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Tailoring the superradiant and subradiant nature of two coherently coupled quantum emitters

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#### **Motivations**

#### Controlled, coherent manipulation of delocalized quantum systems

- An important challenge in modern science
- Significant applications in quantum technologies



Collective quantum states: at the heart of many important phenomena





# Why study individual molecules?

**Photons**:







Athee *et al.,* 2008 Trebbia et al., 2009 Lombardi et al., 2021

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#### **Optical transistor**



Hwang *et al.,* 2009

#### **Molecules in cavities**





Rattenbacher et al., 2019

**Integrated resonators** 

Few studies on molecular qubits



# I. Quantum optics with single molecules

#### Single molecules at low temperature (3K)





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#### Low-Temperature Imaging: Solid Immersion Lens (SIL)



#### Sub-nanosecond Rabi oscillations



#### Ramsey spectroscopy and measurement of the optical coherence time



## From single to multiple interacting emitters





# II. Super-resolution imaging at cryogenic temperatures (ESSAT)

200 nm

#### **Excited State Saturation Nanoscopy (ESSat)**



Helical phase plate : 2D Minimum Unchanged axial resolution





**0-π phase plate :** 3D intensity gradient around the center











#### **Excited State Saturation Nanoscopy (ESSat)**



# Finding pairs ?



# Coupled and/or entangled molecular system?



# III. Molecular entanglement



#### **Coherent coupling: dipole-dipole interaction**

Non interacting emitters :





interacting emitters :



 $V = \frac{3\hbar\gamma_0}{4(kd)^3} [(\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\mu}_2) - 3(\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{e}_{12})(\hat{\mu}_2, \hat{e}_{12})]$ 2 entangled states : Symetric & Antisymetric  $\begin{cases} |S\rangle = \alpha |e_1, g_2\rangle + \beta |g_1, e_2\rangle \\ |A\rangle = \beta |e_1, g_2\rangle - \alpha |g_1, e_2\rangle \end{cases} \quad For V \neq 0$ and  $\delta = \omega_2 - \omega_1 \rightarrow 0$   $\Rightarrow Maximal entanglement$ 

 $H = H_0 + H_{dd}$ 

**Resonant dipole dipole coupling**  $(d \ll \lambda)$ :

 $\hbar\omega_1 S_1^+ S_1^- + \hbar\omega_2 S_2^+ S_2^-$ 

Cross damping rate :  $\gamma_{12} = \gamma_0 (\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\mu}_2)$ For Bell states and  $\mu_1 / / \mu_2$  $\gamma_+ \rightarrow 2\gamma_0, \gamma_- \rightarrow 0$ 

 $\hbar V S_1^- S_2^+ + h.c.$ 

#### Signatures of the dipole dipole interaction



#### **Entanglement Manipulation**



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0

Frequency  $(\gamma_0)$ 

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➢ Electric field ≈ MV/m

#### Nat Commun 13, 2962 (2022)



 $V/h \sim 10\gamma_0$ , Estimated distance :  $d \sim 25nm$  17

#### Demonstration of sub/super radiance effects for two coupled emitters



$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{DW/FC} &= 0.3 \\ \gamma_S &\to \gamma_0 (1 + \alpha_{DW/FC}) \\ \gamma_A &\to \gamma_0 (1 - \alpha_{DW/FC}) \\ \text{(for } \omega_1 &= \omega_2 \text{ and } \mu_1 / / \mu_2 ) \end{aligned}$$



#### **Coupling of entangled states with the laser field**

#### Hamiltonian of the system excited by a laser of frequency $\omega_L$

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{H} &= \hbar \omega_0 (|E\rangle \langle E| - |G\rangle \langle G|) + \hbar \Lambda (|S\rangle \langle S| - |A\rangle \langle A|) \\ &- \frac{\hbar}{2} \big\{ [(\alpha \Omega_1 + \beta \Omega_2) |E\rangle \langle S| + (\beta \Omega_1 + \alpha \Omega_2) |S\rangle \langle G|] e^{i\omega_L t} + [(\alpha \Omega_2 - \beta \Omega_1) |E\rangle \langle A| - (\beta \Omega_2 - \alpha \Omega_1) |A\rangle \langle G|] e^{i\omega_L t} + h.c. \big\} \end{split}$$

Complex Rabi frequencies :  $\Omega_i = -\vec{\mu}_i \cdot \vec{E}_L (\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_c)/\hbar$ 

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Matrix elements describing laser coupling} \\ \text{for } \alpha \approx \beta \approx 1/\sqrt{2} \ : \ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle A | H' | G \rangle \propto \Omega_1 - \Omega_2 \\ \langle S | H' | G \rangle \propto \Omega_1 + \Omega_2 \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$



$$LG_{01}$$





$$\Omega_1 = -\Omega_2$$

## **Optical preparation of the two entangled states**



Donut centered between the molecules :

- Dipole oscillations in opposite phase  $\Omega_1 = -\Omega_2$ .
- Excitation of the subradiant state is enhanced, while that of the superradiant state is forbidden.





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## Conclusions

- Ultra-stable quantum systems: excitation lasting for several weeks without photobleaching or spectral diffusion
- Sub-nanosecond optical manipulation and coherence time measurement
- Control of the degree of entanglement via an electric field
- Selective addressing of entangled states using excitation beam shaping

#### Perspectives:

Quantum logic gates

Decoherence effects with the temperature



Phys. Rev. Lett. 104, 010503 (2010) Nature, 2007, 446, 782-786 (2007)





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