Hybrid Quantum Systems with Strong Magnetic Coupling of a Magnetic Vortex to a Nanomechanical Resonator

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We present a hybrid quantum system composed of a magnetic vortex and a nanomechanical resonator. We show that the gyrotropic mode of the vortex can coherently couple to the quantized mechanical motion of the resonator through magnetic interaction. Benefiting from the topologically protected properties and the low damping of vortices, as well as the excellent coherent features of nanomechanical resonators, the proposed system can achieve strong coupling and even the ultrastrong-coupling regime by choosing appropriate parameters. In combination with other quantum systems, such as a nitrogen-vacancy (N-V) center, coherent state transfer between the vortex excitation and the spin can be realized. This setup provides a potential platform for quantum information processing and investigations into the ultrastrong-coupling regime and macroscopic quantum physics.

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I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, quantum information processing has attracted considerable attention, and the development of a quantum system platform that can achieve a strongcoupling regime is at the heart of the investigation. Hybrid quantum systems, as one of the most promising candidates, have some unique superiorities that the individual component systems cannot provide, because they can integrate the advantages of different physical subsystems [1,2]. Typical systems include ultracold atoms coupled to photons [3] and phonons [4], hybrid systems based on magnonics [5-8], spins coupled to photons [9,10], phonons [11–19], acoustics devices [20–26] and superconducting qubits [27], photon-nonlinear medium [28–30], superfluidoptomechanical systems [31–33], all of which fully exploit the advantages of each subsystem. For instance, solid-state spin systems [34], as well as atom-based systems possess high coherence qualities, allowing them to function as quantum memory registers. When considering interfacing various components of a hybrid system and transferring quantum information, nanomechanical resonators are great alternatives [13,35,36] because the mechanical oscillation can achieve multifarious interactions with various types of quantum systems [4,14–17]. Furthermore, by introducing a linear resource, these coupling strengths can be further enhanced [37]. The acoustic devices, which propagate

phonons at low speed, provide special benefits for the transmission of quantum information.

Magnons, the quasiparticles of the collective spin excitations, have attracted much interest and are considered to be a promising platform for studying quantum technologies and macroscopic quantum phenomena [5-8,38-42]. It has been reported that magnons can interact coherently with photons in a microwave cavity and phonons via magnetostrictive interactions [38]. Most of the previous works are based on the uniform Kittel mode in small spheres [6,8,38,43,44], while a few works focus on coupling photons to magnetic textures, such as vortices and skyrmions [45].

A vortex [46–53], known as a topological defect, is a curling vortex structure of spin waves in thin-film confined geometries of ferromagnetic materials [54–56], and the stability of which can be traced to topological considerations [57]. This magnetic texture originates from the competition between magnetostatic and exchange energies and is determined by the geometric dimensions and the intrinsic material properties. An external magnetic field can also affect the properties of a vortex. As a topologically protected particlelike soliton, the vortex can be characterized by the polarity (P) and circulation (C), which indicate the upward (P = +1) or downward (P = -1) orientation of the vortex core magnetization, and the clockwise (C = +1) or counterclockwise (C = -1) rotation of the in-plane magnetization, respectively. The polarity and the circulation are independent of each other, leading to a

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stable four-state logic unit. Furthermore, due to the existence of the energy barrier when switching states, the vortex is robust to thermal fluctuations, while the states may be changed quickly by versatile methods [58–62]. This bistable property [63] of the vortex makes it topologically protected, and becomes a potential candidate for information storage applications [58,64,65]. When stimulated by a magnetic field pulse, the core of the vortex precesses around its equilibrium position, known as the gyrotropic mode [48,58,66–70]. This vortex state excitation, with a sub-gigahertz range of tunable frequency [65,71,72] and narrow linewidth, can couple to the photons in a cavity [73–76].

When the interaction strengths increase to a comparable fraction or even exceed the bare frequencies of the uncoupled subsystems, the so-called ultrastrong-coupling (USC) regime arises, which has been investigated in several quantum systems [77–80]. In this regime, the Jaynes-Cummings (JC) model breaks down since the rotatingwave approximation (RWA) is invalid while the intricacy of the quantum Rabi model emerges, and the system's ground state is a squeezed vacuum that contains correlated pairs of virtual excitations [81]. Employing the unconventional natures of the USC, applications in quantum technologies are inspired, such as ultrafast two-qubit gates [82], quantum error corrections [83], and quantum simulations [84,85].

In this work we propose a hybrid quantum device interfacing a magnetic vortex with a nanomechanical resonator. The resonator tip carries a ferromagnetic rod and creates a field with strong magnetic field gradients [17], which can lead to a dynamical distortion of the vortex core in a ferromagnetic nanodisc. Thus, a vortex gyration-phonon interaction emerges and enables the exchange of quantum information between them. The magnitude of coupling strength is relevant to the size and material properties of the vortex disc, as well as the magnetic field gradient. As the distance decreases, the coupling strength increases significantly and can reach the USC regime. Together with a single N-V center, we present an application that can equate the system to an indirect coupling between the N-V center and the vortex gyration under large detuning conditions, where the phonon is only virtually excited. Owing to the topologically protected property of the vortex and the wide application of mechanical resonators, this proposal could provide a promising platform for quantum information processing and studying quantum physics on the macroscopic scale [1], for example, the nonvolatile memory [64,65,86], quantum entanglement [76,87], spin-wave emitter [88], and quantum computation [89,90]. Besides, this setup may provide a hybrid system with higher normalized coupling (a dimensionless parameter defined as the ratio between the coupling strength and the bare frequency of the excitations) compared with previous work, where the coupling strength between the magnon of a

sphere and the photon constitutes about 10% of the photon energy [91].

II. THE SETUP

The hybrid system under investigation is illustrated in Fig. 1. We consider a ferromagnetic nanodisc magnetically coupled to the motion of a cantilever resonator via a single-domain ferromagnet attached to its end, which creates a magnetic field with strong gradients G_v . The magnet is positioned directly above the nanodisc at a distance d_{vc} and transduces the mechanical oscillation of the cantilever tip into a time-varying magnetic field. By choosing the appropriate orientation of the magnetic field \mathbf{B}_r along the in-plane orientation of the disc, which can couple to the gyrotropic motion of a vortex.

The magnetic vortex is a topological structure characterized by the out-of-plane magnetization at a small region of the vortex core and the in-plane flux-closure magnetization around the core. It has already been demonstrated that the gyrotropic mode, which corresponds to a rotation of the pattern center at a characteristic frequency in the subgigahertz range, is the lowest excitation mode of the vortex state [67,70], i.e., the core shifts from its equilibrium position as excited by a lateral magnetic field or current pulses and oscillates along spiral trajectories when the driving source is turned off. The value of the gyration frequency ω_v depends upon the aspect ratio $v = t_v/r$ of the disc, with t_v and r being the thickness and radius of the disc, respectively. For a thin disc (with aspect ratio $v \ll 1$) made of



FIG. 1. Sketch of the proposed hybrid system. A ferromagnetic nanodisc is under the cantilever. On the free end of the cantilever, a rod-shaped single-domain ferromagnet is attached, which creates an oscillating magnetic field with a strong gradient at the center of the nanodisc. Here we choose the sizes of the cantilever (l, w, t) and the magnet (l_m, w_m, t_m) as $(l, w, t) = (1.2, 0.2, 0.15) \ \mu m$ and $(l_m, w_m, t_m) = (0.3, 0.05, 0.05) \ \mu m$. The distance is $d_{vc} = 150$ nm.

a certain material, the frequency is approximately proportional to $\omega_v \propto M_s v$, where M_s is the saturation magnetization of the chosen material. In order to couple this mode to the cantilever resonator, nanodiscs with small aspect ratios made out of soft ferromagnetic materials with relatively low saturation magnetization will be appropriate, and low Gilbert damping parameters facilitate the coupling.

As a specific example, we simulate a magnetic nanodisc composed of yttrium iron garnet (YIG) with $t_v = 20$ nm, r = 180 nm, and the results are shown in Fig. 2. Micromagnetic simulations with MuMax3 are used to estimate the results [92]. The magnetic structure of a vortex state is depicted in Fig. 2(a) with polarity P = +1 and chirality C = +1. It should be noted that the configuration corresponding to the polarity and circulation is irrelevant to our discussion, which can be specified as an initial condition. Figure 2(b) shows the excitation spectrum of the vortex by applying a pulse perturbation. Specifically, a magnetic field of 10 μ T is applied to the nanodisc in the lateral direction, leading to the precession of the vortex core. By removing the magnetic field, the vortex core oscillates back to its previous equilibrium position. The spectrum of the excited states can be obtained by performing FFT of the averaged magnetization component of the vortex [70]. As revealed in Fig. 2(b), the first mode corresponding to the peak at $f_G \approx 100$ MHz is the gyrotropic mode described previously, which is consistent with the analytical results (see more in Appendix B). Other frequencies of high-order azimuthal modes at 1.66 GHz and 1.93 GHz can also be identified, which are unrelated to the discussion. In addition, the vortex structure is deformed by applying a uniform perpendicular field, resulting in a linear dependence of the gyrotropic frequency with respect to the applied field within a certain range of the field magnitude. This linear dependence and the stability of the vortex core polarity may become invalid when an excessively strong magnetic field is applied in a direction parallel or antiparallel to the polarity of the vortex core [63, 65].



FIG. 2. (a) The spatial distribution of the vortex magnetization stabilized in a r = 180 nm, $t_v = 20$ nm nanodisc with P =+1 and C = +1. (b) Numerically calculated frequencies of the vortex state excitations with in-plane perturbation by using the FFT.

In this setup the coupling of the magnetic vortex gyration to the mechanical resonator is originated by a ferromagnet mounted to the tip of the cantilever [17]. The rod-shaped magnet transduces the mechanical vibration $a(\tau)$ of the cantilever along the y axis into an oscillating magnetic field $\mathbf{B}_r(\tau) = G_v a(\tau) \mathbf{e}_z$ at the center of the disc, with the unit vector \mathbf{e}_z pointing to the z axis. Approximating the nanorod by a magnetic dipole μ_m oriented along the z axis owing to the shape anisotropy, we get $G_v = 3\mu_0 |\boldsymbol{\mu}_m| / 4\pi d_{vc}^4$, where μ_0 is the vacuum permeability, and we can see that G_v can be adjusted by changing the distance d_{vc} with the given magnet. The nanomechanical cantilever is described by $\hat{H}_c = \hbar \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c$ (see Appendix A for more details) and the quantization of the magnetic field yields $\hat{B}_r = B_{vc}(\hat{a}_c + \hat{a}_c^{\dagger})$, where $B_{vc} = G_v a_0$, ω_c is the frequency of the cantilever, \hat{a}_c (\hat{a}_c^{\dagger}) is the annihilation (creation) operator of the resonator mode, and $a_0 = \sqrt{\hbar/2M\omega_c}$ is the amplitude of the zero-point fluctuation of the cantilever with mass M. The nanomechanical resonator contains a complicated spectrum of vibrational modes, and the well-resolved fundamental flexural eigenmode can couple to the vortex gyration by utilizing a high-quality cantilever at frequency $\omega_c/2\pi \approx 0.56\sqrt{E/12\rho(1+c)}(t/l^2)$. Here, we take $t \le w \ll l$ as the cantilever dimensions of thickness, width, and length, E is Young's modulus, ρ is the mass density, and the extra mass m of the magnet with the supporting paddle at the tip is accounted for by $c = m/0.24\rho lwt$. Besides, by modeling the cantilever tip as a harmonic oscillator with an effective mass $M \approx$ $0.24\rho lwt + m$ at frequency ω_c , we can compensate for the extra shift of the fluctuation amplitude introduced by the magnet. To match the gyrotropic mode frequency of the vortex, high frequencies of the cantilevers are necessary, which will lead to a major drawback of decreasing the quality factor Q. Consequently, a frequency of about a few hundred megahertz or lower is an acceptable range with present experimental conditions, which can achieve resonance with the gyrotropic mode of the vortex conveniently and has a relatively high Q.

Then we discuss the coupling between vortex excitations and the mechanical resonator. Specifically, the core of the vortex is positioned below the magnet and is subject to a transverse magnetic field, which can excite the gyrotropic mode. Considering the case that the resonator contains a few or only one phonon, the dynamics of the vortex can be modeled as a harmonic-oscillator-like equation of motion due to the assumption that the magnetic texture is disrupted within the linear response regime, and can be described by the Hamiltonian $\hat{H}_v = \hbar \omega_v \hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{a}_v$, with \hat{a}_v (\hat{a}_v^{\dagger}) being a bosonic operator that annihilates (creates) the vortex excitations of the gyrotropic mode at frequency ω_v (see Appendix B for more details). For a given material, the frequencies of vortices depend on the geometrical dimensions and can be slightly tuned by an out-of-plane field, thus enabling the resonance with a nanomechanical resonator $\omega_v = \omega_c$. By calculating the Zeeman coupling between the magnetic moments and the magnetic field [74,75], the Hamiltonian of the quantum vortex gyration-phonon model is given as (see Appendix C for more details)

$$\hat{H}_{vc}/\hbar = \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \omega_v \hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{a}_v + g_{vc} (\hat{a}_v^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_v) (\hat{a}_c^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_c), \quad (1)$$

and the coupling strength g_{vc} is

$$g_{vc} \equiv \frac{B_{vc}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{VX}{\hbar}},\tag{2}$$

where $V = \pi r^2 t_v$ is the disc volume, $X = \xi^2 M_s \gamma_g / 2\pi$, with M_s the saturation magnetization, $\gamma_g / 2\pi = 28$ GHz/T the gyromagnetic ratio, and a geometrical factor $\xi = 2/3$ in the case of discs. The coupling strength g_{vc} is proportional to the magnetic field generated by the magnet as a result of the Zeeman-type coupling [74,75]. Similar to the case of the cavity-magnon coupling g_{c-m} , which is proportional to the spin number of the magnetic spheres, the coupling strength in our case shows a dependence on volume, which is related to the number of spins as well.

Taking into account the dissipations of the magnetic vortex γ (see Appendix B for more details) and nanomechanical resonator $\kappa = \omega_c/Q$, with Q as the quality factor, we can use the master equation to describe the full dynamics of the system, which has the form

$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}_{vc}, \hat{\rho}] + (\bar{n}_v + 1)\gamma \mathcal{D}[\hat{a}_v]\hat{\rho} + \bar{n}_v \gamma \mathcal{D}[\hat{a}_v^{\dagger}]\hat{\rho} + (\bar{n}_c + 1)\kappa \mathcal{D}[\hat{a}_c]\hat{\rho} + \bar{n}_c \kappa \mathcal{D}[\hat{a}_c^{\dagger}]\hat{\rho}, \qquad (3)$$

with $\mathcal{D}[\hat{o}]\hat{\rho} = \hat{o}\hat{\rho}\hat{o}^{\dagger} - \{\hat{o}^{\dagger}\hat{o},\hat{\rho}\}/2$ for a specified operator \hat{o} and $\bar{n}_j = [\exp(\hbar\omega_j/k_BT) - 1]^{-1}(j = v, c)$ being the thermal occupation number at the environment temperature T, which is assumed to be $T \approx 10$ mK in a dilution refrigerator. When the coupling strength exceeds both the vortex and resonator damping rates, the strong-coupling regime emerges.

III. STRONG COUPLING BETWEEN THE PHONON AND THE VORTEX EXCITATION

To realize coherent quantum dynamics, the strongcoupling regime is necessary. When considering the coupling g_{vc} , some additional situations should be taken into account. In practice, since the magnetic field is a crucial component of coupling, its distribution in space is inhomogeneous. Specific to our setup, the disc response to the low-amplitude driving field, i.e., the shift from the equilibrium position, is at a small range around the disc center, which allows us to consider the dependence only on the magnetic field at the center of the discs. An example of



FIG. 3. (a) The magnetic field distribution of the magnet at d = 150 nm. The purple circle and the dashed rectangle represent the projection position of the nanodisc and the magnet, respectively. (b) The magnetic field gradient as a function of distance. The dimensions of the magnet are chosen as $(l_m, w_m, t_m) = (0.3, 0.05, 0.05) \ \mu$ m, and the nanodisc radius as r = 180 nm.

the field distribution in the *x*-*z* plane [93] is shown in Fig. 3(a). The white dashed rectangle represents a magnet, and the purple circle represents the disc. The magnetic field is evenly distributed in the center region of the disc, as shown in the figure, making our assumption a good approximation. The amplitude of the magnetic field at the center **r** has the form $B_{vc} = G_v a_0$, in which G_v varies with the distance between the magnet and the vortex core. Figure 3(b) shows the dependence of gradient G_v on distance d_{vc} , and the gradient drops sharply as the distance increases.

The material and geometrical dimensions of the nanodisc are also critical for the coupling strength, and the selection of these parameters affects the vortex frequency, which is related to the resonance condition with a mechanical resonator. Considering that the frequency of the mechanical resonator is relatively low, materials with lower saturation magnetization are preferable since they exhibit less geometrical confinement. Additionally, materials with low damping characteristics are necessary to achieve the strong-coupling regime. For a specific instance, YIG would be an appropriate choice, since it exhibits one of the lowest Gilbert damping parameters with $\alpha_{LLG} \approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$, and low saturation magnetization $\mu_0 M_s \approx 0.18$ T [74,94–96], leading to an eigenfrequency of gyrotropic mode in the range of about tens to hundreds of megahertz. Another suitable material is CoFe, which also has a low damping parameter $\alpha_{LLG} \approx 5 \times 10^{-4}$ [96], but with large $\mu_0 M_s \approx 2.4$ T, the aspect ratio β should be small enough, which might necessitate a large radius of the disc or the utilization of a resonator with a high frequency in sub-gigahertz.

Here we take YIG as the material and investigate the performance under various conditions. For convenience, we assume that $t_v = 15$ nm, $G_v = 5 \times 10^5$ T/m [16,37,97], and $a_0 = 0.5 \times 10^{-13}$ m, which is a little bit larger than the experiment [35,36]. This magnetic gradient is equivalent to the amplitude at a distance of 160 nm with the magnet parameters given in Fig. 3. The variations of the



FIG. 4. (a) The eigenfrequencies of the gyrotropic mode as a function of the radius r of the disc, which is made by YIG. (b) Coupling strength g_{vc} normalized to the damping rate of the vortex versus the disc radius. The green dashed-dotted line indicates the value of 1.

gyrotropic frequency of the YIG disc with respect to the radius are shown in Fig. 4(a), as well as the ratio g_{vc}/γ under corresponding dimension conditions in Fig. 4(b). It reveals that increasing the radius of the nanodisc allows for the realization of frequencies close to the frequency range of nanomechanical resonators, as well as an increase in the ratio of the coupling strength to the vortex damping.

Considering further that the vortex approaches the magnet, i.e., the magnetic field gradient G_v increases, the coupling strength of the system may achieve the USC regime. Figure 5 presents the dependence of the coupling strength g_{vc} normalized to the vortex gyration frequency ω_v and parameter U as a function of the radius r and magnetic field gradient G at the center of the vortex. The parameter $U = \sqrt{Cg_{vc}/\omega_v}$ is a measure of coherence [77] that corresponds to the geometric mean value between the cooperativity $C = g_{vc}^2/\gamma\kappa$ and the ratio of the coupling strength to the resonance frequency. It is feasible to reach the unconventional properties of the USC regime under the condition $U \gg 1$, while $g/\omega \simeq 0.1$ is usually marked as



FIG. 5. The contour map of the coupling strength g_{vc} normalized to the resonance frequency ω_v (a) and the USC measure U (b) versus the disc radius and the gradient G. In contour map (a) the dotted curve represents the value of 0.1, while the dashed curve in contour map (b) represents the value of 10. The area with larger values than the curves indicates the USC condition. The other parameters are $t_v = 15$ nm using YIG as the material and the quality factor of the cantilever Q = 1000 with $a_0 = 0.5 \times 10^{-13}$ m.

the beginning of the USC regime. The result in Fig. 5(a)shows that when the gradient G is larger than 10^7 T/m, the USC regime can be easily achieved. Taking the dissipation into consideration, a similar result can be obtained from Fig. 5(b), where U can reach a considerable value with the optimized parameters, far greater than unity. Since the response of the magnetic disc is only affected by the magnetic field at the center, a larger disc radius will increase the number of spins and, hence, the coupling strength without causing side effects. Moreover, the coupling strength is proportional to the gradient, which is generated by the magnet. Though the gradient weakens rapidly with the distance, the magnitude within a particular distance is rather significant, as shown in Fig. 3(b). Consequently, we can achieve the requisite coupling regime by choosing the proper parameters.

IV. APPLICATION

The interaction of Hamiltonian (1), when achieving the strong-coupling regime, allows the coherent quantum state transfer between the gyrotropic mode of the vortex and the resonator mode. In this section we discuss a realization of the quantum state transfer between a spin and the vortex excitation mode, where the vibration mode of the nanomechanical resonator serves as a quantum data bus. Here we arrange an N-V center and a disc on either side of the magnet at the end of the cantilever, as shown in Fig. 6, where the direct interaction between the spin and the vortex is negligible due to the far distance [53,86].

The spin-vortex coupling is triggered by the magnetic field that is mainly formed by the vertical magnetization of the vortex core. To get a rough estimate of the coupling strength, we assume that the magnetization direction of the vortex is along the *y* axis uniformly for simplification,



FIG. 6. Schematic of the tripartite hybrid system, where an extra N-V center is positioned above the magnet of the proposed system at a distance of $d_{nc} = 40$ nm. The parameters of the vortex-cantilever system are the same as in Fig. 1.

which would lead to an overestimate of the coupling. Then we can approximate the field **B** from the vortex as a dipole field centered in the vortex core, and quantize the vortex as the Kittel mode that has the form $\hat{M} = m_v(\hat{a}_v + \hat{a}_v^{\dagger})$, with $m_v = \sqrt{\hbar \gamma_g M_s/(2V)}$ being the zero-point magnetization [43,44,98]. The quantized magnetic field \hat{B} right above the vortex core may then be obtained as

$$\hat{\mathbf{B}} = \frac{\mu_0 m_v V}{2\pi y^3} (\hat{a}_v + \hat{a}_v^{\dagger}) \mathbf{e}_y, \qquad (4)$$

with y being the distance between the N-V center and the vortex core. The vortex-spin interaction in the dressed state basis of the spin can be described as

$$\hat{H}_{vn} = \hbar g_{vn} (\hat{a}_v + \hat{a}_v^{\dagger}) (\hat{S}_+ + \hat{S}_-), \qquad (5)$$

where $\hbar g_{vn} = \mu m_v V/y^3$ is the coupling strength, with $\mu =$ $\mu_0 \mu_B g_s / 2\pi$, $g_s \simeq 2$ the Landé factor, μ_B the Bohr magneton, and the spin operators \hat{S}_+ of the dressed states, which are obtained in the same way as the discussion below. Due to the long-range distortion of the vortex domain, the field diminishes as about y^{-3} with tiny fields lingering beyond the core at tens of nanometers, resulting in rapid attenuation of coupling strength with distance. Taking previous vortex parameters as an example, the coupling strength at about y = 200 nm in our setup is $g_{vn}/2\pi \approx 15$ kHz, which is much lower than the coupling strength of the vortex-phonon coupling and spin-phonon coupling (about several hundred megahertz), as well as the damping rate of the vortex, although this result gives the upper limit of the coupling strength. Furthermore, if only the vortex core is considered while the other part is magnetized in the in-plane direction, the coupling strength would be further reduced by about an order of magnitude. Accordingly, this interaction between the vortex and the N-V center can be neglected in our setup.

The N-V center [34] is a common quantum spin system consisting of a substitutional nitrogen-lattice vacancy pair replacing carbon atoms. The electronic ground state of a single N-V center is a spin-triplet ground state, with a zero splitting $D = 2\pi \times 2.87$ GHz between the degenerate sublevels $|m_s = \pm 1\rangle$ and $|m_s = 0\rangle$. The crystalline axis of the N-V center is referred to as the z axis for convenience. Typically, we apply a magnetic field $\mathbf{B}_z =$ $B_z \mathbf{e}_z$ to the N-V center to remove the degeneracy of the states $|m_s = \pm 1\rangle$, while using $\mathbf{B}_{dr} = B_0 \cos \omega_0 \tau \mathbf{e}_x$ to drive the Rabi oscillations between $|m_s = 0\rangle$ and the excited states $|m_s = \pm 1\rangle$. Considering a spin-mechanical setup [14,16], a single N-V center can magnetically couple to the mechanical motion of the cantilever through the magnetic field gradient generated by the magnet on the tip and the Hamiltonian can be described in the dressed state basis. Specifically (see Appendix D for more details), by defining the bright state $|B\rangle = (|+1\rangle + |-1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ and dark state $|D\rangle = (|+1\rangle - |-1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$, we find that the state $|0\rangle$ couples to the bright state $|B\rangle$ while the dark state $|D\rangle$ is decoupled. Then by switching to the dressed state basis $\{|G\rangle = \cos \theta |0\rangle - \sin \theta |B\rangle, |E\rangle = \sin \theta |0\rangle + \cos \theta |B\rangle\}$, the Hamiltonian of the system can be simplified under the condition $\Delta \gg \Omega$, with Δ and Ω being the detuning and Rabi frequency of the N-V center sublevels, respectively. As a result, \hat{H}_{nc} can be described by the JC interaction under the RWA, which has the form

$$\hat{H}_{nc}/\hbar = \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda \hat{\sigma}_z + g_{nc} (\hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{a}_c + \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}), \quad (6)$$

where $\hbar g_{nc} = g_s \mu_B G_{nc} a_0$ is the coupling strength between an N-V center and the cantilever, with $G_{nc} = 3\mu_0 |\boldsymbol{\mu}_m| / 4\pi d_{nc}^4$ the magnetic field gradient at the position of the N-V center, d_{nc} is their distance, $\hat{\sigma}_- = |D\rangle \langle E|, \hat{\sigma}_+ = \hat{\sigma}_-^{\dagger}, \hat{\sigma}_z = |E\rangle \langle E| - |D\rangle \langle D|, \tan 2\theta = 2\sqrt{2}\Omega/\Delta, \Lambda = 2\Omega^2/\Delta$.

In the rotating frame at the N-V center frequency Λ and under the RWA, the whole Hamiltonian including the vortex gyration-cantilever coupling reads

$$\hat{H}/\hbar = \Delta_1 \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \Delta_2 \hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{a}_v + g_{vc} (\hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \hat{a}_v \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}) + g_{nc} (\hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{a}_c + \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}),$$
(7)

with $\Delta_1 \equiv \omega_c - \Lambda$ and $\Delta_2 \equiv \omega_v - \Lambda$. By eliminating the mechanical mode \hat{a}_c for the large detuning condition $|\Delta_1| \gg g_{vc}, g_{nc}$, we can acquire an effective vortex gyration-spin interaction while there is no or weak direct interaction between them [10]. The effective Hamiltonian can be written as

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}}/\hbar = (\Delta_2 - \beta^2 \Delta_1) \hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{a}_v - \frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 \Delta_1 \hat{\sigma}_z + g_{\text{eff}} (\hat{a}_v \hat{\sigma}_+ + \hat{a}_v^{\dagger} \hat{\sigma}_-), \qquad (8)$$

where $\alpha = g_{nc}/|\Delta_1|$ and $\beta = g_{vc}/|\Delta_1|$ represent the dimensionless interaction parameters. Other parameters are described as follow: $g_{\text{eff}} = \beta g_{nc}$, $\kappa_{\text{eff}} = \kappa_2 + \beta^2 \kappa_1$, and $\gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma + \alpha^2 \kappa_1$; here we denote the dissipation of the cantilever and N-V center as κ_1 and κ_2 , respectively. It can be seen that for $\alpha, \beta \ll 1$ in the effective Hamiltonian, the dissipation caused by the mechanical resonator is greatly reduced, which is helpful to achieve the strong-coupling regime.

In Fig. 7 we calculate the effective parameters $g_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$, $\gamma_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$ and $\kappa_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$ as a function of the detuning Δ_1 . The parameters are r = 180 nm, $t_v = 20$ nm, $d_{vc} = 150$ nm, $d_{nc} = 40$ nm, and the cantilever dimension $(l, w, t) = (1.2, 0.2, 0.15) \ \mu\text{m}$ with a magnet $(l_m, w_m, t_m) = (0.3, 0.05, 0.05) \ \mu\text{m}$. With these parameters, we can obtain the coupling strengths of vortex-phonon and spin-phonon interaction, which are $g_{vc}/2\pi \simeq 1.2$ MHz and $g_{nc}/2\pi \simeq 0.45$ MHz, respectively, and the resonance frequency



FIG. 7. (a) Parameters $g_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$, $\gamma_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$, and $\kappa_{\text{eff}}/2\pi$ as a function of detunings. (b)–(d) Contour plots of the ratios $g_{\text{eff}}/\gamma_{\text{eff}}$, $g_{\text{eff}}/\kappa_{\text{eff}}$, and the cooperativity C_{eff} as a function of the detuning and distance d_{vc} . Because of the requirement of the large detuning condition, Δ_1 should compare with the larger coupling strength, i.e., $\max(g_{vc}, g_{nc})$, since g_{vc} become smaller than g_{nc} at $d_{vc} \approx 190$ nm with this configuration. This change can also be revealed by the results in (b)–(d), where the boundaries change from straight lines to curves. The white dashed lines indicate the value of 1, which corresponds to the strong coupling.

 $\omega_v/2\pi = \omega_c/2\pi \simeq 100$ MHz. For the dissipation, the vortex damping rate is $\gamma/2\pi \simeq 20$ kHz, and the quality factor of the cantilever is Q = 1000, resulting in the damping rate $\kappa_1/2\pi \simeq 100$ kHz, and the dephasing rate of N-V centers is $\kappa_2/2\pi = 1$ kHz. Figure 7(a) reveals that with a suitable detuning Δ_1 , the effective coupling strength g_{eff} can exceed both the effective damping rate γ_{eff} and κ_{eff} , we can also get a coupling strength $g_{\rm eff}/2\pi \approx 40$ kHz with $\Delta_1 = 10g_{nc}$, which is greater than the upper limit of the direct coupling strength. This result is valid for the large damping rate of the cantilever as well. For a deeper understanding of the parameter ranges, in Figs. 7(b)-7(d) we also plot the ratios $g_{\rm eff}/\gamma_{\rm eff}, g_{\rm eff}/\kappa_{\rm eff}$, and the cooperativity parameter $C_{\rm eff} \equiv g_{\rm eff}^2 / \gamma_{\rm eff} \kappa_{\rm eff}$ as a function of Δ_1 and d_{vc} . In order to meet the large detuning condition, the detuning Δ_1 should be greater than both of the coupling strengths, namely, the detuning needs to compare with the larger coupling since g_{vc} changes with distance d_{vc} . It shows that the ratios and the cooperativity parameters increase as the coupling strength g_{vc} gets larger (manifested as a reduction in the distance d_{vc}) till a fixed value when $g_{vc} = g_{nc}$, and decrease when the detuning gets larger. A value larger than 1 indicates that the system has achieved the strong-coupling regime.

In order to verify Hamiltonian (8), we numerically simulate the system to obtain the occupations in the time domain with $g = g_{vc} = g_{nc} = 0.45 \times 2\pi$ MHz and



FIG. 8. Time evolution of each part occupations in the hybrid system, without (a) and with (b) dissipations. Here $g_{vc} = g_{nc} = 0.45 \times 2\pi$ MHz and other parameters are the same as those in Fig. 7, i.e., $\gamma \simeq 0.045g$, $\kappa_1 \simeq 0.222g$, $\kappa_2 \simeq 0.002g$. We use C, V, and N-V to represent the occupations of the cantilever, the vortex gyration, and the N-V center, respectively, and V is initialized in the excited state while C and the N-V are in the vacuum and ground state.

assume that the vortex gyration is in the excited state while the cantilever and the N-V center are in the vacuum and ground state, respectively. Firstly, the simulation results of the original Hamiltonian \hat{H} are shown in Fig. 8, in which the Rabi oscillation phenomena on the microsecond scale (1/g) can be observed in Fig. 8(a) without loss. As the dynamics proceeds, the quantum state transfers from the vortex gyration to the N-V center through the cantilever



FIG. 9. (a),(b) Time evolution of the occupations under the large detuning condition in this system. The parameters are the same as in Fig. 9, i.e., $\gamma \simeq 0.045g$, $\kappa_1 \simeq 0.222g$, $\kappa_2 \simeq 0.002g$. (c),(d) Contradistinction of the occupation evolution of a bipartite system over time, and the dissipation of the bosonic mode and the two-level system are chosen as $K_1 \simeq 0.45G$, $K_2 \simeq 0.02G$ with the coupling strength $G/2\pi = 0.45$ MHz. In (a),(c) the dissipations are neglected while in (b),(d) are considered. Here the bosonic mode and the two-level system are represented as Bo and TL, respectively.

with the same amplitude and then vice versa. The cantilever here serves as a quantum bus for the transition of the state, as we can see from the transfer route. The occupations of the cantilever, the vortex gyration, and the N-V center are represented by C, V, and N-V, respectively. When considering the effect of dissipations, time evolution of each part of the occupations will decay, as shown in Fig. 8(b). The dissipation parameters are the same as those in Fig. 7.

The dynamics under the large detuning condition ($\Delta_1 \gg g$) are then considered. Figures 9(a) and 9(b) demonstrate the occupations with and without dissipations, respectively. Unlike the previous condition, the Rabi oscillations of the vortex gyration and N-V center occupation are plainly evident, while the cantilever excitation can be ignored. This result indicates an effective interaction between the vortex gyration and the N-V center brought on by the virtual excitation of the cantilever, and the coherent time is sufficient for the energy exchange, as shown in Fig. 9(b). As a comparison, we depict the JC model occupations of a direct coupling setup between a bosonic mode (marked as Bo) and a two-level system (marked as TL) in Figs. 9(c) and 9(d), which demonstrate that the effective Hamiltonian is a decent approximation.

V. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we propose a hybrid system where the gyrotropic mode of a magnetic vortex can couple to the phonon in a nanomechanical resonator through a magnetic field gradient. By adjusting the disc geometries and the distance between the vortex and the resonator, the coupling strength can be increased from the strong coupling to the USC regime. The magnetic vortex in this system is extremely stable due to the topological protection, which can be adapted to other texture excitations, such as skyrmions, and cantilevers with a sharp magnetic tip or doubly clamped beams with a magnet are also valid. We also provide an application that enables the indirect coupling between a magnetic vortex and an N-V center through virtual phonon excitations of the cantilever under the large detuning condition. This hybrid quantum system may facilitate the investigations of the USC regime and macroscopic quantum physics, as well as provide a novel platform for quantum information processing.

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APPENDIX A: QUANTIZATION OF THE NANOMECHANICAL RESONATOR

The tip of the nanomechanical cantilever can be treated as a simple harmonic oscillator when it vibrates. We can describe it with the Hamiltonian \hat{H}_c , which is formed from the sum of the kinetic and potential energies and has the form

$$\hat{H}_c = \frac{\hat{p}^2}{2M} + \frac{M\omega_c^2}{2}\hat{r}^2,$$
 (A1)

with *M* being the mass of the cantilever, ω_c being the eigenfrequency of the cantilever, \hat{p} , and \hat{r} being the position and momentum operators that have the commutation relation $[\hat{r}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$. Here the mass $M \approx 0.24\rho lwt + m$ is a result of the integration of the mode function. The eigenstates of the Hamiltonian are $|n\rangle$, with the relation $\hat{H}_c |n\rangle = (n + \frac{1}{2})\hbar\omega_c |n\rangle$, where *n* is an integer. Using the commutation relations of the Hamiltonian \hat{H}_c with the position and momentum operator, we can build the raising (creation) operator \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} and the lowering (annihilation) operator \hat{a}_c , i.e.,

$$\hat{a}_{c}^{\dagger} = \sqrt{\frac{M\omega_{c}}{2\hbar}}\hat{r} - i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar M\omega_{c}}}\hat{p},$$
$$\hat{a}_{c} = \sqrt{\frac{M\omega_{c}}{2\hbar}}\hat{r} + i\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar M\omega_{c}}}\hat{p}.$$
(A2)

These operators have the following effects on the eigenstates $|n\rangle$ of \hat{H}_c :

$$\hat{a}_{c}^{\dagger}|n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1}|n+1\rangle,$$
$$\hat{a}_{c}|n\rangle = \sqrt{n}|n-1\rangle.$$
 (A3)

Furthermore, the Hamiltonian \hat{H}_c can be written in the standard form of a harmonic oscillator

$$\hat{H}_c = \hbar \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c. \tag{A4}$$

APPENDIX B: THE FREQUENCY OF THE VORTEX GYROTROPIC MODE AND NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

By solving the Thiele equation, the gyrotropic mode frequency of a vortex can be obtained, which is mainly determined by magnetostatics. The gyrotropic eigenfrequency ω_v at zero field is directly proportional to the aspect ratio $v = t_v/r$ for small values [48,67], which has the form

$$\omega_v = \frac{10}{9} \frac{\gamma_g \mu_0 M_s v}{2\pi},\tag{B1}$$

with γ_g the gyromagnetic ratio, μ_0 the vacuum permeability, and M_s the material's saturation magnetization. We can also get the linewidth with the equation

$$\gamma = 4\pi \alpha_{\text{LLG}} [1 + \ln(r/r_v)/2], \qquad (B2)$$

where α_{LLG} is the Gilbert damping parameter, $r_v \sim 1.58\lambda_L(t_v/\lambda_L)^{1/3}$ is radius of vortex core, and λ_L is the exchange length that has the form $\lambda_L = \sqrt{2A/\mu_0 M_s^2}$ with A the exchange stiffness. Taking YIG as an example, the parameters are as follows: $\alpha_{LLG} \approx 5 \times 10^{-5}$, $\mu_0 M_s \approx 0.18$ T, and A = 1.9 pJ/m. CoFe is another potential material in this scheme, which also has a low Gilbert damping parameter. However, for a much larger saturation magnetization, the frequency of the gyrotropic mode is on the order of GHz, which is far off resonance with a nanomechanical resonator. The specific parameters are $\alpha_{FeCo} \approx 5 \times 10^{-4}$, $\mu_0 M_{FeCo} \approx 2.4$ T, and $A_{FeCo} = 26$ pJ/m.

A micromagnetic simulation program MuMax3 is used to execute the numerical simulations. This software employs a finite-difference discretization to solve the time- and space-dependent magnetization evolution of nanoscale microscale magnets. The required material parameters include the saturation magnetization, Gilbert damping parameter, exchange stiffness constant, which are chosen as $\mu_0 M_s = 0.18$ T, $\alpha_{LLG} = 5 \times 10^{-5}$, $A = 1.9 \times 10^{-5}$ 10^{-12} J/m, respectively, when YIG is selected. For the geometric parameters, we choose a nanodisc with radius r = 180 nm and thickness $t_v = 20$ nm, which is placed in a box. The box is discretized into $128 \times 128 \times 8$ identical cells, and the unit cell element size is $3 \times 3 \times 2.8$ nm³, resulting in a $384 \times 384 \times 22.4$ nm³ box. The texture of the magnetic vortex ground energy can be obtained after relaxing the YIG nanodisc.

The dynamics of the magnetic vortex are characterized using a perturbation field. Specifically, a magnetic field $B_{\text{ext}} = 10 \text{ mT}$ is first applied to the remanent vortex distribution in the in-plane direction, leading to the vortex core precession. The driving field is then removed after 200 ns, and the average magnetizations are recorded [70], which allows us to utilize FFT to determine the frequencies of the gyrotropic modes. The results are depicted in Fig. 2(b), where the first peak $f \approx 100 \text{ MHz}$ corresponds to the gyrotropic mode we need, and the value is in agreement with the theoretical result [67].

APPENDIX C: THE INTERACTION BETWEEN A MAGNETIC VORTEX AND A NANOMECHANICAL RESONATOR

In this appendix we show the derivation of the coupling strength g_{vc} in Eq. (2). The interaction between a magnetic field and the spins in the disc is of Zeeman type, which has the form

$$\hat{H}_{vcI} = \sum_{i} \mu_i B_r, \tag{C1}$$

where μ_i is the magnetic dipole of the *i* spin, and we approximate the fluctuations of the magnetic field with the value at the center of the disc B_r , as discussed in the main text. Here we only consider the *z* component. By using the method in Appendix A, we can obtain the quantization of the magnetic field, while the quantized form of the vortex magnetization can be written by using the collective variable to describe the vortex precession. Then the Hamiltonian of the interaction term has the form

$$\hat{H}_{vcI} = VmB_{vc}(\hat{a}_{c}^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_{c})(\hat{a}_{v}^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_{v}),$$
(C2)

with $V = \pi r^2 t_v$ the disc volume, *m* the normalized magnetization, and \hat{a}_v (\hat{a}_v^{\dagger}) being the creation (annihilation) operator of the vortex. Thus, the coupling strength is

$$\hbar g_{vc} = V m B_{vc}. \tag{C3}$$

This interaction indicates that the vortex is driven by the magnetic field with average $\hbar g_{vc} \langle \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_c \rangle$. Considering the single quantum limit, we can use the replacement $\langle \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} + \hat{a}_c \rangle = 2 \cos(\omega_c \tau)$, resulting in the maximum magnetization response of the vortex ΔM with the form

$$\Delta M = \frac{8\pi m g_{vc}}{\gamma}.$$
 (C4)

Using the Eq. (C3) and the vortex susceptibility expression $\chi = \Delta M/B_{vc} = \gamma_g \xi^2 M_s/\gamma$, we arrive at the coupling strength

$$g_{vc} = \frac{B_{vc}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{V\xi^2 M_s \gamma_g}{2\pi\hbar}}.$$
 (C5)

APPENDIX D: THE INTERACTION BETWEEN AN N-V CENTER AND A NANOMECHANICAL RESONATOR

Under the influence of the various external magnetic fields, the N-V center can be described by the Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}_{NV} = \hbar D \hat{S}_z^2 + \mu_B g_s \mathbf{B}_z \hat{S}_z + \mu_B g_s (\mathbf{B}_{dr} + \mathbf{B}_{nc}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{S}}, \quad (D1)$$

with μ_B the Bohr magneton, $g_s \simeq 2$ the Landé factor, and $\hat{\mathbf{S}}$ the spin operator of the N-V center. The magnetic field $\mathbf{B}_z = B_z \mathbf{e}_z$ is applied to remove the degeneracy of the states $|\pm 1\rangle$, while the driving field $\mathbf{B}_{dr} = B_0 \cos \omega_0 \tau \mathbf{e}_x$ is added to drive the Rabi oscillations. Here $\mathbf{B}_{nc} = G_{nc}a_0\mathbf{e}_z$ is the field generated by the oscillation of the magnet at the cantilever tip. In the basis { $|m_s\rangle$, $m_s = 0, \pm 1$ }, which is defined by the eigenstates of \hat{S}_z with $\hat{S}_z |m_s\rangle = m_s |m_s\rangle$, we have

$$\hat{H}_{NV} = \sum_{m_s} [\langle m_s | (\hbar D \hat{S}_z^2 + \mu_B g_s B_z \hat{S}_z) | m_s \rangle] | m_s \rangle \langle m_s |$$

$$+ \sum_{m_s, m'_s} \mu_B g_s B_0 \cos \omega_0 \tau \langle m_s | \hat{S}_x | m'_s \rangle | m_s \rangle \langle m'_s |$$

$$+ \sum_{m_s} \mu_B g_s G_{nv} a_0 \langle m_s | \hat{S}_z | m_s \rangle | m_s \rangle \langle m_s | (\hat{a}_c + \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}).$$
(D2)

Taking $\mathbf{B}_{dr} = B_0(e^{i\omega_0\tau} + e^{-i\omega_0\tau})\mathbf{e}_x/2$ into account and in the rotating frame at ω_0 , we can obtain \hat{H}_{NV} under RWA, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_{NV} &\approx \hbar \Delta_{+} |+1\rangle \langle +1| + \hbar \Delta_{-} |-1\rangle \langle -1| \\ &+ \hbar \Omega (|+1\rangle \langle 0| + |-1\rangle \langle 0| + \text{H.c.}) \\ &+ \hbar g_{nc} (|+1\rangle \langle +1| - |-1\rangle \langle -1|) (\hat{a}_{c} + \hat{a}_{c}^{\dagger}), \end{aligned}$$
(D3)

with $\hbar \Delta_{\pm} = \hbar D \pm \mu_B g_s B_z - \hbar \omega_0$, $\hbar \Omega = \sqrt{2}/4\mu_B g_s B_0$, and $\hbar g_{nc} = \mu_B g_s G_{nc} a_0$. In the following part we assume $\Delta_+ = \Delta_- = \Delta$ for simplicity, and define the bright and dark states as

$$|B\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+1\rangle + |-1\rangle),$$

$$|D\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+1\rangle - |-1\rangle).$$
 (D4)

It can be concluded that the state $|0\rangle$ couples to the bright state $|B\rangle$, while the dark state $|D\rangle$ is decoupled. Then in the dressed state basis $\{|G\rangle = \cos \theta |0\rangle - \sin \theta |B\rangle$, $|E\rangle = \sin \theta |0\rangle + \cos \theta |B\rangle$, with $\tan 2\theta = 2\sqrt{2}\Omega/\Delta$, the Hamiltonian \hat{H}_{nc} including the free Hamiltonian \hat{H}_{c} of the vibration mode can be rewritten as

$$\hat{H}_{nc} = \hbar \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \hbar \omega_{eg} |E\rangle \langle E| + \hbar \omega_{dg} |D\rangle \langle D| + \hbar (g_1 |G\rangle \langle D| + g_2 |D\rangle \langle E| + \text{H.c.}) (\hat{a}_c + \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}), \text{ (D5)}$$

where $\omega_{eg} = \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 8\Omega^2}$, $\omega_{dg} = (\Delta + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 8\Omega^2})/2$, $g_1 = -g_{nc} \sin \theta$, and $g_2 = g_{nc} \cos \theta$. Considering the condition $\Delta \gg \Omega$, we have $g_1 \simeq 0$, $g_2 \simeq g_{nc}$, $\omega_{eg} \simeq \Delta + 4\Omega^2/\Delta$, $\omega_{dg} \simeq \Delta + 2\Omega^2/\Delta$, and $\Lambda = \omega_{eg} - \omega_{dg} = 2\Omega^2/\Delta$. Therefore, the \hat{H}_{nc} under the RWA has the form

$$\hat{H}_{nc}/\hbar \approx \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \frac{1}{2} \Lambda \hat{\sigma}_z + g_{nc} (\hat{\sigma}_+ \hat{a}_c + \hat{\sigma}_- \hat{a}_c^{\dagger}), \quad (D6)$$

with $\hat{\sigma}_z = |E\rangle\langle E| - |D\rangle\langle D|$, $\hat{\sigma}_- = |D\rangle\langle E|$, and $\hat{\sigma}_+ = (\hat{\sigma}_-)^{\dagger}$.

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