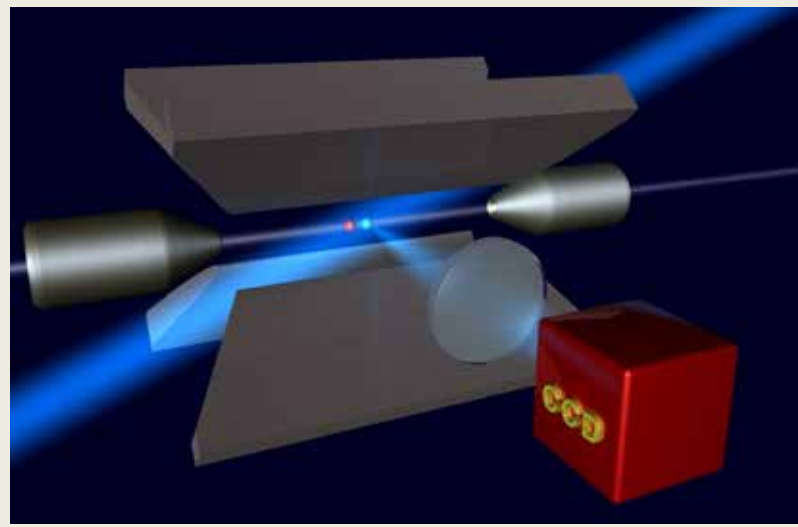


Optical Clocks III



Piet O. Schmidt

QUEST Institute for Experimental Quantum Metrology
Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt, Braunschweig
& Leibniz Universität Hannover

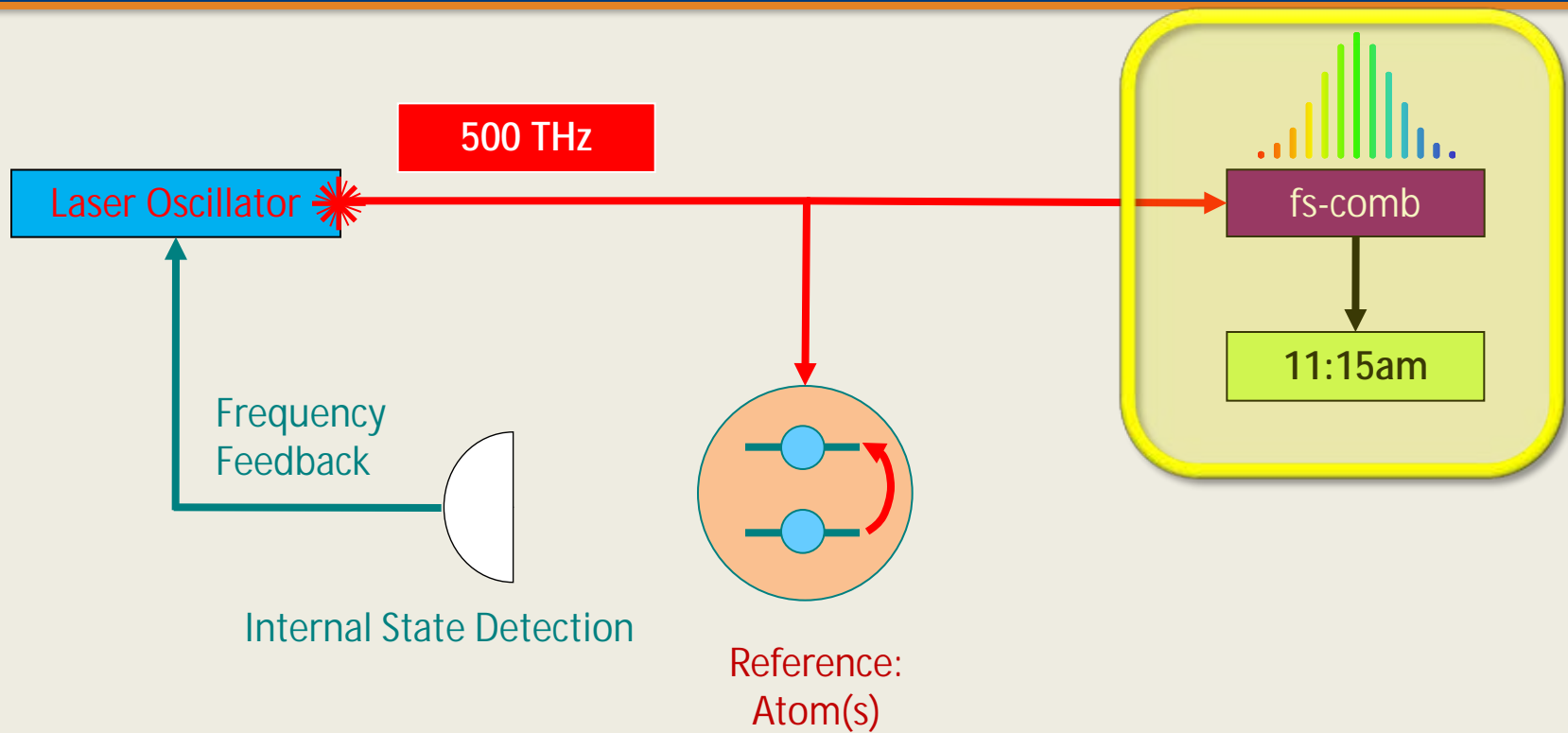
Les Houches Winter School, 19.-30.01.2015

Overview Optical Clocks I+II

- Introduction
 - brief history of time (keeping)
 - principle & characterization of clocks
- The atomic reference
 - ions & neutrals
 - frequency shifts
- The clock laser
 - Requirements or “Mission impossible”
 - Important design aspects

Overview Optical Clocks III

- Frequency comb and dissemination
 - counting optical cycles
 - getting the light somewhere useful
- Results from selected ion clocks
- Applications
 - relativistic geodesy
 - fundamental physics
- Future trends
 - improving the instability of ion clocks



FREQUENCY COMB AND DISSEMINATION

Optical Frequency Combs

- time regime: fs pulses with pulse width τ & repetition rate $f_{\text{rep}}=1/T$
- bandwidth of spectrum: $1/\tau$
- frequency regime: frequency comb with „teeth“ fully defined by

$$f_n = Mf_{\text{rep}} + f_{\text{CEO}}$$

- Origin of f_{CEO} ?
- è Difference between phase and group velocity: $f_{\text{CEO}} = \Delta\phi f_{\text{rep}}/2\pi$
- Locking f_{CEO} : f-2f intererometer

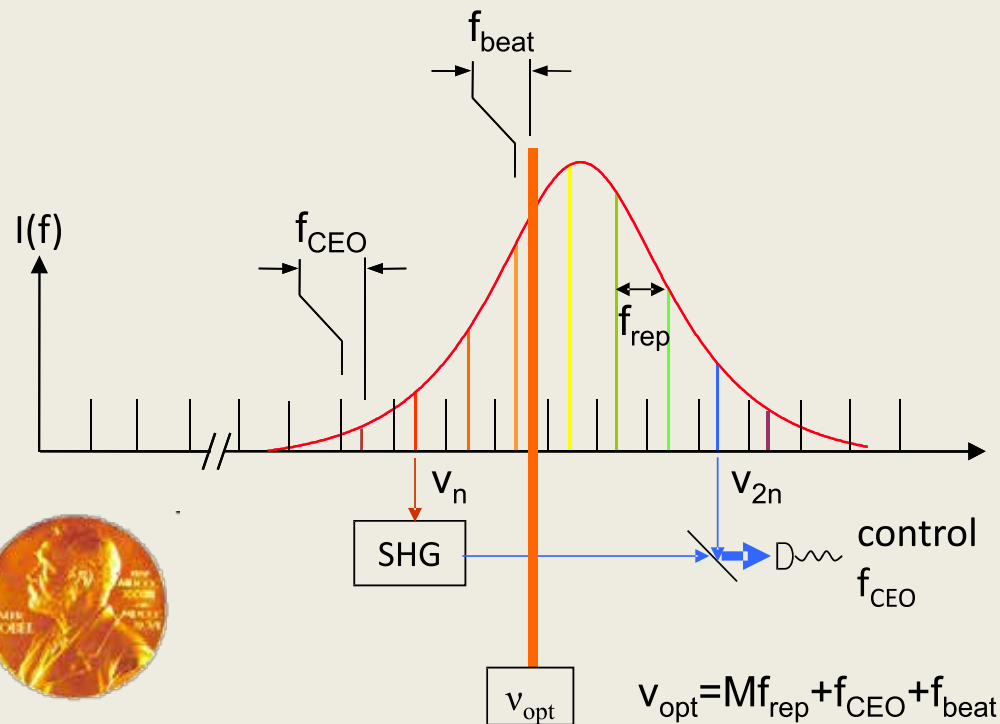
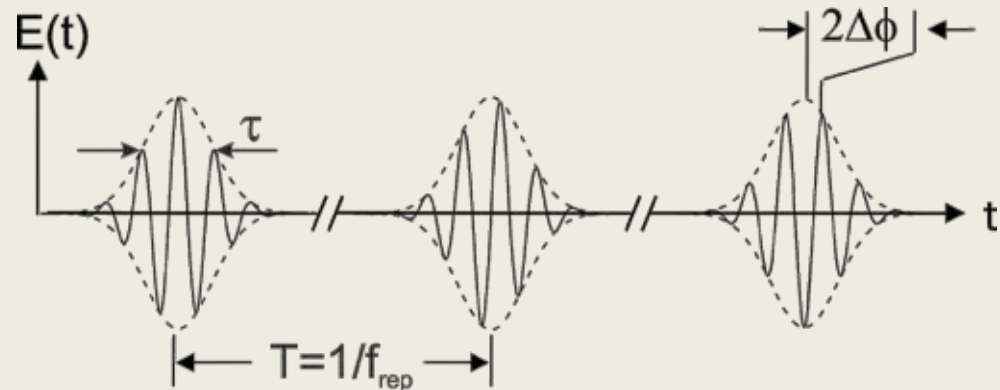


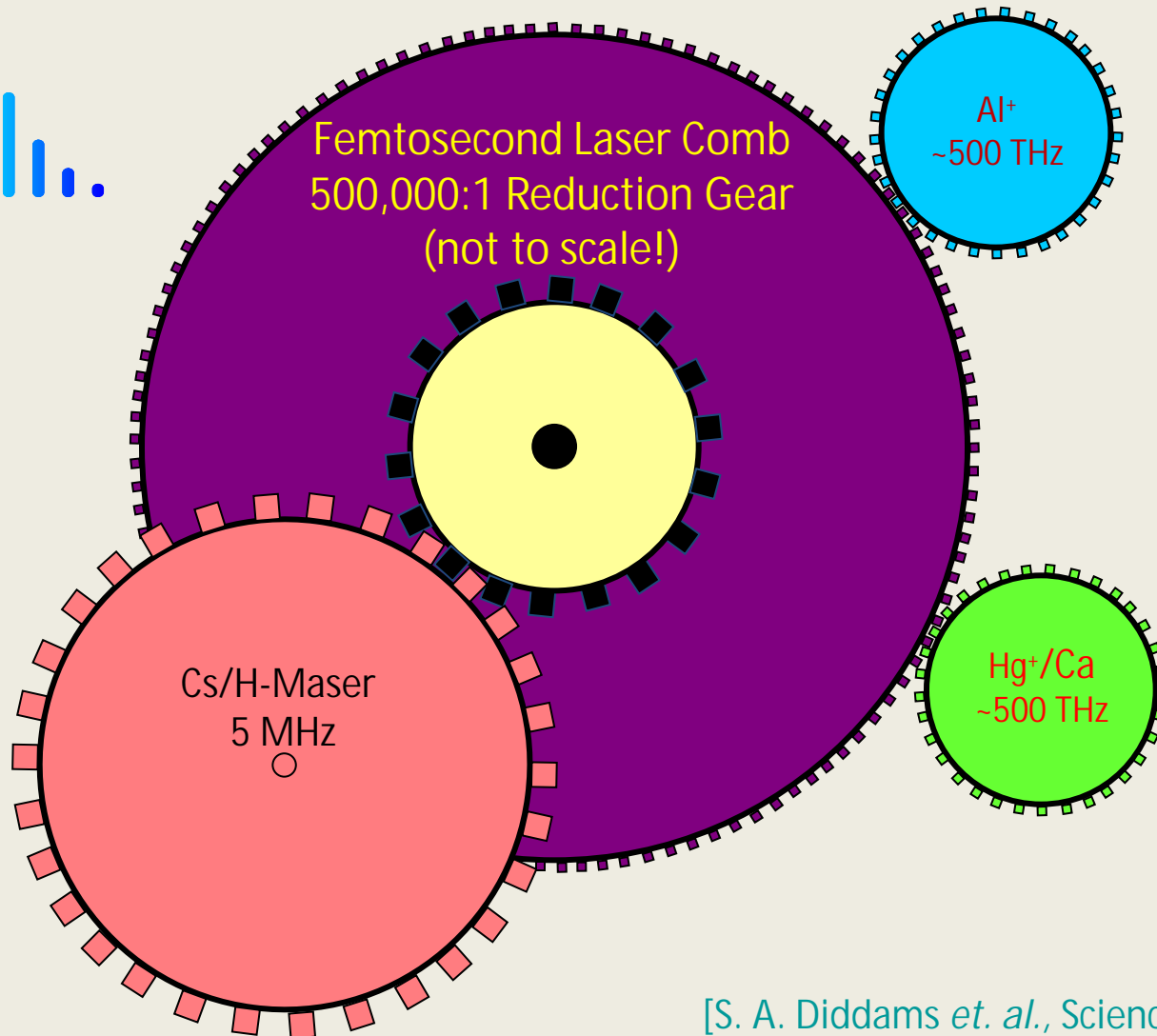
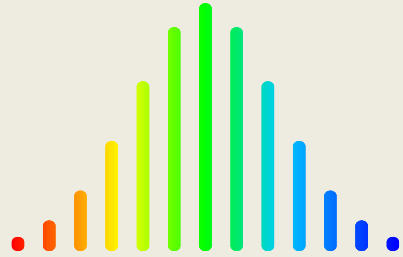
Photo: Sears P. Sladet
John L. Hall



Photo: F.M. Schemel
Theodor W. Hänsch



RF to Optical Clockwork with a Femtosecond Laser Comb



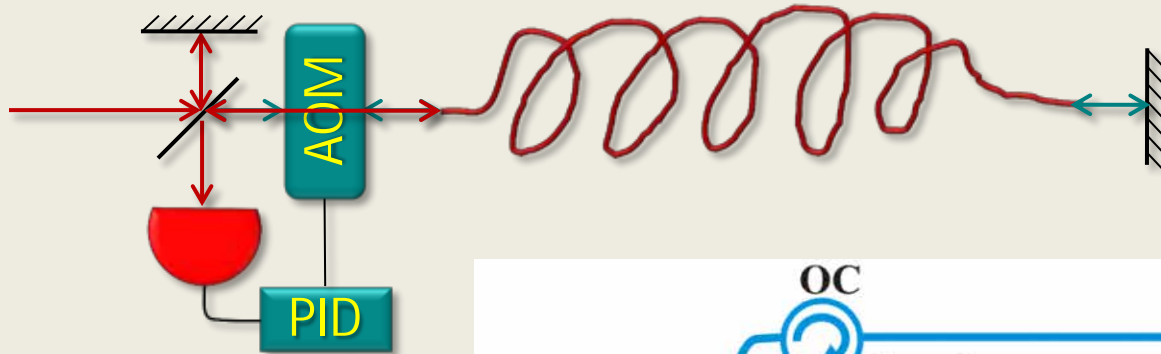
Comb choices

- Ti:Sa combs
 - high repetition rate (>1 GHz)
 - high spectral purity of comb lines
 - more difficult to operate
 - spectrum centered around 800 nm
- fiber-based combs
 - medium repetition rate (250 MHz)
 - high phase noise (~ 200 kHz comb tooth width)
 - 24/7 operation
 - spectrum centered around $1.5 \mu\text{m}$
 - è non-linear fibers & crystals allow tailoring of center frequency
 - è telecom compatible!

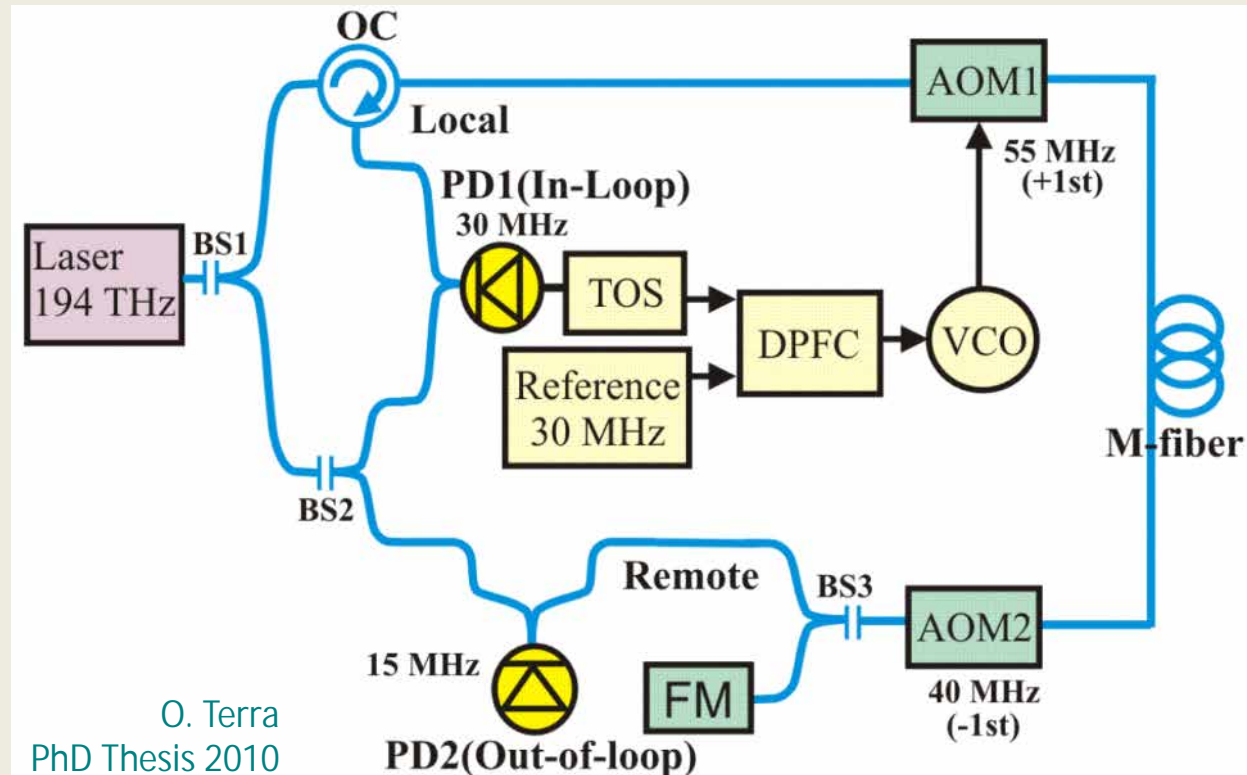


Fiber Length Stabilisation

- Length stabilization via Michelson Interferometer

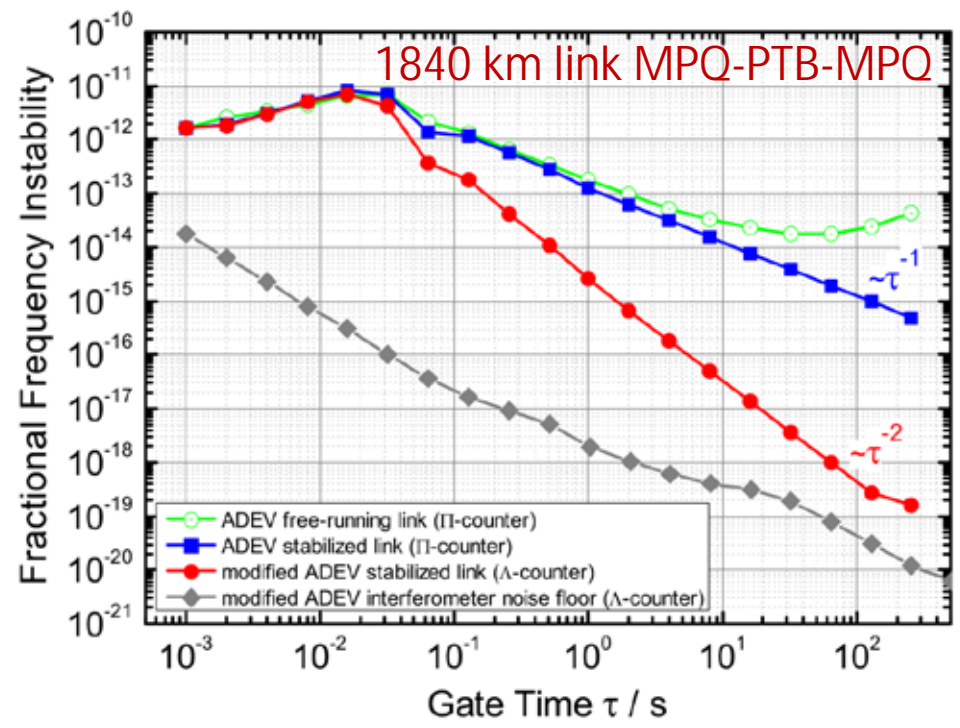


- BS: beam splitter
- OC: optical circulator
- TOS: tracking oscillator
- DPFC: digital phase-frequency comparator
- VCO: voltage controlled oscillator
- FM: Faraday mirror
- AOM: acousto-optical modulator
- PD: photo diode



Performance Fiber Links

- Optical carrier 900 km: 5×10^{-18} in 10^4 s
- fundamental stability limit: time delay in feedback
 \Rightarrow residual PSD: $S_D(f) \approx (2\pi f\tau)^3 S_{fiber}(f)/3$
- non-reciprocal noise



\Rightarrow Group of Harald Schnatz @ PTB

EXAMPLES OF CLOCKS

Aluminum as Optical Clock Atom

- Hans Dehmelt 1992 (NP 1989)

- **Al⁺ Features:**

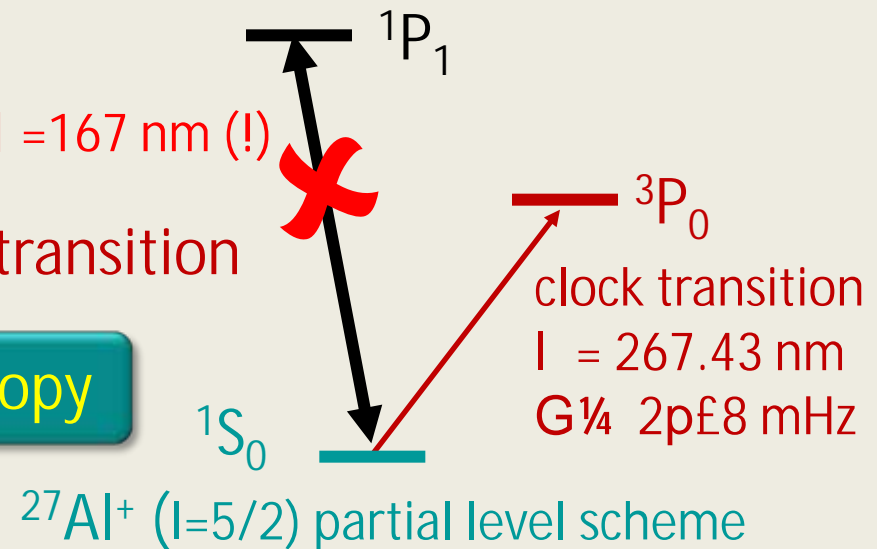
- no electric quadrupole shift
 - small black-body shift
 - small Zeeman shift
- } high accuracy

- narrow optical transition

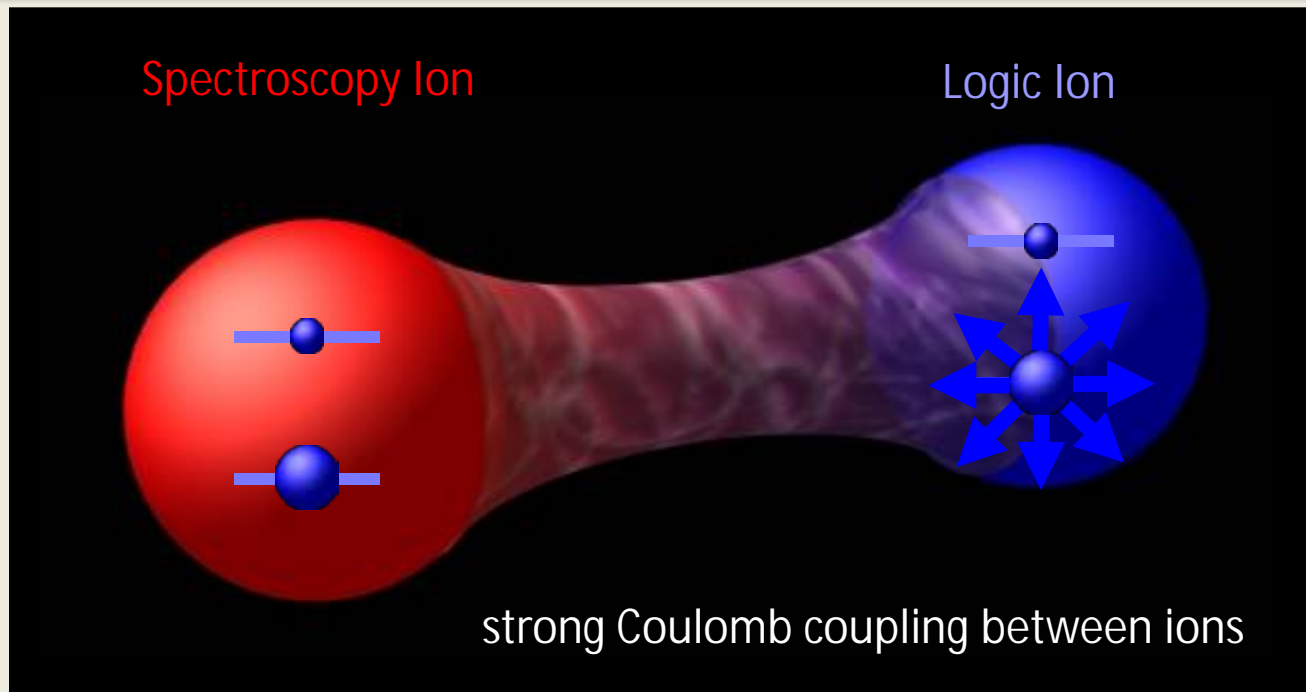
è high stability

- But: no accessible cooling transition

è quantum logic spectroscopy

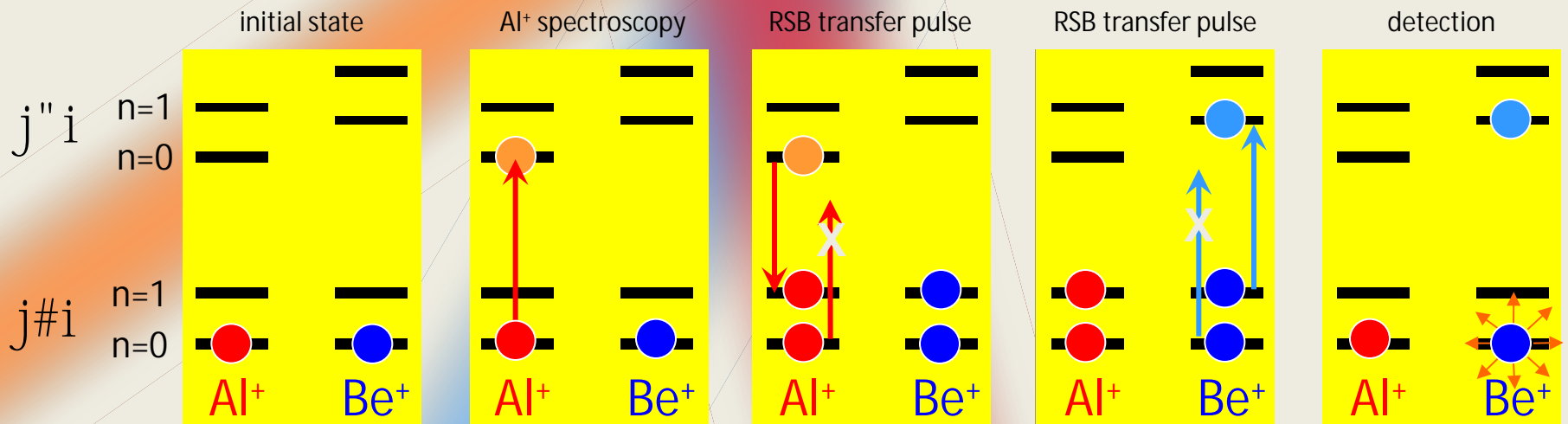
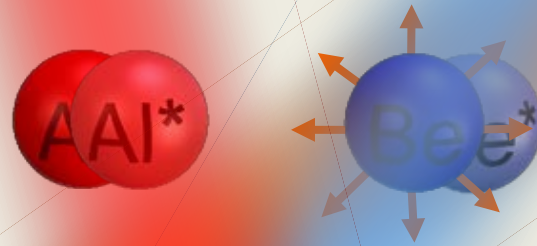


Quantum Logic Spectroscopy



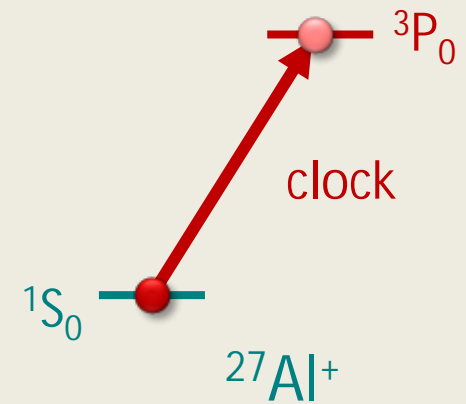
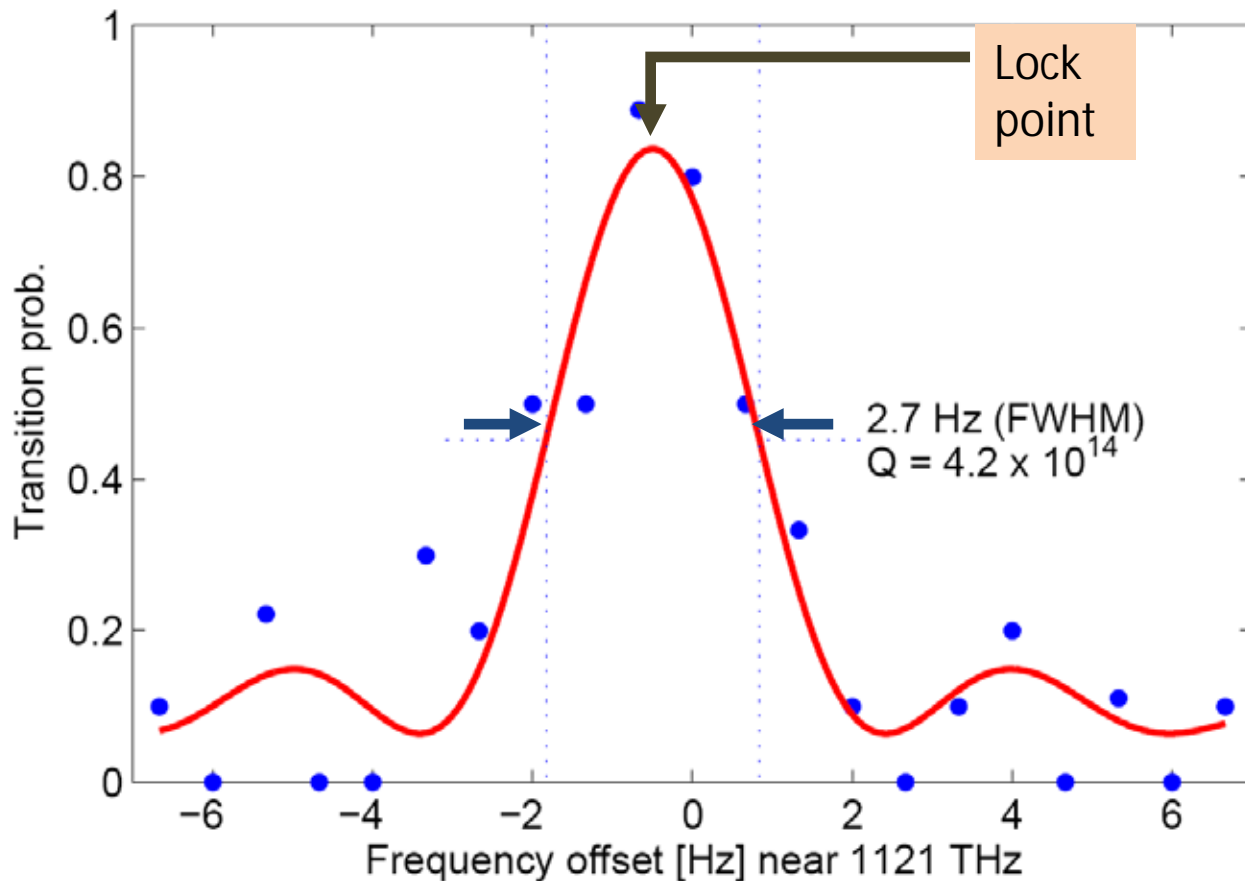
- logic ion is a sensor for spectroscopy ion
 - spectroscopy ion controlled through logic ion
 - combine advantages of atomic species
- è requires long-lived spectroscopy states

Quantum Logic State Transfer

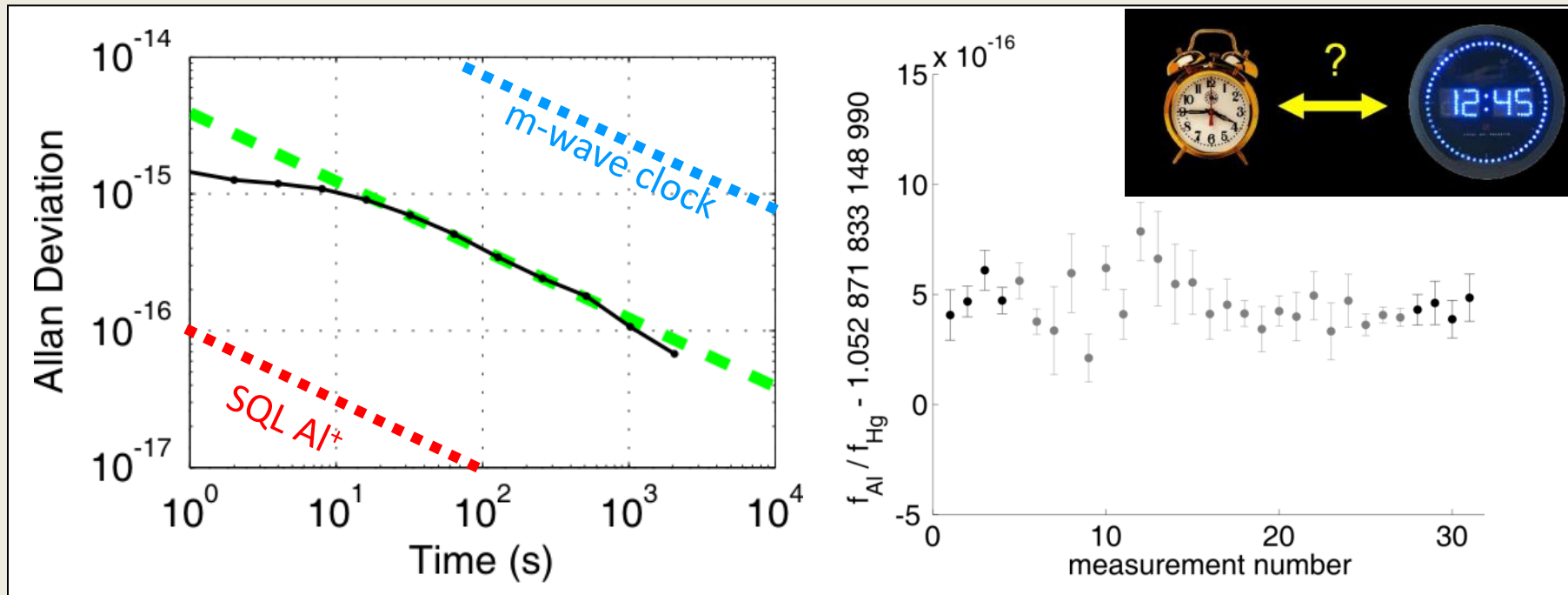


Al⁺ Clock Transition

Al⁺ $^1S_0 - ^3P_0$ resonance (10 scans, 300 ms probe time)



NIST Al⁺-1/Hg⁺ Comparison

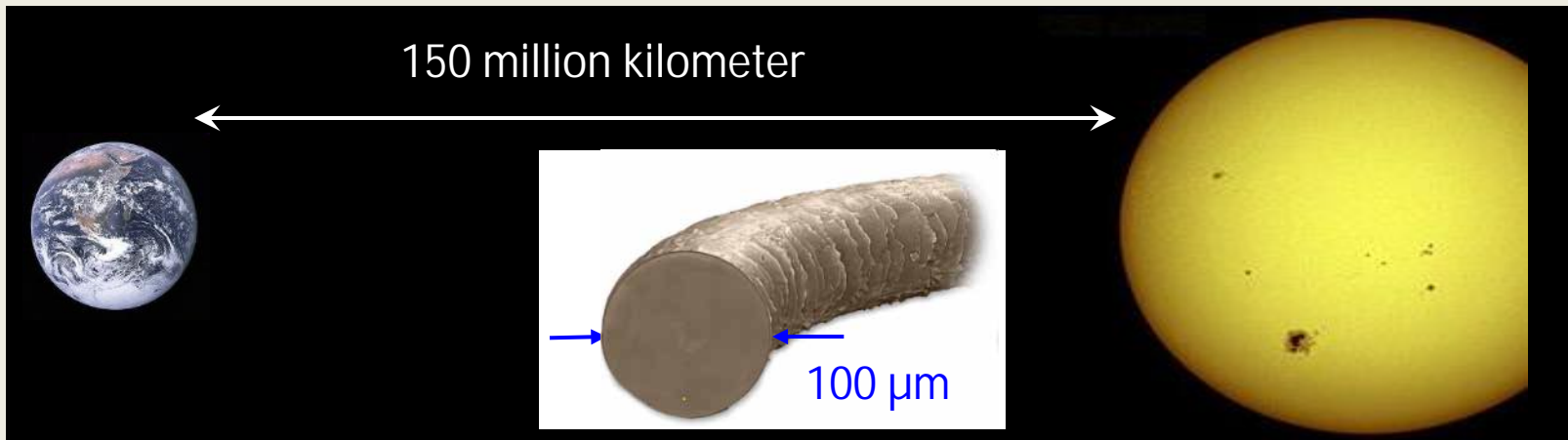


Al⁺: 2.3 × 10⁻¹⁷ systematic uncertainty
Hg⁺: 1.9 × 10⁻¹⁷ systematic uncertainty

First comparison of
frequency standards at
the 17th digit

What does 10^{-17} mean?

- 10x more accurate than Cs fountain clocks
- 1 s deviation in 3 billion years
- 1st order Doppler shift: 3 nm/s or 300 $\mu\text{m}/\text{year}$
- Gravitational red shift of 10 cm
- Distance measurement earth-sun to 1/100 of the diameter of a hair



NIST Al-2 error budget

Effect	Parameter	Shift [x 10 ⁻¹⁸]	Uncertainty [x 10 ⁻¹⁸]
Blackbody shift	Operating temperature	-9	3 ± 0.6*
Micromotion 2 nd order Doppler	Radial static field	-9	6
Secular 2 nd order Doppler	Radial temperature	-16.1	5
2 nd order Zeeman	RMS magnetic field	-1079.9	0.7
Cooling laser Stark shift	I / I _{sat}	-3.6	1.5
Linear Doppler shift, clock laser Stark shift, background gas collisions shift, AOM frequency error		0	0.6
Total		-1117.6	8.6 ± 8.0

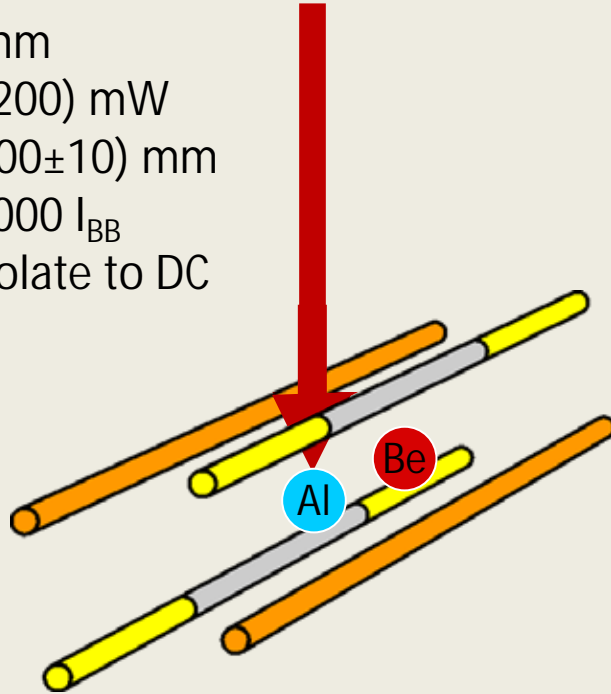
C.-W. Chou, et al.

PRL 104, 070802 (2010)

* C.-W. Chou, priv. com. (2014)

Polarizability Measurement

$\lambda = 1126 \text{ nm}$
 $P = (600 \pm 200) \text{ mW}$
 $\text{waist} = (100 \pm 10) \text{ mm}$
 $I_{1126} = 21\,000 I_{\text{BB}}$
è extrapolate to DC



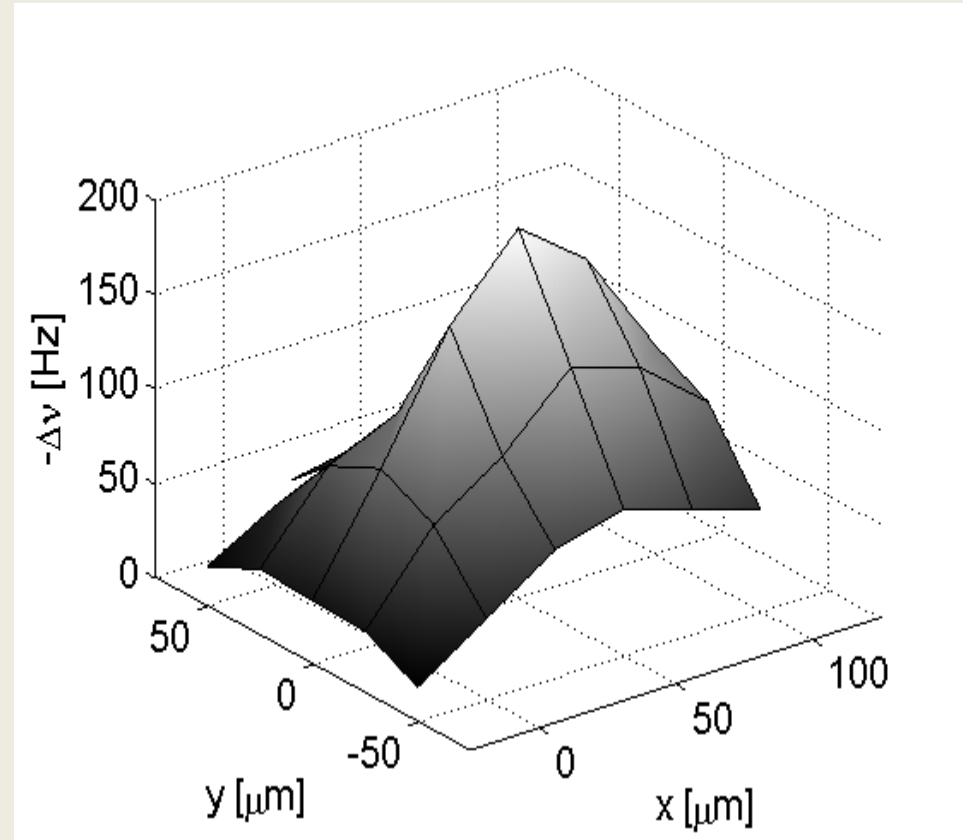
New measurement with 976 nm laser:

è $\Delta\alpha_S = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \cdot 6.31(85) \cdot 10^{-32} \text{ m}^3$

è agrees well with theory value

è $\Delta f/f = 3.8(4) \times 10^{-18}$

[C.-W. Chou, priv. com. (2014)]

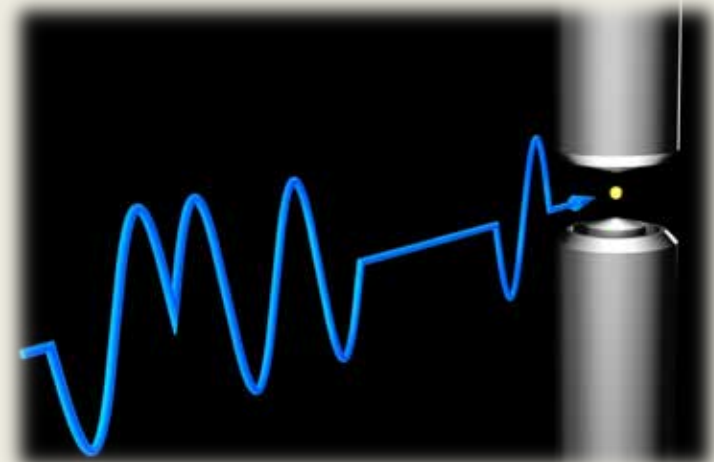
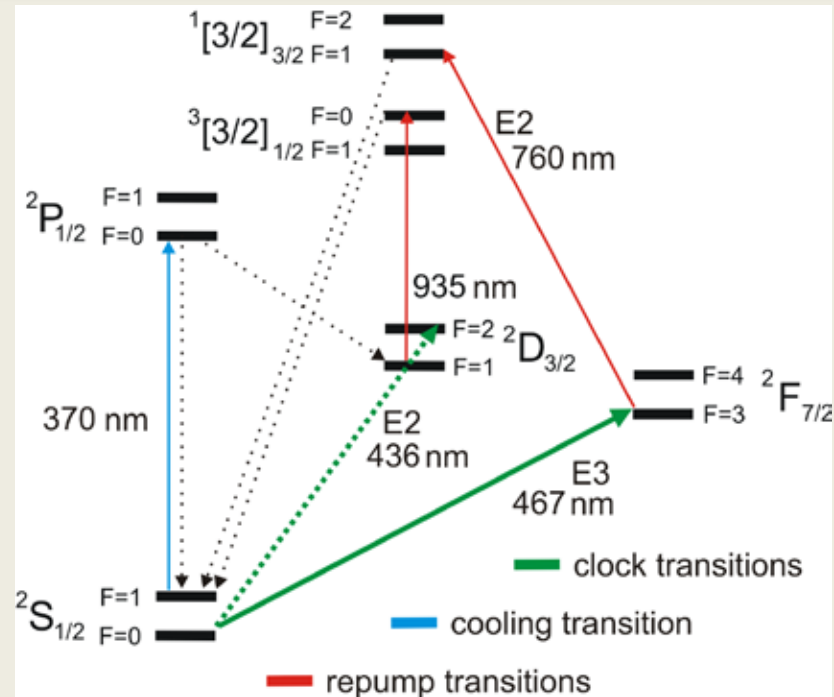


map out laser intensity profile

[T. Rosenband et al. in *Proceedings of the 20th EFTF* 289–291 (2006)]

$^{171}\text{Yb}^+$

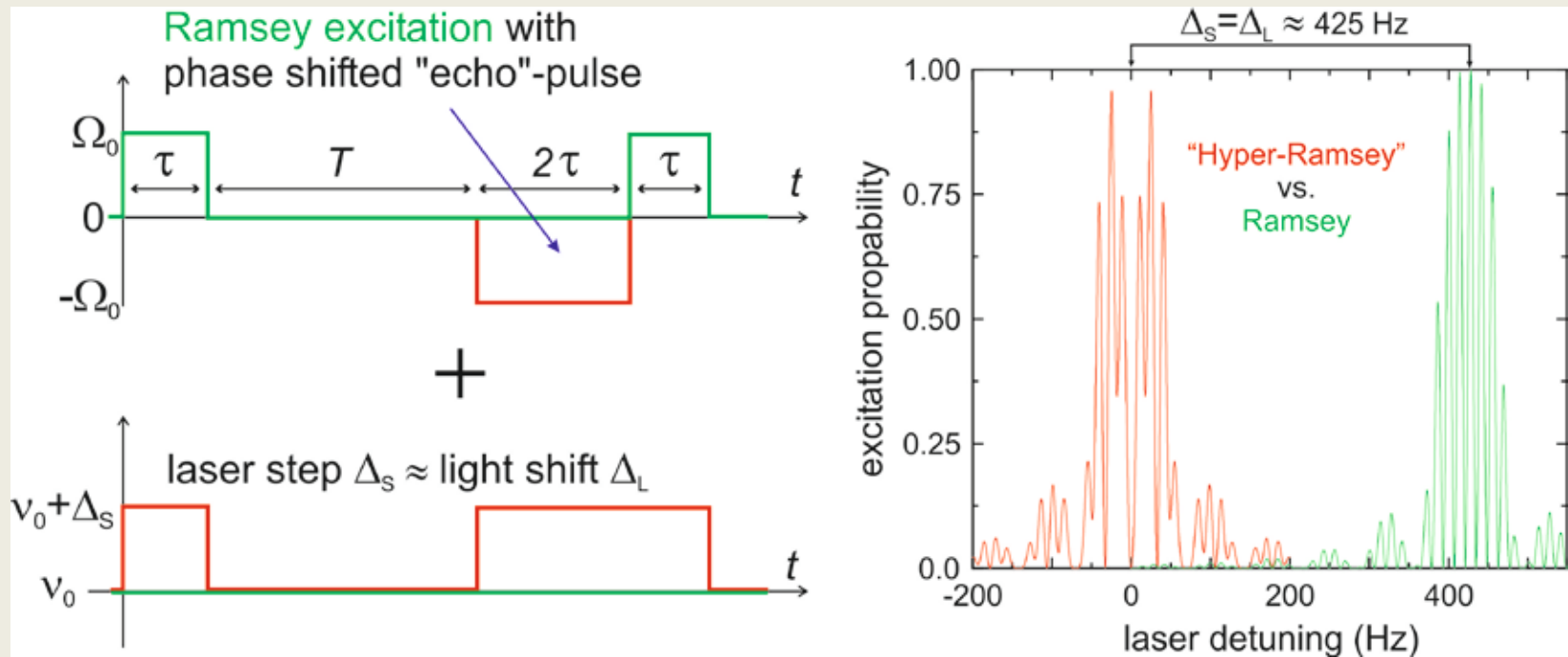
- 2 clock transitions:
 - quadrupole (E2): 3.1 Hz
 - octupole (E3): 10^{-9} Hz
 - high sensitivity to $\dot{\alpha}/\alpha$
 - but: E3 has huge AC Stark shift from clock laser!
- è Hyper-Ramsey spectroscopy



E2: Tamm *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **80**, 043403 (2009)

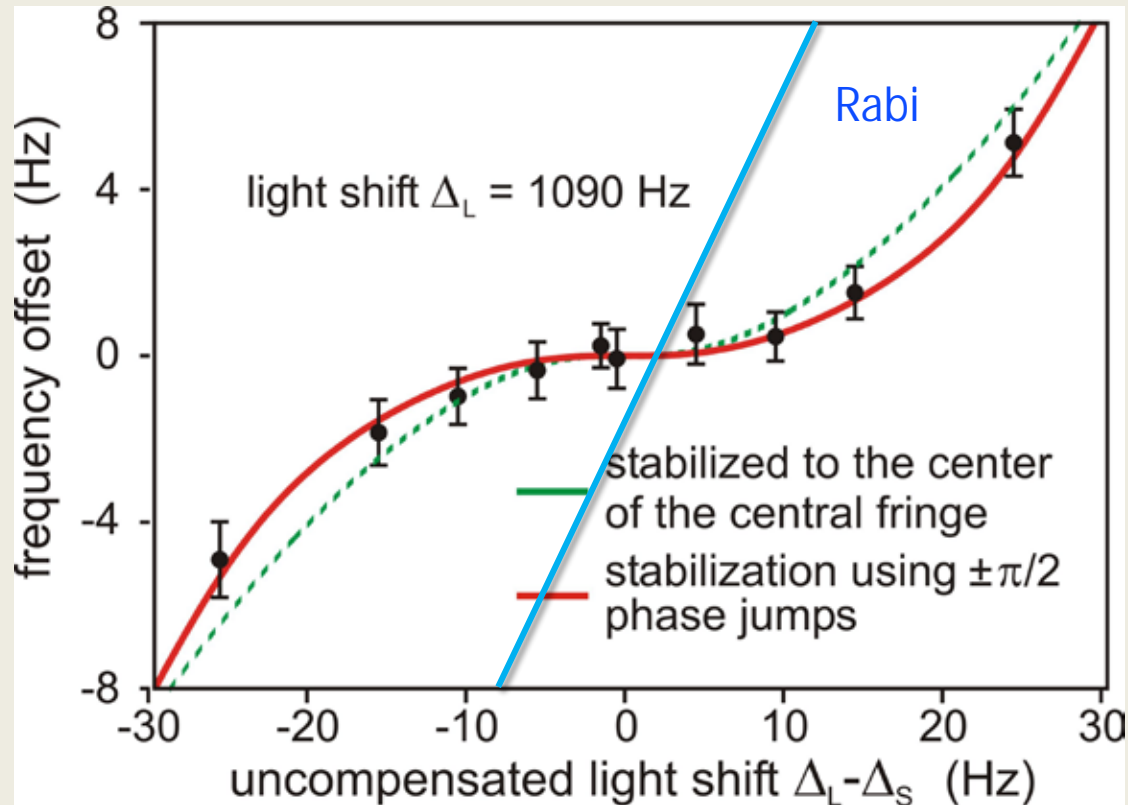
E3: Huntemann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **108**, 090801 (2012)

Hyper-Ramsey Spectroscopy



- frequency of probe laser is adjusted to match light shift during pulses: $\Delta_S = \Delta_L$
- additional π -pulse cancels the linear dependence on Δ_L
 \Rightarrow strong suppression of light shift
- Discriminator signal is generated by $\pm\pi/2$ phase steps

Hyper-Ramsey Spectroscopy



- interleaved stabilization on $(\Delta_L - \Delta_S) = 0$ and $(\Delta_L - \Delta_S) \neq 0$
è cubic dependence of the resonance centered on $(\Delta_L - \Delta_S)$

Compare to: Sr lattice clock

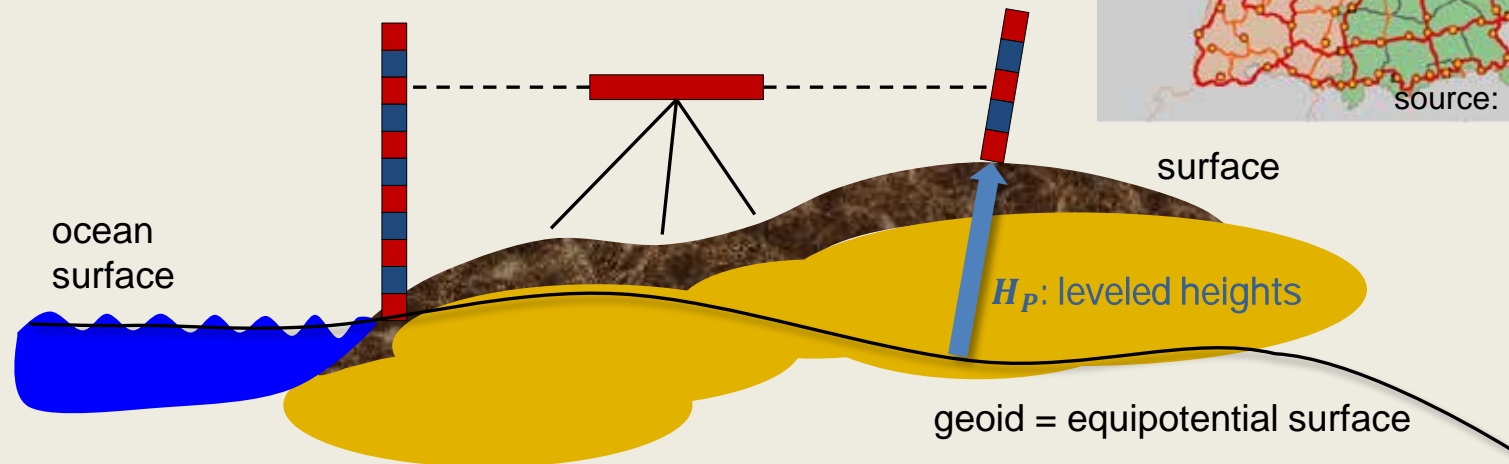
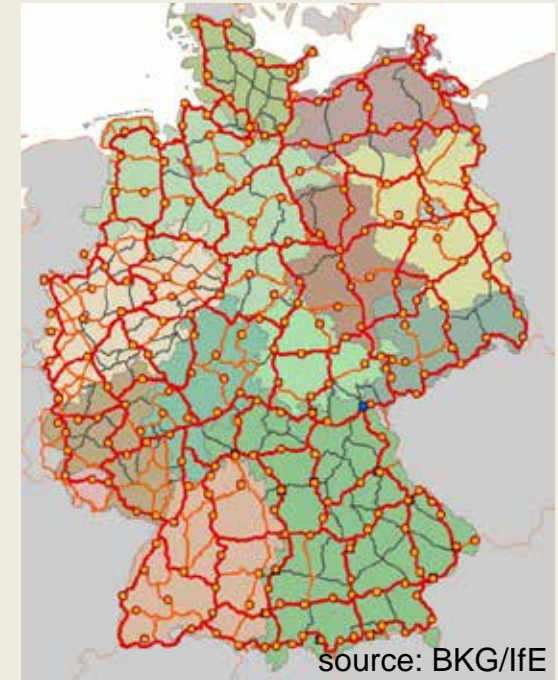
Effect	Shift ($\times 10^{-18}$)	Uncertainty ($\times 10^{-18}$)
Lattice Stark	-1.3	1.1
BBR static	-4562.1	0.3
BBR dynamic	-305.3	1.4
dc Stark	0.0	0.1
Probe Stark	0.0	0.0
1 st -order Zeeman	-0.2	0.2
2 nd -order Zeeman	-51.7	0.3
Density	-3.5	0.4
Line pulling + tunneling	0.0	<0.1
2 nd -order Doppler	0.0	<0.1
Background gas	0.0	<0.6
Servo offset	-0.5	0.4
AOM phase chirp	0.6	0.4
Total	-4924.0	2.1

lowest estimated uncertainty for a lattice clock

APPLICATIONS

Leveling and Height Systems

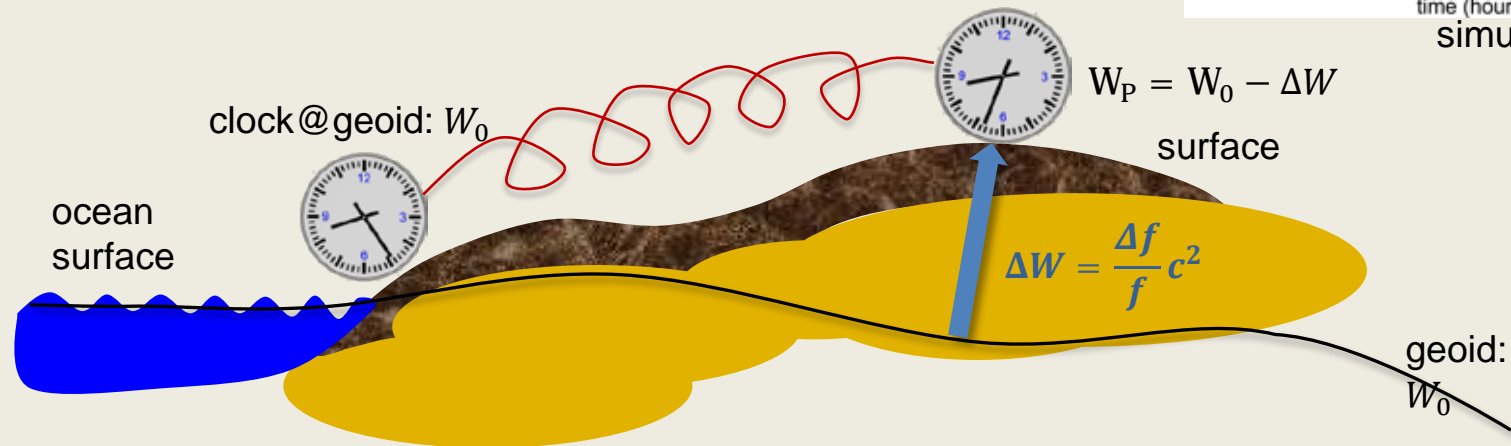
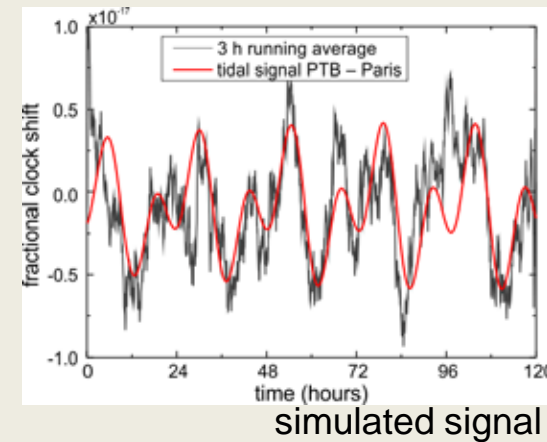
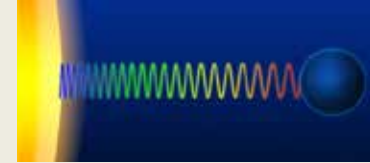
- Establishing a height system:
leveling + terrestrial gravimetry
- In Germany:
 - 30 908 km leveling lines
 - 287 loops, 469 nodes
 - renewed every ~10 years



- remark: GPS measures height above ellipsoid

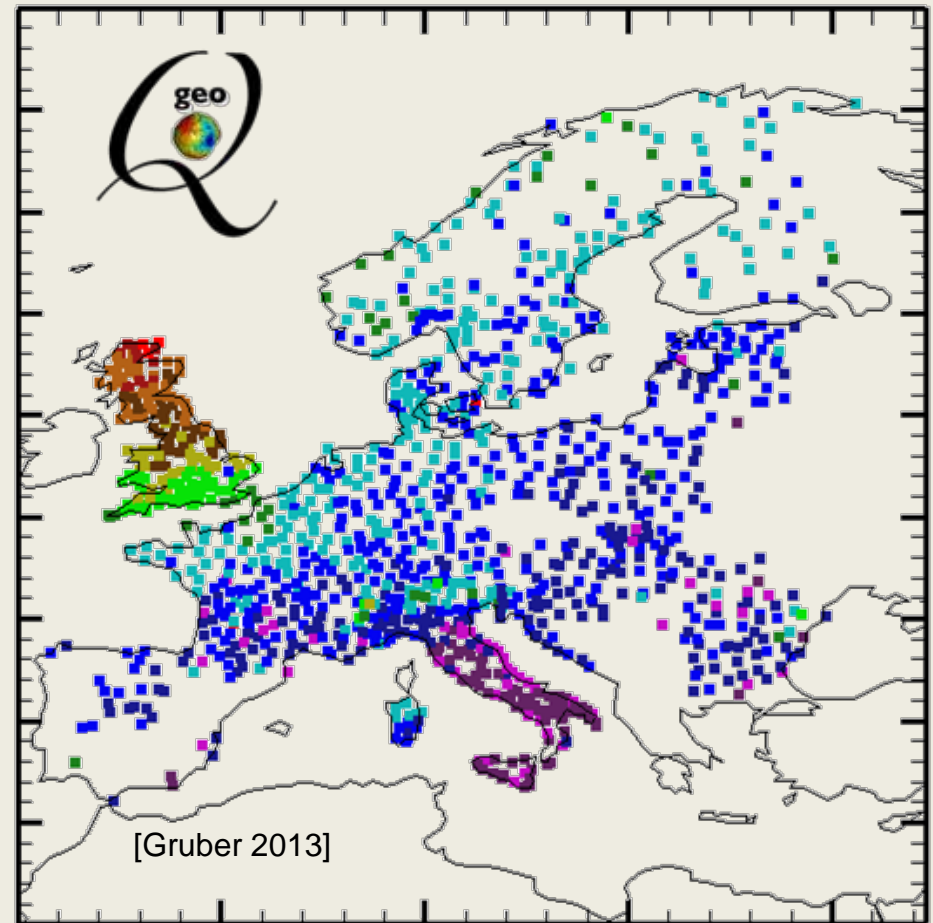
New Era: Relativistic Geodesy

- relativistic frequency change: $\frac{\Delta f}{f} = \frac{W_0 - W_P}{c^2}$
 - gravity potential W : **Newtonian + centrifugal terms**
 - height: $H_P = \frac{W_0 - W_P}{\bar{g}} = \frac{c^2 \Delta f}{\bar{g} f}$
- è chronometric leveling over long distances
 è clock-based height system
 è Required for redefinition of the SI second



Resolve Height Inconsistencies?

- decimeter inconsistencies hamper combination of tide gauges
- è efforts for height system modernization
- è clocks could provide in-situ cm accuracy referenced to well-defined W_0

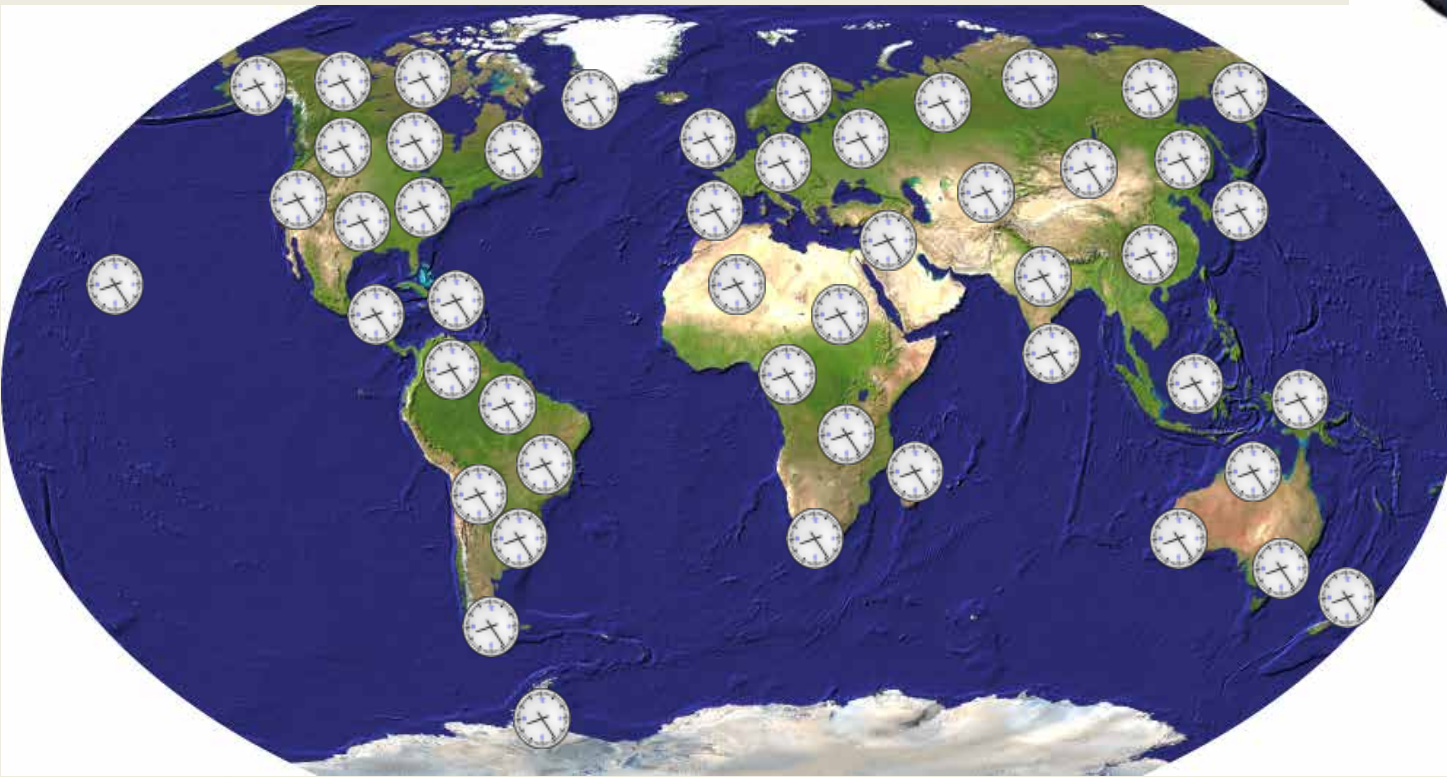
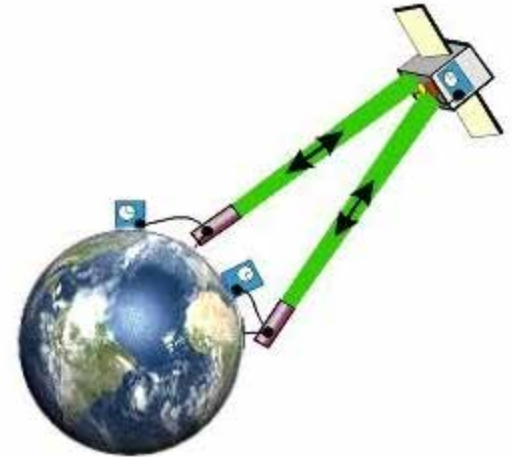


-0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.0 0.2 0.4

Leveled heights – GNSS/geoid heights (m)

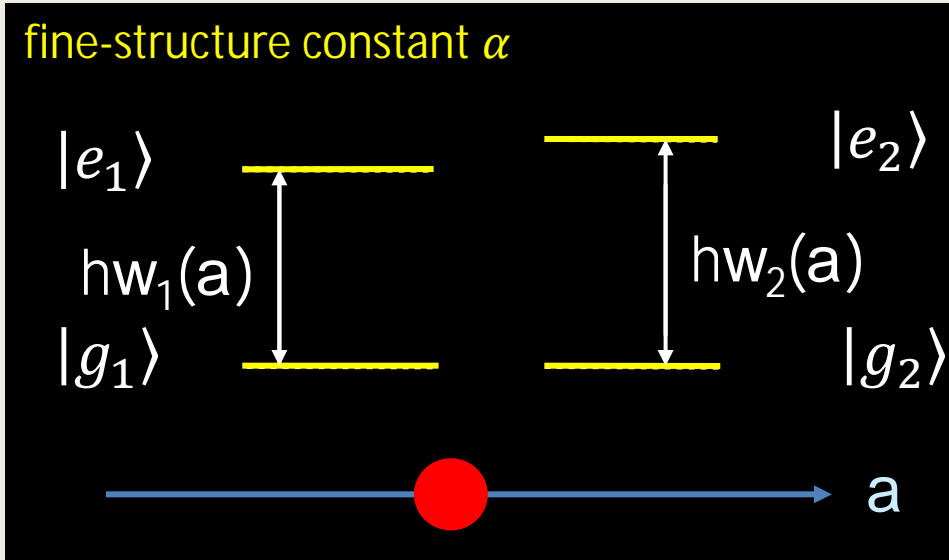
Vision

optical frequency comparison
via satellites
è clock-based consistent
reference frame

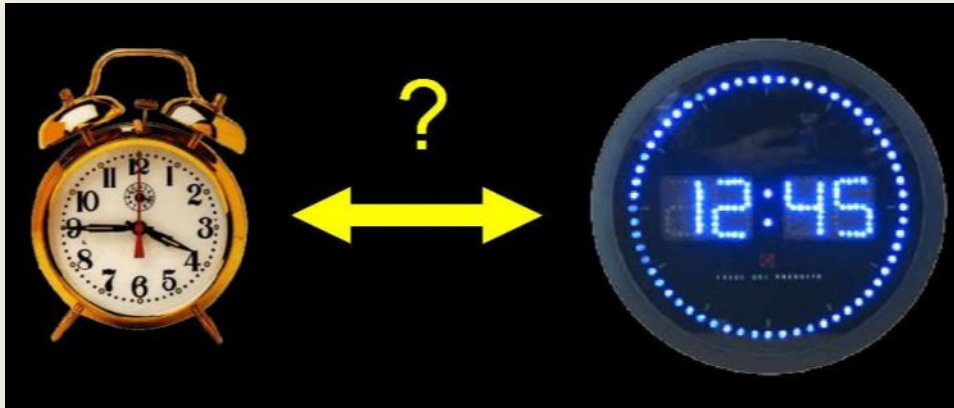


Variation of Fundamental Constants

fine-structure constant α

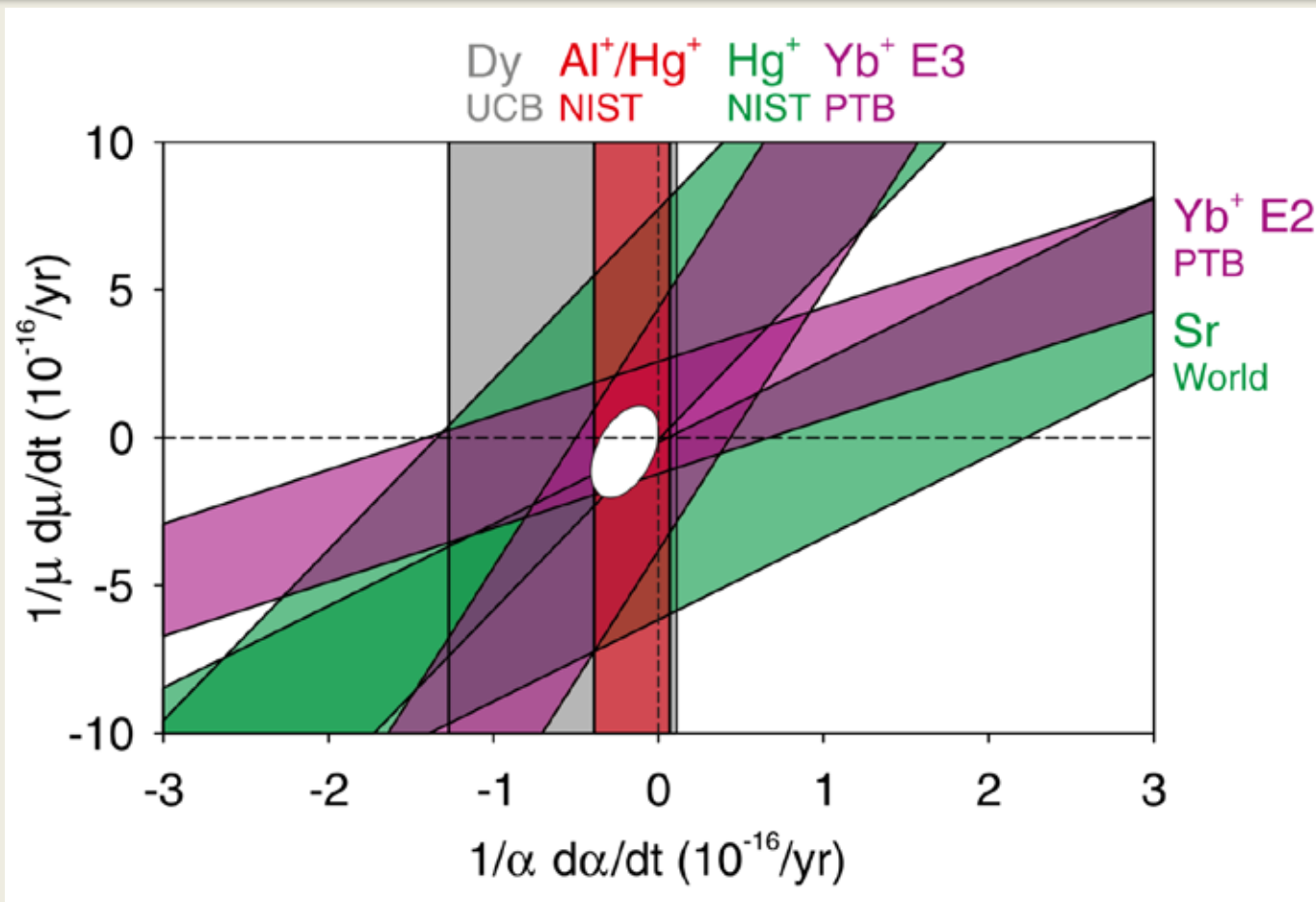


$$\omega_k(\alpha) \approx \omega_k + 2q_k \frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha}$$



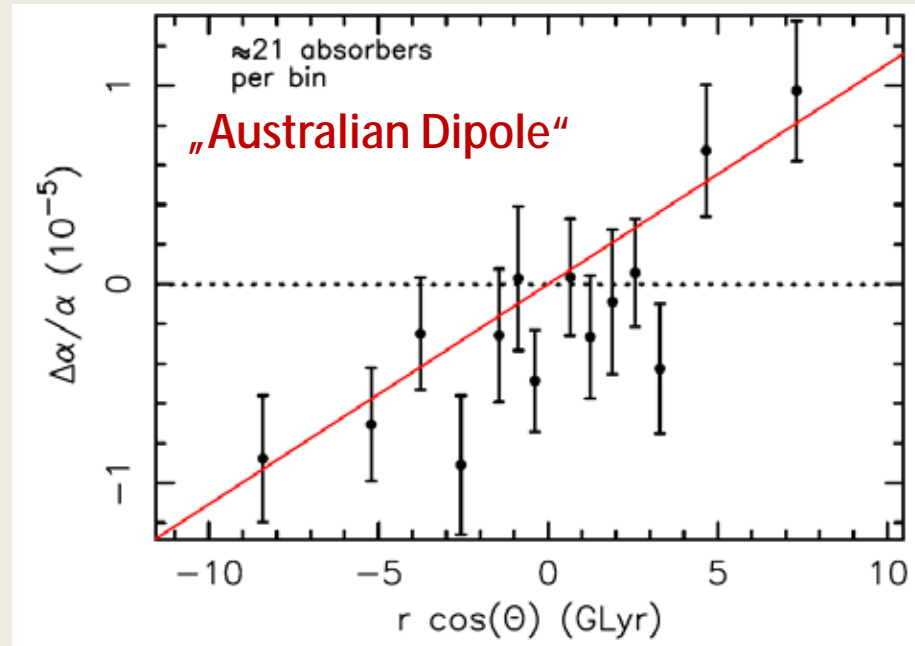
system	q (cm ⁻¹)
Sr	443
Dy	-24000, 6000
Yb ⁺ E2	10397
Yb ⁺ E3	-63752
Hg ⁺	-52200
Al ⁺	146
Ho ¹⁴⁺	-186000
Ir ¹⁷⁺	-385367, 367161
Cf ^{16+*}	-370928, 465293
Th [*] nuclear	2.5×10^8

Combined data from clocks



$$\dot{\alpha}/\alpha = -0.20(20) \times 10^{-16}/\text{year}$$
$$\dot{\mu}/\mu = -0.5(1.6) \times 10^{-16}/\text{year}$$

Latest Astronomy Result: Spatial Variation of α ?



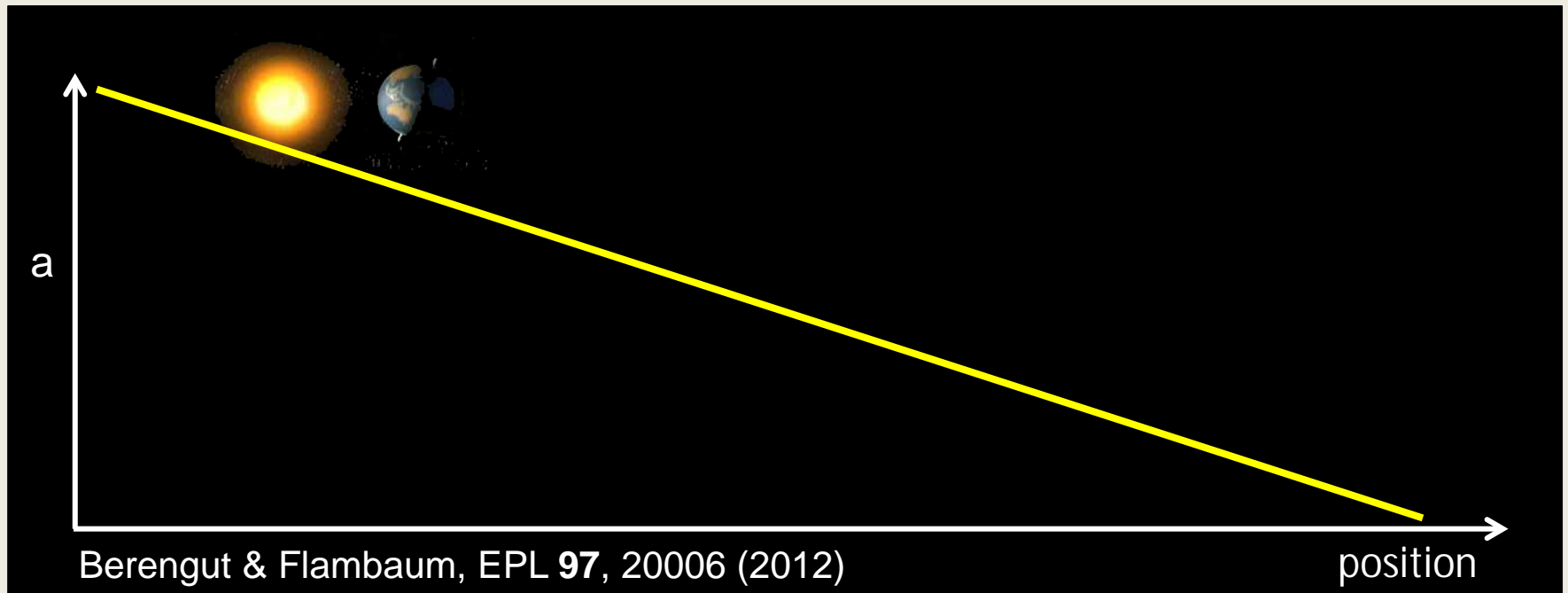
J.K. Webb *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 191101 (2011)

è α changes with position: $\Delta\alpha/\alpha = 1.10(25) \times 10^{-6} \cos \Theta$

Limited by knowledge of isotope shifts of broad transitions!

Future Challenges

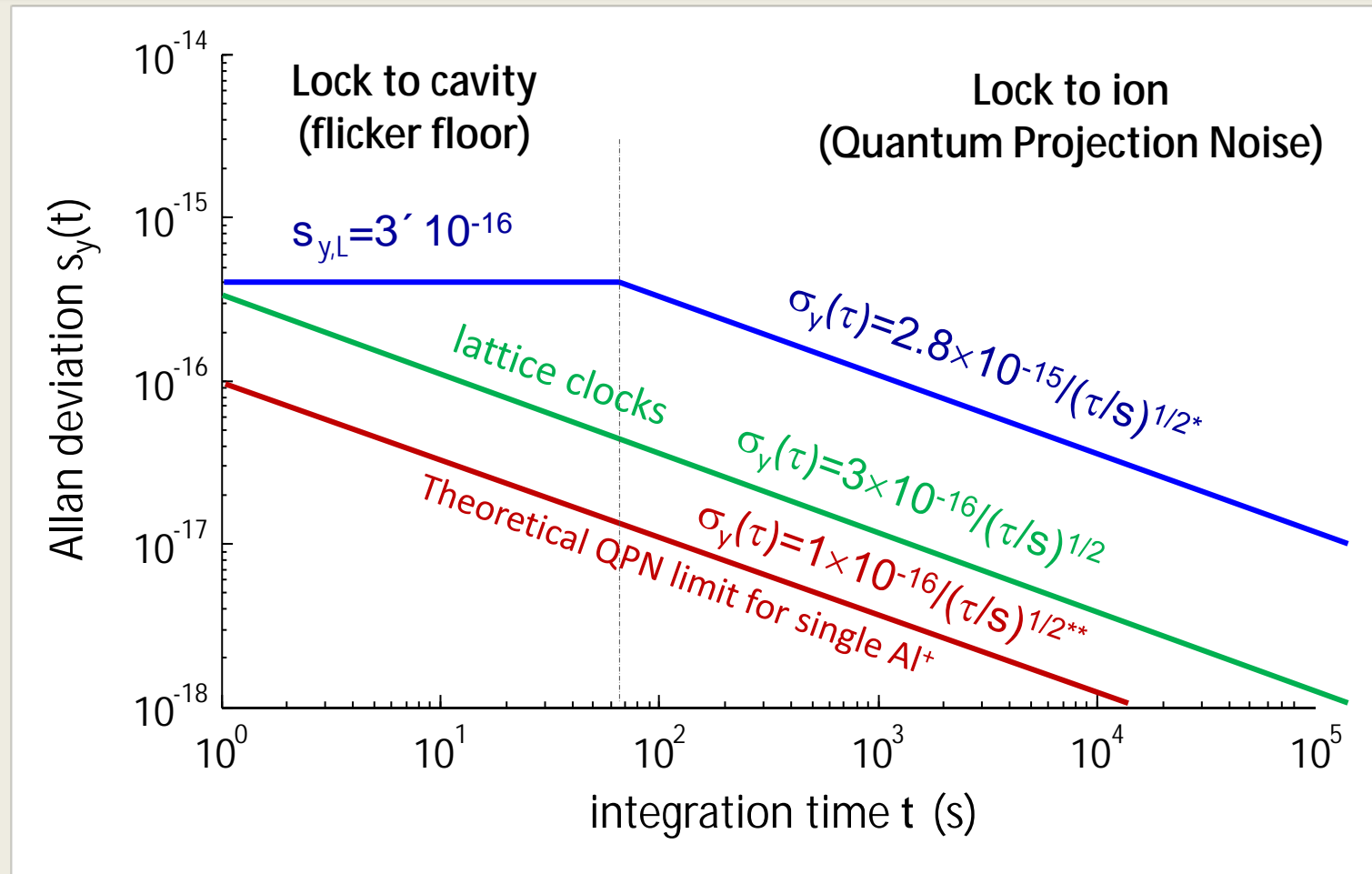
- „Australian Dipole“ suggests spatial variation of α
- solar system is moving with respect to CMB background
è variation in α : $\frac{\Delta\alpha}{\alpha} \approx 10^{-19}/year$



- dark matter searches, gravitational waves,...

FUTURE TRENDS

Improved Stability?



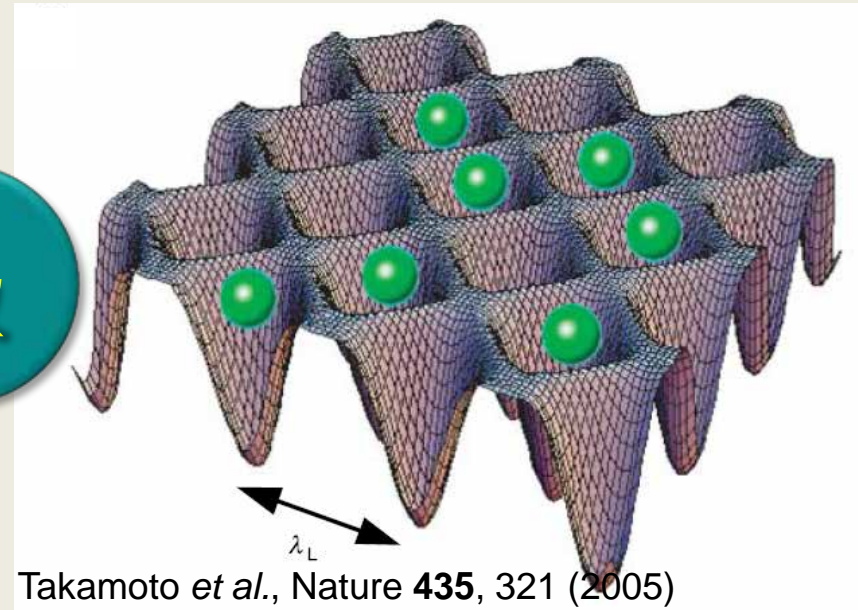
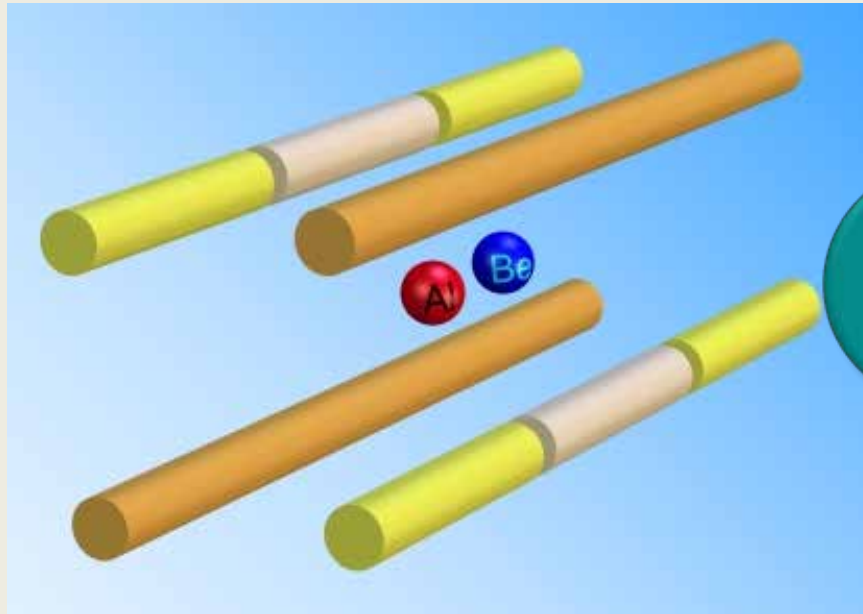
Several interrogations required for lock to ion!

* Chou *et al.* PRL, vol. 104, Issue 7 (2011)

E. Peik *et al.* J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. **39 (2006) 145–158

Ultimate Stability Boost?

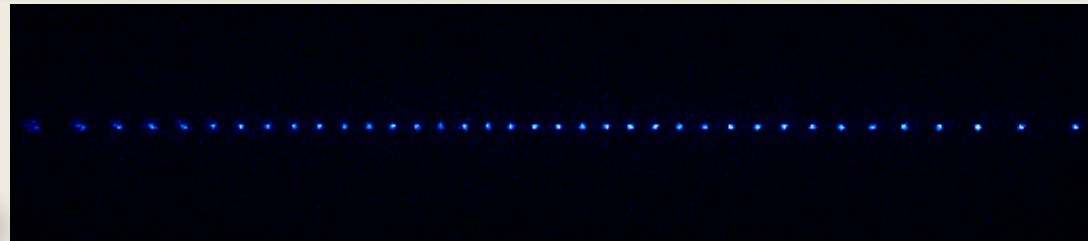
è precision spectroscopy with multiple ions?



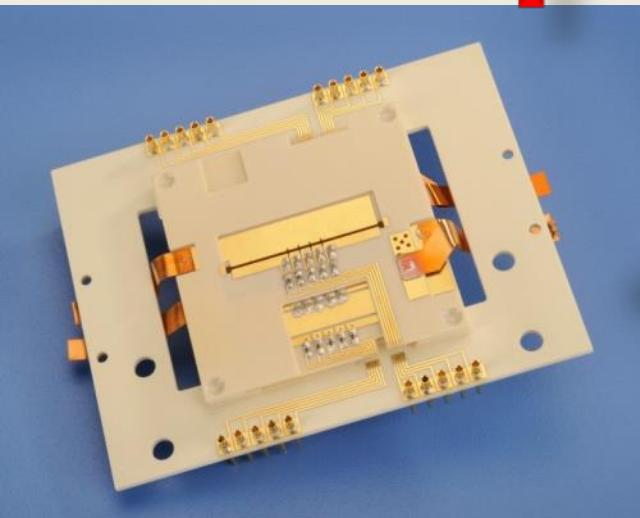
Multi-Ion Traps



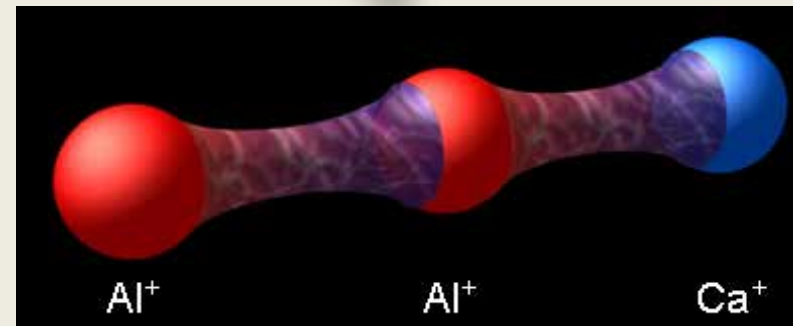
T.E. Mehlstäubler



- Multi-ion clocks
- Entangled ion clocks (Heisenberg limit)
- Scalable ion traps!



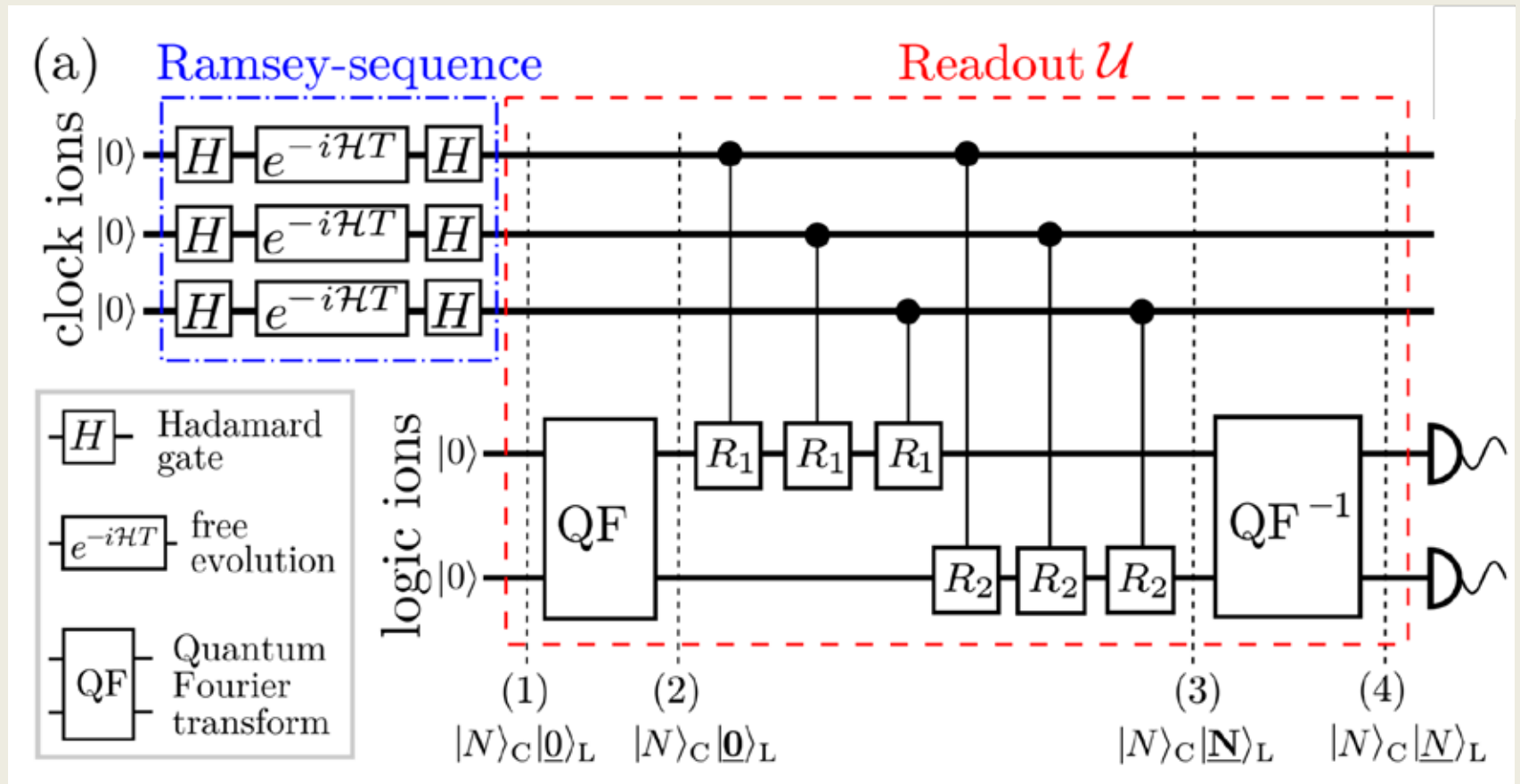
Herschbach *et al.*, Appl. Phys. B **107**, 891 (2012)
Pyka *et al.*, Appl. Phys. B **114**, 231–241 (2014)



works only for ions with $\Theta_{el} \sim 0$: Al⁺, In⁺

Quantum algorithmic clock readout

- problem: multi-ion readout for quantum logic clock
- è map # of excited clock ions in binary code onto logic ions

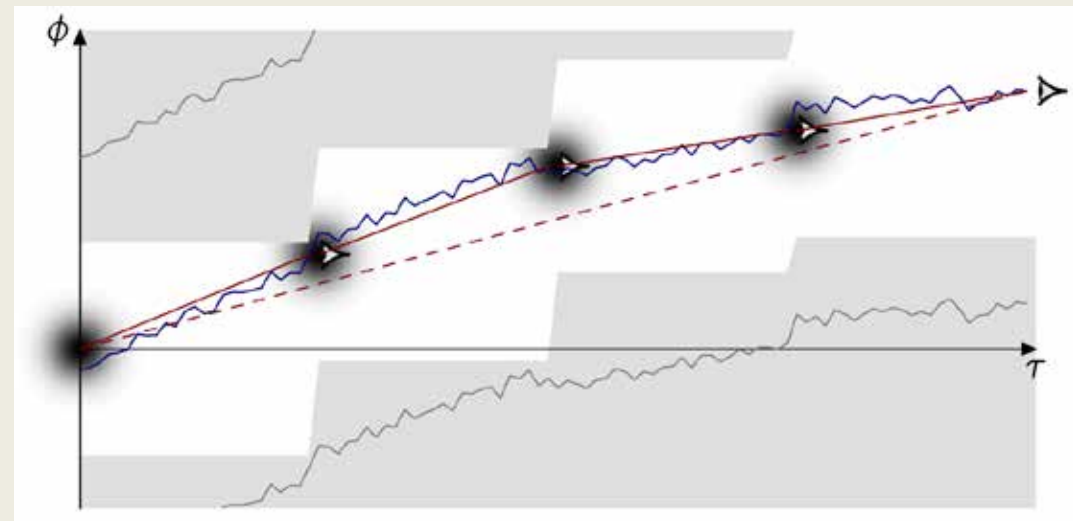
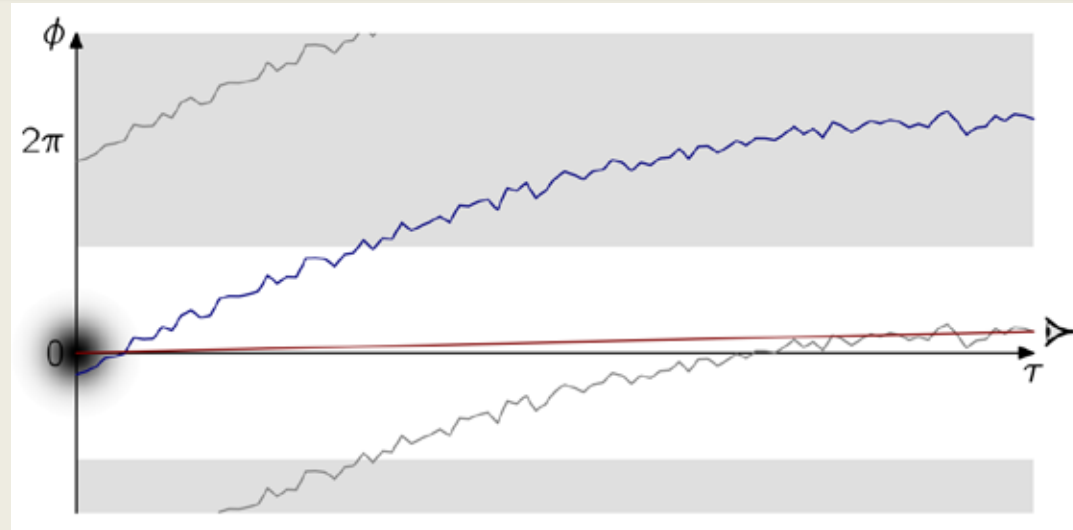


Cascaded clocks

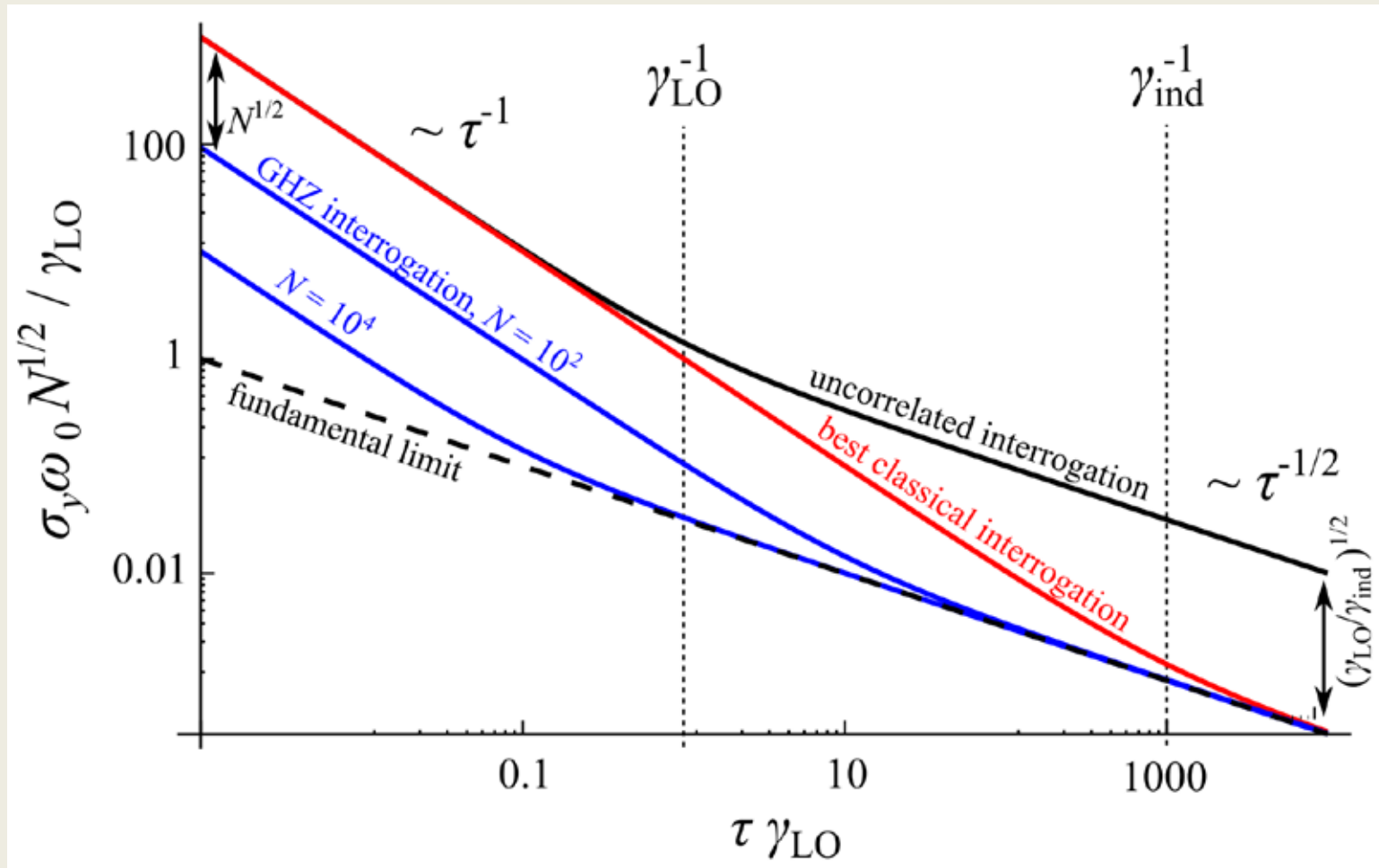
- problem: flicker frequency noise of laser
è limits probe time T_c

$$\sigma_y(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi f_0 \sqrt{NT_c \tau}}$$

- idea: use cascaded ensembles of clocks operating at different interrogation times
è extend maximum probe time to $T_c^* \gg T_c$



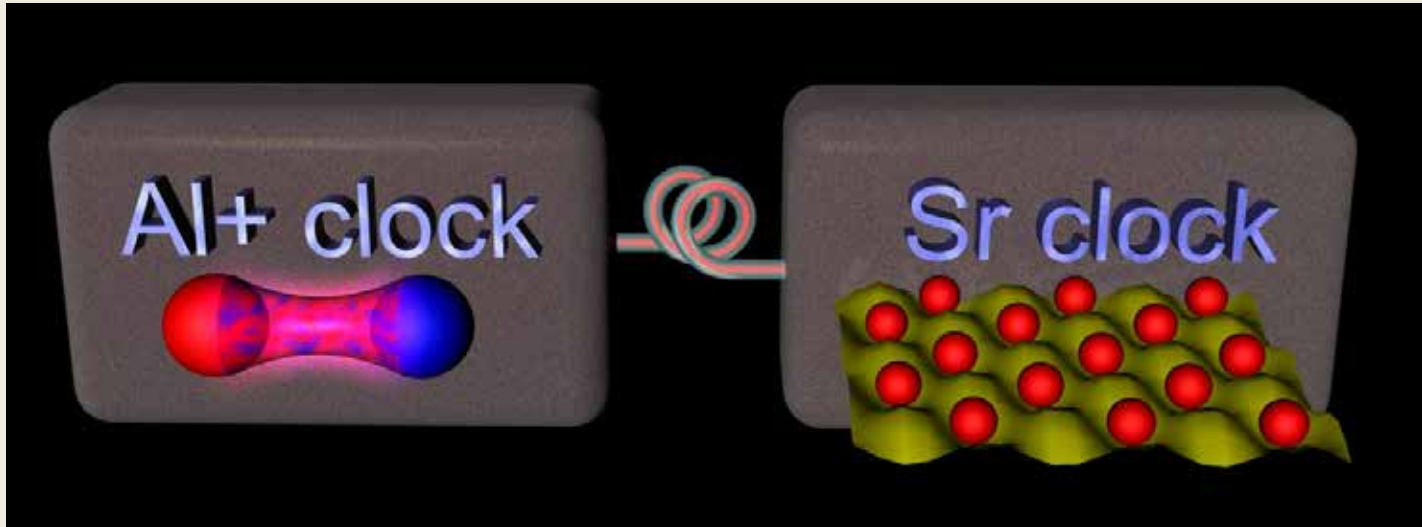
Entanglement for improved stability?



Hybrid Clock

- Al⁺-slaved Sr lattice clock

è accuracy of Al⁺ + stability of Sr lattice



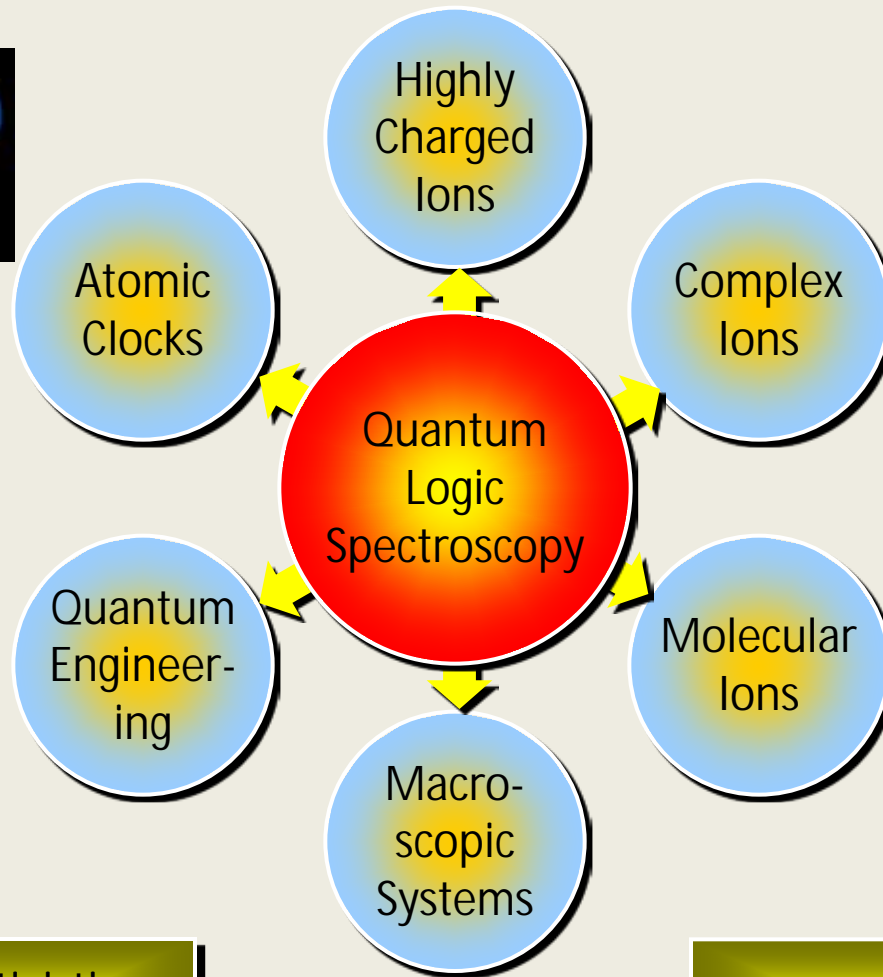
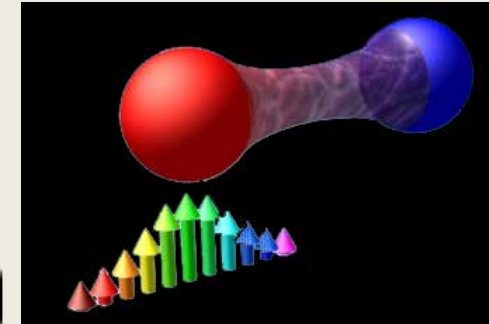
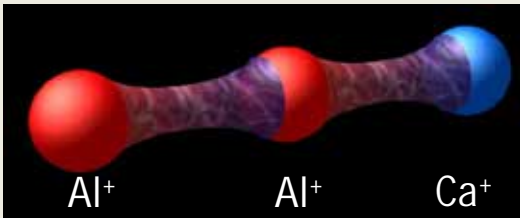
- approach for clocks with the same species:

correlation spectroscopy

è local oscillator noise acts the same on both atoms

è common mode rejected

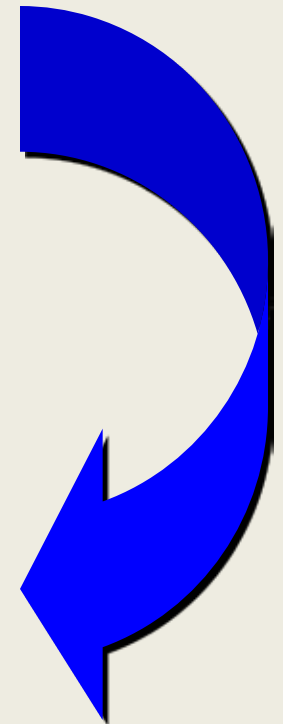
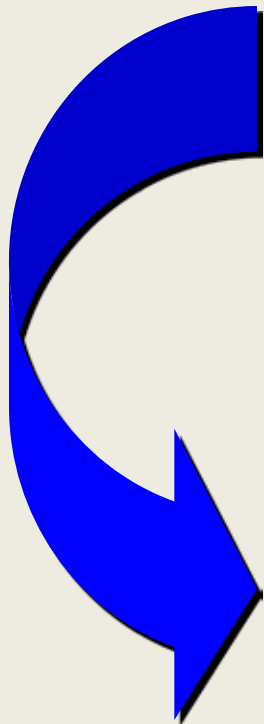
Quantum Logic Spectroscopy



Relativistic Geodesy

Fundamental Physics

Astronomy





The End