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Quantum Physics with Trapped Ions

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In this non-specialist lecture I will provide an overview of the field of ion trapping. Ion traps are used world wide to push the limits of quantum technologies. They are a lead contender for building quantum computers, they are capable of measuring tiny forces at the level of yocto (10⁻²⁴) Newton and to date they hold the record for the most accurate atomic clock (that clock would neither gain nor lose a second in about 4 billion years!). Moreover, the technological capability of trapping single ions make these traps ideal for studying quantum optical phenomena.

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