

NINGXU ZHU

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Education

University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)

Bachelor of Science in Physics

Major: Photoelectric Information Science and Engineering

Overall GPA: 3.76/4.30 Ranking: 7/37

Sep. 2021 – Present
Expected in Jun. 2025

Research Interests

Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics (AMO)

- *Cavity quantum electrodynamics (cavity QED)*: How can we precisely control the quantum states? How does the coupling between atoms (or molecules) and photons provide insights into some unsolvable many-body Hamiltonians?
- *Spectroscopy*: Various spectroscopy techniques, including infrared, photoluminescence, and terahertz spectroscopy, to explore the potential applications of quantum behaviors in materials.

Research Experience

Terahertz time-domain spectroscopy studies of cavity QED systems

Jul. 2024 – Present

Advisor: Prof. Junichiro Kono, Rice University

- Extracted the complex optical conductivity of a superconducting film embedded in free space or in a one-dimensional photonic crystal cavity from transmittance spectra as a function of temperature and magnetic field.
- Applied the Mattis-Bardeen model to analyze changes in superconducting gap (2Δ) or transition temperature (T_c), identifying a potential decrease in T_c induced by the quantum vacuum electromagnetic fields.

Ultrastable cavity for improving laser's frequency stability

Oct. 2023 – Jan. 2024

Advisor: Prof. Jian Wang, USTC

- Designed a vacuum chamber ($10^{-7}mbar$) and temperature control solution to stabilize the length of an ultrastable cavity, enabling effective use of Pound–Drever–Hall (PDH) method to improve laser frequency stability ($\frac{\delta\nu}{\nu} \approx 10^{-12}$).
- Assembled electronic components into a PDH circuit to generate the error signal, enabling modulation of the laser frequency to achieve resonance with an ultrastable cavity.

Time sequence control in AMO experiment

May 2023 – Sep. 2023

Advisor: Prof. Jian Wang, USTC

- Developed a LabVIEW program to synchronize voltage outputs across 16 channels and ensured successful interaction with Field-Programmable Gate Array, enabling atoms to load into an optical dipole trap.

Honors

Outstanding Student Cadre of the School of Physical Sciences

Dec. 2023

Endeavour Scholarship

Nov. 2023

Outstanding Student Scholarship

Nov. 2022

Skills

Computer Skills: C, Python, MATLAB, LabVIEW, LaTeX

TOEFL: 99 (Reading: 25; Listening: 26, Writing: 25, Speaking: 23)

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant for Electrodynamics (90 undergraduate students)

Spring 2024

Extracurricular Activities

Class president

Sep. 2021 – Present

Science popularization to rural primary school students

Sichuan, Aug. 2023

A tour guide at technology events

USTC, Nov. 2022