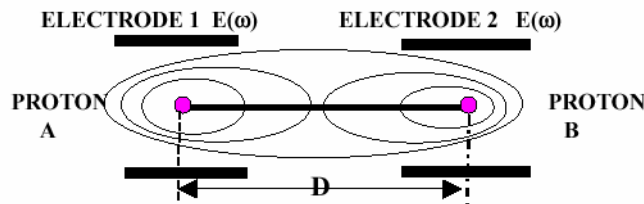


Feasibility of Communications using Quantum Correlations
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For all space missions, it is imperative to have reliable communication links to transmit data, computer codes, or other information. The current electromagnetic communications technologies (including laser, RF, X band, S band) do not scale well as the mission distance increases. With current methods, the power, weight, cost and complexity increase rapidly with distance, while the transmission reliability decreases. We propose to explore the possibility of a revolutionary approach to communications based on recent theoretical and experimental developments in quantum physics, in particular based on quantum correlations between entangled atoms or ions (EPR pairs). Recent experiments have verified the existence of quantum correlations between entangled photons, in which the polarization measurement of one photon is always correlated with the measured polarization of another, distant photon. Theory indicates it is not possible to use standard quantum mechanical measurements on entangled systems, such as polarization correlations of photons, for communications. Current theory restricts but may not deny the possibility of using quantum mechanical correlations in small movements or adiabatic perturbations of entangled atoms as a communication means. Further, if non-linear modifications to quantum mechanics suggested by Nobel Laureate S. Weinberg are present, then EPR communication is clearly allowed. If experiment verified that the use of EPR pairs was viable, it should be possible to develop an almost ideal communication system, a compact, low weight, communication architecture in which no broadcast power or antenna is required, no environmental noise is present, the signal does not fall off as the inverse square of the distance, and high data rates with complete security are possible. The purpose of this effort is to investigate the possibility of using quantum correlations in the adiabatic movements of atoms as a means of communication, to perform an initial theoretical feasibility analysis, identifying the key issues with such an approach, and to propose an experiment to resolve some of the fundamental questions.



STRENGTH OF PERTURBATION

VERY SLIGHT

MODERATE

STRONG
(COLLAPSE OF
WAVEFUNCTION)

SEPARATION "D" BETWEEN MEMBERS OF AN EPR PAIR

ANGSTROMS

CM

KM

PARSEC

<p>CORRELATION STRONGLY EXPECTED IN THIS REGION (TO BE VERIFIED BY THEORY IN PHASE 1)</p>	<p>AREA TO RESEARCH (PHASE 1/THEORY) (PHASE 2/EXPT.)</p>	<p>NIAC REGION OF INTEREST</p> <p>DO CORRELATIONS EXIST IN THIS REGION</p> <p>???????????????????? ?</p>
<p>CORRELATION VERIFIED EXPERIMENTALLY IN THIS REGION</p>		