

Experiments with Ultra-cold Atoms

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陈宇翱

Quantum Information Science

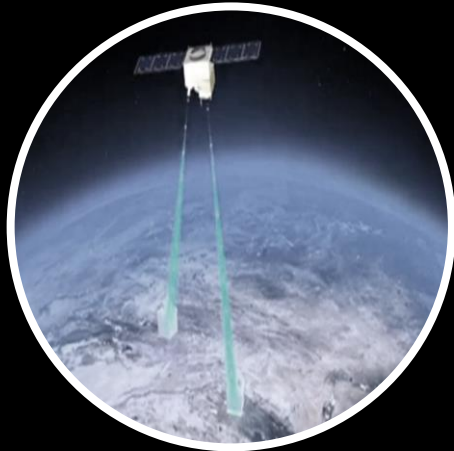
Born from the tests of "spooky action at a distance"



Coherent manipulation of quantum systems

Harness the strange properties of quantum mechanics such as superposition and entanglement for enhanced ways of information processing

Unconditional security



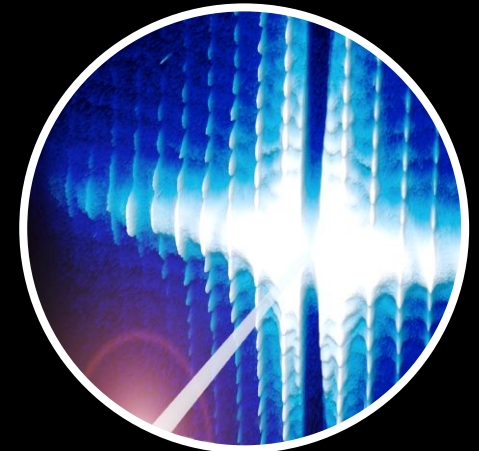
Quantum communication

Computational capacities



Quantum computation
and simulation

Super-resolution



Quantum Metrology

Introduction to our group

Excellence Center for Quantum Information and Quantum Physics

- Jointly supported by CAS and the Ministry of Education

Hosted by **USTC**

includes top institutes and universities on quantum physics

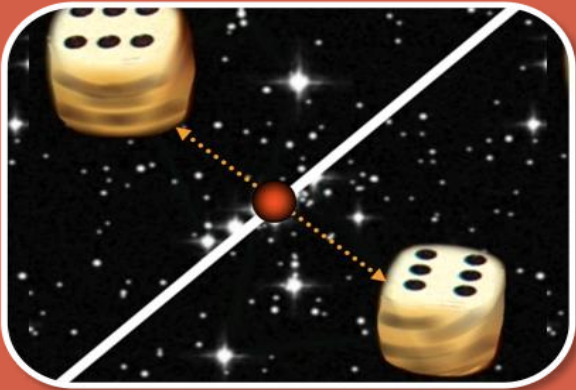


and excellence groups among China's universities:

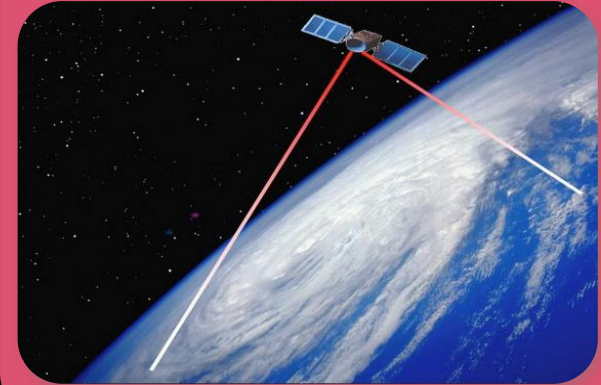
Tsinghua University, Peking University, Fudan University, etc.

Introduction to our group

Quantum Foundations



Quantum Communication



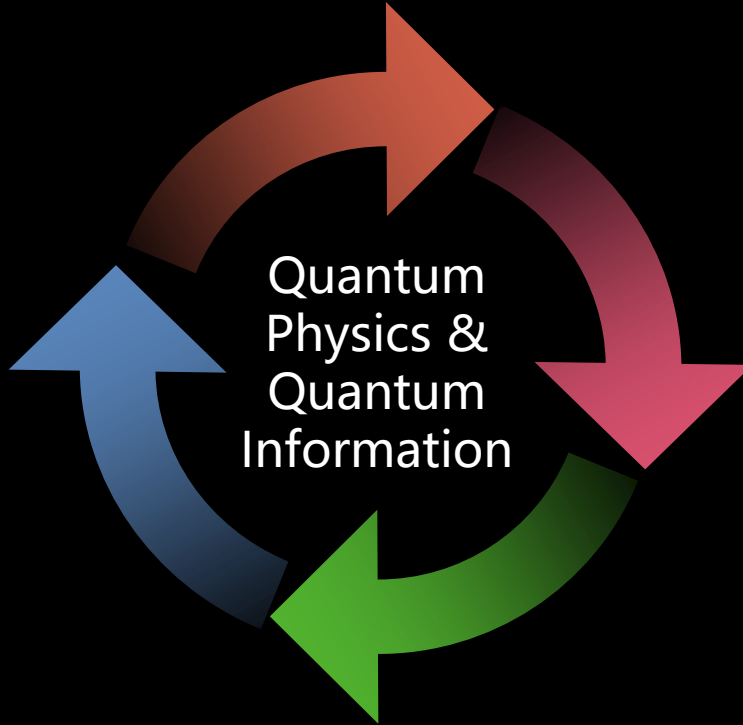
Quantum Metrology



Quantum Computation & Simulation



Quantum
Physics &
Quantum
Information

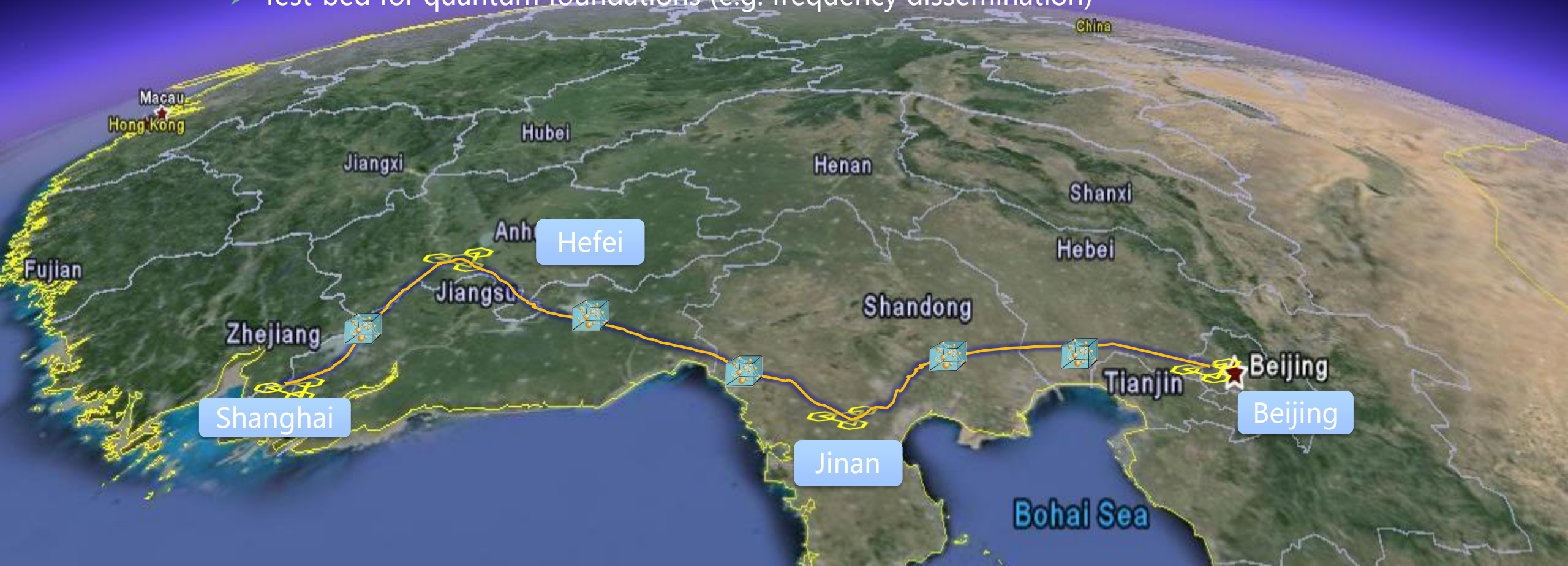


Introduction to our group



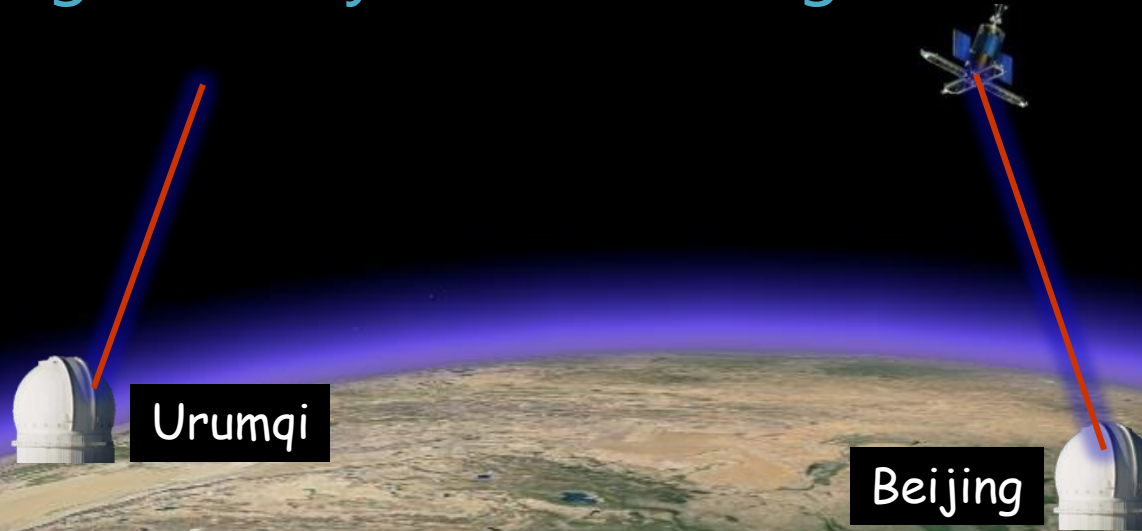
National Quantum Communication Backbone Project

- Inter-city quantum communication backbone with 32 trusted relays (~2000km)
- Inter-connection of four intra-city metropolitan networks
- For financial applications, public affairs, etc.
- Test-bed for quantum foundations (e.g. frequency dissemination)



Introduction to our group

CAS Strategic Priority Research Program: Quantum Satellite

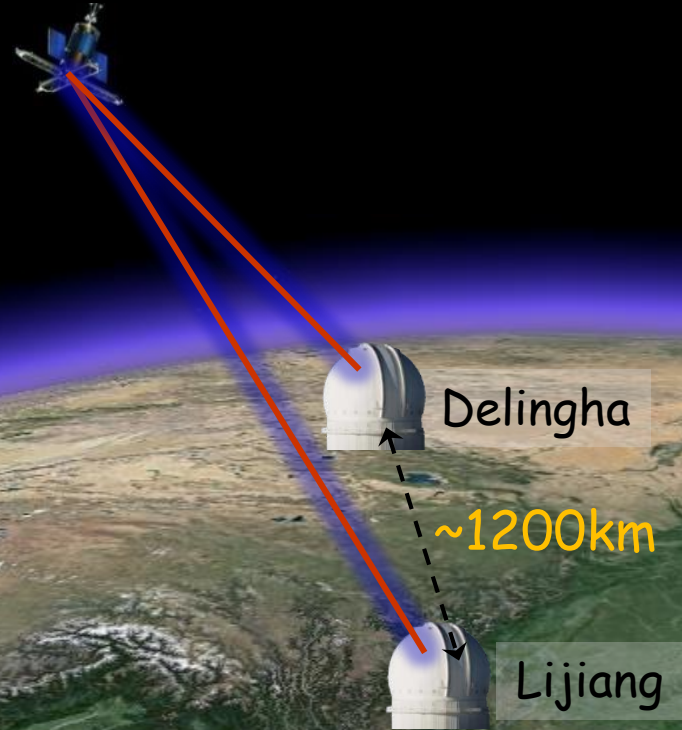


- Mission 1: QKD between satellite and ground
Key rate $\sim 1\text{kbps}$, 20 orders of magnitudes higher than using telecommunication fiber channel at 1200 km
[Nature 549, 43 (2017)]



Introduction to our group

CAS Strategic Priority Research Program: Quantum Satellite

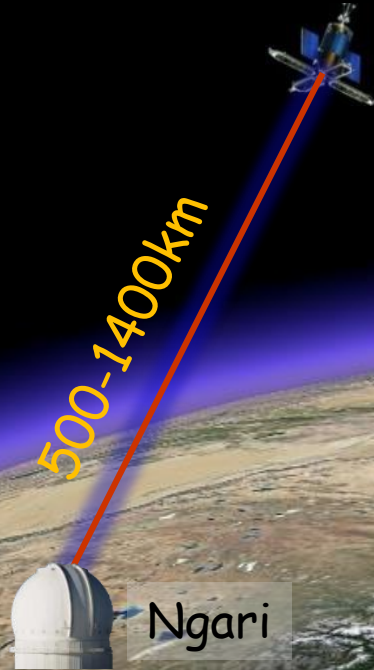


- Mission 2: Quantum entanglement distribution over 1200 km, and test of "spooky action at a distance" under strict Einstein's locality condition [Science 356, 1140 (2017)]



Introduction to our group

CAS Strategic Priority Research Program: Quantum Satellite



- Mission 3: Quantum teleportation between ground and satellite
[Nature 549, 70 (2017)]

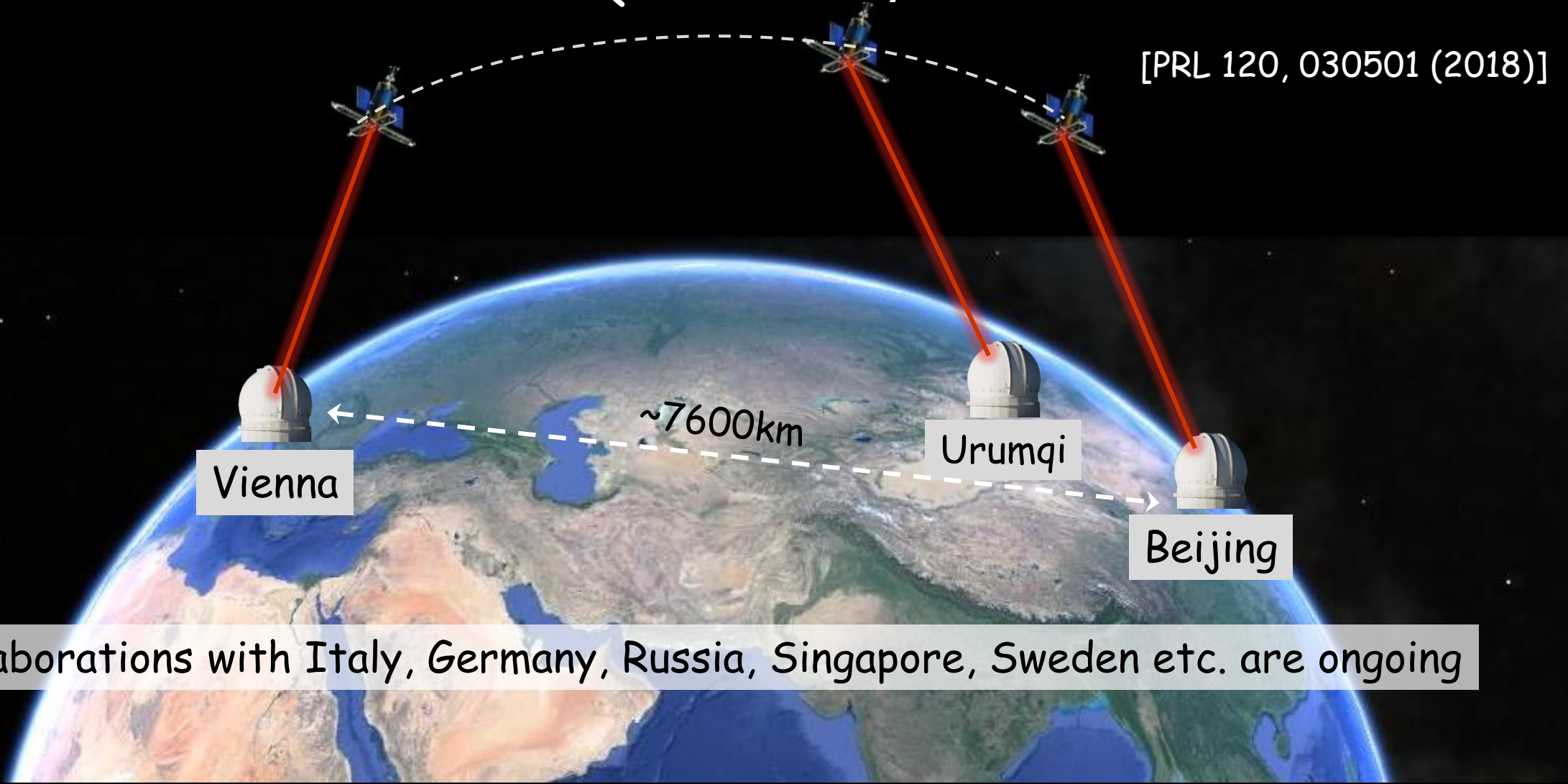


QKD and teleportation papers

Introduction to our group

CAS Strategic Priority Research Program: Quantum Satellite

Intercontinental Quantum Key Distribution

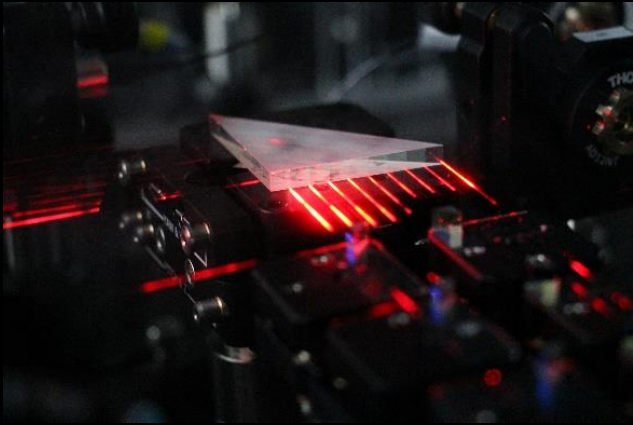


Collaborations with Italy, Germany, Russia, Singapore, Sweden etc. are ongoing

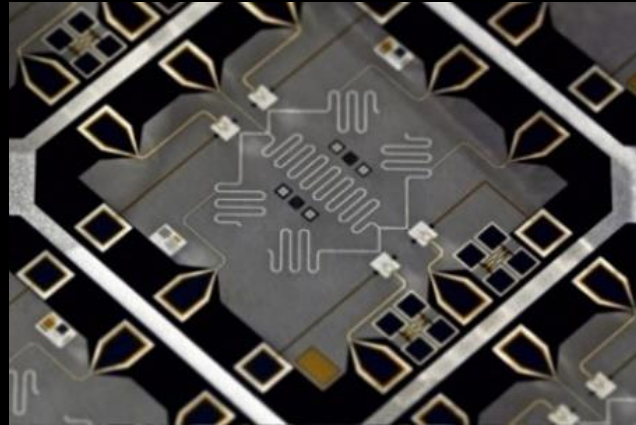
Introduction to our group

Research field: quantum information processing with photons and atoms

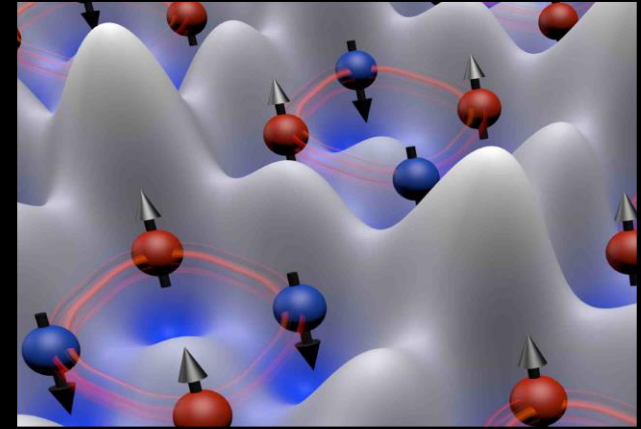
➤ Quantum computation and simulation with



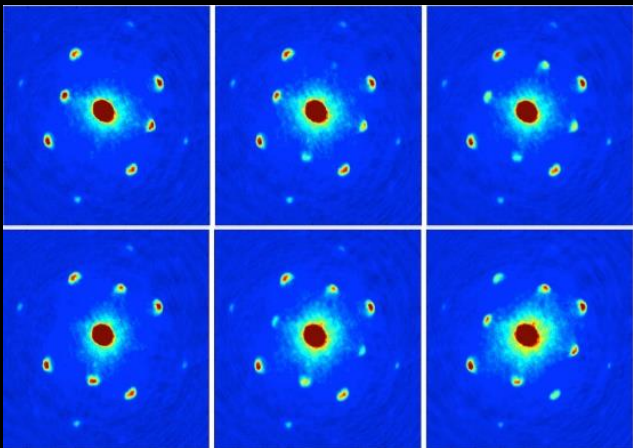
Multi-photon entanglement



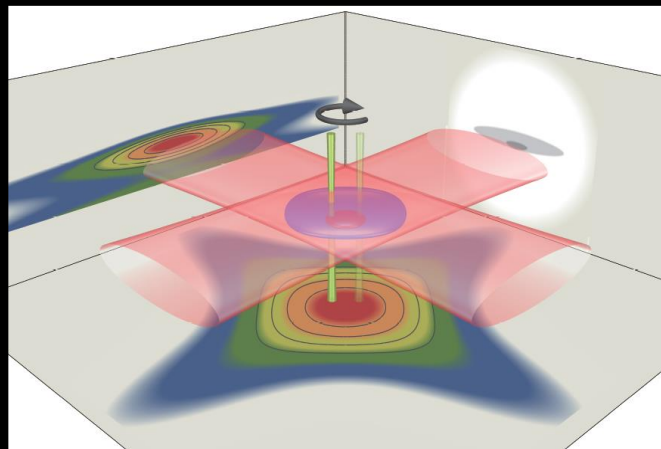
Superconducting qubit



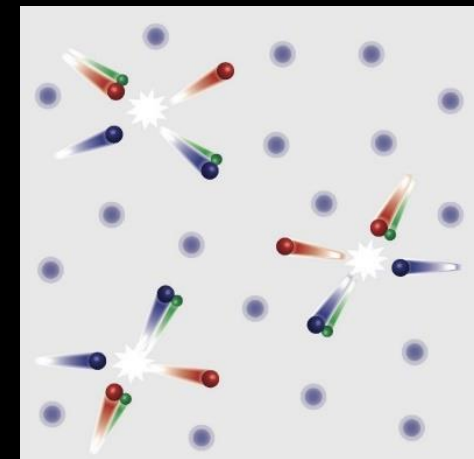
Atom-atom entanglement



Ultra-cold Bose gases



Ultra-cold Fermion mixture



Ultra-cold molecule

回想自己一生，经历过许多坎坷，唯一希望的就是祖国繁荣昌盛，科学发达，我们已经尽了自己力量，但国家尚未摆脱贫困落后，当需当代与后世共同努力。



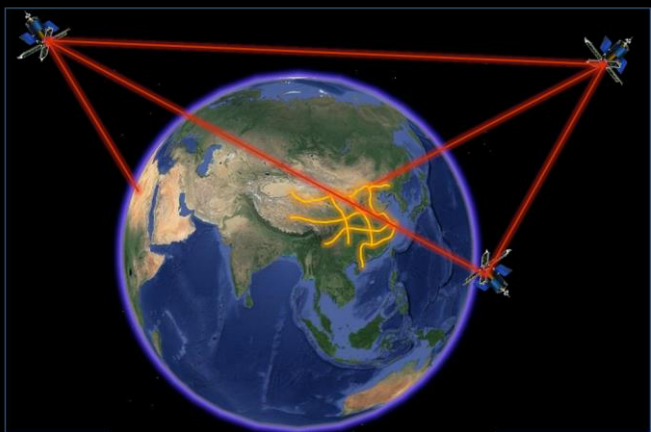
请勿吸烟
NO SMOKING
请勿喧哗
KEEP QUIET



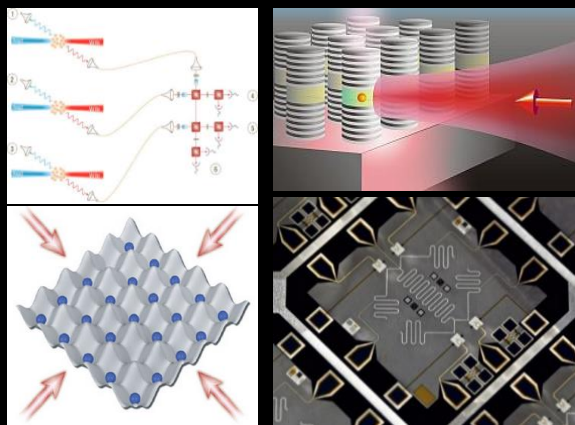
China's Future National Projects

The Center is now playing a leading role in organizing

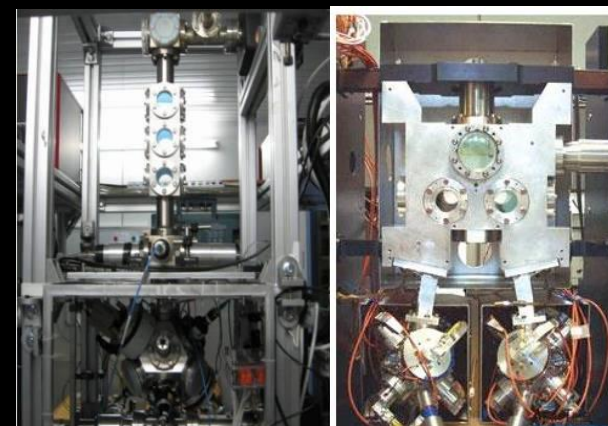
- National Science and Technology Project on Quantum Information in the next 15 years, similar to European Quantum Technologies Flagship
- National Laboratory for Quantum Information Sciences (NLQIS)



Global Quantum
Communication Networks



Scalable Quantum
Computation and Quantum
Simulation



Super-resolution
Quantum Metrology

...nature isn't classical, dammit, and if you want to make a simulation of nature, you'd better make it quantum mechanical, and by golly it's a wonderful problem, because it doesn't look so easy.



—Richard P. Feynman, May 1981
Published: Int. J. Theo. Phys. (1982)

Quantum computation and Simulation

FEYNMAN'S ANSWER

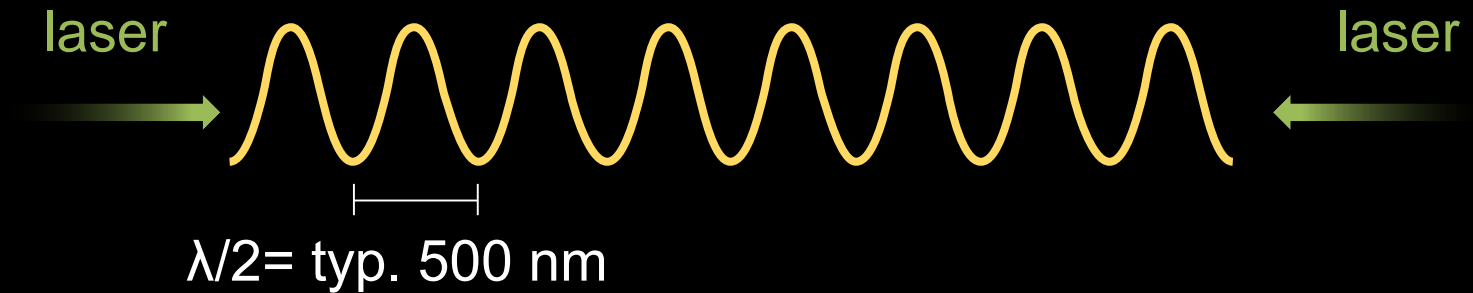
make the simulator (the computer) itself quantum mechanical effective memory scales up due to superposition

Idea: quantum simulator

- can efficiently do a specific class of simulation problem
- structure of implementation similar to the problem: “model”

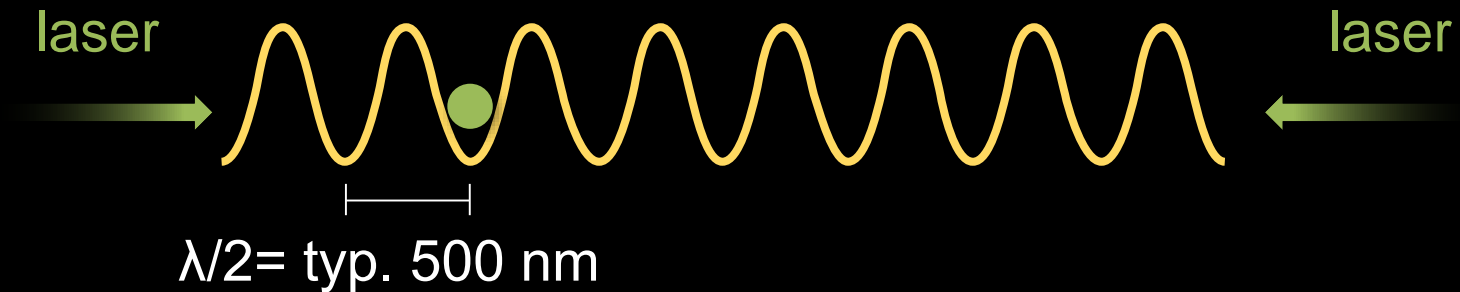
Why ultra-cold atoms

Optical standing wave: **perfect** lattice



Why ultra-cold atoms

Optical standing wave: **perfect** lattice



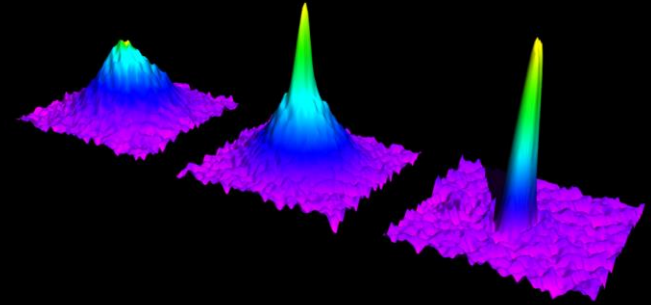
Ultracold atoms: move in optical lattice just like the electrons

For low enough energies: **described**
by Hubbard model Hamiltonian:

$$H = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} \hat{c}_{i,\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j,\sigma} + U \sum_i \hat{n}_{i,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i,\downarrow}$$

Why ultra-cold atoms

low enough means: nano-Kelvin required!
a billion times colder than real material
Bose-Einstein-Condensate territory

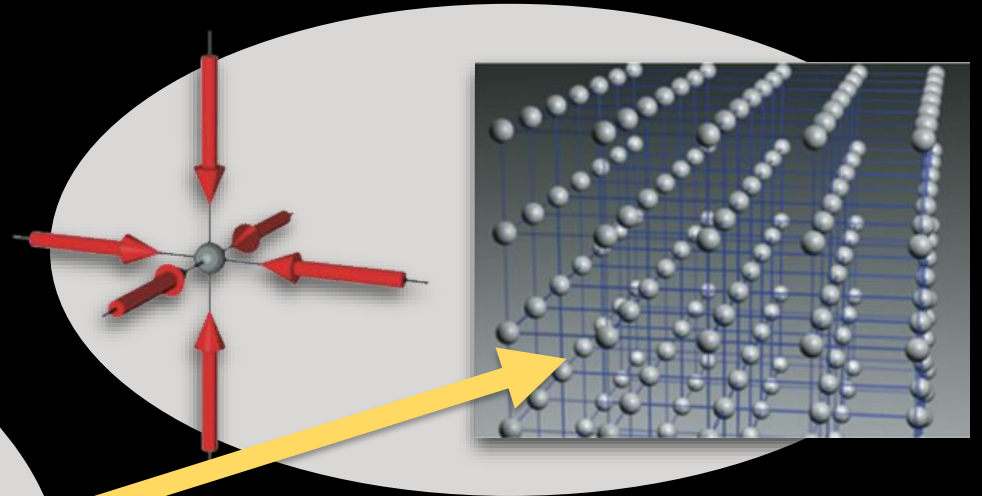
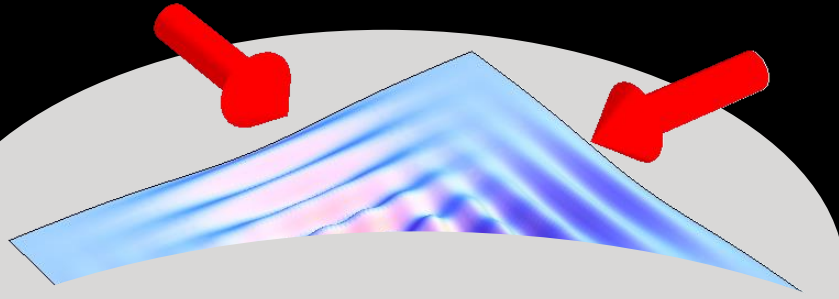


Ultracold atoms: move in optical lattice just like the electrons

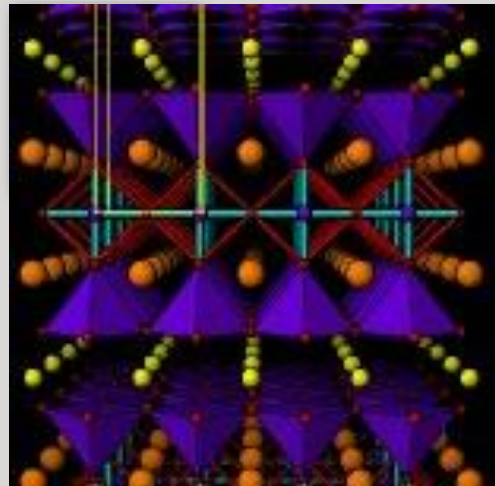
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Why ultra-cold atoms



Like real crystal,
but 1000 times larger
ion lattice \leftrightarrow light
electrons \leftrightarrow atoms



3D Lattices

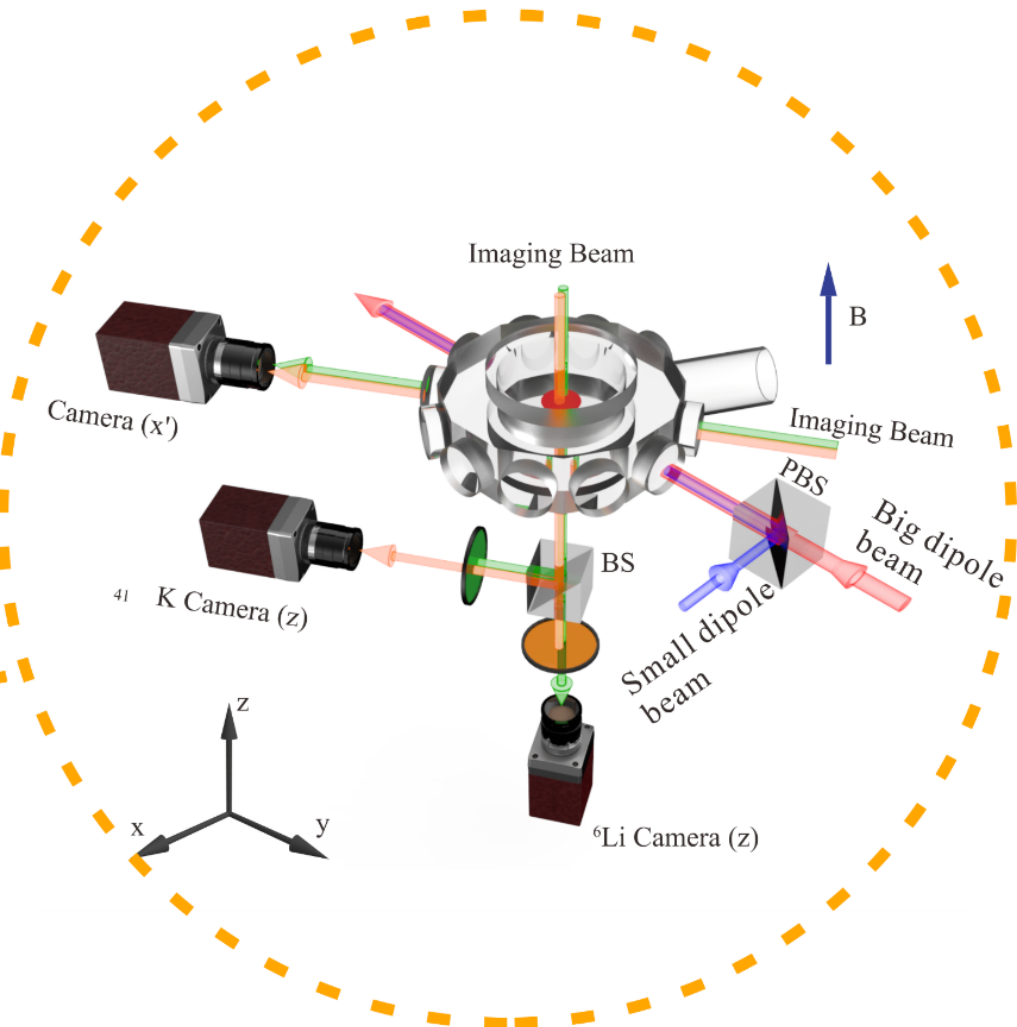
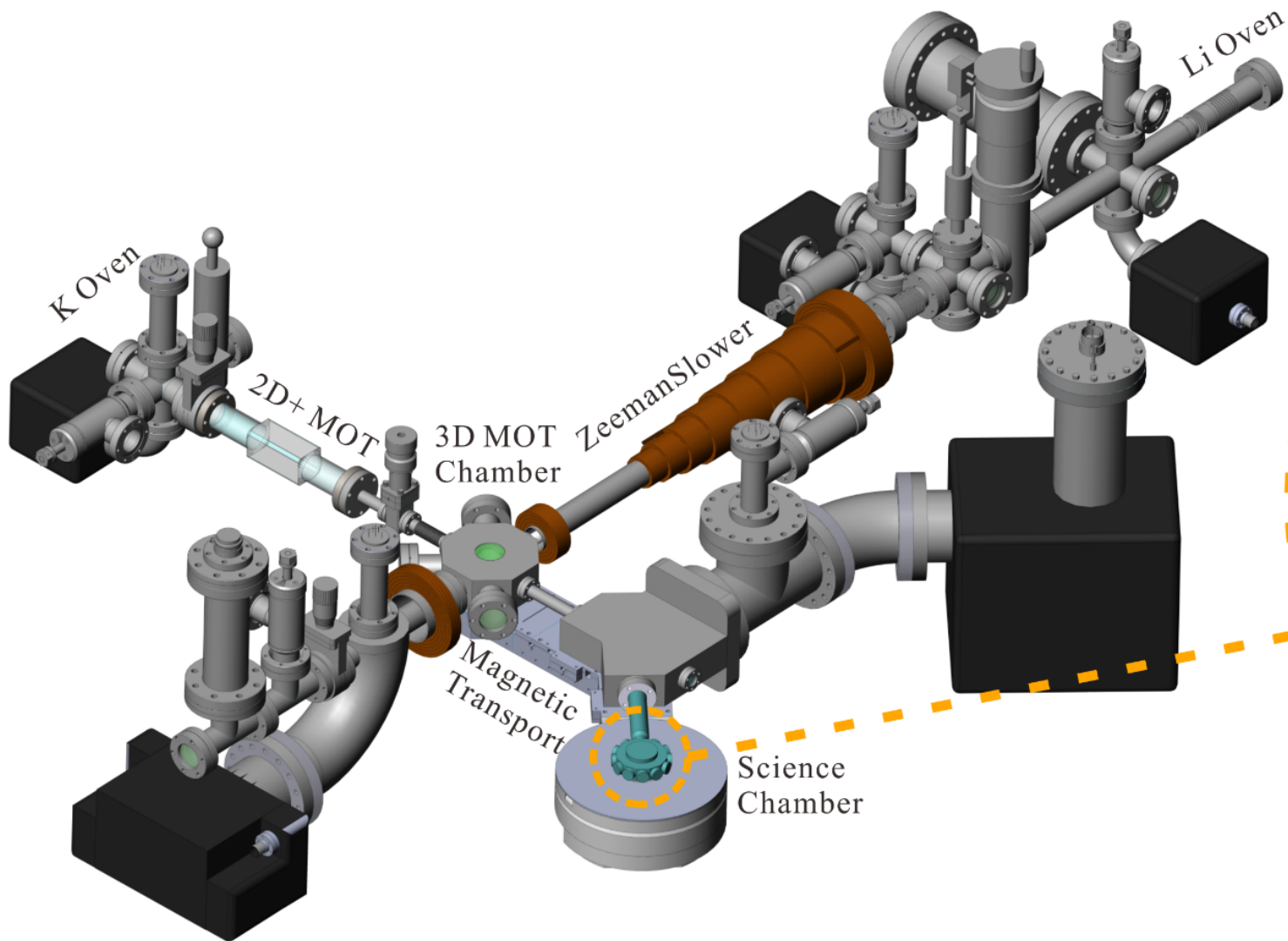
Physical System

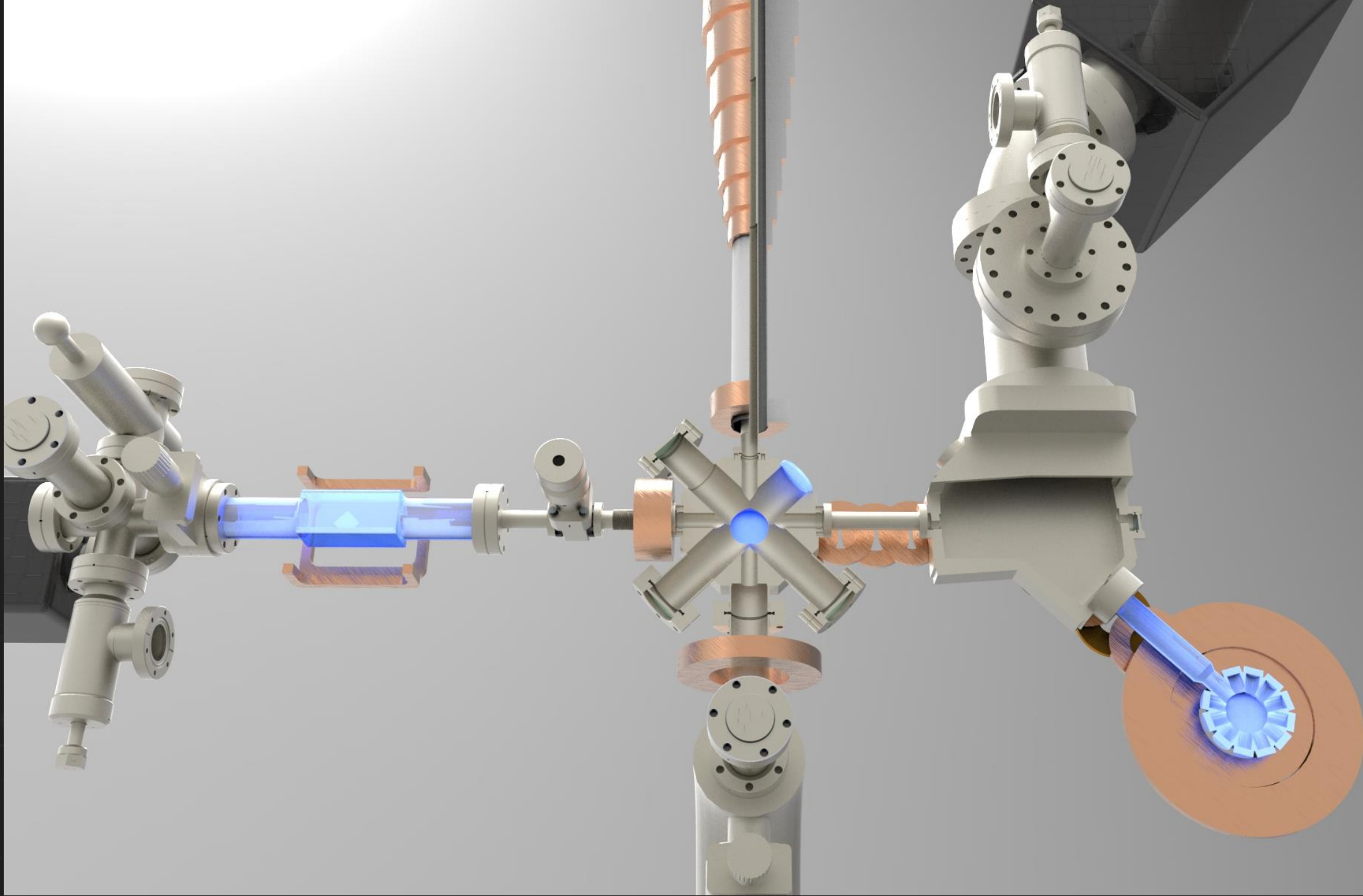
Two-species mixture of Li and K atoms

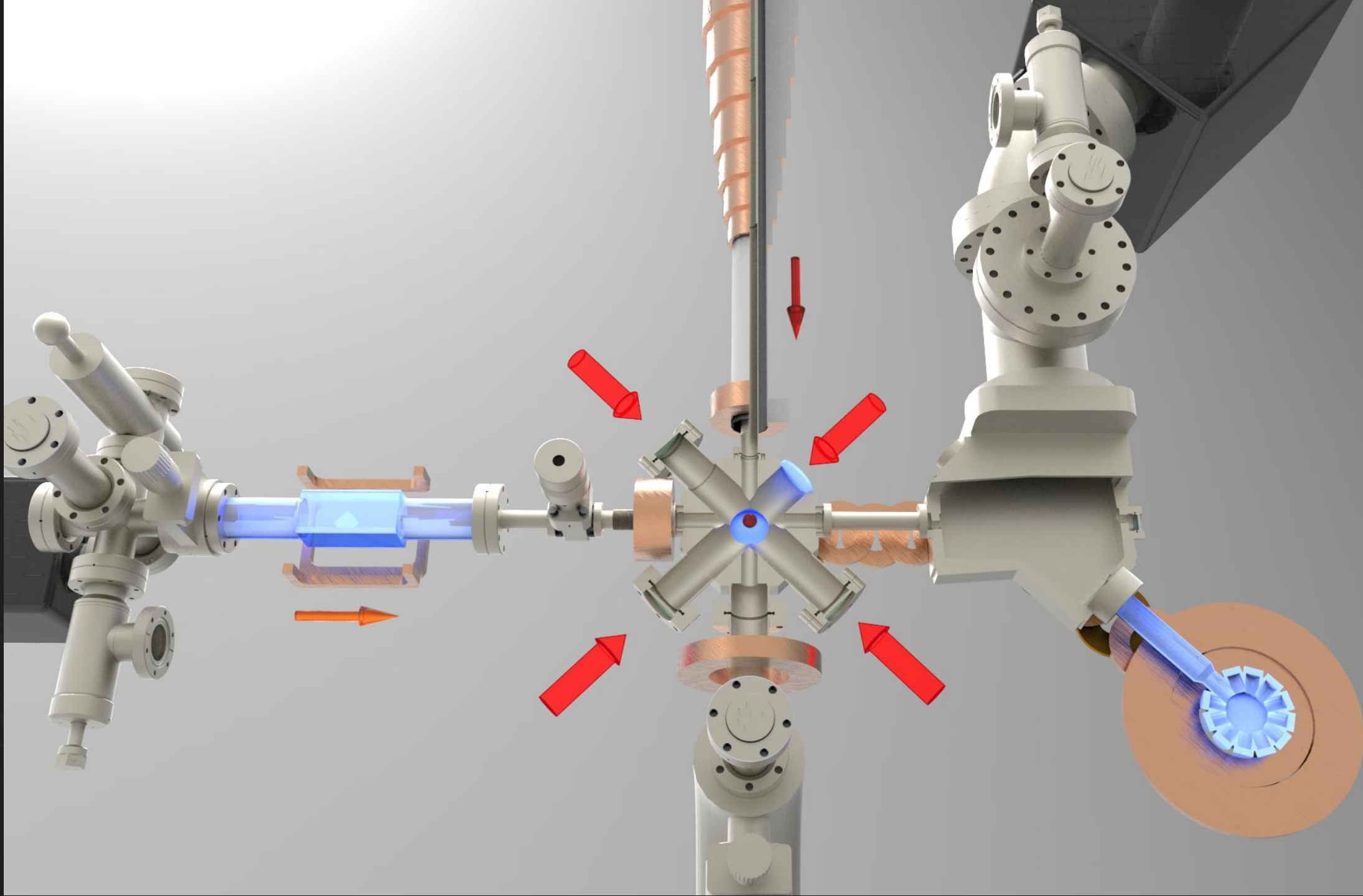
Larger atom number, lower temperature, high resolution

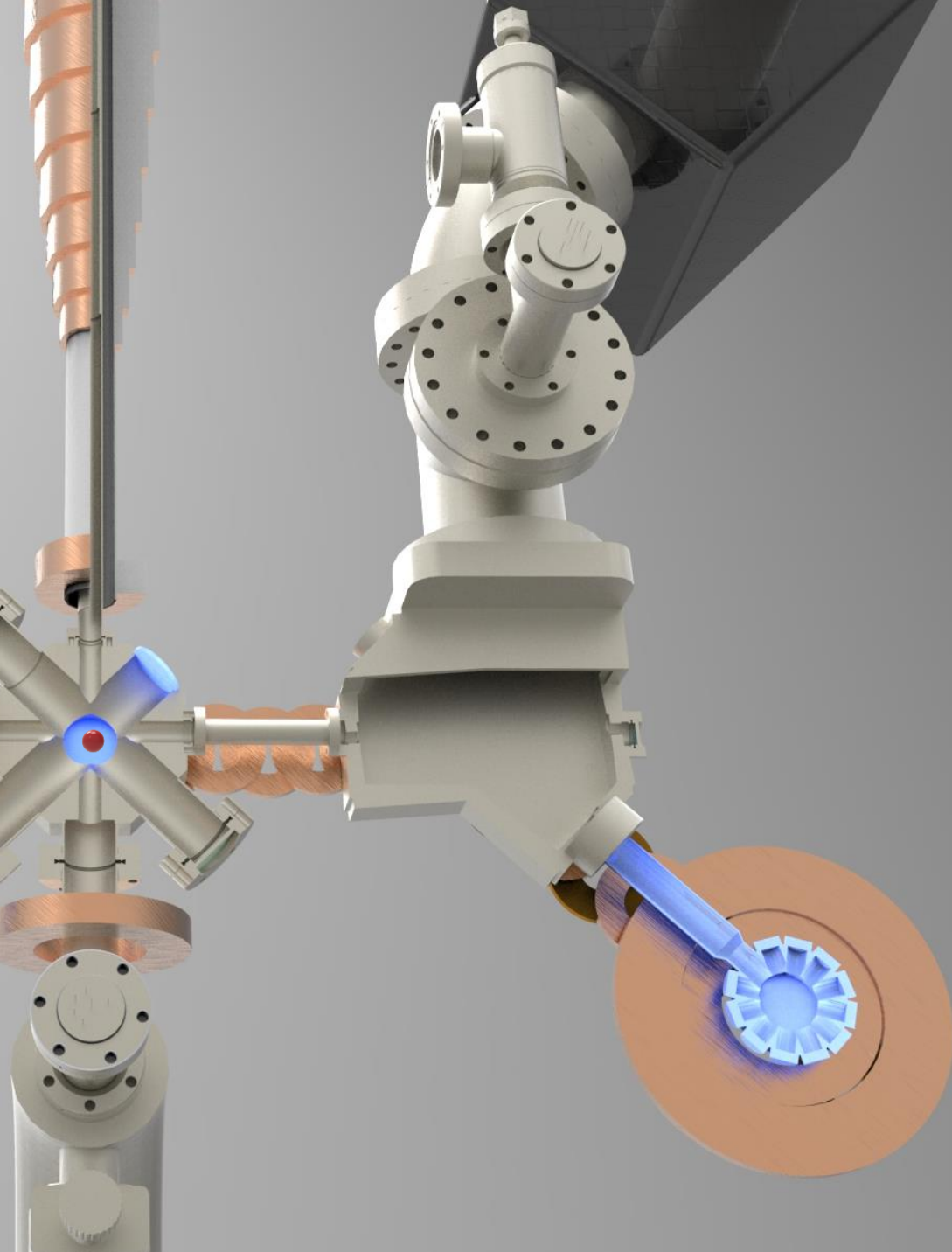
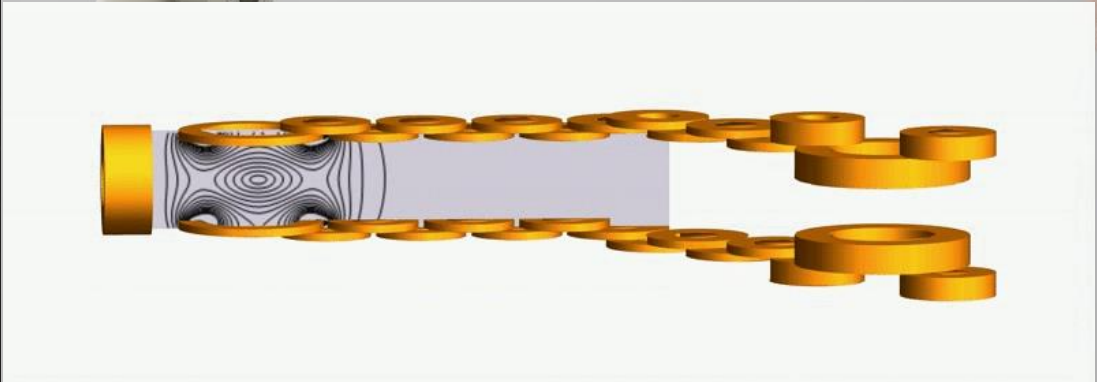
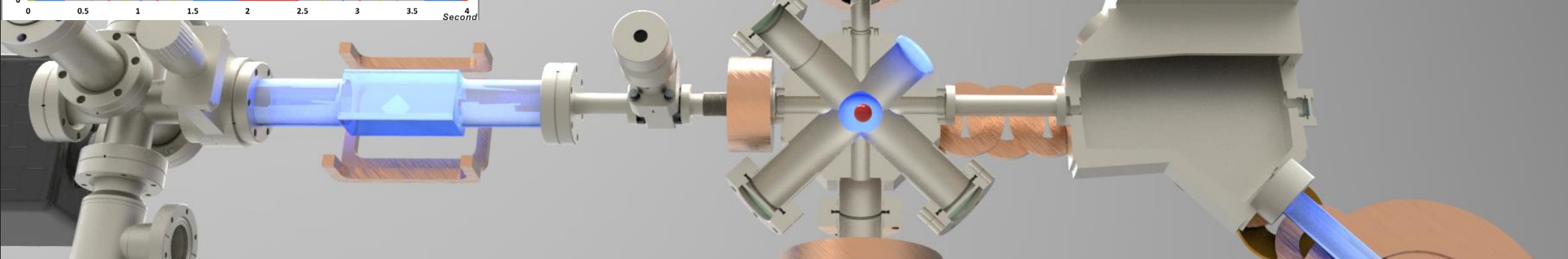
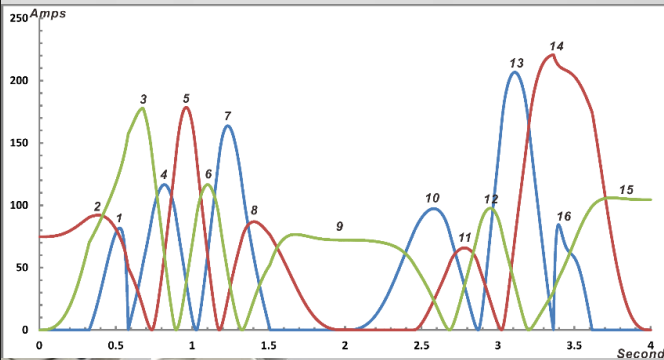
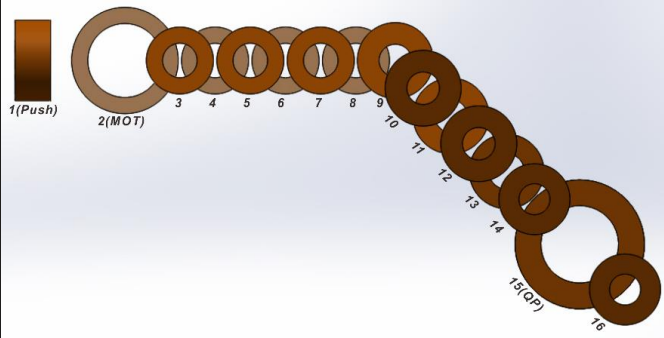
- Mass imbalance: ratio about 7
- Bose-Fermi mixture
 - Bose and Fermi superfluid mixture
 - Bose polaron
- Fermi-Fermi mixture
 - Fermi Hubbard model with impurity
 - Non-equilibrium physics with vortices

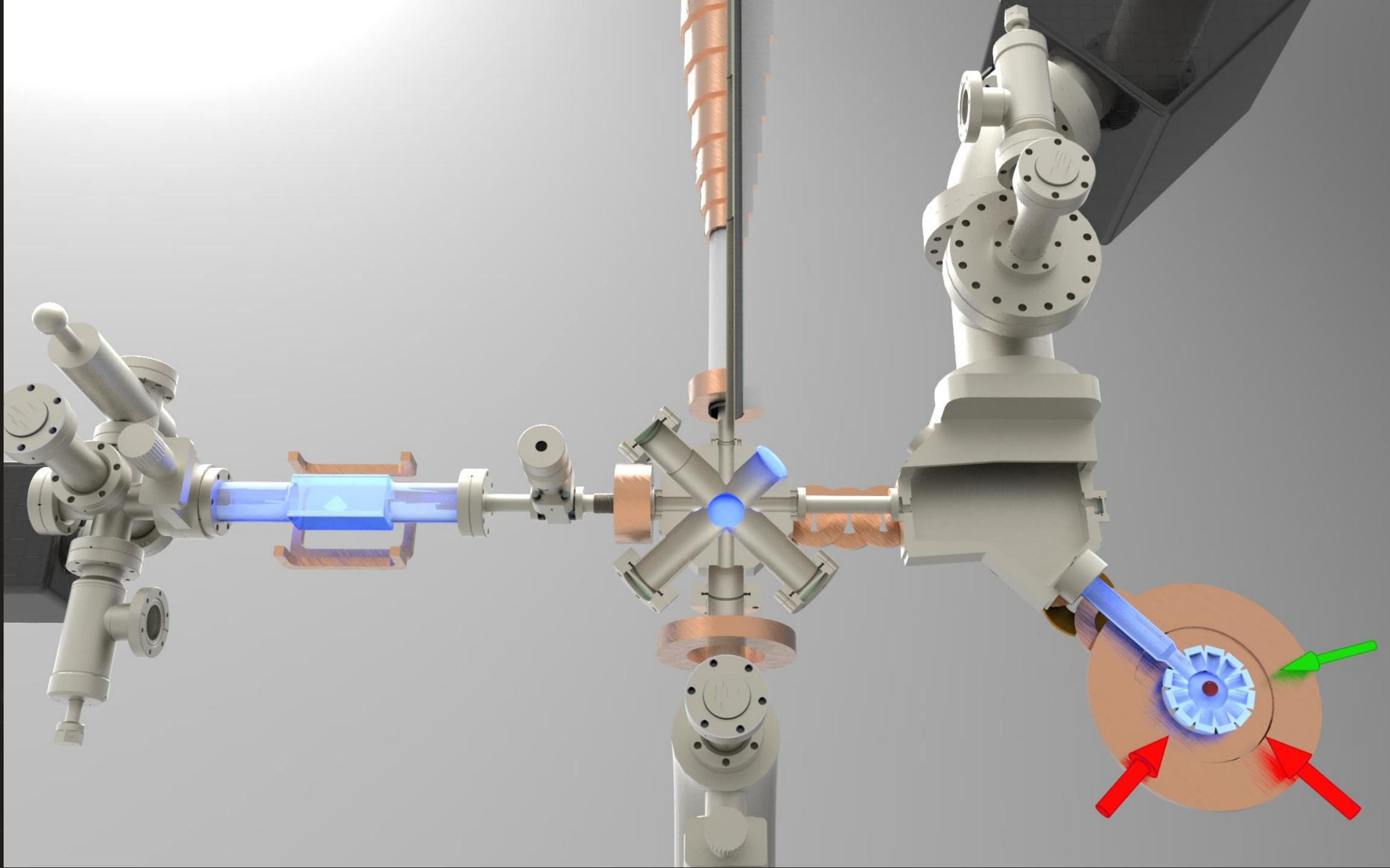
Experimental Setup

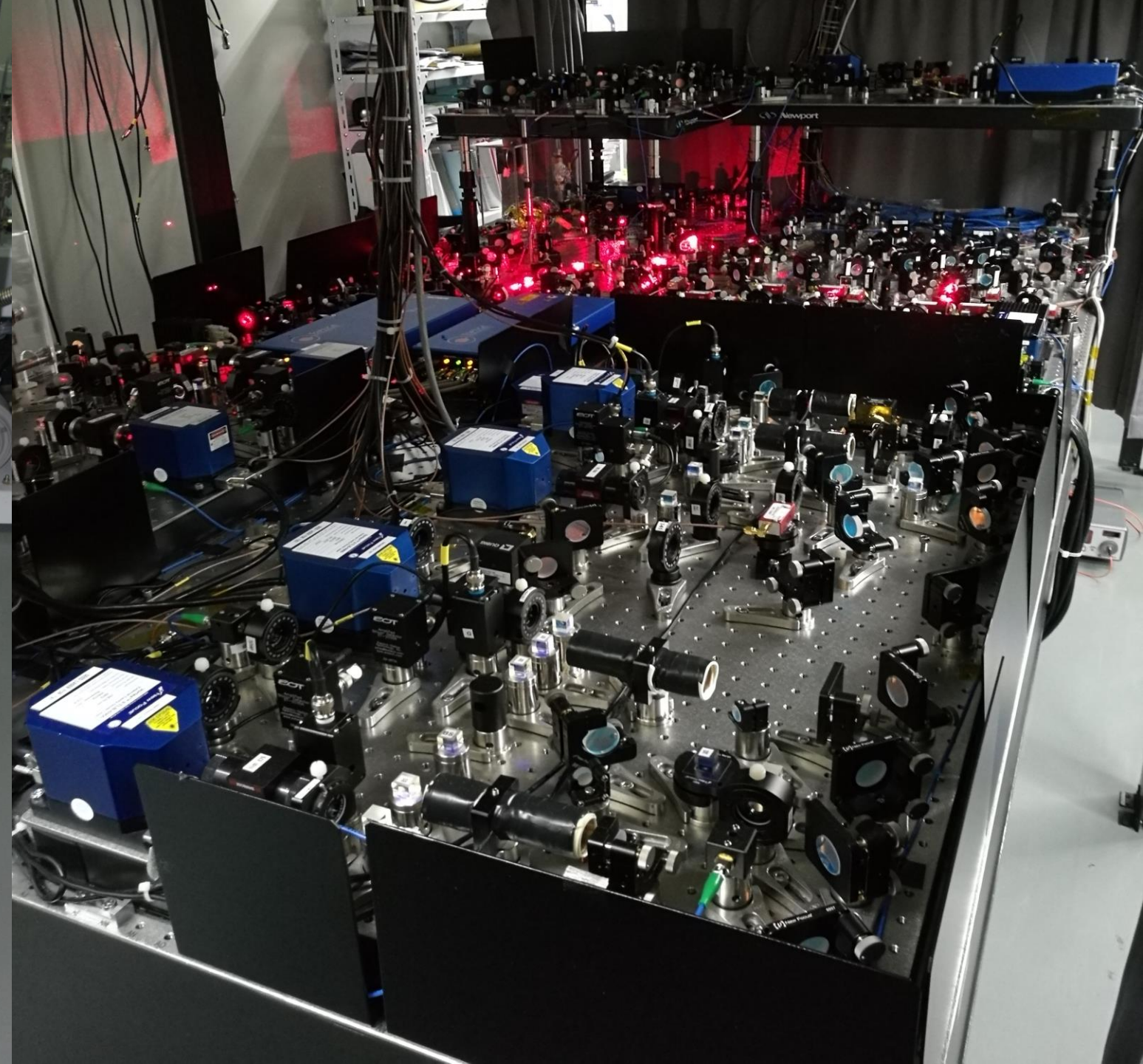
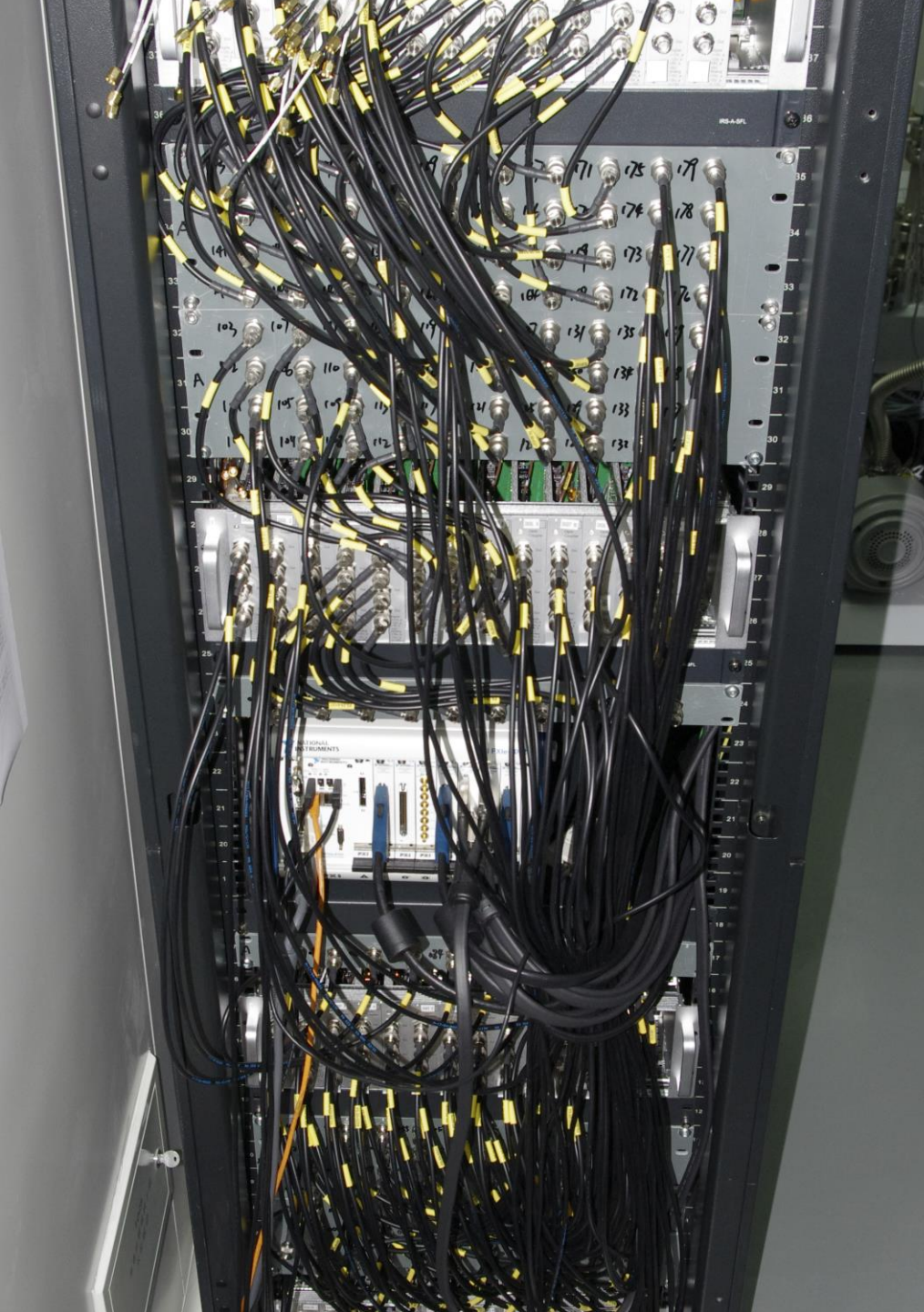


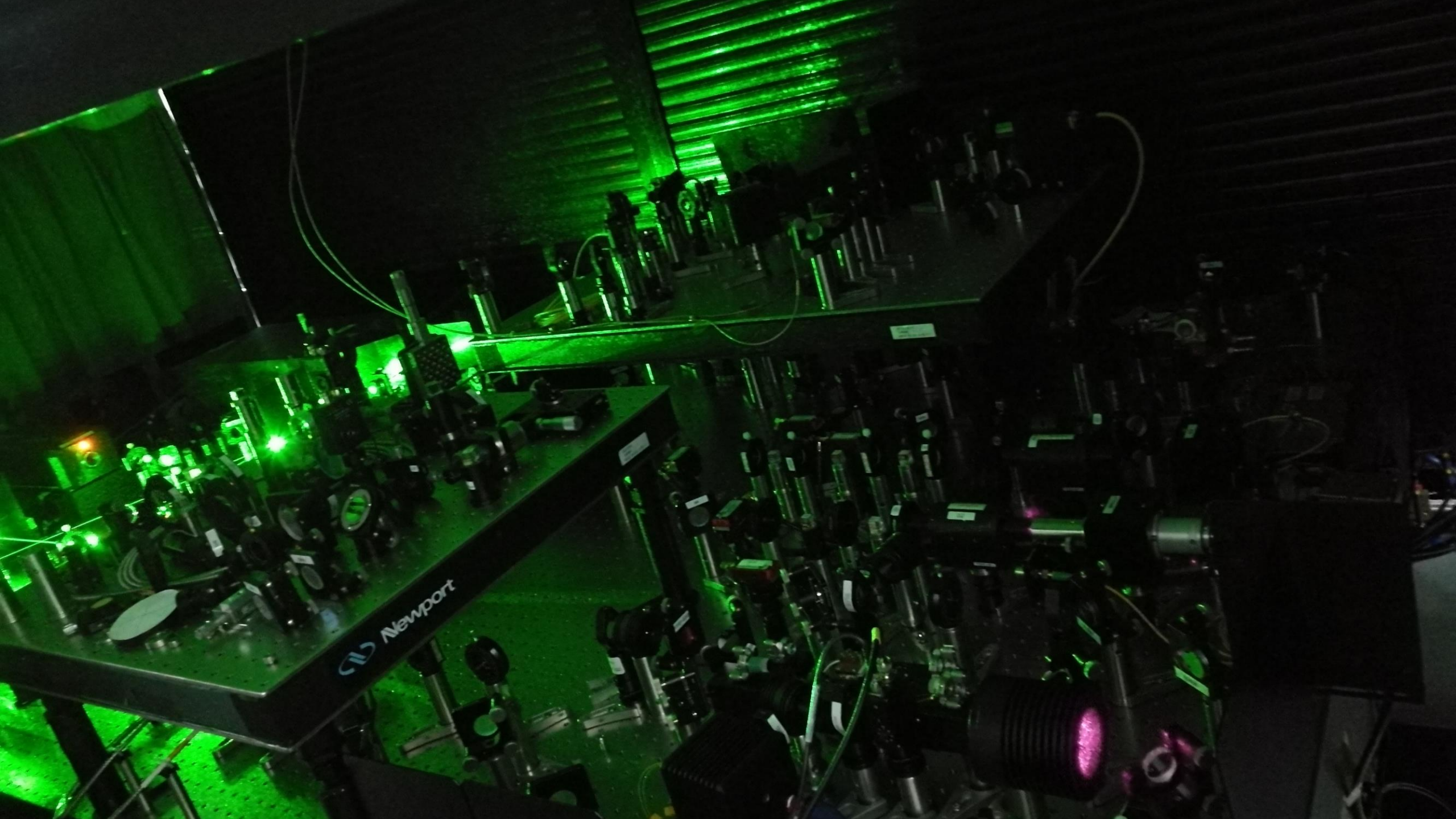


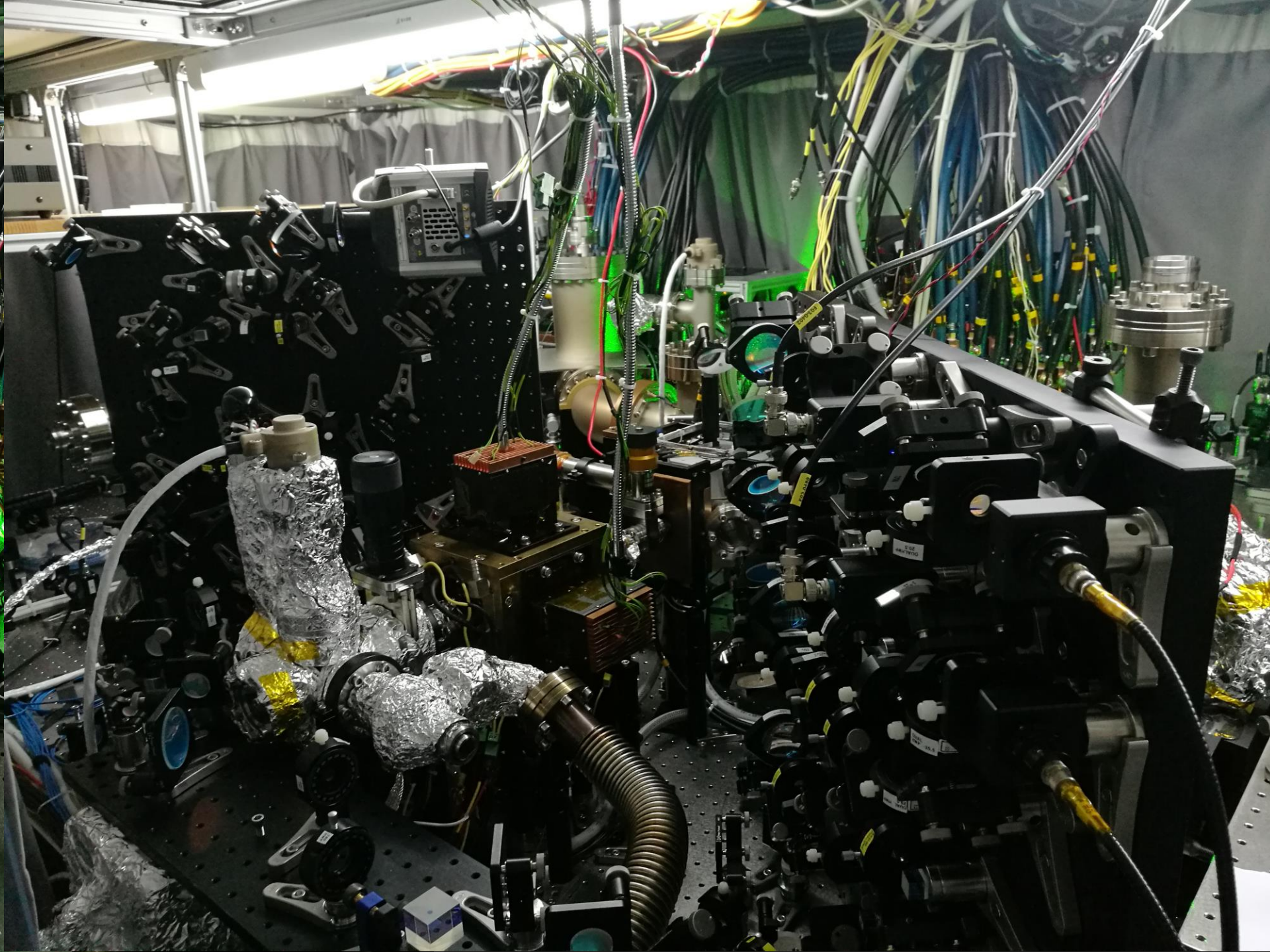
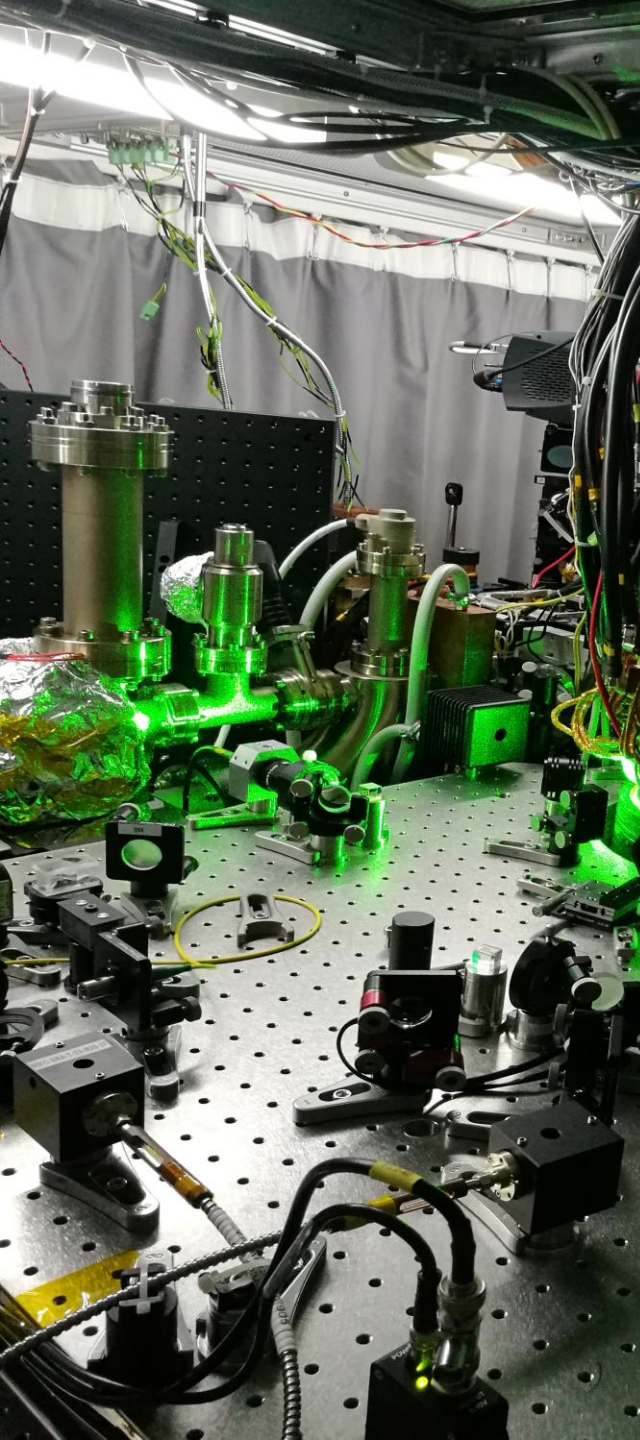




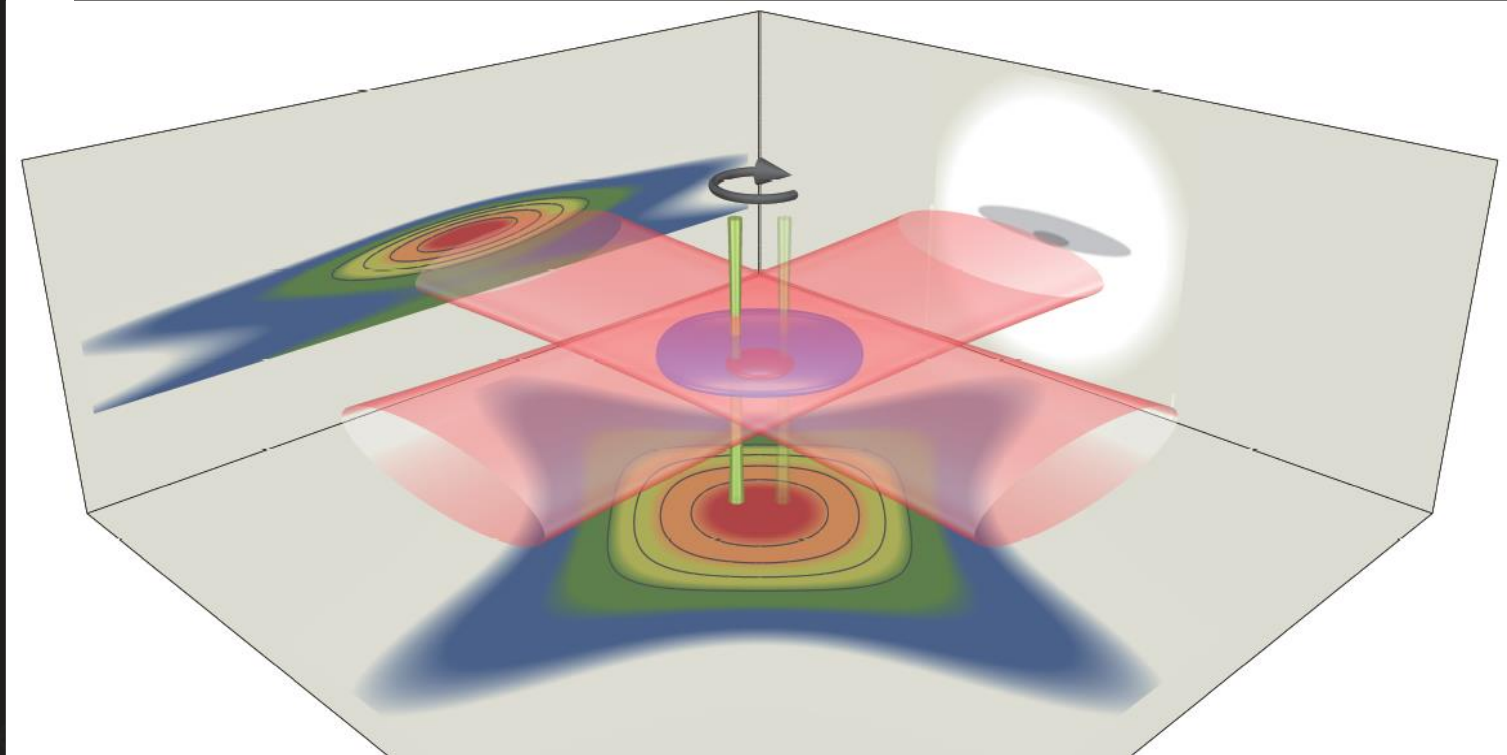








A disk-like trap



90° cross beam with aspect ratio of 4: $r_z = 48 \mu\text{m}$, $r_x = r_y = 200 \mu\text{m}$

Two species superfluid in a Disk-like trap

(1) K41: trap frequency $2\pi \times (20, 85)\text{Hz}$, trap depth 46.7 nK,
BEC 1.5×10^5 (**10^6 w/o Li6**)

$\mu = 18.5\text{nK}$, Tomas-Fermi radius (22.3 μm , 5.5 μm),

Peak Density $n_{peak} = 3.9 \times 10^{13} \text{cm}^{-3}$

(2) Li6: trap frequency $2\pi \times (40, 237)\text{Hz}$, trap depth 517nK,

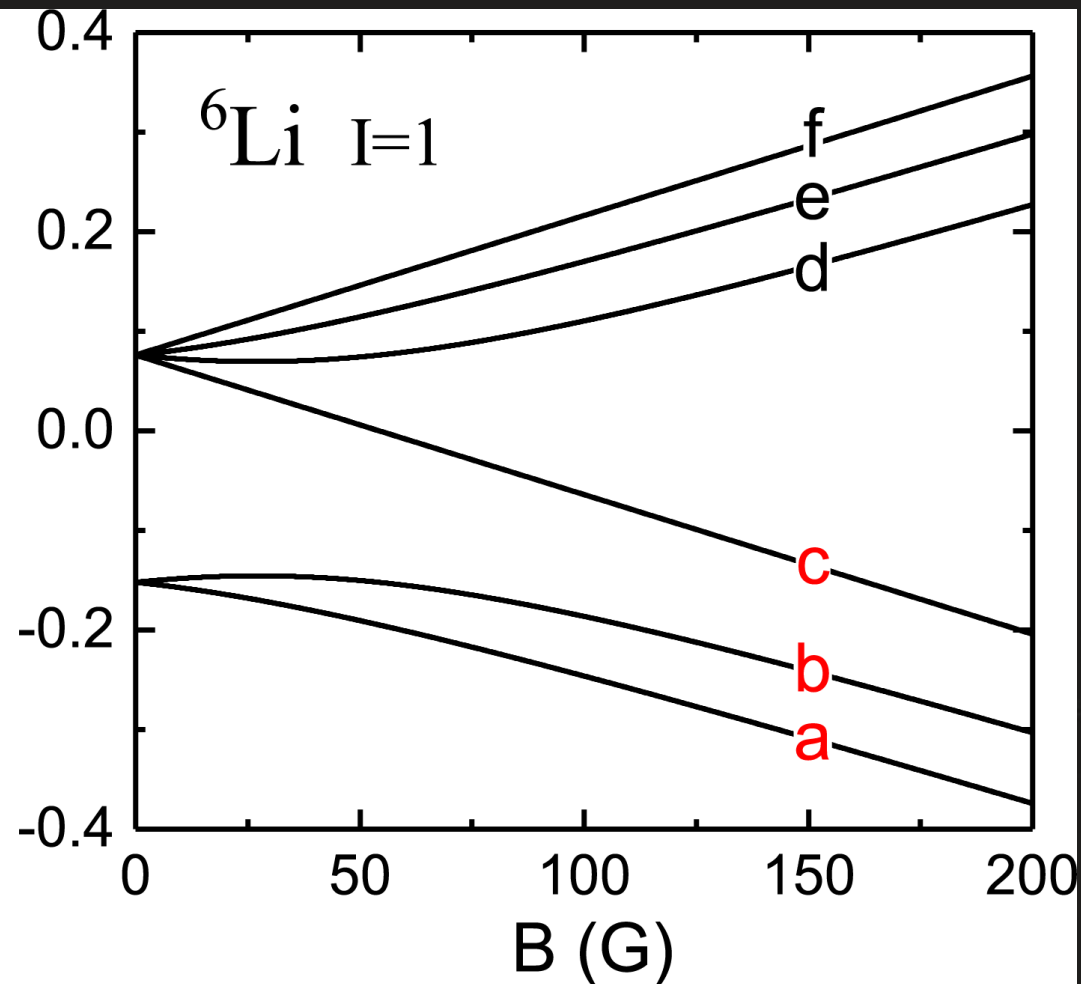
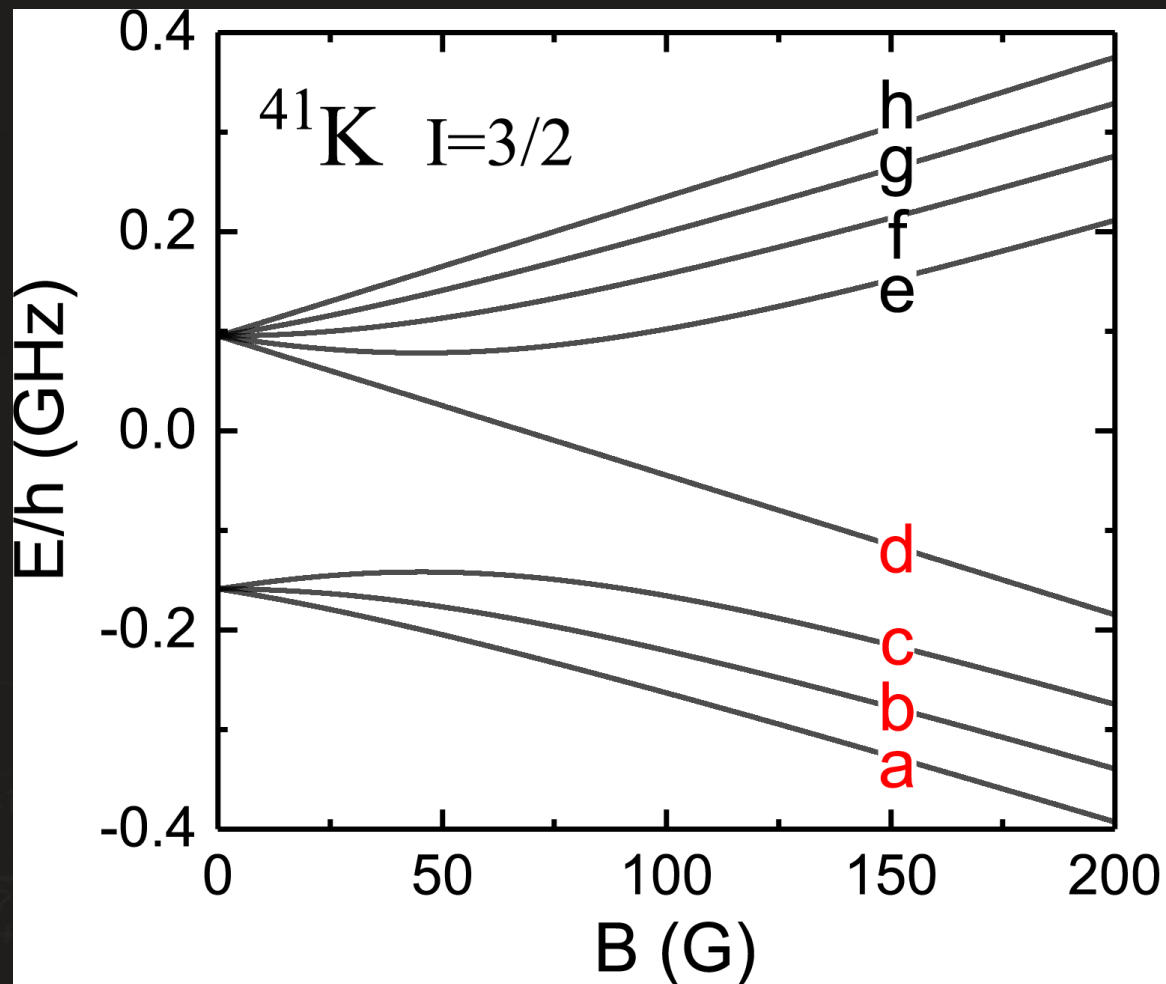
$N_{\uparrow} = N_{\downarrow} = 7.5 \times 10^5$ (**2×10^6 each w/o K41**)

$\mu = \xi E_F = 198\text{nK}$, Fermi radius (121 μm , 21 μm),

Peak Density $n_{peak} = 1.86 \times 10^{11} \text{cm}^{-3}$, $\frac{T}{T_F} = 0.07$,

$$\frac{1}{K_F} = 271 \text{ nm}$$

Collision Properties



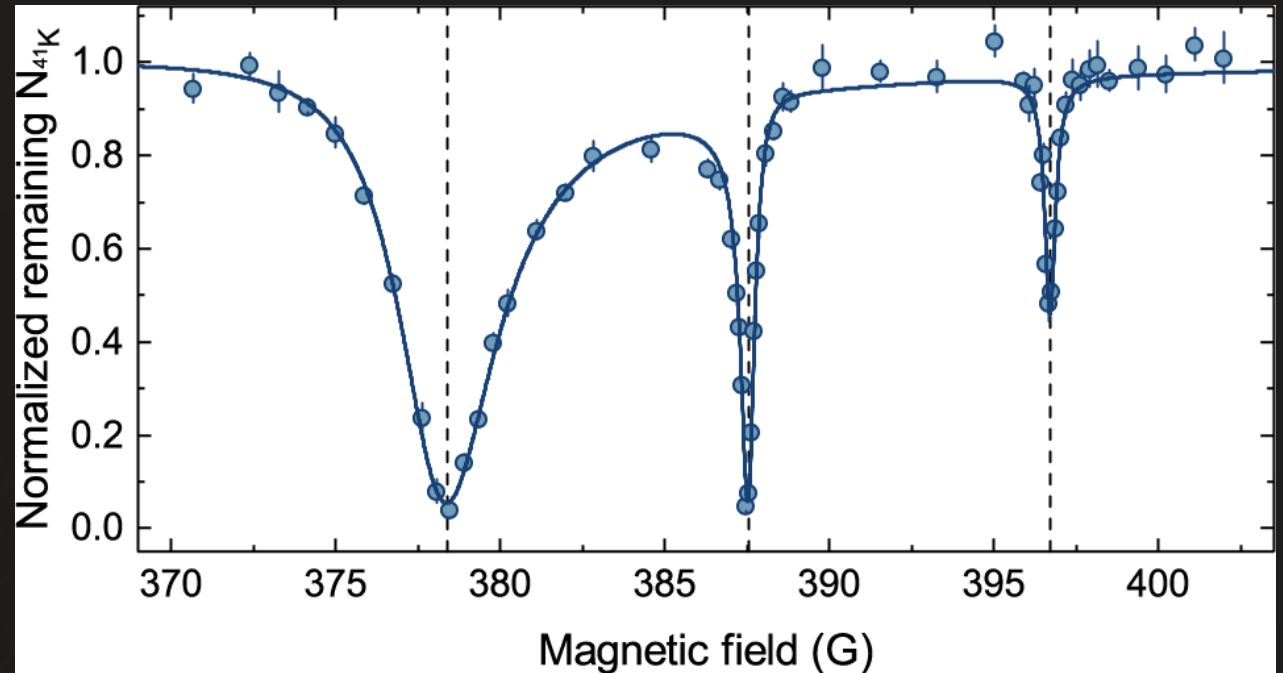
s-Wave Resonances of ^{41}K - ^6Li Mixture

Elastic channels:

$|aa\rangle$, $|ba\rangle$, $|ca\rangle$, $|cb\rangle$

Inelastic channels:

$|ab\rangle$, $|ac\rangle$, $|bb\rangle$, $|bc\rangle$, $|cc\rangle$, $|da\rangle$



Examples of loss spectroscopy of $|ca\rangle$ channel

Asymmetric Lorentz function

$$N \propto 1/(4(B - B_0)^2 + \omega^2)$$

where

$$\omega = 2\omega_0 / (1 + \exp(F \cdot (B - B_0)))$$

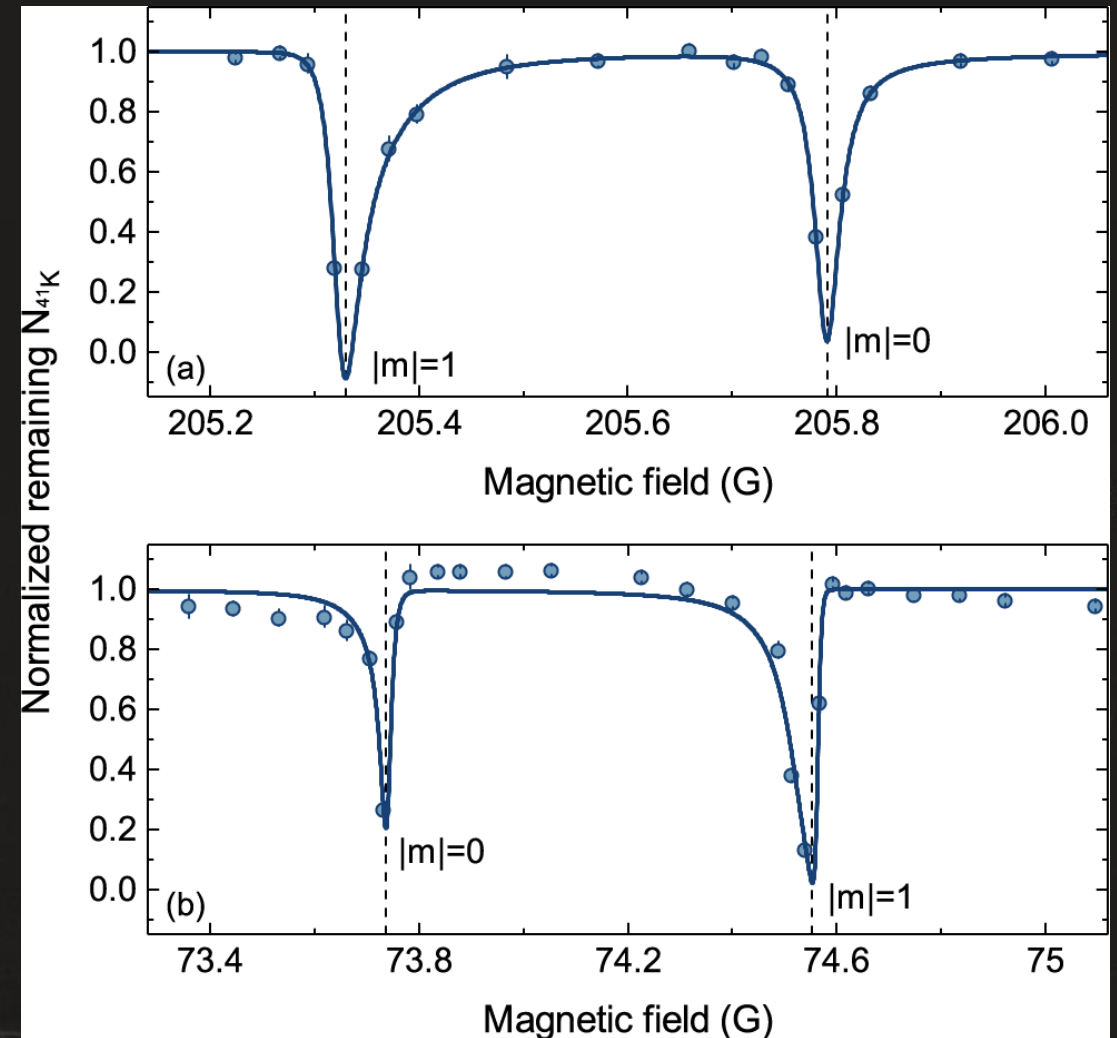
- 56 resonances
- All are narrow

p-Wave Resonances of ^{41}K - ^6Li Mixture

Elastic channels:

$|aa\rangle$, $|ba\rangle$, $|ca\rangle$, $|cb\rangle$

- 13 resonances
- Doublet split structure
- Inversed doublet distribution and asymmetric lineshape

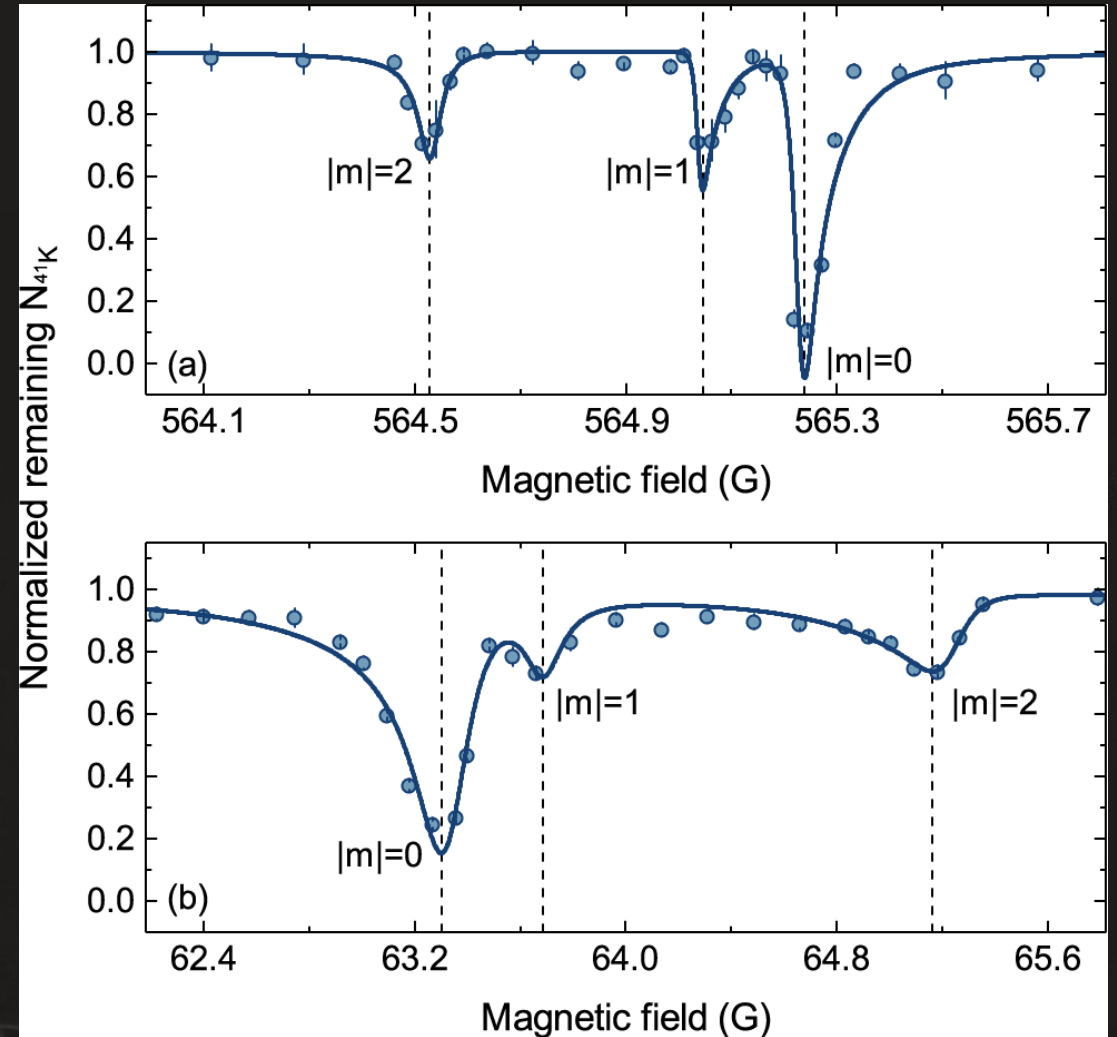


Examples of loss spectroscopy of $|cb\rangle$ channel

d-Wave Resonances of single ^{41}K

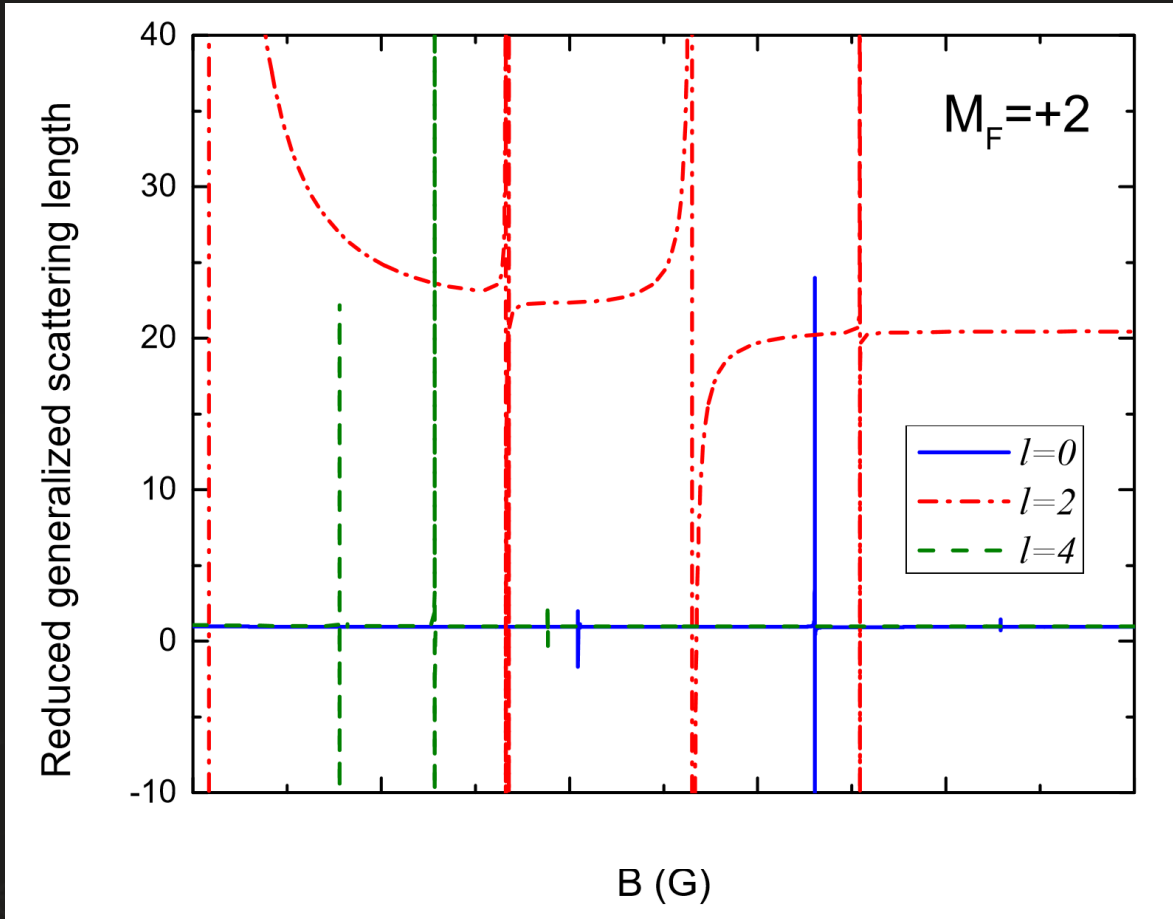
Channels: $|aa\rangle$, $|ab\rangle$, $|bb\rangle$, $|cc\rangle$

- 7 broad resonances
- Triplet split structure
- Inversed triplet distribution and asymmetric lineshape



Examples of loss spectroscopy of $|bb\rangle$ channel

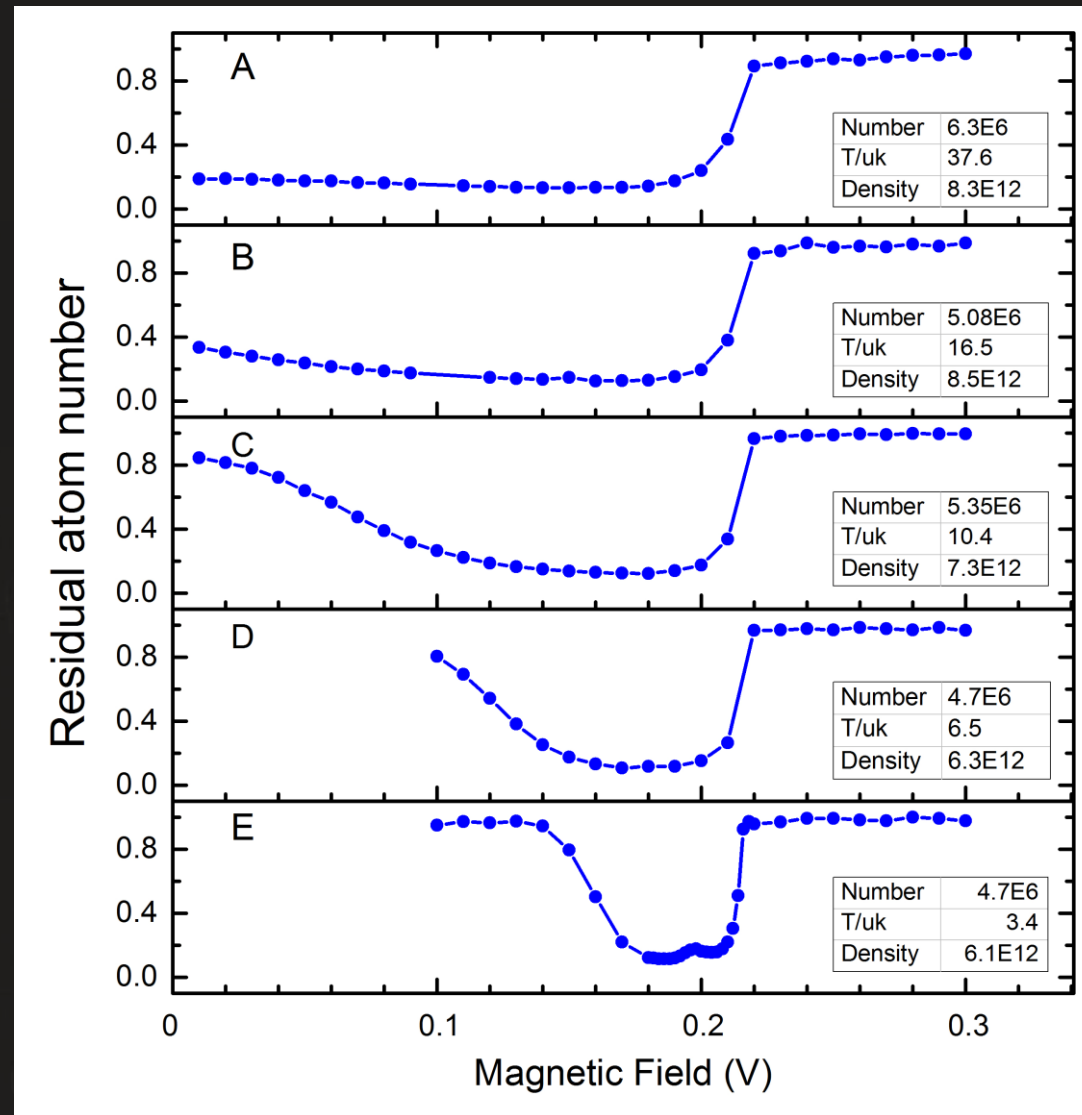
d-Wave Resonances in ^{41}K



MQDT calculation

- Rich d-wave resonances
 - Extremely wide shape resonance
 - Wide Feshbach resonance
 - Narrow Feshbach resonance
- Ideal high partial wave system for study three-body physics
- d-wave molecular BEC?

Loss curve measurement



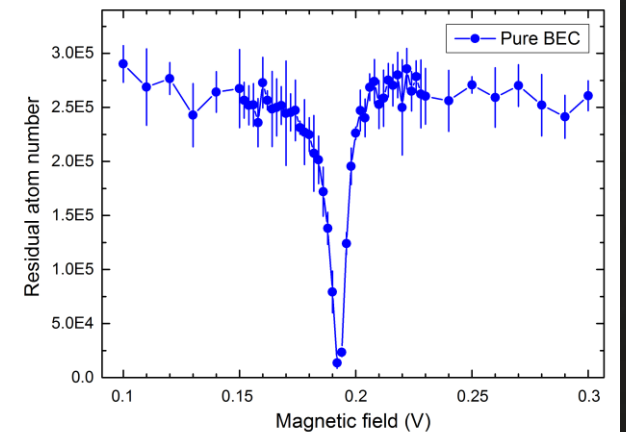
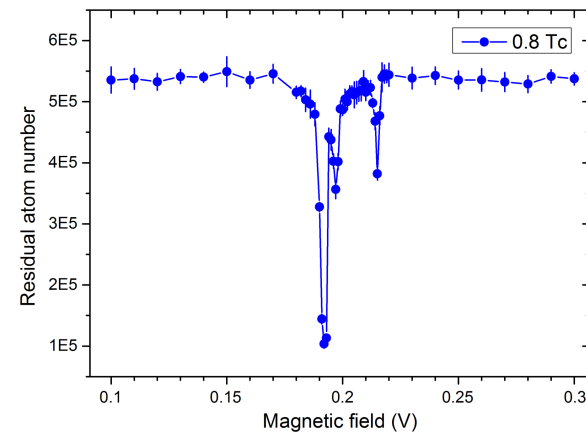
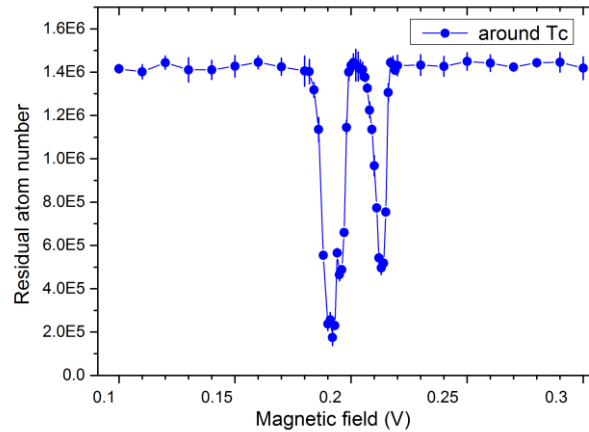
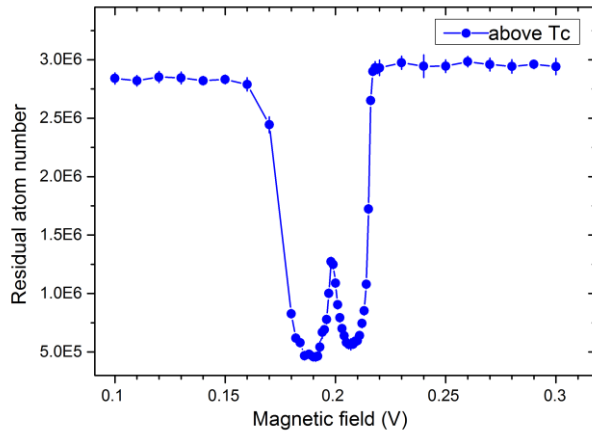
Loss curve measurement

Prepare BEC at
300 G

Quench B field to
 $B < B_0$

Holding at target
B field

Imaging at 300 G



How to understand?

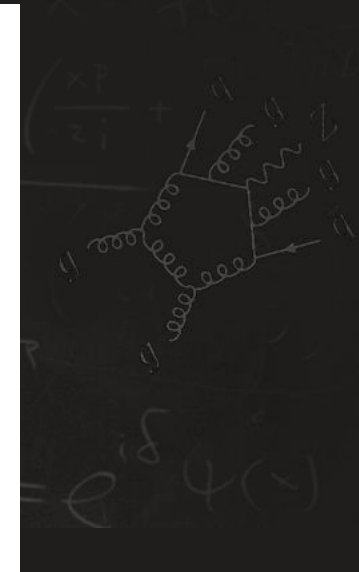
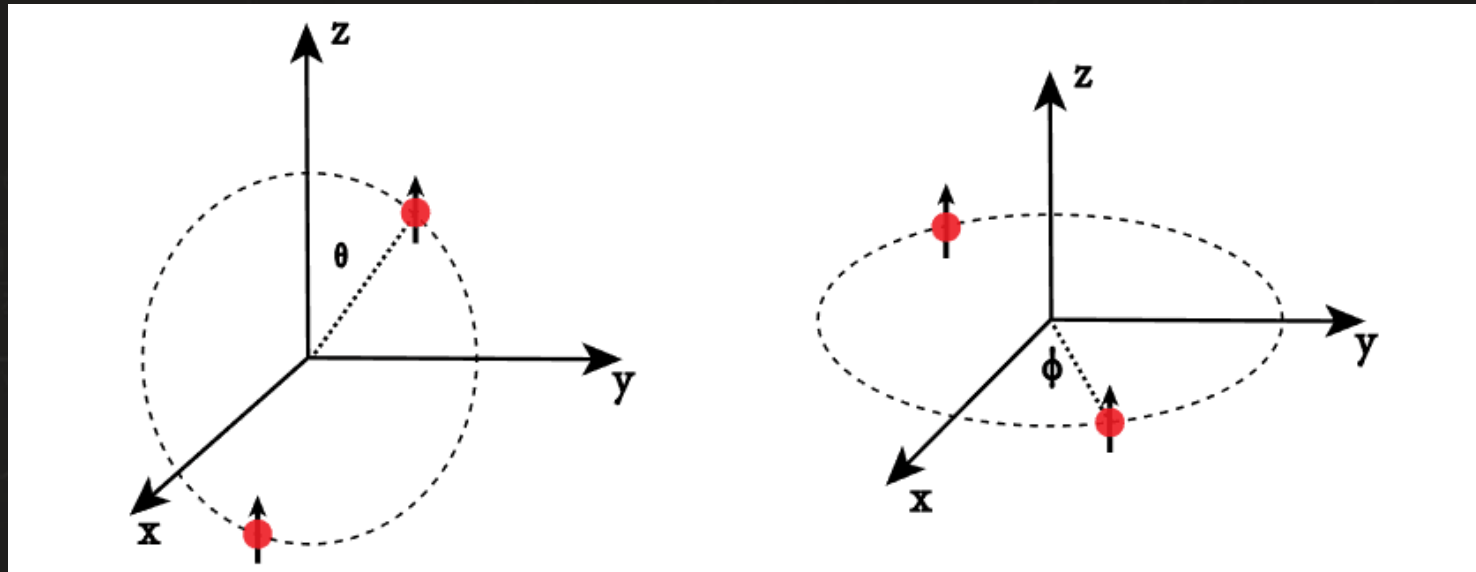
- The d-wave bound states with different magnetic quantum number ($|m_l|=0,1,2$) will be split due to anisotropic dipole-dipole interaction.
- The binding energy can be estimated with first order perturbation theory:

$$E_m = E^{(0)} + \langle \psi_m | V_d(\vec{r}) | \psi_m \rangle$$

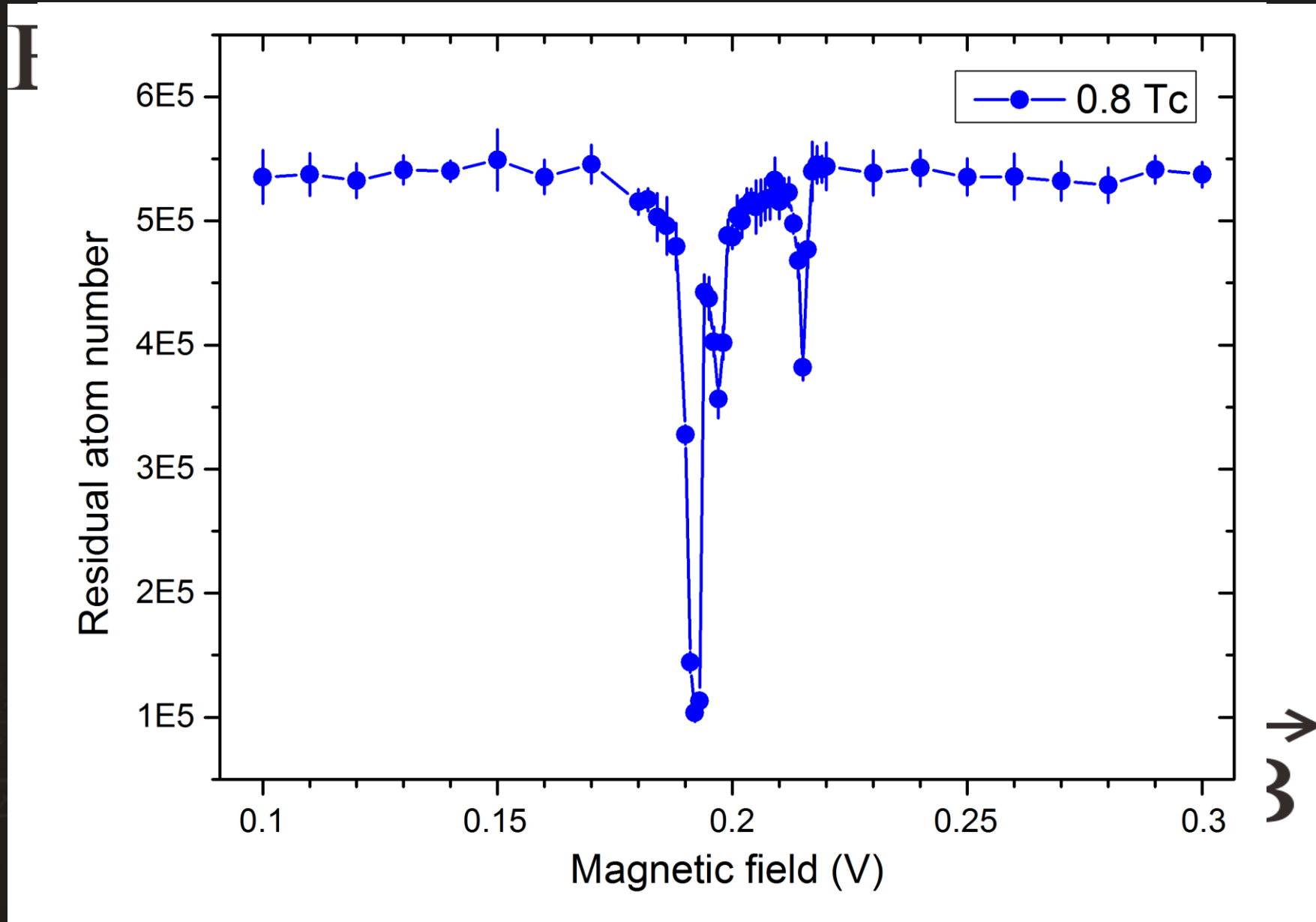
$$V_d(\vec{r}) = \frac{d^2}{m} \frac{1 - \cos \theta_r}{r^3}$$

Zero energy bound state wave function of pure Van de Waals interaction :

$$\psi_m(\vec{r}) = Y_{2m}(\theta, \phi) R_{\ell=2}(r)$$



How to understand?



Binding energy measurement

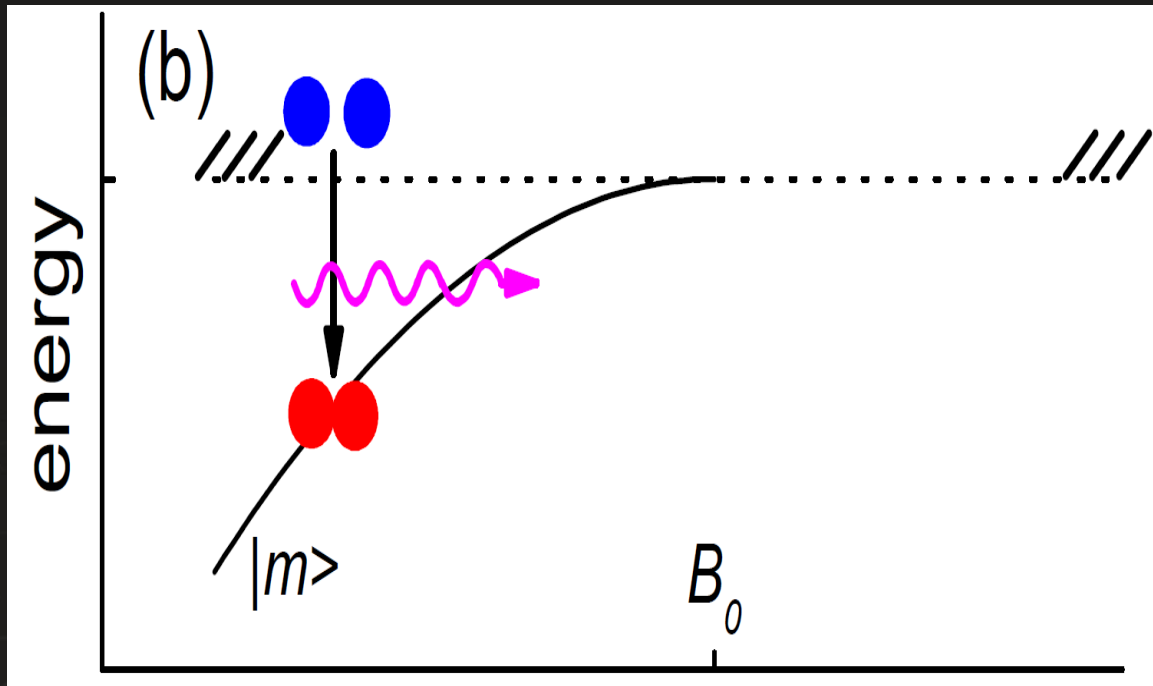
Prepare BEC at
300 G

Quench B field to
 $B < B_0$

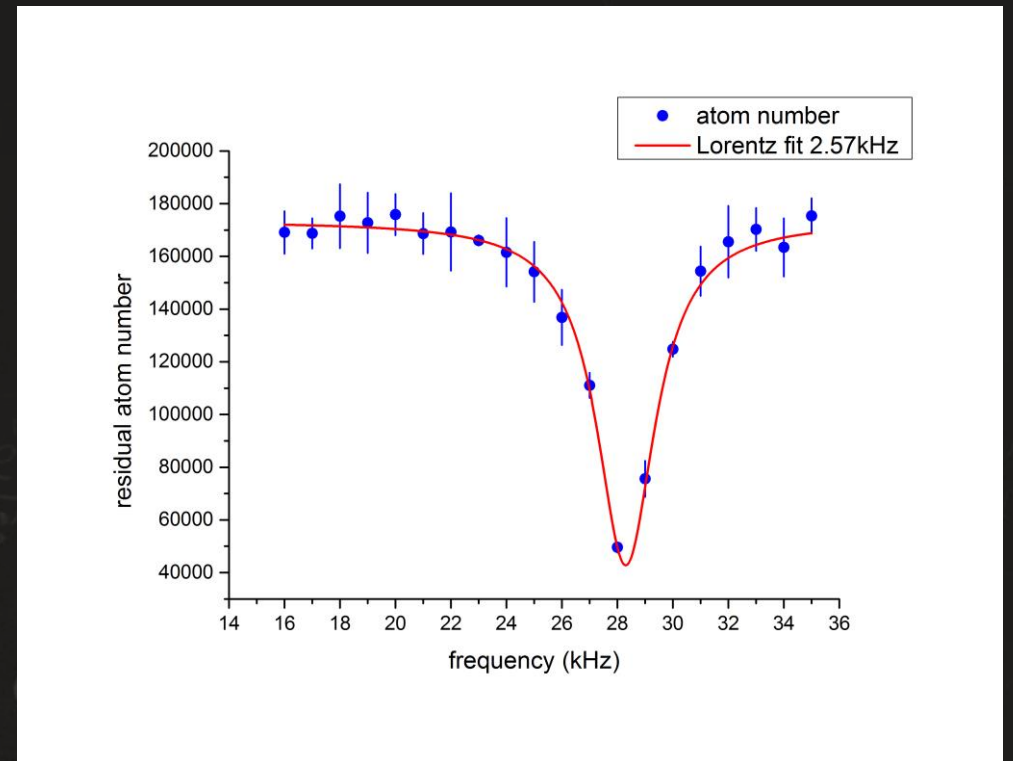
Holding at target
B field

Modulation for
200 ms

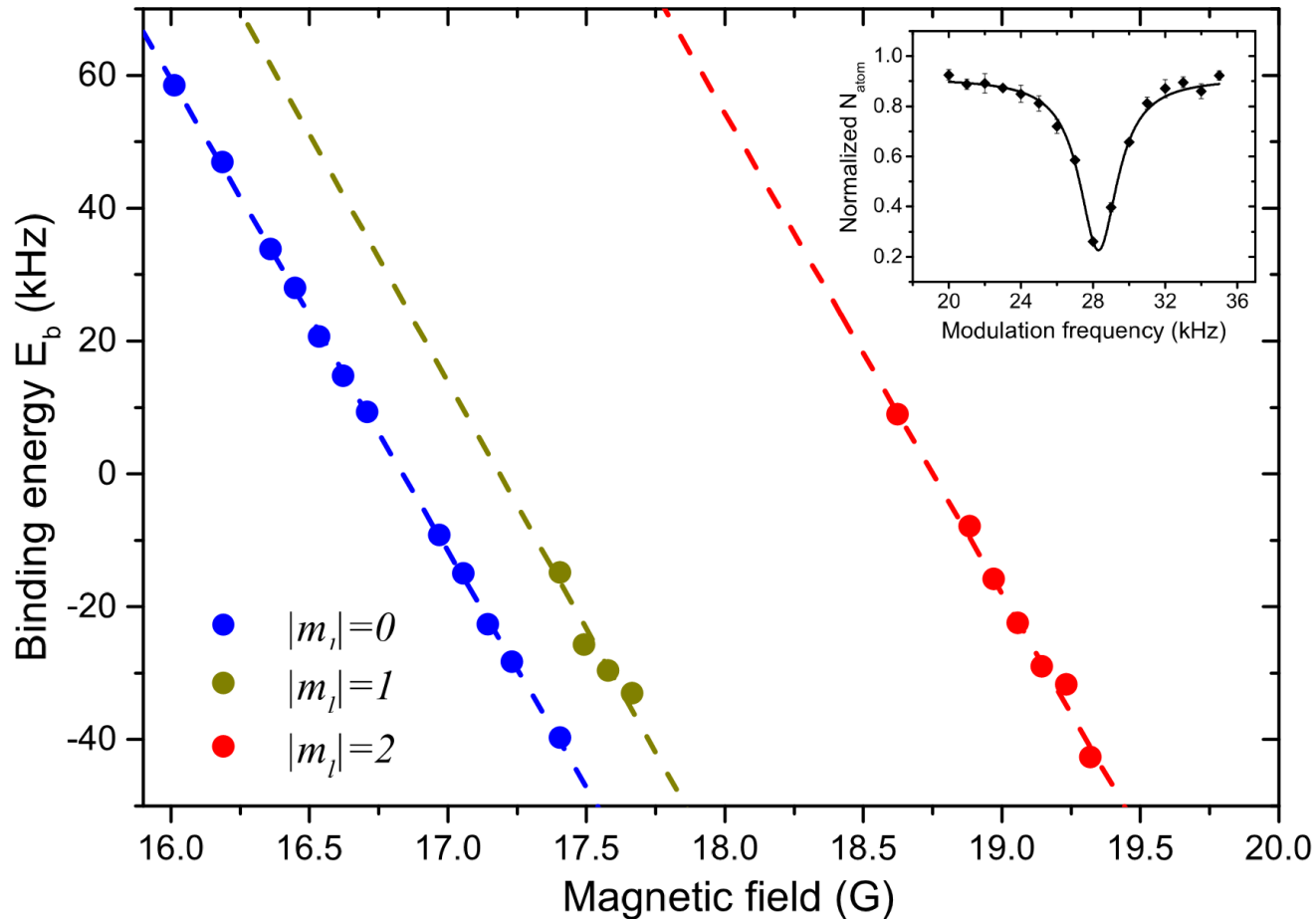
Imaging at 300 G



oscillatory magnetic field drives the transition
from the scattering state to the molecular state



Binding energy measurement



Resonance	Position (G)	Slope (kHz/G)
$ m_l =0$	16.833(3)	70.36(58)
$ m_l =0$	17.19(6)	74(12)
$ m_l =0$	18.75(1)	72(2)



Splitting	1.56 (6) G 0.357 (60) G
Branching Ratio	4.37 (75) : 1

Lifetime measurement

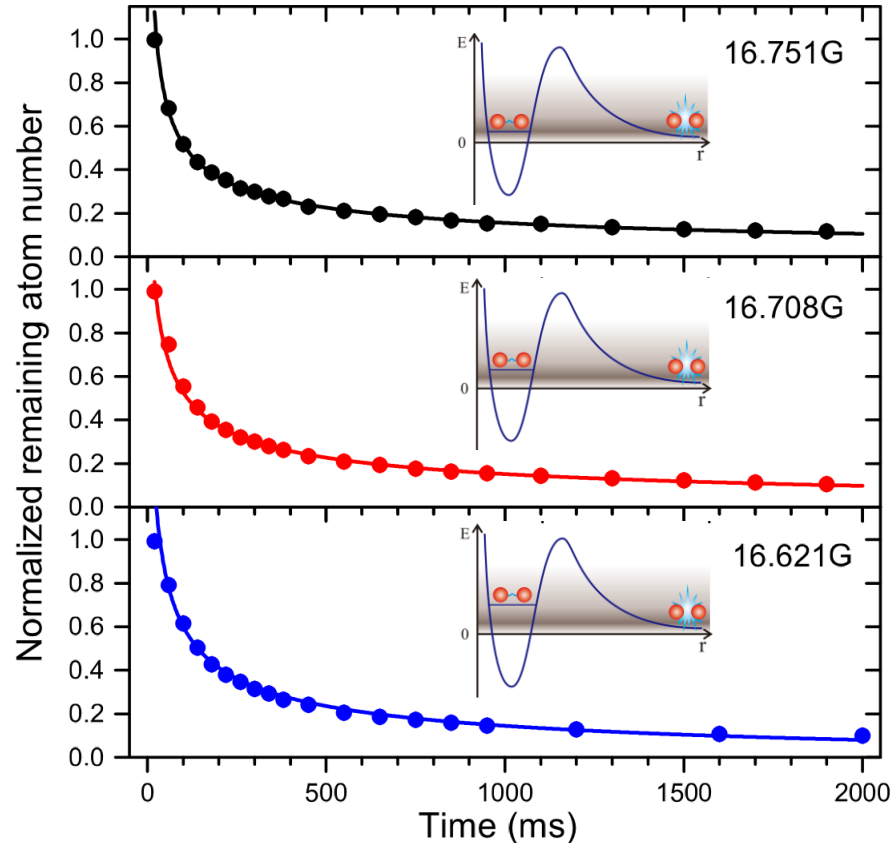
Prepare gas slightly below T_c at 300 G

Quench B field to $B < B_0$

Ramp B field to B'

Holding trap

Imaging at 300 G



➤ Gas temperature \sim about 300 nK or 6.2 kHz

➤ Binding energy $\sim k_b T_c$, $1.5 k_b T_c$, $2.5 k_b T_c$

➤ Simple double exponential fits ~ 100 ms $1/e$ decay constant

Loss mechanism

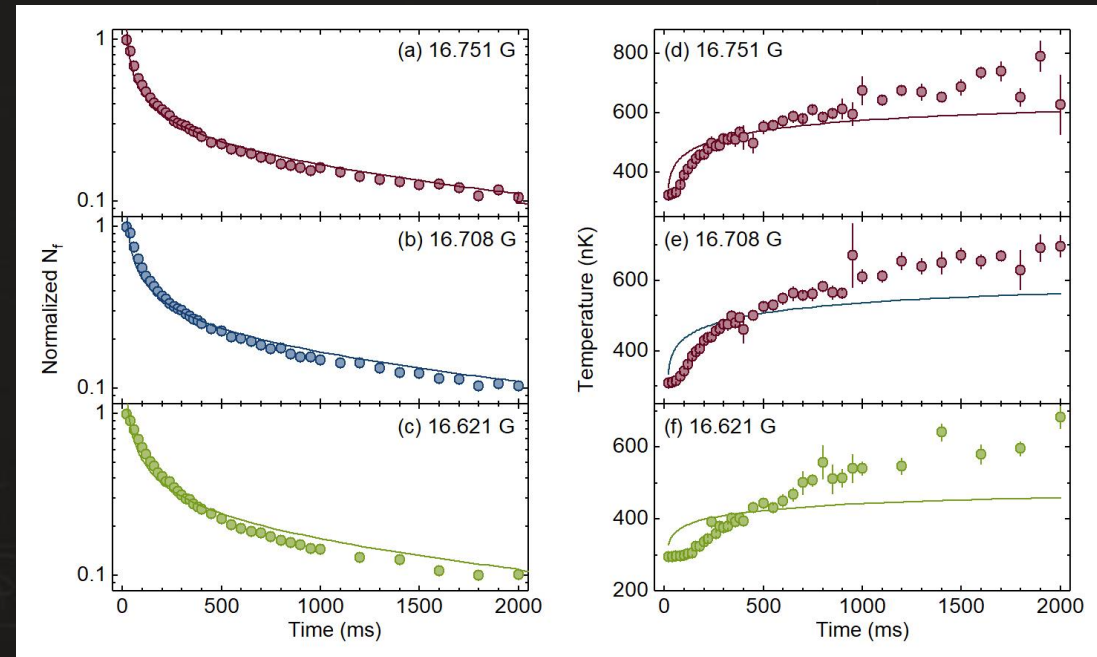
In the vicinity of a scattering resonance, the temperature of the cloud increases due to the three-body loss, for s-wave resonance, we have:

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = K_3 \left(\frac{m\bar{\omega}^2}{2\sqrt{3}\pi k_B} \right)^3 \frac{N^2 T + T_h}{T^3}$$

Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 123201 (2003)

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\frac{N}{\tau_1} - K_3 \left(\frac{m\bar{\omega}^2}{2\sqrt{3}\pi k_B} \right)^3 \frac{N^3}{T^3}$$

$$K_3 = \frac{1}{\tau_3} \left(\frac{m\bar{\omega}^2}{2\sqrt{3}\pi k_B T_0} \right)^{-3}$$



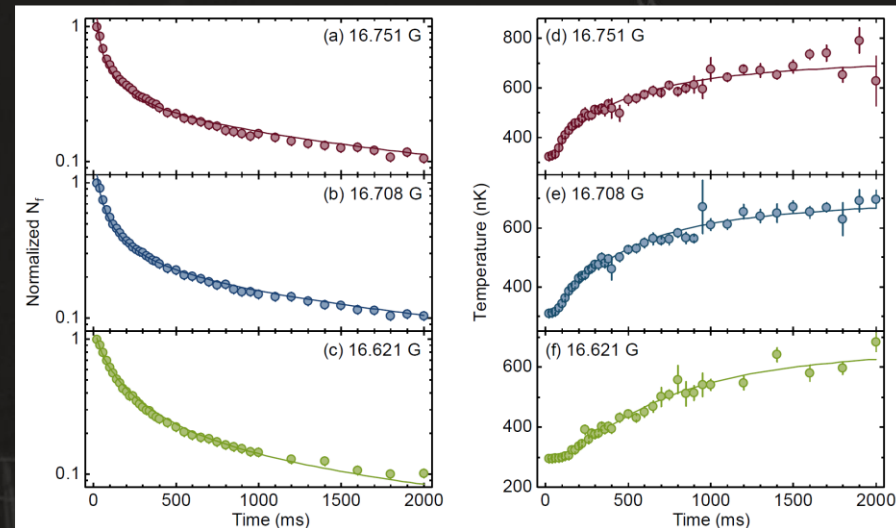
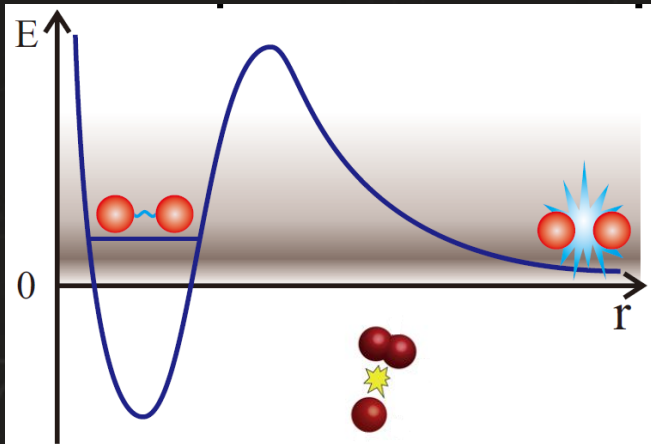
Bad fitting quality, why?

Loss mechanism

- We use a simple analytic form to directly fit the experimental data of

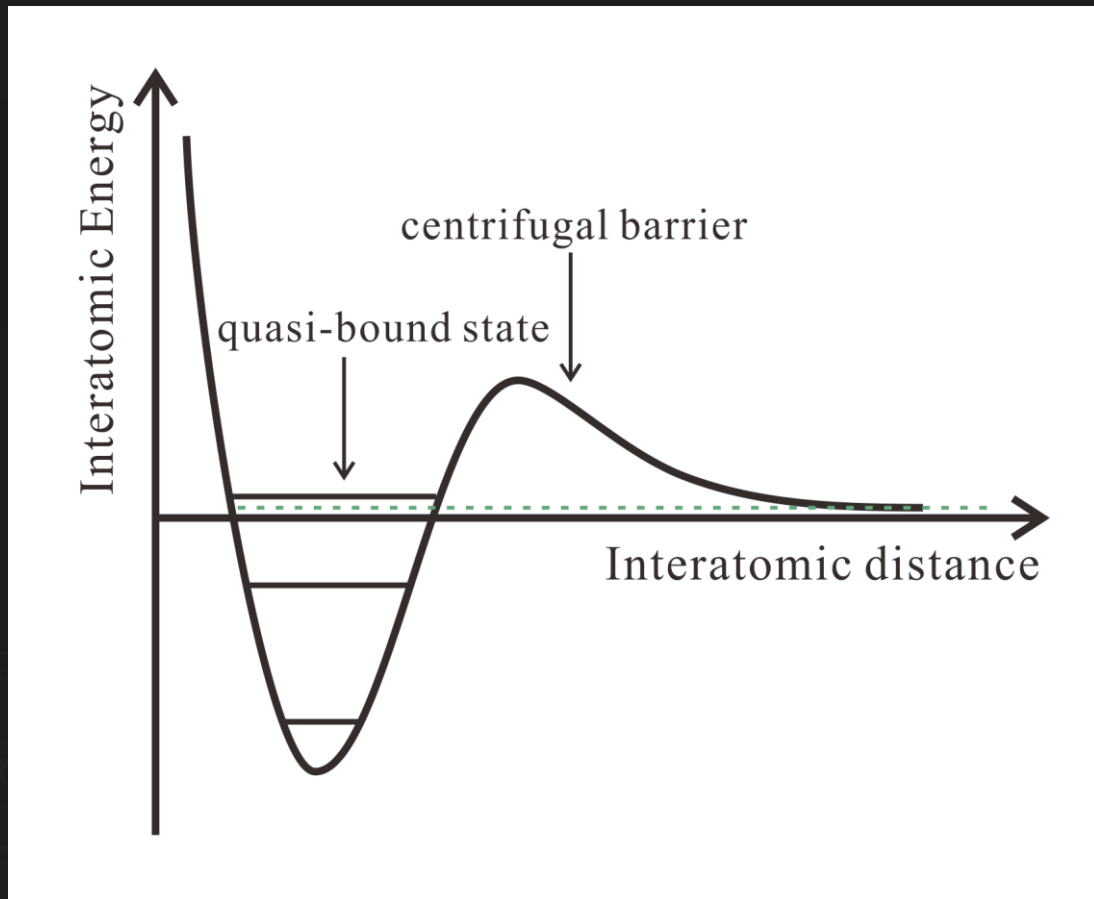
$$T(t) = T_0 \left[1 + \frac{\alpha}{1 + \left(\frac{\tau_h}{t} \right)^\beta} \right]$$

- We assume that $K_3(T) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{\gamma E_b}{k_B T}\right)$, where $\exp\left(-\frac{\gamma E_b}{k_B T}\right)$ is proportional to the two-body scattering amplitude of high partial wave resonance.



Clearly shows the temperature dependence of K_3

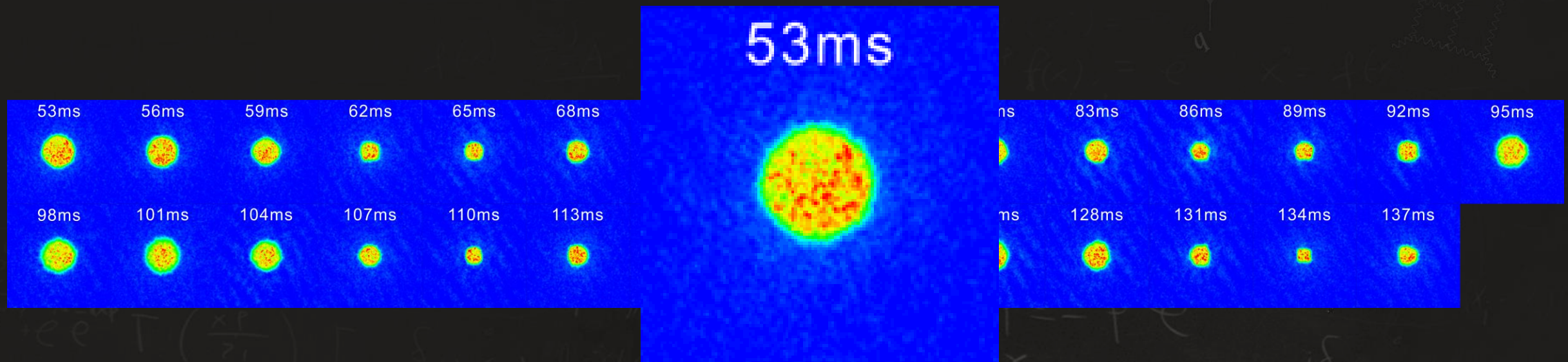
Searching for d-wave molecular



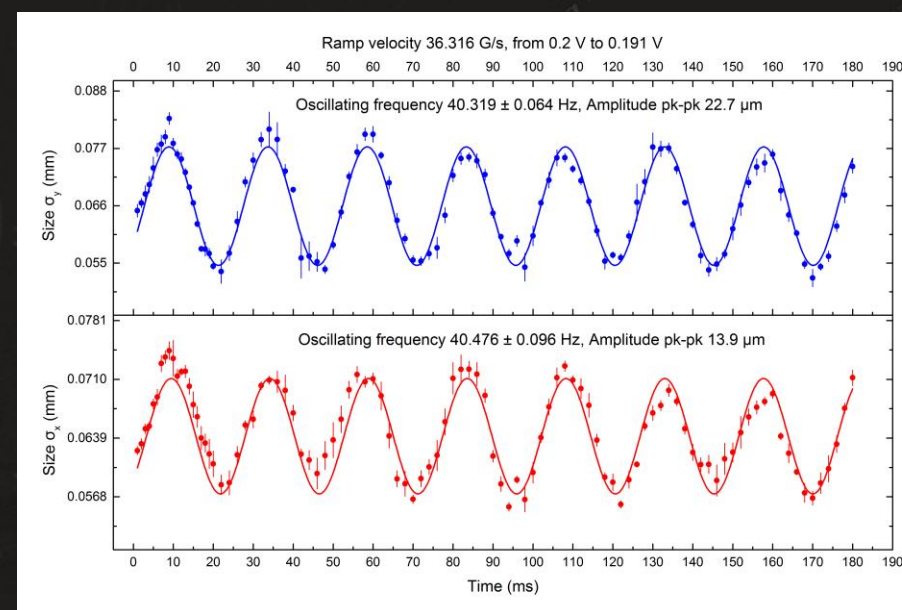
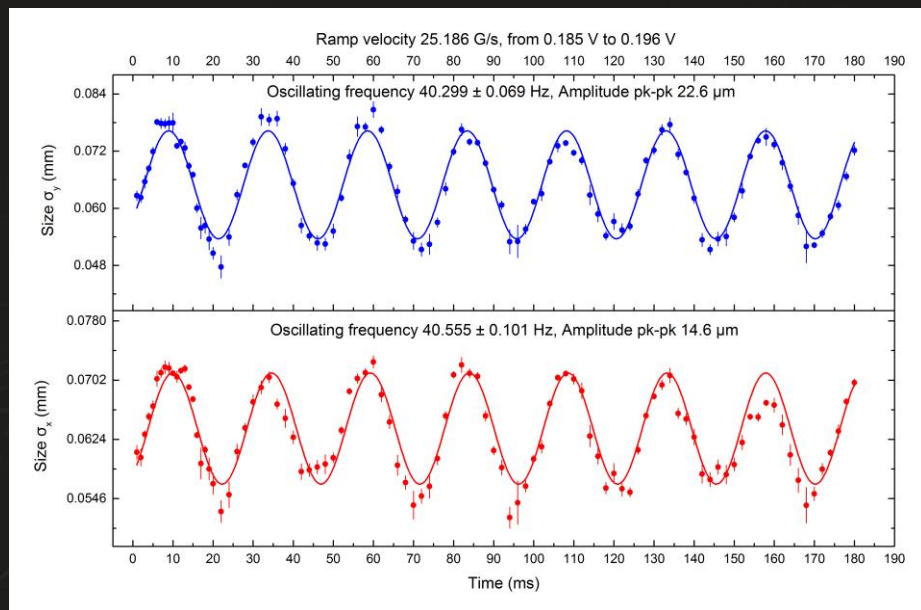
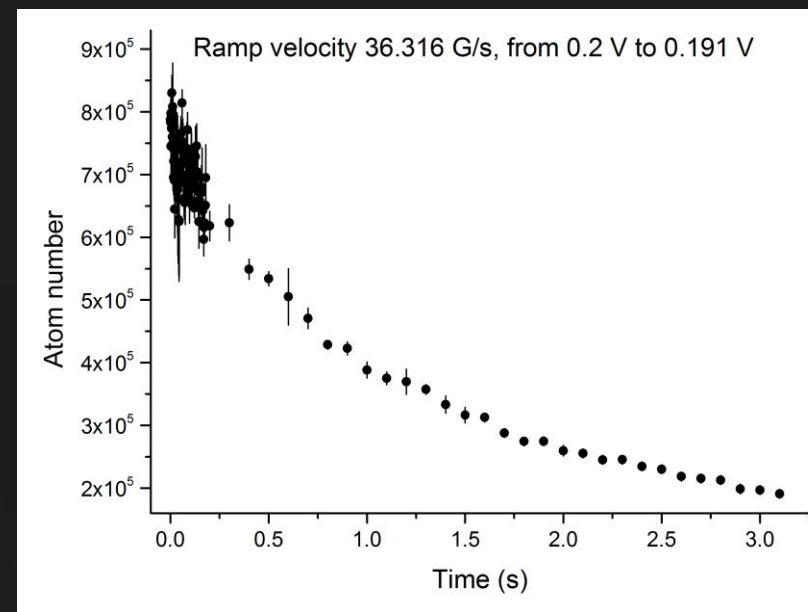
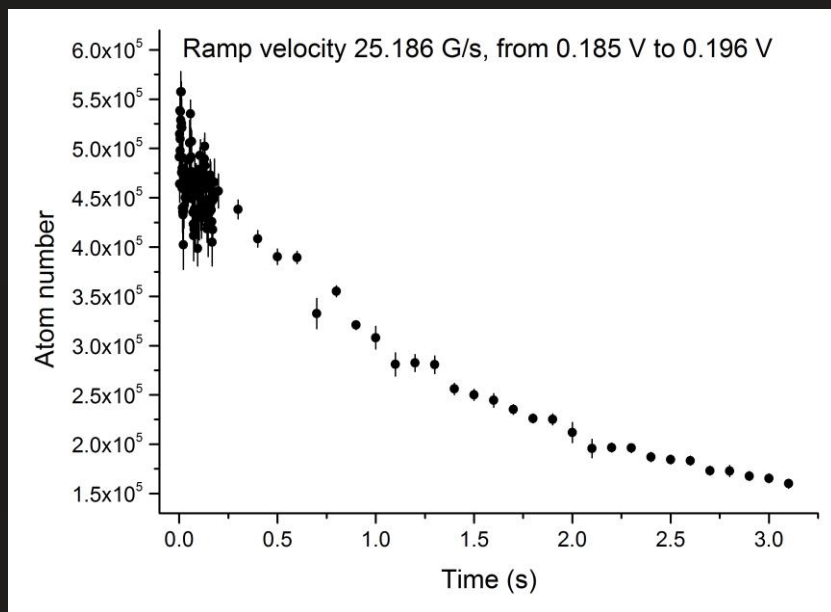
Two mechanism of molecular formation:

- Thermal atoms, d-wave to d-wave, tunneling
- Pure BEC, d-wave coupled with s-wave

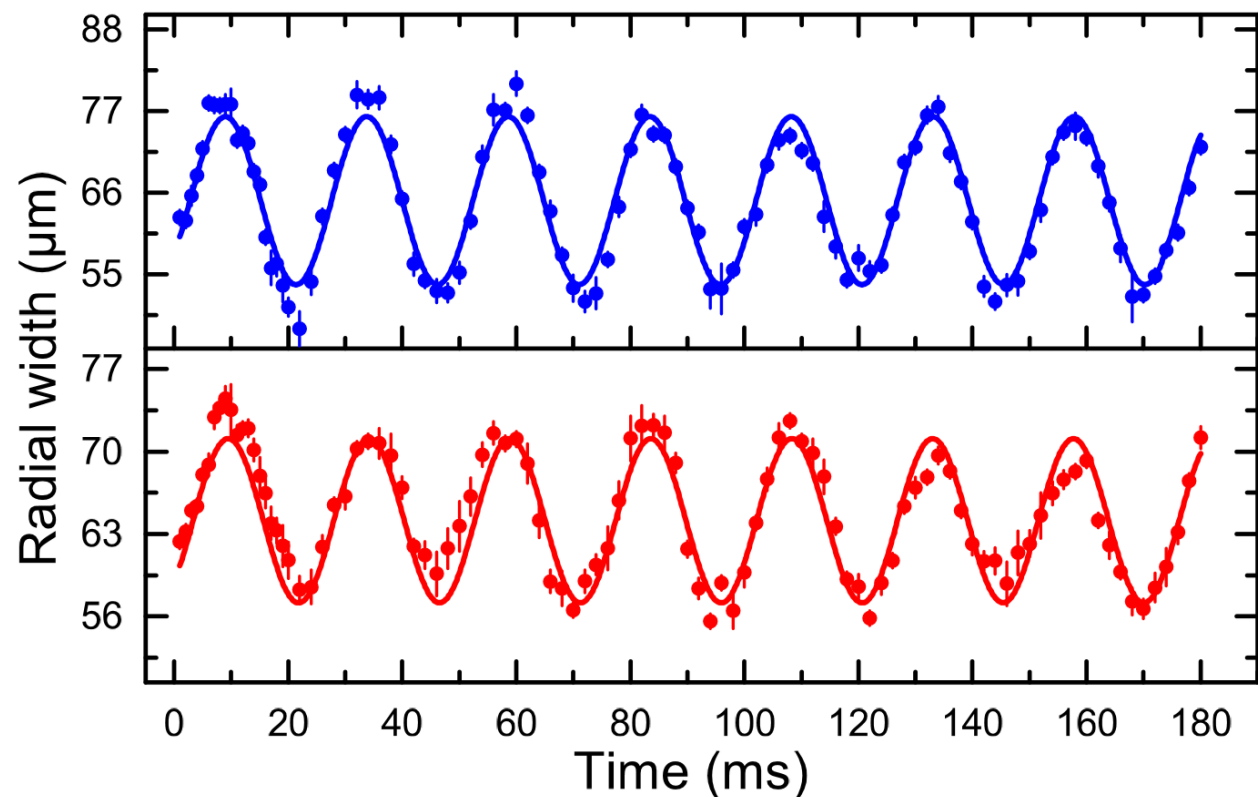
Striking collective oscillation



Striking collective oscillation

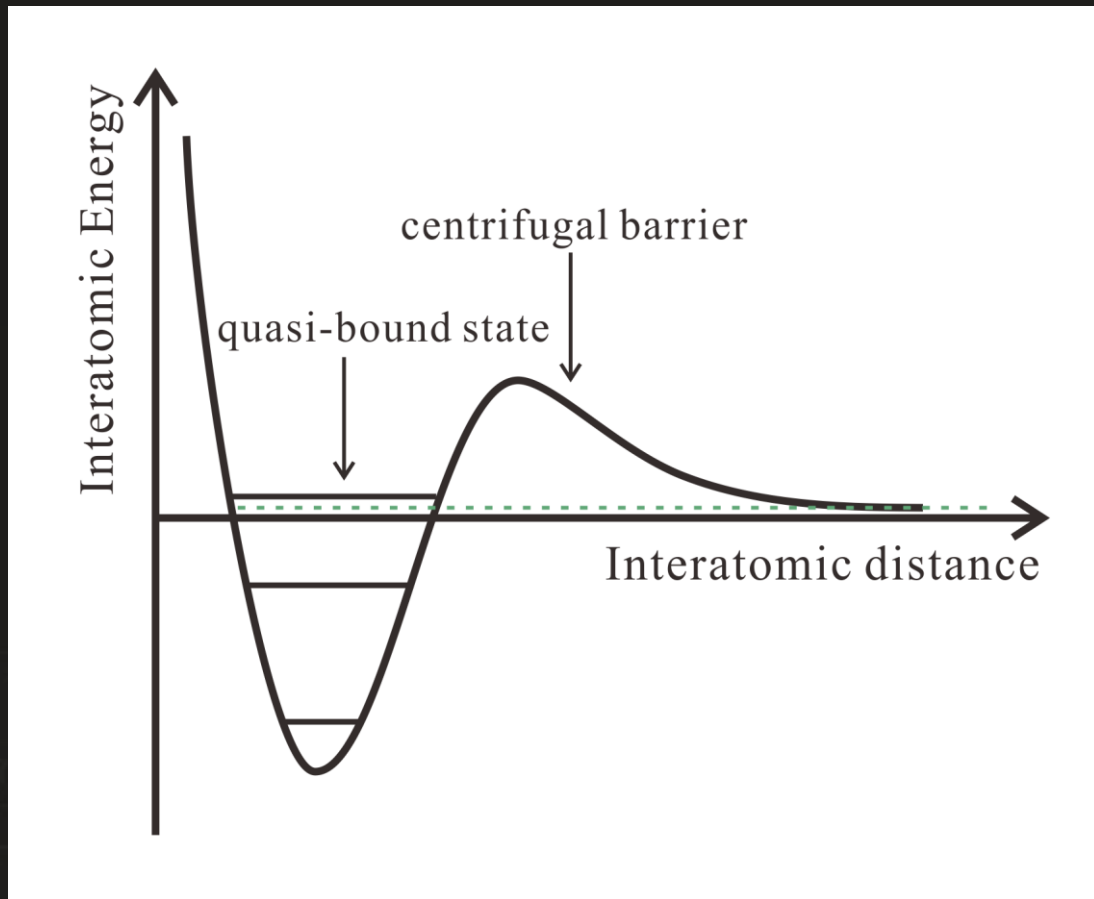


Striking collective oscillation



Ramp direction	upward	downward
Ramp velocity (G/s)	36.3	35.2
Oscillation frequency (Hz)	40.56	40.48
Oscillation frequency/Trap frequency	~1.95	

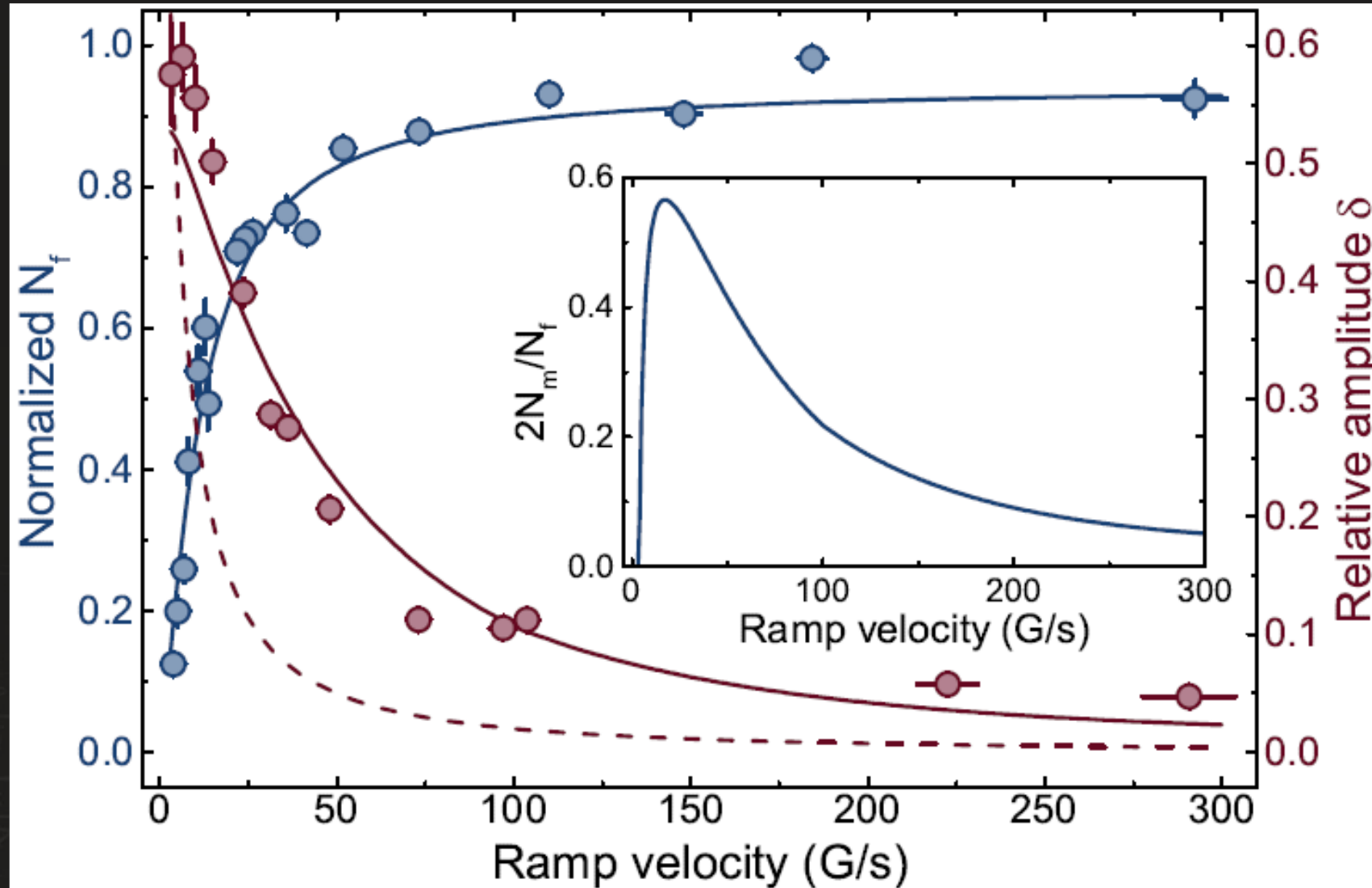
How to detecting d-wave molecular?



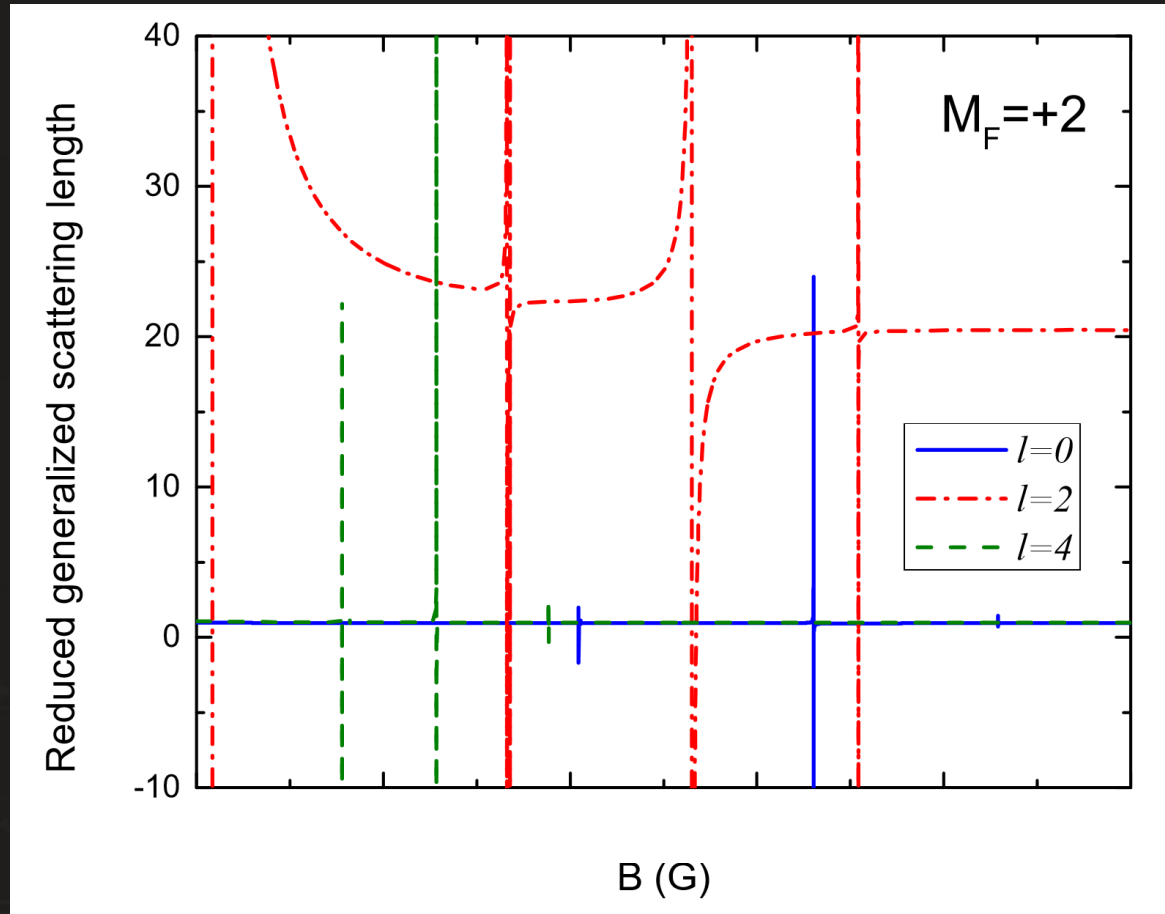
Difficulty:

- Very long lifetime quasi-bound state, disassociation is impossible
- rf spectroscopy is impossible
- Gravity lag versus trap depth?

Ramp velocity versus amplitude and BEC number



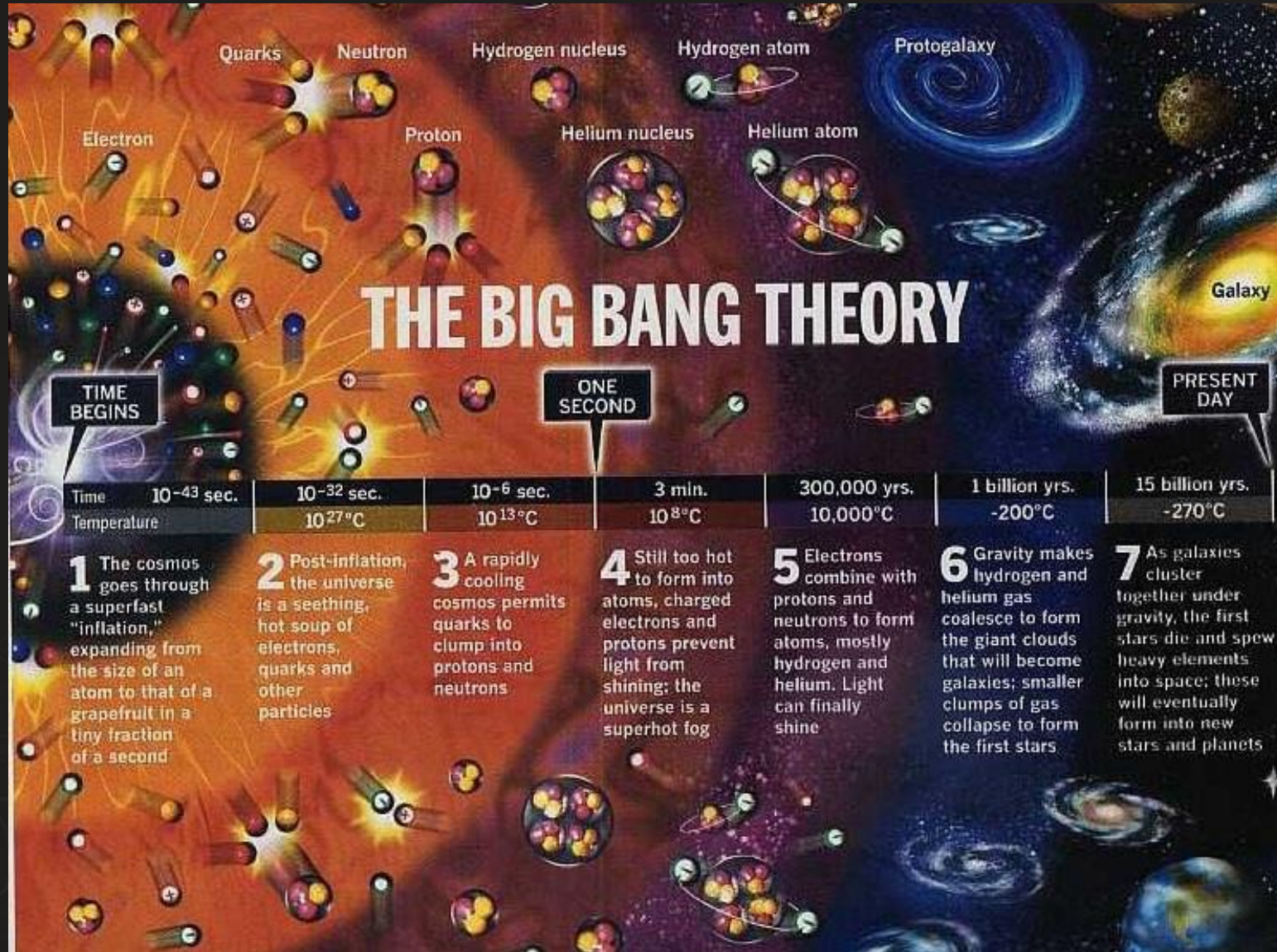
d-wave Resonance



MQDT calculation based on
experiment data by Bo Gao

- Rich d-wave resonances
 - Extremely wide shape resonance
 - Wide Feshbach resonance
 - Narrow Feshbach resonance
- Ideal high partial wave system for study three-body physics
- d-wave molecular BEC?

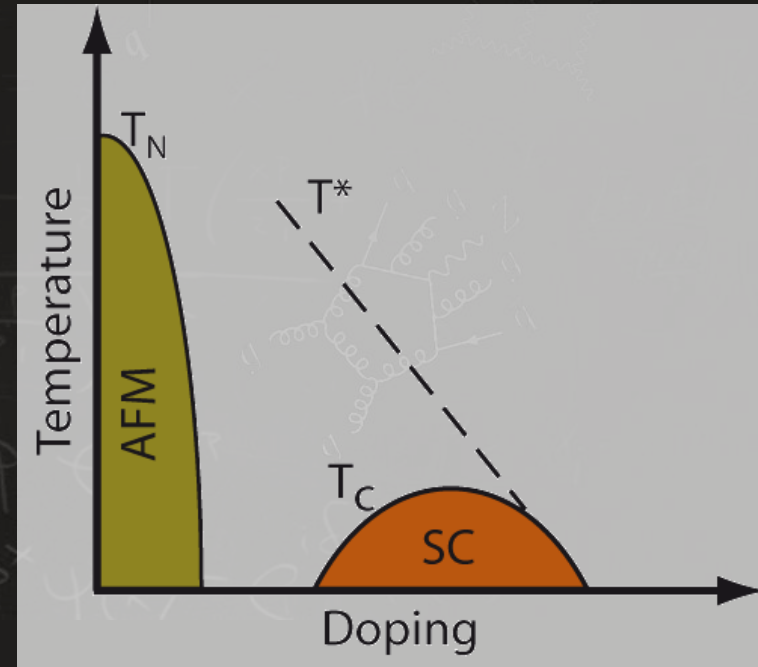
Outlook——Three-body physics of high partial wave collision



Outlook—Li-K mixture in optical lattices

Simulating motion of electrons, understand complex problem in condense matter physics

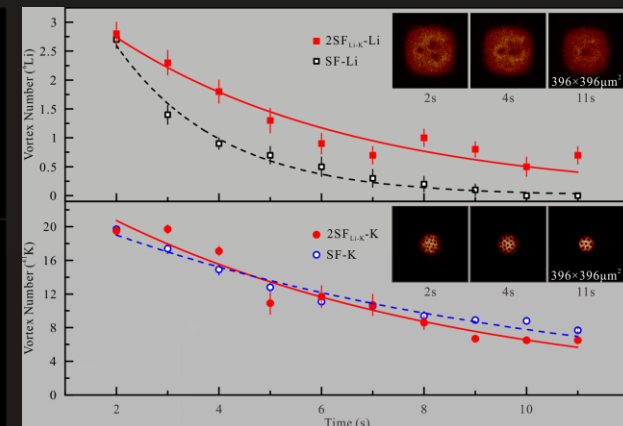
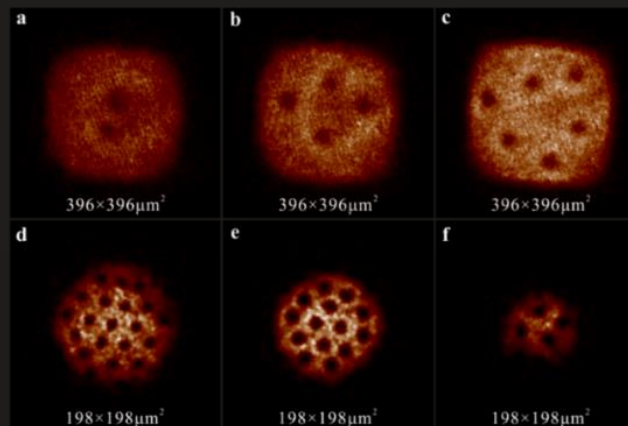
- Dopped Fermi Hubbard model
- Non-equilibrium dynamics
- FFLO
- Breached pair superfluidity
- Crystalline
- ...



Bose and Fermi superfluid mixture

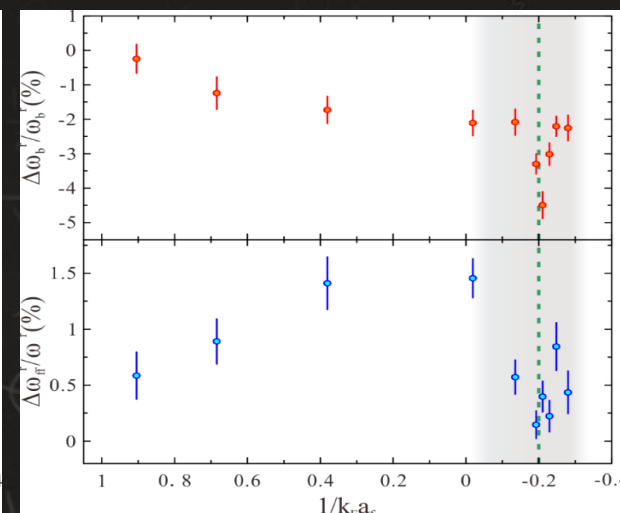
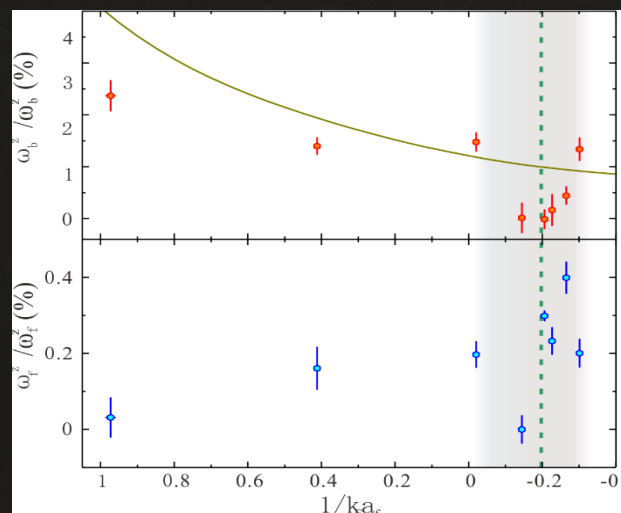
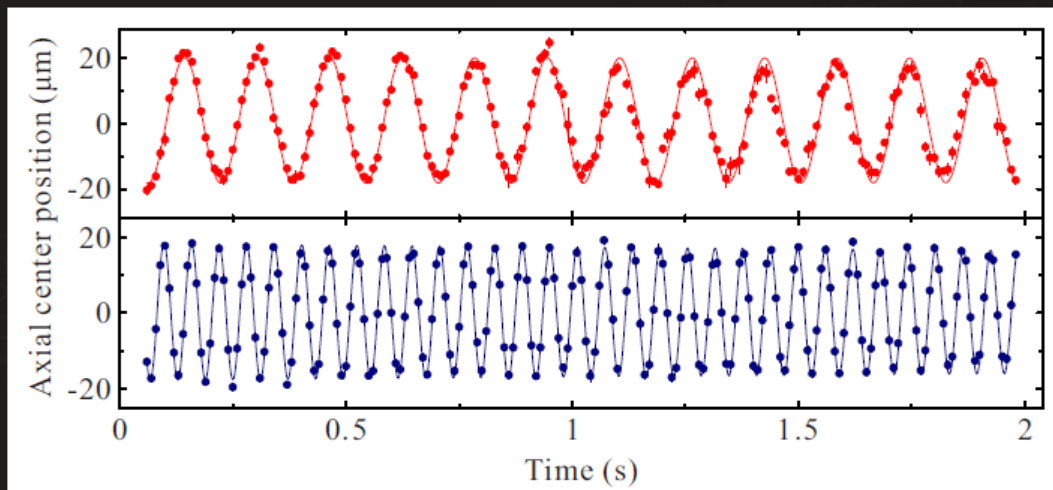
✓ ${}^6\text{Li}/{}^{41}\text{K}$ vortex lattices

Yao et al., PRL 117, 145301 (2016)

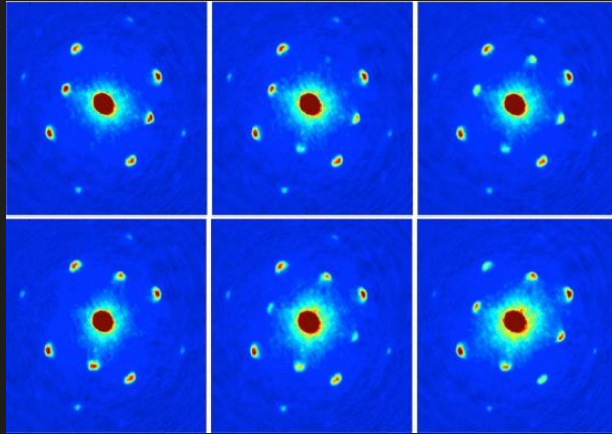


✓ ${}^6\text{Li}-{}^{41}\text{K}$ collective oscillation

Wu et al., arXiv:1705.04496, PRB 97, 020506(R) (2018)

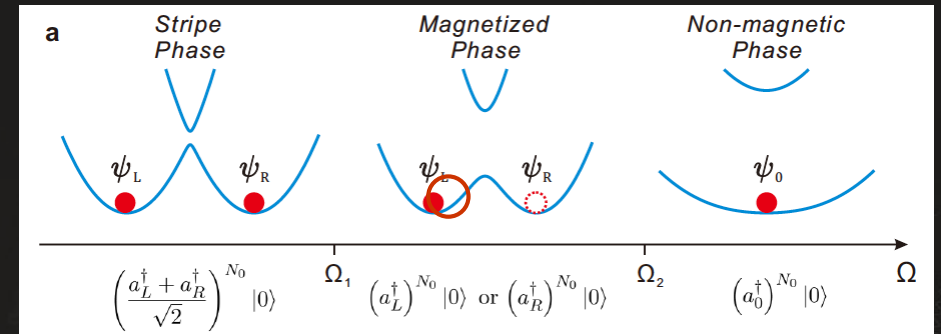


BEC with spin-orbit coupling



Artificial Gauge potential with neutral atoms (^{87}Rb)

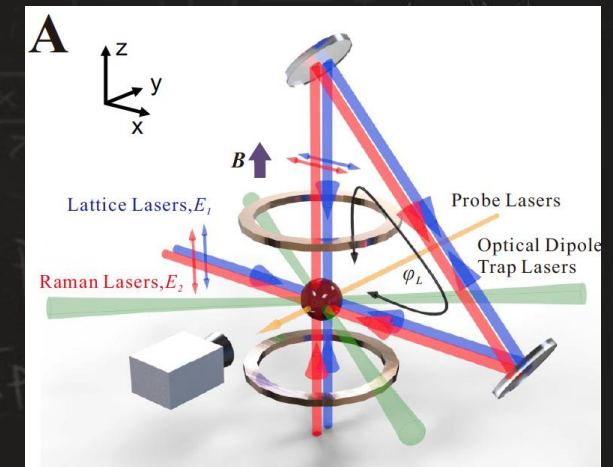
- Characterizing the phase diagram of 1d spin-orbit coupling at zero temperature [PRL 109, 115301 (2012)]



- Determination of 1d SOC phase diagram at the finite temperature phase diagram [Nature Physics 10, 314 (2014)]

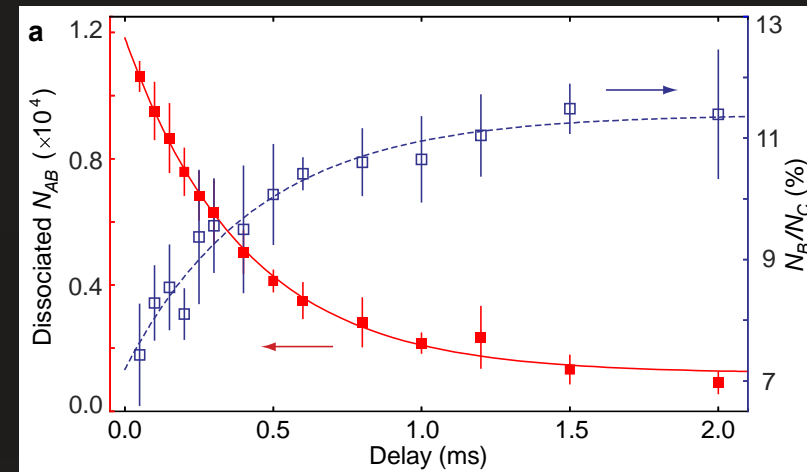
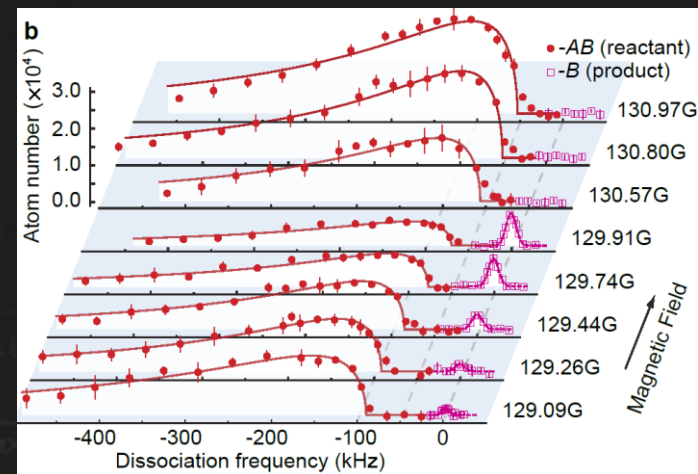
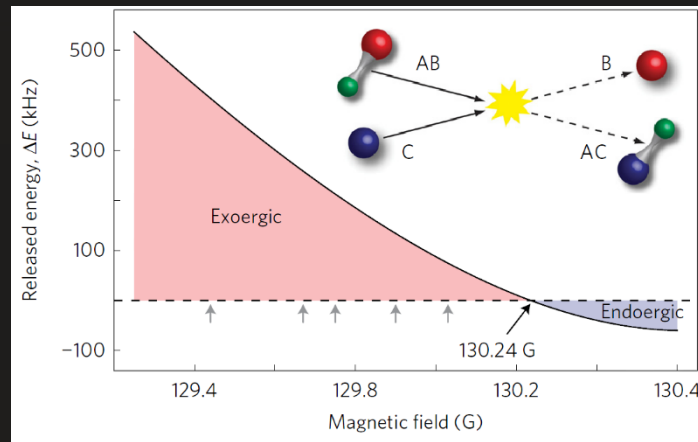
- Realization of 2d SOC for BEC [Science 354, 83 (2016)]

Topological quantum matter must be driven by 2D or higher SOC

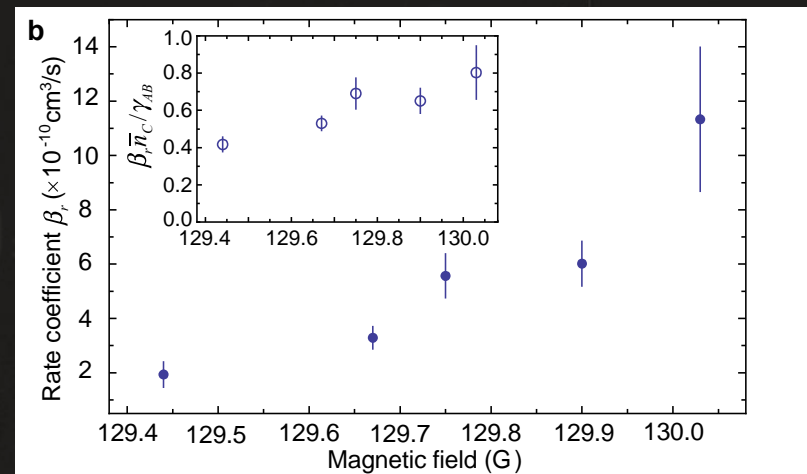


Ultra-cold state-to-state atom-exchange reaction

In Na-K system



✓ Study state-to-state reaction dynamics



✓ Observation of the reaction product

✓ Control the reaction rate by the magnetic field

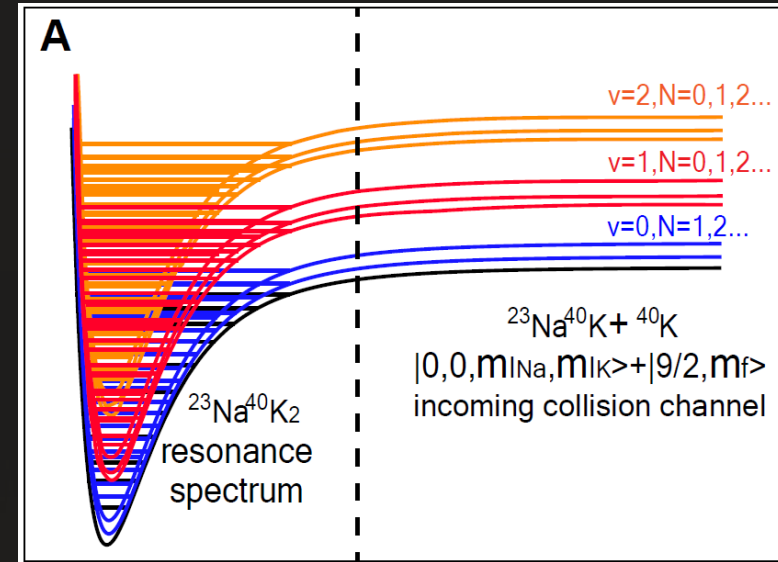
Both in exothermic and endothermic regimes

Rui *et al.*, Nature Physics 13, 699 (2017)

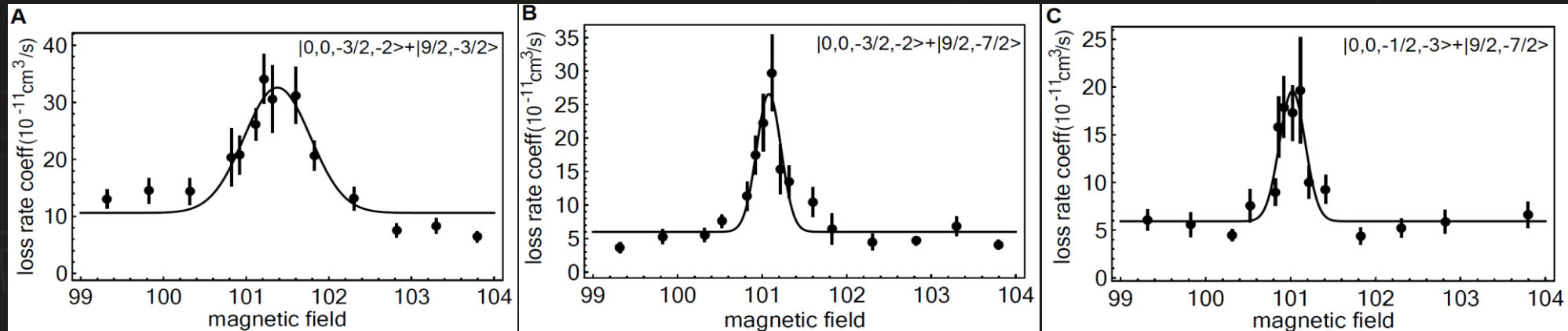
Feshbach resonances in NaK+K collision

Resonances in ultracold collisions involving heavy molecules

- Remarkable quantum phenomenon
- Unique probe of the potential energy surface
- Extremely difficult to calculate
- Challenging to observe



Feshbach resonances probe the short range high density of resonant states

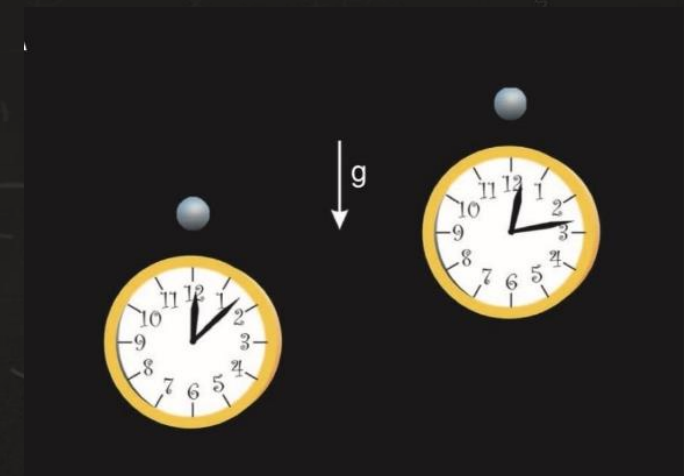
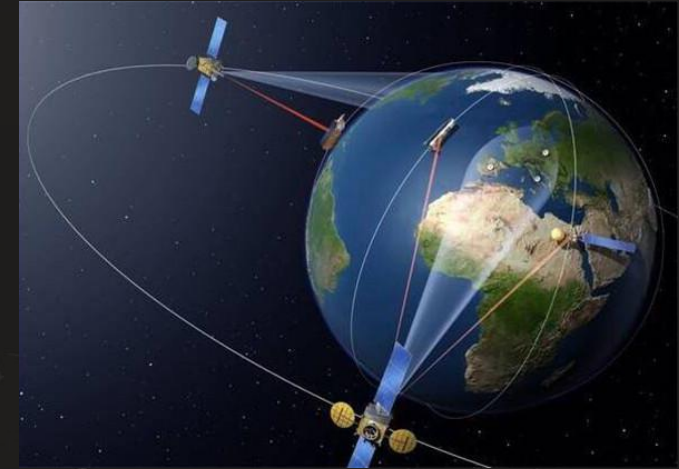
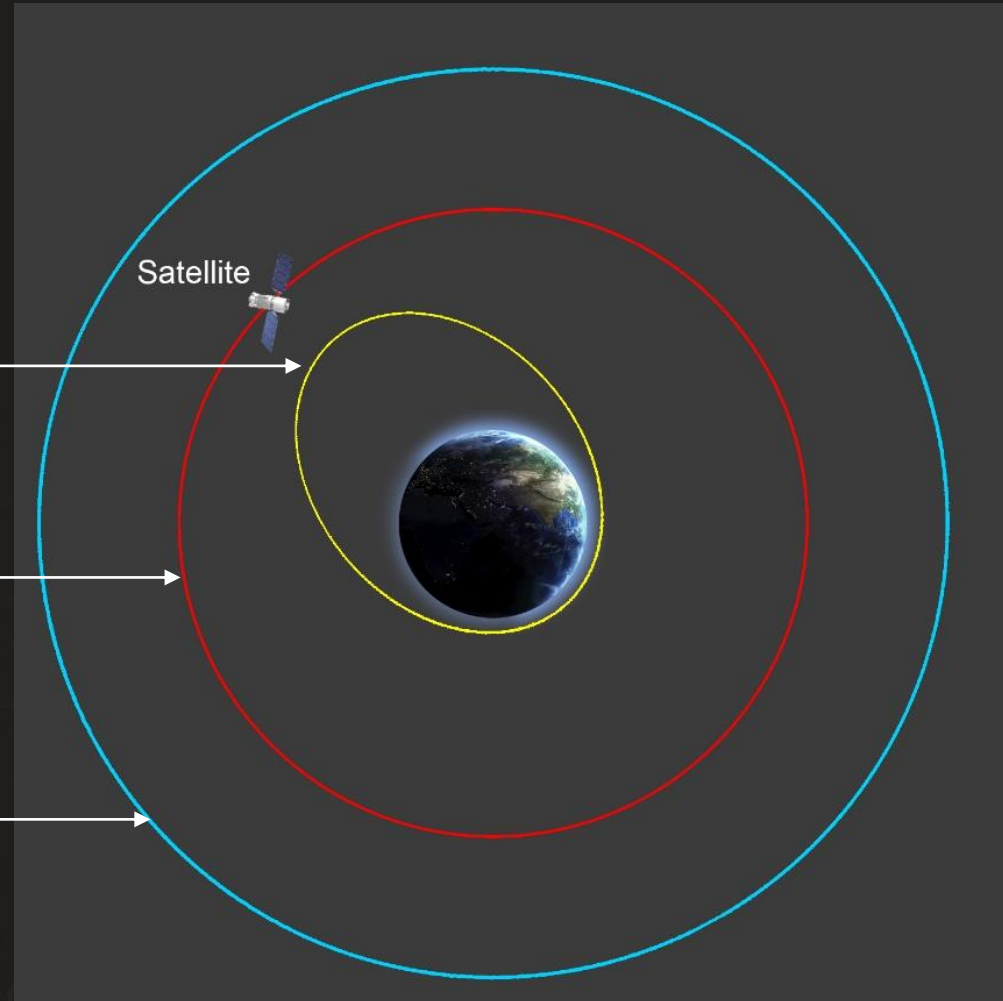


Future Prospect: MEO to GEO Quantum Satellite

Phase 1: Elliptical orbit
Perigee 1000 km
Apogee 10000 km

Phase 2: Medium Earth orbit
20000 km

Phase 3: Geostationary orbit
35786 km



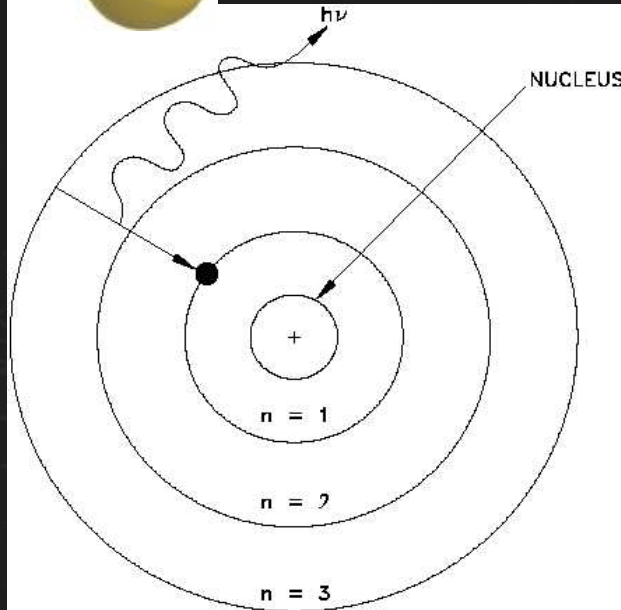
Time Scales

Quantum pendulum period: 10^{-15} s
0.000,000,000,000,001 seconds

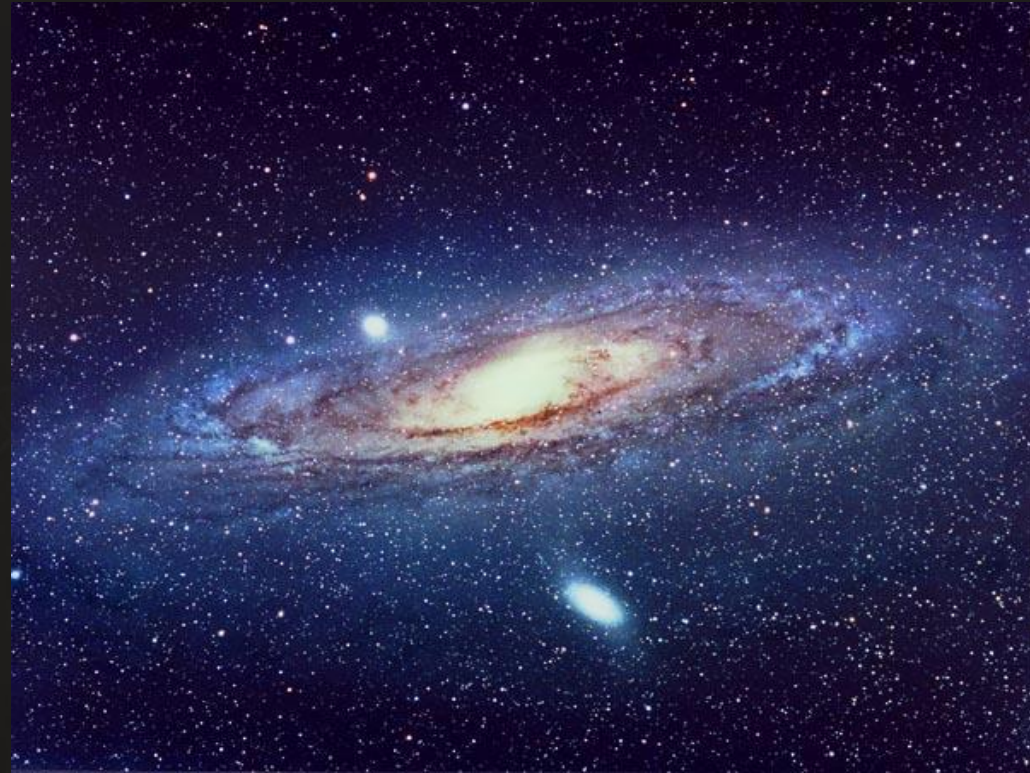


Sr atoms:

- $^1S_0 \leftrightarrow ^3P_0$ (160 s)
- $Q \sim 10^{17}$



The geometric mean
 ~ 30 s



Life of the Universe: 15 billion years (10^{18} s)
1000,000,000,000,000,000 seconds

Probes for fundamental Physics

Kómár *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **10**, 582 (2014); Kolkowitz *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **94**, 124043 (2016).

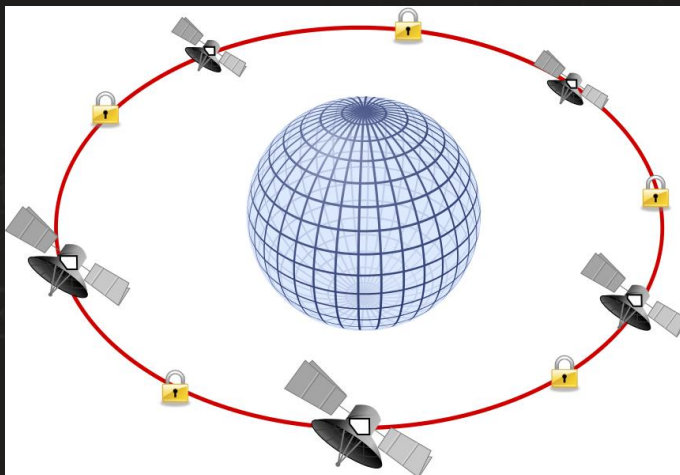
Unruly spiral galaxies



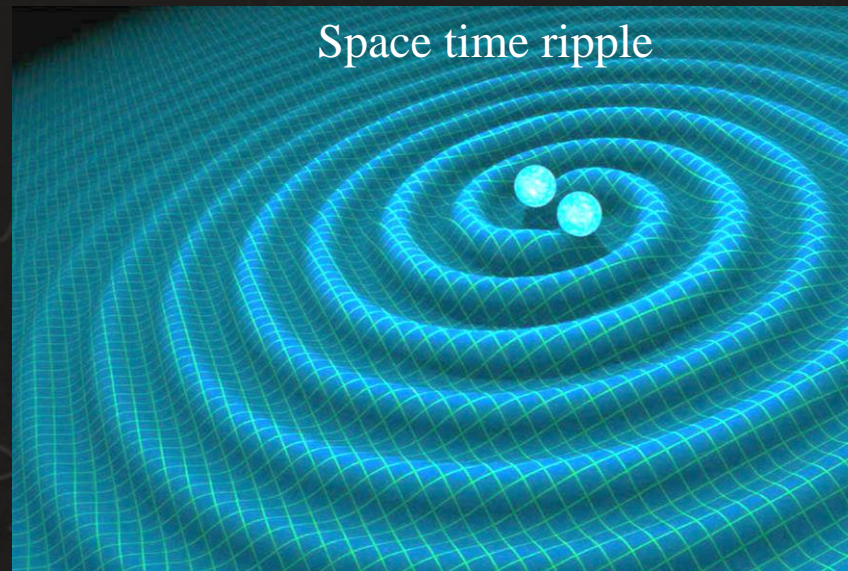
Dark matter halo



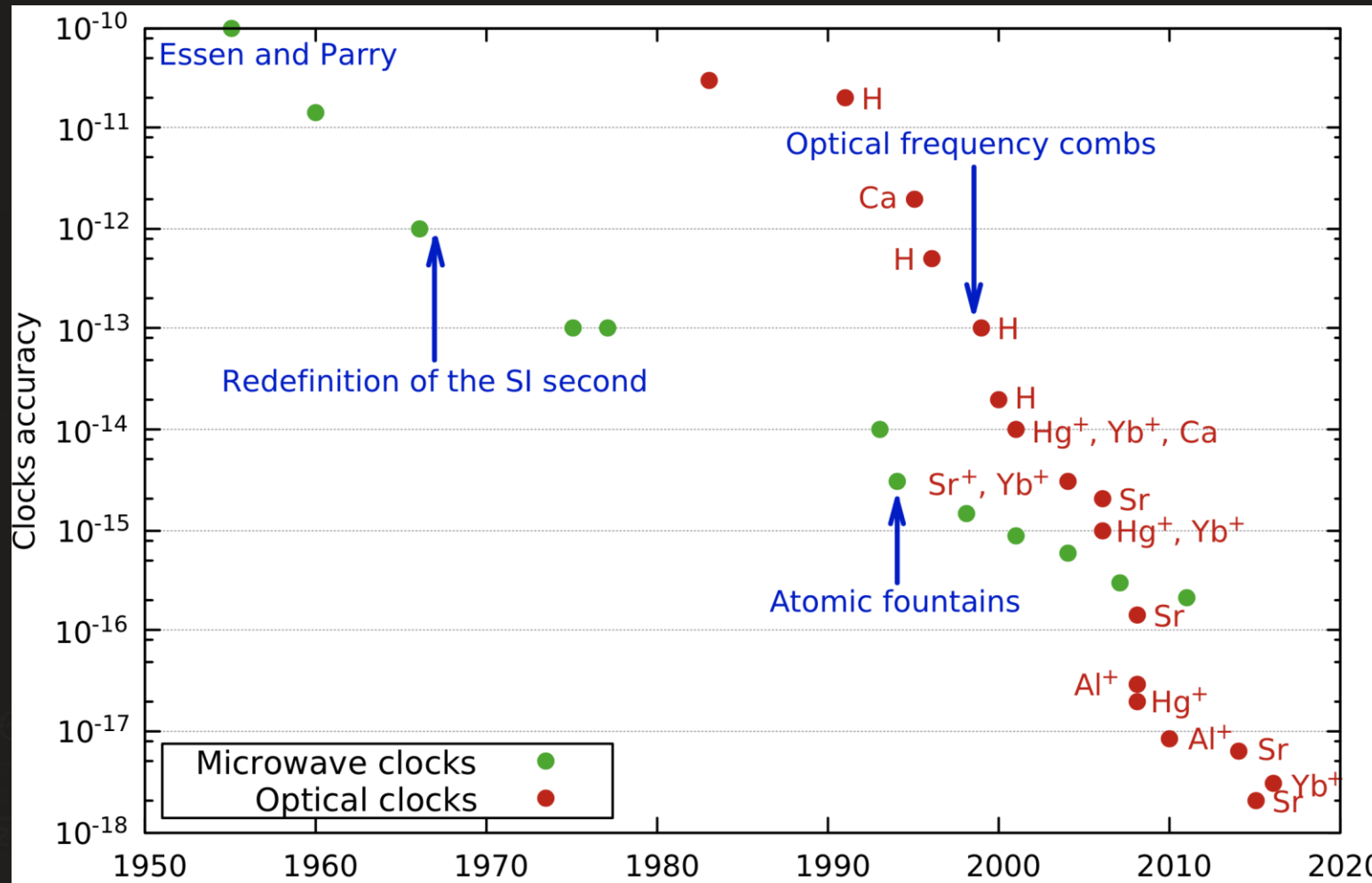
Network of clocks (10^{-21}):
long baseline interferometry



Space time ripple

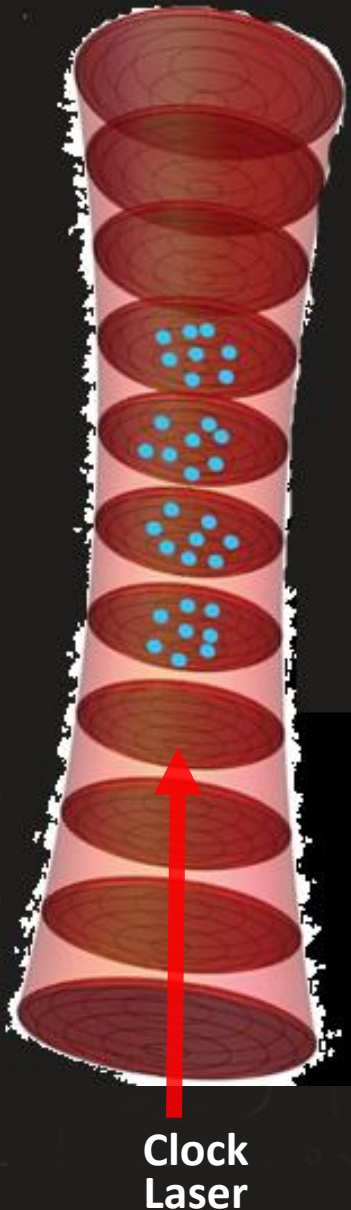


Continuous progress in atomic clocks



- Microwave clocks: $\omega_0 / 2\pi \cong 10^{10}$ Hz, $Q \cong 10^{10}$
- Optical clocks: $\omega_0 / 2\pi \cong 10^{15}$ Hz, $Q \cong 10^{15}$

Optical Lattice Clock



- Probe on a narrow optical resonance with an ultra-stable “clock” laser (high Q)
- Trap atoms in an optical lattice potential
 - Lamb-Dicke regime: insensitive to motional effects
 - Trap light at magic wavelength: minimal light-shift effects
 - Large number of interrogated atoms
- Record stability: a few $10^{-16} / \sqrt{\tau}$
- Record accuracy: a few 10^{-18}

JILA, NIST, SYRTE, PTB, NPL, Florence, Tokyo, RIKEN, NICT, NMIJ, KRISS, NIM, NTSC, ECNU, Wuhan, ...

Space missions of optical

First cold atoms in space:

□ *Laser-cooled Rb clock experiment on Tiang-Gong 2, 9/2016*



Atomic clocks in space orbital are coming soon!

Announced missions:

□ *Mission ISOC (Space Optical Clock) by ESA in 2022+*

□ *Future Tian-Gong station in 2022+*

H-maser, Cs cold atom clock, Sr optical clock will be launched

Optical Clock in High Earth Orbit

□ Next generation quantum satellite

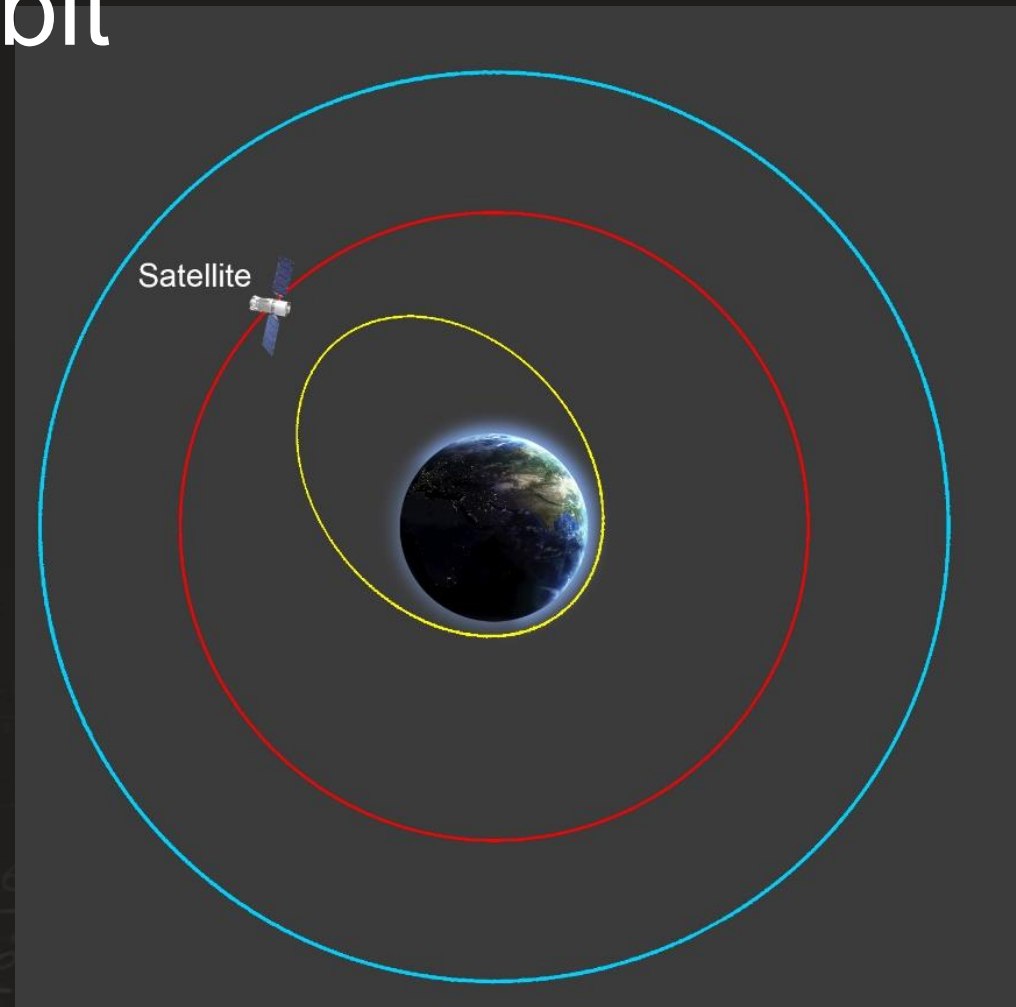
- MW and optical links to ground
- quantum channels

□ High earth orbit

- 10000~36000 km
- 24-hour classical or quantum communication

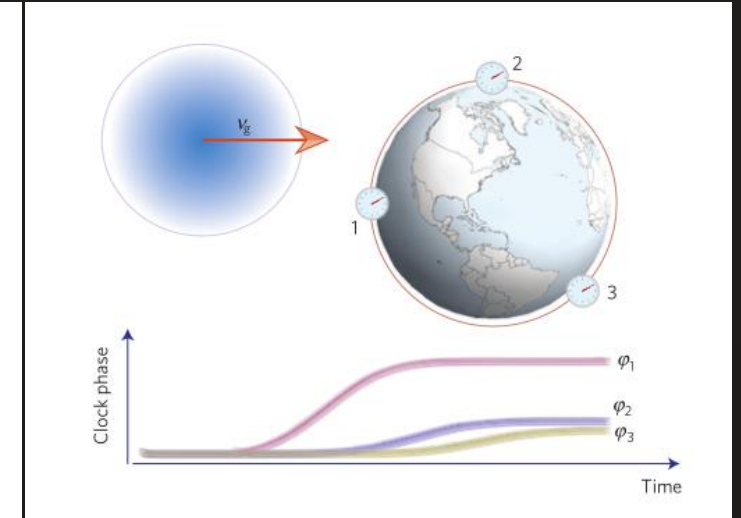
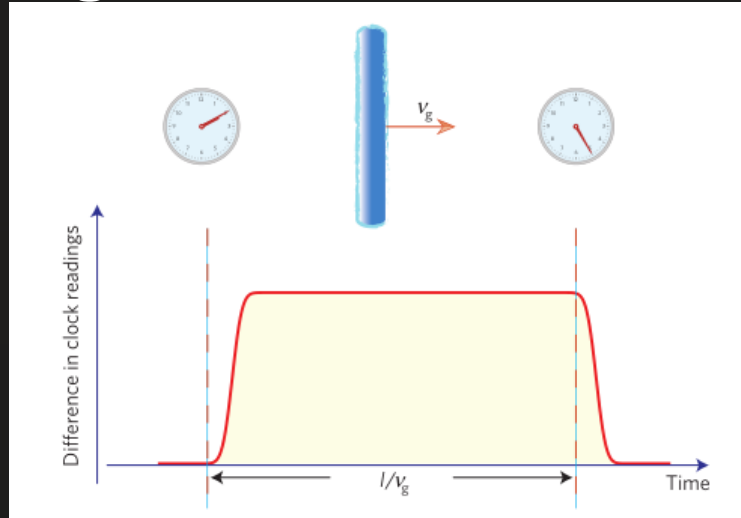
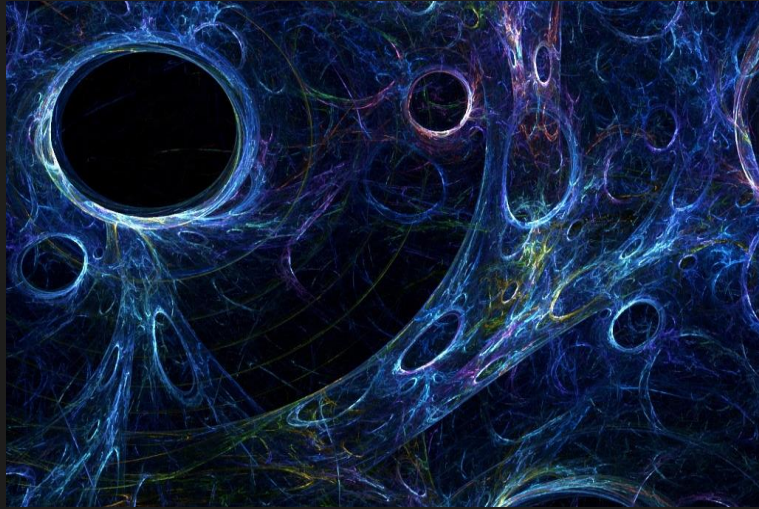
□ Future applications

- probes for quantum gravity / general relativity
- world-wide atomic time-frequency distribution
- world-wide clock comparisons



- 1st stage: 1000~10000 km
- 2nd stage: 20000 km
- 3rd stage: 35786 km

Topological Dark Matter

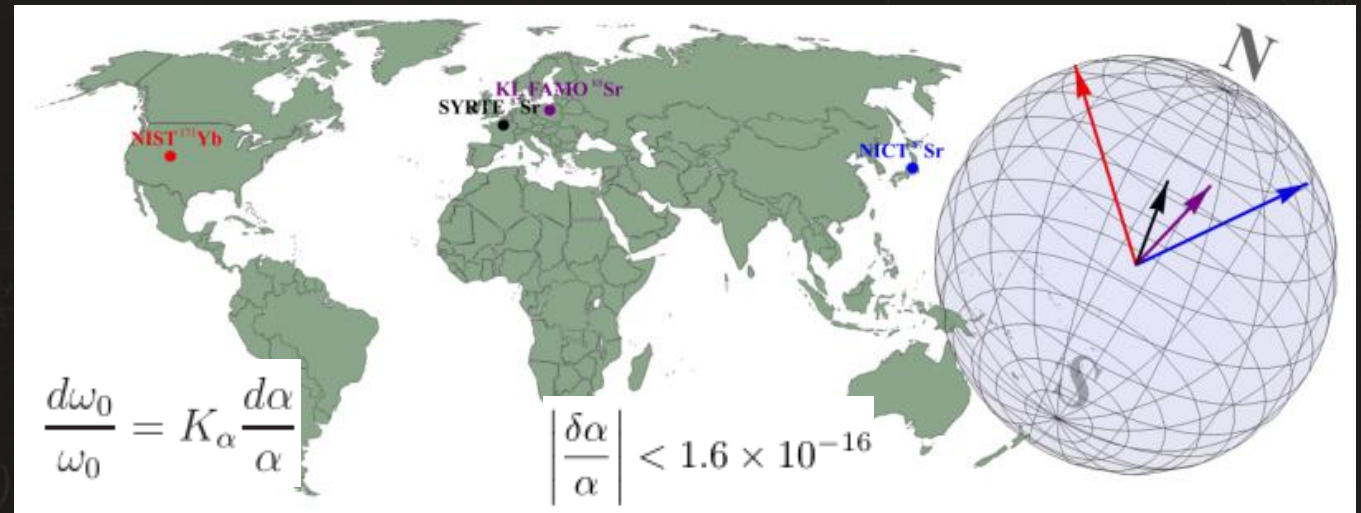


A. Derevianko and M. Pospelov, Nat. Phys. 10, 933–936 (2014)

If dark matter is light non-Standard Model field (including axion), its topological defects may cause time discrepancies between distant optical clocks

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}} = \phi^2 \left(\frac{m_e \bar{\psi}_e \psi_e}{\Lambda_e^2} + \frac{m_p \bar{\psi}_p \psi_p}{\Lambda_p^2} - \frac{1}{4\Lambda_\gamma^2} F_{\mu\nu}^2 + \dots \right)$$

$$\rightarrow m_{e,p}^{\text{eff}} = m_{e,p} \left(1 + \frac{\phi^2}{\Lambda_{e,p}^2} \right); \quad \alpha^{\text{eff}} = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \phi^2/\Lambda_\gamma^2}$$

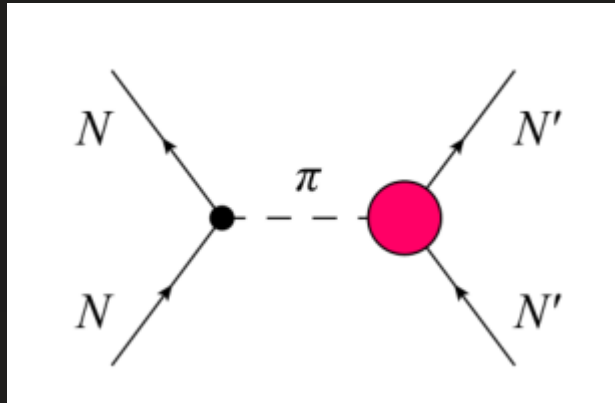


$$\Delta\varphi(t) = g \int_{-\infty}^t (f(t' - l/v_g) - f(t')) dt' \equiv \omega_0 \Delta t(t)$$

P. Wcisło et al., Nat. Astr. 1, 0009 (2016). P. Wcisło, et al., arXiv:1806.04762

Axion Dark Matter interacting with Atoms

Oscillating Electric Dipole Moments



Axion-induced
P,T-violating
 π NN coupling

P,T-conserving
 π NN coupling

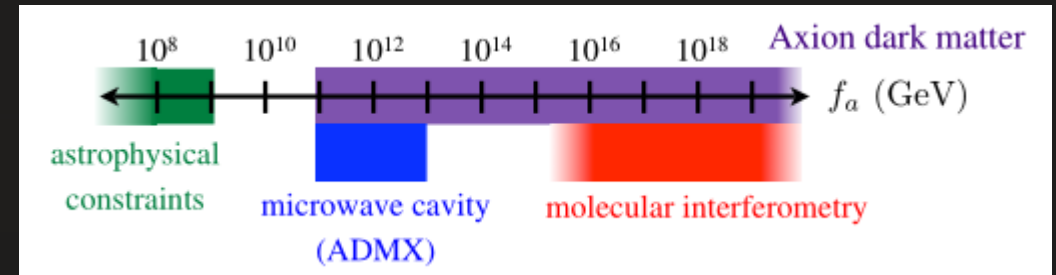
neutron

$$d_n(t) \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-16} \frac{a_0}{f_a} \cos(m_a t) \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}$$

atoms

$$d(^{199}\text{Hg}) \approx -1.8 \times 10^{-19} \frac{a_0}{f_a} \cos(m_a t) \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}$$

$$d(^{225}\text{Ra}) \approx 9.3 \times 10^{-17} \frac{a_0}{f_a} \cos(m_a t) \text{ e} \cdot \text{cm}$$



Atoms with large Schiff moments to form spontaneous parity violation states like molecules.

Element	Suppression Factor	Energy Shift	Half-life
^{225}Ra	0.2	$\sim 2 \times 10^{-25}$ eV	15 d
^{239}Pu	0.3	$\sim 3 \times 10^{-25}$ eV	2.4×10^4 yr
^{223}Fr	0.4	$\sim 1 \times 10^{-25}$ eV	22 min
^{225}Ac	0.6	$\sim 6 \times 10^{-25}$ eV	10 d
^{229}Pa	9	$\sim 9 \times 10^{-25}$ eV	1.4 d

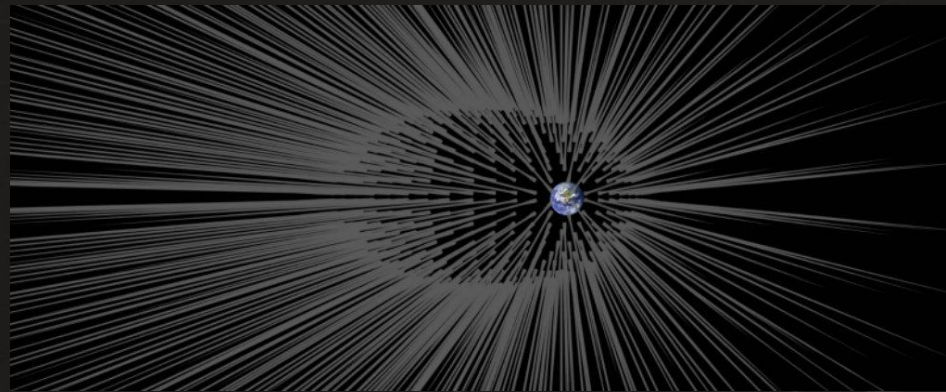
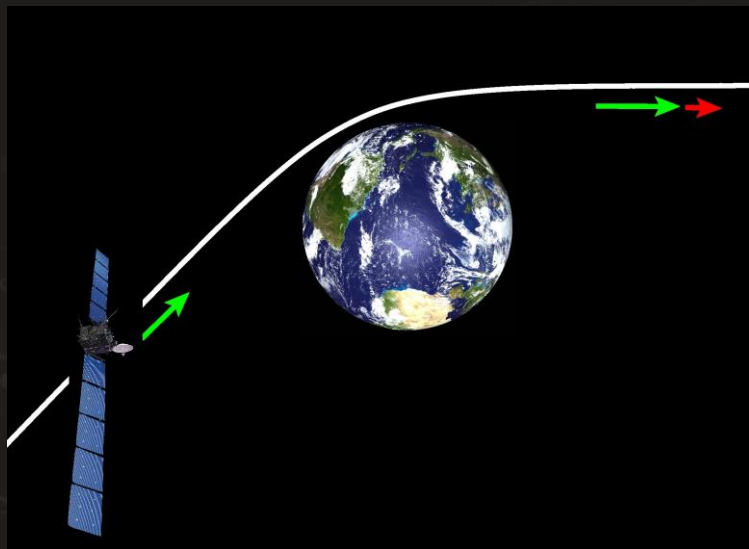
$$m_a \sim \frac{(200 \text{ MeV})^2}{f_a} \sim \text{MHz} \left(\frac{10^{16} \text{ GeV}}{f_a} \right)$$

Flyby anomaly

- Spacecraft gains greater speed than predicted
- No convincing explanation now.

$$\frac{dV}{V} = \frac{2\omega_E R_E (\cos \varphi_i - \cos \varphi_o)}{c}$$

Quantity	Galileo I	Galileo II	NEAR	Cassini	Rosetta-I	MESSENGER	Rosetta-II	Rosetta-III	Juno	Hayabusa 2	OSIRIS-REx
Date	1990-12-08	1992-12-12	1998-01-23	1999-08-18	2005-03-04	2005-08-02	2007-11-13	2009-11-13	2013-10-09	2015-12-03	2017-09-22
Speed at infinity, km/s	8.949	8.877	6.851	16.01	3.863	4.056				4.7	
Speed at perigee, km/s	13.738	—	12.739	19.03	10.517	10.389	12.49	13.34		10.3	8.5
Impact parameter, km	11261		12850	8973	22680.49	22319					
Minimal altitude, km	956	303	532	1172	1954	2336	5322	2483	561	3090	17237
Spacecraft mass, kg	2497.1		730.40	4612.1	2895.2	1085.6	2895	2895	~2720	590	
Trajectory inclination to equator, degrees	142.9	138.9	108.8	25.4	144.9	133.1					
Deflection angle, degrees	47.46	51.1	66.92	19.66	99.396	94.7				80	
Speed increment at infinity, mm/s	3.92 ± 0.08	-4.60 ± 1.00	13.46 ± 0.13	-2 ± 1	1.82 ± 0.05	0.02 ± 0.01	~0	~0	0 ± 0.8	?	?
Speed increment at perigee, mm/s	2.56 ± 0.05		7.21 ± 0.07	-1.7 ± 0.9	0.67 ± 0.02	$\frac{0.008 \pm 0.004}{4}$	~0	-0.004 ± 0.0044		?	?
Gained energy, J/kg	35.1 ± 0.7		92.2 ± 0.9		7.03 ± 0.19					?	?

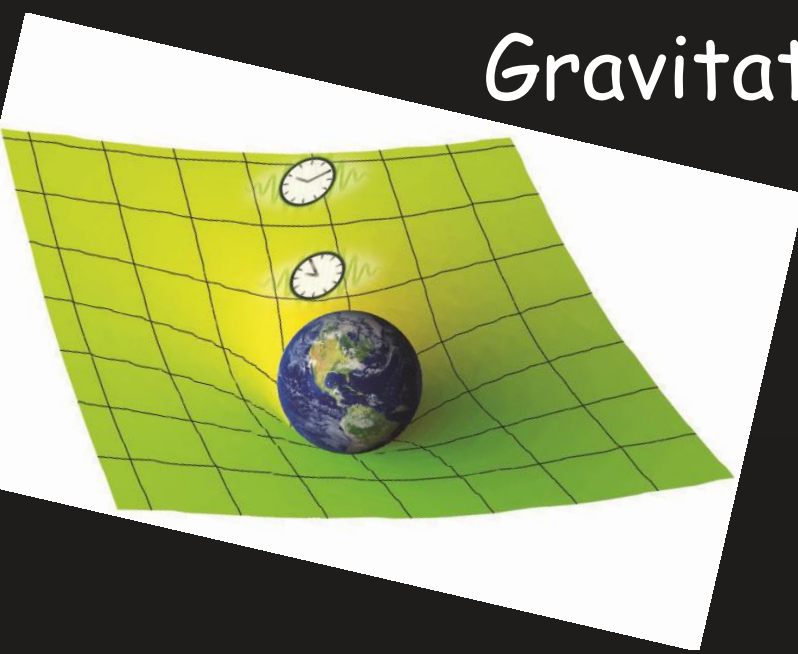


Caused by dark matter halo around earth?
S. L. Adler, Phys. Rev. D, 79, 023505 (2008)

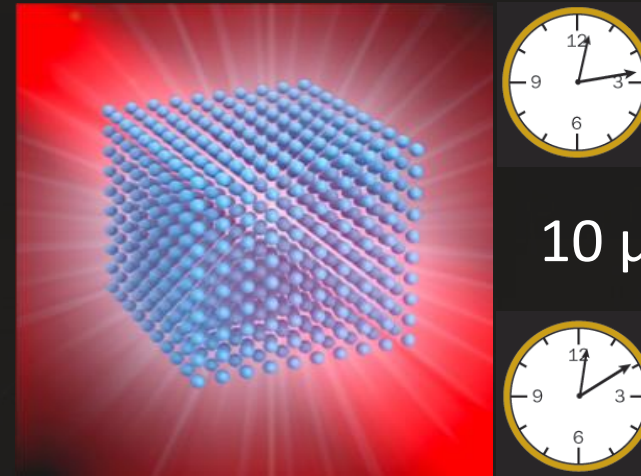
If so, distribution of dark matter halo could be measured by an optical clock in a flyby satellite

- ✓ Doppler effect
- ✓ Gravitational redshift
- ✓ ...

Gravitational potential & gravity at once ?



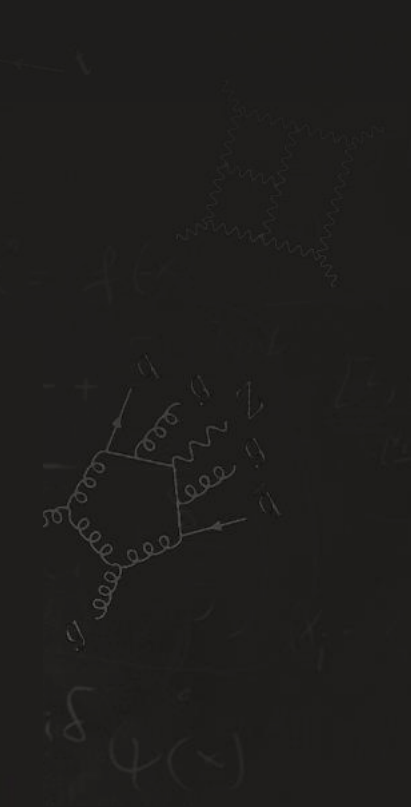
Extreme spatial resolution & precision



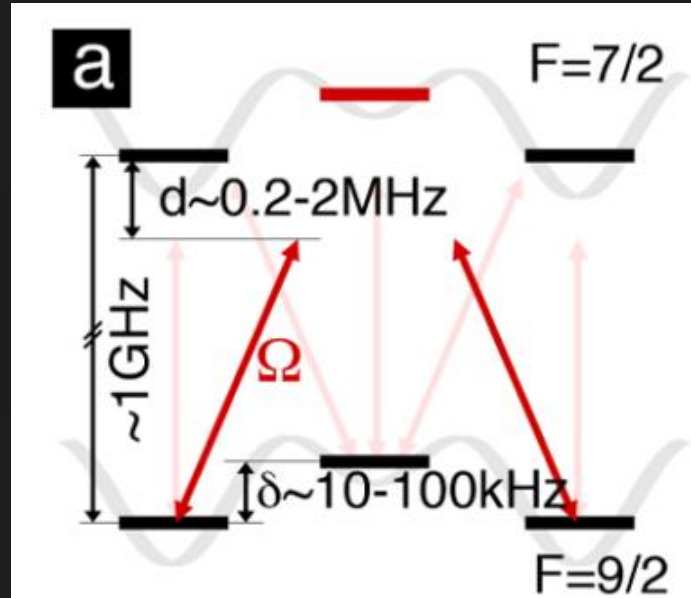
10 μm height: 10^{-21} effect



$\psi = e^{i\phi}$
 $\psi = \exp T \left(\frac{\Delta t}{\hbar} \right)$
 $\psi = \exp T \left(\frac{\Delta \phi}{\hbar} \right)$
 $\psi = \exp T$



Simulating Axion Electrodynamics in Optical Lattices



Wilson fermions with an inverted mass give rise to a certain Axion background

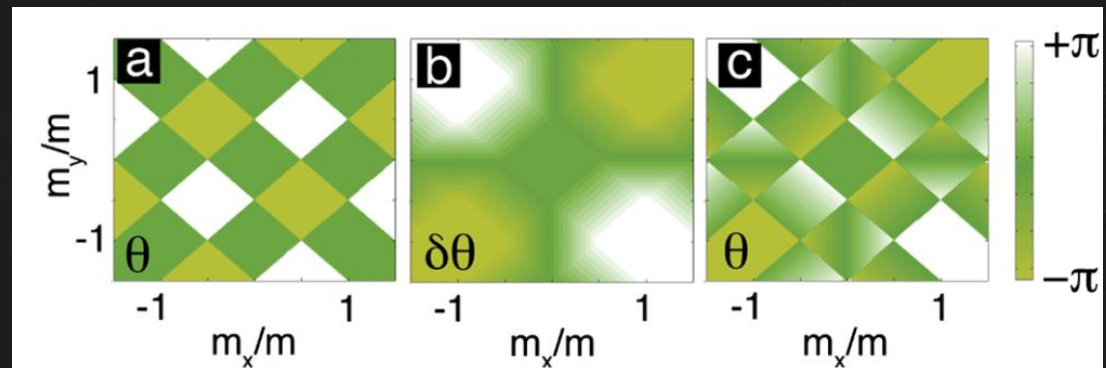


FIG. 3 (color online). (a) Axion index as a function of the masses m_y/m , m_x/m , and setting $m_z = m/2$. In the \mathcal{U}_a invariant regime, only fixed values of the axion $\theta = \{0, \pi\}$ are allowed. (b) Perturbations to the axion term $\delta\theta$ in the \mathcal{U}_a -breaking regime. (d) Total axion term θ in the \mathcal{U}_a -breaking regime.



Thanks!

Ultracold atoms can be used to emulate complex, condensed-matter systems that are hard to study experimentally, like supersolids, superconductors or even black holes.