

Quantum Sensor Technology

IoP 2022 - Joint APP/HEPP Conference
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

Kai Bongs
University of Birmingham
05.04.2022



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British
Geological Survey
Expert | Impartial | Innovative

NPL
National Physical Laboratory



UK NATIONAL
QUANTUM
TECHNOLOGIES
PROGRAMME

UK National QT Hub in Sensors and Timing Funders, Partners and Collaborators



Total project value since 2014: £180M (£60M EPSRC, £120M collaborative projects with industry)

Selected Quantum Sensor Applications

Sensing into the ground



Underground risk in infrastructure projects
→ **0.5% GDP**

Sensing brain function



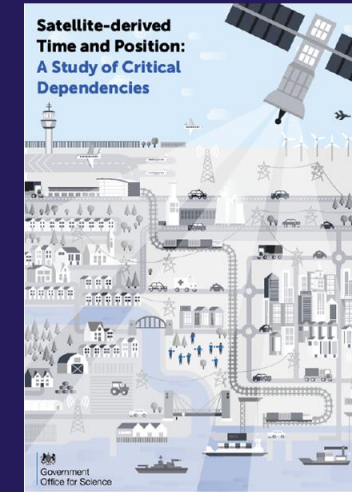
Dementia: 1% GDP
ADHD: 1% GDP

Sensing small objects in the air



29M drones by 2021

Sensing position and movement



~7% GDP

Quantum Sensor Demonstrators – Ready for Deployment



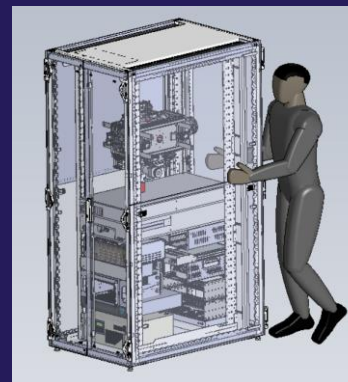
Gravity Gradiometer
450 E/rt(Hz), 35E in 3 min



Wee-g
gravimeter
5ng/vHz



Magnetometer
pT/rt(Hz)

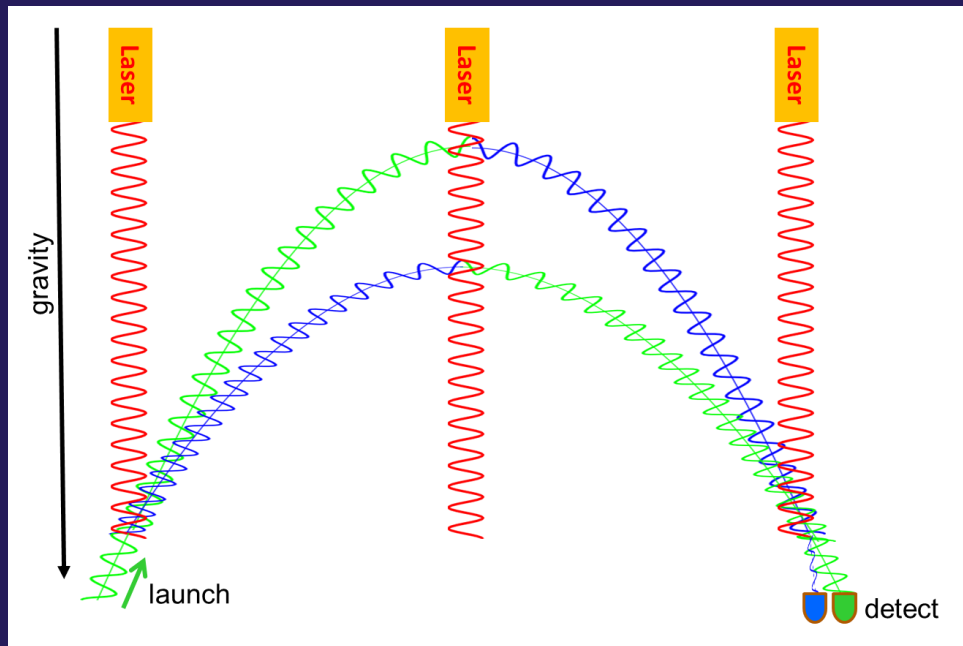


Accelerometer
0.25ng/vHz, 2 μ g
(TBC)



Low Phase Noise
Optical Oscillator with
Conversion to RF

Brief Introduction to Atom Interferometry

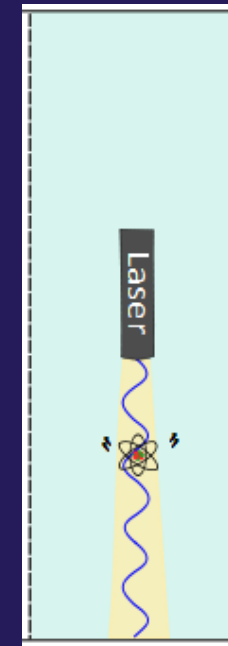


$$\Delta\phi = k_z T^2 g_z = \pi \frac{\Delta z}{\lambda}$$

→ Dropping object next to laser ruler

Advantages over classical instruments:

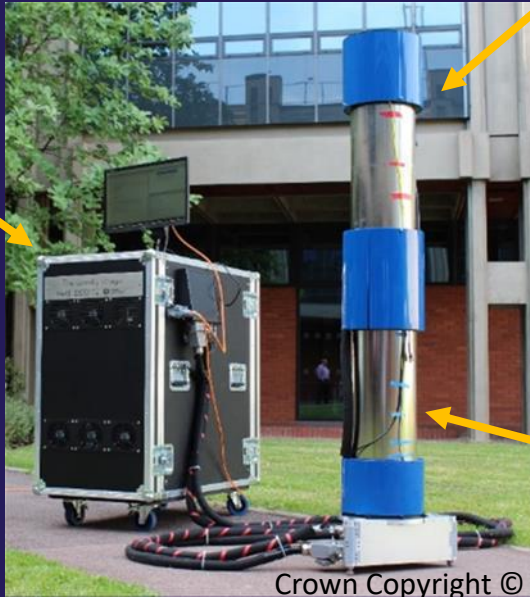
- Ideal test mass (no fabrication tolerances or ageing)
- “Absolute” measurement (no drift)
- Can be very sensitive



However, this only helps with the “calibration loops”, not the measurement time itself

Real-World Trials: Learning the Systematics

Environmentally robust laser systems with telecoms components



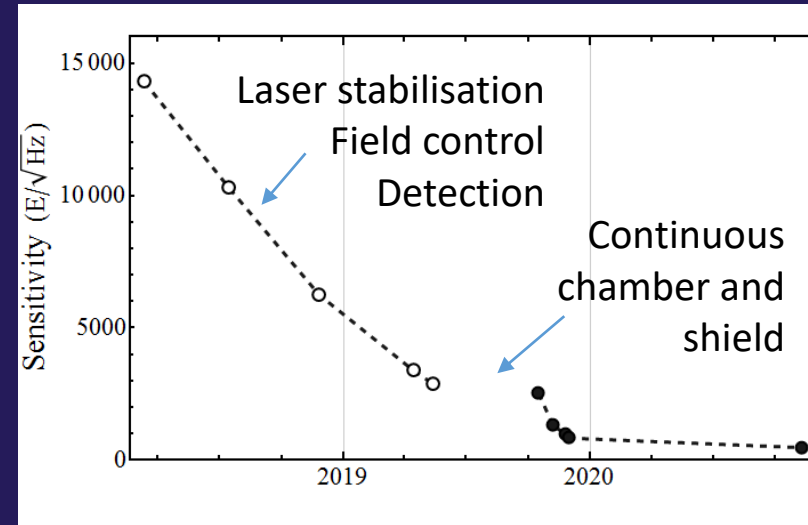
Patent app. US 16/772517, EU 18822463.8

Two beams along single axis

- Alignment Robustness
- Suppression of unwanted sidebands

Continuous vacuum chamber and shield

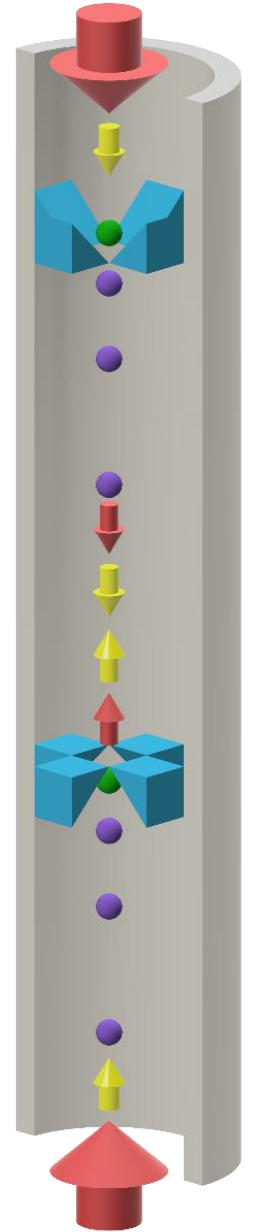
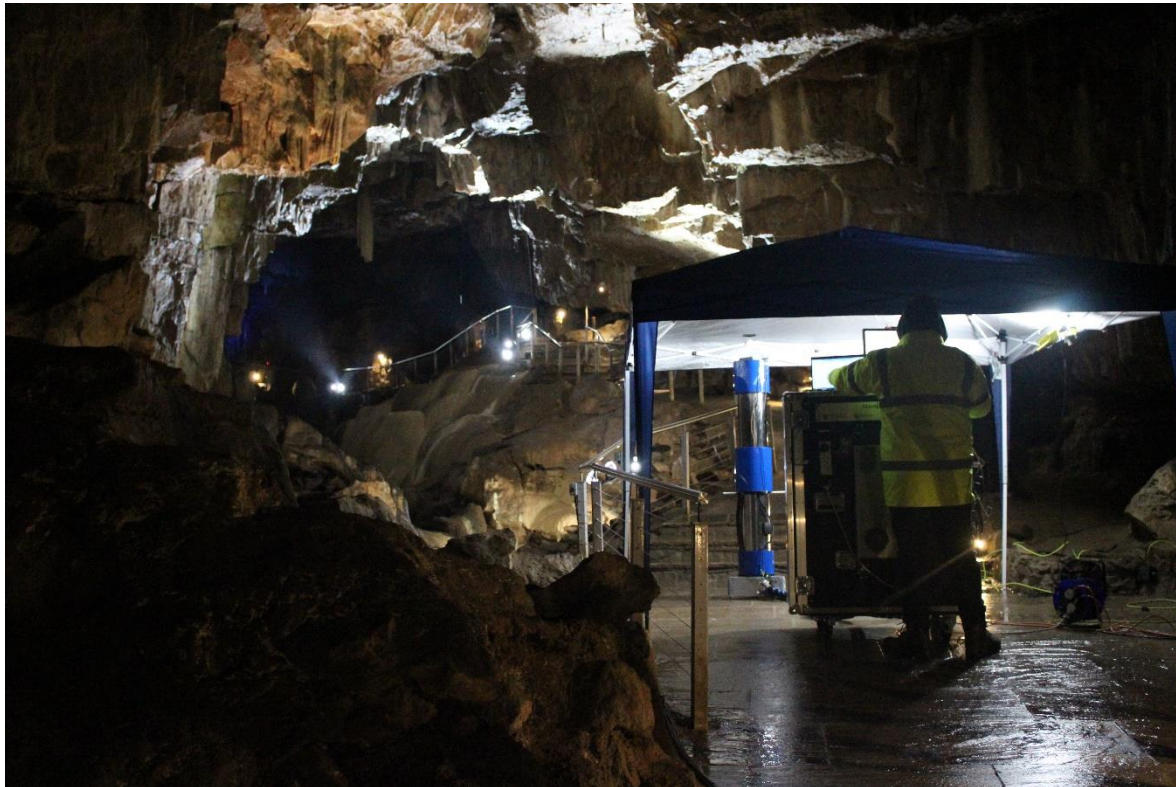
- Suppression of refractive index fluctuations
- Optimised mag. shielding



Current status: 450 E/rt(Hz), 35E in 3 min

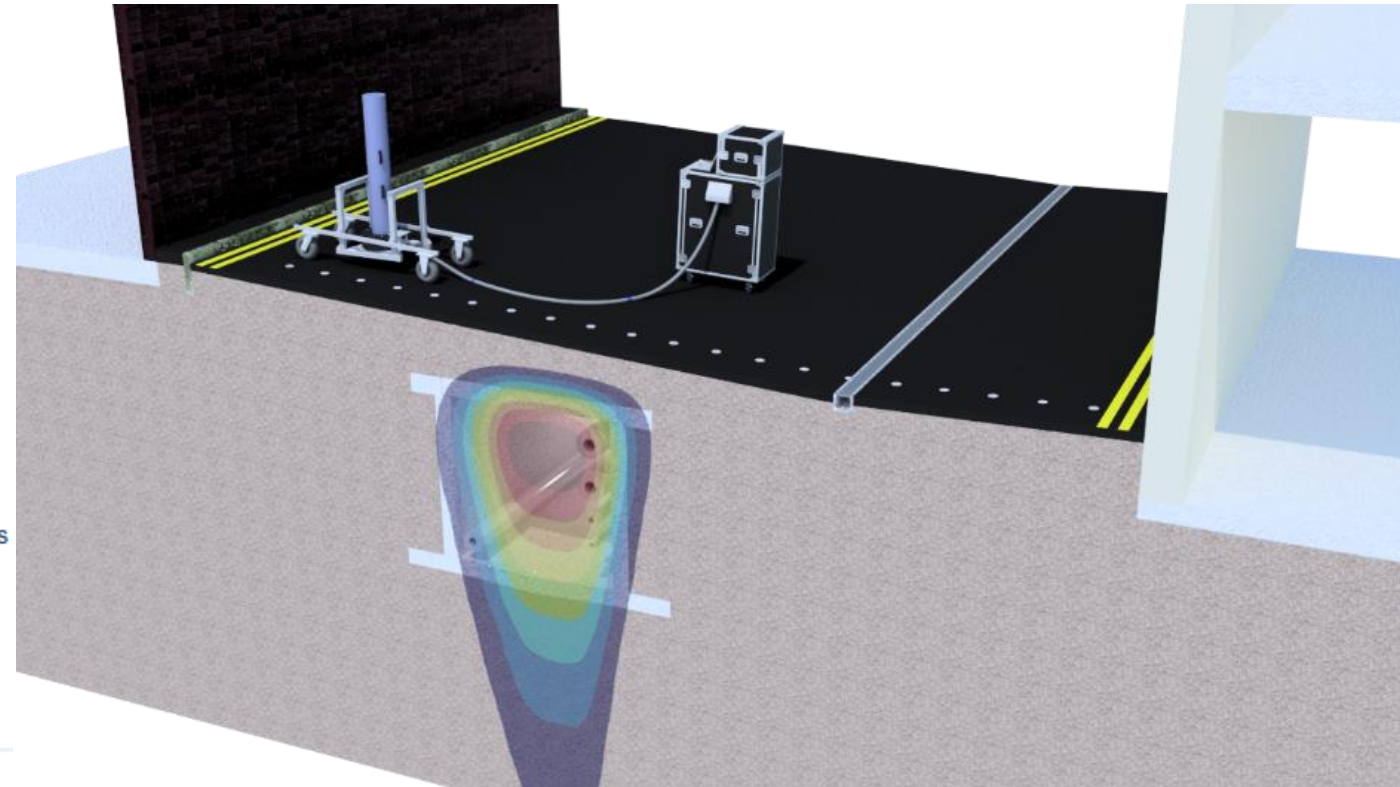
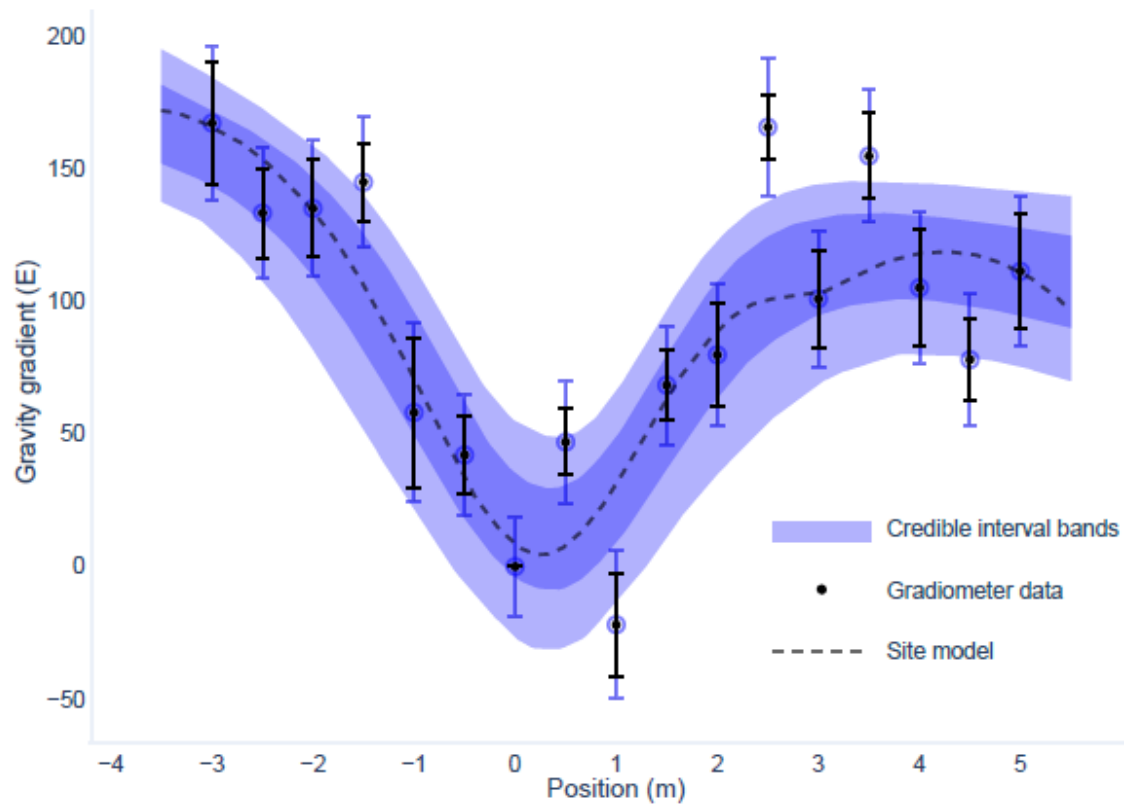
Hourglass gravity gradiometer

- Novel robust design from Birmingham (patent pending)
- Overcomes challenges for operation in the field



World first detection for quantum gradiometry

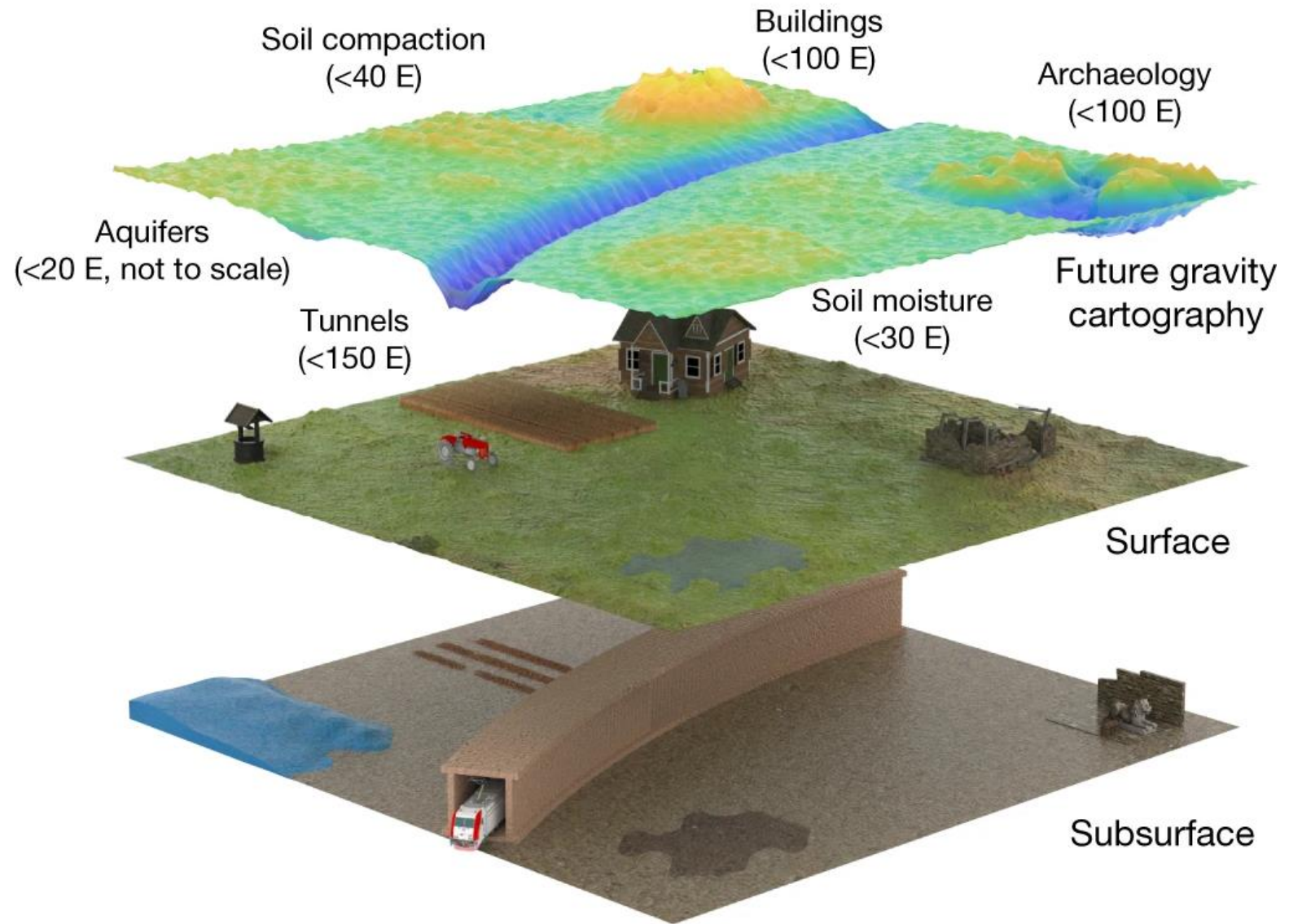
- Survey over tunnel



Tunnel centre localised to: ± 0.19 m, horizontal; $-0.59/+2.3$ m, vertical

Enabling Gravity Cartography

- Relevant to a range of applications, including:
 - Water monitoring
 - Infrastructure
 - Archaeology
 - Agriculture
 - Navigation



Quantum sensing for gravity cartography

[Ben Stray](#), [Andrew Lamb](#), [Aisha Kaushik](#), [Jamie Vovrosh](#), [Anthony Rodgers](#), [Jonathan Winch](#), [Farzad Hayati](#), [Daniel Boddice](#), [Artur Stabrawa](#), [Alexander Niggebaum](#), [Mehdi Langlois](#), [Yu-Hung Lien](#), [Samuel Lellouch](#), [Sanaz Roshanmanesh](#), [Kevin Ridley](#), [Geoffrey de Villiers](#), [Gareth Brown](#), [Trevor Cross](#), [George Tuckwell](#), [Asaad Faramarzi](#), [Nicole Metje](#), [Kai Bongs](#) & [Michael Holynski](#) 

[Nature](#) **602**, 590–594 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



TELEDYNE e2V
Everywhere you look™



UK
Quantum Technology Hub
Sensors and Timing

School of Physics and Astronomy
School of Engineering

Funding:



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



Innovate
UK

The QT Hub Journey: Reducing SWAP-C and Moving Platforms

Gravity Imager 1 (GI1)



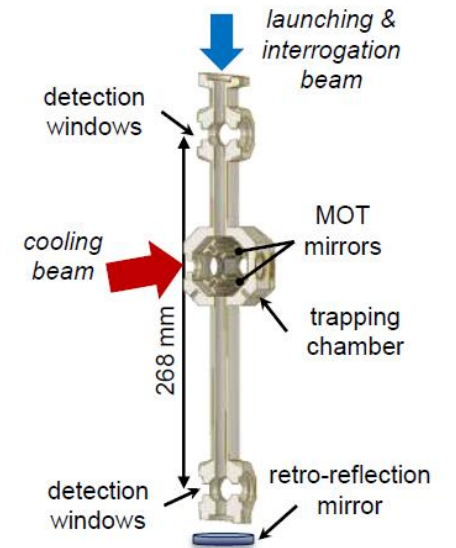
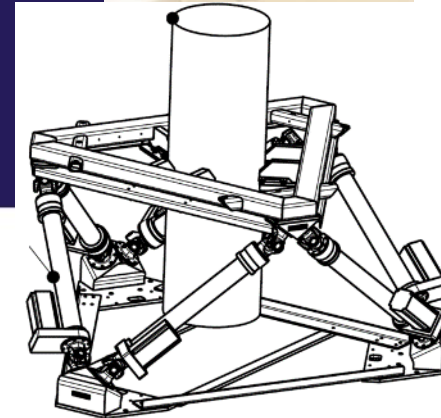
Flying Cold Atoms

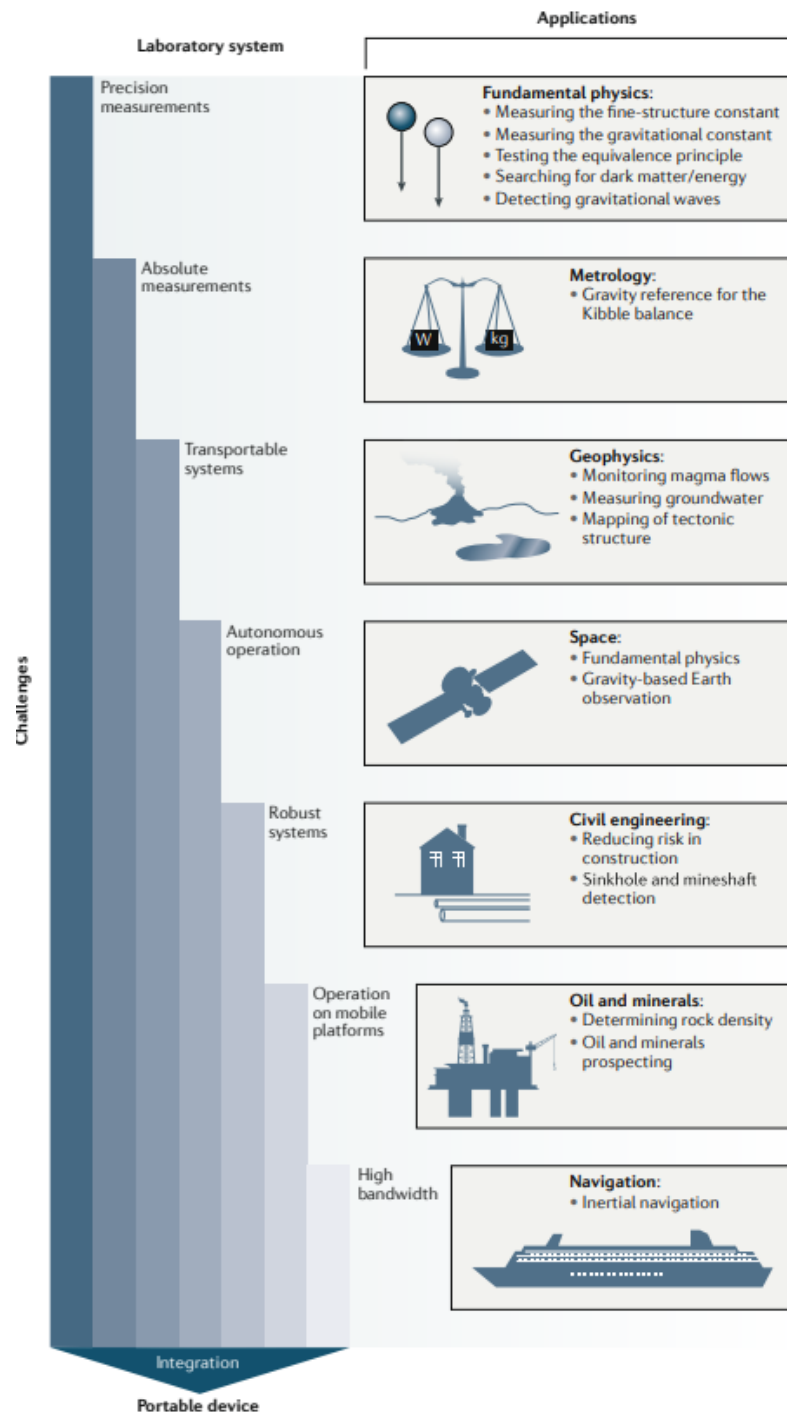


Gravity Imager 3



Optics Express
26, 6542 (2018).
Patent app.
US 16/633922,
EU 18752226.3





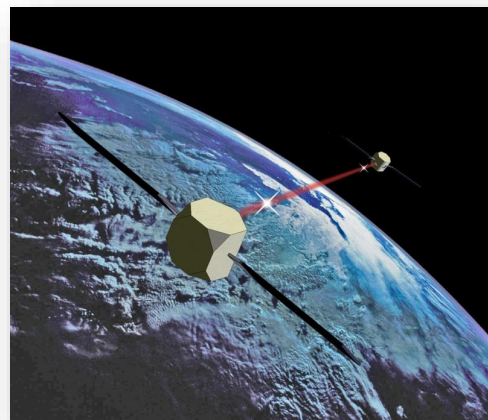
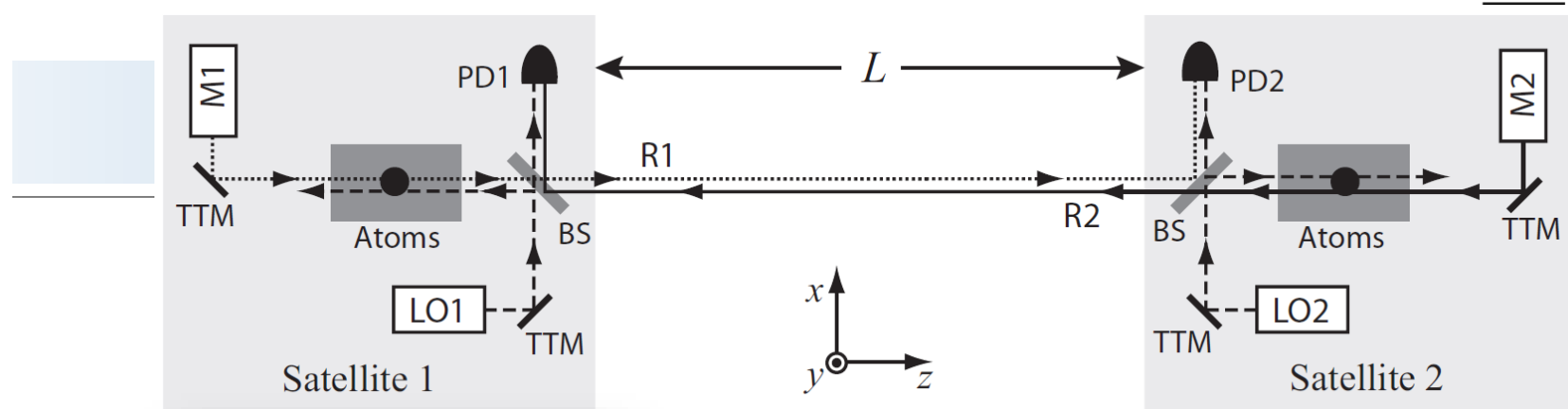
Perspective | Published: 28 October 2019

Taking atom interferometric quantum sensors from the laboratory to real-world applications

Kai Bongs , Michael Holynski, Jamie Vovrosh, Philippe Bouyer, Gabriel Condon, Ernst Rasel, Christian Schubert, Wolfgang P. Schleich & Albert Roura

Nature Reviews Physics **1**, 731–739 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

8246 Accesses | **54** Citations | **29** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



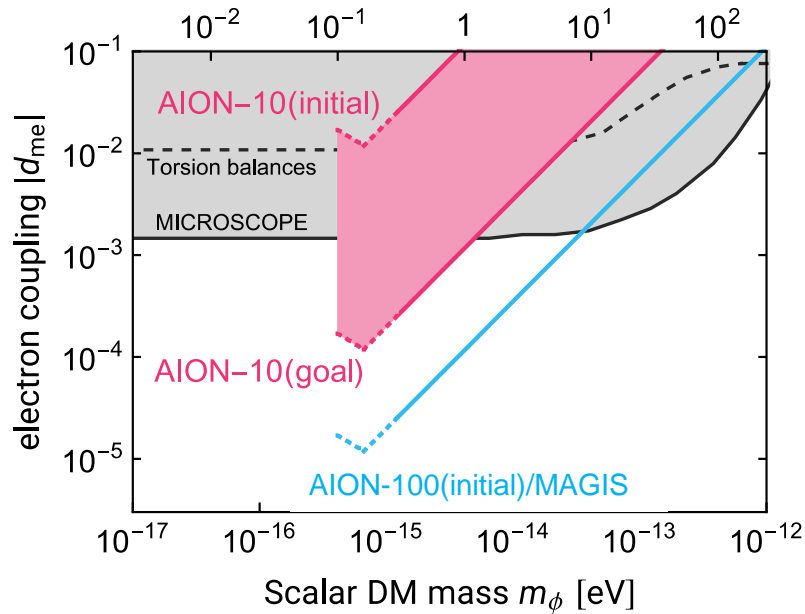
AEDGE:
Atomic Experiment
for Dark Matter
and Gravity
Exploration

Oliver Buchmueller, Imperial College London

AION & AEDGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ULTRA-COLD ATOM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR SPACE

Main AION Physics Goals: Dark Matter and Gravitational Waves

Opportunities for Ultra-Cold Atom Technology Development for SPACE in UK



Scientific Leadership in phenomenology already established:

The AION Physics Case:

AION Collaboration, AION: An Atom Interferometer Observatory and Network, arXiv:1911.11755.
[accepted for publication in JCAP]

AEDGE

Y. El-Neaj, ..., O. Buchmueller *et al.*
AEDGE: Atomic Experiment for Dark Matter
And Gravity Exploration in Space, arXiv:1908.00802,
EPJ Quantum Technol. 7, 6 (2020).
[Submitted to ESA Voyage2050 call]

Working with leading theorists:

J. Ellis, M. Haehnelt, C. McCabe,
J. March-Russell (AION), C. Burrage, ...

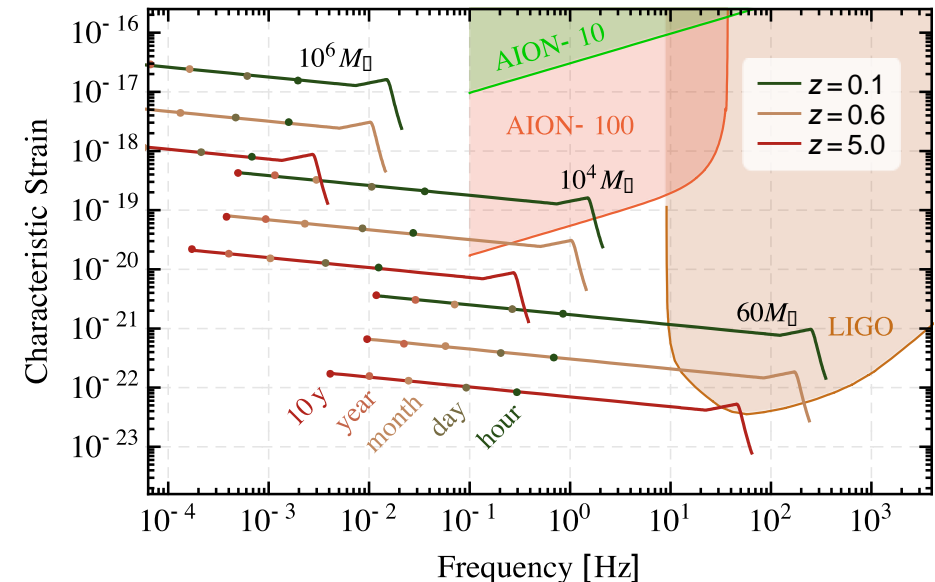
Main Physics Goals:

➤ Search for Ultra-Light Dark Matter

- Explore new parameter space and complement other searches.
- Focus on Scalar DM with Vector and Pseudoscalar DM also under study.

➤ Gravitational Waves in mid-frequency band

- Explore frequencies between LISA and LIGO/VIRGO, KAGRA and Einstein Telescope
- Targets: Black hole mergers, phase transitions and cosmic string collisions



Atomic Experiment for Dark Matter and Gravity Exploration

EPJ Quantum Technology 7, 1-27 (2020);

Particle and Cold Atom physicists

Informal Workshop – 130 participants

CERN, July 22/23 2019

Organizers:

Kai Bongs(CA), Philippe Bouyer(CA), Oliver Buchmueller(PP), Albert De Roeck(PP), John Ellis(PP, Theory), Peter Graham (CA, Theory), Jason Hogan (CA), Wolf von Klitzing(CA), Guglielmo Tino(CA), and AtomQT
 PP=Particle Physics
 CA=Cold Atoms

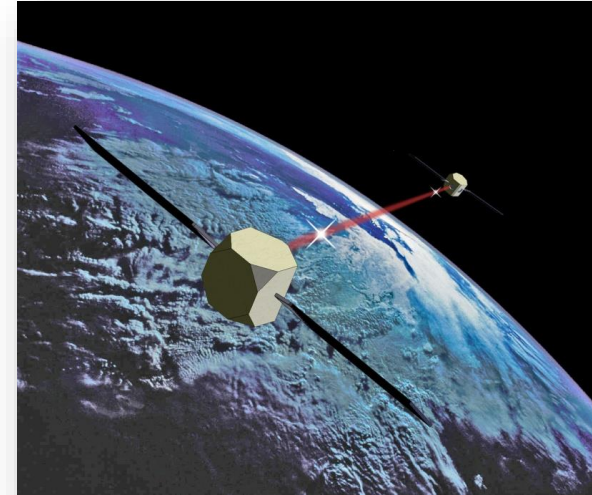


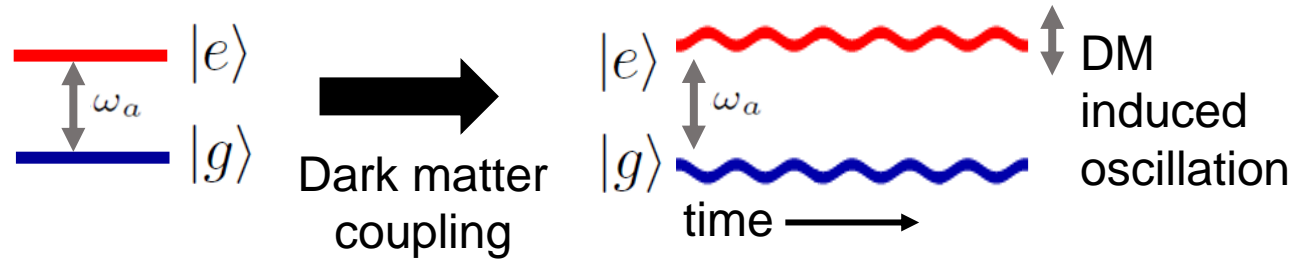
Image: Jason Hogan

ESA Voyage 2050 White Paper

Follow-on to AION, ELGAR, MAGIS, MIGA,...
 Heritage from SOC, BECCAL, LISA-PF,...

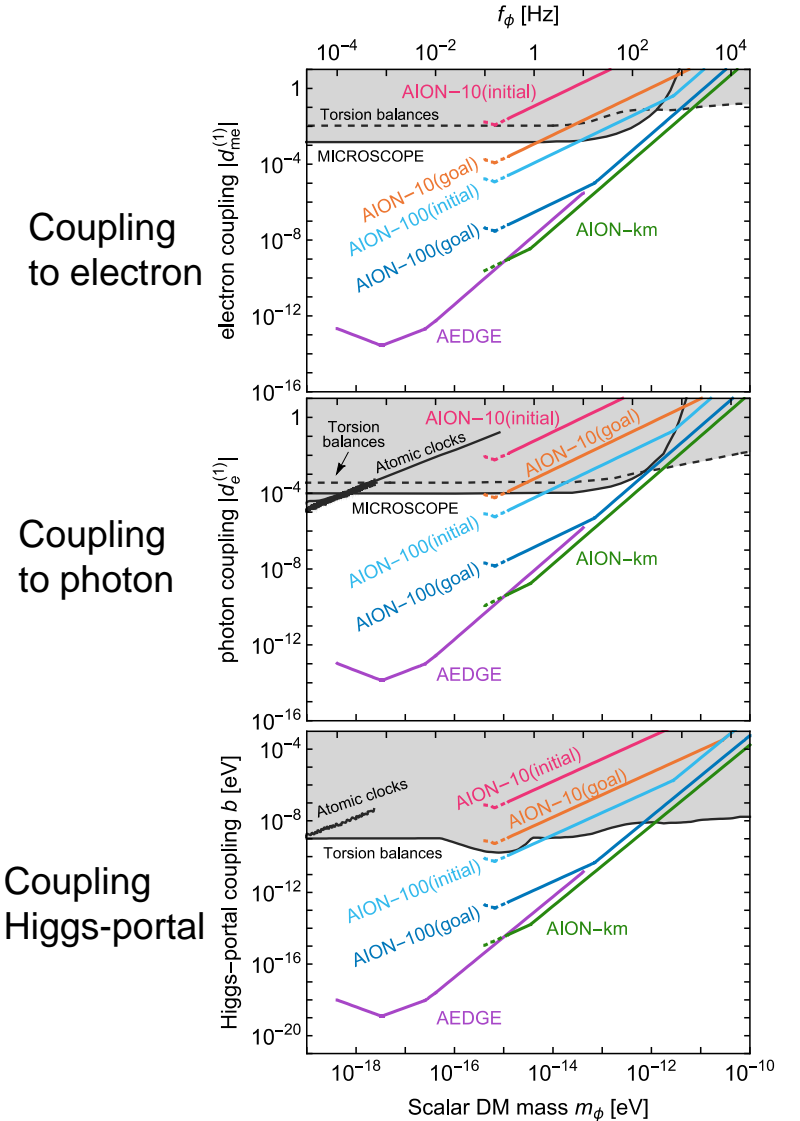
AEDGE – Ultralight Dark Matter

Dark Matter influencing the value of fundamental constants



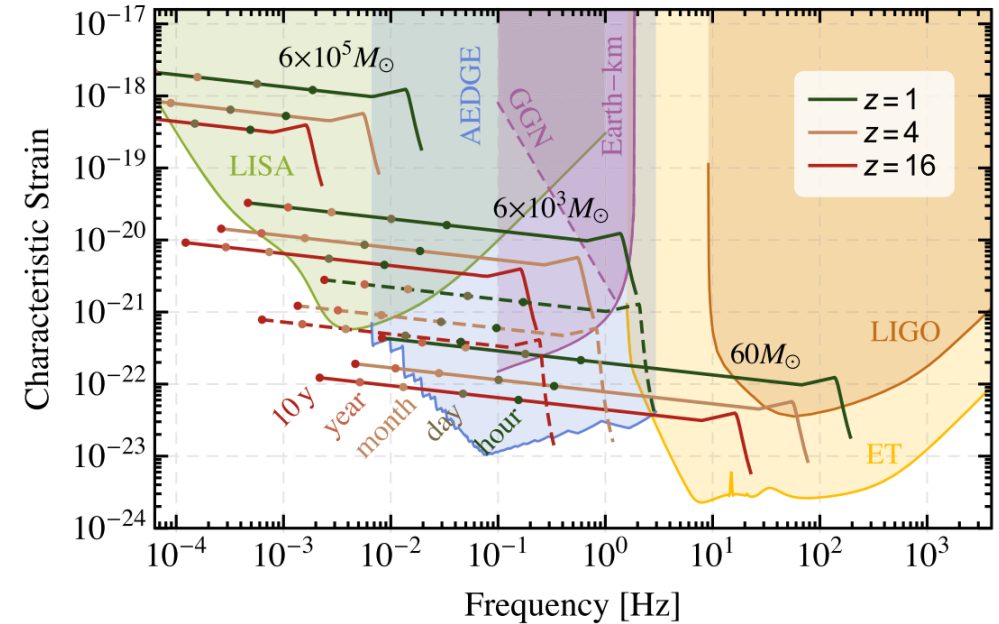
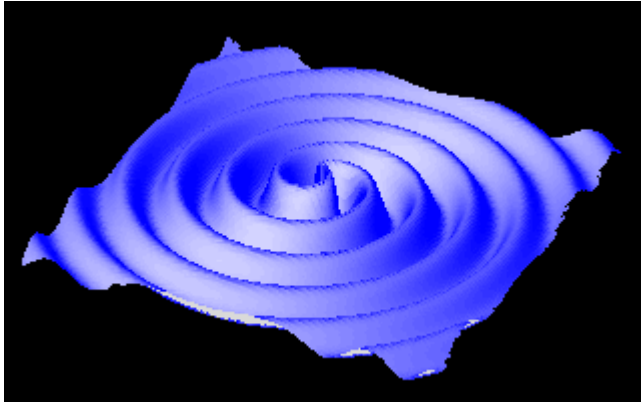
Based on: Arvanitaki et al., PRD **97**, 075020 (2018).

Signal: difference in local clock frequencies



AEDGE – Mid-Frequency Gravitational Waves

GW modulating space-time



Signal due to GW influencing travel time of photons



Mid-band science

- Detect sources BEFORE they reach the high frequency band
- Optimal for sky localization: predict when and where events will occur

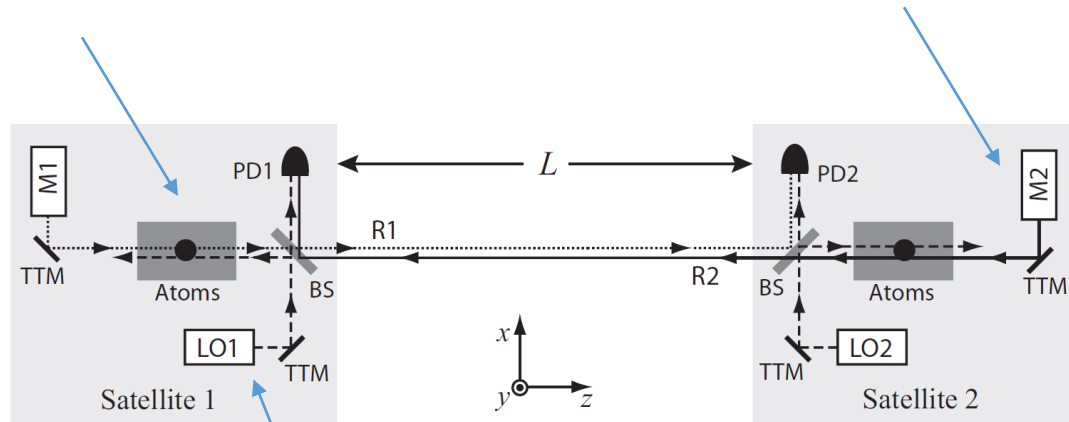
AEDGE – Heritage and Technology Journey

Heritage

Atom interferometer technology
(e.g. QUANTUS, BECCAL,...)

Optical clock laser technology
(e.g. SOC)

Technology Roadmap:
De-risking in ground-based
large scale atom interferometers
(10m, 100m, 1km)



Scheme: Jason Hogan, et al.

Optical link phase locking technology
(e.g. LISA-PF)



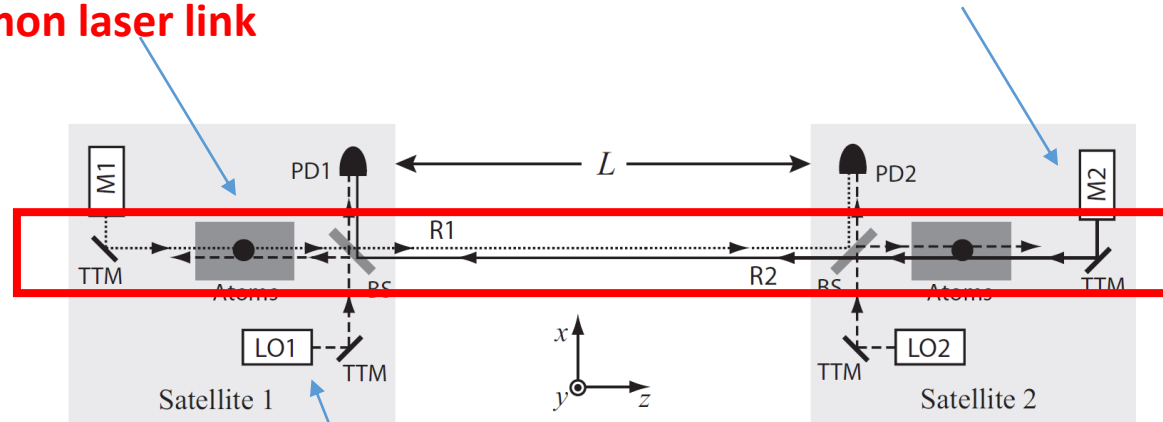
AEDGE – Heritage and Technology Journey

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Atom interferometer technology
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Optical clock laser technology
(e.g. SOC)

Common laser link



Scheme: Jason Hogan, et al.

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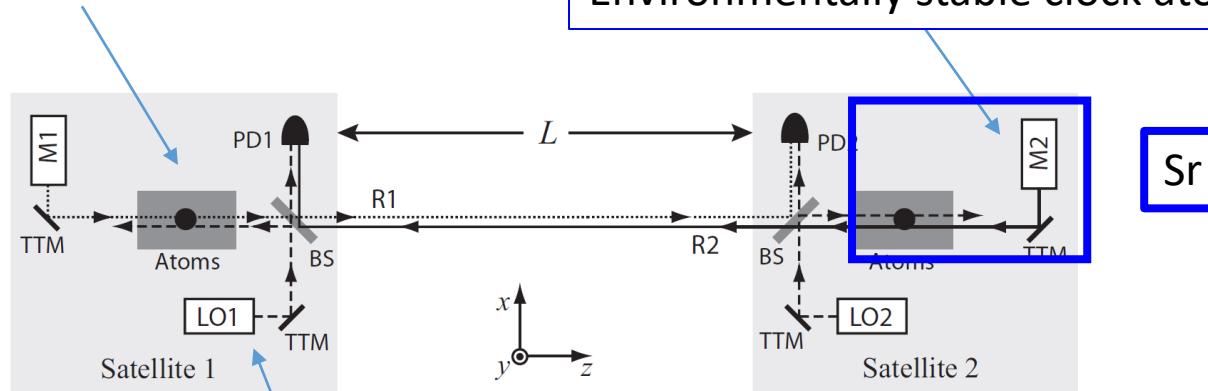


AEDGE – Heritage and Technology Roadmap

Heritage

Atom interferometer technology
(e.g. QUANTUS, BECCAL,...) ✓

Optical clock laser technology
(e.g. SOC)
Environmentally stable clock atom

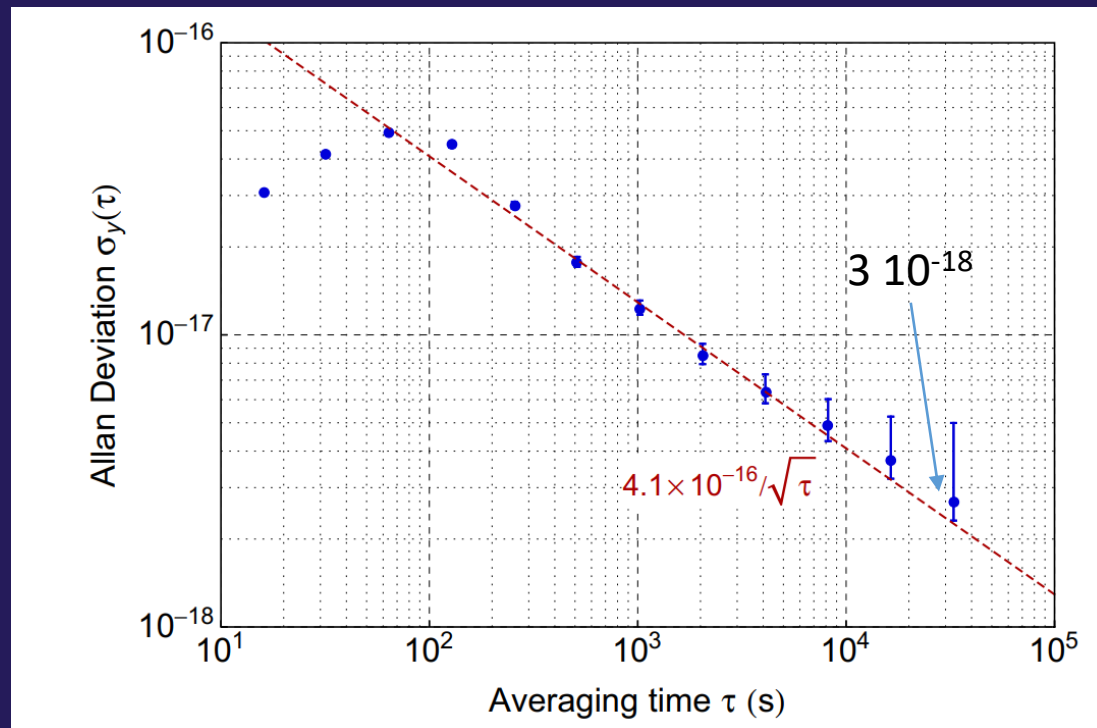


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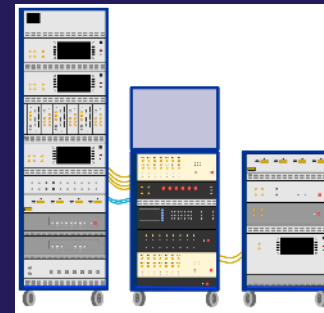
Sr Optical Lattice Clock Developments at Birmingham



Phys Rev A 98, 053443 (2018)



SOC II, iSOC – led by U Düsseldorf
FACT – led by UoB
Volume ~1000l
 3×10^{-18} with PTB clock laser
Phys Rev A 98, 053443 (2018)



iQclock – led by U Amsterdam
UoB led commercial clock
Volume ~1000l
Aim $\sim 10^{-16}$



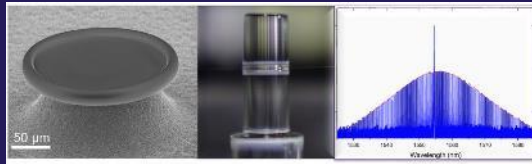
Miniature optical lattice clock
– led by UoB
Volume ~200l
Now: atoms in optical lattice
Adv. Opt. Tech. 9, 313 (2020)
Optics Express 28, 15943 (2020)
US Patent 15/128,731

Timing and Phase-Locked Links for Radar

Robust Oscillators

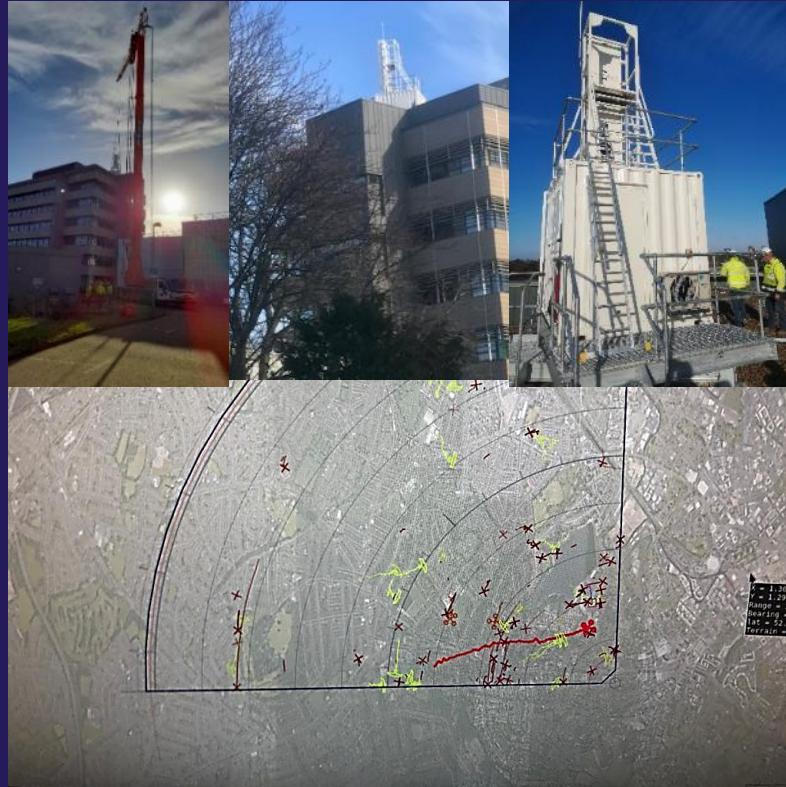


Microcombs



Sub-mW microresonator comb thresholds
Zhang et al, Optica 2019
NPL femtosec comb capability at 10^{-21} level
Johnson et al, Metrologia 2015

Radar Test Facility



Stakeholder Discussions



Collaboration: physics, material science, electrical engineering, social sciences, industry



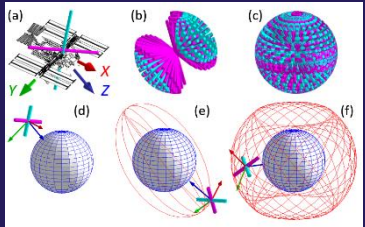
Intermediate Space Missions

Clock Technology

AI Technology

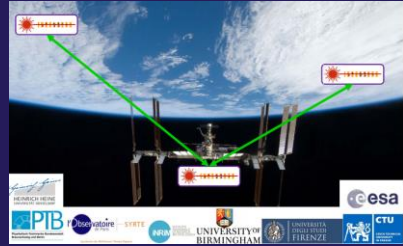
Fundamental Physics

Lorentz Invariance



<http://www.kerffufler.com/list/>

Gravitational Redshift



Equivalence principle



Image: STE-QUEST

Climate

Underground Water

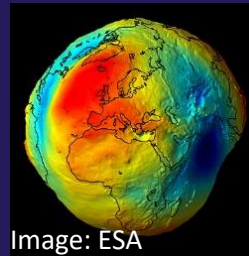


Image: ESA

Atmospheric Drag

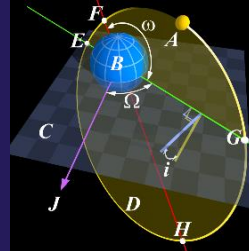


Image: Peo~commonswiki

Economy

Satellite Navigation

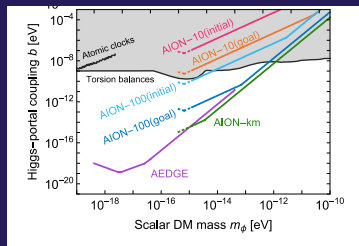


Image: NOAA

Communications



GW and Dark Matter



To be explored: Brain health in human space flight, satellite radar, radar for space debris detection,...

Thank you for your attention

Questions?