

Title: Laboratory tests of the Equivalence Principle and the Inverse Square Law

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Abstract:

Tests of the  
Equivalence Principle (WEP & SEP)  
and the  
Gravitational Inverse-Square Law

Eric Adelberger  
University of Washington

- results (emphasis on recent work)
- how they were obtained

the University of Washington

EÖT-WASH<sup>®</sup> GROUP

in experimental gravitation

faculty

- $1/2 \rightarrow$  Eric Adelberger
- $1/2 \rightarrow$  Blayne Heckel
- Jens Gundlach  $\leftarrow$  EP

professional staff

Erik Swanson

post docs

- Seth Hoedl
- $1/2 \rightarrow$  CD Hoyle
- Stephan Schlamminger  $\leftarrow$  EP

grad students

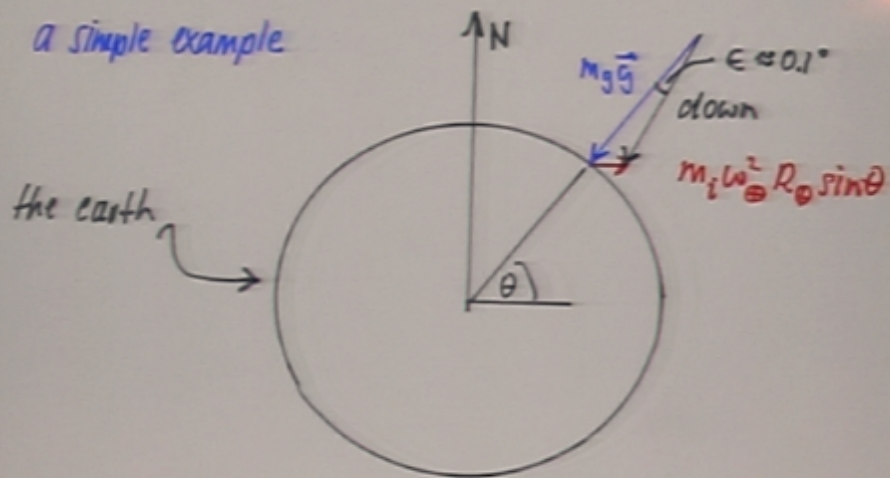
- K-Y Choi  $\leftarrow$  EP
- $1/2 \rightarrow$  Ted Cook
- $1/2 \rightarrow$  Dan Kapner
- Frank Marcoline

undergrads

- $\rightarrow$  Rogan Carr
- Caleb Hotchkiss

- if the EP is violated, "down" is not a unique direction, but depends on the material that falls

a simple example



- torsion-balance test of the EP compare the "down" direction (the horizontal components of  $\vec{a}_g$ ) for different materials
- results are interpreted as constraints on a potential

$$V(r) = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r} \left\{ 1 + \tilde{\alpha} \left( \frac{\tilde{q}}{m} \right)_1 \left( \frac{\tilde{q}}{m} \right)_2 \right\}$$

Scalar interactions have  $\alpha > 0$

vector " "  $\alpha < 0$

what length scales are interesting in these tests?

all length scales are interesting

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{from} & \lambda = \infty & m = 0 \\ \text{to} & \lambda = 1.6 \times 10^{-33} \text{ cm} & m = m_{\text{Planck}} = \sqrt{\hbar c / G} \end{array}$$

all scales are equal, but some are more equal than others

$$m = 0$$

$$\lambda = \infty$$

$$m = (M_Z)^2 / M_P$$

$$\lambda \sim 30 \text{ cm}$$

$$m = (1 \text{ TeV})^2 / M_P$$

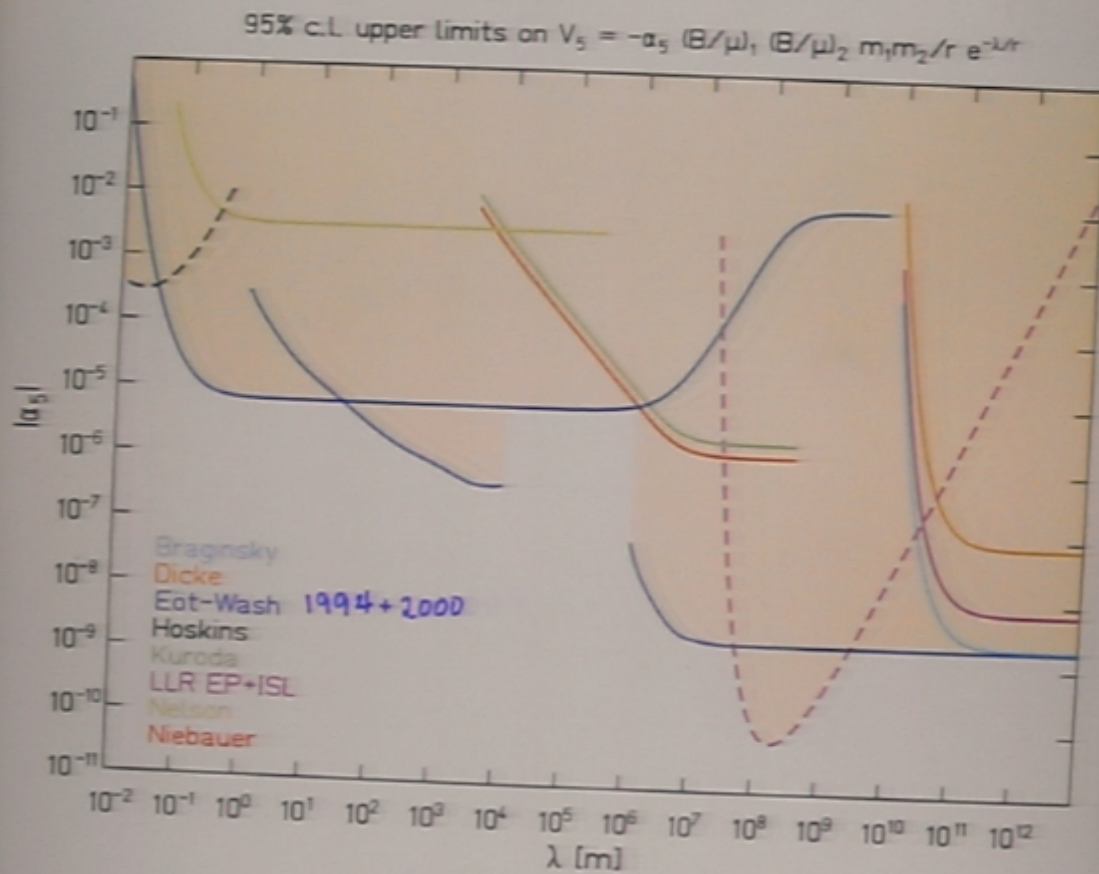
$$\lambda \sim 0.2 \text{ mm}$$

$$m = M_P$$

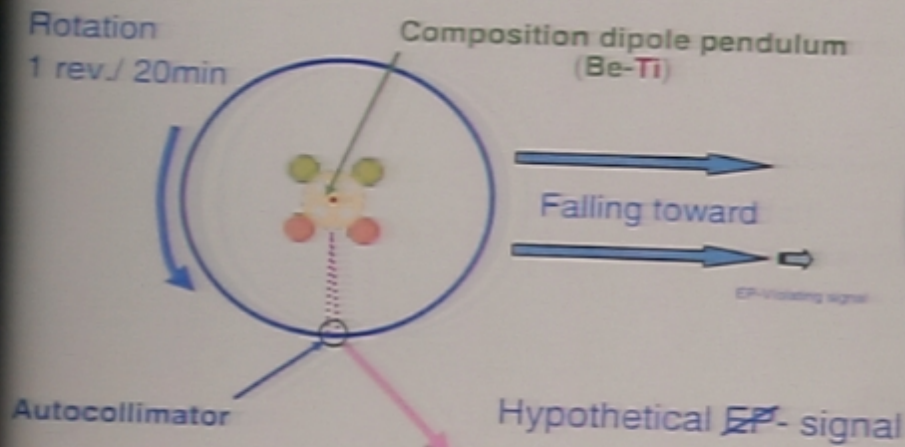
$$\lambda = 1.6 \times 10^{-33} \text{ cm}$$

— from EP tests

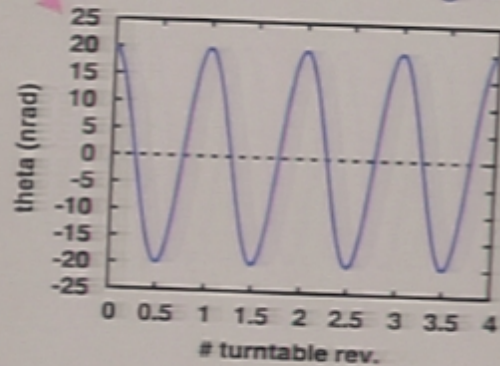
- - - from  $1/r^2$  tests



# Schematic Top View of our Experiment



Source Masses  
(Hillside & local masses,  
entire Earth, Sun,  
the Milky way,  
Cosmic Microwave  
Background dipole,  
Etc.)



# Gravity gradients (I)

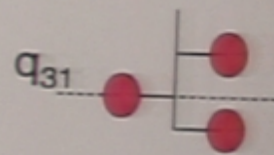
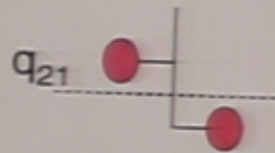
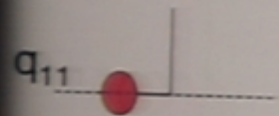
Gravitational potential energy between the pendulum and the source masses is given by

$$W = -4\pi G \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l Q_{lm} q_{lm} e^{-im\phi}$$

$$Q_{lm} = \int d^3r' \rho_{\text{source}}(\vec{r}') r'^{-(l+1)} Y_{lm}(\hat{r}') \quad \text{gravity gradient field}$$

$$q_{lm} = \int d^3r \rho_{\text{pend}}(\vec{r}) r^l Y_{lm}^*(\hat{r}) \quad \text{gravity multipole moment}$$

Torque for  $1\omega$  ( $m=1$ ) signal:  $\tau = 8\pi G \frac{1}{2l+1} |q_{11}| |Q_{11}|$



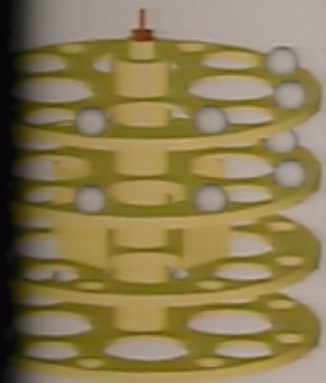
not possible for  
torsion pendulum



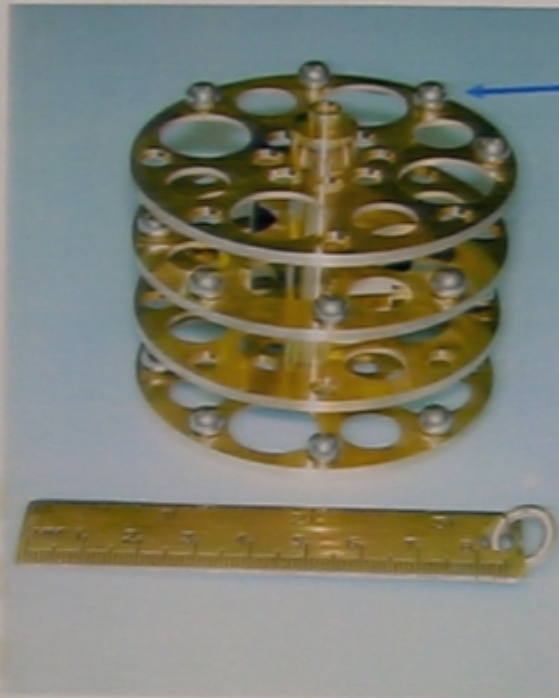
# Gravity gradients (III)

Total mass  
69 g

pendulum

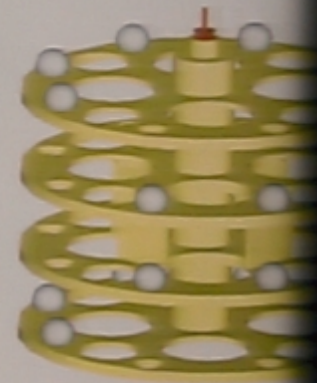


$q_{21} = 35.78 \text{ gcm}^2$



$\Phi$  7mm 16  
Ti Balls  
( $m_{ave} =$   
0.795 g)

$q_{31}$  pendulum

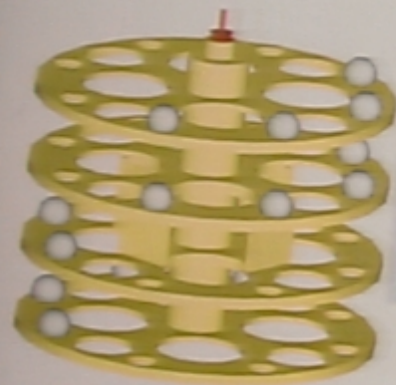


$q_{31} = 105.22 \text{ gcm}^2$

# Gravity gradients (III)

Total mass  
69 g

$q_{21}$  pendulum

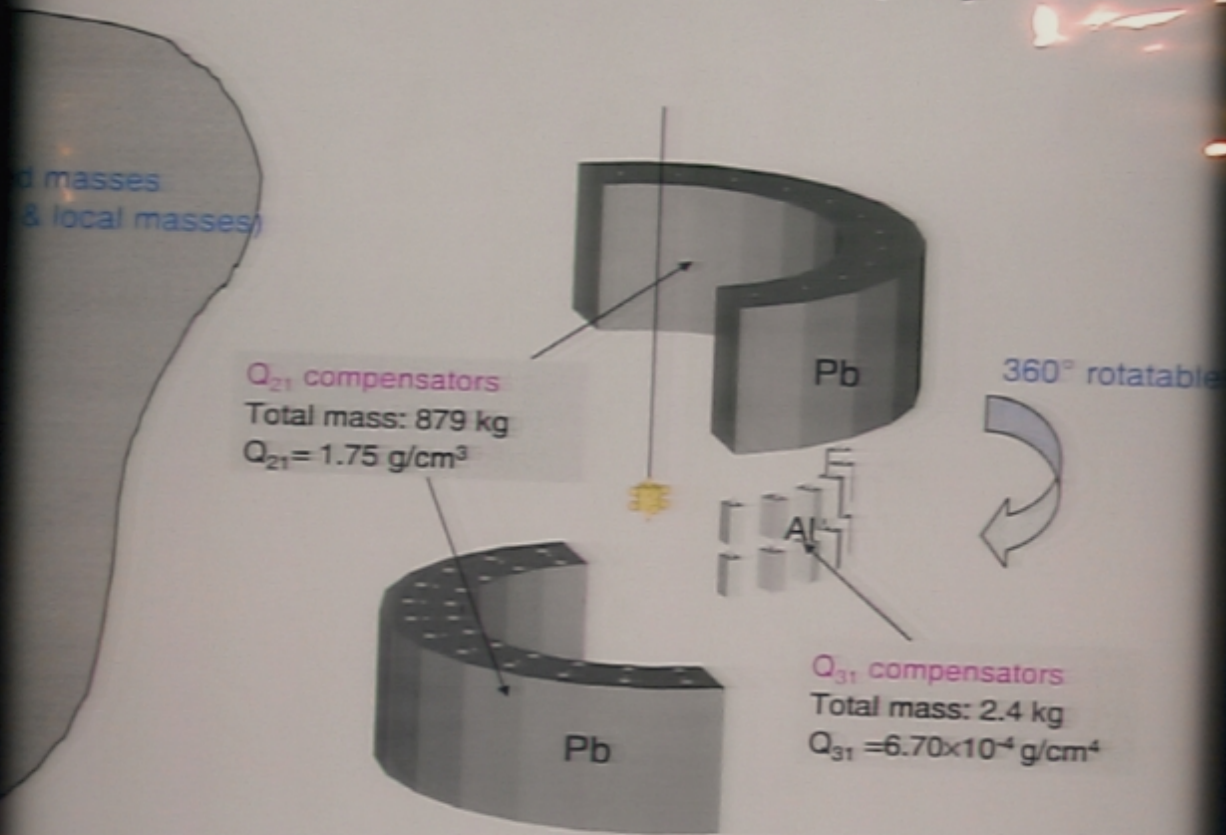


$q_{21} = 35.78 \text{ gcm}^2$



$q_{31} = 105$

## Gravity gradients (II)



## EP Torsion Pendulum



20  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter tungsten  
(length: 108 cm)

8 test masses (4 Be & 4 Au)  
4.84 g each (within 0.1 m)

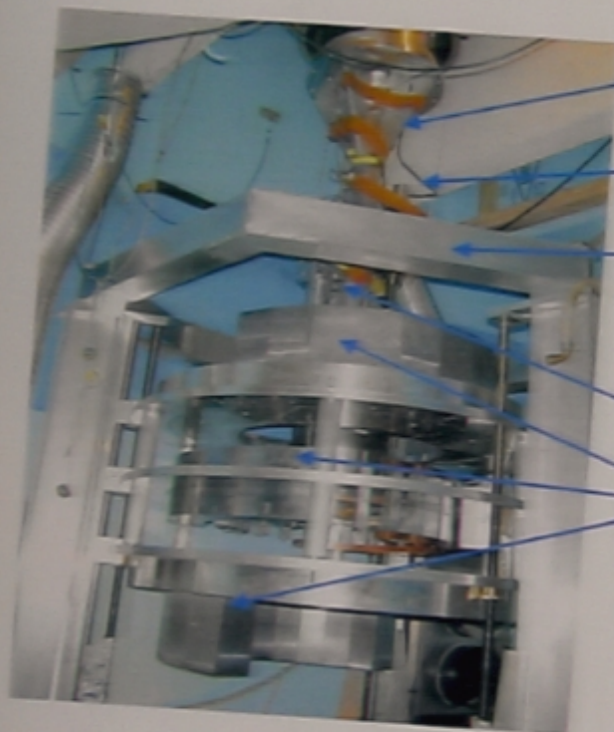
4 mirrors

tuning screws for adjusting  
gravity multipole moments  
to null the gravitational co

frequency:	1.261
quality factor:	4000
decay time:	11d 6.5
machining tolerance:	5 $\mu\text{m}$
total mass :	70 g

5 cm

## The Lower Part of the Apparatus



vacuum chamber

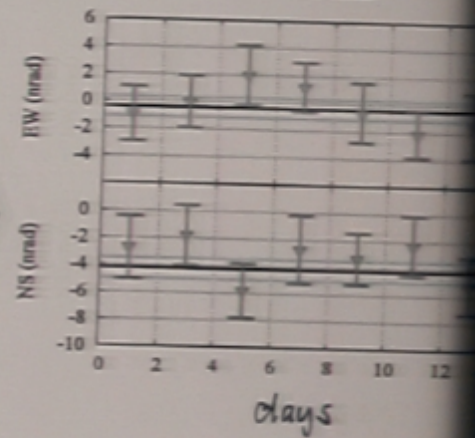
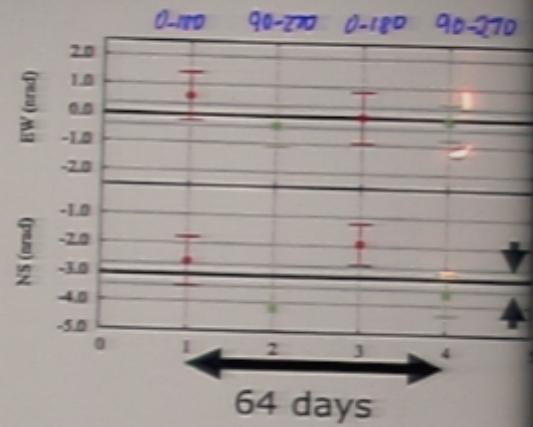
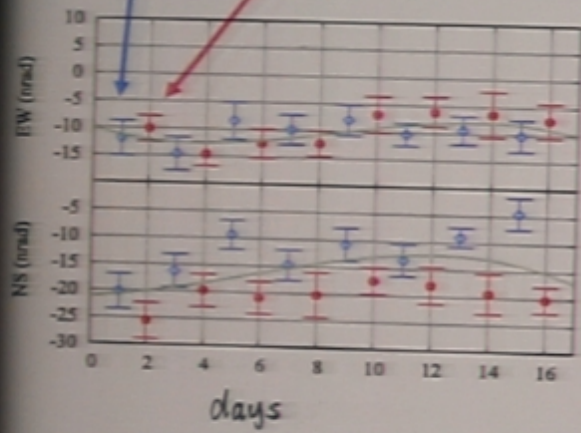
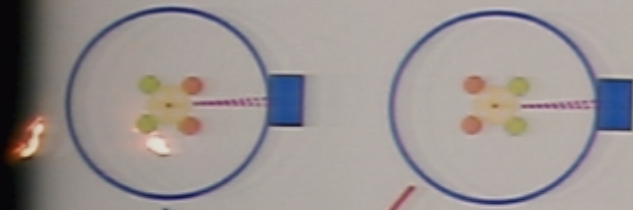
ion pump

support structure  
gravity gradient  
compensators

autocollimator

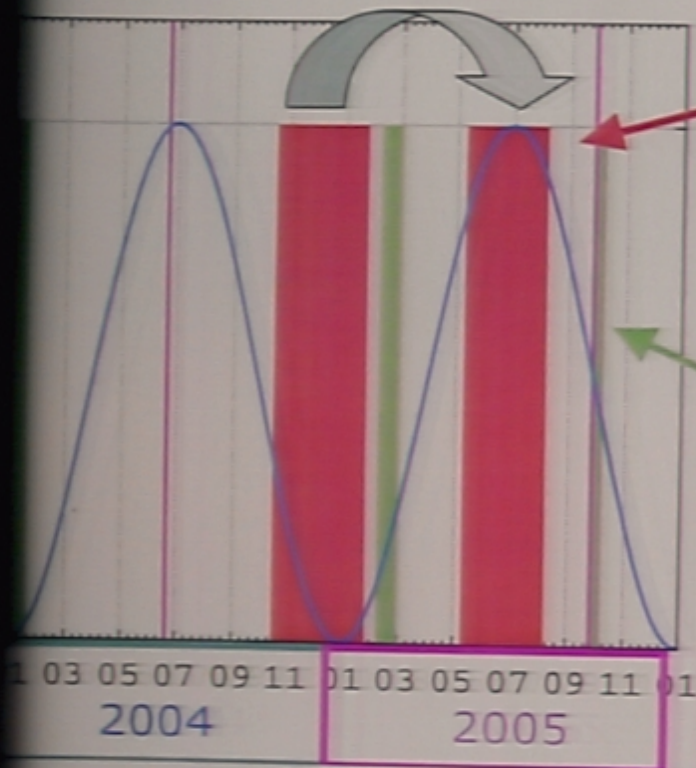
gravity gradient  
compensators

# DATA



# Timeline of Measurements

COMPOSITION DIPOLE ROTATED  
IN RESP. TO PENDULUM FRAME



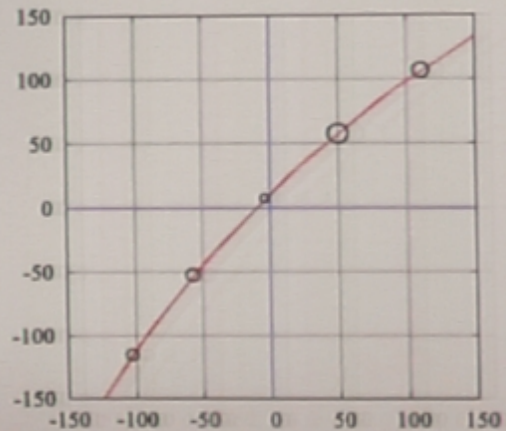
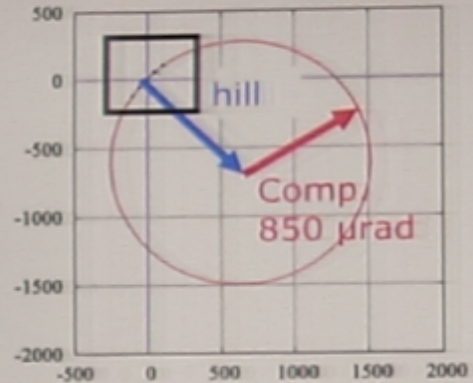
Composition dipole



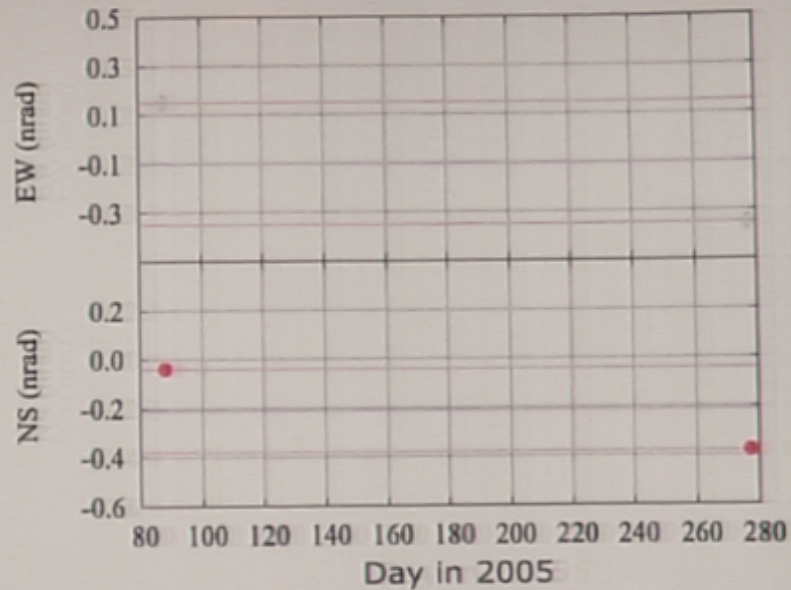
Gradiometer



# Gravity gradients



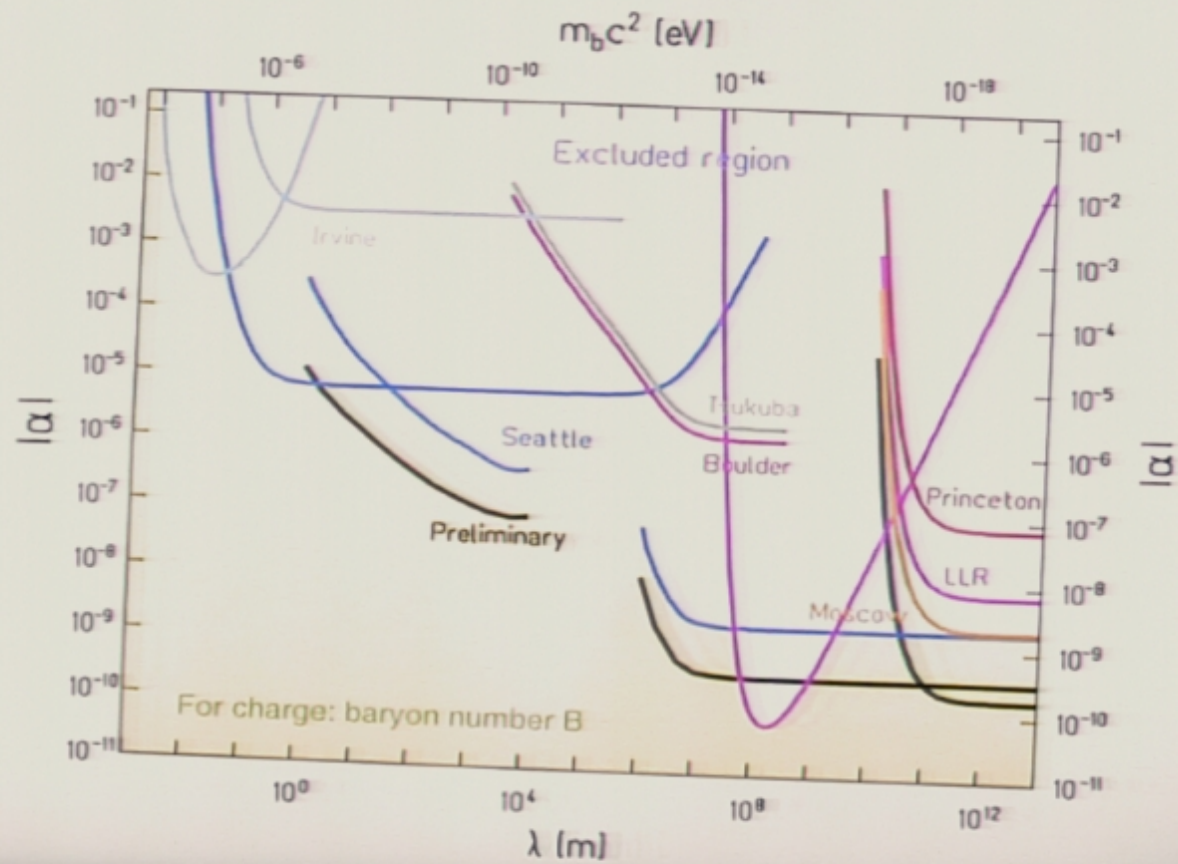
Expected Signal:



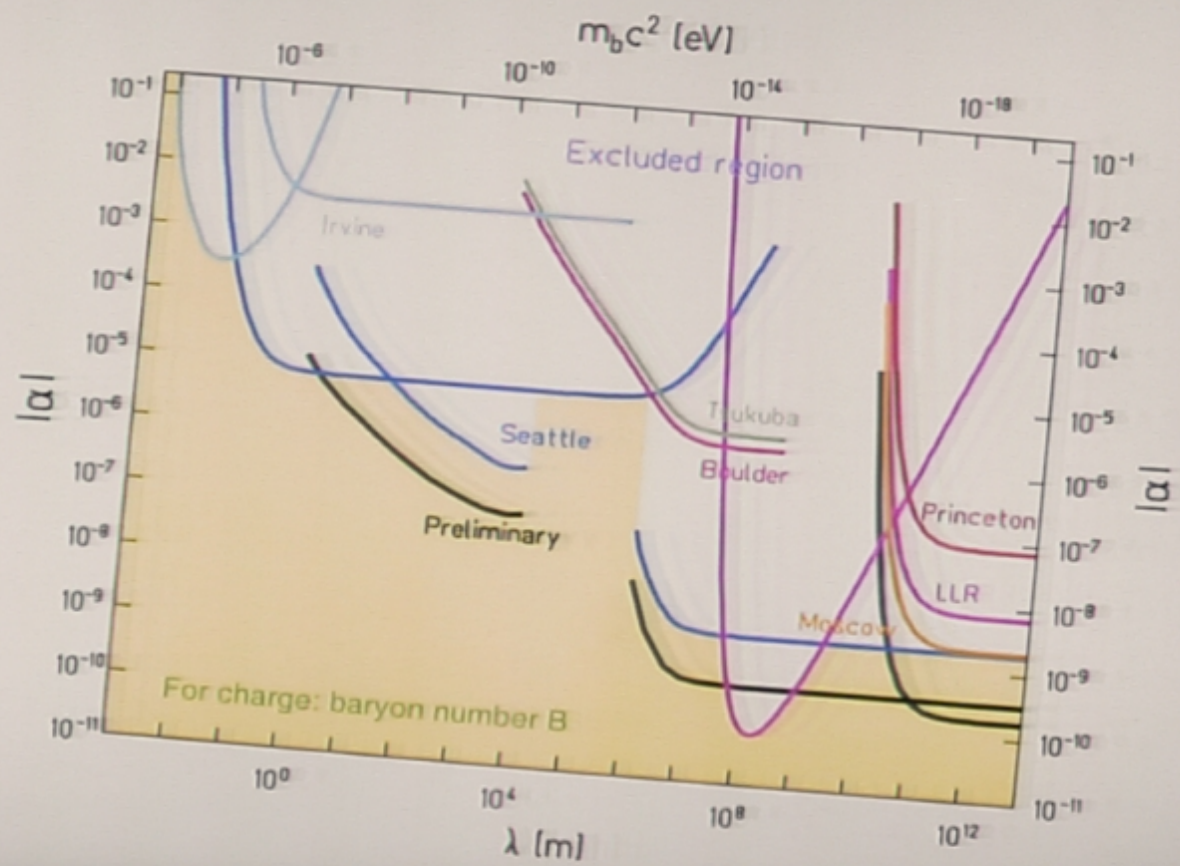
	mean	sigma
EW	<b>-0.10 nrad</b>	<b>0.25 nrad</b>
NS	<b>-0.21 nrad</b>	<b>0.17 nrad</b>



# Results

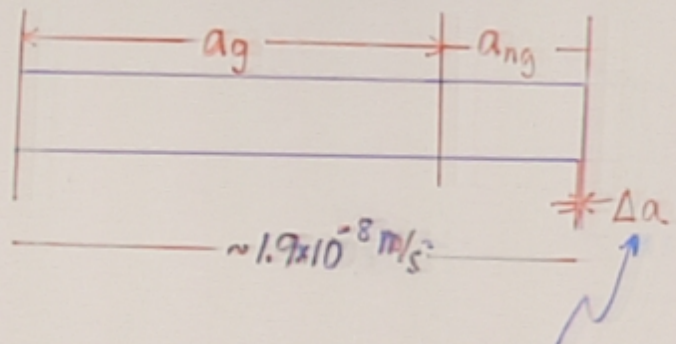


# Results



# Acceleration of luminous matter to galactic dark matter

test body A  
test body B

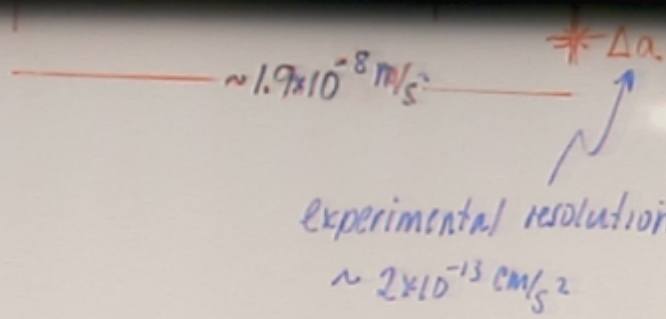


experimental resolution  
 $\sim 2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm/s}^2$

$a_{ng}$  must arise from scalar interaction

vector interaction would blow apart dark matter halo

tree-level approximation for electrically neutral bodies



$\alpha_{ng}$  must arise from scalar interaction

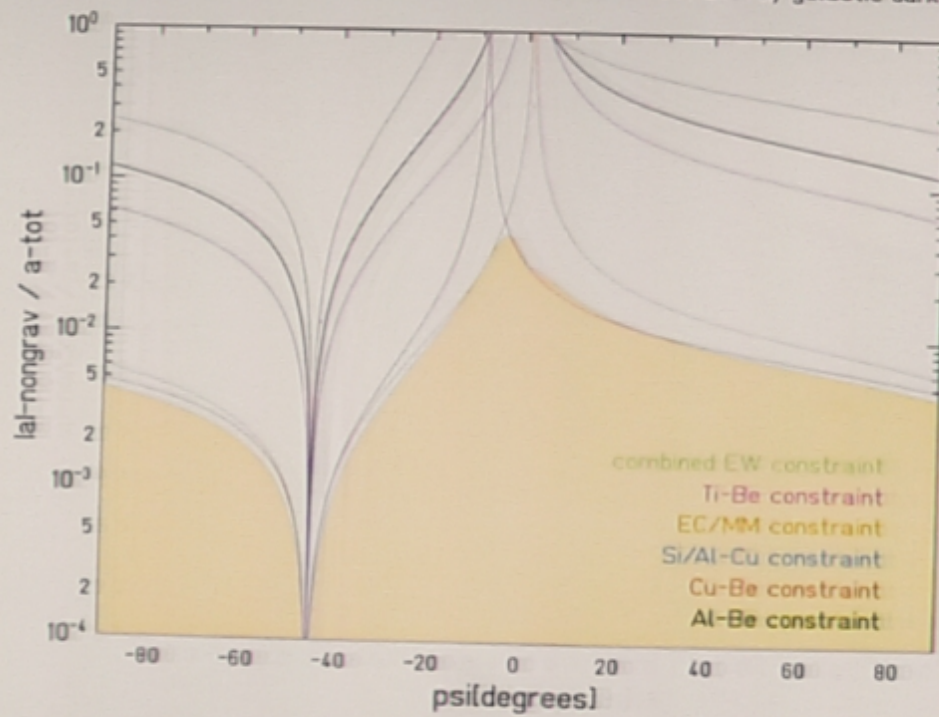
vector interaction would blow apart dark matter halo

tree-level approximation for electrically neutral bodies

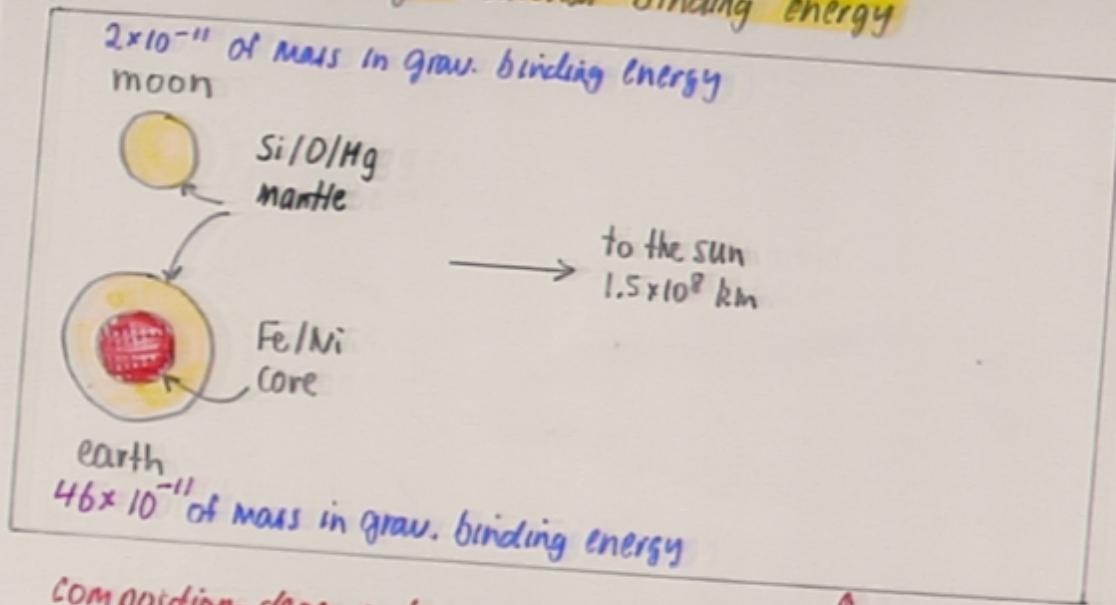
$$q_s(Z, N) = (q_s^e + q_s^p) Z + q_s^n N$$

$$\text{let } \psi = \tan^{-1} \frac{(q_s^e + q_s^p) - q_s^n}{q_s^n}$$

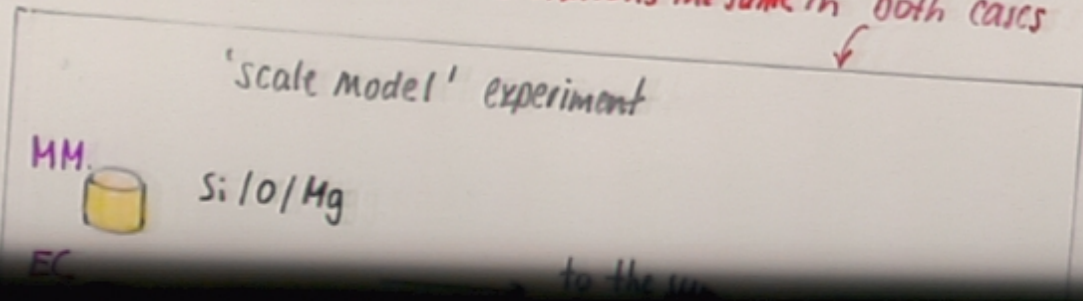
2.0 sigma constraints on non-gravitational accel of neutral H by galactic dark matter

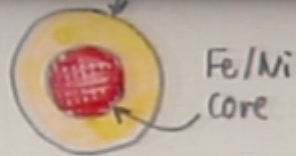


'Model-independent' test of equivalence principle  
for gravitational binding energy



composition-dependent accelerations the same in both cases







$1.5 \times 10^8$  km

earth  
 $46 \times 10^{-11}$  of mass in grav. binding energy

composition-dependent accelerations the same in both cases

'scale model' experiment

MM.  Si/O/Mg

EC  Fe/Ni

→ to the sun  
 $1.5 \times 10^8$  km

negligible  
grav. binding energies

## UNAMBIGUOUS TESTS OF THE SEP

$$\eta_{SEP} = \frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{SEP} \frac{1}{(46-2) \times 10^{-11}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{SEP} = \frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} - \frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO}$$

### • 1999 result

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} = (3.2 \pm 4.6) \times 10^{-13}$$

Williams et al., PRD 53, 6730 (1996)

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO} = (0.1 \pm 2.7) \times 10^{-13}$$

Baessler et al., PRL 83, 3585 (1999)

$$\eta_{SEP} = (0.7 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-3}$$

### • new result

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} = (-0.7 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-13}$$

Anderson & Williams, Class. Quant. Grav. 18, 2447 (2001)

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO} = (0.1 \pm 2.7) \times 10^{-13}$$



$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{SEP} = \frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} - \frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO}$$

- 1999 result

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} = (3.2 \pm 4.6) \times 10^{-13}$$

Williams et al., PRD 53, 6730 (1996)

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO} = (0.1 \pm 2.7) \times 10^{-13}$$

Baessler et al., PRL 83, 3585 (1999)

$$\eta_{SEP} = (0.7 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-3}$$

- new result

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{LLR} = (-0.7 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-13}$$

Anderson & Williams, Class. Quant. Grav. 18, 2447 (2001)

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a}|_{CO} = (-1.3 \pm 1.3) \times 10^{-13}$$

U. Schmidt et al., unpublished

$$\eta_{SEP} = (1.4 \pm 4.3) \times 10^{-4}$$

## LLR Science

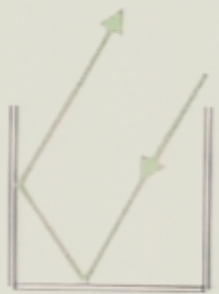
### Gravitational Physics:

- The *best* test available of the strong equivalence principle (EP)
- A *leading* test of the weak (composition-dependent) EP
- The *best* test of time-variation of Newton's constant,  $G$
- The *best* test of gravitomagnetism ( $\cos D$  term)
- Currently the *best* probe of relativistic geodetic precession
- The *most sensitive* test of  $1/r^2$  law

### By-products:

- Lunar interior
- Coordinate systems
- Geophysics

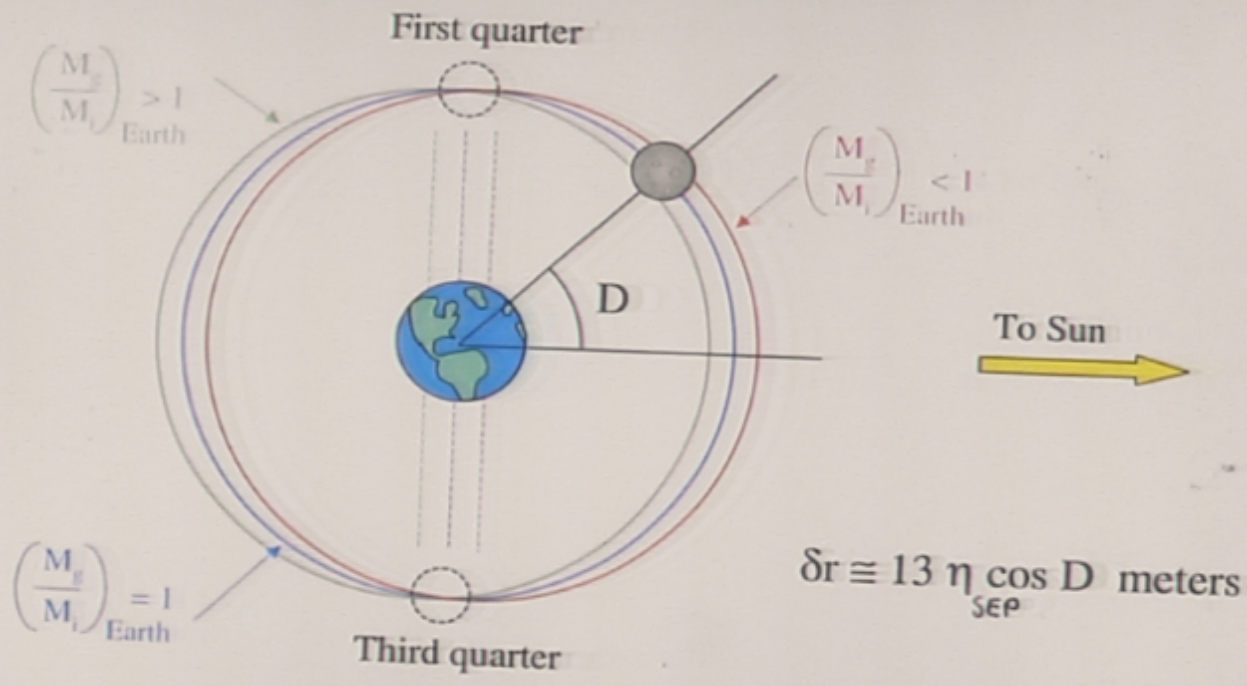
Apollo 11 reflector

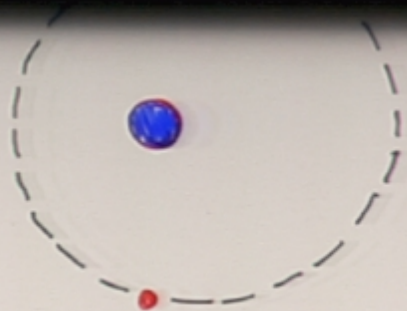


Retro-reflector

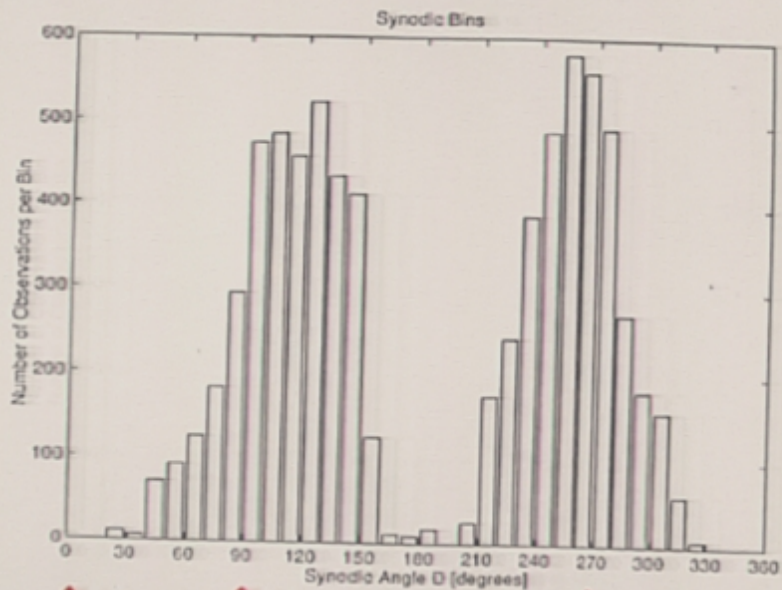


# Orbital Perturbations





to the sun

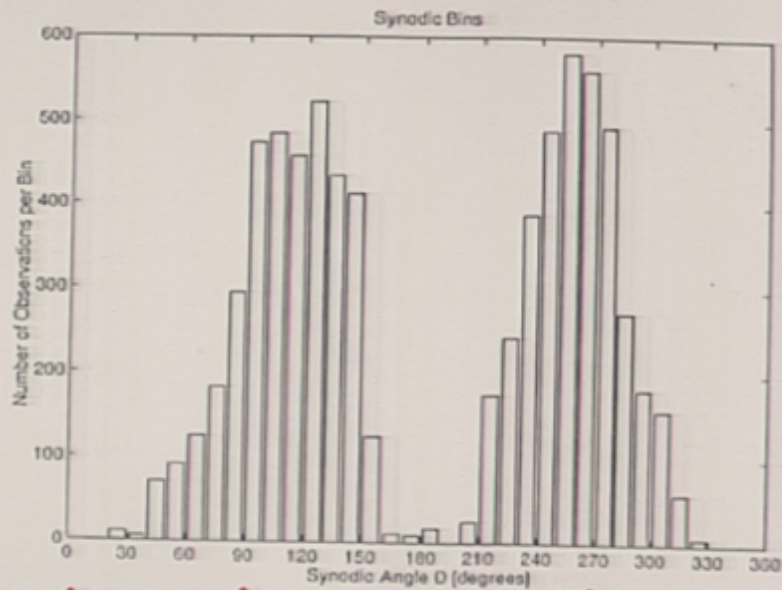
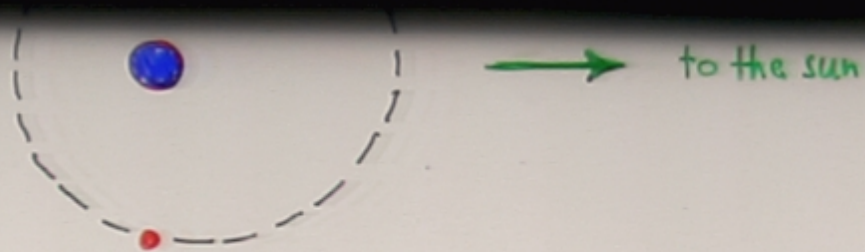


↑  
NEW MOON

↑  
1/4 moon

↑  
full moon

↑  
3/4 moon



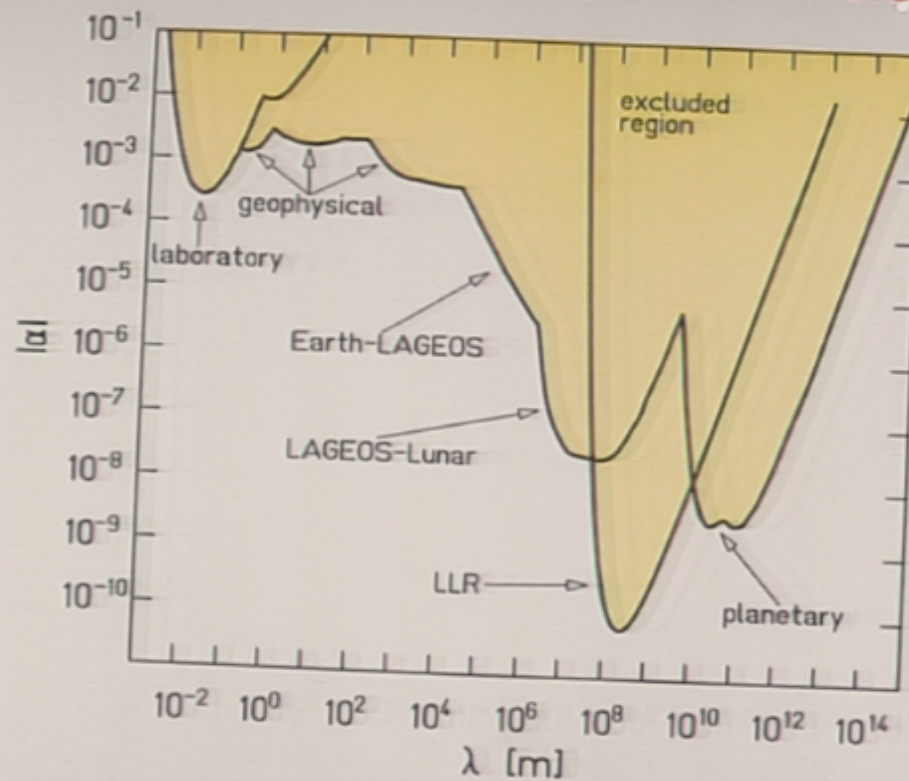
↑  
new moon

↑  
1/4 moon

↑  
full moon

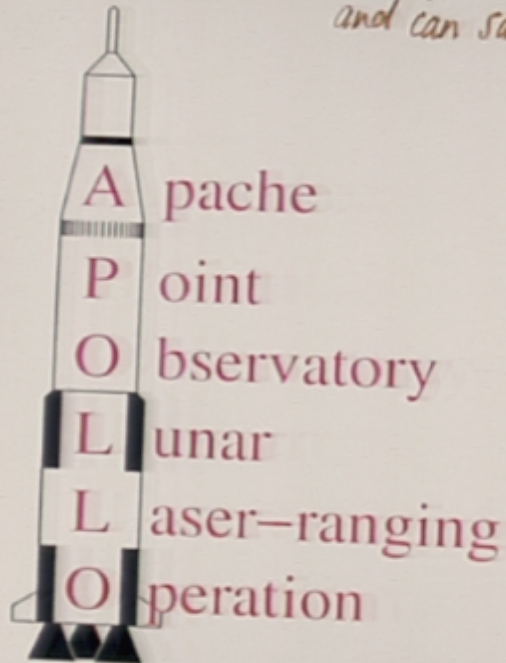
↑  
3/4 moon

## Constraints on Long-Range Yukawa Forces



## APOLLO: Next-Generation Lunar Laser Ranging

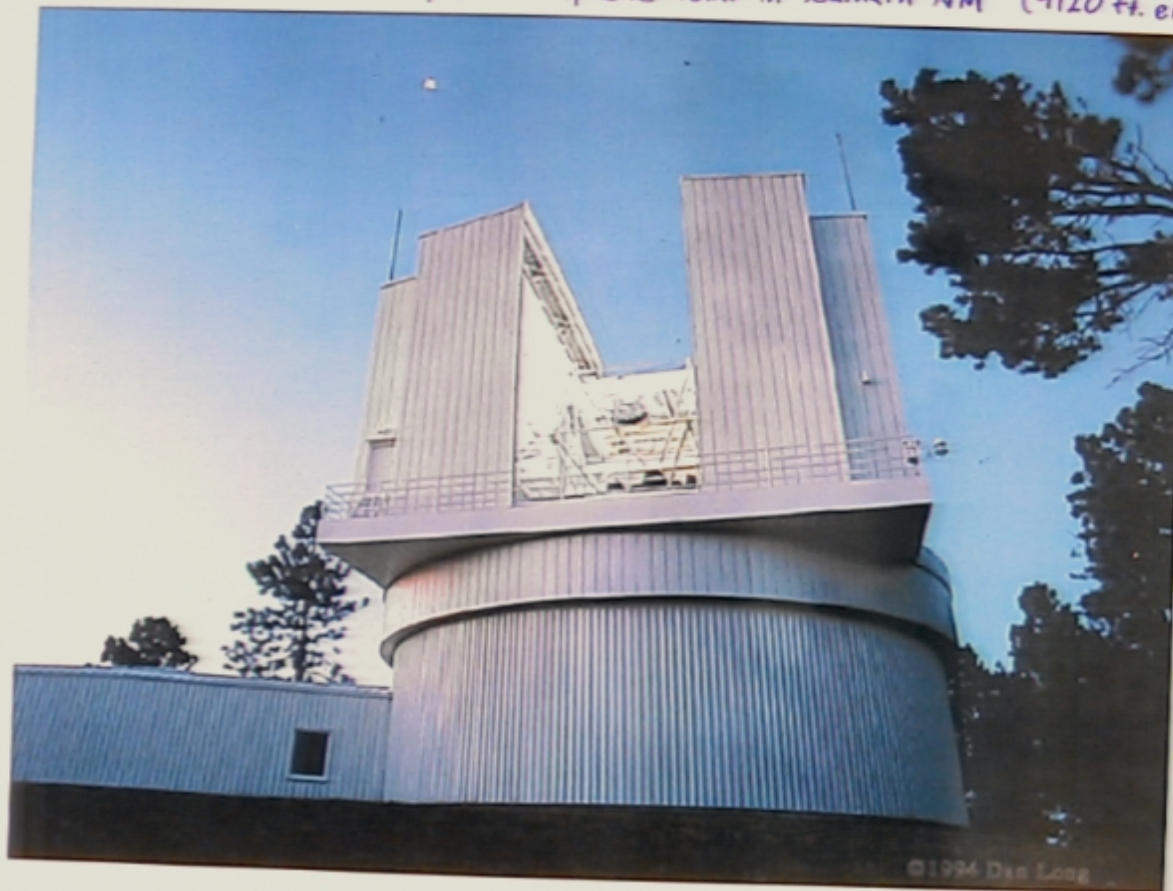
*will give more than 100 times greater event rate  
and can sample almost the entire lunar cycle.*



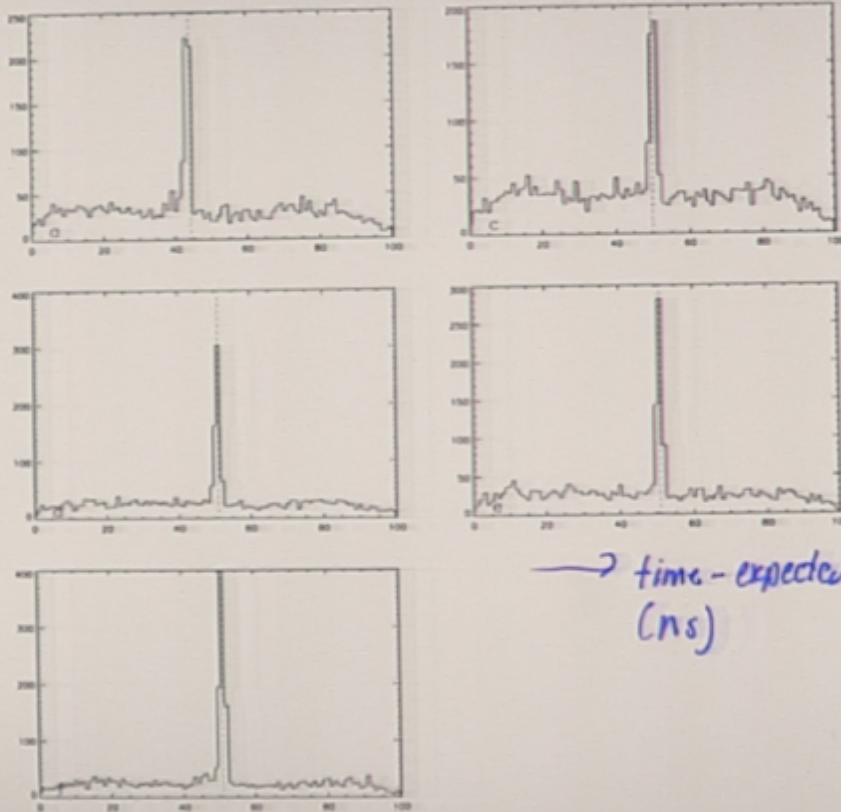
Tom Murphy	UCSD
Eric Adelberger	UW
Chris Stubbs	Harvard
Ken Nordtvedt	Northwest Analysis
Jim Williams	JPL
Jean Dickey	JPL
Bruce Gillespie	Apache Point Observatory
John Goodkind	UCSD



3.5 meter telescope at Apache Point in Southern NM (9120 ft. elev.)

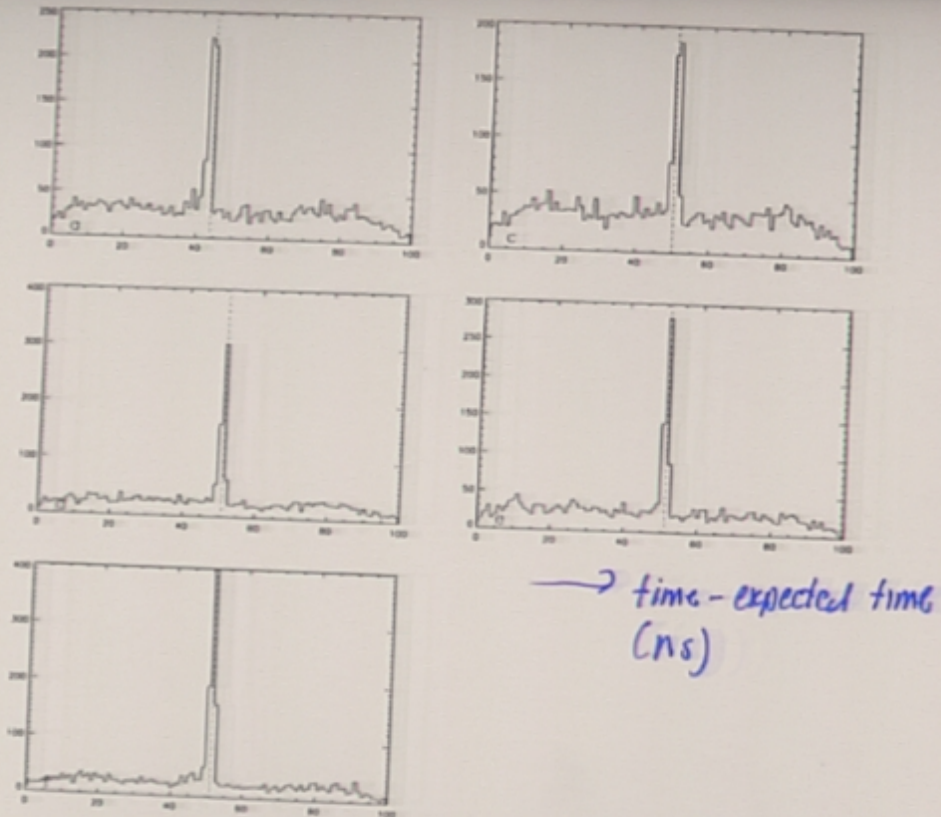


APOLLO ranges to the full moon  
30 minutes of data



→ time-expected time  
(ms)

30 minutes of data

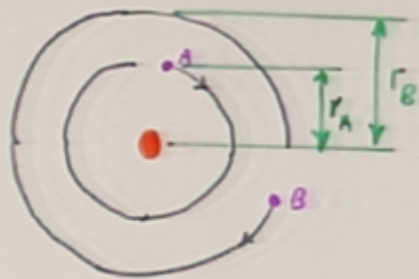


In 30 minutes we got as many photon returns as McDonald LLR facility did in 3 yrs (2000-2003)

## APOLLO Expectations for $1\sigma$ Uncertainties

- One-millimeter RMS normal point precision
- Strong EP to  $\eta_{SEP} \approx 3 \times 10^{-5}$ : (2 years;  $t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  thereafter)
- Weak EP to  $\Delta a/a \approx 10^{-14}$ : (2 years;  $t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  thereafter)
- Gravitomagnetism to  $10^{-4}$ : (2 years;  $t^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  thereafter)
- $\dot{G}/G$  to  $10^{-13} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ : (5 years;  $t^{-\frac{5}{2}}$  thereafter)
- Geodetic precession to  $\approx 3 \times 10^{-4}$ : (10 years;  $t^{-\frac{3}{2}}$  thereafter)
- Similar order-of-magnitude gains in lunar science, coordinate determinations, etc.

Any given test of the  $1/r^2$  law is sensitive to a restricted range of length scales



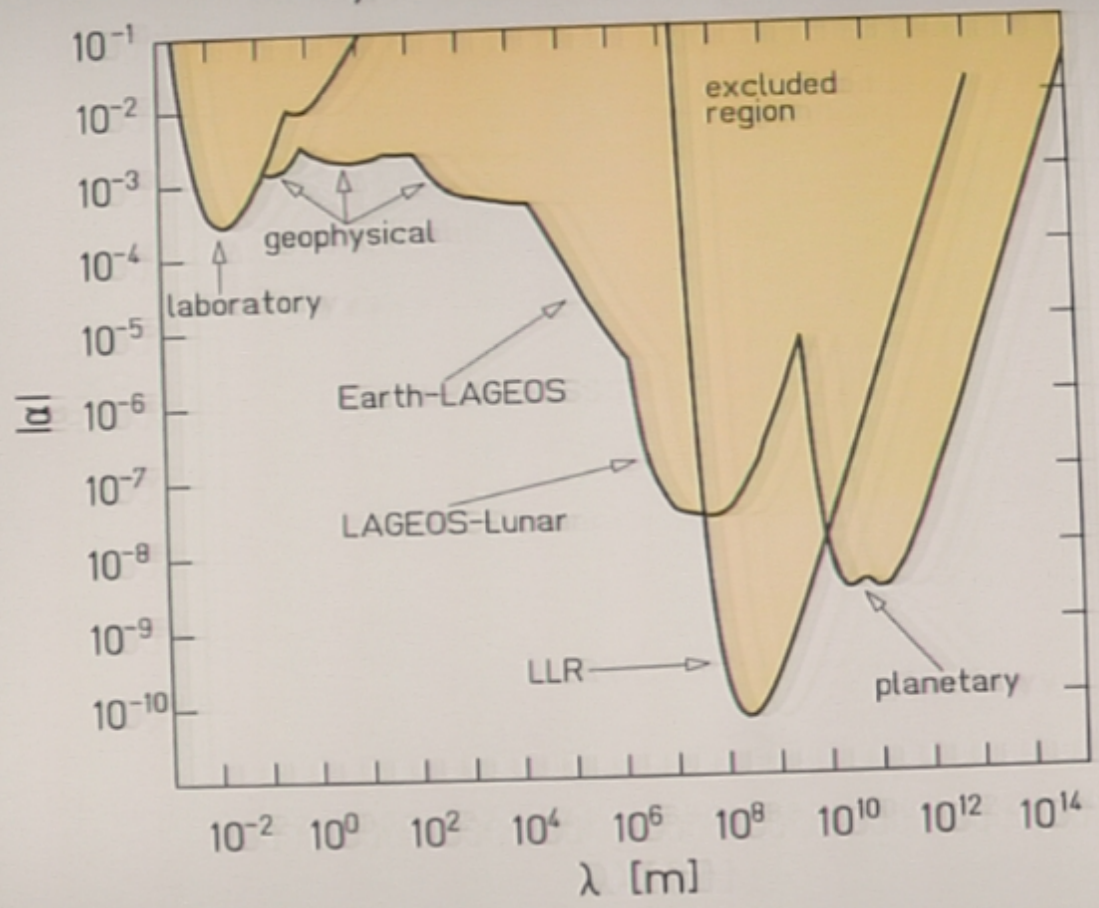
$$\frac{T_A^2}{r_A^3} = \frac{T_B^2}{r_B^3} ?$$



precession of perigee?

$\therefore$  need many different approaches to cover a wide range of length scales

95% confidence limits



What might be special about gravity at  $r \lesssim 1 \text{ mm}$ ?

- mass scale of gravity

$$M_p = \sqrt{\hbar c / G} \sim 10^{16} \text{ TeV}$$

can be unified with mass scale of particle physics

$$M_{\text{part}} \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$$

if 2 of the extra dimensions a "large" with size  $\sim 1 \text{ mm}$

- cosmological constant from distant supernovae + CMB

$$\Lambda \sim 4 \text{ keV/cm}^3$$

corresponds to a length  $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm}$

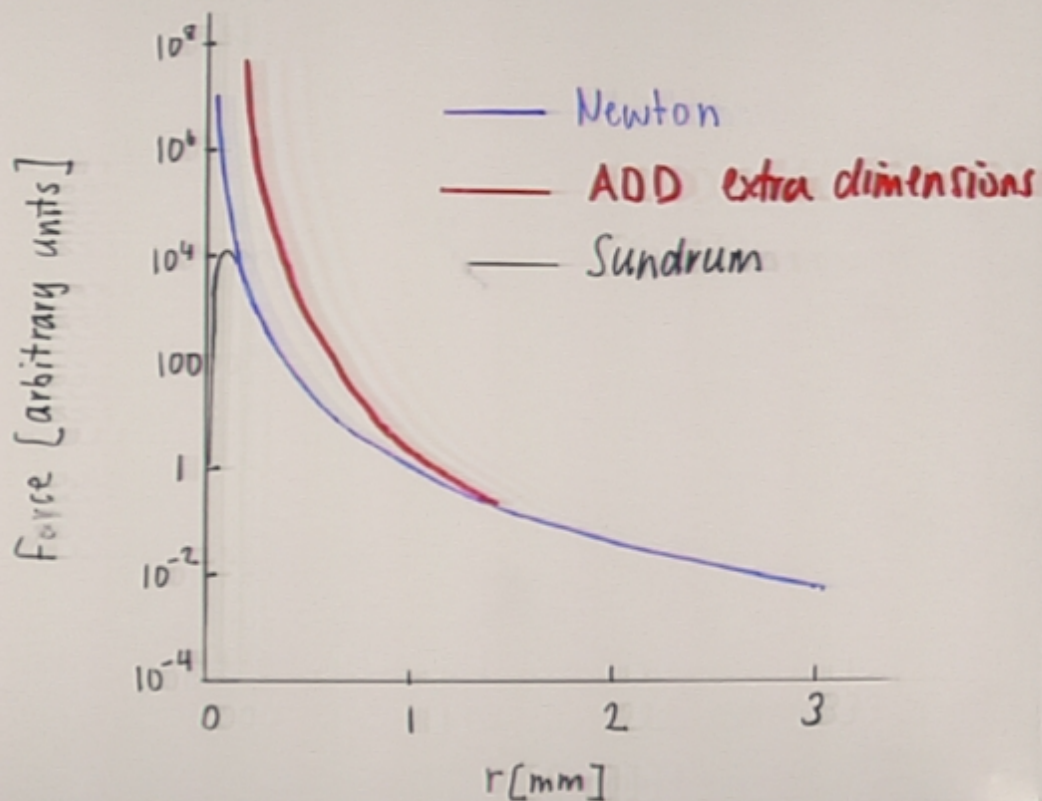
- generically interesting mass scale

$$(M_{\text{part}})^2 / M_p$$

corresponds to a length  $\sim 1 \text{ mm}$

- essentially nothing is known about quantum gravity

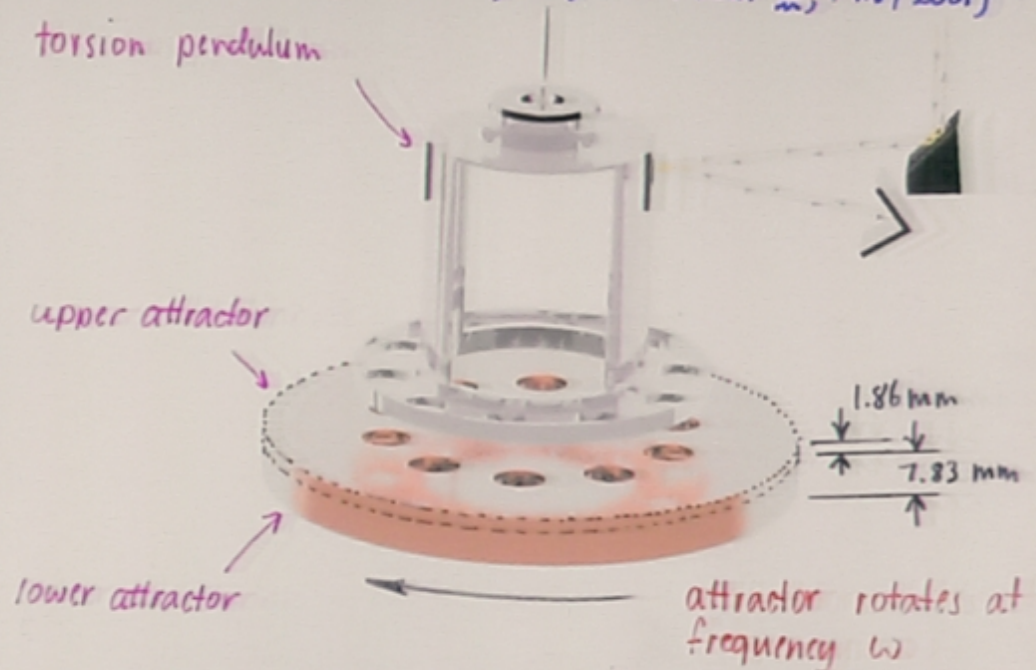
PREDICTIONS FOR  $1/4^2$  LAW BREAKDOWN



← unexplored region →



Washington short-range instrument  
Hoyle et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 86, 1419 (2001)



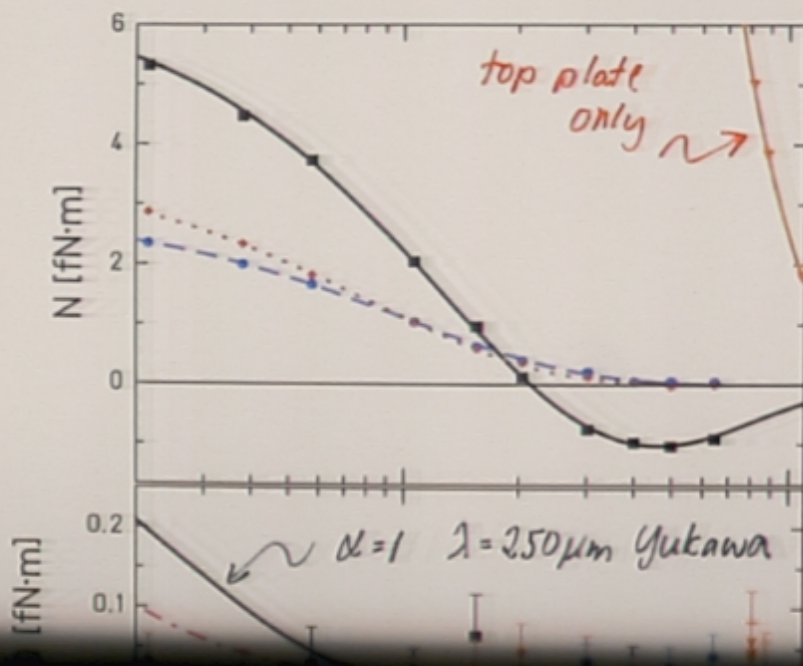
- the 10 holes in the lower attractor are "out of phase" with the holes in the upper attractor.
- this cancels Newtonian gravity torque

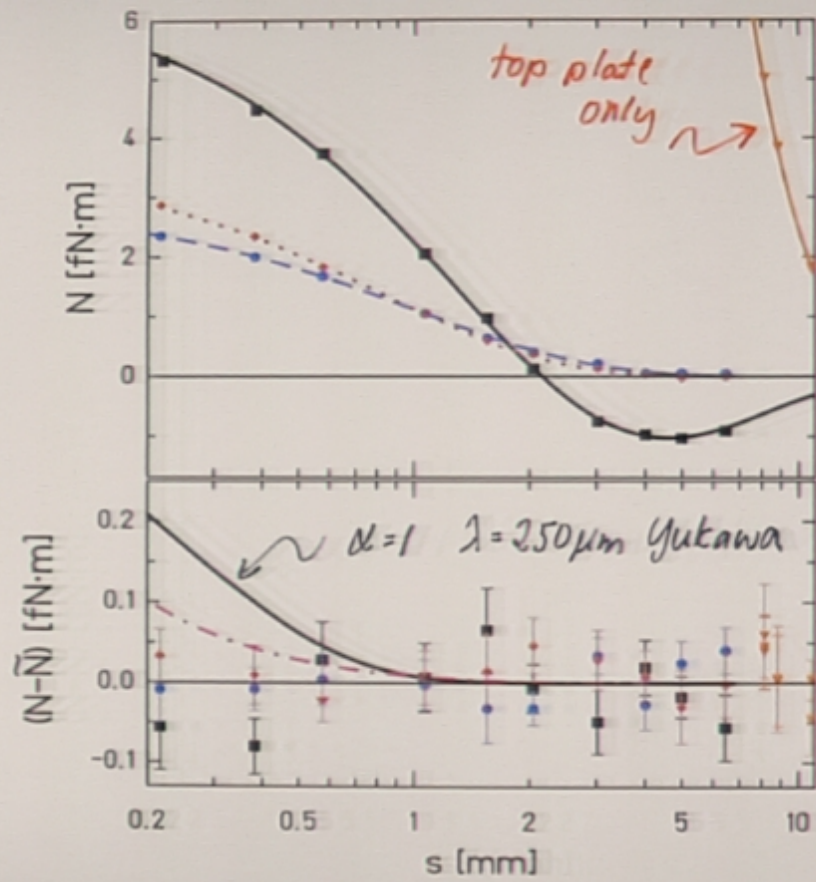
Eöt-Wash Mark II Zimt-Runde Instrument



Hoyle et al. 10-hole data

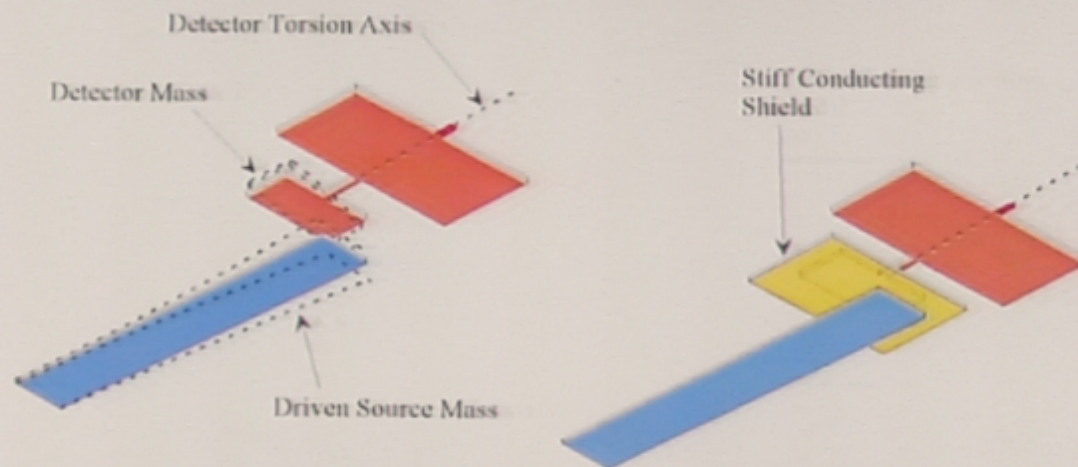
— 10 w torque  
- - 20 w torque  
... 30 w torque





Long et al., Nature 421, 922 (2003)

### Planar Geometry



$$F_Y (d=1, \lambda = 100 \mu\text{m})$$

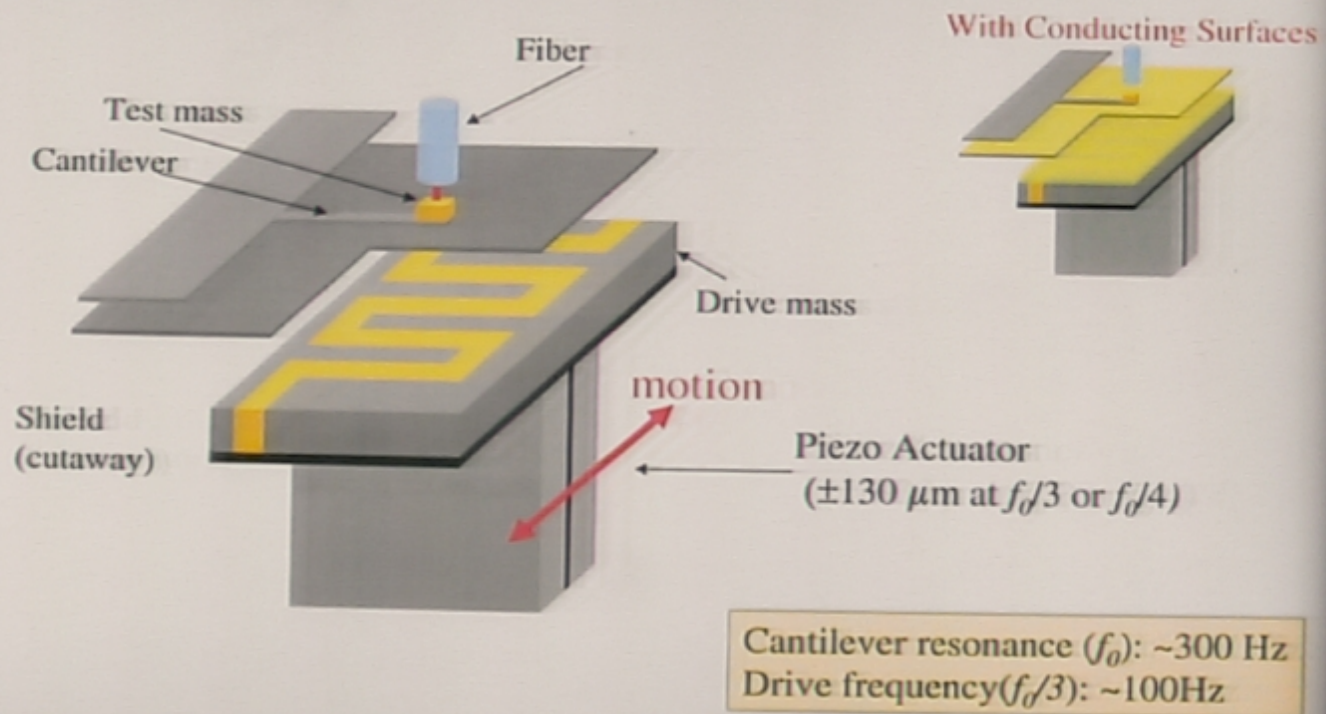
$$\approx 1 \times 10^{-14} \text{ N}$$

Source and Detector  
Oscillators

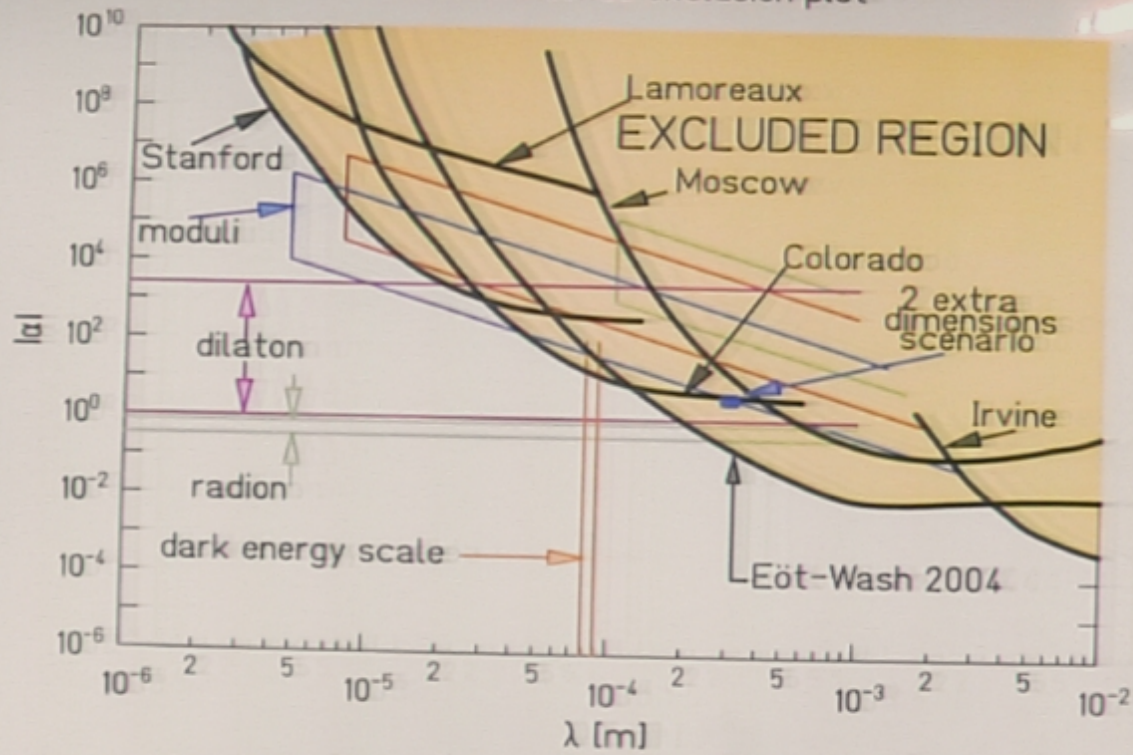
Shield for Background  
Suppression

# Stanford's Experiment

*Chiaverini et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 90, 151101 (2003)*

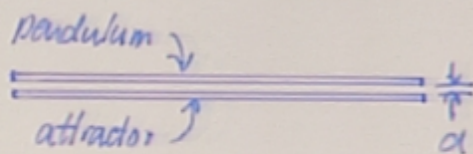


95% confidence exclusion plot



Scaling relations for detector sensitivity  
to new short-range physics

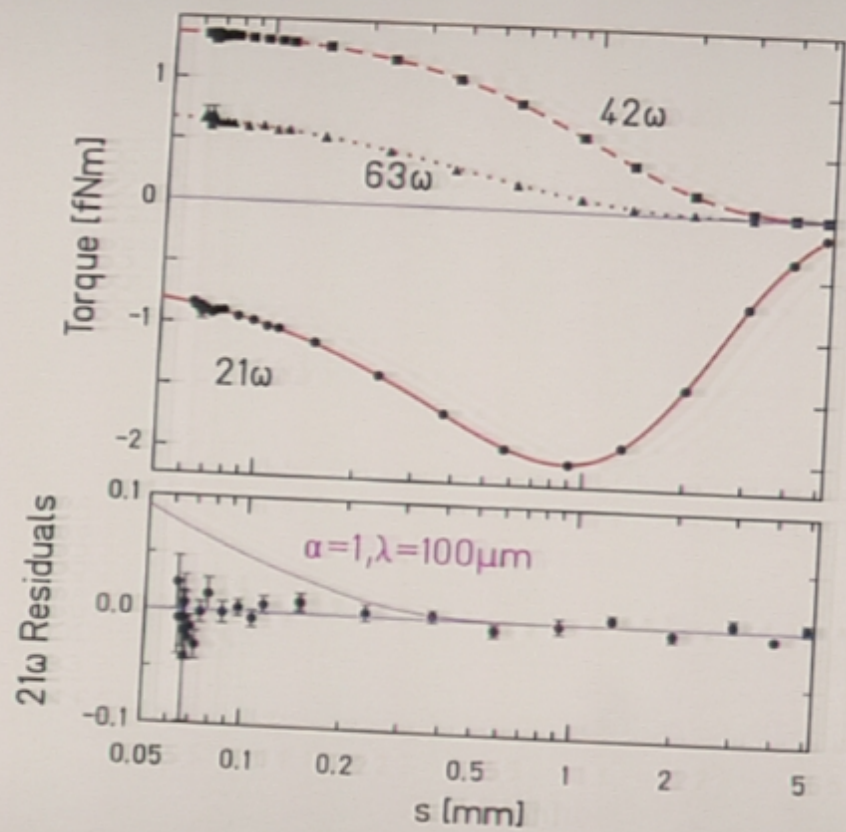
$$\text{torque} = N_{s.r.} = \frac{\Delta E_{s.r.}}{\Delta \theta}$$



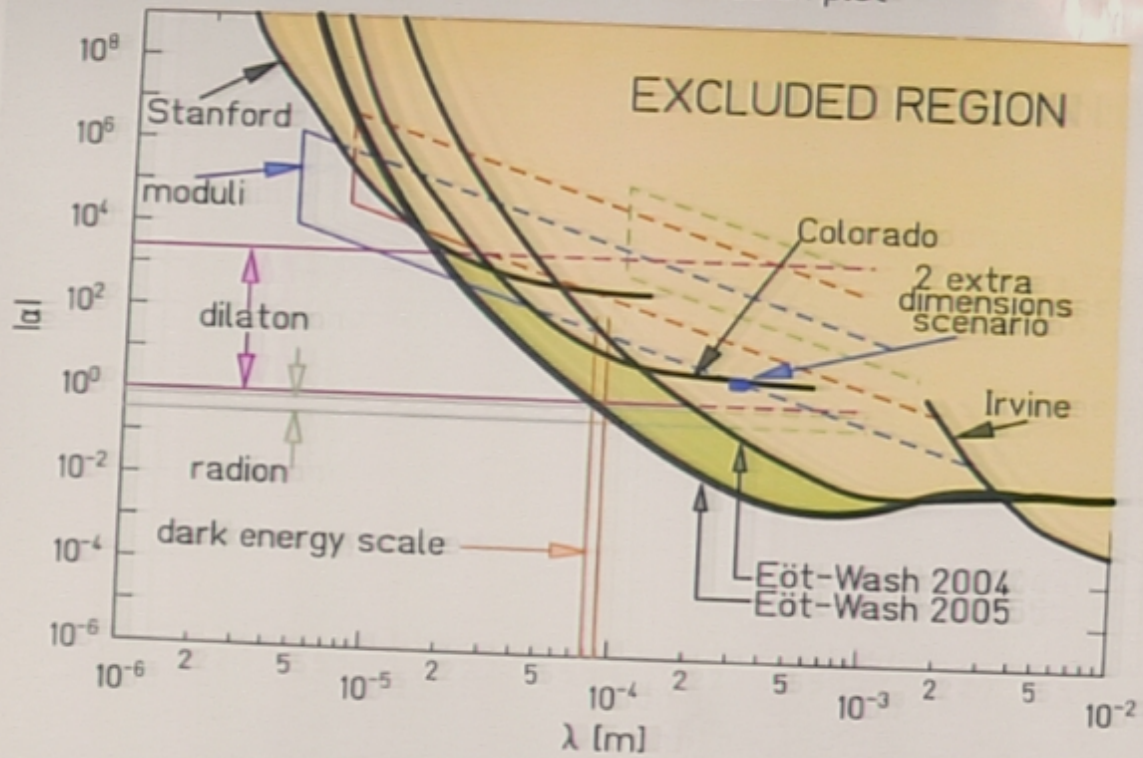
$$E_{s.r.} = A \rho_1 \rho_2 \lambda^3 e^{-d/\lambda}$$

$$N_{s.r.} = \frac{\Delta A}{\Delta \theta} \rho_1 \rho_2 \lambda^3 e^{-d/\lambda}$$

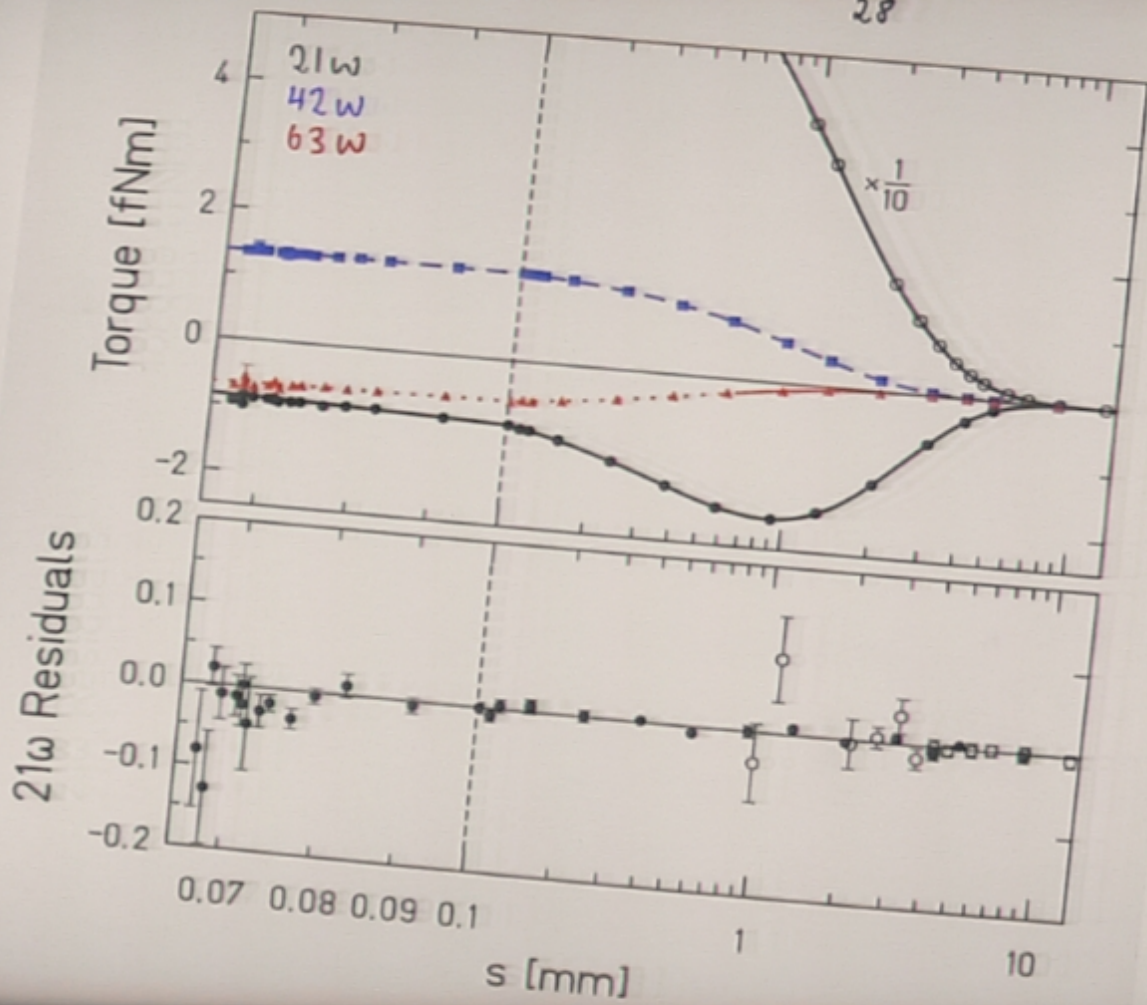




95% confidence exclusion plot



data taken with  $\omega = \frac{\omega_0}{2.8}$



- We see an apparent deviation at small distances ( $s < 100 \mu\text{m}$ )

- Is this real?

- check for experimental artifact by shaving  $140 \mu\text{m}$  off lower attractor plate

- greatly reduces Newtonian  $2lw$  torque, but has essentially no effect on short-range interaction

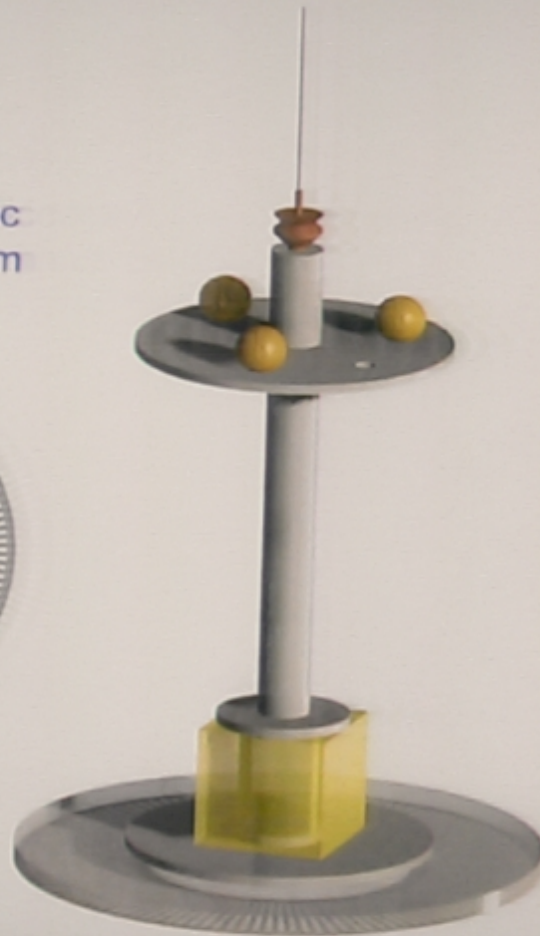
- if anomaly persists, must distinguish between new 'gravitational' physics & subtle EM effect

- replace Mo detector ring with Al ring of same dimensions

- gravity force reduced by  $\rho_{\text{Al}}/\rho_{\text{Mo}}$
    - but EM effects virtually unchanged

# Wedge Pendulum

120 Fold Symmetric  
Tungsten Pendulum  
(50 $\mu$ m Thick)  
*Rhenium*



## SUMMARY

- to probe the true geometry of the Universe must study gravity
- this is done most directly by testing the  $1/r^2$  law
- our tests have shown that  $1/r^2$  law holds down to  $\lambda \sim 80 \mu\text{m}$  ( $|\alpha| = 1$ ) at 95% confidence
  - $\Rightarrow$  largest extra dimension must have size  $R_* \leq 63 \mu\text{m}$  ( $\alpha = 8/3$ )
  - $\Rightarrow$  2 equal extra dimensions require  $R_* \leq 53 \mu\text{m}$  ( $\alpha = 16/3$ ) and a unification scale  $M_* \geq 2.4 \text{ TeV}$
- we do see anomalies at shorter length scales (apparent weakening of gravity or new repulsive force)