Optical Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics

EPS-Meeting Budapest 26.-30. August 2002

Gerhard Rempe Max-Planck Institute for Quantum Optics Garching, Germany

why is it interesting ?

- network of **unitary** quantum computers
- control of a **dissipative** quantum system

what has been achieved in the laboratory ?

- example 1: light-matter interface
- example 2: feedback control of atomic motion

where can it be applied in the future ?

• example 3: microscopy of a moving atom

quantum computer

most likely, it will employ a small number of qubits



quantum network

adds modularity and scalability

wanted: light-matter interface a photon source based on a unitary (deterministic and reversible) emission process

Ingredient I: Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics

atomic - dipole decay rate :

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2}{3} \frac{\mu^2 \omega^3}{\hbar c^3}$$



$$\kappa = \frac{\omega}{2Q} = \frac{c}{2L}\frac{\pi}{F}$$

atom - photon coupling constant :

$$g = \frac{\mu E}{\hbar} = \mu \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\varepsilon_0 \hbar V}}$$

$$\uparrow$$

vacuum - electric field :

$$\frac{\hbar\omega}{2} = \int \varepsilon_0 E^2 dV \quad \Rightarrow \quad E = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar\omega}{2\varepsilon_0 V}}$$

strong coupling $g > (\gamma, \kappa)$:cavity-volume
small
 \downarrow
g largecavity-finesse
high
 \downarrow
K smallinternal dynamics faster than
coupling to the environment

Cavity QED for Quantum Information Processing



- + quantum manipulations at the single-atom and single-photon level
- photons at rest
- poor scalability and poor prospects for quantum communications

optical domain (Caltech, MPQ, ...):

large ω , small μ , small V



- + flying photons
- + good scalability and good prospects for quantum communications
- limited control over relevant parameters (atomic motion)

Experimental Setup



Ingredient II: Stimulated Raman Adiabatic Passage



dark state (without contribution from the atom's excited state): $|\Psi_0(t)\rangle = \frac{2g(t)|i,0\rangle - \Omega_T(t)|f,1\rangle}{\sqrt{4g^2 + \Omega_T^2}}$

Counterintuitive Interaction Sequence



Hennrich et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 85 (2000) 4872

Numerical Simulation of a Single Shot



Kuhn et al., Appl. Phys. B 69 (1999) 373

Triggered Stream of Single-Photon Pulses



Single-Photon Physics – An Outlook

Quantum computing:

- quantum gates with linear optics (Knill-LaFlamme-Milburn)
- interference of indistinguishable photons (Hong-Ou-Mandel)



Quantum networking:

- entanglement of two distant intra-cavity atoms
- teleportation of internal and/or external atomic states



Atom-Photon Molecule



Jaynes and Cummings, IEEE 51 (1963) 89

Real-Time Observation of Individual Atoms



Feedback Control of Atomic Motion

real-time observation and mechanical binding:

- control an observed (dissipative) quantum system
- explore limits set by quantum noise and measurement-induced back-action



Differentiating Feedback Control

light intensity depends on the atomic velocity



velocity outwards

- \Rightarrow 'large' intensity
- \Rightarrow 'large' deceleration



velocity inwards

- \Rightarrow small intensity
- \Rightarrow small acceleration

advantage:

parametric cooling with phase automatically adjusted (but only one-dimensional cooling along radial direction)



predeterminedproportionaldifferentiatingfeedbackfeedbackfeedback

storage time limited by heating due to random momentum kicks from spontaneous emission events

Fischer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002) 163002

continuously observed quantum system:

• quantum-limited position measurement of a free particle

standard quantum limit
$$\Delta x_{SQL} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar\tau}{2m}}$$

high-resolution single-particle microscopy:

• real-time observation of atomic, biological or chemical processes

Real-time tracking of a single atom

Hood et al., Science **287** (2000) 1447 in a resonator with **frequency-degenerate (transverse) modes**, the atom couples to a position-dependent subset of modes



* strong coupling in a long cavity

see also Morin et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 73 (1994) 1489

Atomic Kaleidoscope (Simulation)

intensity pattern of the light transmitted through a cavity at the frequency of the transverse modes $\text{TEM}_{2,0}$, $\text{TEM}_{1,1}$ and $\text{TEM}_{0,2}$



Reconstruction of an Atomic Trajectory (Simulation)

based on the position-dependent differential phase shift of transverse modes $\text{TEM}_{2,0}$, $\text{TEM}_{1,1}$ and $\text{TEM}_{0,2}$



Horak et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 88 (2002) 043601

cavity QED allows one to

- generate by means of
- a unitary process
- single photons
- on demand,

and

- observe
- and control
- with high spatial (μm)
- and temporal (μ s) resolution
- the motion of an individual atom.

