

Planck 2021

23rd International Conference From the Planck scale to the Electroweak scale

Quantum Technologies for New-physics Searches



<https://thoriumclock.eu/>

Marianna Safronova

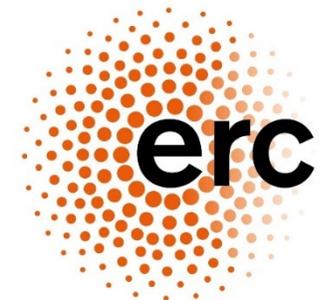
Department of Physics and Astronomy,
University of Delaware, Delaware, USA



<https://www.colorado.edu/research/qsense/>



NIST
National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce



European Research Council

Extraordinary progress in the control of atoms and ions

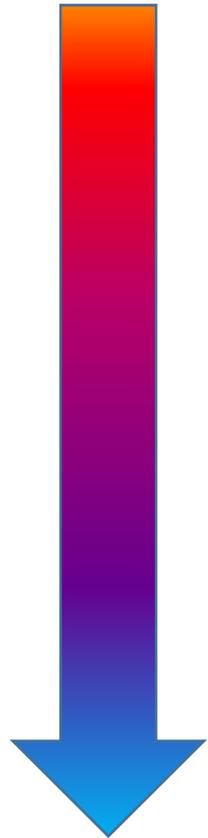
1997 Nobel Prize
Laser cooling and trapping

2001 Nobel Prize
Bose-Einstein
Condensation

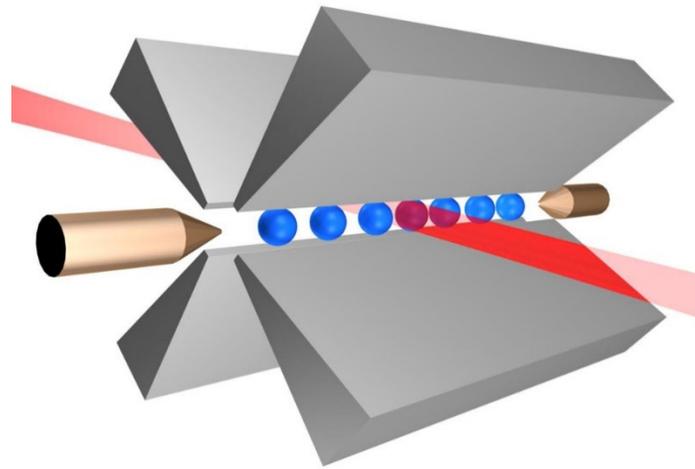
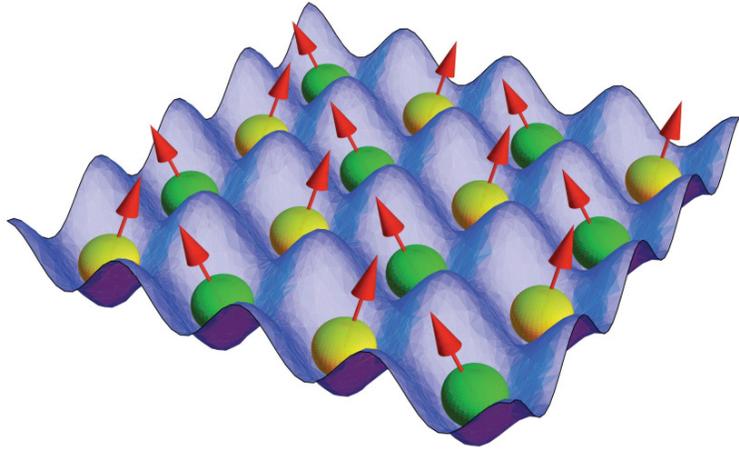
2005 Nobel Prize
Frequency combs

2012 Nobel prize
Quantum control

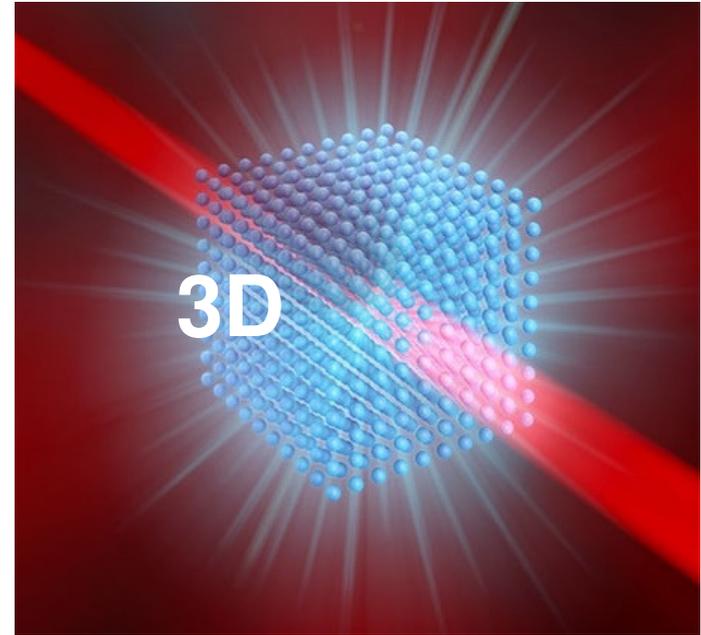
300K



pK



$$\Psi = \left| \begin{array}{c} -1/2 \quad +1/2 \\ \uparrow \vec{B} \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right\rangle + \left| \begin{array}{c} -5/2 \quad +5/2 \\ \leftarrow \quad \rightarrow \end{array} \right\rangle$$



Atoms are now:

Ultracold

Trapped

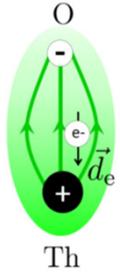
Precisely controlled

Searches for BSM physics with Atomic, Molecular, and Optical (AMO) Physics

Fundamental symmetries with quantum science techniques

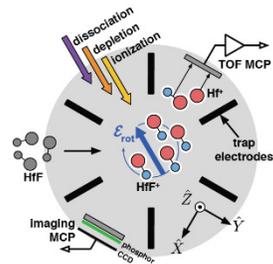
Searches for electron electric-dipole moment (eEDM)

Advanced ACME



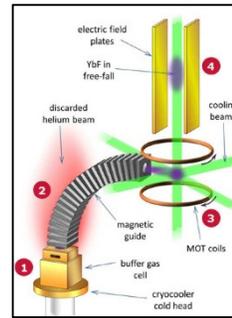
ThO

JILA eEDM



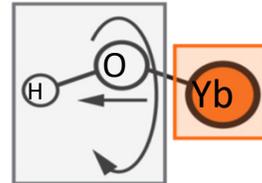
HfF⁺, ThF⁺

Imperial College



YbF

PolyEDM

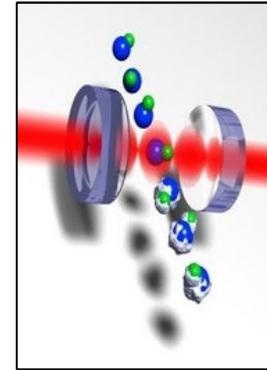


Also NMQM search

YbOH, ...

Searches for hadronic EDMs

CeNTREX

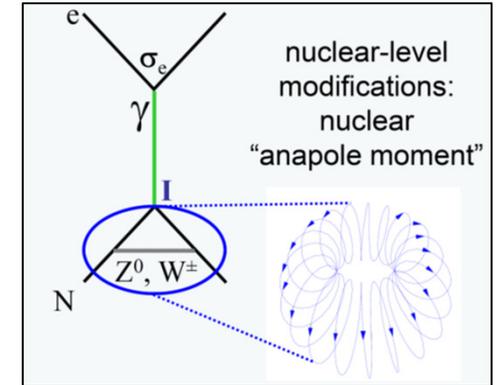


TIF (proton EDM)

Hg
Xe
Ra
EDMs

Enhanced parity violation

ZOMBIES



Also Yb (Mainz), Fr (FRIUMF & Japan)

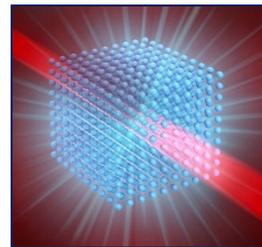
Rapid advances in ultracold molecule cooling and trapping; polyatomic molecules; future: molecules with Ra & “spin squeezed” entangled states

Atomic and Nuclear Clocks & Cavities

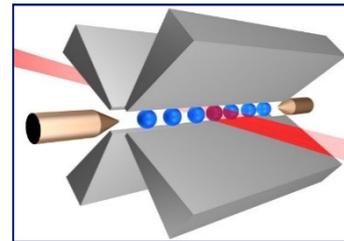
Major clock & cavities R&D efforts below, also molecular clocks, portable clocks and optical links

BSM searches with clocks

- Searches for variations of fundamental constants
- Ultralight scalar dark matter & relaxion searches
- Tests of general relativity
- Searches for violation of the equivalence principle
- Searches for the Lorentz violation



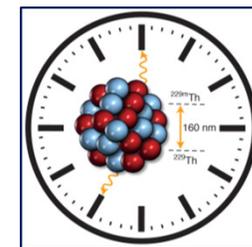
3D lattice clocks



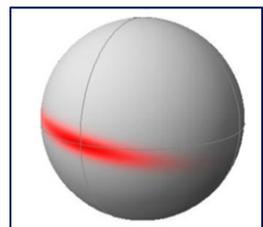
Multi-ion & entangled clocks



Ultrastable optical cavities



Nuclear & highly charge ion clocks



Measurements beyond the quantum limit

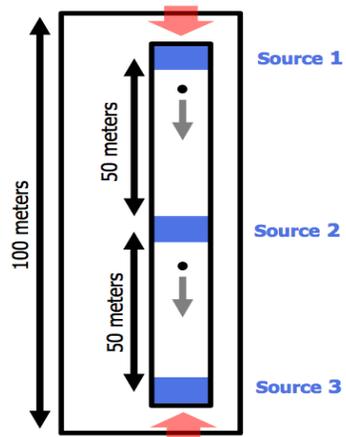
Atom interferometry

BSM searches:

Variation of fundamental constants
 Ultralight scalar DM & relaxion searches
 Violation of the equivalence principle

Prototype gravitational wave detectors

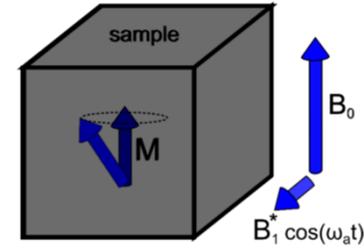
MAGIS-100  Fermilab



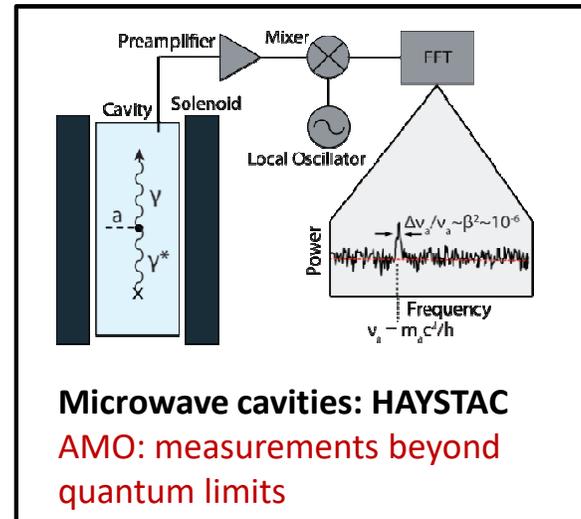
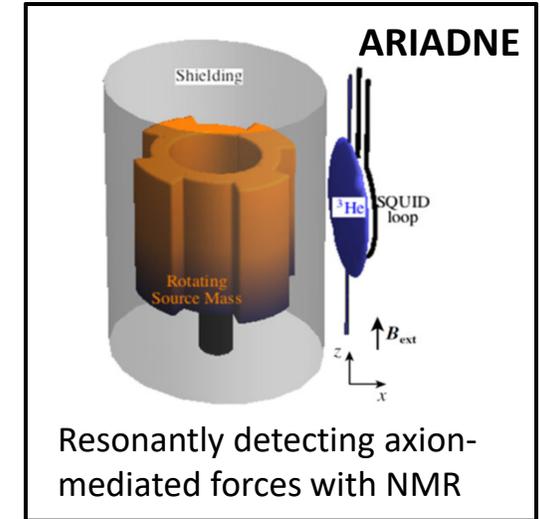
MIGA (France), 150 meters under construction
AION

Axion and ALPs searches

CASPER-electric, solids
 (coupling to gluons)

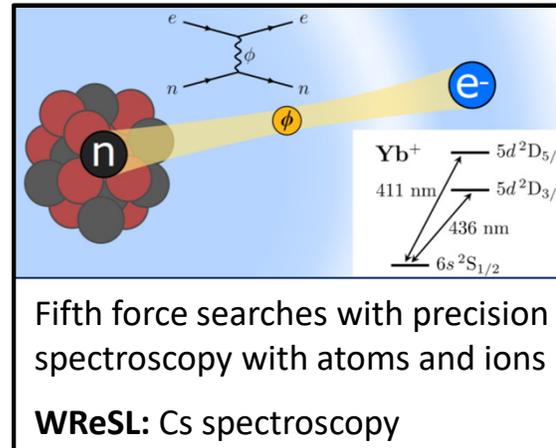


CASPER-wind, Xe
 (coupling to fermions)

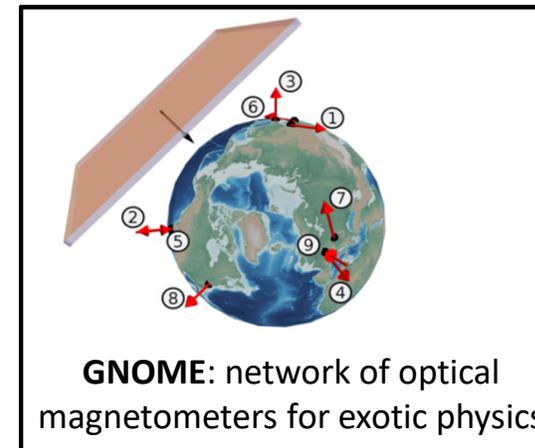


Microwave cavities: HAYSTAC
 AMO: measurements beyond quantum limits

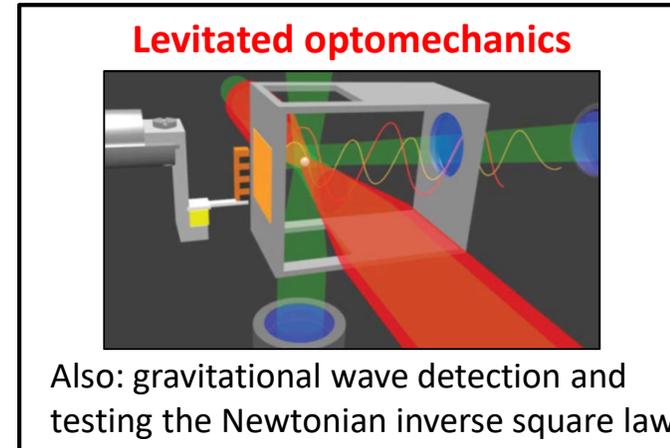
Other dark matter & new force searches



Fifth force searches with precision spectroscopy with atoms and ions
WReSL: Cs spectroscopy



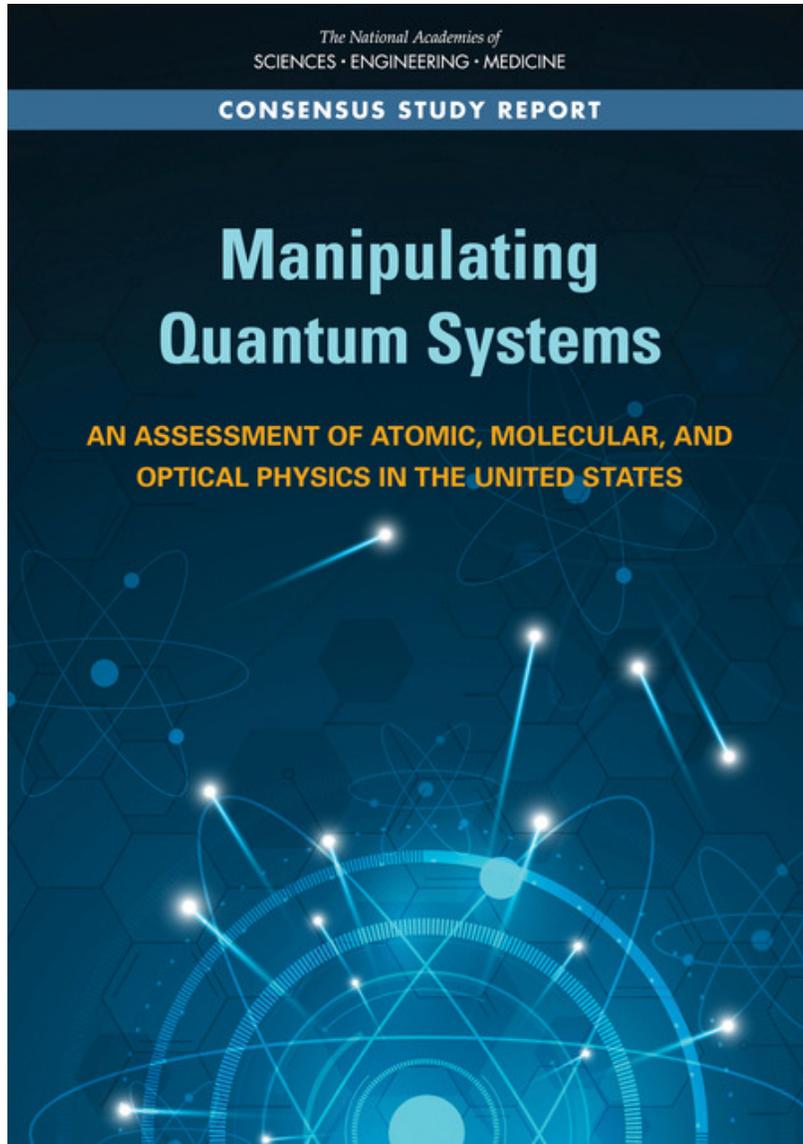
GNOME: network of optical magnetometers for exotic physics



Also: gravitational wave detection and testing the Newtonian inverse square law

Many other current & future experiments: tests of the gravity-quantum interface, and HUNTER (AMO sterile neutrino search), SHAFT, ORGAN & UPLOAD (axions), solid-state directional detection with NV centers (WIMPs), doped cryocrystals for EDMs, Rydberg atoms, tests of QED, ...

2020 USA Decadal Assessment and Outlook Report on AMO Science and other recourses



PDF and html versions are available (free) online:

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/amo>

Chapter 6

PRECISION FRONTIER AND FUNDAMENTAL NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE

Recent review:

Search for new physics with atoms and molecules, M. S. Safronova, D. Budker, D. DeMille, Derek F. Jackson-Kimball, A. Derevianko, and Charles W. Clark, Rev. Mod. Phys. 90, 025008 (2018). **106 pages, over 1100 references**

Focus Issue in Quantum Science and Technology
Quantum Sensors for New-Physics Discoveries

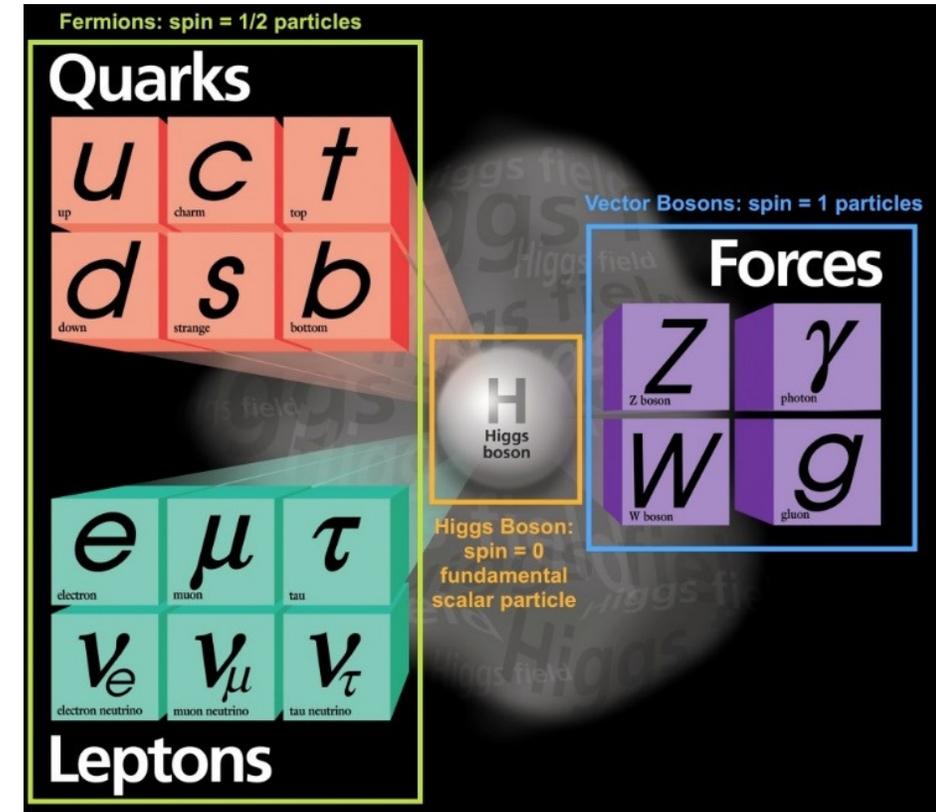
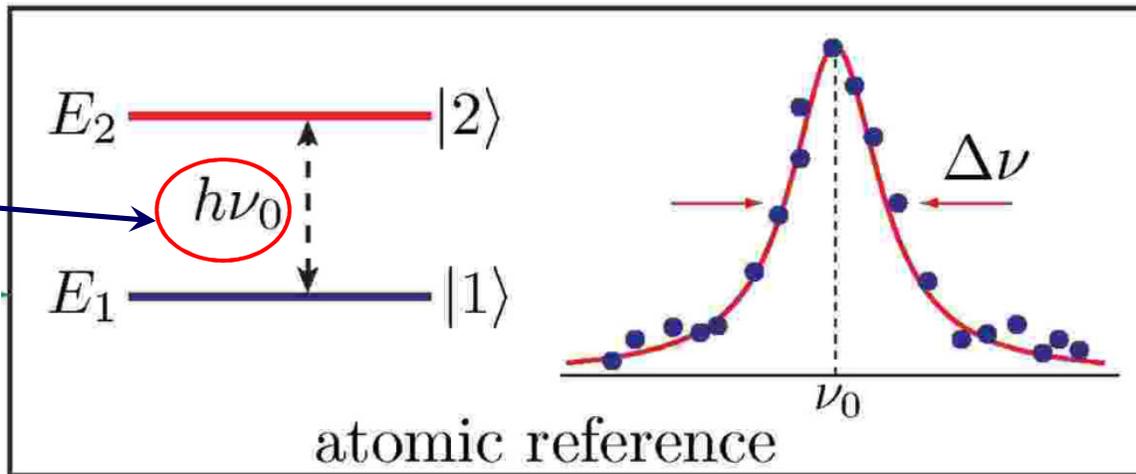
Editors: Marianna Safronova and Dmitry Budker

<https://iopscience.iop.org/journal/2058-9565/page/Focus-on-Quantum-Sensors-for-New-Physics-Discoveries>

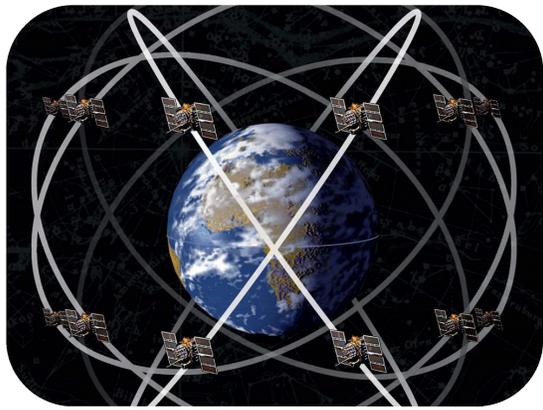
Search for physics beyond the standard model with **atomic clocks**

Atomic clocks can measure and compare frequencies to exceptional precisions!

If fundamental constants change (now) **due to for various “new physics” effects** atomic clock may be able to detect it.

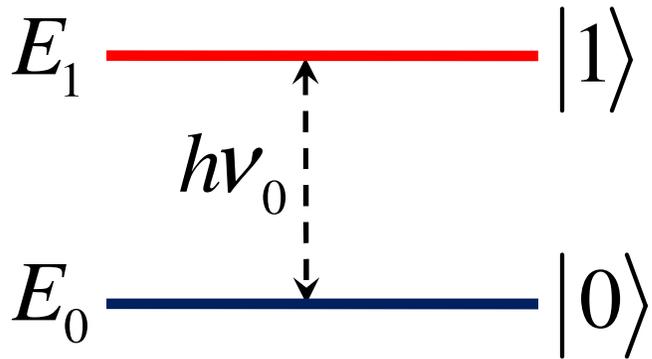


BEYOND THE STANDARD MODEL?

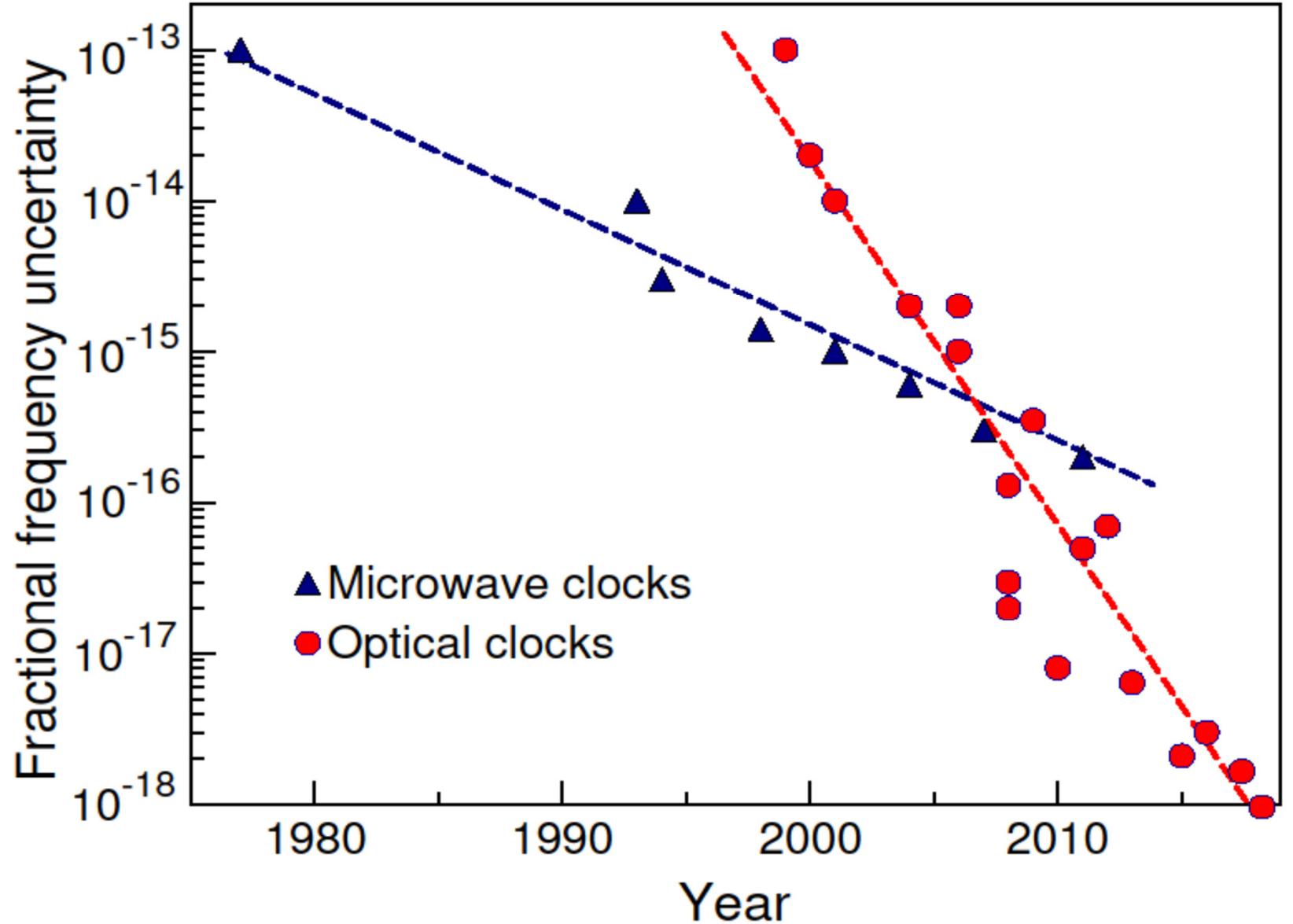


airandspace.si.edu

GPS satellites:
microwave
atomic clocks
Accuracy: 0.1 ns

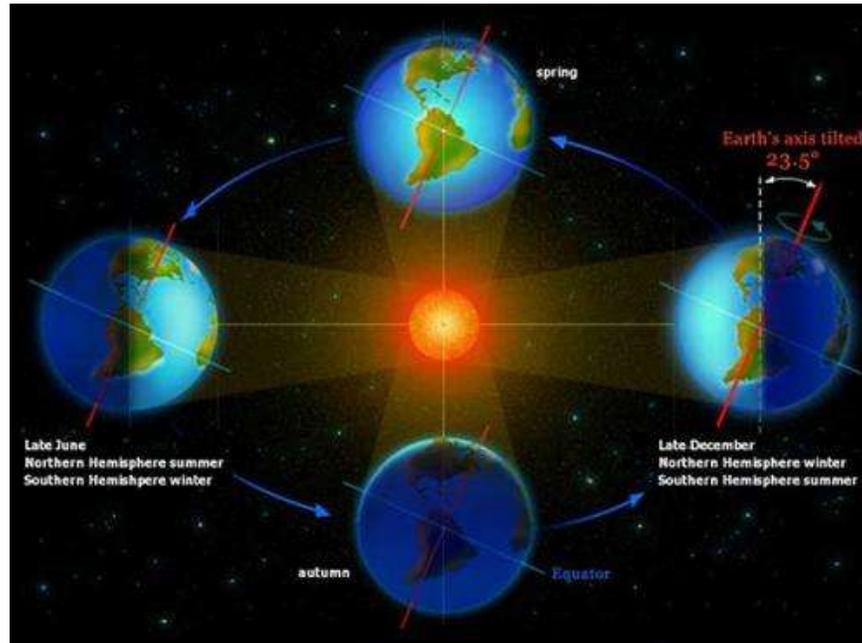


Optical atomic clocks will not lose one second in
30 billion years



Ingredients for a clock

1. Need a system with **periodic behavior**:
it cycles occur at constant frequency



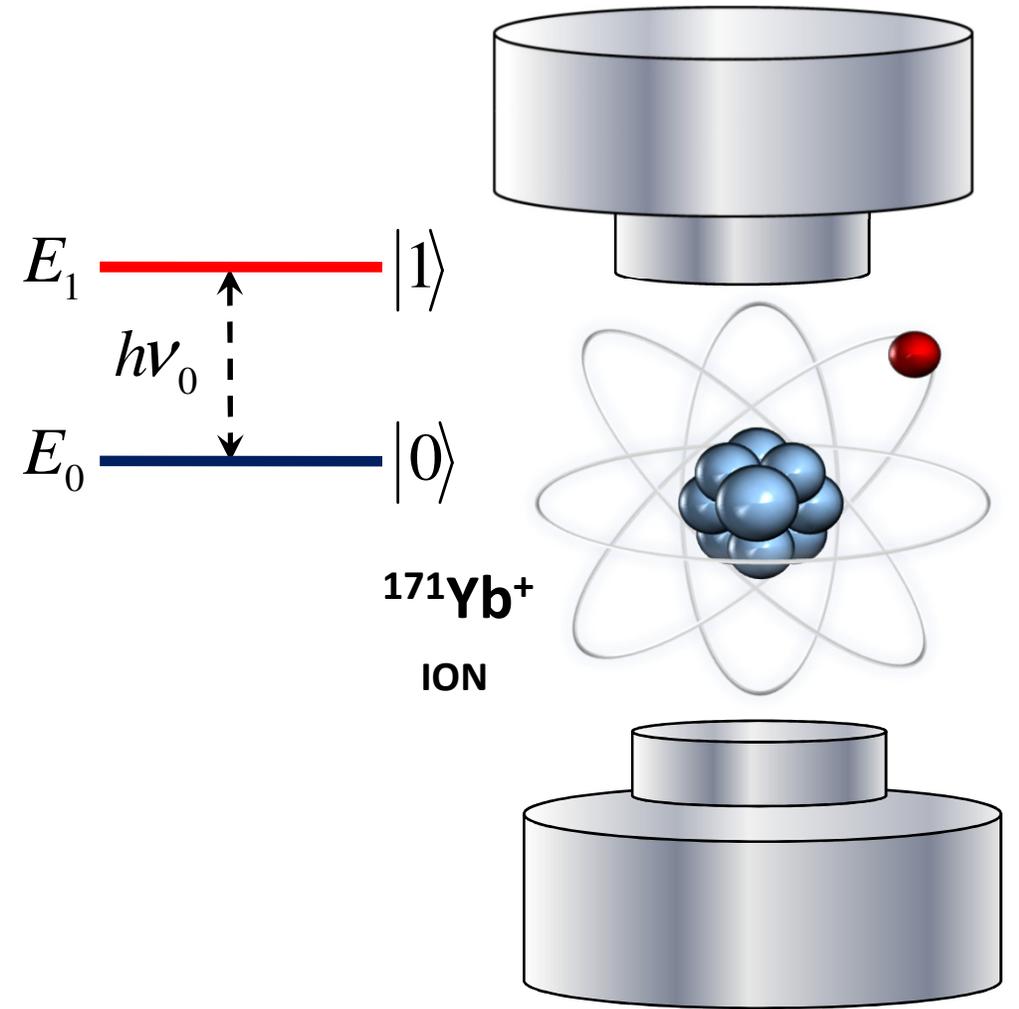
2. Count the cycles to produce time interval
3. Agree on the origin of time to generate a time scale

Ingredients for an atomic clock

1. Atoms are all the same and will oscillate at exactly the same frequency (in the same environment):

You now have a perfect oscillator!

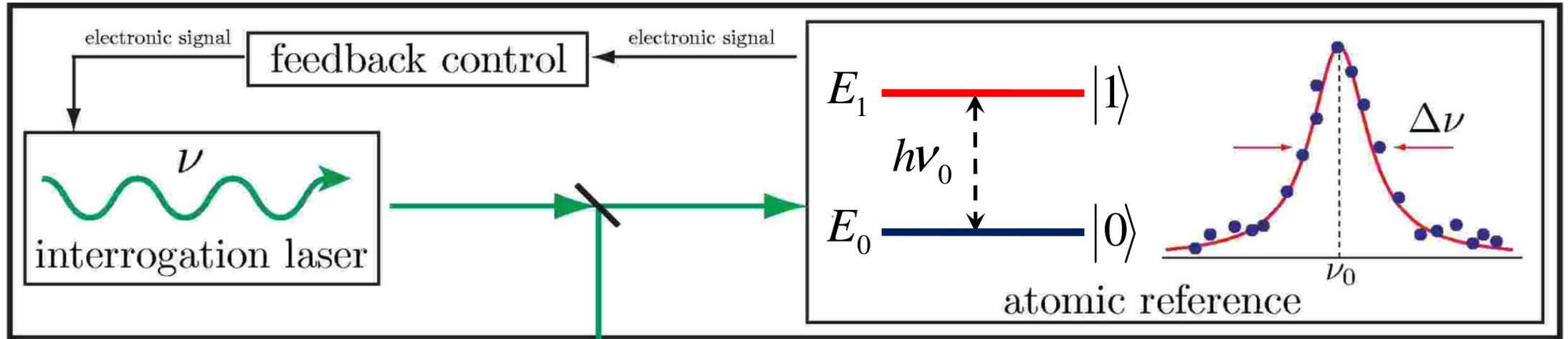
2. Take a sample of atoms (or just one)
3. Build a laser in resonance with this atomic frequency
4. Count cycles of this signal





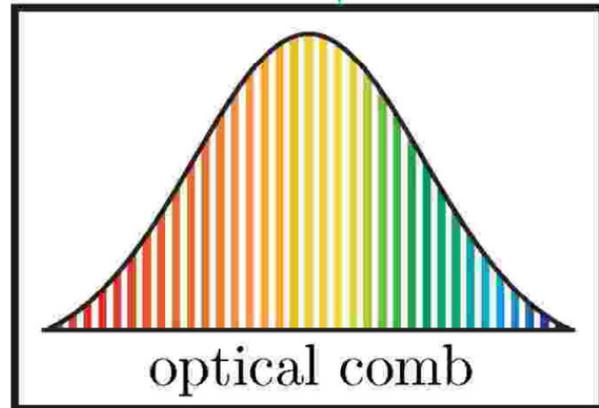
How optical atomic clock works

atomic oscillator



Can compare frequencies of two clocks with the same comb.

counter



The laser is resonant with the atomic transition. A correction signal is derived from atomic spectroscopy that is fed back to the laser.

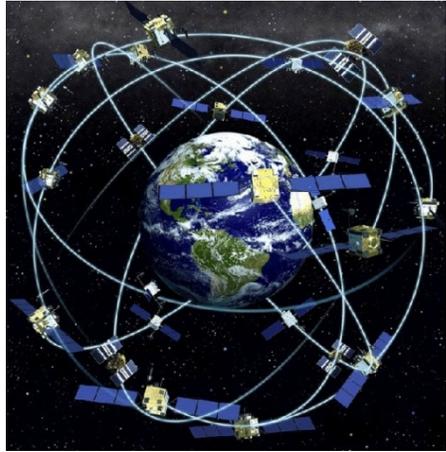
An optical frequency synthesizer (optical frequency comb) is used to divide the optical frequency down to countable microwave or radio frequency signals.

JILA Sr clock
 2×10^{-18}

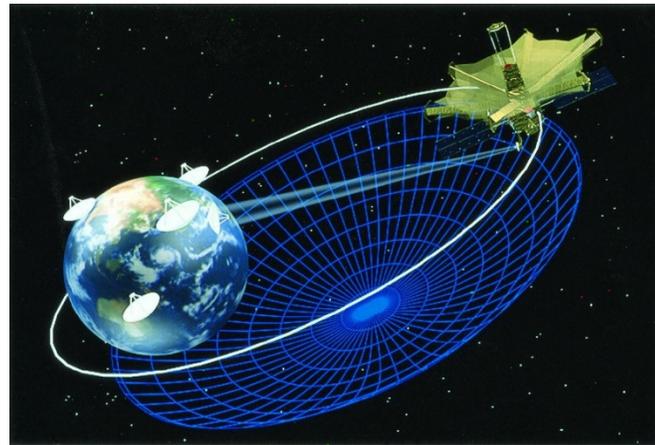
Clocks: new dark matter detectors

- Table-top devices
- Quite a few **already constructed**, based on different atoms
- Several clocks are usually in one place
- Will be made portable (prototypes exist)
- Will continue to rapidly improve
- Will be sent to space

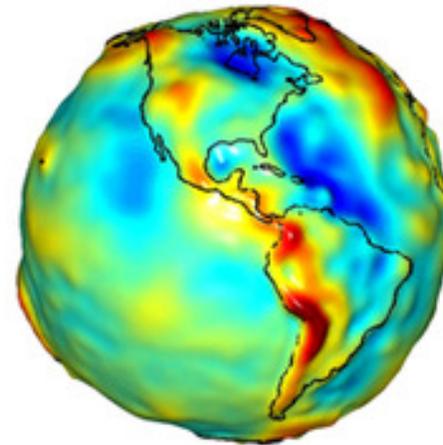
Applications of atomic clocks



GPS, deep space probes

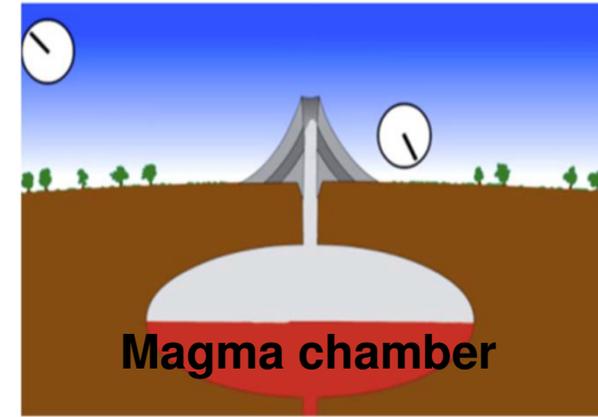


Very Long Baseline Interferometry

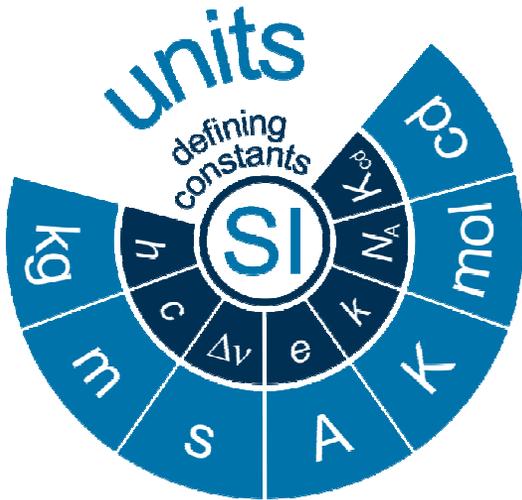


10^{-18}
1 cm
height

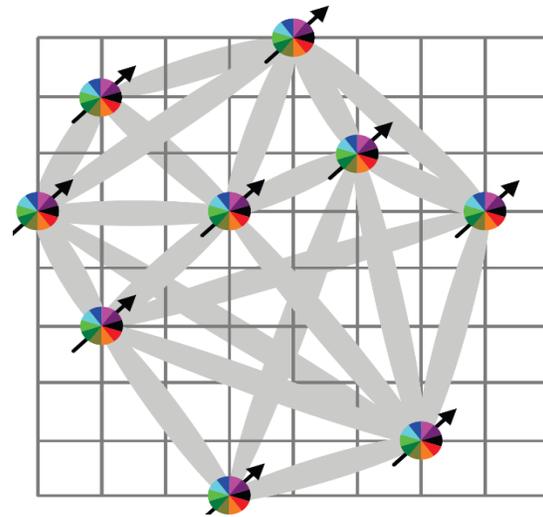
Relativistic geodesy



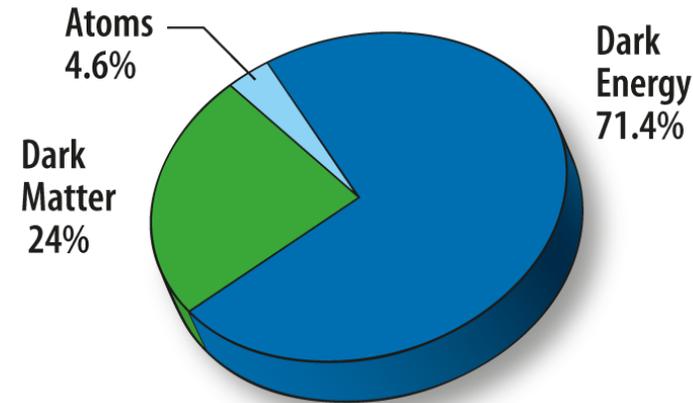
Gravity Sensor



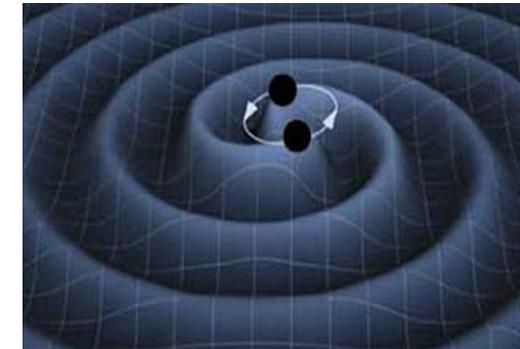
Definition of the second



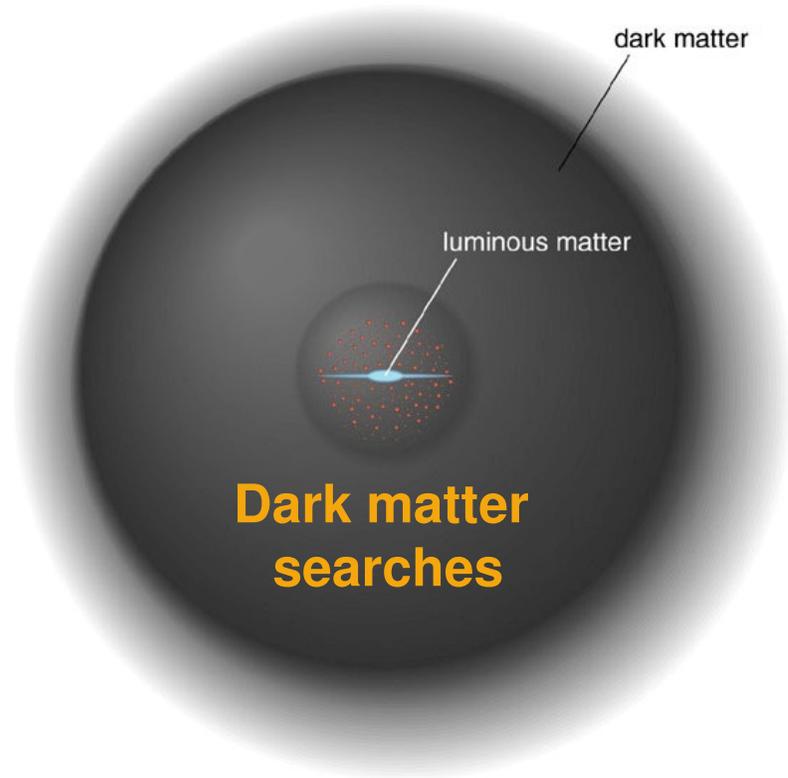
Quantum simulation



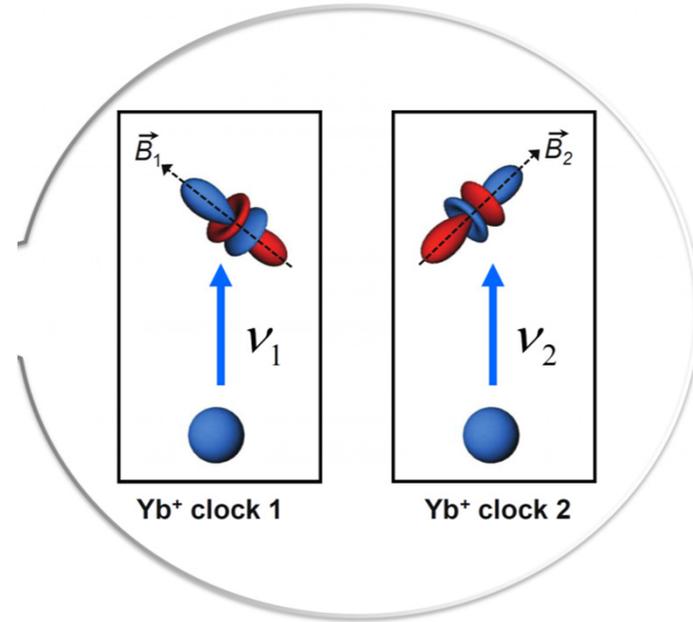
Searches for physics beyond the Standard Model



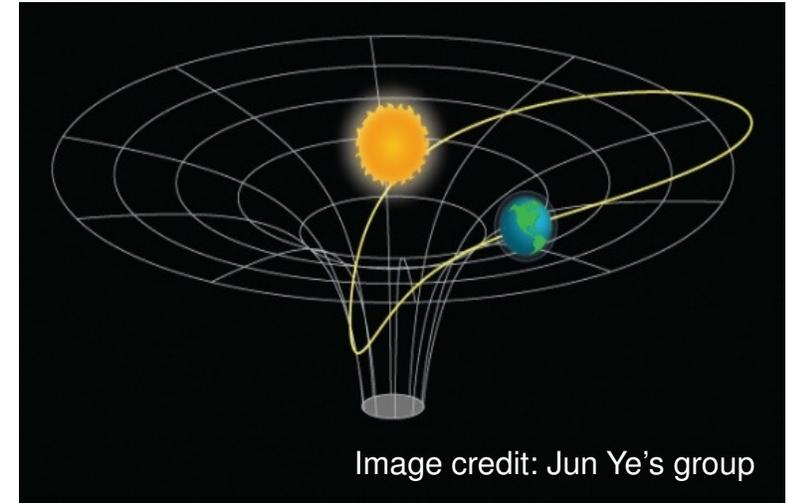
Search for physics beyond the Standard Model with atomic clocks



Dark matter searches



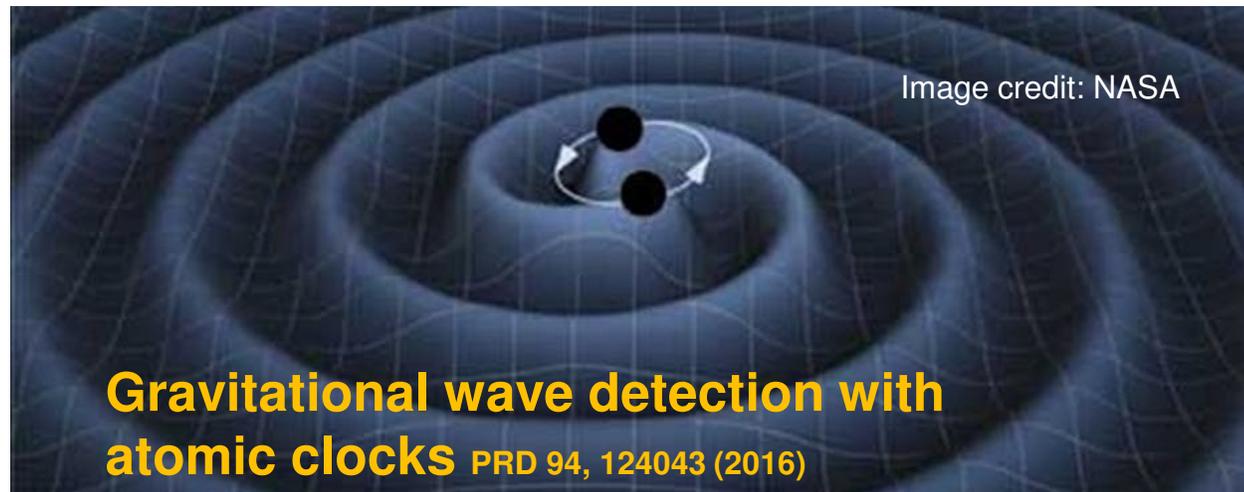
Search for the violation of Lorentz invariance



Tests of the equivalence principle

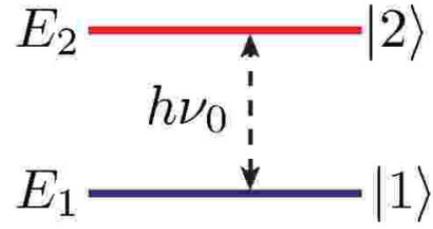
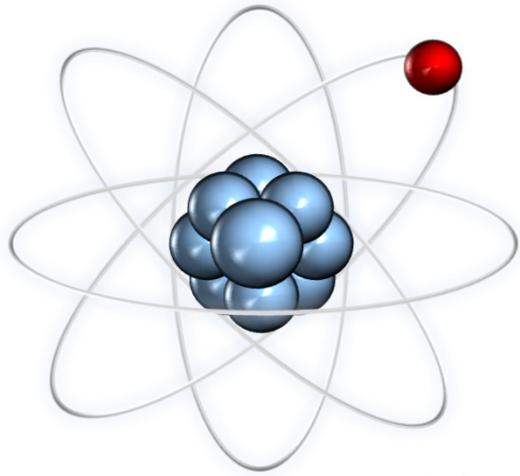
Are fundamental constants constant?

α

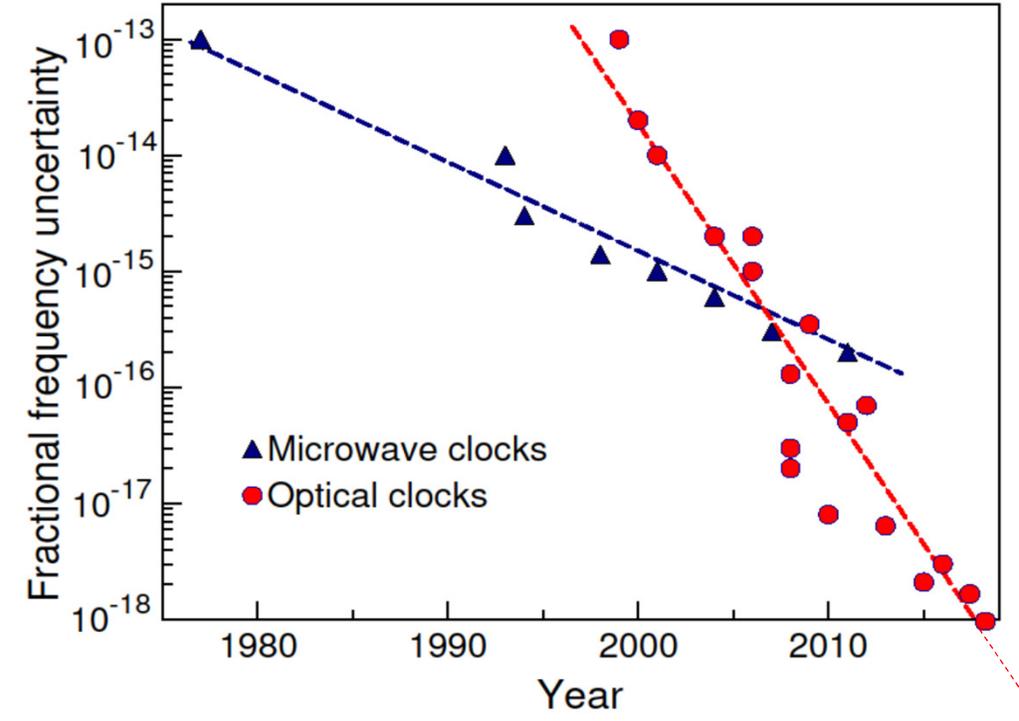


Gravitational wave detection with atomic clocks PRD 94, 124043 (2016)

Dark matter can affect atomic energy levels



ν_0 is a clock frequency



What dark matter can you detect if you can measure changes in atomic/nuclear frequencies to 19-20 digits?

Ultra-light Town



Atomic clocks

Ultralight dark matter has to be bosonic – Fermi velocity for DM with mass < 10 eV is higher than our Galaxy escape velocity.

10^{-22} eV

10^{-12} eV

μeV

eV

GeV

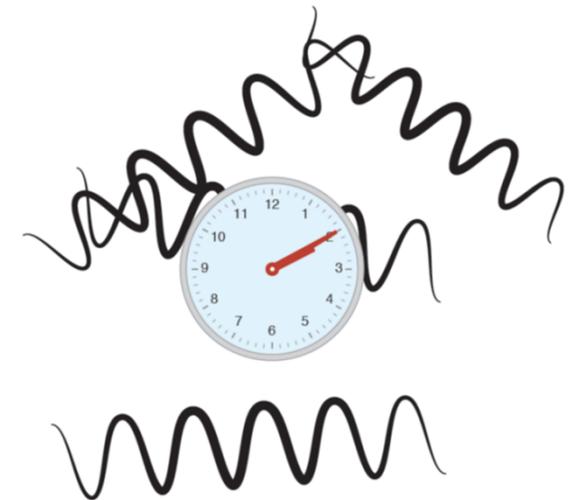
M_{Pl}

Dark matter density in our Galaxy $> \lambda_{dB}^{-3}$

λ_{dB} is the de Broglie wavelength of the particle.

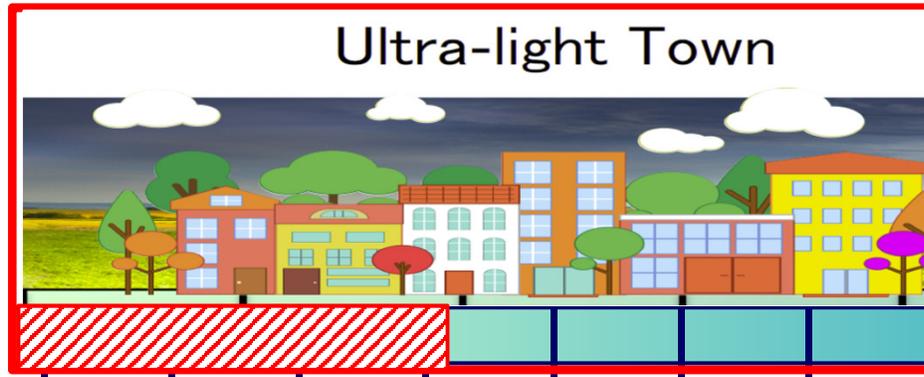
Then, the scalar dark matter exhibits coherence and behaves

like a wave $\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t + \bar{k}_\psi \times \bar{x} + \dots)$



How to detect **ultralight** dark matter with clocks?

Oscillatory effects



Asimina Arvanitaki, Junwu Huang, and Ken Van Tilburg, PRD 91, 015015 (2015)

↑
 10^{-22} eV

↑
 10^{-12} eV

↑
 μeV

↑
eV

↑
GeV

Dark matter field $\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t + \bar{k}_\phi \times \bar{x} + \dots)$

couples to electromagnetic interaction and “normal matter”

It will make fundamental coupling constants and mass ratios oscillate

Atomic & nuclear energy levels will oscillate so **clock frequencies will oscillate**

Can be detected with monitoring ratios of clock frequencies over time (or clock/cavity).

Ultralight dark matter

$$\frac{\phi}{M^*} \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}_\phi = \kappa \phi \left[+ \frac{d_e}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \dots \right] \quad \alpha = \alpha^{\text{SM}} + \delta\alpha$$

Dark matter
photons

$$\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t + \vec{k}_\phi \times \vec{x} + \dots) \quad \text{Then, clock frequencies will oscillate!}$$

DM virial velocities ~ 300 km/s

Measure clock frequency ratios: $\frac{\delta(\nu_2/\nu_1)}{(\nu_2/\nu_1)} \simeq d_e (K_2 - K_1) \kappa \phi(t)$

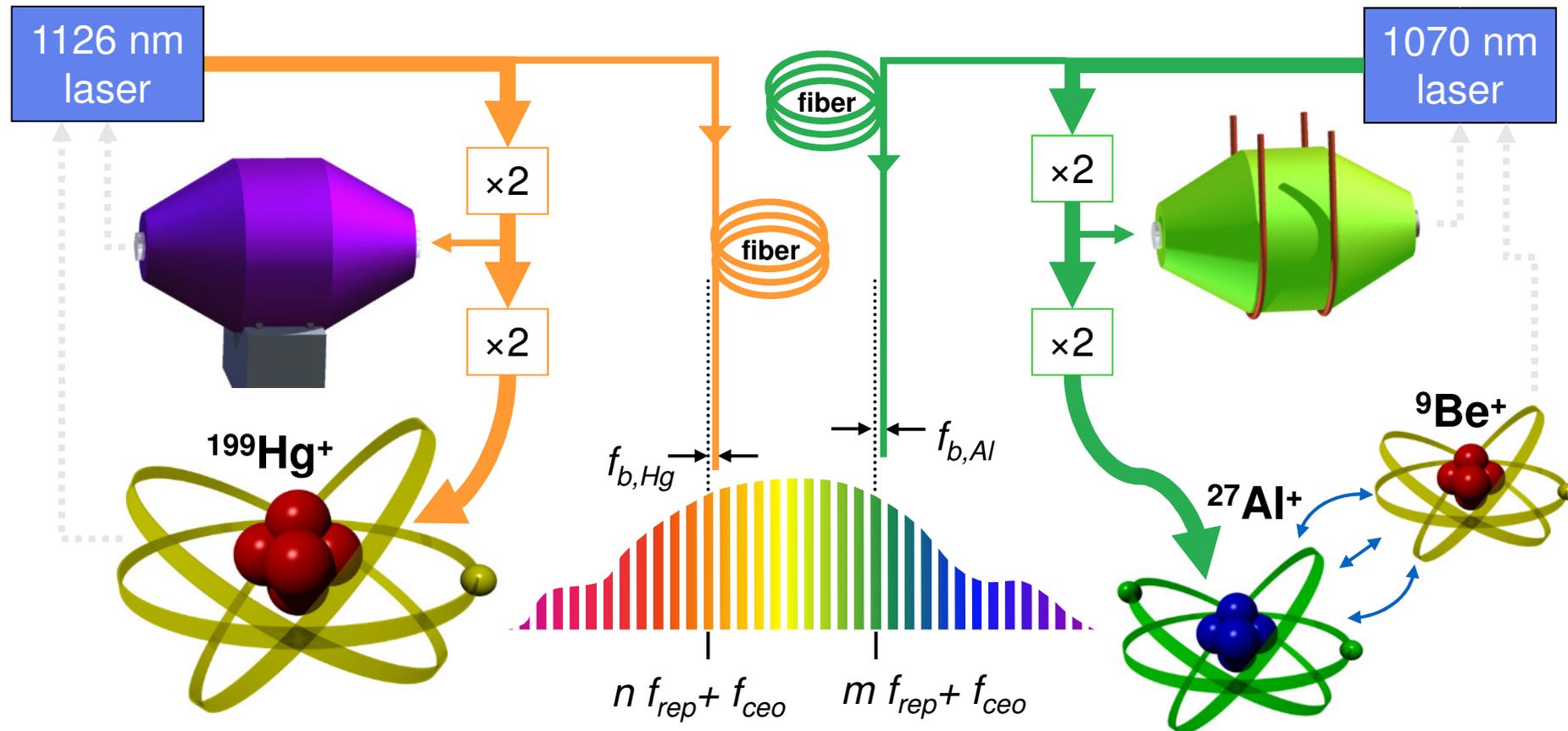
Result: plot couplings d_e vs. DM mass m_f Sensitivity factors to α -variation

Observable: ratio of two clock frequencies

Measure a ratio of Al^+ clock frequency to Hg^+ clock frequency

$$\frac{\nu(\text{Hg}^+)}{\nu(\text{Al}^+)} \quad K(\text{Hg}^+) = -2.9 \quad \text{Sensitivity factors}$$

$$K(\text{Al}^+) = 0.01 \quad \text{Not sensitive to } \alpha\text{-variation, used as reference}$$



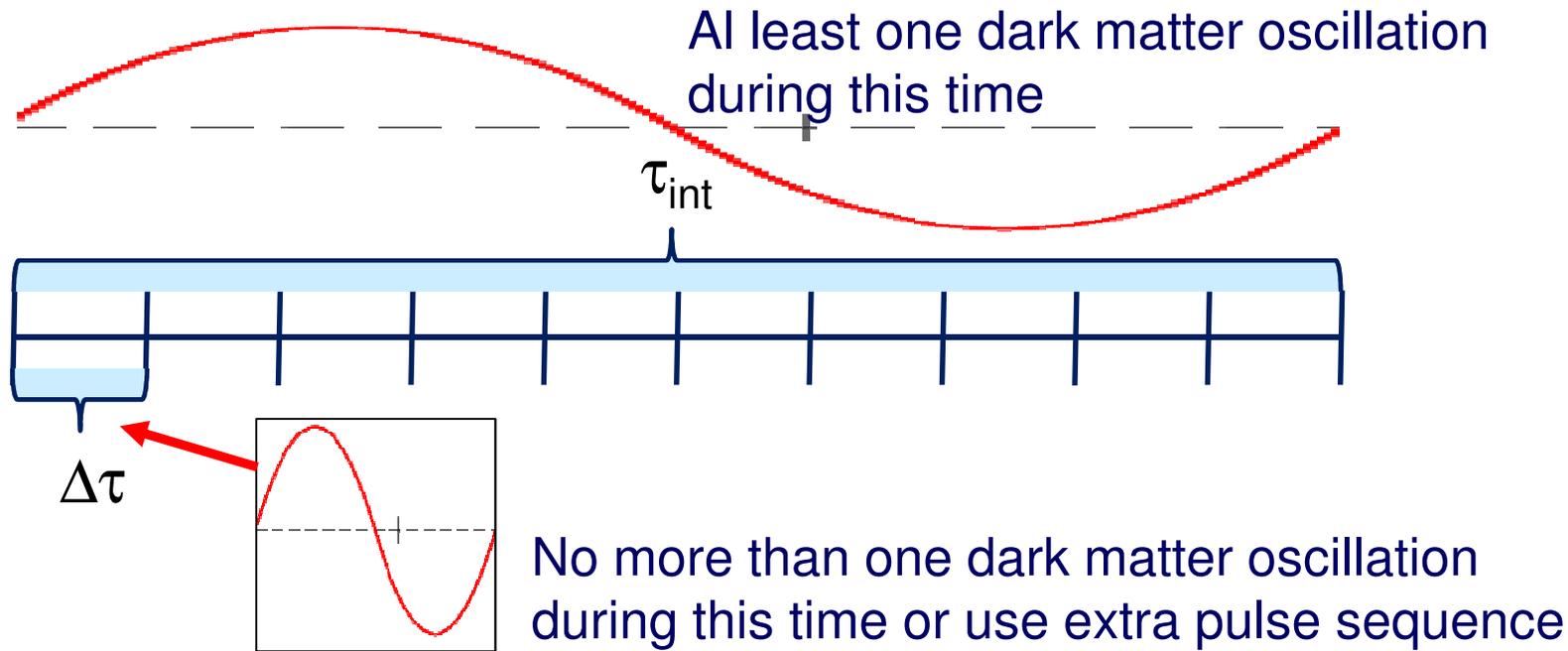
Picture credit: Jim Bergquist

Science 319, 1808 (2008)

Clock measurement protocols for the dark matter detection

Single clock ratio measurement: averaging over time τ_1

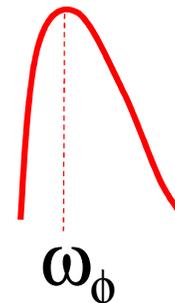
Make N such measurements, preferably regularly spaced



τ [s]	$f = 2\pi/m_\phi$ [Hz]	m_ϕ [eV]
10^{-6}	1 MHz	4×10^{-9}
10^{-3}	1 kHz	4×10^{-12}
1	1	4×10^{-15}
1000	1 mHz	4×10^{-18}
10^6	10^{-6}	4×10^{-21}

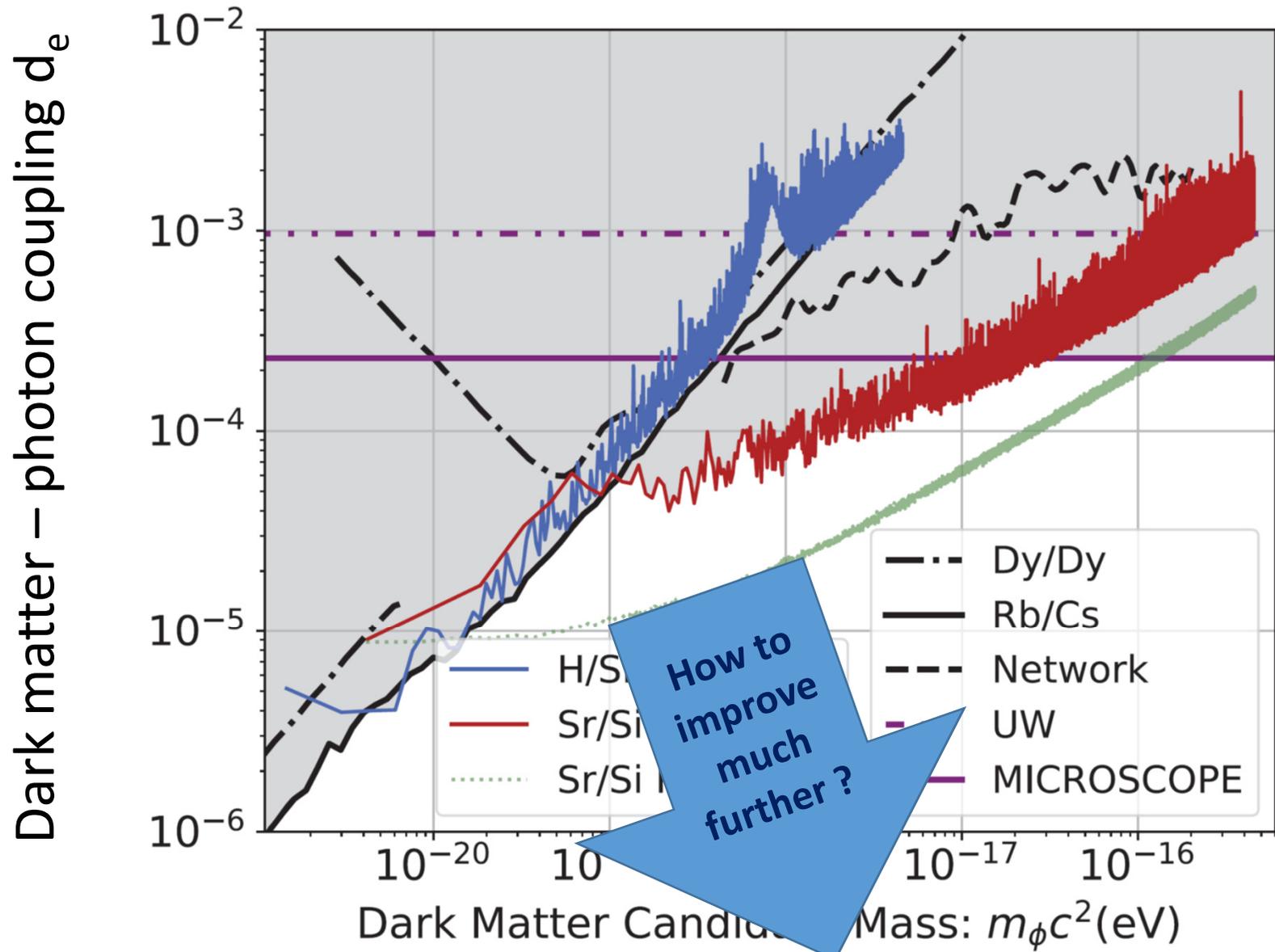
Detection signal:

A peak with monochromatic frequency $f = 2\pi/m_\phi$ in the discrete Fourier transform of this time series.



The most recent limit: JILA Sr clock-cavity comparison C. Kennedy et al., PRL 125, 201302 (2020).

Oscillating
dark matter
bounds



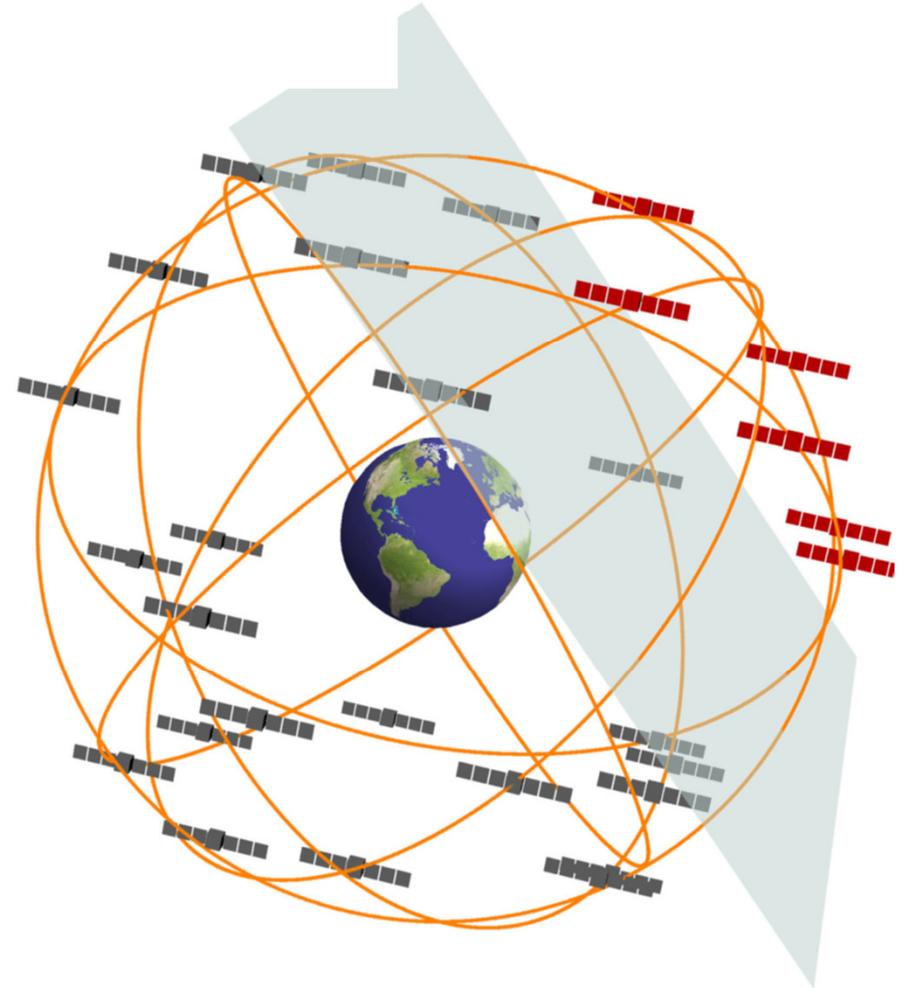
Hunting for topological dark matter with atomic clocks

Transient effects

A. Derevianko^{1*} and M. Pospelov^{2,3}

Dark matter clumps: point-like monopoles, one-dimensional strings or two-dimensional sheets (domain walls).

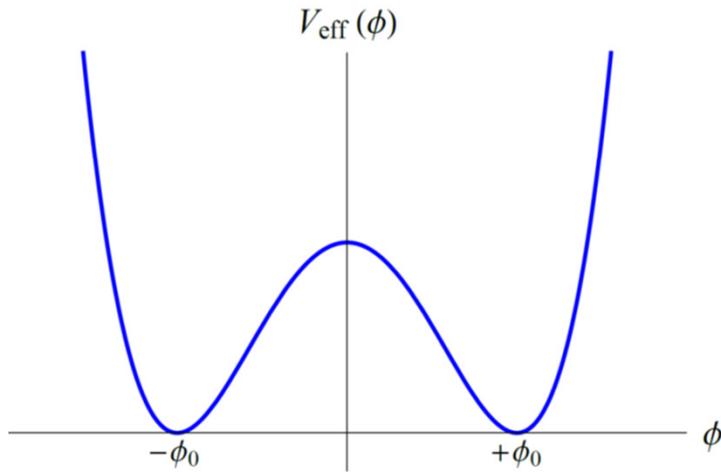
If they are large (size of the Earth) and frequent enough they may be detected by measuring changes in the synchronicity of a global network of atomic clocks, such as the Global Positioning System or networks of precision clocks on Earth.



New bounds on macroscopic scalar-field topological defects from nontransient signatures due to environmental dependence and spatial variations of the fundamental constants

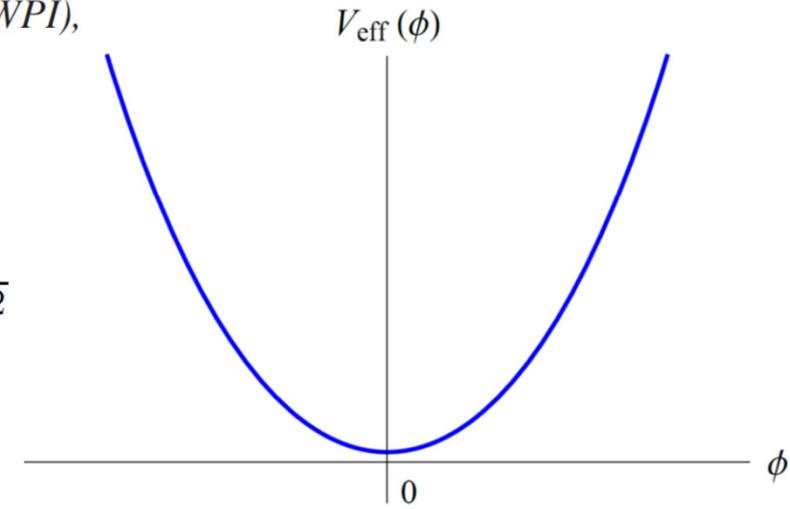
Yevgeny V. Stadnik 

Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe (WPI),



Low-density environment

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\phi) = \frac{\lambda}{4} (\phi^2 - \phi_0^2)^2 + \sum_{X=\gamma,e,N} \frac{\rho_X \phi^2}{(\Lambda'_X)^2}$$

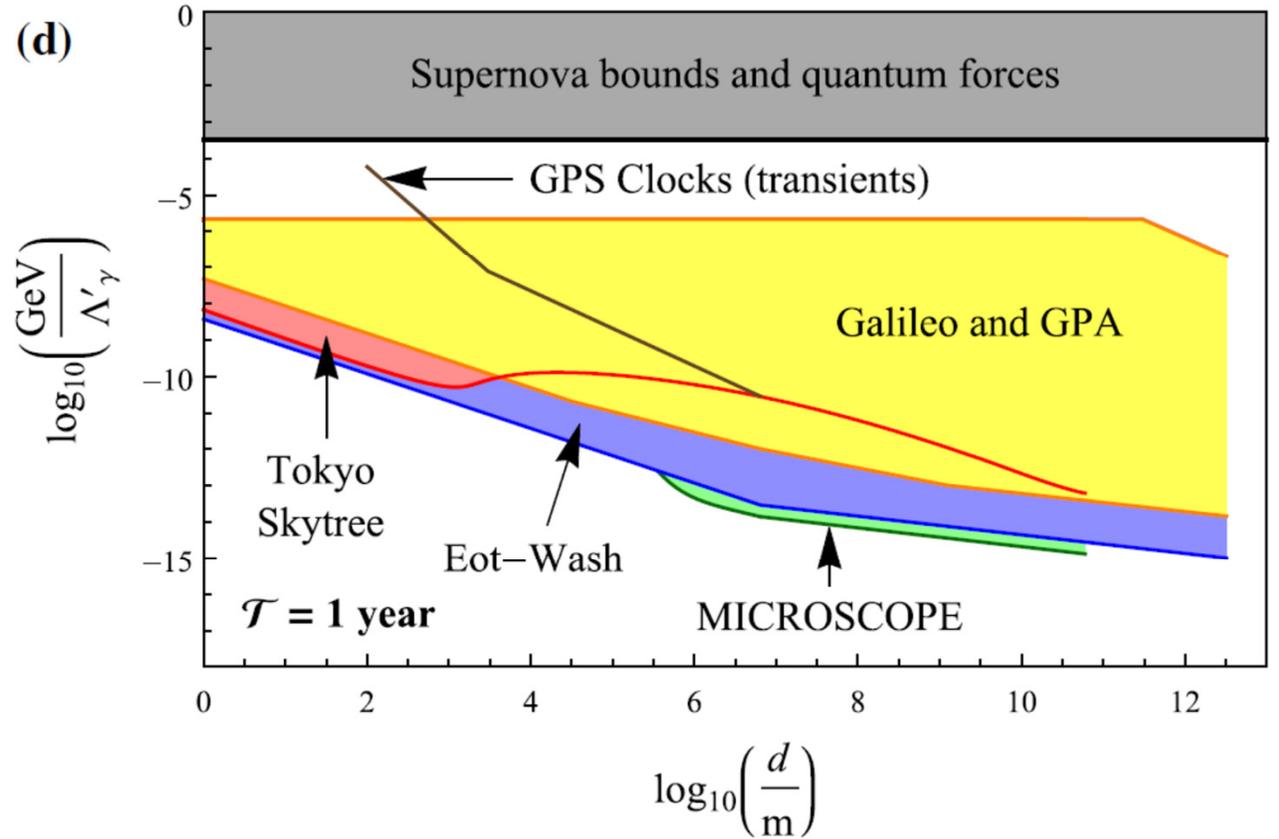
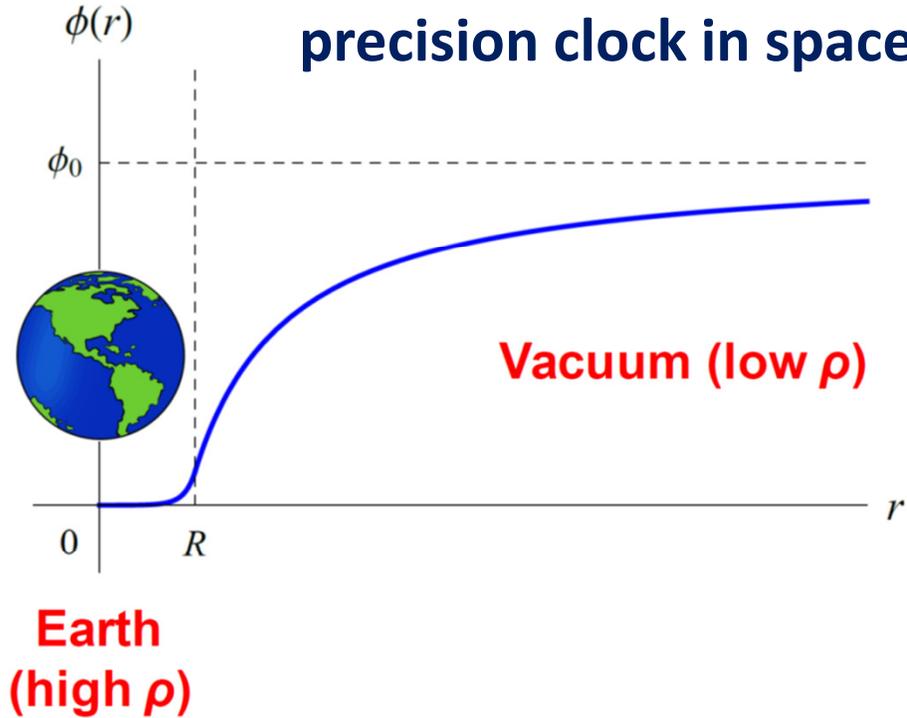


High-density environment

- Such scalar fields tends to be screened in dense environments
- All current experiments for topological defects were in the regime of strong screening (which was not accounted for)
- Environmental dependence of “constants”
- Must stronger constraints from such “non-transient effects”

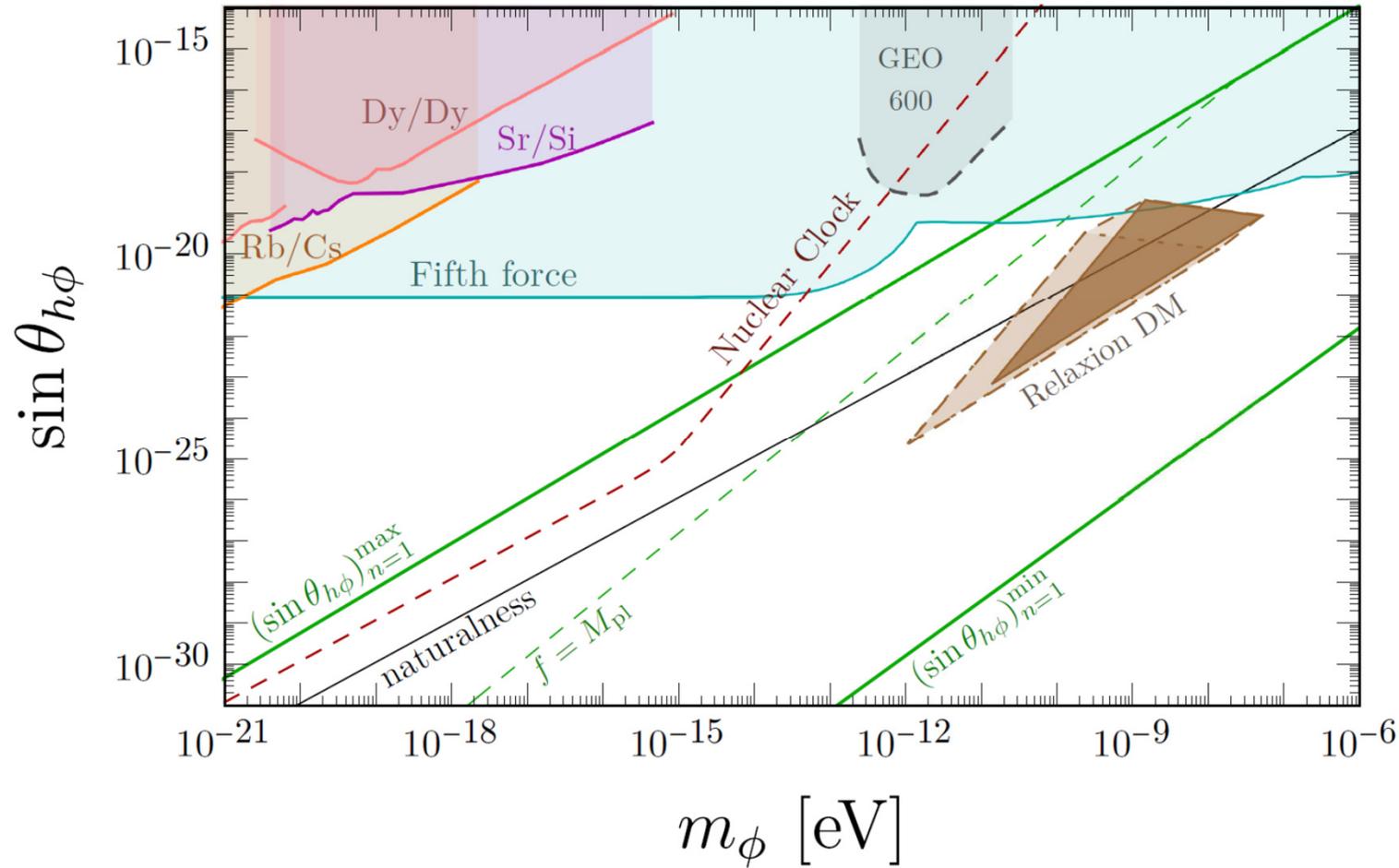
Environmental dependence of “constants” near Earth

It will be great to have a precision clock in space!



Probing the Relaxed Relaxion at the Luminosity and Precision Frontiers

Abhishek Banerjee, Hyungjin Kim, Oleksii Matsedonskyi, Gilad Perez, Marianna S. Safronova,
J. High Energ. Phys. 2020, 153 (2020).



Cosmological relaxation of the electroweak scale is an attractive scenario addressing the gauge hierarchy problem.

Its main actor, the relaxion, is a light spin-zero field which dynamically relaxes the Higgs mass with respect to its natural large value.

Continued collaboration with Gilad Perez' particle physics theory group.

Relaxion-Higgs mixing angle as a function of the relaxion mass.

A relaxion window and the available parameter space for the light relaxion, current and projected constraints.

Fundamental physics with novel atomic and molecular systems

Why use novel systems?

1 H																	2 He						
3 Li	4 Be																	5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg																	13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr						
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe						
55 Cs	56 Ba	* 71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn						
87 Fr	88 Ra	* * 103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og						
		* 57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb								
		* * 89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No								

Systems for first quantum control experiments:

- Easiest to cool and trap
- Simplest atomic structure: one or later two valence electrons
- Stable isotopes

Why use novel systems?

- **Much higher sensitivity for new physics or sensitivity to different new physics**

Enhancements in heavy atoms, ions, and molecules with heavy atoms

Relativistic effects

Heavy nuclei (Z^3 or similar scaling)

Octupole deformed nuclei

Larger effective electric field (molecules for eEDM)

Different types of transitions are available – sensitivity to different fundamental constants (molecules and molecular ions, highly-charged ions, nuclear clock)

Need more isotopes or need a radioactive isotope

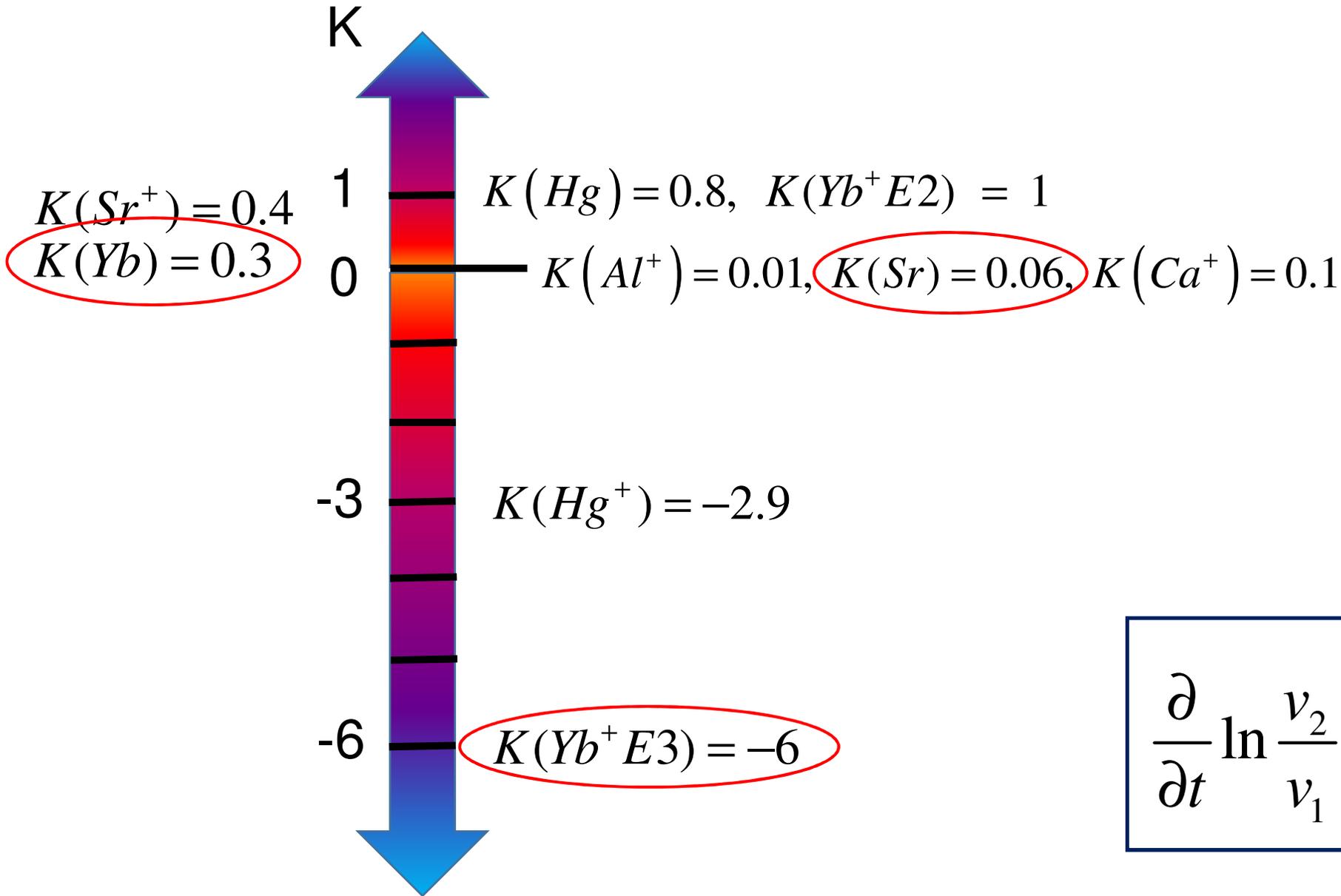
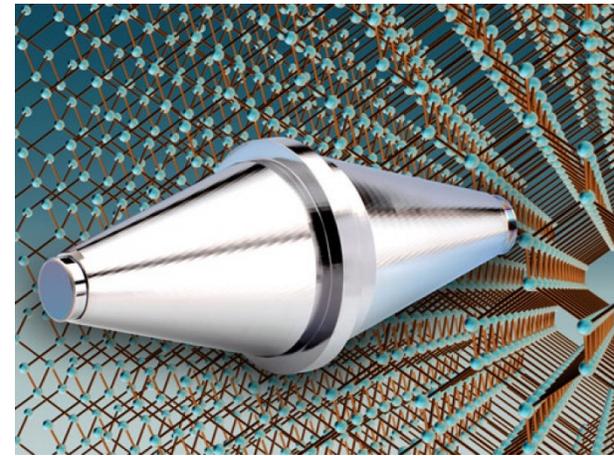
- **New systems have properties not available in currently used systems allowing for reduced systematics or better statistics**

From building quantum sensors to dedicated new physics experiments

Enhancement factors for current clocks

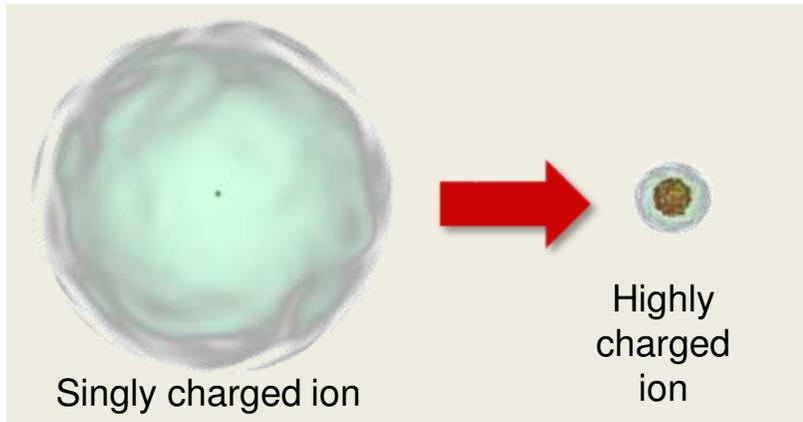
$$K = \frac{2q}{E_0}$$

Cavity: part of the clock laser systems Effective



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \ln \frac{\nu_2}{\nu_1} = (K_2 - K_1) \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t}$$

Novel systems: highly charged ions (HCIs)



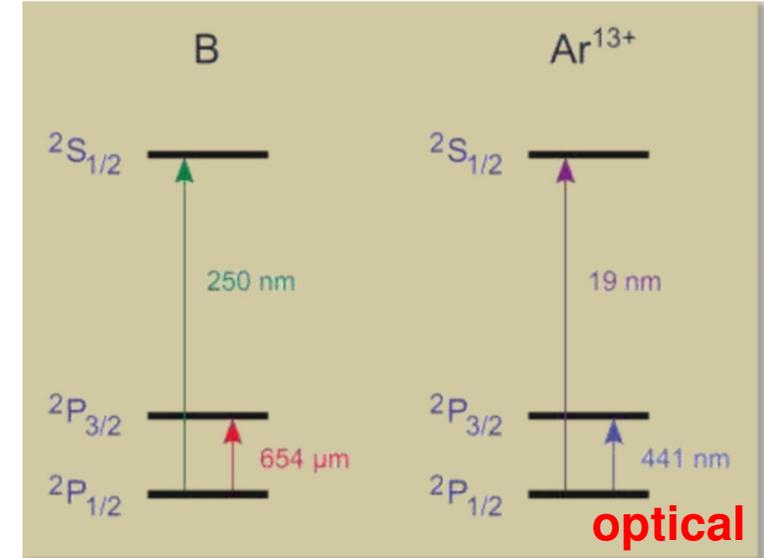
Scaling with a nuclear charge Z

Binding energy $\sim Z^2$

Hyperfine splitting $\sim Z^3$

QED effects $\sim Z^4$

Stark shifts $\sim Z^{-6}$



- Fine-structure, hyperfine-structure, and level-crossing transitions in range of table-top lasers
- Much higher sensitivity to new physics due to relativistic effects
- Rich variety of level structure not available in other systems
- Reduced systematics due to suppressed Stark shifts

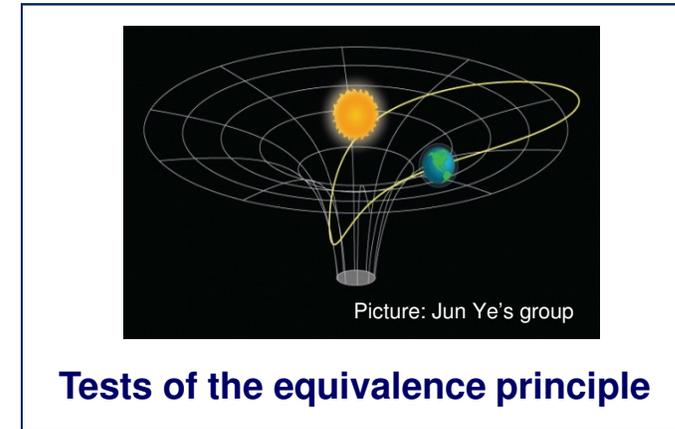
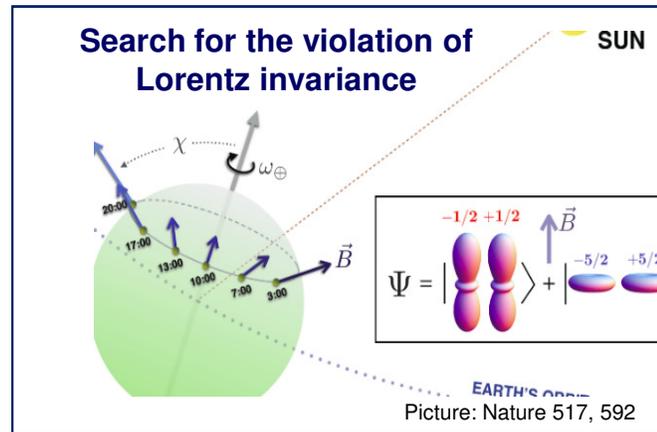
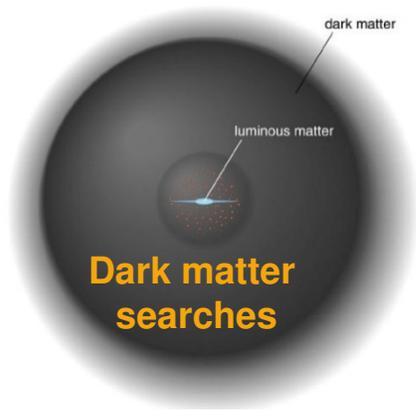
Review on HCIs for optical clocks: Kozlov *et al.*, Rev. Mod. Phys. **90**, 045005 (2018)

HCI for ultra-precise clocks : applications & future

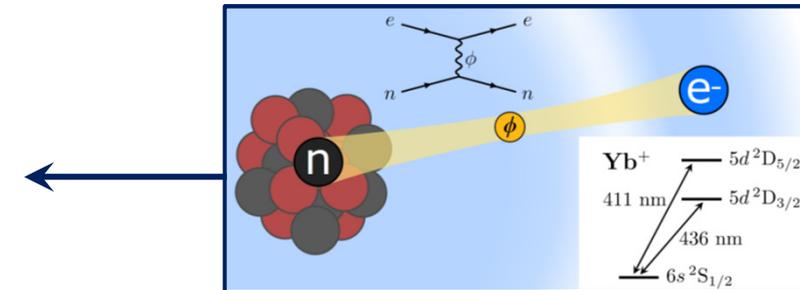
HCI: **much larger** sensitivity to variation of α and dark matter searches then current clocks

- Enhancement factor $K > 100$, most of present clocks $K < 1$, Yb⁺ E3 $K = 6$
- Hyperfine HCI clocks sensitive to m_e/m_p ratio and m_q/Λ_{QCD} ratio variation
- Additional enhancement to Lorentz violation searches

HCI review: [Rev. Mod. Phys. 90, 45005 \(2018\)](#)



- Searches for the variation of fundamental constants
- Tests of QED: precision spectroscopy
- Fifth force searches: precision measurements of isotope shifts with HCIs to study non-linearity of the King plot



5 years: Optical clocks with selected HCIs will reach 10^{-18} accuracy

10 years: Strongly α -sensitive transitions in HCIs will reach of 10^{-18} uncertainty, multi-ion HCI clocks



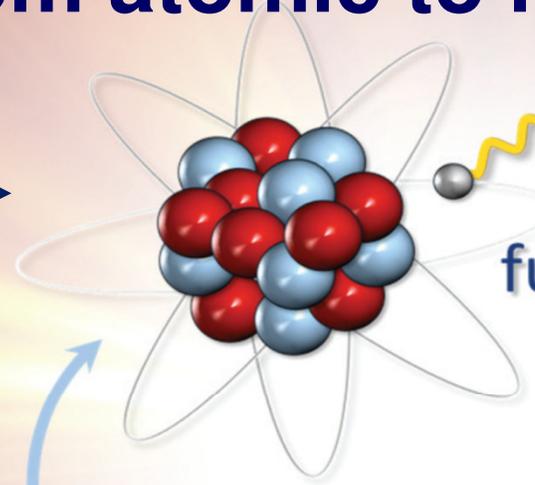
Thorium nuclear clocks for fundamental tests of physics

Thorsten Schumm, TU Wein
Ekkehard Peik, PTB
Peter Thirolf, LMU
Marianna Safronova, UDel



From atomic to nuclear clocks!

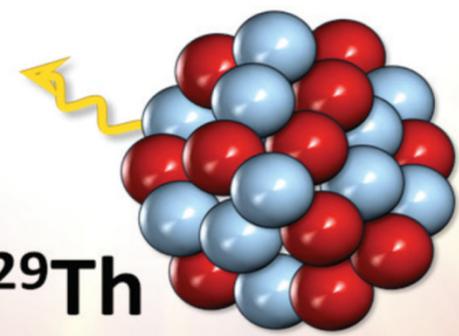
Clock based on transitions in atoms



Are
fundamental
constants
constant?

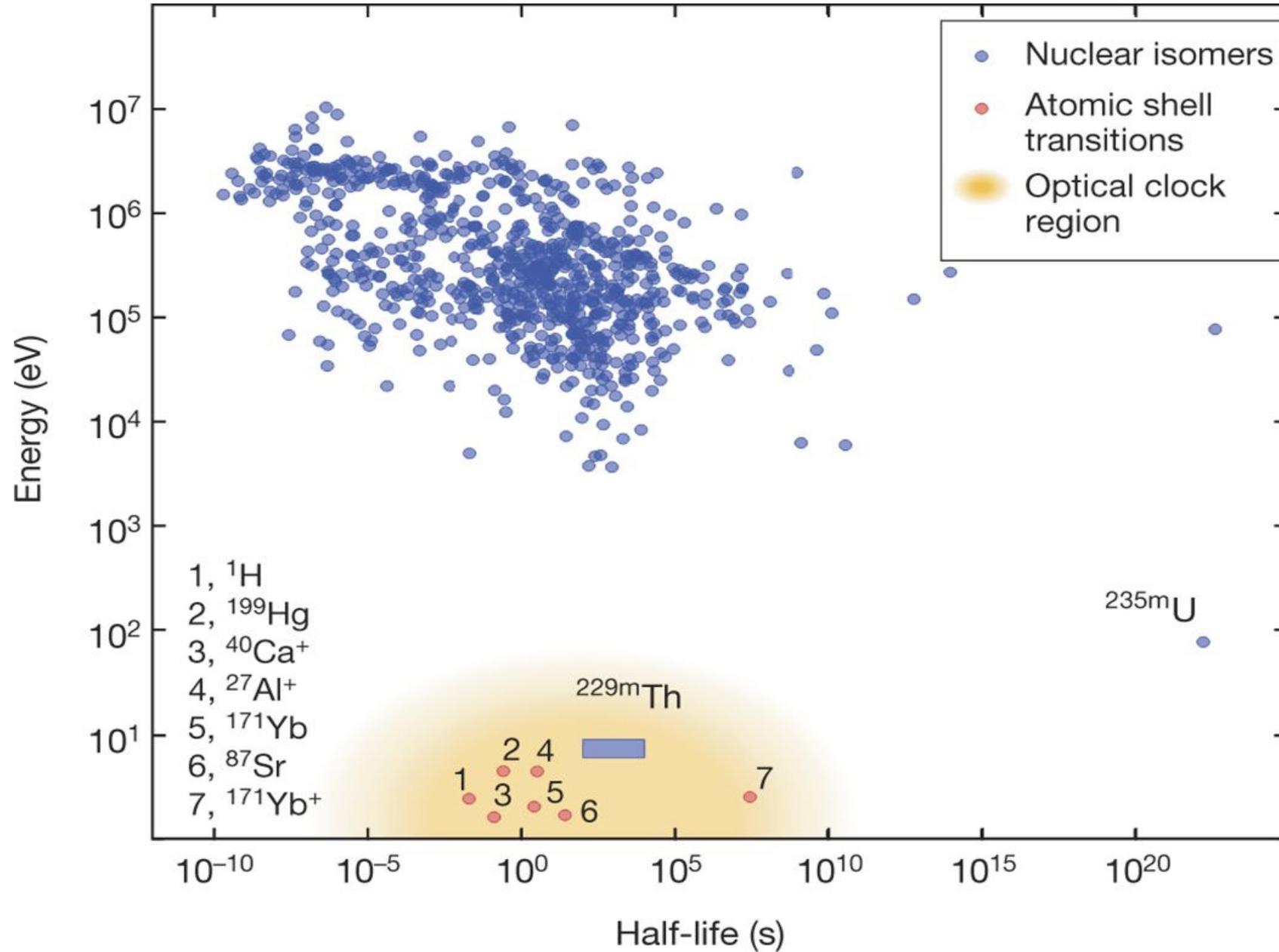


^{229}Th



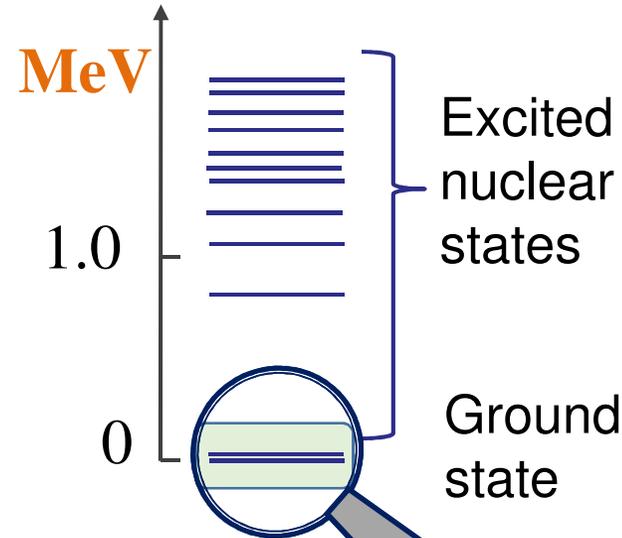
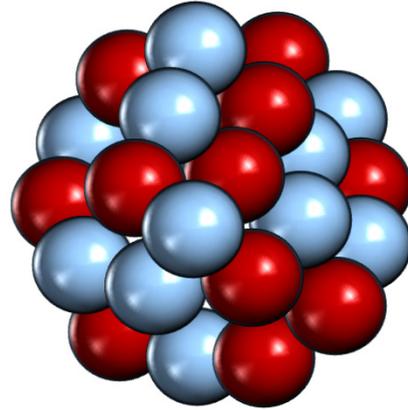
Clock based on transitions in nuclei

Obvious problem: typical nuclear energy levels are in MeV
Six orders of magnitude from ~few eV we can access by lasers!



Th nuclear clock

Atomic
Nucleus



**Only ONE
exception!**

$^{229\text{m}}\text{Th}$



Nuclear transition
150 nm [8.19(12)eV]
Lifetime ~ 5000s

^{229}Th

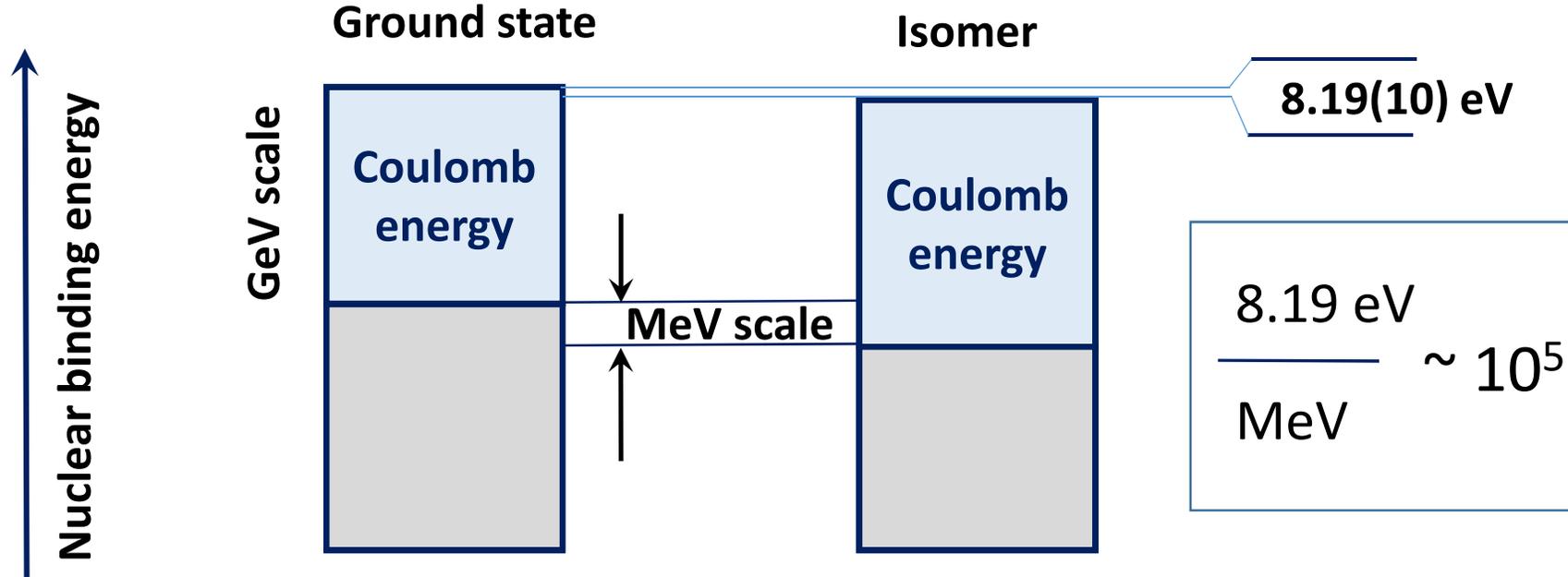
Energy of the ^{229}Th nuclear clock transition:

Seiferle *et al.*, Nature 573, 243 (2019)

T. Sikorsky et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 142503 (2020).

Review: E. Peik, et al., Quantum Science and Technology 6, 034002 (2021).

The nuclear clock: Exceptional sensitivity to new physics



Much higher predicted sensitivity ($K = 10000-100000$) to the variation of α and $\frac{m_q}{\Lambda_{QCD}}$.

Nuclear clock is sensitive to coupling of dark matter to the nuclear sector of the standard model.

5 years: prototype nuclear clocks, based on both solid state and trapped ion technologies

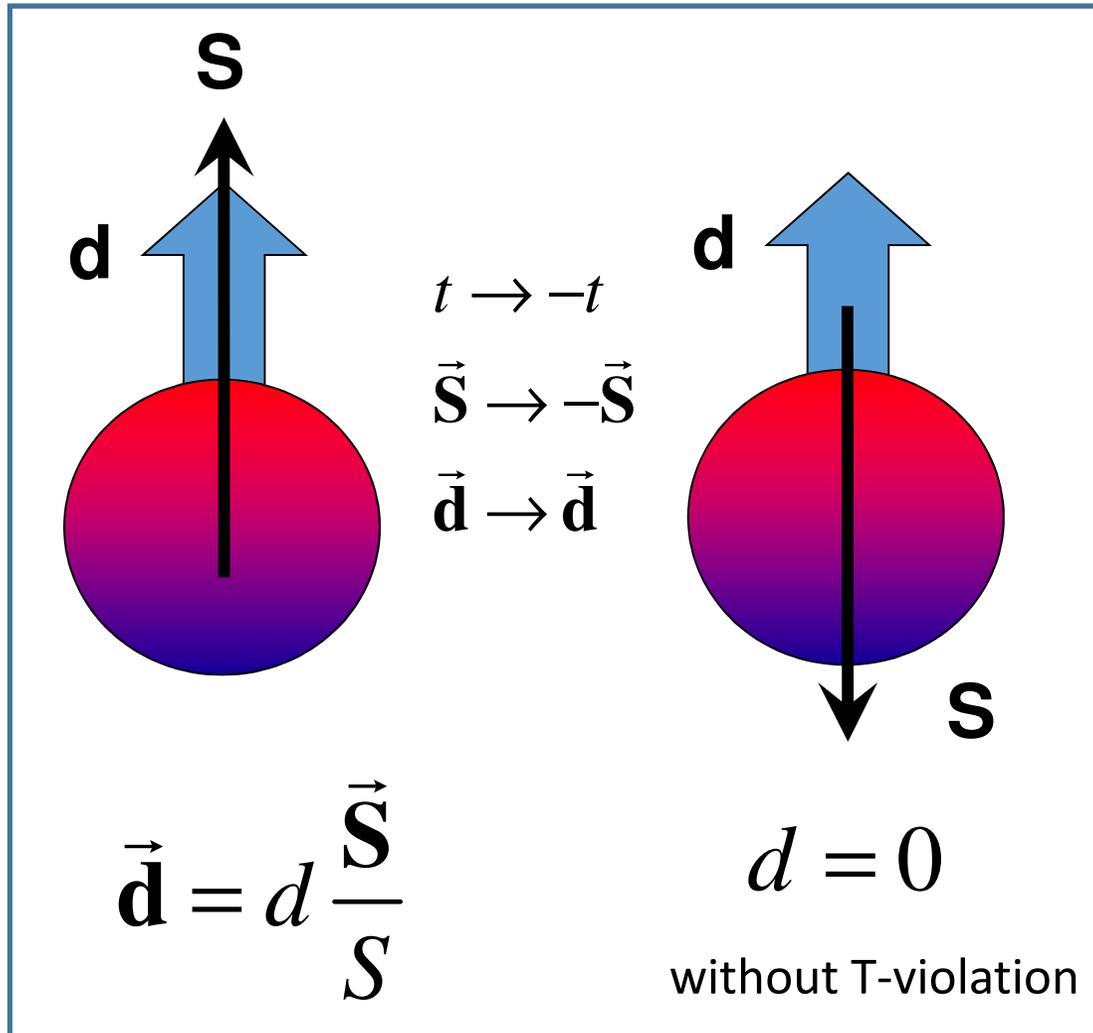
Measure isomer properties to establish of sensitivity to new physics

Variation of fundamental constant and dark matter searches competitive with present clock

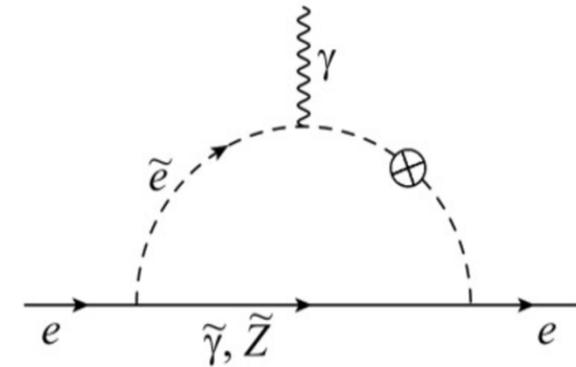
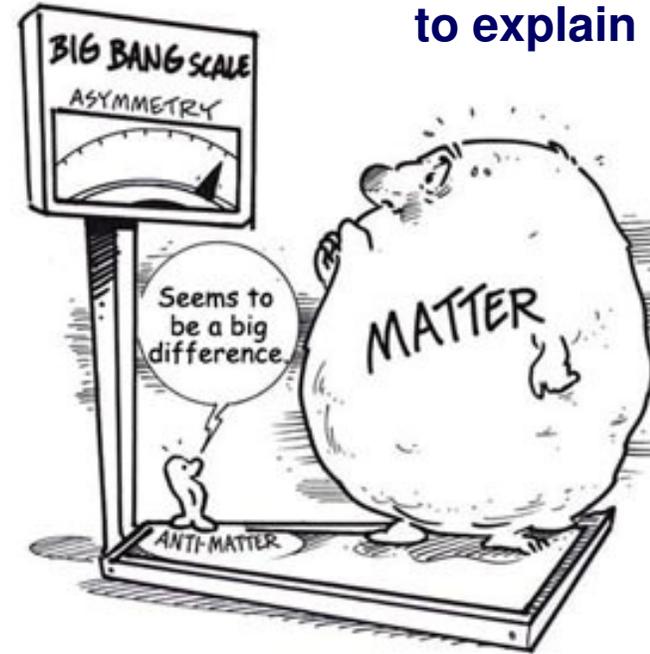
10 years: $10^{-18} - 10^{-19}$ nuclear clock, 5 - 6 orders improvement in current clock dark matter limits

Searches for the EDMs with novel systems

Time-reversal invariance must be violated for an elementary particle or atom to possess a **permanent EDM**.

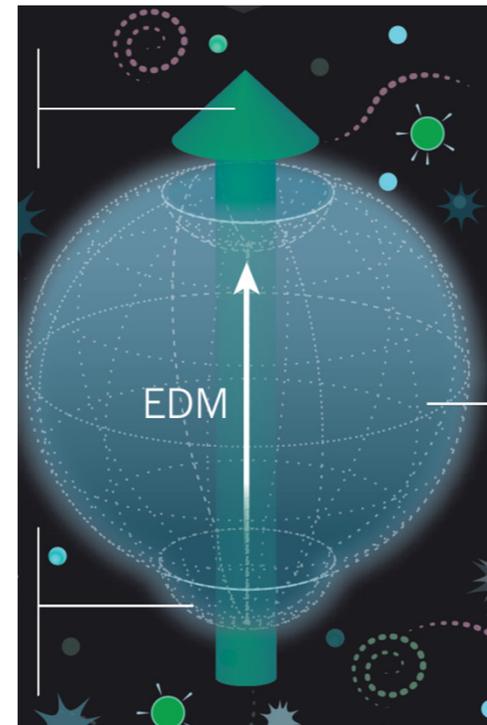
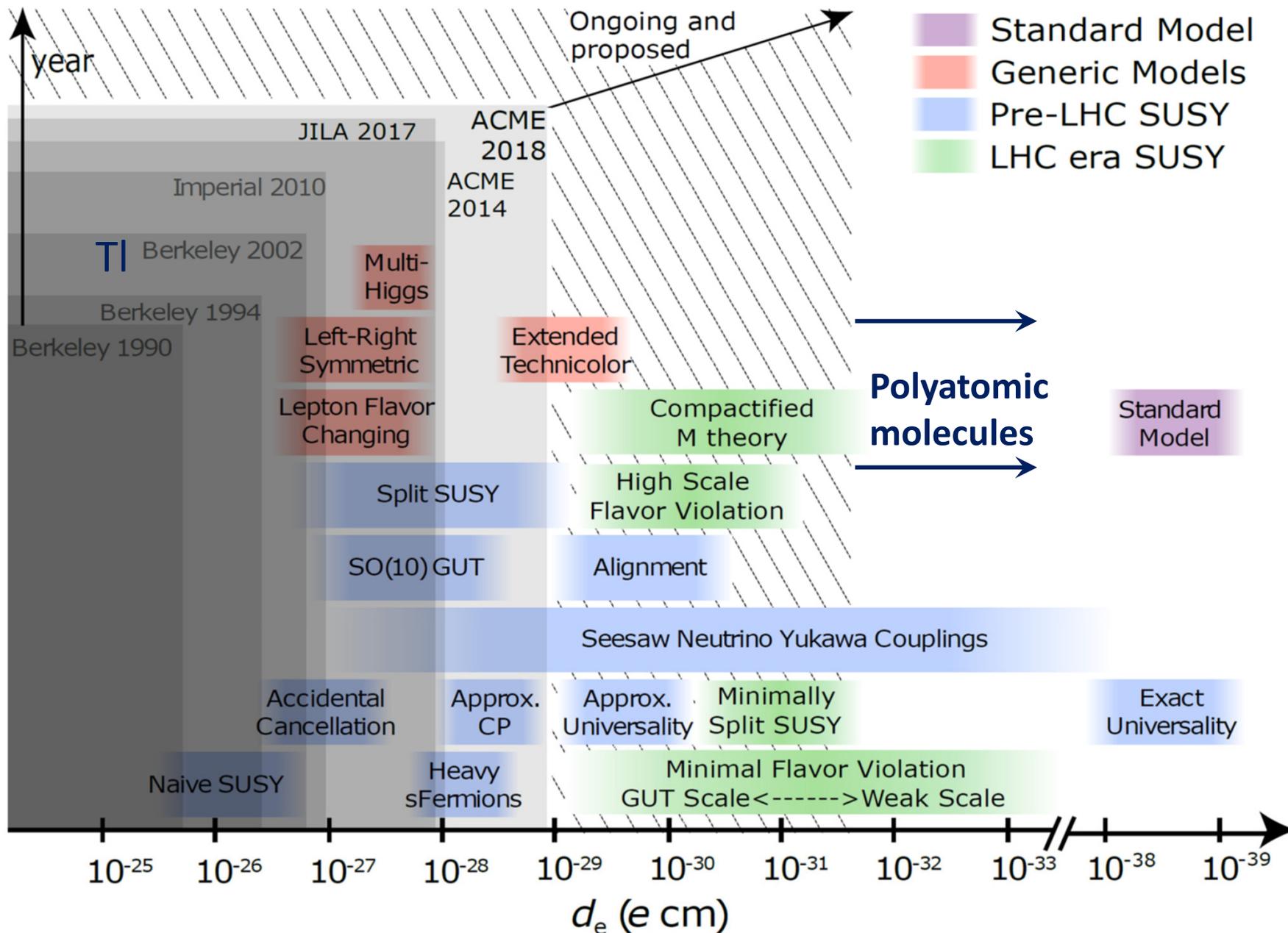


Need new sources of T- (CP-) violation to explain matter-antimatter asymmetry



Additional sources of CP-violation lead to much larger EDMs than SM predicts.

Such EDMs should be observable with current experiments.



NATURE 553, 142 (2018)

Figure is from 2020 USA AMO Decadal survey (Credit: Dave DeMille)

<https://www.nationalacademies.org/amo>

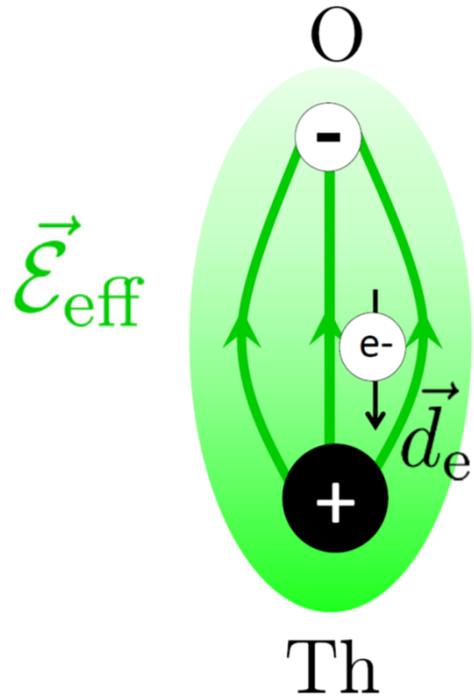
Searches for electron EDM with molecules

Present status: experiments with reported results

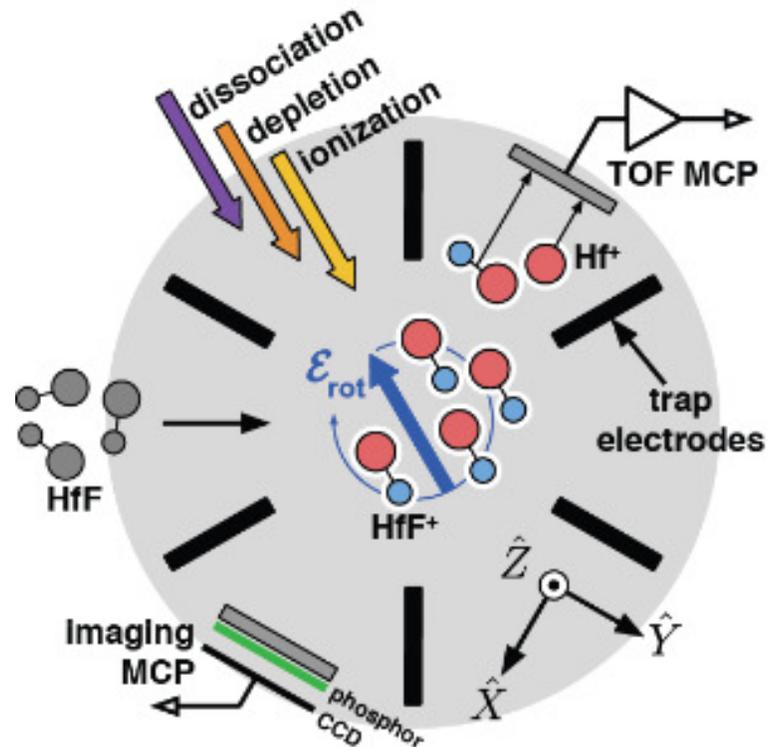
Put electron in strong electric field

$$\text{Energy } (\vec{d}_e \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}}_{\text{eff}})$$

Advanced
ACME

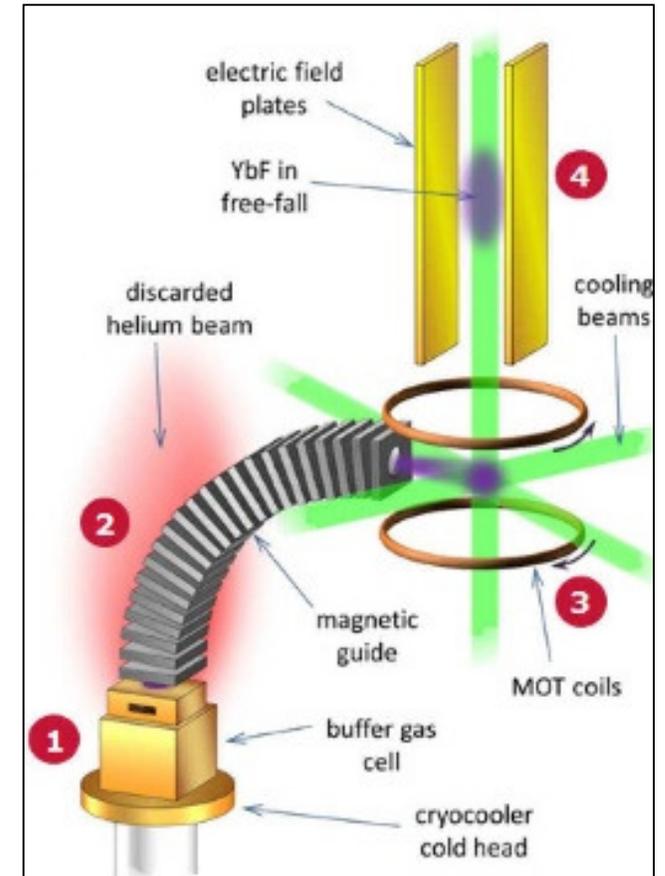


JILA eEDM



HfF⁺, (now also ThF⁺)

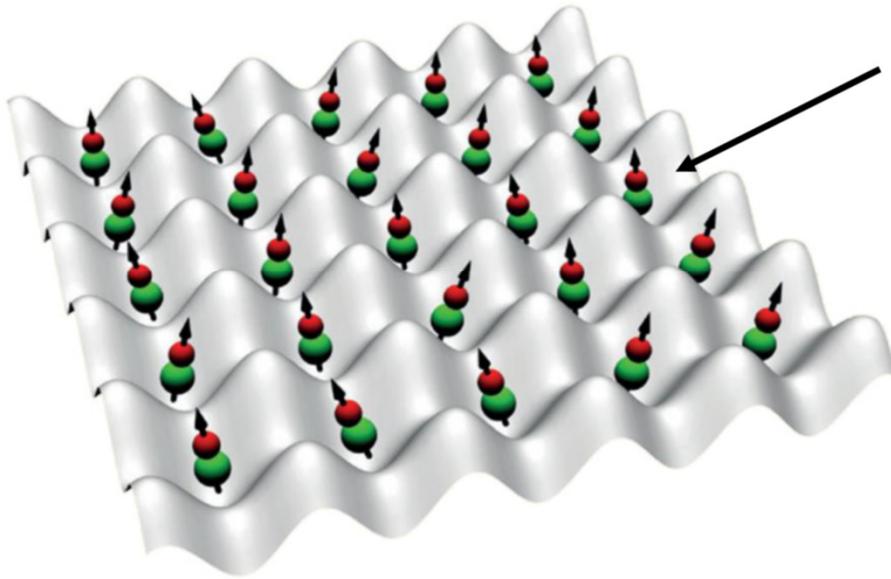
Imperial College



YbF

Expected an order or magnitude improvement in ~5 years

Electron EDM experiments: laser-cooled molecules



Heavy, polar molecule
sensitive to new physics

**Need to trap at
ultracold temperatures**

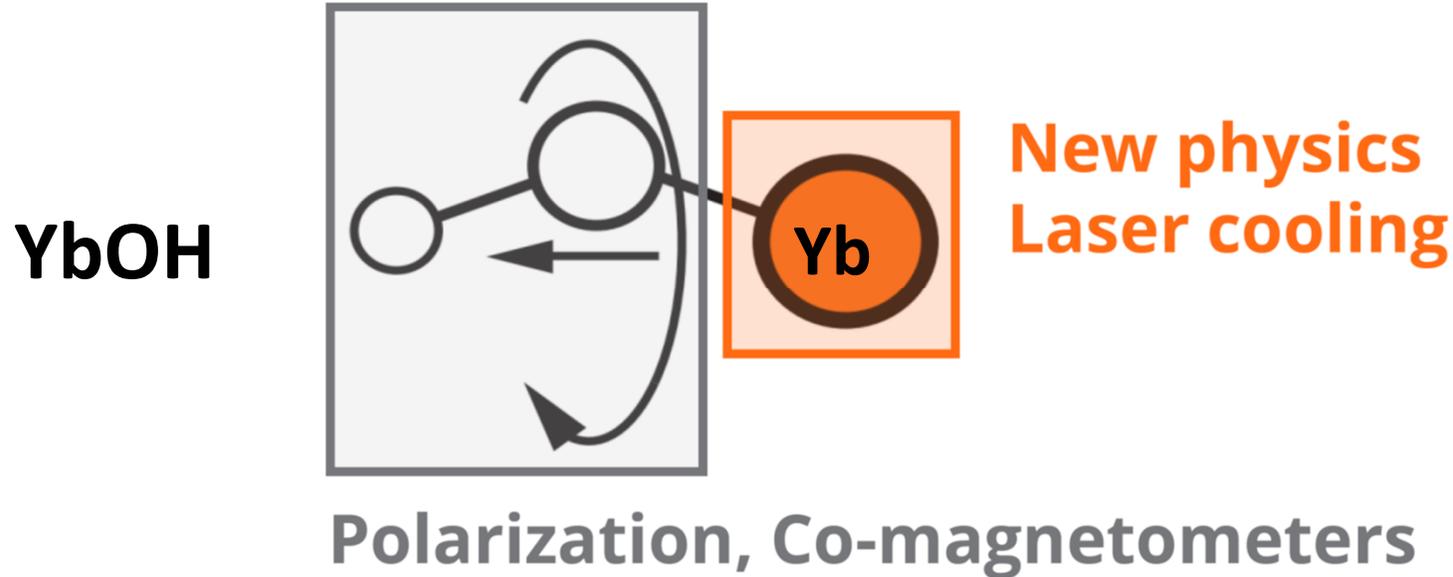
Laser slowed, cooled, and trapped in 3D: SrF, CaF, and YO
Laser-cooled, but not yet trapped: YbF, BaH, SrOH, CaOH,
YbOH, and CaOCH₃

- 10^6 molecules
- 10 s coherence
- Large enhancement(s)
- Robust error rejection
- 1 week averaging

$M_{\text{new phys}} \sim 1,000 \text{ TeV}$

*Even before implementing advanced
quantum control, such as
entanglement-based squeezing*

eEDM experiments with **polyatomic** laser-cooled



Caltech
Harvard

Proposal: Ivan Kozyryev and N. R. Hutzler, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **119**, 133002 (2017)
Review: N. R. Hutzler, *Quantum Sci. Technol.* **5** 044011 (2020)

5 years: An electron EDM result with trapped ultracold YbOH, initial goal 10^{-31} e cm

8 years: Improvements in coherence time and number trapped molecules: 10^{-32} e cm

Also: YbOH nuclear MQM

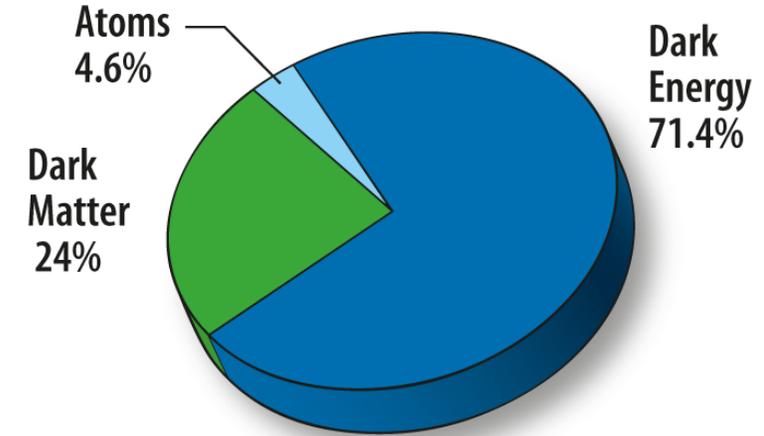
Theory: *J. Chem. Phys.* 152, 084303 (2020)

Picture & timeline from: Nick Hutzler

Atomic & nuclear clocks:

Great potential for discovery of new physics

**Many new developments
coming in the next 10 years!**



**Need NEW IDEAS how to use quantum
technologies for new physics searches**



Senior research scientists: **Sergey Porsev, Dmytro Filin**

Postdoc: **Charles Cheng**

Graduate students: **Aung Naing, Adam Mars, Hani Zaheer**

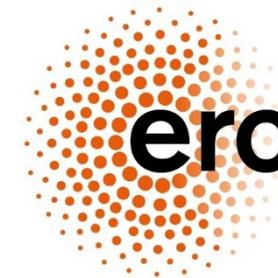
Online portal collaboration, Electrical & Computer Engineering:
Prof. **Rudolf Eigenmann**, graduate student: **Parinaz Barakhshan**
Prof. **Bindiya Arora**, GNDU, India

Postdoc position in the new physics searches with quantum technologies
will become available summer of 2021

Contact **Marianna Safronova** (msafrono@udel.edu) for more information

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Murray Barrett, CQT, Singapore
José Crespo López-Urrutia, MPIK, Heidelberg
Piet Schmidt, PTB, University of Hannover



Thorium nuclear clocks
for fundamental tests
of physics

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Many thanks to Yevgeny Stadnik, José R. Crespo López-Urrutia,
Nick Hutzler, for discussions and input for this talk!