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Electronic coupling between two ions stored in different traps

The coupling of ions stored in different traps through the charges they induce in a common electrode was proposed in Ref. [1], but it has not been

accomplished yet. The completion of such a system would be an outstanding technological breakthrough in quantum electronics and would pave the

way for the implementation of hybrids systems for quantum information [2]. A pioneer work using radio-frequency traps started at the UC Berkeley several

years ago (see e.g. [3]). With the same technical objective, but now using 7-T Penning traps we started to build the TRAPSENSOR facility at the University of Granada in 2012.

The first scientific aim envisaged is to perform high precision mass spectroscopy utilizing a single, laser cooled, calcium ion as a sensor [4,5]. This will overcome the tradeoffs among precision, number of ions used in the measurement and sensitivity to the target-ion's mass-to-charge ratio existing in current techniques.

To achieve this, the first outstanding goal is to measure the energy transfer between Doppler-cooled ions ($\langle n \rangle \sim 1000$ phonons) stored in different traps [6].

In this contribution we will present the full facility, report on the status of this singular experiment, and present the results obtained in two ion-trapping platforms. The ongoing

work with prospects to reach the single energy quanta exchange level ($\langle n \rangle = 0$) will be also outlined.

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Summary

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