

THE 2022 TRI-INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOOL ON  
ELEMENTARY PARTICLES

ULTRALIGHT NEW PHYSICS: PART 1

DARK MATTER SEARCHES WITH QUANTUM SENSORS

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<https://www.colorado.edu/research/qsense/>

Marianna Safronova



UNIVERSITY OF  
DELAWARE®

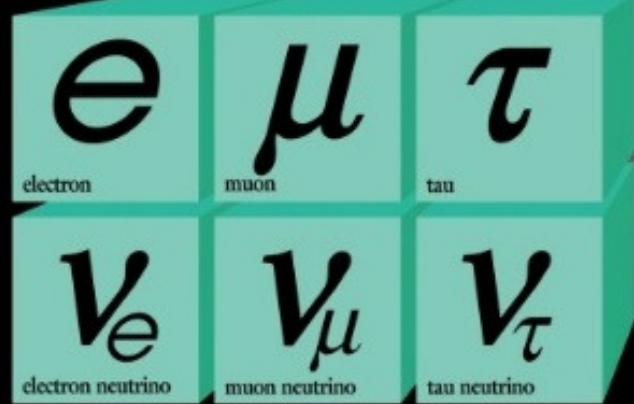
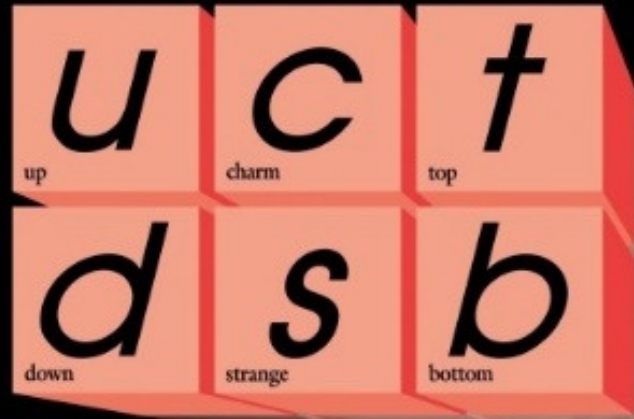


<https://thoriumclock.eu/>

2022

Fermions: spin = 1/2 particles

# Quarks

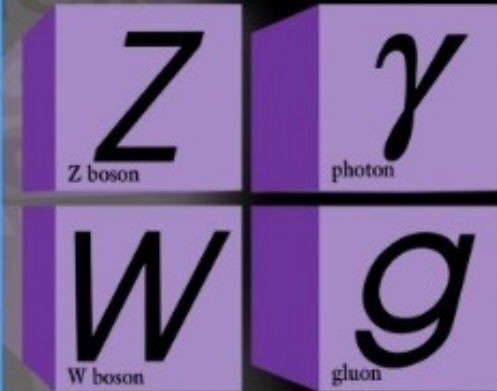


# Leptons

# STANDARD MODEL

Vector Bosons: spin = 1 particles

# Forces



Higgs Boson:  
spin = 0  
fundamental  
scalar particle

+ FUNDAMENTAL  
PHYSICS  
POSTULATES

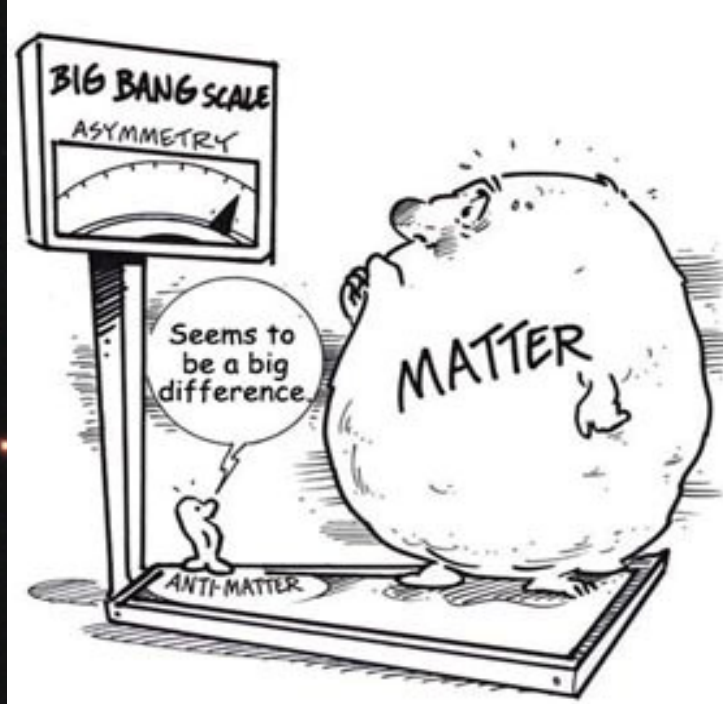
# 1922

## 100 YEARS AGO

**WE THOUGH WE KNEW  
EVERYTHING ABOUT THE  
UNIVERSE**

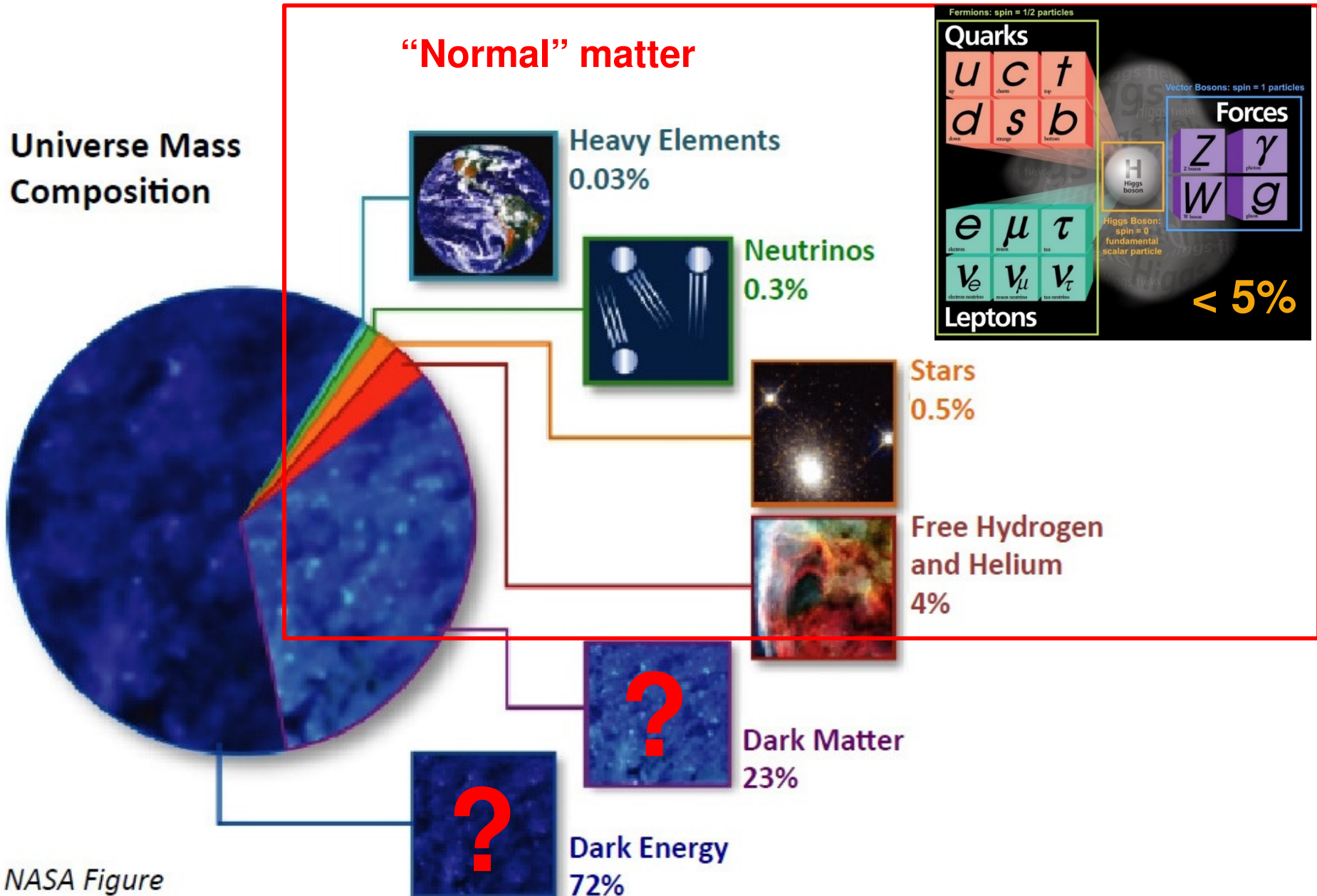
1897 Electron  
1919 Proton

# ACCORDING TO THE STANDARD MODEL



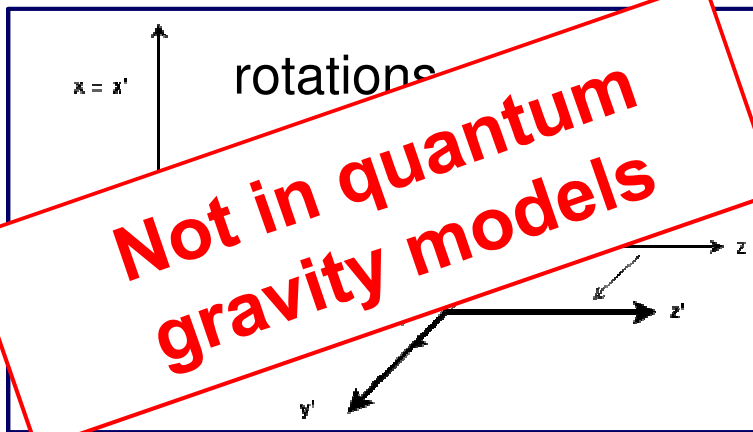
**OUR UNIVERSE  
CAN NOT EXIST !**

# WE DON'T KNOW WHAT MOST (95%) OF THE UNIVERSE IS!



# WHEN WE COMPARE EXPERIMENTS, WHAT DO WE ASSUME?

Lorentz invariance



**Not in quantum gravity models**

Position invariance

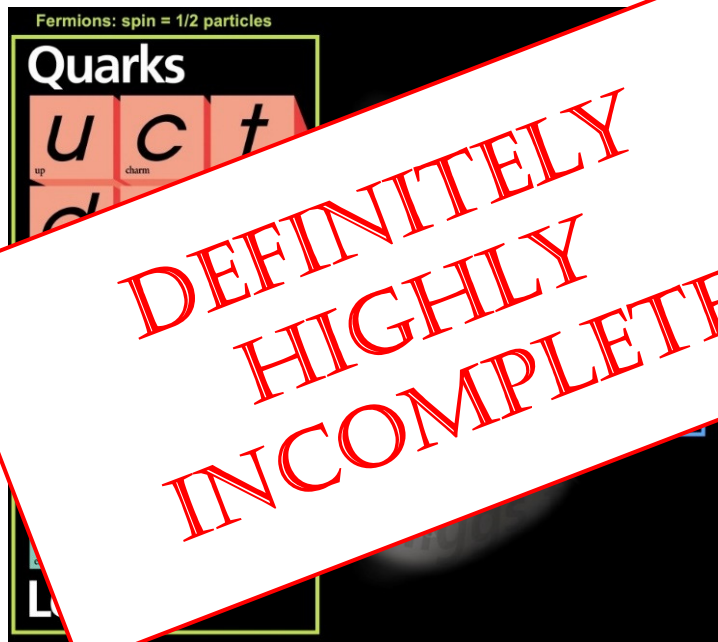


**Not in many dark matter scenarios or other BSM models**

Weak equivalence principle



**"Constants" are not constant in most BSM models**



**DEFINITELY HIGHLY INCOMPLETE**

# EXTRAORDINARY PROGRESS IN THE CONTROL OF ATOMS, IONS, AND MOLECULES

**1997 Nobel Prize**  
Laser cooling and trapping

**2001 Nobel Prize**  
Bose-Einstein Condensation

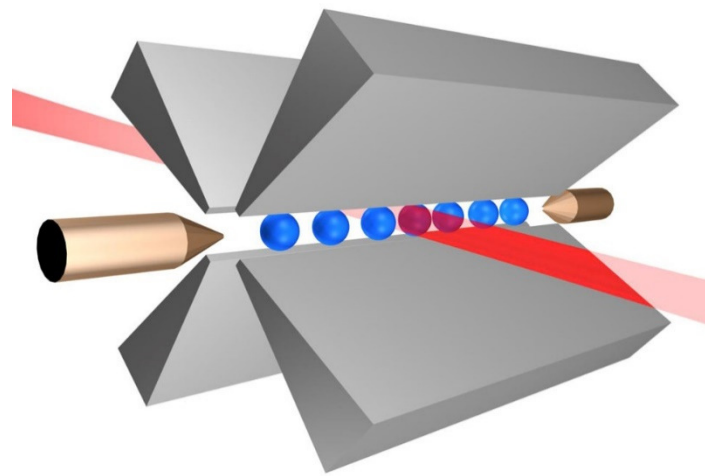
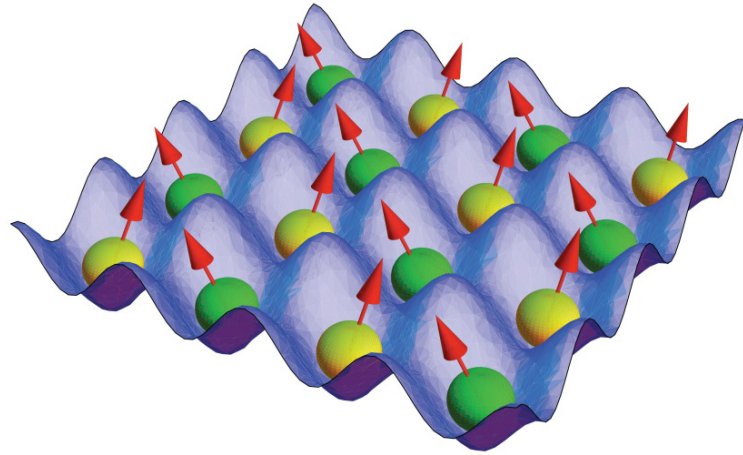
**2005 Nobel Prize**  
Frequency combs

**2012 Nobel prize**  
Quantum control

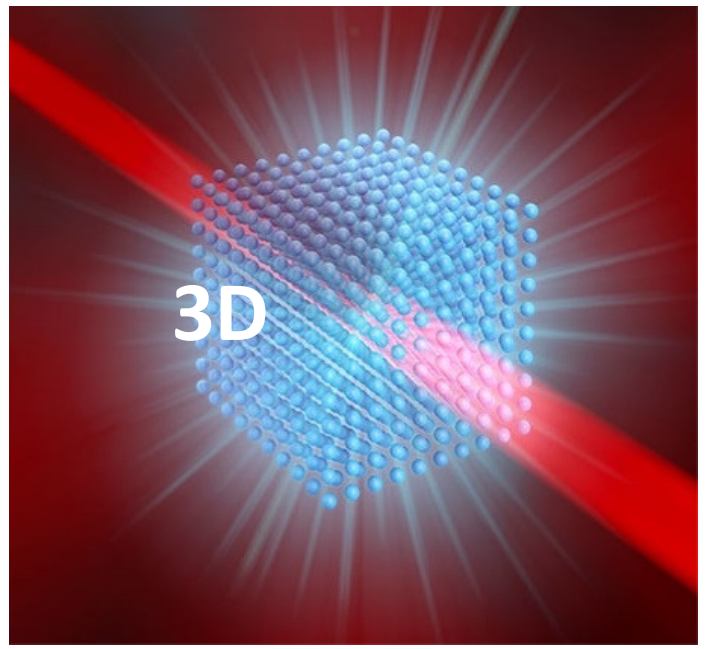
**300K**



**pK**



$$\Psi = \left| \begin{matrix} -1/2 & +1/2 \\ \uparrow \vec{B} \end{matrix} \right\rangle + \left| \begin{matrix} -5/2 & +5/2 \end{matrix} \right\rangle$$



Atoms are now:

**Ultracold**

**Trapped**

**Precisely controlled**

**EXCEPTIONAL IMPROVEMENT IN  
PRECISION OF  
QUANTUM SENSORS  
OPENS NEW WAYS TO SEARCH FOR  
NEW PHYSICS AND TEST  
FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS POSTULATES**



# WHAT IS A QUANTUM SENSOR?

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**Focus Issue in Quantum Science and Technology (20 papers)**

## **Quantum Sensors for New-Physics Discoveries**

Editors: Marianna Safronova and Dmitry Budker

<https://iopscience.iop.org/journal/2058-9565/page/Focus-on-Quantum-Sensors-for-New-Physics-Discoveries>

### **Editorial:**

**Quantum technologies and the elephants**, M. S Safronova and Dmitry Budker, Quantum Sci. Technol. 6, 040401 (2021).

“We take a broad view where any technology or device that is naturally described by quantum mechanics is considered “quantum”. Then, ***a “quantum sensor” is a device, the measurement (sensing) capabilities of which are enabled by our ability to manipulate and read out its quantum states.***”

## Search for New Physics with Atoms and Molecules

M.S. Safronova<sup>1,2</sup>, D. Budker<sup>3,4,5</sup>, D. DeMille<sup>6</sup>, Derek F. Jackson Kimball<sup>7</sup>, A. Derevianko<sup>8</sup> and C. W. Clark<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, USA,

<sup>2</sup>Joint Quantum Institute, National Institute of Standards and Technology and the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA,

<sup>3</sup>Helmholtz Institute, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany,

<sup>4</sup>University of California, Berkeley, California, USA,

<sup>5</sup>Nuclear Science Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California, USA

<sup>6</sup>Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA,

<sup>7</sup>California State University, East Bay, Hayward, California, USA,

<sup>8</sup>University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, USA

This article reviews recent developments in tests of fundamental physics using atoms and molecules, including the subjects of parity violation, searches for permanent electric dipole moments, tests of the *CPT* theorem and Lorentz symmetry, searches for spatiotemporal variation of fundamental constants, tests of quantum electrodynamics, tests of general relativity and the equivalence principle, searches for dark matter, dark energy and extra forces, and tests of the spin-statistics theorem. Key results are presented in the context of potential new physics and in the broader context of similar investigations in other fields. Ongoing and future experiments of the next decade are discussed.

# Very wide scope of AMO new physics searches

**Precision tests of Quantum Electrodynamics**

**Atomic parity violation**

**Time-reversal violation:  
electric dipole moments and related  
phenomena**

**Tests of the CPT theorem:  
matter-antimatter comparisons**

**Lorentz symmetry tests**

**Searches for light dark matter**

**Search for variation of  
fundamental constants**

**Searches for exotic forces**

**General relativity and  
gravitation**

**Search for violations of  
quantum statistics**

**(All) high-precision AMO quantum sensors  
can search for ultralight new physics**

**Not all new physics AMO quantum sensors  
are searching for is ultralight**

# Very wide scope of AMO new physics searches

**Precision tests of Quantum Electrodynamics**

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**Time-reversal violation:  
electric dipole moments and related  
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**Tests of the CPT theorem:  
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**Lorentz symmetry tests**

**Searches for light dark matter**

**Search for variation of  
fundamental constants**

**Searches for exotic forces**

**General relativity and  
gravitation**

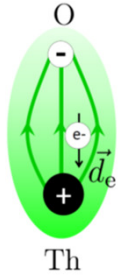
**Search for violations of  
quantum statistics**

# SEARCHES FOR BSM PHYSICS WITH ATOMIC, MOLECULAR, AND OPTICAL PHYSICS

## Fundamental symmetries with quantum science techniques

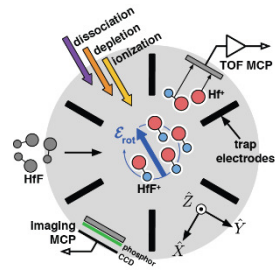
### Searches for electron electric-dipole moment (eEDM)

Advanced ACME



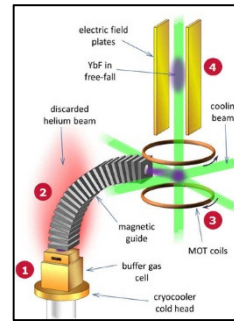
ThO

JILA eEDM



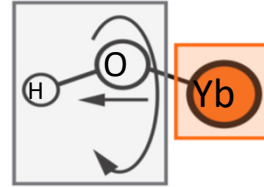
HfF<sup>+</sup>, ThF<sup>+</sup>

Imperial College



YbF

PolyEDM

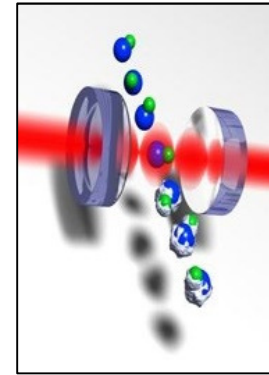


Also NMQM search

YbOH, ...

### Searches for hadronic EDMs

CeNTREX

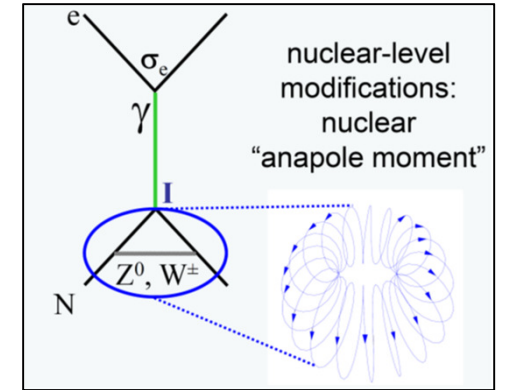


TIF (proton EDM)

Hg  
Xe  
Ra  
EDMs

### Enhanced parity violation

ZOMBIES



Also Yb (Mainz), Fr (FRIUMF & Japan)

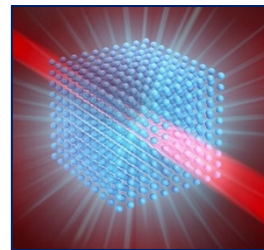
Rapid advances in ultracold molecule cooling and trapping; polyatomic molecules; future: molecules with Ra & “spin squeezed” entangled states

## Atomic and Nuclear Clocks & Cavities

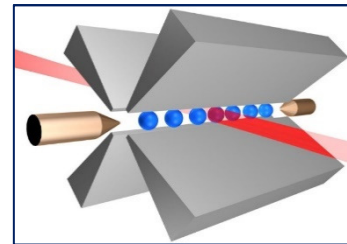
Major clock & cavities R&D efforts below, also molecular clocks, portable clocks and optical links

### BSM searches with clocks

- Searches for variations of fundamental constants
- Ultralight scalar dark matter & relaxion searches
- Tests of general relativity
- Searches for violation of the equivalence principle
- Searches for the Lorentz violation



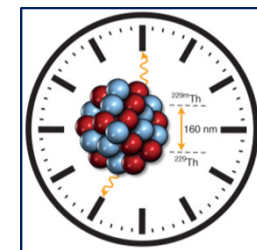
3D lattice clocks



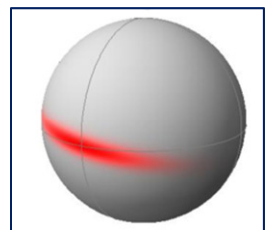
Multi-ion & entangled clocks



Ultrastable optical cavities



Nuclear & highly charge ion clocks



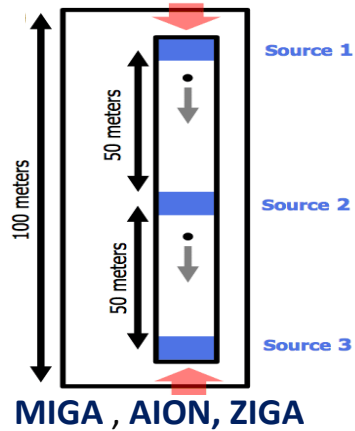
Measurements beyond the quantum limit

## Atom interferometry

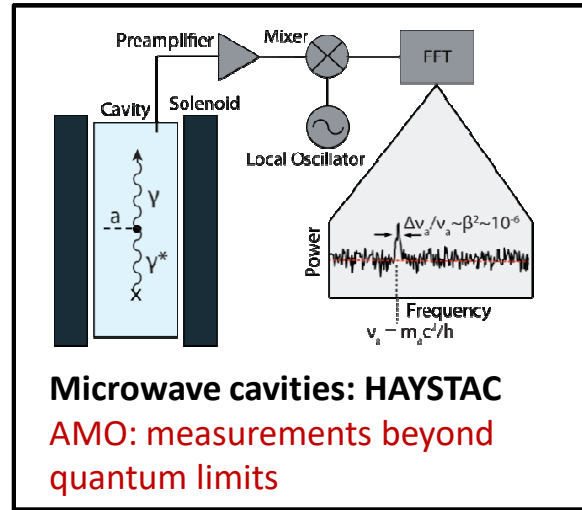
BSM searches:  
Variation of fundamental constants  
Ultralight scalar DM & relaxion searches  
Violation of the equivalence principle

## Prototype gravitational wave detectors

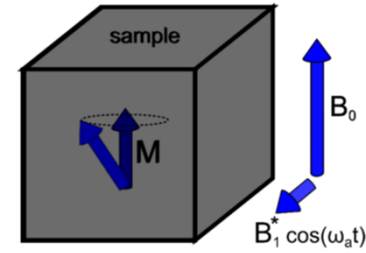
MAGIS-100 



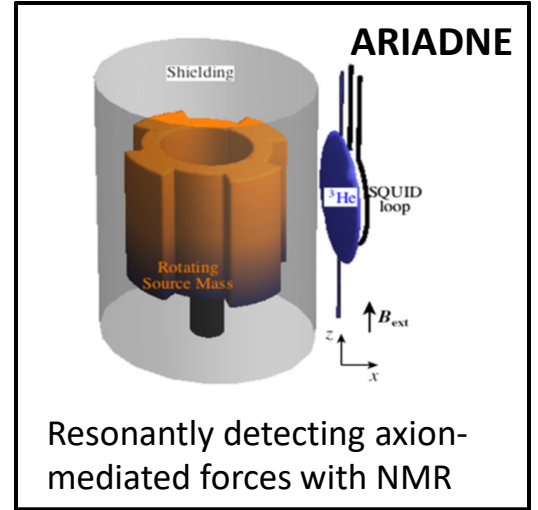
## Axion and ALPs searches



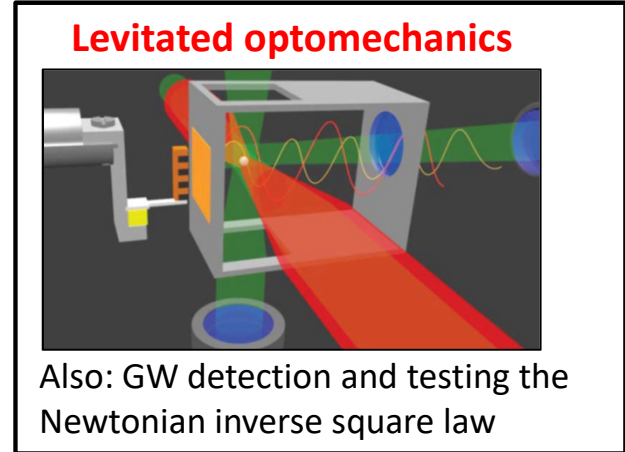
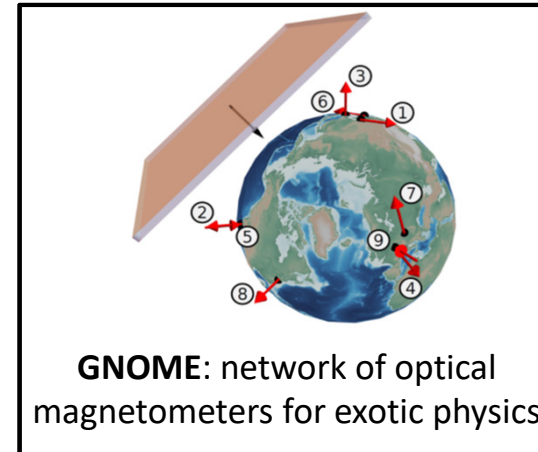
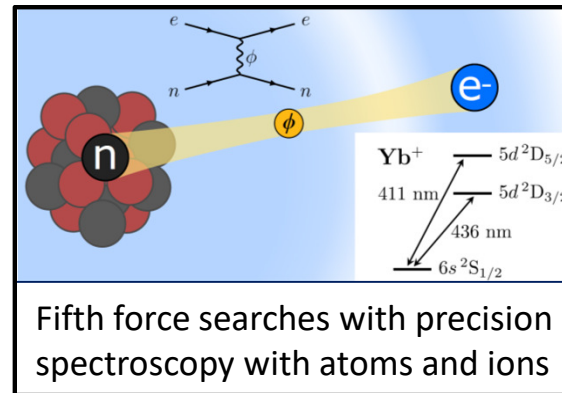
CASPER-electric, solids  
(coupling to gluons)



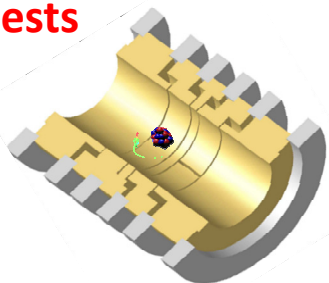
CASPER-wind, Xe  
(coupling to fermions)



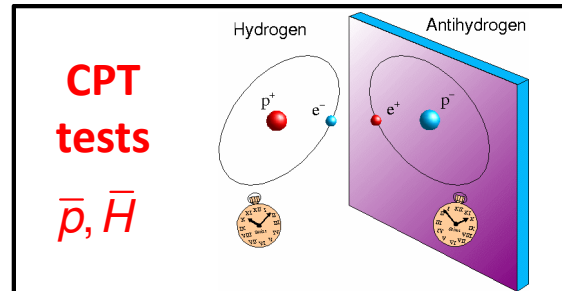
## Other dark matter & new force searches



## QED tests



Highly charged ions and simple systems (H, D, <sup>3</sup>He<sup>+</sup>, He, Li, HD, ...)



Many other current & future experiments: tests of the gravity-quantum interface, and HUNTER, SHAFT, ORGAN & UPLOAD (axions), solid-state directional detection with NV centers (WIMPs), doped cryocrystals for EDMs, Rydberg atoms, ...

# WHY SEARCH FOR DARK MATTER?

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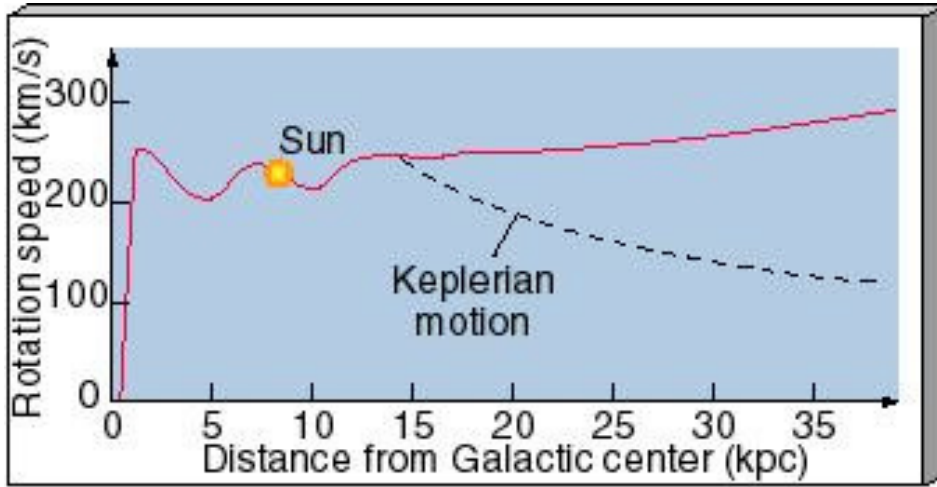


“Because it’s there.”

-George Mallory



# What is the experimental evidence for dark matter?

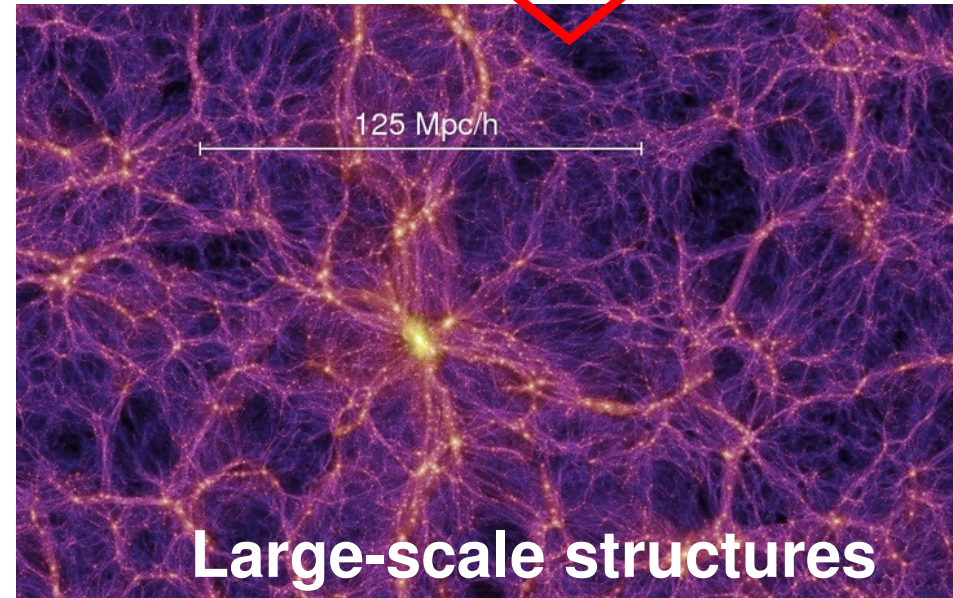
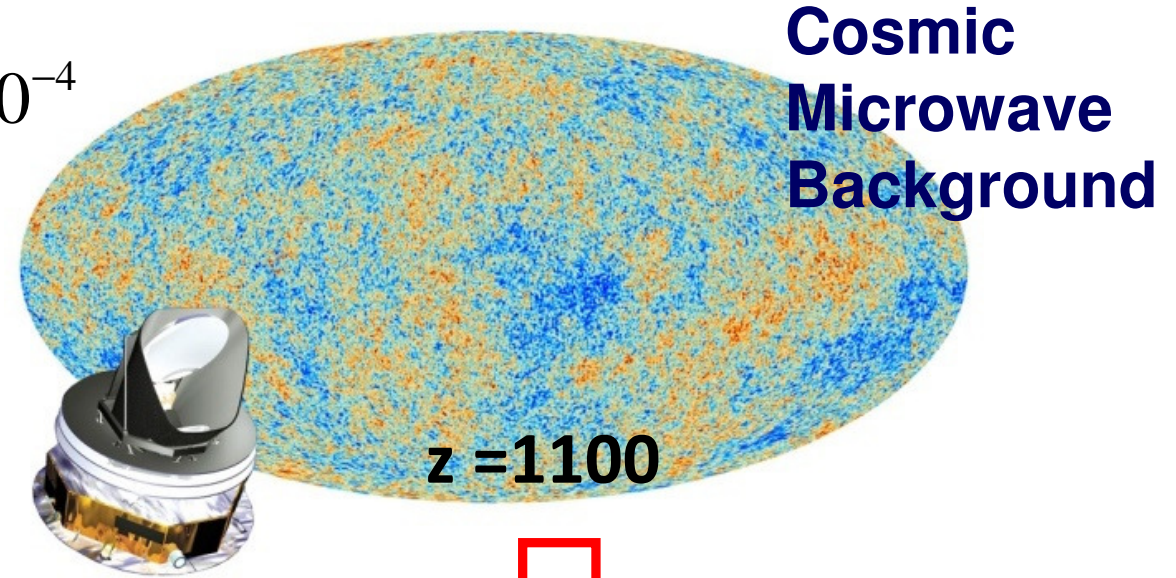


**Rotation curves**



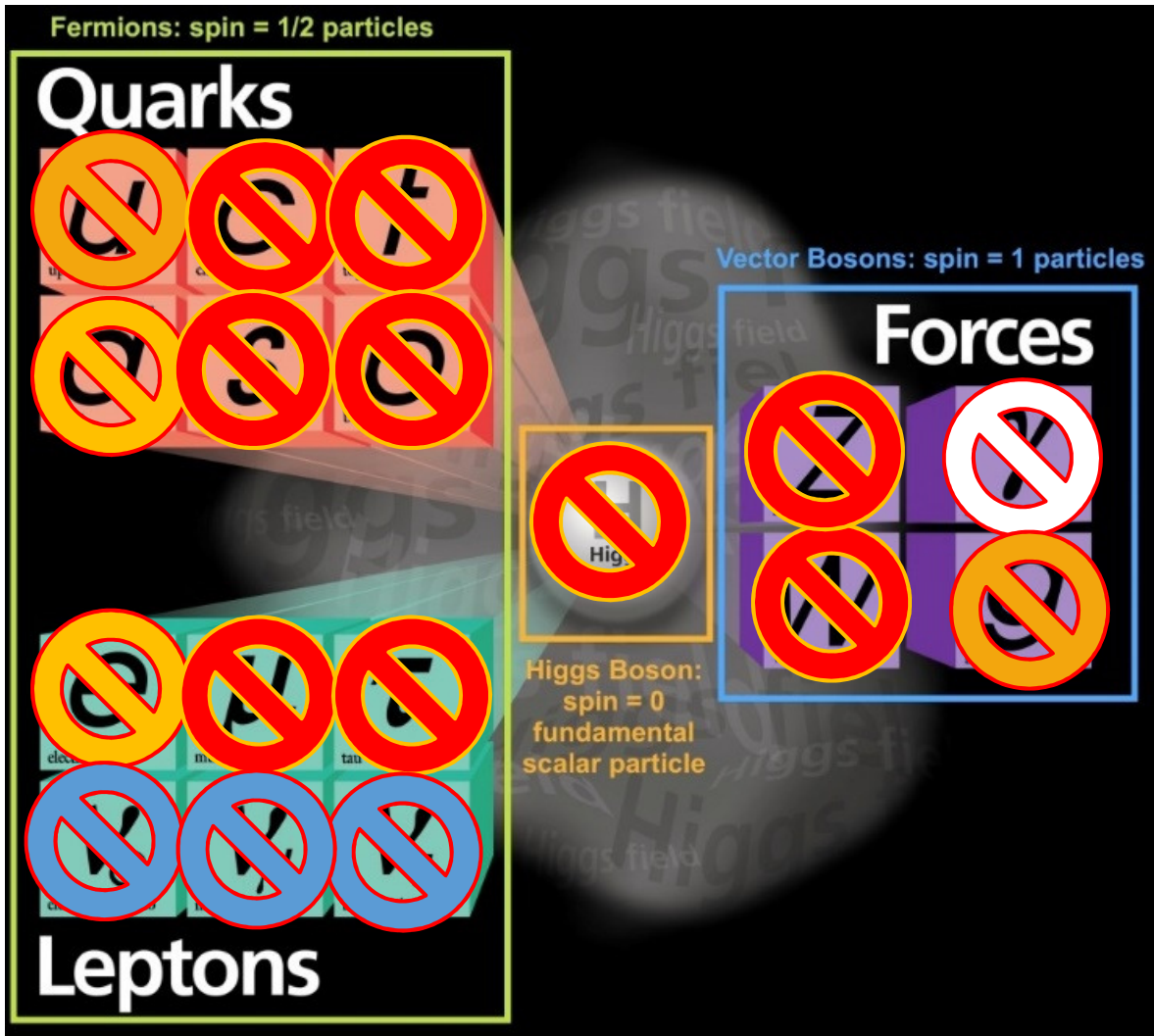
**Gravitational lensing**

$$\frac{\delta\rho}{\rho} \approx 10^{-4}$$



**Large-scale structures**

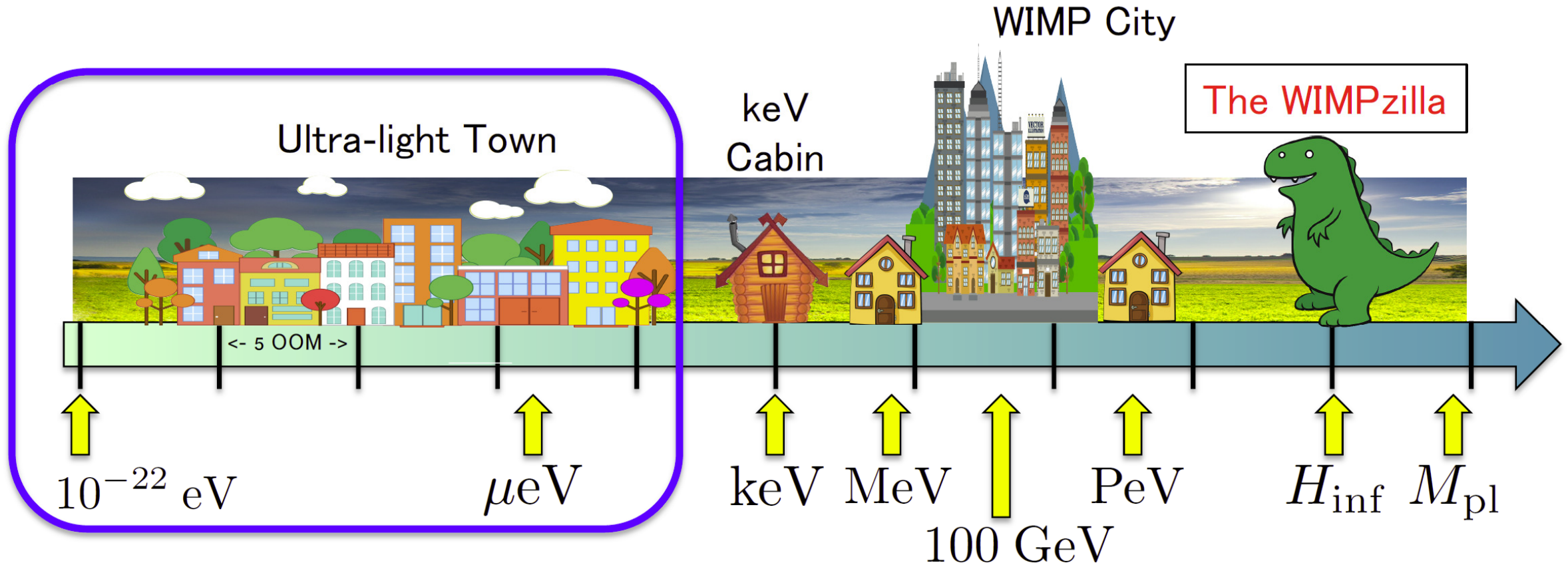
# Could elementary particles be cold dark matter?



-  Particle of light
-  Couple to plasma
-  Decay quickly
-  Hot dark matter

**No known particle can be cold dark matter – Need to search for new particles.**

# The landscape of dark matter masses



# ULTRALIGHT DARK MATTER ( $m_\phi \lesssim 10 \text{ eV}$ )

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**The key idea: ultralight dark matter (UDM) particles behave in a “wave-like” manner.**

1. UDM phenomenology is described by an oscillating classical field:  $\phi(t) \approx \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t)$

$\phi_0 \sim \sqrt{2\rho_{\text{DM}}}/m_\phi$  is the field oscillation amplitude and  $\rho_{\text{DM}}$  is the local DM density.

2. UDM has to be bosonic – Fermi velocity for DM with mass  $<10 \text{ eV}$  is higher than our Galaxy escape velocity.

3. Typical occupation numbers  $N_{\text{dB}} = n_\phi \lambda_{\text{coh}}^3$  larger than 1.  $\lambda_{\text{coh}} \sim 10^3 (2\pi / m_\phi c)$

4. We can classify UDM by spin and intrinsic parity:

**scalar, pseudoscalar (axion and ALPs), vector (dark photons)**

“Fuzzy” dark matter ( $m_\phi \lesssim 10^{-18} \text{ eV}$ ) affect large-scale structures and produce other astrophysical signatures.

# ULTRALIGHT DARK MATTER SIGNATURES

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**UDM: coherent on the scale of detectors or networks of detectors**

**Different detection paradigm from particle dark matter.**

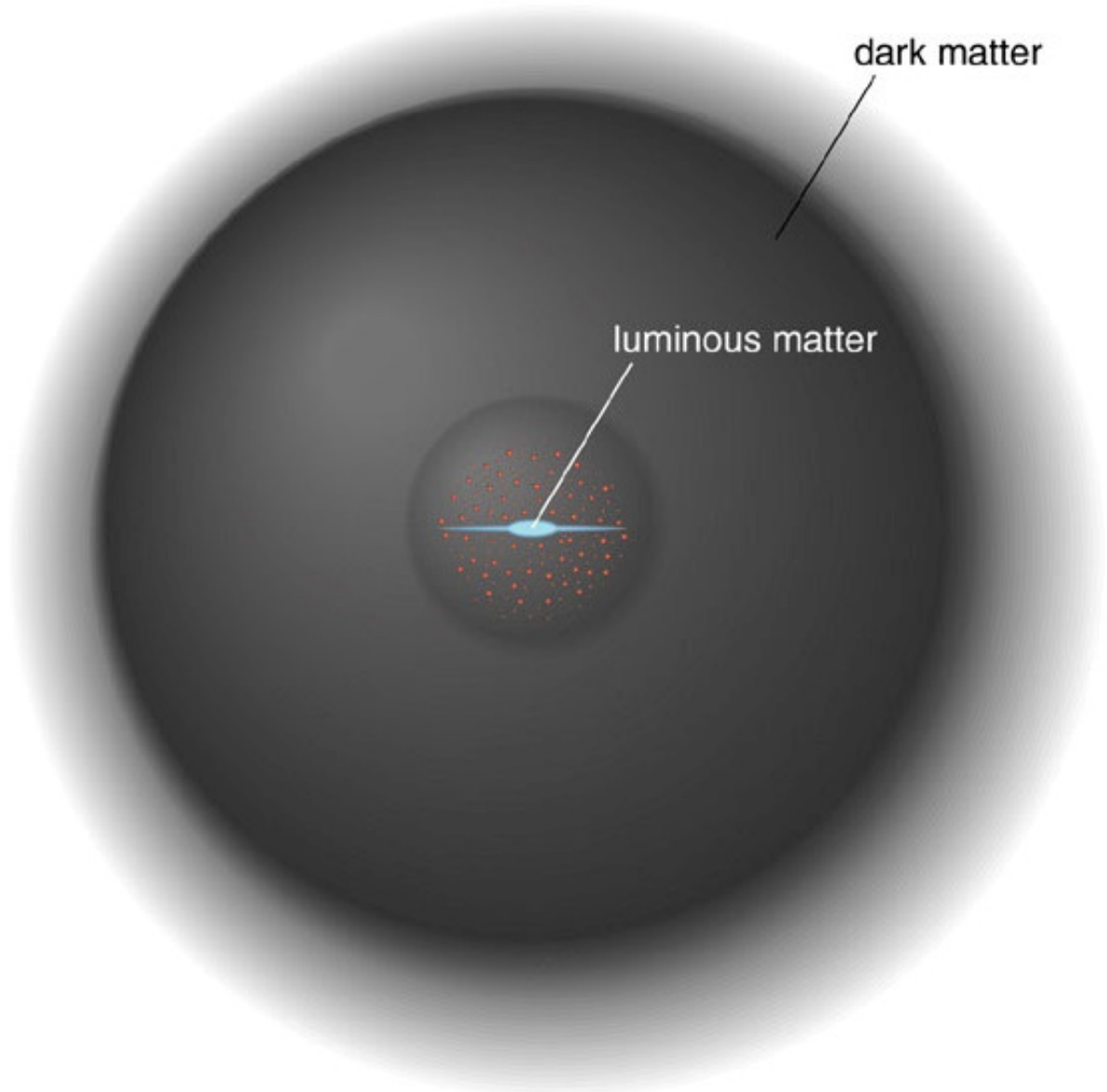
UDM fields may cause:

- ✓ precession of nuclear or electron spins
- ✓ drive currents in electromagnetic systems, produce photons
- ✓ induce equivalence principle-violating accelerations of matter
- ✓ modulate the values of the fundamental “constants” of nature
  - induce changes in atomic transition frequencies and local gravitational field
  - affect the length of macroscopic bodies

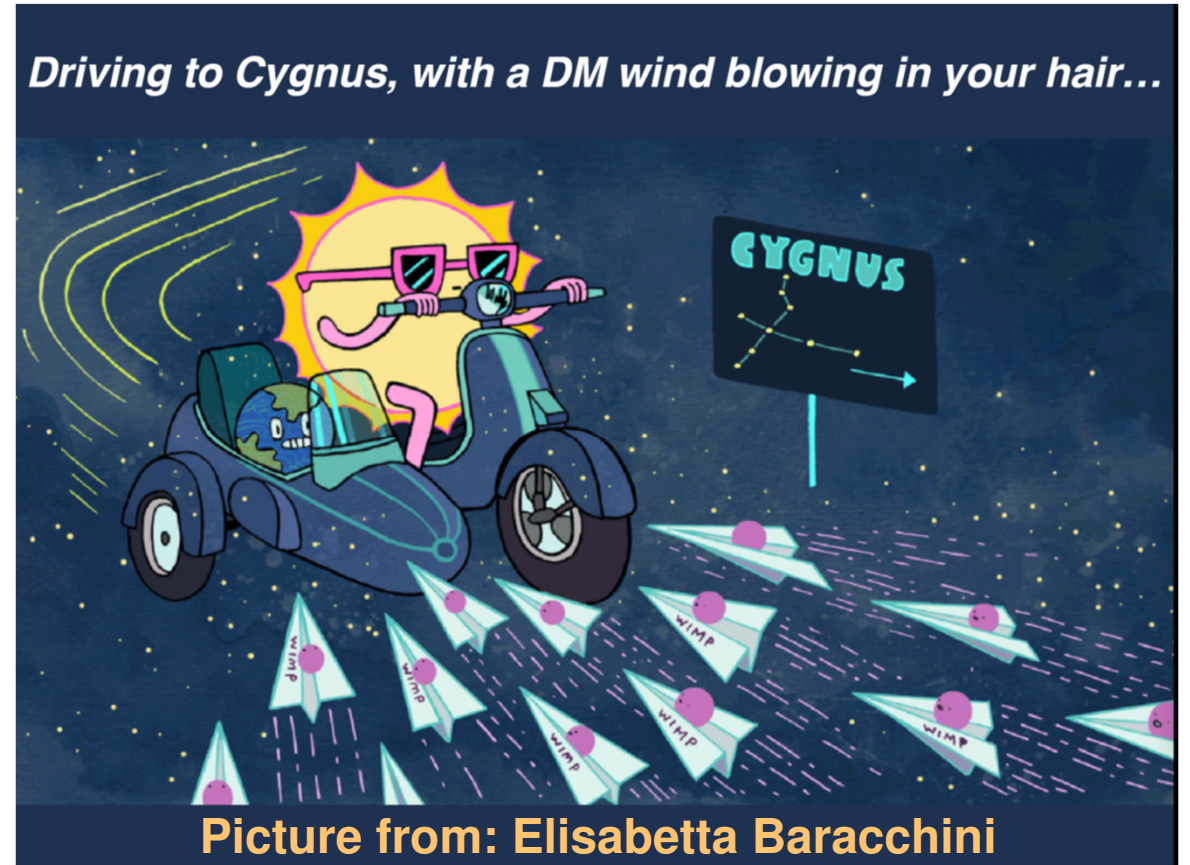
Magnetometers  
Microwave cavities  
Trapped ions & other qubits  
Atom interferometers  
Laser interferometers  
Optical cavities  
Atomic, molecular, and nuclear clocks  
Other precision spectroscopy

**Various quantum sensors are very sensitive to UDM!**

# Where is dark matter?



**Our visible galaxy is inside of a very large dark matter halo.**



**Snowmass 2021 CF2 Whitepaper  
New Horizons: Scalar and Vector Ultralight Dark Matter**

Dionysios Antypas,<sup>1,2</sup> Abhishek Banerjee,<sup>3</sup> Masha Baryakhtar,<sup>4</sup> Joey Betz,<sup>5</sup> John J. Bollinger,<sup>6</sup> Dmitry Budker,<sup>1,2,7</sup> Daniel Carney,<sup>8</sup> Sanha Cheong,<sup>9,10</sup> Mitul Dey Chowdhury,<sup>11</sup> José R. Crespo López-Urrutia,<sup>12</sup> Tejas Deshpande,<sup>13</sup> John M. Doyle,<sup>14,15</sup> Alex Drlica-Wagner,<sup>16,17,18</sup> Joshua Eby,<sup>19</sup> Gerrit S. Farren,<sup>20</sup> Nataniel L. Figueroa,<sup>1,2</sup> Susan Gardner,<sup>21</sup> Andrew Geraci,<sup>13</sup> Akshay Ghalsasi,<sup>22</sup> Sumita Ghosh,<sup>23,24</sup> Sinéad M. Griffin,<sup>25,26</sup> Daniel Grin,<sup>27</sup> Jens H. Gundlach,<sup>4</sup> David Hanneke,<sup>28</sup> Roni Harnik,<sup>16</sup> Joerg Jaeckel,<sup>29</sup> Dhruv Kedar,<sup>30</sup> Derek F. Jackson Kimball,<sup>31</sup> Shimon Kolkowitz,<sup>32</sup> Zack Lasner,<sup>14,15</sup> Ralf Lehnert,<sup>33</sup> David R. Leibrandt,<sup>6,34</sup> Erik W. Lentz,<sup>35</sup> Zhen Liu,<sup>36</sup> David J. E. Marsh,<sup>37</sup> Jack Manley,<sup>38</sup> Reina H. Maruyama,<sup>23</sup> Nathan Musoke,<sup>39</sup> Ciaran A. J. O'Hare,<sup>40,41</sup> Ekkehard Peik,<sup>42</sup> Gilad Perez,<sup>3</sup> Arran Phipps,<sup>31</sup> John M. Robinson,<sup>30</sup> Keir K. Rogers,<sup>43</sup> Murtaza Safdari,<sup>9,10</sup> Marianna S. Safronova,<sup>5</sup> Piet O. Schmidt,<sup>42,44</sup> Thorsten Schumm,<sup>45</sup> Maria Simanovskaia,<sup>9</sup> Swati Singh,<sup>38,5</sup> Yevgeny V. Stadnik,<sup>40</sup> Chen Sun,<sup>46</sup> Alexander O. Sushkov,<sup>47,48,49</sup> Volodymyr Takhistov,<sup>19</sup> Peter G. Thirolf,<sup>50</sup> Michael E. Tobar,<sup>51,52</sup> Oleg Tretiak,<sup>1,2</sup> Yu-Dai Tsai,<sup>53</sup> Sander Vermeulen,<sup>54</sup> Edoardo Vitagliano,<sup>55</sup> Zihui Wang,<sup>56</sup> Dalziel J. Wilson,<sup>11</sup> Jun Ye,<sup>30</sup> Muhammad Hani Zaheer,<sup>5</sup> Tanya Zelevinsky,<sup>57</sup> and Yue Zhao<sup>58</sup>



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Submitted to the Proceedings of the US Community Study  
on the Future of Particle Physics (Snowmass 2021)

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**arXiv:2203.14923**

# Snowmass 2021 White Paper Axion Dark Matter

J. Jaeckel<sup>1</sup>, G. Rybka<sup>2</sup>, L. Winslow<sup>3</sup>, and the Wave-like Dark Matter Community<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institut fuer theoretische Physik, Universitaet Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>2</sup>University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

<sup>3</sup>Laboratory of Nuclear Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA

<sup>4</sup>Updated Author List Under Construction

# SCALAR ULTRALIGHT DARK MATTER

Coupling of scalar UDM to the standard model:

Linear  
coupling

$$\frac{\phi}{M^*} \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}}$$

$$\kappa = (\sqrt{2}M_{\text{Pl}})^{-1}$$

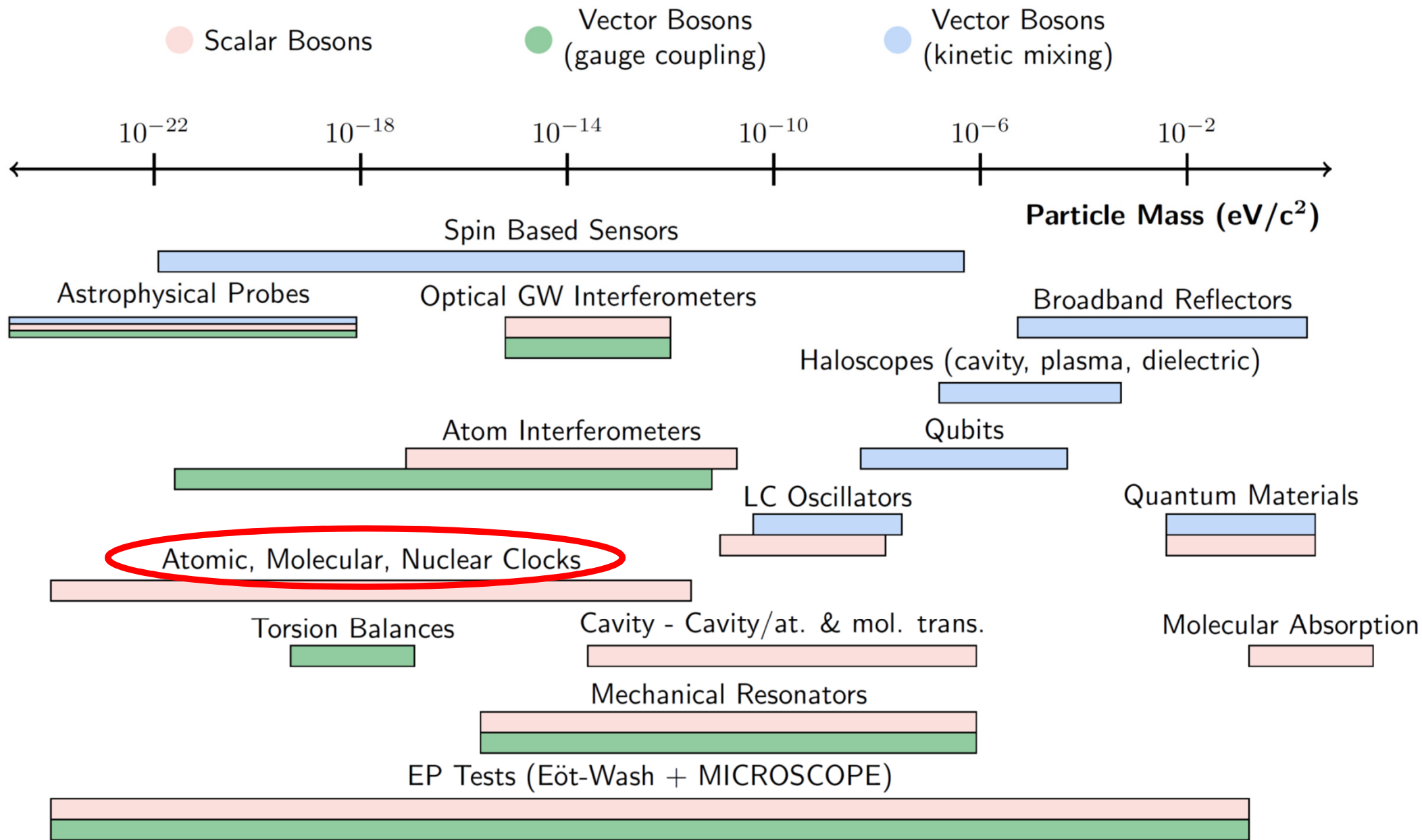
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}^{\text{lin}} = \kappa\phi \left\{ \left[ \frac{\text{photons}}{d_e F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}} - d_{m_e} m_e \bar{\psi}_e \psi_e \right] - \left[ \frac{\text{gluons}}{d_g \beta_3 G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu}} + \sum_{q=u,d,s} \frac{\text{quarks}}{(d_{m_q} + \gamma_m d_g) m_q \bar{\psi}_q \psi_q} \right] \right\}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\phi(t) \approx \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t)$

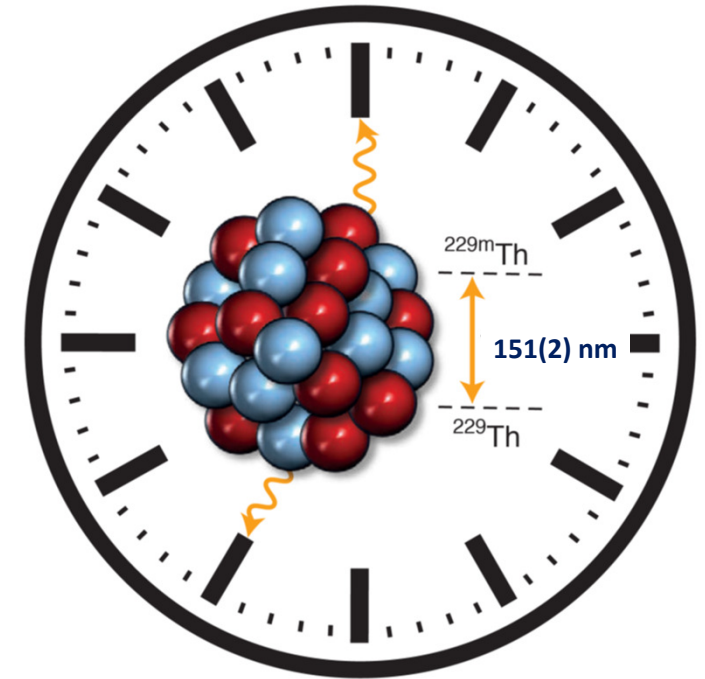
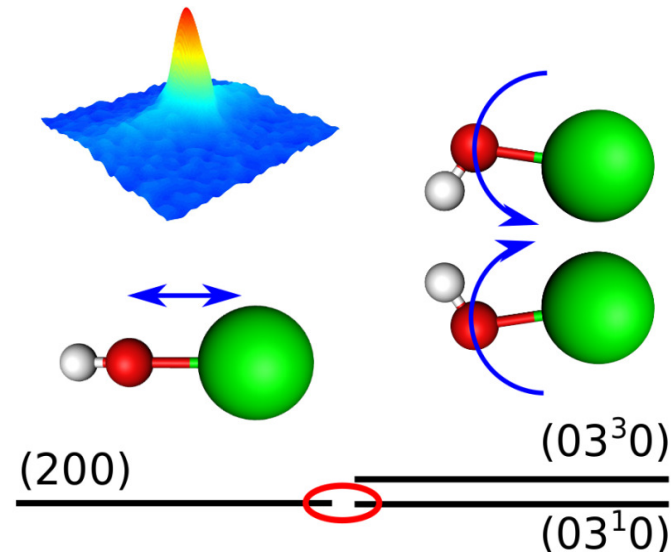
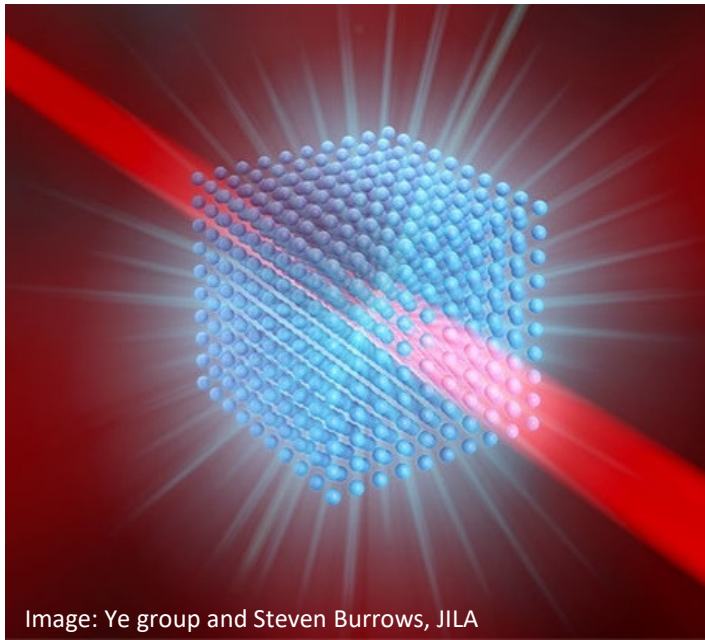
Scalar UDM will cause **oscillations** of the electromagnetic fine-structure constant  $\alpha$  and fermion masses:

$$\alpha \rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{1 - g_\gamma \phi} \approx \alpha(1 + g_\gamma \phi), \quad m_\psi \rightarrow m_\psi + g_\psi \phi$$

# Dark Matter Candidates

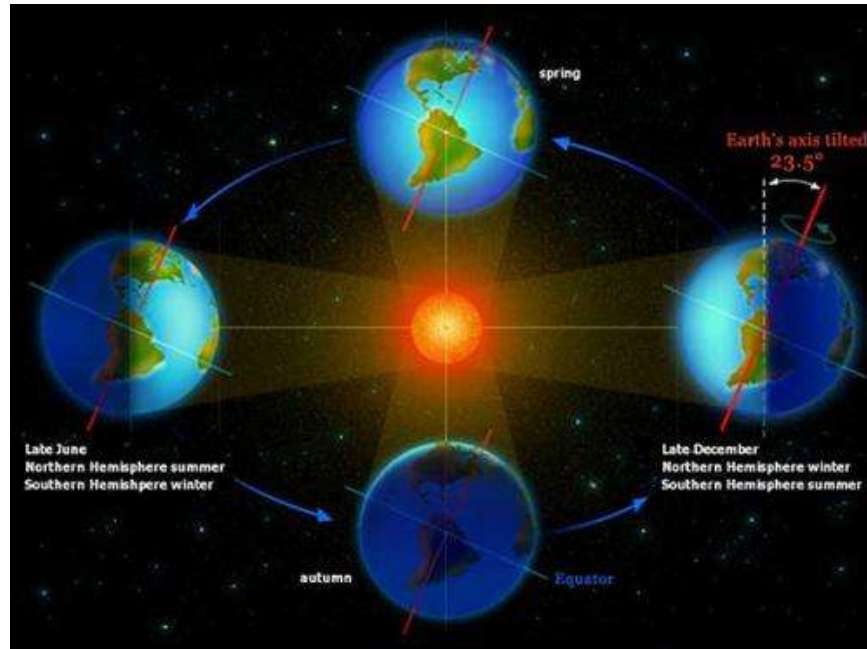


# DARK MATTER SEARCHES WITH ATOMIC, MOLECULAR, AND NUCLEAR CLOCKS



# Ingredients for a clock

1. Need a system with **periodic behavior**:  
it cycles occur at constant frequency



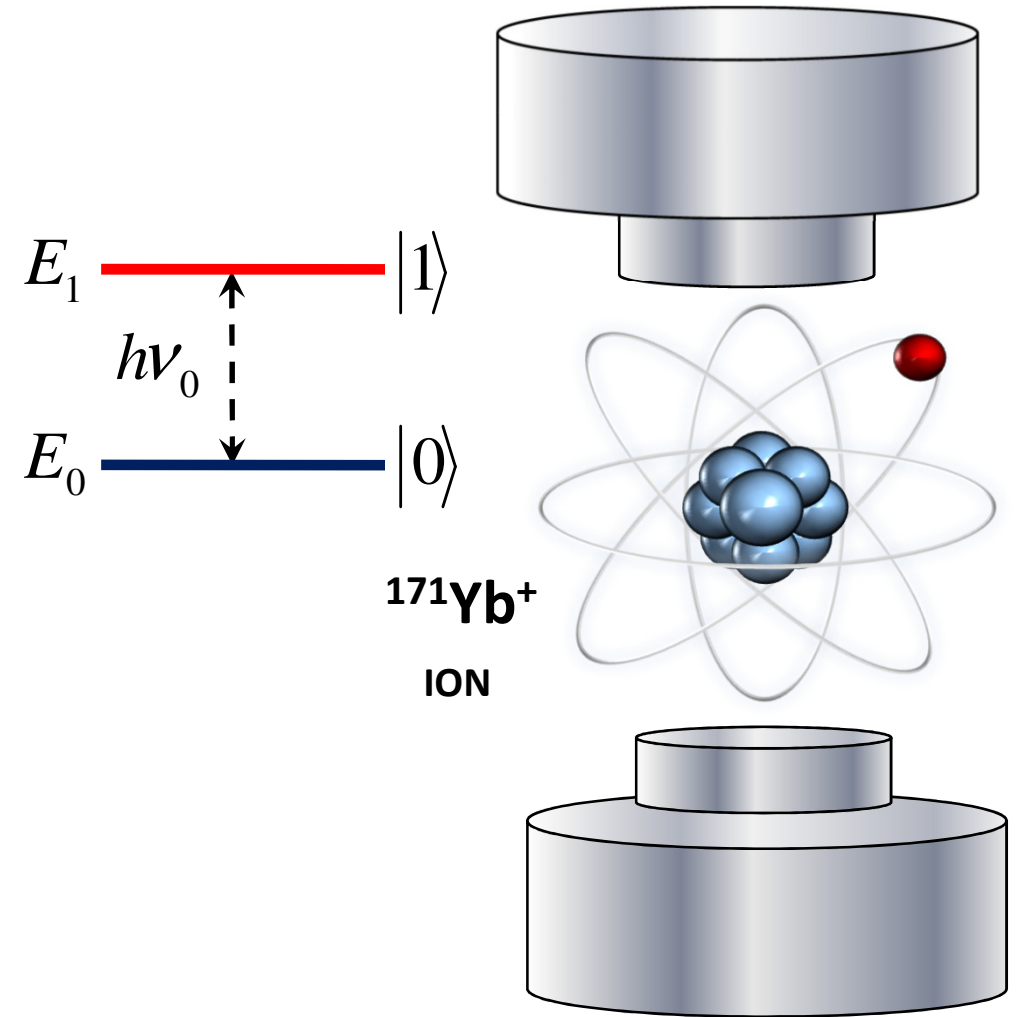
2. Count the cycles to produce time interval
3. Agree on the origin of time to generate a time scale

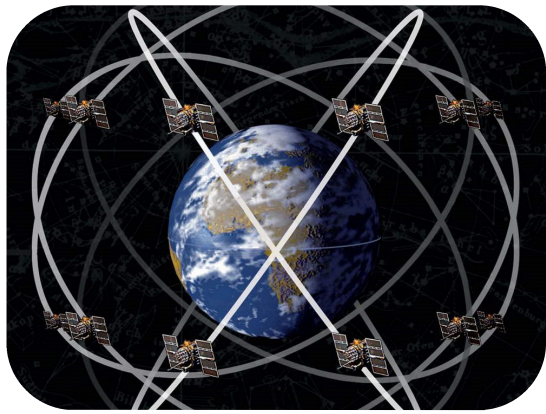
# Ingredients for an atomic clock

1. Atoms are all the same and will oscillate at exactly the same frequency (in the same environment):

**You now have a perfect oscillator!**

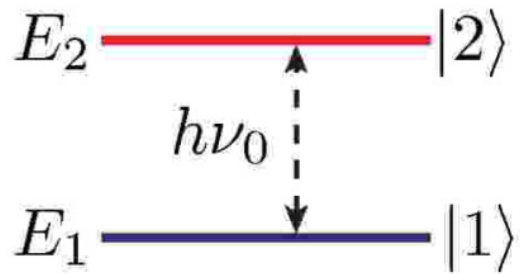
2. Take a sample of atoms (or just one)
3. Build a laser in resonance with this atomic frequency
4. Count cycles of this signal





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GPS satellites:  
microwave  
atomic clocks



Optical atomic clocks will not lose one second in  
**30 billion years**

