

Quantum sensors for (low and high-energy) particle physics experiments at CERN

M. Doser, CERN

Some words on the landscape

Clarification of terms

Quantum sensors for low energy particle physics

Quantum detectors for high energy particle physics

CERN quantum initiative

<https://quantum.web.cern.ch/>



- Assess the **areas of potential quantum advantage** in HEP applications (QML, classification, anomaly detection, tracking)
- Develop **common libraries of algorithms, methods, tools**; benchmark as technology evolves
- Collaborate to the development of shared, **hybrid classic-quantum infrastructures**

Computing & Algorithms



- Identify and develop techniques for **quantum simulation** in collider physics, QCD, cosmology within and beyond the SM
- Co-develop quantum computing and sensing approaches by providing **theoretical foundations** to the identifications of the areas of interest

Simulation & Theory



- Develop and promote **expertise in quantum sensing** in low- and high-energy physics applications
- Develop quantum sensing approaches with emphasis on **low-energy particle physics measurements**
- Assess **novel technologies and materials** for HEP applications

Sensing, Metrology & Materials

currently: 2.5 PhD's



- **Co-develop CERN technologies relevant to quantum infrastructures** (time synch, frequency distribution, lasers)
- Contribute to the **deployment and validation of quantum infrastructures**
- Assess requirements and **impact of quantum communication on computing applications** (security, privacy)

Communications & Networks

<https://quantum.web.cern.ch/>

quantum sensors & particle physics: what are we talking about?

domains of physics

search for NP / BSM

Axions, ALP's, DM & non-DM
UL-particle searches

tests of QM wavefunction collapse,
decoherence

EDM searches & tests of
fundamental symmetries

quantum technologies

- ① superconducting devices (TES, SNSPD, ...) / cryo-electronics
- ② spin-based, NV-diamonds
- ③ optical clocks
- ④ ionic / atomic / molecular
- ⑤ optomechanical sensors
- ⑥ metamaterials, 0/1/2-D materials

and because the commensurate energies are very low, unsurprisingly, quantum sensors are ideally matched to low energy (particle) physics;

→ focus on CERN activities both in low energy and high energy particle physics

(I will *not* however be talking about entanglement and its potential applications)

start with low energy particle physics

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| → particles, atoms, ions, nuclei: | tests of QED, symmetries |
| → RF cavities: | axion searches |
| → atom interferometers: | DM searches |

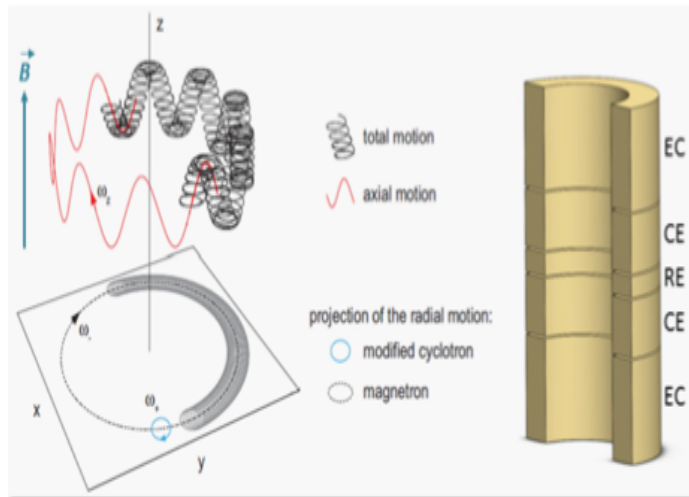
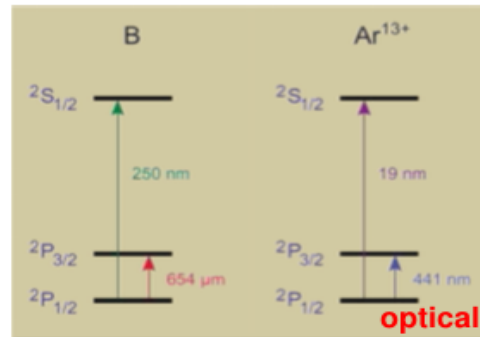
particles, atoms, ions, nuclei:

tests of QED, T-violation, P, Lorentz-violation, DM searches

HCI's in Penning traps

Scaling with a nuclear charge Z

- Binding energy $\sim Z^2$
- Hyperfine splitting $\sim Z^3$
- QED effects $\sim Z^4$
- Stark shifts $\sim Z^{-6}$



K. Blaum et al., Quantum Sci. Technol. 6 014002 (2021)

eEDM's in molecules

nuclear clock (^{229}Th)

molecular / ion clocks

Quantum Sensors for New-Physics Discoveries

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

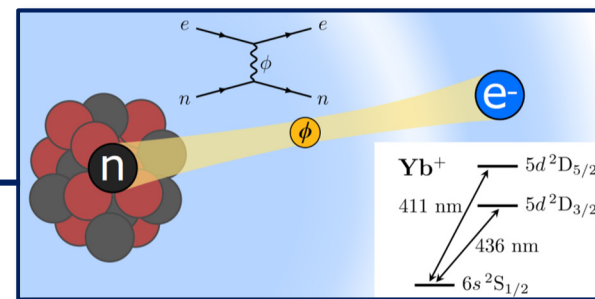
ECFA Detector R&D Roadmap Symposium of Task Force 5 Quantum and Emerging Technologies

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/999818/>

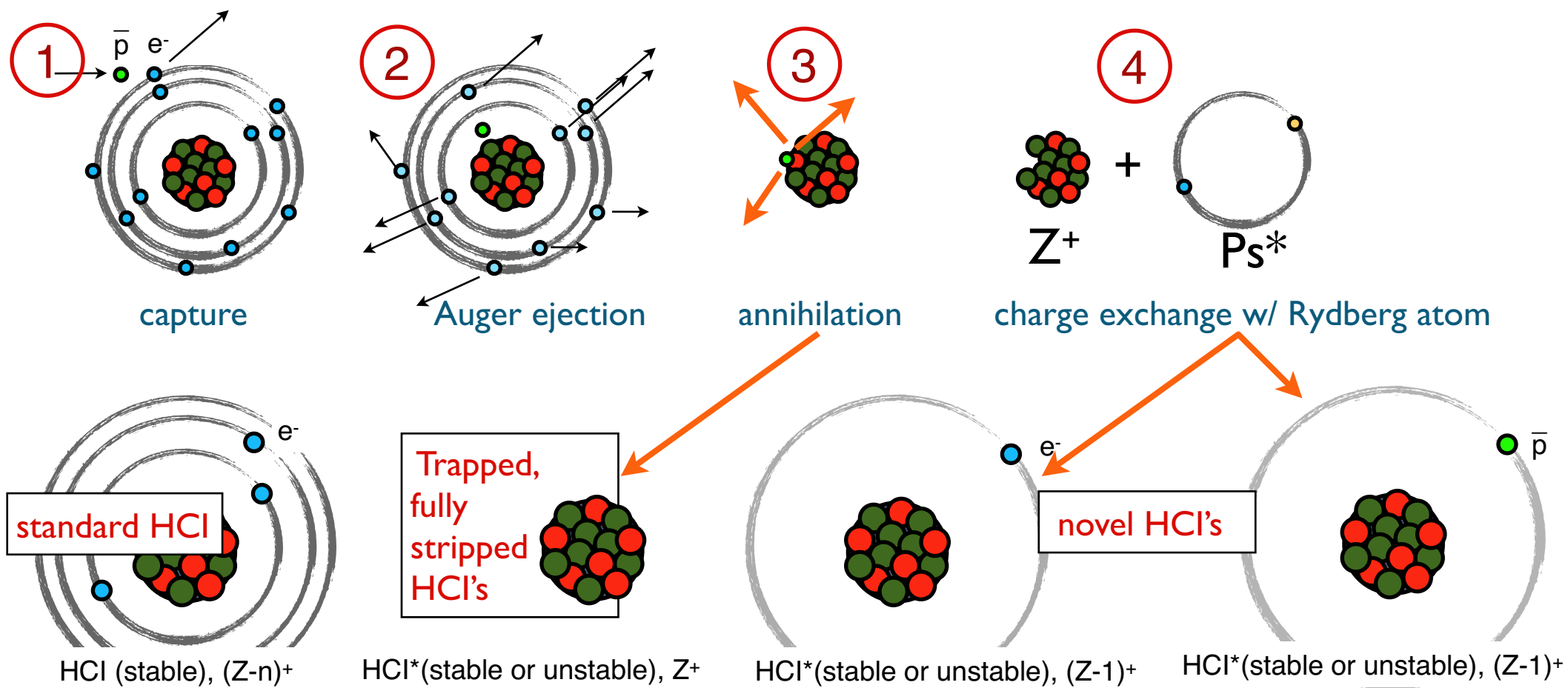
Marianna Safronova (University of Delaware)

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

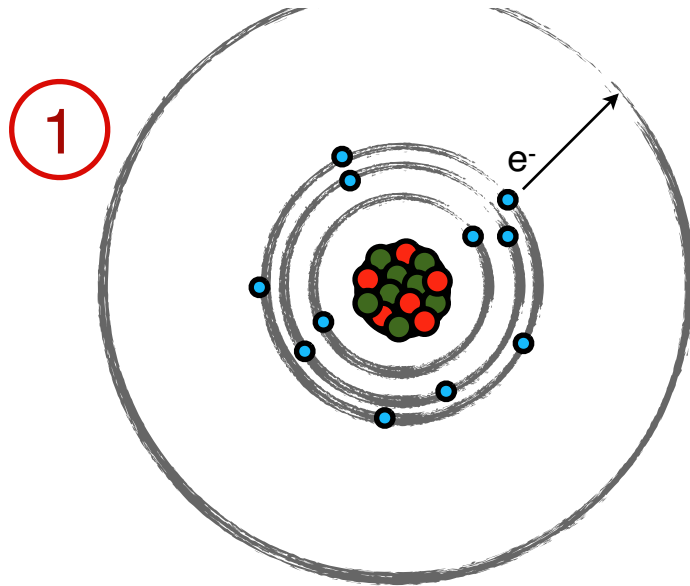
- Searches for the variation of fundamental constants
- Tests of QED: precision spectroscopy
- Fifth force searches: precision measurements of isotope shifts with HCl's to study non-linearity of the King plot



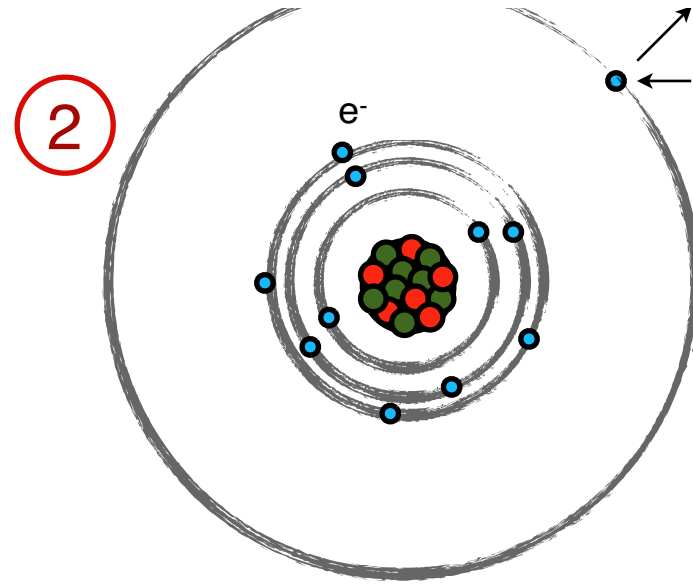
Antiprotonic atoms → novel HCl systems



Antiprotonic Rydberg atoms: exotic couplings, similar approach as spectroscopy of muonic atoms, CPT tests



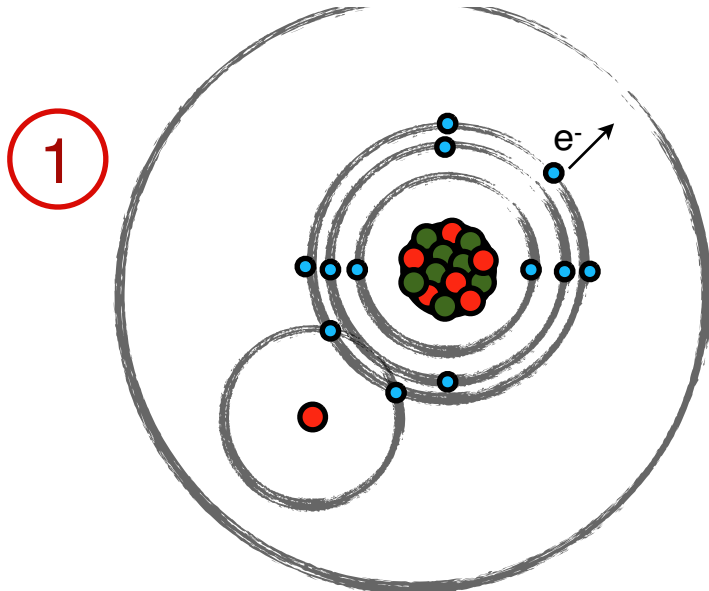
Rydberg excitation



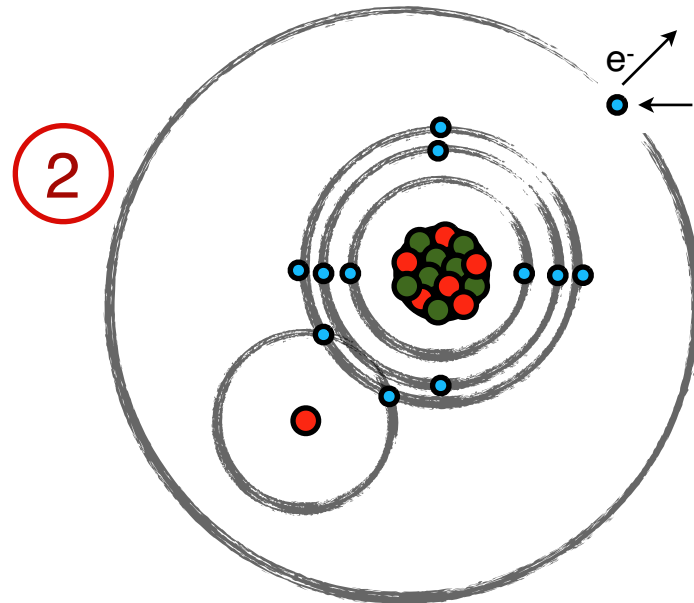
charge exchange

at end of cascade, \bar{p} is very close to nucleus... investigate long-range behavior of strong interaction?

Antiprotonic Rydberg molecules: \bar{p} EDM?



Rydberg excitation

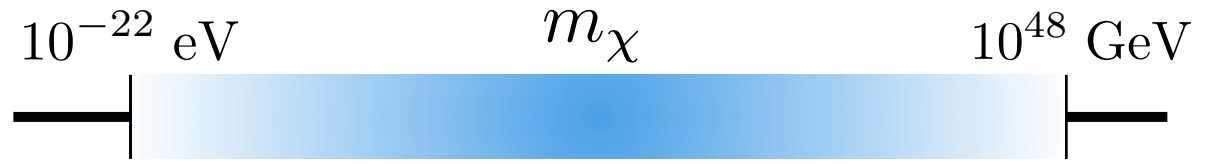


charge exchange

similar approach as eEDM in molecules

RF cavities:

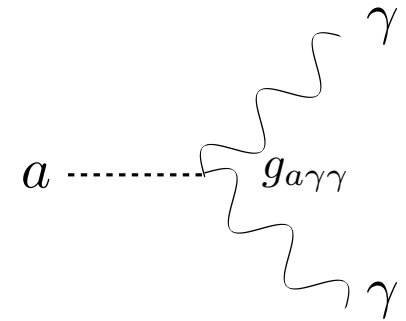
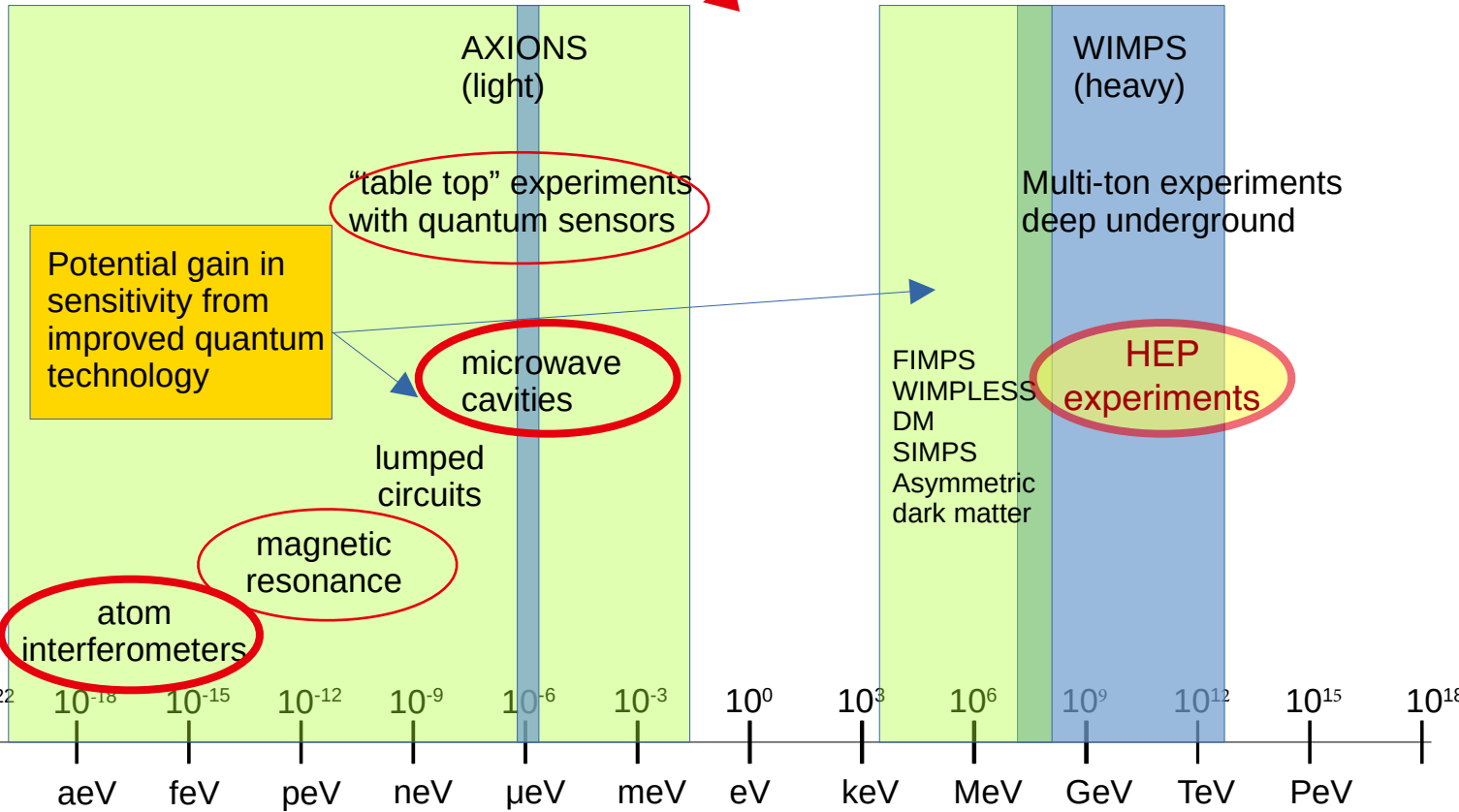
Axions, ALP's, DM & non-DM UL-particle searches



cavity size = axion size
axion mass = unknown

$$F \sim g_{a\gamma}^2 m_A^2 B^4 V^2 T_{sys}^{-2} G^4 Q,$$

system noise temperature
cryo-amplifiers JPA



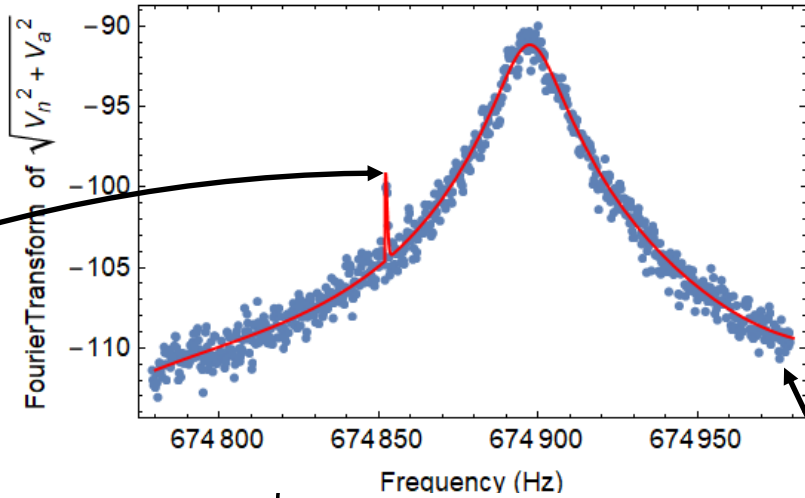
(but not only...)

Tunability!

Quantum sensors for new particle physics experiments: Penning traps

Constraints on the Coupling between Axion-like Dark Matter and Photons Using an Antiproton Superconducting Tuned Detection Circuit in a Cryogenic Penning Trap

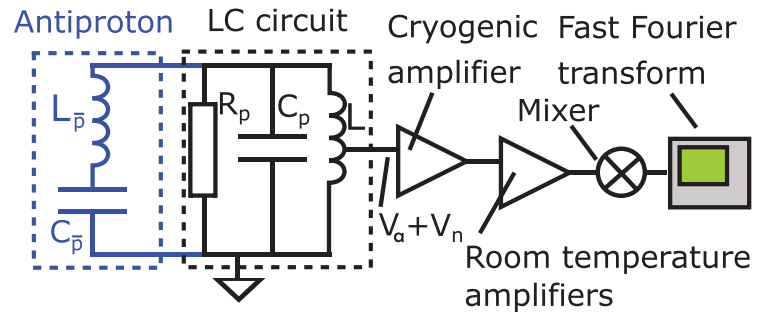
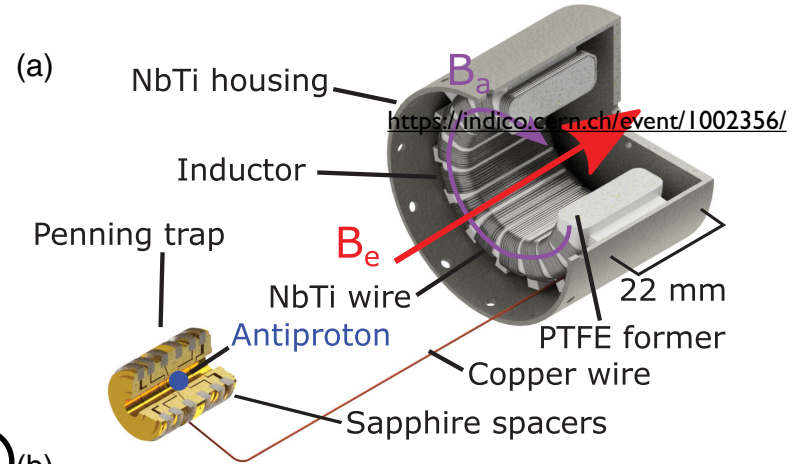
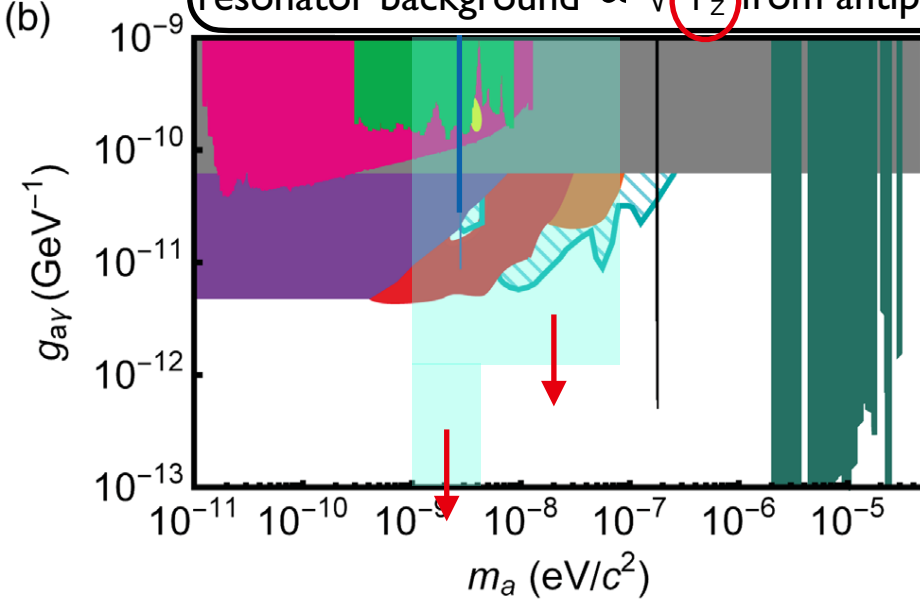
J. Devlin et al., **BASE** collaboration, Physical Review Letters 126, 041301 (2021)



The axion signal

$$V_a = \frac{\pi}{2} Q \sqrt{f(\nu, Q, \mathbf{q})} \kappa \nu_a l N_T (r_2^2 - r_1^2) g_{a\gamma} |\mathbf{B}_e| \sqrt{\rho_a \hbar c}$$

resonator background $\propto \sqrt{T_Z}$ from antiproton spin-flip



currently developing **superconducting tunable capacitors** & **laser-cooled resonators**

7 T magnet + broader FFT span: one month \longrightarrow
2 and 5 neV to an upper limit of $1.5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$

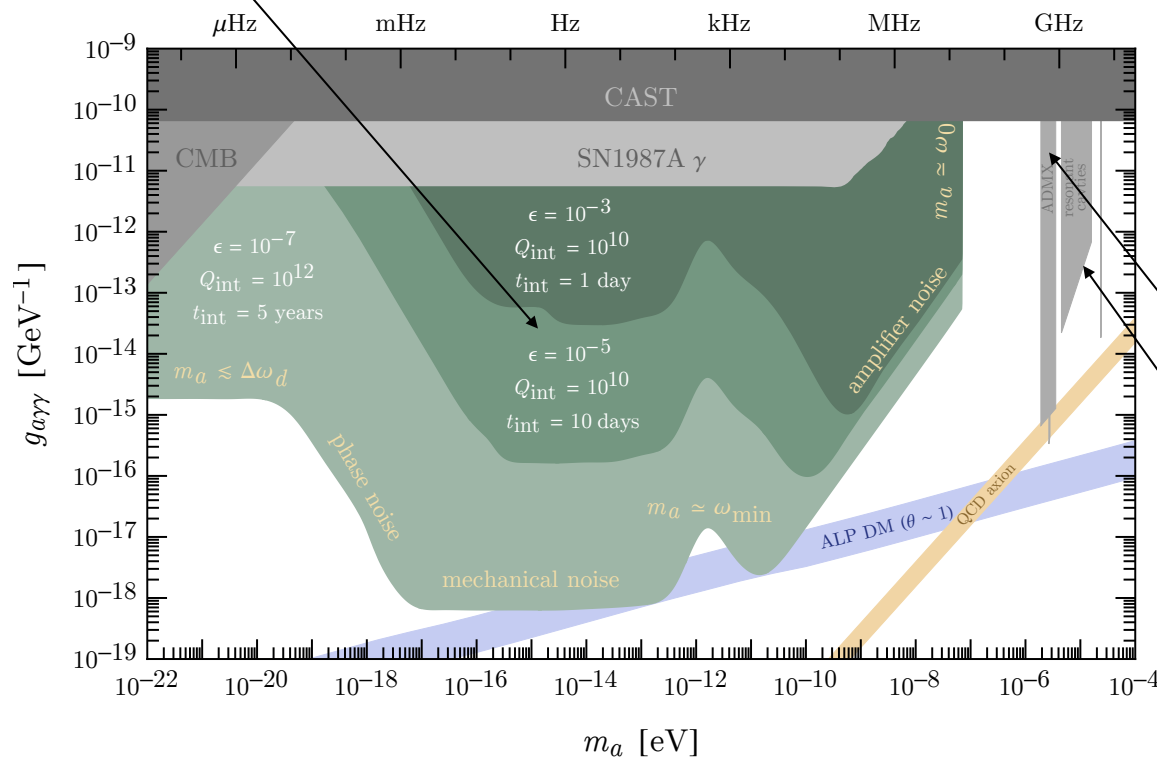
Limits	Hints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SN-1987A H.E.S.S. Cavities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excess γ rays Pulsars
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAST BASE SHAFT FERMI-LAT 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADMX-SLIC ABRACADABRA 	

Axion heterodyne detection

$Q_{\text{int}} \gtrsim 10^{10}$ achieved by DarkSRF collaboration
(sub-nm cavity wall displacements)

A. Grassellino, "SRF-based dark matter search: Experiment," 2019. <https://indico.fnal.gov/event/19433/session/2/contribution/2/material/slides/0.pdf>

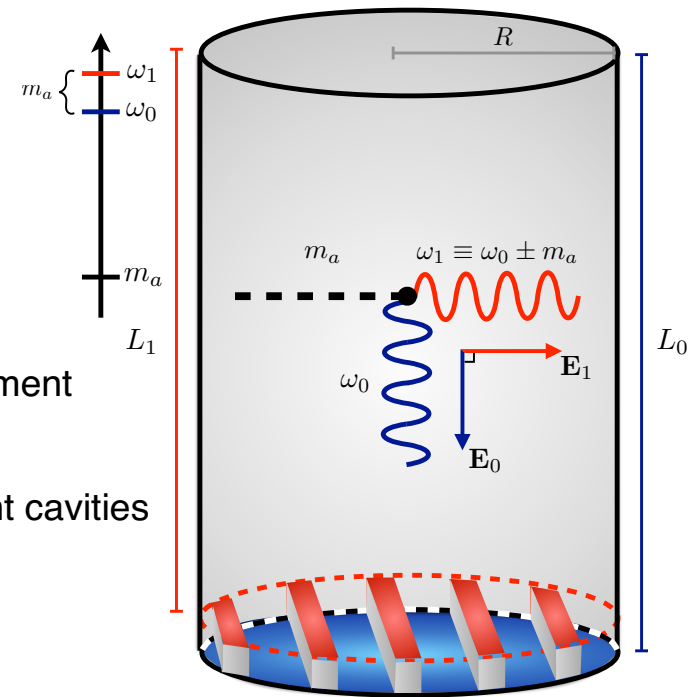
frequency = $m_a/2\pi$



problem: cavity resonance generally fixed

Resonant cavities possible down to μeV ;
below that, need huge volume

driving "pump mode" at $\omega_0 \sim \text{GHz}$ allows axion to resonantly drive power into "signal mode" at $\omega_1 \sim \omega_0 \pm m_a$



(a) Cartoon of cavity setup.

Conceptual Theory Level Proposal:

A. Berlin, Raffaele Tito D'Agnolo, S. Ellis, C. Nantista, J. Nielson, P. Schuster, S. Tantawi, N. Toro, K. Zhou, *JHEP* 07 (2020) 07, 088
Asher Berlin, Raffaele Tito D'Agnolo, Sebastian A. R. Ellis, Christopher Nantista, Jeffrey Neilson, Philip Schuster, Sami Tantawi, Natalia Toro, Kevin Zhou, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.11048>

"The cavity is designed to have two nearly degenerate resonant modes at ω_0 and $\omega_1 = \omega_0 + m_a$. One possibility is to split the frequencies of the two polarizations of a hybrid HE_{11p} mode in a corrugated cylindrical cavity. These two polarizations effectively see distinct cavity lengths, L_0 and L_1 , allowing ω_0 and ω_1 to be tuned independently."

High Q in high B!

Quantum sensors for new particle physics experiments: thin film SRF cavities

Axion searches with resonant haloscopes: resonant cavity immersed in a high and static magnetic field

Relic Axion Detector Exploratory Setup (RADES) searches for axion dark matter with $m_a > 30 \mu\text{eV}$

$$F \sim g_{a\gamma}^2 m_A^2 B^4 V^2 T_{sys}^{-2} G^4 Q,$$

figure of merit magnetic field quality factor

Cavity coatings: type II superconductor with a critical magnetic field B_c well above 11 T at 4.2 K

Thin Film (High Temperature) Superconducting Radiofrequency Cavities for the Search of Axion Dark Matter

S. Golm, ..., Sergio Calatroni, ... et al. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9699394> DOI: 10.1109/TASC.2022.3147741

→ developments of HTS for coatings is essential in improving the sensitivity of resonant haloscopes

Multiple cavities: optimal coupling with external B field, very selective (high Q), centered on resonant ν

Universe **2022**, 8(1), 5; <https://doi.org/10.3390/universe8010005>

other frequencies: e.g. solenoidal magnet in dilution cryostat at 10 mK (Canfranc Underground Lab.)

→ to exploit the ultra-low temperatures and go beyond the standard quantum limit:
Josephson parametric amplifiers (JPA), superconducting qubit-based single photon counters,
(or for higher frequencies, kinetic inductor devices (KID))

Universe **2022**, 8(1), 5; <https://doi.org/10.3390/universe8010005>

AION: **atom interferometer** (start small, ultimately → space)

L. Badurina et al., AION: An Atom Interferometer Observatory and Network, *JCAP* 05 (2020) 011, [arXiv:1911.11755].

Where does this fit in? Go after 10^{-20} eV $< m_a < 10^{-12}$ eV,
but also topological DM, ultralight DM, gravitational waves, Lorentz invariance, ...

atom interferometry at macroscopic scales: arXiv:2201.07789v1 [astro-ph.IM] 19 Jan 2022

MIGA^{France}

AION^{UK}

ZAIGA^{China}

CERN? shafts (100~500 m ideal testing ground),
cryogenics, vacuum, complexity...

MAGIS^{Fermilab}

M. Abe, P. Adamson, M. Borcean, D. Bortoletto, K. Bridges, S.
P. Carman et al., *Matter-wave Atomic Gradiometer
Interferometric Sensor (MAGIS-100)*, arXiv:2104.02835v1.

MAGIS collaboration, Graham PW, Hogan JM, Kasevich MA,
Rajendran S, Romani RW. *Mid-band gravitational wave
detection with precision atomic sensors.* arXiv:1711.02225

satellite missions:

ACES (Atomic Clock Ensemble in Space):

2024-2025

ESA mission for ISS

two on-board clocks rely on atomic transitions in the microwave domain

probe time variations of fundamental constants, and to perform tests of the Lorentz-Violating Standard Model Extension (SME). Possibly topological dark matter

pathfinder / technology development missions:

~2030

I-SOC: key optical clock technology (laser cooling, trapping, optical resonators) for space; Sr optical lattice clock / Sr ion clock;
microwave and optical link technology;

FOCOS (Fundamental physics with an Optical Clock Orbiting in Space): Yb optical lattice clock with 1×10^{-18} stability

AION: ~2045

satellite mission

AEDGE: ~2045

satellite mission

El-Neaj, Y.A., Alpigiani, C., Amairi-Pyka, S. *et al.* **AEDGE: Atomic
Experiment for Dark Matter and Gravity Exploration in Space.** *EPJ Quantum
Technol.* 7, 6 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1140/epjqt/s40507-020-0080-0>

main focus on tracking / calorimetry / timing / novel observables / PU ...
these are not fully developed concepts, but rather the kind
of approaches one might contemplate working towards



very speculative!

Metamaterials, 0 / 1 / 2-dimensional materials (quantum dots, nanolayers)

ultra-fast scintillators based on perovskites

GEMs (graphene)

chromatic calorimetry (QDs)

closely related: nanostructured materials
Frontiers of Physics, M. Doser et al., 2022

active scintillators (QCL, QWs, QDs)

doi: 10.3389/fphy.2022.887738

Atoms, molecules, ions

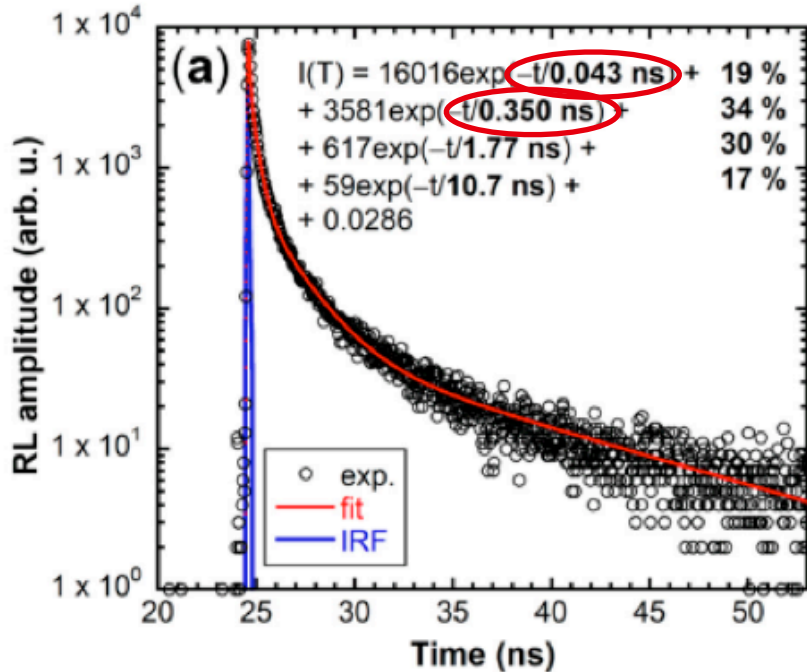
Rydberg TPC's

Spin-based sensors

helicity detectors

Quantum dots: timing

Etiennette Auffray-Hillemans / CERN



Scintillation decay time spectra from CsPbBr₃ nanocrystal deposited on glass

K. Decka et al., Scintillation Response Enhancement in Nanocrystalline Lead Halide Perovskite Thin Films on Scintillating Wafers. *Nanomaterials* 2022, 12, 14. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nano12010014>

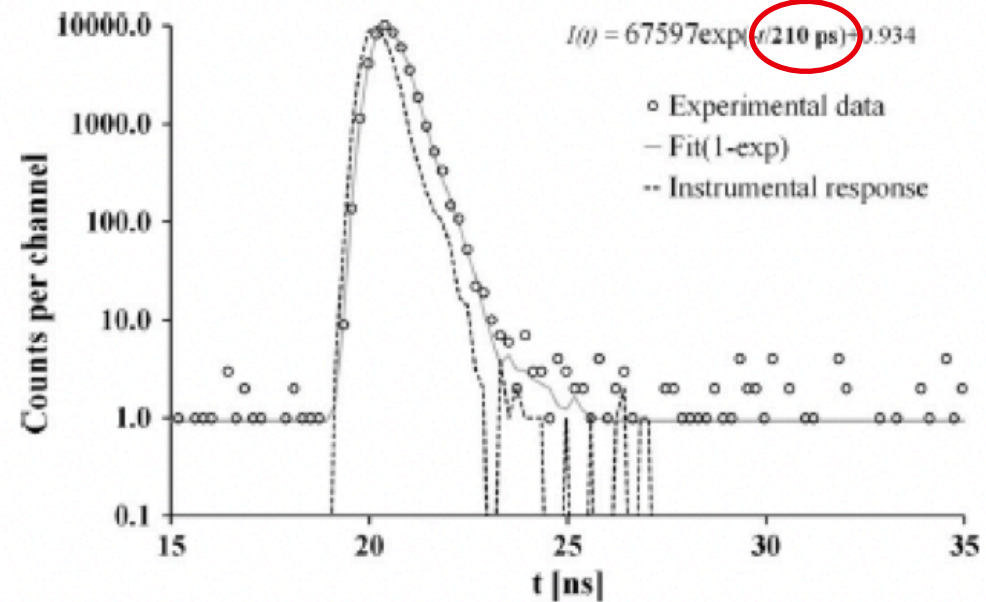


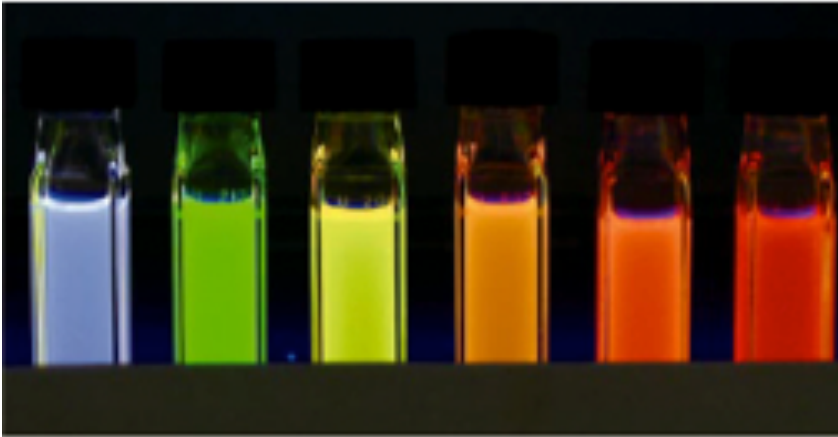
Fig. 9. Photoluminescence decay of ZnO:Ga sample at room temperature. Excitation nanoLED 339 nm, emission wavelength set at 390 nm. Decay curve is approximated by the convolution of instrumental response (also in figure) and single exponential function $I(t)$ provided in the figure.

Lenka Prochazkova et al., *Optical Materials* 47 (2015) 67–71

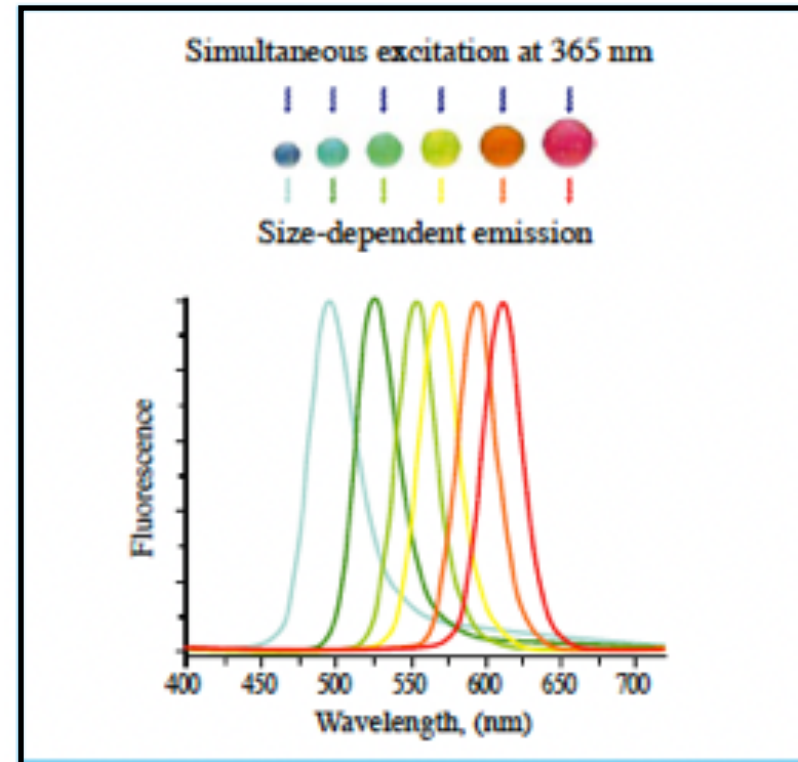
Concerns: integrated light yield (need many photons to benefit from rapid rise time)

Quantum dots: timing

Etiennette Auffray-Hillemans / CERN



Hideki Ooba, "Synthesis of Unique High Quality Fluorescence Quantum Dots for the Biochemical Measurements," AIST TODAY Vol.6 , No.6 (2006) p.26- 27

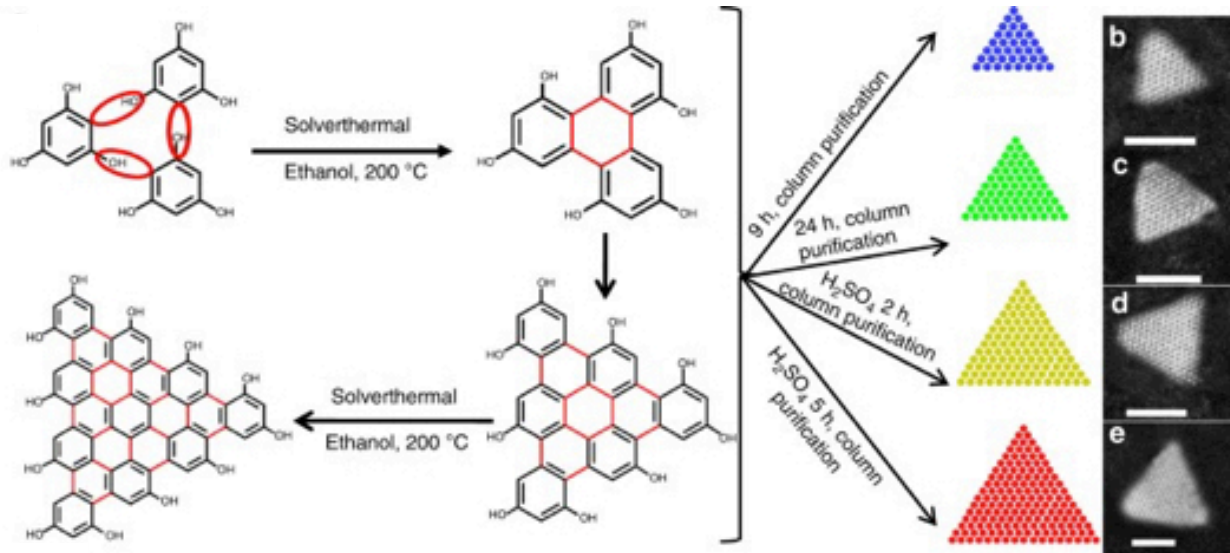


chromatic tunability → optimize for quantum efficiency of PD (fast, optimizable WLS)

deposit on surface of high-Z material → thin layers of UV → VIS WLS

embed in high-Z material ? two-species (nanodots + microcrystals) embedded in polymer matrix?
 → quasi continuous VIS-light emitter (but what about re-absorbtion?)

Quantum dots: chromatic calorimetry



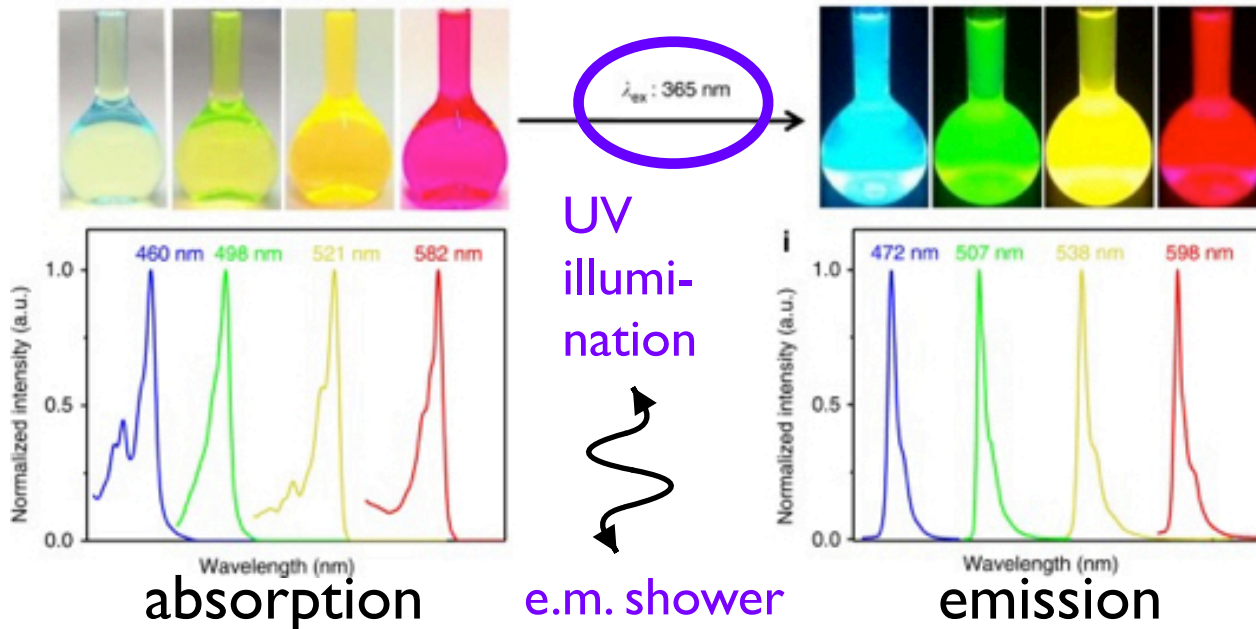
idea: seed different parts of a “crystal” with nanodots emitting at different wavelengths, such that the wavelength of a stimulated fluorescence photon is uniquely assignable to a specific nanodot position

requires:

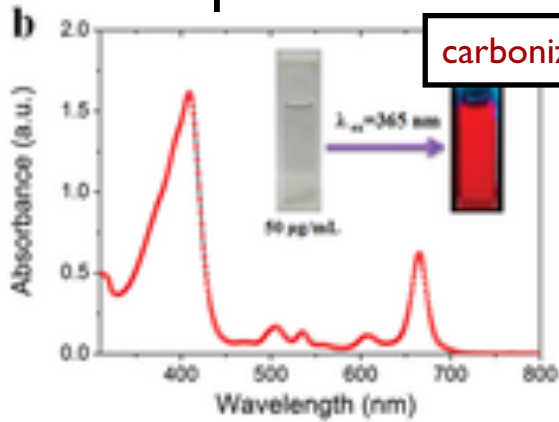
- narrowband emission (~20nm)
- only absorption at longer wavelengths
- short rise / decay times

select appropriate nanodots

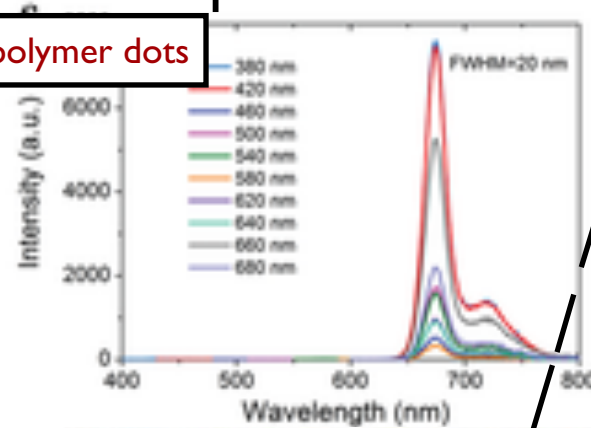
e.g. **triangular carbon nanodots**



absorption spectrum



emission spectrum



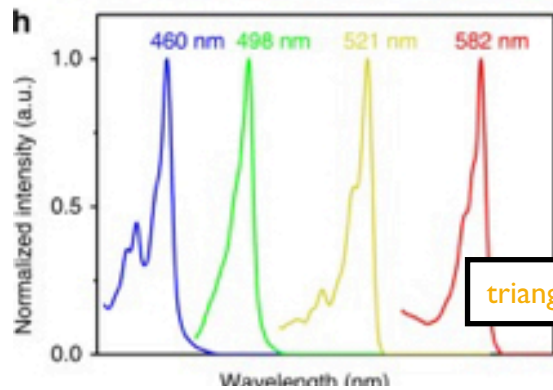
leftmost nanodots:
absorb wavelengths < 650 nm
emit at > 680 nm

next band:
absorb wavelengths < 590 nm
emit at > 590 nm

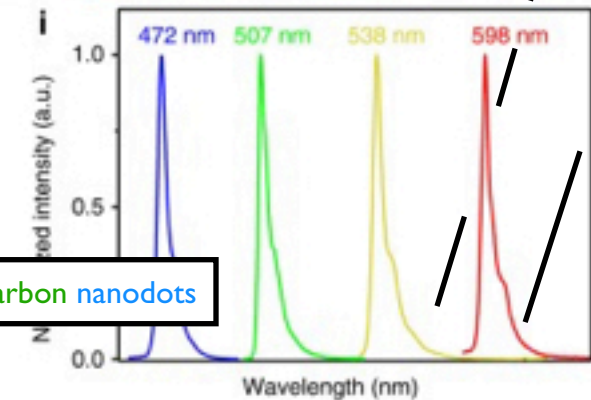
...

rightmost nanodots:
absorb wavelengths < 410 nm
emit at > 420 nm

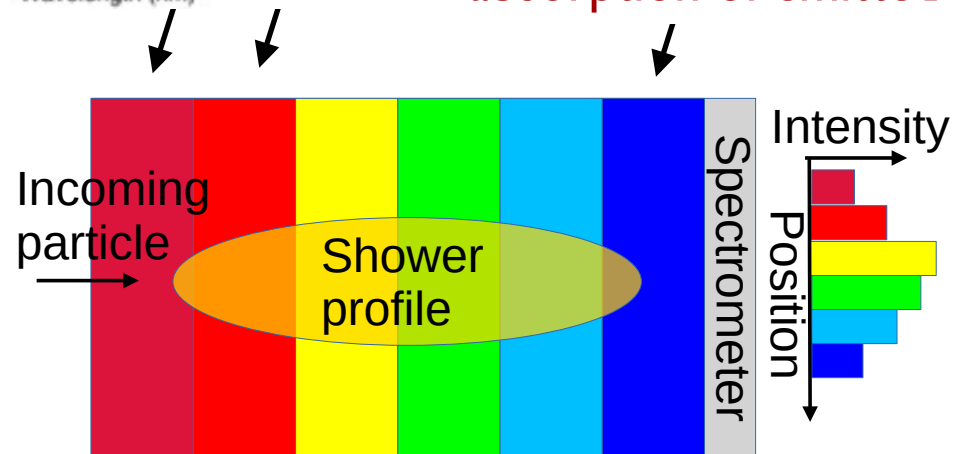
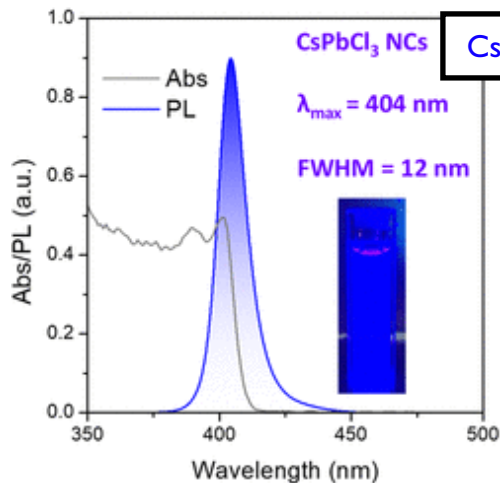
if high-Z substrate transparent
in 400-700 nm, then no re-
absorption of emitted light



triangular carbon nanodots



CsPbCl₃ nanocrystals



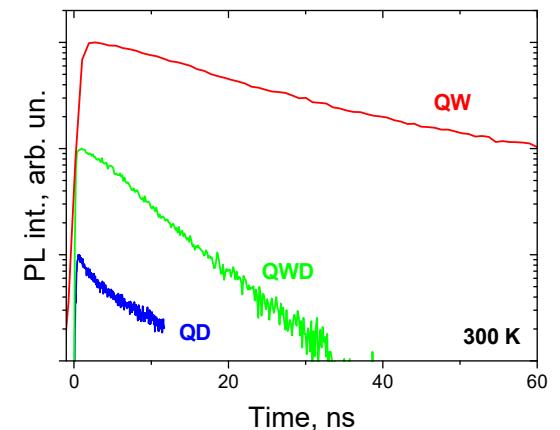
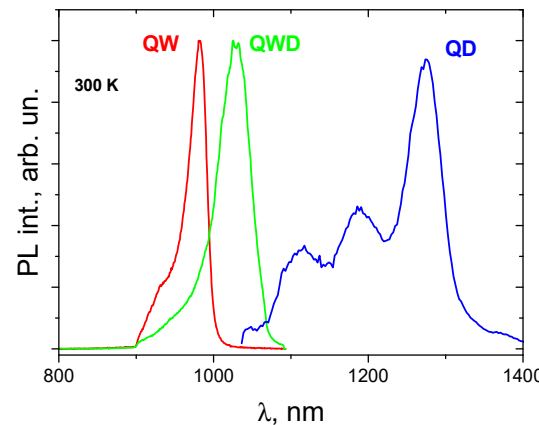
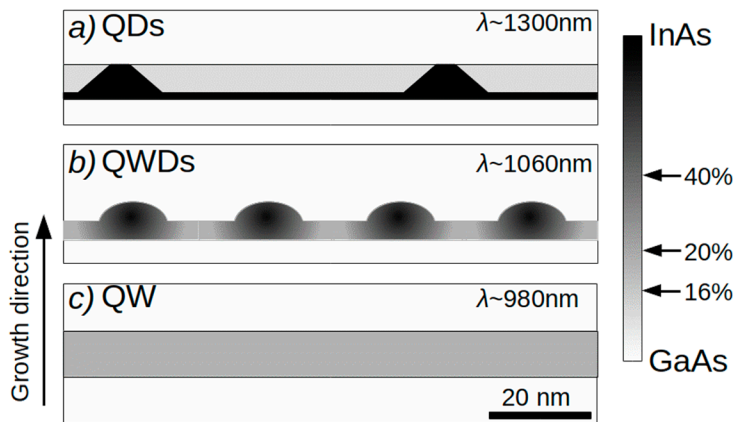
(shower profile via **spectrometry**)

Active scintillators (QWs, QDs, QWDs, QCLs)

- standard scintillating materials are **passive**
- can not be amplified
 - can not be turned on/off
 - can not be modified once they are in place

- is it possible to produce **active** scintillating materials?
- electronically amplified / modulable
 - pulsed / primed
 - gain adapted in situ

existing QD's, QWD's are elements of optoelectronic devices, typically running at 10 GHz, quite insensitive to temperature



Light Emitting Devices Based on Quantum Well-Dots, Appl. Sci. 2020, 10, 1038; doi:10.3390/app10031038

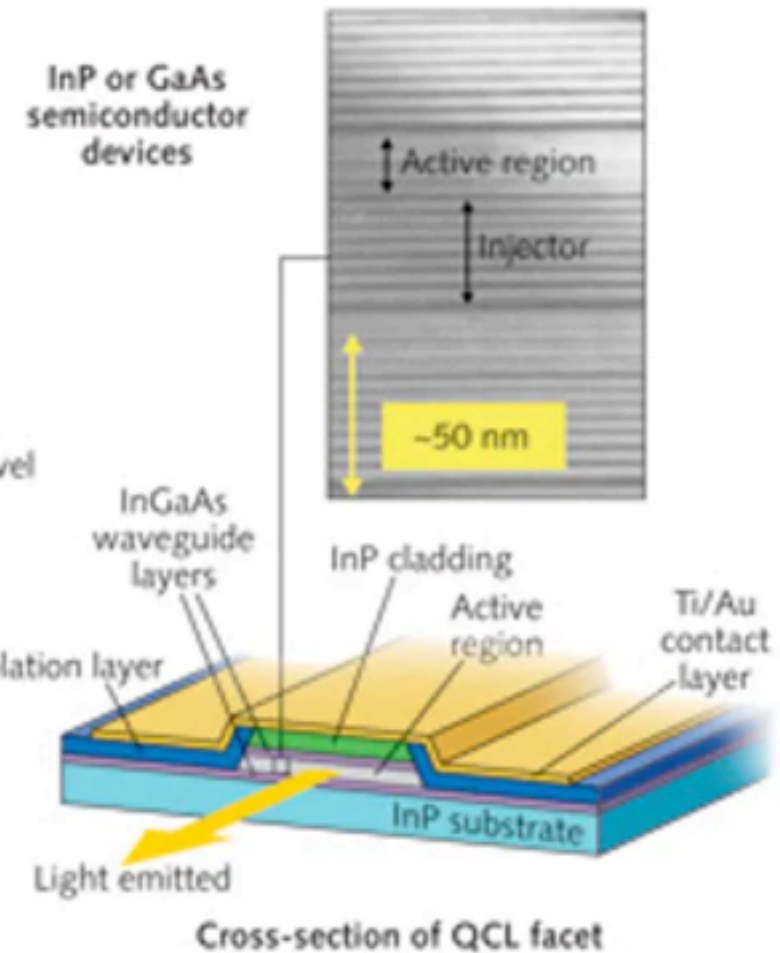
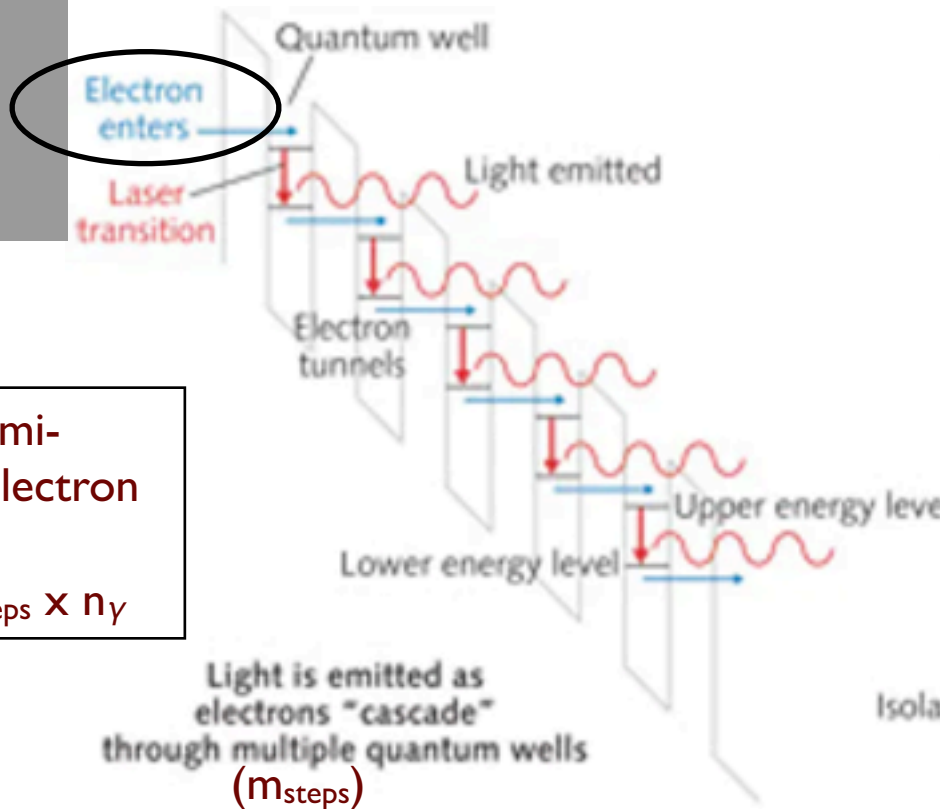
Emission in **IR!** Silicon is transparent at these wavelengths...
 Can this IR light be transported *through* a tracker to outside PDs?

QD's are radiation resistant

R. Leon et al., "Effects of proton irradiation on luminescence emission and carrier dynamics of self-assembled III-V quantum dots," in IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science, 49, 6, 2844-2851 (2002), doi: 10.1109/TNS.2002.806018.

Active scintillators (QCLs, QWs, QDs, QWDs)

<https://www.laserfocusworld.com/test-measurement/spectroscopy/article/16556856/quantumcascade-lasers-qcls-enable-applications-in-ir-spectroscopy>



Couple bulk semiconductor to electron injection layer:
 $n_e \rightarrow m_{steps} \times n_\gamma$

Emitted light is IR~THz, normally mono-chromatic but tunable from 3 μm ~ 12 μm

Radiation resistant ([Radiation Physics and Chemistry 174](#), 2020, 108983)

Quantum dots and wells: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.11828>

submicron pixels

DoTPiX

= single n-channel MOS transistor, in which a buried quantum well gate performs two functions:

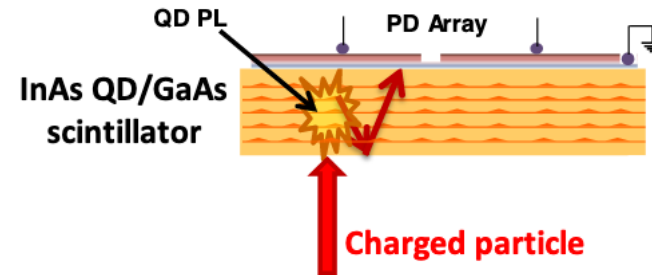
- as a hole-collecting electrode and
- as a channel current modulation gate

Novel Sensors for Particle Tracking: a Contribution to the Snowmass Community Planning Exercise of 2021

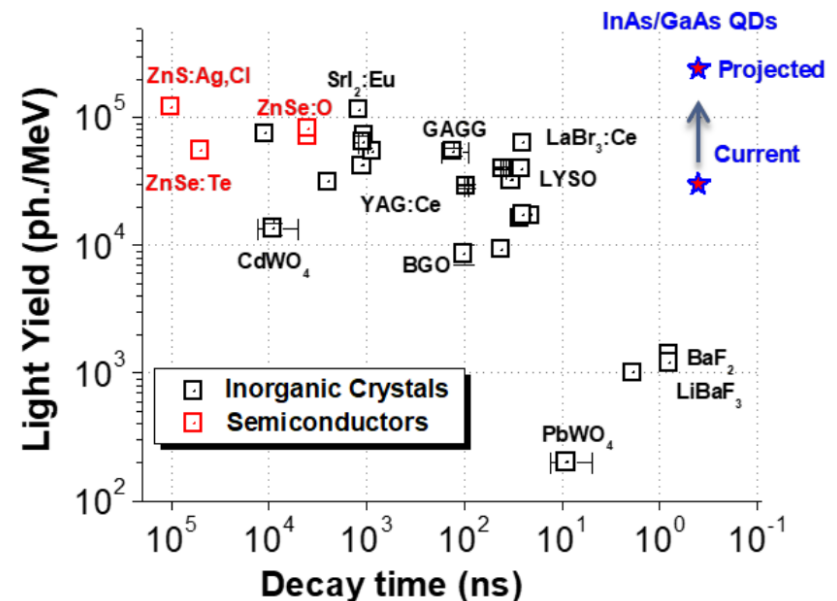
[M.R. Hoferkamp, S. Seidel, S. Kim, J. Metcalfe, A. Sumant, H. Kagan, W. Trischuk, M. Boscardin, G.-F. Dalla Betta, D.M.S. Sultan, N.T. Fourches, C. Renard, A. Barbier, T. Mahajan, A. Minns, V. Tokranov, M. Yakimov, S. Oktyabrsky, C. Gingu, P. Murat, M.T. Hedges](#)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.11828>

scintillating (chromatic) tracker



IR emission from InAs QD's integrated PD's (1-2 μm thick)



2-D materials for MPGDs

Florian Brunbauer / CERN

State-of-the-art MPGDs:

- high spatial resolution
- good energy resolution
- timing resolution <25ps (PICOSEC Micromegas)

use of 2-D materials to improve:

- tailor the primary charge production process,
- protect sensitive photocathodes in harsh environments
- improve the performance of the amplification stage

tunable work function

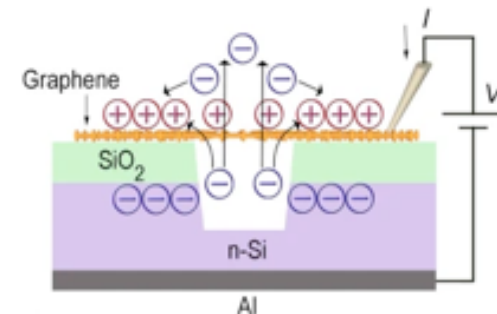
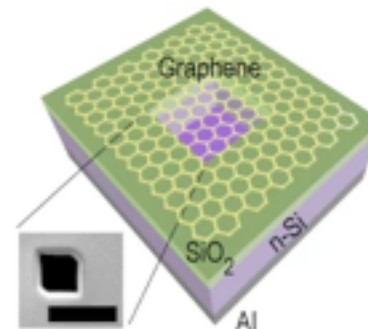
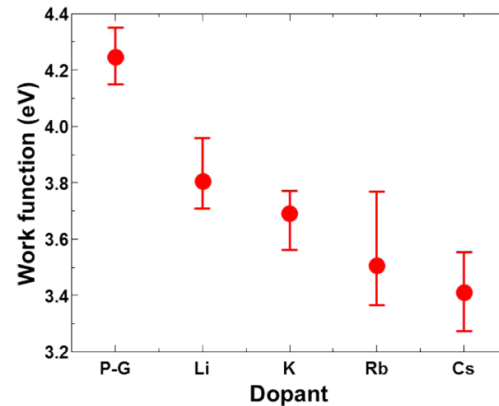
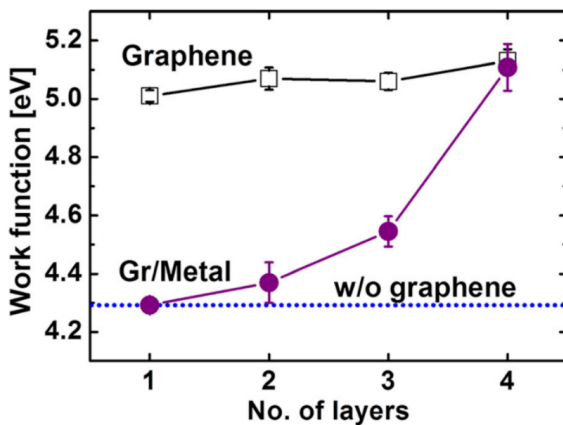
amplification

efficiency of the photocathode → timing resolution; QE
tune via resonant processes in low dimensional coating structures

(additionally, encapsulation of semiconductive as well as metallic (i.e. Cu) photocathodes increases operational lifetime)

back flow of positive ions created during charge amplification to the drift region can lead to significant distortions of electric fields

Graphene has been proposed as selective filter to **suppress** ion back flow while **permitting** electrons to pass:
Good transparency (up to ~99.9%) to very low energy (<3 eV) electrons (?)



Tuning the work function of graphene toward application as anode and cathode, Samira Naghdi, Gonzalo Sanchez-Arriaga, Kyong Yop Rhee, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.06594>

Space charge neutralization by electron-transparent suspended graphene, Siwapon Srisophonpan, Myungji Kim & Hong Koo Kim, [Scientific Reports 4, 3764 \(2014\)](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-014-03764-4)

Metamaterials, 0 / 1 / 2-dimensional materials (quantum dots, nanolayers)

ultra-fast scintillators based on perovskites

chromatic calorimetry (QDs)

active scintillators (QCL, QWs, QDs)

5.3.6

GEMs (graphene)

Atoms, molecules, ions

Rydberg TPC's

5.3.5

Spin-based sensors

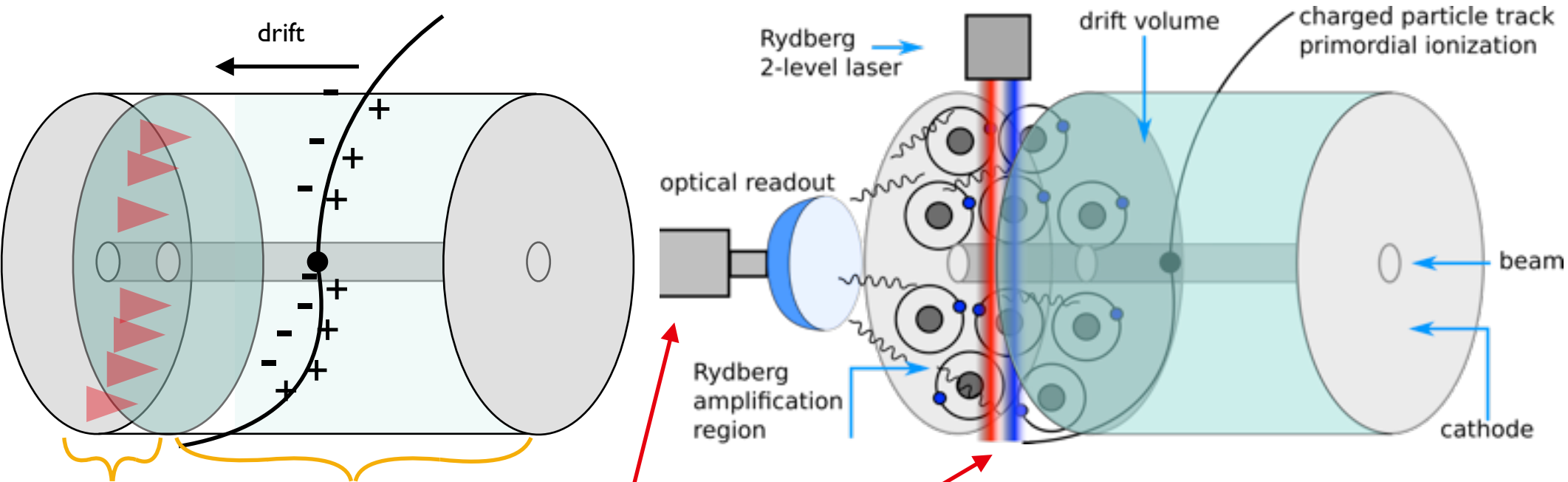
helicity detectors

5.3.3

Rydberg atom TPC's

Georgy Kornakov / WUT

Act on the amplification region



amplification region

drift region

enhanced electron signal through “priming” of gas in **amplification** region: \longrightarrow effective reduction of ionization threshold of gas in amplification region
 \longrightarrow higher electron yield

Rydberg atoms can serve to up-convert THz / GHz radiation into the optical regime \longrightarrow optical R/O of avalanche intensities

Rydberg atom TPC's

Georgy Kornakov / WUT

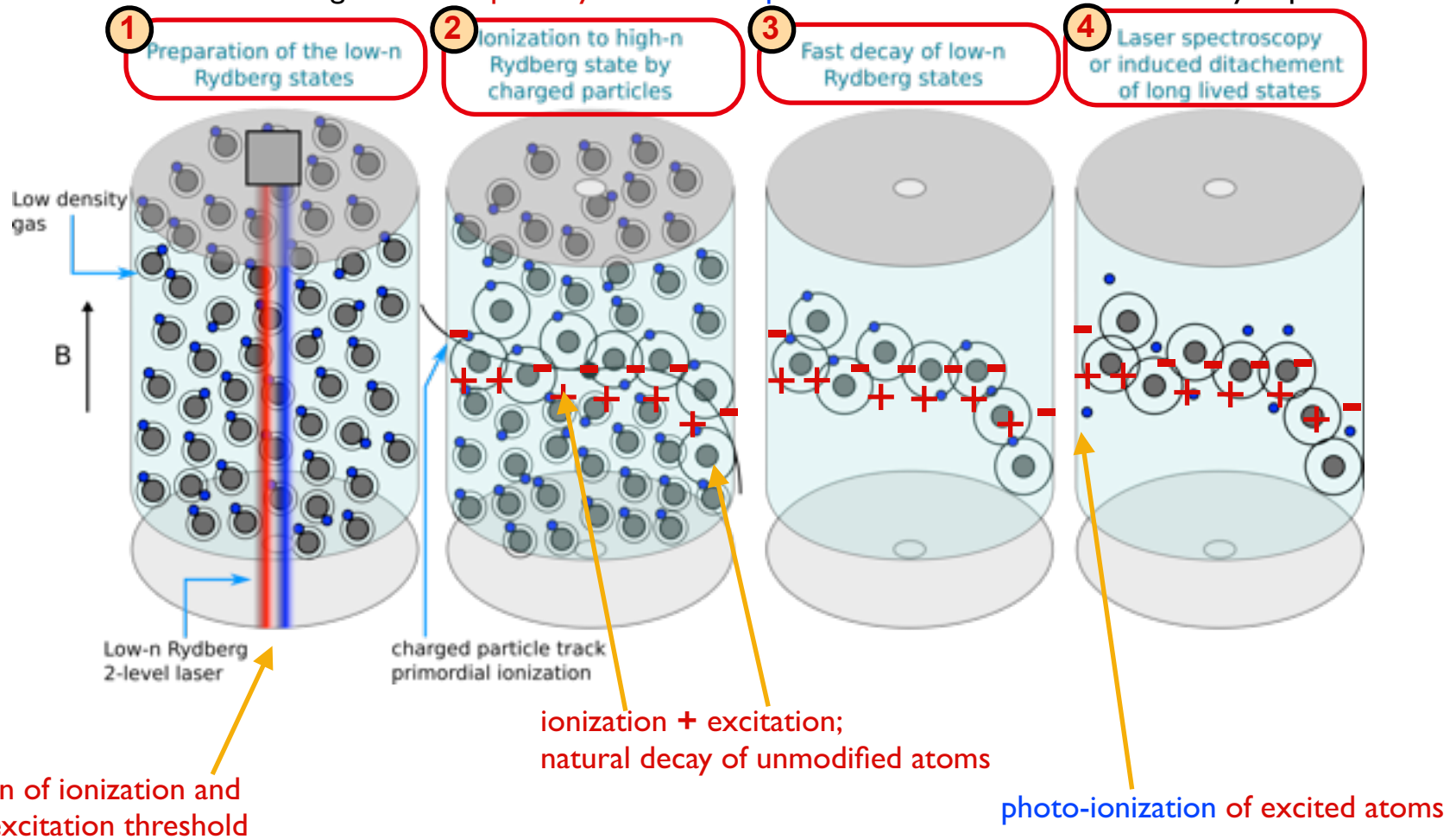
Act on the **drift** region

principle carries over to drift region:

enhanced electron signal through “priming” of gas in **drift** region:

effective reduction of ionization threshold of gas in amplification region

increased dE/dx through standard **primary** ionization + **photo-ionization** of atoms excited by mip's



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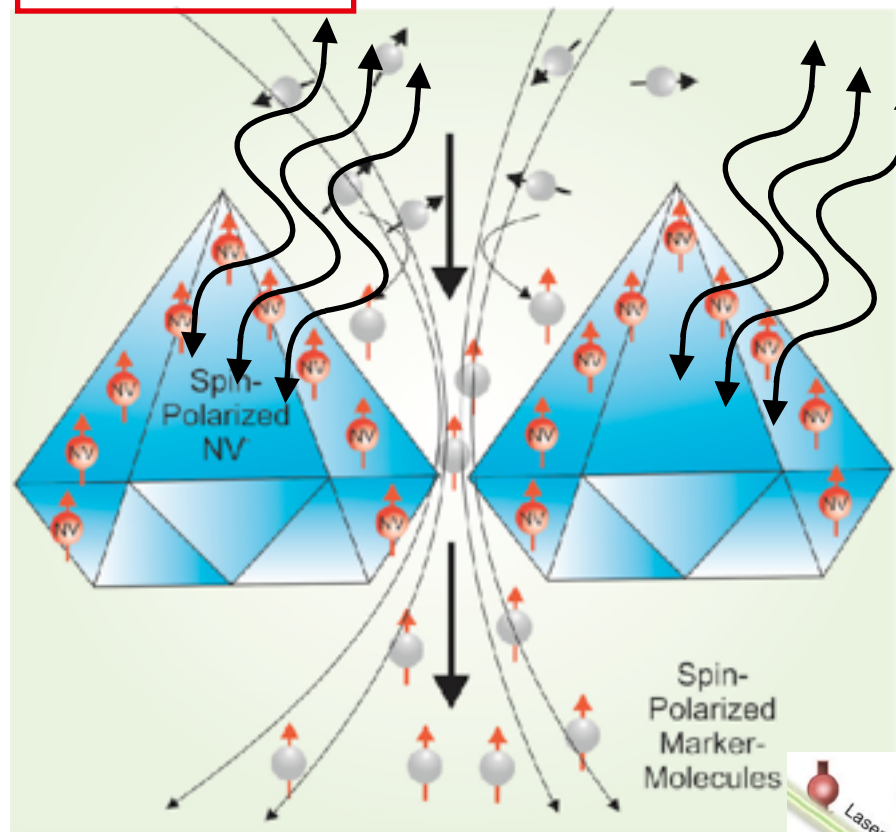
optically polarizable elements: Nitrogen-vacancy diamonds (NVD)

Georgy Kornakov / WUT

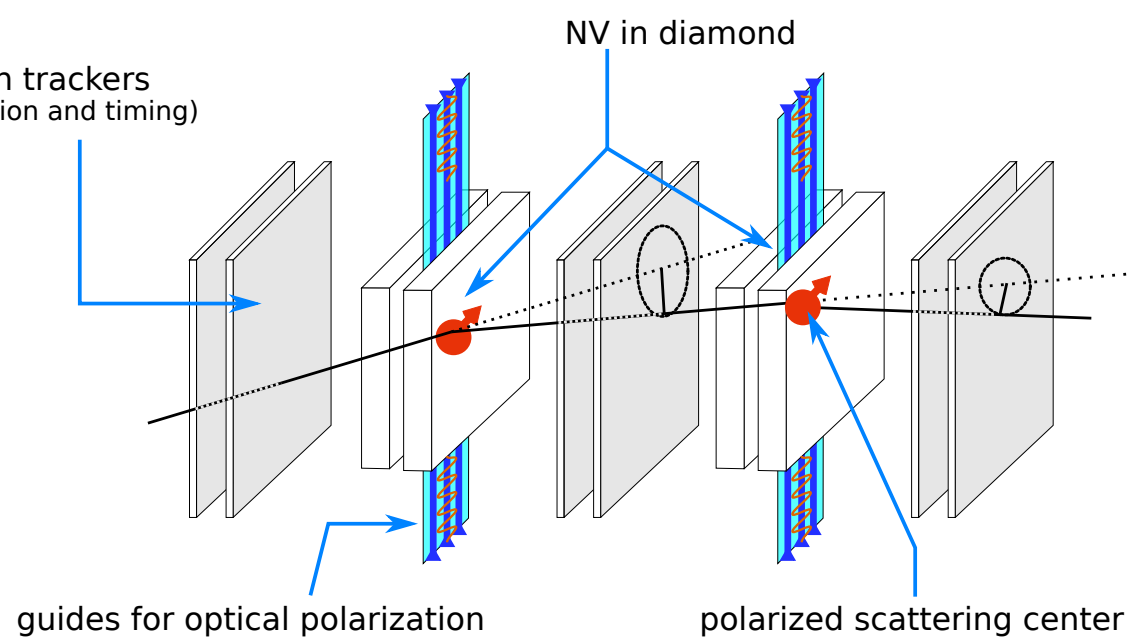
spin-spin scattering for helicity determination: usually with polarized beams and/or polarized targets

introduce polarized scattering planes to extract track-by-track particle helicity

$10^{16} \sim 10^{18} / \text{cm}^3$



silicon trackers
(direction and timing)



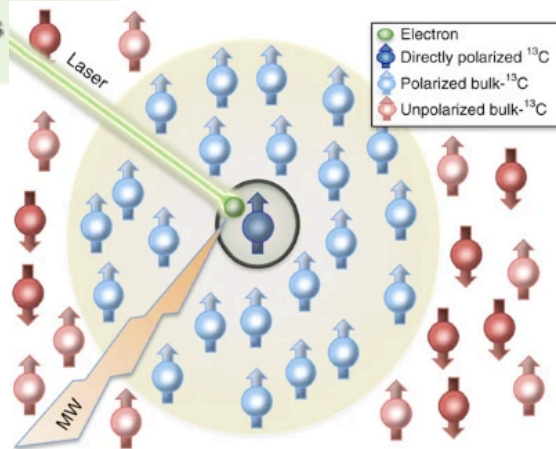
guides for optical polarization

polarized scattering center

© Dr. Christoph Nebel, Fraunhofer IAF

https://www.metaboliqs.eu/en/news-events/MetaboliQs_PM_first_year.html

Diamond plates of up to $8 \times 8 \text{ mm}^2$ in size, fabricated by Element Six



Local and bulk ^{13}C hyperpolarization in nitrogen-vacancy centred diamonds at variable fields and orientations, G. Alvarez et al., *Nature Communications* **6**, 8456 (2015)

<https://www.nature.com/articles/ncomms9456>

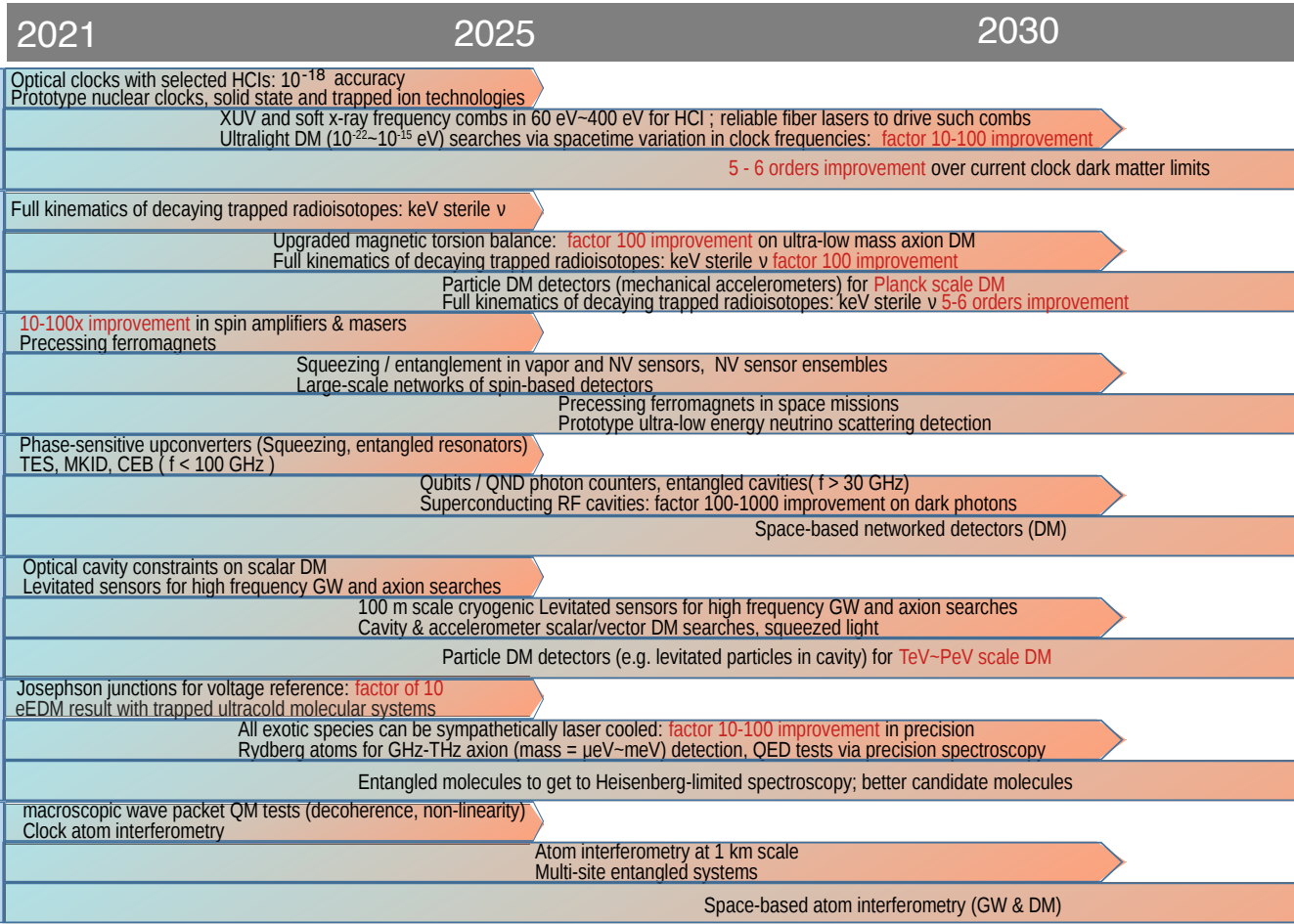
$\times 10^2$

What's next?

These potential applications of quantum sensors also in HEP require dedicated R&D to evaluate their potential and feasibility.

In line with the RECFA R&D roadmap, it makes sense to consider a quantum-sensing R&D program that brings together the following strands:

- Clocks and clock networks 5.3.1
- Kinetic detectors 5.3.2
- Spin-based sensors 5.3.3
- Superconducting sensors 5.3.3
- Optomechanical sensors 5.3.4
- Atoms/molecules/ions 5.3.5
- Atom interferometry 5.3.5
- Metamaterials, 0/1/2D-materials
- Quantum materials 5.3.6



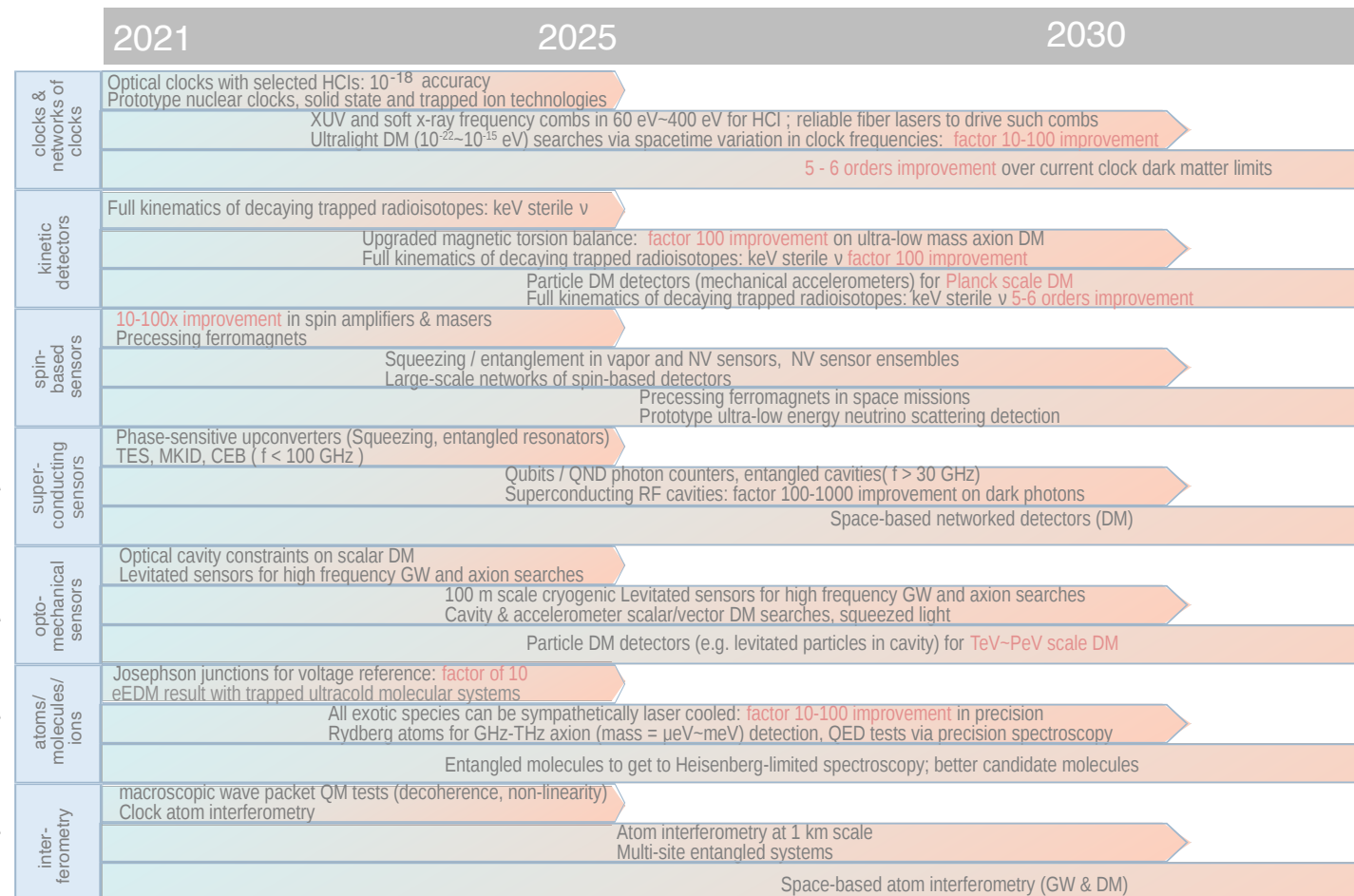
also for HEP!

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also for HEP!

next step: implementation of ECFA-wide R&D pgm

thank you!