



**Quantum control of levitated massive
mechanical systems**
*- a new approach for gravitational
quantum physics*

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Faculty of Physics

University of Vienna, Austria

Summary

- The predictions of **quantum theory** and of **general relativity**, our current theory of gravity, are **extremely well confirmed by experiment**.
- There are **few table-top experiments to date** that probe the **interface between quantum physics and gravity**. In all these experiments, Earth's gravity acts as a **constant classical background field**. Loosely speaking, the quantum system is used as a „**test particle**“ in an external gravitational field.
- On the other hand, the last decade has seen large progress in controlling the **quantum regime of massive micro-mechanical oscillators**. These systems may lead the way to a **new class of gravitational quantum physics experiments**, in which the quantum system itself, e.g. the center of mass degree of freedom of a massive sphere, serves as a **gravitational source mass**.

Quantum theory works, as does GR...

Example from quantum theory: validity of the **quantum superposition principle** for

- orbital angular momentum states of photons up to a few hundred quantum numbers (1)
- μA -level current states carrying up to 10^6 electrons (2,3)
- collective spin degrees of freedom of 10^{12} Rubidium atoms (4).
- macromolecules (up to 10^4 amu) (5,6)
- vibrational degrees of freedoms of mechanical resonators (up to 10^{16} amu) (7,8)

Examples from GR:

- dynamics of binary pulsars (9)
- satellite tests of the Lense-Thirring effect (11,12).
- tests of the weak equivalence principle to an accuracy of better than 10^{-13} (13)
- measurements of Newton's constant G to 10^{-4} (14).
- atomic clocks for gravitational redshift to 10^{-6} (15).

→ strong relativistic fields
and gravitational radiation

→ solar-system scale experiments
in the weak relativistic regime

→ earth-based high-precision
tests of gravity

OUTLINE

- **Quantum systems as „test masses“**
a brief (very incomplete) survey on table-top quantum experiments that probe gravity
- **Quantum systems as „source masses“?**
„what prevents this from becoming a practical experiment?“
- **Quantum control of levitated massive systems**
towards a „quantum Cavendish“ experiment

20μm

Observation of Gravitationally Induced Quantum Interference*

R. Colella and A. W. Overhauser

Department of Physics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

and

S. A. Werner

Scientific Research Staff, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan 48121

(Received 14 April 1975)

We have used a neutron interferometer to observe the quantum-mechanical phase shift of neutrons caused by their interaction with Earth's gravitational field.

$$\Delta\gamma = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int m \underbrace{\Delta\phi}_{\substack{\downarrow \\ \text{gravitational potential} \\ (\text{on Earth: } \phi = g h)}} dt$$

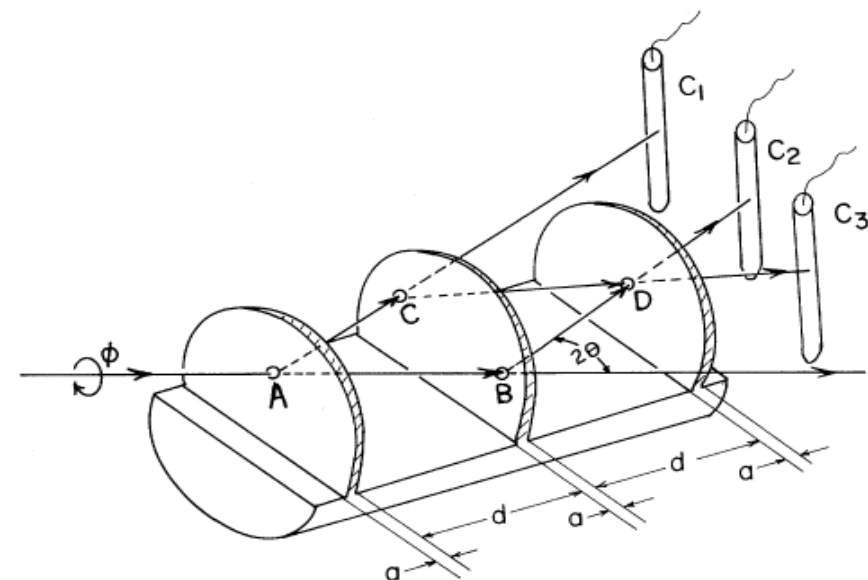
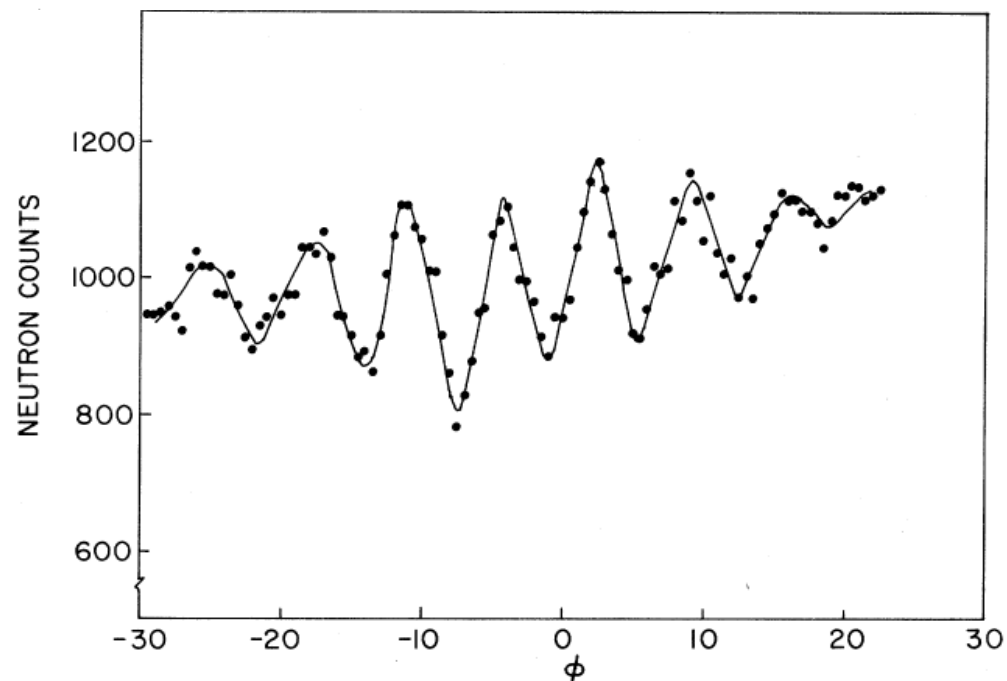


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of the neutron interferometer and ^3He detectors used in this experiment.



Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments

VOLUME 67, NUMBER 2

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

8 JULY 1991

Atomic Interferometry Using Stimulated Raman Transitions

Mark Kasevich and Steven Chu

Departments of Physics and Applied Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305

(Received 23 April 1991)

The mechanical effects of stimulated Raman transitions on atoms have been used to demonstrate a matter-wave interferometer with laser-cooled sodium atoms. Interference has been observed for wave packets that have been separated by as much as 2.4 mm. Using the interferometer as an inertial sensor, the acceleration of a sodium atom due to gravity has been measured with a resolution of 3×10^{-6} after 1000 sec of integration time.

PACS numbers: 32.80.Pj, 07.60.Ly, 35.80.+s, 42.50.Vk

$$|3, \mathbf{p}\rangle \rightarrow e^{i\phi(t)} |4, \mathbf{p} + \hbar\mathbf{k}_{\text{eff}}\rangle$$

$$|4, \mathbf{p} + \hbar\mathbf{k}_{\text{eff}}\rangle \rightarrow e^{-i\phi(t)} |3, \mathbf{p}\rangle$$

$$\Delta\Phi = -k_{\text{eff}} g T^2$$

Nature 1999

Measurement of gravitational acceleration by dropping atoms

Achim Peters, Keng Yeow Chung & Steven Chu

Physics Department, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-4060, USA

Laser-cooling of atoms and atom-trapping are finding increasing application in many areas of science¹. One important use of laser-cooled atoms is in atom interferometers². In these devices, an atom is placed into a superposition of two or more spatially separated atomic states; these states are each described by a quantum-mechanical phase term, which will interfere with one another if they are brought back together at a later time. Atom

(Kasevich group)

 1991 $\Delta g/g = 1 \times 10^{-6}$

 1998 $\Delta g/g = 3 \times 10^{-8}$

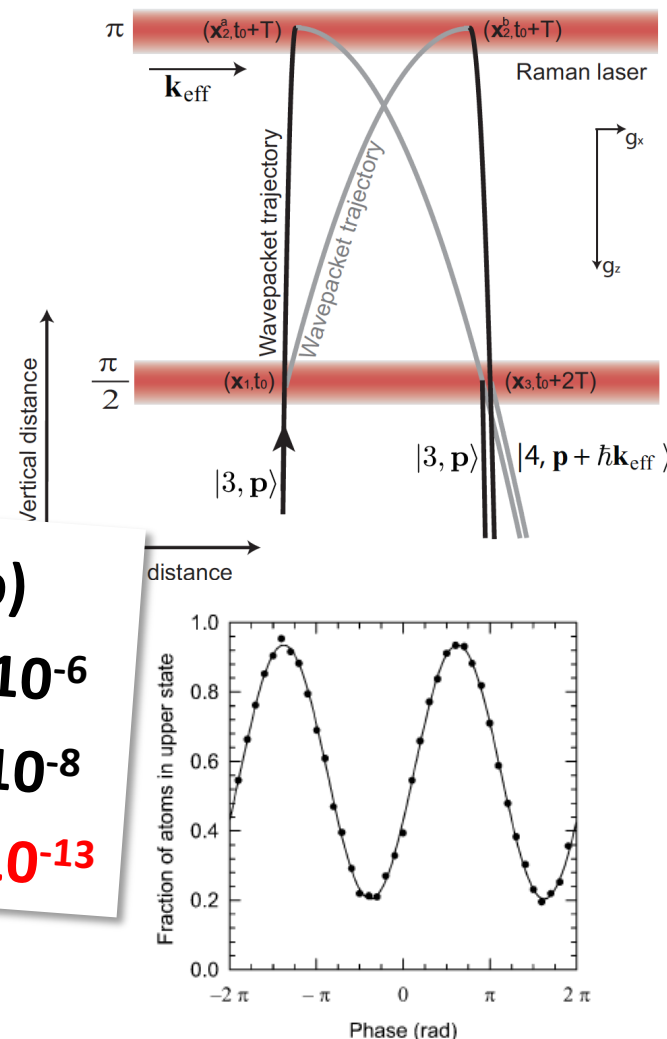
 2014 $\Delta g/g = 5 \times 10^{-13}$


Figure 2 Typical Doppler-sensitive interferometer fringe for $T = 160$ ms. Shown are the 588,638th and 588,639th fringes. Each of the 40 data points represents a single launch of the atoms, spaced 1.3 s apart and taken over a period of 1 min. One full fringe corresponds to $\sim 2 \times 10^6 g$. Performing a least-squares fit determines local gravity to approximately $3 \times 10^{-9} g$.

Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments

2 atomic fountains at different locations
 → differential acceleration measurement
 → **Measure G** through additional test mass

Science 2007

Atom Interferometer Measurement of the Newtonian Constant of Gravity

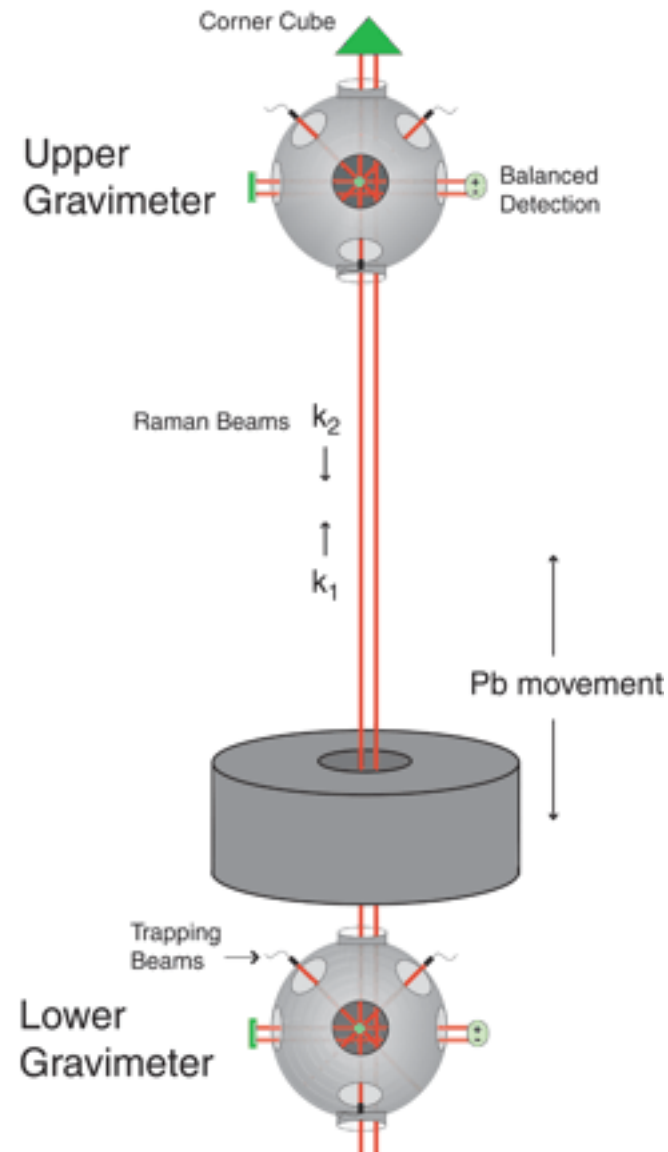
J. B. Fixler,¹ G. T. Foster,² J. M. McGuirk,³ M. A. Kasevich^{1*}

We measured the Newtonian constant of gravity, G , using a gravity gradiometer based on atom interferometry. The gradiometer measures the differential acceleration of two samples of laser-cooled Cs atoms. The change in gravitational field along one dimension is measured when a well-characterized Pb mass is displaced. Here, we report a value of $G = 6.693 \times 10^{-11}$ cubic meters per kilogram second squared, with a standard error of the mean of $\pm 0.027 \times 10^{-11}$ and a systematic error of $\pm 0.021 \times 10^{-11}$ cubic meters per kilogram second squared. The possibility that unknown systematic errors still exist in traditional measurements makes it important to measure G with independent methods.

Nature 2014

Precision measurement of the Newtonian gravitational constant using cold atoms

G. Rosi¹, F. Sorrentino¹, L. Cacciapuoti², M. Prevedelli³ & G. M. Tino¹



Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments

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Science 2007

Atom Interferometer Measurement of the Newtonian Constant (Kasevich/Tino groups)

J. B. Fixler,¹ G. T. Foster,² J. M. McGuirk,³ M. A. Kasevich^{1*}

We measured the Newtonian constant of gravity, G , using a gravimeter. The gradiometer measures the differential acceleration of Cs atoms. The change in gravitational field along one dimension if a Pb mass is displaced. Here, we report a value of $G = 6.693 \times 10^{-11}$ cubic meters per kilogram second squared. The possibility of systematic errors in traditional measurements makes it important to measure G using quantum techniques.

2007 $\Delta G/G = 3 \times 10^{-3}$

2014 $\Delta G/G = 1 \times 10^{-4}$

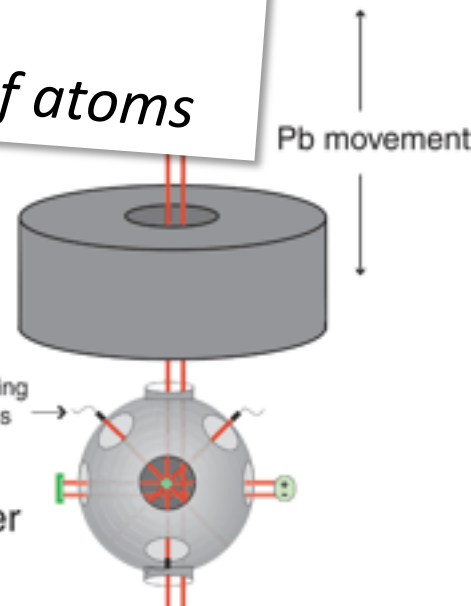
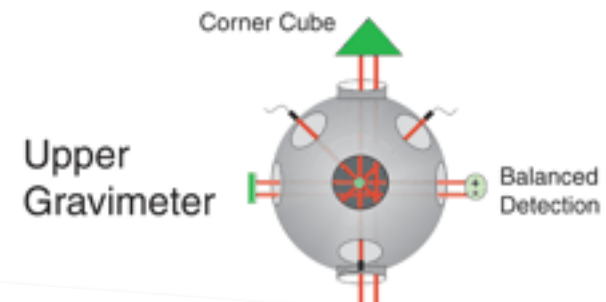
mainly limited by position of atoms

Nature 2014

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G. Rosi¹, F. Sorrentino¹, L. Cacciapuoti², M. Prevedelli³ & G. M. Tino¹

Other applications: GR, dark energy, ...



PRL 98, 111102 (2007)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
16 MARCH 2007

Testing General Relativity with Atom Interferometry

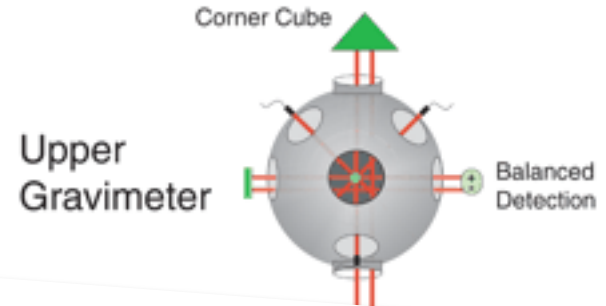
Savas Dimopoulos, Peter W. Graham, Jason M. Hogan, and Mark A. Kasevich

Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA

(Received 10 October 2006; published 15 March 2007)

Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments

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Science 2007

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We measured the Newtonian constant of gravity, G , using a gravimeter. The gradiometer measures the differential acceleration of Cs atoms. The change in gravitational field along one dimension in a 10⁻¹¹ cubic meters per kilogram second squared. The possibility exist in traditional measurements makes it important to measure

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G. Rosi¹, F. Sorrentino¹, L. Cacciapuoti², M. Prevedelli³ & G. M. Tino¹

arxiv 1502.03888 (2015)

Atom-Interferometry Constraints on Dark Energy

Paul Hamilton¹, Matt Jaffe¹, Philipp Haslinger¹, Quinn Simmons¹, Holger Müller^{1,2*}, and Justin Khoury³

Other applications: GR, dark energy, ...

PRL 98, 111102 (2007) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Testing General Relativity with Atom Interferometry

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Newtonian Gravity in Quantum Experiments



Selected for a [Viewpoint](#) in *Physics*
 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
 1 MARCH 2013

Interferometry with Bose-Einstein Condensates in Microgravity

H. Müntinga,¹ H. Ahlers,² M. Krutzik,³ A. Wenzlawski,⁴ S. Arnold,⁵ D. Becker,² K. Bongs,⁶ H. Dittus,⁷ H. Duncker,⁴ N. Gaaloul,² C. Gherasim,⁸ E. Giese,⁵ C. Grzeschik,³ T. W. Hänsch,⁹ O. Hellmig,⁴ W. Herr,² S. Herrmann,¹ E. Kajari,^{5,10} S. Kleinert,⁵ C. Lämmerzahl,¹ W. Lewoczko-Adamczyk,³ J. Malcolm,⁶ N. Meyer,⁶ R. Nolte,⁸ A. Peters,^{3,11} M. Popp,² J. Reichel,¹² A. Roura,⁵ J. Rudolph,² M. Schiemangk,^{3,11} M. Schneider,⁸ S. T. Seidel,² K. Sengstock,⁴ V. Tamma,⁵ T. Valenzuela,⁶ A. Vogel,⁴ R. Walser,⁸ T. Wendrich,² P. Windpassinger,⁴ W. Zeller,⁵ T. van Zoest,⁷ W. Ertmer,² W. P. Schleich,⁵ and E. M. Rasel^{2,*}

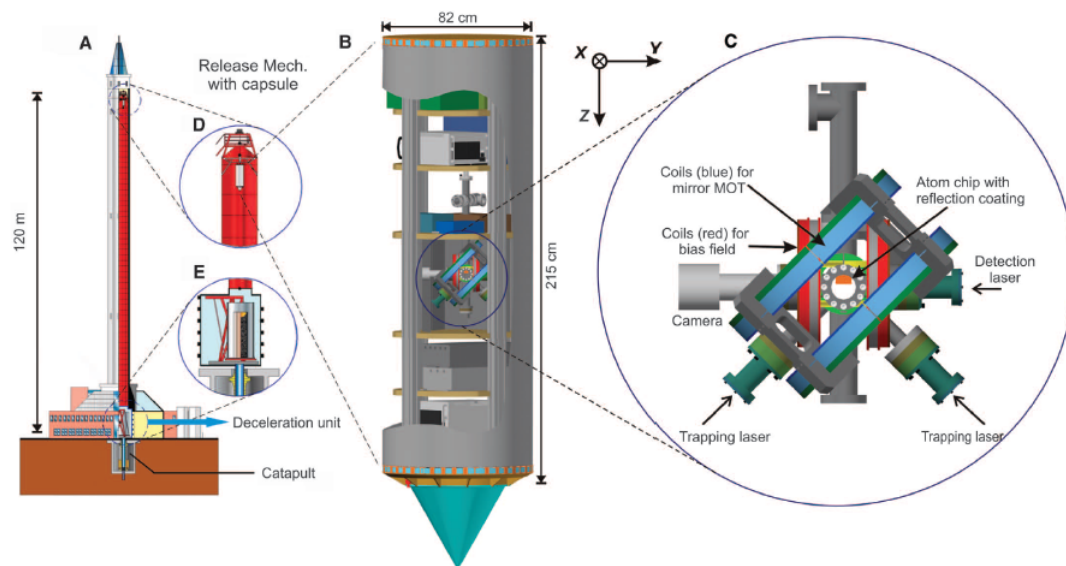


Fig. 1. Cuts through the ZARM drop tower facility in Bremen (A) and the capsule (B) containing the heart of the BEC experiment (C). The capsule is released from the top of the tower (D) and is recaptured after a free fall of 4.7 s through an evacuated stainless steel tube at the bottom of the tower by a 8-m-deep pool of polystyrene balls (E). In the process of recapturing the capsule, the experiment has to survive decelerations up to 500 m/s^2 (about 50 times the local gravitational acceleration). The facility permits up to three drops per day. The capsule contains

all of the components necessary to prepare and observe a BEC, such as the laser systems for cooling the atoms, the ultrahigh-vacuum chamber with the atom chip, the current drivers and power supplies, a charge-coupled device (CCD) camera, and a control computer. The vacuum chamber is surrounded by two magnetic shields and allows us to include an atom interferometer in future experiments. Moreover, the catapult underneath the movable polystyrene pool offers the possibility of extending the time of free fall to 9 s.

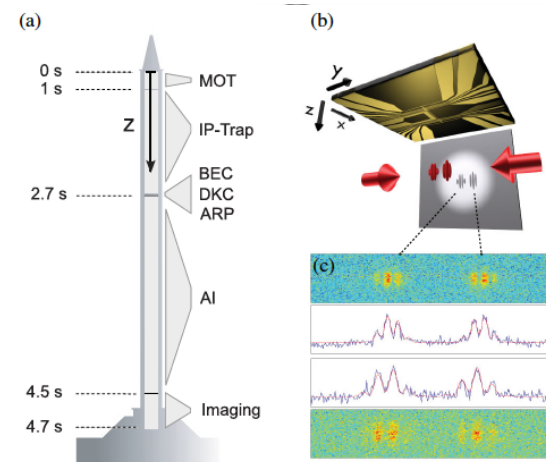


FIG. 2 (color). Mach-Zehnder interferometry of a BEC in microgravity as realized in the ZARM drop tower in Bremen (a) where absorption imaging (b) brings out the interference fringes (c). The preparatory experimental sequence (a) includes capturing cold atoms in a magneto-optical trap (MOT), loading an Ioffe-Pritchard trap, creating a BEC, and applying the DKC followed by the adiabatic rapid passage (ARP). The remaining time before the capture of the capsule at the bottom of the tower is used for AI and imaging of the atoms. The AMZI below the atom chip [top plane of (b)] is formed by scattering the BEC off moving Bragg gratings generated by two counter-propagating laser beams (red arrows directed along the y axis),

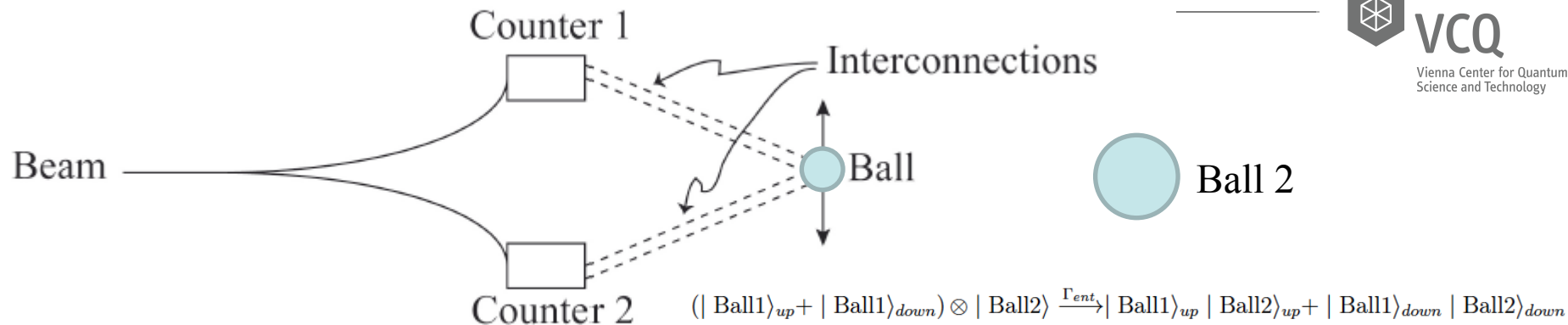


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An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...

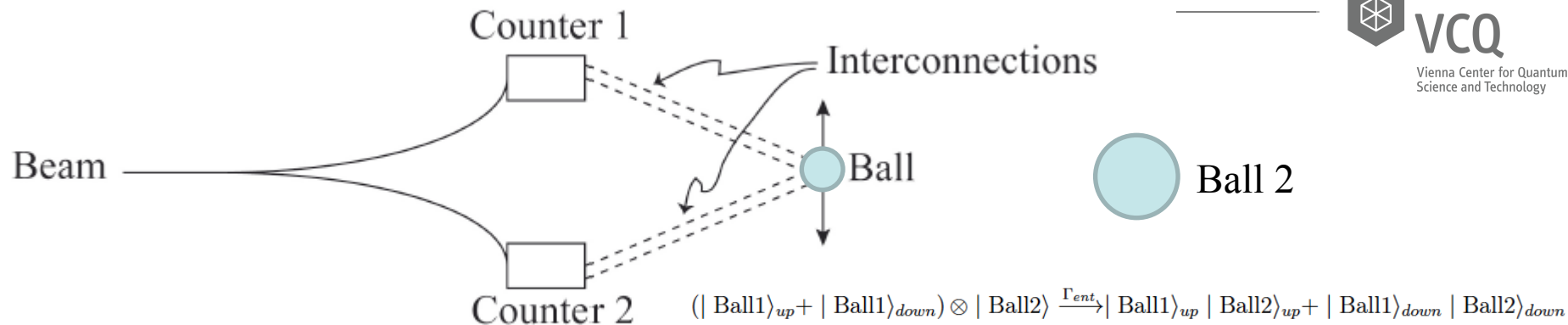


FEYNMAN: “Therefore, there must be an amplitude for the gravitational field, provided that the amplification necessary to reach a mass which can produce a gravitational field big enough to serve as a link in the chain does not destroy the possibility of keeping quantum mechanics all the way. There is a bare possibility (which I shouldn’t mention!) that quantum mechanics fails and becomes classical again when the amplification gets far enough, because of some minimum amplification which you can get across such a chain. But aside from that possibility, if you believe in quantum mechanics up to any level then you have to believe in gravitational quantization in order to describe this experiment.”

Chapel Hill Conference 1957 (29)

WITTEN: “What prevents this from becoming a practical experiment?”

An ultimate experiment? Entanglement by gravity...



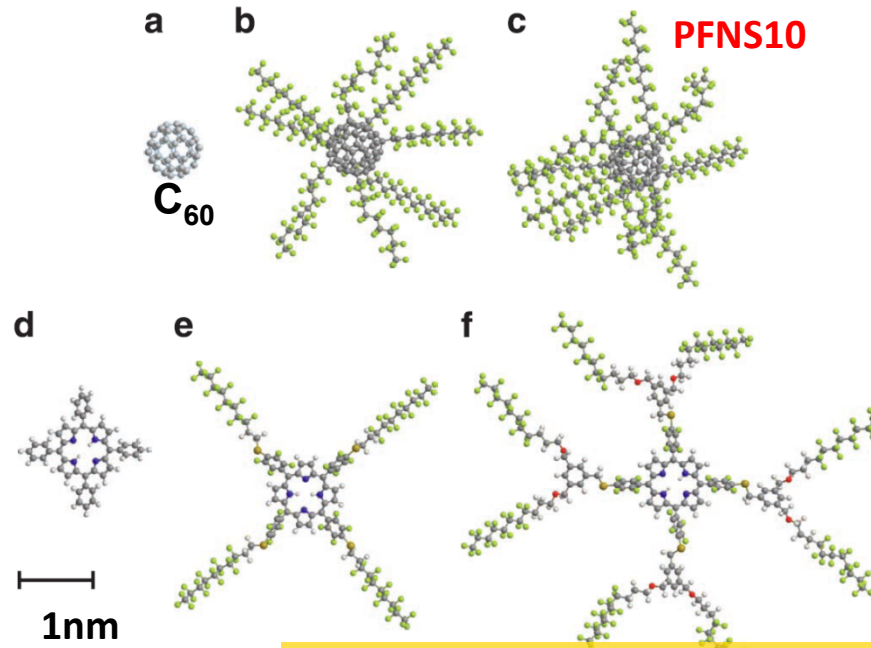
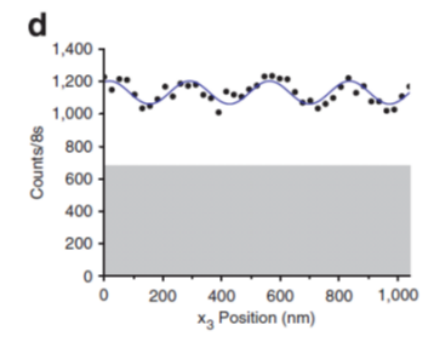
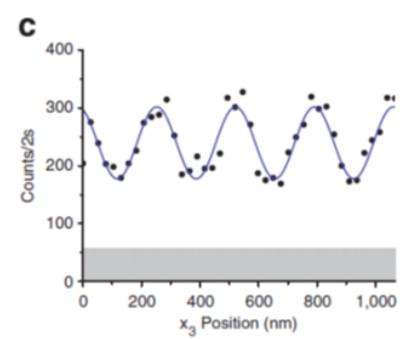
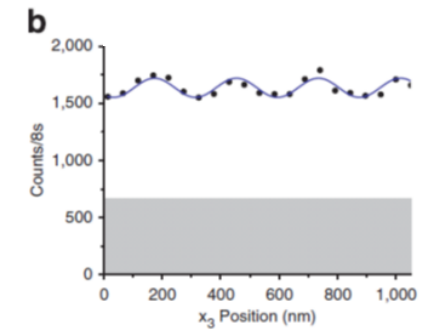
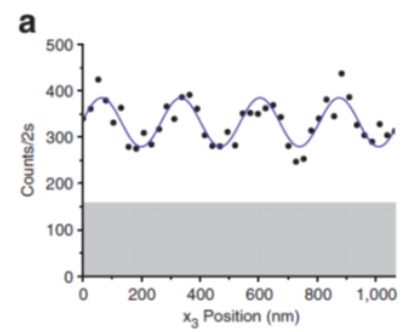
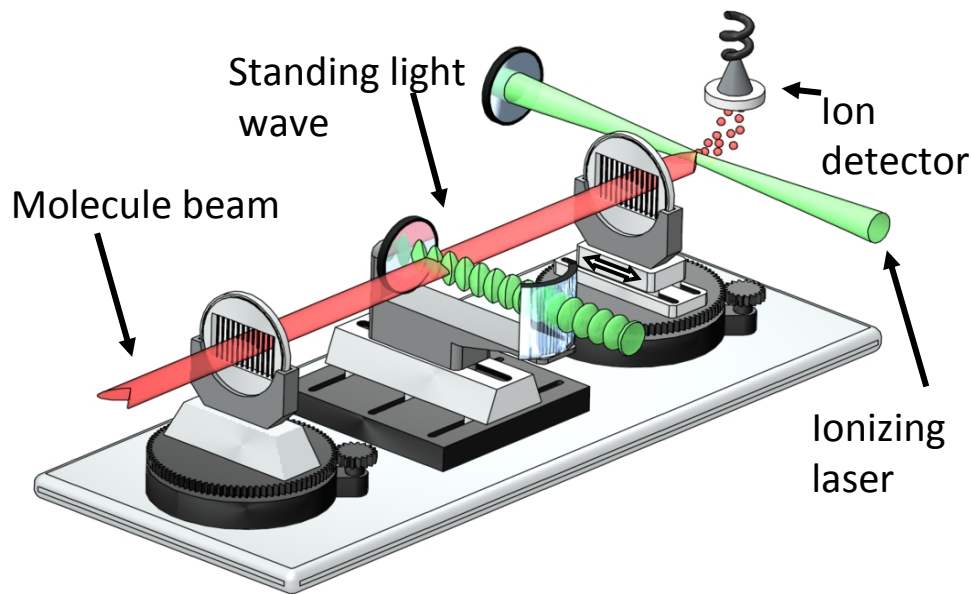
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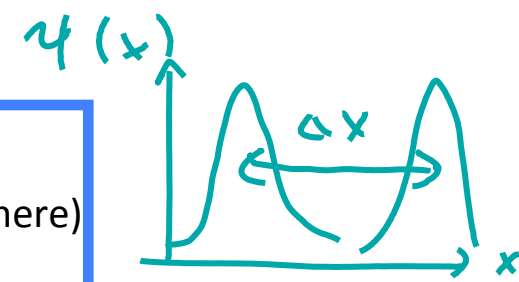
Example: For 2 lead spheres of diameter 500 μm , an initial superposition size for sphere 1 of $\Delta r = 5 \times 10^{-7}$ m and preparation of sphere 2 in a motional ground state (100 Hz trap frequency) with $\Delta x_0 = 10^{-15}$ m, we obtain $\Gamma_{ent} = 1.5$ Hz, i.e. gravitational entanglement is established on a second time scale.

$$\Gamma_{ent} = \left(\frac{GM}{\hbar} \right) \Delta r \rho \Delta x_0$$

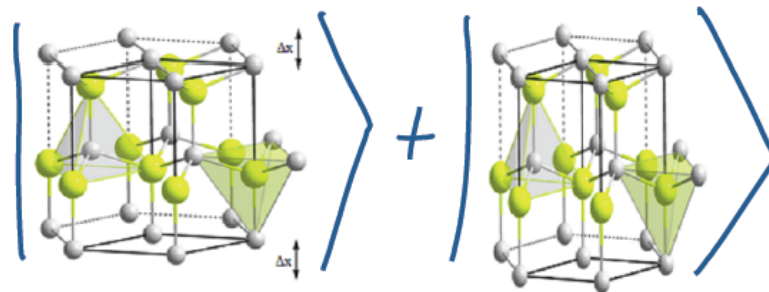
COM superposition states of massive systems: where do we stand?



PFNS10: $C_{60}[C_{12}F_{25}]_{10}$
 (perfluoroalkylated nanosphere)
 430 atoms
 $m \sim 10^{-23}$ kg = 6910 AMU
 $\Delta x \sim 100$ nm ($\sim 50x$ its diameter)



COM superposition states of massive systems: where do we stand?



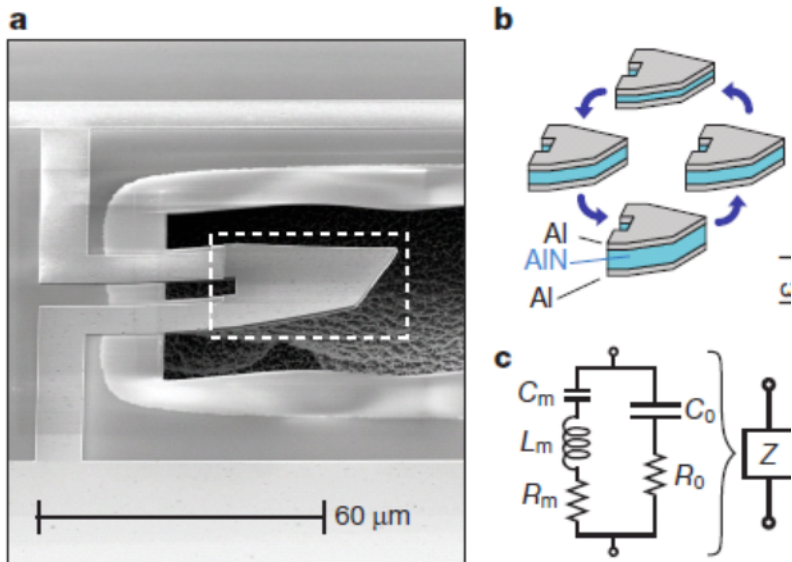
Micromechanics, 2×10^{13} atoms

$m \sim 10^{-12} \text{ kg} = 7 \times 10^{14} \text{ AMU}$

$\Delta x \sim 10^{-16} \text{ m}$ ($\sim 10^{-10} \times$ its diameter)

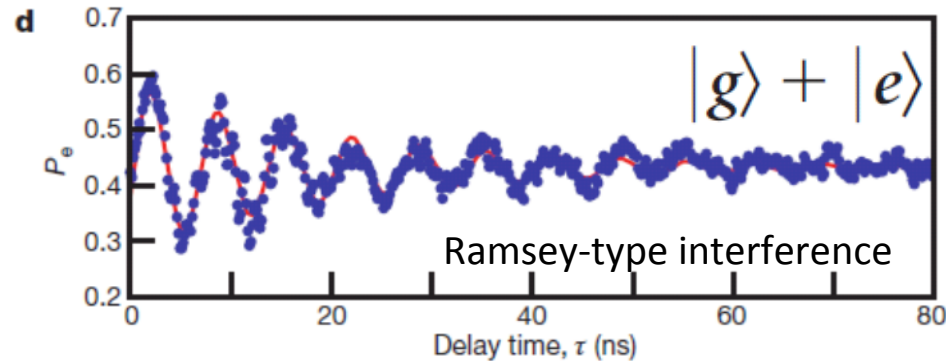
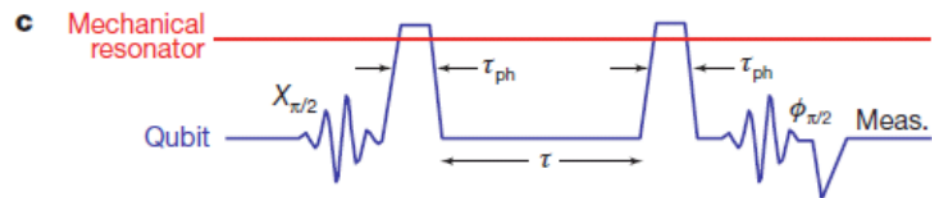
Quantum ground state and single-phonon control of a mechanical resonator

A. D. O'Connell¹, M. Hofheinz¹, M. Ansmann¹, Radoslaw C. Bialczak¹, M. Lenander¹, Erik Lucero¹, M. Neeley¹, D. Sank¹, H. Wang¹, M. Weides¹, J. Wenner¹, John M. Martinis¹ & A. N. Cleland¹



6 GHz thickness oscillation

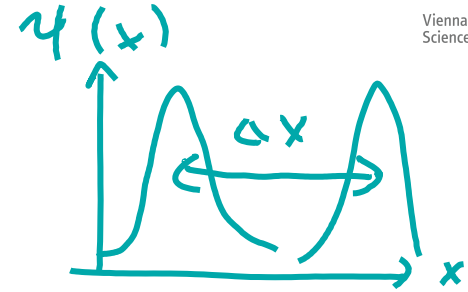
$\rightarrow n \sim 0.07$ @ 20 mK



Note: $E_g - E_e = h \cdot f_m \approx 20 \mu\text{eV}$

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar}[H, \rho] + \mathcal{L}[\rho]$$

Master equation approach



$$\langle x | \mathcal{L}_g[\rho] | x' \rangle = \begin{cases} -[\Delta x]^2 \Lambda_g \langle x | \rho | x' \rangle, & \Delta x < \frac{\hbar}{m\bar{v}} \\ -\Gamma'_g \langle x | \rho | x' \rangle, & \Delta x > \frac{\hbar}{m\bar{v}} \end{cases}$$

where

$$\Lambda_g = \frac{3m\bar{v}P\pi R^2}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\Gamma'_g = \frac{\pi R^2 P}{m\bar{v}}$$

Gas scattering

See also
O. Romero-Isart et al.,
PRL 107, 020405
(2011)
O. Romero-Isart, PRA
84, 052121 (2011)

$$\langle x | \mathcal{L}_g[\rho] | x' \rangle = \begin{cases} -\Lambda_P \Delta x^2 \langle x | \rho | x' \rangle, & \Delta x \ll R \\ \Lambda_P \langle x | \rho | x' \rangle, & \Delta x > R. \end{cases}$$

$$\Lambda_P = \Lambda_D = \frac{20\rho^2 R^3}{\hbar}, \quad \Delta x \ll R$$

$$\Lambda'_P = \frac{20\rho^2 R^5}{\hbar}, \quad \Delta x \geq R.$$

Penrose model

$$\Lambda_{\text{CSL}} = m^2 \lambda_0 \alpha f(\sqrt{\alpha} R) / (2m_0^2)$$

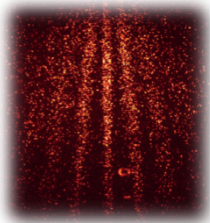
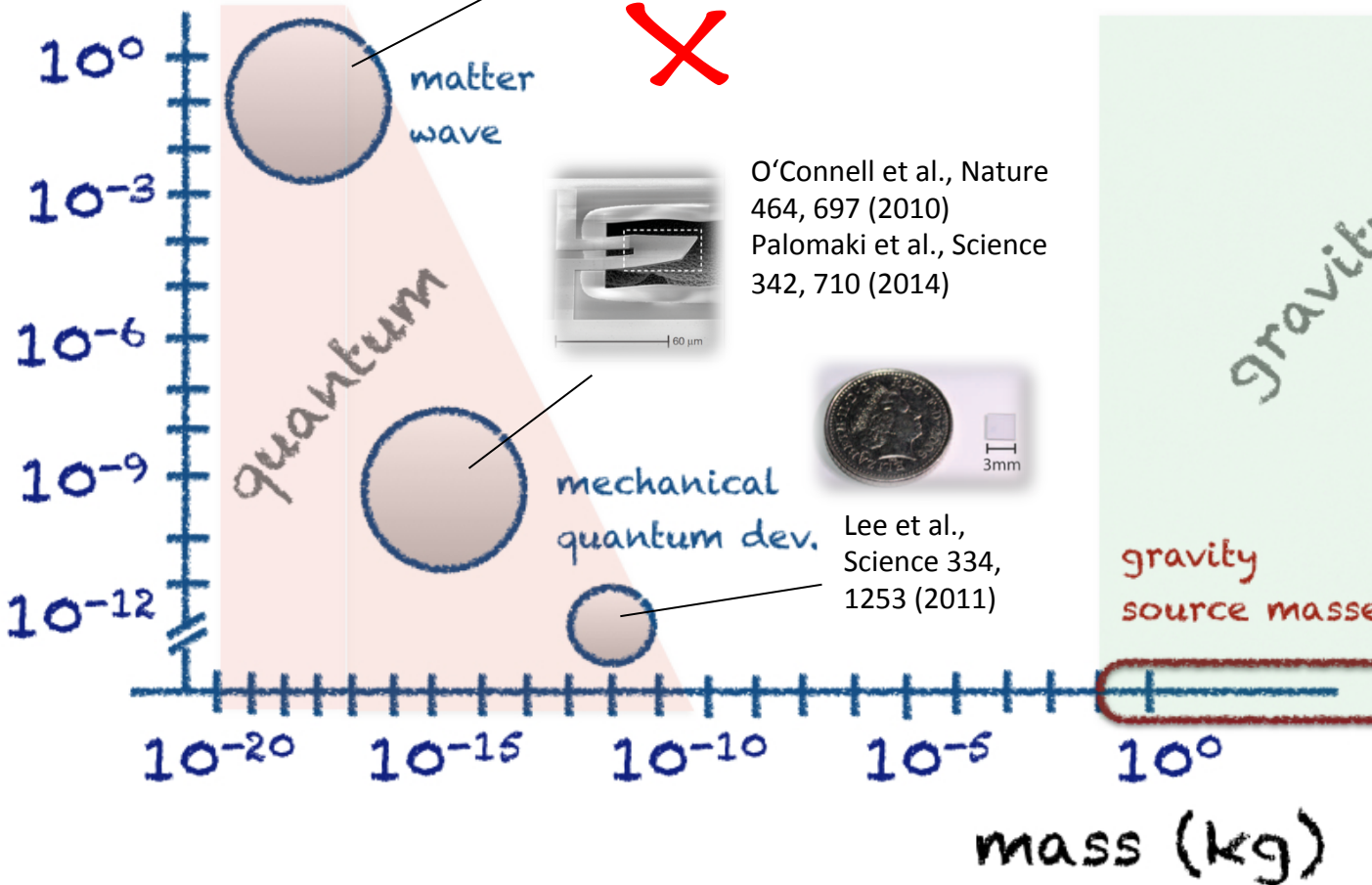
$$\alpha^{-1/2} \approx 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

$$\lambda_0 \approx 2.2 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

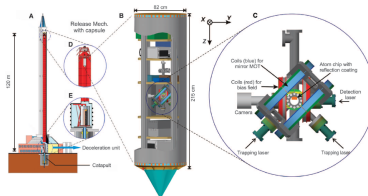
GRWP

How massive can we go?

coherence time (sec)



Juffmann et al., Nature Nanotech. 7, 297 (2012)



Müntiga et al., PRL 110, 93602 (2013)




O'Connell et al., Nature 464, 697 (2010)
Palomaki et al., Science 342, 710 (2014)

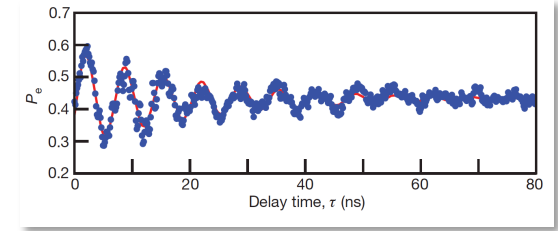
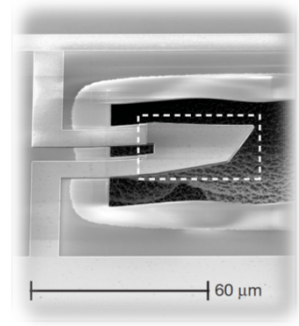


Lee et al., Science 334, 1253 (2011)


Pushing mechanical quantum control to the next level

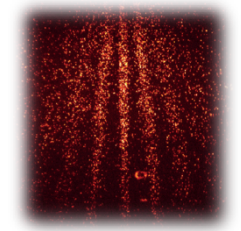
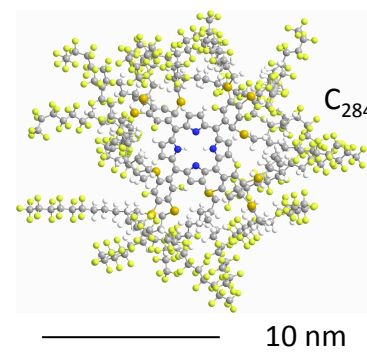
Q: How to achieve large mass AND long coherence time in a quantum experiment?


 Solid-state mechanical quantum devices
 (clamped):
 $10^{10} - 10^{16}$ atoms
 Coherence time τ_c $10^{-12} - 10^{-8}$ sec



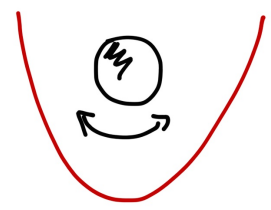
O'Connell et al., Nature 464, 697 (2010)


 Matter-wave interferometry (free-fall):
 $10^0 - 10^4$ atoms
 Coherence time τ_c $10^{-3} - 10^0$ sec



Juffmann et al., Nature Nanotech. 7, 297 (2012)

A: Quantum control of levitated mechanical systems!

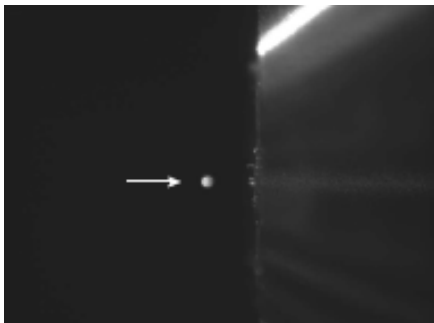


- Quantum control of a trapped massive object $\gg 10^{10}$ atoms
- Long coherence times (up to seconds) through free fall dynamics
- Exceptional force sensitivity

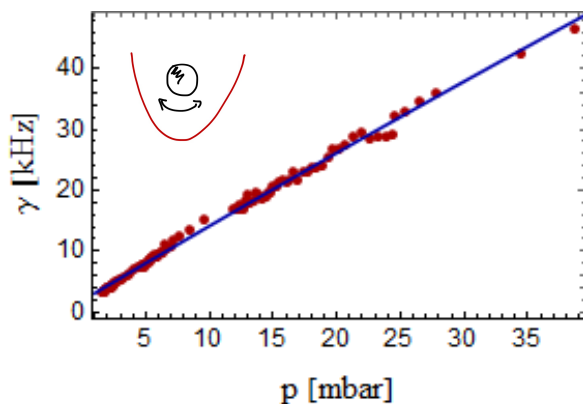
Coupling to gravity

Isolation of COM motion from the environment: Levitated nanospheres as high-Q mechanical oscillators

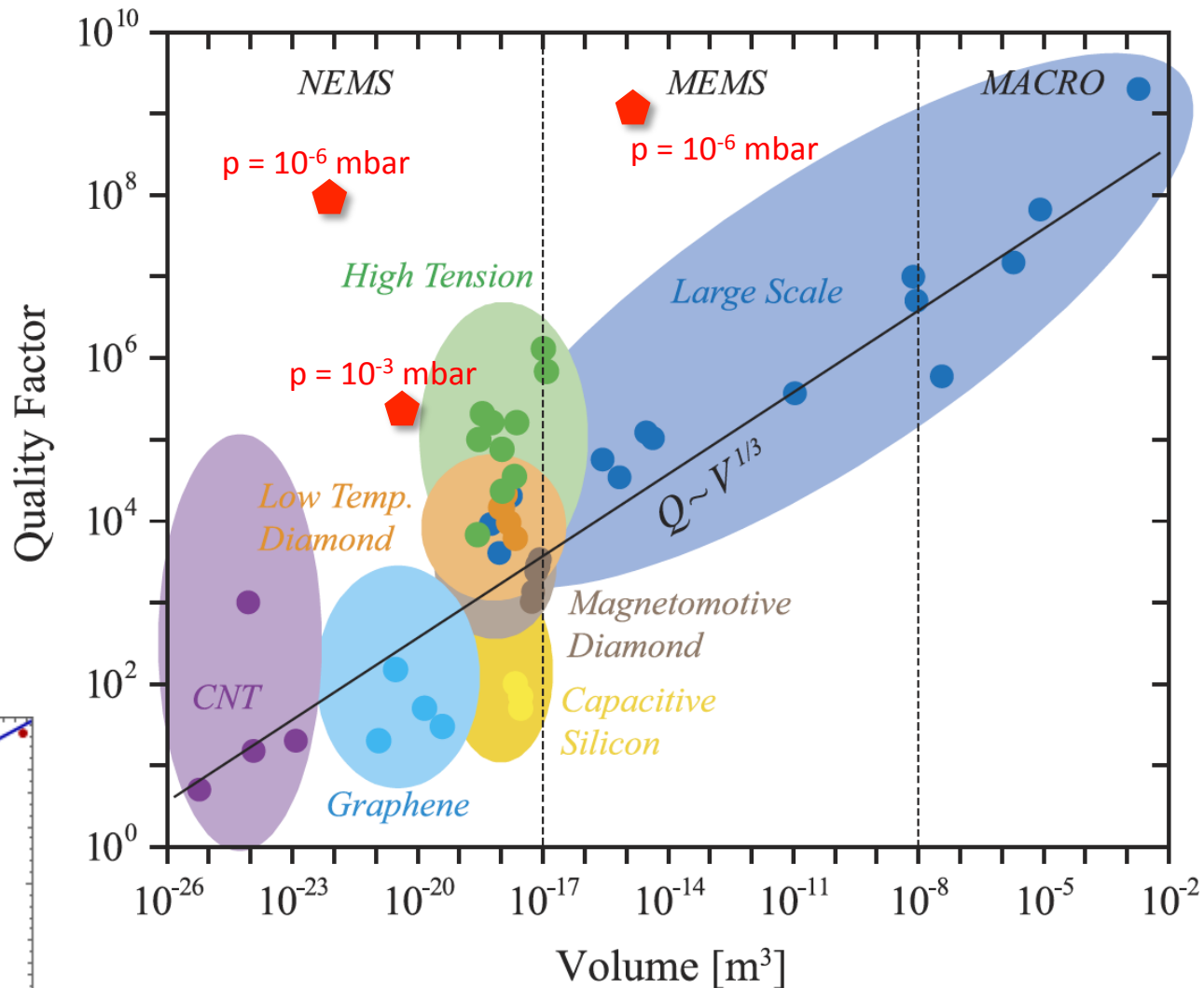
J. Gieseler, R. Quidant, C. Dellago, L. Novotny,
Nature Nanotechnology
9, 358 (2014)
(70 nm SiO₂)



D. Grass (Vienna)
(350 nm SiO₂
inside hollow core fibre)

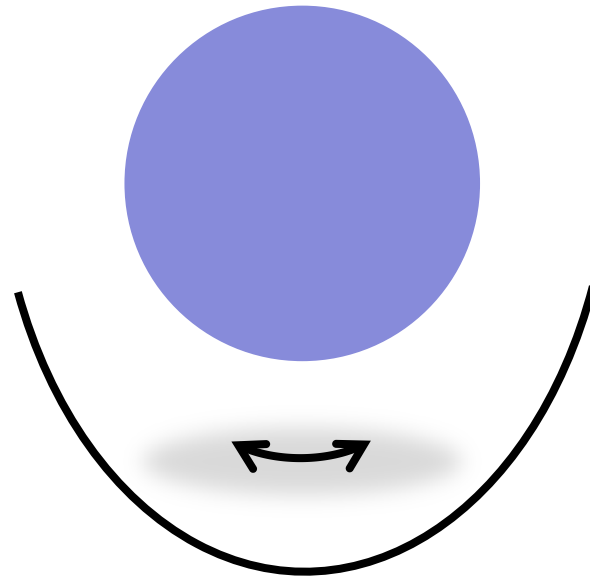


Ashkin & Dziedzic, APL 28, 333 (1976)
(20um Si oil)



M. Imboden, P. Mohanty, Phys. Rep. 534, 89 (2014)

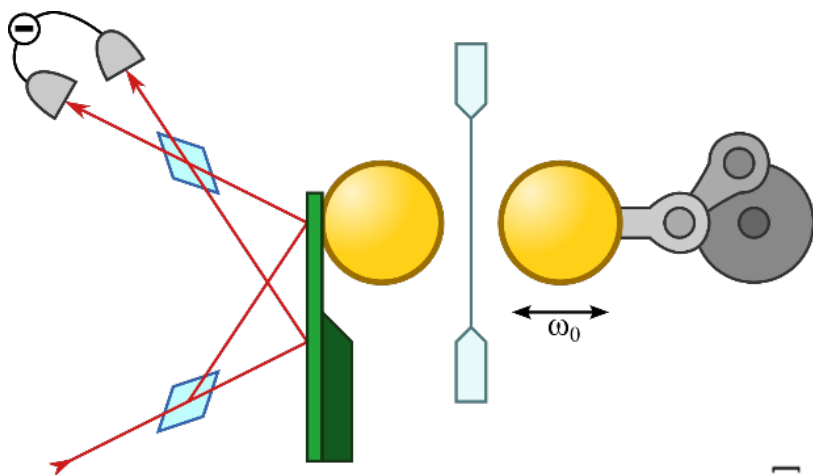
Sensitivity to gravitational forces?



$\{T, Q, \omega, m\}$

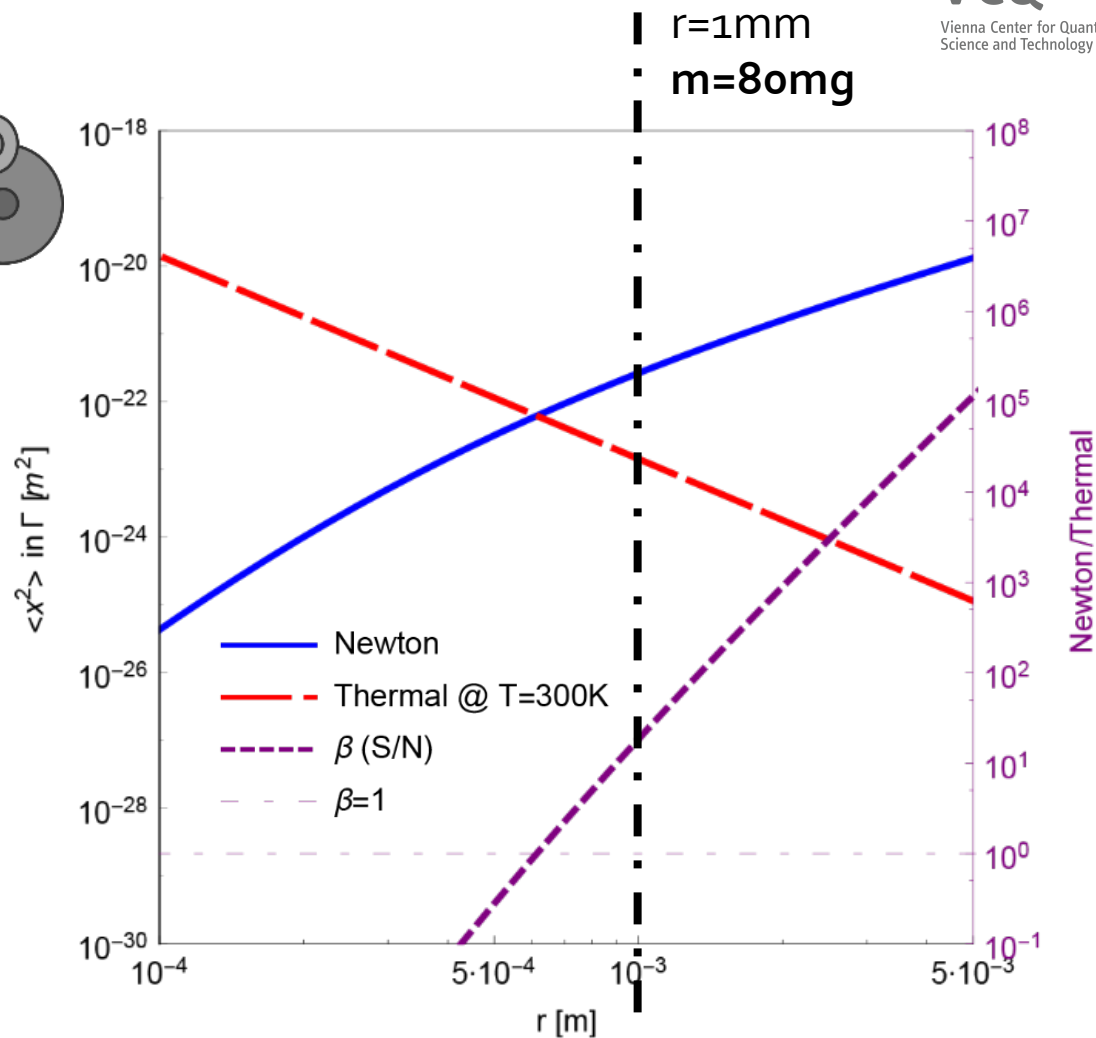
Thermal force noise $F_{th} = \sqrt{k_B T m (\omega/Q) (1/\tau)}$

Measuring gravity between microscopic source masses ?



Example

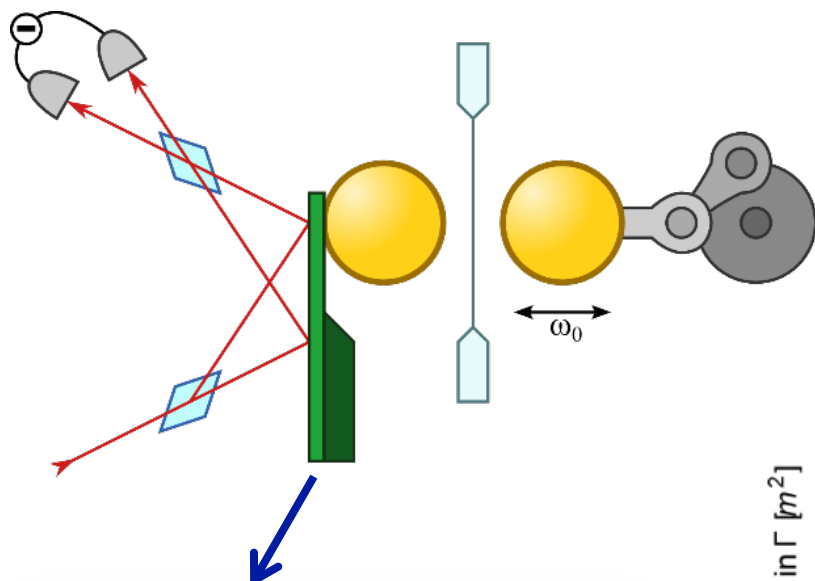
- $f_0 = 100$ Hz
- $Q = 20,000$
- $T = 300$ K
- $\rho = 20,000$ kg/m³ (gold)
- $\Gamma = 1/(60 \text{ min})$



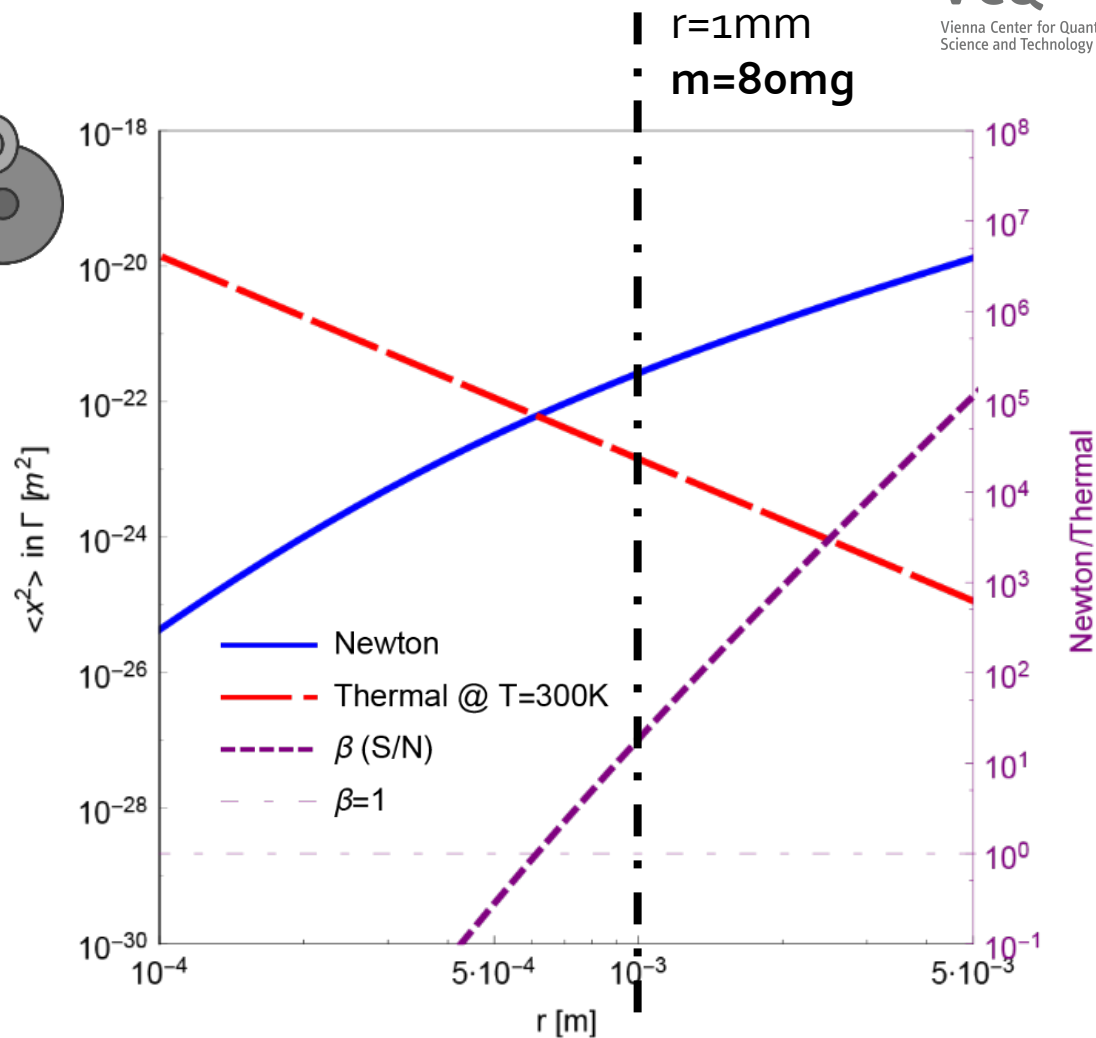
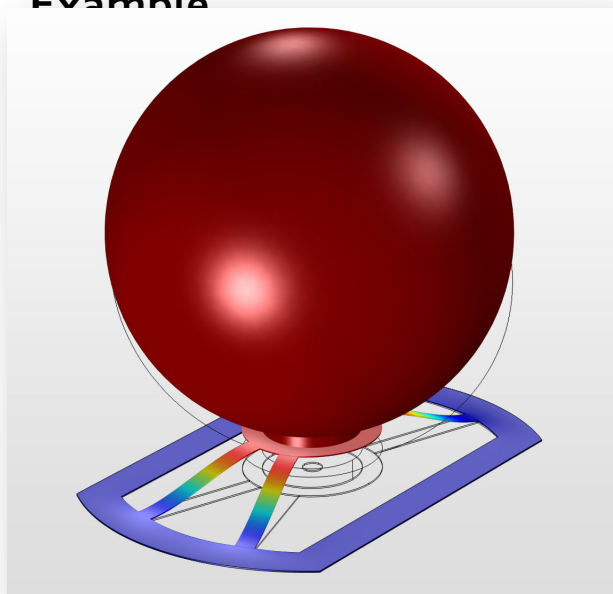
Smallest source mass to date: **120 g**

W. Michaelis et al., Metrologia 32, 267–276 (1995)

Measuring gravity between microscopic source masses ?



Example

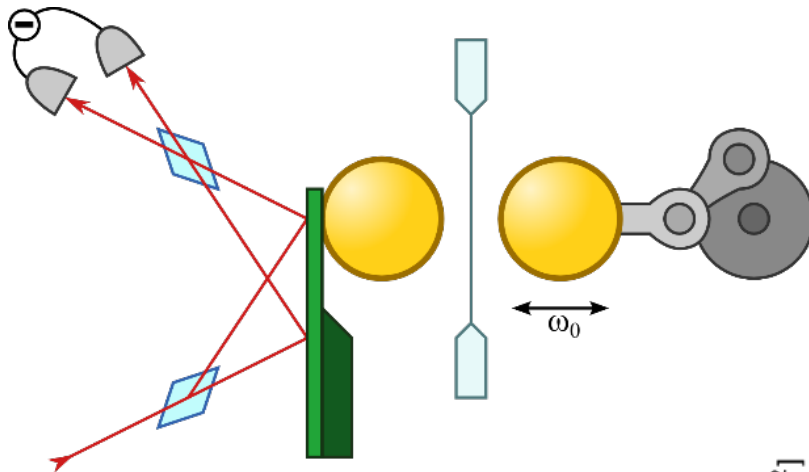


SiN cantilever with micromirror + 1mm gold sphere
(in progress)

Smallest source mass to date: **120 g**

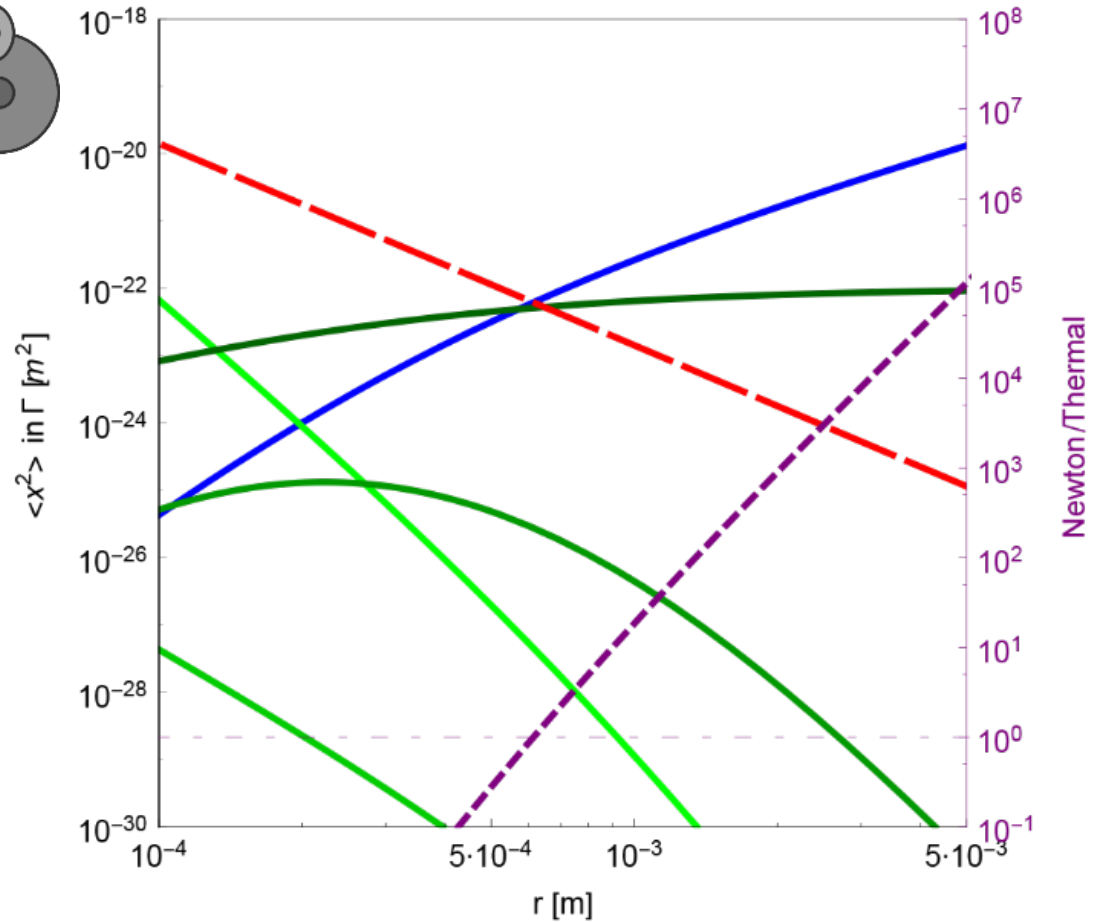
W. Michaelis et al., Metrologia 32, 267–276 (1995)

Measuring gravity between microscopic source masses ?



- Newton
- Coulomb @ $q=200$
- Casimir
- VdW @ $A=400 \times 10^{-67}$
- Gas @ $P=5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mBar}$
- - - Thermal @ $T=300\text{K}$
- - - β (S/N)
- - - $\beta=1$

Other forces?



Big G: the open problem

The search for

Newton's constant

Clive Speake and Terry Quinn



The "G machine," now housed at the University of Birmingham in the UK, was used at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in France to measure Newton's gravitational constant.

Three decades of careful experimentation have painted a surprisingly hazy picture of the constant governing the most familiar force on Earth.

Physics Today July 2014

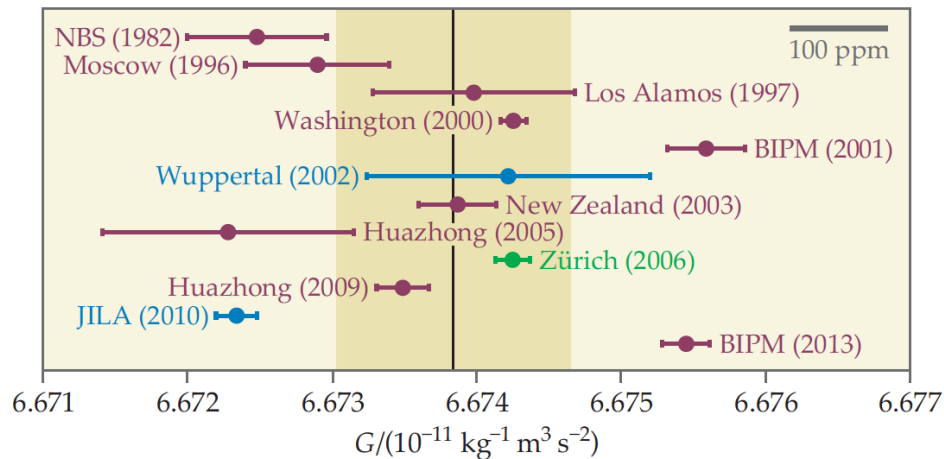


Figure 1. Measurements of Newton's gravitational constant G have yielded conflicting results. Here, the results of torsion-balance (maroon), pendulum (blue), and beam-balance (green) experiments discussed in the text are shown, along with the location and year in which they were measured. Error bars correspond to one standard deviation; the shaded region indicates the assigned uncertainty of the value recommended by the Committee on Data for Science and Technology in 2010. (Adapted from T. J. Quinn et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **111**, 101102, 2013.)

NEWS

G-whizzes disagree over gravity

Recent measurements of gravitational constant increase uncertainty over accepted value.

NATURE | Vol 466 | 26 August 2010

Big G: the open problem

The search for



Newton's constant

TABLE II. One σ error budget.

Quantity	Measurement uncertainty	$\Delta G/G$ (ppm)
Systematic errors:		0.4
Pendulum	$<20 \mu\text{m}$	4.0
Width	$<4.0 \mu\text{m}$	
Thickness and flatness		7.1
Attractor masses:	$<1.0 \mu\text{m}$	1.4
Diagonal separation	$<0.2 \mu\text{m}$	5.2
Ball-bar calibration	$<1.0 \mu\text{m}$	2.6
Vertical separation	$<1.5 \mu\text{m}$	6.9
Sphere diameter	$<100 \text{mK}$	0.4
Temperature uncertainty	$<3.0 \text{mg}$	0.5
Mass		0.3
Air humidity		0.6
Residual twist angle		0.4
Magnetic fields		0.1
Rotating temperature gradient	$<10^{-7}$	2.0
Time base		5.8
Data reduction		13.7
Statistical error:		
Total:		

Three decades of can...
hazy picture of the co...

NEWS

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Recent measurements of gravitational constant increase uncertainty over accepted value.

Physics Today July 2014

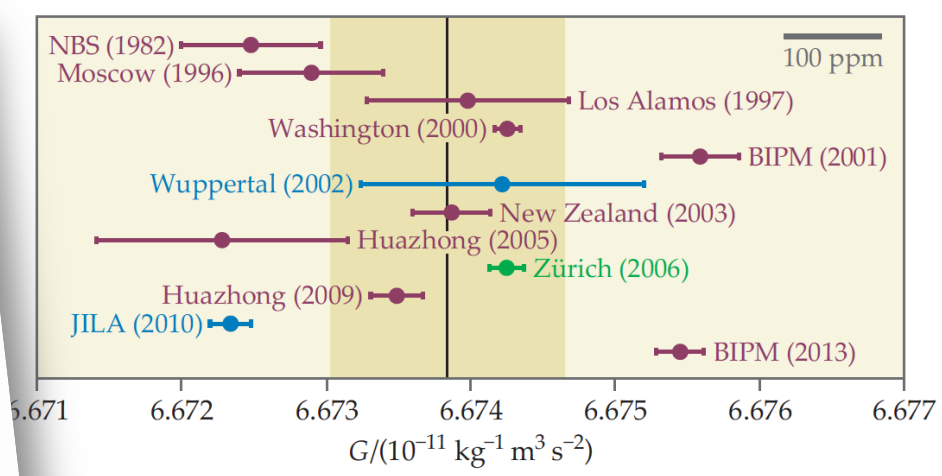


Figure 1. Measurements of Newton's gravitational constant G have yielded conflicting results. Here, the results of torsion-balance (maroon), pendulum (blue), and beam-balance (green) experiments discussed in the text are shown, along with the location and year in which they were measured. Error bars correspond to one standard deviation; the shaded region indicates the assigned uncertainty of the value recommended by the Committee on Data for Science and Technology in 2010. (Adapted from T. J. Quinn et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **111**, 101102, 2013.)

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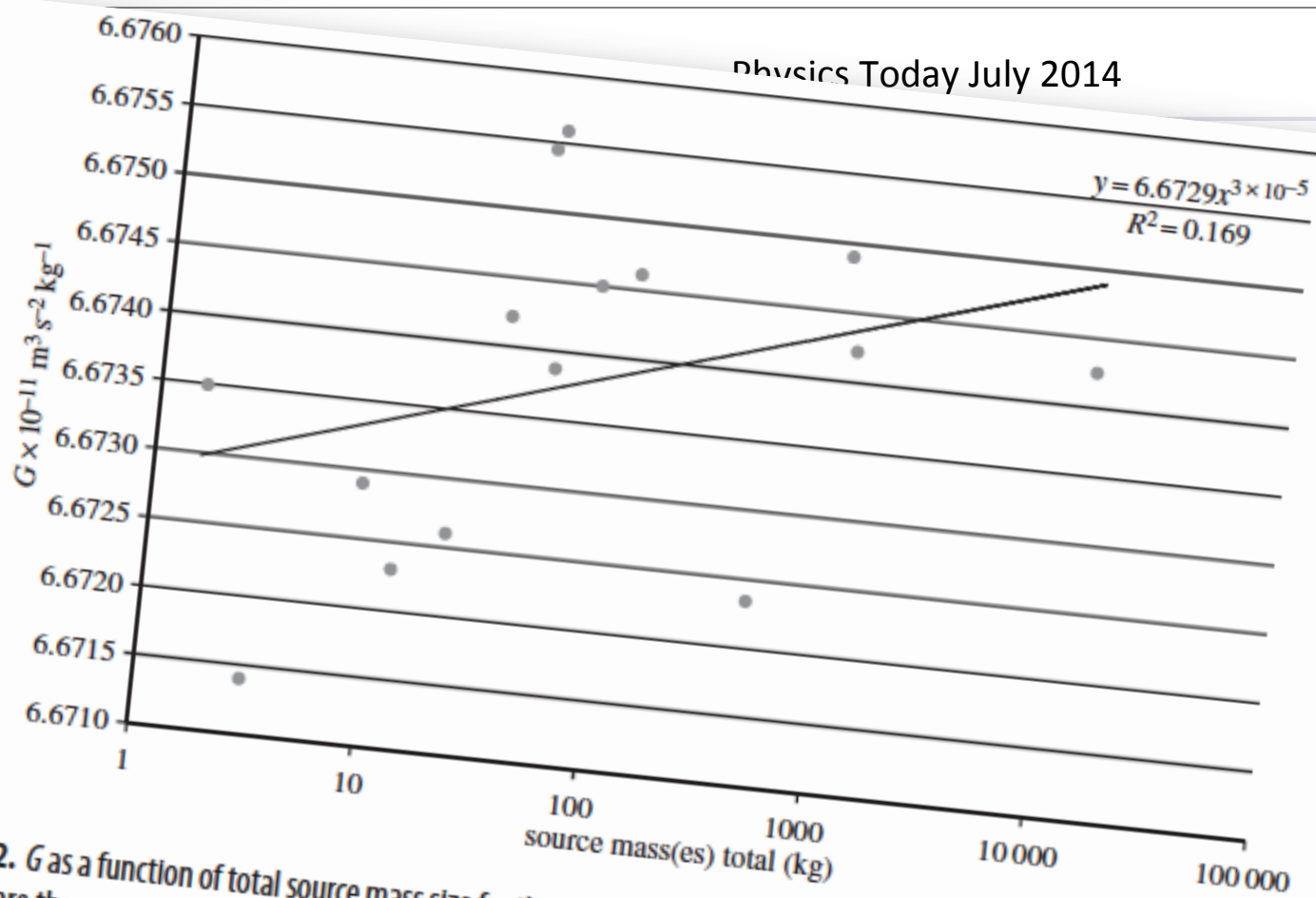


Figure 2. G as a function of total source mass size for the measurements with $\Delta G/G < 250$ ppm. The 15 data points from left to right are the results from Tu *et al.* [12], Pontikis [13], Karagioz *et al.* [15], Hu *et al.* [18], Luther *et al.* [23], Gundlach *et al.* [25], Quinn *et al.* [27], Quinn *et al.* [28], Armstrong *et al.* [29], Sagitov *et al.* [30], R. D. Newman (2013, personal communication), Parks *et al.* [37], Nolting *et al.* [44], Kleinvoß [45] and Schlamminger *et al.* [47].
From: G. T. Gillies, C. S. Unnikrishnan, *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A* 372:20140022 (2014)

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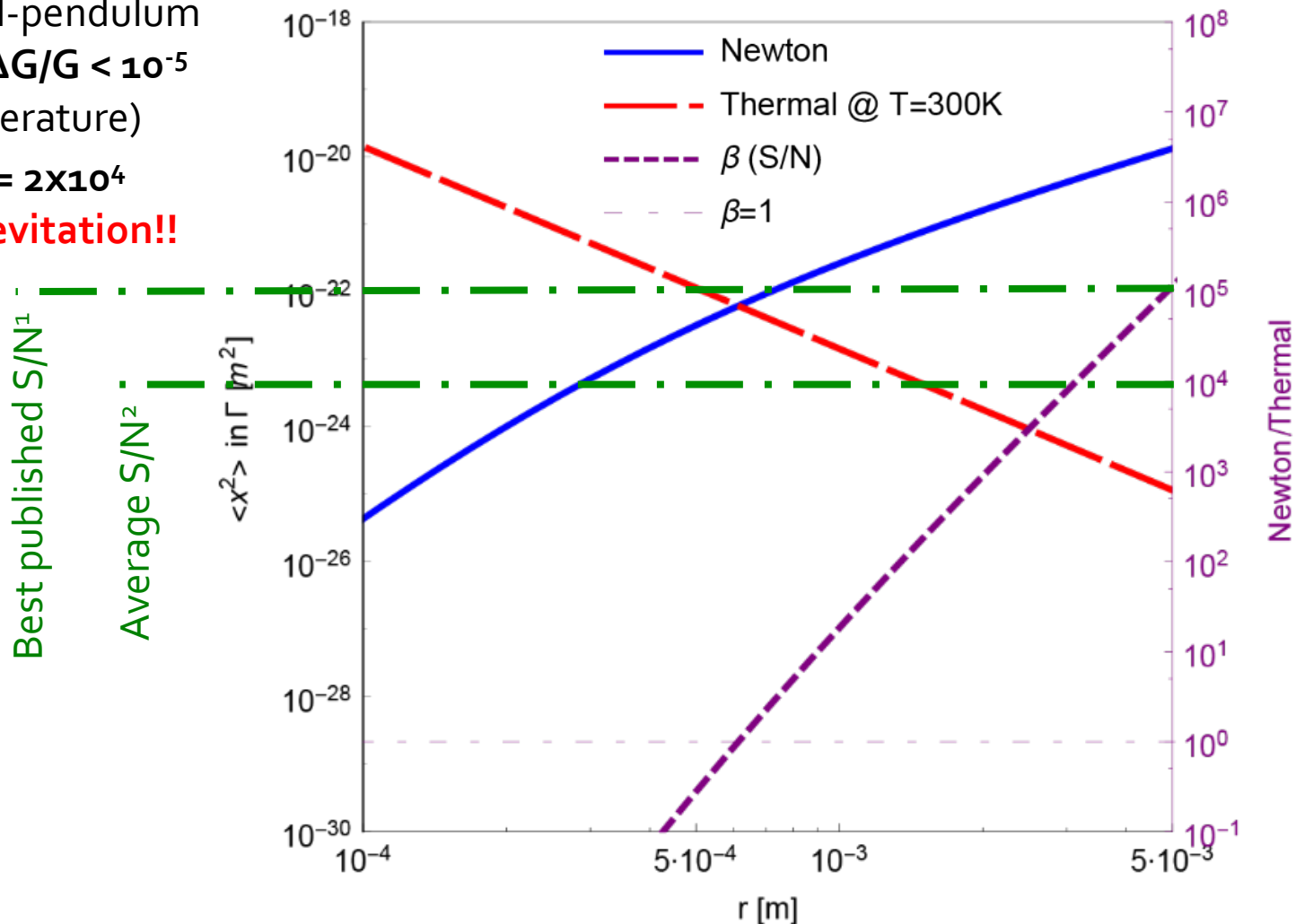
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ments of gravitational constant increase uncertainty over accepted value.

Potential Application for “Big G” measurement

- >10mm diameter spheres
- reach torsional-pendulum like precision $\Delta G/G < 10^{-5}$ (at room temperature)
- This is for a $Q = 2 \times 10^4$ oscillator! → **levitation!!**

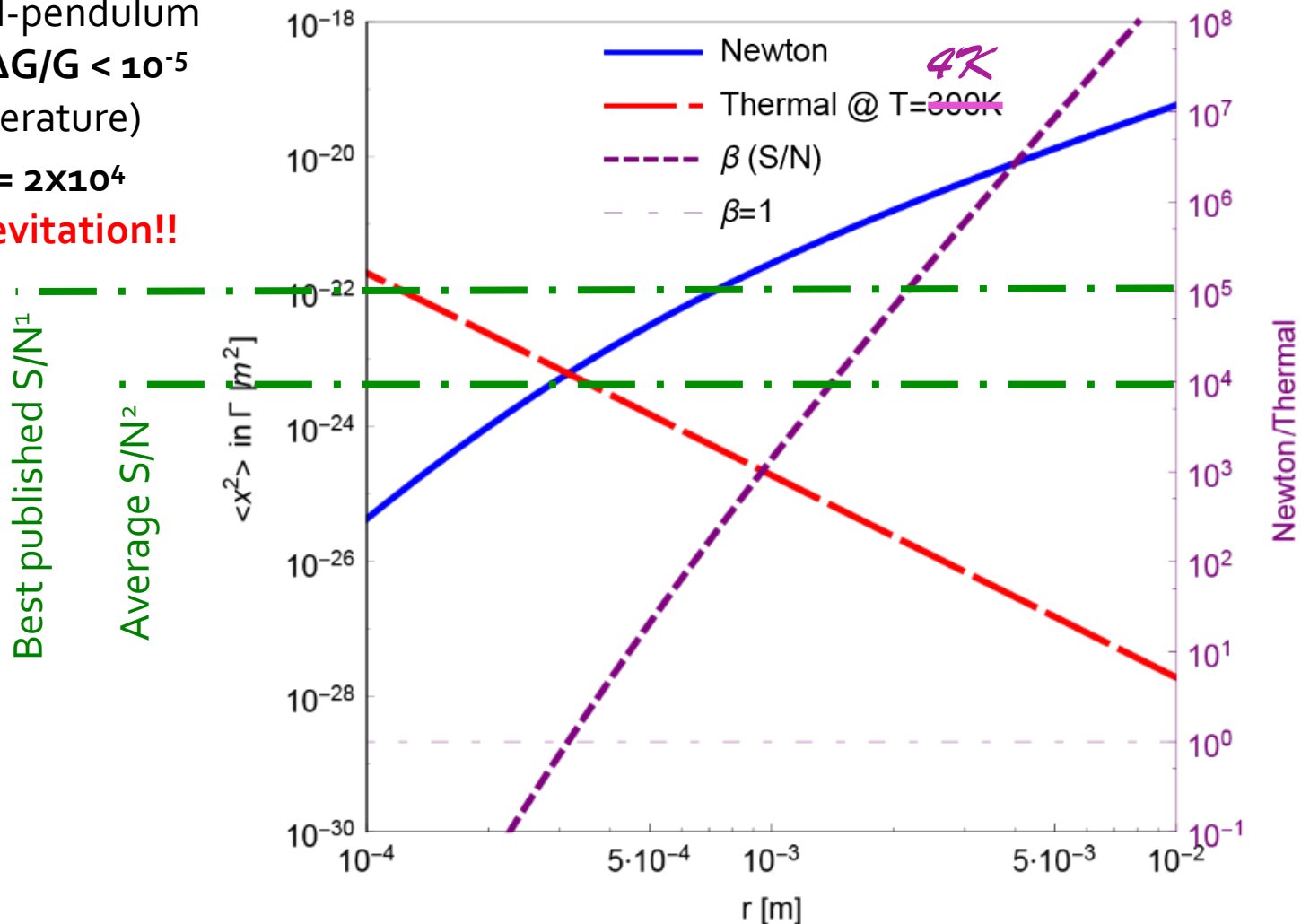


¹J.H. Gundlach and S.M. Merkowitz, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85 2869 (2000)

²G. T. Gillies and C. S. Unnikrishnan, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A 2014 372 (2014)

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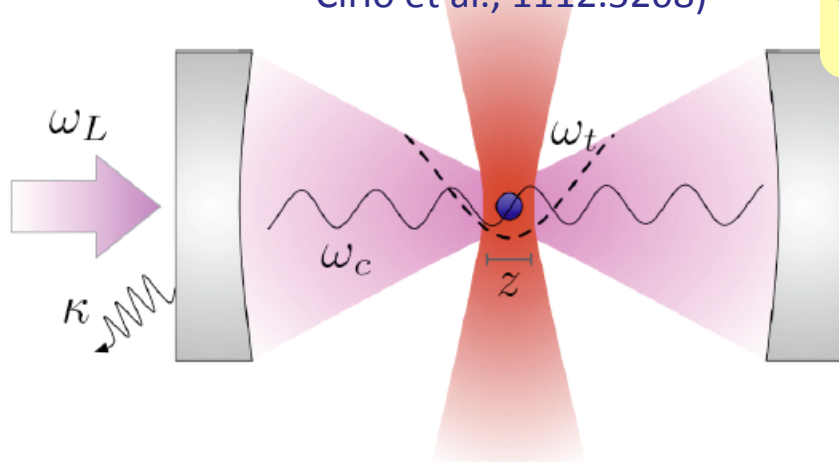
² G. T. Gillies and C. S. Unnikrishnan, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A 2014 372 (2014)

Towards quantum state preparation of a free particle

Optically levitated nanospheres

Magnetically levitated spheres

(Romero-Isart et al., 1112.5609
Cirio et al., 1112.5208)



Chang et al., quant-ph 0909.1548 (2009), PNAS 2010
Romero-Isart et al., quant-ph 0909.1469 (2009), NJP 2010
P. F. Barker et al., PRA 2010
early work: Hechenblaikner, Ritsch et al., PRA 58, 3030 (1998)
Vuletic & Chu, PRL 84, 3787 (2000)

- **Harmonic oscillator in optical potential**
(negligible support loss, high Q)
- **Quantum control via cavity optomechanics**
(laser cooling, state transfer, etc.)

Generation of quantum superposition states

- single-photon quantum state transfer
- quantum state teleportation
- ...
- ***free fall . . .***

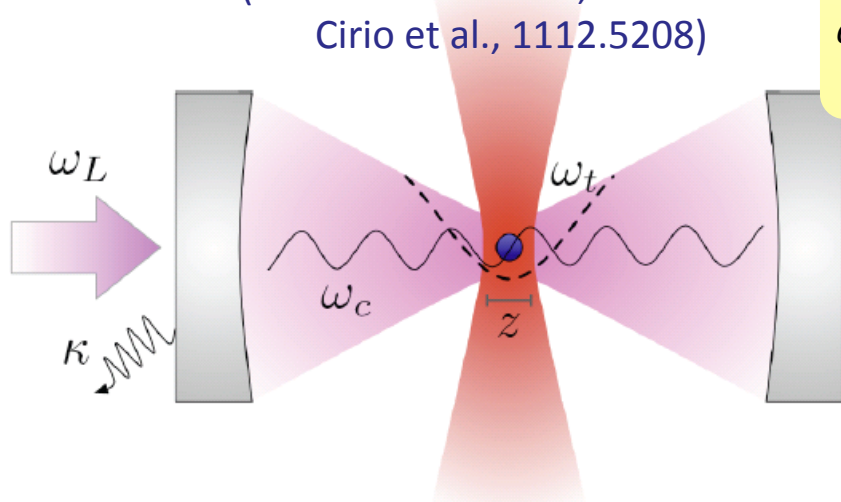
- Akram, Kiesel, Aspelmeyer, Milburn, NJP 12, 083030 (2010)
- Khalili, Danilishin, Miao, Müller-Ebhardt, Yang, Chen, quant-ph 1001.3738 (2010)
- Romero-Isart, Pflanzner, Juan, Quidant, Kiesel, Aspelmeyer, Cirac, Phys. Rev. A 83, 013803 (2011)

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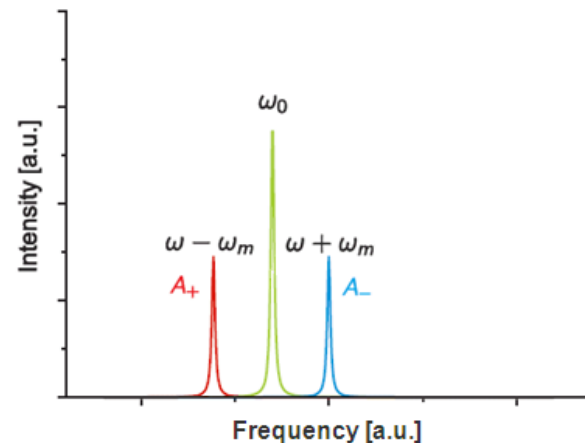


Chang et al., qu
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P. F. Barker et
early work: Hech
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→ Harmo

→ Quant

Cavity Optomechanics



Q

Center for Quantum
and Technology

1010

(1998)

ics

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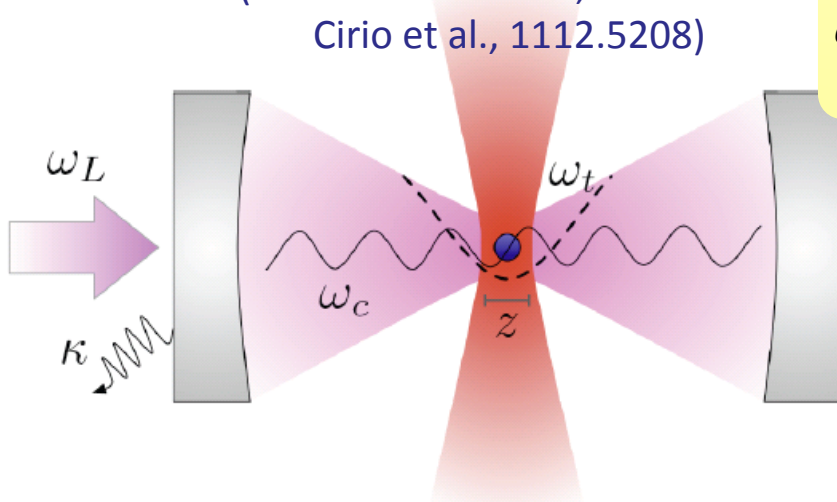
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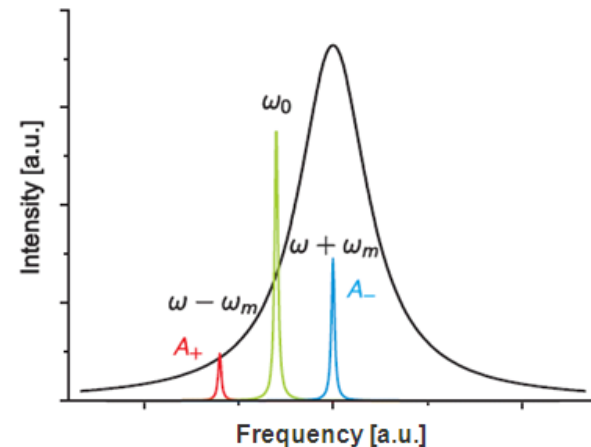


Chang et al., q
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- Romero-Isart, Pflanzner, Juan, Quidant, Kiesel, Aspelmeyer, Cirac, Phys. Rev. A 83, 013803 (2011)

Optically trapped nanospheres as mechanical resonators

Ashkin since 1967

Raizen group, *Science* 2010

Novotny, Quidan 2012

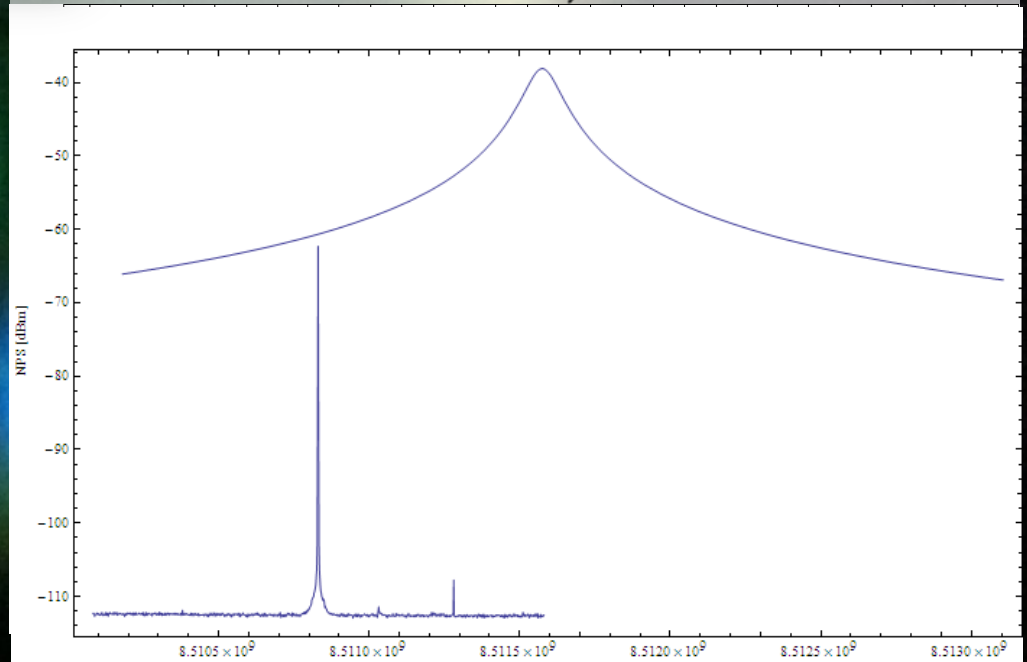
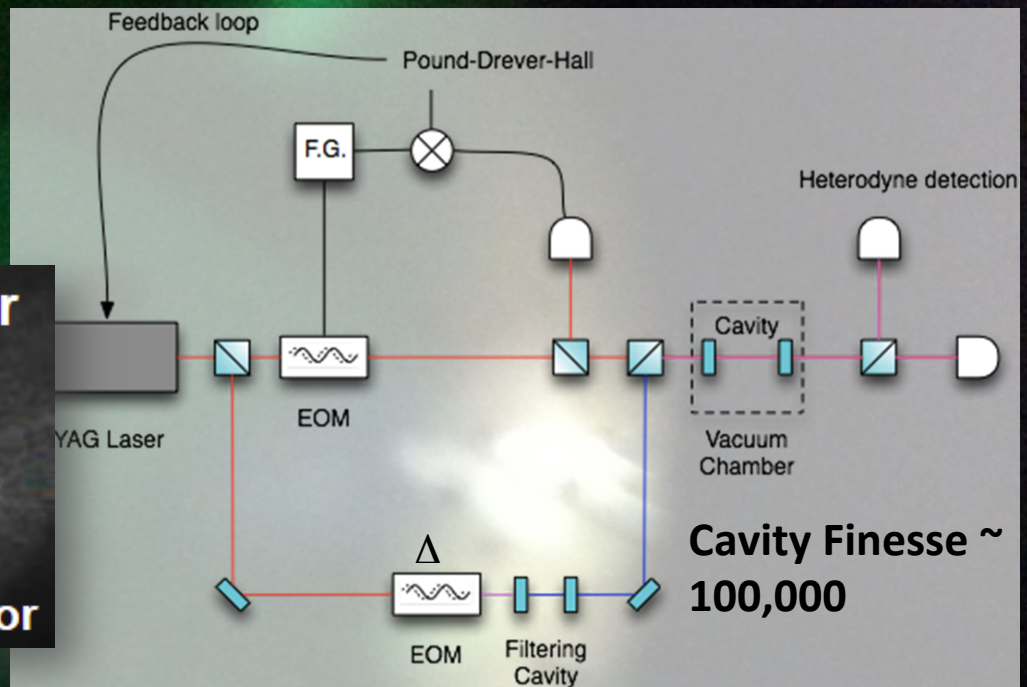
Barker group 2014

Geraci group 2015

Levitation in Cavity @ 4mbar

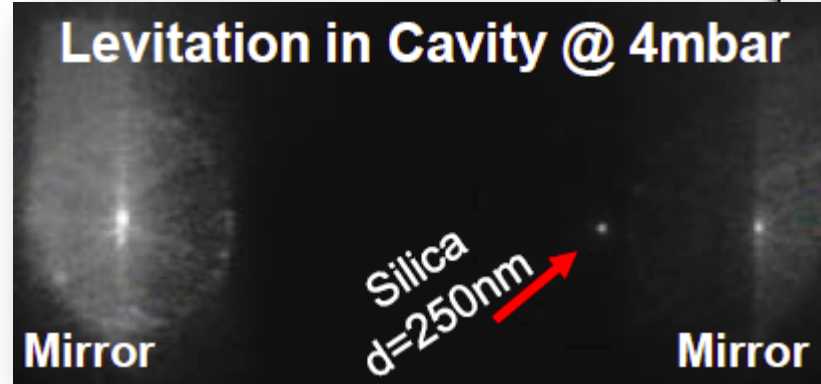


Optical trapping inside a cavity... ($R \sim 20\text{nm} - 2\mu\text{m}$)
Kiesel, Kaltenbaek, Blaser,
Delic et al., work in progress



Cavity cooling of a trapped nanosphere

Levitation in Cavity @ 4mbar



$$Q \sim 25 \text{ @ } 4 \text{ mbar}$$

$$Q \sim 10^9 \text{ @ } 10^{-7} \text{ mbar}$$

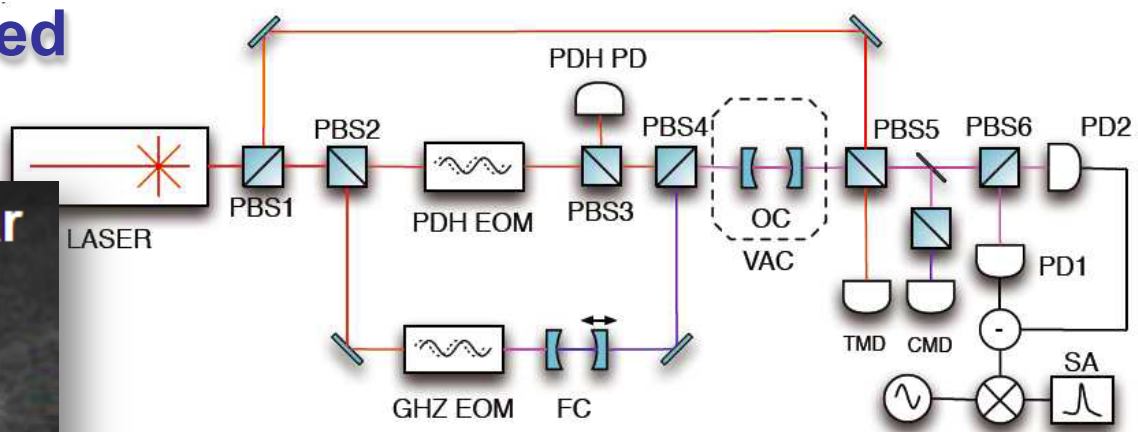
$$\Rightarrow 10^{-21} \text{ N} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}$$

100pm

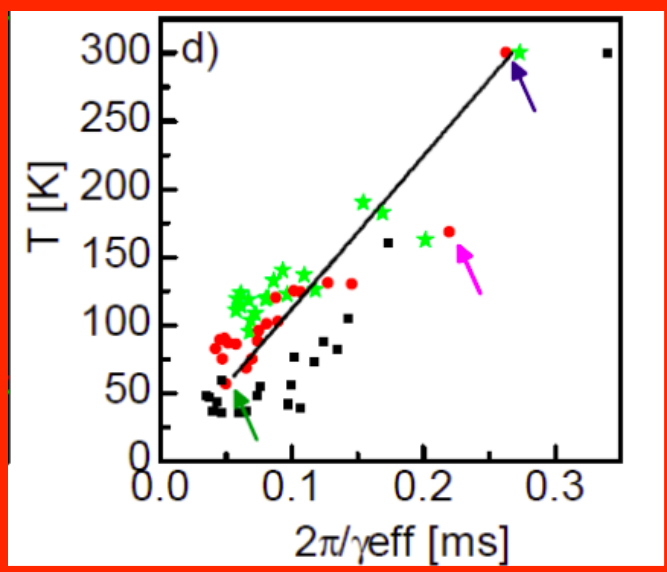
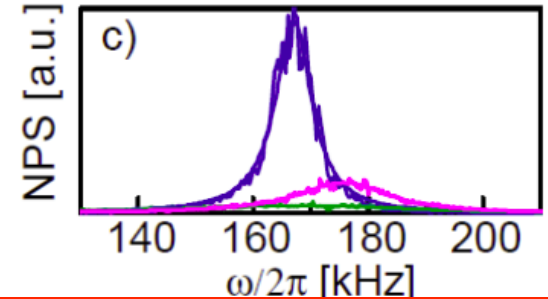
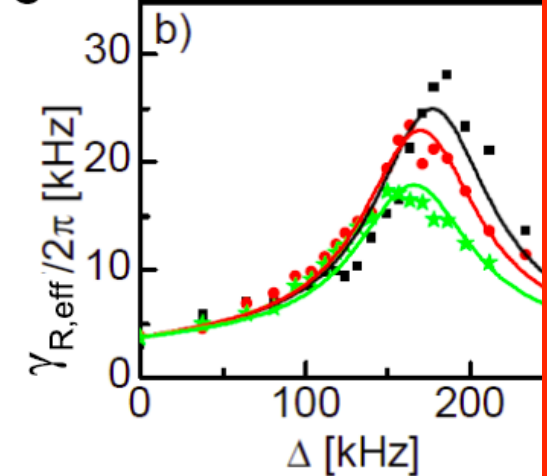
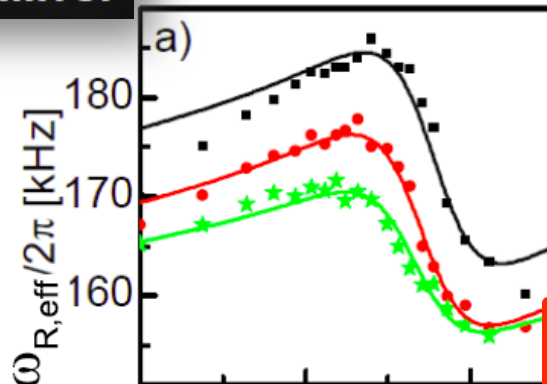


100pm

$$F_c \sim 10^{-19} \text{ N}$$

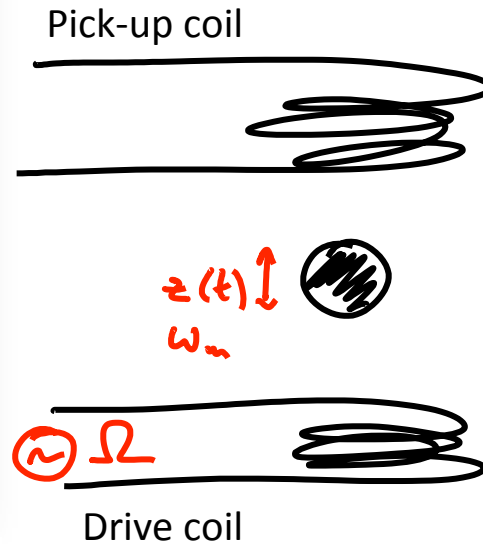
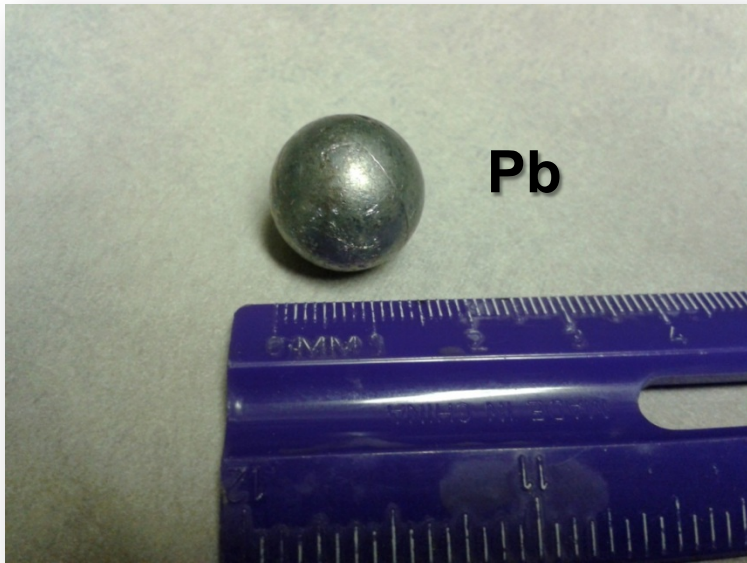


$$\kappa \approx 180 \text{ kHz}, \text{ FSR} \approx 13.6 \text{ GHz}, \text{ F} \approx 78,000$$



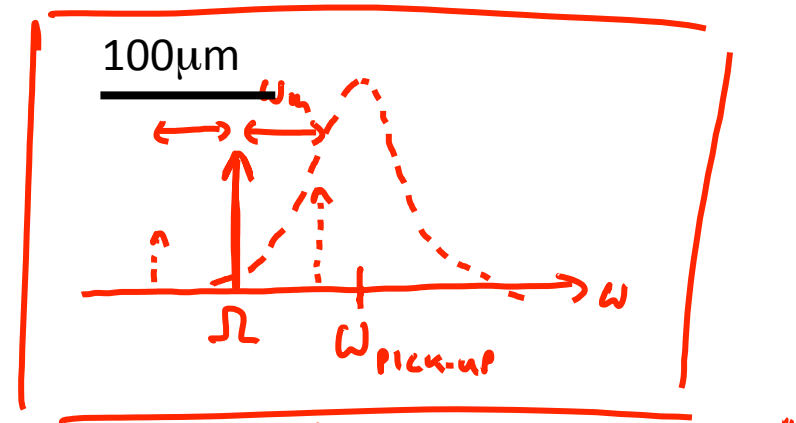
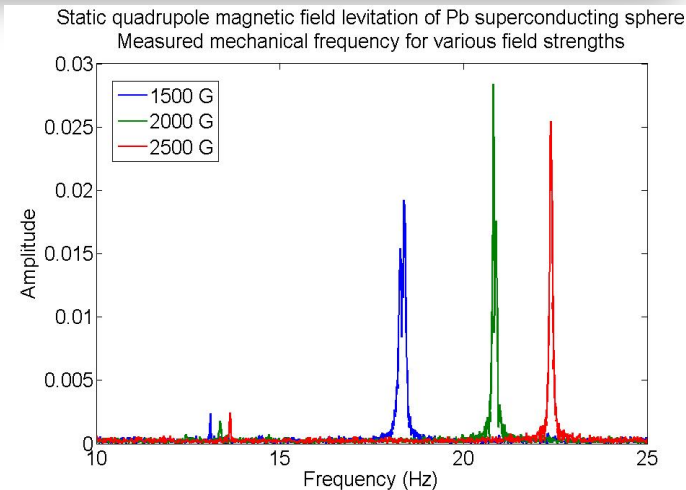
N. Kiesel, F. Blaser, U. Delic, D. Grass, R. Kaltenbaek, M. Aspelmeyer, *PNAS USA* **110**, 14180 (2013)
See also: P. Asenbaum et al., *Nat. Comm.* **4**, 2743 (2013)

Magnetically trapped superconductors as mechanical resonators



$$H_{\text{int}} \propto -\frac{\Phi_1 \Phi_2}{L_1 L_2} M_{12}(z)$$

M_{12} : mutual inductance



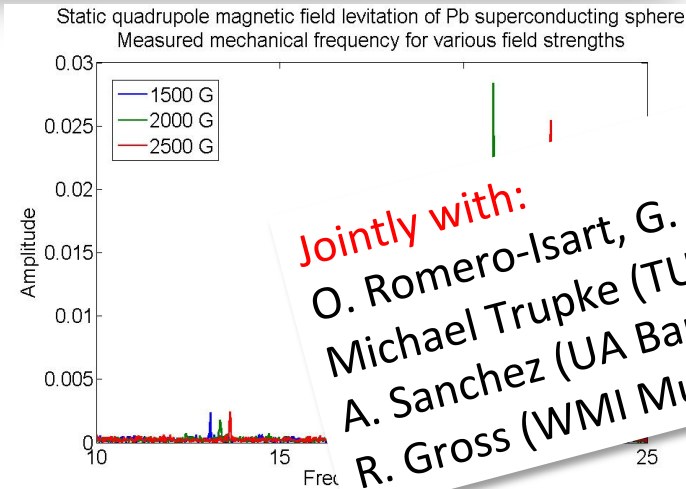
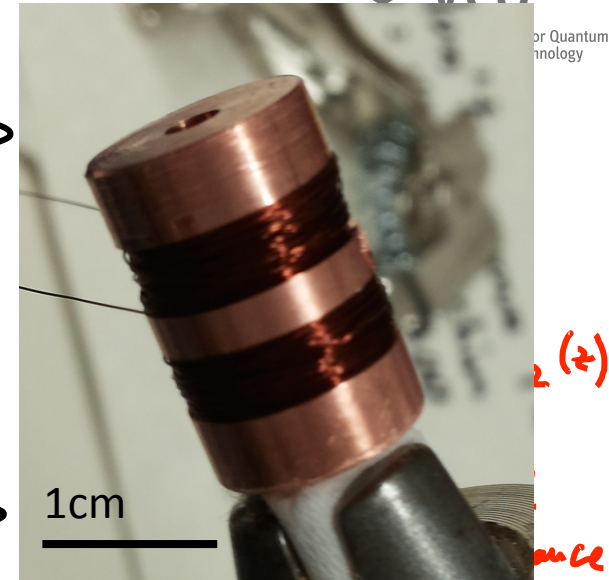
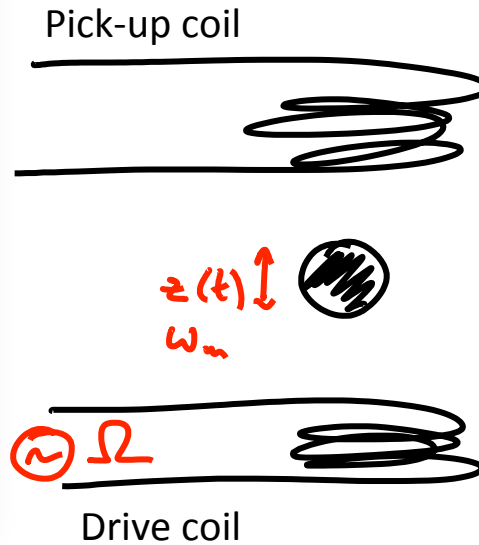
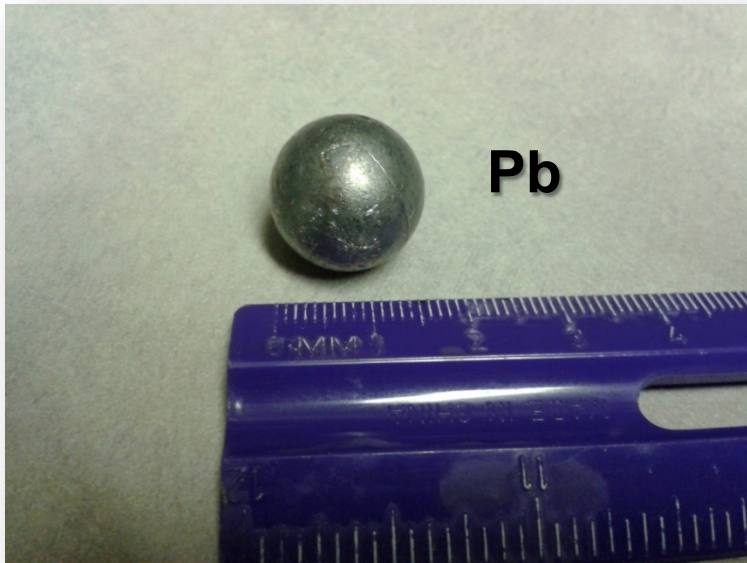
"CAVITY OPTO-MECHANICS"
(artist's impression – still...)

Magnetic levitation in anti-Helmholtz coil configuration

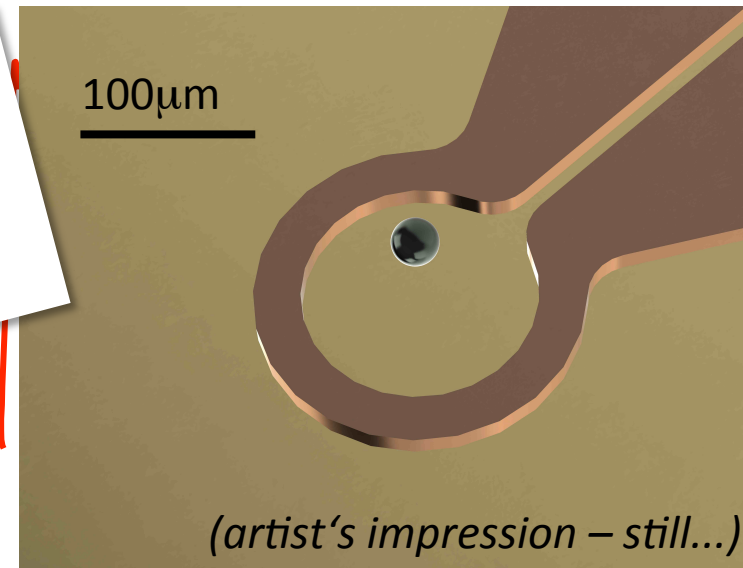
Trap frequencies ~ 20 Hz

$T = 20$ mK, $p = 1e-6$ mbar

Magnetically trapped superconductors as mechanical resonators

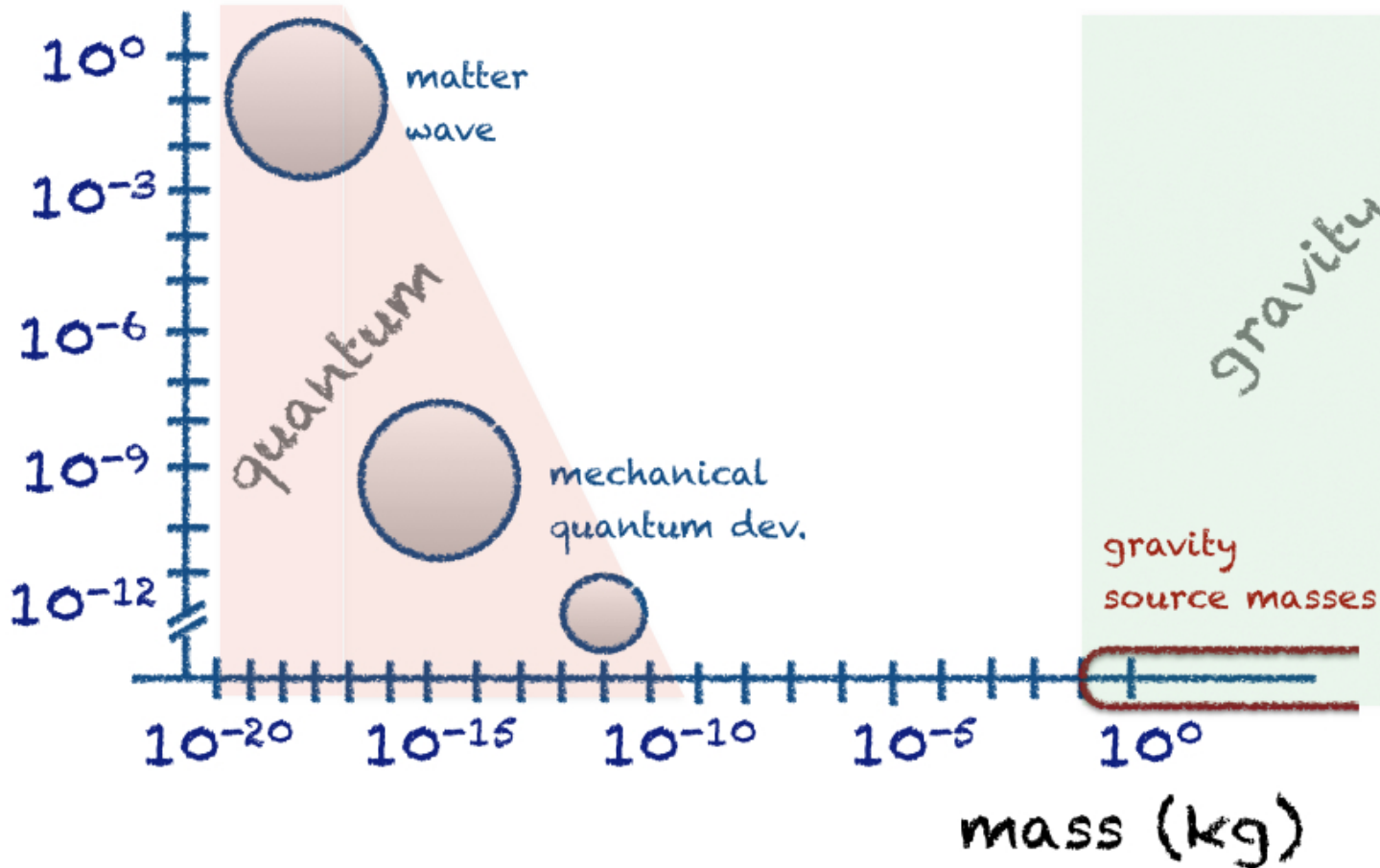


Jointly with:
 O. Romero-Isart, G. Kirchmair (IQOQI)
 Michael Trupke (TU Vienna)
 A. Sanchez (UA Barcelona)
 R. Gross (WMI Munich)



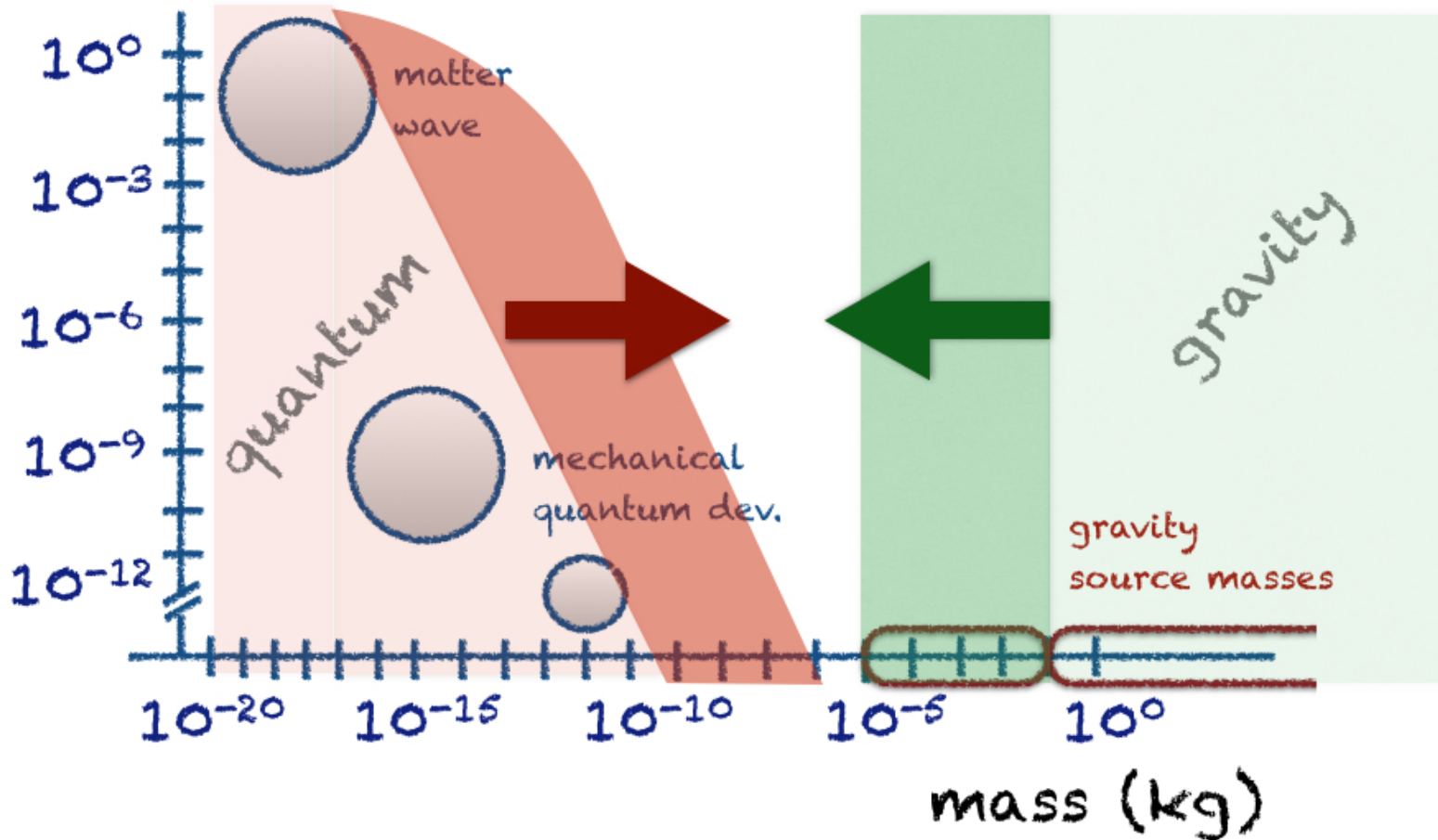
How massive can we go?

coherence
time (sec)



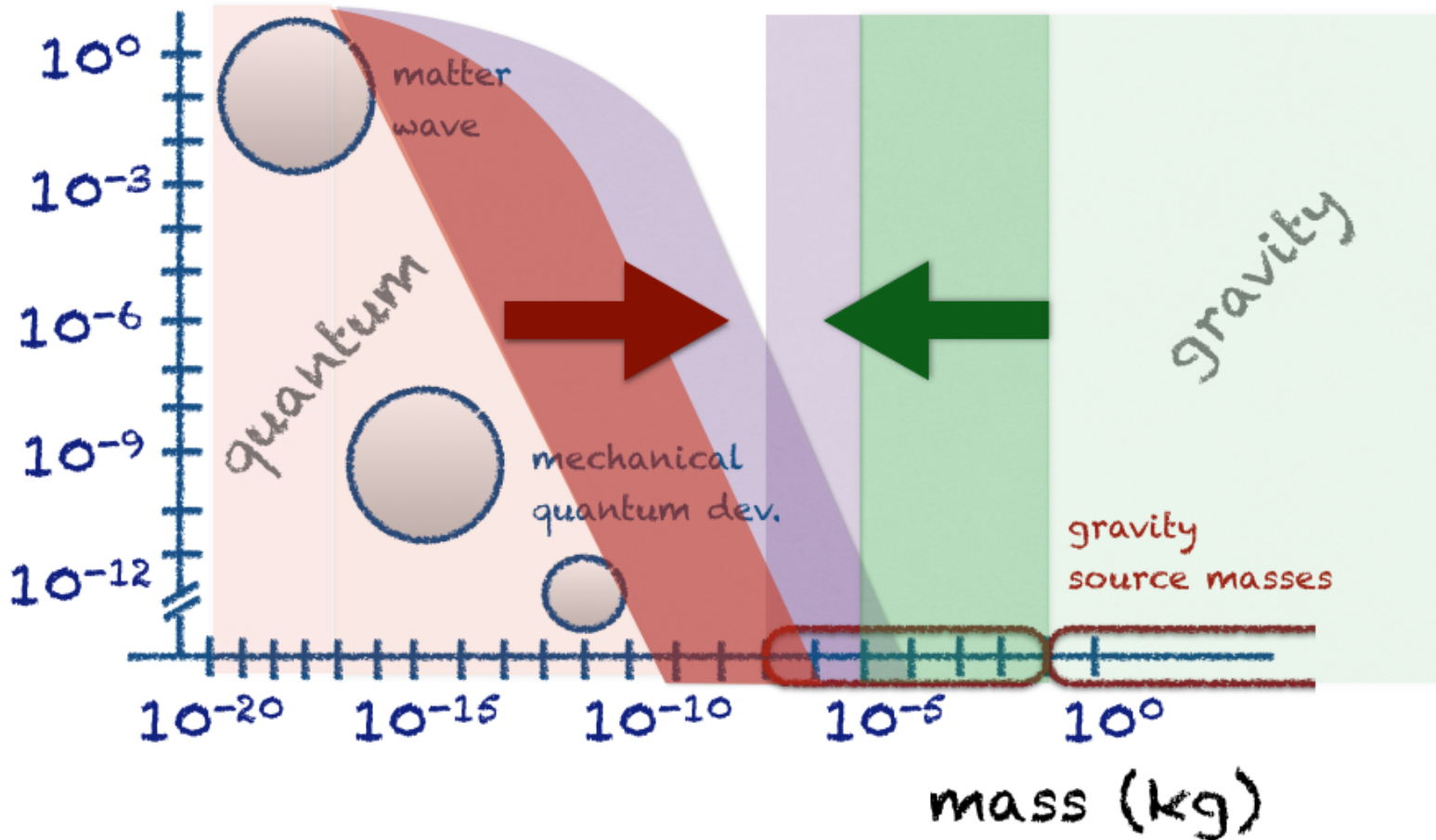
How massive can we go?

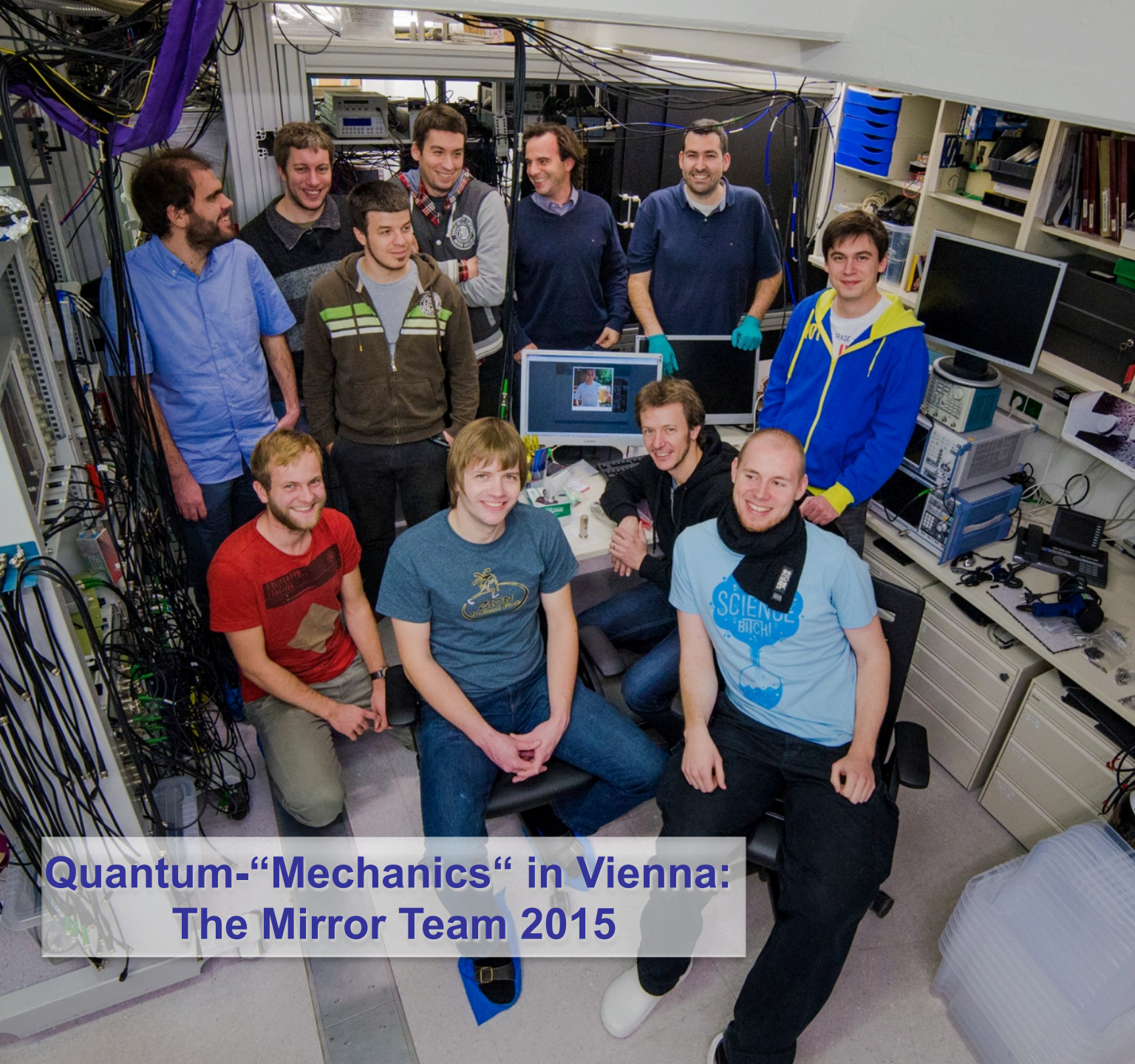
coherence
time (sec)



How massive can we go?

coherence
time (sec)





Quantum-“Mechanics“ in Vienna: The Mirror Team 2015



universität
wien



VCQ

Vienna Center for Quantum
Science and Technology

FWF

Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

W W T F

Vienna Science and Technology Fund



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME



European
Research
Council



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation



EURAMET
European Association of National Metrology Institutes
EMRP
European Metrology Research Programme

Low-noise coatings & microfab

Garrett Cole → CMS

N.N. (cleanroom tech)

Towards testing quantum gravity & QND measurements (with C. Brukner, M. Kim)

Sungkun Hong

Ralf Riedinger

Philipp Köhler

Quantum foundations and levitated resonators; precision measurements (with M. Arndt, O. Romero-Isart, M. Trupke, K. Schwab, Airbus/EADS)

Nikolai Kiesel

Rainer Kaltenbaek

Josh Slater

Florian Blaser

Uros Delic

David Grass

Jonas Schmöle

Mathias Dragosits

Joachim Hofer

Martin Siegele

Hans Hepbach

Christian Siegele

Quantum information interfaces (with K. Hammerer, J. Eisert, O. Painter)

Witlief Wieczorek

Jason Hölscher-Obermayer

Sebastian Hofer

Ramon Moghadas Nia

Claus Gärtner

Thomas Zauner

enna:

Quantum Controlling Levitated Massive Mechanical Systems

GOAL

Establish **quantum control of levitated massive mechanical systems**

METHOD

- **Optical levitation** coupled to cavities
- **Magnetic levitation** coupled to superconducting circuits

MOTIVATION

Enable a new class of experiments at the **interface between quantum physics and gravity**

EXPECTED RESULTS

Bottom-up: Demonstrate **long-lived quantum coherence** of increasingly massive systems

Top-down: Measure **gravity** between **sub-mm source masses**

Long-term: establish experiments that exploit the **source mass character of the quantum system**



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