



11th June 2014 - 2:00 p.m.
CFEL-bldg. 99, seminar room IV

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Coherent control of X-ray photons and nuclei

The extension of quantum optics towards x-ray and nuclei is motivated by modern X-ray Free Electron Lasers (XFEL) which open the possibility to coherently control nuclear states. As a first application I will discuss the coherent population transfer between nuclear states in a three-level system driven by XFEL pulses. Such a level scheme is relevant for the triggering of isomers and might play a role for future energy storage solutions. On the other hand, x-ray can be focused on spots essentially smaller than a single atom and used in future photonic circuits. Therefore finding ways to control a single x-ray photon become important.

The second part of this talk puts forward a nuclear forward scattering setup that allows coherent control and producing entanglement of a single x-ray photon using ^{57}Fe nuclei. Finally, I will present that quantum optics provides a significant improvement for detection in nuclear physics. The low-lying isomeric transition of ^{229}Th can be addressed by VUV lasers and provides a potential next generation frequency standard. A main impediment is the large uncertainty of the nuclear transition frequency. Using an electromagnetically modified nuclear forward scattering setup, coherence effects may reduce this uncertainty down to an unprecedented level.

