# Quantum decoherence, Casimir effect, quantum vacuum fluctuations 

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École Doctorale QMat 182 - U. Strasbourg

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## Quantum decoherence, Casimir effect, quantum vacuum fluctuations

11/12/2023
Lecture 1: Decoherence of massive particles by radiation pressure: introduction
$20 / 12 / 2023$
Lecture 2
Part A (cont of Lecture 1):

Casimir effect, decoherence via master equation
Part B:
Dynamical Casimir effects with atoms
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# Decoherence by radiation pressure: master equation, results at zero and finite temperatures 

## decoherence by radiation pressure

Master equation for the particle center of mass:

- radiation pressure coupling: quadratic in the electromagnetic field operators

O external harmonic potential (optical tweezer): frequency $\Omega$
master equation for reduced density operator of the bead CM
Similar to quantum Brownian motion models -
Caldeira \& Leggett (1985), Unruh \& Zurek (1989), Hu, Paz \& Zhang (1992)
Thermal field radiation pressure coupling: Joos \& Zeh (1985)


DAR Dalvit and PAMN, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84799 (2000); Phys. Rev. A62, 042103 (2000)

## decoherence by radiation pressure

Master equation for the particle center of mass: equivalent to Fokker-Planck equation for the Wigner function $W(x, p, t)$



DAR Dalvit and PAMN, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84799 (2000); Phys. Rev. A62, 042103 (2000)

## decoherence by radiation pressure

## $\Omega$

Master equation for the particle center of mass: equivalent to Fokker-Planck equation for the Wigner function $W(x, p, t)$

$\partial_{t} W=-\frac{p}{m} \partial_{x} W+m \Omega^{2} x \partial_{p} W+\gamma \partial_{p}(p W)+D \frac{\partial^{2} W}{\partial p^{2}}$



## decoherence by radiation pressure

Master equation for the particle center of mass: equivalent to Fokker-Planck equation for the Wigner function $W(x, p, t)$

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## decoherence by radiation pressure

Master equation for the particle center of mass: equivalent to Fokker-Planck equation for the Wigner function $W(x, p, t)$

$$
\partial_{t} W=-\frac{p}{m} \partial_{x} W+m \Omega^{2} x \partial_{p} W+\gamma \partial_{p}(p W)+D \frac{\partial^{2} W}{\partial p^{2}}
$$

Initial state: $\begin{aligned} & \text { Initial state: } \\ & \begin{array}{l}\text { superposition of } \\ \text { coherent states }\end{array}\end{aligned}|\psi\rangle_{0}=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left(\left|\alpha_{0}\right\rangle+\left|-\alpha_{0}\right\rangle\right)$


## decoherence by radiation pressure

Decoherence from diffusion in phase space

$$
\partial_{t} W=-\frac{p}{m} \partial_{x} W+m \Omega^{2} x \partial_{p} W+\gamma \partial_{p}(p W)+D \frac{\partial^{2} W}{\partial p^{2}}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{W_{\mathrm{int}}(x, p, t) \sim \cos (\Delta x p / t}{t_{\mathrm{dec}} \text { is the decoherence ti }} \\
& \frac{1}{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}=D\left(\frac{\Delta x}{\hbar}\right)^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

The less classical the state is, the faster is decoherence

## decoherence by radiation pressure

## Damping and diffusion coefficients

Weak coupoling to the environment
Long times $t \gg 2 \pi / \Omega$ : damping and diffusion coefficients become constant


Anti-symmetric correlation function

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \xi(t) \equiv\langle[F(t), F(0)]\rangle \longleftrightarrow \gamma \approx \frac{1}{4 m \hbar \Omega} \tilde{\xi}(\Omega) \\
& \sigma(t) \equiv\langle\{F(t), F(0)\}\rangle \Longleftrightarrow D \approx \frac{1}{4} \tilde{\sigma}(\Omega)
\end{aligned}
$$

Symmetric correlation function

Fluctuation-dissipation theorem when
environment is at thermal equilibrium, temperature $T$

$$
\tilde{\sigma}(\Omega)=\operatorname{coth}\left(\frac{\hbar \Omega}{2 k_{B} T}\right) \tilde{\xi}(\Omega)
$$

High temperature

$$
k_{B} T \gg \hbar \Omega
$$

$$
D=2 k_{B} T m \gamma(T)
$$

Low temperature

$$
k_{B} T \ll \hbar \Omega
$$

$$
D=\hbar \Omega m \gamma(T=0)
$$

DAR Dalvit and PAMN, Phys. Rev. Lett. 84799 (2000); Phys. Rev. A62, 042103 (2000)

## decoherence by radiation pressure

Decoherence time $t_{\text {dec }}$

$$
\frac{1}{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}=D\left(\frac{\Delta x}{\hbar}\right)^{2}
$$

Low temperature $k_{B} T \ll \hbar \Omega$
Position uncertainty of ground state $(\Delta X)_{\mathrm{ZPF}}$ :


$$
(\Delta X)_{\mathrm{ZPF}}=\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2 m \Omega}} \quad \frac{1}{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}=\left(\frac{\Delta x}{(\Delta X)_{\mathrm{ZPF}}}\right)^{2} \gamma(T=0)
$$

High temperature $k_{B} T \gg \hbar \Omega$ : effect of thermal 'black-body' photons
Thermal de Broglie wavelength $\lambda_{T}=\frac{\hbar}{\sqrt{2 m k_{B} T}}$

$$
\frac{1}{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}=\left(\frac{\Delta x}{\lambda_{T}}\right)^{2} \gamma(T)=\frac{k_{B} T}{\hbar \Omega}\left(\frac{\Delta x}{(\Delta X)_{\mathrm{ZPF}}}\right)^{2} \gamma(T)
$$

## Physical origin of the thermal drag force: Doppler effect

Take uniform velocity $v$


Unbalanced momentum exchange per photon:

$$
\Delta P=\frac{\hbar}{c} 2 \omega \frac{v}{c}
$$

Recoil force

$$
\Rightarrow F=-\frac{\Delta P}{\Delta t}=-2 \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta t} \frac{v}{c^{2}}
$$

Using 3D density of modes and thermal photon number...

$$
F_{T}=-\frac{2 \pi^{2}}{15} A \frac{\left(k_{B} T\right)^{4}}{\hbar^{3} c^{4}} v
$$

## decoherence by radiation pressure

High temperature $k_{B} T \gg \hbar \Omega$
$\Omega$



We consider large spheres: semiclassical Mie scattering regime of black-body photons

$$
R \gg \lambda_{T(\mathrm{ph})}=\frac{\hbar c}{k_{B} T} \approx 7.6 \mu \mathrm{~m} @ T=300 \mathrm{~K}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{t_{\mathrm{dec}}}=\frac{8 \pi^{3}}{45} \frac{c R^{2}(\Delta x)^{2}}{\left(\lambda_{T(\mathrm{ph})}\right)^{5}} \Longrightarrow t_{\mathrm{dec}}=0.15 \mu \mathrm{~s} @ R=10 \mu \mathrm{~m}, \Delta x=1 \mathrm{~nm} \\
t_{\mathrm{dec}}=36 \mu \mathrm{~s} @ T=100 \mathrm{~K}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Part B) Dynamical Casimir effects with atoms

- Geometric and non-local Casimir atomic phases
-Quantum Sagnac Effect


## Conclusion

## Geometric and non-local Casimir atomic phases

## introduction: atom interferometers

Observation of Atom Wave Phase Shifts Induced by Van Der Waals Atom-Surface Interactions

## John D. Perreault and Alexander D. Cronin

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721, USA

Atom-Surface interaction in the nano grating



FIG. 3. Interference pattern observed when the grating $G_{4}$ is inserted into path $\alpha$ or $\beta$ of the atom interferometer. Each interference pattern represents 5 s of data. The intensity error bars are arrived at by assuming Poisson statistics for the number of detected atoms. The dashed line in the plots is a visual aid to help illustrate the measured phase shift of 0.3 rad . Notice how the phase shift induced by placing $G_{4}$ in path $\alpha$ or $\beta$ has opposite sign. The sign of the phase shift is also consistent with the atom experiencing an attractive potential as it passes through $G_{4}$.

## introduction: atom interferometers

Bragg atom interferometer


John D. Perreault and Alexander D. Cronin, PRL 95, 133201 (2005)
S. Lepoutre, H. Jelassi, V.P.A. Lonig,
G. Trénec, M. Büchner, A. D. Cronin, and J. Vigué, EPL 88, 20002 (2009)
S. Lepoutre et al. , EPJD 62, 309 (2011)

Eur. Phys. J. D 62, 309-325 (2011)
DOI: $10.1140 / \mathrm{epjd} / \mathrm{e} 2011-10584-7$
Regular Article

Atom interferometry measurement of the atom-surface van der Waals interaction
S. Lepoutre ${ }^{1}$, V.P.A. Lonij ${ }^{2}$, H. Jelassi ${ }^{1,3}$, G. Trénec ${ }^{1}$, M. Büchner ${ }^{1}$, A.D. Cronin ${ }^{2}$, and J. Vigué ${ }^{1, a}$
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${ }^{3}$ Centre National des Sciences et Technologies Nucléaires, CNSTN, Pôle Technologique, 2020 Sidi Thabet, Tunisia


Fig. 2: (Colour on-line) Atom interference fringes recorded with (A) both arms (visibility $\left.\mathcal{V}_{A}=32 \%\right)$, (B) one arm ( $\mathcal{V}_{B}=34 \%$ ), or (C) neither arm ( $\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{C}}=72 \%$ ) passing through the nanostructure, with a lithium beam velocity $v=1062 \pm 20 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$. The counting period is 0.1 s per data point.

## Casimir Atom Interferometry: Local theory



STANDARD APPROACH: $\quad \phi_{k}^{\mathrm{Cas}}=-\frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{T} d t V_{\mathrm{Cas}}\left(\mathbf{r}_{k}(t)\right)$

LIMITATIONS:
Quasi-static
Ignores environment

Well defined phase for each path!!

## non-local Casimir phase

atom-surface van der Waals interaction:
fluctuating dipole interacts with its own field, after reflection by surface


## interferometer: self-interaction also with a different wave-packet component



F Impens, R Behunin, C Ccapa-Ttira and PAMN, EPL 2013
F Impens, C Ccapa-Ttira, R Behunin and PAMN, Phys Rev A 2014

## Atom interferometers as open quantum systems

## Full quantum theory of Casimir interferometers

Atomic center-of-mass as an open quantum system : coupling with electromagnetic field and atomic dipole


Hamiltonian in the electric dipole approx.

$$
\hat{H}_{\mathrm{AF}}=-\hat{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}\left(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{a}\right)
$$

## Casimir disturbance of the environment by the system



SURFACE
Initial state: $|\psi(0)\rangle=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\underbrace{\left.\left|\psi_{E}^{1}(0)\right\rangle+\left|\psi_{E}^{2}(0)\right\rangle\right)}_{\text {external/CM }} \otimes \underbrace{\mid \Psi_{D F}(0)}_{\text {internal dipole + field }}\rangle$
Interaction Hamiltonian: $\quad \hat{H}_{\mathrm{AF}}=-\hat{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}\left(\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{a}\right)$
Final entangled state: $\quad|\psi(T)\rangle=\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left|\psi_{E}^{1}(T)\right\rangle \otimes\left|\Psi_{D F}^{1}(T)\right\rangle+\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left|\psi_{E}^{2}(T)\right\rangle \otimes\left|\Psi_{D F}^{2}(T)\right\rangle$

$$
\left|\Psi_{D F}^{k}(T)\right\rangle=\mathcal{T} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{T} d t \hat{\tilde{H}}_{A F}\left(r_{k}(t)\right)}\left|\Psi_{D F}(0)\right\rangle
$$

Coherence: $\quad \rho_{12}\left(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}^{\prime} ; T\right)=\frac{1}{2}\langle\mathbf{r}| \psi_{E}^{1}(T\rangle\left\langle\Psi_{D F}^{2} \stackrel{1}{(T)\left|\Psi_{D F}^{1}(T)\right\rangle}\right\rangle\left\langle\psi_{E}^{2}(T) \mid \mathbf{r}^{\prime}\right\rangle$ Influence of the Environment!

$$
\searrow \equiv e^{i \Phi_{12}}
$$

## Atom interferometers as open quantum systems

Interaction Hamiltonian: $\hat{\tilde{H}}_{A F}\left(\mathbf{r}_{k}(t), t\right)=-\hat{\mathbf{d}}(t) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{E}}\left(\mathbf{r}_{k}(t), t\right)$
Effect of the environment


$$
e^{i \Phi_{12}}=\left\langle\Psi_{D F}(0)\right| \widetilde{\mathcal{T}} e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{T} d t \hat{\tilde{H}}_{A F}\left(r_{2}(t)\right)} \mathcal{T} e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{0}^{T} d t \hat{\tilde{H}}_{A F}\left(r_{1}(t)\right)}\left|\Psi_{D F}(0)\right\rangle
$$

Imaginary part of $\Phi_{12}$ : decoherence
Real part of $\Phi_{12}$ : local and non-local interferometric phases

## Atom interferometers as open quantum systems

## Second-order term obtained from first-order along each path



NON-LOCAL DOUBLE-PATH DIAGRAM!

## Casimir Interactions: Diagrammatic Picture

Influence of the environment:


Path 2

Path 1

## PERFECTLY REFLECTING SURFACE

## Casimir Interactions: Diagrammatic Picture

Non-local double path atomic phase:

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\phi_{12}^{\mathrm{DP}}=\frac{1}{4} \iint_{0}^{T} d t^{\prime} d t\left[g_{\hat{d}}^{H}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right)\left(\mathcal{G}_{\hat{\mathbf{E}}}^{R, S}\left(r_{1}(t), r_{2}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)-\mathcal{G}_{\hat{\mathbf{E}}}^{R, S}\left(r_{2}(t), r_{1}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)\right)\right. \\
\left.+g_{\hat{d}}^{R}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right)\left(\mathcal{G}_{\hat{\mathbf{E}}}^{H, S}\left(r_{1}(t), r_{2}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)-\mathcal{G}_{\hat{\mathbf{E}}}^{H, S}\left(r_{2}(t), r_{1}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)\right)\right]
\end{array}
$$



Fluctuations:
$G_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}, i j}^{H}\left(x ; x^{\prime}\right)=\frac{1}{\hbar}\left\langle\left\{\hat{O}_{i}^{f}(x), \hat{O}_{j}^{f}\left(x^{\prime}\right)\right\}\right\rangle$

Linear response susceptibilities:

$$
G_{\hat{\mathbf{O}}, i j}^{R}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right)=\frac{i}{\hbar} \theta\left(t-t^{\prime}\right)\left\langle\left[\hat{O}_{i}^{f}(t), \hat{O}_{j}^{f}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right]\right\rangle
$$

## Dynamical Casimir-like non-local atomic phase

Atom Interferometer:
One arm parallel to the plate
Other arm going away from the plate

«Cross-talks» between the two paths
Asymmetry avoids cancellation!

## Non-local double-path Casimir atomic phase

## Double-path phase:

$$
\phi_{12}^{\mathrm{DP}}=\frac{3 \pi}{4 \lambda_{0}}\left(\frac{\alpha(0)}{4 \pi \epsilon_{0}}\right) \frac{1}{z_{0}^{2}}
$$



For narrow wave-packets and in the saturation regime where
$z_{0} \ll v_{\perp} T \ll \lambda_{0}$ 87 Rb atom:
$\alpha_{\mathrm{Rb}}(0) /\left(4 \pi \epsilon_{0}\right)=4.72 \times 10^{-29} \mathrm{~m}^{3} \quad$ Atomic polarizability
$5 s_{1 / 2}-5 p_{1 / 2}$ and $5 s_{1 / 2}-5 p_{3 / 2}$ transitions
Distance of the wave-packet center to the plate: $\quad z_{0}=20 \mathrm{~nm}$
Narrow atomic packets: $\quad \phi_{12}^{\text {narrow, }} \mathrm{DP}=3 \times 10^{-7} \mathrm{rad}$
Wide atomic packets:
$\phi_{12}^{\text {wide, } \mathrm{DP}}=3 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{rad}$

## Quantum Sagnac effect

## GHz rotation of optically trapped nanoparticles

nature
nanotechnology

Ultrasensitive torque detection with an optically levitated nanorotor

Jonghoon Ahn', Zhujing Xu², Jaehoon Bang ${ }^{1}$, Peng Ju ${ }^{2}$, Xingyu Gao ${ }^{2}$ and Tongcang Lie ${ }^{1,2,3,4 *}$
vacuum. Our system does not require complex nanofabrication. Moreover, we drive a nanoparticle to rotate at a record high speed beyond 5 GHz ( $\mathbf{3 0 0}$ billion r.p.m.). Our calculations


## Featured in Physics

GHz Rotation of an Optically Trapped Nanoparticle in Vacuum
René Reimann, Michael Doderer, Erik Hebestreit, Rozenn Diehl, Martin Frimmer, Dominik Windey, Felix Tebbenjohanns, and Lukas Novotny
Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 033602 - Published 20 July 2018; Erratum Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 159901 (2021)
Physić see Focus story: The Fastest Spinners
Opportunity to probe dynamical Casimir effects....?

## Sagnac Atom Interferometer



Ex: embarked atom interferometer

## Sagnac effect in an inertial frame?



Inertial frame and rotating conductor

## Quantum Sagnac phase near a spinning

 particle

## Casimir phase:

$$
\Delta \phi_{12}=\varphi_{11}-\varphi_{22}+\varphi_{12}-\varphi_{21}
$$

Spinning

$$
\varphi_{k l}=\frac{1}{4} \iint_{-\frac{T}{2}}^{\frac{T}{2}} d t d t^{\prime}\left[g_{\hat{\mathbf{d}}}^{H}\left(t, t^{\prime}\right) \mathcal{G}_{\mathbf{E}}^{R, S}\left(\mathbf{r}_{k}(t), t ; \mathbf{r}_{l}\left(t^{\prime}\right), t^{\prime}\right)+(R \leftrightarrow H)\right]
$$ nano-particle

## Quantum Sagnac phase



Local Quantum Sagnac phase (in the non-retarded approximation)

$$
\phi_{\mathrm{vdW}, \mathrm{k}}^{\Omega}=\frac{9}{2} \frac{\omega_{0} \alpha_{0}^{\mathrm{A}} \tilde{\alpha}_{S, R}^{\prime \prime}\left(\omega_{0}\right)}{\left(4 \pi \epsilon_{0}\right)^{2}} \int_{\mathcal{P}_{k}} d \mathbf{r} \cdot \frac{\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{r}}{r^{8}}
$$

Real part of the spherical particle

$$
\tilde{\alpha}_{S, R}(\omega)=\operatorname{Re}\left[\alpha_{S}(\omega)\right]
$$ polarizability

$$
\alpha_{0}^{A}=\text { static atomic polarizability }
$$

G. C. Matos, Reinaldo de Melo e Souza, PAMN, and F Impens, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127, 270401 (2021).

## Estimation of the Quantum Sagnac phase in an atom-Interferometer

Atomic wave-packets of finite width
Total phase = quasi-static van der Waals + quantum Sagnac phase
$\phi(\Omega, x, z, v)=\phi^{\mathrm{vdW}}(x, z, v)+\phi^{\Omega}(x, z)$
Accessible quantum Sagnac phase

$$
\bar{\phi}^{\Omega}(\Omega, v) \equiv \bar{\phi}(\Omega, v)-\bar{\phi}(0, v)
$$

averaging over wave-packet width (as in Alexander D. Cronin and John D. Perreault, Phys. Rev. A 70, 043607 (2004))
$\Omega=2 \pi \times 5 \mathrm{GHz}$

Nanosphere radius $a=30-50 \mathrm{~nm}$
Atomic beam of width Atomic velocities

$$
\begin{aligned}
w & =10-100 \mathrm{~nm} \\
v & =1-5 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{s}
\end{aligned}
$$




Na atoms

## Conclusion:

- Influence of the enviroment of the system of interest: decoherence, phase shift in an atom interferometer
- Dynamical Casimir effects: emission of photons, non-unitary non-local phase in an atom interferometer; quantum Sagnac phase
© Methods: master equation/Fokker-Planck equation; influence functional


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© INCT/FAPESP - Complex Fluids
© CNPq, CAPES
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Thank you!

