





Non-destructive detection for strontium optical lattice clocks: towards a lattice clock in the quantum regime

G. Vallet, S. Bilicki, E. Bookjans, R. Le Targat, and Jérôme Lodewyck





Systèmes de Référence Temps-Espace

1 Optical lattice clocks

2 Beyond the quantum projection noise

3 Non-destructive detection

OPTICAL LATTICE CLOCKS



- Atoms loaded from a MOT to an optical lattice formed by a 1D standing wave
- Probing a narrow optical resonance with an ultra-stable "clock" laser
- Stabilize the clock laser on the narrow resonance



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Combine several advantages:

- Optical clock
- Large number of atoms (10⁴)
- Lamb-Dicke regime insensitive to motional effects

- Magic wavelength for unperturbed trapping
- Developed in many laboratories (Sr)
- ⇒ good candidates for a new SI second

STRONTIUM OPTICAL LATTICE CLOCKS AT SYRTE

SR1



$\operatorname{Sr2}$



STRONTIUM OPTICAL LATTICE CLOCKS AT SYRTE

SR1





SR2



STRONTIUM OPTICAL LATTICE CLOCKS AT SYRTE

Sr1





SR2



STABILITY



Effect Correction Uncertainty Black-body radiation shift 5208 20 Quadratic Zeeman shift 1317 12 Lattice light-shift -3020 Lattice spectrum 1 0 8 Density shift 0 Line Pulling 0 20 Probe light-shift 0.4 0.4 AOM phase chirp -88 Servo error 3 0 1.5 Static charges Black-body radiation oven 10 Background collisions 8 6487.4 Total 41

ACCURACY (in 10^{-18})

 First agreement between two OLCs with an uncertainty beyond the accuracy of microwave clocks



$$\begin{array}{l} {\mathsf{Sr}}_2 \operatorname{-} {\mathsf{Sr}}_1 = \\ 1.1 \times 10^{-16} \pm 2 \times 10^{-17} ({\mathsf{stat}}) \pm 1.6 \times 10^{-16} ({\mathsf{sys}}) \end{array}$$

Repeated agreement: ${\rm Sr}_2$ - ${\rm Sr}_1 = (2.3 \pm 7.1) \times 10^{-17}$

P. Delva et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 221102 (2017) J. Lodewyck et al., Metrologia **53**, 1123 (2016) R. Tyumenev et al., New Journal of Physics, **18** 113002 (2016) C. Lisdat et al., Nat. Comm. **7** 12443 (2016) R. Le Targat et al. Nat. Comm. **4** 2109 (2013)

- First agreement between two OLCs with an uncertainty beyond the accuracy of microwave clocks
- Record absolute frequency measurement by comparing with Cs and Rb microwave fountains





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- Continuous operation of two Sr clocks over periods up to 3 weeks



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67% to 92% uptime

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- Optical to optical clocks comparison with a Hg OLC



 $\begin{array}{l} {\sf Hg/Sr} = 2.62931420989890915 \\ \pm 5 \times 10^{-17} ({\sf stat}) \pm 1.7 \times 10^{-16} ({\sf sys}) \end{array}$



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PTB, LPL and SYRTE established a 1415 km long optical fibre link and performed in 2015 the first direct comparison of optical clocks at continental scale

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 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Statistical uncertainty 2×10^{-17} after $\simeq1$ hour 150 hours of data $$r_{\rm PTB}/Sr_{\rm SYRTE}-1=(4.7\pm5.0)\times10^{-17}$ \end{array}$

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correction to relativity: $|\alpha| < 10^{-8}$

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- First contribution to TAI with optical clocks

2 - Duratio	on of the TAI	scale i	nterval	d.								
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Included in Circular T 350 (Feb. 2017) as a non-steering contribution

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QUANTUM PROJECTION NOISE: STATISTICAL MODEL

ATOMIC RESONANCE



Each atom answers |f
angle or |e
angle (projection of the wave packet) \Rightarrow SNR $\simeq 1$

QUANTUM PROJECTION NOISE: STATISTICAL MODEL

ATOMIC RESONANCE



Each atom answers $|f\rangle$ or $|e\rangle$ (projection of the wave packet)

 \Rightarrow SNR $\simeq 1$

SOLUTIONS:

- Increase the number of particles $N \Rightarrow \sqrt{N}$ improvement
- Increase the integration time $\tau \Rightarrow \sqrt{\tau/T_c}$ improvement

Quantum projection noise limited frequency instability

$$\sigma_y(au)\simeq rac{1}{\pi Q}rac{1}{\sqrt{N}}\sqrt{rac{T_c}{ au}}, \qquad {\scriptscriptstyle Q\,=\, ext{quality factor}}$$

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QUANTUM PROJECTION NOISE IN CLOCKS

MICROWAVE ATOMIC FOUNTAINS



OPTICAL ION CLOCKS



OPTICAL LATTICE CLOCKS



- QPN limit: $\sigma_y(au) = a$ few $10^{-14}/\sqrt{ au}$
- Experimentally realized

- $Q = a \text{ few } 10^{14}, N = 1$
- QPN limit: $\sigma_y(au) = 10^{-15}/\sqrt{ au}$
- Experimentally realized



- Q = a few 10^{14} , $N = 10^4$
- QPN limit: $\sigma_y(\tau) = 10^{-17}/\sqrt{ au}$
- Experiments limited at $\sigma_y(\tau) = 10^{-16}/\sqrt{\tau}$ by technical noise (Dick effect)

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Two level atom















N two level atoms

 $N \frac{1}{2}$ -SPINS





- $[J_1, J_2] = iJ_3 \simeq i\frac{N}{2}$
- $\bullet \Rightarrow \Delta J_1 \, \Delta J_2 \geq \frac{N}{4}$
- Similar to $[X, P] = i\hbar$ systems
 - Quantum harmonic oscillator
 - Quantum optics



QUANTUM PROJECTION NOISE

Symmetric uncertainty area

$$\Delta J_1 = \Delta J_2 = \sqrt{\frac{N}{4}}$$

• SNR =
$$\frac{N/2}{\sqrt{N/4}} = \sqrt{N}$$
 (QPN)

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Spin squeezing

- Asymmetric uncertainty area
- $\bullet \Delta J_2 < \Delta J_1$



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 (QPN)

Spin squeezing

- Asymmetric uncertainty area
- $\bullet \Delta J_2 < \Delta J_1$
- Limit: $\Delta J_1 \simeq N \rightarrow \Delta J_2 \simeq 1$ \Rightarrow SNR $\simeq N$ (Heisenberg limit)

How to achieve spin squeezing

- Non-linear evolution (cavity back-action, interactions,...)
- Weak QND measurement

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Subsequent measurement correlated

How to achieve spin squeezing

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1 QPN limited measuremen	t
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- 2 Subsequent measurement correlated
- 3 Design a protocol to acheive a sub-QPN resolution

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REQUIREMENTS	3
--------------	---

- low detection noise $(SNR \ll \sqrt{N})$
- low information loss ($n_\gamma \ll 1$)

- QPN limited measurement
 Subsequent measurement correlated
 - B Design a protocol to acheive a sub-QPN resolution

\Rightarrow high resolution non-destructive detection

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REQUIREMENTS

• low detection noise $(SNR \ll \sqrt{N})$

 \Rightarrow high resolution non-destructive detection

Design a protocol to acheive a sub-QPN resolution

QPN limited measurement Subsequent measurement correlated

- low information loss $(n_{\gamma} \ll 1)$ CLASSICAL NON-DESTRUCTIVITY
 - Low photon scattering \Rightarrow atoms stay trapped
 - Atoms recycle \Rightarrow less dead time in the clock cycle \Rightarrow reduced Dick effect

3

1 Optical lattice clocks

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Measuring p with Sr atoms

$$P_{1} \xrightarrow{1} P_{1} \xrightarrow{3} P_{0} = |e\rangle$$
cooling, 461 nm
$$Clock, 698 nm$$

$$1S_{0} = |f\rangle$$

Probing the ${}^{1}S_{0} \rightarrow {}^{1}P_{1}$ transition: measure of $N_{|f\rangle}$

$$p = 1 - rac{N_{ ext{total}}}{N_{|f
angle}}$$

USUAL SCHEME: FLUORESCENCE DETECTION

Fluorescence detection
Lost information
Automation
Automatio

- \blacksquare Low efficiency \Rightarrow powerful probe beam
- Destructive detection: the atoms are scattered and lost $(n_{\gamma} \gg 1)$

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NON-DESTRUCTIVE DISPERSIVE DETECTION

■ Phase shift ⇒ low power probe beam





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NON-DESTRUCTIVE DISPERSIVE DETECTION

■ Phase shift ⇒ low power probe beam



- SNR fundamentally limited by the light shot noise
- Classical non-destructivity
- Quantum non-destructivity: no information loss

NON-DESTRUCTIVE DETECTION



CHALLENGE

 discriminate technical noises from the atomic signal

DESIGN

- Bi-chromatic cavity 813 nm + 461 nm
 ⇒ lattice and detection aligned
- High finesse (16 000) at 461 nm
 ⇒ 100 fold increase of the SNR
- Dual mode injection
 - \Rightarrow Immune to technical fluctuations (cavity, laser)
 - \Rightarrow Homogeneous atom-cavity coupling
- Heterodyne, PDH-like, detection ⇒ close to the shot noise limit



EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



DETECTION SIGNAL

- \blacksquare Dynamic range of \simeq 500 atoms
- Scattering rate well modeled
- Immunity to technical noises demonstrated



EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



Detection noise δN

- $\delta N = 23 \text{ atoms} / \sqrt{n_{\gamma}}$
- Classical non-destructive regime $\delta N = 3.7$ atoms for $n_{\gamma} = 38$ photons \Rightarrow high resolution
- Quantum non-destructive regime $\delta N > 23$ atoms for $n_{\gamma} < 1$ photon $\Rightarrow \delta N < \sqrt{N}$ for N > 530 atoms.

DETECTION SIGNAL

- \blacksquare Dynamic range of \simeq 500 atoms
- Scattering rate well modeled
- Immunity to technical noises demonstrated



REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLOCK DETECTION IN THE QUANTUM REGIME

- High SNR (cavity assisted)
- Low destructivity
- Homogeneous coupling
- Robust for operating in a state-of-the-art optical clock

PROSPECTS

- Classical non-destructivity for an improved frequency stability
- Demonstrate quantum correlations (technical issues for a low scattering)
- Overcome the QPN limit for the frequency stability

Post-doc position available