

SEPTEMBER 17-22, 2023

Saint-Pierre d'Oléron | FRANCE

BEYOND THE STANDARD MODEL OF WEAK INTERACTION:

nuclei, neutrons,
neutrinos



The quest for the Electric Dipole of the Neutron

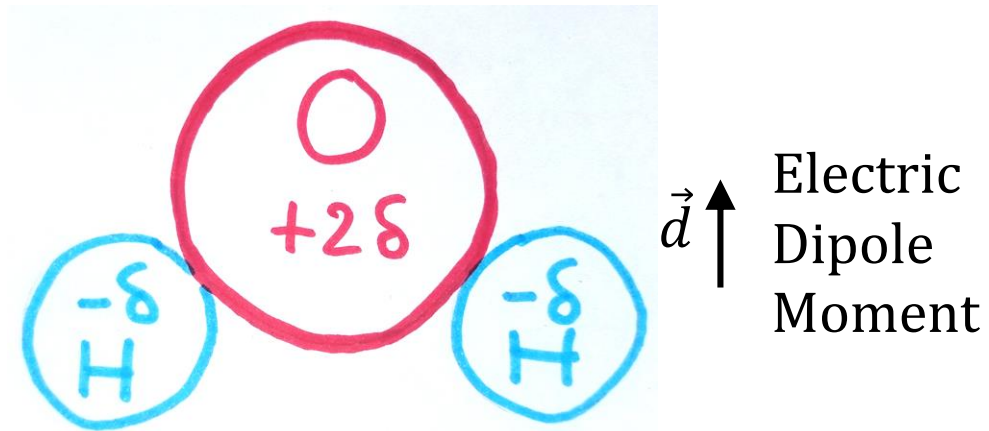
Guillaume Pignol, Grenoble University



Outline of the nEDM lecture

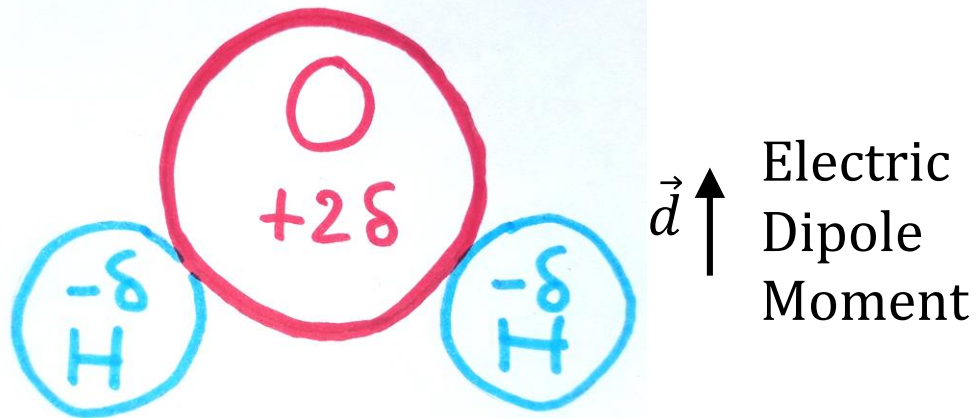
1. nEDM: What, Why, How?
2. Neutron optics, ultracold neutrons
3. Manipulating neutron spin
4. Past, present and future experiments

What is an Electric Dipole Moment (EDM) ?



Classical EDM: separation between positive and negative electric charges.
e.g. water molecule $d = 0.4 \text{ e \AA}$

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Energy for a “localized” classical charge distribution $\rho(r)$

Multipole expansion

exposed to a “weak” electrostatic potential $V(r) = V + r_i \partial_i V + \frac{1}{2} r_i r_j \partial_i \partial_j V + \dots$

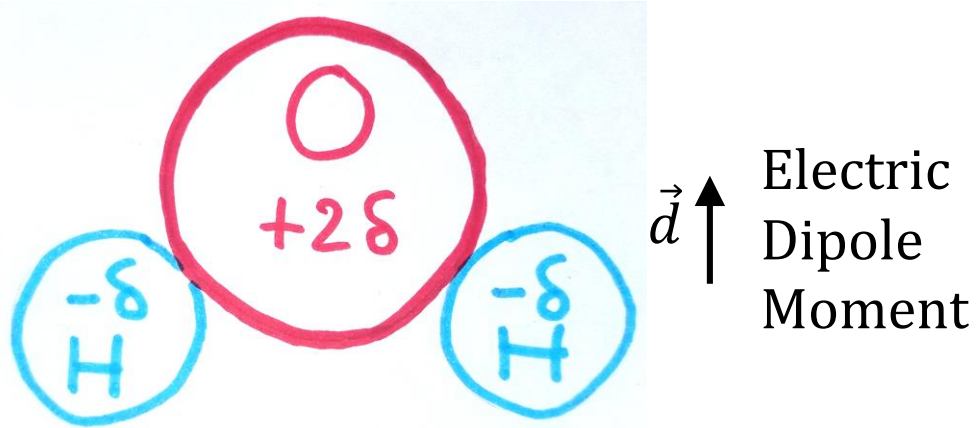
$$W = \int \rho(r) V(r) dr = \left(\int \rho(r) dr \right) V + \left(\int r_i \rho(r) dr \right) \partial_i V + \left(\int \frac{1}{2} r_i r_j \rho(r) dr \right) \partial_i \partial_j V + \dots$$

Electric charge
(scalar)

EDM
(vector)

Electric Quadrupole Moment
(tensor)

What is an Electric Dipole Moment (EDM) ?



General definition of q , \vec{d} , \vec{Q} , for systems not necessarily described by a classical charge distribution, like elementary particles:

Energy W in an external electric field $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V$

$$W = qV - \vec{d} \cdot \vec{E} - \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{\nabla}\vec{E} + \dots$$

For a quantum system, \vec{d} is a vector operator

What? - Basics of spin 1/2

Internal quantum state of a neutron

$$|\psi\rangle = a |\uparrow\rangle + b |\downarrow\rangle := \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(|a|^2 + |b|^2 = 1)$$

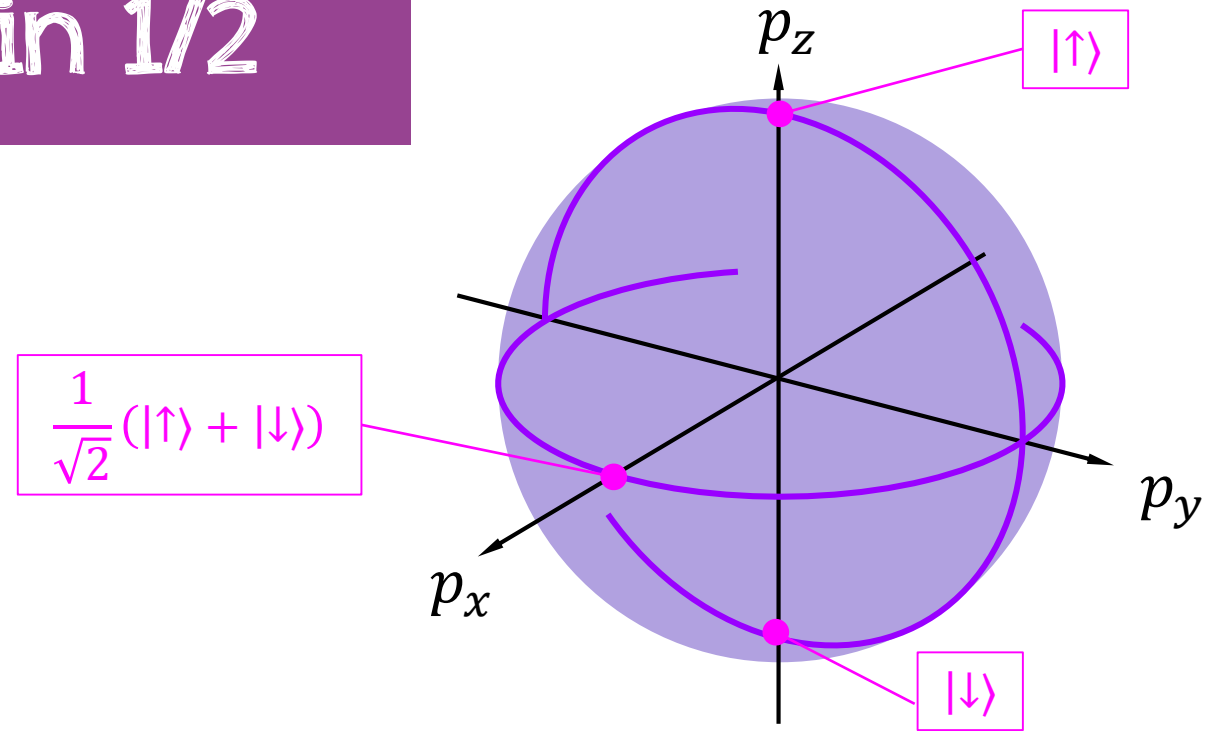
Spin observable $\hat{S} = \hbar/2 \vec{\sigma}$

$\vec{\sigma}$ are the Pauli matrices

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$



The polarization vector $\vec{p} = \langle \psi | \vec{\sigma} | \psi \rangle$

- describes completely the state $|\psi\rangle$
* up to an irrelevant phase factor ** valid for spin 1/2 only
- belongs to the **Bloch sphere** $|\vec{p}| = 1$
* for a pure state, spin 1/2. For a neutron ensemble $|\vec{p}| \leq 1$

What? - Interaction with E & B fields

MDM and EDM are vector operators,
they must be proportional to $\vec{\sigma}$
(Wigner-Eckart theorem for spin 1/2)

$$\hat{H} = -\mu \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B} - d \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{E}$$

Spin dynamics
given by Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{d}{dt} |\psi\rangle = \hat{H} |\psi\rangle$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \left(\frac{i\mu}{\hbar} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B} + \frac{id}{\hbar} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{E} \right) \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

Or equivalently by the Bloch equation

$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \vec{p} \times \left(\frac{2\mu}{\hbar} \vec{B} + \frac{2d}{\hbar} \vec{E} \right)$$

What? - Larmor precession

Case $\vec{B} = B_0 \vec{e}_z$ static, $\vec{E} = \vec{0}$

Initial condition $|\psi(0)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$

$\gamma = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar}$ =: gyromagnetic ratio

$\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$ =: Larmor angular frequency

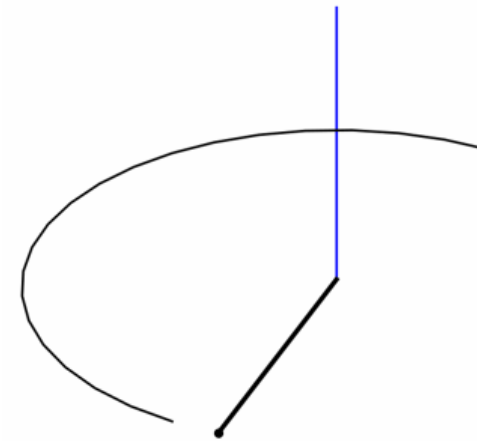
Schrödinger equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \frac{i}{2} \omega_0 \sigma_z \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solution: } \begin{pmatrix} a(t) \\ b(t) \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\frac{\omega_0}{2}t} \\ e^{-i\frac{\omega_0}{2}t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Bloch equation: } \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{p} \times \vec{B} = \omega_0 \begin{pmatrix} p_y \\ -p_x \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solution: } \vec{p}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \omega_0 t \\ \cos \omega_0 t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Precession at angular frequency $\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$

What are the measured **MDM** and **EDM** for the neutron?

$$\hat{H} = -\mu \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B} - d \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$\mu = -1.913\,042\,7(5) \mu_N$$

Nuclear
magneton

$$\mu_N = \frac{e\hbar}{2m_N}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d &= (0 \pm 1) \times 10^{-26} \text{ e cm} \\ &= (0 \pm 1) \times 10^{-12} \times \mu_N/c \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\mu_N}{c} \approx 0.1 \text{ e fm}$$

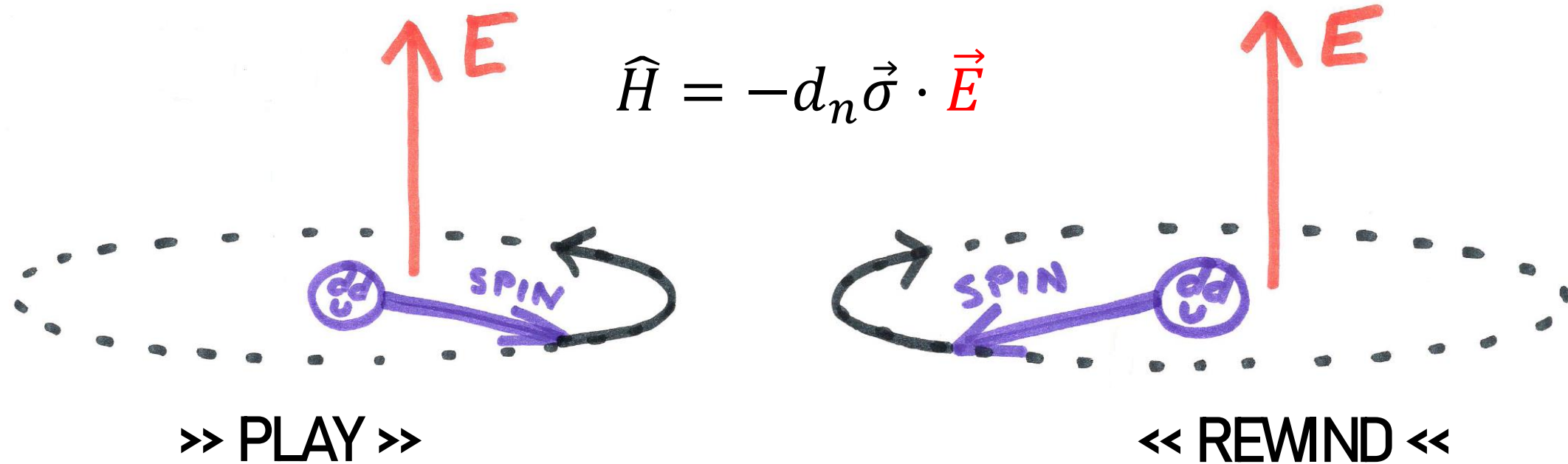
Why is it so small?

Outline of the nEDM lecture

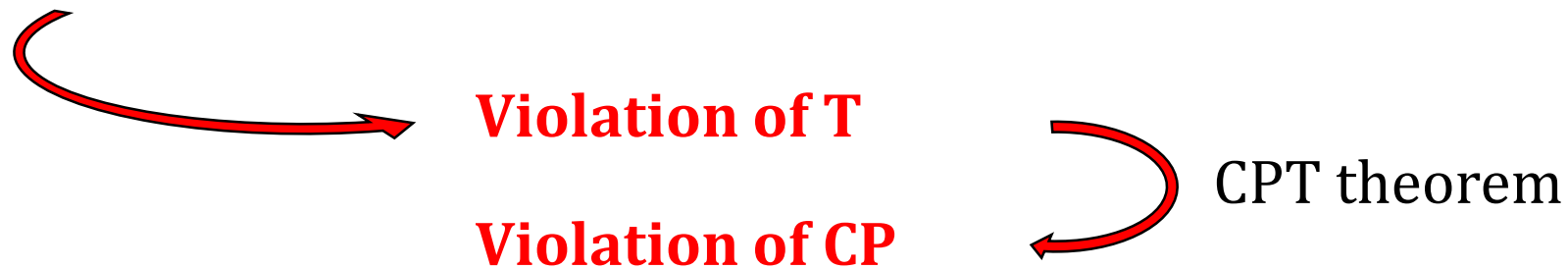


1. nEDM: What, **Why?** How?
2. Neutron optics, ultracold neutrons
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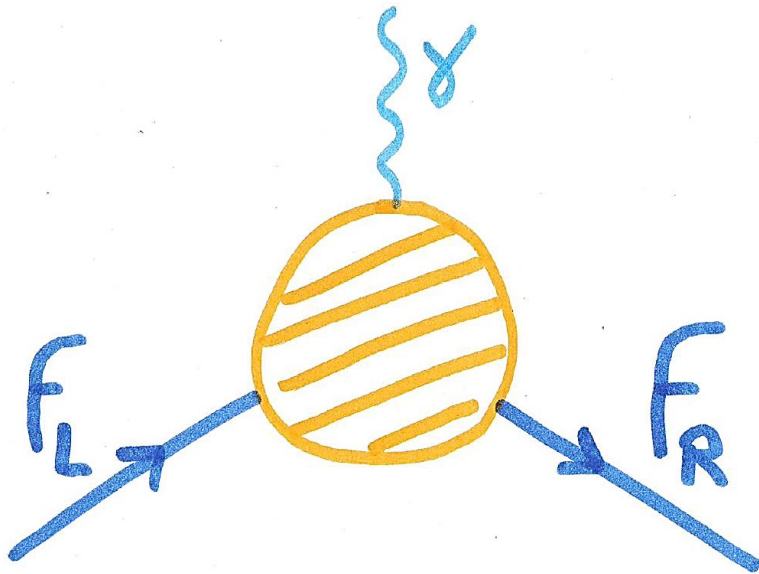
Why tiny? Because of T-symmetry



If $d_n \neq 0$ the process and its time reversed version are different.



the EDM from the point of view of a high energy theorist



Fermion-photon coupling

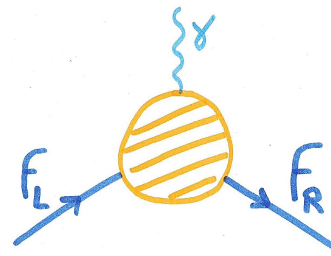
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\delta\boldsymbol{\mu} + i\mathbf{d}) \bar{f}_L \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mu\nu} f_R F^{\mu\nu} + h.c.$$

Real part = anomalous magnetic moment

Imaginary part = electric dipole moment

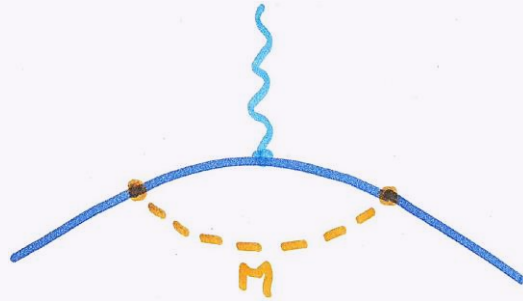
$$\text{Non-relativistic limit: } \hat{H} = -\boldsymbol{\mu}\boldsymbol{\sigma}B - \mathbf{d}\boldsymbol{\sigma}E$$

Sources of neutron EDM



$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{id}{2} \bar{f} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 f F^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow \hat{H} = -d \hat{\sigma} E$$

Typical 1-loop contribution for quark EDM

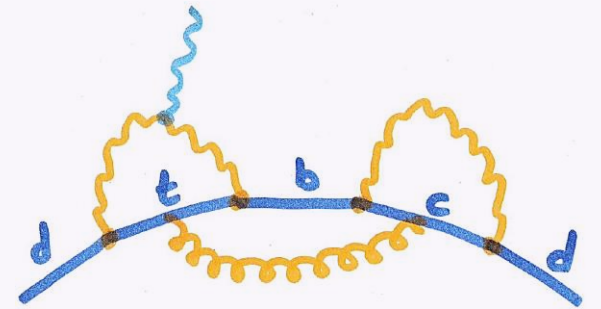


$$d_n \sim e \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} \sin(\phi_{\text{CPV}}) \frac{m_q}{M^2}$$

$\rightarrow M > \text{TeV}$ if phase ~ 1

Contribution of weak interaction

Leading order for quark EDMs at 3 loops! Frog diagram.



Negligible CKM prediction (*) $d_n \sim 10^{-18} \mu_N/c$

* The "long distance" contribution dominates over quark EDMs, still super-small.

The SM QCD theta term

$$\frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \bar{\theta} \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$$

generates a potentially enormous neutron EDM : $d_n \sim -0.02 \times \bar{\theta} \mu_N/c$

$\rightarrow |\bar{\theta}| < 10^{-10} \rightarrow \ll \text{Strong CP problem} \gg$

Systematic approach: ladder of Effective Field Ths

UV complete BSM theory,

\mathcal{L}_{UV} : Scale = $\Lambda \gg m_H \sim 100$ GeV

EFT with SM fields: quarks, leptons, gauge bosons, Higgs

$$\mathcal{L}_{SMEFT} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \mathcal{L}_{D=5} + \sum_{a=1}^{3045} \frac{c_a}{\Lambda^2} O_a^{(6)} + \mathcal{L}_{D=7} + \dots$$

EFT with hadrons, leptons and photons
Isospin-diagonal, CPV operators

$$-\mathcal{L}_{EDM} = \frac{1}{2} d_n \bar{n} \sigma_{\mu\nu} i \gamma_5 n F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} C_S^0 \bar{n} n \bar{e} i \gamma_5 e + \dots$$

Observables: EDMs of nucleons, atoms, molecules... $\hat{H} = -d \hat{\sigma} \cdot \vec{E}$

European Strategy Particle Physics [1910.11775](https://www.hep.eu.org/)

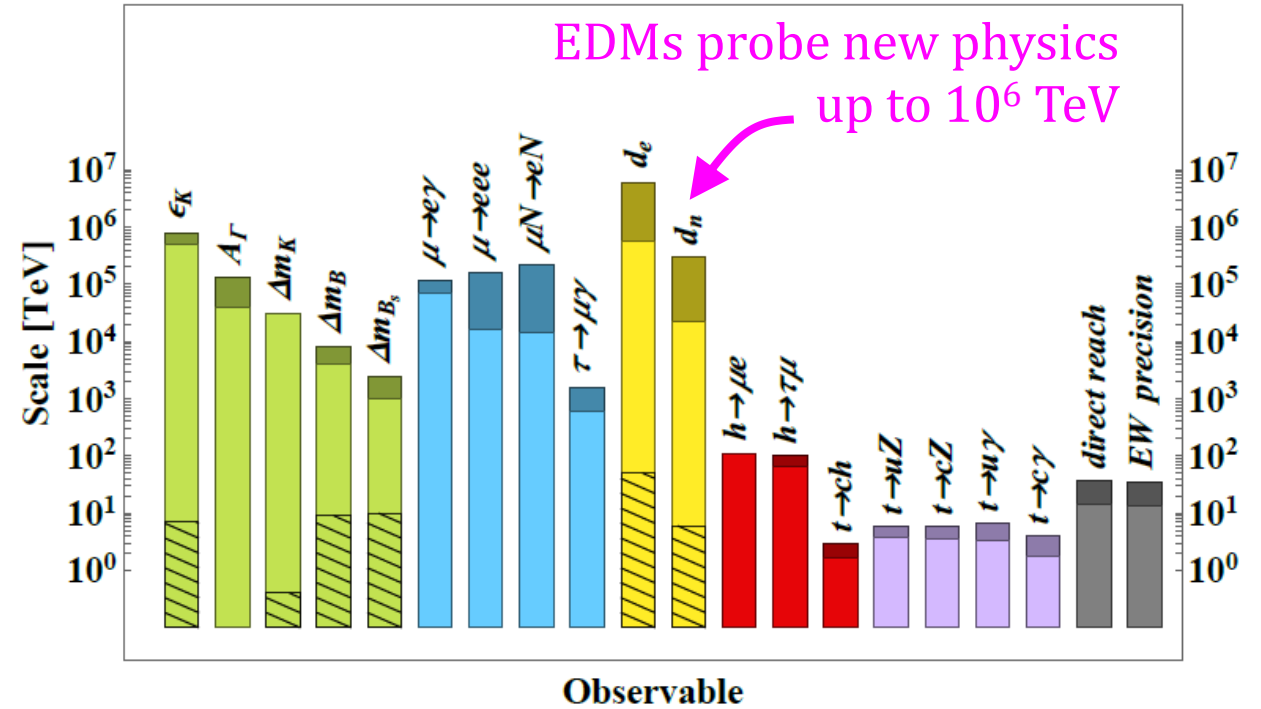


Fig. 5.1: Reach in new physics scale of present and future facilities, from generic dimension six operators. Colour coding of observables is: green for mesons, blue for leptons, yellow for EDMs, red for Higgs flavoured couplings and purple for the top quark. The grey columns illustrate the reach of direct flavour-blind searches and EW precision measurements. The operator coefficients are taken to be either ~ 1 (plain coloured columns) or suppressed by MFV factors (hatch filled surfaces). Light (dark) colours correspond to present data (mid-term prospects,

Summary on What and Why.

What is the neutron EDM?

- For elementary spin $\frac{1}{2}$ particles such as the neutron or the electron, the EDM is really the magnitude of the coupling between spin and E field (don't think of a distribution of charges, it's useless).
- Experimental limit: less than 10^{-12} of the natural size μ_N/c .

Why is it so small?

- Nonzero EDM violates P and T symmetries, therefore also CP symmetry.
- In the standard model of weak interaction, CP violation needs three generations of quarks.

Why do we continue the search?

- Sensitive probe of CP violation beyond the Standard Model.

Since when?

On the Possibility of Electric Dipole Moments for Elementary Particles and Nuclei

E. M. PURCELL AND N. F. RAMSEY

Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

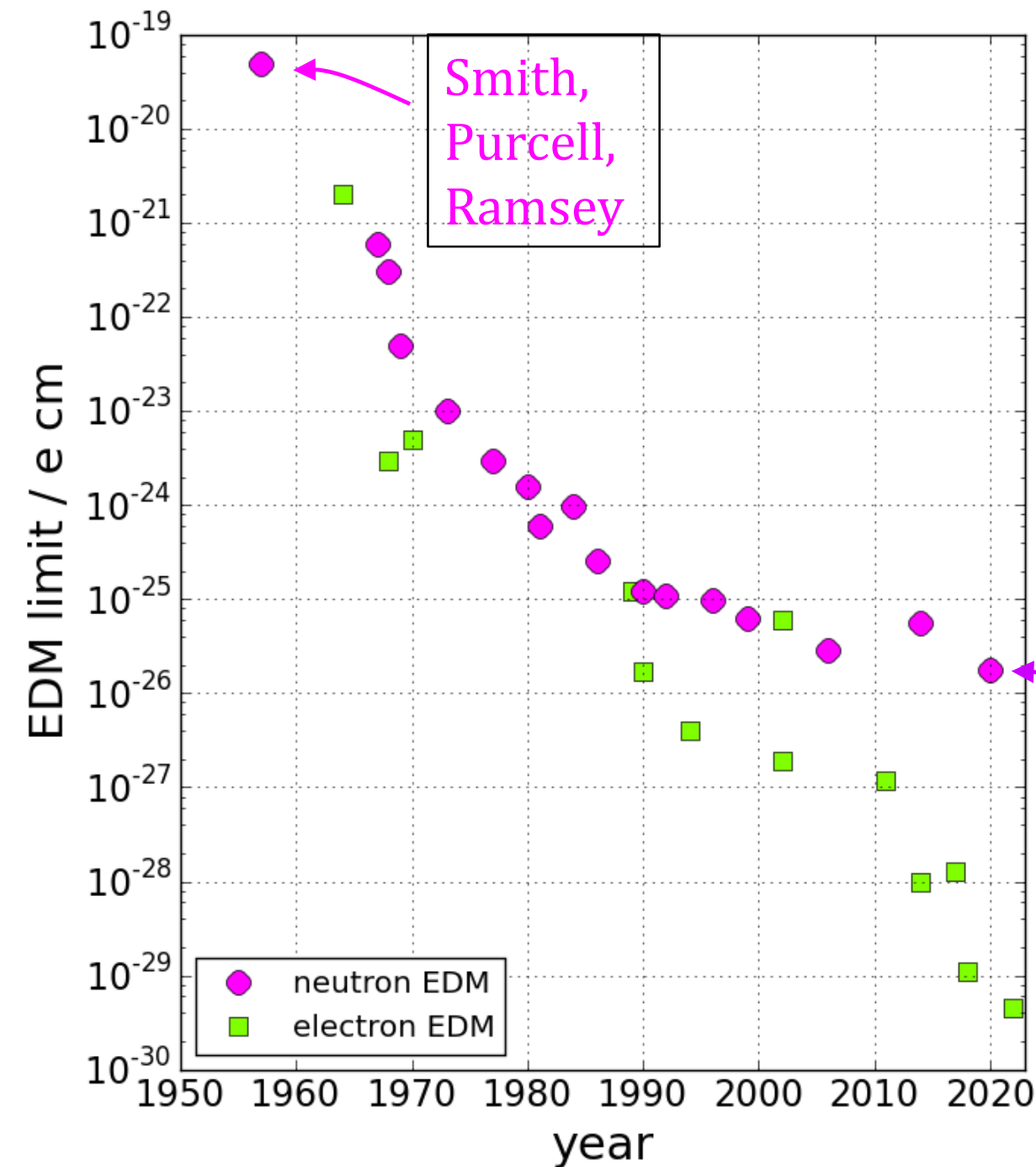
April 27, 1950

It is generally assumed on the basis of some suggestive theoretical symmetry arguments¹ that nuclei and elementary particles can have no electric dipole moments. It is the purpose of this note to point out that although these theoretical arguments are valid when applied to molecular and atomic moments whose electromagnetic origin is well understood, their extension to nuclei and elementary particles rests on assumptions not yet tested.

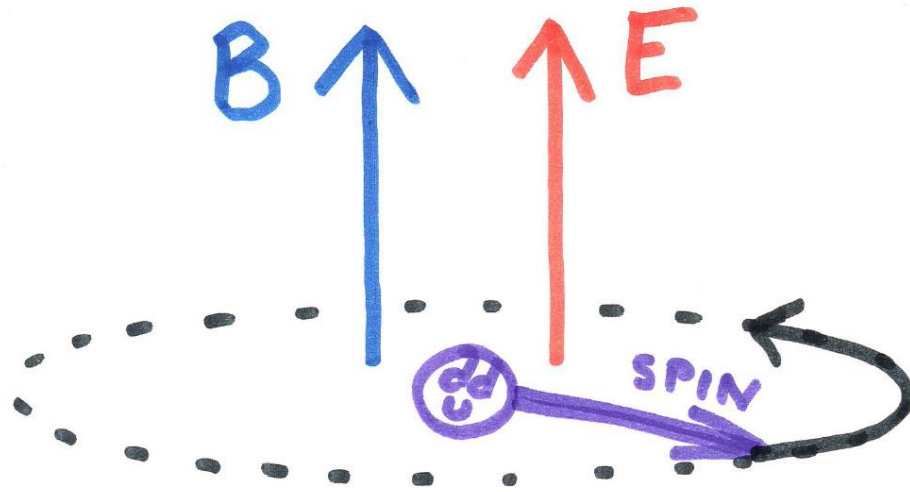
Limit from the nEDM experiment @PSI

$$|d_n| < 1.8 \times 10^{-26} e$$

Abel et al, PRL (2020)



How? basics of nEDM measurement



Larmor frequency
 $\sim 30 \text{ Hz @ } B = 1 \mu\text{T}$

$$2\pi f = \frac{2\mu_n}{\hbar} B \pm \frac{2d_n}{\hbar} |E|$$

If $d_n \sim 10^{-26} e \text{ cm}$ and $E \sim 10 \text{ kV/cm}$
duration of one full turn $\sim 1 \text{ year}$

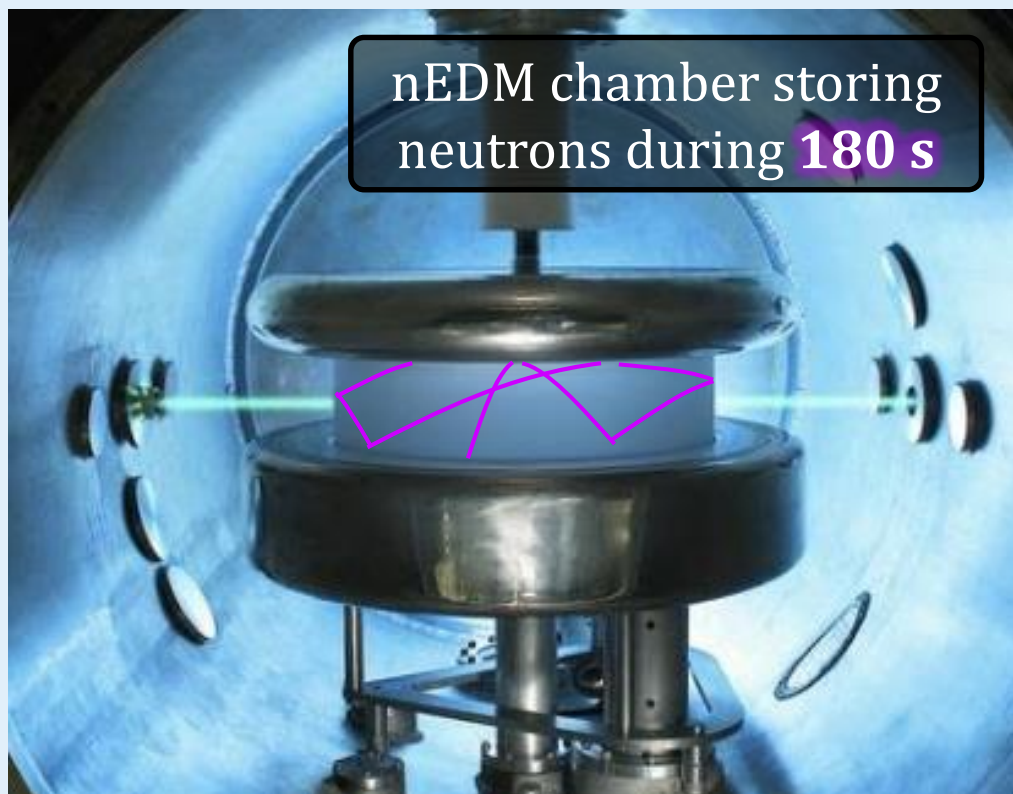
To detect such a minuscule coupling

- Long interaction time
- High intensity/statistics
- Control the magnetic field

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Use Ultracold neutrons

Neutrons with velocity $< 5\text{m/s}$ can undergo total reflection and be stored in material “bottles”



nEDM chamber storing neutrons during **180 s**

Use big magnetic shielding



+ Use quantum magnetometry
With mercury and cesium atoms

[Abel et al, PRL \(2020\)](#)

$$d_n = (0.0 \pm 1.1_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.2_{\text{syst}}) \times 10^{-26} \text{ ecm}$$

Limited by the
number of UCNs
(~500 million counts)

Uniformity of
the B-field

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Thermalization of fast neutrons

Moderator material with hydrogen or deuterium.

In heavy water the mean free path is about 2 cm and it takes about 35 collisions to thermalize.

**Fast neutron
produced by
fission or
spallation**

$E \sim 2 - 20 \text{ MeV}$

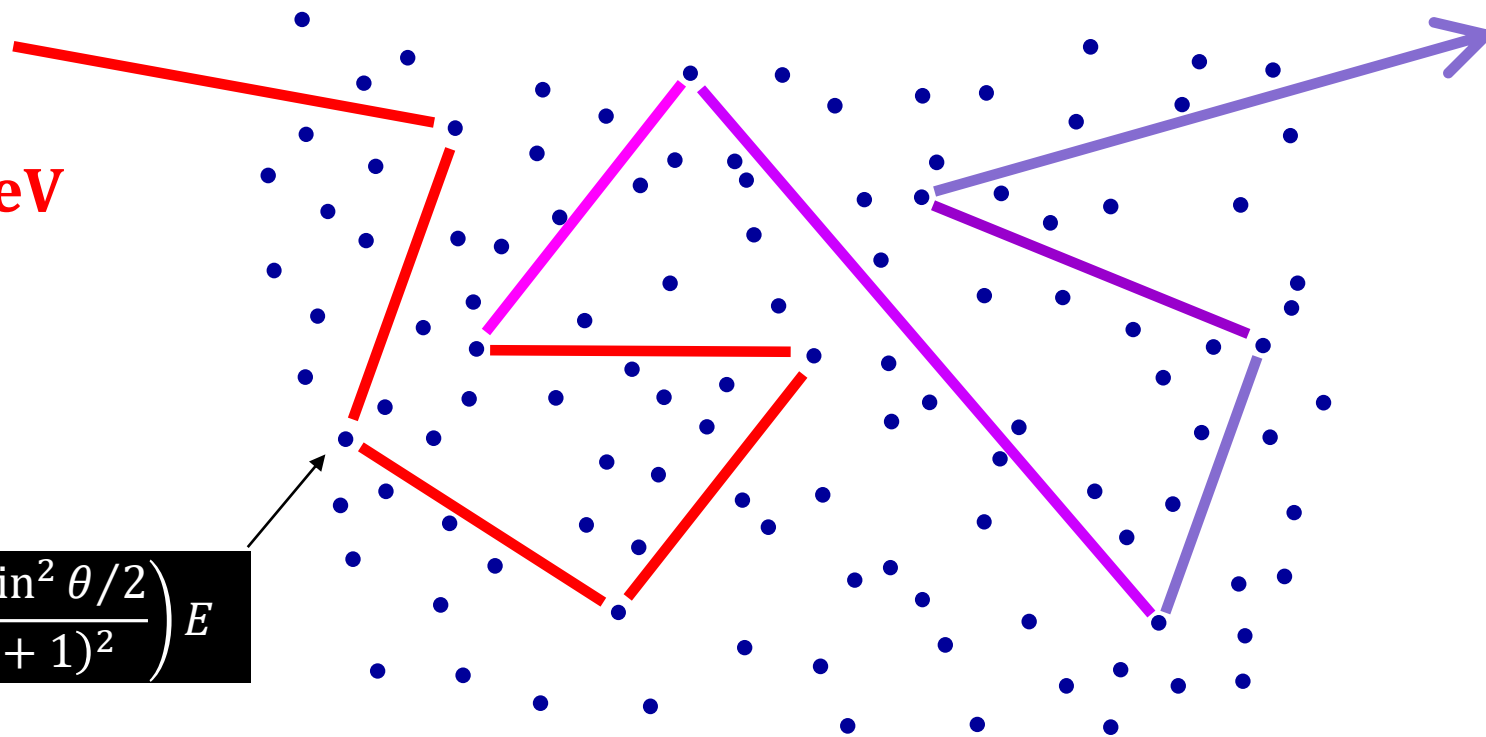
$v \sim 0.1 c$

Thermal neutron

$E = kT = 25 \text{ meV}$

$v = 2200 \text{ m/s}$

$$E' = \left(1 - \frac{4A \sin^2 \theta / 2}{(A + 1)^2}\right) E$$



Neutron optics

De Broglie wavelength of the neutron:

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi \hbar}{mv}$$

**Fast neutron
produced by
fission or
spallation**

$E \sim 2 - 20 \text{ MeV}$

$v \sim 0.1 c$

$\lambda \sim 10 \text{ fm}$

Fast neutrons behave
like particles, not
waves, because $\lambda \ll d$

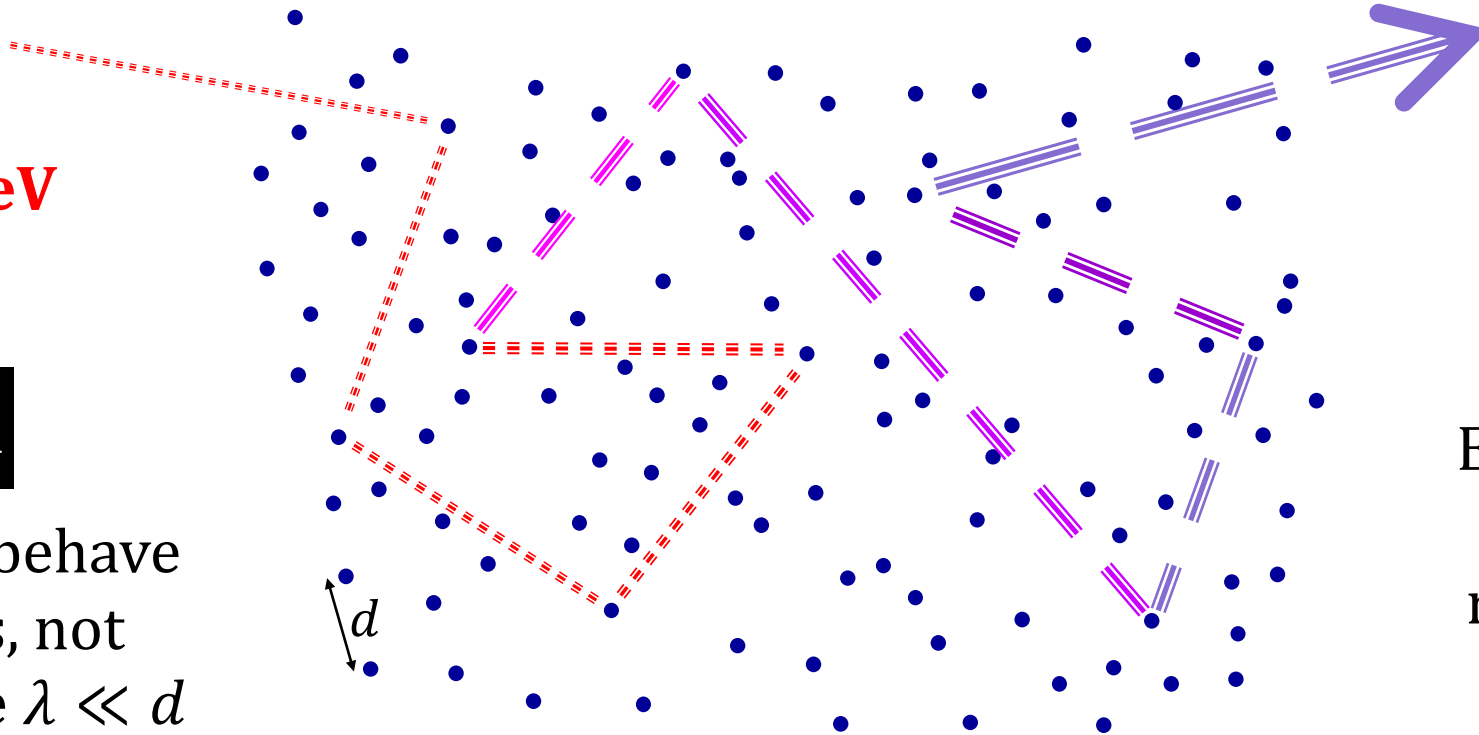
Thermal neutron

$E = kT = 25 \text{ meV}$

$v = 2200 \text{ m/s}$

$\lambda = 0.2 \text{ nm}$

Expect significant wave
effects (interference,
refraction) for thermal
and cold neutrons
because $\lambda \approx d$



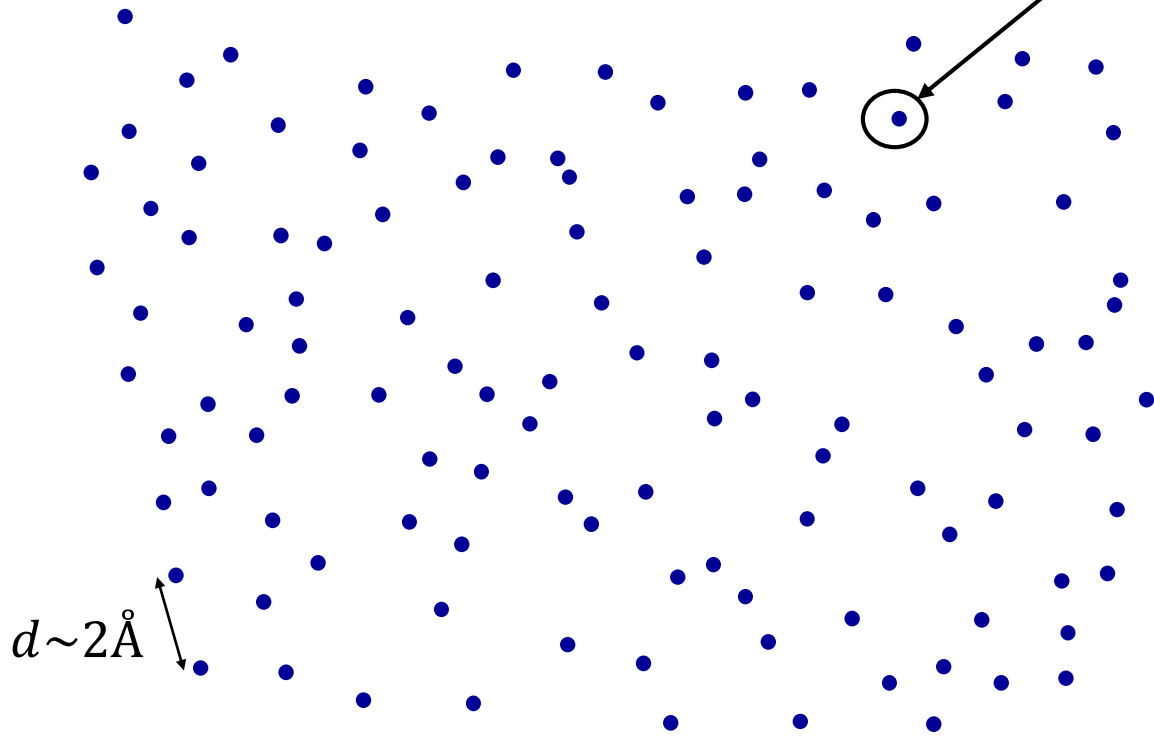
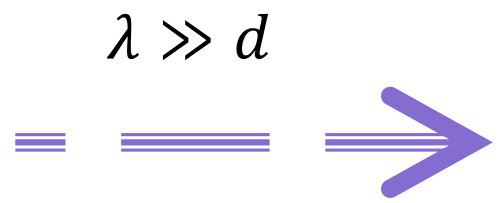
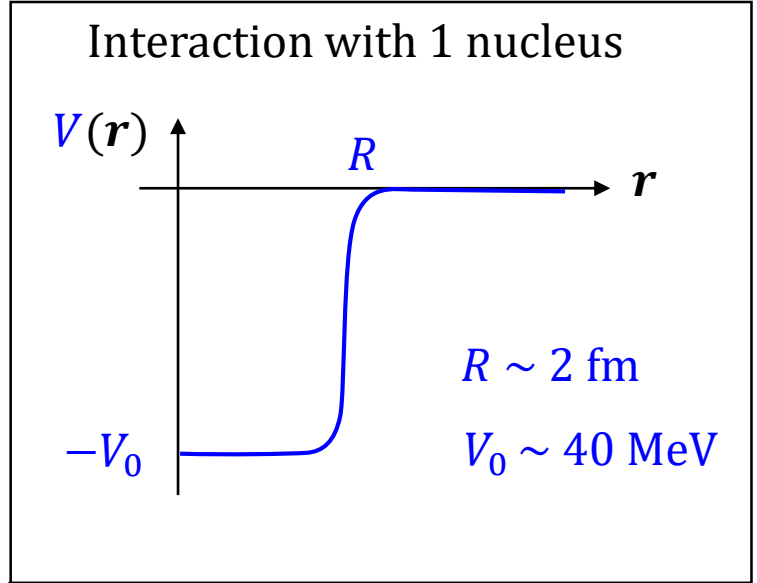
Neutron optics

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv} = 1,8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$$

Enrico Fermi in 1946 (or 1949?)

Naïve picture of neutron optics

In this case: wrong.



$d \sim 2 \text{ \AA}$

Smearing of the nuclear potential by simple volume average:

$$\langle V \rangle = -V_0 \frac{4\pi}{3} \left(\frac{R}{d} \right)^3$$
$$\sim -200 \text{ neV}$$

Predicts negative « optical » potential.

Scattering of the neutron wave ... correct approach

Quantum theory of non-relativistic collisions describes an incident neutron wave with $\lambda = 2\pi/k$ scattered by a single nucleus localized at $\vec{0}$

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = e^{i k x} + f(\theta) \frac{e^{i k |\vec{r}|}}{|\vec{r}|}$$

For slow neutrons, nuclei look point-like ($kR \ll 1$), the scattering amplitude $f(\theta)$ is isotropic and energy-independent:
 $f(\theta) = \text{cst} =: -b$ $b =$ neutron scattering length for a given nucleus.
the minus sign is a convention decided by the pope

Multiple scattering on a collection of nuclei localized at positions \vec{r}_j

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = e^{i k x} - \sum_j \psi(\vec{r}_j) b \frac{e^{i k |\vec{r} - \vec{r}_j|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_j|}$$

Approximation valid for $\lambda \gg d$
 $n(\vec{r}') =$ number density of targets

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = e^{i k x} - \int \psi(\vec{r}') b \frac{e^{i k |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} n(\vec{r}') d^3 \vec{r}'$$

Scattering of the neutron wave, $\lambda \gg d$

implicit equation on $\psi(\vec{r})$ valid for $\lambda \gg d$

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = e^{i k x} - \int \psi(\vec{r}') b \frac{e^{i k |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} n(\vec{r}') d^3 \vec{r}'$$



Apply $\Delta + k^2$ on both sides and recall that

$$(\Delta + k^2) \frac{e^{i k |\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} = -4\pi \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

$$(\Delta + k^2)\psi(\vec{r}) = 0 + 4\pi b n(\vec{r})\psi(\vec{r})$$

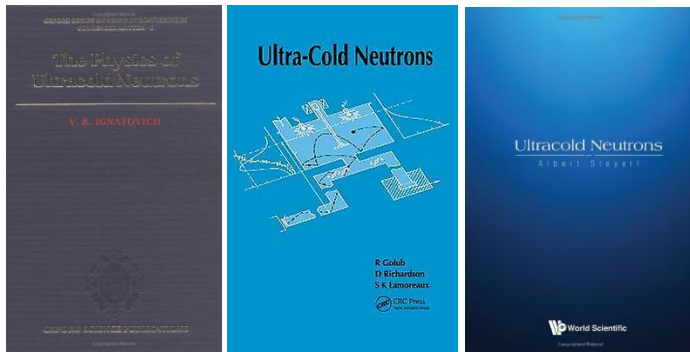
takes the form of a Schrödinger equation

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta + V_F \right) \psi = E \psi$$

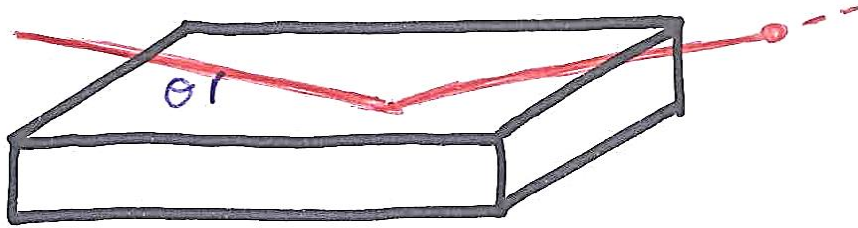
Optical Fermi potential

$$V_F(\vec{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m} b n(\vec{r})$$

There is more on this, see textbooks



Repulsive optical potential? Neutron mirrors??



For positive b ,
the optical potential of the material is repulsive

=> total reflection of neutrons for $E \sin^2 \theta < V_F$

COLLIMATION OF NEUTRON BEAM FROM THERMAL COLUMN OF CP-3 AND THE INDEX OF REFRACTION FOR THERMAL NEUTRONS

E. FERMI and W. H. ZINN

Excerpt from Report CP-1965 for Month Ending July 29, 1944.

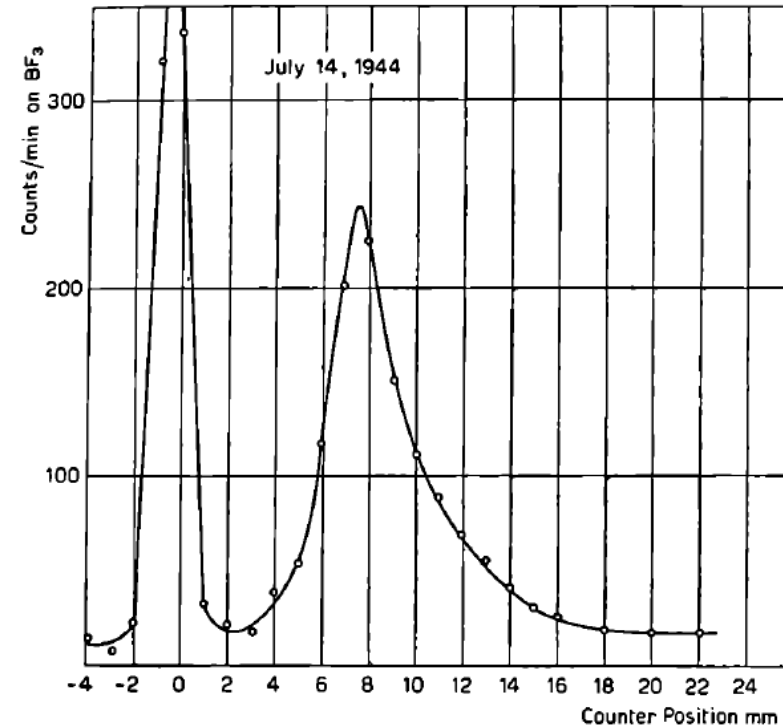


Fig. 1. - Graphite mirror. Glancing angle 3 minutes. Reflected beam displaced 0.8 cm.

Interference Phenomena of Slow Neutrons

E. FERMI AND L. MARSHALL

Argonne National Laboratory and University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

(Received February 7, 1947)

Various experiments involving interference of slow neutrons have been performed in order to determine the phase of the scattered neutron wave with respect to the primary neutron wave. Theoretically this phase change is very close to either 0° or 180° . The experiments show that with few exceptions the latter is the case.

$b < 0$ $b > 0$

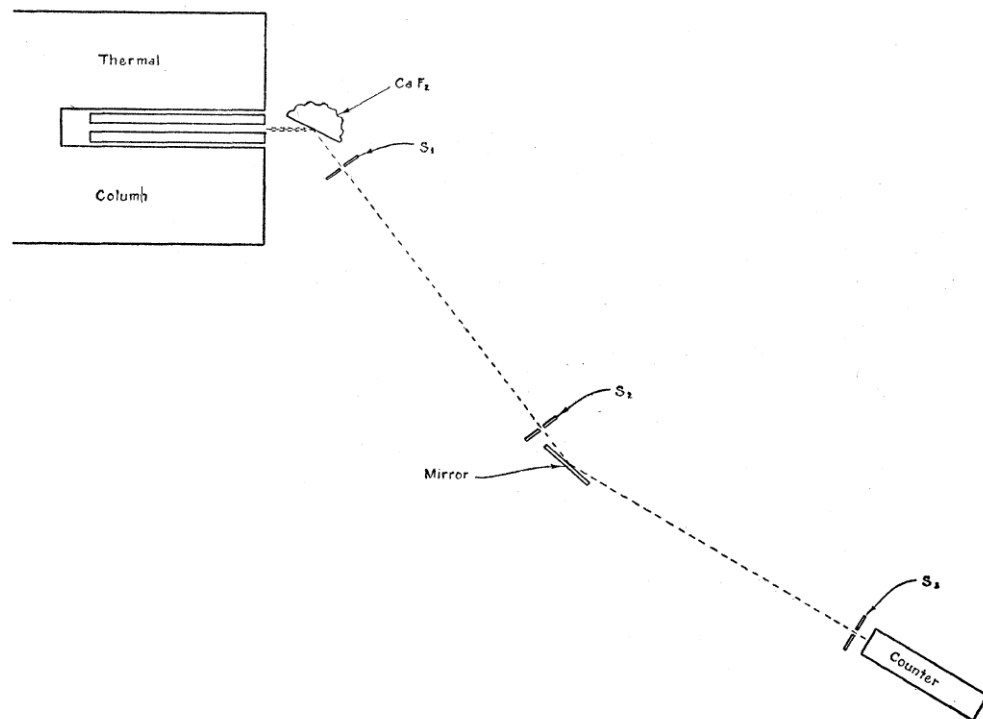


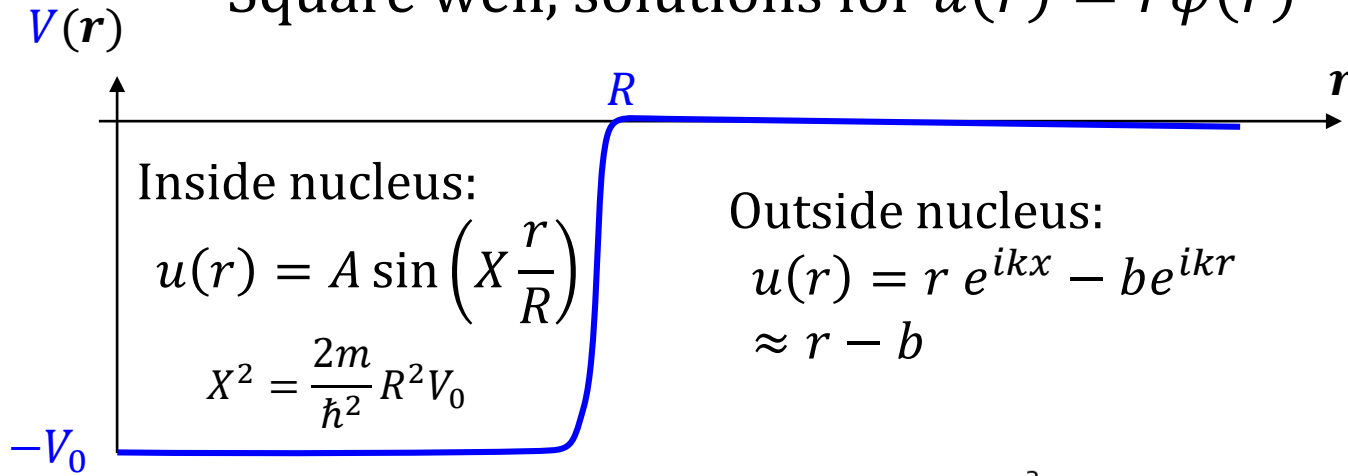
TABLE VI. Limiting angle for total reflection of neutrons of 1.873A.

Mirror	Limiting angle (minutes)	
	Observed	Calculated
Be	12.0	11.1
C (graphite)	10.5	8.4
Fe	10.7	10.0
Ni	11.5	11.8
Zn	7.1	6.9
Cu	9.5	9.5

FIG. 4. Monochromatic total reflection on mirrors.

Understanding positive scattering lengths

Square well, solutions for $u(r) = r\psi(r)$



Continuity of u and u' at the nuclear surface:

$$b = R \left(1 - \frac{\tan X}{X} \right)$$

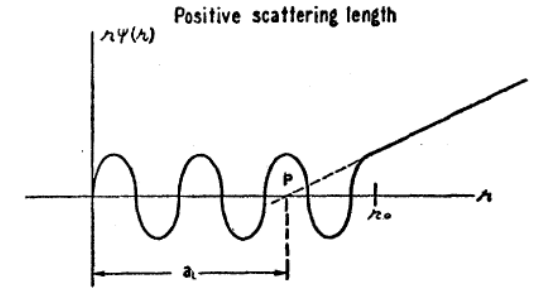
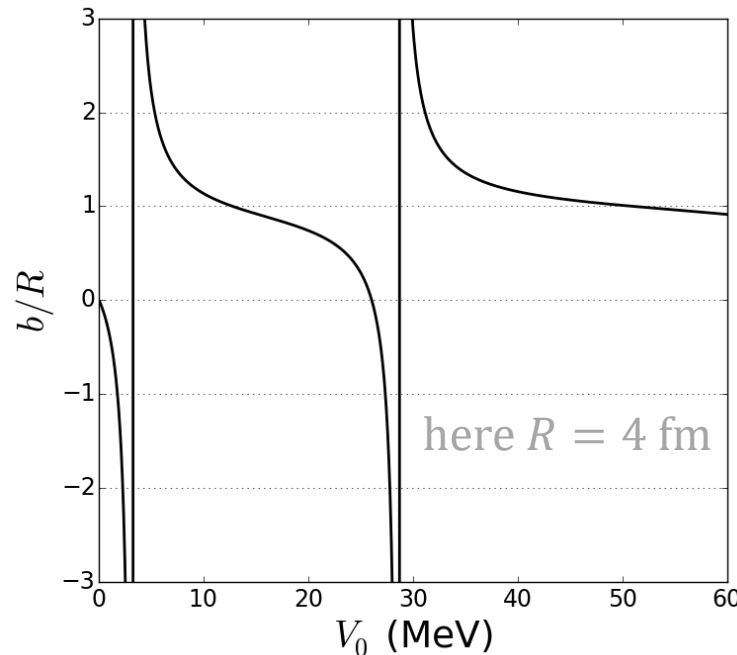


FIG. 1A. Positive scattering length.

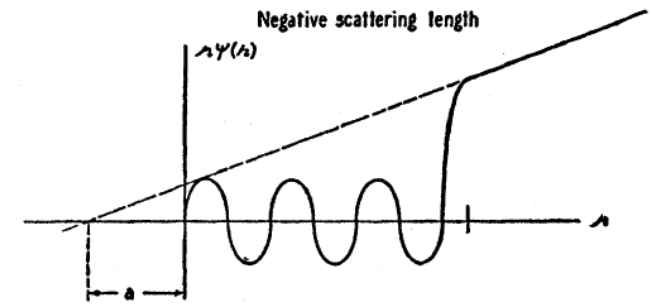


FIG. 1B. Negative scattering length.

Measured scattering lengths, from
www.ncnr.nist.gov/resources/n-lengths

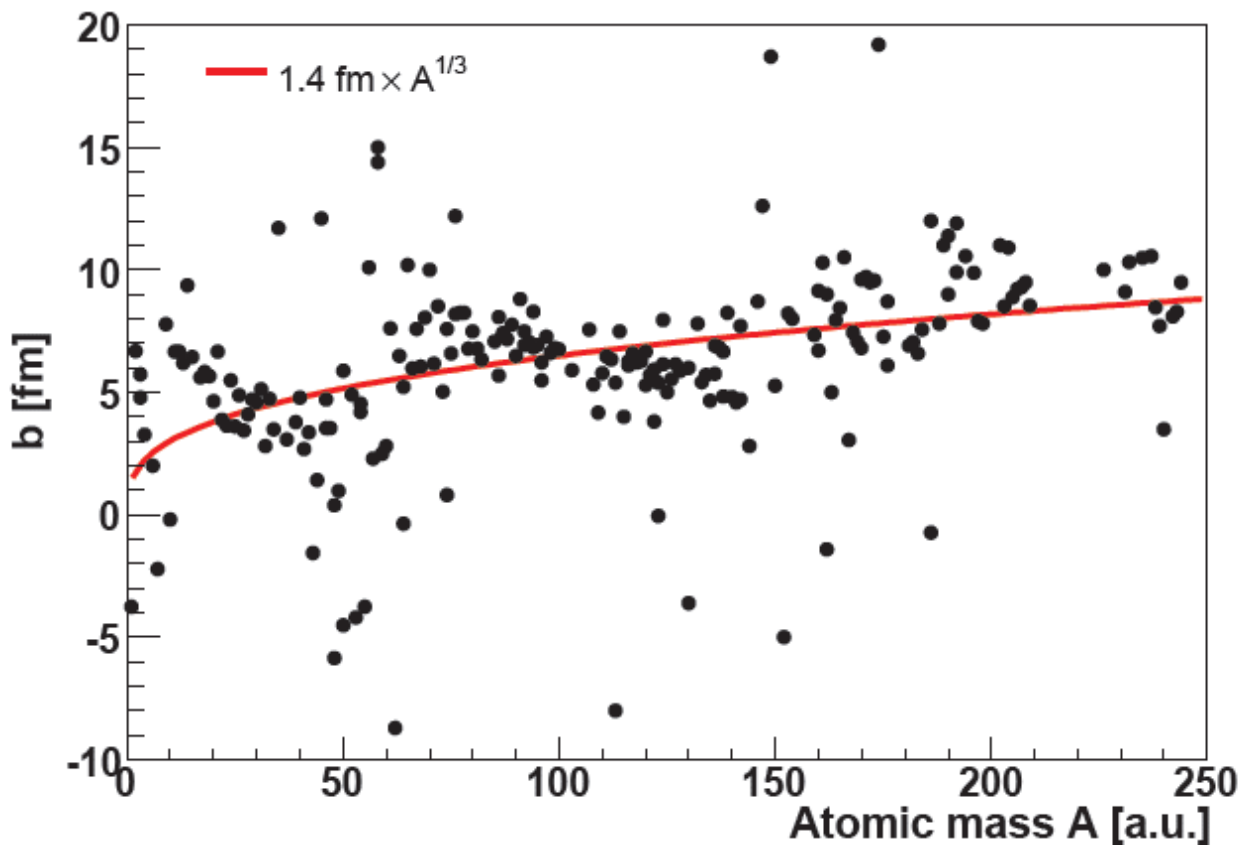


Table of optical Fermi potentials for
common materials

Element	$\rho_{\text{g/cc}}$	$N_{\text{form/cc}} \times 10^{22}$	$\sum_{\text{form}} a_{\text{coh}}^{\text{bound}} \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$	V_{neV}
Ni ⁵⁸	8.8	9.0	14.4	335
BeO	3.0	7.25	13.6	261
Ni	8.8	9.0	10.6	252
Be	1.83	12.3	7.75	252
Cu ⁶⁵	8.5	8.93	11.0	244
Fe	7.9	8.5	9.7	210
C	2.0	10.0	6.6	180
Cu	8.5	8.93	7.6	168
PTFE (Teflon)	2.2	2.65	17.6	123
Pb	11.3	3.29	9.6	83
Al	2.7	6.02	3.45	54
Perspex (CH ₂ H ₃ O) _n	1.18	1.65	7.88	33.9
V	6.11	7.1	-0.382	-7.2
Polyethylene (CH ₂) _n	0.92	3.9	-0.84	-8.7
H ₂ O	1.0	3.34	-1.68	-14.7
Ti	4.54	5.6	-3.34	-48

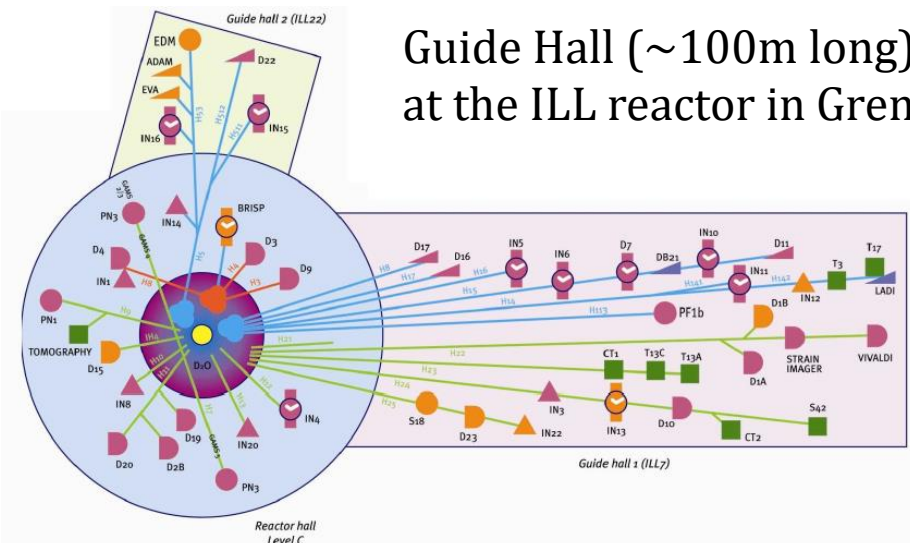
Application of neutron mirrors: neutron guides



“simply” evacuated rectangular pipes of nickel (or more fancy multilayer surfaces called supermirrors) to transport thermal and cold neutrons from the reactor core to instruments.

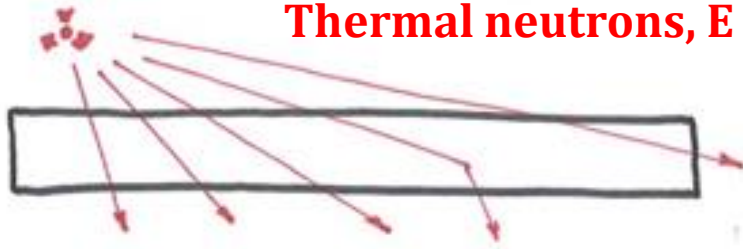


Guide Hall (~100m long)
at the ILL reactor in Grenoble

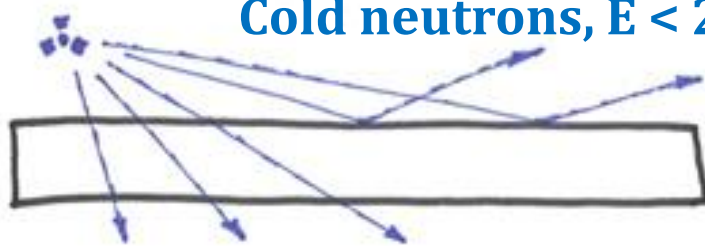


Ultracold neutrons

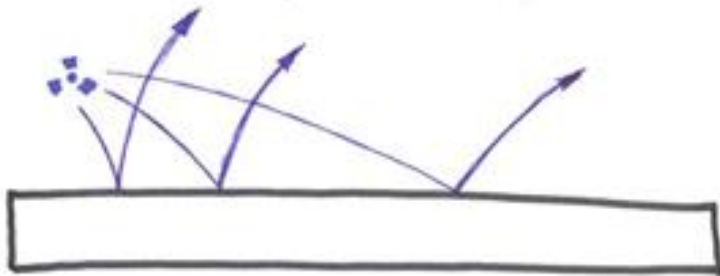
Thermal neutrons, $E = 25 \text{ meV}$



Cold neutrons, $E < 25 \text{ meV}$



Ultracold neutrons $E < 250 \text{ neV}$



Total reflection at all angles
(for suitable surfaces
such as nickel, steel, DLC, glass...)

Definition:

UCN = neutron with energy $< 250 \text{ neV}$
= **neutron storable in material chambers**

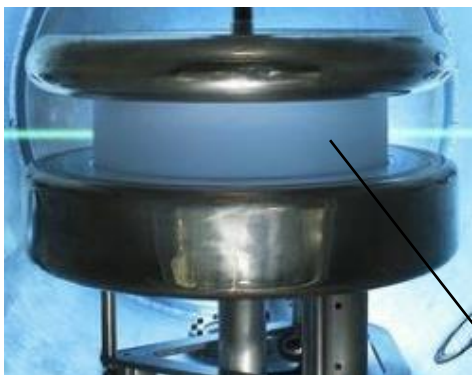
History:

- Predicted by Zeldovich in 1959
- Experimental realization in 1969
by two groups in Dubna and Munich.

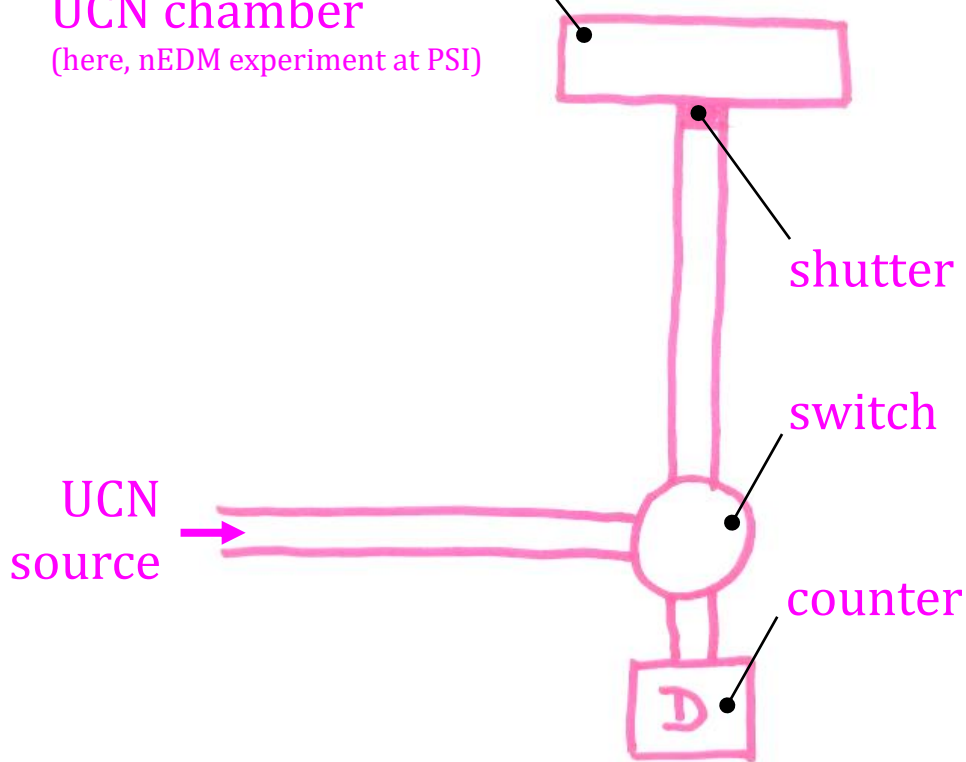
Properties:

- velocity $< 7 \text{ m/s}$
- wavelength $> 60 \text{ nm}$
- In Earth gravity : $1 \text{ cm} \leftrightarrow 1 \text{ neV}$

Storage of ultracold neutrons in chambers



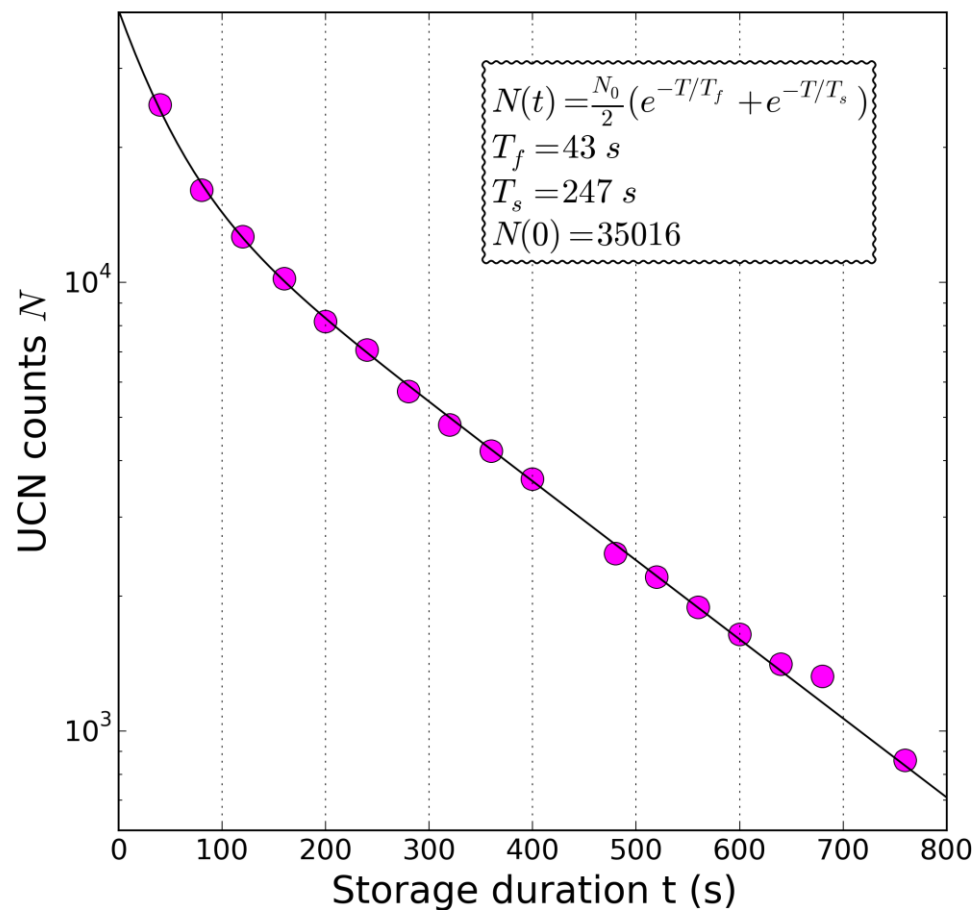
UCN chamber
(here, nEDM experiment at PSI)



Typical sequence:

1. Move switch to FILL position, Wait for neutrons.
2. Fill chamber for 30s, Close shutter.
3. Wait duration t . While waiting, Move switch to EMPTY
4. Open shutter, count neutrons for 30 s

Repeat,
change t



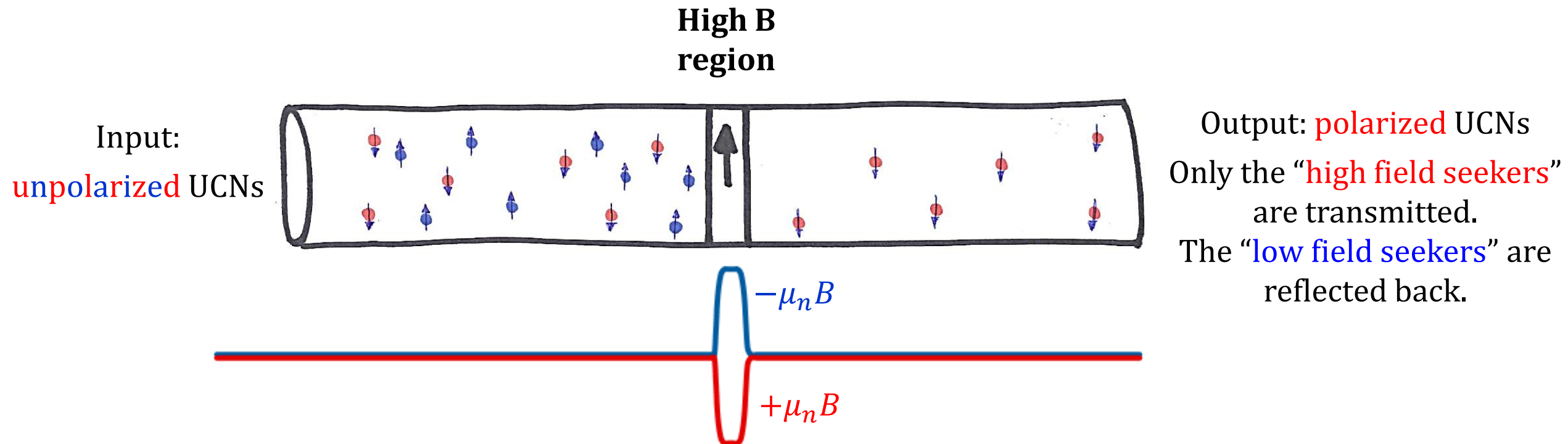
Outline of the nEDM lecture

1. nEDM: What, Why? How?
2. Neutron optics, ultracold neutrons
3. Manipulating neutron spin
4. Past, present and future experiments

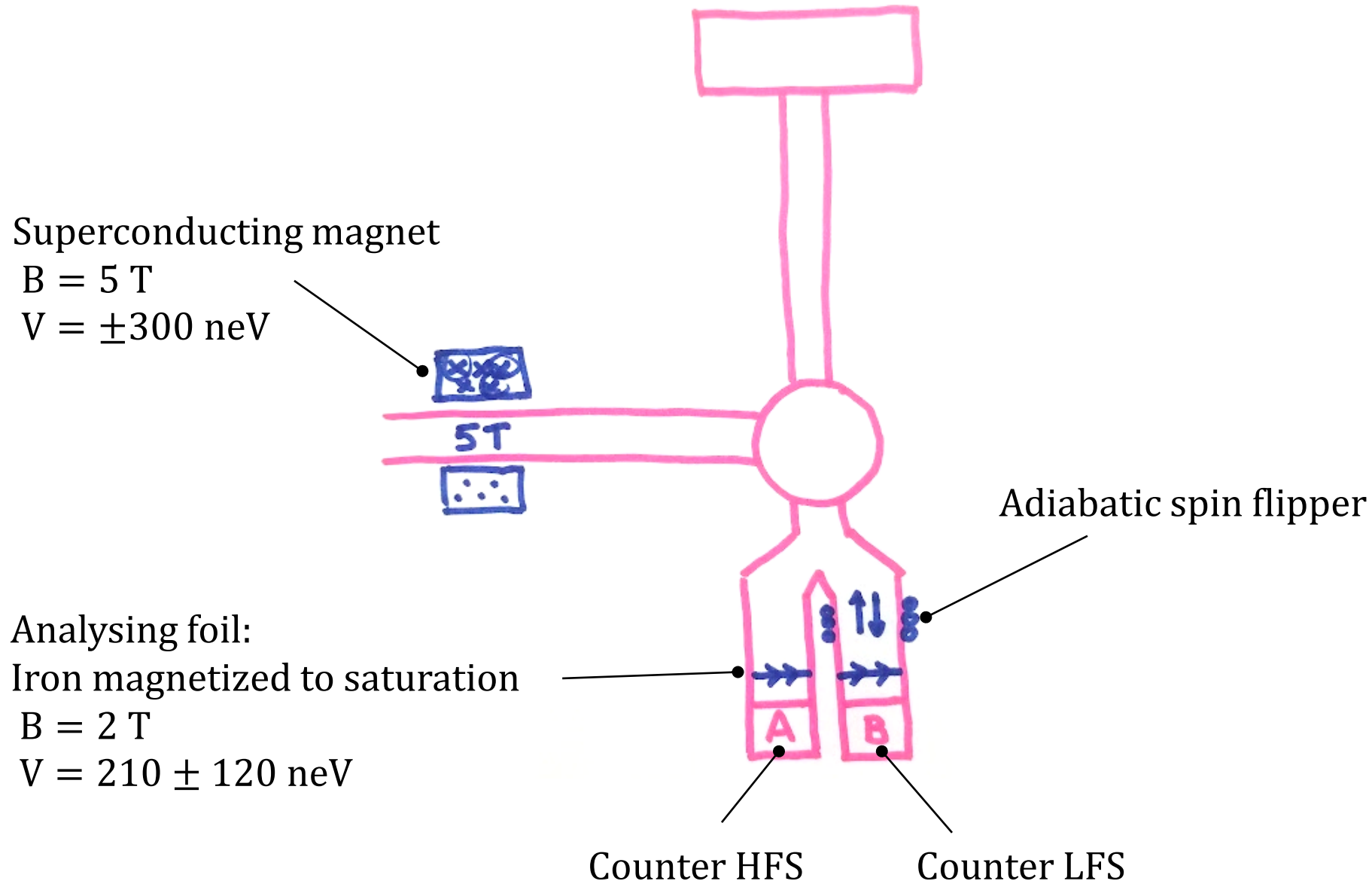
Basic principle to polarize / analyze UCNs

Recall the magnetic potential

$$\hat{H} = -\mu_n \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{B}$$
$$\mu_n = -60 \text{ neV/T}$$

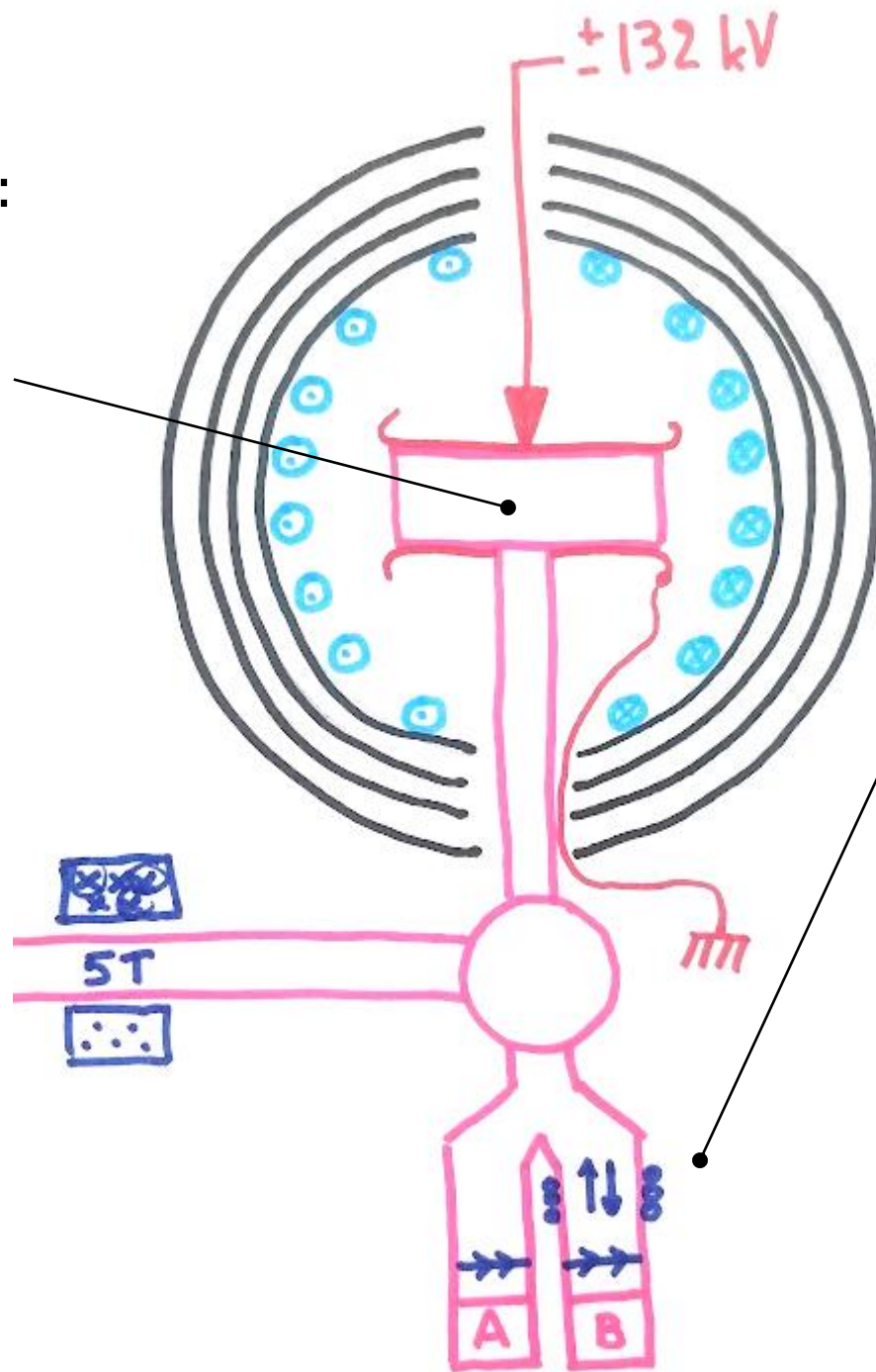


Polarizer - analyze scheme



At this stage of the story:

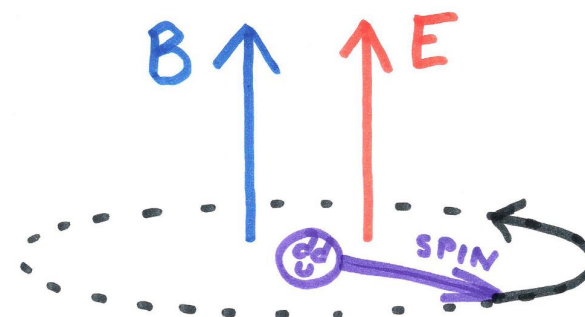
we get polarized ultracold neutrons exposed to vertical B and E fields there.



At the end, we can analyze the spin by counting

N_A and N_B

Now: how can we measure the Larmor frequency ??



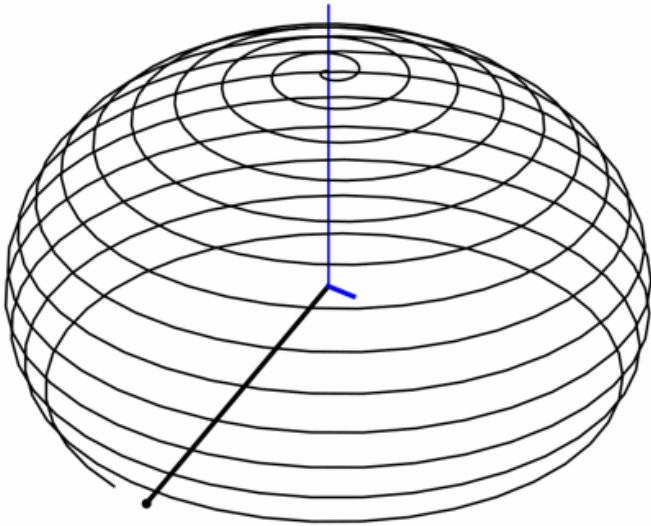
$$2\pi f = \frac{2\mu_n}{\hbar} B \pm \frac{2d_n}{\hbar} |E|$$

Rabi oscillation

Apply a rotating transverse field

$$\vec{B}(t) = B_0 \vec{e}_z + B_1 (\cos \omega t \vec{e}_x + \sin \omega t \vec{e}_y)$$

at resonance $\omega = \omega_0$



Bloch equation in the lab frame

$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{p} \times \vec{B}$$

Precession at the Larmor frequency

$$\frac{\omega_0}{2\pi} = \frac{\gamma B_0}{2\pi}$$

Nutation at the Rabi frequency

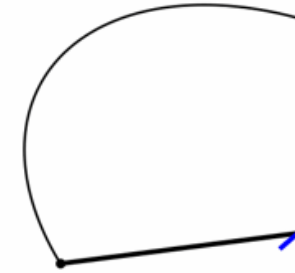
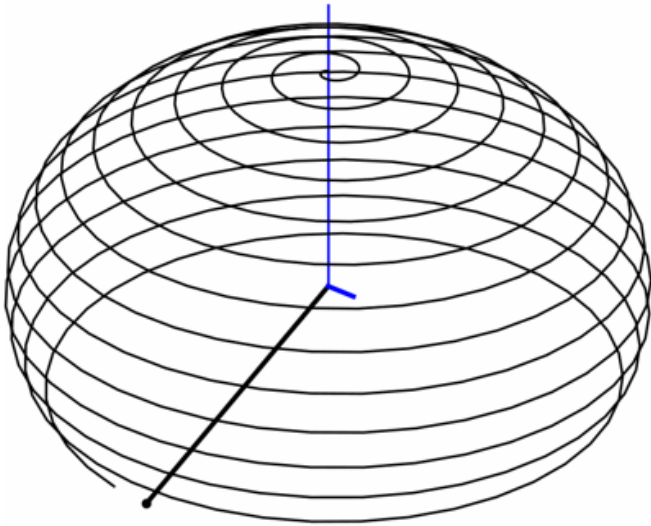
$$\frac{\Omega}{2\pi} = \frac{\gamma B_1}{2\pi}$$

**Formula for the out-of resonance case

$$\Omega^2 = (\gamma B_1)^2 + (\omega_0 - \omega)^2$$

Rabi oscillation

Apply a rotating transverse field
 $\vec{B}(t) = B_0 \vec{e}_z + B_1 (\cos \omega t \vec{e}_x + \sin \omega t \vec{e}_y)$
at resonance $\omega = \omega_0$



Bloch equation in the lab frame

$$\frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{p} \times \vec{B}$$

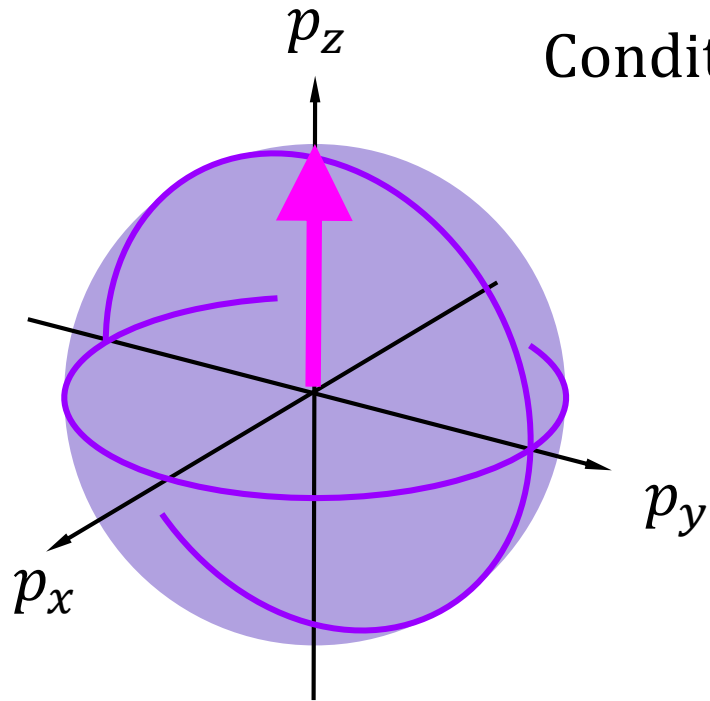
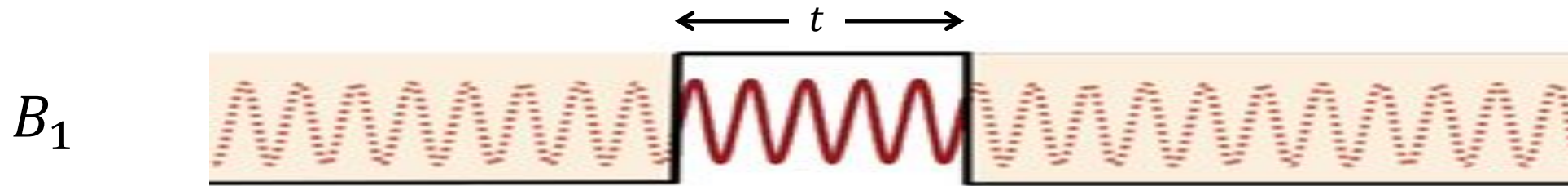
Bloch equation in the rotating frame

$$\frac{d\vec{p}'}{dt} = \gamma \vec{p}' \times \left(\vec{B}' - \frac{\vec{\omega}}{\gamma} \right)$$

$$\vec{B}'(t) = B_0 \vec{e}_z + B_1 \vec{e}_x'$$

Inertial field

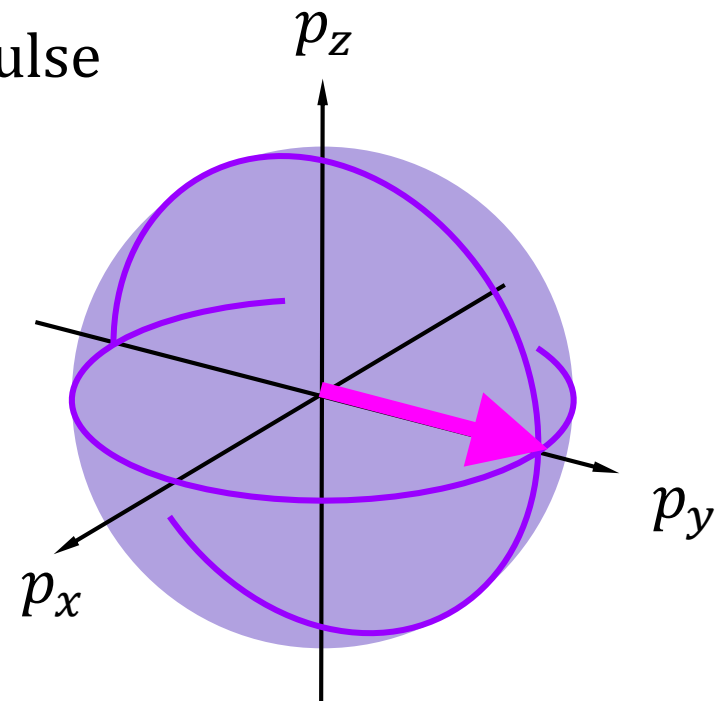
The $\pi/2$ pulse



Before pulse

Condition for $\pi/2$ pulse

$$\gamma B_1 t = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

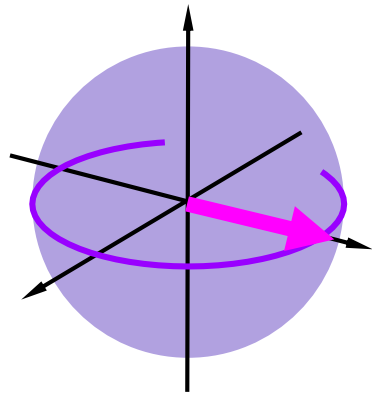


After pulse
In the rotating frame

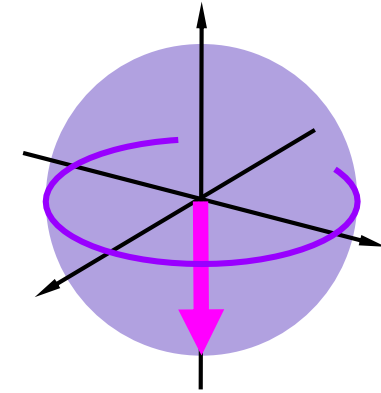
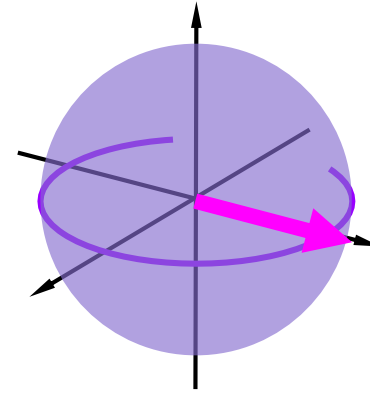
Ramsey's method of separated oscillating fields



At resonance
 $\omega = \omega_0$

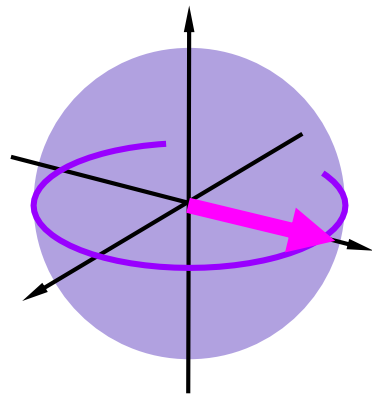


No precession in
the rotating frame

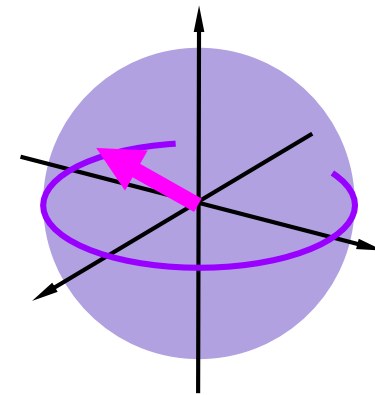
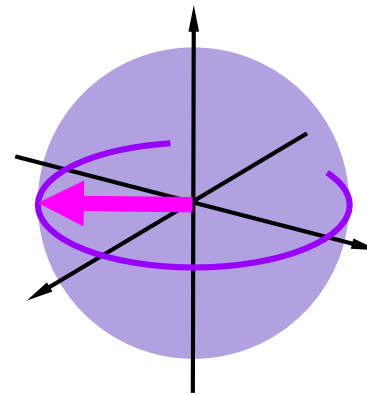


π Flip!

Out of resonance
 $\omega \neq \omega_0$



finite precession
in the rotating
frame



Not π Flip!

Ramsey's method of separated oscillating fields

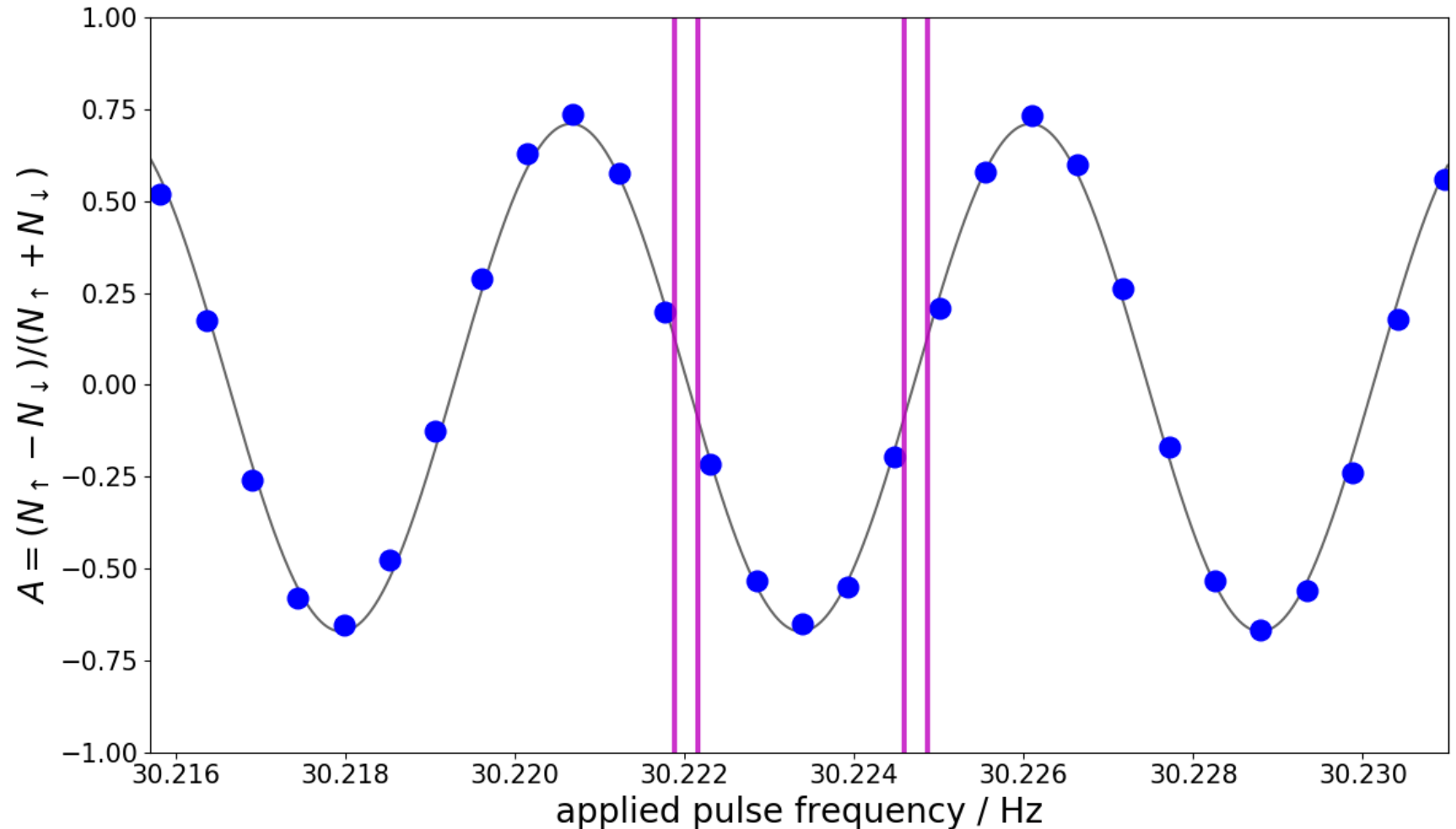
$$A = -\alpha \cos\left(\pi \frac{f_{\text{RF}} - f_n}{\Delta\nu}\right) \quad \frac{1}{\Delta\nu} = 2T + 8t/\pi$$

Ramsey scan
measured with the
nEDM apparatus at
PSI in 2017

$$T = 180 \text{ s}$$

$$t = 2 \text{ s}$$

$$B_0 \approx 1 \mu\text{T}$$
$$f_n = \frac{\gamma B_0}{2\pi} \approx 30 \text{ Hz}$$



From UCN counts to EDM

$$A = -\alpha \cos\left(\pi \frac{(f_{\text{RF}} - f_n)}{\Delta\nu}\right) \rightarrow f_n = f_{\text{RF}} \mp \frac{\Delta\nu}{\pi} \arccos\left(\frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{\alpha N_{\text{tot}}}\right)$$

$$f_n = \left|\frac{\gamma B_0}{2\pi}\right| \mp \frac{d_n}{\pi\hbar} |E|$$

Exercise :

propagate the statistical errors from UCN counts to EDM

$$\text{Solution: } \sigma d_n = \frac{\hbar}{2 \alpha E T \sqrt{N}} \quad (\text{statistical error per cycle})$$

In the real life $\alpha < 1$, why?

The “visibility” or “contrast” of the Ramsey resonance

$$\alpha(T) = \alpha_0 \times 1 \times \frac{\alpha(T)}{\alpha_0}$$

α_0 analyzing power of the detection system
 $\alpha_0 = 0.86$ in the nEDM experiment

Depolarization during UCN storage

Loss of polarization during UCN transport negligible
If adiabaticity condition fulfilled

Depolarization during storage, simplified

Simplified case: consider a group of monoenergetic UCNs

$$\frac{\alpha(T)}{\alpha_0} = \exp\left(-\frac{T}{T_2}\right) \quad \frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{1}{T_{2,\text{wall}}} + \frac{1}{T_{2,\text{mag}}}$$

Depolarization due to wall collisions

$$\frac{1}{T_{2,\text{wall}}} = \nu \beta$$

Rate of wall collisions
 $\approx 50/\text{s}$

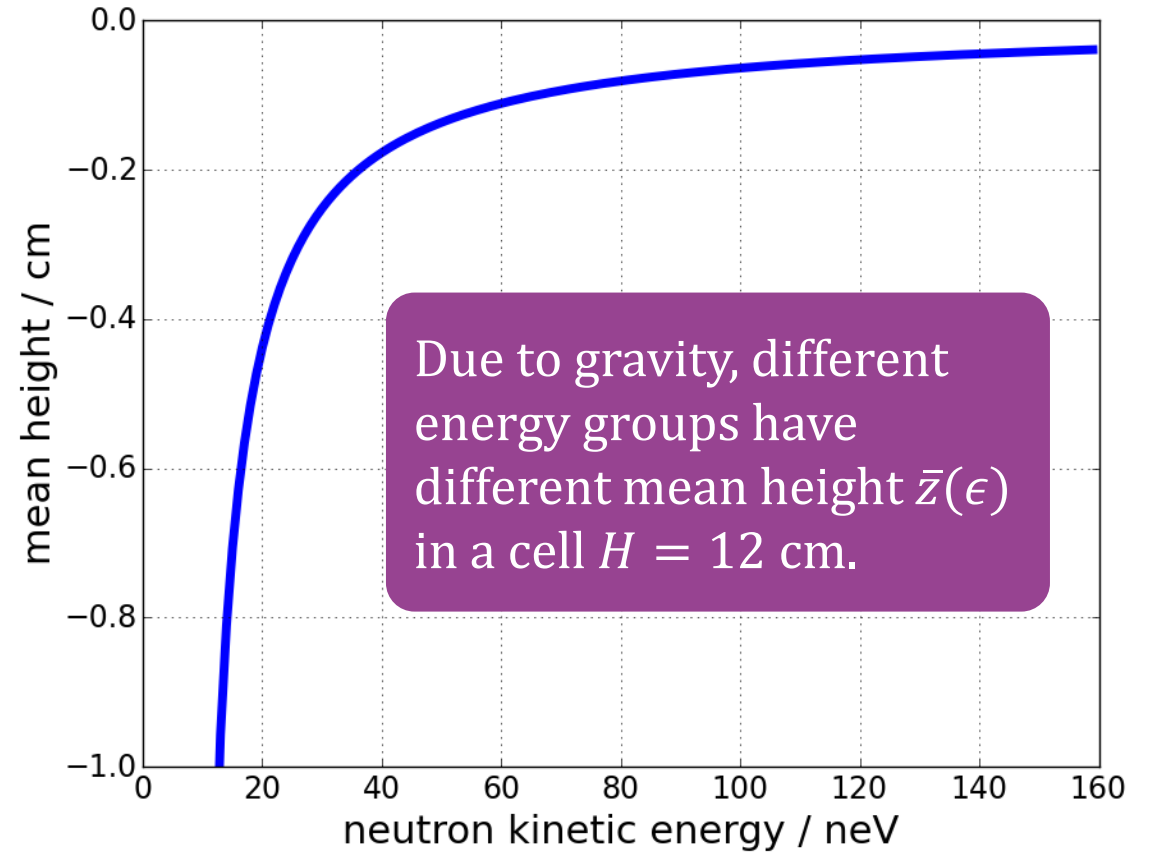
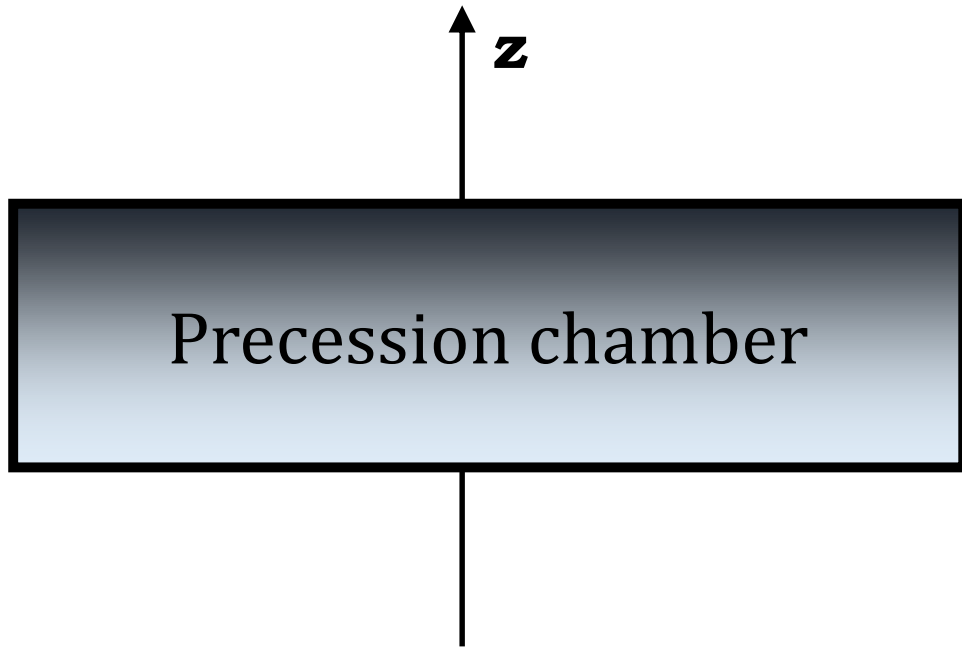
Depolarization probability
 $\approx 3 \times 10^{-6}$

Intrinsic depolarization due to magnetic gradients

$$\frac{1}{T_{2,\text{mag}}} = \gamma^2 \int_0^\infty \langle B_z(t) B_z(t + \tau) \rangle d\tau$$

Autocorrelation function of the field

Gravitationally enhanced depolarization



Phase for the group of energy ϵ

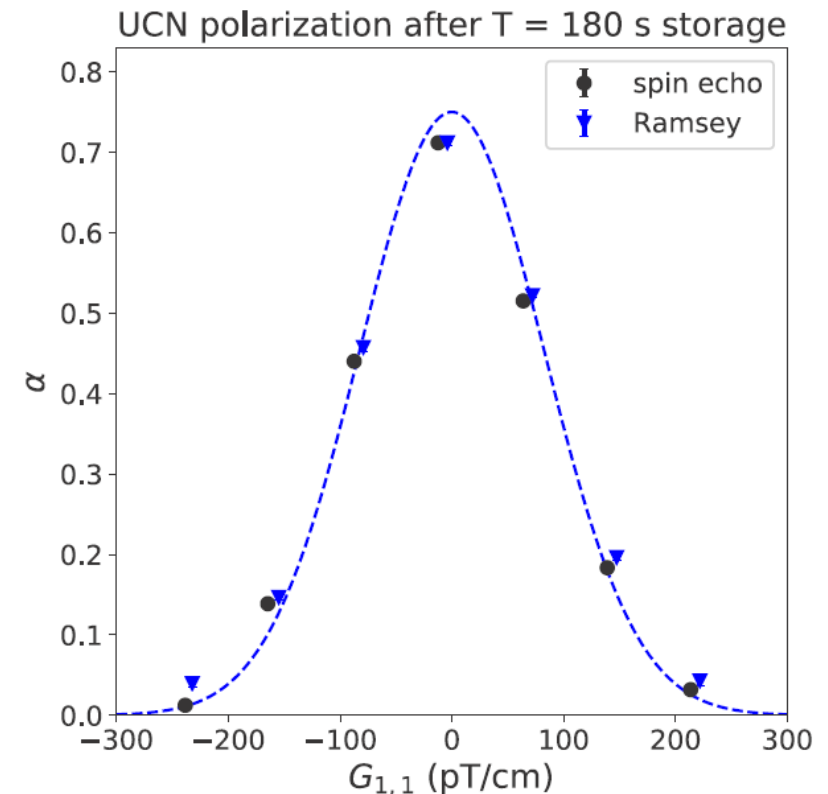
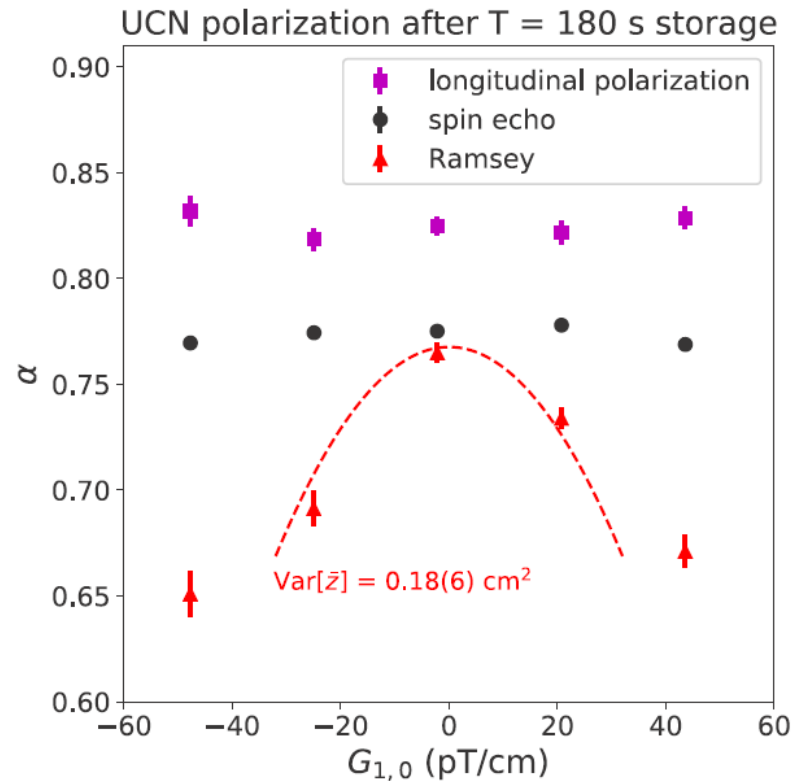
$$\varphi(\epsilon) = \gamma_n G (\bar{z}(\epsilon) - \langle z \rangle) T$$

Vertical field gradient

UCN depolarization: complete picture

$$\alpha(T) = \alpha_0 \int n(\epsilon) d\epsilon \exp\left(-\frac{T}{T_2(\epsilon)}\right) \cos(\gamma_n G(\bar{z}(\epsilon) - \langle z \rangle) T)$$

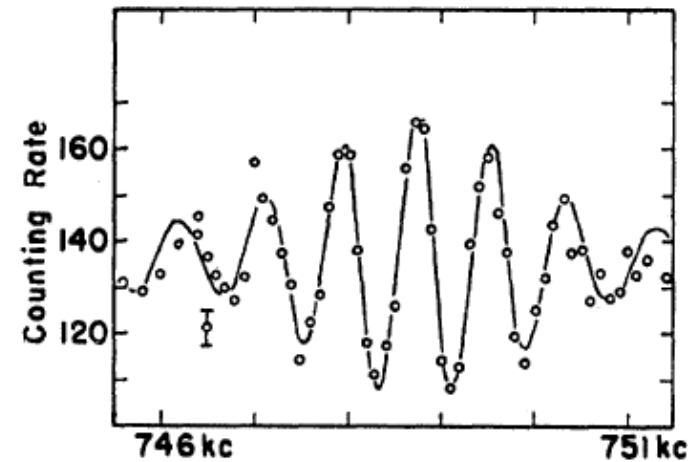
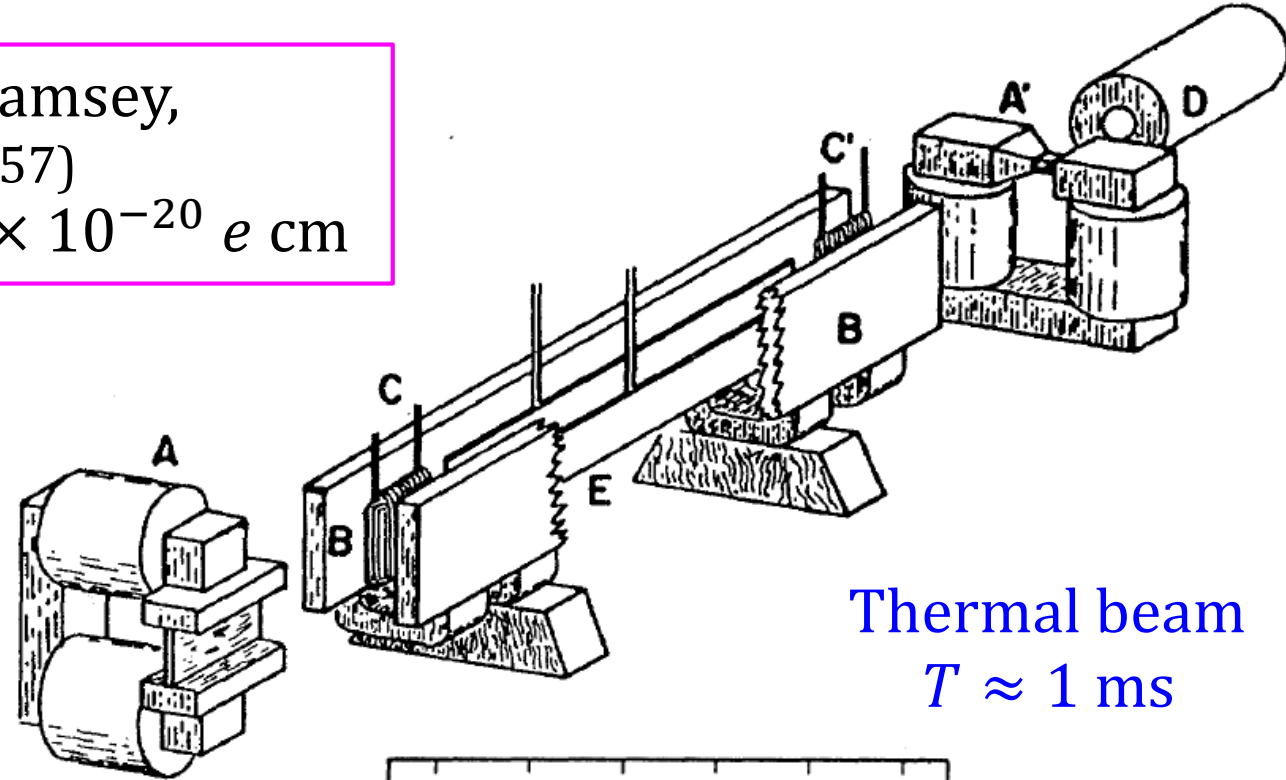
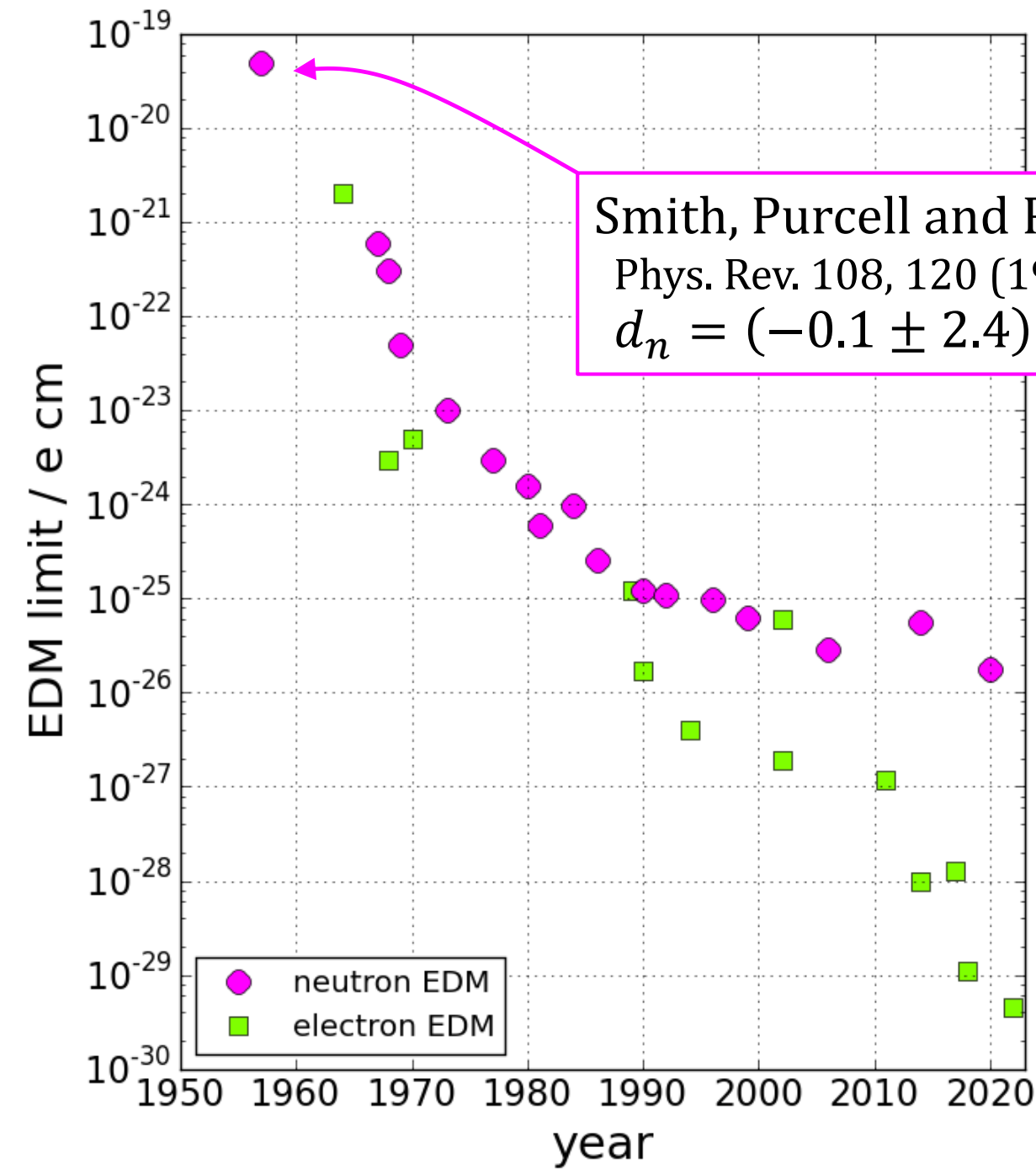
For details see
**Magnetic-field uniformity in neutron
electric-dipole-moment experiments**
Phys. Rev.A **99**, 042112 (2019)



Outline of the nEDM lecture

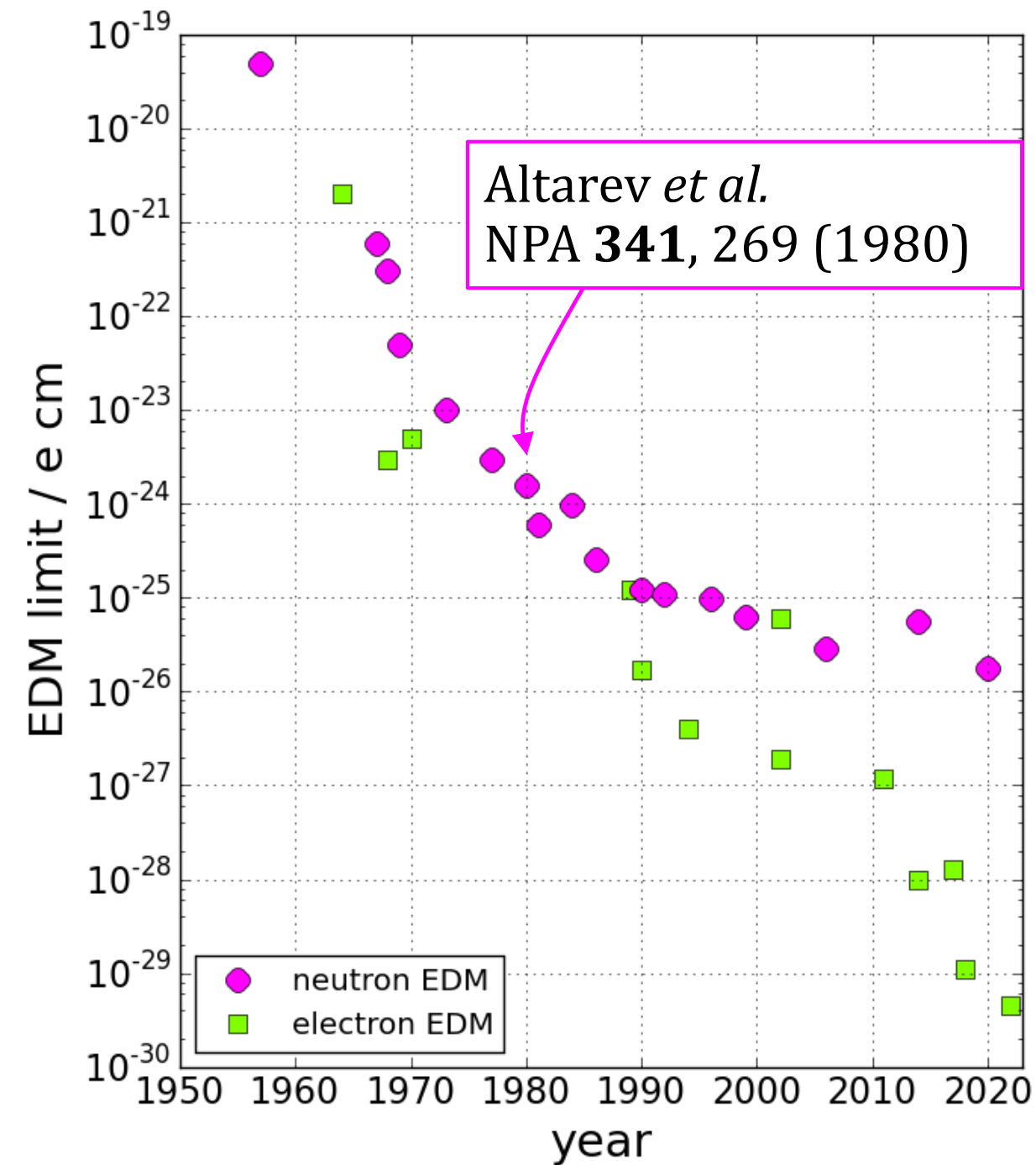
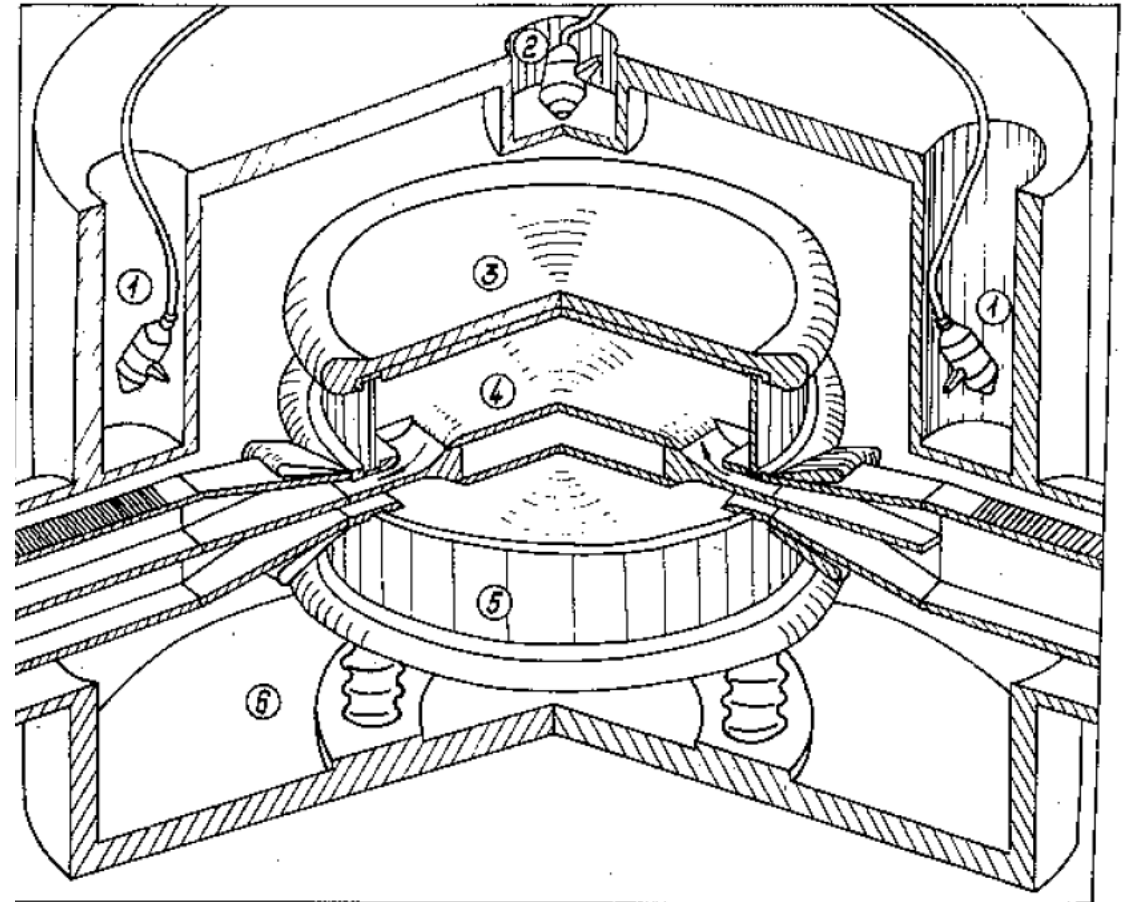
1. nEDM: What, Why? How?
2. Neutron optics, ultracold neutrons
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First nEDM experiment



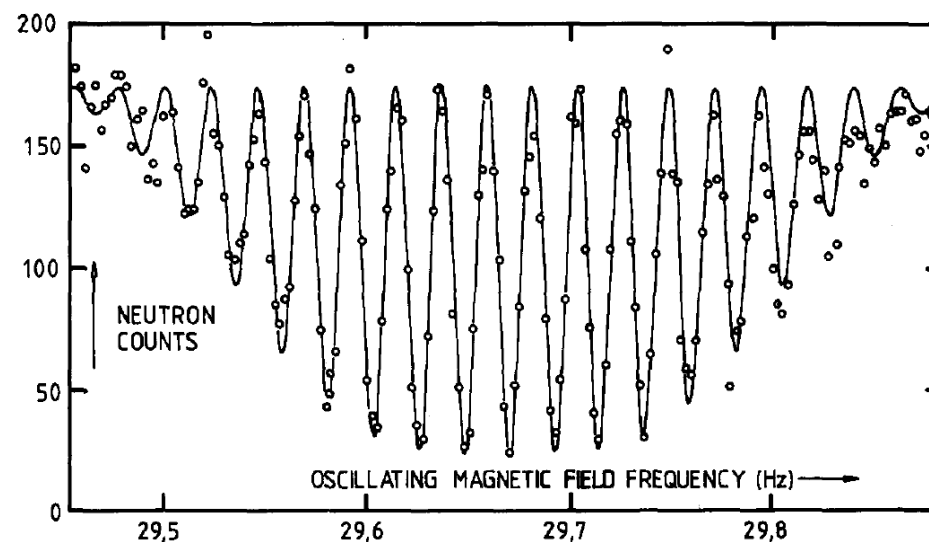
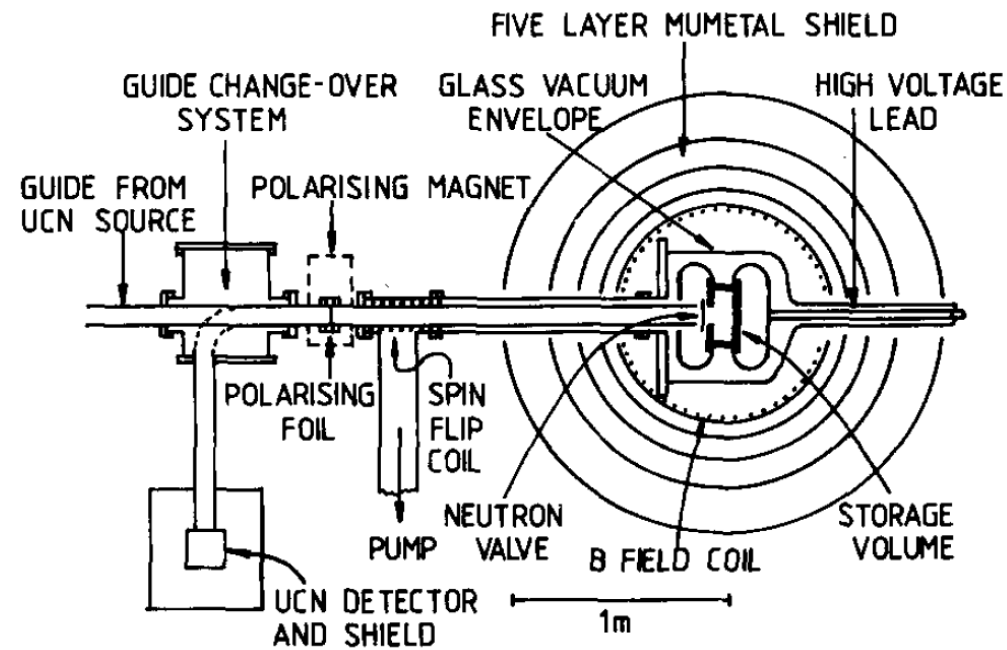
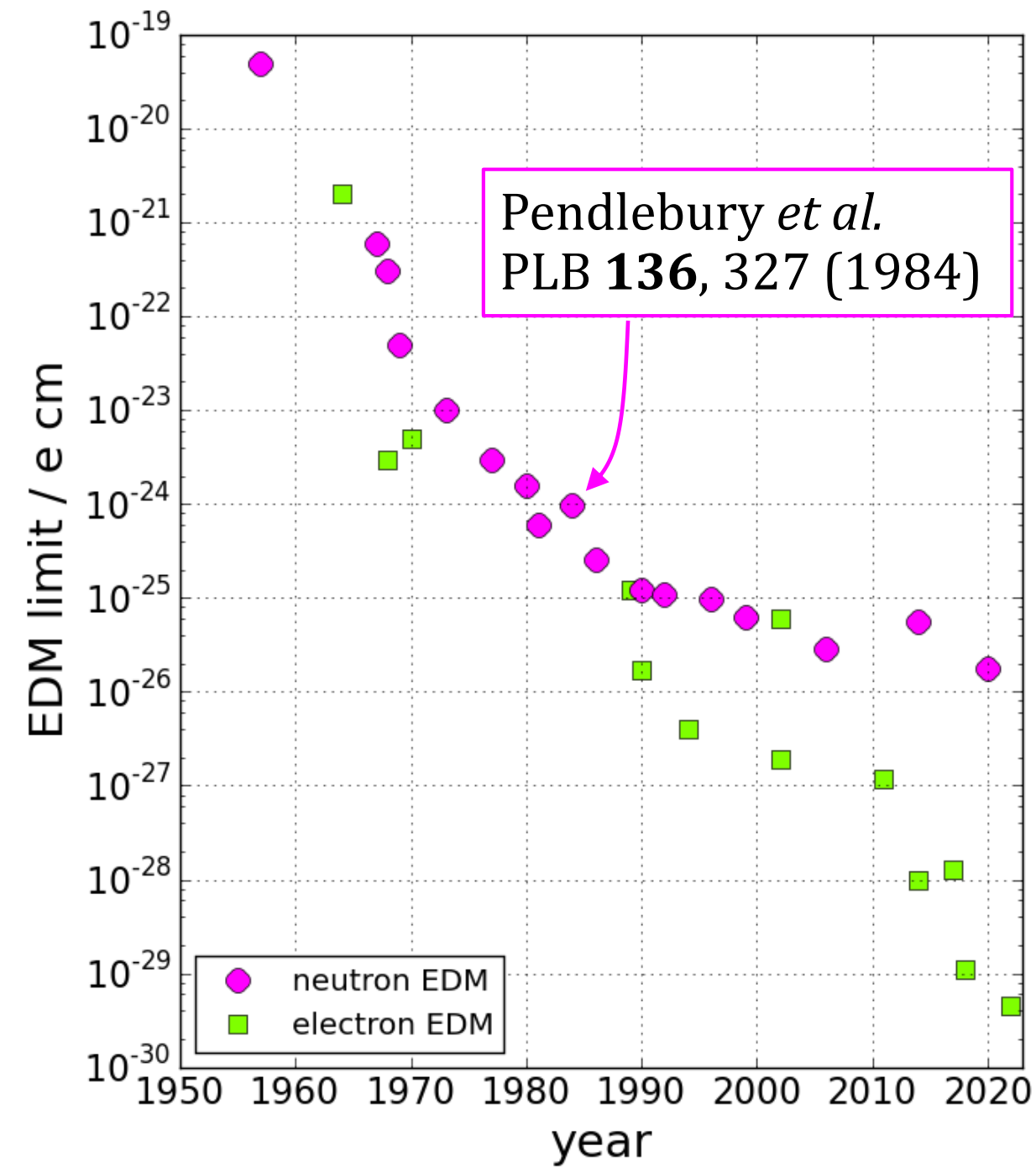
First UCN nEDM experiment

UCN flow through,
double chamber, $T \approx 5$ s

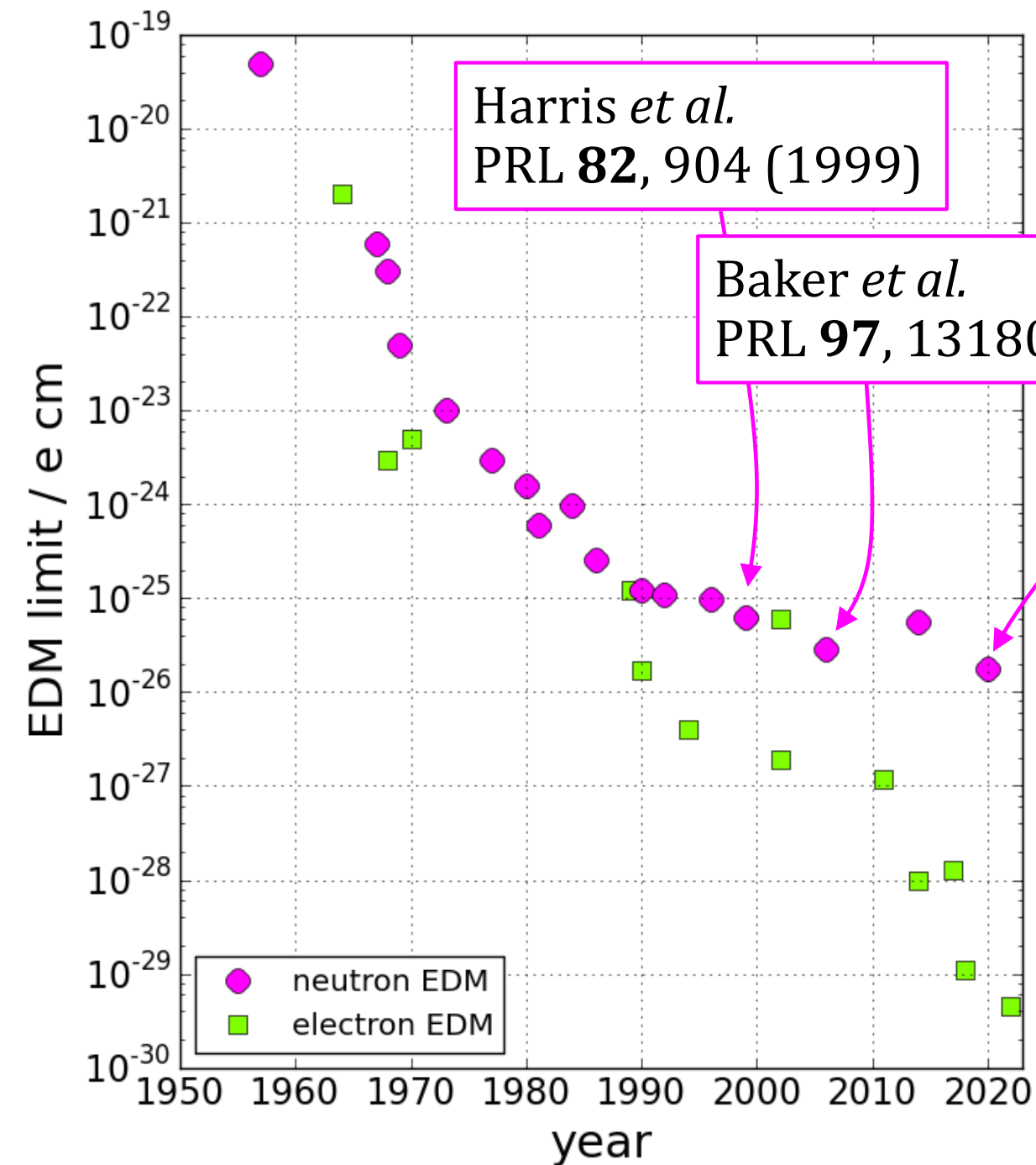


Stored UCNs

$T = 60$ s



Hg co-magnetometry



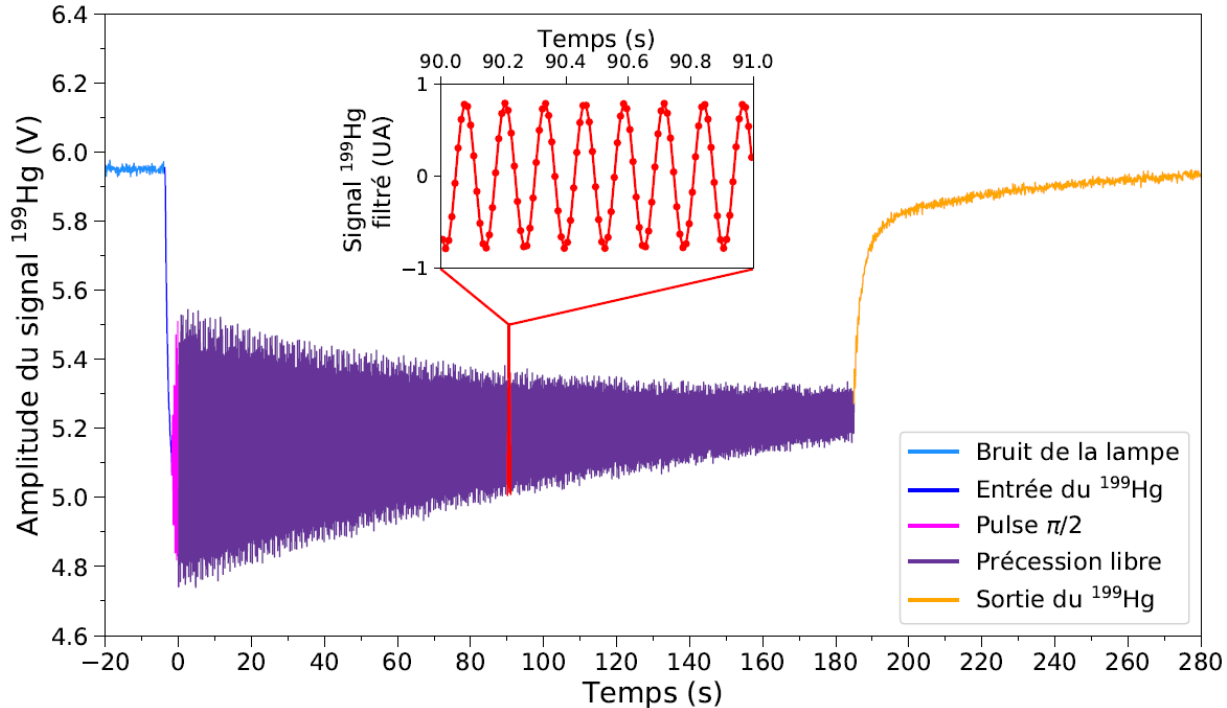
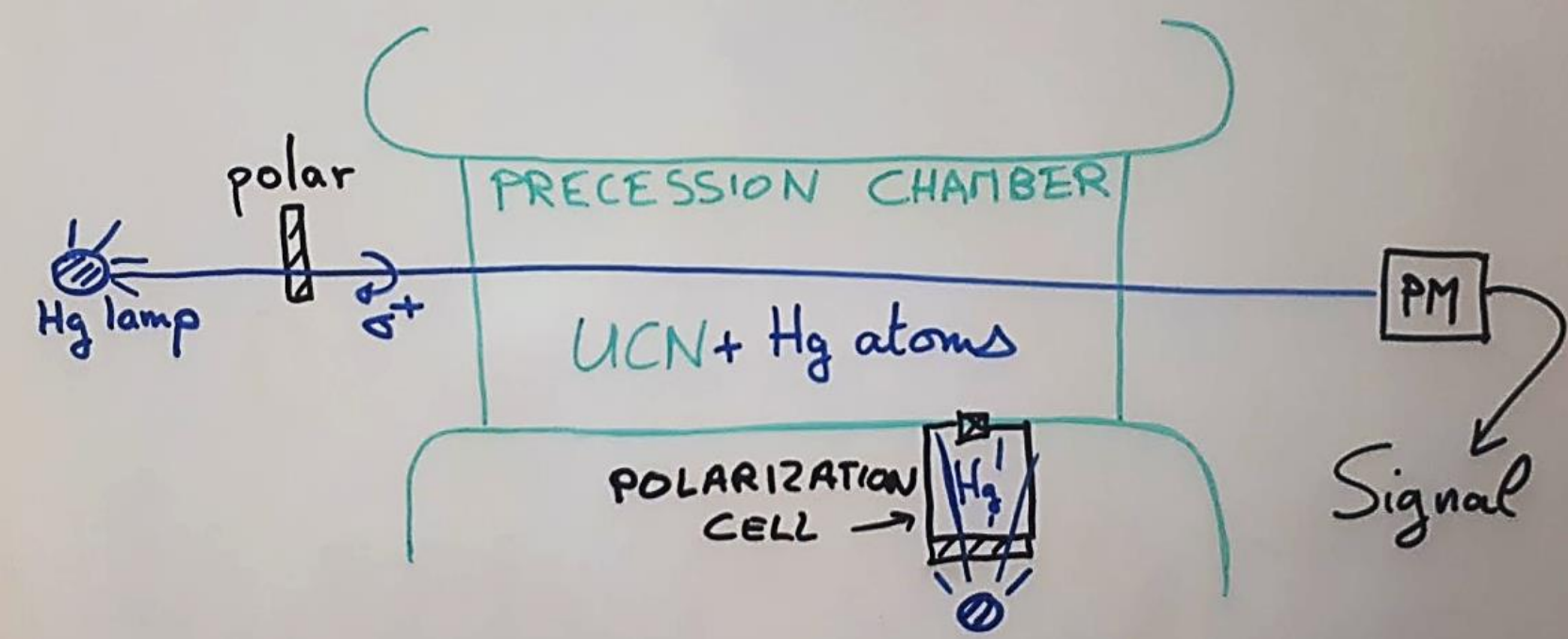
Abel *et al.*
PRL **124**, 081803 (2020)

Basic principle of co-magnetometry:
2 species in the same volume
to measure simultaneously

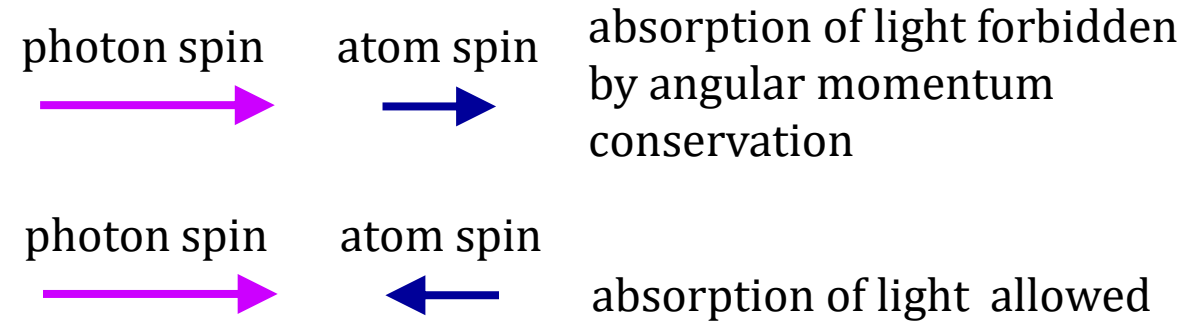
$$f_n = \frac{\gamma_n}{2\pi} B \mp \frac{d_n}{\pi\hbar} E$$

$$f_{\text{Hg}} = \frac{\gamma_{\text{Hg}}}{2\pi} B$$

Atomic comagnetometry with ^{199}Hg



Principle of **optical reading** of the precession:





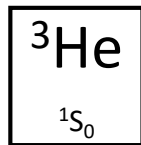
Guess who is the best atom?

1 H $2s_{1/2}$																	2 He $1s_0$				
3 Li $2s_{1/2}$	4 Be $1s_0$															5 B $2p_{1/2}$	6 C $3p_0$	7 N $4s_{3/2}$	8 O $3p_2$	9 F $2p_{3/2}$	10 Ne $1s_0$
11 Na $2s_{1/2}$	12 Mg $1s_0$															13 Al $2p_{1/2}$	14 Si $3p_0$	15 P $4s_{3/2}$	16 S $3p_2$	17 Cl $2p_{3/2}$	18 Ar $1s_0$
19 K $2s_{1/2}$	20 Ca $1s_0$	21 Sc $2d_{3/2}$	22 Ti $3f_2$	23 V $4f_{3/2}$	24 Cr $7s_3$	25 Mn $6s_{5/2}$	26 Fe $5d_4$	27 Co $4f_{9/2}$	28 Ni $3f_4$	29 Cu $2s_{1/2}$	30 Zn $1s_0$	31 Ga $2p_{1/2}$	32 Ge $3p_0$	33 As $4s_{3/2}$	34 Se $3p_2$	35 Br $2p_{3/2}$	36 Kr $1s_0$				
37 Rb $2s_{1/2}$	38 Sr $1s_0$	39 Y $2d_{3/2}$	40 Zr $3f_2$	41 Nb $6d_{1/2}$	42 Mo $7s_3$	43 Tc $6s_{5/2}$	44 Ru $5f_5$	45 Rh $4f_{9/2}$	46 Pd $1s_0$	47 Ag $2s_{1/2}$	48 Cd $1s_0$	49 In $2p_{1/2}$	50 Sn $3p_0$	51 Sb $4s_{3/2}$	52 Te $3p_2$	53 I $2p_{3/2}$	54 Xe $1s_0$				
55 Cs $2s_{1/2}$	56 Ba $1s_0$	71 Lu $2d_{3/2}$	72 Hf $3f_2$	73 Ta $4f_{3/2}$	74 W $5d_0$	75 Re $6s_{5/2}$	76 Os $5d_4$	77 Ir $4f_{9/2}$	78 Pt $3d_3$	79 Au $2s_{1/2}$	80 Hg $1s_0$	81 Tl $2p_{1/2}$	82 Pb $3p_0$	83 Bi $4s_{3/2}$	84 Po $3p_2$	85 At $2p_{3/2}$	86 Rn $1s_0$				
57 La $2d_{3/2}$	58 Ce $1g_4$	59 Pr $4l_{9/2}$	60 Nd $5l_4$	61 Pm $6h_{5/2}$	62 Sm $7f_0$	63 Eu $8s_{7/2}$	64 Gd $9d_2$	65 Tb $6h_{15/2}$	66 Dy $5l_8$	67 Ho $4l_{15/2}$	68 Er $3h_6$	69 Tm $2f_{7/2}$	70 Yb $1s_0$								



- We want a diamagnetic atom $J = 0$ (*)
- We want a stable isotope, nuclear spin $1/2$

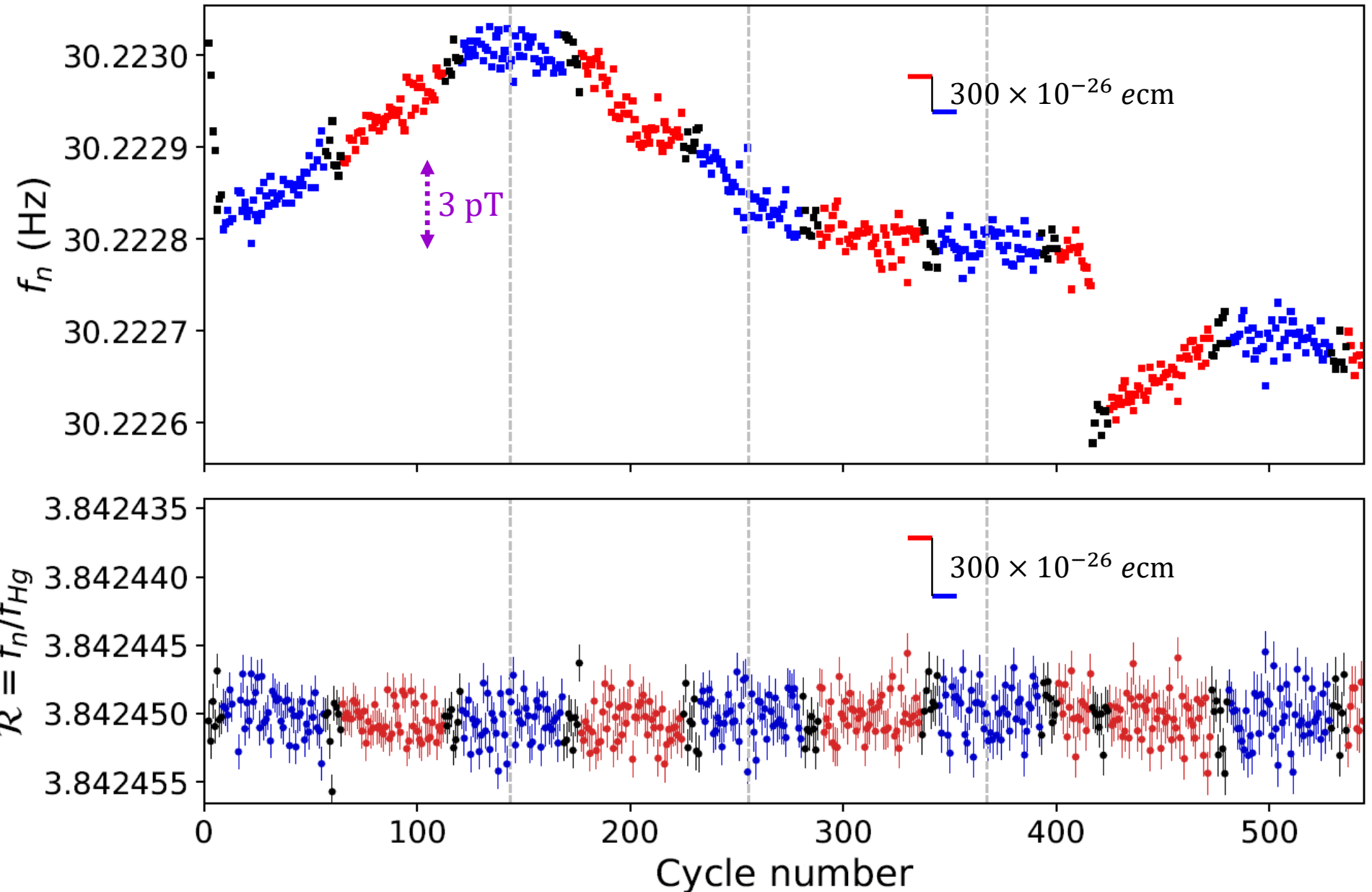
Spin 0 excluded (absence of magnetic moment, no precession).
Spins larger than $1/2$ not great, complications due to the existence of electric quadrupole.



^5B $2p_{1/2}$	^{13}C $3p_0$	^7N $4s_{3/2}$	^8O $3p_2$	^9F $2p_{3/2}$	^{10}Ne $1s_0$												
^{13}Al $2p_{1/2}$	^{29}Si $3p_0$	^{15}P $4s_{3/2}$	^{16}S $3p_2$	^{17}Cl $2p_{3/2}$	^{18}Ar $1s_0$												
^{19}K $2s_{1/2}$	^{20}Ca $1s_0$	^{21}Sc $2d_{3/2}$	^{22}Ti $3f_2$	^{23}V $4f_{3/2}$	^{24}Cr $7s_3$	^{25}Mn $6s_{5/2}$	^{26}Fe $5d_4$	^{27}Co $4f_{9/2}$	^{28}Ni $3f_4$	^{29}Cu $2s_{1/2}$	^{30}Zn $1s_0$	^{31}Ga $2p_{1/2}$	^{32}Ge $3p_0$	^{33}As $4s_{3/2}$	^{34}Se $3p_2$	^{35}Br $2p_{3/2}$	^{36}Kr $1s_0$
^{37}Rb $2s_{1/2}$	^{38}Sr $1s_0$	^{39}Y $2d_{3/2}$	^{40}Zr $3f_2$	^{41}Nb $6d_{1/2}$	^{42}Mo $7s_3$	^{43}Tc $6s_{5/2}$	^{44}Ru $5f_5$	^{45}Rh $4f_{9/2}$	^{46}Pd $1s_0$	^{47}Ag $2s_{1/2}$	^{111}Cd $1s_0$	^{49}In $2p_{1/2}$	^{119}Sn $3p_0$	^{51}Sb $4s_{3/2}$	^{52}Te $3p_2$	^{53}I $2p_{3/2}$	^{129}Xe $1s_0$
^{55}Cs $2s_{1/2}$	^{56}Ba $1s_0$	^{71}Lu $2d_{3/2}$	^{72}Hf $3f_2$	^{73}Ta $4f_{3/2}$	^{74}W $5d_0$	^{75}Re $6s_{5/2}$	^{76}Os $5d_4$	^{77}Ir $4f_{9/2}$	^{78}Pt $3d_3$	^{79}Au $2s_{1/2}$	^{199}Hg $1s_0$	^{81}Tl $2p_{1/2}$	^{207}Pb $3p_0$	^{83}Bi $4s_{3/2}$	^{84}Po $3p_2$	^{85}At $2p_{3/2}$	^{86}Rn $1s_0$

^{57}La $2d_{3/2}$	^{58}Ce $1g_4$	^{59}Pr $4i_{9/2}$	^{60}Nd $5i_4$	^{61}Pm $6h_{5/2}$	^{62}Sm $7f_0$	^{63}Eu $8s_{7/2}$	^{64}Gd $9d_2$	^{65}Tb $6h_{15/2}$	^{66}Dy $5i_8$	^{67}Ho $4i_{15/2}$	^{68}Er $3h_6$	^{68}Tm $2f_{7/2}$	^{171}Yb $1s_0$
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A sequence of cycles (nEDM data 2015-2016)



Magnetic fluctuations (random and correlated with E) are corrected for at each cycle with the Hg magnetometer by measuring

$$f_{\text{Hg}} = \frac{\gamma_{\text{Hg}} B}{2\pi}$$



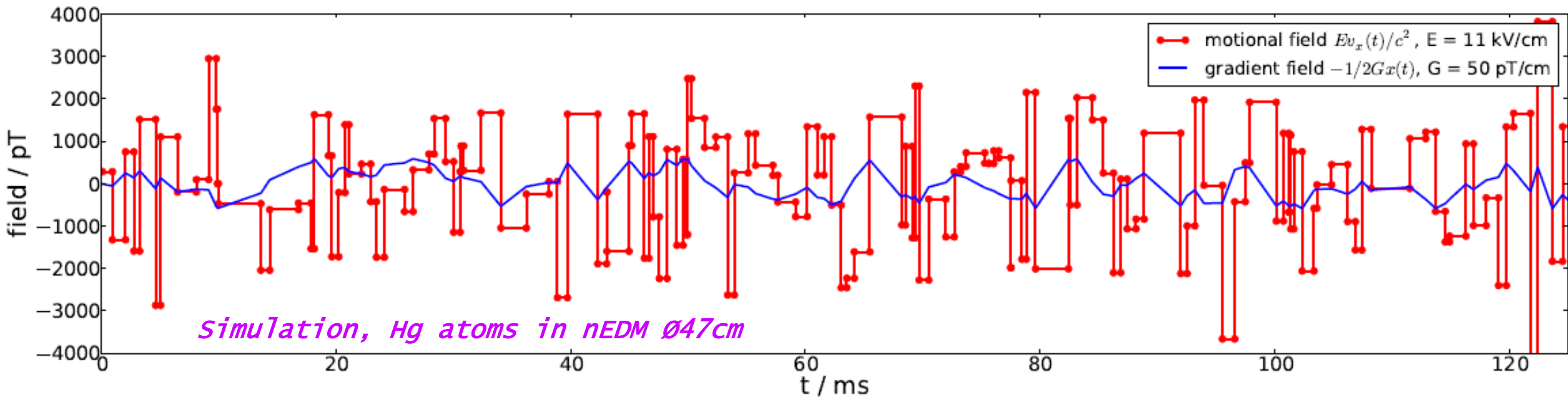
The co-magnetometer problem: $E\mathbf{v}/c^2$

Transverse “noise” on
a mercury atom
in random motion

Nonuniform field

relativistic motional field

$$b(t) = \left(\vec{B}(t) + \frac{1}{c^2} \vec{E} \times \vec{v}(t) \right) \cdot (\vec{e}_x + i\vec{e}_y)$$



False EDM (low frequency limit):

$$d_{n\leftarrow\text{Hg}}^{\text{false}} = -\frac{\hbar|\gamma_n\gamma_{\text{Hg}}|}{2c^2} \langle x\mathbf{B}_x + y\mathbf{B}_y \rangle$$

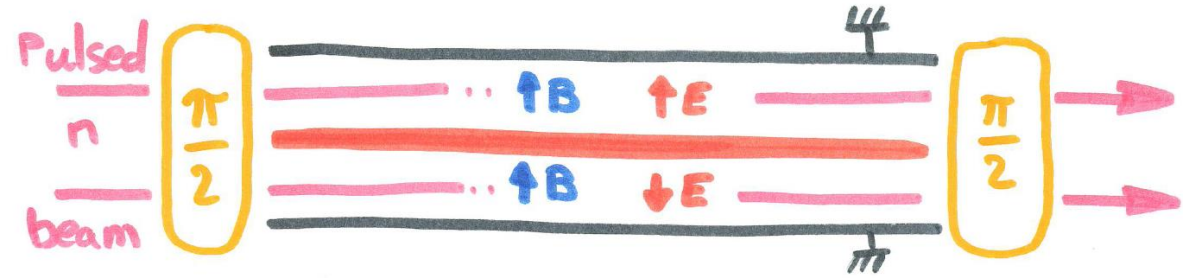
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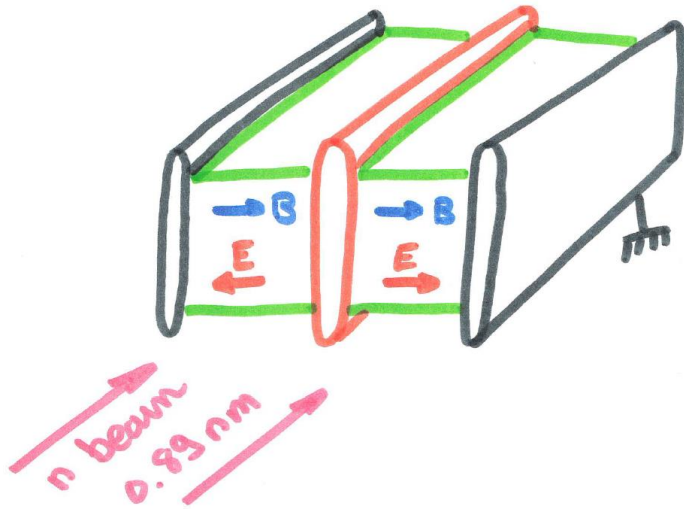
Next generation nEDM experiments

Topics discussed at the
nEDM2021 workshop

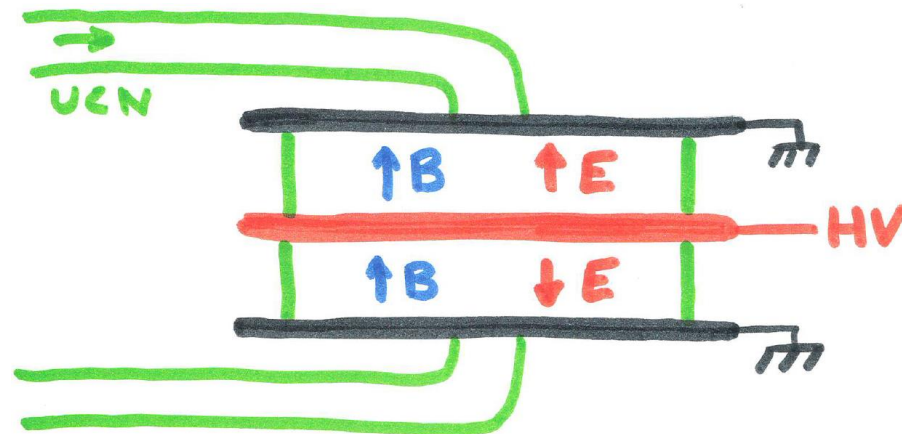
Revival of nEDM with a neutron beam



nEDM in superfluid helium

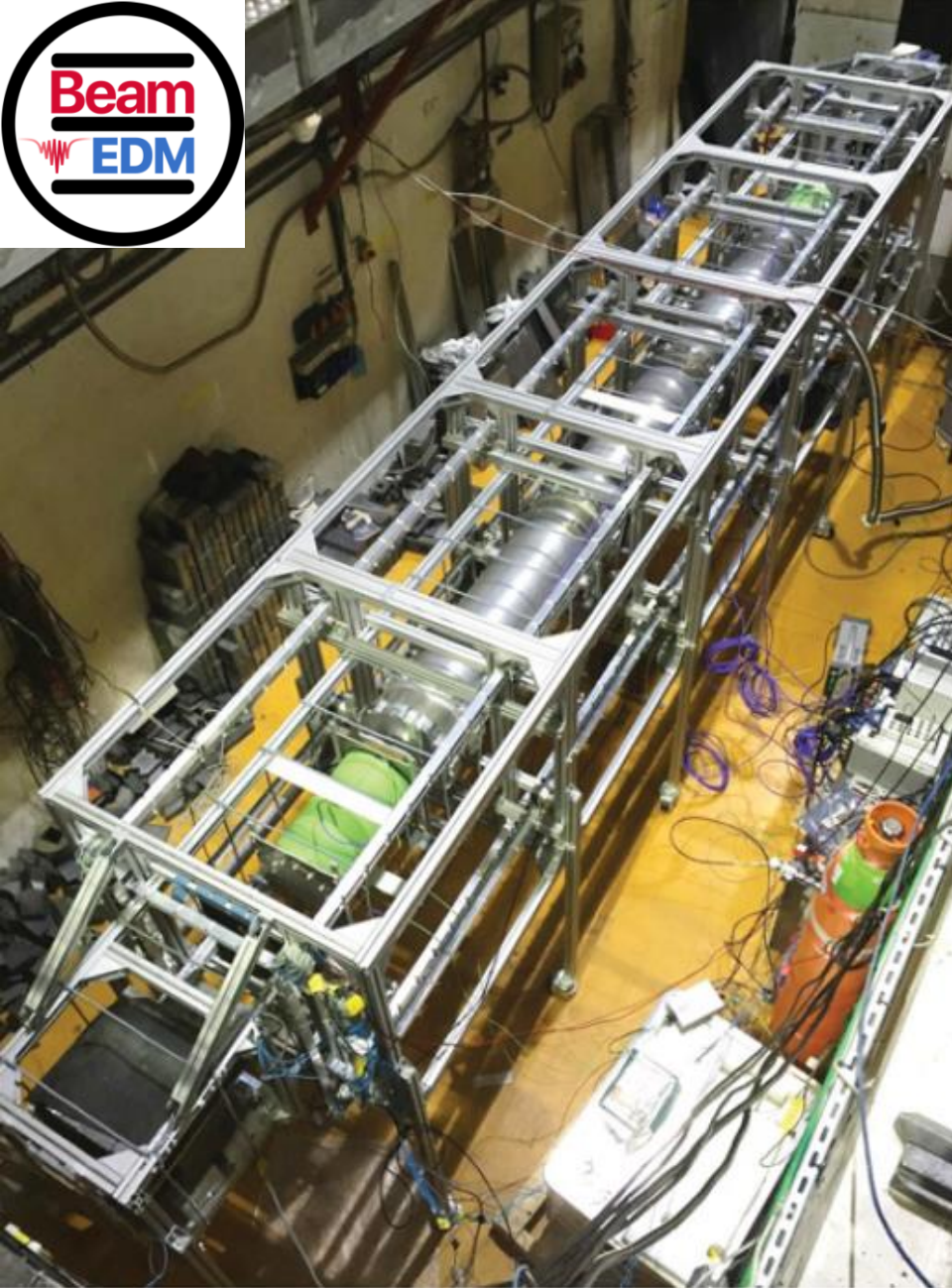


Double-chamber UCN @room temperature



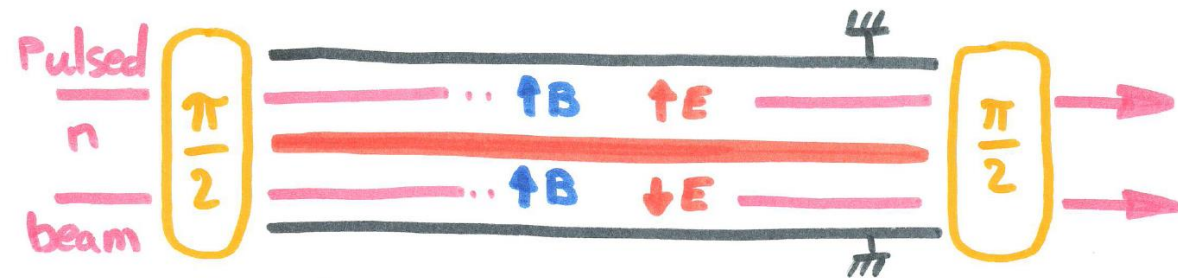


BeamEDM project



4 m long apparatus at ILL

Revival of nEDM with a neutron beam

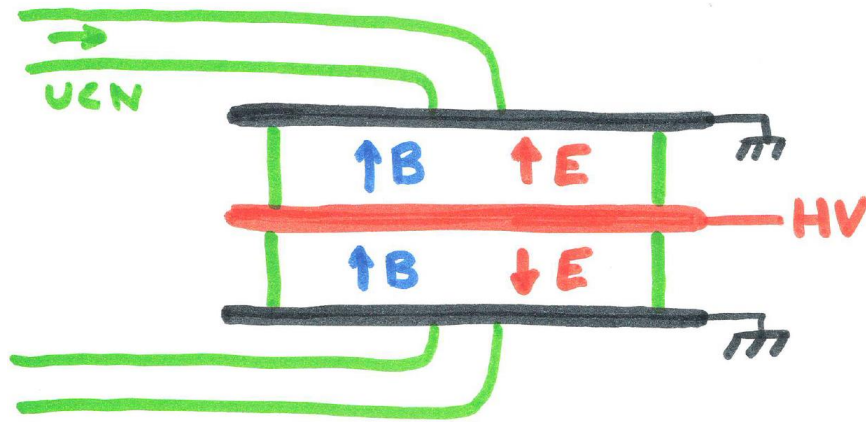


- Proof of principle measurements have been performed at the PSI, and at the ILL in Grenoble.
- Projected sensitivity at the ESS with a 50 m long apparatus: 5×10^{-26} e cm in one day of measurement.

[E. Chanel et al. EPJ Web Conf., 219, 2004 \(2019\)](#)

One concept, four competing projects

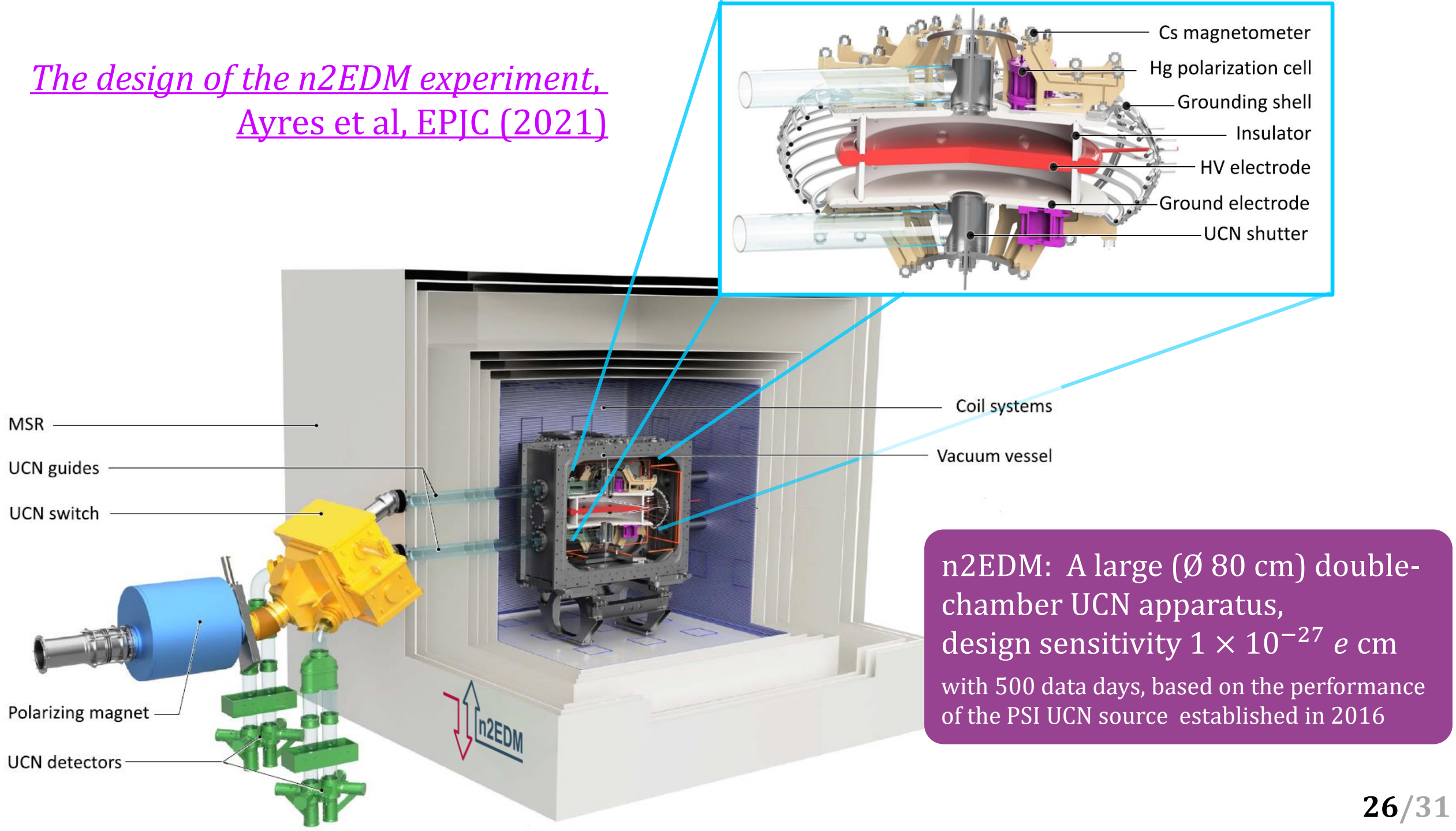
Double-chamber UCN @room temperature



- + atomic co-magnetometry in the UCN cells
- + External magnetometers
- + Complex B0 coil
- + Magnetic Shield

Place	Neutron source	Concept	Stage/Readiness
TRIUMF	Spallation + superfluid He UCN source	double Ramsey chamber with Hg comagnetometers + Cs mag	Source under construction, experiment in design phase
LANL	Spallation + sD2 UCN source	double Ramsey chamber with Hg comagnetometers + commercial OPMs	Source running, experiment under construction
ILL	Reactor + superfluid He UCN source	panEDM: double Ramsey chamber, no comagnetometers + Hg&Cs mag	Source (supersun) and experiment under construction
PSI	Spallation + sD2 UCN source	n2EDM: large double Ramsey chamber with Hg comagnetometers + Cs mag	Source running, experiment under construction

The design of the n2EDM experiment,
Ayres et al, EPJC (2021)



n2EDM: A large (\varnothing 80 cm) double-chamber UCN apparatus, design sensitivity $1 \times 10^{-27} e$ cm with 500 data days, based on the performance of the PSI UCN source established in 2016

 n2EDM



Bigger magnetic shields...



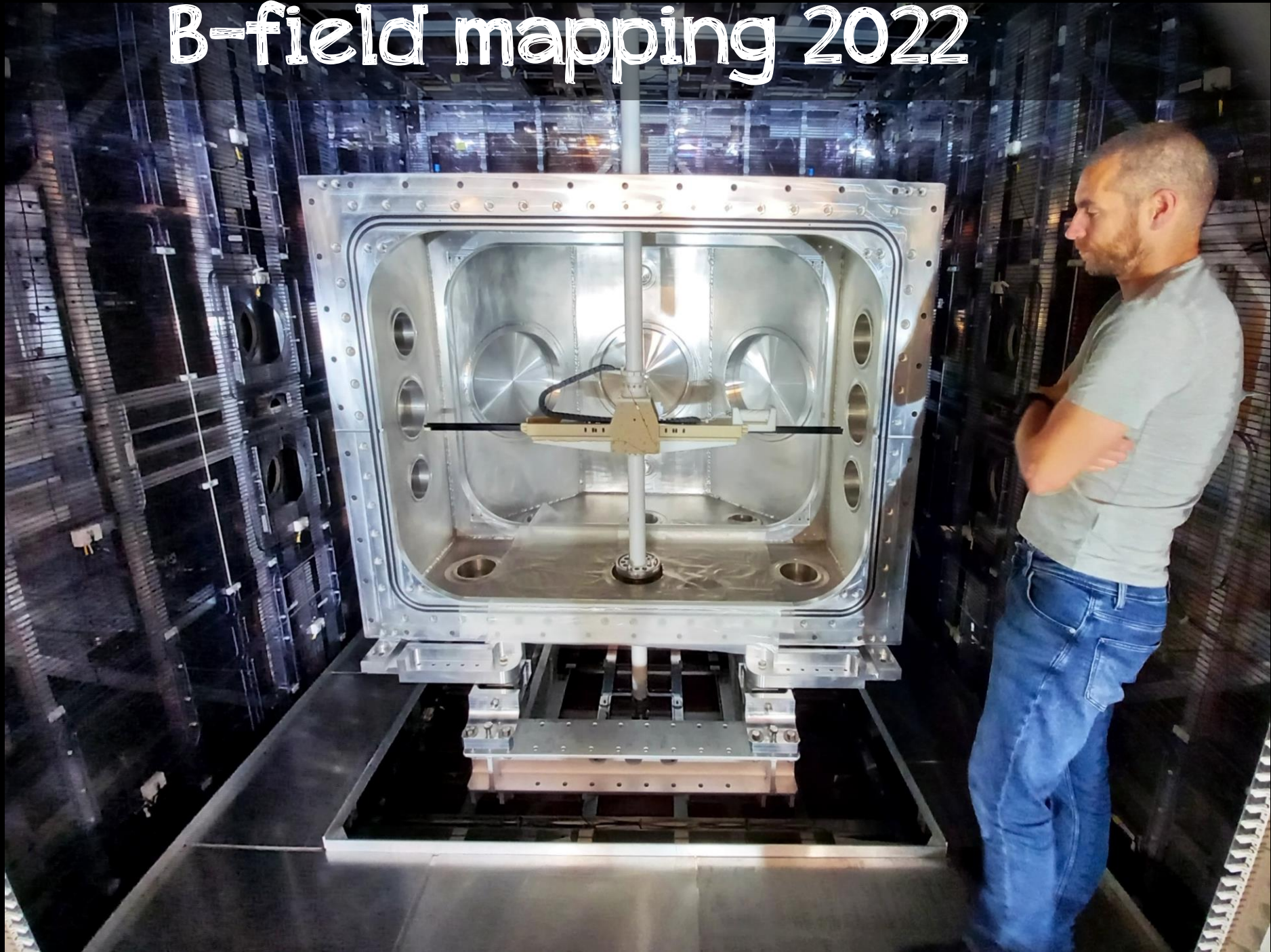
nEDM, 4 layers of mu-metal
shielding factor 10^4



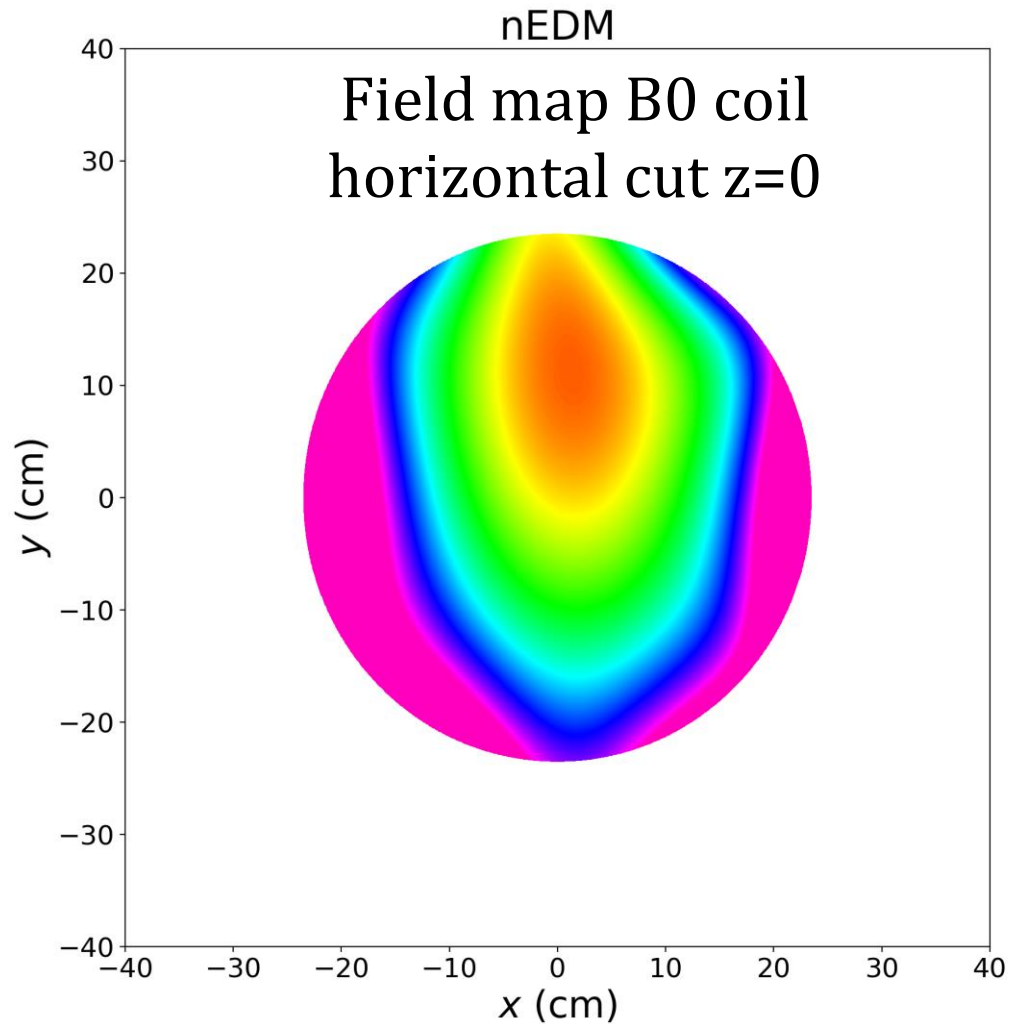
6 layers, shielding factor 10^5

[The very large n2EDM magnetically shielded room](#)
[Review of Scientific Instruments 93, 095105 \(2022\)](#)

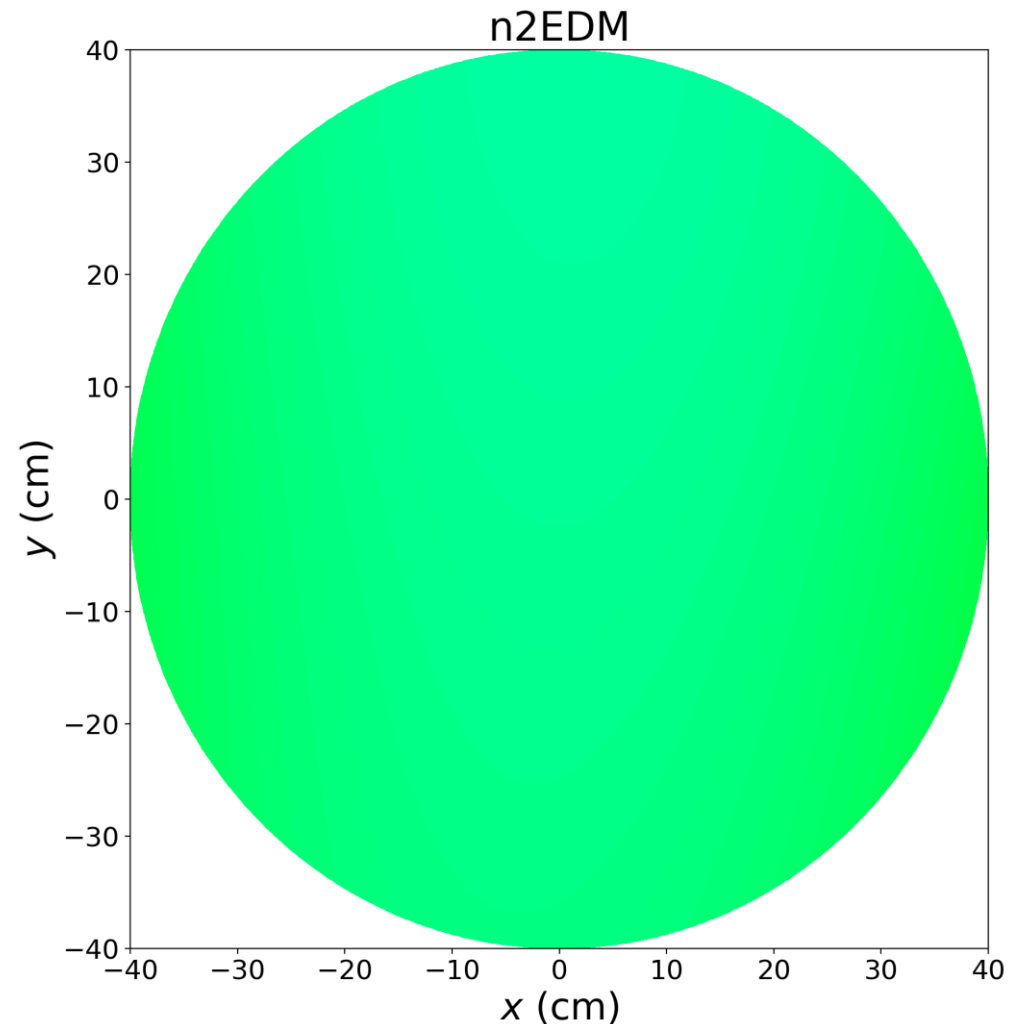
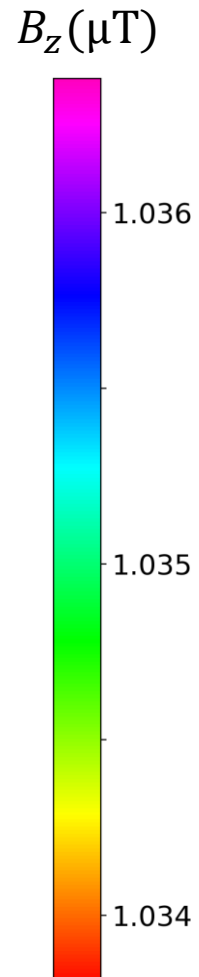
B-field mapping 2022



Record uniformity of the vertical B-field

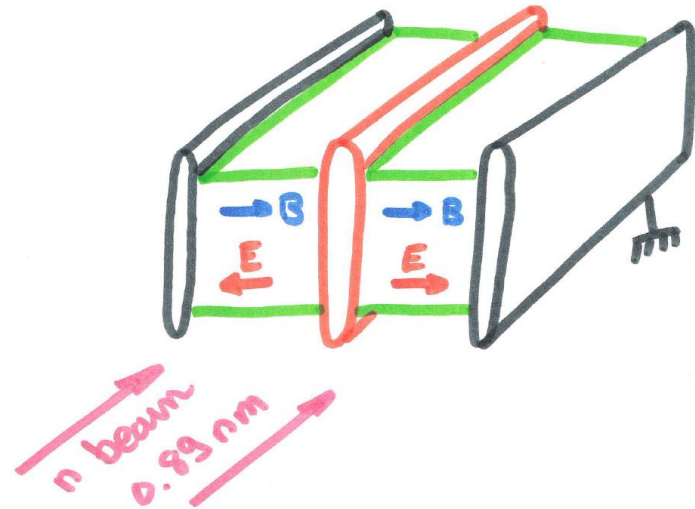


nEDM 2017 $\sigma(B_z) = 900$ pT
In the precession chamber \varnothing 47 cm



n2EDM 2022 $\sigma(B_z) = 50$ pT
In one chamber \varnothing 80 cm

nEDM in superfluid helium



Golub-Lamoreaux concept:

- In-situ UCN production in superfluid helium-4 @ 0.5K
- Precession of polarized neutrons and helium-3 in the cells
- Measure the scintillation light of ${}^3\text{He}(n, p)t$ which is spin-dependent



Precision goal of 2×10^{-28} e cm

Baseline start date 2028

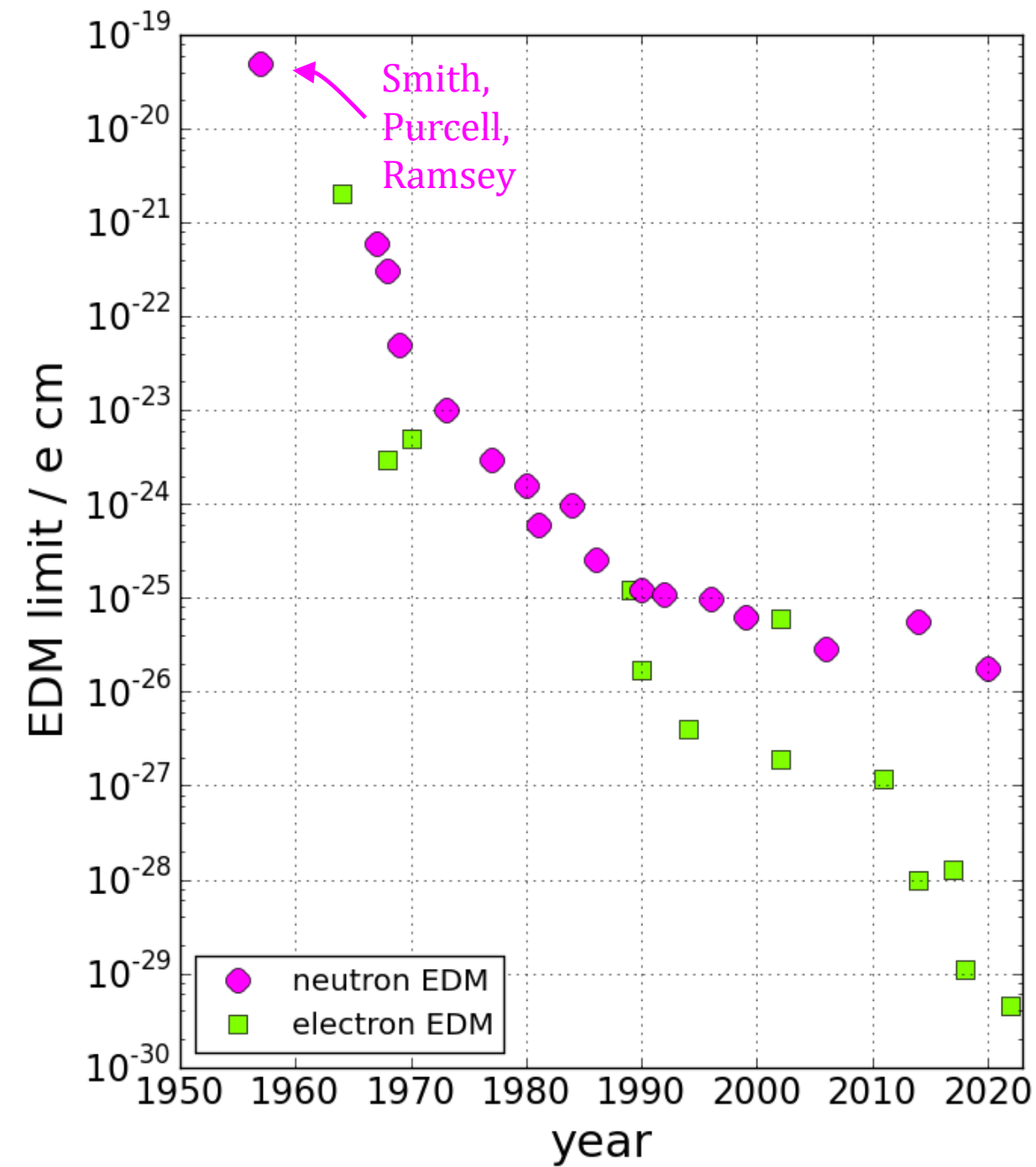
[M.W. Ahmed et al, J. Inst., 14, P11017 \(2019\)](#)



Some large final components

The end...

Not quite yet...



Design sensitivity of 4 new experiments:

←● n2EDM@PSI + panEDM@ILL + LANL + TUCAN@TRIUMF

←● Design sensitivity cryogenic nEDM@SNS

← Ultimate conceivable reach with present neutron sources

↓ CKM background uncertain, possibly 10^{-31} e cm