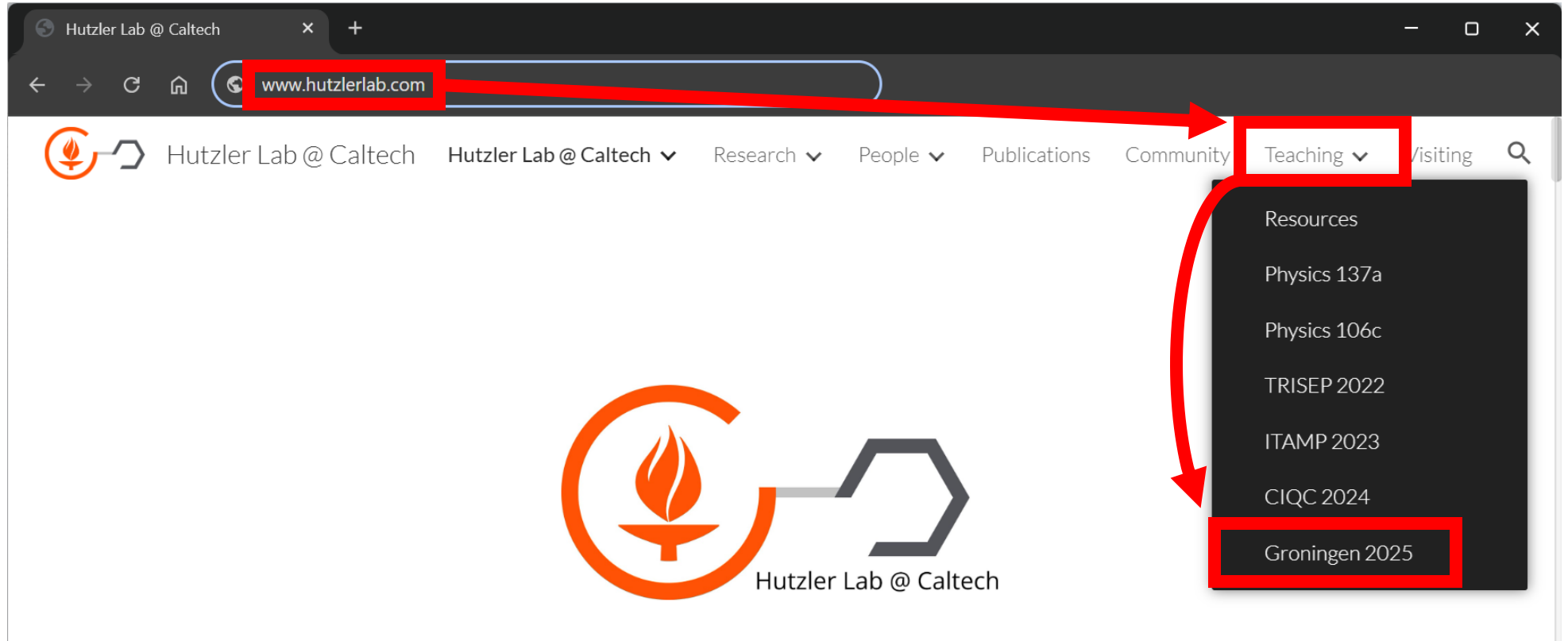


# Searches for Fundamental Symmetry Violations with Atoms and Molecules

Nick Hutzler  
*Caltech*

# Finding the slides online



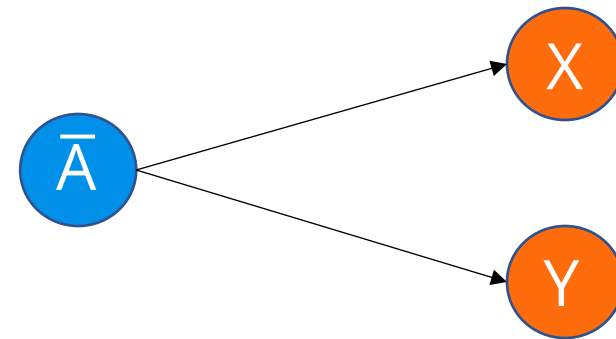
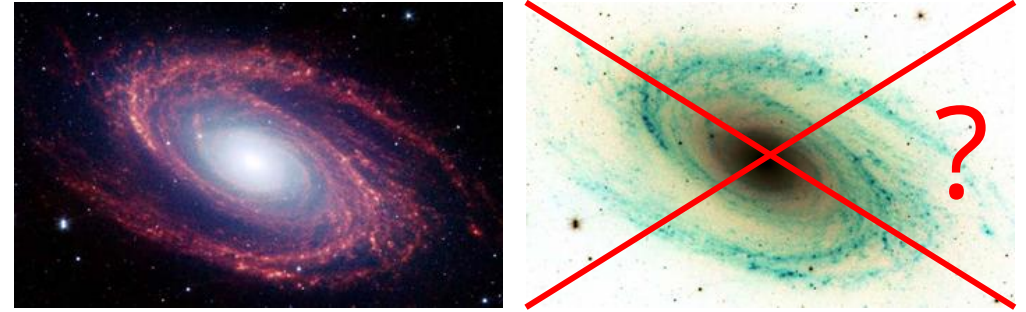
- Other summer/winter school presentations too!
  - TRISEP → More emphasis on particle physics
  - ITAMP → More emphasis on experimental aspects
  - CIQC → More emphasis on molecules and chemistry

# Part I: Motivation and Background

*Why are we interested in symmetry violation at low energy?  
How are atoms and molecules used for these searches?*

# An Asymmetric Universe

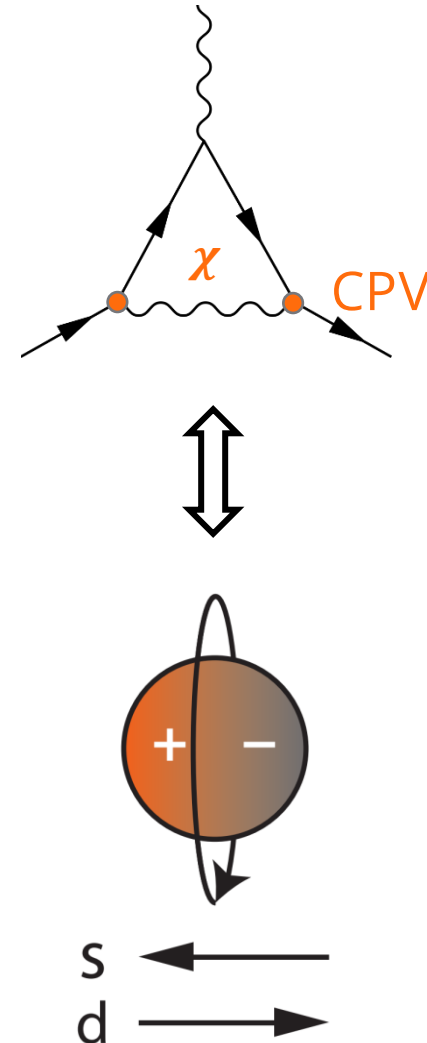
- Why is the universe full of matter but no anti-matter?
  - Baryon Asymmetry of the Universe (BAU)
- How can we explain this?
- One model: an undiscovered particle which preferentially decays into matter
- Requires physics which violates charge-parity (CP) symmetry
  - C: Matter  $\leftrightarrow$  anti-matter
  - P: mirror reflection
- Motivates search for CP-violating (CPV) physics
  - Note: CP = T (time-reversal) so I will switch between these



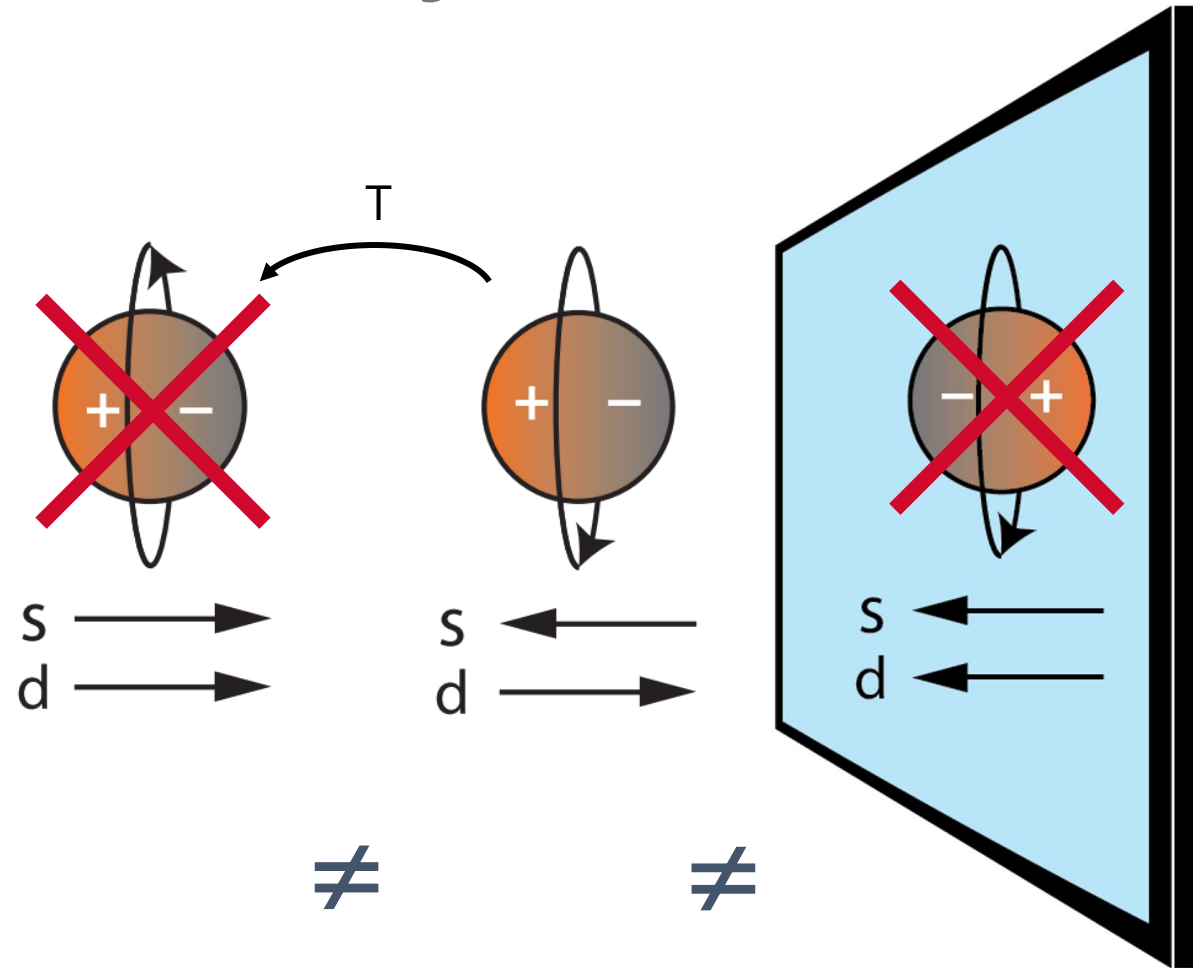


# Low Energy Observables

- New CPV physics with SM couplings generically gives rise to CPV electromagnetic moments in SM objects
  - Fundamental particles:
    - Electric dipole moment (EDM)
  - Nuclei:
    - Nuclear Schiff moment (NSM)
    - Magnetic quadrupole moment (MQM)
- Moments must lie along intrinsic spin (no internal other vectors!)
- $\vec{d} \propto \vec{s} \rightarrow$  problem
  - $\vec{d}$  is P-odd, T-even
  - $\vec{s}$  is P-even, T-odd



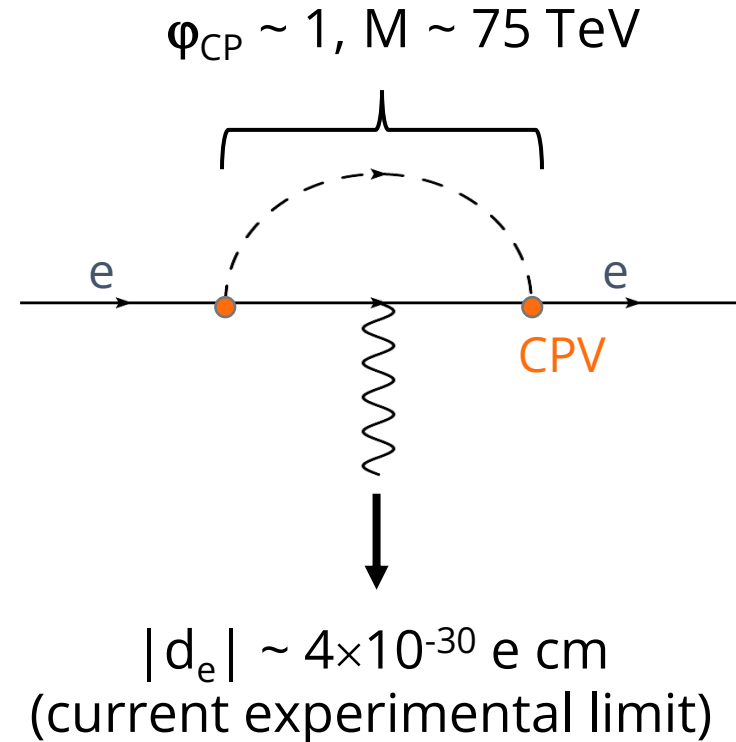
# EDMs violate symmetries



EDMs violate P, T, CP

# Electron EDM

- Generically sensitive to CPV particles and forces coupling to the electron
  - One loop  $\sim 15\text{-}75\text{ TeV}$
  - Two loop  $\sim 1\text{-}3\text{ TeV}$
- “Background free”
  - SM value is small
  - $|d_e| < 10^{-38}\text{ e cm}$
- For specific models, energy reach can be even higher (or lower)
- Orders of magnitude of untapped potential – unique opportunity to explore extremely high energy scales



# Sensitivity

- Experimental observable is angle  $\varphi$  (phase),

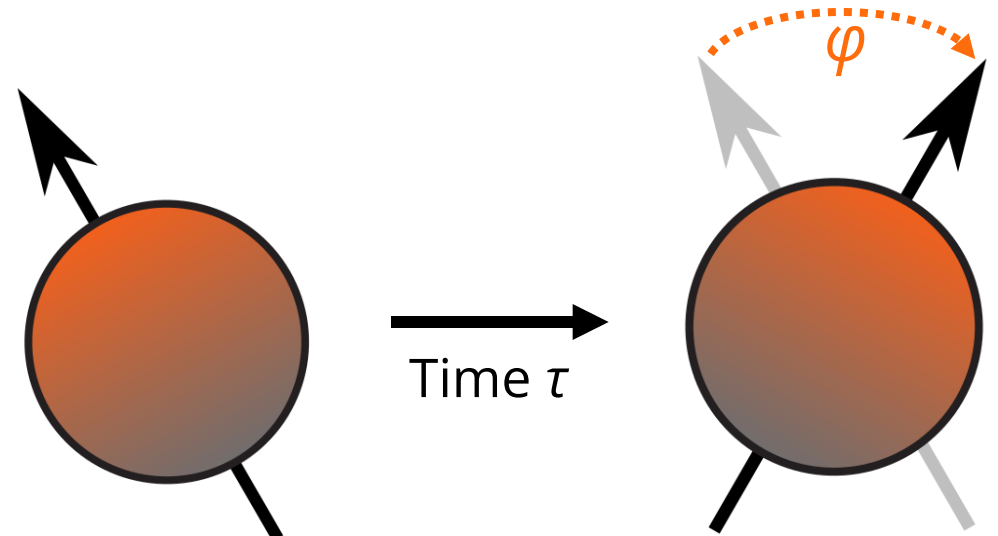
$$\varphi = d\mathcal{E}\tau/\hbar$$

- Repeated measurements:

$$\delta d = \hbar/\mathcal{E}\tau\sqrt{N}$$

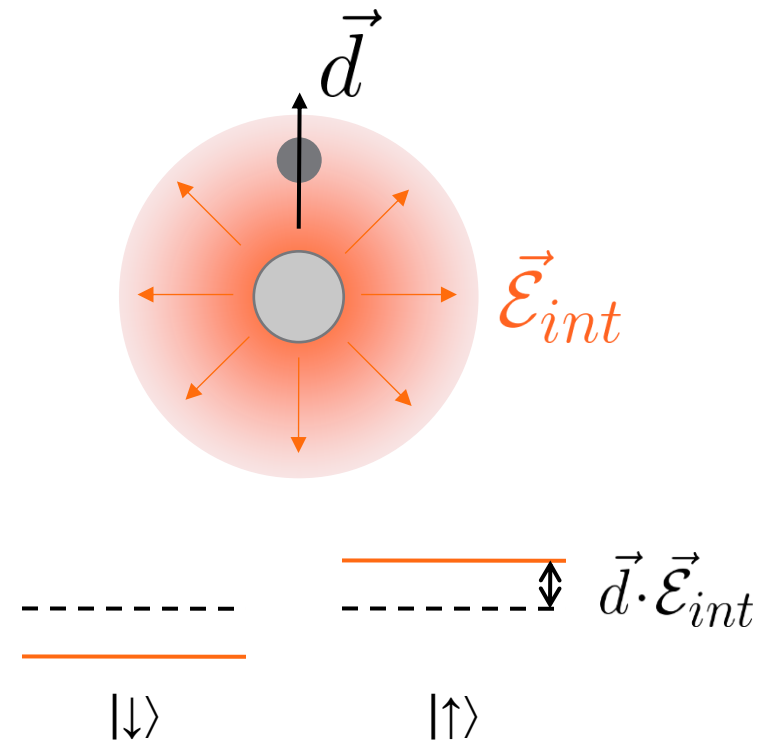
$\uparrow$  Effective electric field  
 $\uparrow$  Coherence time  
 $\uparrow$  Total measurements

Make these large!



# Internal Fields

- Atoms/molecules have extremely large fields
  - $e/4\pi\epsilon_0 a_0^2 \sim \text{GV/cm}$
  - Heavy species  $\sim 10\text{-}100 \text{ GV/cm}$
  - Much larger than “maximum” lab field of  $\sim 100 \text{ kV/cm}$  over macroscopic volumes
- Permanent EDM causes splitting of energy levels
  - Amplified by internal fields
- This simple picture has several caveats
  - Polarization
  - Schiff shielding



# Polarization

- First “internal field” picture caveat – electrons and nucleus experience zero average field

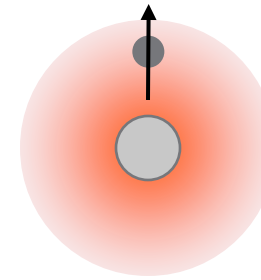
- Always the case:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \psi | \vec{\mathcal{E}} | \psi \rangle &\propto \langle \psi | \vec{r} / r^3 | \psi \rangle \\ &= \int |\psi|^2 \vec{r} r^{-3} d^3r \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

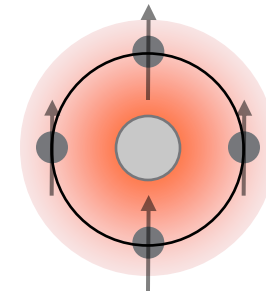
since  $\psi(-\vec{r}) = \pm \psi(\vec{r})$

- Solution: polarize

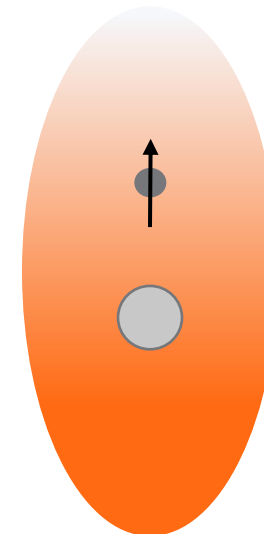
- Apply lab field to polarize atom/molecule



$$\vec{d} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}}_{int} > 0$$



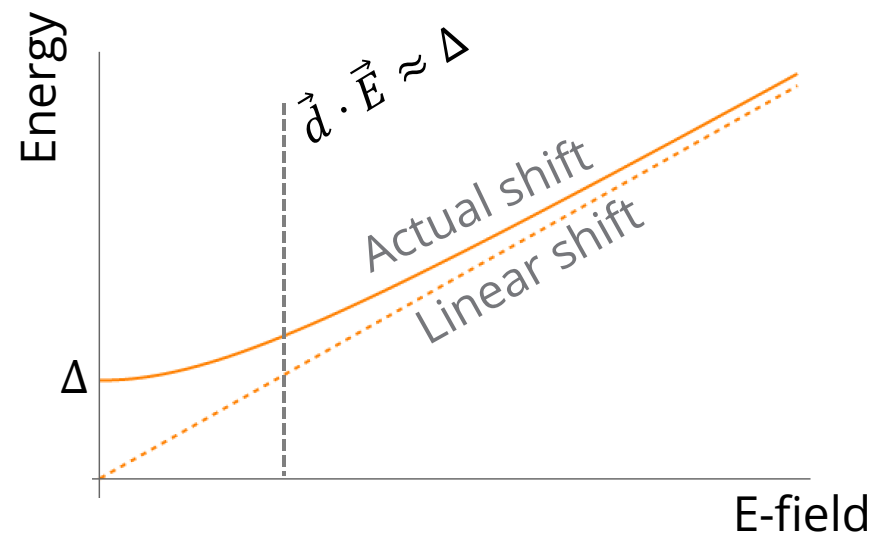
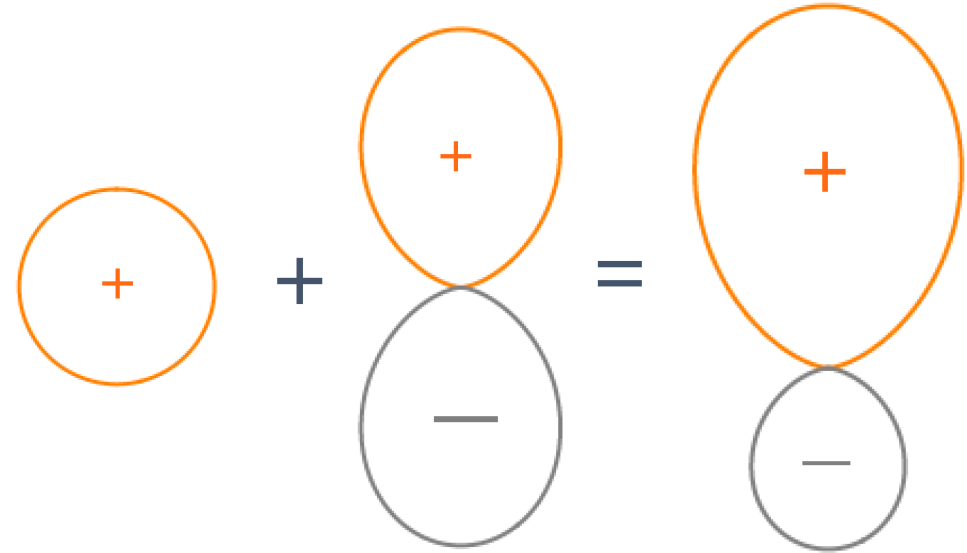
$$\langle \vec{d} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}}_{int} \rangle = 0$$



$$\langle \vec{d} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}}_{int} \rangle \neq 0$$

# Polarizing atoms and molecules

- Atoms/molecules are symmetric in zero field
- Electric field mixes opposite parity states
- Must overcome energy splitting  $\Delta$  between the states to polarize
  - $\rightarrow$  induces dipole
- *Nothing* has a permanent EDM (including water)
  - (except from CP-violation)



# Polarizing atoms and molecules

- Consider a system with just two levels  $e, g$  split by energy  $\hbar\Delta$ . The Hamiltonian from an applied E field is

$$H_S = -\vec{d} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}} = -\mathcal{E} \begin{pmatrix} \langle g|d|g\rangle & \langle e|d|g\rangle \\ \langle g|d|e\rangle & \langle e|d|e\rangle \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -d\mathcal{E} \\ -d\mathcal{E} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where we used that the states have well defined parity so  $\langle g|d|g\rangle = e\langle g|r|g\rangle = 0$  as before (same for state  $e$ )

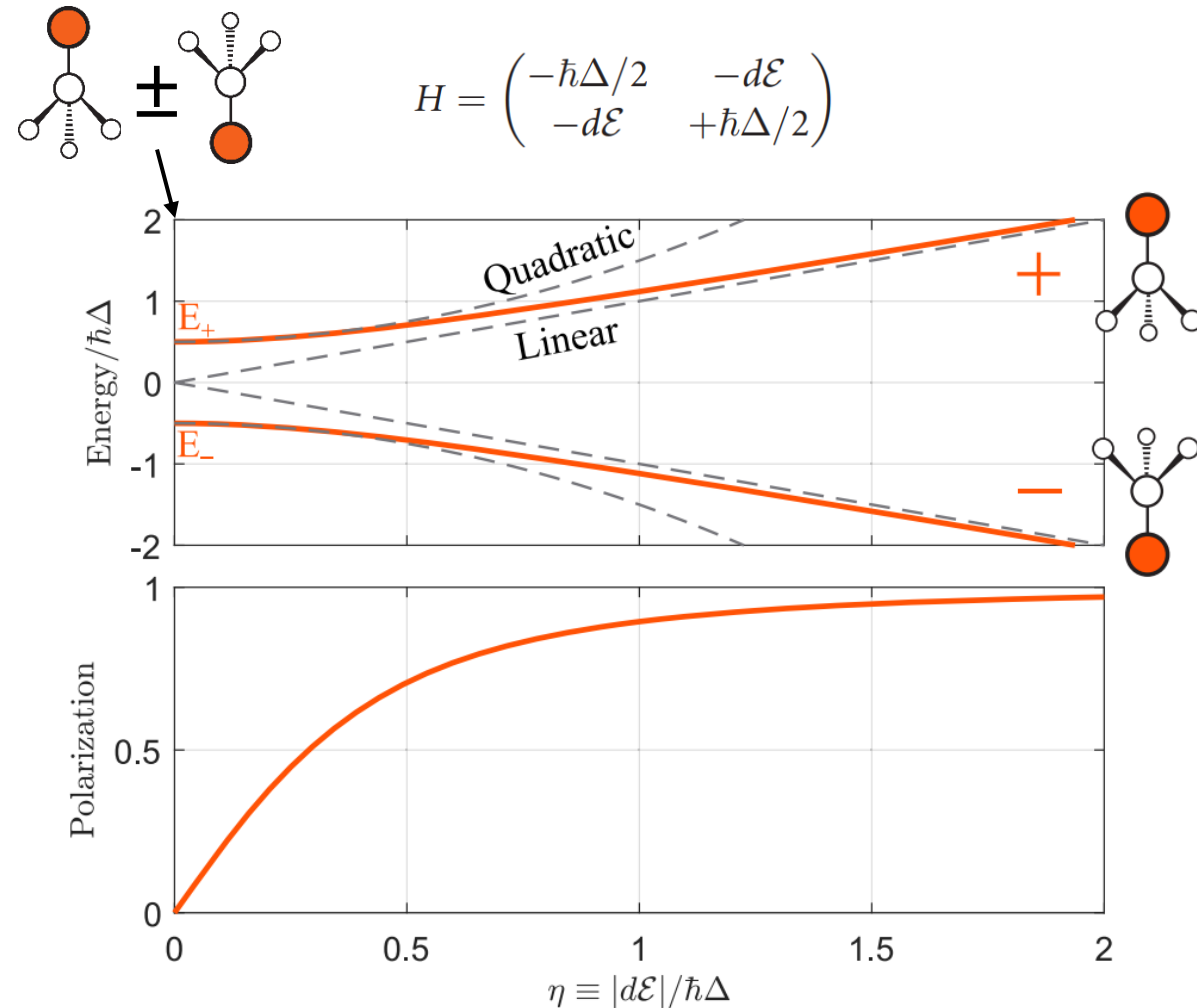
- Defined  $d = \langle e|d|g\rangle = e \int \vec{r} \psi_e^*(\vec{r}) \psi_g(\vec{r})$
- $d$  = transition dipole matrix element (TDM)
- Apologies for the overuse of  $e, d$ ...
- Note  $e, g$  cannot have same parity, otherwise  $\psi_e^*(\vec{r}) \psi_g(\vec{r})$  is an even function and  $d = e \int \vec{r} \psi_e^*(\vec{r}) \psi_g(\vec{r}) = 0$
- The total Hamiltonian is therefore

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} -\hbar\Delta/2 & -d\mathcal{E} \\ -d\mathcal{E} & +\hbar\Delta/2 \end{pmatrix}$$



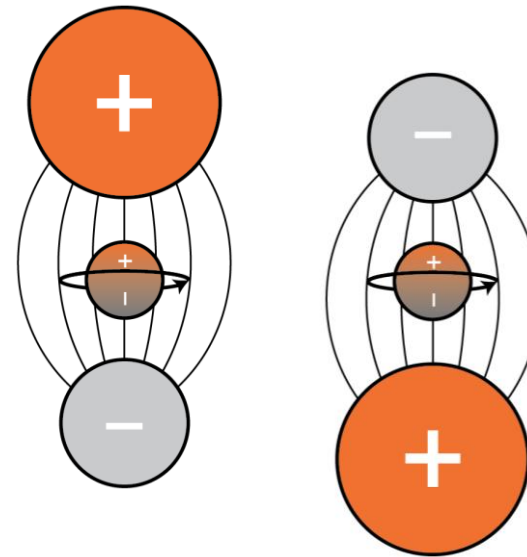
# Polarizing atoms and molecules

- Diagonalize
  - $E_{\pm} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \hbar \Delta [1 + 4\eta^2]^{1/2}$
  - $\eta \equiv |d\mathcal{E}|/\hbar\Delta$
- High field limit,  $\eta \gg 1$ 
  - Linear shifts,  $\Delta E_{\pm} \approx \pm d\mathcal{E}$
  - Eigenstates  $|\pm\rangle \approx (|e\rangle + |g\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$
  - “Fully polarized” or “fully mixed”
- Low field limit,  $\eta \ll 1$ 
  - Quadratic shifts,  $\Delta E_{\pm} \approx d^2\mathcal{E}^2/\hbar\Delta$
  - Induced dipole,  $d \propto \mathcal{E}$
  - Eigenstates  $|e\rangle, |g\rangle = (|+\rangle \pm |-\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$
  - *Mixtures of polarized states*
  - Necessary – polarized states are not parity eigenstates!
- Need  $\eta \sim 1$ ,  $|d\mathcal{E}| \sim \hbar\Delta$  to polarize
- Polarization  $0 \leq P < 1$  is what fraction of the eigenstates are the fully-polarized states  $|\pm\rangle$ 
  - $P = |\partial E_{\pm}/\partial(d\mathcal{E})|$



# Polarization and EDM Sensitivity

- Electron spin can be easily aligned in the lab frame with magnetic fields
  - $\langle \vec{S} \rangle \propto \hat{z}$
- Internal fields require alignment of molecular dipole moment in the lab
  - $\vec{\mathcal{E}}_{eff} \propto \hat{n} \propto \vec{d}_{mol}$
  - $\hat{n}$  = molecular axis
- EDM Shifts  $\propto$  polarization
  - $\Delta E_{EDM} = \langle \vec{S} \cdot \hat{n} \rangle \propto \langle \vec{S} \cdot \hat{z} \rangle \langle \hat{n} \cdot \hat{z} \rangle$
  - $P = |\langle \hat{n} \cdot \hat{z} \rangle|$  Polarization
- True for other CPV shifts



Polarized,  $P = 1$   
 $\Delta E_{EDM} = \pm d_e \mathcal{E}_{eff}$

# Atoms vs. molecules

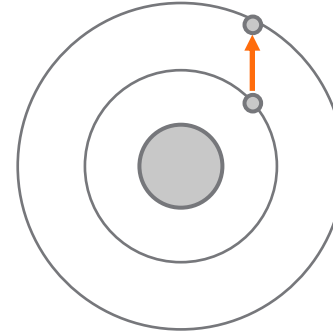
- Atoms

- $\Delta \sim 100$  THz (electronic)
- $P \sim 10^{-3}$  @ 100 kV/cm

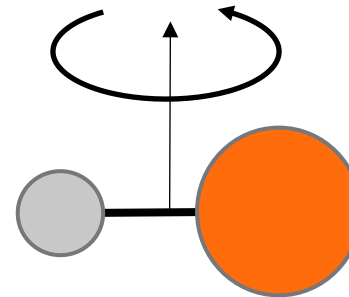
- Molecules

- $\Delta \sim 10$  GHz (rotational)
  - Sometimes even smaller, more on that later
- $P \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$  @ 10 kV/cm

- “Molecules are 1000x more sensitive”



Atoms  
 $\Delta \sim 100$  THz



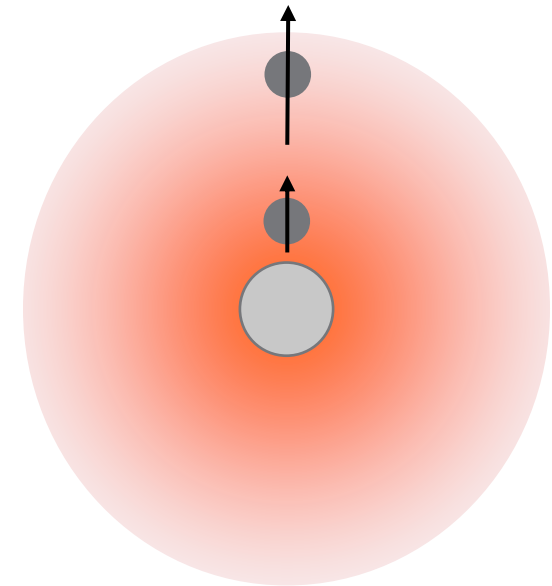
Molecules  
 $\Delta \sim 10$  GHz

# Schiff Shielding

- Second “simple internal field” picture caveat – electrons and nuclei experience zero average field *even when polarized*
  - Schiff's Theorem
    - Basic idea: Atoms do not accelerate in static electric fields. Therefore,  $\langle F \rangle = q\langle E \rangle = 0$  in steady state.
    - Charged particles move to a point where they see zero average field
- This is true! But there are evasions:
  - Electrons move relativistically
  - Nuclei have complex shape

# Relativistic Effects

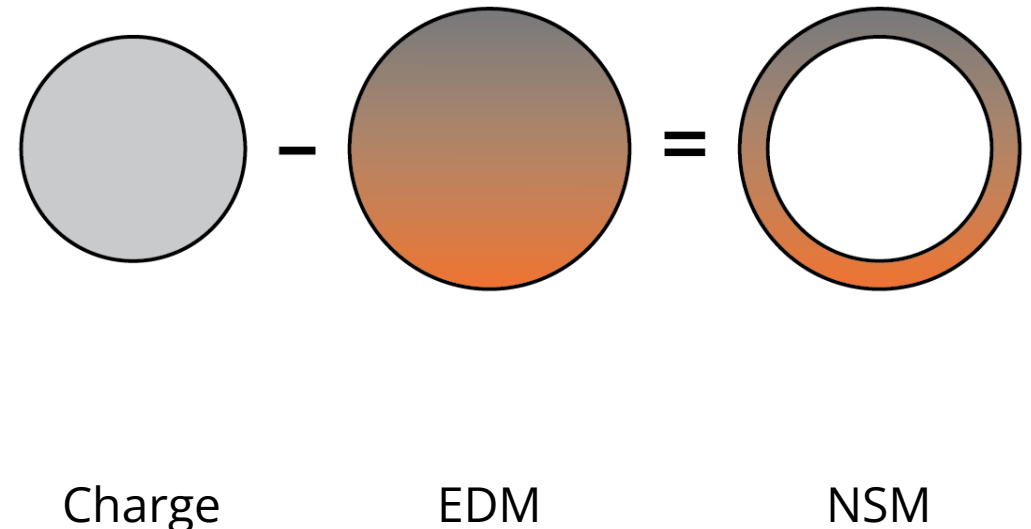
- Dipole moment  $\vec{d}$  experiences Lorentz contraction
  - Correlation of velocity and position relative to nucleus
  - $\vec{d}$  is not a constant in the atom
  - $\langle \vec{E} \rangle = 0$  but  $\langle \vec{d} \cdot \vec{E} \rangle \neq 0$
  - Most sensitive where contraction is largest – very near the nucleus
  - Depends on very short-range electronic wavefunction near nucleus  $\rightarrow$  needs relativistic atomic/molecular theory
  - Largest for  $s$  and  $p$  type electrons
- For  $Z$  protons, orbital size  $\sim a_0/Z$ ,
 
$$v \sim \frac{p}{m_e} \sim \frac{\hbar Z/a_0}{m_e} \sim Z\alpha c \sim c \times Z/137$$
- CPV sensitivity scales roughly as  $Z^{2-3}$



Commins *et al.*, Am. J. Phys. 75, 532 (2007)

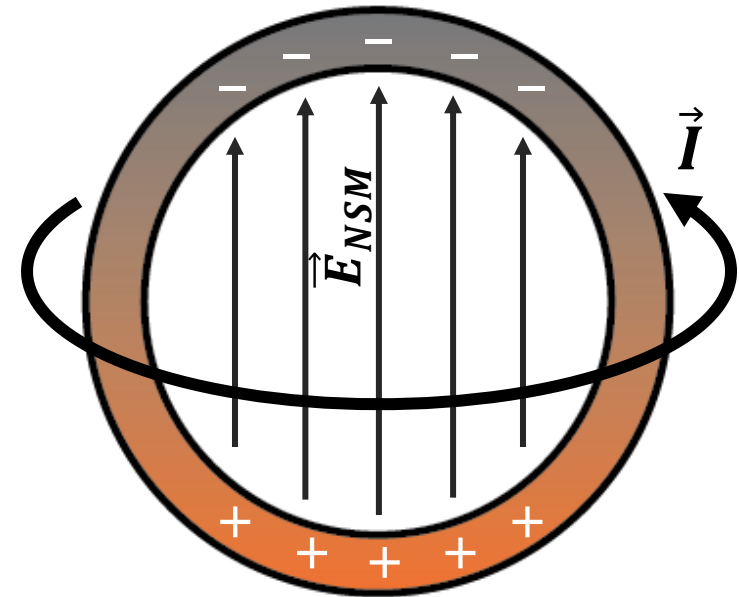
# Nuclear Schiff Moments

- Nuclear motion is definitely not relativistic
  - Nuclear EDMs unobservable?
- Evasion: charge (only p) and EDM (p, n) distributions *generally don't* overlap
- Gives rise to a Nuclear Schiff Moment (NSM)
  - Depends on mismatch between charge and mass distributions in nucleus
- Can be significantly enhanced in highly deformed (non-spherical) nuclei



# Nuclear Schiff Moments

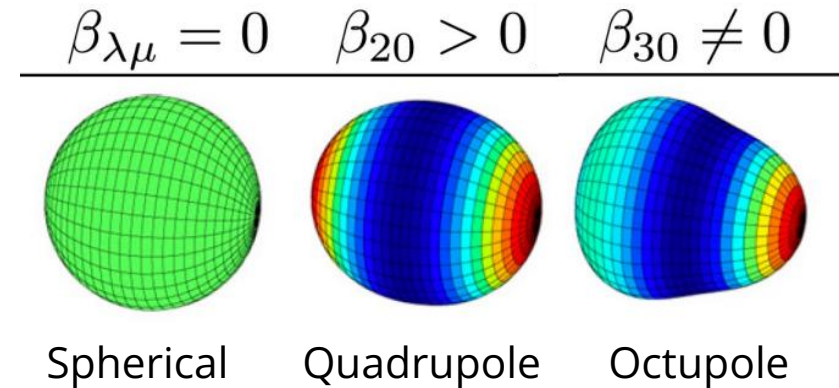
- NSM looks like a charged shell with dipole-like distribution
  - Effective, T-violating  $\vec{E}_{NSM} \propto \vec{I}$
  - Mixes core-penetrating  $s$ ,  $p$  electronic orbitals
  - Induces EDM in atom or molecule
- No need for unpaired electron spins – just electron density at the nucleus
  - Often performed in diamagnetic systems (no net electron spin) for reduced magnetic sensitivity
- Since  $\propto \vec{I}$ , needs  $I \geq 1/2$
- Hamiltonian  $H \propto \vec{E}_{ext} \cdot \vec{I}$ 
  - Very analogous to eEDM, so experimental searches are similar
  - Look for splitting of  $|\uparrow_I\rangle, |\downarrow_I\rangle$



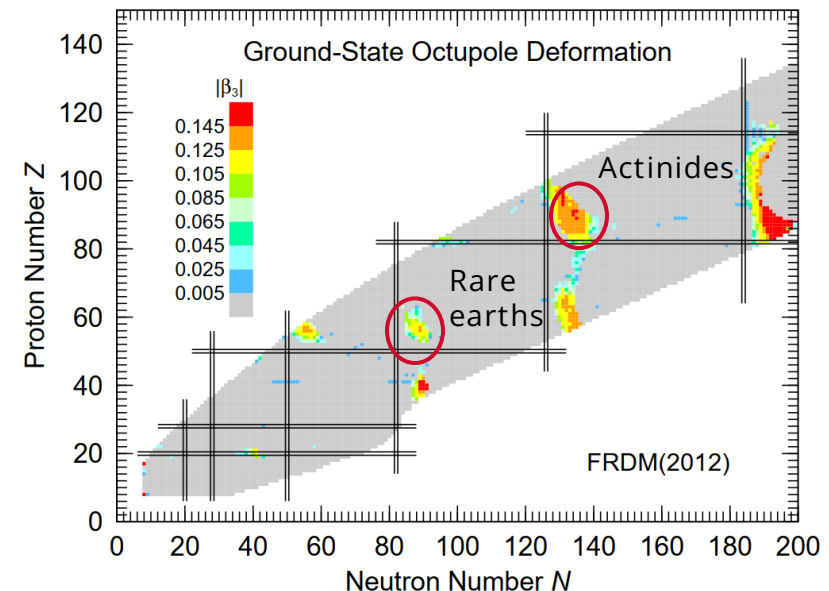
$$\langle S_0 \rangle \propto \sum_p \left( r_p^3 - \frac{5}{3} r_p \overline{r_{ch}^2} \right) z_p$$

# Octupole Deformations

- Schiff Moments (NSMs) enhanced by  $\sim 100$ - $1,000$  in nuclei with octupole shape deformation
  - $r(\theta) = R_0(1 + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \beta_{\ell} Y_{\ell}^0)$
  - Octupole deformation means  $\beta_3 \neq 0$
  - Reflection asymmetric
  - Rather rare property
  - Fr, Ra, Ac, Th, Pa, ...
  - Heavy, spinful, octupole-deformed species are short-lived
- Combines with molecular enhancements  $\rightarrow 10^{5-6}$  sensitivity gain vs. atoms with spherical nuclei
  - Hg, Xe are highly advanced experiments, hard to beat
  - Many CPV sources  $\rightarrow$  need multiple experiments
- Truly exotic nuclei like  $^{229}\text{Pa}$  offer another factor of  $100$ - $1000$  (maybe)



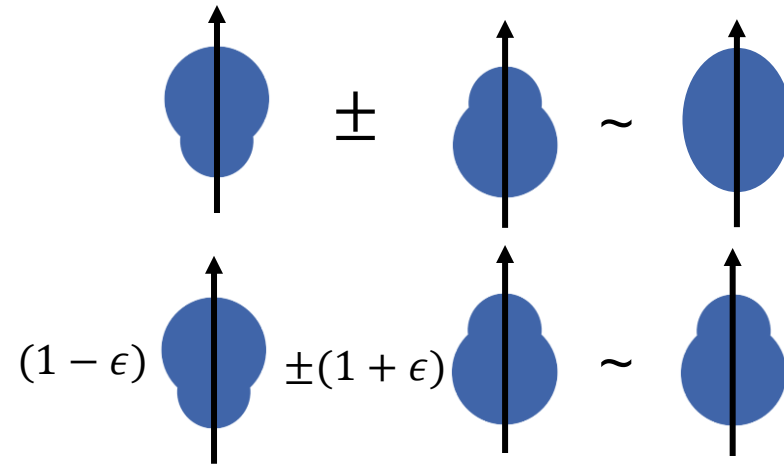
Phys. Scr. 89 054028 (2014)





# Why Octupole?

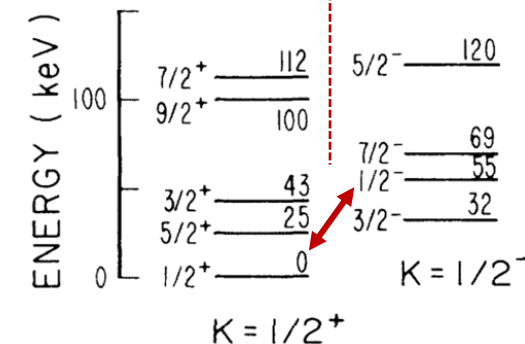
- In absence of symmetry violation, octupole shape averages away
- PV, TV nuclear forces can mix these states
- Large charge, mass mismatch from shape
- Deformed nuclei often have low-lying opposite parity states,  $\lesssim 100$  keV
  - Non-spherical mass  $\rightarrow$  rotational states
  - Dominated by single state
- Pa-229 might have  $\Delta E \sim 60$  eV



Can be large,  $\sim \beta_2 \beta_3^2$

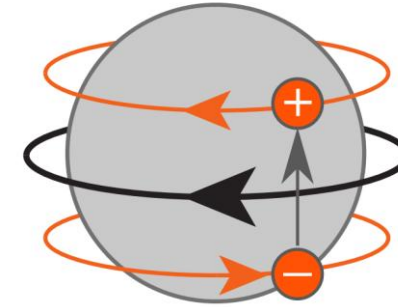
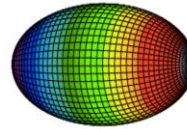
$$S \approx -2 \frac{\langle \Psi_0 | \hat{S}_0 | \bar{\Psi}_0 \rangle \langle \bar{\Psi}_0 | \hat{V}_{PT} | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\Delta E}$$

Can be small, rotational

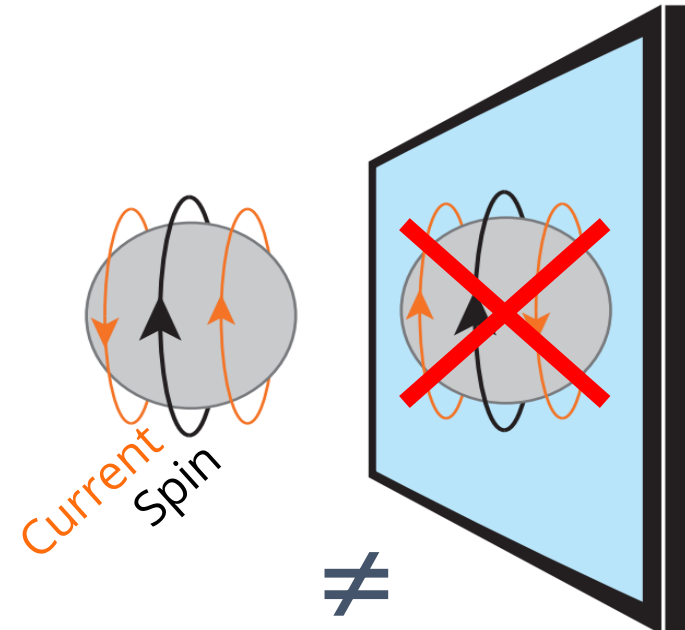


# Nuclear Magnetic Quadrupole Moments

- Another evasion of Schiff shielding: magnetic effects
- Nuclear magnetic quadrupole moments (MQM) are not screened
  - Intuitive origin: orbiting nucleon with EDM creates an MQM  $\sim \vec{I}$
  - Violates T, P, CP
  - Interacts with electron spin in polarized species to make CPV energy shifts
- Need  $I \geq 1$
- Quadrupole deformation ( $\beta_2$ ) enhances MQM
  - Collective enhancement via participation of inner shells
  - Typically  $\beta_2 Z \sim 10$
- Experimental approach once again very similar – look for shifts on re-orienting polarization direction, electron spin, and nuclear spin



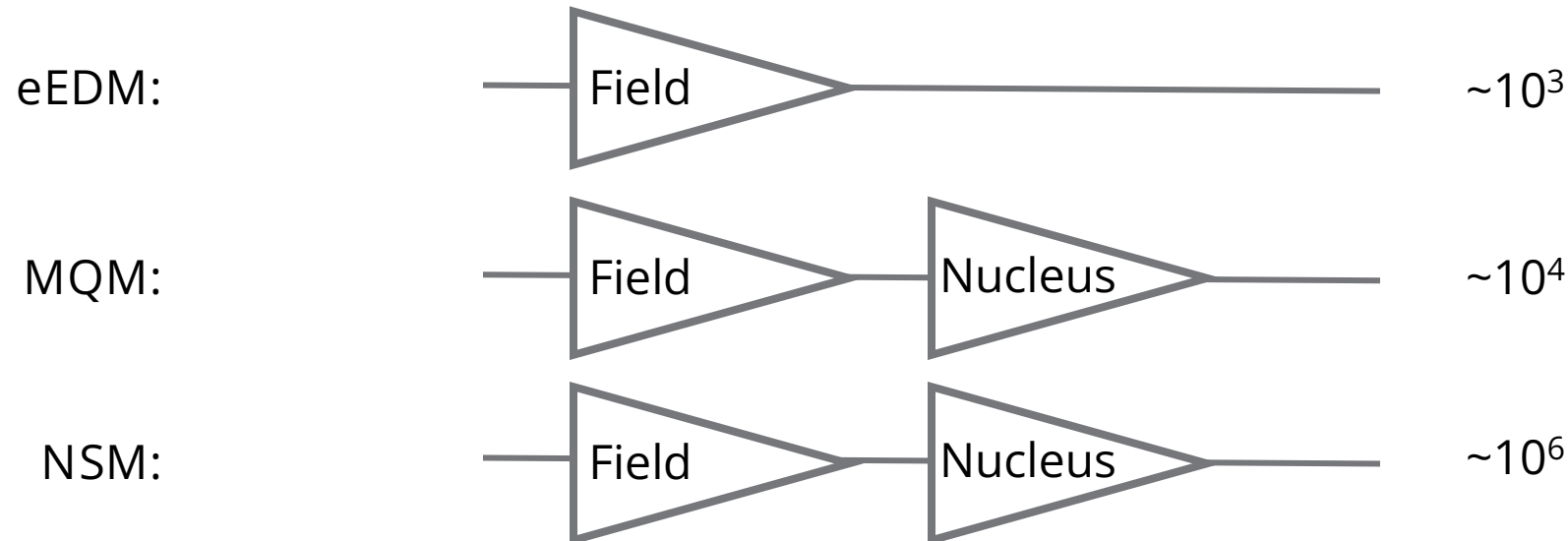
Rotating EDM produces MQM



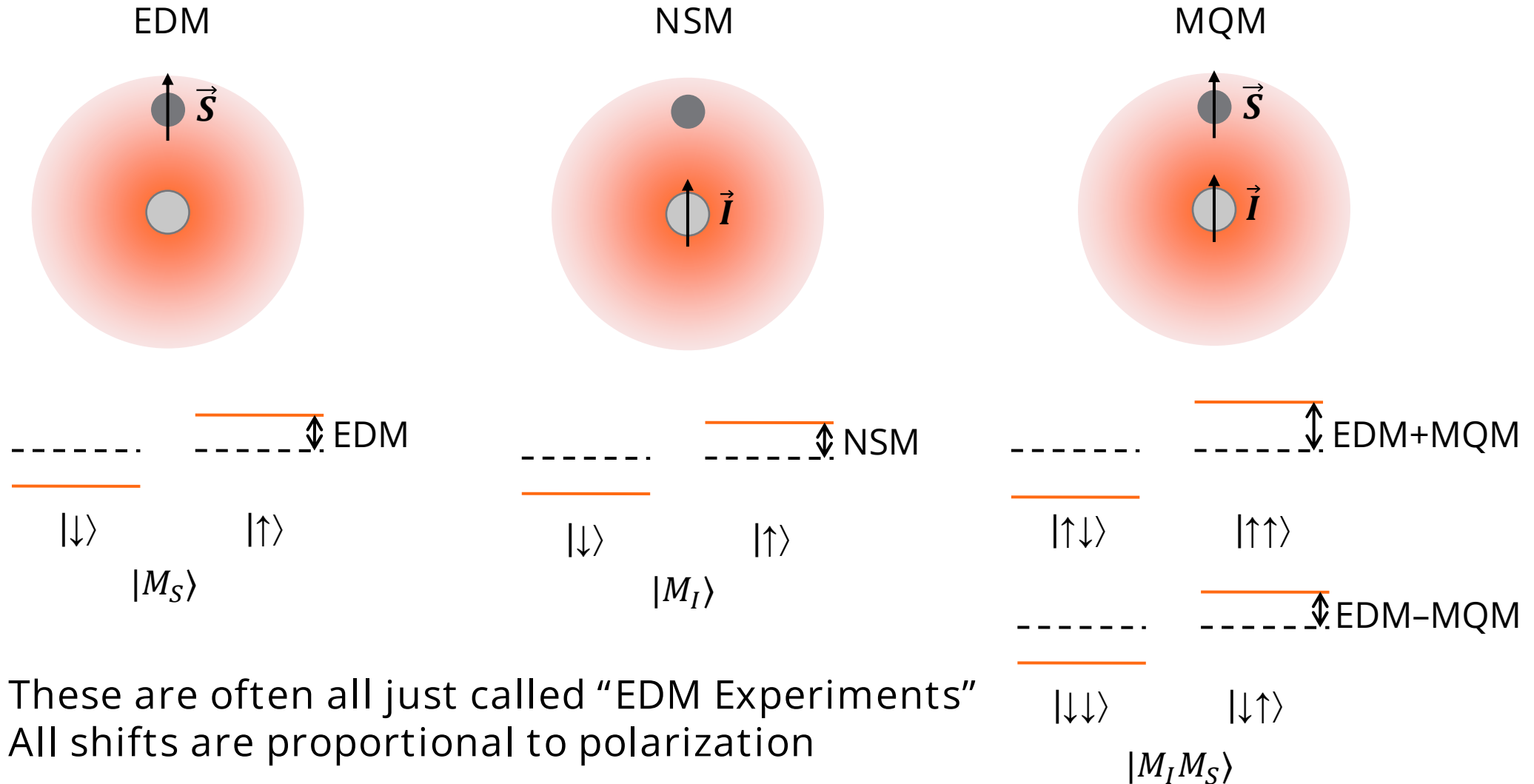
# Field + Nuclear Enhancements

	Internal Field Enhancement	Nuclear Enhancement
Molecule	~1,000	
Quadrupole nucleus (MQM)		~10
Octupole nucleus (NSM)		~1,000

Both NSM, MQM potentially have additional ~1,000x enhancement in  $^{229}\text{Pa}$



# EDM vs. NSM. vs. MQM shifts



- These are often all just called “EDM Experiments”
- All shifts are proportional to polarization

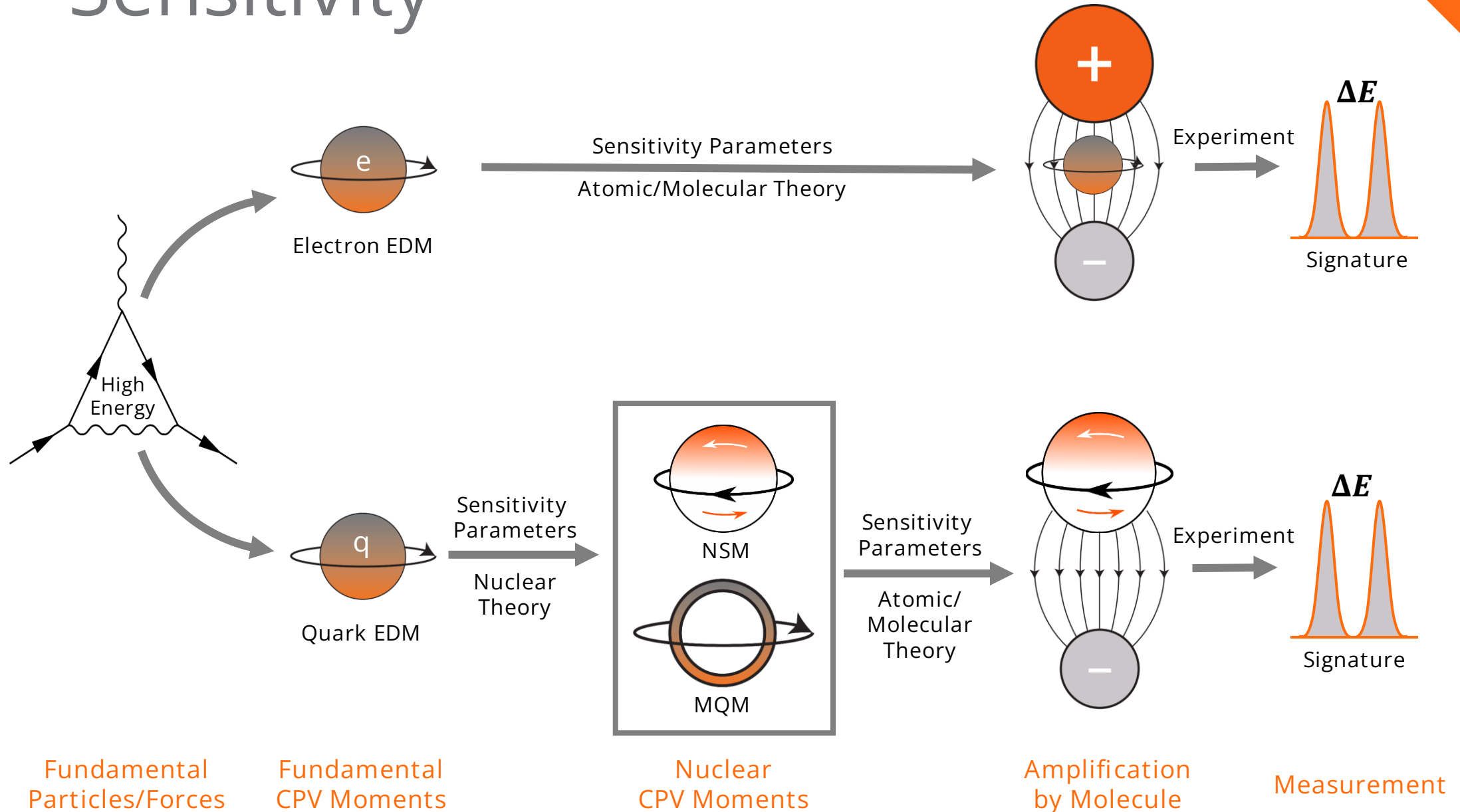
# EDM, NSM, MQM – Complementarity

Wilson coefficient	Operator (dimension)	Number	Systems
$\bar{\theta}$	Theta term (4)	1	Hadronic & diamagnetic atoms
$\delta_e$	Electron EDM (6)	1	Paramagnetic atoms & molecules
$\text{Im } C_{\ell equ}^{(1,3)}, \text{Im } C_{\ell eqd}$	Semi-leptonic (6)	3	
$\delta_q$	Quark EDM (6)	2	Hadronic & diamagnetic atoms
$\tilde{\delta}_q$	Quark chromo EDM (6)	2	
$C_{\bar{G}}$	Three-gluon (6)	1	
$\text{Im } C_{quqd}^{(1,8)}$	Four-quark (6)	2	
$\text{Im } C_{\varphi ud}$	Induced four-quark (6)	1	
Total		13	

J. Engel, M. J. Ramsey-Musolf, and U. van Kolck, Prog. Part. Nucl. Phys. 71, 21 (2013)

- CPV sector parameter space is complex!
  - “Electron EDM” searches actually sensitive to electron EDM and CPV electron-nucleon couplings
  - NSM, MQM searches sensitive to hadronic sources ( $\theta_{QCD}$ , quark EDM and chromo-EDM, CPV nuclear forces, ...)
- Multiple sources requires multiple systems to translate measurements into physically meaningful values
- Dependencies are generally complementary

# Sensitivity



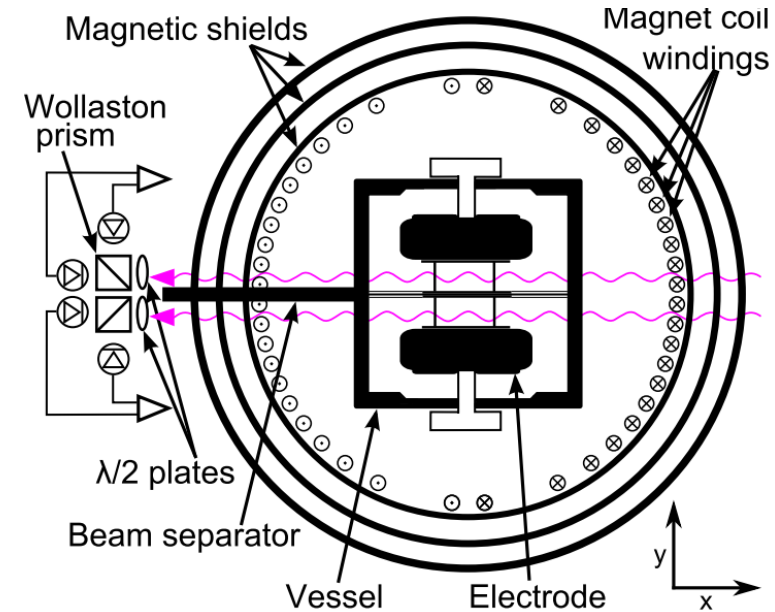
# Part II: Select Contemporary Experiments

Not a review, but instead using them as a vehicle to explain modern experimental methods, and motivate ongoing and future improvements.

*We will not discuss all ongoing EDM experiments!*

# $^{199}\text{Hg}$ EDM

- University of Washington
- $^{199}\text{Hg}$  in a vapor cell
- $I = 1/2$  due to valence  $n$ 
  - Spherical nucleus  $\rightarrow$  no “nuclear enhancement”
- $^1S_0$  ( $s^2$  electron configuration, no net spin or L)
  - Heavy nucleus, highly relativistic electrons  $\rightarrow$  large “atomic enhancement”
  - Electrons are paired off  $\rightarrow$  very small magnetic sensitivity
- Very high count rates (vapor cell) + very long coherence times (minutes)  $\rightarrow$  extremely good frequency resolution
  - $\sim 0.1$  nHz (!!)
- Sensitive primarily to hadronic CPV
  - Example:  $\theta_{QCD} < 1.5 \times 10^{-10}$  (single source assumption)
- $^{129}\text{Xe}$  EDM experiments are similar, but use different techniques

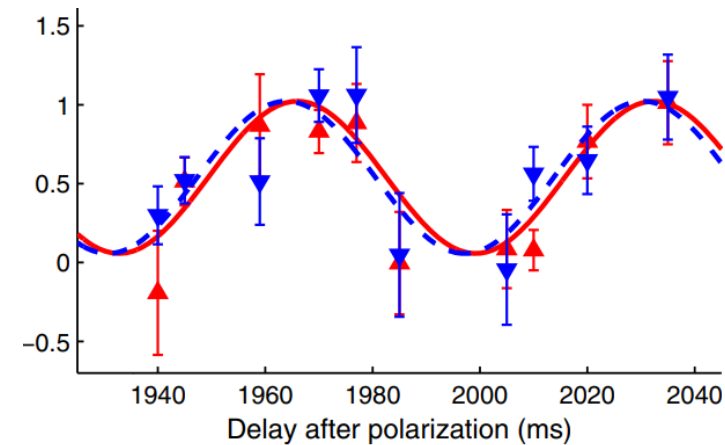
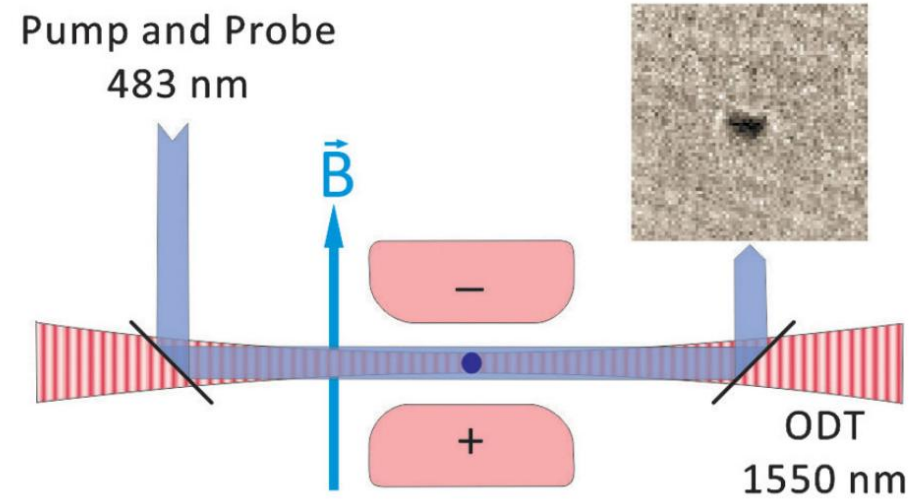


B. Graner, Y. Chen, E. G. Lindahl, and B. R. Heckel, PRL 116, 161601 (2016)  
Photo from Y. Chen FRIB Presentation, 2019  
<https://indico.frib.msu.edu/event/13/>



# $^{225}\text{Ra}$ EDM

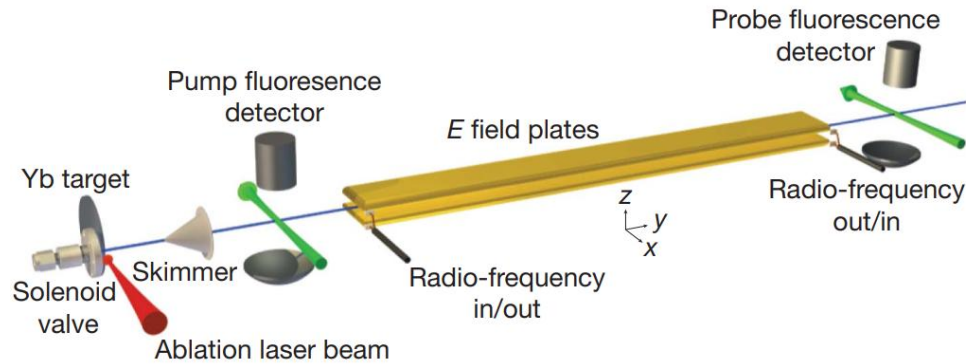
- Argonne National Lab
- $^{225}\text{Ra}$ ,  $I = 1/2$ ,  $^1S_0$ 
  - Large atomic enhancement
  - Large static octupole deformation,  $\sim 1,000\times$  more intrinsic (nuclear) NSM sensitivity vs. Hg
  - Challenges:  $t_{1/2} \sim 2$  weeks, no vapor cells
- Laser-coolable
  - Trap in gas phase at ultracold temperatures
  - Low temperature  $\rightarrow$  highly coherent
- Work at USTC with  $^{171}\text{Yb}$  using advanced quantum methods
  - PRL 129, 083001 (2022)



Ra EDM @ ANL

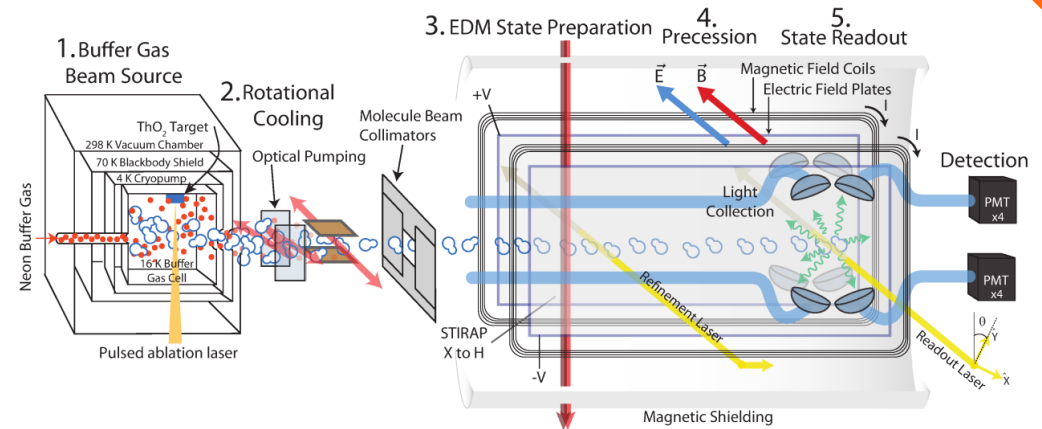
R. H. Parker, et al., PRL 114, 233002 (2015)

# Molecular Experiments



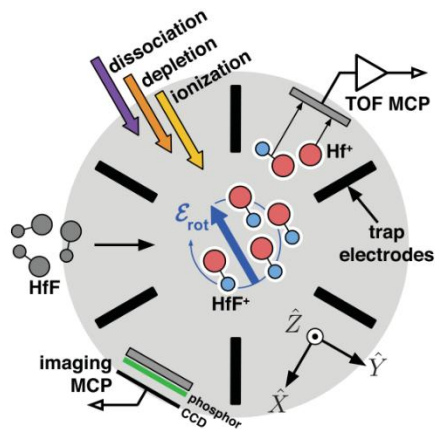
## YbF, Imperial

- Spin precession in pulsed supersonic beam
- First to beat atomic TI limits
- $|d_e| < 1.1 \times 10^{-27} \text{ e cm (2011)}$



## ACME, ThO, Harvard/Chicago/Northwestern

- Spin precession in cryogenic beam
- $|d_e| < 8.7 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e cm (2014)}$
- $|d_e| < 1.1 \times 10^{-29} \text{ e cm (2018)}$

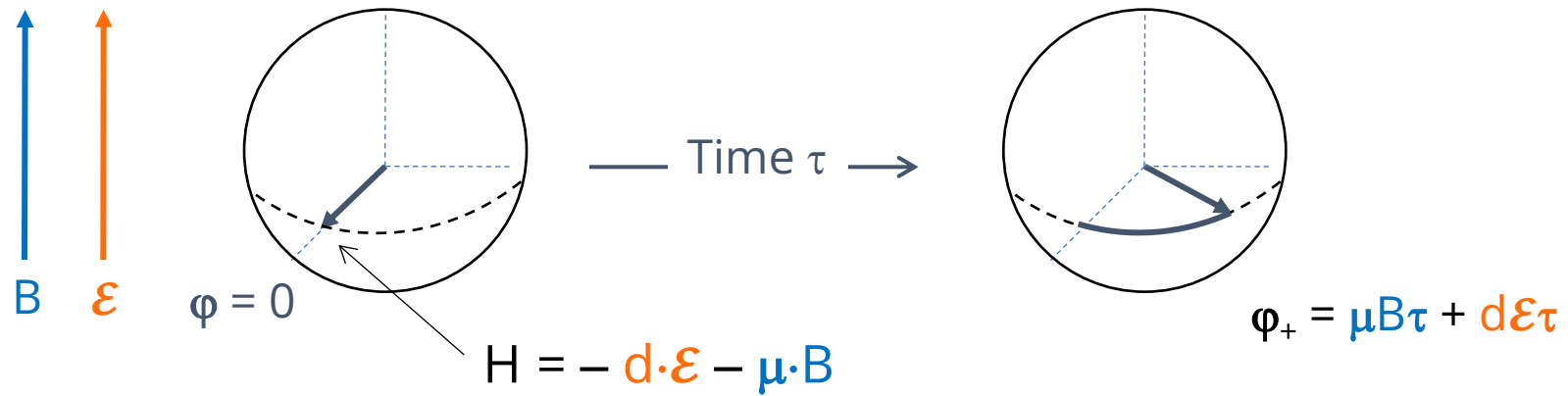


## HfF<sup>+</sup>, JILA/Boulder

- Spin precession in ion trap
- $|d_e| < 1.3 \times 10^{-28} \text{ e cm (2017)}$
- $|d_e| < 4.1 \times 10^{-30} \text{ e cm (2023)}$

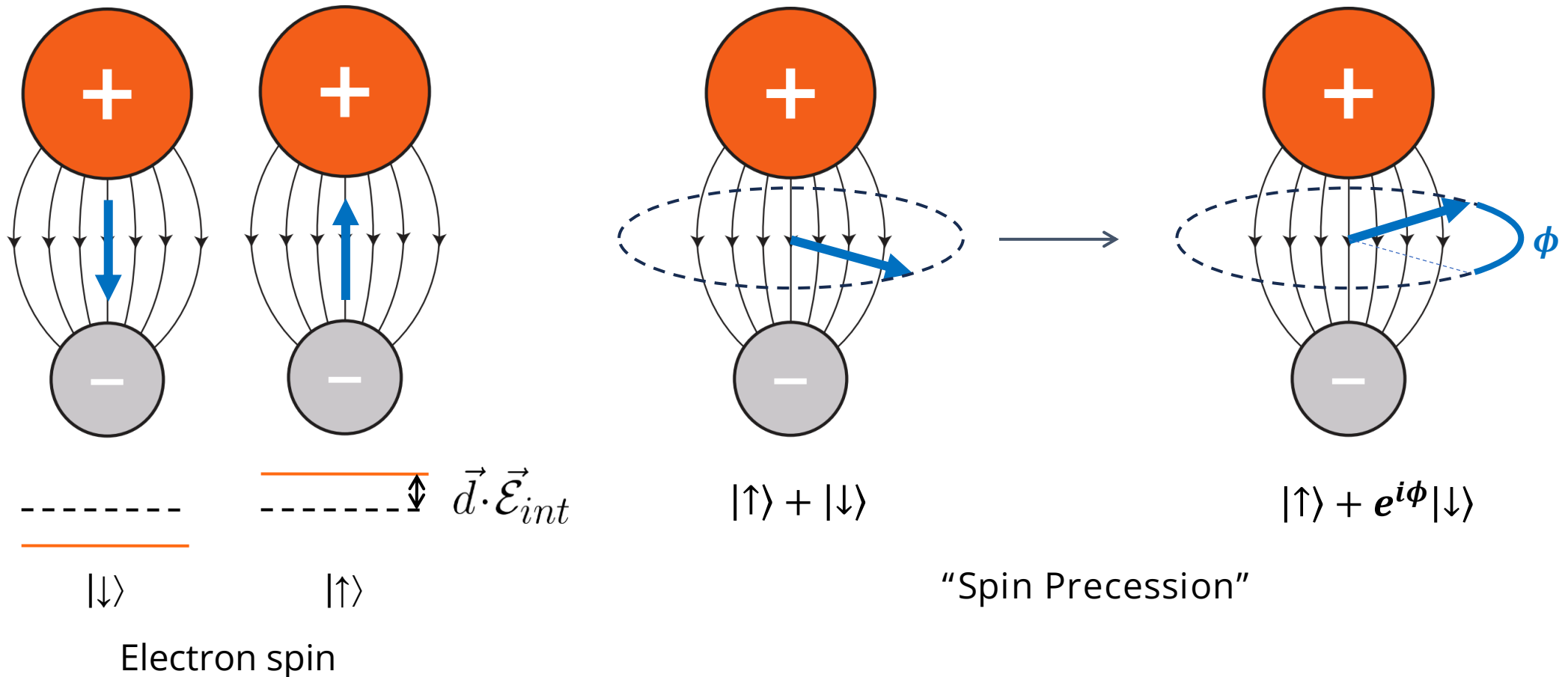
- ~300x in ~12 years
- Each is being upgraded
- More are under way
- Extending to nuclear CPV
- Will discuss more about these experiments later

# An Idealized EDM Experiment

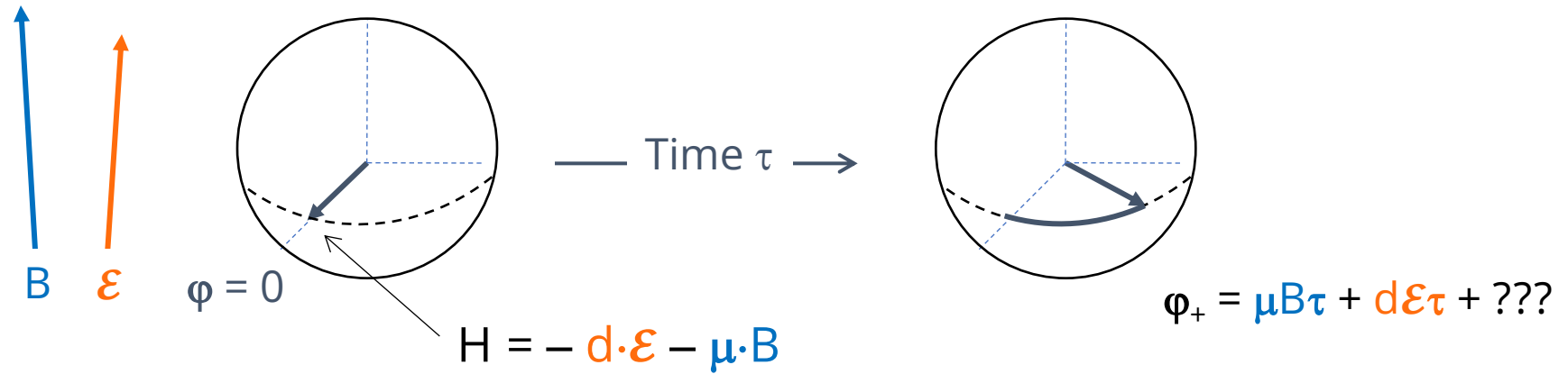


$$\Delta\varphi \propto d\epsilon\tau$$

# An Idealized EDM Experiment



# Nothing is perfect...

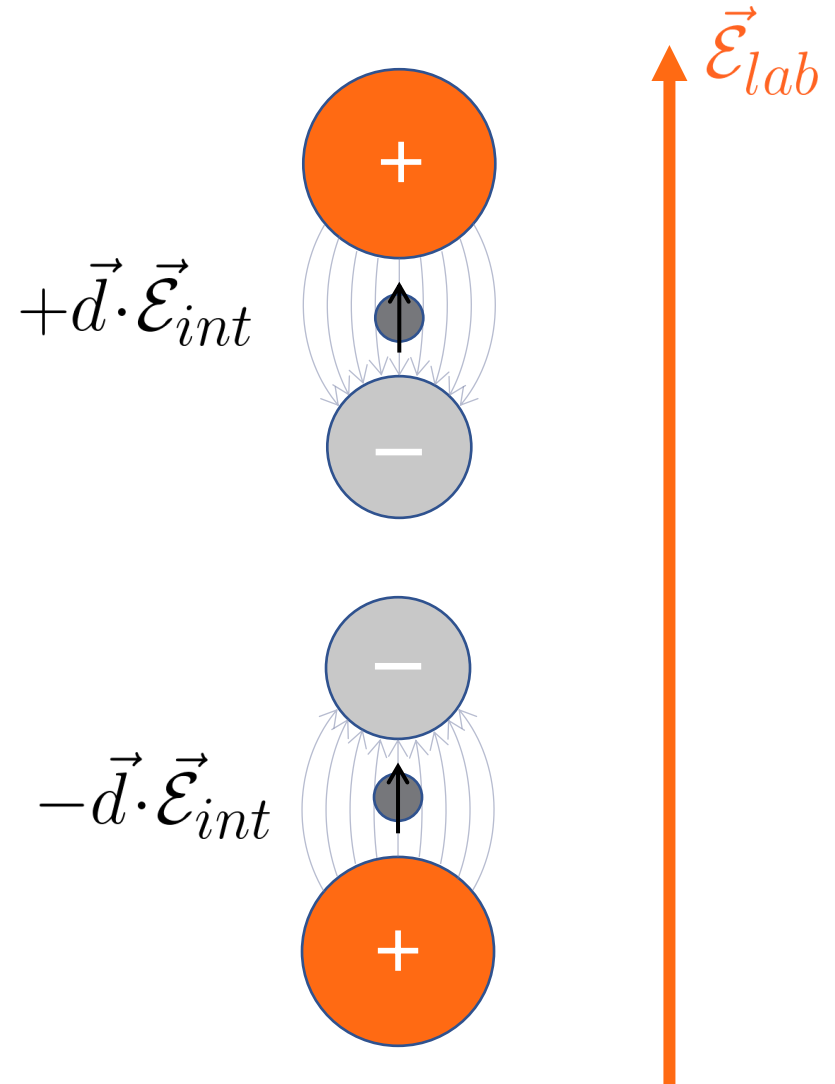


$$d \mathcal{E} / \mu B < 10^{-6}$$

$$\Delta \varphi \propto d \mathcal{E} \tau + ???$$

# Internal Co-magnetometers

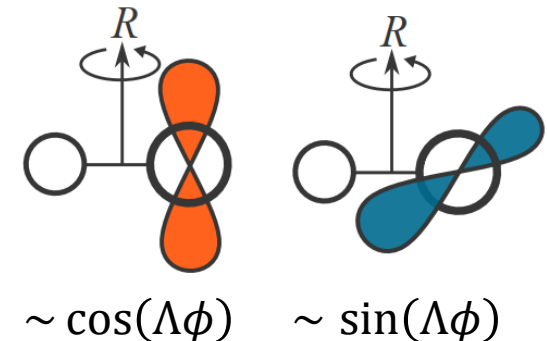
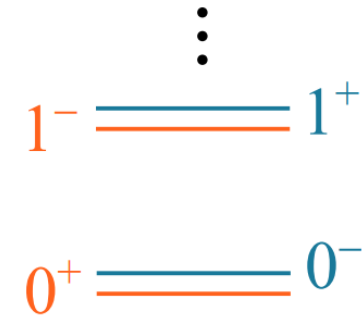
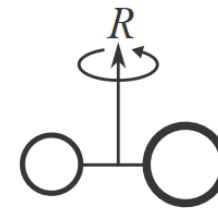
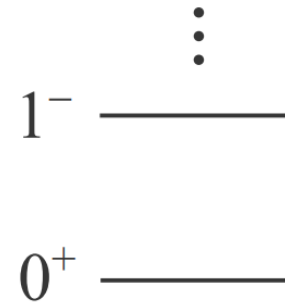
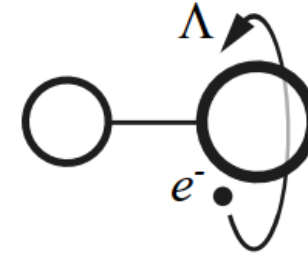
- When a molecule can be fully polarized, we get two states with opposite alignment of internal fields
- EDM see only this internal field, *not* the external field
  - External field is just for polarization
- Change EDM shift without changing external fields – just tune lasers to address different states
- Very powerful for rejection of systematic errors
- “Internal co-magnetometer” – can use the molecule to independently measure B, E fields
  - As opposed to a co-magnetometer species mixed in, such as atomic sodium in atomic thallium experiment



# Parity Doublets

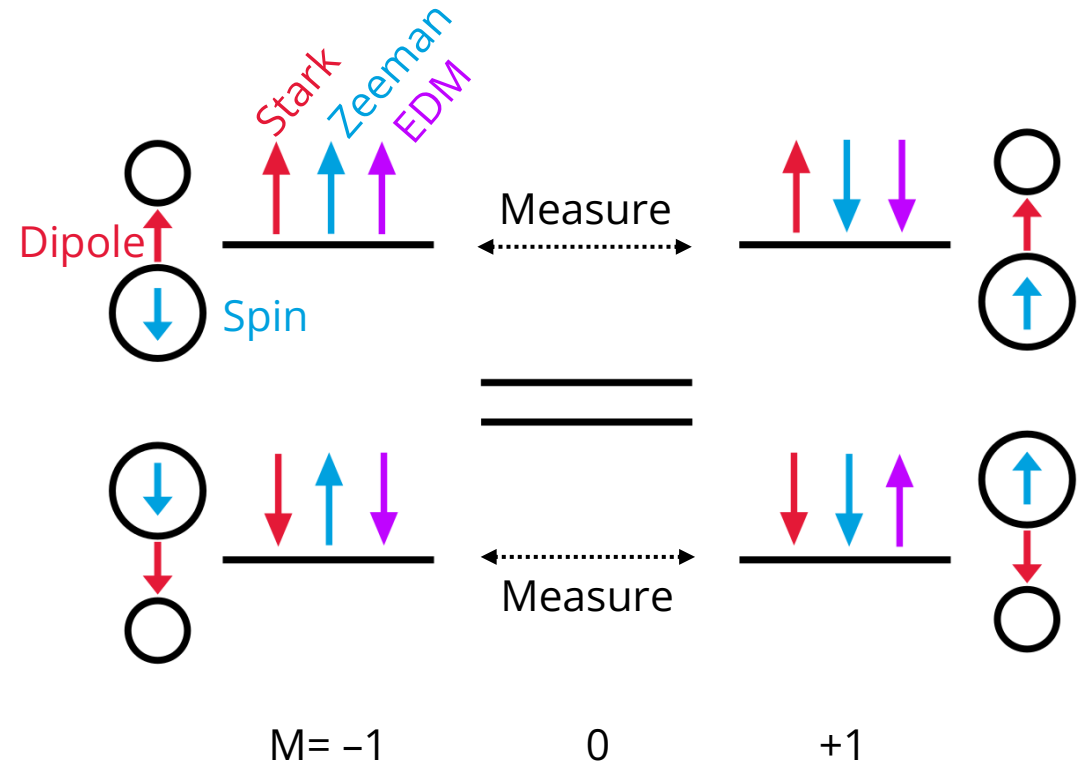
- States with  $\Lambda = \vec{L} \cdot \hat{n} \neq 0$  have  $\Lambda$  (or  $\Omega$ ) “parity doublets”
- States with  $\pm\Lambda$  are nominally degenerate
  - $\psi_{\pm\Lambda} \sim \exp(\pm i\Lambda\phi)$
- Eigenstates are
 
$$|\pm\rangle \propto (|+\Lambda\rangle \pm |-\Lambda\rangle)$$

$$\sim \sin(\Lambda\phi), \cos(\Lambda\phi)$$
- States split by molecular rotation
  - Different moments of inertia
  - Each rotational state splits
  - This is a back-of-the-envelope explanation, depends on detailed structure, see for example arXiv:2506.10904
- Can often polarize in  $\sim 1$  V/cm vs.  $\sim 10$  kV/cm without parity doublets
- Parity doublets can arise from different mechanisms in polyatomic molecules... more on that later



# Internal Co-magnetometers

- Polarized parity doublets  
→ two pairs of states for spin precession measurement
- Changes sign of EDM without changing external fields
- Also much smaller E fields needed
- Reversing large E fields is very hard...
- Critical tool in ThO, HfF<sup>+</sup>
- Somewhat uncommon in diatomics

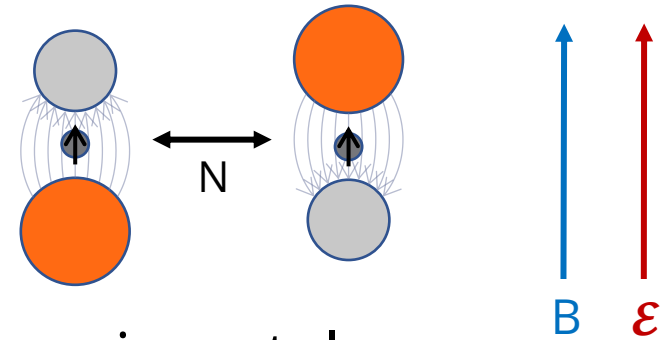




# Isolating the EDM – “Switches”

- All interactions have distinct behavior under reversal of:

- $\mathcal{E}$  - External electric field
  - Interacts with molecular dipole
- $B$  - External magnetic field
  - Interactions with electron spin
- $N$  - Molecule dipole orientation
  - Changes direction of molecular dipole



- Measure spin precession in various experimental configurations and look for correlations

Quantity	$\mathcal{E}$ -flip	$B$ -flip	$N$ -flip
Electron EDM	–	+	–
Applied $B$ field	+	–	+
Background $B$ field	+	+	+
Leakage current/ $v \times \mathcal{E}$ /Geometric phases	–	+	+
etc...			

← Limited previous atom experiments

# Lecture II: Select Ongoing and Future Developments

Not a review, but instead using them as a vehicle to explain experimental methods under development.

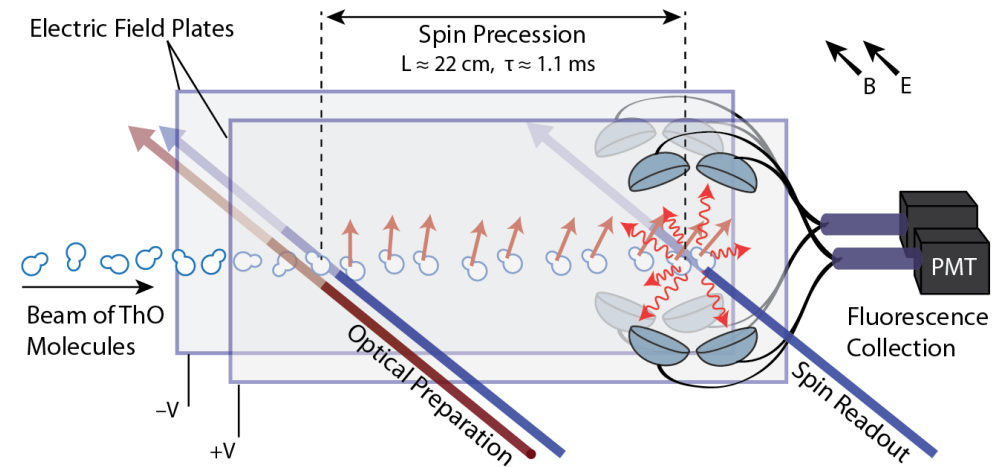
*We will not discuss all ongoing and future developments!*

*Heavily biased towards things that that I work on! Not egotistical, just lazy.*

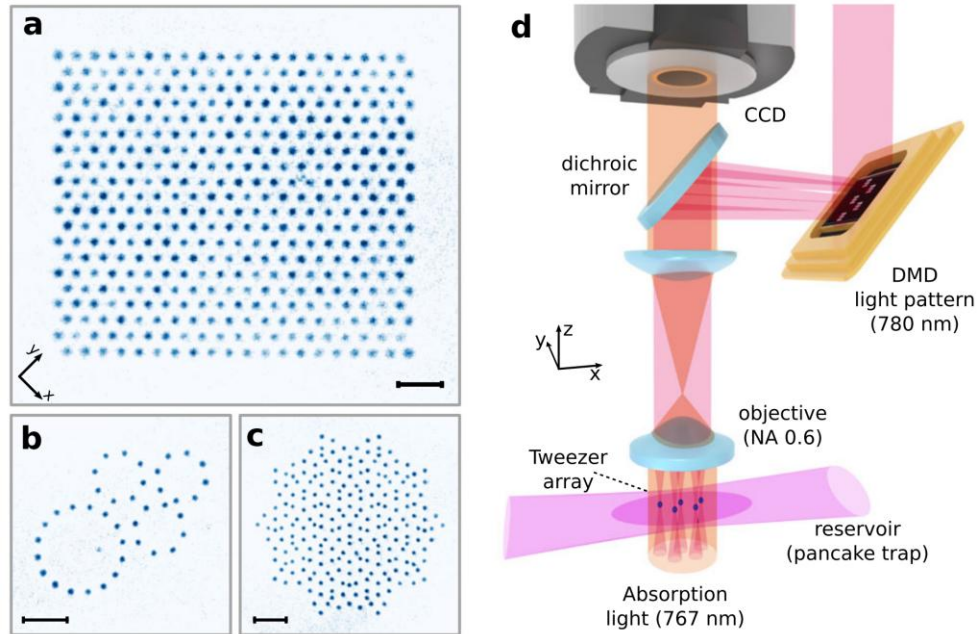
# Laser cooling

# Motivation for molecular laser cooling

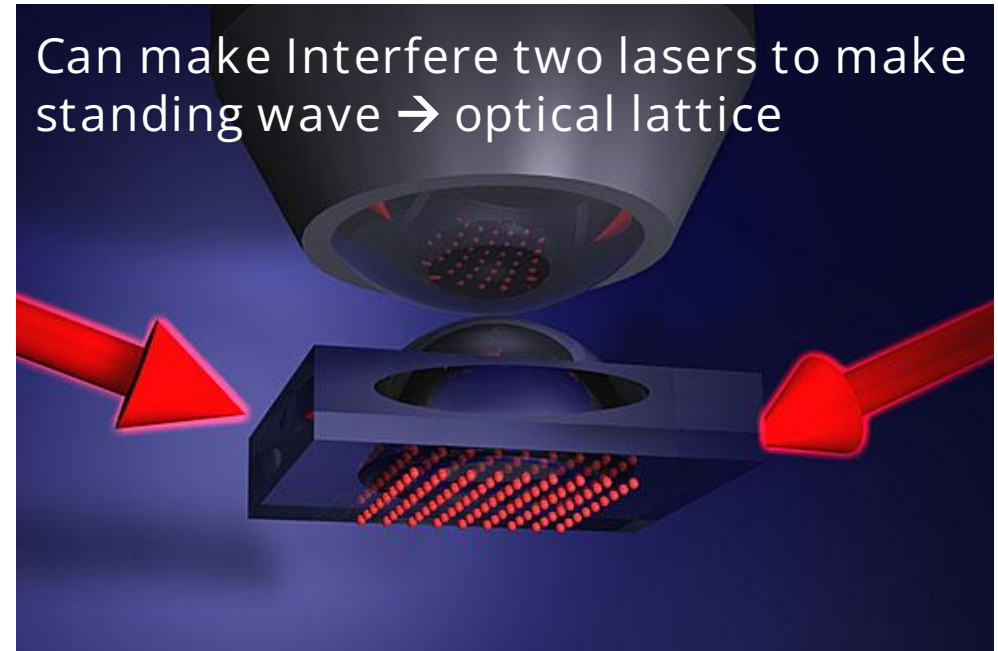
- Beam experiments (ThO, YbF) limited by time of flight,  $\tau \sim \text{few ms}$
- Can extend by slowing and compressing beam
- Trapping can yield orders of magnitude improvement
  - Critical for long coherence time of  $\text{HfF}^+$ , Ra experiments
- For neutral species, requires “ultra-cold” temperatures,  $<1 \text{ mK}$ 
  - Suitable conservative traps are shallow
  - Free molecules (fountains) must be very slow
- → Laser cooling
- Also highly relevant for atomic searches (Cs, Fr, Ra, ...)



# Quantum Control with Atoms



Y. Wang *et al.*, npj Quantum Information 6, 54 (2020)



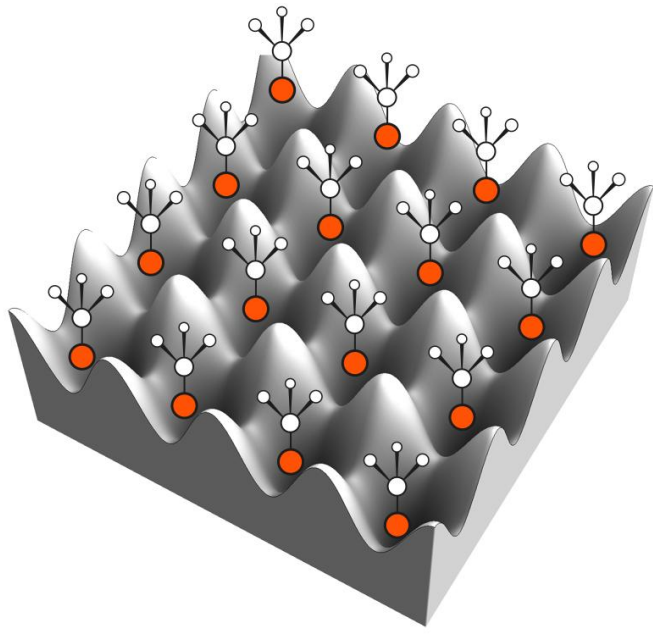
Greiner Lab, Harvard University

- Atomic experiments can realize *extreme* levels of control – internal and external states, environmental couplings, engineered interactions, etc.
- Molecular CPV experiments have not yet benefitted from any of these advances due to complex molecular structure
  - Active area of research, and major advances are coming!

# Ultracold CPV Searches

- $10^6$  molecules
- 10 s coherence
- Large enhancement(s)
- Robust error rejection
- 1 week averaging

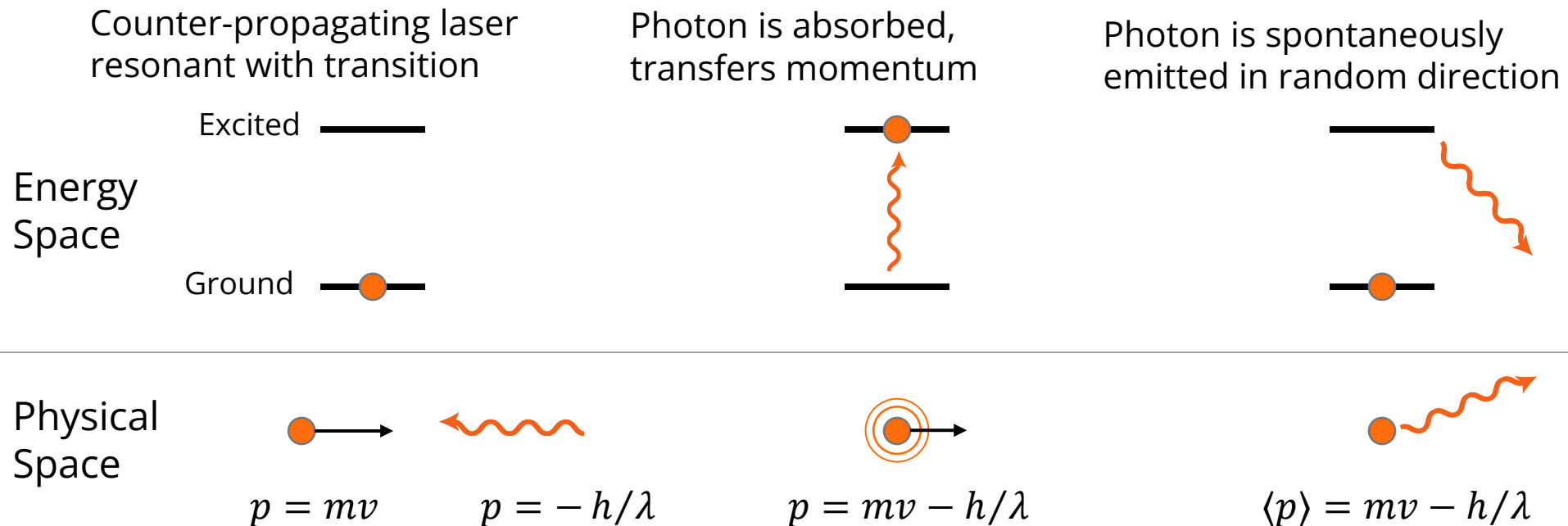
Access to CPV @  
1,000 TeV (1-loop)  
50 TeV (2-loop)



Heavy, polar molecule  
sensitive to new physics

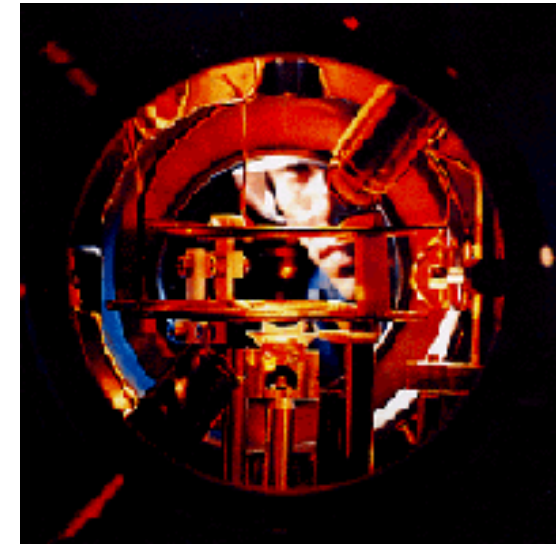
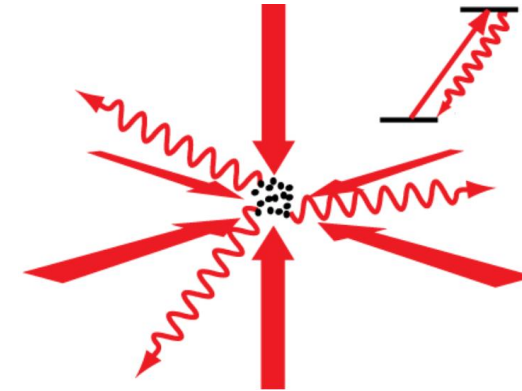
# Optical Forces

- Lasers can be used to apply forces to atoms and molecules
  - Including cooling and trapping
  - Major driver of AMO, QIS
- Basic idea: apply forces via (nearly) resonant lasers



# Laser cooling/trapping

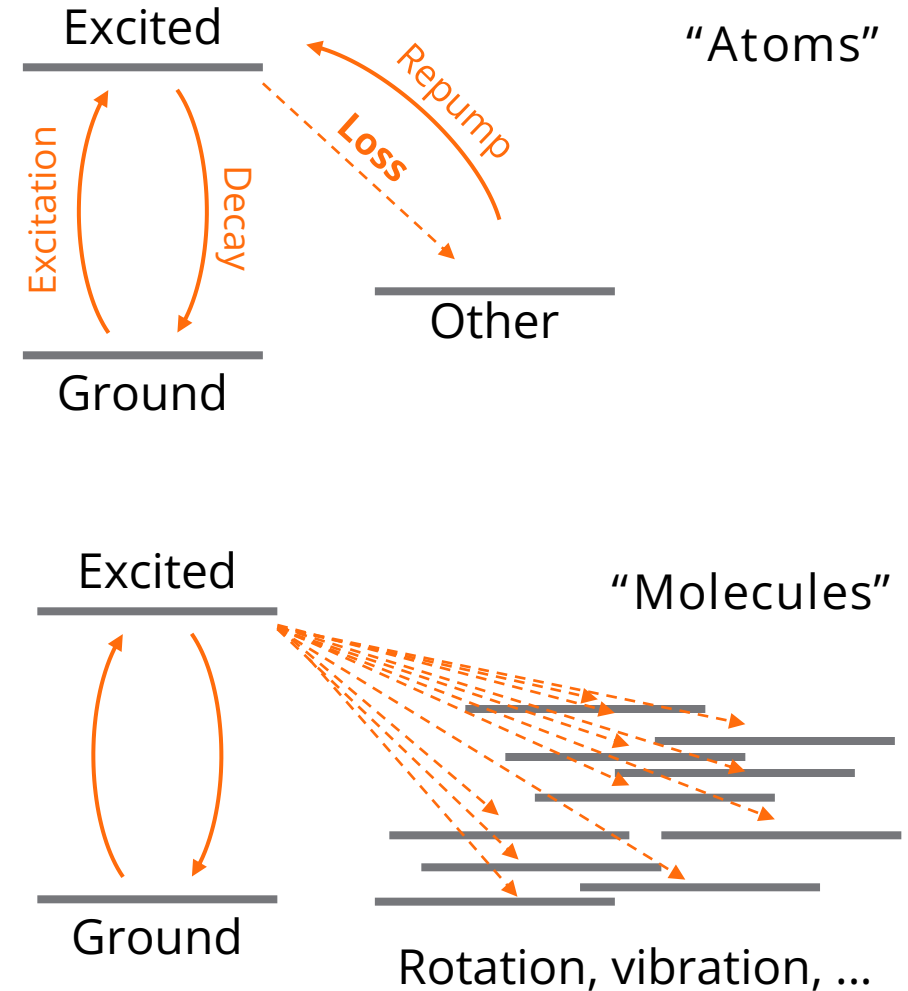
- These temperatures enable:
  - Quantum coherence
  - Trapping in shallow, “non”-perturbative optical traps
- Critical ingredient in many atomic quantum science experiments
  - Clocks, atom arrays, quantum gases, ...
- Why not just laser-cool everything? We shall see...





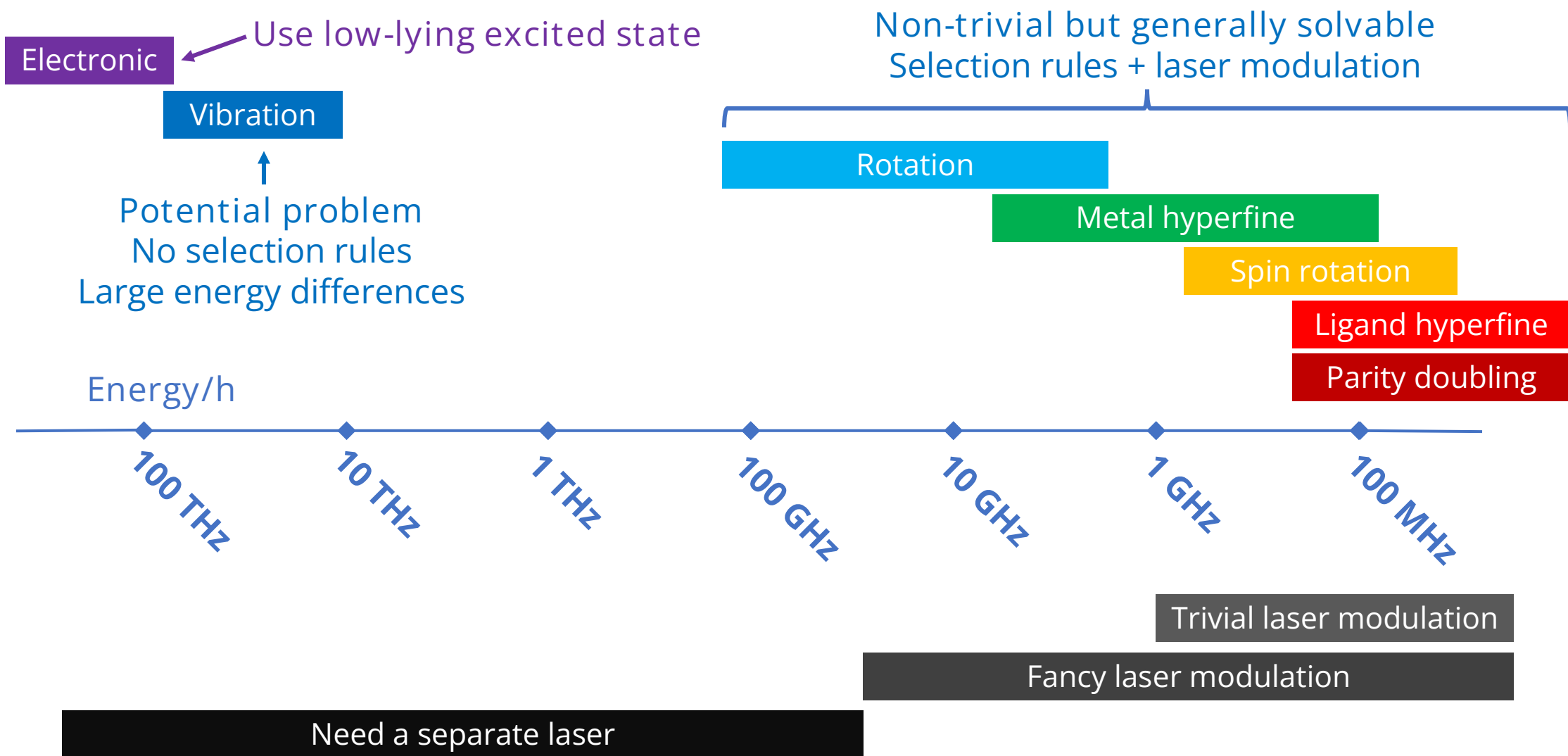
# Laser cooling molecules

- Apply forces by photon scattering
- Requires many ( $\sim 10^5$ ) cycles of absorption, spontaneous decay
  - Photon recoil  $h/\lambda$
  - $N_{\text{photons}} \sim mv_{\text{initial}}/(h/\lambda)$
  - $v_{\text{initial}} \sim 100 \text{ m/s}$  (why? Later...)
  - $N_{\text{photons}} \sim M[\text{amu}] \times \lambda[\text{nm}]$
- Decay to other states stops the cooling process
- Internal vibrational, rotational levels are excited in decay
- For certain molecules, this is *manageable*



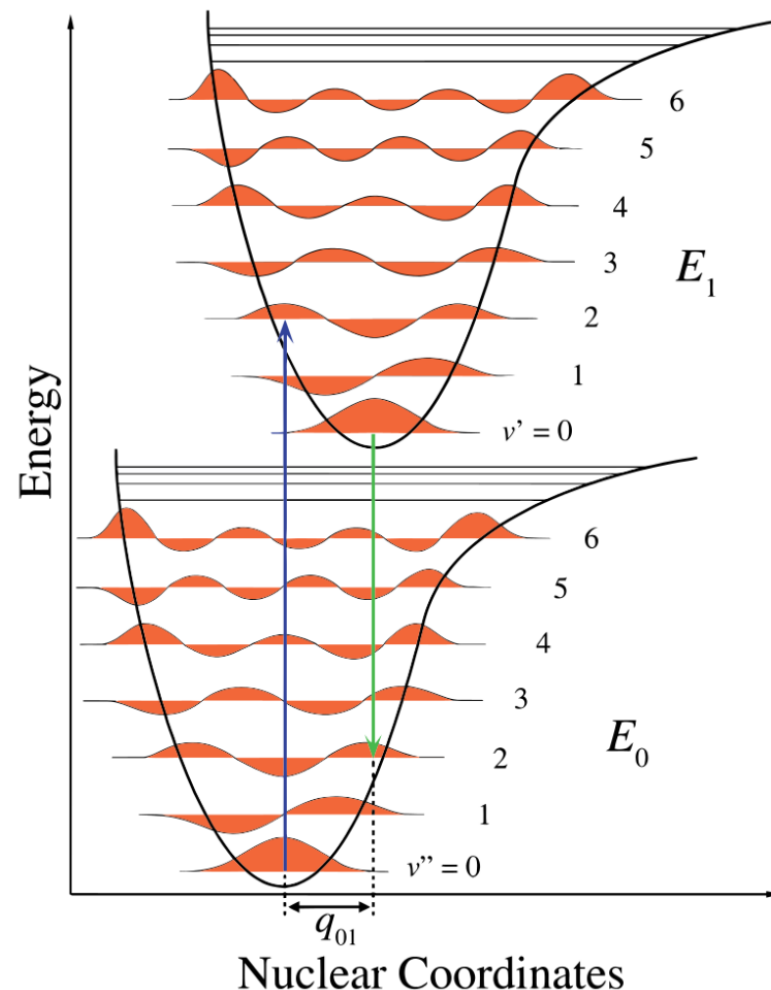


# Photon cycling in molecules



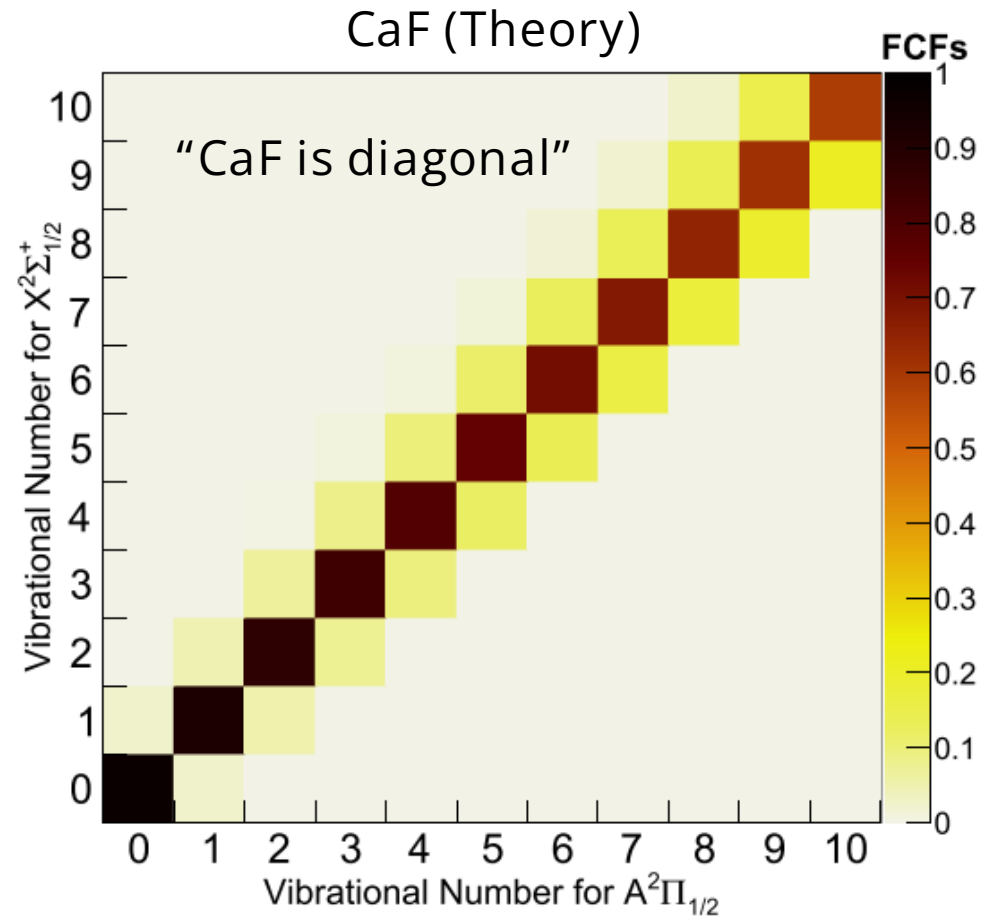
# Vibrational Structure

- Biggest challenge: vibration
  - *No selection rules!*
- Each electronic state has a potential energy surface (PES)
  - Energy vs. nuclear distance
  - Vibrational states are eigenstates of this potential
- Born-Oppenheimer: since electron motion is much faster than nuclear motion, electronic transitions instantaneously change the PES
- “Instantaneous perturbation” – vibrational wavefunction unchanged during electronic decay
- Probability for vibrational state change from  $i \rightarrow j$  is  $p_{ij} = |\langle \psi_i | \psi_j \rangle|^2$
- Franck-Condon Factors (FCFs)



# “Diagonal” FCFs

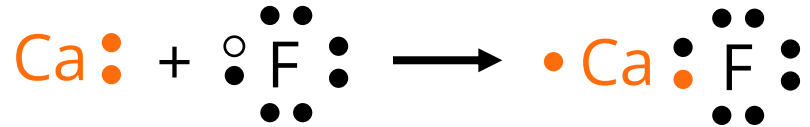
- Ideally, we would like no vibrational change
  - $p_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$
- The matrix  $p_{ij}$  would be diagonal – a “diagonal transition”
- Always some chance of “off-diagonal” decays, since  $p_{ij} \approx \delta_{ij}$  at best



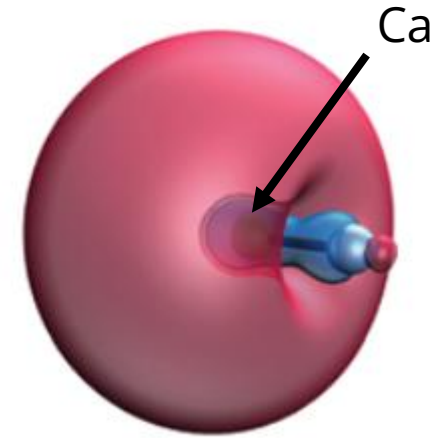
Y. Hao et al., J. Chem. Phys. 151, 034302 (2019)

# Example: CaF

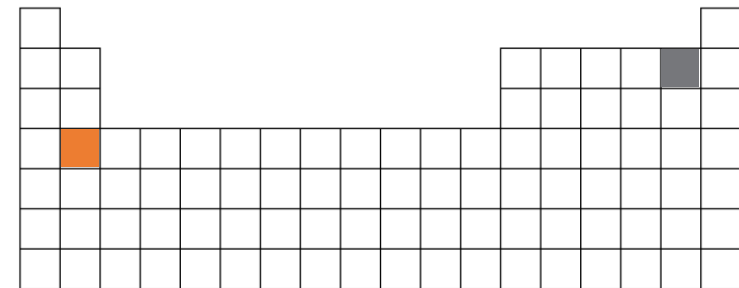
- Intuitive explanation for an important case when this happens – alkaline earth atoms with single ionic bonds
- Ca has two valence electrons ( $s^2$ )
- F wants one electron



- Result is a single, metal-centered, s electron
  - This very simple bonding is unique
  - Bonding electron is deeply bound, hard to excite
  - “Looks like an alkali metal”
- Very similar structure for other  $[s^2 \text{ atom}]\text{F}$  molecules
  - $\text{CaF}$ ,  $\text{SrF}$ ,  $\text{BaF}$ ,  $\text{RaF}$ , ...
  - $\text{Yb}$ ,  $\text{Hg}$  have  $s^2$  valence and are similar
  - Also when  $\text{F} \rightarrow \text{OH}$ ,  $\text{OCH}_3$ , ... (later)



# Ground state electronic wavefunction of CaF



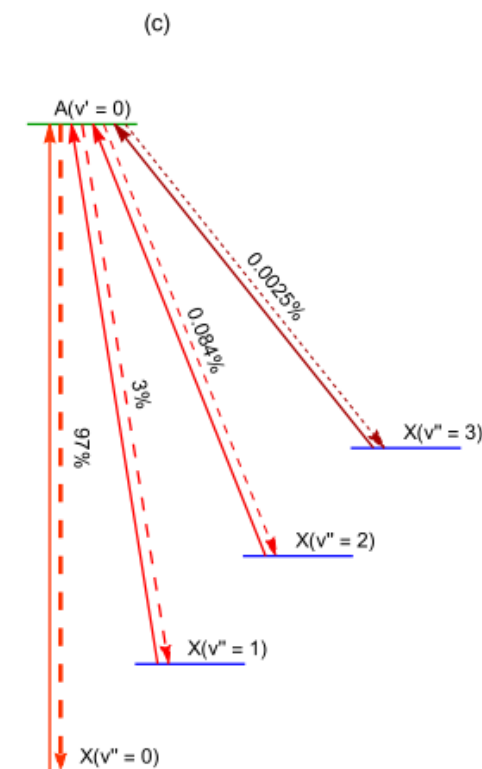
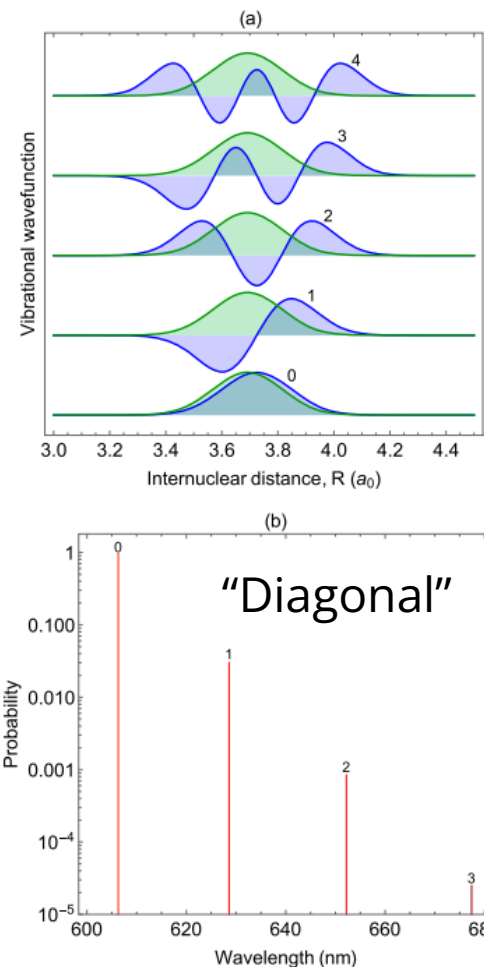
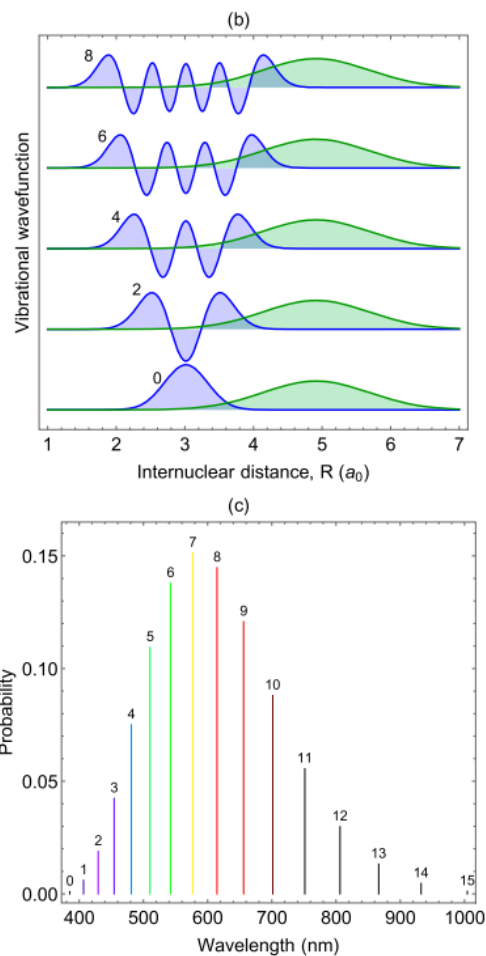
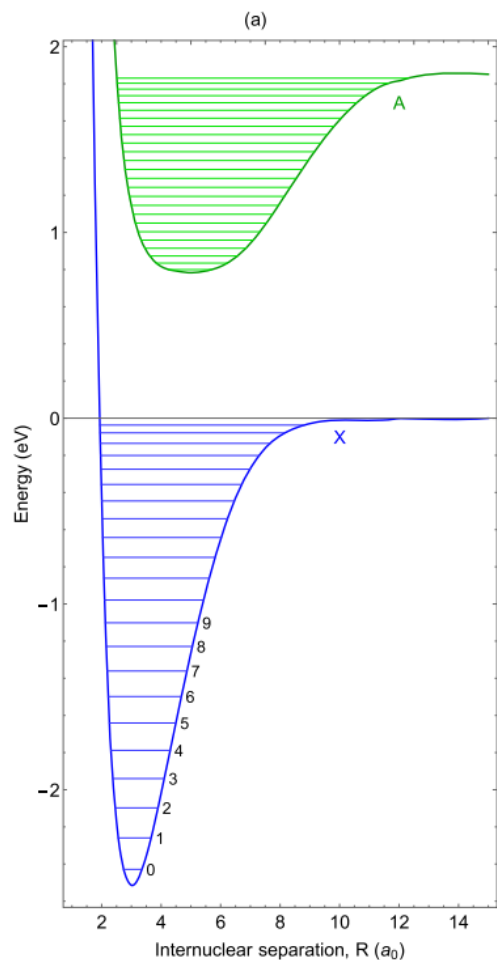
# FCFs – Diagonal vs. Non-diagonal



LiF is “not diagonal”



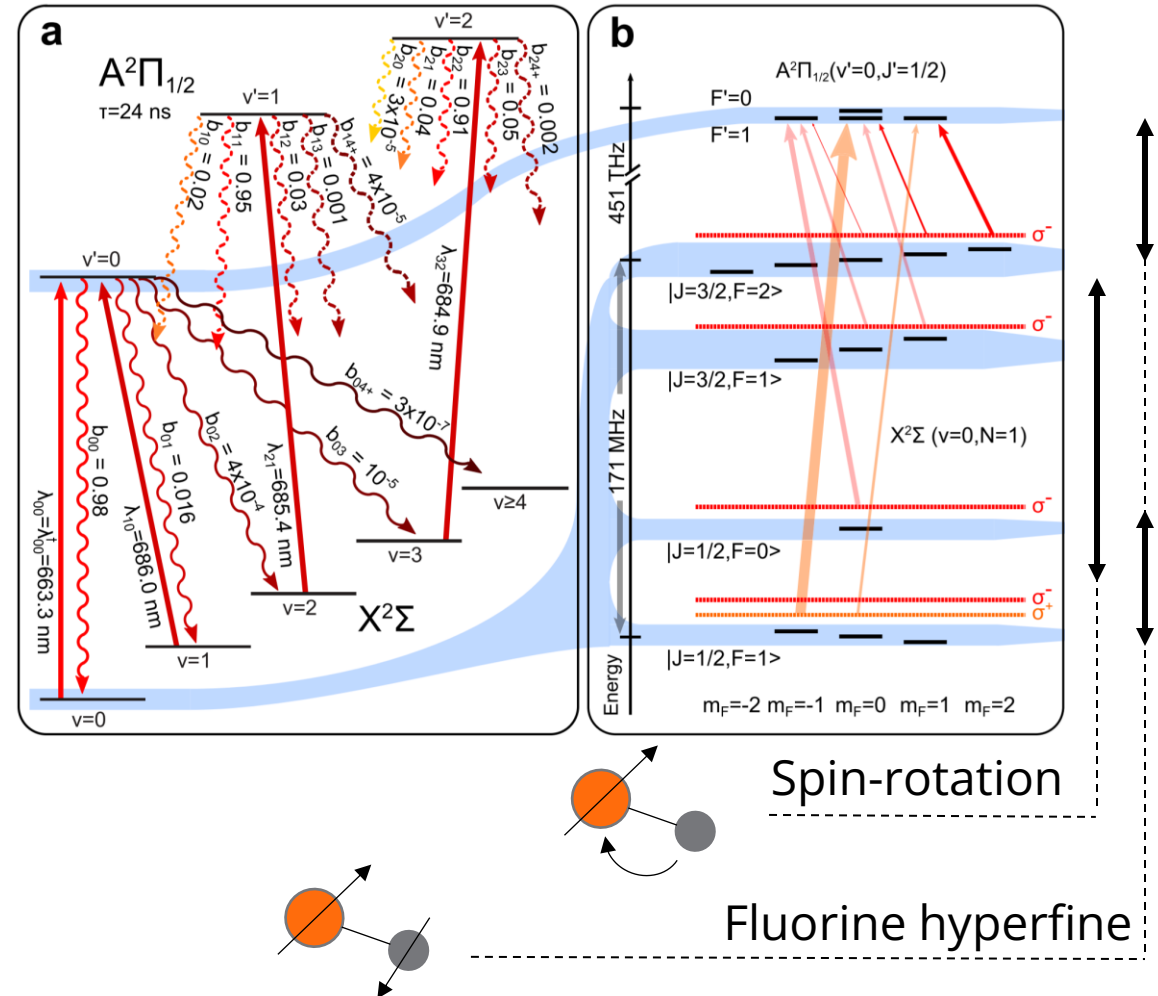
CaF is “diagonal”





# Laser cooling molecules

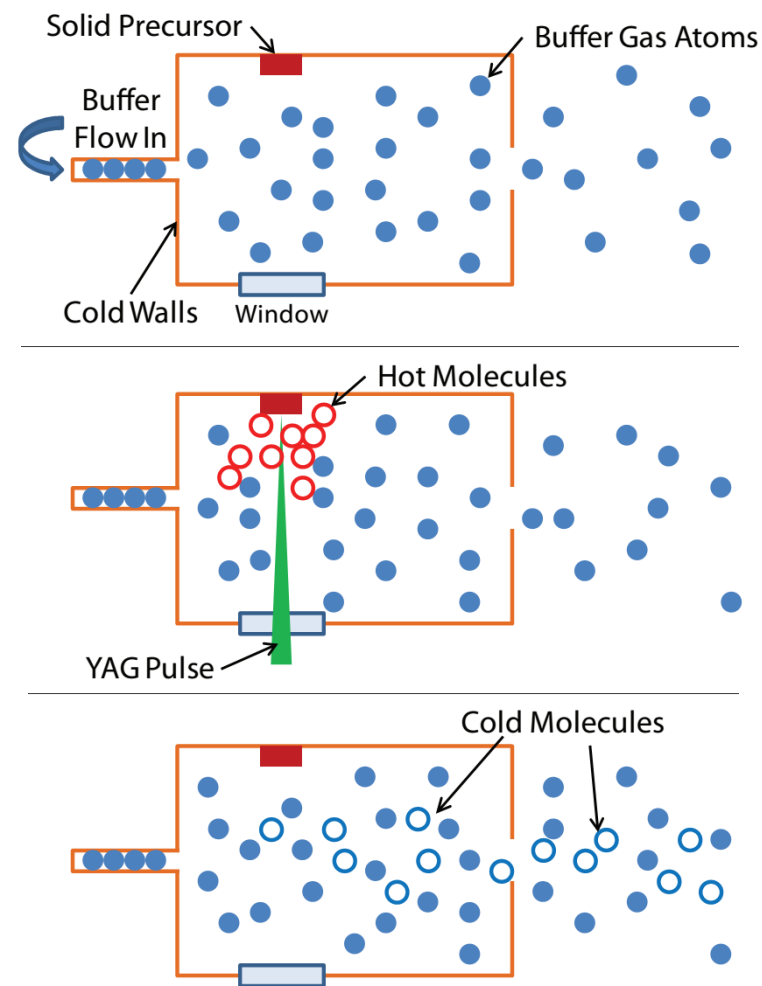
- Able to scatter sufficient photons for stop, trap, cool molecules to  $\sim \mu\text{K}$ 
  - Requires one laser per vibrational repump
  - Each laser needs “sidebands” to address spin-rotation, hyperfine
- SrF, CaF, YO, CaOH, BaF
  - SrF first, in 2014
  - Decades behind atoms, but moving rapidly
- Typically starts with cryogenic buffer gas beam (CBGB)





# Cryogenic Buffer Gas Beams

- These molecules are free radicals with low vapor pressure – challenging
- Use inert gas in cryogenic environment to cool via collisions
  - CBGB – Cryogenic buffer gas beam
  - Typically 4 K (He)  $\rightarrow$  20 K (Ne)
- “Works for anything”
- Cold, slow, high flux
- Concentrates population in lowest few rotational levels
- Used in ACME EDM experiment
- First step for most molecular laser cooling experiments



# Basic Molecular Structure

- To move beyond simple intuitive picture, need some molecular info
- Molecular structure is a horrifying mess
- Fortunately, will consider “simple” ones whose structure we can write down



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathfrak{H}_{\text{total}} = & \frac{1}{2M} \mathbf{P}_O^2 \\
 & + \frac{1}{2m} \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i^2 \\
 & + \frac{1}{2(M_1 + M_2)} \sum_{i,j} \mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{p}_j \\
 & - \frac{1}{8m^3 c^2} \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i^4 \\
 & + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2} (\mathbf{J} - \mathbf{P})^2 \\
 & - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu R^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left( R^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i,j \neq i} \frac{e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}} \\
 & - \sum_{i,\alpha} \frac{Z_\alpha e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{\alpha i}} \\
 & + \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \\
 & + \frac{e^2 \hbar^2}{8\epsilon_0 m^2 c^2} \sum_i \left\{ \sum_\alpha Z_\alpha \delta(\mathbf{r}_{\alpha i}) - \sum_{j \neq i} \delta(\mathbf{r}_{ji}) \right\} \\
 & - \frac{g_S \mu_B}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m c^2} \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \left\{ \sum_\alpha \frac{Z_\alpha e}{r_{\alpha i}^3} (\mathbf{r}_{\alpha i} \wedge \mathbf{p}_i) - \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{e}{r_{ji}^3} (\mathbf{r}_{ji} \wedge \mathbf{p}_j) \right\} \\
 & + \frac{g_S \mu_B e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 m c^2} \sum_{i,j \neq i} \frac{1}{r_{ji}^3} \mathbf{s}_i \cdot (\mathbf{r}_{ij} \wedge \mathbf{p}_j) \\
 & - \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{e}{2mc} \right)^2 \sum_{i,j \neq i} \left\{ \mathbf{p}_i \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \cdot \mathbf{p}_j + (\mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ji}) \frac{1}{r_{ji}^3} (\mathbf{r}_{ji} \cdot \mathbf{p}_j) \right\} \\
 & + \frac{g_S \mu_B e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2} \sum_{i,\alpha} \frac{Z_\alpha}{(M_1 + M_2)} \frac{1}{r_{\alpha i}^3} \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \left( \mathbf{r}_{i\alpha} \wedge \sum_j \mathbf{p}_j \right) \\
 & - \frac{e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m c^2} \sum_{i,\alpha} \frac{Z_\alpha}{(M_1 + M_2)} \left\{ \mathbf{p}_i \frac{1}{r_{ji}} \cdot \sum_j \mathbf{p}_j + (\mathbf{p}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ji}) \frac{1}{r_{ji}^3} (\mathbf{r}_{ji} \cdot \sum_j \mathbf{p}_j) \right\} \\
 & + \frac{g_S^2 \mu_B^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 c^2} \sum_{i,j \neq i} \left\{ \frac{\mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_j}{r_{ji}^3} - \frac{3(\mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ji})(\mathbf{s}_j \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ji})}{r_{ji}^5} - \frac{8\pi}{3} \delta(\mathbf{r}_{ji}) \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_j \right\} \\
 & - \frac{g_S \mu_B e \hbar}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2} \frac{1}{\mu R^2} \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \left\{ \frac{Z_1 M_2}{(M_1 + M_2)} \frac{\mathbf{r}_{i1}}{r_{i1}^3} - \frac{Z_2 M_1}{(M_1 + M_2)} \frac{\mathbf{r}_{i2}}{r_{i2}^3} \right\} \wedge \{\mathbf{R} \wedge (\mathbf{J} - \mathbf{P})\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \frac{g_S \mu_B e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 c^2} \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \left\{ \left[ \frac{Z_1}{M_1} \frac{\mathbf{r}_{i1}}{r_{i1}^3} - \frac{Z_2}{M_2} \frac{\mathbf{r}_{i2}}{r_{i2}^3} \right] \wedge \mathbf{k} \right\} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \\
 & + \frac{e^2 \hbar}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m c^2} \frac{1}{\mu R^2} \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i \cdot \left\{ \frac{Z_1 M_2}{(M_1 + M_2)} \left( \frac{1}{r_{i1}} + \mathbf{r}_{i1} \frac{1}{r_{i1}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i1} \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - \frac{Z_2 M_1}{(M_1 + M_2)} \left( \frac{1}{r_{i2}} + \mathbf{r}_{i2} \frac{1}{r_{i2}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i2} \right) \right\} \cdot \mathbf{R} \wedge (\mathbf{J} - \mathbf{P}) \\
 & + \frac{e^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 m c^2} \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i \cdot \left\{ \frac{Z_1}{M_1} \left( \frac{1}{r_{i1}} + \mathbf{r}_{i1} \frac{1}{r_{i1}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i1} \right) - \frac{Z_2}{M_2} \left( \frac{1}{r_{i2}} + \mathbf{r}_{i2} \frac{1}{r_{i2}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i2} \right) \right\} \cdot \mathbf{k} i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \\
 & + g_S \mu_B \mathbf{B} \cdot \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i \left\{ 1 - \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m^2 c^2} \right\} \\
 & + \frac{e}{2m} \mathbf{B} \cdot \sum_i \left\{ \mathbf{r}_i - \frac{m}{M} \sum_j \mathbf{r}_j \right\} \wedge \mathbf{p}_i \\
 & - \frac{e}{4m^3 c^2} \mathbf{B} \cdot \sum_i (\mathbf{r}_i \wedge \mathbf{p}_i) \mathbf{p}_i^2 \\
 & - \frac{1}{2M} \mathbf{B} \cdot (\mu_e \wedge \mathbf{P}_O) \\
 & - \frac{e\hbar\mu}{2} \sum_\alpha \frac{Z_\alpha}{M_\alpha^2} \mathbf{B} \cdot (\mathbf{J} - \mathbf{P}) \\
 & - \frac{e}{2} \left( \frac{Z_1}{M_1} - \frac{Z_2}{M_2} \right) \mathbf{B} \cdot \left\{ \left( \frac{m}{M} \sum_j \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{R}_O \right) \wedge \mathbf{P}_R \right\} + \frac{e}{2m} \mathbf{B} \cdot \left\{ \mathbf{R}_O \wedge \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i \right\} \\
 & - \frac{e}{2(M_1 + M_2)} \mathbf{B} \cdot \sum_i \left\{ \mu \left( \frac{Z_1}{M_1} - \frac{Z_2}{M_2} \right) \mathbf{R} \wedge \mathbf{p}_i \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_\alpha Z_\alpha \left( \frac{m}{M} \sum_j \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{R}_O \right) \wedge \mathbf{p}_i \right\} \\
 & + \frac{e}{2M} q \mathbf{B} \cdot \left\{ \left( \frac{m}{M} \sum_j \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{R}_O \right) \wedge \mathbf{P}_O \right\} \\
 & - E \cdot \mu_e \\
 & - q e E \cdot \left( \mathbf{R}_O - \frac{m}{M} \sum_j \mathbf{r}_j \right) \\
 & + \frac{g_S \mu_B}{2mc} \sum_i \mathbf{s}_i \cdot (\mathbf{E} \wedge \mathbf{p}_i) \\
 & + \frac{e^2}{8m} \sum_i \{ \mathbf{B}^2 (\mathbf{r}_i + \mathbf{R}_O)^2 - (\mathbf{B} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i + \mathbf{R}_O))^2 \} \\
 & + \frac{e^2}{4} \sum_\alpha \frac{Z_\alpha^2}{M_\alpha} \left\{ \mathbf{B}^2 \left( \mp \frac{\mu}{M_\alpha} \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{R}_O \right)^2 - \left( \mathbf{B} \cdot \left( \mp \frac{\mu}{M_\alpha} \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{R}_O \right) \right)^2 \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

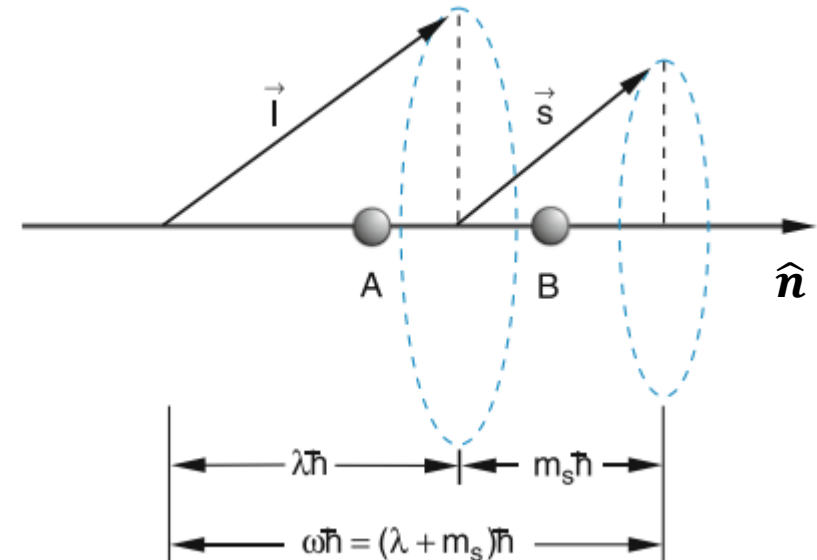
(3.297)

Brown & Carrington, eq (3.297)

Diatomic molecules only, ignoring nuclear spins and relativity

# Single Electron Basis for Molecules

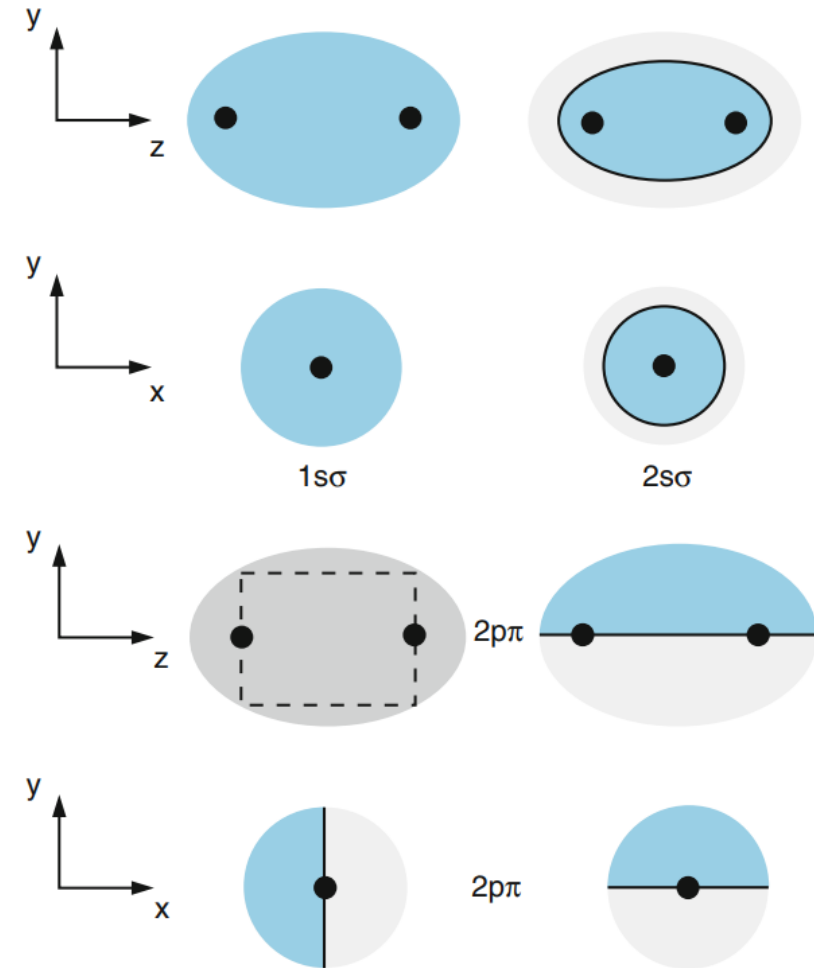
- Based on complete solution of rigid  $\text{H}_2^+$  ion
- No spherical symmetry  $\rightarrow$  orbital angular momentum  $\ell$  not a good quantum number
- Cylindrical symmetry about internuclear axis  $\hat{n}$ 
  - $\vec{\ell} \cdot \hat{n}$  is good,  $\lambda = \langle \vec{\ell} \cdot \hat{n} \rangle$
  - $\phi$  part of wavefunction is  $\psi \sim e^{i\lambda\phi}$
- Magnetic field from  $\lambda \rightarrow$  spin quantized along  $\hat{n}$
- Label states by  $n\ell\lambda$ 
  - $n$  = principal quantum number
  - $\ell = s, p, d, \dots, \leq n - 1$
  - $\lambda = \sigma, \pi, \delta, \dots, \leq n - 1$



# Single Electron Basis for Molecules

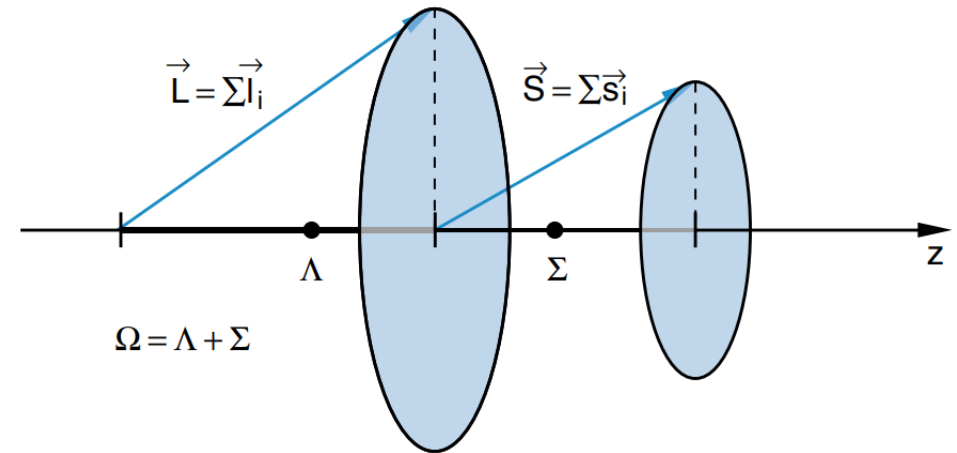
- States with well-defined  $\lambda$  have  $\psi \sim e^{i\lambda\phi}$  are not parity or time-reversal eigenstates
- Physical eigenstates are superpositions  
 $\propto e^{i\lambda\phi} \pm e^{-i\lambda\phi}$   
 $= \cos(\lambda\phi), \sin(\lambda\phi)$
- Have  $\lambda$  nodal planes
- Doubly-degenerate except for  $\sigma$  ( $\lambda = 0$ )

$\Lambda$ -doubling!



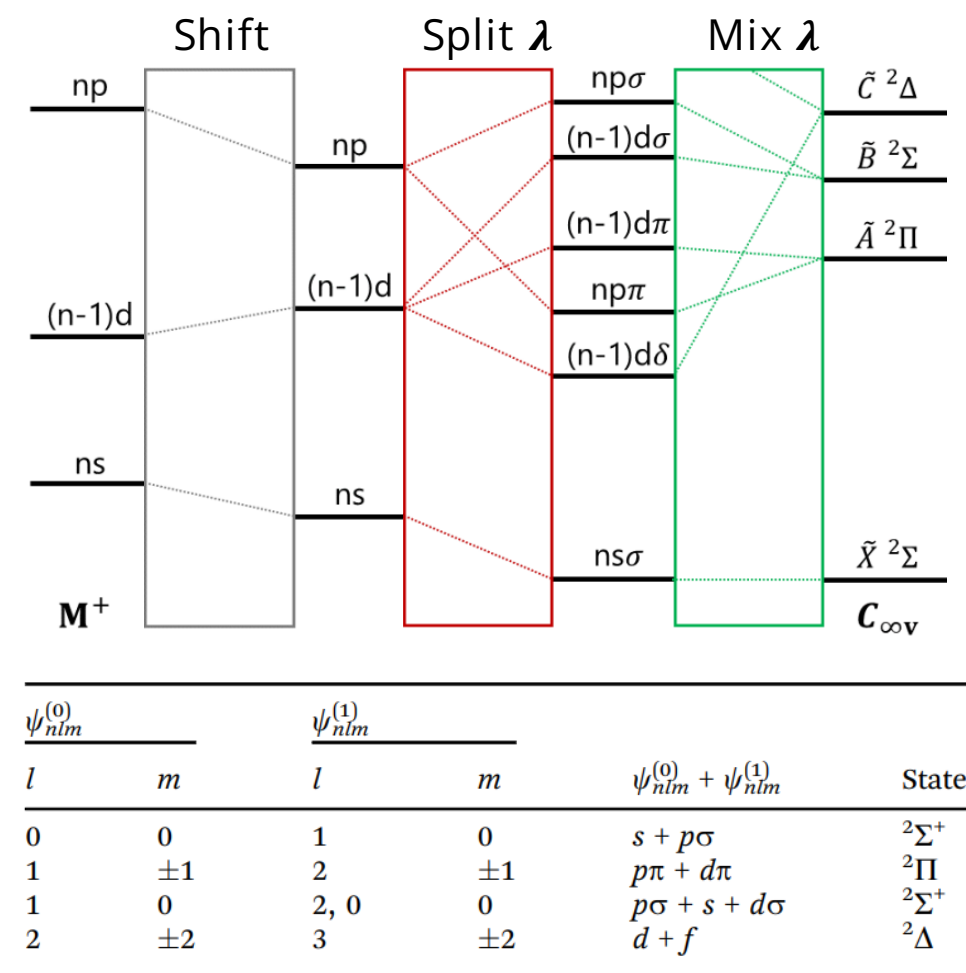
# Multi-Electron Basis for Molecules

- Like atoms – “just add them up”
- $L = \sum_i \ell_i, S = \sum_i s_i, J = L + S$
- $\Lambda = \langle \vec{L} \cdot \hat{n} \rangle, \Omega = \langle \vec{J} \cdot \hat{n} \rangle$
- Define a term symbol  $^{2S+1}\Lambda_\Omega$  where  $\Lambda = \Sigma, \Pi, \Delta, \dots$
- We are interested in a single, metal-centered s-type electron
  - Single  $\rightarrow S = 1/2 \rightarrow 2S+1 = 2$
  - s-type  $\rightarrow L=0 \rightarrow \Sigma$
  - State is  $^2\Sigma$   
(omit subscript when  $L = 0, S = 1/2$ )
- Name electronic states by letter
  - Ground is X
  - Excited A, B, C, ...
    - In order of increasing energy... usually
    - ThO: X, H, Q, W, K', A, B, H', N', C, ...



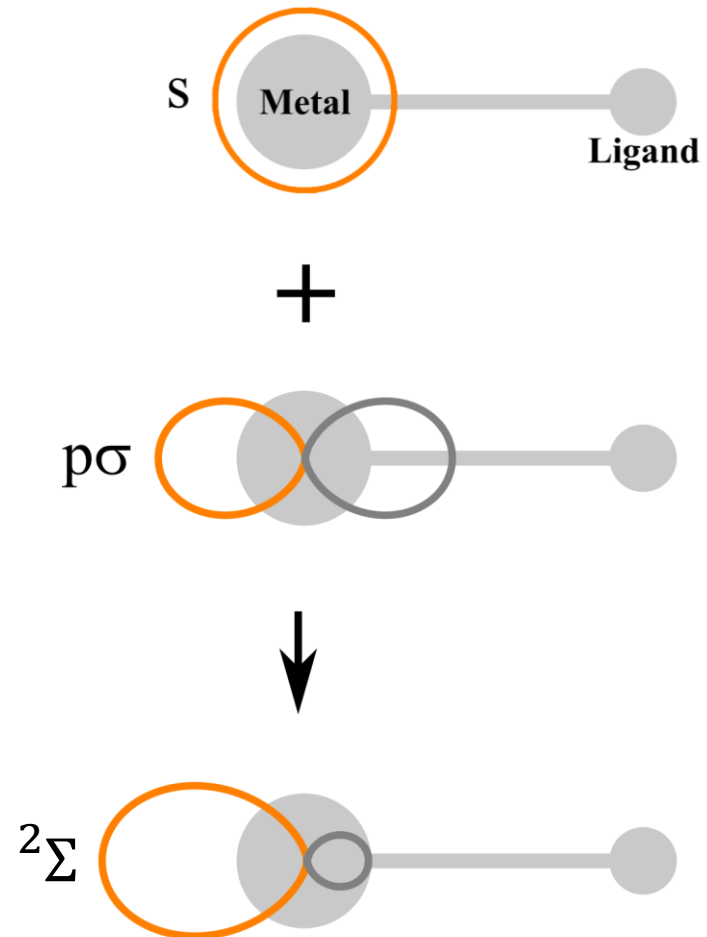
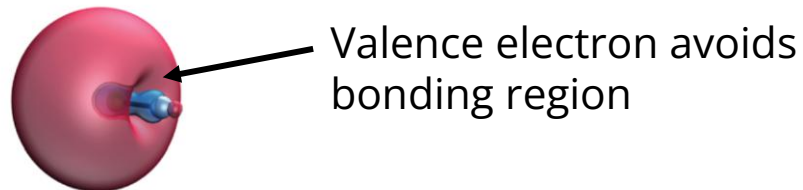
# Electronic Levels

- Electronic levels arise from  $M^+ (s^1)$  atoms interacting with the ligand's Coulomb field
- This will:
  - Shift overall energy levels
    - Stark effect
  - Split states with by  $\lambda$ 
    - Different electron distributions
  - Mix states with same  $\lambda$ 
    - Cylindrical symmetry



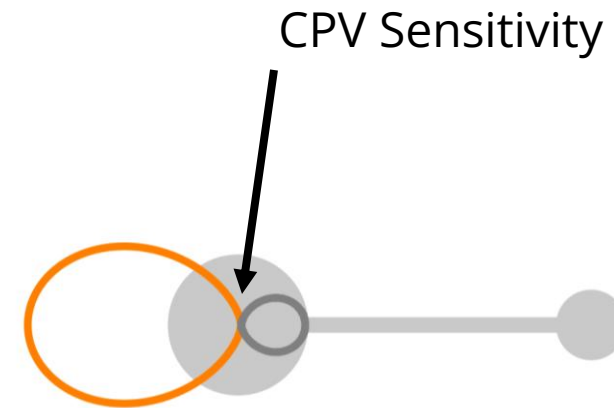
# Electronic Structure for Photon Cycling

- Photon cycling in  $^2\Sigma$  states with metal-centered electrons works due to hybridization of  $s$ ,  $p$ -like orbitals
  - Pushes electron *away* from bond
  - The “dimple” around the F is important – electron avoids bond, decouples excitation
- Works for polyatomics (more on that later)



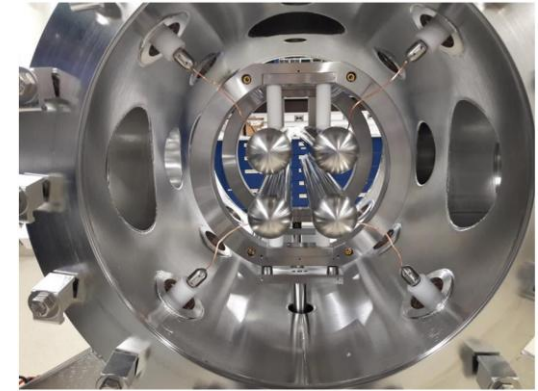
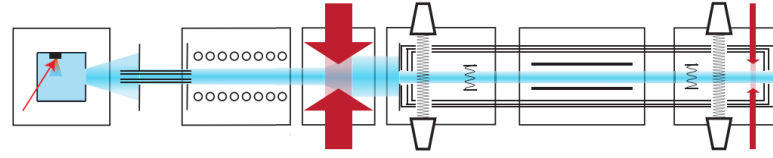
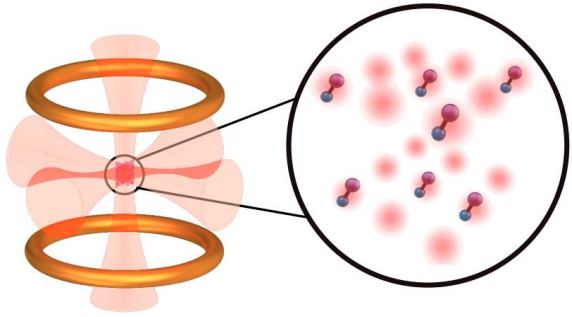
# Compatibility with CPV Searches

- $s, p$ -like electrons are good for CP violation searches
  - Electron: relativistic enhancement of motion
  - Nuclear: electron wavefunction probes nuclear shape
- Several heavy, laser-coolable molecules
  - Many being actively pursued
- BaF, HgF, RaF, YbF, ...
  - $^2\Sigma$ , good for eEDM, MQM, NSM
- TlF, ...
  - $^1\Sigma$ , closed shell, good for NSM
- Also polyatomic analogues





# Three Examples



## YbF

- eEDM @ Imperial College London
- Laser cooling, other upgrades demonstrated
- X. Alauze *et al.*, Q. Sci. & Tech. 6, 044005 (2021)
- N. J. Fitch *et al.*, Q. Sci. & Tech. 6, 014006 (2021)

## BaF

- NL-eEDM Collaboration
- Advanced deceleration techniques
- P. Aggarwal *et al.*, Eur. Phys. J. D 72, 197 (2018)

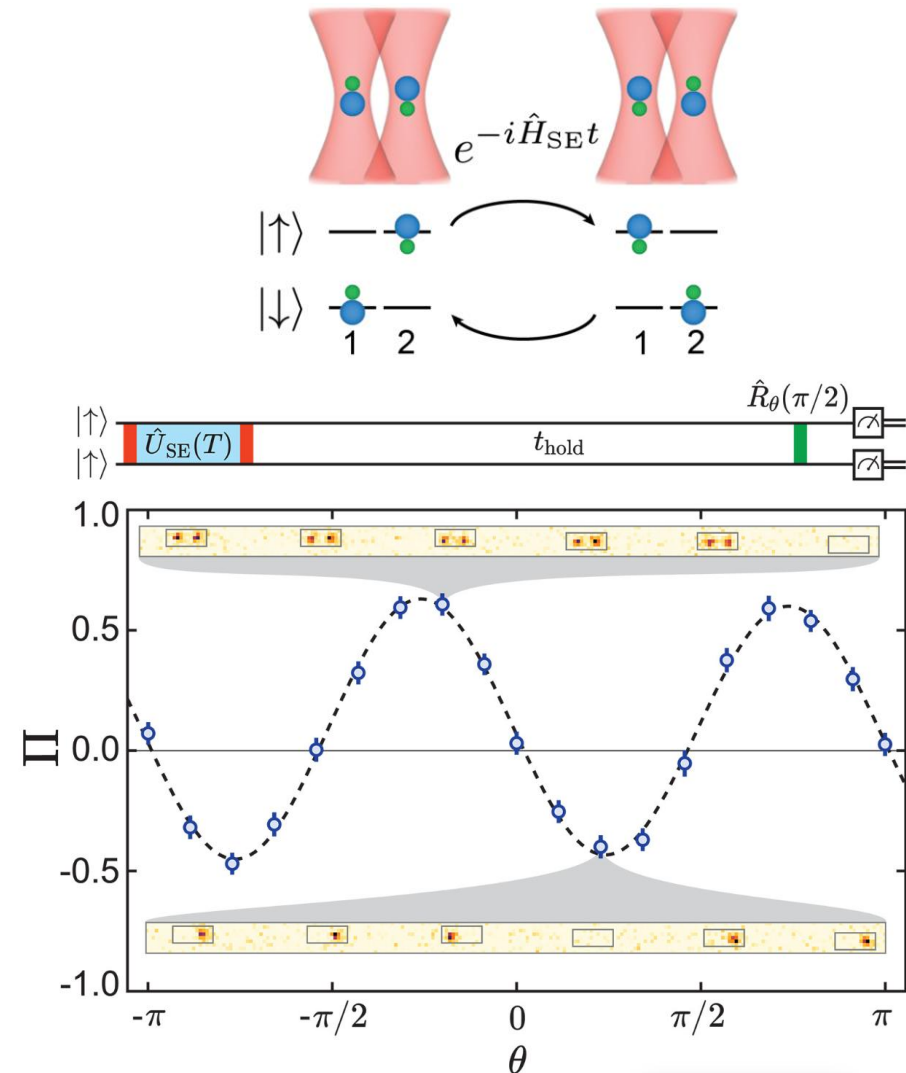
## TlF

- CeNTREX Collaboration
- Tl Schiff moment (~proton EDM)
- O. Grasdjik *et al.*, Q. Sci. & Tech. 6, 014006 (2021)

*Several more laser cooling examples later*

# Quantum Control

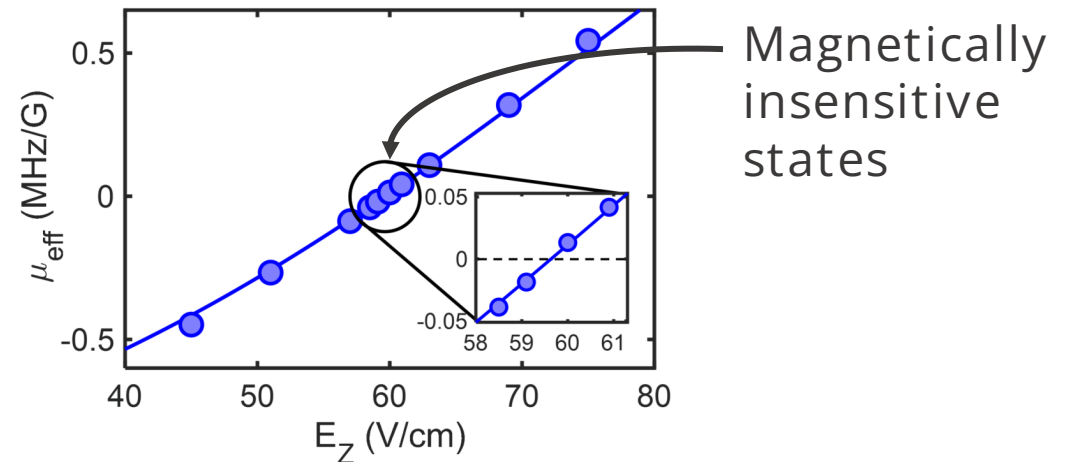
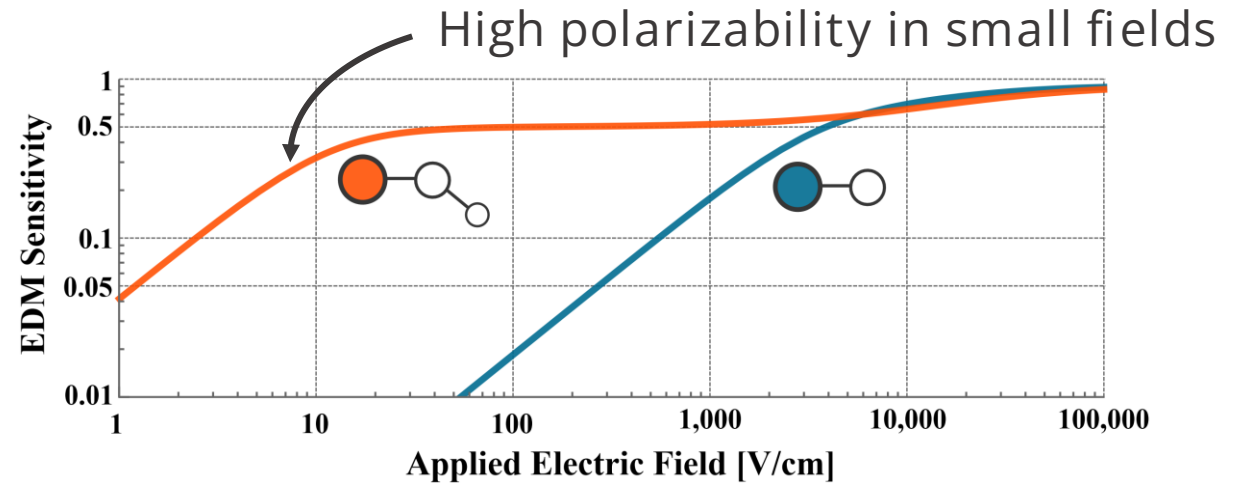
- In the last few years, many advanced quantum tools from the atom world have been ported over to molecules
- Trapping in arrays, entangling gates, high coherence times, ...
- Many groups are working to apply these to CPV searches with molecules!



# Polyatomic Molecules

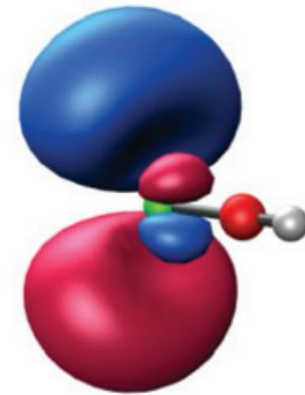
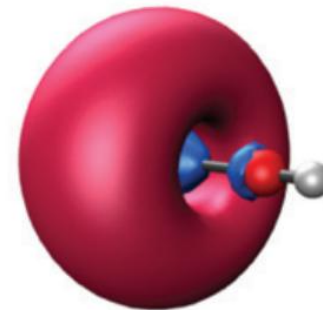
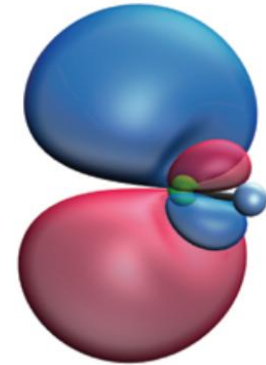
# Polyatomics

- Advantages
  - Maintains molecular photon cycling, laser cooling, CPV sensitivity
  - Always have parity doublets
  - Tunable electromagnetic properties
- Disadvantage: more complicated, and diatomics are already rather difficult

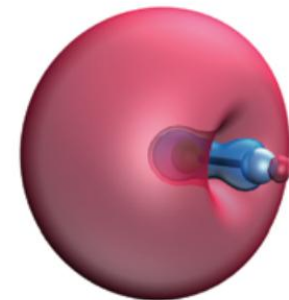


# Polyatomic Molecules

- Many bonding partners “bond similarly”
  - – F  $\approx$  –OH, – –CCH, – OCH<sub>3</sub>, ...
    - “A physicists take on chemistry”
  - Not in general, but for these s<sup>2</sup> atoms it typically holds
  - Ca, Sr, Ba, Yb, Ra
  - Probably not Hg though ☹
  - Since electron wavefunction is metal-centered, ligand matters much less
- Similar electronic structure implies similar:
  - Laser cooling/photon cycling
  - CPV sensitivity
  - Measurement methods


 $^2\Pi$ 


CaOH

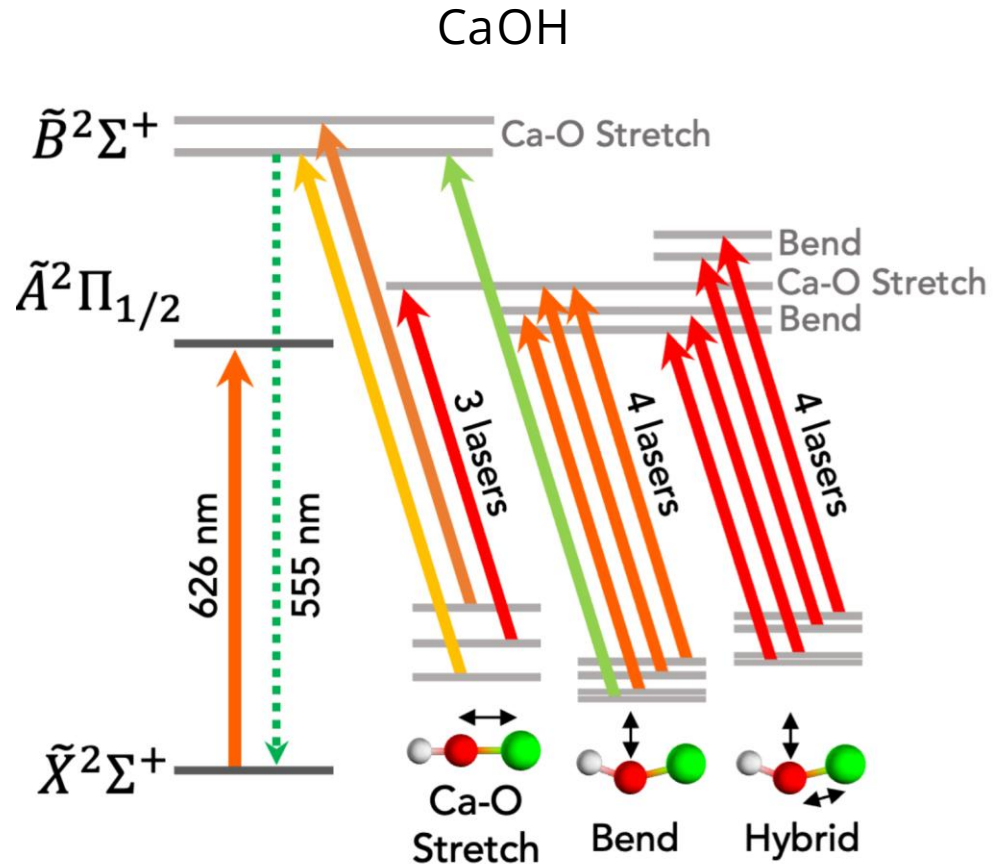


CaF

 $^2\Sigma$

# Polyatomic Laser Cooling

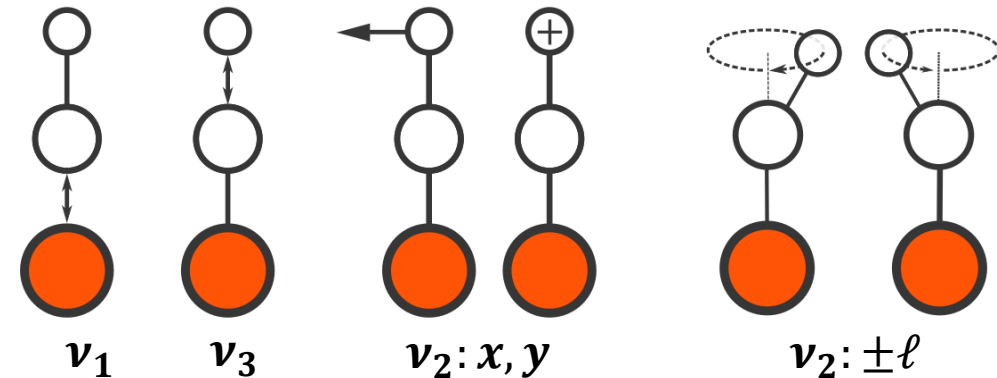
- Laser cooling has been demonstrated in SrOH, CaOH, YbOH,  $\text{CaOCH}_3$ 
  - Doyle Group @ Harvard
- Non-trivial, but possible!
  - Requires many distinct, high power, stable, spectrally narrow lasers
  - Solid-state laser technology is increasing making this more practical



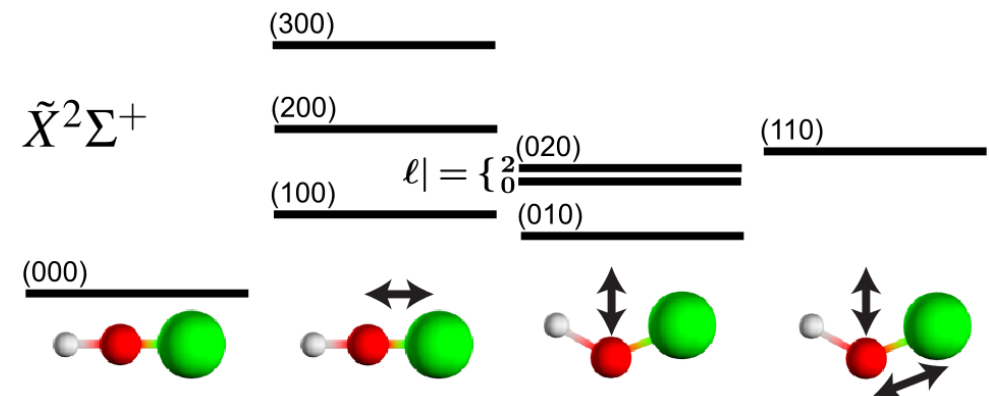
Vilas, N. B., et al., Nature 606, 70 (2022)

# Polyatomic Vibrations

- What makes them different?
- Consider a linear triatomic molecule MOH
  - More complex species "conceptually similar"
- Three vibrational modes
  - $\nu_1$  : M-O stretch
  - $\nu_3$  : O-H stretch
  - $\nu_2$  : M-O-H bend
    - $\ell$  : Projection of bending angular momentum on symmetry axis
- Label states by  $(\nu_1 \nu_2^{|\ell|} \nu_3)$
- Physical eigenmodes are some mixture of these descriptions
  - Valid when  $m_M \gg m_O \gg m_H$
- $\nu_3$  (O-H) is basically irrelevant
  - Very decoupled from metal



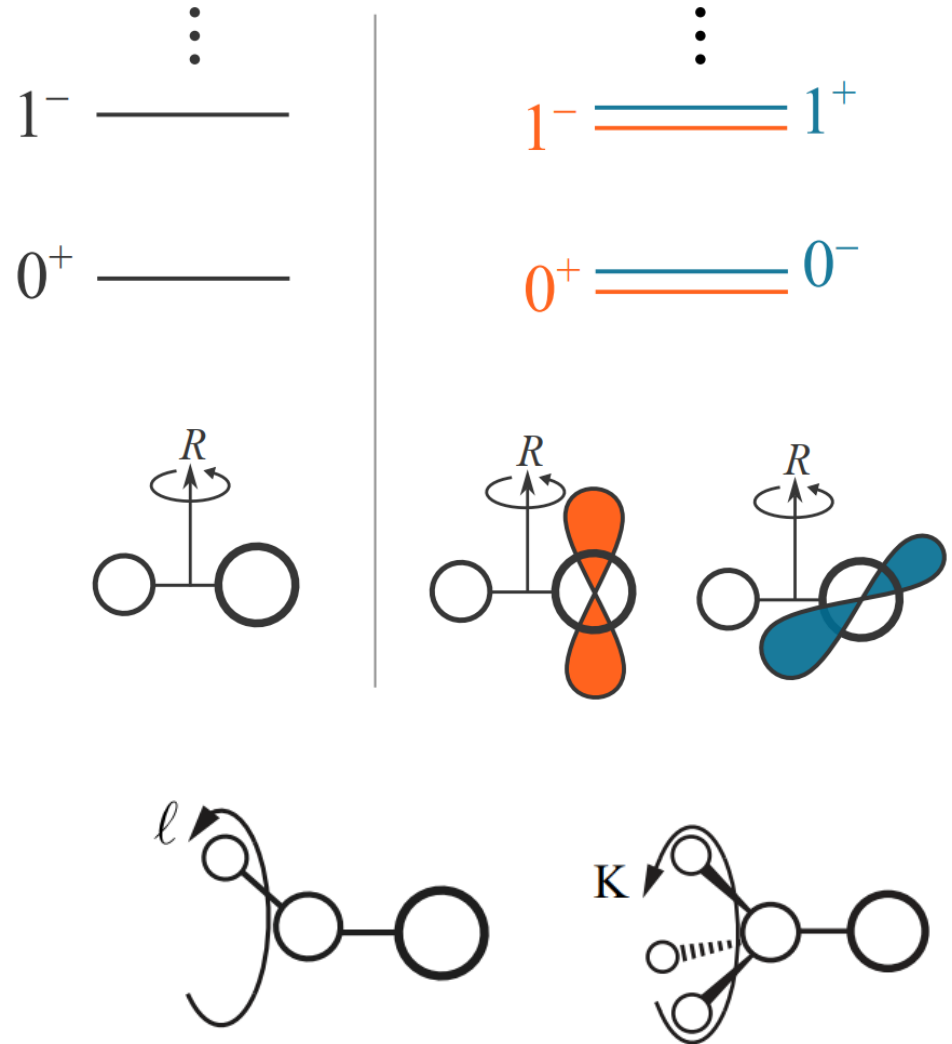
## Most relevant levels in SrOH



Z. Lasner, A. Lunstad, C. Zhang, L. Cheng, and J. M. Doyle, PRA 106, L020801 (2022)

# Lower Symmetry

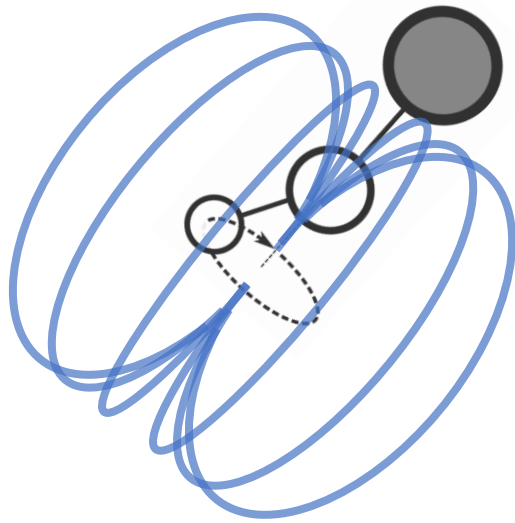
- Polyatomic molecules always have states which lack cylindrical symmetry
- No cylindrical symmetry  $\rightarrow$  breaks moment of inertia degeneracy
- Very analogous to  $\Lambda/\Omega$  doubling, but now from mechanical motion
- Independent from electronic state, largely decoupled (usually)
- Laser-coolable  $^2\Sigma$  diatomics don't have parity doublets
  - s-electrons  $\rightarrow L=0 \rightarrow \Lambda = 0$
- Laser-coolable  $^2\Sigma$  polyatomics do in states with  $\ell, K \neq 0$





# Electromagnetic Control

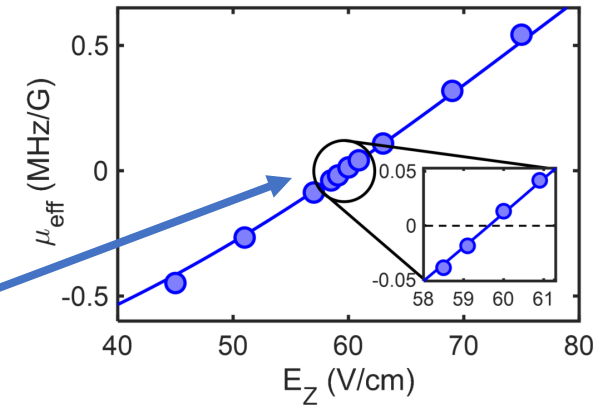
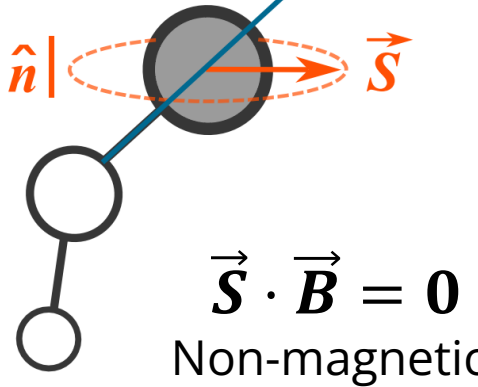
- Arises due to unique angular momentum couplings
  - $H = -\mu \vec{S} \cdot \vec{B} - \vec{d} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{E}} + \gamma \vec{S} \cdot \vec{\ell}$
  - $\vec{\ell}$  makes internal  $\vec{B} \propto \vec{d}$
  - $\vec{\mathcal{E}} \rightarrow$  control  $\vec{d} \rightarrow$  control  $\vec{S}$



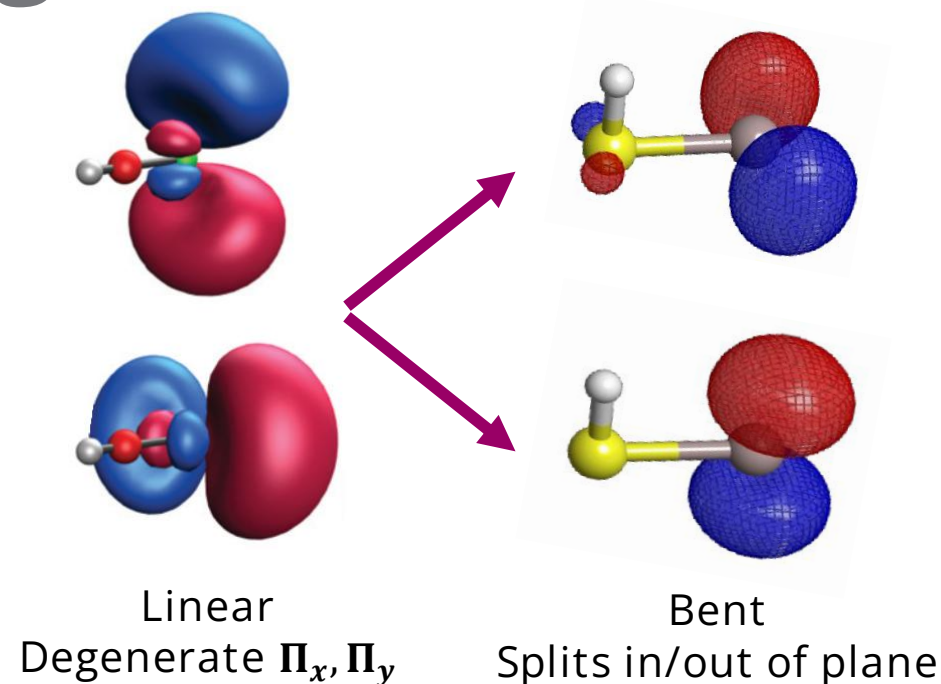
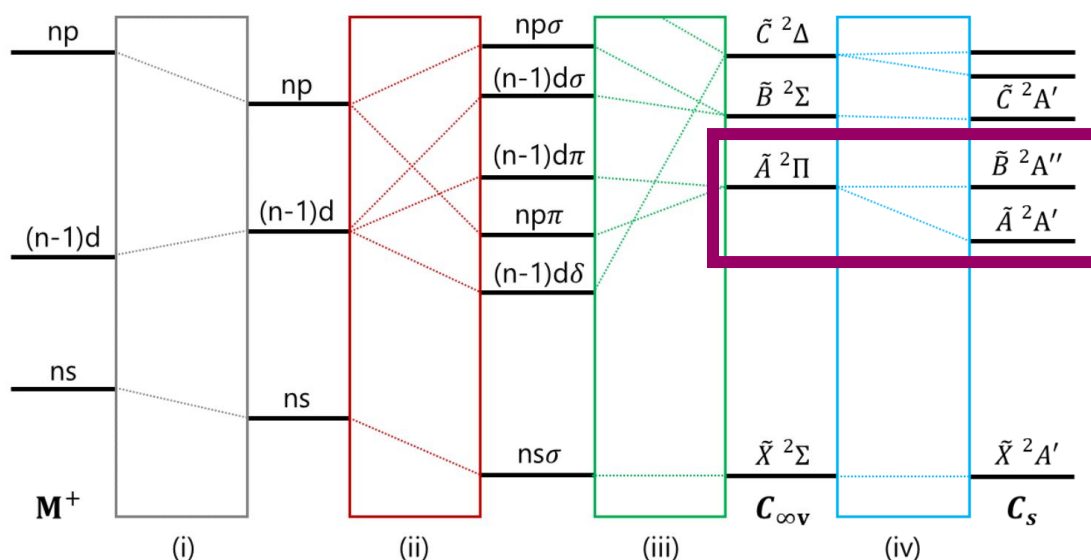
$$\vec{B} \propto \vec{\ell} \parallel \hat{n} \propto \vec{d}$$

$$|\omega| \sim |\vec{d} \cdot \vec{E}| \quad \vec{d} \parallel \hat{n}$$

$$|\omega| \sim |\gamma \vec{S} \cdot \hat{n}| \quad \vec{S}$$



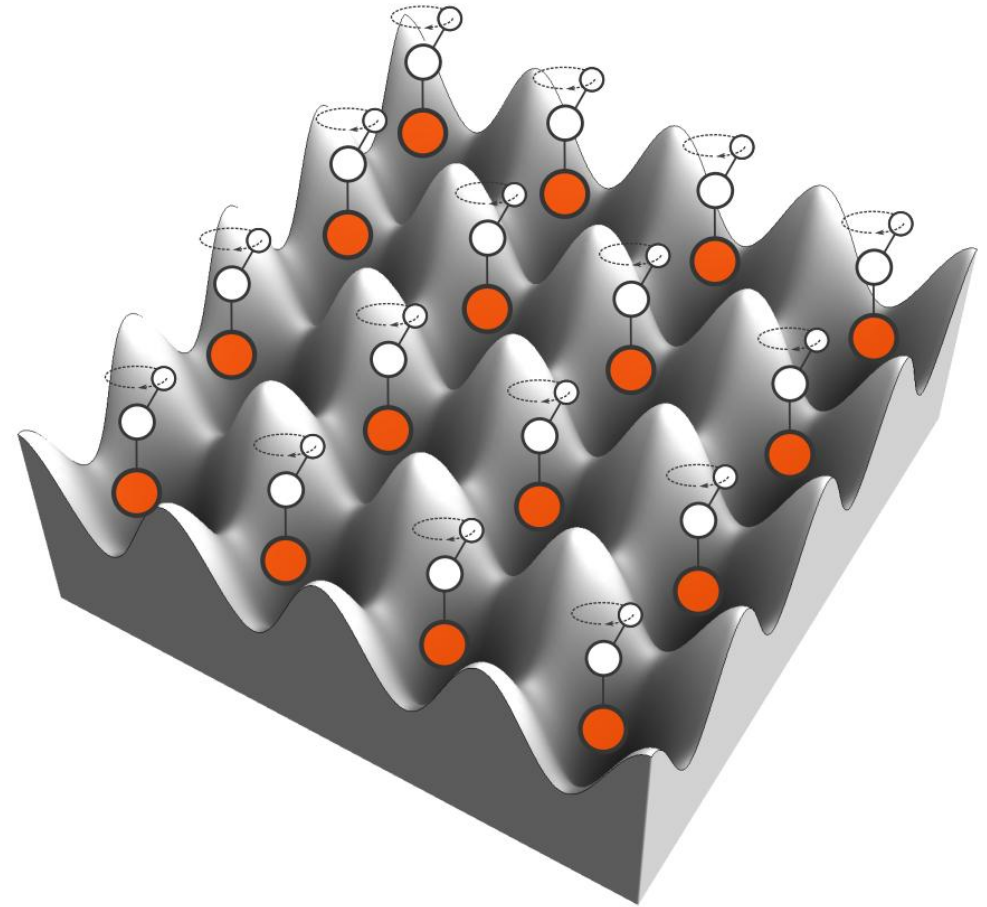
# Vibrational Branching



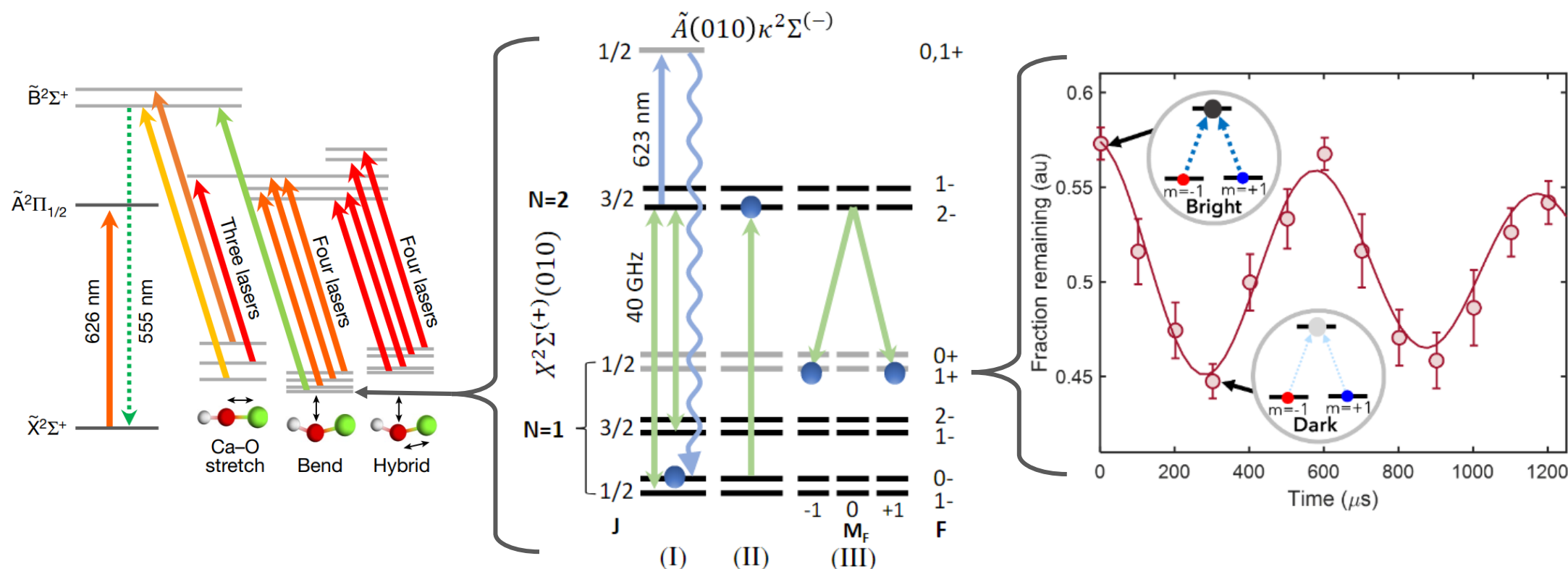
- Lower symmetry has other consequences
- Electronic  $\Pi$  state has two lobes
- When bending potential no longer cylindrically symmetric  $\rightarrow$  lifts degeneracy, couples electron and vibration
- More complicated, and remember that electron-vibrational decoupling is good...

# EDM Search : Ultracold Traps

- Ultracold molecules in optical traps offer extreme sensitivity
  - “Modern” quantum tools are so far unused for molecule EDM experiments
- EDMs pose challenges
  - Complex structure
  - Need to apply fields
  - Higher field sensitivity
- PolyEDM Collaboration
  - John M. Doyle, Amar Vutha, Tim Steimle, NRH
  - CaOH eEDM Pathfinder → done
  - SrOH eEDM → underway
  - RaX → underway



# Pathfinder EDM in CaOH @ Harvard



- Laser cooling
- Trapping at tens of  $\mu\text{K}$
- Population of EDM state

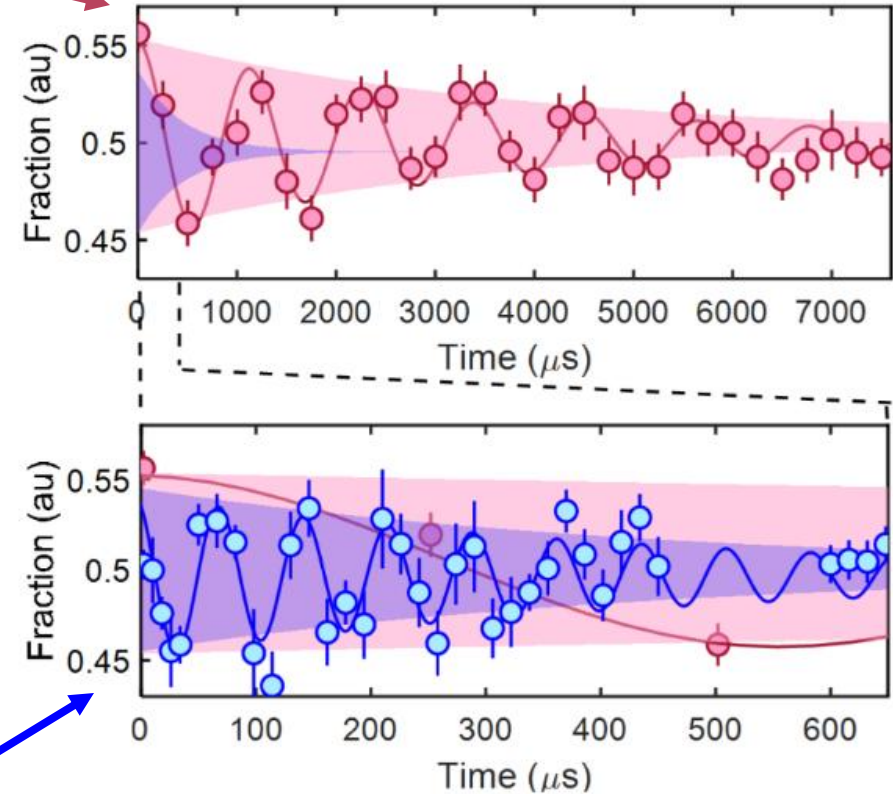
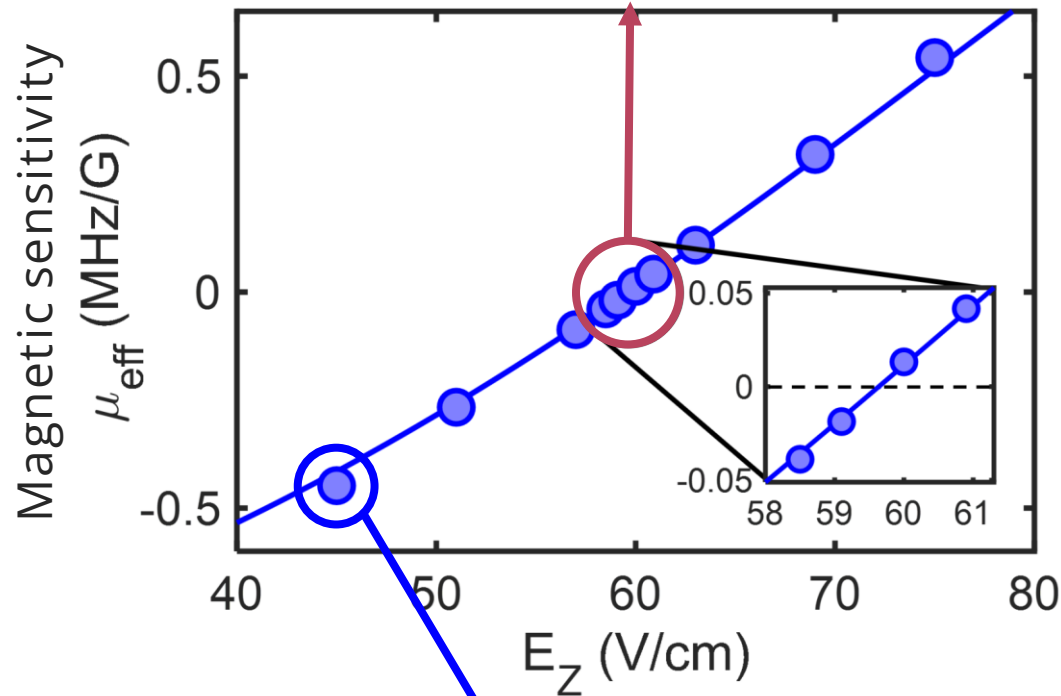
- Full polarization
- Coherent state preparation

- Coherent evolution
- State readout

# Electromagnetic Tuning



Long coherence, up to 30 ms  
>1s with quieter apparatus  
(stainless chamber, no shielding, etc.)

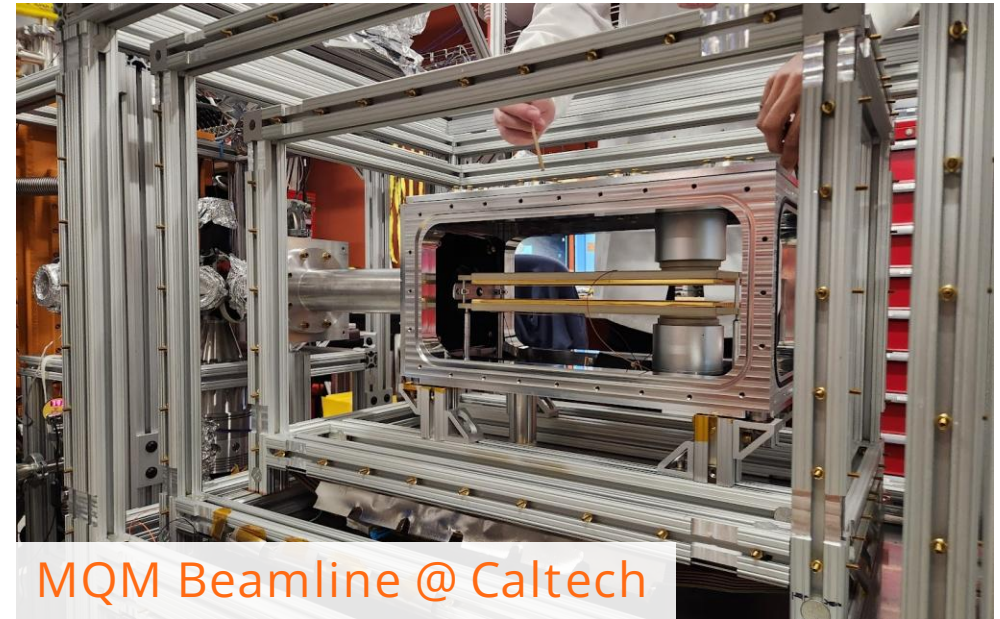


Short coherence, <1 ms



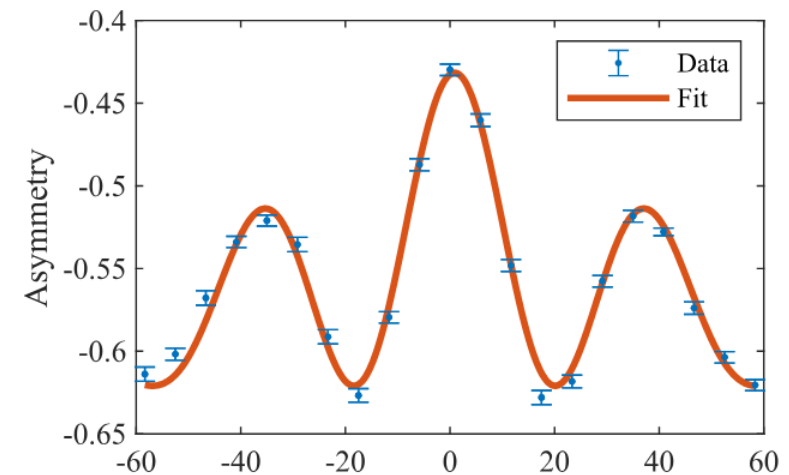
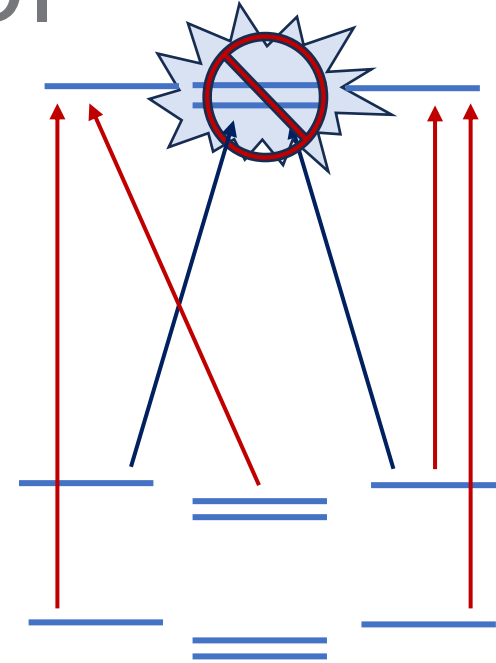
# $^{173}\text{YbOH}$ NMQM @ Caltech

- MQM search in  $^{173}\text{YbOH}$ 
  - Large quadrupole deformation in Yb
  - Large molecular enhancement
  - Optical control/readout by photon cycling
- Cryogenic molecular beam experiment
- Laser cooling in future generations
- Currently implementing measurement protocol



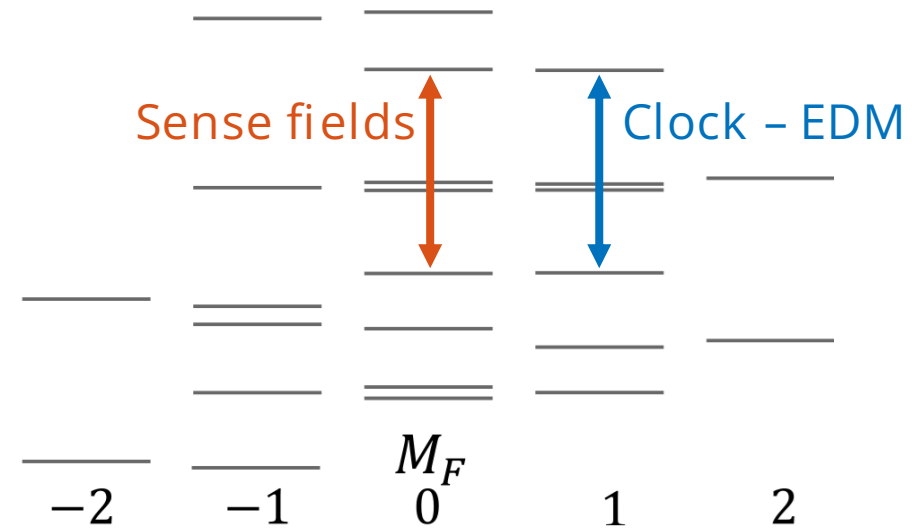
# Spin Precession Protocol

- Problem:  $|+M\rangle \pm |-M\rangle$  is hard
  - $M$  is large
    - $I_{Yb} = 5/2, S = 1/2, N = 1, I_H = 1/2$
  - Beam has velocity dispersion and large spatial extent – hard to use microwaves
  - Unresolved excited state hyperfine structure – hard to use lasers
- Solution: Give up
  - Can instead prepare  $|M\rangle \pm |M'\rangle$
  - Choose  $|M - M'| \leq 2$  to connect with two-photon transition
- This works fine, but has first order Stark and Zeeman shift
  - Large molecular dipole
  - Unpaired electron spin



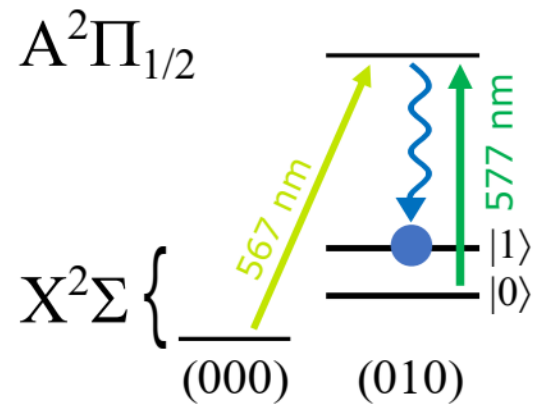
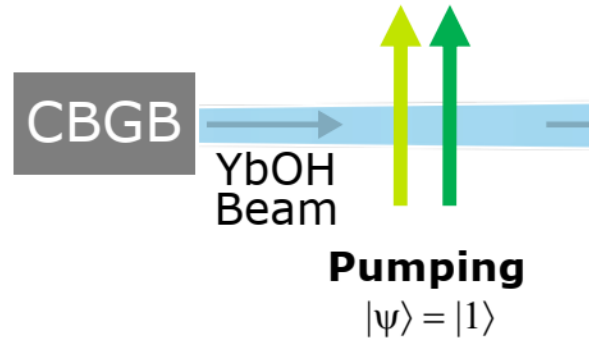
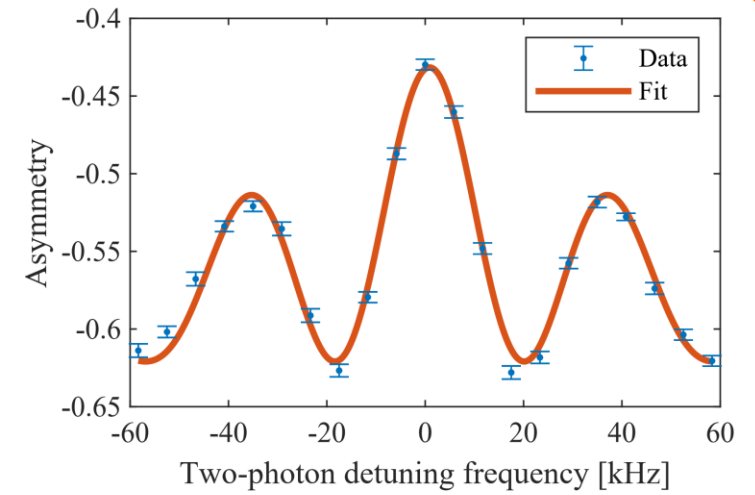
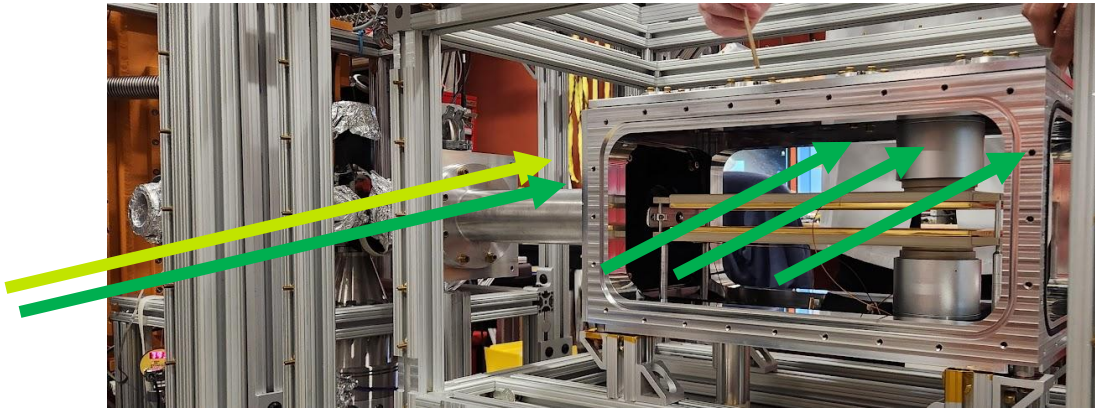
# Engineered Clock Transitions

- Engineered molecular clocks
  - Can zero-out field sensitivity
  - Maintains EDM sensitivity
- Can also find environmental sensing transitions
- Exist generically
  - Leverages complexity
  - Especially good in polyatomics
  - Agnostic to molecular details
  - Including complex hyperfine
- Access to *many* measurement states, not just 1 or 2
  - Each for sensing/suppressing a different effect



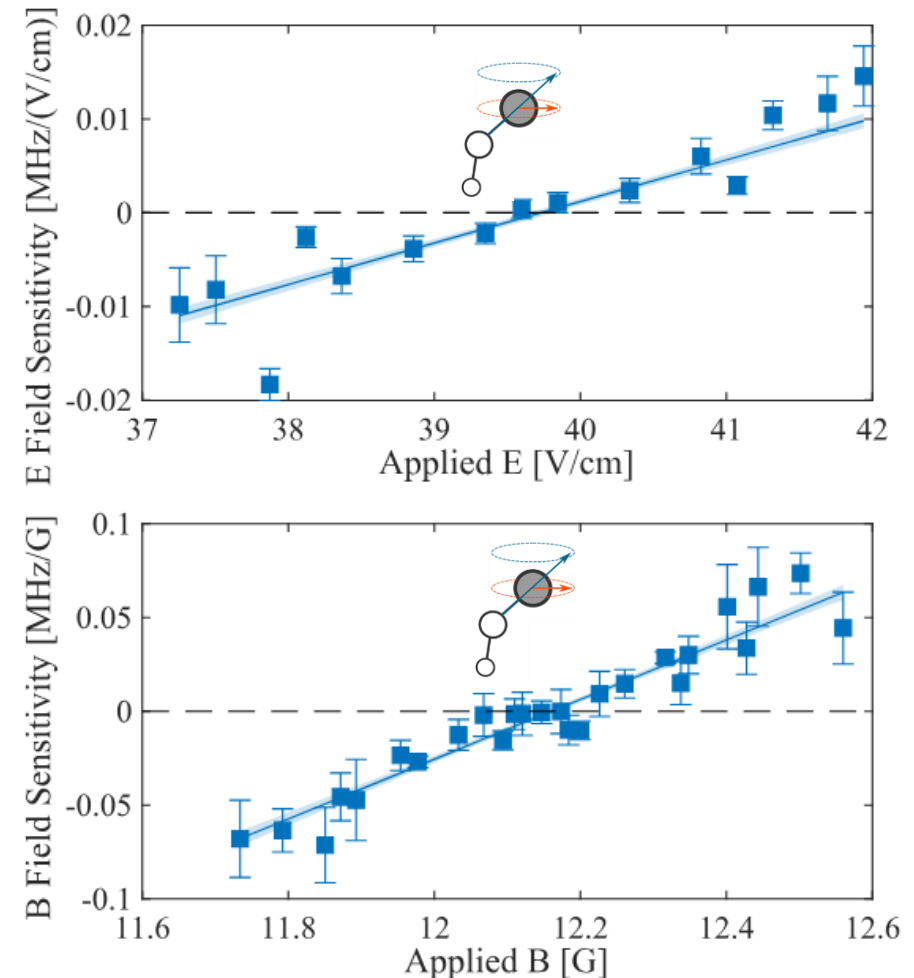
$^{174}\text{YbOH}$  "science" state  
 $E \sim 40 \text{ V/cm}$ ,  $B \sim 12 \text{ mG}$



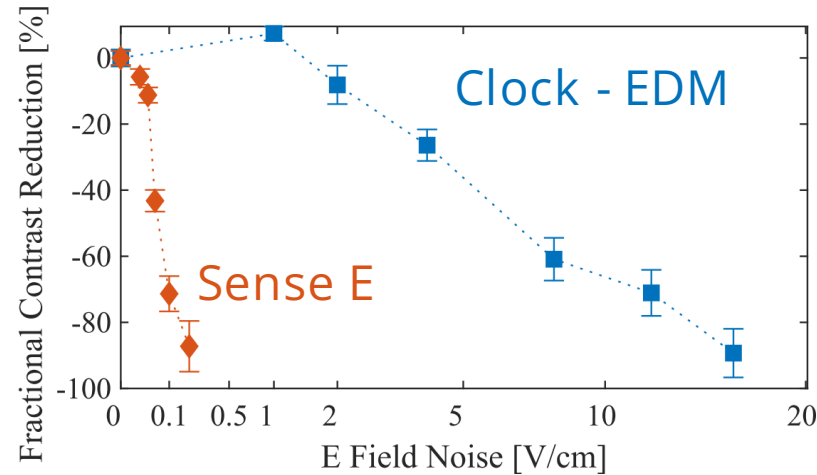
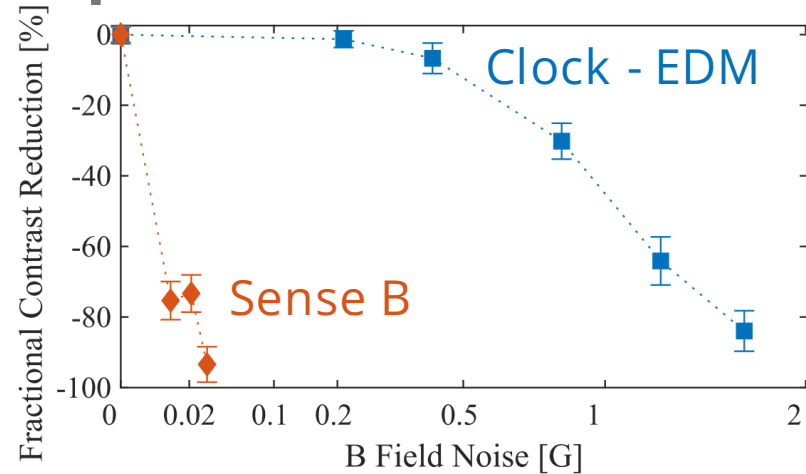


# Implementation in $^{174}\text{YbOH}$

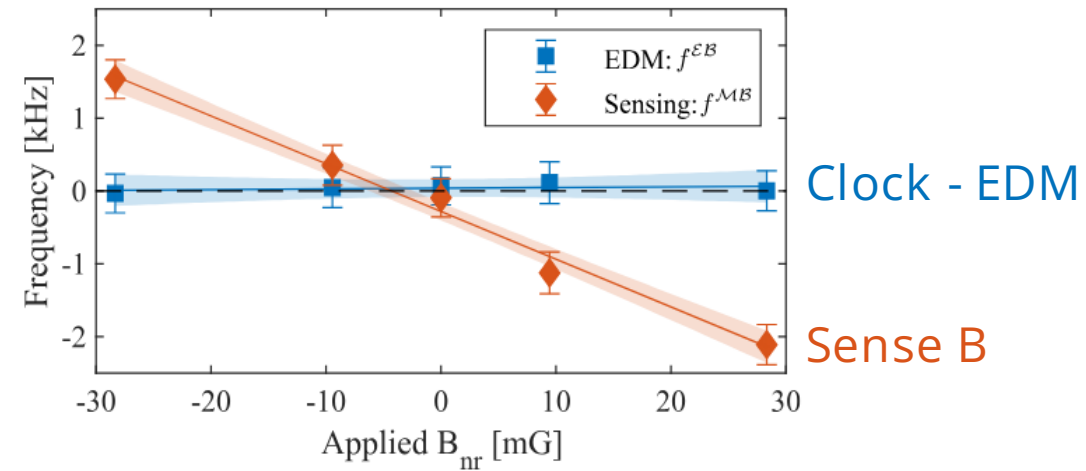
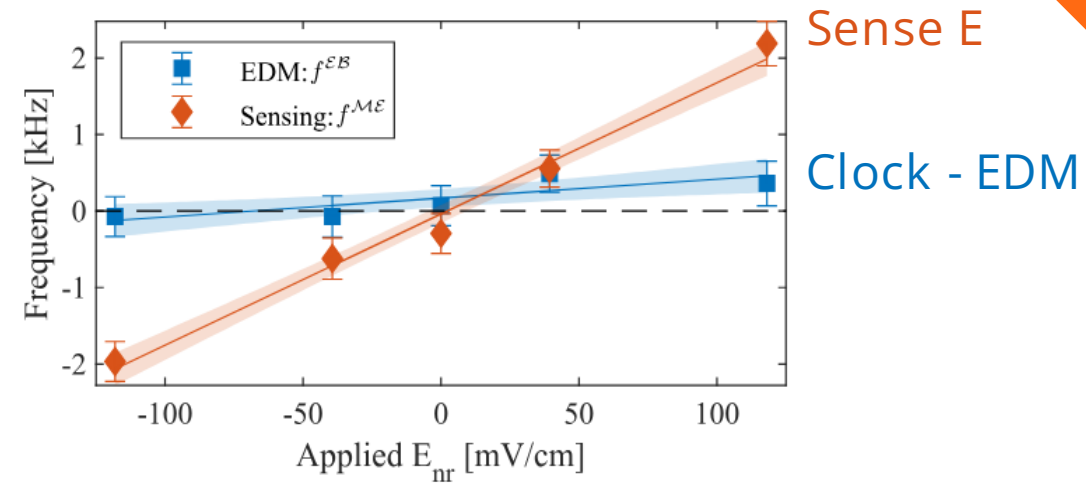
- Recently implemented in  $^{174}\text{YbOH}$  science state
  - Electrically polarized symmetry-lowered bending mode
  - $\epsilon_{eff} \approx 22 \text{ GV/cm}$  @  $40 \text{ V/cm}$
  - Preliminary
- Able to suppress electric, magnetic sensitivity to  $<1\%$ 
  - Measure with spin precession
  - $< \text{Few } \mu_N$  magnetic sensitivity in a molecule with an unpaired electron
- Demonstrated ability to simultaneously sense fields



# Implementation in $^{174}\text{YbOH}$



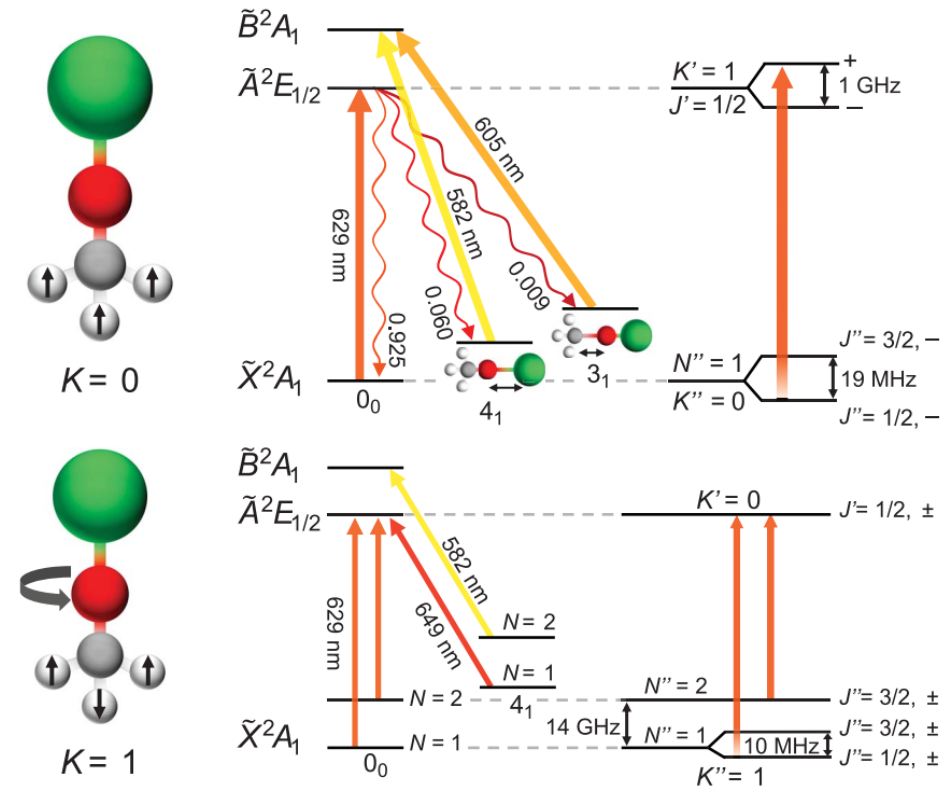
Highly robust against electromagnetic noise



Ability to use field-sensitive transitions to sense fields

# Symmetric Tops

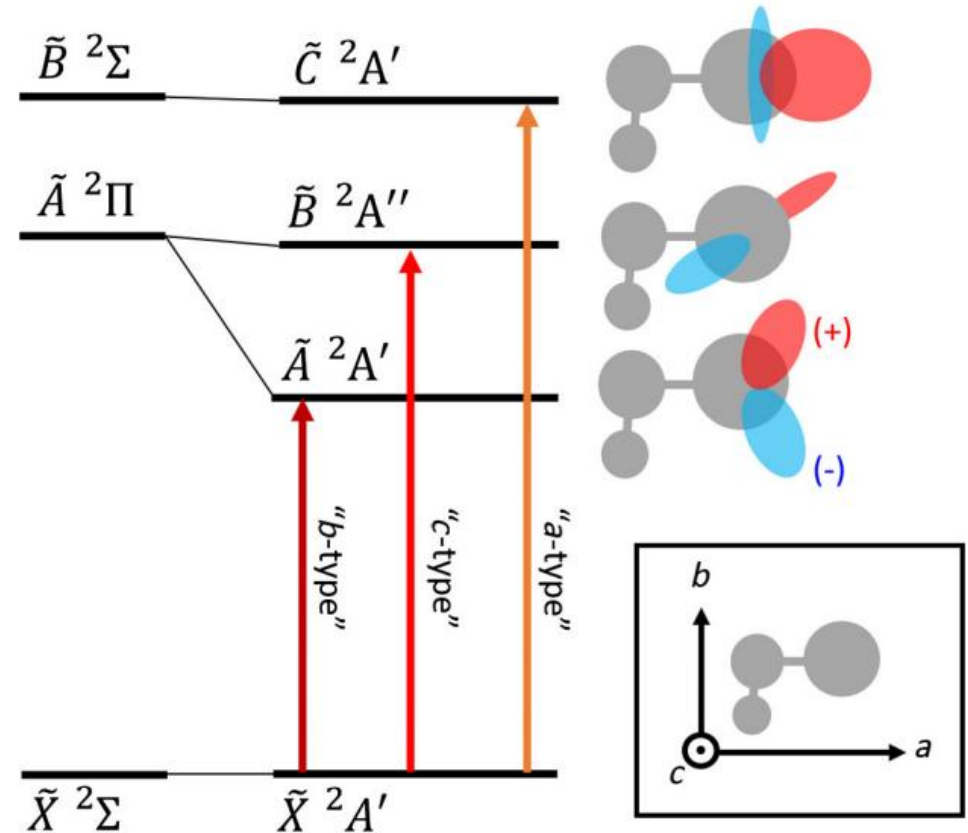
- Symmetric tops like  $\text{MOCH}_3$  are a similar story, but with key differences
- Parity doubled state is a *rotational* state
  - Rotation of  $\text{H}_3$  group around symmetry axis
  - K-doubling (K = projection of rotation on symmetry axis)
  - Smaller splittings ( $\sim 1$  MHz or less), basically infinite radiative lifetime
- Different:  $\text{H}_3$  nuclei must obey Pauli statistics
  - Gives rise to two nuclear spin isomers (singlet, triplet)
  - Need to be addressed individually



D. Mitra, N. B. Vilas, C. Hallas, L. Anderegg, B. L. Augenbraun, L. Baum, C. Miller, S. Raval, and J. M. Doyle, Science 369, 1366 (2020)

# Asymmetric Tops

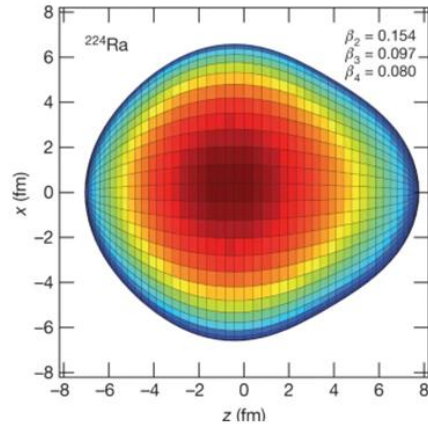
- Asymmetric tops have three distinct moments of inertia
- Very, very complicated
  - Multiple rotational ladders, transitions, mixing
  - In-plane vs. out-of-plane splittings for electronic states
- Surprisingly, appears to maintain laser cooling (theoretically)



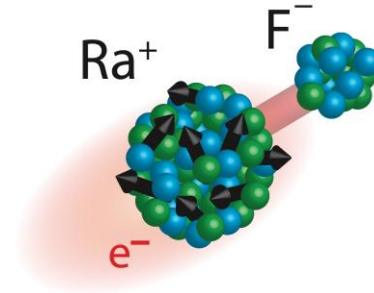
B. L. Augenbraun, J. M. Doyle, T. Zelevinsky, and I. Kozyryev, Phys. Rev. X 10, 031022 (2020)

# Radioactive Molecules

# Why Radioactive Molecules?

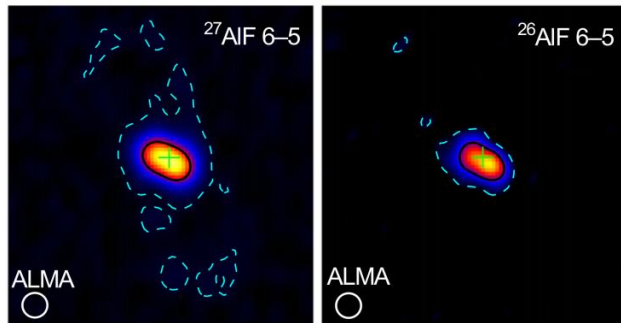


Fundamental symmetries



Nuclear structure

Radiochemistry



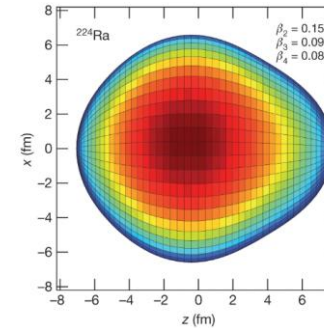
Nuclear astrophysics

- Molecules containing exotic nuclei have interesting properties [see arXiv:2302.02165]
- Fundamental challenge: adapting many laboratory techniques to trace, short-lived species

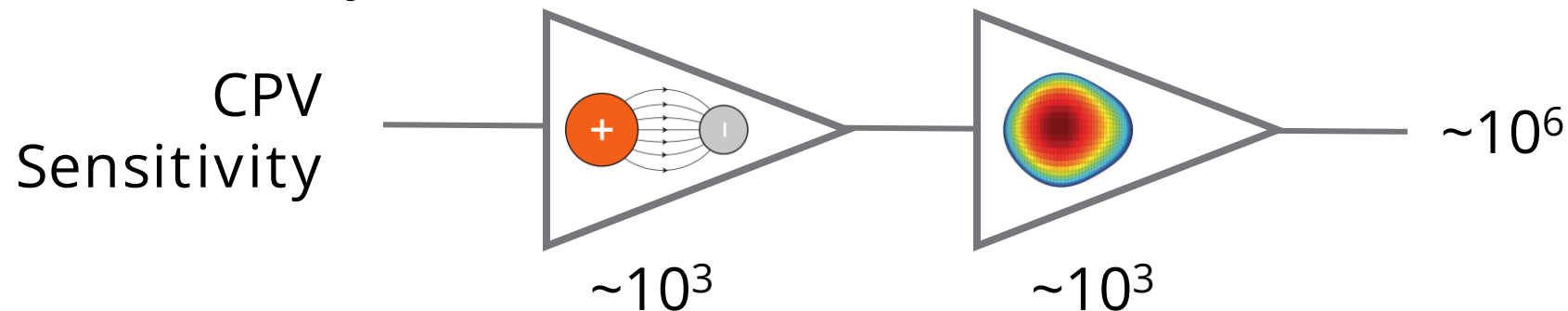
# Enhanced CPV Sensitivity with Exotic Nuclei



- Nuclear symmetry violations enhanced in heavy, octupole-deformed (pear-shaped) nuclei
  - Combines with molecular sensitivity enhancement



L. P. Gaffney et al.,  
Nature 497, 199 (2013)

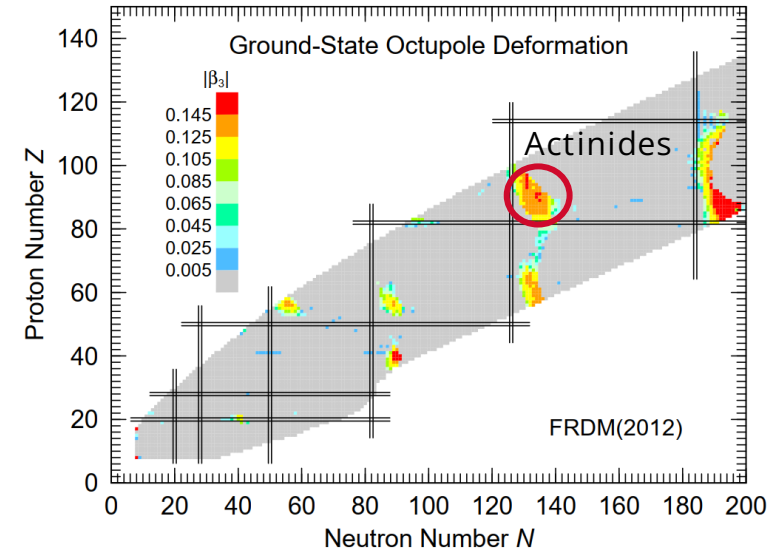


- Control one molecule at a time  $\rightarrow$  hadronic frontier
- Challenge: simply producing radioactive molecules is a research frontier



# Radioactive Nuclei

- Main challenge: heavy, spinful, octupole-deformed nuclei are radioactive
- Nuclei must be in a molecule amenable to “precision measurement” methods
  - Synthesis, cooling, spectroscopy, measurement protocol, coherent quantum state control, ...



Isotope	Half-life
$^{223}\text{Fr}$	22 min
$^{225}\text{Ra}$	15 d
$^{223}\text{Ra}$	11 d
$^{227}\text{Ac}$	22 yr
$^{229}\text{Th}$	7,900 yr
$^{229}\text{Pa}$	2 d

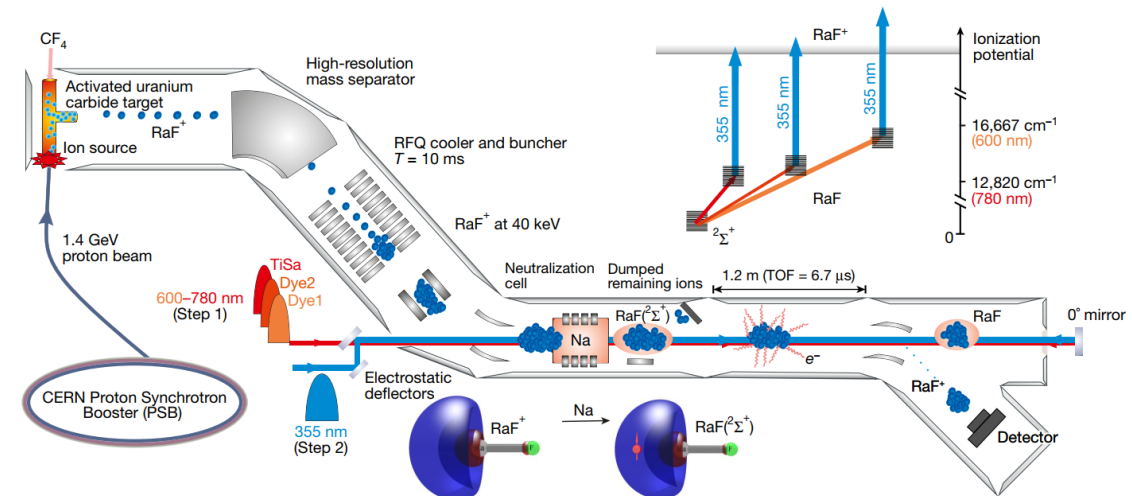
[illegible]

## Good optical control and precision measurement tools

# Octupole nucleus

# Radium

This contributed to motivation  
for groundbreaking RaF work

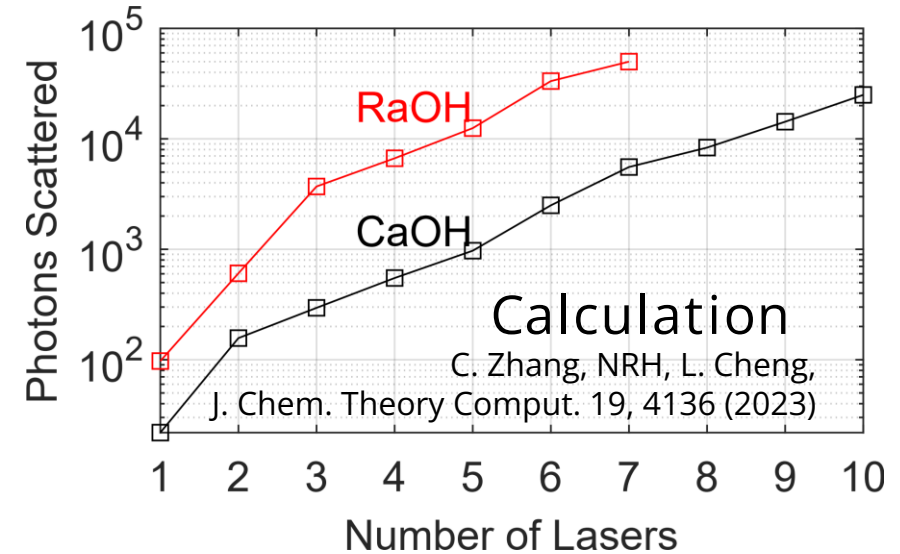


R. F. Garcia Ruiz *et al.*, Nature 581, 396 (2020)

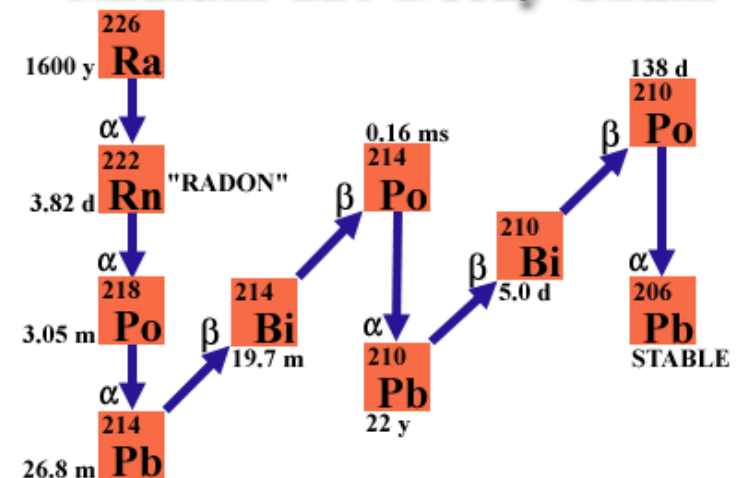
T. A. Isaev, S. Hoekstra, and R. Berger, PRA 82, 052521 (2010)

# Radium Molecules

- Radium-containing molecules are interesting
- Advantages:
  - Octupole deformed
  - Very good theory support
  - High CPV sensitivity
  - Makes optically-controllable molecules
  - Demonstrated measurement protocols
- Challenges
  - Hard to get
  - Small quantities
  - Biologically hazardous
  - Long-lived radon daughters
  - Large theoretical uncertainties
  - Even “normal” molecules take years to study

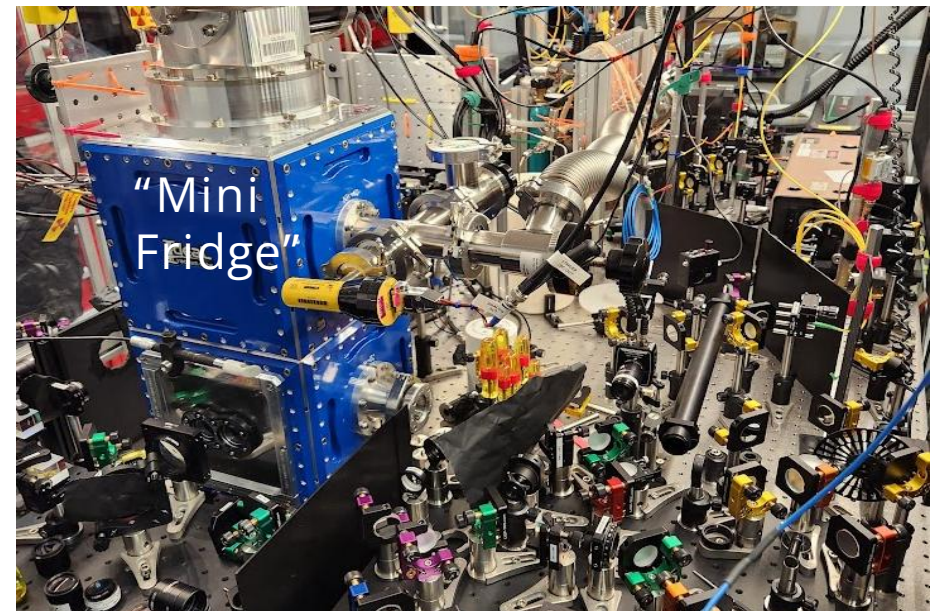


## Radium-226 Decay Chain



# Radium Molecules @ Caltech

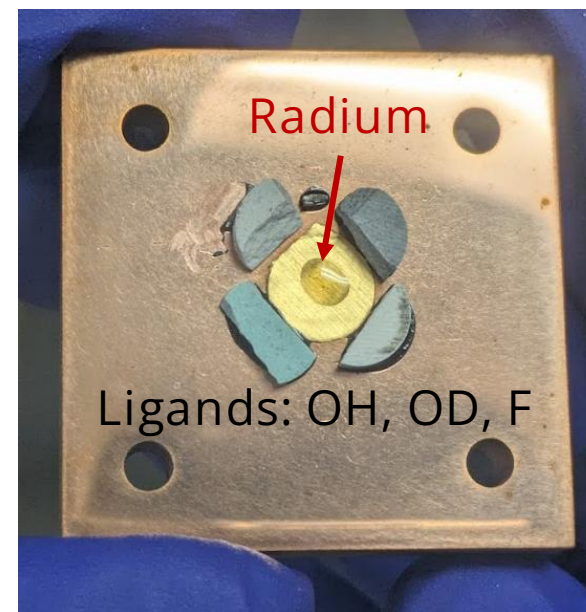
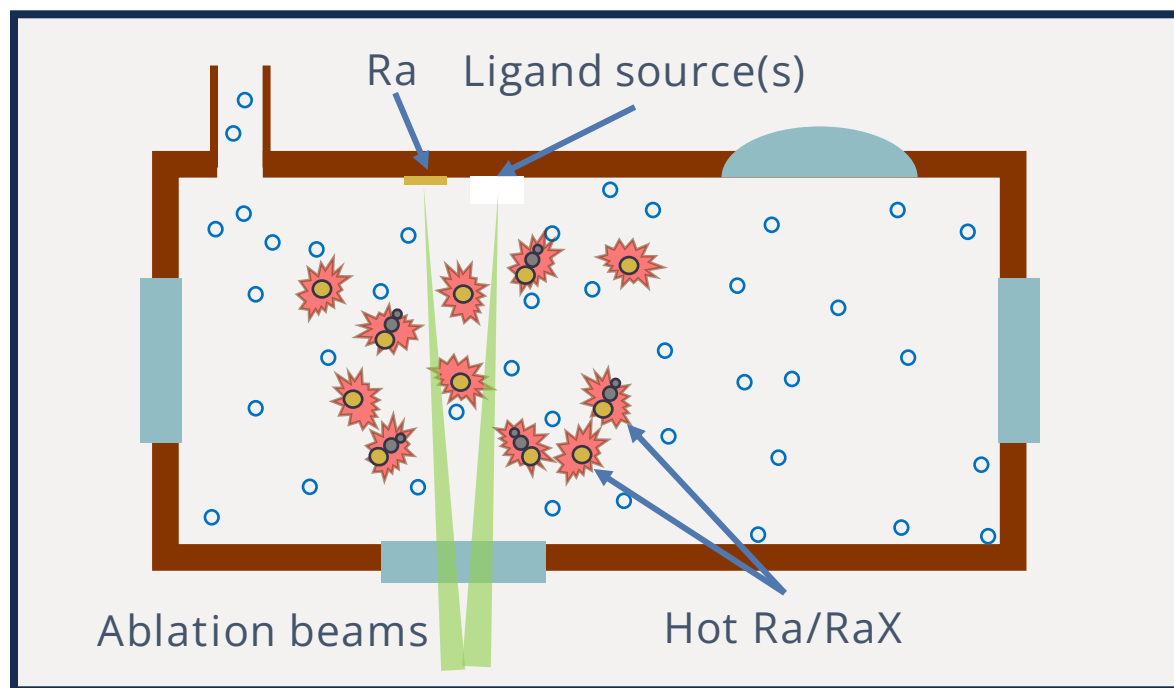
- Fabricate 10-50  $\mu\text{g}$  Ra-226 targets in-house
- Synthesize and cool RaOH
  - Tabletop apparatus
  - 4 K He cooling
  - Molecules are cold, stopped
  - Ready for precision measurement, laser cooling, ...
- “Challenges remain”
  - RaX collaboration with John M. Doyle and Ronald Garcia Ruiz to make cold beams
- Method should be applicable to a wide range of rare species



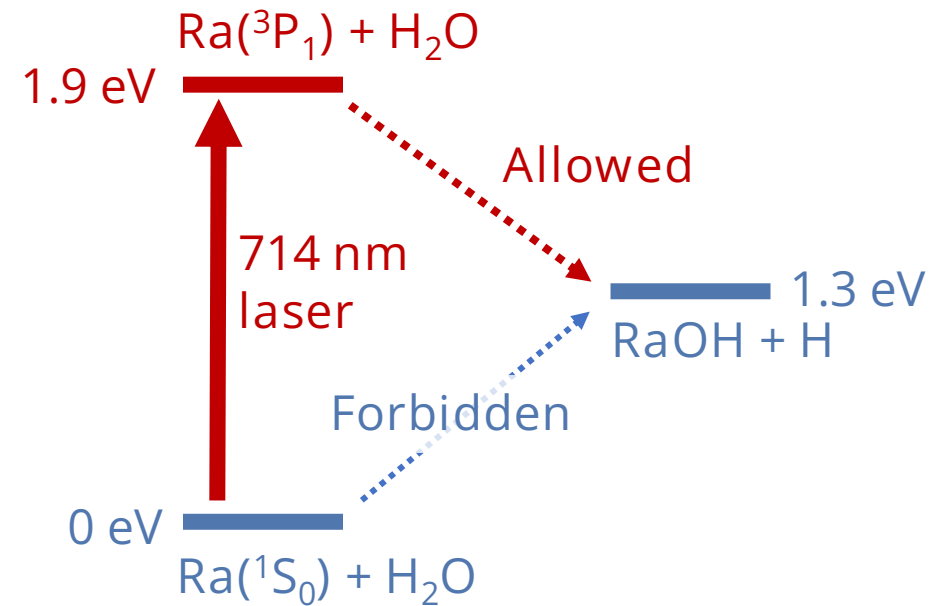
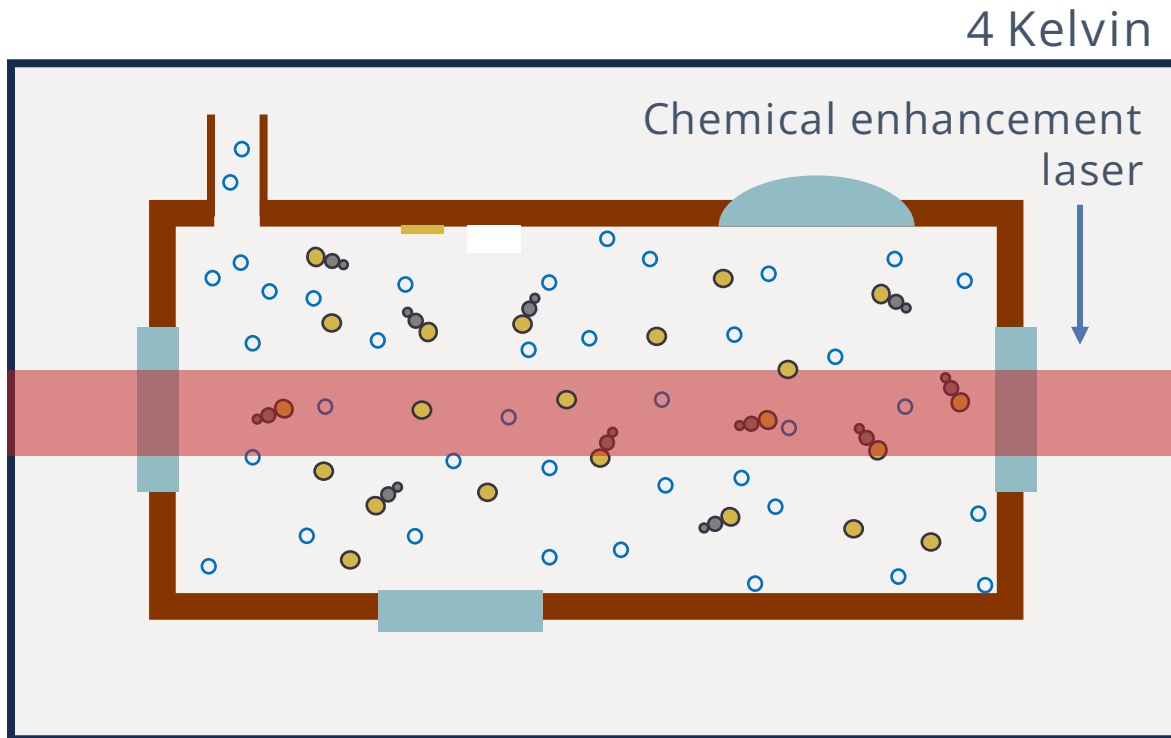


# Molecule Production

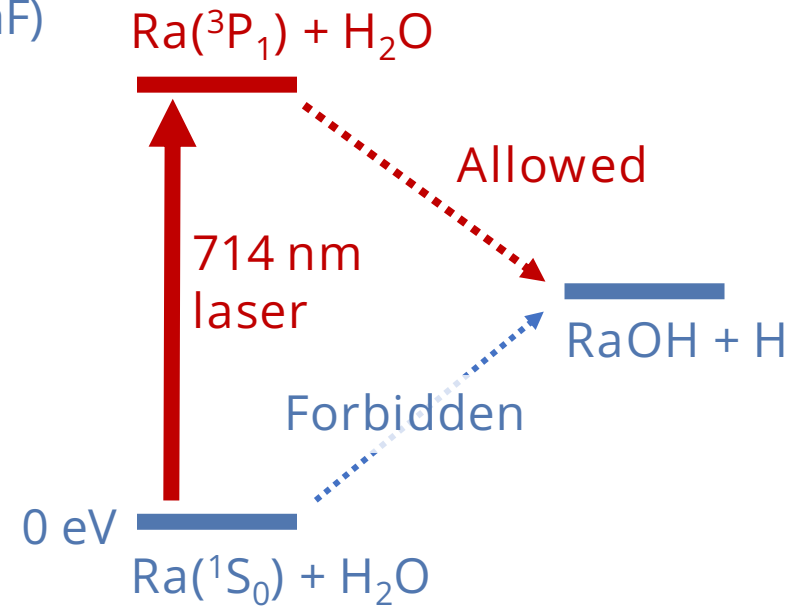
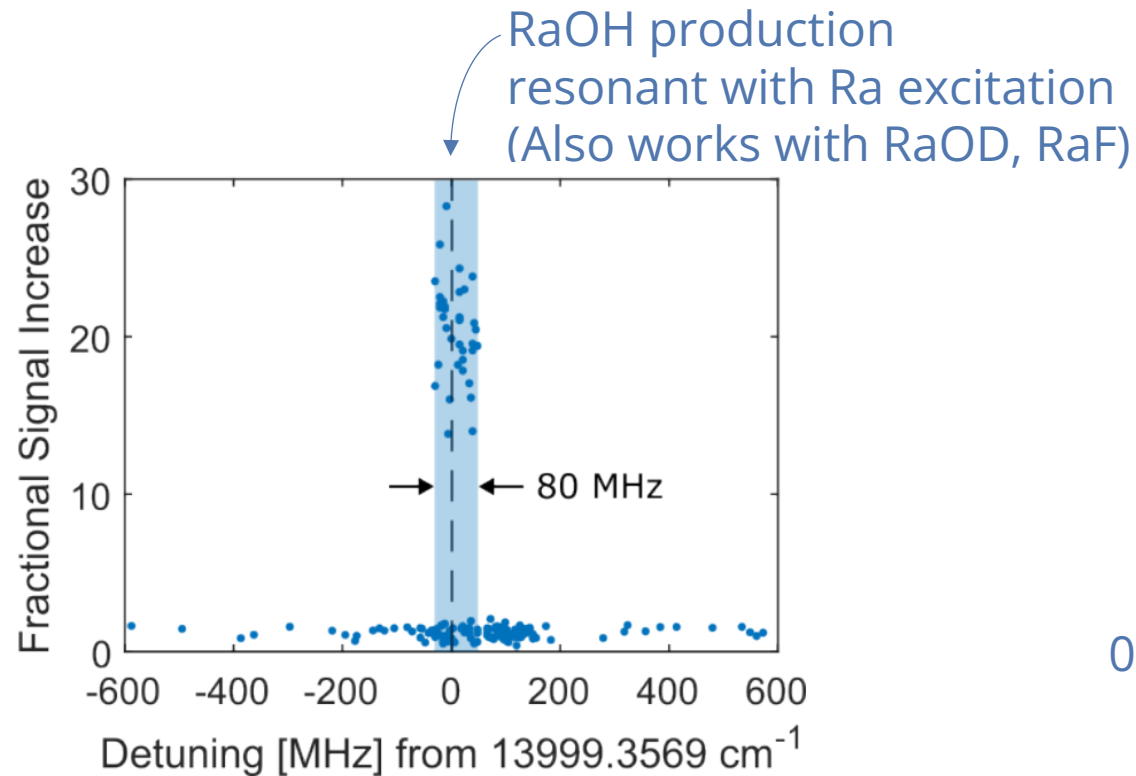
4 Kelvin



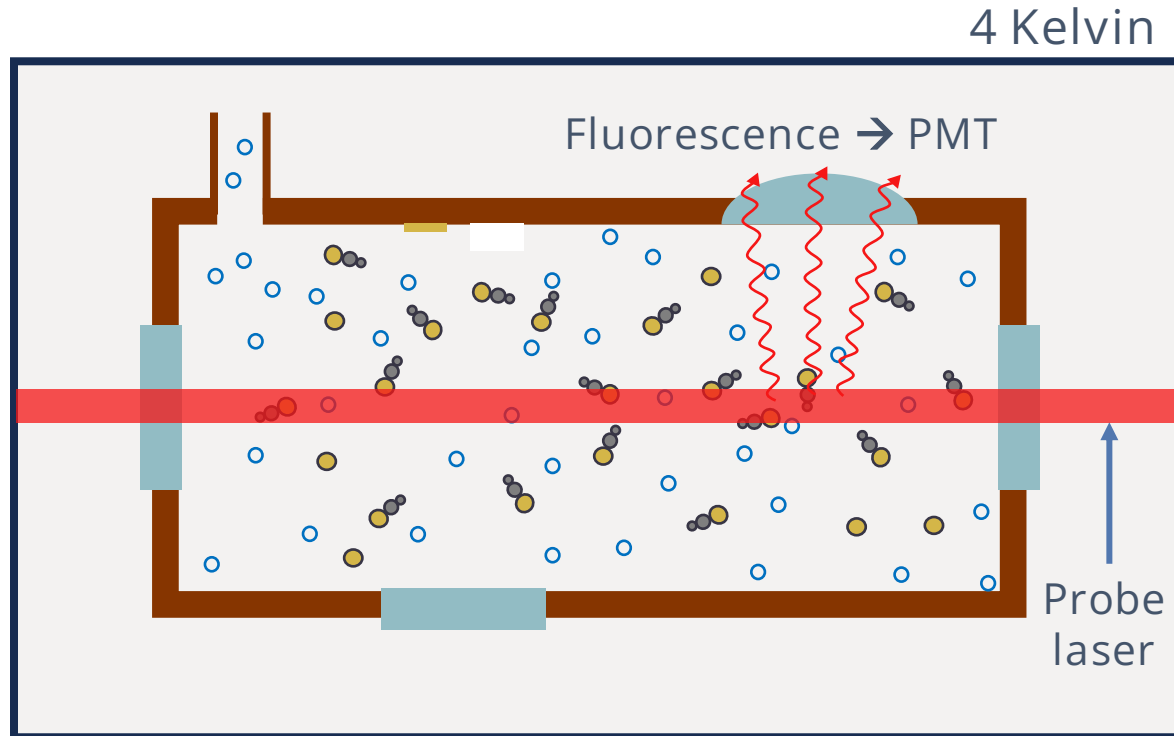
# Molecule Production



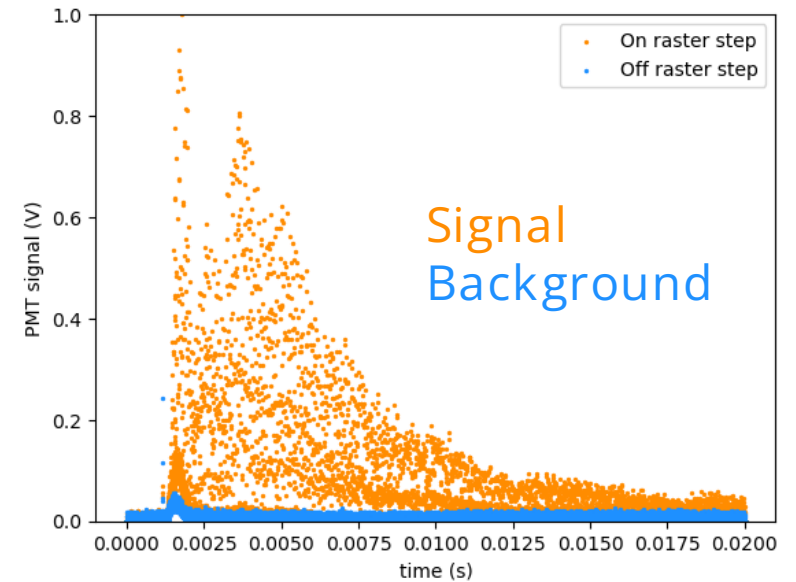
# Molecule Production



# Molecule Detection

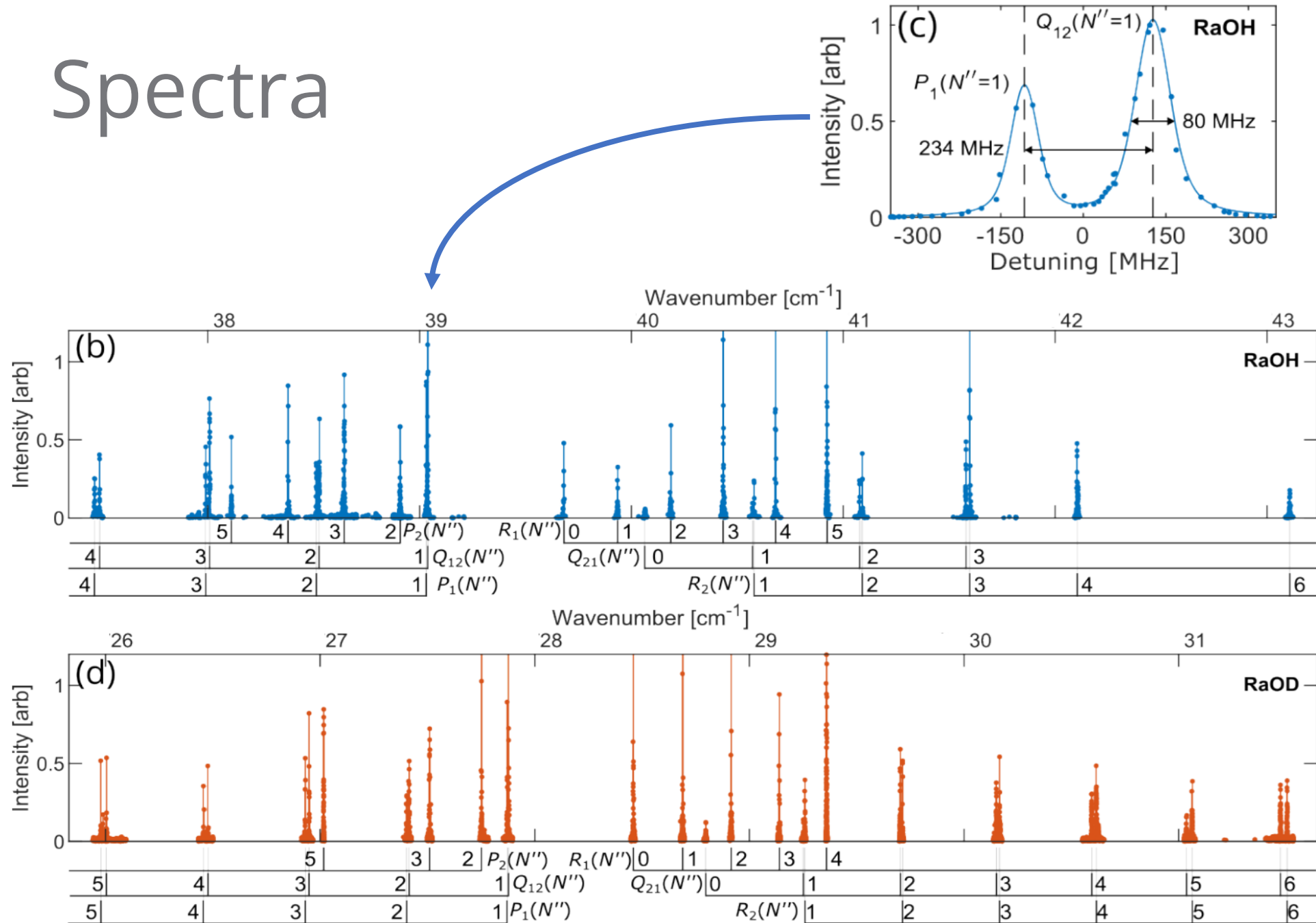


Single-shot fluorescence  
From 4 K RaF molecules

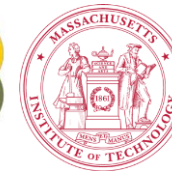




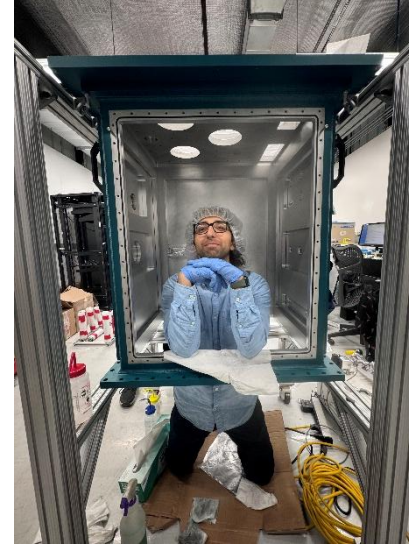
# Spectra



# RaX Collaboration

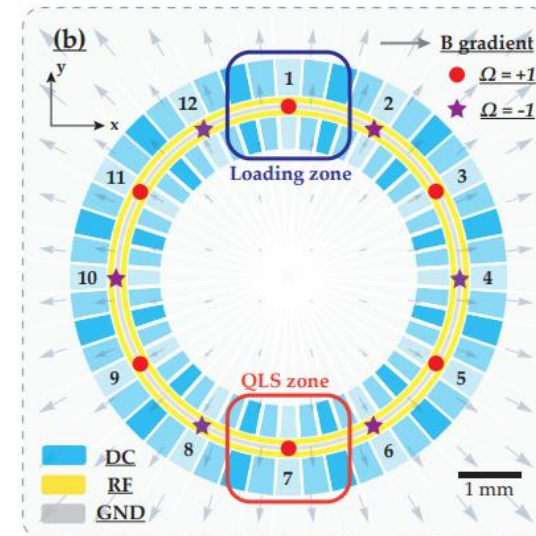
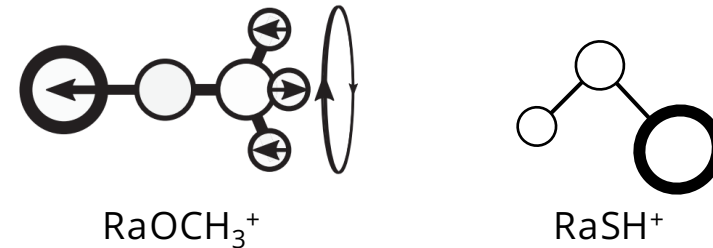


- Cryogenic beam formation for precision measurement is an engineering challenge
- RaX collaboration
  - John M. Doyle @ Harvard
  - Ronald Garcia Ruiz @ MIT
  - NRH @ Caltech
  - Support from FRIB



# Radioactive Molecular Ions

- $\text{HfF}^+$  eEDM gets high sensitivity with small quantities  $\rightarrow$  good match for radioactive species
  - Basically need parity doublets
  - Can't reverse E field since it is used for trapping
- Radium polyatomics
  - Already created and trapped in Jayich Lab @ UCSB
- Thorium polyatomics
  - $\text{ThF}^+$  being pursued at Harvard, TRIUMF, UNLV
- Protactinium
  - $\text{PaF}^{+++}$  could benefit from extreme sensitivity of Pa
- Measurement schemes under development



# Ultracold Assembled Molecules

- Can coherently associate ultracold atoms into ultracold molecules
  - Offload the difficult cooling steps onto atoms
- Demonstrated for several bi-alkali species
  - Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs
  - ... Fr? Heavy, Octupole deformed, laser-cooled
- Problem: bi-alkali molecules have low CPV sensitivity
- Proposed solution: Silver
  - Ag has alkali-like structure, has been laser cooled and trapped
  - Very electronegative
  - FrAg has large CPV sensitivity
  - Under way @ Johns Hopkins (DeMille and collaborators)

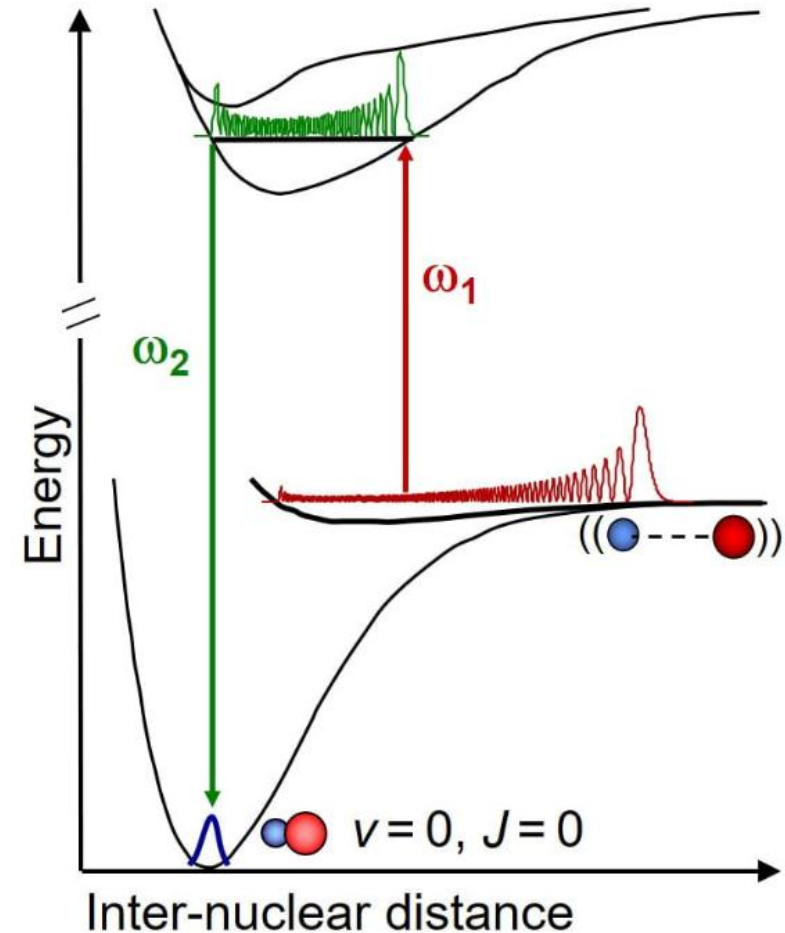
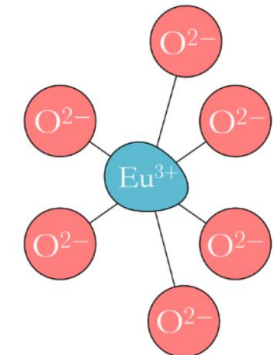
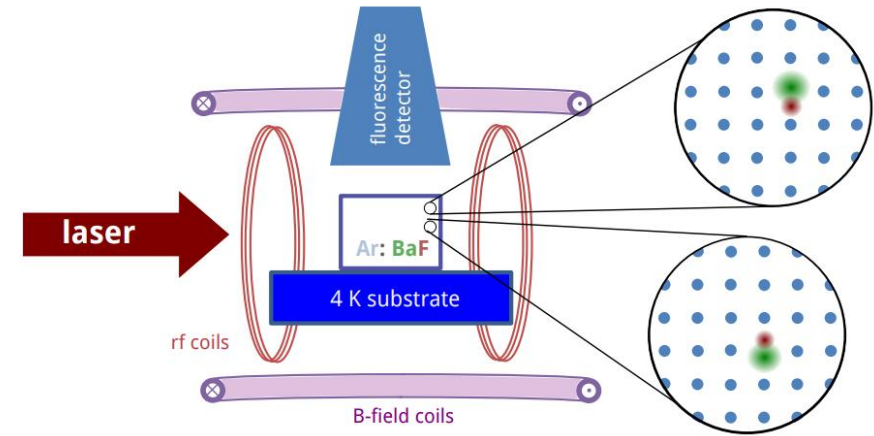


Figure from Dave DeMille

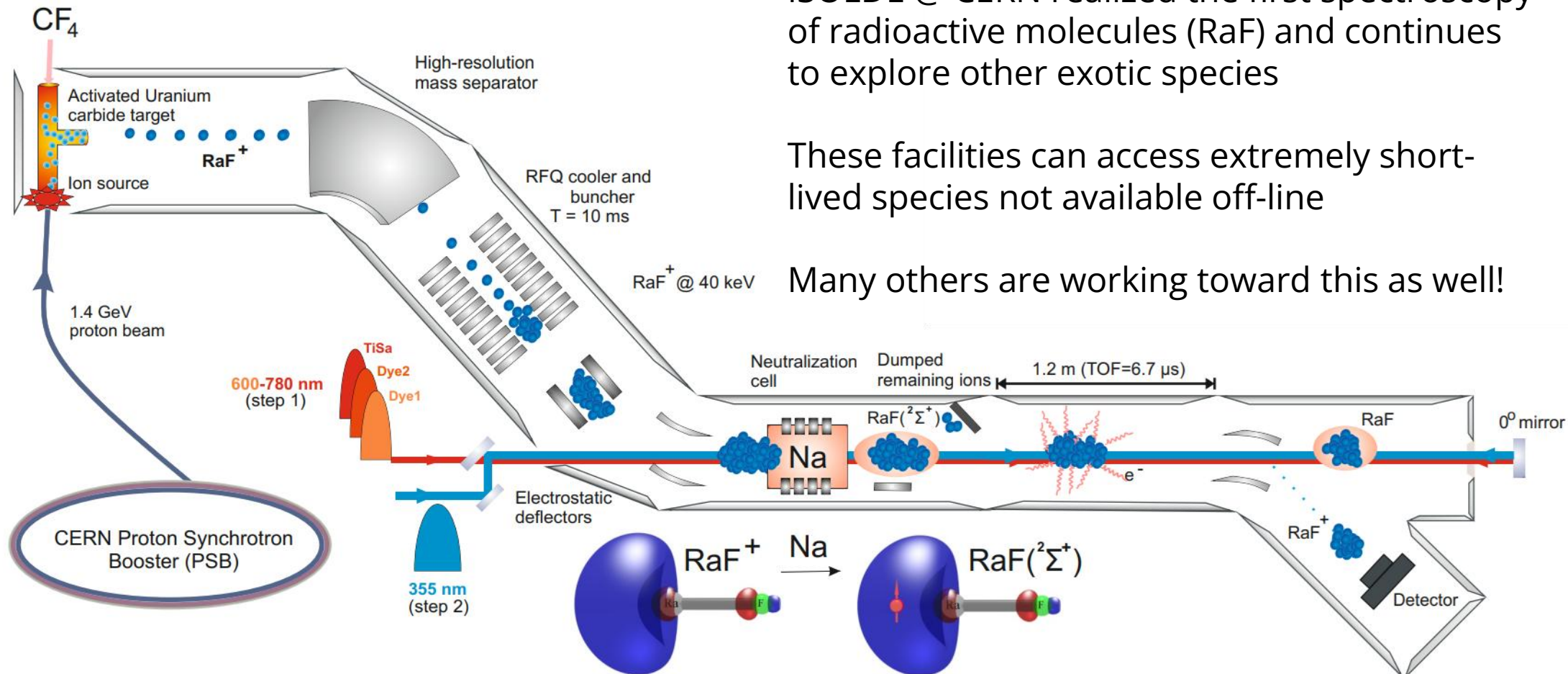


# Matrices

- One can trap extremely large numbers of atoms or molecules in solid state environments
  - Noble gas ice (EDM<sup>3</sup>, ...)
  - Crystals (ONIX, CASPER, ...)
- Can measure optically or with NMR and magnetic pickup loops
- Demonstrated to work well for oscillating EDMs



# Radioactive Beam Facilities

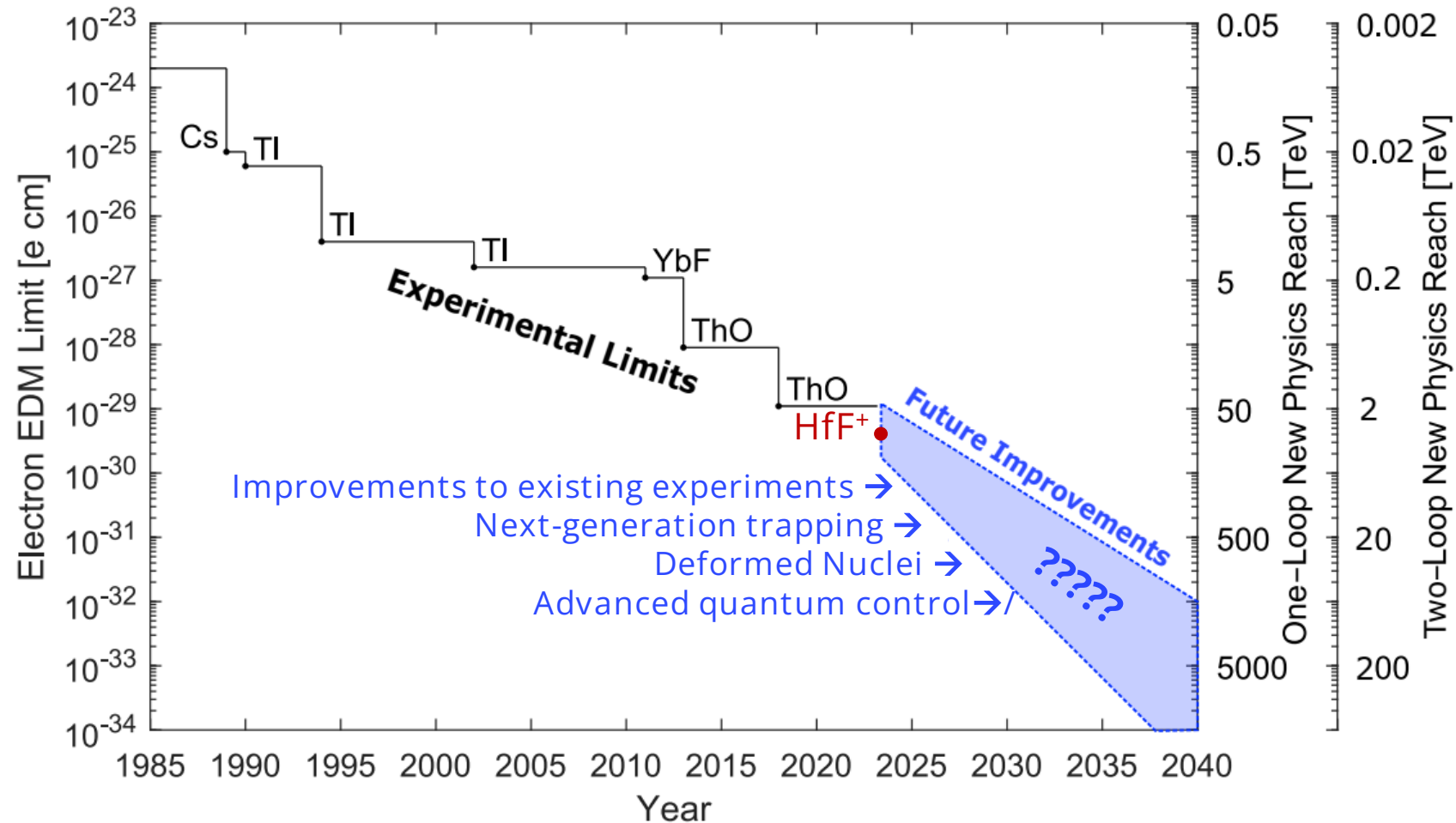


# Many Ongoing and Upcoming Opportunities at Facilities!



**FRIB**

# Future Improvements



Similar improvements in hadronic CPV are also anticipated

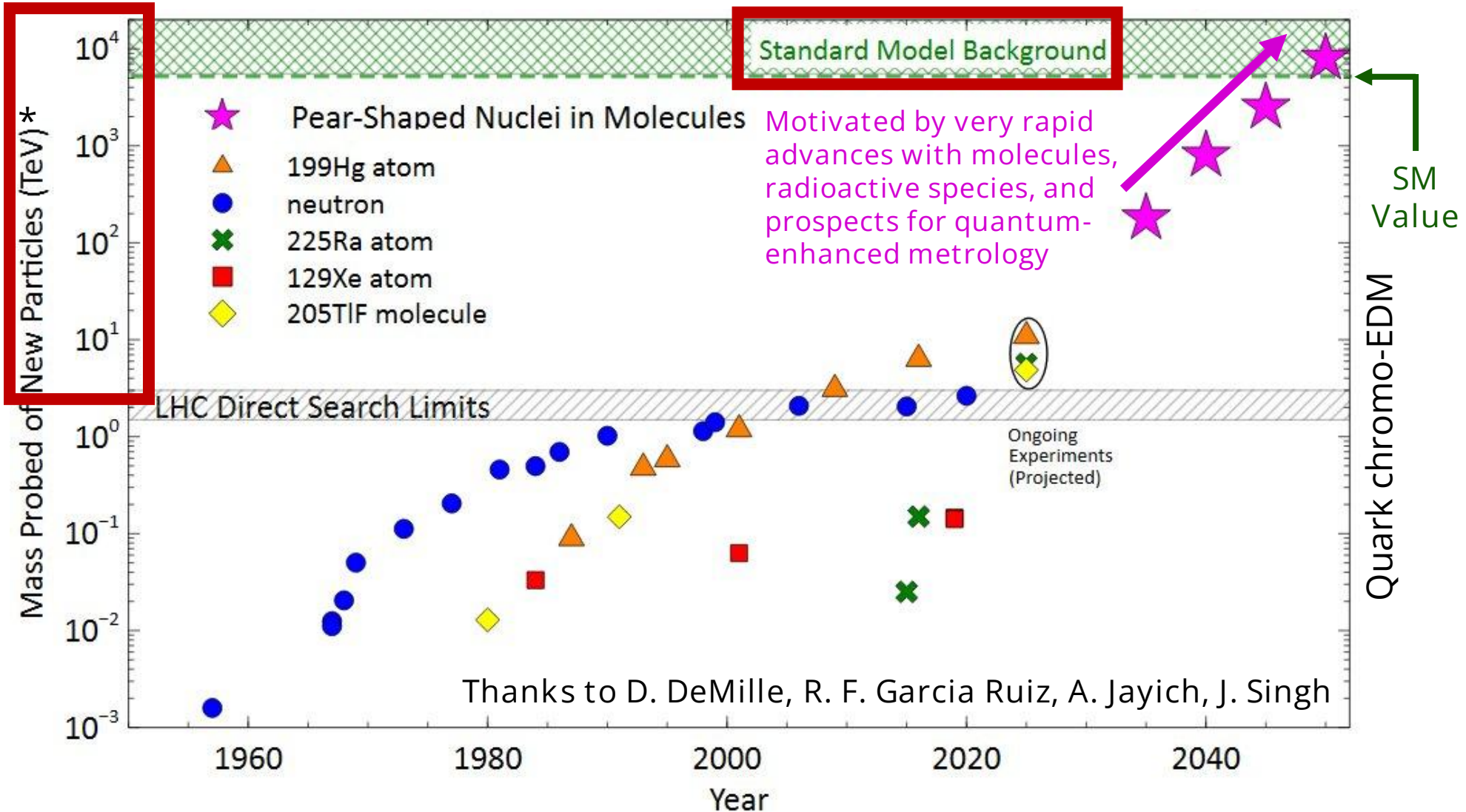
From 2022 Snowmass EDM whitepaper, arXiv:2203:08103 – Updated



# Sensitivity Outlook

Pathway to extreme energy scales

Pathway to seeing hadronic CKM physics



$10^6$  molecules  
100 s coherence time  
Heavy, deformed nucleus  
Quantum control  
Robust error rejection



~PeV-scale CP-violating physics @ 1 loop  
~100 TeV-scale CP-violating physics @ 2 loops  
Both leptonic and hadronic sectors  
Extreme precision,  $\theta_{QCD} \lesssim 10^{-14}$   
Near Standard Model CKM value  
~10 – 20 year time scales



Future orders-of-magnitude  
improvements from  
quantum-enhanced  
metrology, highly exotic  
nuclei, ...



The pieces are coming together!  
With multiple approaches!

