

# Scalable infrastructure for Sr optical clocks with integrated photonics

9<sup>th</sup> FSM, Kingscliff, Australia, October 2023

Scott Papp

Quantum and Nonlinear Nanophotonic Systems (QNS)

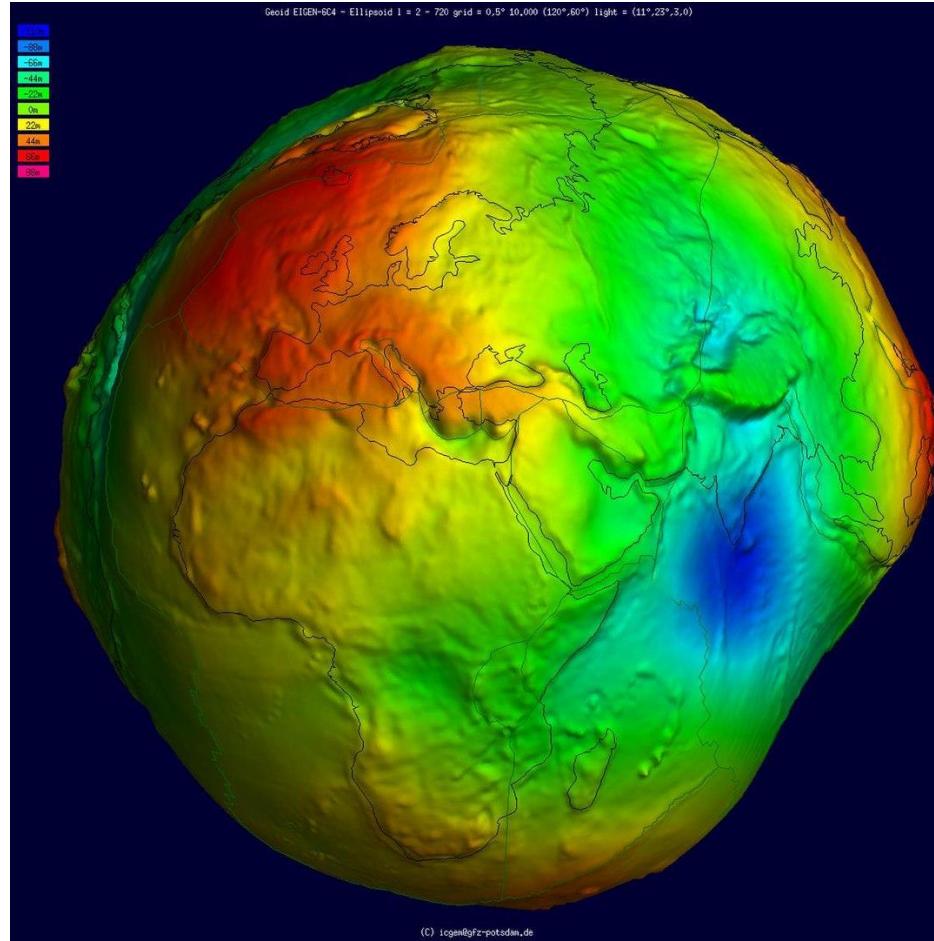
Funding: DARPA (QuASAR, PULSE, DODOS, ACES, DRINQS, PIPES, A-Phi, LUMOS, QuICC, NaPSAC), AFOSR, AFRL, NASA, JPL, ARPA-e, NSF, NIST



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

# Geodesy

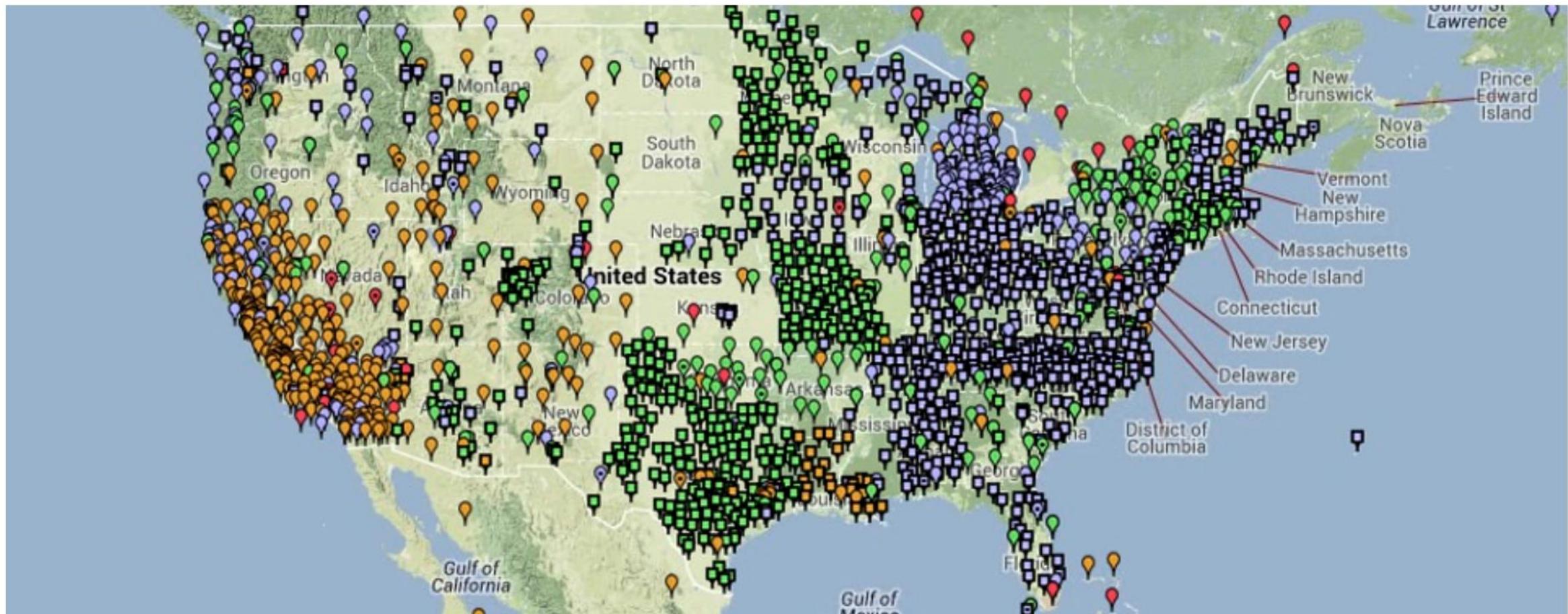
NIST



$$\frac{\delta f}{f} = 10^{-18} \rightarrow 1 \text{ cm height resolution}$$

# Geodesy stations

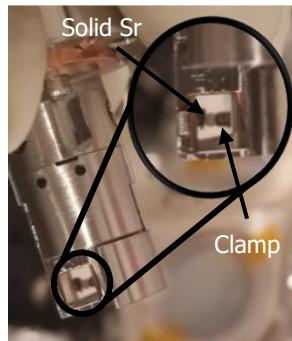
NIST



# Scalable infrastructure for Sr clocks

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compact strontium vapor source  
(Vector Atomic)



Broad-line  
Cooling Laser



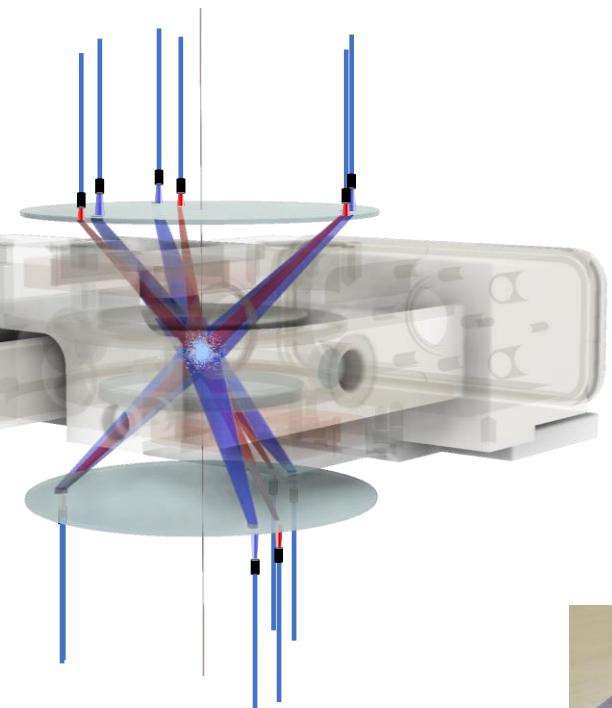
To Atoms

Narrow-line  
Cooling Laser

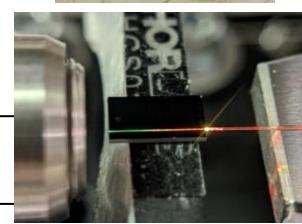
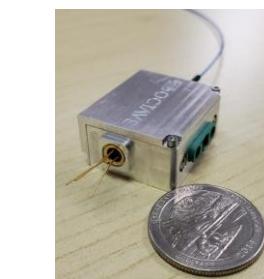


To Atoms

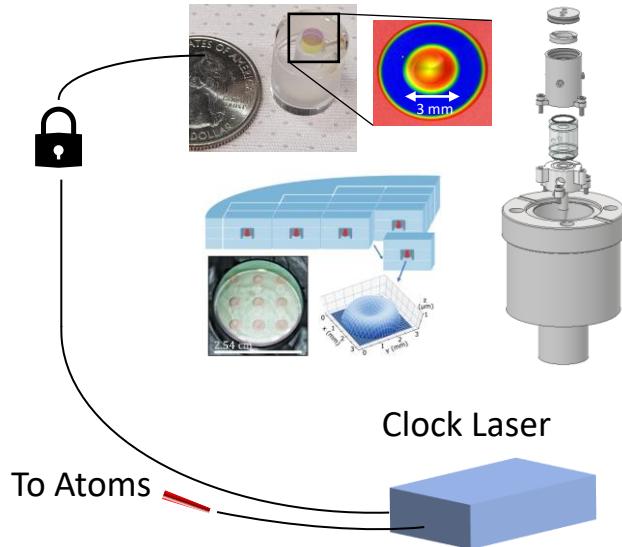
## atom-photonic Interface



integrated photonics  
frequency comb  
(Octave Photonics)



Micro Fabry-Perot Cavity  
(Quinlan)



$f_{ceo}$

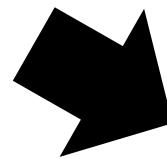
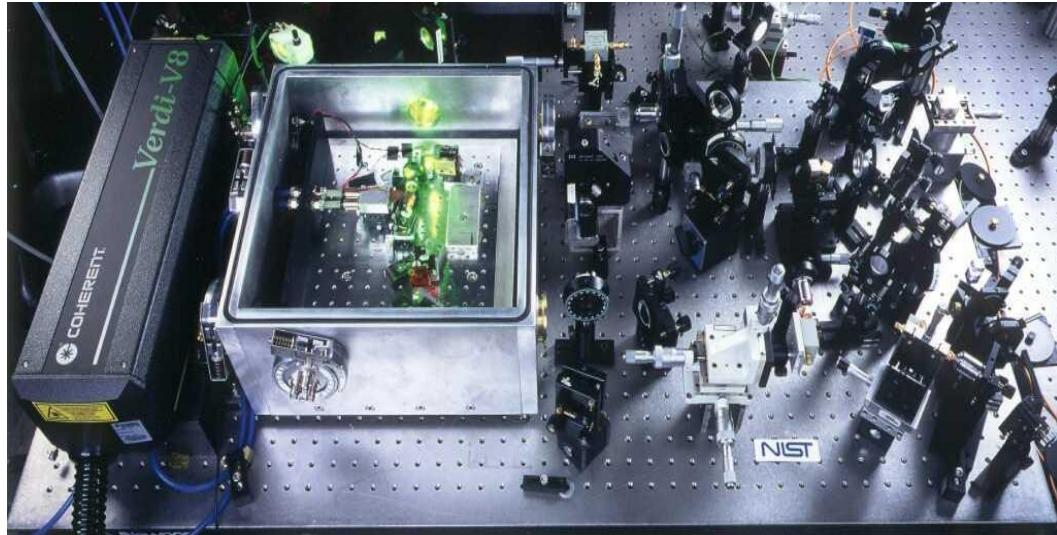
Frequency Comb



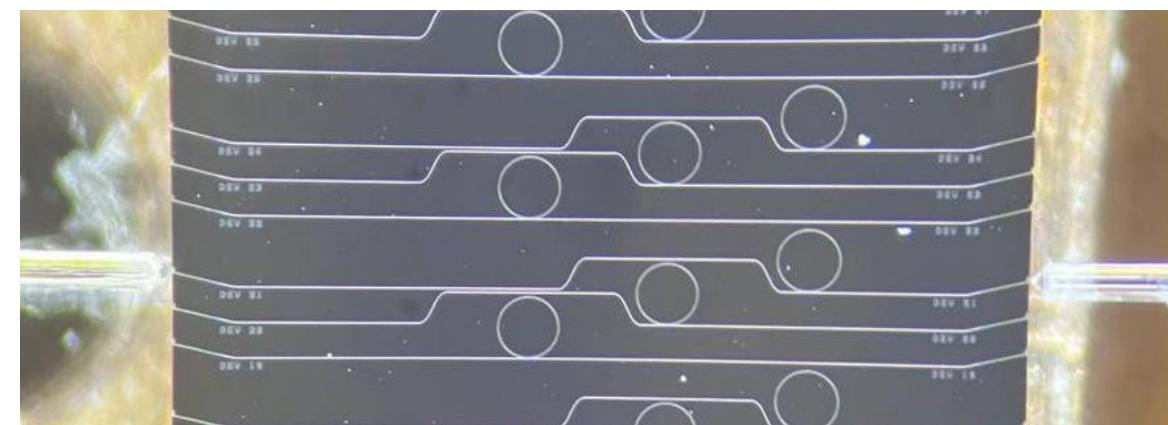
# Integrating frequency combs

NIST

NIST tabletop frequency comb



NIST microcombs

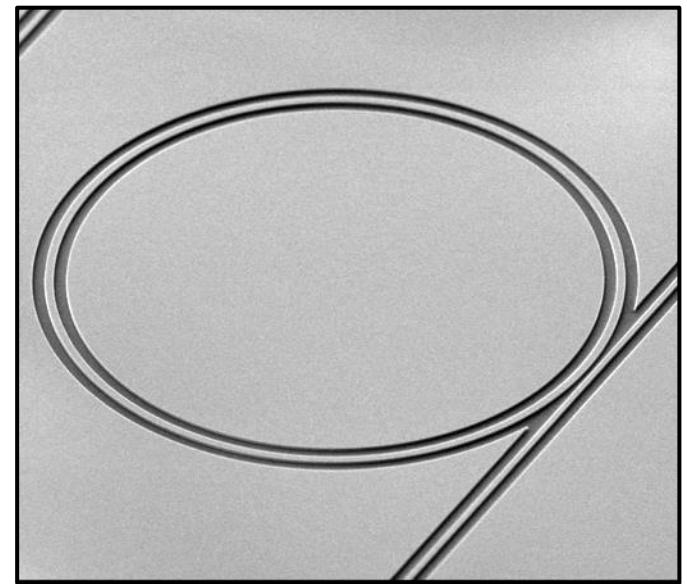
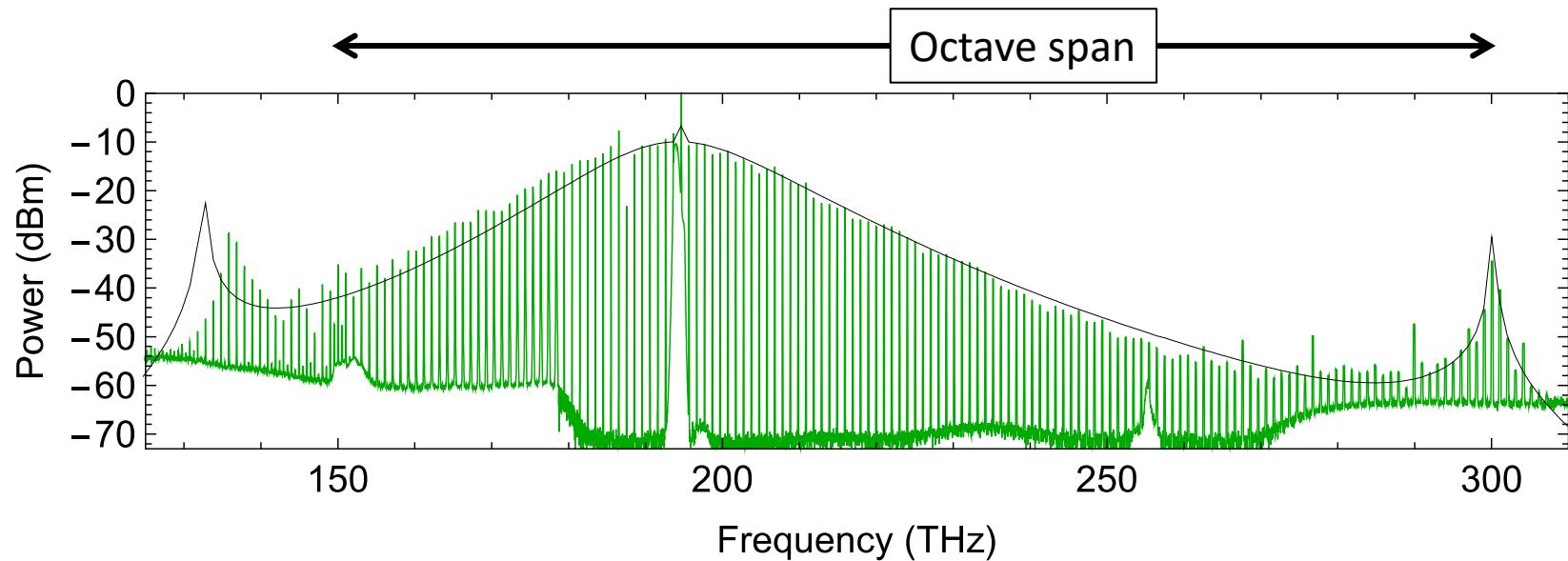


# Soliton microcombs

NIST

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \tau} = -(1 + i\alpha)\psi + i|\psi|^2\psi - i\frac{\beta}{2}\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \theta^2} + F$$

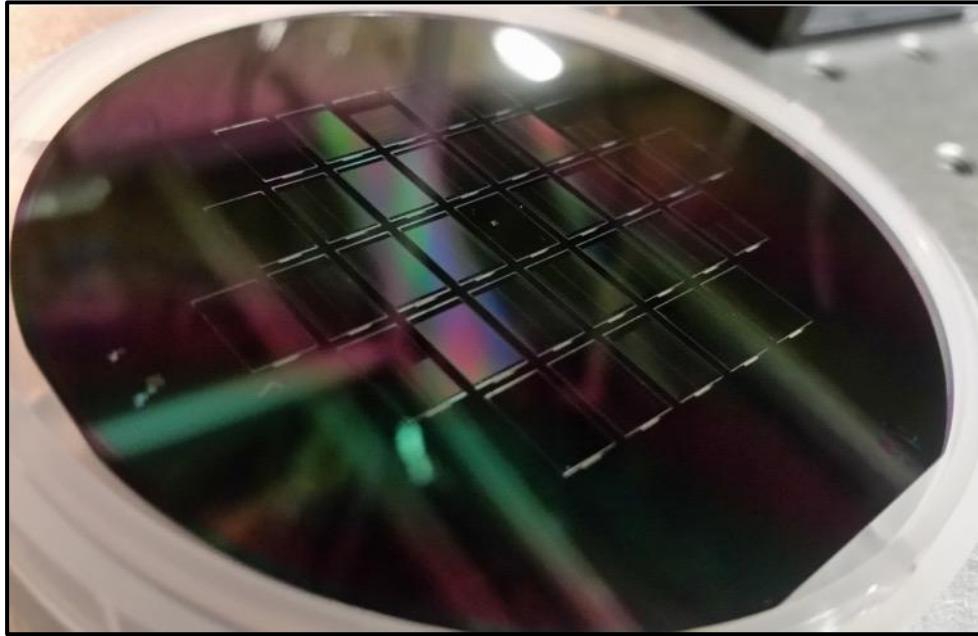
Size      **Dissipation** and detuning      Kerr nonlinearity      Dispersion      Pump



Kartik Srinivasan

# Tantala ( $\text{Ta}_2\text{O}_5$ ) integrated photonics

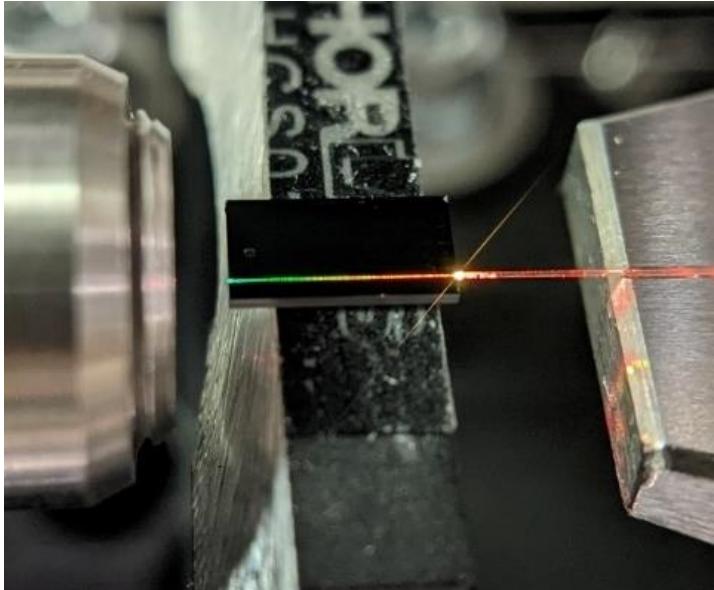
NIST



- High  $Q$
- Full wafer process
- Visible to SWIR wavelength range
- Versatile integrated nonlinear photonics
- Spin-off: Octave Photonics

# Integrated photonics modules

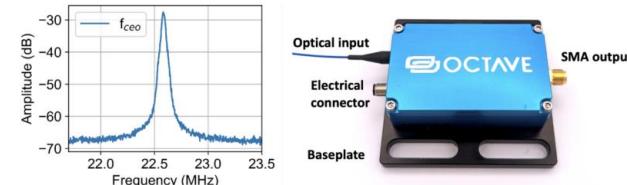
NIST



## Comb Offset Stabilization Module (COSMO)

**Summary:** The Octave Photonics Comb Offset Stabilization Module (COSMO) provides a compact and convenient solution for  $f_2f$  self-referencing a laser frequency comb using nanophotonic waveguide technology. Additionally, the COSMO allows the carrier-envelope-offset frequency ( $f_{CEO}$ ) to be detected with exceptionally low pulse energies, enabling lower power consumption or higher repetition rates.

**Usage:** The COSMO connects to the laser with an FC/APC fiber connector and provides an electrical output (SMA) that can be connected to standard stabilization electronics. The pulse must be compressed at the entrance to the COSMO housing, so an appropriate length of fiber and/or dispersion-compensating fiber should be used by the customer. Additionally, control over the input pulse energy allows the signal-to-noise ratio of the  $f_{CEO}$  signal to be optimized.



Specification	COSMO
Input pulse wavelength	~1560 nm
Minimum pulse energy for CEO detection	150 pJ typical 200 pJ max.
Absolute maximum input pulse energy	1 nJ
Recommended input pulse duration	<250 fs
Input fiber	PM1550
Input optical connector	FC/APC
Output electrical connector	SMA
Dimensions (excluding connectors)	57x35x17 mm
Typical electrical power draw	0.6 Watts (50 mA @ 12 V)
Weight (without baseplate)	70 grams
Operating temperature*	0 to 40 C
Signal-to-noise ratio of CEO peak**	>35 dB (300 kHz RBW)

\* Contact Octave for qualification of COSMO units over a larger temperature range.

\*\* Observed signal-to-noise ratio depends on laser stability. >35 dB assumes a low-noise laser system.

See Ordering Details on Page 3



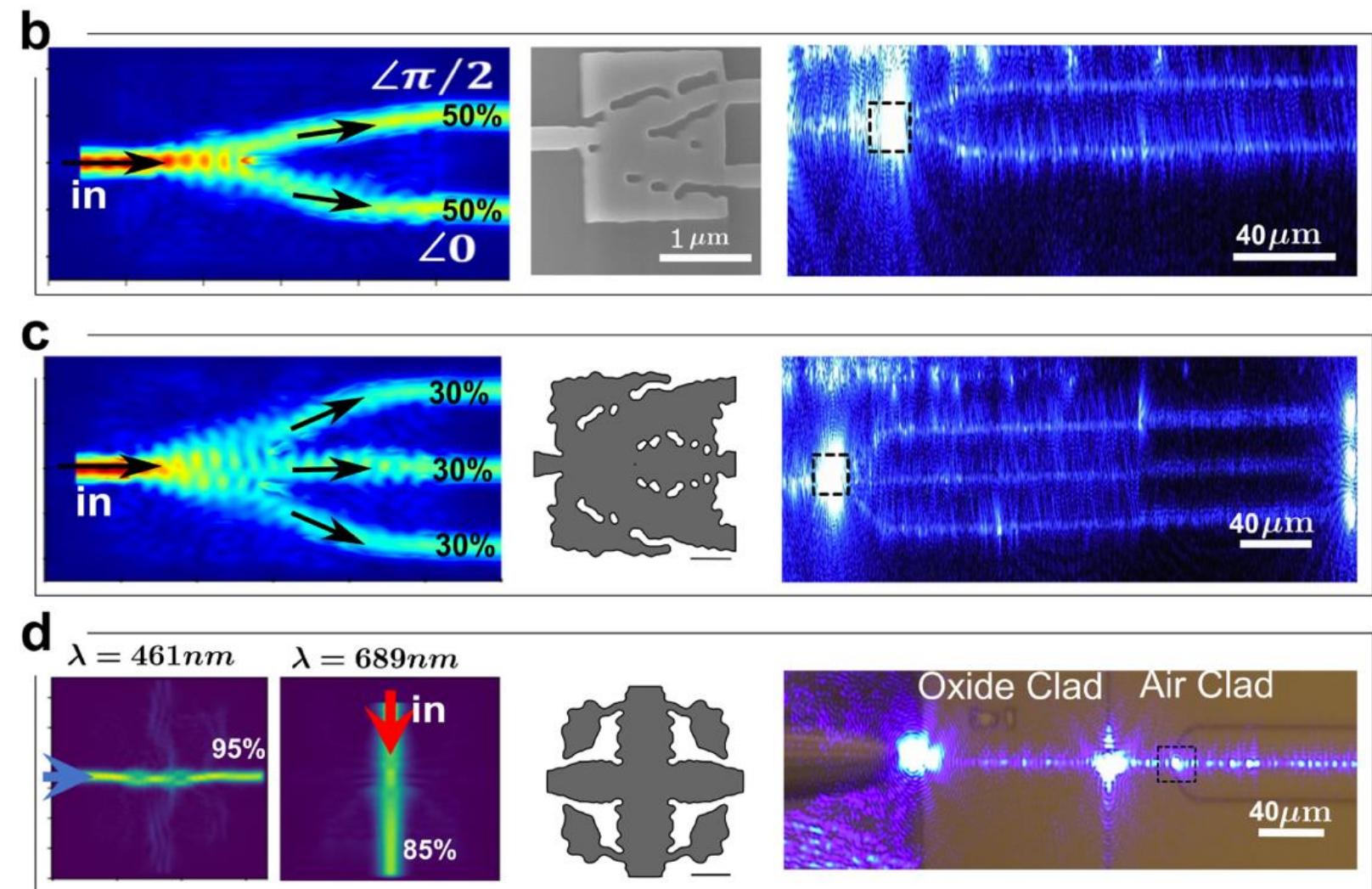
info@octavephotonics.com • OCTAVEPHOTONICS.COM  
325 W South Boulder Rd Suite B1 • Louisville, CO 80027

# Visible integrated photonics with tantalum

NIST

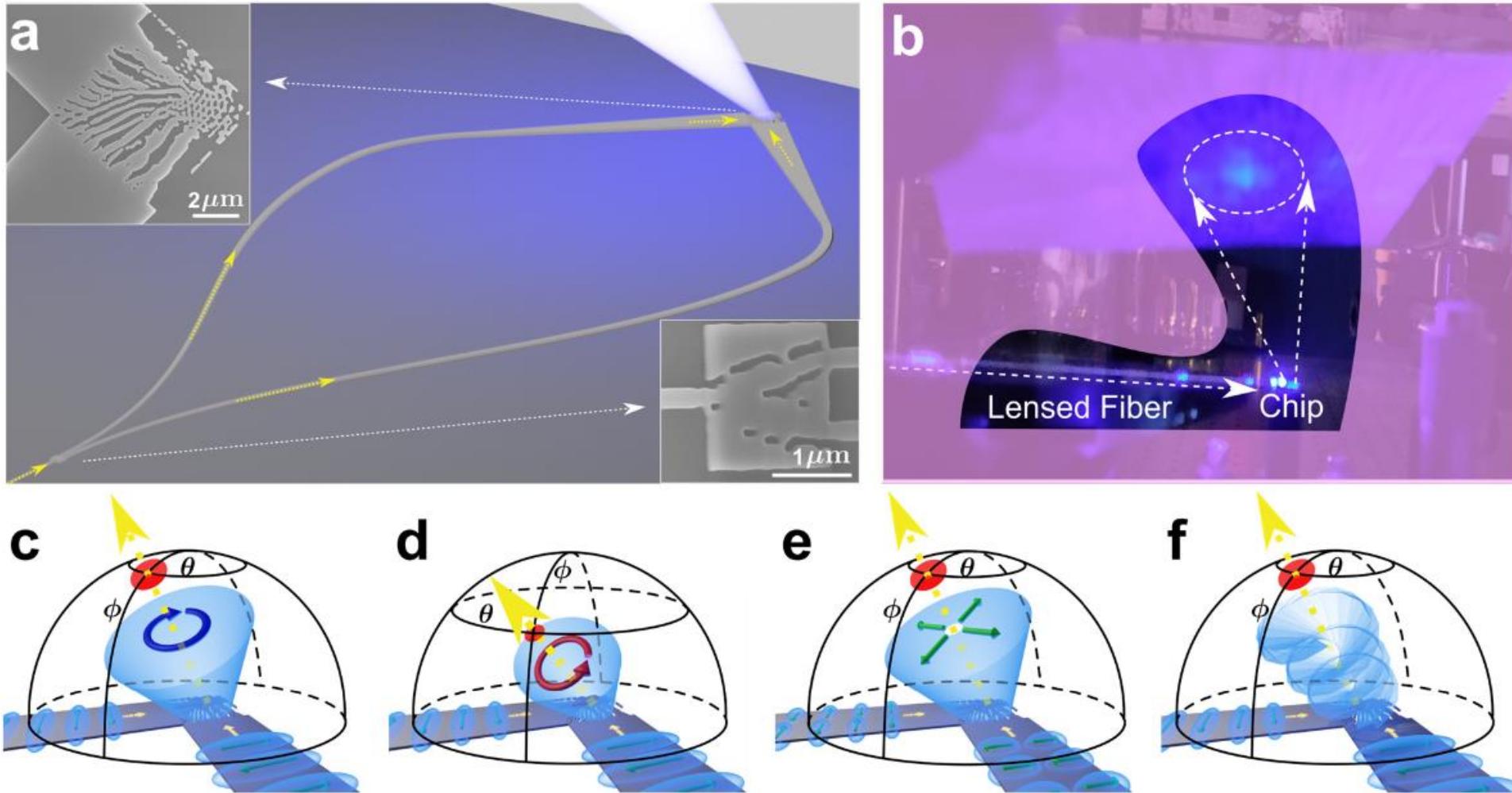


Loss < 2 dB/cm from blue to SWIR



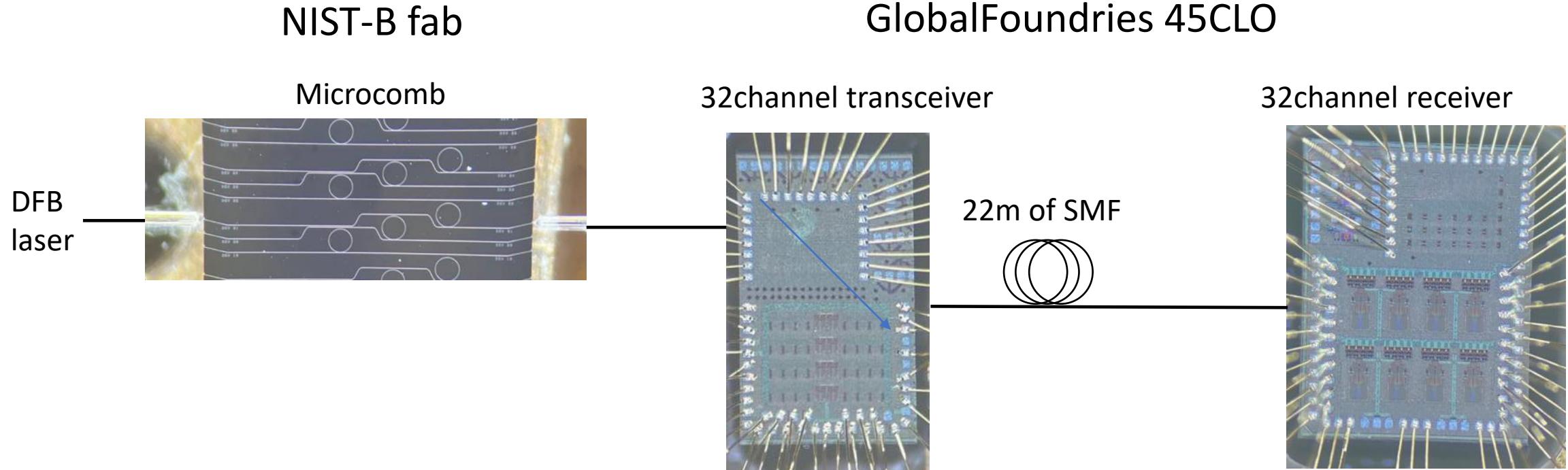
# Circular polarization grating coupler

NIST



# Microcombs & Si photonics/electronics

NIST



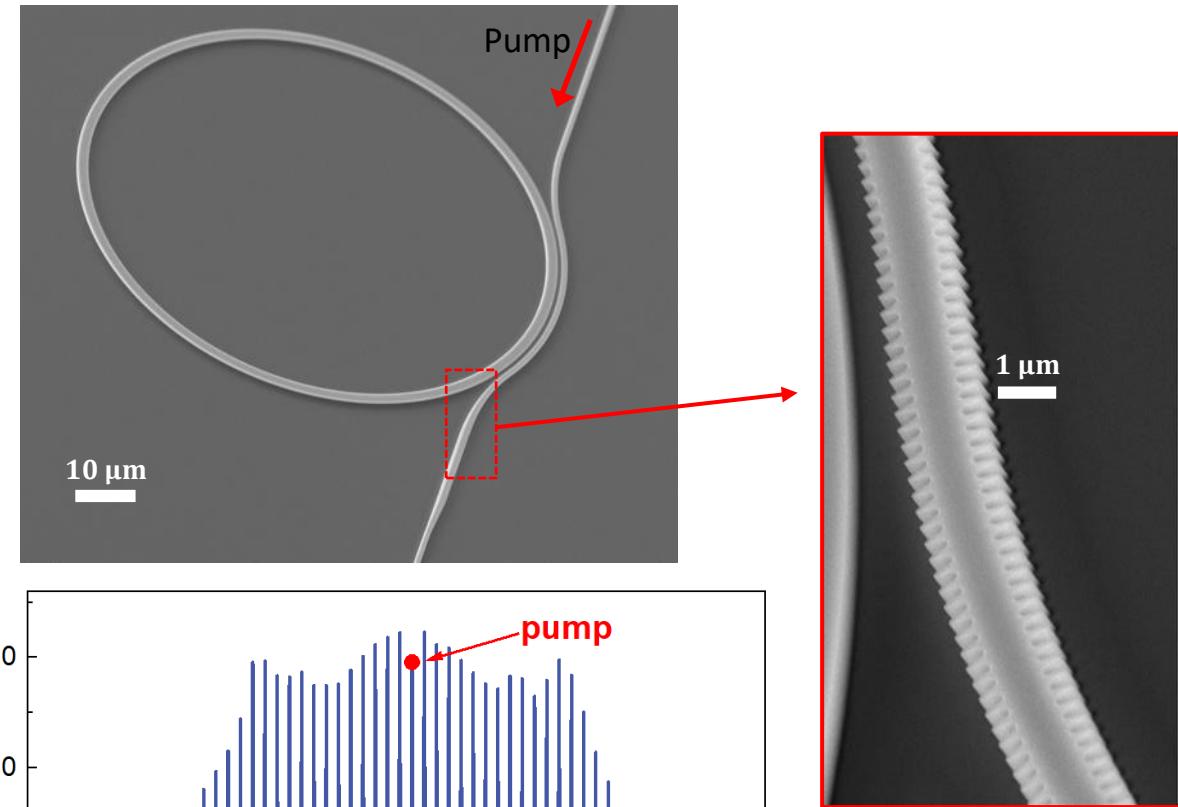
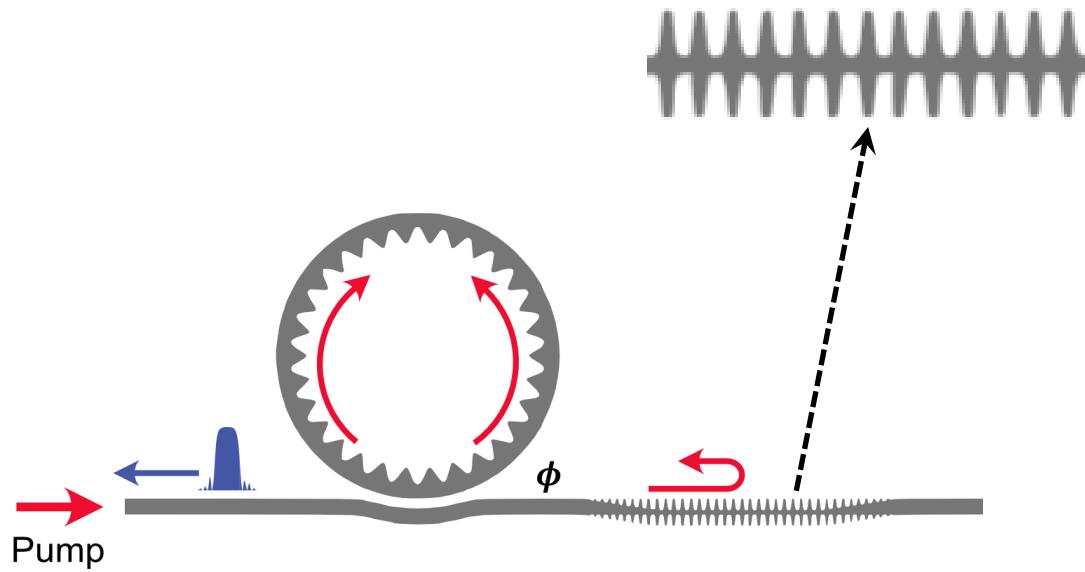
10 Tb/s data link →

Needed for data centers and next-gen computing

# Nanophotonic microcombs

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A photonic crystal reflector for “pump recycling”



S. P. Yu et al. Nature Photonics 2021

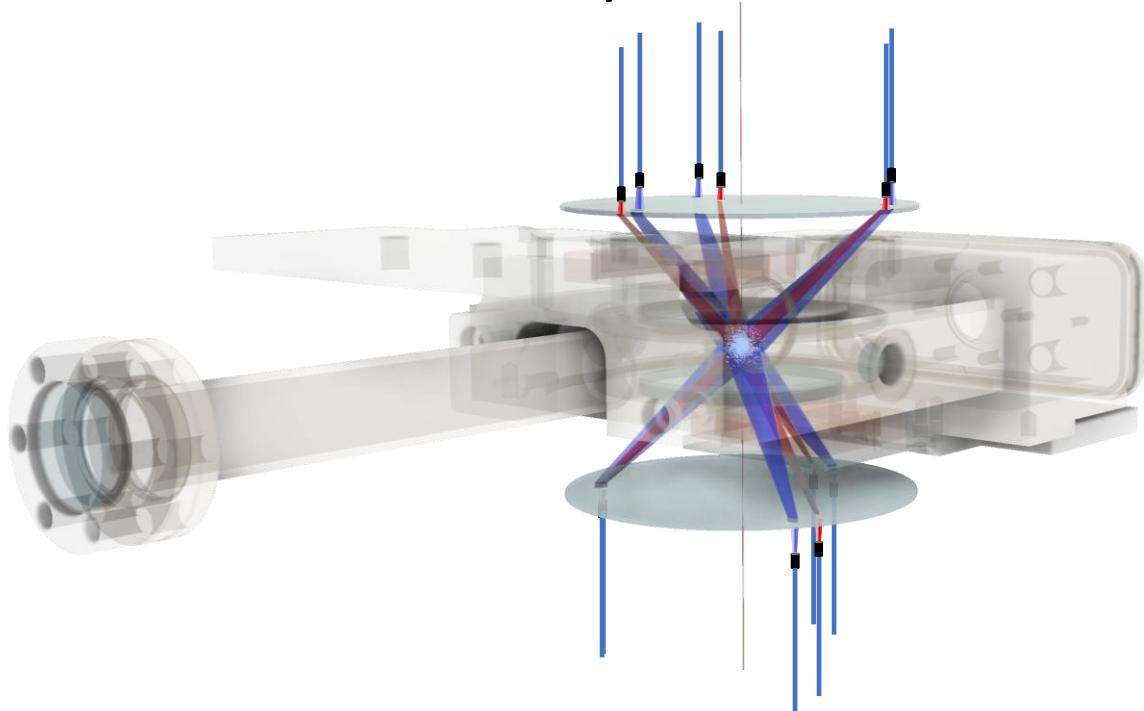
S. P. Yu et al. Nature Communication 2022

E. Lucas et al. Nature Photonics 2023

# Scalable infrastructure for Sr clocks

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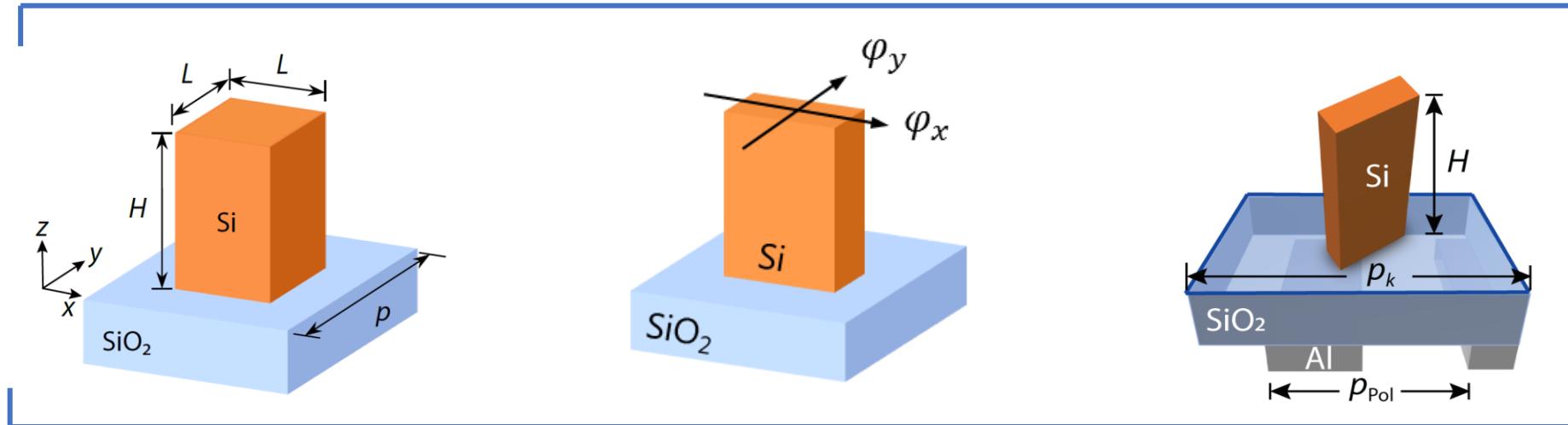
metasurface optics:  
atom-photonic interface



# Metasurface optics

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## Propagation phase



$$\text{Input} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\phi_x = \phi_y + \pi/2 \text{ (QWP)}$$

$$\phi_x = \phi_y + \pi \text{ (HWP)}$$

$$\text{Output : } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\phi} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} e^{i\phi_x} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2\theta & \sin 2\theta \\ \sin 2\theta & -\cos 2\theta \end{pmatrix} e^{i\phi_x} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{i\phi_x} \cos 2\theta$$

Control of : Phase

Ellipticity and  
phase

Polarization and  
phase

Amplitude and  
phase

# Metasurface optics

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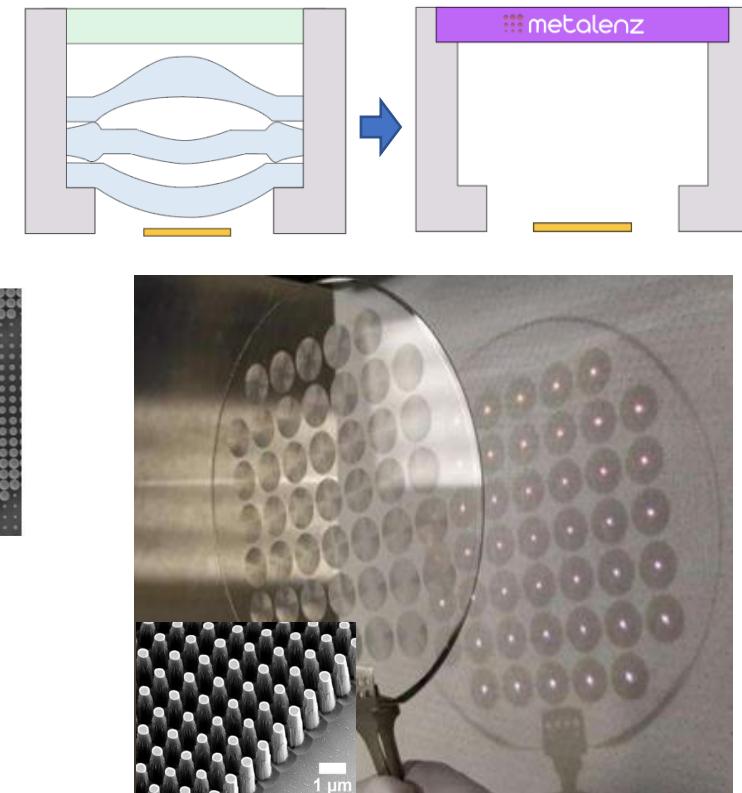
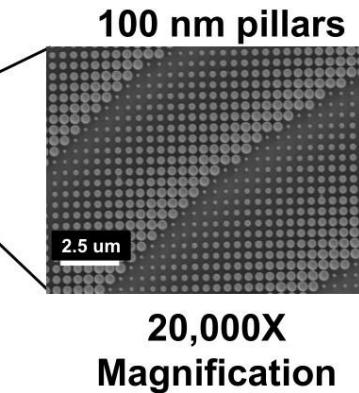
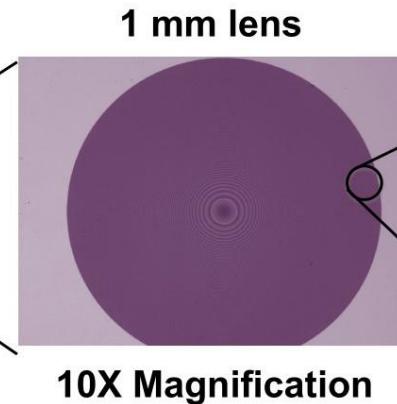
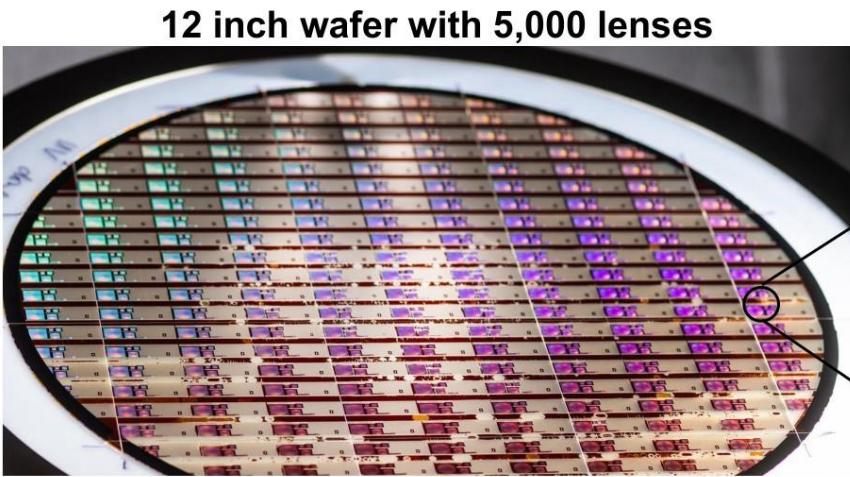
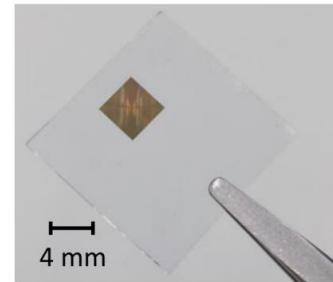
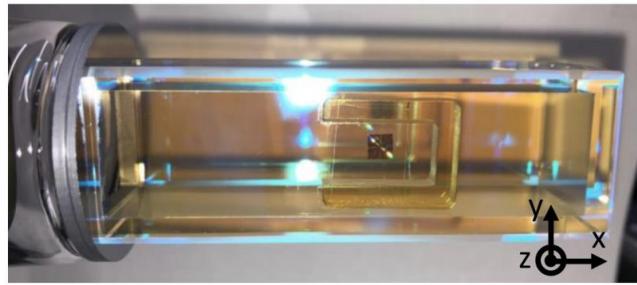


Image Courtesy: Metalenz

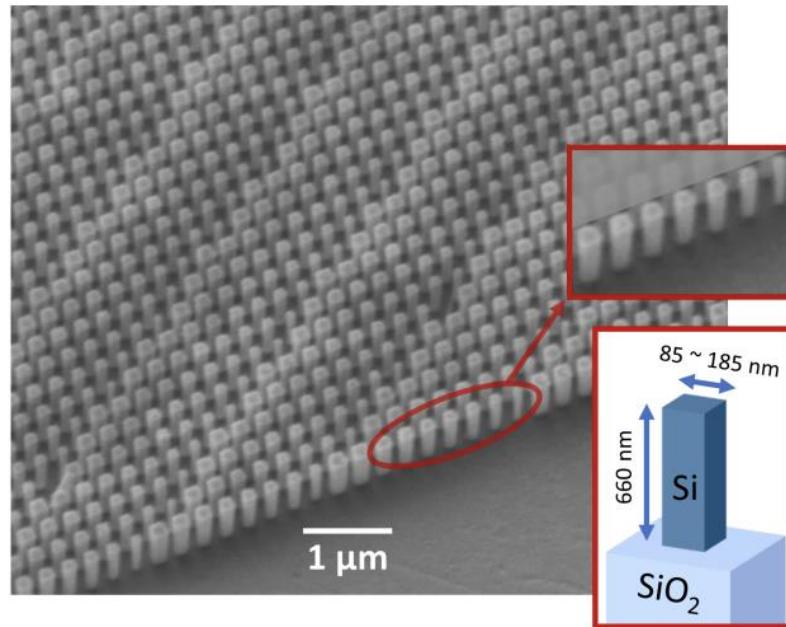
*Nano Lett.* **19**, 8673 (2019)

# Pilot experiment: Rb single-atom trapping

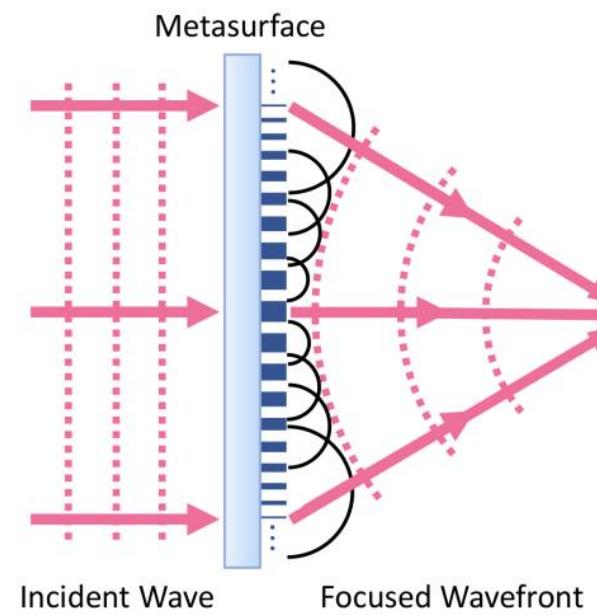
NIST



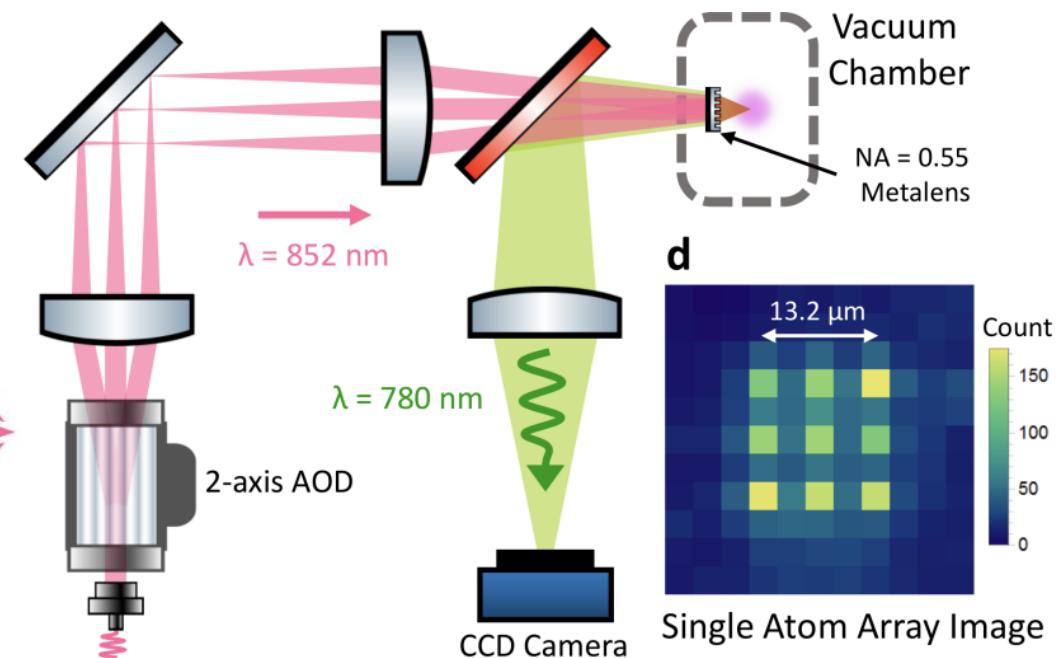
Atom trapping configuration for single-atom array creation and imaging



metasurface  
amorphous silicon on fused silica



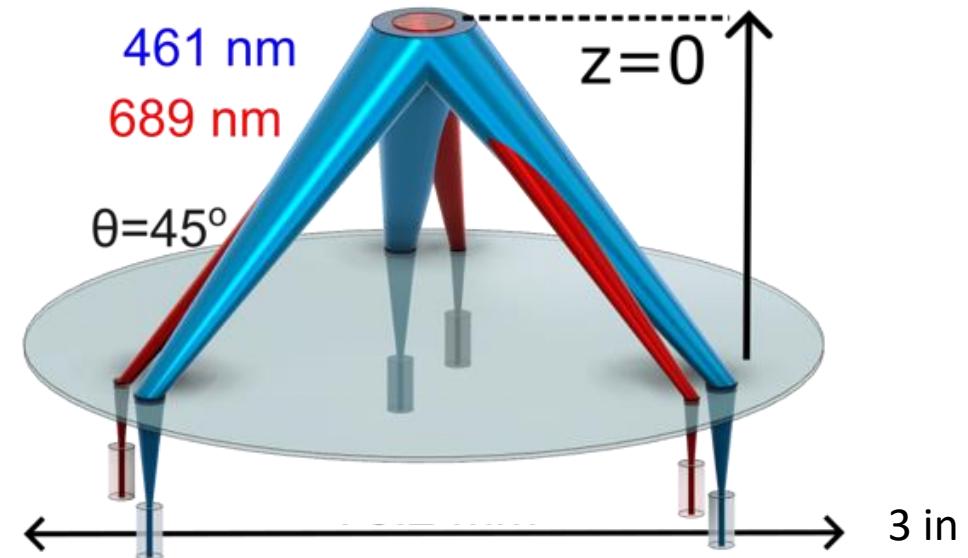
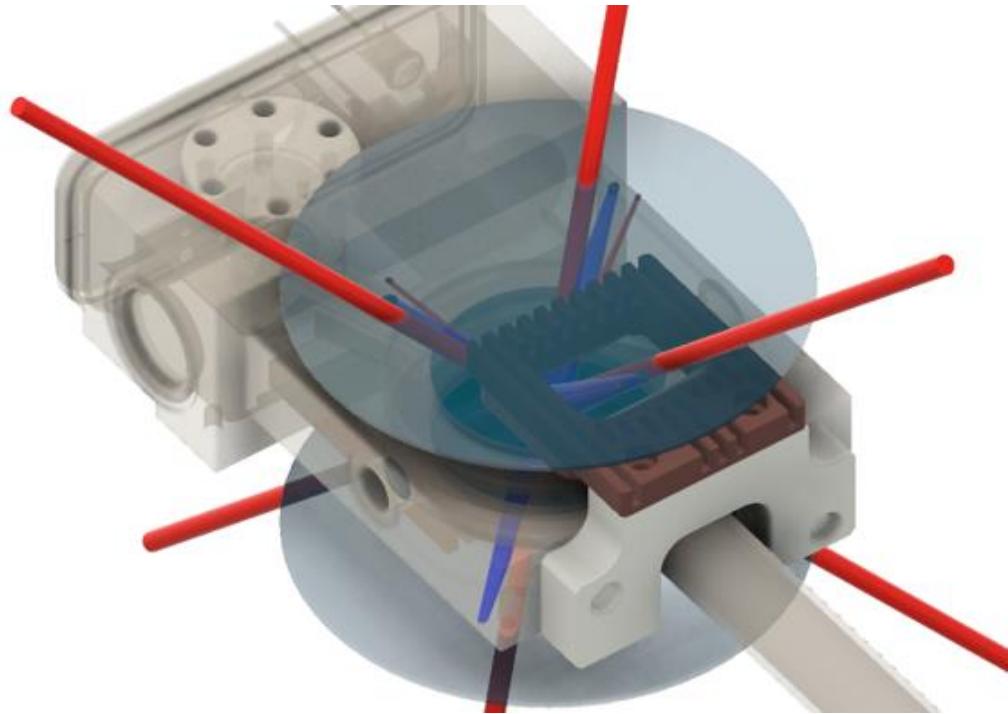
metasurface lens  
concept



T. W. Hsu et al. PRX Quantum 2022

# MS optics system for Sr

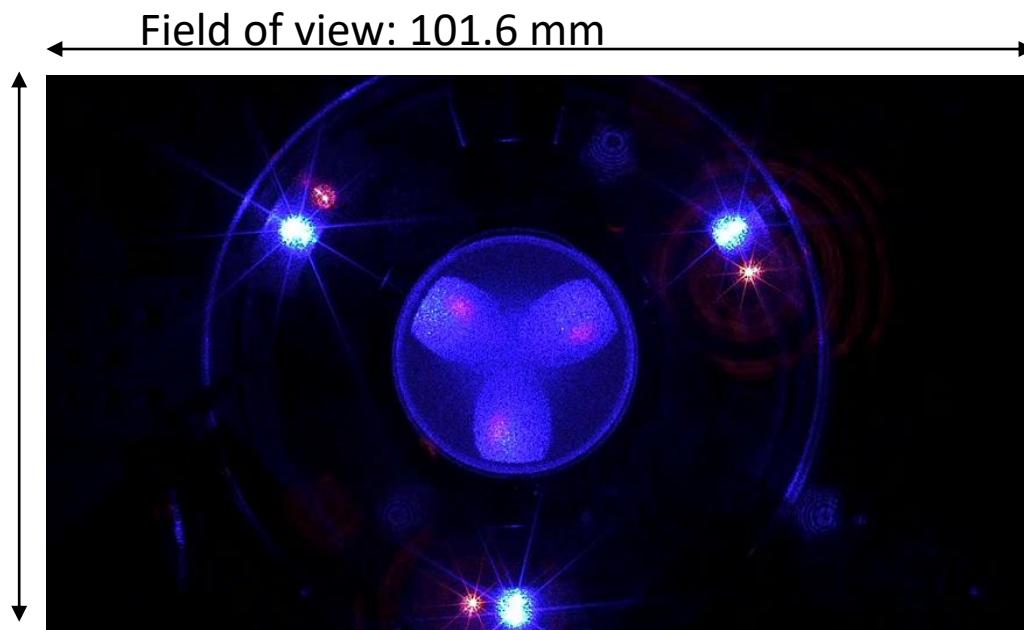
NIST



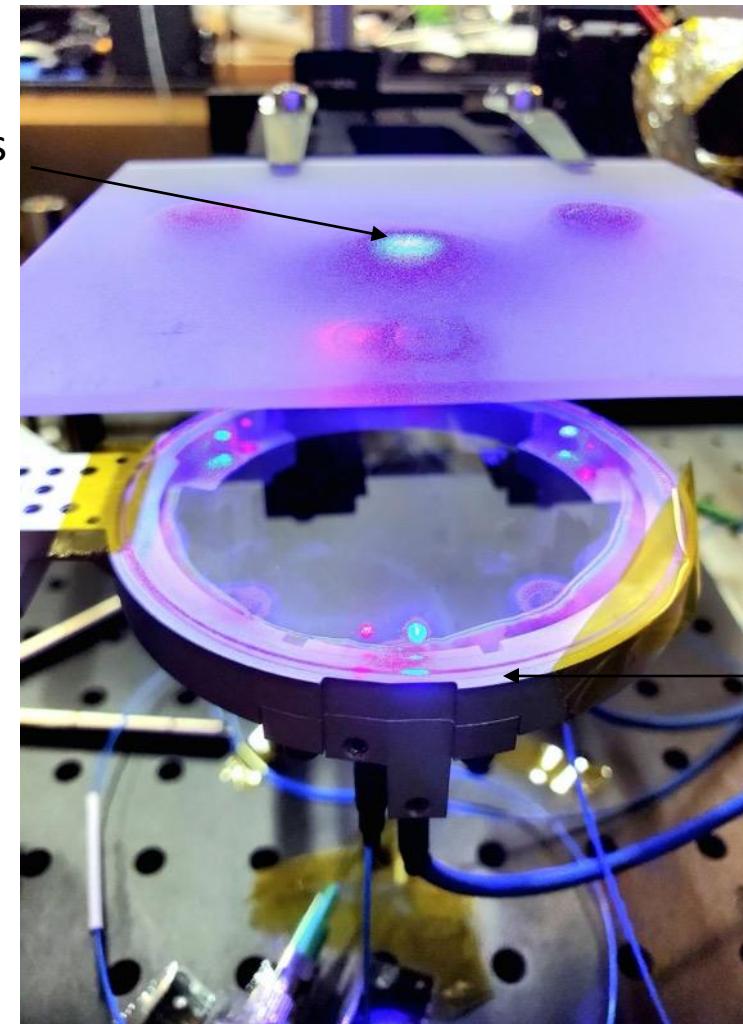
Metasurface	$\eta_{\text{MS}}$ (%)	DOCP (%)
Blue	$45 \pm 2$	$92$
Red	$49 \pm 2$	$96$

# Sr MS system: Optical assembly and test

NIST



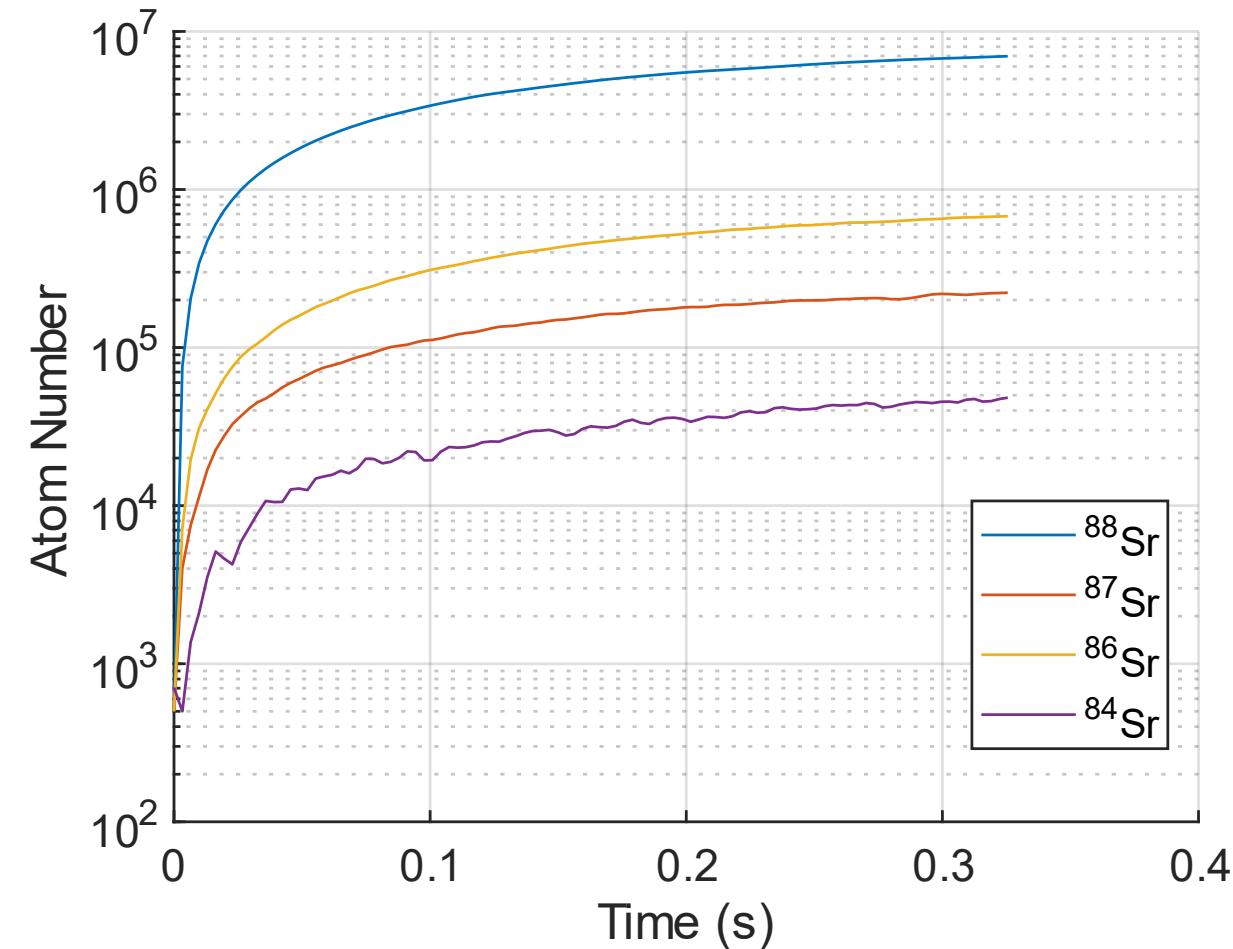
461 nm and  
689 nm beams



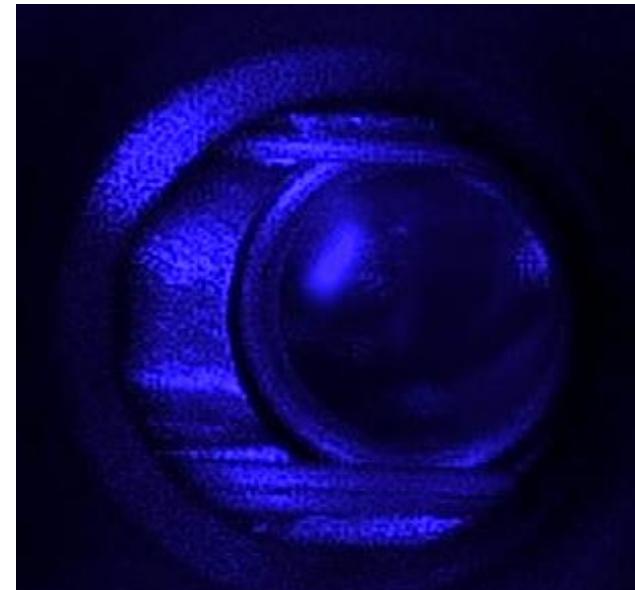
Custom designed  
Photonics holder

# Breakthrough #1: Broad line trapping

NIST

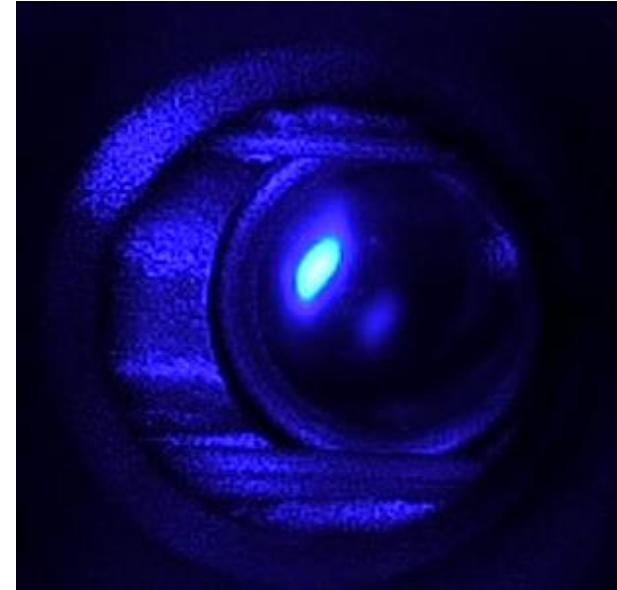


$^{87}\text{Sr}$



$3 \times 10^5$  atoms

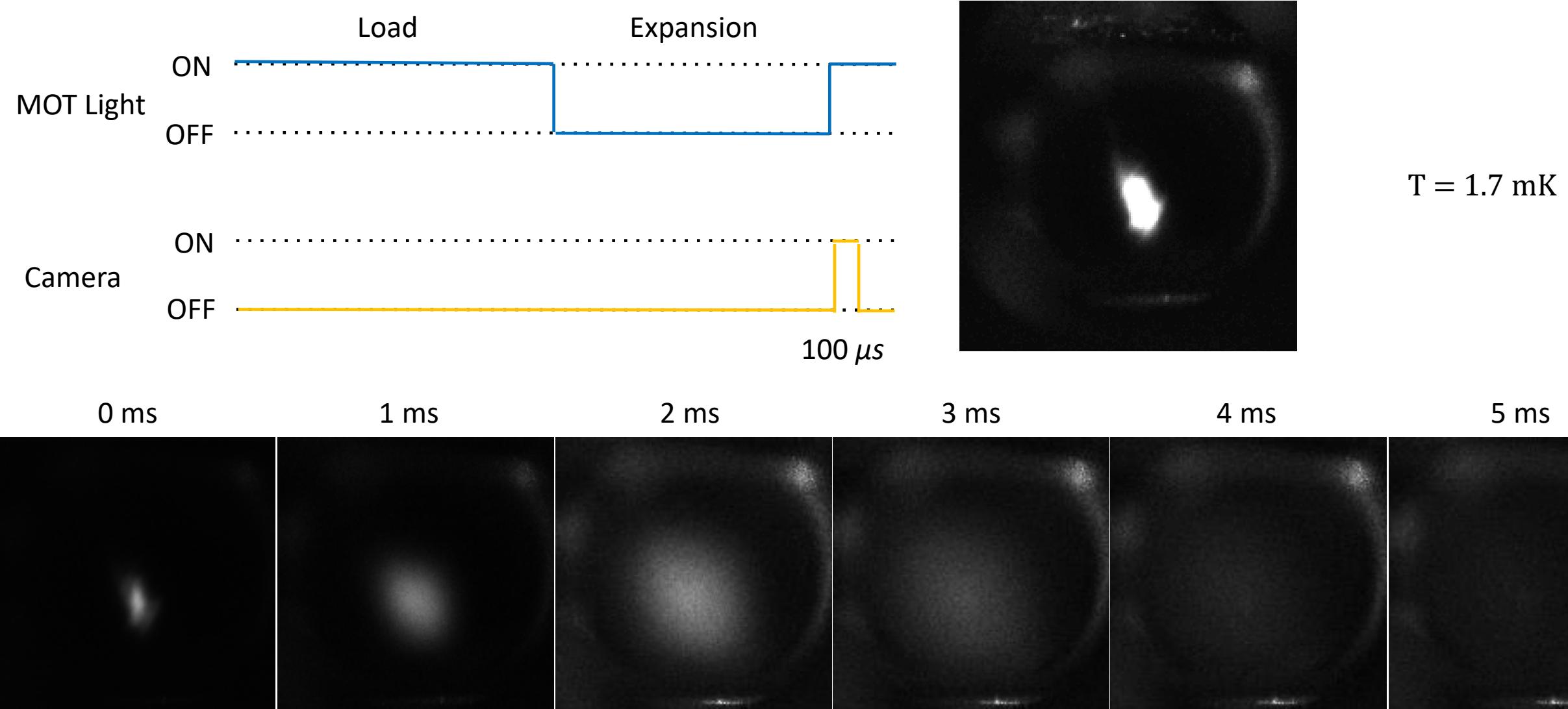
$^{88}\text{Sr}$



$8 \times 10^6$  atoms

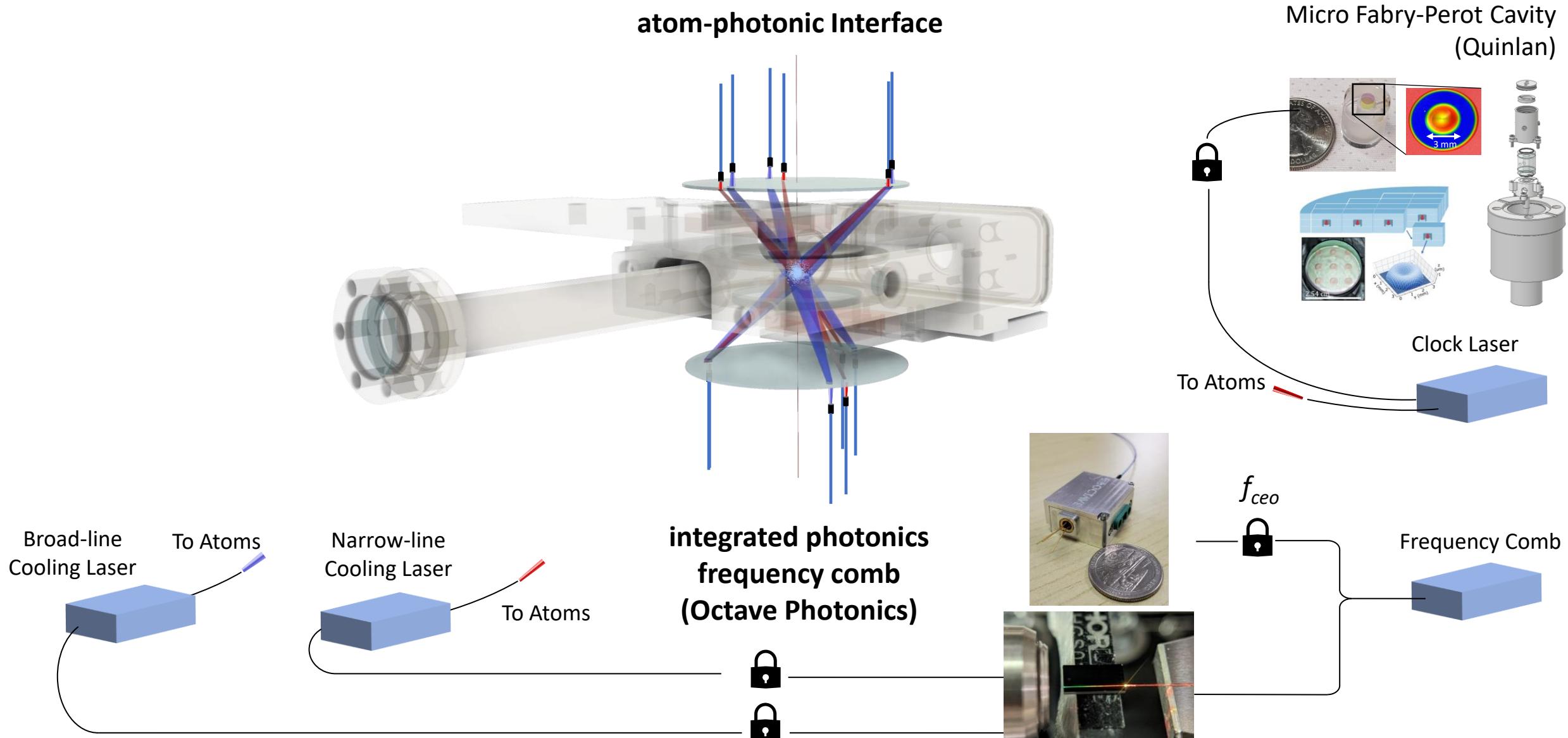
# Time of Flight – MOT Temperature

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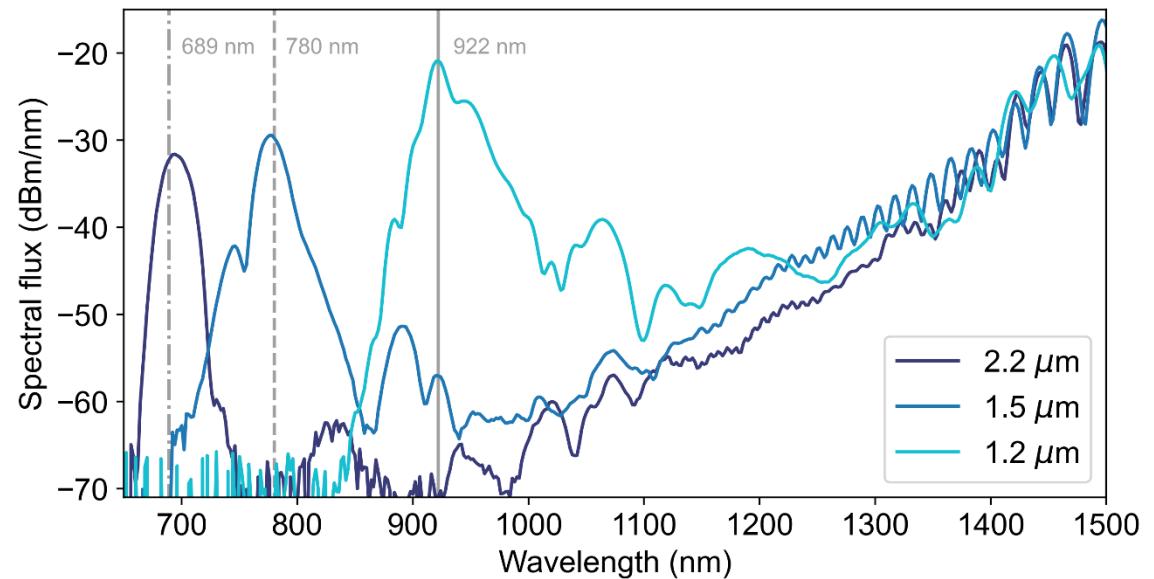
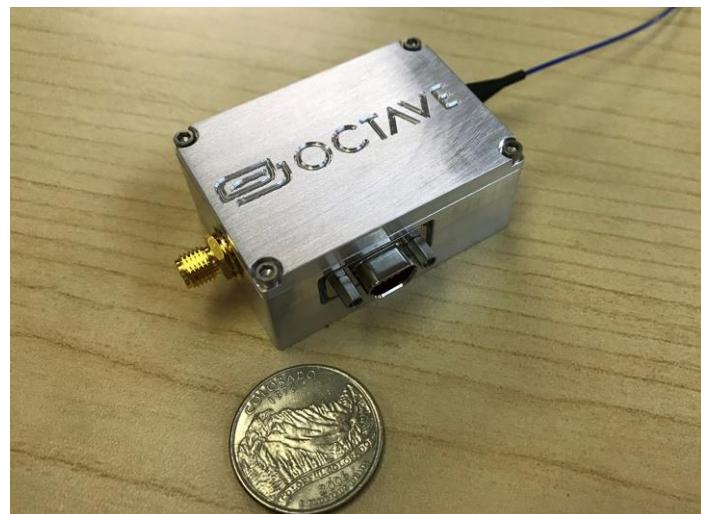
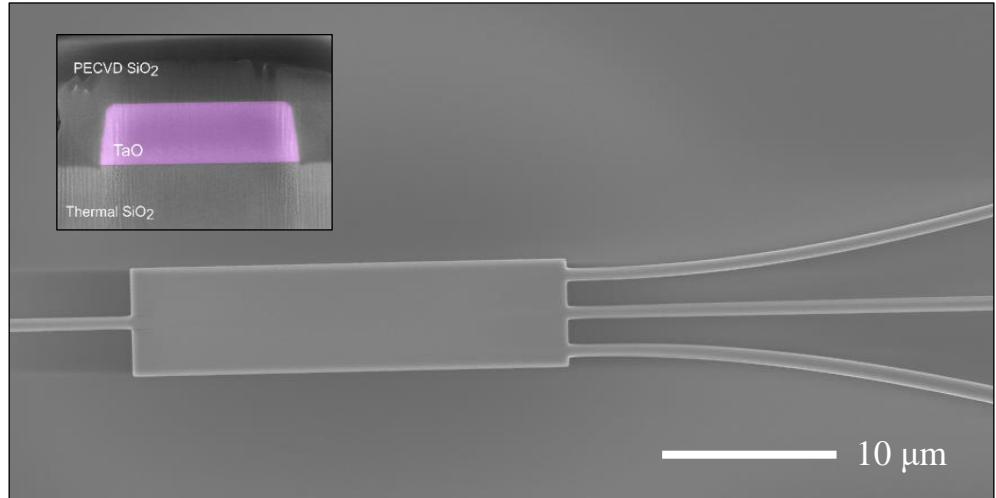
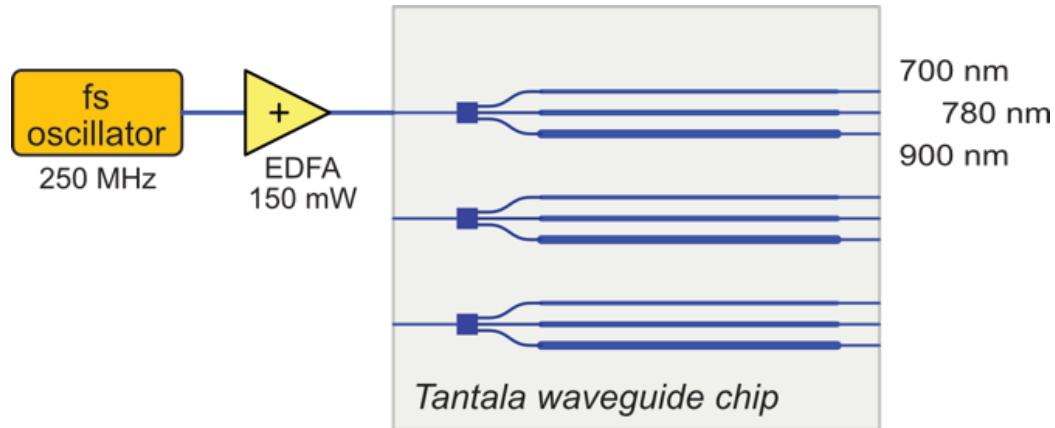
# Scalable infrastructure for Sr clocks

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# Laser stabilization with waveguides

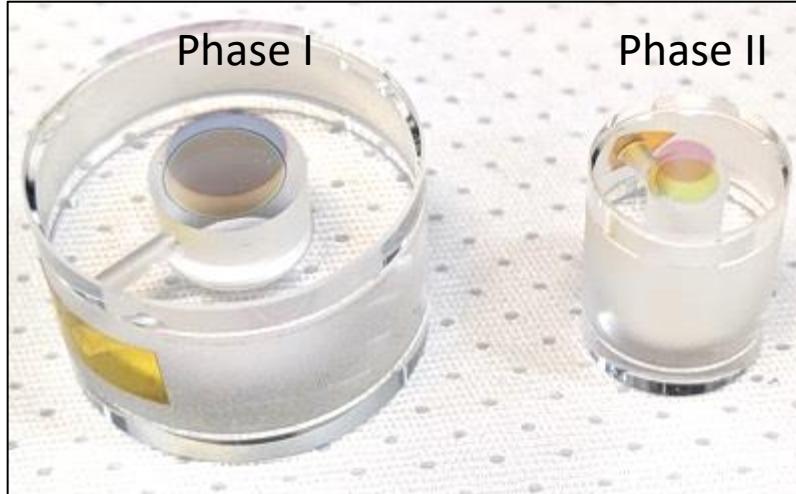
NIST



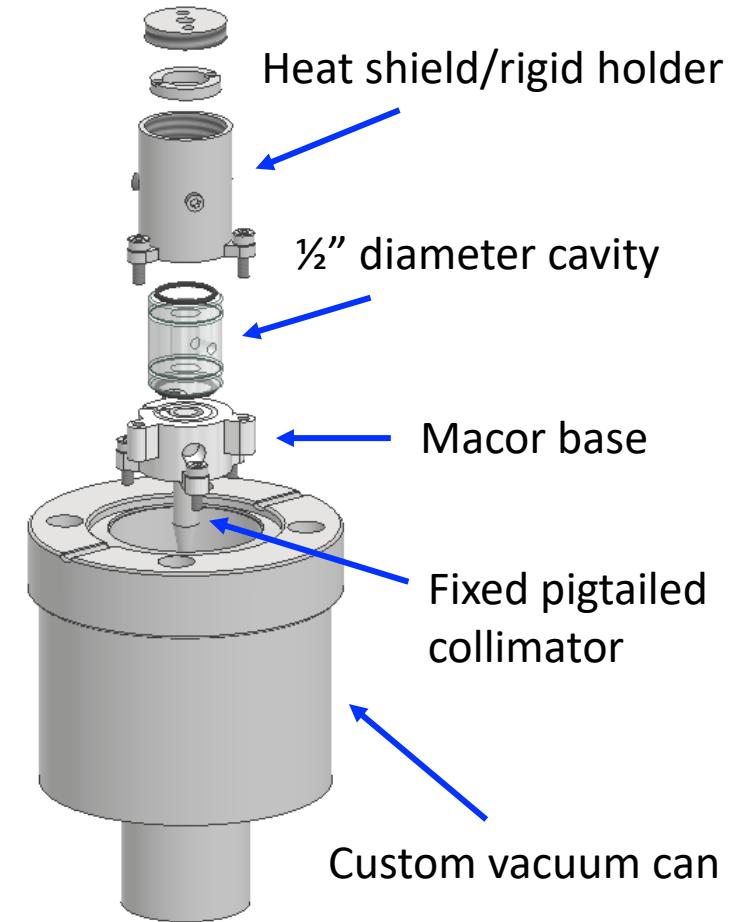
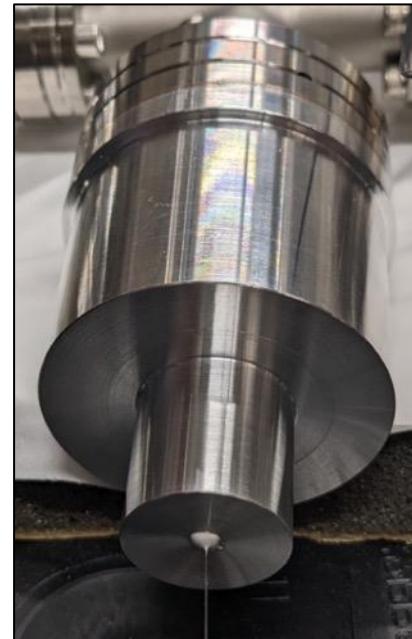
# Chip-scale clock lasers

NIST

Frank Quinlan



Compact vacuum Can



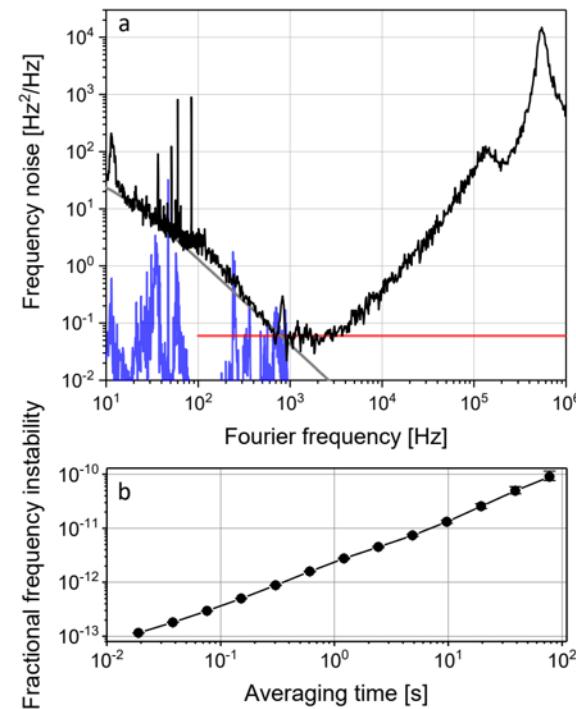
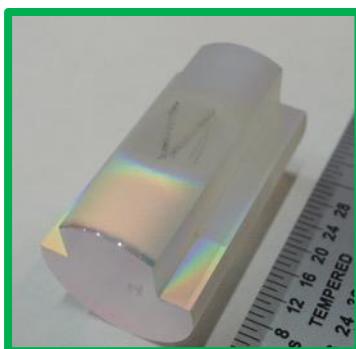
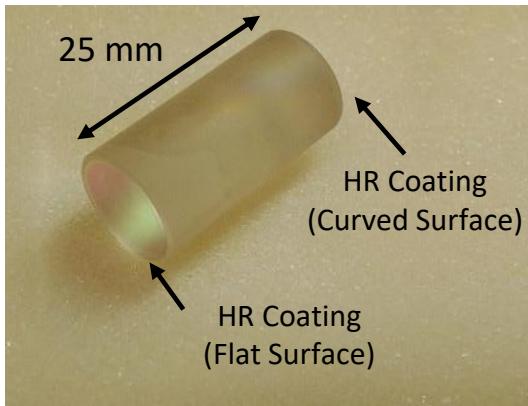
# Chip-scale clock lasers

NIST

**Scott Papp group, NIST**

$Q = 5$  billion

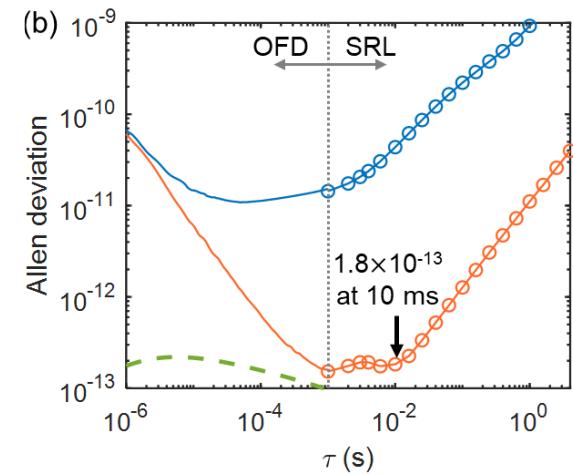
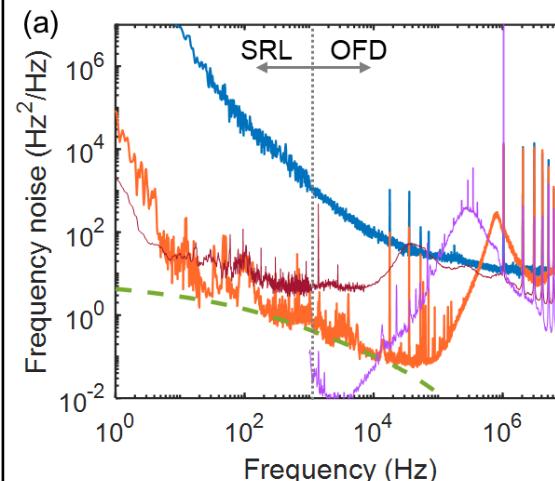
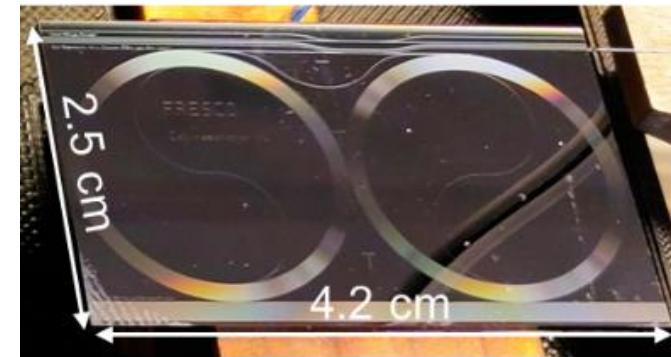
Thermal-noise limited performance  
~30 Hz linewidth & ~1 kHz/s drift



**Dan Blumenthal (UCSB) / SP collaboration**

$Q = 720$  million

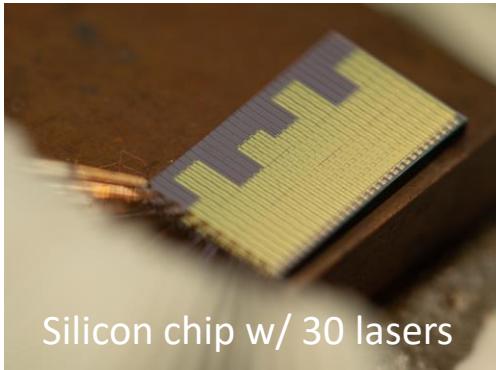
Thermal-noise limited performance  
~30 Hz linewidth & ~1 kHz/s drift



# Heterogeneously integrated clock laser

NIST

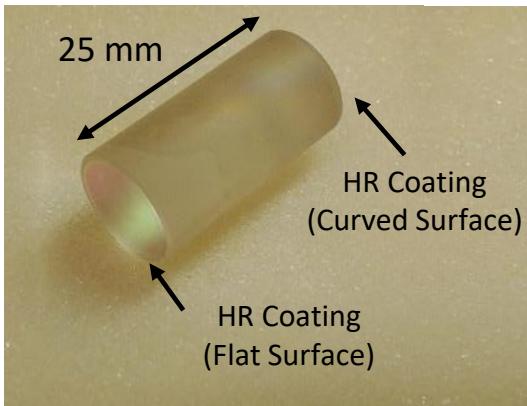
UCSB III/V-Si tunable laser + NIST photonic resonator



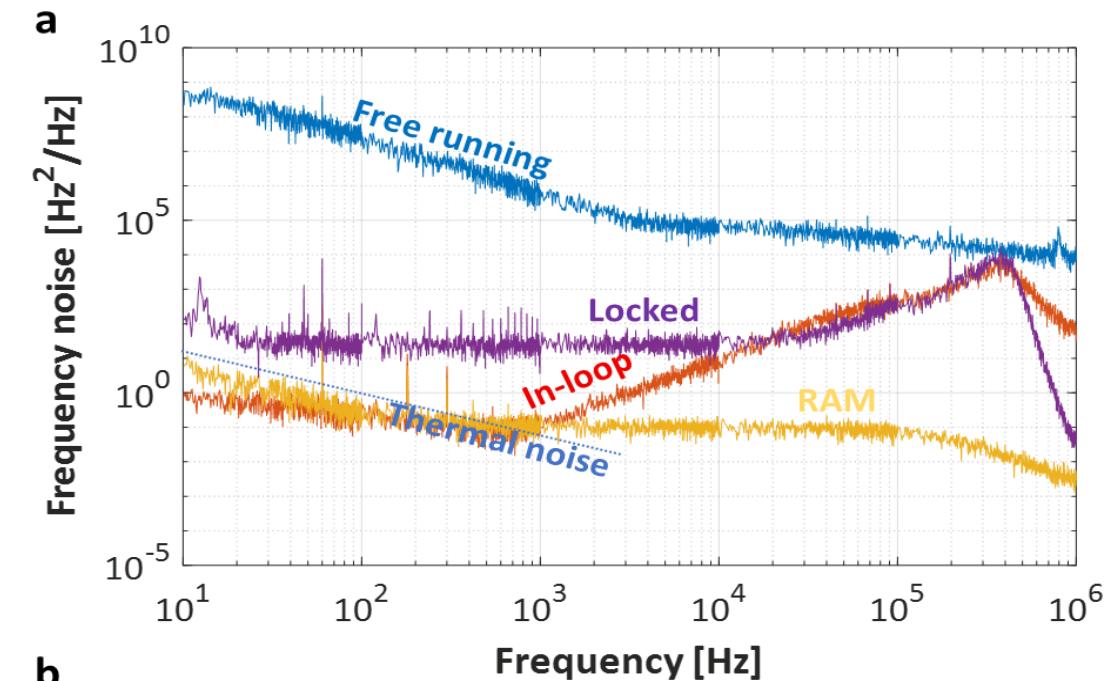
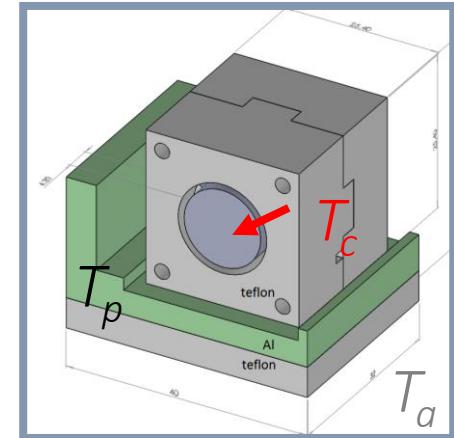
Silicon chip w/ 30 lasers



Packaging for lab experiment



HR Coating  
(Curved Surface)  
HR Coating  
(Flat Surface)

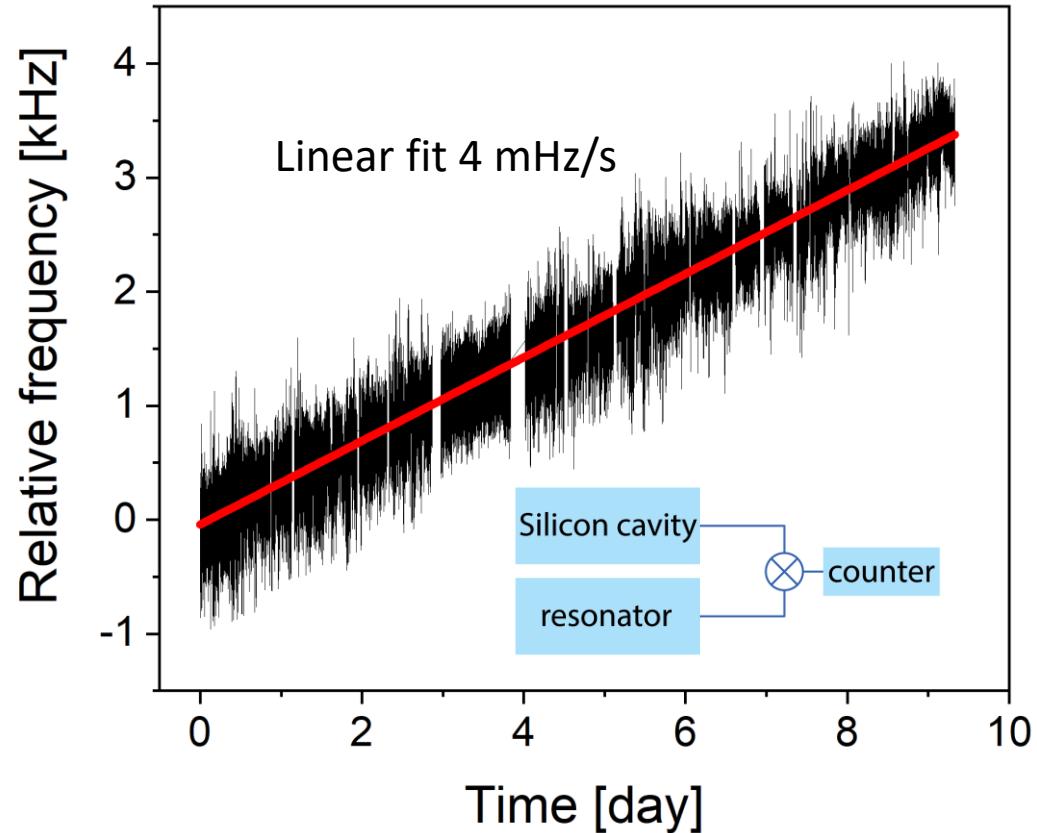


# Ultralow drift at low temperature

NIST

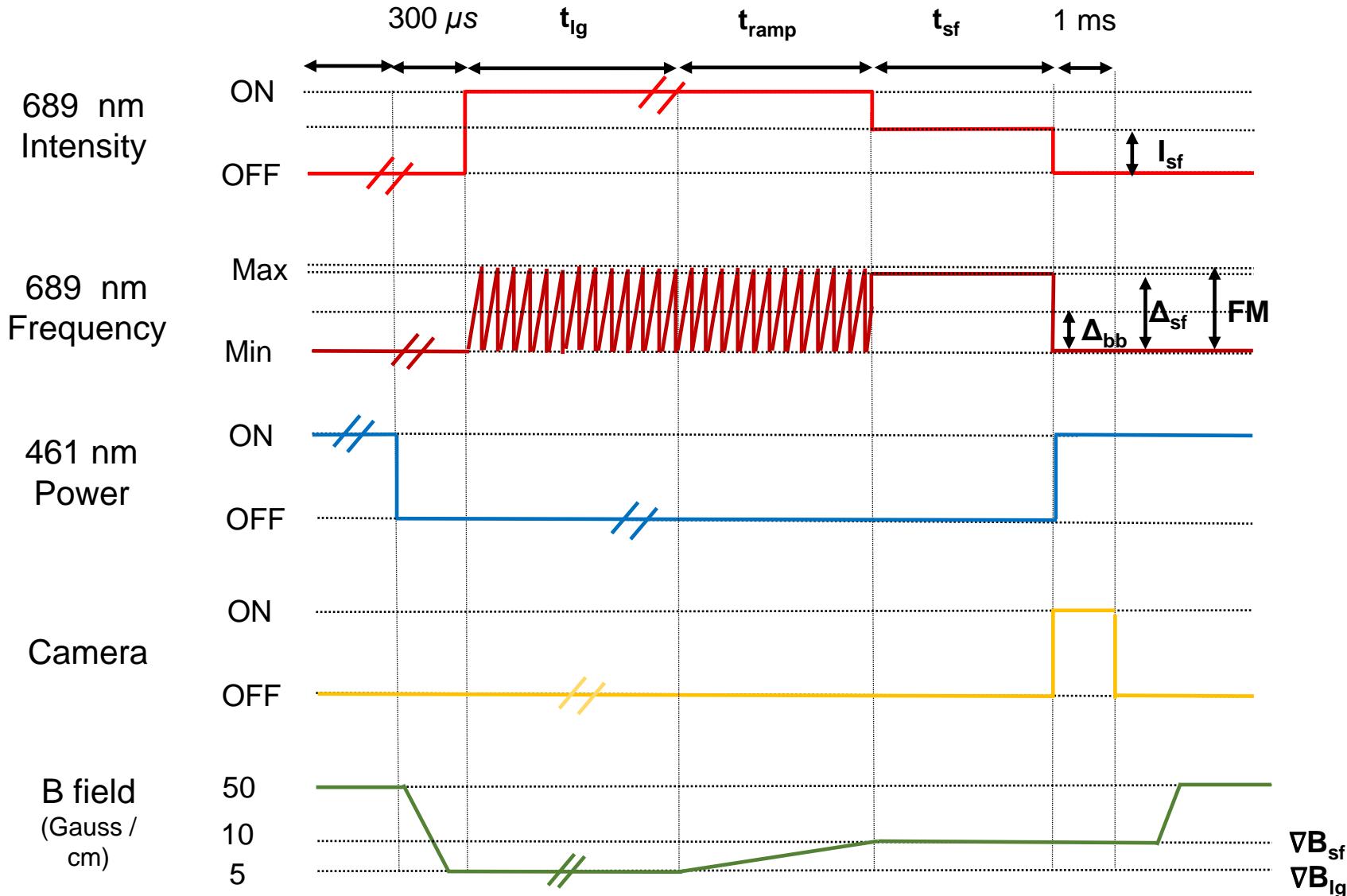


NIST (+ JILA for measurement support)



# Narrow Line MOT Sequence

NIST



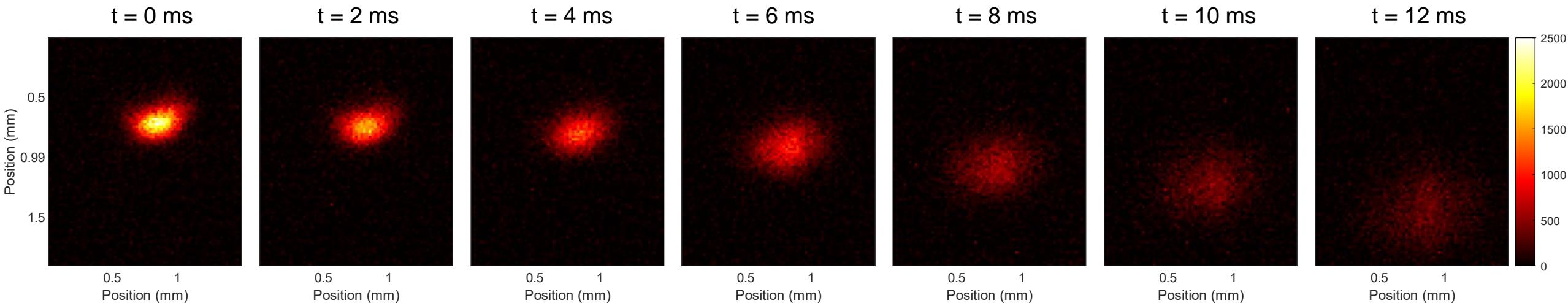
## Variables:

- $t_{ig}$  – time low gradient
- $t_{ramp}$  – time B gradient ramp
- $t_{sf}$  – time single frequency cooling
- $I_{sf}$  – 689 nm intensity single frequency cooling
- $\Delta_{sf}$  – 689 nm single frequency detuning
- **FM** – 689 nm frequency modulation during broadband cooling
- $\Delta_{bb}$  – 689 nm center frequency detuning during broadband cooling
- $\nabla B_{lg}$  – magnetic field gradient low point
- $\nabla B_{sf}$  – magnetic field gradient at single frequency cooling

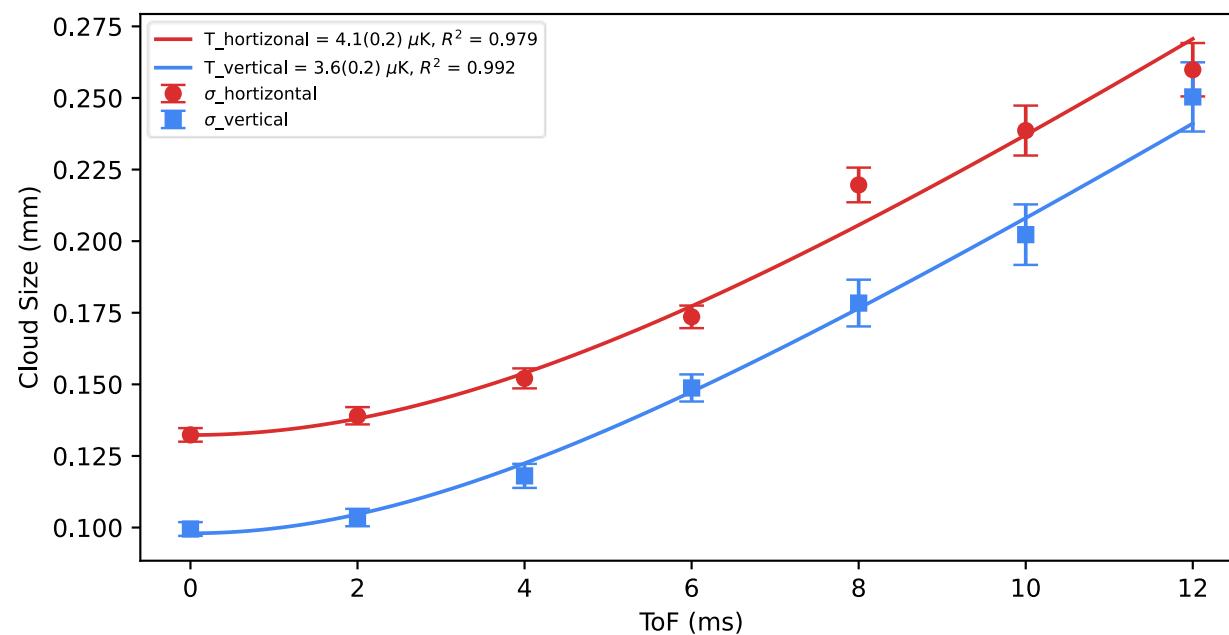
Controlled with Argent  
Ludlow group, NIST

# Breakthrough #2: Narrow line trapping

NIST

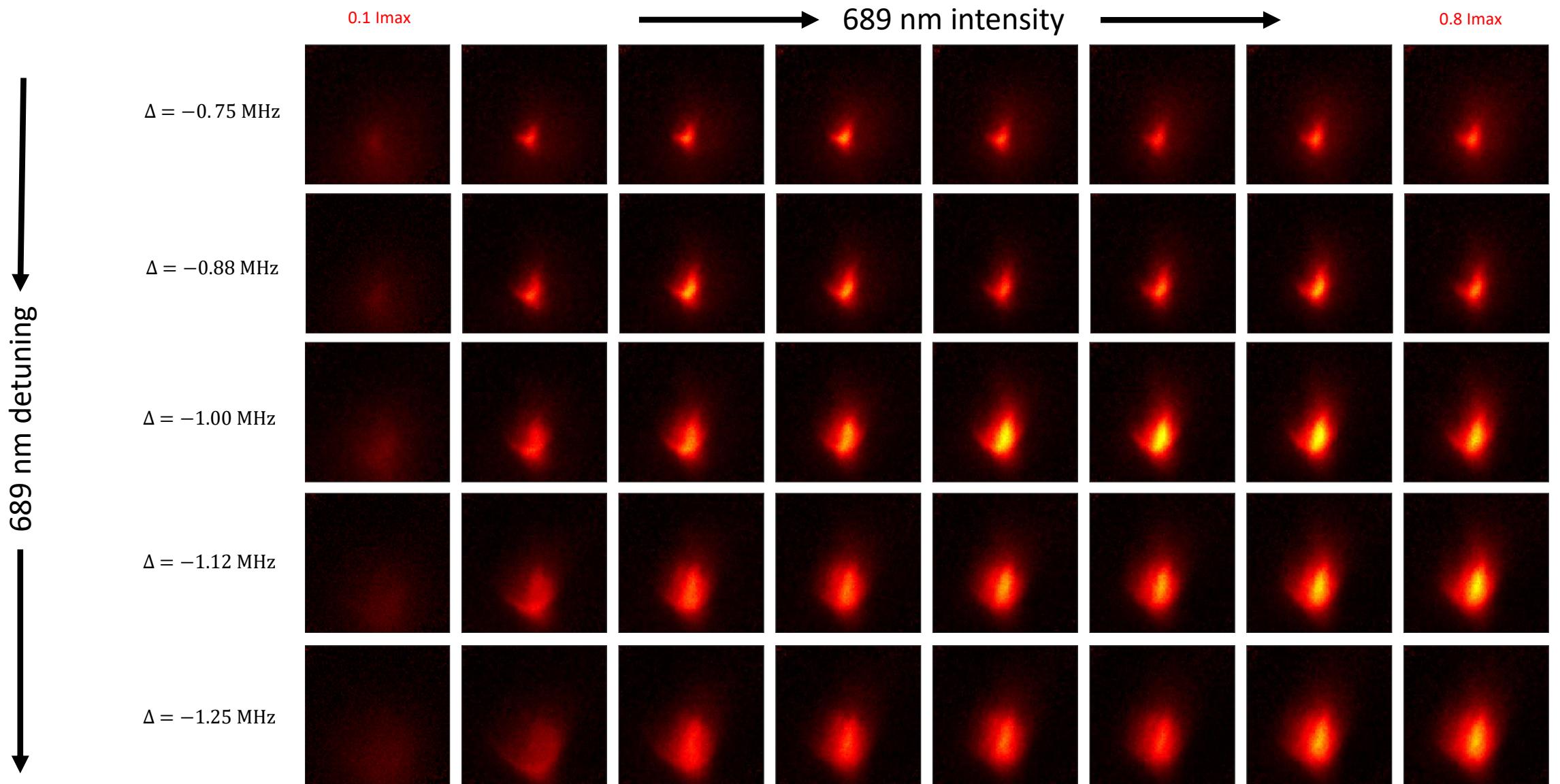


$$S_{\text{final}} = 57$$
$$\Delta = 670 \text{ kHz}$$



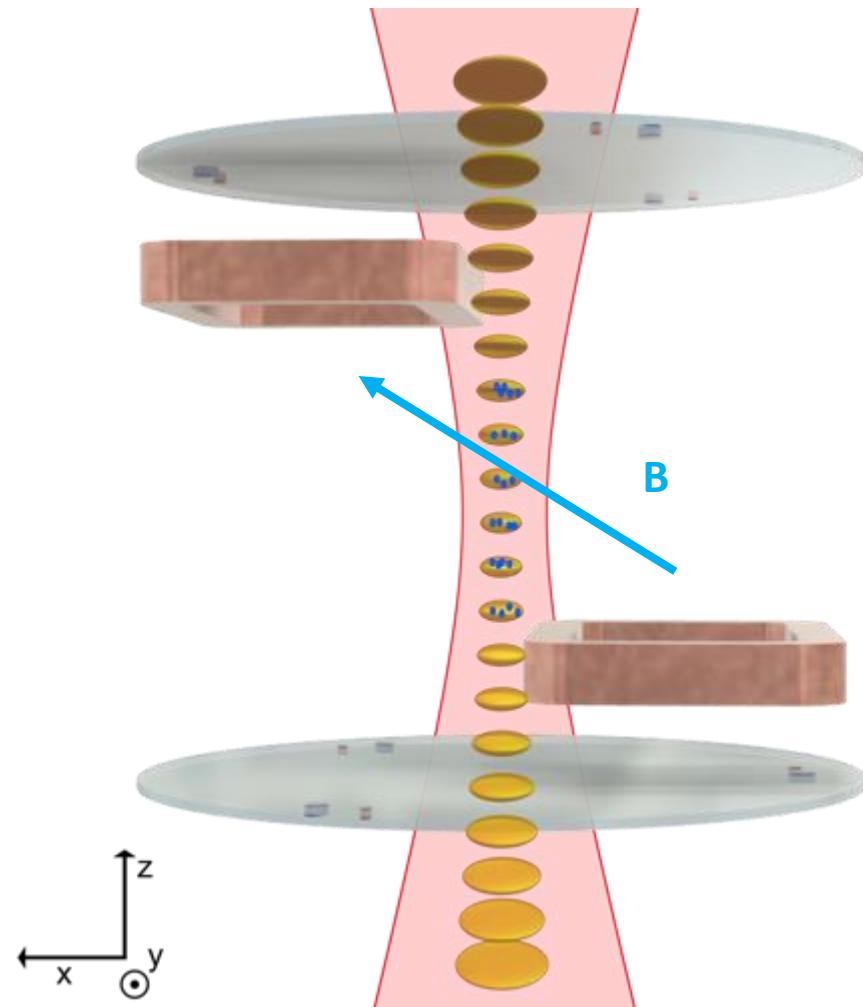
# MOT dependence on $\Delta$ and $s$

NIST

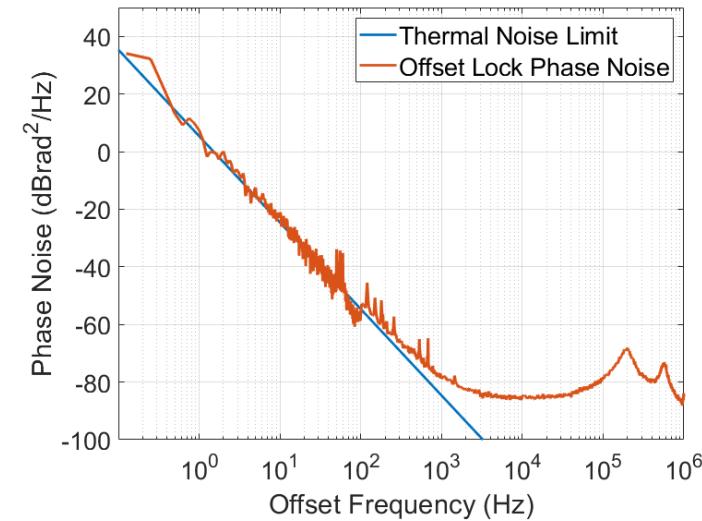


# In progress: lattice trapping

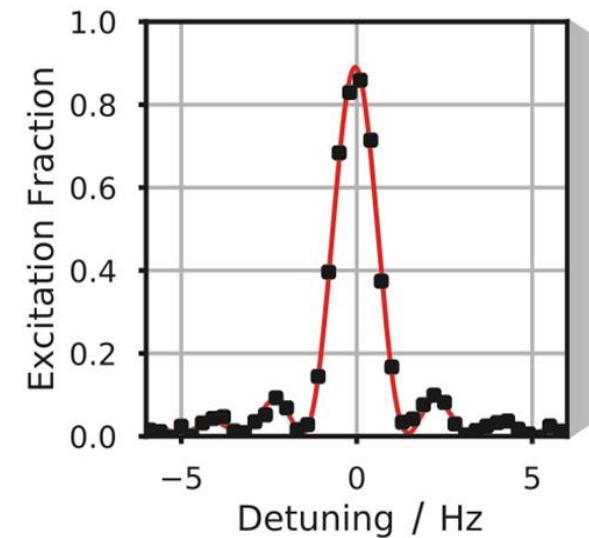
NIST



Frank's clock laser

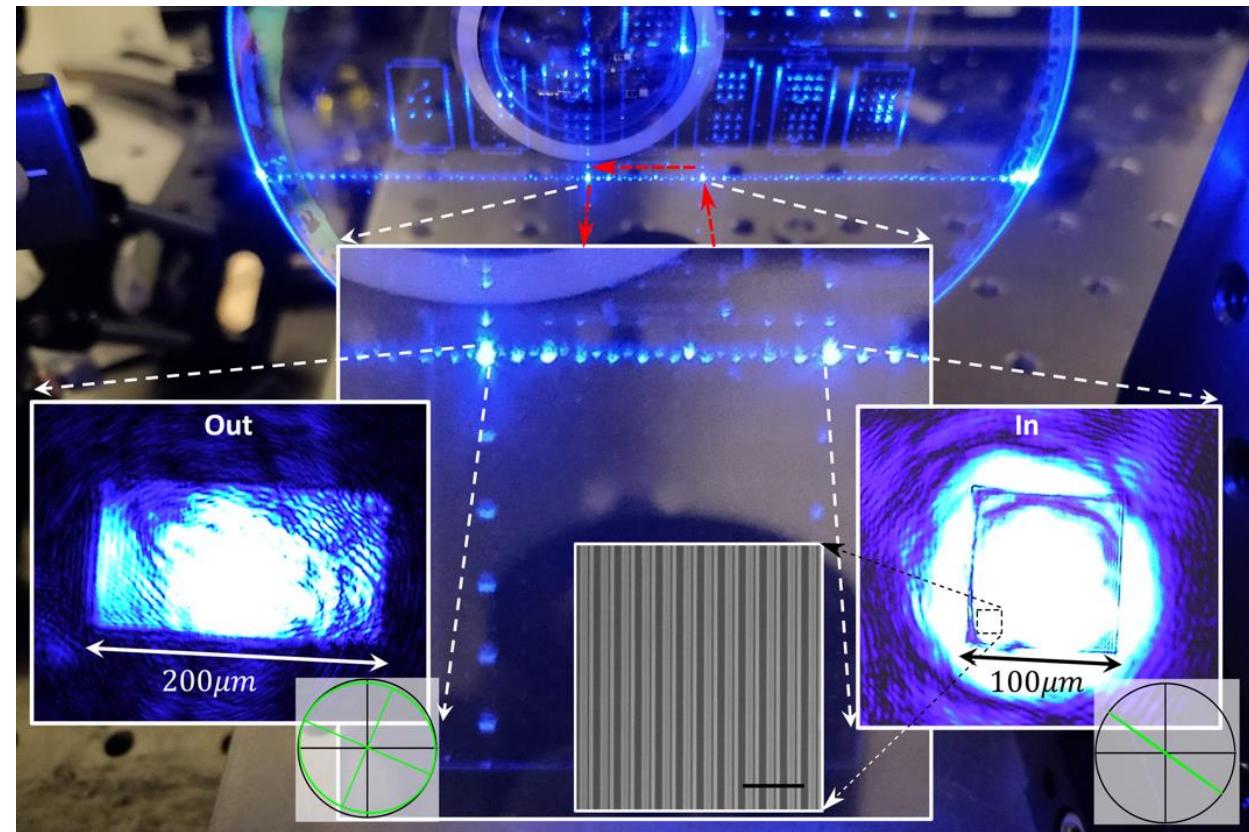
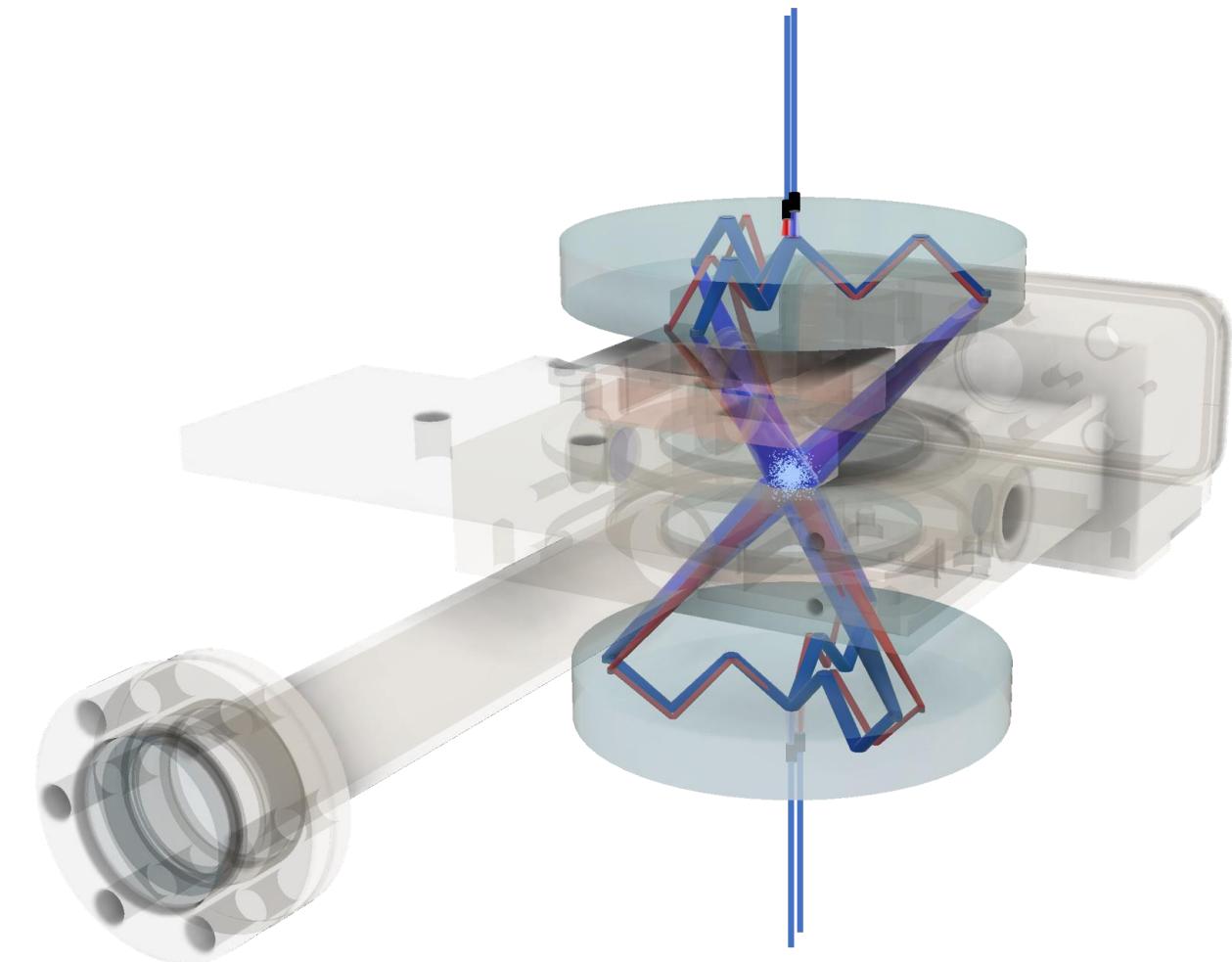


Clock transition search



# Further metasurface integration

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# DARPA A-Phi program

NIST



## Boulder, CO

Scott Papp (PI)

Frank Quinlan

Scott Diddams

Cindy Regal

- Sr experiments with photonics
- Optical frequency divider combs
- Optical reference cavity



Marty Boyd  
Jamil Abo-Shaeer

- Atomic source:  
Design, fabrication,  
and testing
- System integration
  - Phase 1 laser  
cooling
  - Phase 2  
deliverable  
construction and  
testing.



## Gaithersburg, MD

Amit Agrawal

Vladimir Aksyuk  
(Kartik Srinivasan)

- Photonic system for atomic interface:  
Design, fabrication,  
testing
- Photonic interface for reference cavity:  
Design, fabrication

**Yale University**

Peter Rakich

- Micro FP cavity  
design/fab/test



**Caltech**

Kerry Vahala

- 10 GHz photonic oscillator

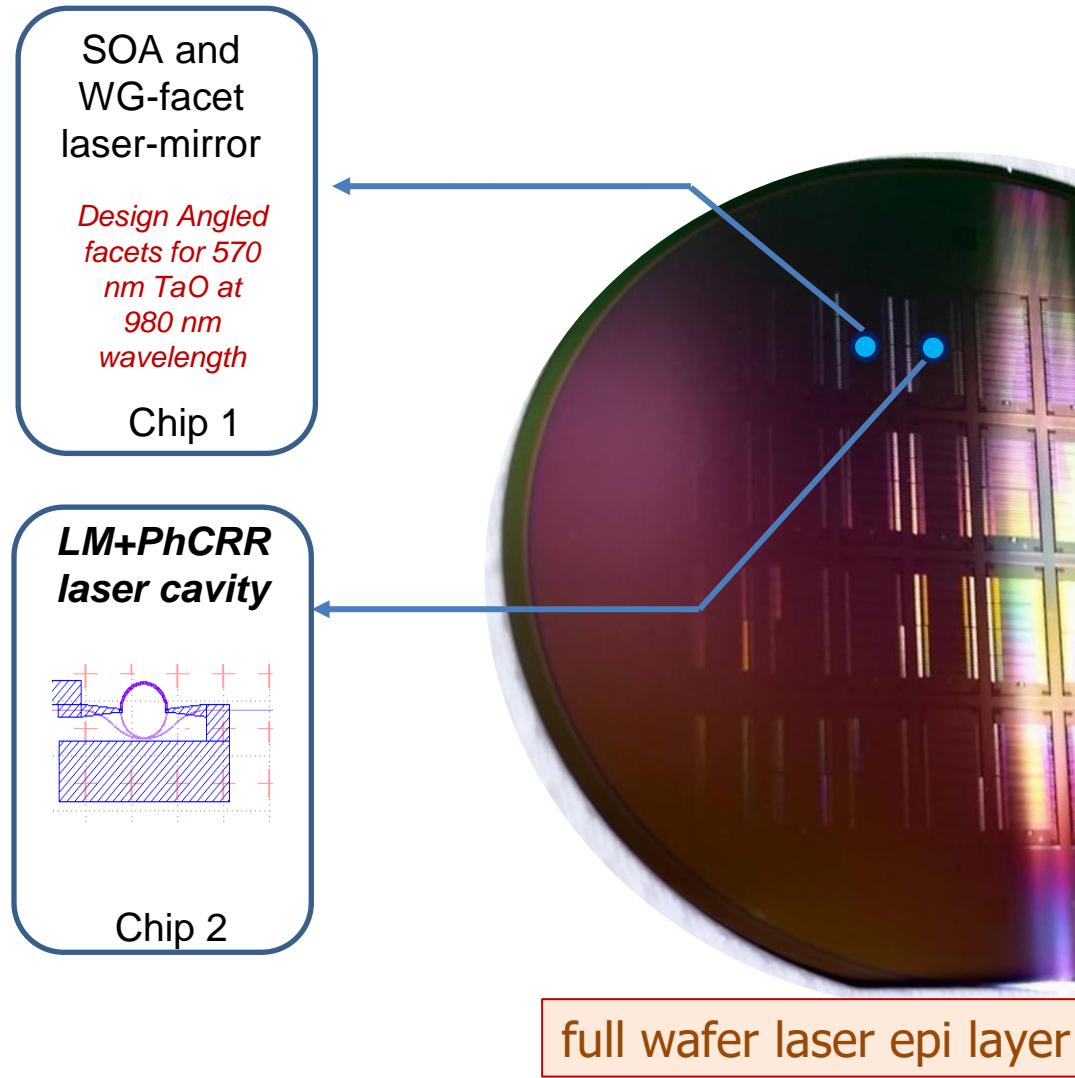


John Bowers

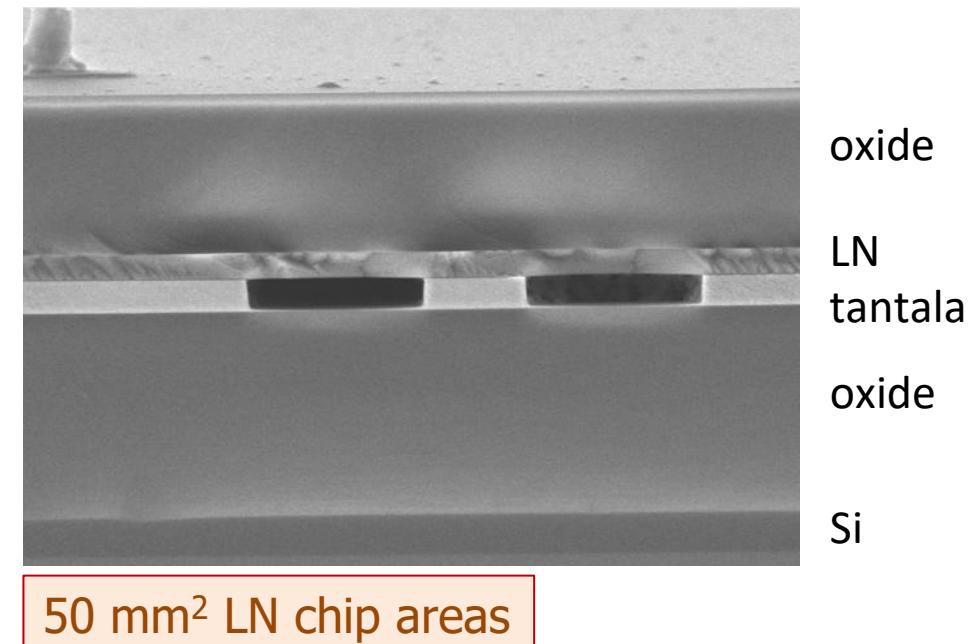
- SHG for clock laser

# Heterogeneous laser integration for visible

NIST

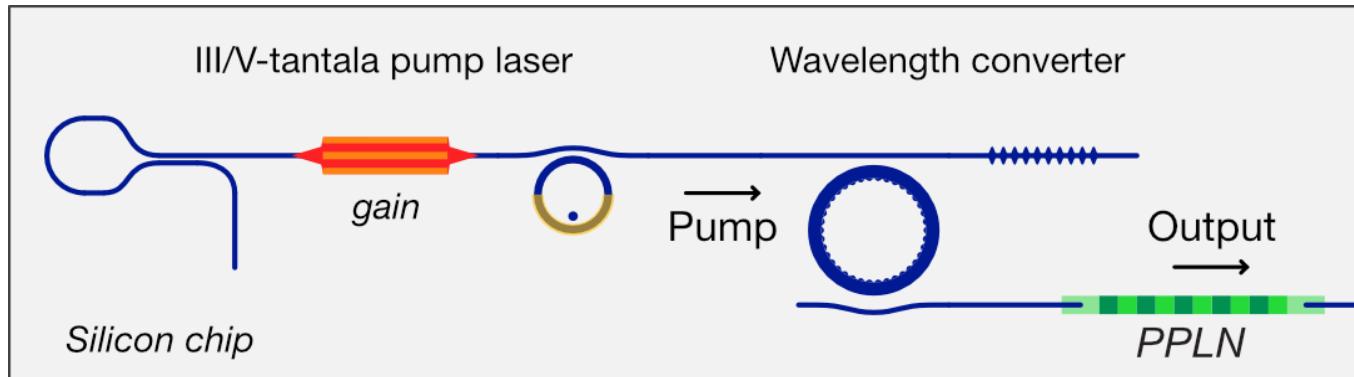


III/V-tantala integrated laser +  
nonlinear optics platform  
(NIST-Boulder)

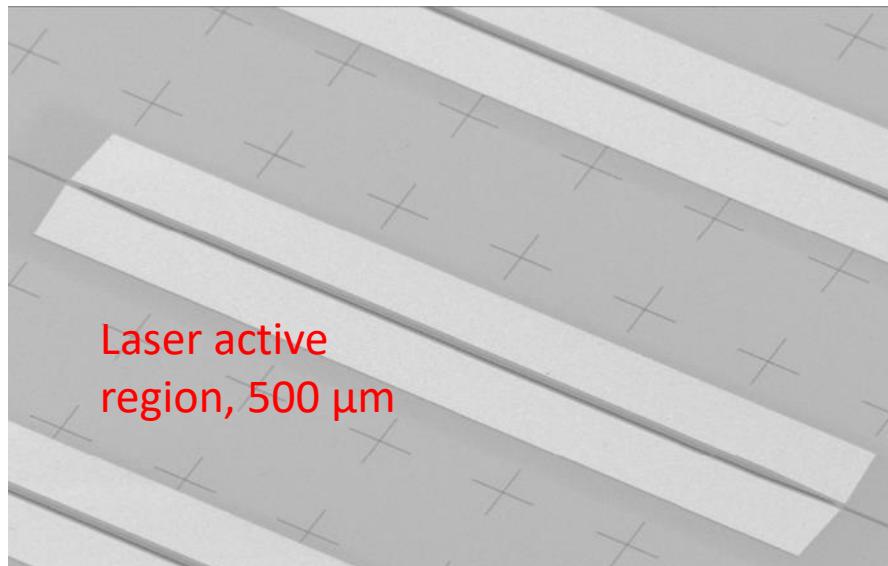


# Heterogeneous laser integration for visible

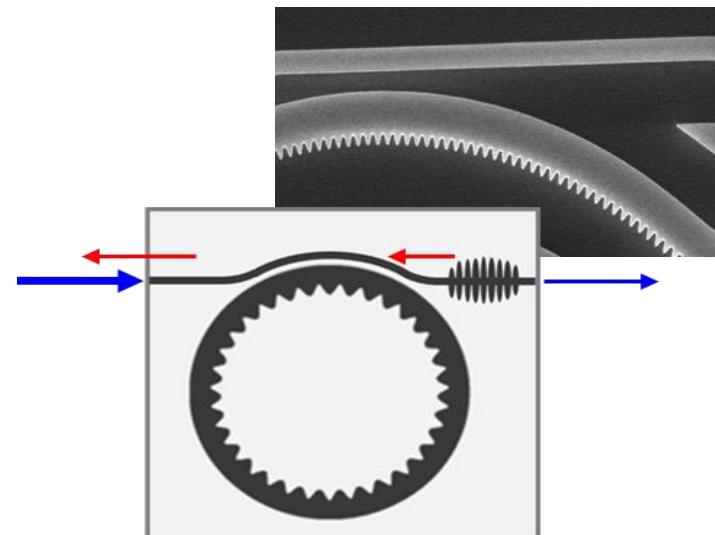
NIST



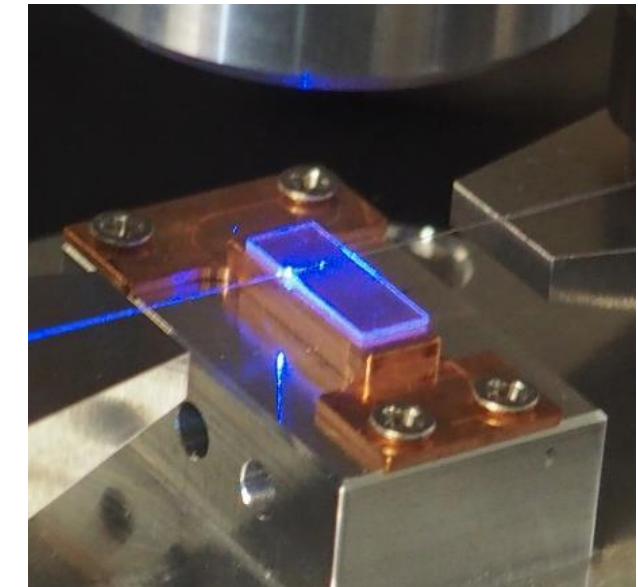
III/V tantala laser (NIST)



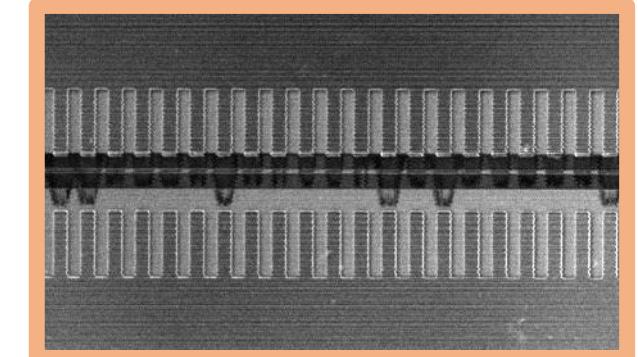
Tantala OPO (NIST and Octave)



Waveguide PPLN (Stanford)

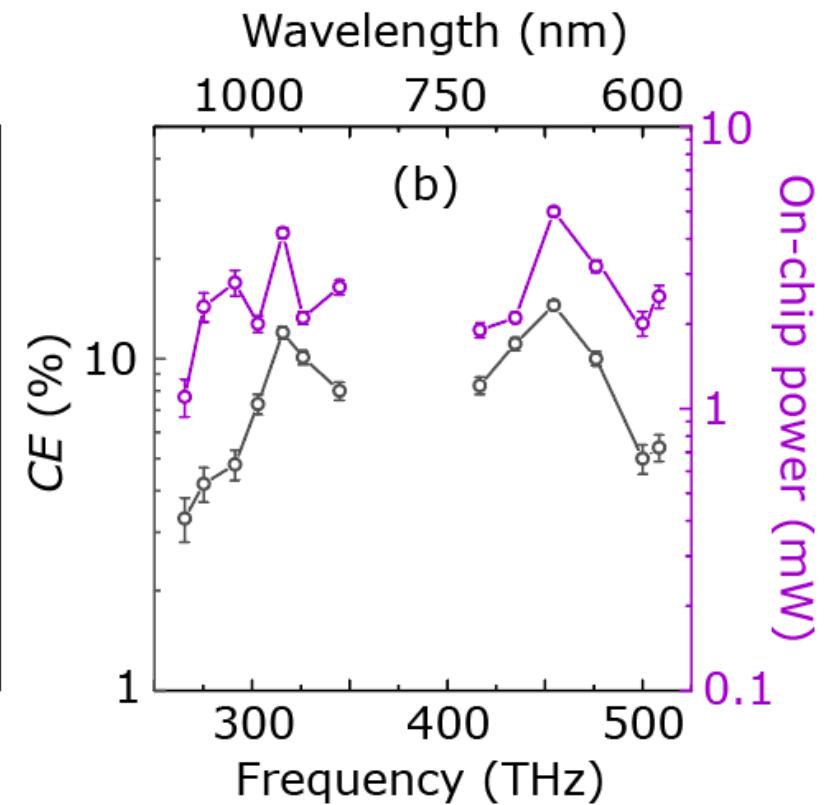
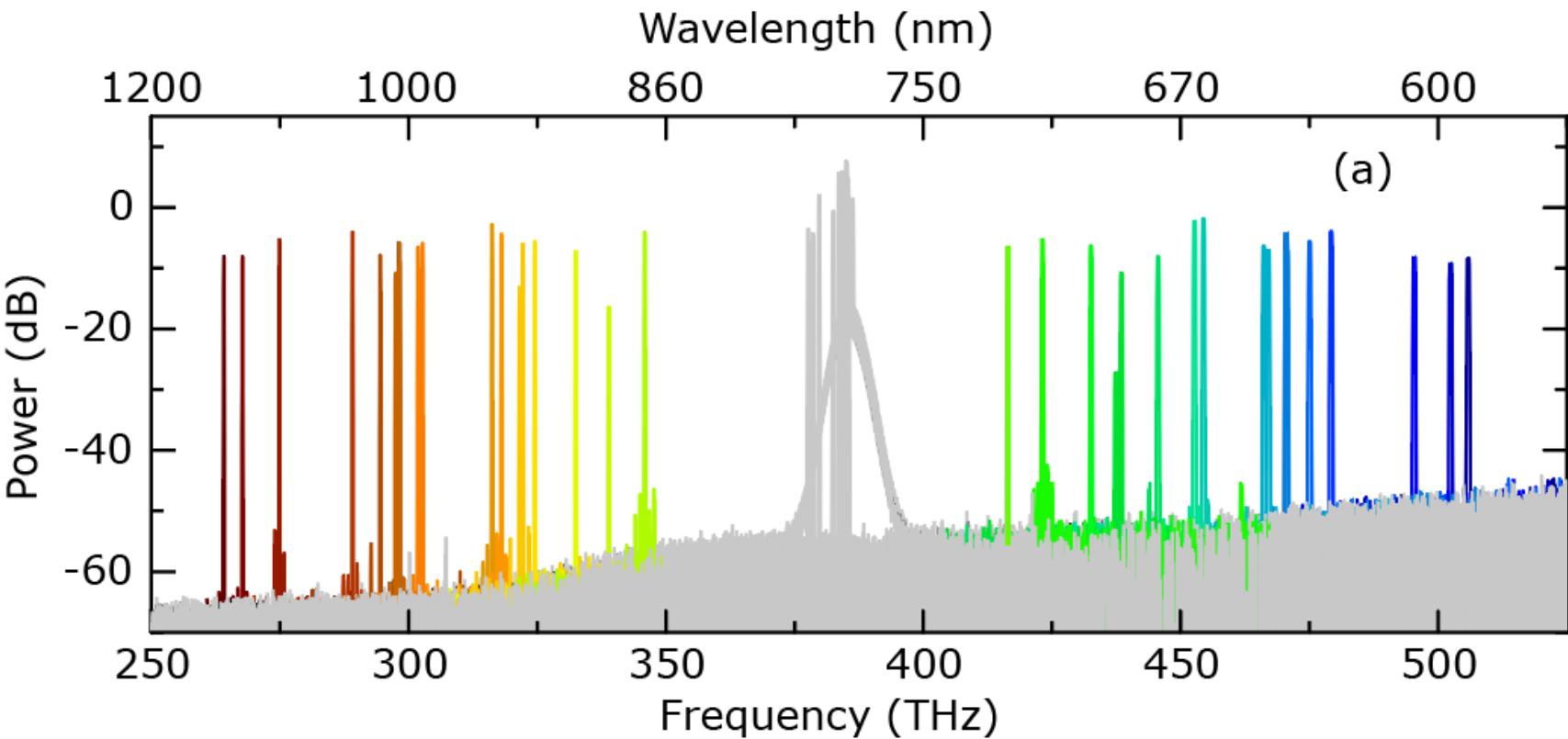


Waveguide PPLN (Colorado)



# Visible OPO lasers

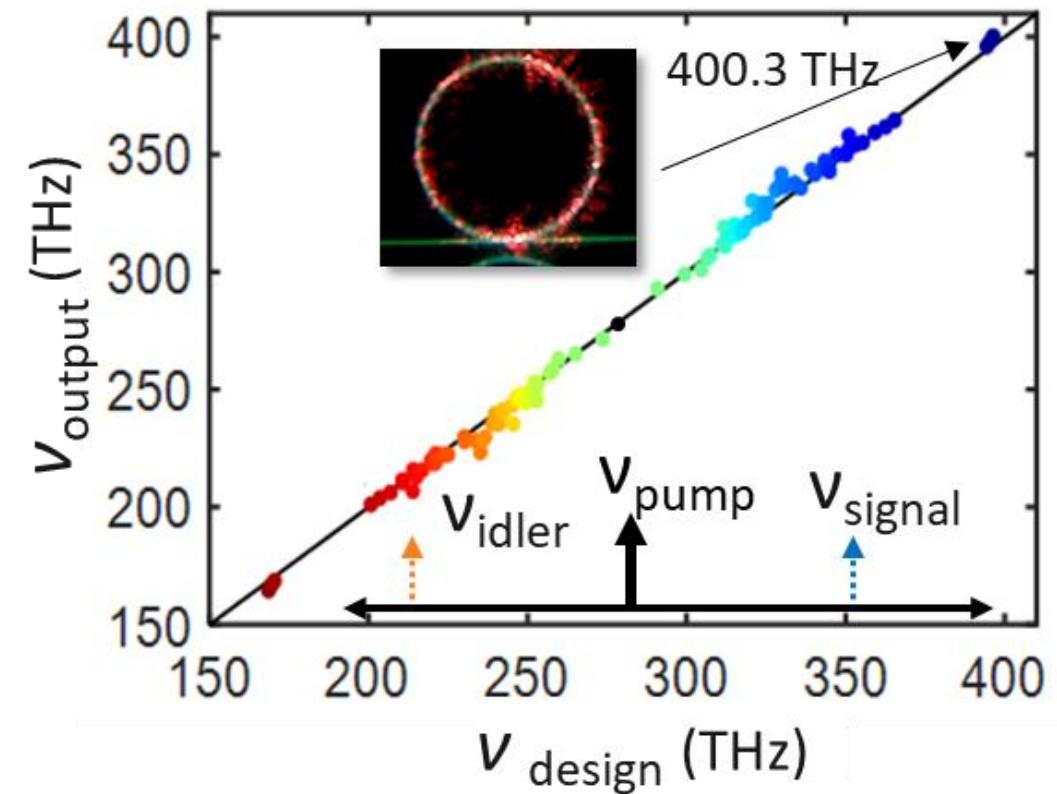
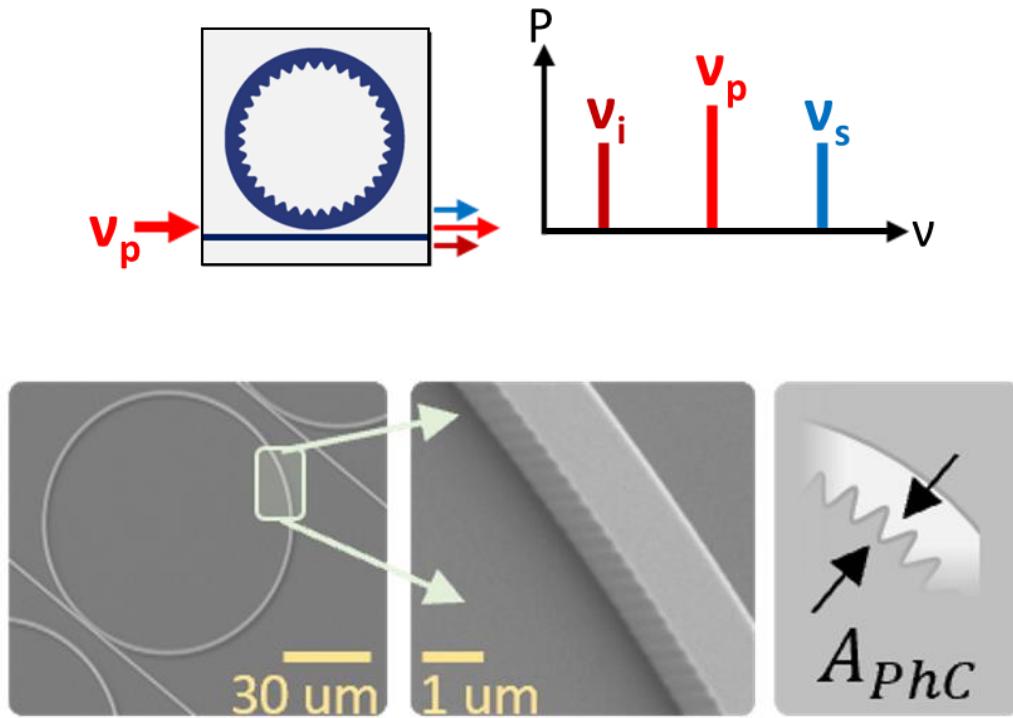
NIST



# Visible OPO lasers

NIST

Wavelength by design.



# DARPA LUMOS program



## Boulder, CO

Scott Papp (PI)

Jennifer Black

Rich Mirin

Nima Nader

Scott Diddams

- nonlinear wavelength converter
- integrated pump laser
- Lithium niobate poling in Boulder



**Stanford**  
University

Jelena Vuckovic  
Amir Safavi-Naeini

- inverse design of photonics
- nonlinear wavelength converter
- optical isolation
- lithium niobate for modulation and SHG



UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND



## Gaithersburg, MD

Kartik Srinivasan

- nonlinear wavelength converter
- Phase 3 application: heterogeneous quantum network



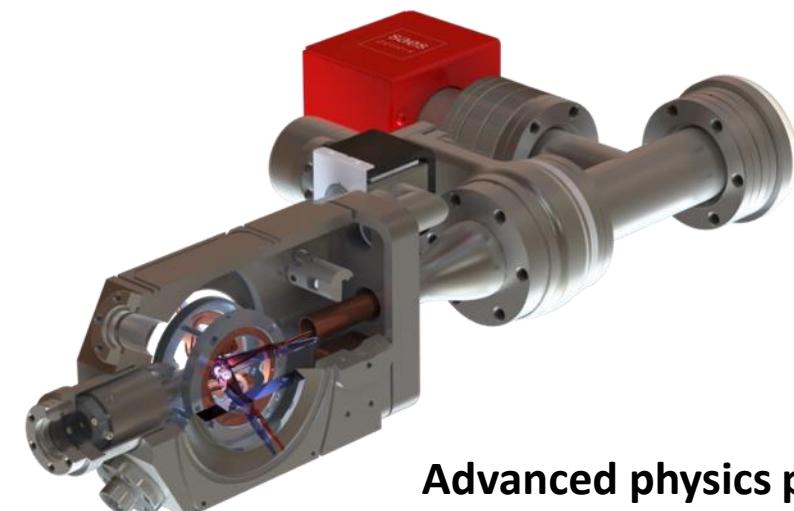
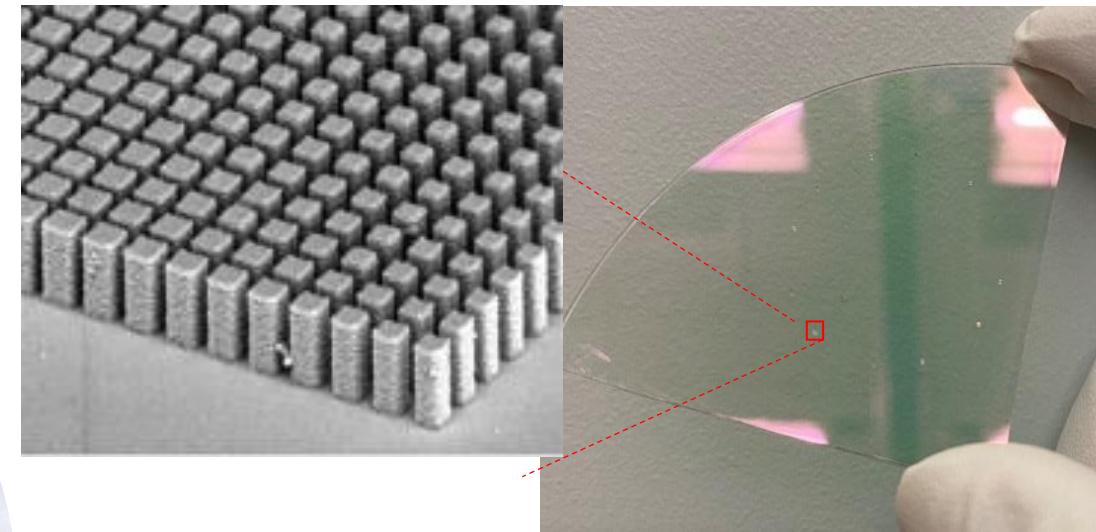
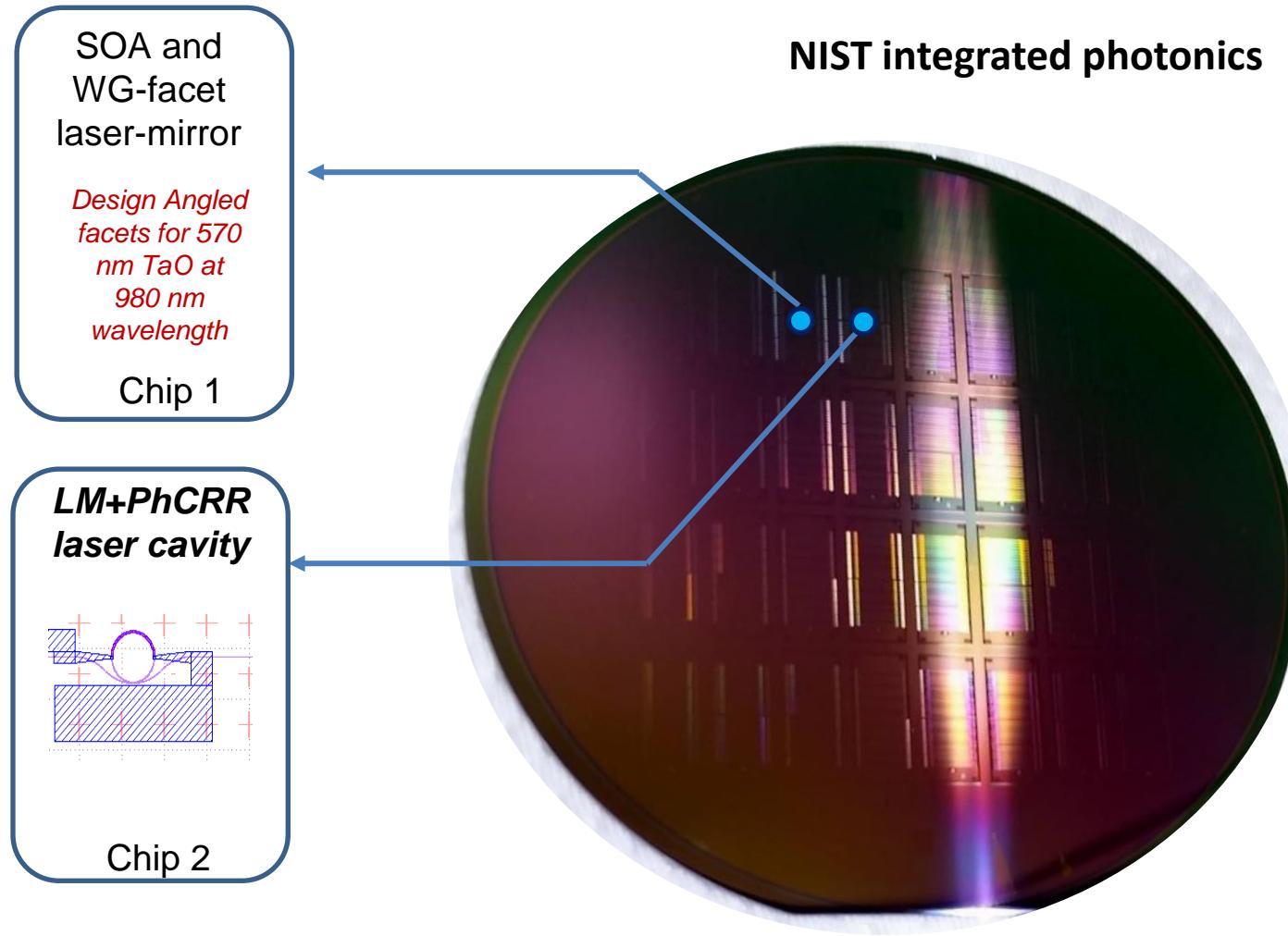
## Louisville, CO

David Carlson  
Zach Newman

- Preliminary PDK on tantalum platform
- Tantalum passives and nonlinear fabrication
- Lithium niobate bonding and fab

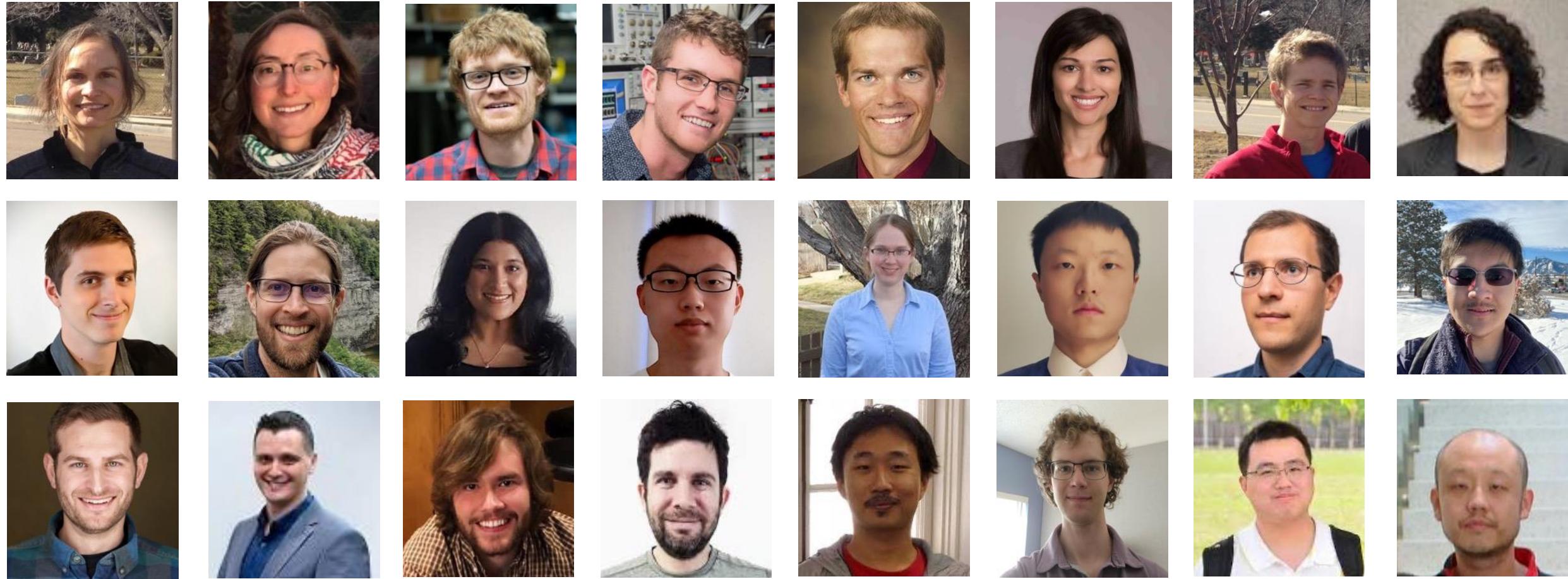
# Integrated photonics for quantum

NIST



# QNS Group at NIST-B

NIST



**Staff, Postdocs, Students:** Jennifer Black, Katja Beha, Travis Briles, David Carlson, Dan Cole, Tara Drake, Ivan Dickson, Andy Ferdinand, Connor Fredrick, Dan Hickstein, Sindhu Jammi, Yan Jin, Hojoong Jung, Erin Lamb, Haixin Liu, Erwan Lucas, Zheng Luo, Zach Newman, Grisha Spektor, Jordan Stone, Liron Stern, Su-Peng Yu, Lindell Williams, Jizhao Zang, Wei Zhang

**NIST Collaborators:** Agrawal, Aksyuk, Diddams, Kitching, Hummon, Mirin, Nader, Stanton, Newbury, Srinivasan, Westly, ...