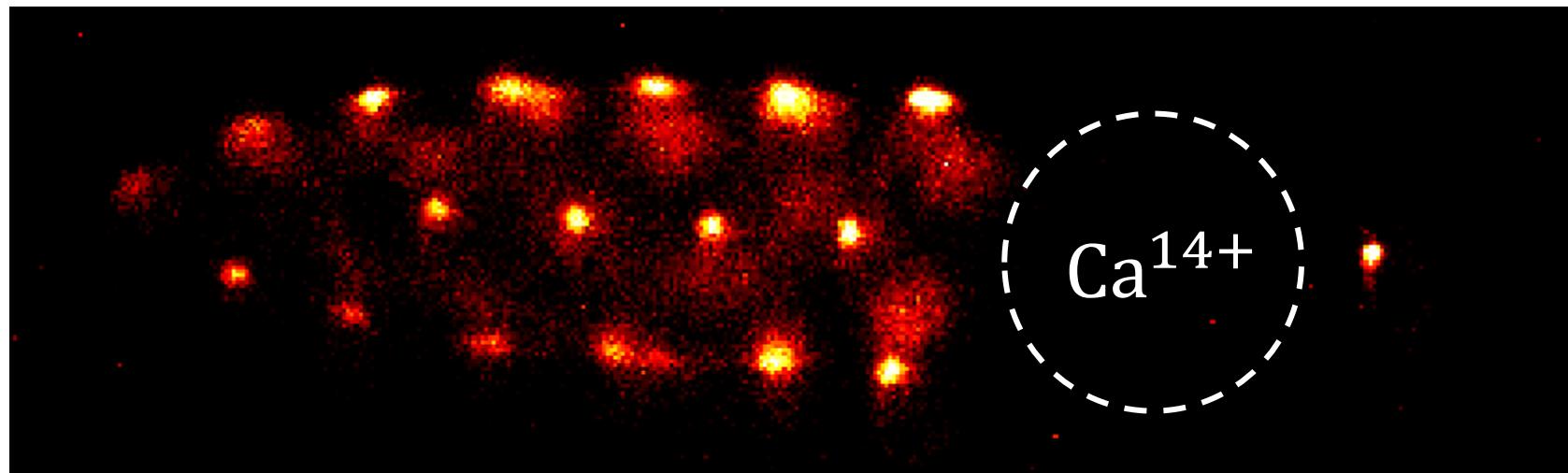


# New Physics Searches with Highly Charged Ions

*Precision isotope shift measurements of  $\text{Ca}^{14+}$*



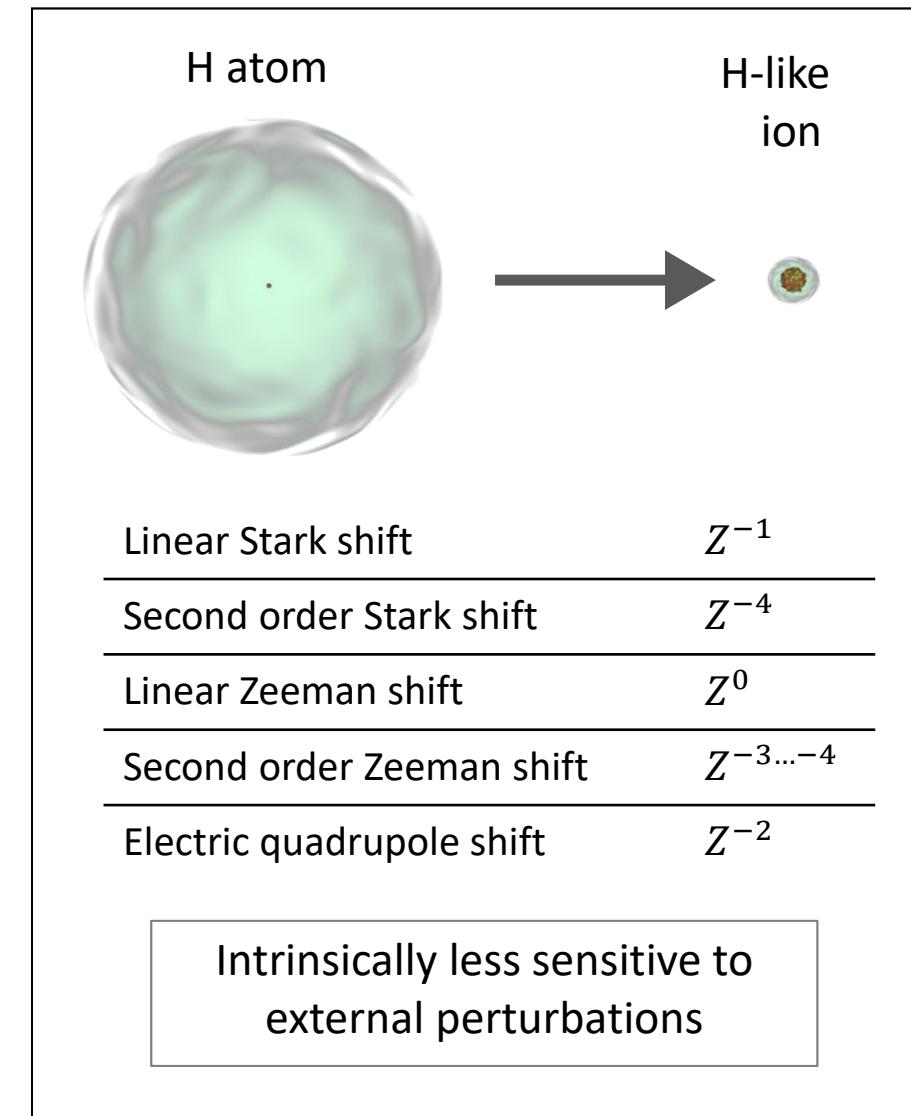
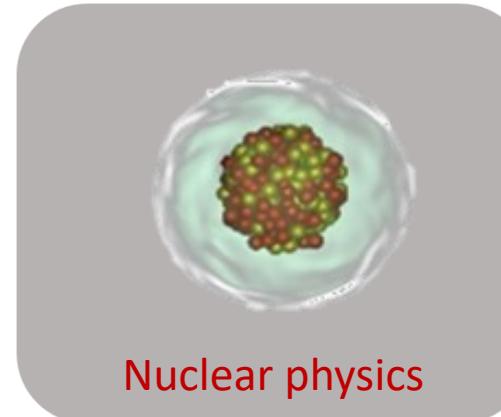
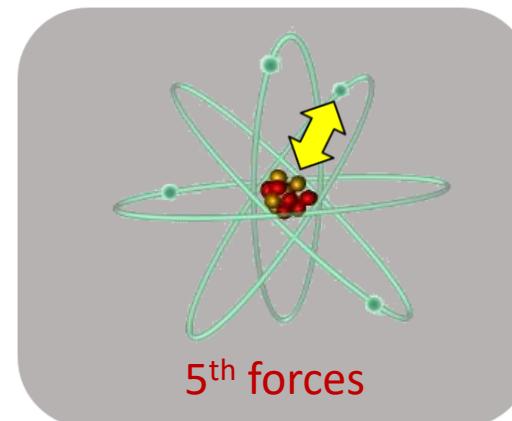
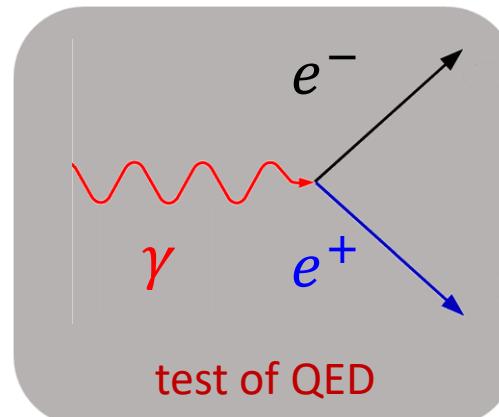
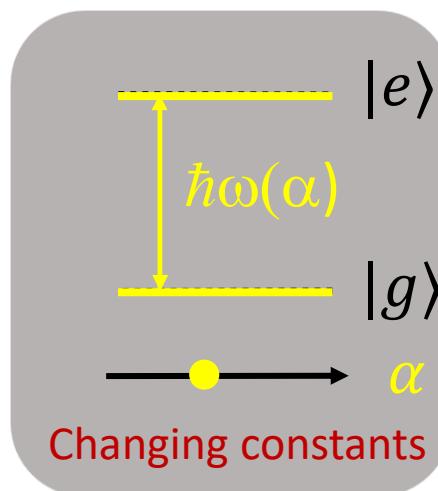
Alexander Wilzewski

QUEST Institute for Experimental Quantum Metrology  
German Metrology Institute - PTB, Germany

ECCTI, Innsbruck, 11.07.2024

# Why HCl?

- Highly charged ions (HCl) promising optical clock candidates
- Properties useful for fundamental physics:
  - strongly relativistic (QED tests)
  - sensitive to variation in  $\alpha$
  - electrons close to nucleus
  - probes for 5<sup>th</sup> forces
  - ...



# Optical transitions in HCl

## Level crossing transitions

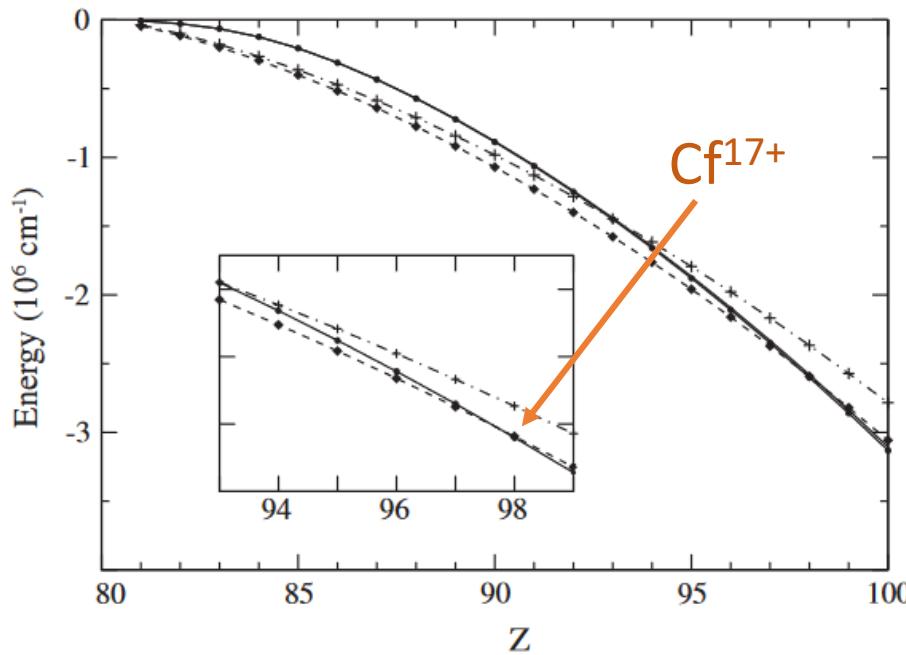
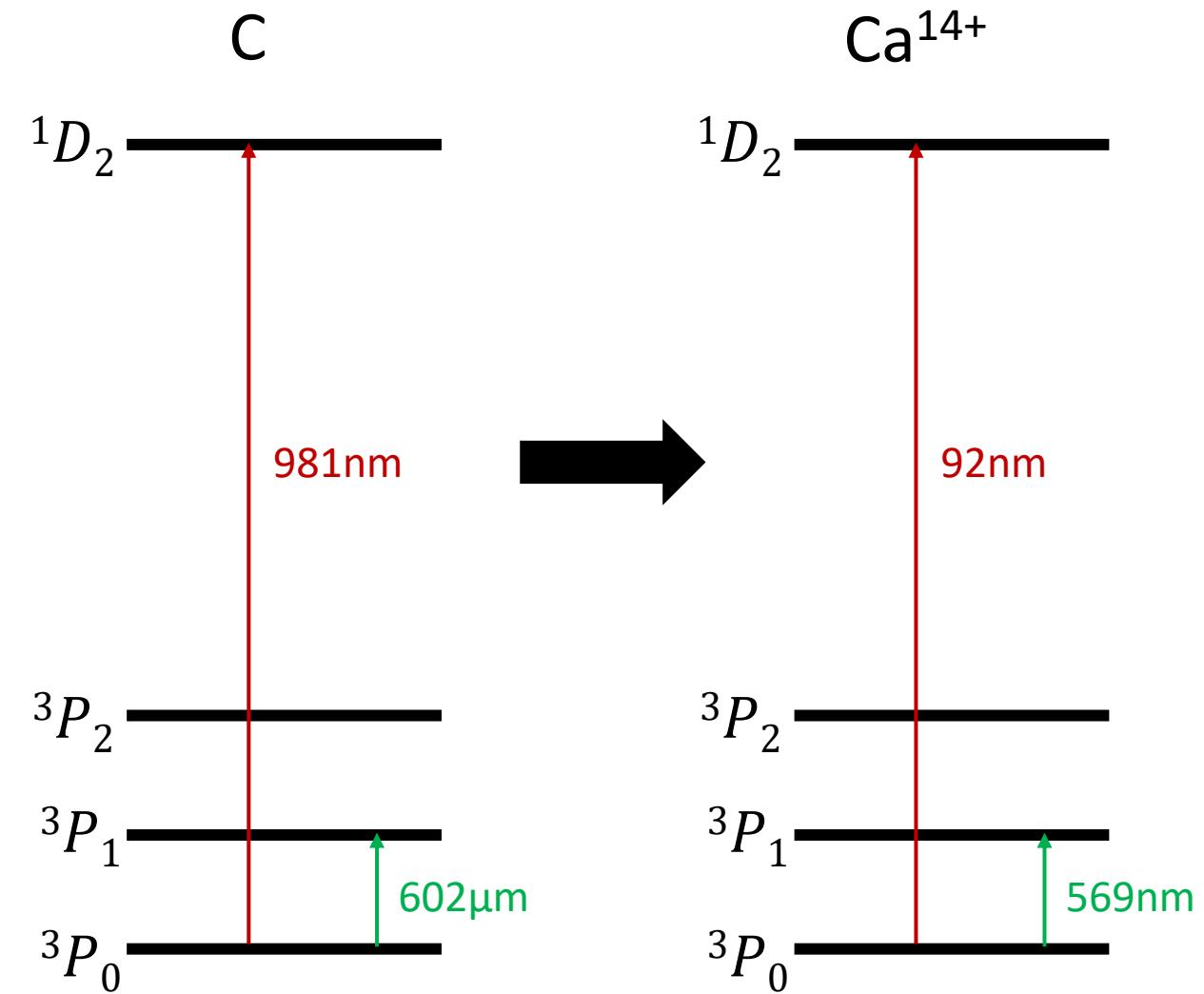


FIG. 1. Dirac-Fock energies of the  $6p_{1/2}$  (diamonds, dashed line),  $6p_{3/2}$  (crosses, dot-dashed line), and  $5f$  (circles, solid line) levels in the thallium isoelectronic sequence with increasing nuclear charge. The inset shows an enlarged view of the crossing region.

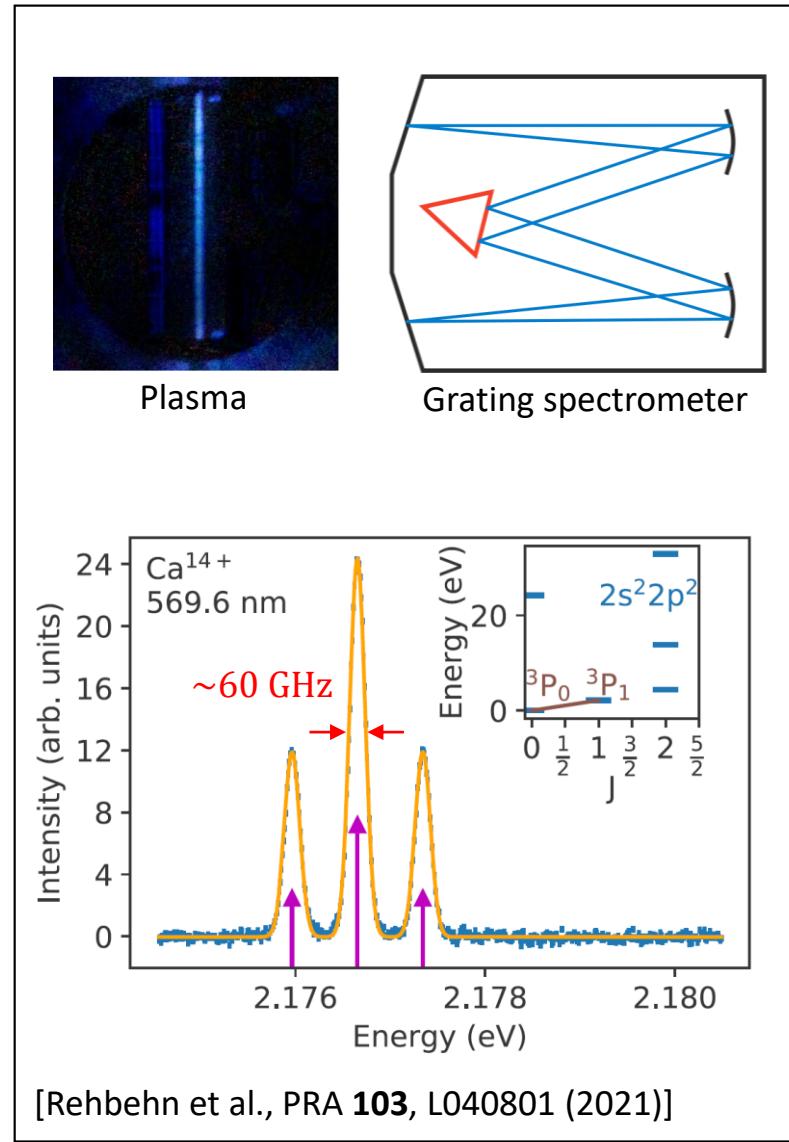
J. Berengut *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 070802 (2012)

## (Hyper-)Fine structure transitions

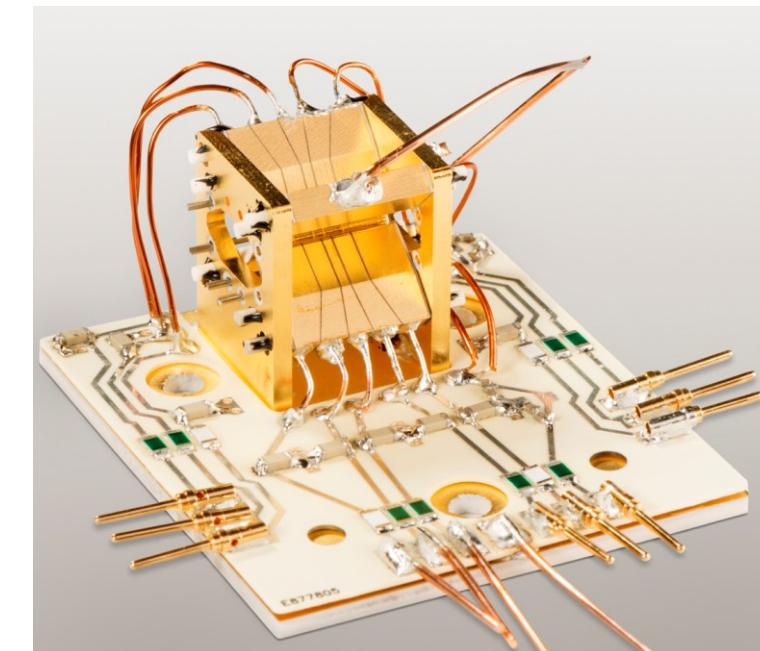
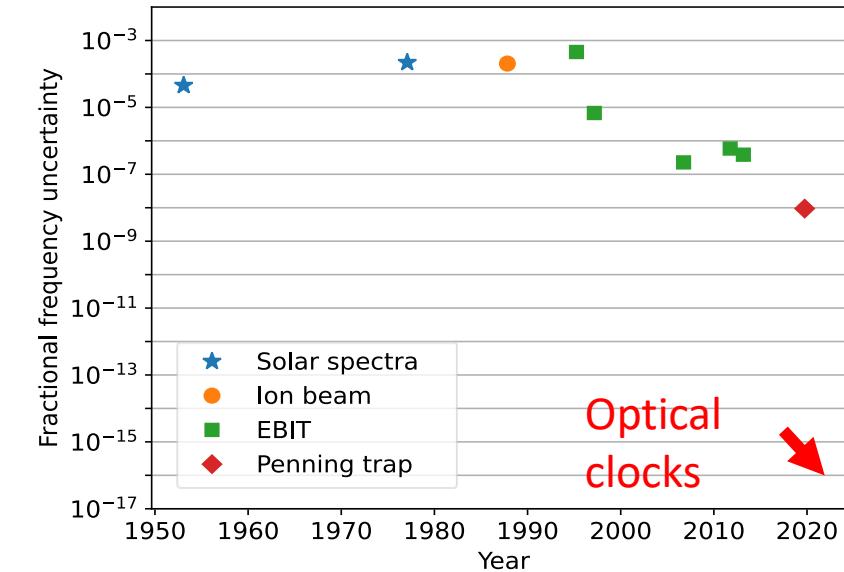


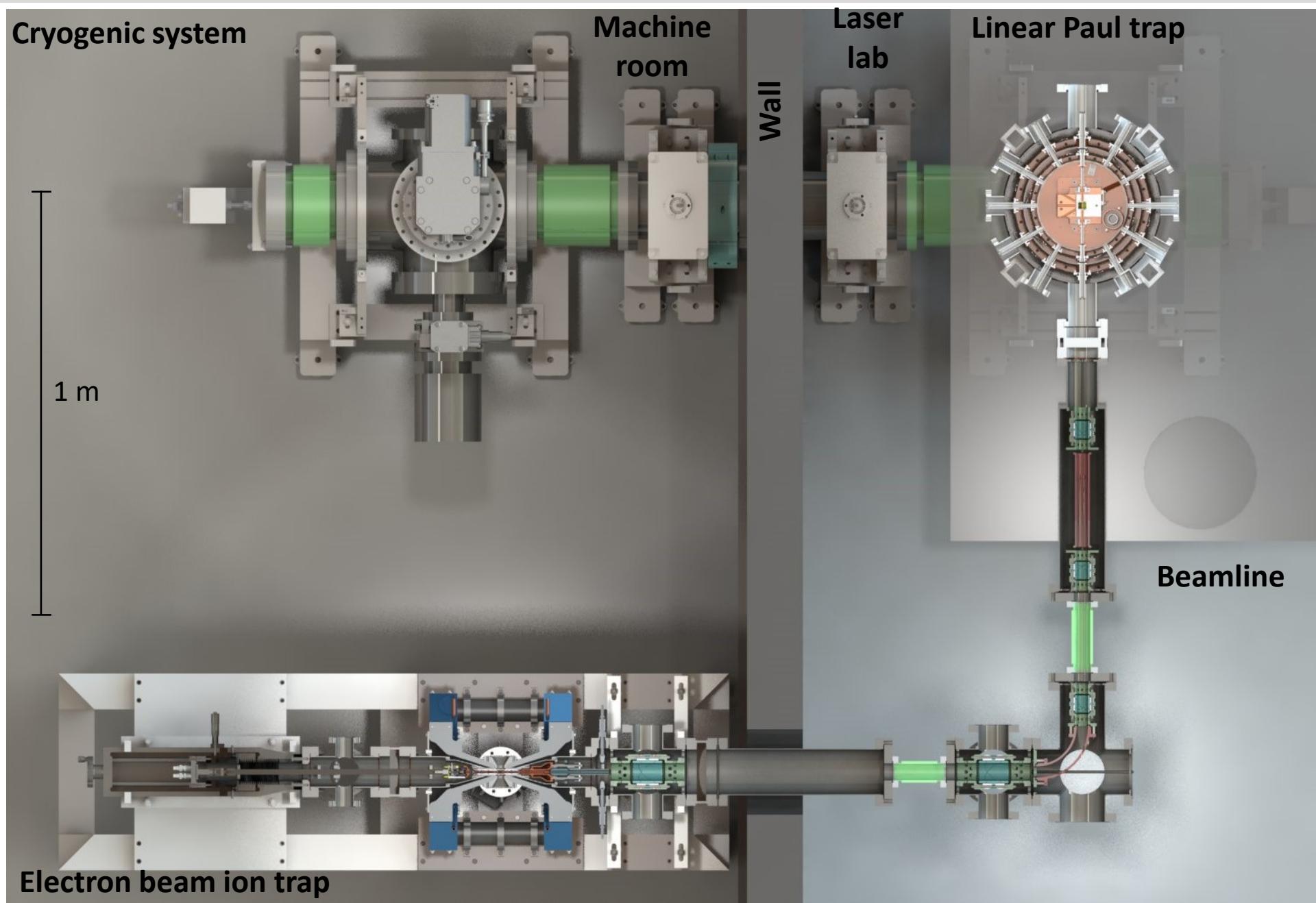
# HCI spectroscopy

4

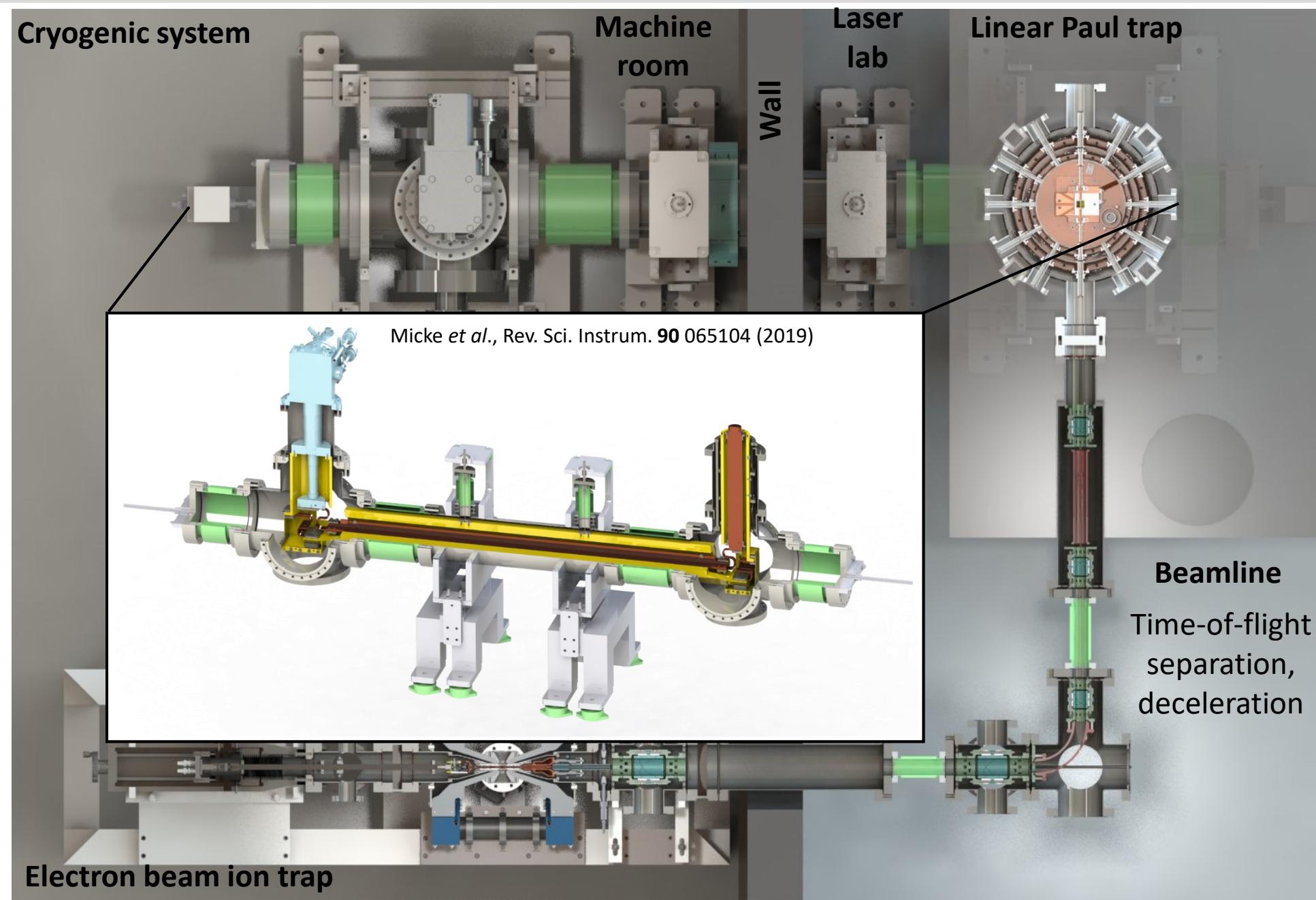


Uncertainty  $\sim 250$  MHz



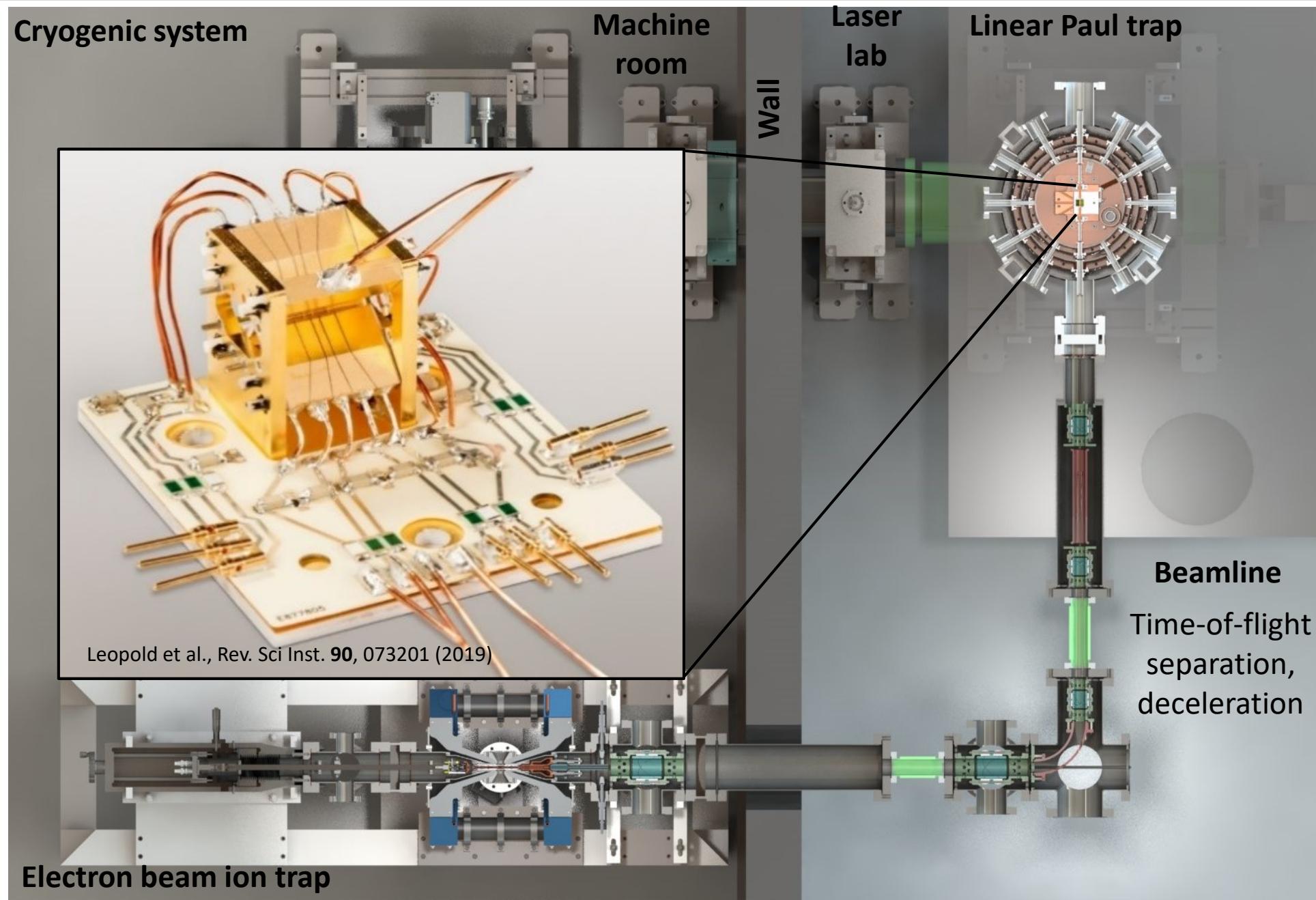


# Cryo cooler

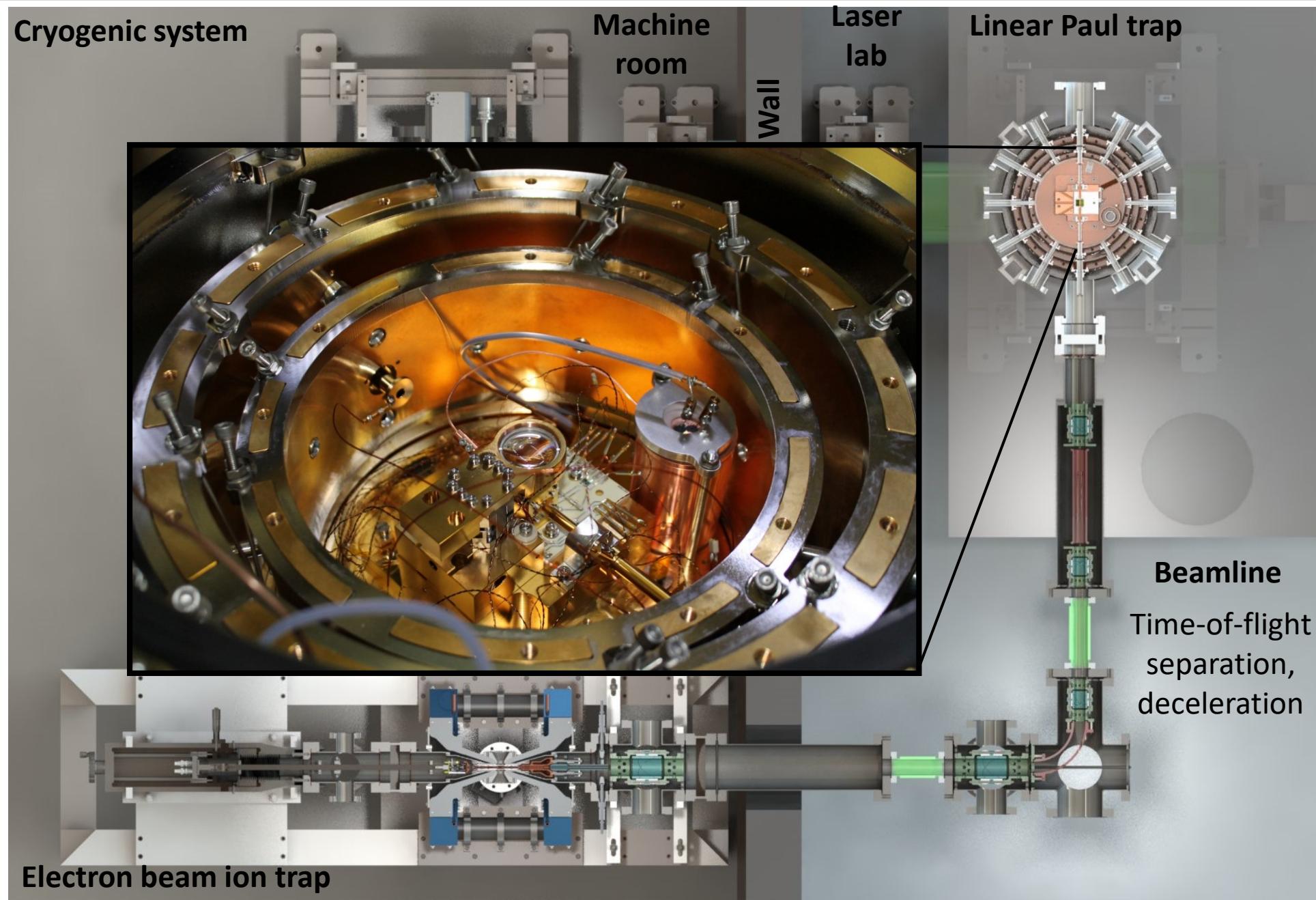


# Paul trap

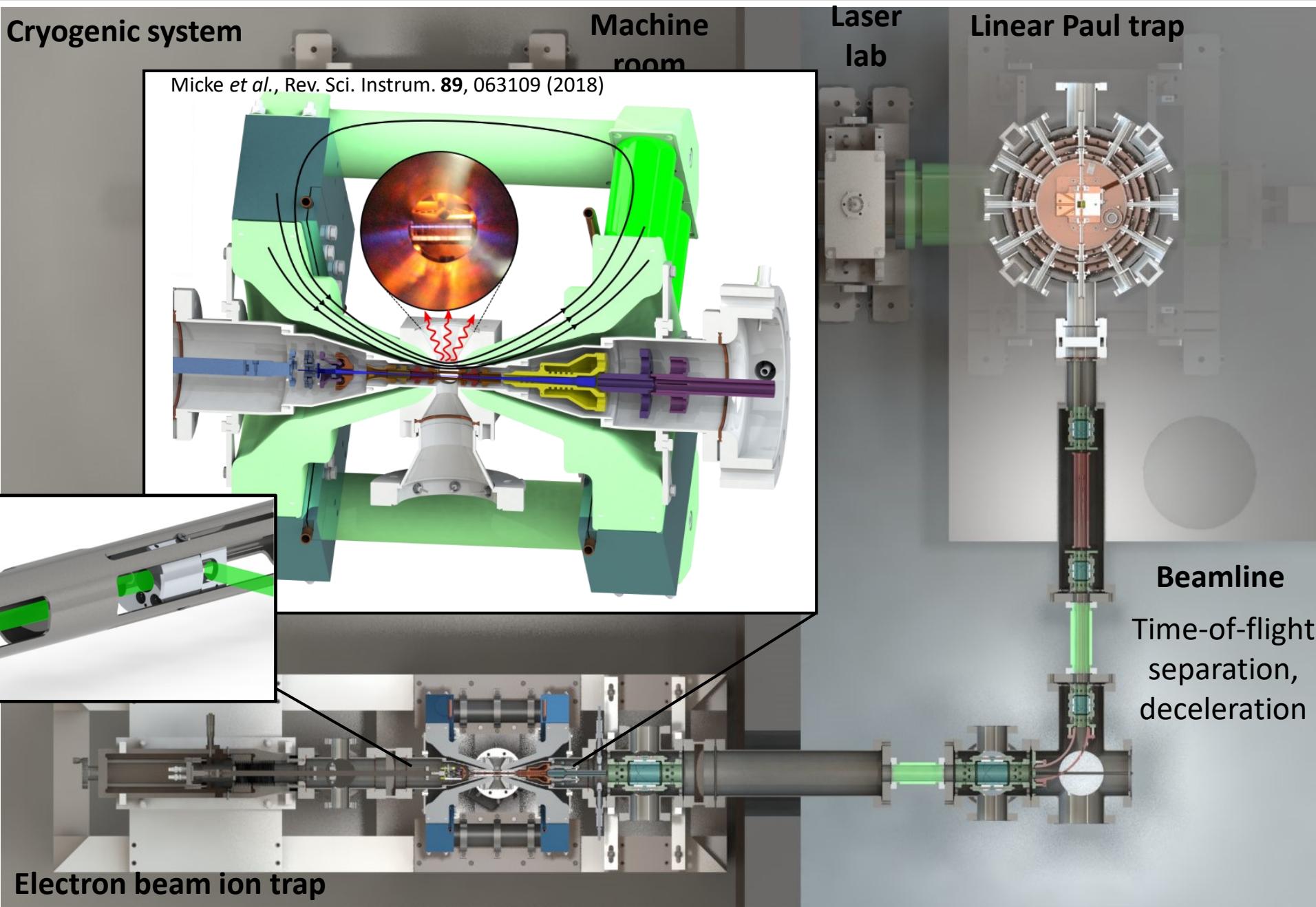
7

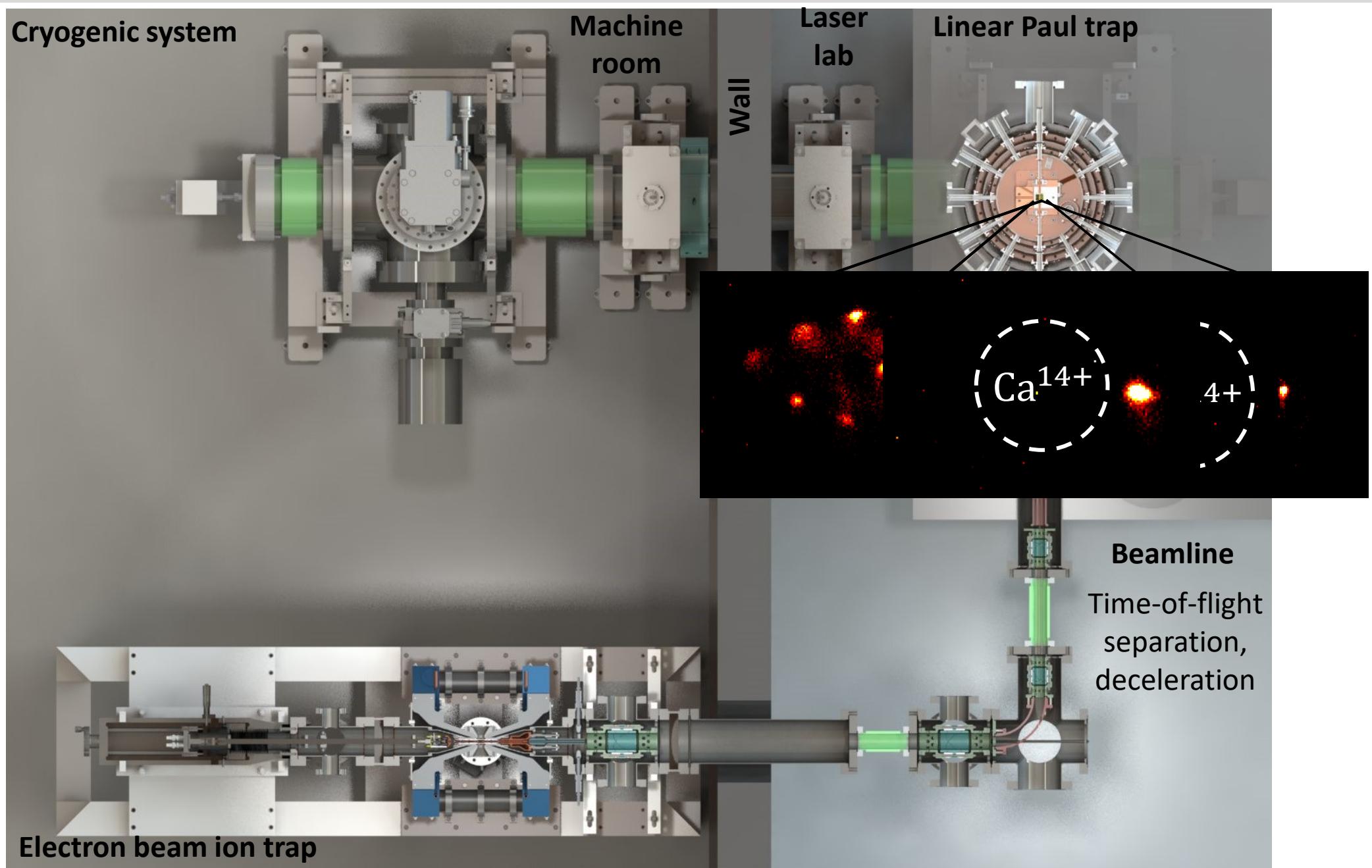


# Paul trap



# Electron beam ion trap



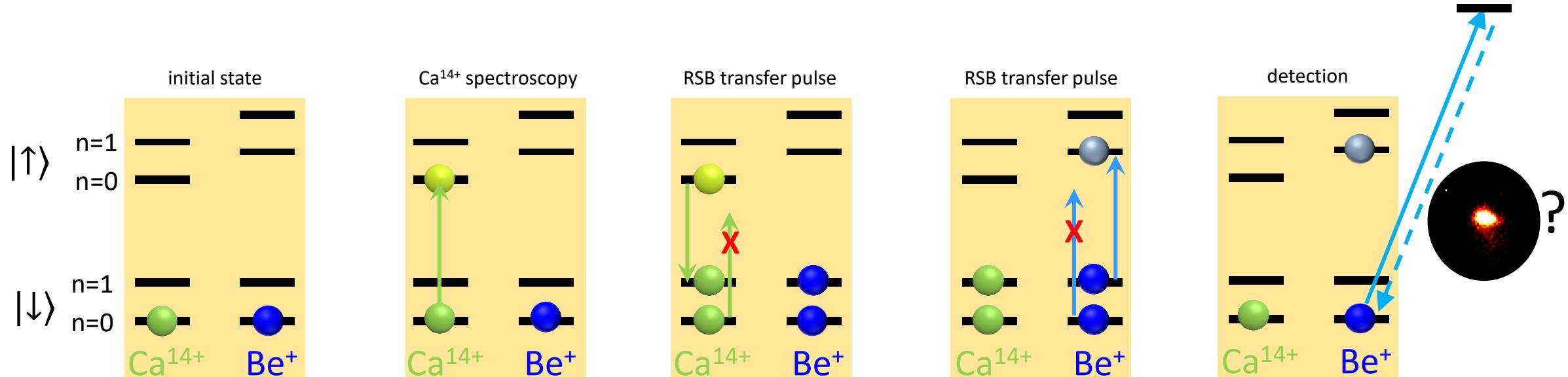


# Quantum logic spectroscopy

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Dipole-allowed optical transitions for  
laser cooling / electron shelving  
→ Sympathetic cooling and  
quantum logic spectroscopy

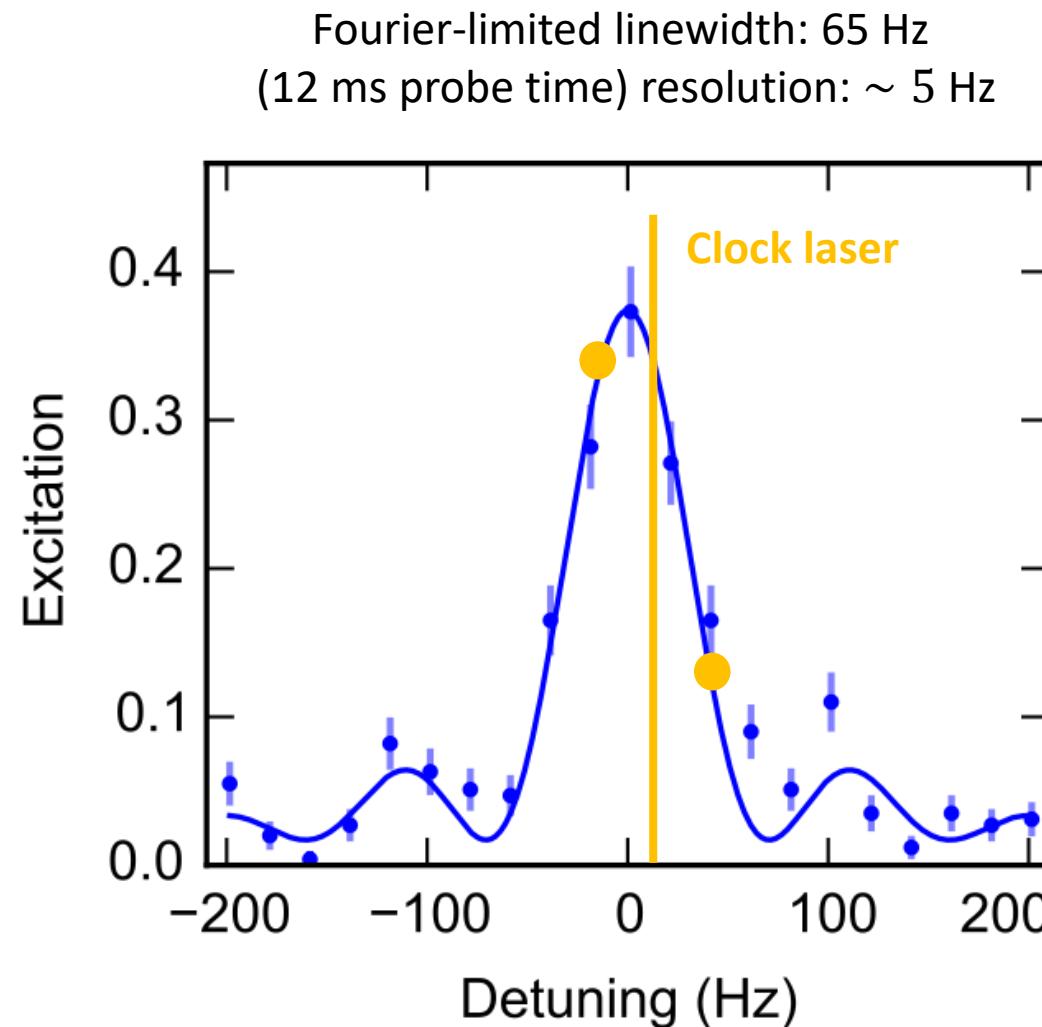
Coupled motion:



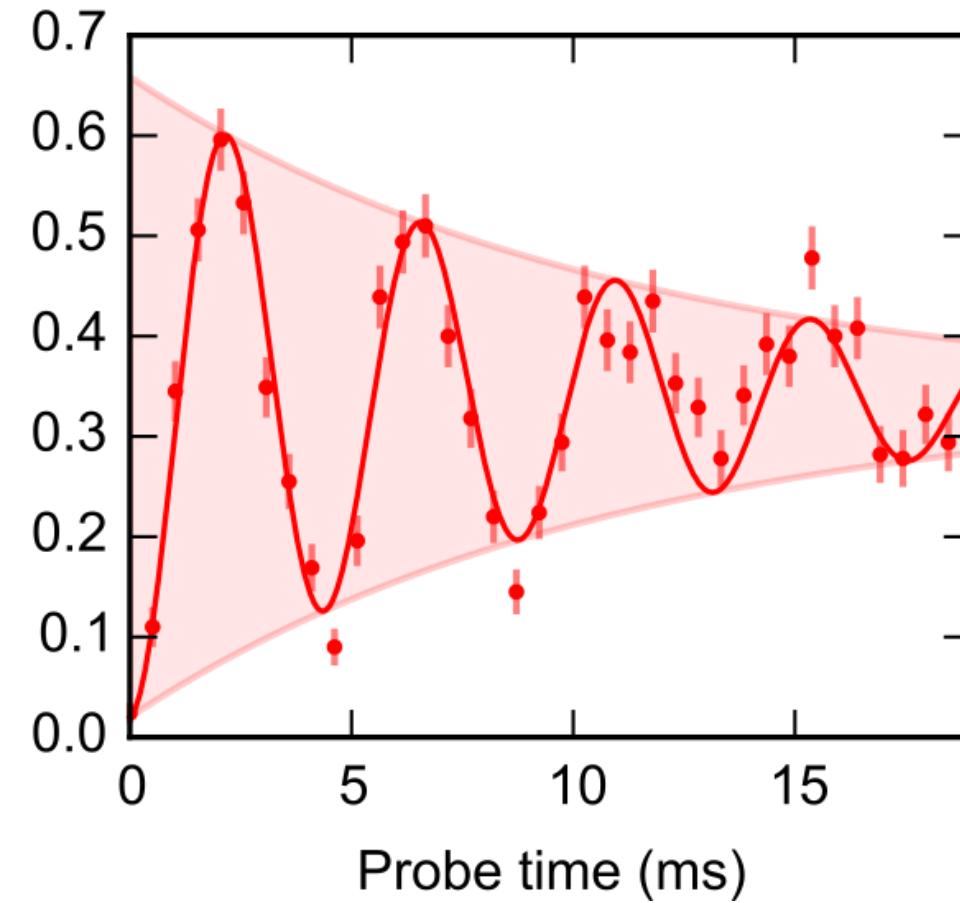
[Schmidt *et al.*, Science 309 (2005)]

# Quantum logic spectroscopy

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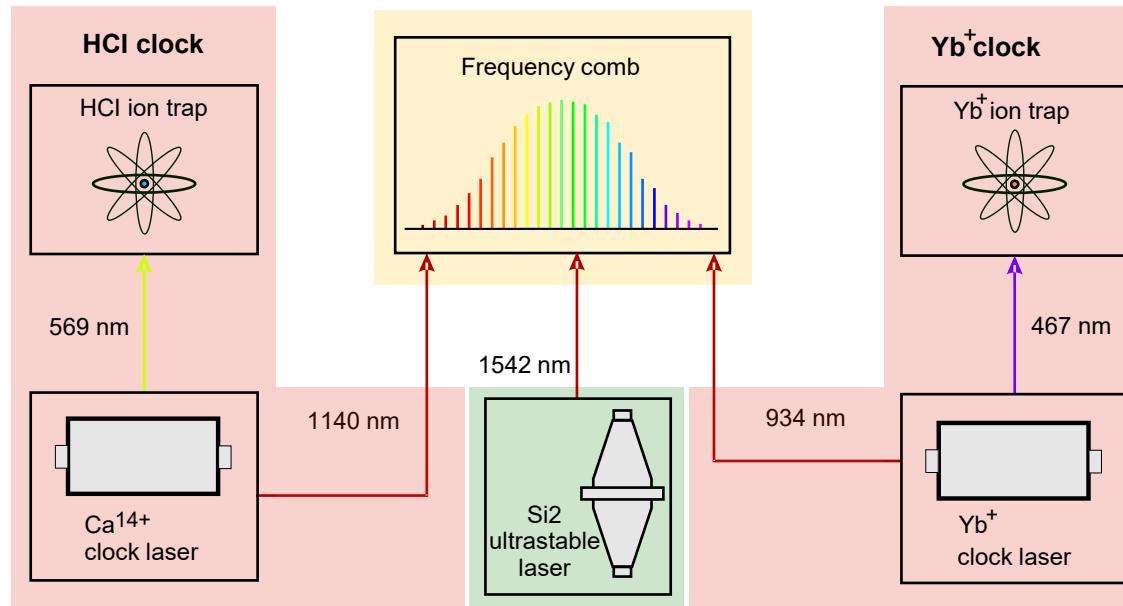


decoherence dominated by  
excited state lifetime of 9.97(26)ms



# Clock comparison

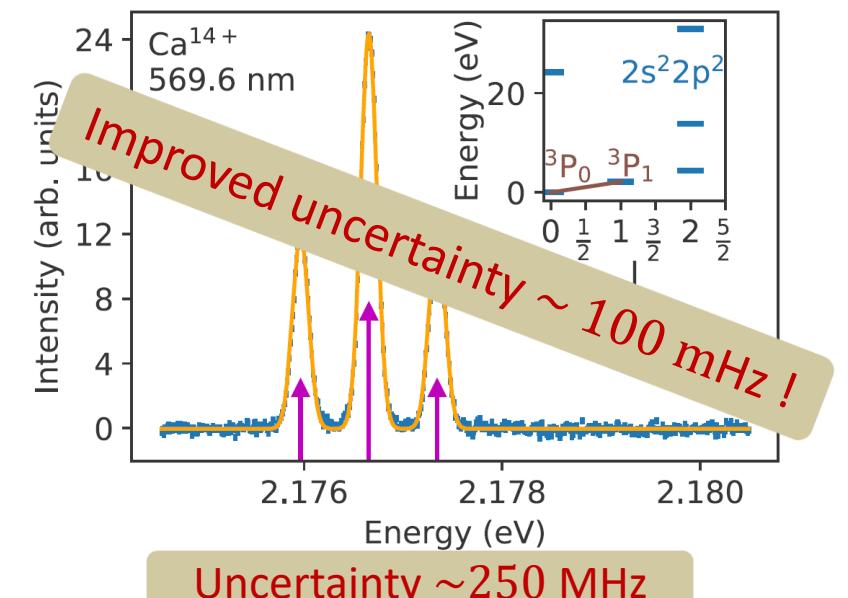
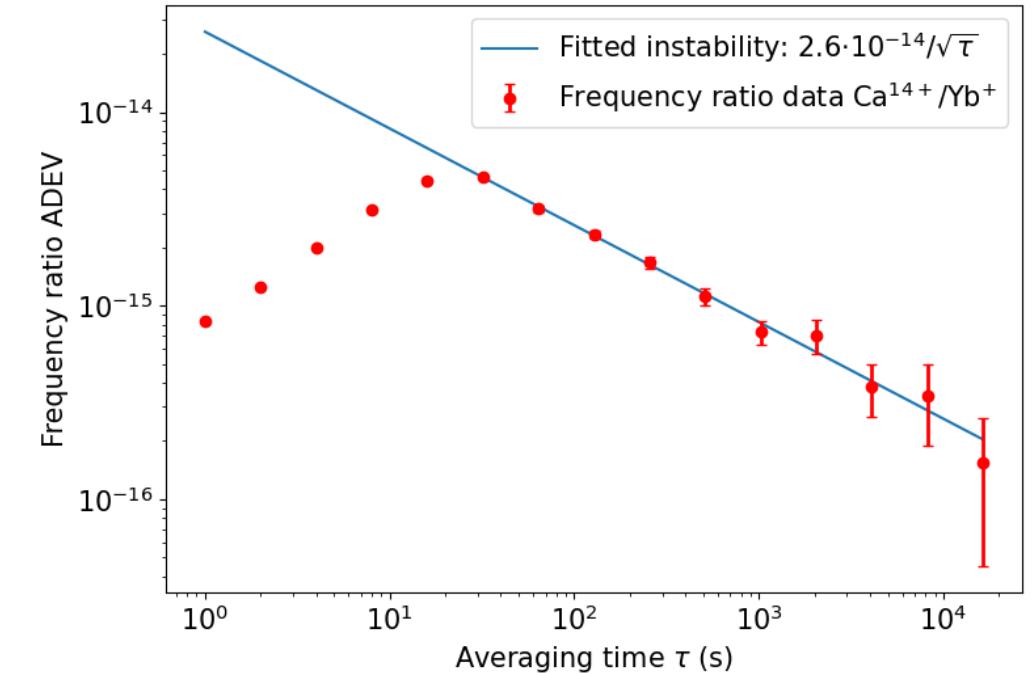
13



[Matei *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **118**, 263202 (2017)]  
[Filzinger *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **130**, 253001 (2023)]

- Yb<sup>+</sup> absolute frequency is known with a fractional uncertainty of  $1.3 \times 10^{-16}$
- Measurements to  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-16}$  statistical uncertainty
- Systematic uncertainty at  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-17}$

[S.A. King & L.J. Spieß *et al.*, Nature **611**, 43-47 (2022)]



# Summary of systematic shifts

Shift source	Mitigation	Shift ( $10^{-18}$ )	Uncertainty ( $10^{-18}$ )
Micromotion	Real-time measurement	-605	< 50
Probe-laser-induced shift	Calibration at much higher powers and extrapolation	0	2
First-order Doppler	Counter-propagating beams	0	< 1
Linear Zeeman	Averaging over multiple Zeeman components	0	< 1
Quadratic Zeeman	Small coefficient, small field	< 1	$\ll 1$
Electric quadrupole	Small coefficient, Averaging over multiple Zeeman components	0	< 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> order Doppler	Algorithmic cooling	-1	< 1

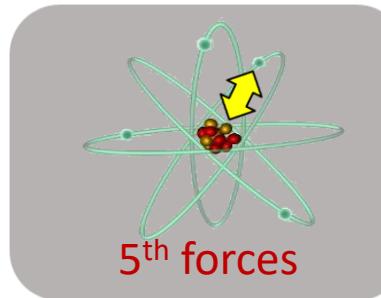
no fundamental limitations

**Systematic uncertainty**  
 $\sim 5 \times 10^{-17}$

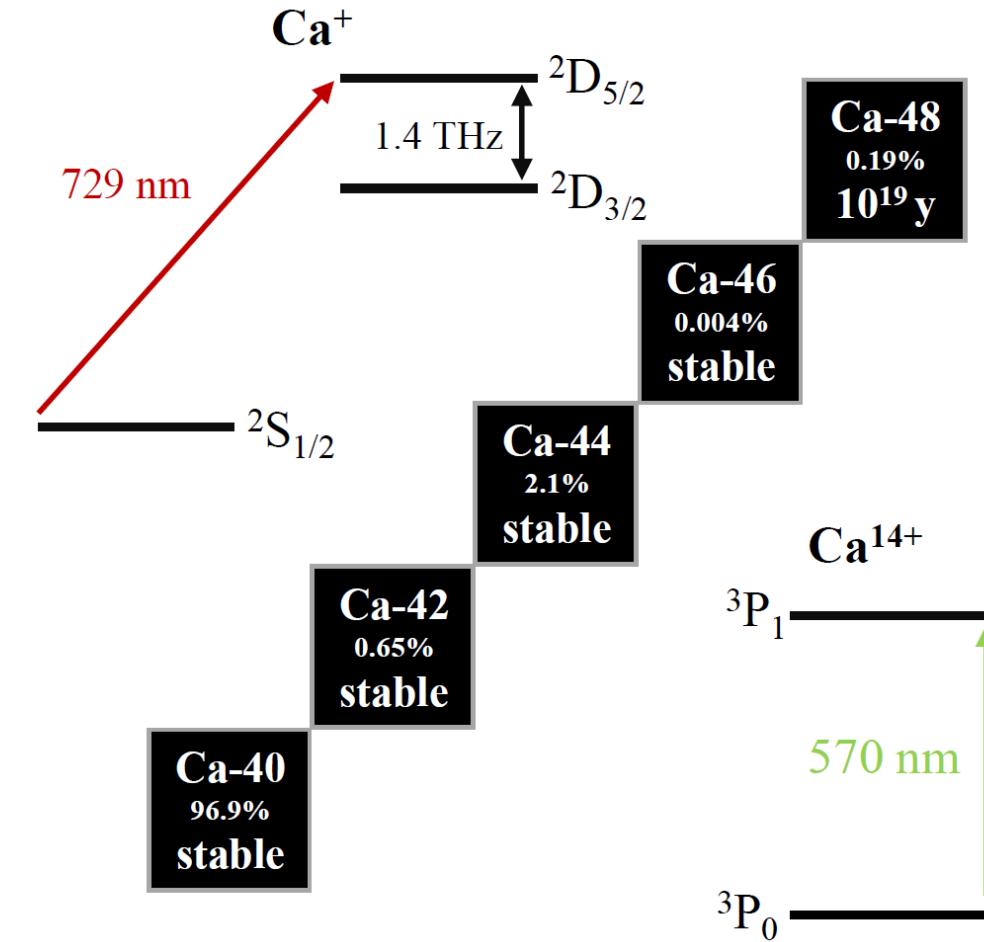
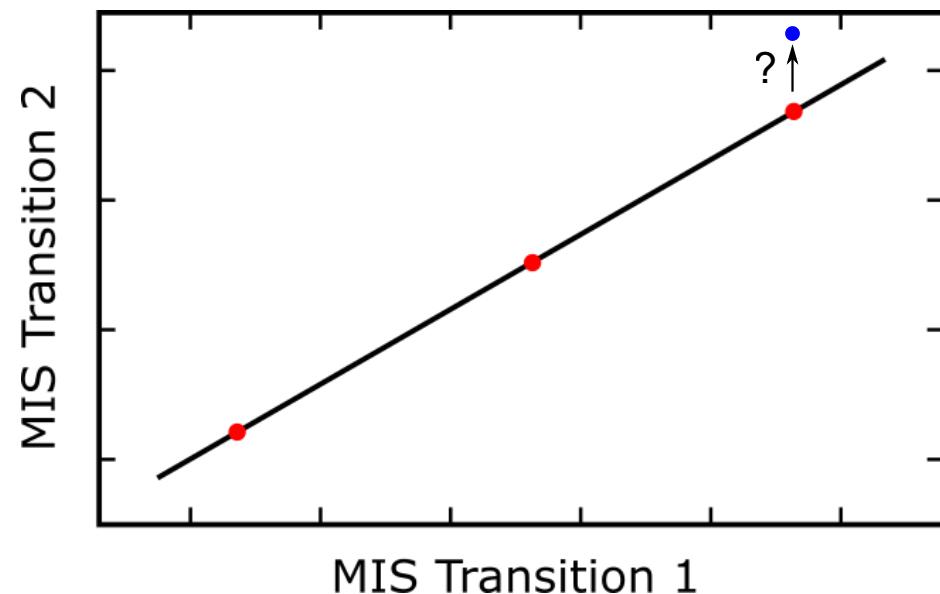
# Isotope shifts in calcium

$$\delta\nu_{570}^{A,A'} = \frac{K_{570}}{\mu_{A,A'}} + F_{570}\delta\langle r_c^2 \rangle^{A,A'} \quad \mu_{A,A'} = \frac{m_A m_{A'}}{m_A - m_{A'}}$$

$$\delta\nu_{729}^{A,A'} = \frac{K_{729}}{\mu_{A,A'}} + F_{729}\delta\langle r_c^2 \rangle^{A,A'} + X\gamma^{A,A'}$$



$$\mu\delta\nu_{570}^{A,A'} \not\propto \mu\delta\nu_{729}^{A,A'}$$

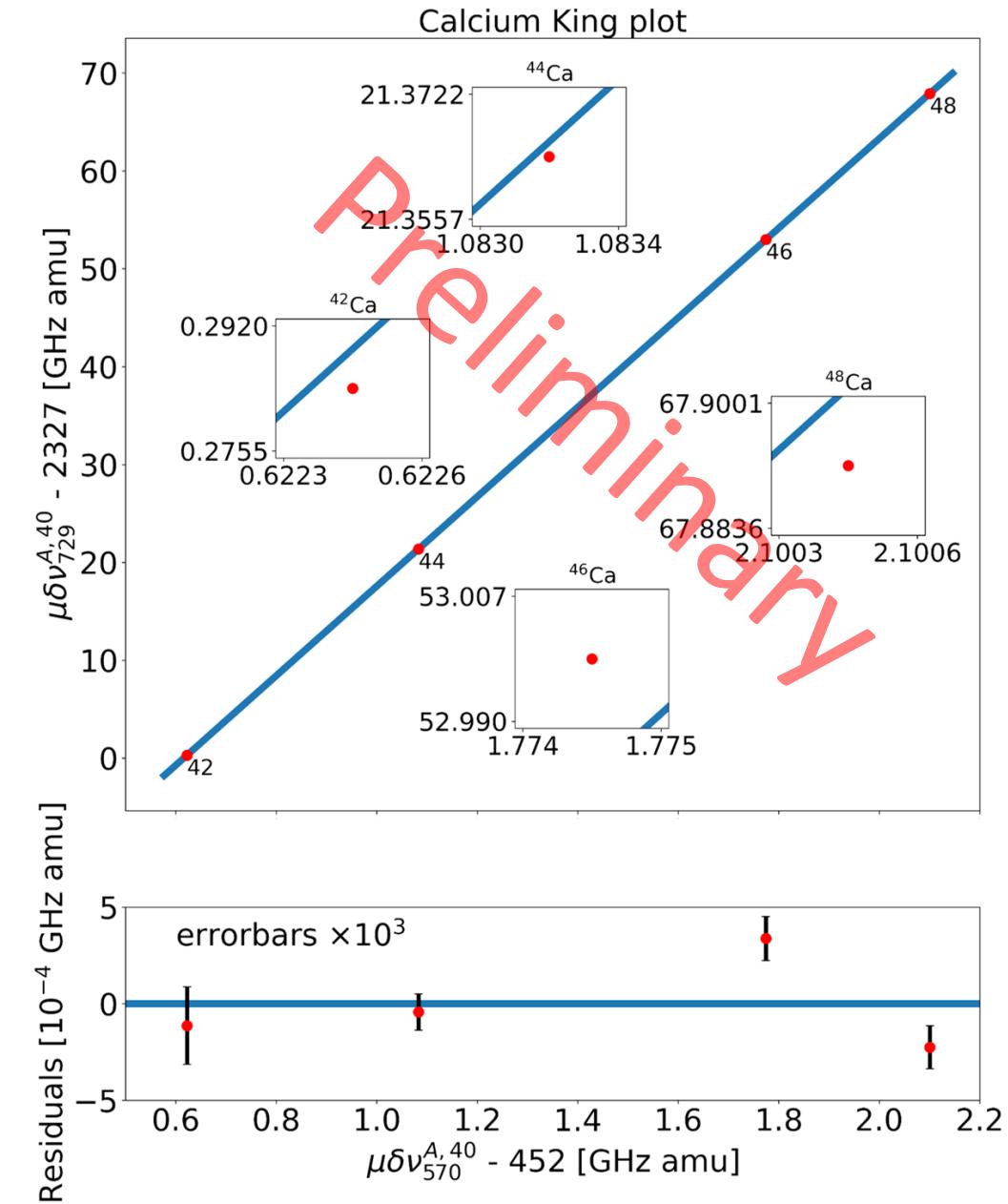


# King plot including $\text{Ca}^{14+}$ transition

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For King plot analysis we combine our data with:

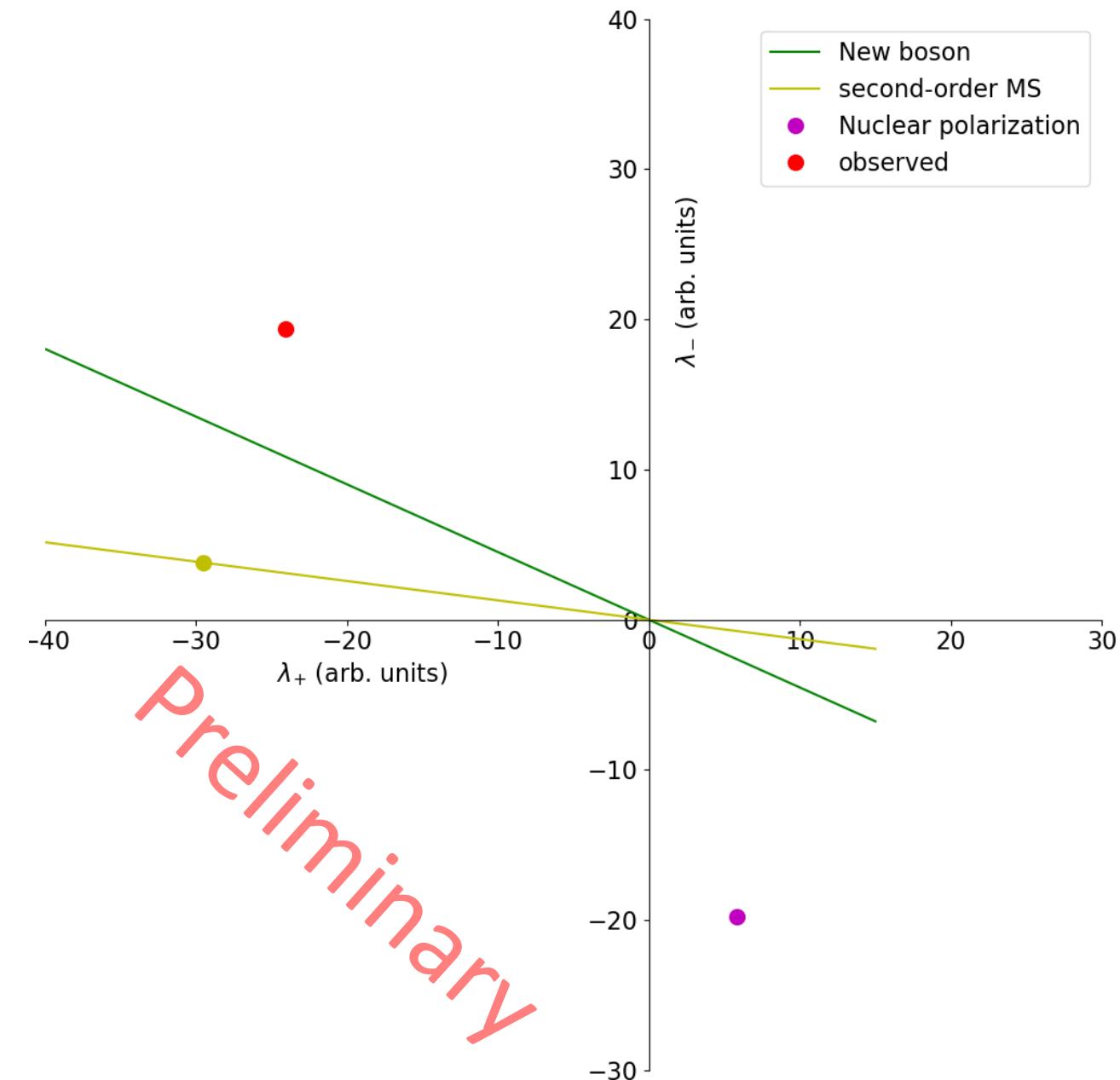
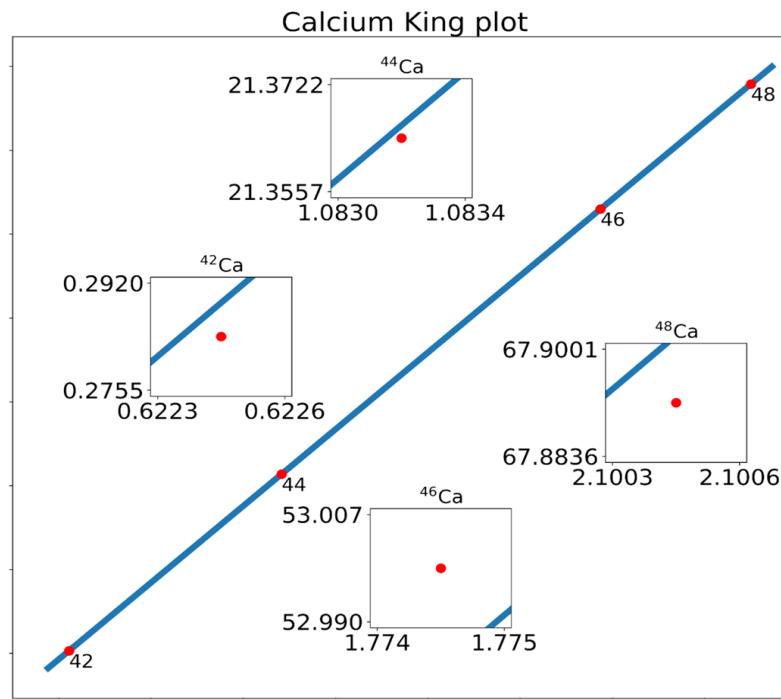
- Nuclear masses by group of Klaus Blaum at MPIK
- Isotope shift of  $^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow ^2D_{5/2}$  in  $\text{Ca}^+$  by group of Jonathan Home at ETH Zürich
- **Find large nonlinearity of King plot**
- Can still improve new physics constraints, **analysis ongoing**



# Nonlinearity decomposition

## Relate pattern of residuals to source of nonlinearity

- Relate pattern of NL to its source **if factorizable**:
  - $\lambda_+ \propto$  zig-zag pattern
  - $\lambda_- \propto$  U-shape pattern
- Known SM nonlinearities in Ca:
  - Second-order recoil shift
  - Nuclear polarization – Calculations for  $\text{Ca}^{14+}$  missing! [A. Viatkina *et al.*, PRL **108**, 022802 (2023)]



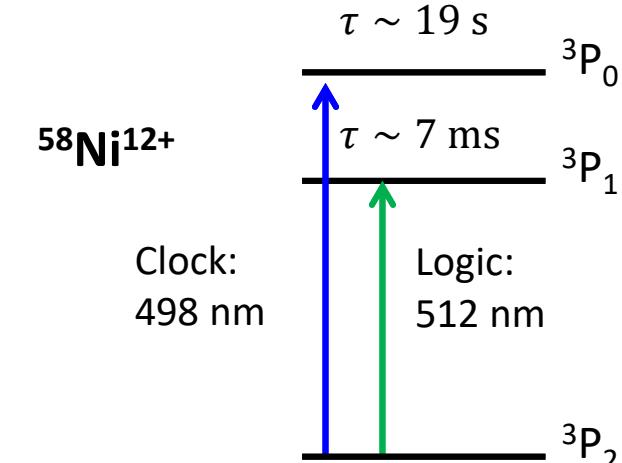
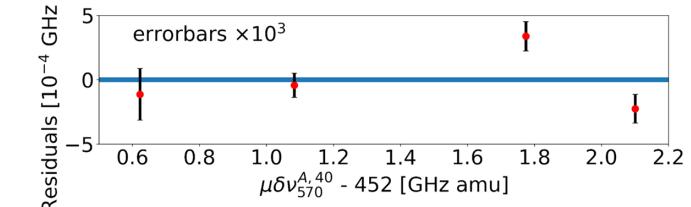
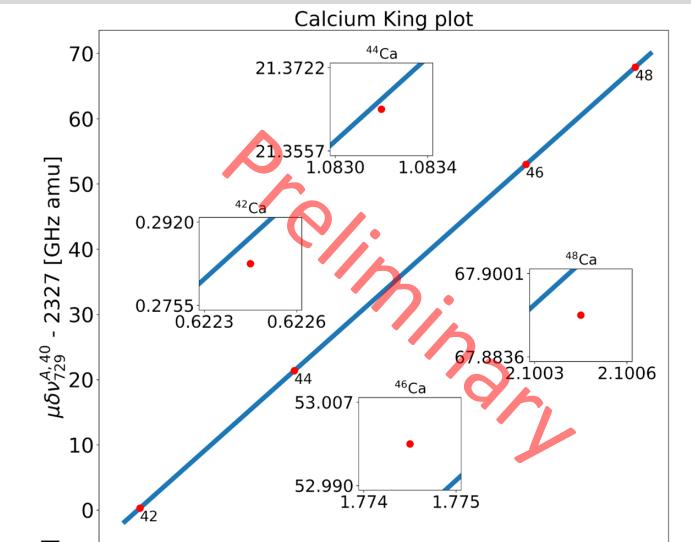
# Summary and outlook

## Summary

- **Optical clock comparison** between  $\text{Ca}^{14+}$  and  $\text{Yb}^+$  with statistical uncertainty of  $\sim 1 \times 10^{-16}$  and systematic uncertainty of  $\sim 5 \times 10^{-17}$
- Combination of  $\text{Ca}^{14+}$  IS data with new  $\text{Ca}^+$  IS data and nuclear masses reveal large nonlinearity

## Outlook

- Decompose nonlinearity and see whether it can be fully explained by higher-order Standard Model terms
- Reduce systematic uncertainties, new Paul trap
- HCl optical clock based on  $\text{Ni}^{12+}$  which has a long-lived clock state
- HCl with high sensitivity to variations in fine-structure constant like  $\text{Cf}^{17+}$



# Acknowledgements



## HCI Experiment

PTB: Piet O. Schmidt, Tobias Leopold, Peter Micke, Steven A. King, Lukas J. Spieß, AW, Malte Wehrheim, Shuying Chen

MPIK: José R. Crespo López-Urrutia, M.K. Rosner, N.H. Rehbehn

## $\text{Yb}^+$ Experiment

- Richard Lange
- Nils Huntemann
- Melina Filzinger
- Martin Steinel

## Frequency comb

- Erik Benkler

## Nuclear masses

- Menno Door
- Klaus Blaum

## $\text{Ca}^+$ isotop shift

- Luca Huber
- Diana Craik
- Jeremy Flannery
- Roland Matt
- Jonathan Home

## Theory

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- Agnese Mariotti
- Jan Richter
- Julian Berengut
- Andrey Surzhykov
- Anna Viatkina
- Vladimir Yerokhin



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