

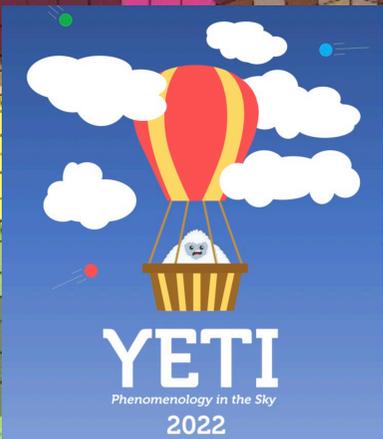
# AION: Atom Interferometer Observatory & Network

## ● Lecture 1:

- Principles of atom interferometers
- AION project
- Search for ultralight dark matter
- Quantum technology for fundamental physics

## ● Lecture 2:

- Measurements of gravitational waves
- Probes of fundamental physics, astrophysics & cosmology
- STE-QUEST

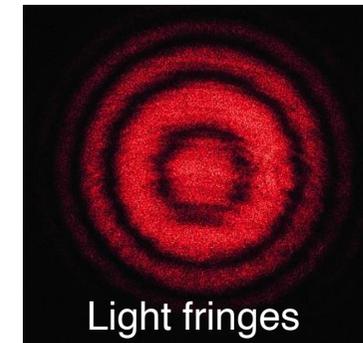
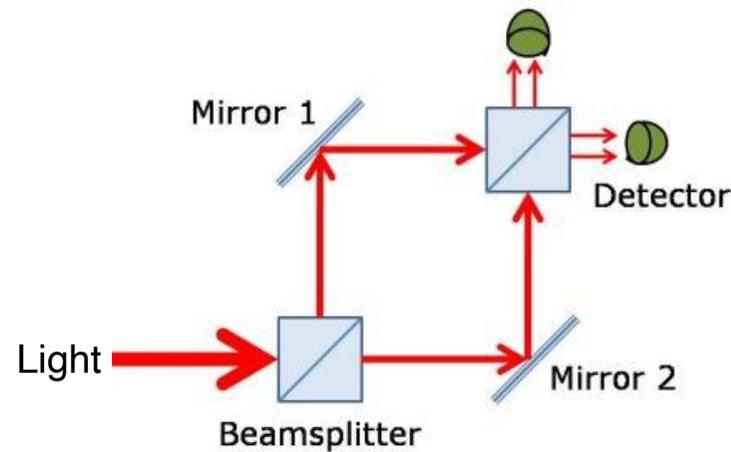


*John Ellis*

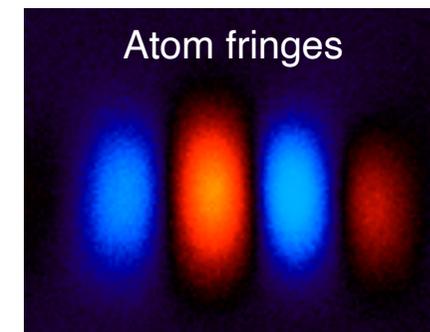
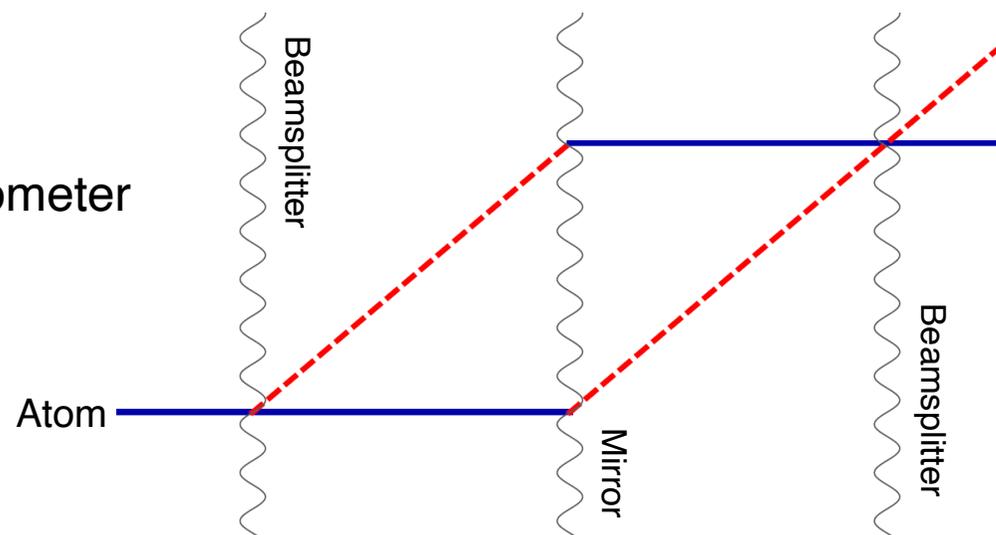
KING'S  
College  
LONDON

# Principle of Atom Interferometry

Light interferometer



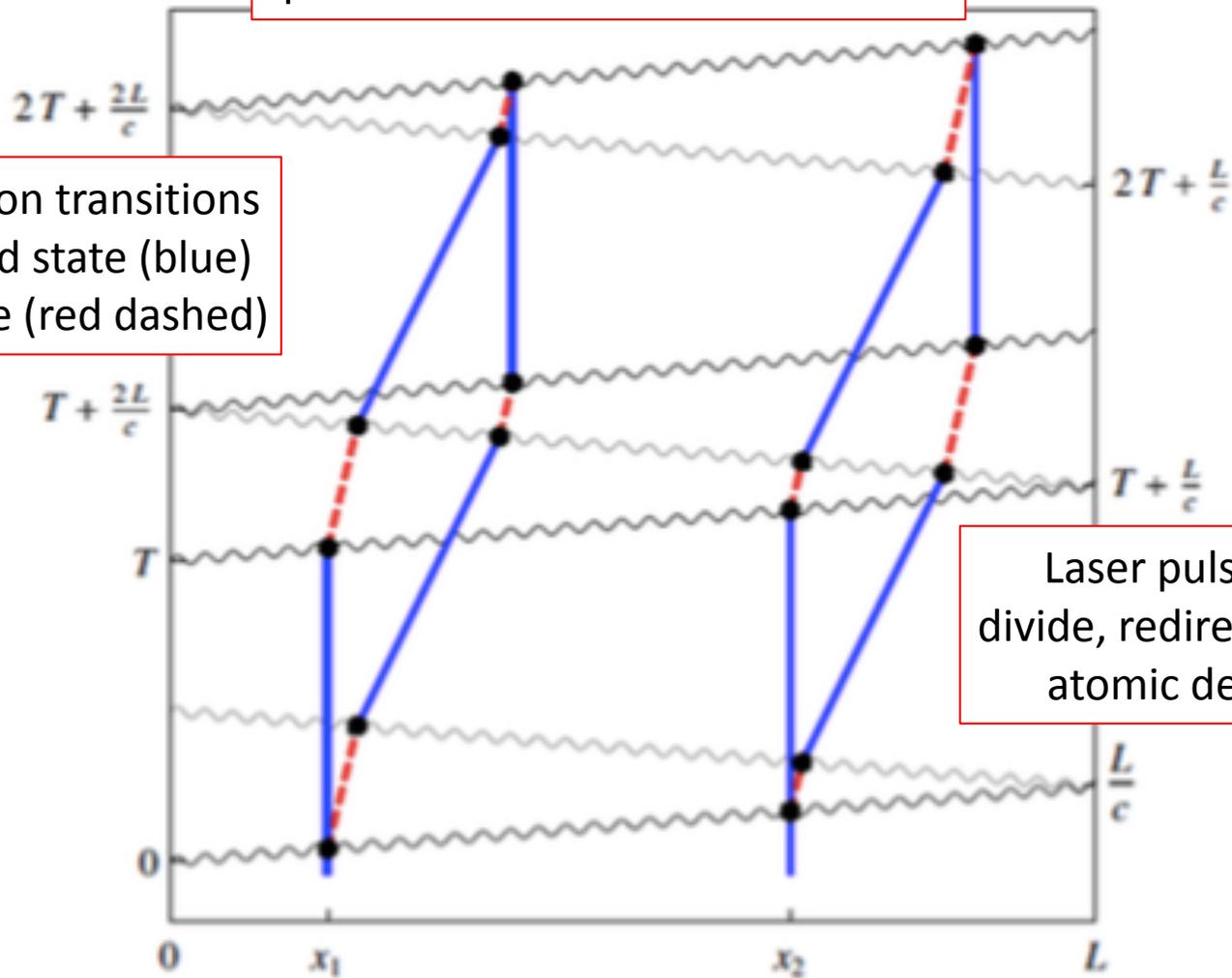
Atom interferometer



# Principle of Atom Interferometry

Space-time diagram of operation of pair of cold-atom interferometers

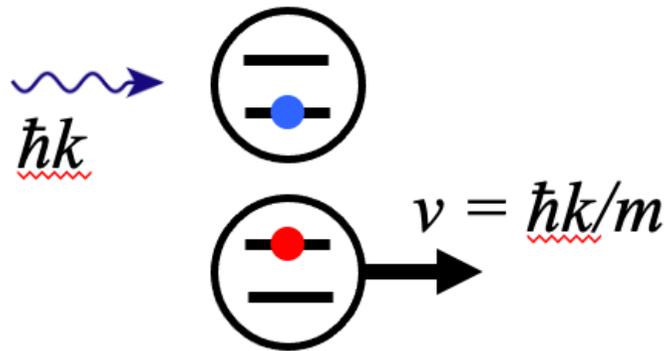
Use single-photon transitions between ground state (blue) and excited state (red dashed)



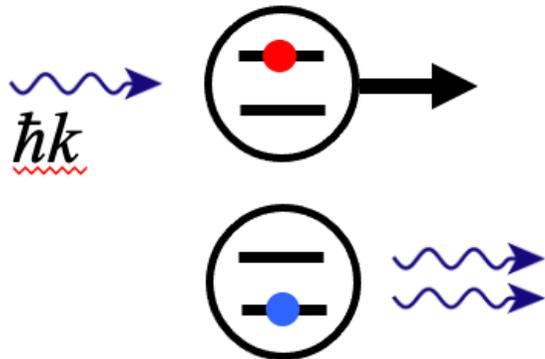
Interference patterns sensitive to interactions with dark matter & modulation of light travel time caused by GWs

# Optics for Atom Interferometry

## (1) Light absorption:

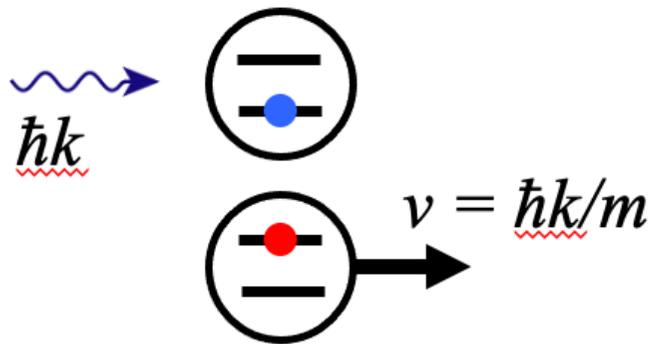


## (2) Stimulated emission:

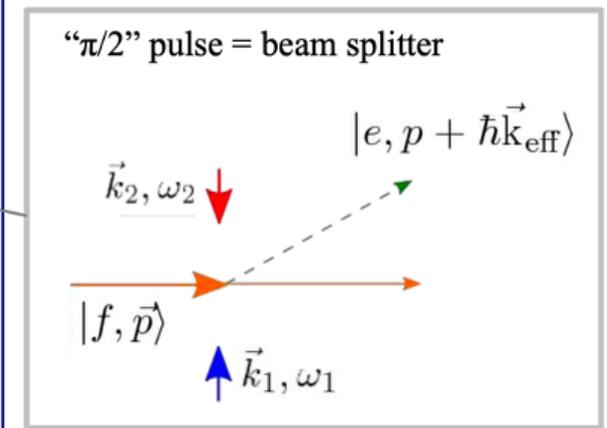
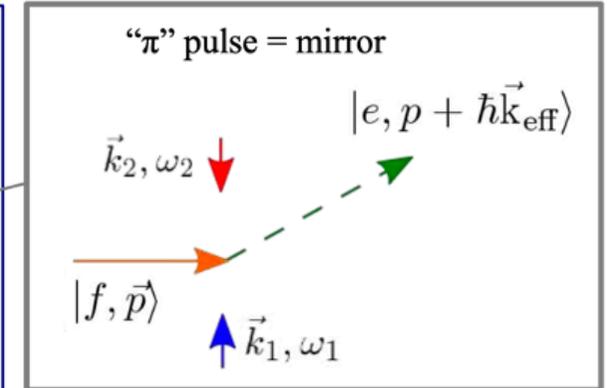
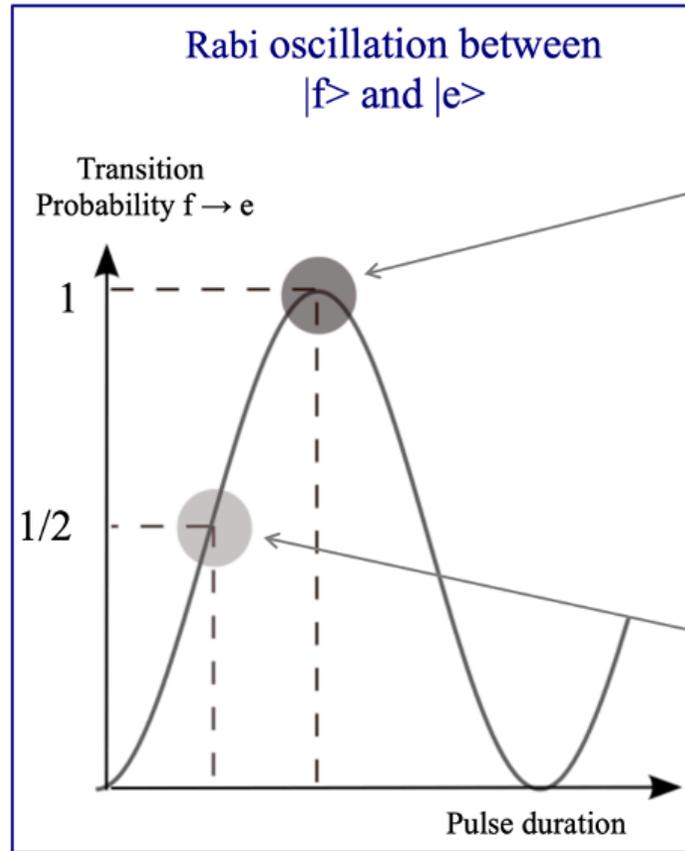
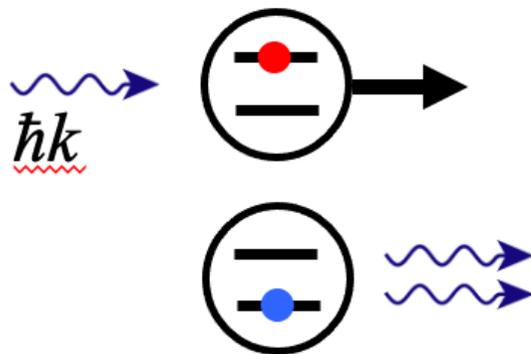


# Optics for Atom Interferometry

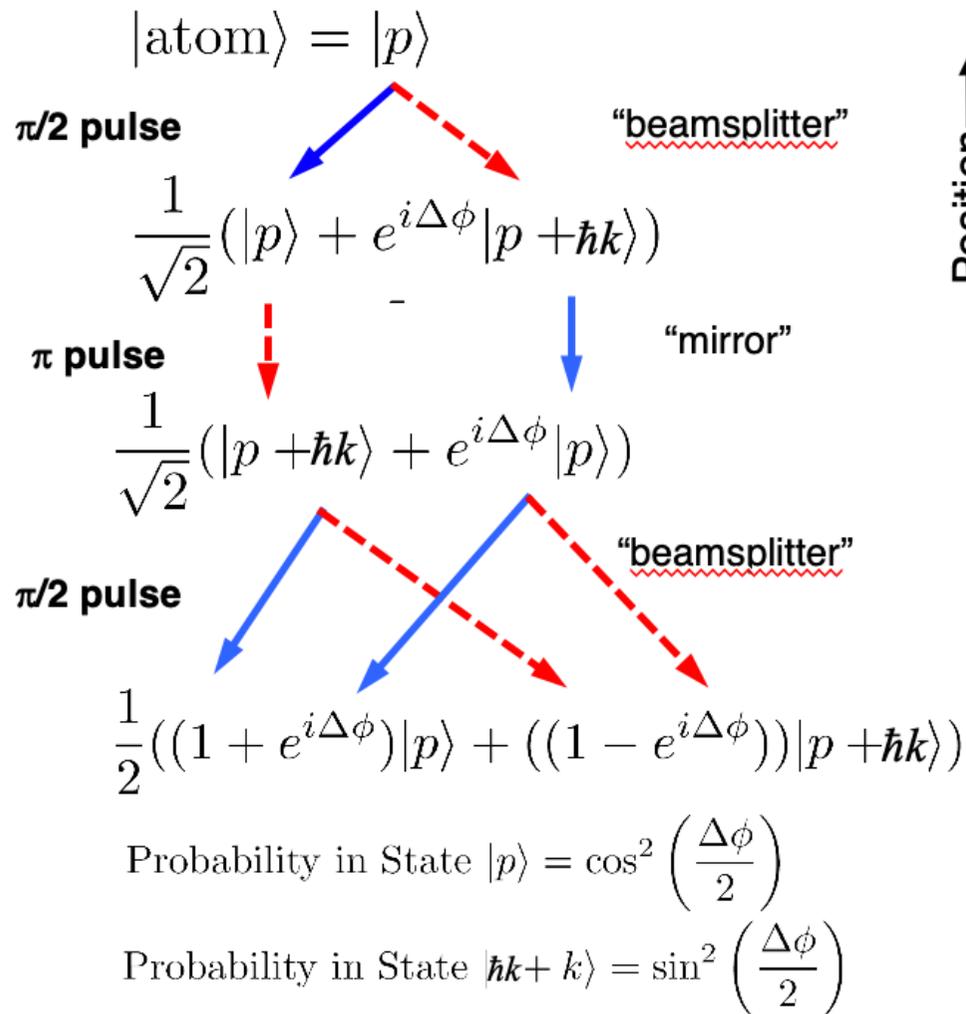
## (1) Light absorption:



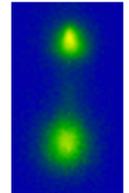
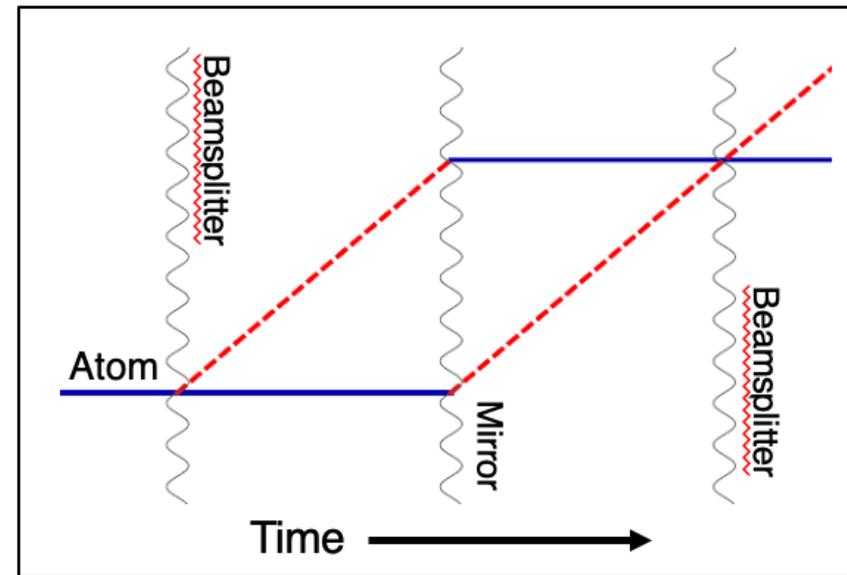
## (2) Stimulated emission:



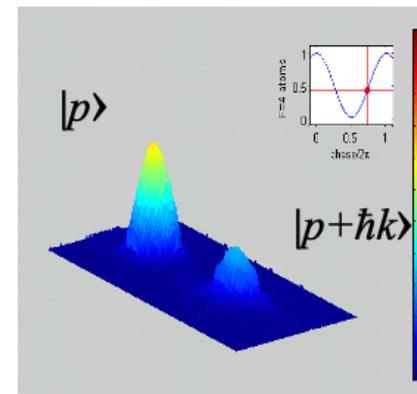
# Optics for Atom Interferometry



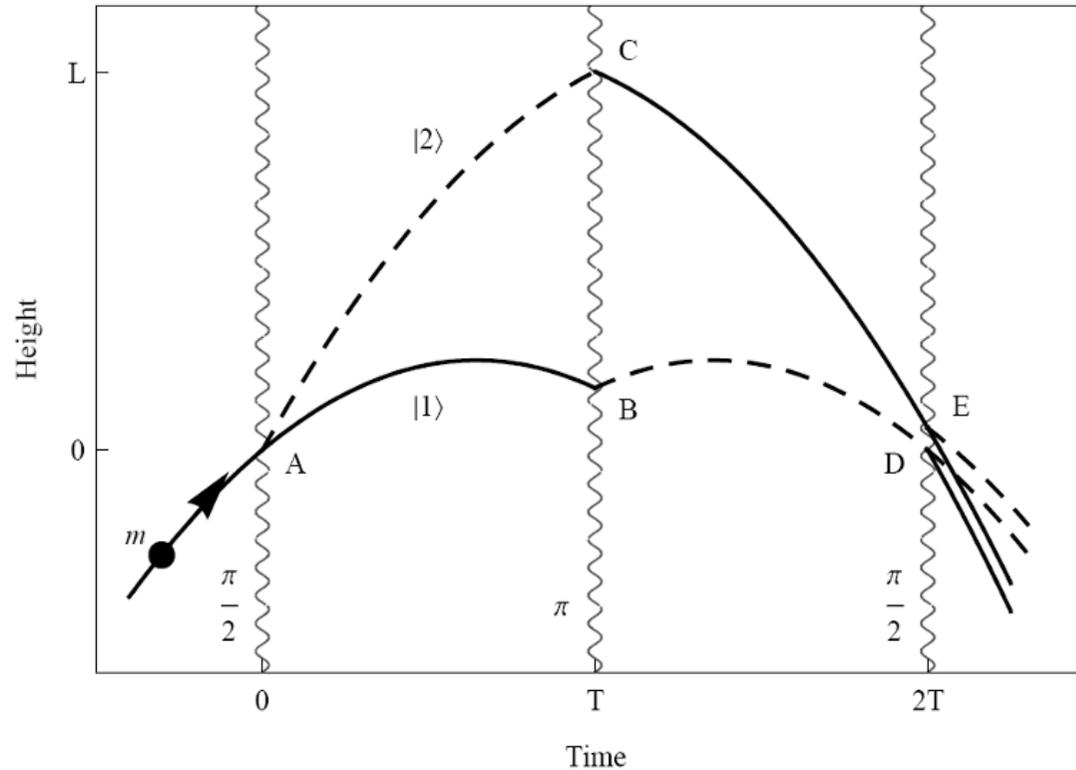
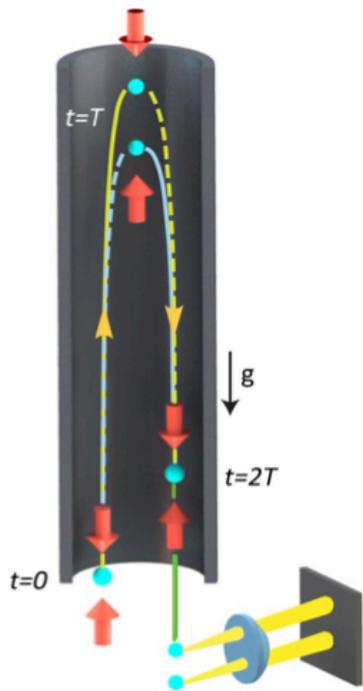
Position ↑



$$\Delta\Phi = \Phi_1^{eff} - 2\Phi_2^{eff} + \Phi_3^{eff} \quad \Phi_i^{eff}(t) = \vec{k}_i^{eff} \vec{r}_i(t)$$



# Optics for Atom Interferometry



$$\Delta\phi = k_{\text{eff}}gT^2$$

*Proportional to  
spacetime  
area enclosed.*

$$\frac{\delta g}{g} \sim \frac{\delta\phi}{k_{\text{eff}}gT^2}$$

Sensitivity

$$\delta\phi \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

Shot noise

$T$  : Long duration

$k_{\text{eff}}$  : Large wavepacket separation

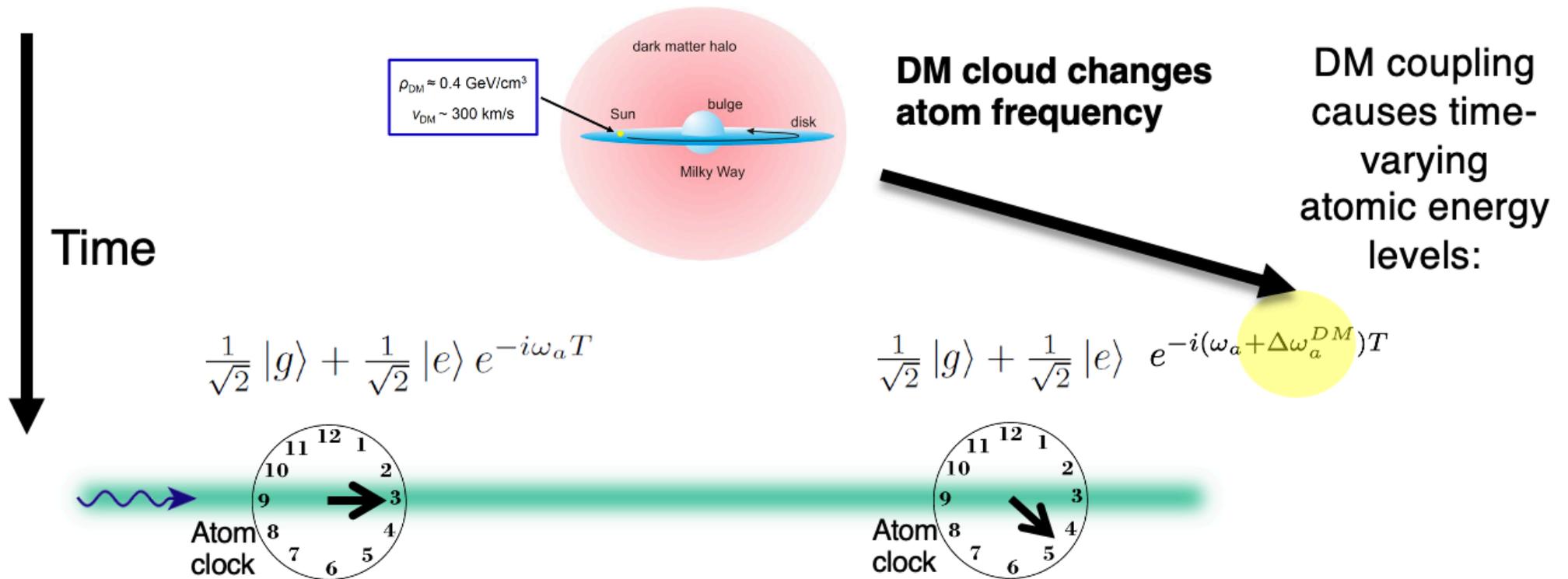
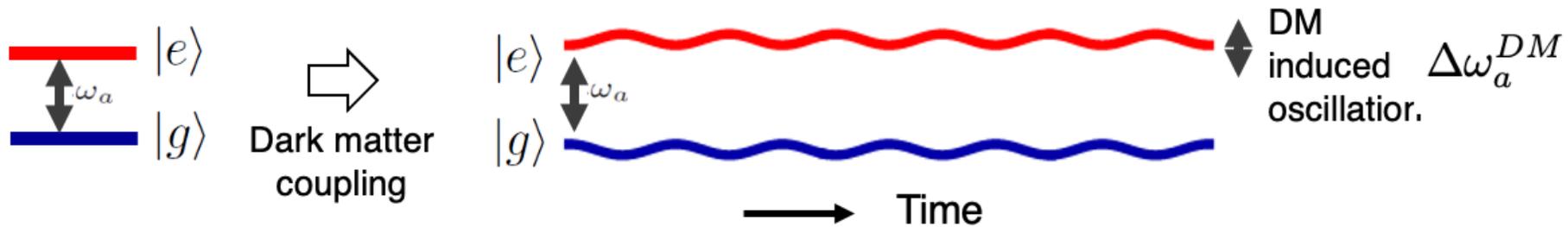
$\delta\phi$  : High flux, spin squeezing

Three contributions:

- Laser phase at each node
- Propagation phase along each path
- Separation phase at end of interferometer

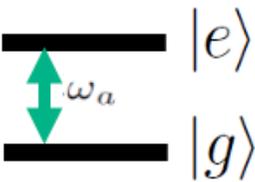
$$\Delta\phi_{\text{total}} = \Delta\phi_{\text{prop}} + \Delta\phi_{\text{laser}} + \Delta\phi_{\text{sep}}$$

# Effect of Dark Matter on Atom Interferometer



# Effect of Gravitational Wave on Atom Interferometer

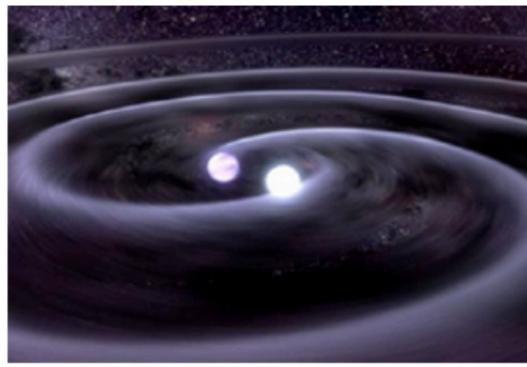
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |g\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |e\rangle$$



$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |g\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |e\rangle$$



Time

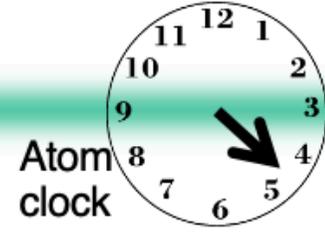
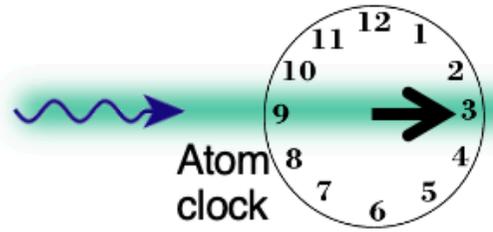
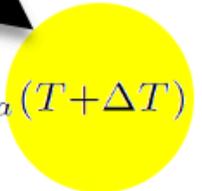


**GW changes  
light travel time**

$$\Delta T \sim hL/c$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |g\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |e\rangle e^{-i\omega_a T}$$

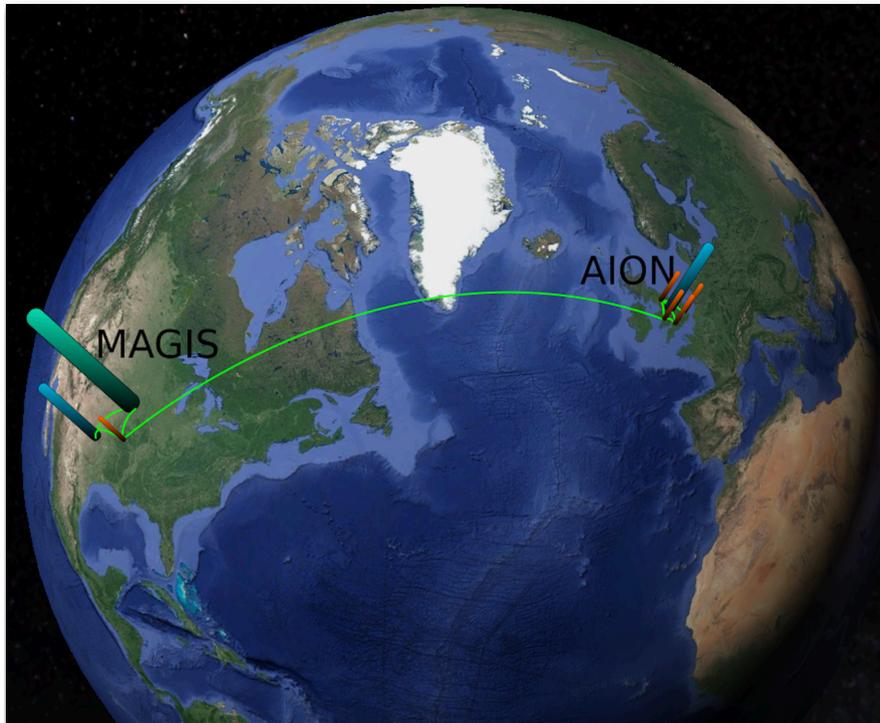
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |g\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |e\rangle e^{-i\omega_a (T+\Delta T)}$$



# AION Collaboration

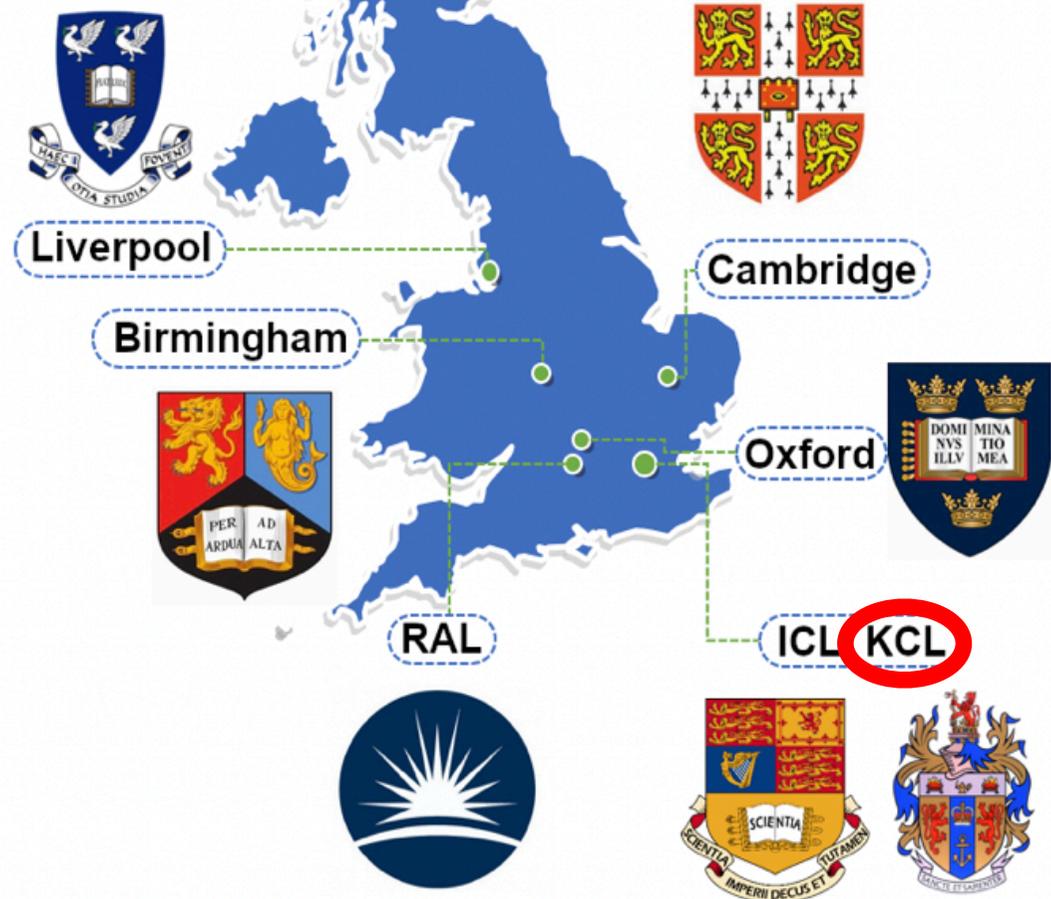
L. Badurina<sup>1</sup>, S. Balashov<sup>2</sup>, E. Bentine<sup>3</sup>, D. Blas<sup>1</sup>, J. Boehm<sup>2</sup>, K. Bongs<sup>6</sup>, A. Beniwel<sup>1</sup>,  
 D. Bortoletto<sup>6</sup>, J. Bowcock<sup>5</sup>, W. Bowden<sup>6,\*</sup>, C. Brew<sup>2</sup>, O. Buchmueller<sup>6</sup>, J. Coleman<sup>6</sup>, J. Carlton<sup>6</sup>,  
 G. Elert<sup>1</sup>, J. Ellis<sup>1,\*</sup>, C. Foot<sup>3</sup>, V. Gibson<sup>7</sup>, M. Haehnel<sup>7</sup>, T. Harte<sup>7</sup>, R. Hobson<sup>6,\*</sup>,  
 M. Holynski<sup>1</sup>, A. Khazov<sup>2</sup>, M. Langlois<sup>4</sup>, S. L'Abbate<sup>4</sup>, Y.H. Lien<sup>4</sup>, R. Maiolino<sup>7</sup>,  
 P. Majewski<sup>2</sup>, S. Malik<sup>6</sup>, J. March-Russell<sup>3</sup>, C. McCabe<sup>3</sup>, D. Newbold<sup>2</sup>, R. Preece<sup>3</sup>,  
 B. Sauer<sup>6</sup>, U. Schneider<sup>7</sup>, I. Shipsey<sup>3</sup>, Y. Singh<sup>1</sup>, M. Tarbutt<sup>6</sup>, M. A. Uchida<sup>7</sup>,  
 T. V-Salazar<sup>2</sup>, M. van der Grinten<sup>2</sup>, J. Vosseveld<sup>4</sup>, D. Weatherill<sup>3</sup>, I. Wilmut<sup>7</sup>,  
 J. Zielinska<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kings College London, <sup>2</sup>STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, <sup>3</sup>University of Oxford,  
<sup>4</sup>University of Birmingham, <sup>5</sup>University of Liverpool, <sup>6</sup>Imperial College London, <sup>7</sup>University  
 of Cambridge



Network with MAGIS project in US

MAGIS Collaboration (Abe et al): arXiv:2104.02835



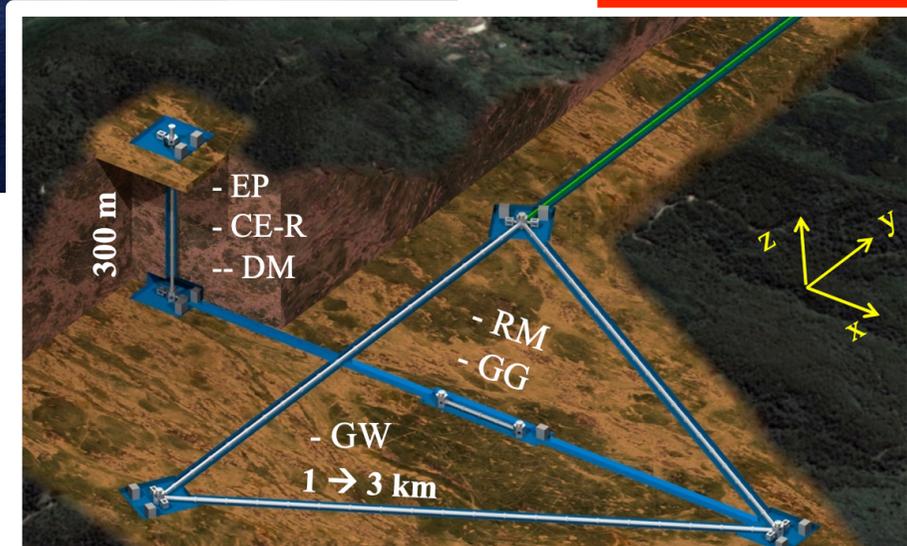
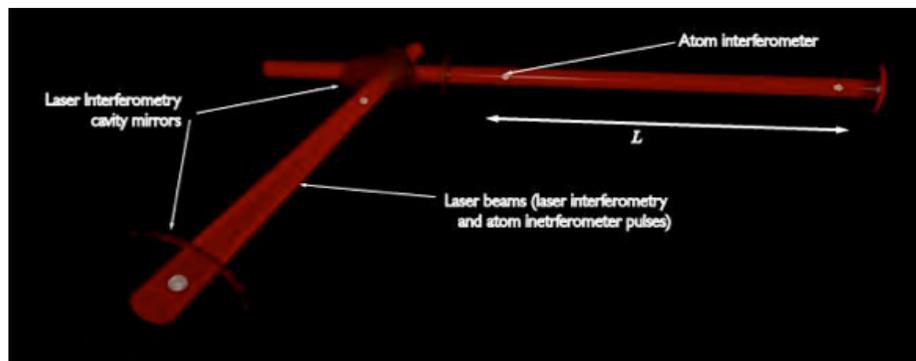
# Atom Interferometer Observatory & Network

Partnership with MAGIS could be extended



ZAIGA (China)

MIGA (France)



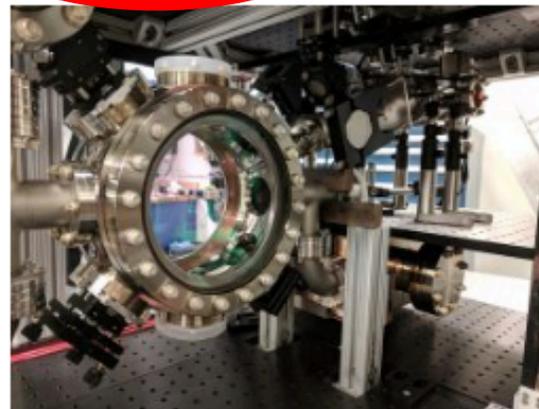


### Quantum Science Program

- Quantum computing for HEP >
- HEP technology for quantum computing >
- Quantum technology for HEP experiments v
- Axion dark matter detection
- Skipper CCDs for quantum imaging
- MAGIS-100**
- Quantum networking >
- Partners
- Fermilab QIS contacts and experts
- In the news

## MAGIS-100



Fermilab seeks to host MAGIS-100 — the 100-meter Matter-wave Gradiometer Interferometric Sensor — which will test quantum macroscopic scales of space and time.

The laboratory is developing a sensitive prototype detector that will precisely measure properties of the cosmos.

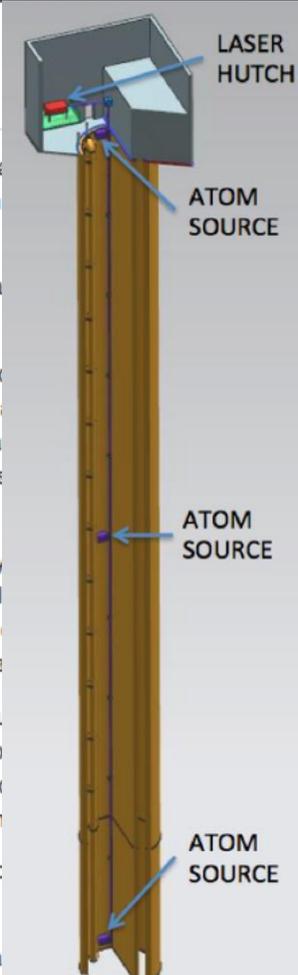
One of these is dark matter. Physicists have offered a number of models describing dark matter, a mysterious substance that makes up a quarter of the universe. Some of these models suggest that dark matter is made of ultralightweight particles. MAGIS-100 will be used to search for these particles, particularly those that predict varying atomic energy levels.

A longer-term goal for MAGIS-100 is to establish the sensitivity of this technique to gravitational waves in the frequency range around 1 hertz, where there are few existing or proposed detectors. Gravitational waves, predicted by Einstein a century ago but discovered for the first time only in 2015, are ripples in space-time caused by accelerating masses, such as stars and galaxies. MAGIS-100 creates atom matter waves in superposition separated by 100 meters.

The MAGIS-100 prototype would make use of an existing vertical shaft on the Fermilab site that leads to underground caverns. The detector will perform precision quantum measurements using clouds of ultracold falling atoms, whose phases can be manipulated using lasers, aiding in the test for lightweight dark matter particles. The length of the 100-meter drop expands the sensitivity of this technology by about a factor of 10 and provides opportunities for significant advances in the systematics of this important experiment.

MAGIS-100 combines the unique physical features of the Fermilab site with the laboratory expertise in vacuum and quantum optics.

**MAGIS Collaboration (Coleman et al): arXiv:1812.00482**



ol are pa

# AION – Staged Programme

- AION-10: Stage 1 [year 1 to 3]
  - 1 & 10 m Interferometers & site investigation for 100m baseline
- AION-100: Stage 2 [year 3 to 6]
  - 100m Construction & commissioning
- AION-KM: Stage 3 [> year 6]
  - Operating AION-100 and planning for 1 km & beyond
- AION-SPACE (AEDGE): Stage 4 [after AION-km]
  - Space-based version

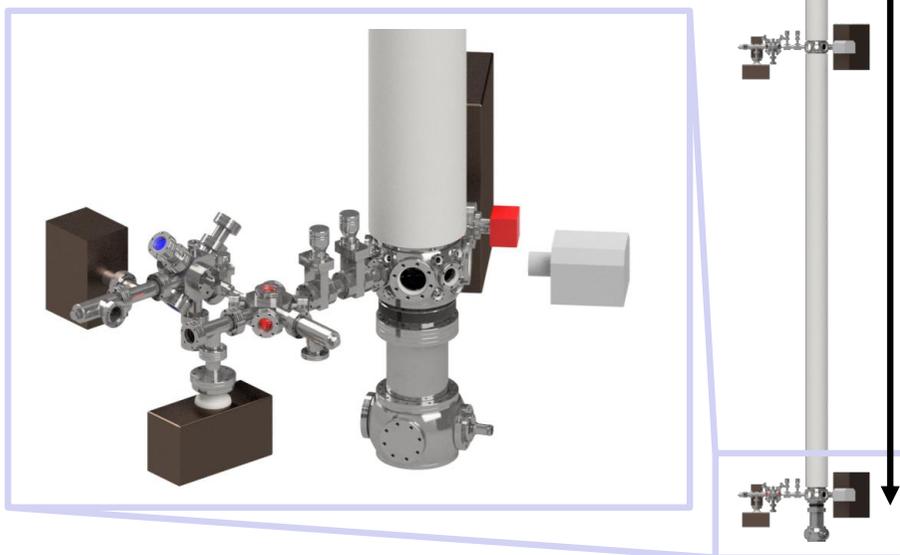
Initial funding from UK STFC

# Planned Location of AION-10m

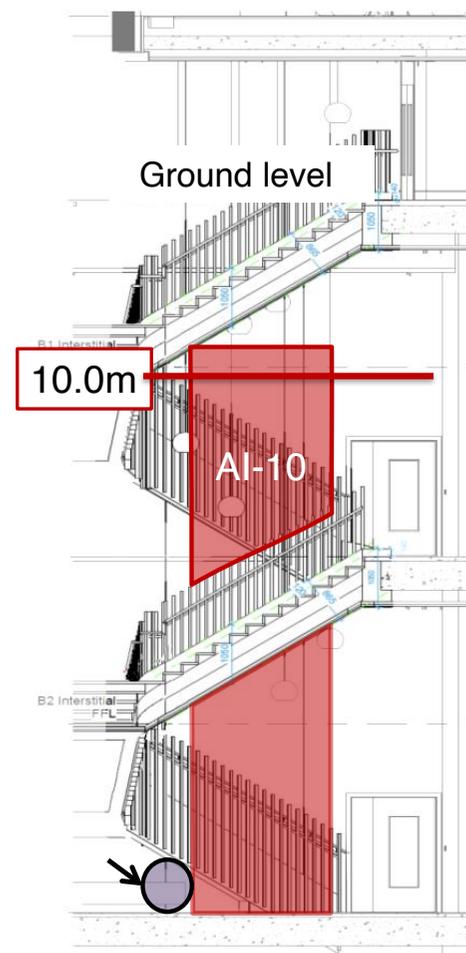
## AION-10 @ Beecroft building, Oxford Physics

AION Project: Physics Research Collaborative Accelerator Workshop

- New purpose-built building (£50M facility)
- AION-10 on basement level with 14.7m headroom (stable concrete construction)
- World-class infrastructure
- Experienced Project Manager:
- Engineering support from RAL (Oxfordshire)



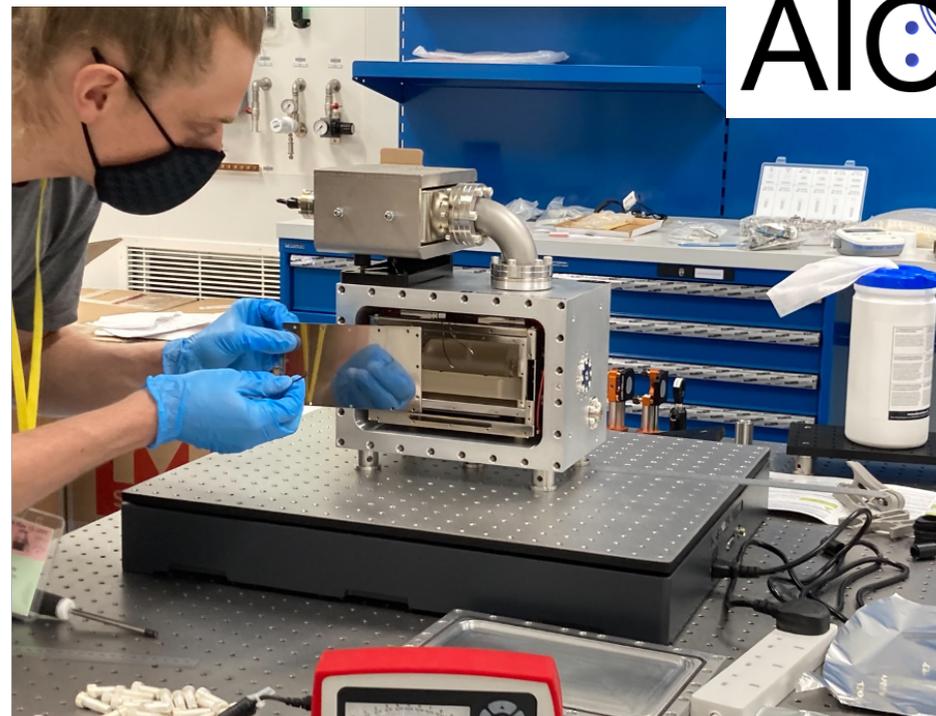
**Laser lab for AION**  
 vibration criterion, VC-G =  
 10nm@10Hz. Temperature  
 (22±0.1)° C



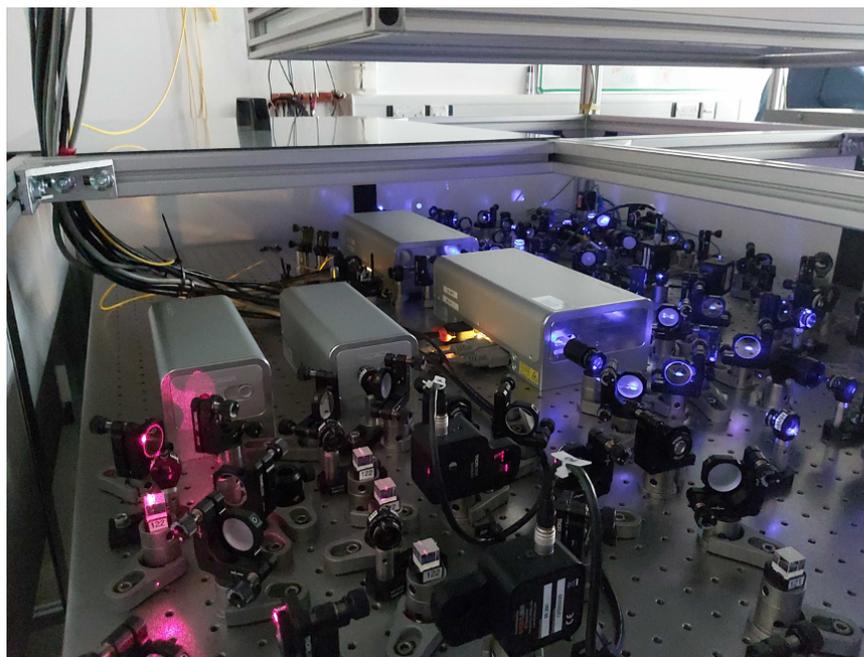
# Planned Location of AION-10m



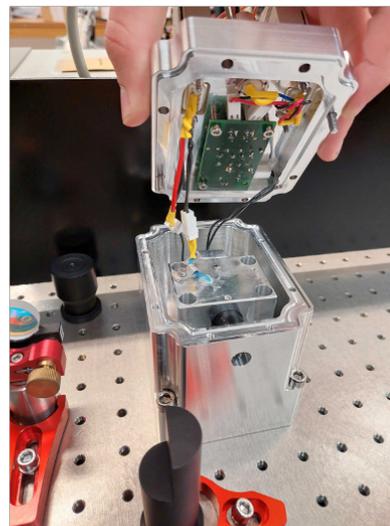
# Laboratory Equipment



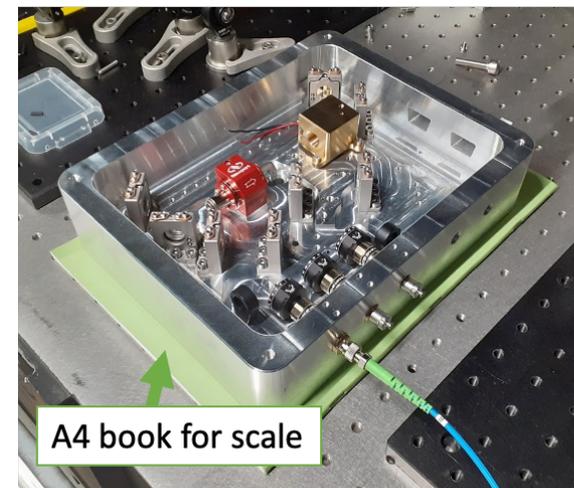
Imperial College London/Rutherford Appleton Laboratory  
(Dr Richard Hobson)



University of Birmingham

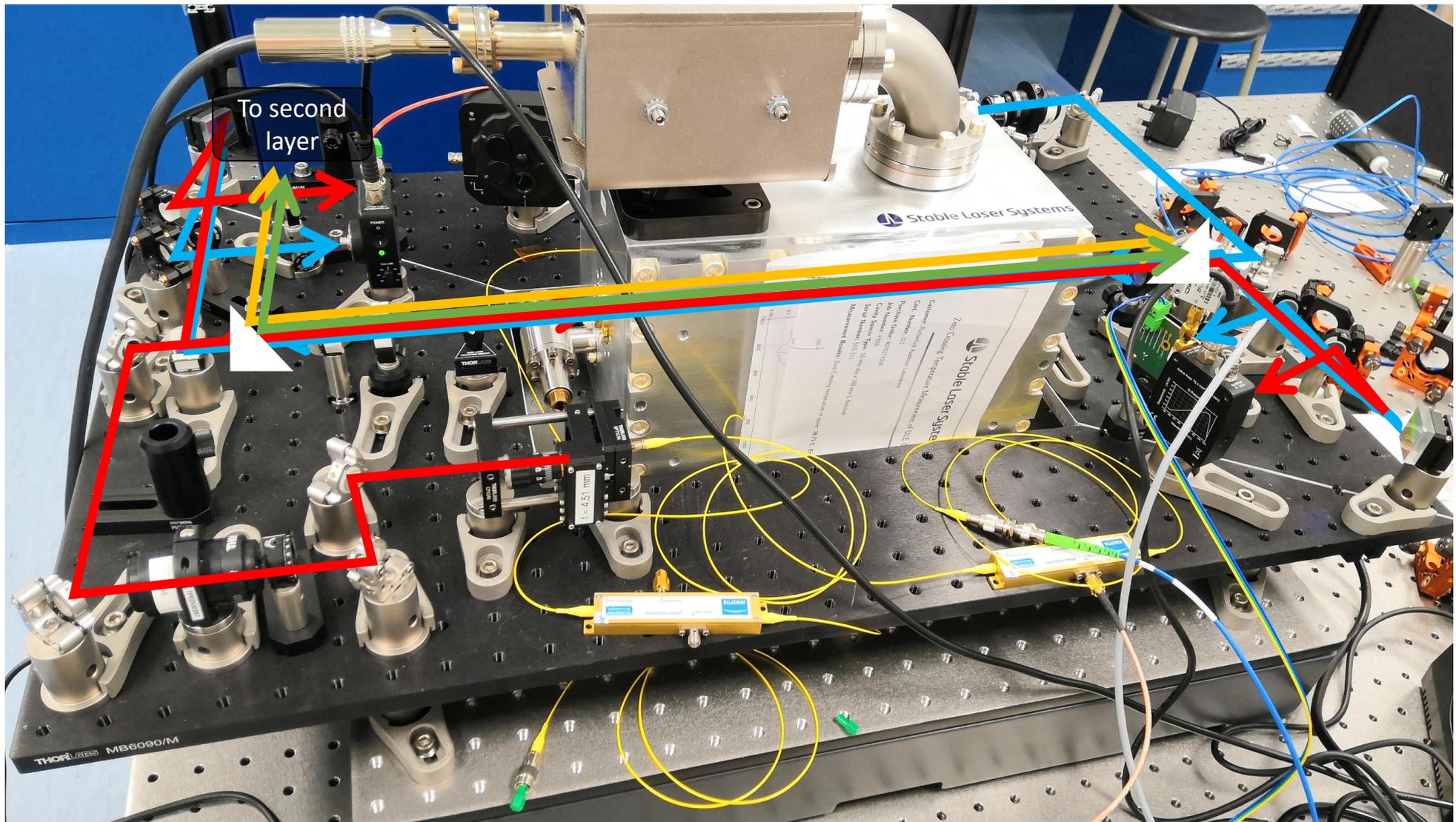


University of Cambridge



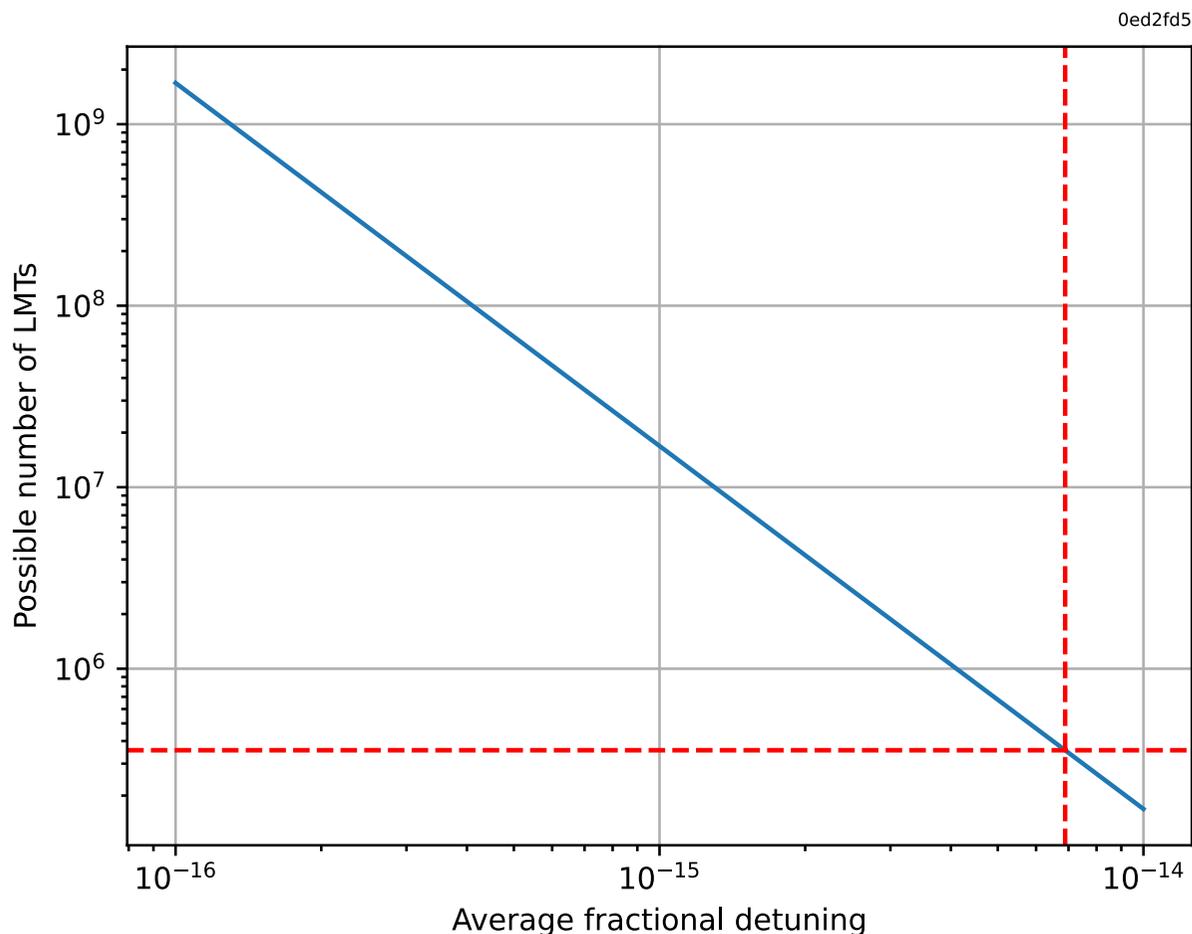
University of Oxford

# Laser Stabilisation



# Laser Stabilisation

How useful is  $7 \times 10^{-15}$  ?



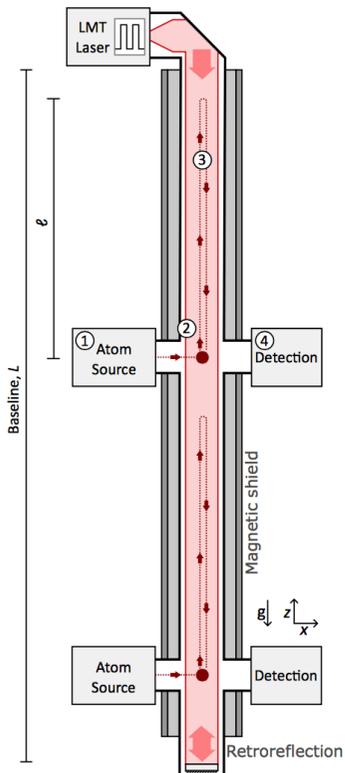
- Plot shows the possible number of LMTs assuming
  - A Rabi frequency of 8 kHz
  - A desired contrast of 90%
  - That the laser is detuned throughout the atoms' flight by the amount shown

- At a 3 Hz linewidth, that's  $n_{max} = 350\,000$

**Exceeds science objective  
by large margin**

# AION Design Parameters

**Table 1.** List of basic parameters: length of the detector  $L$ ; interrogation time of the atom interferometer  $T_{int}$ ; phase noise  $\delta\phi_{noise}$ ; and number of momentum transfers  $LMT$ . The choices of these parameters largely determine the sensitivities of the projection scenarios. It should be noted that at a 100m detector it will be conceptually possible to increase the interrogation time of the atom interferometer beyond 1.4 sec.



Sensitivity Scenario	$L$ [m]	$T_{int}$ [sec]	$\delta\phi_{noise}$ [ $1/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ ]	LMT [number $n$ ]
AION-10 (initial)	10	1.4	$10^{-3}$	100
AION-10 (goal)	10	1.4	$10^{-4}$	1000
AION-100 (initial)	100	1.4	$10^{-4}$	1000
AION-100 (goal)	100	1.4	$10^{-5}$	40000
AION-km	2000	5	$0.3 \times 10^{-5}$	40000

Initial targets and final goals

AION Collaboration (Badurina, ..., JE et al): arXiv:1911.11755

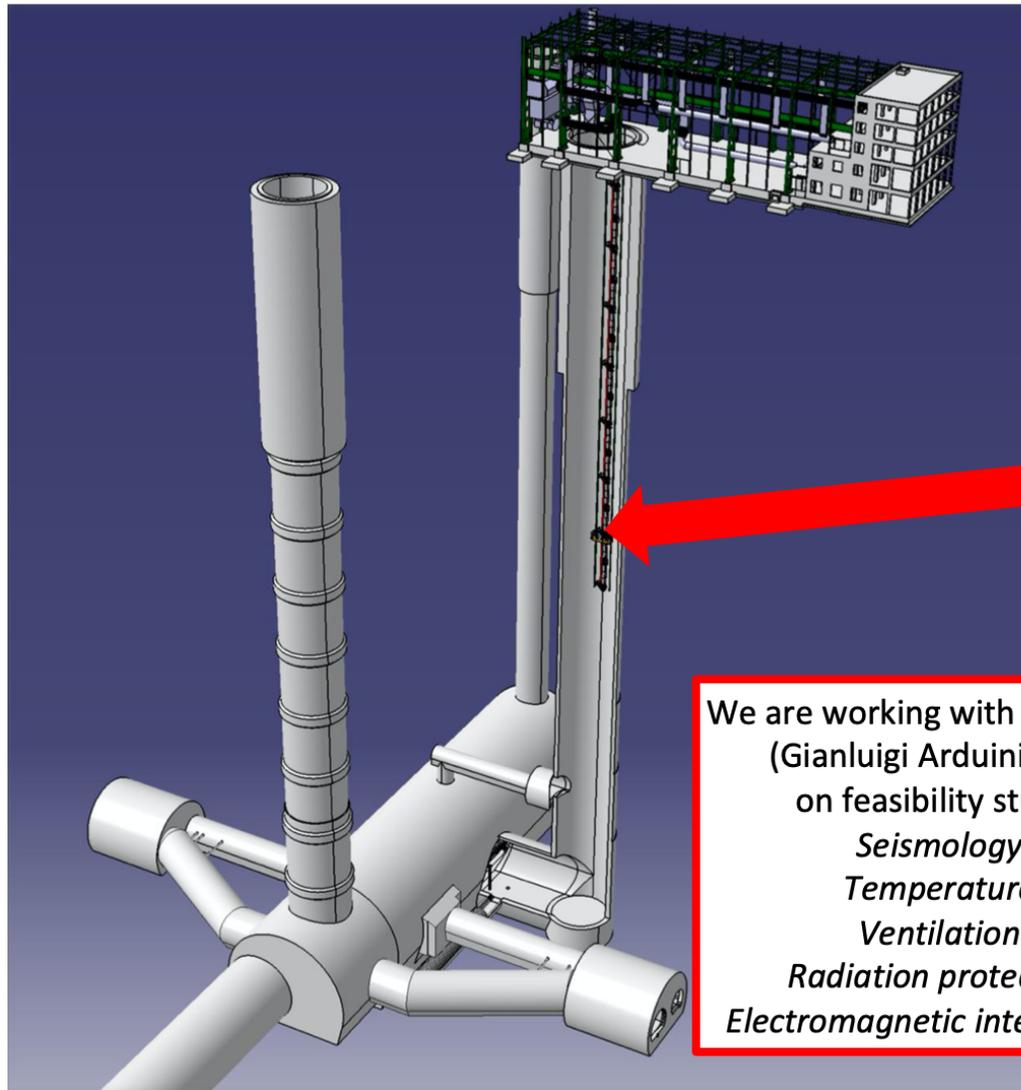
# Possible Site for AION 100m (1km?) Boulby Mine STFC Laboratory



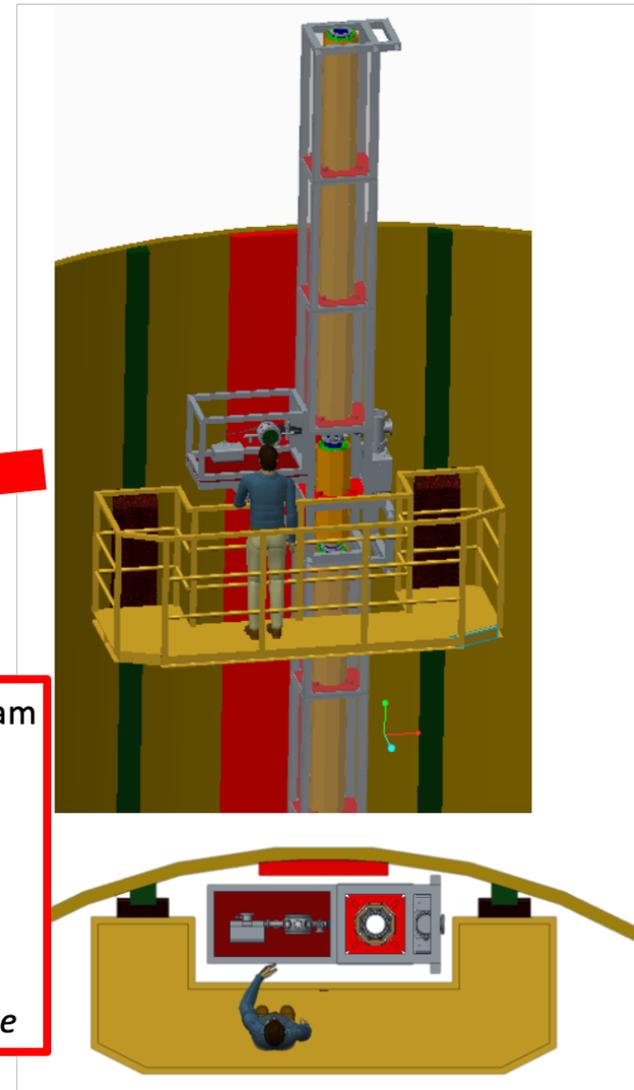
# Possible CERN Location of AION-100m

General view of LHC Point 4

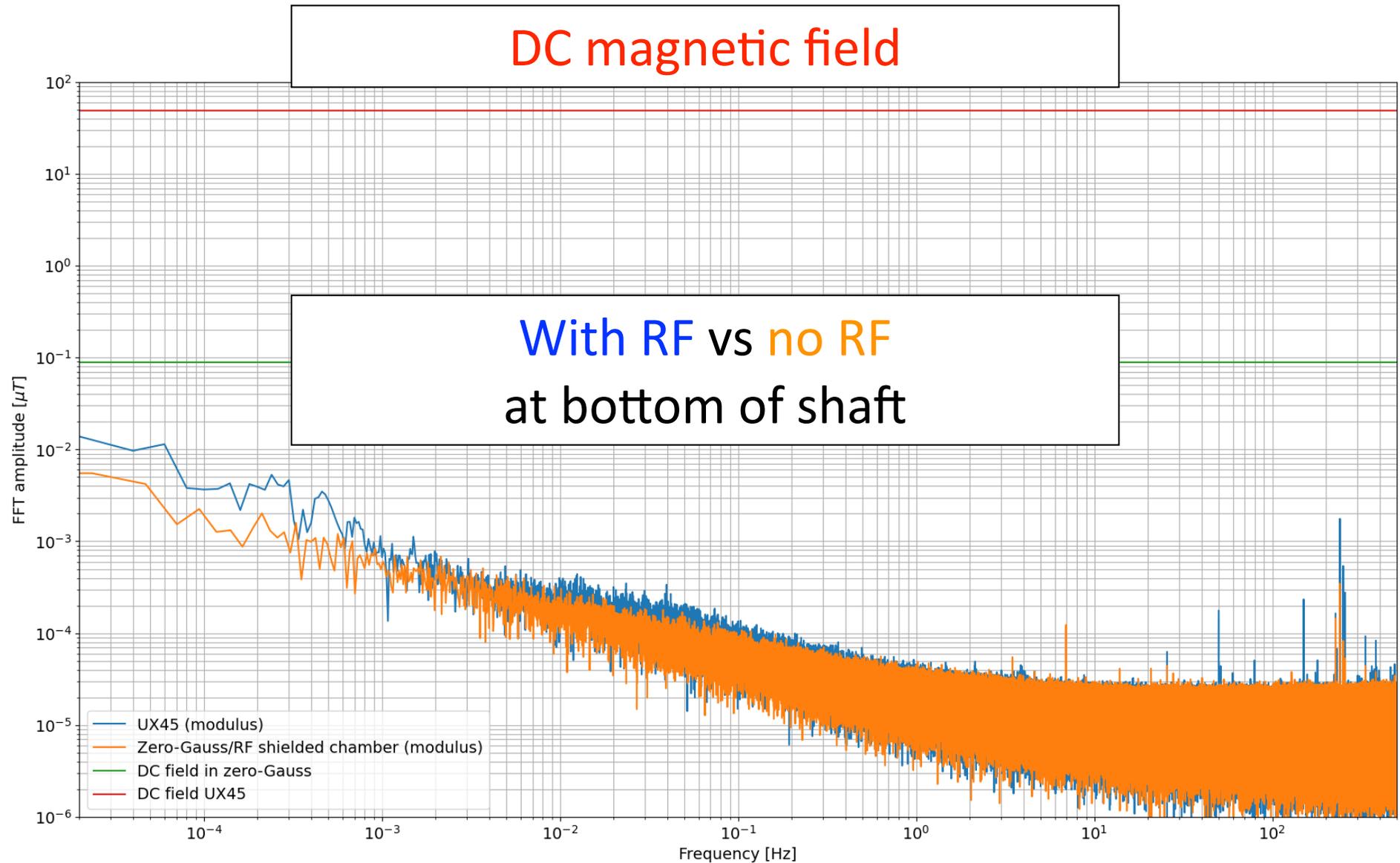
Possible layout in PX46 shaft



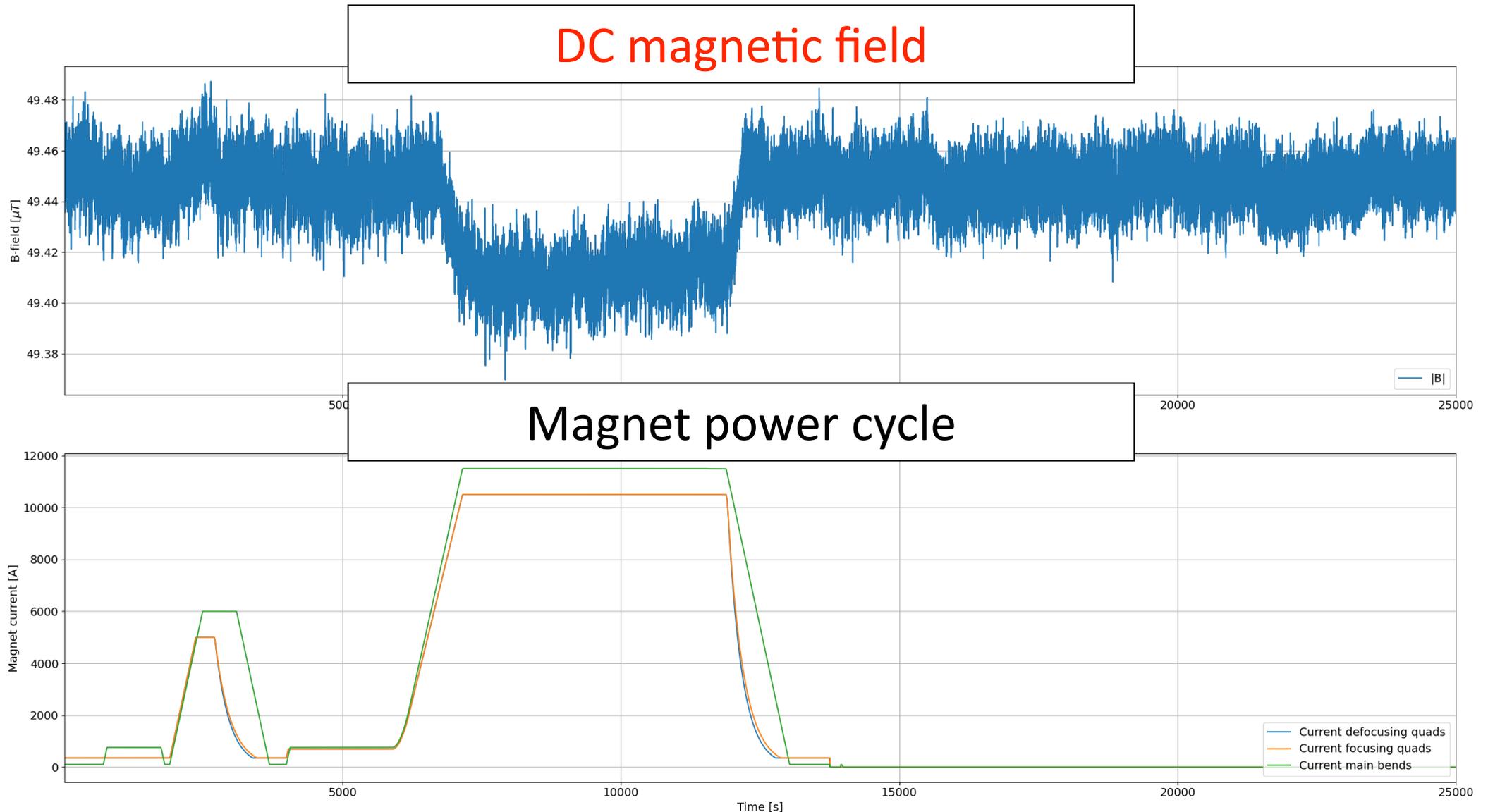
We are working with PBC Team  
(Gianluigi Arduini et al)  
on feasibility study:  
*Seismology*  
*Temperature*  
*Ventilation*  
*Radiation protection*  
*Electromagnetic interference*



# Electromagnetic Studies for AION-100 at CERN



# Electromagnetic Studies for AION-100 at CERN



Richard Hobson “Change in magnetic field can easily be compensated”

# AION Phenomenology Team

The team at KCL:



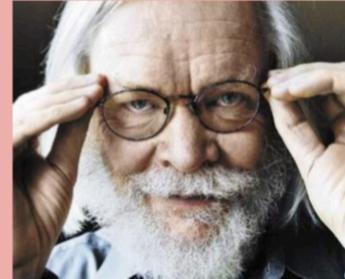
Leonardo  
Badurina



Ankit  
Beniwal



John  
Carlton



John  
Ellis



Chris  
McCabe

and elsewhere:



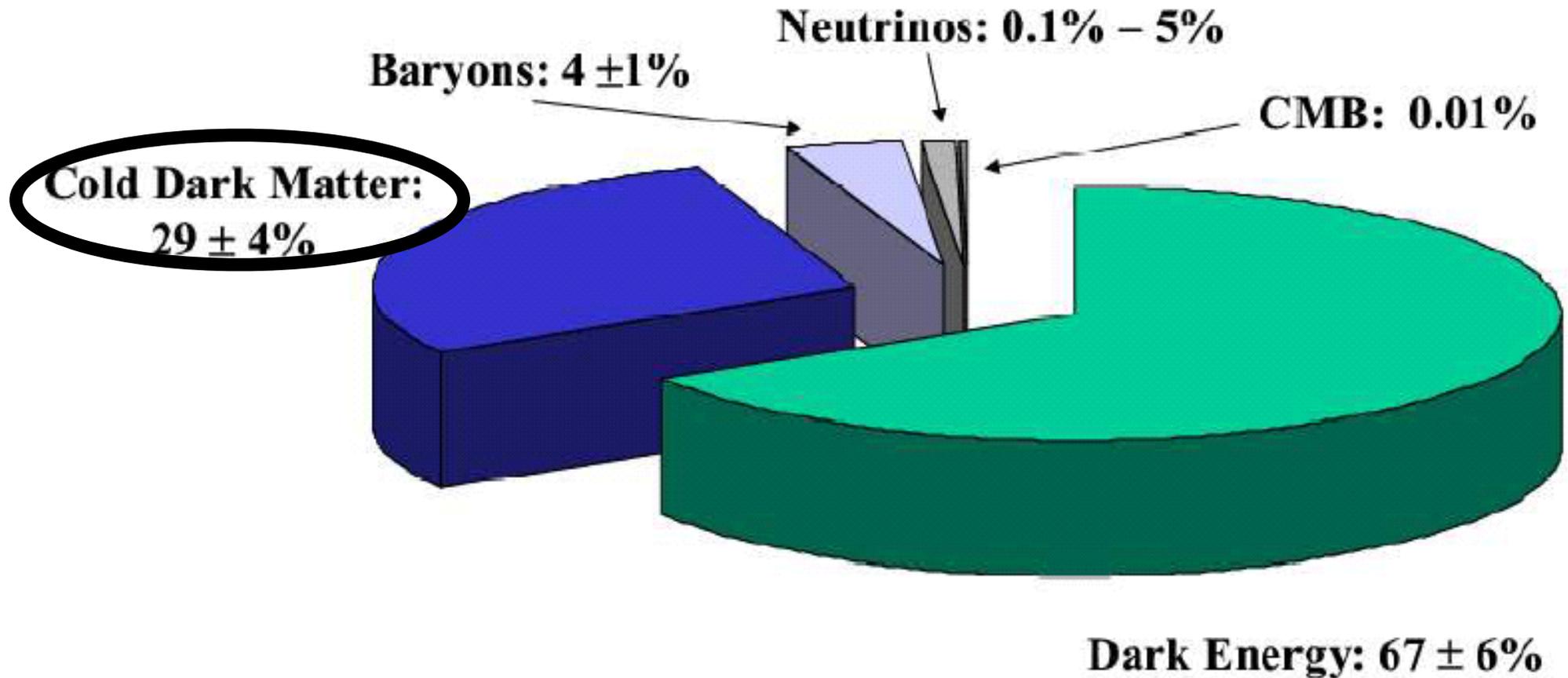
Jeremiah Mitchell  
University of Cambridge



Diego Blas  
UAB (Barcelona)

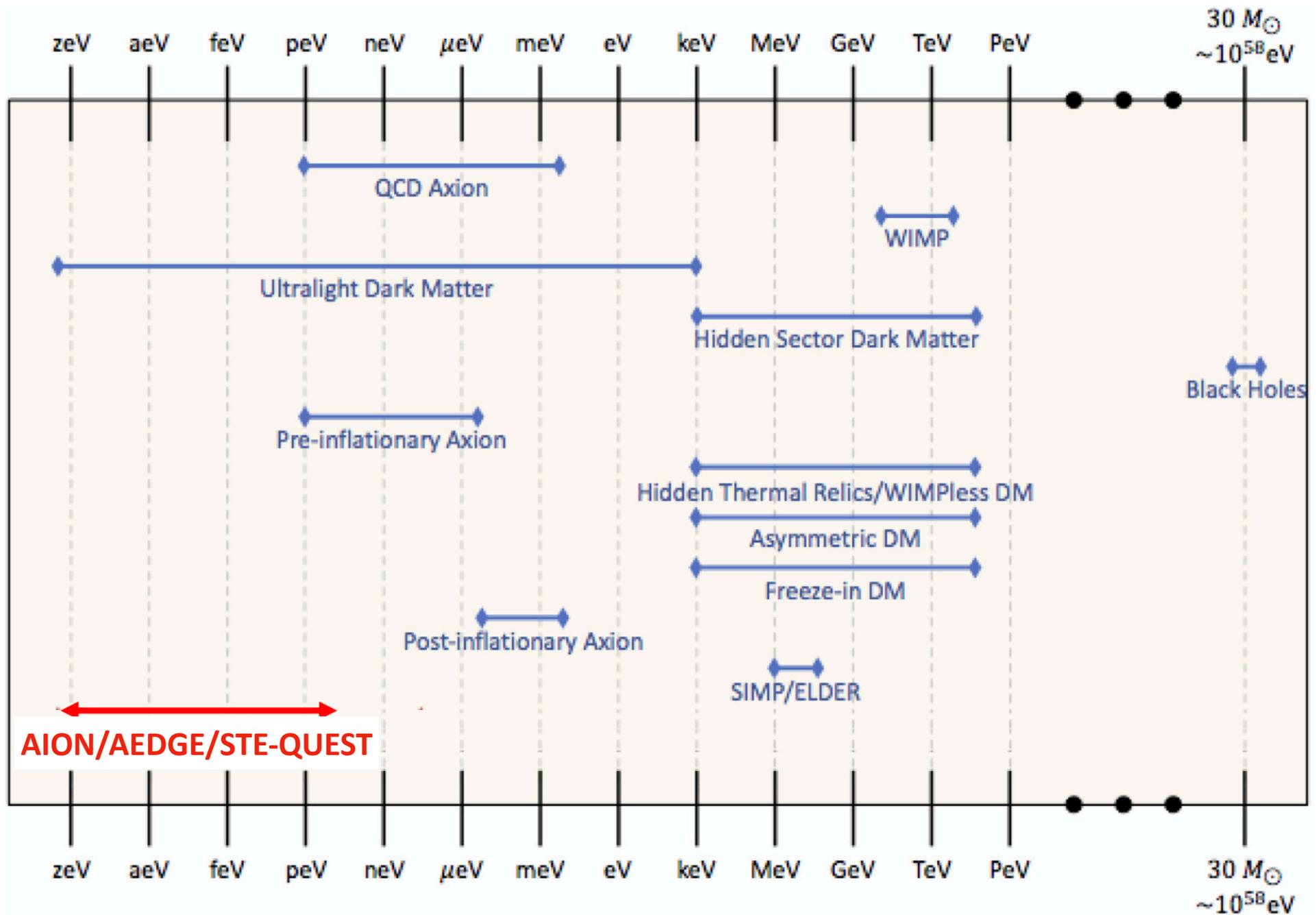
+ ...

# Strange Recipe for a Universe



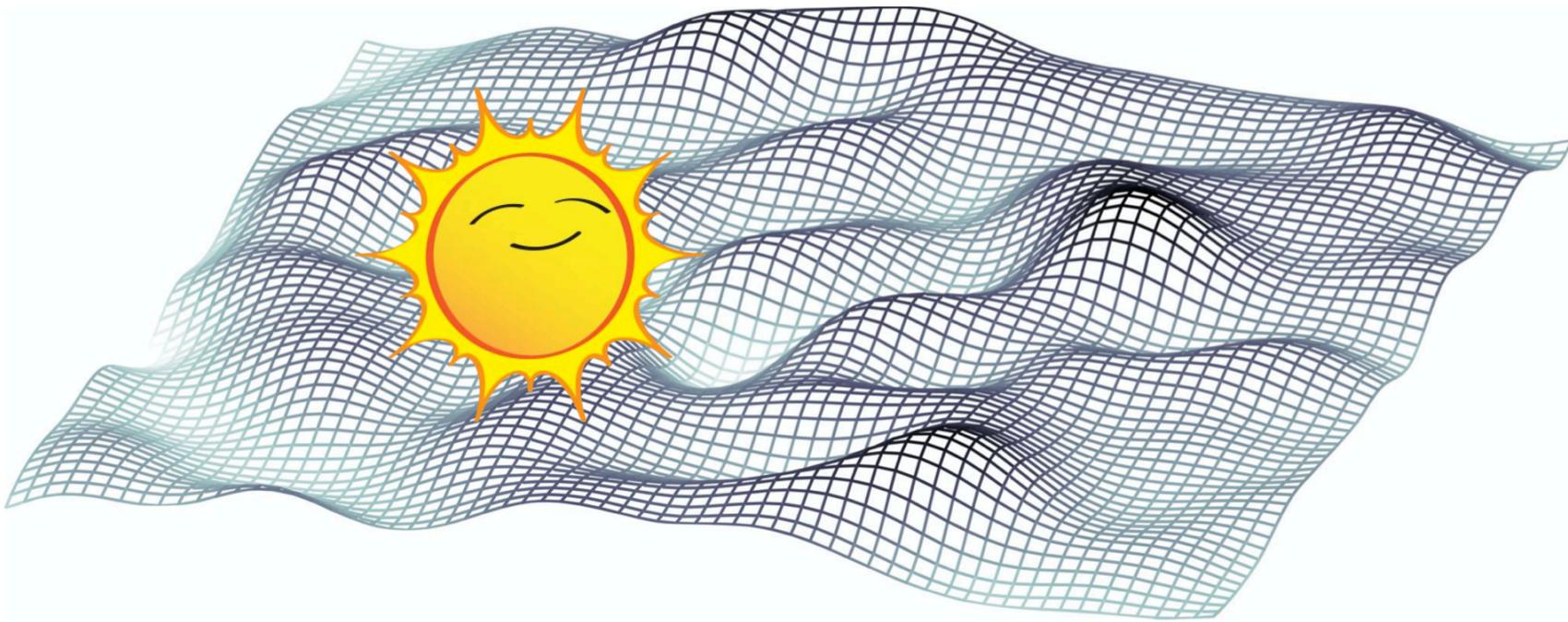
The 'Standard Model' of the Universe  
indicated by astrophysics and cosmology

# Search for Ultralight Dark Matter



# Ultralight Dark Matter

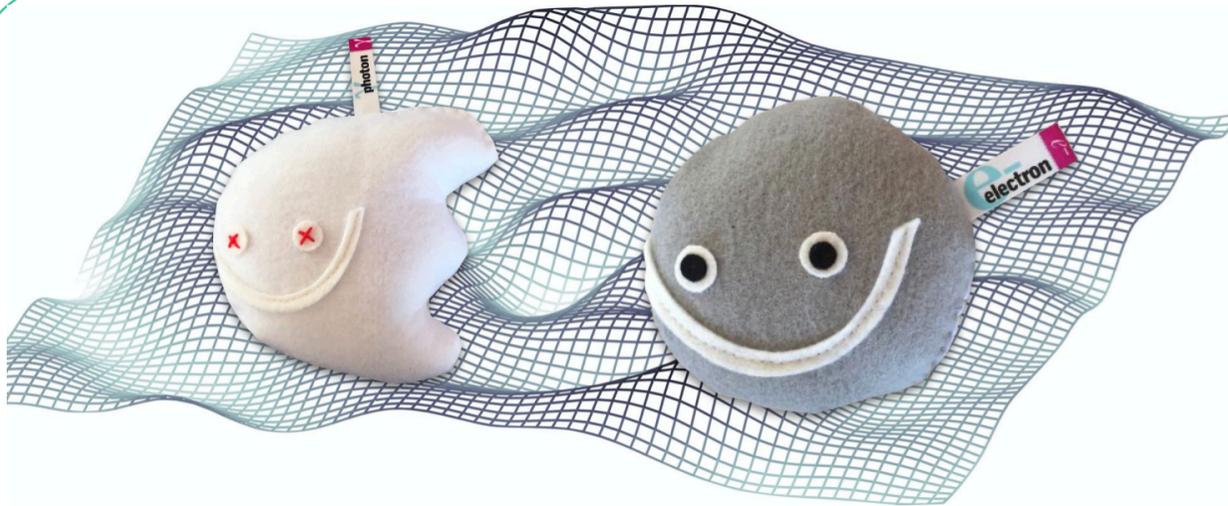
A scalar ULDM  $\phi(\mathbf{x}, t)$  field would be present throughout the Solar System



The wavelength depends on the ULDM mass:  $\lambda \sim 10^8 \text{ km} \left( \frac{10^{-15} \text{ eV}}{m_\phi} \right)$

# Ultralight Dark Matter

Interactions with the ULDM field lead to oscillations in fundamental ‘constants’



*Time-dependent electron mass:*

$$m_e(t, \mathbf{x}) = m_e \left[ 1 + \frac{d_{m_e}}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) \right]$$

*Time-dependent electromagnetic fine structure constant:*

$$\alpha(t, \mathbf{x}) = \alpha \left[ 1 + \frac{d_e}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \phi(t, \mathbf{x}) \right]$$

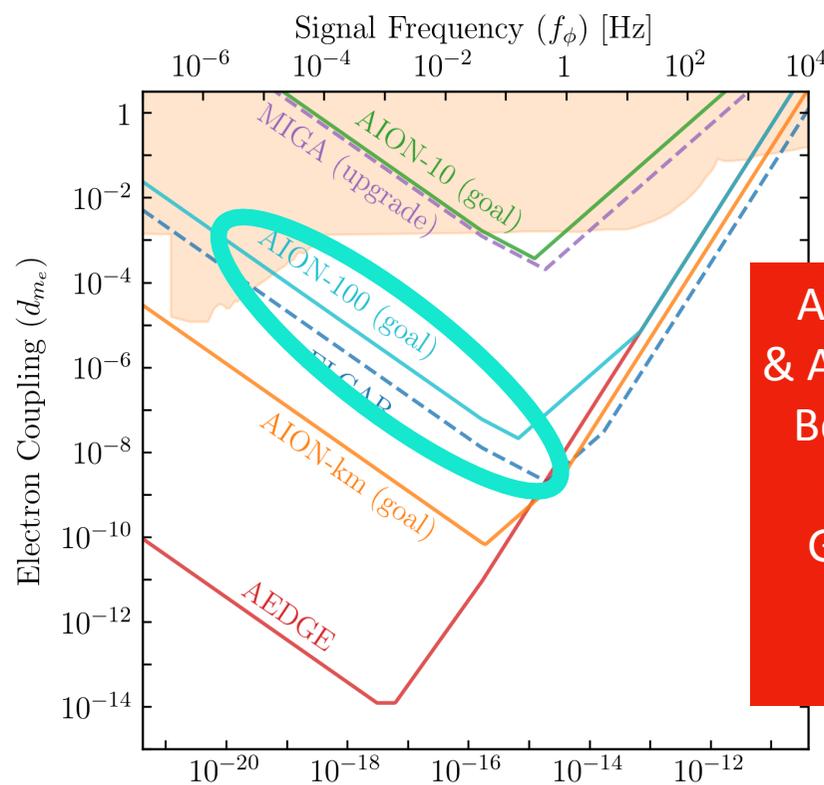
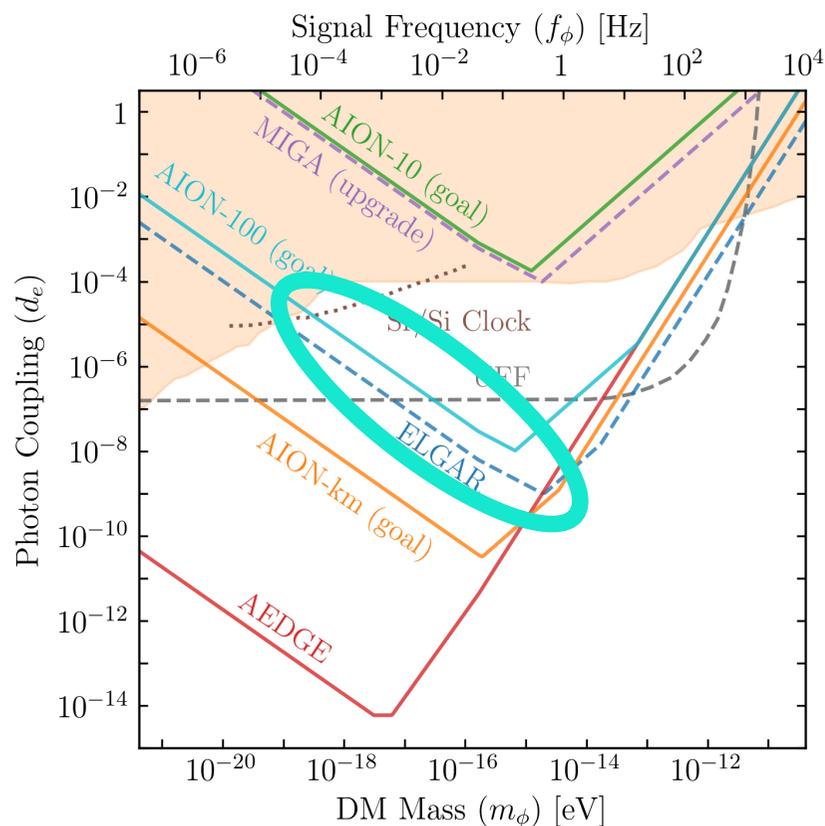
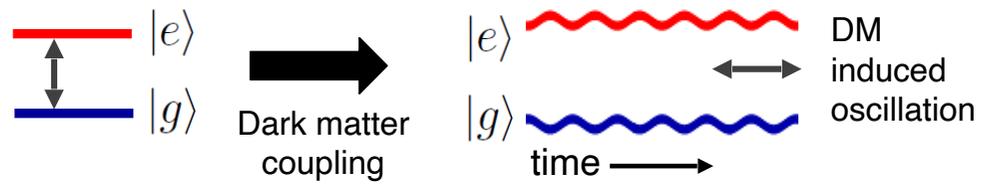
*Tiny oscillations induced in transition energies:*

$$\frac{\delta\omega_{\text{Sr}}}{\omega_{\text{Sr}}} = \frac{\sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}}{m_{\text{DM}}} \frac{(d_{m_e} + \xi d_e)}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \cos(m_{\text{DM}}t)$$

# Searches for Ultralight Dark Matter

Linear couplings to gauge fields and matter fermions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}\phi} = \kappa\phi \left[ +\frac{d_e}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{d_g\beta_3}{2g_3} F_{\mu\nu}^A F^{A\mu\nu} - \sum_{i=e,u,d} (d_{m_i} + \gamma_{m_i} d_g) m_i \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \right]$$



AION-100  
& AION-1km:  
Beware of  
Gravity  
Gradient  
Noise  
(GGN)

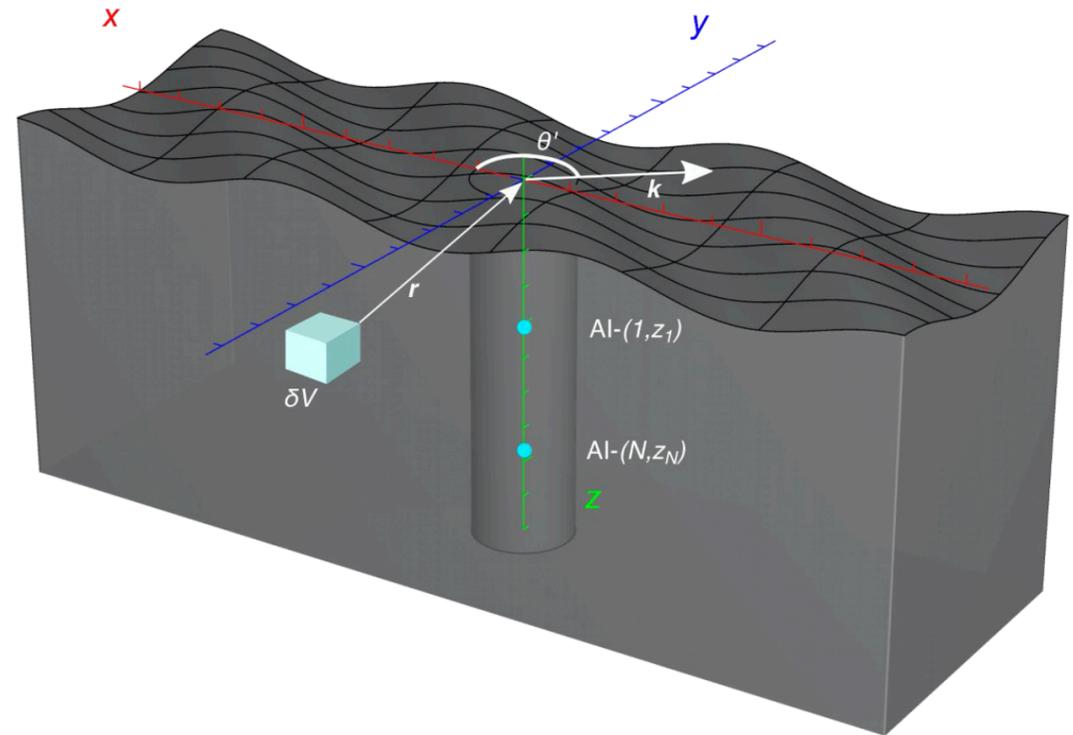
# Gravity Gradient Noise

Seismic waves on the surface (Rayleigh waves) change the gravitational field experienced by the atoms and lead to a phase shift

$$\Phi_{\text{Rayleigh}} = \left( \tilde{A}e^{-qkz_0} + \tilde{B}e^{-kz_0} \right) \xi_V \cos(\omega T + \Theta)$$

$$\tilde{A}, -\tilde{B} \propto \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\omega T}{2}\right)^2}{\omega^2}$$

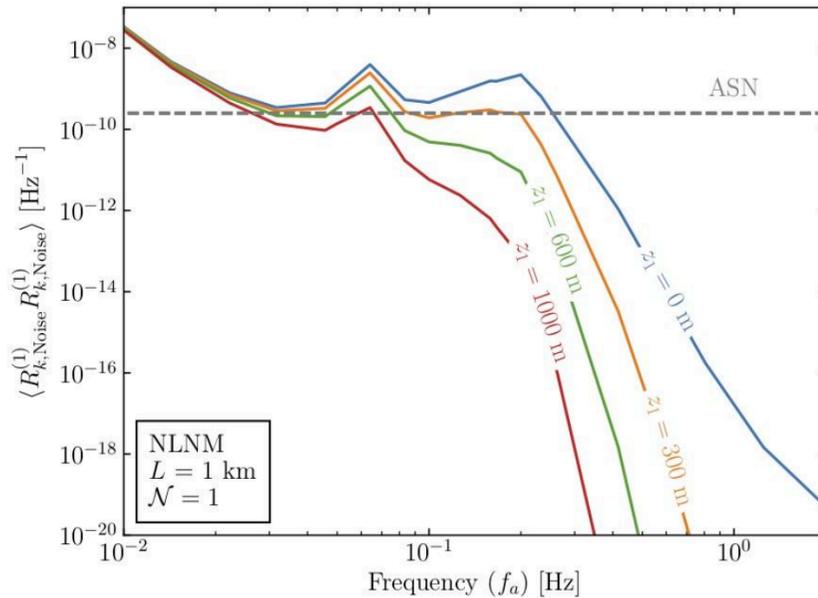
**We consider the simplest scenario:  
Isotropic sourcing around the shaft,  
single geological stratum present  
(so only the fundamental Rayleigh mode)**



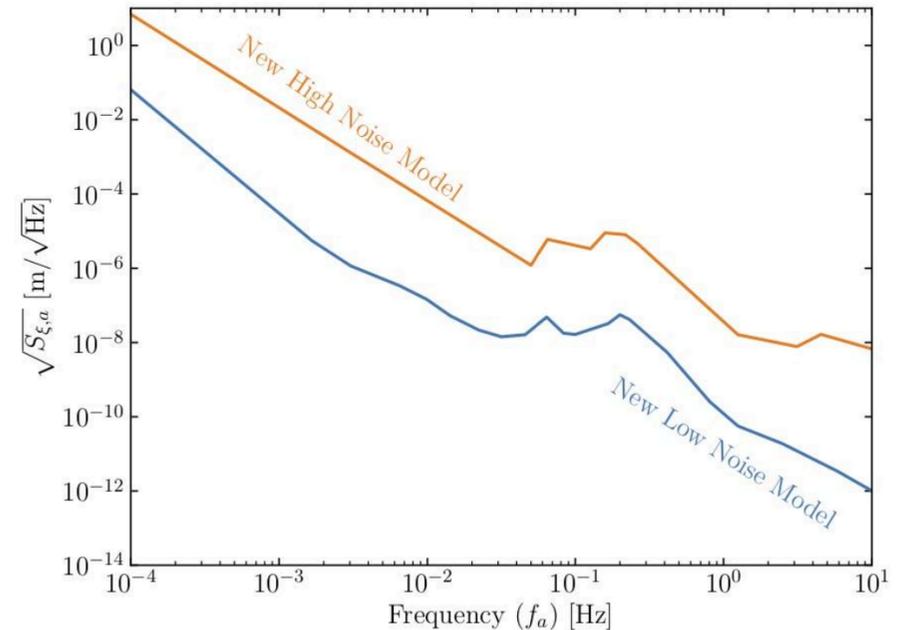
# Gravity Gradient Noise

$$\Phi_{\text{Rayleigh}} = \left( \tilde{A}e^{-qkz_0} + \tilde{B}e^{-kz_0} \right) \xi_V \cos(\omega T + \Theta)$$

Exponential suppression and frequency dependence



Vertical displacement (Rayleigh distributed)

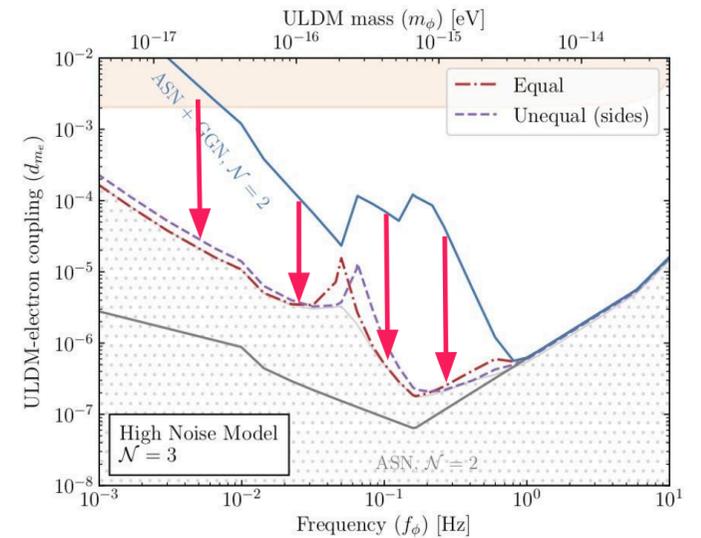
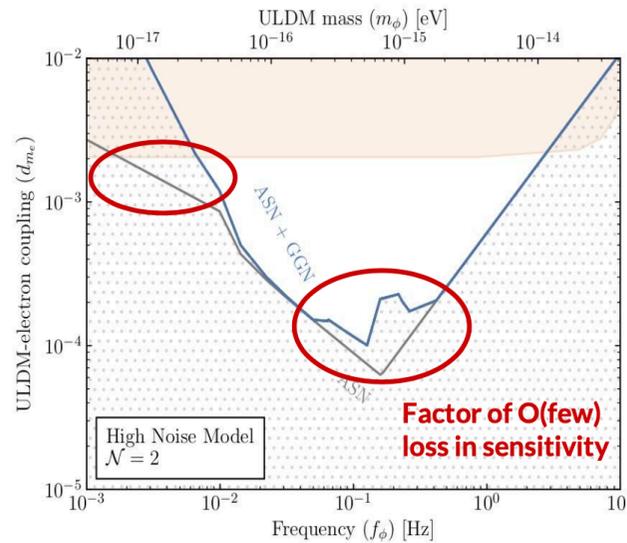
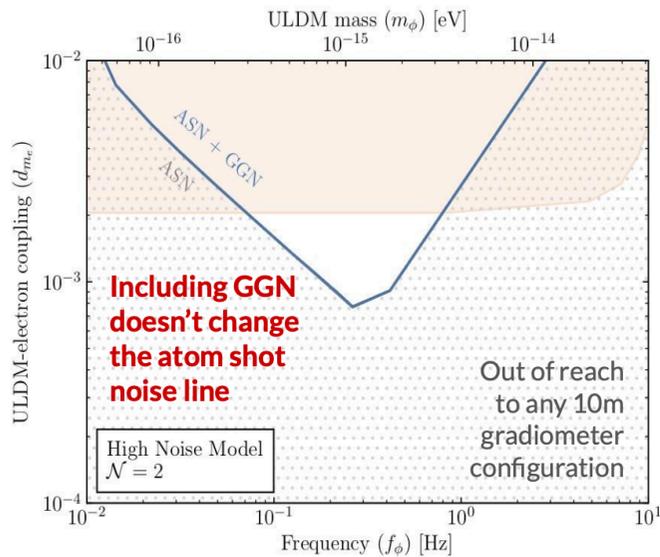


# Gravity Gradient Noise

Unimportant  
for AION-10

Not large  
for AION-100

Important  
for AION-1km



AION-100 & AION-1km: Beware of Gravity Gradient Noise (GGN)

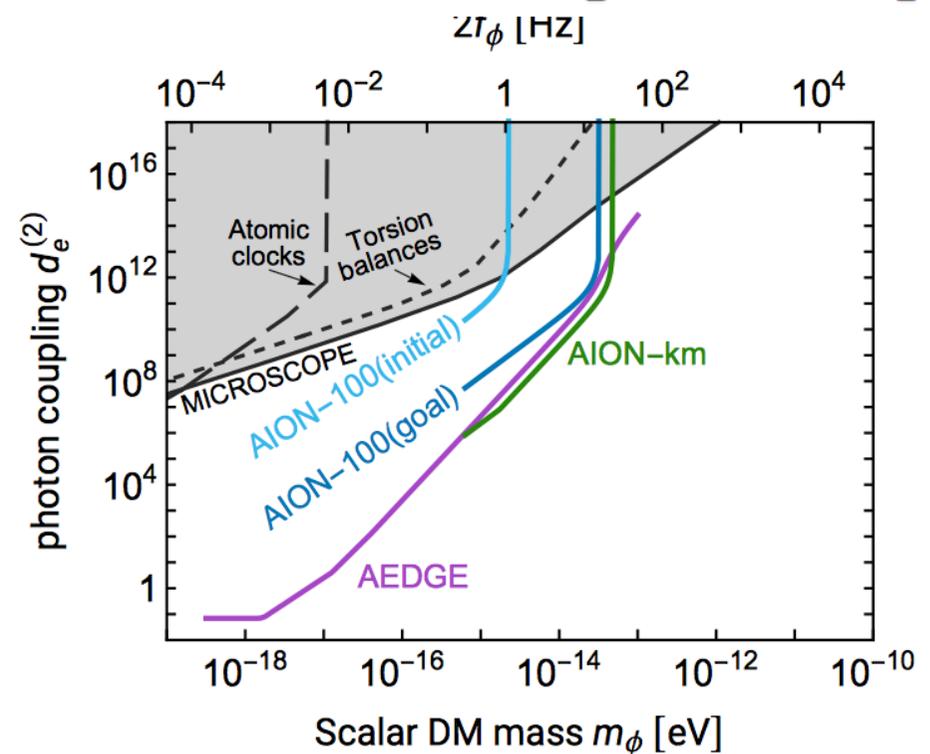
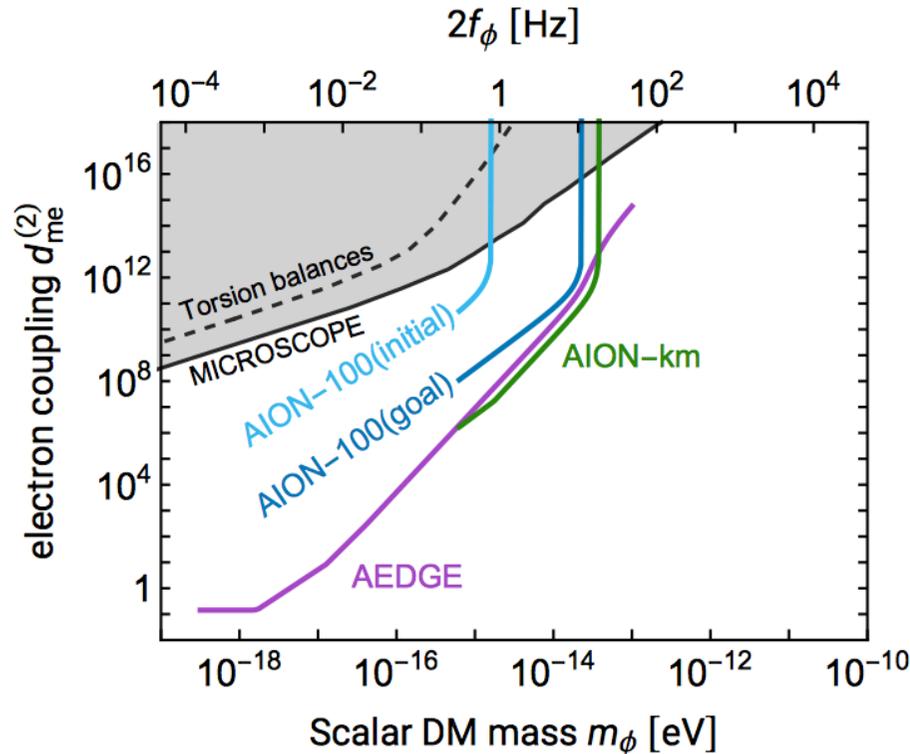
# Sensitivities to Quadratic DM Interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^f = - \sum_{f=e,p,n} m_f \left( \frac{\phi c}{\Lambda'_f} \right)^2 \bar{f} f,$$

$$m_f \rightarrow m_f \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\phi}{\Lambda'_f} \right)^2 \right],$$

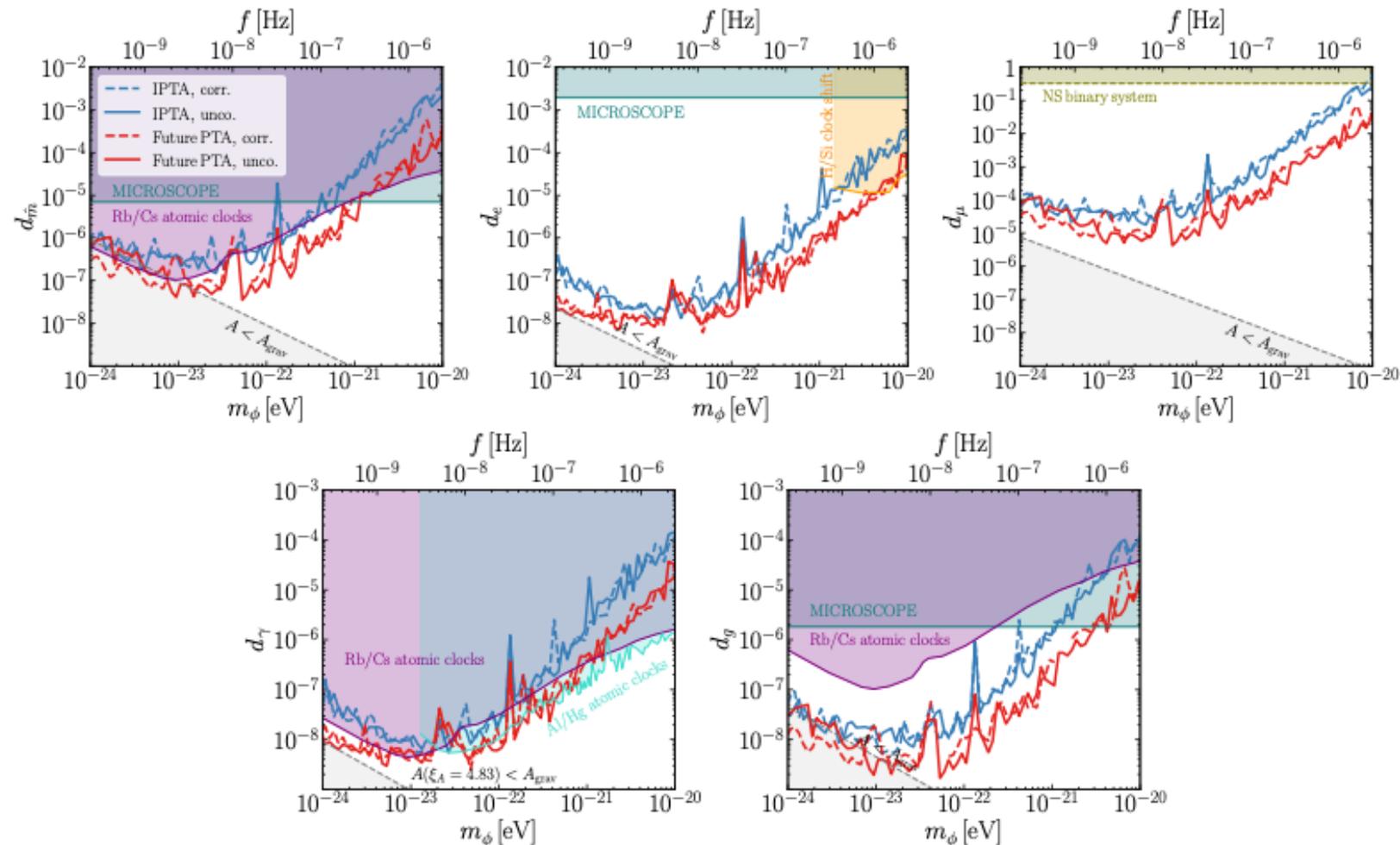
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^\gamma = \left( \frac{\phi}{\Lambda'_\gamma} \right)^2 \frac{F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}}{4}$$

$$\alpha \rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{1 - (\phi/\Lambda'_\gamma)^2} \simeq \alpha \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\phi}{\Lambda'_\gamma} \right)^2 \right]$$



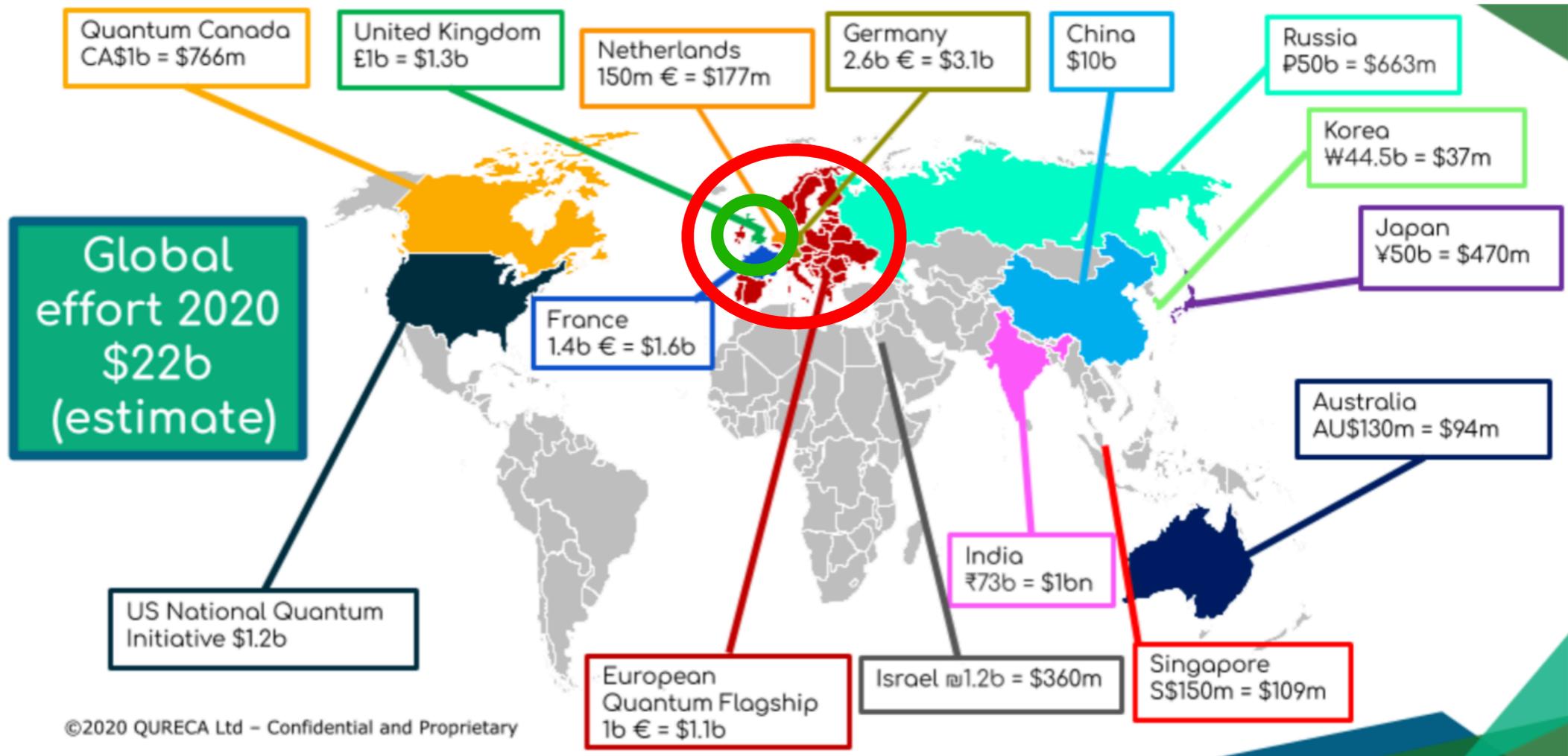
# Constraints from Pulsar Timing Arrays

Couplings can modify pulsar properties



Becomes relevant for lower masses

# Quantum Science & Technology Programmes

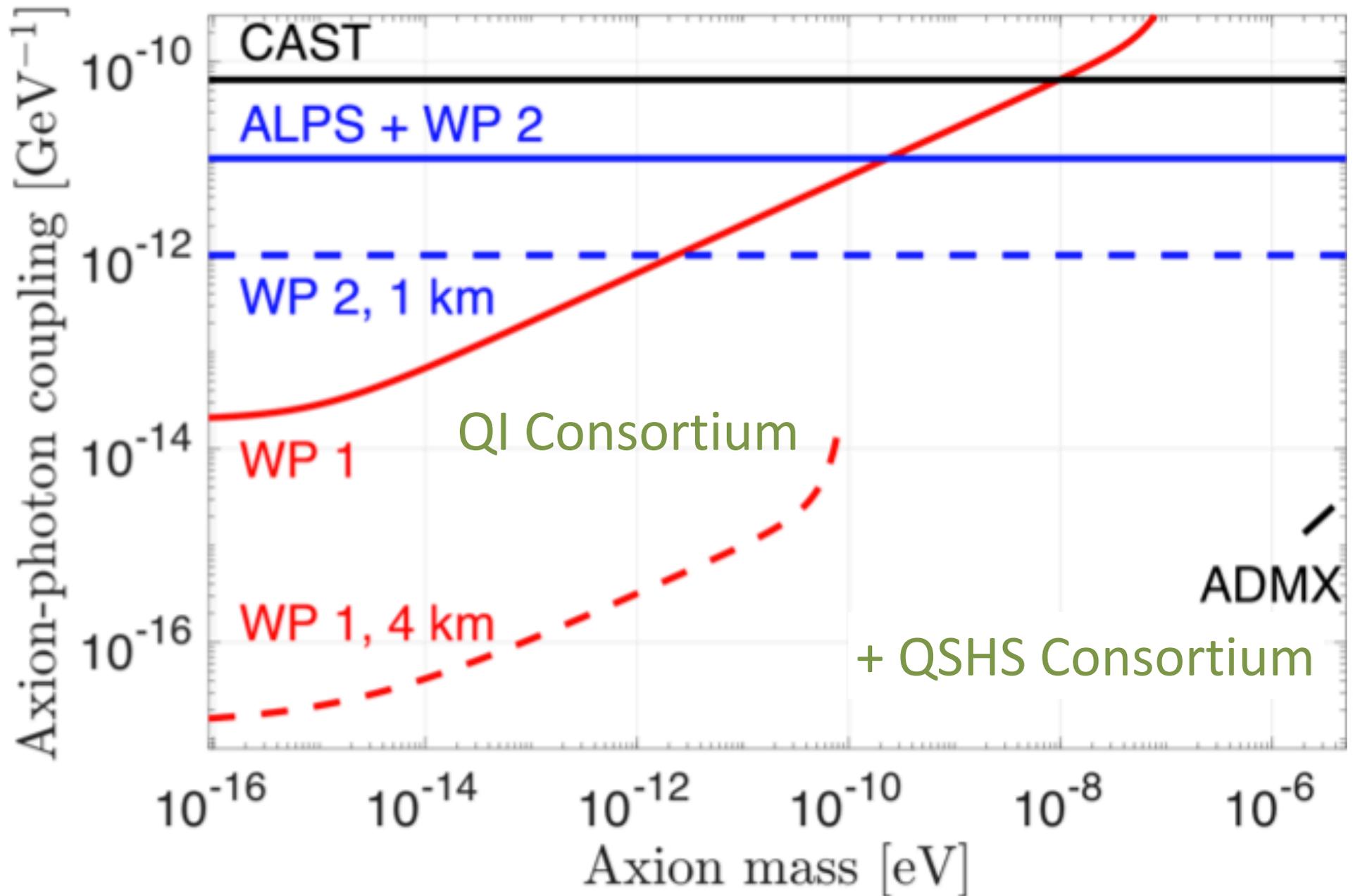


# UK National Quantum Technology Programme

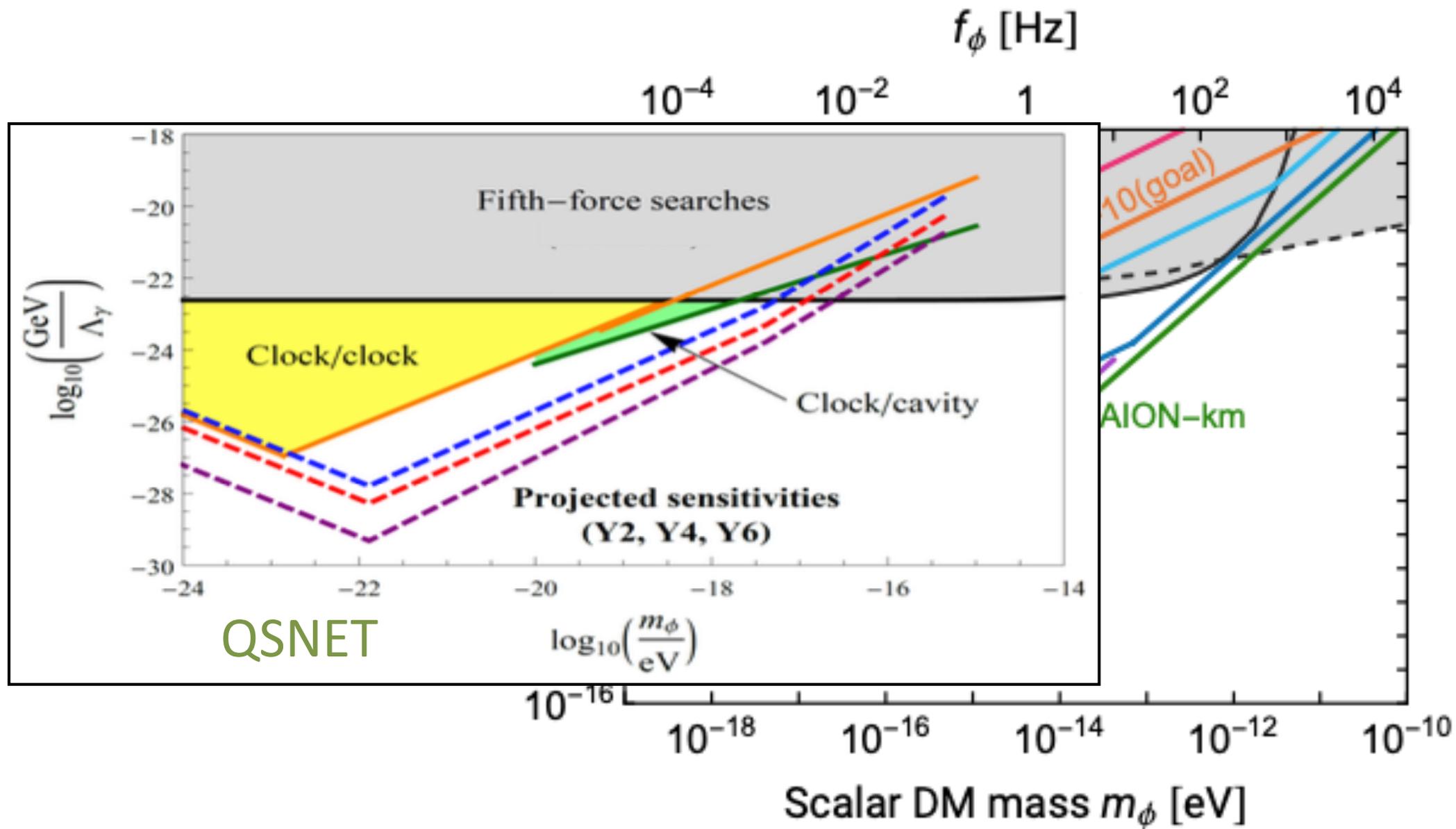
- *Phase 1 2015-2019, Phase 2 2020-24 (total investment Phase 1+2= £1B)*
- *Phase 2 investments:*
  - *Industry led projects to drive innovation and commercialisation of QT (£173m over 6 years)*
  - *Renewal of the QT Research Hubs (£94m over 5 years)*
  - *Research training portfolio (£25m over 5 years)*
  - *Quantum Sensors for Fundamental Physics programme (£40m over 4 years)*
  - *National Quantum Computing Centre to drive development in this new technology*

Seven samurai ... including AION

# Axion-Like Particles



# Quantum Technologies for Fundamental Physics: Ultralight Scalar Dark Matter Searches



# Quantum Sensors for the Hidden Sector



## Quantum Sensors for the Hidden Sector

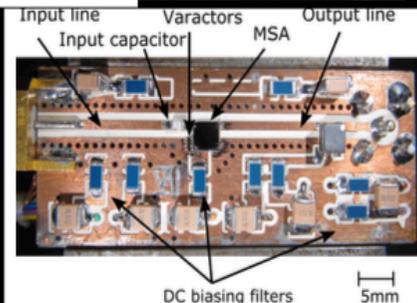
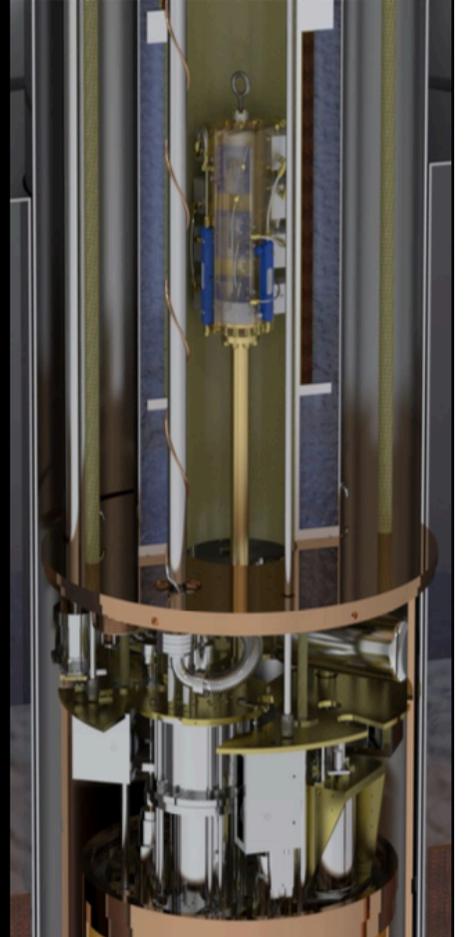
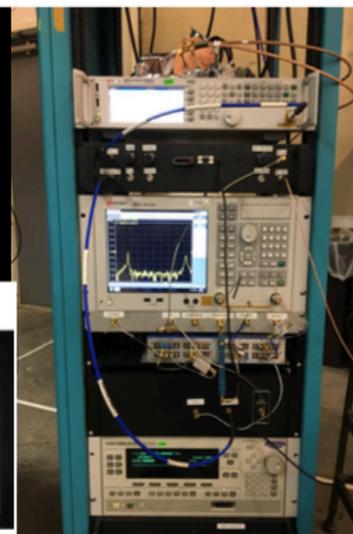
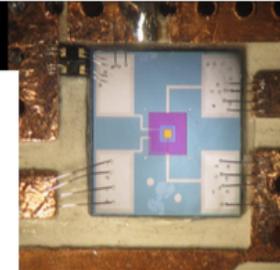
Sheffield, Cambridge, Oxford, RHUL, Lancaster, UCL, NPL, Liverpool

- Search for axions, etc., via conversion to microwaves in a high magnetic field
- Initial focus on QCD axion
- Collaboration with US ADMX experimental team

ADMX SQUID washer Resonant feedback test

ADMX SQUID housing

ADMX  
Microwave  
SQUID  
amplifier



Daresbury Lab

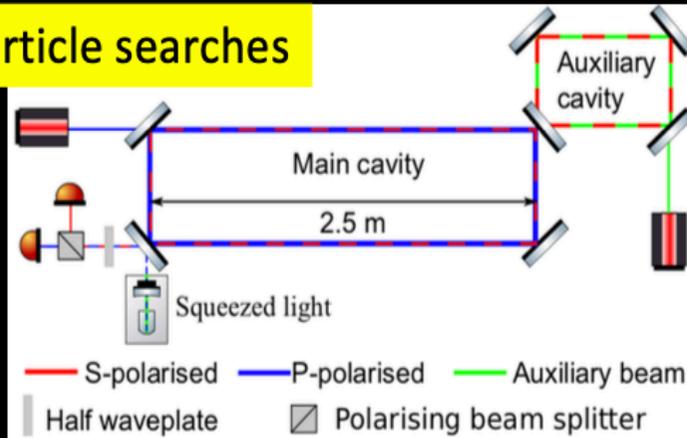
# Quantum-Enhanced Interferometry



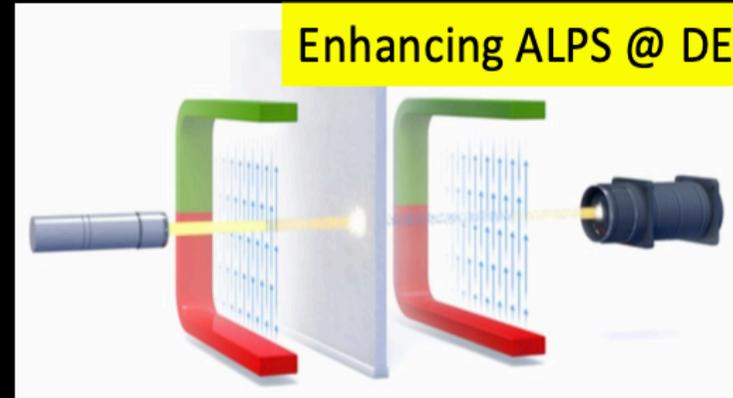
## Quantum-enhanced Interferometry

Vincent Boyer (Birmingham), Animesh Datta (Warwick), Katherine Dooley (Cardiff),  
Hartmut Grote (Cardiff, PI), Robert Hadfield (Glasgow), Denis Martynov (Birmingham, Deputy PI)  
Haixing Miao (Birmingham), Stuart Reid (Strathclyde)

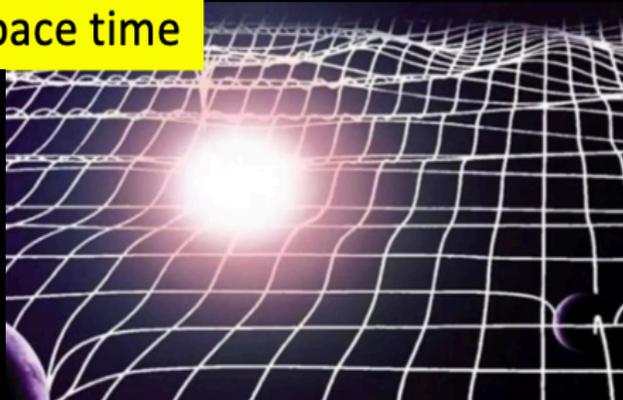
### Axion-like particle searches



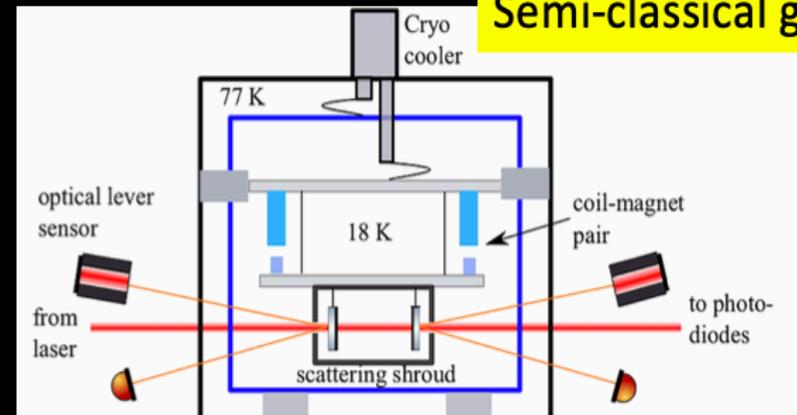
### Enhancing ALPS @ DESY



### Quantization of space time



### Semi-classical gravity



# Clock Network to Measure Stability of Fundamental Constants



A network of clocks for measuring the stability of fundamental constants

G. Barontini, V. Boyer, X. Calmet, M. Chung, N. Fitch, R. Godun, J. Goldwin, V. Guarrera, I. Hill, M. Keller, J. Kronjaeger, H. Margolis, C. Mow-Lowry, P. Newman, L. Prokhorov, B. Sauer, M. Schioppo, M. Tarbutt, A. Vecchio, S. Worm

- Network of clocks across the UK, linked to Europe
- Search for variations in the fine-structure constant
- Search for variations in the proton/electron mass ratio

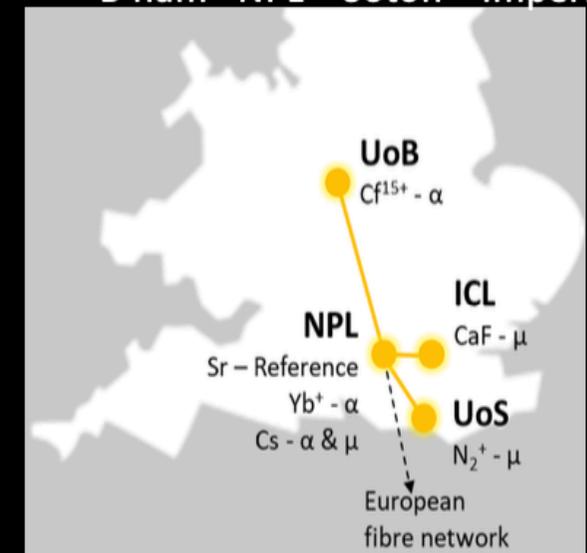
QT Hubs

- Sensors & timing
- Communications
- Computing & simulation

7 international institutions



B'ham NPL Soton Imperial



Clock	WP	Variations of fund. Constant
Ion clock Yb <sup>+</sup> (467 nm)	1	$\alpha$
Atomic clock Sr (698 nm)	1	Stable reference
Atomic clock Cs (32.6 mm)	1	$\mu$
Highly-charged ion clock Cf <sup>15+</sup> (618 nm)	2	$\alpha$
Molecular clock CaF (17 $\mu$ m)	3	$\mu$
Molecular ion clock N <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (2.31 $\mu$ m)	3	$\mu$

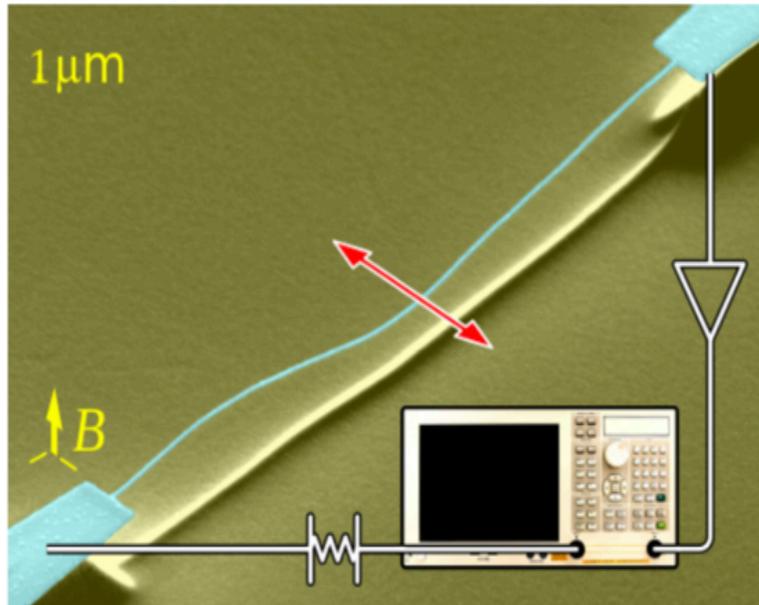
by Giovanni Barontini talk  
UK HEP Forum

# Quantum-Enhanced Superfluid Technologies for Dark Matter & Cosmology

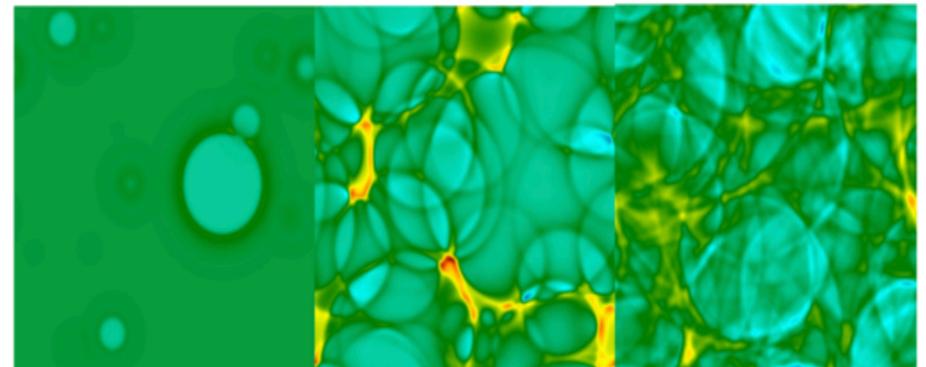
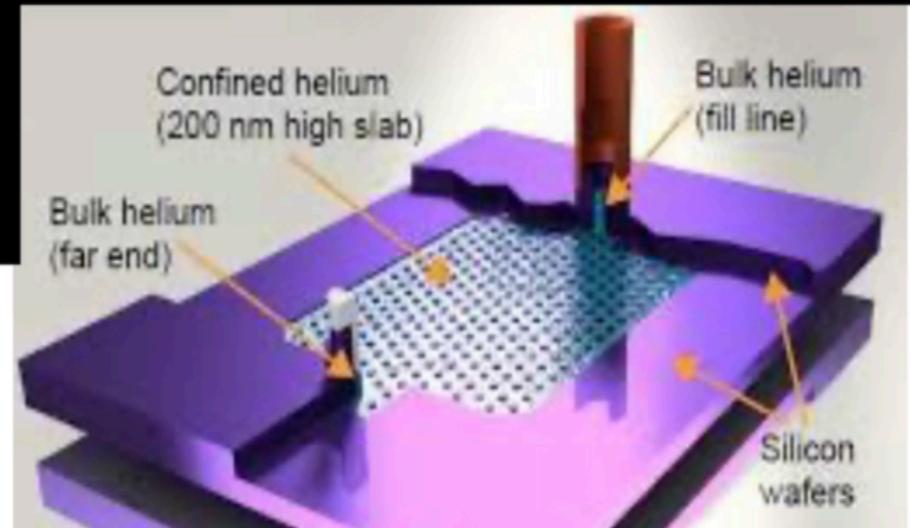
## Quest-DMC



Detection of sub-GeV dark matter with a quantum-amplified superfluid  $^3\text{He}$  calorimeter.



Phase transitions in extreme matter



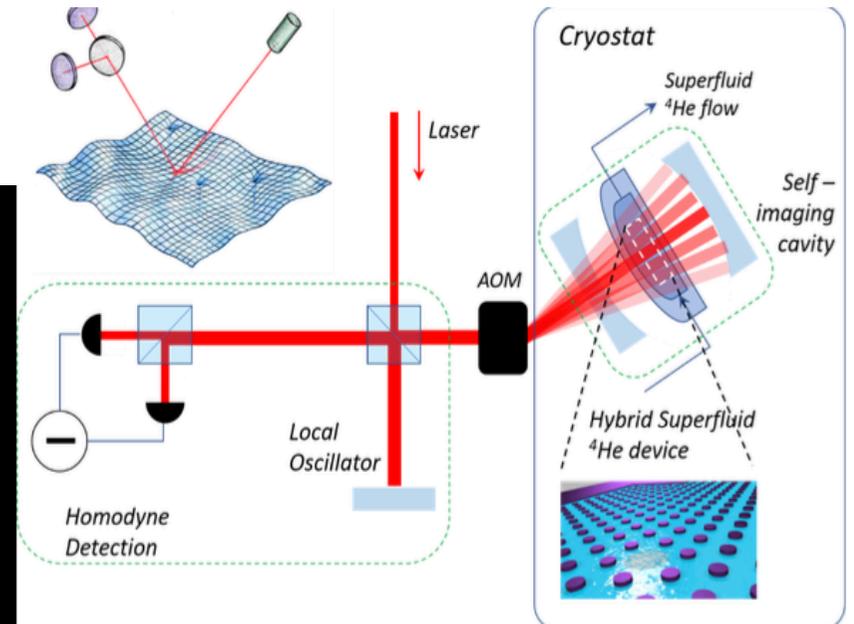
# Quantum Simulators for Fundamental Physics

QSimFP

## Team:

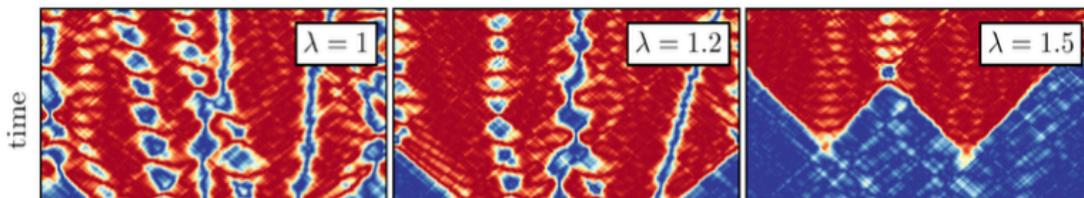
Carlo F Barenghi (Newcastle),  
Thomas Billam (Newcastle),  
Ruth Gregory (Durham),  
Gregoire Ithier (RHUL),  
Zoran Hadzibabic (Cambridge),  
Friedrich Koenig (St. Andrews),  
Jorma Louko (Nottingham), Ian Moss (Newcastle),  
John Owers-Bradley (Nottingham),  
Hiranya Peiris (UCL),  
Andrew Pontzen (UCL), Xavier Rojas (RHUL),  
Pierre Verlot (Nottingham),  
Silke Weinfurter (Nottingham).

Silke Weinfurter talk



## Science goals:

- Quantum simulation of decay of false vacuum
- Quantum wave-modes around analogues of black holes



# Quantum Technologies for Neutrino Mass Consortium

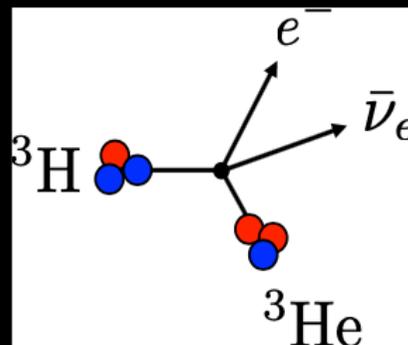


F. Deppisch<sup>1</sup>, J. Gallop<sup>2</sup>, L. Hao<sup>2</sup>, S. Hogan<sup>1</sup>, L. Li<sup>3</sup>, R. Nichol<sup>1</sup>, Y. Ramachers<sup>4</sup>, R. Saakyan<sup>1</sup>(PI), D. Waters<sup>1</sup>, S. Withington<sup>5</sup>

*A collaboration of particle, atomic and solid state physicists, electronics engineers and quantum sensor experts*

Initial goal:

- Technology demonstration for measuring neutrino mass in  ${}^3\text{H}$   $\beta$ -decay



Ultimate goal:

- Measurement at a tritium facility, e.g., Culham

