Which technology ?



Cavity QED





NMR



Superconducting qubits





Trapped atoms/ions

Quantum dots

Which technology ?







Di Vincenzo criteria

- 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



1. Initialization in a pure quantum state



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2. Quantum state manipulation on $S_{1/2} - D_{5/2}$ transition



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Spatially resolved detection with CCD camera

Two ions:



50 experiments / s

Repeat experiments 100-200 times

Rabi oscillations



Rabi oscillations



Rabi oscillations











Addressing single qubits





- inter ion distance: ~ 4 µm
- addressing waist: ~ 2 μ m
- < 0.1% intensity on neighbouring ions

Having the qubits interact



Ion motion



Ion motion



Ion motion





carrier and sideband Rabi oscillations with Rabi frequencies

 $\Omega, \eta \Omega$



























Bell states with atoms

- ⁹Be⁺: NIST (fidelity: 97 %)
- ⁴⁰Ca⁺: Oxford (99.6 %)
- ¹¹¹Cd⁺: Ann Arbor (79%)
- 171Yb: Maryland (96%)
- ²⁵Mg⁺: Munich (97%)
- 40Ca+: Innsbruck (99.3%)

Analysis of Bell states

 $|SD\rangle + |DS\rangle$

Fluorescence detection with CCD camera:

Coherent superposition or incoherent mixture ?

What is the relative phase of the superposition ?

Measurement of the density matrix:





Measuring a density matrix

A measurement yields the *z*-component of the Bloch vector

=> Diagonal of the density matrix

$$\rho = \left(\begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{P_S} & C-iD \\ C+iD & \mathbf{P_D} \end{array} \right)$$



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=> coherences of the density m



Bell states





Generalized Bell states



Generalized Bell states



Universal set of quantum gates ...

Having the qubits interact

VOLUME 74, NUMBER 20

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

15 May 1995

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

...allows the realization of a *universal* quantum computer !

$$\begin{split} |D\rangle|D\rangle &\to |D\rangle|D\rangle \\ |D\rangle|S\rangle &\to |D\rangle|S\rangle \\ |S\rangle|D\rangle &\to |D\rangle|S\rangle \\ |S\rangle|S\rangle &\to |S\rangle|D\rangle \end{split}$$

Having the qubits interact

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control **target**

Most popular gates:

- Cirac-Zoller gate (Schmidt-Kaler et al., Nature 422, 408 (2003)).
- Geometric phase gate (Leibfried et al., Nature 422, 412 (2003)).
- Mølmer-Sørensen gate (Sackett et al., Nature 404, 256 (2000)).
Mølmer-Sørensen gate creates entangled states

Raman transitions between SD $|SD\rangle \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad |DS\rangle$ Interaction of two ions via common motion. n=1 |SS|n=0

Mølmer-Sørensen gate creates entangled states



Mølmer-Sørensen gate creates entangled states



Entangling ions



J. Benhelm et al., Nature Physics **4**, 463 (2008) Theory: C. Roos, NJP **10**, 013002 (2008)

Entangling ions



average fidelity: 99.3 (2) %



$$(|0\rangle + ie^{i\varphi}|1\rangle) (|0\rangle + ie^{i\varphi}|1\rangle) + (|1\rangle + ie^{-i\varphi}|0\rangle) (|1\rangle + ie^{-i\varphi}|0\rangle)$$
$$= (1 - e^{-2i\varphi})|00\rangle + ie^{i\varphi}(1 + e^{-2i\varphi})|01\rangle$$
$$+ ie^{i\varphi}(1 + e^{-2i\varphi})|10\rangle + (1 - e^{-2i\varphi})|11\rangle,$$

$$|00\rangle + |11\rangle \qquad \frac{R_2^C(\pi/2,\varphi), R_1^C(\pi/2,\varphi)}{2}$$

Achieved times scales for ion trap QIP



Fast universal gate

Single qubit gates, fidelities Universal gate, fidelity

Initialization / Read-out, fidelity

Single qubit coherence of magnetic field sensitive states

Decoherence-free subspace / magnetic field insensitive

Well-choosen qubit

The DiVincenczo criteria for quantum computing

- I. Scalable physical system, well characterized qubits \checkmark
- II. Ability to initialize the state of the qubits \checkmark
- III. Long relevant coherence times, much longer than gate operation time
- IV. "Universal" set of quantum gates \checkmark
- V. Qubit-specific measurement capability 🗸

The DiVincenczo criteria for quantum computing

- I. Scalable physical system, well characterized qubits
- II. Ability to initialize the state of the qubits with sufficient fidelity
- III. Long relevant coherence times, much longer than gate operation time
- IV. "Universal" set of quantum gates with sufficient fidelity
- V. Qubit-specific measurement capability with sufficient fidelity



need to beat the fault-tolerant "threshold"

Quantum error correction



P. Schindler et al, Science 332, 1059 (2011)

Consequences for QEC





P. Schindler et al, Science 332, 1059 (2011)

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Scaling of this approach?

Problems :

 Coupling strength between internal and motional states of a N-ion string decreases as
1

$$\eta \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

(momentum transfer from photon to ion string becomes more difficult)

- -> Gate operation speed slows down
- More vibrational modes increase risk of spurious excitation of unwanted modes
- Distance between neighbouring ions decreases -> addressing more difficult

-> Use flexible trap potentials to split long ion string into smaller segments and perform operations on these smaller strings

















Segmented ion traps as scalable trap architecture

(ideas pioneered by D. Wineland, NIST)



"Transport of quantum states", M. Rowe et al, quant-ph/0205084











"Architecture for a large-scale ion-trap quantum computer", D. Kielpinski et al., Nature **417**, 709 (2002).

Coherent transport through a junction



Blakestad, et al.,"High fidelity transport of trapped-ion qubits through an X-junction trap array", arXiv:0901.0533v1

Surface traps





Ion height $\approx 220 \ \mu m$ $\Omega_{RF} \approx 2\pi \cdot 15 \ MHz$ $V_{RF} \approx 100 \ V$ $V_{DC} < 10 \ V$ $\omega_{H} \approx 2\pi \cdot 1.3 \ MHz$ $\omega_{V} \approx 2\pi \cdot 1.5 \ MHz$ $\omega_{A} \approx 2\pi \cdot 300 \ kHz$

Surface traps



NIST: Amini, et al., "Scalable ion traps for quantum information processing". arXiv:0909.2464v1

Surface traps



NIST: Amini, et al., "Scalable ion traps for quantum information processing". arXiv:0909.2464v1

Entangling ions



Motional decoherence



Motional decoherence



Motional decoherence



Excessive heating in ion traps

From: http://www.quantum.gatech.edu/heating_rate_plot.shtml



What is causing "the" anomalous heating ?

- fluctuating patch potentials, ad-atom diffusion (Wineland 1998)



- independently fluctuating dipoles (Daniilidis 2010)



- fluctuating strength of dipoles (Safavi-Naini 2011)



- all of the above and probably something else

Copper on Aluminum trap


Monitoring the cleaning



Excessive heating in ion traps



More material:

Review on "Quantum computing with trapped ions", H. Häffner, C. F. Roos, R. Blatt, Physics Reports **469**, 155 (2008), http://xxx.lanl.gov/abs/0809.4368

Most recent progress:

NIST, Boulder http://www.nist.gov/pml/div688/grp10/quantum-logic-and-coherent-control.cfm

Innsbruck http://www.quantumoptics.at/

University of Maryland: http://www.iontrap.umd.edu/publications/recent_pubs.html