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Rotation Sensing with a Trapped Barium Ion¹ RANDY PUTNAM, ADAM WEST, WES CAMPBELL, PAUL HAMILTON, California State University, Los Angeles — We present progress toward an experiment using a Zeeman qubit and a modified version of the recently developed spin-dependent kicks technique [1] to create an interferometric matter-wave gyroscope with a single ¹³⁸Ba⁺ ion in a linear Paul trap [2]. A rotation rate, Ω can be extracted by measuring the Sagnac phase: $\Phi = \frac{4\pi E}{\hbar c^2} (N\vec{A}) \cdot \vec{\Omega}$, where E is the particle energy, and $N\vec{A}$ is the effective area of the interferometer. In order to reach sensitivities comparable to commercially available gyroscopes ($\sim 1\mu$ rad s⁻¹Hz^{-1/2}) we take advantage of the increased energy afforded by using massive particles and allowing the ion to orbit in the trap N times before closing the interferometer. With the ion's long coherence time and a secular trap frequency of 10–100 kHz we hope to achieve N = 100 orbits in the trap. We have trapped and shown coherent control of a Zeeman qubit using a mode-locked Nd:YAG laser. This includes observing both Rabi oscillations and Ramsey fringes using a Raman transition between the qubit states.

Reference:

J. Mizrahi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 203001 (2013)
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