



Precision measurement with ultracold atoms & molecules

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<http://jilawww.colorado.edu/YeLabs>

US – Japan Seminar, Breckenridge, August 23, 2006

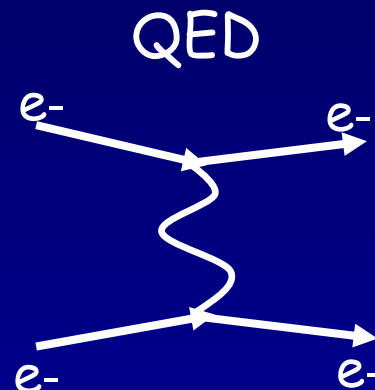
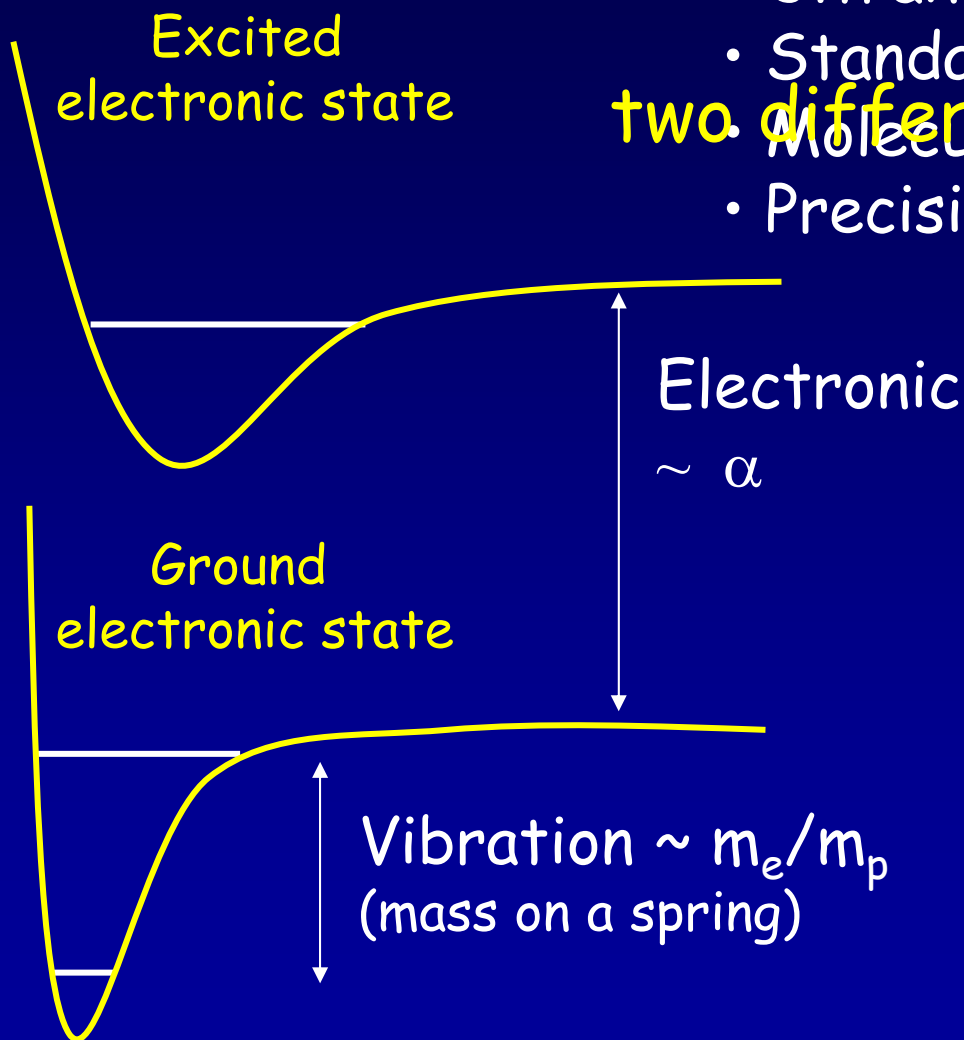
\$ Funding \$

**NIST, ONR, NSF,
AFOSR, NASA, DOE**



Ultracold molecules: Test fundamental principles

- Ultrahigh resolution spectroscopy
 - Standards in wide spectral ranges
 - Molecular interferometry
 - Precision measurement
- One system, two different fundamental forces!**



Strong interactions

First, let there be light

Continuous wave laser: < 1 Hz stability and accuracy

Ultrafast pulse: < 1 fs generation and control

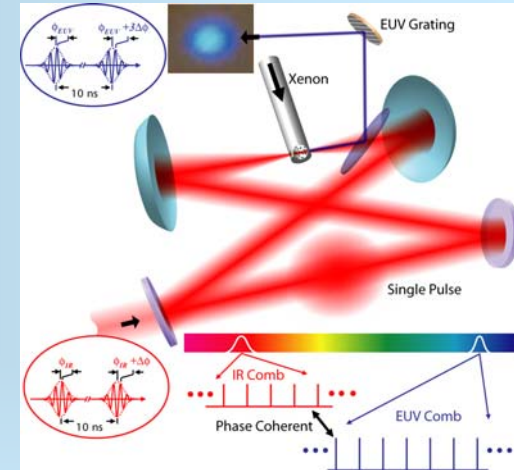
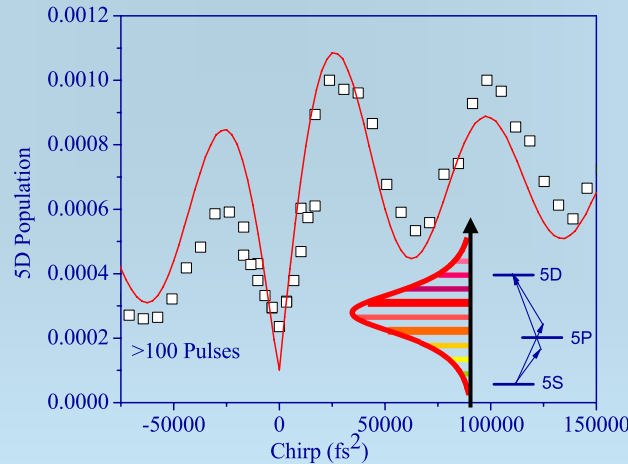
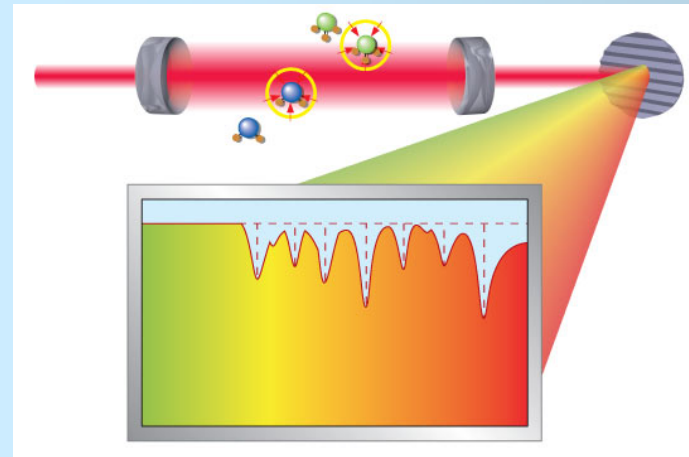
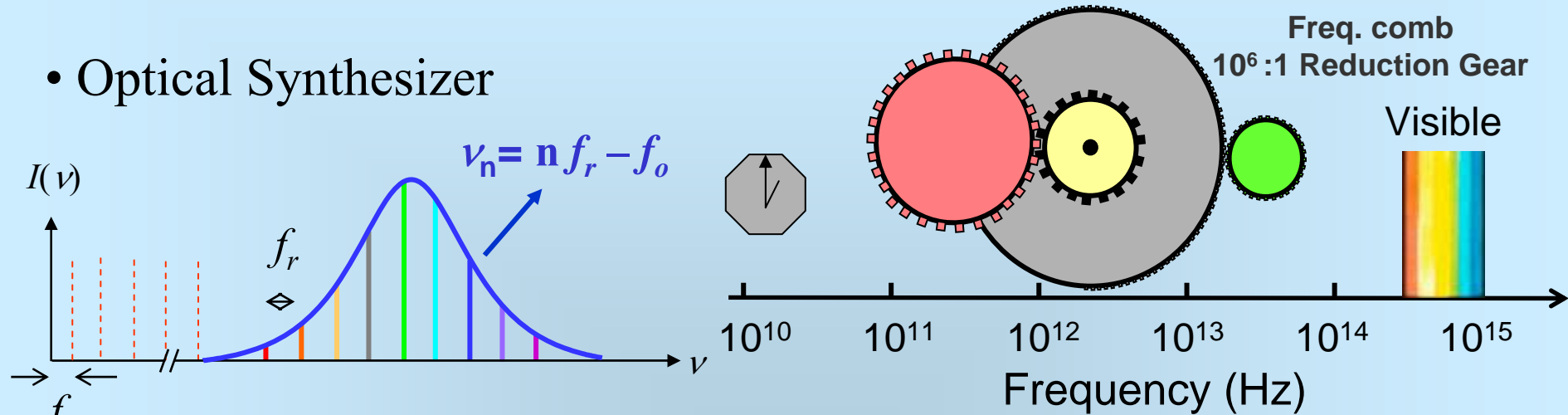
Figure of merit: 10^{-15}

Phase coherence after 10^{15} optical cycles

*Precision spectroscopy and quantum control
at highest resolution over widest optical bandwidth*

Frequency comb: state-of-the-art

• Optical Synthesizer



Molecular spectroscopy

Thorpe *et al.*,
Science **311**, 1595 (2006).

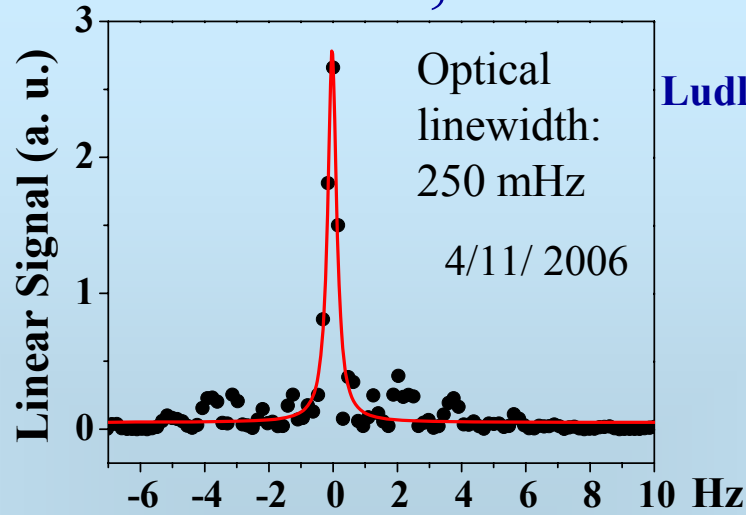
Quantum control

Stowe *et al.*,
PRL **96**, 153001(2006).

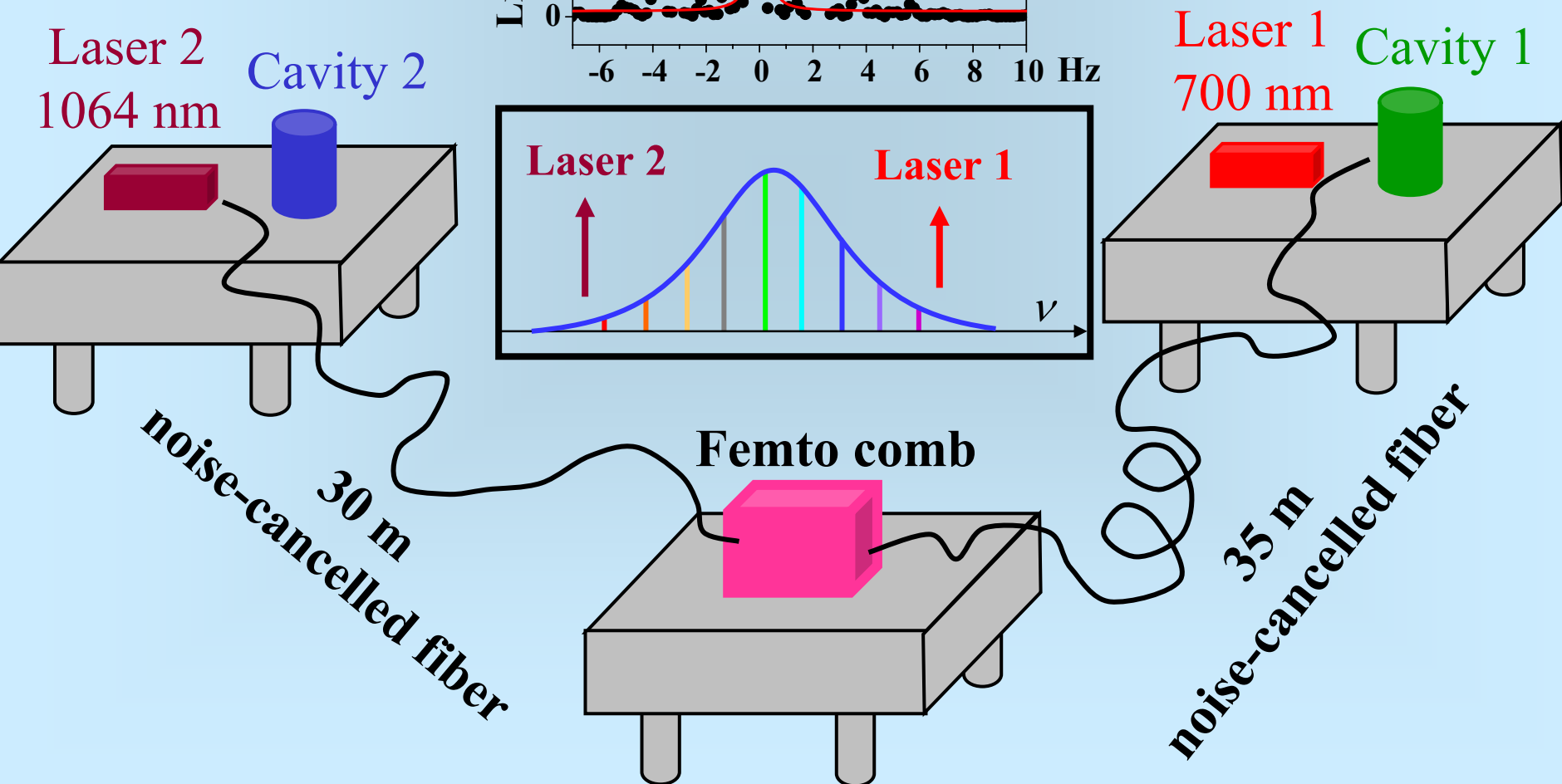
XUV comb

Jones *et al.*,
PRL **94**, 193201 (2005).
C. Gohle *et al.*,
Nature **436**, 234 (2005).

Optical coherence > 1 s, across entire visible



Ludlow *et al.*, PRL 96, 033003(2006).



Control of matter

Long - term quantum coherence:

Clean separation between internal & external degrees of freedom

Both in well defined quantum states

Magic wavelength dipole trap

Trapping of Single Atoms in Cavity QED

Ye, Vernooy & Kimble, Phys. Rev. Lett. 83, 4987 (1999).

that a judicious choice of λ_{FORT} can eliminate both of these problems by making $\Delta_{\text{FORT}}^e(\vec{r}) = \Delta_{\text{FORT}}^g(\vec{r}) < 0$, and hence $\Delta_{\text{FORT}}(\vec{r}) = 0$ [24]. Alternatively, even for the

the capabilities presented in this Letter should allow us to achieve atomic confinement in the Lamb-Dicke regime (i.e., $\eta_x \equiv 2\pi\Delta x/\lambda \ll 1$) in a setting for which the trapping potential for the atomic center-of-mass motion is independent of internal atomic state, as has been so powerfully exploited with trapped ions [25]. Generally

For clocks:

**Katori *et al.*, Katori et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn 68, 2429 (1999)
6th Symp. Freq. Standards & Metrology (2002);
Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 173005 (2003).**

Cool Alkaline Earth – Strontium

JILA work: Phys.Rev.Lett. 90, 193002 (2003); Phys.Rev.Lett. 93, 073003 (2004);
 Phys.Rev.Lett. 94, 153001 (2005); Phys.Rev.Lett. 94, 173002 (2005);
 Phys.Rev.Lett. 96, 033003 (2006); Phys.Rev.Lett. 96, 203201 (2006).

$T \sim 0.5$ photon recoil
 ~ 220 nK

$\Delta\nu$ $\delta\nu/\nu_0$ at 1s

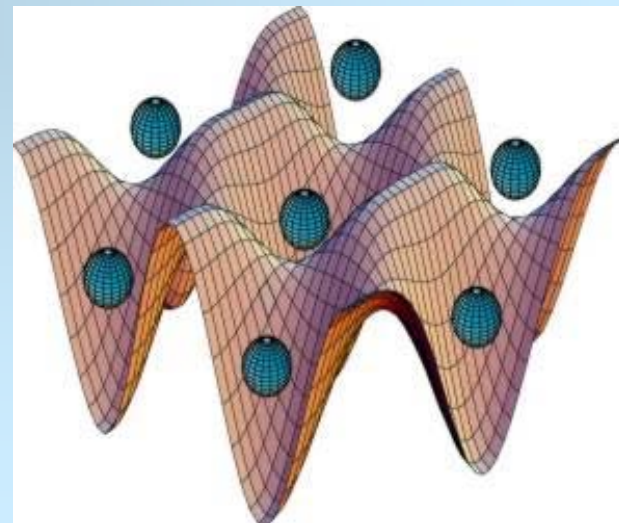
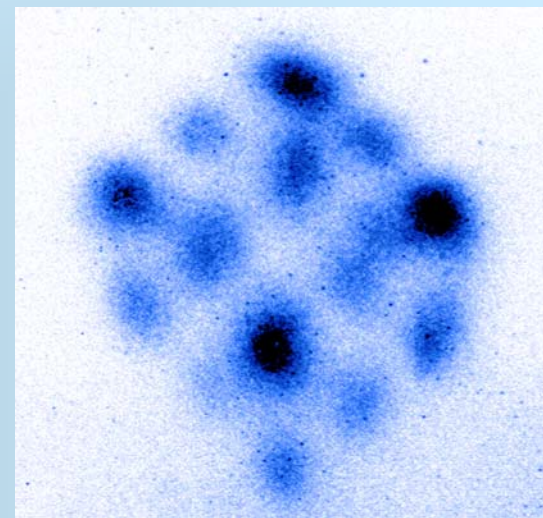
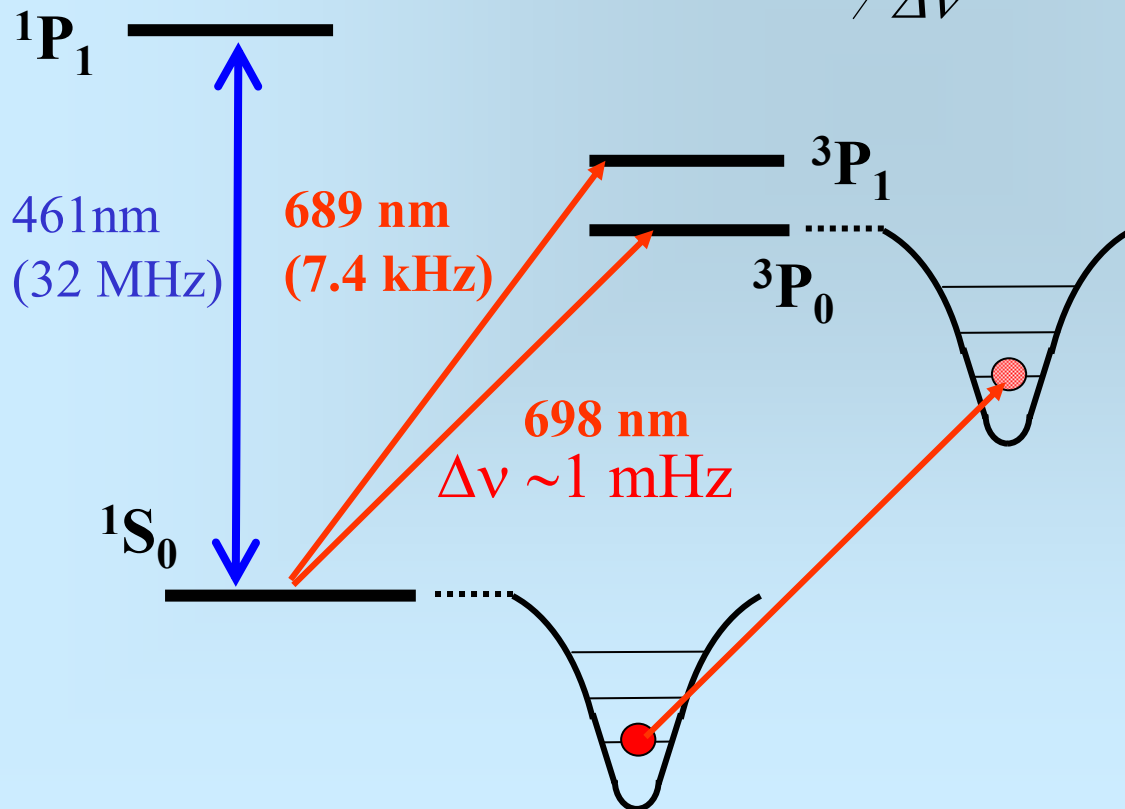
$^{87}\text{Sr } 1S_0 - 3P_0$

~ 1 mHz

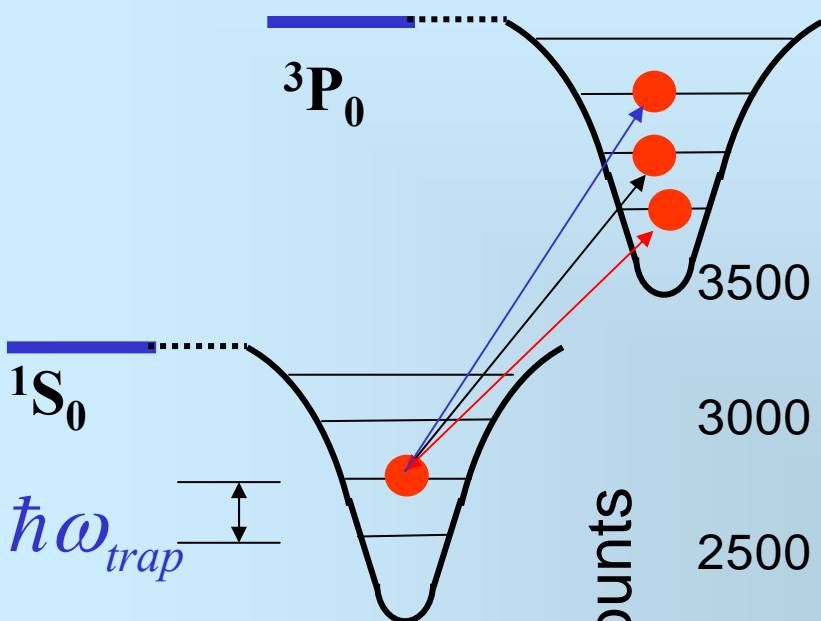
$\sim 10^{-18}$

$$\frac{\delta\nu_{\text{noise}}}{\nu_0} \approx \frac{1}{Q} \cdot \frac{1}{S/N} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau}}$$

$$Q \approx \nu_0 / \Delta\nu$$



Spectroscopy at the magic wavelength



1-D Lamb-Dicke Regime

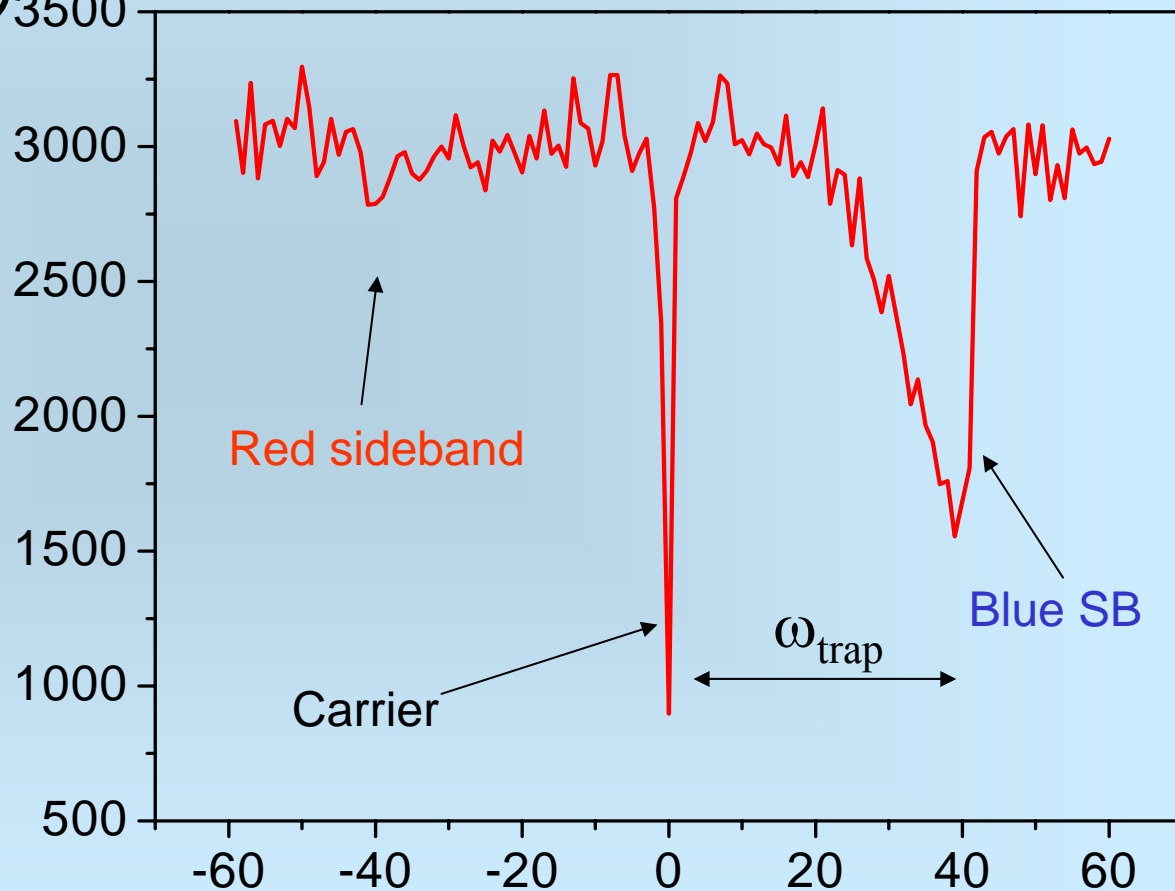
$$\eta = kx_0 = (\omega_{recoil} / \omega_z)^{0.5} \sim 0.23$$

$$\hbar\omega_{trap}$$

$$\omega_{recoil} \ll \omega_{trap}$$

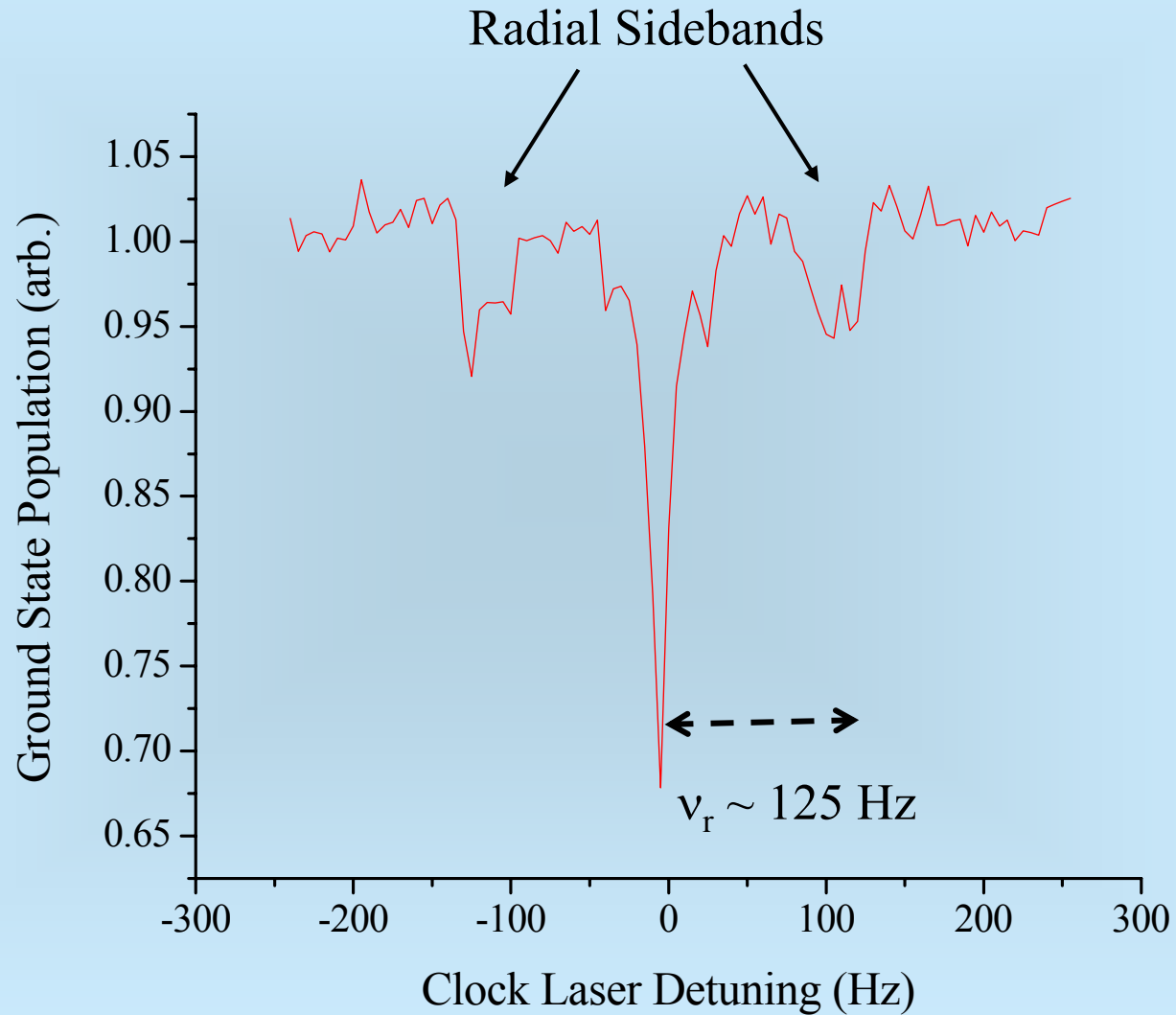
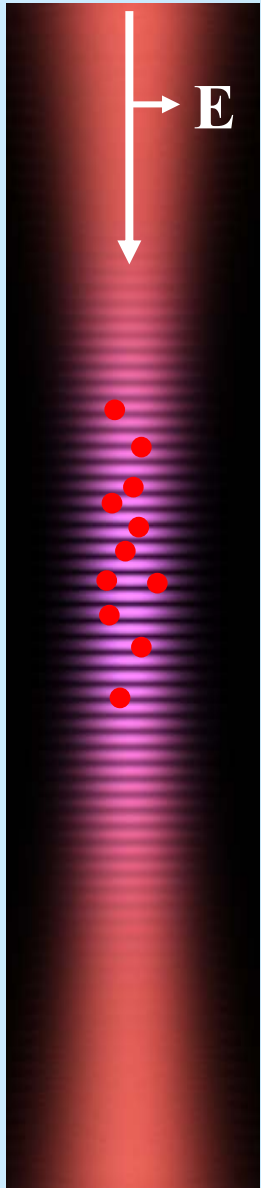
$$\Gamma_{clock} \ll \omega_{trap}$$

Photon counts

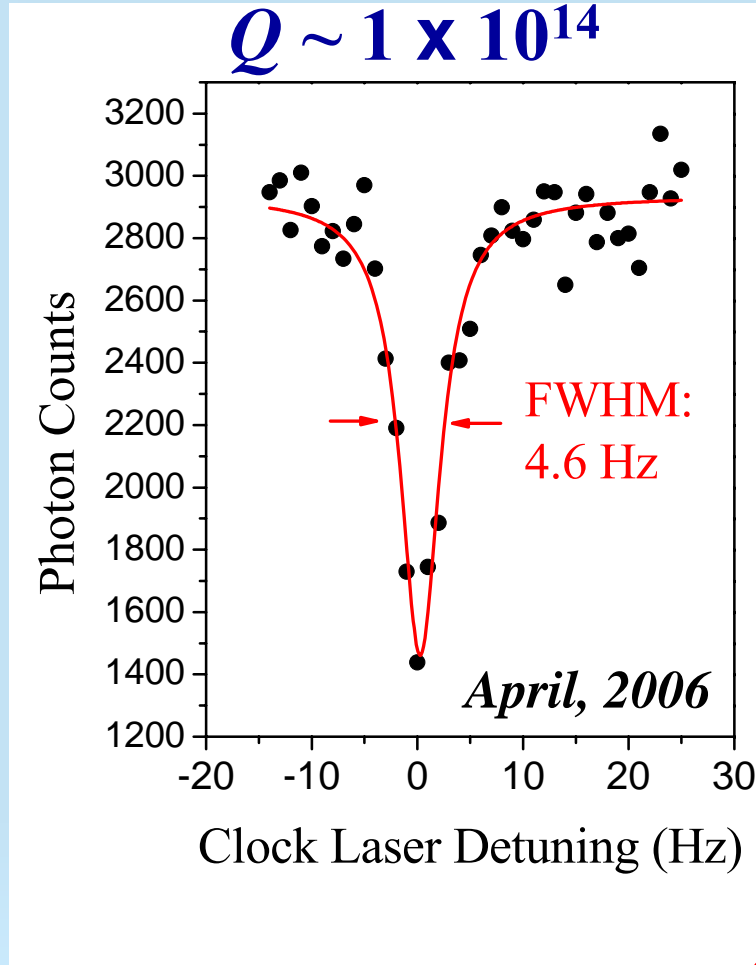
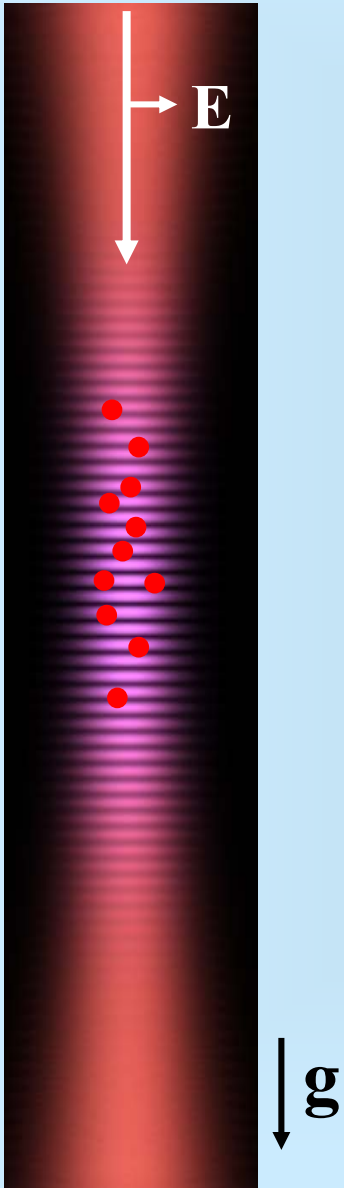


Optical frequency (Hz)

Zoom into the carrier of $^{87}\text{Sr } ^1\text{S}_0 - ^3\text{P}_0$



Zoom into the carrier of $^{87}\text{Sr } ^1\text{S}_0 - ^3\text{P}_0$



Single trace without averaging

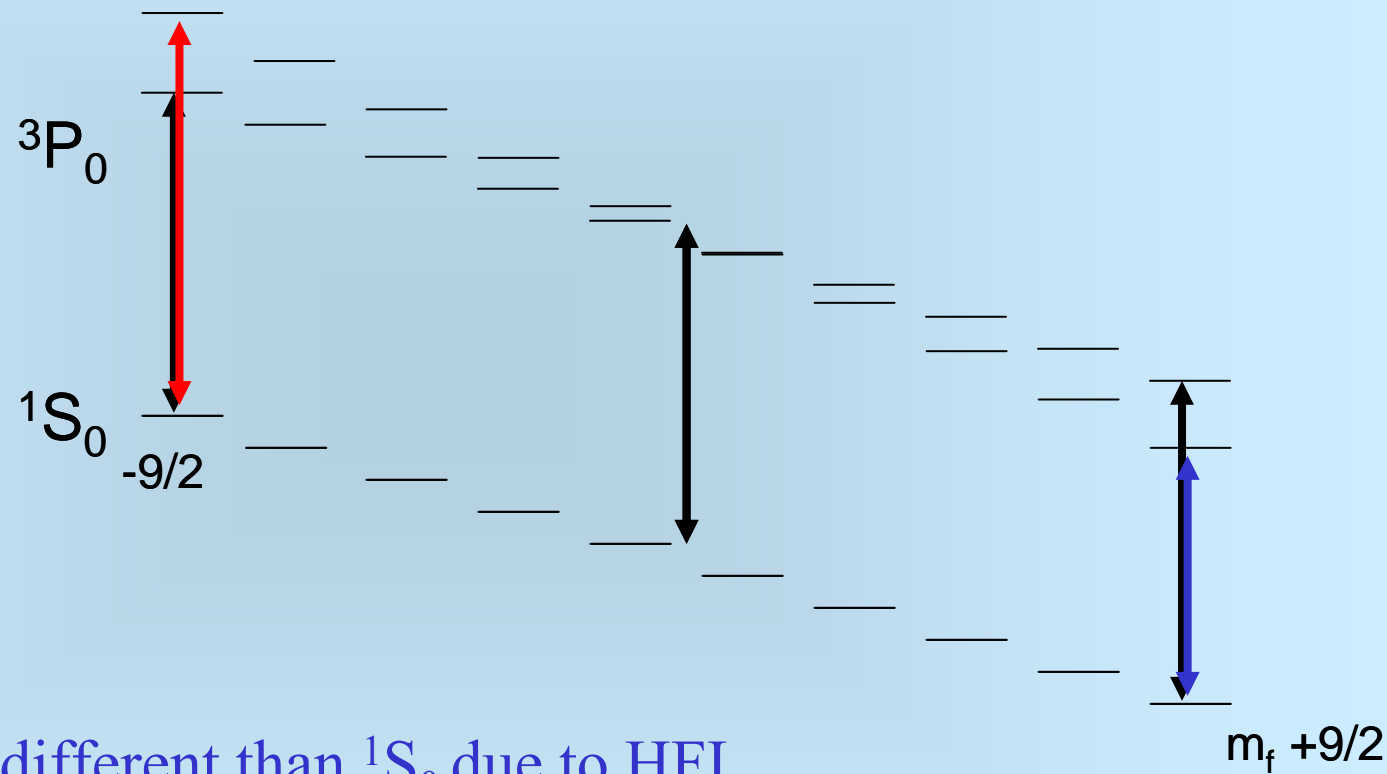
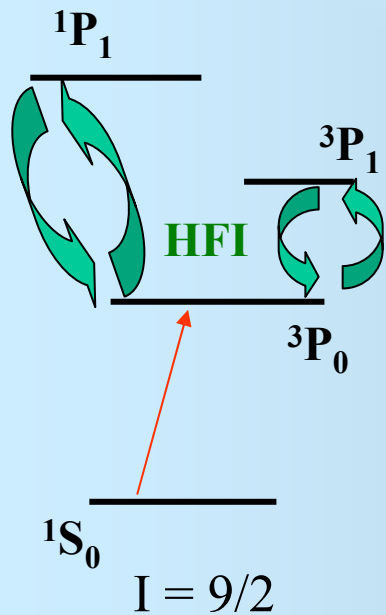
Projected stability
 $< 1 \times 10^{-15}$ at 1 s

Reproducibility
 $\sim 1 \times 10^{-15}$

(March – June, 2006)

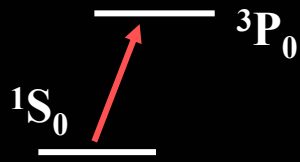
Differential g-factor – Tensor polarizability

Santra *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 173002 (2005).
Hong *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 050801 (2005).
Barber *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 083002 (2006).



- $3P_0$ g-factor different than $1S_0$ due to HFI
- Shift of $\sim 110 \times m_F$ Hz/Gauss for $\Delta m_F = 0$
- State preparation, field control
- HF structure introduces slight lattice polarization sensitivity

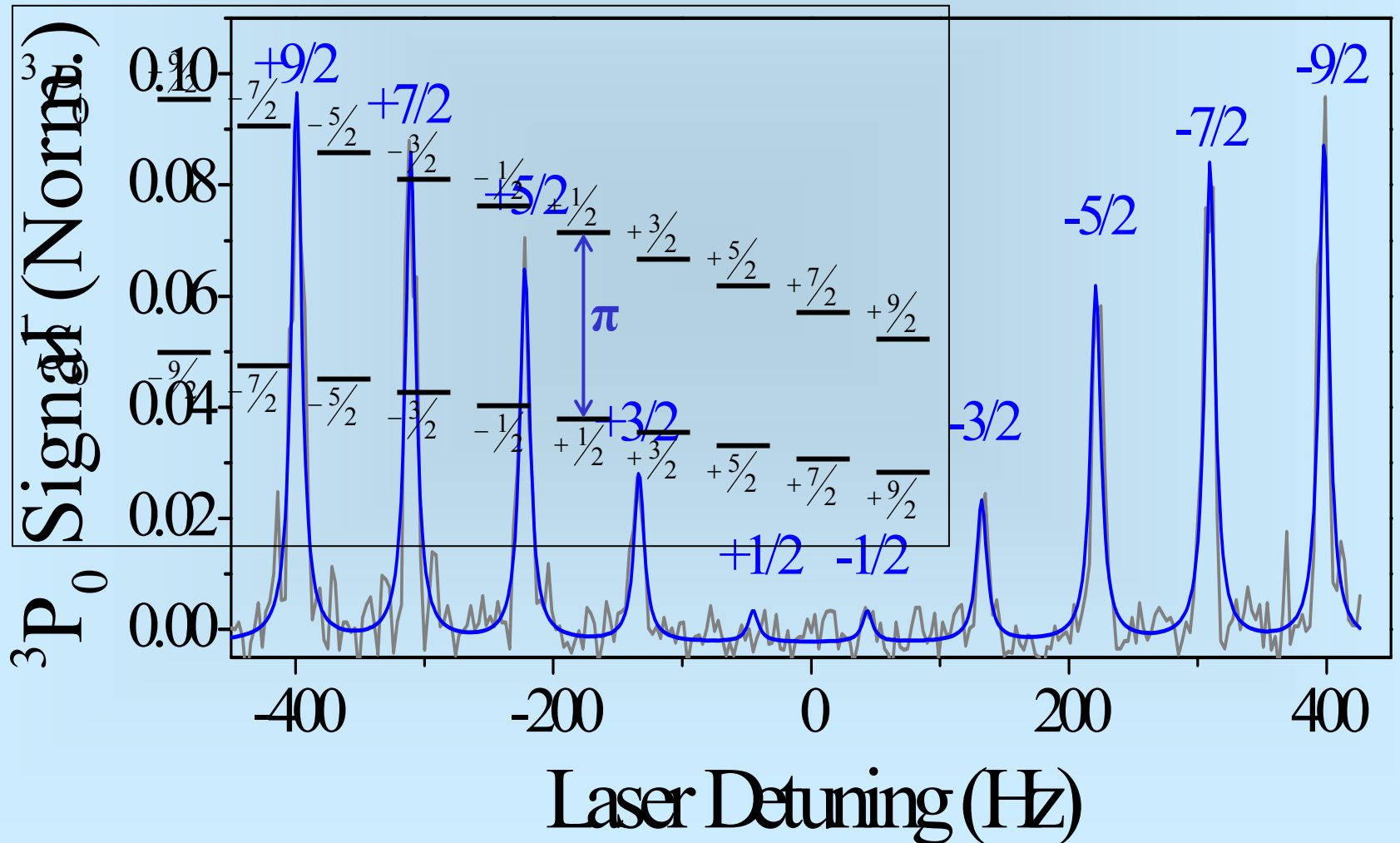
Optical Measurement of Nuclear g-factor



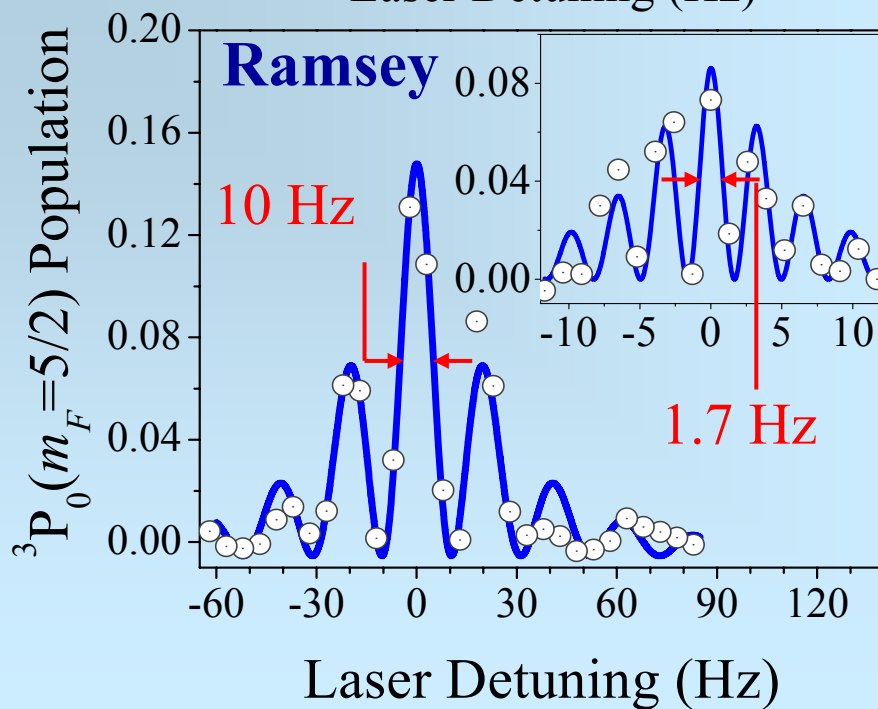
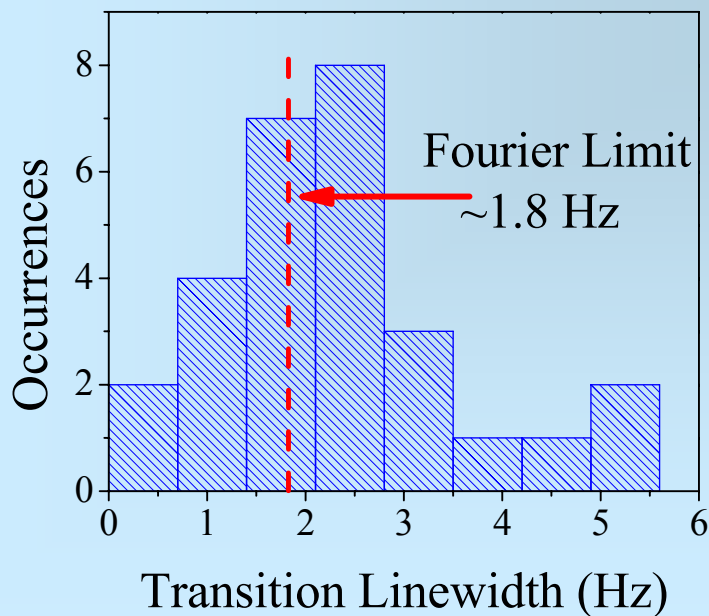
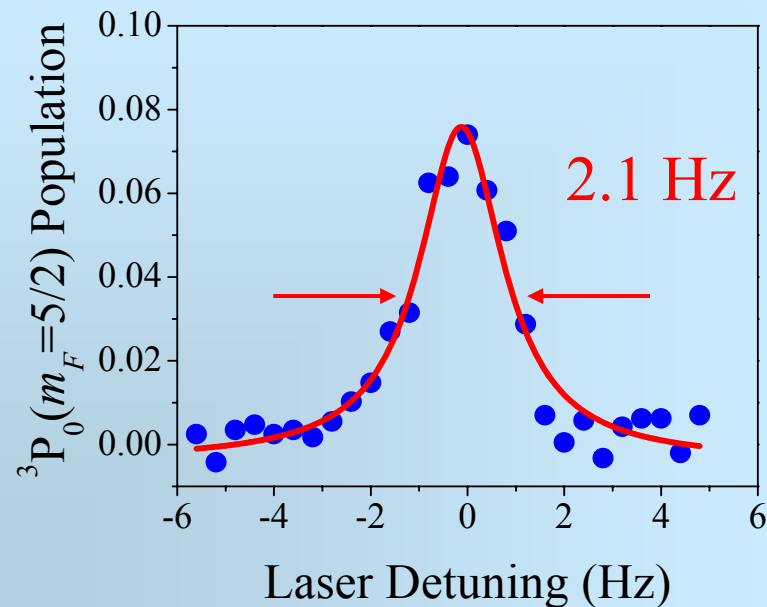
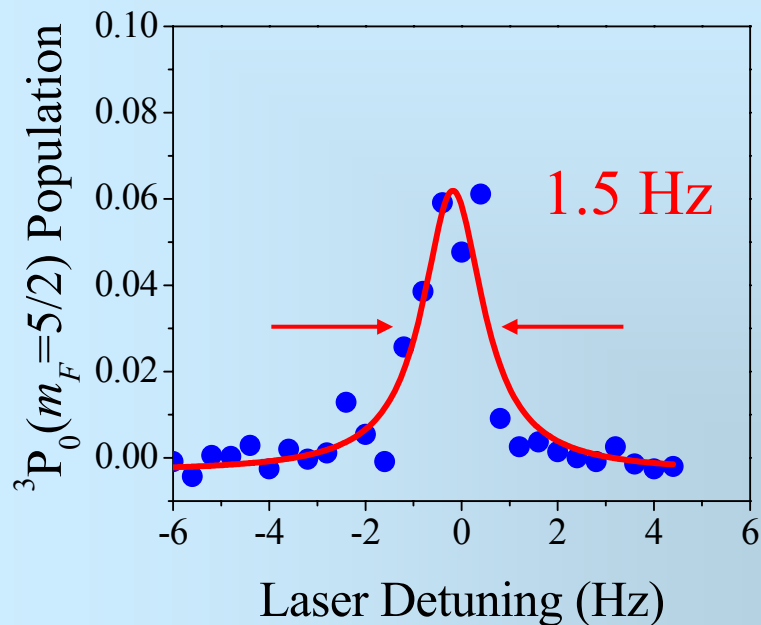
No net electronic angular momentum

$$\Delta g = -108.5(4) \text{ Hz}/(\text{G } m_F)$$

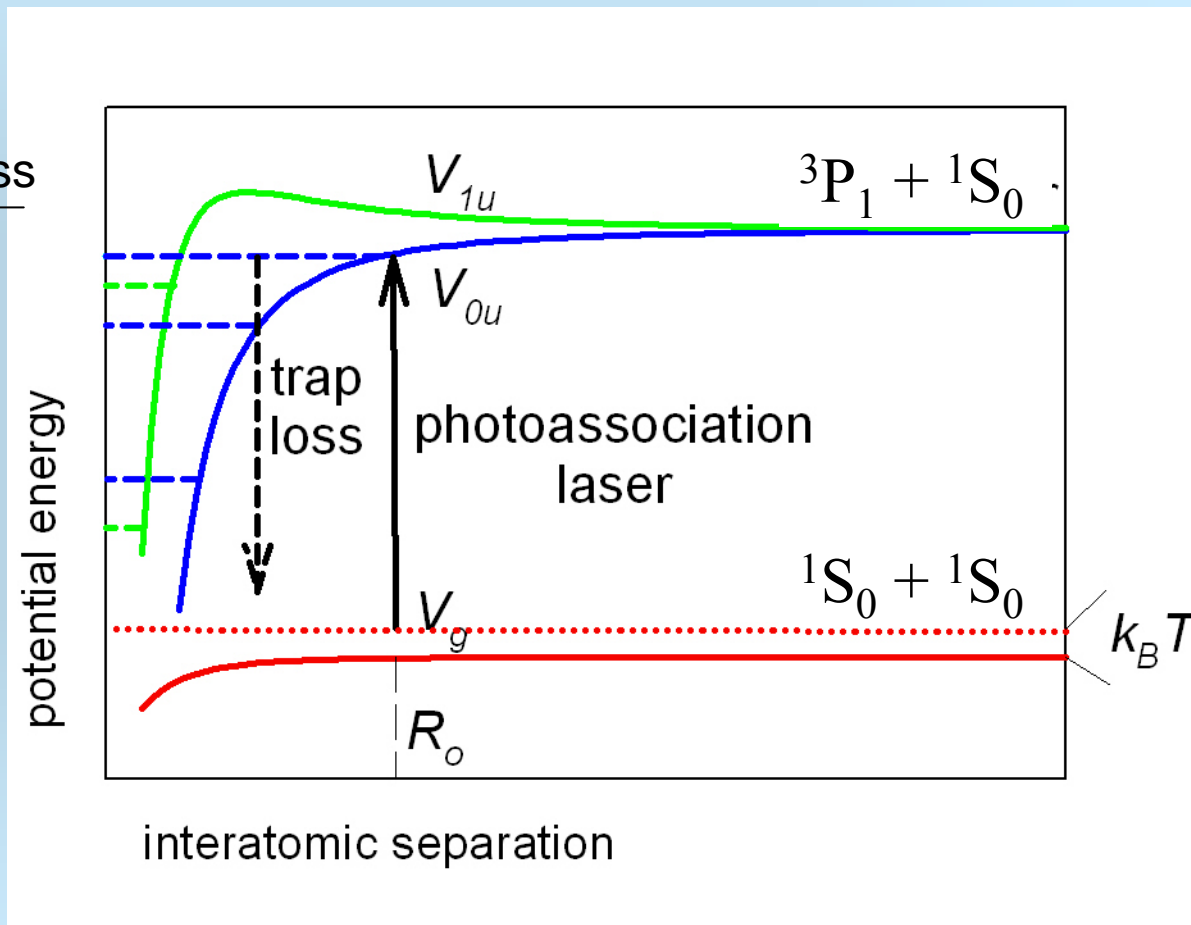
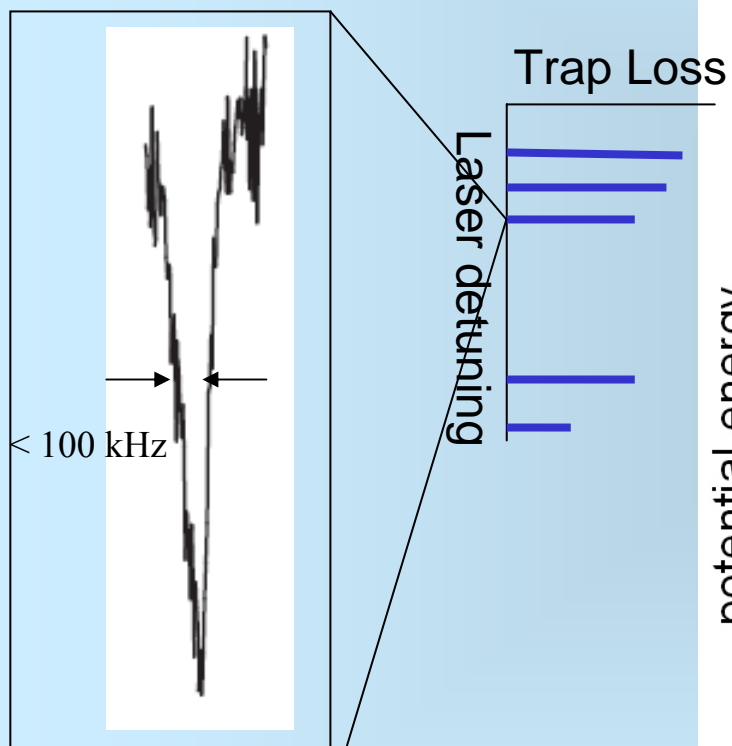
3P_0 lifetime 140(40) s



Coherent spectroscopy $Q \sim 3 \times 10^{14}$



Ultracold Sr_2 molecules via narrow-line Photoassociation



Zelevinsky et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 203201 (2006).

Narrow-line Photo-association Spectroscopy

Theory: Paul Julienne

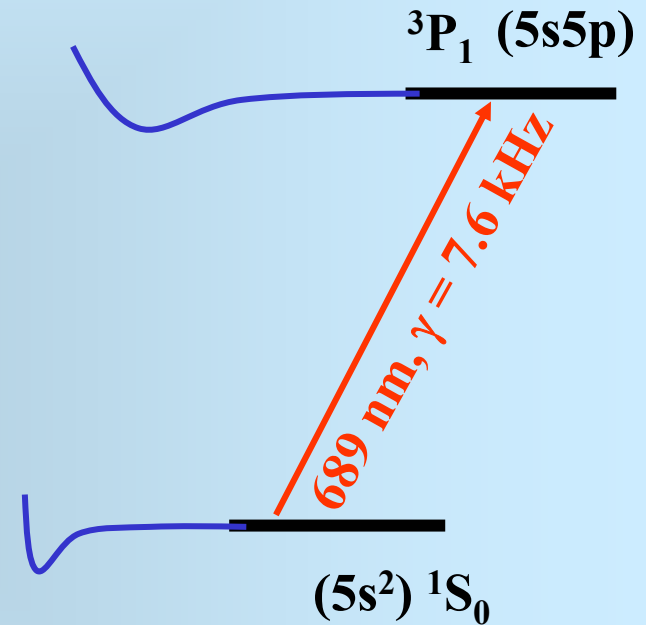
- New Territory for PAS

All bound states are resolved by the narrow line

- Interesting regime, $C_3 \rightarrow C_6$ crossover

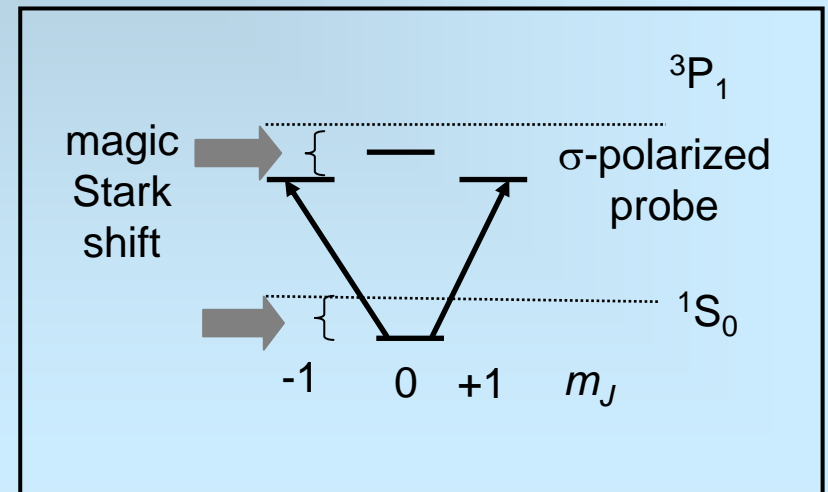
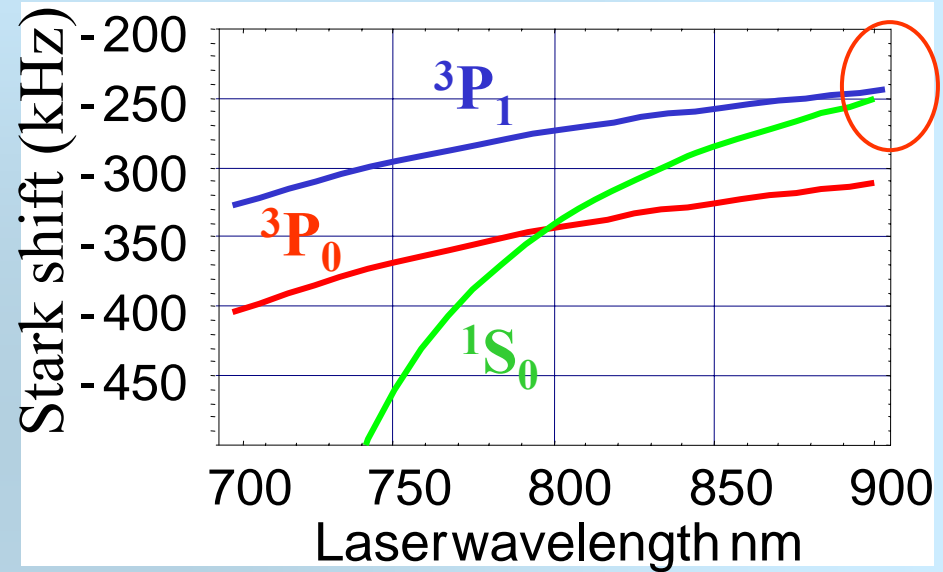
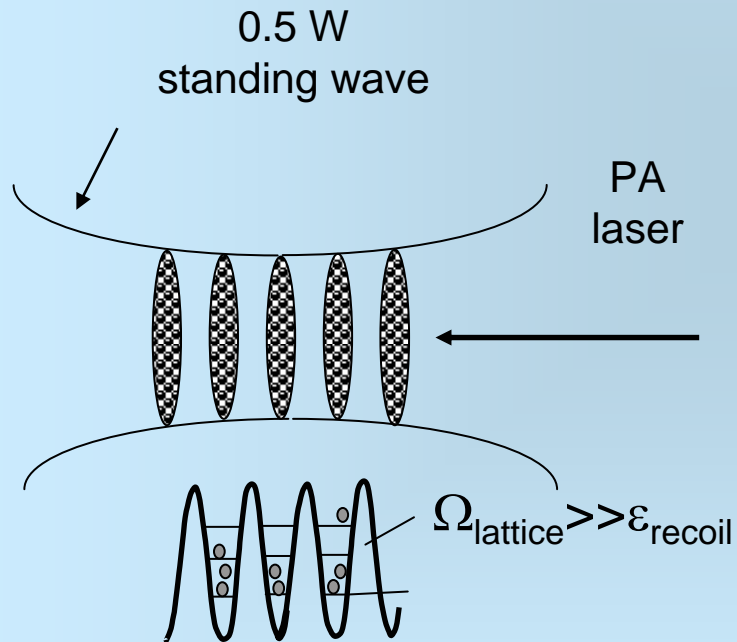
$$\frac{C_3}{R^3} \approx \frac{C_6}{R^6} \quad \text{at } \Delta \sim 500 \text{ MHz}$$

- Ground/Excited state similar for large detunings
- Hyperfine-free for bosonic isotopes
- Useful for precision tests
- Optical control of cold collisions with low loss



Photoassociation inside a Magic wavelength lattice

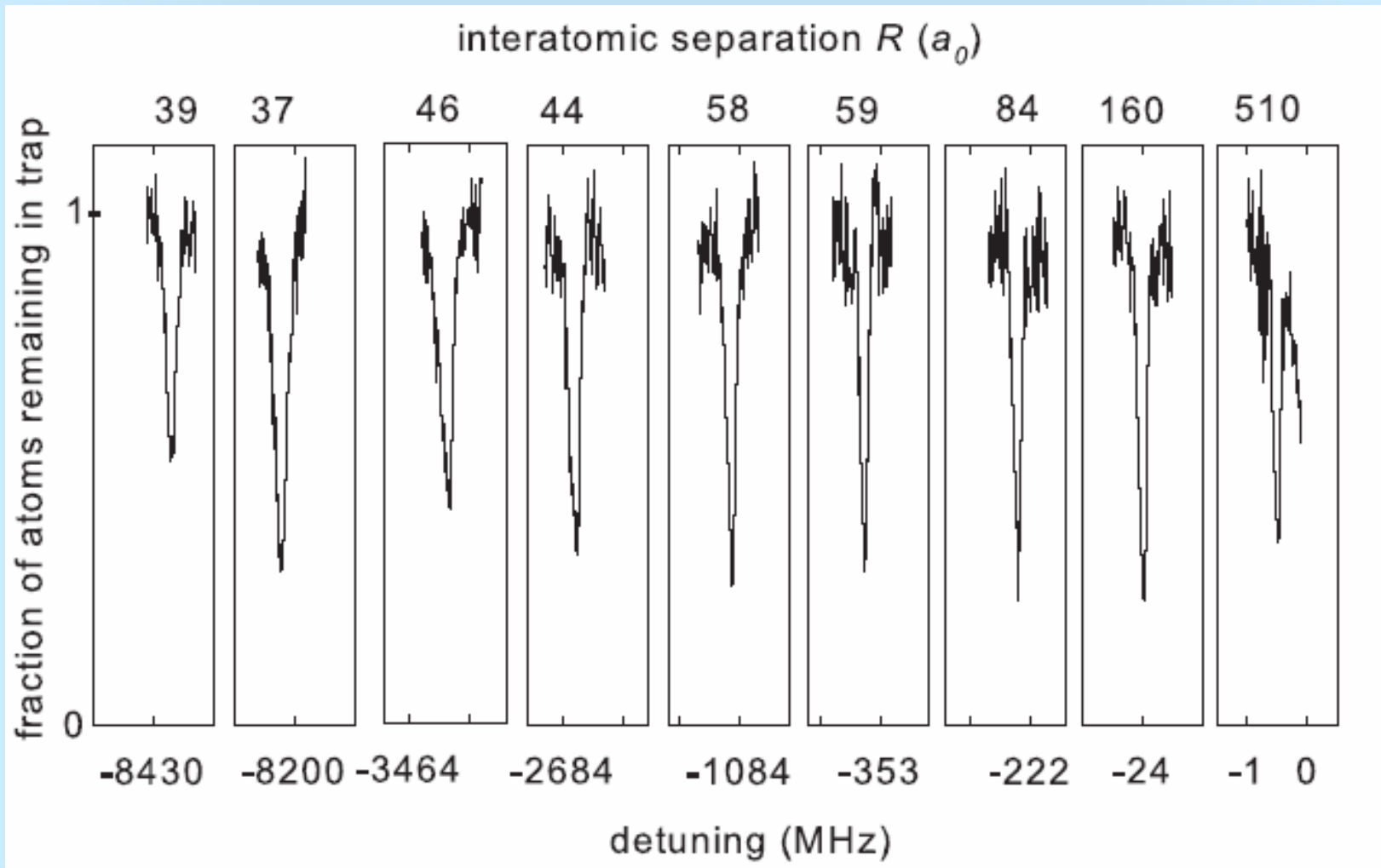
Doppler- and recoil-free



Photoassociation: Experiment vs. theory

10^{-5} agreement for near detuning,

0.1-1% agreement deeper in the potential curve



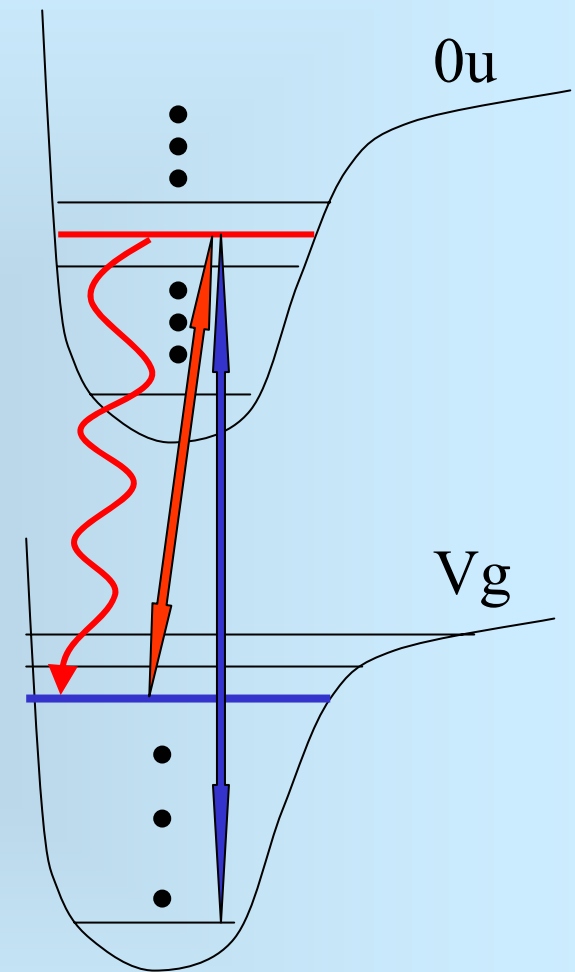
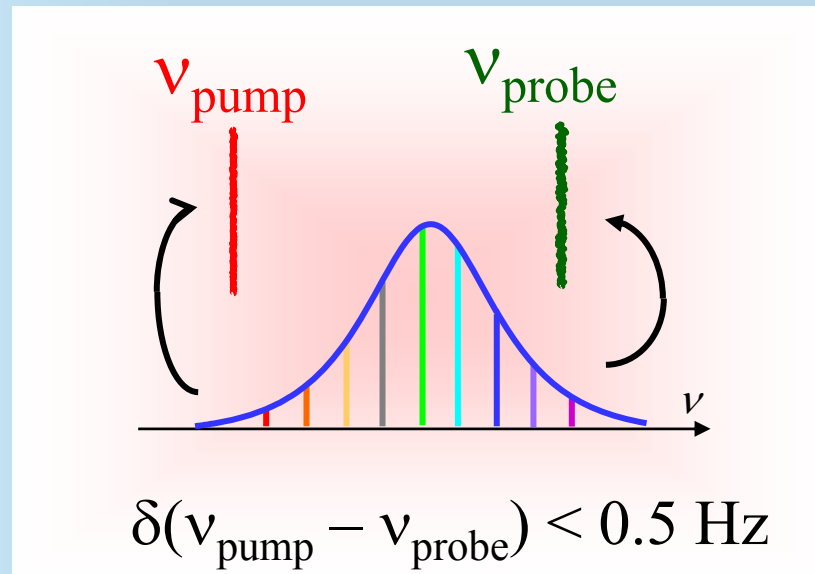
Nine least bound states measured

Ground State Molecules

Similar excited and ground state wavefunctions

~90% of molecules in 8.4 GHz state decay to single g.s.

Should be possible to drive Molecules to deepest g.s.



Magic wavelength trap for molecules?

Theory: P. Julienne and A. Derevianko

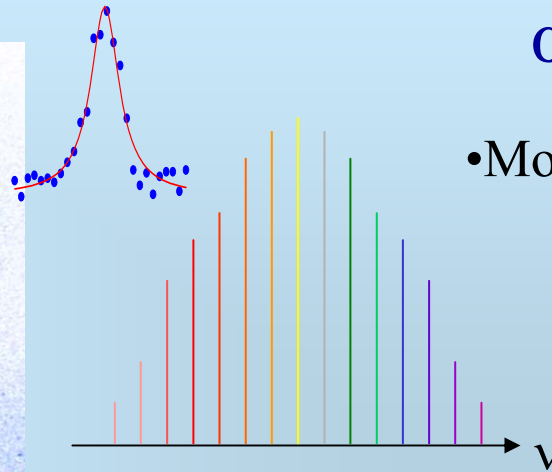
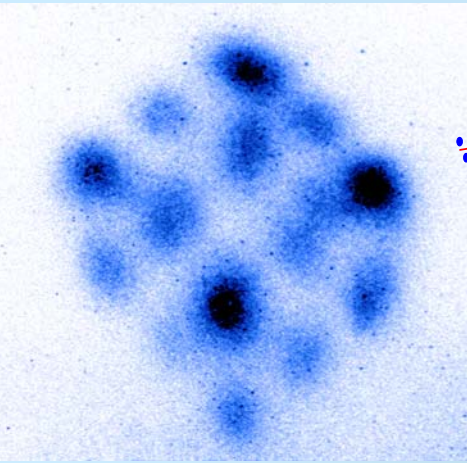
Time-variation of electron-proton mass ratio?

D. DeMille, private communications (2005).

Chin and Flambaum, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 230801 (2006).

Test of fundamental constants

α : fine structure constant

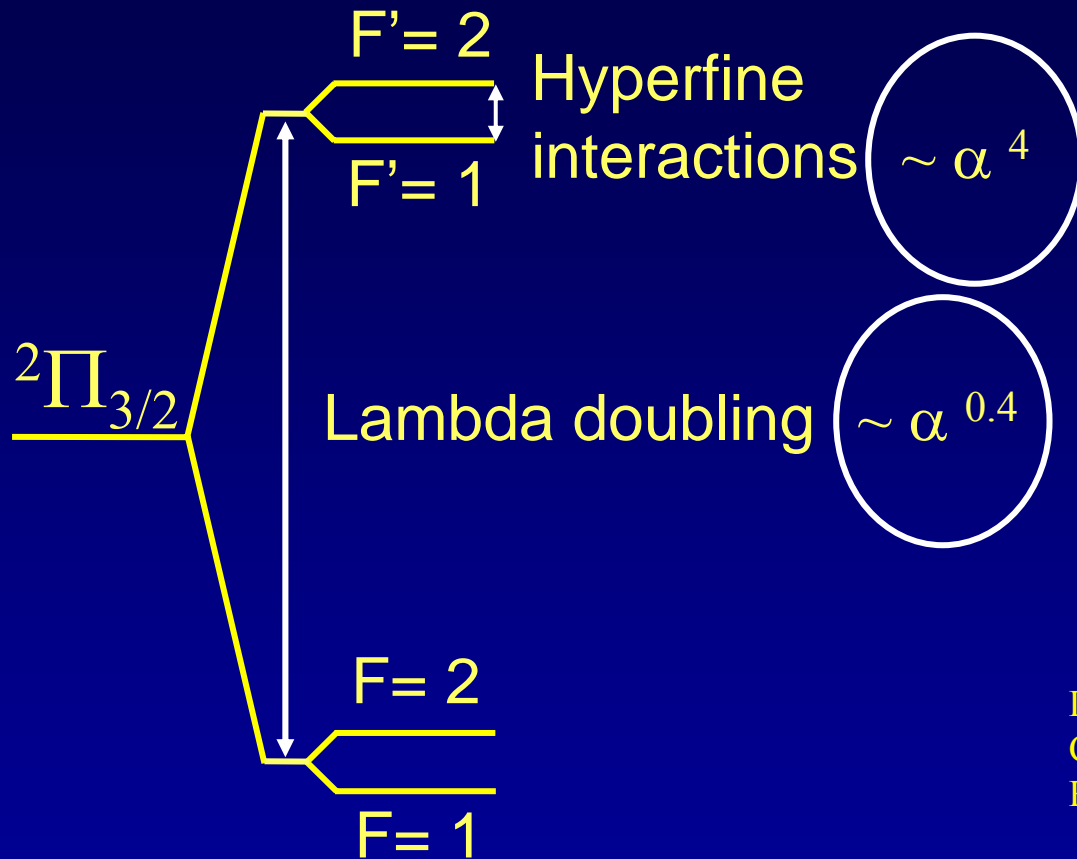


- Modern epoch
 - Atomic clock measurements are consistent with zero $\Delta\alpha/\alpha < 10^{-15}/\text{yr}$



- Early universe
 - Not so clear...
Webb *et al.*, PRL 87, 091301 (2001).
Astron. Astrophys. 415, L7 (2004).
– Conflicting results

Cold OH molecules to constrain $\dot{\alpha}$



OH megamasers



High redshift $z > 1$

Darling, Phys. Rev. Lett **91**, 011301 (2003).
 Chengalur *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**, 241302 (2003).
 Kanekar *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **93**, 051302 (2004).

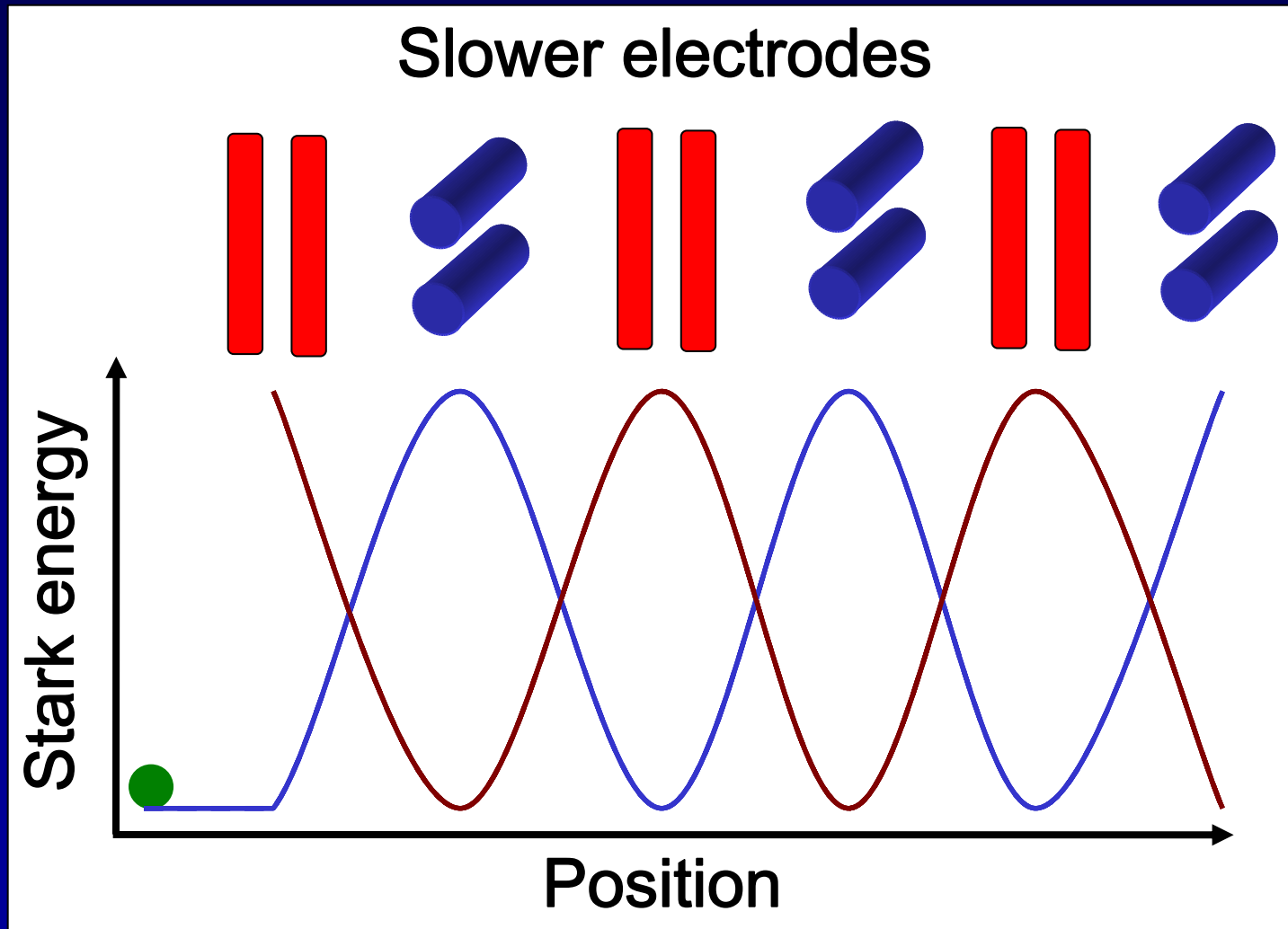
Multiple transitions from the same gas cloud (different dependences on α)
 (Self check on systematics)

Current uncertainty in laboratory based experiments is 100 Hz,
 leading to $\Delta\alpha/\alpha \sim 10^{-5}$

ter Meulen & Dymanus, Astrophys. J. **172**, L21(1972).

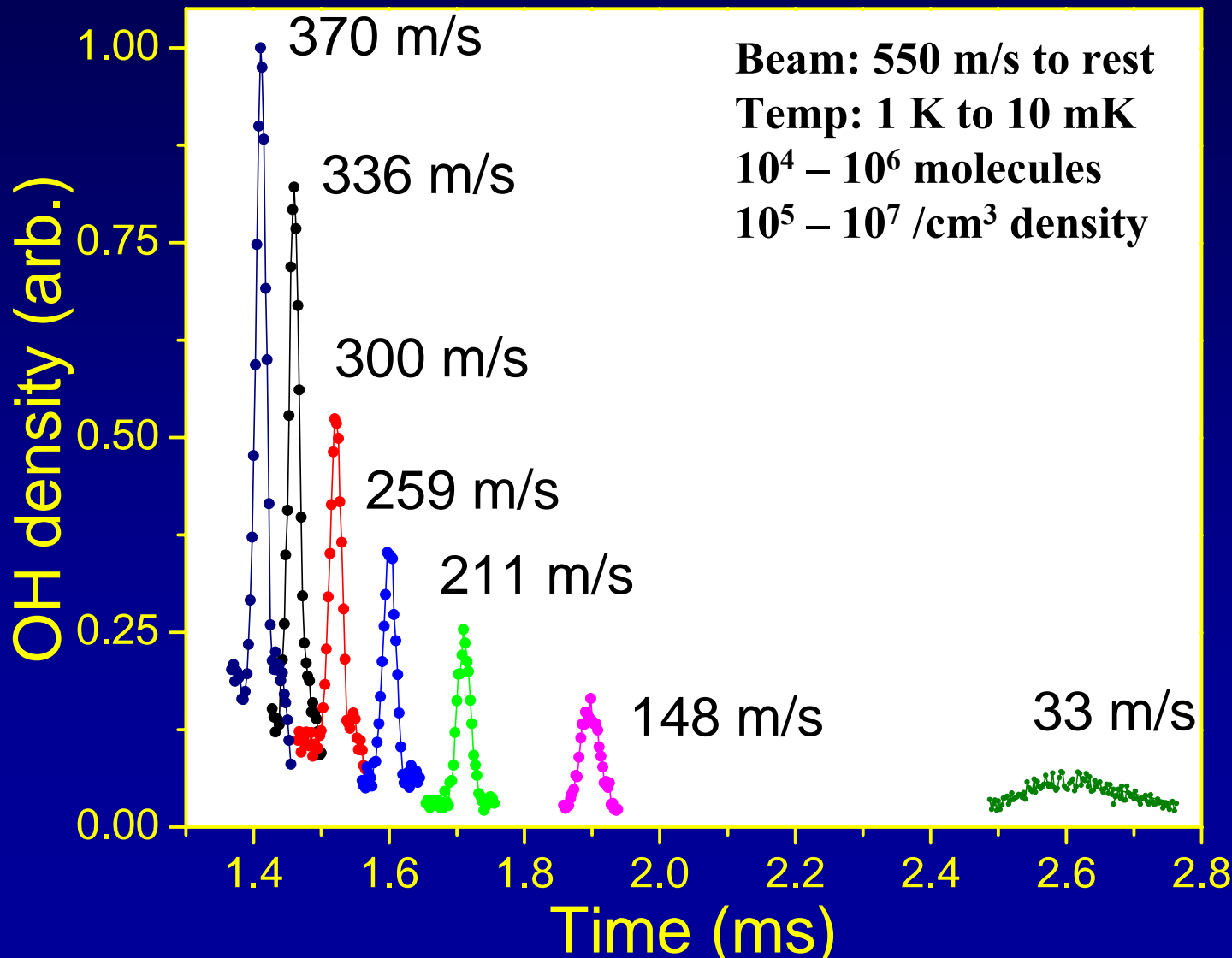
Stark Decelerator

G. Meijer



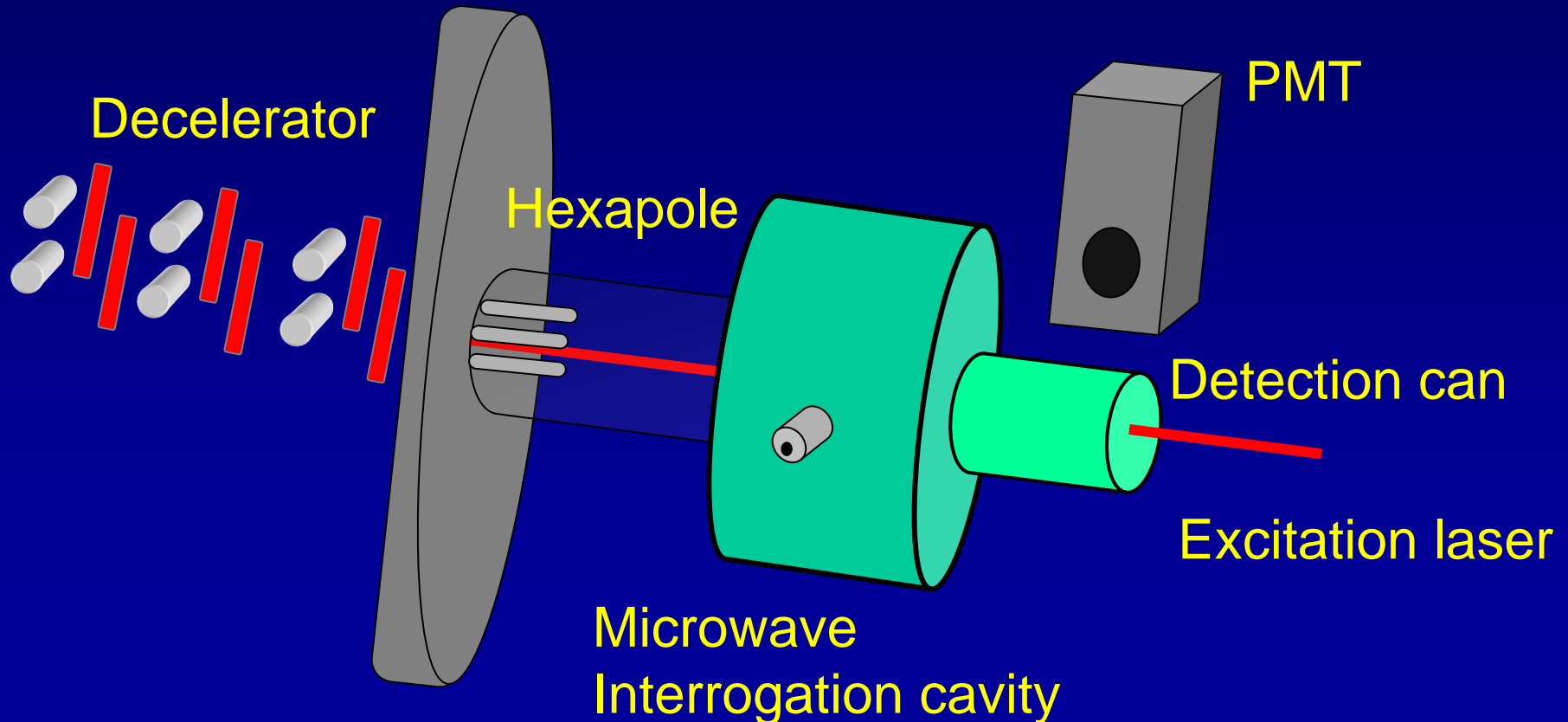
OH after the Stark-decelerator

Bochinski *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 243001 (2003); PRA 70, 043410 (2004).



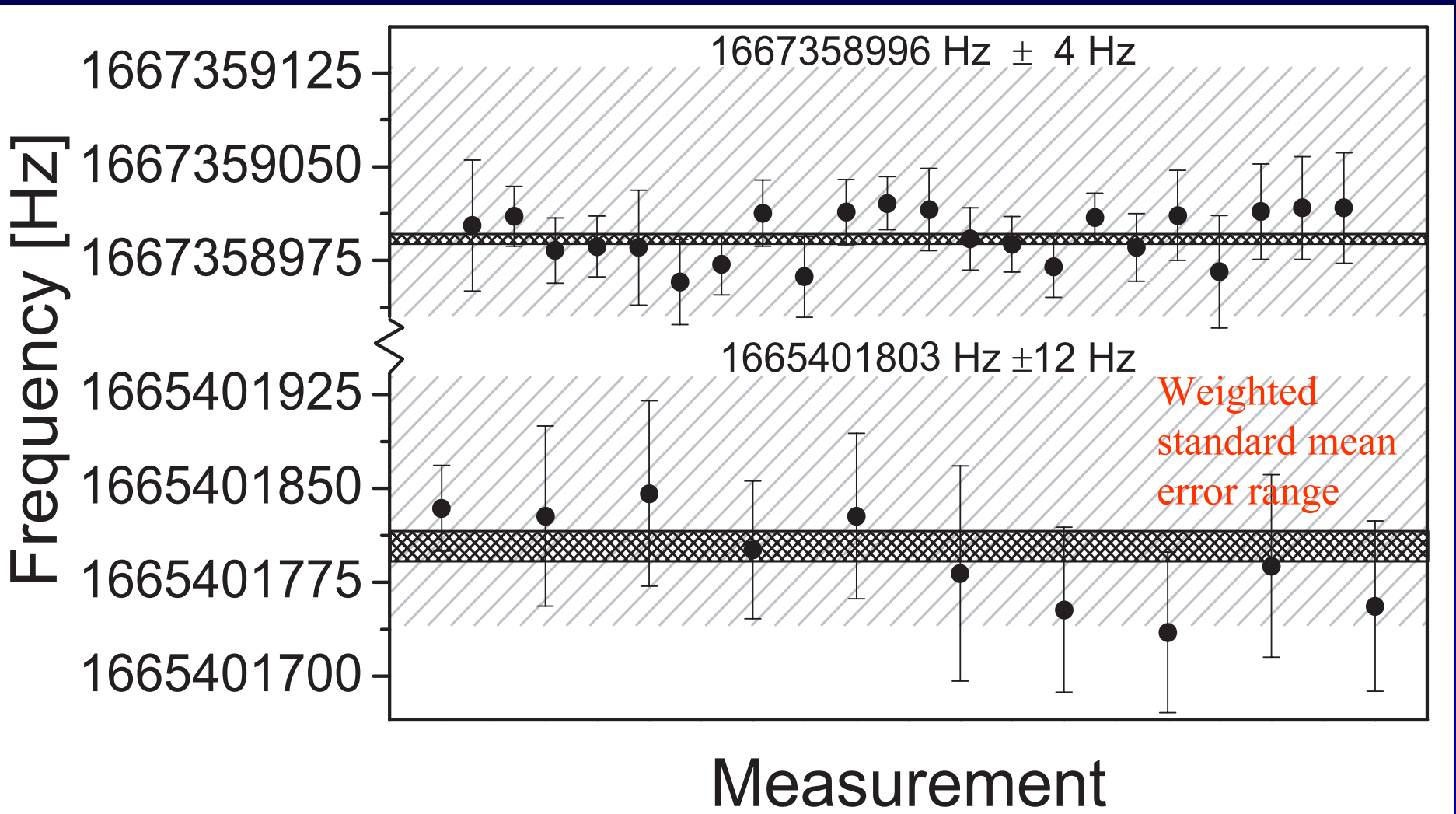
Cold molecule based precision spectroscopy

- Rabi or Ramsey interrogation on slowed OH beam
- High resolution and precision
- Systematic checks on beam (velocity) effects



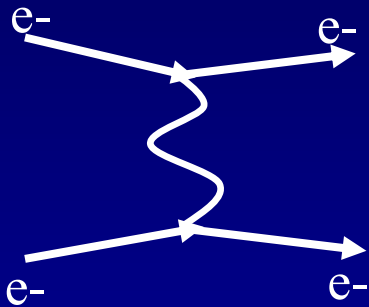
Precision measurement of OH structure

Hudson *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 143004 (2006).



$\Delta\alpha/\alpha$ measurement status

- $\Delta\alpha / \alpha = 1$ ppm (and better) is now possible to measure over ~ 10 Gyr. Linear drift model $\rightarrow 10^{-16}/\text{yr}$.



- Astrophysical measurements later this year plan better than 100 Hz accuracy.
- Deep surveys of OH megamasers are active from the local Universe to red shift $z \sim 4$.
- Optical clock comparisons ongoing, but test only modern epoch.
- Tests on $\Delta(m_e/m_p) / (m_e/m_p)$ is possible (W. Ubach, PRL 92, 101302 (2004); PRL 96, 151101 (2006).)

Special thanks

<http://jilawww.colorado.edu/YeLabs>

Ultracold Sr & Sr₂

M. Boyd

A. Ludlow

S. Blatt

Dr. T. Zelevinsky

Dr. T. Zanon

Dr. T. Ido (NICT, Tokyo)

Cold Polar Molecules

B. Sawyer

B. Stuhl

Dr. B. Lev

E. Hudson (Yale)

Femtosecond comb & cold atoms

S. Foreman

M. Thorpe

D. Hudson

M. Stowe

Dr. A. Pe'er

Dr. R. J. Jones (Arizona)

Dr. K. Moll (Precision Ph)

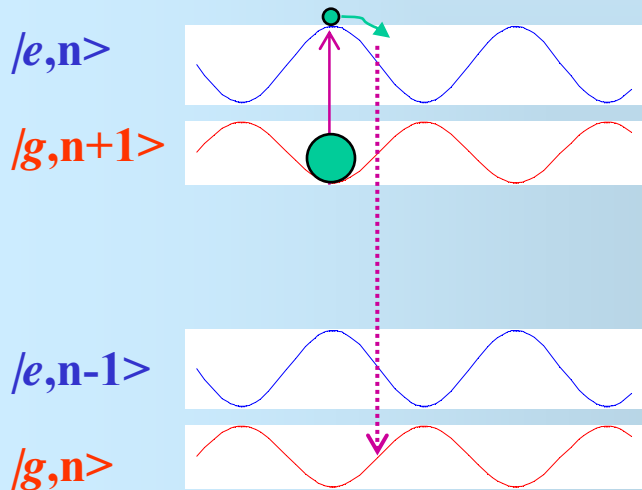
Collaborators

J. Bohn, S. Cundiff, C. Greene, J. Hall (JILA)

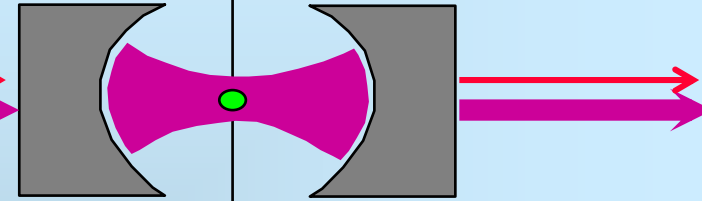
P. Julienne, S. Diddams, J. Bergquist, L. Hollberg, T. Parker (NIST)

E. Eyler (UConn), F. Krausz (MPQ)

Problems in the neutral atom land

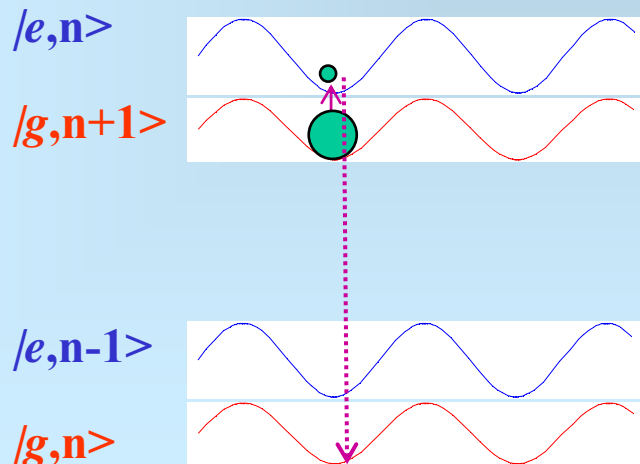


CQED probe
FORT beam



Caltech cavity QED lesson
Kimble group, 1999

*Dipole force fluctuations:
Heating and position
-dependent decoherence*



The Solution:
*Match the AC Stark shift
between $|e\rangle$ and $|g\rangle$*

Kimble et al. ICOLS 99

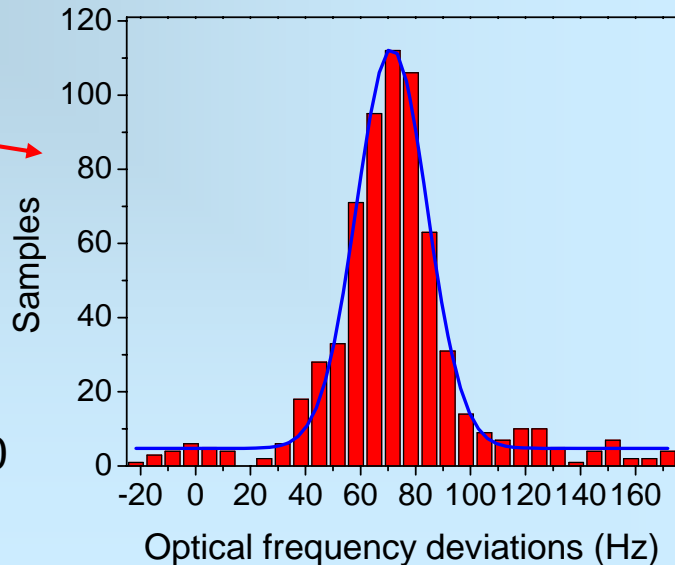
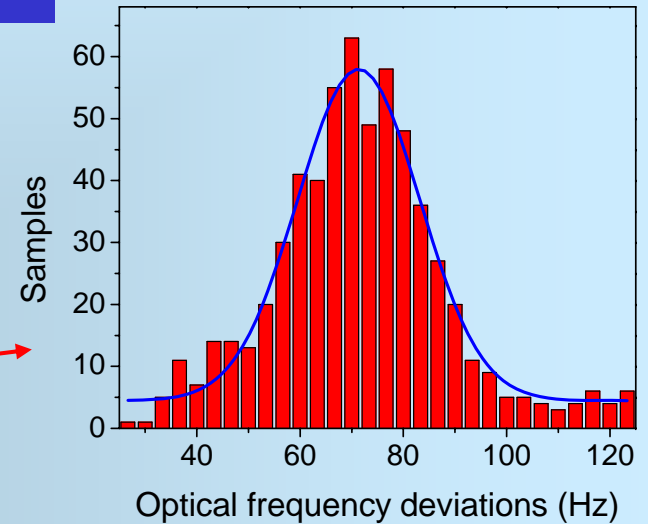
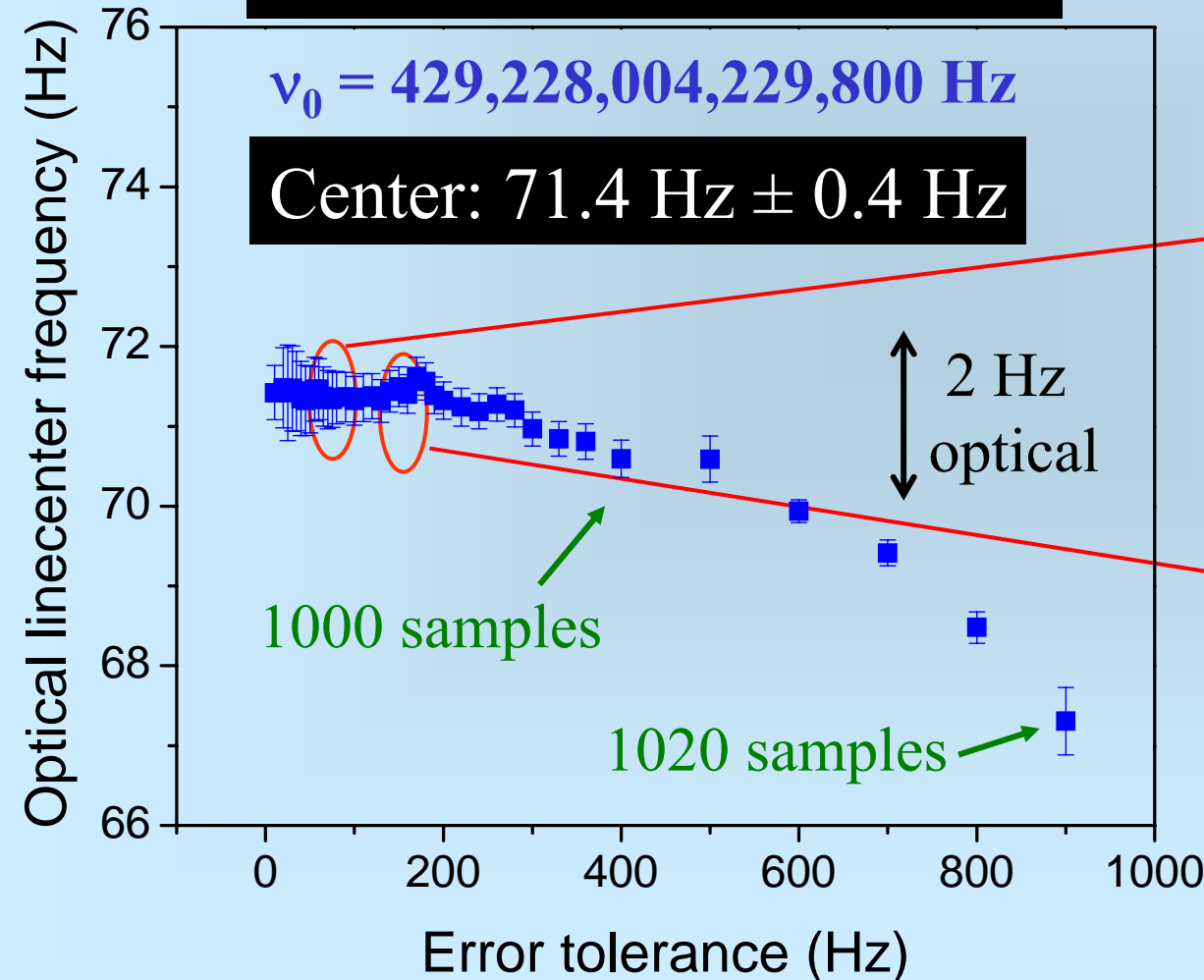
Reproducibility

March – June 2006: 1020 measurements
3 different NIST Cs-calibrated masers

Statistical error $< 1 \times 10^{-15}$

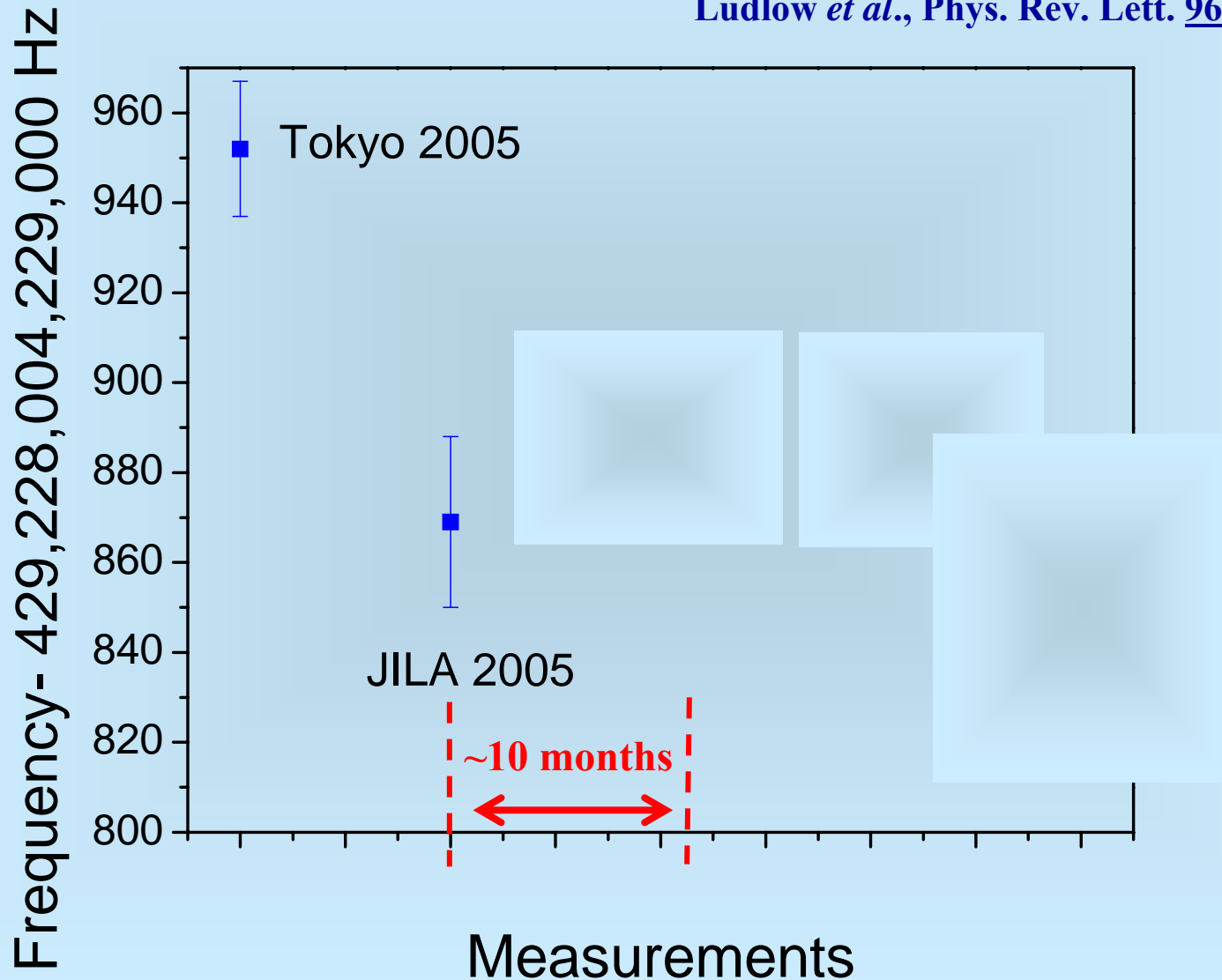
$\nu_0 = 429,228,004,229,800$ Hz

Center: 71.4 Hz ± 0.4 Hz



Global Sr Clock Comparison

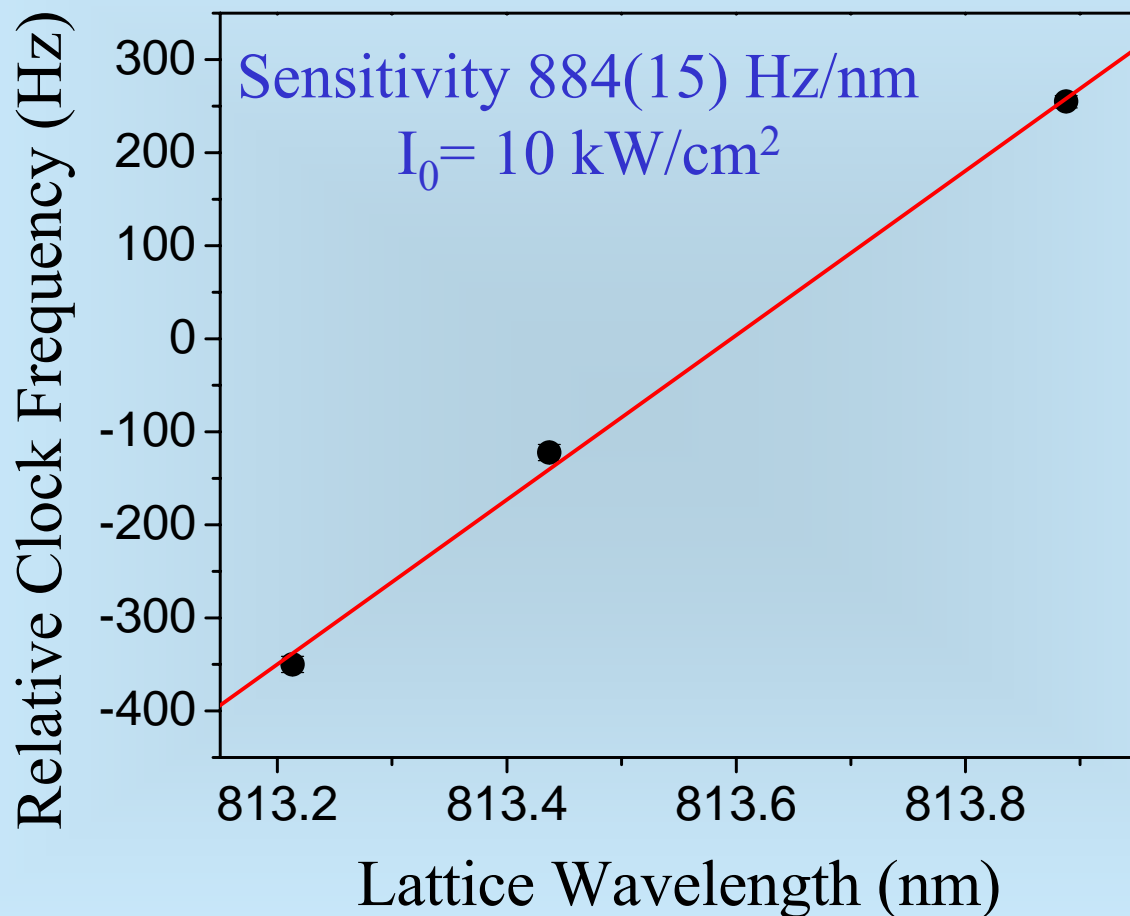
Takamoto et al., *Nature* 435, 321 (2005).
Ludlow et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 96, 033003



How Magic is the wavelength?

Ludlow *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 033003

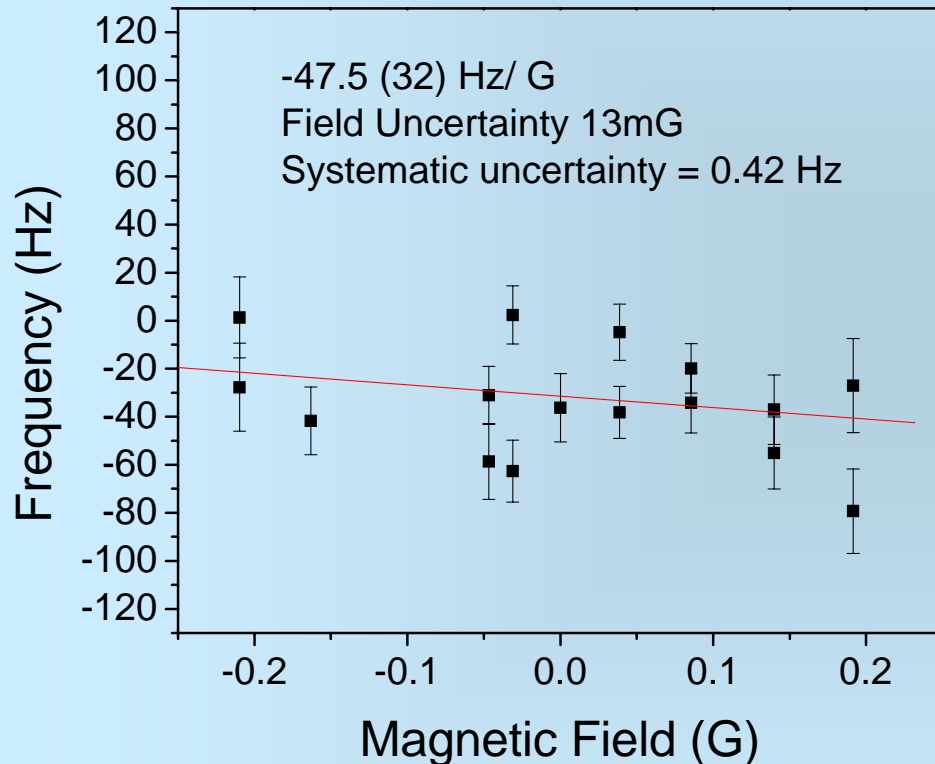
Brusch *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 103003 (2006).



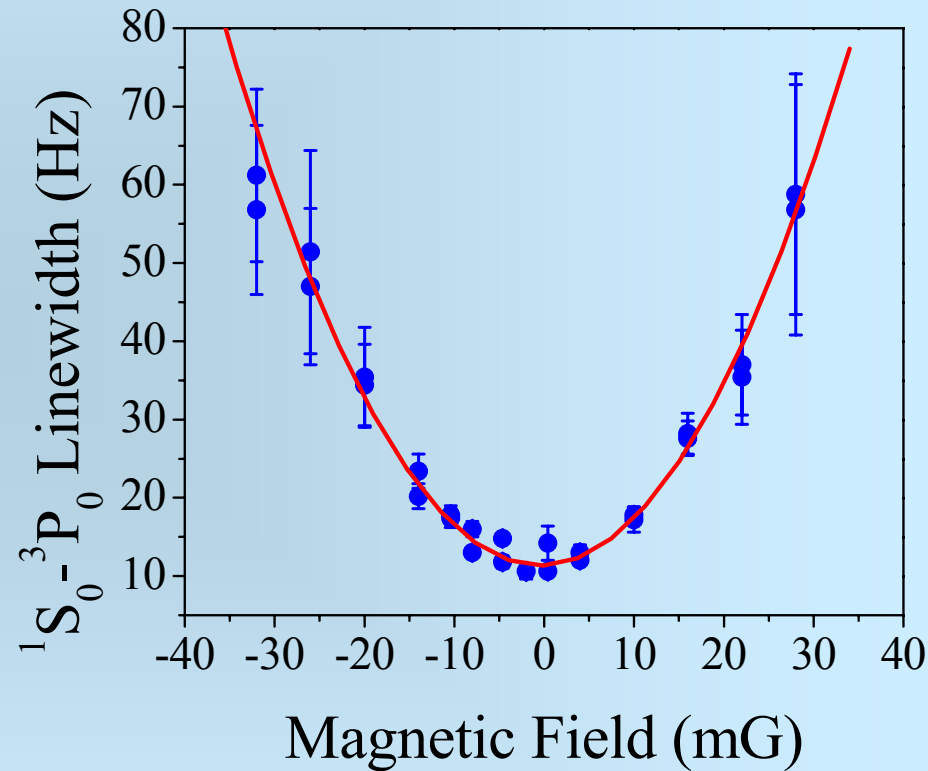
1 MHz error in lattice wavelength $\rightarrow 5 \times 10^{-18}$ clock inaccuracy

Understanding systematics: Magnetic sensitivities

Magnetic Shift: -47 (32 Hz)/G



Magnetic Broadening



Total uncertainty ~ 0.5 Hz $\rightarrow 1 \times 10^{-15}$

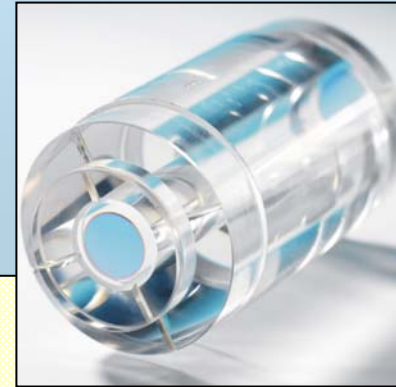
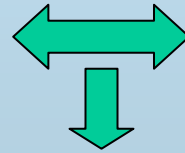
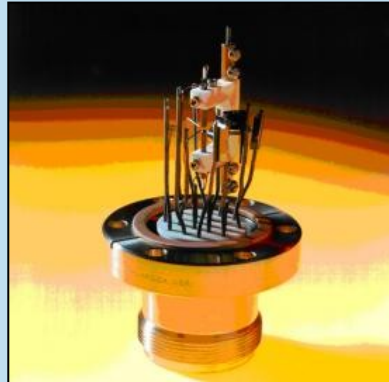
Trapped ion optical frequency standards

Helen Margolis

Patrick Gill, *et al.*, NPL

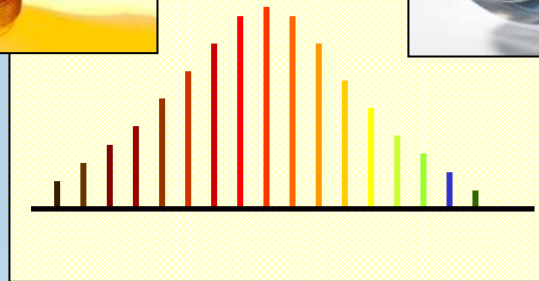
NIST Hg⁺ systematic uncertainty
< atomic fountain clock
(Bergquist et al., 2006)

Single cold
trapped ion
(atomic reference)



Ultra-stable
probe laser
(local oscillator)

$^{199}\text{Hg}^+$, $^{88}\text{Sr}^+$, $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$,
 $^{40}\text{Ca}^+$, $^{115}\text{In}^+$, $^{27}\text{Al}^+$



Femtosecond comb
(counter)



Optical clocks – future redefinition of the second?
Fundamental constants and tests of physics
Future satellite navigation and ranging?

Ion traps: Clean separation between the internal and external degrees of freedom

The point:

Long coherence time in quantum measurement

Precision Measurement/Standards:

NIST, NPL, PTB, NRC, JPL, ...

Innsbruck, Harvard, MPQ, Dusseldorf, ...

Quantum Information science:

NIST, Innsbruck, Michigan, Oxford, MIT, Ulm, ...

Precision spectroscopy of H_2 and a possible variation of m_p/m_e over cosmological time

PRL 96, 151101 (2006).

Wim Ubachs



Dimensionless constants of nature:

$$1/\alpha = 137.035\ 999\ 11\ (46)$$

$$\mu = M_p/m_e = 1836.152\ 672\ 61\ (85)$$

various g - factors

Fundamental constants ?

Just empirical or deeper theory ?

Molecular structure and possibility of life

Constant or slightly varying ?

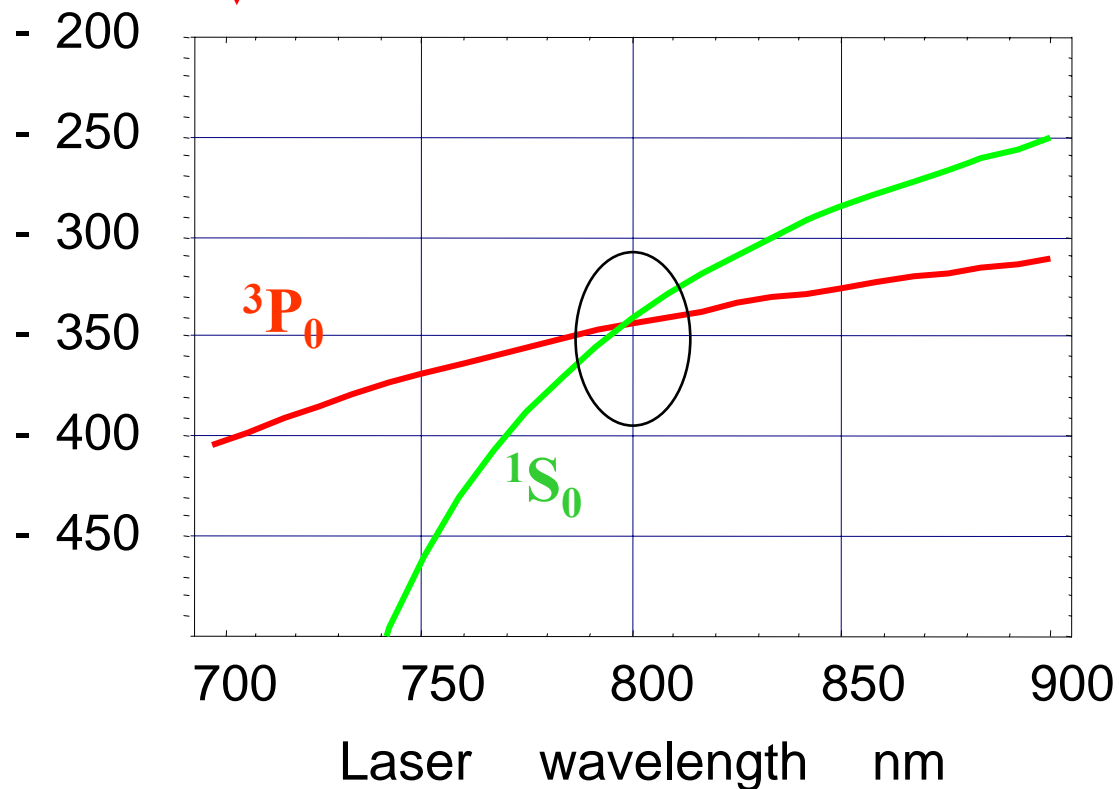
Matching the polarizabilities

3P_0

Sr, Yb, Ca, Hg, ...

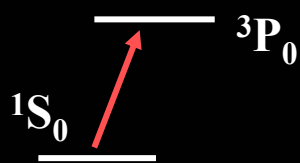
1S_0

Stark shift (kHz)



Laser wavelength nm

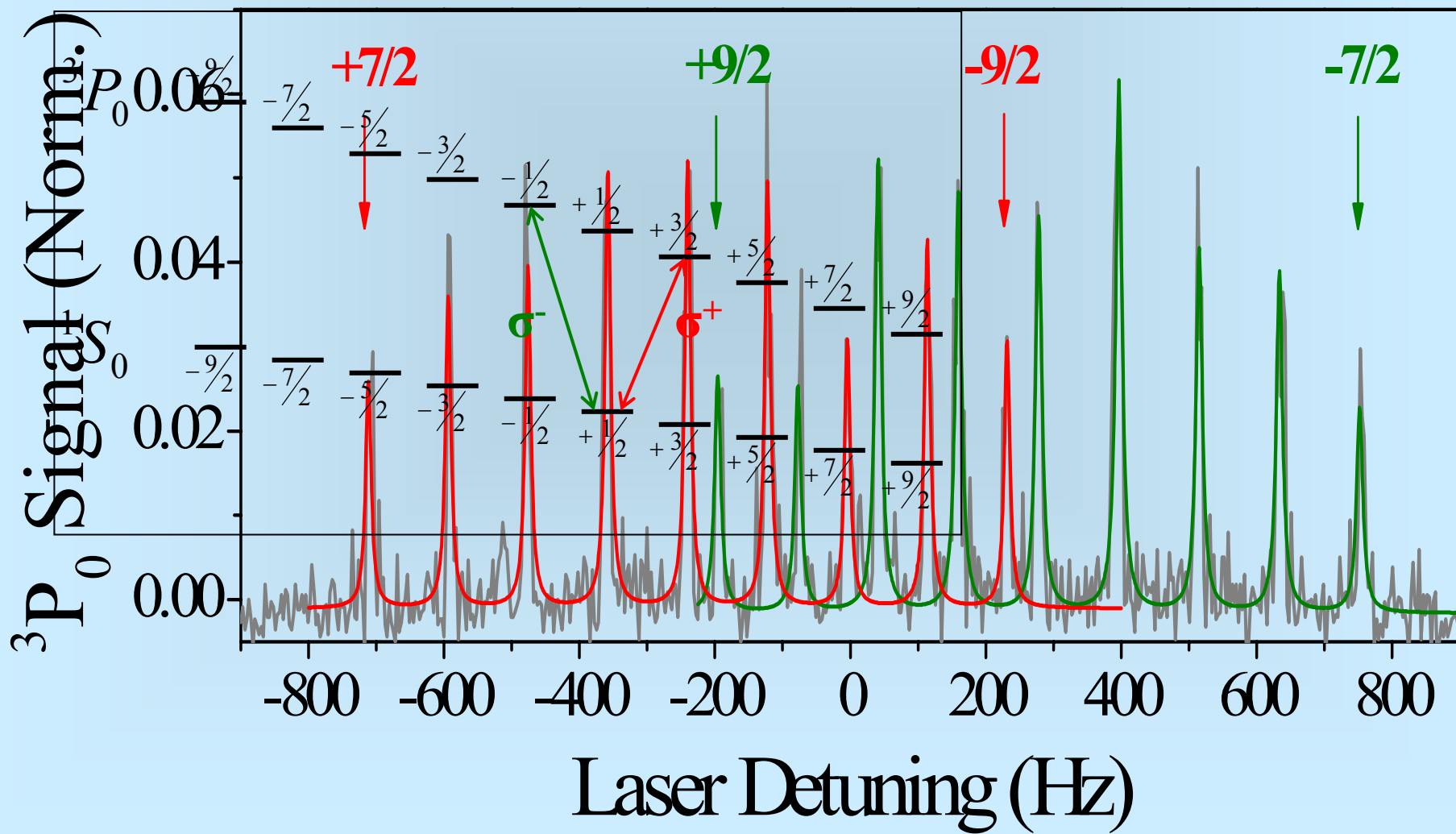
Optical Measurement of Nuclear g-factor



No net electronic angular momentum

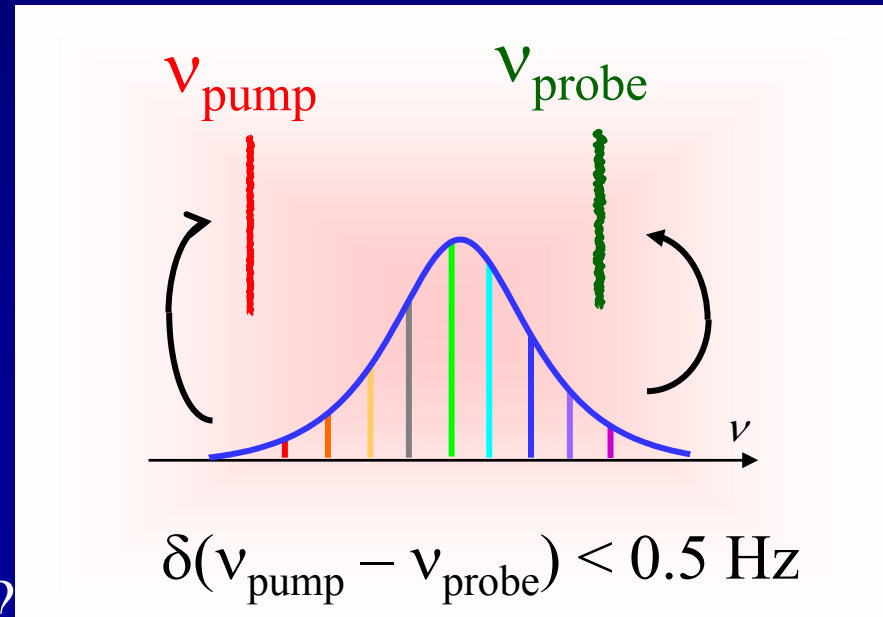
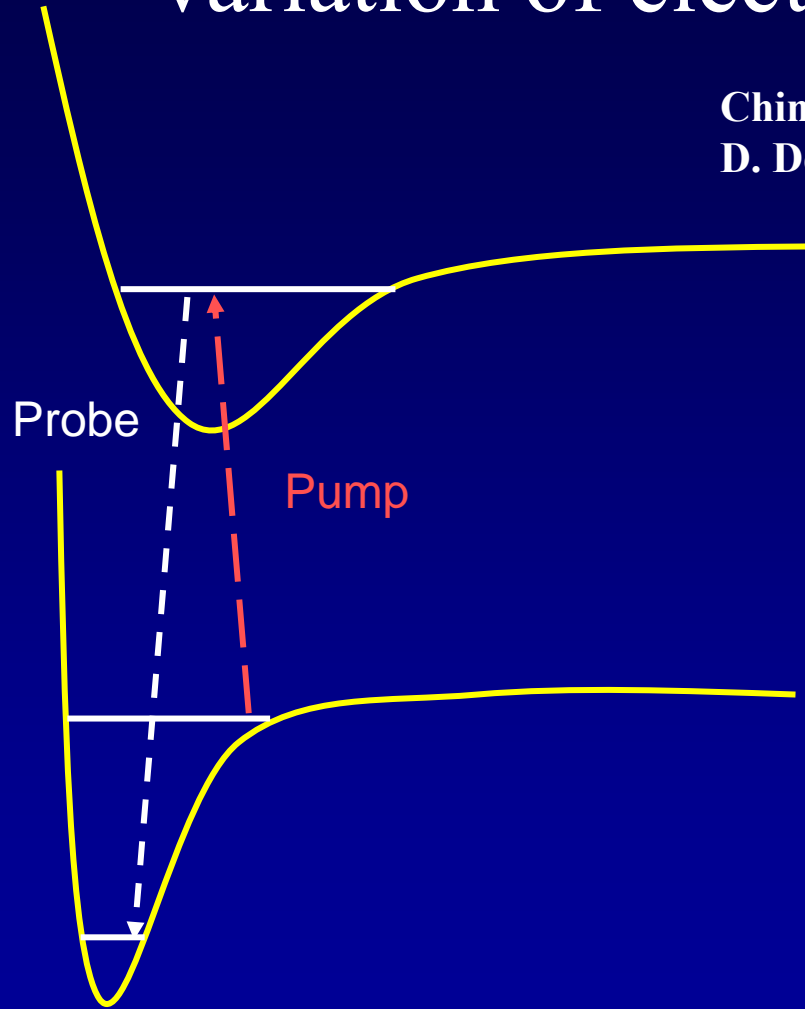
$$\Delta g = -108.5(4) \text{ Hz}/(\text{G m}_F)$$

$^3\text{P}_0$ lifetime 140(40) s



Ultracold Sr₂ molecules to test time-variation of electron-proton mass ratio

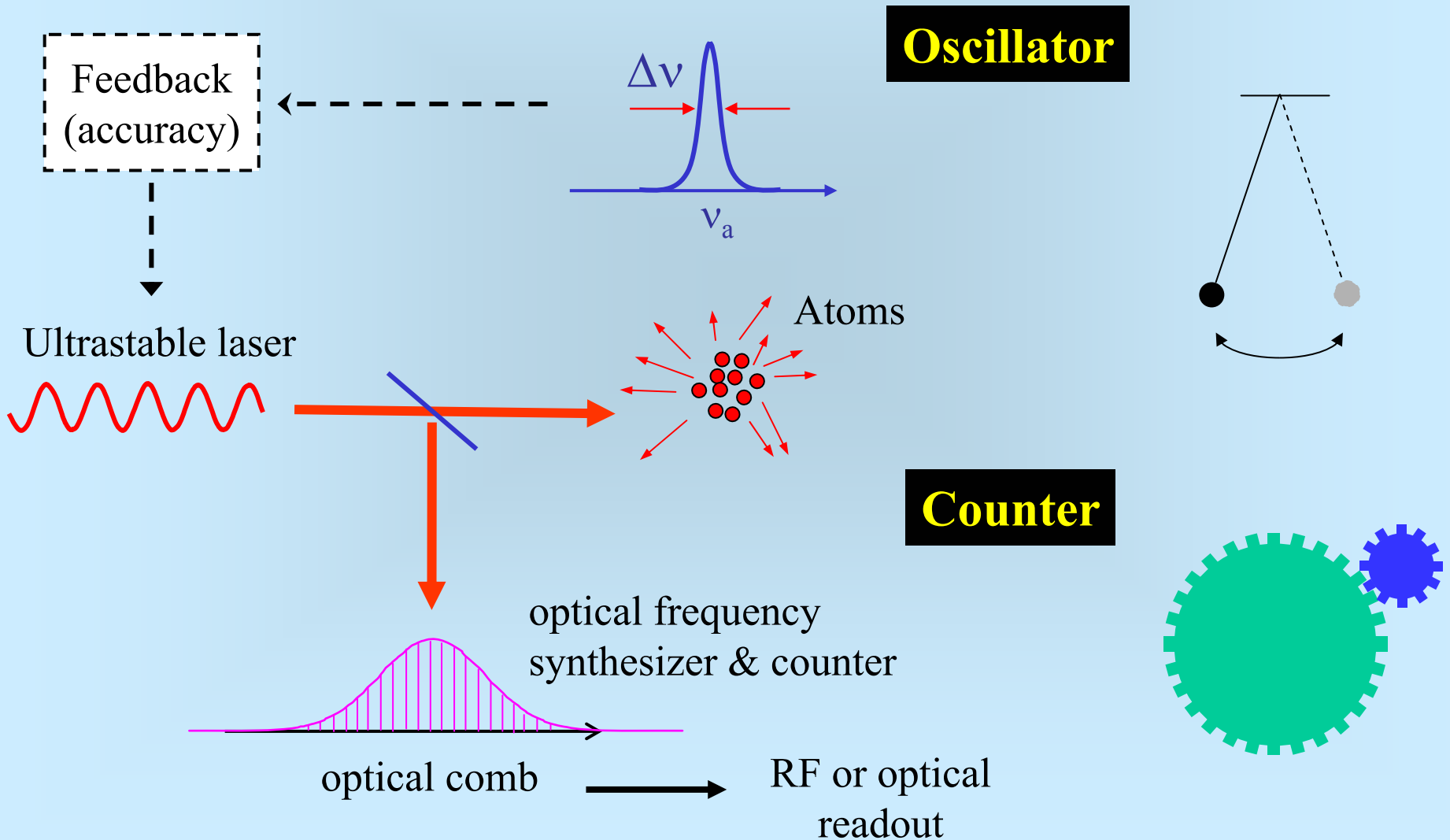
Chin and Flambaum, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 230801 (2006).
D. DeMille, private communications (2005).



Magic wavelength trap for molecules?
Theory: P. Julienne and A. Derevianko

New era for optical atomic clocks

NIST, JILA, PTB, NPL, SYRTE, ...



Possible systematics in space

Electro-Magnetic field in space

Different velocities for different lines

Solutions:

OH sum rule

Main lines versus satellite lines

Emission and conjugate absorption

The OH $^2\Pi_{3/2}$ ground state in a B-Field

SUM (2 satellites)
 = **SUM (2 main lines)**

Satellites calibrate B

**Observed satellites
 conjugate**

