



Superabsorption of light via quantum engineering

2015/5/12

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About this research group...



ARTICLE

Received 25 Feb 2014 | Accepted 15 Jul 2014 | Published 22 Aug 2014

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms5705

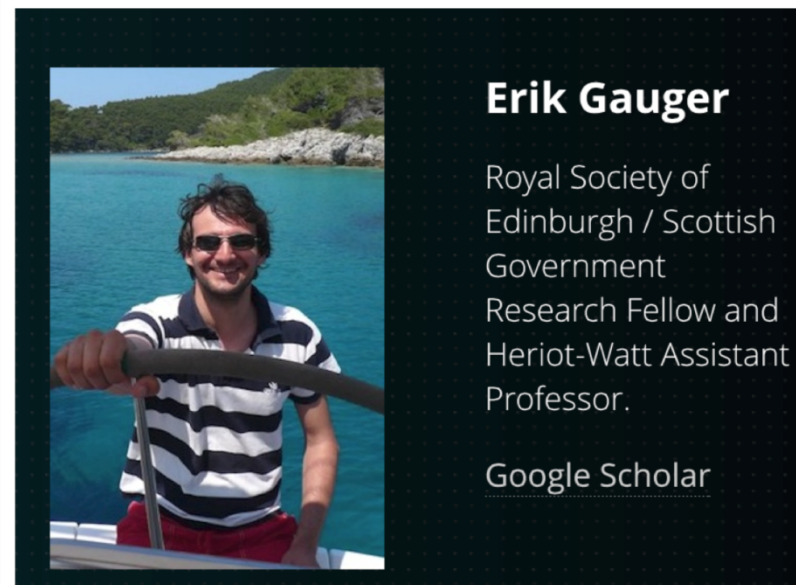
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Superabsorption of light via quantum engineering

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Almost 60 years ago Dicke introduced the term superradiance to describe a signature quantum effect: N atoms can collectively emit light at a rate proportional to N^2 . Structures that superradiate must also have enhanced absorption, but the former always dominates in natural systems. Here we show that this restriction can be overcome by combining several well-established quantum control techniques. Our analytical and numerical calculations show that superabsorption can then be achieved and sustained in certain simple nanostructures, by trapping the system in a highly excited state through transition rate engineering. This opens the prospect of a new class of quantum nanotechnology with potential applications including photon detection and light-based power transmission. An array of quantum dots or a molecular ring structure could provide a suitable platform for an experimental demonstration.

About this research group...



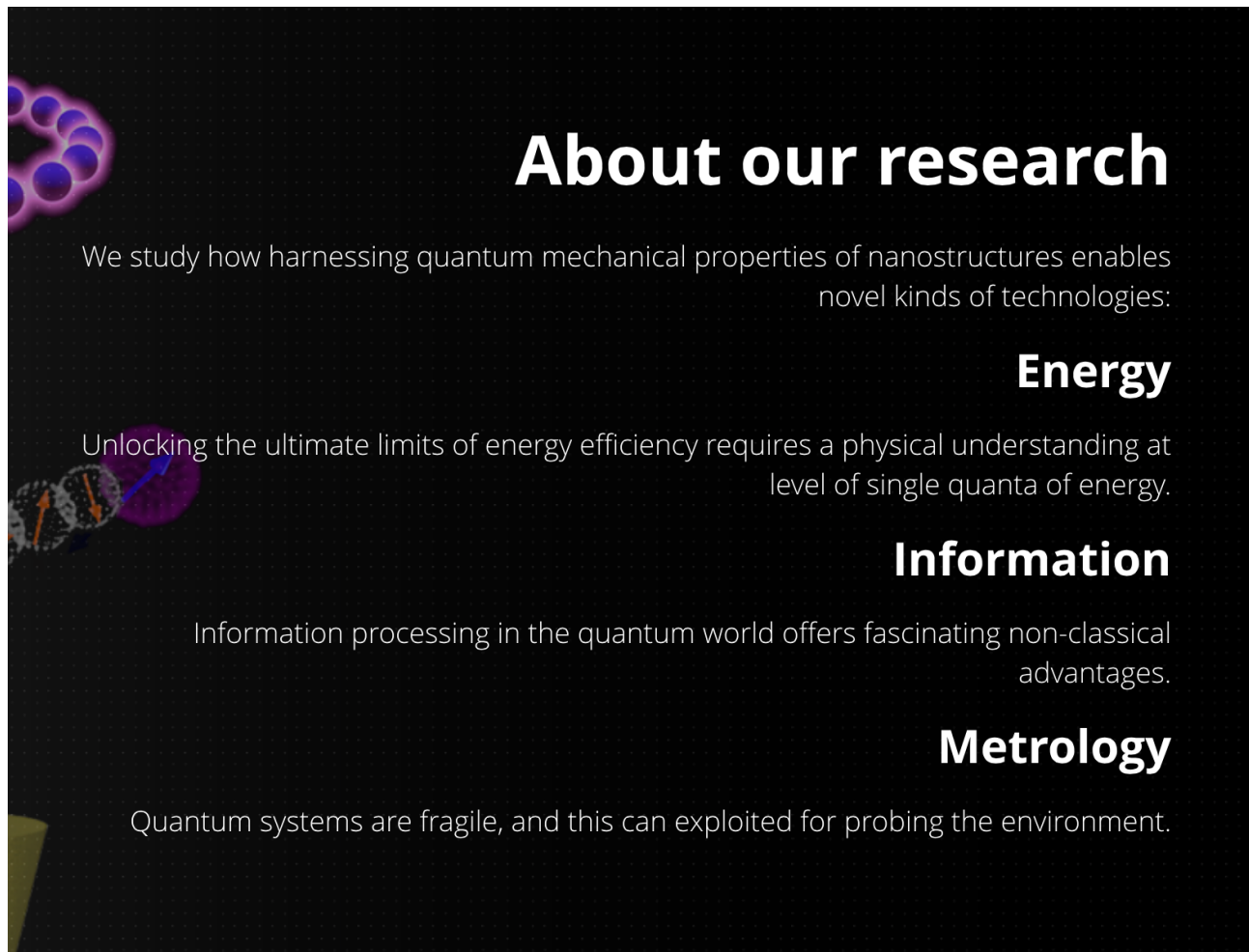
Welcome

We are the quantum technology theory group led by Dr Erik Gauger at Heriot-Watt University.

To learn more please scroll down or use the site menu.

<http://home.eps.hw.ac.uk/~eg7/>

About this research group...



About our research

We study how harnessing quantum mechanical properties of nanostructures enables novel kinds of technologies:

Energy

Unlocking the ultimate limits of energy efficiency requires a physical understanding at level of single quanta of energy.

Information

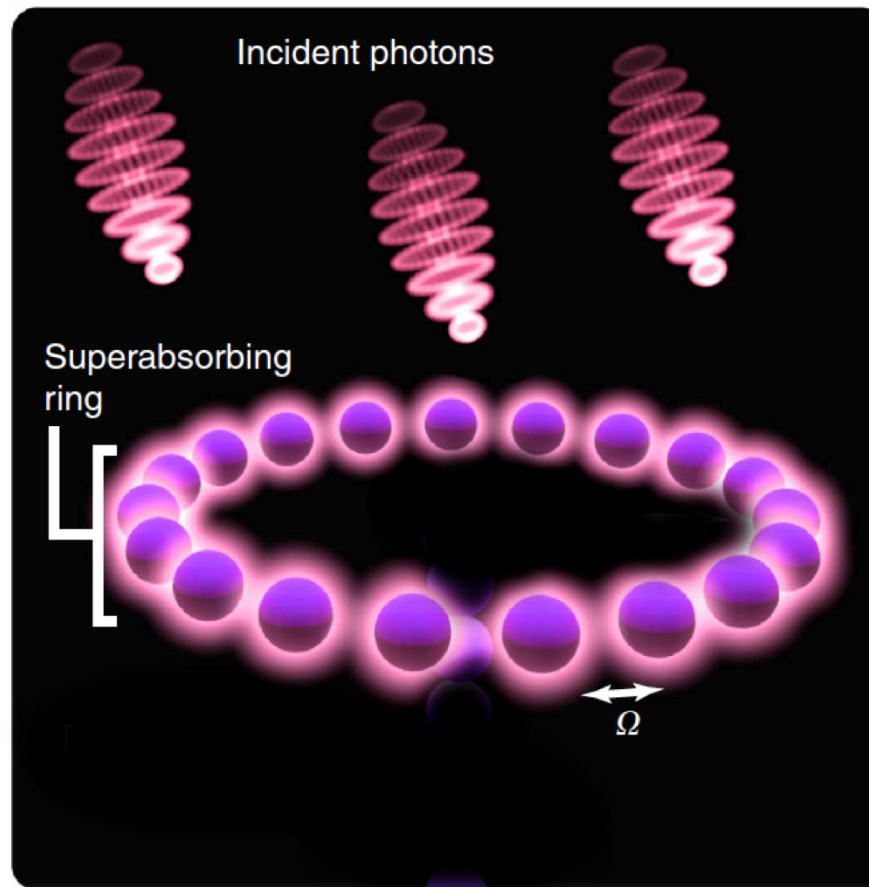
Information processing in the quantum world offers fascinating non-classical advantages.

Metrology

Quantum systems are fragile, and this can be exploited for probing the environment.

<http://home.eps.hw.ac.uk/~eg7/>

Introduction



Introduction

“ Superradiance ”

Time-reversal symmetry in QM

“ Superabsorption ”

Photon sensing &
Light-based energy transmission

Need certain interactions between the **atoms**...

Entities with a discrete
dipole-allowed transition

Brief review of superradiance

Ensemble of N identical atoms

$$\hat{H}_s = \frac{\omega_A}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mathbf{I}^i - \hat{\sigma}_z^i) = \omega_A \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_+^i \hat{\sigma}_-^i$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_z^i = |g\rangle_i \langle g| - |e\rangle_i \langle e|$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_+^i = |e\rangle_i \langle g|$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_-^i = |g\rangle_i \langle e|$$

In the regime of.. $r_{ij} \ll \lambda$

$$\hat{J}_\pm = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_\pm^i, \quad \hat{J}_z = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_z^i$$

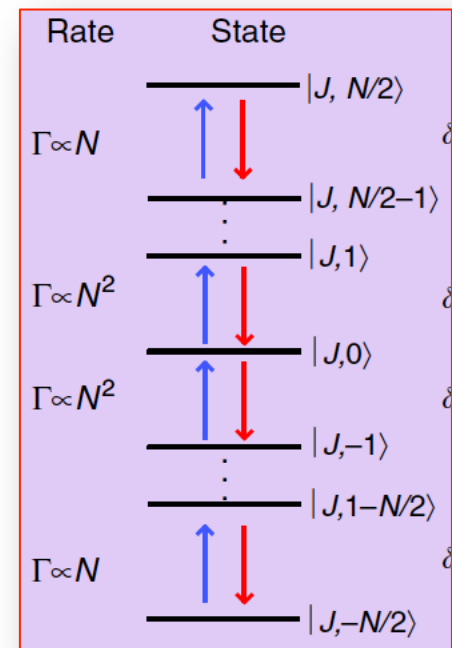
Interaction Hamiltonian between light-matter

$$\hat{H}_L = -\hat{E}d(\hat{J}_+ + \hat{J}_-)$$

Transition rate between adjacent state

$$\Gamma_{M \rightarrow M-1} \approx \gamma \left(\frac{N}{2} \right)^2$$

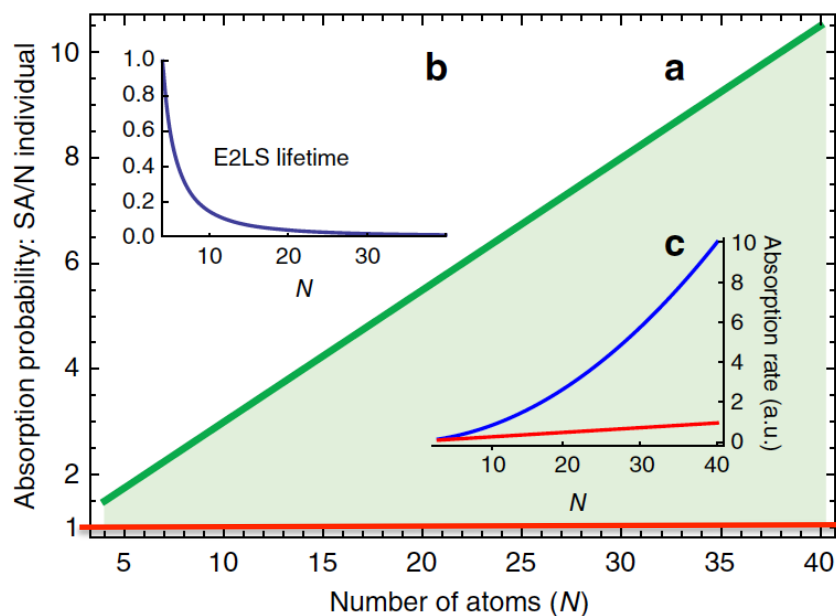
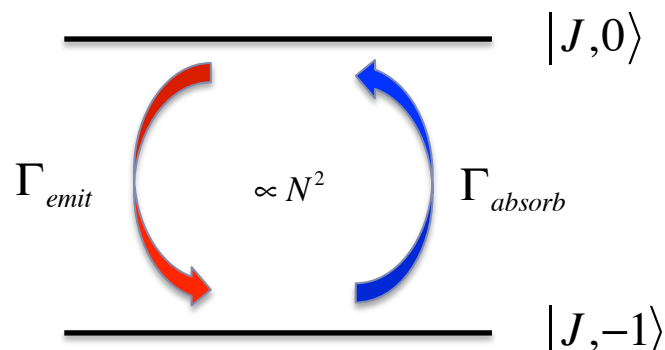
$$\star \gamma = 8\pi^2 d^2 / (3\epsilon_0 \hbar \lambda^3)$$



Dicke ladder state

Superabsorption

Effective two level system(E2LS) around $M=0$



$$\Gamma_{loss}^{-1} = (\gamma \Gamma_{-1 \rightarrow -2} \kappa(\omega_{bad}))^{-1}$$

Master Equation

Quantum optical master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = -i \left[\hat{H}_s + \hat{H}_I, \rho \right] - \gamma \sum_{\beta \in \omega} \kappa(\omega_{\beta}) \left((n(\omega_{\beta}) + 1) D[\hat{L}_{\beta}] \rho + n(\omega_{\beta}) D[\hat{L}_{\beta}^{\dagger}] \rho \right)$$

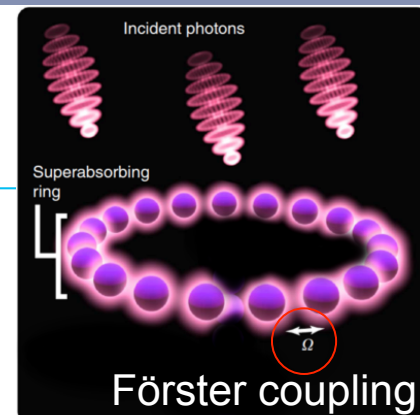
Lamb shift

with $\kappa(\omega) = \sum_k |g_k|^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_k) \equiv \chi(\omega) |g(\omega)|^2$

$$D[\hat{L}_{\beta}] \rho = \hat{L}_{\beta} \rho \hat{L}_{\beta}^{\dagger} - \frac{1}{2} \{ \hat{L}_{\beta}^{\dagger} \hat{L}_{\beta}, \rho \}$$

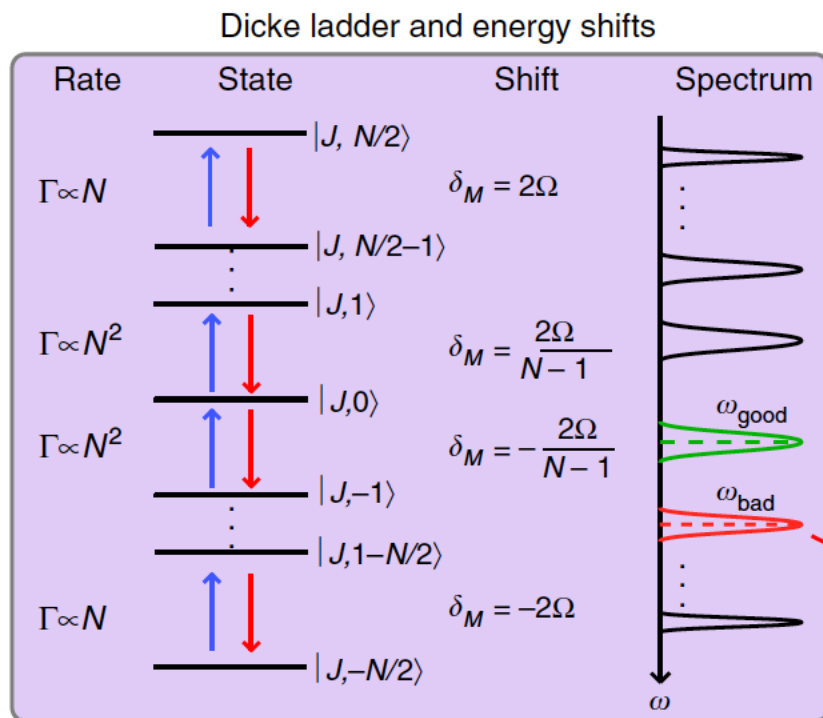
$$\hat{H}_I = \Omega_{i,j} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \left(\hat{\sigma}_+^i \hat{\sigma}_-^j + \hat{\sigma}_-^i \hat{\sigma}_+^j \right) \quad : \text{Dipole-dipole interaction}$$

$$\Omega(i, j) = \frac{d^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}^3} \left[1 - \frac{3(\hat{\epsilon}_a \cdot r_{ij})^2}{r_{ij}^2} \right] \approx \frac{d^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}^3}$$



For the “ring” structure

$$\delta E_M = \langle J, M | \hat{H}_I | J, M \rangle = \Omega \frac{J^2 - M^2}{J - \frac{1}{2}}$$



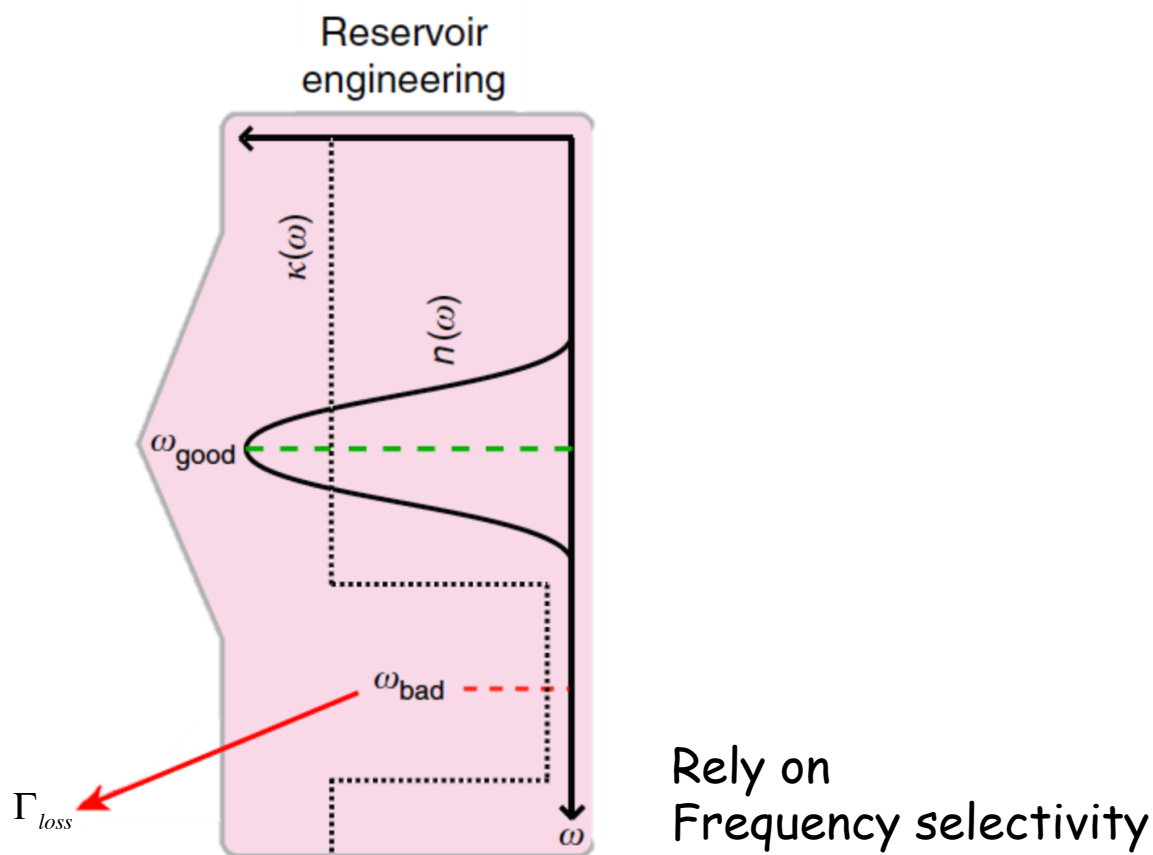
$$\omega_{M \rightarrow M-1} = \omega_A - 4\Omega \frac{M - \frac{1}{2}}{N-1}$$

$$\kappa(\omega)$$

$$n(\omega)$$

Transition rate engineering

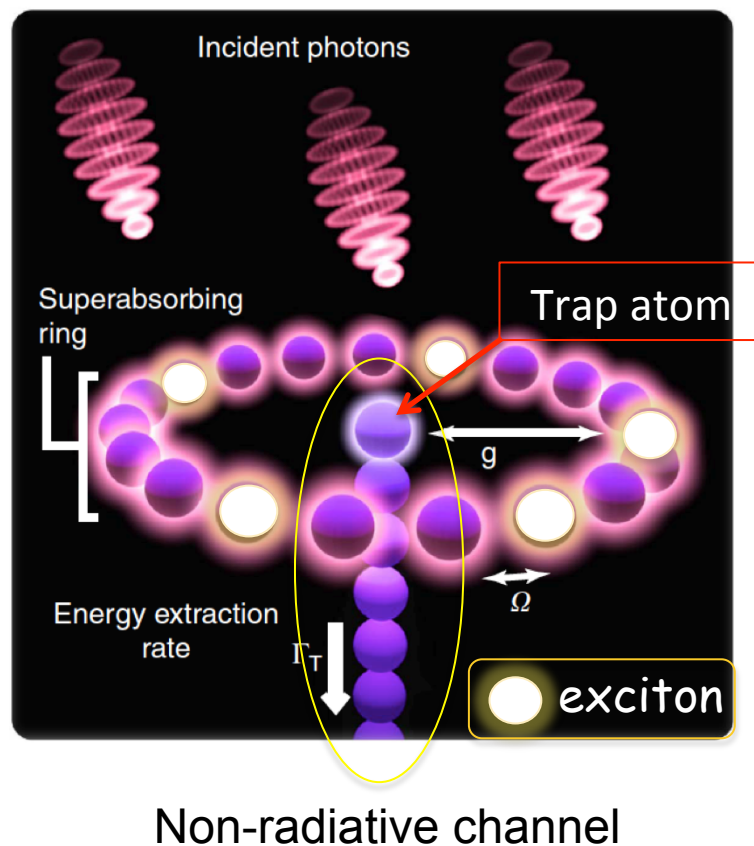
$$\kappa(\omega) \text{ \& \; } n(\omega)$$



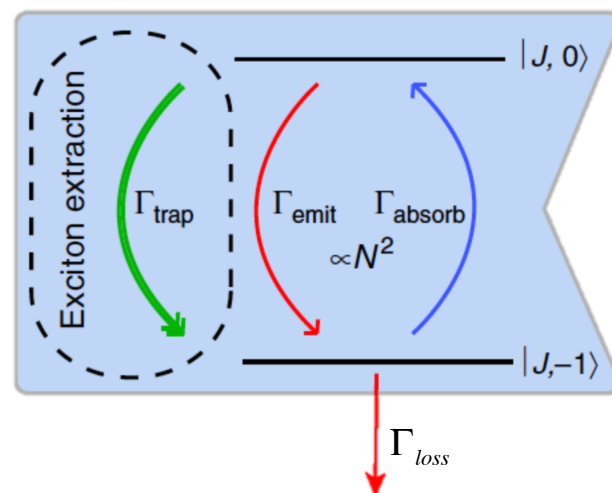
Energy harvesting

Trapping

Collective Extraction



E2LS



Trapping Hamiltonian..

$$\hat{H}_T = g \left(\hat{J}_+ \hat{\sigma}_-^T + \hat{J}_- \hat{\sigma}_+^T \right) + \omega_{\text{trap}} \hat{\sigma}_+^T \hat{\sigma}_-^T$$

From the master equation...

Add,

$$D[\hat{L}_{trap}]\rho \quad \hat{L}_{trap} = \sqrt{\Gamma_{trap}}|J, -1\rangle\langle J, 0|$$

The rate of exciton extraction

$$I_{trap}(t) = \Gamma_{trap} Tr[|J, 0\rangle\langle J, 0| \rho(t)]$$

For, $\Gamma_{trap} \gg \Gamma_{emit}$

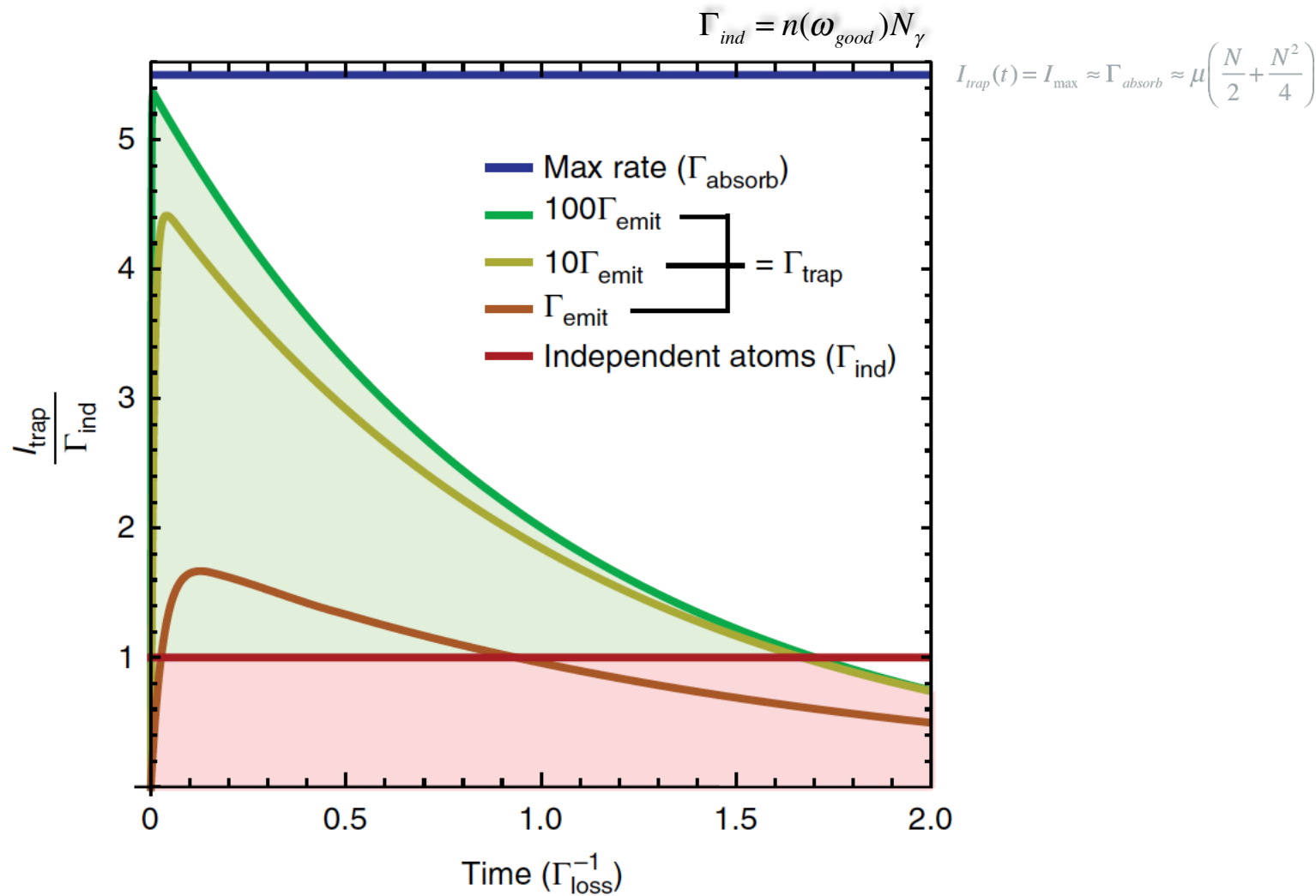
$$I_{trap}(t) = I_{max} \approx \Gamma_{absorb} \approx \mu \left(\frac{N}{2} + \frac{N^2}{4} \right)$$

$$\mu = \gamma \kappa(\omega_{good}) n(\omega_{good})$$

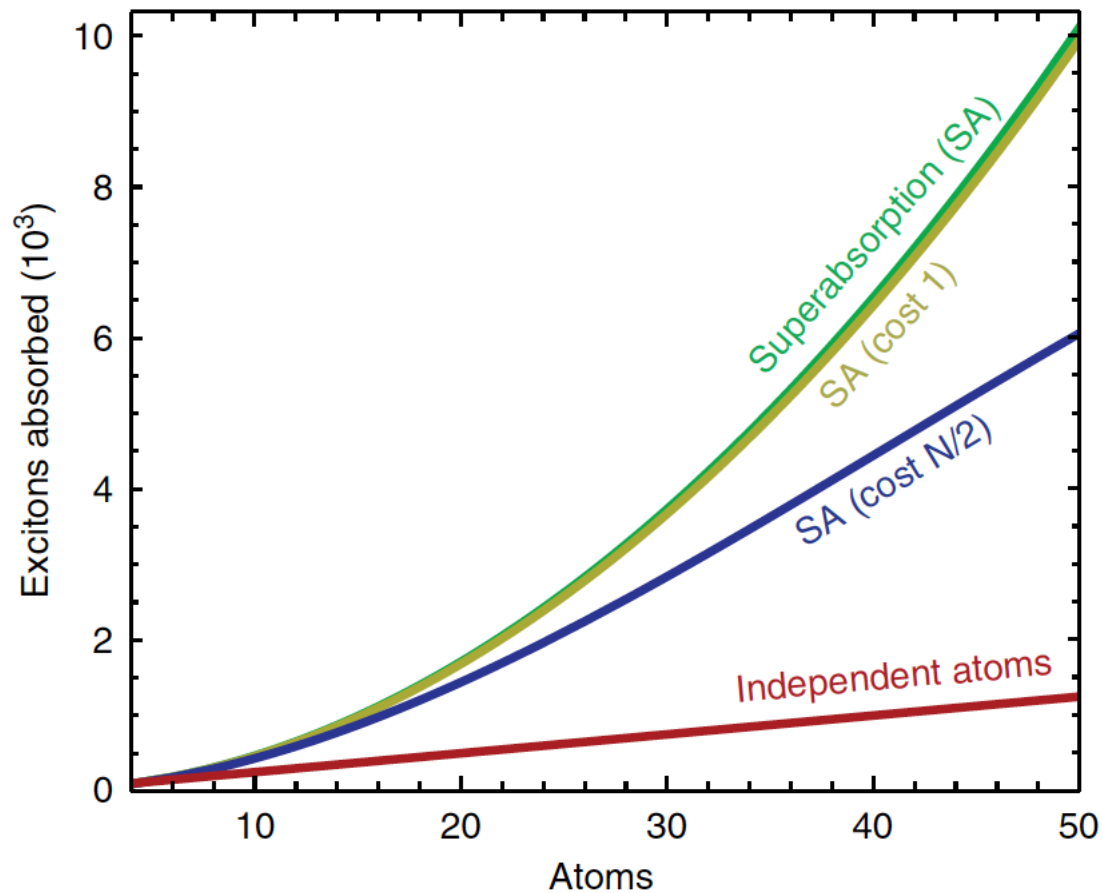
~~$$\Gamma_{loss} \equiv \kappa(\omega_{bad})(n(\omega_{bad}) + 1) \Gamma_{-1 \rightarrow -2} \quad E2LS$$~~

~~$$\Gamma_{emit} \equiv \kappa(\omega_{good})(n(\omega_{good}) + 1) \Gamma_{0 \rightarrow -1} \quad \Gamma_{trap} \gg \Gamma_{emit}$$~~

~~$$\Gamma_{absorb} \equiv \kappa(\omega_{good}) n(\omega_{good}) \Gamma_{-1 \rightarrow 0}$$~~



Reinitialization





Thank you