



# Testing Lorentz violation in weak gravitational field

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Based on: V. A. Kostelecký, Z. Li, PRD 103,024059(2021) and arXiv:2106.11293.

# Outline

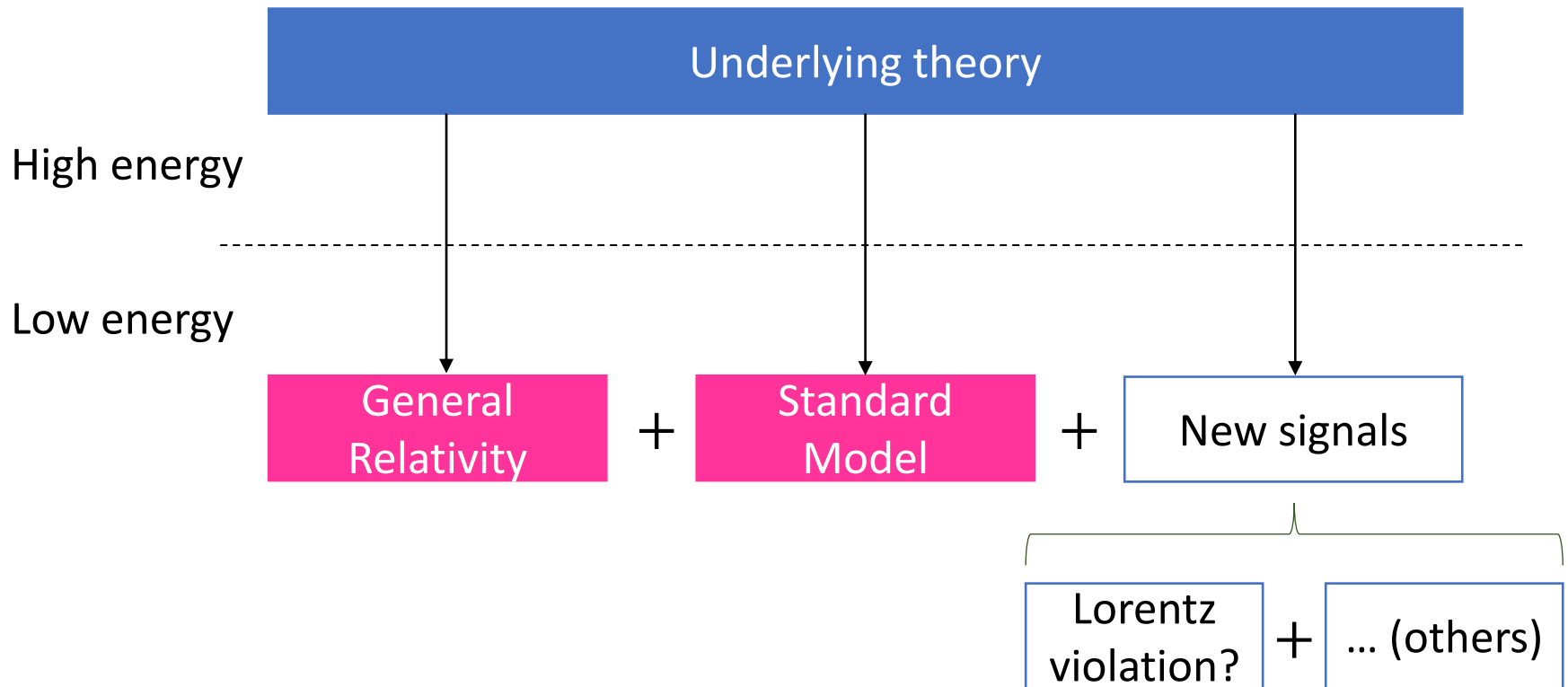
- Lorentz violation in effective field theory
- Lorentz violation in weak gravitational field
- Experiment (1): free-dropping experiments
- Experiment (2): interferometer experiments
- Experiment (3): bound-state experiments

# Outline

- **Lorentz violation and effective field theory**
- Lorentz violation in weak gravitational field
- Experiment (1): free-dropping experiments
- Experiment (2): interferometer experiments
- Experiment (3): bound-state experiments

# Unification of General Relativity and other forces

- Testing Lorentz violation can shed light on the underlying theory



# Effective field theory (EFT)

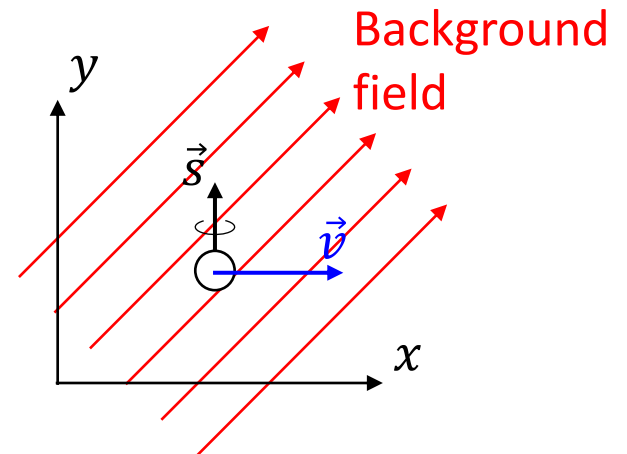
- Lorentz violation studied in the context of effective field theory

<b>EFT</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>General Relativity coupled to Standard Model</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>All possible modifications</b>
$\mathcal{L}$	<b>=</b>	$\mathcal{L}_0$	<b>+</b>	$\mathcal{L}'$

Example:  $\mathcal{L}' \supset (k_c^{(4)})^{\mu\nu} \partial_\mu \phi^\dagger \partial_\nu \phi$

$(k_c^{(4)})^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow$  **background field**  
 coefficients for Lorentz violation  
 coupling constants  
 control the size of Lorentz violation

$\phi \rightarrow$  dynamical scalar field  
 matter sector



# Experiments to test Lorentz violation

## Gravity sector:

- Gravitational waves
- Short-range gravity
- Atom interferometry
- Binary pulsars
- Gravimetry
- Cosmic ray
- Torsion pendulum

## Photon sector:

- Astrophysical birefringence
- Astrophysical dispersion
- CMB polarization
- Laser interferometry
- Microwave, optical resonators
- Cavity oscillators
- Compton scattering

## Electron and/or proton sectors:

- Penning trap
- Atom spectroscopy
- K/He magnetometer
- Atomic clock comparison
- 1S-2S transition
- Electron kinematics
- Nuclear binding energy

## Neutrino sector:

- Neutrino oscillation
- Double beta decay
- Neutrino time-of-flight
- Čerenkov radiation
- Tritium decay

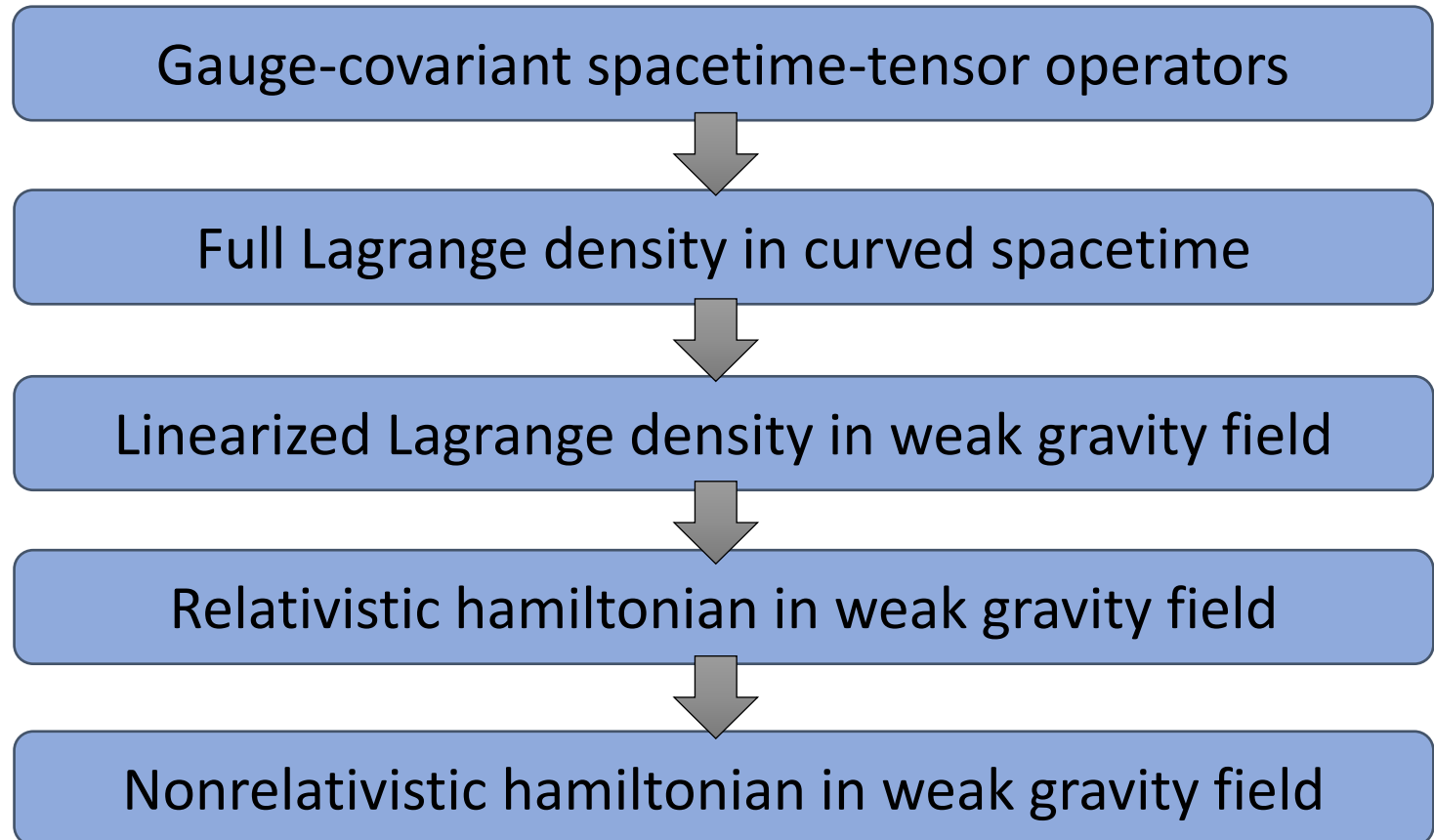
And more...

Kostelecky, Russell, *Data Tables for Lorentz and CPT Violation*,  
Rev.Mod.Phys. 83.11(2011) updated as arXiv:0801.0287v14(2021)

# Outline

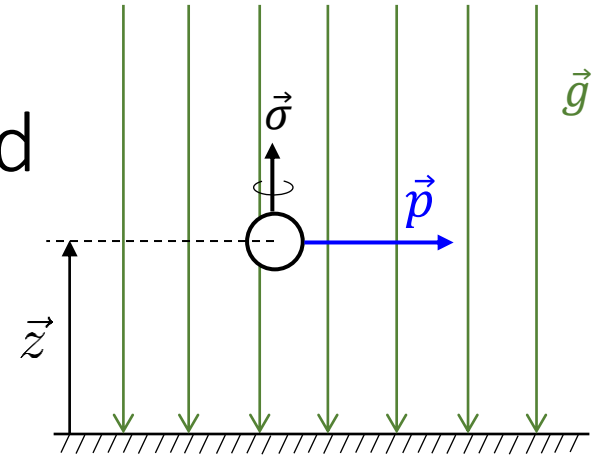
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# Framework



# Nonrelativistic hamiltonian in the Earth's gravitational field

- Conventional term:  $H_0 = -m\vec{g} \cdot \vec{z}$
- Corrections from the EFT:



$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Spin-Independent} \\
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 H_\phi = (k_\phi^{\text{NR}}) \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + (k_{\phi p}^{\text{NR}})^j \frac{1}{2} (p^j \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} p^j) \\
 \quad + (k_{\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{jk} \frac{1}{2} (p^j p^k \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} p^j p^k) \\
 \\
 H_g = (k_g^{\text{NR}})^j g^j + (k_{gp}^{\text{NR}})^{jk} p^j g^k + (k_{gpp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl} p^j p^k g^l
 \end{array} \right. \\
 \\
 \text{Spin-dependent} \\
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 H_{\sigma\phi} = (k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^j \sigma^j \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + (k_{\sigma\phi p}^{\text{NR}})^{jk} \frac{1}{2} \sigma^j (p^k \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} p^k) \\
 \quad + (k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl} \frac{1}{2} \sigma^j (p^k p^l \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} + \vec{g} \cdot \vec{z} p^k p^l) \\
 \\
 H_{\sigma g} = (k_{\sigma g}^{\text{NR}})^{jk} \sigma^j g^k + (k_{\sigma gp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl} \sigma^j p^k g^l \\
 \quad + (k_{\sigma gpp}^{\text{NR}})^{jklm} \sigma^j p^k p^l g^m
 \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}$$

TABLE III. Correspondence between nonrelativistic and linearized coefficients.

NR coefficient	Linearized coefficient
$(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})$	$2(m^{\text{L}})^{ss} - 2(a^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2m(e_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} - 2m(c_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2m^2(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss} - 2m^2(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}$
$(k_{\phi p}^{\text{NR}})^j$	$\frac{2}{m}(a^{\text{L}})^{jss} - 2(e_h^{\text{L}})^{jss} + 2(c_h^{\text{L}})^{jss} + 2(c_h^{\text{L}})^{tjss} - 4m(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jss} + 2m(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jss} + 4m(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjss}$
$(k_{\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{jk}$	$-\frac{1}{m}[(c_h^{\text{L}})^{jkss} + (c_h^{\text{L}})^{kjss}] + 2(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jkss} - 2(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjks} - 2[(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jktss} + (a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{kjts}]$ $-\delta^{jk}[\frac{1}{m^2}(m^{\text{L}})^{ss} + \frac{1}{m}(c_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} - (m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss} + 2(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}]$
$(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^j$	$-2(b^{\text{L}})^{jss} + \epsilon^{jkl}(H^{\text{L}})^{klss} - 2m(d_h^{\text{L}})^{jss} + m\epsilon^{jkl}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{klss} - 2m^2(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jss} + m^2\epsilon^{jkl}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{klss}$
$(k_{\sigma\phi p}^{\text{NR}})^{jk}$	$2(d_h^{\text{L}})^{jkss} - \epsilon^{jmn}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{mnkss} + 4m(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jktss} - 2m\epsilon^{jmn}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mnkss}$ $+\delta^{jk}[\frac{2}{m}(b^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2(d_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2m(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}] - \epsilon^{jkl}[\frac{2}{m}(H^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2(g_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2m(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}]$
$(k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl}$	$-2(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jklss} + \epsilon^{jmn}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mnklss} + \delta^{kl}[\frac{1}{m^2}(b^{\text{L}})^{jss} + \frac{1}{2m}\epsilon^{jmn}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{mntss} - (b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{jttss} + \epsilon^{jkl}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mntss}]$ $+\frac{1}{2}\left[\left(-\delta^{jk}[\frac{1}{m^2}(b^{\text{L}})^{lss} + \frac{1}{2m^2}\epsilon^{lmn}(H^{\text{L}})^{mnss} + \frac{2}{m}(d_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{m}(d_h^{\text{L}})^{ltss} + \frac{1}{2m}\epsilon^{lmn}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{mntss}\right.\right.$ $\left.+4(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tllss} + (b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{lttss} + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon^{lmn}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mntss}\right] + \epsilon^{jkm}[\frac{2}{m}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{tmlss} + 4(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tmlss}] + (k \leftrightarrow l)$
$(k_g^{\text{NR}})^j$	$\frac{1}{m}(H^{\text{L}})^{tjss} + 2(e_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{jss} - 2(c_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{tjss} + (g_h^{\text{L}})^{tjss} + 2m(m_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjss} - 2m(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjss} + m(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjss}$
$(k_{gp}^{\text{NR}})^{jk}$	$\frac{2}{m}(c_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{jkss} - \frac{1}{m}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{tkjss} - 2(m_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{jkss} + 2(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tjks} + 2(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{jtkss} - 2(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tkjts}$ $-\epsilon^{jkl}[\frac{1}{2m^2}(b^{\text{L}})^{lss} + \frac{1}{2m}(d_h^{\text{L}})^{ltss} + \frac{1}{2}(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{lttss}] - \epsilon^{jkl}\epsilon^{lmn}[\frac{1}{4m^2}(H^{\text{L}})^{mnss} + \frac{1}{4m}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{mntss} + \frac{1}{4}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mntss}]$
$(k_{gpp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl}$	$-\frac{1}{m}(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{jklss} - \frac{1}{m}(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{kjlss} + \frac{1}{m}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tljks}$ $-\delta^{jk}[\frac{1}{m^2}(e_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{lss} - \frac{1}{2m^2}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{m}(a_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tllss} - \frac{1}{m}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tllss}]$ $+\epsilon^{jlm}[\frac{1}{2m^2}(d_h^{\text{L}})^{mkss} + \frac{1}{m}(b_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mtkss}] + \epsilon^{jlm}\epsilon^{mnr}[\frac{1}{4m^2}(g_h^{\text{L}})^{nrkss} + \frac{1}{2m}(H_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{nrkss}]$
$(k_{\sigma g}^{\text{NR}})^{jk}$	$-2(d_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{jkss} + \epsilon^{jmn}(g_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{mnkss} - 2m(b_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{jtkss} + m\epsilon^{jmn}(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{mntkss}$ $-\delta^{jk}[\frac{1}{m}(m_5^{\text{L}})^{ss} + (f_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + m(m_{5h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}] + \epsilon^{jkl}[\frac{1}{m}(a^{\text{L}})^{lss} + (c_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + m(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}]$
$(k_{\sigma gp}^{\text{NR}})^{jkl}$	$2(b_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{jklss} - \epsilon^{jmn}(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{mnklss} + \epsilon^{jkl}[\frac{1}{2m^2}(m^{\text{L}})^{ss} + \frac{1}{2m^2}(a^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{2m}(e_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{2m}(c_h^{\text{L}})^{tss}$ $+\frac{1}{2}(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{2}(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}] + \delta^{jk}[\frac{2}{m}(d_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{tss} + 2(b_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}] + \delta^{jl}[\frac{1}{m}(f_h^{\text{L}})^{kss} + 2(m_{5h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{kss}]$ $-\epsilon^{jkm}[\frac{2}{m}(g_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{tmlss} + 2(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tmlss}] - \epsilon^{jlm}[\frac{1}{m}(c_h^{\text{L}})^{mkss} + 2(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{mktss}]$
$(k_{\sigma gpp}^{\text{NR}})^{jklm}$	$-\delta^{jm}\delta^{kl}[\frac{2}{m^2}(f_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{m}(m_{5h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tss}] - \delta^{jm}\frac{1}{m}(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{klss} + \delta^{kl}[\frac{1}{m^2}(d_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{jms} + \frac{1}{2m}\epsilon^{jnr}(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{nrtms}]$ $+\delta^{kl}\epsilon^{jmn}[\frac{1}{2m^2}(c_h^{\text{L}})^{ntss} + \frac{1}{m}(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{ntss}] + \epsilon^{jmn}\frac{1}{m}(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{nkls}$ $-\frac{1}{2}\left[\left(\delta^{jk}[\frac{1}{m^2}(d_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{lms} + \frac{1}{2m^2}\epsilon^{lnr}(g_{\partial h}^{\text{L}})^{nrms} + \frac{2}{m}(b_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tlms} + \frac{1}{m}(b_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{ltms} + \frac{1}{2m}\epsilon^{lnr}(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{nrtms}\right.\right.$ $\left.+ \epsilon^{jkm}[\frac{1}{2m^2}(e_h^{\text{L}})^{lss} + \frac{1}{2m^2}(c_h^{\text{L}})^{tss} + \frac{1}{m}(m_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{ltss} + \frac{1}{m}(a_h^{(5)\text{L}})^{tllss}] - \epsilon^{jkn}\frac{2}{m}(H_{\partial h}^{(5)\text{L}})^{tnlms}\right] + (k \leftrightarrow l)$

# Outline

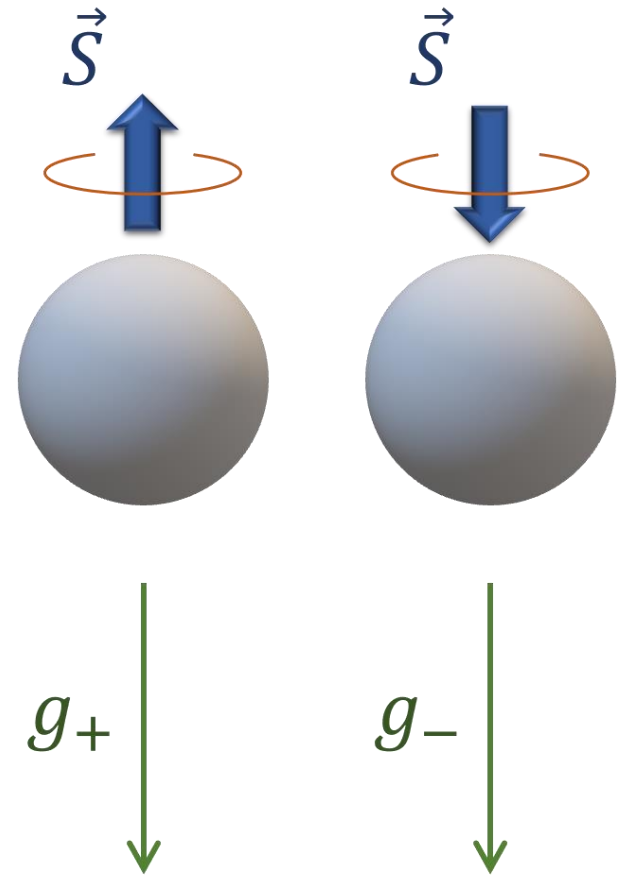
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# Free-dropping experiments

- Atoms with different spins
- Gravitational accelerations ( $g$ )
- Precision measurement

Sensitive to

- Weak equivalence principle (WEP)
- Spin-gravity coupling
- Lorentz violation



# Dropping $^{87}\text{Rb}$ atoms

- $^{87}\text{Rb}$  with different spins
- Proton and electron sectors
- Sensitivity:

$$\Delta g/g \lesssim 10^{-7}$$

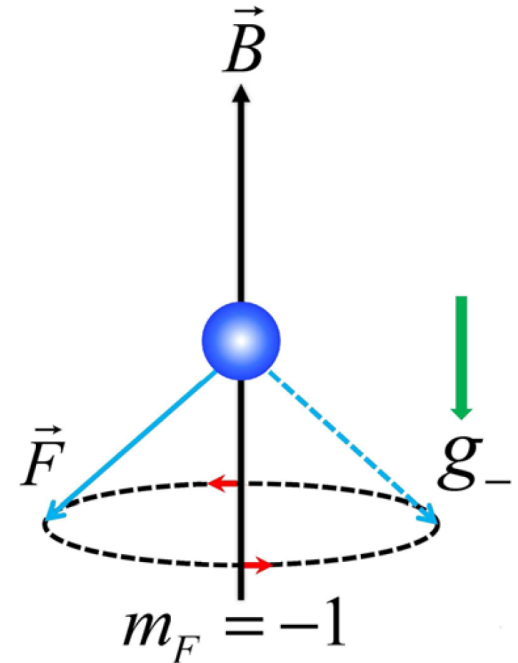
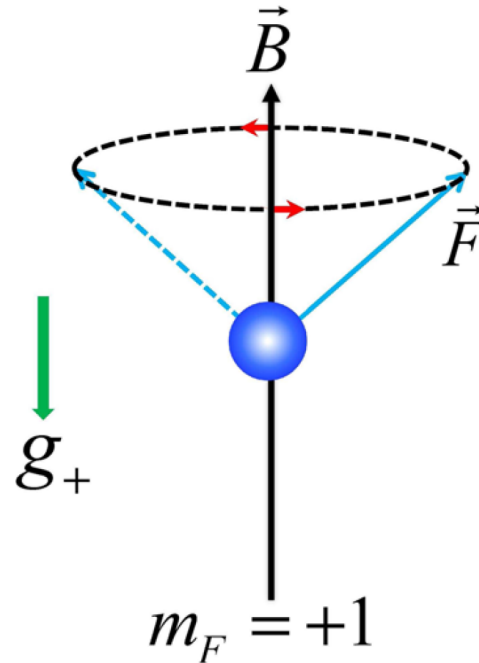


Image: Duan *et al.*, PRL'2016

- Constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$\left| (k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_p^Z - 0.6(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_e^Z \right| < 2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\left| (k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})_p^{ZJJ} + 0.3(k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})_p^{JJZ} \right| < 7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

# Dropping $^{88}\text{Sr}$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}$ atoms

- $^{88}\text{Sr}$ : spin-0, bosonic
- $^{87}\text{Sr}$ : spin-9/2, fermionic
- Broadening of  $g$  for unpolarized  $^{87}\text{Sr}$
- Neutron sector
- Sensitivity:  $\Delta g/g \lesssim 10^{-7}$

- Constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$\left| (k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^Z_n \right| < 1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\left| (k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{ZJJ} - 0.4(k_{\sigma\phi pp}^{\text{NR}})^{ZZZ}_n \right| < 5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$$

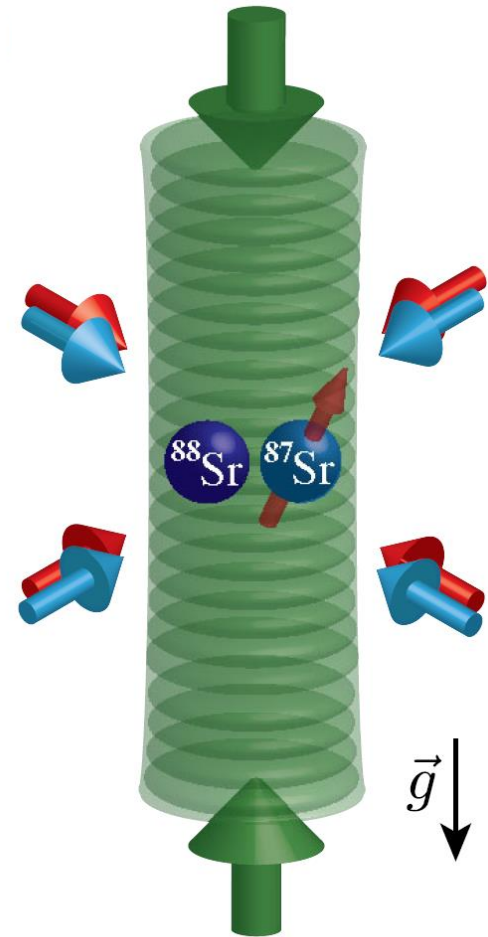


Image: Tarallo *et al.*, PRL'2014

# Dropping hydrogen and antihydrogen

- Symmetry between particles and antiparticles
- Plans proposed by many groups
- Contributions from the EFT:

$$\frac{g_{\text{eff}}}{g} = 1 - \frac{1}{m_H} \sum_{\omega} \left[ (k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_{\omega} + m_F (k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_{\omega}^z \right]$$

spin

$\omega = e^{-}, p$  for hydrogen

$\omega = e^{+}, \bar{p}$  for antihydrogen

S. Aghion *et al.*, Nat. Commun. 5,4538(2014)  
C. Amole *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112,121102(2014)  
P. Indelicato *et al.*, Nat. Commun. 4,1787(2013)  
Kostelecký, Li, arXiv:2106.11293

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# Colella-Overhauser-Werner (COW) experiment

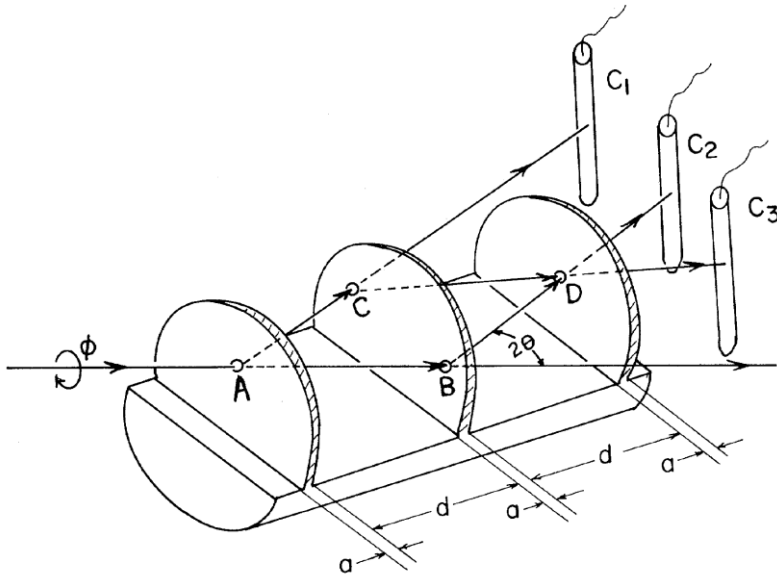


Image: Colella, Overhauser, Werner, PRL'1975

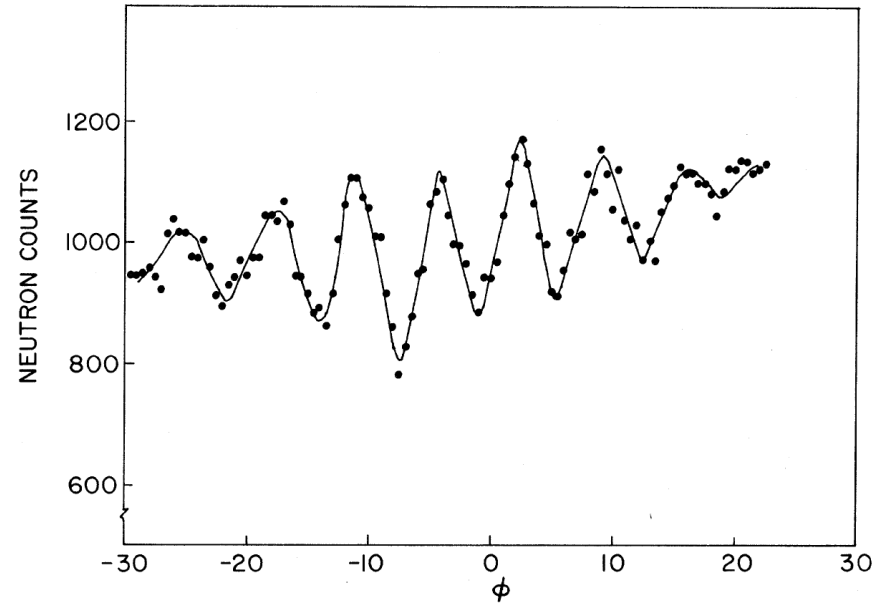


Image: Colella, Overhauser, Werner, PRL'1975

- Gravity-induced phase shift depending on coefficients for LV
- Sensitivity and constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$\Delta g/g = - (k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n / m_n \quad | (k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n | < 1 \times 10^{-1} \text{ GeV}$$

↑  
Spin-independent

Colella, Overhauser, Werner, PRL 34,23(1975)  
Kostelecký, Li, arXiv:2106.11293

# Neutron spin-echo experiment

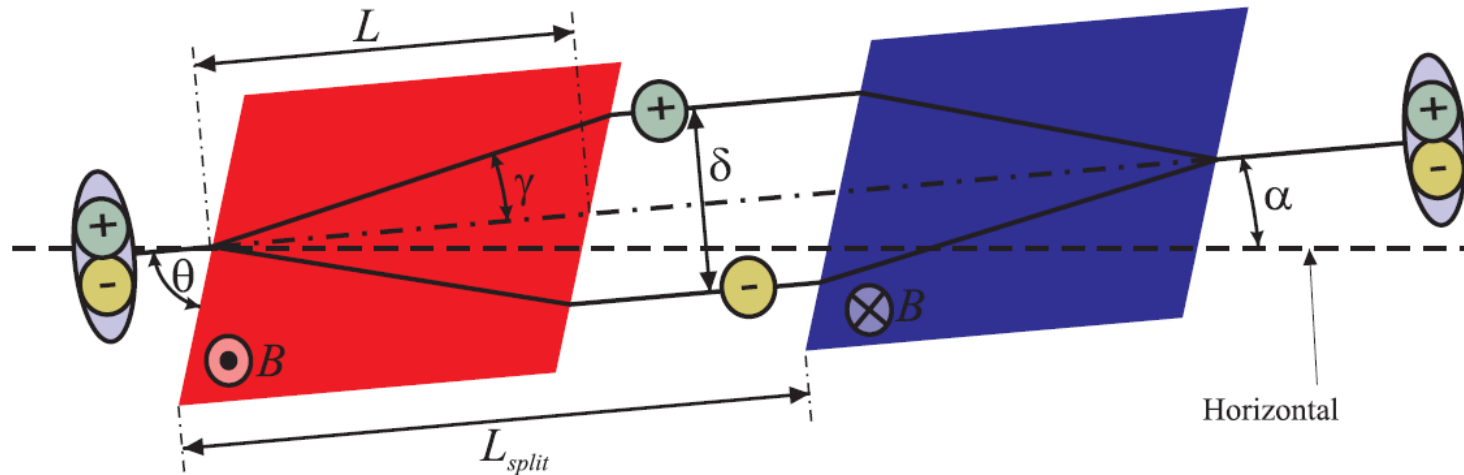


Image: V.-O. de Haan *et al.*, PRA'2004

- Similar method using neutrons and magnetic fields
- Sensitivity and constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$g_{n, \hat{s}^j} = g \left[ 1 - \frac{(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n}{m_n} - \frac{(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j \hat{s}^j}{m_n} \right]$$

$$(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n + (k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j \hat{s}^j < 2.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ GeV}$$

↑  
Initial spin

V.-O. de Haan *et al.*, PRA 89,063611(2004)  
Kostelecký, Li, arXiv:2106.11293

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# Bound states of neutrons in the Earth's gravitational field

Linear potential

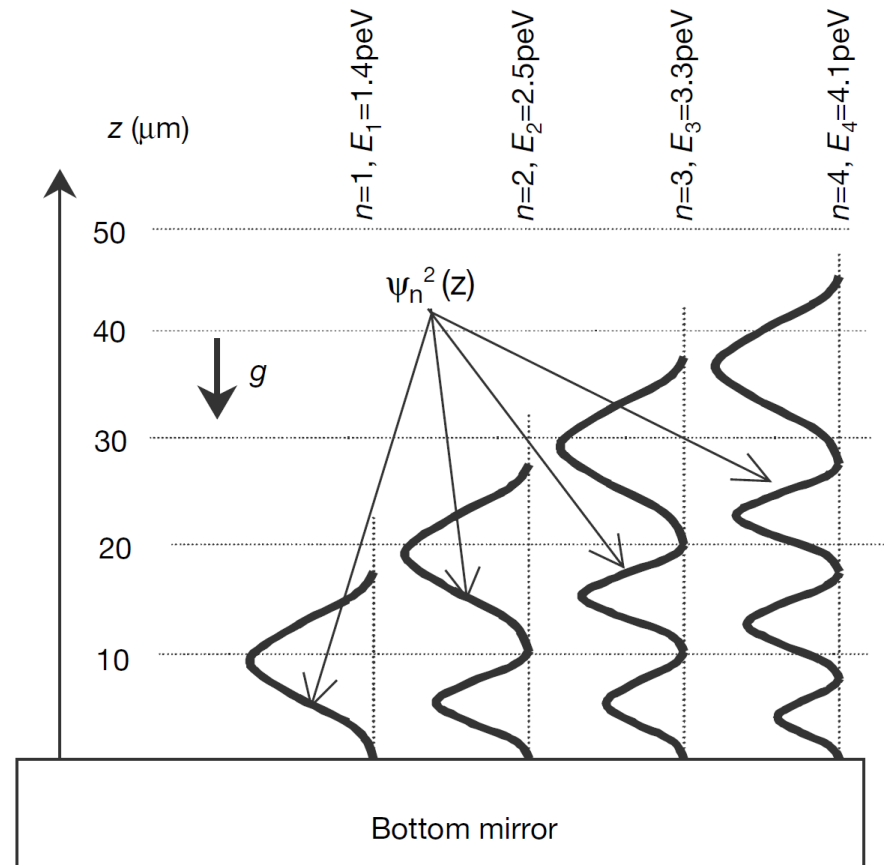
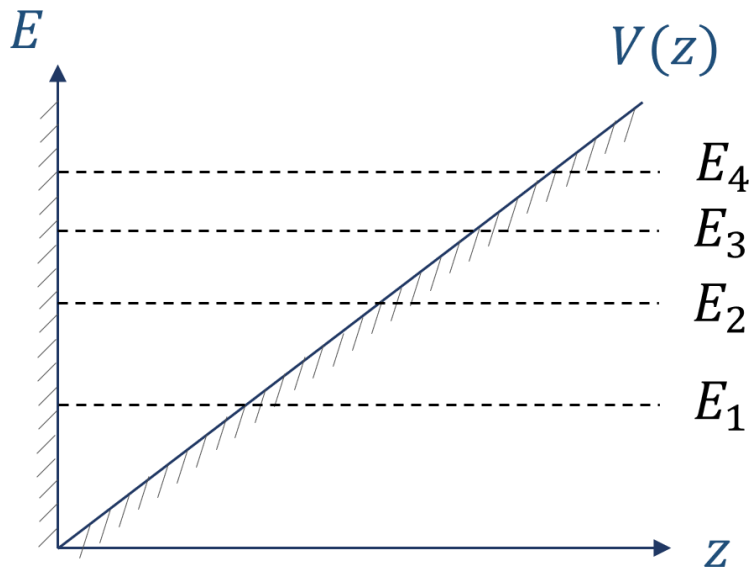
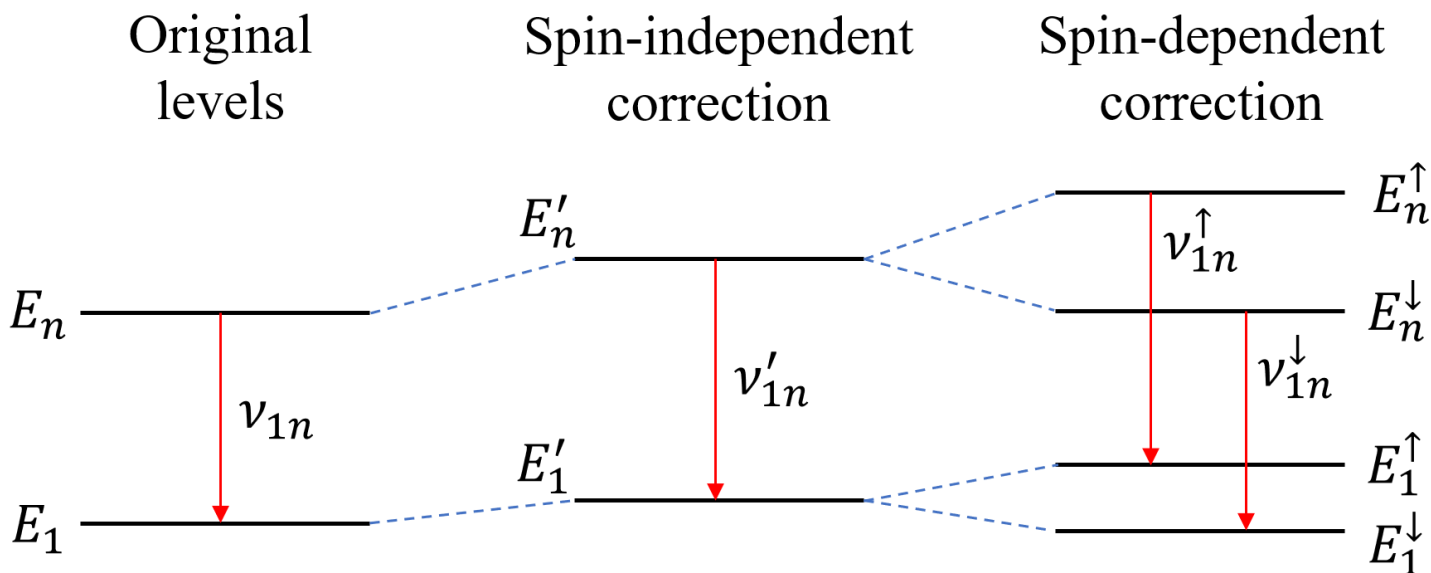


Image: Nesvizhevsky *et al.*, Nature'2002

# Transition frequencies



Spin-independent      Spin-dependent

- Corrections:

$$\Delta E_n - \Delta E_1 = -\frac{2}{3} \frac{(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n \pm \sqrt{[(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j]^2}}{m} (E_n - E_1)$$

- Constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$|(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n| < 1.3 \times 10^{-2} \text{ GeV} \quad \sqrt{[(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j]^2} < 7.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ GeV}$$

# Constraints on coefficients for LV from various types of experiments

		Free-dropping	Interferometer	Bound-state	Spin-independent
Proton sector	$(k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_p$				←
	$(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^J_p$	$10^{-5}$			←
Neutron sector	$(k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n$		$10^{-2}$	$10^{-2}$	←
	$(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^J_n$	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-2}$	←
Electron sector	$(k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_e$				←
	$(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})^J_e$	$10^{-5}$			←
					Spin-dependent

# Summary

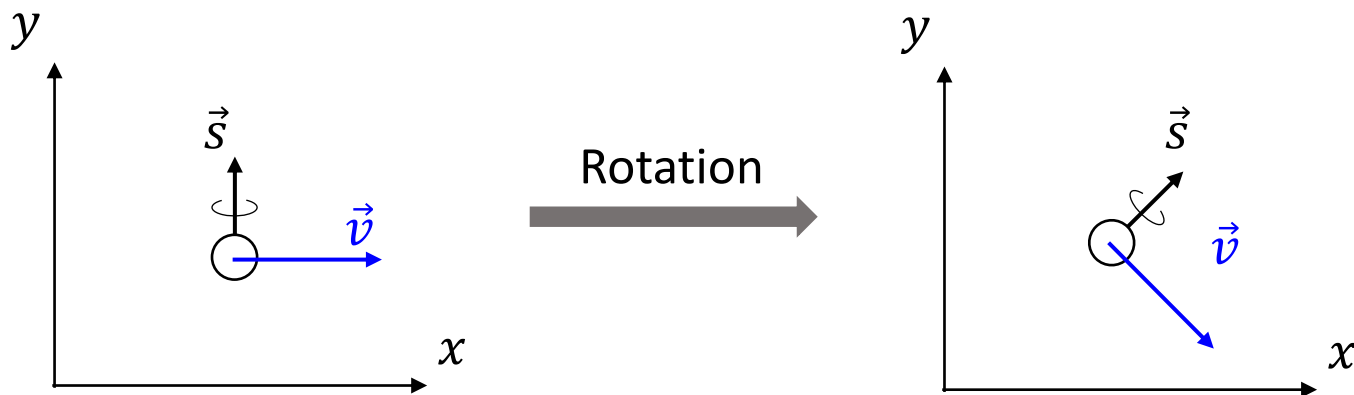
- The unification of General Relativity and other forces may lead to small deviations from Lorentz symmetry.
- An effective field theory is developed to study Lorentz violation (LV).
- The general form of Lorentz-violating terms in curved spacetime and the limits in the Earth's gravitational field are obtained for the first time.
- Three types of experiments, free-dropping, interferometer, and bound-state experiments, are analyzed to extract first constraints on certain coefficients for LV and spin-gravity coupling.
- More experiments are needed for complete coverage of the coefficients.





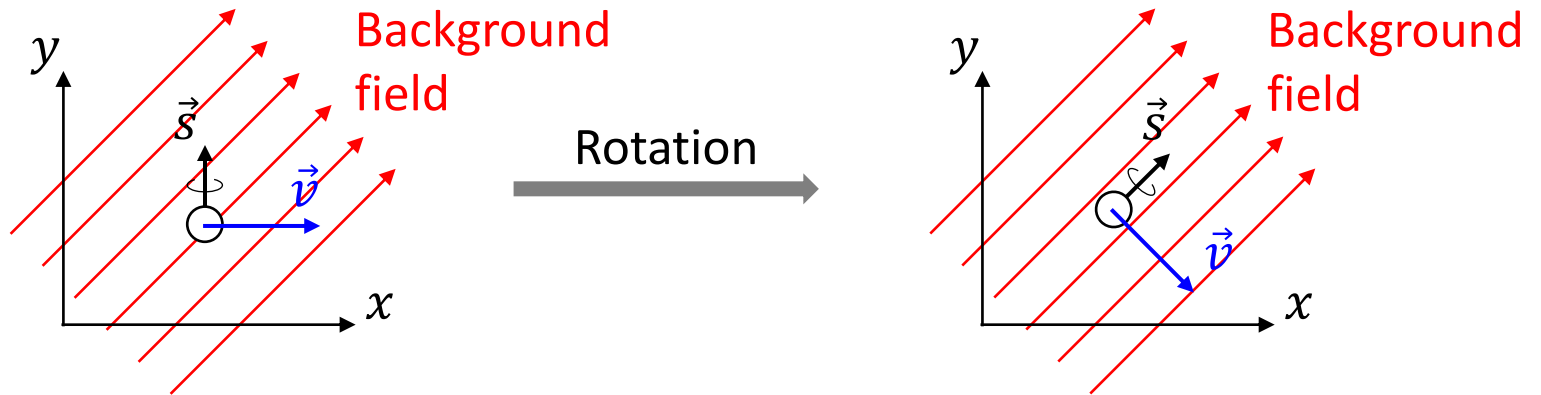
# Local Lorentz symmetry and diffeomorphism symmetry

- Experimental results are **independent** of the **orientation** and **velocity** of the laboratory
- Local Lorentz transformation:  
3 rotations and 3 boosts in tangent space
- Diffeomorphism: isomorphism of manifolds
- Fundamental symmetries in physics
- Must be precisely tested in experiments

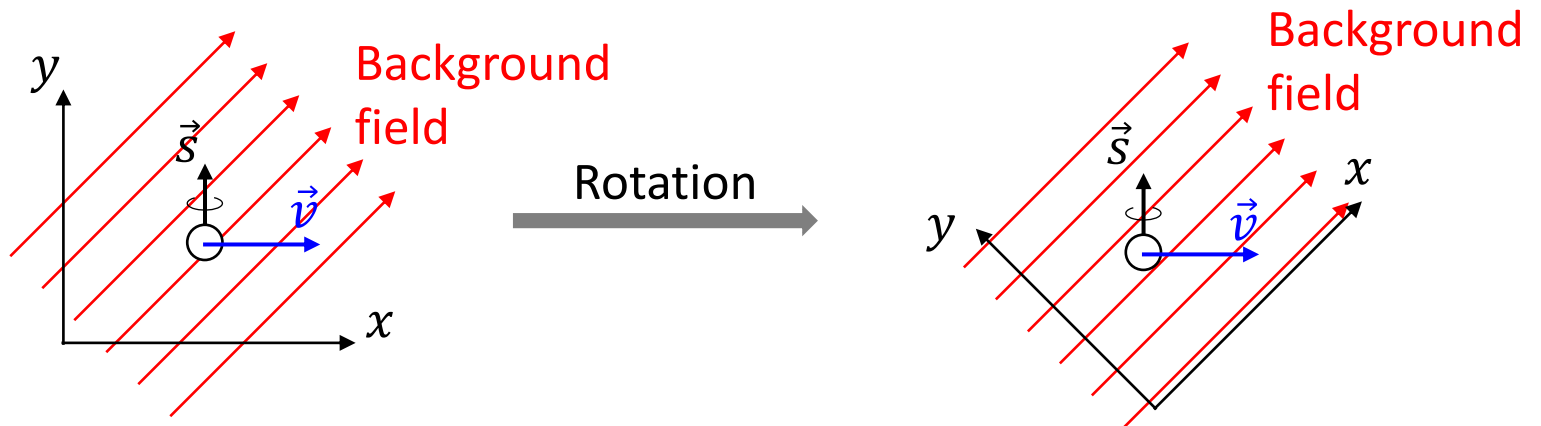


# Lorentz violation (LV)

- **Particle** Lorentz transformation (violation):



- **Observer** Lorentz transformation (invariance):



# Sun-centered frame and sidereal dependence

- Coefficients for LV are normally assumed approximately constant in the Sun-centered frame.
  - $Z$  axis: aligns with the **rotational axis** of the Earth
  - $X$  axis: points from the Sun to the Earth at 2000 vernal equinox
  - $Y$  axis: forms a right-handed system with  $X$  and  $Z$  axes
  - $T$  axis: origin set at the 2000 vernal equinox
- Experimental results depend on the sidereal time.

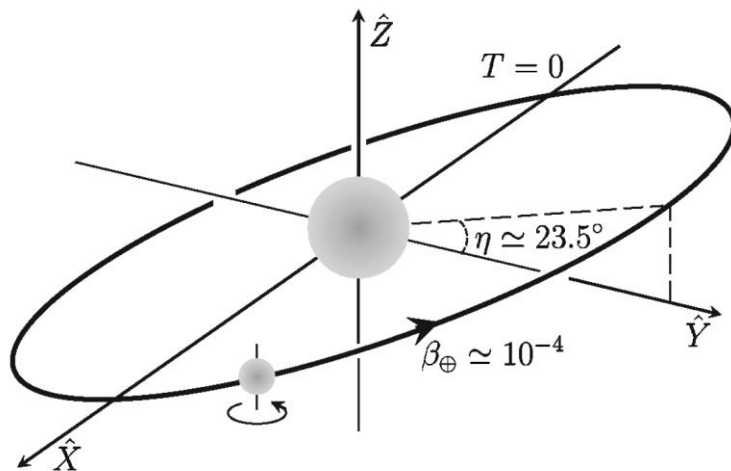


Image: Kostelecky, Russell, Rev.Mod.Phys. 83.11(2011)

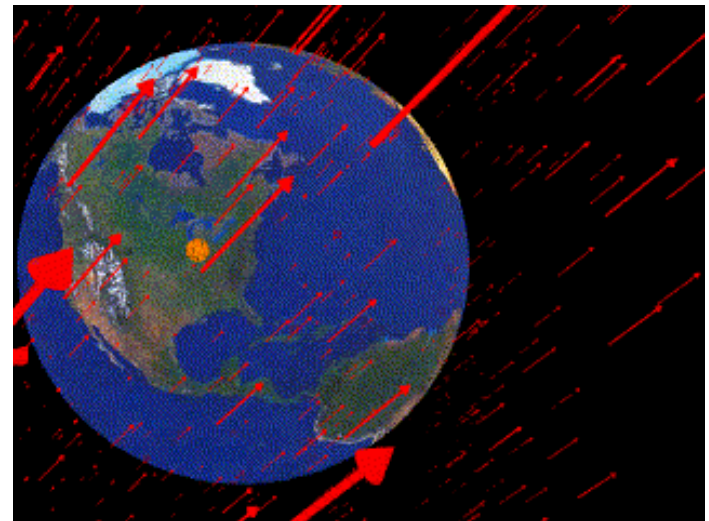
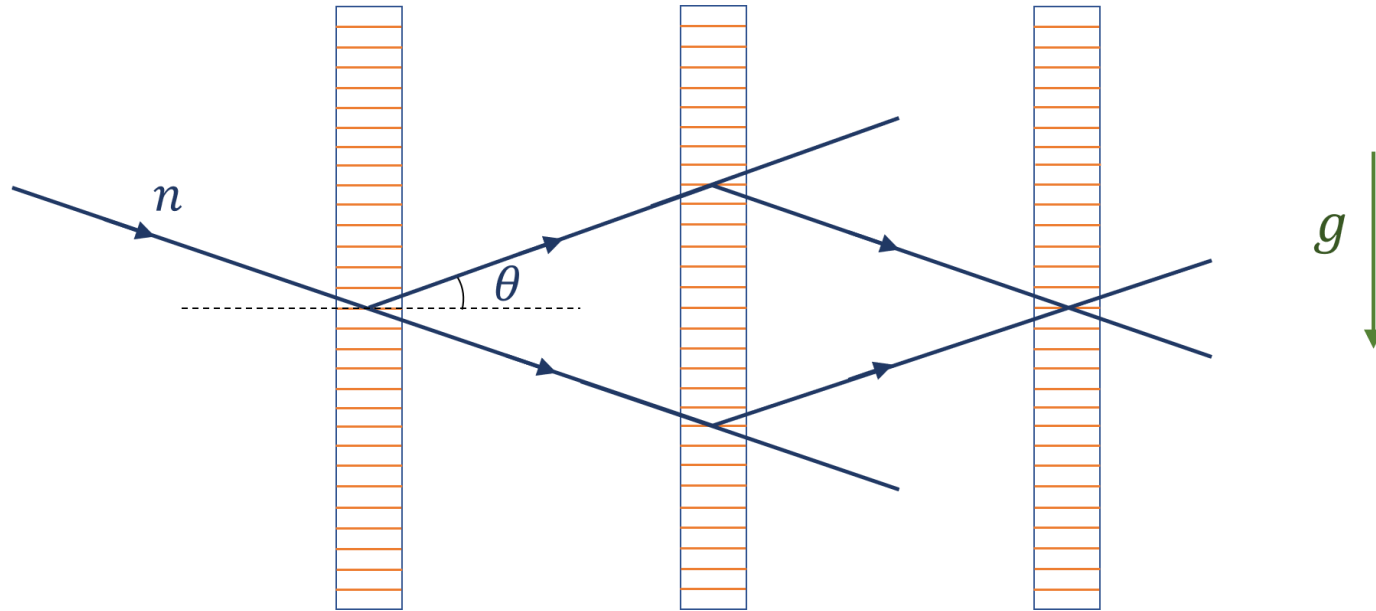


Image: [www.physics.indiana.edu/~kostelec](http://www.physics.indiana.edu/~kostelec)

# COW experiment



- Phase shift depending on coefficients for LV
- Sensitivity and constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$\Delta g/g = - (k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n / m_n \quad | (k_{\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n | < 1 \times 10^{-1} \text{ GeV}$$

↑  
Spin-independent

# Critical heights

- Relation with energy:

$$mgz_n = E_n$$

- Corrections from the EFT:

$$z'_n = \left( 1 + \frac{(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n}{3m} \pm \frac{\sqrt{[(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j]^2}}{3m} \right) z_n$$

↑ Spin-independent
↑ Spin-dependent

- Constraints on coefficients for LV:

$$|(k_\phi^{\text{NR}})_n| < 8.2 \times 10^{-1} \text{ GeV}$$

$$\sqrt{[(k_{\sigma\phi}^{\text{NR}})_n^j]^2} < 5.4 \times 10^{-1} \text{ GeV}$$

## Experimental setup

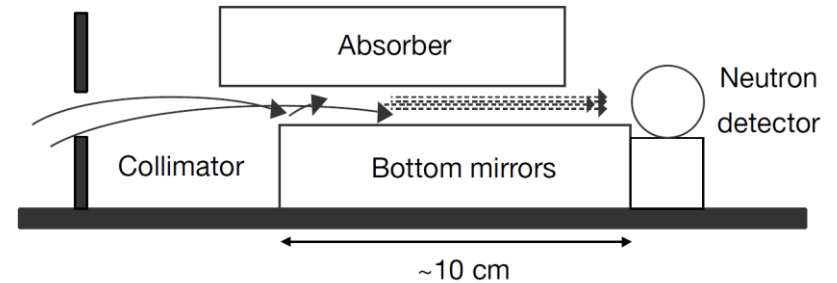


Image: Nesvizhevsky *et al.*, Nature'2002

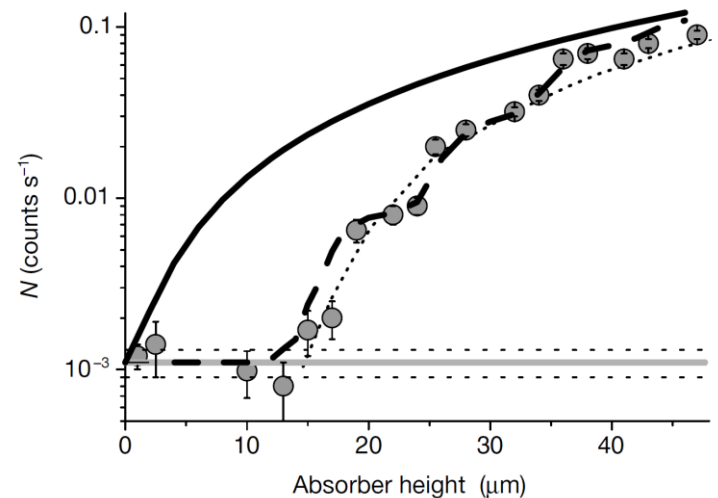


Image: Nesvizhevsky *et al.*, Nature'2002

Nesvizhevsky *et al.*, Nature 415,297(2002)

Kostelecký, Li, arXiv:2106.11293