

Searching for Light New Scalars with Atomic and Nuclear Clocks

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Cluster of Excellence



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based on work with

M. Door, C.-H. Yeh, M. Heinz, C. Lyu, T. Miyagi, J. C. Berengut, J. Bieroń, K. Blaum, L. S. Dreissen, S. Eliseev, P. Filianin, M. Filzinger, E. Fuchs, H. A. Fürst, G. Gaigalas, Z. Harman, J. Herkenhoff, N. Huntemann, C. H. Keitel, K. Kromer, D. Lange, A. Rischka, C. Schweiger, A. Schwenk, N. Shimizu, T. E. Mehlstäubler
E. Fuchs, Eric Madge, Chaitanya Paranjape, Ekkehard Peik, Gilad Perez, Wolfram Ratzinger, Johannes Tiedau

Extended Scalar Sectors from All Angles, CERN, 25th October 2024

Outline

What Are We Looking For?

Search With Atomic Clocks

Search With Nuclear Clock

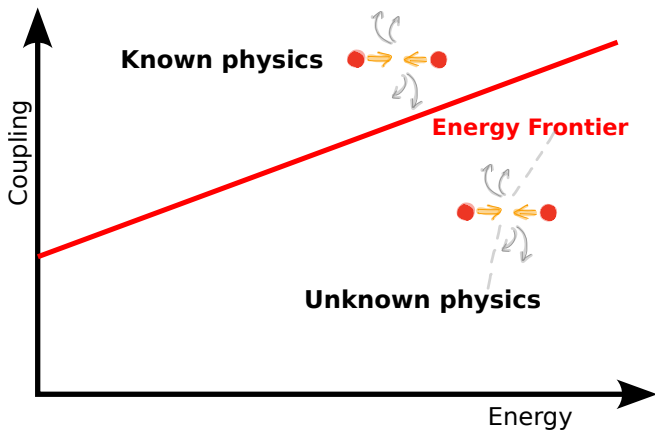
Outline

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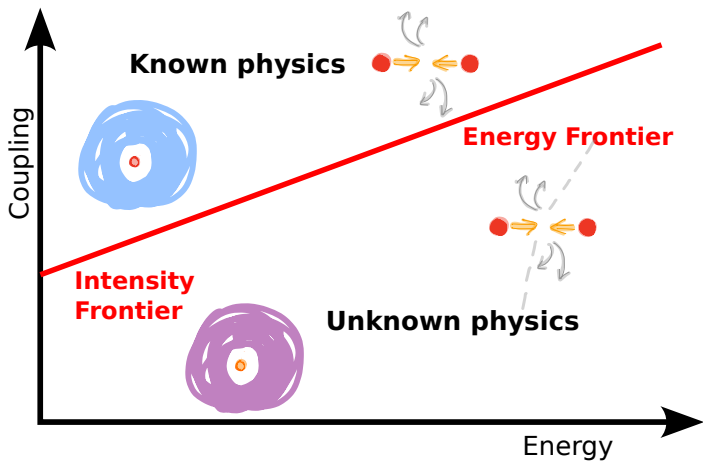
Search With Atomic Clocks

Search With Nuclear Clock

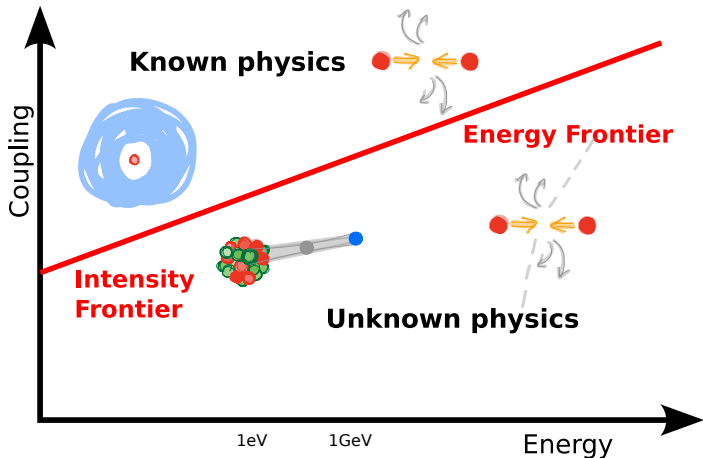
Where is the New Physics?



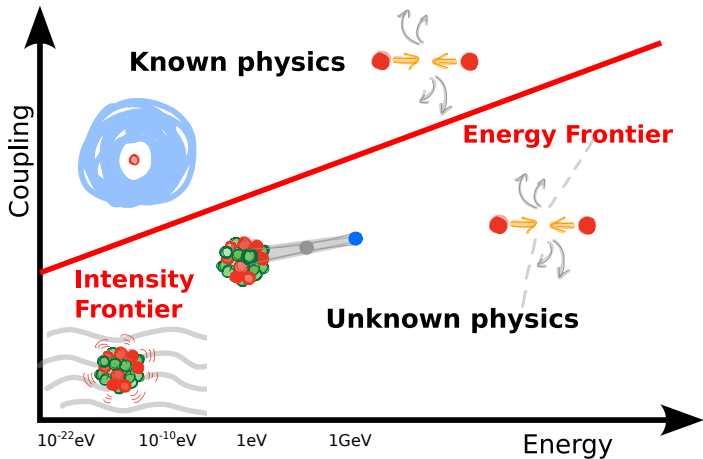
Where is the New Physics?



Where is the New Physics?



Where is the New Physics?



Outline

What Are We Looking For?

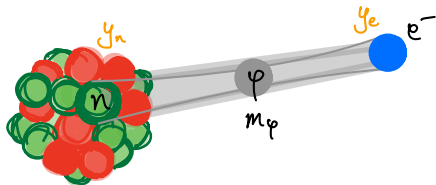
Search With Atomic Clocks

Search With Nuclear Clock

Search With Atomic Clocks:

Light Scalar

Coupling to Neutrons And Electrons



Why Atomic Clocks?

The most accurately measured numbers in physics are ratios of atomic clock transition frequencies:

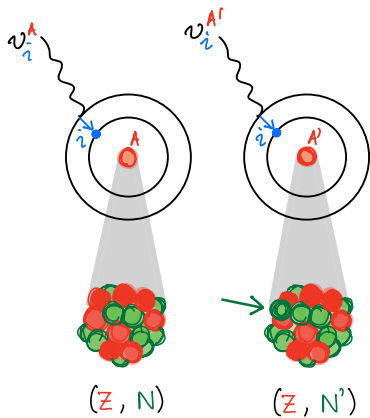
- $\nu_{\text{Al}^+}/\nu_{\text{Hg}^+} = 1.052871833148990438(55)$ (NIST; $\sigma_\nu/\nu \sim 5.2 \times 10^{-17}$)
[Rosenband et al. *Science* 319, 1808 (2008)]
- $\nu_{\text{Yb}}/\nu_{\text{Sr}} = 1.207507039343337749(55)$ (RIKEN; $\sigma_\nu/\nu \sim 4.6 \times 10^{-17}$)
[Nemitz et al. *Nat. Photonics* 10, 258 (2016)]
- $\nu_{\text{E3}}/\nu_{\text{E2}} = 0.932829404530965376(32)$ (PTB; $\sigma_\nu/\nu \sim 3.4 \times 10^{-17}$)
[Lange et al. *PRL* 126 011102 (2021)]
- $\nu_{\text{In}^+}/\nu_{\text{Yb}^+} = 1.973773591557215789(9)$ (PTB; $\sigma_\nu/\nu \sim 4.4 \times 10^{-18}$)
[Hausser et al. *arXiv: 2402.16807* (2024)]

⇒ These are sensitive to “everything”, but we cannot calculate the spectrum below around 1% accuracy.

So what can we do with these?

[based on slide by Julian Berengut]

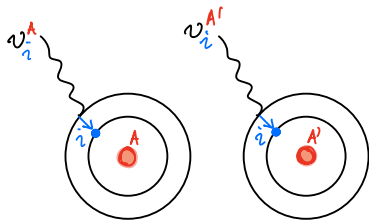
The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



Isotope shift:

$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



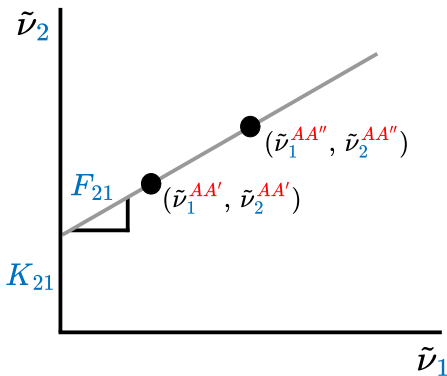
[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]

$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

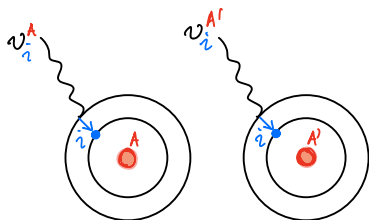
$\tilde{\nu}_i^A$: data, K_{21}, F_{21} : linear fit

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'}$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA''}$$



The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]

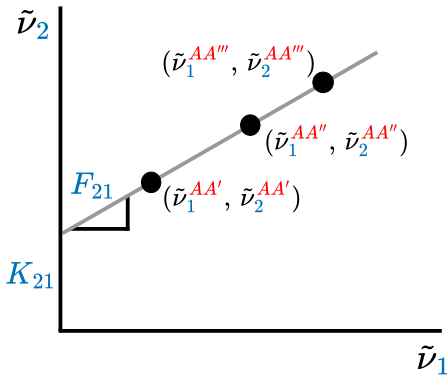
$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

$\tilde{\nu}_i^A$: data, K_{21}, F_{21} : linear fit

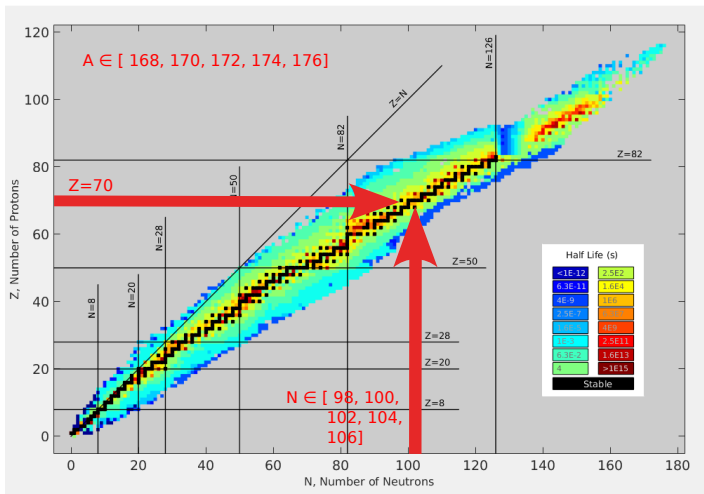
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'}$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA''}$$

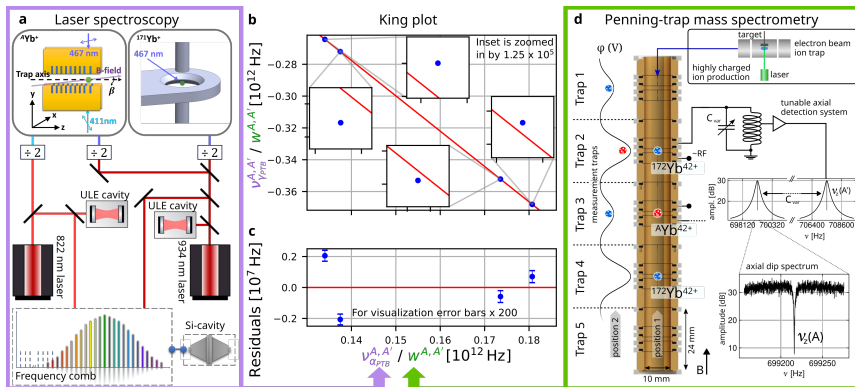
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'''}$$



Ytterbium's Stable Isotopes

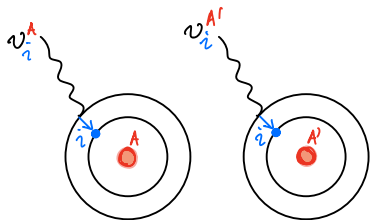


PTB + MPIK = New Yb King Plot



Observed King plot nonlinearity: $\sim 20.17(2)$ kHz

The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]

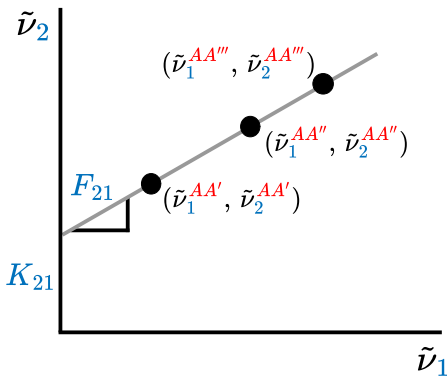
$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

$\tilde{\nu}_i^A$: data, K_{21}, F_{21} : linear fit

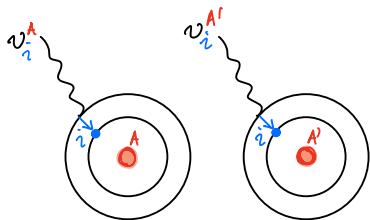
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21} \tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'}$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA''} = K_{21} + F_{21} \tilde{\nu}_1^{AA''}$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'''} = K_{21} + F_{21} \tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'''}$$



The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]

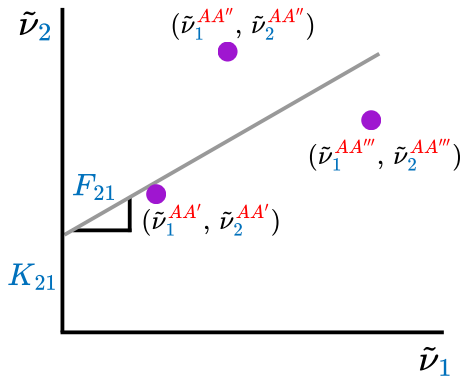
$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

$\tilde{\nu}_i^A$: data, K_{21} , F_{21} : linear fit

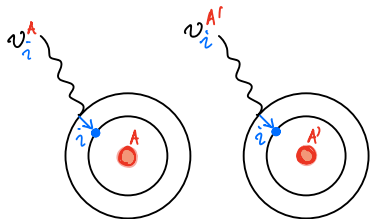
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'} + ?$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA''} + ?$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'''} + ?$$



The King-Plot: Fit to Isotope Shift Data



$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

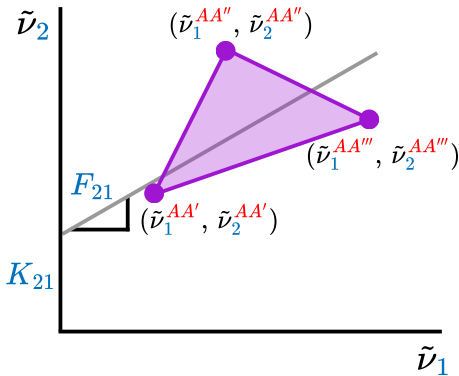
$\tilde{\nu}_i^A$: data, K_{21}, F_{21} : linear fit

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'} + ?$$

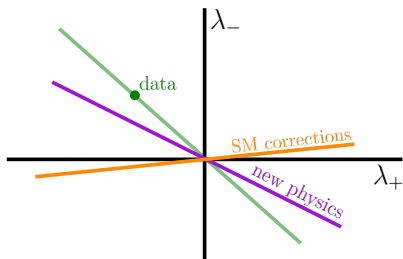
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA''} + ?$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'''} = K_{21} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'''} + ?$$

[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]



The Nonlinearity Decomposition Plot



- Plane of King linearity: $\mathbf{1} = (1, 1, 1, 1)$,
 $\tilde{\nu}_i = (\tilde{\nu}_i^{AA'}, \tilde{\nu}_i^{AA''}, \tilde{\nu}_i^{AA'''}, \tilde{\nu}_i^{AA''''})$, $i=1,2,\dots$

$$\tilde{\nu}_j \approx F_{j1}\tilde{\nu}_1 + K_{j1}\mathbf{1}, \quad j > 1.$$

- Project isotope-shift data onto $\tilde{\nu}_1, \mathbf{1}$,
 Λ_+, Λ_- with $\Lambda_{\pm} \perp (\tilde{\nu}_1, \mathbf{1})$:

$$\tilde{\nu}_j = (\tilde{\nu}_1, \mathbf{1}, \Lambda_+, \Lambda_-) (F_{j1}, K_{j1}, \lambda_+, \lambda_-)^T$$

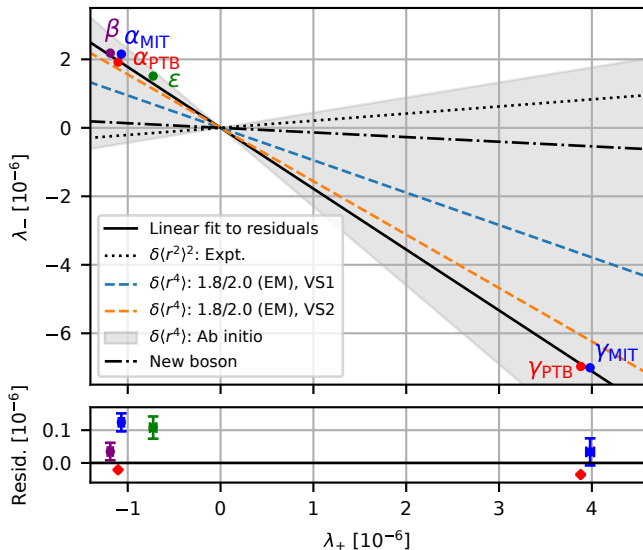
In presence of just one nonlinearity,

$$\tilde{\nu}_j \approx F_{j1}\tilde{\nu}_1 + K_{j1}\mathbf{1} + G_{j1}^{(4)}\delta\langle\tilde{r}^4\rangle, \quad j > 1.$$

$$\text{slope: } \frac{\lambda_-}{\lambda_+} \equiv \frac{G_{j1}^{(4)}\delta\langle\tilde{r}^4\rangle_-}{G_{j1}^{(4)}\delta\langle\tilde{r}^4\rangle_+} = \frac{\delta\langle\tilde{r}^4\rangle_-}{\delta\langle\tilde{r}^4\rangle_+} \Rightarrow \text{transition-universal}$$

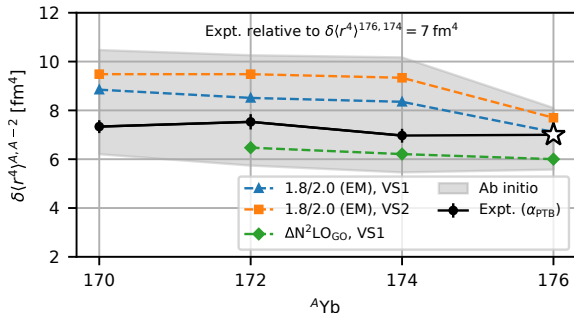
[arXiv:2004.11383, arXiv:2201.03578]

The Nonlinearity Decomposition Plot



Extracting Nuclear Physics from Isotope-Shift Measurements

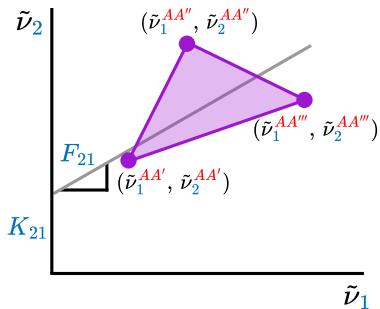
- Assuming $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ dominates, what does the isotope-shift data tell us about the evolution of $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ along the isotope chain?



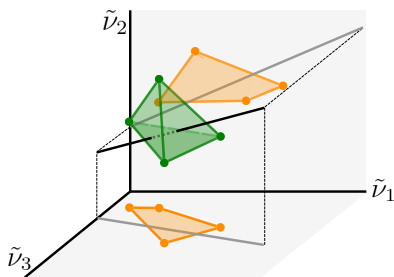
blue, orange, green: Calculations by group of Prof. Achim Schwenk
black: new spectroscopic method, fixed at \star

King-Plot Method in Presence of Nuclear Effects: The Generalised King Plot

[arXiv:1704.05068,2005.06144]



⇒ test King linearity

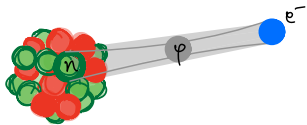


⇒ account for one King nonlinearity

⇒ put bound on 2^{nd}

⇒ **King-plot method also works in presence of nuclear effects.**

King-Plot Bounds on New Bosons [arXiv:1704.05068,2005.06144]



New effective Yukawa-potential

$$V_{\phi}(r) = -\alpha_{\text{NP}}(A - Z) \frac{e^{-m_{\phi} r}}{r}$$

Induces new term in the isotope shift:

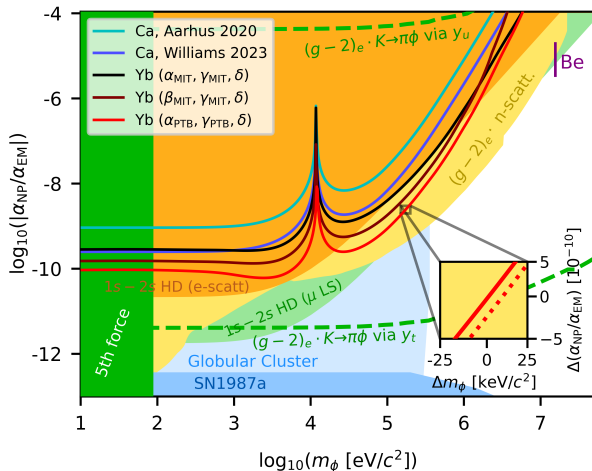
$$\tilde{\nu}_i^{AA'} = K_i \tilde{\mu}^{AA'} + F_i \delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'} + G_i^{(4)} \delta \langle r^4 \rangle^{AA'} + \alpha_{\text{NP}} X_i \tilde{\gamma}^{AA'}$$

⇒ Extract α_{NP} from fraction of volumes spanned by frequency vectors:

$$\alpha_{\text{NP}} = \frac{\text{Vol.}}{\text{Vol.}|_{\text{th}, \alpha_{\text{NP}}=1}} = \frac{2! \det \left(\vec{\nu}_1, \vec{\nu}_2, \vec{\nu}_3, \vec{\mu} \right)}{\varepsilon_{ijkl} \det \left(X_i \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\nu}_j, \vec{\nu}_k, \vec{\nu}_l \right)}$$

$\{\vec{\nu}_i\}$: data vectors in isotope-pair space, $\vec{\mu} \equiv (1, 1, 1, 1)$, $X_i, \vec{\gamma}$: th. input

New Spectroscopy Bounds on New Physics



- $m_\phi \rightarrow 0$: $>$ size atom
- $m_\phi \rightarrow \infty$: not sensitive to contact interactions
- "Peaks" due to cancellations among electronic coefficients

Outline

What Are We Looking For?

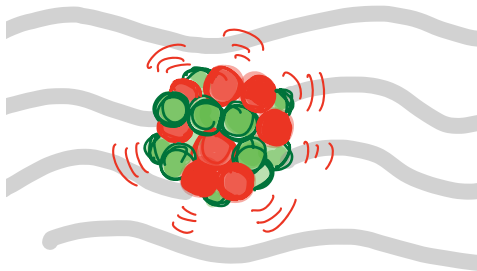
Search With Atomic Clocks

Search With Nuclear Clock

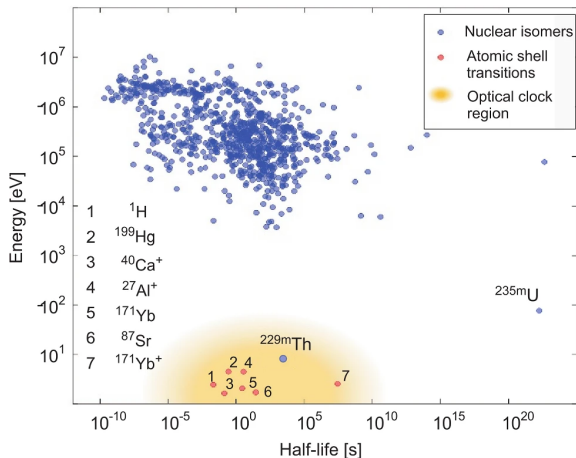
Search With Nuclear Clock:

Ultralight Scalar

Coupling to QCD



Fine-Tuning in Thorium-229?



Nuclear transition energy in ²²⁹Th:

$$\Delta E = \Delta E_{EM} + \Delta E_{nuc}$$

$$\Delta E \ll |\Delta E_{EM}| \sim |\Delta E_{nuc}|$$

$$8 \text{ eV} \ll 0.1 \text{ MeV}$$

⇒ **Fine tuning?**

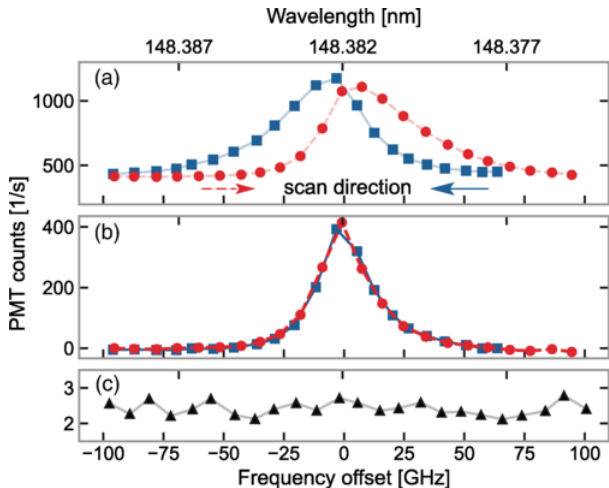
⇒ **Exceptionally sensitive probe of QCD at low energy?**

Progression of precision $\delta\nu/\nu$:

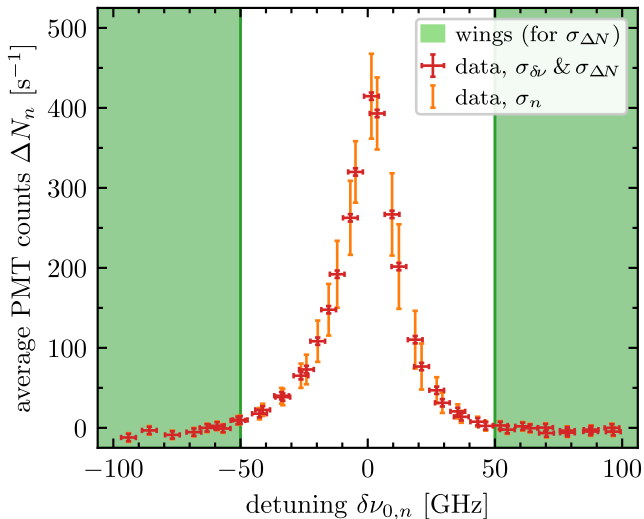
10⁻¹ (2020), 10⁻³ (2022, ISOLDE), 10⁻⁶ (March 2024, PTB), 10⁻¹¹ (June 2024, JILA)

Nuclear Lineshape Analysis

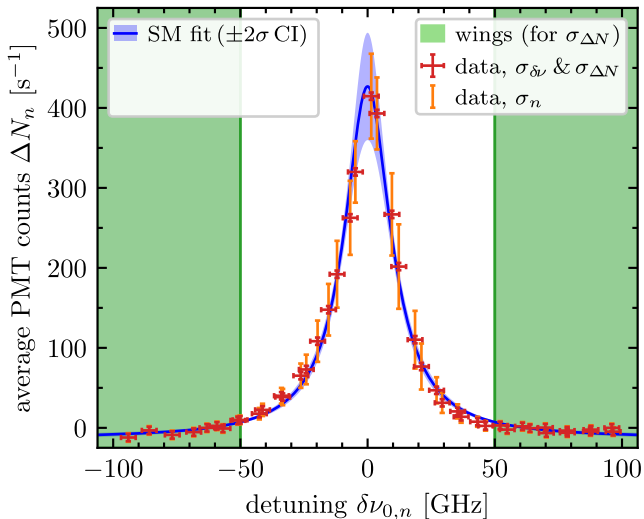
First laser-excitation of a nuclear transition: PTB 2024 [PRL 132, 182501]



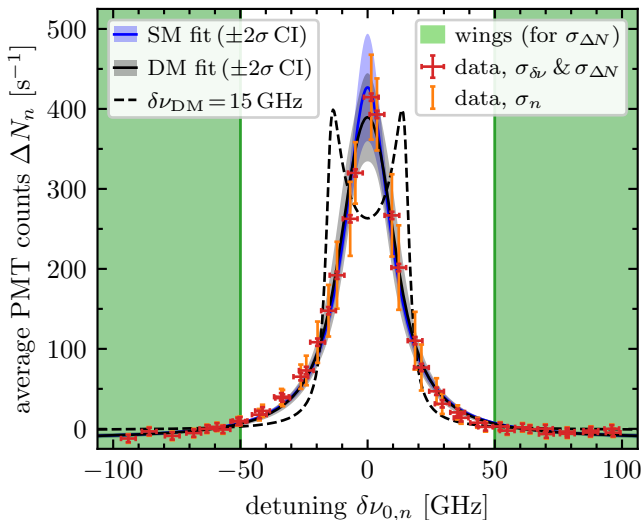
Nuclear Lineshape Analysis



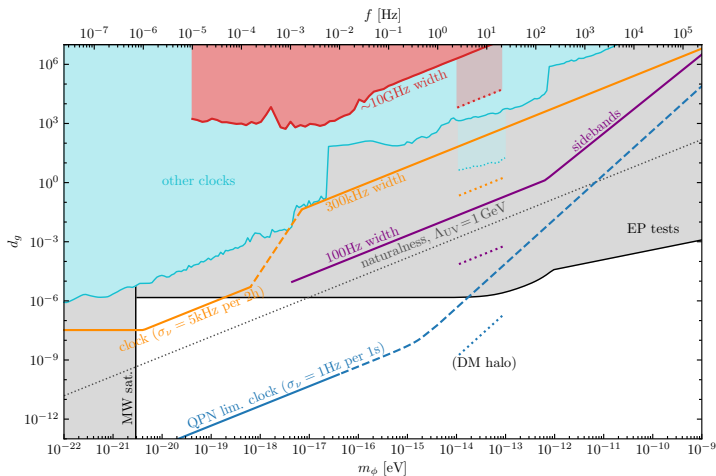
Nuclear Lineshape Analysis



Nuclear Lineshape Analysis



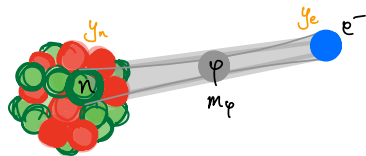
Bounds on Ultralight Scalar Coupling to QCD



$$\mathcal{L}_\phi \supset -d_g \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}\beta_s}{g_s} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}$$

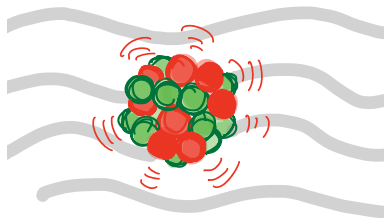
Conclusions

Atomic and nuclear clocks are sensitive probes of light new scalars:



Light scalar coupling to e^- & n

Isotope shift spectroscopy



Ultralight scalar coupling to QCD

Nuclear line-shape analysis

...And on the way we can learn about

Nuclear deformation

Fine-tuning in thorium

Check out our papers on the arXiv:

- Yb King plot: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.07792>
- Th-229 & ULDM: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.15924>

Stay tuned for:

- Kifit: Global King-plot analysis
- King-plot analysis of highly-charged Ca ions

Thank you for your attention.

Backup slides

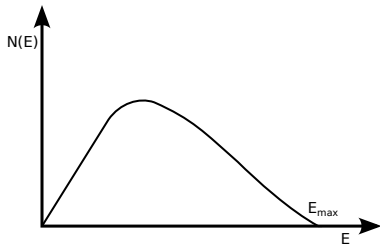
Why Light New Physics

How?

- Spontaneous breaking of exact symmetries \rightarrow massless particles
 - Approximate symmetries broken \rightarrow low-mass particles
- Traditional example:
pion \sim Goldstone boson of spontaneously broken chiral symmetry
 \Rightarrow much lighter than other mesons

Historic Example for Light New Physics: β Decay

- β decay was assumed to involve only nucleons and electrons: $n \rightarrow p + e$
- ⇒ Expect discrete energy spectrum for e **but** continuous spectrum observed
- Pauli proposed a radical solution involving a neutrino: $n \rightarrow p + e + \bar{\nu}_e$
- Example of a “**hidden sector**” involving light new physics:
 - New light particle
 - Electrically neutral, weakly interacting
 - Manifests itself through a “**portal**”: weak interaction



[Slide inspired by Philippe Mermod, Flavour 2015, Munich, 3 June 2015]

Why Light New Physics

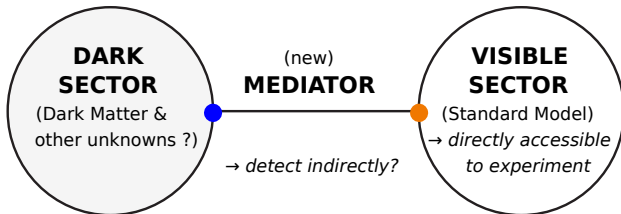
Examples of well-motivated light new particles:

- Sterile neutrino (neutrino masses, Dark Matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry)
- Axion (strong CP problem)
- Dark photon (mediator to Dark Matter)

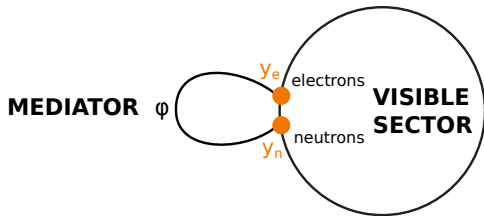
Dark Portals / Portals to Dark Matter?

Portal	Coupling
Scalar (Dark Higgs) S	$(\mu S + \lambda S^2)H^\dagger H$
Vector (Dark Photon) A'_μ	$-\frac{\varepsilon}{2}F'_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$
Spinor (Sterile Neutrino) N	$y_N L H N$
Pseudoscalar (Axion) a	$\frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}, \frac{a}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}, \frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \psi$

Dark Portals



Dark Portals and Isotope Shift Measurements



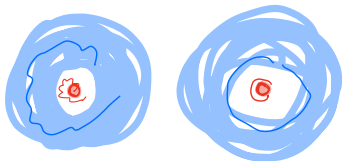
Isotope Shifts: Mass Shift & Field Shift

$$\nu_i^{AA'} = K_i \mu^{AA'} + F_i \delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'} + \dots$$

Mass Shift

Different motion of the nuclei
⇒ Correction to e^- kin. energy

$$\mu^{AA'} = \frac{1}{m^A} - \frac{1}{m^{A'}}$$



Field Shift

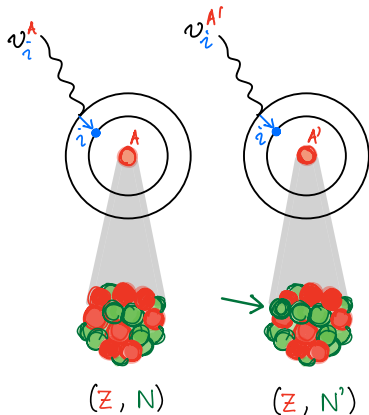
Different nucl. charge distrib.
⇒ Different contact interactions betw. e^- & nuclei

$$\delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'} = \langle r^2 \rangle^A - \langle r^2 \rangle^{A'}$$



Isotope Shifts

Factorisation of **electronic** and **nuclear** contributions.



Isotope shifts:

$$\nu_i^{AA'} = K_i \mu^{AA'} + F_i \delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'} + \dots$$

$$\nu_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^A - \nu_i^{A'}$$

i : transition index

AA' : isotope pair index

K_i, F_i, \dots : electronic coeffs.

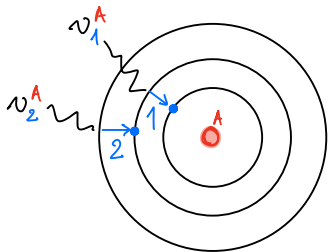
$\mu^{AA'}, \delta \langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'}, \dots$: nuclear coeffs.

Z : number of protons

N, N' : number of neutrons in A, A'

The King-Plot: Trade Data for Nuclear Physics

[W. King, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 53, 638 (1963)]



Issue: Large uncertainty on **charge radius variance** $\delta\langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'}$

⇒ Measure isotope shifts for 2 transitions

$$\nu_1^{AA'} = K_1 \mu^{AA'} + F_1 \delta\langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'}$$

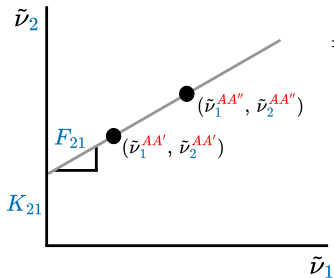
$$\nu_2^{AA'} = K_2 \mu^{AA'} + F_2 \delta\langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'}$$

⇒ Eliminate **charge radius variance** $\delta\langle r^2 \rangle^{AA'}$

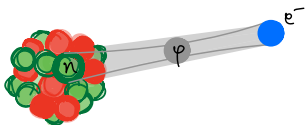
$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} + F_{21} \tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'}$$

$$\tilde{\nu}_i^{AA'} \equiv \nu_i^{AA'} / \mu^{AA'} \Rightarrow \text{data}$$

$$F_{21} \equiv F_2 / F_1 \quad K_{21} \equiv K_2 - F_{21} K_1 \Rightarrow \text{fit}$$



King-Plot Bounds on New Bosons [arXiv:1704.05068,2005.06144]



New effective Yukawa-potential

$$V_{\phi}(r) = -\alpha_{\text{NP}}(A - Z) \frac{e^{-m_{\phi} r}}{r}$$

with $\alpha_{\text{NP}} = (-1)^s \frac{y_e y_n}{4\pi}$, $s = 0, 1, 2$ (spin)

Induces new term in the King-relation:

$$\tilde{v}_2^{AA'} = K_{21} \tilde{\mu}^{AA'} + F_{21} \tilde{v}_1^{AA'} + \alpha_{\text{NP}} X_{21} \tilde{\gamma}^{AA'}$$

$X_{21} = X_2 - F_{21} X_1$: NP electronic coefficient

$\tilde{\gamma}^{AA'} \equiv (A - A') / \mu^{AA'}$: NP nucl. coeff.

⇒ Extract α_{NP} from fraction of volumes spanned by frequency vectors:

$$\alpha_{\text{NP}} = \frac{\text{Vol.}}{\text{Vol.}|_{th, \alpha_{\text{NP}}=1}} = \frac{\det(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{\mu})}{\epsilon_{ijk} \det(X_i \vec{\gamma}, \vec{v}_j, \vec{v}_k)}$$

$\{\vec{v}_i\}$: data vectors in isotope-pair space, $\vec{\mu} \equiv (1, 1, 1)$, $X_i, \vec{\gamma}$: theory input

α_{NP} from Determinants

(No-Mass King-Plot:)

$$\vec{\nu}_1 = K_1 \vec{\mu} + F_1 \overrightarrow{\delta\langle r^2 \rangle} + \alpha_{\text{NP}} X_1 \vec{\gamma}$$

$$\vec{\nu}_2 = K_2 \vec{\mu} + F_2 \overrightarrow{\delta\langle r^2 \rangle} + \alpha_{\text{NP}} X_2 \vec{\gamma}$$

$$\vec{\nu}_3 = K_3 \vec{\mu} + F_3 \overrightarrow{\delta\langle r^2 \rangle} + \alpha_{\text{NP}} X_3 \vec{\gamma}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(\vec{\nu}_1, \vec{\nu}_2, \vec{\nu}_3) = \alpha_{\text{NP}} \det(\vec{K}, \vec{F}, \vec{X}) \det(\vec{\mu}, \overrightarrow{\delta\langle r^2 \rangle}, \vec{\gamma})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \alpha_{\text{NP}} &= \frac{\text{Vol}}{\text{Vol}|_{th, \alpha_{\text{NP}}=1}} = \frac{\det(\vec{\nu}_1, \vec{\nu}_2, \vec{\nu}_3)}{\det(\vec{K}, \vec{F}, \vec{X}) \det(\vec{\mu}, \overrightarrow{\delta\langle r^2 \rangle}, \vec{\gamma})} \\ &= \frac{\det(\vec{\nu}_1, \vec{\nu}_2, \vec{\nu}_3)}{\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} \det(X_i \vec{\gamma}, \vec{\nu}_j, \vec{\nu}_k)} \end{aligned}$$

Choose your King-Plot

Extraction of α_{NP} using the “determinant method” requires

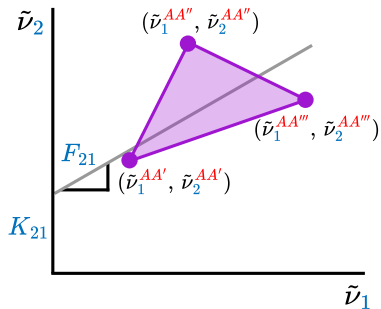
Type of King-Plot	Isotope-Pairs	Transitions	
Generalised King-Plot:	n	$n - 1$	[PRR 2, 043444 (2020)]
No-Mass King-Plot:	n	n	[PRR 2, 043444 (2020)]
	$n \geq 3$ (else cannot search for nonlinearities)		

$$\alpha_{\text{NP}} = \frac{V}{V|_{\text{th}, \alpha_{\text{NP}}=1}} = \frac{(n-2)! \det(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{n-1}, \vec{\mu})}{\varepsilon_{i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}} \det(X_{i_1} \vec{\gamma}, \vec{v}_{i_2}, \dots, \vec{v}_{i_{n-1}}, \vec{\mu}_{i_n})}$$

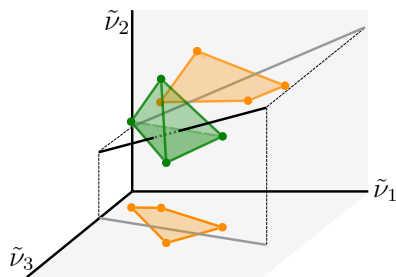
$$\alpha_{\text{NP}} = \frac{v}{v|_{\text{th}, \alpha_{\text{NP}}=1}} = \frac{(n-1)! \det(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n)}{\varepsilon_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n} \det(X_{i_1} \vec{\gamma}, \vec{v}_{i_2}, \dots, \vec{v}_{i_n})}$$

King-Plot Method in Presence of Nuclear Effects: The Generalised King Plot

[arXiv:1704.05068,2005.06144]



⇒ test King linearity

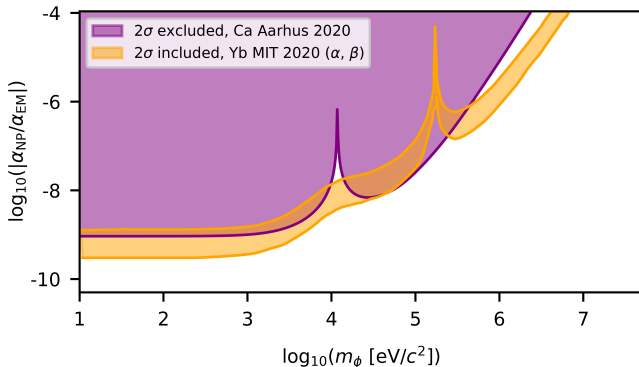


⇒ account for one King nonlinearity

⇒ put bound on 2^{nd}

⇒ **King-plot method also works in presence of nuclear effects.**

Upper Bounds on $|\alpha_{NP}|$ vs. New Mediator Mass m_ϕ



Nonlinear King plot relation:

$$\tilde{\nu}_2^{AA'} = K_{21}\tilde{\mu}^{AA'} + F_{21}\tilde{\nu}_1^{AA'} + G_{21}^{(2)}\delta\langle r^2 \rangle^2 + G_{21}^{(4)}\delta\langle r^4 \rangle + \dots?$$

X Coefficients

Overlap of new physics potential and electronic wavefunction

$$X_i = \int d^3r \frac{e^{-m_\phi r}}{r} [|\psi_b(r)|^2 - |\psi_a(r)|^2]$$

$|\psi(r)|^2$: electron density in absence of new physics,
 a, b initial, final states

Requirement for searches for new light bosons:

- At least one of ψ_a or ψ_b should have good overlap with new potential.
- For tight bounds on α_{NP} , one X_i needs to be large.

Recipe for the Nonlinearity Decomposition Plot

[arXiv:2004.11383, arXiv:2201.03578]

1. Arrange the isotope-shift data for all transitions $\tau \in \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon\}$ in n -vectors $\tilde{\nu}_\tau$, where n is the number of isotope pairs (here 4):

$$\tilde{\nu}_\tau = (\tilde{\nu}_\tau^{168,170}, \tilde{\nu}_\tau^{170,172}, \tilde{\nu}_\tau^{172,174}, \tilde{\nu}_\tau^{174,176})$$

2. Choose a reference transition, say δ .
3. Plane of King linearity is defined by the relations ($\mathbf{1} = (1, 1, 1, 1)$)

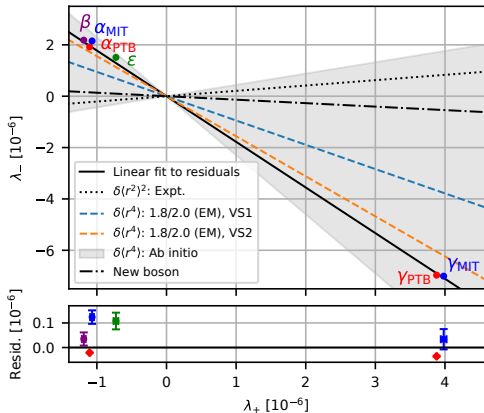
$$\tilde{\nu}_\tau \approx F_{\tau\delta} \tilde{\nu}_\delta + K_{\tau\delta} \mathbf{1}.$$

4. Define two ($n = 4$)–vectors Λ_\pm that are orthogonal to $\tilde{\nu}_\delta$, $\mathbf{1}$.
5. Project all isotope-shift data onto the four vectors $\tilde{\nu}_\delta$, $\mathbf{1}$, Λ_+ , Λ_- :

$$\tilde{\nu}_\tau = (\tilde{\nu}_\delta \quad \mathbf{1} \quad \Lambda_+ \quad \Lambda_-) \begin{pmatrix} F_{\tau\delta} & K_{\tau\delta} & \lambda_+^{(\tau)} & \lambda_-^{(\tau)} \end{pmatrix}^T$$

6. Plot all points $(\lambda_+^{(\tau)}, \lambda_-^{(\tau)})$ in the same plane.

The Nonlinearity Decomposition Plot



Notation	Transition	Refs.
$\alpha_{MIT,PTB}$	$^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow ^2D_{5/2}$ E2 in Yb ⁺	MIT, t.w.
β	$^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow ^2D_{3/2}$ E2 in Yb ⁺	MIT
$\gamma_{MIT,PTB}$	$^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow ^2F_{7/2}$ E3 in Yb ⁺	MIT, t.w.
δ	$^1S_0 \rightarrow ^3P_0$ in Yb	Kyoto
ϵ	$^1S_0 \rightarrow ^1D_2$ in Yb	Mainz

- $\delta\langle r^2 \rangle^2$ estimated using Angeli & Marinova Tables of experimental nuclear ground state charge radii
- $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$: Calculations by group of Prof. Achim Schwenk, TU Darmstadt

In presence of just one **nonlinearity**,

$$\tilde{\nu}_j \approx F_{j1} \tilde{\nu}_1 + K_{j1} \mathbf{1} + G_{j1}^{(4)} \delta\langle \tilde{r}^4 \rangle, \quad j > 1.$$

$$\text{slope: } \frac{\lambda_-}{\lambda_+} \equiv \frac{G_{j1}^{(4)} \delta\langle \tilde{r}^4 \rangle_-}{G_{j1}^{(4)} \delta\langle \tilde{r}^4 \rangle_+} = \frac{\delta\langle \tilde{r}^4 \rangle_-}{\delta\langle \tilde{r}^4 \rangle_+} \Rightarrow \text{transition-universal}$$

Extracting Nuclear Physics from Isotope-Shift Measurements

- **Assuming $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ dominates**, what does the isotope-shift data tell us about the evolution of $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ along the isotope chain?

⇒ **“Put the King plot on it’s head.”**:

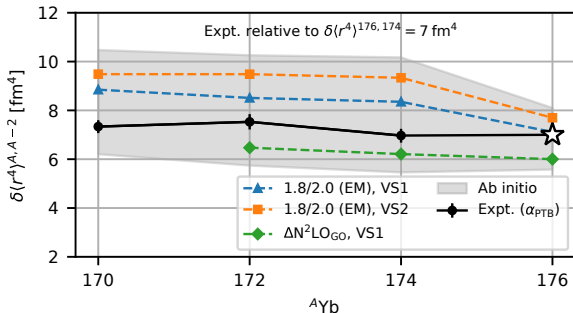
1. Instead of eliminating $\delta\langle r^2 \rangle$ from the system of equations, we use experimental data (Angeli & Marinova) to determine it.
2. Perform a fit to determine the field shift coefficient F_τ from the data.
3. Use theoretical input for the electronic coefficient $G_\tau^{(4)}$ (J. Berengut)
4. Solve for object

$$Q^{AA',RR'} \equiv \delta\langle r^4 \rangle^{AA'} - \frac{\mu^{AA'}}{\mu^{RR'}} \delta\langle r^4 \rangle^{RR'},$$

where RR' : reference isotope pair, AA' : any of remaining isotope pairs.

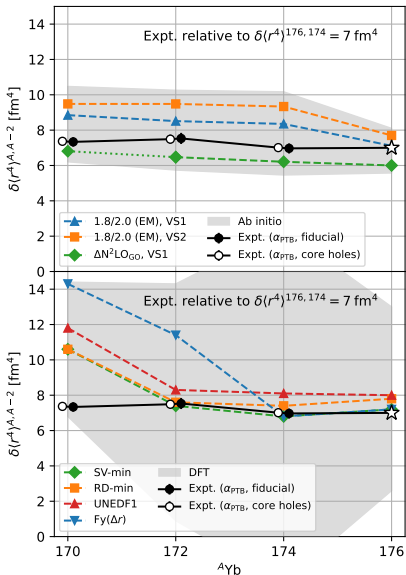
Extracting Nuclear Physics from Isotope-Shift Measurements

- Assuming $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ dominates, what does the isotope-shift data tell us about the evolution of $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ along the isotope chain?



blue, orange, green: Calculations by group of Prof. Achim Schwenk
black: new spectroscopic method, fixed at \star

$\delta\langle r^4 \rangle$ Calculations: Ab initio vs. DFT



“Ab initio”: Starting from chiral effective field theory interactions

DFT: Density Functional Theory

- Experimental $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle^{AA'}$ values relative to $\delta\langle r^4 \rangle^{176,174} = 7 \text{ fm}^4$ extracted from isotope shifts from the α transition using atomic theory (fiducial, core holes)
- Above: ab initio calculations (t.w.)
- Below: density functional theory calculations (PRL.128.163201)
- Gray bands: estimated theory uncertainties

Advantages of Nuclear Clocks wrt. Atomic Clocks

- + Nucleus \ll Atom \Rightarrow Shielded from external fields
 \Rightarrow **Higher accuracy**
- + Nucleus less polarisable than atom \Rightarrow **Higher accuracy**
- + Use solids? \Rightarrow Higher statistics \Rightarrow **Higher stability**
- + Higher frequency \Rightarrow **Higher stability**
- + Probes QCD \Rightarrow **Sensitive to NP coupling to QCD**
- + Low transition frequency due to accidental cancellation (?)

$$\Delta E = \Delta E_{EM} + \Delta E_{nuc} \quad \Delta E \ll |\Delta E_{EM}| \sim |\Delta E_{nuc}|$$
$$8 \text{ eV} \ll 0.1 \text{ MeV}$$

\Rightarrow **Extraordinary sensitivity to new physics?**

Sensitivity of Nuclear Clocks to New Physics

[arXiv:2012.09304,2407.17526]

$$\Delta E = \Delta E_{\text{EM}} + \Delta E_{\text{nuc}} \quad \Delta E \ll |\Delta E_{\text{EM}}| \sim |\Delta E_{\text{nuc}}|$$
$$8 \text{ eV} \ll 0.1 \text{ MeV}$$

$$\frac{\delta(\Delta E)}{\Delta E} = \frac{1}{\Delta E} \left(\frac{\partial \Delta E_{\text{EM}}}{\partial \alpha_{\text{EM}}} \delta \alpha_{\text{EM}} + \frac{\partial \Delta E}{\partial \alpha_s} \delta \alpha_s \right)$$

$$K_{\text{EM}} \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta E} \frac{\partial \Delta E_{\text{EM}}}{\partial \log \alpha_{\text{EM}}} \simeq \frac{\Delta E_{\text{EM}}}{\Delta E} \sim 10^5$$

$$K_s^{\text{EM}} \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta E_{\text{EM}}} \frac{\partial \Delta E_{\text{EM}}}{\partial \log \alpha_s} \sim \beta K_{\text{EM}}, \quad \beta \sim \mathcal{O}(1)?$$

$$K_s^{\text{EM}} \sim K_s^{\text{nuc}}?$$

Some Phenomenology of Ultralight New Physics

- ϕ oscillates around potential minimum (cold dark matter):

$$\phi(t, x) \sim \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t)$$

- Interacts with the Standard Model:

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi \supset \frac{1}{2} \partial_\mu \phi \partial^\mu \phi + \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 + \frac{\phi}{M_{\text{Pl}}} \left[\frac{d_e}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - \frac{d_g \beta_s}{2g_s} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} - d_{m_e} m_e \bar{e}e - \sum_{q=u,d} (d_{m_q} + \gamma_{m_q} d_g) m_q \bar{q}q \right]$$

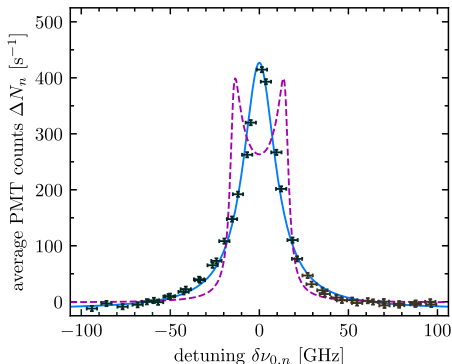
⇒ Oscillating fundamental constants $\alpha_{\text{EM}}, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, m_f$

⇒ Oscillating transition frequencies

$$\nu \sim \nu_0 (1 + (K_g d_g + K_e d_e + \dots) \phi(t)/M_{\text{Pl}})$$
$$\Rightarrow \nu(t) \simeq \nu_0 + \delta\nu_{\text{DM}} \cos(2\pi\nu_{\text{DM}} t + \varphi_{\text{DM}})$$

Nuclear Lineshape Analysis in the Limit $\delta\nu_{\text{DM}} \gg \nu_{\text{DM}}$

$$\nu(t) \simeq \nu_0 + \delta\nu_{\text{DM}} \cos(2\pi\nu_{\text{DM}}t + \varphi_{\text{DM}})$$



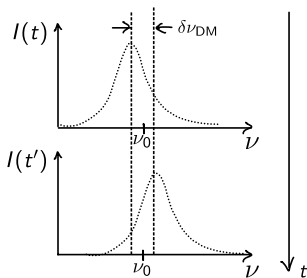
- In absence of DM,
 $I(\nu) = \delta(\nu - \nu_0)$
- In presence of DM,
average over $T_{\text{DM}} = 1/\nu_{\text{DM}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle I(\nu) \rangle_{T_{\text{DM}}} &= \int_0^{T_{\text{DM}}} \frac{dt}{T_{\text{DM}}} \delta(\nu - \nu(t)) \\ &= \frac{\theta\left(1 - \left|\frac{\nu - \nu_0}{\delta\nu_{\text{DM}}}\right|\right) / \pi}{\sqrt{\delta\nu_{\text{DM}}^2 - (\nu - \nu_0)^2}} \end{aligned}$$

- ⇒ Convolve with resonance lineshape
- ⇒ Take into account experimental procedure
- ⇒ ...
- ⇒ Curve fit (MCMC/ODR)

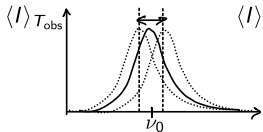
Nuclear Lineshape Analysis Regimes: Current

$$\nu(t) = \nu_0 + \delta\nu_{DM} \cos(2\pi\nu_{DM}t + \varphi_{DM})$$

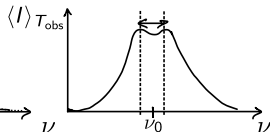


$$\nu_0 < \frac{1}{T_{obs}}$$

$$\frac{1}{T_{obs}} < \nu_0 < \delta\nu_{DM}$$



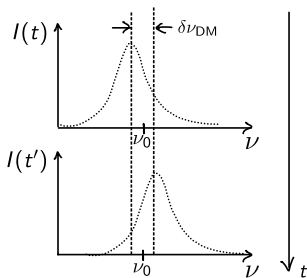
Drift of resonance frequency



Line broadening

Nuclear Lineshape Analysis Regimes: Future

$$\nu(t) = \nu_0 + \delta\nu_{DM} \cos(2\pi\nu_{DM}t + \varphi_{DM})$$

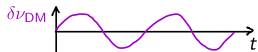


The transition frequency:

carrier frequency ν_0



DM modulation ν_{DM}



*

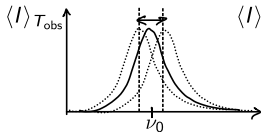


\mathcal{F}

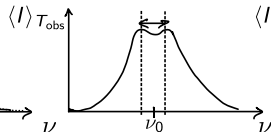
$\delta\nu_{DM} \ll \nu_{DM}$

$\nu_0 < \frac{1}{T_{obs}}$

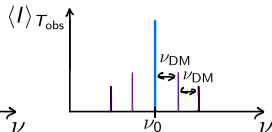
$\frac{1}{T_{obs}} < \nu_0 < \delta\nu_{DM}$



Drift of resonance frequency



Line broadening



Sidebands