# Characterising and calibrating levitated nano-mechanical systems for sensing

P. Barker and the Optomechanics group at UCL



### Levitated optomechanics at UCL

Macroscopic quantum systems

- Cooling and manipulation of nanoparticles in optical, electric and magnetic traps
- Macroscopic quantum mechanics
  - Creation of non-classical states, wave function collapse

Laser refrigeration – cooling internal degrees of freedom

• Controlling motional heating

#### Force detection

- Dark matter detector
- Interactions with single microscopic particles

Applications

- Accelerometers
- Single nanoparticle characterisation









# How might our techniques be useful?

#### Spin Entanglement Witness for Quantum Gravity

Sougato Bose, Anupam Mazumdar, Gavin W. Morley, Hendrik Ulbricht, Marko Toroš, Mauro Paternostro, Andrew A. Geraci, Peter F. Barker, M. S. Kim, and Gerard Milburn Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 240401 – Published 13 December 2017

Physics See Synopsis: A Test of Gravity's Quantum Side



B field



#### Probable requirements

• Ultra-high vacuum and low environmental temperatures

- Low internal temperatures
  - Refrigeration and direct cooling
- Cooling all motional degrees of freedom
  - Coherent scattering and feedback 6 DOF cooling
  - Sympathetic cooling all degrees of freedom
- Detailed understanding mass, charge, temperature, shape and material
  - Characterisation
  - Calibration of fields, forces and charge

#### Levitated optomechanics



Cooling and trapping particles levitated in vacuum

High Q oscillators sensitive to external forces

6 important motional degrees of freedom







#### Experimental setup





Monolithic tweezer assembly









#### Silica nanoparticle

P<sub>TW</sub> ~200-500 mW@ 1064nm Lens NA~0.77 (single lens)

#### Cavity parameters

Lcav=12.23  $\pm$  0.02 mm  $\kappa/2\pi$ =198  $\pm$  1 kHz Finesse ~ 31000

## Temperature of r=60 nm Si0<sub>2</sub> nanosphere



 $\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S_{xx}(\omega) d\omega = \frac{k_B T_{eff}}{m\omega_x^2}$ 

As the pressure is reduced



Motion cooled by factor  $\sim 10^7$ 

2D cooling in the tweezer polarization plane



Zero-point motion ~ 7 pm

# Cooling of non-spherical nanoparticles







#### Power spectra



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#### Particle geometry



#### Spectral features with time



This transition is very well reproduced in numerical simulation





#### Characterisation



Can we can differentiate between particles with different shapes?

Can we use to identify any shape?



#### Characterisation







#### Angular scattering



### Ellipsoid







Measurement of single nanoparticle anisotropy by laser induced optical alignment and Rayleigh scattering for determining particle morphology



Markus Rademacher,<sup>1</sup> (b) Jonathan Cosling,<sup>1</sup> (b) Antonio Pontin,<sup>1</sup> (b) Marko Toroš,<sup>2</sup> (b) Jence T. Mulder,<sup>3</sup> (b) Arjan J. Houtepen,<sup>3</sup> (b) and P. F. Barker<sup>1,a</sup> (b)

# Single nanoparticle characterisation

(a)<sub>1.0</sub>

0.5

(c)<sub>1.0</sub> '

0.5

(e) 1.00 •

0.75

(g) 1.0 <sup>⊧</sup>

0.9

0

100

200

 $\frac{\lambda}{2}$  wave plate setting (deg)

300

 $I_V/I_V^{max}$ 



500

750

Frequency (kHz)

1000

1250

250

0

 $10^{-12}$ 

 $150\bar{0}$ 

#### Comments



- Can cool using coherent scattering and feedback
- Motional decoherence from light scattering and internal heating challenging
- What more general technique could we use to cool and control?

### Cooling via collisions

A levitated atom-nanosphere hybrid quantum system

To cite this article: A Hopper and P F Barker 2024 New J. Phys. 26 013015



$$C = a^3(n^2 + 1)/(n^2 + 2)$$

#### Cold atoms - He\*



Magic wavelengths for the  $2^{3}S \rightarrow 2^{1}S$  transition in helium

R. P. M. J. W. Notermans,<sup>1</sup> R. J. Rengelink,<sup>1</sup> K. A. H. van Leeuwen,<sup>2</sup> and W. Vassen<sup>1,4</sup>



#### Repulsive potential



$$\begin{aligned} I_{3} &= I_{0} \left[ 3 + \frac{6C}{r^{6}} + \frac{2C^{2}k^{2}}{r^{4}} + \frac{2C^{2}k^{4}}{r^{2}} + \frac{4Ck^{2}}{r} \right] \\ U_{Opt} &\propto \alpha I_{3} \\ U_{CP} &= -\frac{\hbar}{8\pi^{2}\epsilon_{0}} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1)(l+1) \\ &\times \frac{a^{2l+1}}{r^{2l+4}} \int_{0}^{\infty} d\zeta \alpha (i\zeta) \frac{\epsilon(i\zeta) - 1}{\epsilon(i\zeta) + [(l+1)/l]} \end{aligned}$$

Energy (K)

IIIII

#### Sympathetic cooling



Damping rate

$$\gamma_C = \frac{\xi}{\alpha_c} n \sigma v_{th}$$

$$\xi = \frac{4m_n m_a}{(m_n + m_a)^2}$$

10 orders difference in mass BUT cooling rates in excess of 10 kHz

Primary source of heating due to voltage noise 10 nv/Sqrt[Hz]

Temps below 10 µK appear feasible



#### Bound states





Casimir-Polder

 $U_A \propto \frac{1}{r^6}$ 

Optical
$$U_R \propto rac{1}{r}$$

 $k_R^2 < k_A^2$ 

#### Bound states





Tightly bound system with nanosphereatom trap frequencies of 100 -1000 kHz

Lifetime limited by detuning from optical resonances and vibrational noise



## Interferometry?

He\* *J*=1, *M*<sub>z</sub>=-1,0,1

Trap freq 100 Hz -10 KHz

Particle oscillation of a few microns is much less than optical field extension

B gradient field for transverse S-G

Creation superposition of  $M_z$ = 1,-1

Allow to fall in trap

S-G creates COM superposition

Close interferometer and measure phase change

#### Creating atom-nanoparticle quantum superpositions

PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH 3, 033218 (2021)

M. Toroš<sup>(0)</sup>,<sup>1,2</sup> S. Bose,<sup>2</sup> and P. F. Barker<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ, United Kingdom <sup>2</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT, United Kingdom controlling laser nanoparticle atom controlling laser trapping laser

#### Comments



- hybrid quantum system
- highly tunable-system with the potential to use different cold atomic species (Cs)
- sympathetic cooling center-of-mass motion, internal ?
- can turn off cooling rapidly
- creation of tightly bound atoms with spin
- could we replace NV for SG or other nanoparticle interferometry
- can we cool rotational motion and internal motion

### Impulsive force detection







#### Collisions with:

- Molecules
- Photons (x-rays)
- Neutrons
- Dark matter

#### Dark matter landscape





### Dark matter nuggets

- Fermionic or bosonic dark matter particle coupling to scalar mediator.
- Coupling can lead to formation of bound dark matter "nuggets".
- Mediator able to couple to nucleons.

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{g_{\chi} N_{\chi} g_n N_n}{4\pi} \frac{1}{|\vec{r}|} e^{-m_{\phi}|\vec{r}|}$$

Long-range, small-angle scattering  $m_{\phi} < \mathrm{eV}$ 



#### Directionality









State-of-the-art



Search for Composite Dark Matter with Optically Levitated Sensors

Fernando Monteiro, Gadi Afek, Daniel Carney, Gordan Krnjaic, Jiaxiang Wang, and David C. Moore Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 181102 – Published 28 October 2020

#### Experimental Procedure



#### **Experimental Setup**



#### Experimental Setup





### Feedback Cooling





#### Impulsive event detection





$$M(\omega) = \sigma_A^2 \ \frac{H^*(\omega)F^*(\omega)}{S(\omega)} \ e^{-i\omega t_a}$$

Product of 3 filters

 $M^{C}(\omega) \equiv 1/L(\omega)$  $M^{A}(\omega) \equiv H^{*}(\omega)/L^{*}(\omega)$  $F^{*}(\omega)$ 

Whitening filter

 $\delta$  Pattern matching filter

A. Ortolan et al, Gravitational waves. Proceedings, 2nd Edoardo Amaldi Conference, Geneva, Switzerland, July 1-4, 1997, 204-215



#### Experimental Procedure





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#### Application to alpha particles



# Application to Alpha Particles

**Applications to Nuclear spectroscopy:** Malyzhenkov et al., Phys. Rev. A 98, 052103 **Sterile Neutrino** searches: Carney et al., PRX Quantum 4, 010315



4.6 MeV Alpha - deposit 14 keV

Maximum momentum – ~ 200 MeV

Mechanical detection of nuclear decays: Wang et al., arXiv:2402.13257

#### Charge Monitoring



Frequency (kHz)

### Charge Monitoring (40 days)



### Conclusions



- Review of what is possible and potentially useful
- Cooling all DOF by cavity cooling and by collisions
- Characterisation of particles via their motion in traps
- Impulsive sensing of collisions and charge

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# Heterodyne measurement - ground state

Ratio of Stokes to anti-Stokes transition



















#### Calibration via interference

fringes:

- 640 nm laser used to form interference fringes at the nanoparticle.
- Utilise linear region to get a calibration of voltage to displacement.

/oltage





#### **Calibration via interference**

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## Stochastic forces



# Stochastic forces







#### Cross-correlation mechanical spectra:

$$S_{xy}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \left\langle [\hat{x}]^{\dagger} \hat{y} \right\rangle + \left\langle [\hat{y}]^{\dagger} \hat{x} \right\rangle \right)$$



Cross-correlation mechanical spectra:  $S_{xy}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \langle [\hat{x}]^{\dagger} \hat{y} \rangle + \langle [\hat{y}]^{\dagger} \hat{x} \rangle \right)$ 

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PSD under directed force:

$$S_{xx}(\omega) = |\chi_x(\omega)|^2 S_{th}(1 + \beta^2 \cos^2 \Psi)$$
  
$$S_{yy}(\omega) = |\chi_y(\omega)|^2 S_{th}(1 + \beta^2 \sin^2 \Psi)$$

Cross-correlation mechanical spectra:

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CSD under directed force:

$$S_{xy}(\omega) = \operatorname{Re}\left[\chi_x^*(\omega)\chi_y(\omega)\right]S_{th}\beta^2\cos\Psi\sin\Psi)$$
$$\beta^2 = S_{ff}^{dir}/S_{th}$$

# Experiment setup



# Experiment setup













1e-23

1e-23







