

# Theory advancing quantum many-body research and metrology

Ana Maria Rey



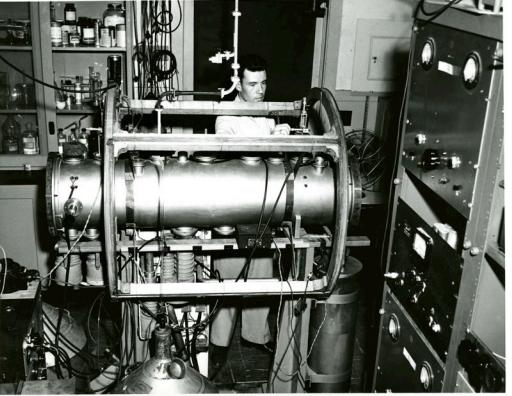
VCAT Meeting, June 11 (2024)



# A Quantum Science HISTORY

NIST

founded



NBS-1 atomic clock

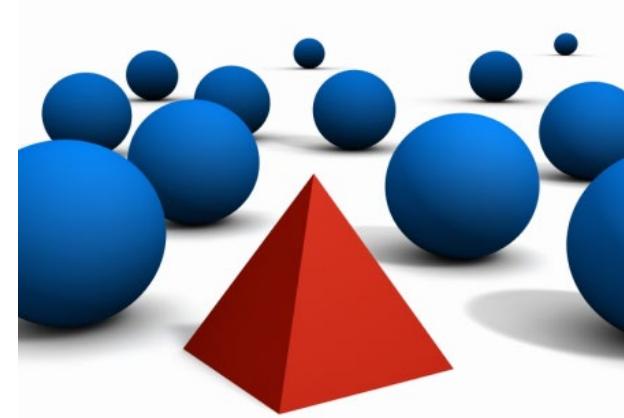


NIST Boulder labs

JILA

CU+NIST  
institute formed

1962



Different but very valuable

1901

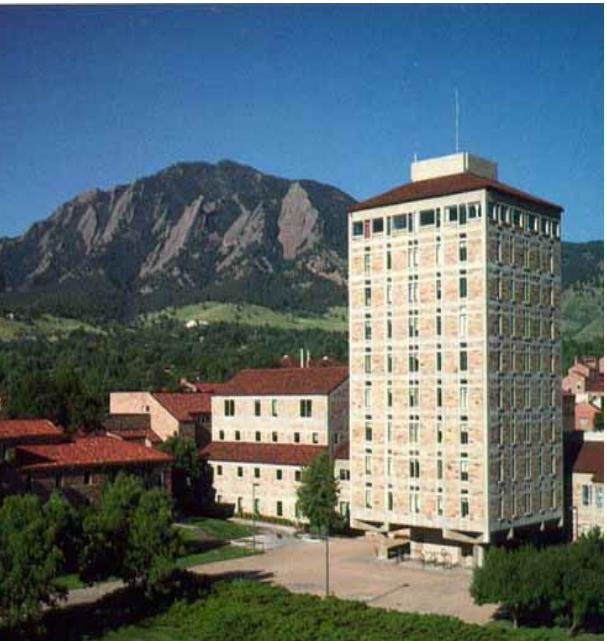
1954

atomic clocks

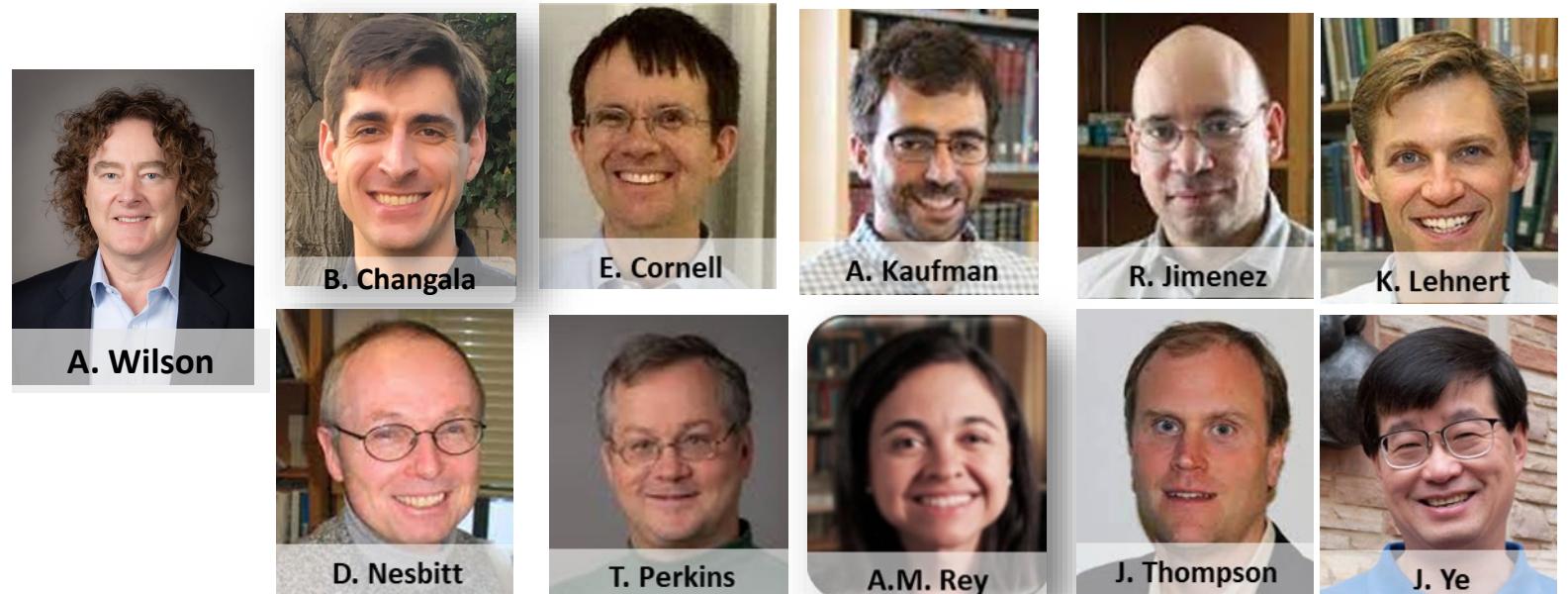


# JILA Overview

A joint CU/NIST interdisciplinary research institute located on the Univ. of Colorado Boulder campus



## Current NIST Quantum Physics Division: PLAYERS



Complement and foster NIST mission to advance science, technology for the Nation

PART OF JILA TEAM



A. Becker

J. Bohn

X. Gao

A. Jaron

H. Kapteyn

H. Lewandowski

M. Holland

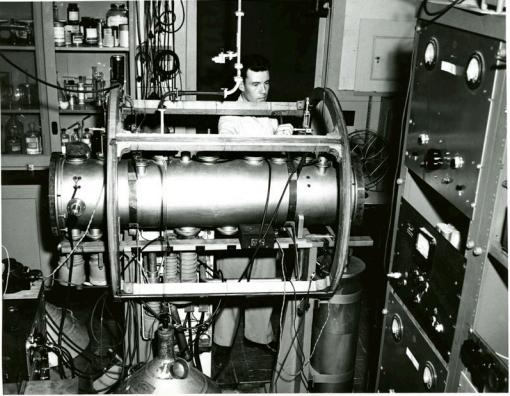
M. Murnane

C. Regal

S. Sun

M. Weber

# A Quantum Science HISTORY



NBS-1 atomic clock

**NIST**

founded



NIST Boulder labs

1901

1954

1962

1978

1995

1999

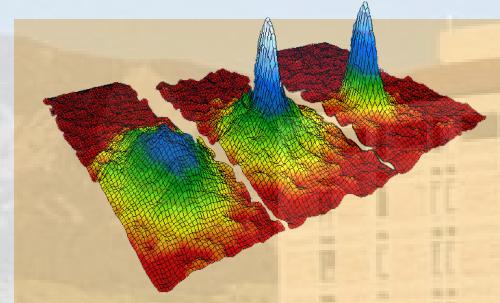
atomic clocks

Tremendous impact over years!!

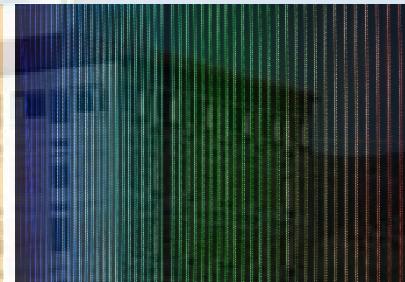
**JILA**

CU+NIST  
institute formed

Laser cooling



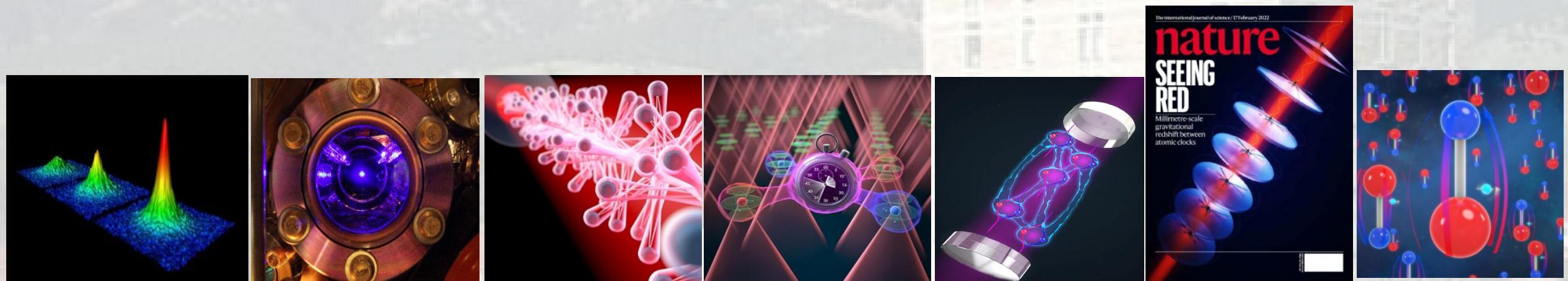
Cornell & Wieman:  
BEC demonstrated



Hall: Frequency  
comb

Jin: Degenerate  
fermi gas

# JILA Pushes the Quantum Frontier



**Jin:** BEC-BSC crossover

**Jin-Ye:** Ultracold polar molecules

**Ye:** Sr lattice clock beats Cs Standard

**Thompson:** 18 dB spin squeezing in a cavities

**Kaufman:** Tweezer clock

**Thompson:** Entangled interferometer

**Ye:** Gravitational red shift within 1 mm

**Cornell/Ye:** eEDM of  $|d_e| < 4.1 \times 10^{-30} \text{ e cm}$

**Ye:** Thorium nuclear transition

2003

2008

2010

2016

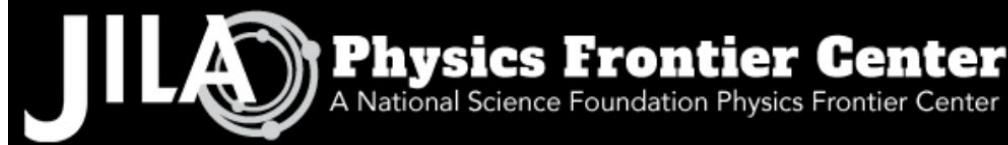
2020

2022

2023

2024

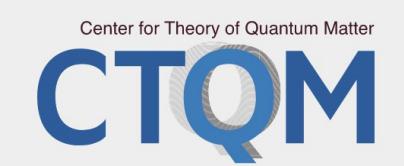
# NIST Mission Expanded: External and internal collaborations



20 JILA Investigators: 6 The., 14 Exp.

25 M. 4.2 M/yr 2023-2029

Rey and Becker: Directors



12 JILA/CU/NIST Researchers:  
All theorist



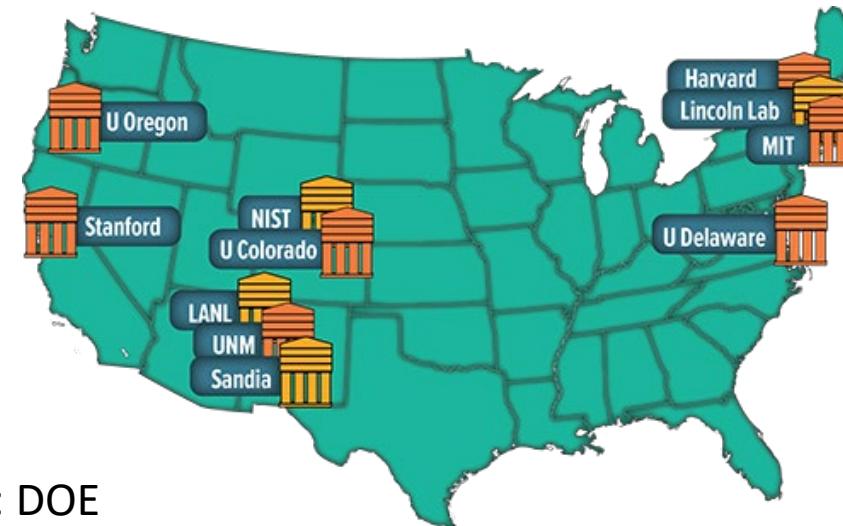
QSA: Quantum Systems Accelerator: DOE  
Quantum Information Science (QIS)  
Research Centers.

15 member institutions in North America, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory leads QSA with Sandia National Laboratories as lead partner.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, CU Boulder, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Caltech, Duke, Harvard, MIT, Tufts, Berkeley, UMD, New Mexico, Southern California, UT Austin, and Canada's Université de Sherbrooke.



QLCI/Q-SEnSE: Quantum Systems through Entangled Science and Engineering  
25 M 2020-2025, 5 M/yr



PIs and co-PIs:  
J. Ye, JILA  
S. Knappe, CU engineering  
G. Rieker, CU engineering  
M. Safranova, U Delaware  
M. Kasevich, Stanford

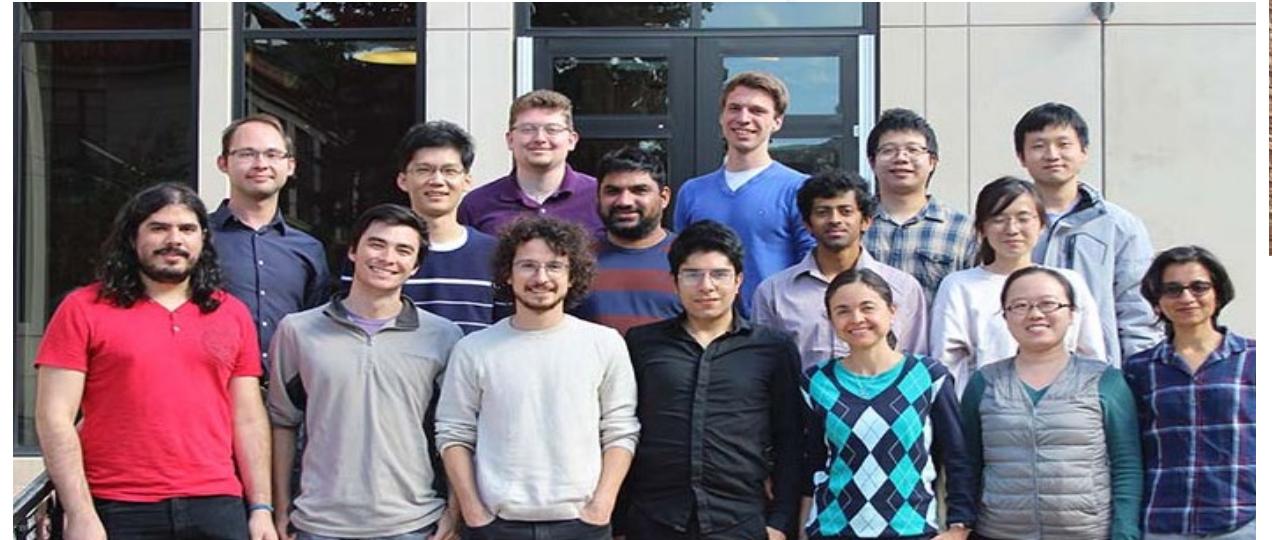


NIST  
Los Alamos National Lab  
Sandia National Lab  
Lincoln Lab



# Academic Environment: Amazing undergrads, grads and postdocs

Rey Theory:



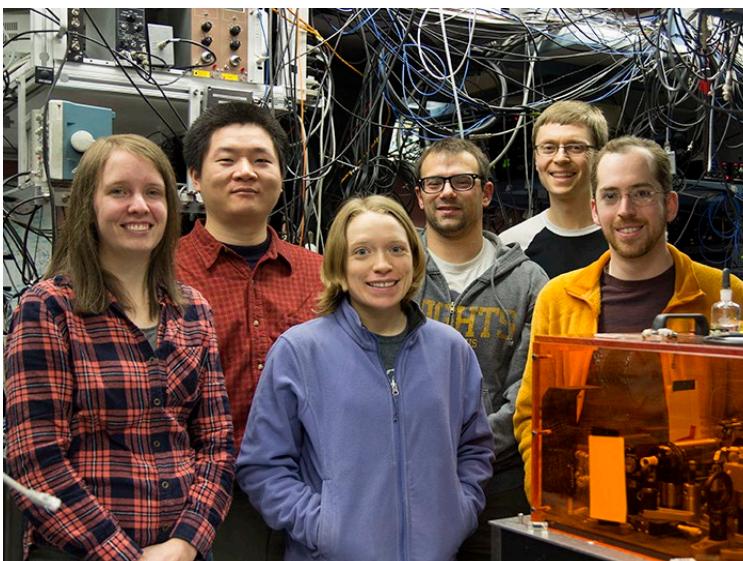
Thompson cavity



Ye KRb:



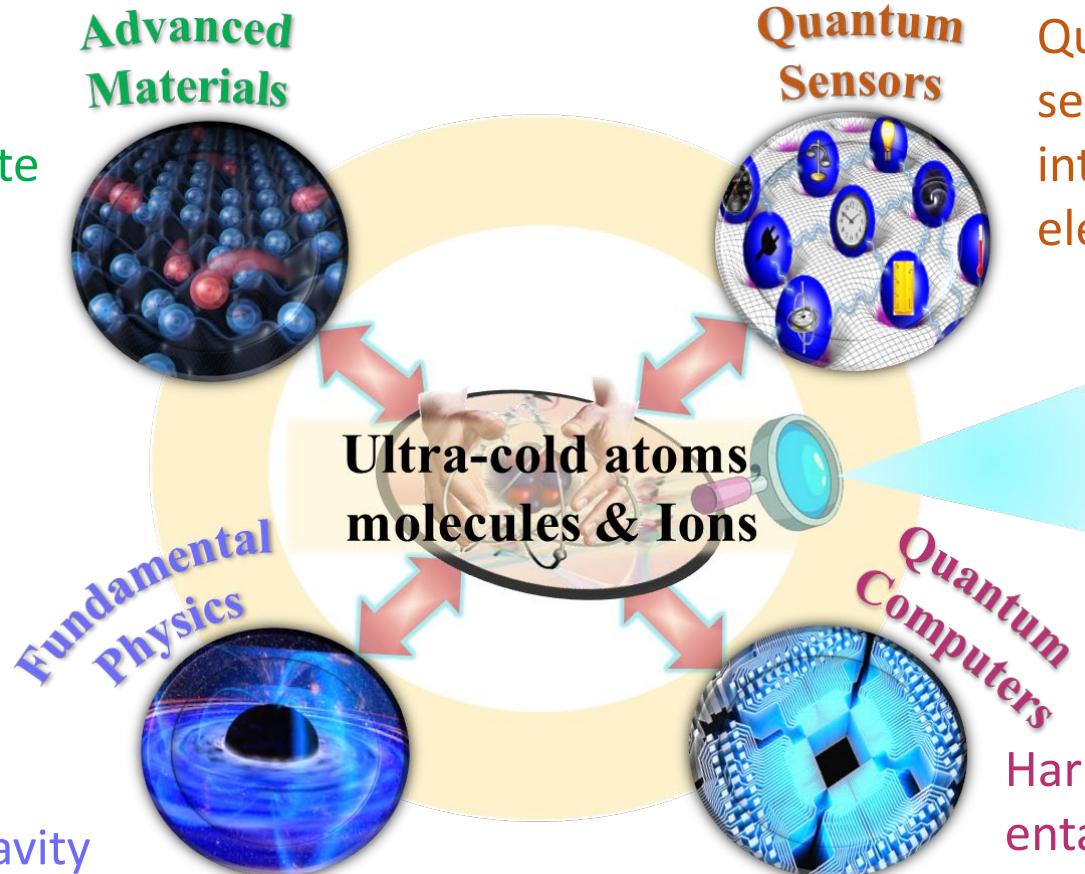
Ye Sr:



# Scientific Vision: Harnessing quantum complexity

**GOAL:** Harnessing many-body quantum systems and using them for applications ranging from quantum simulation, information to metrology.

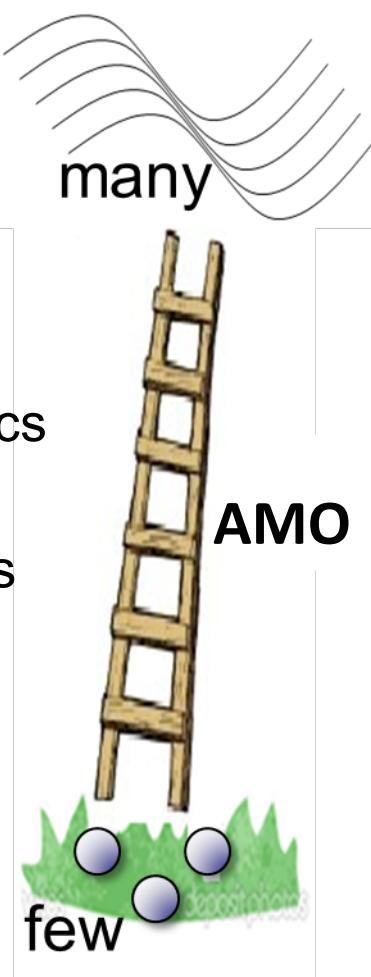
**Quantum simulation:**  
from solid state materials to high energy physics



Quantum enhanced sensing: clocks, interferometers, electric field sensors

- Well-understood microscopics
- Tunable interactions
- Access to quantum dynamics

Harnessing entanglement, Error correction



# Alkaline Earth (-like) Atoms: AEA

## A TALE OF TWIN ELECTRONS

Periodic Table of the Elements

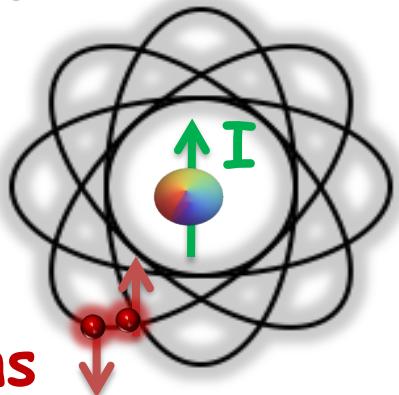
The Periodic Table of the Elements is shown in a standard layout. It includes groups IIA (Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba), IVA (C, Si, Ge, Sn, Pb), VA (N, P, As, Sb, Bi), VIA (O, S, Se, Te), VIIA (F, Cl, Br, I, At), and the noble gases He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe, Rn. The Lanthanide Series (Ce-Lu) and Actinide Series (Th-Lr) are listed below the main table. Red boxes highlight the Alkaline Earth metals (Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba) and the element Hg. A green box highlights the element Sr.

\* Lanthanide Series

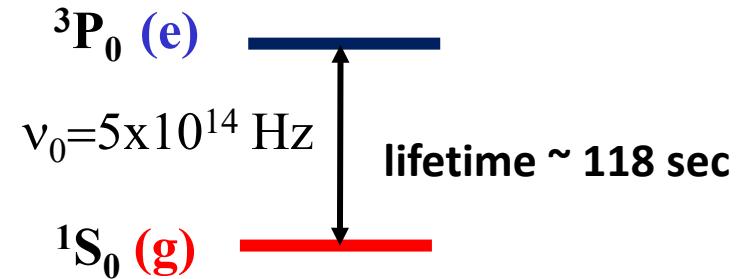
+ Actinide Series

IA	IIA	IIIIB	IVB	VIB	VIIB	VII	IB	IIB	IIIA	IVA	VA	VIA	VIIA	O	
H	Be	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	F	He
Li	Mg	Ca	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Br	Ne
Na			Zr												Ar
K															
Rb	Sr														Xe
Cs	Ba	*La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Rn
Fr	Ra	+Ac	Rf	Ha	Sg	Ns	Hs	Mt	110	111	112	113			
58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71		
Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu		
90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103		
Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr		

Nucleus



Metastable states: Dipole and spin forbidden



Linewidth  $\Delta v_0 \sim \text{mHz}$

Electrons

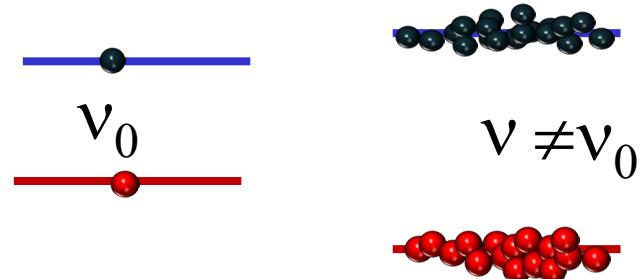
# Dilemma

More atoms better signal  
to noise  $\sim \sqrt{N}$

Atoms collide and change the frequency. Packing more atoms makes the error worse



D. Jin



- IDEA: Use quantum statistics



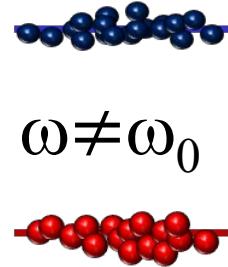
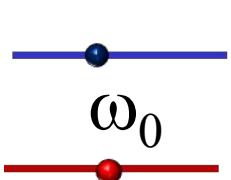
Fermions

# DILEMMA

More atoms better  
signal to noise

Atomic collisions change the  
frequency. Packing more atoms  
makes the error worse

Interactions:



JILA: G. Campbell *et al* Science 324, 360 (09)

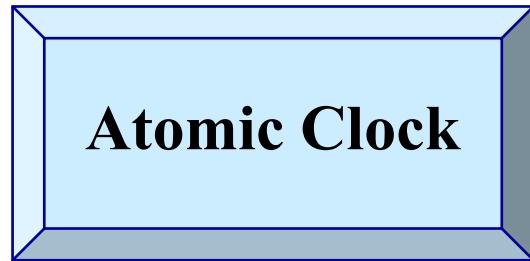
NIST: N. Lemke *et al* PRL 103,063001 (09)



Need to  
understand  
interactions

- Degraded signal: Even in identical fermionic atoms. In 2008 gave rise to the second largest uncertainty to the  $10^{-16}$  error budget

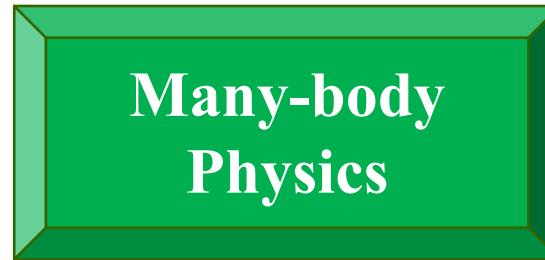
# Many-body Physics with clocks



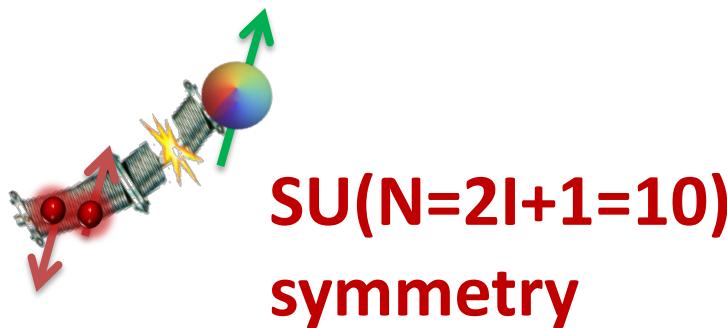
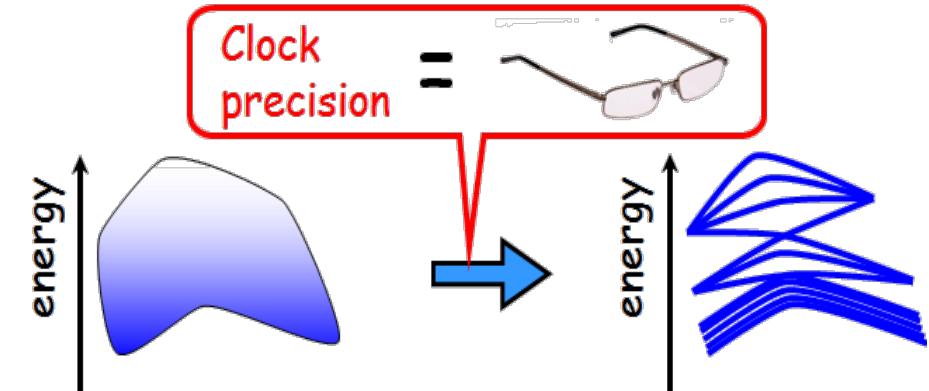
Exquisite Control

Ultra-precise

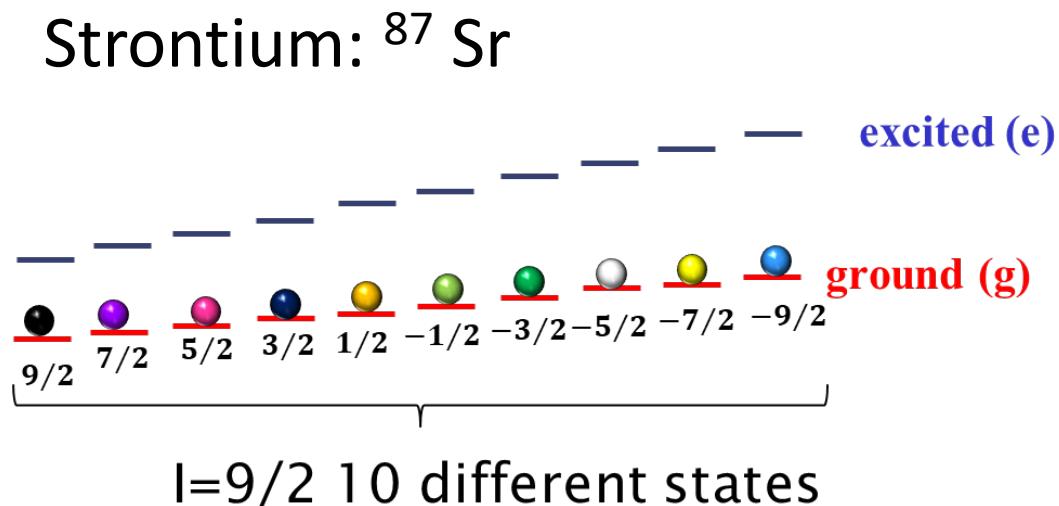
Long probing times



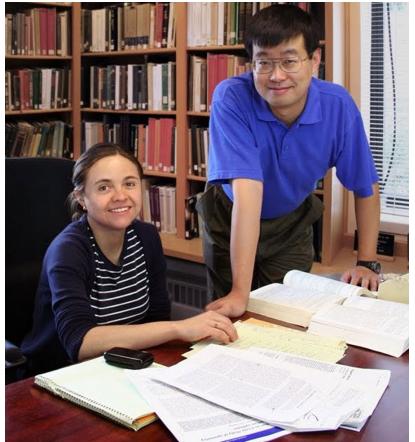
Quantum Magnetism,  
many-body physics



$I \cdot J = 0.$   
Nuclear/electron spin  
decoupled

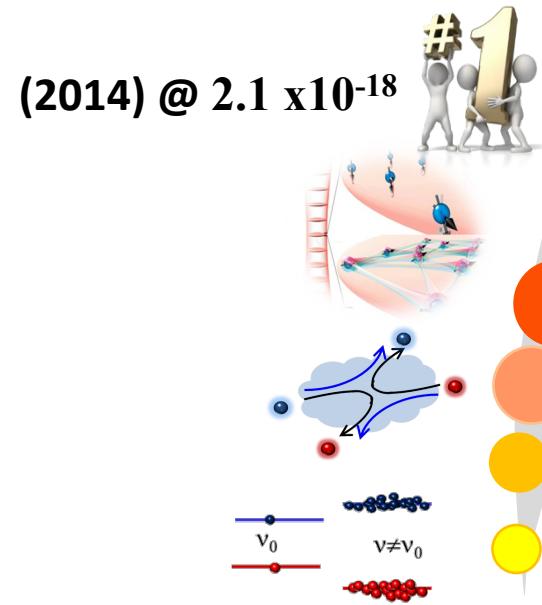


# Exploring many-body physics with clocks



JILA clock has now 1000 better sensitivity compared to prior record (Ye: Nature 602, 420 (2022), Rey, Ye :Science Adv sciadv.adc924(2022))

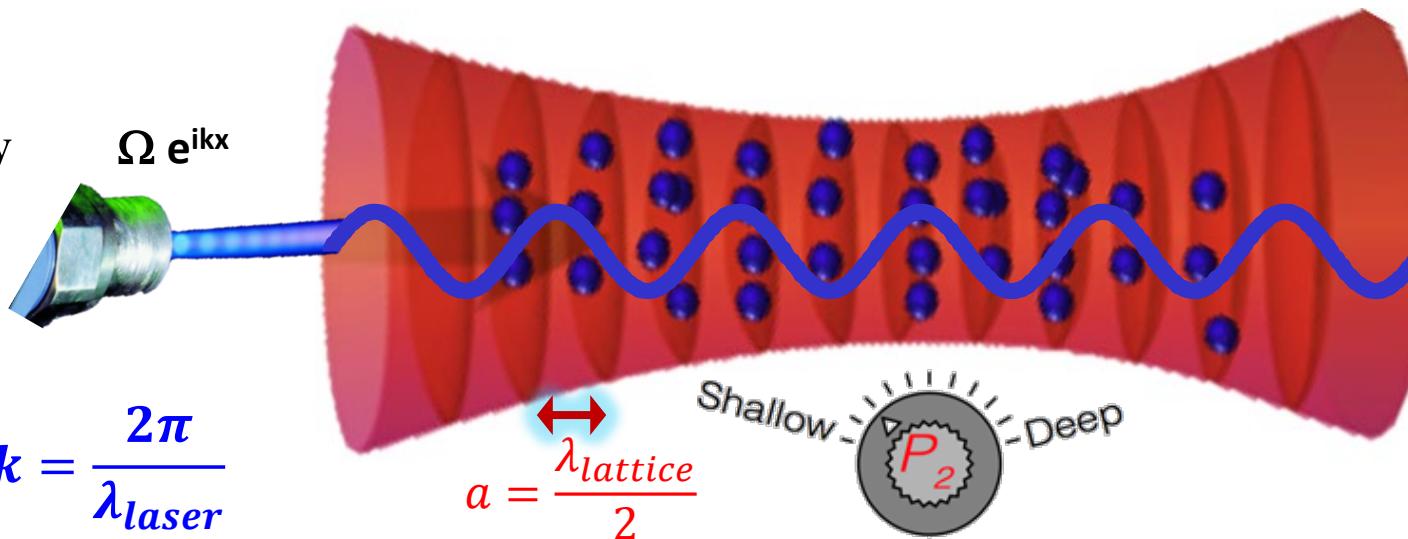
1000 times better than current cesium standard (2014)



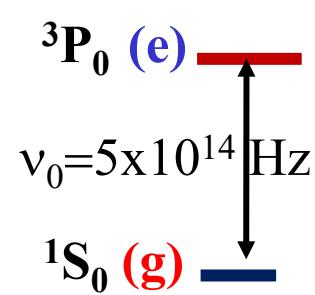
- JILA Best atomic clock: Nature (2014).
- Clock measures SU(N) symmetry: Science (2014)
- Clock as a simple quantum simulator: Science (2013)
- Unraveled mysterious collisions in the clock: Science (2011).
- Theory proposal: Alkaline earth atoms exhibit exotic magnetism: Nature Physics (2010), PRL (2009).
- JILA y NIST clocks see atomic collisions: Science (2009).

# Spin–Orbit Coupled Fermions in a Clock

Rabi frequency

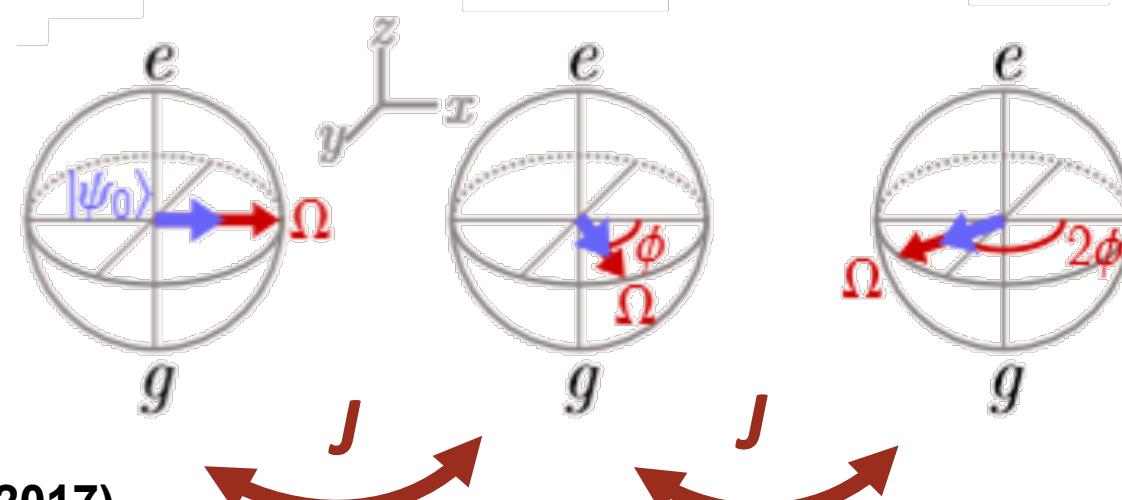


$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_{laser}}$$



For Sr:  $ka = \phi \sim 7\pi/6$

Tunneling allows atoms to feel the differential phase



During interrogation the laser imprints a phase that it is different between lattice sites



**Atoms distinguishable:**

With tunneling

**S-wave collisions: Strong**

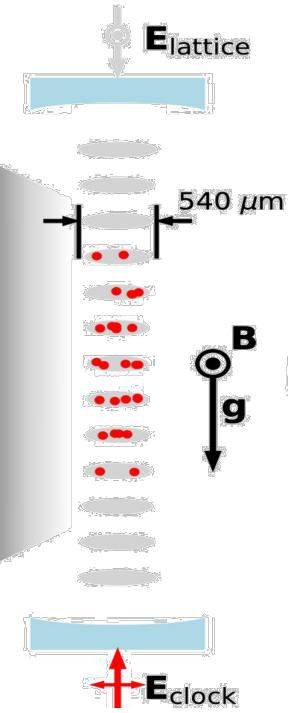
Bad for clocks



Wall,...Ye, Rey, PRL(2016)

Kolkowitz,...Rey, Ye Nature (2017)

# Win Win Wannier-Stark

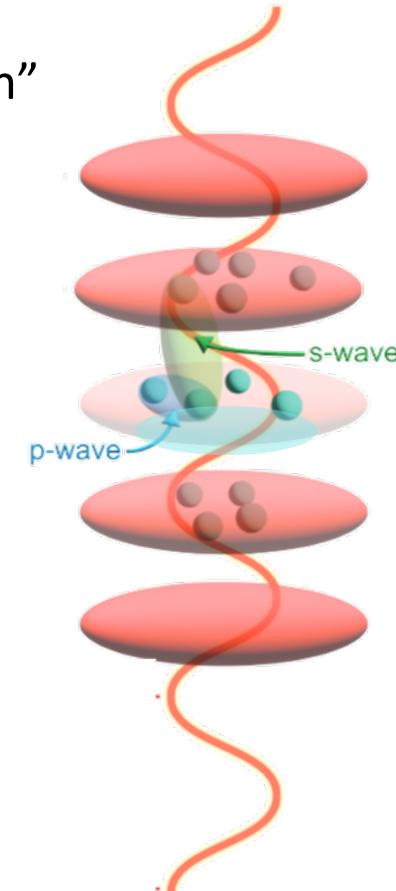
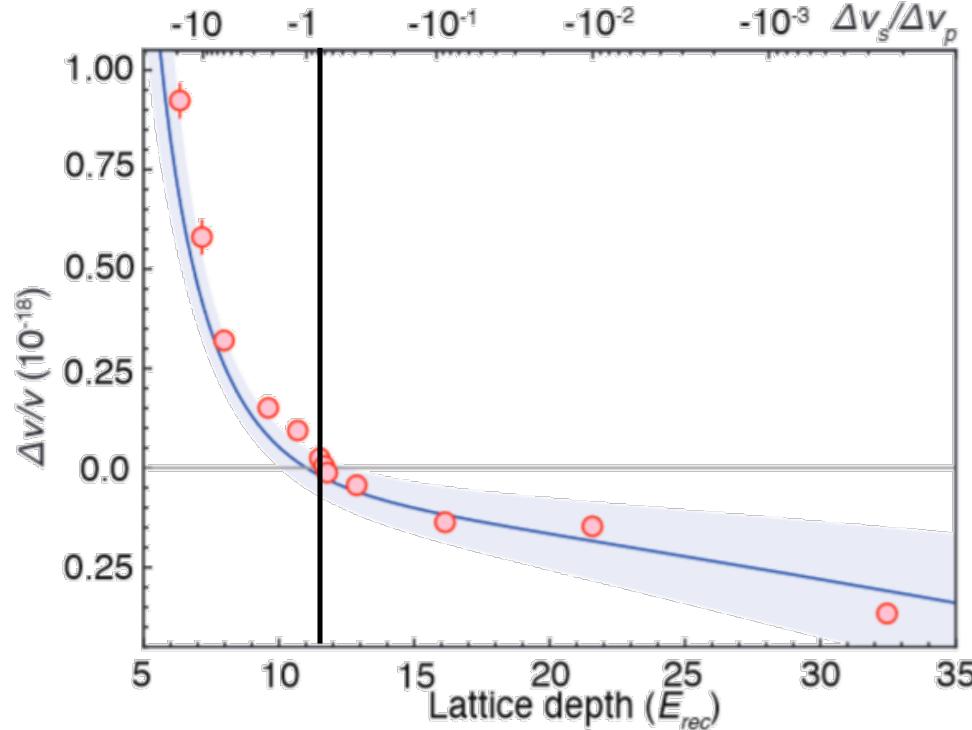


## ☐ Ramsey Coherence times longer than half a minute:

- ✓ Wave functions localized enough to suppress undesirable motional decoherence.
- ✓ Weaker confinement suppresses detrimental p-wave inelastic losses and light scattering

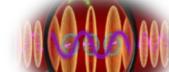
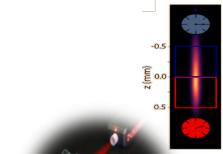
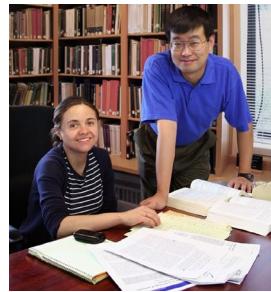
## ☐ Hamiltonian Engineering: Suppression of undesirable frequency shifts

- ✓ Suppression of density shifts at "magic depth"

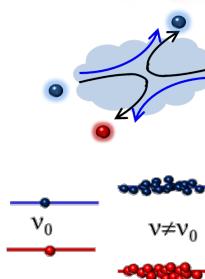
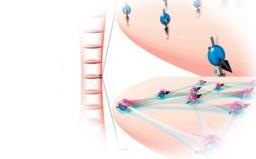


# Exploring many-body physics with clocks

(2022) Sensitivity @ $7.6 \times 10^{-21}$



(2014) @  $2.1 \times 10^{-18}$



Resolving gravitational redshifts in a single mm sample  
(Nature 2022, Science Adv 2022)

Proposals on how to use clocks for quantum information:  
cluster(PRL 2019), cat (2020), spin squeezing (PRR2019,2020)  
SU(N) thermalization (Nature Phys, 2020)

Observation of Multibody interactions (Nature 2018, NJP2018)

**Clock simulates synthetic magnetic fields: Nature (2017), Nat Phys (2018)**

JILA Best atomic clock: Nature (2014).

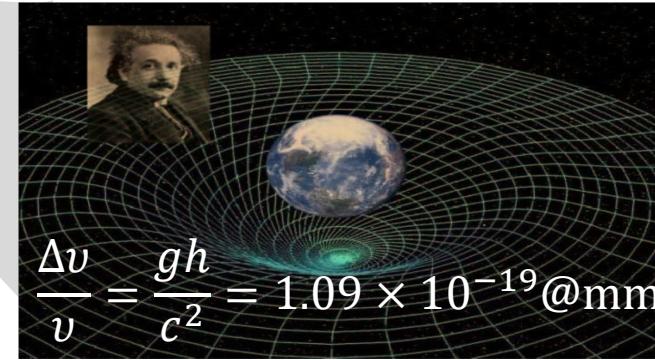
Clock measures SU(N) symmetry: Science (2014)

Clock as a simple quantum simulator: Science (2013)

Unraveled mysterious collisions in the clock:Science (2011).

Theory proposal: Alkaline earth atoms exhibit exotic magnetism:  
Nature Physics (2010) , PRL (2009).

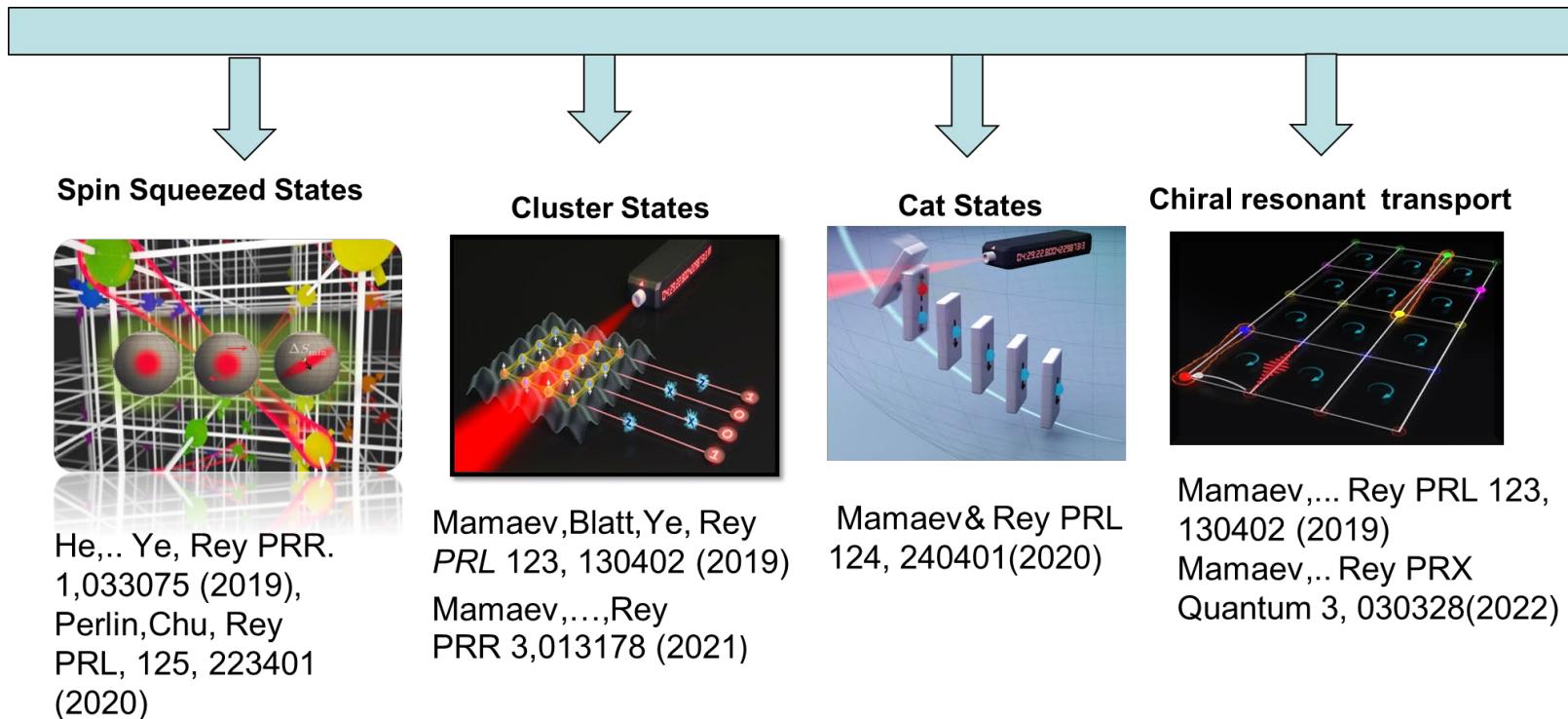
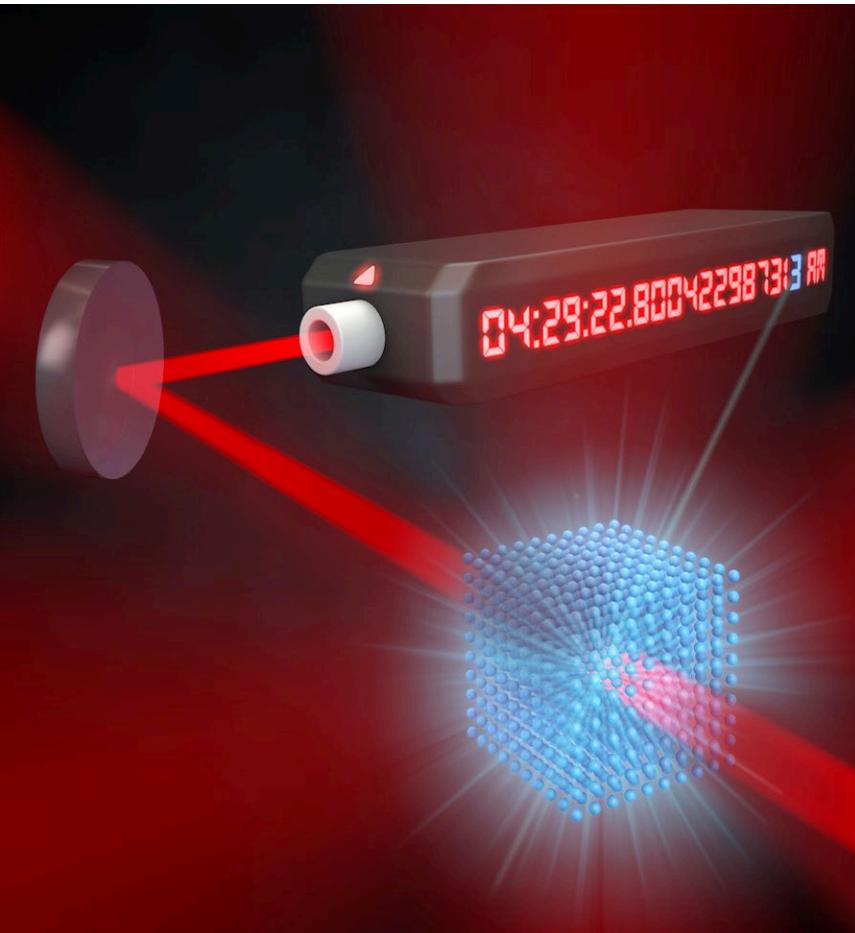
JILA y NIST clocks see atomic collisions: Science (2009).



NIST Ion clock  
30 cm (2010)

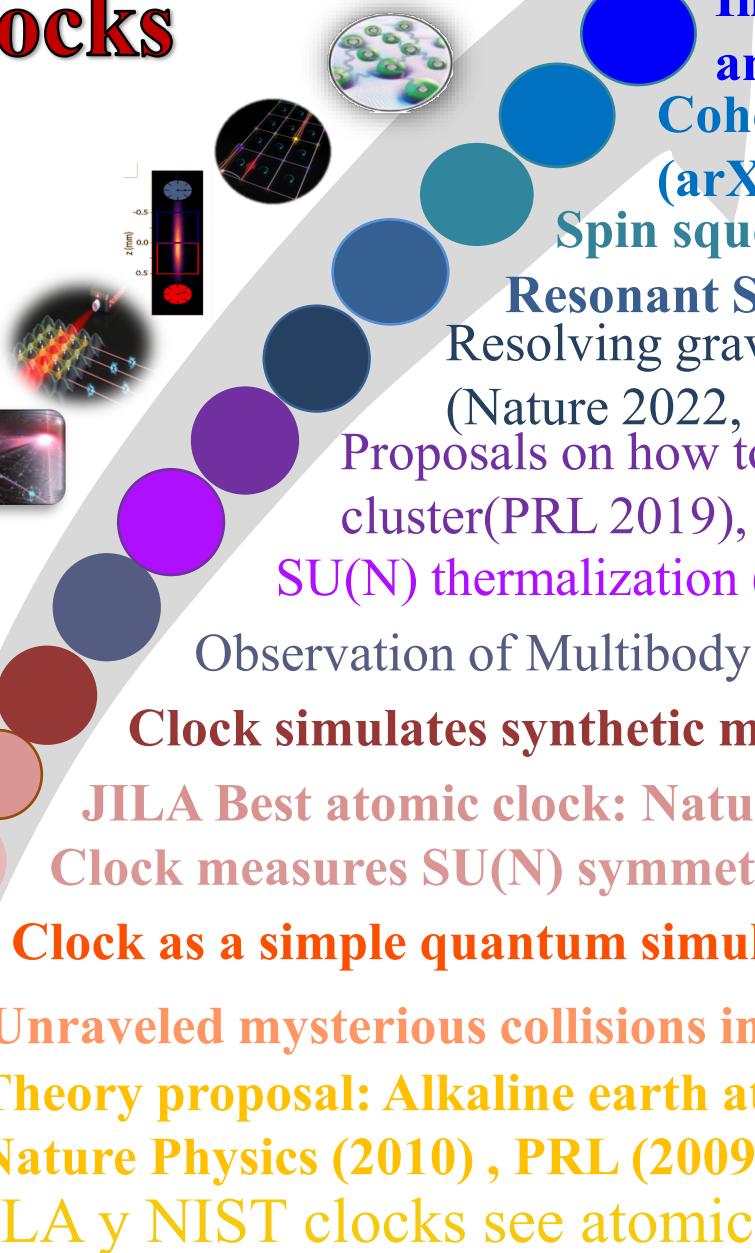
Sr clock 1 mm  
(2022)

# New generation: 3D ultra-cold fermionic optical lattice clock



# Exploring many-body physics with clocks

(2022) Sensitivity @ $7.6 \times 10^{-21}$



Interplay between mass-energy equivalence in GR and entanglement in OLC

Coherent superexchange interaction in OLC

(arXiv:2402.13398, under review in science)

Spin squeezing in anisotropic models (PRA 109, 2024)

Resonant SU(N) interactions in a flux ladder (PRX Q 2022)

Resolving gravitational redshifts in a single mm sample

(Nature 2022, Science Adv 2022)

Proposals on how to use clocks for quantum information:  
cluster (PRL 2019), cat (2020), spin squeezing (PRR 2019, 2020)

SU(N) thermalization (Nature Phys, 2020)

Observation of Multibody interactions (Nature 2018, NJP 2018)

Clock simulates synthetic magnetic fields: Nature (2017), Nat Phys (2018)

JILA Best atomic clock: Nature (2014).

Clock measures SU(N) symmetry: Science (2014)

Clock as a simple quantum simulator: Science (2013)

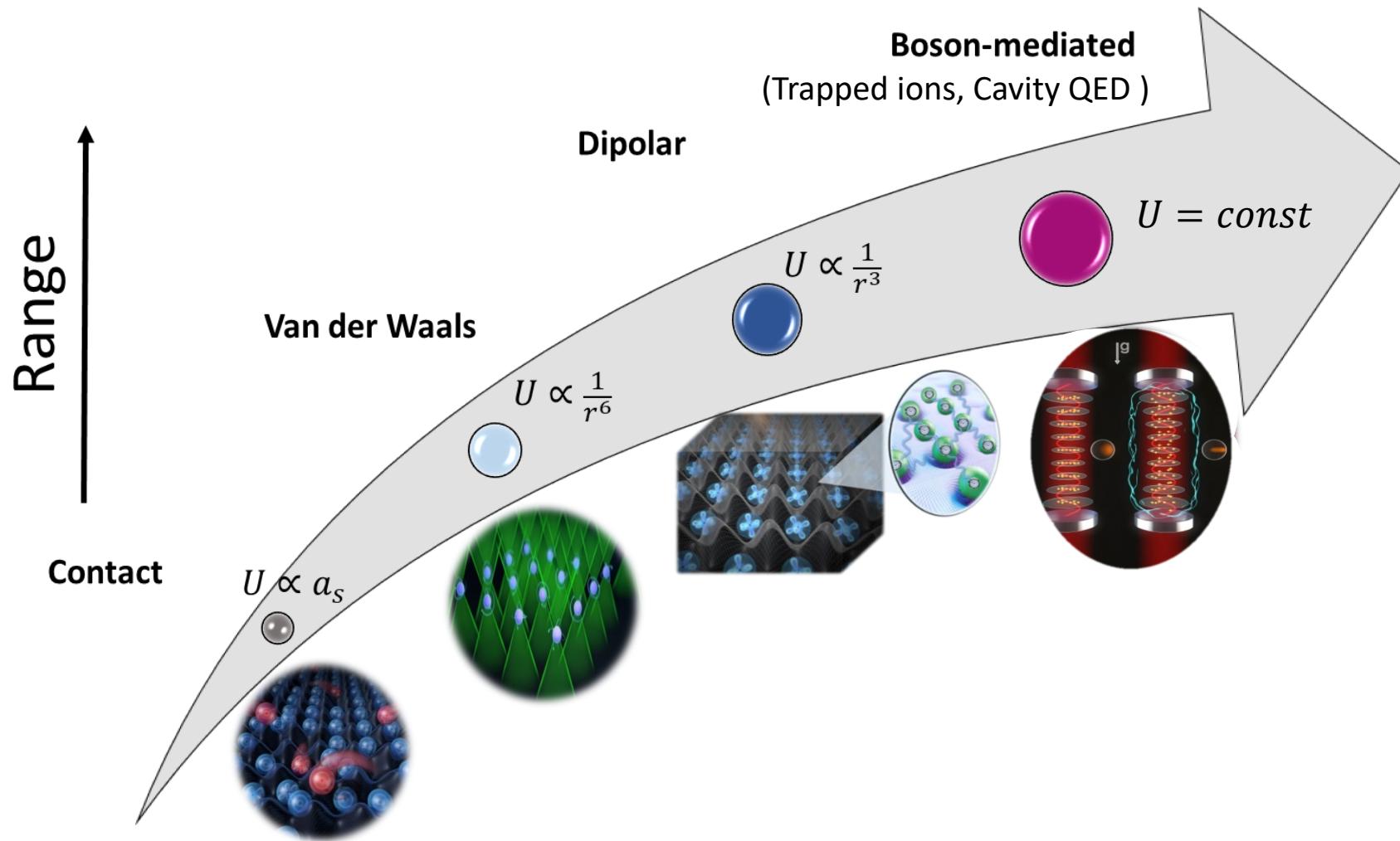
Unraveled mysterious collisions in the clock: Science (2011).

Theory proposal: Alkaline earth atoms exhibit exotic magnetism:  
Nature Physics (2010), PRL (2009).

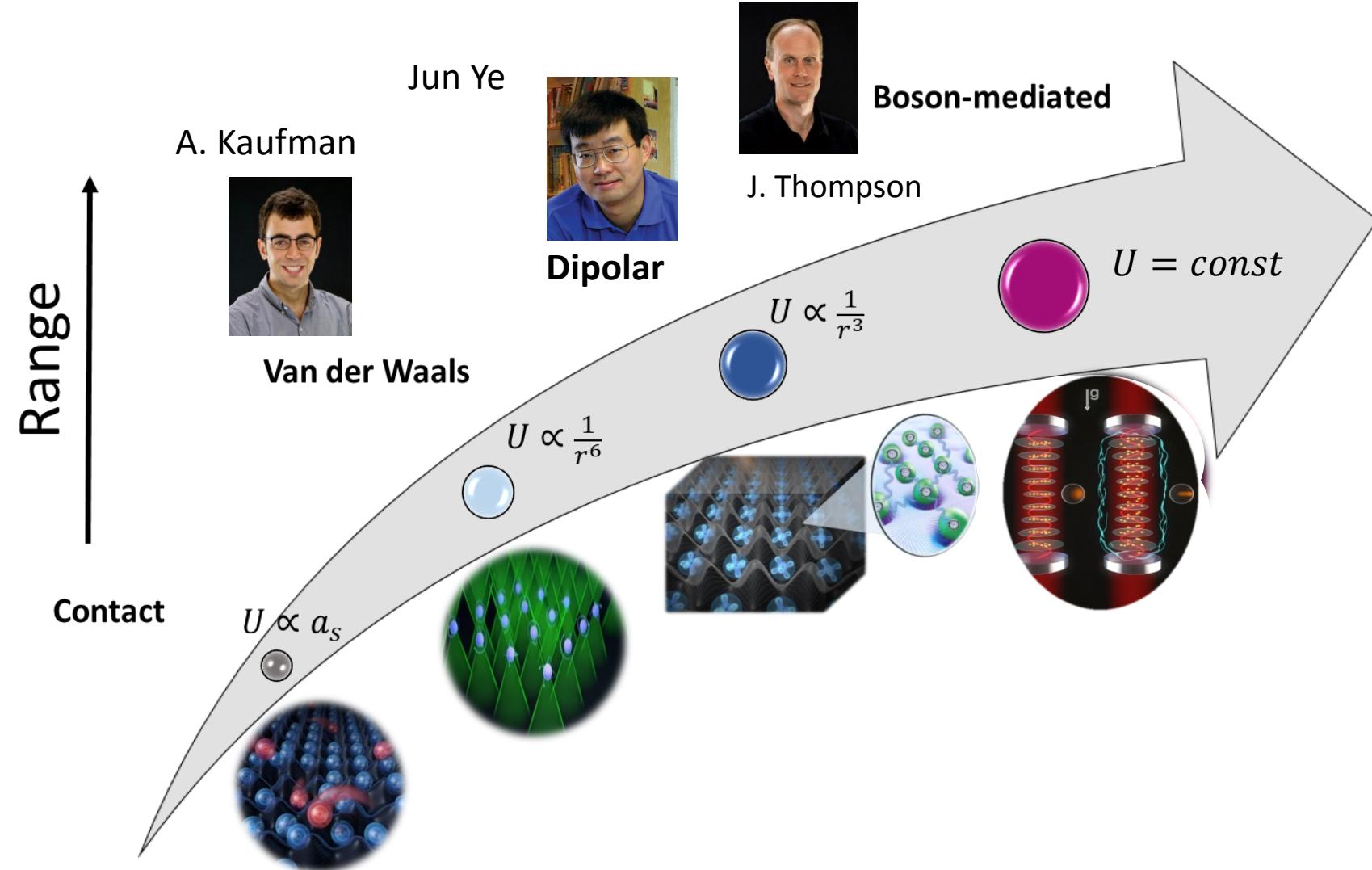
JILA y NIST clocks see atomic collisions: Science (2009).

(2014) @  $2.1 \times 10^{-18}$

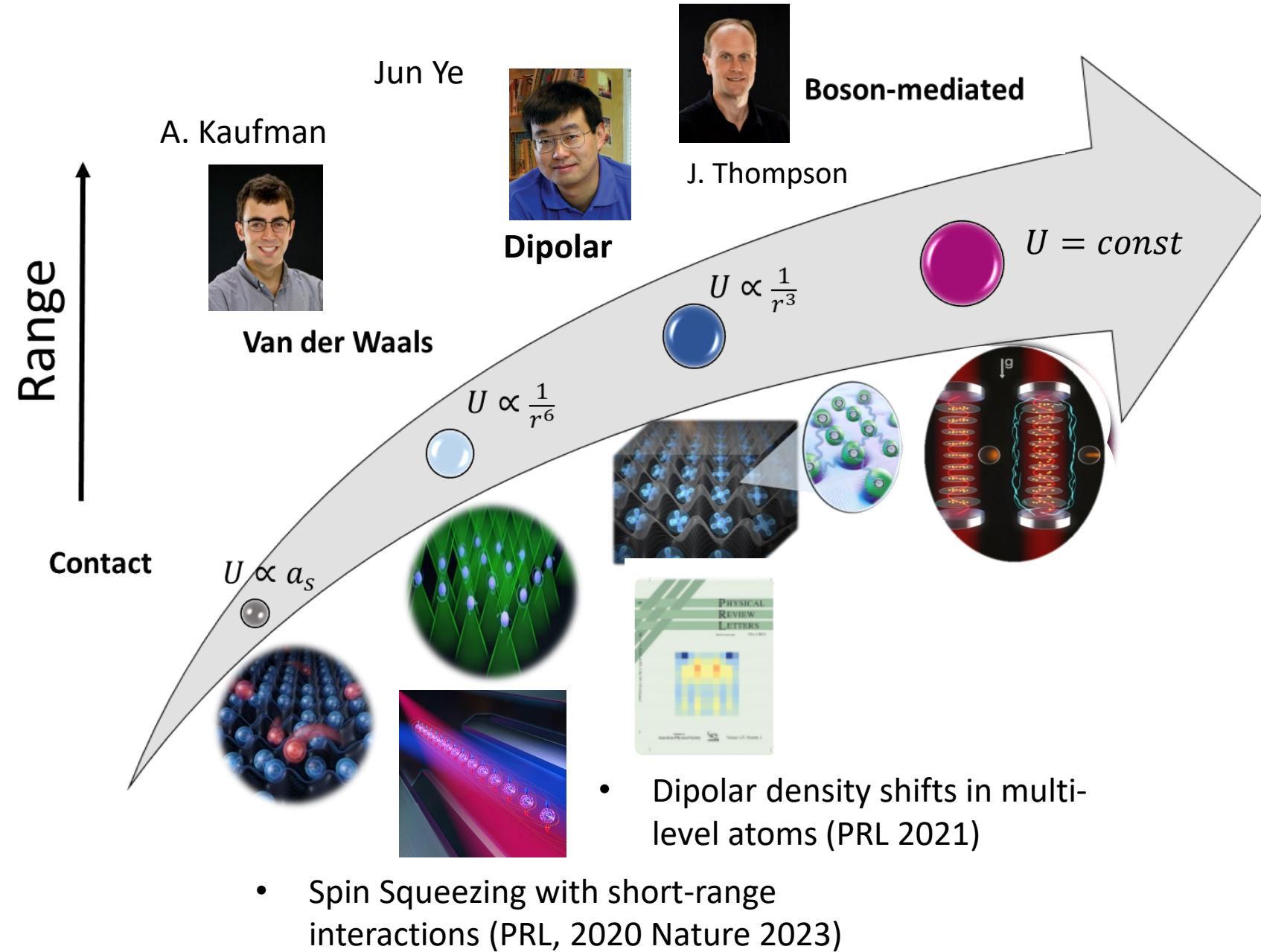
# Even richer opportunities



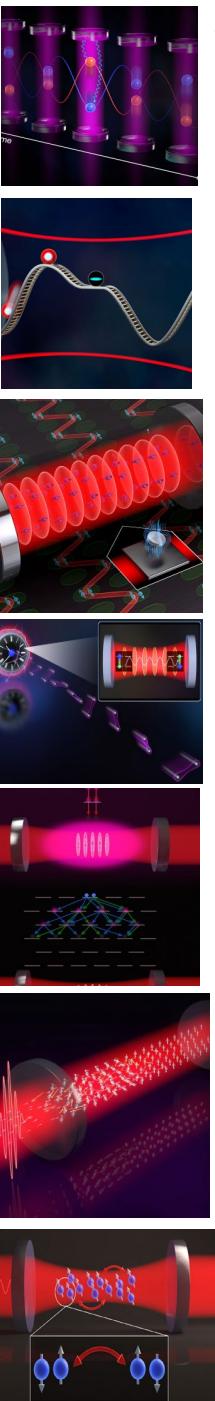
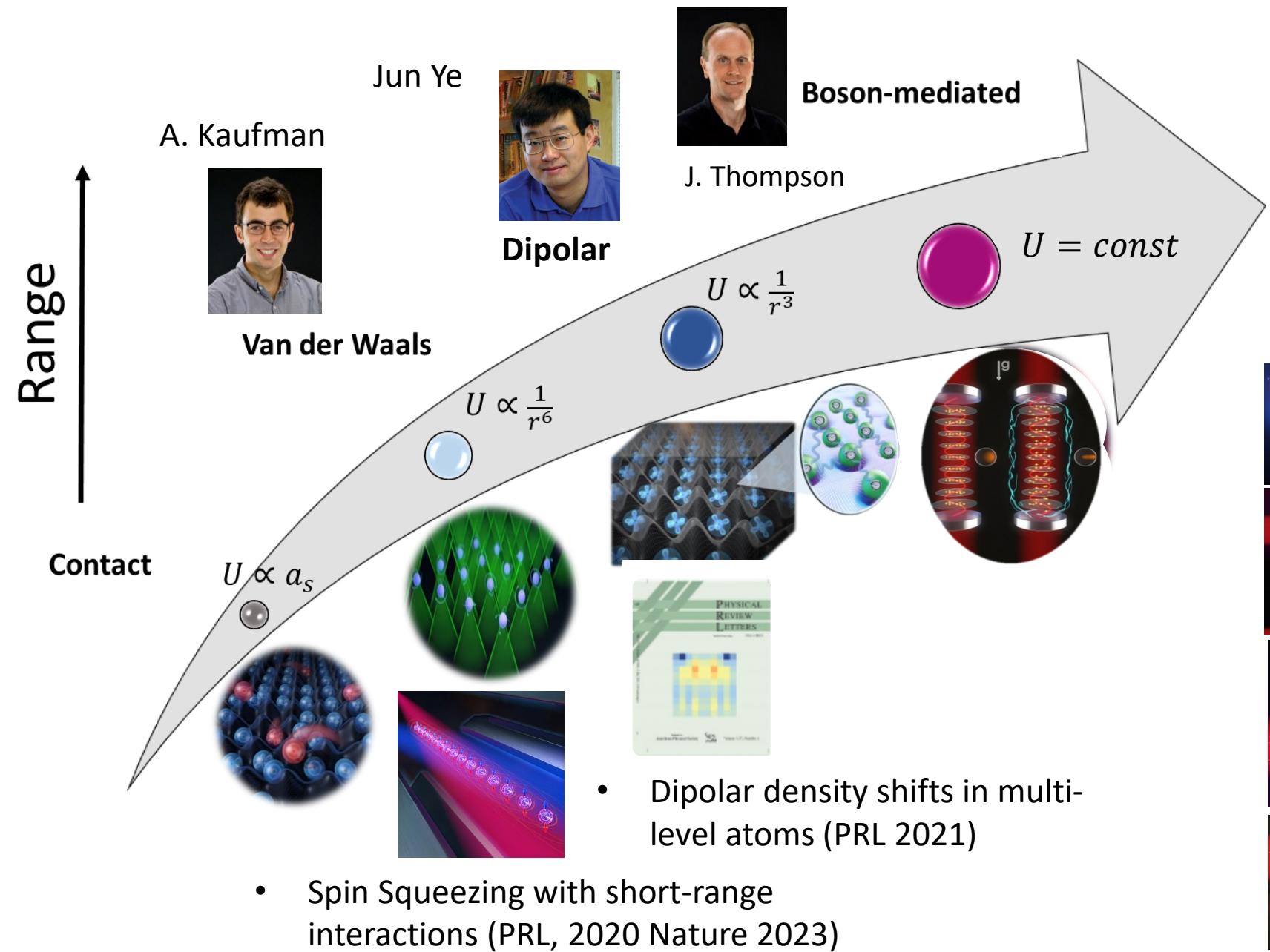
# Even richer opportunities



# Even richer opportunities



# Even richer opportunities

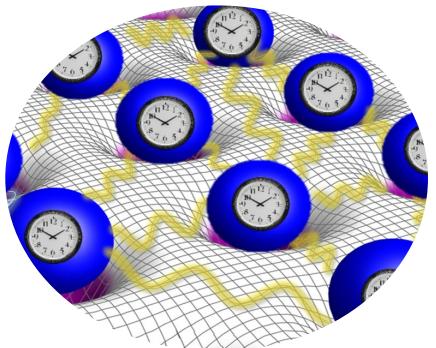


- Twisting and binding matter-waves, Science (2024).
- Multi-level squeezed States in a Cavity, PRL(2023).
- Simulating dynamical phases of superconductor in a Cavity, (PRL 2021, Nature 2024)
- Bosonic pair production in Cavities, (PRL, PRR 2023)
- Quantum enhanced cavity interferometer PRL (2021).
- Robust spin squeezing generation (PRL2018,PRL 2020, PRA2020)
- Multi-level Dark States in a Cavity, PRX (2022)
- Observation of dynamical Phase transition, LMG model(Nature 2020)
- Observation of exchange interactions in a cavity, (Science 2018)

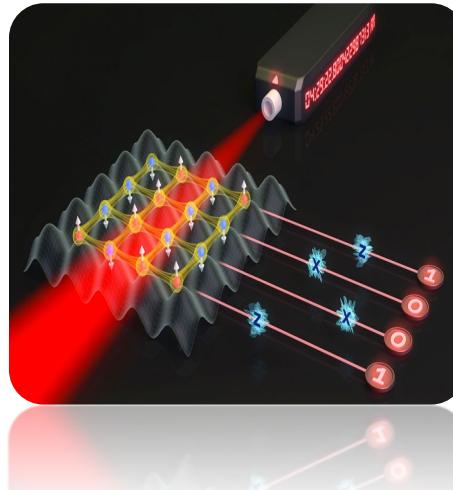
# Only the beginning: Bright vista ahead



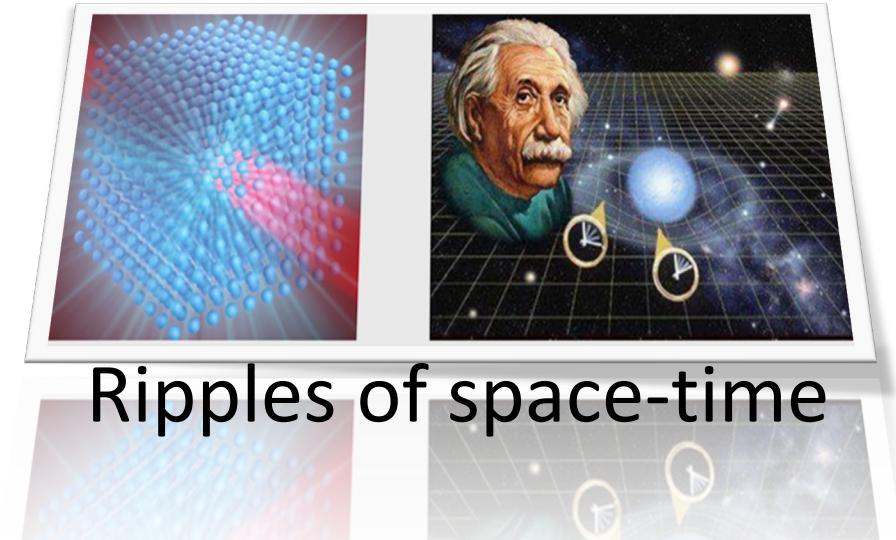
Entangled Clocks:  
EVEN BETTER



Quantum  
Computers



Exploring the Deep Secrets of  
the Universe



Ripples of space-time