



LNF, Frascati, November 2019

Quantum tests of gravity.
*State of the Play, Prospects, and
Experimental Challenges*

Markus Aspelmeyer

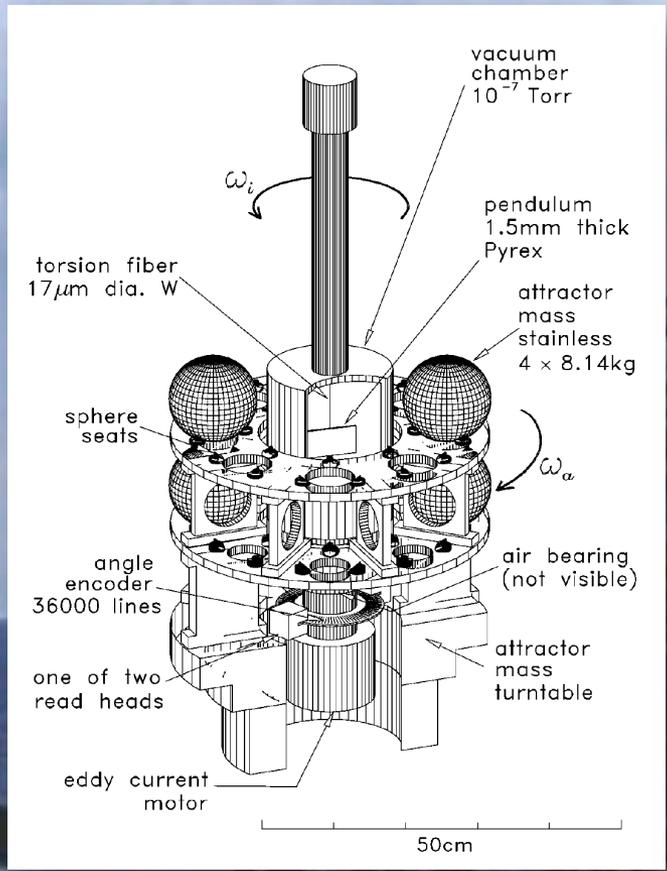
Vienna Center for Quantum Science and Technology (VCQ)

Faculty of Physics, University of Vienna, Austria

IQOQI, Austrian Academy of Sciences



Mechanical Sensing – early attempts



Mt Schehallien (Scotland)

Gundlach et al.,
 PRL 2000
 $\Delta G/G = 15\text{ppm}$

Earth: a solid body or a hollow sphere with a core?
 1774 (Maskelyne): **gravitational force of a mountain** via pendulum
 1798 (Cavendish): gravitational force of spheres via torsional pendulum

OUTLINE

- **Quantum Tests of Gravity.**
An incomplete survey
- **Quantum Tests of Quantum Gravity?**
Low-energy consequences of quantum gravity in table-top experiments
- **Quantum Tests of Non-Classical Gravity.**
A quantum Cavendish experiment and its consequences

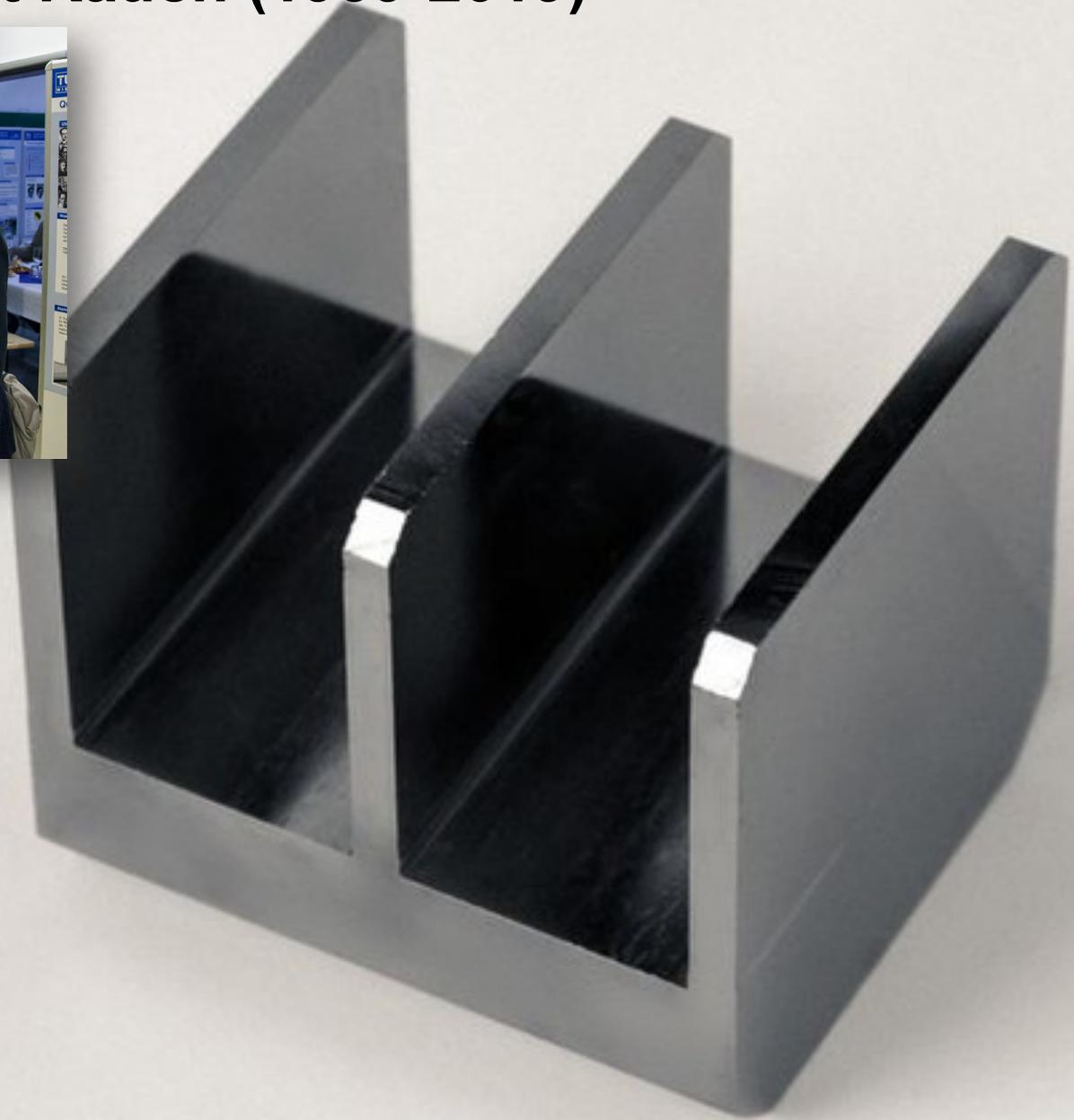
20 μ m

In memory of Helmut Rauch (1939-2019)



The neutron interferometer

*Rauch, Treimer, Bonse,
Physics Letters A 47, 369 (1974)*



Observation of Gravitationally Induced Quantum Interference*

R. Colella and A. W. Overhauser

Department of Physics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

and

S. A. Werner

Scientific Research Staff, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan 48121

(Received 14 April 1975)

We have used a neutron interferometer to observe the quantum-mechanical phase shift of neutrons caused by their interaction with Earth's gravitational field.

$$\Delta\gamma = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int m \underbrace{\Delta\phi}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{gravitational potential} \\ (\text{on Earth: } \phi = g \cdot h)} dt$$

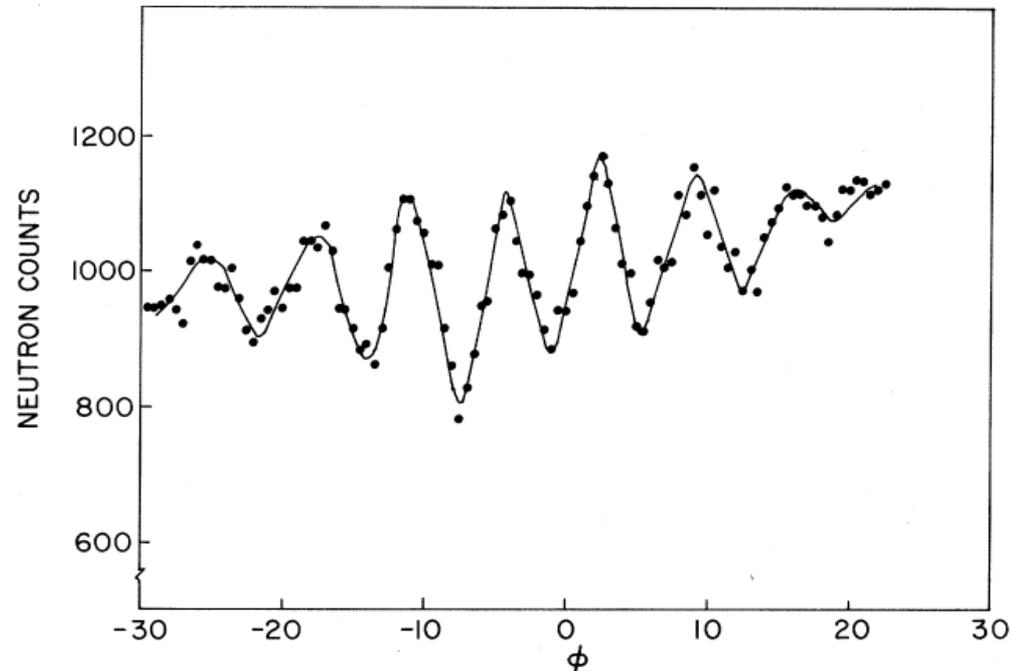
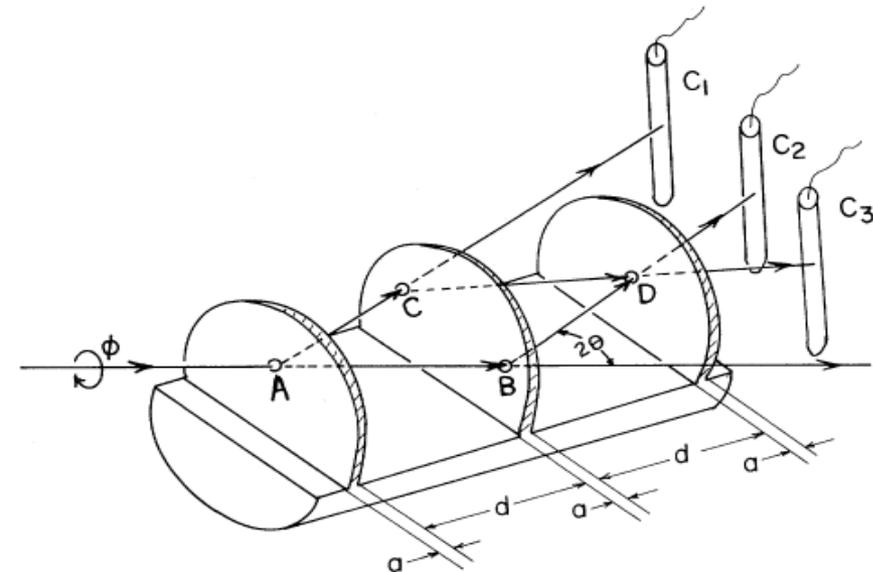


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of the neutron interferometer and ^3He detectors used in this experiment.

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Nature 1999

Measurement of gravitational acceleration by dropping atoms

Achim Peters, Keng Yeow Chung & Steven Chu

Physics Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-4060, USA

Laser-cooling of atoms and atom-trapping are finding increasing application in many areas of science¹. One important use of laser-cooled atoms is in atom interferometers². In these devices, an atom is placed into a superposition of two or more spatially separated atomic states; these states are each described by a quantum-mechanical phase term, which will interfere with one another if they are brought back together at a later time. Atom

Nature 2002

Quantum states of neutrons in the Earth's gravitational field

Valery V. Nesvizhevsky*, Hans G. Börner*, Alexander K. Petukhov*, Hartmut Abele†, Stefan Baeßler†, Frank J. Rueß†, Thilo Stöferle†, Alexander Westphal†, Alexei M. Gagarski‡, Guennady A. Petrov‡ & Alexander V. Strelkov§

* *Institute Laue-Langevin, 6 rue Jules Horowitz, Grenoble F-38042, France*

† *University of Heidelberg, 12 Philosophenweg, Heidelberg D-69120, Germany*

‡ *Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Orlova Roscha, Gatchina, Leningrad reg. R-188350, Russia*

§ *Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Moscow reg. R-141980, Russia*

The discrete quantum properties of matter are manifest in a variety of phenomena. Any particle that is trapped in a sufficiently deep and wide potential well is settled in quantum bound states. For example, the existence of quantum states of electrons in an electromagnetic field is responsible for the structure of atoms¹⁶, and quantum states of nucleons in a strong nuclear field give rise to the structure of atomic nuclei¹⁷. In an analogous way, the gravitational field should lead to the formation of quantum states.

Observation of Gravitationally Induced Quantum Interference*

R. Colella and A. W. Overhauser

Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

(Kasevich group)

1991 $\Delta g/g = 1 \times 10^{-6}$

1998 $\Delta g/g = 3 \times 10^{-8}$

2014 $\Delta g/g = 5 \times 10^{-13}$

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Nature 1999

*Dearborn, Michigan 48121
1975)*

the quantum-mechanical phase shift
gravitational field.

Nature 2002

$$\Delta \gamma = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int m \Delta \phi dt$$

↓
gravitational potential
(on Earth: $\phi = g \cdot h$)

Measurement of gravitational acceleration by dropping atoms

Achim Peters, Keng Yeow Chung & Steven Chu

Physics Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-

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(Kasevich/Tino groups)

2007 $\Delta G/G = 3 \times 10^{-3}$

2014 $\Delta G/G = 1 \times 10^{-4}$

mainly limited by position of atoms

The discrete quantum properties of matter are manifest in a variety of phenomena. Any particle that is trapped in a sufficiently deep and wide potential well is settled in quantum bound states. For example, the existence of quantum states of electrons in an electromagnetic field is responsible for the structure of atoms¹⁶, and quantum states of nucleons in a strong nuclear field give rise to the structure of atomic nuclei¹⁷. In an analogous way, the gravitational field should lead to the formation of quantum states.

Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments

Nature 2002

Quantum states of neutrons in the Earth's gravitational field

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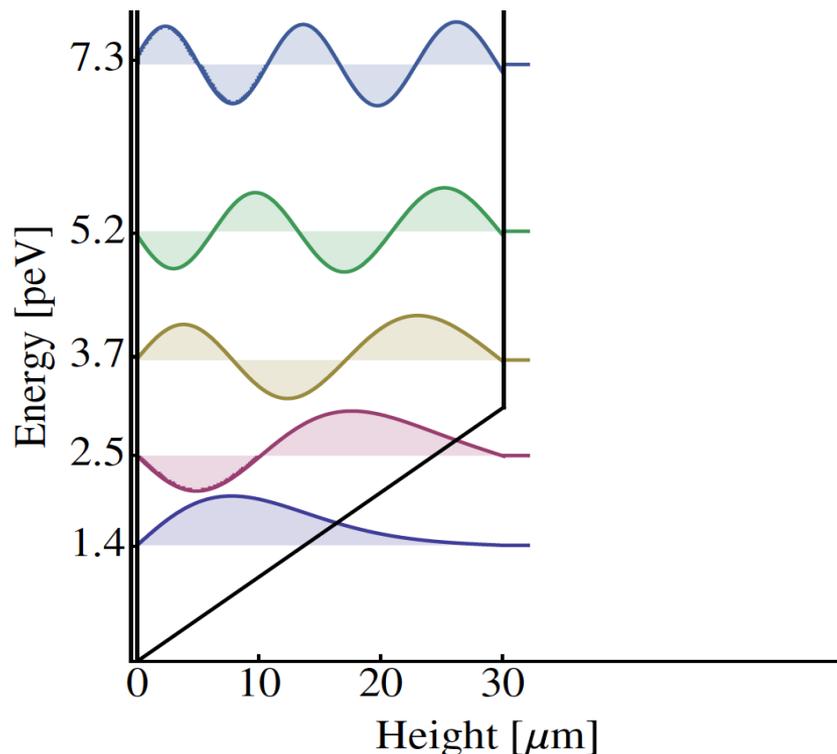
* Institute Laue-Langevin, 6 rue Jules Horowitz, Grenoble F-38042, France

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LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 17 APRIL 2011 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS1970

nature
physics

Realization of a gravity-resonance-spectroscopy technique

Tobias Jenke¹, Peter Geltenbort², Hartmut Lemmel^{1,2} and Hartmut Abele^{1,3,4*}

Sensitivity $\delta E = 1e-14$ eV

- test short-range modifications of $V(r)$ on (sub-) μm scale
- Most stringent bound on pseudoscalar axions

Abele2014: PRL **112**, 151105

Quantum tests of the gravitational time dilation

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

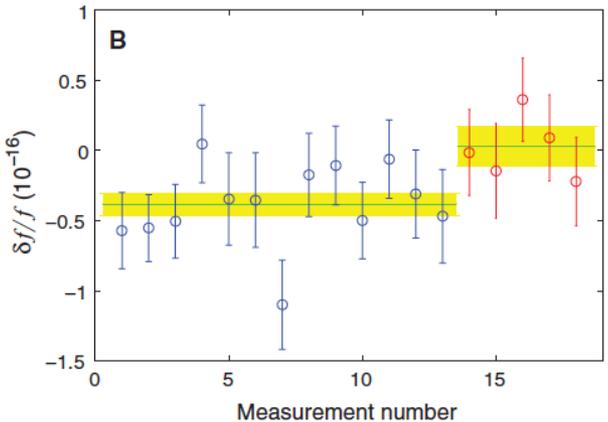
VOLUME 4 APRIL 1, 1960 NUMBER

APPARENT WEIGHT OF PHOTONS*

R. V. Pound and G. A. Rebka, Jr.
 Lyman Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
 (Received March 9, 1960)

As we proposed a few months ago,¹ we have now measured the effect, originally hypothesized by Einstein,² of gravitational potential on the apparent frequency of electromagnetic radiation by using the sharply defined energy of recoil-free γ rays emitted and absorbed in solids, as discovered by Mössbauer.³ We have already re-

solutely necessary to measure a change in relative frequency that is produced by the perturbation being studied. Observation of a frequency difference between a given source and absorber cannot be uniquely attributed to this perturbation. More recently, we have discovered and explained a variation of frequency with tem-



Frequency shift due to 33 cm lift in Earth's gravitational field

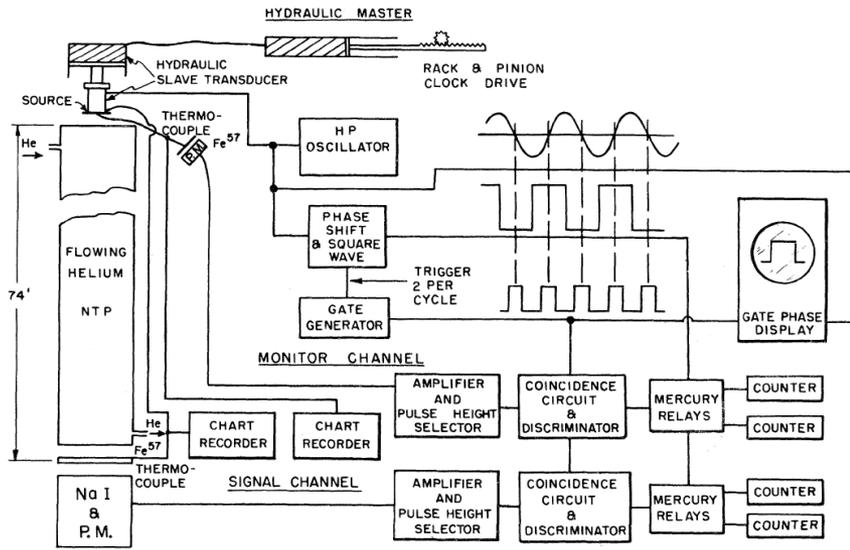


FIG. 1. A block diagram of the over-all experimental arrangement. The source and absorber-detector units were frequently interchanged. Sometimes a ferroelectric and sometimes a moving-coil magnetic transducer was used with frequencies ranging from 10 to 50 cps.

$$\Delta v/v = gh/c^2 = 10^{-16} \times h$$



Optical Clocks and Relativity
 C. W. Chou, et al.
 Science 329, 1630 (2010);
 DOI: 10.1126/science.1192720

Optical Clocks and Relativity

C. W. Chou,* D. B. Hume, T. Rosenband, D. J. Wineland

Observers in relative motion or at different gravitational potentials measure disparate clock rates. These predictions of relativity have previously been observed with atomic clocks at high velocities and with large changes in elevation. We observed time dilation from relative speeds of less than 10 meters per second by comparing two optical atomic clocks connected by a 75-meter length of optical fiber. We can now also detect time dilation due to a change in height near Earth's surface of less than 1 meter. This technique may be extended to the field of geodesy, with applications in geophysics and hydrology as well as in space-based tests of fundamental physics.

(microwave atomic clocks: e.g. Hafele & Keating, Science 177, 166 (1972), Vessot et al., PRL 45, 2081 (1980): h=10⁷m)

What is time? Quantum superpositions of clocks

qubit in a gravitational field

$$|g\rangle + |e\rangle \rightarrow |g\rangle + \exp\left\{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \frac{(E_g - E_e)}{c^2} g h t\right\} |e\rangle$$

i.e. the qubit rotates on the Bloch sphere at a frequency $\omega_g = \frac{\Delta E}{\hbar c^2} g h$

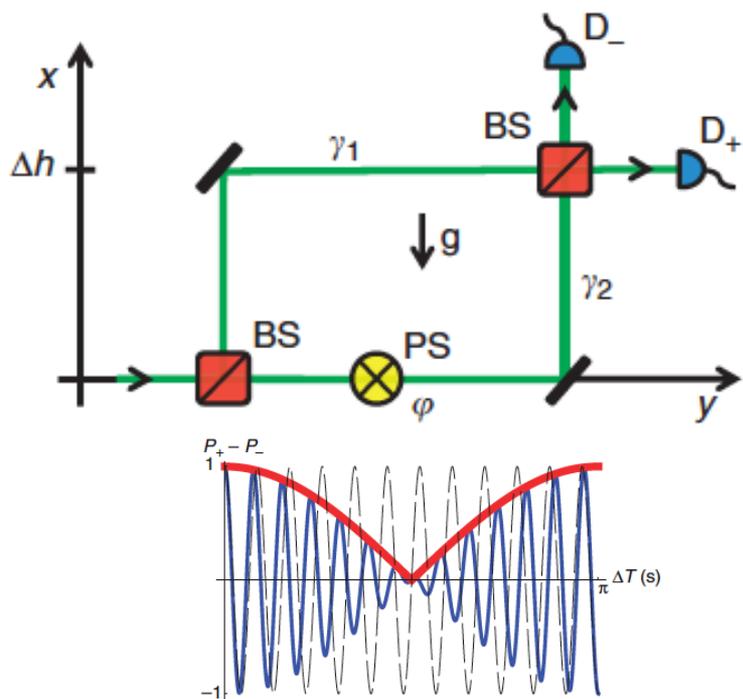


Figure 2 | Visibility of the interference pattern and the phase shift in the cases with and without the 'clock.' The plot of the difference between

Received 13 Jun 2011 | Accepted 5 Sep 2011 | Published 18 Oct 2011

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms1498

Quantum interferometric visibility as a witness of general relativistic proper time

If the qubit is placed in a spatial superposition of two vertical heights (in Earth's gravitational field) separated by Δh the qubits will evolve differently:

Dephasing will occur at a frequency $\Delta\omega_g = \frac{\Delta E}{\hbar c^2} g \Delta h$

Complete dephasing (orthogonal qubit states) will occur

after a time $T_\pi = \frac{\pi}{\Delta\omega_g} = \frac{\pi \hbar c^2}{\Delta E g \Delta h}$

Complete re-phasing will occur after a time $2T_\pi$

Example:

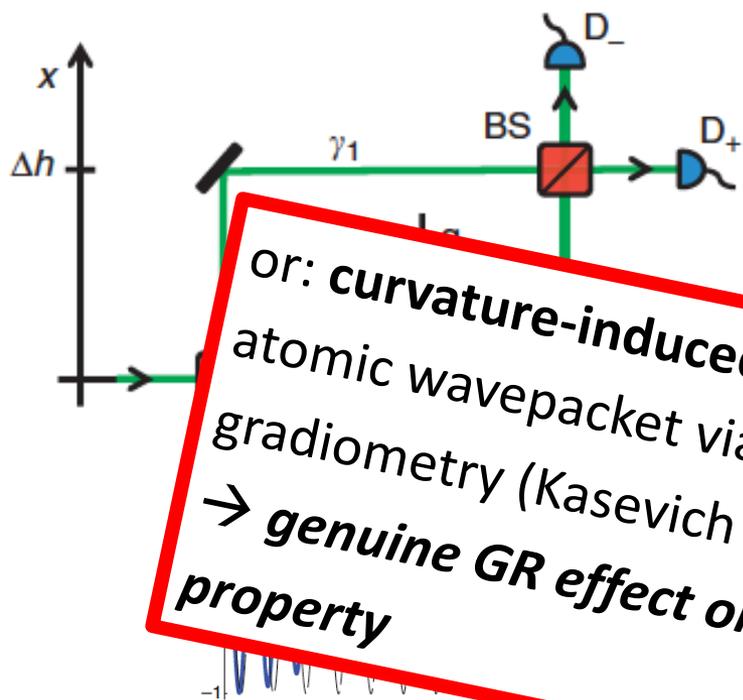
$\Delta h = 20\text{m}$ (Kasevich drop tower, Stanford), $\Delta E = 2\text{eV}$ (optical qubit, e.g. 4S-3D transition in Ca-2+) $\rightarrow T_\pi = 500\text{ ms}$ (compatible with achievable coherence times)

What is time? Quantum superpositions of clocks

qubit in a gravitational field

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Dephasing will occur at a frequency $\Delta\omega_g = \frac{\Delta E}{\hbar c^2} g \Delta h$

π (orthogonal qubit states) will occur

$$\frac{\pi}{\Delta\omega_g} = \frac{\pi \hbar c^2}{\Delta E g \Delta h}$$

Dephasing will occur after a time $2T_\pi$

or: curvature-induced phase shift of atomic wavepacket via gravity-gradiometry (Kasevich 2019; PITP talk) → genuine GR effect on a quantum property

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Quantum-enhancing GWD

LETTERS

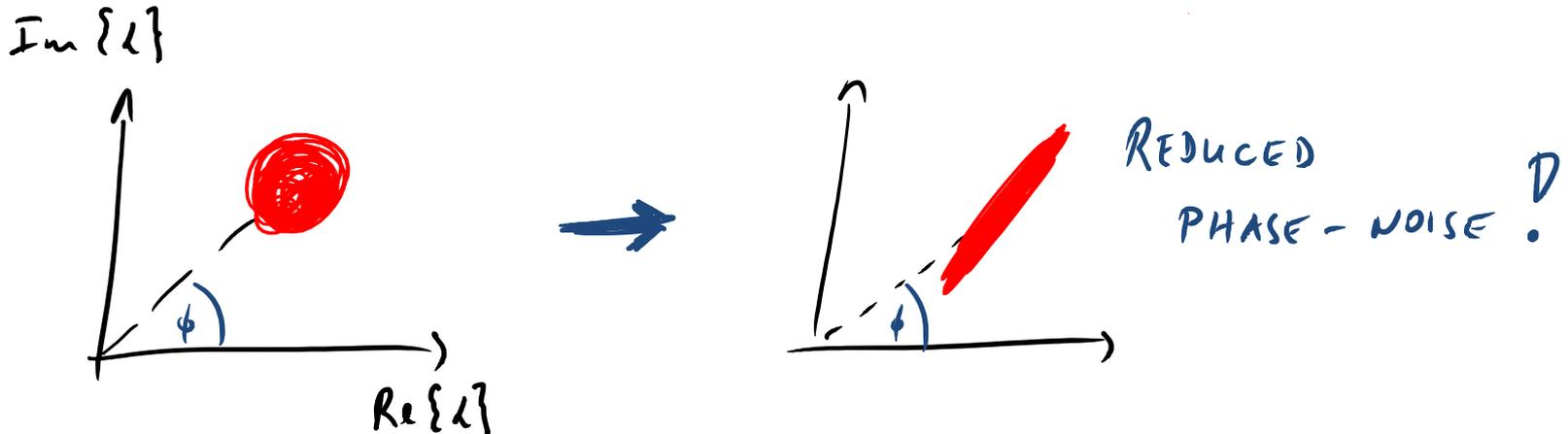
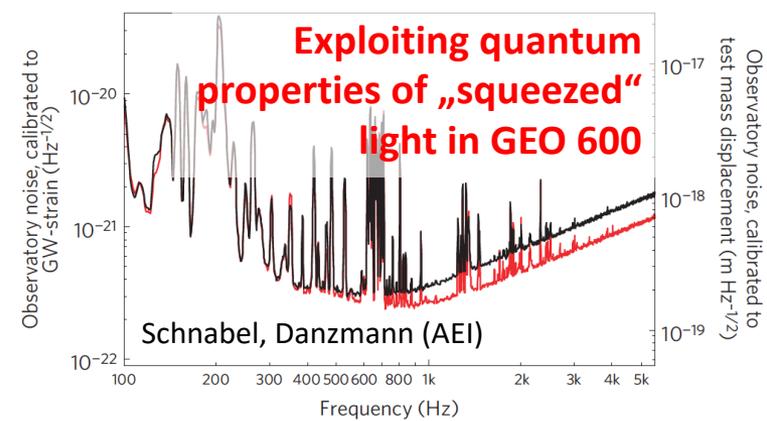
PUBLISHED ONLINE: 11 SEPTEMBER 2011 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS2083

nature
physics

A gravitational wave observatory operating beyond the quantum shot-noise limit

The LIGO Scientific Collaboration ^{†*}

→ f-dependent squeezing: Oelker 2016: PRL 116, 041102



Quantum squeezed light

(Caves 1981): PRD 23, 1693

GEO 600: Nature Physics 7, 962 (2011)

LIGO: Nature Photonics 7, 613 (2013)

Quantum-enhancing GWD

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 11 SEPTEMBER 2011 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS2083

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physics

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Towards the ultimate quantum limits of measurement

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 21 JULY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHOTON.2013.174

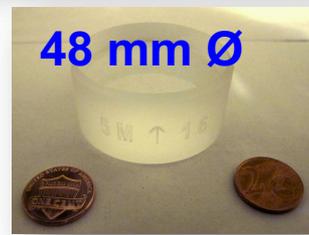
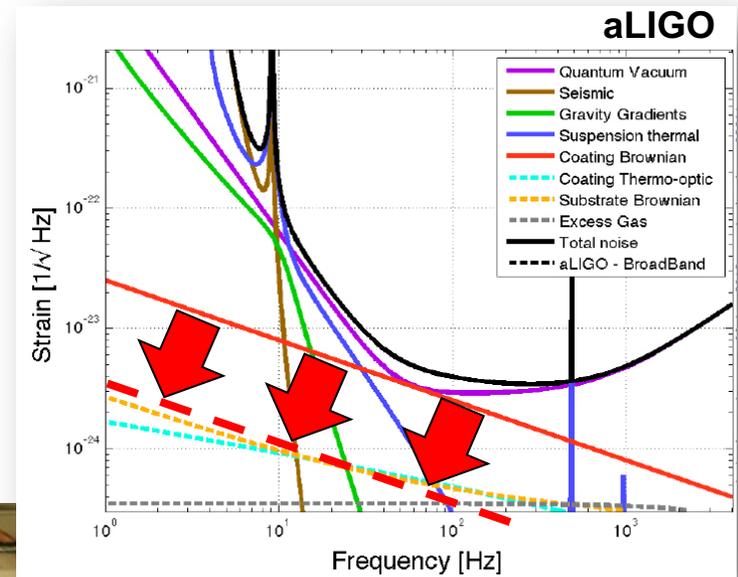
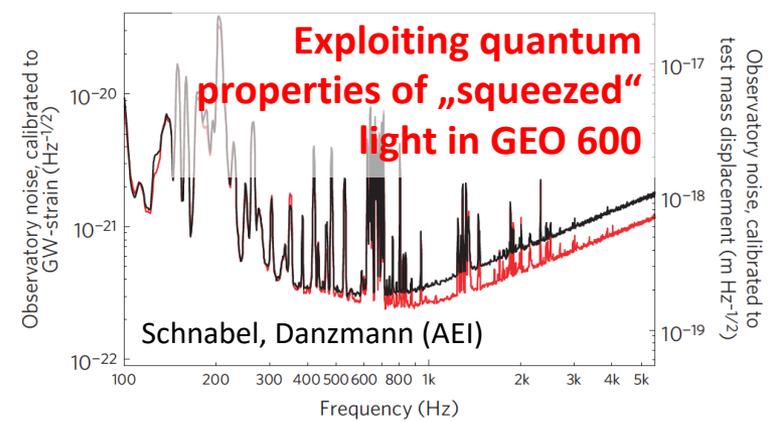
nature
photonics

Tenfold reduction of Brownian noise in high-reflectivity optical coatings

Garrett D. Cole^{1,2†*}, Wei Zhang^{3‡}, Michael J. Martin³, Jun Ye^{3*} and Markus Aspelmeyer^{1*}



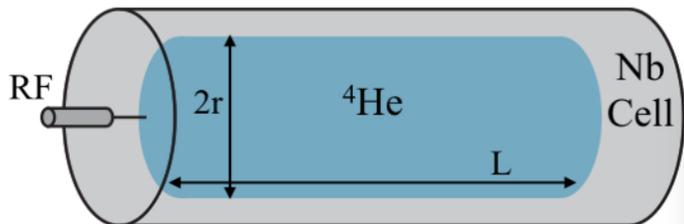
10m Prototype for
Gravitational-Wave Detector
Research
(Albert-Einstein Institut,
Hannover)



with H. Lück (AEI),
K. Danzmann (AEI)

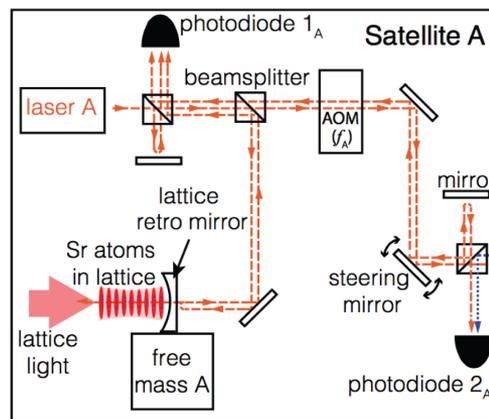
... and many more gravitational wave detectors

Detecting continuous gravitational waves with **superfluid He4**

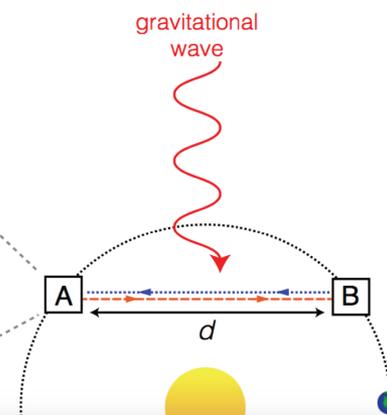


Schwab 2017: NJP 19, 091001

Gravitational wave detection with **optical lattice atomic clocks**



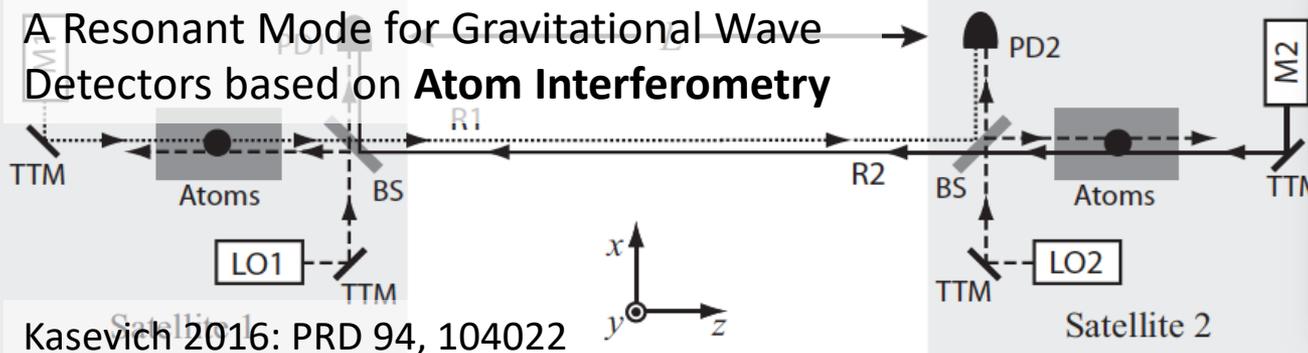
Ye 2016: PRD 94, 124043



Detecting gravitational waves with **highly nonclassical states of Bose-condensed atoms?**

Fuentes 2014: NJP 16, 085003

A Resonant Mode for Gravitational Wave Detectors based on **Atom Interferometry**



Kasevich 2016: PRD 94, 104022

... and many more opportunities

IOP PUBLISHING

CLASSICAL AND QUANTUM GRAVITY

Class. Quantum Grav. 29 (2012) 224011 (44pp)

doi:10.1088/0264-9381/29/22/224011

Science 349, 849 (2015)

Atom-interferometry constraints on dark energy

A
Cavit
mirro

Fundamental quantum optics experiments conceivable with satellites—reaching relativistic distances and velocities

David Rideout^{1,2,3}, Thomas Jennewein^{2,4}, Giovanni Amelino-Camelia⁶, Tommaso F Demarie⁷, Brendon L Higgins^{2,4}, Achim Kempf^{2,3,4,5}, Adrian Kent^{3,8}, Raymond Laflamme^{2,3,4}, Xian Ma^{2,4}, Robert B Mann^{2,4}, Eduardo Martín-Martínez^{2,4,5}, Nicolas C Menicucci^{3,9}, John Moffat³, Christoph Simon¹⁰, Rafael Sorkin³, Lee Smolin³ and Daniel R Terno⁷

P. 1
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nature
physics

PUBLISHED ON

Gravitational bar detectors set limits to Planck-scale physics on macroscopic variables

Science 341, 1213 (2013)

From Cosmology to Cold Atoms: Observation of Sakharov Oscillations in a Quenched Atomic Superfluid

Chen-Lung Hung,^{1*} Victor Gurarie,² Cheng Chin^{1†}

Predicting the dynamics of many-body systems far from equilibrium is a challenging theoretical problem. A long-predicted phenomenon in hydrodynamic nonequilibrium systems is the occurrence

Massimo Cerdonio⁷, Livia Conti⁷,

A. Prodi^{6,9}, Luca Taffarelli⁷.

, 563–573 (2006)

0340-006-2375-y



Applied Physics B
Lasers and Optics

The search for quantum gravity effects II: Specific predictions

(ZARM), University of Bremen,

PRL 98, 111102 (2007)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
16 MARCH 2007

Testing General Relativity with Atom Interferometry

Savas Dimopoulos, Peter W. Graham, Jason M. Hogan, and Mark A. Kasevich

Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA

(Received 10 October 2006; published 15 March 2007)

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A quantum Cavendish experiment and its consequences

20μm

Testing High-Energy Physics in Table-Top Experiments: The example of Supersymmetry

What about quantum gravity?

Science

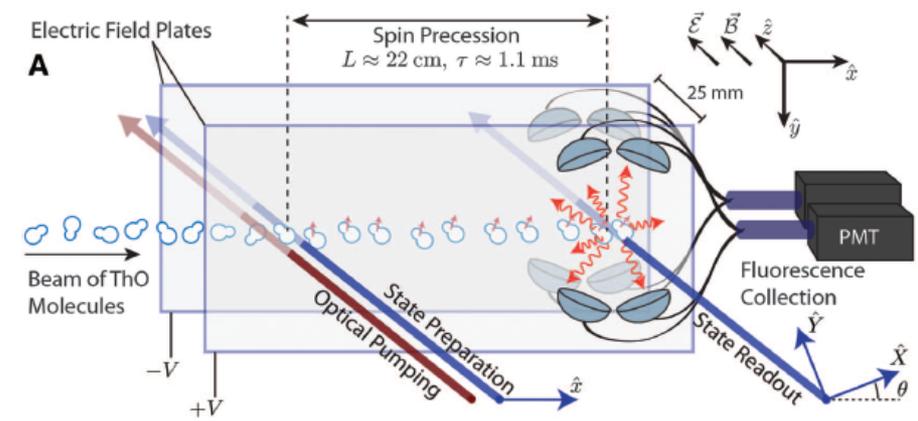
The Electric Dipole Moment of the Electron

The ACME Collaboration,* J. Baron,¹ W. C. Campbell,² D. DeMille,^{3†} J. M. Doyle,^{1†} G. Gabrielse,^{1‡} Y. V. Gurevich,^{1‡} P. W. Hess,¹ N. R. Hutzler,¹ E. Kirilov,^{3§} I. Kozyryev,^{3||} B. R. O'Leary,³ C. D. Panda,¹ M. F. Parsons,¹ E. S. Petrik,¹ B. Spaun,¹ A. C. Vutha,⁴ A. D. West³

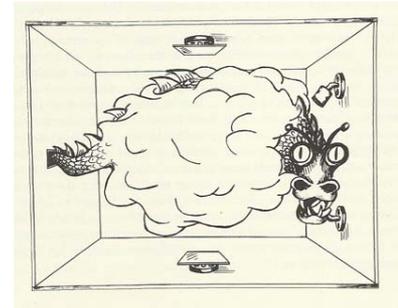
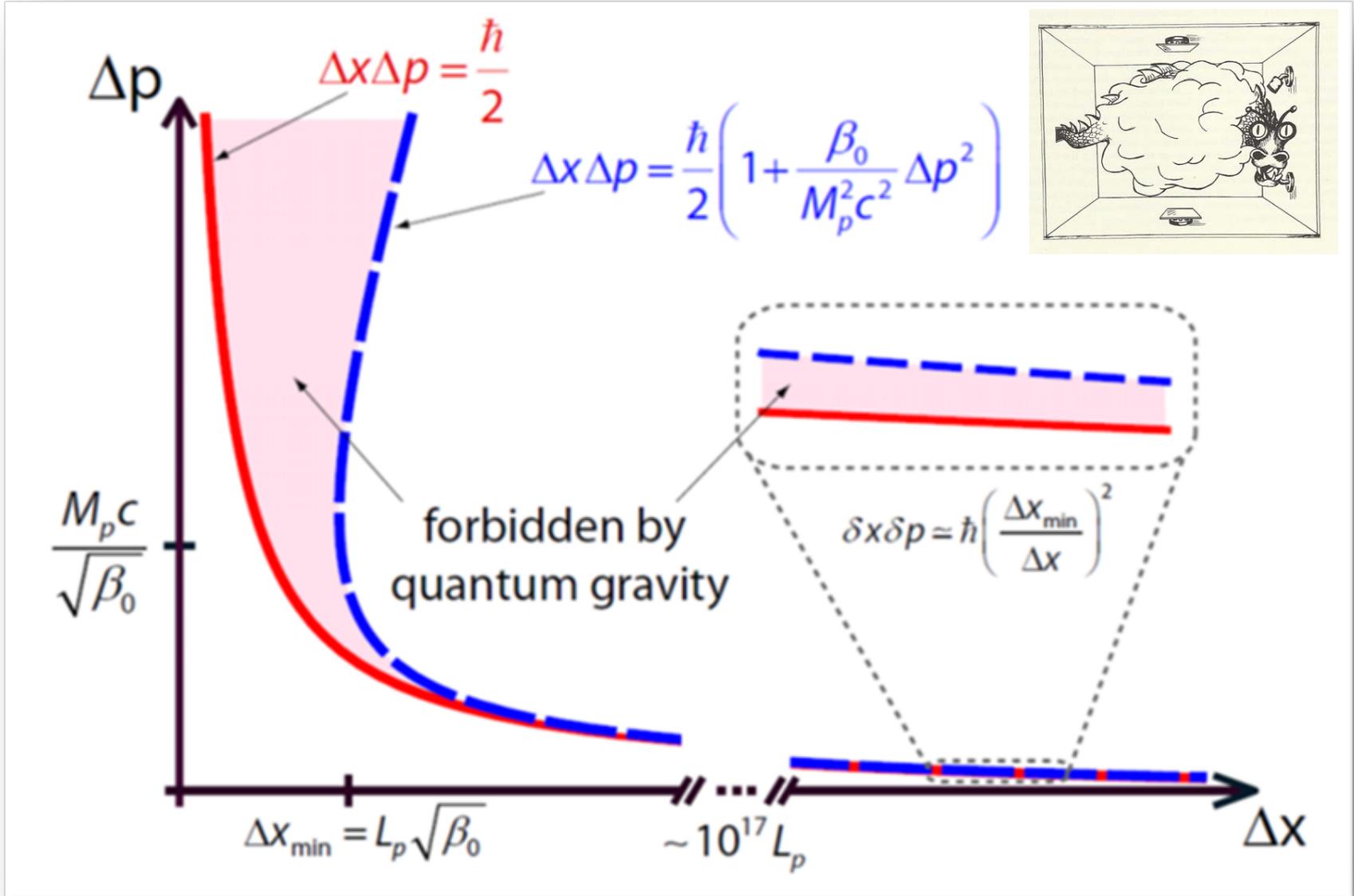
The Standard Model of particle physics is known to be incomplete. Extensions to the Standard Model, such as weak-scale supersymmetry, posit the existence of new particles and interactions that are asymmetric under time reversal (T) and nearly always predict a small yet potentially measurable electron electric dipole moment (EDM), d_e , in the range of 10^{-27} to 10^{-30} e·cm. The EDM is an asymmetric charge distribution along the electron spin (\vec{S}) that is also asymmetric under T. Using the polar molecule thorium monoxide, we measured $d_e = (-2.1 \pm 3.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 2.5_{\text{sys}}) \times 10^{-29}$ e·cm. This corresponds to an upper limit of $|d_e| < 8.7 \times 10^{-29}$ e·cm with 90% confidence, an order of magnitude improvement in sensitivity relative to the previous best limit. Our result constrains T-violating physics at the TeV energy scale.

HOW ROUND IS THE ELECTRON?

See also: Regan et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **88**, 071805 (2002); Hudson et al., Nature **473**, 493 (2011).



„Hence, within the context of many models, our EDM limit constrains CP violation up to energy scales similar to, or higher than, those explored directly at the Large Hadron Collider.“



Measuring the canonical commutator of a massive system

Idea: **Closed loop** in (mechanical) phase space generates an (optical) **phase** related to the (mechanical) **commutator**

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\xi} &= e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_a\hat{P}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_a\hat{X}} e^{-i\lambda\hat{n}_a\hat{P}} e^{i\lambda\hat{n}_a\hat{X}} \\ &= e^{-\lambda^2\hat{n}_a^2[\hat{X},\hat{P}]}\end{aligned}$$

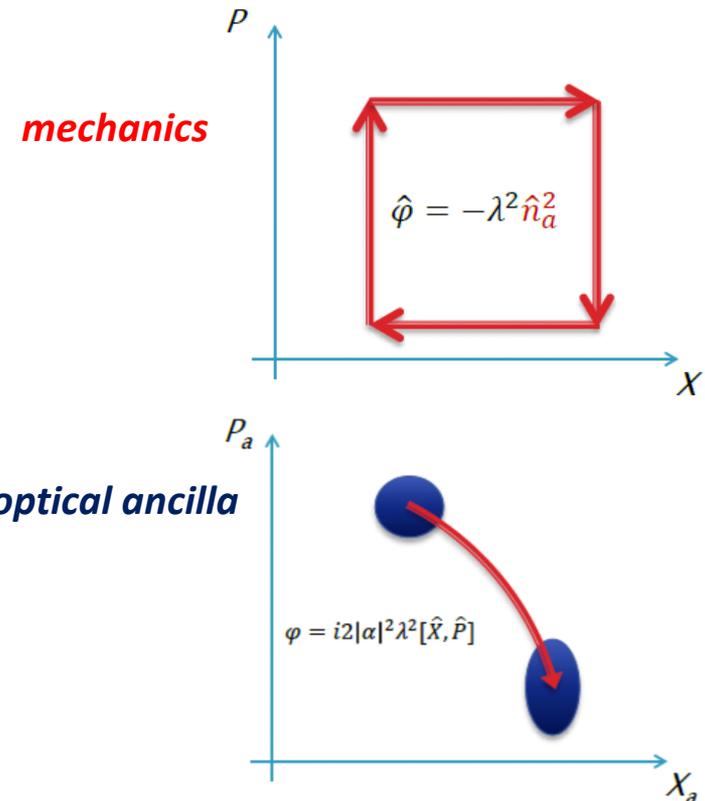
By measuring the ancilla one can obtain a measure of the commutator.

For an initial coherent state:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\hat{a}_a\rangle &= \langle\alpha|\hat{\xi}^\dagger\hat{a}_a\hat{\xi}|\alpha\rangle \\ &= \alpha e^{-\lambda^2[\hat{X},\hat{P}]} e^{-|\alpha|^2(1-e^{-2\lambda^2[\hat{X},\hat{P}]})} \\ &\approx \alpha e^{-2|\alpha|^2\lambda^2[\hat{X},\hat{P}]} \quad (\text{for } \lambda^2[\hat{X},\hat{P}] \ll 1)\end{aligned}$$

Phase shift scales with the intensity of the input state.

⇒ Can measure the commutator even for small coupling λ !

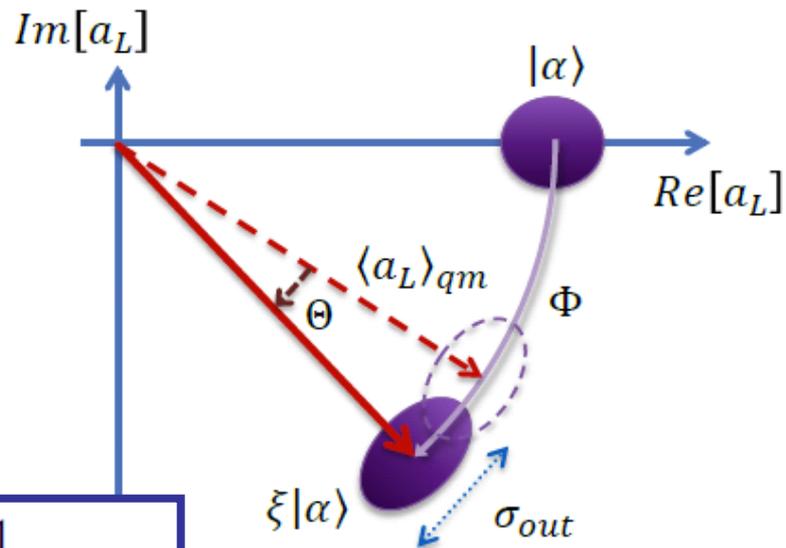


Without ancilla: see e.g. ion experiments
Leibfried et al., Nature 422, 427 (2003)

Towards tests of quantum gravity predictions?

Current state of the art:

system/ experiment	$\beta_{0,max}$	$\gamma_{0,max}$
Position measurements	10^{24}	10^{24}
Lamb shift in Hydrogen	10^{36}	10^{10}
Electron tunneling	10^{33}	10^{11}



Estimates for optomechanics scheme:

$[X_m, P_m]$	Eq. 2	Eq. 3	Eq. 1
$ \Theta $	$\mu_0 \frac{32\hbar\mathcal{F}^2 m N_P}{M_P^2 \lambda_L^2 \omega_m}$	$\gamma_0 \frac{96\hbar^2 \mathcal{F}^3 N_P^2}{M_P c \lambda_L^3 m \omega_m}$	$\beta_0 \frac{1024\hbar^3 \mathcal{F}^4 N_P^3}{3M_P^2 c^2 \lambda_L^4 m \omega_m}$
\mathcal{F}	10^5	2×10^5	5×10^5
m	10^{-11} kg	10^{-11} kg	10^{-6} kg
$\omega_m/2\pi$	10^5 Hz	10^5 Hz	10^5 Hz
λ_L	1064 nm	1064 nm	532 nm
N_P	10^8	5×10^{10}	10^{14}
N_r	1	10^2	10^4
$\delta\langle\Phi\rangle$	10^{-4}	5×10^{-7}	10^{-8}

$$\langle a_L \rangle \simeq \langle a_L \rangle_{qm} e^{-i\Theta}$$

→ Improvement by more than 20 orders of magnitude compared to existing bounds !

$\delta\mu_0 \sim 1, \delta\gamma_0 \sim 1$ and $\delta\beta_0 \sim 1 \rightarrow$ measuring **Planck-scale deformations**

Gravitational bar detectors set limits to Planck-scale physics on macroscopic variables

Francesco Marin^{1,2,3*}, Francesco Marino^{3,4}, Michele Bonaldi^{5,6}, Massimo Cerdonio⁷, Livia Conti⁷, Paolo Falferi^{6,8}, Renato Mezzena^{6,9}, Antonello Ortolan¹⁰, Giovanni A. Prodi^{6,9}, Luca Taffarelo⁷, Gabriele Vedovato⁷, Andrea Vinante^{8,11} and Jean-Pierre Zendri⁷

Different approaches to quantum gravity, such as string theory^{1,2} and loop quantum gravity, as well as doubly special relativity³ and gedanken experiments in black-hole physics⁴⁻⁶, all indicate the existence of a minimal measurable length^{7,8} of the order of the Planck length, $L_p = \sqrt{\hbar G/c^3} = 1.6 \times 10^{-35}$ m. This observation has motivated the proposal of generalized uncertainty relations, which imply changes in the energy spectrum of quantum systems. As a consequence, quantum gravitational effects could be revealed by experiments able to test deviations from standard quantum mechanics⁹⁻¹¹, such as those recently proposed on macroscopic mechanical oscillators¹². Here we exploit the sub-millikelvin cooling of the normal modes of the ton-scale gravitational wave detector AURIGA, to place an upper limit for possible Planck-scale modifications on the ground-state energy of an oscillator. Our analysis calls for the development of a satisfactory treatment of multi-particle states in the framework of quantum gravity models.

Deformation of the commutator can be cast into a (modified) effective Hamiltonian picture
→ modified ground state energy can be tested by thermometry



AURIGA (Webber bar detector)

ARTICLE

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Probing deformed commutators harmonic oscillators

Mateusz Bawaj^{1,2}, Ciro Biancofiore^{1,2}, Michele Bonaldi^{3,4}, Federica Bon Giovanni Di Giuseppe^{1,2}, Lorenzo Marconi⁵, Francesco Marino^{6,7}, Riccardo Prodi^{4,8}, Enrico Serra^{4,8,9,10}, David Vitali^{1,2} & Francesco M

A minimal observable length is a common feature of theories that aim to merge quantum physics and gravity. Quantum mechanically, this concept is associated with a minimal uncertainty in position measurements, which is encoded in deformed commutation relations. In spite of increasing theoretical interest, the subject suffers from the lack of dedicated experiments and bounds to the deformation parameters have been extrapolated from indirect measurements. As recently proposed, low-energy experiments with harmonic oscillators could allow to reveal the effect of a modified commutator. Here we analyze the evolution of high-quality factor micro- and nano-oscillators, spanning a wide range of masses around the Planck mass m_p ($\approx 22 \mu\text{g}$). The direct check against a model of deformed dynamics substantially lowers the previous limits on the parameters quantifying commutator deformation.

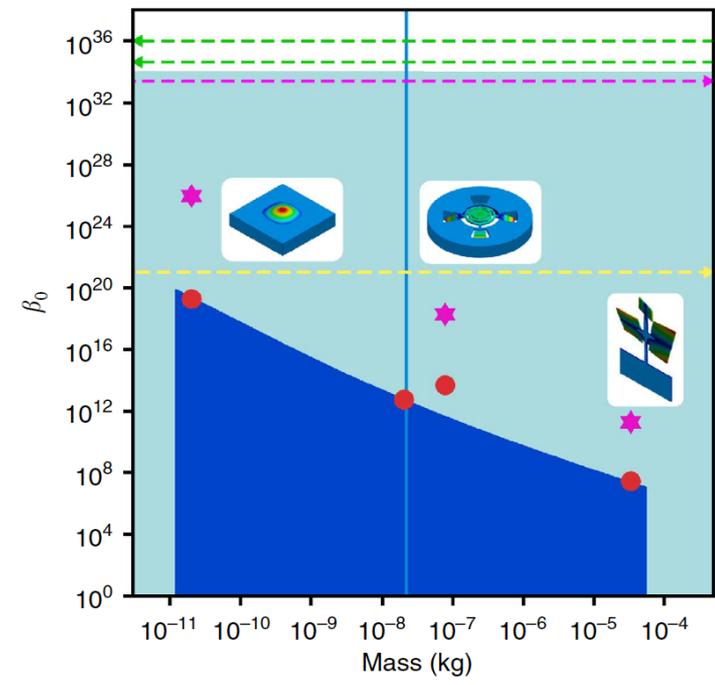


Figure 3 | Upper limits to the deformed commutator. The parameter β_0 quantifies the deformation to the standard commutator between position and momentum, or the scale $\sqrt{\beta_0}L_P$ below which new physics could come into play. Full symbols reports its upper limits obtained in this work, as a function of the mass. Red dots: from the dependence of the oscillation frequency from its amplitude; magenta stars: from the third harmonic distortion. In the former data set, for the intermediate mass range (10–100 μg), we report the results obtained with two different oscillators. Light blue shows the area below the electroweak scale, dark blue the area that remains unexplored. Dashed lines report some previously estimated upper limits, obtained in mass ranges outside this graph (as indicated by the arrows). Green: from high-resolution spectroscopy on the hydrogen atom, considering the ground state Lamb shift (upper line)²¹ and the 1S–2S level difference (lower line)²². Magenta: from the AURIGA detector^{10,11}. Yellow: from the lack of violation of the equivalence principle³⁹. The vertical line corresponds to the Planck mass (22 μg).

Testing Quantum Gravity Induced Nonlocality via Optomechanical Quantum Oscillators

Alessio Belenchia,^{1,*} Dionigi M. T. Benincasa,^{1,†} Stefano Liberati,^{1,‡} Francesco Marin,^{2,3,§}
 Francesco Marino,^{4,||} and Antonello Ortolan^{5,¶}

¹*SISSA, Via Bonomea 265, Trieste I-34136, Italy and INFN, Sez. di Trieste, Via Velerio 2, Trieste 34127 Italy*

²*Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, University of Florence and INFN,*

Sezione di Firenze, Via Sansone, 1, I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Firenze, Italy

³*European Laboratory for Non-Linear Spectroscopy (LENS), Via Carrara 1, I-50019 Sesto Fiorentino, Firenze, Italy*

⁴*CNR-Istituto Nazionale di Ottica, Largo E. Fermi 6, I-50125 Firenze, Italy and INFN, Sez. di Firenze*

⁵*INFN, Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro, Viale dell'Università, 2, 35020 Legnaro, Padova, Italy*

(Received 18 December 2015; revised manuscript received 22 February 2016; published 21 April 2016)

Several quantum gravity scenarios lead to physics below the Planck scale. We show that such nonlocal effects modify Schrödinger evolution in the nonrelativistic limit. In particular, the dynamics of an optomechanical quantum oscillator is characterized by a spontaneous periodic squeezing of the state generated by environmental effects. We discuss constraints on the nonlocality scale, and show how future experiments (already under construction) will otherwise cast severe bounds on the nonlocality scale (well beyond the reach of the LHC). This paves the way for table top, high precision experiments as a promising new avenue for testing some quantum gravity phenomenology.

Background: Combining fundamental discreteness and local Lorentz invariance (LLI) may require some form of nonlocality

Idea: Nonlocal effective field theories can be solved perturbatively

Result: Modified dynamics results in observable time-dependent squeezing of (opto-)mechanical systems

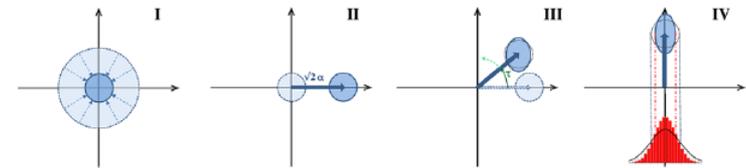


FIG. 1. Time dependence of the variances of a coherent state for $\alpha = 1$ and $b_2 c = 10^{-2}$. The continuous (blue) and dashed (red) lines represent the position and momentum variances, respectively. The black dot-dashed line is the standard value $1/2$ of both variances in the local theory. Below the plot we sketch in x - p phase diagrams the proposed experimental procedure for measuring the variance of x , involving (I) cooling the oscillator down to $\langle n \rangle \ll 1$, (II) a pulsed excitation in a well-defined coherent state, (III) free evolution for a time τ , and (IV) the measurement of x in a time interval shorter than the oscillation period. Steps (II) and (III) should last much less than the thermal decoherence time. The cycle is iterated several times, the variance of the measurements of x is calculated, and then τ is changed and the whole measurement procedure is repeated.

A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing a highly porous, sponge-like material with a complex, interconnected network of fibers. Two white, oval-shaped structures are visible, one in the foreground and one in the background, both appearing to be attached to or resting on the porous surface. The structures have a smooth, slightly curved top surface and a more textured, possibly layered or fibrous base. The overall image is in grayscale, highlighting the intricate texture of the porous material.

**WHAT ABOUT QUANTUM SYSTEMS AS
GRAVITATIONAL „SOURCE MASSES“ ?**

20 μ m

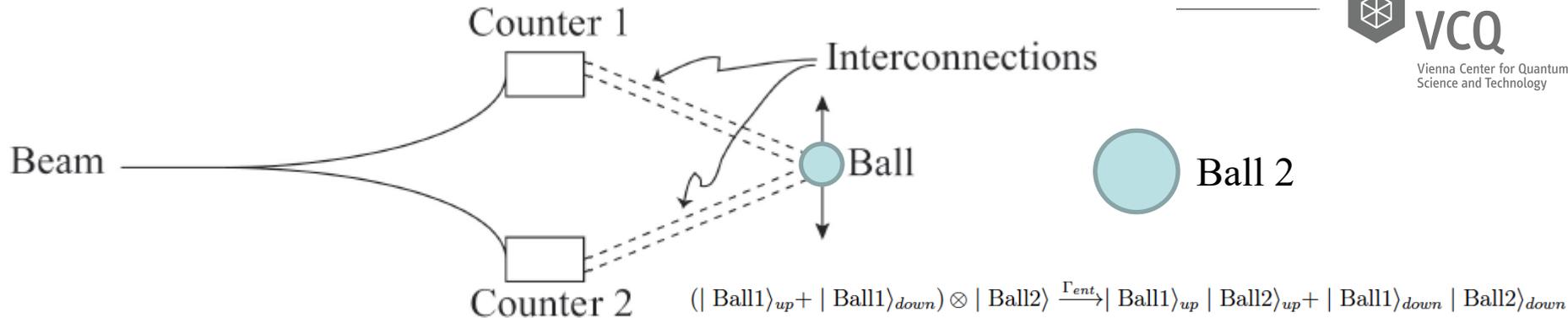
OUTLINE

- **Quantum Tests of Gravity.**
An incomplete survey
- **Quantum Tests of Quantum Gravity?**
Low-energy consequences of quantum gravity in table-top experiments
- **Quantum Tests of Non-Classical Gravity.**
A quantum Cavendish experiment and its consequences

$$G_{\mu\nu} \stackrel{?}{=} 8\pi \langle T_{\mu\nu} \rangle.$$

20μm

An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...

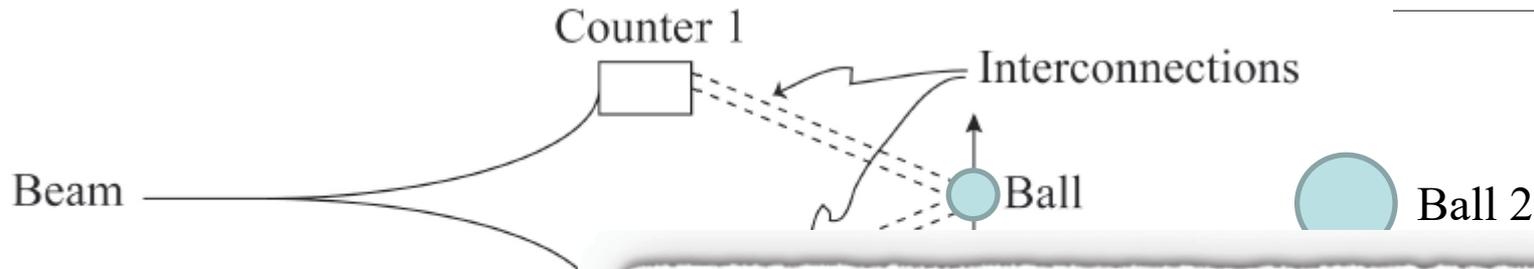


FEYNMAN: “Therefore, there must be an **amplitude for the gravitational field**, *provided* that the amplification necessary to reach a mass which can produce a gravitational field big enough to serve as a link in the chain does not destroy the possibility of keeping quantum mechanics all the way. There is a *bare* possibility (which I shouldn’t mention!) that quantum mechanics fails and becomes classical again when the amplification gets far enough, because of some minimum amplification which you can get across such a chain. But aside from that possibility, **if you believe in quantum mechanics up to any level then you have to believe in gravitational quantization in order to describe this experiment.**”

Chapel Hill Conference 1957 (29)

WITTEN: “What prevents this from becoming a practical experiment?”

An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...



Entangling via gravity

x_0 x_0

$2R$

Entangling time:

$$t_{ent} = \frac{2\hbar}{GM^2} R^3 \left(\frac{1}{x_0}\right)^2$$

Pino et al., arXiv:1603.01553

$112)_{down}$

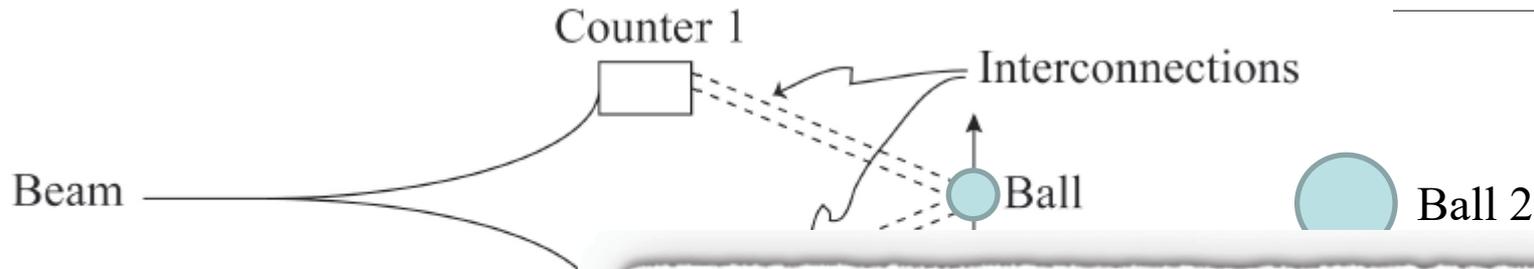
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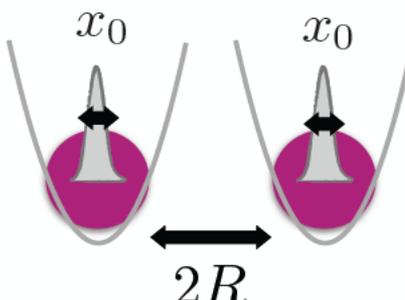
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$|12\rangle_{down}$

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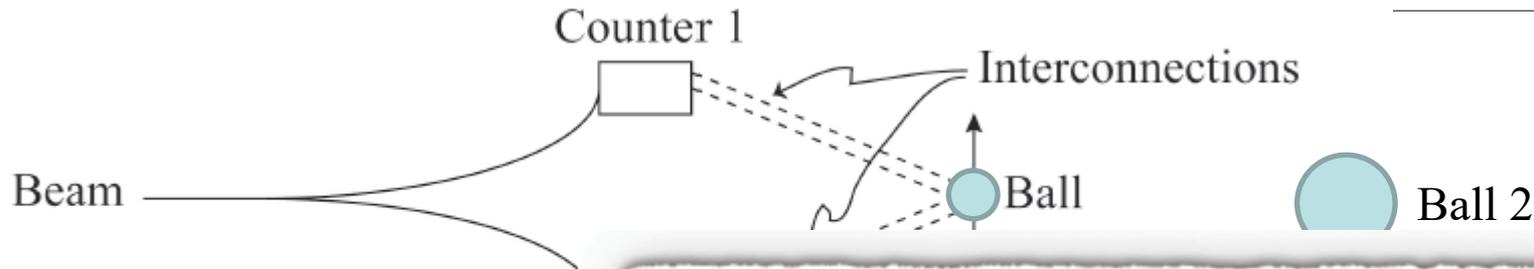
ics up to any level then you have to believe in gravitational quantization in order to describe this experiment."

Chapel Hill Conference 1957 (29)

Example: For 2 **lead spheres** of **diameter 500 μm**, an initial **superposition size for sphere 1** of $\Delta r = 5 \times 10^{-7}$ m and preparation of **sphere 2** in a **motional ground state** (100 Hz trap frequency) with $\Delta x_0 = 10^{-15}$ m, we obtain $\Gamma_{ent} = 1.5$ Hz, i.e. **gravitational entanglement** is established on a **second time scale**.

$$\Gamma_{ent} = \left(\frac{GM}{\hbar}\right) \Delta r \rho \Delta x_0$$

An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...



Entangling via gravity

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Note: **dynamical potential landscape** allows for significantly smaller masses (Pino 2016: **2 μm**)

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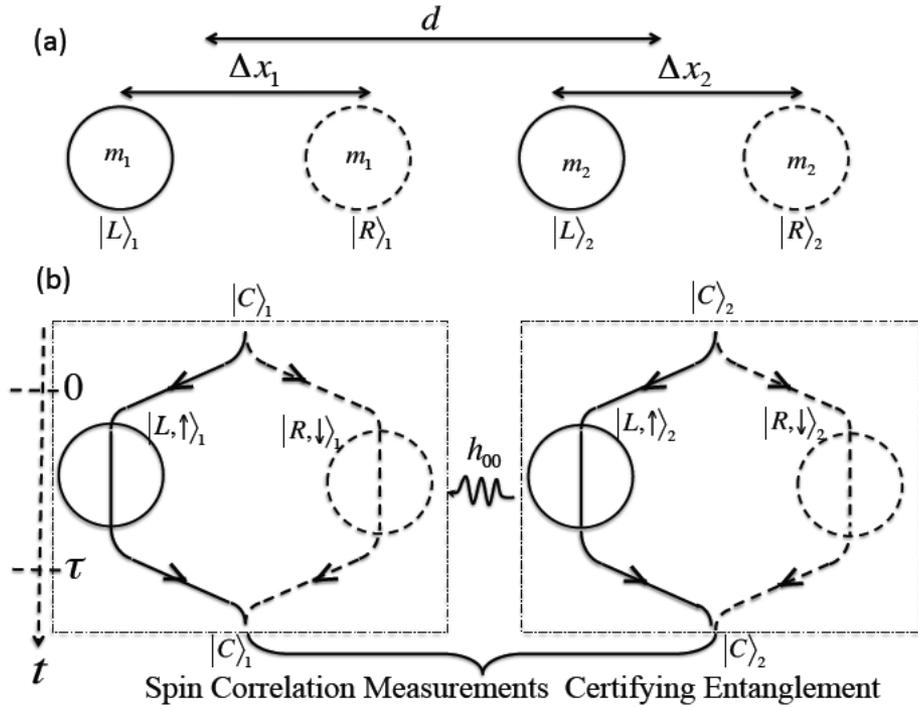
Hill Conference 1957 (29)

$$\Gamma_{ent} = \left(\frac{GM}{\hbar}\right) \Delta r \rho \Delta x_0$$

An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...

Refined proposal by *Bose, Kim, Milburn et al. 2017*:
Entanglement by gravitational phase shift (COW) and CSIGN gate

Beam 



FEYNMAN: "Therefore provided that duce a gravita destroy the p is a bare possi fails and beco because of so chain. But as

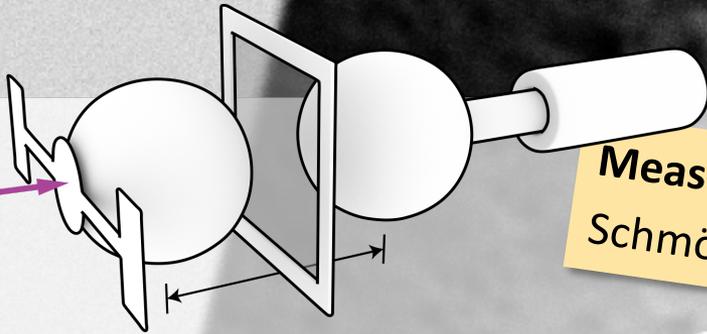
Bose et al., PRL 119, 240401 (2017)

Note: **dynamical potential landscape** allows for significantly smaller masses (*Pino 2016: 2 μm*)

Hill Conference 1957 (29)

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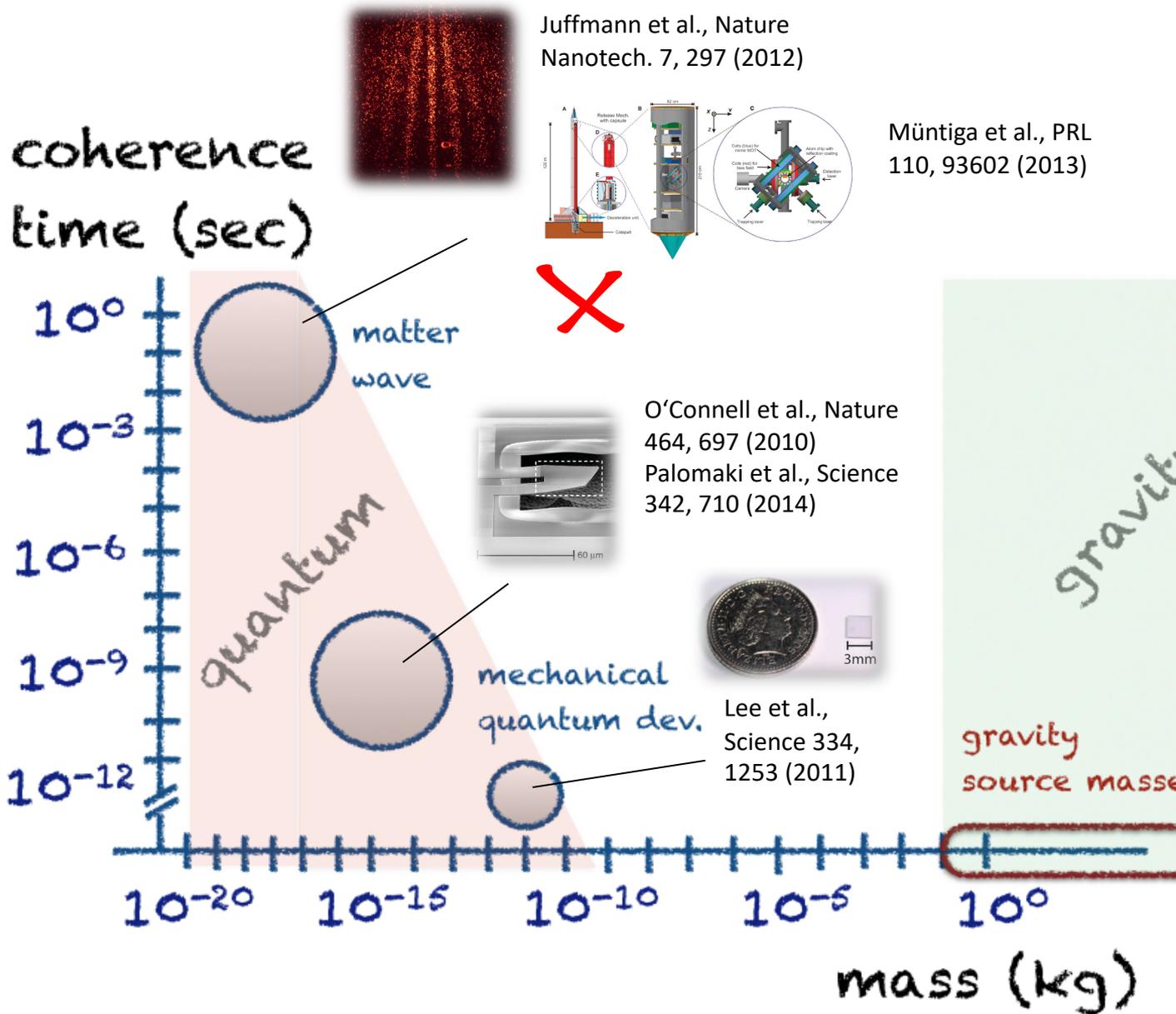


Measuring the gravitational force of milligram masses
Schmöle et al., *Class. Quant. Grav.* **33**, 125031 (2016)

- **How small can a source mass be?**
- **How massive can a quantum system be?**

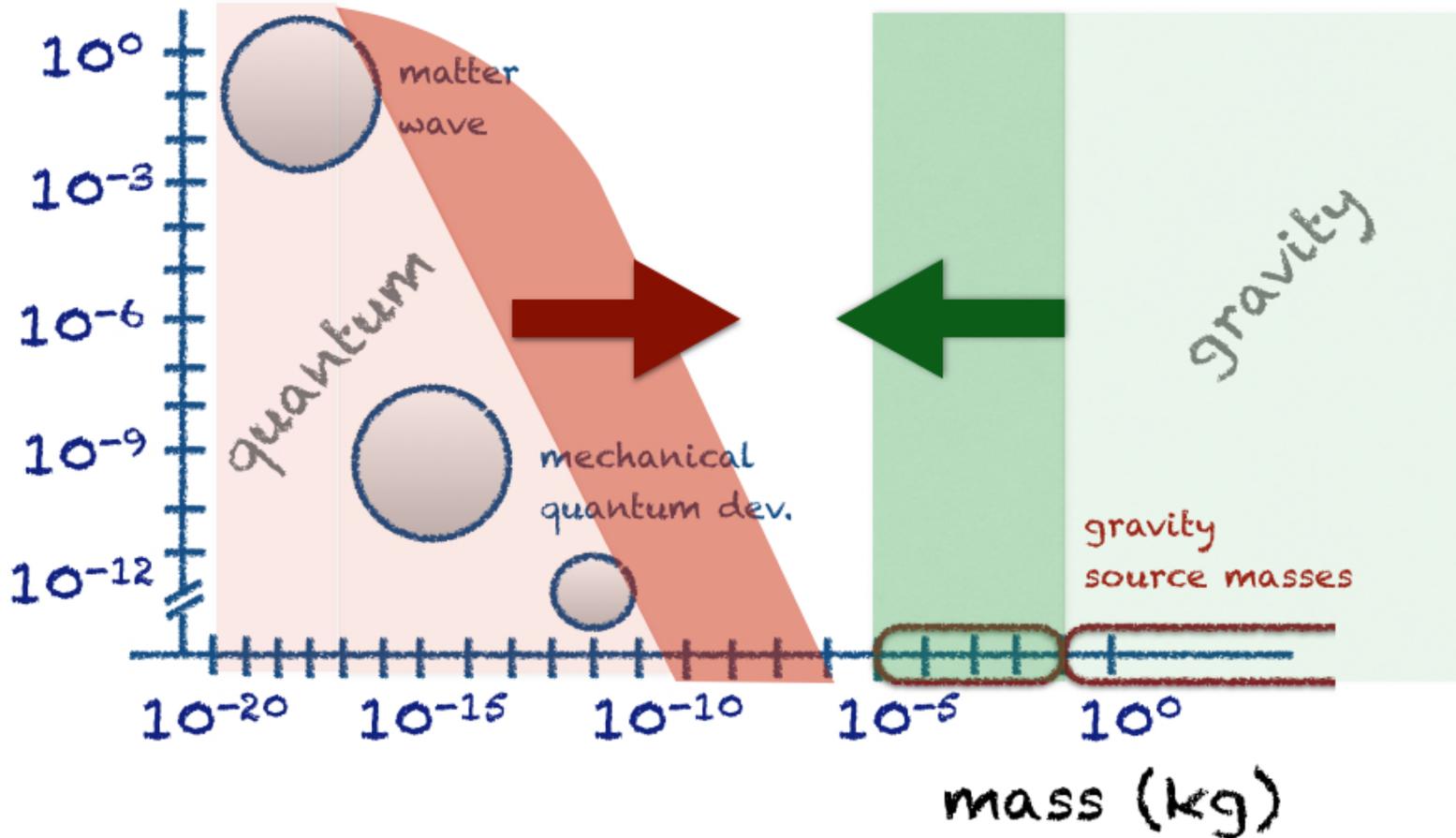
20 μ m

How massive/small can we go?

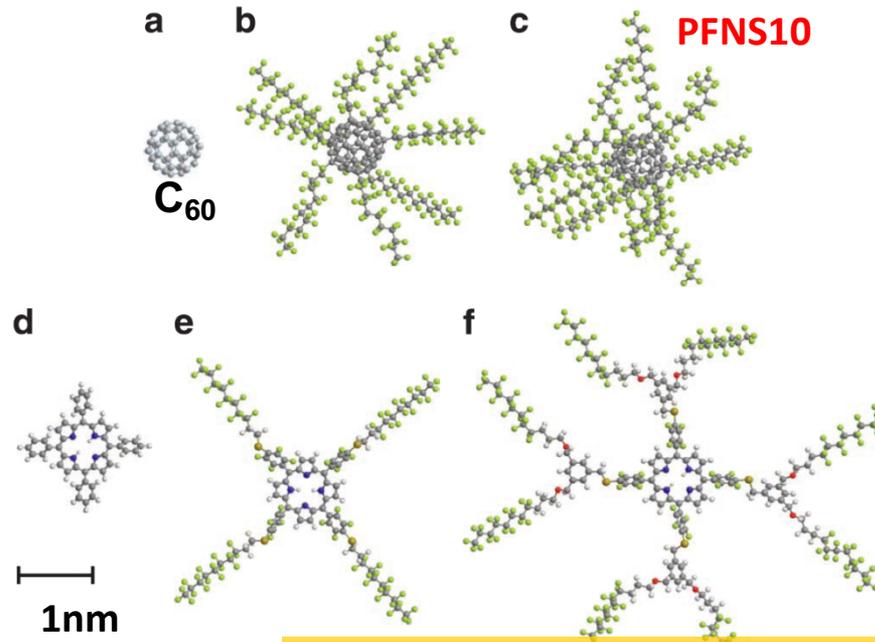
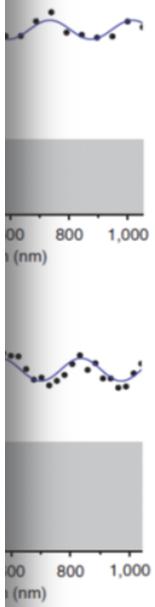
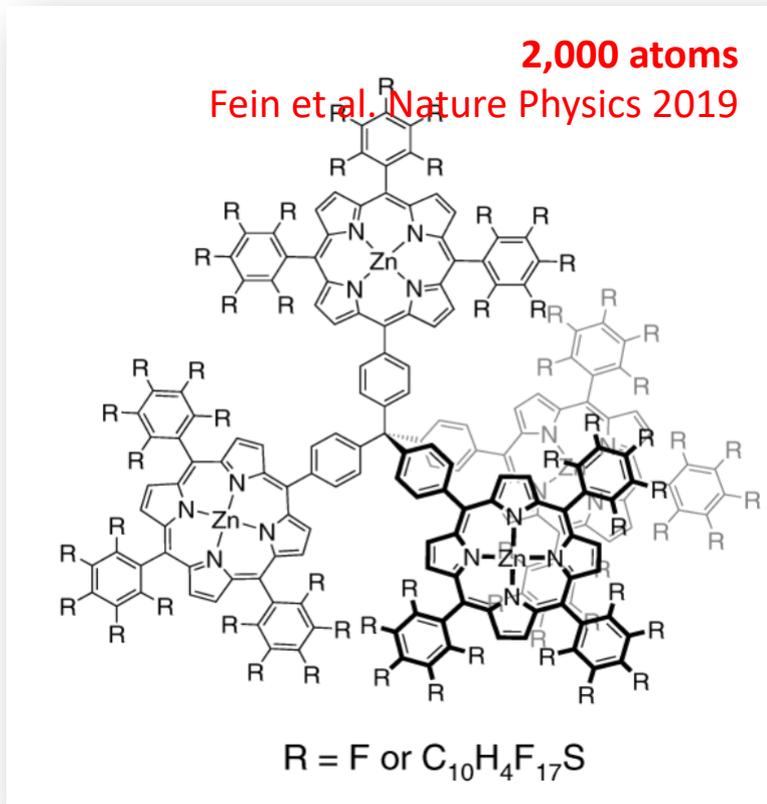
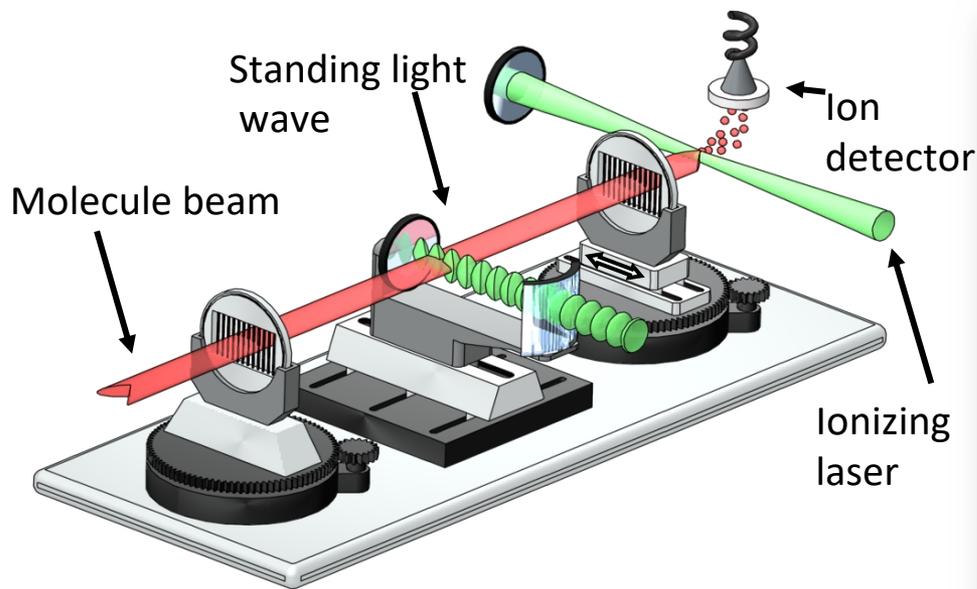


How massive/small can we go?

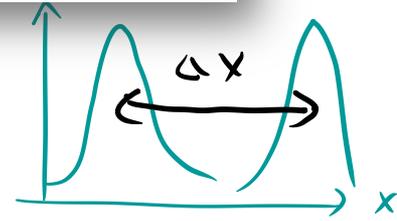
coherence
time (sec)



COM superposition states of massive systems: where do we stand?

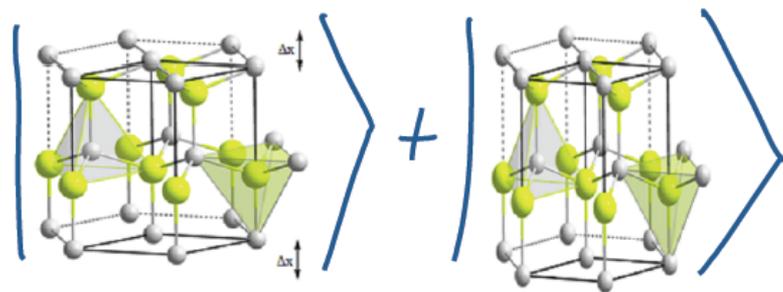


PFNS10: C₆₀[C₁₂F₂₅]₁₀
(perfluoroalkylated nanosphere)
430 atoms
 $m \sim 10^{-23} \text{ kg} = 6910 \text{ AMU}$
 $\Delta x \sim 100 \text{ nm}$ (~50x its diameter)



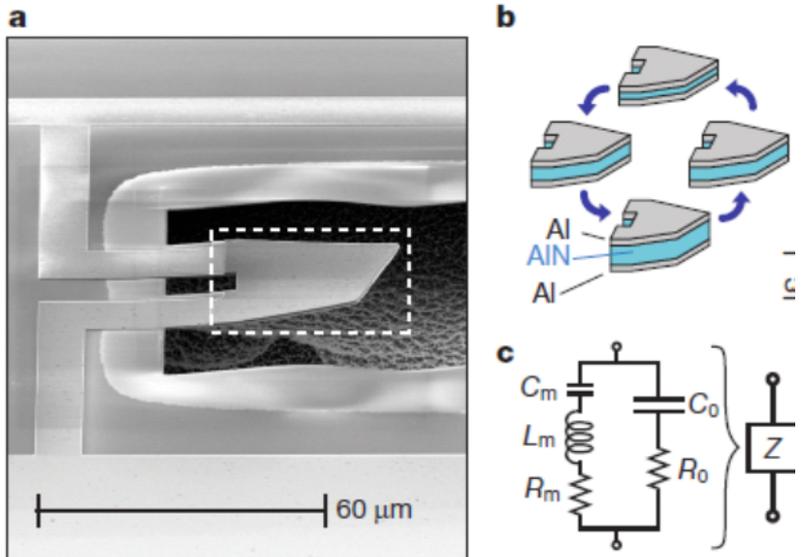
COM superposition states of massive systems: where do we stand?

Micromechanics, 2×10^{13} atoms
 $m \sim 10^{-12} \text{ kg} = 7 \times 10^{14} \text{ AMU}$
 $\Delta x \sim 10^{-16} \text{ m}$ ($\sim 10^{-10} \times$ its diameter)

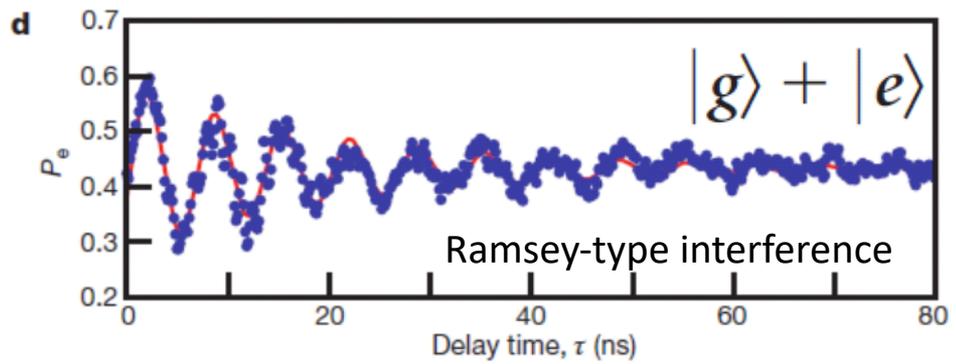
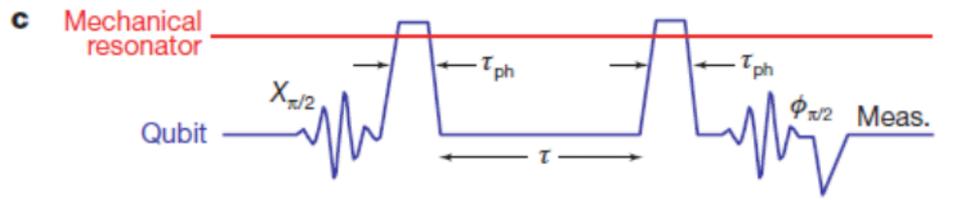


Quantum ground state and single-phonon control of a mechanical resonator

A. D. O'Connell¹, M. Hofheinz¹, M. Ansmann¹, Radoslaw C. Bialczak¹, M. Lenander¹, Erik Lucero¹, M. Neeley¹,
 D. Sank¹, H. Wang¹, M. Weides¹, J. Wenner¹, John M. Martinis¹ & A. N. Cleland¹



6 GHz thickness oscillation
 $\rightarrow n \sim 0.07$ @ 20 mK



Note: $E_g - E_e = h \cdot f_m \approx 20 \mu\text{eV}$

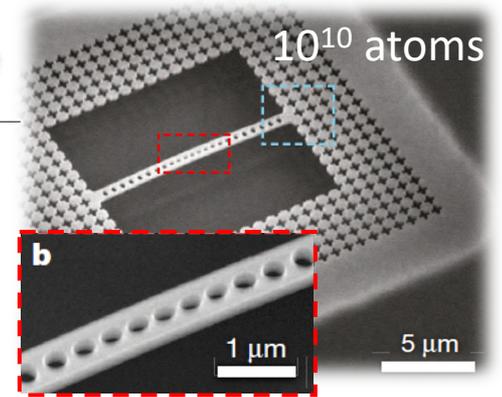
Mechanical Systems IN the quantum regime

Quantum ground state of motion

Microwave cavity cooling: Teufel et al., Nature 475, 359 (2011)

Laser cooling: Chan et al., Nature 478, 89 (2011)

... and many more around the world...



Quantum squeezed states of motion

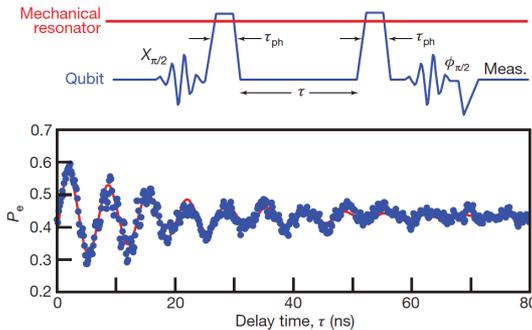
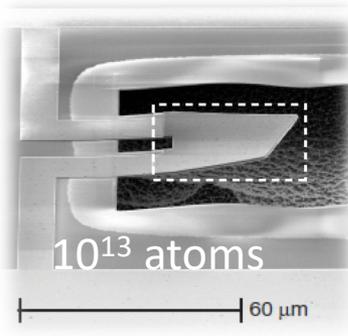
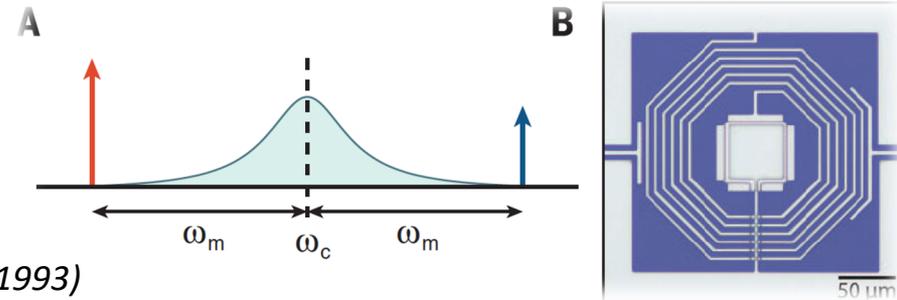
Wollman et al., Science 349, 952 (2015)

J.-M. Pirkkalainen et al., PRL 115, 243601 (2015)

F. Lecocq et al., PRX 5, 041037 (2015)

„reservoir engineering“

(see also Cirac et al. PRL 70, 556 1993)



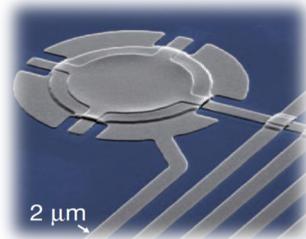
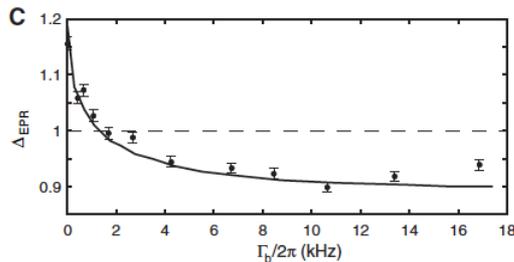
Non-Gaussian quantum states of motion

Phonon control through superconducting qubit:

O’Connell et al., Nature 464, 697 (2010)

Photon-phonon correlations:

Riedinger, Hong et al., Nature 530, 313 (2016)



Quantum entanglement

EPR-type entanglement (MW):

Palomaki et al., Science 342, 710 (2013)

Bell-type entanglement (optical):

Lee et al., Science 334, 1253 (2011)

Riedinger et al., Nature 556, 473 (2018)

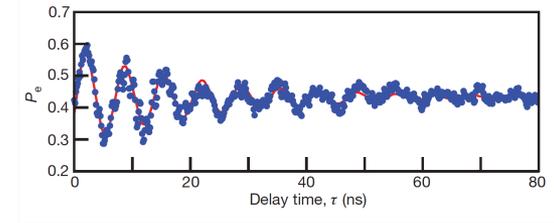
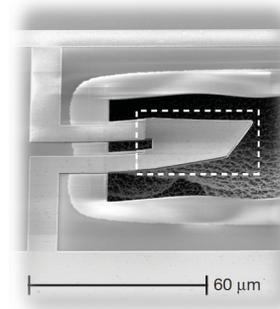
Q: How to achieve large mass **AND** long coherence time in a quantum experiment?



Solid-state mechanical quantum devices
(clamped):

$10^{10} - 10^{16}$ atoms

Coherence time τ_c $10^{-12} - 10^{-8}$ sec



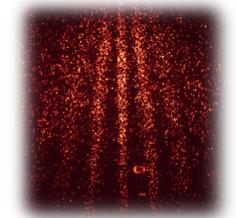
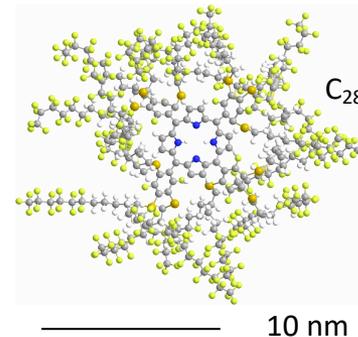
O'Connell et al., Nature 464, 697 (2010)



Matter-wave interferometry (free-fall):

$10^0 - 10^4$ atoms

Coherence time τ_c $10^{-3} - 10^0$ sec



Juffmann et al., Nature
Nanotech. 7, 297 (2012)

A: Quantum control of levitated mechanical systems!



- Quantum control of a trapped massive object $\gg 10^{10}$ atoms
- Long coherence times (up to seconds)
- Exceptional force sensitivity
- **Externally engineerable (and controllable) arbitrary potential landscape**

Optically levitating nanoparticles

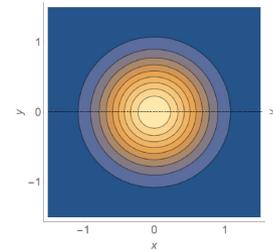
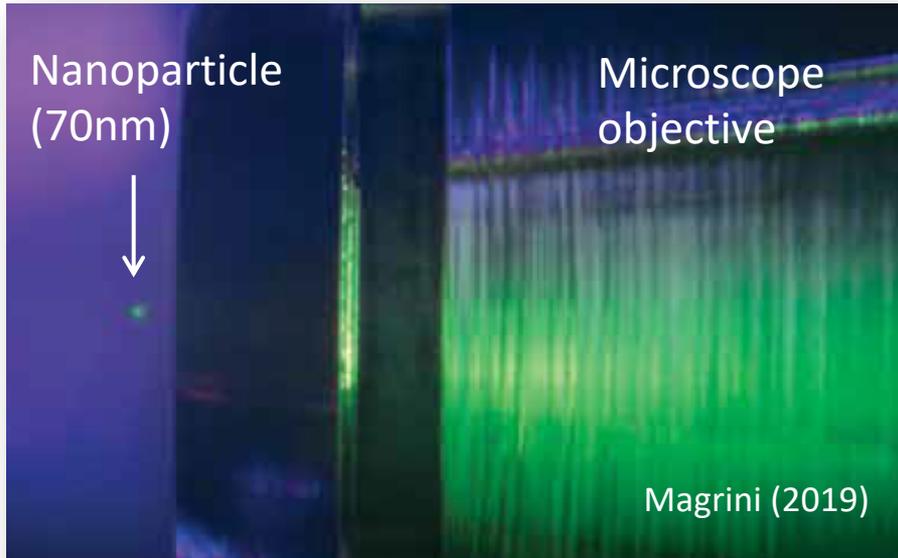
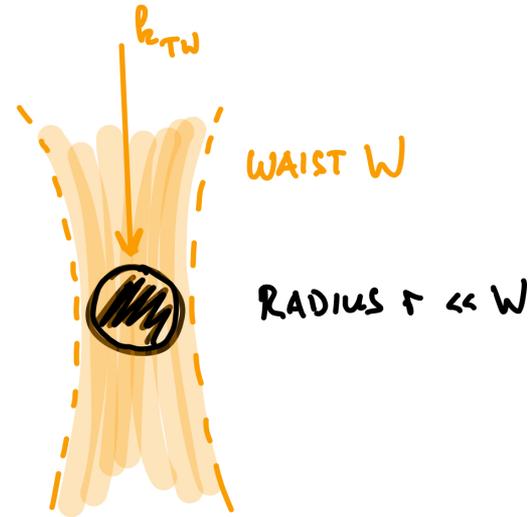
OPTICAL LEVITATION:

$$\hat{H} < \underline{d} \cdot \underline{E} = \alpha \cdot E^2$$

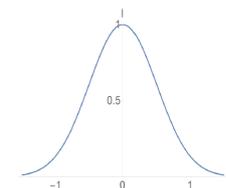
α : $\text{Re}\{\text{Polarizability}\}$
 E : optical trapping field

\hookrightarrow beam intensity

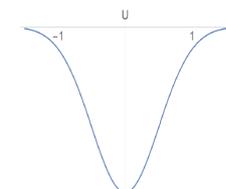
$$\rightarrow \text{GRADIENT FORCE } F \propto (\nabla E^2) \cdot \underline{\alpha}$$



$\alpha = 0$



intensity

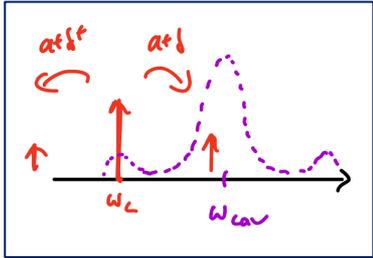
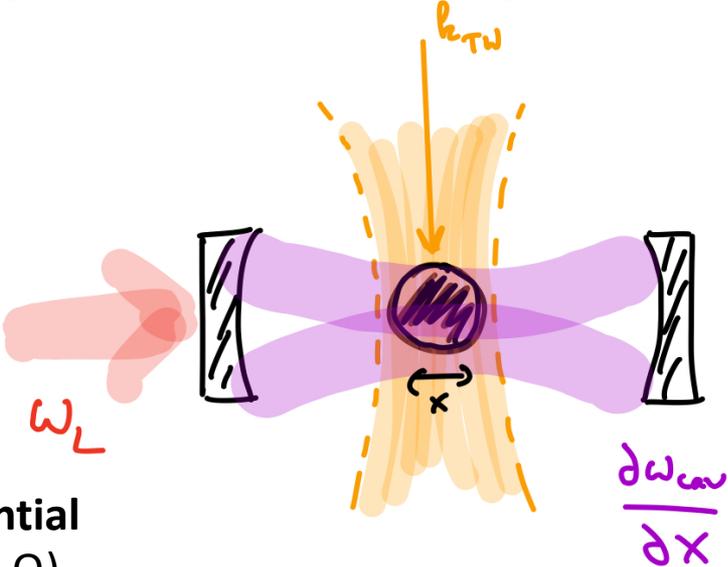


potential

Pioneering work by Ashkin:
 A. Ashkin, PRL 24, 156 (1970).
 A. Ashkin, J. M. Dziedzic, APL 28, 333 (1976).

Towards quantum state preparation of a free particle

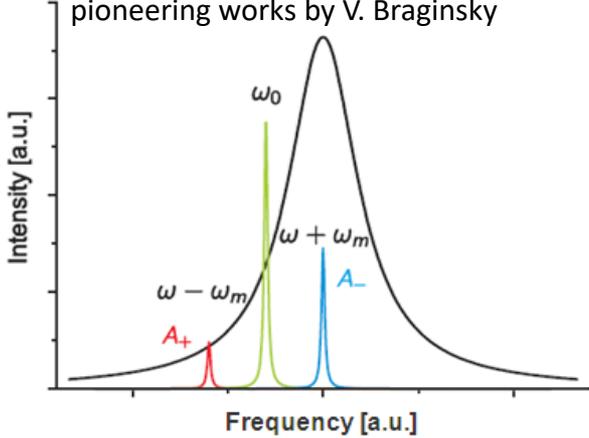
Chang et al., PNAS 2010
 Romero-Isart et al., NJP 2010
 P. F. Barker et al., PRA 2010
early work:
 Hechenblaikner, Ritsch et al., PRA 58, 3030 (1998)
 Vuletic & Chu, PRL 84, 3787 (2000)



- Harmonic oscillator in optical potential (negligible support loss, high Q)
- Quantum control via cavity optomechanics (laser cooling, state transfer, etc.)

Cavity-Optomechanics

Rev.Mod.Phys. 86, 1391 (2014)
 pioneering works by V. Braginsky



OPTOMECHANICS:

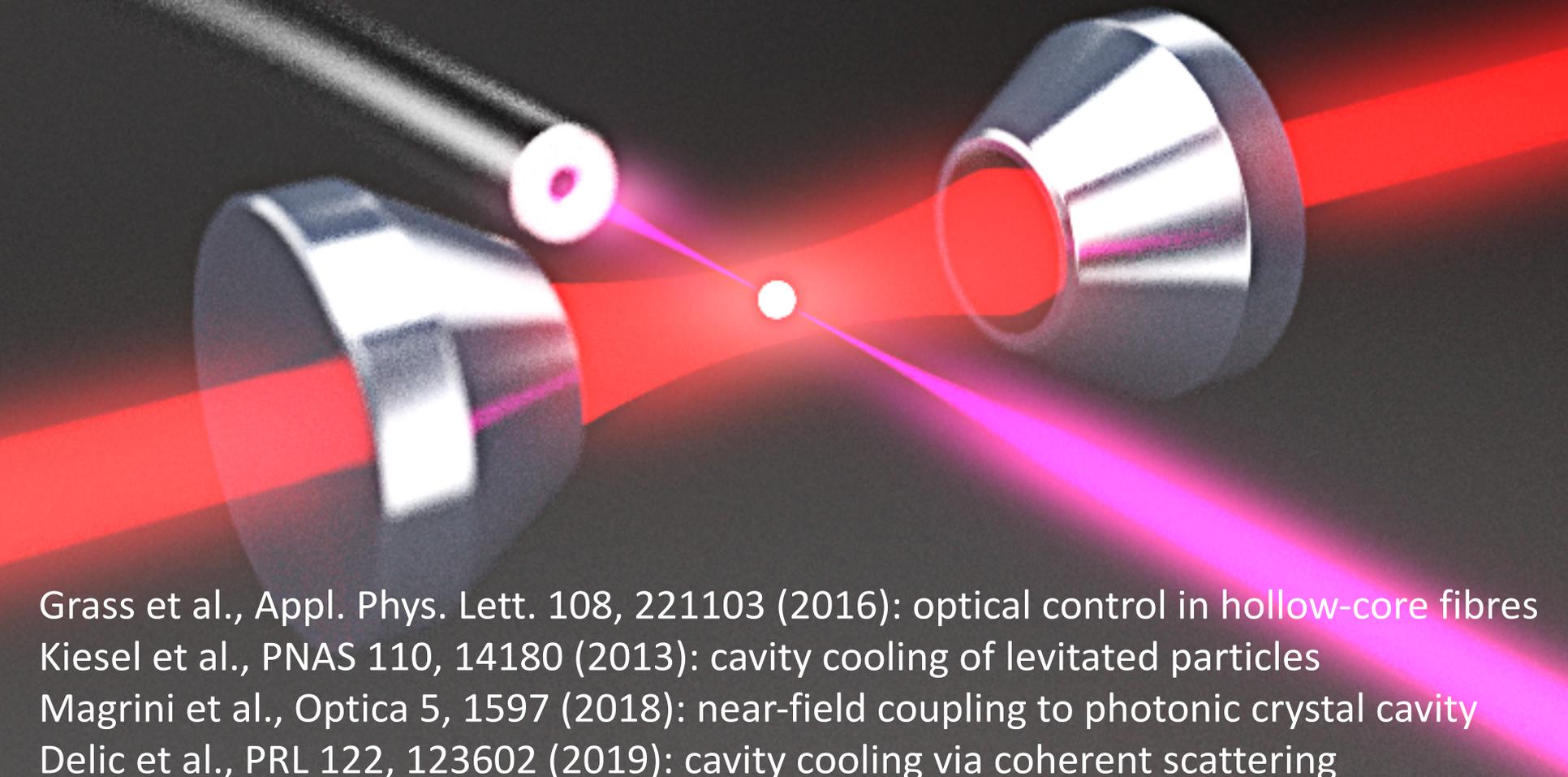
$$\hat{H}_{int} \propto \alpha \cdot E_{cav}^2 = \hbar g_0 \underbrace{\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}}_{\text{cavity}} \underbrace{(\hat{d} + \hat{d}^\dagger)}_{\text{mechanics}}$$

with $g_0 = \frac{\partial \omega_c}{\partial x} = \left[\frac{\alpha}{V_c} \right] \frac{\omega_c^2}{c \epsilon_0} x_{zfp}$

α : Re { polarizability }
 V_c : cavity mode volume
 x_{zfp} : zero-point motion

Cavity control of levitated particles

- dielectrics and superconductors (100nm – 10 μ m)
- ultimate goal: anharmonic coupling (e.g. via 2-level systems) & full quantum control



Grass et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 108, 221103 (2016): optical control in hollow-core fibres

Kiesel et al., PNAS 110, 14180 (2013): cavity cooling of levitated particles

Magrini et al., Optica 5, 1597 (2018): near-field coupling to photonic crystal cavity

Delic et al., PRL 122, 123602 (2019): cavity cooling via coherent scattering

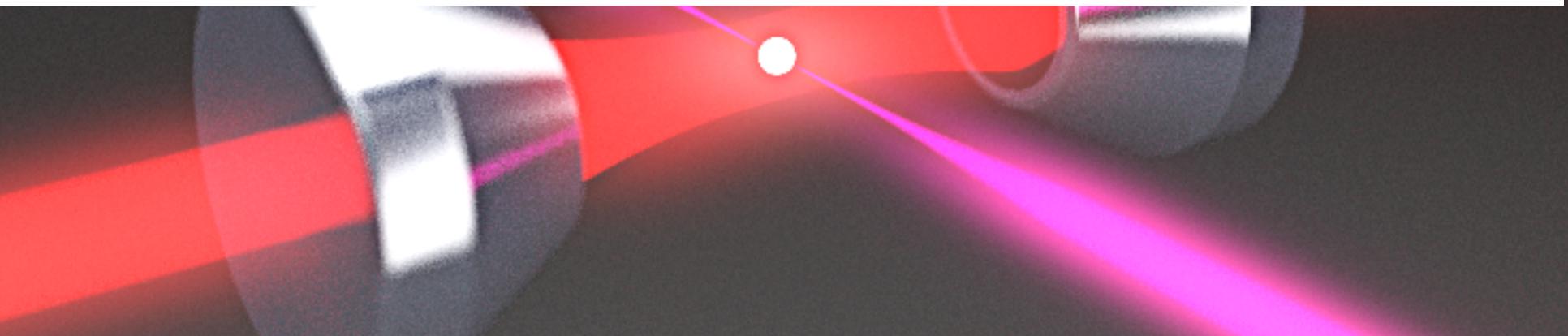
Cavity control of levitated particles

- dielectrics and superconductors (100nm – 10 μ m)
- ultimate goal: anharmonic coupling (e.g. via 2-level systems) & full quantum control

c *photonic crystal cavity*

2 μ m 

optical fiber

- 
- Grass et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 108, 221103 (2016): optical control in hollow-core fibres
Kiesel et al., PNAS 110, 14180 (2013): cavity cooling of levitated particles
Magrini et al., Optica 5, 1597 (2018): near-field coupling to photonic crystal cavity
Delic et al., PRL 122, 123602 (2019): cavity cooling via coherent scattering

Cavity Optomechanics with levitated nanoparticles

Ashkin since 1967

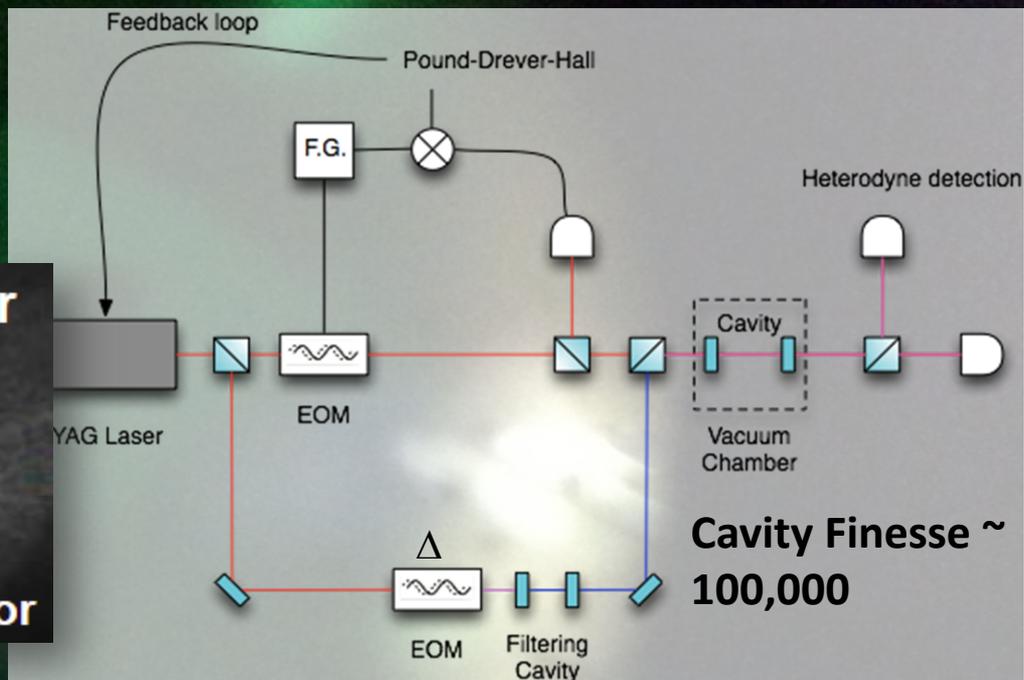
Raizen group, *Science* 2010

Novotny, Quidan 2012

Barker group 2014

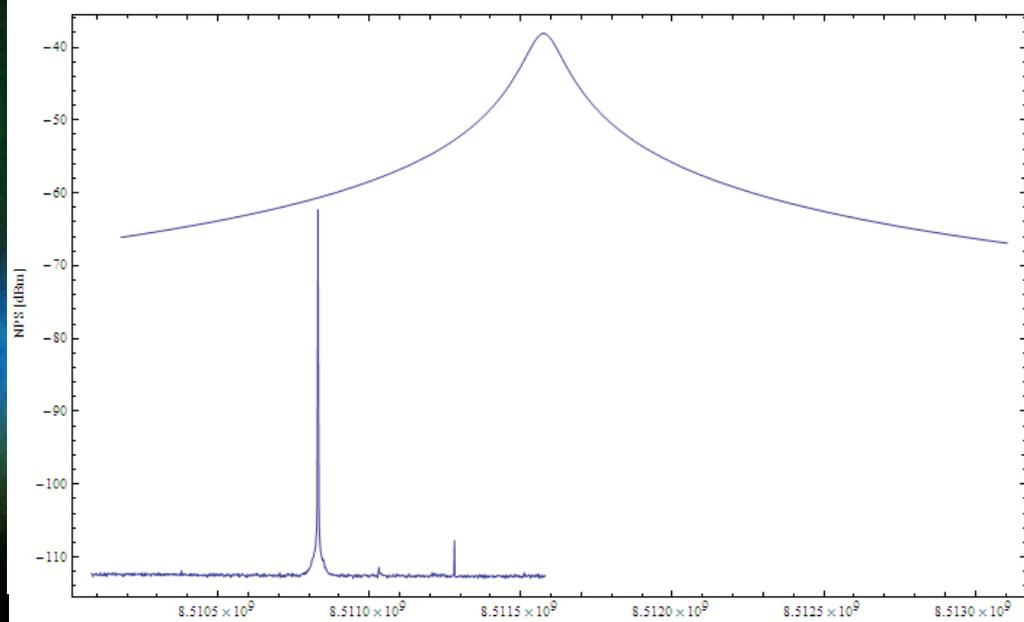
Geraci group 2015

Levitation in Cavity @ 4mbar



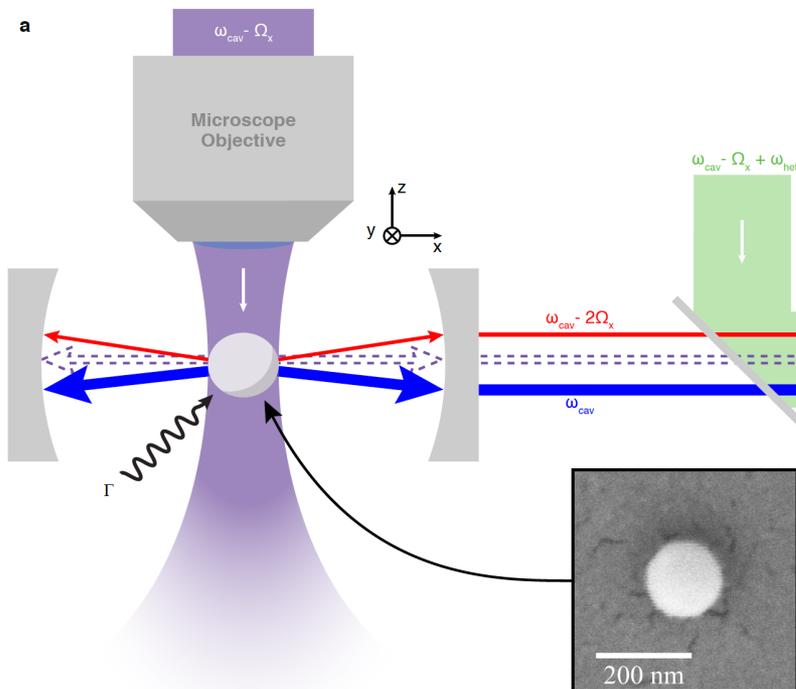
Optical trapping and cavity cooling ($R \sim 200\text{nm}$)

Kiesel, Delic, Grass et al.,
PNAS USA 110, 14180 (2013)



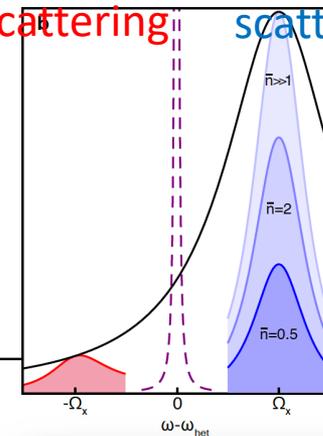
Cavity Optomechanics with levitated nanoparticles

Delić et al., arXiv:1911.04406

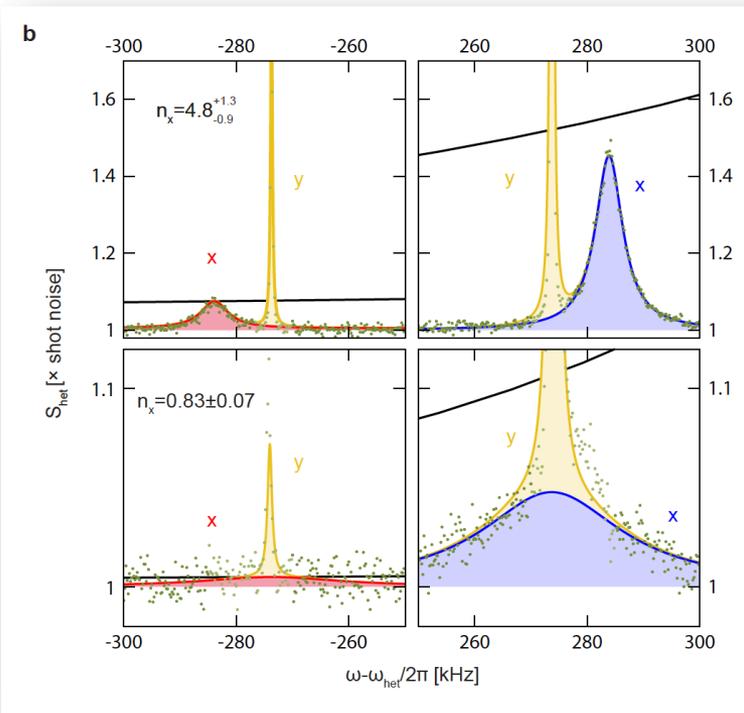


Stokes scattering

anti-Stokes scattering

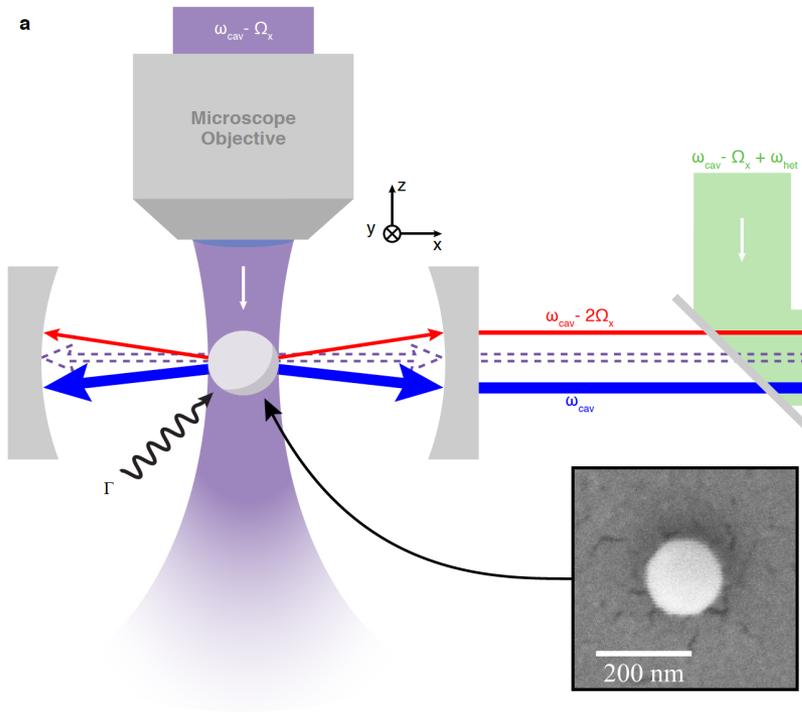


$$\begin{aligned} \omega_x &\approx 2\pi \times 305 \text{ kHz} \\ \omega_z &\approx 2\pi \times 80 \text{ kHz} \\ \omega_y &\approx 2\pi \times 275 \text{ kHz} \\ \kappa &= 2\pi \times 193 \text{ kHz} \\ p &= 1e-6 \text{ mbar}, T = 300\text{K} \end{aligned}$$

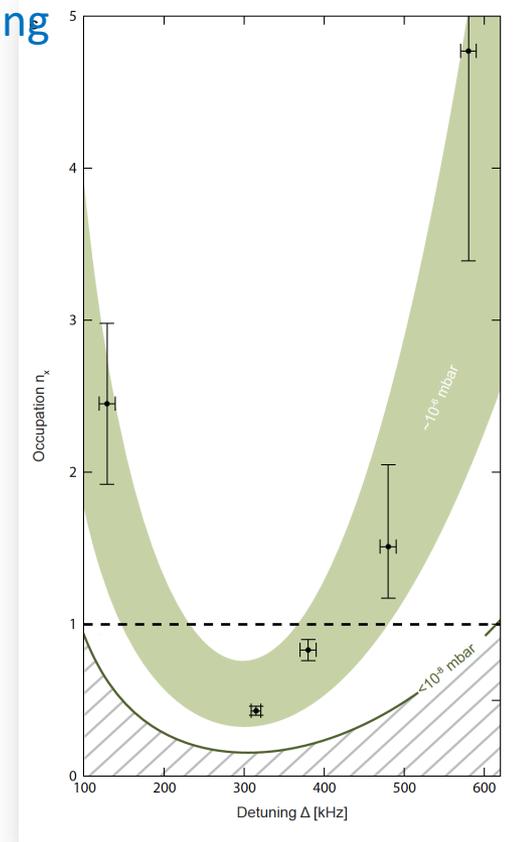
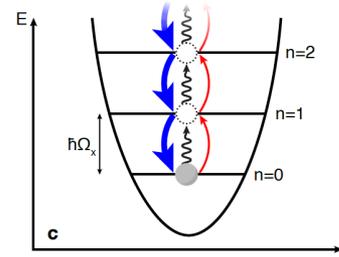
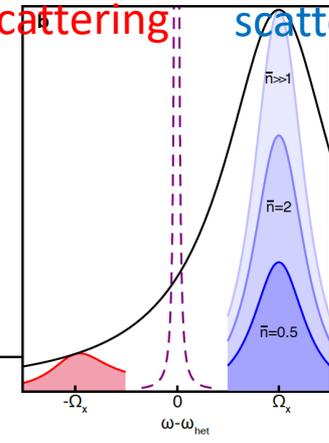


Cavity Optomechanics with levitated nanoparticles

Delić et al., arXiv:1911.04406



Stokes scattering anti-Stokes scattering



$\longleftrightarrow \omega_x \approx 2\pi \times 305 \text{ kHz}$
 $\updownarrow \omega_z \approx 2\pi \times 80 \text{ kHz}$
 $\swarrow \omega_y \approx 2\pi \times 275 \text{ kHz}$
 $\kappa = 2\pi \times 193 \text{ kHz}$
 $p = 1e-6 \text{ mbar}, T = 300\text{K}$

$n_x < 0.5$ (ground state probability $> 2/3$)
 Center-of-mass $T_c = 12\mu\text{K}$; environment $T_e > 300\text{K}$
 $g_x = 2\pi \times 71 \text{ kHz}$, Cooperativity $C = 5$

Cavity Optomechanics with levitated nanoparticles

Delić et al., arXiv:1911.04406

Limitations:

- Sideband resolution
- Gas and recoil scattering
- Phase noise

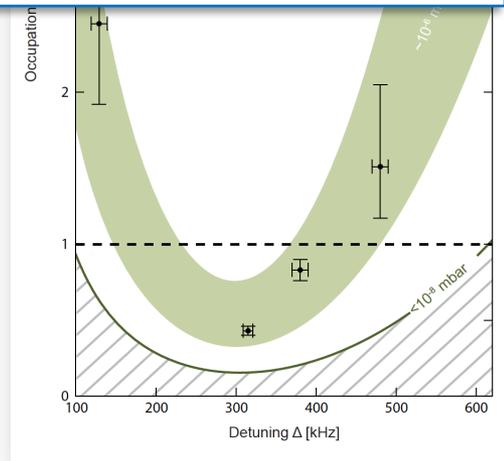
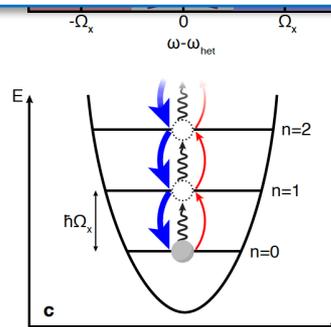
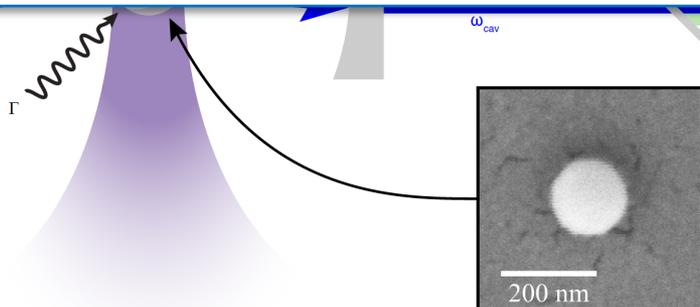
$$\bar{n} = \left(\frac{\kappa}{4\Omega_x}\right)^2 + \frac{\gamma_g \frac{k_B T_{bath}}{\hbar\Omega_x} + \Gamma_{rec}}{\Gamma_- - \Gamma_+} + \frac{n_{phot}}{\kappa} S_\varphi(\Omega_x)$$

0.026

2×10^5 @ 0.06 mbar

$< 10^{-3}$

0.5 @ 1e-6 mbar



$\omega_x \approx 2\pi \times 305$ kHz

$\omega_z \approx 2\pi \times 80$ kHz

$\omega_y \approx 2\pi \times 275$ kHz

$\kappa = 2\pi \times 193$ kHz

$p = 1e-6$ mbar, $T = 300$ K

$n_x < 0.5$ (ground state probability $> 2/3$)

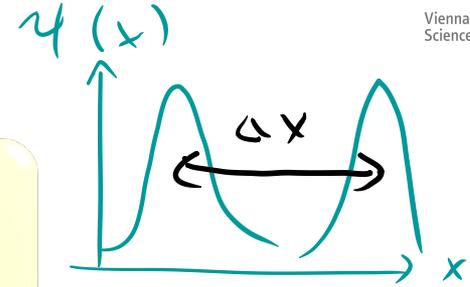
Center-of-mass $T_c = 12$ uK; environment $T_e > 300$ K

$g_x = 2\pi \times 71$ kHz, Cooperativity $C = 5$

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar}[H, \rho] + \mathcal{L}[\rho]$$

Master equation approach

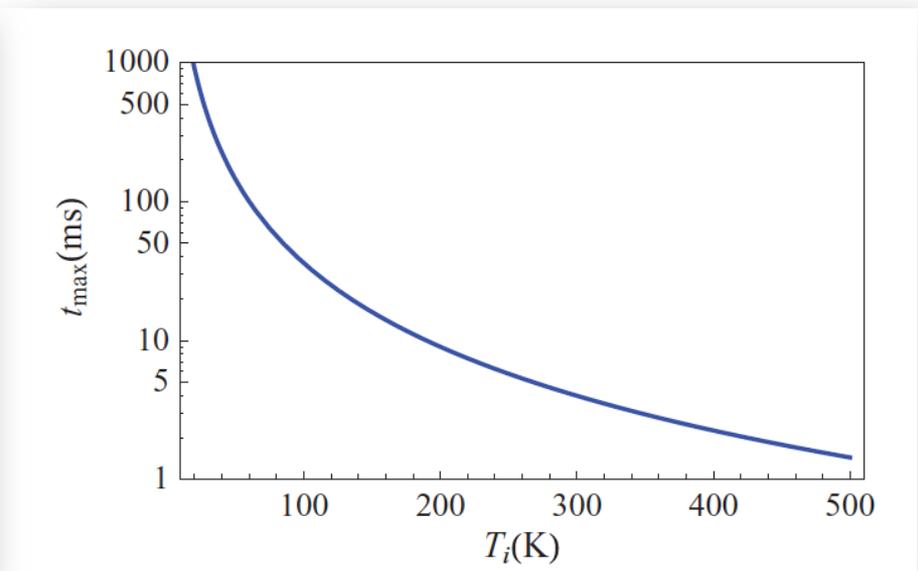
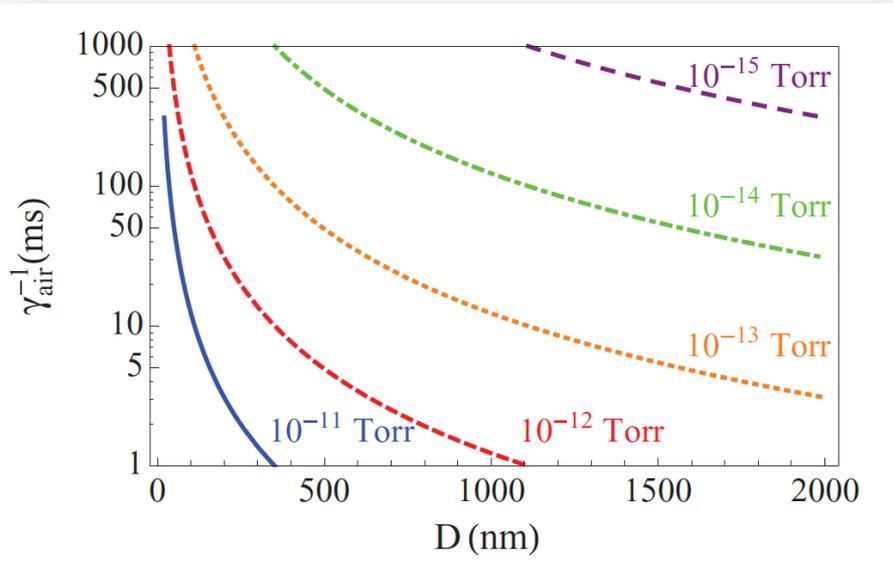
See also
O. Romero-Isart et al.,
PRL 107, 020405 (2011)
O. Romero-Isart, PRA
84, 052121 (2011)



Example: a free nanoparticle

Decoherence due to **gas scattering** on a
glass sphere (Romero-Isart 2011)

Decoherence due to **blackbody absorption**
(50 nm sphere)



Decoherence

In our case ($p=1e-6$ mbar; $T_e > 300K$): $\Gamma_{\text{gas}}/2\pi = 15\text{kHz}$, $\Gamma_{\text{rec}}/2\pi = 6\text{kHz}$

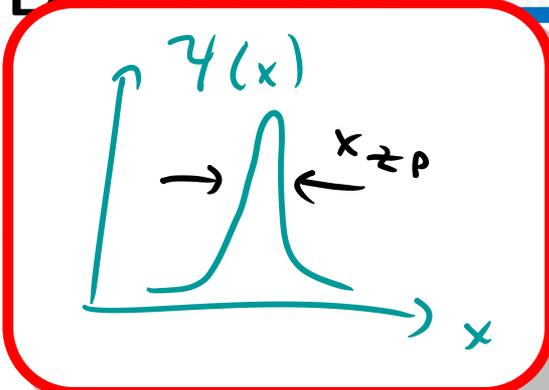
Photon Recoil & Gas Scattering limit **in-trap coherence time** to $< 8\mu\text{s}$
(15 coherent oscillations)

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar}[H, \rho]$$

Gas Scattering limits **free-fall coherence time** to $< 2\mu\text{s}$
(wavepacket expansion by factor of 3: 3pm \rightarrow 10pm)

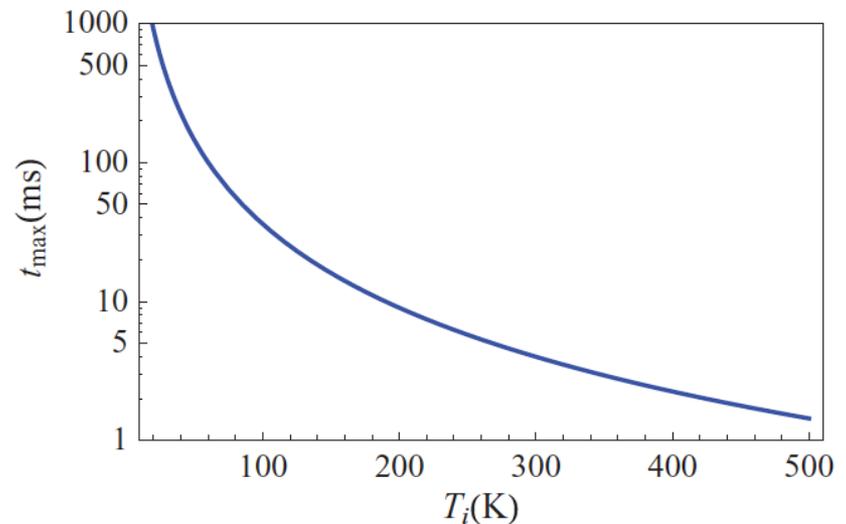
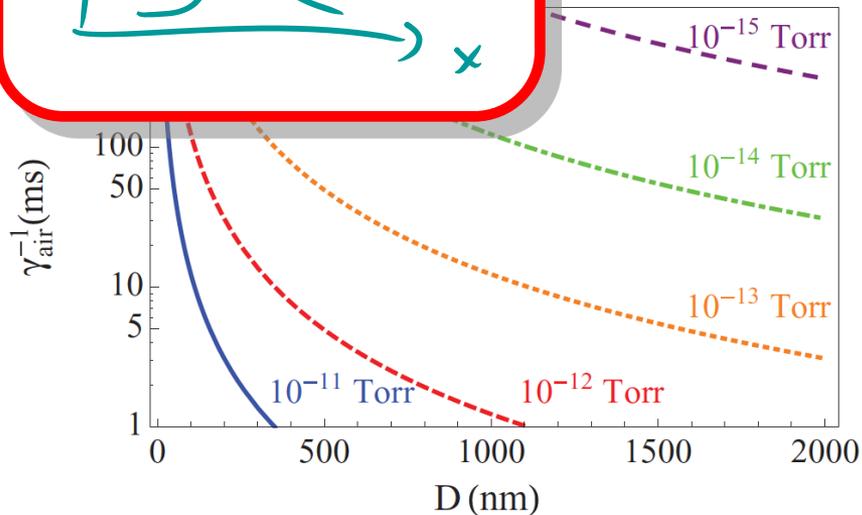
Wavepacket size $>$ particle size will require **$p < 1e-11\text{mbar}$** and **$T_e < 130K$**

Example: a free

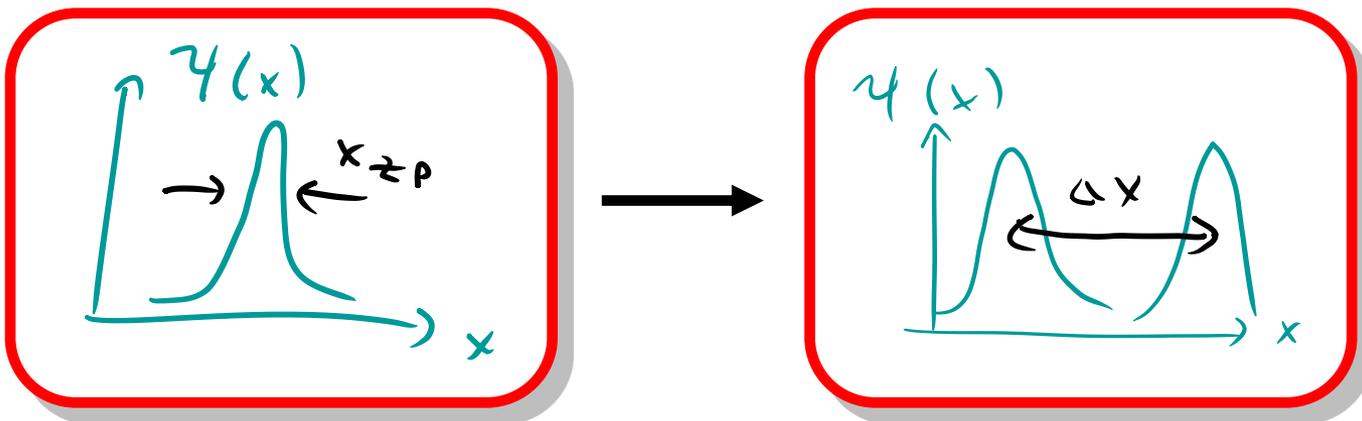


scattering on a
 (2011)

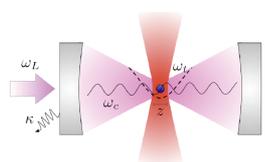
Decoherence due to **blackbody absorption**
 (50 nm sphere)



Towards „large“ quantum superposition states

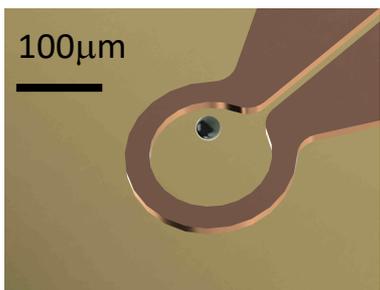
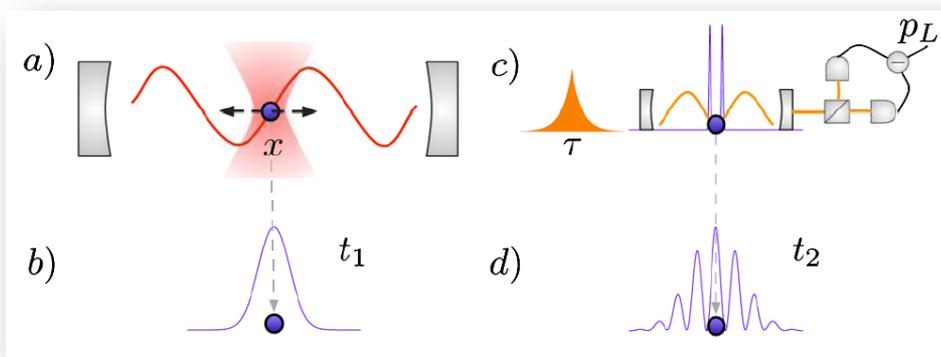


Free-fall +
quantum
measurement



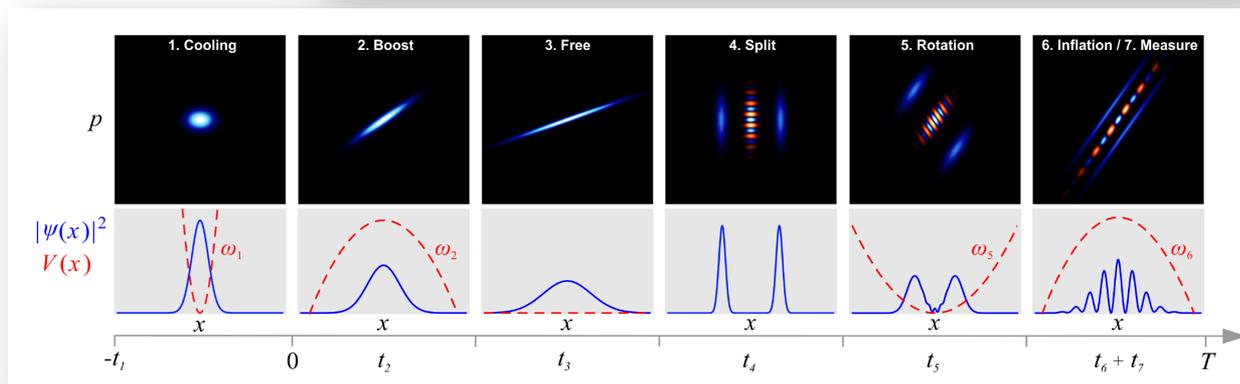
Optical levitation

(Romero-Isart 2011)
PRL107, 020405

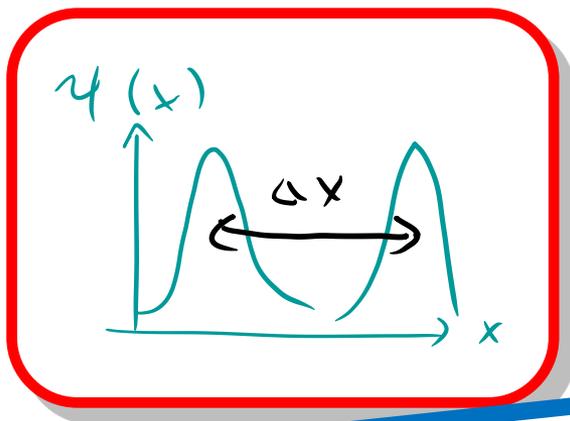
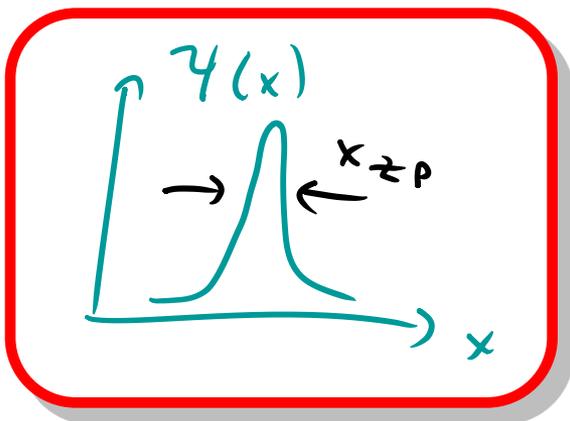


Superconducting levitation

(Pino 2016) arxiv: 1603.01553

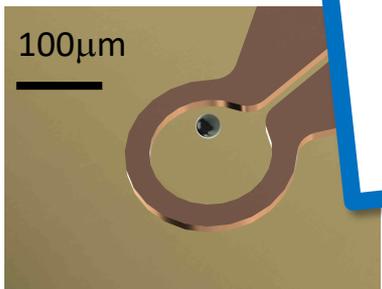
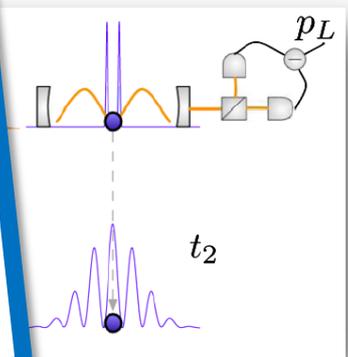
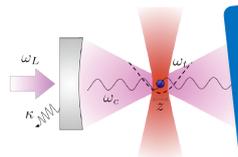


Towards „large“ quantum superposition states



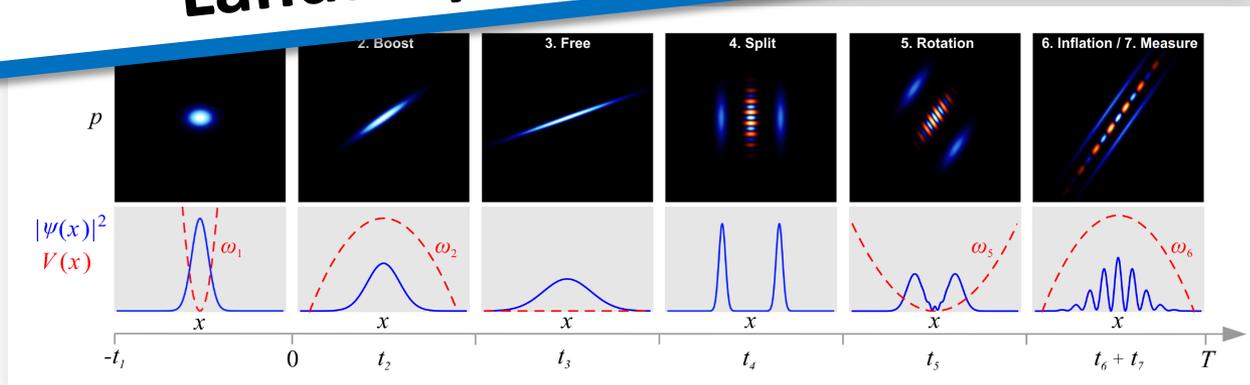
Free-fall + quantum measurement

**Next Step:
Controlling the Potential Landscape**



Superconducting levitation

(Pino 2016) arxiv: 1603.01553




 Mario Ciampini
(Kiesel group)

Shaping the potential landscape of optical tweezers

OPTICAL LEVITATION:

$$\hat{H} \ll \underline{d} \cdot \underline{E} = \chi \cdot E^2$$

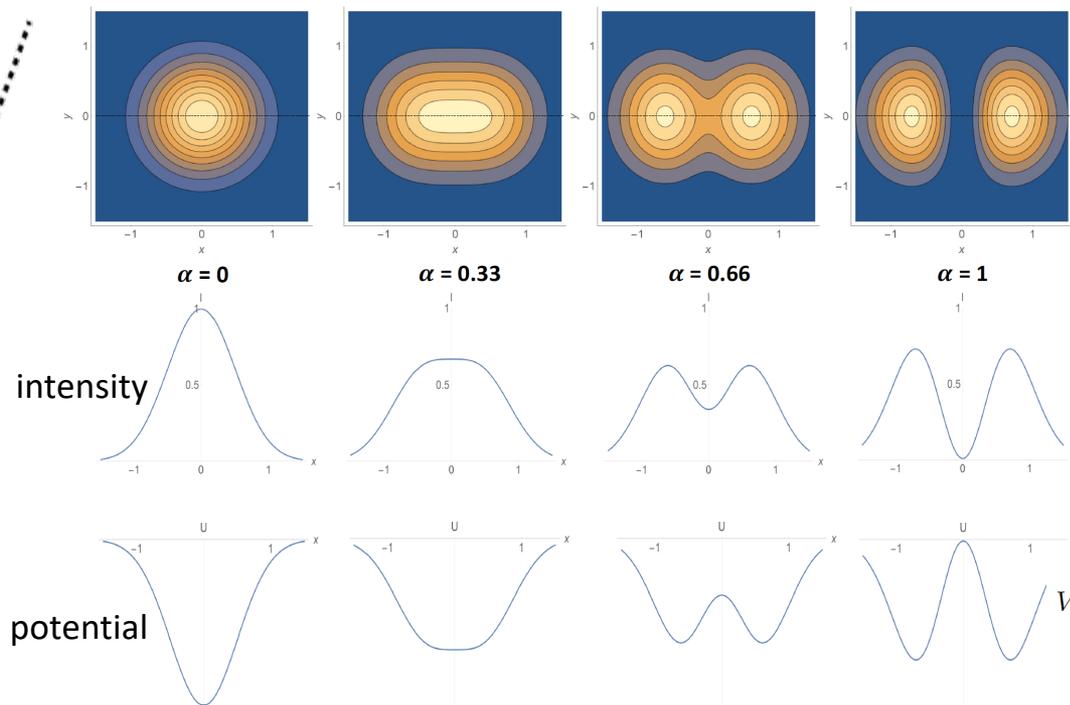
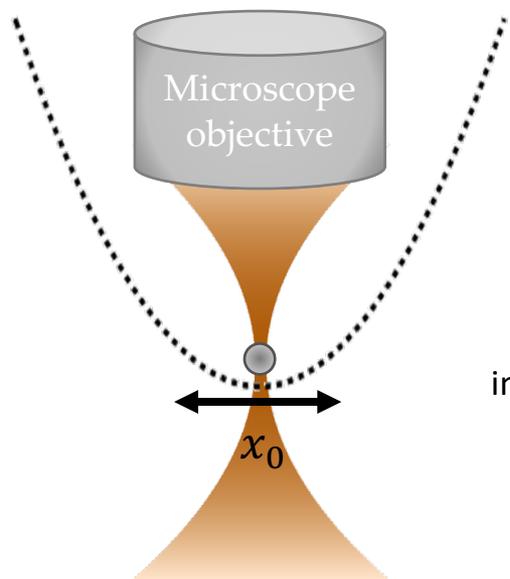
χ : $\text{Re}\{\text{Polarizability}\}$
 E : optical trapping field

↳ beam intensity

$$\rightarrow \text{GRADIENT FORCE } \underline{F} \propto (\nabla E^2) \cdot \underline{\chi}$$

Gaussian TEM₀₀ provides 3D harmonic trap (to first order)

Superposition of TEM₀₀ with TEM₀₁ provides control over potential landscape, e.g. from harmonic to repulsive

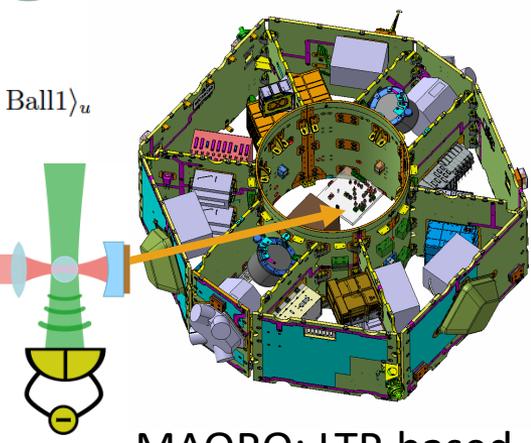
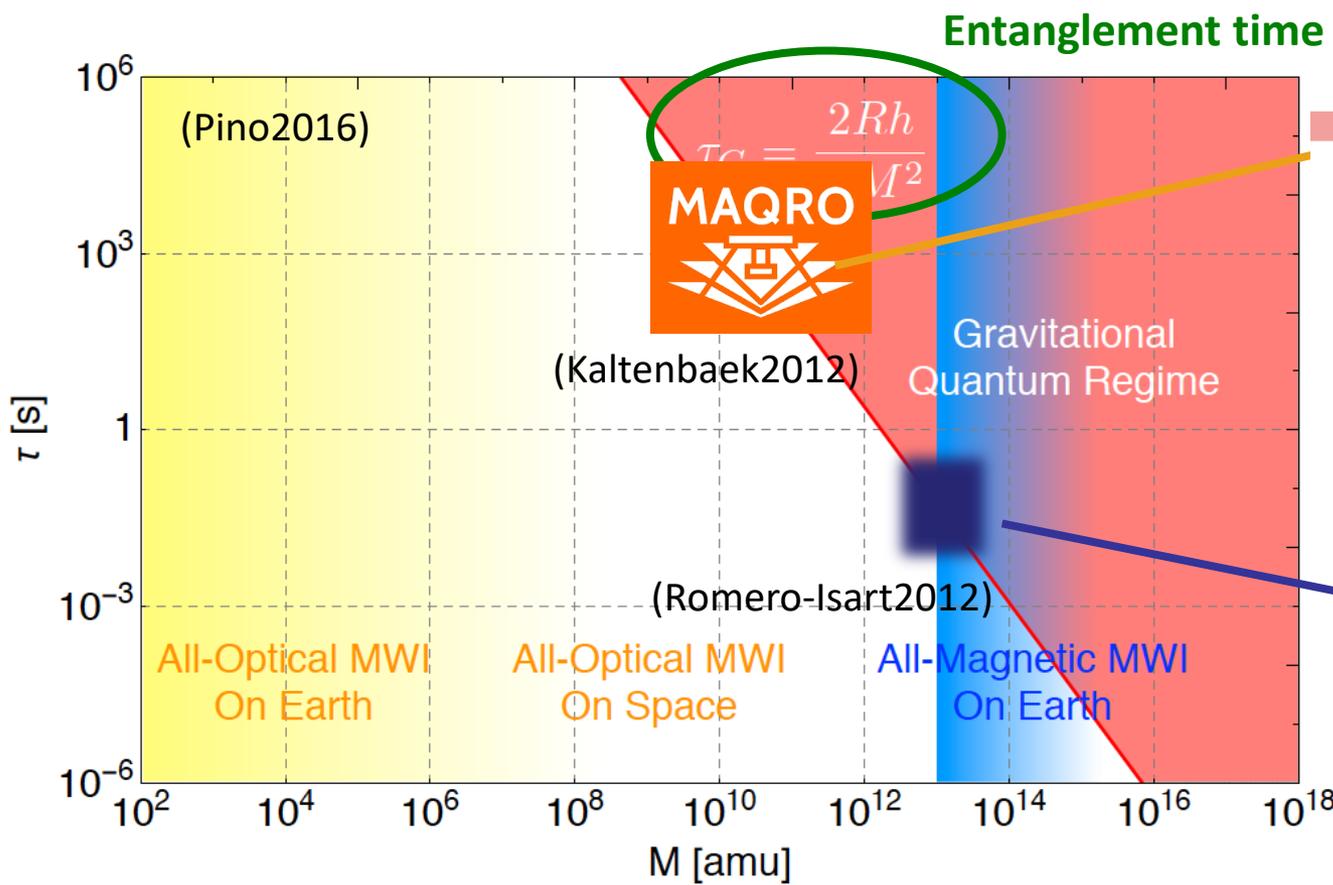
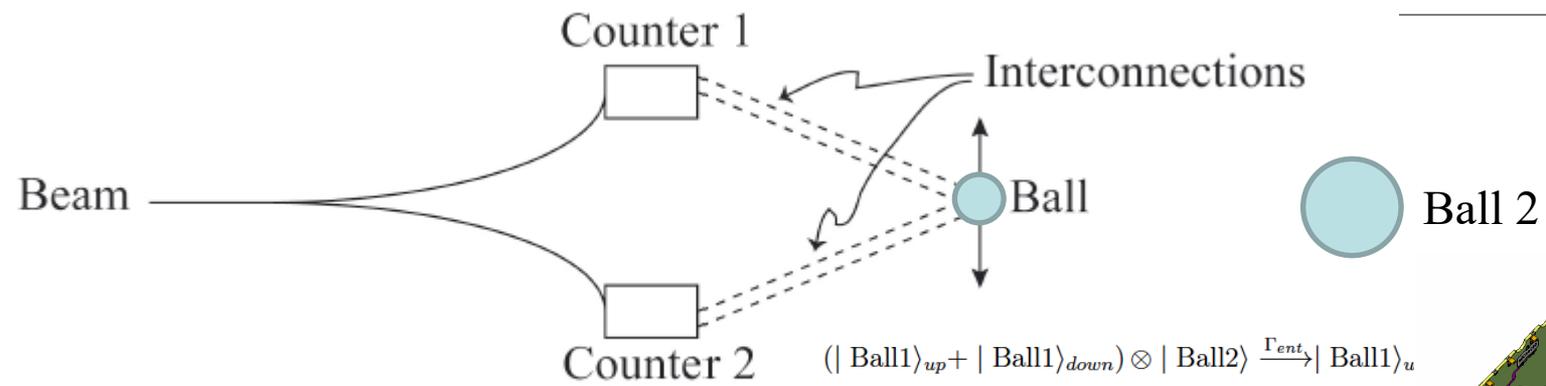


$$\alpha \text{TEM}_{00}(H) + \beta \text{TEM}_{01}(V)$$



$$V(x, t) = - \left[\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2} x^2 \right] \exp\left(\frac{-x^2}{2\omega_0^2}\right)$$

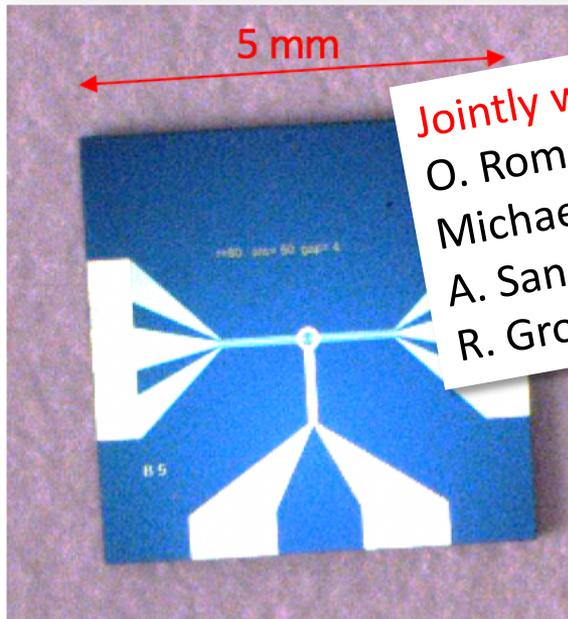
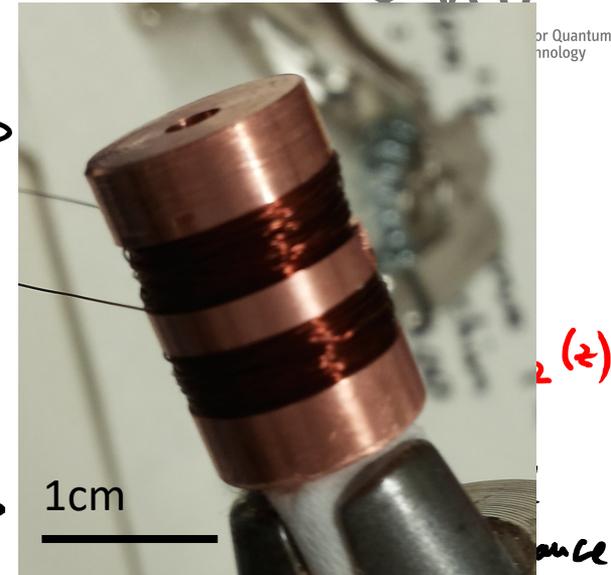
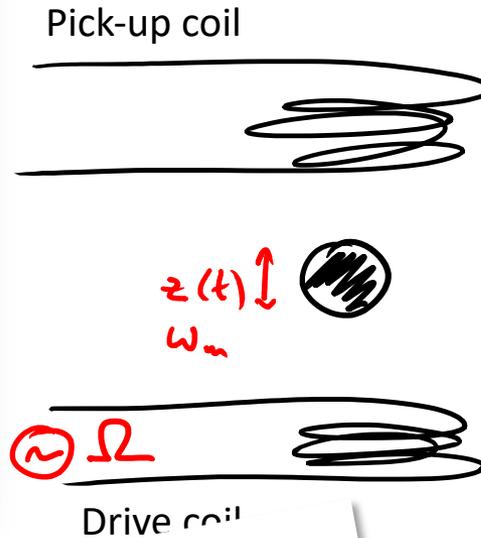
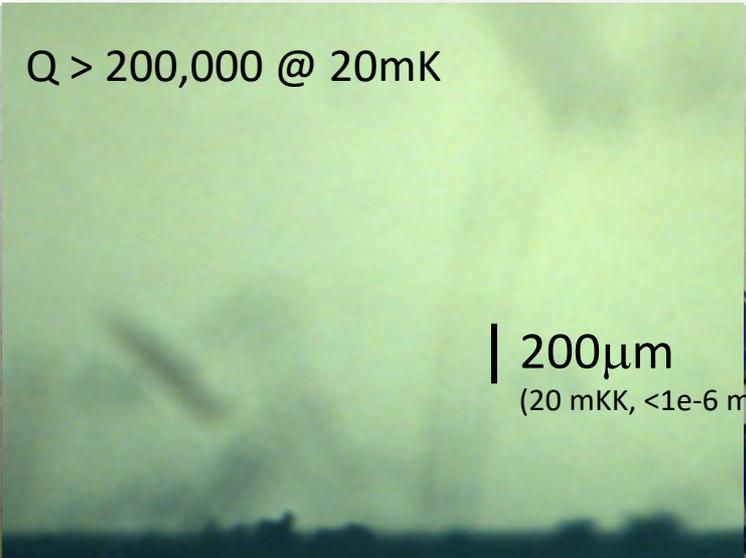
An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...



MAQRO: LTP-based satellite mission

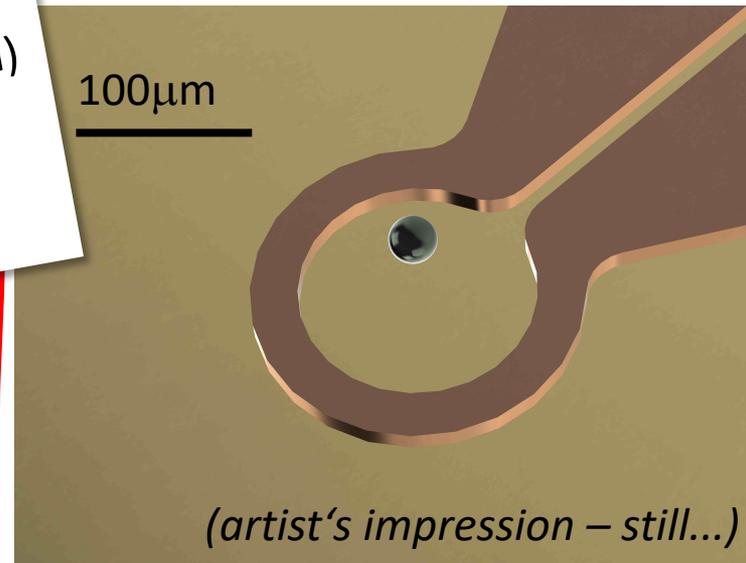
Superconducting levitation

Magnetically trapped superconductors as mechanical resonators



Jointly with:
 O. Romero-Isart, G. Kirchmair (IQOQI)
 Michael Trupke (U Vienna)
 A. Sanchez (UA Barcelona)
 R. Gross, H. Huebel (WMI Munich)

Magnetic levitation in anti-Helmholtz coil configuration
 Trap frequencies ~ 1 kHz
 $T = 20$ mK, $p = 1e-8$ mbar



J. Hofer, S. Miniberger, M. Trupke

Piling up momentum...

time, precision, mass, ...



photons
neutron interferometry
microwave atomic clocks

atom interferometry
ultracold neutrons
ultrastable optical clocks

„extreme“ matter waves
optical lattice clocks

Gravitational coupling to quantum systems

Precision measurements of Newtonian gravity & GR

Experimental constraints for Dark Energy, Dark Matter

Analogue (Quantum) Gravity

Testing gravitational decoherence (incl. Schrödinger-Newton dynamics)

Low-Energy constraints for Quantum Gravity theories

Gravitationally induced entanglement

„CLASSICAL“ GRAVITY

„QUANTUM“ GRAVITY

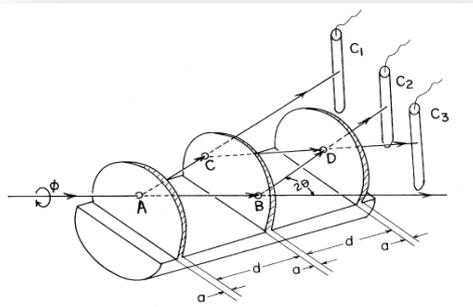


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of the neutron interferometer and ³He detectors used in this experiment.

Quantum Controlling Levitated Massive Mechanical Systems

GOAL

Establish **quantum control of levitated massive mechanical systems**

METHOD

- **Optical levitation** coupled to cavities
- **Magnetic levitation** coupled to superconducting circuits

MOTIVATION

Enable a new class of experiments at the **interface between quantum physics and gravity**

EXPECTED RESULTS

Bottom-up: Demonstrate **long-lived quantum coherence** of increasingly massive systems

Top-down: Measure **gravity** between **sub-mm source masses**

Long-term: establish experiments that exploit the **source mass character of the quantum system**



Optical levitation in cavities (with **Kiesel Group**, V. Vuletic)

Uros Delic

David Grass (@Duke)

Constanze Bach

Yuriy Coroli

Jelena Cvijan

Kahan Dare

Lorenzo Magrini

Manuel Reisenbauer

Superconducting levitation (with R. Gross, O. Romero-Isart, M. Trupke)

Josh Slater (@ Delft)

Stefan Minniberger

Milan Gemaljevic

Joachim Hofer

Quantum foundations and the gravity-quantum interface (with C. Brukner, B. Dakic, R. Wald, A. Zeilinger)

Alessio Belenchia (@ Belfast)

Lukas Neumeier

Fatemeh Bibek

Philipp Köhler

Potential landscape shaping & optimal control (with **Kiesel Group**, A. Kugi, M. Ritsch-Marte)

Mario Ciampini

Maxime Debiossac

Stefan Lindner

Tobias Wenzl

Qianze Zhu

Quantum information interfaces (with K. Hammerer, S. Gröblacher, O. Painter, R. Schnabel, J. Eisert)

Sungkun Hong (@ KAIST)

Ralf Riedinger (@ Harvard)

Witlef Wieczorek (@ Chalmers)

Claus Gärtner

Corentin Gut

Klemens Winkler

Precision measurements of gravity

Tobias Westphal

Mathias Dragosits

Hans Hepach

Jeremias Pfaff

Low-noise coatings & microfab

Garrett Cole @ CMS

Quantum Optomechanics at ultra-low temperatures

HBT of single phonons

Hong, Riedinger et al., *Science* **358**, 203 (2017)

Entangled mechanical oscillators

Riedinger, Wallucks, et al. *Nature* **556**, 473 (2018)

Marinković et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **121**, 220404 (2018)

The gravity-quantum interface

Quantum Superposition of Massive Objects and the Quantization of Gravity

Belenchia et al., *Phys. Rev. D* **98**, 126009 (2018)

Levitating dielectrics and superconductors

Near-field coupling to a photonic crystal cavity

Magrini et al., *Optica* **5**, 1597 (2018)

Ground-state cooling from room temperature

Delic et al., arXiv:1911.04406 (2019)

Cavity cooling via coherent scattering

Delic et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **122**, 123602 (2019)

Thanks!

