

Imaginary Photon Field Effect in the Interaction System of Multi-atom with Single-mode Photon Field

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Abstract By using the Lewis–Riesenfeld invariant theory, we have studied the dynamical and the geometric phases in the interaction system of multi-atom with single-mode photon field with imaginary photon process. We find that the geometric phases in a cycle case have nothing to do with the frequency of the photon field, the coupling coefficient between photons and atoms, and the atom transition frequency. If we use the more accuracy device, the geometric phases in the imaginary photon process may be observed, and the geometric phases in this process have the observable physical effect.

Keywords Geometric phase · Multi-atom · Single-mode photon field

1 Introduction

It is known that the concept of geometric phase was first introduced by Pancharatnam [1] in studying the interference of classical light in distinct states of polarization. Berry [2] found the quantal counterpart of Pancharatnam's phase in the case of cyclic adiabatic evolution. The extension to non-adiabatic cyclic evolution was developed by Aharonov and Anandan [3]. Samuel et al. [4] generalized the pure state geometric phase by extending it to non-cyclic evolution and sequential projection measurements. The geometric phase is a consequence of quantum kinematics and is thus independent of the detailed nature of the dynamical origin of the path in state space. Mukunda and Simon [5] gave a kinematic approach by taking the path traversed in state space as the primary concept for the geometric phase. Further generalizations and refinements, by relaxing the conditions of adiabaticity, unitarity, and cyclicity of the evolution, have since been carried out [6]. Recently, the geometric phase of the mixed states has also been studied [7–9].

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As we known that the quantum invariant theory proposed by Lewis and Riesenfeld [10] is a powerful tool for treating systems with time-dependent Hamiltonians. It was generalized by introducing the concept of basic invariants and used to study the geometric phases [11–14] in connection with the exact solutions of the corresponding time-dependent Schrödinger equations. The discovery of Berry’s phase is not only a breakthrough in the older theory of quantum adiabatic approximations, but also provides us with new insights in many physical phenomena. The concept of Berry’s phase has been developed in some different directions [15–27]. By using the Lewis–Riesenfeld invariant theory, in this paper we shall study the imaginary photon field effect in the interaction system of multi-atom with single-mode photon field.

2 Model

The Hamiltonian of the interaction system of multi-atom with single-mode photon field can be written as

$$\hat{H} = \Omega \hat{J}_z + \nu(t) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + g(t) [\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{J}_- + \hat{J}_+ \hat{a}] + g(t) [\hat{a} \hat{J}_- + \hat{J}_+ \hat{a}^\dagger], \tag{1}$$

where Ω is the transition frequency of atom, $g(t)$ is the coupling coefficient between atom and photon field, $\nu(t)$ is the photon field frequency. In (1), $\hat{J}_- = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_-^i$, $\hat{J}_+ = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_+^i$, $\hat{J}_z = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{\sigma}_z^i$, and they satisfy commutation relations $[\hat{J}_z, \hat{J}_\pm] = \pm \hat{J}_\pm$, $[\hat{J}_+, \hat{J}_-] = 2\hat{J}_z$. And $\hat{a}(\hat{a}^\dagger)$ are the photon annihilation (creation) operators. $\hat{\sigma}_\pm^i(\hat{\sigma}_z^i)$ are the i -th pseudospin operators for the i -th atom defined as $\hat{\sigma}_\pm^i = \hat{\sigma}_x^i \pm i\hat{\sigma}_y^i$ with $\hat{\sigma}_x^i$ and $\hat{\sigma}_y^i$ being the Pauli matrices.

We introduce the supersymmetric generators $\hat{Q}_+ = \hat{a} \hat{J}_-$ and $\hat{Q}_- = \hat{J}_+ \hat{a}^\dagger$, and they satisfy the following commutation relations

$$\{\hat{Q}_+, \hat{Q}_-\} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{M}^{(1)} & 0 & 0 \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{M}^{(2)} & 0 \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \hat{M}^{(N)} \end{pmatrix} \equiv \hat{M}, \tag{2}$$

where $\{, \}$ denotes the anticommuting bracket, and

$$\hat{M}^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, N). \tag{3}$$

It is easy to find that \hat{M} , $\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$, \hat{J}_\pm , \hat{J}_z , and \hat{Q}_\pm , are the supersymmetric generators and form supersymmetric Lie algebra, namely

$$\hat{Q}_-^2 = \hat{Q}_+^2 = 0, \quad [\hat{Q}_+, \hat{Q}_-] = -2\hat{M}\hat{J}_z, \quad [\hat{M}, \hat{Q}_\pm] = \mp \hat{Q}_\pm, \quad [\hat{M}, \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}] = 0, \tag{4}$$

$$\hat{Q}_+ + \hat{Q}_- = -2\hat{J}_z(\hat{Q}_+ - \hat{Q}_-), \quad (\hat{Q}_+ - \hat{Q}_-)^2 = -\hat{M}, \tag{5}$$

$$[\hat{Q}_-, \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}] = -\hat{Q}_-, \quad [\hat{Q}_+, \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}] = \hat{Q}_+, \quad [\hat{Q}_-, \hat{J}_z] = -\hat{Q}_-, \quad [\hat{Q}_+, \hat{J}_z] = \hat{Q}_+, \tag{6}$$

It is known that the imaginary photons are absorbed by the atoms in a rapid speed. If we use the more accuracy device, the geometric phase in this process may be observed, which

is the starting point of this paper. Based on this idea, we consider the following Hamiltonian of the system (1) becomes

$$\hat{H} = \Omega \hat{J}_z + v(t) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + g(t) [\hat{Q}_+ + \hat{Q}_-]. \quad (7)$$

It is easy to find that $\hat{M}|\rangle^N = n|\rangle^N$, where

$$|\rangle^N = \begin{pmatrix} |\rangle^{(1)} \\ |\rangle^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ |\rangle^{(N)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad |\rangle^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} |n\rangle \\ |n-1\rangle \end{pmatrix} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, N). \quad (8)$$

Therefore we may restrict the study in the sub-Hilbert space of the supersymmetric quasi-algebra constructed by operators \hat{M} , $\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$, \hat{Q}_\pm , \hat{J}_\pm , and \hat{J}_z . Below, we replace operator \hat{M} with the particular eigenvalue n .

3 Dynamical and Geometric Phases

For self-consistent, we first illustrate the Lewis-Riesenfeld (L-R) invariant theory [10]. For a one-dimensional system whose Hamiltonian $\hat{H}(t)$ is time-dependent, then there exists an operator $\hat{I}(t)$ called invariant if it satisfies the equation

$$i \frac{\partial \hat{I}(t)}{\partial t} + [\hat{I}(t), \hat{H}(t)] = 0. \quad (9)$$

The eigenvalue equation of the time-dependent invariant $|\lambda_n, t\rangle$ is given

$$\hat{I}(t) |\lambda_n, t\rangle = \lambda_n |\lambda_n, t\rangle, \quad (10)$$

where $\frac{\partial \lambda_n}{\partial t} = 0$. The time-dependent Schrödinger equation for this system is

$$i \frac{\partial |\psi(t)\rangle_s}{\partial t} = \hat{H}(t) |\psi(t)\rangle_s. \quad (11)$$

According to the L-R invariant theory, the particular solution $|\lambda_n, t\rangle_s$ of (11) is different from the eigenfunction $|\lambda_n, t\rangle$ of $\hat{I}(t)$ only by a phase factor $\exp[i\delta_n(t)]$, i.e.,

$$|\lambda_n, t\rangle_s = \exp[i\delta_n(t)] |\lambda_n, t\rangle, \quad (12)$$

which shows that $|\lambda_n, t\rangle_s$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) forms a complete set of the solutions of (11). Then the general solution of the Schrödinger equation (11) can be written by

$$|\psi(t)\rangle_s = \sum_n C_n \exp[i\delta_n(t)] |\lambda_n, t\rangle, \quad (13)$$

where

$$\delta_n(t) = \int_0^t dt' \langle \lambda_n, t' | i \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} - \hat{H}(t') | \lambda_n, t' \rangle, \quad (14)$$

and $C_n = \langle \lambda_n, 0 | \psi(0) \rangle_s$.

For the system described by Hamiltonian (7), we can define the following invariant

$$\hat{I}(t) = \alpha(t)\hat{Q}_+ + \alpha^*(t)\hat{Q}_- + \beta(t)\hat{J}_z. \tag{15}$$

Substituting (7) and (15) into (9), one has the auxiliary equations

$$i\dot{\alpha}(t) + \alpha(t)[\Omega + \nu(t)] - \beta(t)g(t) = 0, \tag{16}$$

$$i\dot{\beta}(t) + 2g(t)\bar{M}[\alpha^*(t) - \alpha(t)] = 0, \tag{17}$$

where dot denotes the time derivative, and \bar{M} denotes the eigenvalue of operator \hat{M} .

In order to obtain a time-independent invariant, we can introduce the unitary transformation operator $\hat{V}(t) = \exp[\xi(t)\hat{Q}_- - \xi^*(t)\hat{Q}_+]$. It is easy to find that when satisfying the following relations

$$\sin(2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|) = \frac{-\sqrt{\bar{M}}[\alpha(t)\xi(t) + \alpha^*(t)\xi^*(t)]}{|\xi(t)|}, \quad \beta(t) = \cos(2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|), \tag{18}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\alpha(t)}{2}[1 + \cos(2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|)] + \frac{\beta(t)\xi^*(t)}{2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|} \sin(2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|) \\ &+ \frac{\alpha^*(t)\xi^{*2}(t)}{2|\xi(t)|^2} [\cos(2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|) - 1] = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

then a time-independent invariant appears

$$\hat{I}_V \equiv \hat{V}^\dagger(t)\hat{I}(t)\hat{V}(t) = \hat{J}_z. \tag{20}$$

According to (18), we can select

$$\xi(t) = \frac{-\theta(t)}{2\sqrt{\bar{M}}} \exp[-i\gamma(t)], \quad \alpha(t) = \frac{\sin\theta(t)}{2\sqrt{\bar{M}}} \exp[i\gamma(t)], \quad \theta(t) = 2\sqrt{\bar{M}}|\xi(t)|. \tag{21}$$

From (21), the invariant $\hat{I}(t)$ in (15) becomes

$$\hat{I}(t) = \frac{\sin\theta(t)}{2\sqrt{\bar{M}}} \{\exp[i\gamma(t)]\hat{Q}_+ + \exp[-i\gamma(t)]\hat{Q}_-\} + \cos\theta(t)\hat{J}_z. \tag{22}$$

By using the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula [28]

$$\hat{V}^\dagger(t) \frac{\partial \hat{V}(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \hat{L}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2!} \left[\frac{\partial \hat{L}}{\partial t}, \hat{L} \right] + \frac{1}{3!} \left[\left[\frac{\partial \hat{L}}{\partial t}, \hat{L} \right], \hat{L} \right] + \frac{1}{4!} \left[\left[\left[\frac{\partial \hat{L}}{\partial t}, \hat{L} \right], \hat{L} \right], \hat{L} \right] + \dots, \tag{23}$$

with $\hat{V}(t) = \exp[\hat{L}(t)]$, it is easy to find that when satisfying the following equation

$$\Omega + g(t)\sqrt{\bar{M}}\{1 + \cos\theta(t) - e^{i\gamma(t)}[1 - \cos\theta(t)]\} - i\dot{\theta}(t) - \sin\theta(t)[\dot{\gamma}(t) - \nu(t)] = 0, \tag{24}$$

one has

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_V(t) = \hat{V}^\dagger(t)\hat{H}(t)\hat{V}(t) - i\hat{V}^\dagger(t) \frac{\partial \hat{V}(t)}{\partial t} &= \nu(t)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \{[\Omega + \nu(t)]\cos\theta(t) - \nu(t) \\ &+ 2g(t)\sqrt{\bar{M}}\cos\gamma(t)\sin\theta(t)\}\hat{J}_z + \dot{\gamma}(t)[1 - \cos\theta(t)]\hat{J}_z. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

The eigenstates of operator \hat{J}_z corresponding to the eigenvalues $\sigma_z^{(i)} = +1, \sigma_z^{(i)} = -1$ are respectively:

$$(|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=+1}^{(1)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (1) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ \vdots \\ (0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=+1}^{(2)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (0) \\ (0) \\ (1) \\ \vdots \\ (0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \dots \quad (|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=+1}^{(N)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (0) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ \vdots \\ (1) \\ (0) \end{pmatrix}, \tag{26}$$

and

$$(|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=-1}^{(1)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (0) \\ (1) \\ (0) \\ \vdots \\ (0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=-1}^{(2)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (0) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ (1) \\ \vdots \\ (0) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \dots \quad (|\cdot\rangle_{\sigma_z=-1}^{(N)}) = \begin{pmatrix} (0) \\ (0) \\ (0) \\ \vdots \\ (0) \\ (1) \end{pmatrix}. \tag{27}$$

So we can obtain the particular solutions of the time-dependent Schrödinger equation (11), respectively. For $\sigma_z^{(i)} = +1$, one has

$$|\psi_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=+1}(t)\rangle = \exp\left\{-i \int_0^t [\delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=+1}^d(t') + \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=+1}^g(t')] dt'\right\} \hat{V}(t) \begin{pmatrix} |n\rangle \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^{(i)}, \tag{28}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=+1}^d(t') &= n v(t') + [\Omega + v(t')] \cos \theta(t') - v(t') \\ &\quad + 2\sqrt{n} g(t') \cos \gamma(t') \sin \theta(t'), \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

$$\delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=+1}^g(t') = \dot{\gamma}(t') [1 - \cos \theta(t')], \tag{30}$$

for $\sigma_z^{(i)} = -1$,

$$|\psi_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=-1}(t)\rangle = \exp\left\{-i \int_0^t [\delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=-1}^d(t') + \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=-1}^g(t')] dt'\right\} \hat{V}(t) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ |n-1\rangle \end{pmatrix}^{(i)}, \tag{31}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=-1}^d(t') &= (n-1) v(t') - [\Omega + v(t')] \cos \theta(t') + v(t') \\ &\quad - 2\sqrt{n} g(t') \cos \gamma(t') \sin \theta(t'), \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

$$\delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}=-1}^g(t') = -\dot{\gamma}(t') [1 - \cos \theta(t')]. \tag{33}$$

From (29)–(30), and (32)–(33), we conclude that the dynamical and the geometric phase factors of the system are $\exp[-i \int_0^t \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}}^d(t') dt']$ and $\exp[-i \int_0^t \delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}}^g(t') dt']$ with $\sigma_z^{(i)} = \pm 1$,

respectively. In particular, when we consider a cycle in the parameter space of the invariant $\hat{I}(t)$ and let $\theta(t) = \text{constant}$, one has from (30) and (33)

$$\delta_{\sigma_z^{(i)}}^g(T) = -\sigma_z^{(i)} 2\pi(1 - \cos\theta), \quad (\sigma_z^{(i)} = \pm 1), \quad (34)$$

here $2\pi(1 - \cos\theta)$ denotes the solid angle over the parameter space of the invariant $\hat{I}(t)$.

4 Conclusions

In this paper, we have studied the dynamical and the geometric phases in the interaction system of multi-atom with single-mode photon field with imaginary photon process. We find that the geometric phases in a cycle case have nothing to do with the frequency of the photon field, the coupling coefficient between photons and atoms, and the atom transition frequency. If we use the more accuracy device, the geometric phases in the imaginary photon process may be observed, and the geometric phases in this process have the observable physical effect.

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