Space-Based Quantum Sensors and Engineering

ISSUE: What are the development challenges and the future applications of space-based quantum sensors for space science and space engineering?

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Quantum PNT-related space demonstrations





ARTICLE

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In-orbit operation of an atomic clock based on laser-cooled ⁸⁷Rb atoms

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LETTER

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-018-0605-1

Space-borne Bose-Einstein condensation for precision interferometry

Dennis Becker^{1,16}, Maike D. Lachmann^{1,16}, Stephan T. Seidel^{1,15,16}, Holger Ahlers¹, Aline N. Dinkelaker², Jens Grosse^{3,4}, Ortwin Hellmig⁶, Hauke Müntinga³, Vladimir Schkolnik², Thijs Wendrich¹, Andre Wenzlawsk⁶, Benjamin Weps⁷, Robin Corgier^{1,6}, Tobias Frazz, Yaceur Gaaloul¹, Waldemar Herr¹, Daniel Liddte², Manuel Popp¹, Sirine Amri⁸, Hannes Duncker⁵, Maik Erbe⁹, Anja Kohfeldt⁹, Andre Kubelka-Lange³, Claus Braxmaier^{3,4}, Eric Charron⁶, Wolfgang Ertmer¹, Markus Krutzik², Claus Lämmerzahl³, Achim Peters³, Wolfgang P Schleich^{10,11,12,13}, Klaus Sengstock³, Reinhold Walser¹⁴, Andreas Wich¹⁷, Patrick Windpassinger⁶ & Ernst M. Rasel¹*

Article

Observation of Bose–Einstein condensates in an Earth-orbiting research lab

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Quantum communications and networks space demonstrations



PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 120, 030501 (2018)

Editors' Suggestion Featured in Physics

Satellite-Relayed Intercontinental Quantum Network

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LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature23675

Ground-to-satellite quantum teleportation

Ji-Gang Ren^{1,2}, Ping Xu^{1,2}, Hai-Lin Yong^{1,2}, Liang Zhang^{2,3}, Sheng-Kai Liao^{1,2}, Juan Yin^{1,2}, Wel-Yue Liu^{1,2}, Wen-Qi Cai^{1,2}, Meng Yang^{1,2}, Li Li^{1,2}, Kui-Xing Yang^{1,2}, Xuan Han^{1,4}, Yong, Qiang Yao⁴, Ji Li⁴, Hai-Yan Wu⁵, Song Wan⁶, Lei Liu⁶, Ding-Quan Liu^{1,4}, Yao-Wu Kuang³, Zhi-Ping He³, Peng Shang^{1,2}, Cheng Guo^{1,2}, Ru-Hua Zheng⁷, Kai Tian⁶, Zhen-Cai Zhu⁶, Nai-Le Liu^{1,2}, Chao-Yang Lu^{1,4}, Rong Shu^{3,4}, Yu-Ao Chen^{1,2}, Cheng-Zhi Peng^{1,2}, Jian-Yu Wang^{2,3} & Jian-Wei Pan^{1,2} The quantum principles of distributed entanglement and superposition enable measurements which are (potentially!) superior to existing approaches.



Atomic wavepacket superposition

54 cm



Kovachy, et al., Nature (2015).

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Atomic wavepacket interference



Superposed atomic wavepackets interfere



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Asenbaum, PRL (2017).

Phase shifts



 $T_{ij'}$ gravity gradient v_i , velocity; $x_{i'}$ initial position g_i acceleration due to gravity T_i interrogation time $k_{eff'}$ effective propagation vector Large phase shifts imply dramatic sensitivity to inertial forces



C. Overstreet, P. Asenbaum, and M. A. Kasevich, *Physically Significant Phase Shifts in Matter-Wave Interferometry*, arXiv:2008.05609 (2020).

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Equivalence Principle

Atom-Interferometric Test of the Equivalence Principle at the 10⁻¹² Level





t=T

P. Asenbaum, C. Overstreet, M. Kim, J. Curti, and M. A. Kasevich, *Atom-Interferometric Test of the Equivalence Principle at the 1e-12 Level*, arXiv:2005.11624 (2020).

MAGIS-100: Dark matter detector at Fermilab



By Charlie Wood | Scientific American February 2020 Issue

Satellite geodesy



Simulation of hydrology map from space-borne atom interferometer gravity gradiometer.

~ 1 cm equivalent water height resolution.

Instrument:

4 m baseline single-axis rotation compensation <1e-4 E design resolution

Development of prototype funded by NASA (POC B. Saif); Instrument built by AOSense, Inc.



Gyroscopes / Atom interferometer



(2017-present) Navigation grade+ gyro, AOSense, Inc. Thermal atomic beam.



(1997) First laboratory demonstration of precision atom interferometric gyroscope. (2002) 2e-6 deg/hr^{1/2}. MK, Stanford. Thermal atomic beam.



Entangled state sensors

Entangled states will lead to 10x noise improvement in sensors (magnetometers, gyroscopes, clocks) in coming decade.



Atom-cavity interactions are used to create entangled many-atom quantum states.



Entangled-state atomic clock.



O. Hosten, et al., Nature (2016).



R&D questions

What are optimal quantum states for given measurement classes?

How can these states be efficiently prepared?

How are these states detected?

What are the technical and fundamental limits?

- (unknown) classical/quantum boundaries?

What physical systems will benefit?

- clocks?
- inertial sensors?
- magnetometer?
- optomechanical?

Our team

























