

Quantum Sensing & Metrology: The next frontier

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The measure of everything



• Why measure?



If you can't measure, you can't make it better.



"Arguably, the ability to measure physical properties accurately has tremendous survival value that gives humans an adaptive evolutionary advantage" Lord Kelvin (1883)

What is 'Metrology'?

- Metrology is "<u>the science of measurement</u>, embracing both experimental and theoretical determinations at any level of uncertainty in any field of science and technology."
- Almost all of science, industry and commerce involves making and interpreting measurement – why is metrology special?



The Proclamation Regarding Weights and Measures, 1556 by Ford Madox Brown (1889)



1. le Litre (Pener Le Pinte) 2. le Gramme (Pour & Livre) 5. le Metre (Pour l'Anne) 4 IAre (Pour & Taise) 5. le Francizion nor Livre Tournois) 6. le Stere (Inn & Denne Voie de Bou)

Woodcut dated 1800 illustrating the new decimal units which became the legal norm across all France in 1800

Metrology's main activities

- The <u>definition</u> of internationally accepted units of measurement, e.g. the kilogram
- The <u>realisation</u> of units of measurement by scientific methods



- The establishment of <u>traceability</u> chains by disseminating and documenting the value and accuracy of a measurement
- Traceability implies the calculation of an associated <u>measurement</u> <u>uncertainty</u>

stable



kg

Confidence in measurement





Coming up:

- Quantum mechanics what is it?
- Quantum technology today
- What made quantum possible?
- Quantum technology tomorrow
 - Magnetometry
 - Gravimetry
 - Quantum imaging





Classical mechanics





Gravity, light & calculus



Isaac Newton 1642-1726

$$F = \frac{GM_1M_2}{r^2}$$

F = gm

Classical mechanics

Johannes Kepler

Three laws of planetary motion

Joseph-Louis Lagrange

Differential equations, Lagrangian mechanics etc.

Leonhard Euler

Calculus of variations, analytical number theory etc.

Gottfried Leibnitz

Differential & integral calculus

Michael Faraday

Electromagnetism







"There is **nothing new to be discovered in physics** now. All that remains is more and more precise measurement." Lord Kelvin (1900)





Unexplained observations

- Blackbody radiation
- Photoelectric effect
- Energy spectrum of Hydrogen







Quantum mechanics founders





Planck





Schrodinger

Dirac

The strange world of quantum is highly counter-intuitive!





Young's Double Slit Experiment: Bullets





Young's Double Slit Experiment: Waves





Young's Double Slit Experiment: Waves





Young's Double Slit Experiment: Waves



Young's Double Slit Experiment: Electrons





Young's Double Slit Experiment: Electrons





Quantum Summary



- Things can be in two states at the same time
- Things are described by probabilities
- The act of measurement has a profound effect
- Things can interact non-locally
- It's impossible to know all things exactly

Yet, quantum mechanics is the most successful theory which describes nature with unpresented precision

Quantum Applications today



Loads of modern technology is underpinned by quantum technology



NMR



Semiconductors



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Lasers
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Nuclear power



Atomic clocks

Nanotechnology

- Semiconductors
- Lithography
- Microscopy





Bottom-up atom by atom





Cryogenics



Superconductive Levitation



LHC Magnets



Modern Cryogenics







Plane = Atom









Balls = Photons

Atom trapping



• If you can **cool** atoms with lasers, you can **trap** them...







Quantum Electrical Metrology and the SI

The quantum Hall effect





Discovered in 1980 by Klaus von Klitzing Nobel Prize in Physics in 1985







Josephson effect







The SI Base Units Pre-2019





The New International System of Units



Quantum Revolution #2





Flux quantisation in a superconducting ring **NPL**



 $=\frac{h}{2e}$ Φ

The SQUID

<u>Superconducting QUantum Interference Device</u>



An interferometer for superconducting current



 $\delta B \sim 1-10 \ fT /Hz^{1/2}$

Field produced by the brain	Earth Magnet field	Fridge magnet	Loudspeaker magnet	Neutron Star
~1 pT	30 microT	5 mT	1 T	~MT
0.00000000001	0.000030	0.005	1.0	1,000,000

Quantum Magneto Encephalography





Epilepsy: 60M people world-wide

Dementia: 1% GDP

Schizophrenia: 1% of population

Trauma: 100,000 / year in the UK



Courtesy CTF MEG systems

NanoSQUIDs for Quantum Sensing



NanoSQUIDs for single photon detection



NanoSQUIDs for spin detection



NEMS resonators readout with nanoSQUID



Big Science





Nasa Image

Dark Matter search



Nasa Image

Gravity Probe B mission (testing Einstein's theories)

Atomic magnetometry







- Non-Destructive Testing (NDT)
- Inertial sensing for Positioning, Navigation and Timing
- New forms of computing
- OPM-MEG

<u>Optically Pumped Magnetometer</u> <u>Magnetoencephalography</u>





Courtesy: Niall Holmes, University of Nottingham; Lisa Gilligan-Lee, University of Nottingham)

NPL

Gravimetry

- Measuring gravity very important!
- Key to geology, hydrology, climate science, satellite flight etc.



Traditional ways of measuring gravity





Courtesy Microg LaCoste

Atomic Gravimeters (from apples to atoms)

2T

Time







Birmingham Mobile Atom Gravimeter





Atomic clocks gravimeters?

- General Relativity → gravitational time dilation
 Time flows slower in higher gravitational potentials
- Earth's core 2.5 yrs *younger* than crust!
- Atomic clocks incredibly sensitive
 Time 'speedup' detected across 1 mm cloud of atoms!
- Use clocks as sensors for missing 'dark' matter?



 \bigcirc

100ns In 43 days





22 Bishopsgate London

Self-Calibrating standards



Doppler Broadening Thermometry





Active Ring Resonator Thermometry

(a) *d*=368nm ⁺Ω⁺ 2μm H



NIST Chip-scale clock







- Quantum sensing better than classical, but a bit "weird"!
- Next quantum revolution is here
- Quantum technology will continue to shape our lives!





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