Towards linear phononics, quantum information processing and nonlocality tests in ion traps

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Controllable continuous variable degrees of freedom are ubiquitous Our pick are the "transverse" (or "radial") degrees of freedom of trapped ions (Zhu, Monroe, Duan, PRL '06; C. F. Roos *et al.*, arXiv:0705.0788)





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squeezed $(\chi^2 \text{ crystals})$



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One ion:

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• Any linear optical operation on a single particle can be implemented by controlling ω

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 All the results about Gaussian states can be carried over to ion traps (harmonic approximation)

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- Possibility to go beyond Gaussian when anharmonicities kick in

Entanglement generation

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- From now on, only global control is assumed: all the trapping frequencies are the same at all times (but can be changed all together)
Entanglement generation

• Three ions: starting from the ground state for trapping frequency $\omega_i = 100 \text{ MHz}$ and evolving with frequency $\omega_f = 2 \text{ MHz}$, $T \simeq 21^{\circ}C$. (LogNeg between ion 1 and 3)



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If swapped to light: entanglement generator for quantum optics

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effect of thermal noise: $T\simeq 21^\circ C$, $\gamma N\simeq 200 {\rm Hz}$

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- ⇒ Promising both for quantum information processing and as probes of fundamental physics