



qBounce-

Realization of a

Quantum Bouncing Ball Gravity Spectrometer

and

new 5th force limits

Hartmut Abele

Mykonos, 27 June 2011

qBOUNCE

the dynamics of ultra-cold neutrons in the gravity potential

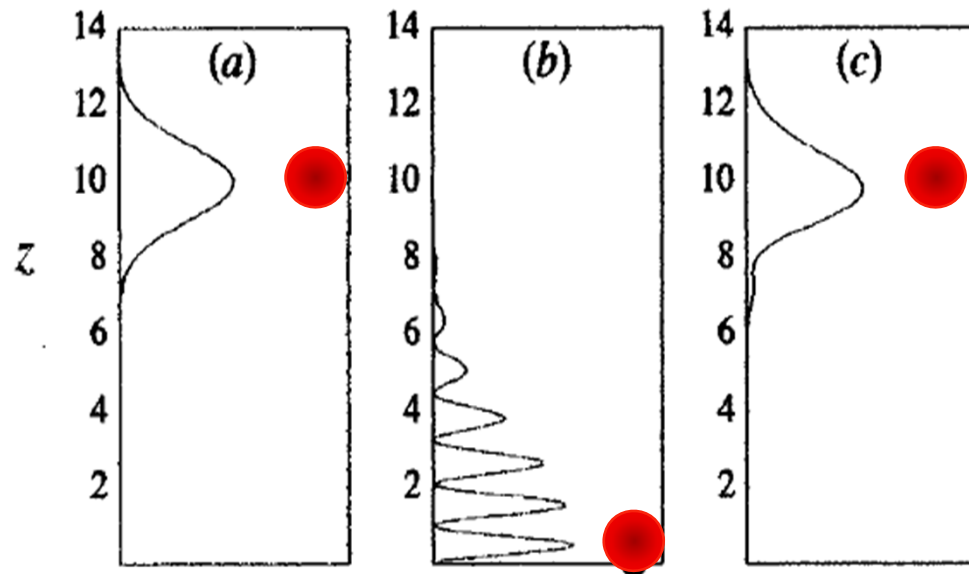
the free Fall



qBOUNCE

the dynamics of ultra-cold neutrons in the gravity potential

the free Fall



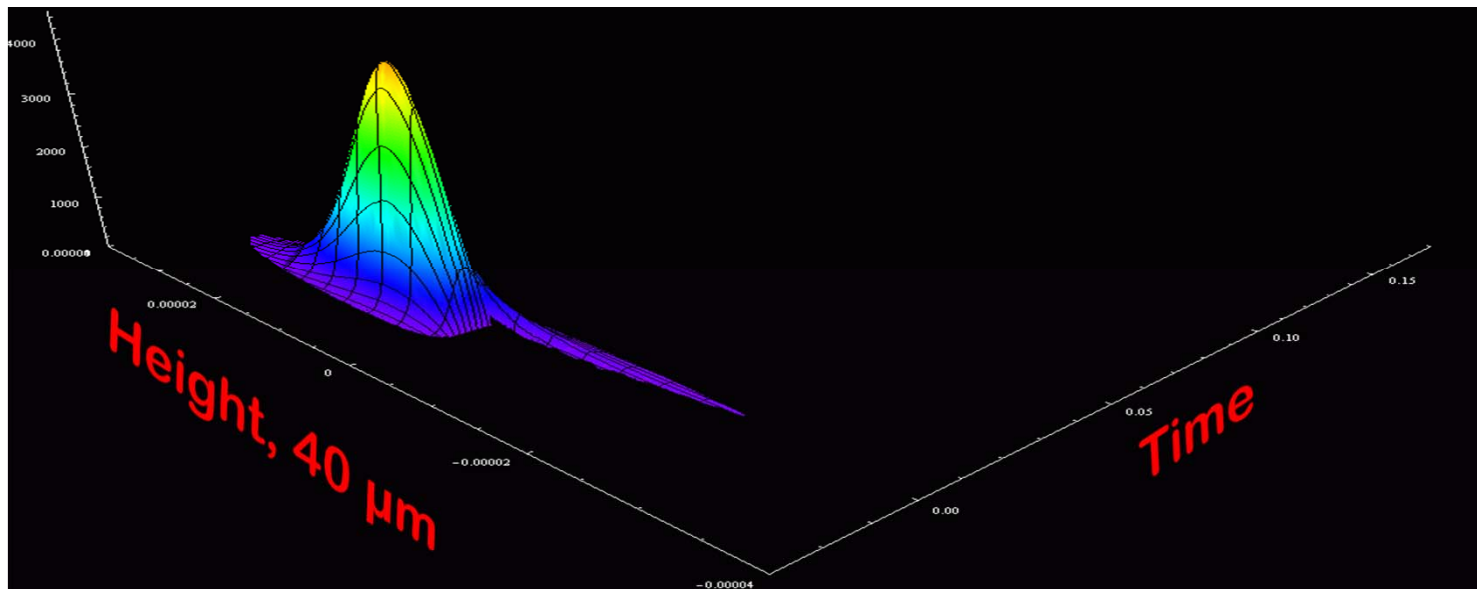
- Quantum interference:
sensitivity to fifth forces
coming from extra dimensions
string theories
(higher dimensional field theories)
or axion fields

- Theory:
Kajari et al., Inertial and gravitational mass in quantum mechanics,
Appl. Phys. B **100**, 43 (2010)
- Julio Gea-Banacloche, *Am. J. Phys.*(1999)
- H.A. et al., *PRD* (2010)

qBOUNCE

the dynamics of ultra-cold neutrons in the gravity potential

- Quantum interference: sensitivity to fifth forces coming from extra dimensions / string theories (higher dimensional field theories) or axion fields



- Rafael Reiter, Bernhard Schliederer, David Seppi, Projektarbeit TU Wien 2009, Supervisor H. Leeb



Neutron Production

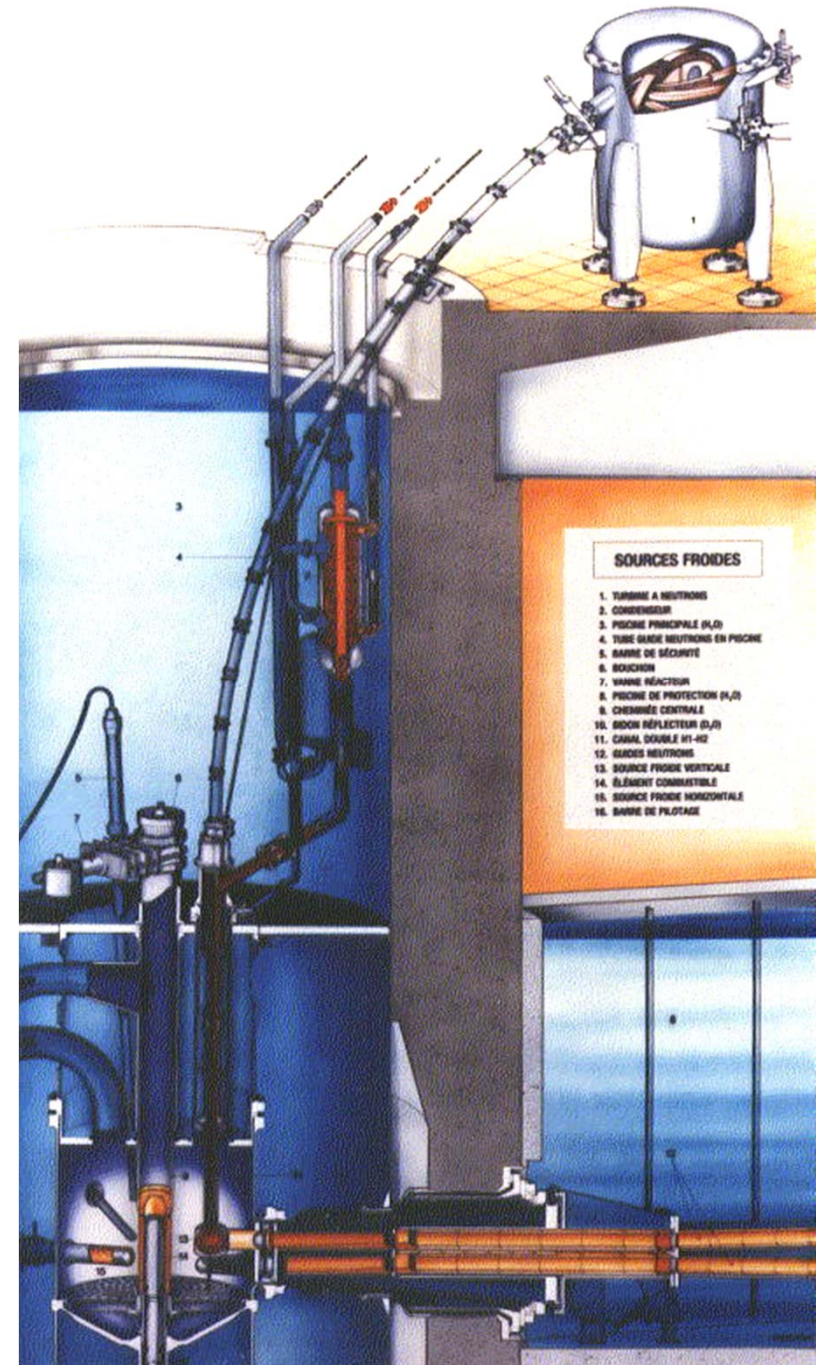
Fission: 2 MeV

Thermal: 25meV, 300K

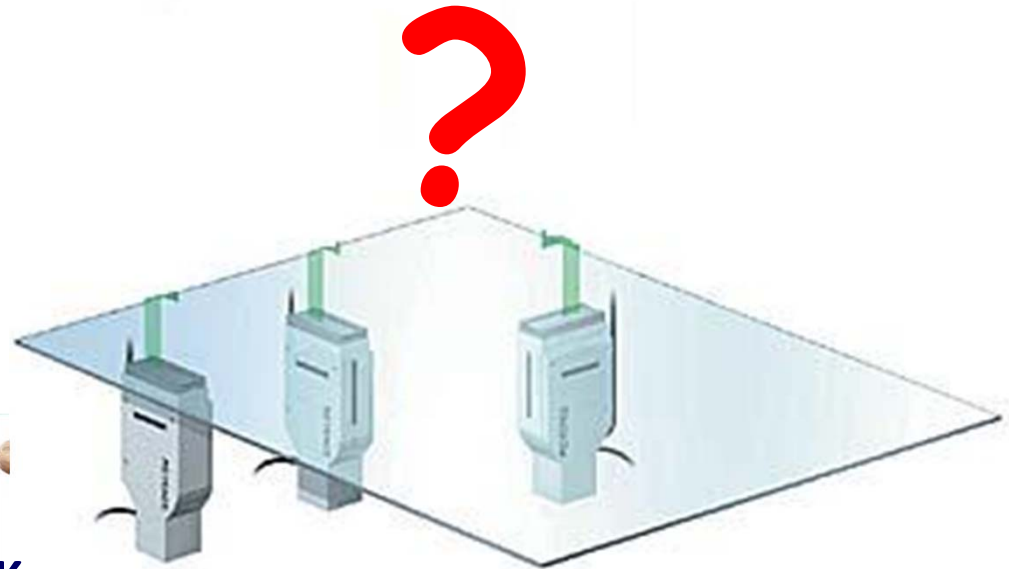
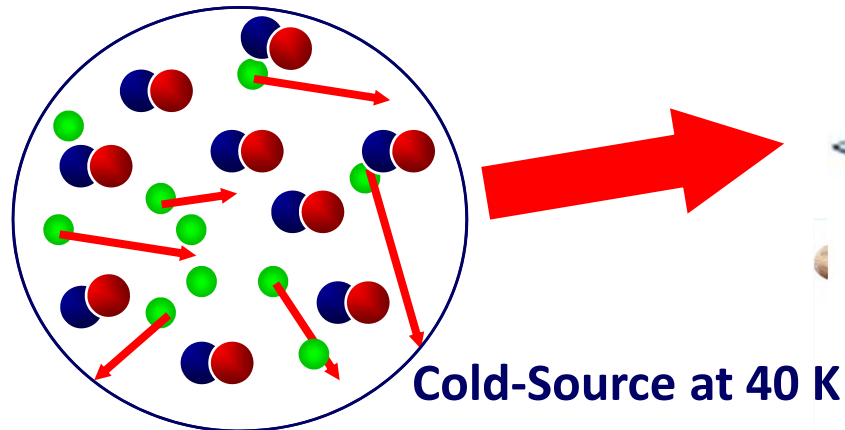
Cold: 4 meV, 40K

ultra cold: 100 neV, 1mK

Gravity Experiment: 1 pico-eV



Quantum Bounce



● System Neutron & Earth

- Neutron bound in the gravity potential of the earth
- $\langle r \rangle = 6 \mu\text{m}$
- Ground state energy of 1.4 peV
- 1 dim.
- Schrödinger Equ.
 - Airy Functions

● Hydrogen Atom

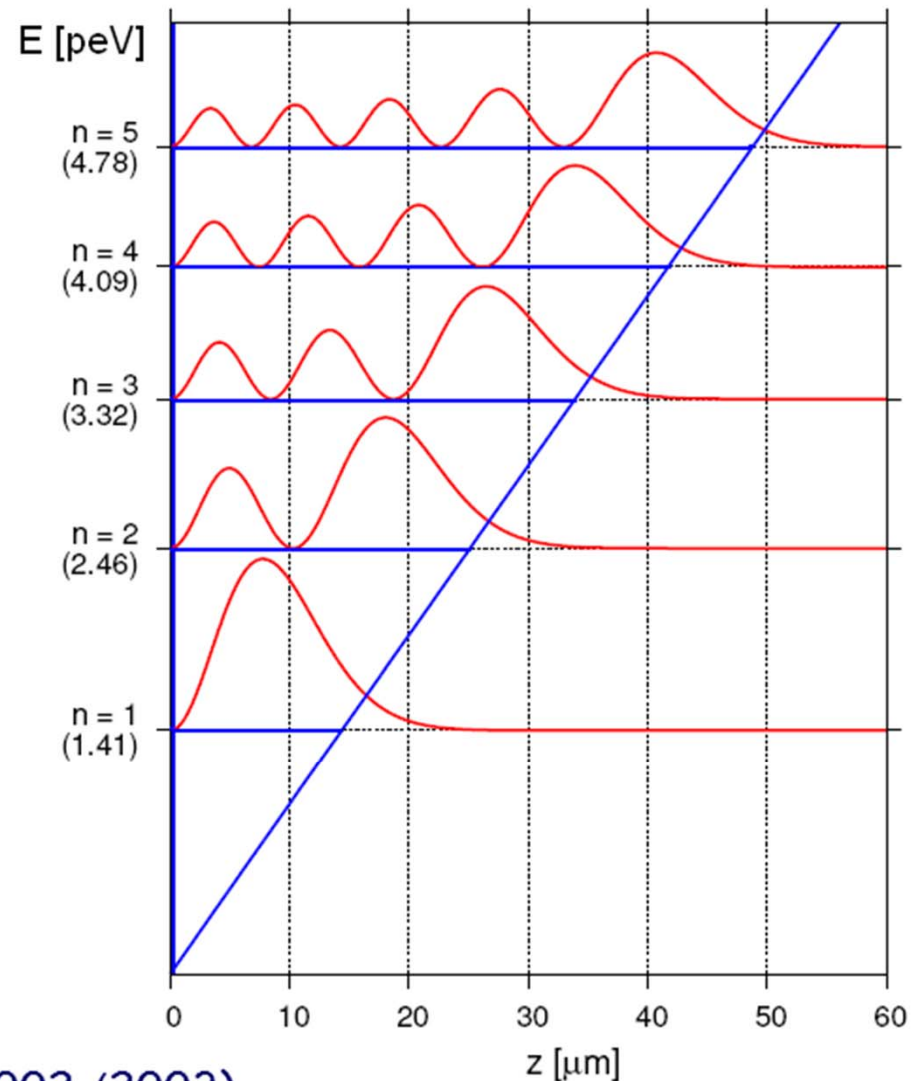
- Electron bound in proton potential
- Bohr radius $\langle r \rangle = 1 \text{ \AA}$
- Ground state energy of 13 eV
- 3 dim.
- Schrödinger Equ.
 - Legendre Polynomials

First Demonstration of Quantum States in the Gravity Potential

- Bound States
- Discrete energy levels
- Ground state 1.4 pico-eV
- Airy-Functions

Demonstration of Quantum States
in the Gravity Potential of the Earth

Nesvizhevsky, H.A. et al.
Nature 2002

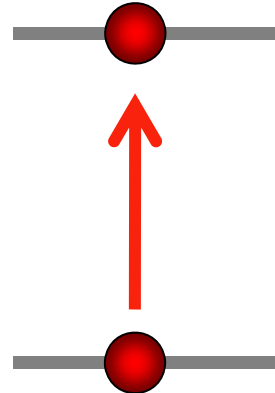


Nature 415 299 (2002), Phys. Rev. D 67 102002 (2003).

Resonance Spectroscopy

$$E = h\nu$$

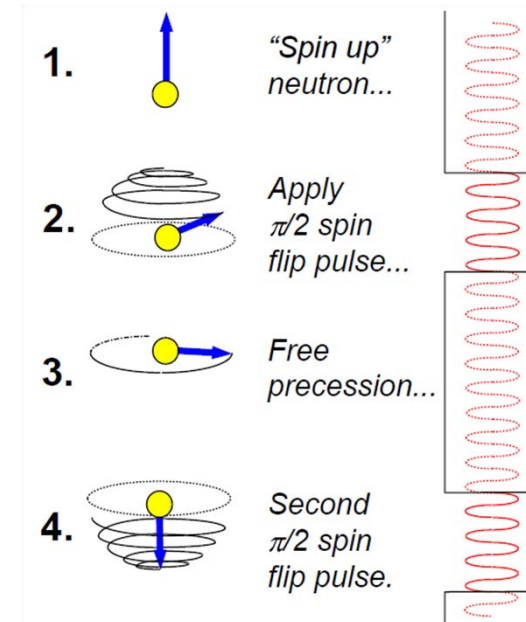
$|3 \rangle 3.32 \text{ peV}$



$|1 \rangle 1.4 \text{ peV}$

- atomic clocks
- nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
- spin echo technique
- quantum metrology
- gamma resonance spectroscopy
- fluorescence spectroscopy, biology

measurements of the electromagnetic interaction



nEDM
Sensitivity:
energy shift
 $\Delta E = 10^{-23} \text{ eV}$

This talk: **Gravity Resonance Spectroscopy**

Trapping UCN's in the earth's gravitational field



Schrödinger equation:

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + mgz \right) \varphi_n(z) = E_n \varphi_n(z)$$

boundary conditions:

$$\varphi_n(0) = 0$$

with 2nd mirror at height l

$$\varphi_n(l) = 0$$

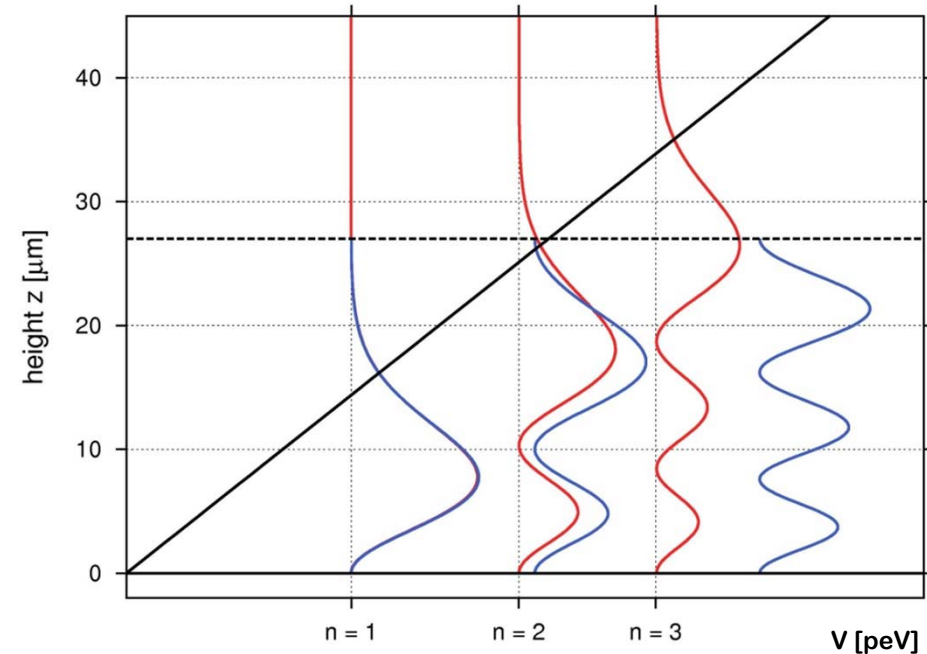
solutions: Airy-functions

scales:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{energies:} & \text{peV} \\ \text{length:} & \mu\text{m} \end{array}$$

neutron mirror

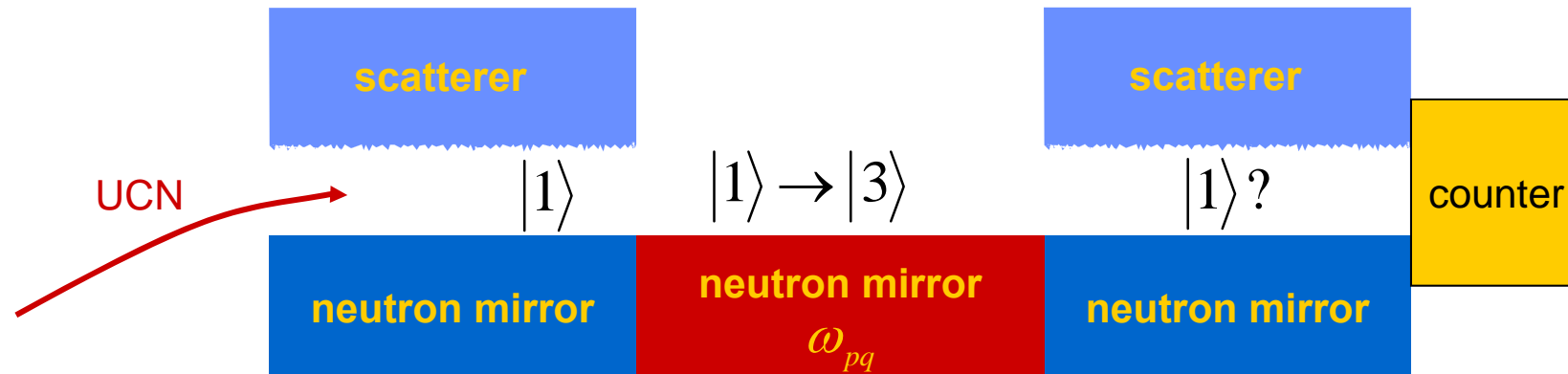
	E_n	E_n
1st state	1.41peV	1.41peV
2nd state	2.46peV	2.56peV
3rd state	3.32peV	3.97peV



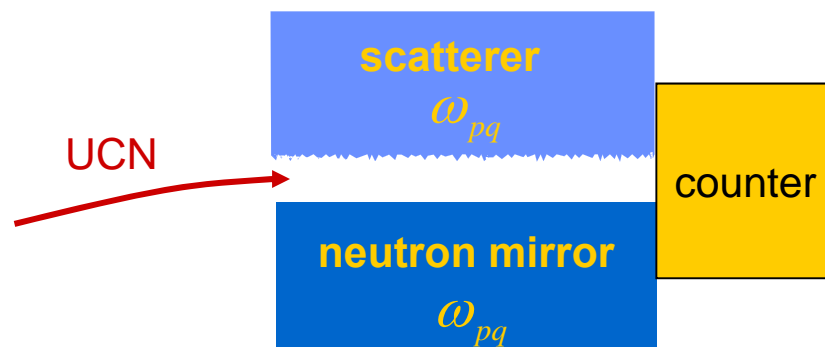
On the way towards a Resonance Spectroscopy Technique



- First Idea: „Standard“ Rabi Experiment



- Better Idea: Simplified Setup, „Rabi Flopping with Damping“



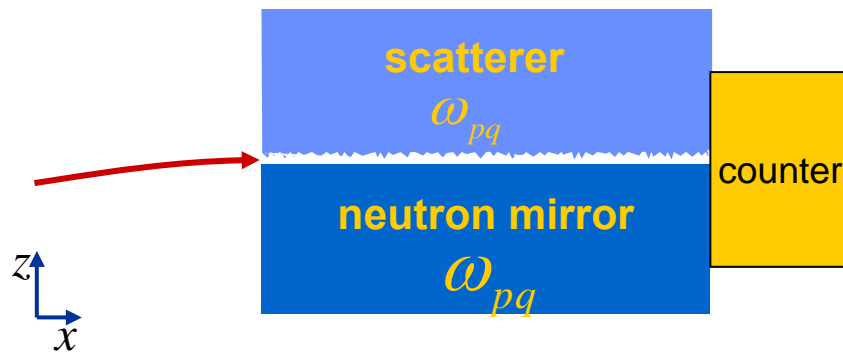
- proof of technique possible
- simple (well-known) setup
- avoids „steps“
- better transmission (short)
- perfectly PF2-compatible

- in principle (probably) limited by knowledge of gap height I (can be removed by measuring > 1 resonance)

Rabi flopping with damping

$$V(z,t) = mgz + V\theta(-z + A\sin(\omega t)) + V(z - l - A\sin(\omega t))$$

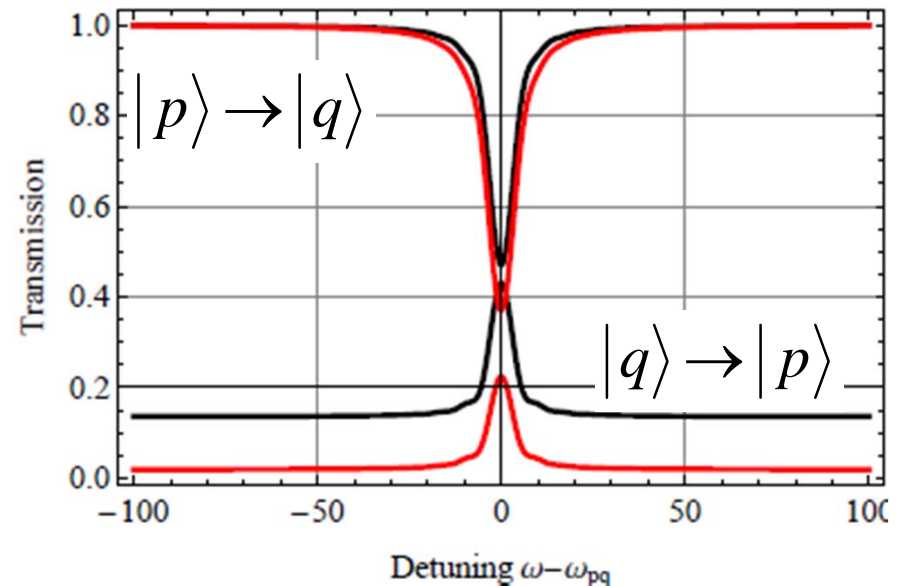
$$\left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} + V(z,t) \right\} \psi(z,t) = i\hbar \psi(z,t)$$



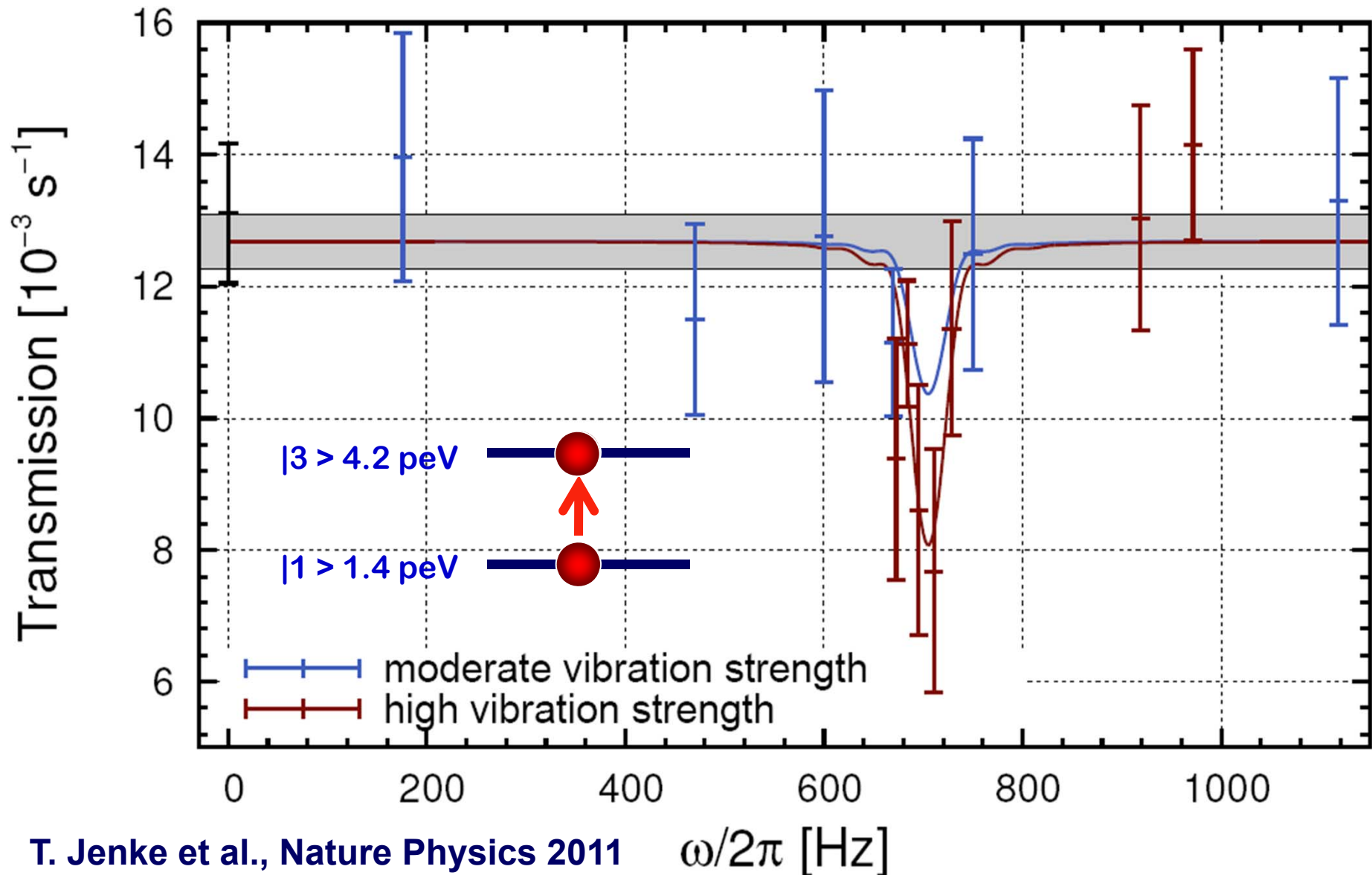
$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_p &\approx 0 \\ \Gamma_q &\gg 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} c_p(t) \\ c_q(t) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} (\delta + i\Gamma_p) & \Omega_R \\ \Omega_R^* & (-\delta + i\Gamma_q) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_p(t) \\ c_q(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega_R = \sqrt{-(\Gamma_q - \Gamma_p) + i\delta)^2 + \omega_R^2}$$



Gravity Resonance Spectroscopy and Excitation



$$|1\rangle \rightarrow |2\rangle, |1\rangle \rightarrow |3\rangle,$$

$$|2\rangle \rightarrow |3\rangle, |2\rangle \rightarrow |4\rangle$$

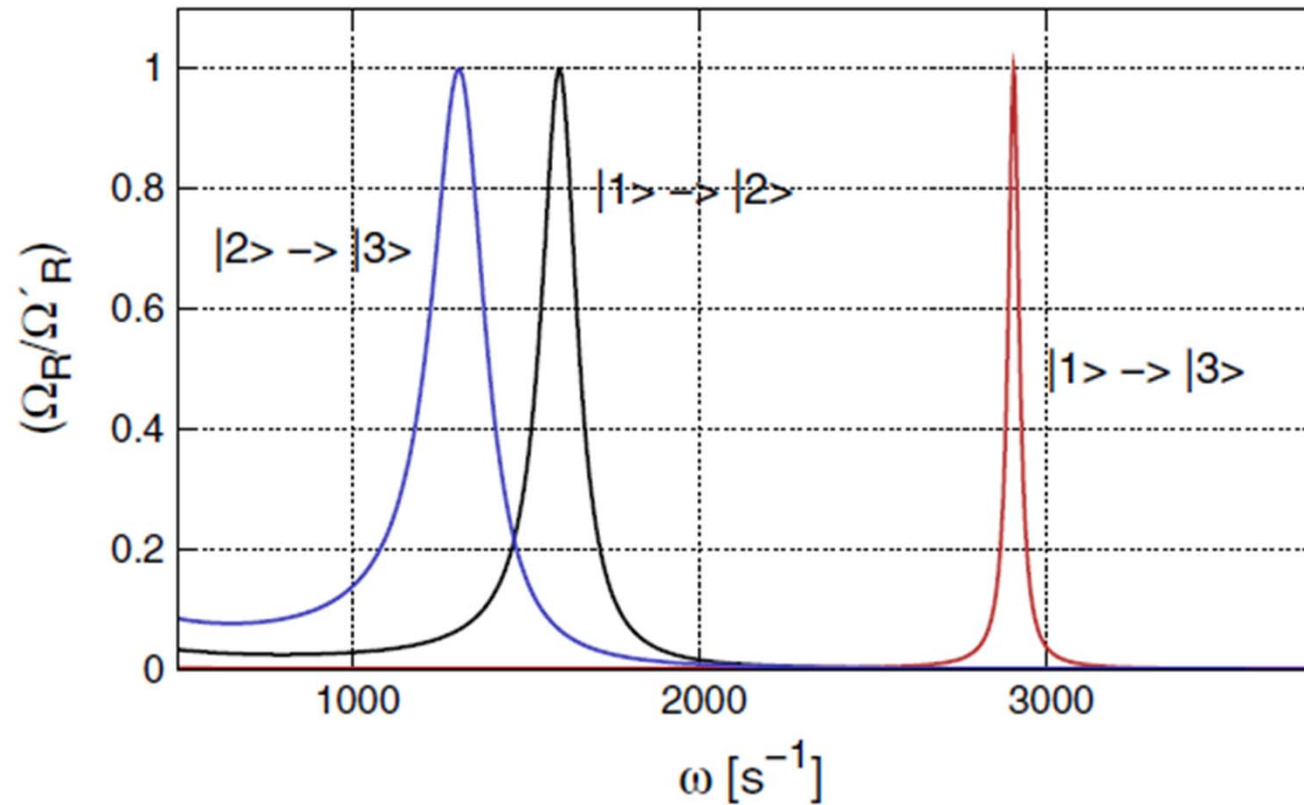
$$(H_0 + H_1 + W(t)) \psi(z, t) = i\psi(z, t)$$

$$H_0 = -\partial_z^2 + z$$

$$H_1 = -i\gamma$$

$$W(t) = z_0 \sin[\omega t] + i\omega z_0 \cos[\omega t] \partial_z$$

Gravity Resonance 2010



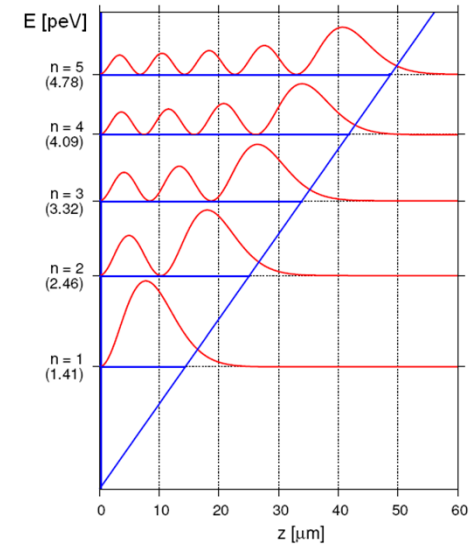
$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1'[t] \\ c_2'[t] \\ c_3'[t] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\gamma_1}{2} + i \delta_{12} & -e^{-i \phi_{12}} \omega_{r12} & 0 \\ e^{i \phi_{12}} \omega_{r12} & -\frac{\gamma_2}{2} & -e^{-i \phi_{23}} \omega_{r23} \\ 0 & e^{i \phi_{23}} \omega_{r23} & -\frac{\gamma_3}{2} - i \delta_{23} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} c_1[t] \\ c_2[t] \\ c_3[t] \end{pmatrix}$$

Neutrons test Newton

$$V(r) = G \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{r} (1 + \alpha \cdot e^{-r/\lambda})$$

● Strength α

● Range λ

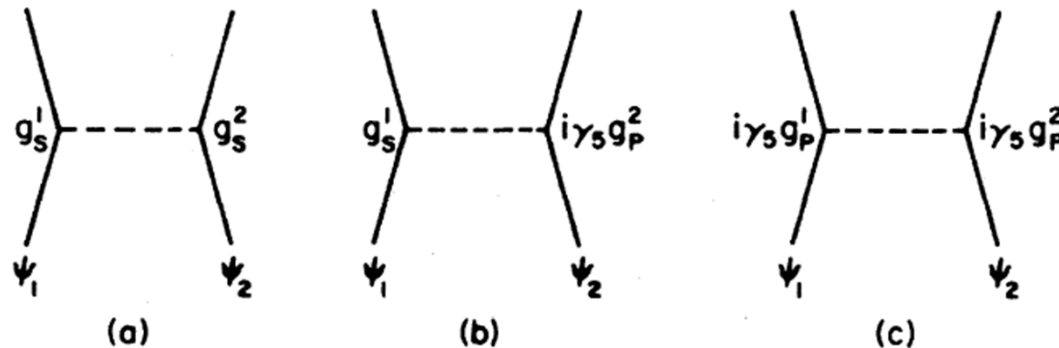


Hypothetical Gravity Like Forces

	Theory predictions	Our sensitivity
Deviations from Newton's Law due to Large Extra Dimensions	"Gauge fields in the bulk can mediate repulsive forces $10^6 < \alpha < 10^8$ times stronger than gravity at submillimetre distances." <i>ADD, PRD59, 086004 (1999)</i>	$\alpha = 7.6 \times 10^3$ at $\lambda = 5 \mu\text{m}$.
Dark Energy	According to CB, arXiv:gr-qc/0606108, the cosmological may be linked to the size of the extra dimensions, which would lead to deviations at $\lambda = 5 \mu\text{m}$ and $\alpha < 10^6$.	$\alpha = 7.6 \times 10^3$ at $\lambda = 5 \mu\text{m}$.
Dark matter Searches	Axions are serious candidates for dark matter in the astrophysical window, $10 \mu\text{eV} < m_{\text{Axion}} < 10 \text{eV}$. This corresponds to $0.2 \mu\text{m} < \lambda < 2 \text{cm}$ for the axion coupling $g_s g_p / \hbar c$.	$g_s g_p / \hbar c < 5.3 \times 10^{-23}$ at $\lambda = 5 \mu\text{m}$ $g_s g_p / \hbar c < 1.6 \times 10^{-26}$ at $\lambda = 5 \text{mm}$

Limits on Axions/CP-Violation

- SM: $0 < \theta < 2\pi$ $\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}) + \bar{q}(i\not{D} - \mathcal{M})q + \frac{\theta}{16\pi^2} \text{tr}(\tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu})$
- EDM neutron $\rightarrow \theta < 10^{-10}$
- Axion: Spin-Mass coupling $g_s g_p / \hbar c$: $\theta = 0$

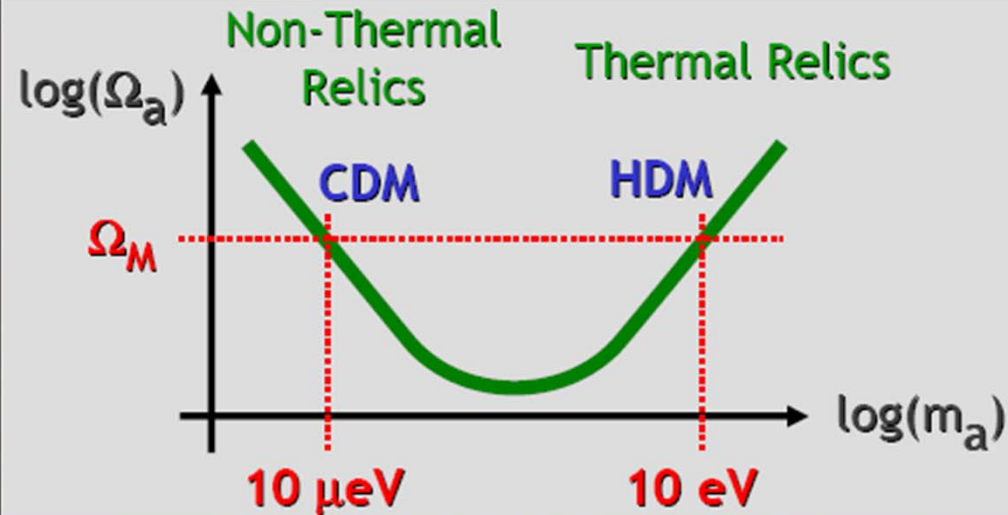


$$V(\vec{r}) = \hbar g_s g_p \frac{\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{n}}{8\pi m c} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \right) e^{-r/\lambda}$$

Lee-Weinberg Curve for Neutrinos and Axions

$$\lambda = \frac{\hbar c}{mc^2}$$

Axions

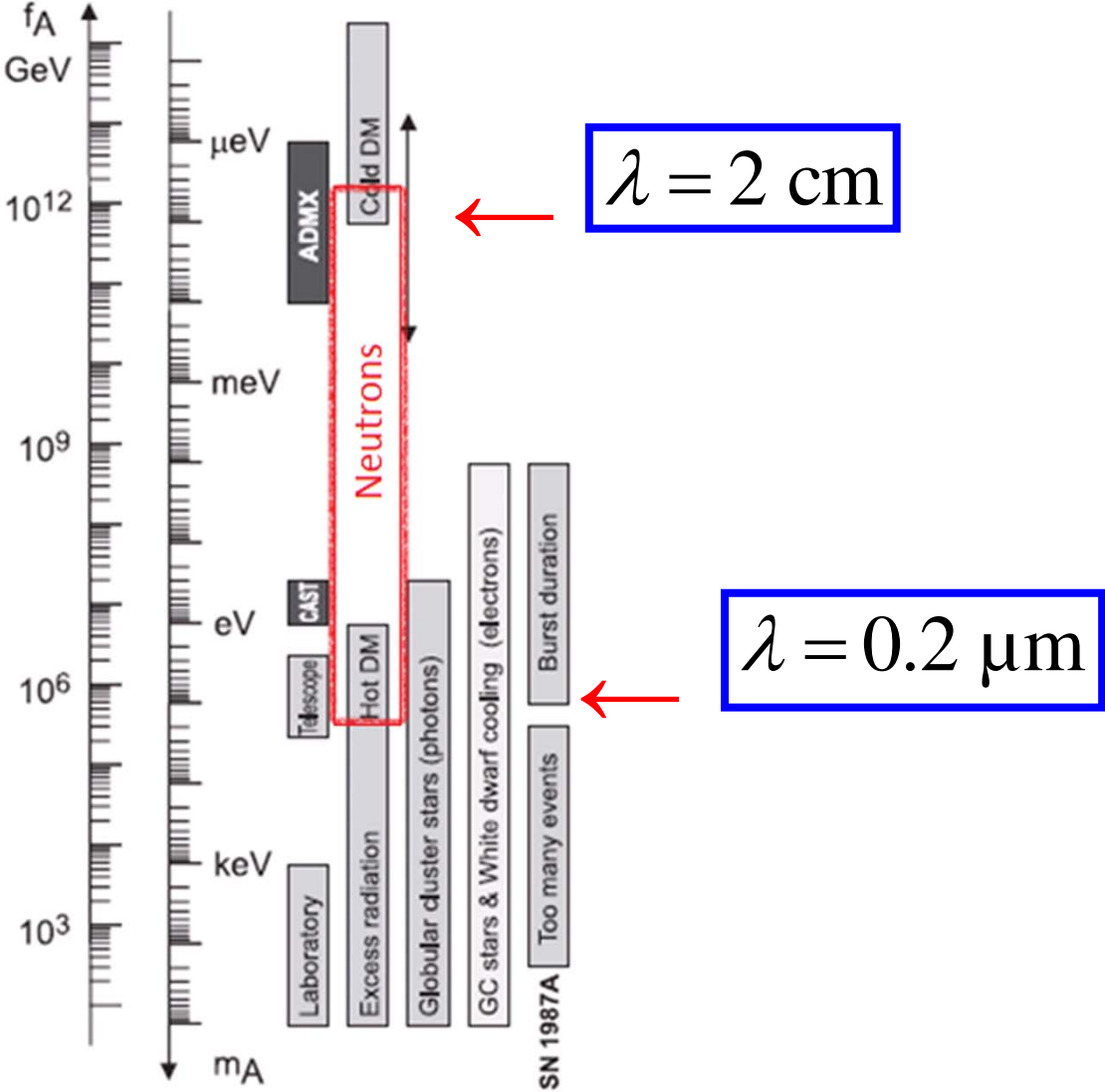


$$\lambda = 2 \text{ cm}$$

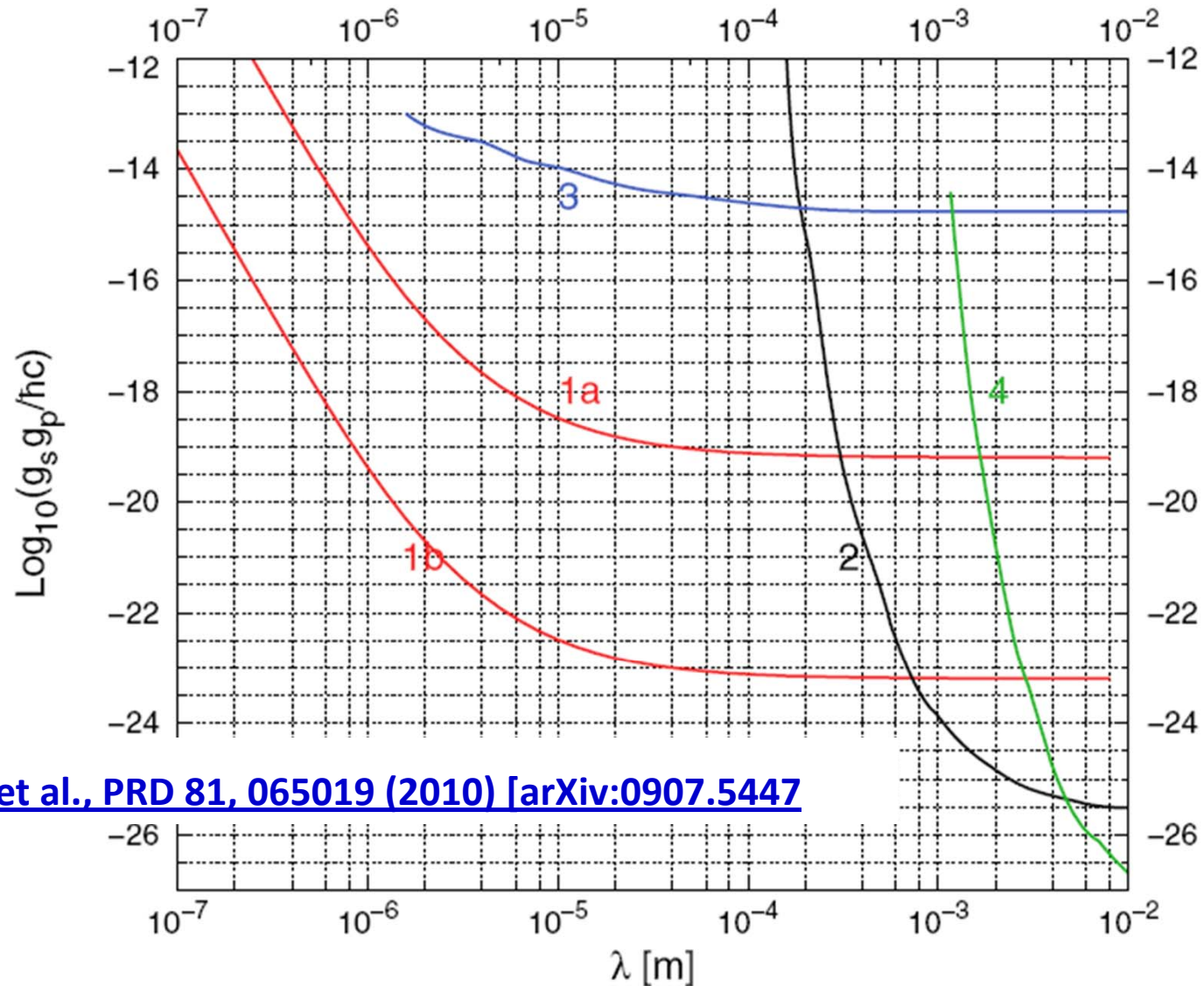
$$\lambda = 0.2 \mu\text{m}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\phi(z) &= -\alpha_a \cdot \frac{\hbar^2 \rho_1 \lambda}{8m^3} e^{-z/\lambda} + \alpha_a \cdot \frac{\hbar^2 \rho_2 \lambda}{8m^3} e^{-(h-z)/\lambda} \\ &= -2\pi\alpha_{\text{eff.}} \cdot \lambda^2 \cdot G_4 \cdot (\rho_1 e^{-z/\lambda} - \rho_2 e^{-(h-z)/\lambda}) \\ \alpha_{\text{eff.}} &= \alpha_a \cdot \frac{\hbar^2}{16\pi G_4 \cdot m^3} \cdot \lambda^{-1}, \quad \alpha_a := \frac{g_s g_p}{\hbar c} \end{aligned}$$

PDG Exclusion Ranges



2007: Best Limits on axionlike-coupling strength from neutrons and quantum states in axion window



[H.A. et al., PRD 81, 065019 \(2010\) \[arXiv:0907.5447\]](#)

PRELIMINARY

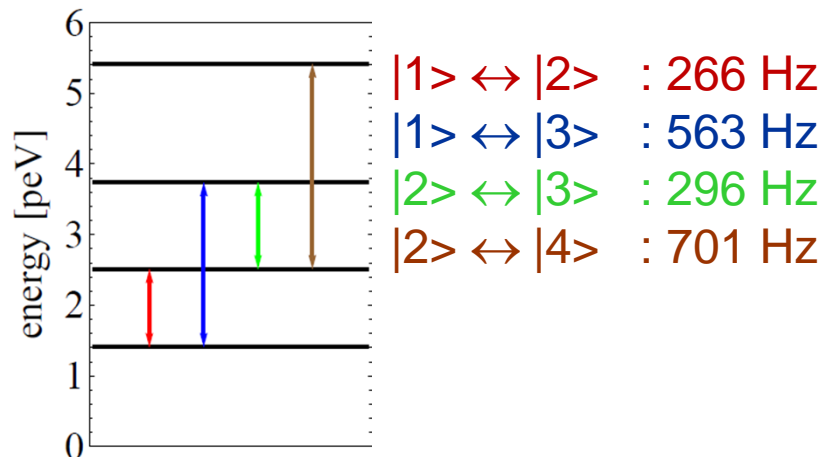
Experimental Data (2010/2011)



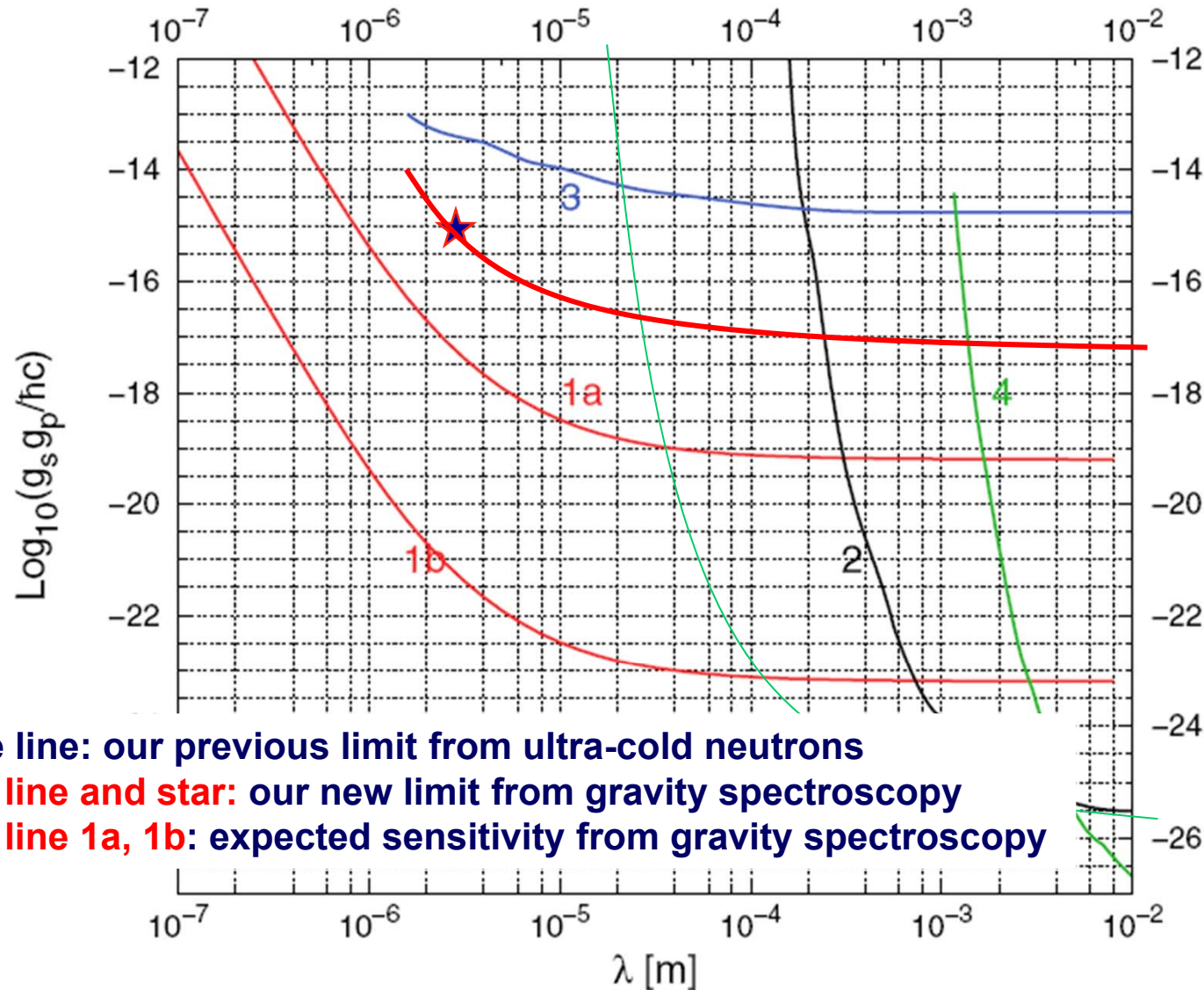
Axion Limits for
Axion masses between
 $1\mu\text{eV} < m < 10\text{eV}$

- Repeat expt with Polarized Neutrons
- Spin up: red
- Spin down: black
- Limit on
- Spin-Mass-Coupling

Observed Transitions



qBounce-Limits on axionlike-coupling strength



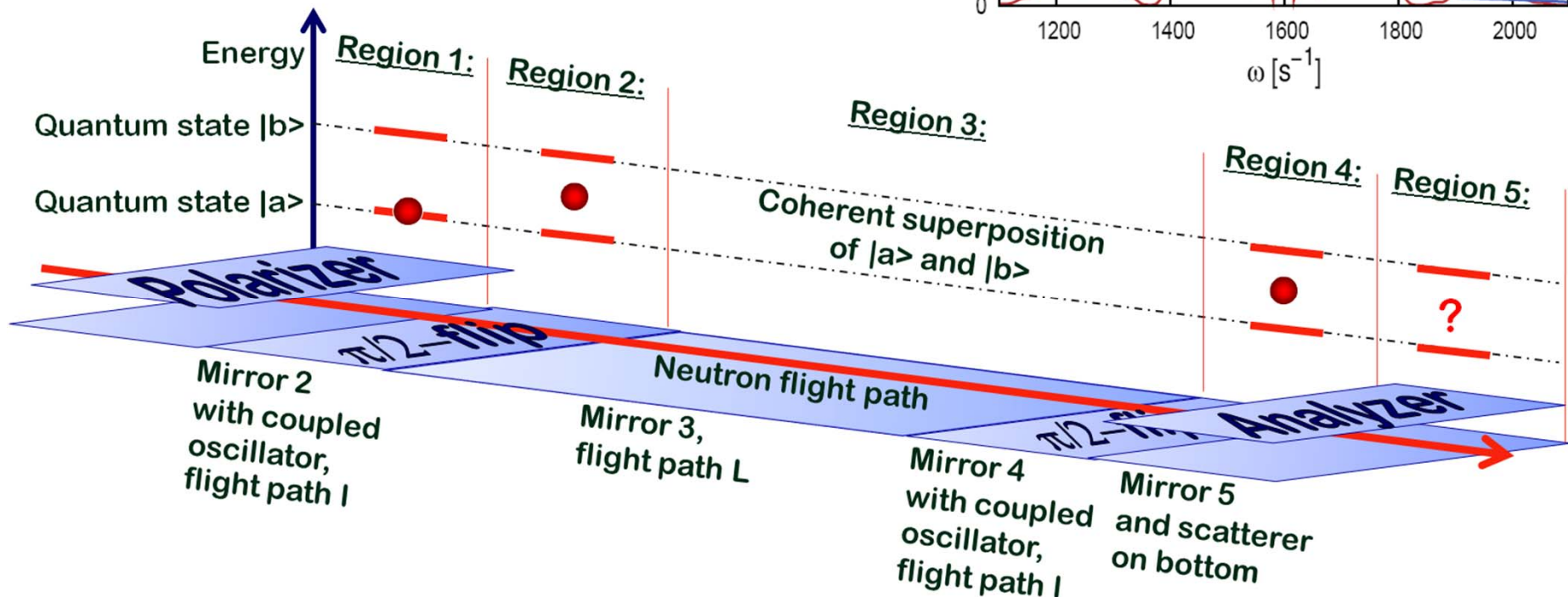
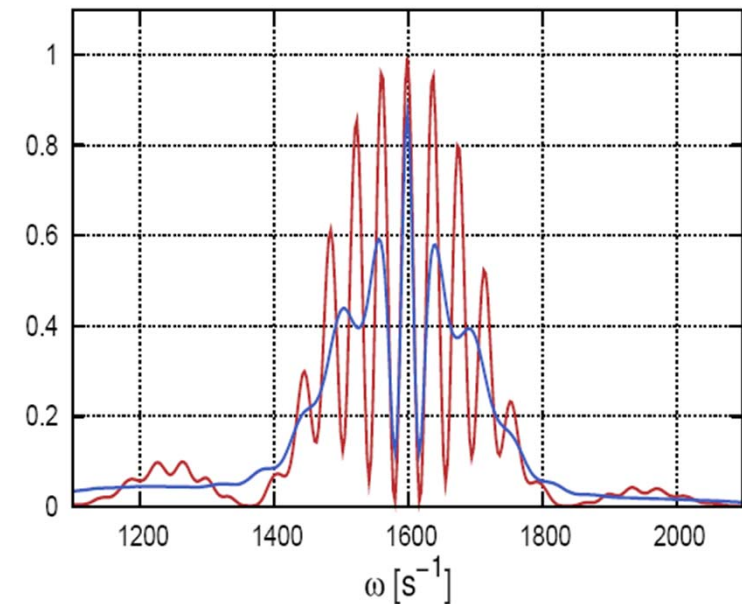
Blue line: our previous limit from ultra-cold neutrons

Red line and star: our new limit from gravity spectroscopy

Red line 1a, 1b: expected sensitivity from gravity spectroscopy

The Future: Ramsey-Method

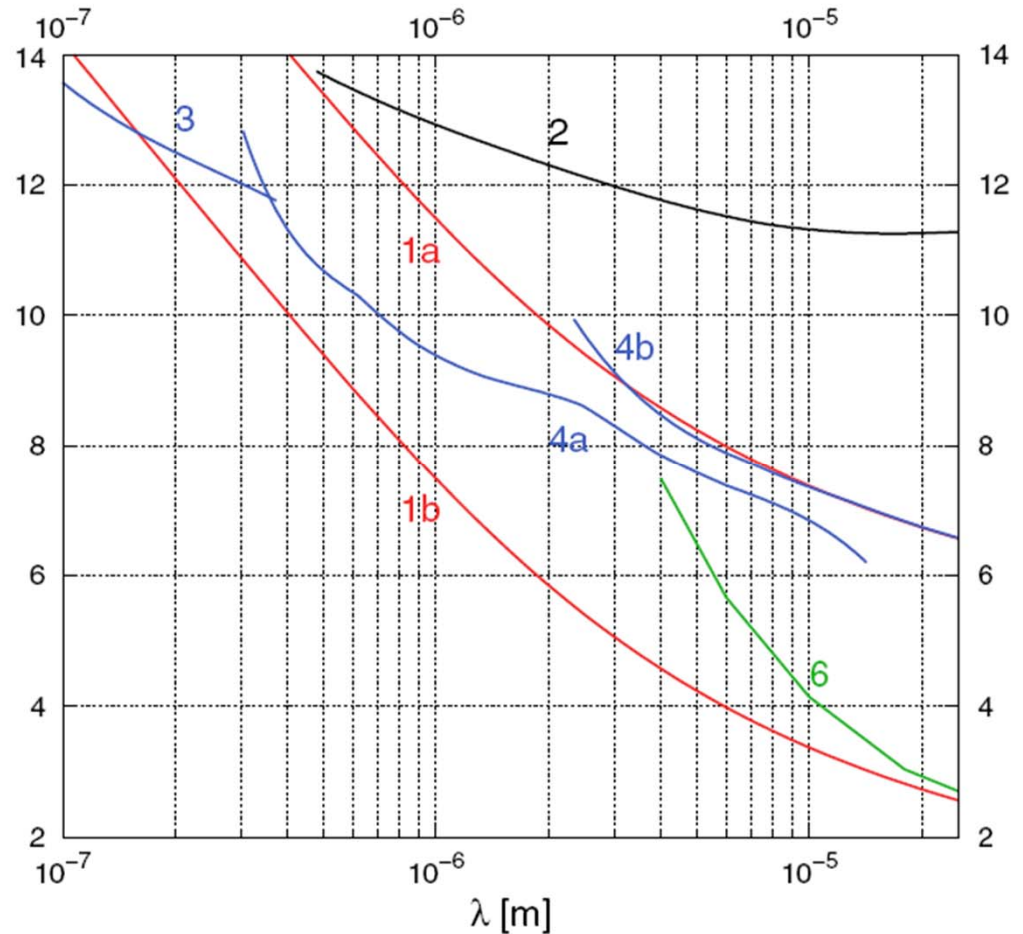
$$\alpha = 3 \times 10^3, \Delta E = 6 \times 10^{-21} \text{ eV}$$



$$V(r) = G \frac{m_1 \cdot m_2}{r} (1 + \alpha \cdot e^{-r/\lambda})$$

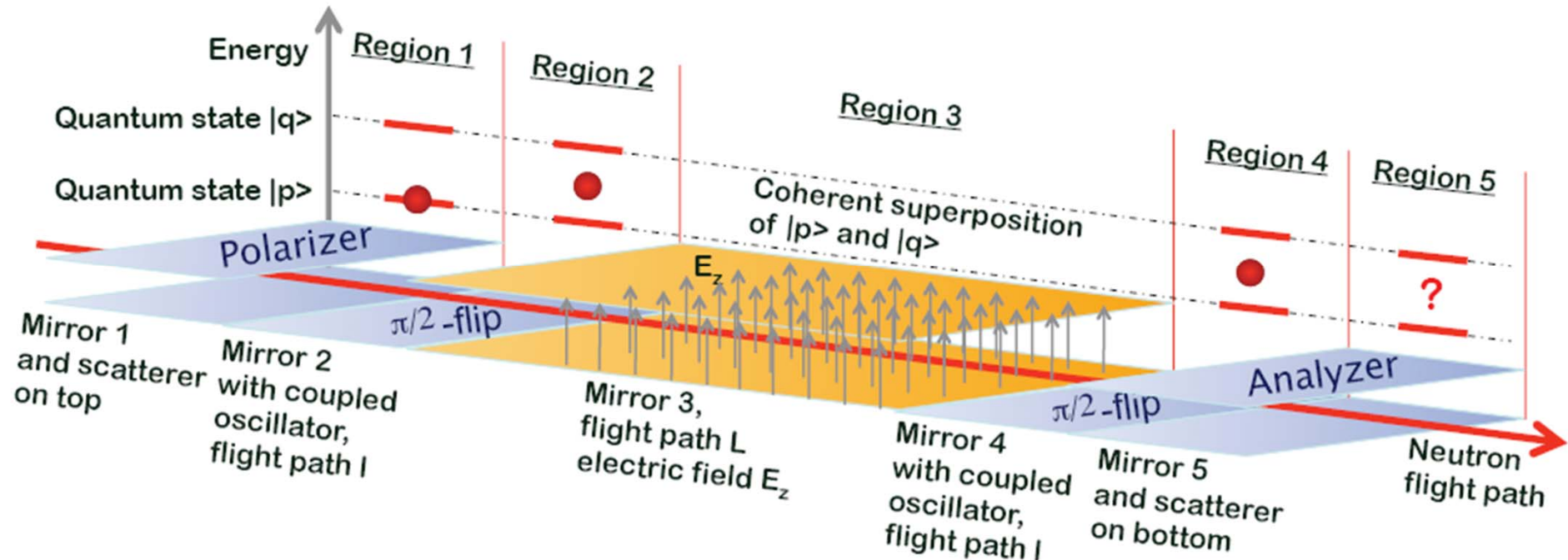
Limits on hypothetical gravity-like forces

- So far best limits from AFM
 - False effects from Casimir or Van der Waals forces
- Neutrons:
 - Polarizability extremely small



Charge quantization and the electric neutrality of the neutron.

- Since the Standard Model value for q_n requires *extreme fine tuning*, the smallness of this value may be considered as a hint for GUTs, where q_n is equal to zero.
- **Improve limits by one to two orders of magnitude**



The Team at Atominstitut

- Gravity tests with quantum objects
 - M. Adam, G. Cronenberg, T. Jenke, H. Saul, T. Lins, D. Stadler, P. Geltenbort (ILL), H. Lemmel, U. Schmidt (Heidelberg), Thorsten Lauer (Mainz), H.A.
- Vienna University of Technology
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Mainz

qBOUNCE Summary

● Progress Report with Galileo in Quantum Land

- qBounce: first demonstration of the quantum bouncing ball
 - Dynamics: time evolution of coherent superposition of Airy-eigenfunctions
- Realization of Gravity Resonance Spectroscopy:
 - Coherent Rabi-Transitions,
 - $|1\rangle \rightarrow |2\rangle$
 - $|1\rangle \rightarrow |3\rangle$, see Nature Physics, 1 June 2011
 - $|2\rangle \rightarrow |3\rangle$, $|2\rangle \rightarrow |4\rangle$
- New Tool for
 - A Search for a deviation from Newton's Law at short distances, where polarizability effects are extremely small ,
see H.A. et al., PRD 81, 065019 (2010) [arXiv:0907.5447
 - A quantum test of the equivalence principle
- Direct limits on axion coupling at short distances,