

Title: Fundamental physics with atom interferometry

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Abstract: Precision atom interferometry is poised to become a powerful tool for discovery in fundamental physics. Towards this end, I will describe recent, record-breaking atom interferometry experiments performed in a 10 meter drop tower that demonstrate long-lived quantum superposition states with macroscopic spatial separations. The potential of this type of sensor is only beginning to be realized, and the ongoing march toward higher sensitivity will enable a diverse science impact, including new limits on the equivalence principle, probes of quantum mechanics, and detection of gravitational waves. Gravitational wave astronomy is particularly compelling since it opens up a new window into the universe, collecting information about astrophysical systems and cosmology that is difficult or impossible to acquire by other methods. Atom interferometric gravitational wave detection offers a number of advantages over traditional approaches, including simplified detector geometries, access to conventionally inaccessible frequency ranges, and substantially reduced antenna baselines.



Fundamental physics with atom interferometry

Perimeter Institute

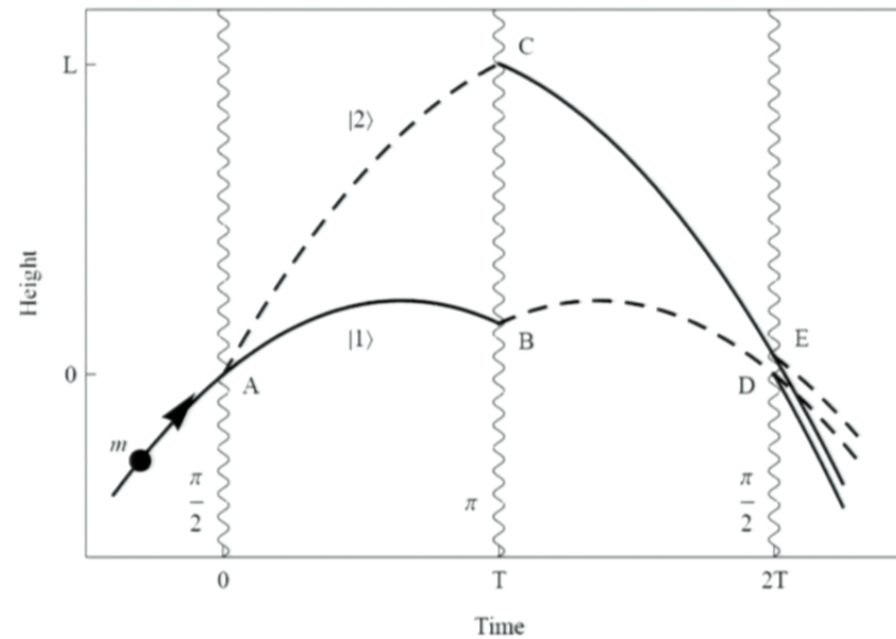
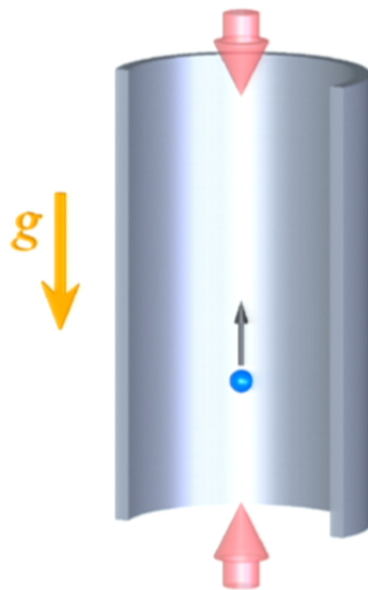
Jason Hogan

June 17, 2014

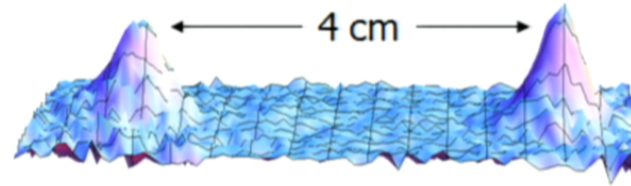
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Light Pulse Atom Interferometry



- Long duration
- Large wavepacket separation



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Equivalence Principle

*Bodies fall at the same rate,
independent of composition*

$$\eta = \frac{\Delta a}{\bar{a}}$$

Why test the EP?

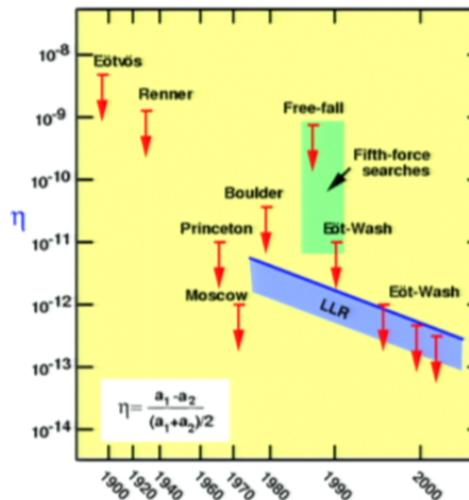
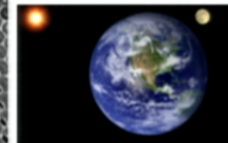
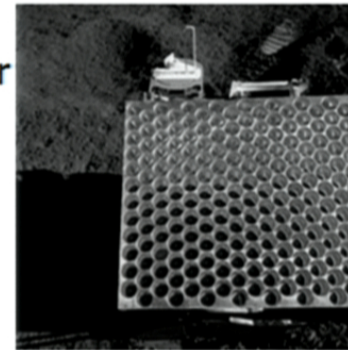
- Foundation of General Relativity
- Quantum theory of gravity (?)

Torsion balance
(University of
Washington)



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Lunar Laser
Ranging



C. Will, *Living Reviews*

★ ^{85}Rb vs ^{87}Rb
 10^{-15} (?)

Projected Sensitivity

$$\frac{\delta g}{g} \sim \frac{\delta \phi}{k_{\text{eff}} g T^2}$$

$$\Delta \phi = k_{\text{eff}} g T^2 \approx 3 \times 10^8 \text{ rad}$$

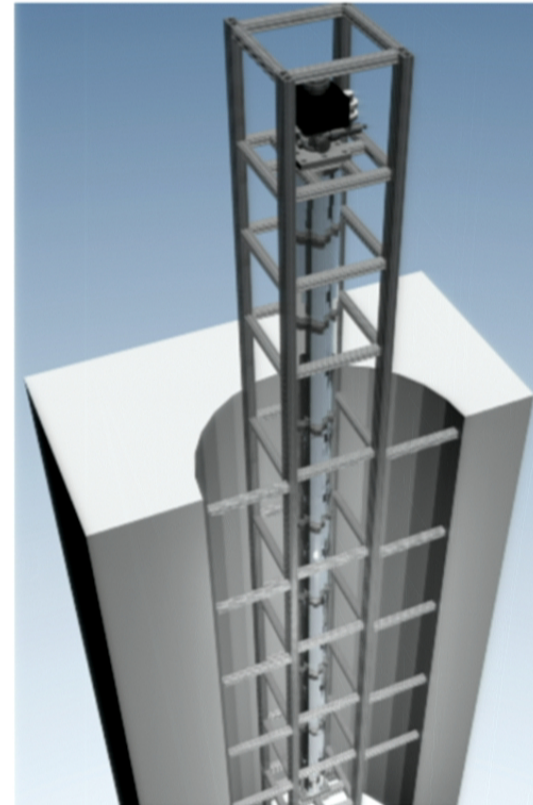
$$(2T \sim 2 \text{ s}, \\ k_{\text{eff}} = 2k)$$

Shot noise limited detection @ 10^7 atoms per shot:

$$\delta \phi \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sim 3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ rad} \quad (\sim 1 \text{ month})$$

$$\delta g < 10^{-15} g$$

10 m atom drop tower



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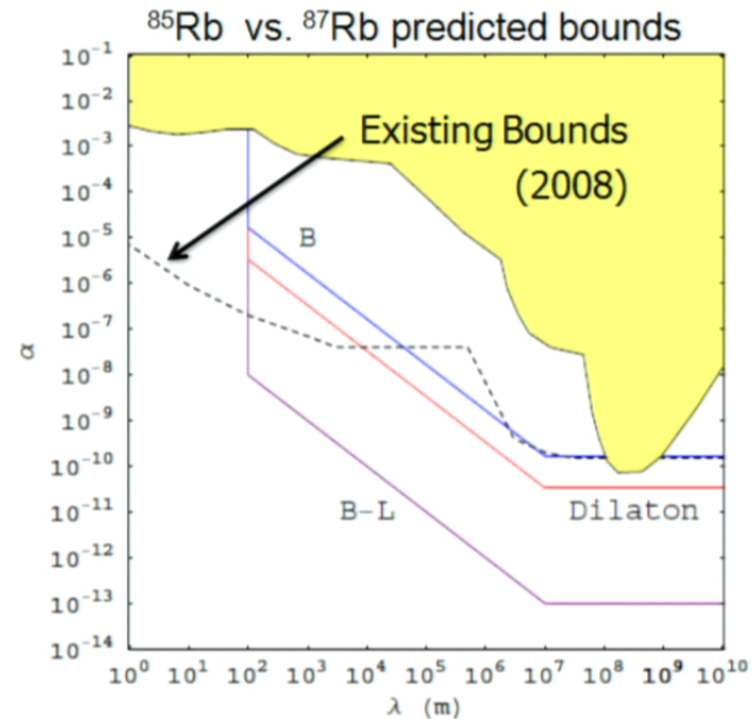
Equivalence Principle Test

Violations of EP due to fifth forces

Yukawa type:

$$V(r) = -\frac{GM_1M_2}{r} (1 + \alpha e^{-r/\lambda})$$

EP tests are sensitive to charge differences of new forces

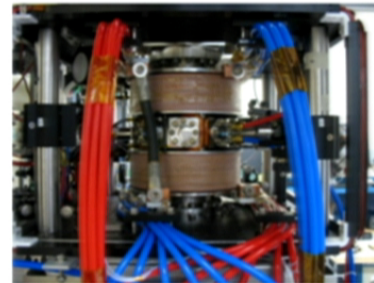
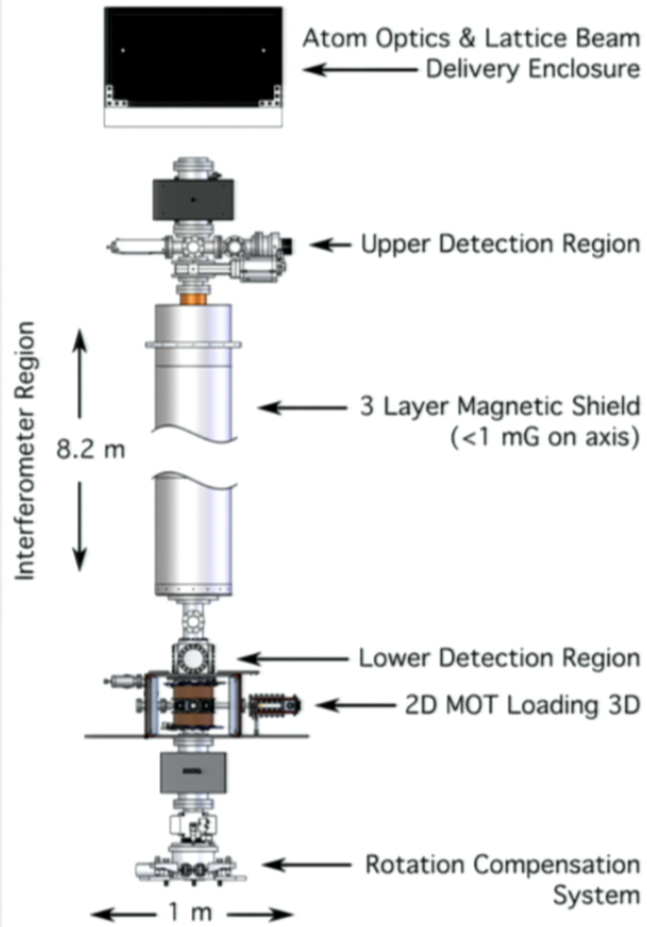


Analysis by P. Graham

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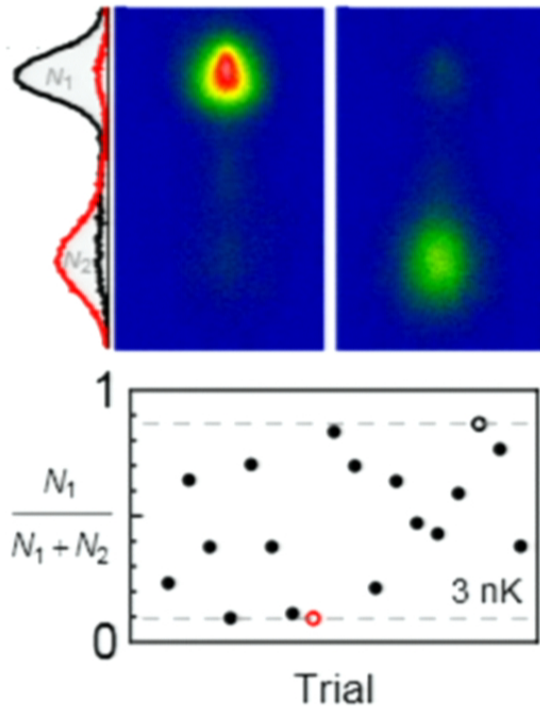


Apparatus

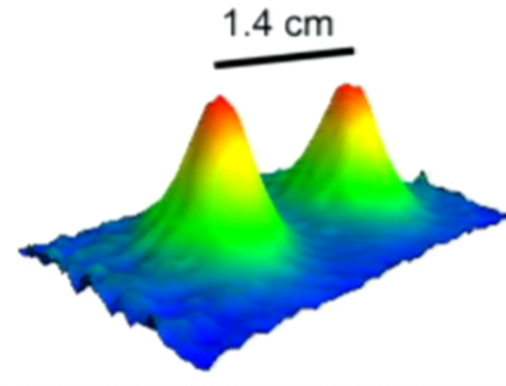


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Interference at long interrogation time



Interference (3 nK cloud)



Wavepacket separation at apex (this data 50 nK)

$2T = 2.3$ sec

Near full contrast

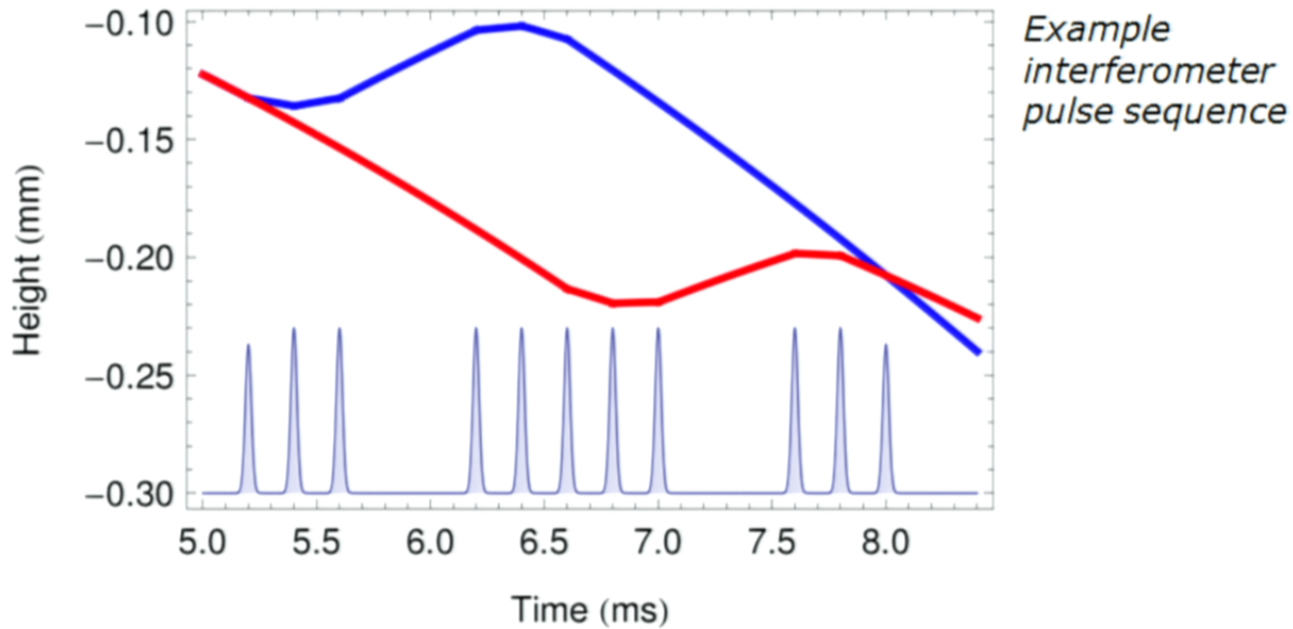
6.7×10^{-12} g/shot (inferred)

Demonstrated statistical resolution:
 $\sim 5 \times 10^{-13}$ g in 1 hr (^{87}Rb)



Large momentum transfer atom optics

Sequences of optical pulses can be used to realize large separations between interferometer arms.



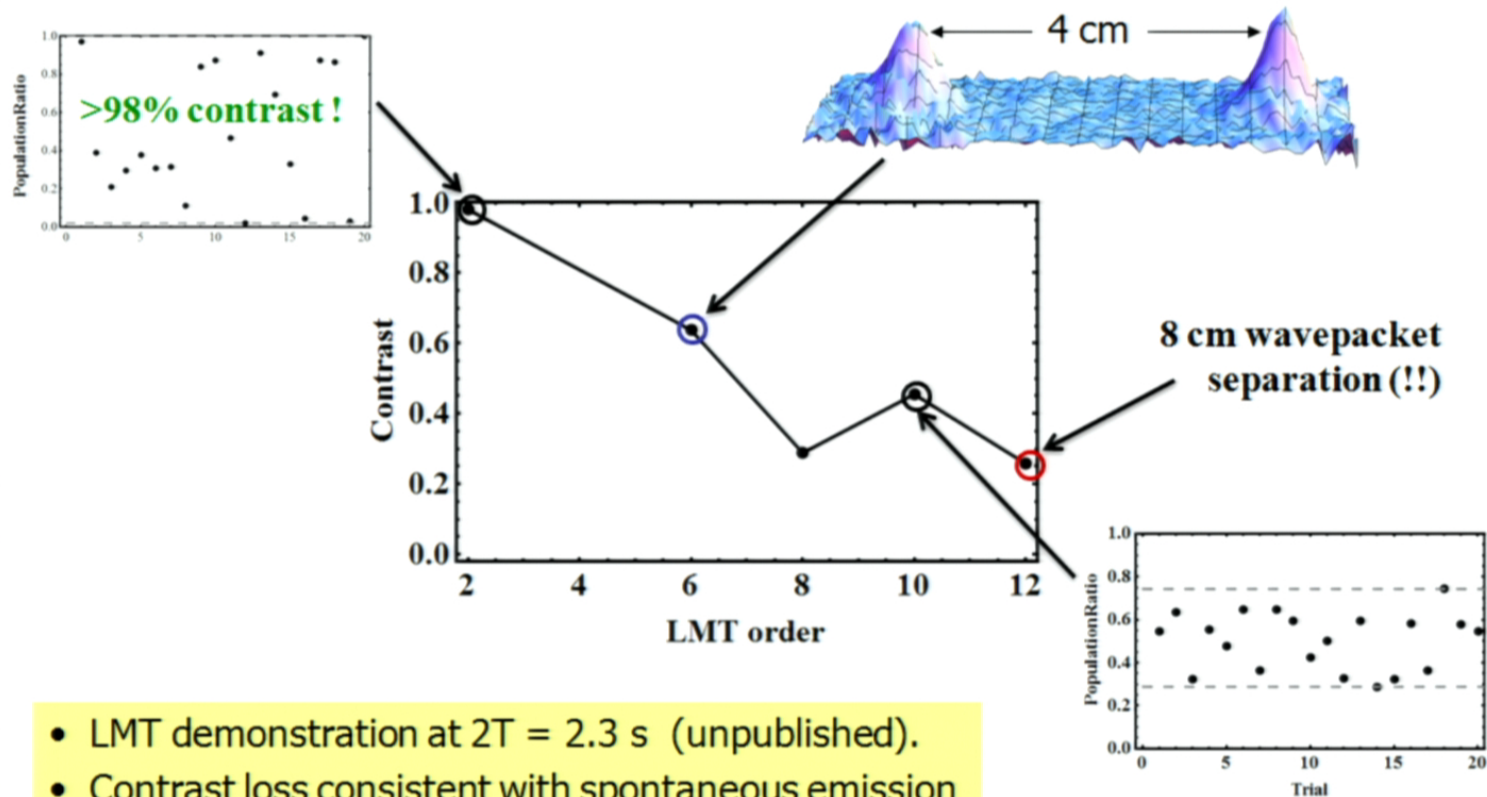
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Chiuw, PRL, 2011



LMT in 10 m apparatus

LMT using **sequential Raman** transitions with long interrogation time.



- LMT demonstration at $2T = 2.3$ s (unpublished).
- Contrast loss consistent with spontaneous emission

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General Relativity Effects

Schwarzschild metric, PPN expansion:

$$ds^2 = (1 + 2\phi + 2\beta\phi^2)dt^2 - (1 - 2\gamma\phi)dr^2 - r^2d\Omega^2$$

$$\frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = -\vec{\nabla}[\phi + (\beta + \gamma)\phi^2] + \gamma[3(\vec{v} \cdot \hat{r})^2 - 2\vec{v}^2]\vec{\nabla}\phi + 2\vec{v}(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}\phi).$$



Corresponding AI phase shifts:

	Phase Shift	Size (rad)	Interpretation
1.	$-k_{\text{eff}}gT^2$	3×10^8	gravity
2.	$-k_{\text{eff}}(\partial_r g)T^3v_L$	-2×10^3	1st gradient
3.	$-3k_{\text{eff}}gT^2v_L$	4×10^1	Doppler shift
4.	$(2 - 2\beta - \gamma)k_{\text{eff}}g\phi T^2$	2×10^{-1}	GR
5.	$-\frac{7}{12}k_{\text{eff}}(\partial_r^2 g)T^4v_L^2$	8×10^{-3}	2nd gradient
6.	$-5k_{\text{eff}}gT^2v_L^2$	3×10^{-6}	GR
7.	$(2 - 2\beta - \gamma)k_{\text{eff}}\partial_r(g\phi)T^3v_L$	2×10^{-6}	GR 1st grad
8.	$-12k_{\text{eff}}g^2T^3v_L$	-6×10^{-7}	GR

Projected experimental limits:

Tested Effect	current limit	AI initial	AI upgrade	AI future	AI far future
PoE	3×10^{-13}	10^{-15}	10^{-16}	10^{-17}	10^{-19}
PPN (β, γ)	$10^{-4}-10^{-5}$	10^{-1}	10^{-2}	10^{-4}	10^{-6}

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(Dimopoulos, *et al.*, PRL 2007; PRD 2008)



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↑
Newtonian
Gravity

↑
Gravity
Gravitates

↑
Kinetic Energy
Gravitates

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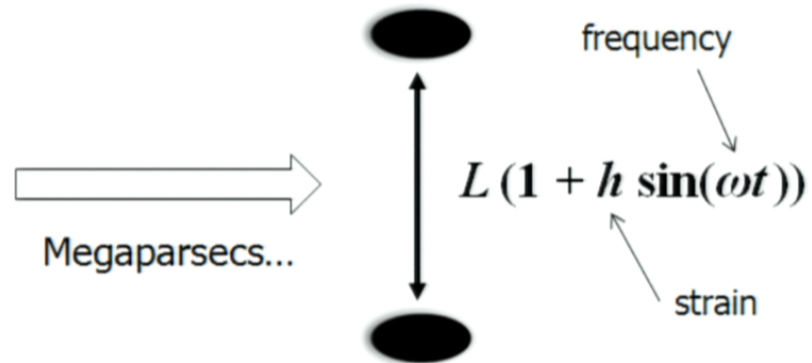
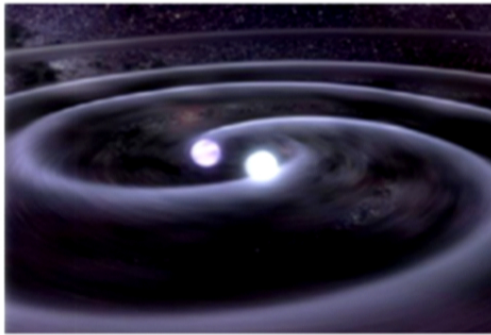
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(Dimopoulos, *et al.*, PRL 2007; PRD 2008)



Gravitational Wave Detection

$$ds^2 = dt^2 - (1 + h \sin(\omega(t - z)))dx^2 - (1 - h \sin(\omega(t - z)))dy^2 - dz^2$$



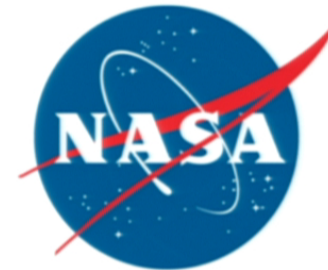
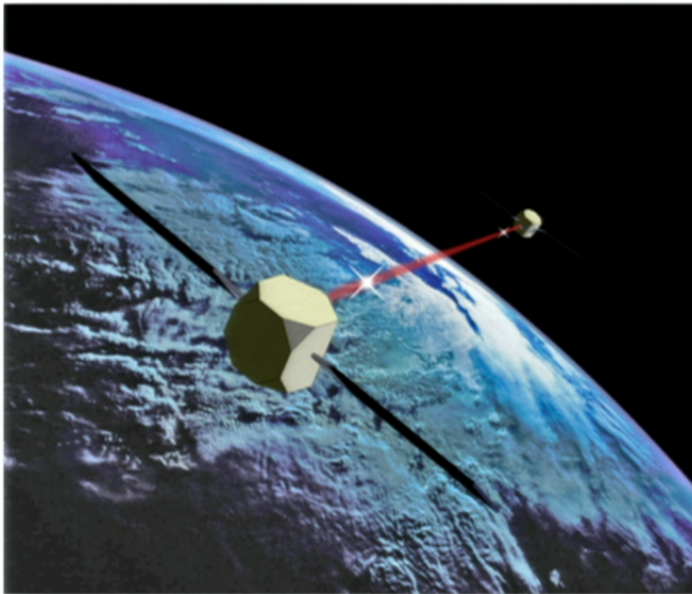
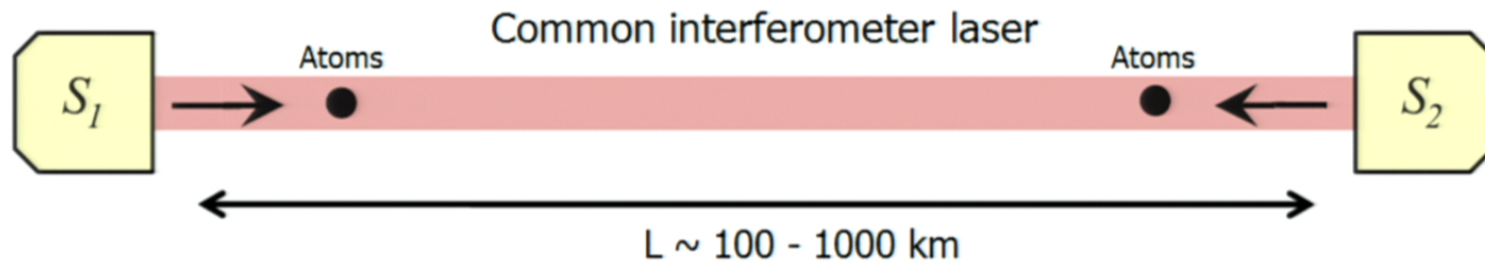
Why study gravitational waves?

- *New carrier for astronomy:* Generated by moving mass instead of electric charge
- *Tests of gravity:* Extreme systems (e.g., black hole binaries) test general relativity
- *Cosmology:* Can see to the earliest times in the universe

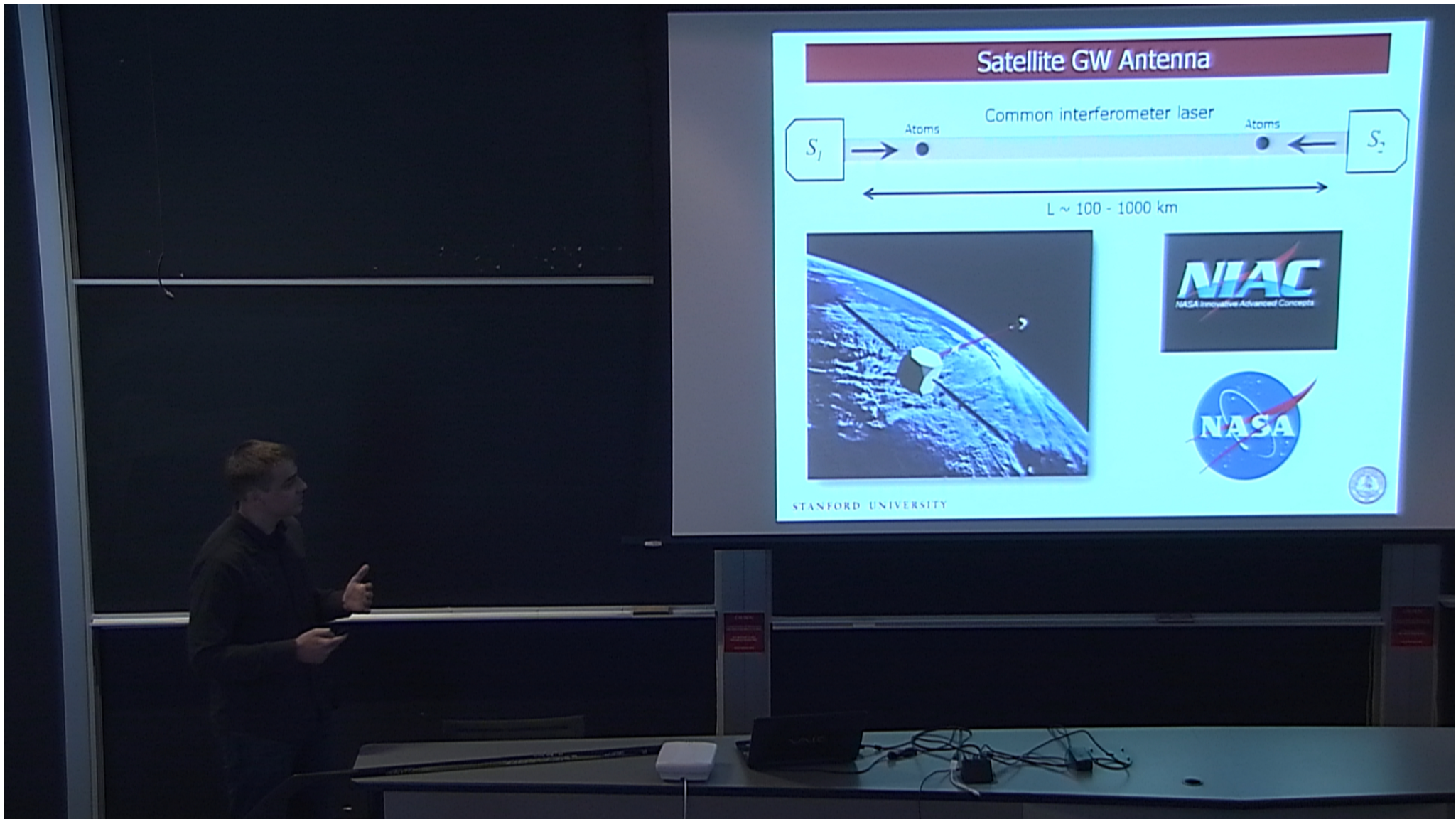
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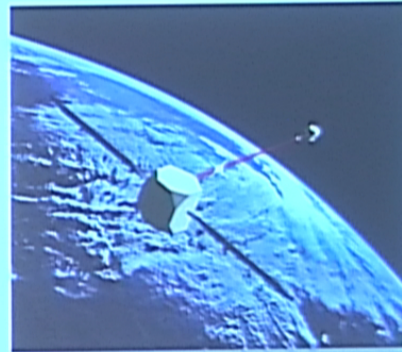
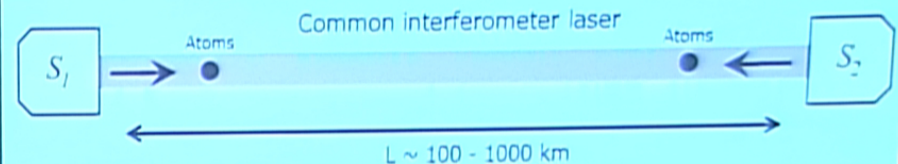
Satellite GW Antenna



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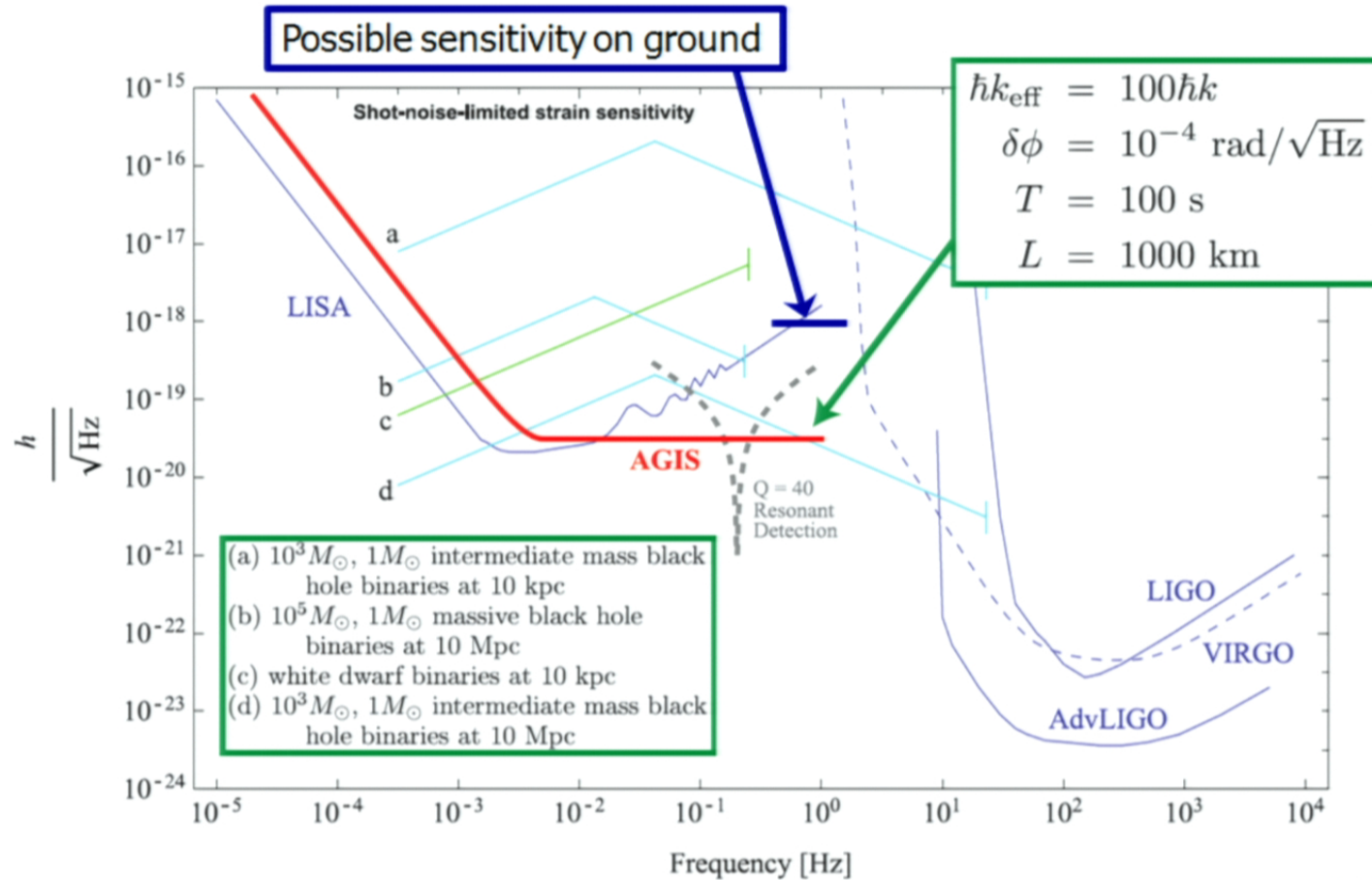


Satellite GW Antenna



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Potential Strain Sensitivity

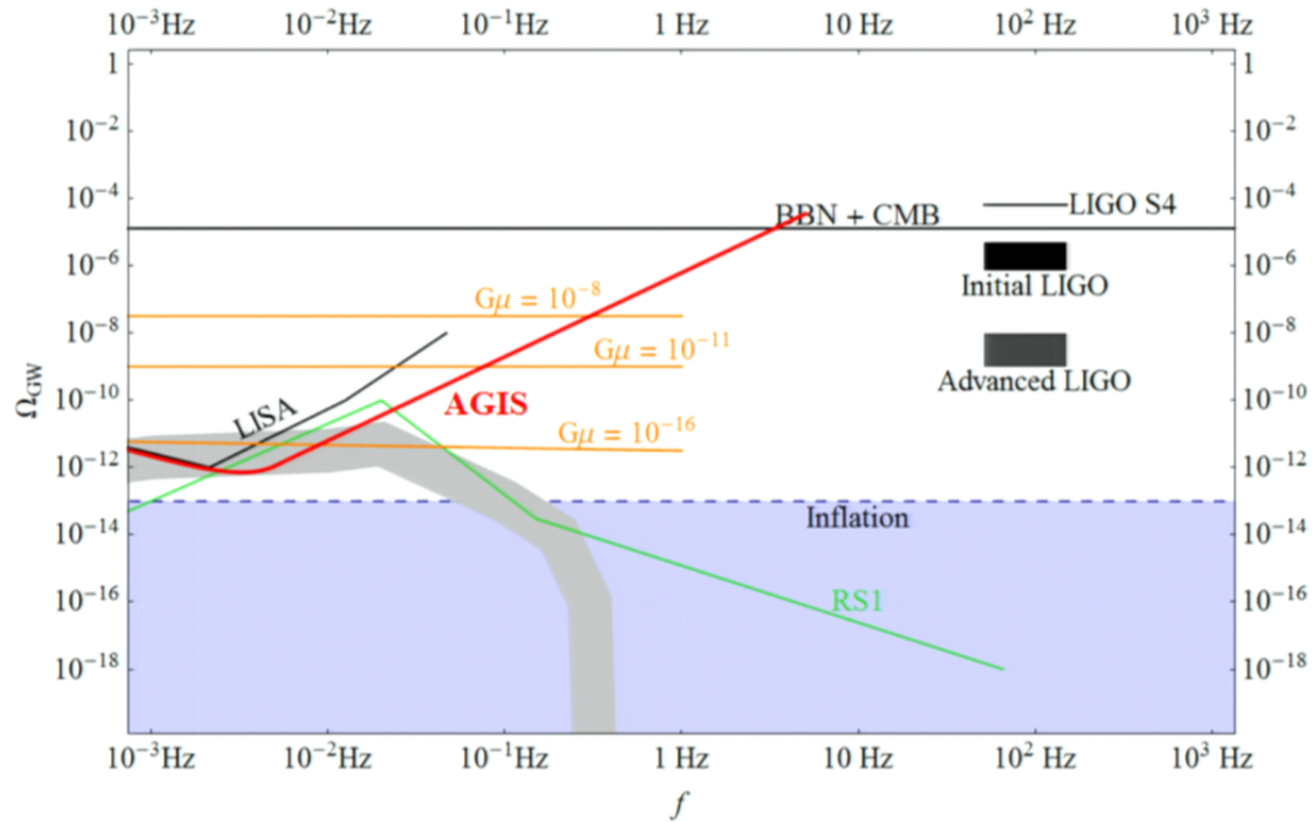


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J. Hogan, et al., GRG **43**, 7 (2011).



Stochastic GW Sensitivity



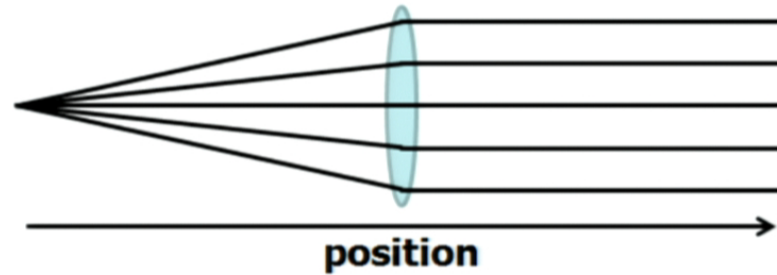
Requires correlation among multiple independent baselines

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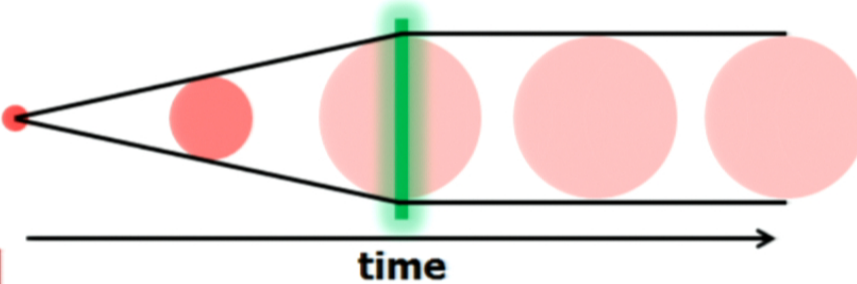


Atom Lens Cooling

Optical Collimation:



Atom Cooling:

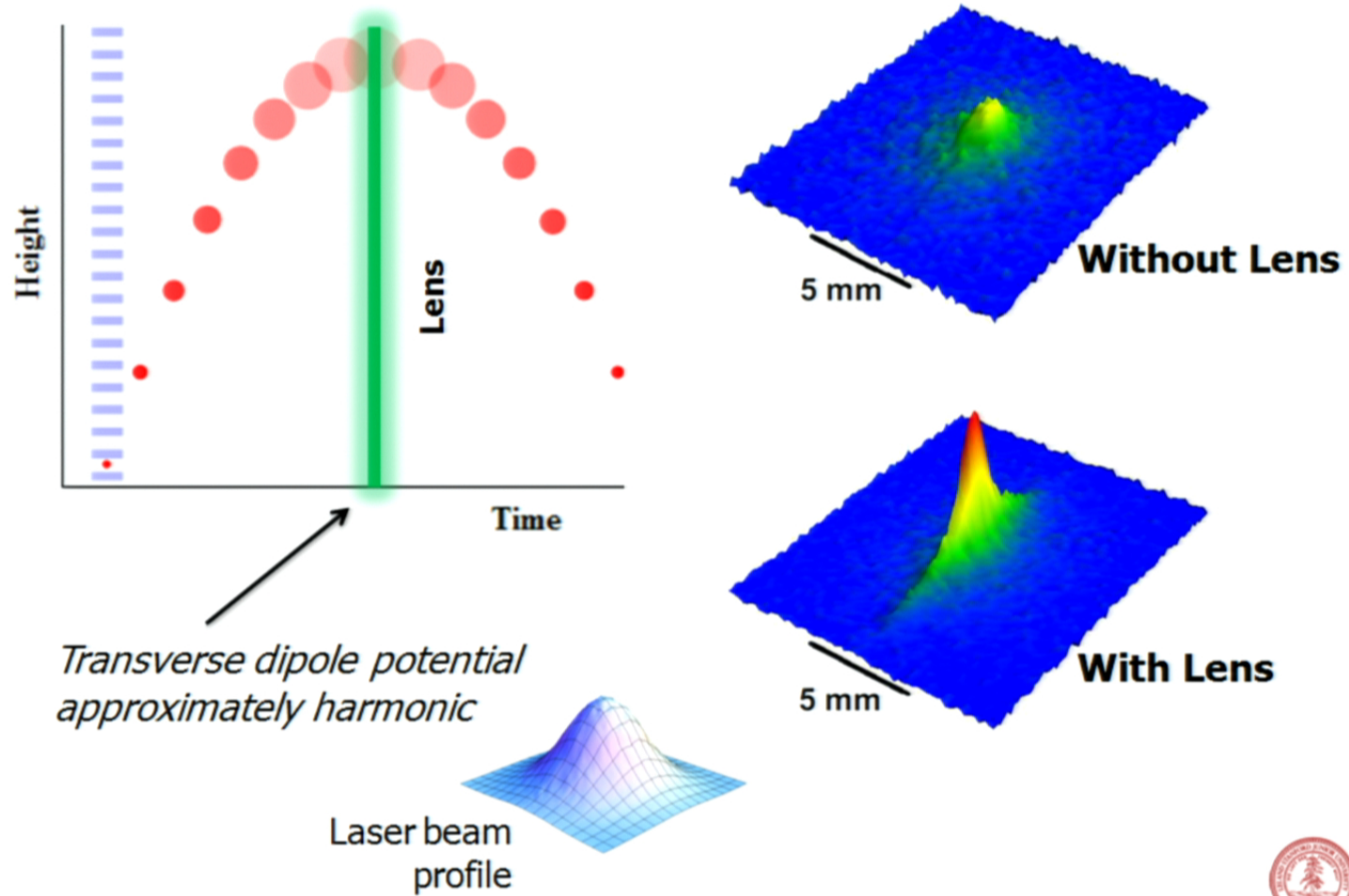


$$\frac{T_f}{T_i} = \left(\frac{\Delta x_i}{\Delta x_f} \right)^2$$

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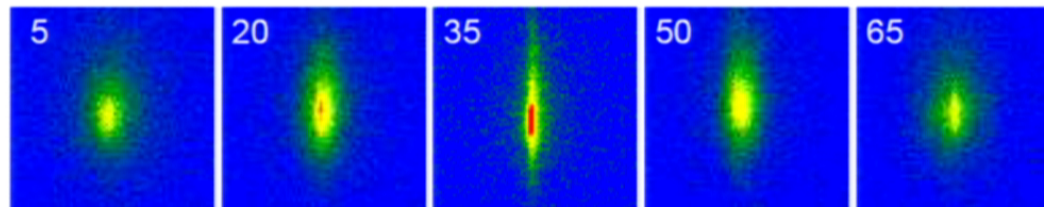
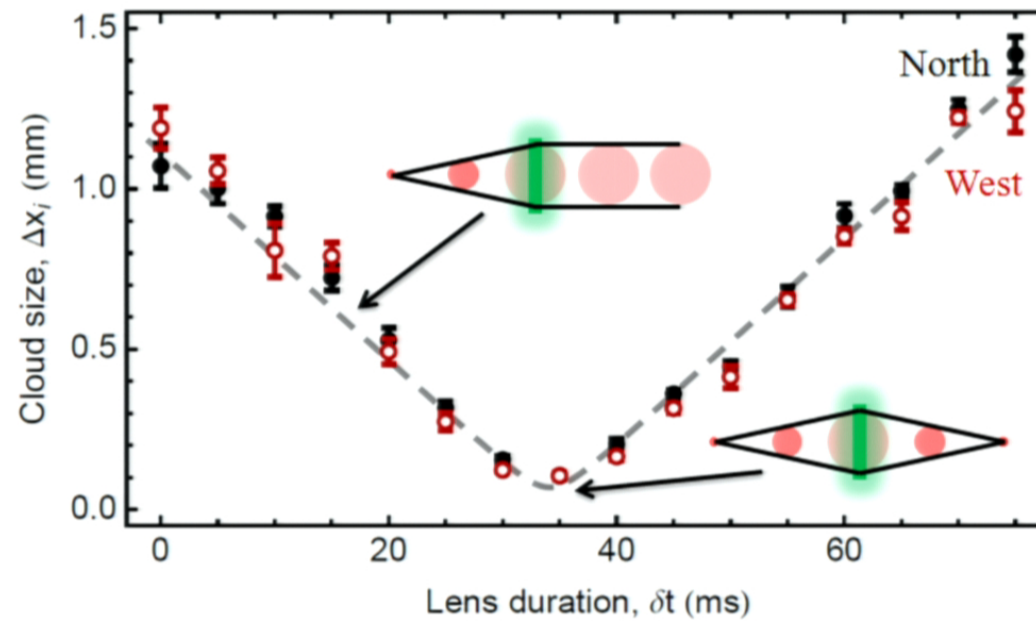
2D Atom Refocusing



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Vary Focal Length



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Extended free-fall on Earth

Launch → Lens → Relaunch → Detect

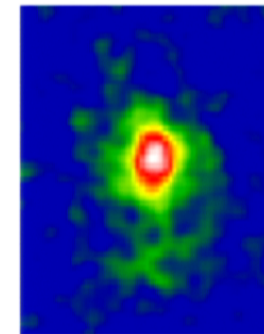
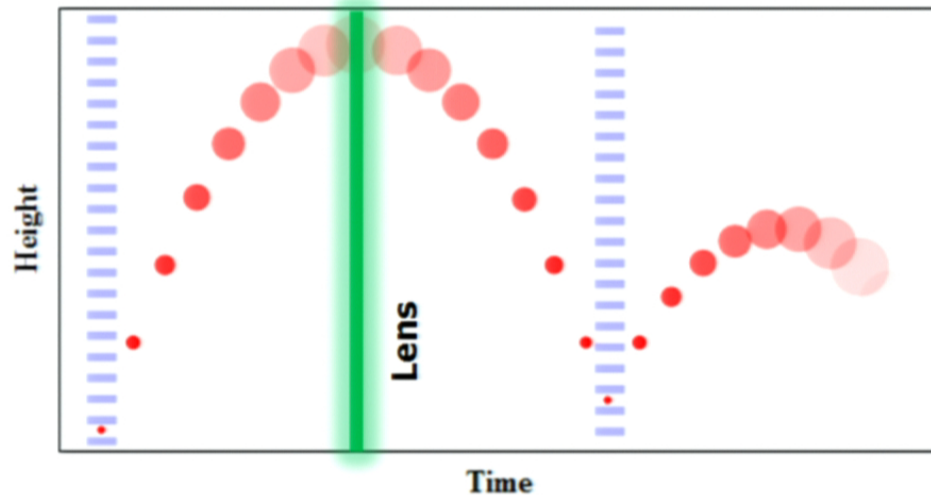


Image of cloud
after 5 seconds
total free-fall time

9.375 meters

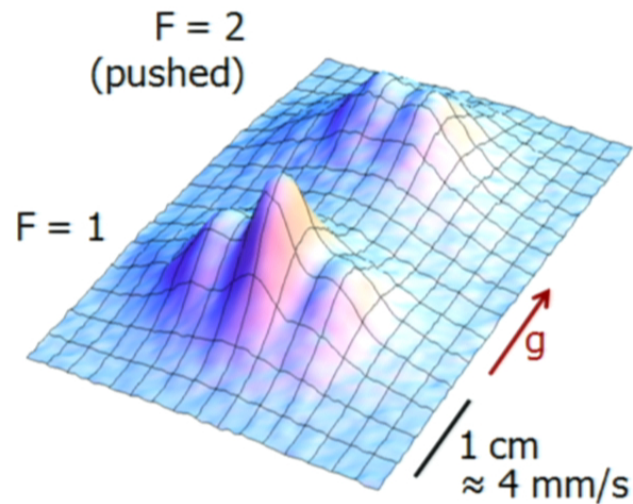
to 6 meters

Towards $T > 10$ s interferometry (?)

SITY

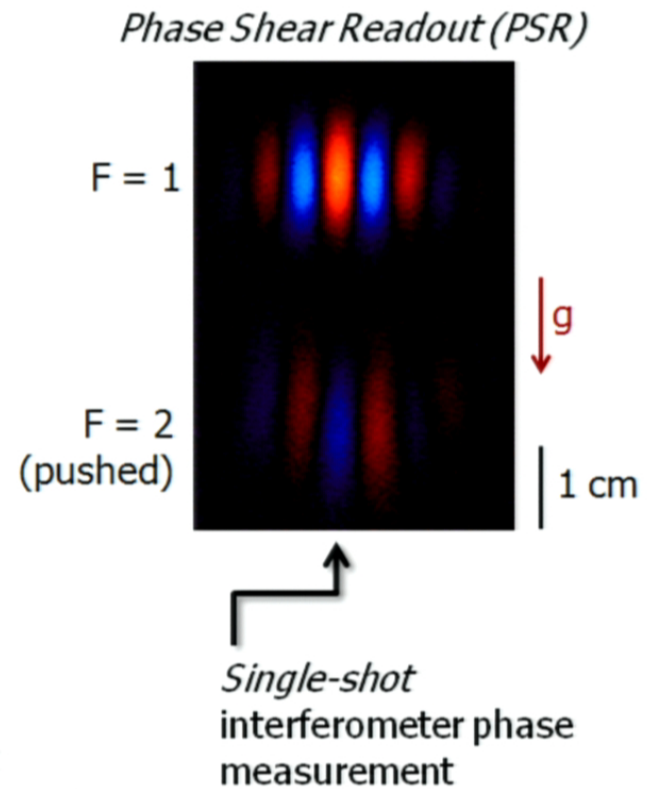


Phase shear readout



Mitigates noise sources:

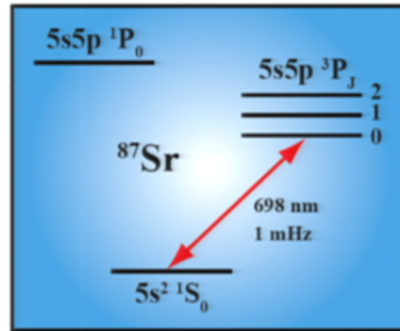
- ✓ Pointing jitter and residual rotation readout
- ✓ Laser wavefront aberration in situ characterization



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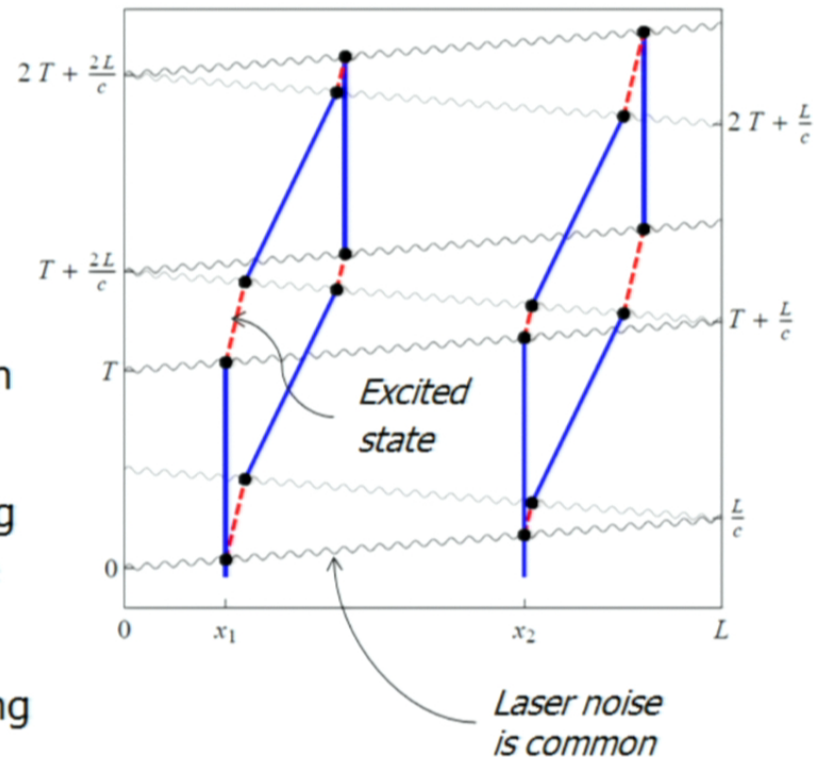


Laser frequency noise insensitive detector

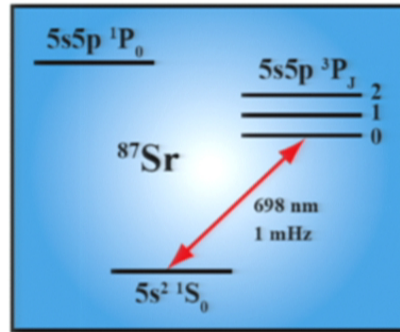


Clock transition in candidate atom ^{87}Sr

- Long-lived single photon transitions (e.g. clock transition in Sr, Ca, Yb, Hg, etc.).
- Atoms act as clocks, measuring the light travel time across the baseline.
- GWs modulate the laser ranging distance.



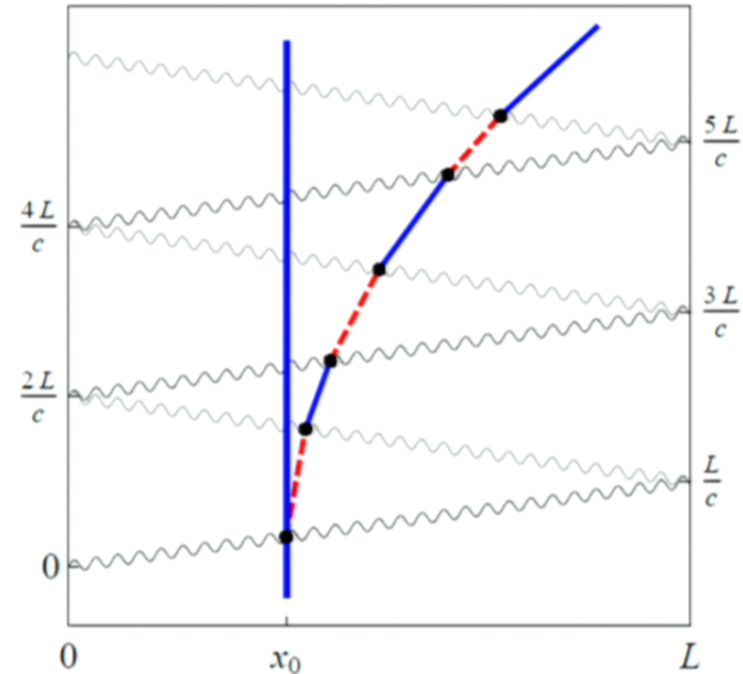
Laser frequency noise insensitive detector



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Example LMT beamsplitter ($N = 3$)



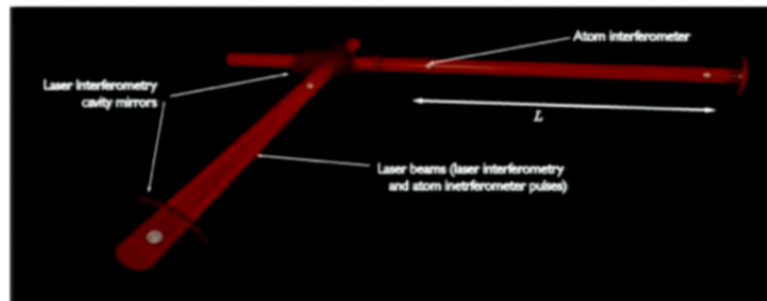
Future GW work

Single photon AI gradiometer proof of concept



Ground based detector prototype work

10 m
tower
studies



MIGA; ~ 1 km baseline (Bouyer, France)

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Collaborators

Stanford

Mark Kasevich (PI)
Susannah Dickerson
Alex Sugarbaker
Tim Kovachy
Christine Donnelly
Chris Overstreet



Theory:

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Savas Dimopoulos
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Former members:

David Johnson
Sheng-wei Chiow

Visitors:

Philippe Bouyer (CNRS)
Jan Rudolph (Hannover)

NASA GSFC

Babak Saif
Bernard D. Seery
Lee Feinberg
Ritva Keski-Kuha



AOSense

Brent Young (CEO)



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