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学位(専攻分野) 博士
(情報学)

学位記番号 総研大甲第 2077 号

学位授与の日付 平成 31年 3 月 22 日

学位授与の要件 複合科学研究科 情報学専攻
学位規則第6条第1項該当

学位論文題目 Quantum Resource Engineering

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(Form 3)

Summary of Doctoral Thesis

Name in full Michael Robert HANKS

Title Quantum Resource Engineering

Quantum technologies promise unparalleled performance in areas such as field sensing, unstructured database search and integer factorization. In pursuit of these promises, on the design front, schemes for control, communication, and the protection of information have been developed. On the discovery front, a range of disparate physical systems including among others quantum dots, trapped ions, crystal defects, and superconducting circuits, have been investigated for suitability in the machinery of quantum information processing. This process of design and discovery forms the immediate context for the work contained in this thesis. The current era is characterized by severe resource limitations, both in qubit number and in time. These resource limitations will likely continue to play a major role in device design and operation into the foreseeable future, if only due to the sheer magnitude of the costs involved in production and operation. It is therefore in our interest to consider in detail those resources and methods available to us, to engineer greater levels of efficiency. In this two-part thesis I have chosen to focus primarily on aspects relevant to the generation and maintenance of entangled states. These are most relevant in the near-term, in my estimation, to quantum metrology, in the mid-term to (perhaps partially error corrected) quantum communication, and in the long-term to the generation of the fully error corrected states of quantum computation.

In the first part of this thesis I consider general schemes for reducing the impact of local noise for small-scale, near-term quantum devices. I begin with a consideration of the potential role of strong coupling in quantum sensing. The essential feature of this section is the application of strong coupling for passive state protection, a feature well known among researchers interested in passive error mitigation, to quantum sensing. The two key resources of quantum sensing are time and the number of probe systems; by engineering the composite energy level structure of the system, the efficiency of these resources as expressed by quantum sensing's *sensitivity* parameter is enhanced. I conclude that passive protection based on strong coupling overcomes two key limitations of active error correction schemes: Firstly, the pi-pulses of dynamical decoupling commute with the assumed two-qubit interaction terms and the relaxation times of the individual spins improve, not only the coherence time of the system as a whole; secondly, since the probe states are local energy ground states the asymmetric relaxation behavior of the assumed noise process improves the performance, in contrast to active correction methods. I also show a concrete

example, in superconducting flux qubits, where this proposal could be implemented in the near-term to the benefit of relaxation-limited applications in quantum metrology.

Having considered the application of strong coupling to the passive protection of quantum states for sensing, I then begin look at the role of local information in the decoding of the repetition code and the surface code for the protection of quantum states, performing pseudo-threshold simulations using minimum-weight perfect matching and Kolmogorov's *Blossom V* algorithm. The key result of this section is an improvement in resource efficiency when local information is taken into account during the decoding process: My results show that accounting for local variability in measurement errors can reduce logical error rates by factors of order 30%. I also introduce two intuitive but approximate measures of qualitative, predictive utility, and show evidence that this approximate 30% improvement increases for higher code distances and dimensions, under the minimum-weight perfect matching decoder. Finally, an averaged approach to local information for table-lookup and localized decoding schemes based on the geometric mean of local error rates is suggested, and a breakdown of these effects for large-scale systems is predicted.

The second part of this thesis moves down a level in the abstraction hierarchy of quantum technologies to consider the implementation of single-qubit gates, particularly measurement, on two specific physical systems: The nitrogen–vacancy and silicon–vacancy defect centers in diamond. I lead this part with a theoretical performance estimate for an indirect measurement of the electronic spin of the nitrogen–vacancy center based on the reflection statistics of a coupled optical cavity. The scheme investigated here uses dipole-induced transparency to entangle the path of a photon with the spin state of a single nitrogen–vacancy center at cryogenic temperatures. The fidelity of this projective measurement forms the key figure of merit. Incorporating all ground and optically excited states as well as feedback effects in state population across multiple measurement pulses, idealized measurement time and fidelity estimates are provided for current and near-term technology. The impacts of the photon bandwidth on the pulse time and the required cavity decay rate are then incorporated, before providing estimates of the additional error incurred by introducing weak coherent light sources in place of single-photon sources. The central conclusion is that it should be possible to achieve spin measurements with fidelities sufficient for fault tolerant quantum computation. Further, weak coherent light is found to be sufficient for spin measurements for smaller applications such that charge state switching across multiple operations can be considered negligible and when the measurement is not a component of projective entanglement generation.

Having considered the nitrogen-vacancy center, I then move to consider the achievable performance of single-qubit rotations and spin measurements for the negatively charged silicon–vacancy center in diamond. I lead this analysis by justifying a particular field configuration and qubit encoding with respect to the

center's energy level structure and decay processes, before providing performance estimates for these operations. Unlike the preceding work for the nitrogen-vacancy center, this section additionally provides and explains performance estimates for optical stimulated Raman adiabatic passage (STIRAP) single-qubit rotations. Results do not exceed expected requirements on operational fidelity for fault tolerant quantum computation, and I therefore conclude with a discussion emphasizing the potential use of silicon-vacancy centers in small-scale or rate-dependent (in contrast to fidelity-dependent) applications.

Finally, the second part of this thesis concludes by outlining potential goals for the near-, mid-, and long-term that may be achieved with a photonic module based on the single, negatively charged nitrogen-vacancy center. These concluding sections explain and provide loose performance estimates for

1. single-node, heralded, memory-assisted quantum communication,
2. distributed quantum sensing, and
3. cluster state generation for quantum computation.

After providing a brief comparison with the silicon-vacancy center considered in the preceding section, I emphasize the suitability of the nitrogen-vacancy center photonic module both for the current resource-limited era and looking further toward scalable quantum information processing.

博士論文審査結果

Name in Full
氏名 Michael Robert HANKS

Title
論文題目 Quantum Resource Engineering

Mr Michael Hanks has completed all the criteria including peer-reviewed journal articles and submitted his PhD thesis for the final evaluation. The final evaluation for his PhD was held on the 23rd of January 2019. Mr Hanks demonstrated the high level of knowledge and understanding the department expects our doctoral students to possess and clearly explained his research undertaken during his PhD.

The thesis is composed of seven interconnected chapters. The first chapter gives the introduction to his research field and unifies the rest of the thesis under the viewpoint of quantum resource engineering. The second chapter focuses on quantum sensing proposing a novel scheme utilizing strong coupling for entanglement-enhanced sensing. The essential feature of this proposal is the localization of sensing probe states to their local ground states. This results in an exponential improvement in the sensitivity of the measurement with the ratio between the collective spin-spin coupling strength and the temperature of a surrounding harmonic oscillator bath. A concrete example demonstrates the potential of this method for implementation in the near-term with superconducting flux qubits.

The third chapter focused on quantum error correction proposes to exploit local variations in the accuracy of probabilistic measurement outcomes to enhance the efficiency of error correction on encoded quantum states. By extending the common model of depolarising noise with probabilistic ancillary bit flips, this proposal reduces the logical error rate estimates by observed factors of up to ~30%. As quantum technologies in the near-term are likely to operate with gate error rates close to limiting operational bounds, this can be an essential factor for a realization of such quantum systems, significantly extending the range of accessible applications.

The fourth chapter is focused on the measurement problem and estimates the fidelity of projective electron spin measurement on the negatively-charged nitrogen-vacancy center in diamond. This center is one of several primary candidate systems for the physical implementation of a quantum bit. Here the construction of the photonic module assumed as the basis for the indirect spin measurement considered in this chapter is a current experimental target. The

analysis of this chapter confirms that the conclusions of prior authors hold when the complexity of the entire energy level structure of the nitrogen-vacancy center is incorporated, and allows us to conclude that the quality of construction and coupling of the resonator in the assumed photonic-module system is within experimental reach in the near-term. Combining the measurement results of this chapter with the modified decoding scheme of the second chapter, we begin to see an approach to small-scale quantum devices that has good potential to be extended in the long-term to larger-scale systems and applications.

The negatively-charged silicon-vacancy center in diamond has recently emerged as a competitor-candidate to the nitrogen-vacancy center mentioned in the previous paragraph. In consideration of the comparative potential advantages of this new system, the fifth chapter provides fidelity estimates for spin-measurement and single-qubit rotation for the silicon-vacancy center, in an assumed photonic-module construction as for the previous chapter. The results provided confirm the superior potential of the nitrogen-vacancy center, though leaving open the relative potential of the silicon-vacancy center for rate-dependent applications. Given the wide variety of candidate physical systems for the qubit implementation in quantum devices, the comparative assessment of these systems provides important route-correcting information to focus development efforts.

The sixth of this thesis considers a proposed three-stage development for quantum devices, beginning with entanglement-enhanced sensing and then moving toward quantum communication and finally extending these applications to the large entangled states required for fault tolerant quantum computation. Assuming the fidelity results of the third chapter for spin-measurement on the nitrogen-vacancy center, approximate figures for the probability and time of entangled-pair generation with a nitrogen-vacancy center photonic module are used to estimate performance parameters for demonstrative applications at each of these three stages. The development of large-scale quantum technologies is a daunting challenge, and the approximate results of this final chapter form the beginnings of a steady developmental roadmap from near-term, small-scale devices to the larger goals of quantum information processing. The seventh chapter summarizes the main results of the thesis and outlines potential directions.

His thesis contains broad topics ranging from quantum information devices, quantum sensing to fault-tolerant quantum error correction defines the basis for engineering of quantum information resources. In each topic, he took a new approach to the problem and made a number of significant breakthrough for each. For instance, his research on quantum information devices using

diamond NV centers and SiV centers has shown the precise implementation of the measurement protocols and requirements for these devices for different quantum information tasks. In particular, he successfully showed that such devices can achieve the accuracy for fault-tolerant quantum computation with NV centers. A second example was in quantum sensing which usually suffers from noise severely. To overcome this fundamental problem, he exploited interactions in the probe to make quantum sensing robust. This result gives us new insights to the mechanism and potential implementations for quantum sensors. He described each topic and its results so as to highlight the importance of quantum resource engineering in the broader field of quantum information. Although he had set an ambitious goal for his PhD thesis, his thesis delivered it successfully.

Mr Hanks has published two papers in *njp Quantum Information* (Q1-rank) and *New Journal of Physics* (Q1-rank) and two conference proceedings papers. He also gave two oral presentations at major international conferences. We have concluded that his thesis well deserves to be accepted for a PhD in Informatics.