## Discovering the Quantum: Hobby Projects Reveal Quantum Mysteries

Quantum physics is the study of the behavior of matter and energy at the atomic and subatomic level. It's a fascinating and complex field that has revolutionized our understanding of the universe. But until recently, quantum physics was only accessible to scientists with specialized training and equipment.

#### Discovering the Quantum: hobby projects reveal



#### quantum mysteries by Trevelyan

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Thanks to the advent of affordable quantum computing hardware, hobbyists are now able to explore the strange and wonderful world of quantum mechanics firsthand. In this article, we'll take a look at some of the most popular quantum hobby projects and explore the quantum mysteries they've revealed.

#### **Quantum Entanglement**

One of the most fundamental concepts in quantum physics is entanglement. Entanglement is a phenomenon in which two or more particles are linked together in such a way that they can instantaneously affect each other, even when they are separated by vast distances.

Quantum entanglement has been experimentally verified in a number of different ways, but one of the most striking demonstrations was performed by a team of physicists at the University of Vienna in 2015. The team entangled two photons and then separated them by a distance of 144 kilometers. They then measured the properties of the photons and found that they were still correlated, even though they were separated by such a large distance.

The entanglement of photons has been used to create a number of different quantum technologies, including quantum cryptography and quantum teleportation. Quantum cryptography is a method of communication that is secure against eavesdropping, while quantum teleportation is a method of transferring information from one location to another without physically moving the information itself.

#### **Quantum Superposition**

Another fundamental concept in quantum physics is superposition. Superposition is a phenomenon in which a particle can exist in multiple states at the same time. For example, an electron can be in a state of spin up and spin down at the same time.

Quantum superposition has been experimentally verified in a number of different ways, but one of the most striking demonstrations was performed by a team of physicists at the University of California, Berkeley in 2010.

The team trapped a single atom in a vacuum chamber and then used lasers to manipulate the atom's spin. They found that the atom could exist in a superposition of spin up and spin down states for up to 39 milliseconds.

The superposition of particles has been used to create a number of different quantum technologies, including quantum computing and quantum sensing. Quantum computing is a method of computation that uses quantum bits, or qubits, which can exist in multiple states at the same time. Quantum sensing is a method of measuring physical properties with a precision that is impossible to achieve with classical methods.

#### **Quantum Teleportation**

Quantum teleportation is a process by which information is transferred from one location to another without physically moving the information itself. Quantum teleportation has been experimentally verified in a number of different ways, but one of the most striking demonstrations was performed by a team of physicists at the University of Vienna in 2017. The team teleported a qubit from one location to another across a distance of 600 meters.

Quantum teleportation has the potential to revolutionize a number of different technologies, including communication and networking. For example, quantum teleportation could be used to create a global network of quantum computers that could be used to solve complex problems that are currently impossible to solve with classical computers.

#### **Quantum Algorithms**

Quantum algorithms are algorithms that are designed to be run on quantum computers. Quantum algorithms can solve some problems much faster than classical algorithms. For example, a quantum algorithm can factor a large number in polynomial time, while the best classical algorithm for factoring a large number takes exponential time.

Quantum algorithms have the potential to revolutionize a number of different fields, including cryptography, optimization, and machine learning. For example, quantum algorithms could be used to break current encryption standards, solve complex optimization problems, and train machine learning models much faster than is possible with classical algorithms.

Quantum physics is a fascinating and complex field that has the potential to revolutionize a number of different technologies. Hobby projects are playing a major role in the development of quantum technologies by providing a way for people to explore the strange and wonderful world of quantum mechanics firsthand. As quantum hardware becomes more affordable and accessible, we can expect to see even more exciting quantum hobby projects in the future.



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