

Probing Quantum Geometry with Coupled Interferometers and Quantum Light

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Holographic Noise





- Quantum geometry postulates space-time and gravity emerge as an average over more fundamental degree of freedom existing at the Planck scale.
- The "emergent" space-time is said to be holographic
- Although quantum geometry approximates classical space-time on large scale, the Hogan's quantum geometry describes new quantum properties of collective positions of massive bodies

G. Hogan, Arxiv: 1204.5948

G. Hogan, Phys. Rev. D 85, 064007 (2012)





Holographic Noise

 x_1

 χ_3

 χ_2

 Hogan's effective theory postulates that position operators in different directions do not commute

$$[\hat{x}_i, \hat{x}_j] = \hat{x}_k \epsilon_{ijk} ict_P / \sqrt{4\pi}$$



Sort of space-time uncertainty principle (*L*= radial separation) $\langle \hat{x}_{\perp}^2 \rangle = Lct_P/\sqrt{4\pi} = (2.135 \times 10^{-18} \text{m})^2 (L/1\text{m})$

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This new quantum uncertainty of space-time induces a slight random wandering of transverse position (called "holographic noise")





Holometer (**Holo**graphic Interfero**meter**) to measure the possible presence of a very slight random wandering of transverse position (the "holographic noise") over an extended volume of space-time is currently under construction @**Fermilab**

Holometer @Fermilab: two coupled ultra-sensitive Michelson interferometers (40 m arms)





http://holometer.fnal.gov/





In Michelson interferometer the *phase shift (\phi)* can be seen as a simultaneous measurement of the position of the beam splitter $(x_1 - x_2)$.

Holographic noise accumulates as a *random walk* becoming detectable

$$\langle [X(t) - X(t+\tau)]^2 \rangle = c^2 t_P \tau (2/\pi)$$
$$\tau \ll 2L/c$$

The random walk is bounded (an interferometer measures HN within the causal boundaries defined by a single light round trip) ($\tau = 2L/c$ the longest time over which differential random walk affects the measured phase) G. Hogan, Arxiv: 1204.5948

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HOLOMETER: principles of operation

- Evaluation of the cross-correlation between two equal Michelson interferometers occupying the same space-time volume
- Reference measurement: HN correlation «turned off» by separating the space-time volumes of the two interferometers



 $\delta\phi_k = \phi_k - \phi_{k,0}$

 $\widehat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)$: quantum observable measured at the output of the holometer

$$\mathcal{E}_{\parallel} \left[\delta \phi_1 \delta \phi_2 \right] \approx \frac{\mathcal{E}_{\parallel} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_1, \phi_2) \right] - \mathcal{E}_{\perp} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_1, \phi_2) \right]}{\langle \partial_{\phi_1, \phi_2}^2 \widehat{C}(\phi_{1,0}, \phi_{2,0}) \rangle}$$



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The uncertainty should be reduced as much as possible sitivity Coefficient

$$\mathcal{U}(\delta\phi_{1}\delta\phi_{2}) \approx \sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{Var}_{\parallel}\left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2})\right] + \operatorname{Var}_{\perp}\left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2})\right]}{\left[\langle\partial_{\phi_{1},\phi_{2}}^{2}\widehat{C}(\phi_{1,0},\phi_{2,0})\rangle\right]^{2}}}$$

PRL **110**, 213601 (2013)



The model
(Overlapping)
(Overlapping)
Phases covariance uncertainty

$$\mathcal{U}(\delta\phi_1\delta\phi_2) \approx \sqrt{\frac{\operatorname{Var}_{\parallel}\left[\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right] + \operatorname{Var}_{\perp}\left[\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right]}{\left[\langle\partial^2_{\phi_1,\phi_2}\hat{C}(\phi_{1,0},\phi_{2,0})\rangle\right]^2}}$$

$$\operatorname{Var}_x\left[\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right] \equiv \mathcal{E}_x\left[\hat{C}^2(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right] - \mathcal{E}_x\left[\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right]^2$$

$$\mathcal{E}_x\left[\hat{O}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right] \equiv \int \underbrace{\left(\hat{O}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right)}_{\operatorname{Tr}\left[\rho_1\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right]} f_x(\phi_1,\phi_2) \, \mathrm{d}\phi_1 \, \mathrm{d}\phi_2$$
Quantum EV

$$\operatorname{Tr}\left[\rho_1\hat{C}(\phi_1,\phi_2)\right]$$

The model

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(Overlapping)} \\ \text{Phases covariance uncertainty} \\ \text{Var}_{\parallel} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] + \text{Var}_{\perp} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] \\ \text{Var}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] = \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}^{2}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] - \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right]^{2} \\ \text{Var}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] = \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}^{2}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] - \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right]^{2} \\ \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\widehat{O}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] = \int \underbrace{\left(\widehat{O}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right)}_{\text{Uantum EV}} f_{x}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) d\phi_{1} d\phi_{2} \\ \underbrace{\left[f_{x}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right]}_{x = \parallel, \perp} \\ \text{pdf of phase fluctuations due to HN} \\ \hat{f}_{\perp}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) = \mathcal{F}_{\perp}^{(1)}(\phi_{1}) \mathcal{F}_{\perp}^{(2)}(\phi_{2}) \\ \hat{f}_{\parallel}(\phi_{k}) = \mathcal{F}_{\perp}^{(k)}(\phi_{k}) \\ \end{array} \right]$$
PRI. 110, 213601 (2013)





$$\operatorname{Var}_{x} \operatorname{Var}_{x} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right] = \operatorname{Var} \left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1,0},\phi_{2,0}) \right] + \Sigma_{k} A_{kk} \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\delta \phi_{k}^{2} \right] + A_{12} \mathcal{E}_{x} \left[\delta \phi_{1} \delta \phi_{2} \right] + \mathcal{O}(\delta \phi^{3})$$

$$\underbrace{\underbrace{O-th \ order}_{\mathcal{E}_{x}} \left[\widehat{O}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right]}_{\mathcal{O}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2})} \equiv \int \underbrace{\left[\widehat{O}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \right]}_{f_{x}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2})} d\phi_{1} d\phi_{2}$$
O-th order independent from PSs fluctuations (i.e., HN)

- <u>*Q-th order*</u> quantum light noise (shot-noise in the actual Holometer)

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 $\operatorname{Tr}[\rho_{12}C(\phi_1,\phi_2)]$







A sub-shot-noise PS measurement in a **single** interferometer (e.g. gravitational wave detector) was suggested exploiting squeezed light *Caves, PRD* **23**, 1693 (1981) *Kimble et al., PRD* **65**, 022002 (2001)

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Before discussing it a quick overview of "relevant" Quantum Optics concepts



Quantization of the Electromagnetic Field



Energy of a single mode quantum EM field

 $\mathscr{H}_{\mathbf{k}} = \hbar v_k \left(a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$

$$\mathscr{H}_{\mathbf{k}}|n_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle = \hbar v_{k} \left(n_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2}\right)|n_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle$$
$$|n\rangle = \frac{(a^{\dagger})^{n}}{\sqrt{n!}}|0\rangle$$



Quantization of the Electromagnetic Field



Energy of a single mode quantum EM field

$$\mathscr{H}_{\mathbf{k}} = \hbar v_{k} \left(a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \qquad \qquad \mathscr{H}_{\mathbf{k}} | n_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle = \hbar v_{k} \left(n_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{2} \right) | n_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$
$$| n \rangle = \frac{(a^{\dagger})^{n}}{\sqrt{n!}} | 0 \rangle$$



Quadrature Operators

$$X_1 = \frac{1}{2}(a + a^{\dagger})$$
 "Amplitude" or "Position"
$$X_2 = \frac{1}{2i}(a - a^{\dagger})$$
 "Phase" or "Momentum"



Coherent States

<u>Coherent State:</u> eigenstate of the annihilation operator

$$a|lpha
angle=lpha|lpha
angle$$

Displacement operator: $D(\alpha) = e^{\alpha a^{\dagger} - \alpha^{*}a}$

$$|\alpha\rangle = D(\alpha)|0\rangle$$
 $D^{-1}(\alpha)aD(\alpha) = a + \alpha$

Mean photon number: $\langle \alpha | a^{\dagger} a | \alpha \rangle = | \alpha |^2$

Photon number statistics:
$$p(n) = \langle n | \alpha \rangle \langle \alpha | n \rangle = \frac{\langle n \rangle^n e^{-\langle n \rangle}}{n!}$$
 $\langle n \rangle = |\alpha|^2$

Quadrature operators





Squeezed States

Hamiltonian of a degenerate parametric process: $\mathscr{H} = i\hbar \left(ga^{\dagger 2} - g^*a^2\right)$ (Unitary) "Squeeze" Operator : $S(\xi) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\xi^*a^2 - \frac{1}{2}\xi a^{\dagger 2}\right)$ $\xi = r\exp(i\theta)$

$$S^{\dagger}(\xi)aS(\xi) = a\cosh r - a^{\dagger}e^{i\theta}\sinh r$$
$$S^{\dagger}(\xi)a^{\dagger}S(\xi) = a^{\dagger}\cosh r - ae^{-i\theta}\sinh r$$

 $X_2 \blacklozenge$

Squeezed Vacuum: $|\xi\rangle = S(\xi)|0
angle$



$$X_{1} = \frac{1}{2}(a + a^{\dagger})$$
$$X_{2} = \frac{1}{2i}(a - a^{\dagger})$$
$$X_{1}$$

$$\Delta X_1 \Delta X_2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

Squeezed Vacuum obtained with an OPO operating under threshold



How to measure Quadratures





Phase measurement in an interferometer

The input-output relations of the mode operators of an interferometer are the same of a BS with T (given by the phase ϕ_p) $(n_d = |\alpha\rangle$

 $T = \left[\cos\frac{\phi}{2}\right]$ φ • $|0\rangle$ in *a*-port, $|\alpha\rangle$ in *b*-port $\langle n_{cd} \rangle = |\alpha|^2 \cos \phi_p$ $(\Delta n_{cd})^2 = |\alpha|^2$ $|\alpha\rangle$ $\langle n \rangle = |\alpha|^2$ • $|\xi\rangle$ in *a*-port, $|\alpha\rangle$ in *b*-port ($\theta = 2\phi_l$) **Below** the Shot-Noise Limit $\langle n_{cd} \rangle = (\langle n \rangle + \sinh^2 r) \cos \phi_p \cong \langle n \rangle \cos \phi_p$ $\phi_p = \pi/2$ $(\Delta n_{cd})^2 = \langle n \rangle e^{-2r} + \sinh^2 r$ $\Delta \phi = \frac{\Delta n_{cd}}{\left| \frac{\partial \langle n_{cd} \rangle}{\partial \phi_{r}} \right|} = \frac{e^{-r}}{\sqrt{n}}$



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Does squeezed light help also in the case of the Holometer?





 $\widehat{C}(\phi_1, \phi_2) \text{ is the covariance of photon # differences}$ $\widehat{C}(\phi_1, \phi_2) = \Delta \widehat{N}_{1-}(\phi_k) \ \Delta \widehat{N}_{2-}(\phi_k)$ $\Delta \widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_k) = \widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_k) - \mathcal{E}\left[\widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_k)\right]$ $\widehat{N}_{-}(\phi) = \widehat{N}_c(\phi) - \widehat{N}_d(\phi)$

0-th order contribution to PSs covariance unc.:

$$\mathcal{U}^{(0)} = \frac{\sqrt{2 \operatorname{Var}\left[\widehat{C}(\phi_{1,0}, \phi_{2,0})\right]}}{\left|\langle \partial_{\phi_{1},\phi_{2}}^{2} \widehat{C}(\phi_{1,0}, \phi_{2,0})\rangle\right|}$$







 μ : mean # photons coherent light λ : mean # photons squeezed light



$$\begin{split} \widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) \text{ is the covariance of photon \# differences} \\ \widehat{C}(\phi_{1},\phi_{2}) &= \Delta \widehat{N}_{1-}(\phi_{k}) \ \Delta \widehat{N}_{2-}(\phi_{k}) \\ \Delta \widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_{k}) &= \widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_{k}) - \mathcal{E}\left[\widehat{N}_{k-}(\phi_{k})\right] \\ \widehat{N}_{-}(\phi) &= \widehat{N}_{c}(\phi) - \widehat{N}_{d}(\phi) \\ \mathcal{U}^{(0)}(\mu,\lambda,\phi_{0}=\pi/2) &= \sqrt{2} \ \frac{\lambda + \mu \left(1 + 2\lambda - 2\sqrt{\lambda + \lambda^{2}}\right)}{(\lambda - \mu)^{2}} \\ \downarrow \\ \mathcal{U}^{(0)}(\mu,\lambda,\phi_{0}=\pi/2) &= \sqrt{2} \ \frac{\lambda + \mu \left(1 + 2\lambda - 2\sqrt{\lambda + \lambda^{2}}\right)}{(\lambda - \mu)^{2}} \\ \downarrow \\ \downarrow \\ \mathcal{U}^{(0)}(\mu,\lambda,\phi_{0}=\pi/2) &= \sqrt{2} \ \frac{\lambda + \mu \left(1 + 2\lambda - 2\sqrt{\lambda + \lambda^{2}}\right)}{(\lambda - \mu)^{2}} \\ \downarrow \\ \downarrow \\ \mu \gg \lambda \gg 1 \\ \text{ i.e. } (4\lambda)^{-1} \text{ better than the CL case } \ \mathcal{U}^{(0)}_{\text{CL}} \approx \sqrt{2}/\mu \\ \mu : \text{ mean \# photons coherent light} \end{split}$$

 λ : mean # photons squeezed light



 $\mu \gg \lambda \gg 1$

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 $\lambda \ll 1$ and $\mu \gg 1$

PRL 110, 213601 (2013)



The "Dark-Port" configuration

What is done in practice in phase measurement (single interferometer)





Does Q-correlated (Entangled) light help in coupled interferometers?

Twin-Beam state (or Two-mode squeezed vacuum)

Hamiltonian of a non-degenerate parametric process: $H \propto a^{\dagger}b^{\dagger} + h.c.$

(Unitary) Two-mode "Squeeze" Operator : $S_2(\xi) = \exp\left\{\xi a^{\dagger}b^{\dagger} - \xi^*ab\right\}$ $S_2^{\dagger}(\xi) \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix} S_2(\xi) = S_{2\xi} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$ $S_{2\xi} = \begin{pmatrix} \mu & \nu \\ \nu^* & \mu \end{pmatrix}$ $\mu = \cosh r$ $\nu = e^{i\psi} \sinh r$

Twin Beam state:
$$|\text{TWB}\rangle\rangle = S_2(\xi)|\mathbf{0}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu}}\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\nu}{\mu}\right)^k |k\rangle \otimes |k\rangle$$

TWB shows **perfect correlation** in the **photon number**, i.e TWB is an eigenstate of the photon number difference































Quantum light in Coupled Interferometers



Fluctuations of the # of photons inside the interferometers arms induce phase fluctuations due to mirror recoil (Radiation Pressure Noise).

$$\delta \phi_{\mathsf{RP}} = (\omega \tau / 2mc) \mathcal{P}$$

 ${\mathcal P}$ photons momentum

For shorter measurement time 10^{-6} s (HN to be detected in the MHz region) > 10^{13} W



"Strong" quantum light regime: $\mu \gg \lambda \gg 1$



Radiation pressure (RP) noise is negligible for reasonable value of the optical power. It starts to appear at $P > 10^7 W$

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- HN is due to the "possible" Quantum Geometric structure of the Space-Time at the Planck-length scale
- HN may have "observable" effect at the macroscopic scale \rightarrow Holometer (2 coupled interferometers)
- Quantum light enhance the sensitivity of the Holometer below the "Shot-Noise" limit
 - Squeezed light provides an enhancement of the order of the mean number of photon of the squeezed light
 - Twin-Beam provides a complete suppression of the shot-noise contribution (0!!!!)
 - Losses (effectively) affect this enhancement
 - Radiation pressure is not an problem (for affordable light power level)



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