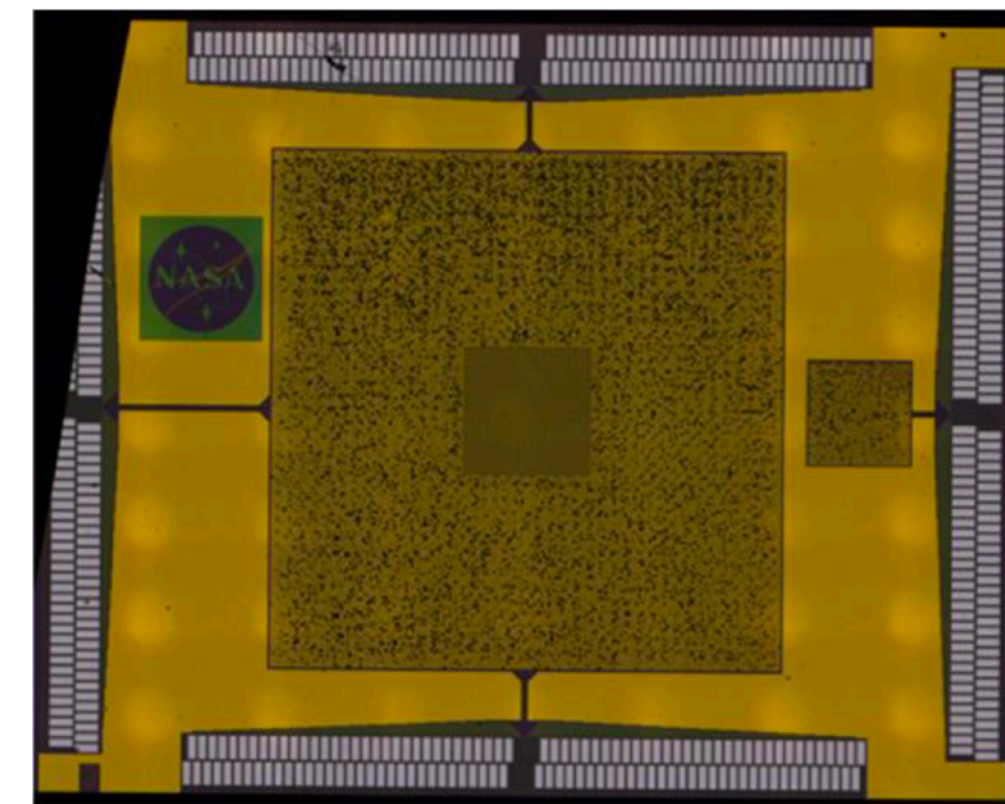
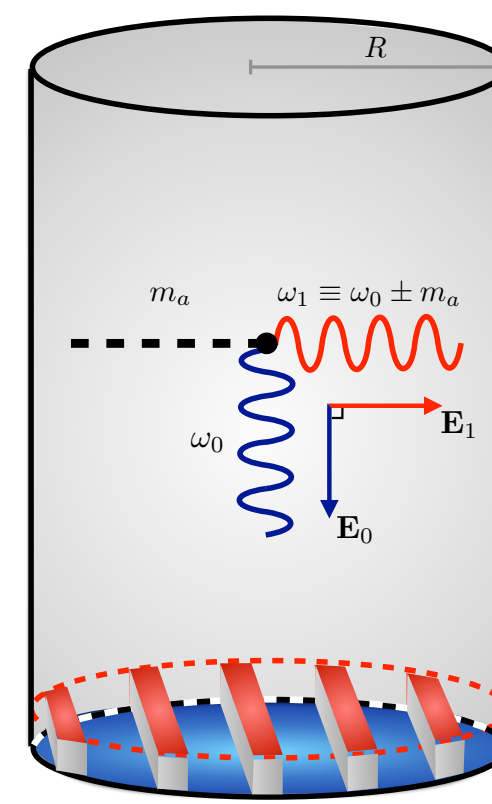
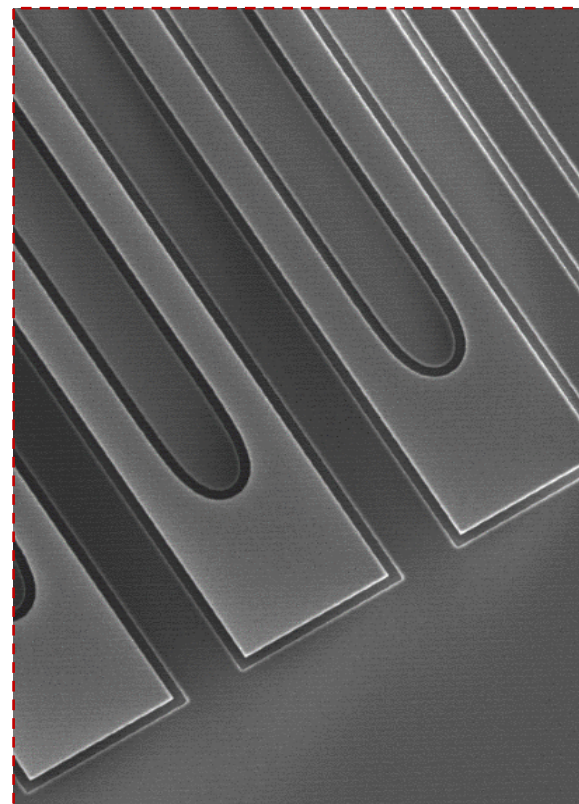
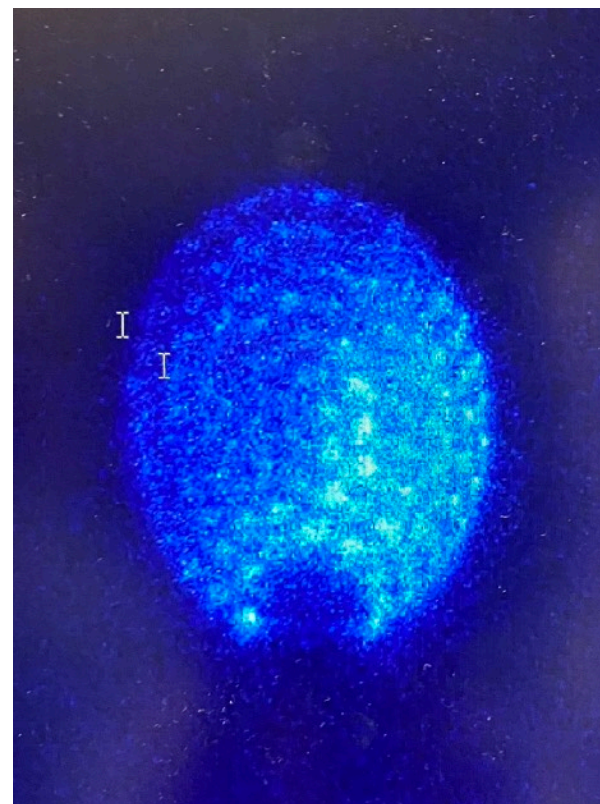
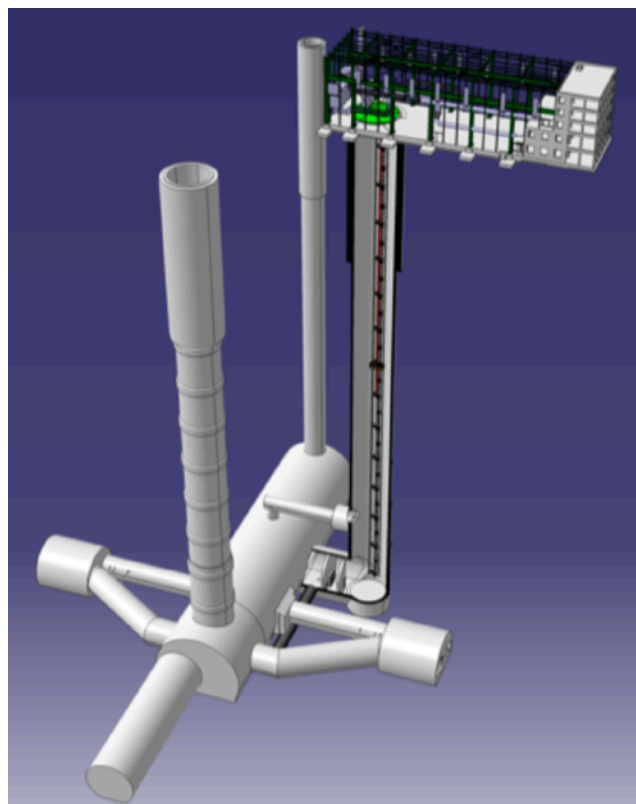
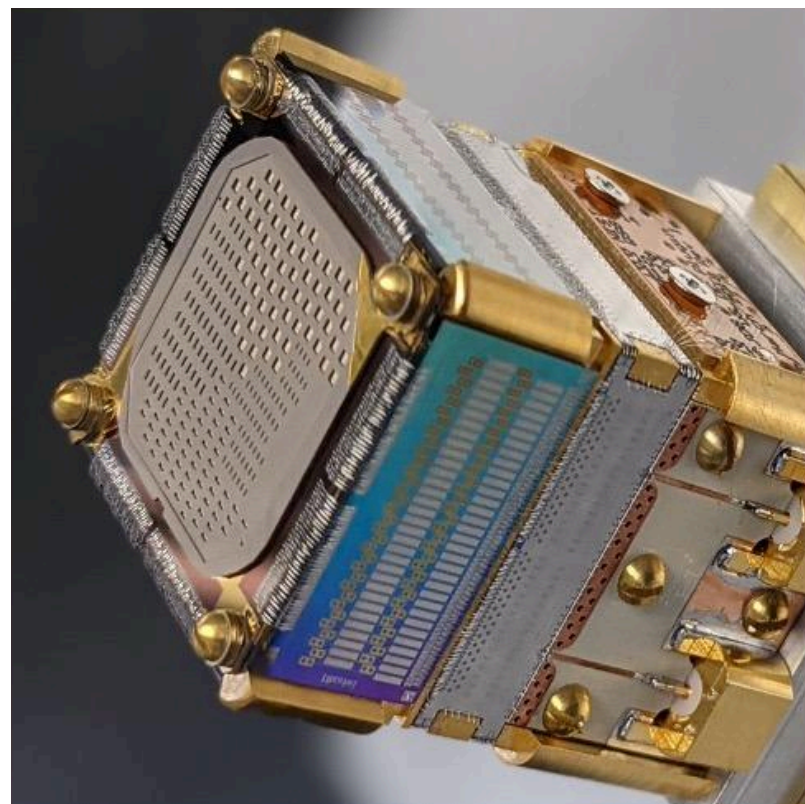


# Quantum Sensing for Particle Physics

14th Joint workshop of the France-Japan and France-Korea Particle Physics Laboratories

Steven Worm

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY) / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin  
May 15, 2025



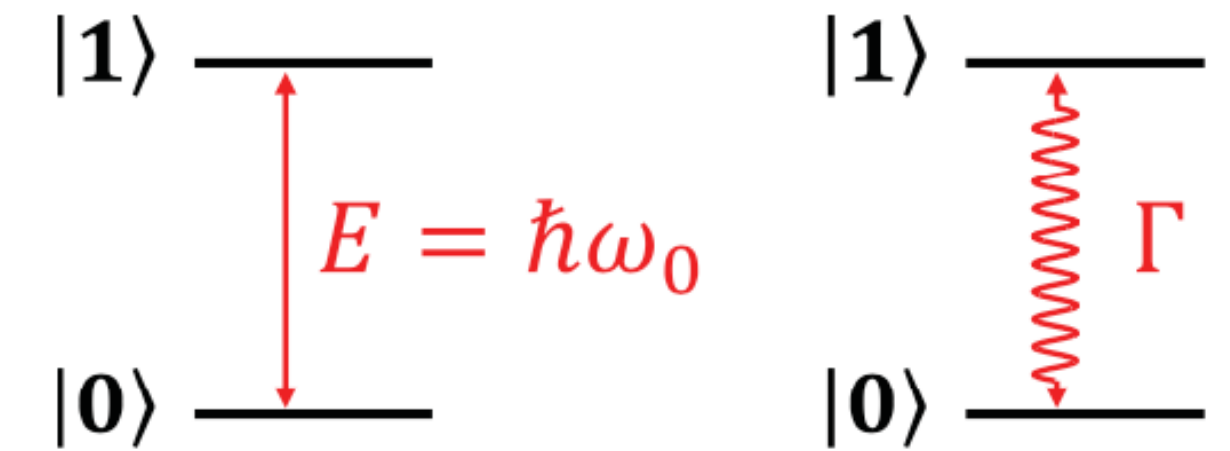


# Outline

- **Introduction:** the “What” and “Why” of quantum sensing for Particle Physics
- **Selected quantum sensing techniques**
  - Cryogenic detectors
  - Superconducting devices
  - Spin-based, NV-diamonds
  - Metamaterials, 0/1/2-D materials
  - Ionic / Atomic / Molecular systems
  - Optical atomic clocks
  - Atom Interferometers
  - Magnetometers
- **How to get started in Quantum Sensing:** DRD5 / RDquantum

# What is Quantum Sensing?

- **Quantum Sensing:** any sensing device enabled by the ability to manipulate and read out quantum states
- Requirements for a quantum sensor
  - Discrete quantum states (e.g. energy levels  $|0\rangle$ ,  $|1\rangle$ )
  - Possibility to reset and readout
  - Coherent state manipulation possible (usually)
  - Sensitivity—something measurably changing (e.g. frequency  $\omega_0$  or transition rate  $\Gamma$ )
- Note that entanglement/squeezing not required, but can make even better sensors
- Close parallel to DiVincenzo Criteria for Quantum Computing, minus gate requirements
- *Many possible systems:* atoms (neutral, ions, Rydberg states), cavities, atomic clocks, interferometers (photons, matter), superconducting circuits, optomechanical systems, quantum materials



# Quantum Detectors, Quantum Experiments

## ***Why*** quantum sensing?

- A1: Potentially better sensitivity or noise performance
- A2: Because we have to (e.g. for ultra-light dark matter)!

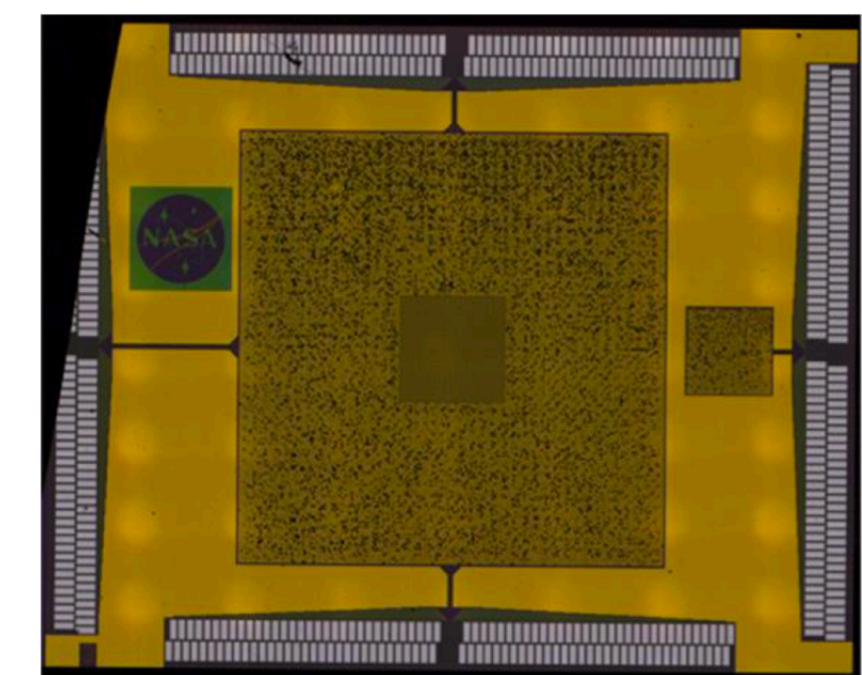
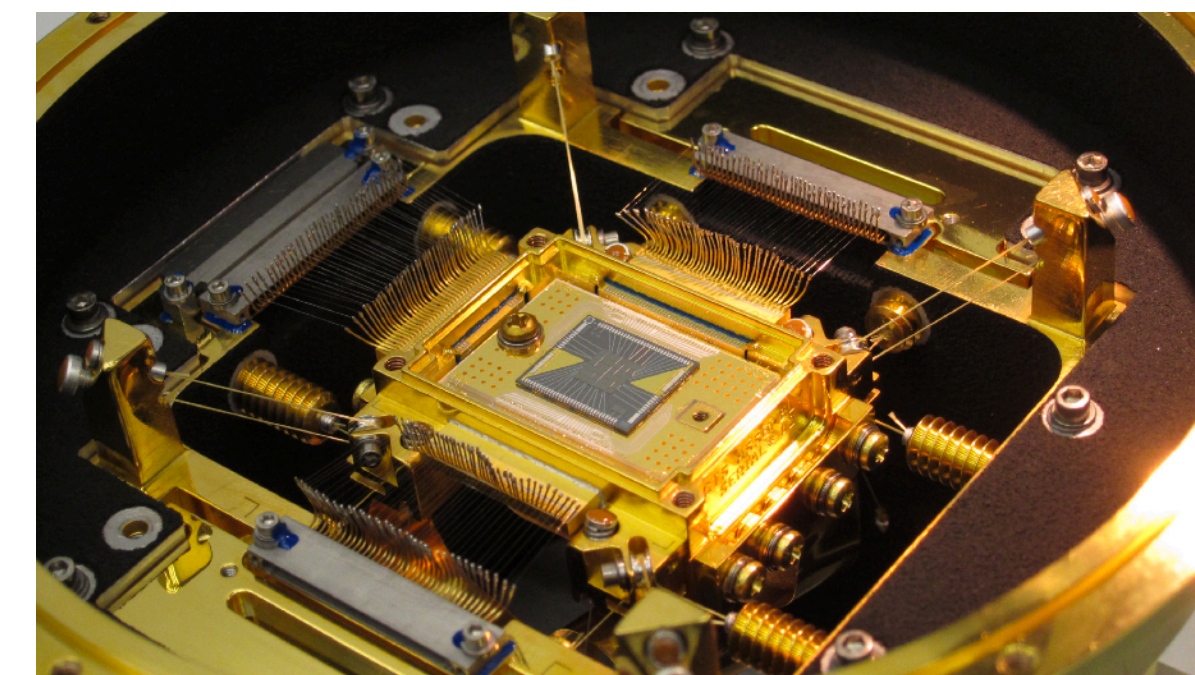
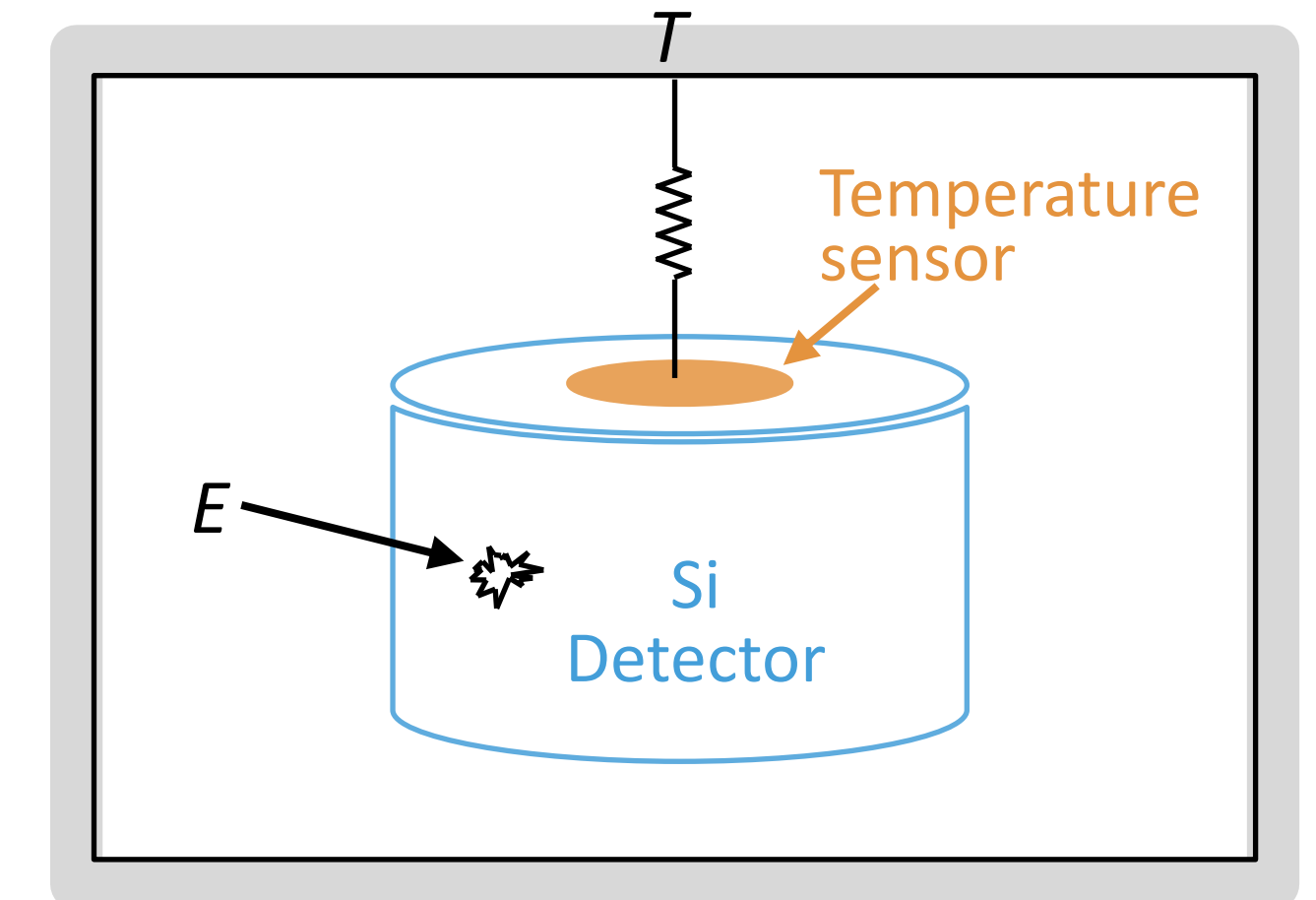
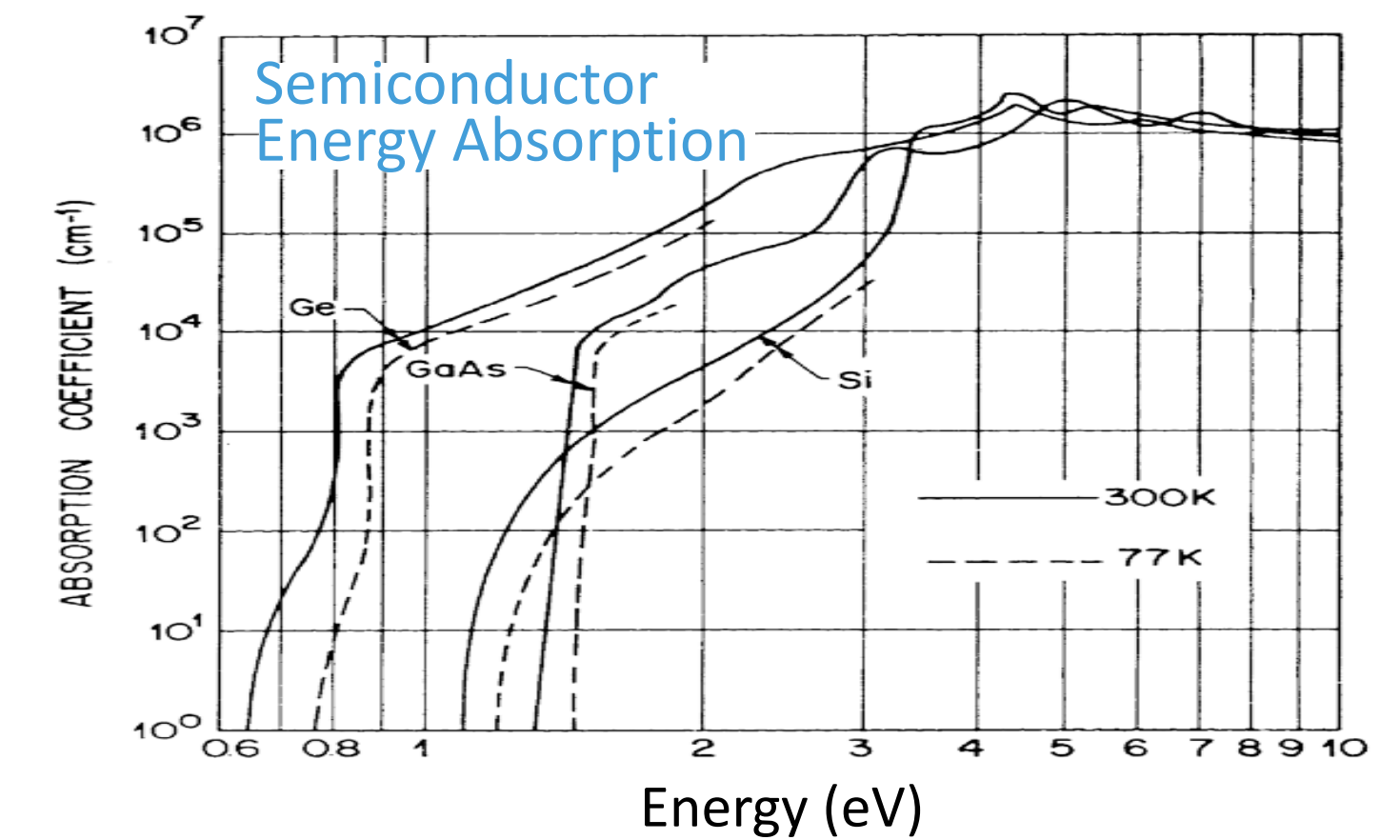


- **Quantum Detectors:** use quantum sensing to making extreme measurements possible
  - Enables (better) measurements, e.g. wavelengths
  - Extreme sensitivities (single-photon) or low noise
- **Quantum Experiments:** sensing is used for fundamental physics measurements
  - Gravity, Lorentz Invariance, physical constants ( $\alpha$ ,  $\mu$ , dipole moments), etc
  - Techniques such as interferometry, magnetometry, clock-based systems, optomechanical devices



# Cryogenic Detectors

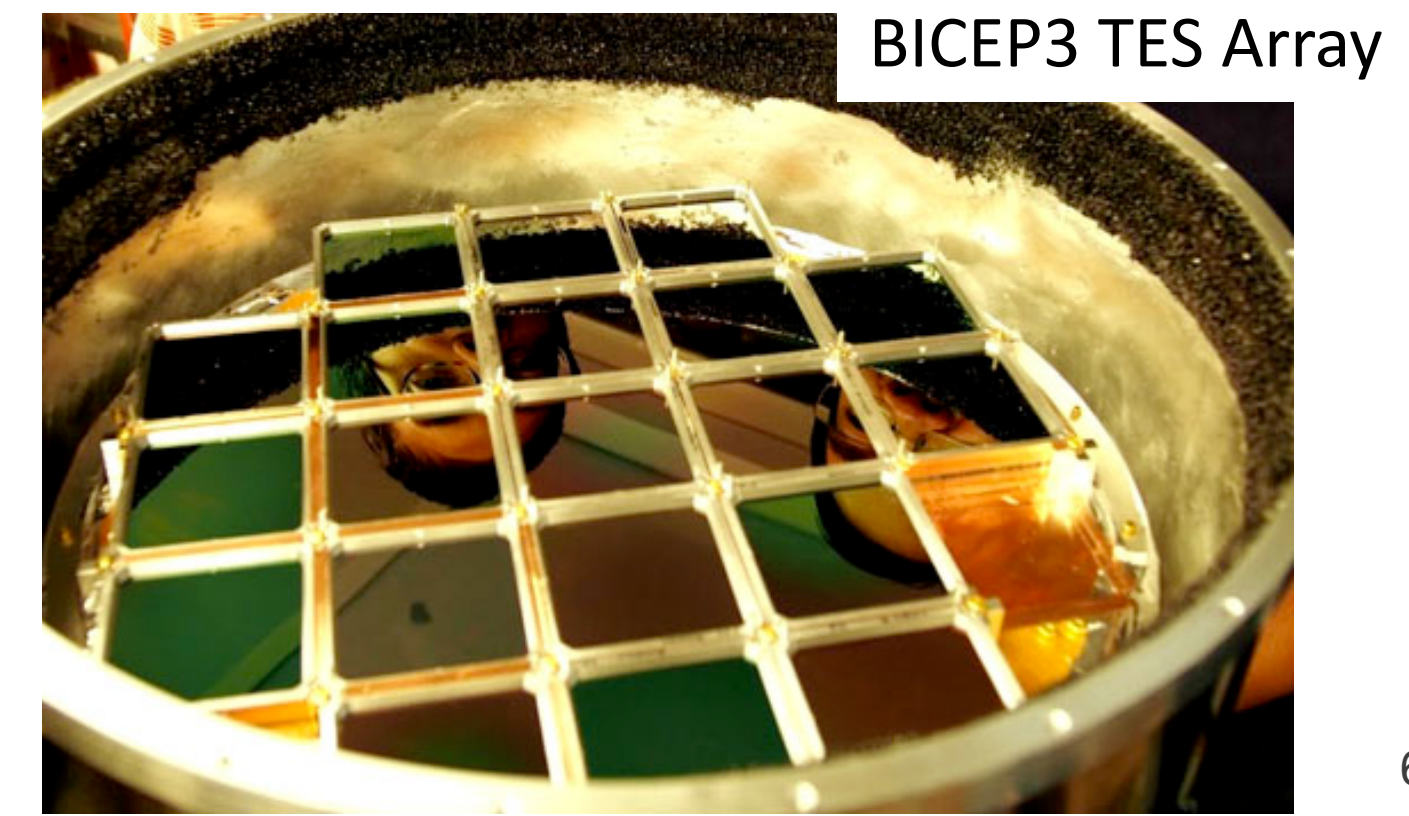
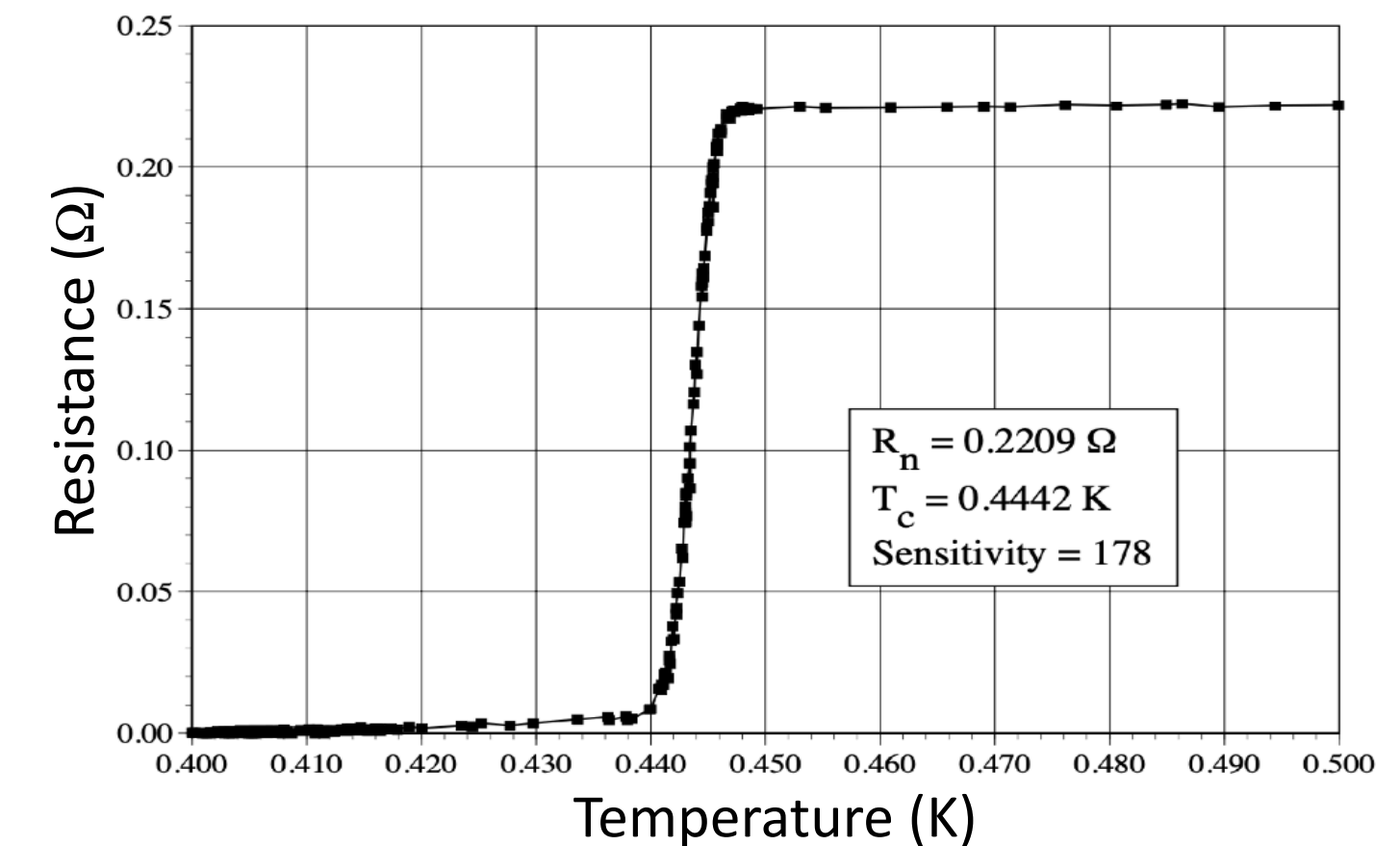
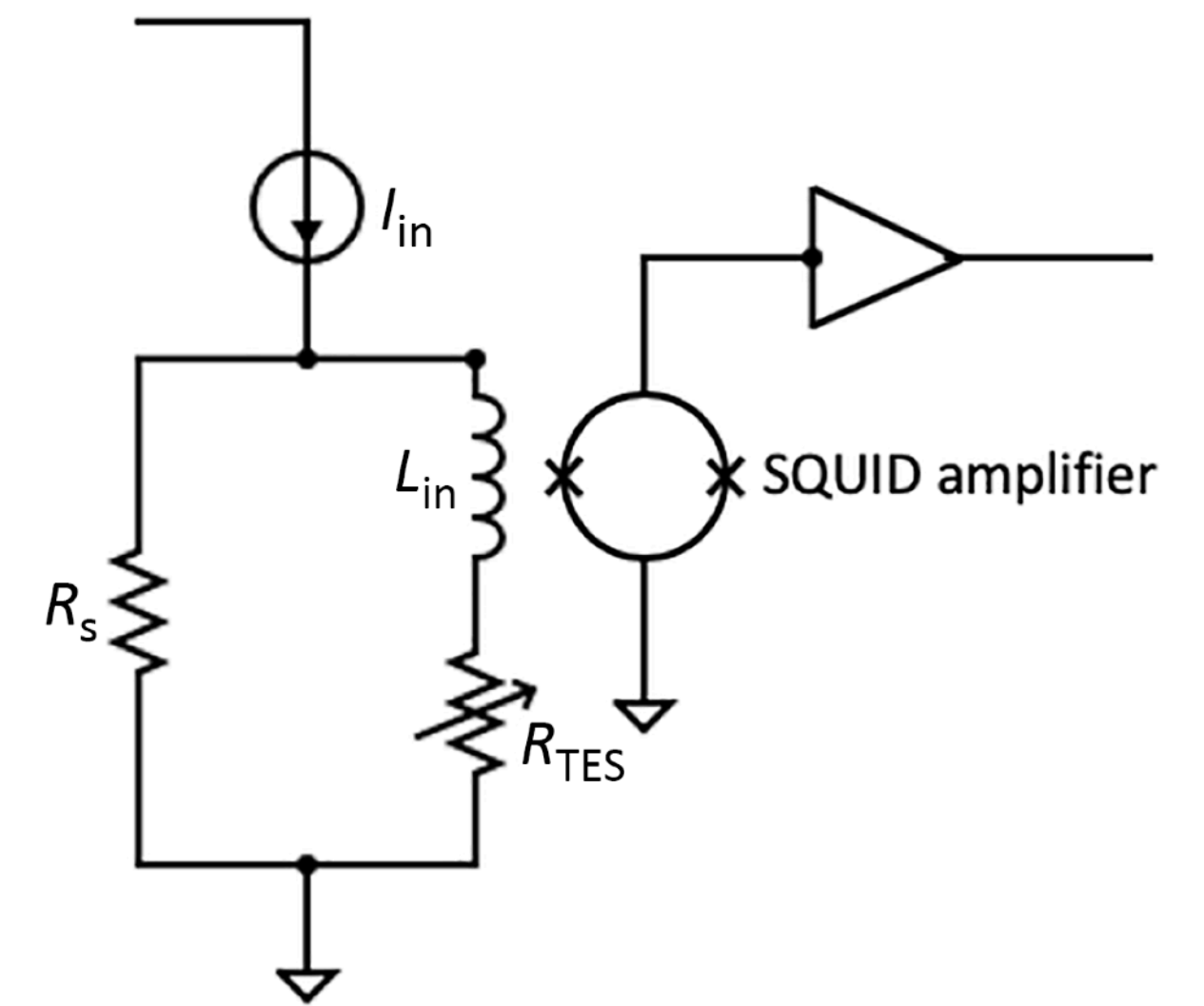
- Low energy and limits for ionisation
  - Limit for e/hole pairs in semiconductors is band gap energy (1.12 eV for Si)
  - Ionisation works above the band gap, below we detect the heat (phonons)
- Measuring small temperature differences
  - $\Delta T$  depends on energy and heat capacity ( $C = c_p m$ )
  - Heat capacity given by Debye equation,  $C \propto (T/T_D)^3$ , where  $T_D$  = Debye Temp
  - Silicon example:  $\Delta T \approx 1\%$  requires mass of 1  $\mu\text{g}$  and  $T_0 = 0.1$  K
- Example1: Hitomi satellite, SXS (JAXA, CSA)
  - 36 pixels (814  $\mu\text{m}$ ) HgTe absorber at 50 mK
  - Energy between 0.3 and 12 keV, resolution  $\sim 7$  eV
- Example2: Lynx X-ray Microcalorimeter (NASA)
  - $\sim 50\text{k}$  pixels (25-50  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Au absorber at 50 mK
  - Energy between 0.2 and 15 keV, resolution  $< 3$  eV





# Transition Edge Sensors (TES)

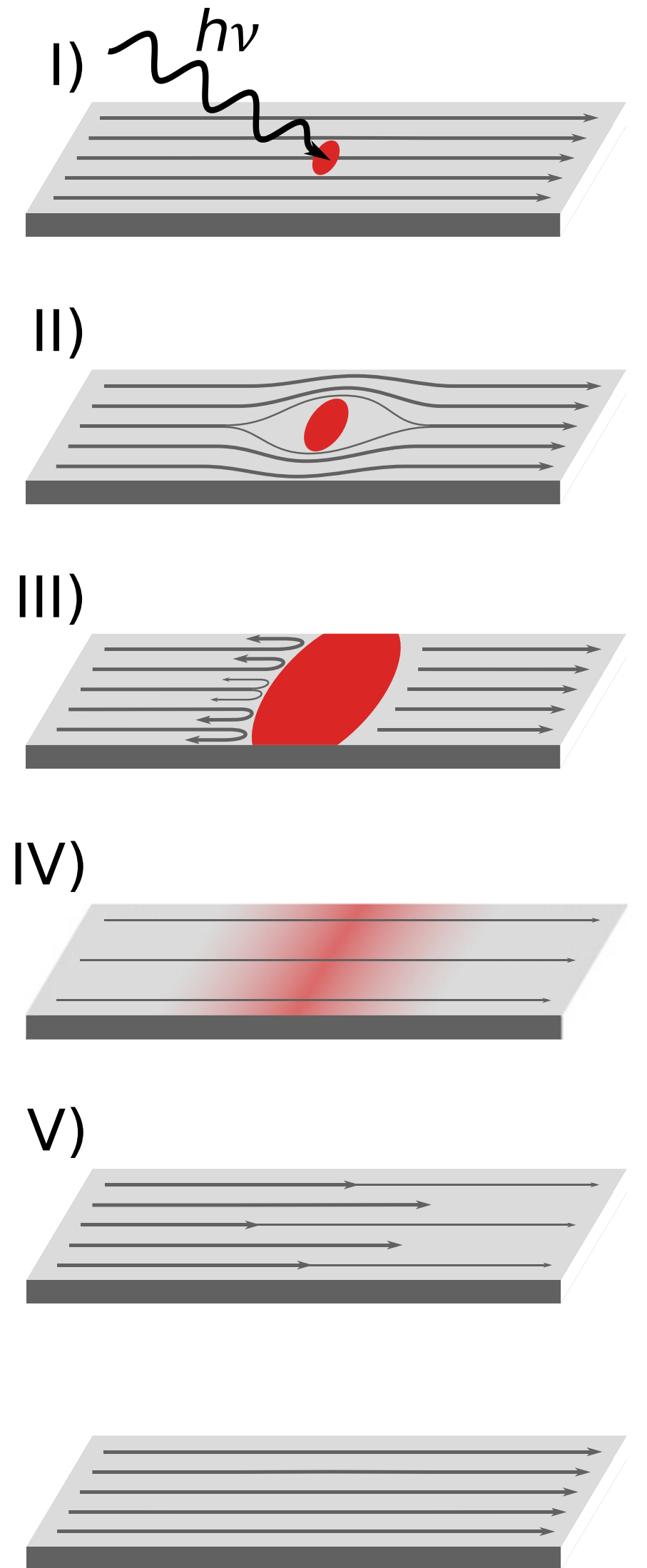
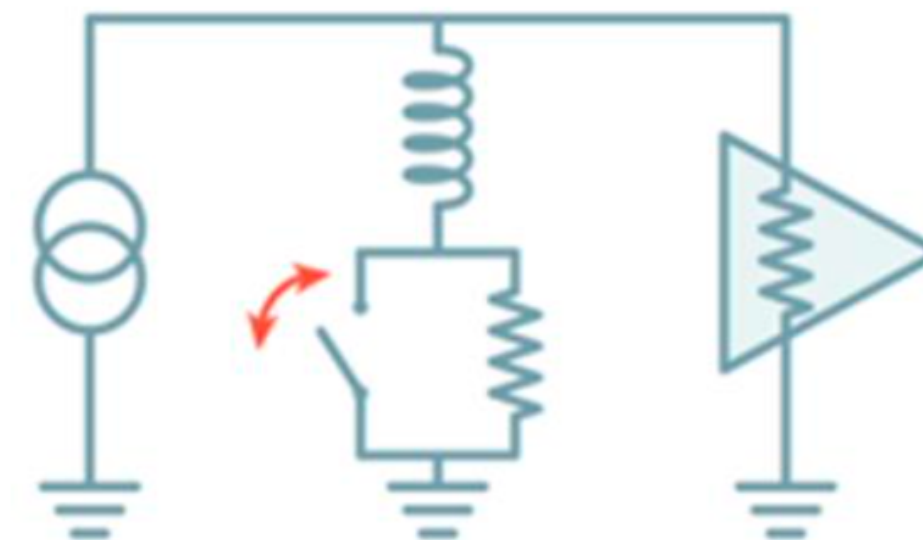
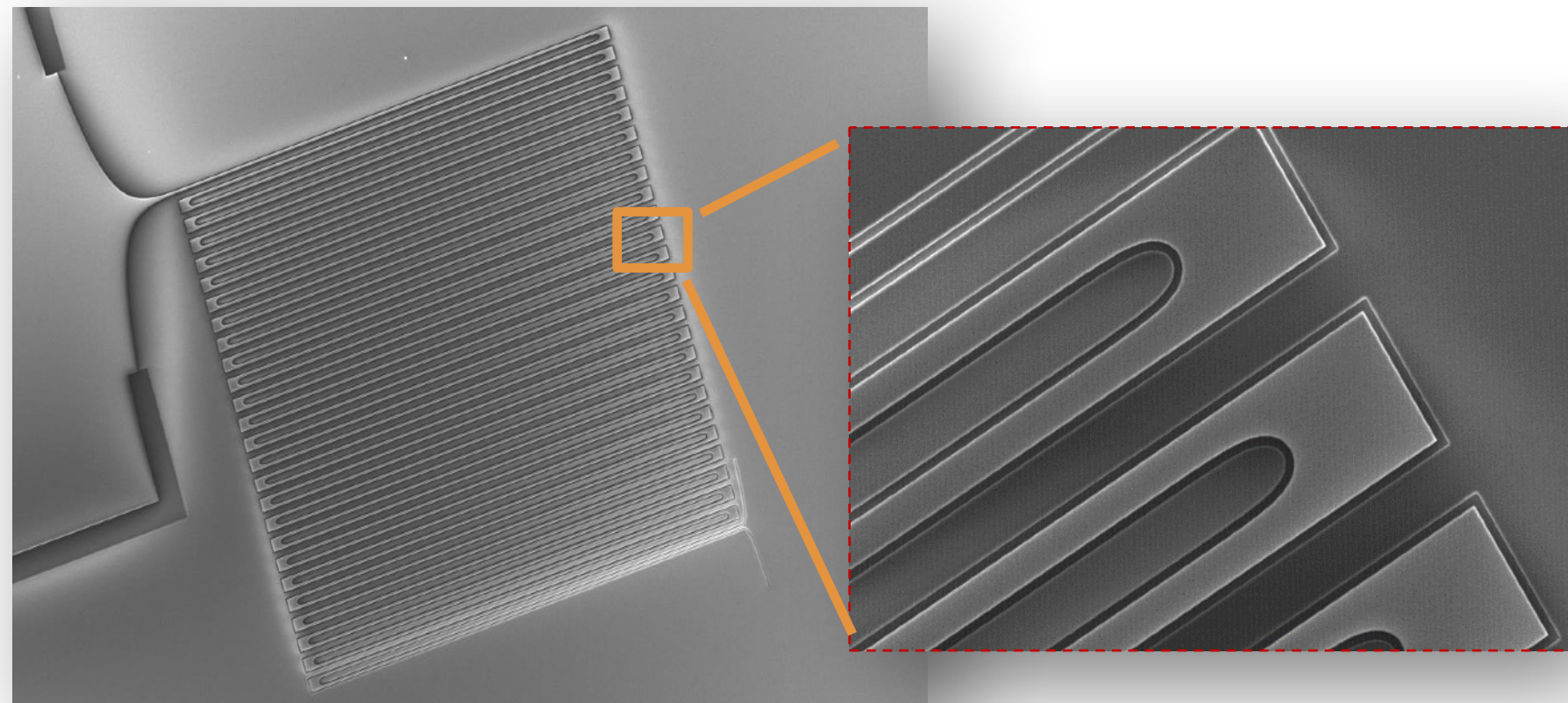
- TES Operations: Measure  $\Delta T$  with superconducting circuit
  - sharp transition between superconducting  $\rightarrow$  conducting
  - small temperature change, large resistance change
  - Detection limited by thermal noise; readout resistance  $\ll$  sensor resistance
- Readout: Superconducting Quantum Interference Devices (SQUIDs)
  - Two Josephson junctions in parallel: low temperature ( $\sim 0-5$  K)
  - Plus: Low temp, very low noise, moderate amplification
  - Minus: limited input, feedback (flux) loop required to lock at operating point
- Example: BICEP3
  - Used to study Cosmic Microwave Background (B-modes)
  - Monolithic arrays of 2400 antenna-array coupled TES detectors
- Arrays used from radio to X-ray with high spectral resolution (SPT, ATHENA, BICEP)  $\rightarrow$  now also particle physics (CDMS, ALPS...)





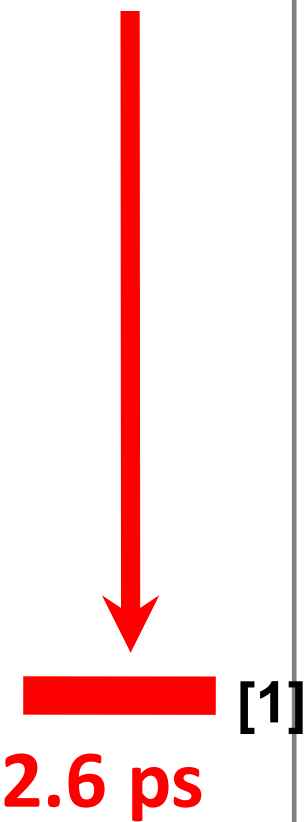
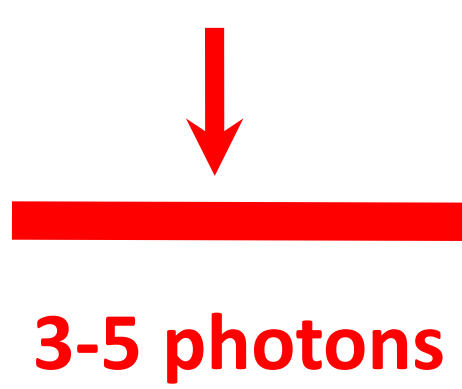
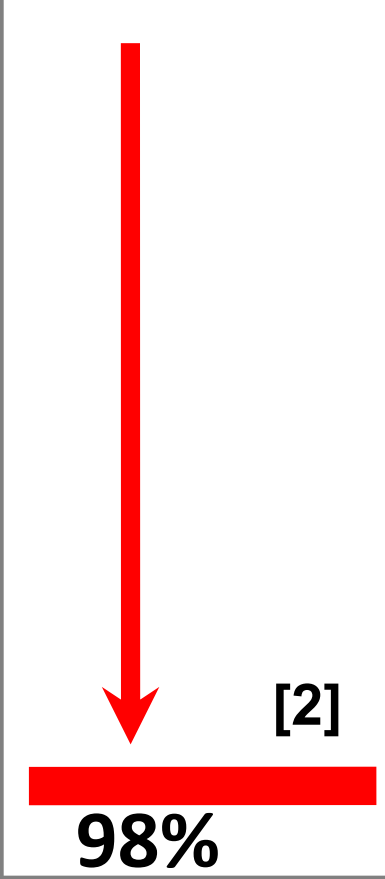
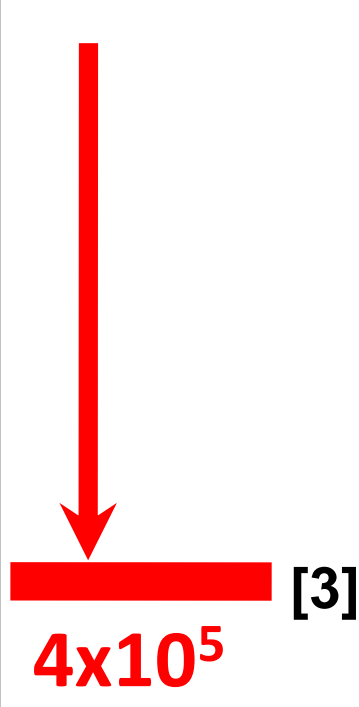
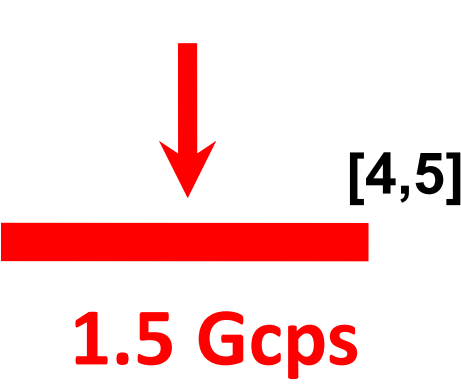
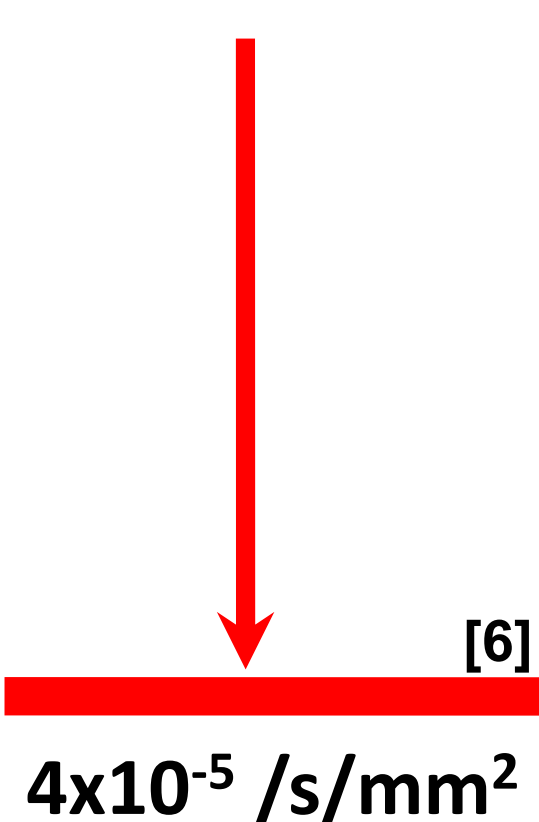
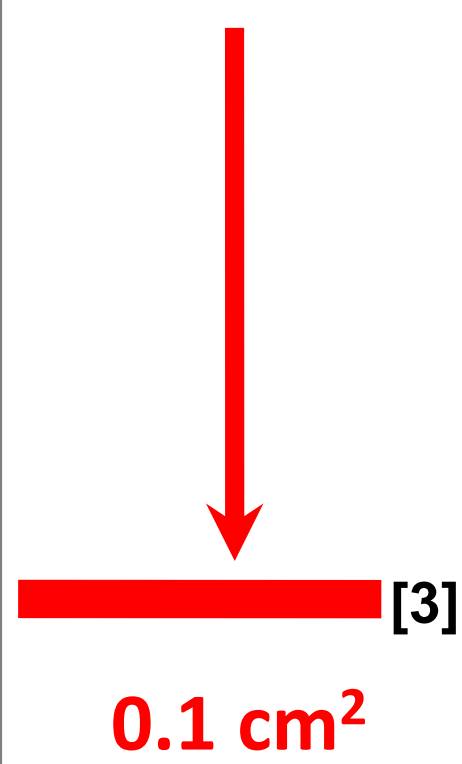
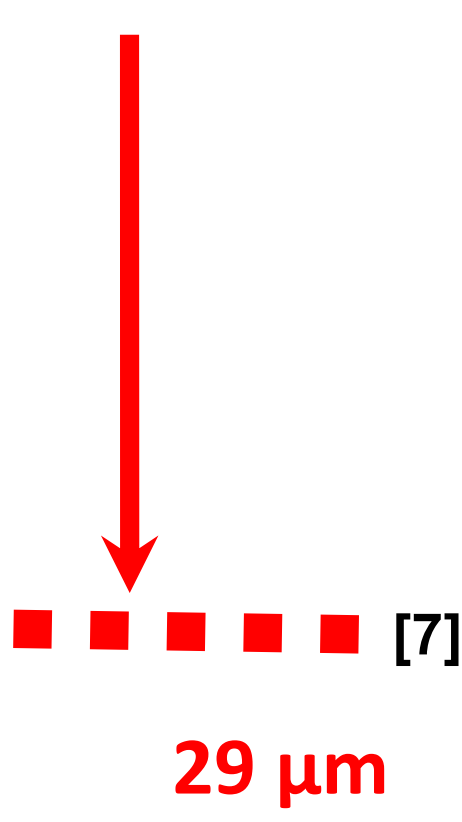
# Superconducting Nanowire Single-Photon Detectors (SNSPD)

- Superconducting circuit (wire) or pads (chicane)
  - Absorbed photons create non-superconducting region
  - Extremely low energy threshold, extremely fast
  - Applications for quantum pixels, ultra-sensitive tracking, milli-charged particles, calorimetry
- Recent advances
  - Higher temperature operation (>few K)
  - Demonstrated to work for micron size (optical lithography possible)
  - Commercial devices available - quantum communication



→ incl. CEA-IRFU, Paris-Saclay

# SNSPD: Advances & Expected Performance

| Timing jitter                                                                      | Intrinsic photon number resolution                                                | Efficiency                                                                          | Array size                                                                           | Maximum count rate                                                                  | Dark count rate                                                                      | Active area                                                                          | Cut-off wavelength                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18 ps                                                                              | None                                                                              | 93%                                                                                 | 64                                                                                   | 1 Gcps                                                                              | 4 /s/mm <sup>2</sup>                                                                 | 0.001 cm <sup>2</sup>                                                                | 5 μm                                                                                 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 ps                                                                               | 10                                                                                | 99 %                                                                                | 10 <sup>7</sup>                                                                      | 10 Gcps                                                                             | 1x10 <sup>-6</sup> /s/mm <sup>2</sup>                                                | 1 cm <sup>2</sup>                                                                    | 100 μm                                                                               |

Records in 2016

Current records for isolated devices

Expected performance by 2030

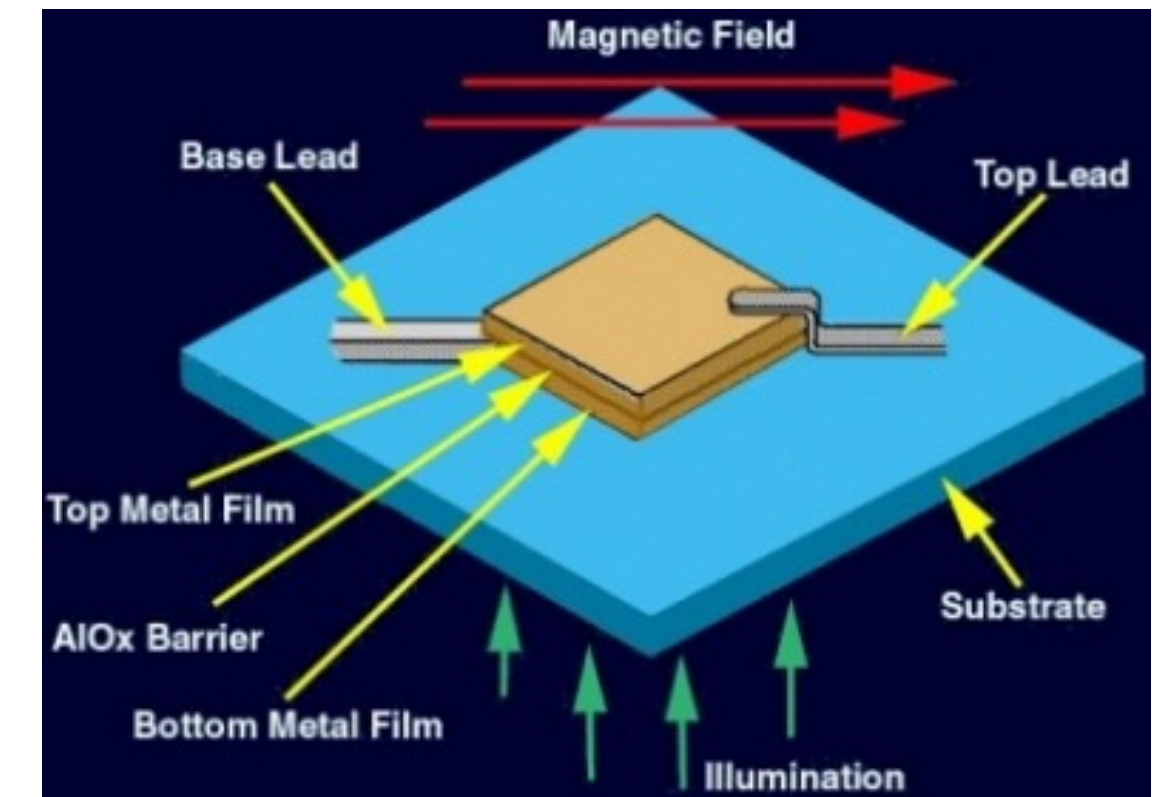
[1] Korzh, Zhao et al, *Nature Photonics* 14, 250 (2020)  
[2] Reddy et al, *Optica* 7, 1649 (2020)  
[3] Oripov, Rampini, Allmaras, Shaw, Nam, Korzh, and McCaughan, *Nature* 622, 730 (2023)

[4] Craiciu, Korzh et al, *Optica* 10, 183 (2023)  
[5] Resta et al, *Nano Letters* (2023)  
[6] Chiles, *PRL* 128, 231802 (2022)  
[7] Taylor, Walter, Korzh et al, *Optica*, (2023)

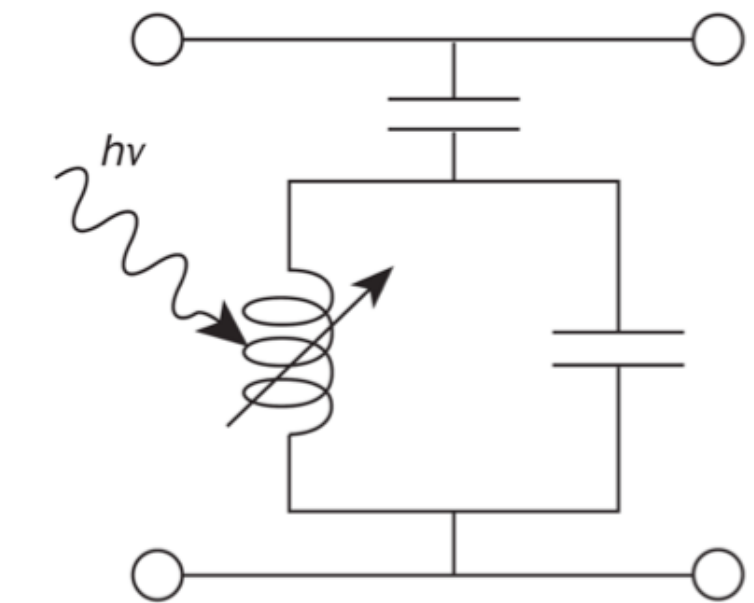


# Cryogenic Quantum Sensors

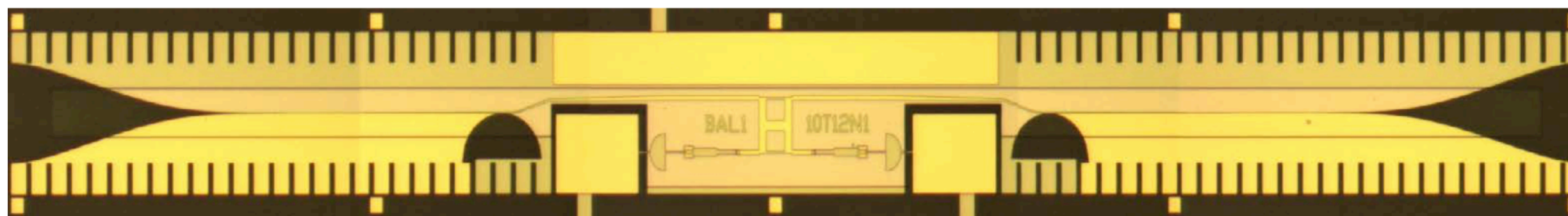
- Superconducting Tunnel Junctions (STJ)
  - Exploit quantum tunnelling in a junction of two superconductors
  - Direct tunnel current measurement (non-Heterodyne): simultaneous fast photon counting and spectroscopy in IR, Vis, UV bands
- Microwave Kinetic Inductance Detectors (MKIDs)
  - Exploits change in phase of an inductor capacitor (LC) oscillator in thin superconductor
  - Read-noise free, easier multiplexing: arrays of ~10k under test
- Superconductor-Insulator-Superconductor (SIS) receivers
  - Enabling technology for sub-mm Astronomy
  - Superconducting circuits allow phase coherent downconversion THz  $\rightarrow$  GHz



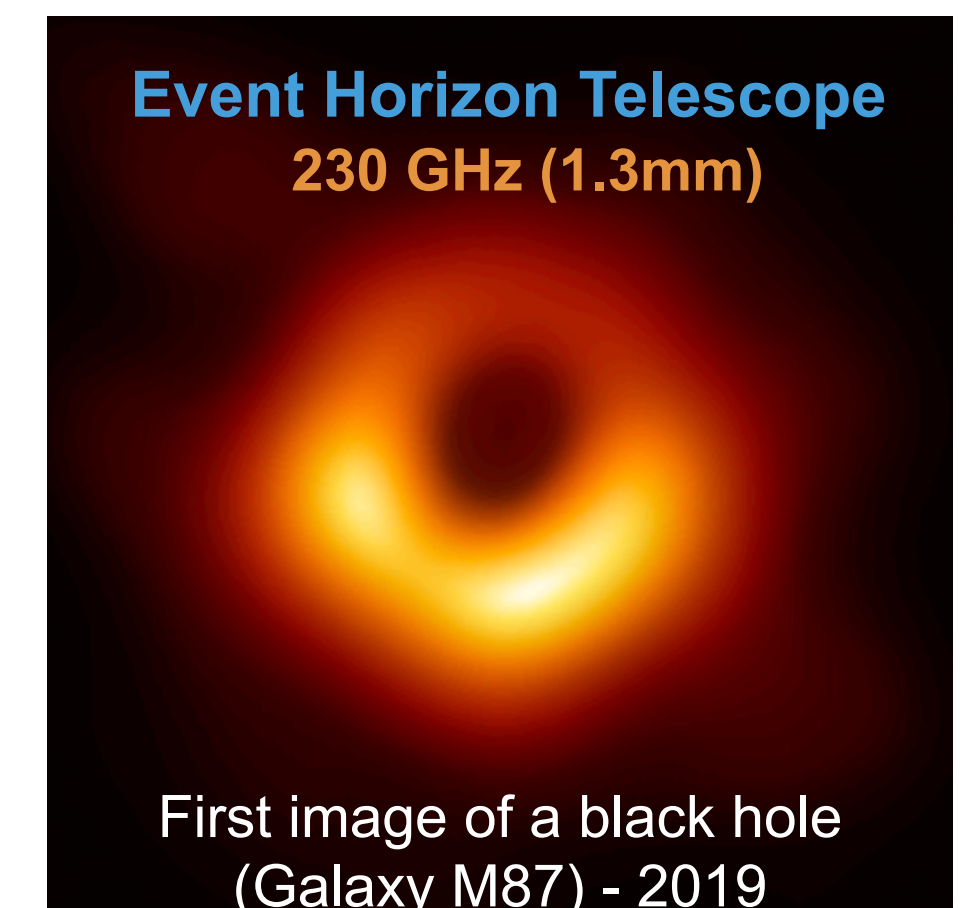
Superconducting Tunnel Junction



MKID operating principle



Superconductor-Insulator-Superconductor (SIS) Mixer Block



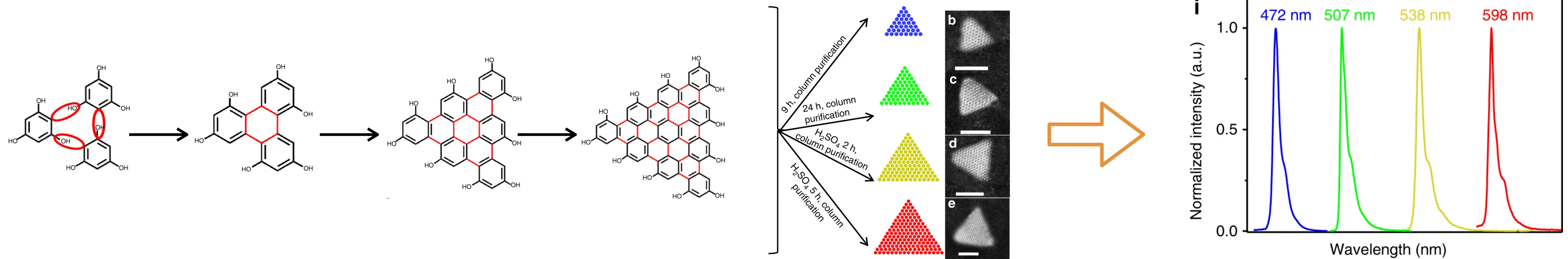
# Cryogenic Quantum Sensors vs. Wavelength

| Detector                                                | Microwave    | Submillimeter   | Far infrared | Optical       | High Energy |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
|                                                         | 3cm - 3mm    | 3mm - 300μm     | 300 – 30 μm  | 2 μm - 300 nm | UV, X-Ray   |
|                                                         | 10-100 GHz   | 100 GHz - 1 THz | 1 – 10 THz   |               |             |
|                                                         | 0.04-0.4 meV | 0.4-4 meV       | 4-40 meV     | 2-37 eV       |             |
| Transition Edge Sensors (TES)                           | ●            | ●               | ●            | ●             | ●           |
| Kinetic Inductance Detectors (KID)                      | ●            | ●               | ●            | ●             |             |
| Superconducting Nanowire Single-Photon Detector (SNSPD) |              |                 | ●            | ●             |             |
| Hot-Electron Bolometer (HEB)                            |              |                 | ●            |               |             |
| Cold-Electron Bolometer (CEB)                           |              | ●               |              |               |             |
| Superconductor-Insulator-Superconductor (SIS)           |              | ●               |              |               |             |
| Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifier (TWPA)             | ●            | ●               |              |               |             |
| Josephson Junction Parametric Amplifiers (JJPA)         | ●            |                 |              |               |             |

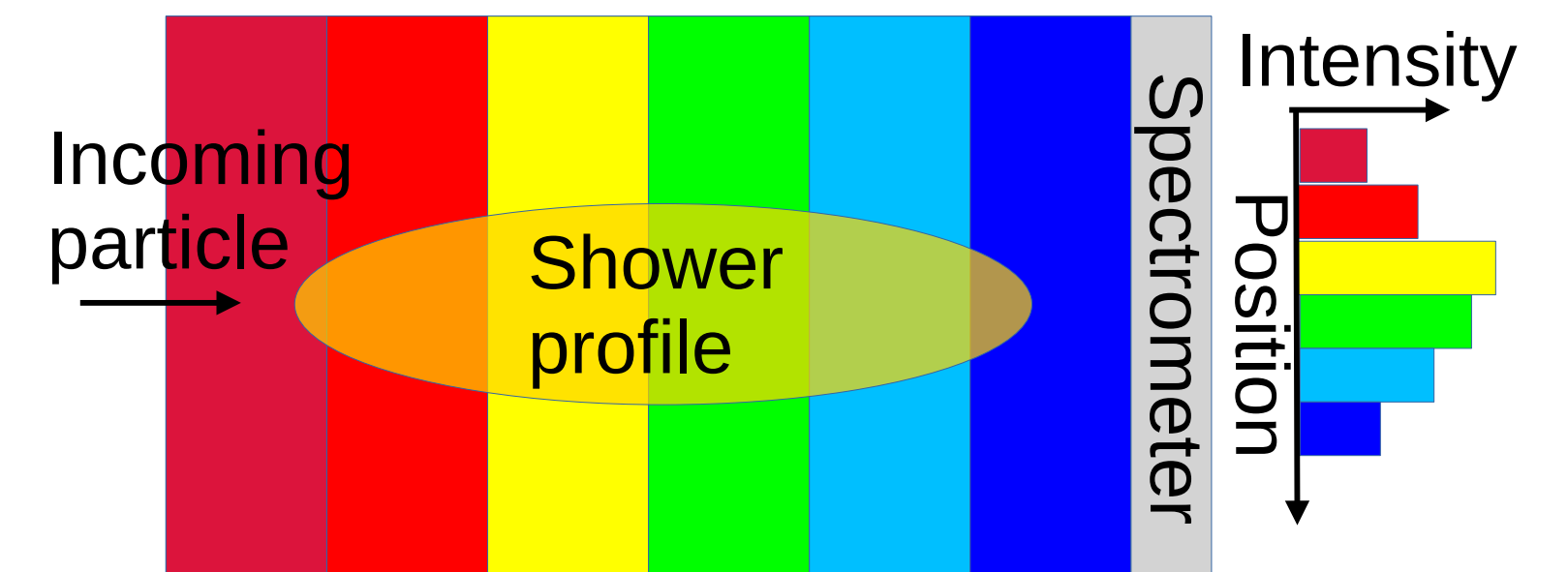
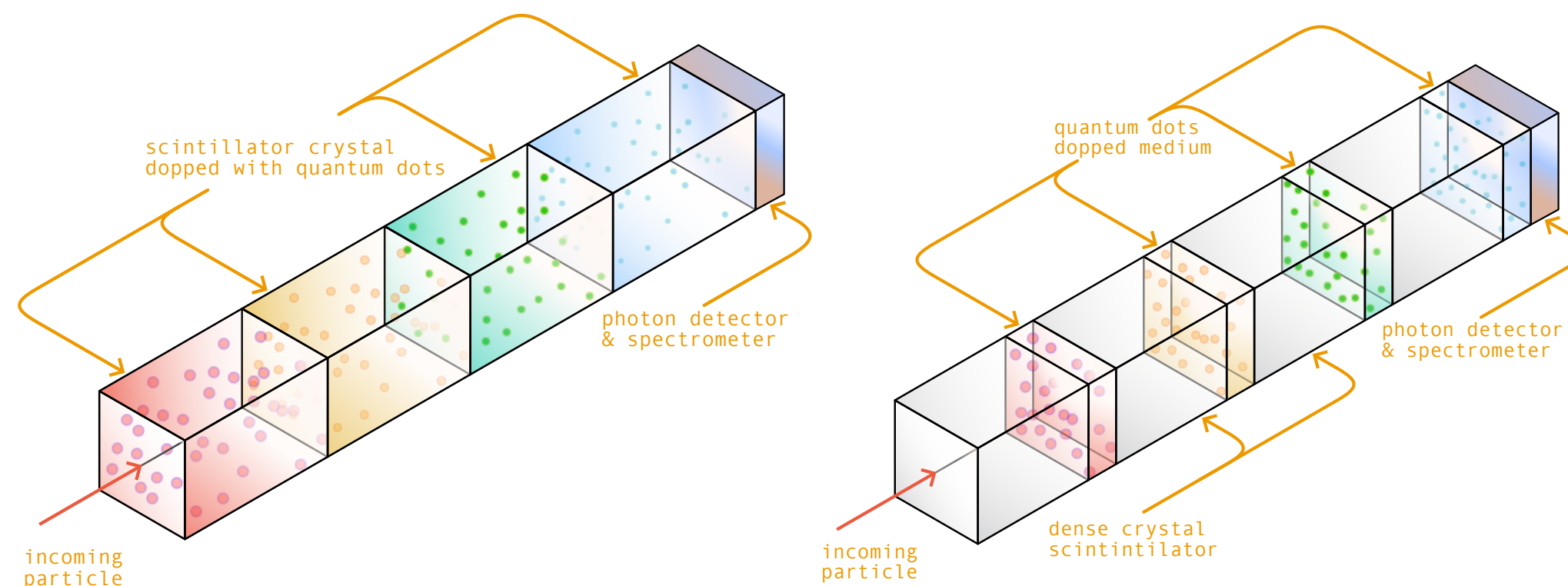


# Quantum Dots and Chromatic Calorimetry

- **Quantum dots:** nanometer-sized semiconductor structures, e.g. in carbon, perovskites, etc.
- Tuneable, with properties between single atoms and bulk material

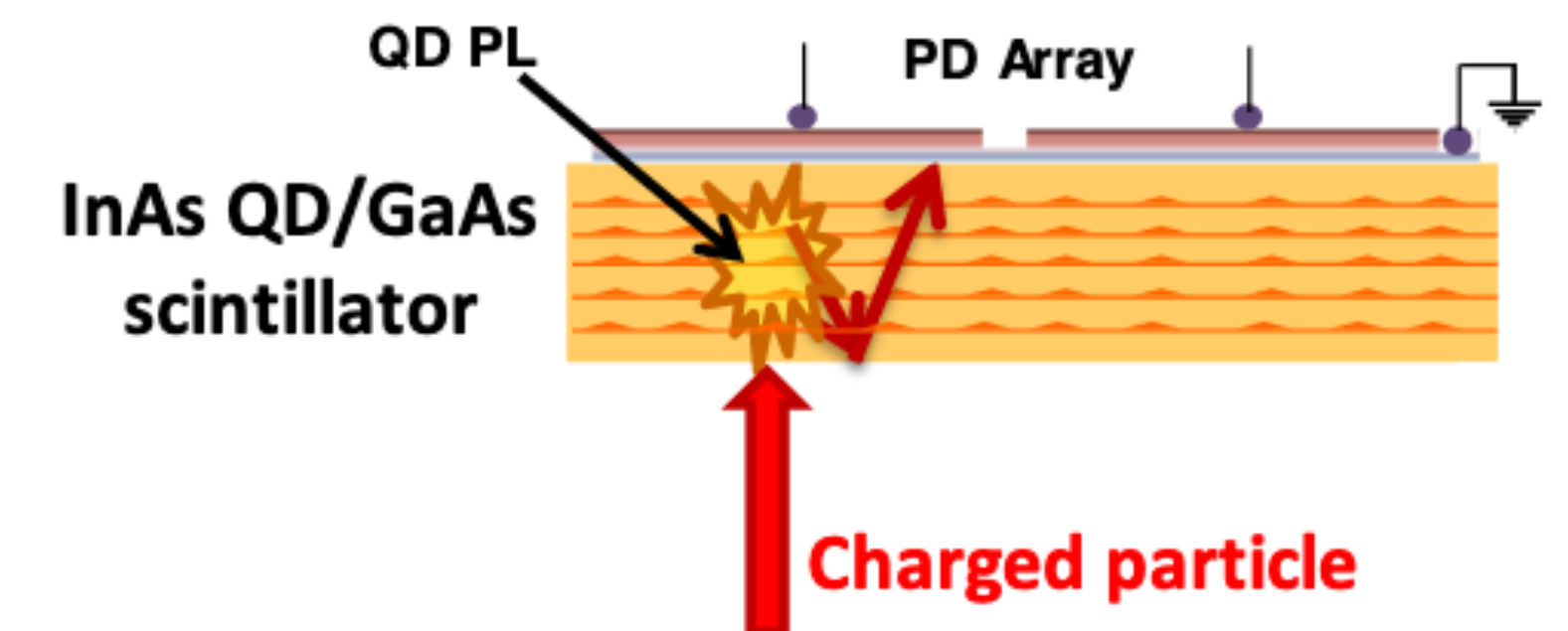
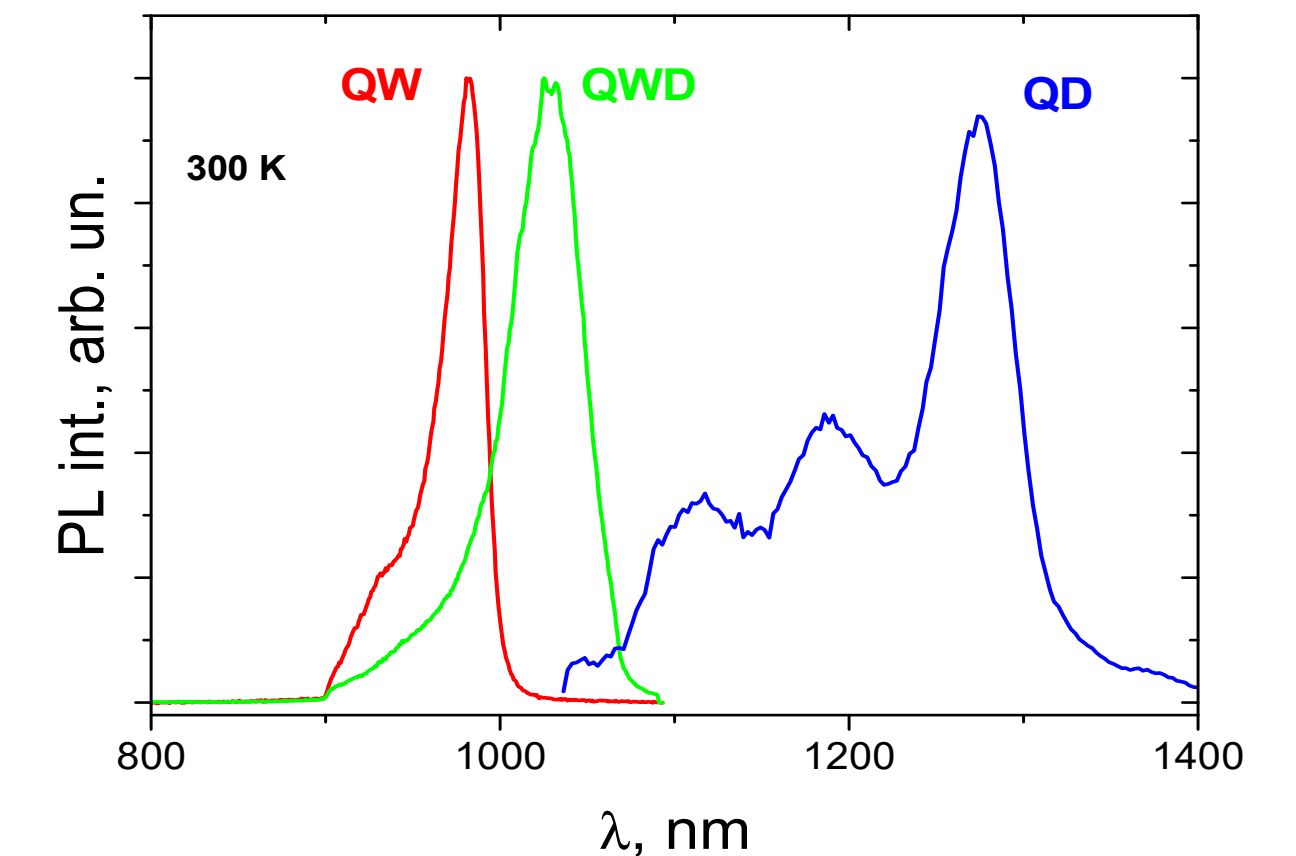
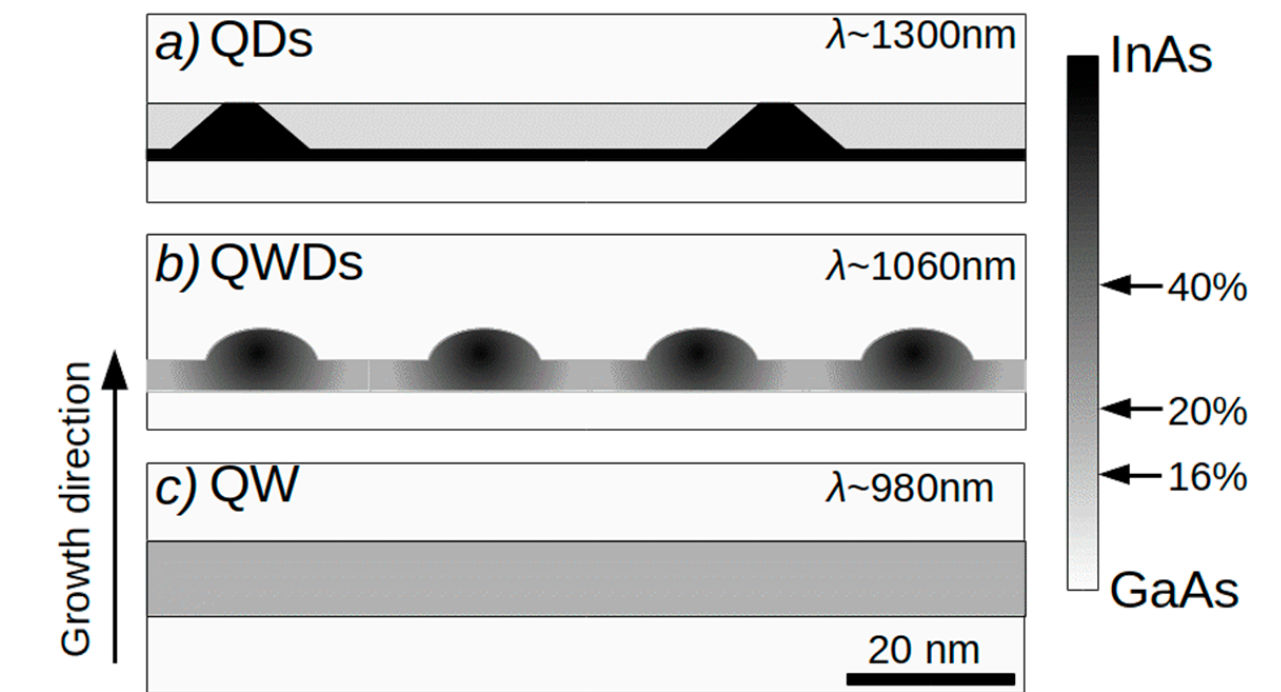


- Seed different parts of a detector with nanodots emitting at different wavelengths
- Wavelength of fluorescence photon indicates specific nanodot position: shower profile from spectrometry



# Quantum Dots: Active Scintillators & Tracking

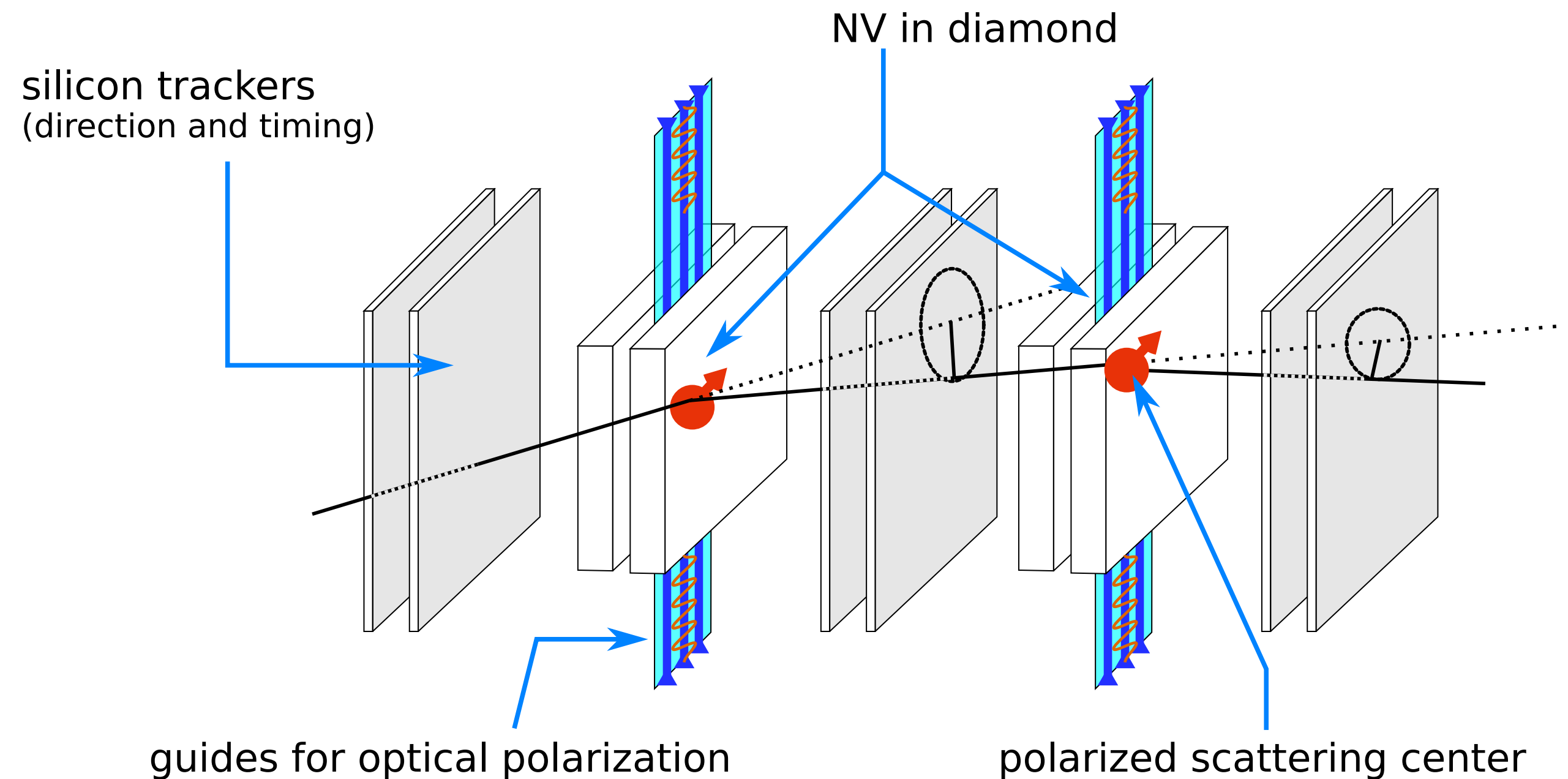
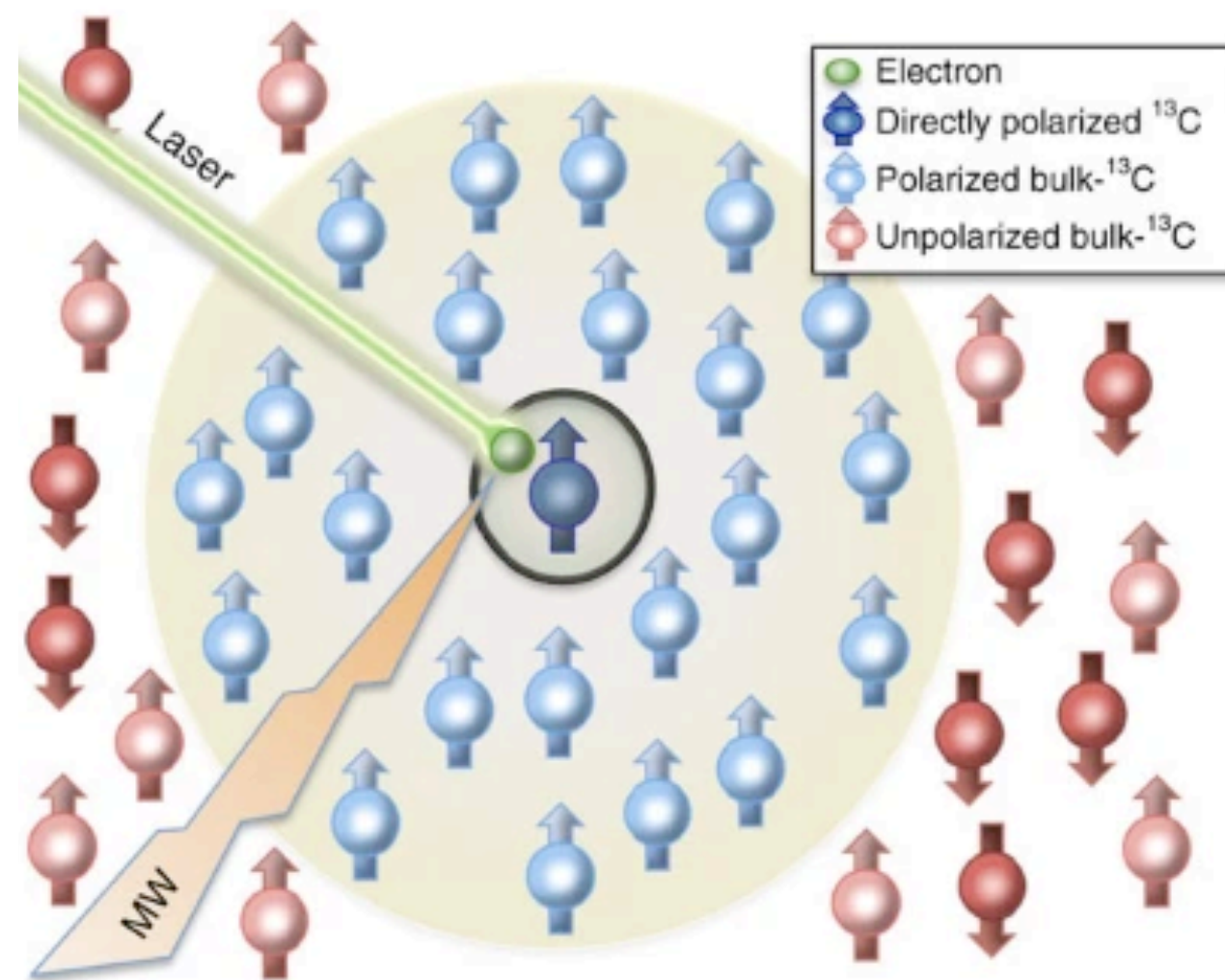
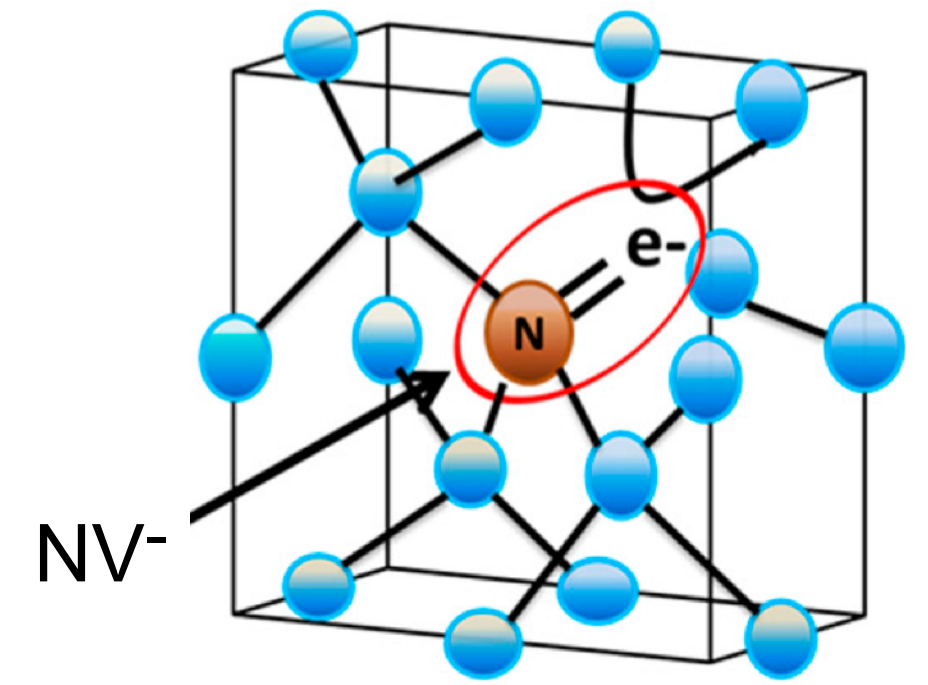
- Quantum Dots, Quantum Wires, Quantum Wells... many structures possible
- Quantum Well-dots: aiming for active scintillators
  - electronic amplification / modulation
  - pulsed / primed operation
  - gain adapted in-situ
- Quantum Dots in CMOS pixels: DoTPiX
  - n-channel MOS transistor + buried quantum well gate
  - gate collects holes, modulates current → CEA, CNRS/C2N Paris-Saclay
- Tracking with Quantum Dots: Scintillating (Chromatic) Tracking
  - GaAs bulk to generate e/h pairs, InAs quantum dots to trap charge
  - Dots emit photons from photoluminescence, collected by photodiode





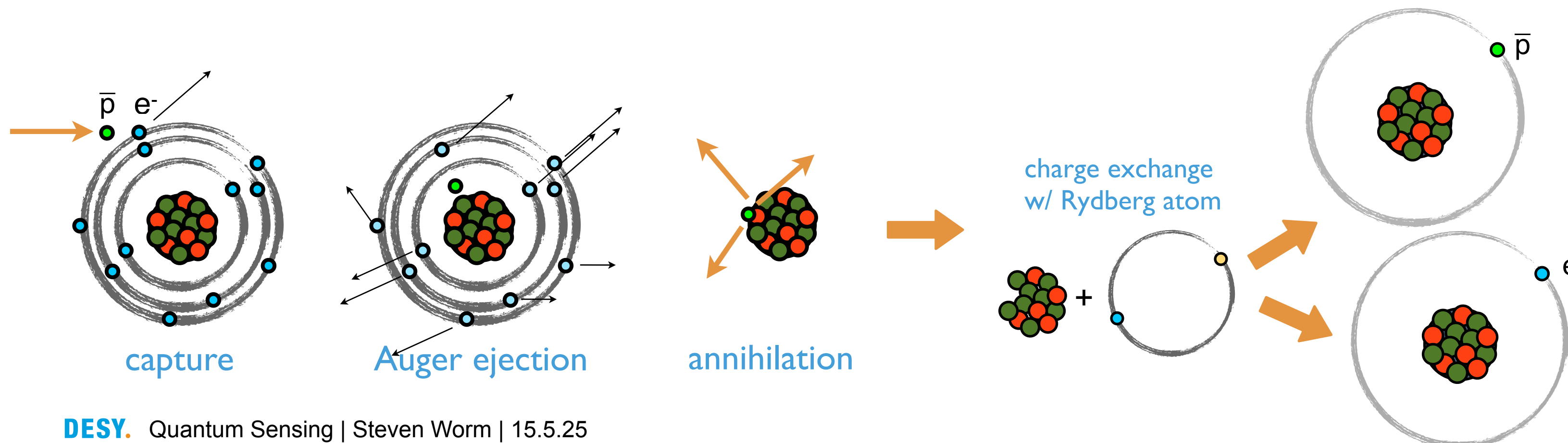
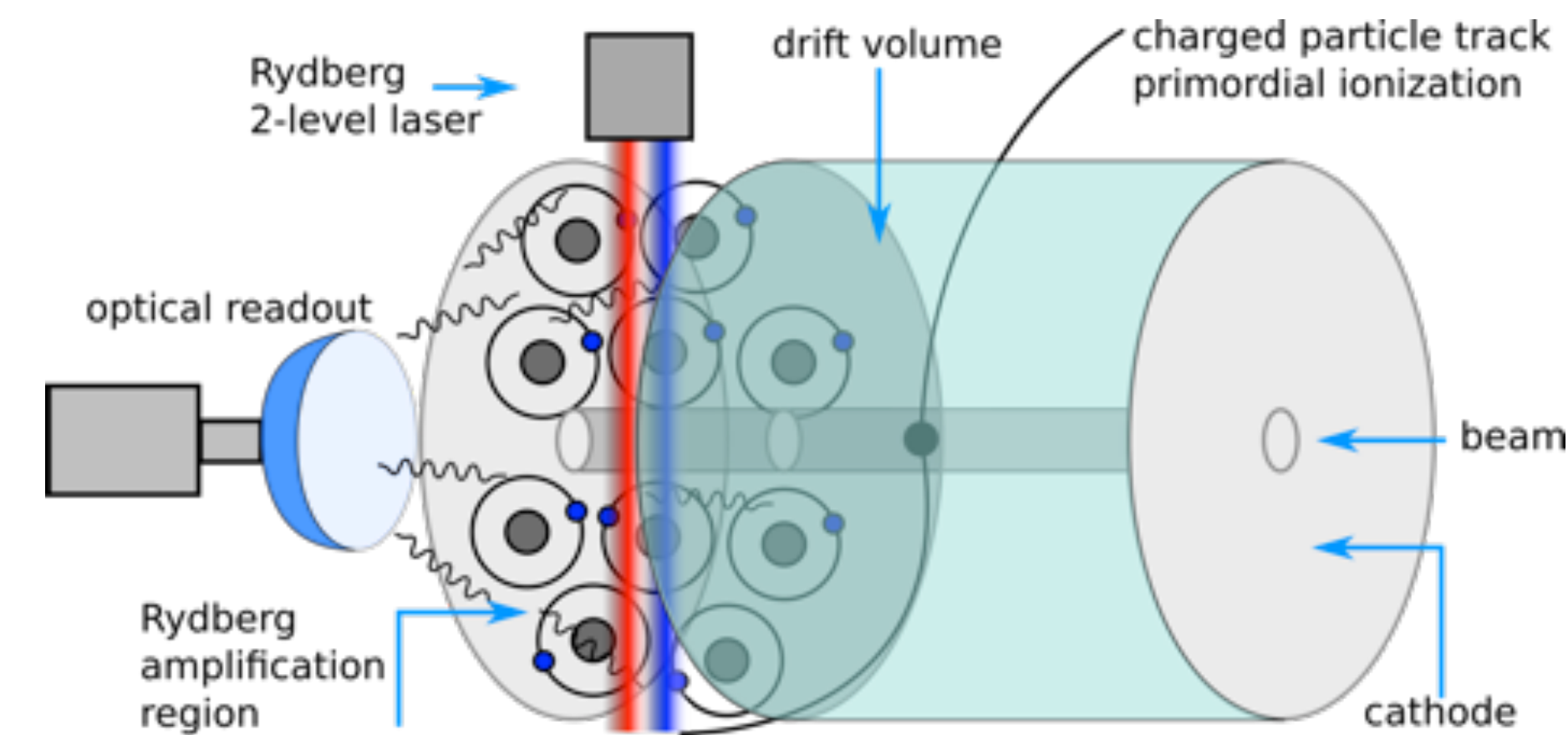
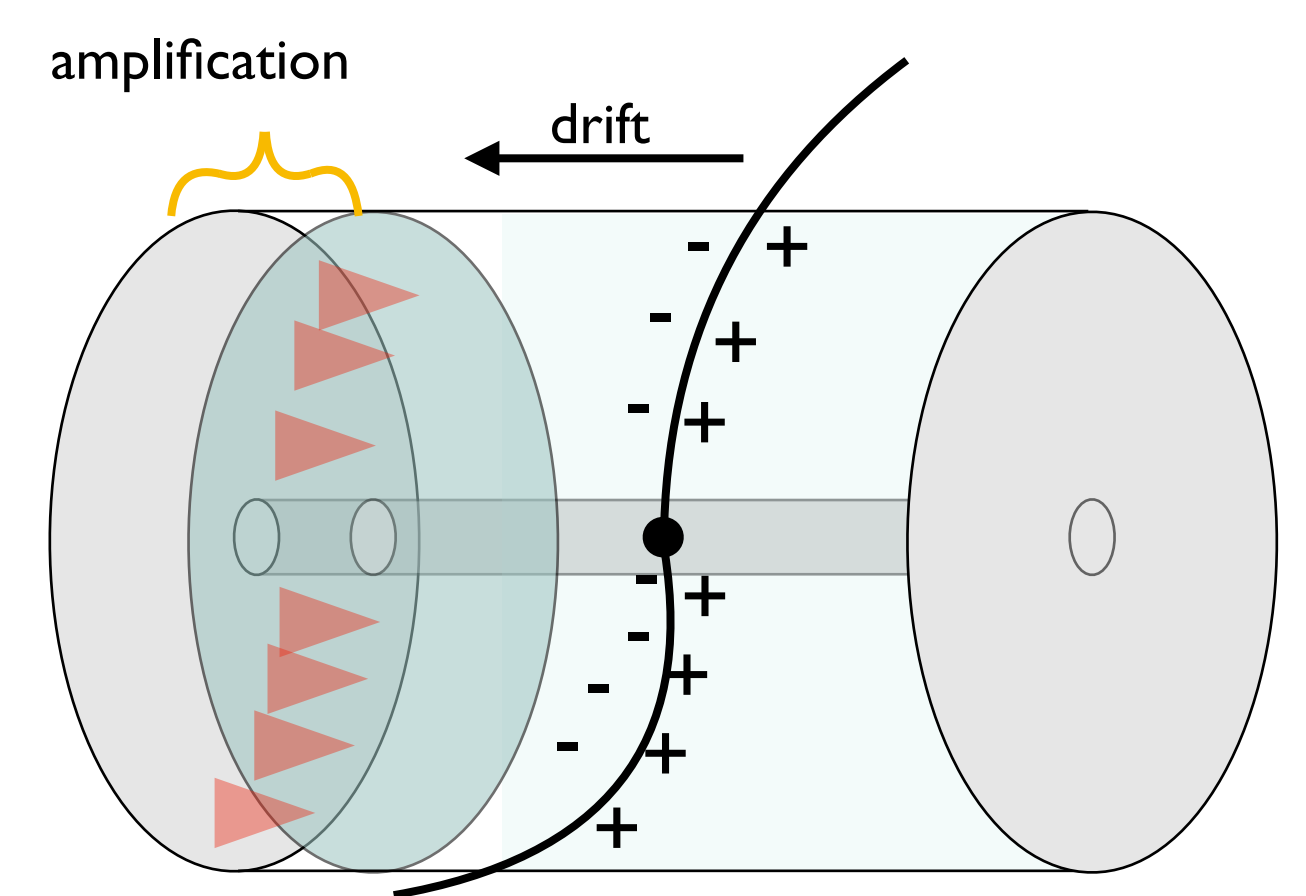
# Quantum-Polarized Helicity Detection in NV Centres

- Photoluminescent point defect in diamond nitrogen-vacancy centres (NV<sup>-</sup>)
  - Spin-dependent photoluminescence to measure electronic spin state
  - Relatively long (millisecond) spin coherence at room temperature
- Spin-spin scattering for helicity determination
  - Usually requires polarized beams and/or polarized targets
  - Polarized scattering planes possible to measure track-by-track particle helicity



# Quantum Sensing and Rydberg Atoms

- Rydberg atoms: highly excited valence electrons
- Rydberg readout of a Time Projection Chamber
  - Up-convert THz / GHz radiation  $\rightarrow$  optical readout
  - Larger signal via Rydberg “priming” in amplification
  - Lower ionization threshold  $\rightarrow$  higher electron yield
- Antiprotonic atoms and novel HCI systems
  - Anti-proton tests in Penning trap for Highly Charged Ions or molecules
  - Tests of QED, CPT, fundamental constants, fifth force, precision isotope shift (King plot), EDM measurements

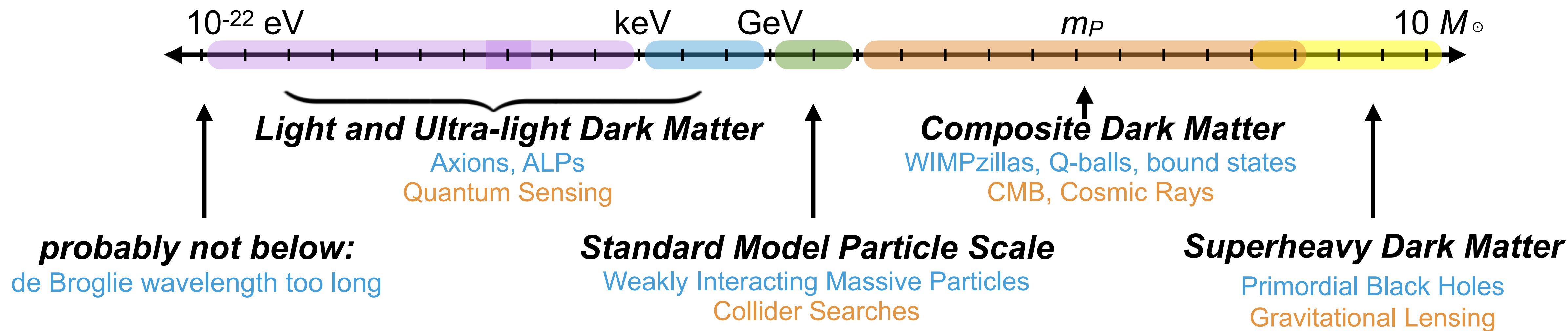


highly charged,  
hollow antiprotonic or  
Rydberg atomic ions



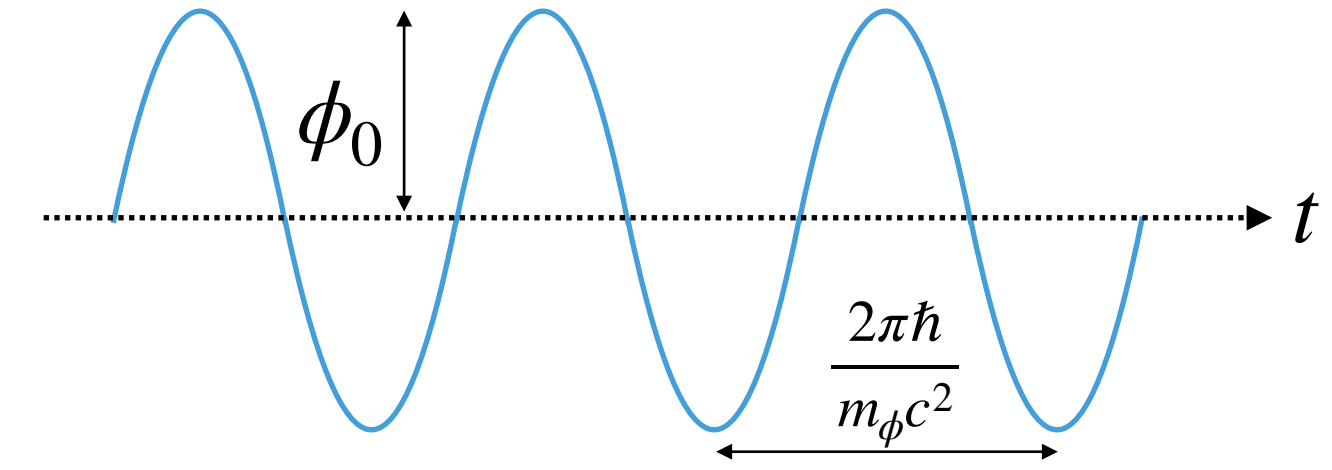
# Quantum-enabled Experiments & Ultra-light Dark Matter

Quantum Sensing needed for Light/Ultralight Dark Matter



# Ultra-Light Dark Matter: Phenomenology

- Adding new DM interaction (field) to Standard Model Lagrangian
  - **Bosonic**: Ultra-light DM must be bosonic in nature
  - **Non-relativistic** ( $\sim 10^{-3}c$ ): so it neither leaves the galaxy or clumps near the center
  - **Oscillating classical field**: coherent, practically monochromatic  $\rightarrow$  wave-like



$$\phi(t) \approx \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi c^2 t / \hbar)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{int} = \frac{4\pi\phi}{M_{pl}} \left( \frac{d_e}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} - d_{m_e} m_e \bar{e} e - \frac{d_g \beta_3}{2g_3} G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{A\mu\nu} - \sum_{i=u,d} (d_{m_i} + \gamma_{m_i} d_g) m_i \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \right)$$

- Coupling to Lagrangian is linear (in  $\phi$ ) for lowest order interaction w/ scalar field

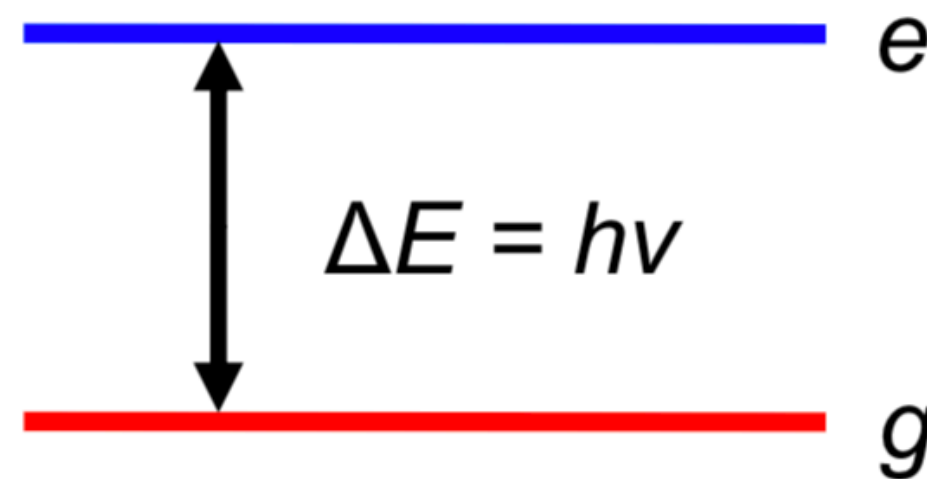
$$\mathcal{L}_{DM} = \frac{\phi}{\Lambda_\gamma} \frac{F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}}{4} - \frac{\phi}{\Lambda_e} m_e \bar{\psi} \psi$$

- At the effective new physics energy scales  $\Lambda_\alpha$  and  $\Lambda_e$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $m_e$  appear to **oscillate**

$$\frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} \approx \frac{\phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t)}{\Lambda_\gamma}, \quad \frac{dm_e}{m_e} \approx \frac{\phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t)}{\Lambda_e}$$



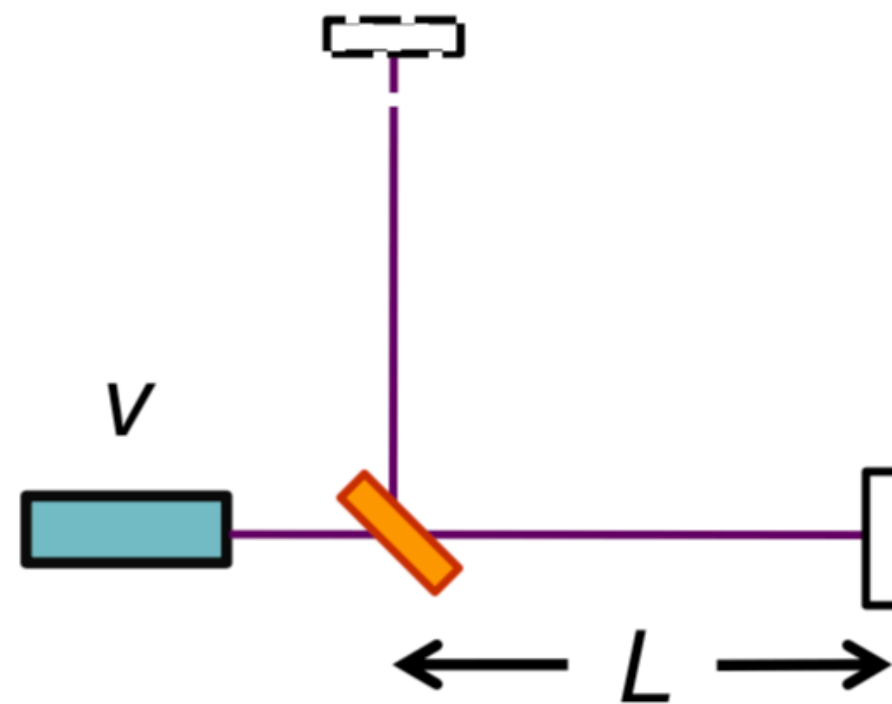
# Quantum Sensing Methods for Testing $\Delta\alpha/\alpha$



## Atomic spectroscopy (clocks)

$$\delta(\nu_1/\nu_2) \propto \cos(m_\phi t)$$

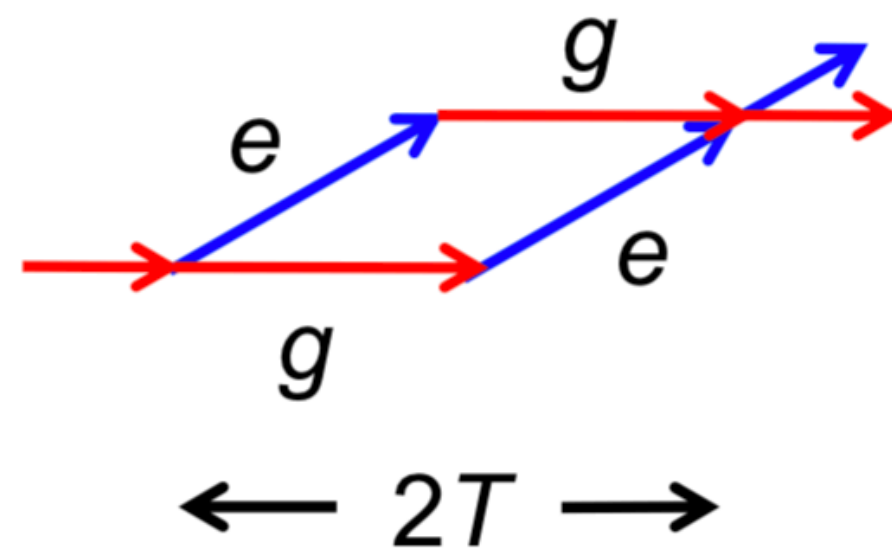
$$10^{-23} \text{ eV} < m_\phi < 10^{-16} \text{ eV}$$



## Laser interferometry (cavities)

$$\delta\phi \propto \delta(\nu L) \propto \cos(m_\phi t)$$

$$10^{-20} \text{ eV} < m_\phi < 10^{-15} \text{ eV}$$

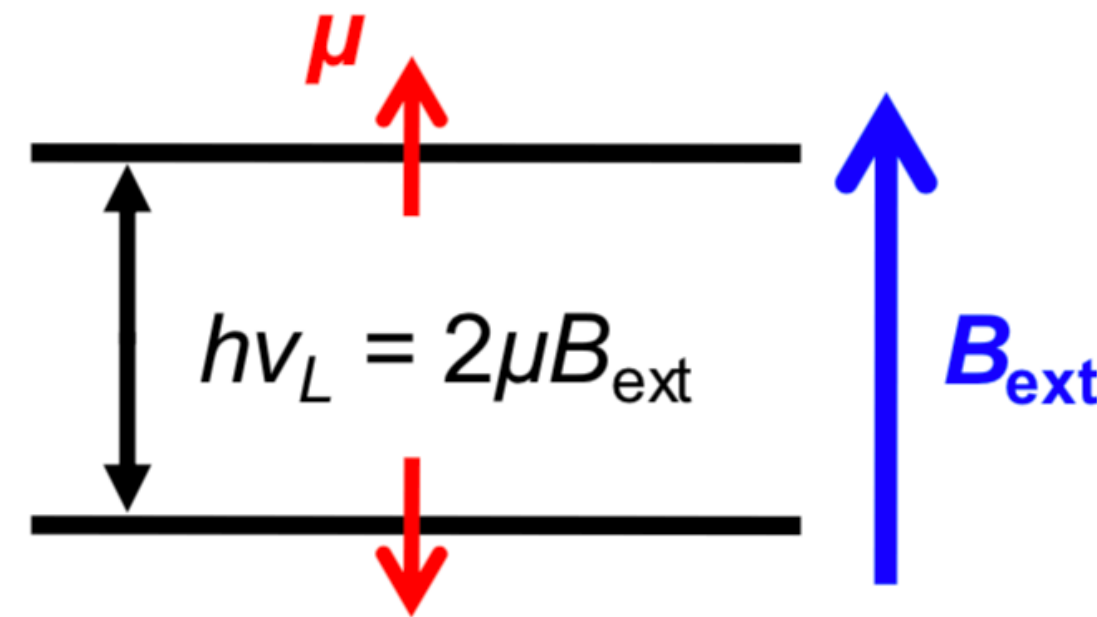


## Atom interferometry

$$\mathbf{F}(t) \propto \mathbf{p}_\phi \sin(m_\phi t)$$

$$10^{-23} \text{ eV} < m_\phi < 10^{-16} \text{ eV}$$

# Quantum Sensing Methods for Testing $\Delta\mu/\mu$



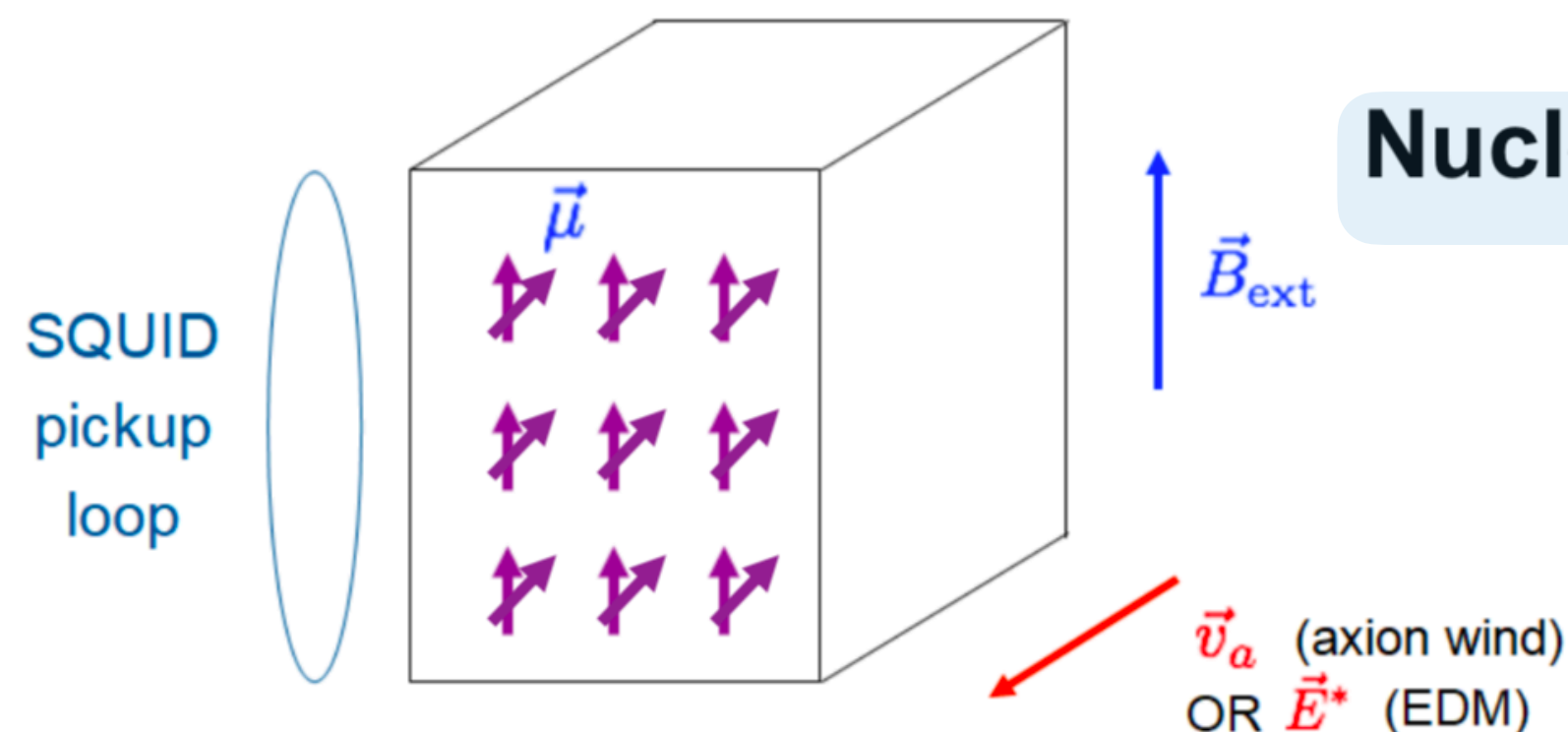
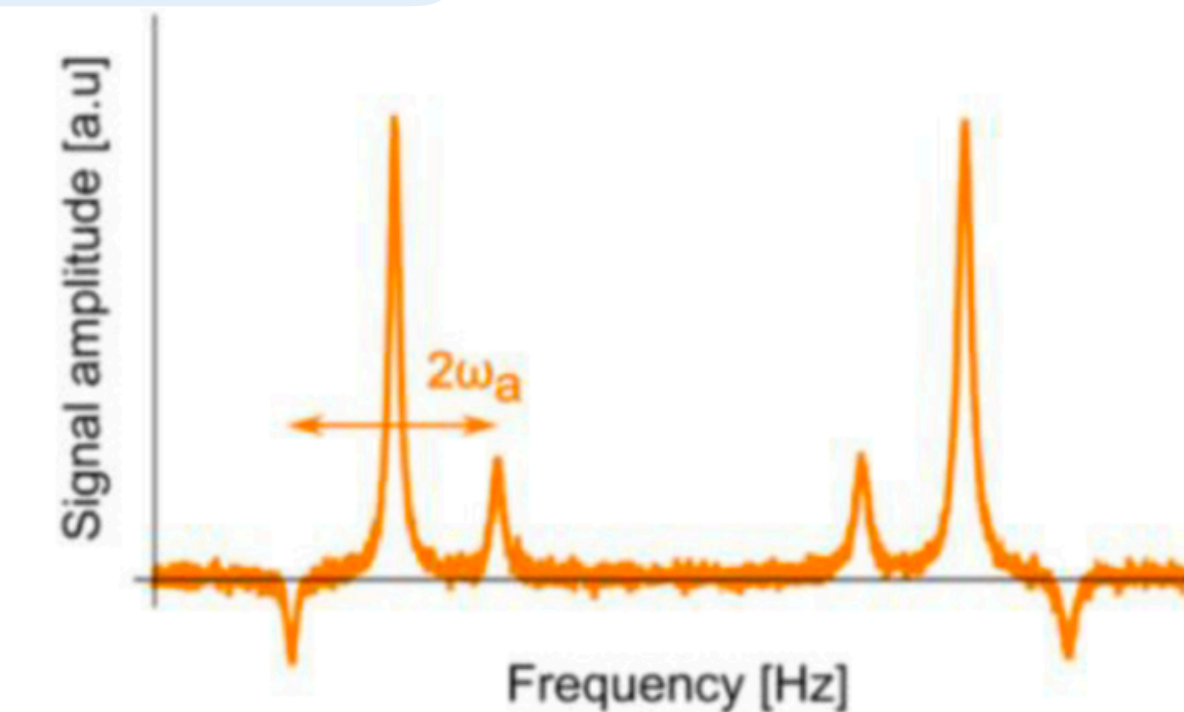
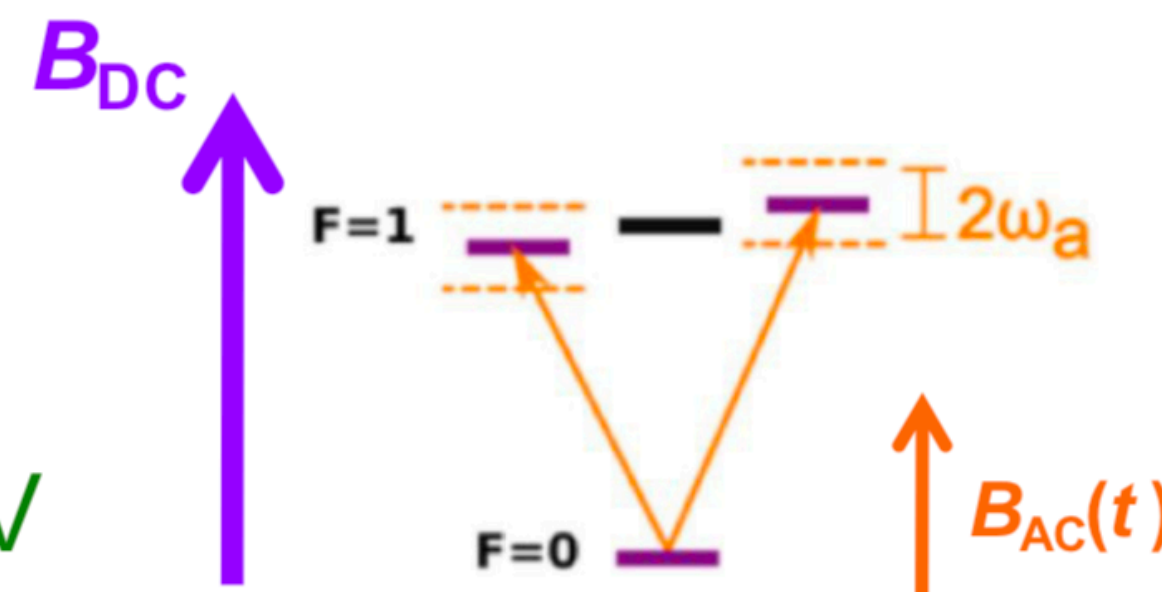
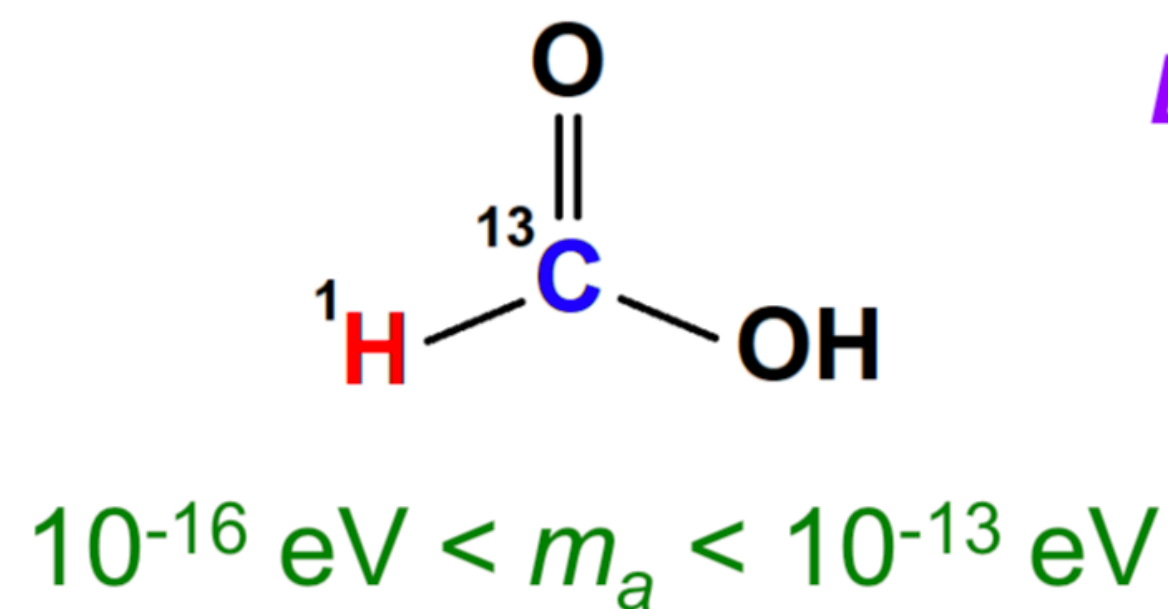
## Co-magnetometry

$$\delta(\nu_{L,1}/\nu_{L,2}) \propto \cos(m_a t)$$

$$\text{or } \hat{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{p}_a \sin(m_a t)$$

$$10^{-23} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-17} \text{ eV}$$

## Nuclear magnetic resonance (“sidebands”)



## Nuclear magnetic resonance

$$\text{Resonance: } 2\mu B_{\text{ext}} \approx m_a$$

$$10^{-14} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-7} \text{ eV}$$



# Quantum Sensing with Optical Atomic Clocks

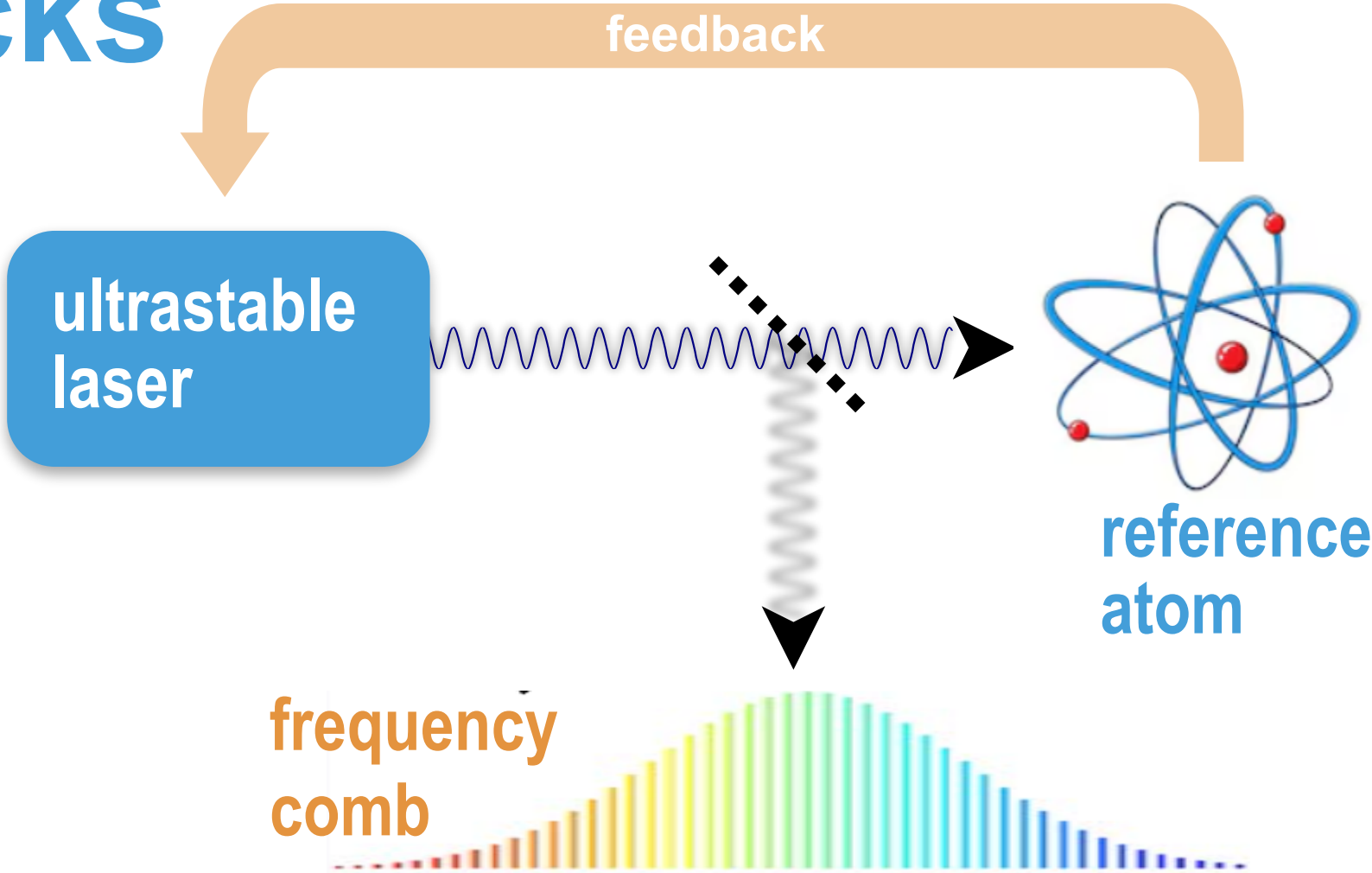
- Optical Atomic Clock
  - Laser for oscillator, usually a narrow frequency around atomic transition
  - Ultra-stable laser locked to atomic transition, “counted” with frequency comb
- Atomic clock transition scale and sensitivity is “selectable”
  - For  $R_\infty = \alpha^2 m_e c / 4\pi \hbar$ , fine structure const.  $\alpha$ , and  $\mu \equiv m_p / m_e$

Hyperfine transitions:  $\nu_{\text{hf}} = A \cdot \mu \alpha^2 F_{\text{hf}}(\alpha) \cdot R_\infty$

Optical transitions:  $\nu_{\text{opt}} = B \cdot F_{\text{opt}}(\alpha) \cdot R_\infty$

Vibrational transitions:  $\nu_{\text{vib}} = C \cdot \mu^{1/2} \cdot R_\infty$

- Calculate sensitivities to variations in  $\alpha$  or  $\mu$  given by  $K_\alpha$  and  $K_\mu$
- Search for variation in  $\alpha$ : ultra-light Dark Matter
  - Measure ratios of frequencies ( $R = \nu_1 / \nu_2$ ) for two clocks, look for oscillations
  - Highly charged ions give excellent sensitivity
  - Th-229 nuclear clock → extreme sensitivity

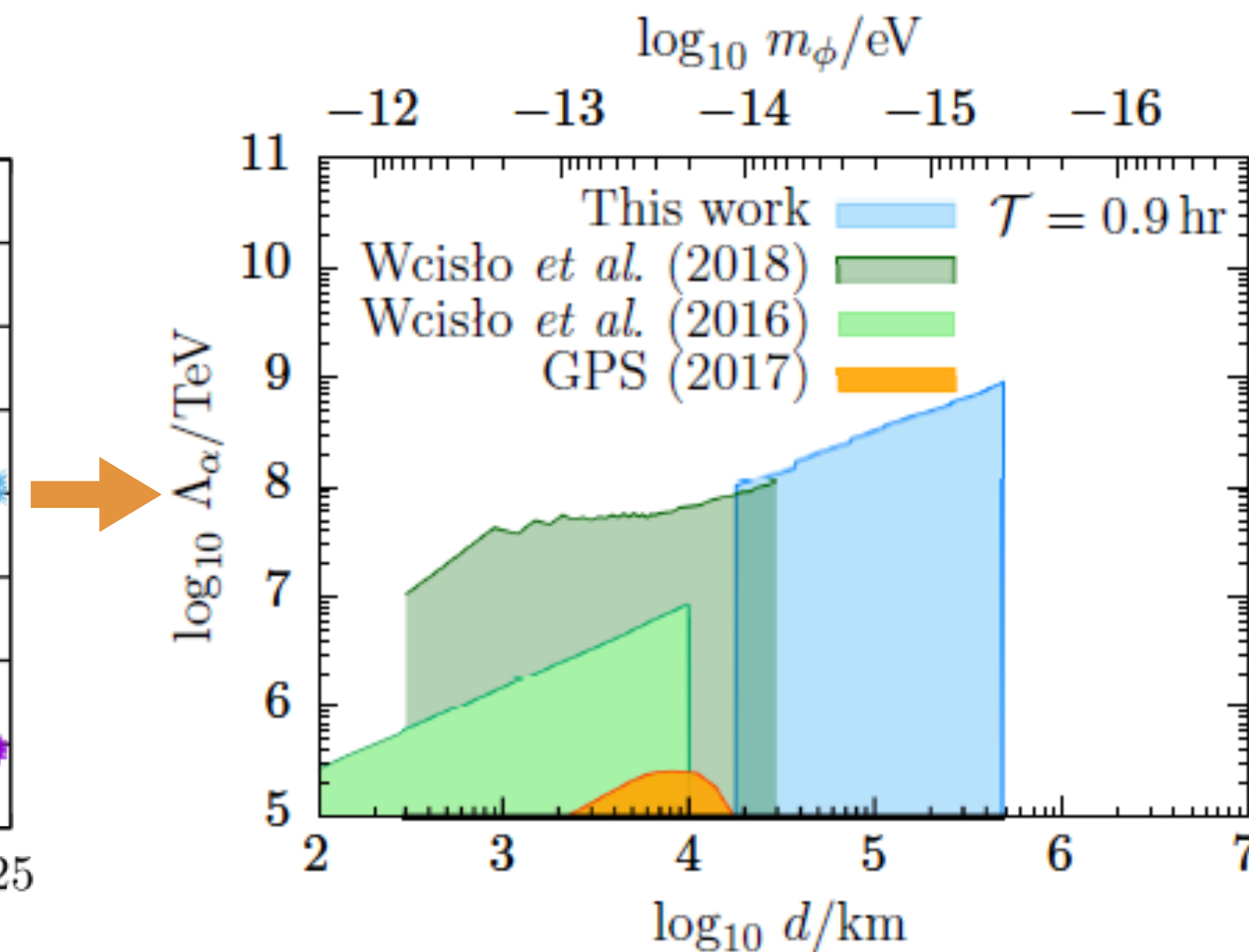
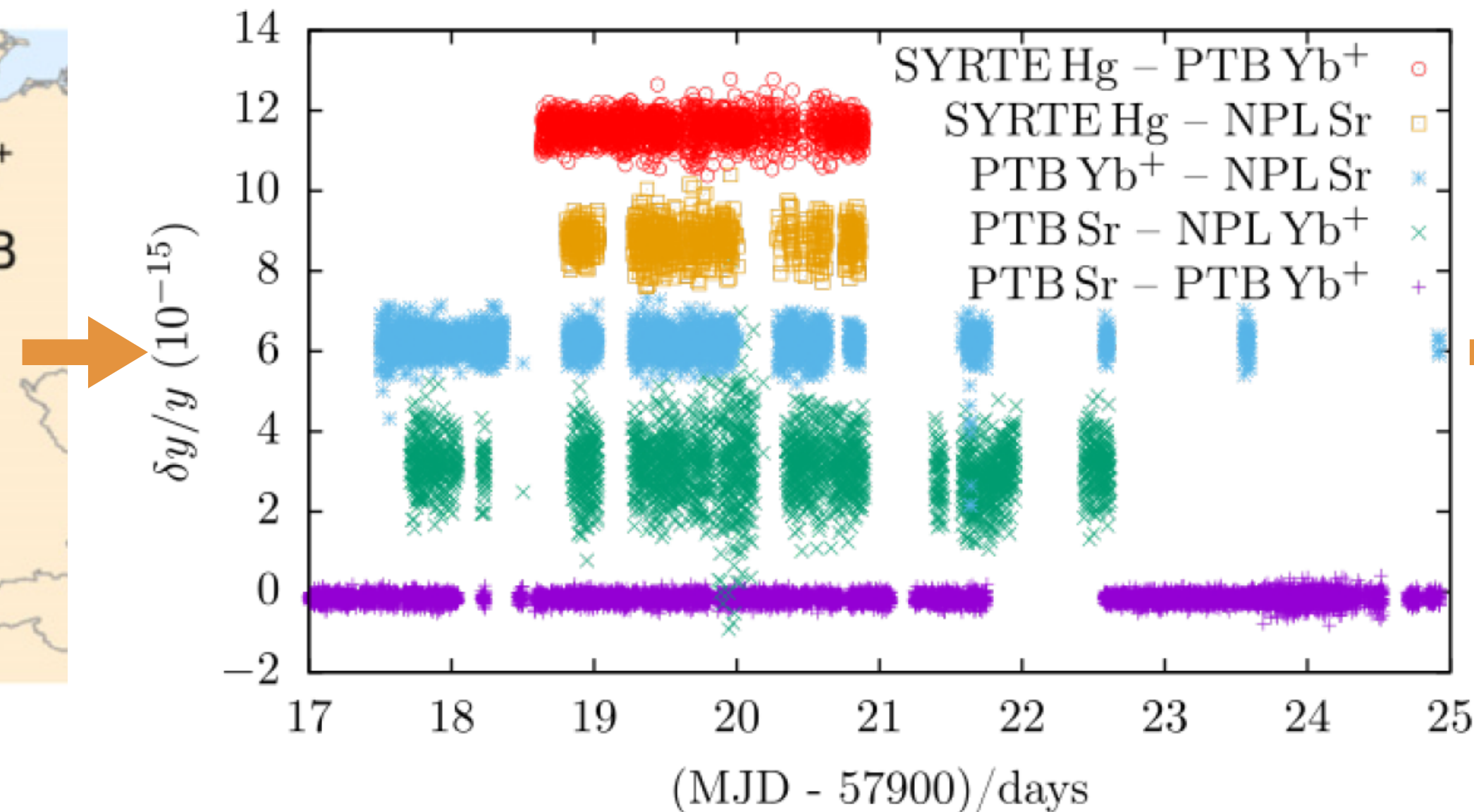
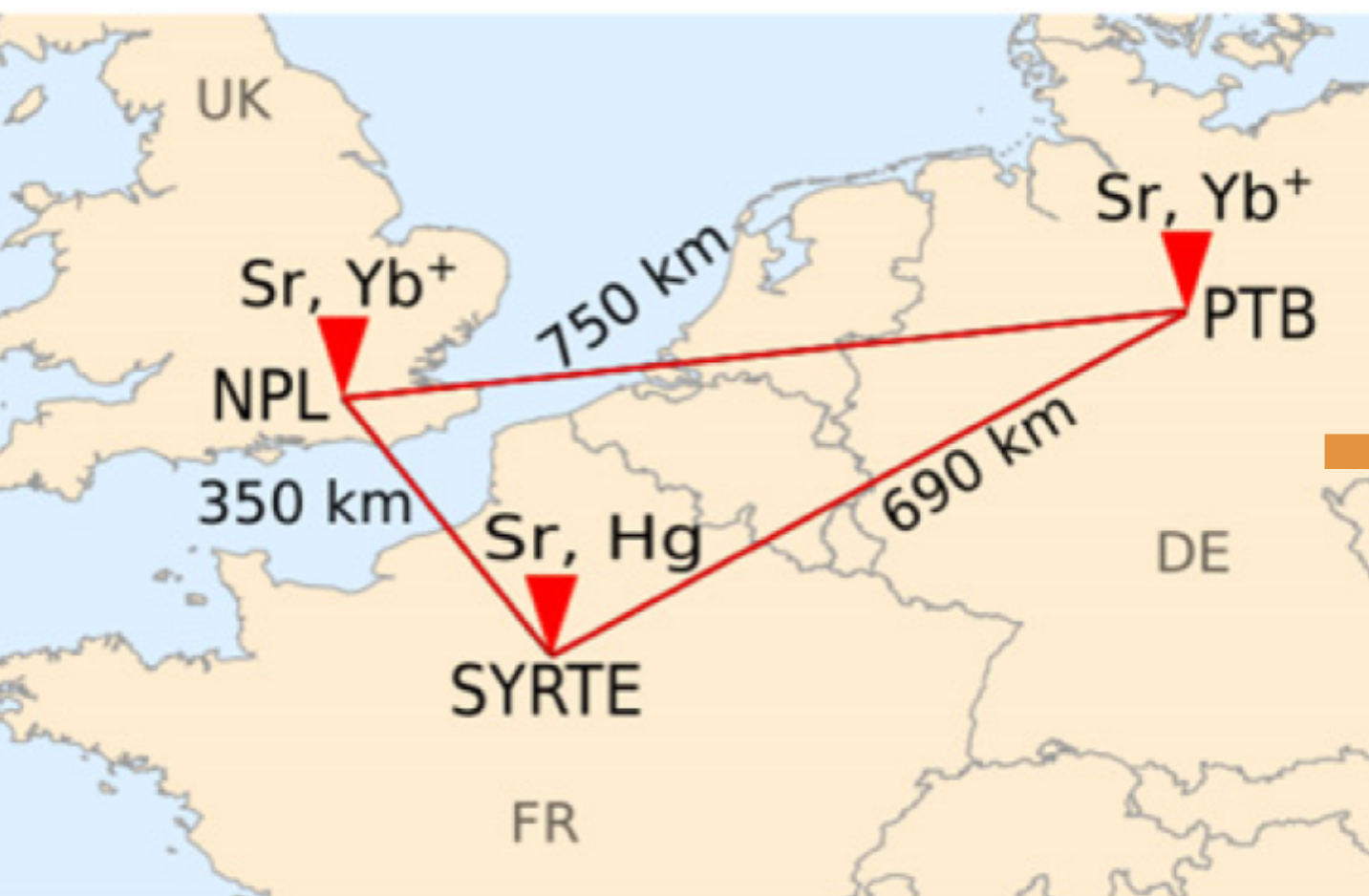


Clocks proposed for QSNET

| Clock                                 | $K_\alpha$ | $K_\mu$ |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| Yb <sup>+</sup> (467 nm)              | -5.95      | 0       |
| Sr (698 nm)                           | 0.06       | 0       |
| Cs (32.6 mm)                          | 2.83       | 1       |
| CaF (17 μm)                           | 0          | 0.5     |
| N <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (2.31 μm) | 0          | 0.5     |
| Cf <sup>15+</sup> (618 nm)            | 47         | 0       |
| Cf <sup>17+</sup> (485 nm)            | -43.5      | 0       |

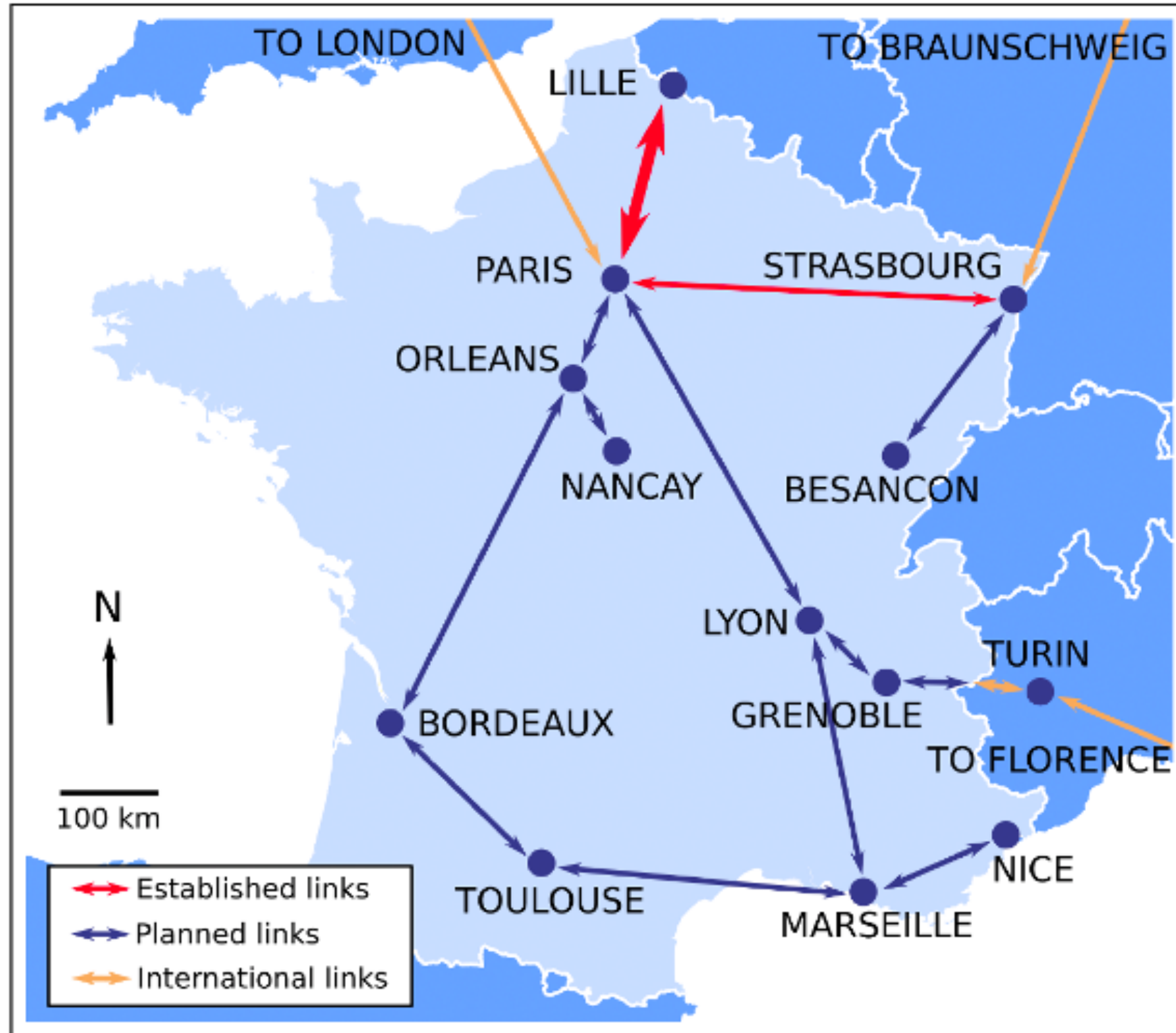
# Quantum Sensing: Networks of Optical Clocks

- NPL-SYRTE-PTB demonstrated an optical clock network with dark fibres
- Comparing optical clocks with different sensitivities to variations of  $\alpha$
- Results for  $T = 0.9, 12, 45$  hours
- Results for previously unconstrained parameter space (topological defect DM)





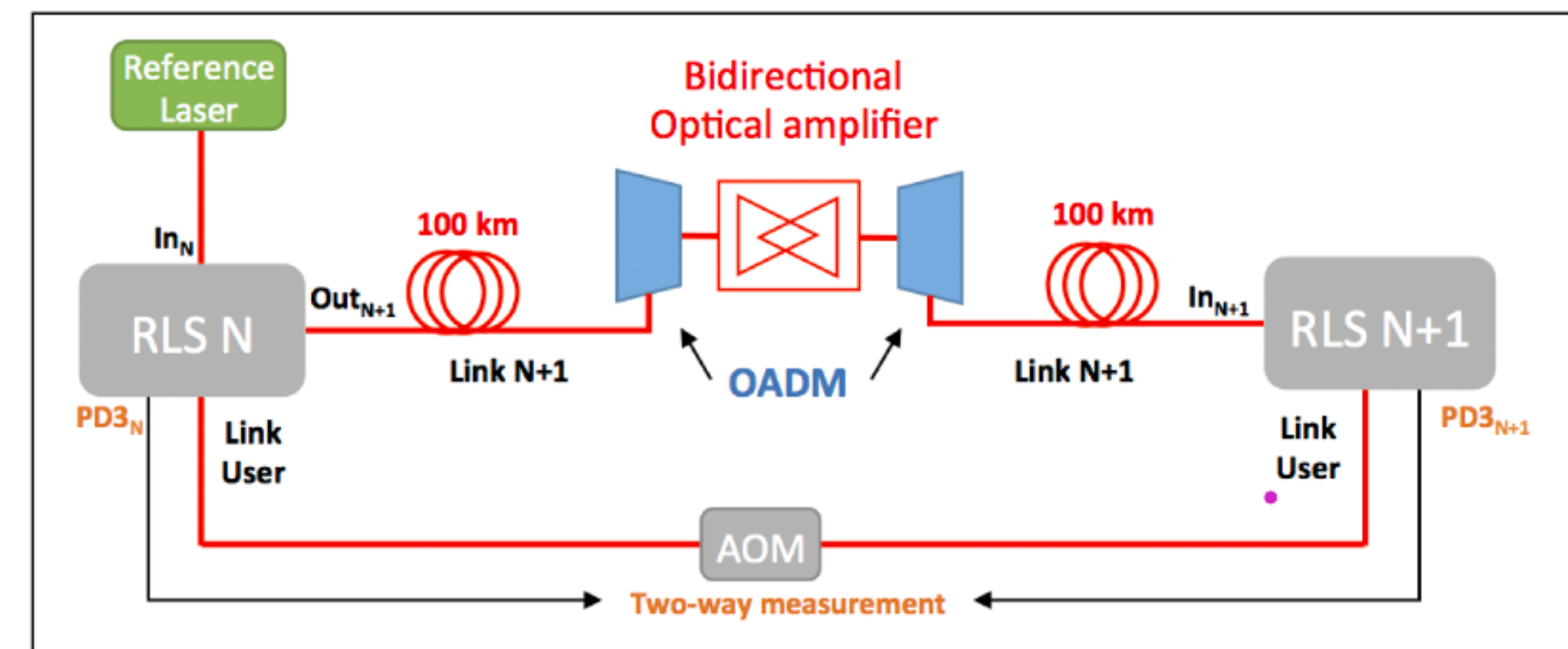
# The REFIMEVE+ Network



**Fig. 1.** Map of France with the REFIMEVE+ network. Red arrows: operational links. Blue arrows: planned links. Orange arrows: international cross-border links towards Braunschweig (Germany), London (UK) and Torino (Italy). In this paper, we focus on the link between Paris and Lille (thick red line).

## Performance for frequency transfer ( $\Delta f/f$ )

- $5.4 \times 10^{-16}$  at 1s
- $1.7 \times 10^{-20}$  at 65000s (=18h)
- Accuracy:  $3 \times 10^{-20}$

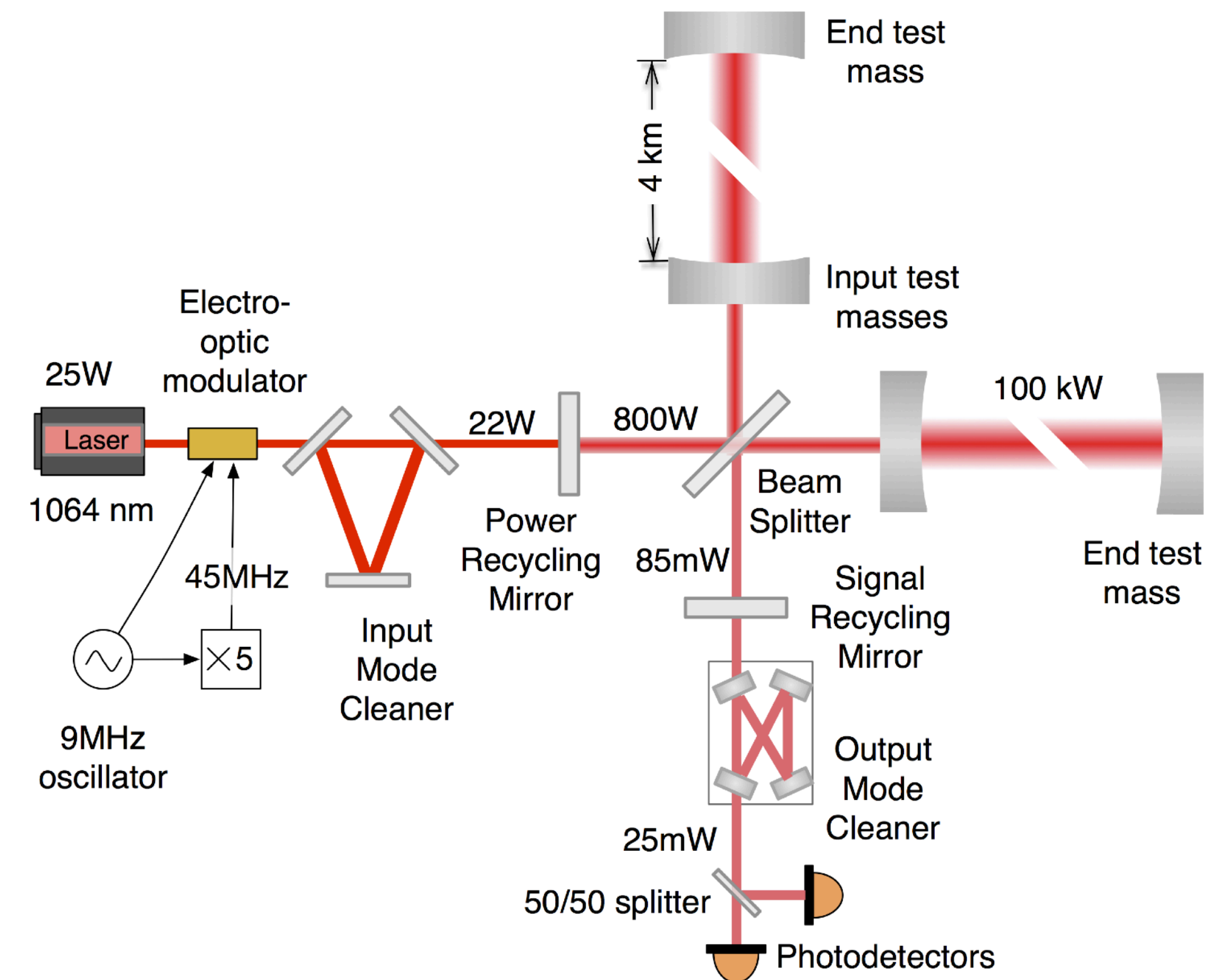
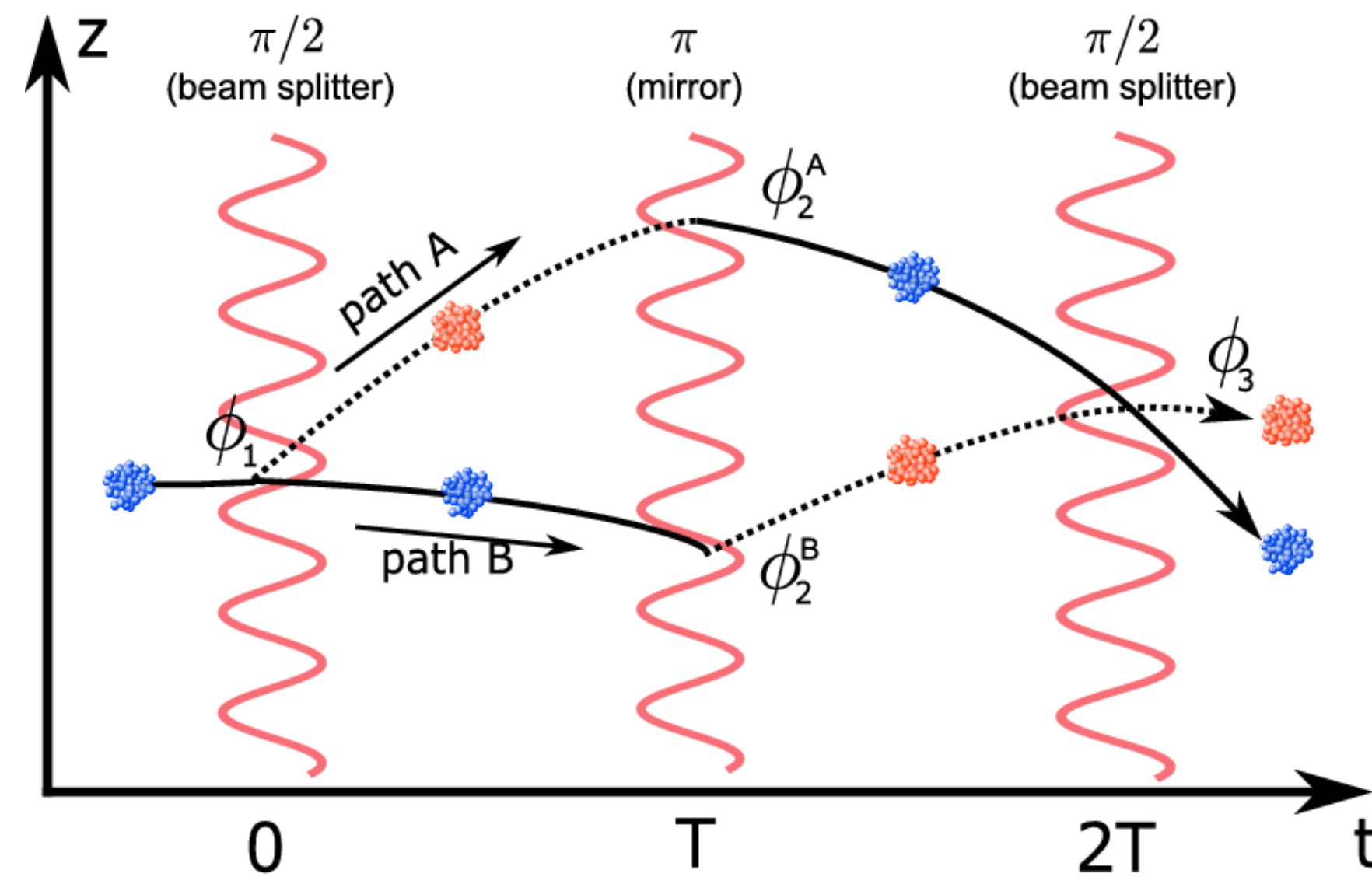


**Fig. 3.** Scheme of the testbench with a simulated link of 200 km, including two bi-directional OADMs and one bi-directional EDFA. For the noise floor measurement, the 200 km link is replaced by a short single mode fiber.

→ Muquans, CNRS/Laboratoire de Physique des Lasers, SYRTE, RENATER, Syrlinks, LP2N...

# Quantum Sensing with Interferometry

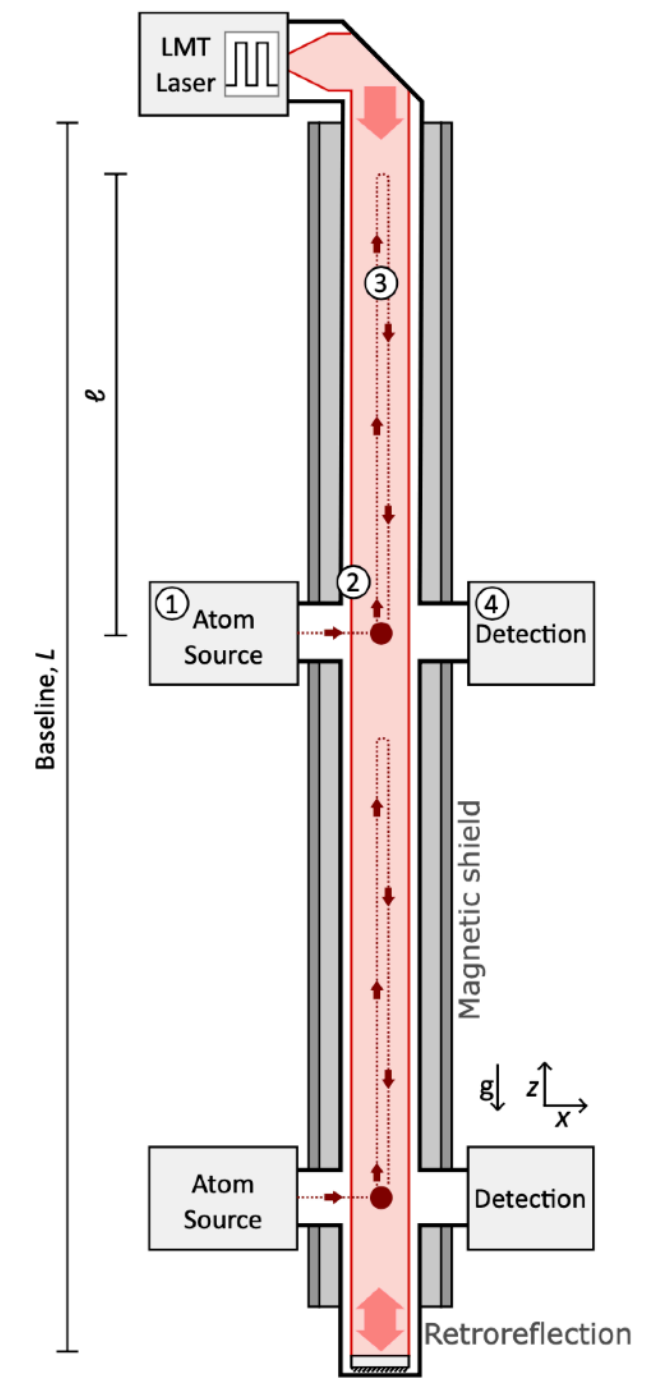
- Superimpose waves to look for interference → precise measure of (e.g.) distance
- Source is split and sent on two (or more) different paths, then recombined
- Interference (eg from changes in arm length) analysed by Fourier analysis, fringes, etc.



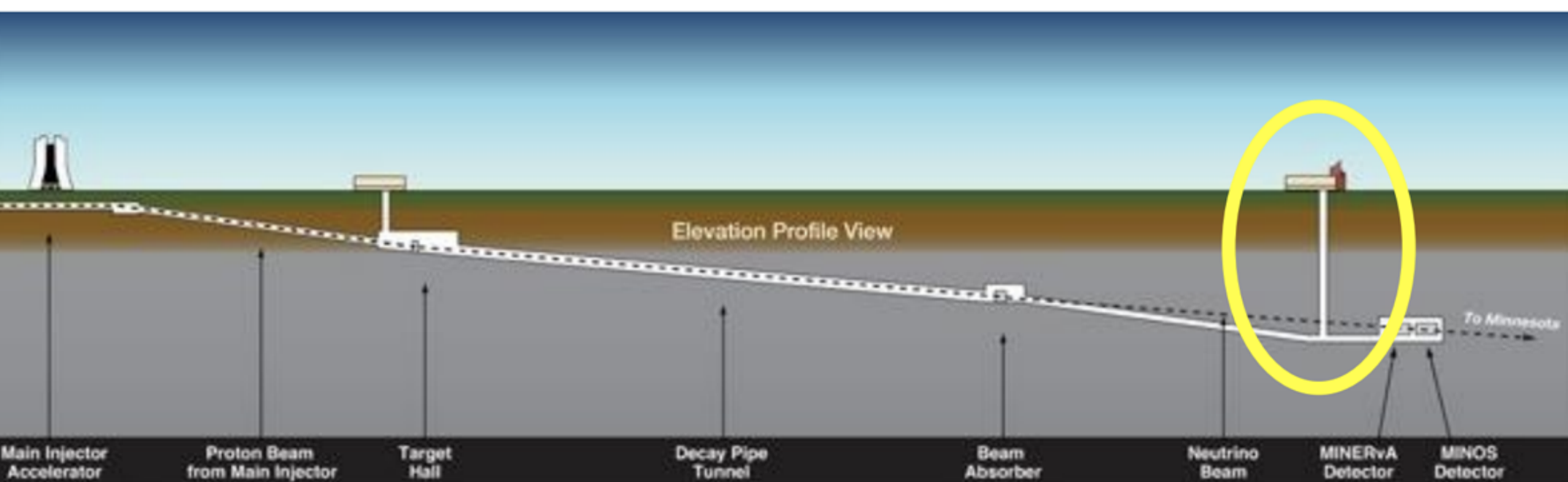


# Long-Baseline Atom Interferometry

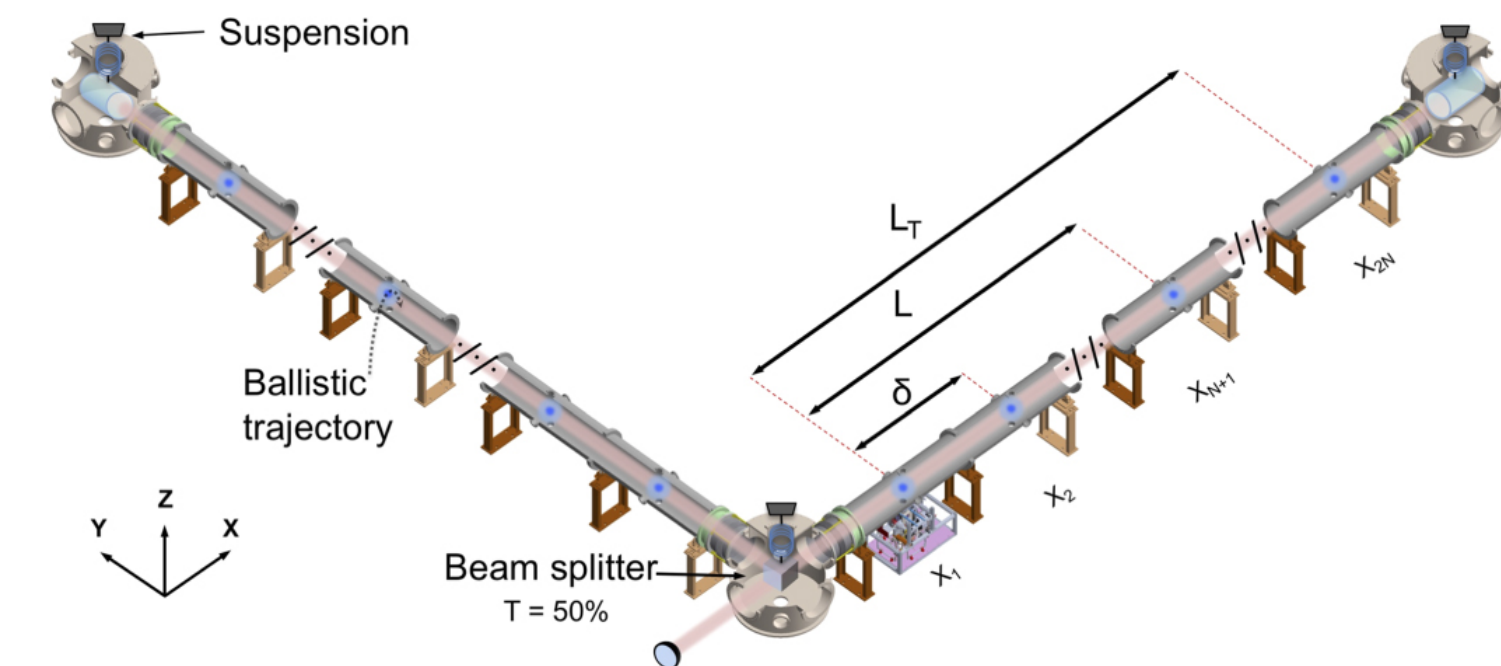
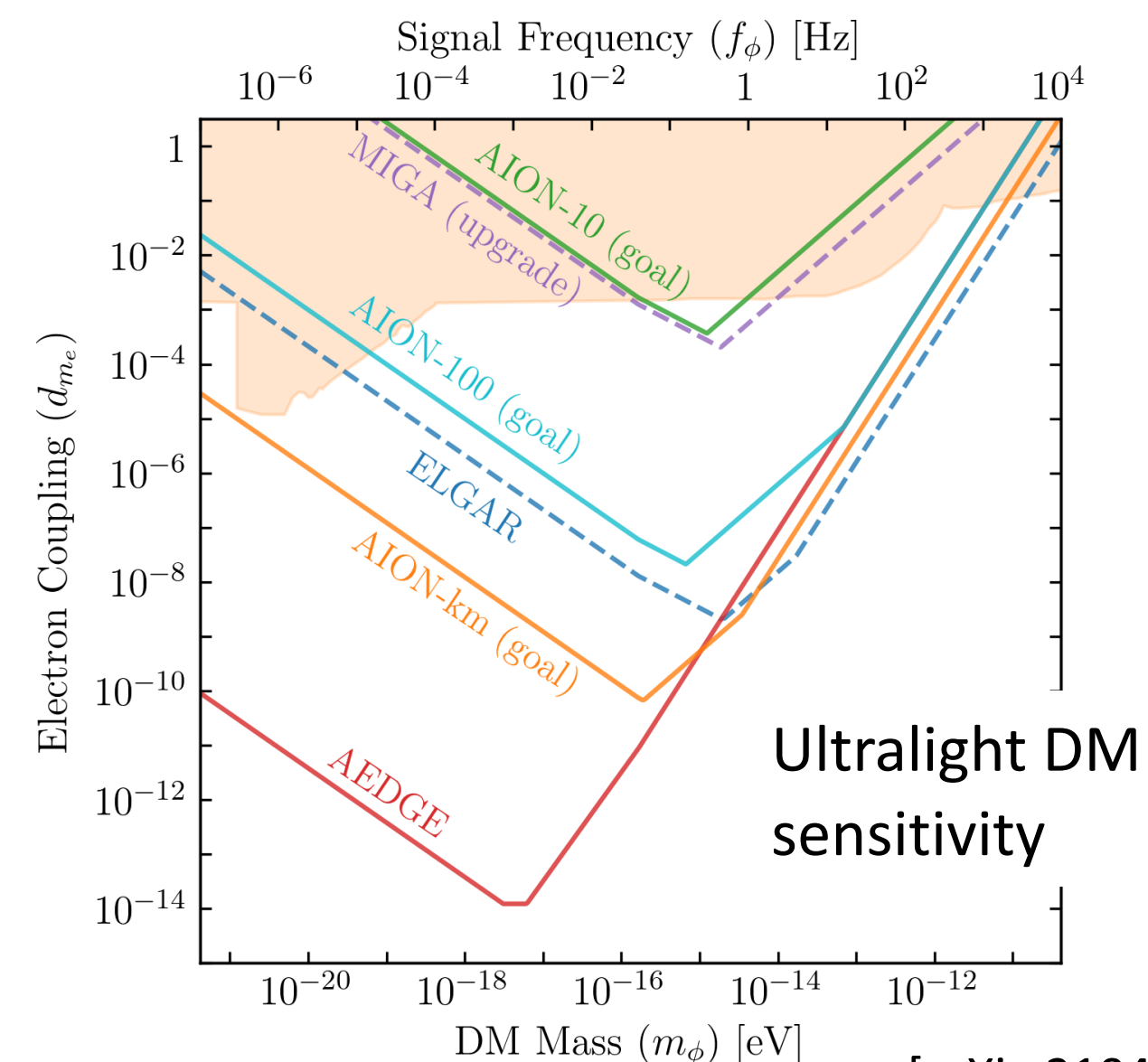
- Demonstrated at ~meter scale, proposing 100m and ultimately km (space)
  - **AION**: Atom Interferometer Observatory and Network
  - **ELGAR**: European Laboratory for Gravitation and Atom-interferometric Research
  - **MIGA**: Matter wave-laser based Interferometer Gravitation Antenna
  - **MAGIS**: Matter-wave Atomic Gradiometer Interferometric Sensor
  - **ZAIGA**: Zhaoshan Long-baseline Atom Interferometer Gravitation Antenna
  - **AEDGE**: Atomic Experiment for Dark Matter and Gravity Exploration in Space
- Matches lab infrastructure; underground shafts (CERN, Fermilab, etc)
- Ultralight DM, but also topological DM, gravitational waves, Lorentz invariance



AION experiment concept



MAGIS-100 experiment concept  
→ incl. Korea University



ELGAR experiment concept  
→ Univ. Bordeaux, CNRS, IOGS, LP2N

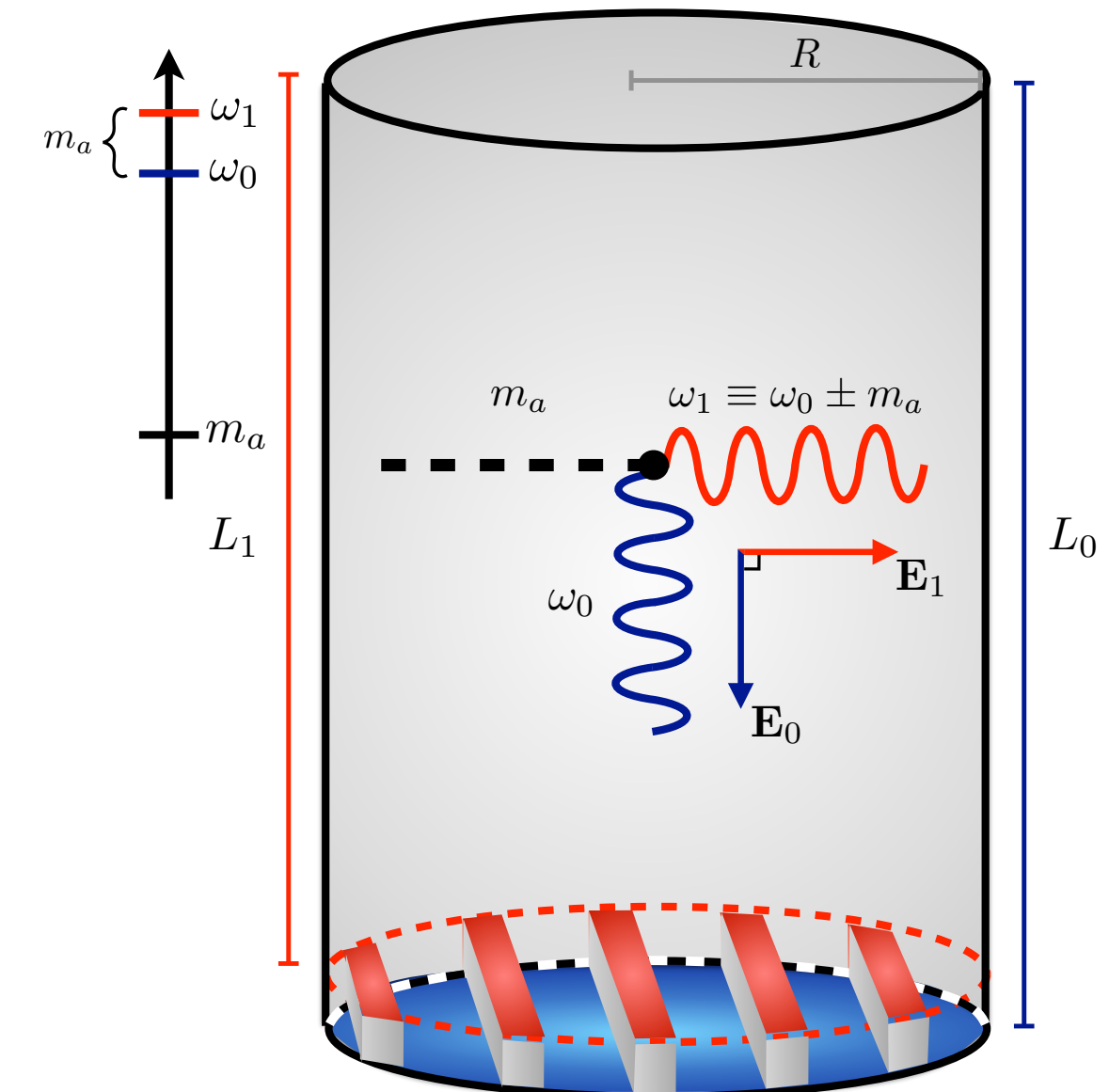
# Cavities: Axion Heterodyne Detection

- DarkSRF Collaboration aiming for tunable cavities
  - Figure of merit ( $F$ ) proportional to *square* of DM mass ( $m_a$ ) and cavity volume ( $V$ )

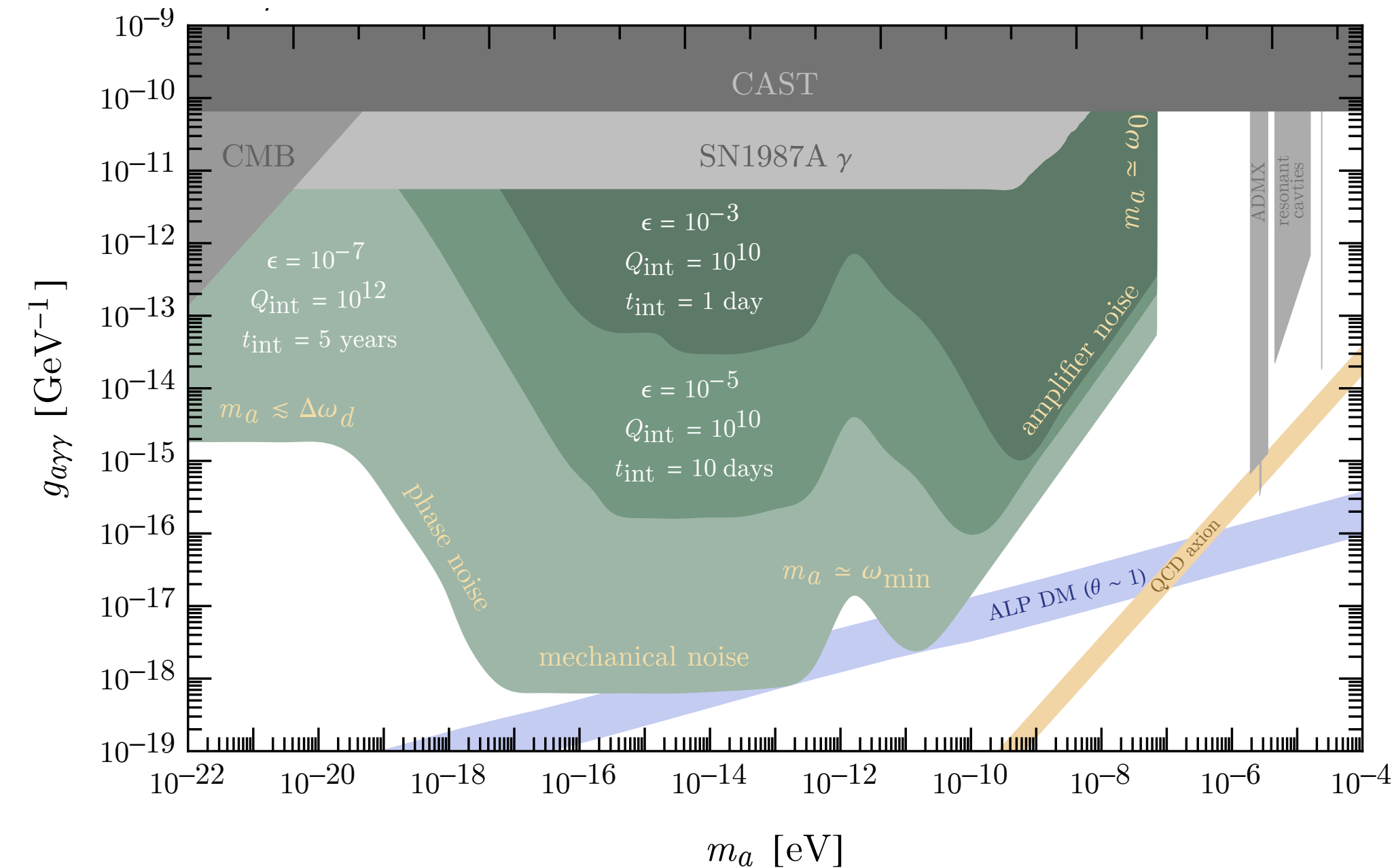
$$F \sim g_{a\gamma}^2 m_a^2 B^4 V^2 T_{sys}^{-2} G^4 Q$$

- Resonant cavities possible down to  $\mu\text{eV}$ ; below that, need huge volume
- Tunable superconducting RF cavity:
  - Frequency conversion: drive  $\omega_0 \approx \text{GHz} \rightarrow$  axion gives  $\omega_1 \approx \omega_0 \pm m_a$
  - Corrugated cavity with two polarizations (and lengths)
  - Separate scales allows separate tuning of  $\omega_0$  and  $\omega_1$
- Scan over axion masses:
  - Change of cavity geometry modulates the frequency splitting  $\omega_0 - \omega_1$
  - Huge parameter space to explore, but technical (cryo) challenges

→ see also KAIST (CAPP/DMAG) also KEK...



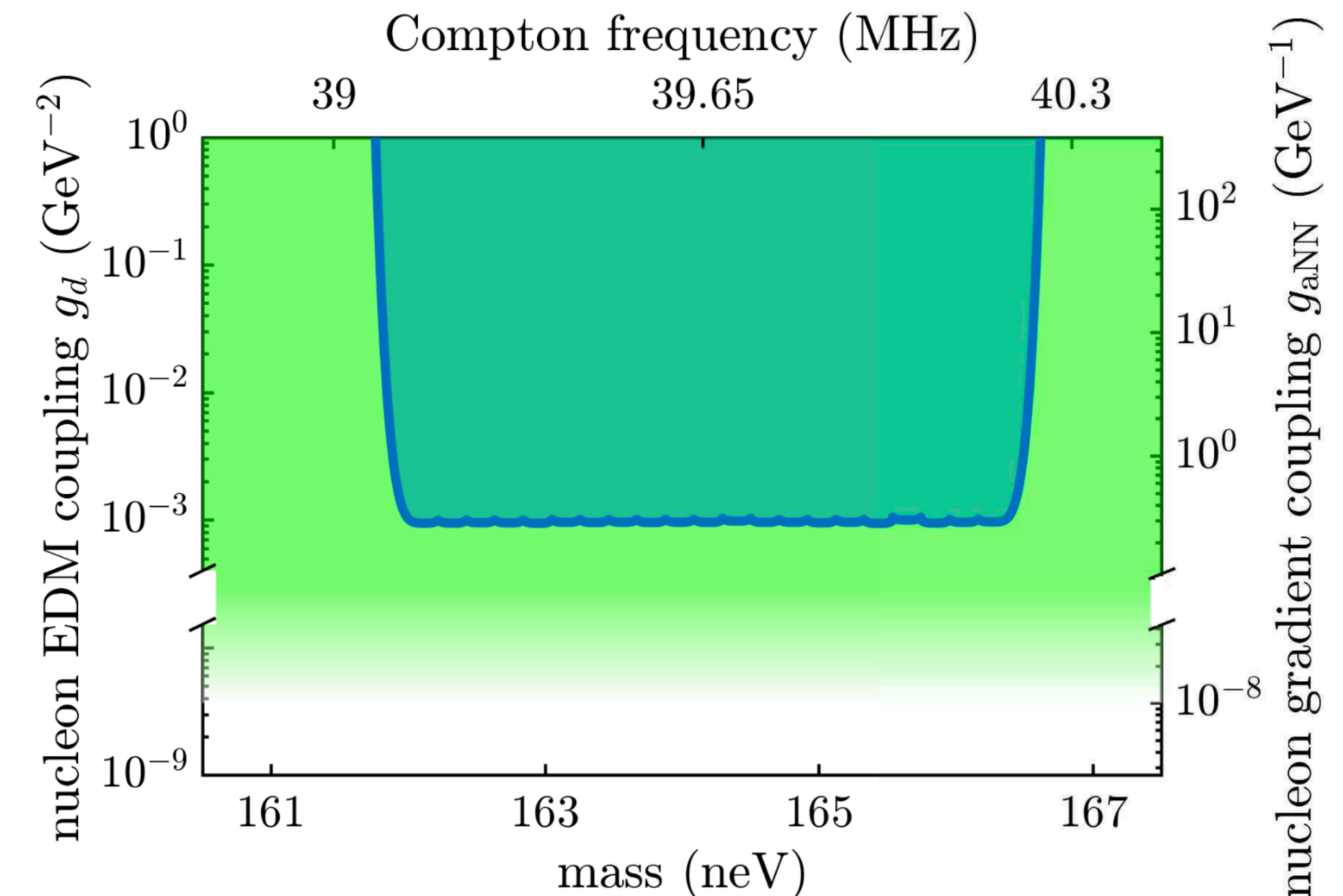
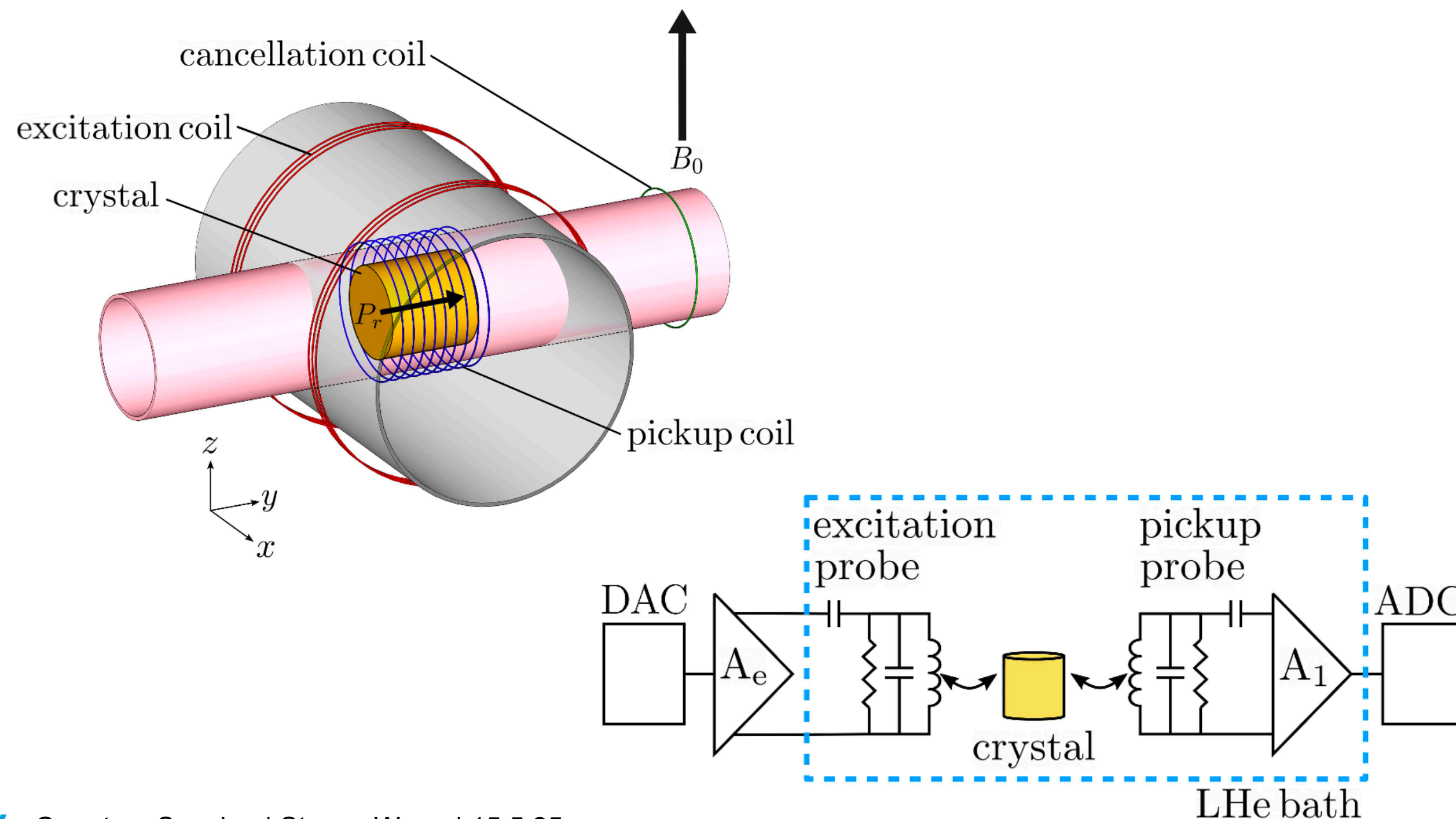
(a) Cartoon of cavity setup.



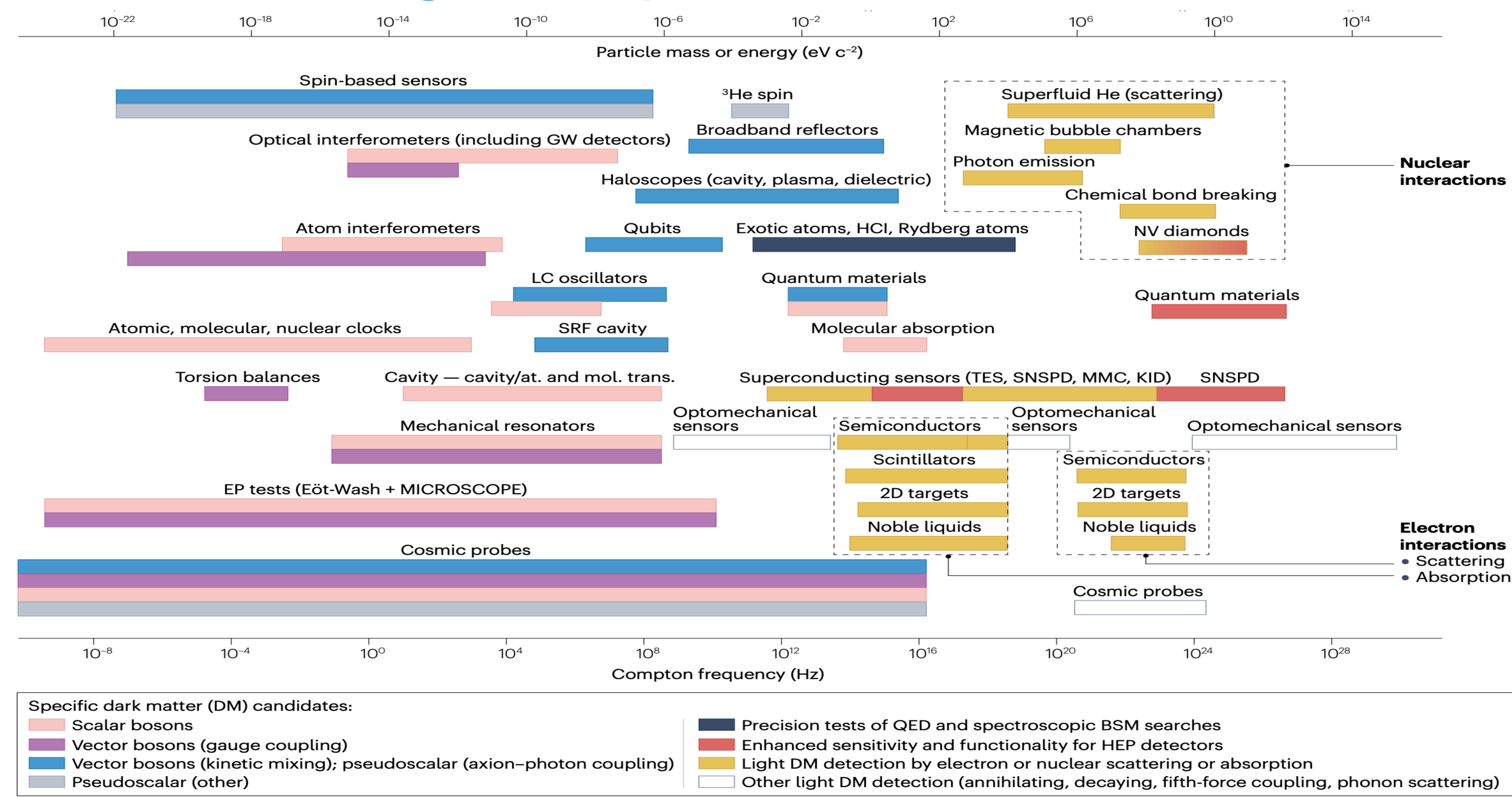


# Quantum Sensing with Magnetometry: CASPEr

- Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment (CASPEr)
  - Measure two interactions: electric dipole moment (EDM) and the gradient interaction with nuclear spin
  - Solid-state NMR of  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  in a polarized ferroelectric crystal
  - Axion-like DM exerts an oscillating torque
- Limits for neV DM masses vs EDM coupling  $g_d$  and gradient coupling  $g_{aNN}$ ; many ideas for improvements



# Quantum Sensing Techniques for Dark Matter

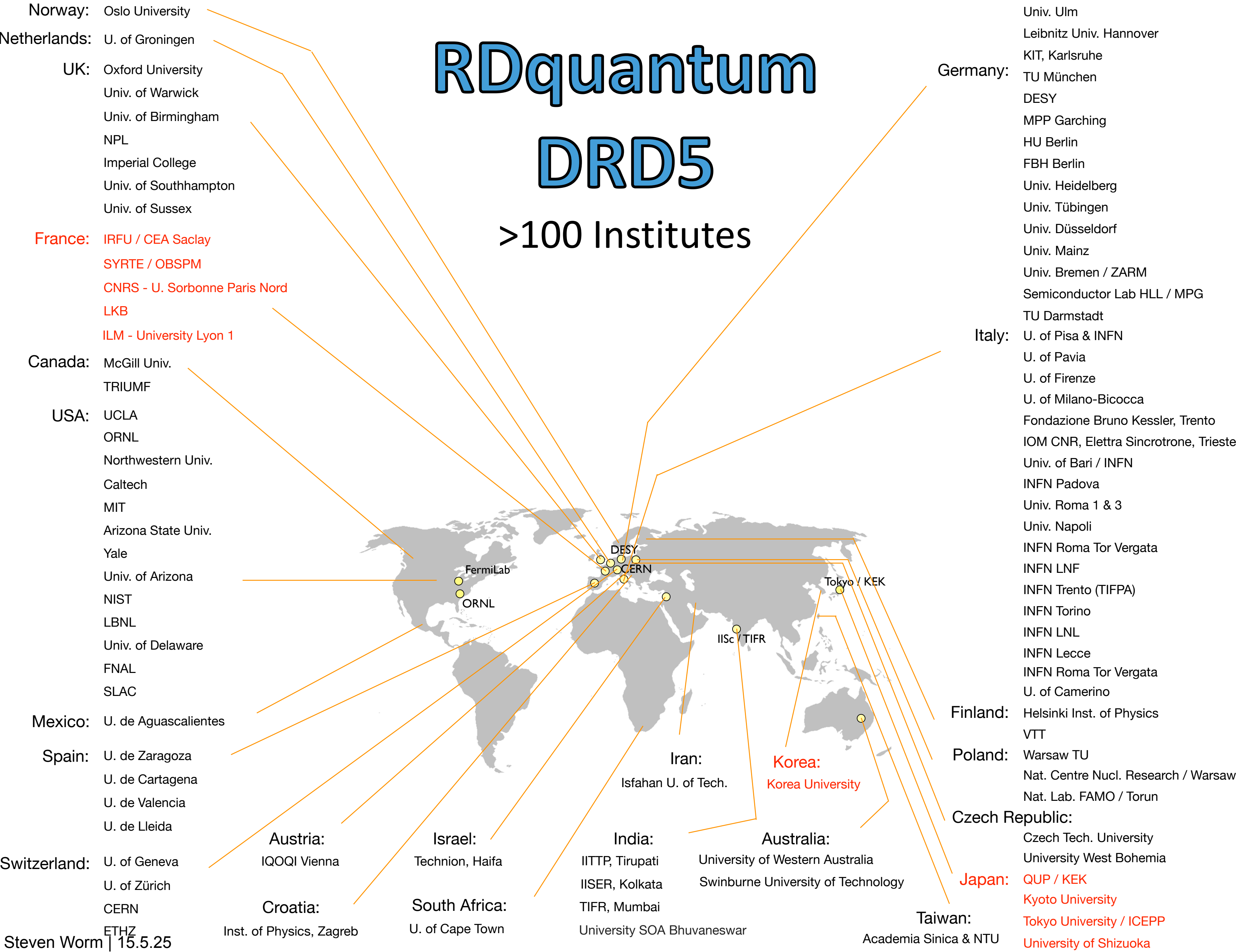




# RDquantum

## DRD5

>100 Institutes



# RDquantum / DRD5: Get started with Quantum Sensing

- Collaboration recently launched, preliminary WP structure now set

WP1

Exotic systems in traps & beams  
(HCl's, molecules, Rydberg systems,  
clocks, interferometry, ...)

WP4

Scaling up to macroscopic ensembles  
(spins; nano-structured materials; hybrid  
devices, opto-mechanical sensors,...)

WP2

Quantum materials (0-, 1-, 2-D)  
(Engineering at the atomic scale)

WP5

Quantum techniques for sensing (back  
action evasion, squeezing, entanglement,  
Heisenberg limit)

WP3

Quantum superconducting systems  
(4K electronics; MMC's, TES, SNSPD,  
MKID's... integration challenges)

WP6

Capability expansion (cross-disciplinary  
exchanges; infrastructures; education)

- Focus on exploring new technologies, connecting to HEP needs, and **community-building**

*Many connections to France, Korea, Japan already listed, also Christophe Dujardin WP-2 co-leader, Shion Chen sub-WP leader for WP-3, Su-Yong Choi from Korea University on MAGIS-100 (WP1)...*



## Contact

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