

Bayesian filtering for quantum-enhanced atomic sensors

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Bayesian filtering for quantum-enhanced atomic sensors



Morgan Mitchell -

Quantum Information Theory with Cold Atoms and Non-classical Light

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS **120**, 040503 (2018)

Signal Tracking Beyond the Time Resolution of an Atomic Sensor by Kalman Filtering

Ricardo Jiménez-Martínez,^{1,*} Jan Kołodyński,¹ Charikleia Troullinou,¹ Vito Giovanni Lucivero,¹
Jia Kong,¹ and Morgan W. Mitchell^{1,2}

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.08131>

Atomic ensembles as sensors

Key: phenomenon of optical pumping

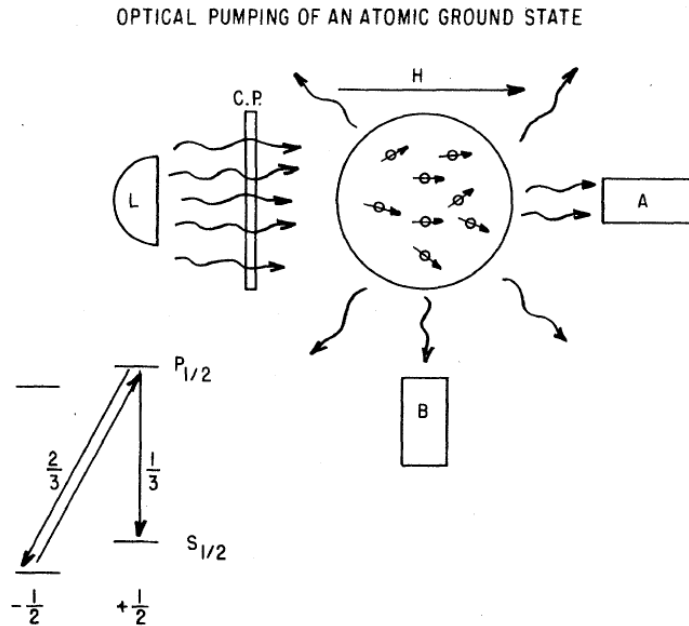


FIG. 1. A simple optical pumping experiment. Atoms are polarized by the scattering of circularly polarized resonant light. Either the transmitted light at A or the fluorescently scattered light at B can be used to monitor the atomic polarization.

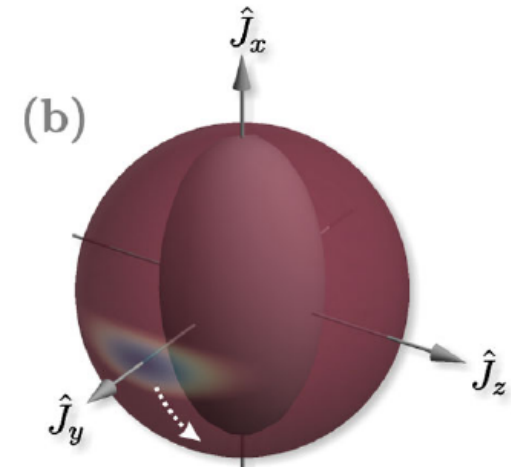
single-atom spin (nuclear+electronic parts):

$$\hat{\mathbf{j}} = \hat{\mathbf{I}} + \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$



collective atomic-ensemble spin:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}} = \sum_n \hat{\mathbf{j}}^{(n)}$$



REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS

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Optical Pumping*

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[Happer, Jau, Walker "Optically Pumped Atoms" (Wiley 2009)]

Atomic ensembles as sensors

Key: phenomenon of optical pumping

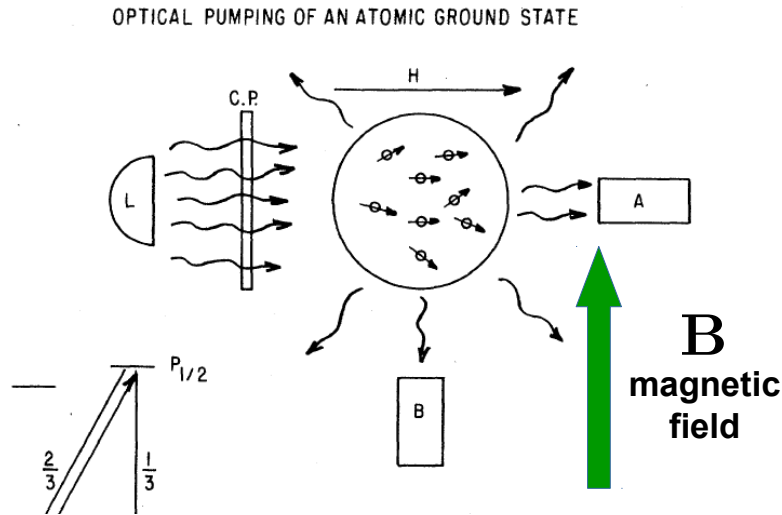


TABLE I
PROPERTIES OF SEVERAL TYPES OF ATOMIC SENSORS

Sensor type	T_2 [s]	$\delta\varphi$ [rad] @ T_2	H_{int}	$\omega_0/2\pi$	Stability or Sensitivity @ 1s
Ion optical clock	1	~ 1	$\alpha q_n q_e$	10^{15} Hz	10^{-15}
Fountain atomic clock	1	10^{-4}	$\beta \bar{\mu}_n \cdot \bar{\mu}_e$	10^{10} Hz	10^{-14}
Beam atomic clock	0.01	10^{-3}	$\beta \bar{\mu}_n \cdot \bar{\mu}_e$	10^{10} Hz	10^{-12}
Vapor cell magnetometer	0.01	10^{-4}	$\bar{\mu} \cdot \bar{B}$	10^{10} Hz/T	10^{-13} T
Vapor cell NMR gyroscope	100	10^{-8}	$\bar{L} \cdot \bar{\Omega}$	7×10^{-7} Hz/(°/h)	10^{-3} °/h
Laser cooled atom interferometer accel.	1	0.1	$\hbar k T a$	10^7 Hz/g	10^{-8} g
Atomic electric field sensor	10^{-7}	~ 0.1	$\bar{d} \cdot \bar{E}$	10^8 Hz/(V/cm)	~ 10 μ V/cm

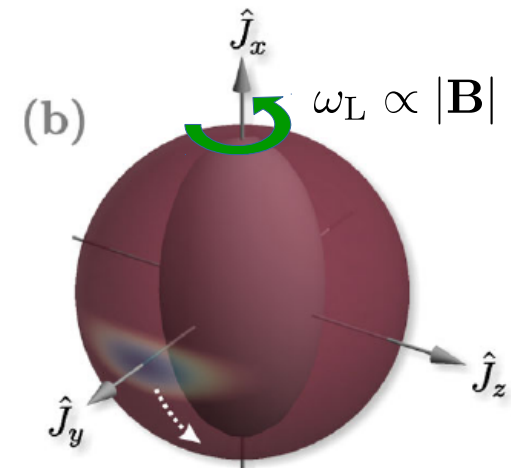
single-atom spin (nuclear+electronic parts):

$$\hat{\mathbf{j}} = \hat{\mathbf{I}} + \hat{\mathbf{S}}$$

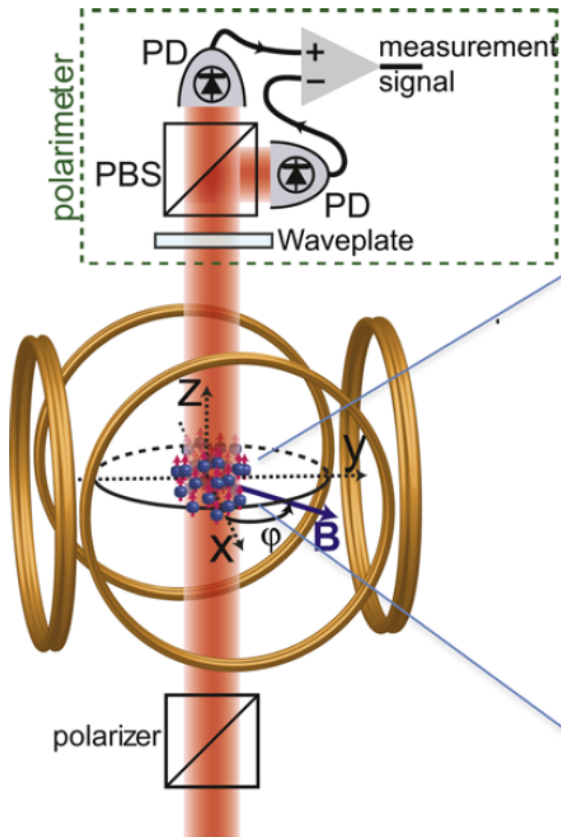


collective atomic-ensemble spin:

$$\hat{\mathbf{J}} = \sum_n \hat{\mathbf{j}}^{(n)}$$



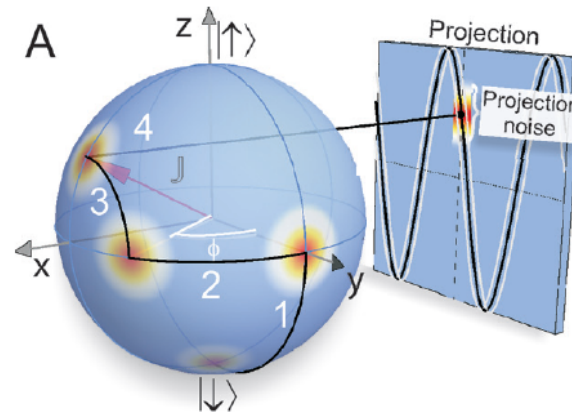
Conditional squeezing by QND (Faraday) measurements



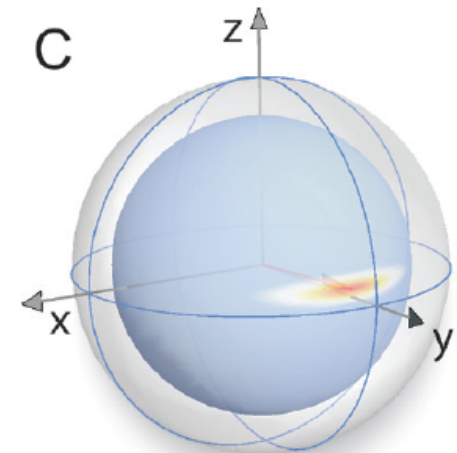
Polarisation of the probe light rotated by a Faraday angle:

$$\hat{\Theta}_{\text{FR}} = g \hat{J}_z + \dots$$

("weak" QND measurement, off/on-resonance)



(single-shot)
conditional squeezed (in J_z) state
after the QND measurement



[Deutsch I. and Jessen P., *Optics Communications* 283 (2010) 681–694]

[Hammerer et al, "Quantum interface between light and atomic ensembles" *RMP* 82 (2010)]

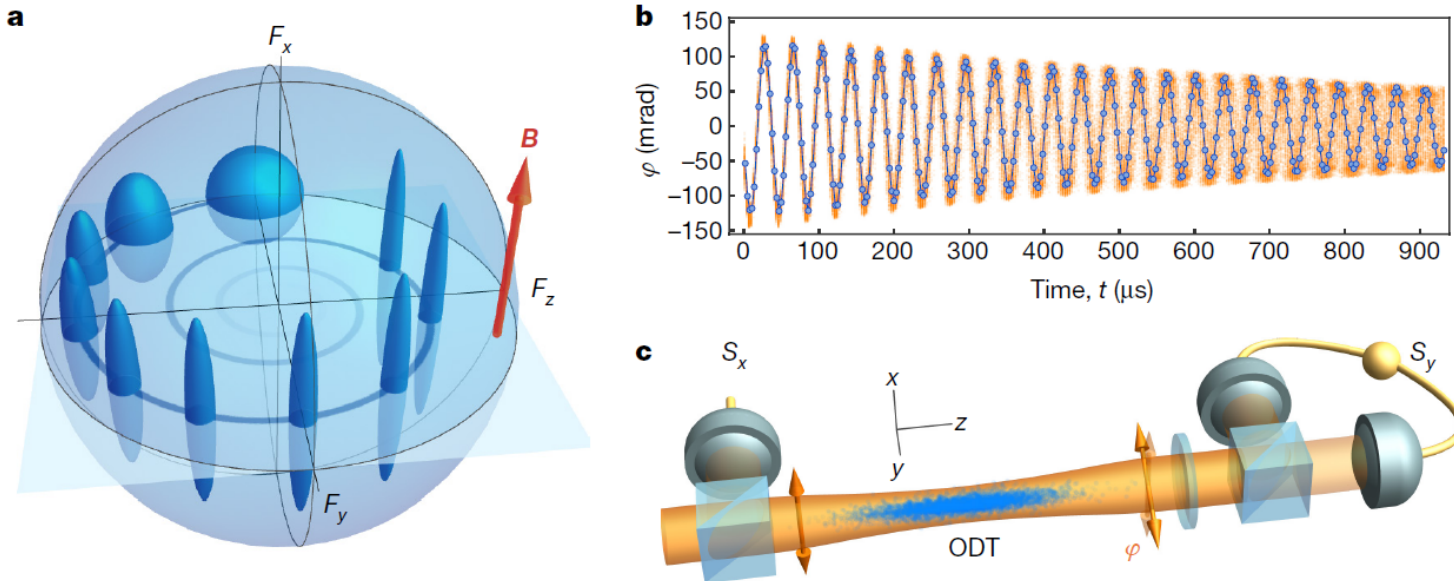
Conditional squeezing by QND (Faraday) measurements

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature21434

Simultaneous tracking of spin angle and amplitude beyond classical limits

Giorgio Colangelo¹, Ferran Martin Ciurana¹, Lorena C. Bianchet¹, Robert J. Sewell¹ & Morgan W. Mitchell^{1,2}



“evading” Heisenberg uncertainty relation:

$$\delta F_y \delta F_z \geq \frac{1}{2} |\langle [F_y, F_z] \rangle| = \frac{1}{2} |\langle F_x \rangle|$$

**It is a continuous measurement, but
can we use quantum continuous
(stochastic) measurement formalism?
(with back-action!)**

Continuous conditional spin-squeezing

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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

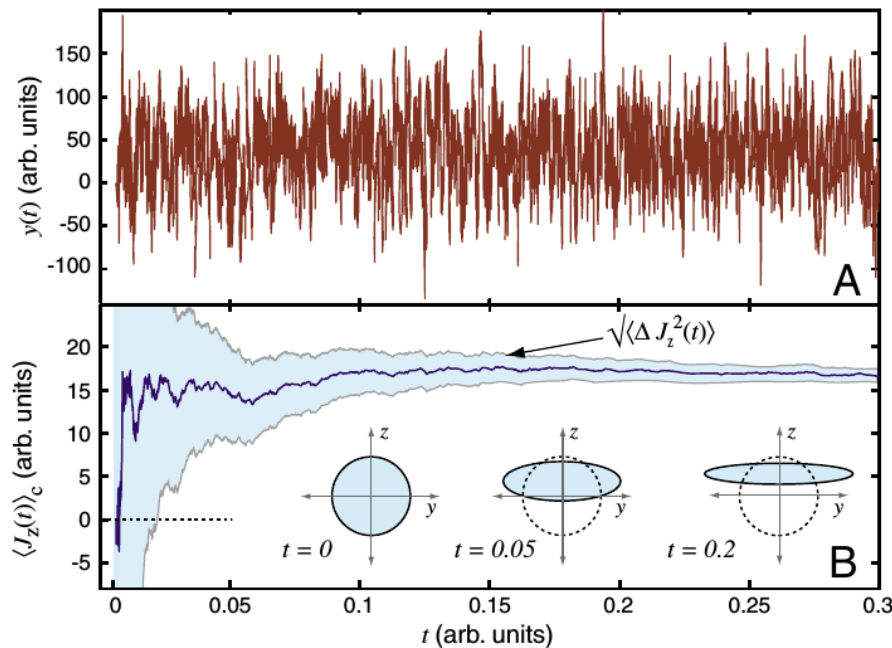
week ending
19 DECEMBER 2003

Quantum Kalman Filtering and the Heisenberg Limit in Atomic Magnetometry

JM Geremia,* John K. Stockton, Andrew C. Doherty, and Hideo Mabuchi

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(Received 27 June 2003; published 19 December 2003)



Quantum continuous measurement framework (with homodyne detection):

Measurement dynamics:

$$y(t)dt = 2\eta\sqrt{M}\langle\hat{J}_z(t)\rangle_c dt + \sqrt{\eta}dW(t),$$

Ensemble dynamics:

$$d\hat{\rho}_c(t) = -i\gamma B[\hat{J}_y, \hat{\rho}_c]dt + \boxed{M\mathcal{D}[\hat{J}_z]\hat{\rho}_c dt} + \sqrt{M\eta}\mathcal{H}[\hat{J}_z]\hat{\rho}_c dW(t),$$

BUT SUCH A MODEL IS NOT ACCURATE ENOUGH !!

Current best descriptions of atomic-ensemble dynamics (e.g., **SERF magnetometers**) rely on **single-atom models**:

$$\rho = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n \rho^{(n)} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{d\rho}{dt} = a_{hf} \frac{[\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{S}, \rho]}{i\hbar} + \mu_{BGS} \frac{[\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{S}, \rho]}{i\hbar} + \frac{\varphi(1 + 4\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle \cdot \mathbf{S}) - \rho}{T_{SE}} + \frac{\varphi - \rho}{T_{SD}} + R[\varphi(1 + 2\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{S}) - \rho] + D\nabla^2 \rho.$$

[Appelt et al, PRA 58(2), 1412 (1998); F. Grossetete, J. Phys. (Paris) 25, 383 (1964); 29, 456 (1968)]

What to do then?... Go step by step!

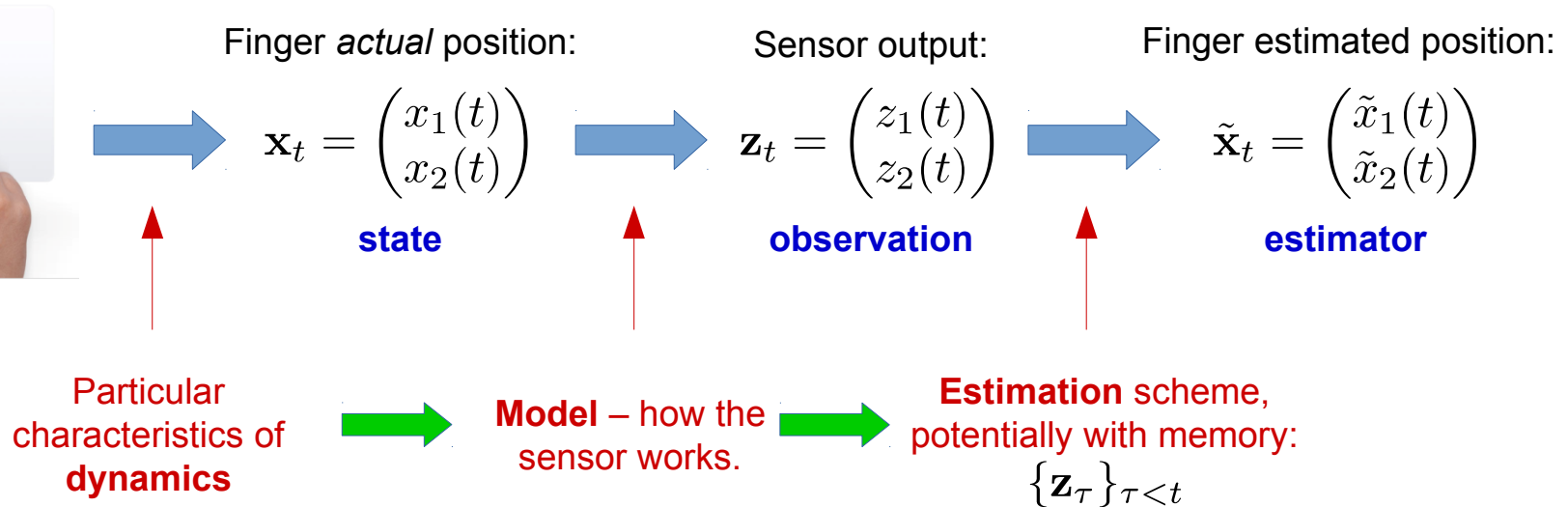
STEP 1 [the experiment presented today...]

- Describe the **atomic spin-noise** phenomenologically (via *noise spectroscopy*) in a stochastic manner.
- Work in the regime in which “**back-action**” can be avoided, so that **photon shot-noise** is also stochastic and independent from the atomic noise.
- Sense stochastic input signals (*waveform estimation*) that you “know” and have control off—can then verify explicitly the performance of the sensor.
- Design the sensing task so that **state and measurement dynamics** are linear-Gaussian (LG), so that the **optimal (real-time) estimator** of the input signal can be explicitly constructed:



Kalman Filter

Kalman Filter – optimal estimator for Gaussian stochastic dynamics

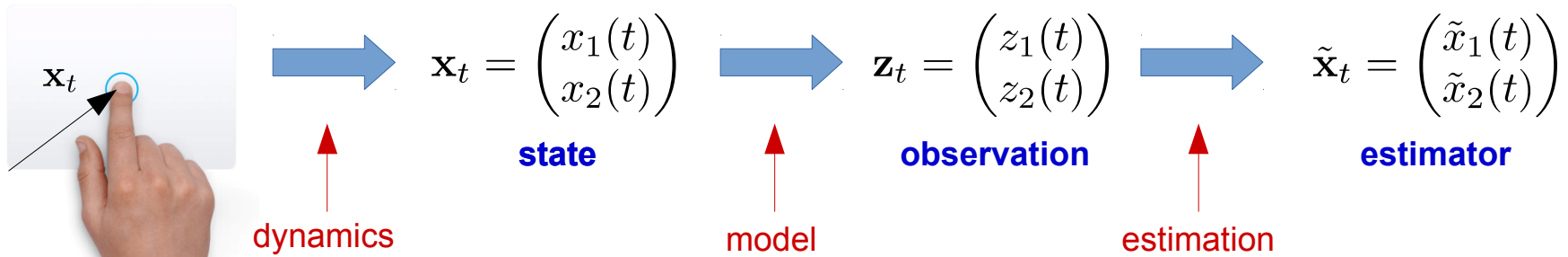


Optimal estimation scheme minimises the (time-) **average Mean Squared Error** :

$$\text{MSE}(t) := \text{Tr}\{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t\} = \text{E}[(\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)^T (\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)] = \text{E}[|\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t|^2]$$

(error) covariance matrix: $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t := \text{E}[(\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)(\mathbf{x}_t - \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)^T]$

Kalman Filter – optimal estimator for Gaussian stochastic dynamics



Optimal estimator minimising (av.) MSE: **mean of the posterior distribution**

$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{t+\delta t} = \int_t^{t+\delta t} D\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}_{t+\delta t} p(\mathbf{x}_{t+\delta t} | \{\mathbf{z}_\tau\}_{\tau < t})$$

Special case of **linear Gaussian state and observation dynamics**:

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{F}_t \mathbf{x}_t dt + \mathbf{G}_t d\mathbf{w}_t \quad d\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{H}_t \mathbf{x}_t dt + d\mathbf{v}_t, \quad (\text{Ito calculus})$$

Wiener (white-noise) terms: $E[d\mathbf{w}_t d\mathbf{w}_s^T] = \mathbf{Q}_t \delta(t - s) dt$ $E[d\mathbf{v}_t d\mathbf{v}_s^T] = \mathbf{R}_t \delta(t - s) dt$

But, all the parameters are a priori known !! ➔ **“waveform estimation”** (in contrast to **“tracking”**)
 (we are fighting “only” fluctuations)

Kalman Filter – optimal estimator for Gaussian stochastic dynamics

Linear Gaussian (LG) state and observation dynamics:

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{F}_t \mathbf{x}_t dt + \mathbf{G}_t d\mathbf{w}_t$$

$$d\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{H}_t \mathbf{x}_t dt + d\mathbf{v}_t,$$

$$E[d\mathbf{w}_t d\mathbf{w}_s^T] = \mathbf{Q}_t \delta(t - s) dt$$

$$E[d\mathbf{v}_t d\mathbf{v}_s^T] = \mathbf{R}_t \delta(t - s) dt$$

Optimal estimator is provided by the solution to the Kalman-Bucy equation and... :

$$\frac{d\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t}{dt} = \mathbf{F}_t \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t + \mathbf{K}_t (\mathbf{z}_t - \mathbf{H}_t \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t)$$

Kalman gain: $\mathbf{K}_t := \Sigma_t \mathbf{H}_t^T \mathbf{R}_t^{-1}$

...variance equation for the **(error) covariance matrix**:

$$\frac{d\Sigma_t}{dt} = \mathbf{F}_t \Sigma_t + \Sigma_t \mathbf{F}_t^T + \mathbf{G}_t \mathbf{Q}_t \mathbf{G}_t^T - \Sigma_t \mathbf{H}_t^T \mathbf{R}_t^{-1} \mathbf{H}_t \Sigma_t$$

Important facts:

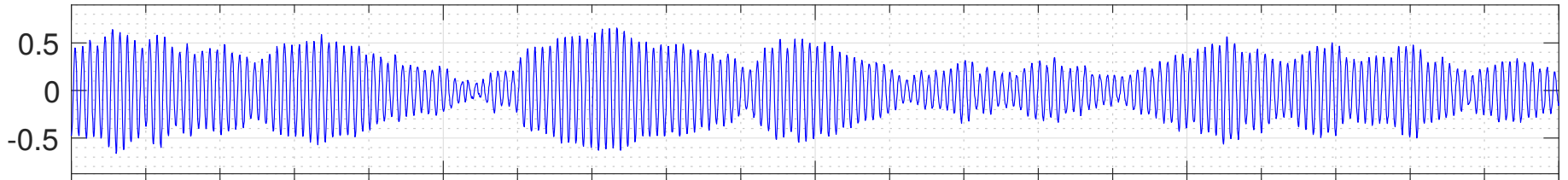
- *Kalman(-Bucy) Filter (KF)* is fast and causal – no need for *memory* of observations, $\{\mathbf{z}_\tau\}_{\tau < t}$, just the *last* one! The covariance matrices, Σ_t , can be precomputed!
- The KF provides the *error* for free, if the LG model assumed is correct...
- ..., however, the stabilisation of the filter (convergence to the *steady-state solution*) serves as a verification tool.



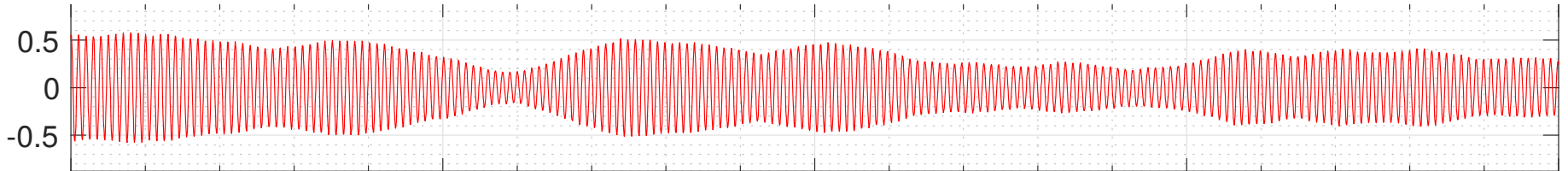
Rudolf E. Kalman
“The father of
control theory”

Performance of our atomic sensor (SPOILER)

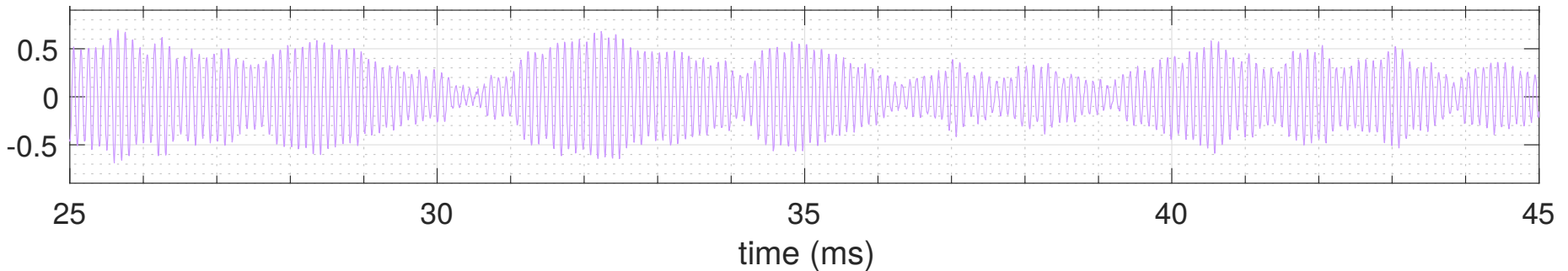
\mathbf{x}_t - applied waveform



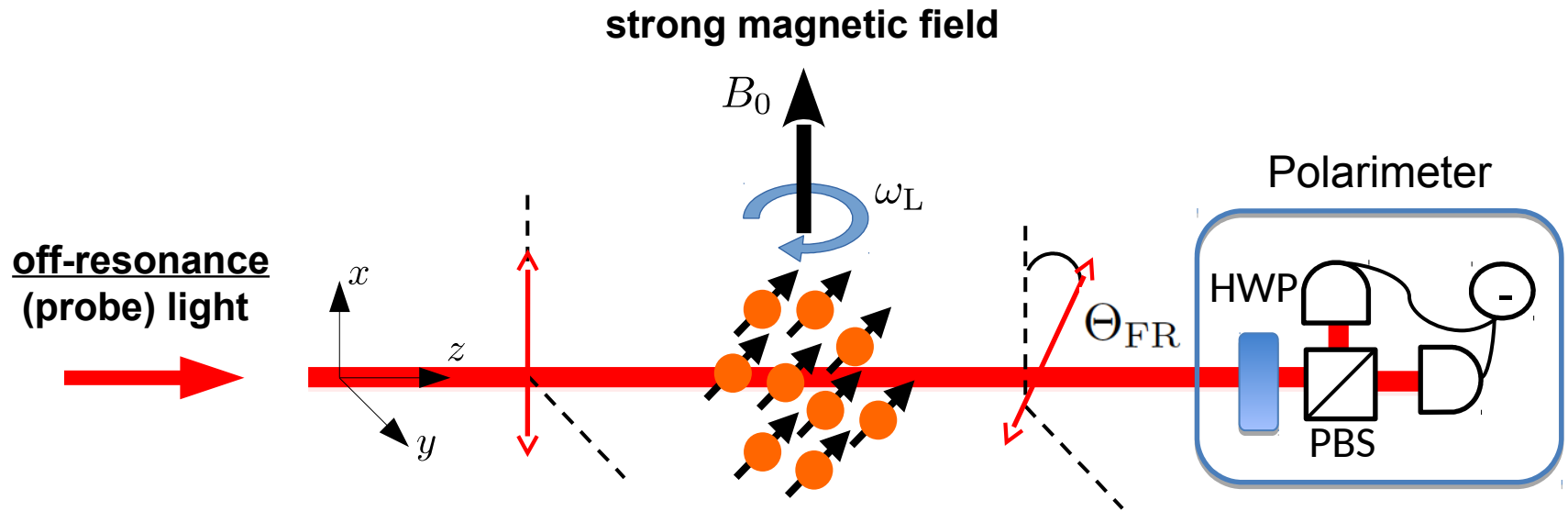
\mathbf{z}_t - sensor output



$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_t$ - **KF**-based waveform estimate



Atomic sensor: Monitoring spin precession using optical Faraday rotation

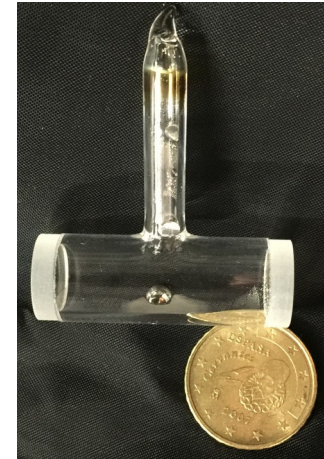
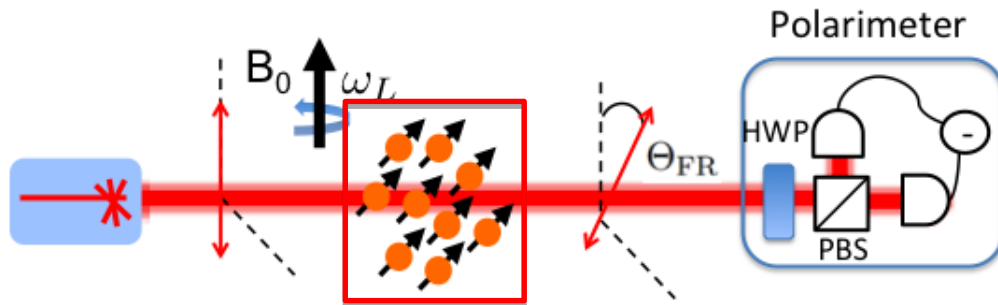


birefringence \longrightarrow phase shift \longrightarrow $\Theta_{FR} = g_D J_z$

(far-detuned light)
NO MEASUREMENT
BACK-ACTION!

$$\Theta_{FR} \approx \frac{c r_e f_{osc}}{A_{eff}} \frac{1}{(\nu - \nu'_\alpha)} J_z$$

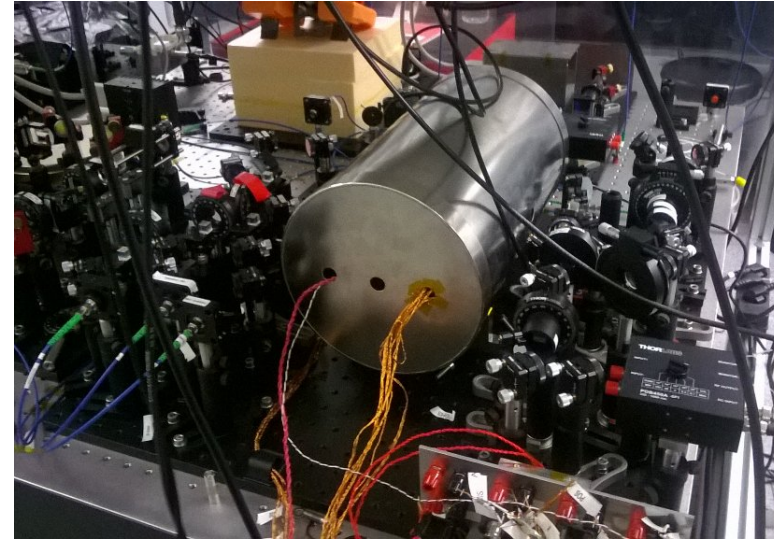
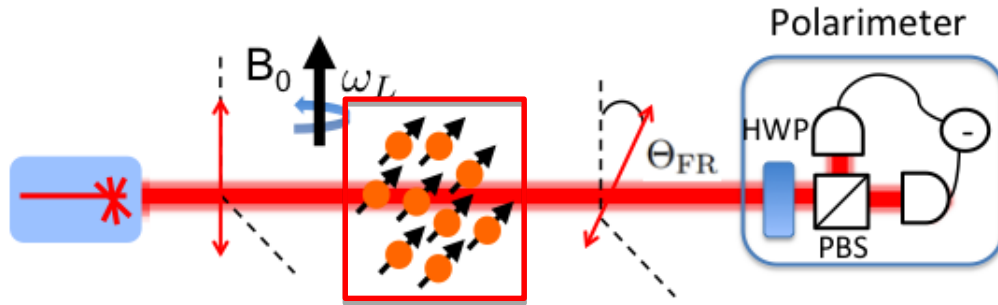
Experimental setup:



rubidium vapour cell

- ✓ Cell with Rb vapour and 100 Torr of N_2 buffer gas
- ✓ Cell is heated to reach densities: $10^{12} - 10^{13}$ atoms/cm³

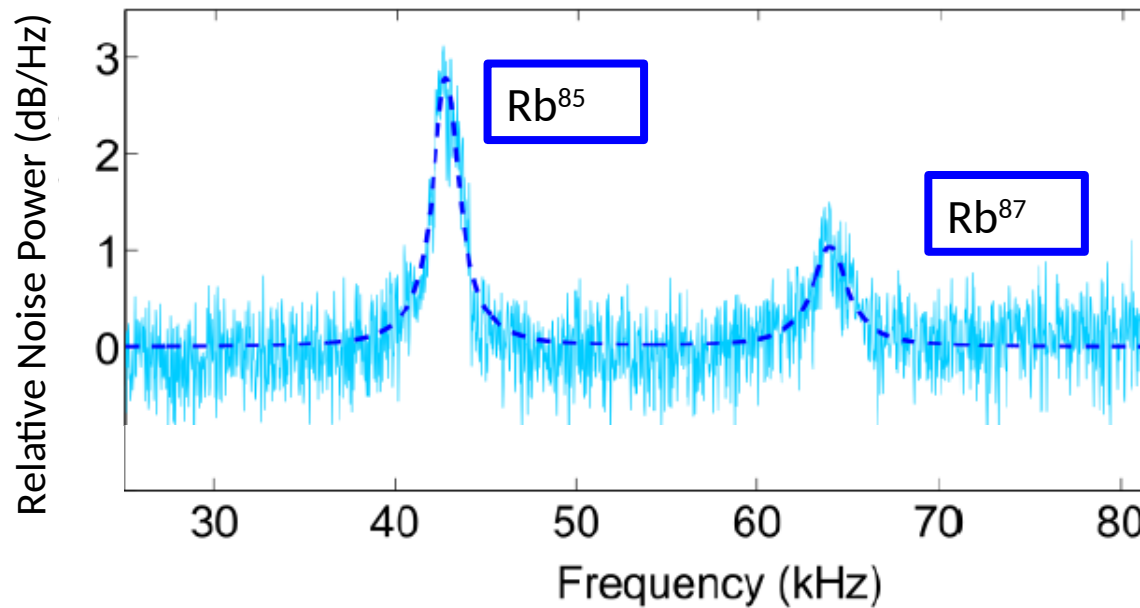
Experimental setup:



- ✓ Cell with Rb vapour and 100 Torr of N_2 buffer gas
- ✓ Cell is heated to reach densities: $10^{12} - 10^{13}$ atoms/cm³
- ✓ Placed inside 1 layer of mu-metal shielding
- ✓ 3-axis DC-Fields & gradient coils in the beam propagation direction

Noise spectroscopy of the sensor

Power noise spectrum of Rb in natural abundance



Fit spectrum to model:

$$S_{zz}(\omega) = S_{ph} + \frac{S_{at}}{(1/T_2)^2 + (\omega - \omega_0)^2}$$

Power spectral density

$$S_{zz}(\omega) = \underbrace{S_{ph}}_{\text{Photon shot noise}} + \frac{\underbrace{S_{at}}_{\text{Spin noise}}}{\underbrace{(1/T_2)^2}_{\text{Spin relaxation}} + (\omega - \omega_0)^2}$$

Spin dynamics (Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process)

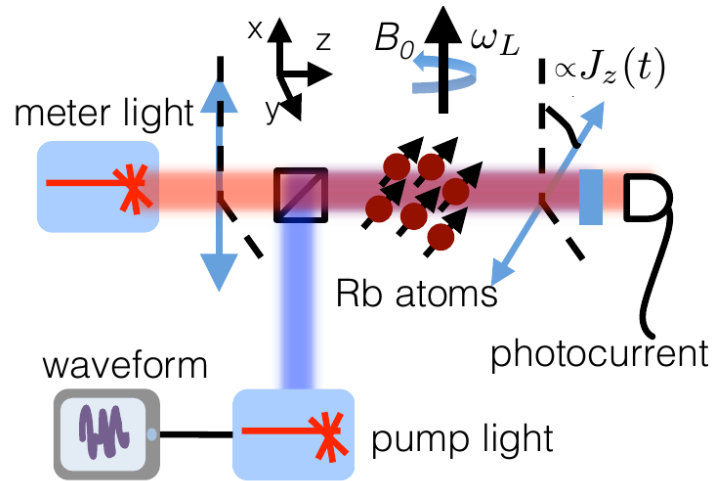
$$dJ_y(t) = \left(\omega_L J_z(t) - \frac{1}{T_2} J_y(t) \right) dt + dW_y(t)$$
$$dJ_z(t) = - \left(\omega_L J_y(t) - \frac{1}{T_2} J_z(t) \right) dt + dW_z(t)$$

Spin measurement (via Faraday rotation)

$$I(t)dt = g_D J_z(t)dt + dW_D(t)$$

Our atomic sensor – a two-stage sensor

Waveform estimation – the waveform is encoded in the quadratures of the pump light



Signal (pump) – an O-U process (that we know and control!):

$$\begin{aligned} dq(t) &= -\kappa q(t)dt + dW_q(t), \\ dp(t) &= -\kappa p(t)dt + dW_p(t), \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{q}_t = [q(t), p(t)]^T$$

$$\mathcal{E}_P(t) = [\cos(\omega_P t), \sin(\omega_P t)] \cdot \mathbf{q}_t$$

Atoms – O-U process from noise spectroscopy *plus* the pump term:

$$dJ_y(t) = \left(\omega_L J_z(t) - \frac{1}{T_2} J_y(t) \right) dt + dW_y(t) \quad \mathbf{j}_t = [J_y(t), J_z(t)]^T$$

$$dJ_z(t) = - \left(\omega_L J_y(t) - \frac{1}{T_2} J_z(t) \right) dt + dW_z(t) + \mathcal{E}_P(t)dt$$

Measurement (probe) – Faraday rotation with shot noise:

$$I(t_k) = g_D J_z(t_k) + \xi_D(t_k) \quad \xi_D(t_k) \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta} \int_{t_k - \Delta}^{t_k} dw_{\text{sn}}(t')$$

(finite sampling period)

Linear Gaussian state and observation dynamics:

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{F}_t \mathbf{x}_t dt + d\mathbf{w}_t \quad \longrightarrow$$

state: $\mathbf{x}_t = \mathbf{j}_t \oplus \mathbf{q}_t$

state noise: $d\mathbf{w}_t = d\mathbf{w}_t^{(j)} \oplus d\mathbf{w}_t^{(q)}$

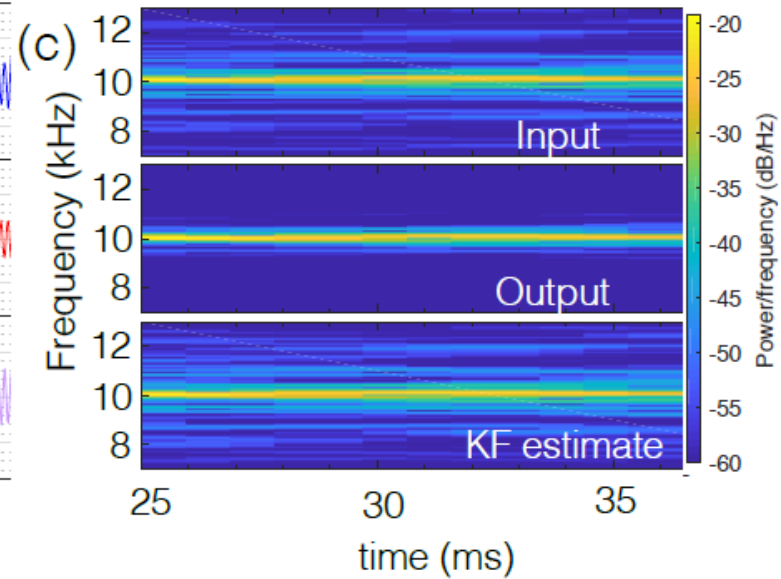
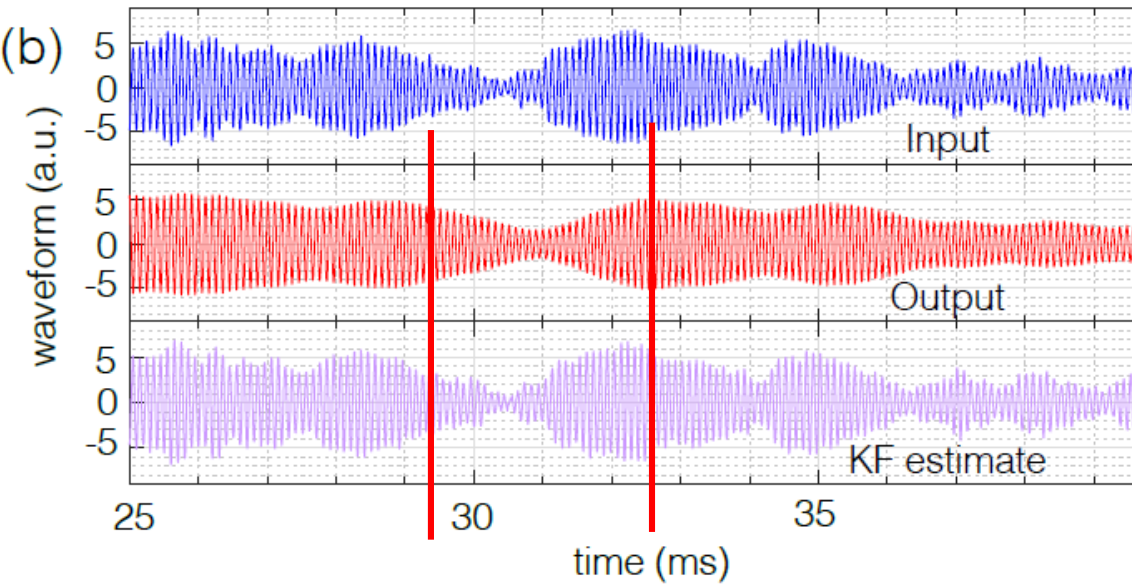
$$\mathbf{z}_k = \mathbf{H}_k \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{v}_k \quad \longrightarrow$$

observation: $\mathbf{z}_k \equiv z_k = I(t_k)$

observation noise: $\mathbf{v}_k \equiv v_k = \xi_D(t_k)$

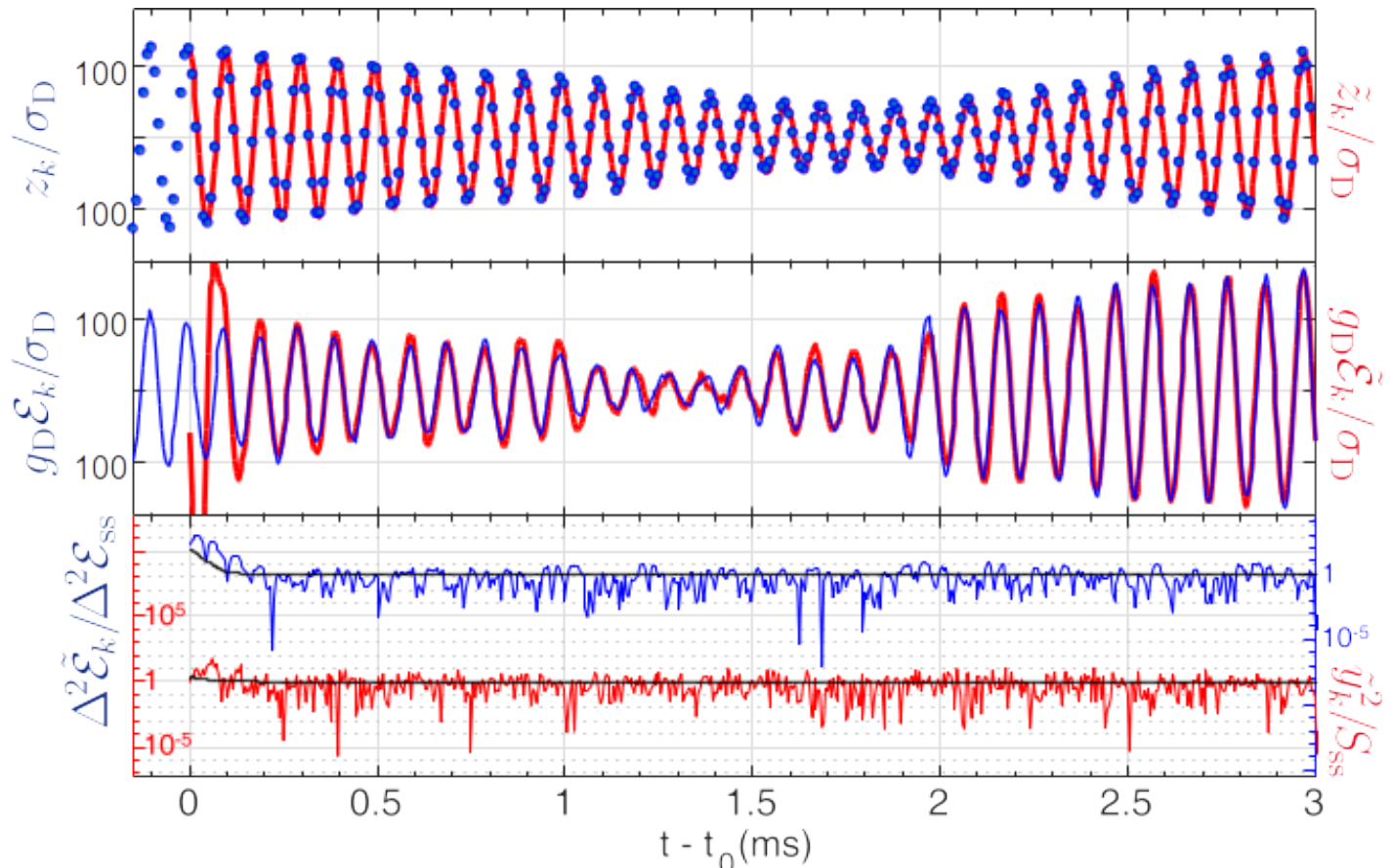
Subtlety: we need to use **Hybrid** (Continuous-Discrete) **Kalman Filter**...

Validation of the Linear Gaussian model and the Kalman Filter performance



Validation of the Linear Gaussian model and the Kalman Filter performance

True (blue) observation/waveform, estimates (red) of observation/waveform



Observation (blue) estimation error, waveform (red) estimation error

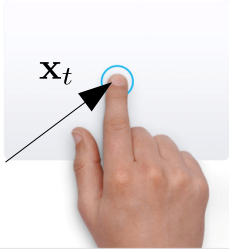
Kalman-filter construction provides also precision on estimates! (black lines)

**Verification: We focus on pump quadratures (not atoms)
because we have access to true values!**

Tracking partially unknown signals with the atomic sensor and using the Kalman Filter

We track unknown **triangular waveforms** and employ (2nd order) **kinematic model**

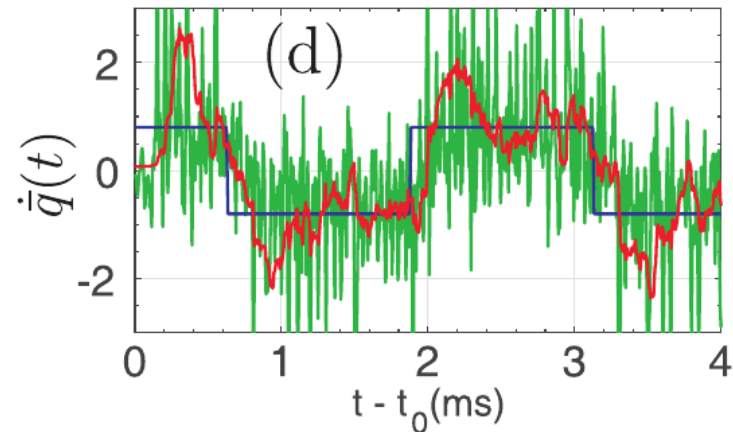
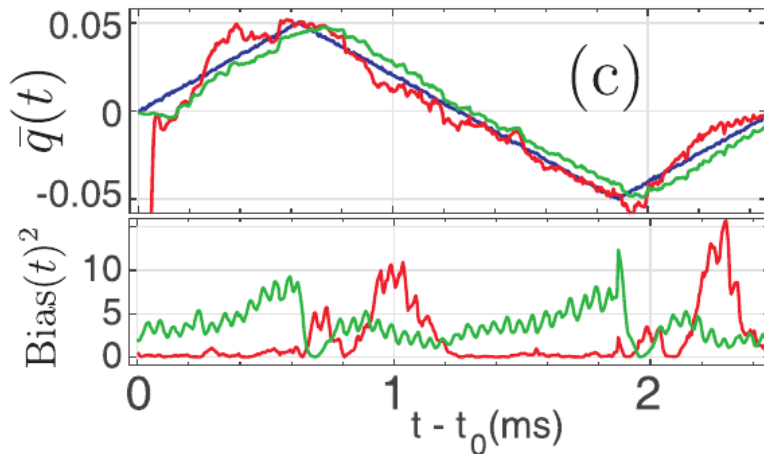
Approximate unknown dynamics by assuming that **acceleration** is constant on average but fluctuates.



$$\mathbf{q}_t = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_t \\ \dot{\mathbf{x}}_t \\ \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_t \end{pmatrix} \quad d\mathbf{q}_t = \begin{pmatrix} d\mathbf{x}_t \\ d\dot{\mathbf{x}}_t \\ d\ddot{\mathbf{x}}_t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{q}_t + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} d\mathbf{w}_t$$

(enlarge the state space)

Tracking triangular waveforms - naive KF (green) and 2nd order kinematic model KF (red):



Model	Bias ²	Var	MSE
$\{\tilde{q}_k\}_{(WP)}$	3.36×10^{-5}	3.0×10^{-6}	3.66×10^{-5}
$\{\tilde{q}_k\}_{(PM)}$	1.02×10^{-5}	7.6×10^{-6}	1.78×10^{-5}

By enlarging the state space we increase **noise (Var)** in the estimate, but significantly **decrease the Bias (drag)** and, hence the **MSE!**

Thank You!



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F.A. Beduini

V.G. Lucivero

Jia Kong



J. Kolodynski



C. Trollinou



A. Dimic