

Application of harmonic and anharmonic frequency crystals for manipulation with quantum states

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Abstract

© 2018 American Physical Society. Filtering of weak pulses through a medium with infinite periodic structure in the absorption and/or transmission spectrum is analyzed. Two types of filters are considered. The first, named harmonic frequency crystal (HFC), is the filter whose periodic structure is harmonic and described by the sine or cosine function of frequency with the fundamental period. The second, named anharmonic frequency crystal (AHFC), also has a periodic structure with one fundamental period but it is described by the function containing many harmonics of the fundamental period. AHFC demonstrates properties quite similar to those of a high-finesse atomic frequency comb (AFC) with a limited number of absorption peaks separated by transparency windows. Filtering of the pulse through AHFC produces a prompt pulse accompanied by a few delayed pulses. Time spacing T of the delayed pulses is inversely proportional to the comb period. On the contrary, HFC transforms the input pulse into a train of many delayed pulses, generated at times nT , where n is an integer. Maximum amplitudes of the delayed pulses follow a wide bell-shaped envelope. Both HFC and AHFC are extensions of AFC, which was proposed to implement quantum memory protocols for single photons. In this paper, it is proposed to create time-bin qubits with the help of a short pulse filtering through HFC. HFC is also proposed to implement tomography of these quantum states. Another promising application of HFC is the optical detection of ultrasound in biological tissues for ultrasound-modulated optical tomography. Since HFC allows one to generate pulses with longer delay with respect to the excitation pulse, one could obtain higher discrimination between weak acoustically generated sidebands and the carrier.

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