

Searching for Dark Matter with Magnetic Resonance and Atomic Clocks

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Collaborators (Theory):

Victor Flambaum group (UNSW)

Peter Wolf group (SYRTE)

Collaborators (Experiment):

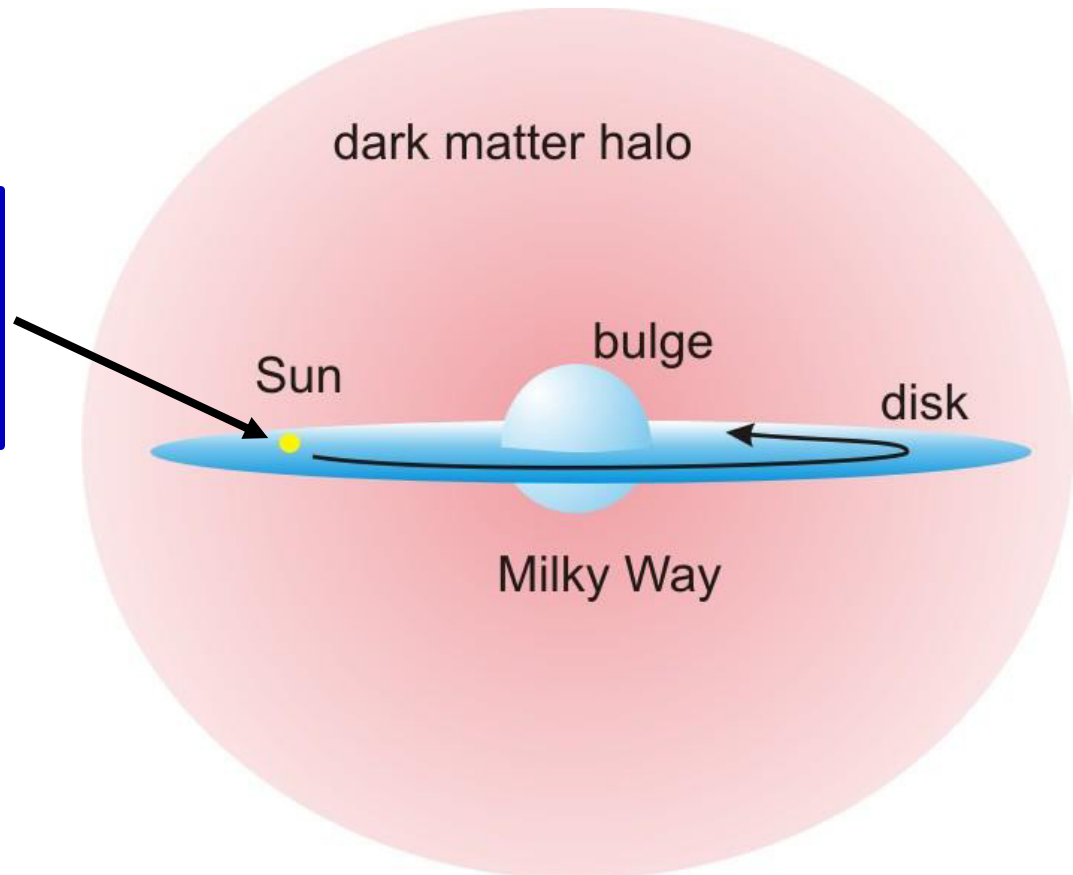
Dmitry Budker group (Mainz)

nEDM collaboration at PSI and Sussex

Motivation

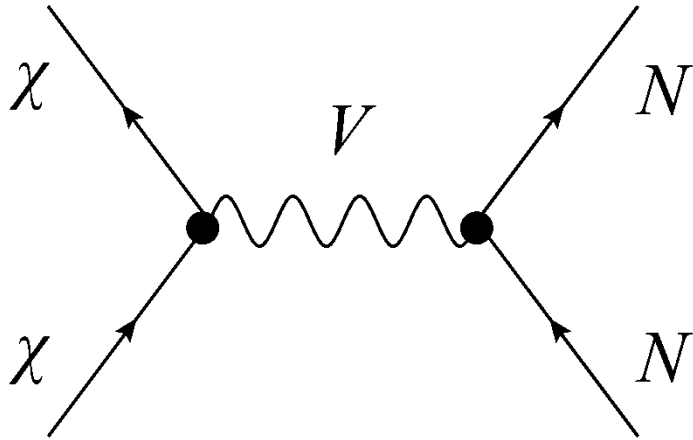
Overwhelming astrophysical evidence for existence of **dark matter** (~5 times more dark matter than ordinary matter).

$$\rho_{\text{DM}} \approx 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$$
$$v_{\text{DM}} \sim 300 \text{ km/s}$$



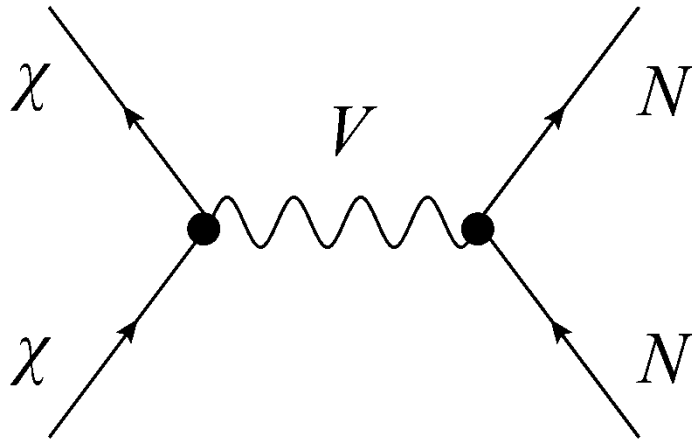
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Traditional “scattering-off-nuclei” searches for heavy WIMP dark matter particles ($m_\chi \sim \text{GeV}$) have not yet produced a strong positive result.



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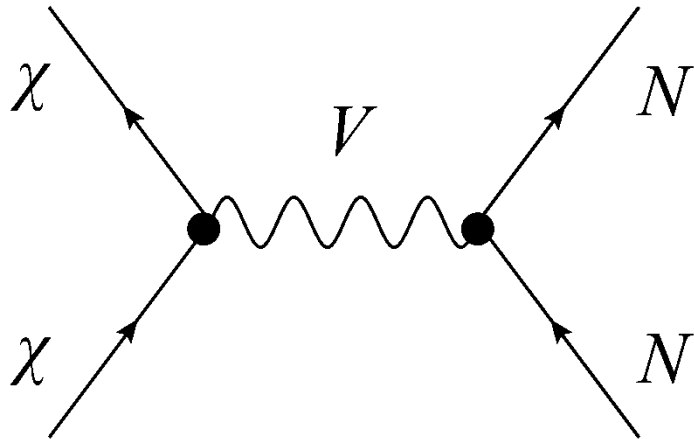
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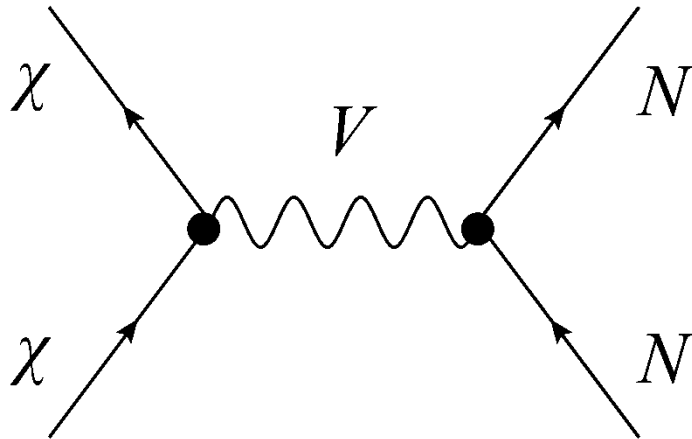
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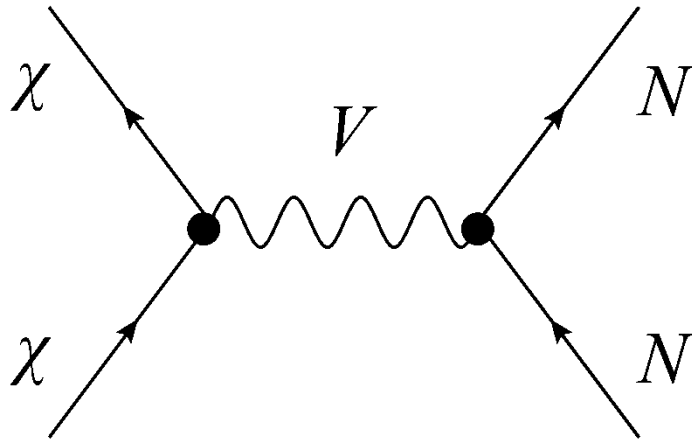


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Challenge: Observable is **fourth power** in a small interaction constant ($e' \ll 1$)!

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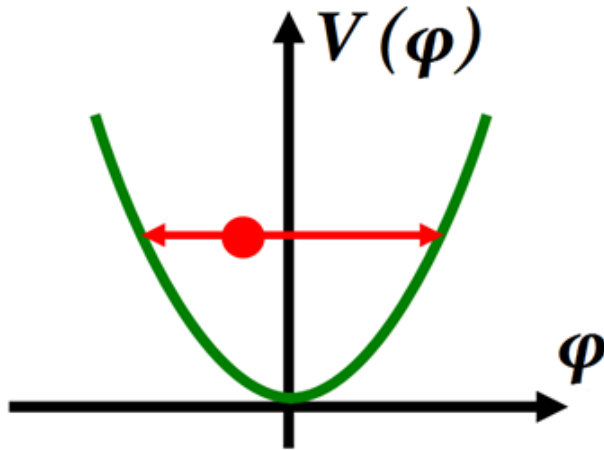


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Question: *Can we instead look for effects of dark matter that are **first power** in the interaction constant?*

Low-mass Spin-0 Dark Matter

- *Low-mass spin-0 particles form a coherently oscillating classical field* $\varphi(t) = \varphi_0 \cos(m_\varphi c^2 t / \hbar)$, with energy density $\langle \rho_\varphi \rangle \approx m_\varphi^2 \varphi_0^2 / 2$ ($\rho_{\text{DM,local}} \approx 0.4 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$)



$$V(\phi) = \frac{m_\phi^2 \phi^2}{2}$$

$$\tau_{\text{coh}} \sim \frac{2\pi}{m_\phi \langle v_{\text{DM}}^2 \rangle} \sim 10^6 T_{\text{osc}}$$

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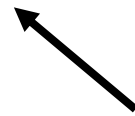
$$\lambda_{\text{dB},\varphi} \leq L_{\text{dwarf galaxy}} \sim 1 \text{ kpc}$$



Classical field

Low-mass Spin-0 Dark Matter

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Classical field

- $m_\varphi \sim 10^{-22} \text{ eV} \Leftrightarrow T \sim 1 \text{ year}$

Low-mass Spin-0 Dark Matter

Dark Matter

**Scalars
(Dilatons):**

$$\varphi \xrightarrow{P} +\varphi$$

→ **Time-varying
fundamental constants**

- Atomic clocks
- Optical cavities
- Fifth-force searches
- Astrophysics (e.g., BBN)

**Pseudoscalars
(Axions):**

$$\varphi \xrightarrow{P} -\varphi$$

→ **Time-varying spin-
dependent effects**

- Co-magnetometers
- Nuclear magnetic resonance
 - Torsion pendula

Low-mass Spin-0 Dark Matter

Dark Matter



**QCD axion resolves
strong CP problem**

**Pseudoscalars
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“Axion Wind” Spin-Precession Effect

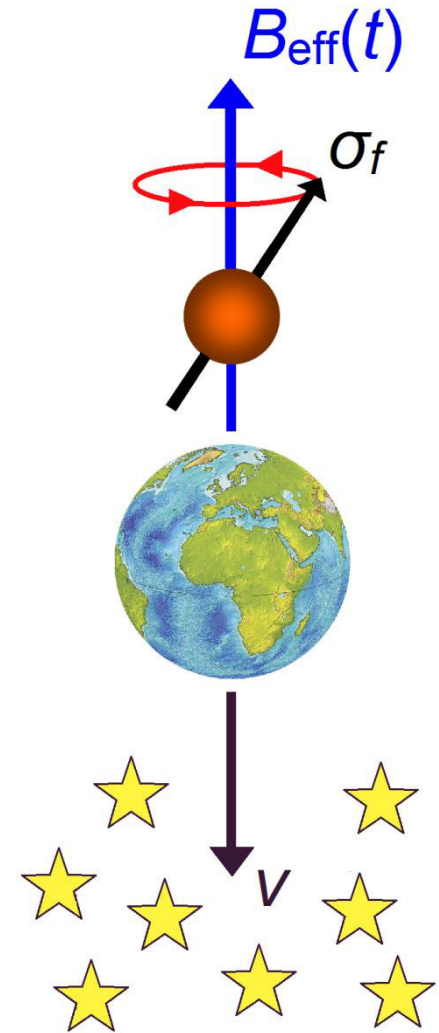
[Flambaum, talk at *Patras Workshop*, 2013], [Graham, Rajendran, *PRD* **88**, 035023 (2013)],
 [Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRD* **89**, 043522 (2014)]

$$\mathcal{L}_{aff} = -\frac{C_f}{2f_a} \partial_i [a_0 \cos(\varepsilon_a t - \mathbf{p}_a \cdot \mathbf{x})] \bar{f} \gamma^i \gamma^5 f$$


$$\Rightarrow H_{\text{eff}}(t) \simeq \boldsymbol{\sigma}_f \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}} \sin(m_a t)$$

Pseudo-magnetic field*

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}} \propto \mathbf{v}$$



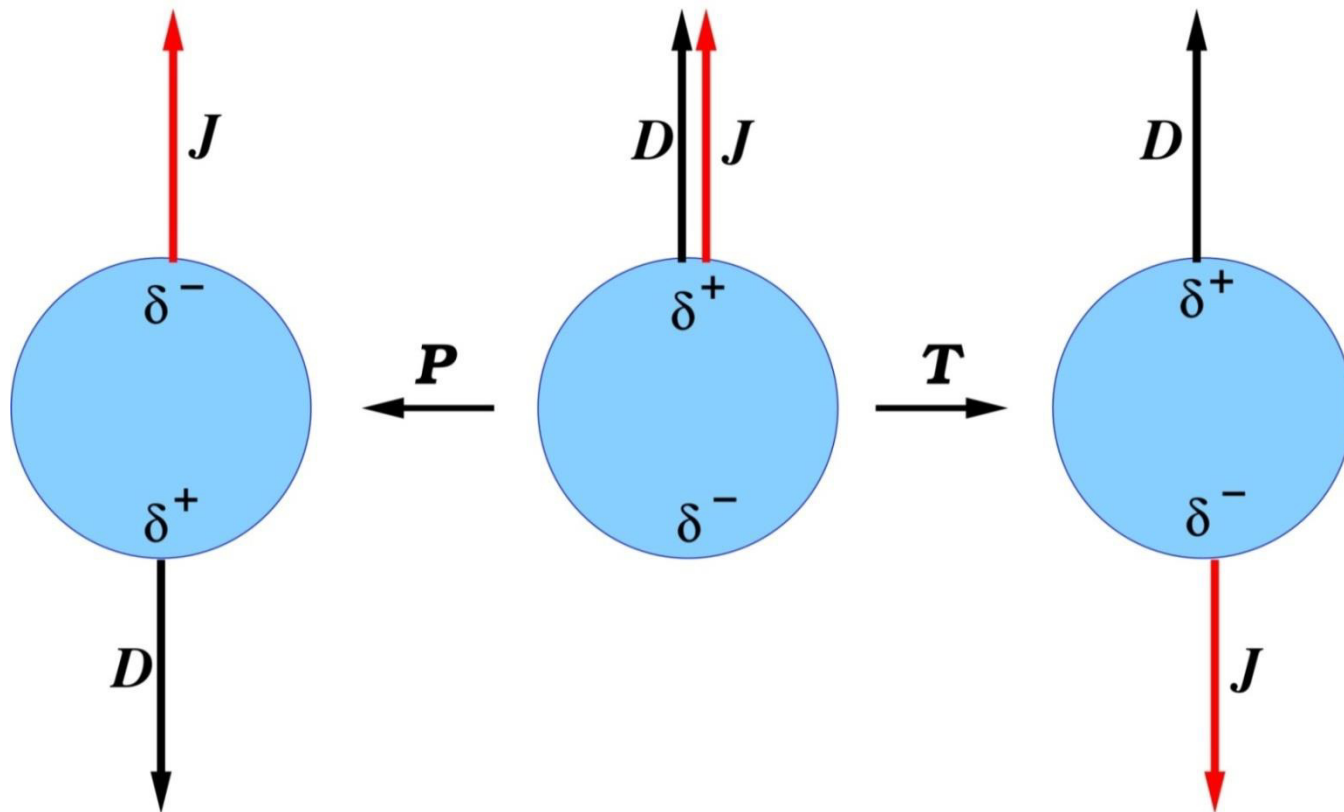
* Compare with usual magnetic field: $H = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_f \cdot \mathbf{B}$

Oscillating Electric Dipole Moments

Nucleons: [Graham, Rajendran, *PRD* **84**, 055013 (2011)]

Atoms and molecules: [Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRD* **89**, 043522 (2014)]

Electric Dipole Moment (EDM) = parity (P) and time-reversal-invariance (T) violating electric moment



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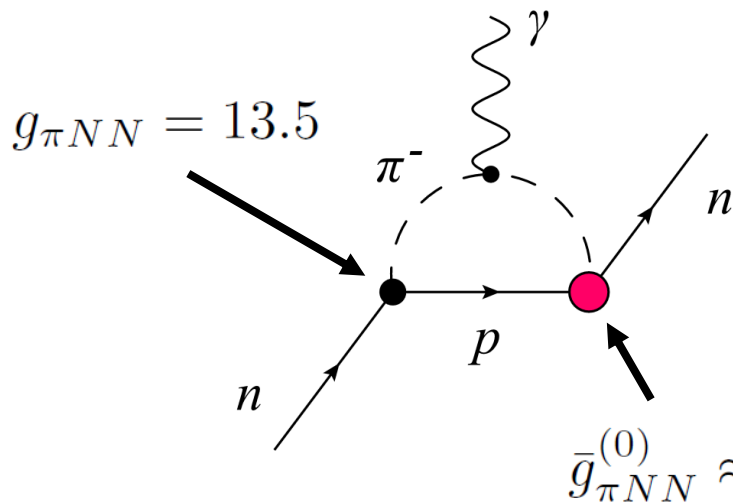
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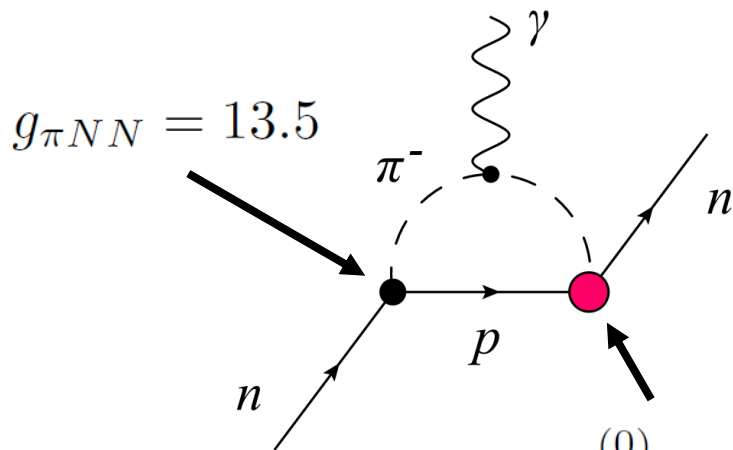
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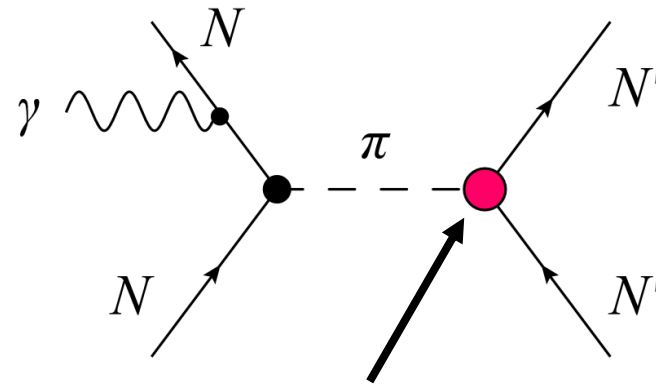
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***CP*-violating intranuclear forces**



$$\bar{g}_{\pi NN}^{(0)} \approx 0.016 C_G a_0 \cos(m_a t) / f_a$$

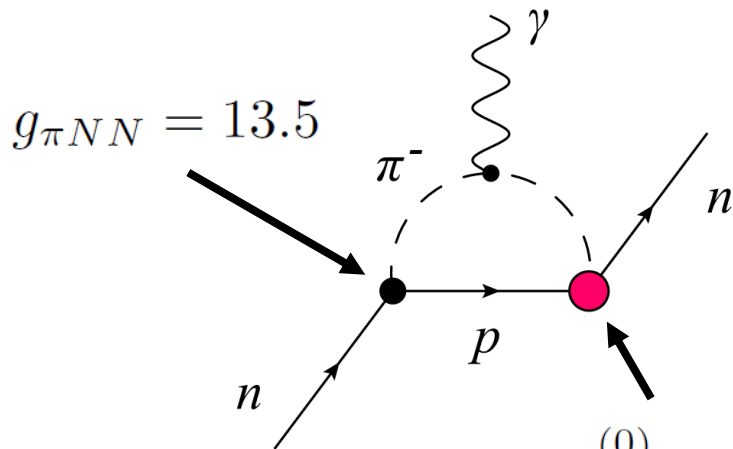
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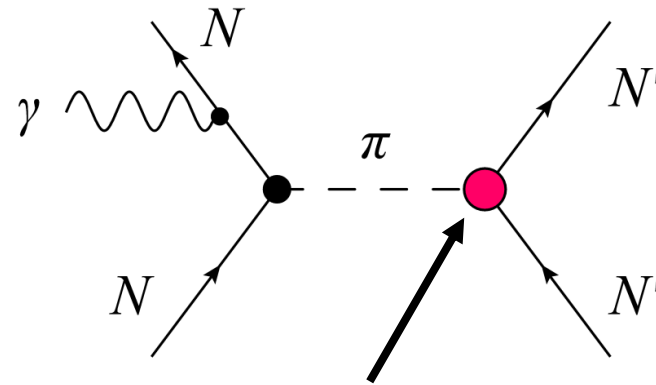
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***CP*-violating intranuclear forces**



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In nuclei, tree-level *CP*-violating intranuclear forces dominate over loop-induced nucleon EDMs (loop factor = $1/(8\pi^2)$).

Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

Proposals: [Flambaum, talk at *Patras Workshop*, 2013; Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRD* **89**, 043522 (2014); arXiv:1511.04098; Stadnik, PhD Thesis (2017)]

Use *spin-polarised sources*: Atomic magnetometers, ultracold neutrons, torsion pendula

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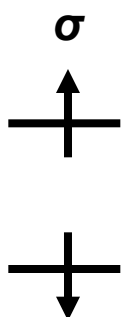
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Experiment (n/Hg): [nEDM collaboration, *PRX* **7**, 041034 (2017)]

$$\frac{\nu_n}{\nu_{\text{Hg}}} = \left| \frac{\mu_n B}{\mu_{\text{Hg}} B} \right| + R(t)$$

Energy



B-field
effect

Axion DM
effect

Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

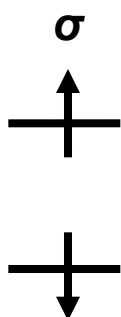
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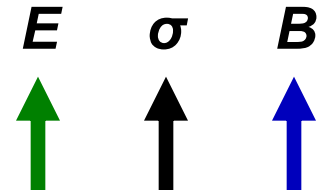
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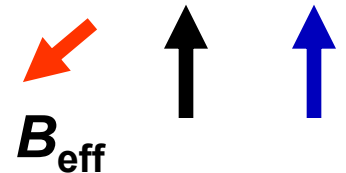
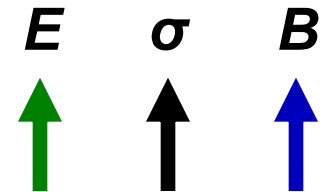
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$$R_{\text{wind}}(t) \propto \sum_{i=1,2,3} A_i \sin(\omega_i t)$$



$$\omega_1 = m_a, \quad \omega_2 = m_a + \Omega_{\text{sidereal}}, \quad \omega_3 = |m_a - \Omega_{\text{sidereal}}|$$



Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

Proposals: [CASPEr collaboration, *Quantum Sci. Technol.* **3**, 014008 (2018)]

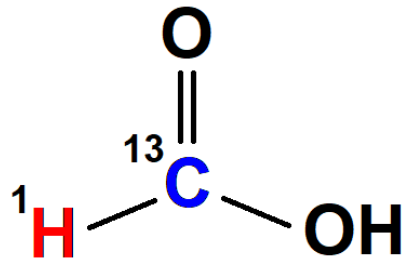
Use *nuclear magnetic resonance* (“sidebands” technique)

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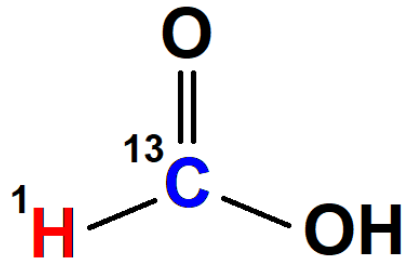
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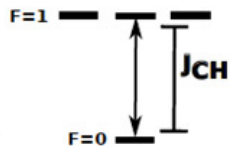
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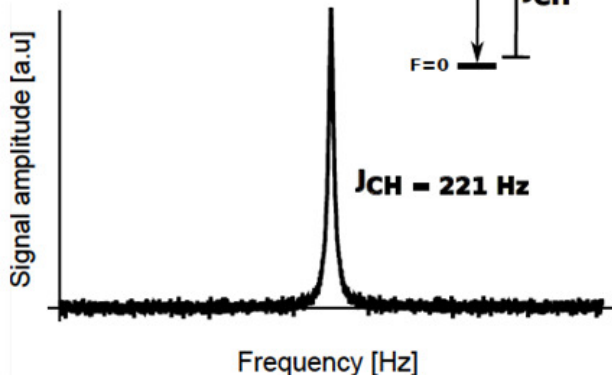


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• J-coupling only: H_J



$J_{\text{CH}} = 221 \text{ Hz}$

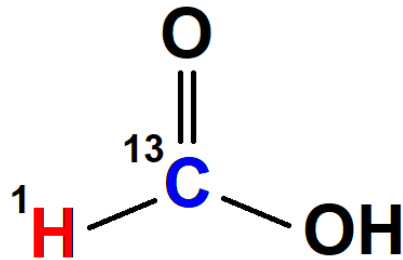


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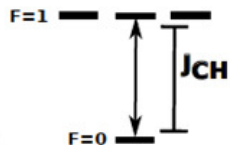
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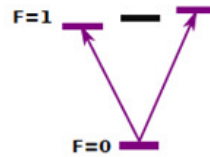
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Frequency [Hz]

• J-coupling + DC field: $H_J + B_z$



YB_z

Frequency [Hz]

Signal amplitude [a.u.]

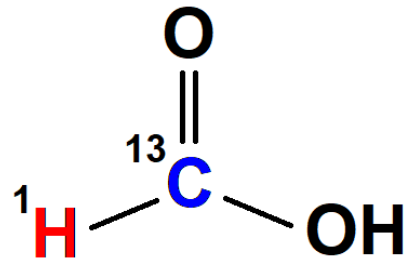
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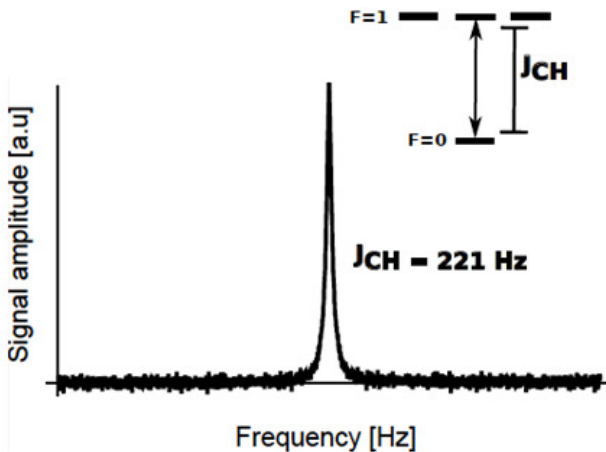
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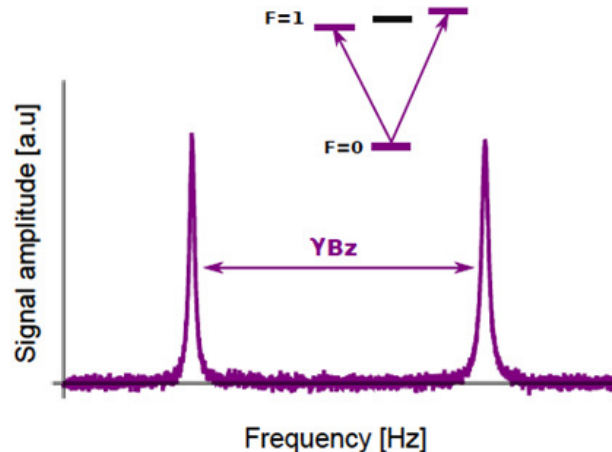


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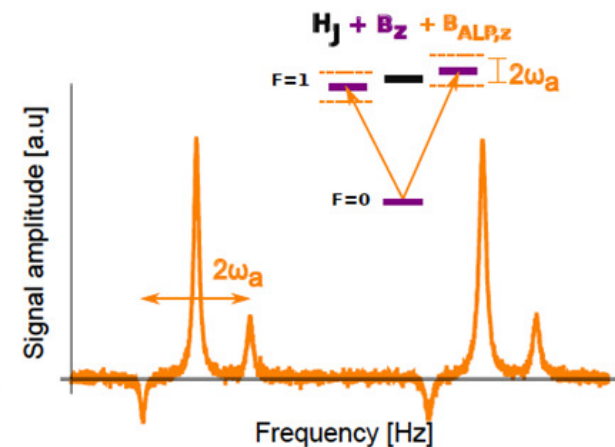
• J-coupling only: H_J



• J-coupling + DC field: $H_J + B_z$



• J-coupling + DC field + AC field



Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

Proposals: [Budker, Graham, Ledbetter, Rajendran, A. O. Sushkov, *PRX* **4**, 021030 (2014)]

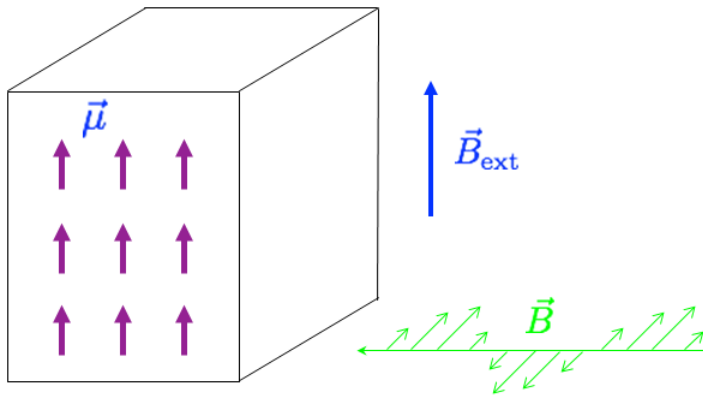
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Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

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Use *nuclear magnetic resonance*

Traditional NMR



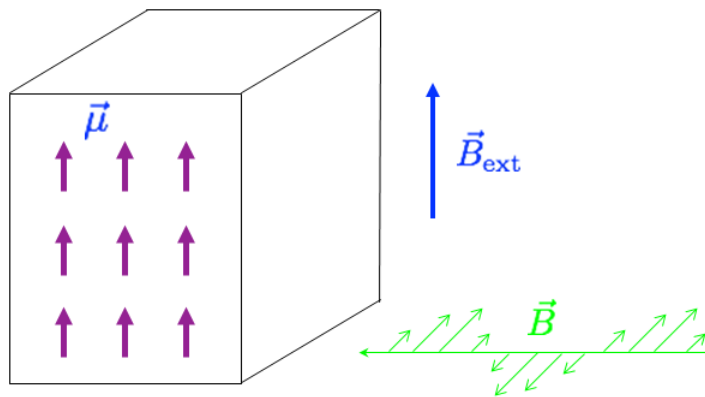
$$\text{Resonance: } 2\mu B_{\text{ext}} = \omega$$

Searching for Spin-Dependent Effects

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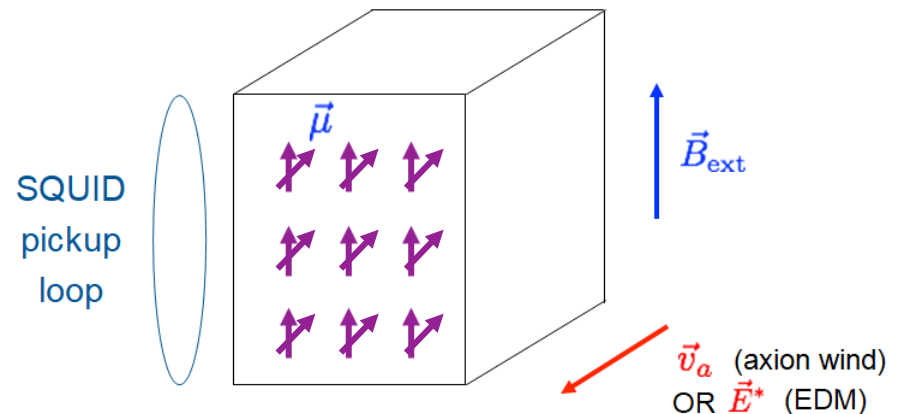
Use *nuclear magnetic resonance*

Traditional NMR



Resonance: $2\mu B_{\text{ext}} = \omega$

Dark-matter-driven NMR



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

Measure transverse magnetisation

Experiments

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

- n/Hg (PSI): [[nEDM collaboration, PRX 7, 041034 \(2017\)](#)]

“Sidebands” NMR: $10^{-16} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-13} \text{ eV}$

- Formic acid (Mainz): [[CASPEr collaboration, In preparation](#)]

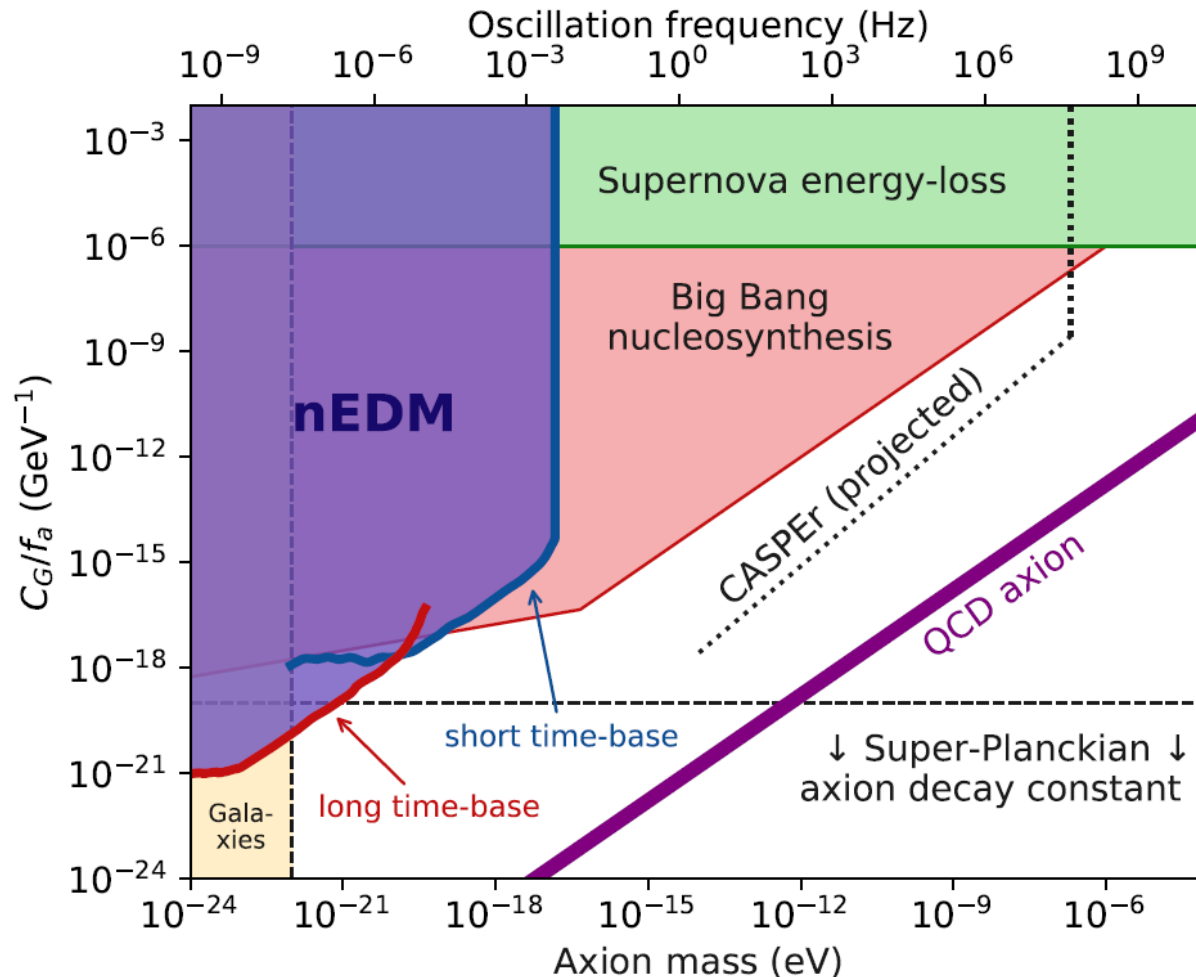
“Normal” NMR: $10^{-14} \text{ eV} < m_a < 10^{-7} \text{ eV}$

- Liquid Xe (Mainz)
- Pb in ferroelectric medium (Boston)

Constraints on Interaction of Axion Dark Matter with Gluons

nEDM constraints: [nEDM collaboration, *PRX* 7, 041034 (2017)]

3 orders of magnitude improvement!

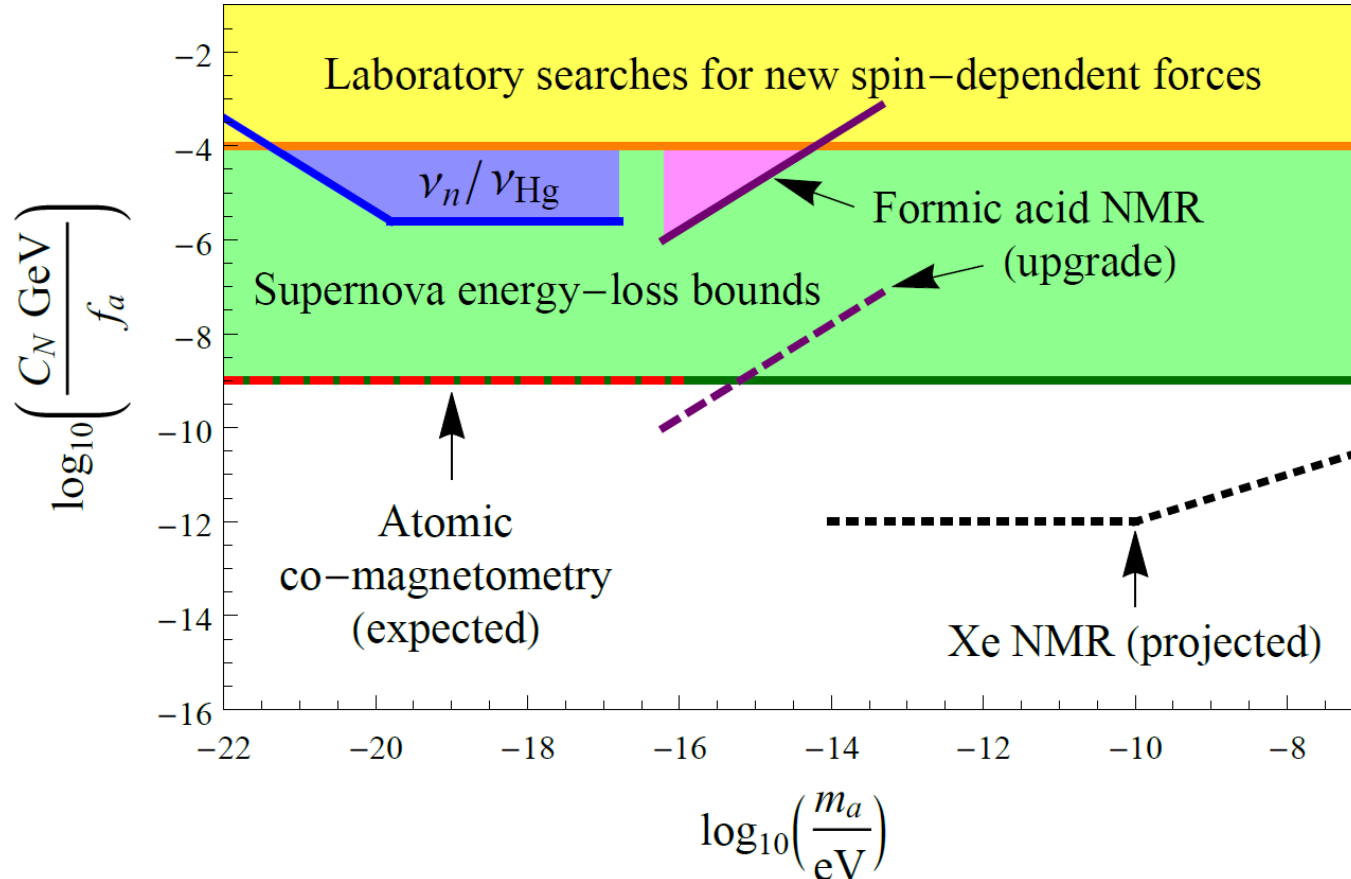


Constraints on Interaction of Axion Dark Matter with Nucleons

ν_n/ν_{Hg} constraints: [nEDM collaboration, *PRX* 7, 041034 (2017)]

Formic acid NMR constraints (preliminary): [CASPER collaboration, In preparation]

2 orders of magnitude improvement (laboratory bounds)!



Low-mass Spin-0 Dark Matter

Dark Matter



**Scalars
(Dilatons):**

$$\varphi \xrightarrow{P} +\varphi$$

→ **Time-varying
fundamental constants**

- Atomic clocks
- Optical cavities
- Fifth-force searches
- Astrophysics (e.g., BBN)

Dark Matter-Induced Cosmological Evolution of the Fundamental Constants

[Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **114**, 161301 (2015); *PRL* **115**, 201301 (2015)],

[Hees, Minazzoli, Savalle, Stadnik, Wolf, *PRD* **98**, 064051 (2018)]

Consider quadratic couplings of an oscillating classical scalar field, $\varphi(t) = \varphi_0 \cos(m_\varphi t)$, with SM fields.

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'Slow' drifts [Astrophysics
(high ρ_{DM}): BBN, CMB]

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Oscillating variations
[Laboratory (high precision)]

Atomic Spectroscopy Searches for Oscillating Variations in Fundamental Constants due to Dark Matter

[Arvanitaki, Huang, Van Tilburg, *PRD* **91**, 015015 (2015)], [Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **114**, 161301 (2015)]

$$\frac{\delta(\omega_1/\omega_2)}{\omega_1/\omega_2} \propto \sum_{X=\alpha, m_e/m_p, \dots} (K_{X,1} - K_{X,2}) \cos(\omega t)$$

↑ ↑
Sensitivity coefficients

$\omega = m_\varphi$ (linear coupling) or $\omega = 2m_\varphi$ (quadratic coupling)

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- Precision of optical clocks approaching $\sim 10^{-18}$ fractional level

Laser Interferometry Searches for Oscillating Variations in Fundamental Constants due to Dark Matter

[Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **114**, 161301 (2015); *PRA* **93**, 063630 (2016)]



**Gravitational-wave
detector (LIGO/Virgo),
 $L \sim 4$ km**



**Small-scale cavity,
 $L \sim 0.2$ m**

Laser Interferometry Searches for Oscillating Variations in Fundamental Constants due to Dark Matter

[Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **114**, 161301 (2015); *PRA* **93**, 063630 (2016)]

- Compare $L \sim Na_B$ with λ

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- Compare $L \sim Na_B$ with λ
- For a “usual” atomic optical transition and in the non-relativistic limit:*

$$\Phi = \frac{\omega L}{c} \propto \left(\frac{e^2}{a_B \hbar} \right) \left(\frac{Na_B}{c} \right) = N\alpha \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\delta\Phi}{\Phi} \approx \frac{\delta\alpha}{\alpha}$$

* For numerical calculations, including (small) relativistic effects, see [Pasteka, Hao, Borschevsky, Flambaum, Schwerdtfeger, arXiv:1809.02863].

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- Multiple reflections of light beam enhance the effect ($N_{\text{eff}} \sim 10^5$ in small-scale interferometers with highly reflective mirrors; c.f. $N_{\text{eff}} \sim 100$ in LIGO/Virgo)

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Experiments

Clock/clock comparisons: 10^{-23} eV $< m_\phi < 10^{-16}$ eV

- **Dy/Cs (Mainz):** [[Van Tilburg et al., PRL 115, 011802 \(2015\)](#)],
[[Stadnik, Flambaum, PRL 115, 201301 \(2015\)](#)]
- **Rb/Cs (SYRTE):** [[Hees et al., PRL 117, 061301 \(2016\)](#)],
[[Stadnik, Flambaum, PRA 94, 022111 \(2016\)](#)]
- **Rb/Cs (GPS network)*:** [[Roberts et al., Nature Commun. 8, 1195 \(2017\)](#)]
- **Al⁺/Yb, Yb/Sr, Al⁺/Hg⁺ (NIST):** [[Hume, Leibbrandt, Wineland et al., In prep.](#)]
- **Yb⁺(E3)/Sr (PTB):** [[Huntemann, Peik et al., In preparation](#)]

Clock/cavity comparisons: 10^{-20} eV $< m_\phi < 10^{-15}$ eV

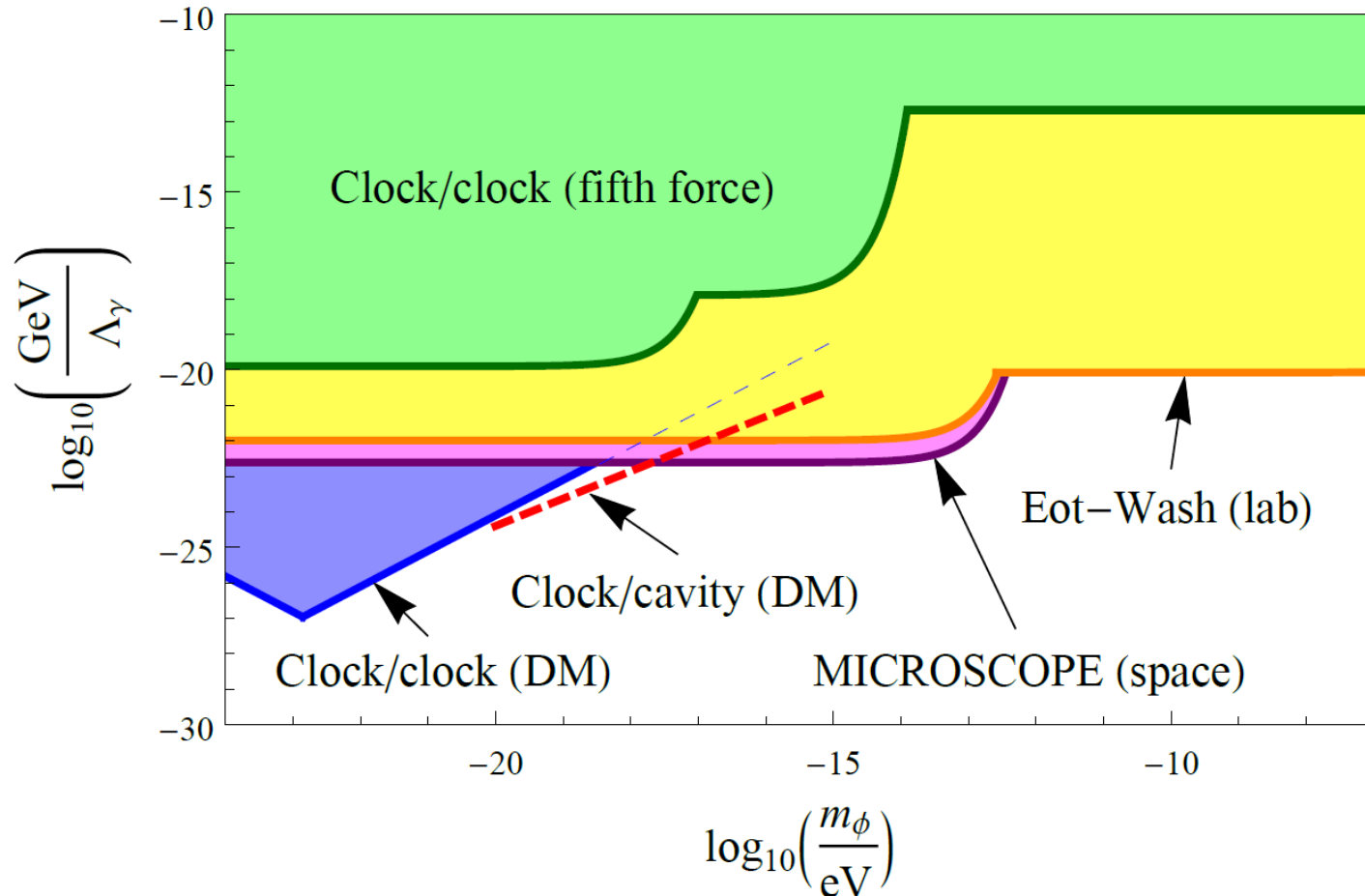
- **Sr/ULE cavity (Torun)*:** [[Wcislo et al., Nature Astronomy 1, 0009 \(2016\)](#)]
- **Sr/Si cavity (JILA):** [[Robinson, Ye et al., In preparation](#)]

* Searches for domain wall dark matter.

Constraints on Linear Interaction of Scalar Dark Matter with the Photon

Clock/clock (DM) constraints: [Van Tilburg *et al.*, *PRL* **115**, 011802 (2015)], [Hees *et al.*, *PRL* **117**, 061301 (2016)]; **Clock/clock (fifth force) constraints:** [Leefer *et al.*, *PRL* **117**, 271601 (2016)]

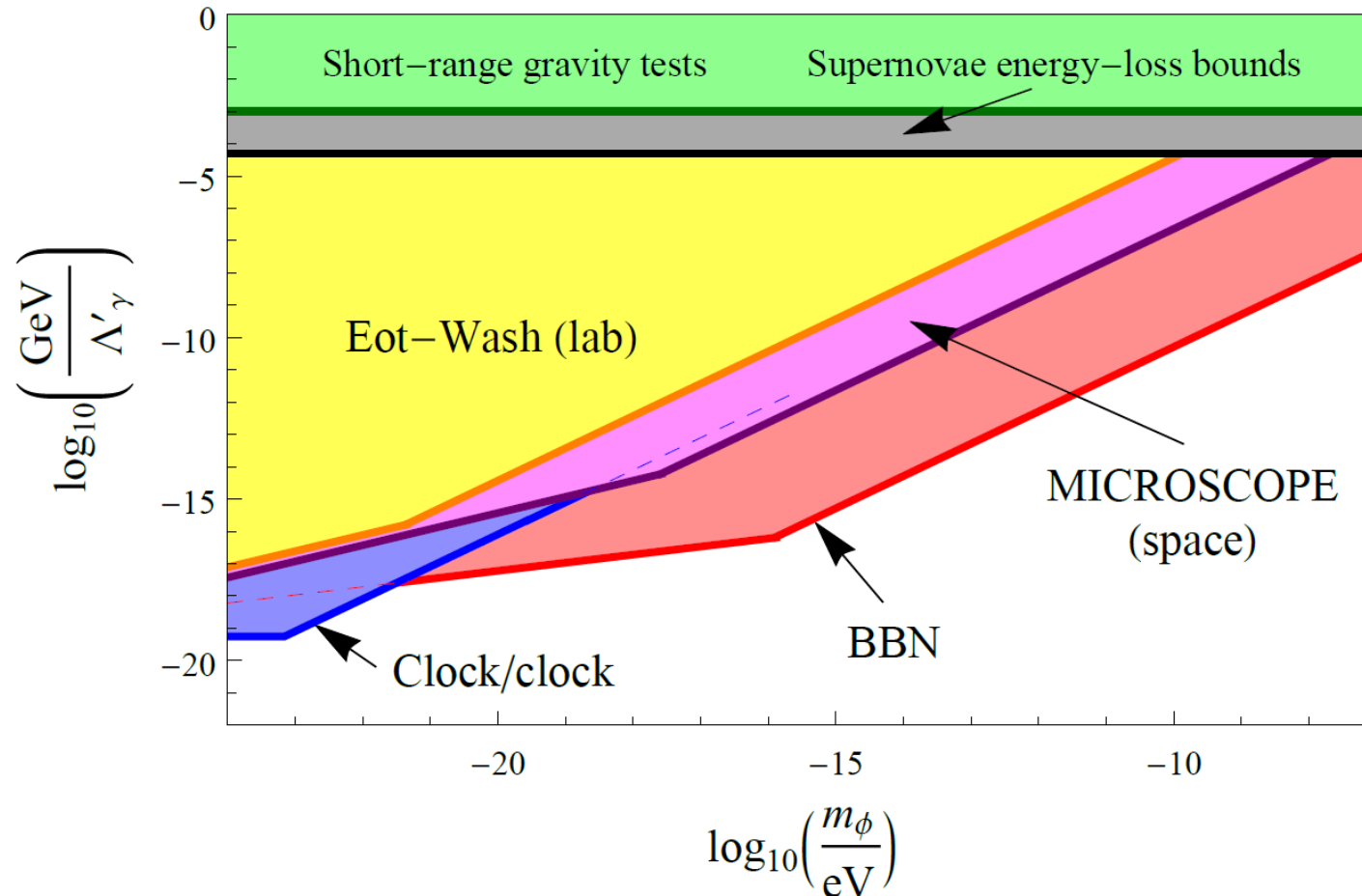
4 orders of magnitude improvement!



Constraints on Quadratic Interaction of Scalar Dark Matter with the Photon

Clock/clock + BBN constraints: [Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **115**, 201301 (2015); *PRA* **94**, 022111 (2016)]; MICROSCOPE + Eöt-Wash constraints: [Hees *et al.*, *PRD* **98**, 064051 (2018)]

15 orders of magnitude improvement!



Summary

- New classes of dark matter effects that are **first power** in the underlying interaction constant
=> Up to **15 orders of magnitude improvement**
with experiments based on magnetic resonance
and atomic clock spectroscopy

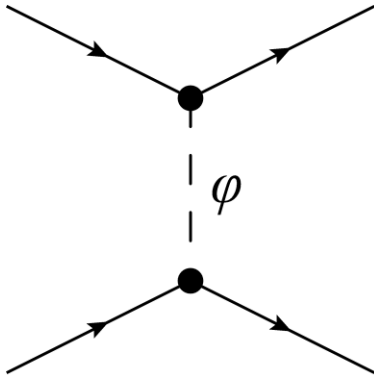
Back-up Slides

Linear vs Quadratic Couplings

[Hees, Minazzoli, Savalle, Stadnik, Wolf, *PRD* **98**, 064051 (2018)]

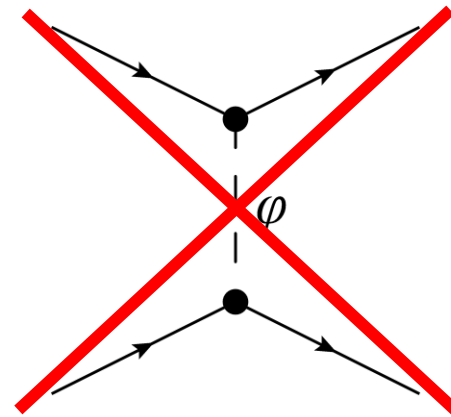
Consider the effect of a massive body (e.g., Earth) on the scalar DM field:

Linear couplings ($\phi\bar{X}X$)



$$\phi = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t) - A \frac{e^{-m_\phi r}}{r}$$

Quadratic couplings ($\phi^2\bar{X}X$)



$$\phi = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t) \left(1 - \frac{B}{r} \right)$$



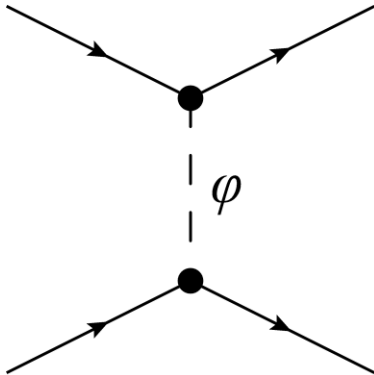
Gradients + screening/amplification

Linear vs Quadratic Couplings

[Hees, Minazzoli, Savalle, Stadnik, Wolf, *PRD* **98**, 064051 (2018)]

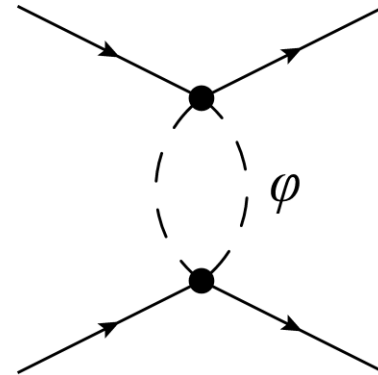
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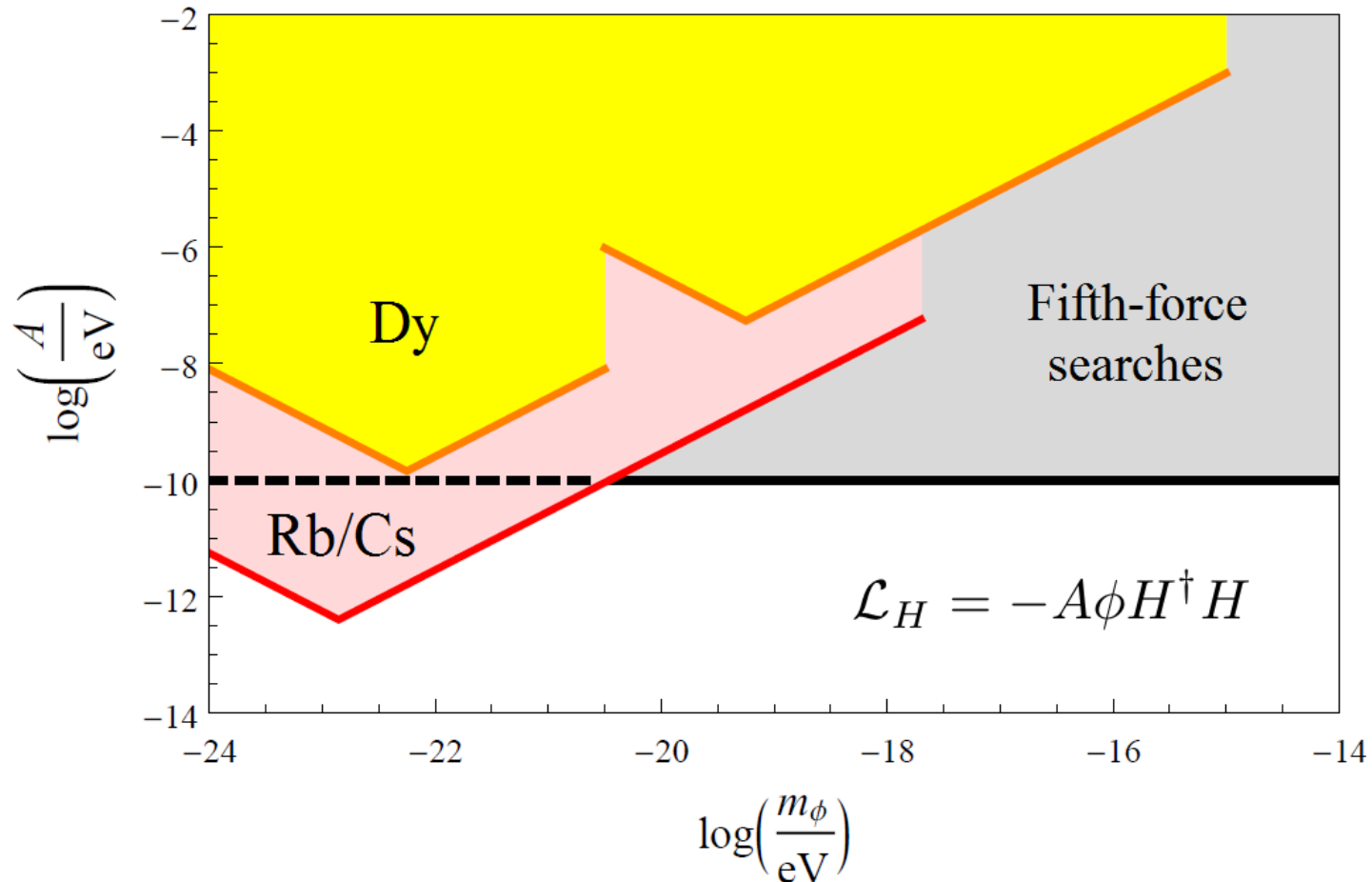
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Constraints on Linear Interaction of Scalar Dark Matter with the Higgs Boson

Rb/Cs constraints:

[Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRA* **94**, 022111 (2016)]

2 – 3 orders of magnitude improvement!

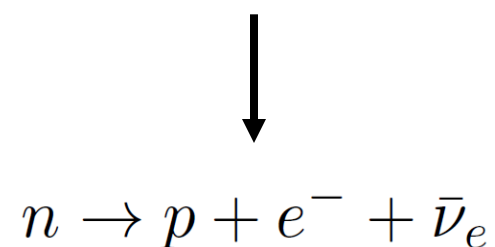
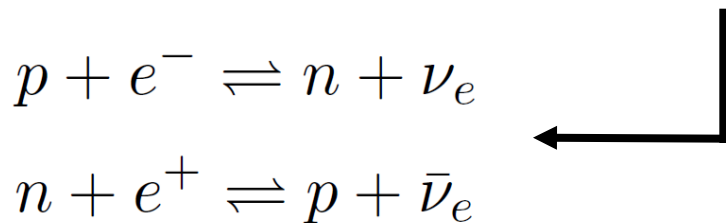


BBN Constraints on 'Slow' Drifts in Fundamental Constants due to Dark Matter

[Stadnik, Flambaum, *PRL* **115**, 201301 (2015)]

- Largest effects of DM in early Universe (highest ρ_{DM})
- Big Bang nucleosynthesis ($t_{\text{weak}} \approx 1\text{s} - t_{\text{BBN}} \approx 3\text{ min}$)
- Primordial ${}^4\text{He}$ abundance sensitive to n/p ratio
(almost all neutrons bound in ${}^4\text{He}$ after BBN)

$$\frac{\Delta Y_p({}^4\text{He})}{Y_p({}^4\text{He})} \approx \frac{\Delta(n/p)_{\text{weak}}}{(n/p)_{\text{weak}}} - \Delta \left[\int_{t_{\text{weak}}}^{t_{\text{BBN}}} \Gamma_n(t) dt \right]$$



Back-Reaction Effects in BBN

[Sörensen, Sibiryakov, Yu, PRELIMINARY – In preparation]

