rm sim} \propto U_{\rm sys}$ $U_{\rm sys} = e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}H_{\rm sys}\tau}$

Example:

$$H = H_1 + H_2 + \dots + H_k$$
$$e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}Ht} = \left(e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}H_1t/n}e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}H_2t/n}\dots e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar}H_kt/n}\right)^n$$

RB, C. Roos, Nature Physics 8, 277 (2012)

Digital Simulation: Universal Quantum Simulator

 $H = \sum_{k} h_k$ — model of some local system to be simulated for a time t

- 0. have a universal set on 'encoding' degrees of freedom
- 1. build each local evolution operator separately, for small time steps, using operation set
- 2. approximate global evolution operator using the Trotter approximation

$$U = e^{-iHt} \approx \left(e^{-ih_1 \frac{t}{n}} e^{-ih_2 \frac{t}{n}} e^{-ih_3 \frac{t}{n}} \dots e^{-ih_k \frac{t}{n}} \right)^n$$



"Efficient for local quantum systems"

 $u_k = e^{-ih_k t/n}$

S. Lloyd, Science **273**, 1073 (1996)



 $Et/h = \theta$

Proof-of-principle demonstration



Outlook and future work



 Time dependent dynamics allows preparation of complex eigenstates, exploration of ground state properties and quantum phase changes

Frequencies tell you about spectrum:

Fourier transform the data and get the energy gaps in the simulated Hamiltonian

• Energy eigenvalues could be extracted by embedding into phase estimation algorithm

Current limiting source of error: thought to be laser intensity fluctuations limiting possible simulation size and complexity

Inclusion of error correction and error protection

Scaling the ion trap quantum computer ...

more ions, larger traps, phonons carry quantum information

Cirac-Zoller, slow for many ions (few 10 ions maybe possible)

move ions, carry quantum information around

Kielpinski et al., Nature **417**, 709 (2002)

requires small, integrated trap structures,

miniaturized optics and electronics





Operating a quantum algorithm on an ion chip



Isaac Chuang,

MIT

Movie: © Isaac Chuang, MIT

Operating a quantum algorithm on an ion chip



Movie: © Isaac Chuang, MIT

The development of a quantum microprocessor



Microtrap • • • • • • • •





Innsbruck ion trap since 2000

ion trap chip 2008, microtrap

Advanced chip traps at NIST

2-layer, 2-D, X-junction, 18 zones (Au on Al₂O₃)



t

Transport through junction (⁹Be⁺,²⁴Mg⁺)
 \$\overline\$ minimal heating ~ 20 quanta
 \$\overline\$ transport error < 3 x 10⁻⁶





Scaling the ion trap quantum computer

Node A

cavity QED: atom – photon interface, use photons for networking

J. I. Cirac et al., PRL **78**, 3221 (1997) T. Northup et al., Univ. Innsbruck

trap arrays, using single ion as moving head

I. Cirac und P. Zoller, Nature 404, 579 (2000)

ion – wire – solid state qubits (e.g. charge qubit)
 L. Tian et al., PRL 92, 247902 (2004)
 H. Häffner et al., UC Berkeley



K. Brown et al., Nature **471**, 196 (2011),

M. Harlander et al., Nature 471, 200 (2011)





 Δz_2

The Dream (and vision):

local logical qubits,
protected by error correction,
interconnected via dipole-dipole interaction (on chip) ion-cavity interfaces (network)

Exploring Quantum Computations



WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 1999

COVER STORY

Beyond the PC: Atomic QC

Quantum computers could be a billion times faster than Pentium III

By Kevin Maney USA TODAY

Around 2030 or so, the computer on your desk might be filled with liquid instead of transistors and chips. It would be a quantum computer. It wouldn't operate on anything so mundane as physical laws. It would employ quantum mechanics, which quickly gets into things such as teleportation and alternate universes and is, by all accounts, the weirdest stuff known to man.

This quantum computer would be a data rocket. It probably would do calculate

OK!

...a quantum computer. It wouldn't operate on anything so mundane as physical laws. It would employ quantum mechanics, which quickly gets into things such as teleportation and alternate universes and is, by all accounts, the weirdest stuff known to man.

well... that will take some time

Future goals and developments

- 🔶 more qubits (~20 50)
- better fidelities
- faster gate operations
- faster detection

- cryogenic trap, micro-structured traps
- development of 2-d trap arrays, onboard addressing, electronics etc.
- entangling of large(r) systems: characterization ?
- implementation of error correction
- applications
 - small scale QIP (e.g. repeaters)
 - quantum metrology, enhanced S/N, tailored atoms and states
 - quantum simulations (Dirac equation, Klein paradox, spin Hamiltonians etc.)
 - quantum computation (period finding, quantum Fourier transform, factoring)

"qubit alive"

............



The International Team 2014









The International Team 2014



C. Roos M. Hennrich Y. Colombe M. Brownnutt R. Rothganger T. Northup F. Ong T. Monz M. Lee B. Lanyon

Theory collaboration:

D. Nigg M. Kumph E. Martinez R. Lechner B. Casabone B. Ames **M.Guggemos** M. Brandl D. Heinrich P. Jurcevic K. Friebe D. Higginbottom C. Hempel P. Holz M. Niedermayr K. Lakhmansky K. Schüppert C. Mayer G. Araneda M. van Mourik

L. Postler A. Erhard M. Meraner A. Nolf J. Ghetta D. Fioretto S. Schunke

P. Zoller, P. Hauke, M. Müller, M.A. Martin-Delgado

