



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE



Measurement of the gravitational constant G by atom interferometry

Fiodor Sorrentino

Dipartimento di Fisica & LENS, Università di Firenze & INFN



MAGIA



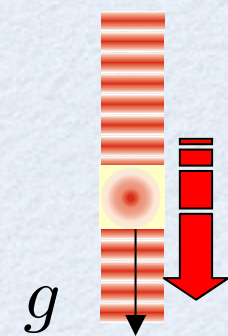
Misura Accurata di G mediante Interferometria Atomica



<http://www.fi.infn.it/sezione/esperimenti/MAGIA/home.html>

Misura Accurata di G mediante Interferometria Atomica

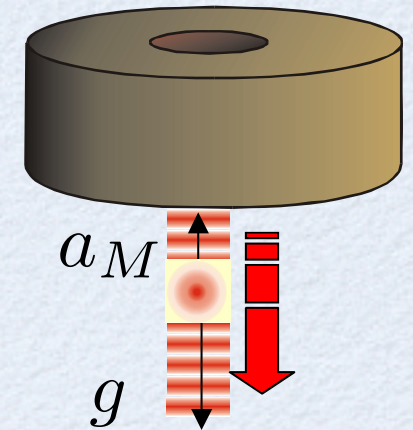
- Measure g by atom interferometry



<http://www.fi.infn.it/sezione/esperimenti/MAGIA/home.html>

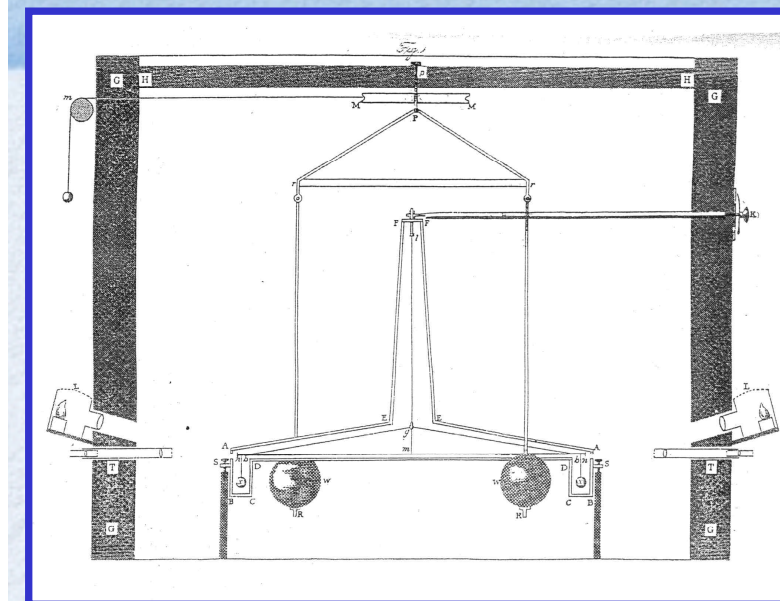
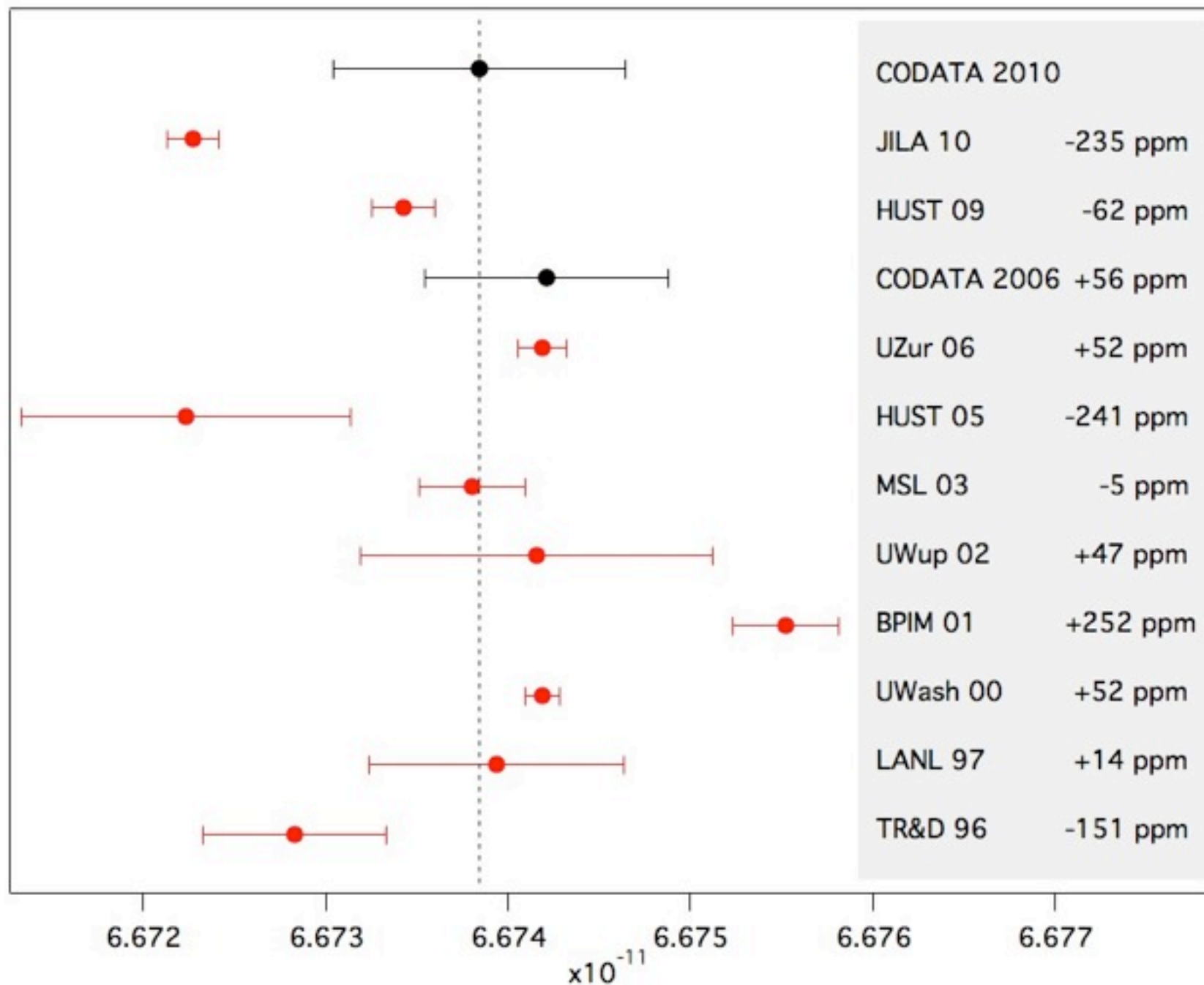
Misura Accurata di G mediante Interferometria Atomica

- Measure g by atom interferometry
- Add source masses
- Measure change of g

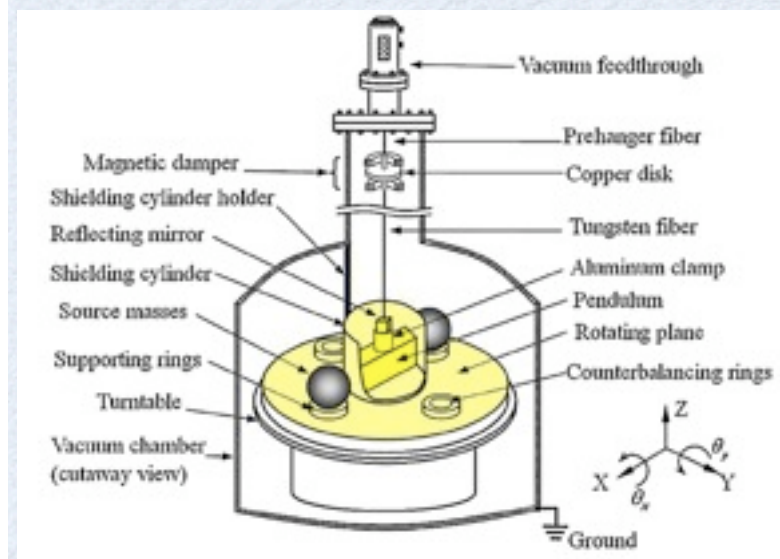


<http://www.fi.infn.it/sezione/esperimenti/MAGIA/home.html>

Motivation



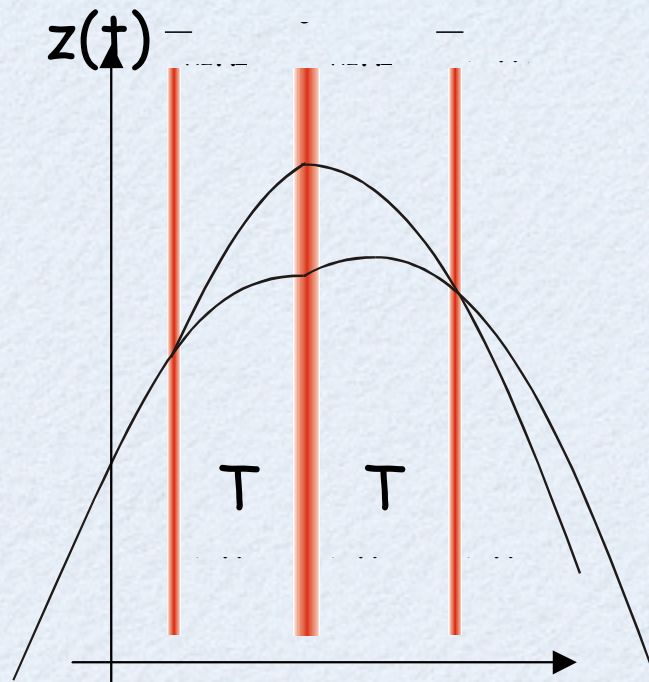
Cavendish 1798



Zang 2009

- Atomic probes
 - point-like test masses in free fall
 - virtually insensitive to stray fields
 - well known and reproducible properties
 - different states, isotopes

Raman interferometry in a ^{87}Rb atomic fountain



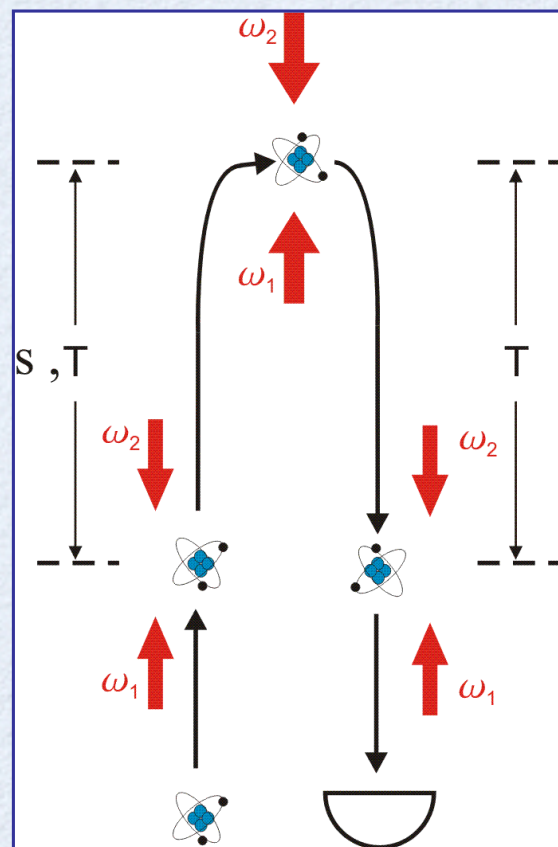
Phase difference between the paths:

$$\Delta\Phi = k_c[z(0)]2z(T)] + \Phi_e$$

$$k_e = k_1 - k_2$$

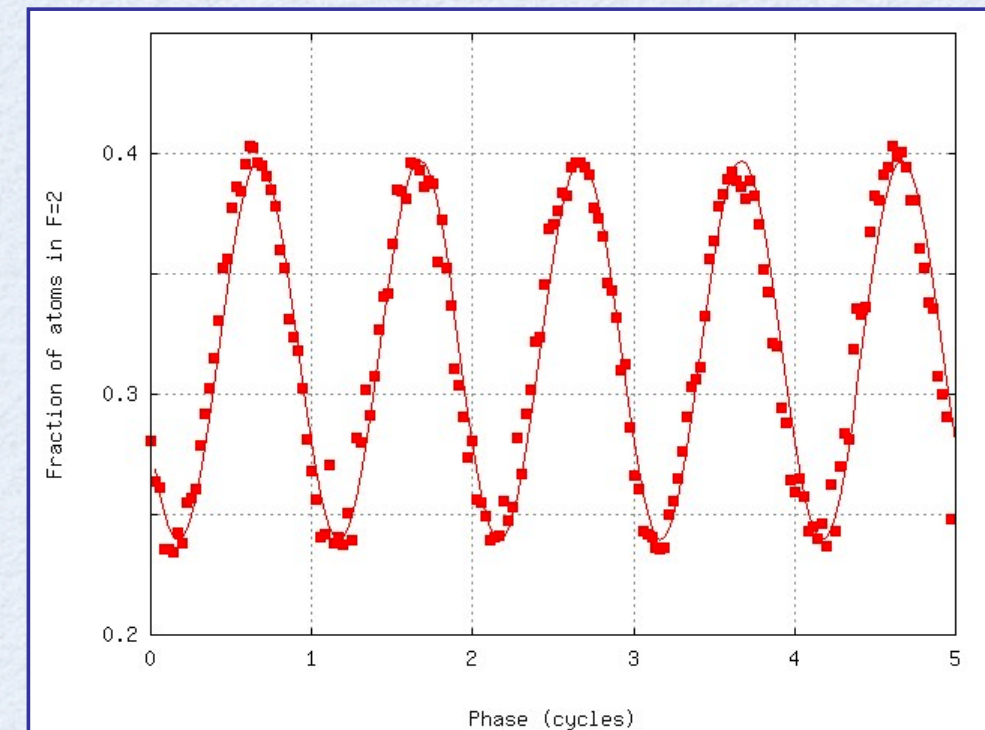
$$\text{with } z(t) = -gt^2/2 + v_0t + z_0 \text{ \& } \Phi_e = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$



Final population:

$$N_a = N/2(1 + \cos[\Delta\Phi])$$

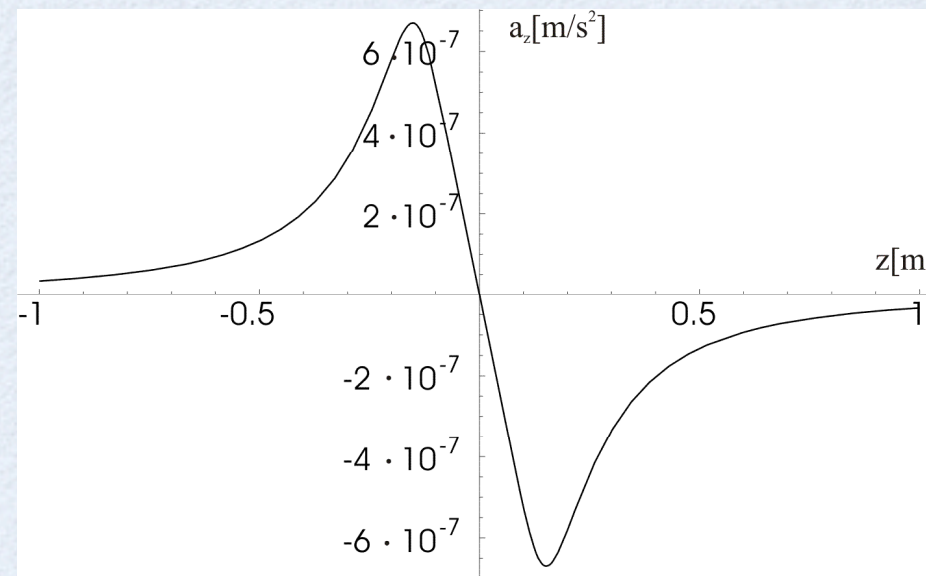
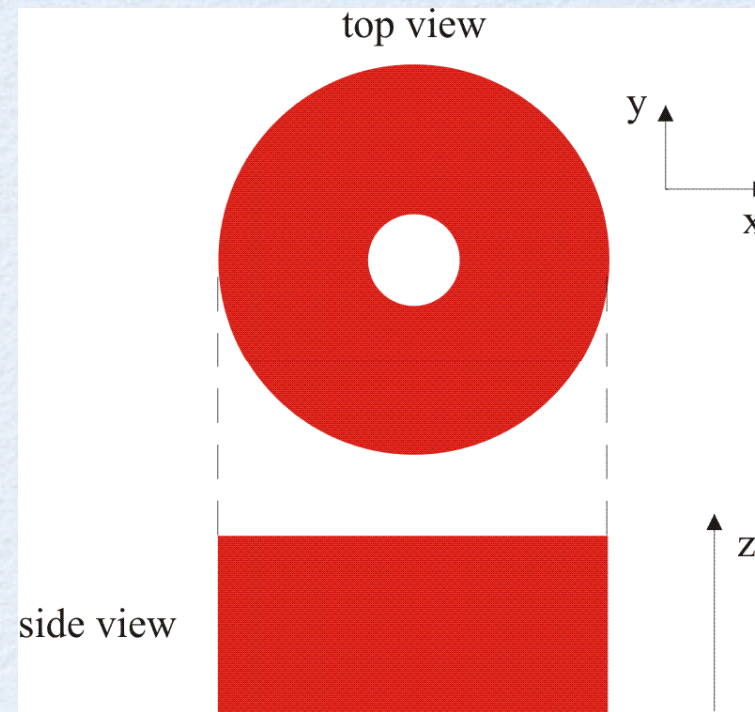
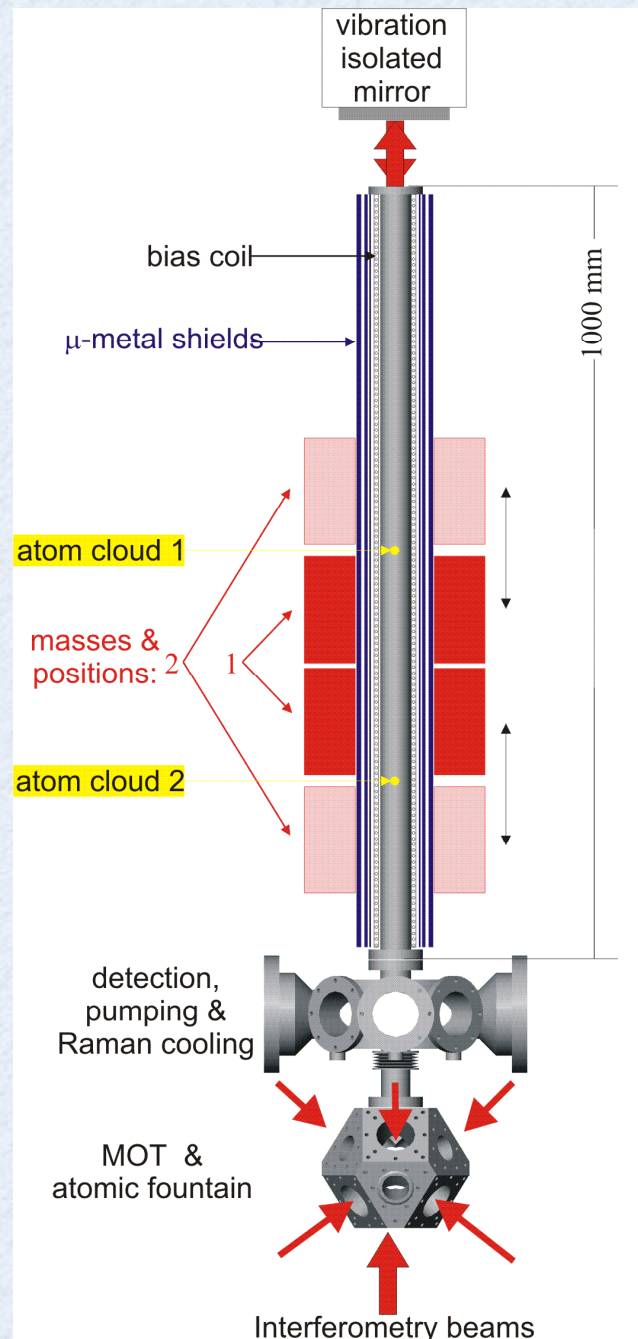


$$T = 150 \text{ ms} \rightarrow 2\pi = 10^{-6} \text{ g}$$

$$S/N=1000 \rightarrow \text{Sensitivity } 10^{-9} \text{ g/shot}$$

A. Peters et al., Nature 400, 849 (1999)

Measurement of the gravitational...



500 Kg tungsten mass

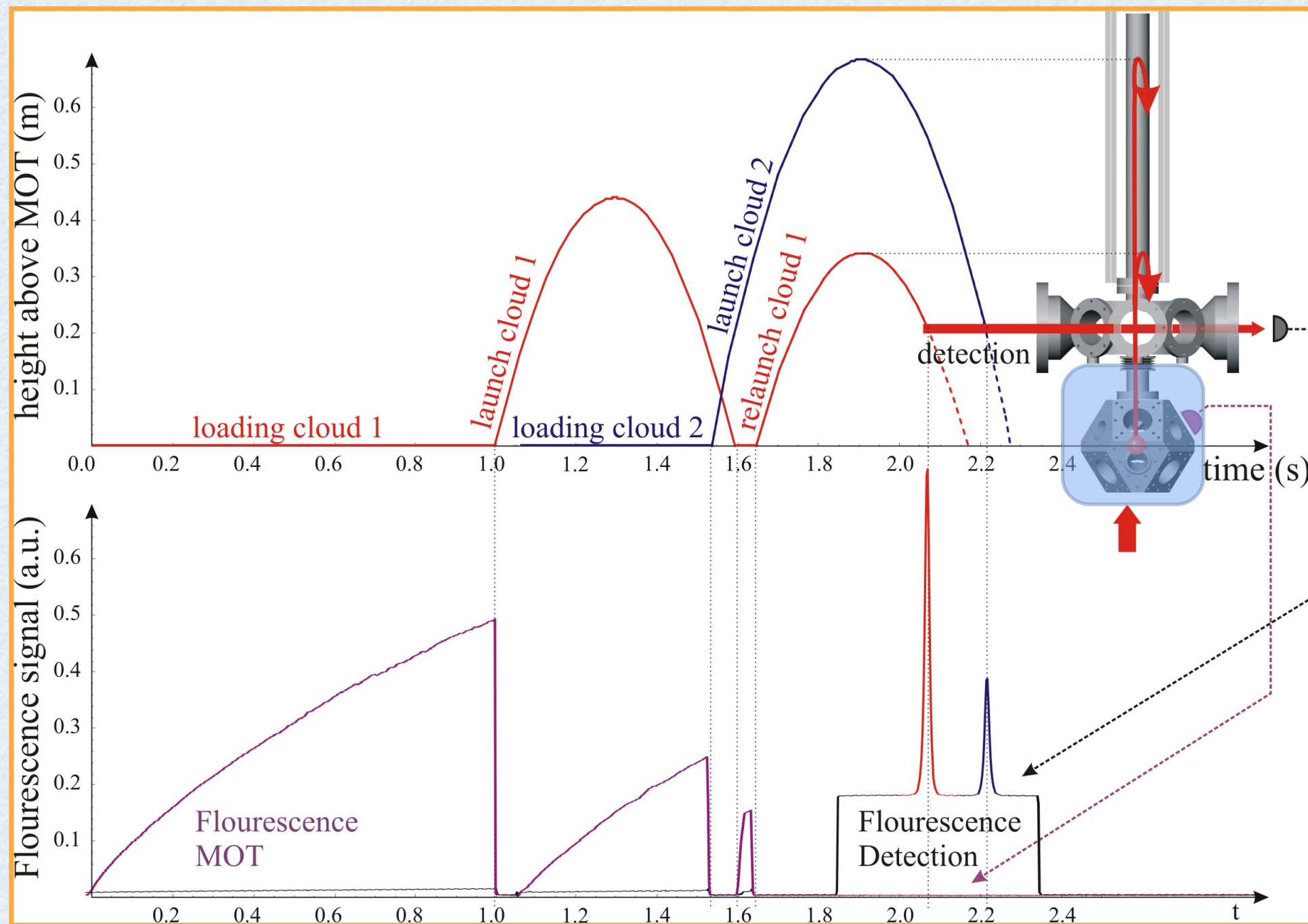
Peak mass acceleration $a_g \sim 10^{-7} \text{ g}$

10000 shots $\rightarrow \Delta G/G \sim 10^{-4}$

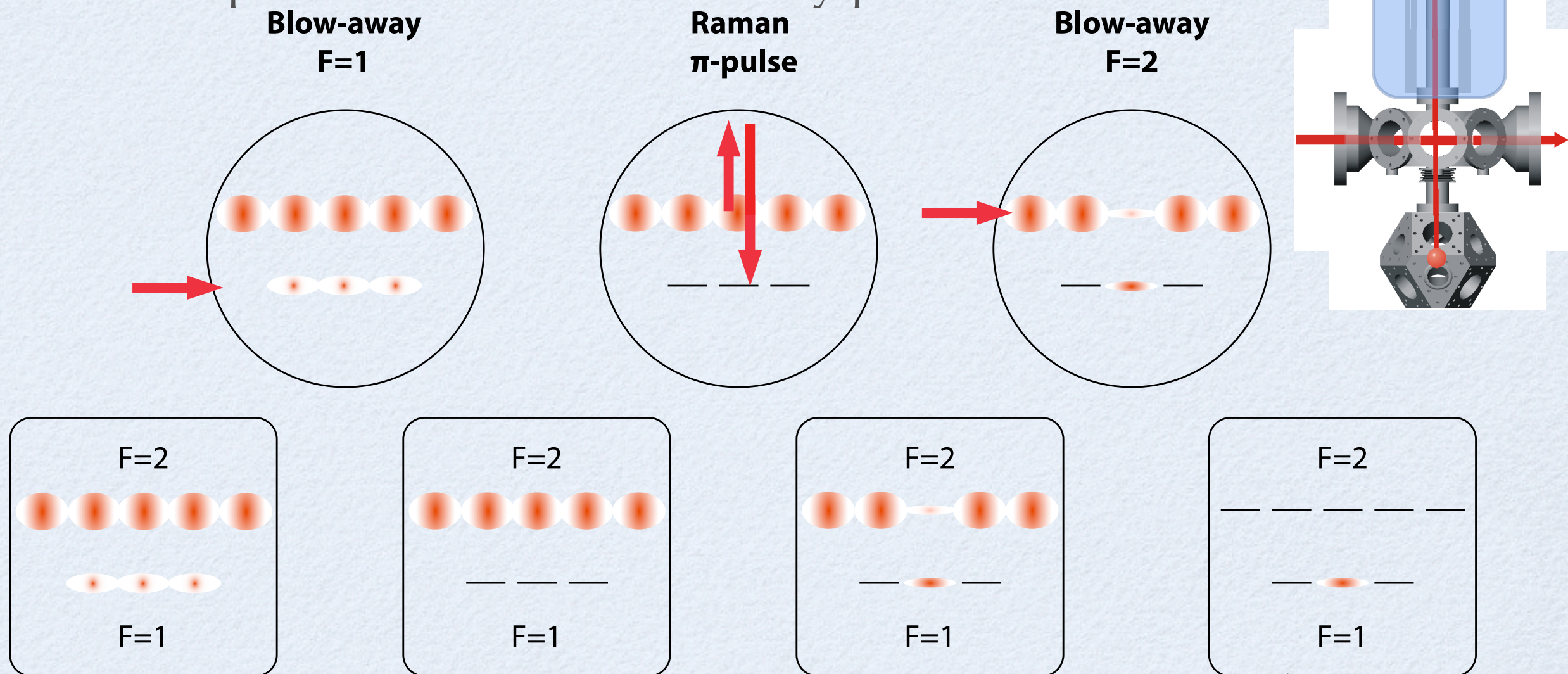
Sensitivity 10^{-9} g/shot
 one shot $\rightarrow \Delta G/G \sim 10^{-2}$

Measurement of the gravitational...

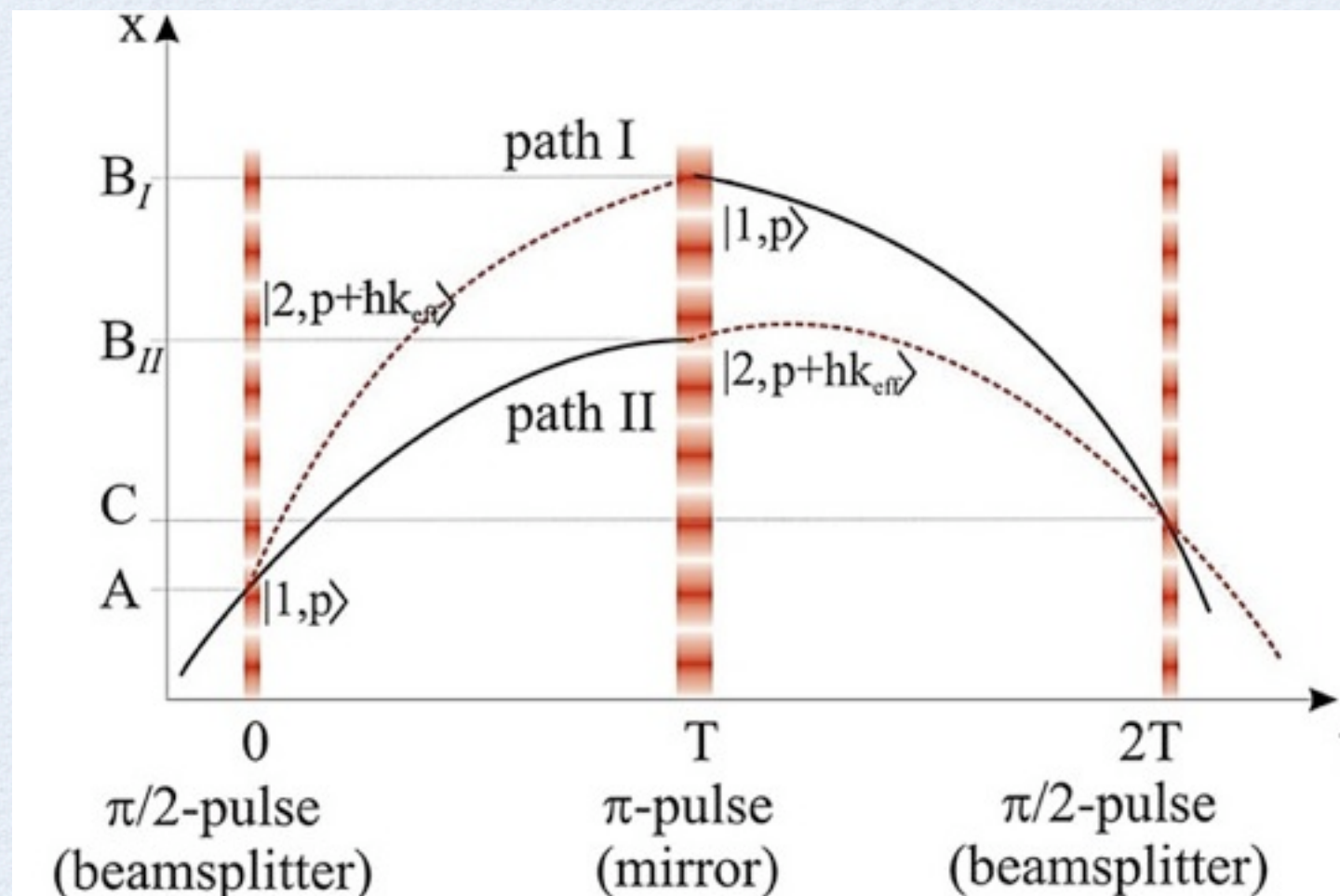
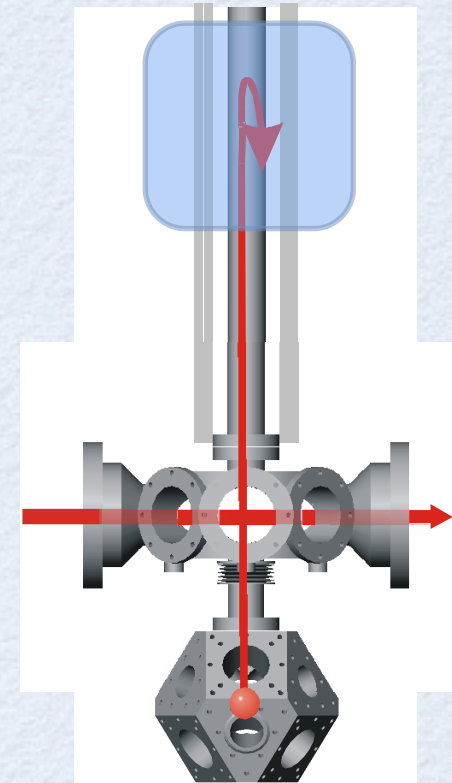
- MOT + launch via moving molasses
 - juggling the two clouds for larger n. of atoms



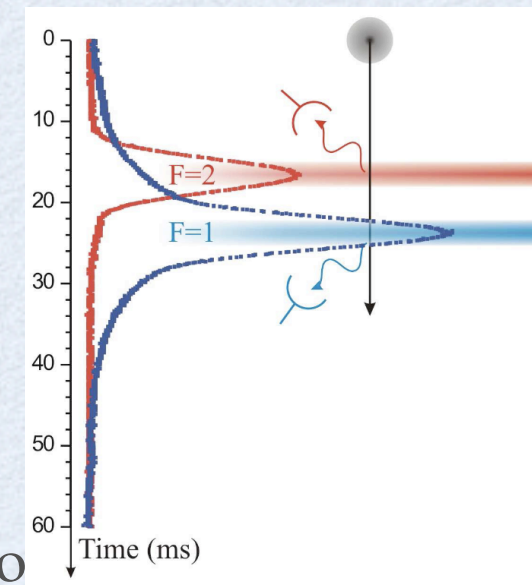
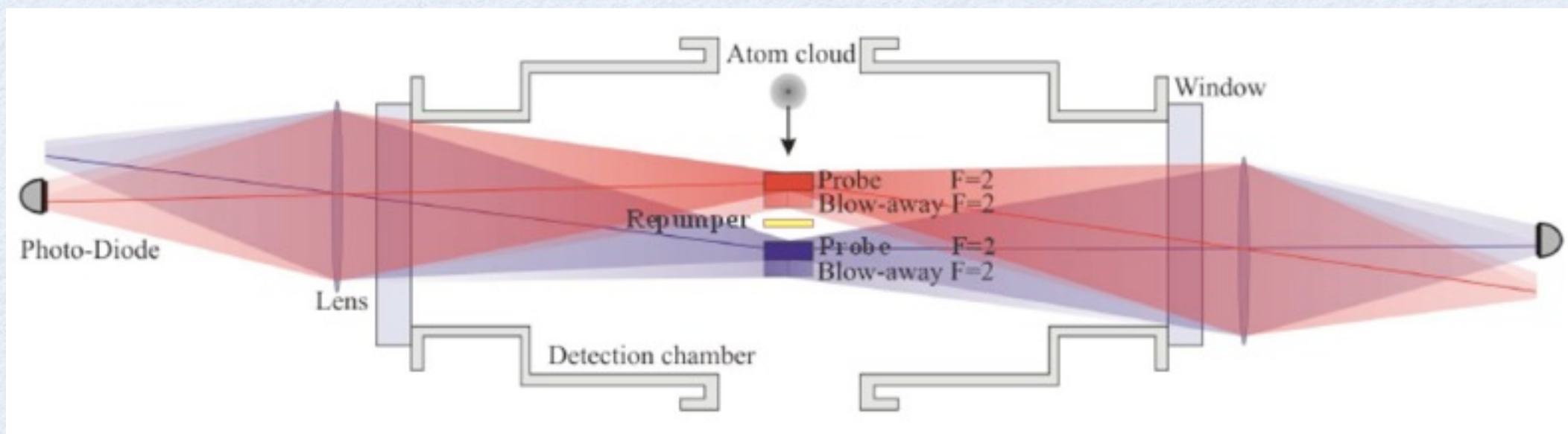
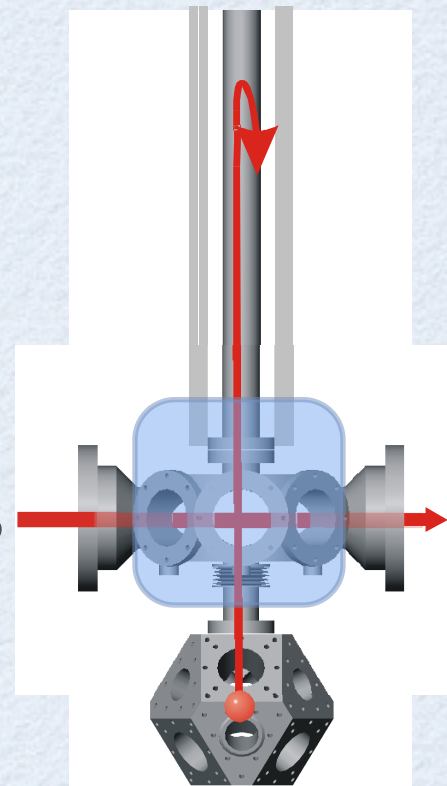
- MOT + launch via moving molasses
 - juggling the two clouds for larger n. of atoms
- selection of internal state & velocity class
 - from unpolarized to $m_F=0$, from $3.5 v_{\text{rec}}$ to $0.3 v_{\text{rec}}$
 - via Raman pulses + resonant blow-away pulses



- MOT + launch via moving molasses
 - juggling the two clouds for larger n. of atoms
- selection of internal state & velocity class
 - from unpolarized to $m_F=0$, from $3.5 v_{\text{rec}}$ to $0.3 v_{\text{rec}}$
 - via Raman pulses + resonant blow-away pulses
- Raman interferometry sequence around apogee



- MOT + launch via moving molasses
 - juggling the two clouds for larger n. of atoms
- selection of internal state & velocity class
 - from unpolarized to $m_F=0$, from $3.5 v_{\text{rec}}$ to $0.3 v_{\text{rec}}$
 - via Raman pulses + resonant blow-away pulses
- Raman interferometry sequence around apogee
- fluorescence detection of $F=1$ and $F=2$ populations





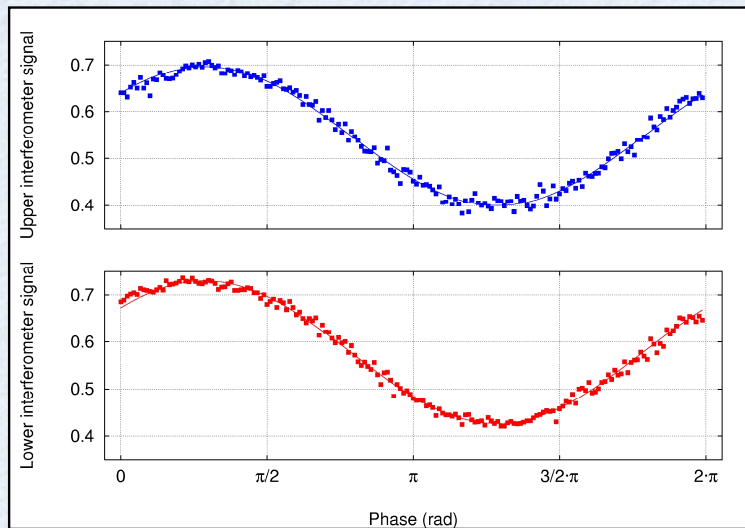
Raman gravity gradiometer



$$\Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$



Raman gravity gradiometer



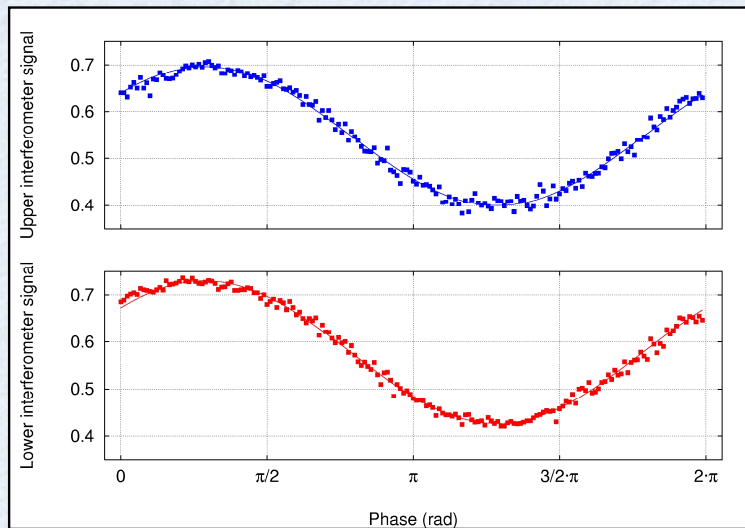
$$T=5 \text{ ms}$$

$$\text{resol.} = 2.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ g/shot}$$

$$\Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$

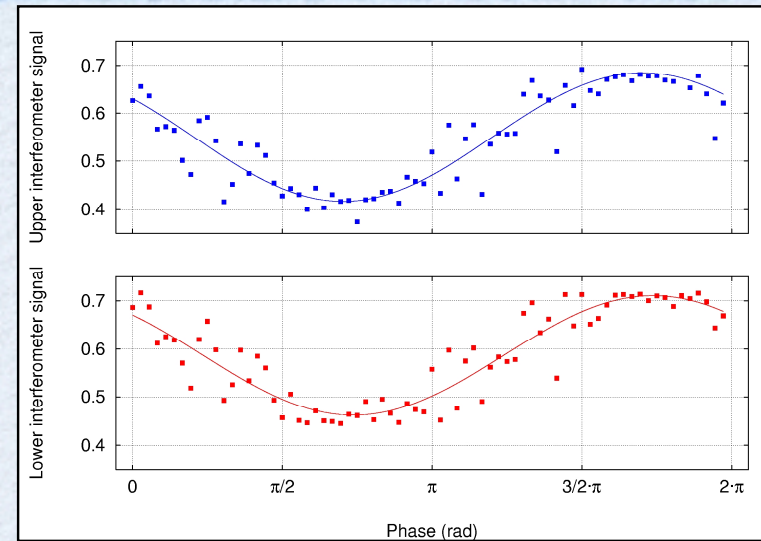


Raman gravity gradiometer



$T=5$ ms

resol. = 2.3×10^{-5} g/shot



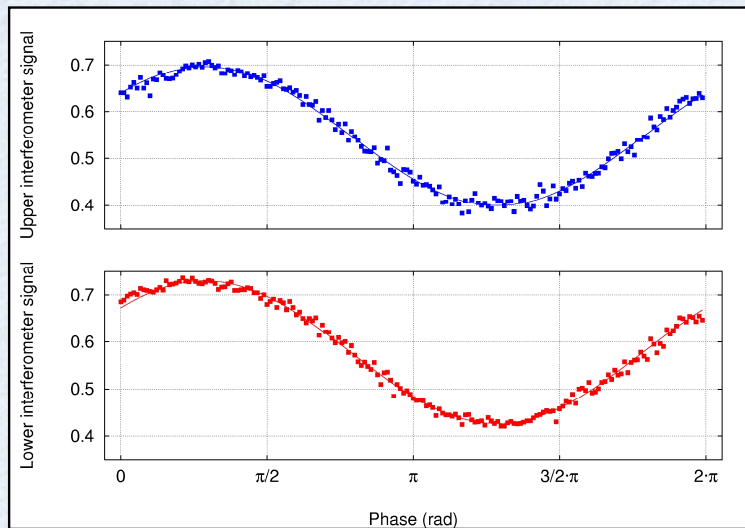
$T=50$ ms

resol. = 1.0×10^{-6} g/shot

$$\Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$

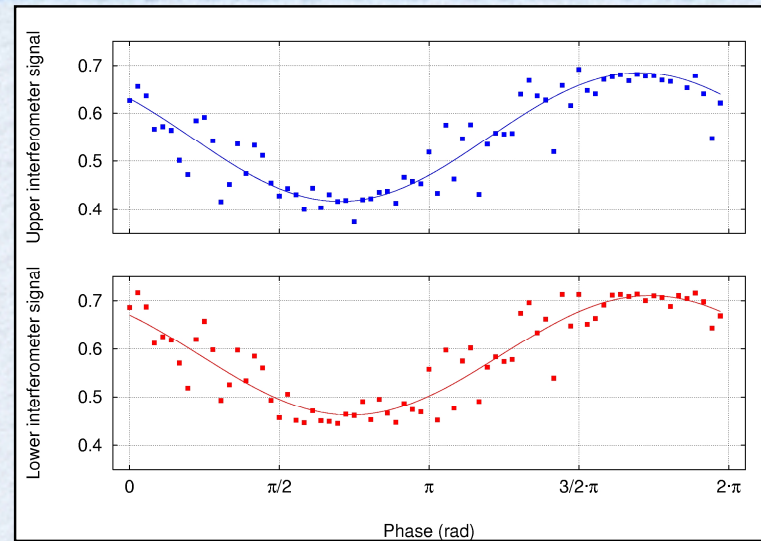


Raman gravity gradiometer



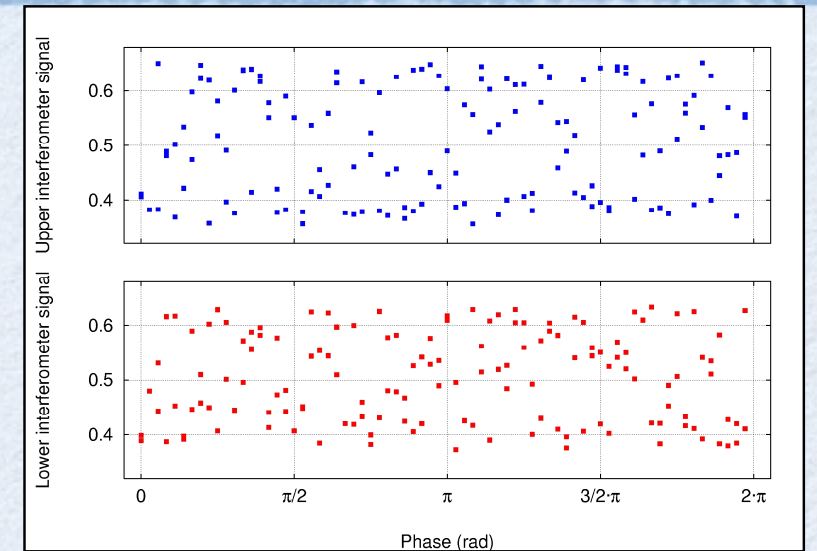
$T=5$ ms

resol. = 2.3×10^{-5} g/shot



$T=50$ ms

resol. = 1.0×10^{-6} g/shot



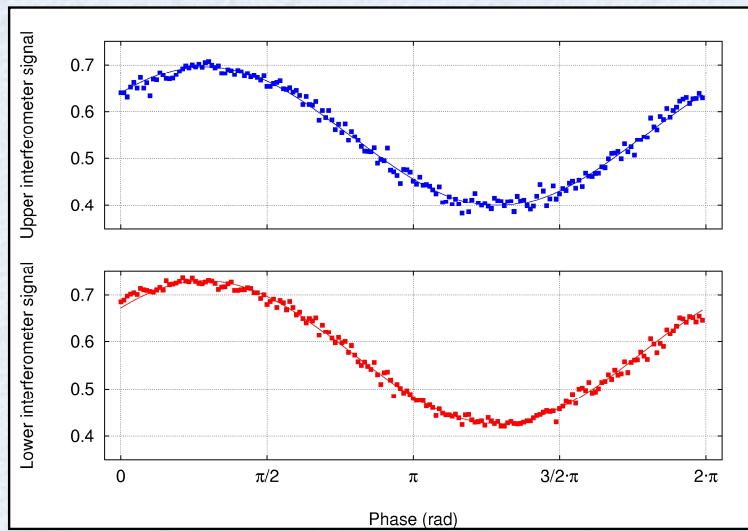
$T=150$ ms

resol. = 3.2×10^{-8} g/shot

$$\Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$

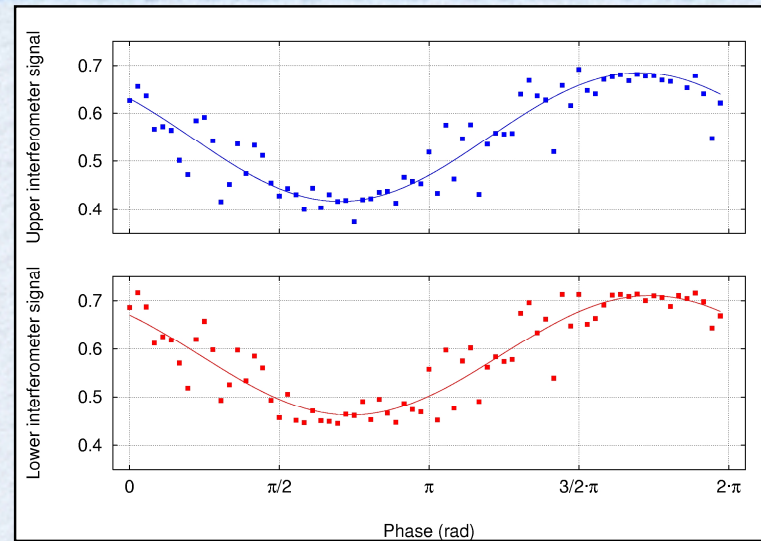


Raman gravity gradiometer



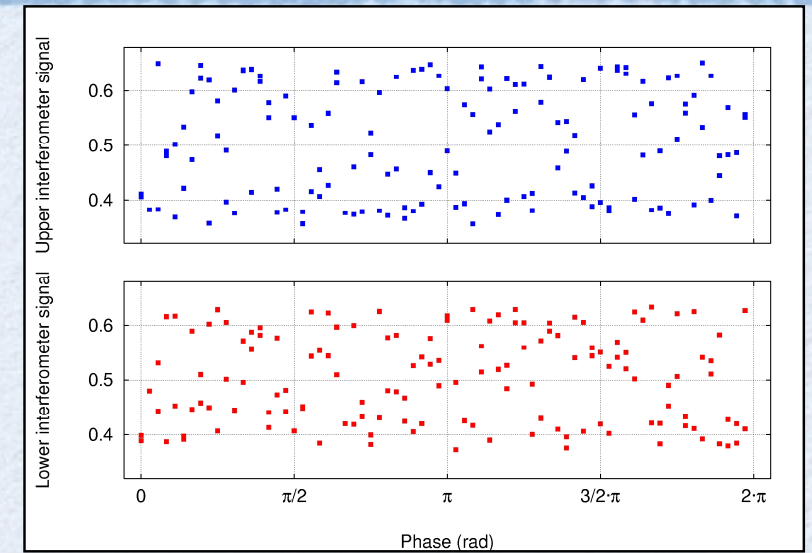
$T=5$ ms

resol. = 2.3×10^{-5} g/shot



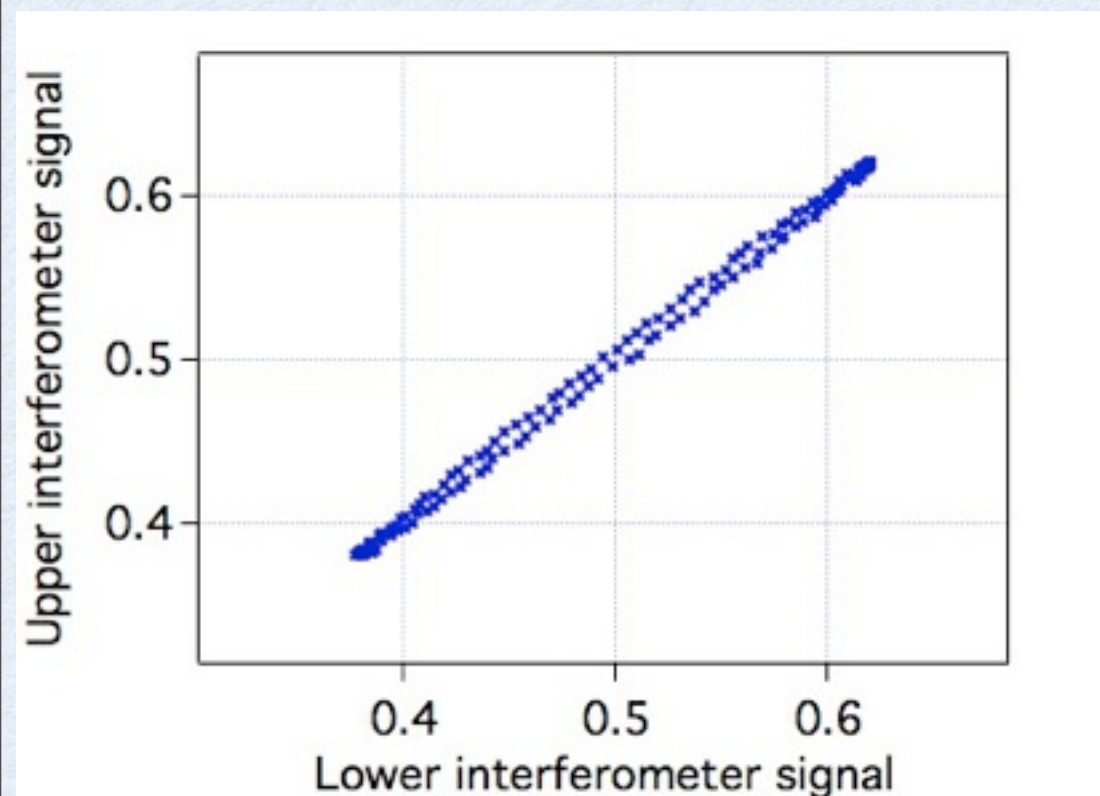
$T=50$ ms

resol. = 1.0×10^{-6} g/shot

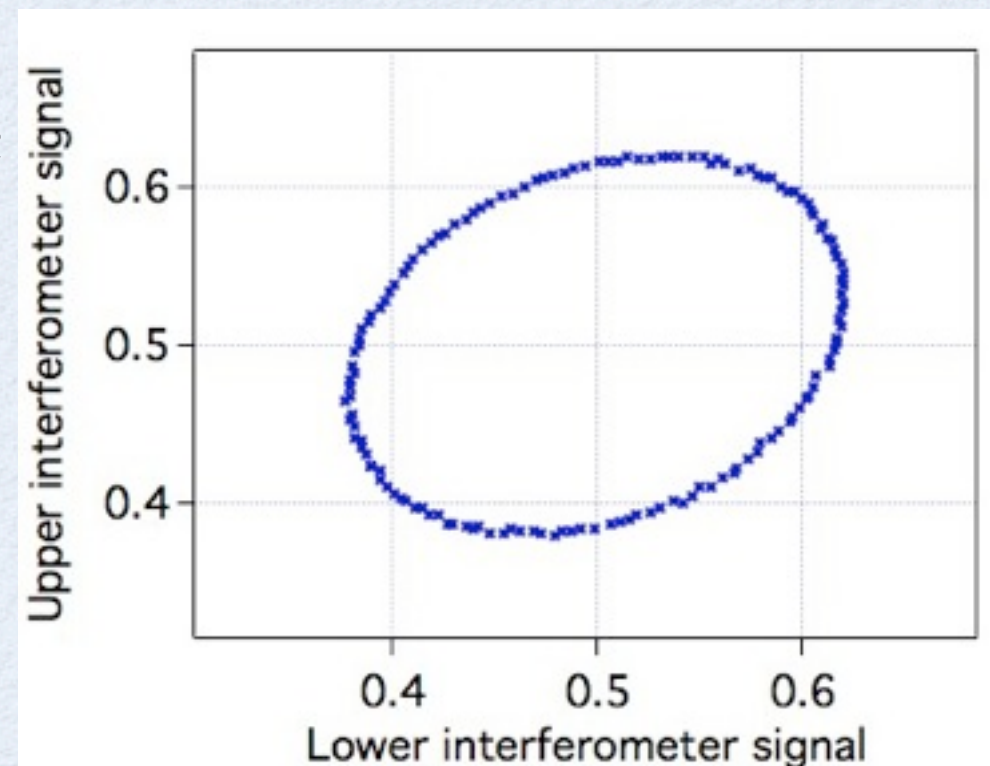


$T=150$ ms

resol. = 3.2×10^{-8} g/shot



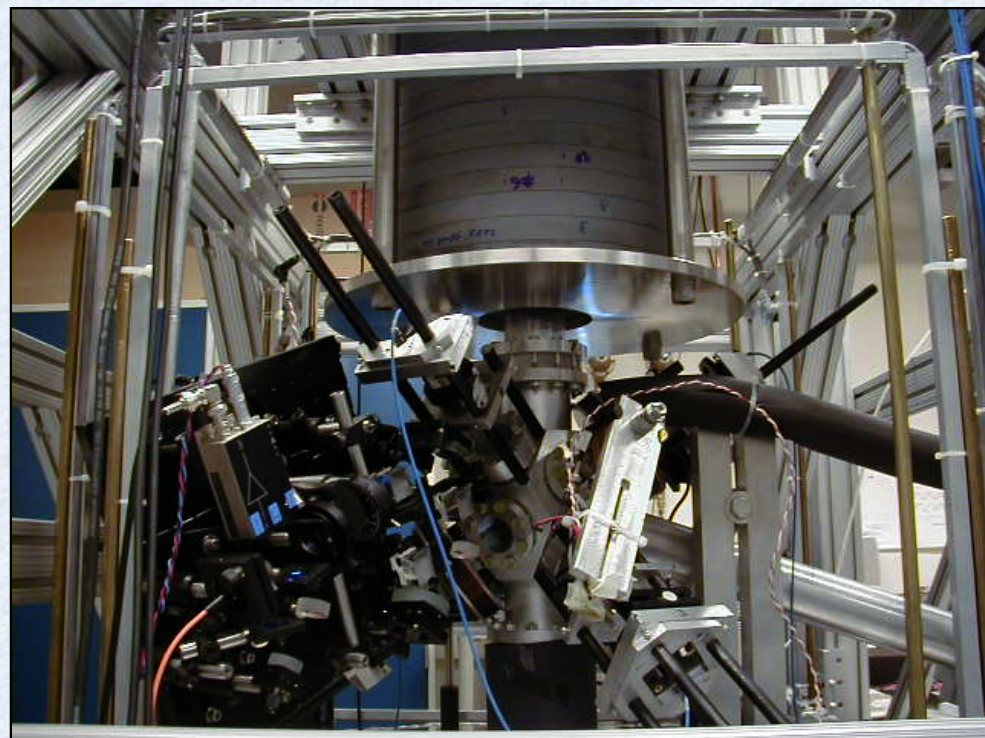
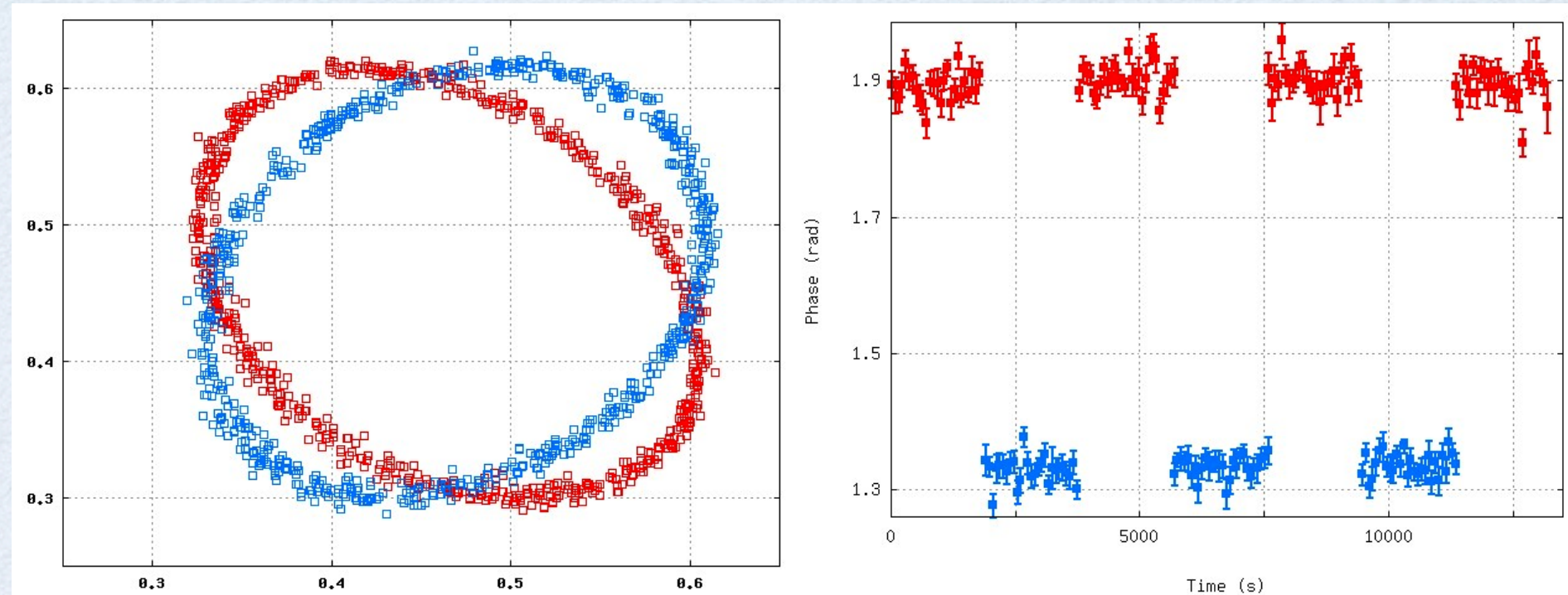
$$\Delta\Phi = k_e g T^2$$



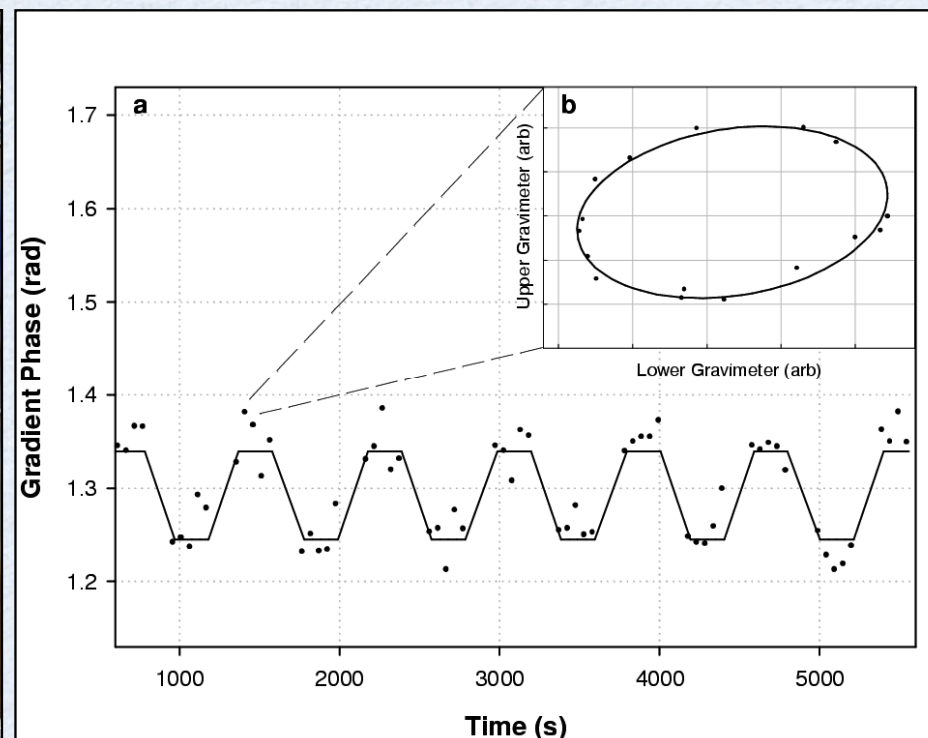
MAGIA

$$G = 6.667 (11) (3) \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

G. Lamporesi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett **100**, 050801 (2008)



F. Sorrentino



Stanford

$$G = 6.693 (27) (21) \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-2}$$

J. B. Fixler et al.,
Science **315**, 74 (2007)

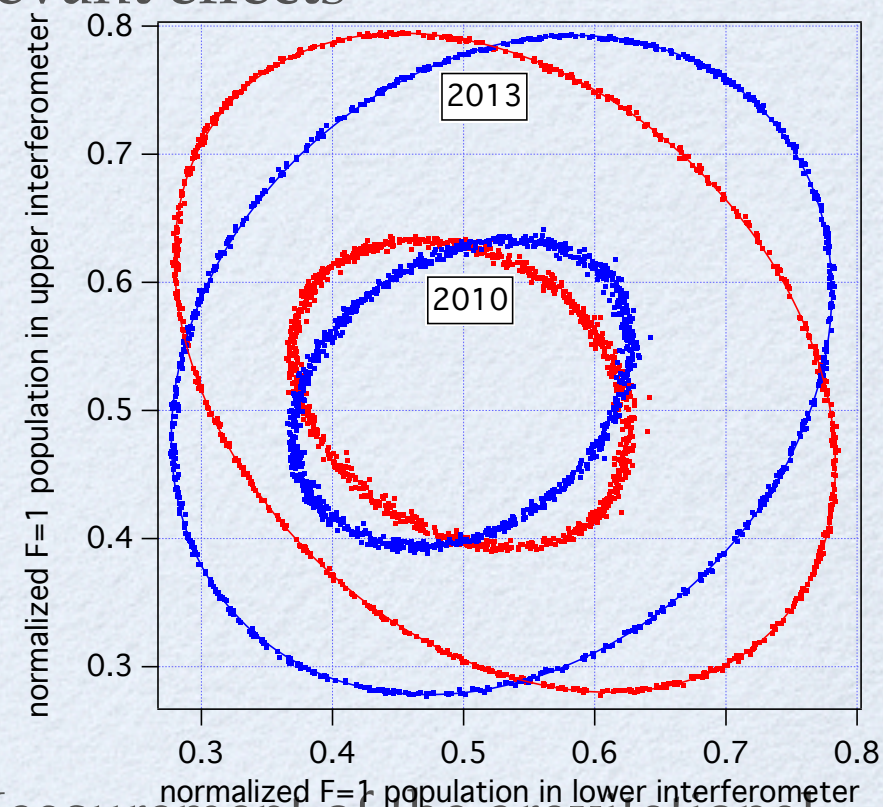
Measurement of the gravitational...

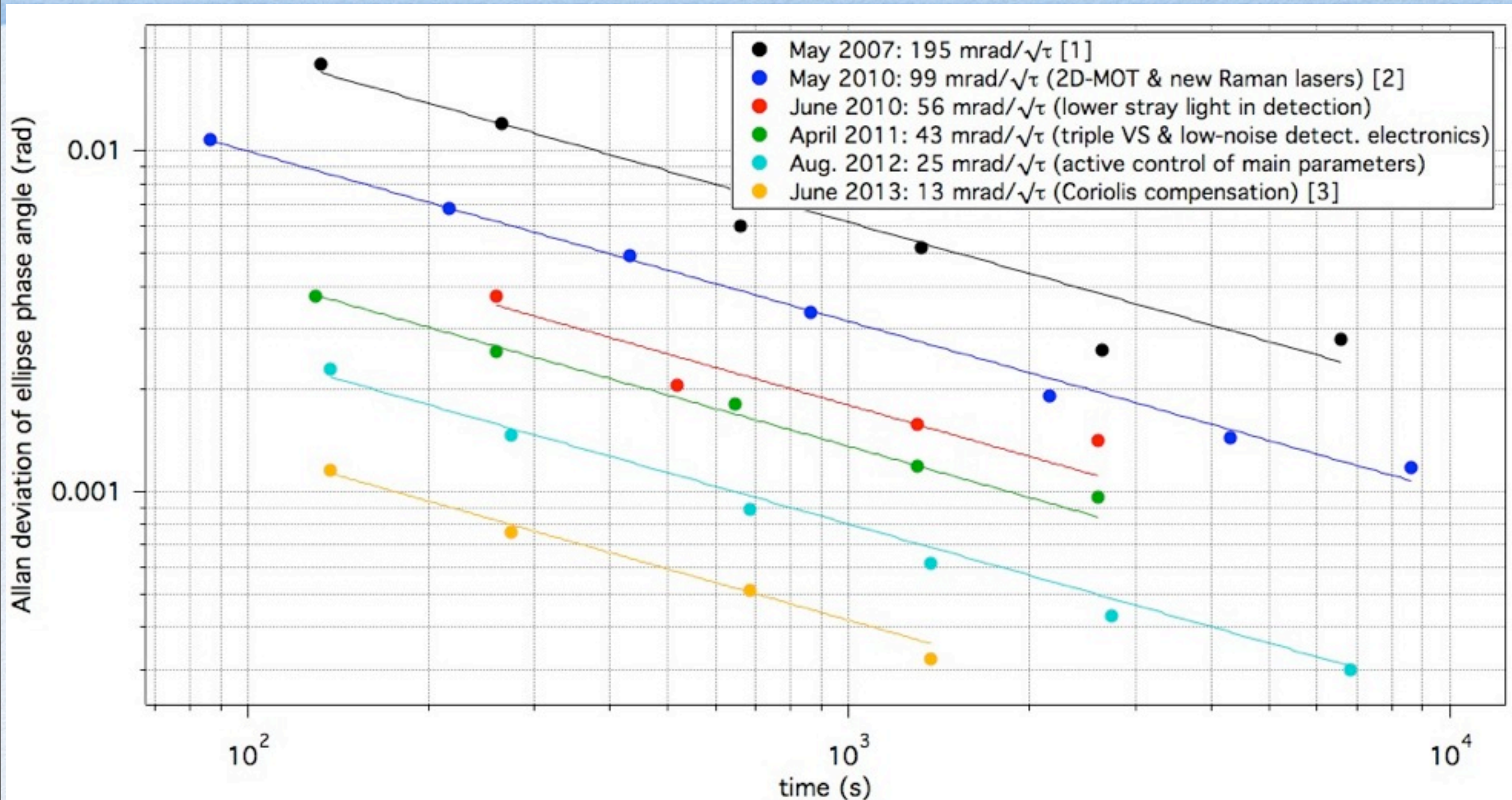


From proof-of-principle to G measure



- Sensitivity
 - 15-fold improvement of the instrument sensitivity from 2008 to 2013
 - integration time for the target 100 ppm reduced by more than a factor 200
- Accuracy
 - systematic uncertainty had been reduced by a factor ~ 10 since 2008, mostly due to
 - better characterization of source masses
 - control & mitigation of Coriolis acceleration
 - excellent control of atomic trajectories
- Data analysis
 - we developed a reliable model accounting for all of the relevant effects
 - gravitational potential from source masses
 - quantum mechanical phase shift of atomic probes
 - detection efficiency
 - measurement are compared with a Montecarlo simulation
- MAGIA @ EGAS
 - EGAS 41 (2009): F. Sorrentino
 - EGAS 43 (2011): M. Prevedelli
 - EGAS 44 (2012): G. Rosi





Current sensitivity to differential acceleration: $3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ g @ 1s}$ (=QPN for 4×10^5 atoms)

[1] G. Lamporesi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett 100, 050801 (2008)

[2] F. Sorrentino et al., New J. Phys. **12**, 095009 (2010)

F. Sorrentino [3] F. Sorrentino et al., Phys. Rev. A **89**, 023607 (2014) Measurement of the gravitational...



Pursuing the accuracy limits



- Precise characterization of source masses (weight, density homogeneity, shape, position)
- Precise characterization of atomic trajectories
- Calibration of relative detection efficiency in the two interferometer outputs
- Removal of k -independent biases (Zeeman shift)
- Removal of k -dependent biases (Coriolis acceleration)



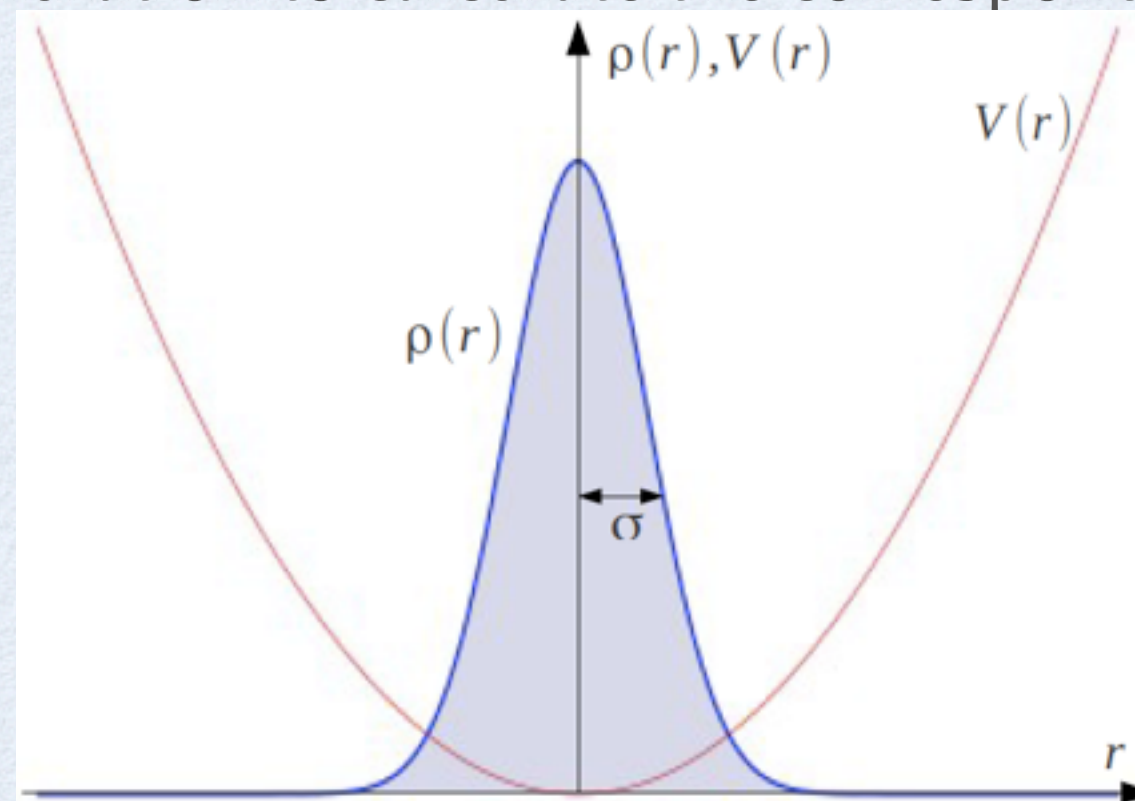
Pursuing the accuracy limits



- Precise characterization of source masses (weight, density homogeneity, shape, position)
- **Precise characterization of atomic trajectories**
- Calibration of relative detection efficiency in the two interferometer outputs
- Removal of k -independent biases (Zeeman shift)
- **Removal of k -dependent biases (Coriolis acceleration)**

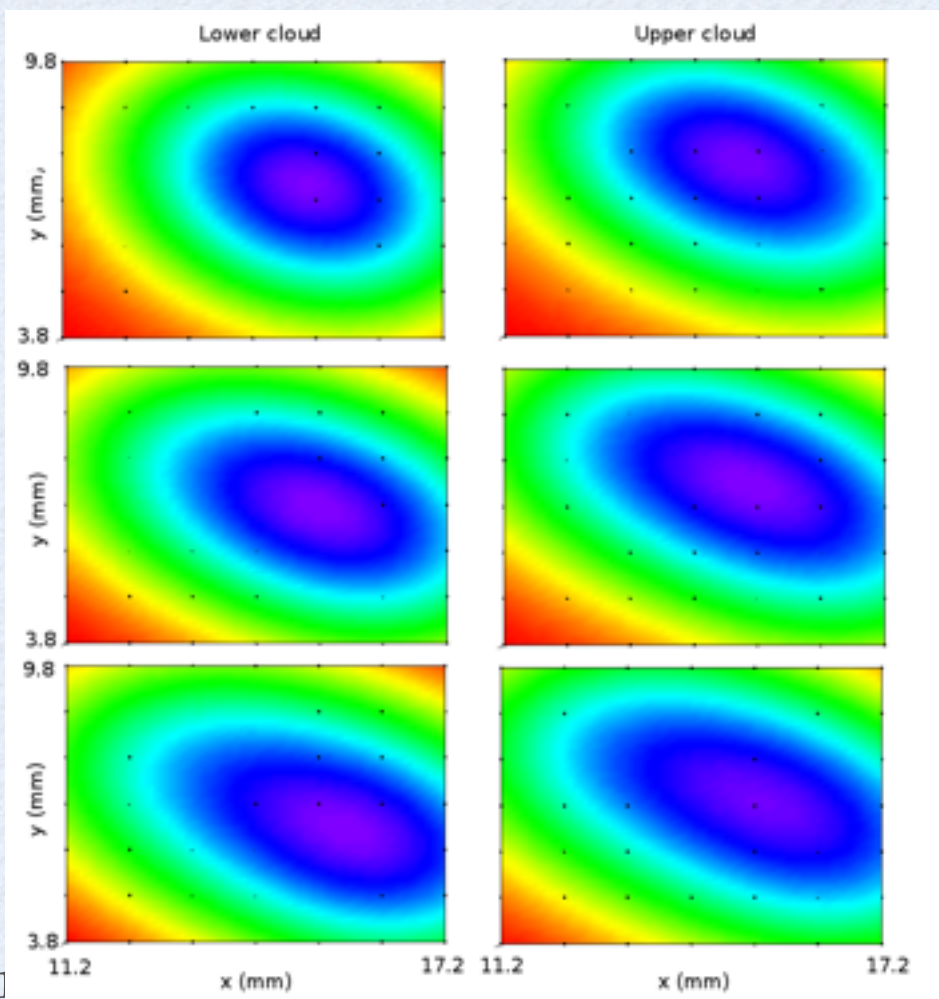
Effect of atomic trajectories

- Finite size of atomic clouds yields a bias on G due to the curvature of gravitational potential
 - curvature has opposite sign on horizontal plane and vertical direction
 - partial compensation of bias on G for finite cloud size
- Correcting for the bias requires:
 - a precise knowledge of atomic clouds density distribution along the atom interferometry sequence
 - a precise knowledge of the spatial distribution of detection efficiency
 - a Montecarlo simulation to calculate the corresponding phase shift



- Vertical coordinates measured within 0.1 mm from TOF + double diffraction
 - **corresponding error on G : 57 ppm**
- Transverse density distribution measured by different methods:
 - 2D scanning of a thin portion of Raman laser beams
 - fluorescence imaging of clouds at the two passages in the detection chamber
 - Raman velocimetry
 - barycenter and width measured within 1 mm
 - **corresponding error on G : 38 ppm**

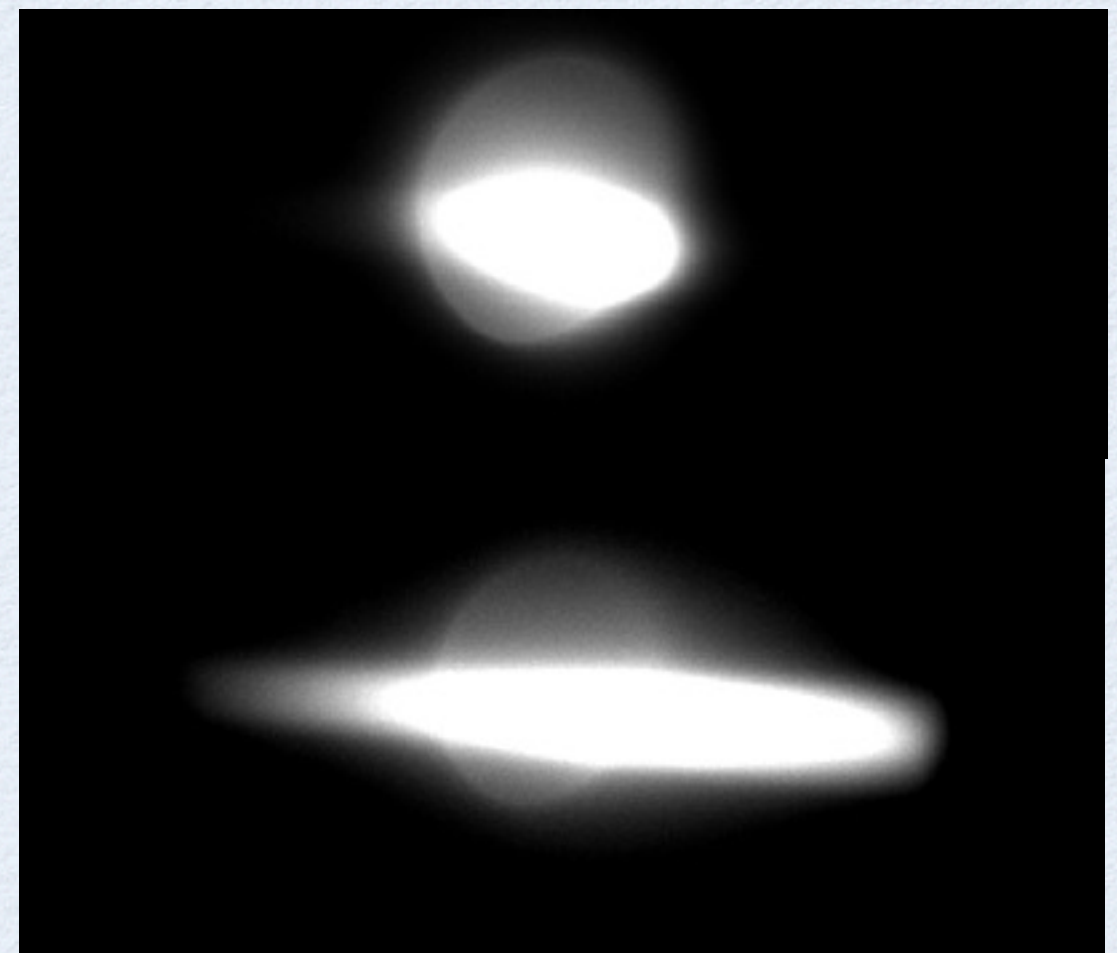
$T = 0$ ms



$T = 62.5$ ms

$T = 125$ ms

F. Sorrenti

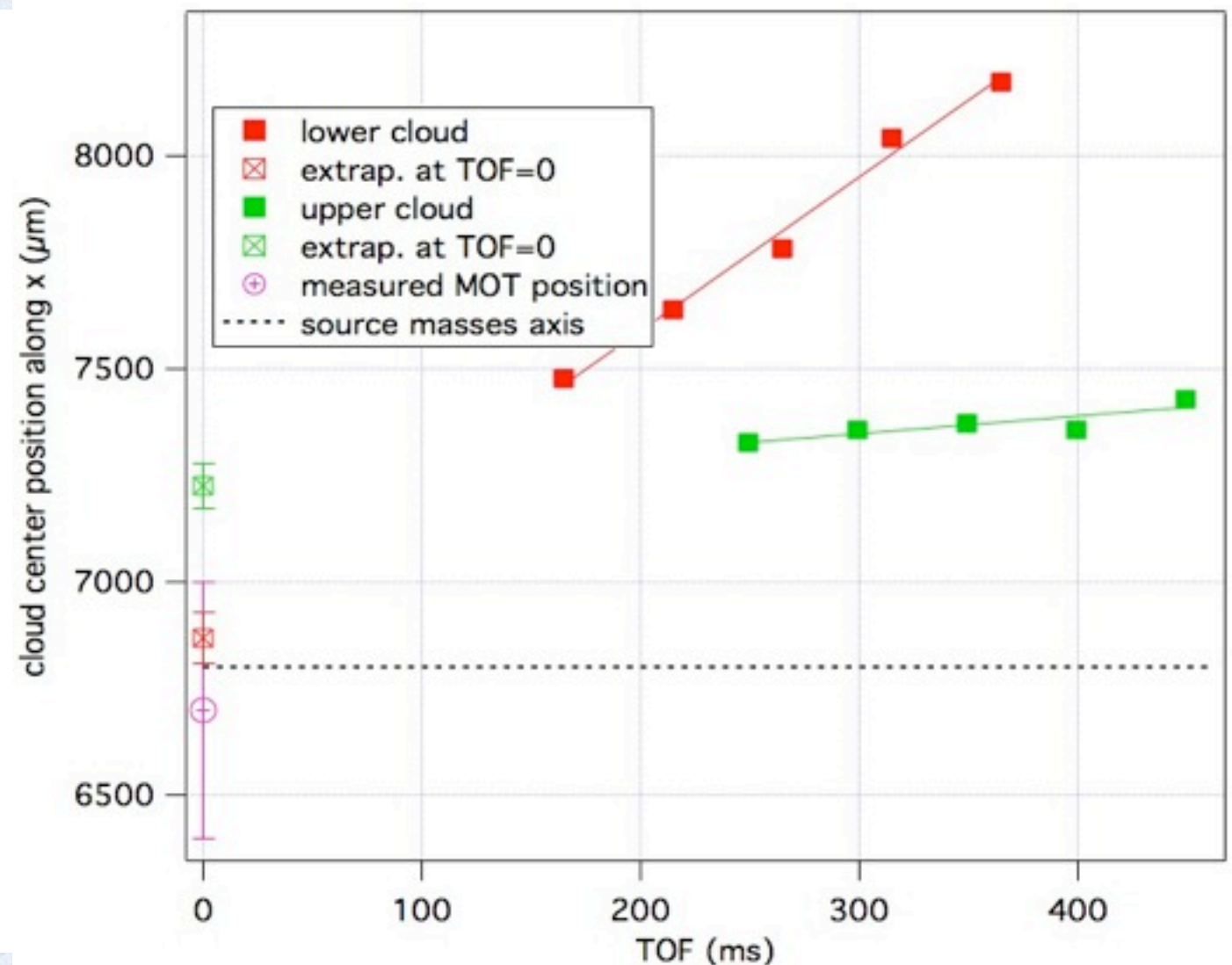
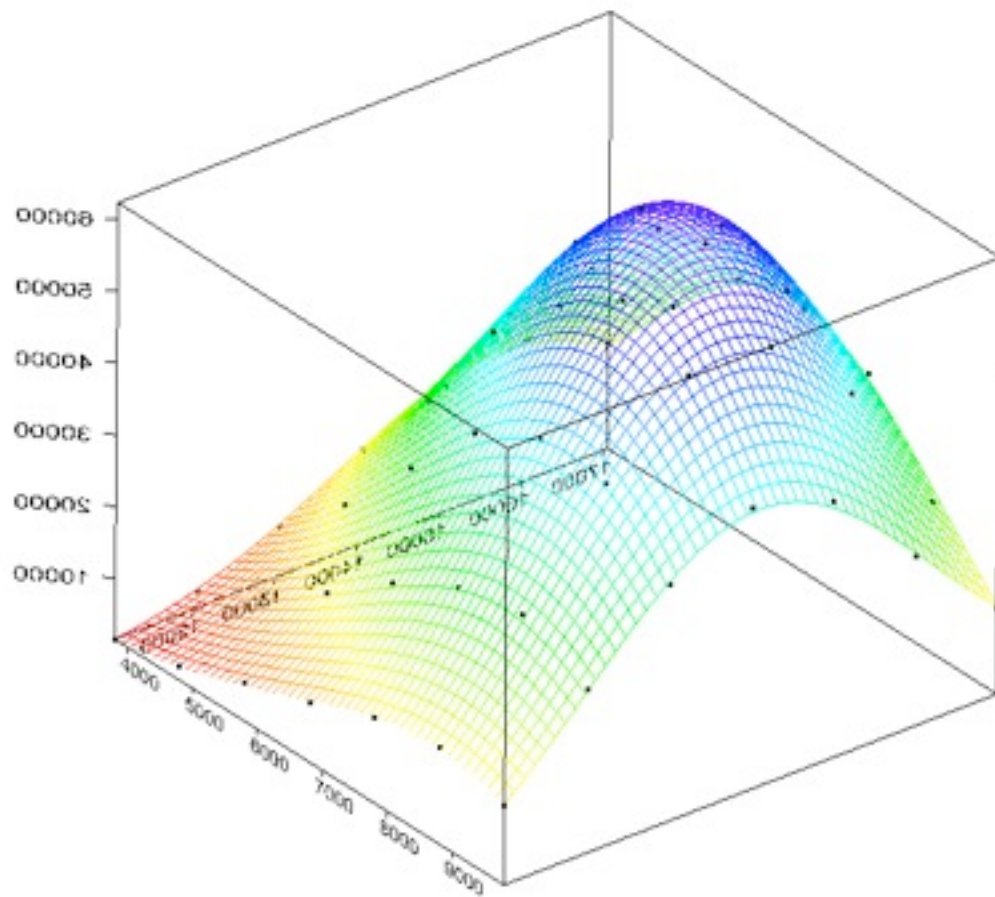


Measurement of the gravitational...

- Transverse velocities are found in the range of a few mm/s
- These are due to small tilt (~ 1 mrad) of the atomic fountain

$$\phi_{Coriolis} = -2\Omega k_{eff} T^2 \cos \theta_l (v_u - v_l) \sin \theta_{tilt} \simeq -34\theta_{tilt}$$

- Corresponding AI phase shift due to Coriolis acceleration ~ 40 mrad, i. e. 10^{-9} g
- For a Coriolis shift below 10^{-4} on G , launching direction should change less than $2 \mu\text{rad}$ on average when moving the source masses



- We reduce the frame rotation by at least a factor 10 with a tip-tilt Raman retro-reflecting mirror [M. Hogan et al., Proc. intern. school of physics Enrico Fermi CLXVIII, 411 (2007)]
- Still we would need to control the C/F launching direction changes to better than $20 \mu\text{rad}$
- Double stage compensation: ellipse phase shift vs. rotation rate is proportional to the transverse atomic velocity difference
- When comparing for the two configurations of source masses, we determine C/F transverse velocity changes to be lower than $20 \mu\text{m/s}$
- Under the conservative assumption of Earth rotation compensation at 10%, **corresponding uncertainty on G is 36 ppm**

$$\Delta\Phi = (542.81 \pm 0.2) \text{ mrad (comp.)}$$

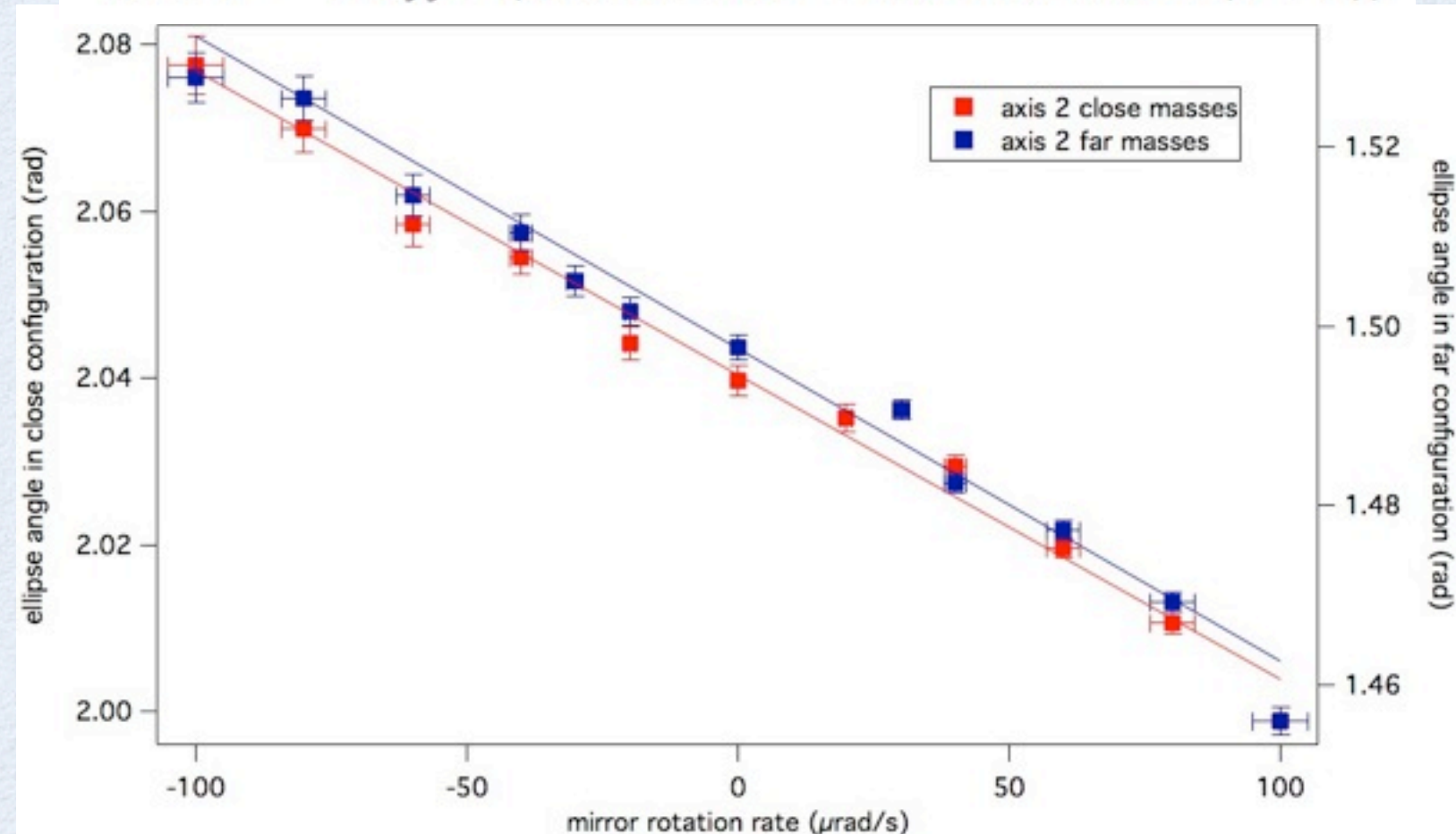
$$\Delta\Phi = (542.63 \pm 0.2) \text{ mrad (non comp)}$$

difference $< 0.28 \text{ mrad}$

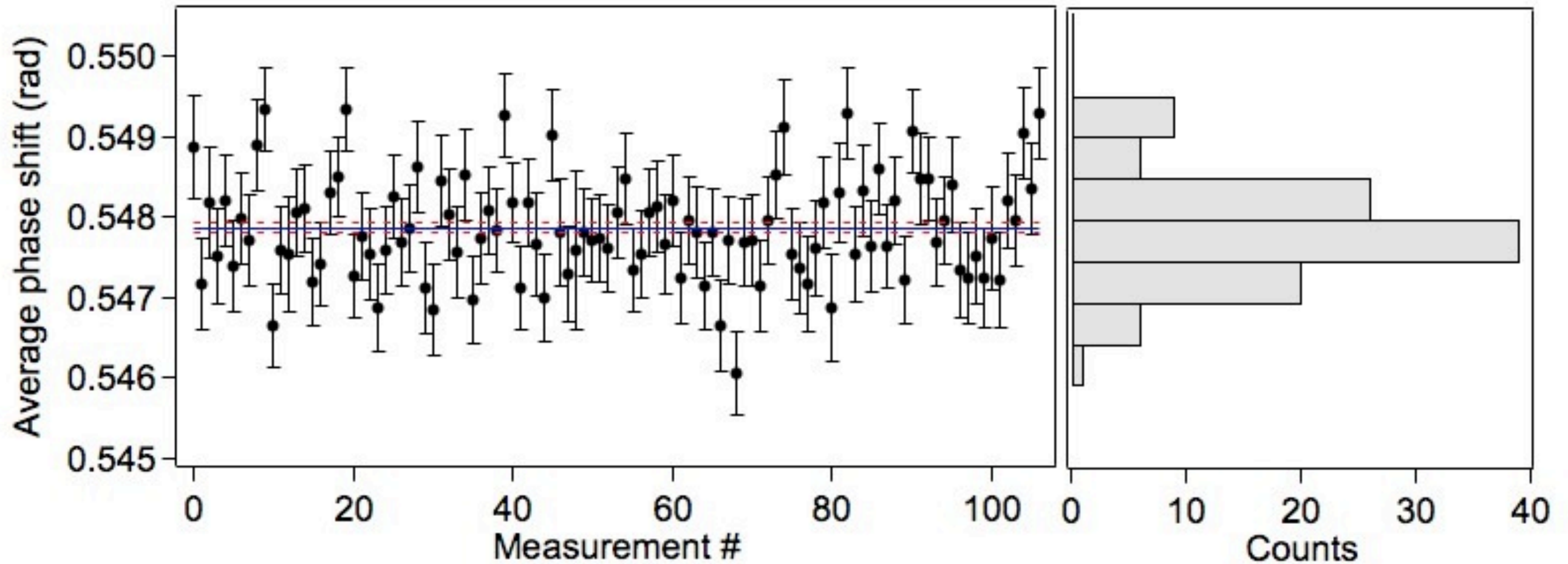
$$\Rightarrow \Delta v_{E-O} < 20 \mu\text{m/s}$$

F. Sorrentino

$$\phi_{Coriol} = -2k_{eff}T^2(\Omega_{m1}\Delta v_{\perp} \cos \beta + \Omega_E \cos \gamma \Delta v_{\perp} \cos(\alpha + \beta))$$



G measurement



From our data we deduce $G=6.67191(77)(65)\text{m}^3\text{kg}^{-1}\text{s}^{-2}$

Statistical error 116 ppm

Systematic error 92 ppm

G. Rosi, F. Sorrentino, L. Cacciapuoti, M. Prevedelli and G. M. Tino, *Precision Measurement of the Newtonian Gravitational Constant Using Cold Atoms*, *Nature* **510**, 518 (2014)



MAGIA error budget



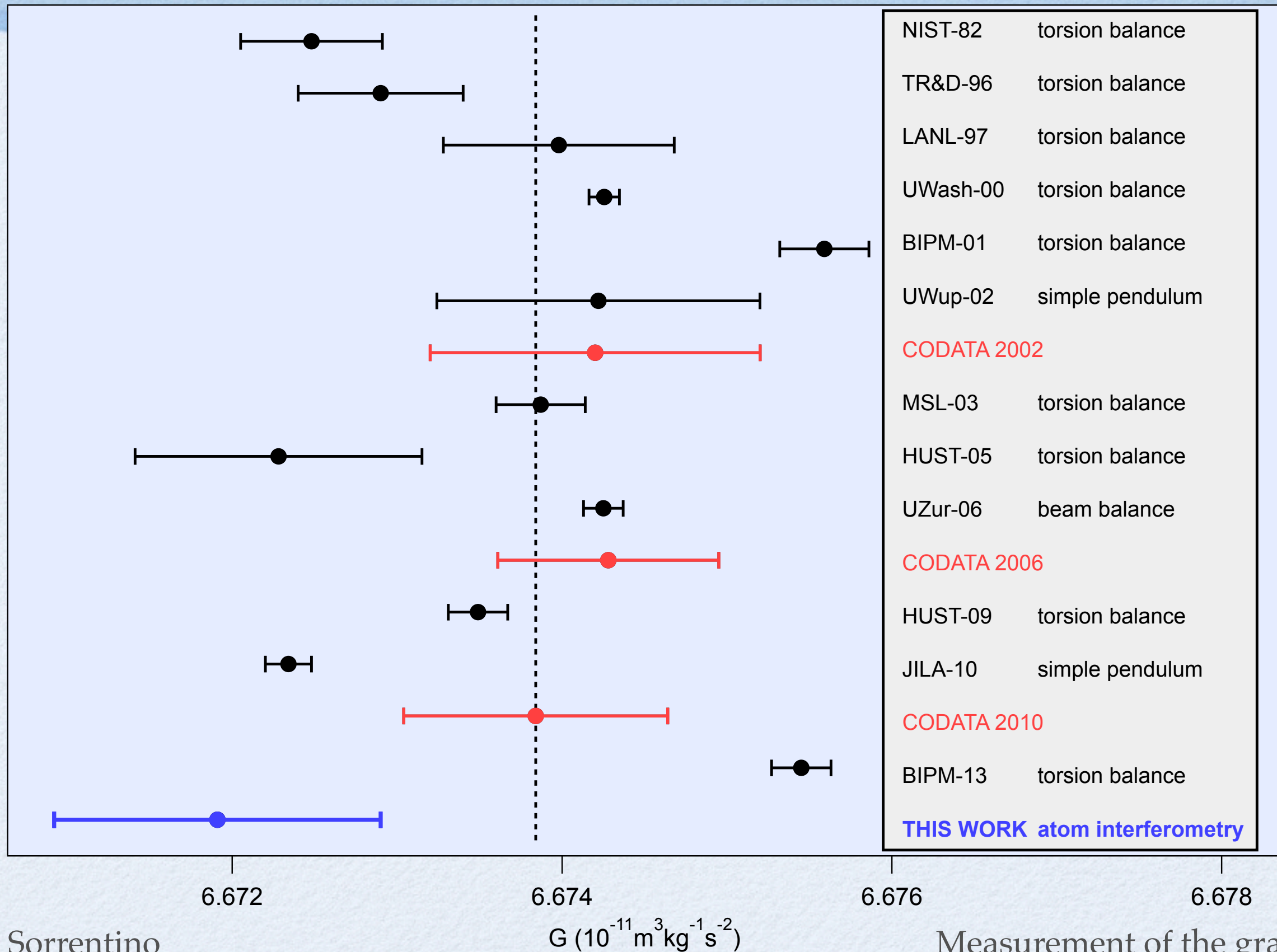
	Uncertainty on parameter	Relative correction on G (ppm)	Relative uncertainty on G (ppm)
Air density	10 %	60	6
Apogee time	30 μ s		6
Atomic clouds horizontal size	0.5 mm		24
Atomic clouds vertical size	0.1 mm		56
Atomic clouds horizontal position	1 mm		37
Atomic clouds vertical position	0.1 mm		5
Atoms launch direction change C/F	8 μ rad		36
Cylinders density homogeneity	10^{-4}	91	18
Cylinders radial position	10 μ m		38
Ellipse fit		-13	4
Size of detection region	1 mm		13
Support platforms' mass	10 g		5
Translation stages position	0.5 mm		6
Other effects		<2	1
Systematic uncertainty			92
Statistical uncertainty			116
Total		137	148

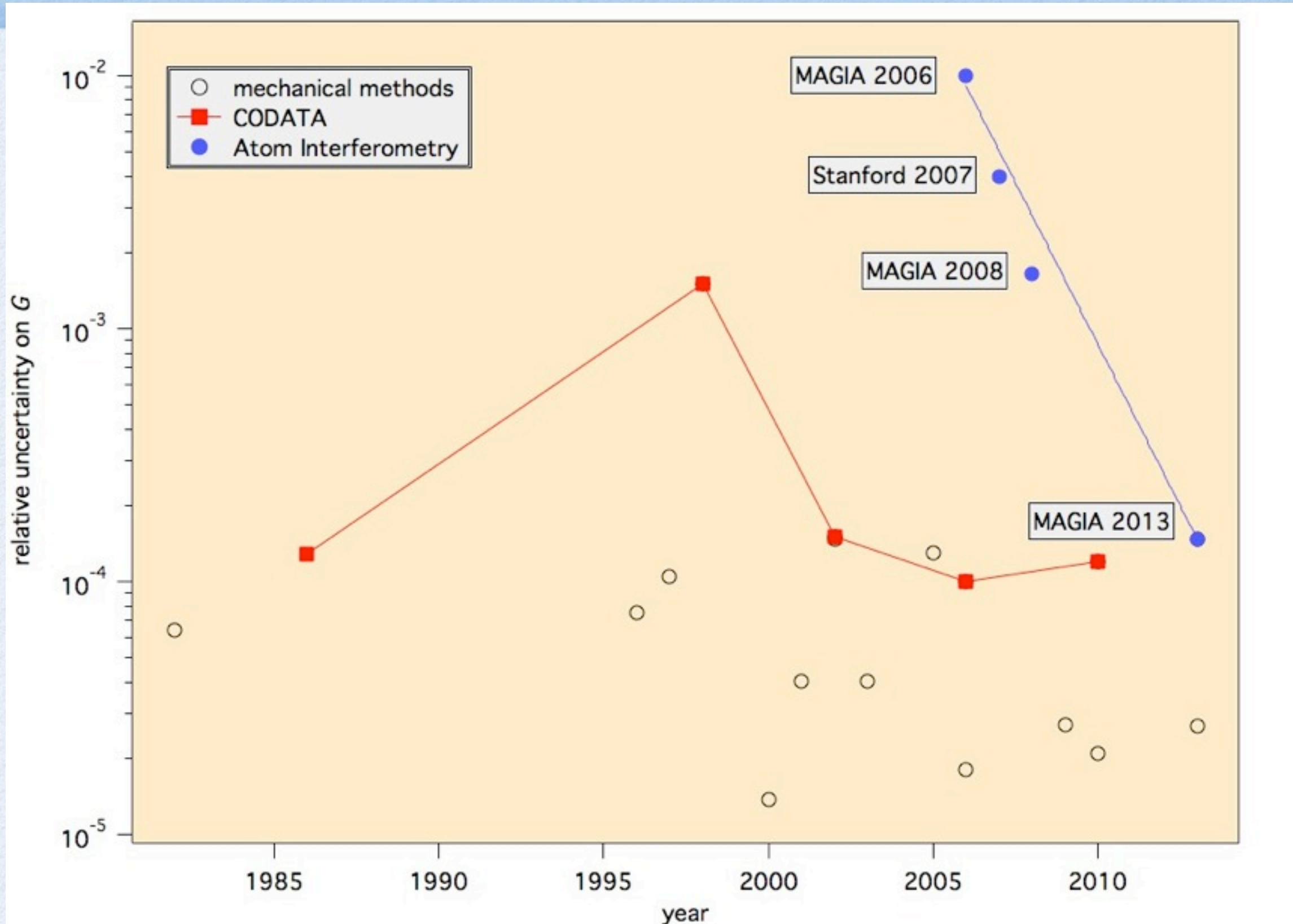
F. Sorrentino

Measurement of the gravitational...



G measurements: current status





M. G. Tarallo, T. Mazzoni, N. Poli, D. V. Sutyryn, X. Zhang, and G. M. Tino, *Test of Einstein equivalence principle for 0-spin and half-integer-spin atoms: Search for spin-gravity coupling effects*, Phys. Rev. Lett.

Accepted 23 June 2014

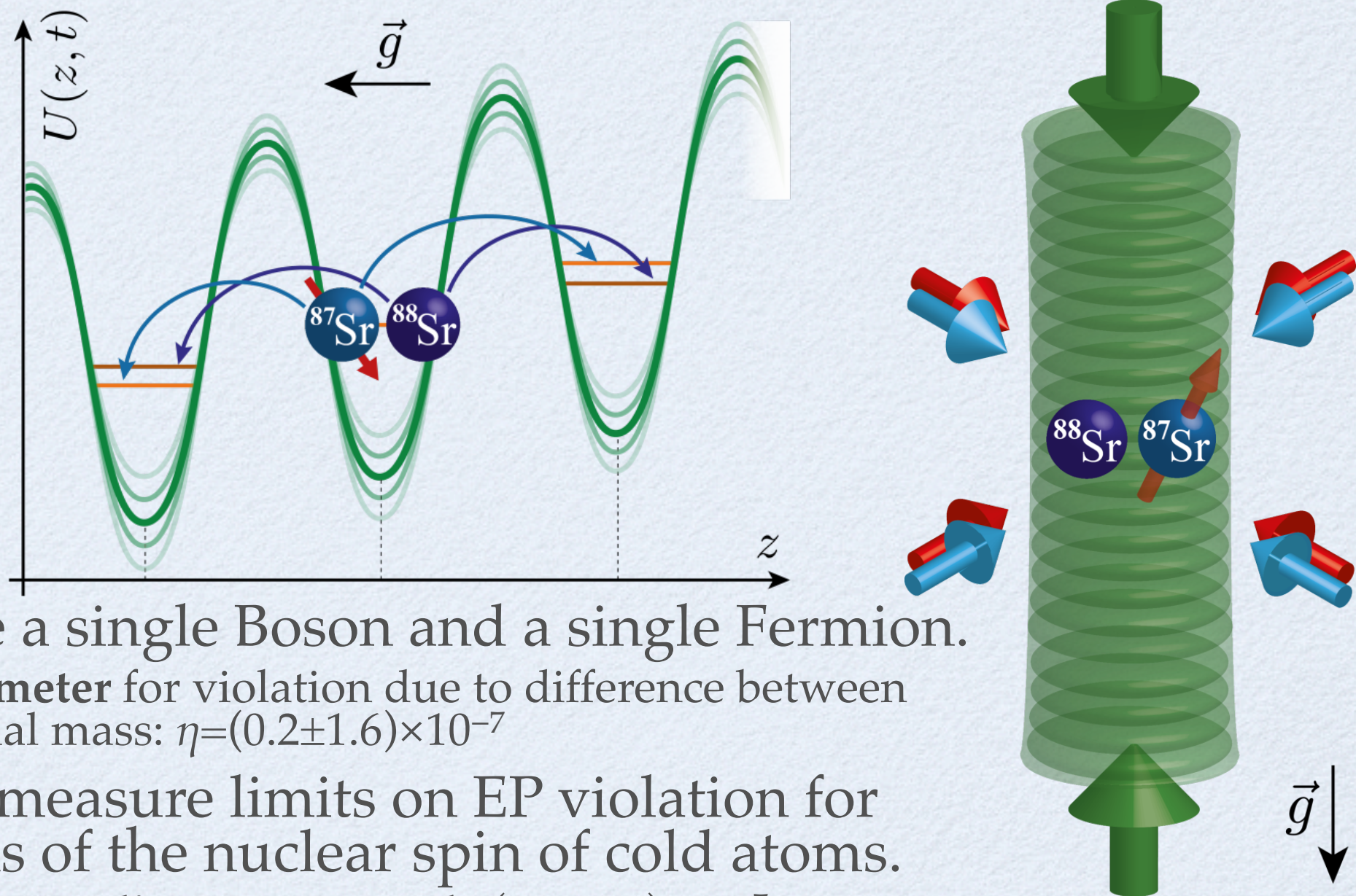
- ^{88}Sr
 - Boson
 - Zero total spin

- ^{87}Sr
 - Fermion
 - Total spin $I=9/2$

- First test to compare a single Boson and a single Fermion.
 - Measured Eötvös parameter for violation due to difference between gravitational and inertial mass: $\eta=(0.2\pm 1.6)\times 10^{-7}$
- First test to directly measure limits on EP violation for different orientations of the nuclear spin of cold atoms.
 - Measured spin-gravity coupling parameter: $k=(0.5\pm 1.1)\times 10^{-7}$

F. Sorrentino

Measurement of the gravitational...





The MAGIA team



G. Rosi



G. M. Tino



L. Cacciapuoti



F. Sorrentino

F. Sorrentino

Guglielmo M. Tino's group web page:
<http://coldatoms.lens.unifi.it>



M. Prevedelli

Measurement of the gravitational...