

Quantum Computing with Trapped Ions

...and laser cooling!

Tom Chartrand
Reed College

Outline

- Quantum computing: overview and goals
 - Trapped Ions as a QC architecture
- Ion Trapping and Laser Cooling
- Second Harmonic Generation
- The Cavity (my part)

Quantum Computing - What it is

- Classical: Binary data (0s and 1s)
- Quantum: Superposition of 0 and 1
 - 0.5 ?
 - Two “Qubits”: $A|0\rangle|0\rangle + B|0\rangle|1\rangle + C|1\rangle|0\rangle + D|1\rangle|1\rangle$
- What do we do with the bits?
 - Manipulate them - logic gates
 - Store them - memory

Quantum Computing - What is it good for?

- Factoring!!!
 - Shor's Algorithm: $O((\log N)^3)$ vs. $O(2^{(\log N)^{1/3}})$
- Simulating complex quantum systems

A QC Architecture with potential: Trapped Ions

- Two energy levels form qubit (optical or hyperfine)
 - Very stable
- Gates:
 - CNOT between two atoms in a trap
 - Single qubit rotation by fast pulses
- Scalable system!
 - Entangle with emitted photons for a “flying qubit”
 - Could connect large number of traps into a computing network

Trapping Ions

- Vacuum system isolates the element wanted
- A combination of static electric field and fields oscillating at radio frequency create potential well, stable only for narrow mass range
- Lasers cool ions until almost stationary

Our System

A periodic table of elements with an arrow pointing to Barium (Ba) at atomic number 56. The elements are color-coded: H (1) is green; Li (3), Na (11), K (19), Rb (37), Cs (55), Fr (87) are yellow; Be (4), Mg (12), Ca (20), Sr (38), Ba (56), Ra (88) are light blue; B (5), Al (13), Ga (31), In (49), Tl (81) are blue; C (6), Si (14), Ge (32), Sn (50), Pb (82) are light blue; N (7), P (15), As (33), Sb (51), Bi (83) are blue; O (8), S (16), Se (34), Te (52), Po (84) are light blue; F (9), Cl (17), Br (35), I (53), At (85) are white; He (2), Ne (10), Ar (18), Kr (36), Xe (54), Rn (86) are orange. The transition metals (Sc to Zn, Y to Cd, La to Hg, Ac to Uun) are yellow.

- $^{137}\text{Ba}^+$ ions
- Two ground state hyperfine levels form the qubit
- Transitions between the two driven by varying-length microwave pulses

QuickTime™ and a TIFF (LZW) decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Doppler Laser Cooling

- Uses an optical transition, here $S_{1/2}$ to $P_{1/2}$
- Laser is detuned slightly lower than the resonant frequency
- Ions moving towards the laser see a higher frequency from the Doppler shift, so are resonant
- Absorption adds photon momentum to ion, slowing it

Our laser can do more than cooling

- Allows us to see the ions



- Can initialize the qubit to one state
 - Because of parity, transition depends on polarization

Details of cooling scheme

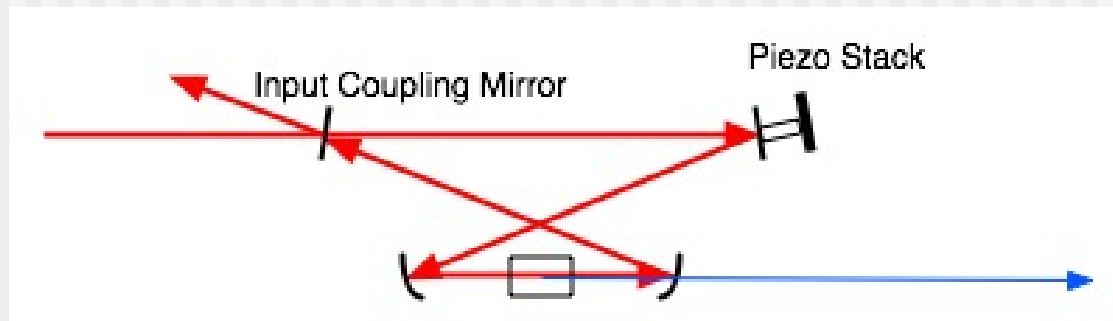
- Ground state hyperfine splitting (our qubit) is 8 GHz - our cooling transition is actually two - so we add sidebands to the laser with an EOM (Electro-Optic Modulator)
- One laser only slows in one direction... but trapping forces couple all directions of motion (if one slows, they all slow)

Second Harmonic Generation ($493=986/2$)

- Difficult to find lasing materials at 493 nm, so we use a 986 nm diode laser and double the frequency
- Uses nonlinear crystal: $P=\chi E+\chi^{(2)}E^2$
- E^2 has twice the frequency of E , and the polarization changing at this frequency generates a new EM wave

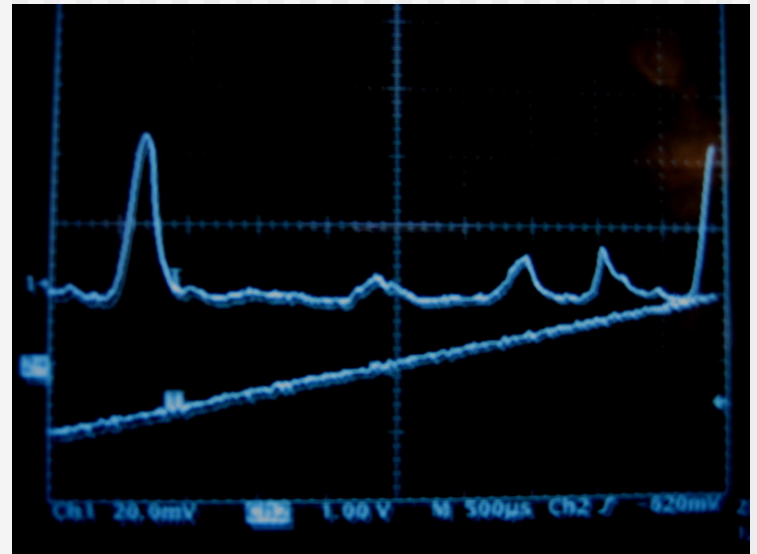
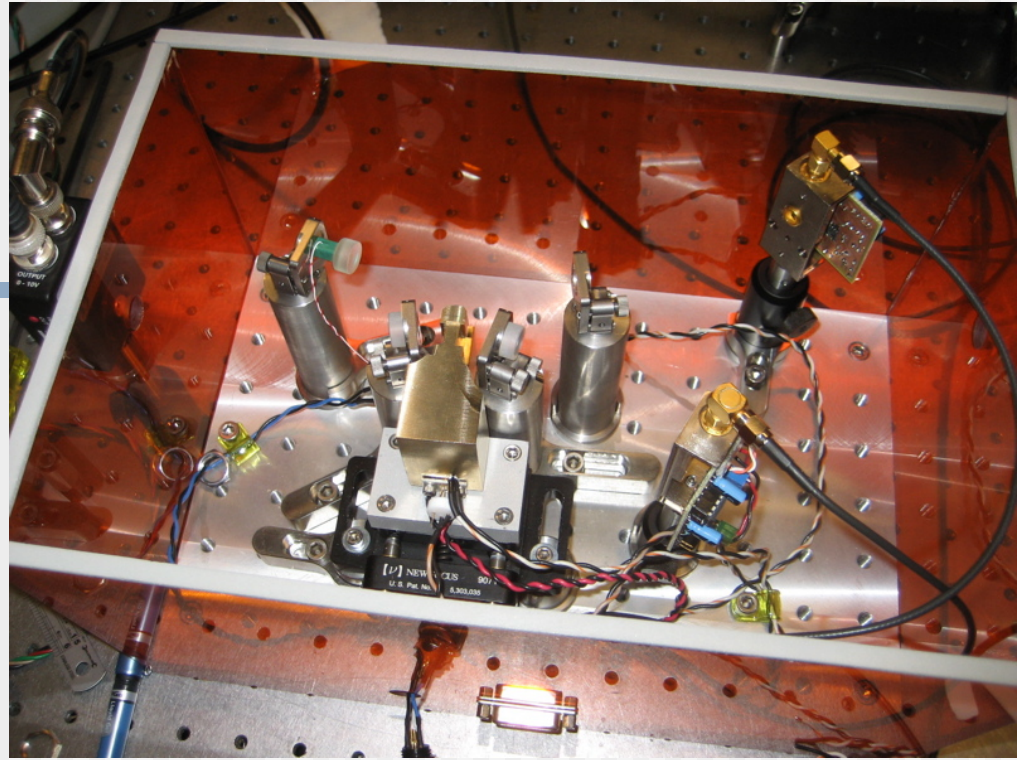
Resonant Enhancement Cavity

- $P_2 = \alpha P_1^2$
- Problem: for significant harmonic power, need very high fundamental power in the crystal
- Solution: put the crystal in a cavity resonant with the fundamental ($L = n\lambda$). The circulating beam constructively interferes with itself



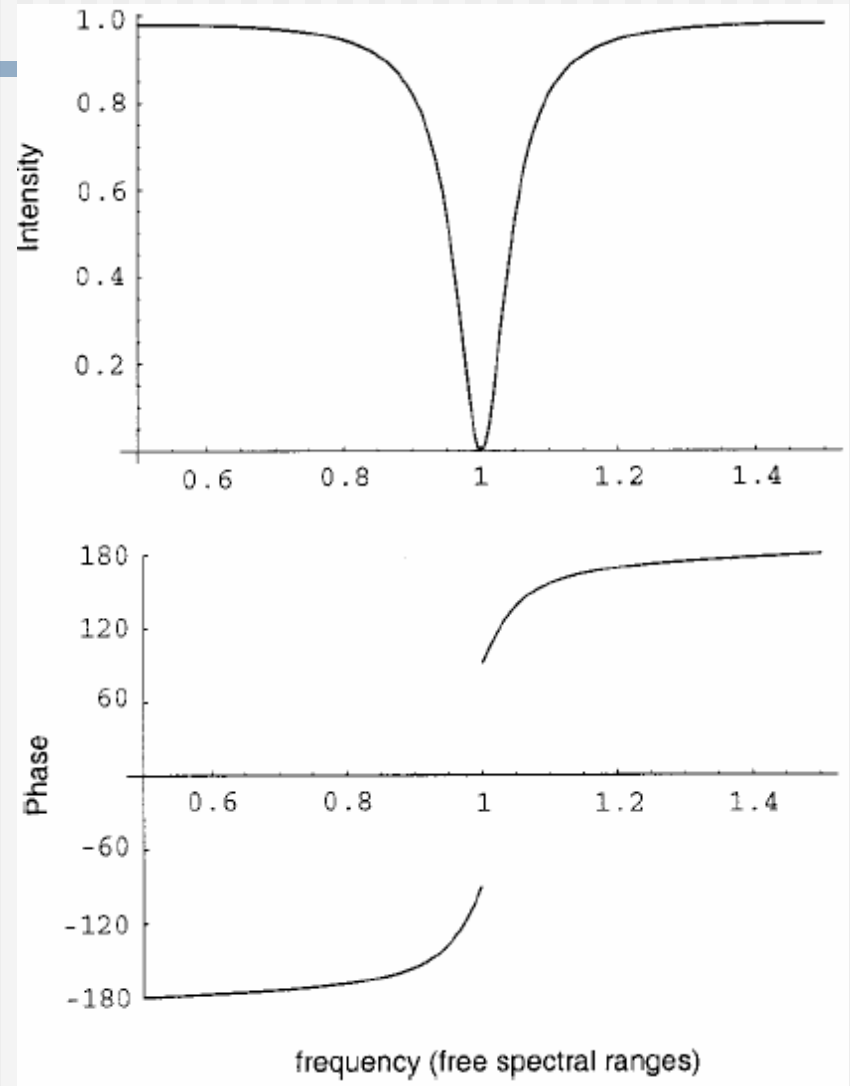
Technical Issues

- Input Coupling
- Mode-matching
- Alignment
- Stabilization
 - PDH Feedback system

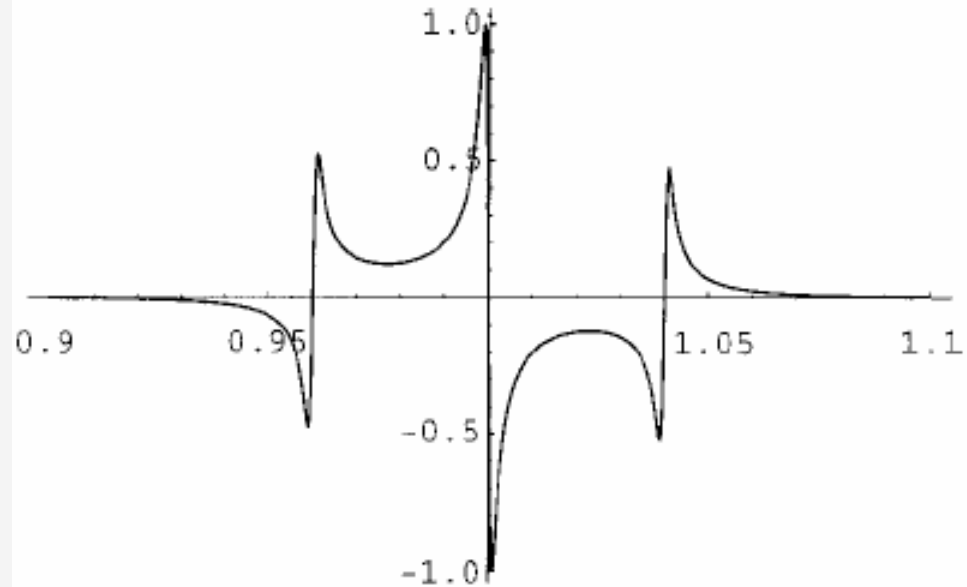
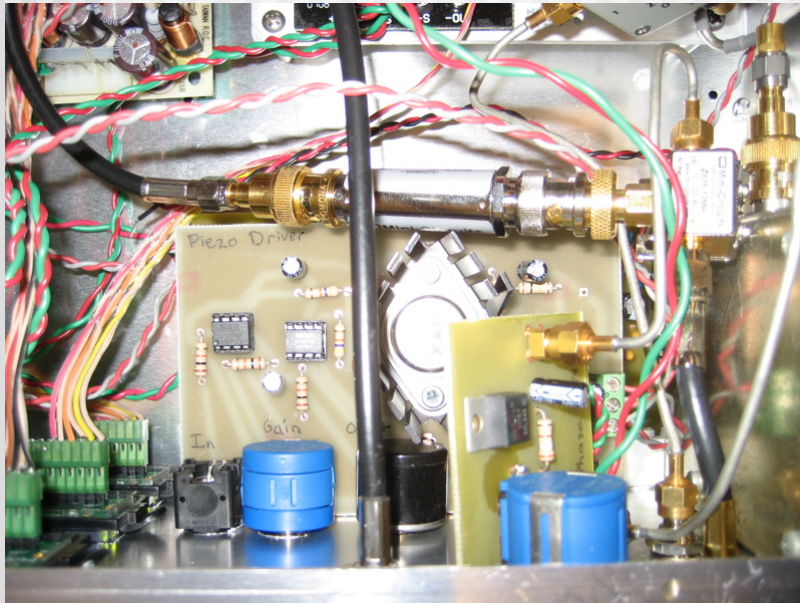


Pound-Drever-Hall Lock

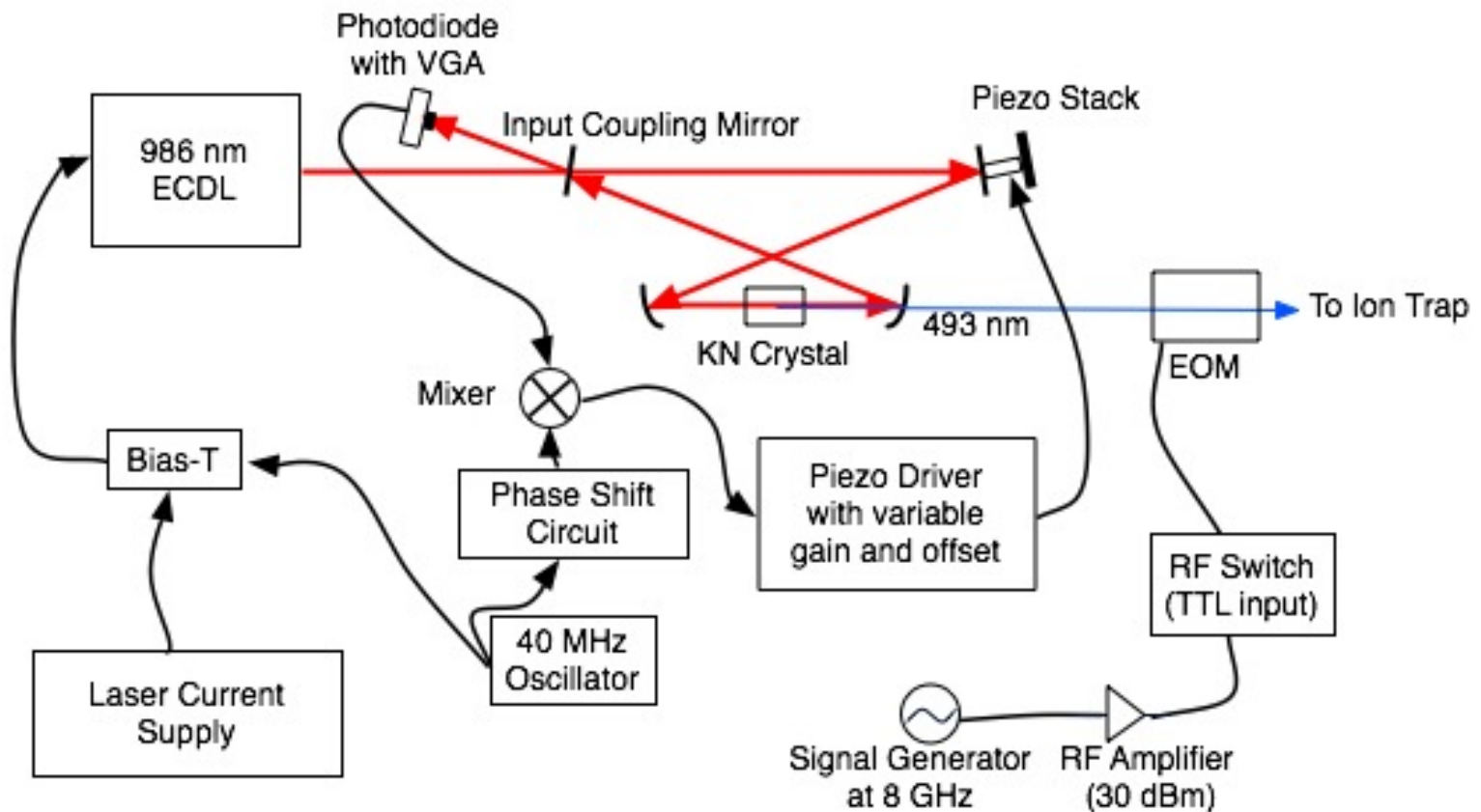
- Reflected signal shows when off resonance
- Intensity is symmetric, so must use phase to know which direction to move for resonance
- Use reference frequency to measure phase shift



- Modulating the laser beam adds sidebands
 - These are far off resonance, so entirely reflected, giving a reference mixed with the fundamental reflected beam
-
- Fast photodiode and tricky electronics extract error signal



The Laser System



References

- UW Trapped Ion Quantum Computing web page.
<http://depts.washington.edu/qcomp/>
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- RP Photonics Encyclopedia of Laser Physics and Technology. <http://www.rp-photonics.com/encyclopedia.html>
- Eric D. Black, "An introduction to Pound-Drever-Hall laser frequency stabilization," Am. J. Phys. 69, 1 (Jan. 2001).

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