



***Gravity tests by atom interferometry:  
Measurement of  $G$   
and test of Newtonian law at micrometric distances***

***Guglielmo M. Tino***

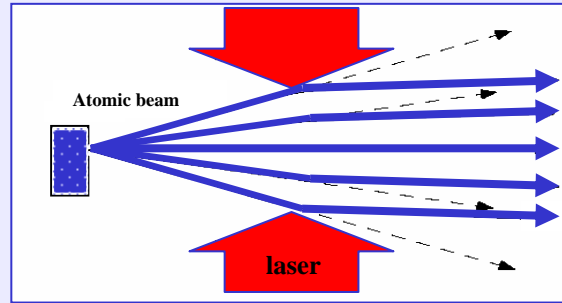
*Università degli Studi di Firenze - Dipartimento di Fisica, LENS  
Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare - Sezione di Firenze*

# *Outline*

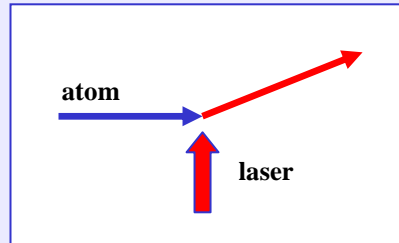
- *Atom interferometry*
- *Applications to gravity measurements*
- *Measuring  $G$  with atoms*
- *Precision gravity measurement at  $\mu\text{m}$  scale with laser-cooled Sr atoms in an optical lattice*
- *Prospects*

# Atom optics

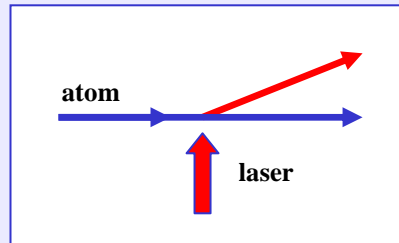
lenses



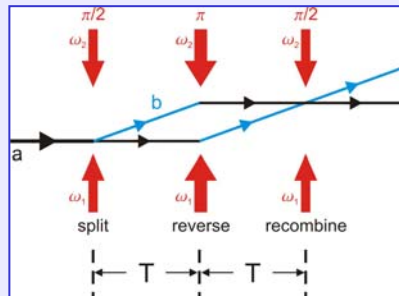
mirrors



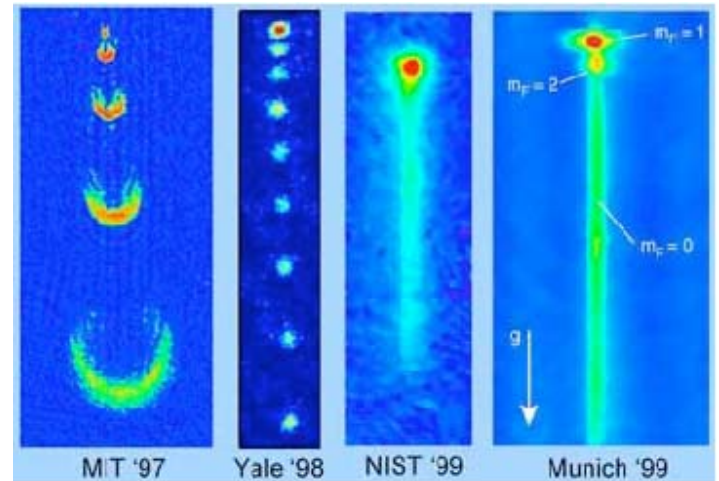
beam-splitters



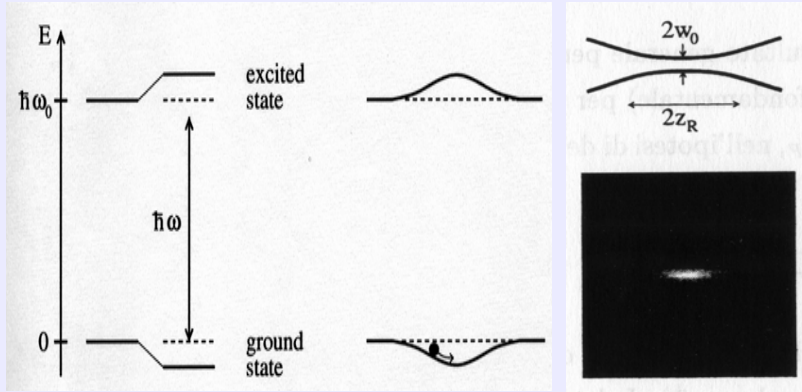
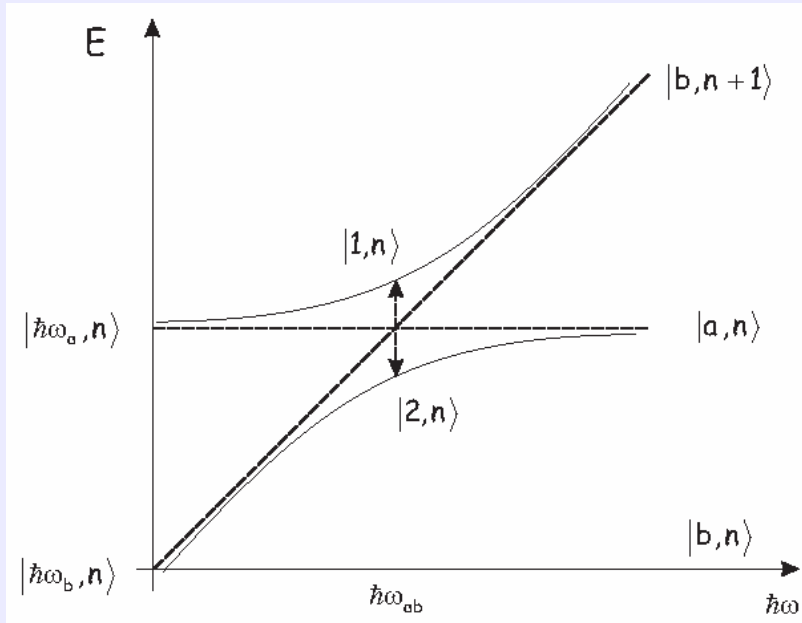
interferometers



atom laser

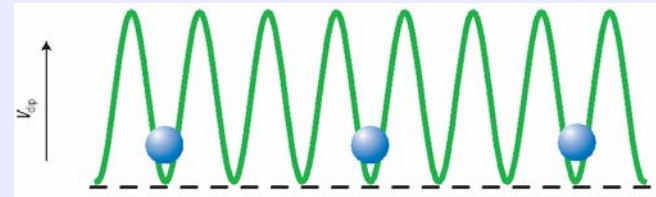


# Light shifts and optical traps

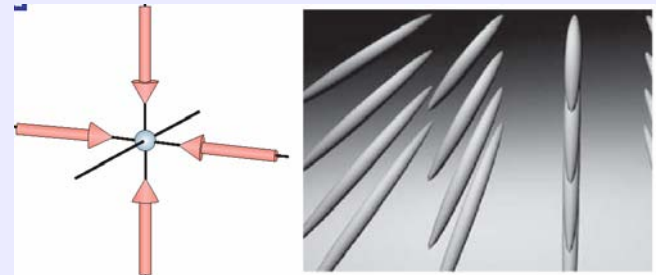


$$V_{\text{dip}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \propto \alpha(\omega_L) |\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

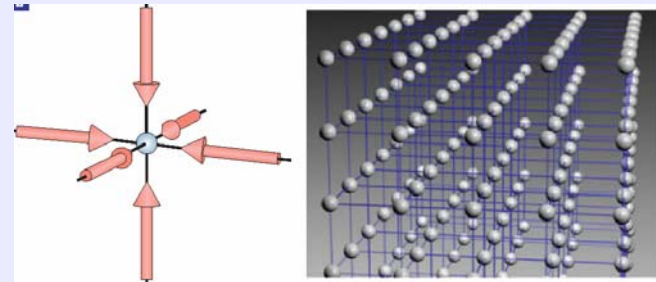
## optical lattices



1D optical lattice  $\Rightarrow$  array of 2D disk-like trapping potentials

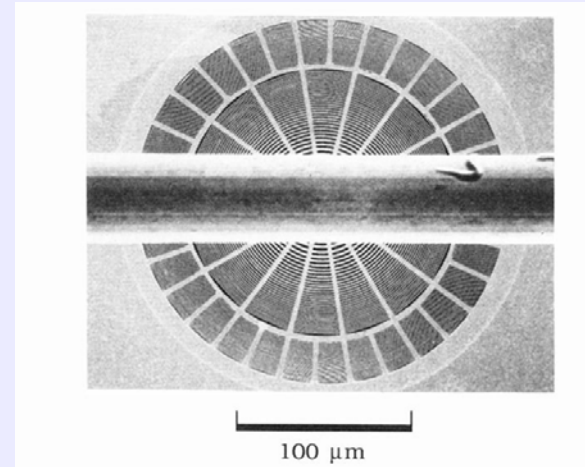
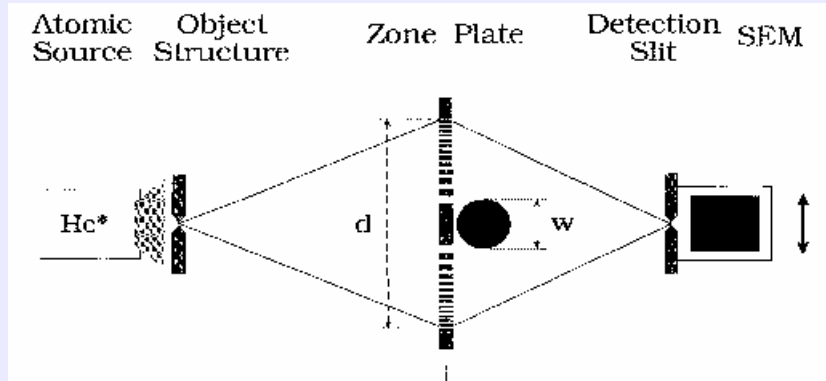


2D optical lattice  $\Rightarrow$  array of 1D potential tubes

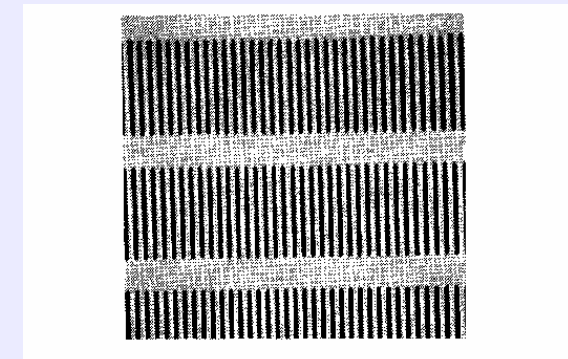
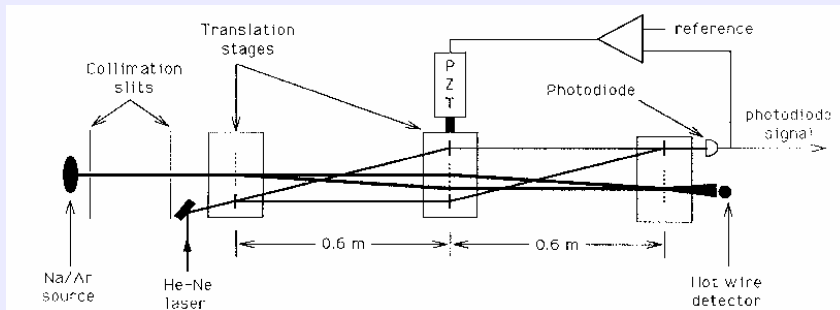


3D optical lattice  $\Rightarrow$  3D simple cubic array of h.o. potentials

# Microfabricated atom optics

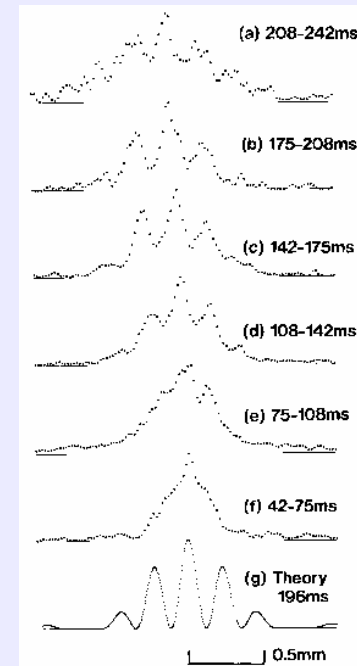
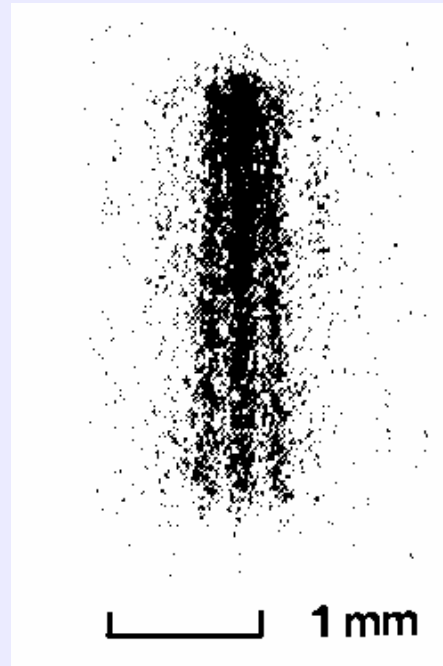
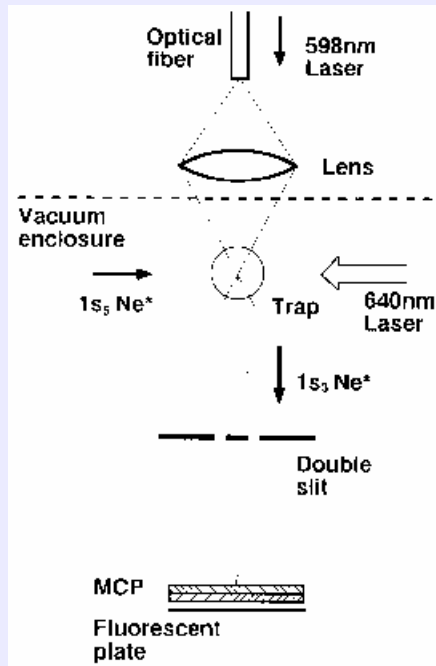


O. Carnal, M. Sigel, T. Sleator, H. Takuma, J. Mlynek, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 67, 3231 (1991)

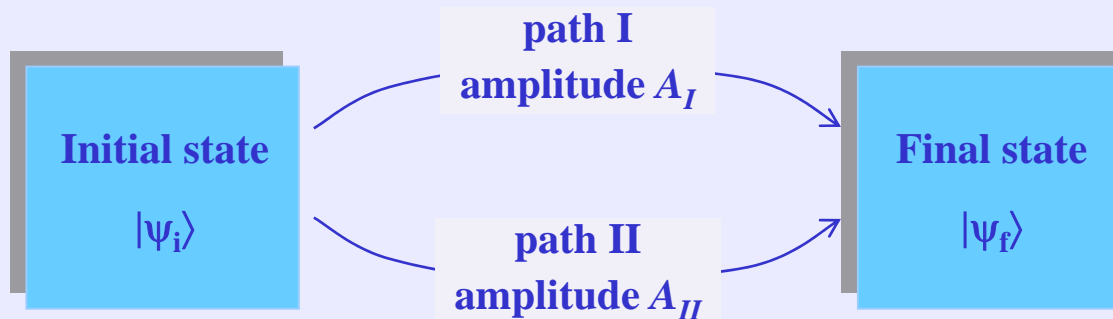


D. W. Keith, C. R. Ekstrom, Q. A. Turchette, D. E. Pritchard, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 66, 2693 (1991)

# Double slit interference with cold atoms



# Quantum interference



## Interference of transition amplitudes

$$P(|\psi_i\rangle \Rightarrow |\psi_f\rangle) = |A_I + A_{II}|^2 = |A_I|^2 + |A_{II}|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re}(A_I A_{II}^*)$$

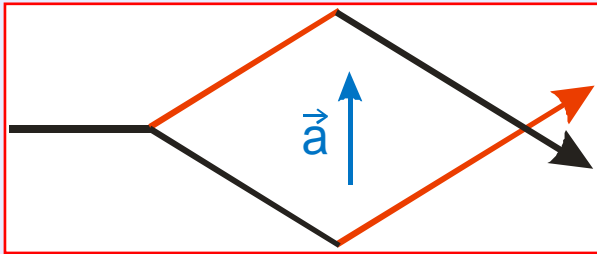
# $\Delta\varphi$ effects

- Accelerations
- Rotations
- Laser frequency detuning
- Laser phase
- Photon recoil
- Electric/magnetic fields
- Interactions with atoms and molecules



# Matter wave sensors

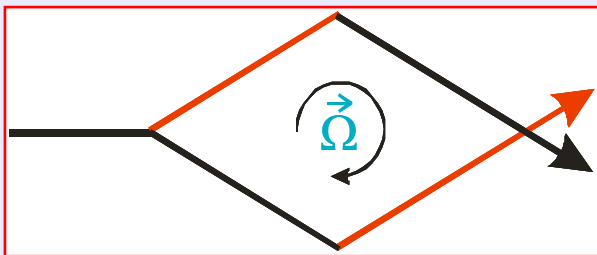
accelerations:



$$\Delta\Phi_{\text{acc}} = k T_{\text{drift}}^2 \cdot a$$

$$\frac{\Delta\varphi_{\text{mat}}}{\Delta\varphi_{\text{ph}}} \sim \left( \frac{c}{v_{\text{at}}} \right)^2 \approx 10^{11} - 10^{17}$$

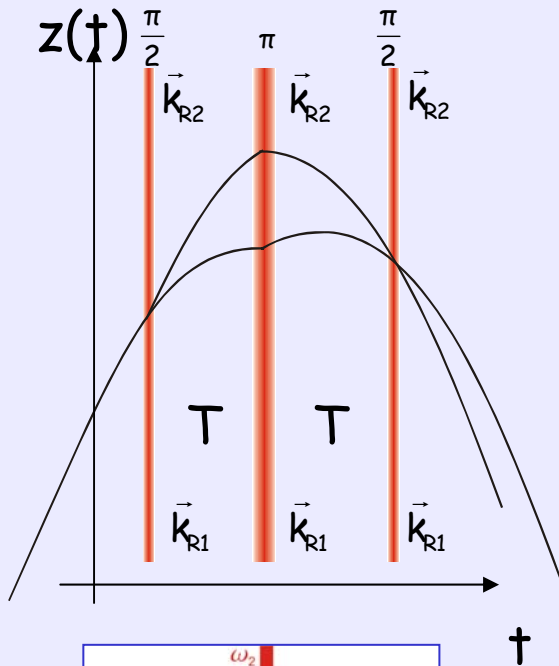
rotations:



$$\Delta\Phi_{\text{rot}} = 2\pi \frac{2 m_{\text{at}}}{h} A \cdot \Omega$$

$$\frac{\Delta\varphi_{\text{mat}}}{\Delta\varphi_{\text{ph}}} \sim \frac{m_{\text{at}} \cdot \lambda \cdot c}{h} \approx 5 \cdot 10^{10}$$

# Raman interferometry in an atomic fountain



Phase difference between the paths:

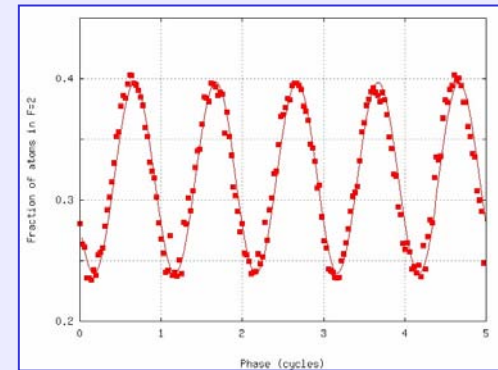
$$\Delta\Phi = k_e[z(0)-2z(T)+z(2T)]+\Phi_e \quad \mathbf{k_e = k_1 - k_2}, \quad \omega_e = c \mathbf{k_e}$$

with  $z(t) = -g t^2/2 + v_0 t + z_0$  &  $\Phi_e = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta\Phi = \mathbf{k_e g T^2}$

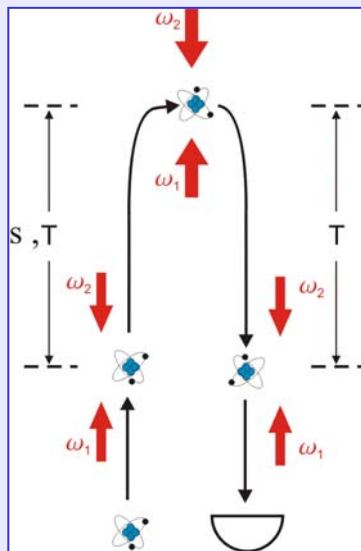
$$\mathbf{g = \Delta\Phi / k_e T^2}$$

Final population:

$$\mathbf{N_a = N/2 (1 + \cos[\Delta\Phi])}$$



Interference fringes – Firenze 2006



$$T = 150 \text{ ms} \Rightarrow 2\pi = 10^{-6} g$$

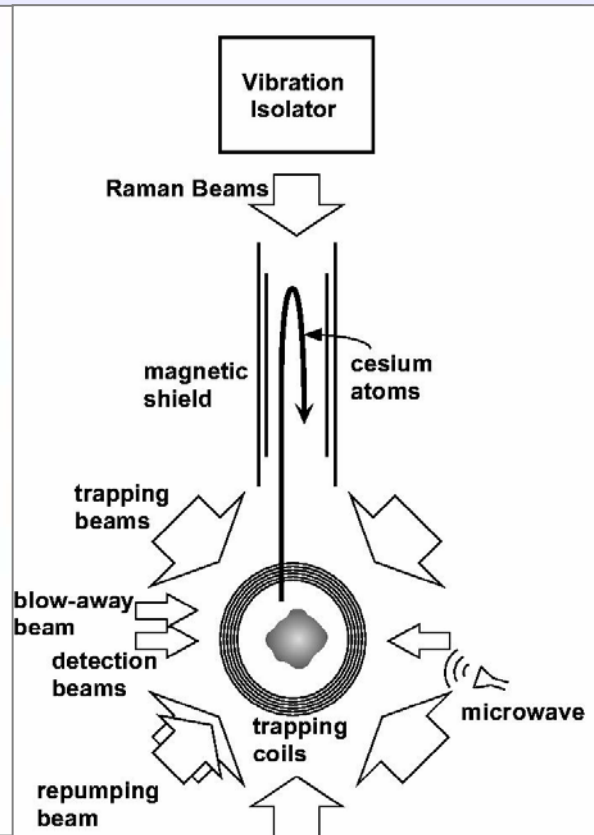
$$S/N = 1000$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Sensitivity } 10^{-9} \text{ g/shot}$$

M. Kasevich, S. Chu, *Appl. Phys. B* **54**, 321 (1992)

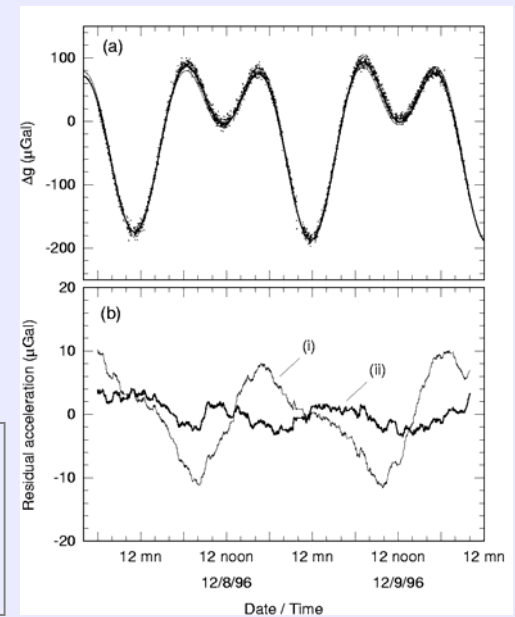
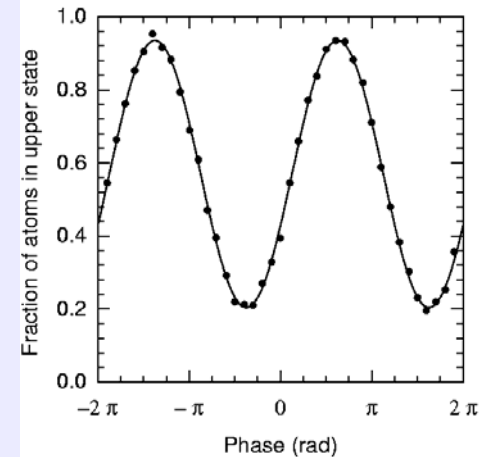
A. Peters, K.Y. Chung and S. Chu, *Nature* **400**, 849 (1999)

# Stanford atom gravimeter



Resolution:  $3 \times 10^{-9}$  g after 1 minute

Absolute accuracy:  $\Delta g/g < 3 \times 10^{-9}$

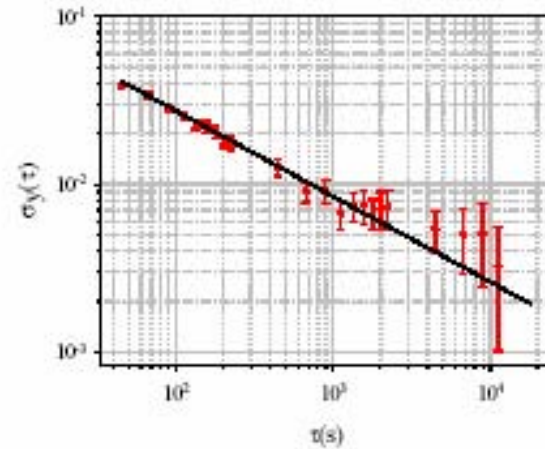


A. Peters, K.Y. Chung and S. Chu, *Nature* **400**, 849 (1999)

# Stanford/Yale gravity gradiometer



1.4 m



Demonstrated differential acceleration sensitivity:

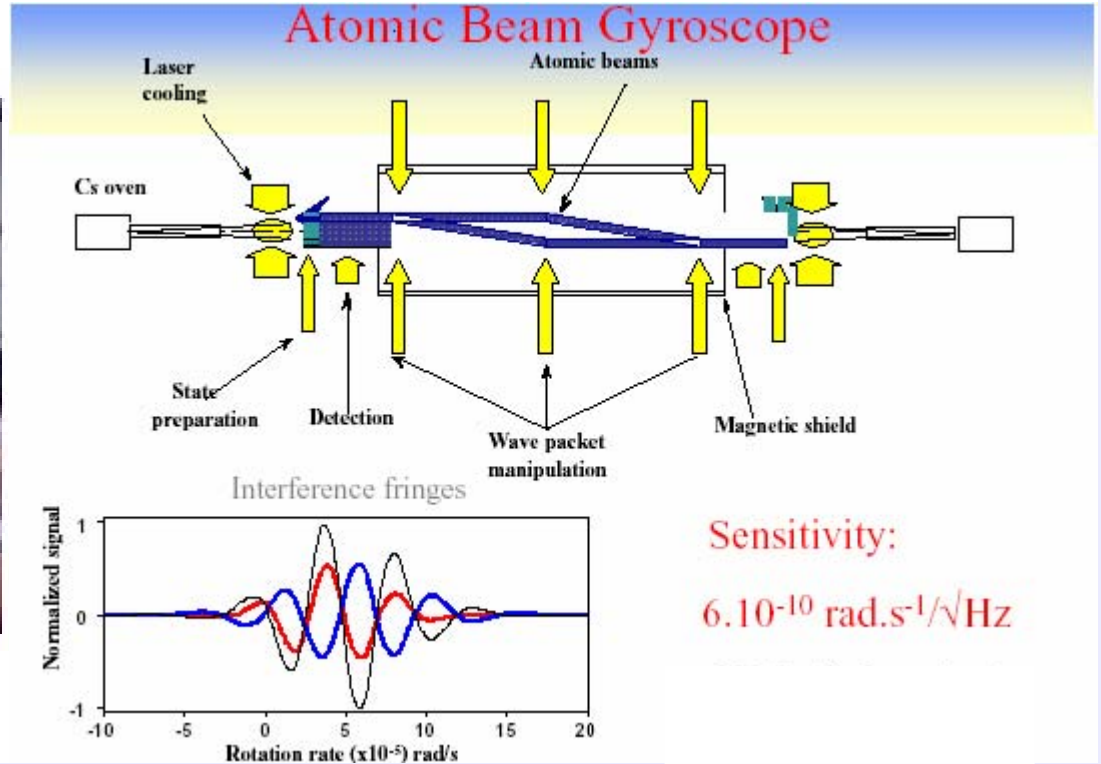
$$4 \times 10^{-9} \text{ g/Hz}^{1/2}$$

( $2.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ g/Hz}^{1/2}$  per accelerometer)

*Distinguish gravity induced accelerations from those due to platform motion with differential acceleration measurements.*

*from M.A. Kasevich*

# Stanford/Yale gyroscope

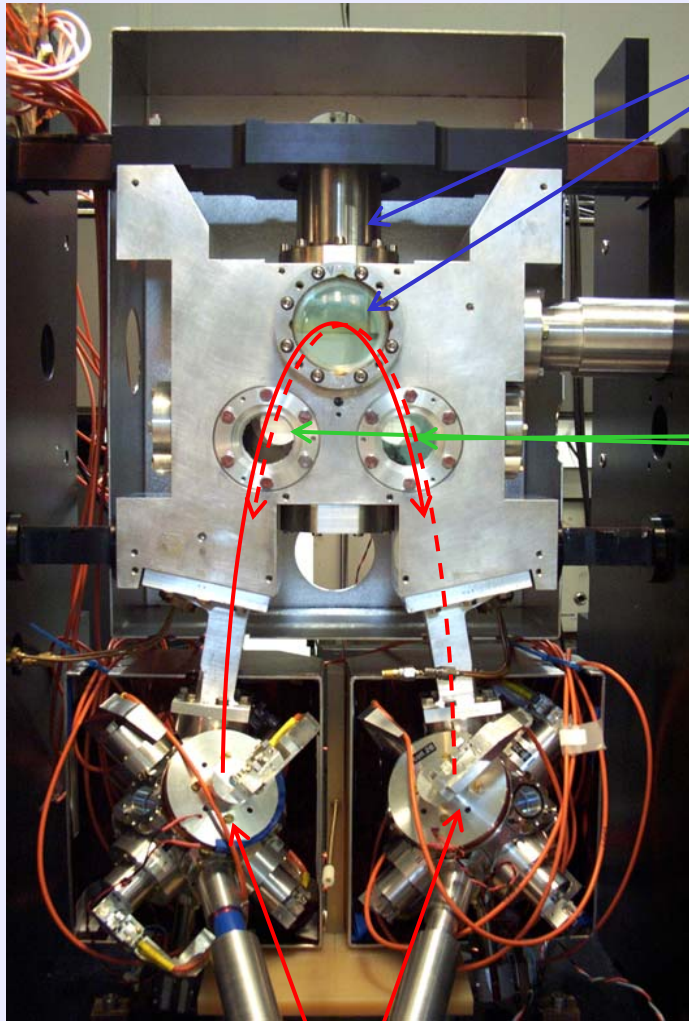


T.L. Gustavson, A. Landragin and M.A. Kasevich, *Class. Quantum Grav.* **17**, 2385 (2000)

# *SYRTE cold atom gyroscope*

30 cm

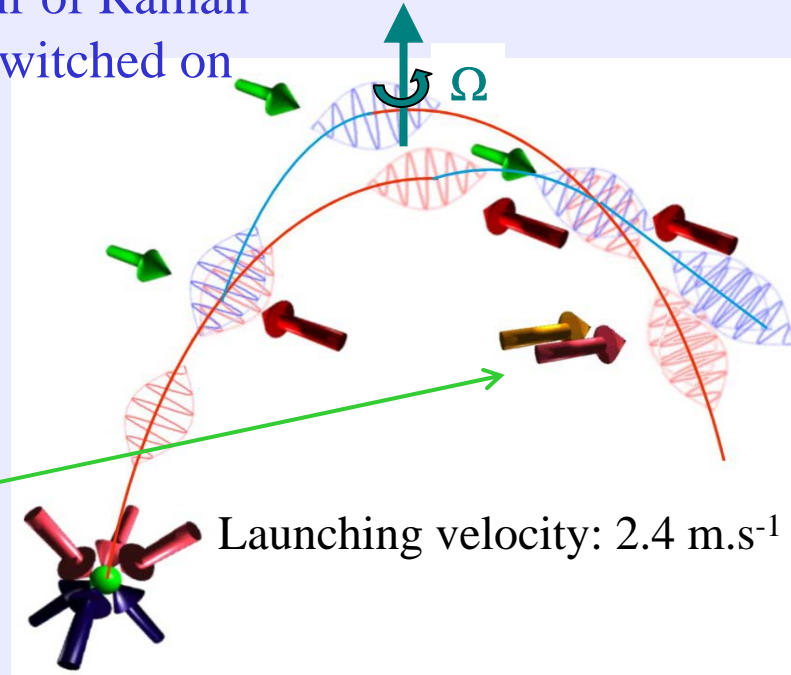
50 cm



Magneto-Optical Traps

One pair of Raman  
lasers switched on  
3 times

Detections



Launching velocity:  $2.4 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$

Maximum interaction time : 90 ms

3 rotation axes

2 acceleration axes

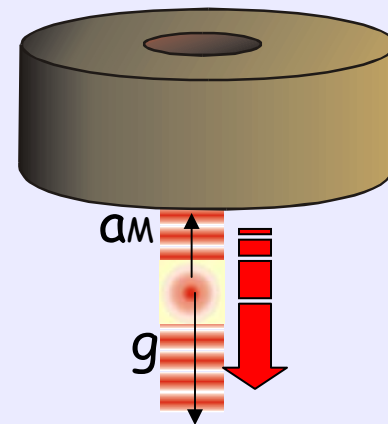
Cycling frequency 2Hz

Expected sensitivity ( $10^6$  at):

- gyroscope :  $4 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ rad.s}^{-1}.\text{Hz}^{-1/2}$
- accelerometer :  $3 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ m.s}^{-2}.\text{Hz}^{-1/2}$



- Measure  $g$  by atom interferometry
- Add source masses
- Measure change of  $g$



- *Precision measurement of  $G$*
- *Test of Newtonian law at micrometric distances*

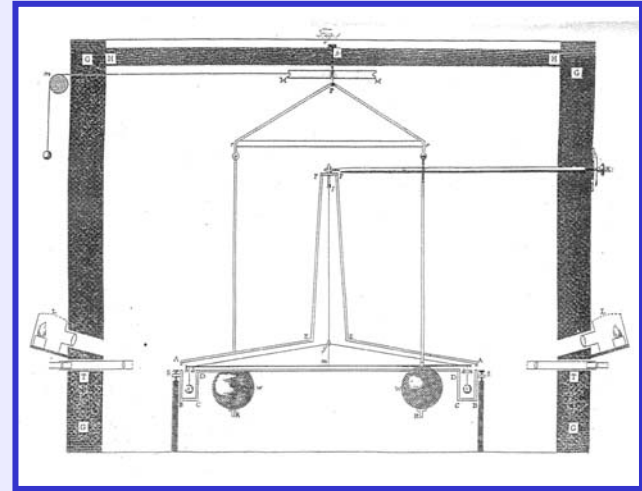
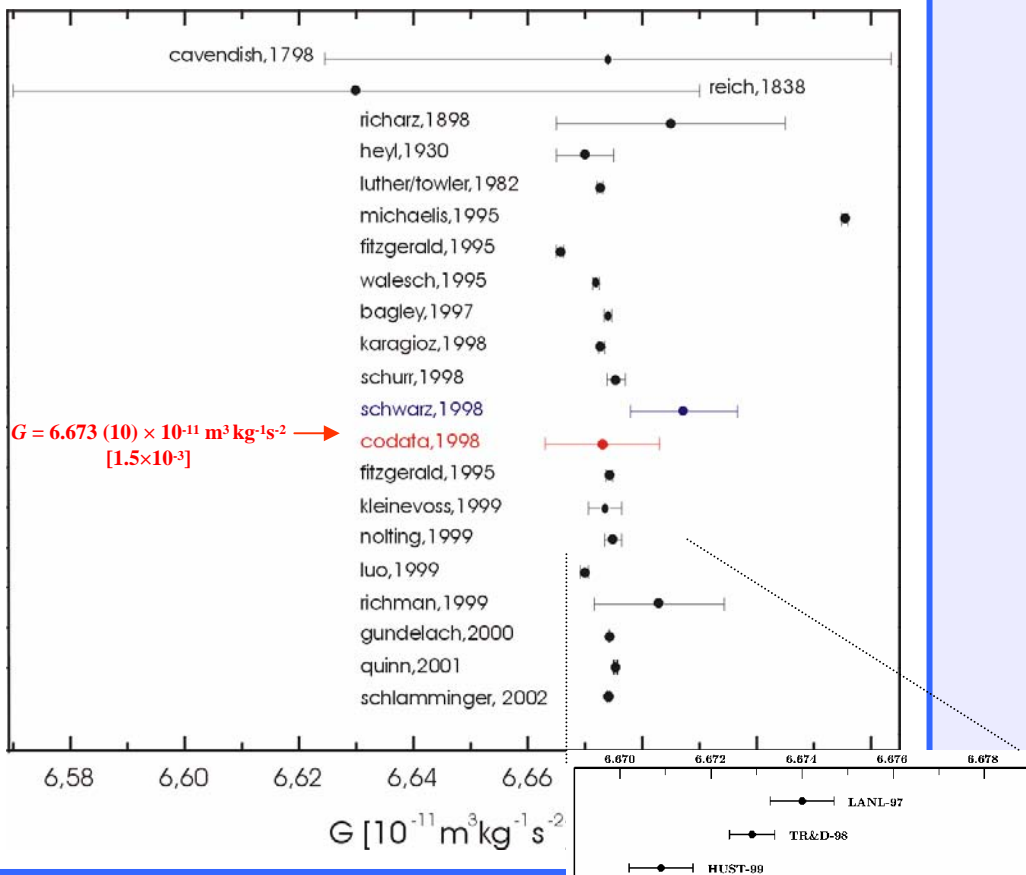
# *Why atoms?*

- Extremely small size
- Well known and reproducible properties
- Quantum systems
- Precision gravity measurement by atom interferometry
- Potential immunity from stray fields effects
- Different states, isotopes,...

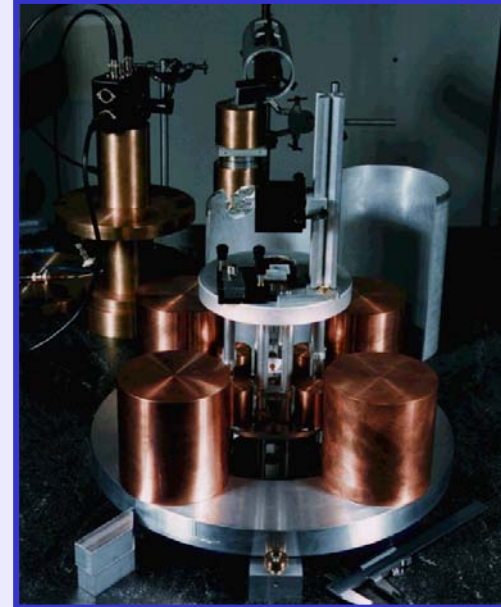


*Measurement of the Newtonian gravitational  
constant  $G$  by atom interferometry*

# Measurements of the Newtonian gravitational constant $G$

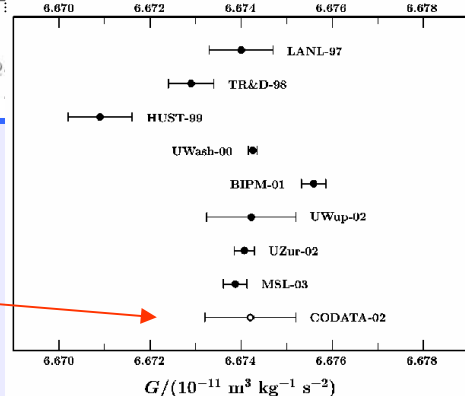


*Cavendish  
1798*



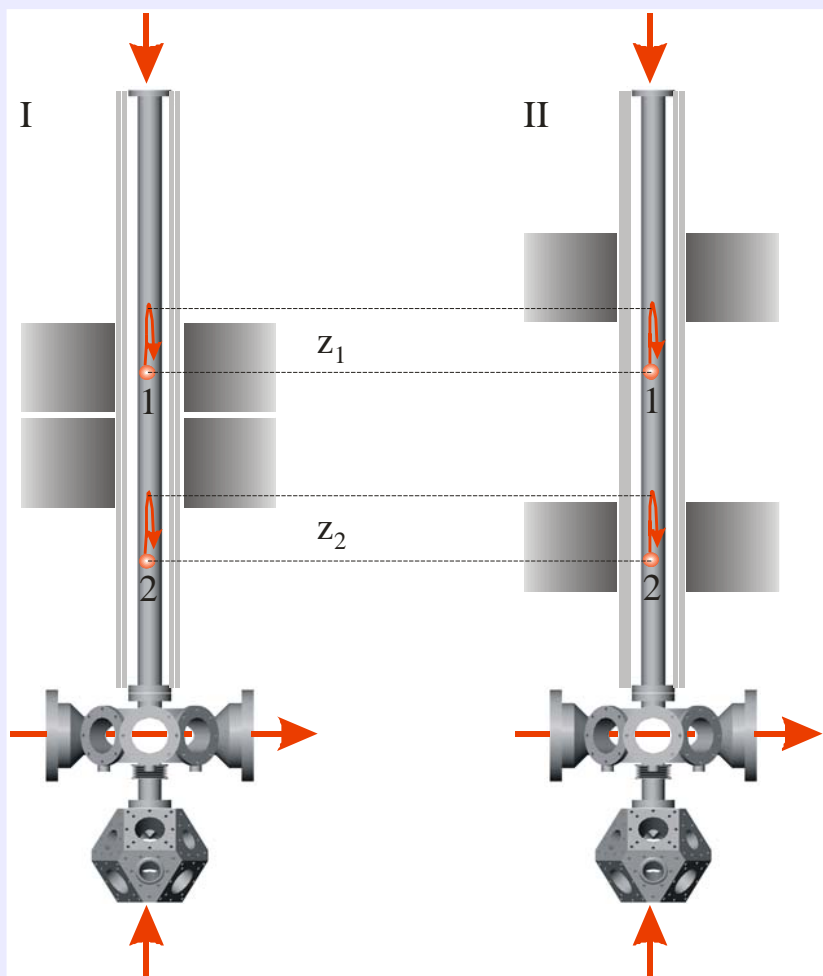
*Quinn  
2001*

**$G = 6.6742 (10) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$**   
 [1.5×10<sup>-4</sup>]





# MAGIA: Experimental procedure



- trap, cool and launch 2 clouds of Rb atoms
- apply Raman light pulses masses in position 1
- detect atoms state selectively
- repeat several times
- plot  $N_a/N$  and fit the differential phase shift  $\Delta\Phi_g$  between the clouds
- move masses to position 2
- repeat all procedure
- subtract the differential phase shifts for the two mass positions

$$\phi_1^I - \phi_2^I = \phi_g(z_1) + \phi_{SM} + \phi_{Sys}(z_1, t_I) - (\phi_g(z_2) - \phi_{SM} + \phi_{Sys}(z_2, t_I))$$

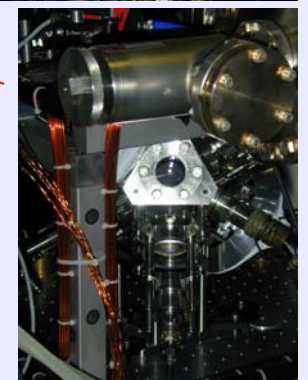
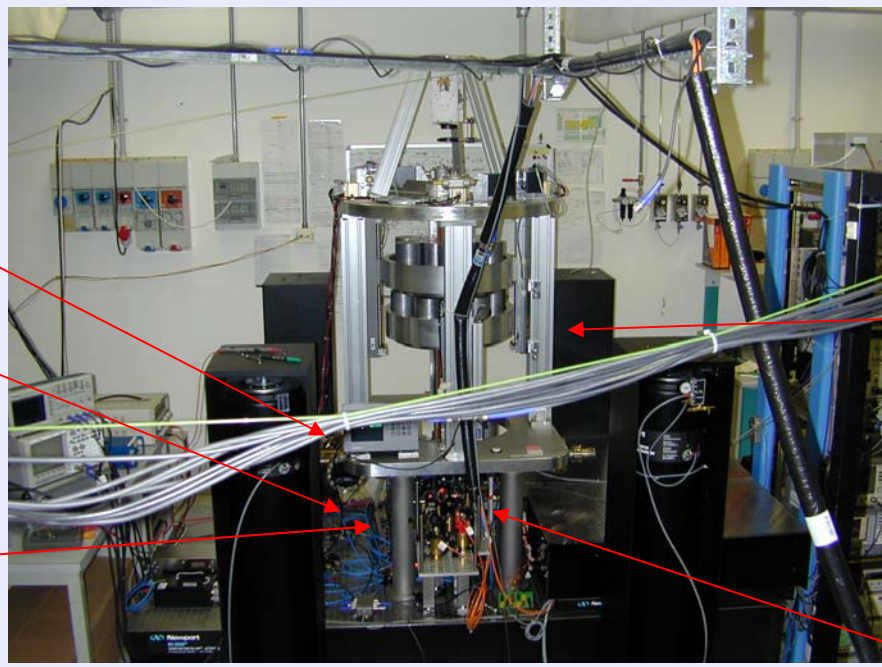
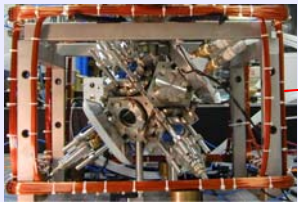
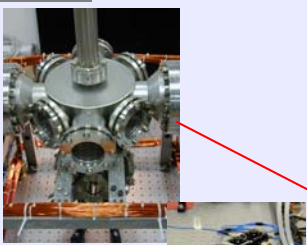
$$\phi_1^{II} - \phi_2^{II} = \phi_g(z_1) - \phi_{SM} + \phi_{Sys}(z_1, t_{II}) - (\phi_g(z_2) + \phi_{SM} + \phi_{Sys}(z_2, t_{II}))$$

$$\Rightarrow (\phi_1^I - \phi_2^I) - (\phi_1^{II} - \phi_2^{II}) = 4\phi_{SM} + \phi_{Sys}(\Delta z, \Delta t)$$

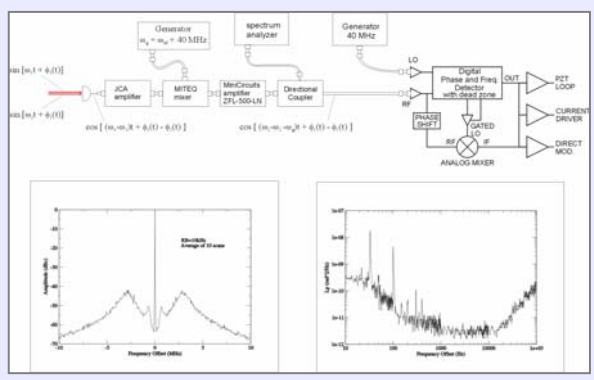
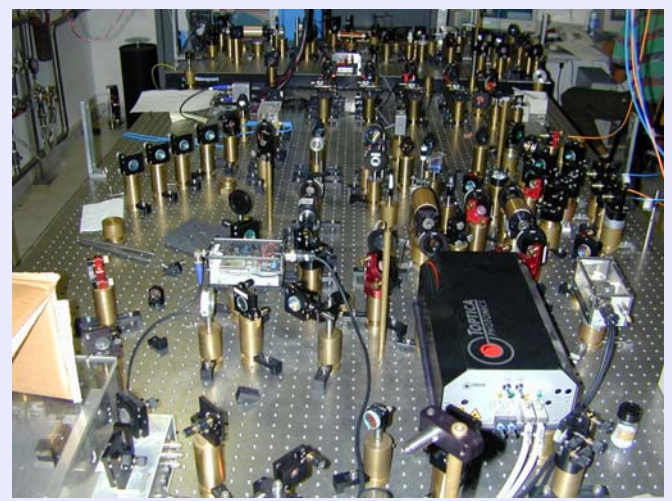


# Atom gravity gradiometer apparatus

## Source masses and support



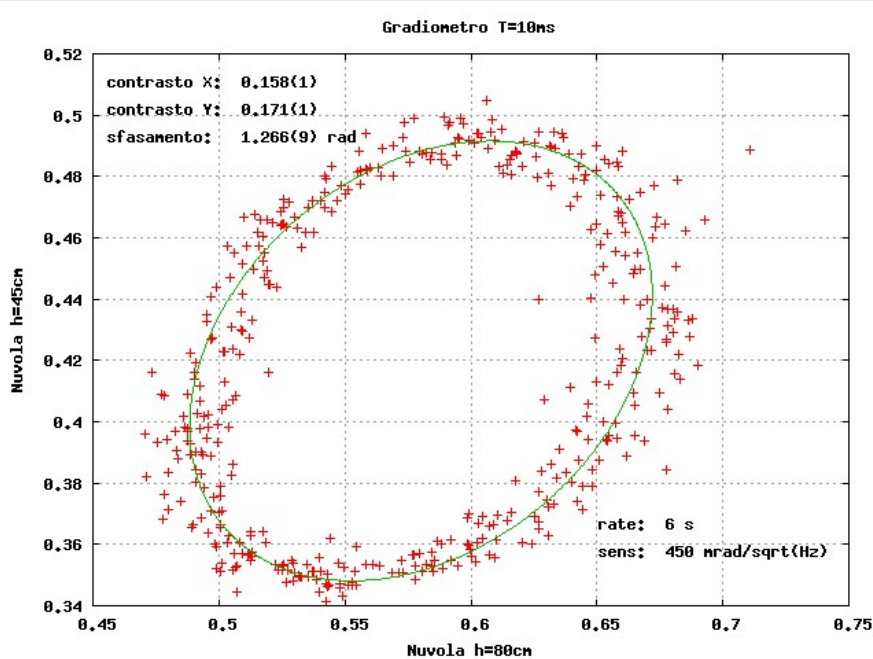
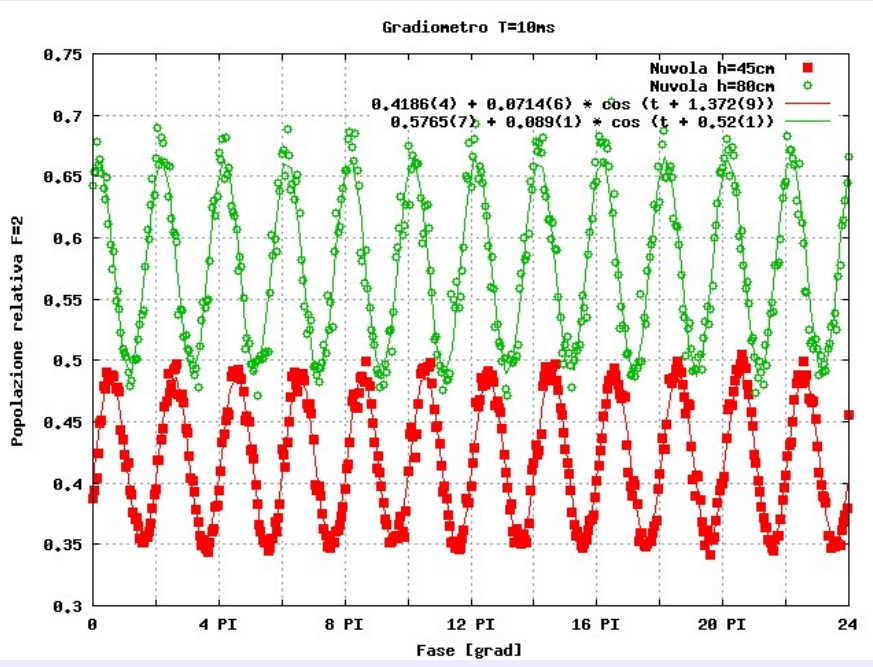
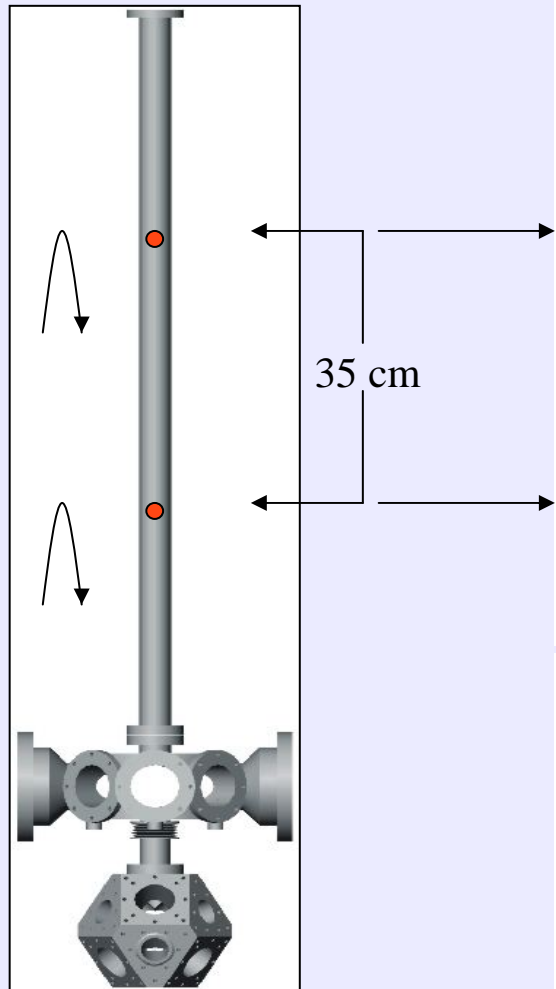
## Laser and optical system



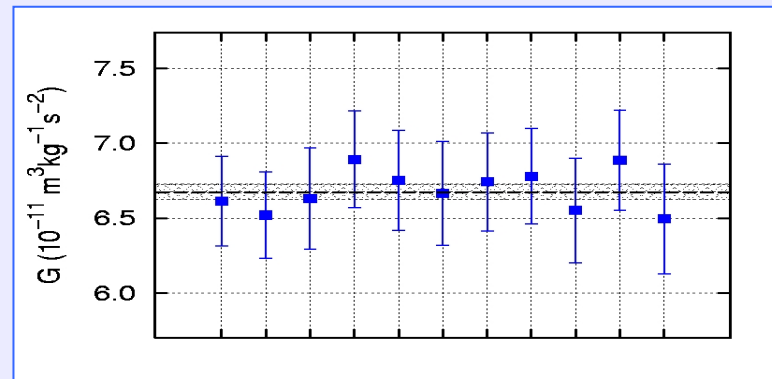
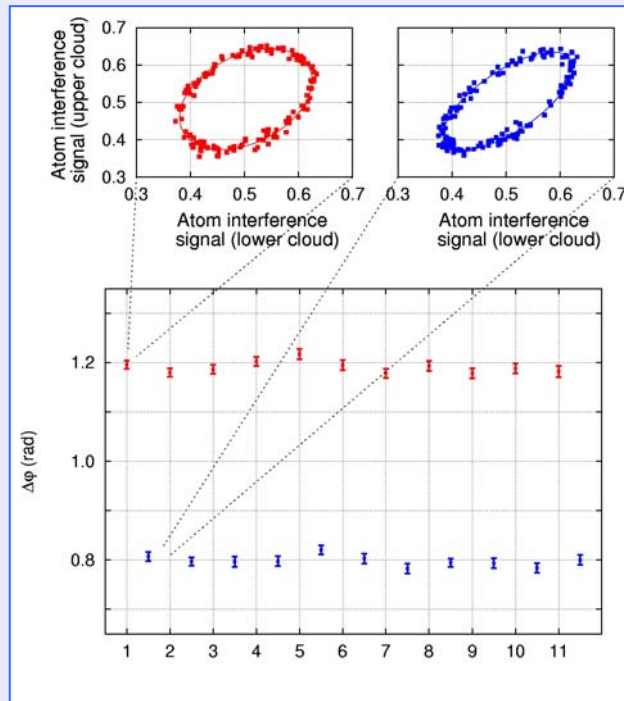
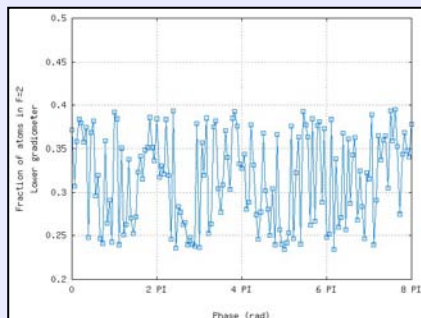
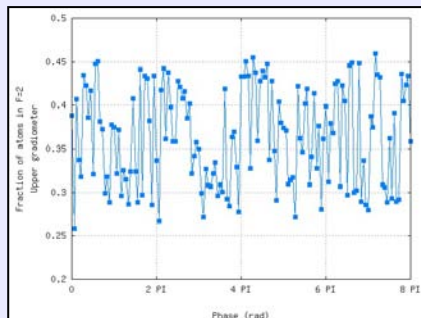
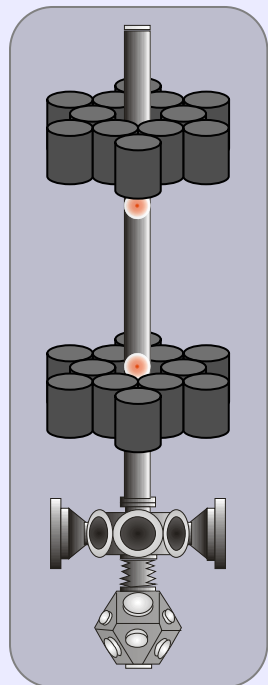
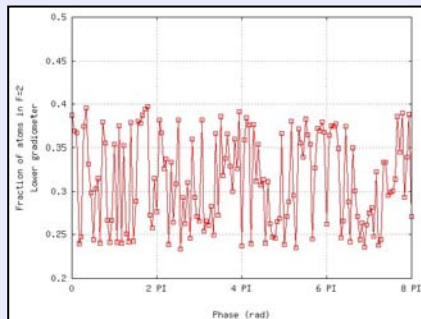
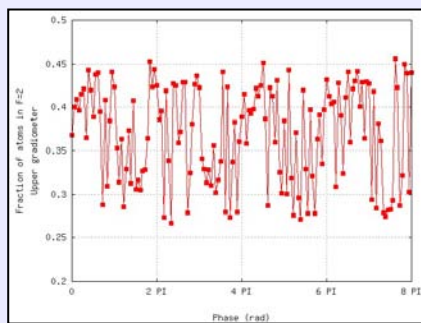
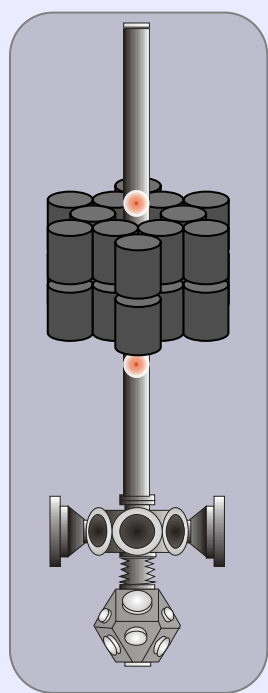
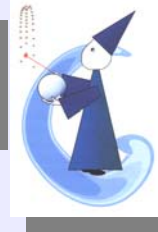
L. Cacciapuoti, M.de Angelis, M. Fattori, G. Lamporesi, T. Petelski, M.Prevedelli, J. Stuhler, G.M. Tino, *Analog+digital phase and frequency detector for phase locking of diode lasers*, Rev. Scient. Instr. 76, 053111 (2005)

# GRADIOMETER

## Atom interference fringes



# G: first result



$$G = 6.64 (6) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

A. Bertoldi, G. Lamporesi, L. Cacciapuoti, M. de Angelis, M. Fattori, T. Petelski, A. Peters, M. Prevedelli, J. Stuhler, G. M. Tino, Eur. Phys. J D, 2006  
(available online as Highlight Paper) - [arXiv:physics/0606126](https://arxiv.org/abs/physics/0606126)

G. M. Tino, GGI Workshop, Firenze 29/9/2006

# SOURCE MASSES

## Arrangement:

2x12 cylinders in a hexagonal arrangement

**Material:** INTERMET 180K  
(95.3% W, 3.2% Ni, 1.5% Cu)  
produced by PLANSEE

## Properties:

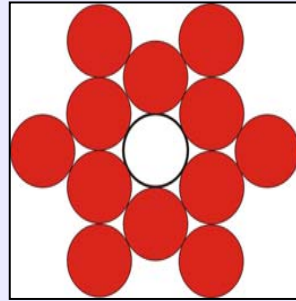
Density =  $18 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$

Resistivity =  $12 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Wm}$

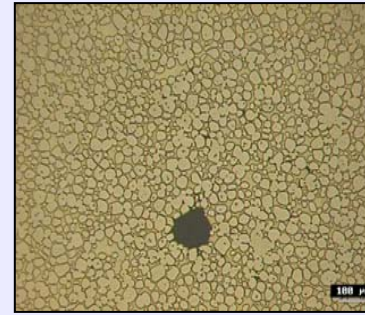
Non magnetic

Thermal expansion =  $5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

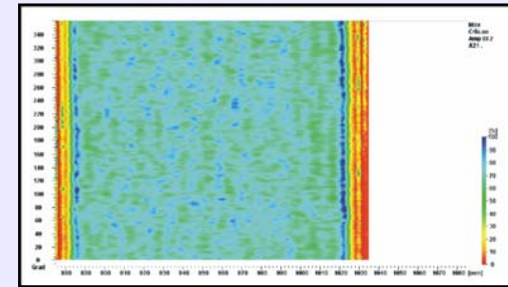
Surface roughness =  $3 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$



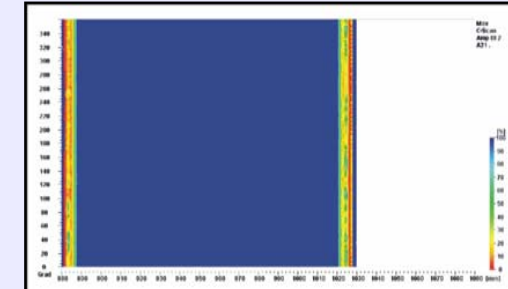
radius 5 cm  
height 15 cm  
mass 20 kg



100  $\mu\text{m}$  hole seen  
with a microscope



HIP treatment



## Characterization

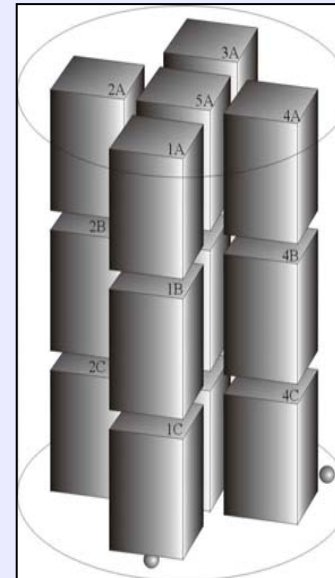
Possible holes in the center of big blocks can  
change the average density of max  $10^{-4}$

(Simulations show maximum shift of  $G$  of less than  
 $10^{-4}$ )

• Hot Isostatic Pressing of cylinders at  $1200^\circ\text{C}$  and  
 $1500 \text{ atm}$  to reduce holes

• Ultrasonic and destructive test

• Density comparison at different points in  
cooperation with INRIM in Torino (relative  
measurement will reveal differences smaller than  
 $0.002 \text{ g/cm}^{-3}$ )

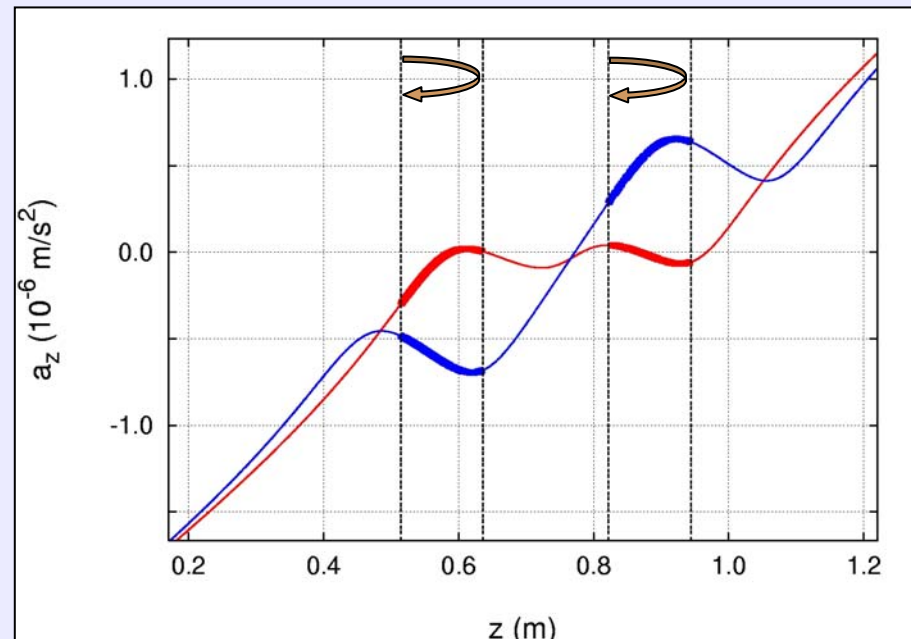
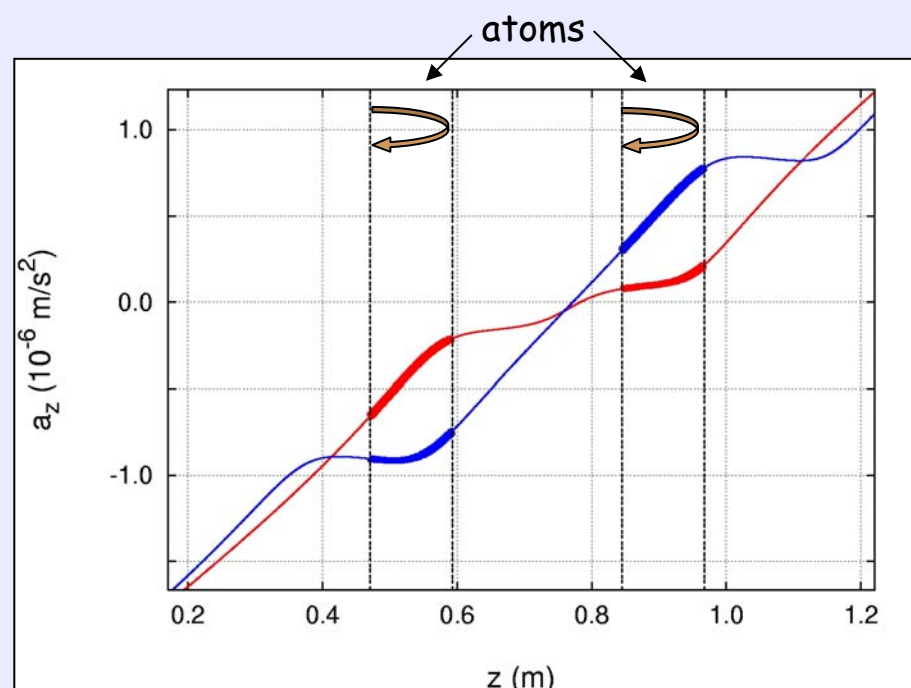


15 samples obtained  
from one cylinder for  
density comparison

## Appropriate trajectories

Masses separation in the two configurations and atomic clouds initial position have been chosen in order to minimize the dependence on atomic initial parameters and reach the accuracy on  $G$  of  $10^{-4}$ .

- the interferometer is realized around an acceleration max/min
- the Earth's gravity gradient must be over-compensated
- only high density material can be used



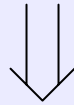
L  
E  
A  
D  
E  
R  
S  
C  
H  
E  
N  
Z



# *MAGIA – Relevant numbers*



- time separation between pulses  $T=150$  ms
- $10^6$  atoms
- shot noise limited detection
- launch accuracy: 1 mm e  $\Delta v \sim 5$  mm/s
- knowledge of the masses dimensions and relative positions: 10  $\mu\text{m}$
- 10000 measurements



$$\Delta G/G \leq 10^{-4}$$

# *Experiments on gravity at small spatial scale*

# Motivation

- **Physics beyond the standard model**

## Extra space-time dimensions

Deviations from  $1/r^2$  law

Hierarchy problem: why is gravity so weak?

## New boson-exchange forces

**Radion** – low-mass spin-0 fields with gravitational-strength couplings

**Moduli** – massive scalar particles producing gravitylike forces

**Dilaton** – Light scalar in string theory, coupling to nucleons

**Axion** – pseudoscalar particles explaining smallness of CP violation in QCD for strong nuclear force

**Multi-particle exchange forces**

- **Small observed size of Einstein cosmological constant**

- **Experimental challenge**

*N. Arkani-Hamed, S. Dimopoulos, G. Dvali, Phys. Lett. B 429, 263 (1998)*  
*N. Arkani-Hamed, S. Dimopoulos, G. Dvali, Phys. Rev. D 59, 086004 (1999)*

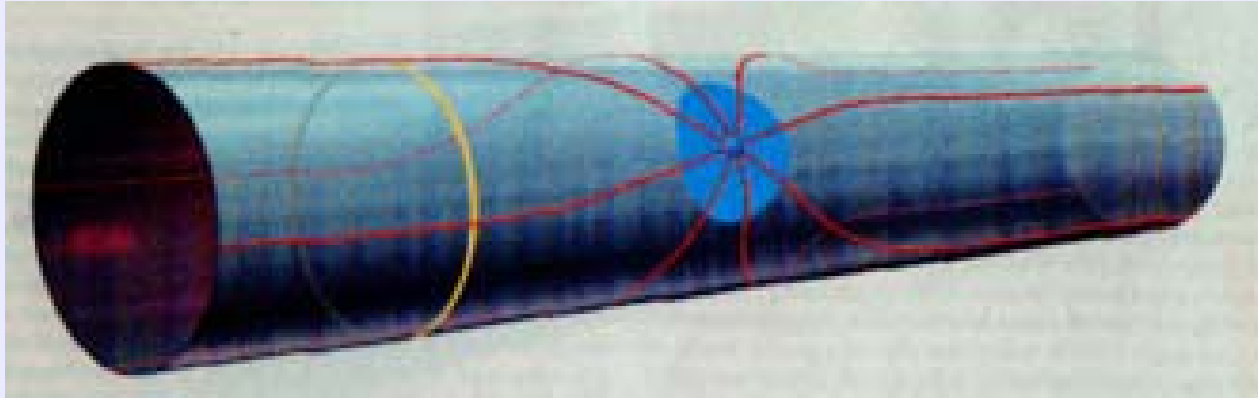
*S. Dimopoulos and G. F. Giudice, Phys. Lett. B 379, 105 (1996)*  
*I. Antoniadis, S. Dimopoulos, and G. Dvali, Nuc. Phys. B 516,70 (1998)*

*T.R. Taylor, G. Veneziano, Phys. Lett. B 213, 450 (1988)*  
*D. B. Kaplan, M. B. Wise, J. High Energy Phys. 8, 37 (2000)*

*Moody and Wilczek, Phys Rev. D 30, 130 (1984)*  
*R. Barbieri, A. Romanino, A. Strumia, Phys. Lett. B 387, 310 (1996)*  
*L.J. Rosenberg, K.A. van Bibber, Phys. Rep. 325, 1 (2000))*

*S.R. Beane, Gen. Rel. Grav. 29, 945 (1997)*  
*R. Sundrum, Phys. Rev. D 69, 044014 (2004)*

# *Extra Dimensions*



1 extra dimension	$\Rightarrow$	$F \propto 1/r^3$	size $\approx 10^{11}$ m
2 extra dimensions	$\Rightarrow$	$F \propto 1/r^4$	size $\approx 10^{-4}$ m
3 extra dimensions	$\Rightarrow$	$F \propto 1/r^5$	size $\approx 10^{-9}$ m
...			

N. Arkani-Hamed, S. Dimopoulos, G. Dvali, *The hierarchy problem and new dimensions at a millimeter*, Phys. Lett. B 429, 263 (1998)

N. Arkani-Hamed, S. Dimopoulos, G. Dvali, *Phenomenology, astrophysics, and cosmology of theories with submillimeter dimensions and TeV scale quantum gravity*, Phys. Rev. D 59, 086004 (1999)

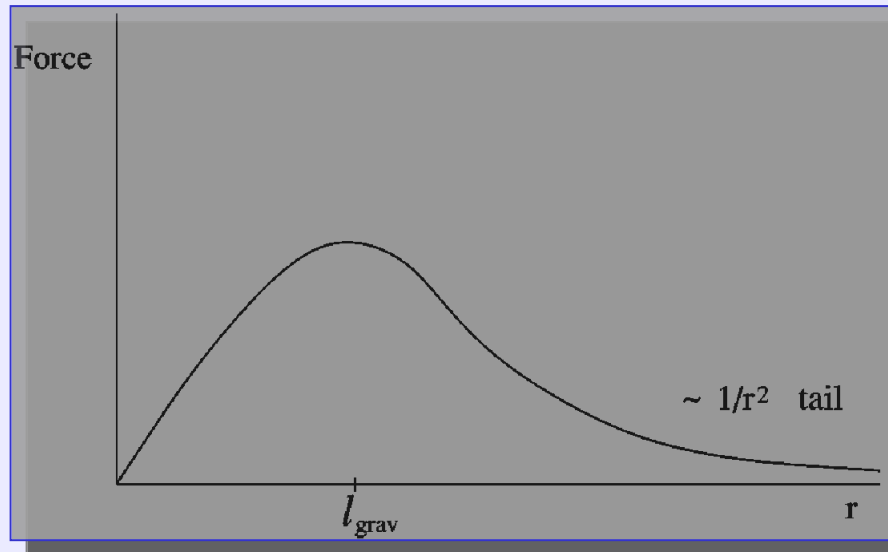
# *Cosmological constant problem and “fat” gravitons*

Cosmological data  $\Rightarrow$  vacuum-energy density  $\rho_{\text{vac}} \sim 3 \cdot 10^3 \text{ eV/cm}^3$



$$l \sim (\hbar c / \rho_{\text{vac}})^{1/4} \sim 0.1 \text{ mm}$$

The graviton is “fat” at distances  $\leq 1 \text{ mm}$  ?  
Solution to the CC Problem?



R. Sundrum, *Fat gravitons, the cosmological constant and submillimeter tests*, Phys. Rev. D 69, 044014 (2004)

$$20 \mu\text{m} \leq l_{\text{grav}} \leq 0.2 \text{ mm}$$

# *Parametrizations for deviations from Newtonian gravity*

- **Modification of power law in Newton-type force**

$$F(r) = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r^{2+\delta}}$$

- **Newton+Yukawa potential**

$$V(r) = -G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r} \left[ 1 + \alpha e^{-\frac{r}{\lambda}} \right]$$

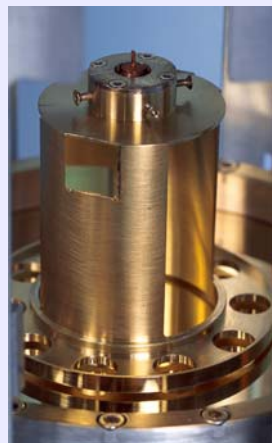
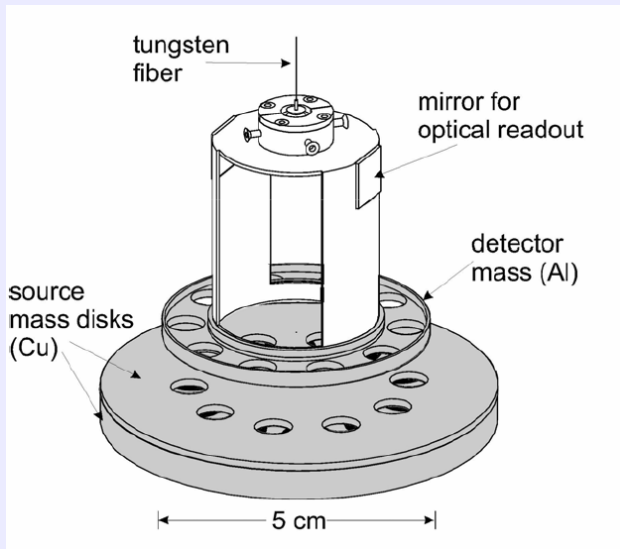
- Exchange of a boson with  $m = \hbar/\lambda c$
- Extra dimensions

- **Modified power-law potential**

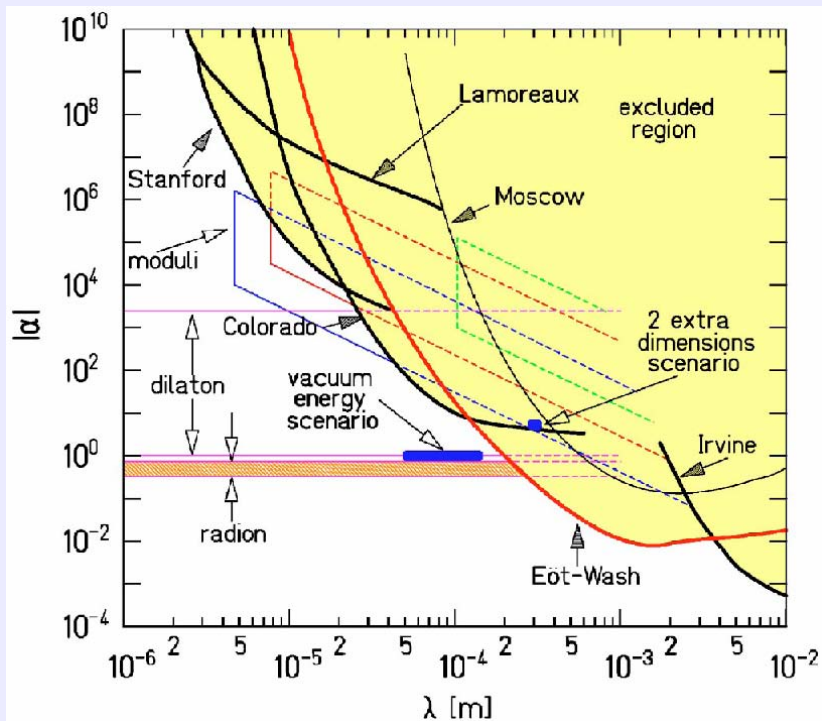
$$V(r) = -G \frac{M_1 M_2}{r} \left[ 1 + \alpha_N \left( \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^{N-1} \right]$$

- Exchange of 2 massless particles

# Torsion balance - Washington experiment



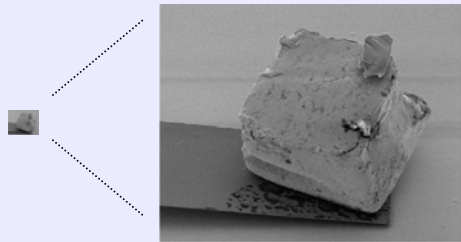
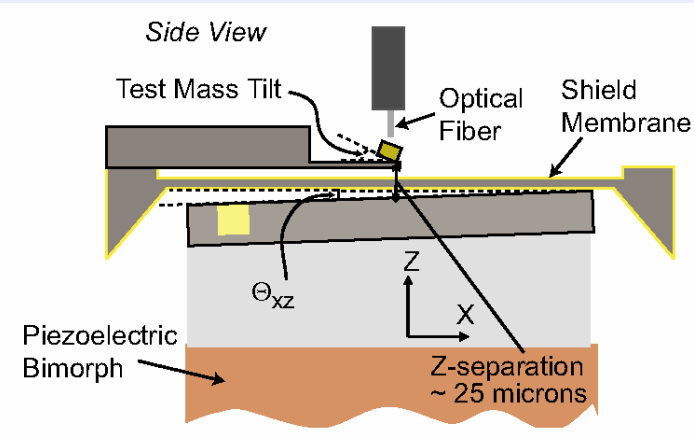
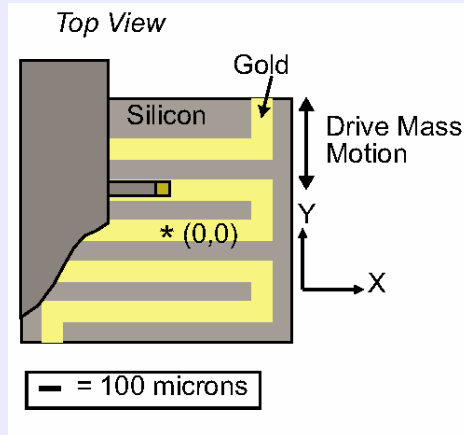
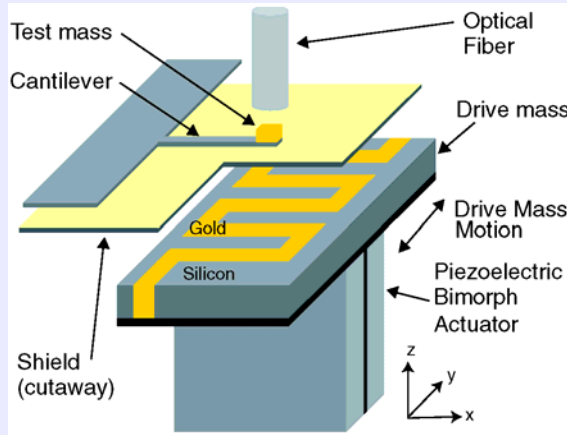
- **Test bodies: “missing masses” of holes bored into plates**
- **Torsion pendulum**  
7075 aluminum, gold coated  
disk height = 2 mm  
10 cylindrical holes evenly spaced about the azimuth
- **Attractor**  
high-purity copper disk  
top surface coated with gold  
10 cylindrical holes evenly spaced about the azimuth  
uniformly rotating
- **Electrostatic shield**  
tightly stretched 20- $\mu$ m-thick BeCu foil



- **Distance from top of attractor to bottom of pendulum**  
from 10.77 mm to 137  $\mu$ m

C. D. Hoyle, D. J. Kapner, B. R. Heckel, E. G. Adelberger, J. H. Gundlach, U. Schmidt, H. E. Swanson, *Submillimeter tests of the gravitational inverse-square law*, PRD 70, 042004 (2004)

# Microcantilever - Stanford experiment

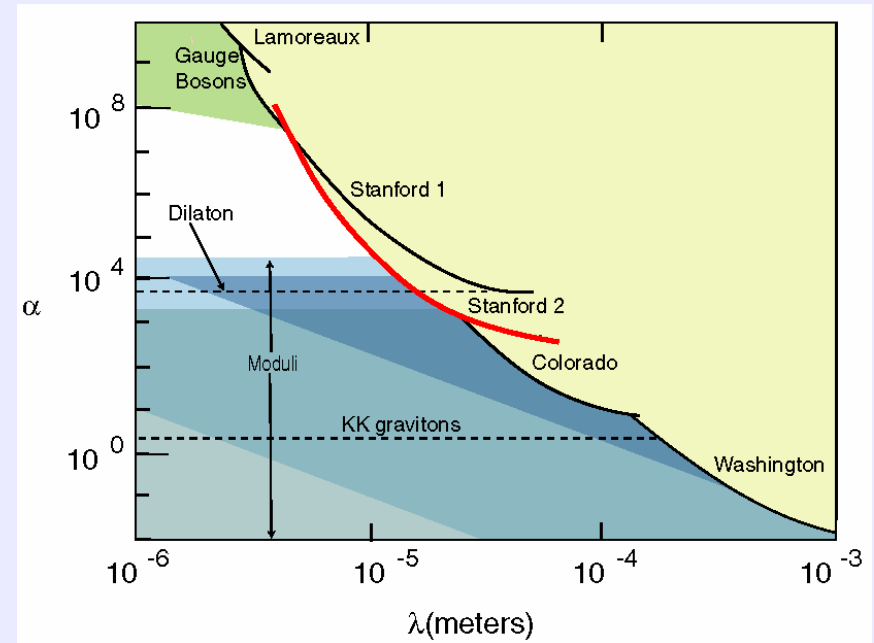
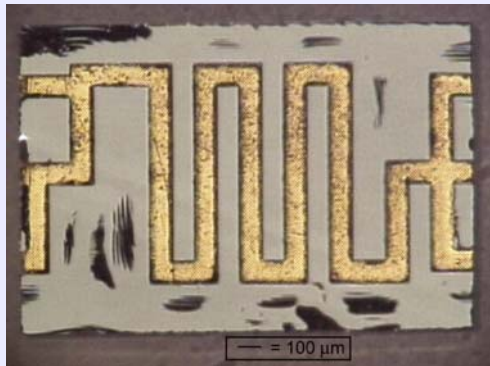


**Probe mass (gold)**  
 $50 \mu\text{m} \times 50 \mu\text{m} \times 30 \mu\text{m}$   
 $m_t \sim 1.6 \mu\text{g}$

**Cantilever (<100> Si)**  
 $50 \mu\text{m} \times 250 \mu\text{m} \times 0.33 \mu\text{m}$   
 $Q \sim 80\,000$   
 $\omega_0 \sim (k/m_t)^{1/2} \sim 300 \text{ Hz}$

**Source mass**  
 5 sets of gold and silicon bars  
 $100 \mu\text{m} \times 1 \text{ mm} \times 100 \mu\text{m}$

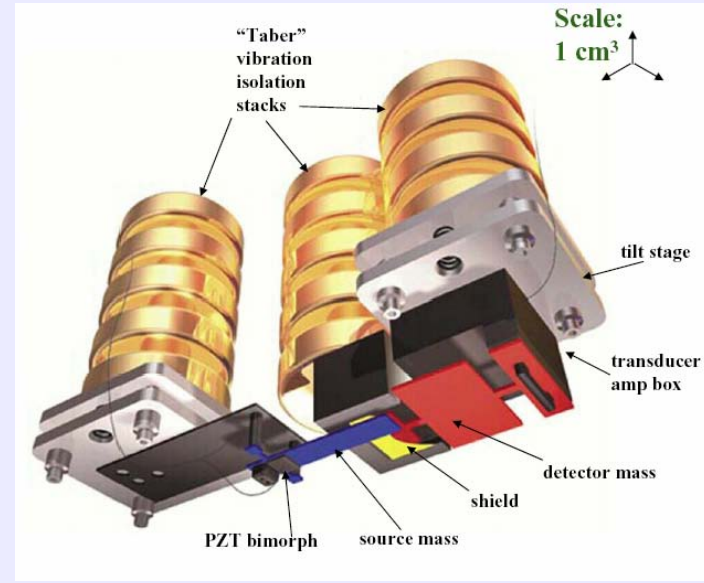
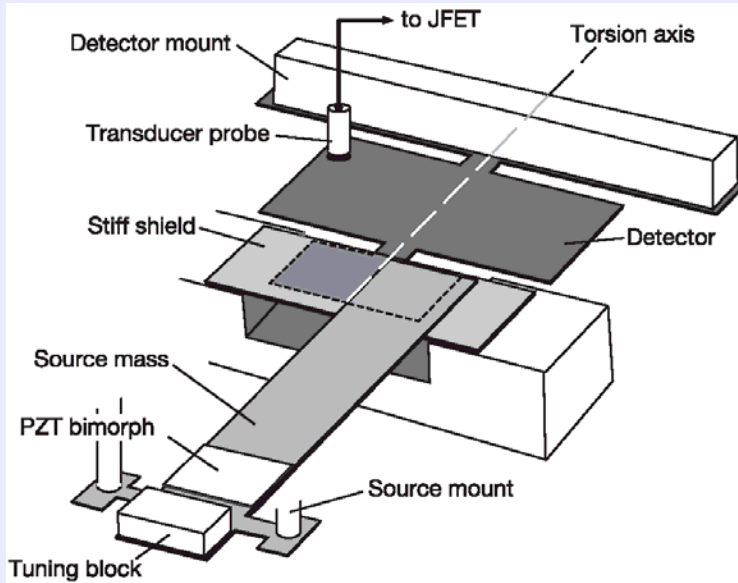
**Separation 25  $\mu\text{m}$**



S. J. Smullin, A. A. Geraci, D. M. Weld, J. Chiaverini, S. Holmes, A. Kapitulnik, *Constraints on Yukawa-type deviations from Newtonian gravity at 20 microns*, Phys. Rev. D 72, 122001 (2005)



# Microcantilever - Colorado experiment

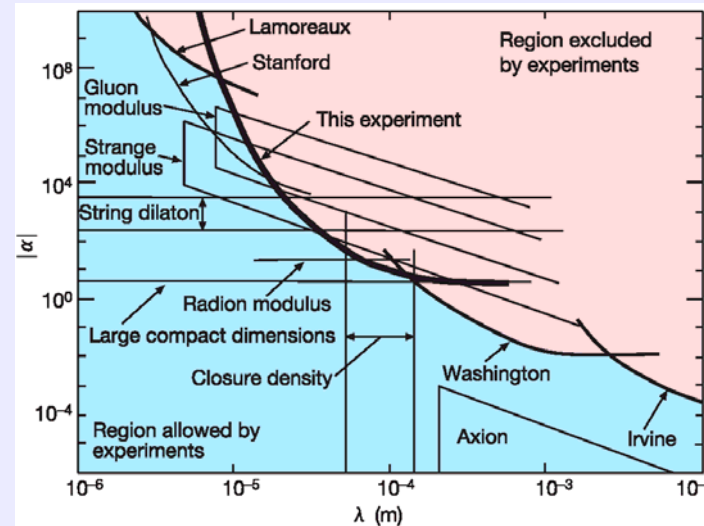


**Detector (tungsten)**  
**11.455 mm x 5.080 mm x 195  $\mu\text{m}$**

$Q \sim 25\,000$   
 $\omega_0 \sim 1173\text{ Hz}$

**Source mass (tungsten)**  
**35 mm x 7 mm x 305  $\mu\text{m}$**

**Separation 108  $\mu\text{m}$**



J.C. Long, H.W. Chan, A.B. Churnside, E.A. Gulbis, M.C.M. Varney, J.C. Price, *Upper limits to submillimetre-range forces from extra space-time dimensions*, Nature 421, 922 (2003)

# *Experiments on gravity at small spatial scale*

## **Experiments based on torsion balances ( $\lambda \leq 1$ mm)**

J. Gundlach and E. Adelberger (Washington) – torsion balance

R. Newman and P. Boynton (Irvine, Washington) – cryogenic torsion balance

## **Experiments based on high-frequency oscillators ( $\lambda \leq 0.1$ mm)**

J. Long and J. Price group (Colorado) – torsional oscillator

A. Kapitulnik group (Stanford) - microcantilever

R. Decca and E. Fischbach group (Purdue, Indiana) – torsional oscillator

## **New experiments based on atomic probes ( $\lambda \leq 0.01$ mm)**

E.A. Cornell group (Colorado) – Oscillations of a Bose-Einstein condensate

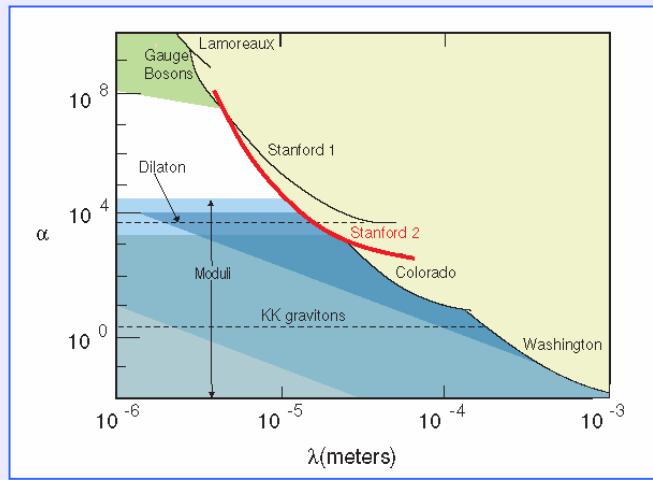
G.M. Tino group (Firenze) – Atom interferometry

## **Also experiments on Casimir effect ( $\lambda \leq 0.001$ mm)**

Departures observed at  $\sim 70 \mu\text{m}$ ?  
(Washington, Stanford)

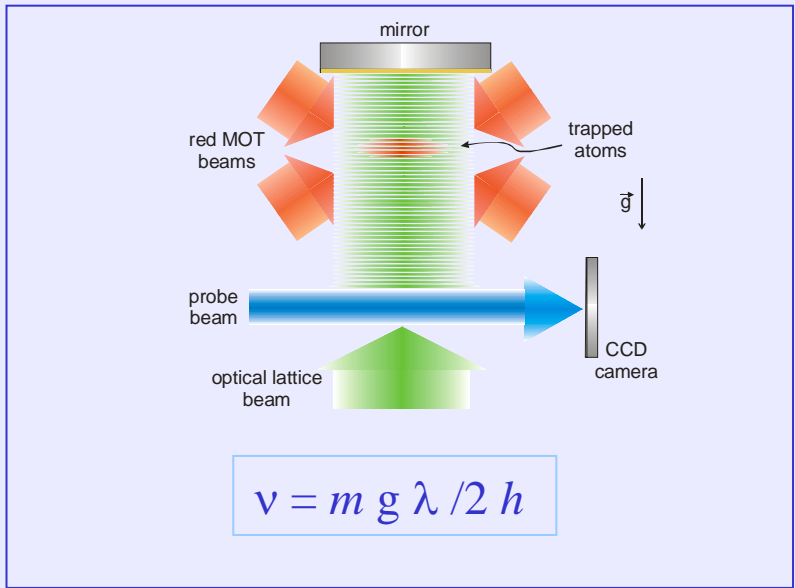
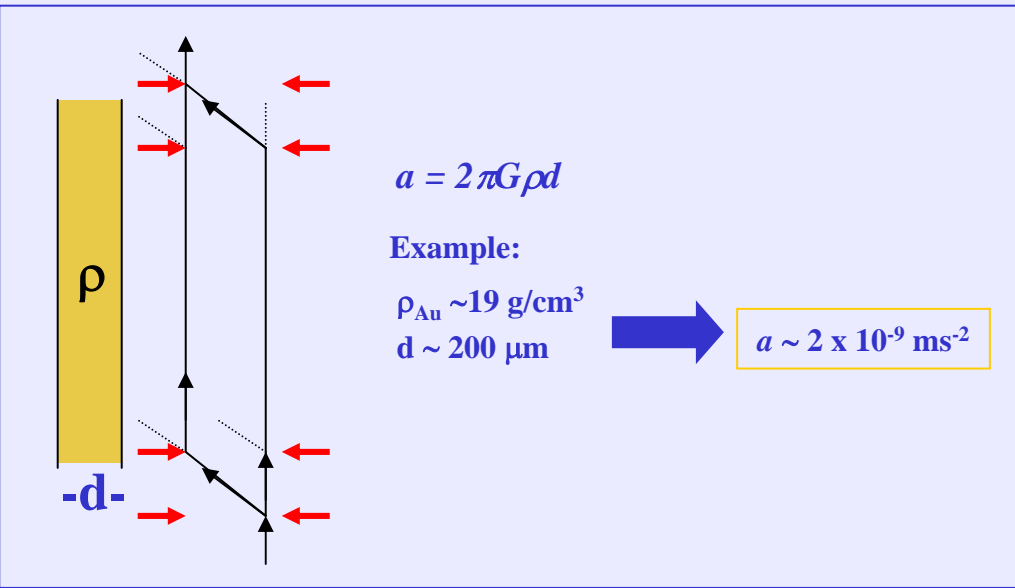
Experimental artifact?

# Test of the gravitational $1/r^2$ law in the sub-mm range with atom interferometry sensors



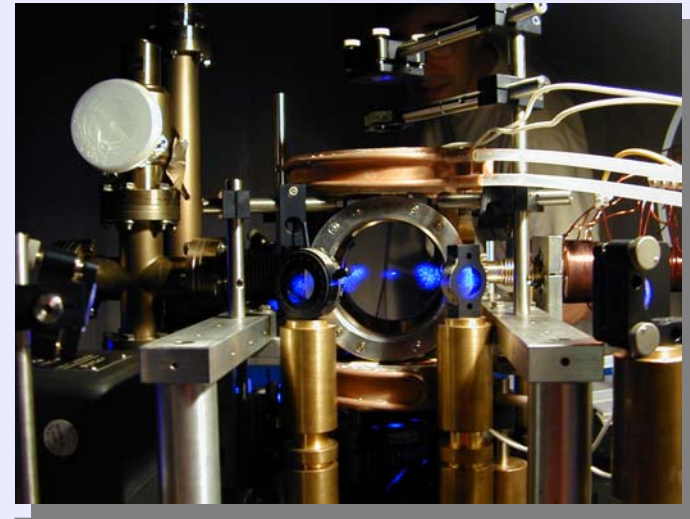
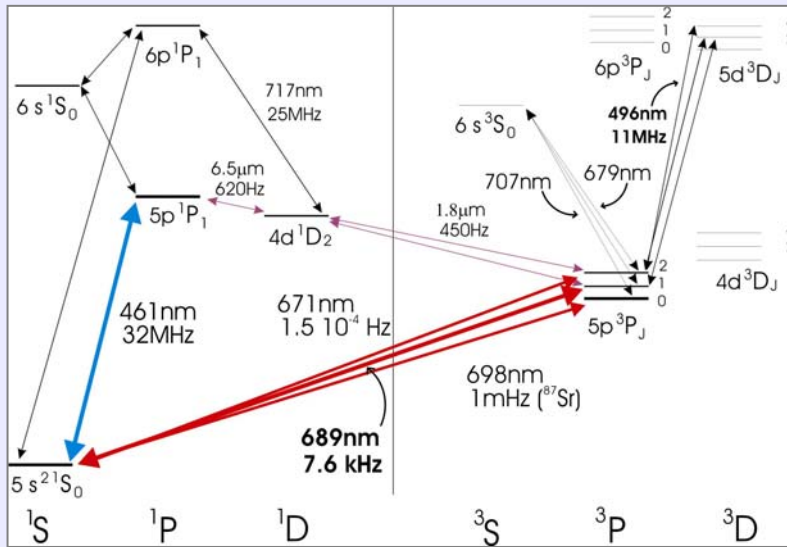
95% confidence level constraints on a Yukawa violation of the gravitational inverse-square law. The vertical axis represents the strength of a deviation relative to that of Newtonian gravity while the horizontal axis designates its characteristic range. The yellow region has been excluded (From S. J. Smullin et al., 2005)

$$V(r) = -G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} (1 + \alpha e^{-r/\lambda})$$



- G.M. Tino, in "2001: A Relativistic Spacetime Odyssey", Firenze, 2001, World Scientific (2003)
- G.M. Tino, Nucl. Phys. B 113, 289 (2002)
- G. Ferrari, N. Poli, F. Sorrentino & G. M. Tino, PRL 97, 060402 (2006)

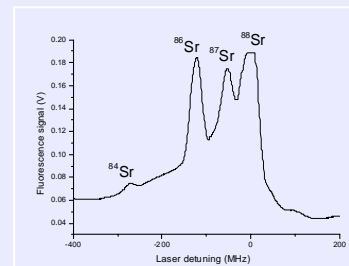
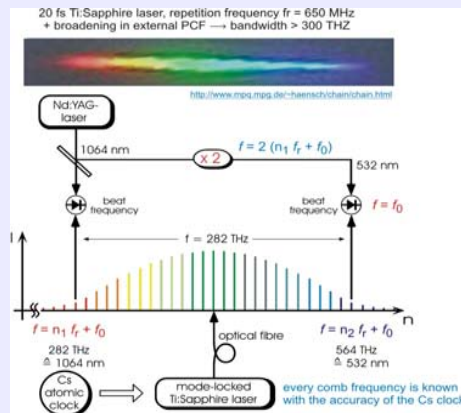
# Ultracold Sr – The experiment in Firenze



Firenze 2003, Magneto-optical trapping of all Sr isotopes

- Optical clocks using visible intercombination lines

- New atomic sensors for fundamental physics tests



	Abundance
<sup>88</sup> Sr	82.6%
<sup>86</sup> Sr	9.9%
<sup>87</sup> Sr	7.0%
<sup>84</sup> Sr	0.6%

Isotope	I	transition	lifetime	$\lambda$	$t_{\text{int}}$	$\sigma_y t^{-1/2}$	abundance
<sup>88</sup> Sr	0	$1S_0 - ^3P_1$	20 $\mu\text{s}$	689 nm	10 $\mu\text{s}$	$2 \cdot 10^{-13}$	83%
<sup>87</sup> Sr	9/2	$1S_0 - ^3P_0$	200 s	698 nm	0.5 s	$10^{-17}$	7%

G. Ferrari, P. Cancio, R. Drullinger, G. Giusfredi, N. Poli, M. Prevedelli, C. Toninelli, G.M. Tino, *Precision Frequency Measurement of Visible Intercombination Lines of Strontium*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 243002 (2003)

G. Ferrari, N. Poli, F. Sorrentino, and G. M. Tino, *Long-lived Bloch oscillations with bosonic Sr atoms and application to gravity measurement at micrometer scale*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 060402 (2006)

G. M. Tino, GGI Workshop, Firenze 29/9/2006

# Why Sr atom?

• New quantum sensors

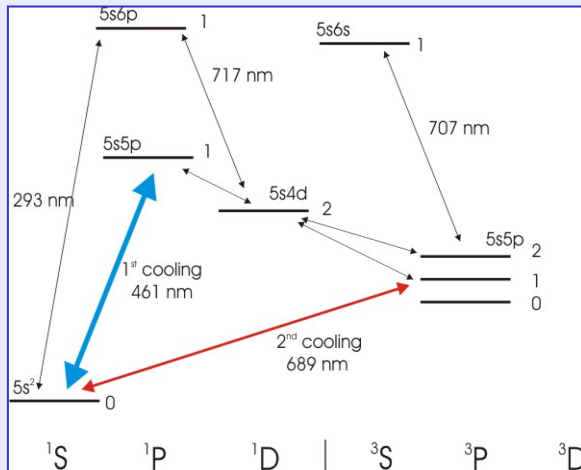
- J = 0 ground state
- Small collisional cross section
- Fermionic and bosonic atoms

• Optical clocks on visible intercombination lines

- $^1S_0 - ^3P_1$  (7.5 kHz) (this work)
- $^1S_0 - ^3P_0$  (1 mHz,  $^{87}\text{Sr}$ )
- $^1S_0 - ^3P_2$  (<1 mHz)
- Optical trapping in optical lattices with negligible change of clock frequency

• Physics of ultracold atoms

- Simple 0 - 1 transitions
- $T_D \approx T_{\text{rec}}$  for  $^1S_0 - ^3P_1$  transition
- Two-stage optical cooling and trapping
- All-optical cooling to quantum degeneracy
- Degenerate Bose and Fermi gases



Sr Isotope	Nuclear Spin I	Atomic Mass ( $10^{-27}$ Kg)	Natural Abundance
88	0	145,97068	82,6 %
87	9/2	144,315568	7,0 %
86	0	142,65567	9,8 %
84	0	139,34150	0,56 %

# Optical frequency reference on Sr transition

- $^{88}\text{Sr } ^1\text{S}_0\text{-}^3\text{P}_1$  forbidden transition ( $\Gamma=2\pi \times 7.6$  kHz)

- Spectroscopy on free atoms (LENS, SYRTE, JILA-NIST)

- LENS            434 829 121 311        (10) kHz
- SYRTE          434 829 121 300        (20) kHz
- JILA/NIST      434 829 121 312 334 (20 stat) (33 syst) Hz

G.Ferrari *et al.* PRL **91**,243002 (2003)

I. Courtilot *et al.* Eur. Phys. J. D **33**, 161 (2005)

T. Ido *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 153001 (2005)



Both stability and accuracy limited by line Q

- $^{87}\text{Sr } ^1\text{S}_0\text{-}^3\text{P}_0$  doubly forbidden transition ( $\Gamma=2\pi \times 1$  mHz)

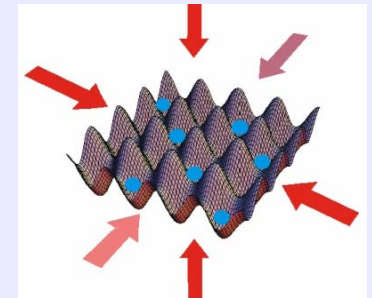
- Optical Lattice Clock (U. Tokyo, SYRTE, JILA-NIST)

- Tokyo            429 228 004 229 952 (15 sys) Hz
- JILA/NIST      429 228 004 229 869 (19 sys) (2.8 stat) Hz
- SYRTE          429 228 004 229 879.4 (5.3 syst) (0.5 stat) Hz

M. Takamoto *et al.* Nature **435**, 321 (2005)

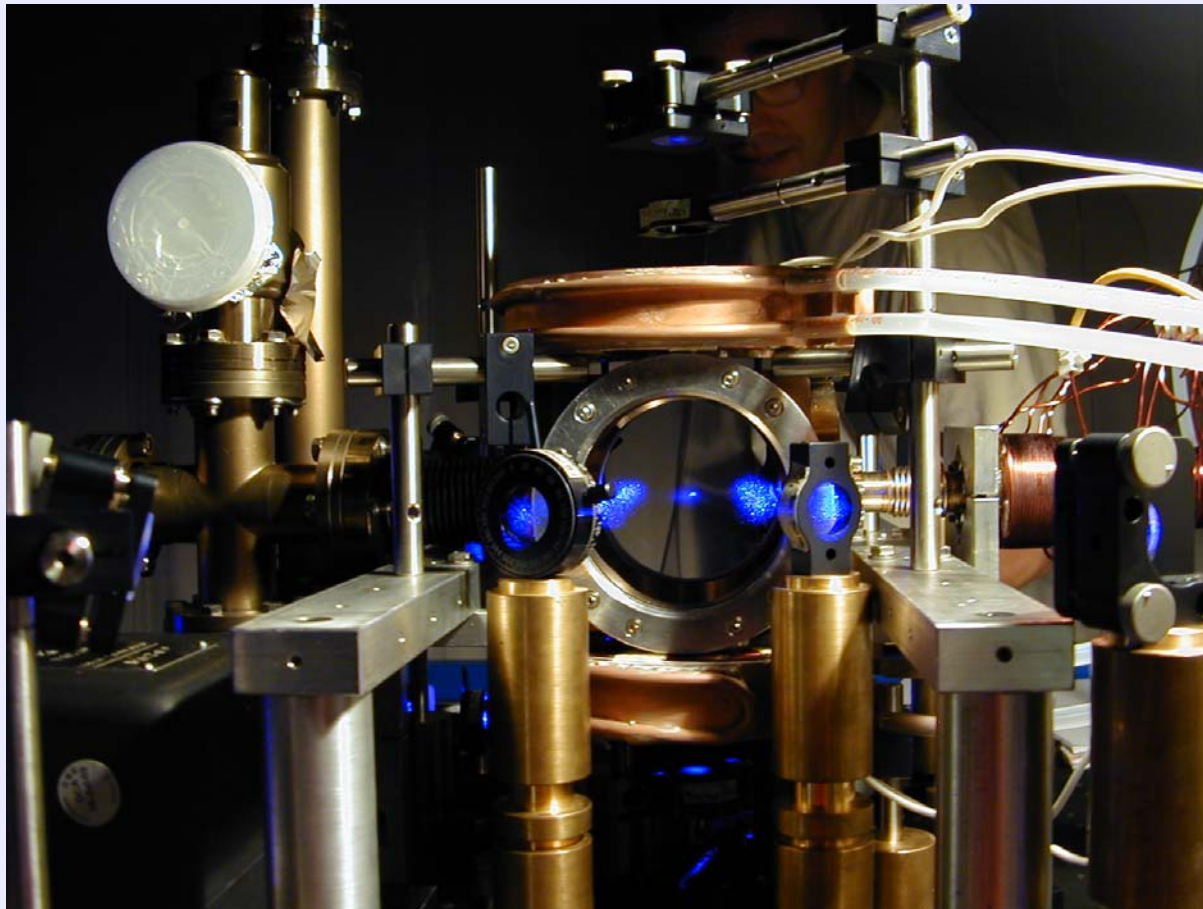
A. D. Ludlow *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 033003 (2004)

R. Le Targat *et al.* arXiv:physics/0605200 (2006)



$$\sigma_y(\tau) \approx 6 \times 10^{-14} \tau^{-1/2}$$
$$\delta\nu / \nu \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-14}$$

# *Sr MOT picture*



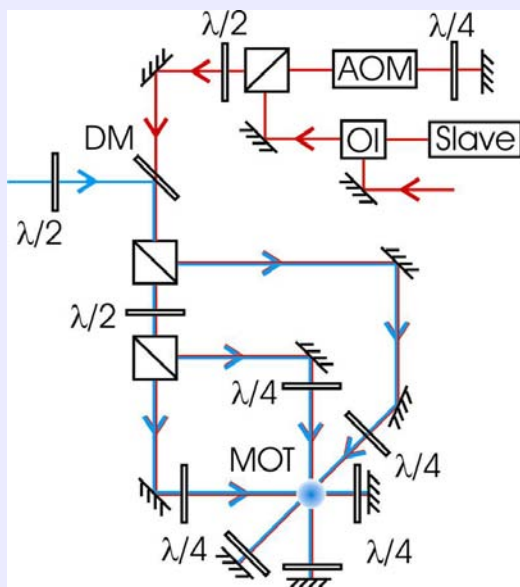
LENS, Firenze, 2003





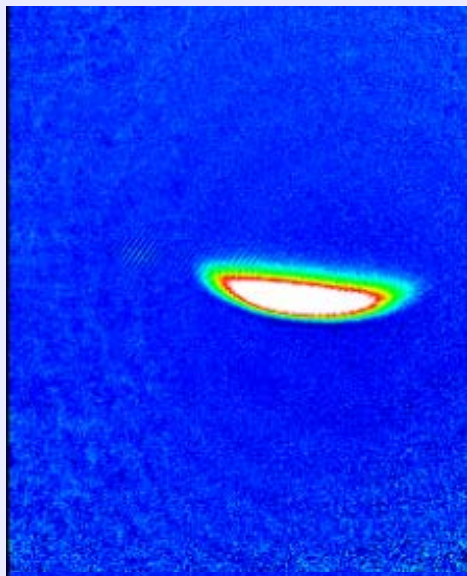
# Double stage trapping and cooling of Sr atoms

- Optical setup



- MOT Picture

500 μm



- Capture Sequence:

- Blue MOT ( $\Delta t \sim 100$  ms)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} T_{\text{oven}} = 500 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \\ \delta = -40 \text{ MHz} \\ dB/dz = 60 \text{ Gauss/cm} \\ I \approx 0.4 I_{\text{sat}} \end{array} \right.$$

- Blue molasses ( $\Delta t \sim 5$  ms)  $I \approx 0.06 I_{\text{sat}}$

$$\rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} N = 3 * 10^7 \\ T = 2 \text{ mK} \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} v_{\text{RMS}} \approx 40 \text{ cm/s} \\ \delta\omega_D \approx k_{689} v_{\text{RMS}} \approx 2\pi * 600 \text{ kHz} \end{array}$$

- Red MOT *broad band* ( $\Delta t \sim 100$  ms)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta\nu = 2 \text{ MHz} \\ f = 50 \text{ kHz} \\ \delta = -1.2 \text{ MHz} \\ dB/dz = 4 \text{ Gauss/cm} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} I_{\text{sidebands}} = 40 I_{\text{sat}} \\ \eta \approx 25 \% \end{array}$$

- Red MOT *Single frequency* ( $\Delta t \sim 10$  ms)

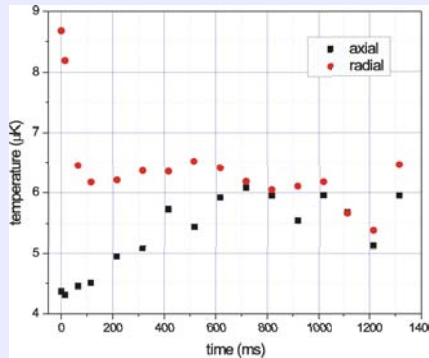
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta = -350 \text{ kHz} \\ I = (10^3 \div 1) I_{\text{sat}} \\ dB/dz = 4 \text{ Gauss/cm} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} N_{\text{max}} = 3 * 10^6 \\ \eta \approx 10 \% \end{array}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} N = 5 * 10^5 \text{ atoms} \\ T = 400 \text{ nK} \end{array} \right.$$

# Elastic collisions

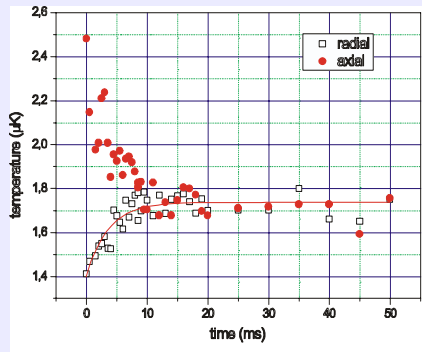
Thermalization rate  $\Rightarrow$  elastic cross section

$^{88}\text{Sr}$



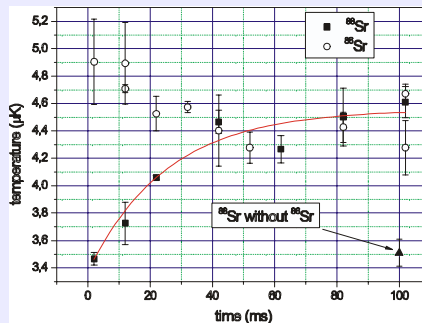
Very long thermalization time  
possible effect of ergodic mixing  
 $\Rightarrow$  upper bound on elastic cross-section  
 $\sigma_{88} < 4 * 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^2$

$^{86}\text{Sr}$



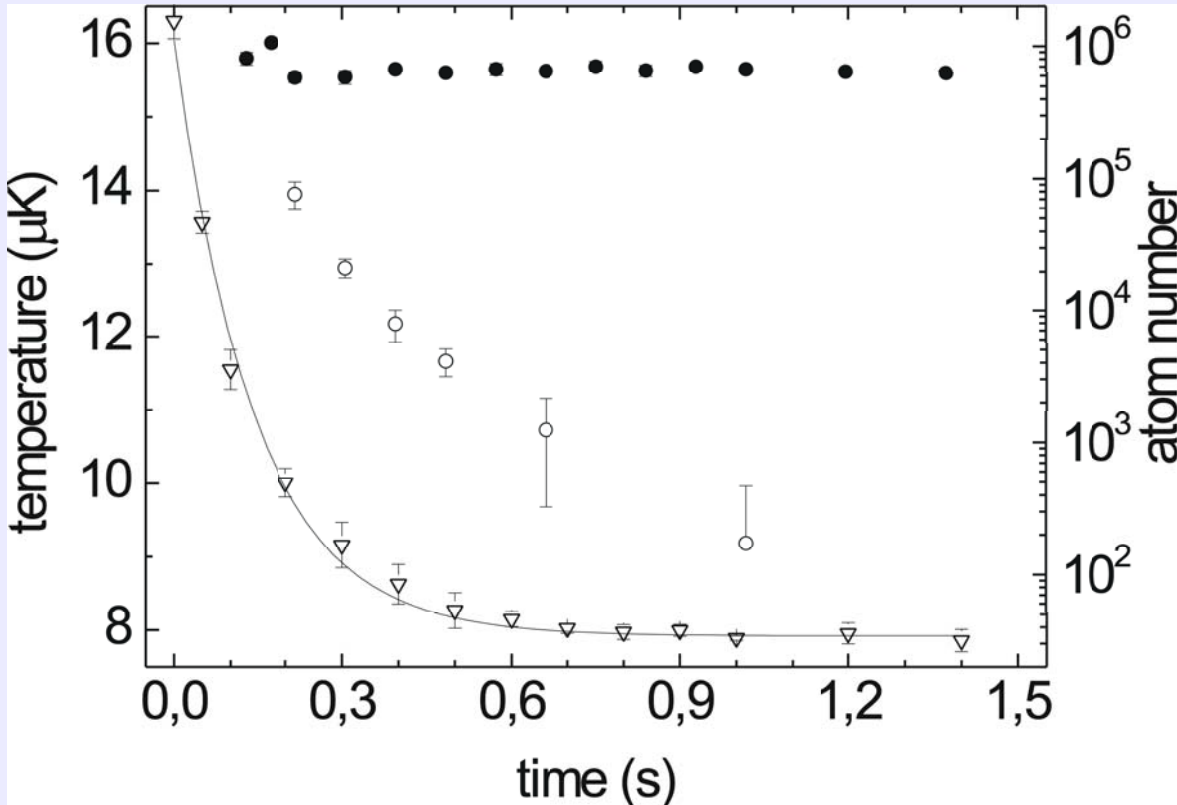
Short thermalization time  
 $\sigma_{86} = 1.3 \pm 0.5 * 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^2$

$^{88}\text{Sr}-^{86}\text{Sr}$



At least one order of magnitude larger than  $\sigma_{88}$   
 $\sigma_{86-88} = 4 \pm 1 * 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^2$

# Optical sympathetic cooling of $^{88}\text{Sr}$ with $^{86}\text{Sr}$



$\nabla = T_{88}$   
 $\bullet = N_{88}$   
 $\circ = N_{86}$

- optical cooling of a small  $^{86}\text{Sr}$  sample at low optical depth
- simultaneous trapping of a large  $^{88}\text{Sr}$  sample dark to the  $^{86}\text{Sr}$  light
- fast thermalization with respect to the optical cooling
- reduction of the density dependent heating by a factor 20:  $dT/dn = 2 \mu\text{K}/(10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3})$

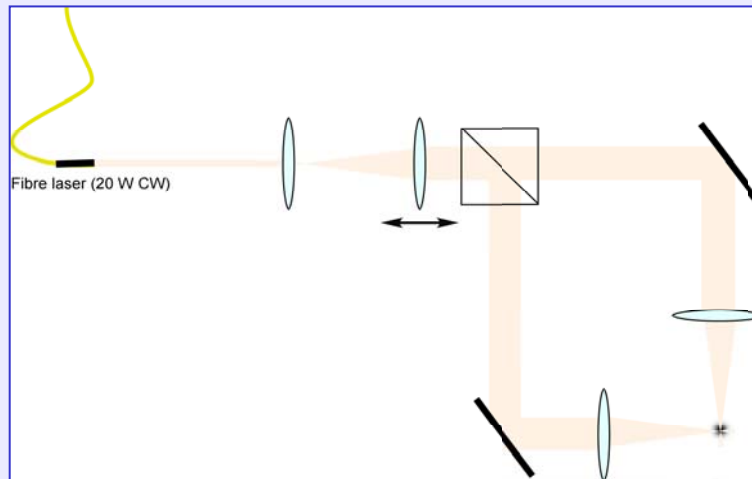
# *Towards BEC of Sr*

- Maximum phase-space density achieved experimentally (optical-sympathetic cooling + evaporative cooling)

$$\rho = 0.2$$

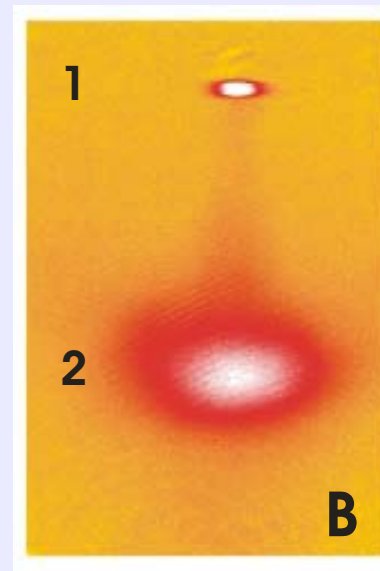
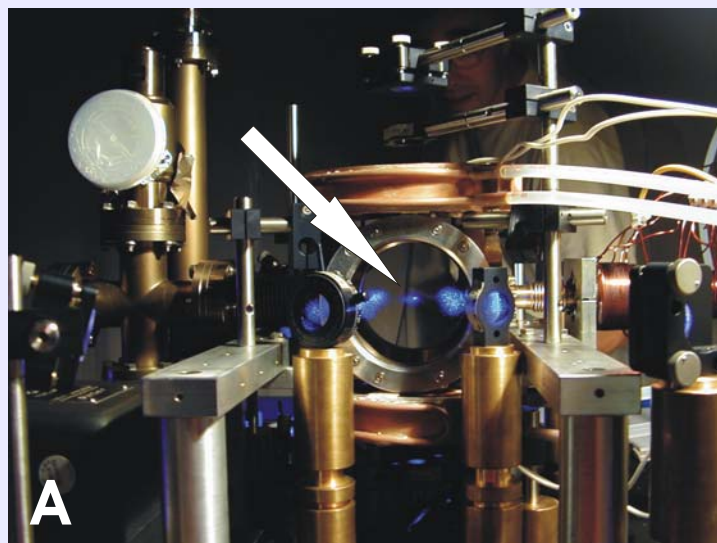
- G. Ferrari et al. *Phys. Rev. A* 73, 023408 (2006)
- F. Sorrentino et al., *Mod. Phys. Lett. B* Vol. 20, n.21 (2006), arXiv:physics/0609133

- Next step: Evaporation in compressible optical trap



D. J. Han et al. *Phys. Rev. A* 63, 023405 (2001)

# Decoherence

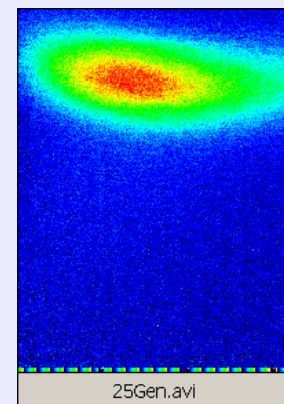
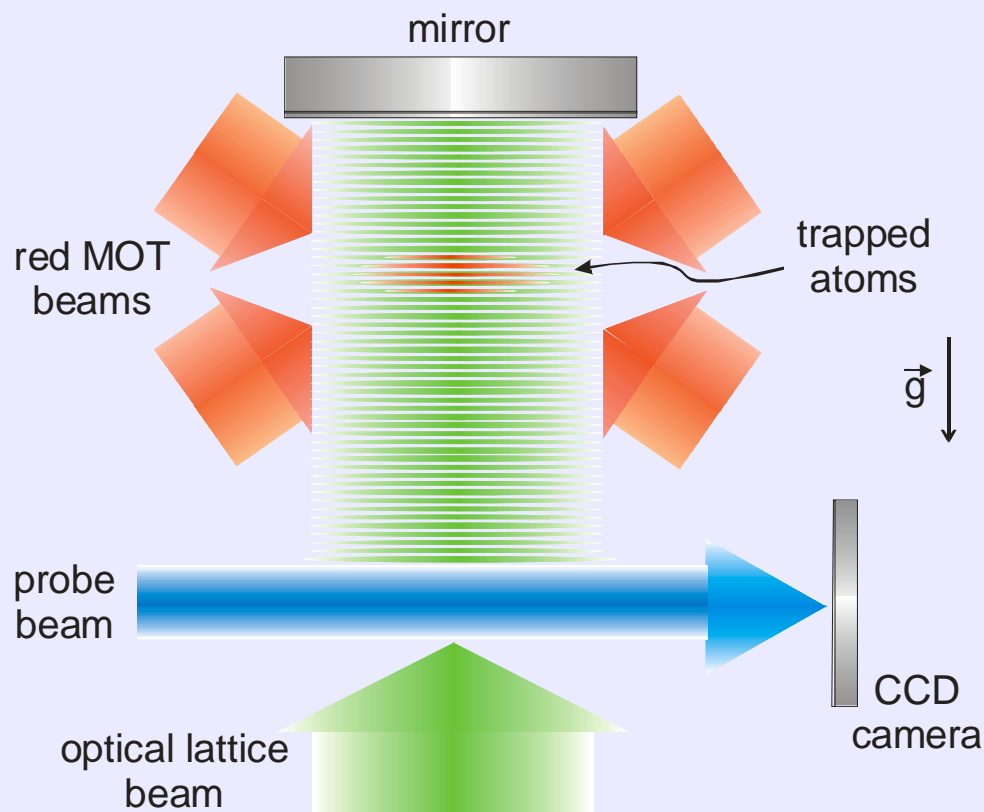


- $^{88}\text{Sr}$ :  $\sigma_{88-88} = (3 \pm 1) \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^2$   $\longrightarrow$   $\tau_{\text{coh}} = 1-10 \text{ s}$
- $^{87}\text{Sr}$ : suppressed collisions for fermions at low temperatures

• N. Poli, R.E. Drullinger, G. Ferrari, J. Leonard, F. Sorrentino, G.M. Tino, *Cooling and trapping of ultracold strontium isotopic mixtures*, Phys. Rev A 71, 061403 (R) (2005)

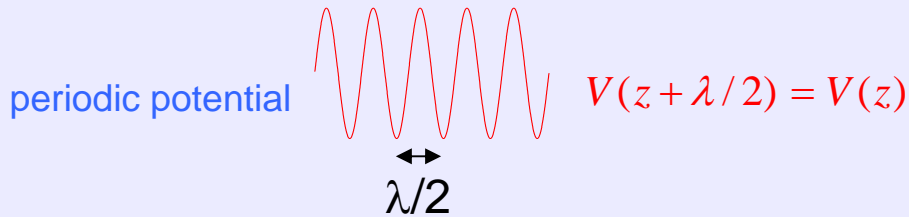
• G. Ferrari, R.E. Drullinger, N. Poli, F. Sorrentino, G.M. Tino, *Cooling of Sr to high phase-space density by laser and sympathetic cooling in isotopic mixtures*, Phys. Rev. A 73, 023408 (2006)

# Precision gravity measurement at $\mu\text{m}$ scale with Bloch oscillations of Sr atoms in an optical lattice



$$v = m g \lambda / 2 h$$

# Particle in a periodic potential: Bloch oscillations

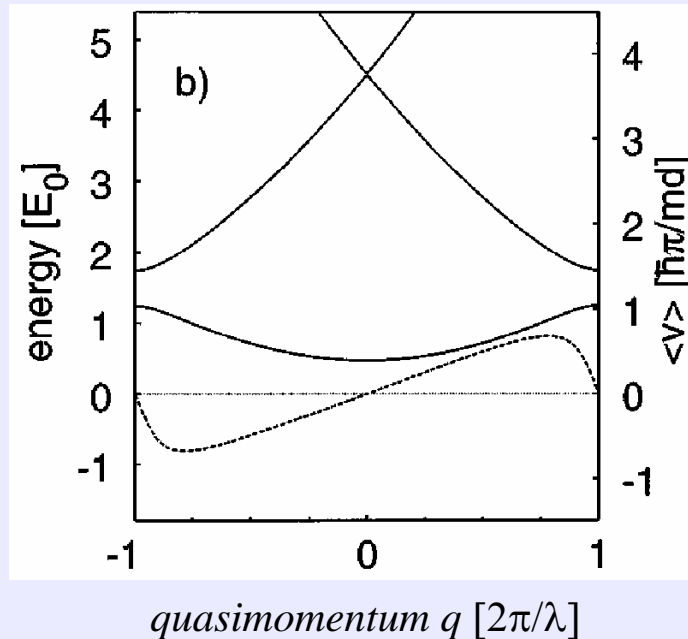


$$\Psi(z) = e^{i\frac{\mathbf{q}}{\hbar}z} u(z)$$

$$u(z + \lambda/2) = u(z)$$

Bloch's theorem

$$\Psi(z + \lambda/2) = e^{i\frac{\mathbf{q} \cdot \lambda}{\hbar}} \Psi(z)$$



$$\langle v \rangle_n(q(t)) = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{dE_n(R(q(t)))}{dq}$$

with a constant external force  $F$

$$q(t) = q(0) + Ft/\hbar$$

↓  
**Bloch oscillations**

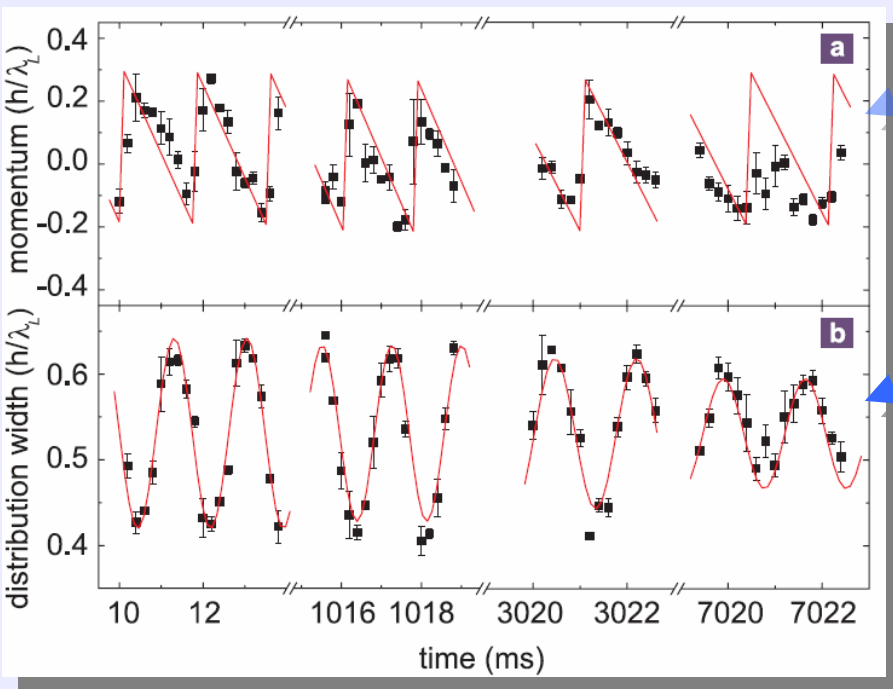
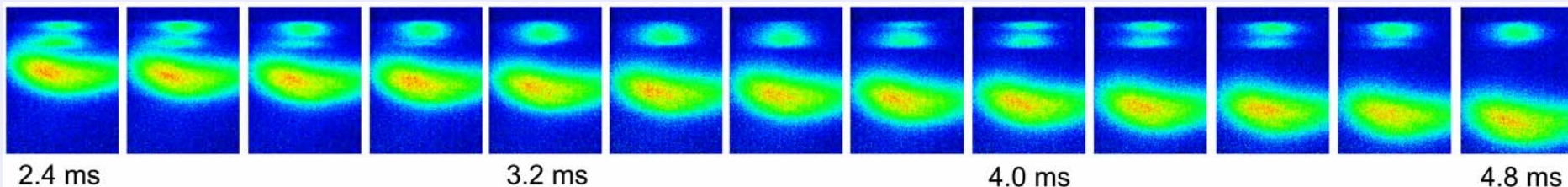
Quantum theory for electrons in crystal lattices: **F. Bloch**, *Z. Phys.* **52**, 555 (1929)

Never observed in natural crystals (evidence in artificial superlattices)

Direct observation with Cs atoms: **M. Ben Dahan, E. Peik, J. Reichel, Y. Castin, C. Salomon**, *PRL* **76**, 4508 (1996)



# Persistent Bloch oscillations



average vertical momentum of the lower peak

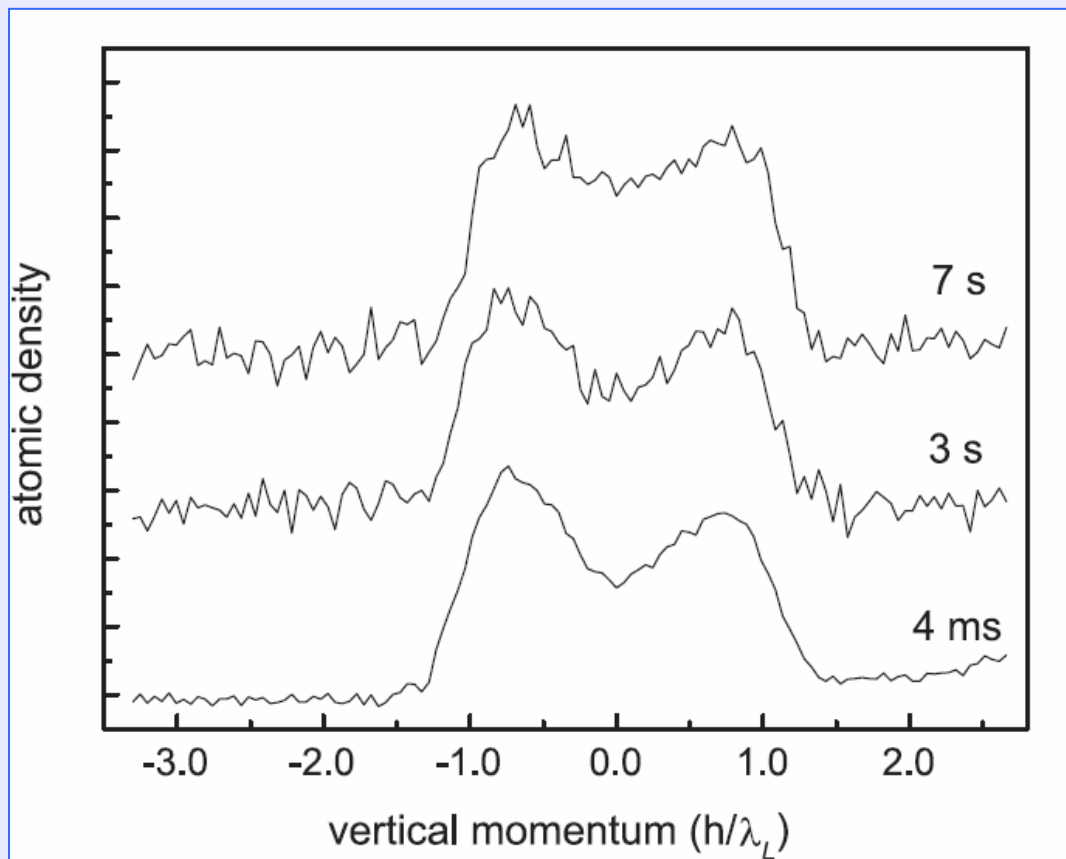
width of the atomic momentum distribution

**Bloch frequency  $\nu_B = 574.568(3)$  Hz**  
**damping time  $\tau = 12$  s**  
**8000 photon recoils in 7s**  
 **$g_{\text{meas}} = 9.80012(5)$  ms<sup>-2</sup>**



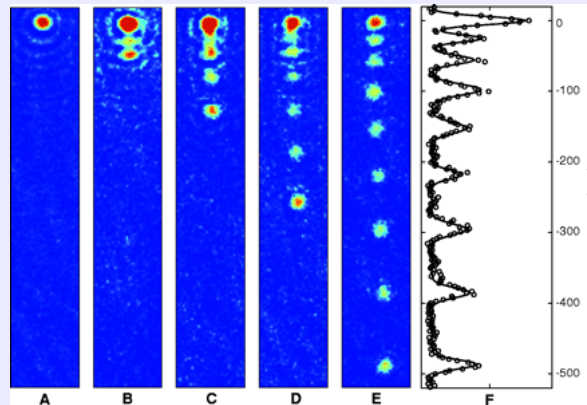


# *Oscillation visibility vs time*



Vertical momentum distribution of the atoms at the Bragg reflection recorded after an evolution time in the lattice of 4 ms, 3 s, and 7 s.

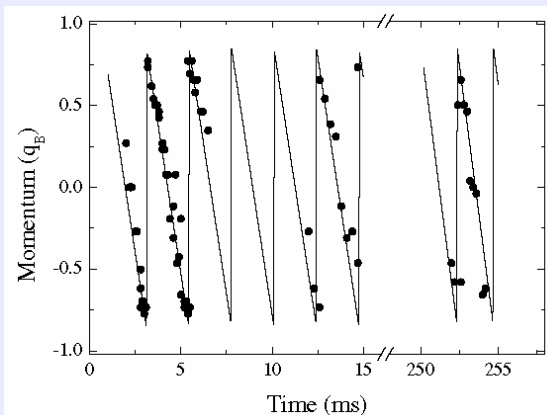
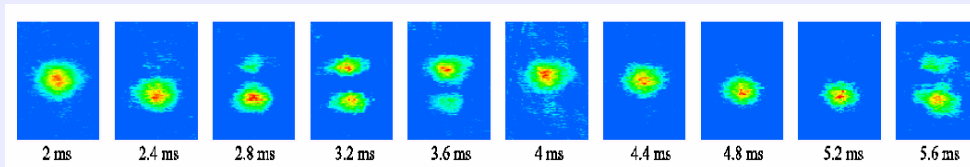
# gravity measurement with quantum degenerate bosonic and fermionic atoms in optical lattices



$$g = 9.6 (4) \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$\delta g/g \sim 10^{-4} \text{ in } 10 \text{ ms}$$

B. P. Anderson, M. A. Kasevich, *Macroscopic Quantum Interference from Atomic Tunnel Arrays*, Science 282, 1686 (1998)



$$g = 9.7372 (9) \text{ m/s}^2$$

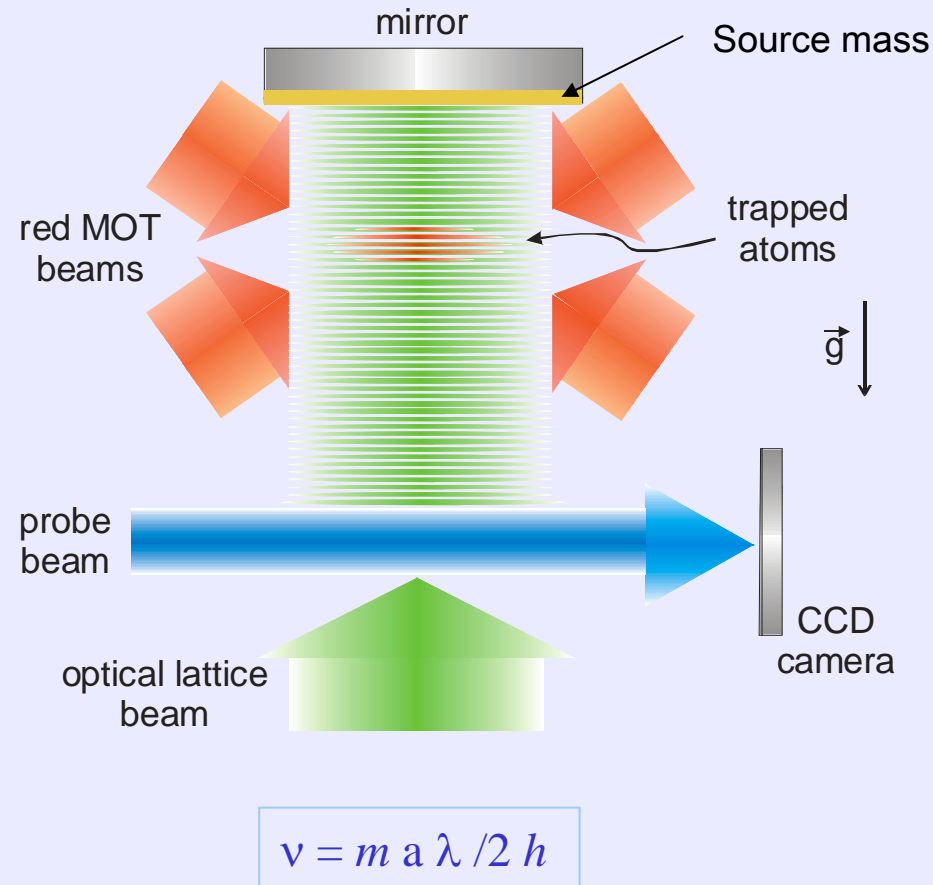
$$\delta g/g \sim 10^{-4} \text{ in } 250 \text{ ms}$$

G. Roati, E. de Mirandes, F. Ferlaino, H. Ott, G. Modugno, M. Inguscio, *Atom Interferometry with trapped Fermi Gases*, PRL 92, 230402 (2004)

# *Precision gravity measurement with ultracold Sr atoms in an optical lattice:*

- **Measured gravity acceleration:**  $g_{\text{meas}} = 9.80012 (5) \text{ ms}^{-2}$   
From geophysical data:  $g_{\text{ref}} = 9.805046 (9) \text{ ms}^{-2}$
- **Present sensitivity:**  $5 * 10^{-6} \text{ g}$
- **Achievable sensitivity:**  $\sim 10^{-7} \text{ g}$

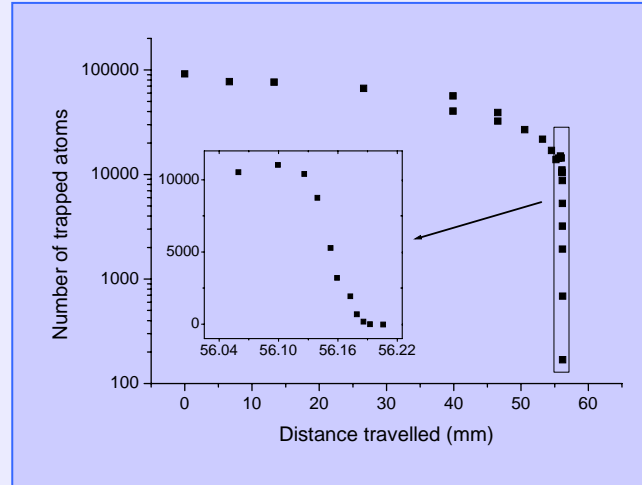
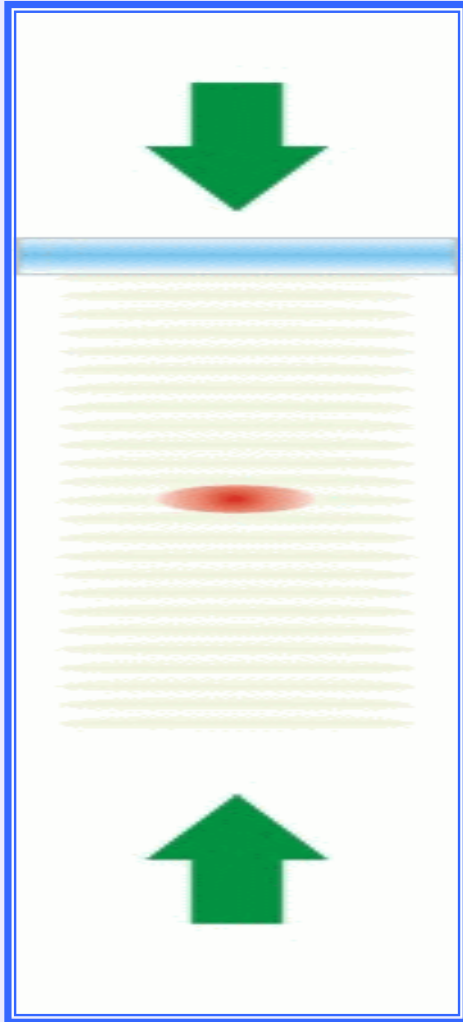
# Scheme for the measurement of small distance forces



**Objective:**  $\lambda = 1-10 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\alpha = 10^3-10^4$

G. Ferrari, N. Poli, F. Sorrentino & G. M. Tino, *Long-Lived Bloch Oscillations with Bosonic Sr Atoms and Application to Gravity Measurement at the Micrometer Scale*, PRL 97, 060402 (2006)

# Atom elevator

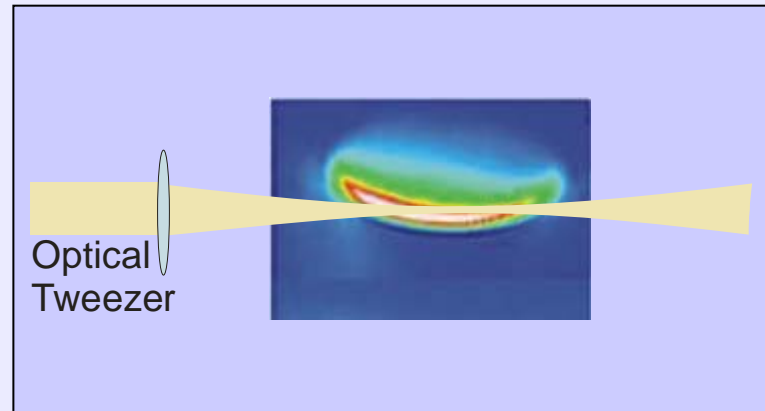


Vertical size of the atomic sample:  $15\ \mu\text{m}$

Atom elevator:

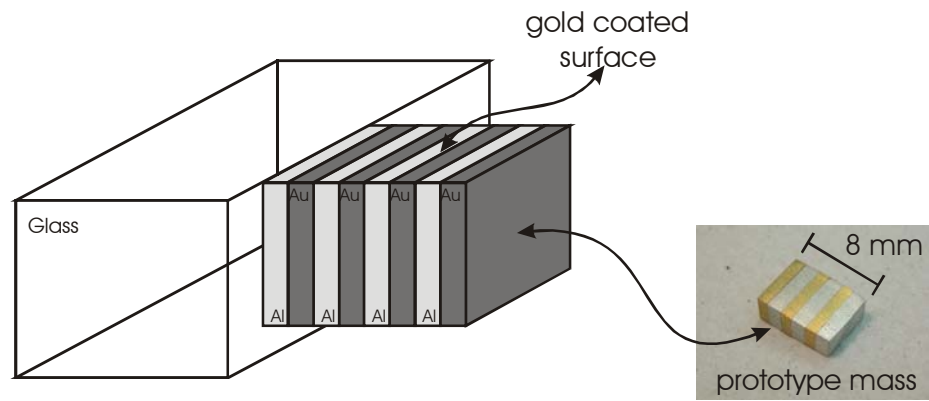
- upward acceleration ( $1.35\ \text{g}$ ) for  $10\ \text{ms}$
- uniform velocity ( $133\ \text{mm/s}$ ) for variable time
- downward acceleration ( $-1.35\ \text{g}$ ) for  $10\ \text{ms}$
- rest for  $470\ \text{ms}$
- reverse motion back to the starting point

Vertical position fluctuations:  $3\ \mu\text{m rms}$



- Vertical size reduced to  $4\ \mu\text{m}$  with an optical tweezer

# Source mass



# *Other experiments on atom-surface force*

Hinds (1993)

Aspect-Westbrook (1997)

Vuletic (2004): effect of Casimir-Polder on atoms on chip

Shimuzu, Ketterle (2001,2005): effect of Casimir-Polder on quantum reflection

Cornell (2005): measurement of the Casimir-Polder force by oscillations of a BEC

# Casimir-Polder and surface effects

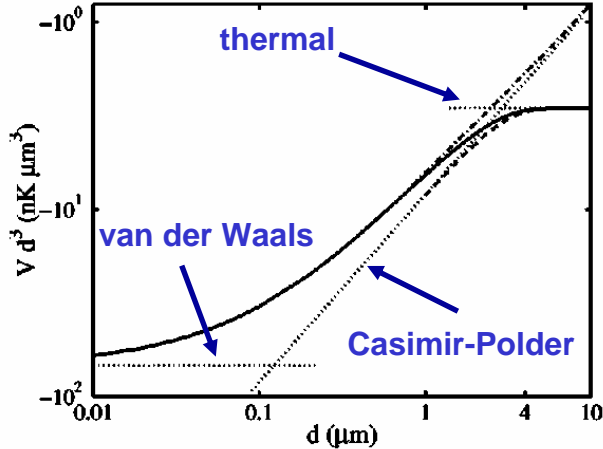


FIG. 3. The atom-surface potential is shown using the exact formula of Eq. (17) (solid line), the short-range approximation (21) (dash-dotted line), and the static approximation (26) (dashed line). The asymptotic van der Waals–London ( $\sim 1/d^3$ ), Casimir-Polder ( $\sim 1/d^4$ ), and high- $T$  ( $\sim 1/d^4$ ) potentials are also shown (dotted lines). The curves were obtained for a sapphire substrate at 300 K and for  $^{87}\text{Rb}$  atoms in the condensate.

surface-atom force  
out of thermal equilibrium

$$F^{neq} = -\frac{\pi \alpha_0 k_B^2 (T_{\text{Surface}}^2 - T_{\text{Envir}}^2)}{6 z^3 c \hbar} \frac{\epsilon_0 + 1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 - 1}}$$

thermal

$$F_T = -\frac{3kT\alpha_0(\epsilon_0 - 1)}{4z^4(\epsilon_0 + 1)} \quad z \gg \lambda_T$$

Casimir-Polder

$$F_{CP} = -\frac{3\hbar c \alpha_0 (\epsilon_0 - 1) \phi(\epsilon_0)}{2\pi z^5 (\epsilon_0 + 1)} \quad \lambda_{opt} \ll z \ll \lambda_T$$

$^{87}\text{Rb}$  atoms

Sapphire substrate at 300 K

$\lambda_T = \hbar c / k_B T \sim 7.6 \mu\text{m}$

$\lambda_{opt} \sim 0.1 \mu\text{m}$

From M. Antezza et al., *Effect of the C-P force on the collective oscillations of a trapped BEC*, PRA 70, 053619 (2004)

M. Antezza et al., *New Asymptotic Behavior of the Surface-Atom Force out of Thermal Equilibrium* PRL 95, 113202 (2005)



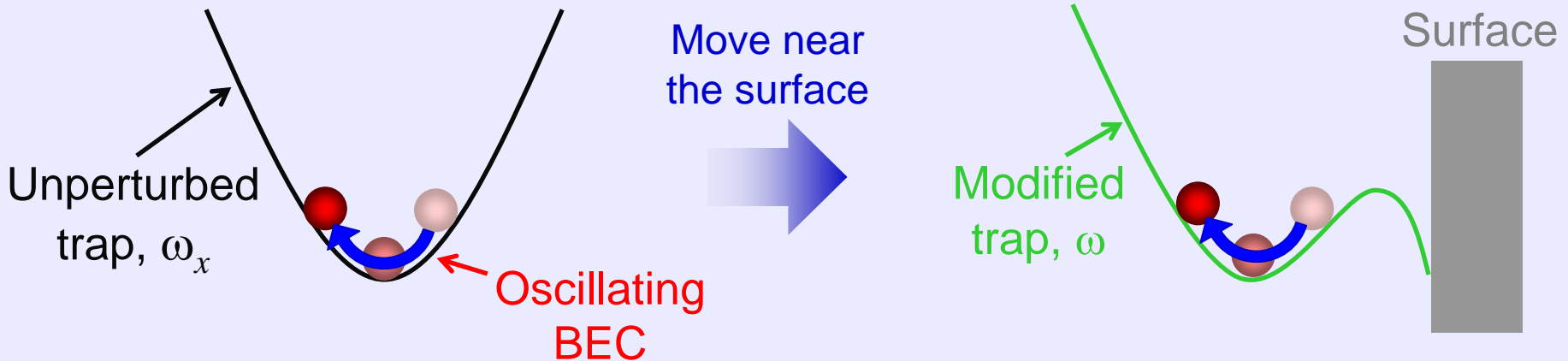
# Measuring atom-surface forces

## Use trapped BEC as a mechanical oscillator

Measure changes in dipole oscillation frequency

Negative curvature  
attractive potential

Trap frequency decrease

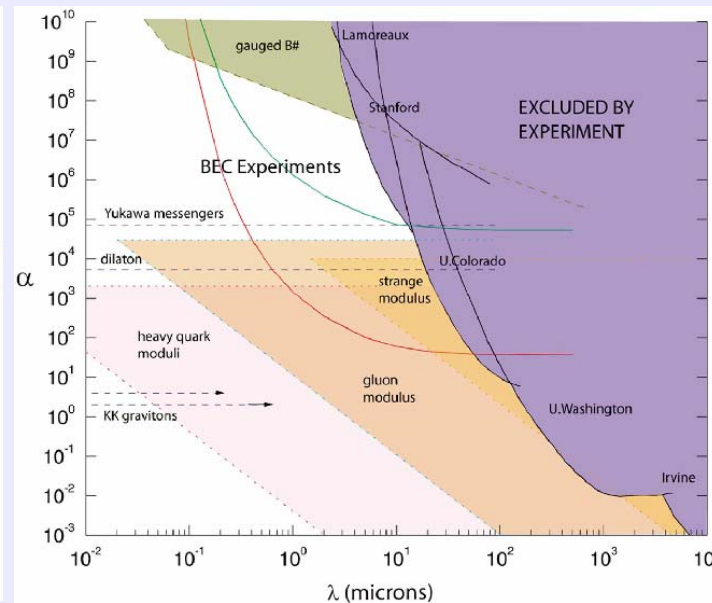
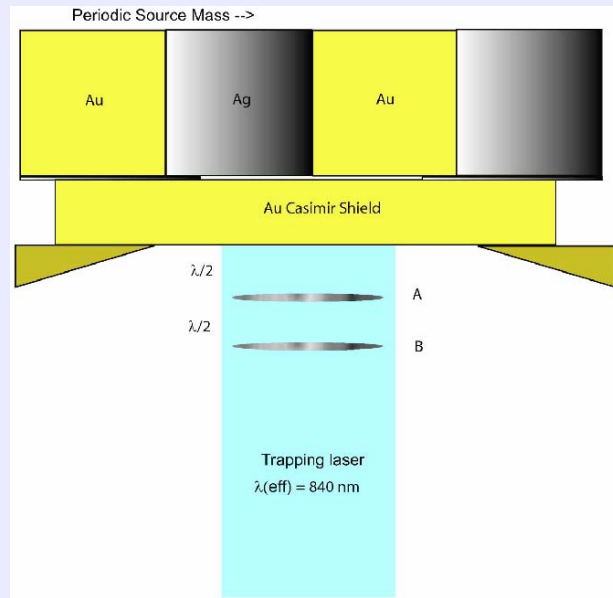


Express trap frequency changes as normalized frequency shifts:

From E.A. Cornell  
San Feliu Conference, 2005

$$\frac{\omega_x - \omega}{\omega_x} \approx -\frac{1}{2\omega_x^2 m} \frac{d^2U}{dx^2}$$

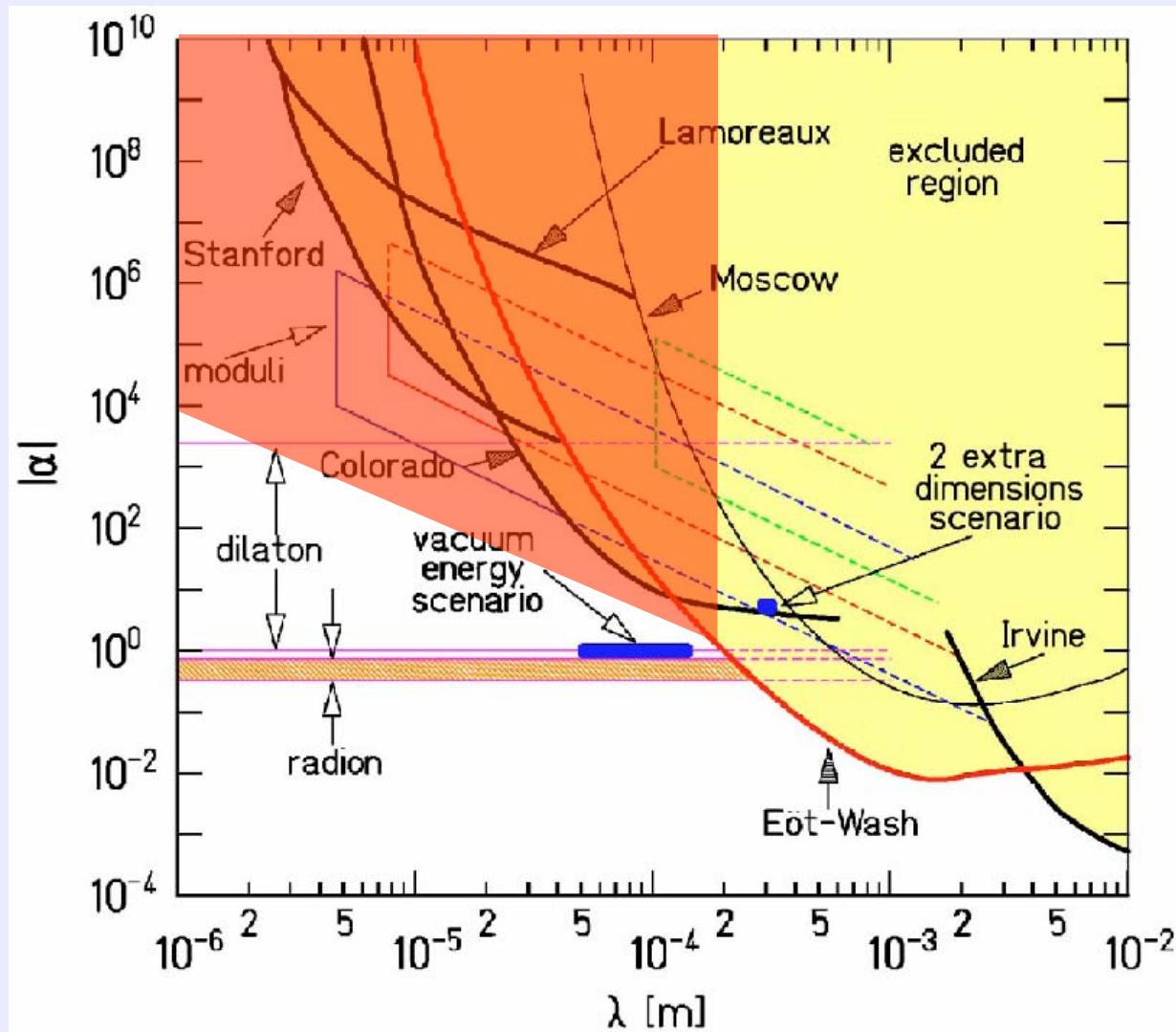
# Other proposals












S. Dimopoulos, A. A. Geraci, *Probing submicron forces by interferometry of Bose-Einstein condensed atoms*, Phys. Rev. D 68, 124021 (2003)

- I. Carusotto et al., *Sensitive measurement of forces at micron scale using Bloch oscillations of ultracold atoms*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 093202, (2005)
- Peter Wolf, et al., *From Optical Lattice Clocks to the Measurement of Forces in the Casimir Regime*, arXiv:physics/0608021

# Accessible region with atomic probes



# *Applications of new quantum sensors based on atom interferometry*

- Measurement of fundamental constants  $\begin{matrix} \nearrow \alpha \\ \searrow G \end{matrix}$    

- New definition of kg 
- Test of equivalence principle 
- Short-distances forces measurement 
- Search for electron-proton charge inequality 
- New detectors for gravitational waves ? 
- Transportable sensors  $\begin{matrix} \longrightarrow \text{geophysics} \\ \searrow \text{space} \end{matrix}$    


## Atom Interferometry Sensors for Space Applications

**Proposal coordinator:** *Prof. Guglielmo M. Tino*  
Dipartimento di Fisica/LENS  
Università di Firenze, Italy

### Participants

#### Academic Teams

- Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Firenze I (UNIFI)
- Institut d'Optique, Orsay (+ ONERA) F (IOTA)
- Institut für Quantenoptik, Universität Hannover D (IQO)
- Universität Hamburg D (UH)
- Institut für Physik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin D (HUB)
- SYRTE, Observatoire de Paris F (SYRTE)
- LENS, Firenze I (LENS)
- Universität Ulm D (ULM)
- ZARM, University of Bremen D (ZARM)

#### Industrial Partners

- Carlo Gavazzi Space I
- EADS Astrium D
- Galileo Avionica I
- Techno System I
- TOPTICA D
- THALES F
- IXSEA F



# Future Inertial Atomic Quantum Sensors

## FINAQS



A Specific Targeted Research Project (STREP)

FULL Proposal

for

NEST-2003-1 ADVENTURE

Duration: 3 years

Co-ordinator: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ertmer

Contact: Email: [ertmer@iqo.uni-hannover.de](mailto:ertmer@iqo.uni-hannover.de)

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### Participants

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2	Laboratoire Charles Fabry de l'Institut d'Optique	IOTA	ORSAY	F
3	Système de Références Temps – Espace, Observatoire de Paris	BNM/SY RTE	PARIS	F
4	AG Optische Metrologie / Institut für Physik Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	HUB	BERLIN	D
5	Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Firenze	UNIFI	FIRENZE	I

See Poster

## People

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A. Giorgini	PhD student, Università di Napoli
N. Poli	Post-doc, LENS
F. Sorrentino	Post-doc, Università di Firenze
A. Bertoldi	Researcher, Università di Firenze
G. Ferrari	Researcher, INFN/CNR
L. Cacciapuoti	Long term guest, ESA-Noordwijk
M. de Angelis	Long term guest, CNR-Napoli
R. Drullinger	Long term guest, NIST-Boulder
M. Prevedelli	Long term guest, Università di Bologna
M. Fattori	ex-PhD student, now in Stuttgart
T. Petelski	ex-PhD student, now in Munich
J. Stuhler	ex-Post-doc, now in Stuttgart

## Collaborations

- **IEN, Torino**
- **IMGC, Torino**
- **Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin**
- **IQO, Hannover**
- **ENS and SYRTE, Paris**

## Support and funding

- ✓ **Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (INFN)**
- ✓ **European Commission (EC)**
- ✓ **Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca (MIUR)**
- ✓ **European Laboratory for Non-linear Spectroscopy (LENS)**
- ✓ **Ente Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze (CRF)**
- ✓ **European Space Agency (ESA)**
- ✓ **Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI)**
- ✓ **Istituto Nazionale per la Fisica della Materia (INFN)**
- ✓ **Istituto Nazionale Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV)**

# LINKS



# Gravitational wave detection by atom interferometry

Can we use atom interferometers in searching  
for gravitational waves?

- C.J. Bordé, *University of Paris N.*
- G. Tino, *University of Firenze*
- F. Vetrano, *University of Urbino*

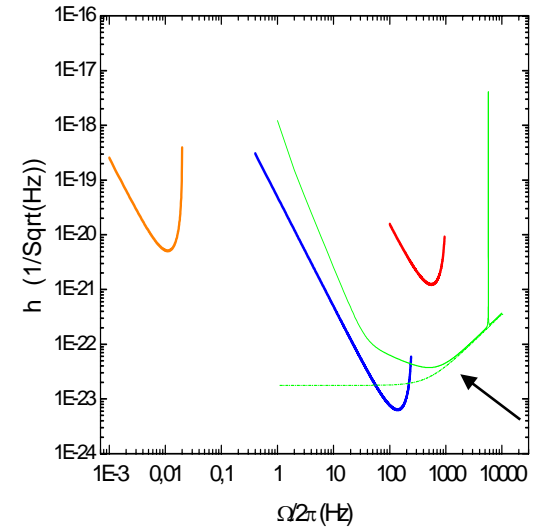
F.Vetrano - Aspen Winter Conference, FEB 2004

$v_L = 10^6$  m/s;  $\dot{N} = 10^{18}$  atoms(H)/s;  
 $T = 10^{-3}$  s;  $L = 10^3$  m;  $v_T = 10$  m/s

$v_L = 10^7$  m/s;  $L = 10^5$  m  
 $T = 10^{-2}$  s

$v_L = 10$  m/s;  $v_T = 5$  m/s;  $L = 50$  m;  
 $\dot{N} = 10^{18}$  atoms(Cs)/s

F.Vetrano - Aspen Winter Conference, FEB 2004



Virgo

C. Bordé, G. M. Tino, F. Vetrano, "Can we use atom interferometers in searching for gravitational waves?", 2004 Aspen Winter College on Gravitational Waves. Available online at: [http://www.ligo.caltech.edu/LIGO\\_web/Aspen2004/pdf/vetrano.pdf](http://www.ligo.caltech.edu/LIGO_web/Aspen2004/pdf/vetrano.pdf)

Chiao, Raymond Y.; Speliotopoulos, Achilles D. "Towards MIGO, the matter-wave interferometric gravitational-wave observatory, and the intersection of quantum mechanics with general relativity", *Journal of Modern Optics* (2004), 51(6-7), 861-899.

Roura, Albert; Brill, Dieter R.; Hu, B. L.; Misner, Charles W.; Phillips, William D. "Gravitational wave detectors based on matter wave interferometers (MIGO) are no better than laser interferometers (LIGO)", *Physical Review D: Particles and Fields* (2006), 73(8), 084018/1-084018/14.

C. Bordé, G. M. Tino, F. Vetrano, "Is it possible to detect gravitational waves with atom interferometers?", to be published.