





A Spin Squeezed Atom Interferometer

PhD Dissertation Leonardo Salvi March 1, 2017

Light and matter-wave interference

Superposition principle of light and matter waves $I \propto |E_1 + E_2 e^{i\phi}|^2 = E_1^2 + E_2^2 + 2E_1 E_2 \cos \phi$

MAY 15, 1947





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Interference Phenomena of Slow Neutrons

E. FERMI AND L. MARSHALL Argonne National Laboratory and University of Chicago, Chicago, Illineis (Received February 7, 1947)



L. MARTON National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C. (Received January 28, 1952)







The Mach-Zehnder atom interferometer



Large momentum transfer and coherence time

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature16155

Quantum superposition at the half-metre scale

T. Kovachy¹, P. Asenbaum¹, C. Overstreet¹, C. A. Donnelly¹, S. M. Dickerson¹, A. Sugarbaker¹, J. M. Hogan¹ & M. A. Kasevich¹





doi:10.1038/nature13433

LETTER

Precision measurement of the Newtonian gravitational constant using cold atoms

G. Rosi¹, F. Sorrentino¹, L. Cacciapuoti², M. Prevedelli³ & G. M. Tino¹

Total systematic uncertainty: 92 ppm Statistical uncertainty: 116 ppm



Projection noise: Standard Quantum Limit (SQL) or shot noise

$$|\psi\rangle = \prod_{i=1}^{N} (c_{\downarrow}|\downarrow\rangle_{i} + c_{\uparrow}|\uparrow\rangle_{i})$$







Atoms and photons in a box



Free space scattering



Squeezing by one-axis twisting



Collective measurements and entanglement

2-1/2 spins:

$$S = 0$$

$$S = 1$$

$$|\uparrow\rangle_1|\uparrow\rangle_2 \qquad m = +1$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_1|\downarrow\rangle_2 - |\downarrow\rangle_1|\uparrow\rangle_2) \qquad m = 0$$

$$|\downarrow\rangle_1|\downarrow\rangle_2 \qquad m = -1$$
Measurement result
Atom 1 is spin up and atom 2 is spin down
$$= 1 \quad |\uparrow\rangle_1|\downarrow\rangle_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|S = 0, m = 0\rangle + |S = 1, m = 0\rangle)$$

One atom is spin up and the other one is spin down $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\uparrow\rangle_1|\downarrow\rangle_2+|\downarrow\rangle_1|\uparrow\rangle_2)$



Demonstrated 20 dB improvement over the SQL: Hosten et al., Nature 529, 505-508 (2016)

Comparison of resonant and dispersive detection



 Convenient in the bad cavity regime Raman scattering suppressed or strongly reduced



- Convenient in the good cavity regime
- Possible strong contribution from Raman scattering

Dispersive detection of momentum states





Cavity setup for free space atom interferometer



- Homogeneous coupling with running waves
- Atoms free to exit the cavity volume
- Possible interferometer inside the cavity
- Bragg beams in free space or in the cavity mode

Challenge: required ultracold atoms: < 100 nK

- Atom-cavity interaction can induce spin squeezing for atom interferometers
- Dispersive and resonant detection appear both very promising
- The unique properties of the intercombination line in strontium allows to detect momentum states
- Required large momentum transfer and homogeneous coupling i.e. ultracold atomic sample
- Possible 100-fold improvement over the standard quantum limit.