

PHOTO: AXEL GRIESCH

DOUBLE TAKE

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The smaller the research object, the more complex the apparatus: this tangle of colorful fiber-optic and black power cables, lasers, numerous mirrors, and other optical instruments is needed to handle individual atoms. This allows two atoms (this page) to be positioned, manipulated, and imaged in a resonator: a tiny cavity between two mirrors. Atoms in resonators could serve as switching points in a quantum internet in which quantum information is exchanged in a spy-proof manner via fiber-optic cables.



IMAGE: MPI OF QUANTUM OPTICS