

# Quantum Information, Decoherence-free Subspaces and a Michelson-Morley Test with Electrons

*Hartmut Häffner, UC Berkeley*

- Introduction
- Local detection of quantum correlations
- A Michelson-Morley test with electrons
- Conclusions

# Quantum information

Solve Schrödinger equation for 300 interacting spins ?

Classical computation needs more bits than there are atoms in the universe.

- Quantum computers can solve certain tasks much more efficiently than classical computers.

Prominent examples:

- Factoring of large integers (P. Shor 1994)
- Search in an unsorted data base (L. Grover, 1997)
- ...



# Quantum information

Schrödinger equation for 300 interacting spins.

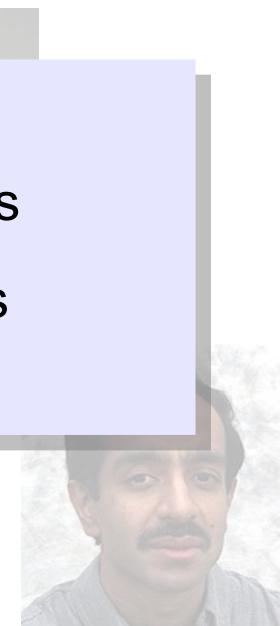
Classical computation needs more bits than there are atoms in the universe.

- Quantum computers can solve certain tasks much more efficiently than classical computers.

In the mean time:

Prominen

- Understand more about quantum mechanics
- Apply QIP to fundamental physics questions
- ...
- ...

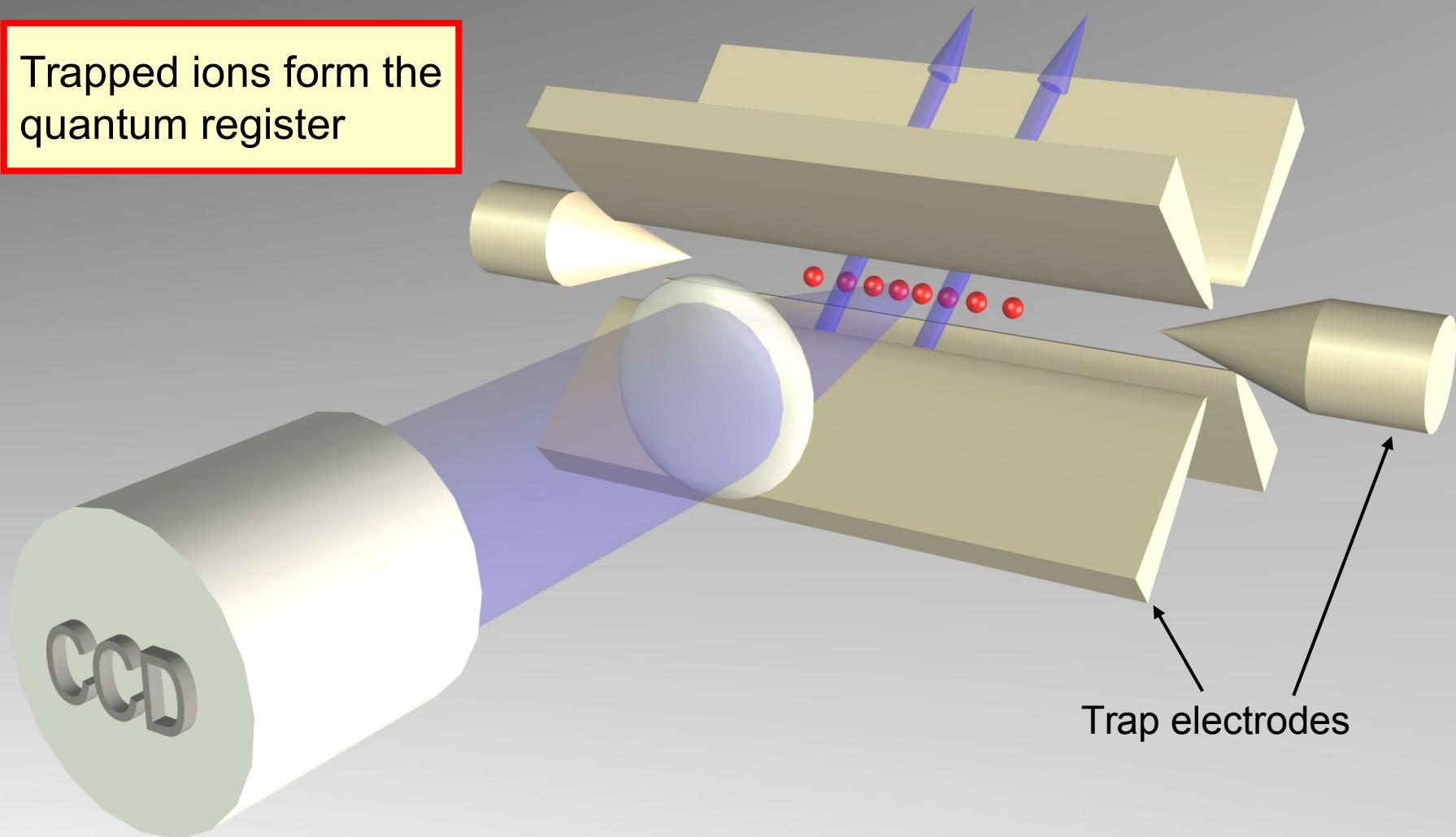


- Introduction to ion trap QIP
- Local detection of quantum correlations
- A Michelson-Morley test with electrons
- Conclusions

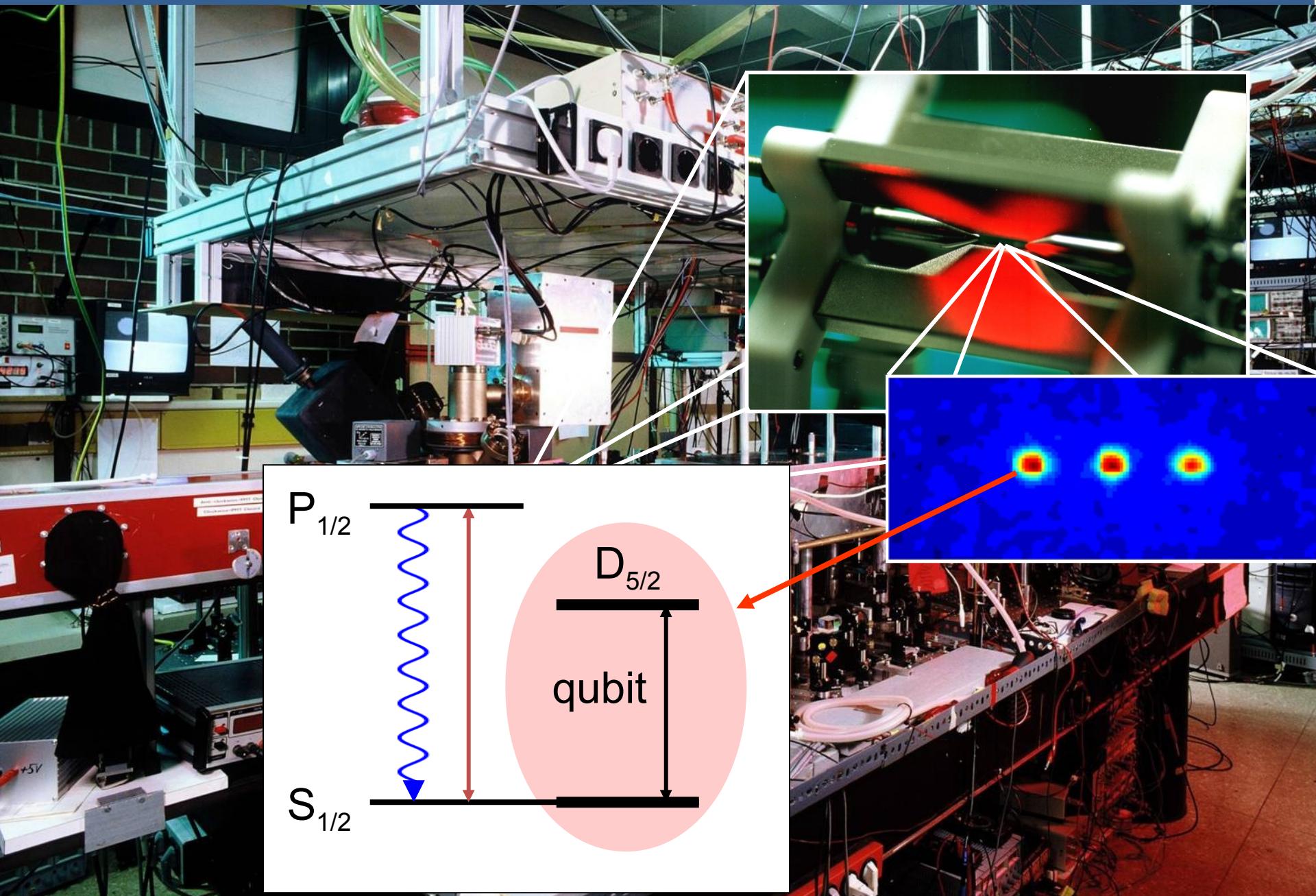
- Introduction to ion trap QIP
- Local detection of quantum correlations
- A Michelson-Morley test with electrons
- Conclusions

# Ion trap quantum computing

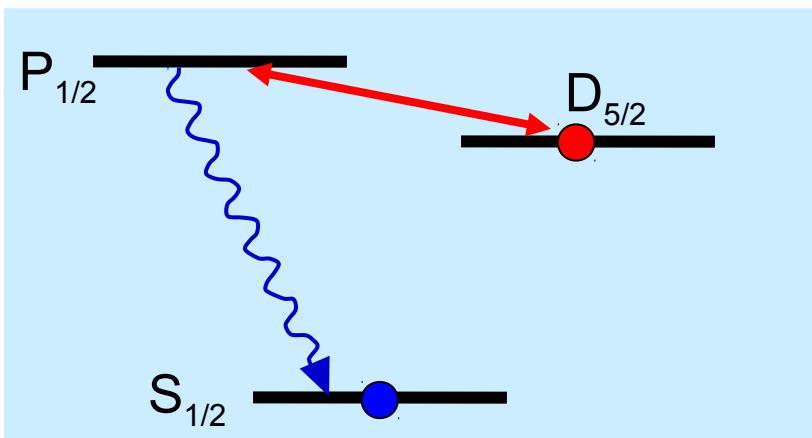
Trapped ions form the quantum register



# The hardware

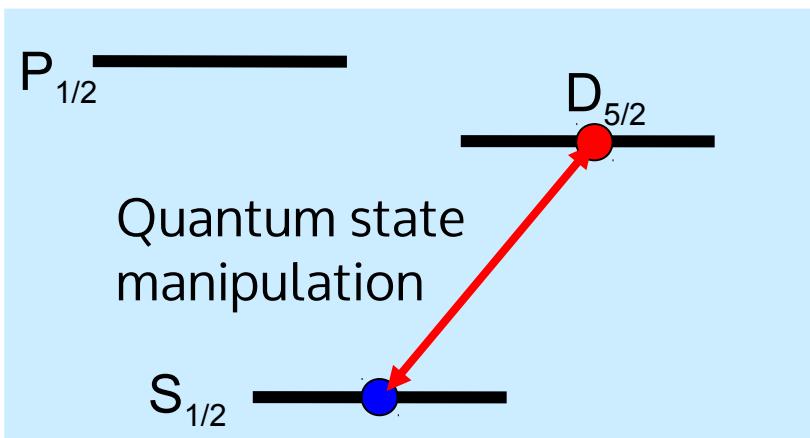


# Experimental procedure



1. Initialization in a pure quantum state

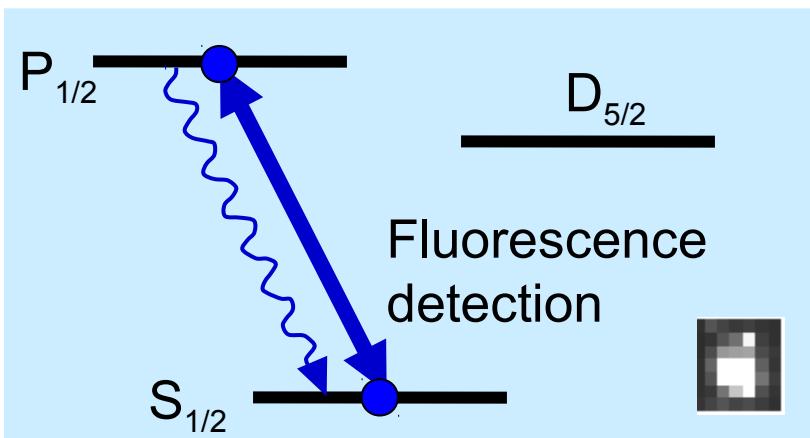
# Experimental procedure



1. Initialization in a pure quantum state

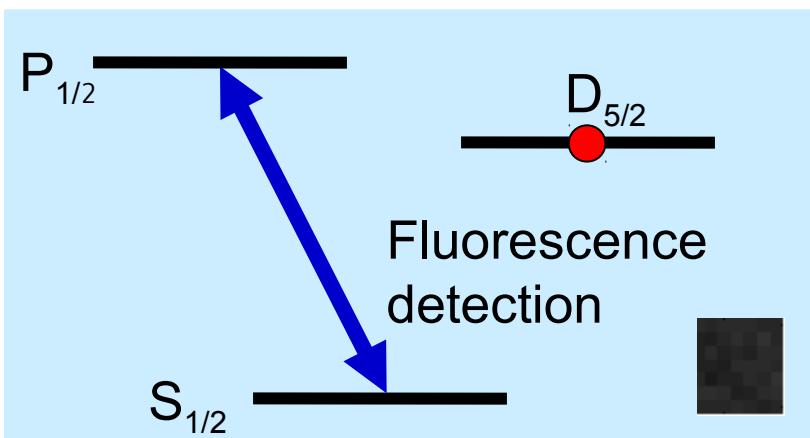
2. Quantum state manipulation on  
 $S_{1/2} - D_{5/2}$  transition

# Experimental procedure



1. Initialization in a pure quantum state
2. Quantum state manipulation on  $S_{1/2} - D_{5/2}$  transition
3. Quantum state measurement by fluorescence detection

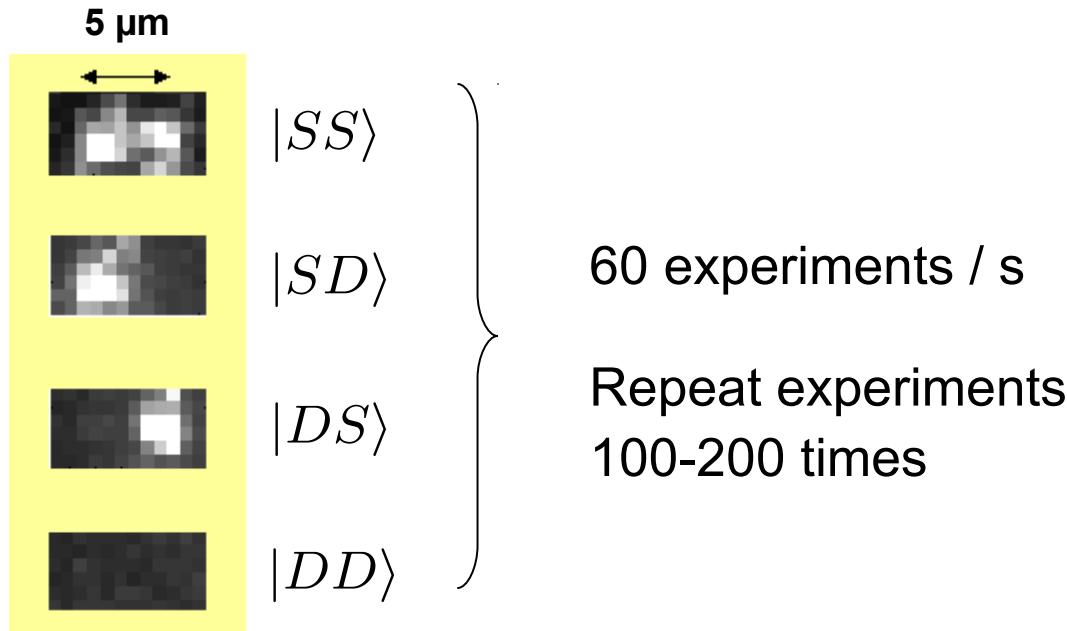
# Experimental procedure



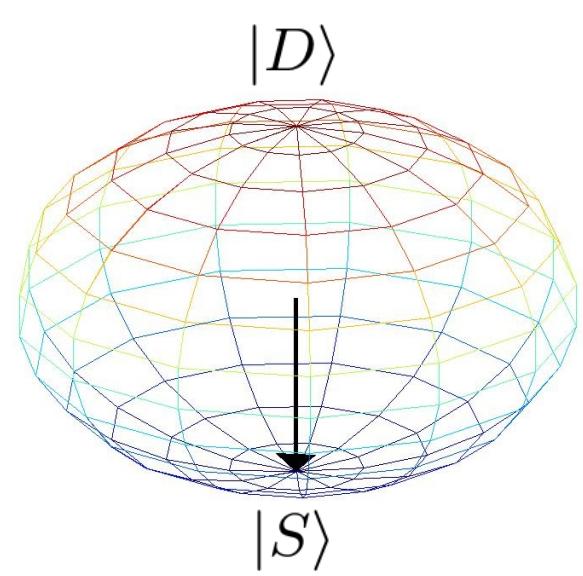
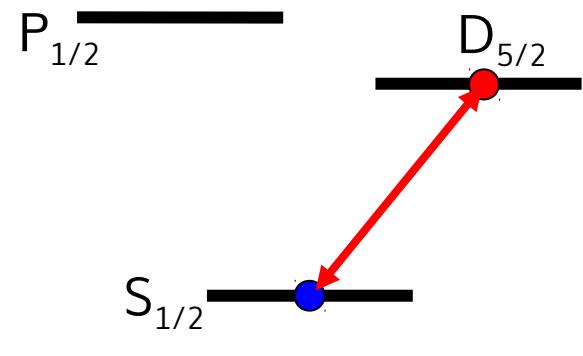
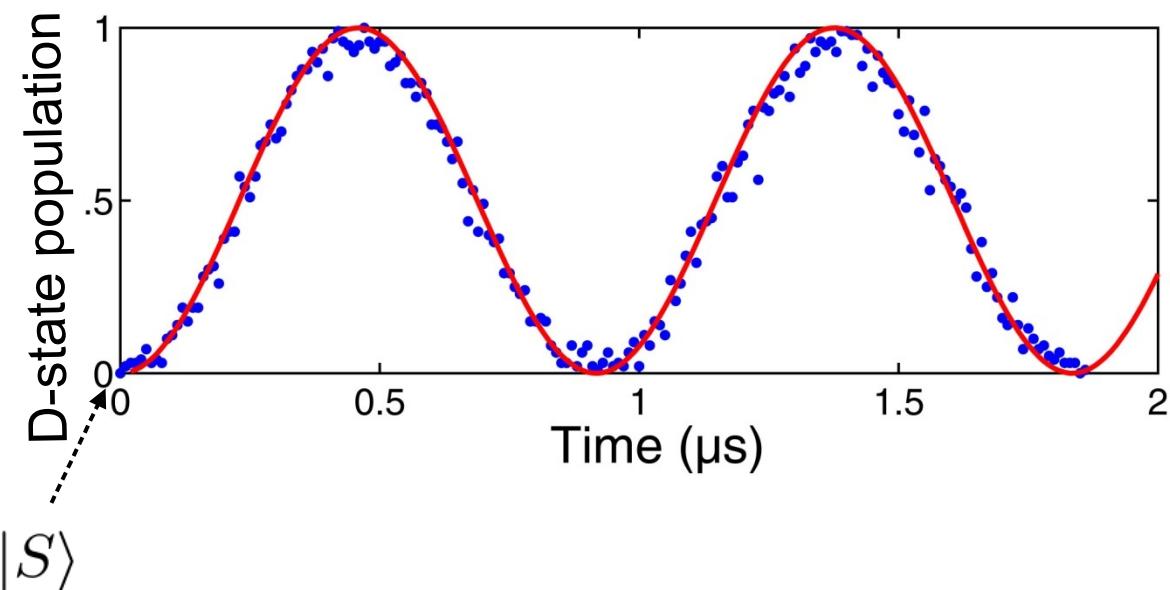
1. Initialization in a pure quantum state
2. Quantum state manipulation on  $S_{1/2} - D_{5/2}$  transition
3. Quantum state measurement by fluorescence detection

Two ions:

Spatially resolved  
detection with  
CCD camera

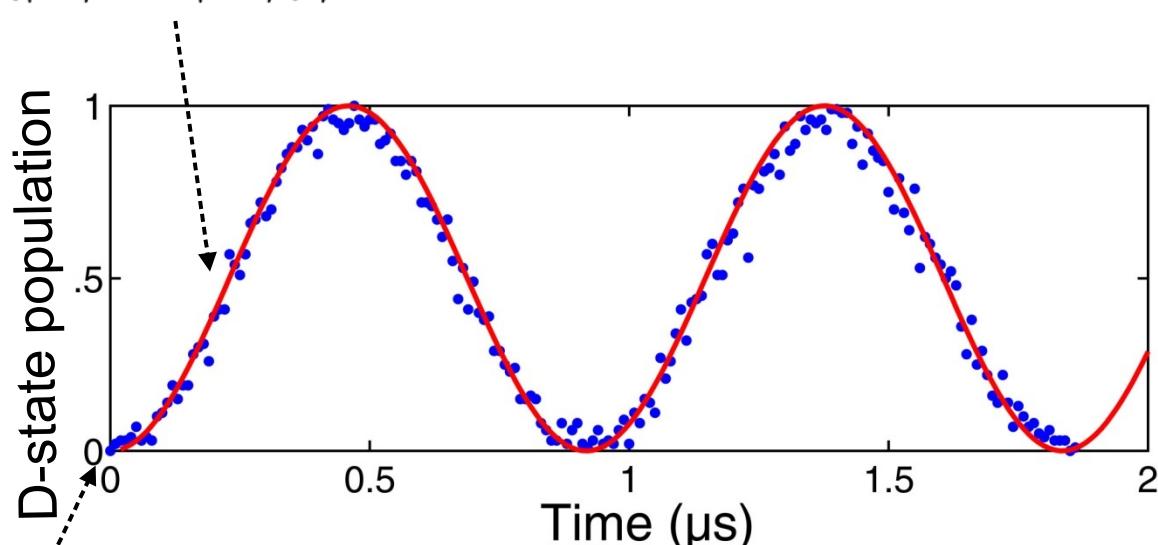


# Single qubit gates

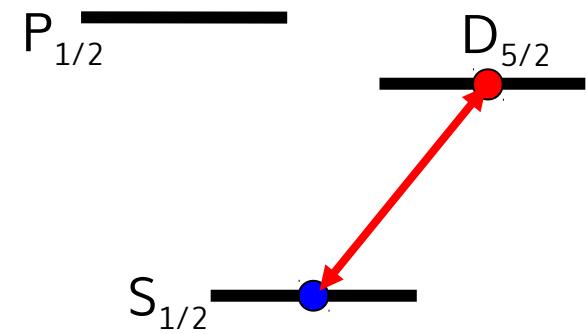


# Single qubit gates

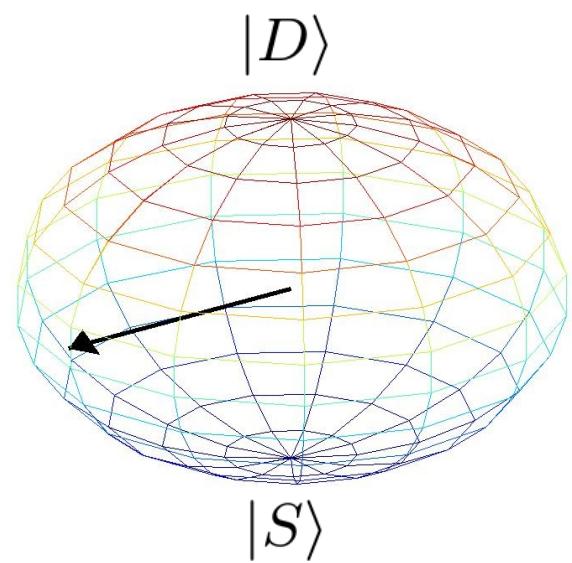
$$(|S\rangle + |D\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$



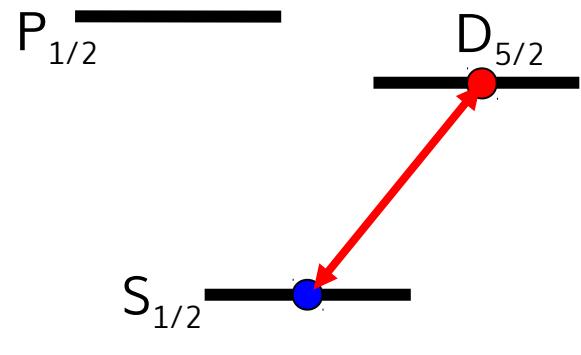
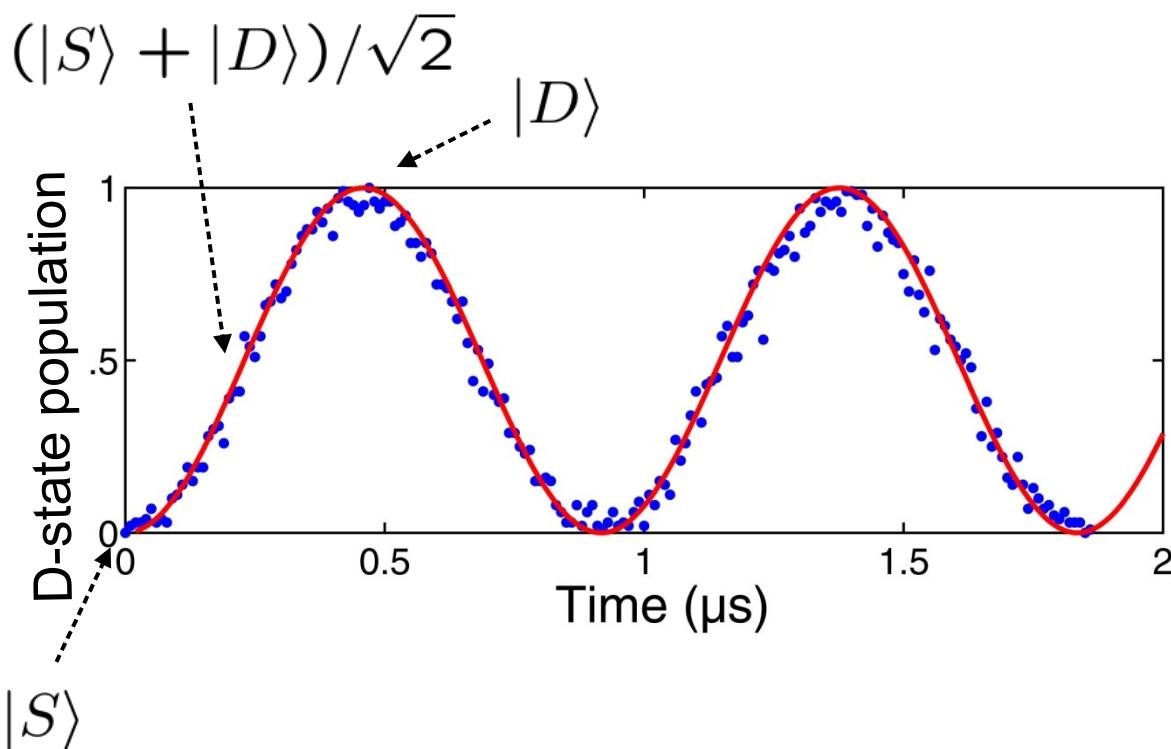
$$|S\rangle$$



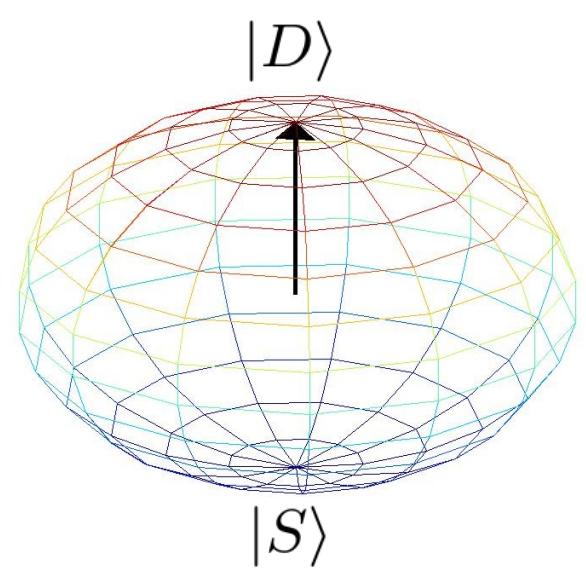
$$(|S\rangle + |D\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$



# Single qubit gates

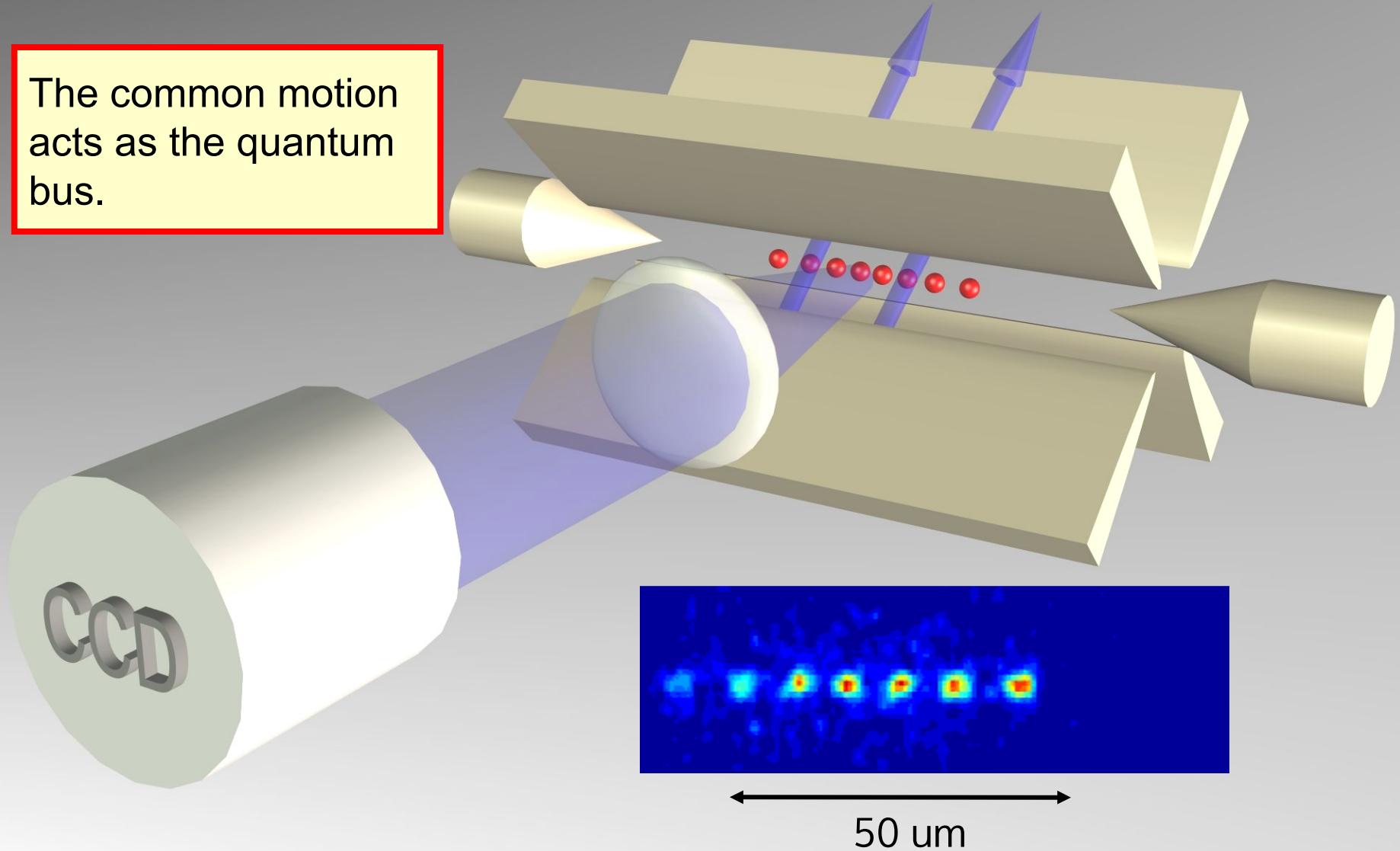


$$(|S\rangle + |D\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$$

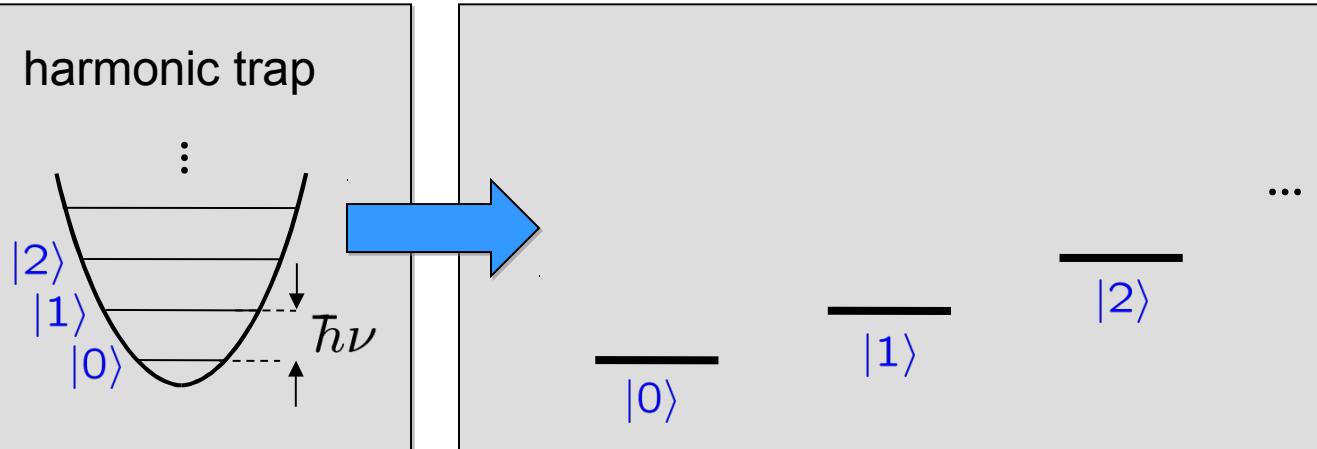


# Having the qubits interact

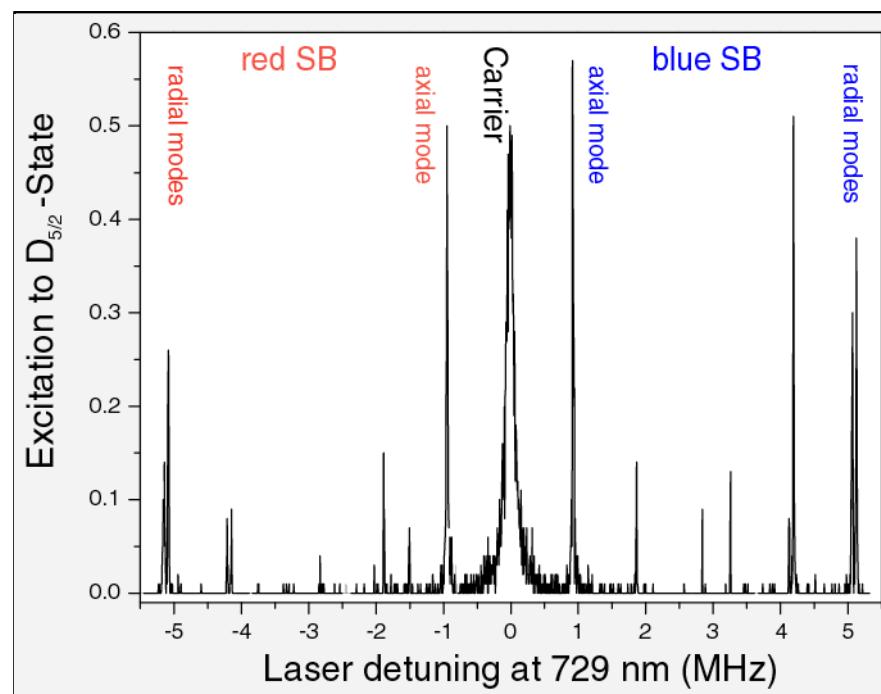
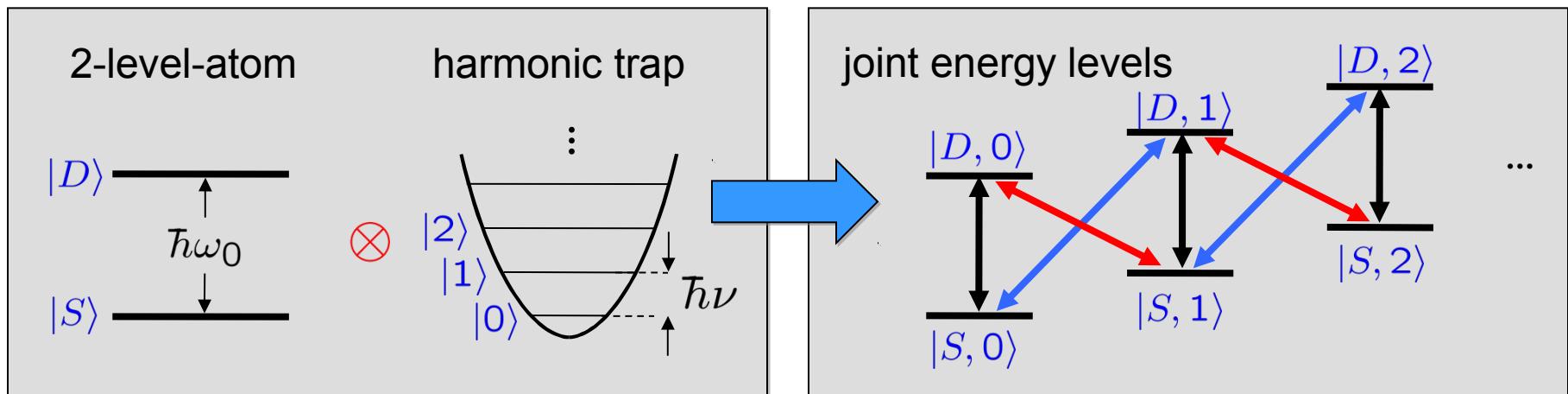
The common motion acts as the quantum bus.



# Ion motion



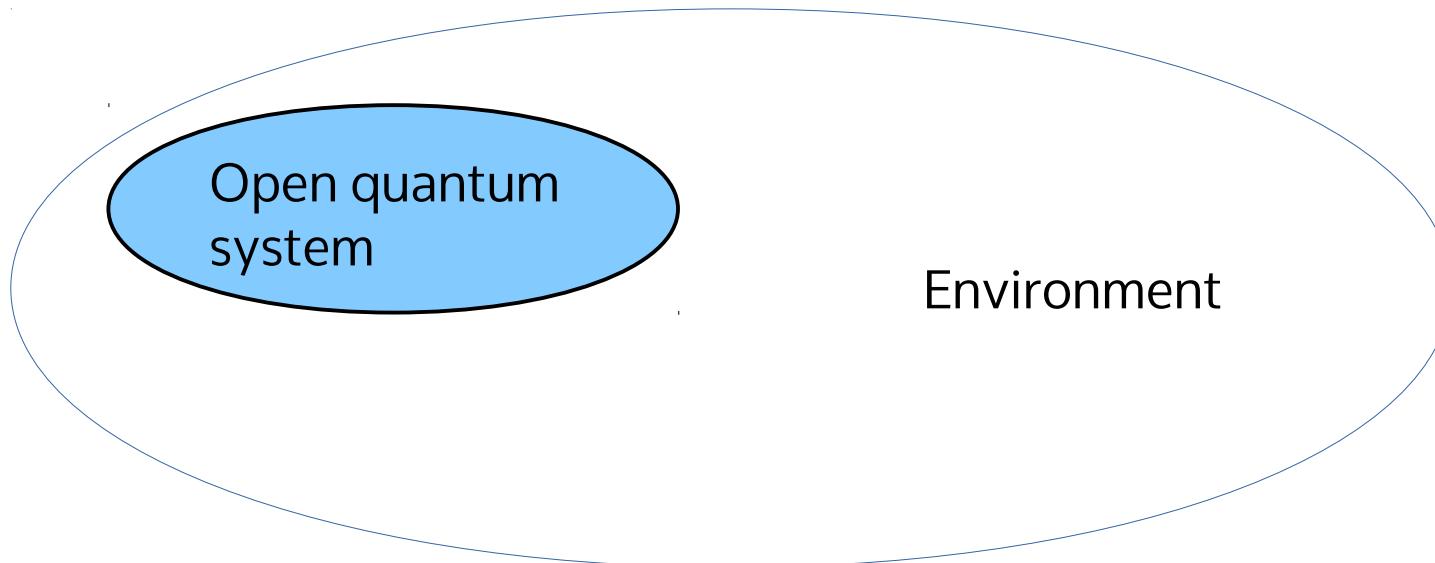
# Ion motion



- Introduction
- Local detection of quantum correlations
- A Michelson-Morley test with electrons
- Conclusions

# Local detection of quantum correlations

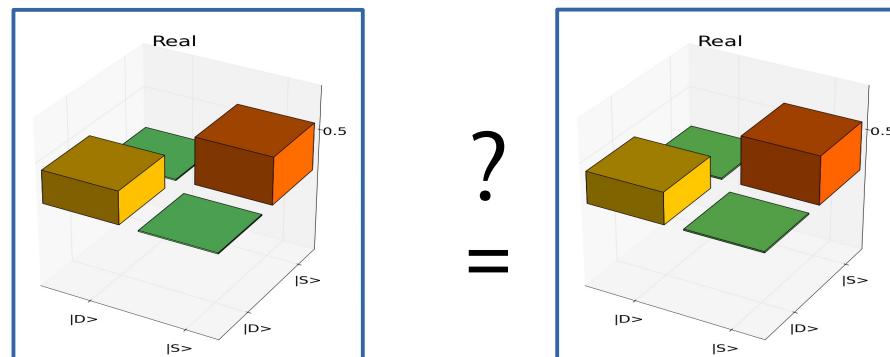
Given a quantum system, can you figure out whether it has quantum correlations with its environment ?



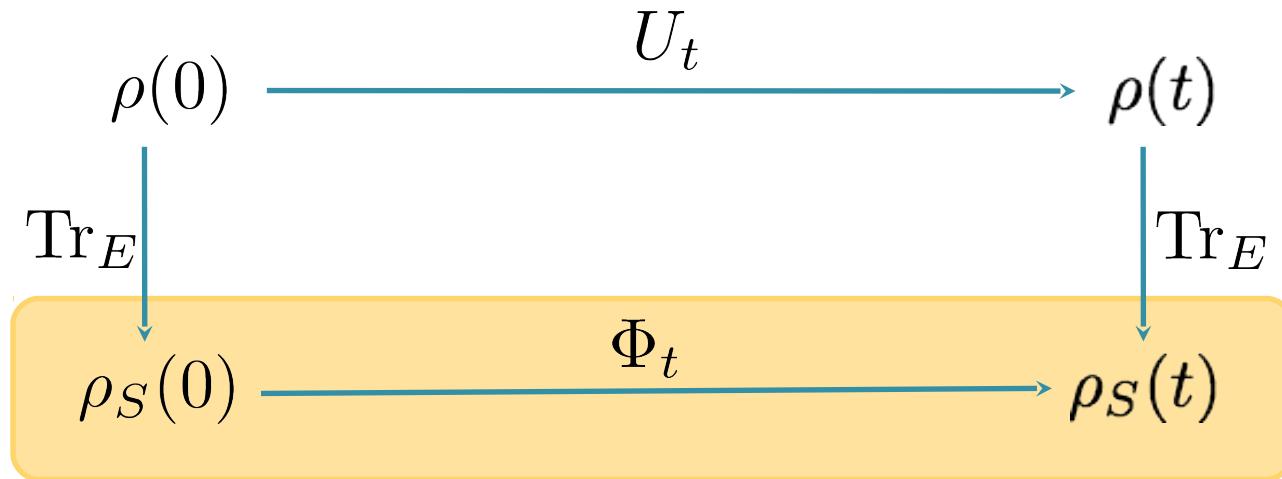
you can only control the open quantum system

# Potential applications

1. Study dynamics of quantum correlations
2. Characterize decoherence in QIP
3. Study quantum correlations in quantum phase transitions
  - Clarify the role of entanglement during phase transitions
  - Detect phase transitions
4. How meaningful is the density matrix?



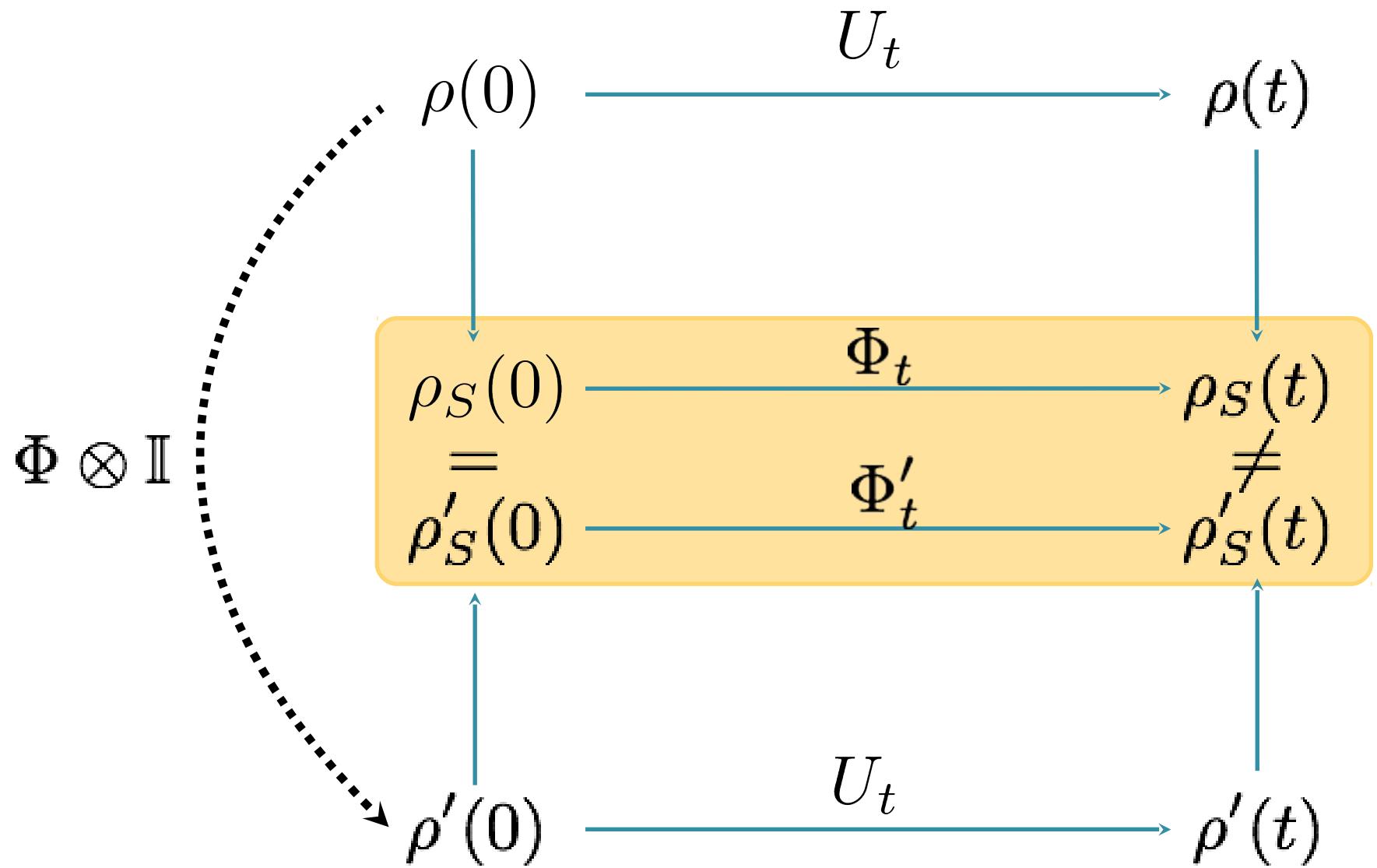
# Local Detection Protocol



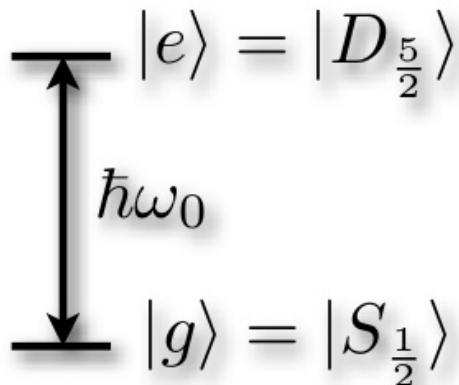
$\Phi_t$  depends on:

- State of the environment
- Initial correlations between system and environment
- Standard assumption: no correlations

# Local Detection Protocol



# Local detection of quantum correlations



“System”

Electronic Degree of Freedom = Qubit

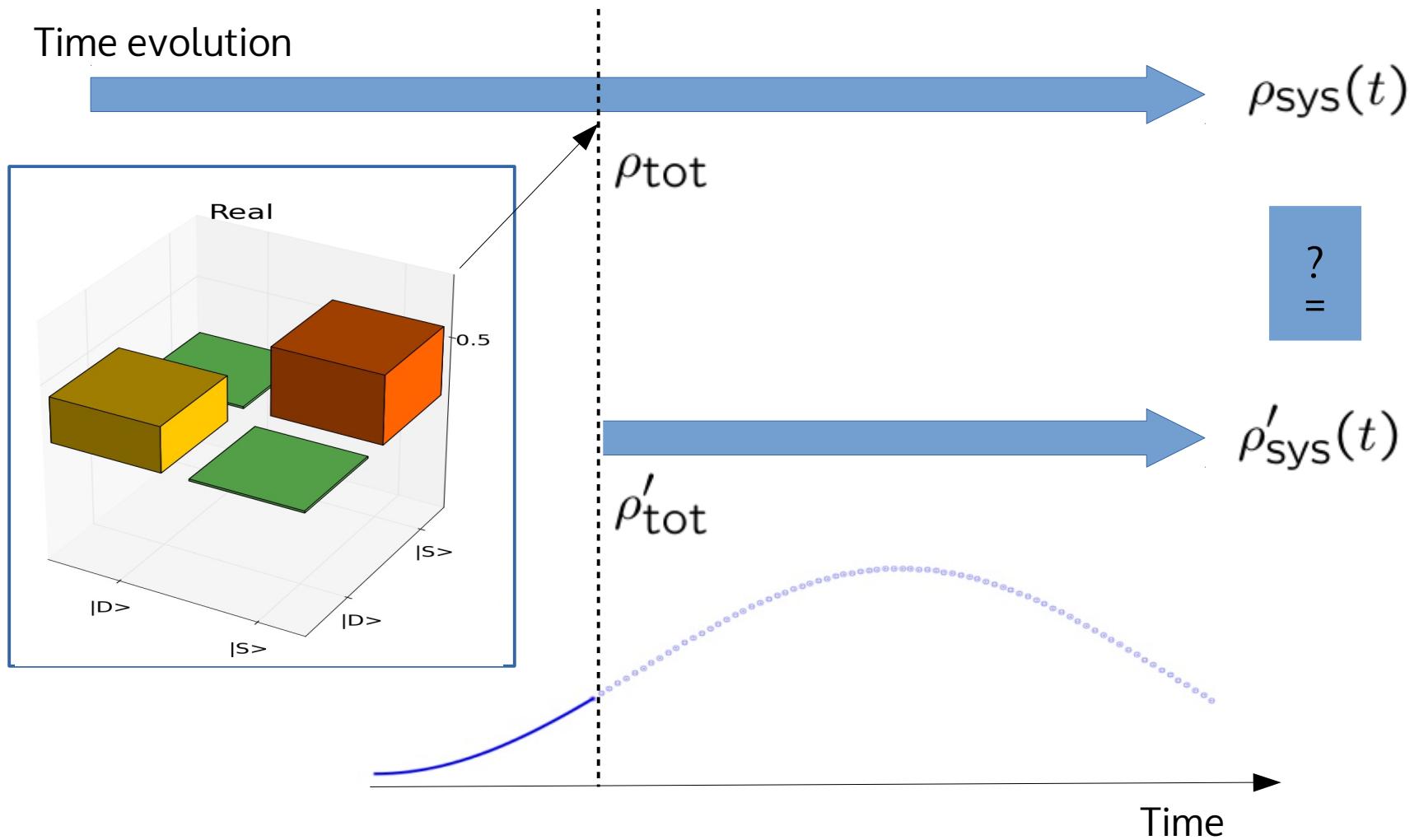
“Environment”

Motional Degree of Freedom = Harmonic Oscillator

Open system – environment dynamics:

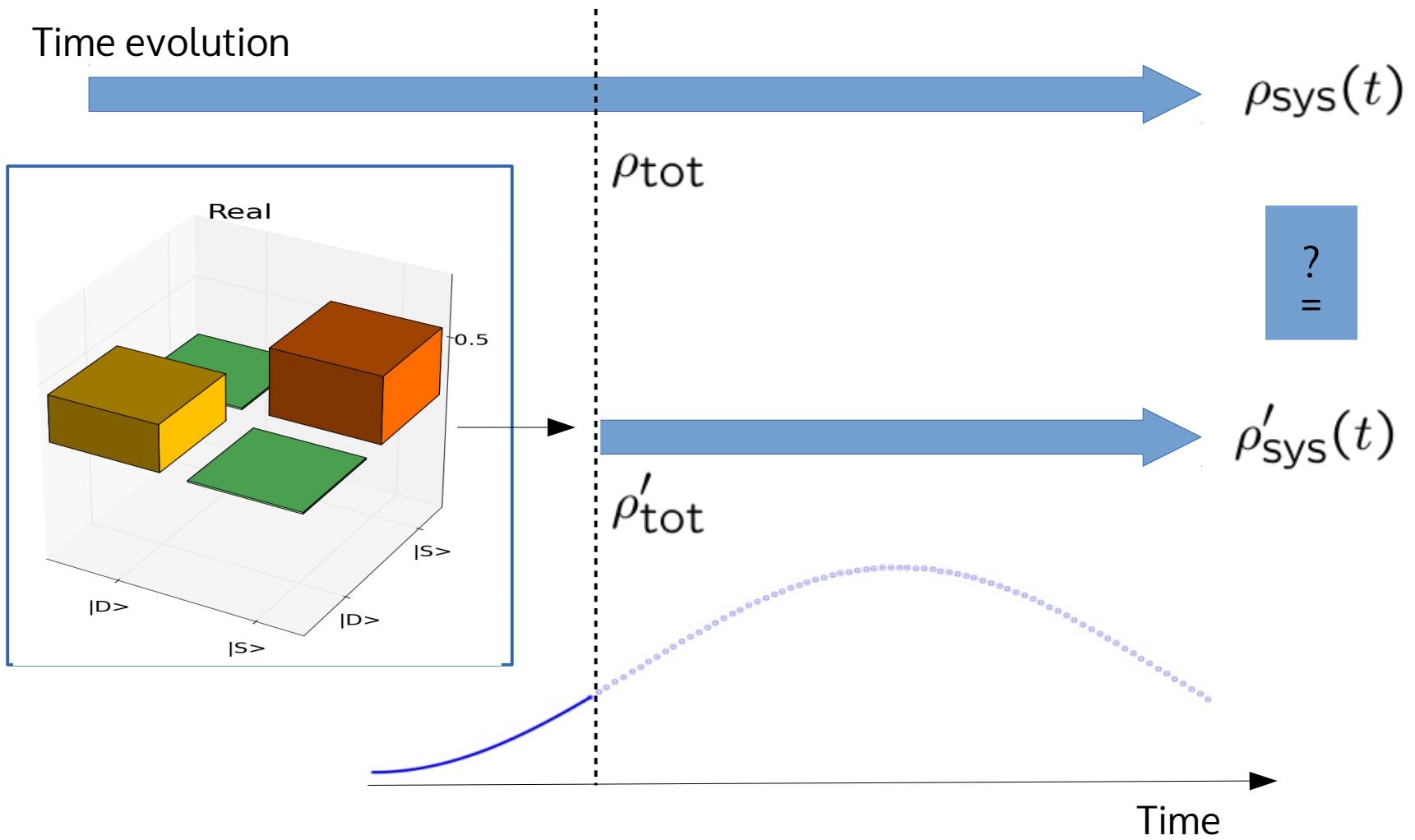
$$\text{Blue sideband: } H = \sigma_+ a^\dagger + \sigma_- a$$

# Local detection of quantum correlations

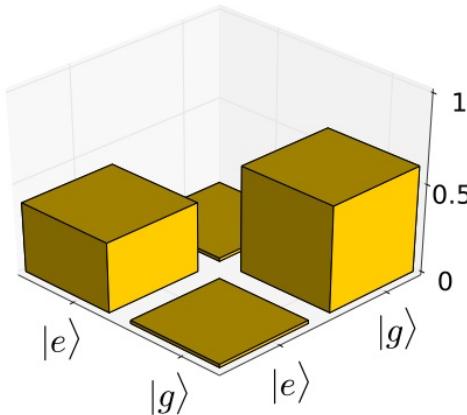
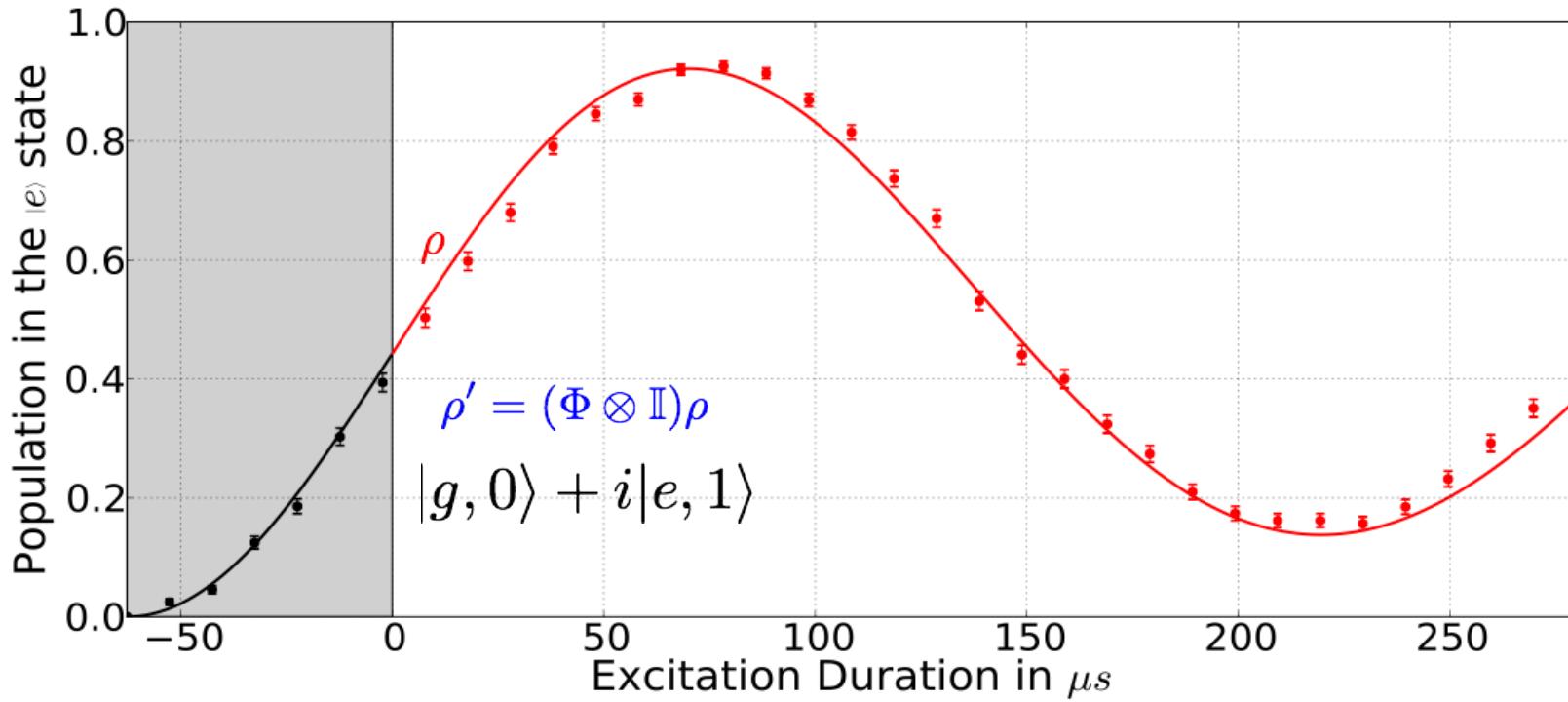


# Local detection of quantum correlations

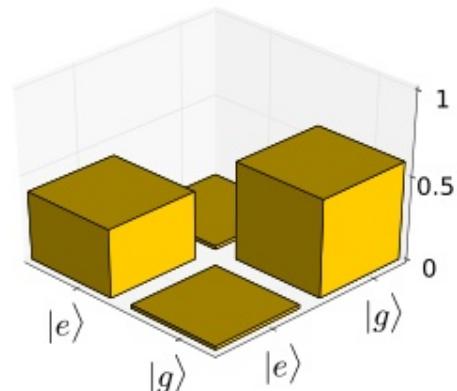
Time evolution



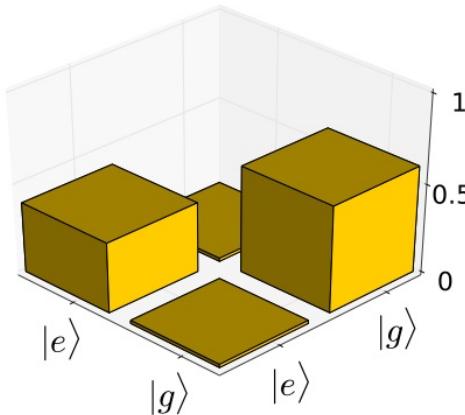
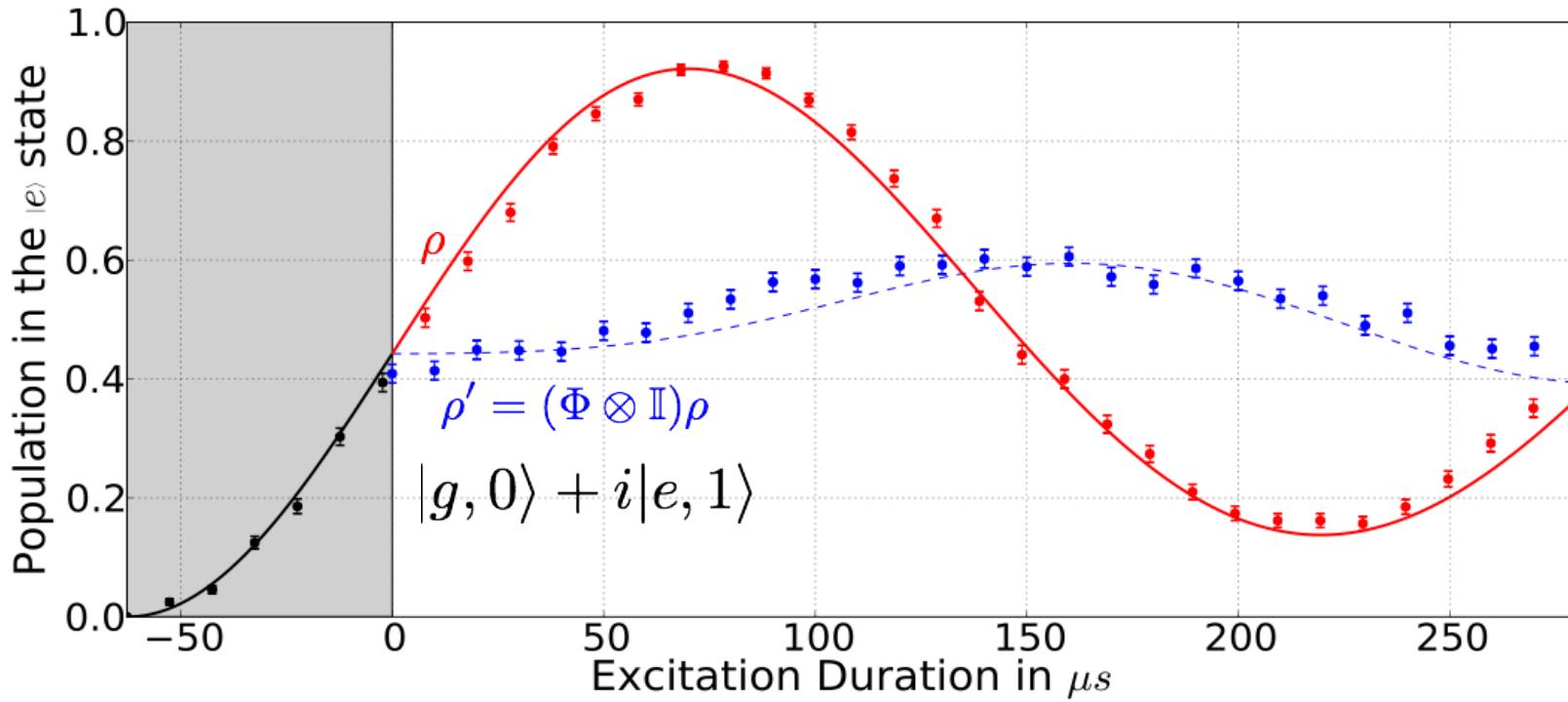
# Local detection of quantum correlations



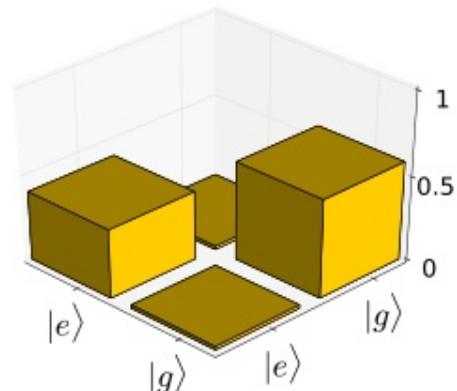
$$\rho_S = \rho'_S$$



# Local detection of quantum correlations



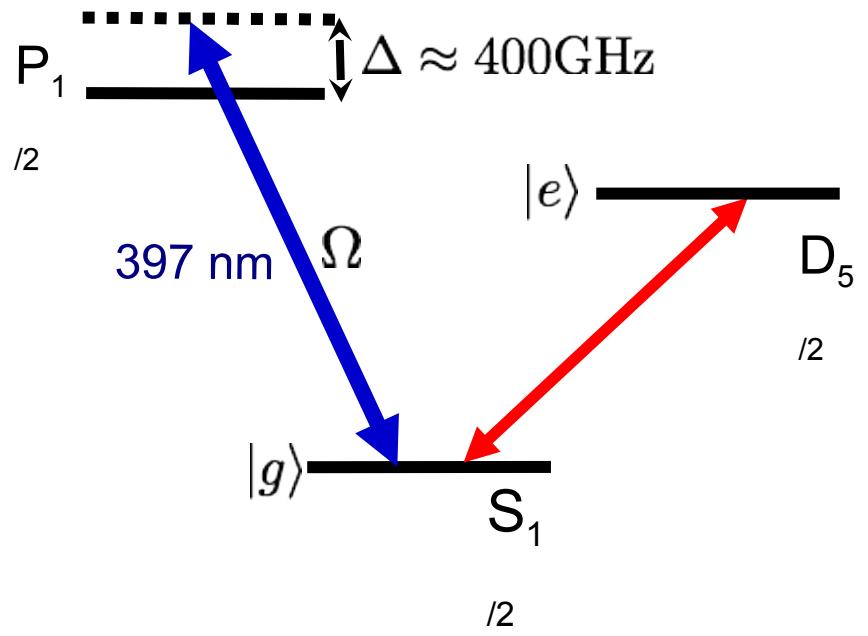
$$\rho_S = \rho'_S$$



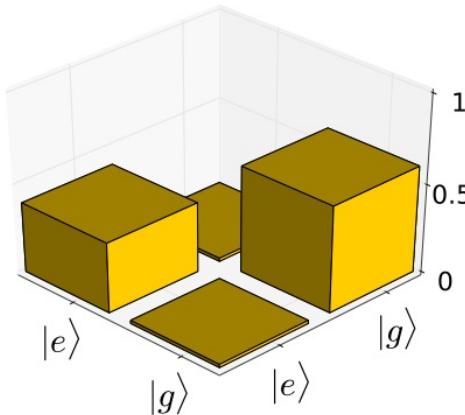
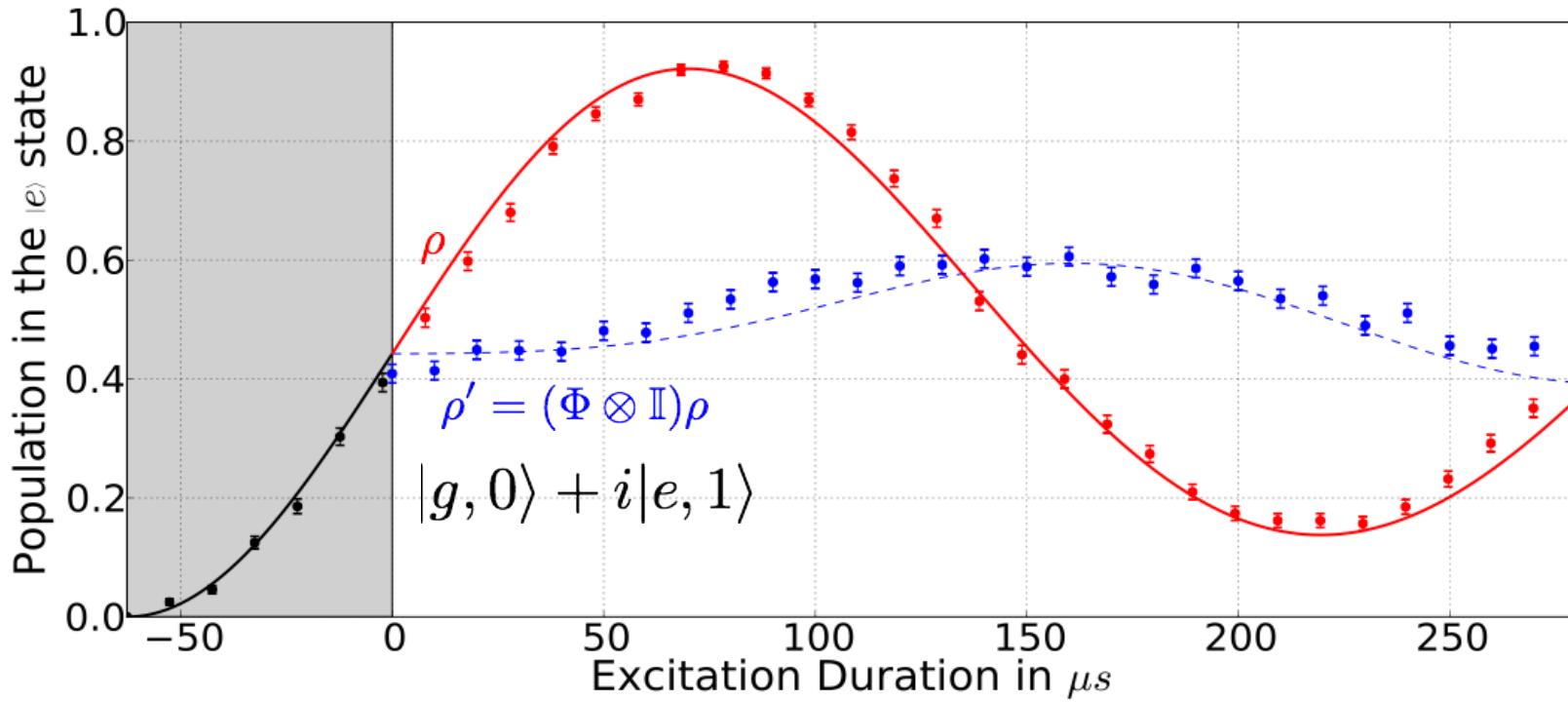
# Dephasing Implementation

- AC Stark shift introduces a phase shift

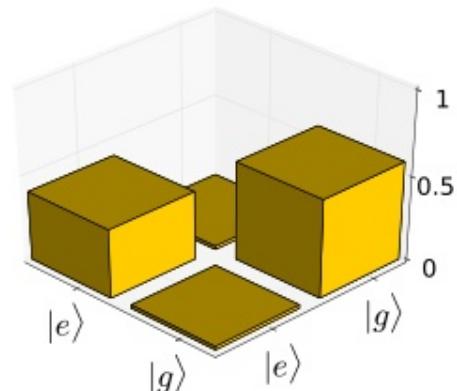
- Averaging over interaction time removes coherence
- Populations, motion not affected



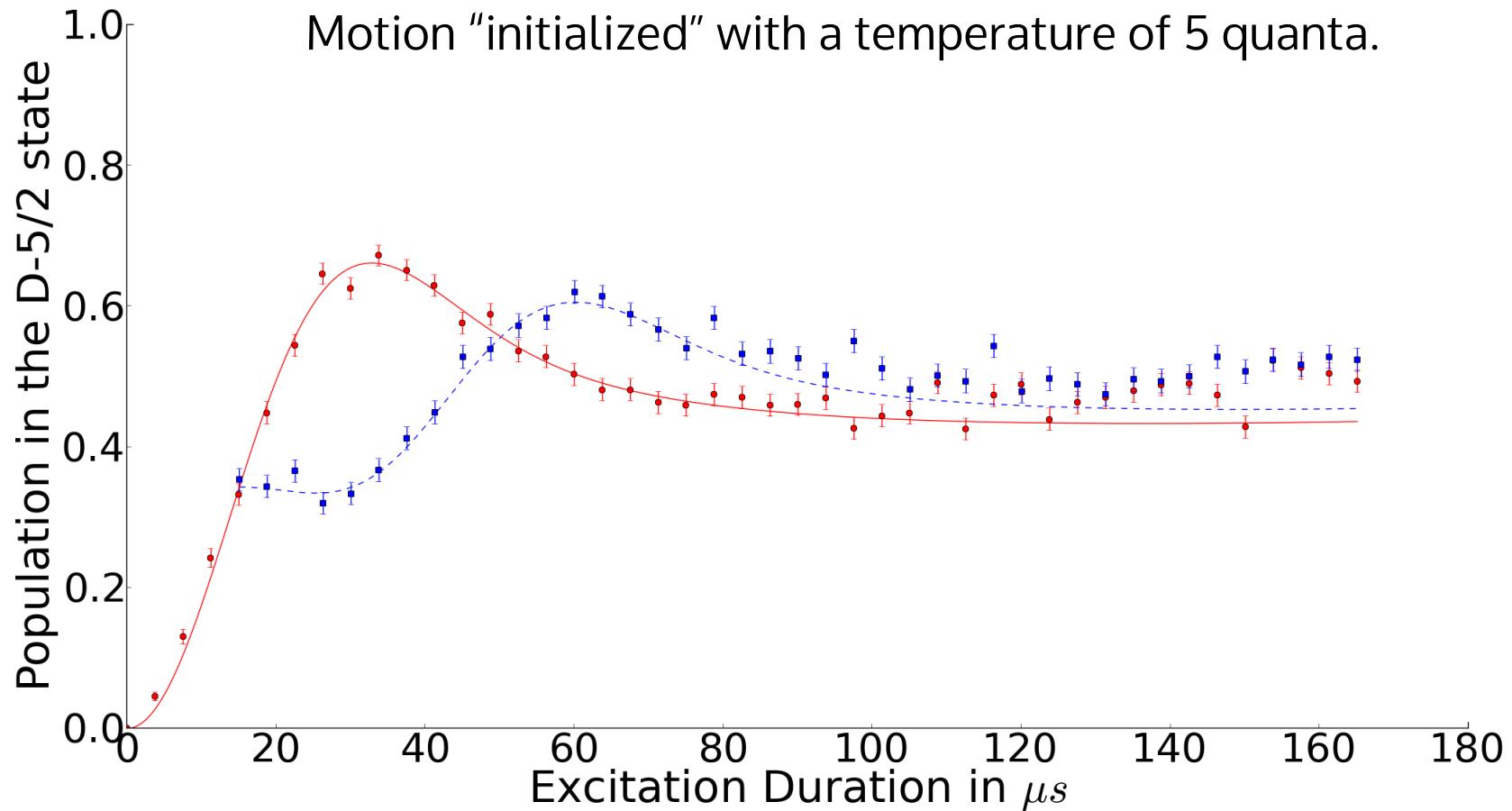
# Local detection of quantum correlations



$$\rho_S = \rho'_S$$



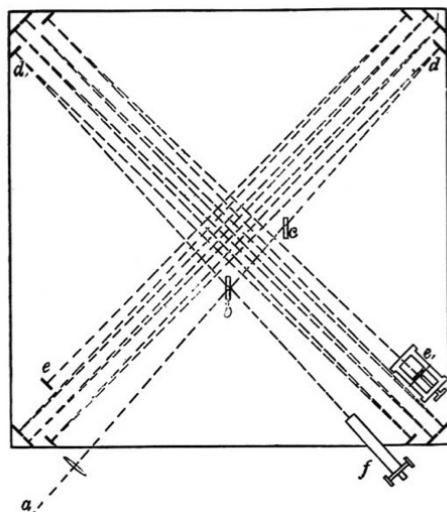
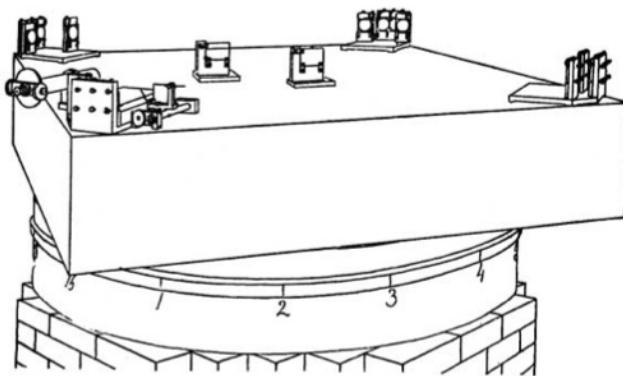
# Detection of discord in the interesting case



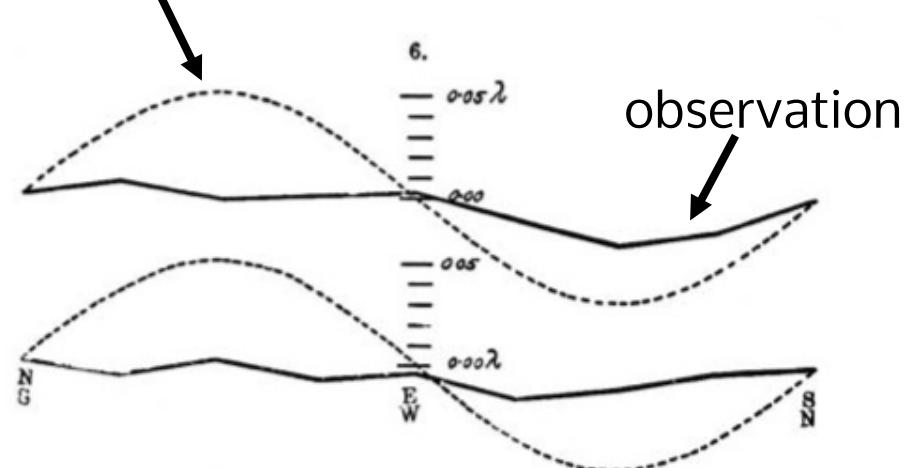
- Introduction
- Local detection of quantum correlations
- A Michelson-Morley test with electrons
- Conclusions

# A most famous null experiment

Test for an “aether”.



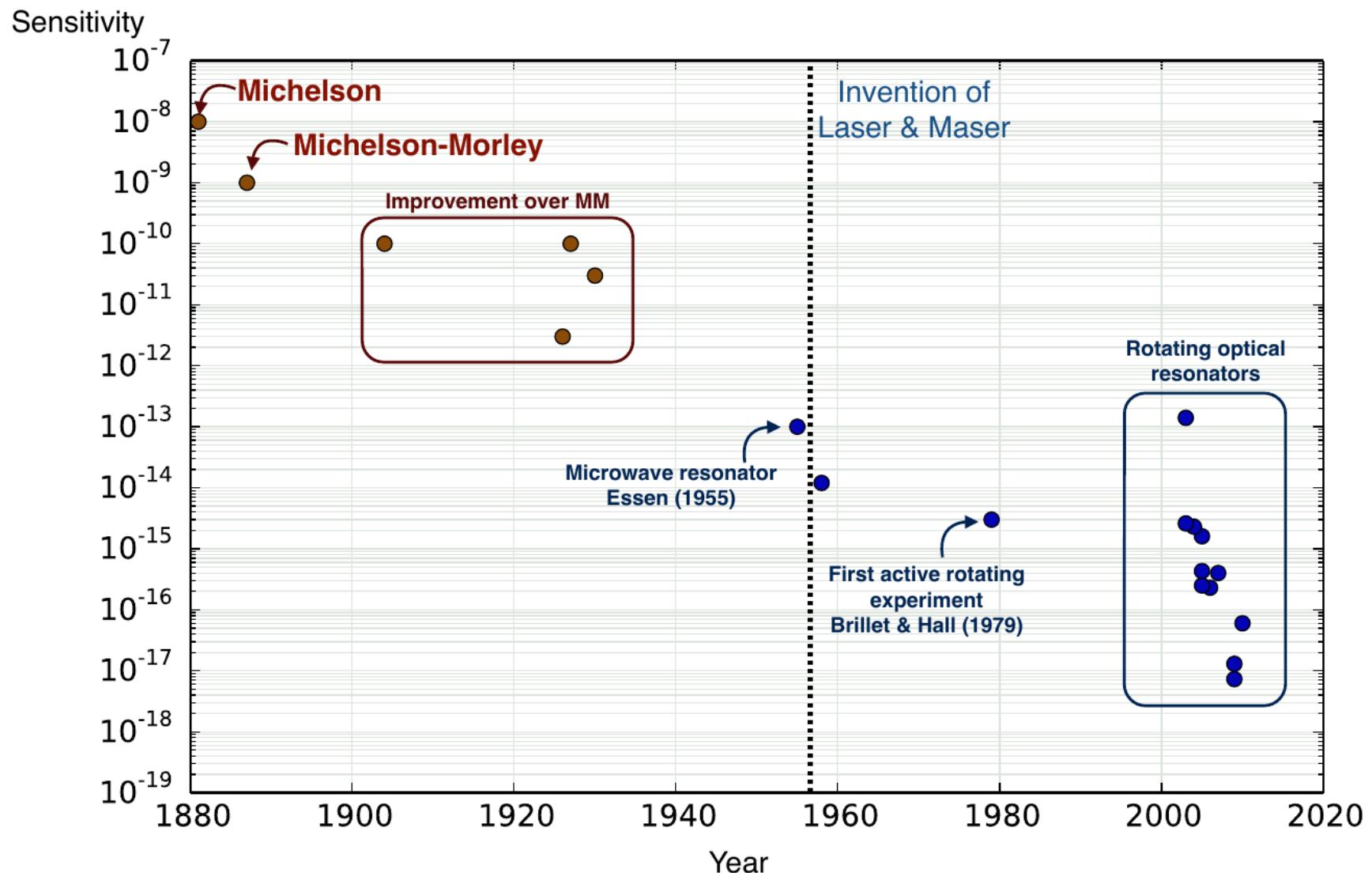
expected fringe shift due to aether



Michelson-Morley experiment  
confirms Lorentz symmetry to  $10^{-9}$

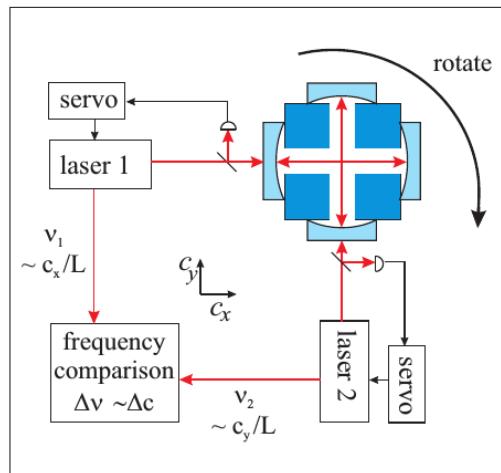
Michelson & Morley, Am. J. Science 34, 427 (1887).

# A most famous null experiment



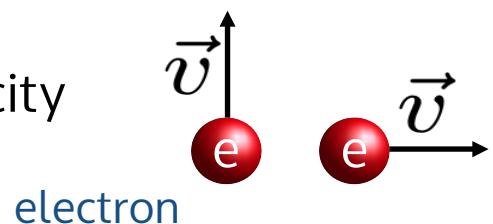
# Lorentz-violating effects?

Modern Michelson-Morley experiments



Electrons

- maximum attainable speed is (not) "c"
- dependence of energy on direction of velocity



Others . . . .

- neutron, proton, neutrinos . . . .

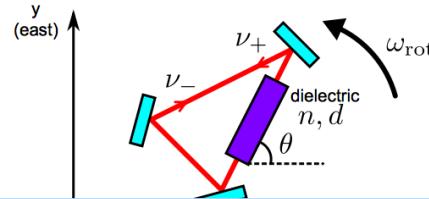
same energy?

# Modern tests of Lorentz symmetry

## Accelerator

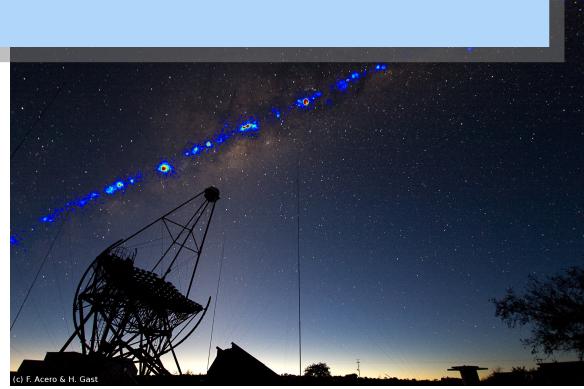
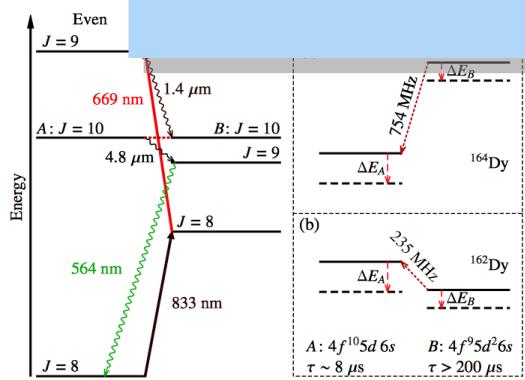


## Optical cavities



nn (2009)

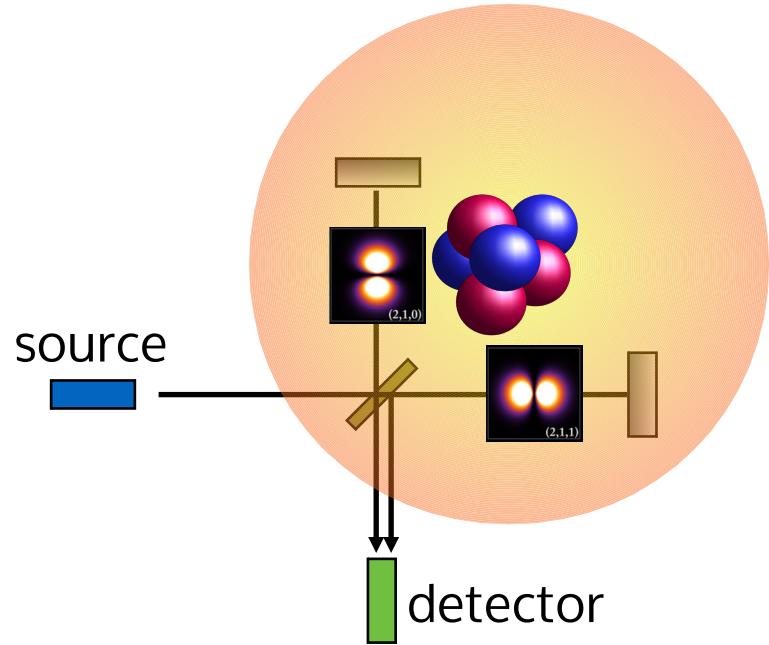
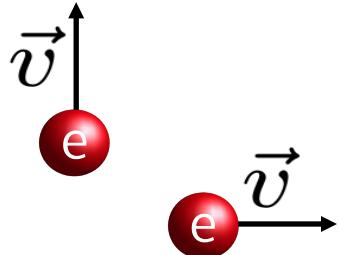
This talk: New approach with electrons  
using quantum information techniques  
and decoherence free subspaces.



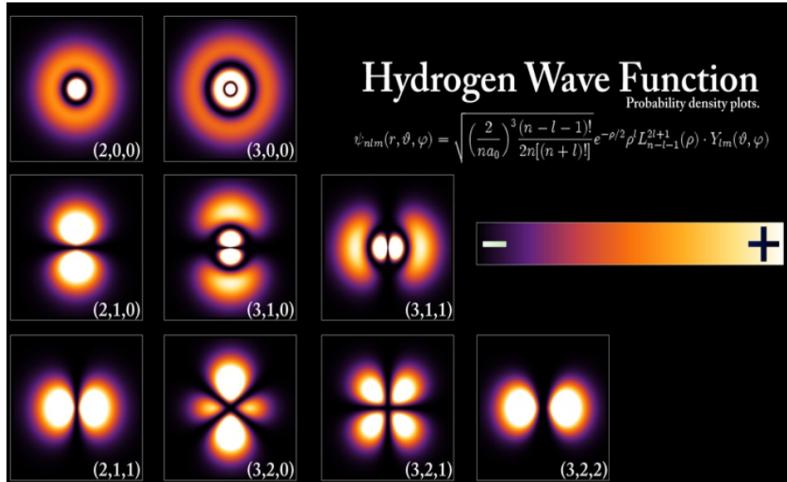
HESS telescope, Altschul (2006)

Hughes-Drever (1960/1961)  
Hohensee (2013)

# Interferometer with electrons?



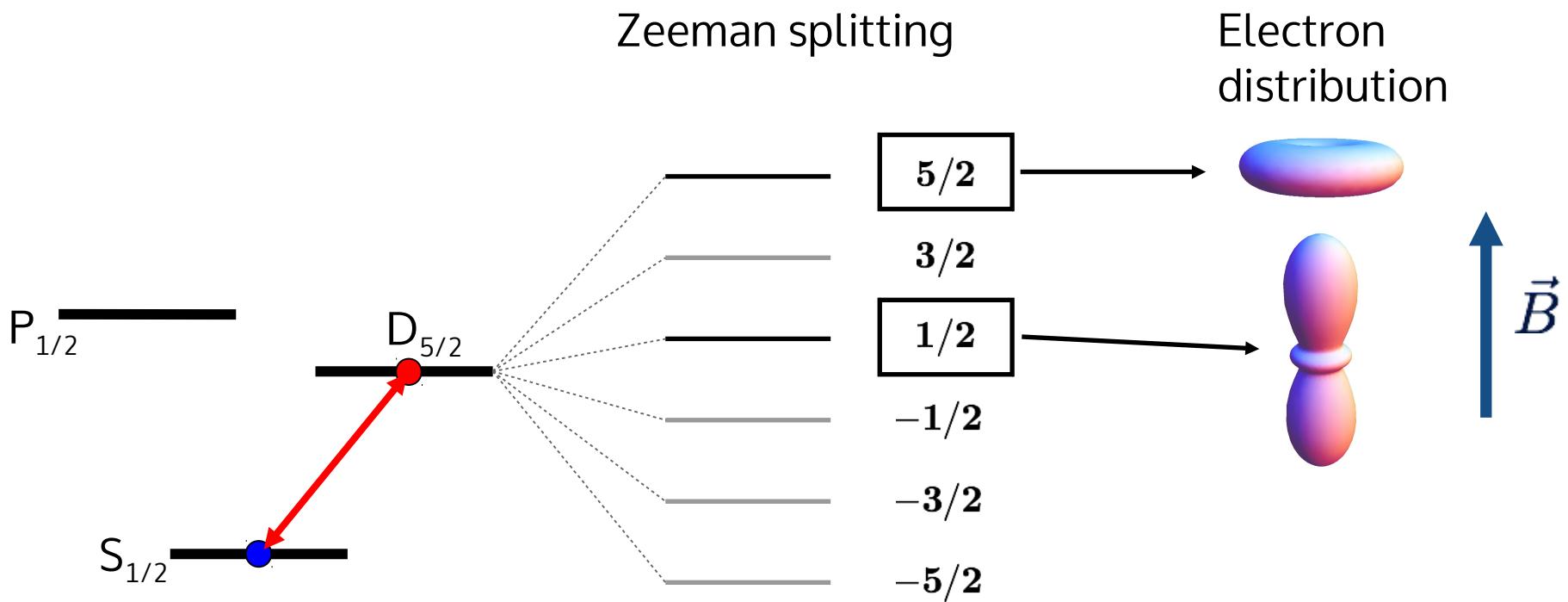
Use electrons trapped by nuclei



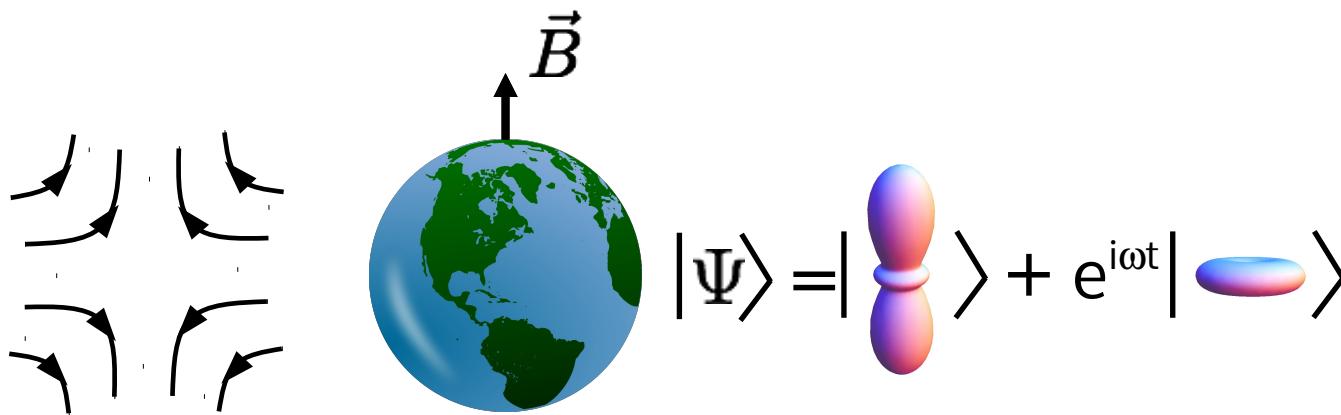
Michelson interferometer

# Interferometer with electrons?

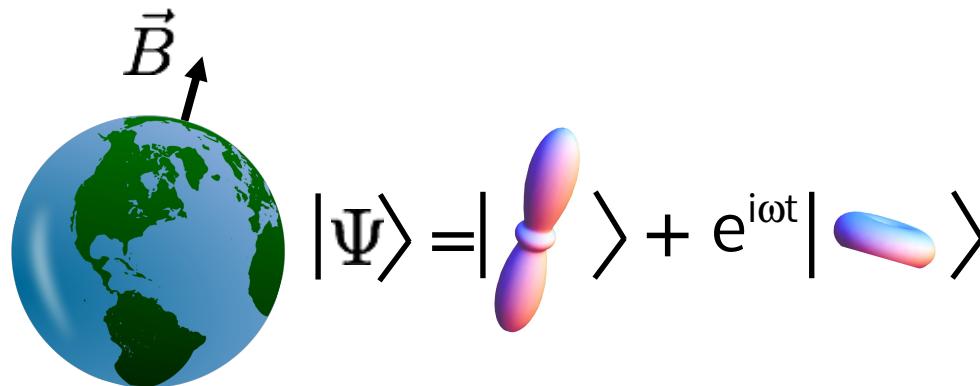
Use the D-manifold of  $^{40}\text{Ca}^+$



# Measurement scheme



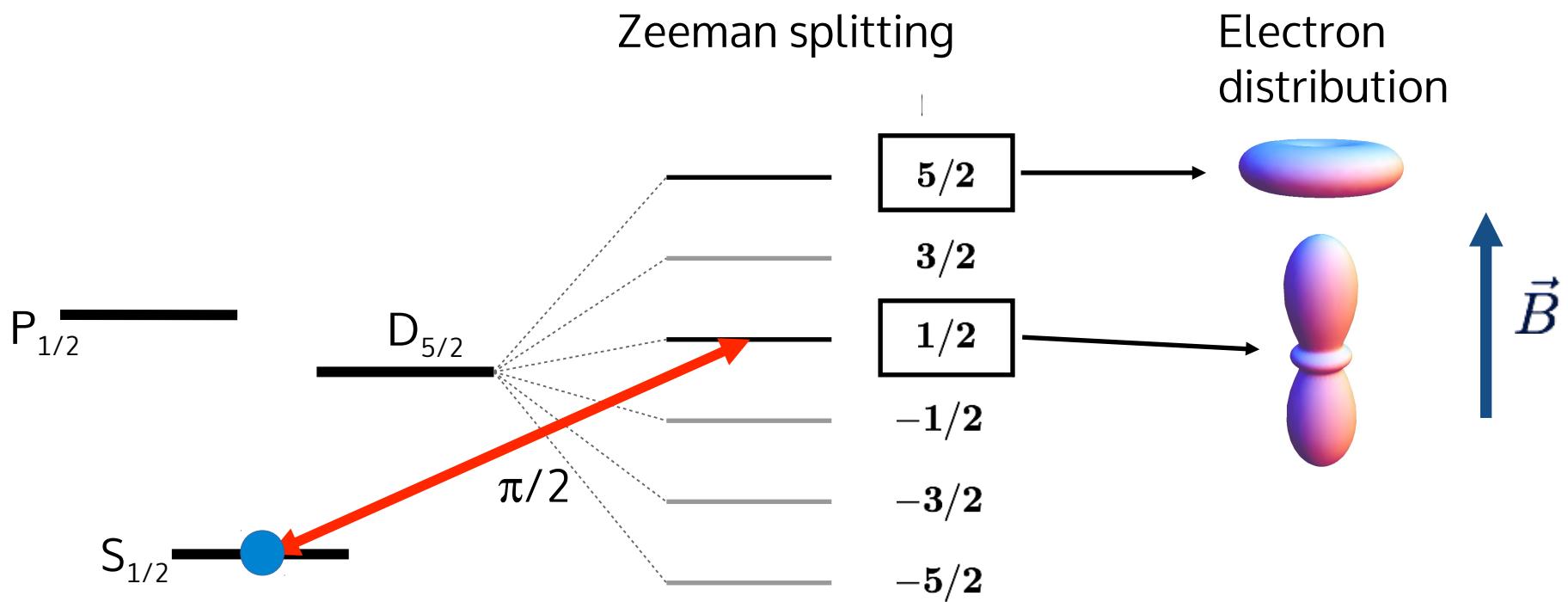
Preferred  
direction ?



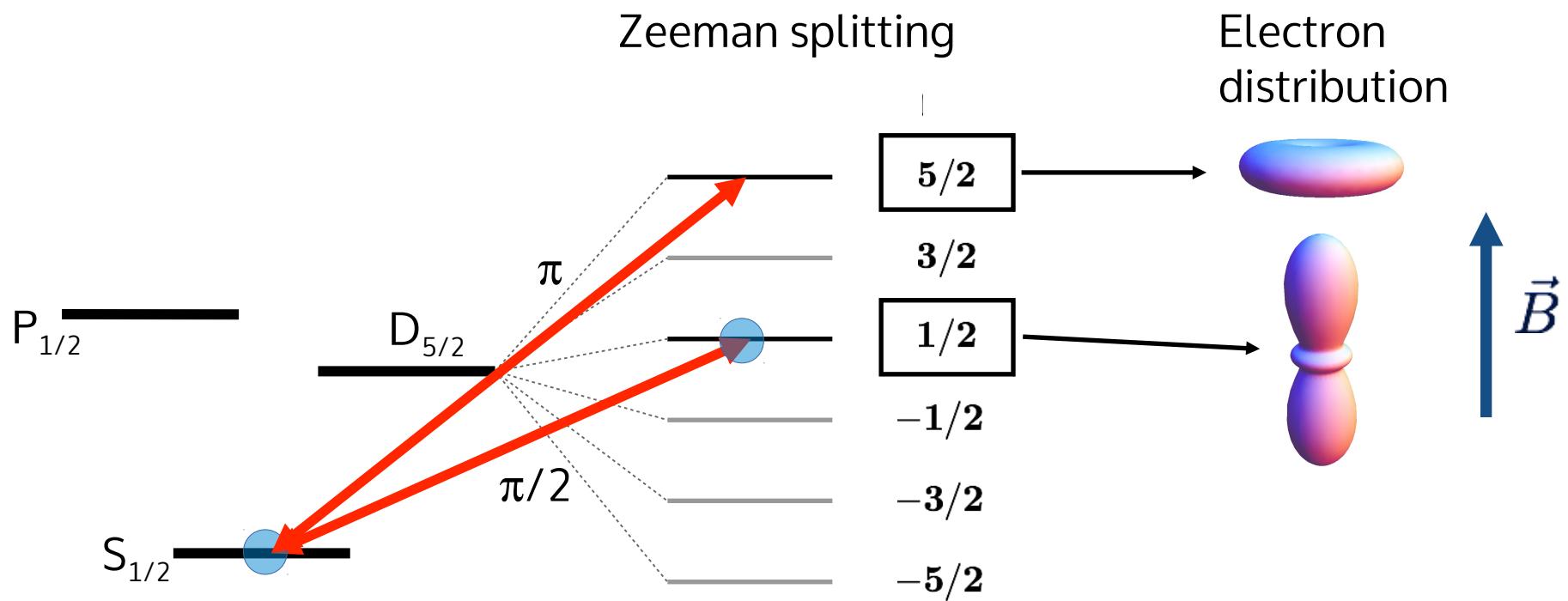
Lorentz violation  $\rightarrow$  preferred direction

$\rightarrow$  energy shift with the Earth's rotation

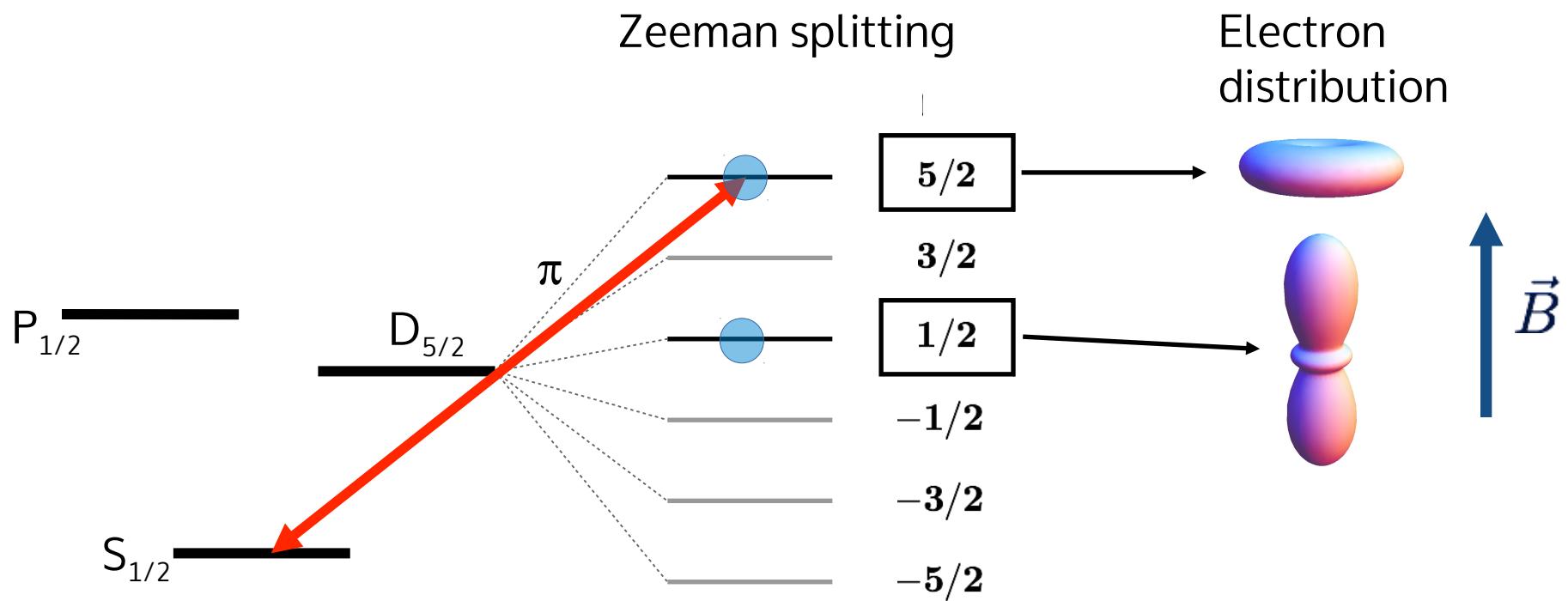
# State preparation



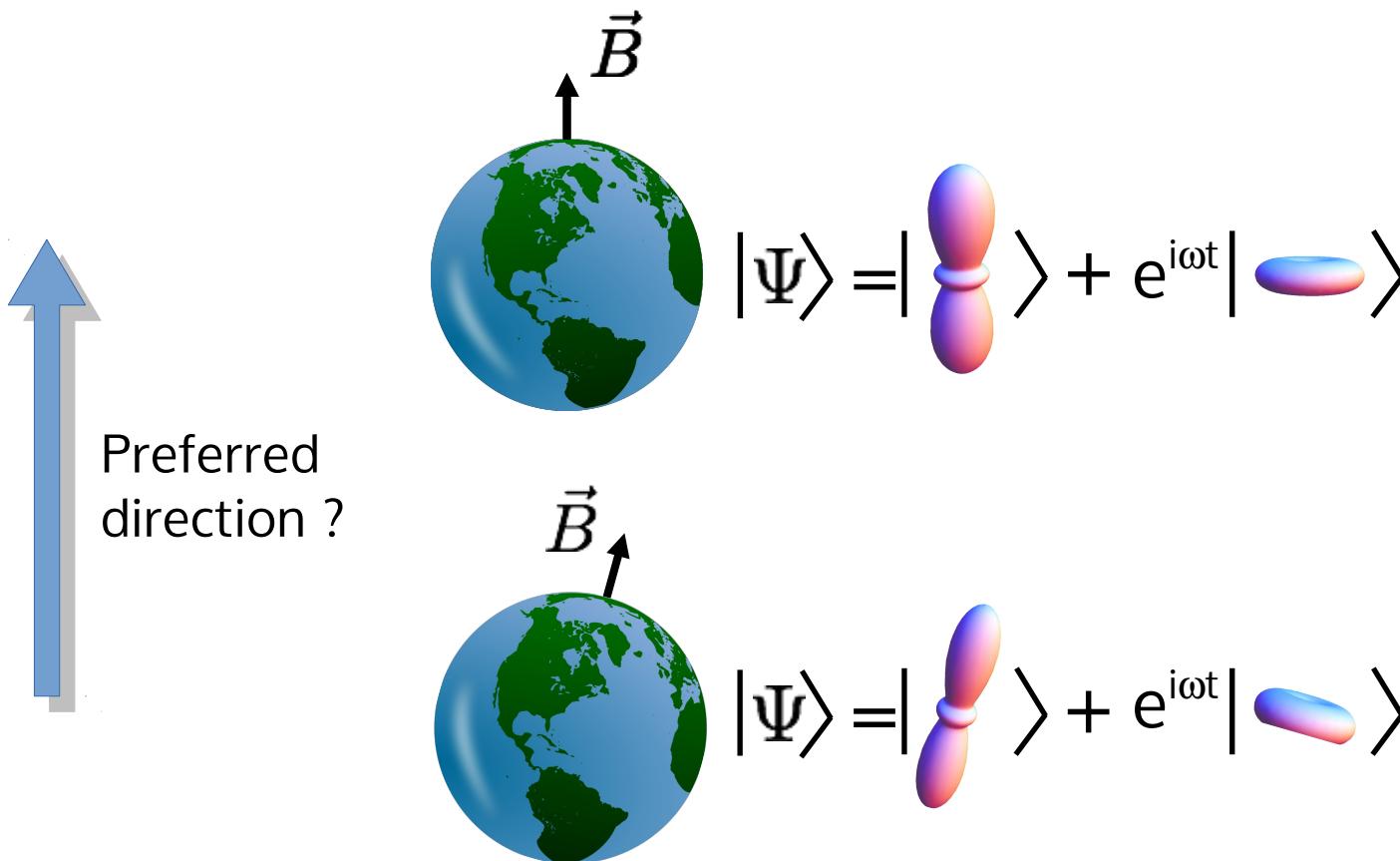
# State preparation



# State preparation



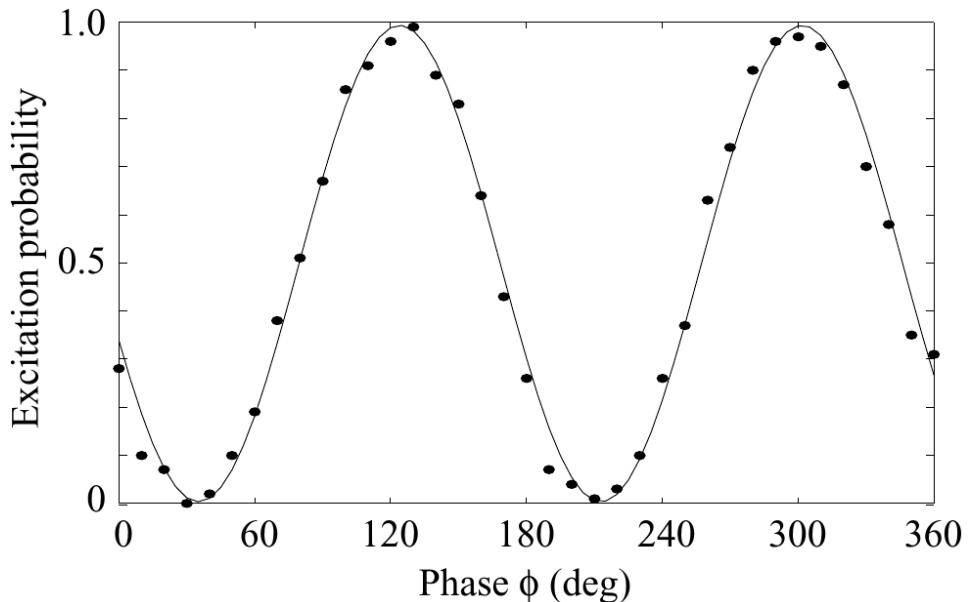
# Measurement scheme



Lorentz violation  $\rightarrow$  preferred direction

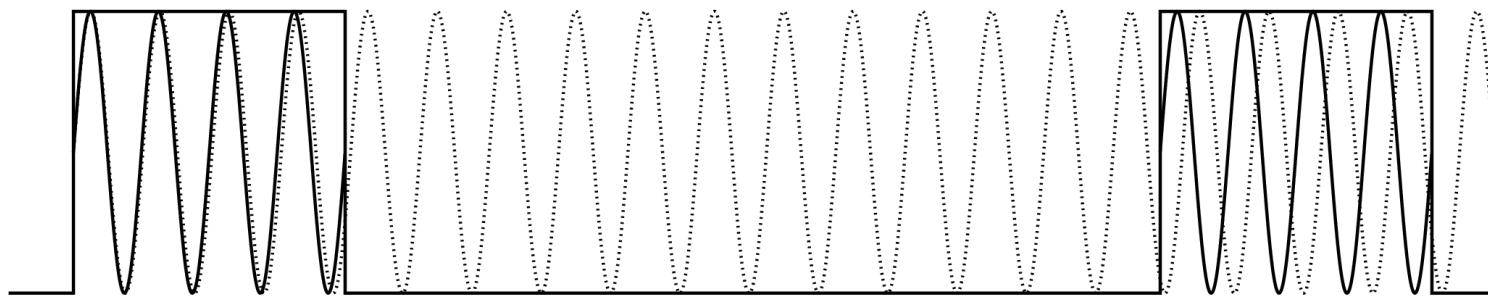
$\rightarrow$  energy shift with the Earth's rotation

# Read-out of the phase evolution



From: PhD thesis, Riebe 2005, Innsbruck

Magnetic dipole moment



# Decoherence-free subspace

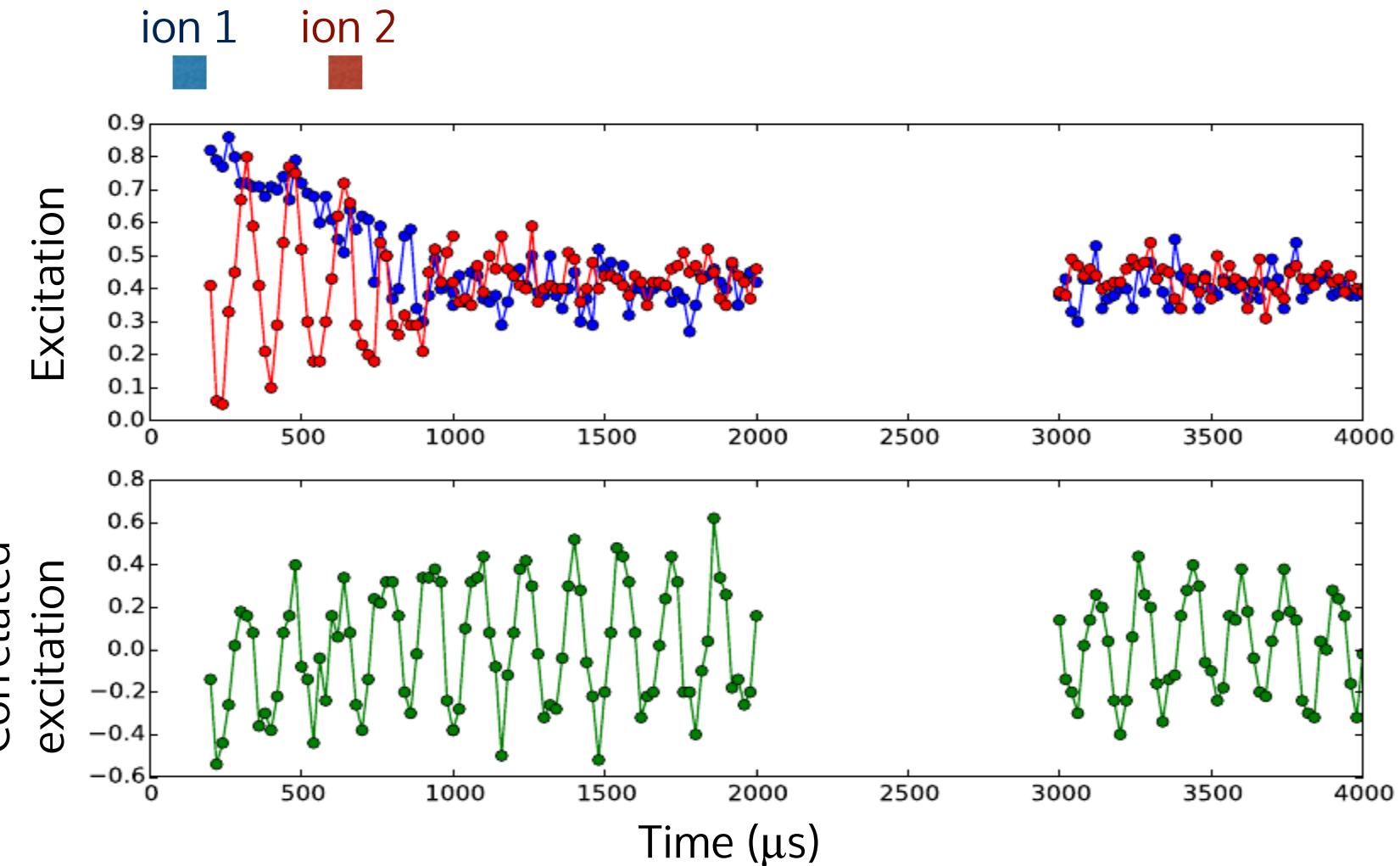
$$|\Psi\rangle = |\text{atom}\rangle + e^{i\omega t} |\text{molecule}\rangle$$

## Problem: Zeeman effect swamps phase evolution

## Use two ions:

$$|\Psi\rangle = \overbrace{| -1/2, 1/2 \rangle + | -5/2, 5/2 \rangle}^{\mu_{\text{eff}}=0} = \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{two vertical dumbbells} \\ \text{aligned horizontally} \end{array} \right\rangle + e^{i2\omega t} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{two horizontal dumbbells} \\ \text{aligned vertically} \end{array} \right\rangle$$

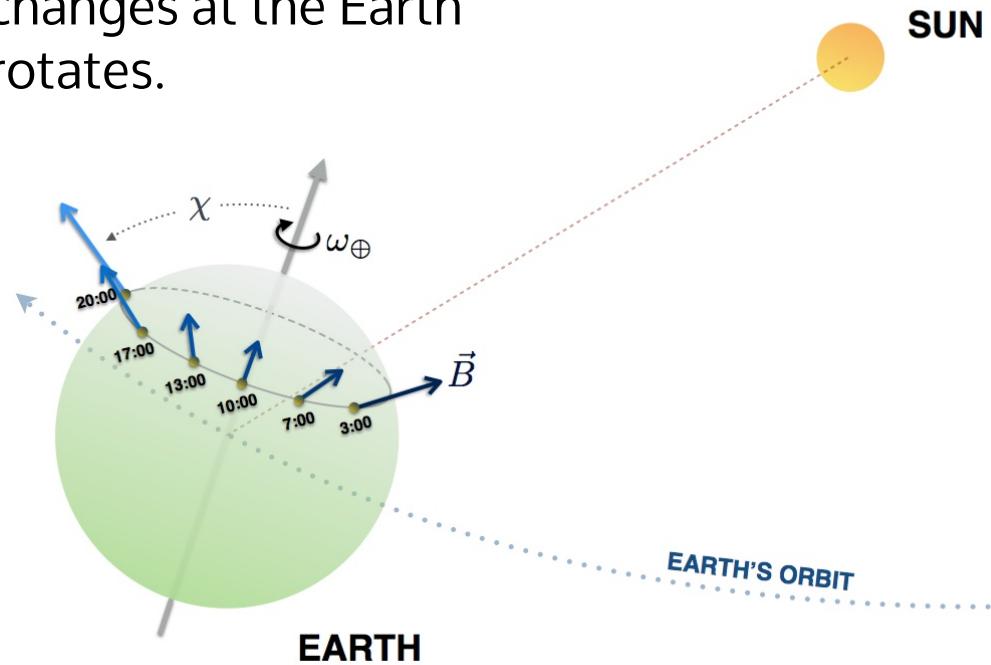
# Decoherence-free subspace



Extends coherence by up to four orders of magnitude

# Measurement scheme

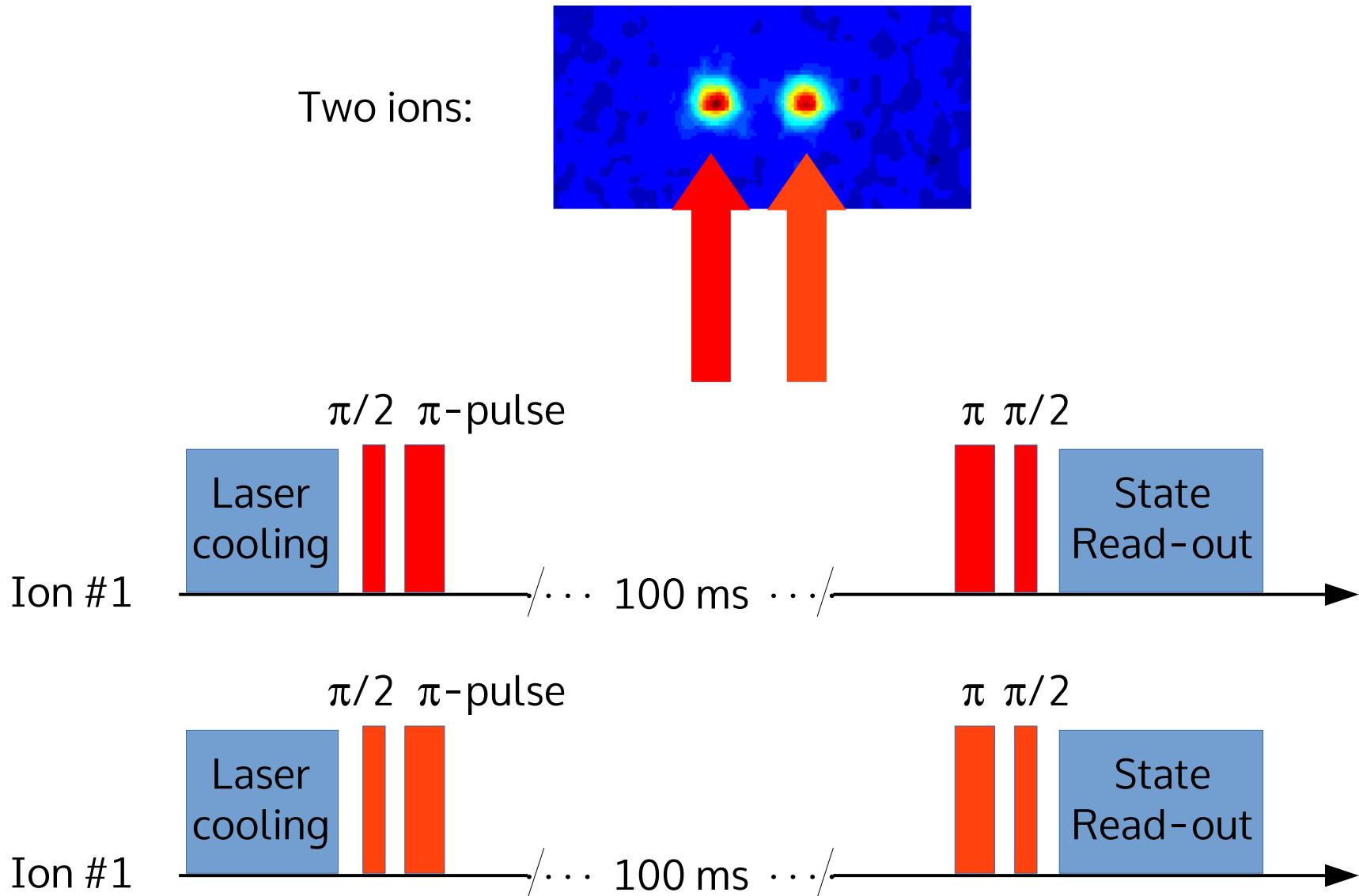
Magnetic field direction changes at the Earth rotates.



Electron wave-function rotates with respect to the Sun.

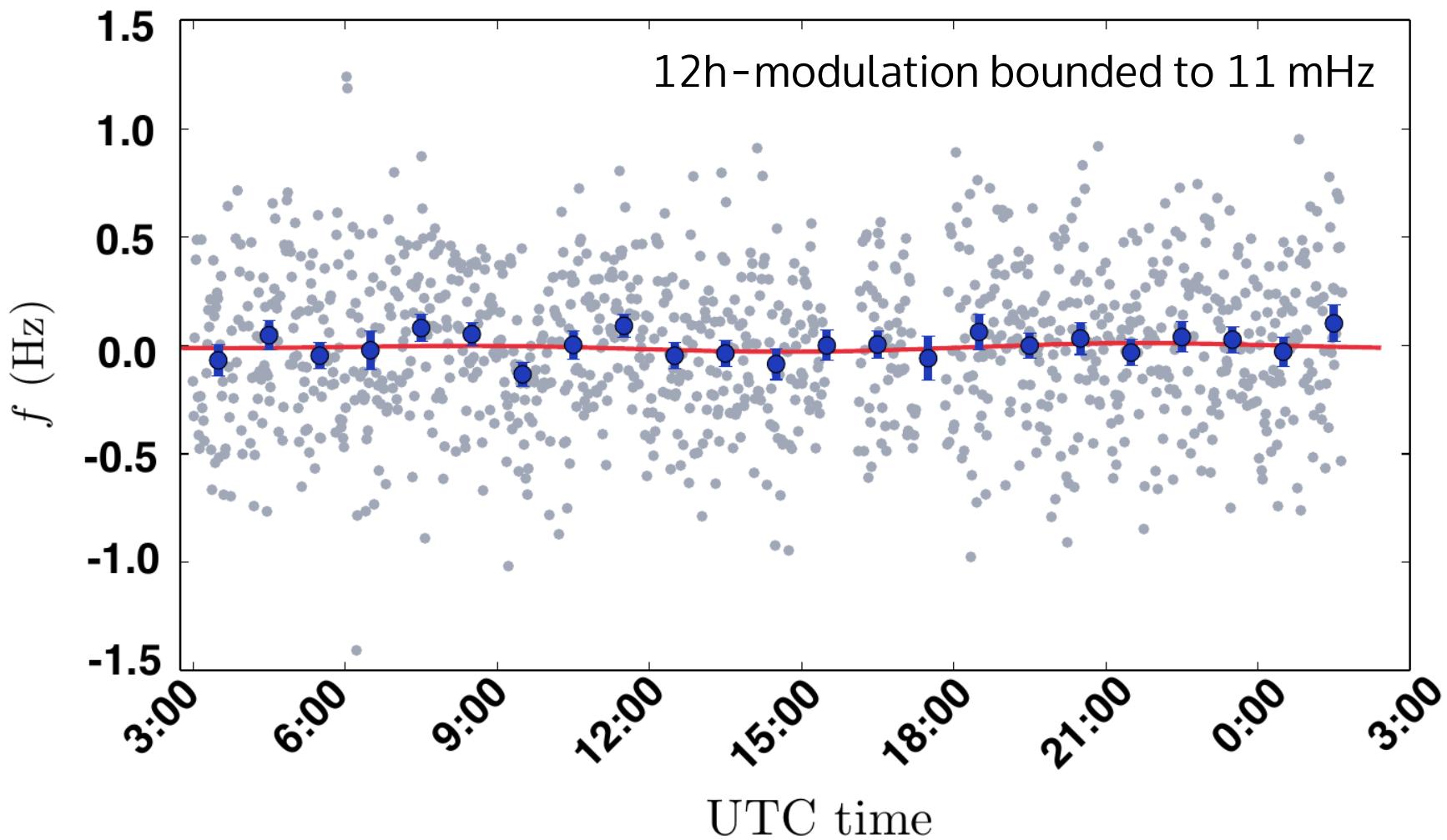
Lorentz-violation will modulate the energy shift correlated with the Earth's motion.

# Measurement scheme



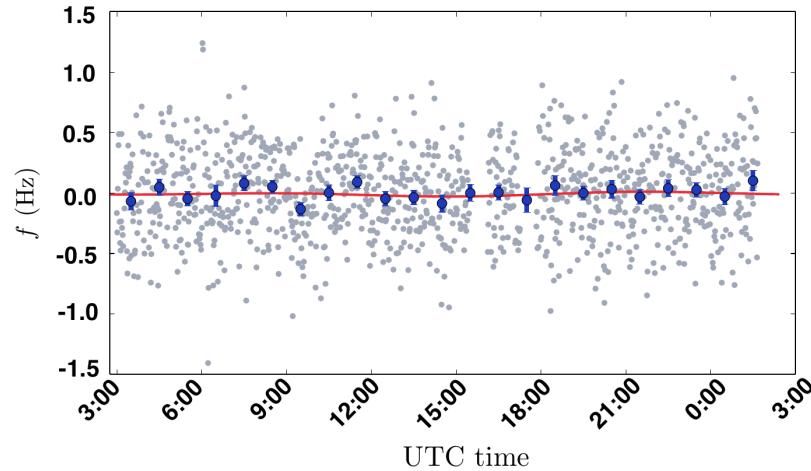
# Data

Energy variations of a pair of  $^{40}\text{Ca}^+$  ions on April 19<sup>th</sup> 2014



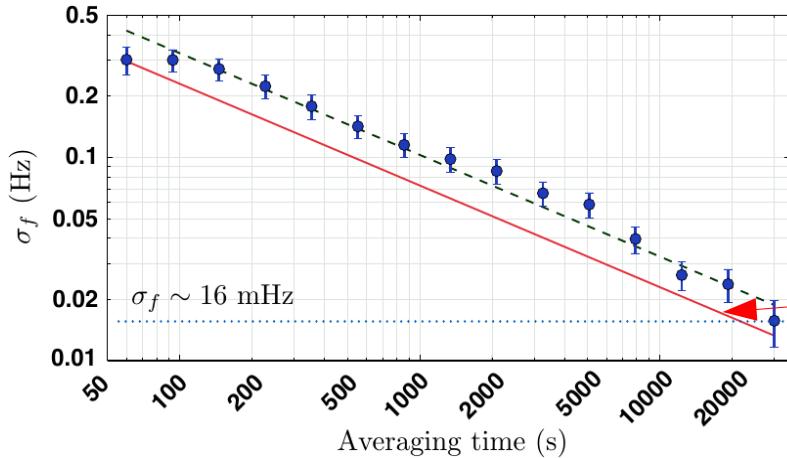
# Results

Energy variations of a pair of  $^{40}\text{Ca}^+$  ions on April 19<sup>th</sup> 2014



12h-modulation bounded to 11 mHz

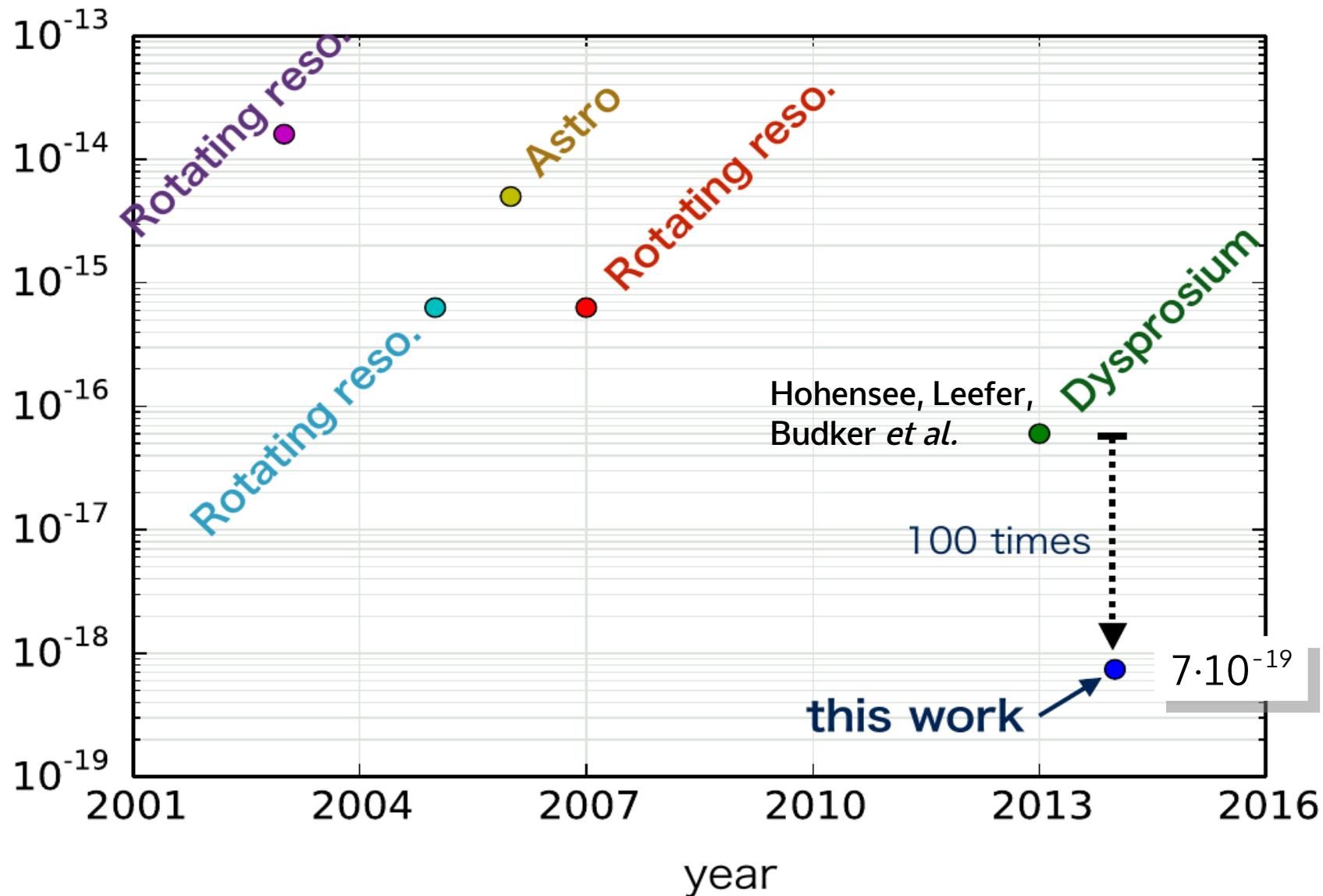
Error on the mean as a function of averaging time



Still averaging down, no signs of drifts

Expected quantum projection noise

# Lorentz tests for the electron



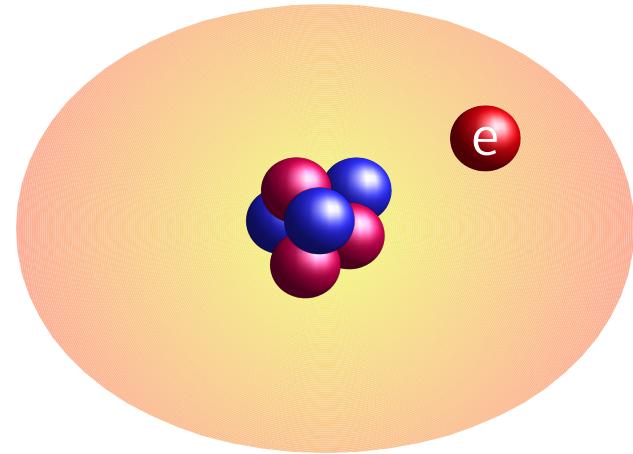
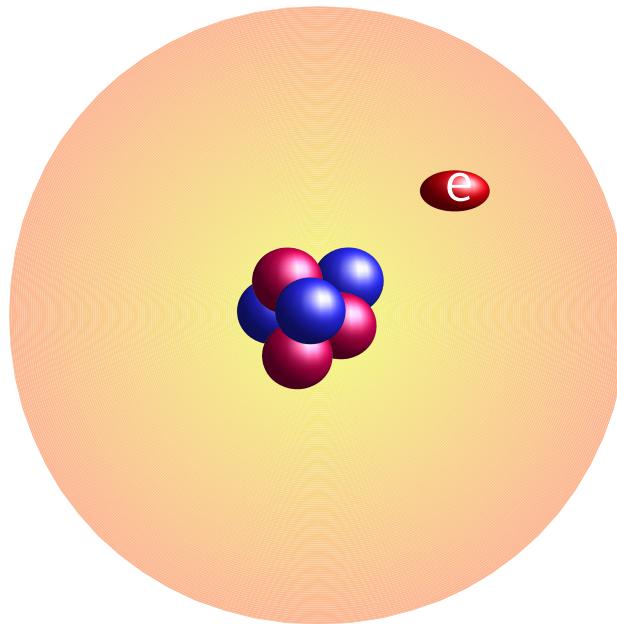
# Interpretation

To analyze the experiment, we need to pick a reference.

Assumption: photon obeys Lorentz symmetry.

→ any LI-signal is attributed to the electron

Or: electron obeys Lorentz symmetry  
Coulomb potential asymmetric  
→ photon violates Lorentz symmetry



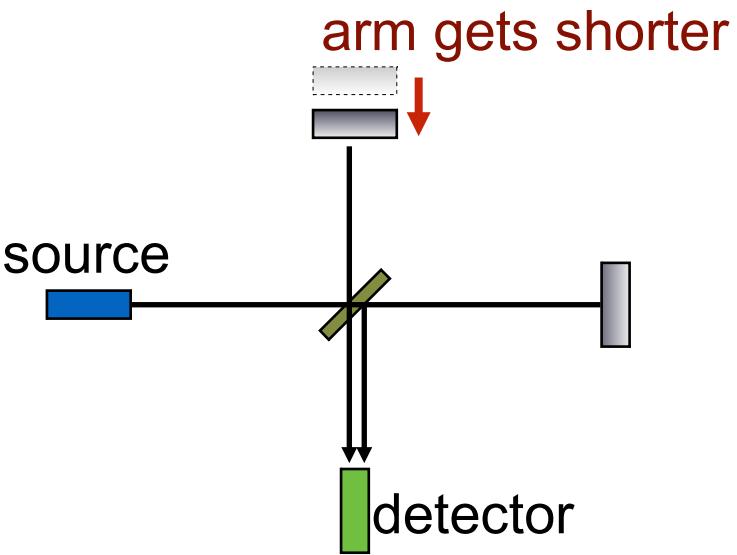
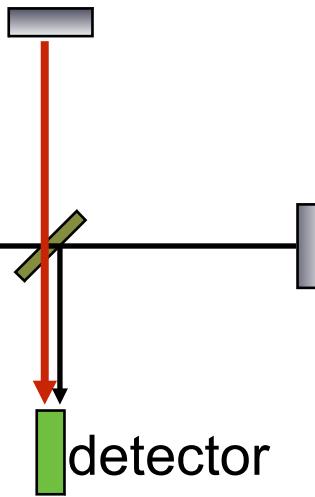
→ We probe the difference between the electron and photon dispersion

# Interpretation

To analyze the experiment, we need to pick a reference.

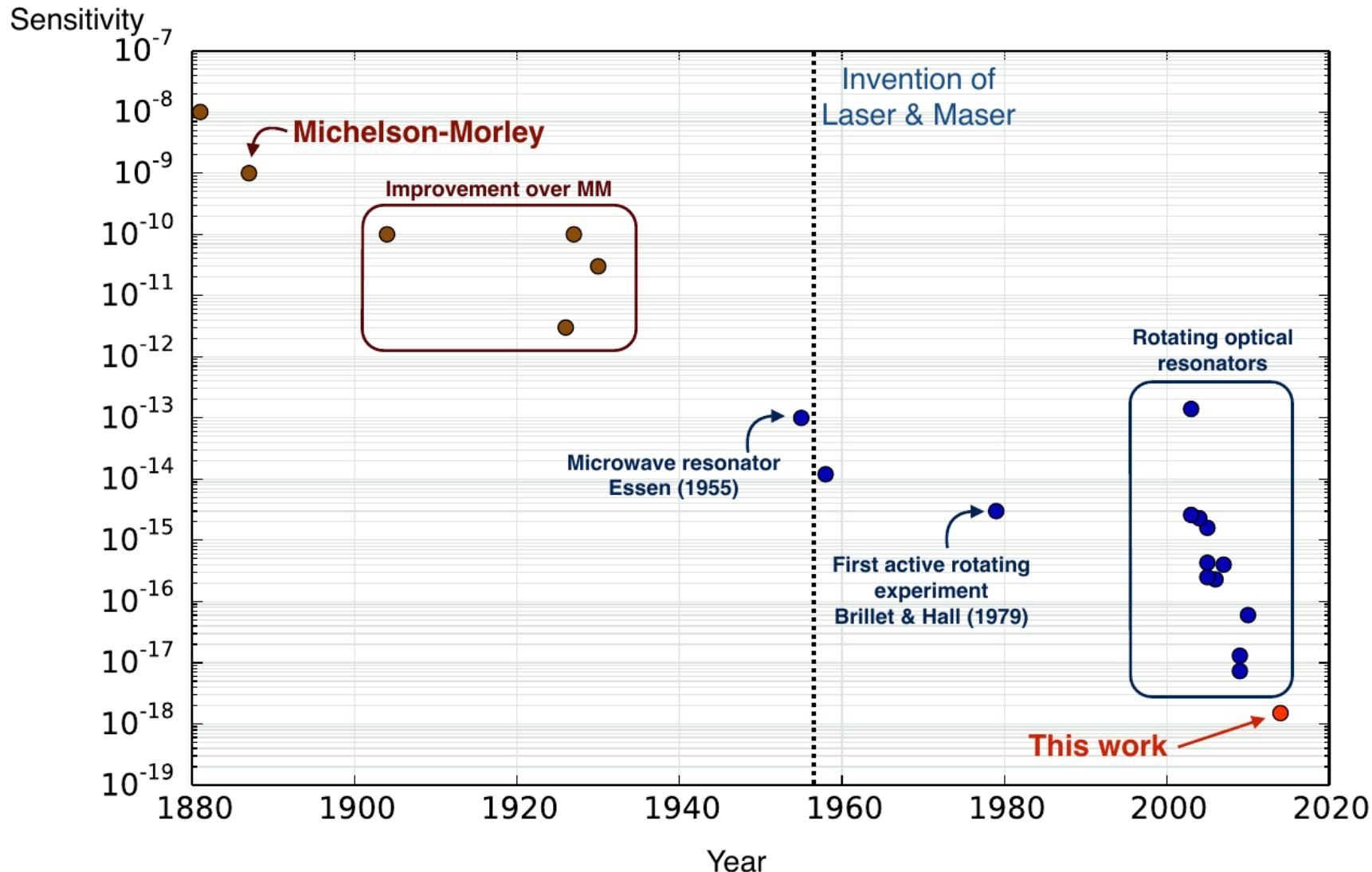
photon  
travels faster

source



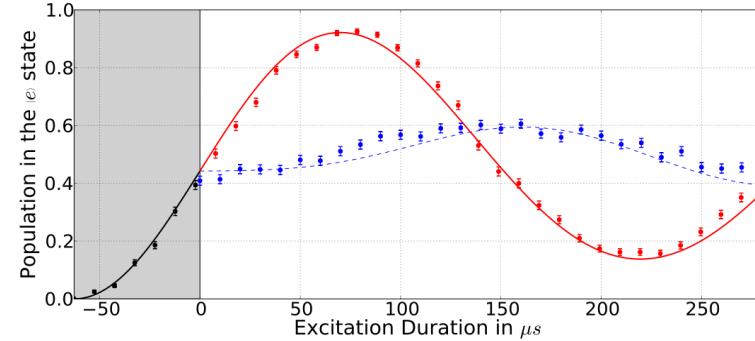
Both experiments compare  
the photon and the electron dispersion relation.

# Lorentz invariance tests for light

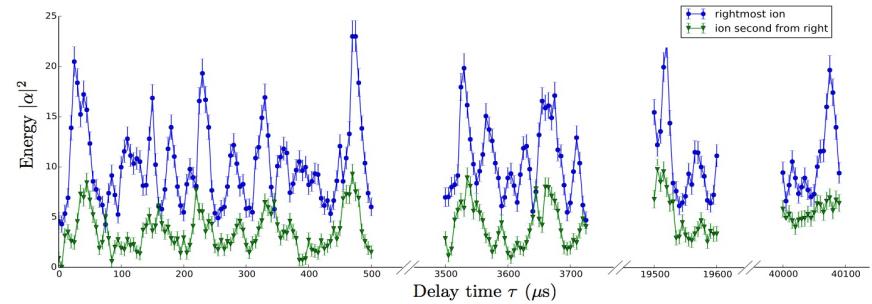


# Summary

- Local Detection of Quantum Correlations



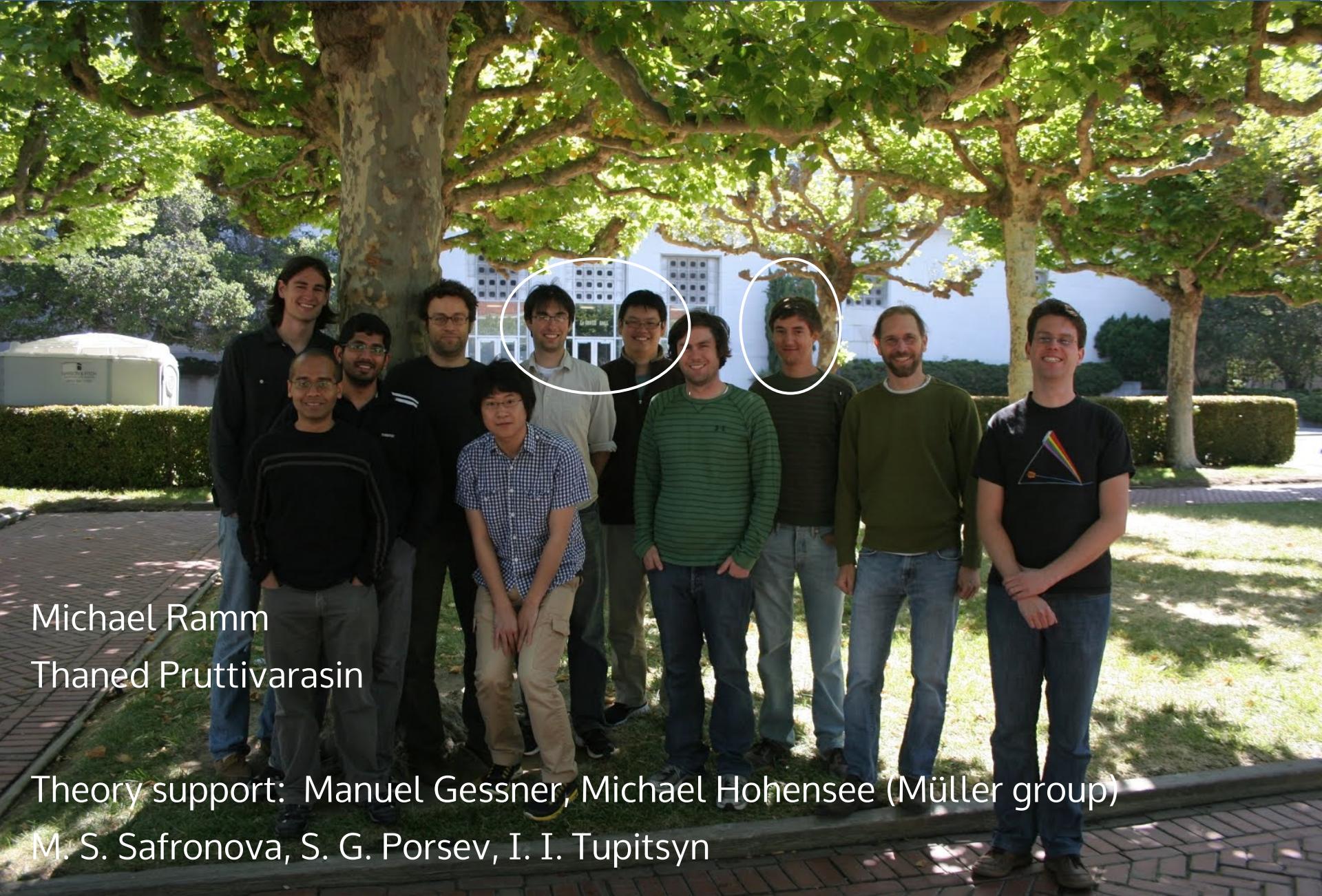
- Energy Transport in ion chains



- Michelson-Morley test with electrons confirms Lorentz symmetry at a level of  $7 \cdot 10^{-19}$ .

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\begin{array}{c} \text{red} \\ \text{lobes} \end{array}\rangle + e^{i2\omega t} |\begin{array}{c} \text{blue} \\ \text{lobes} \end{array}\rangle$$

# The group



Michael Ramm

Thaned Pruttivarasin

Theory support: Manuel Gessner, Michael Hohensee (Müller group)

M. S. Safronova, S. G. Porsev, I. I. Tupitsyn

