

Time Reversal and the electron electric dipole moment

Ben Sauer

Mysteries of physics



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List of unsolved problems in physics

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Some of the major [unsolved problems in physics](#) are [theoretical](#), meaning that existing theories seem to be [experimental](#), meaning that there is a difficulty in creating an experiment to test a proposed theory.

There are still some deficiencies in the [Standard Model](#) of physics, such as the [origin of mass](#), the [strange matter](#) and [dark energy](#).^[1] Another problem lies within the [mathematical framework](#) of the Standard Model, that one or both theories break down under certain conditions (for example within known [spacetime singularities](#)).

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- Unsolved problems by subfield
 - General physics/quantum physics
 - Cosmology and general relativity
 - Quantum gravity
 - High-energy physics/particle physics
 - Astronomy and astrophysics
 - Nuclear physics
 - Atomic, molecular and optical physics
 - Condensed matter physics

Mysteries of physics

Cosmology and general relativity [edit]

Problem of time

How can time be reconciled with [general relativity](#)?

Cosmic inflation

Is the theory of cosmic inflation correct, and, if so, what are the details of this epoch? What is the hypothetical [inflaton field](#) giving rise to inflation? If inflation happens by sustaining through [inflation of quantum-mechanical fluctuations](#), and thus ongoing in some extremely distant place?^[9]

Horizon problem

Why is the distant universe so homogeneous when the [Big Bang theory](#) seems to predict larger measurable [anisotropies](#) of the night sky than those observed? [Cosmological inflation](#) is generally accepted as the solution, but are other possible explanations such as a [variable speed of light](#) more appropriate?^[10]

Origin and future of the universe

How did the conditions for anything to exist arise? Is the universe heading towards a [Big Freeze](#), a [Big Rip](#), a [Big Crunch](#), or a [Big Bounce](#)? Or is it part of an infinite cycle?

Size of universe

Baryon asymmetry

Why is there more matter than antimatter in the observable universe?

Dark matter identity, composition

What is the identity of dark matter?^[10] Is it a particle? Is it the lightest [superpartner](#) (LSP)? [OR] Do the [phenomena](#) attributed to dark matter point not to some form of matter but actually to an [extension of gravity](#)?

Dark energy

What is the cause of the observed [accelerated expansion](#) ([de Sitter phase](#)) of the universe? Why is the energy density of the dark energy component of the same magnitude as the density of matter at present when the two evolve quite differently over time; could it be simply that we are observing at exactly the [right time](#)? Is dark energy a pure cosmological constant or are models of [quintessence](#) such as [phantom energy](#) applicable?

Dark flow

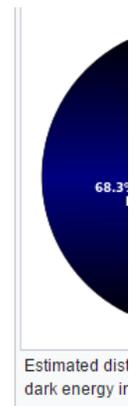
Is a non-spherically symmetric gravitational pull from outside the observable universe responsible for some of the observed motion of large objects such as galactic clusters in the universe?

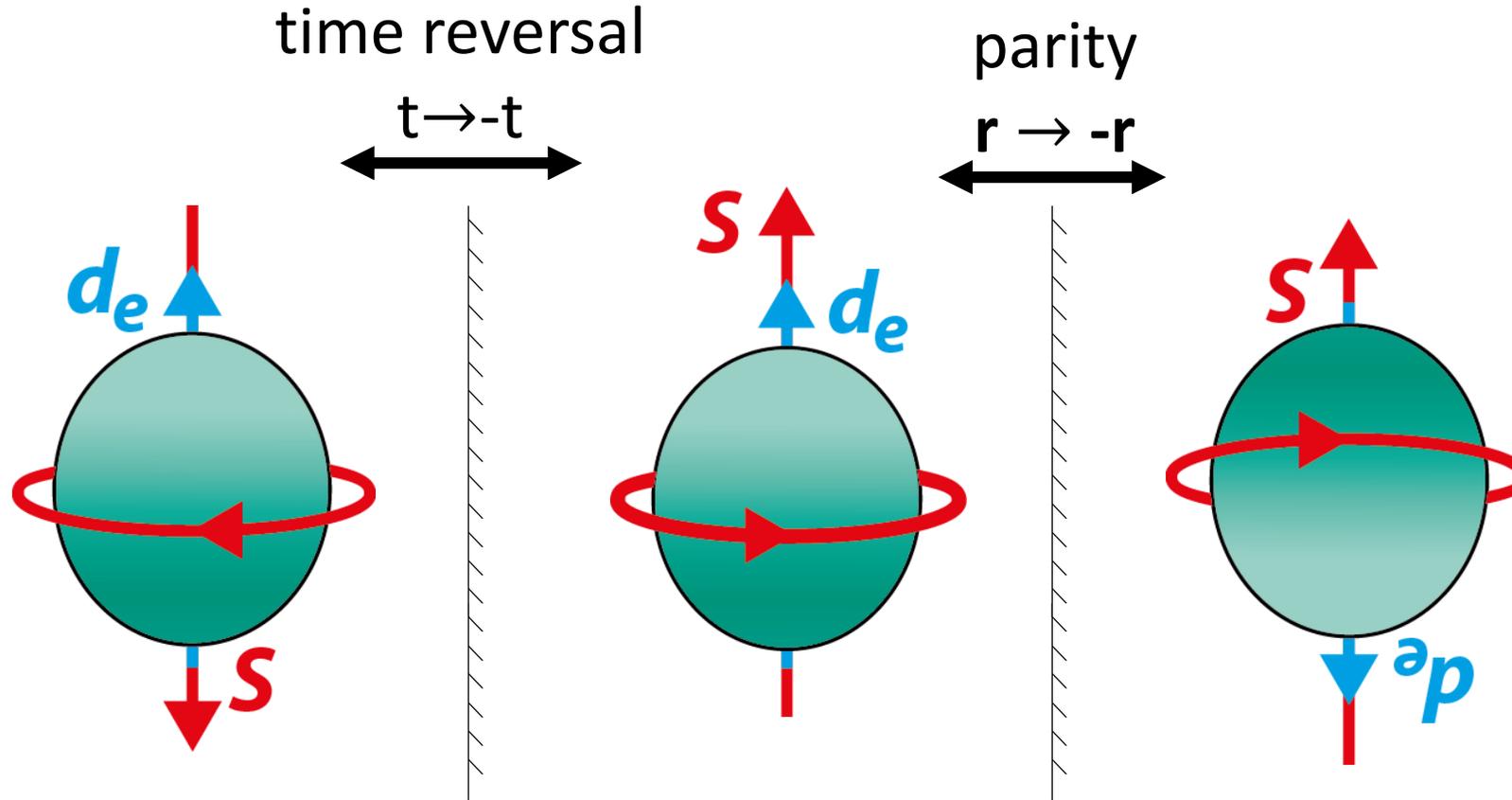
Ecliptic alignment of CMB anisotropy

Some large features of the microwave sky at distances of over 13 billion light years appear to be aligned with both the motion and orientation of the solar system. Is this due to systematic errors in processing, contamination of results by local effects, or an unexplained violation of the [Copernican principle](#)?

Shape of the universe

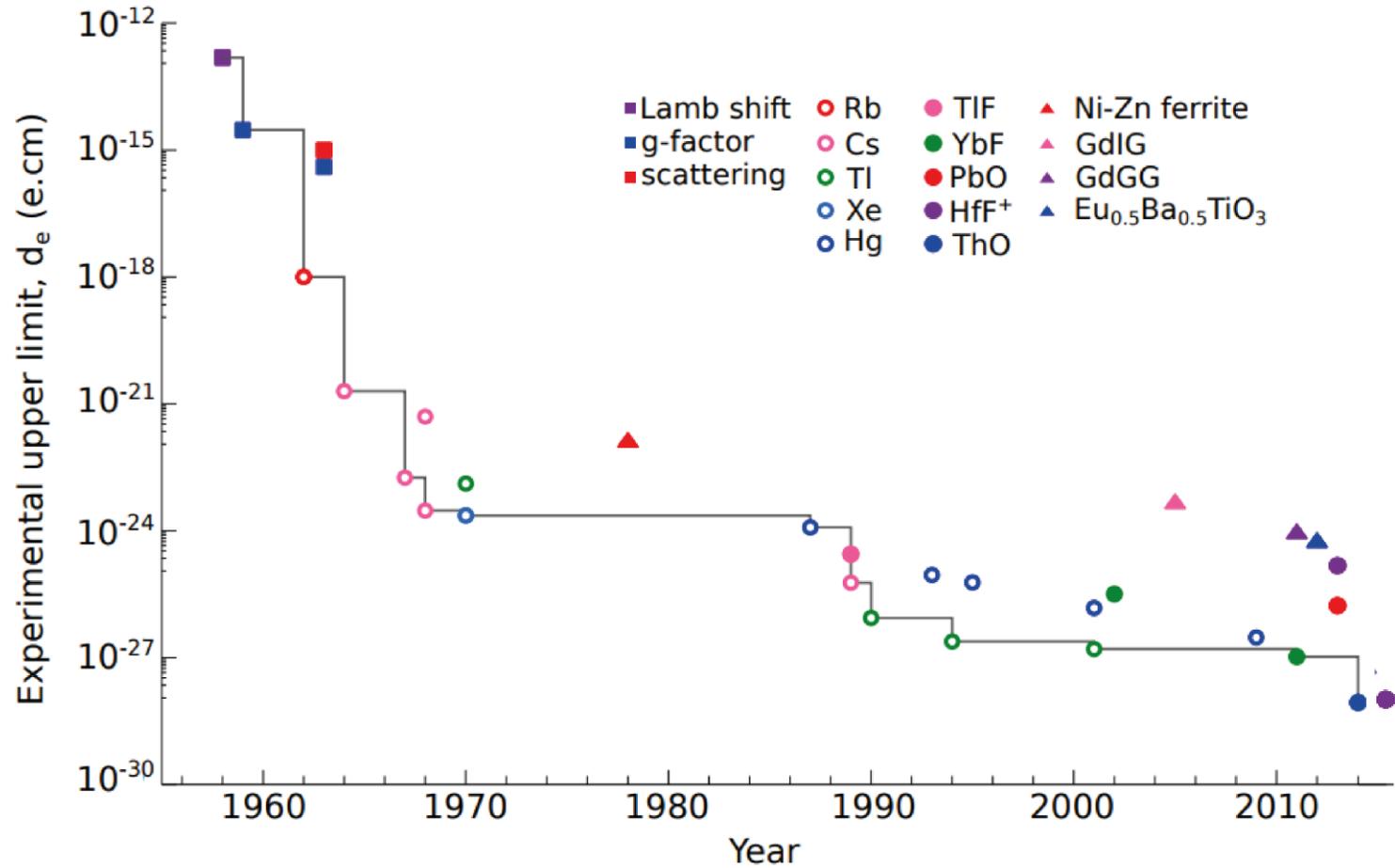
What is the 3-manifold of [comoving space](#), i.e. of a comoving spatial section of the universe, informally called the "shape" of the universe? Neither the curvature nor the topology of the universe are known.





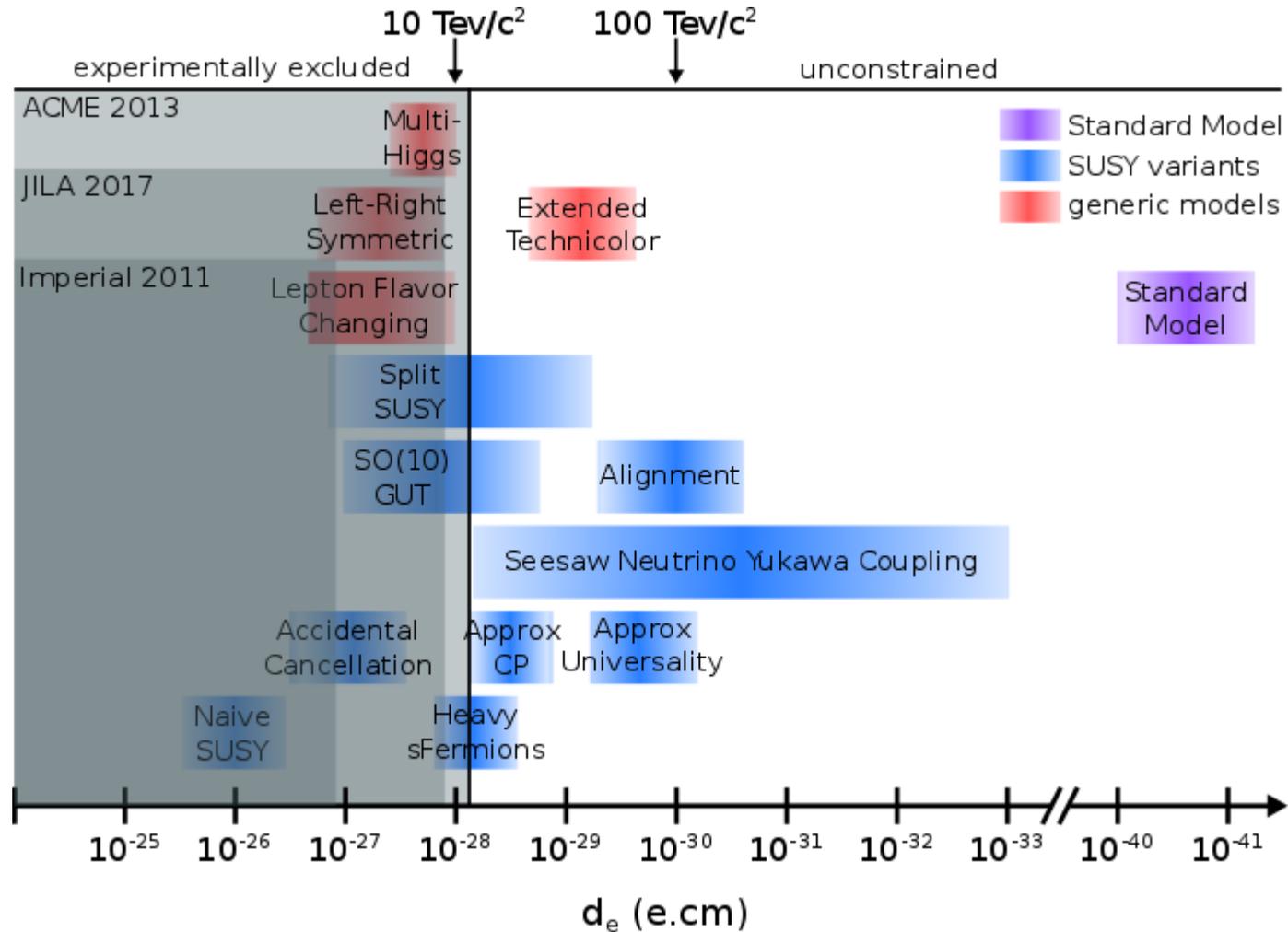
$d_e \neq 0$ breaks P & T. CPT tells us CP is broken \rightarrow matter/antimatter asymmetry

eEDM limits over time



60 years of measuring
zero

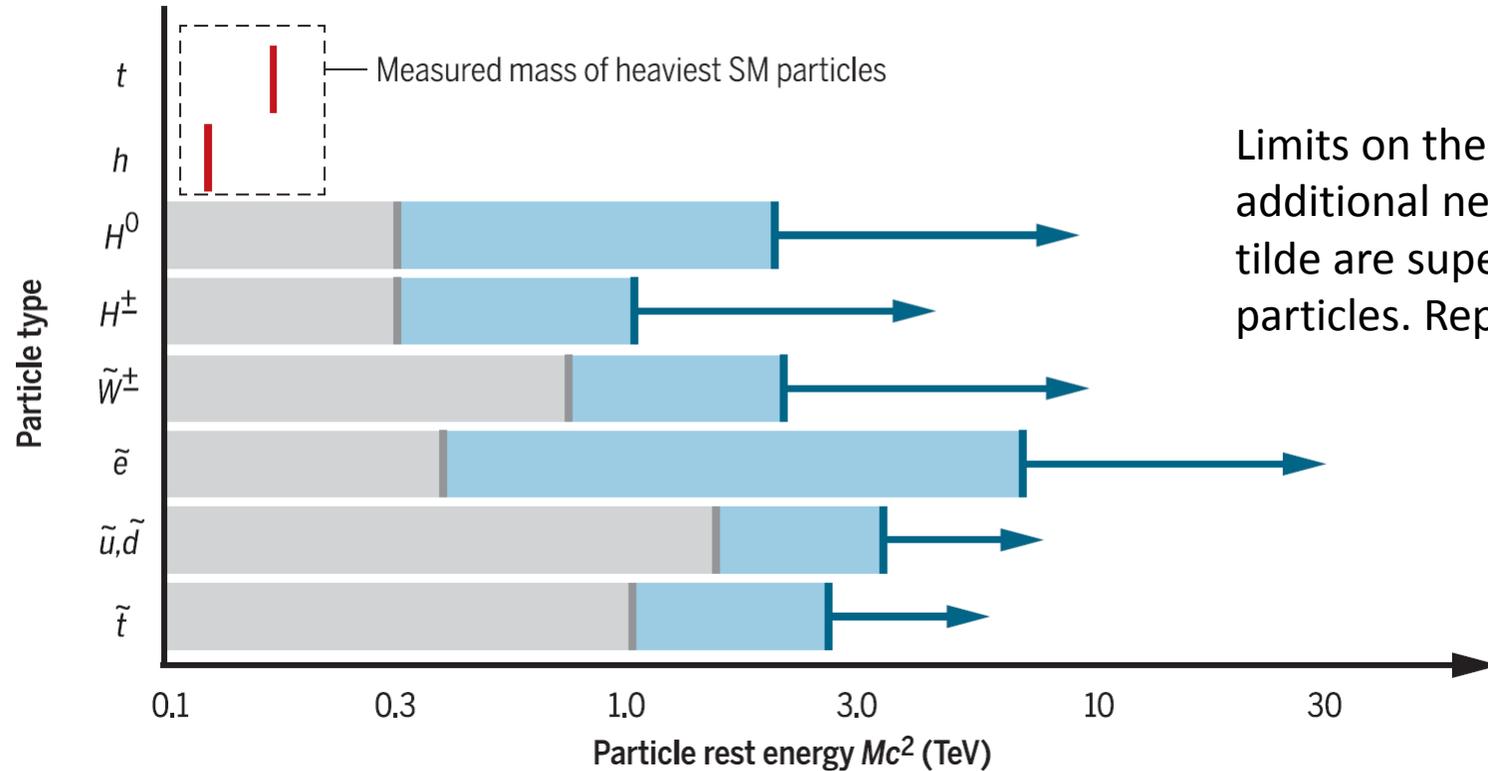
Beyond standard model and the eEDM



Imperial: Nature **473** 493 (2011), *ACME*: Science **343** 269 (2014), *JILA*: PRL **119** 153001
Figure adapted from Ben Spaun, PhD Thesis, Harvard University, (2014).

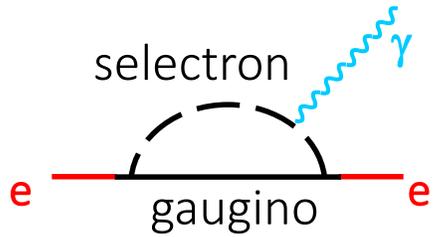
eEDM sensitivity to new physics

● LHC (direct) ● EDM (assuming maximal CP-violation) ➔ Near-future EDM



Limits on the masses of hypothetical particles. H^0 and H^\pm are additional neutral or charged Higgs particles, and those with a tilde are supersymmetric partners of the standard model particles. Reproduced from Science **357** 990-994 (2017).

The vacuum is complicated



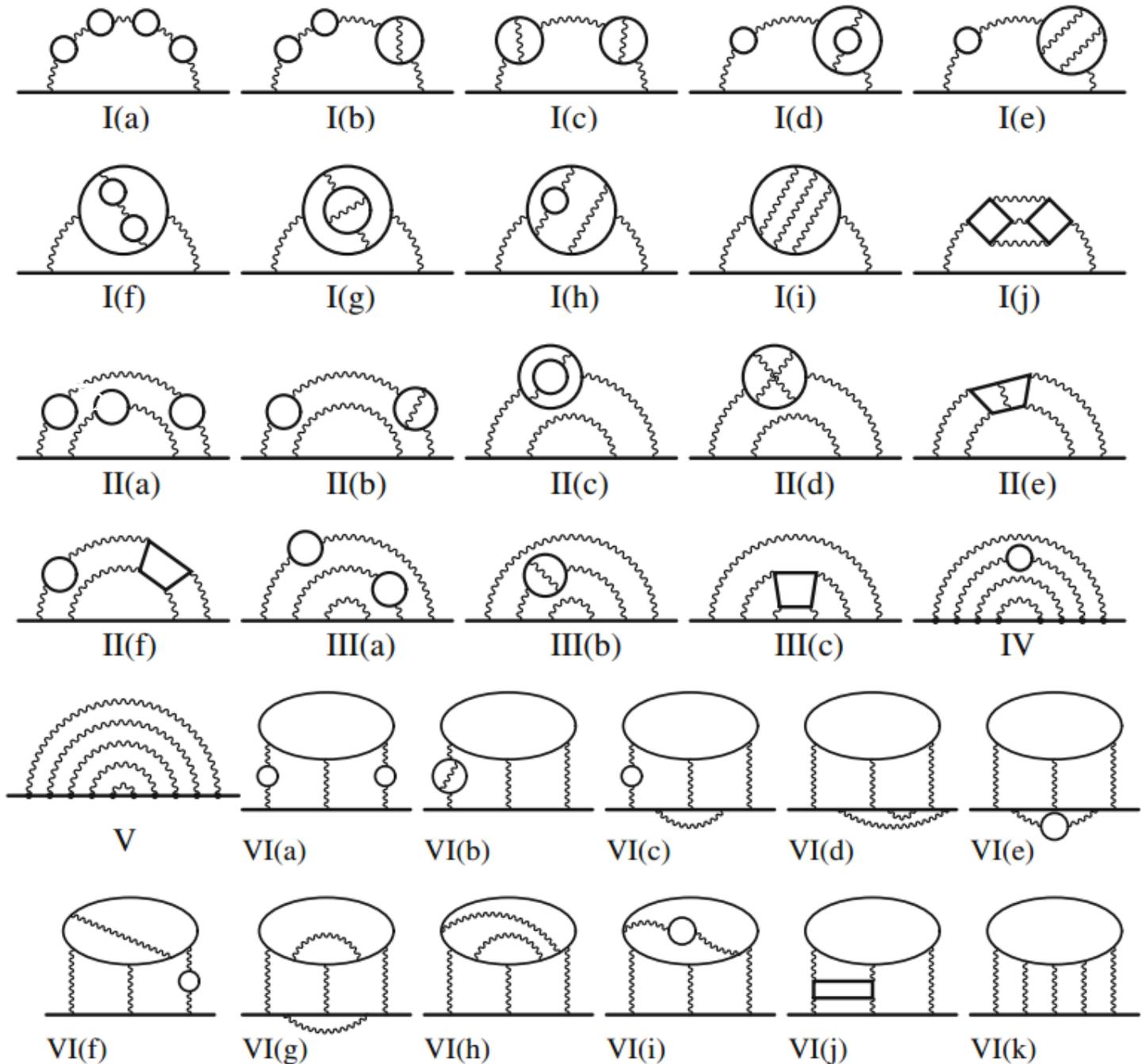
SUSY electron edm

naturally α/π

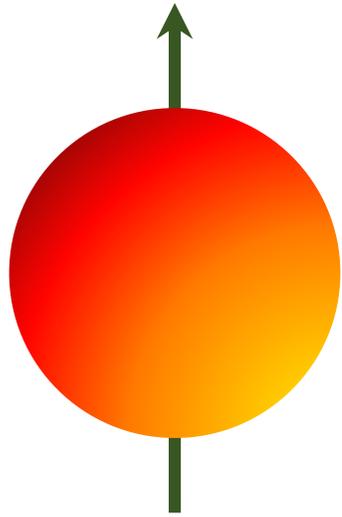
$$d_e \sim (\text{loop}) \times \frac{m_e}{\Lambda^2} \sin \phi_{CP}$$

scale of SUSY naturally 200GeV

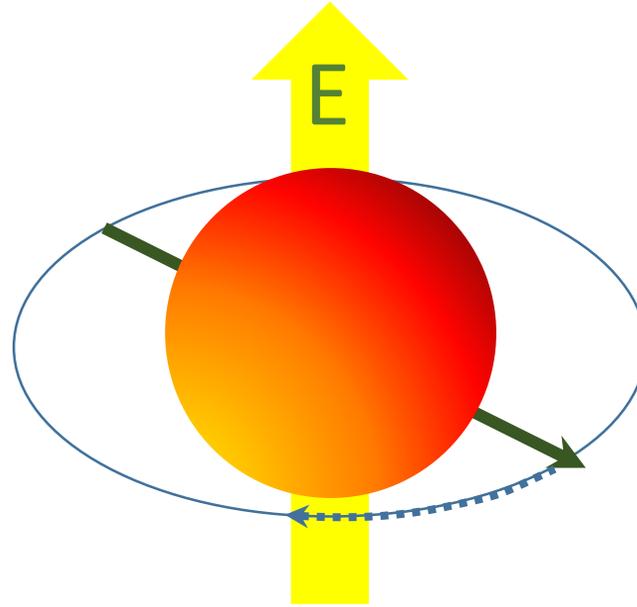
d_e naturally about 5×10^{-25} e.cm



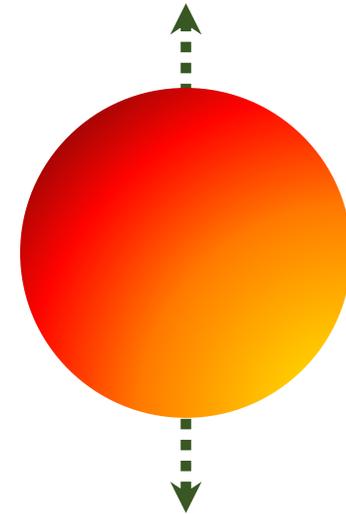
An EDM experiment



Polarize

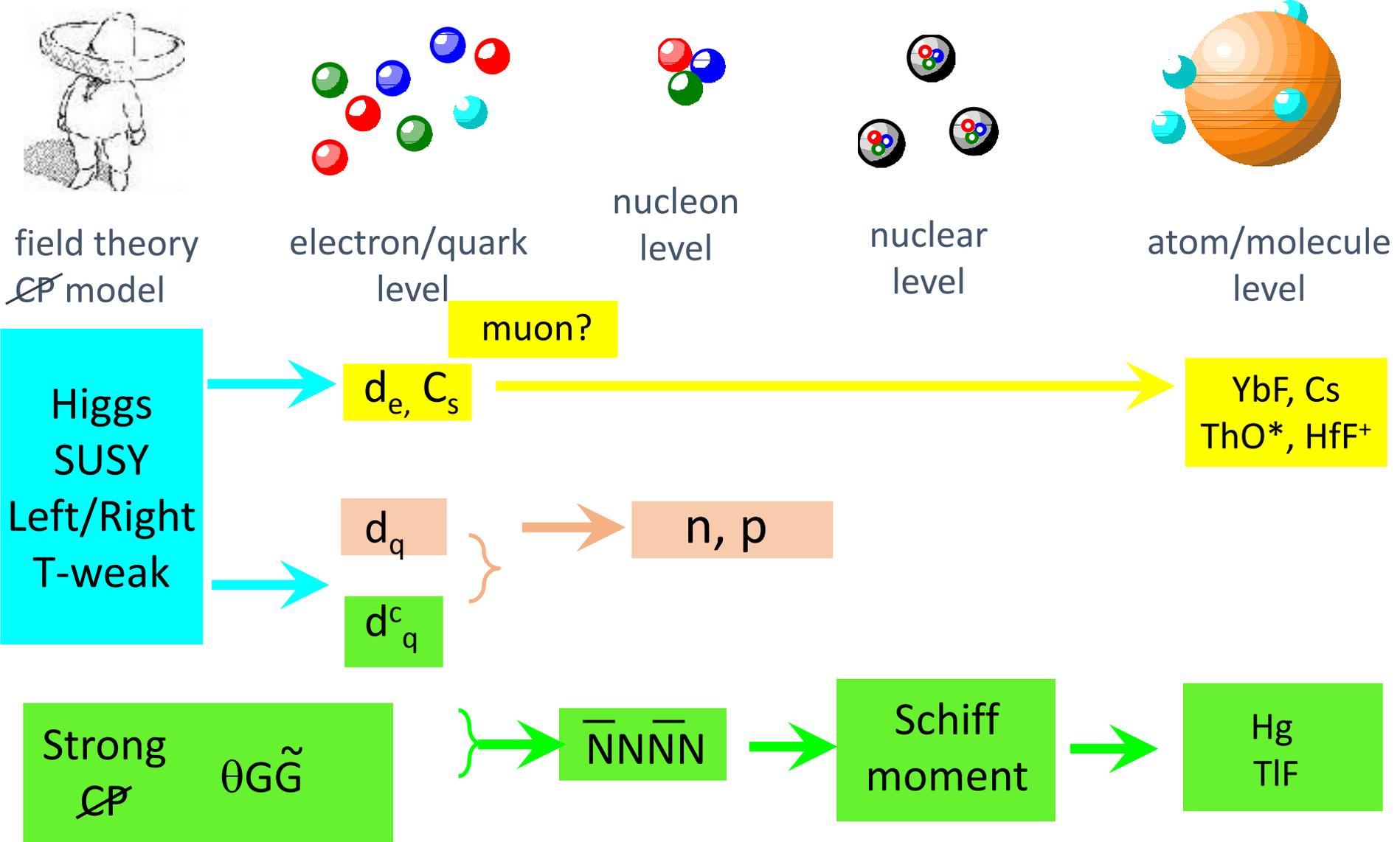


Precess
time T

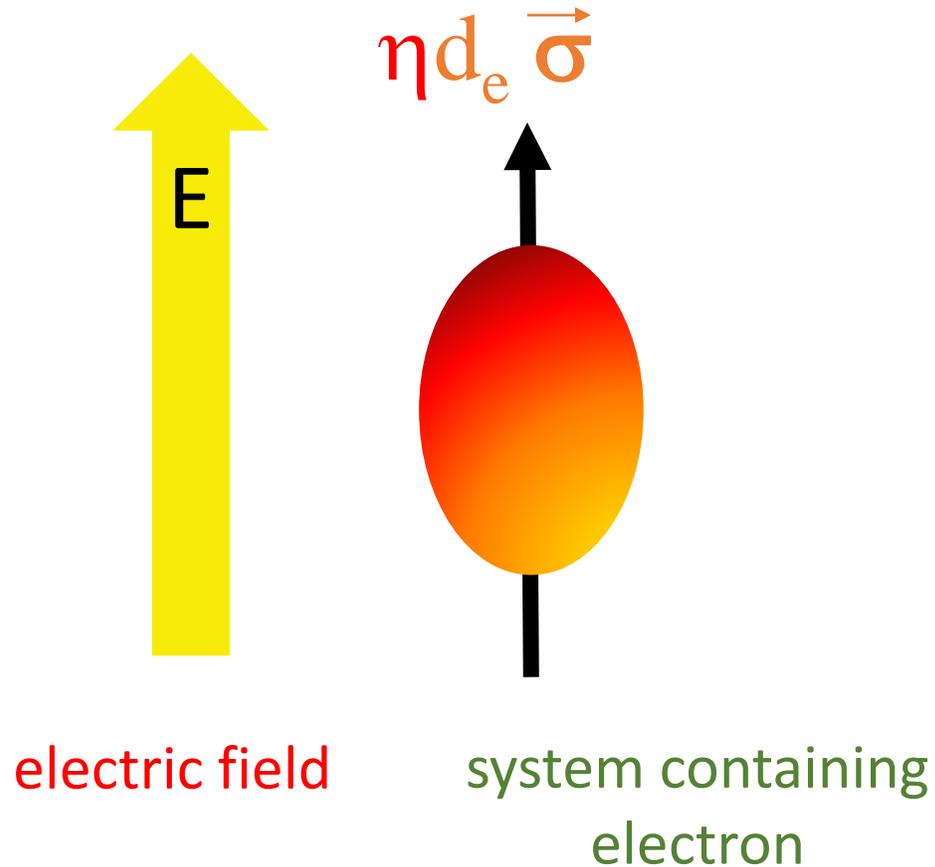


Analyze

~~CP~~ from fields to particles to atoms



Why polar molecules?

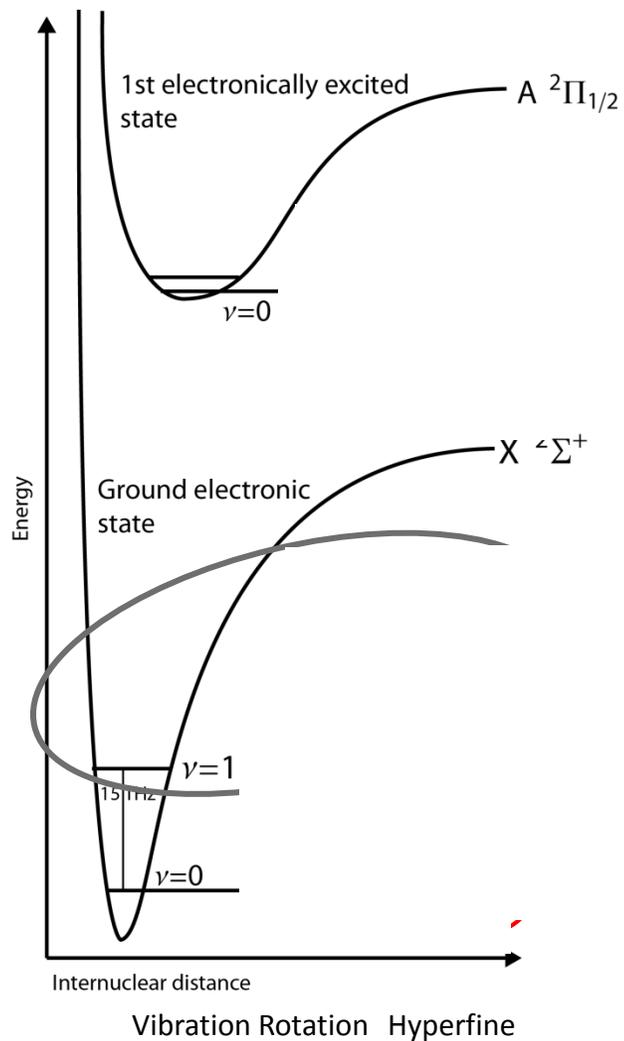


Interaction energy

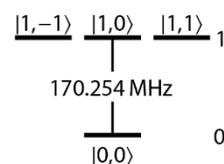
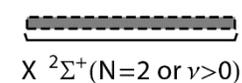
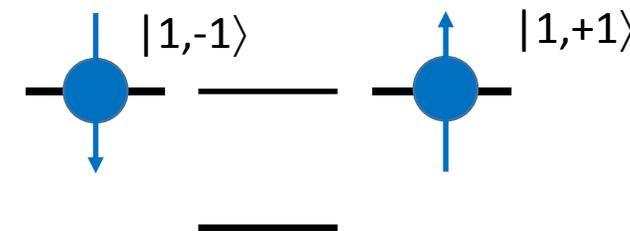
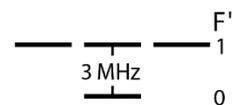
$$-\eta d_e \vec{E} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$$

Analogous to magnetic dipole interaction $-g_e \mu \underline{B} \cdot \underline{\sigma}$ but violates P&T

Factor η includes both relativistic interaction $\sim Z^3$, and polarization. η can be very large!

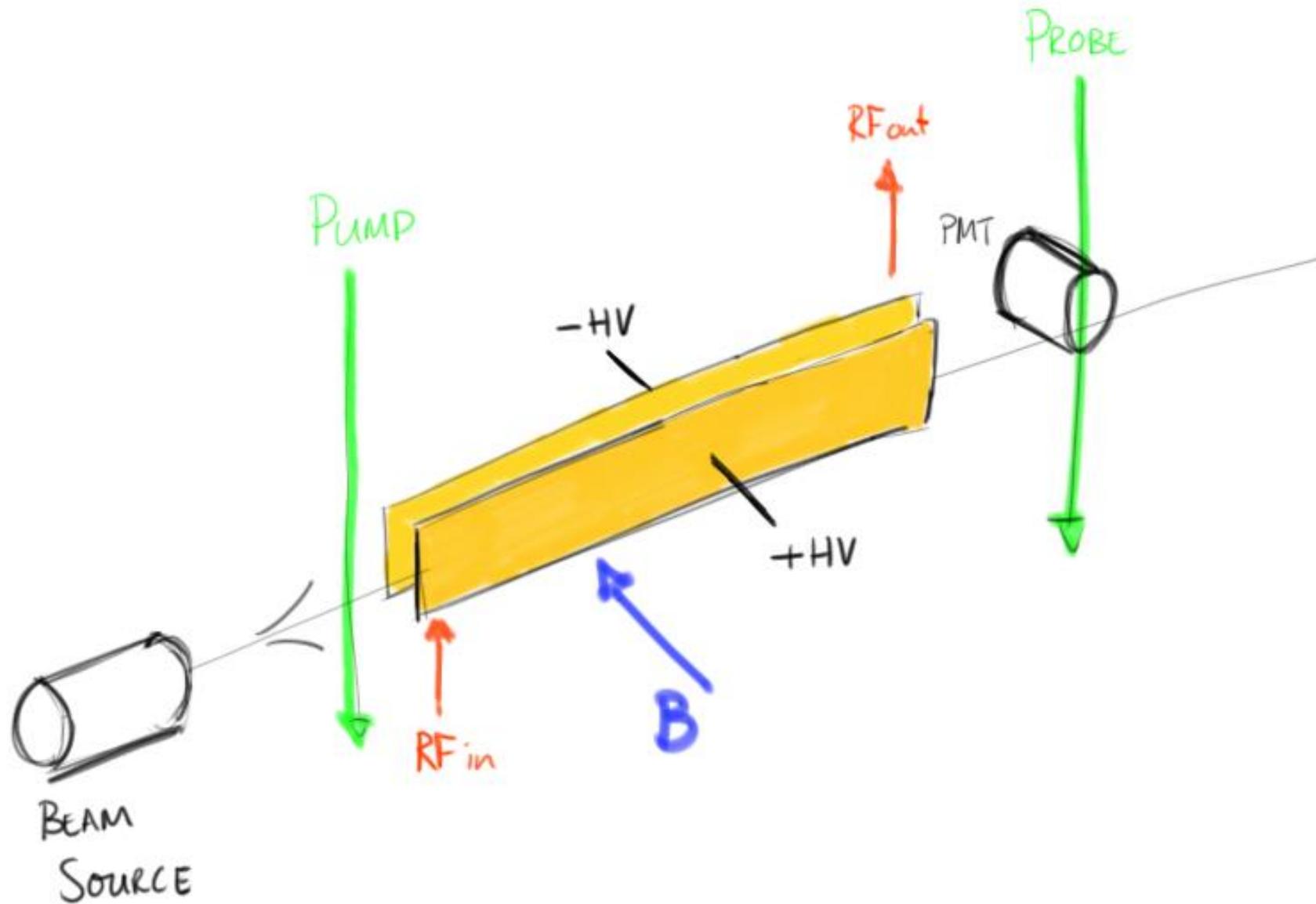


Relevant levels

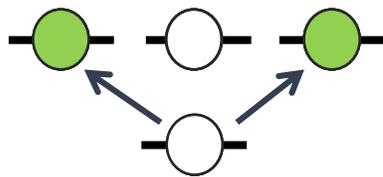
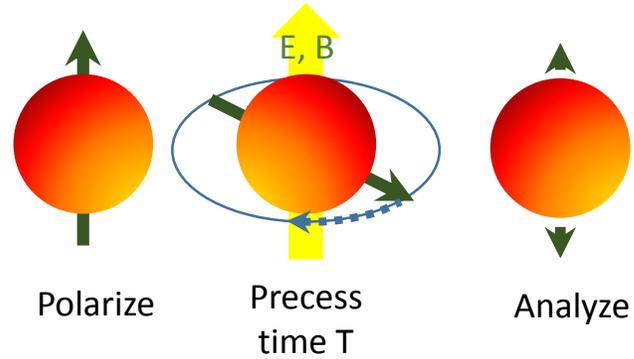


Measure the splitting of the $|1, -1\rangle$ and $|1, 1\rangle$ levels in an applied electric field

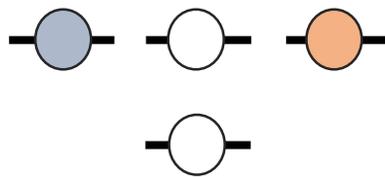
YbF eEDM measurement



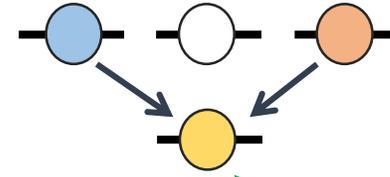
YbF eEDM measurement



$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|+\rangle + |-\rangle)$$



$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(e^{i\varphi}|+\rangle + e^{-i\varphi}|-\rangle)$$

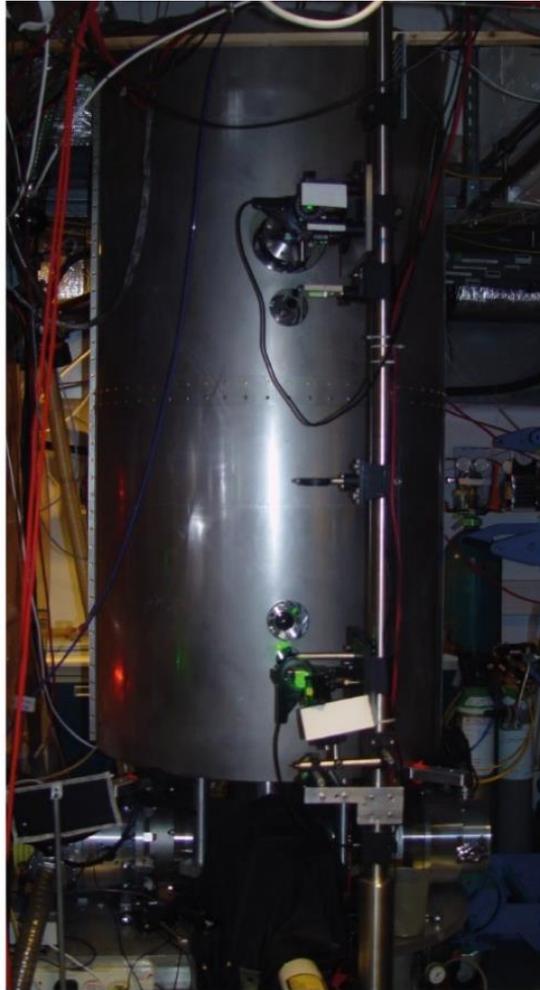


Measure population
in $F = 0$

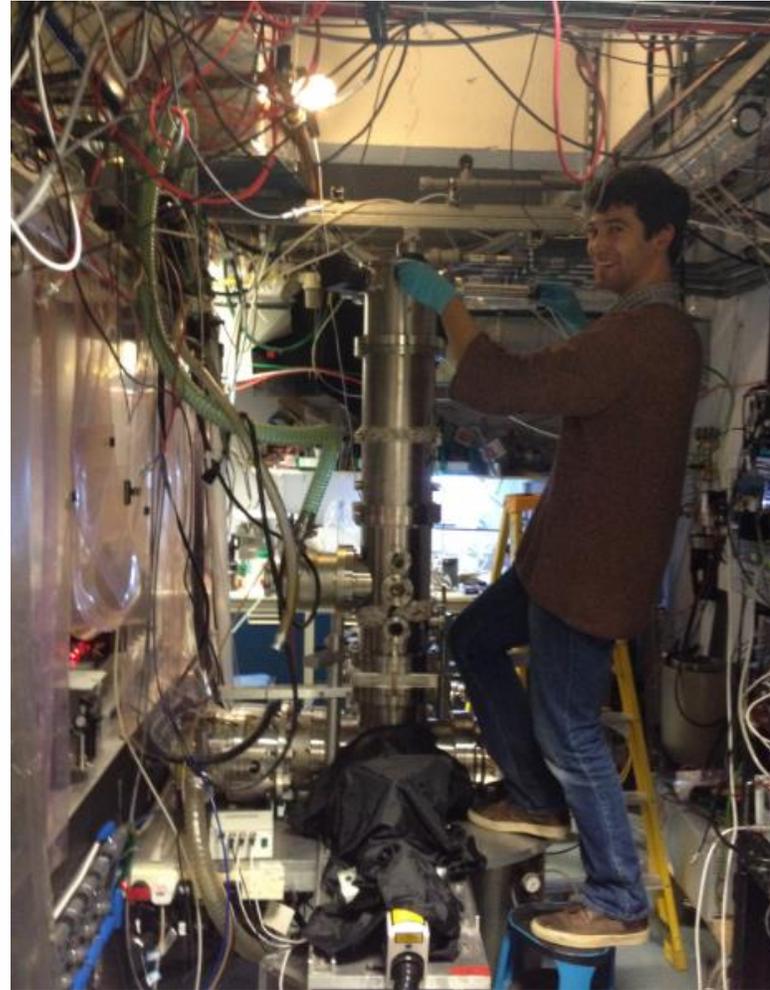
$$N \cos^2(\varphi)$$

The scale of the apparatus

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London



magnetic shields



vacuum chamber

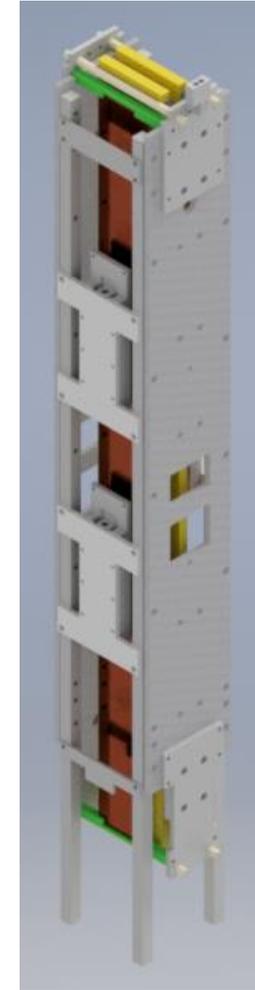
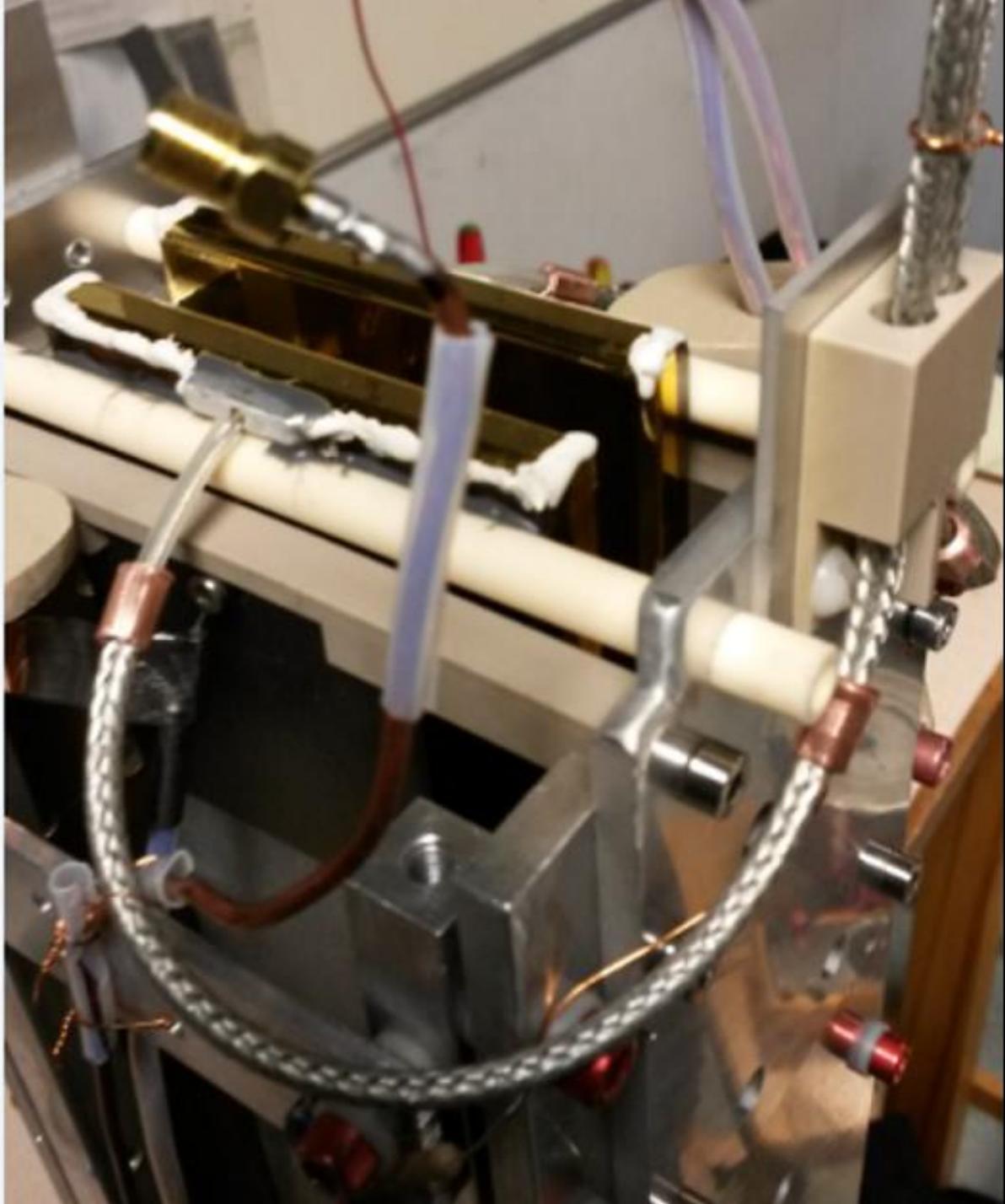
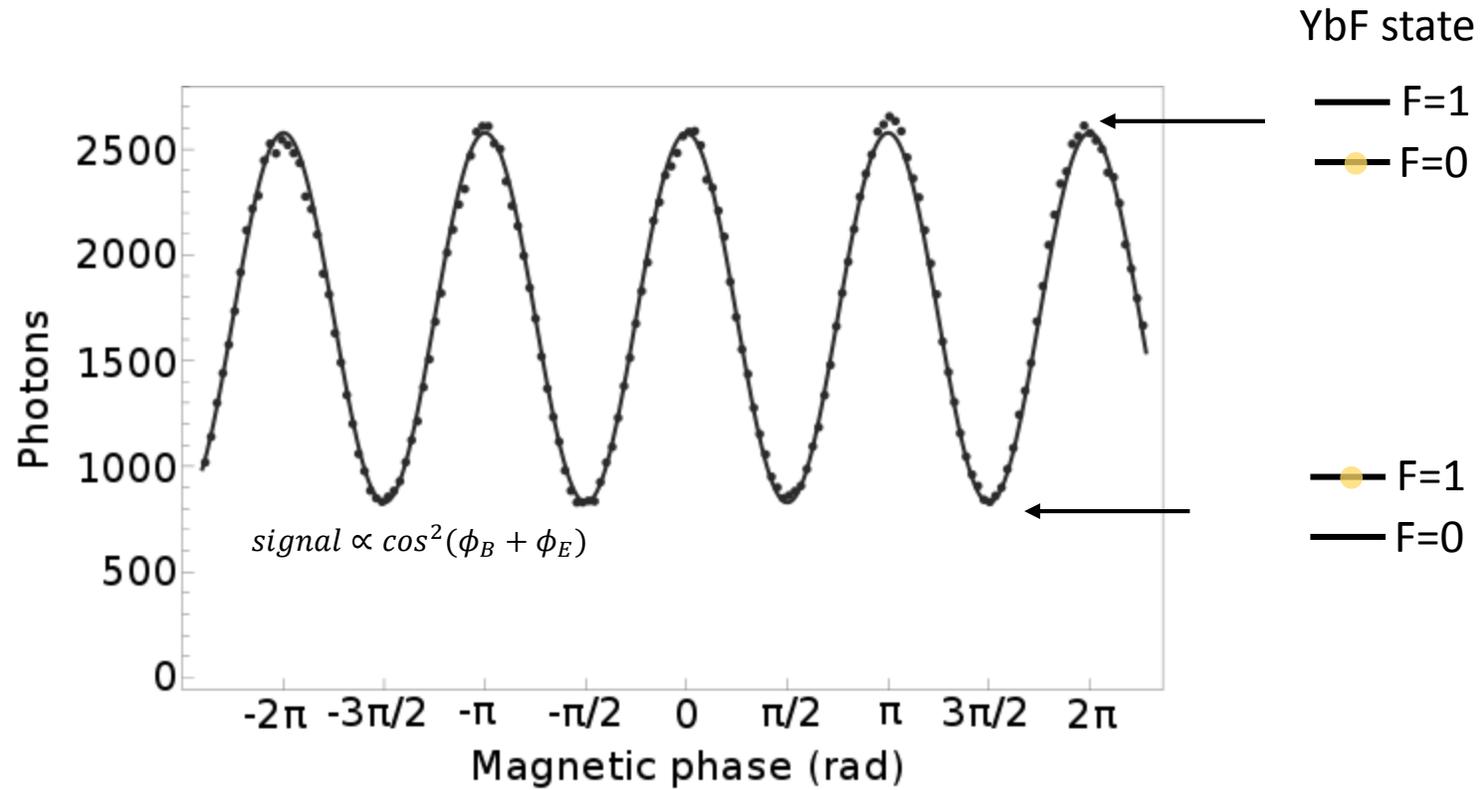
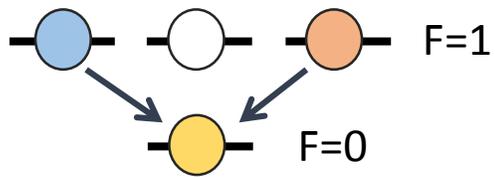


plate structure

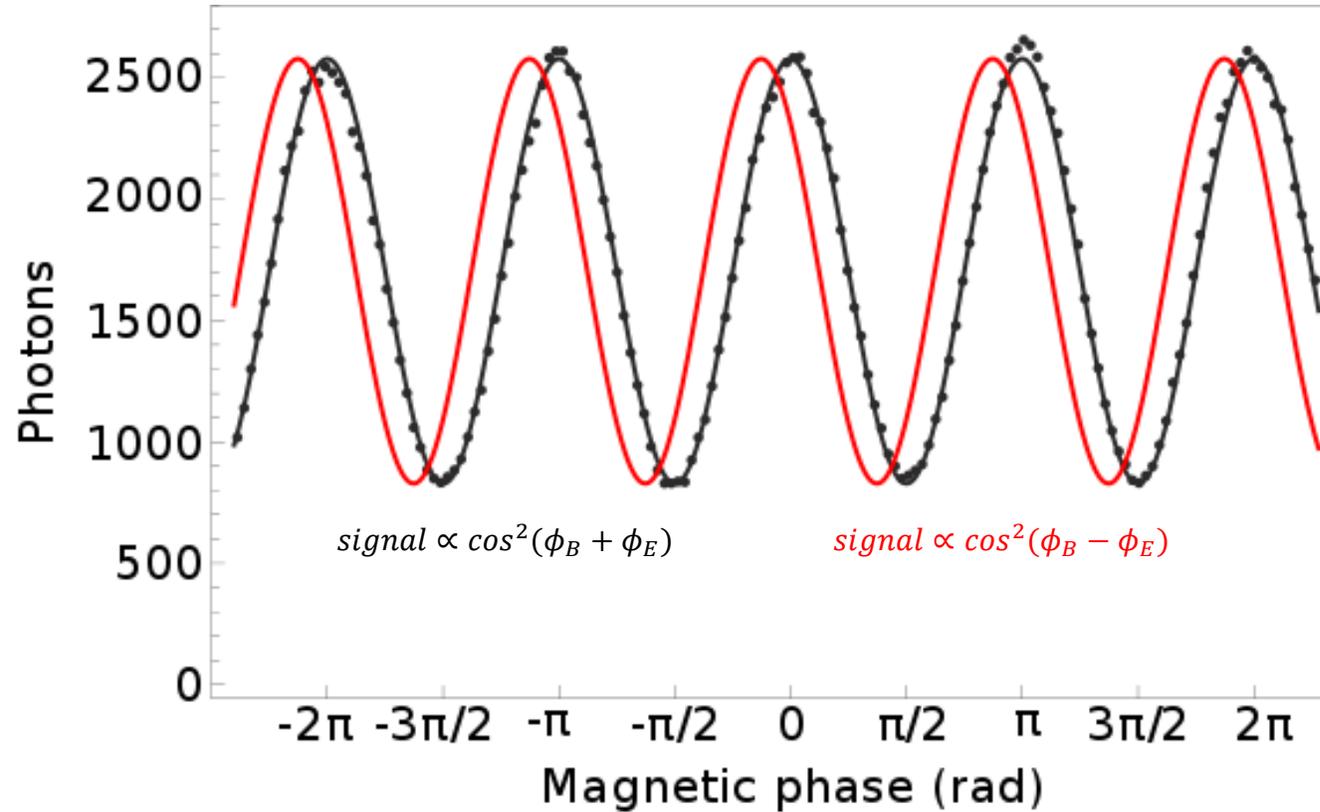


A magnetic field scan



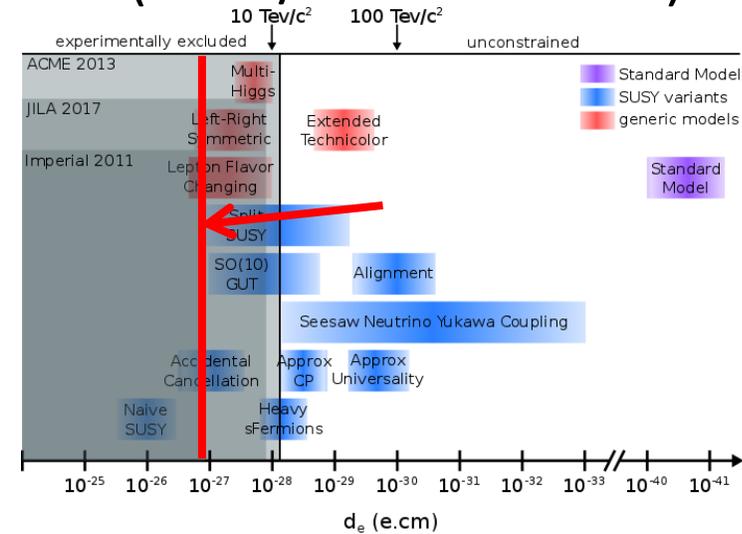
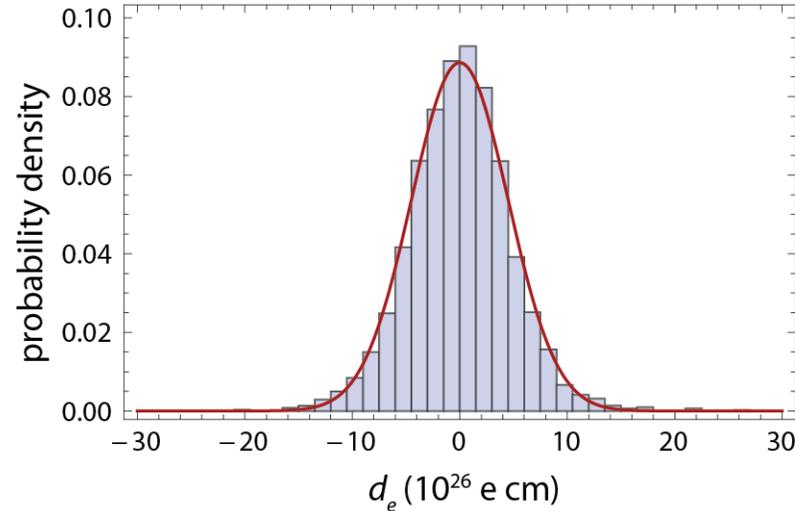
A magnetic field scan with E reversed

Reverse E relative to B



Looking for a shift
of less than $2 \mu\text{rad}$

- 2011 dataset: 6194 measurements (6min/measurement)



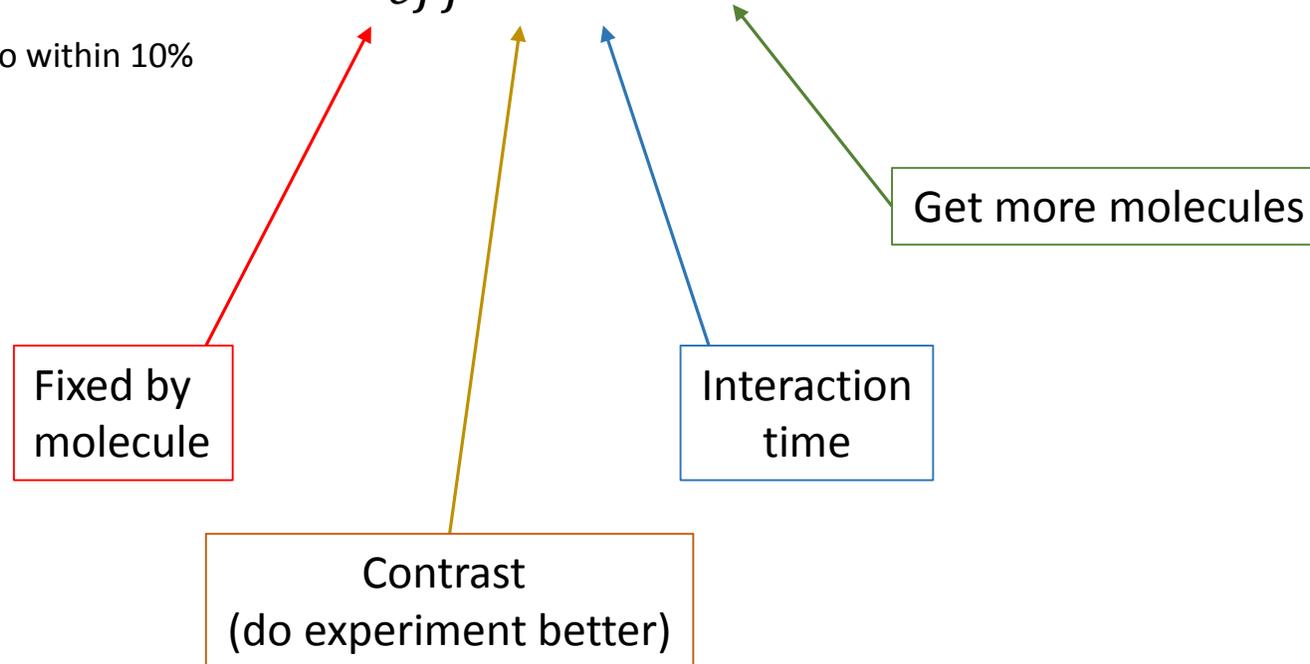
$$d_e = (-2.4 \pm 5.7_{\text{stat}} \pm 1.7_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-28} \text{ e.cm}$$

$$d_e < 1 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e.cm with 90\% confidence}$$

J J Hudson et al. Nature 473 493-496 (2011)
D M Kara et al. New. J. Phys. 14 103051 (2012)

Photon shot noise : $\sigma_{d_e} \approx \frac{\hbar}{2E_{eff} \times C \times \tau \times \sqrt{N}}$

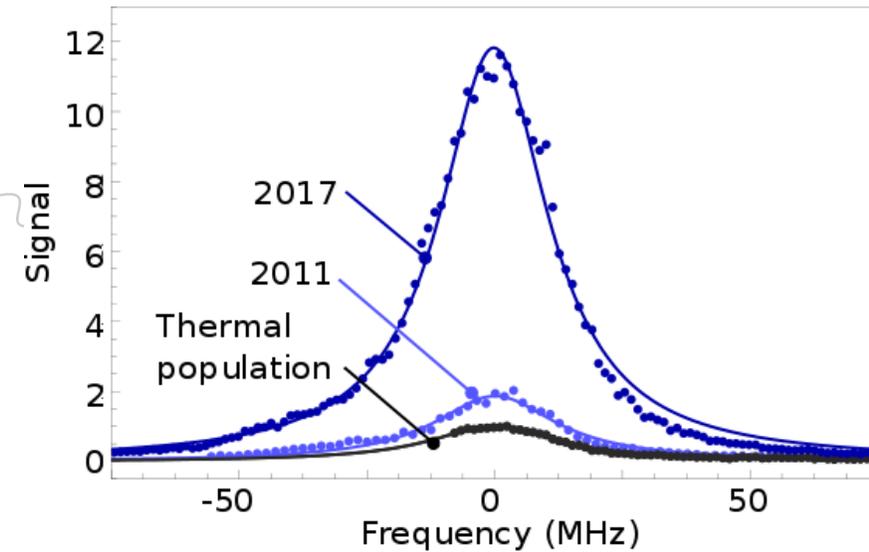
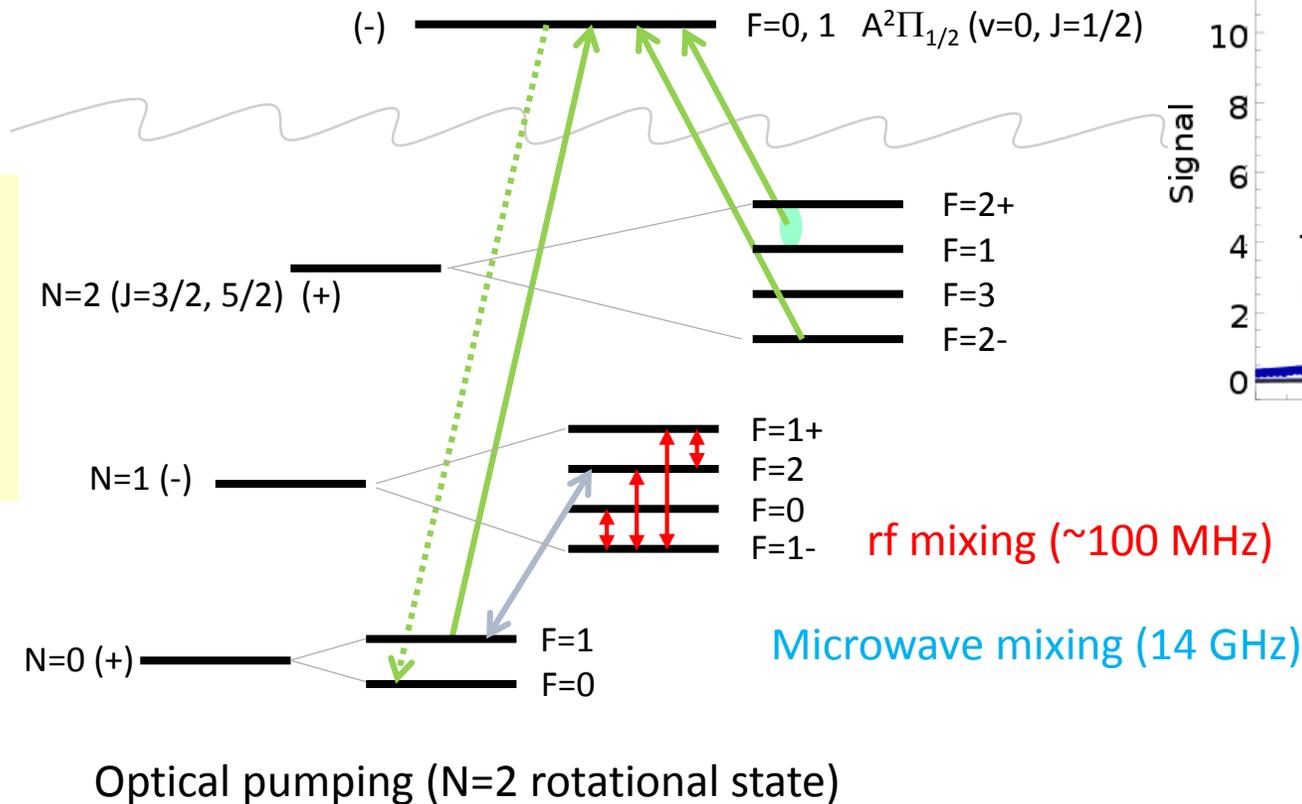
Agrees with final error in 2011 to within 10%



More molecules

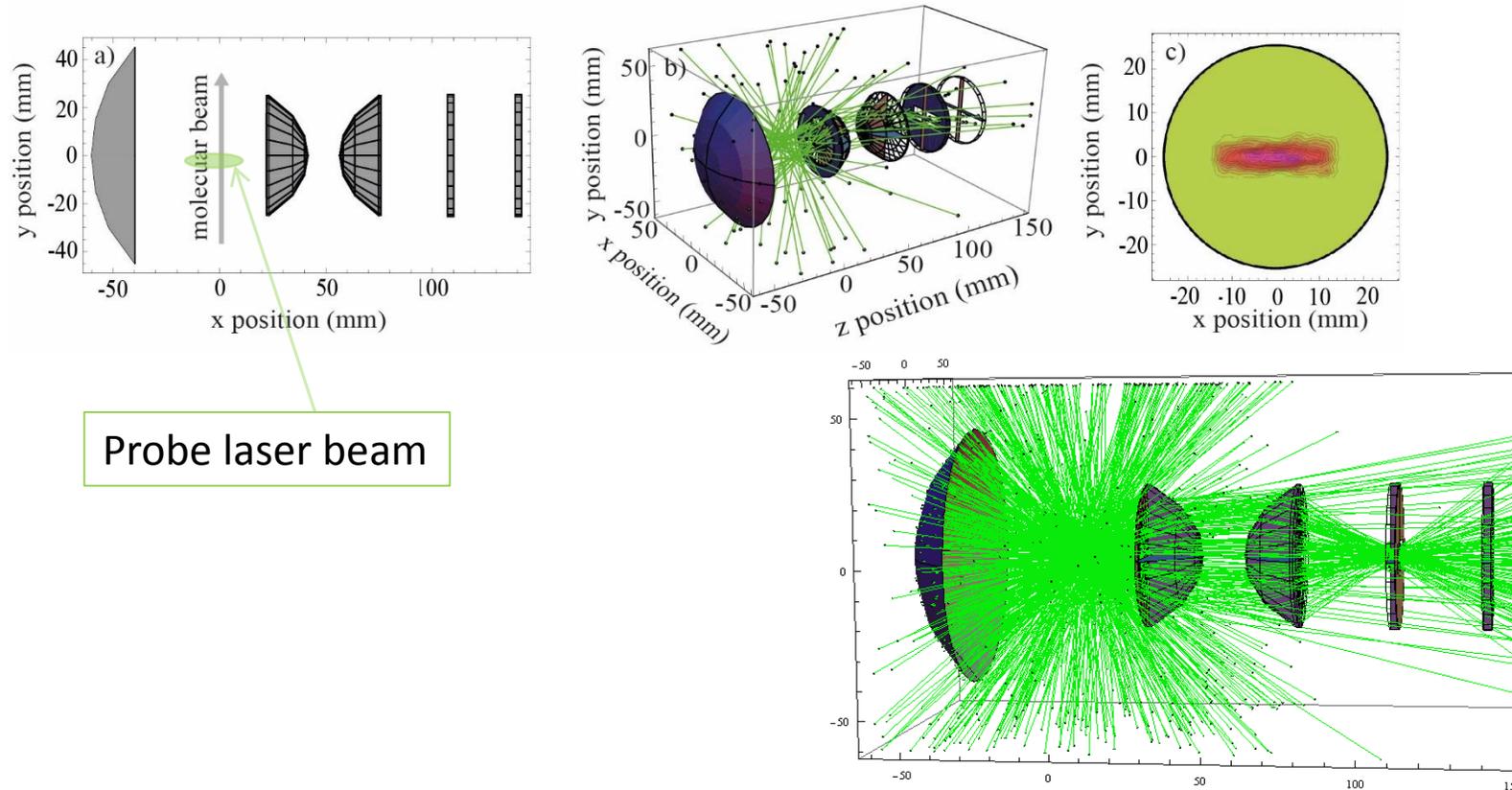
Use cycling transition to optically pump molecules into ground rotational state.

Scheme increases population by a factor of 7, sensitivity by 2.6



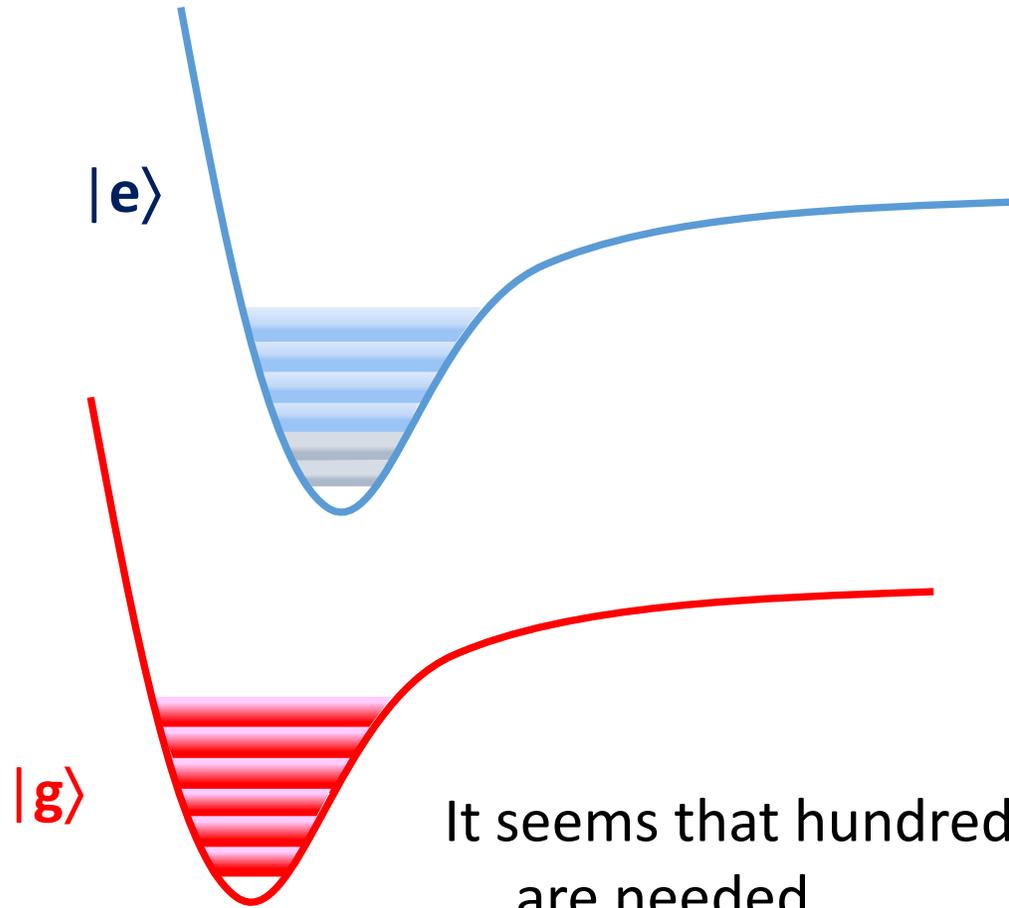
More molecules (better detection)

Fluorescence detection is only about 0.7% efficient



An interlude on laser cooling molecules

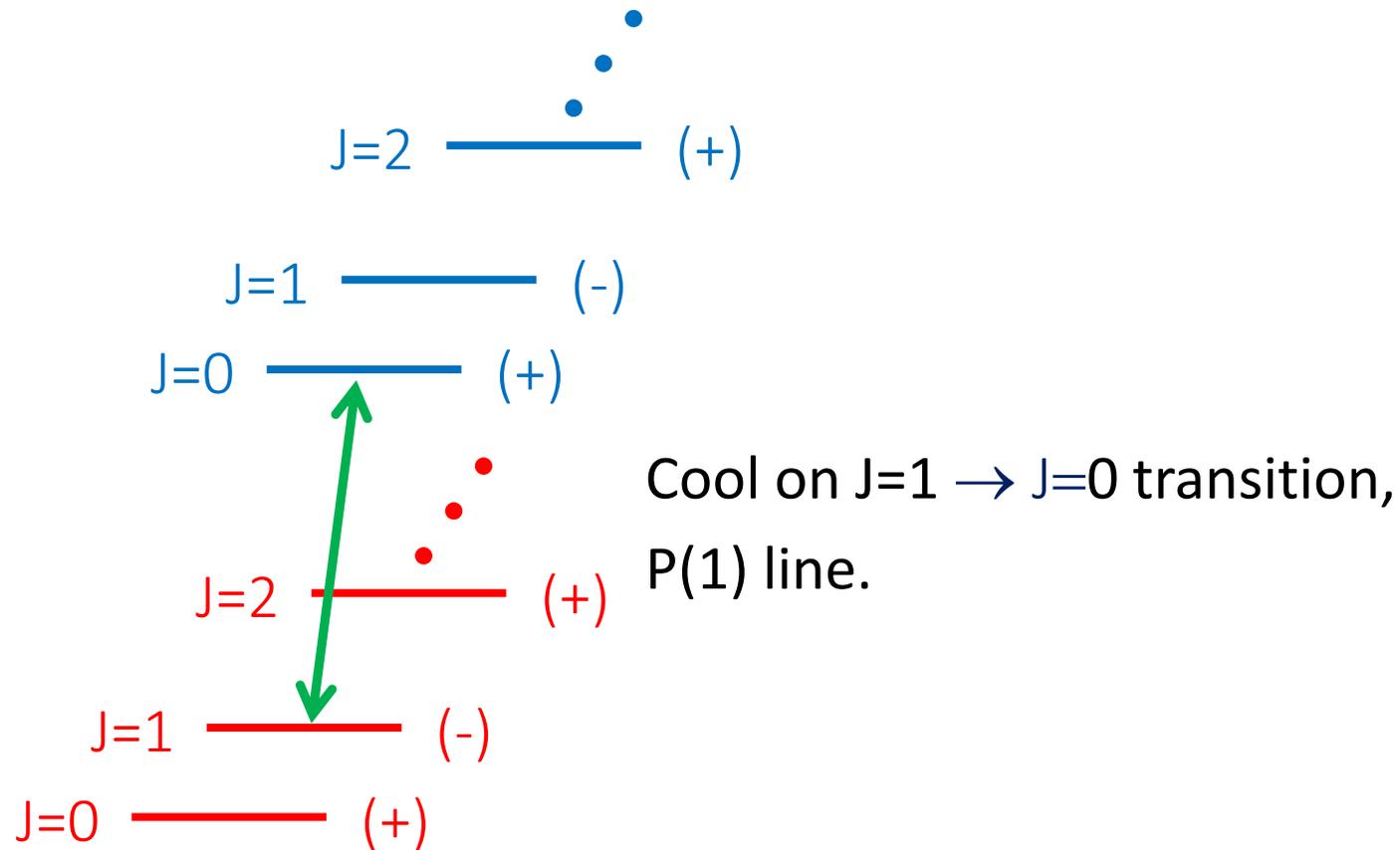
Molecules have many levels, and we need to scatter 10,000 photons.



It seems that hundreds of repump lasers are needed.

Laser cooling molecules: Rotation

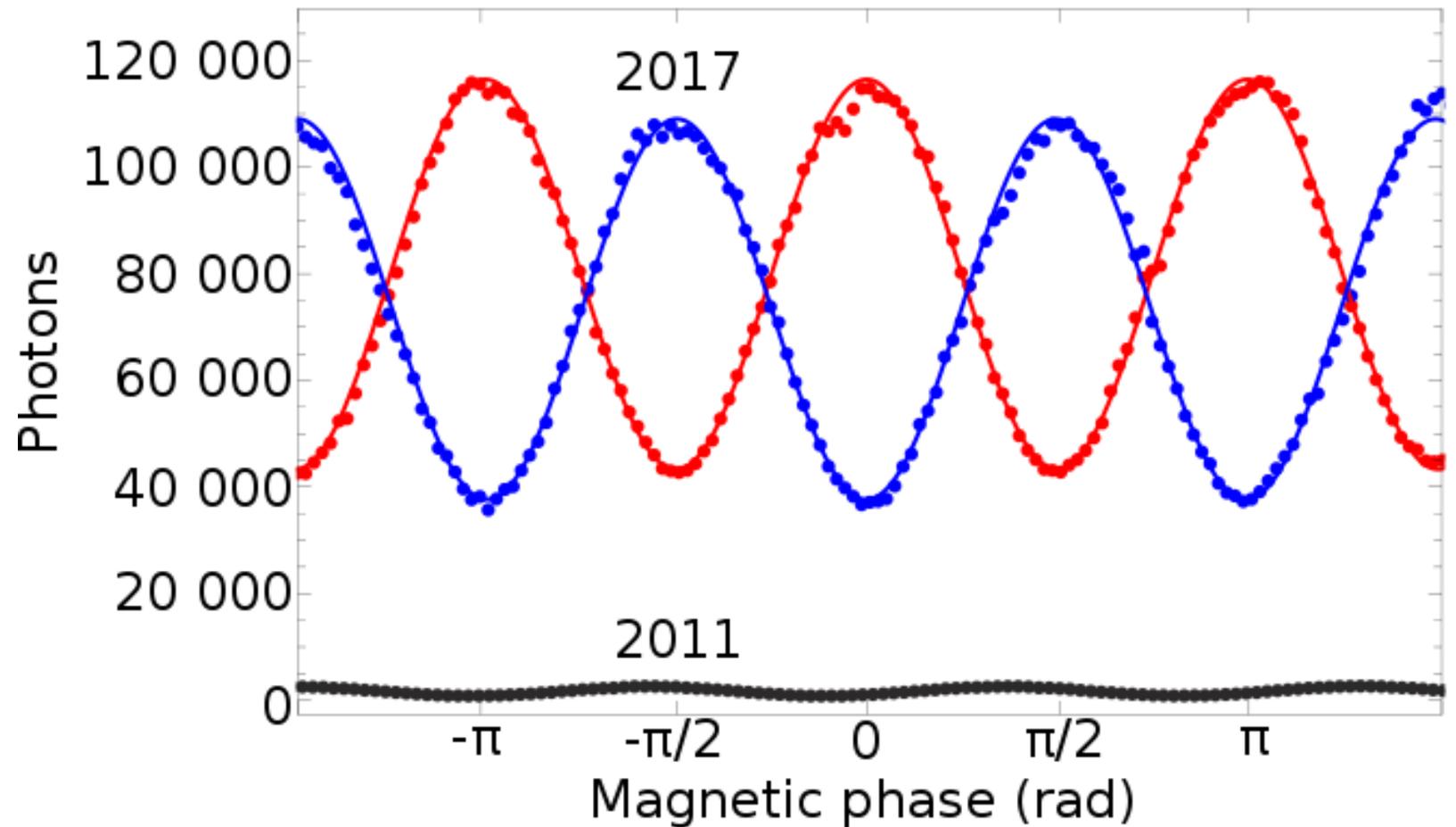
- Angular momentum J can only change by $0, \pm 1$.
- Parity of rotational state $(-1)^J$ must change from $(+) \Leftrightarrow (-)$.



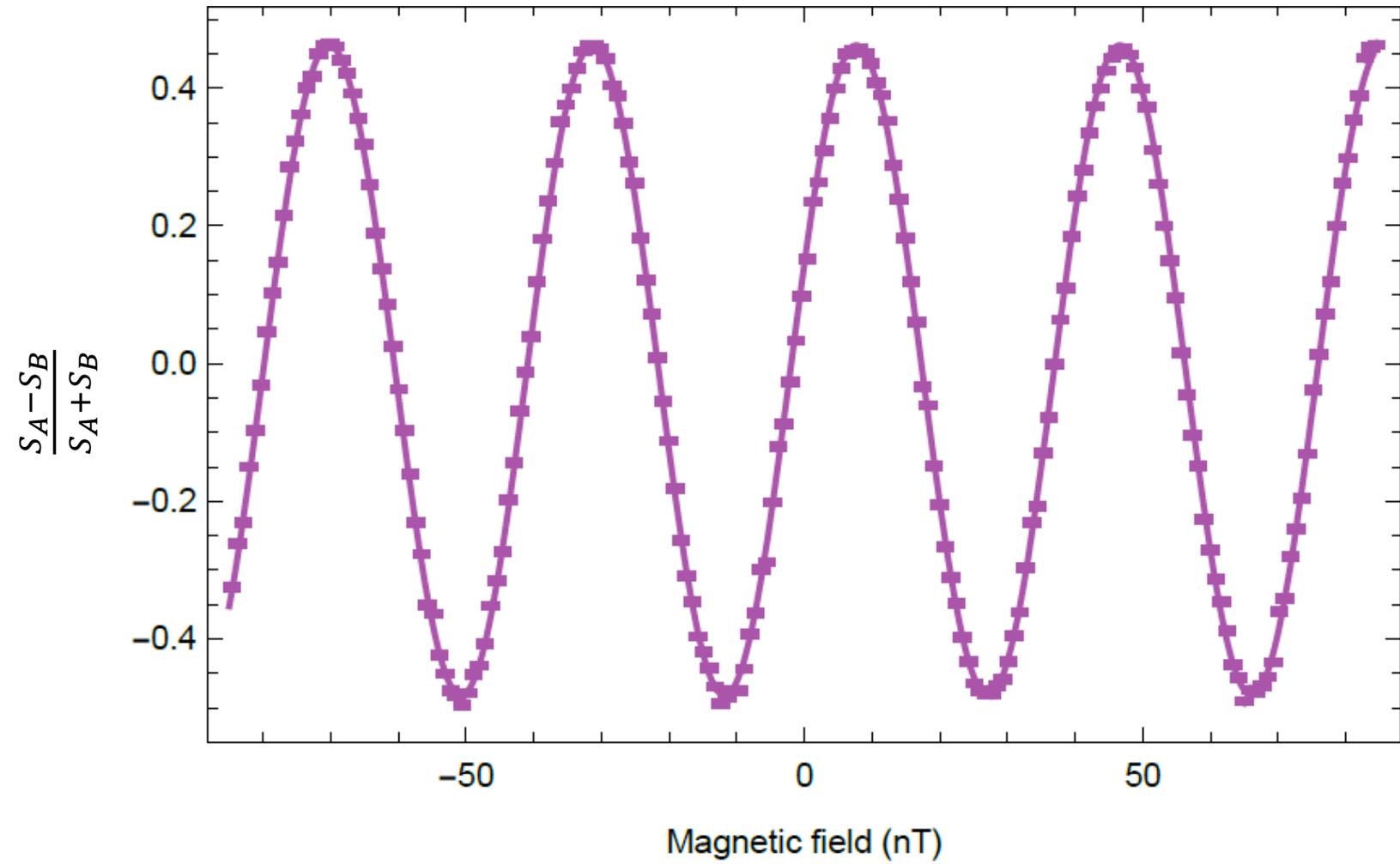
New magnetic scan curves

Imperial College
London

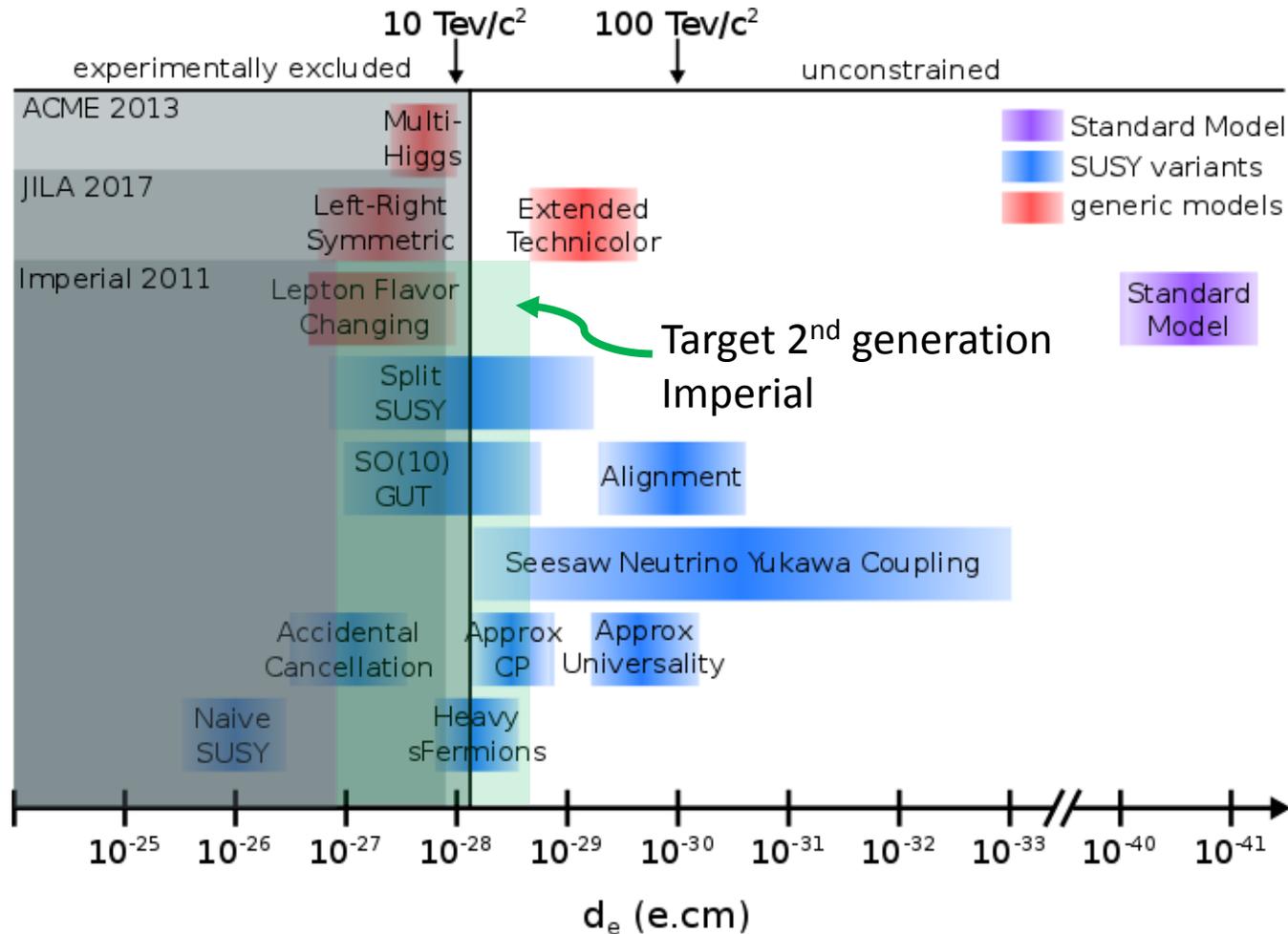
- Single shot: ~ 1000 molecules \rightarrow
 $\sim 100\,000$ molecules
- Can detect both quadratures
 - New detection scheme
increases sensitivity by
 $\sqrt{11.5} = 3.4$ in each detector



Combine quadrature detectors



Robust to source fluctuations



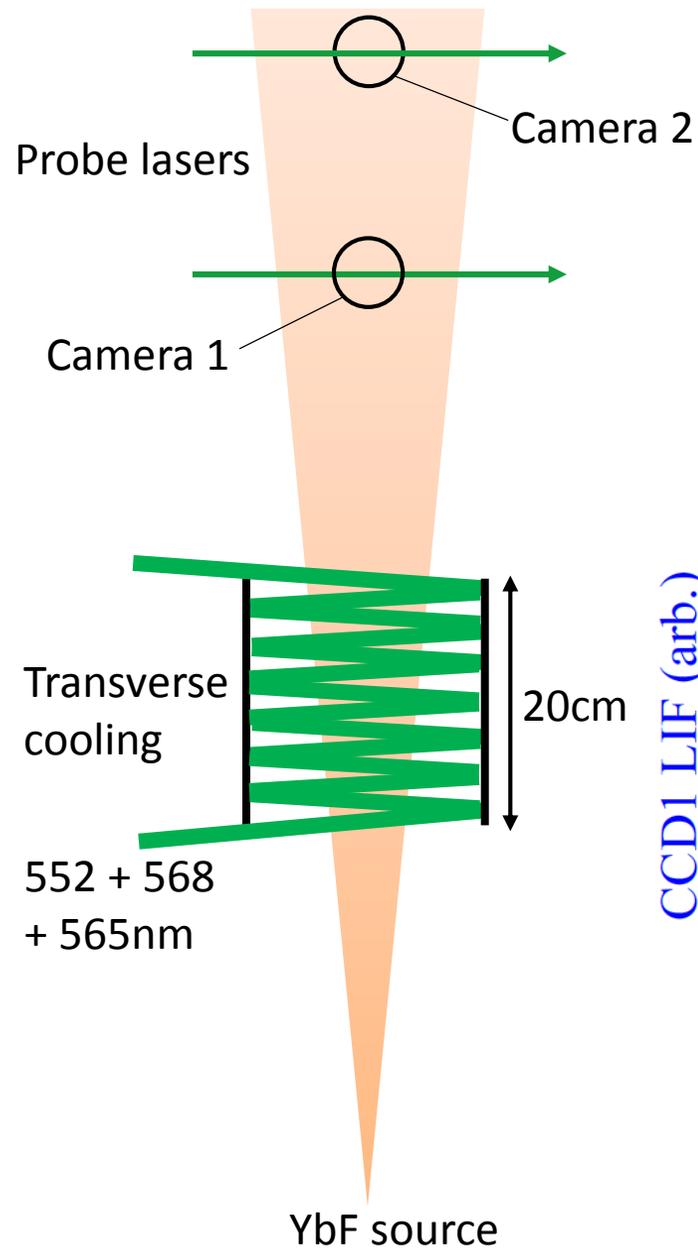
2011 sensitivity:

$$2.9 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e.cm}/\sqrt{\text{day}}$$

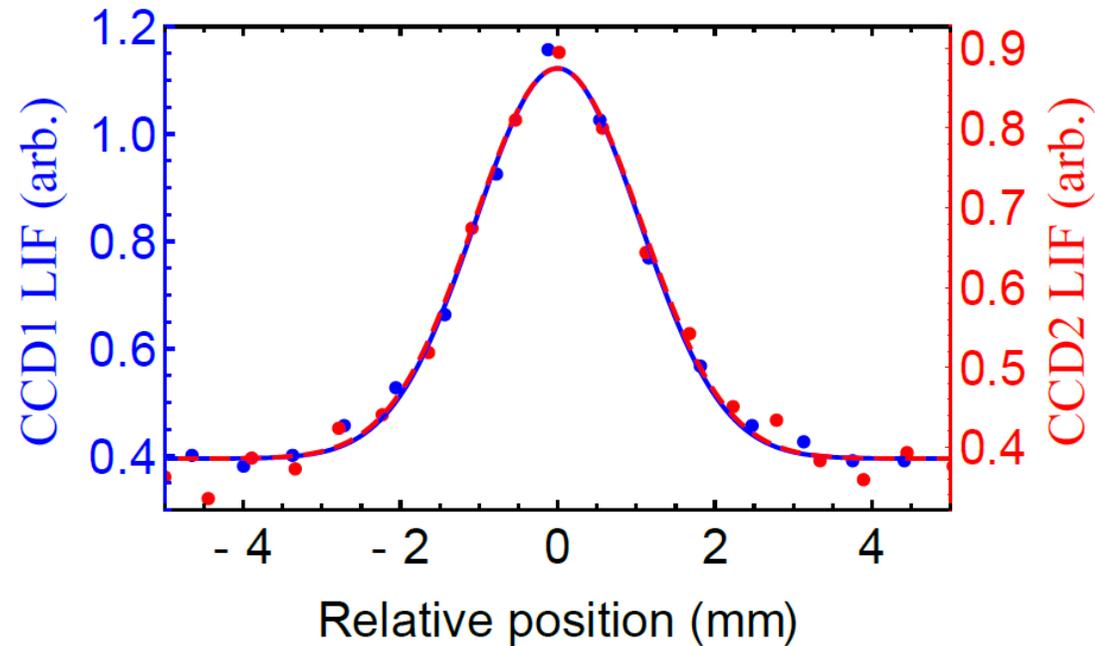
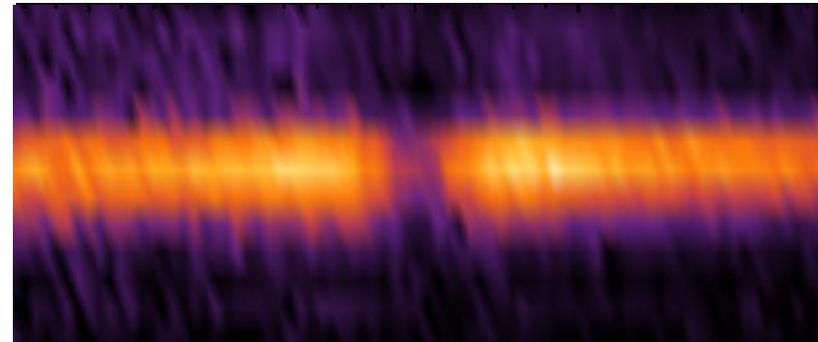
2018 (expected) sensitivity:

$$0.15 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e.cm}/\sqrt{\text{day}}$$

Transverse cooling of YbF



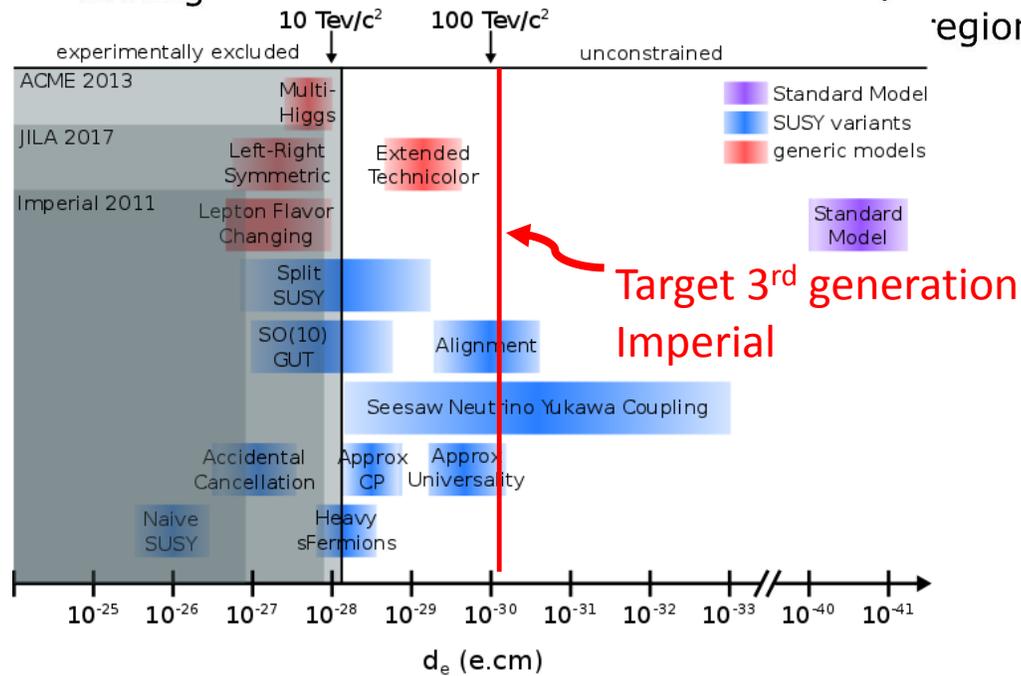
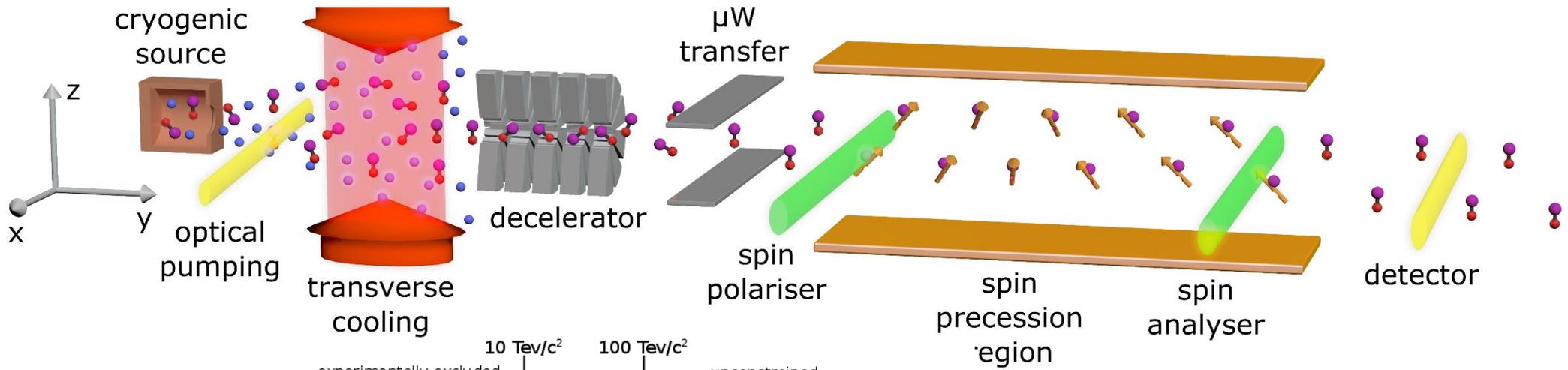
Red-detuned



$T < 50 \mu\text{K}$

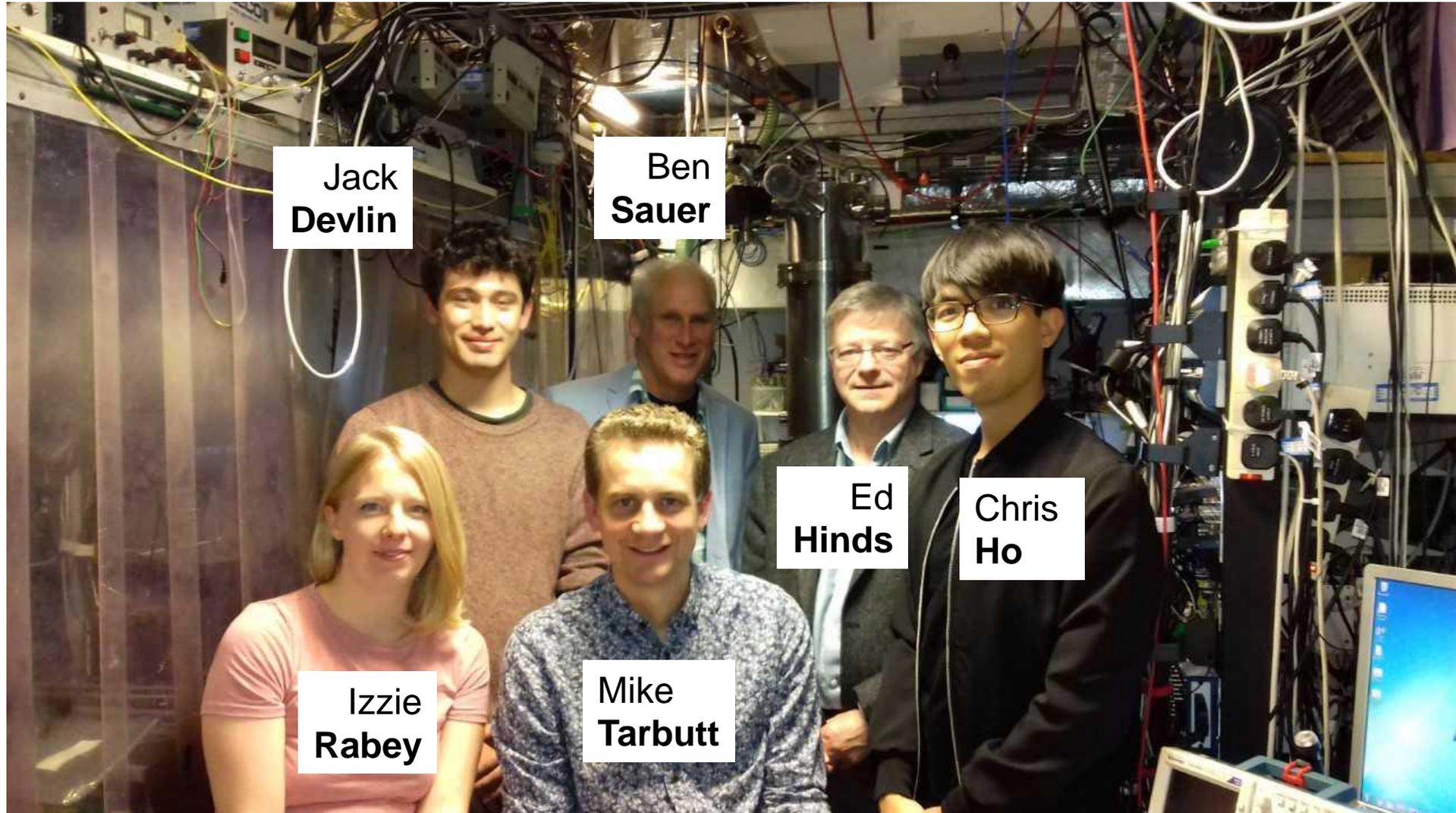
Ultracold molecules for measuring the electron's electric dipole moment
[J. Lim](#), [J. R. Almond](#), [M. A. Trigatzis](#), [J. A. Devlin](#), [N. J. Fitch](#), [B. E. Sauer](#), [M. R. Tarbutt](#), [E. A. Hinds](#); arXiv 1712:02868

Sensitivity outlook



Team EDM

Imperial College
London





ThO*: huge internal field

Effective field E_{eff} in YbF is 26 GV/cm
when molecule is fully polarized

For ThO* E_{eff} is about 84 GV/cm (factor of
3.2 more sensitive)

Mostly relativistic: $\left(\frac{Z_{\text{Th}}}{Z_{\text{Yb}}}\right)^3 = 2.1$

(also depends on structure)

ThO* can be fully polarized!

Comparing some atomic and molecular systems

- YbF, 2011: $|E_{\text{eff}}| = 14.5 \text{ GV/cm}$ ($\eta = 0.56$)
 $|d_e| < 1.0 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e.cm (90\% c.l.)}$
- Tl, 2002: $|E_{\text{eff}}| = 72 \text{ MV/cm}$ ($E_{\text{eff}} = -582 E_{\text{applied}}$)
 $|d_e| < 1.6 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e.cm (90\% c.l.)}$
- PbO*, 2013: $|E_{\text{eff}}| = 25 \text{ GV/cm}$
 $|d_e| < 1.7 \times 10^{-26} \text{ e.cm (90\% c.l.)}$
- Eu_{0.5}Ba_{0.5}TiO₃, 2012:
 $|d_e| < 6 \times 10^{-25} \text{ e.cm (90\% c.l.)}$
- ThO*: $|E_{\text{eff}}| = 84 \text{ GV/cm}$ (factor of 6 on 2011 YbF)
 $|d_e| < 8.7 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e.cm (90\% c.l.)}$