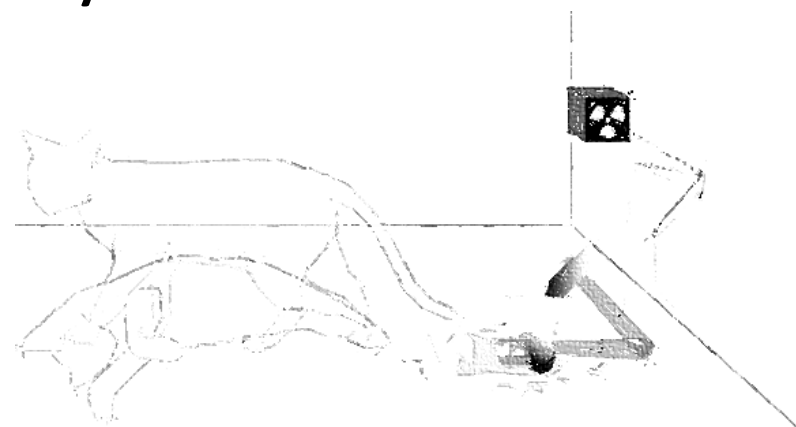
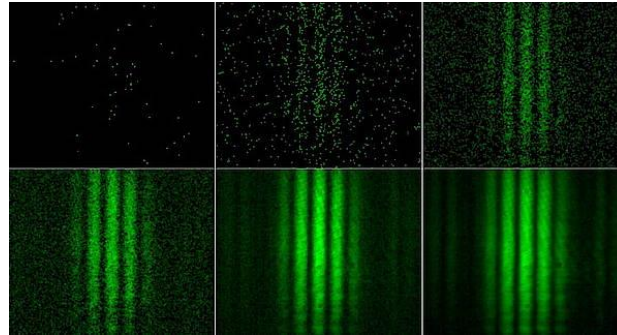
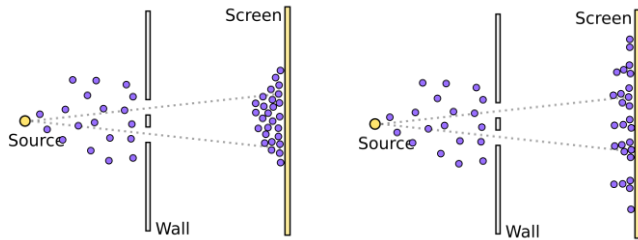


# Towards a space platform for macroscopic tests of quantum physics

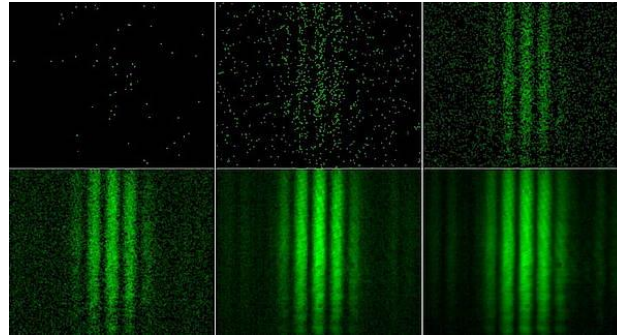
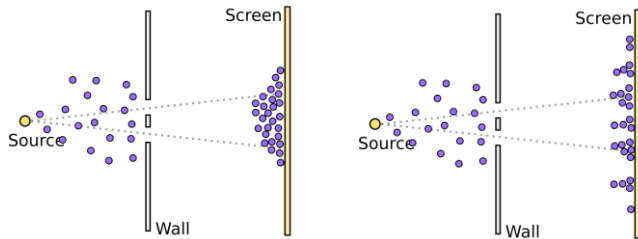
Rainer Kaltenbaek



## Testing quantum physics – the superposition principle

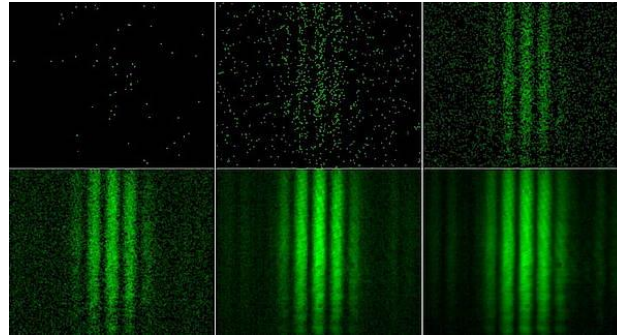
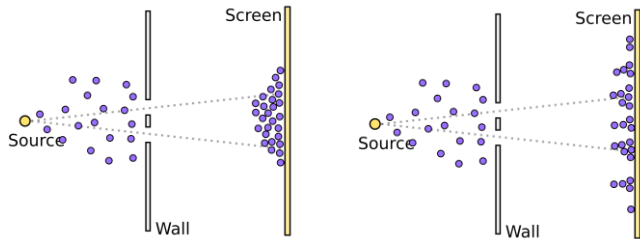


## Testing quantum physics – the superposition principle



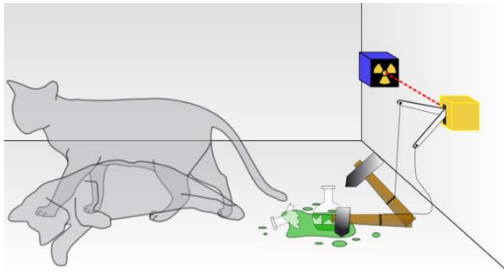
With high-mass particles

## Testing quantum physics – the superposition principle

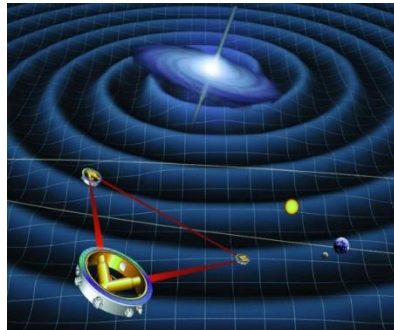


With high-mass particles

## What could we learn?



Quantum – Classical



Gravitational decoherence?



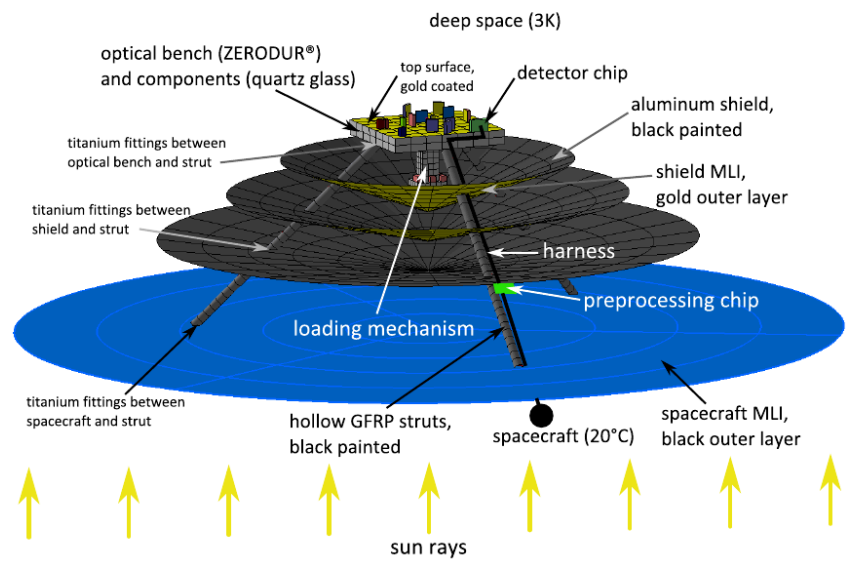
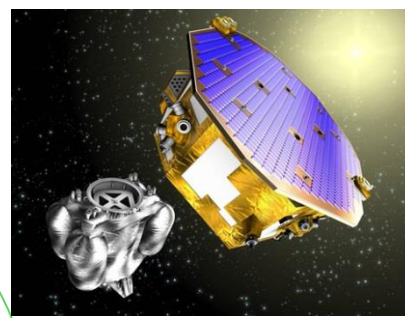
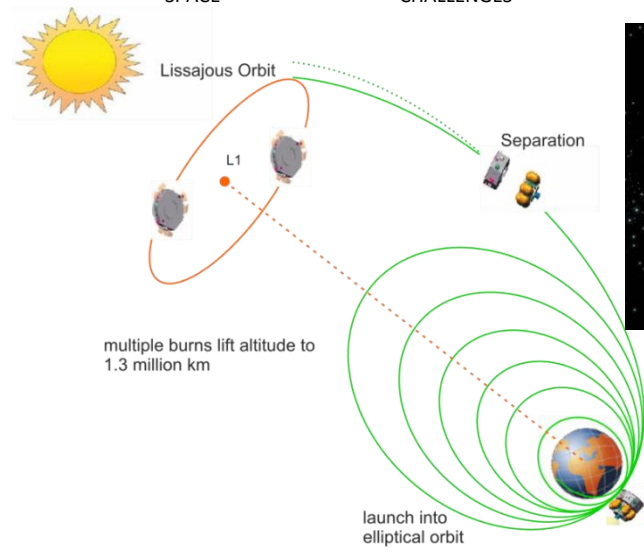
New physics?

# MAQRO – mission proposal



Platform to test quantum physics in space

- 2010 – first proposal (“M3”)
- 2015 – updated proposal (“M4”)
- 2016 – “New Science Ideas”
- 2018 – study at ESA’s CDF



R. Kaltenbaek & MAQRO consortium, EPJ Quantum Techn. **3**, 5 (2016)

A. Pilan Zanoni et al, Appl. Therm. Engin. **107**, 689 (2016)

Launch & operation of LISA Pathfinder



# Study at ESA's Concurrent Design Facility



**Model-based study at ESA's CDF, 15.5.18 – 10.7.18.**

”Phase 0” mission analysis to identify

- Science goals
- Science requirements
- Experiments to be performed
- Case for space
- Critical challenges & technical solutions
- Technology to be developed
- Mission & orbit configuration

**Quantum physics platform in space (QPPF)**



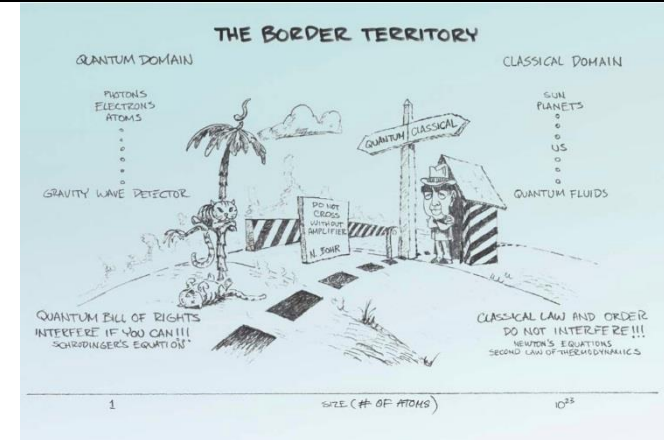
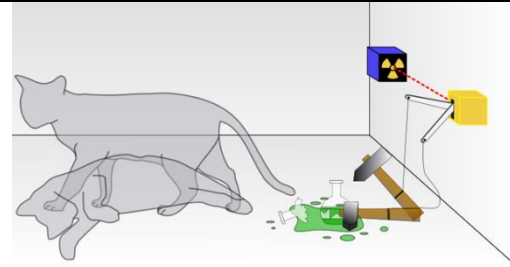
ESA's "Concurrent Design Facility"



# Science goals I/III – overview of objectives

INTRO    SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.    EXPERIMENTS    SPACE    CHALLENGES    PROOF OF PRINC.    CONCL.    THANKS

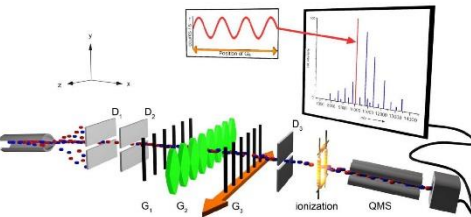
## Testing quantum physics – the superposition principle



**Classical to Quantum**

**Gravitational effects?**

**Quantum decoherence**



**Overlap with ground-based experiments**

## Test for deviations from quantum theory

Parametrization of deviations from coherent quantum evolution

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}]$$



## Test for deviations from quantum theory

Parametrization of deviations from coherent quantum evolution

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}] - \Lambda [\hat{x}, [\hat{x}, \hat{\rho}]]$$

*long-wavelength limit*

$$\frac{d\hat{\rho}}{dt} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{H}, \hat{\rho}] - \gamma \hat{\rho}$$

*short-wavelength limit*

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Test for mass-dependent decoherence

- Particle size
- Mass
- Composition

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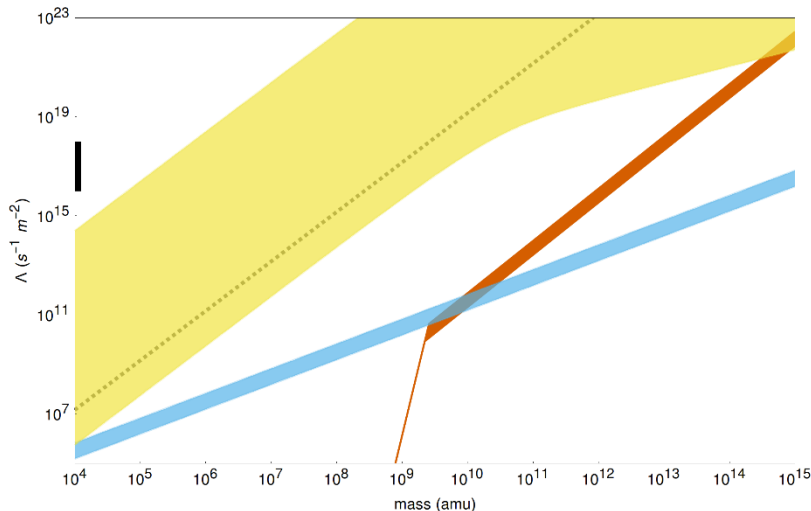
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Test for mass-dependent decoherence

- Particle size
- Mass
- Composition

- Gray Dashed Line: QG Model (Ellis, Mohanty et al)
- Yellow: CSL model (Ghirardi, Rimini, Weber, Pearle, et al,  $\lambda \in [10^{-8}, 2.2 \times 10^{-17}]$ Hz,  $r_c=100$ nm)
- Blue: DP Model (Diósi, Penrose)
- Red: K Model (Károlyházy)
- Current mass record:  $10^4$  atomic mass units (amu)



*Coherent evolution of spherical test particle*

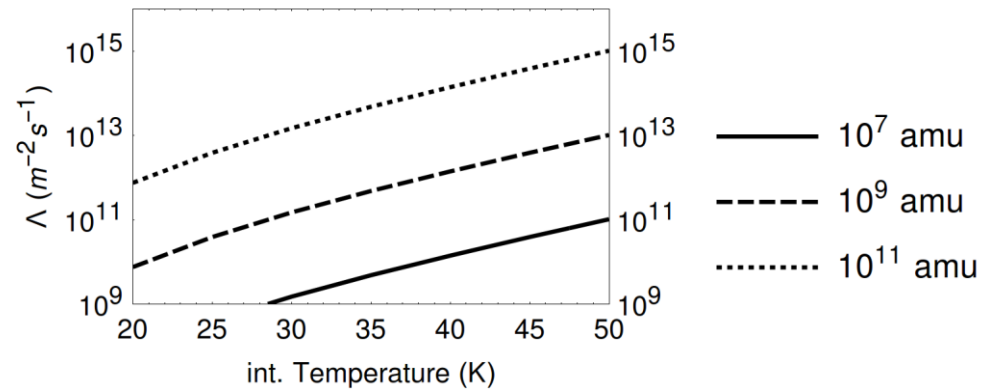


## Testing quantum decoherence

Test parameter dependence of known decoherence mechanisms

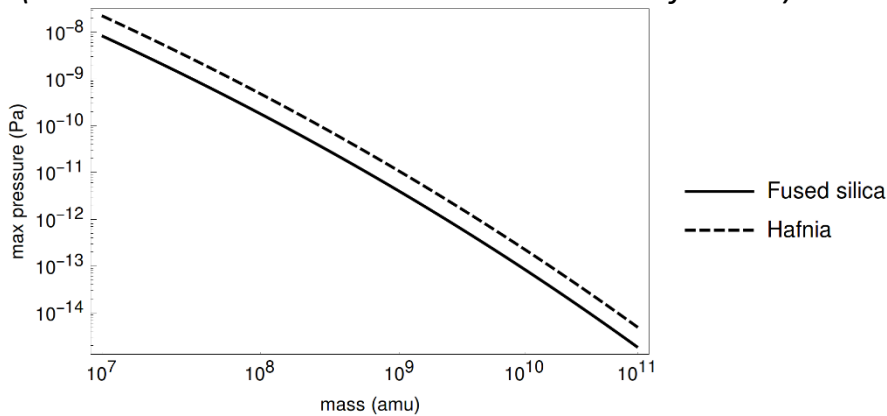
- particle size
- temperature
- polarizability
- vibrations
- pressure(?)
- charge(?)

Emission of blackbody radiation (fused silica)

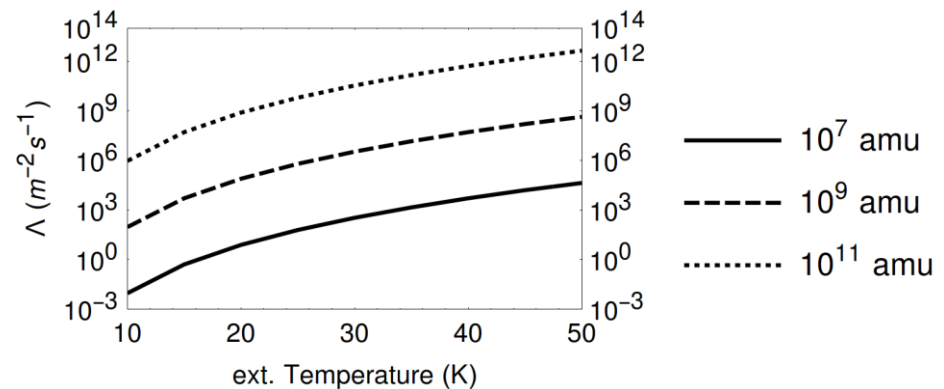


Avoiding particle collisions

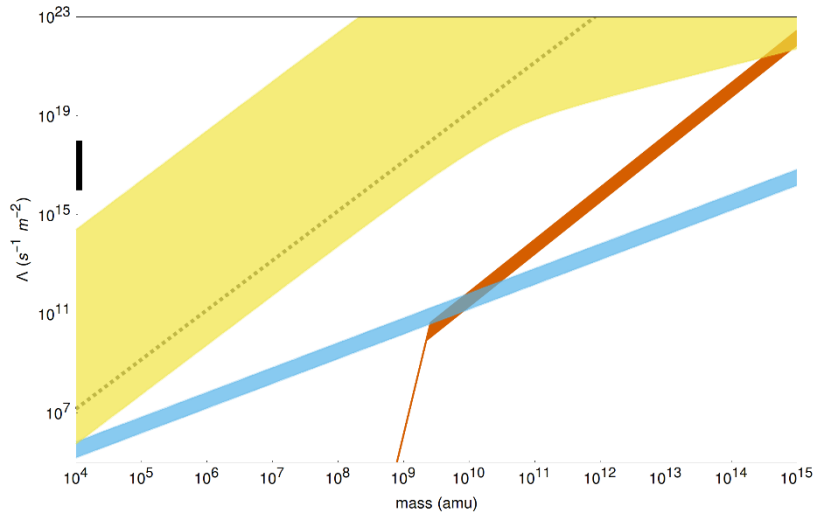
(assumes Talbot time at  $5 \times 10^9$  amu as reference)



Scattering of blackbody radiation (fused silica)

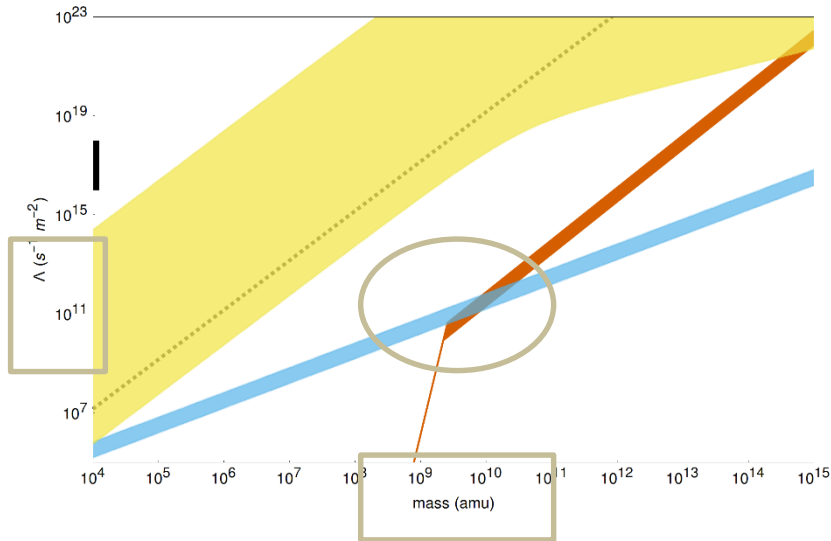


## Test quantum physics with high test masses



- Gray: QG Model (Ellis, Mohanty et al)
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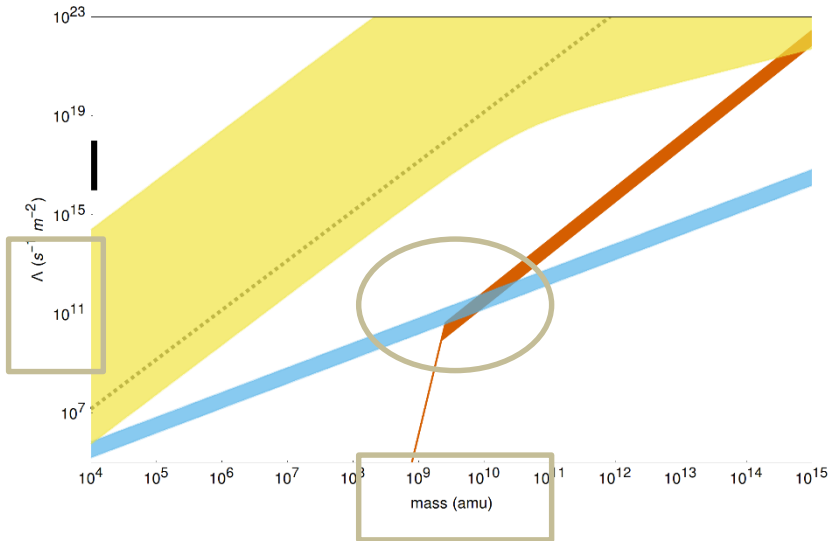
*Region of interest:*

$$10^9 \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1} \lesssim \Lambda \lesssim 10^{14} \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$$

$$10^8 \text{ amu} \lesssim m \lesssim 10^{11} \text{ amu}$$

- Perform experiments in this regime
- first deviations due to (quantum-)gravity?

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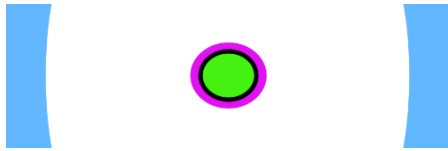
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- Perform experiments in this regime
- first deviations due to (quantum-)gravity?

Parameter	Value	Driver/Justification
$\Lambda_{\text{env}}$	$\lesssim 10^9 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$	Standard decoherence must be less than decoherence tested for
Particle mass	$\gtrsim 10^8 \text{ amu}$	Sensitive to gravitational deviations?

# MAQRO – suggested experiments

## Free expansion of the wavefunction

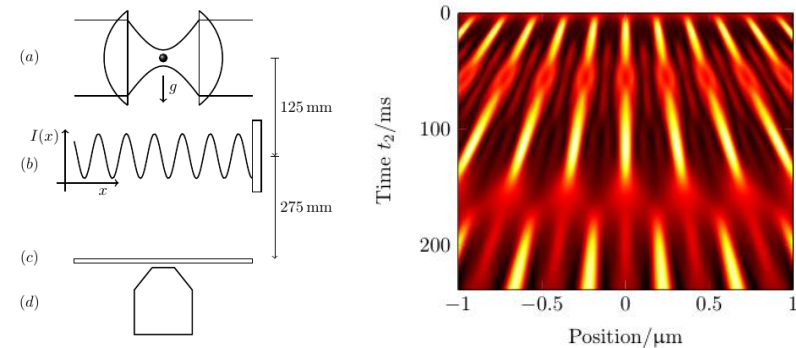


Additional decoherence?

Schrödinger-Newton?

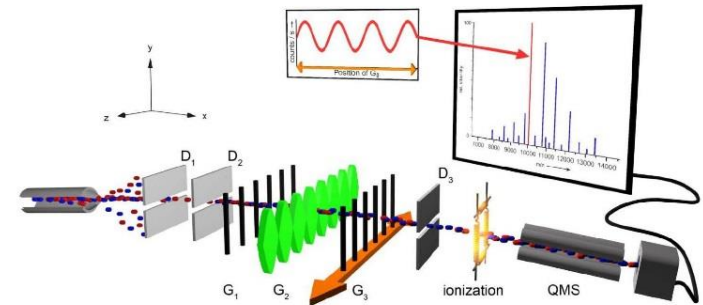
*Suggested for MAQRO by RK in 2011*

## Matter-wave interference



*Idea for ground-based experiments: J. Bateman et al. 2015  
Adapted for MAQRO by RK in 2015/2016*

*Near-field Talbot interferometry as in record-holding experiment by S. Eibenberger in 2013*





# Free expansion of the wavefunction

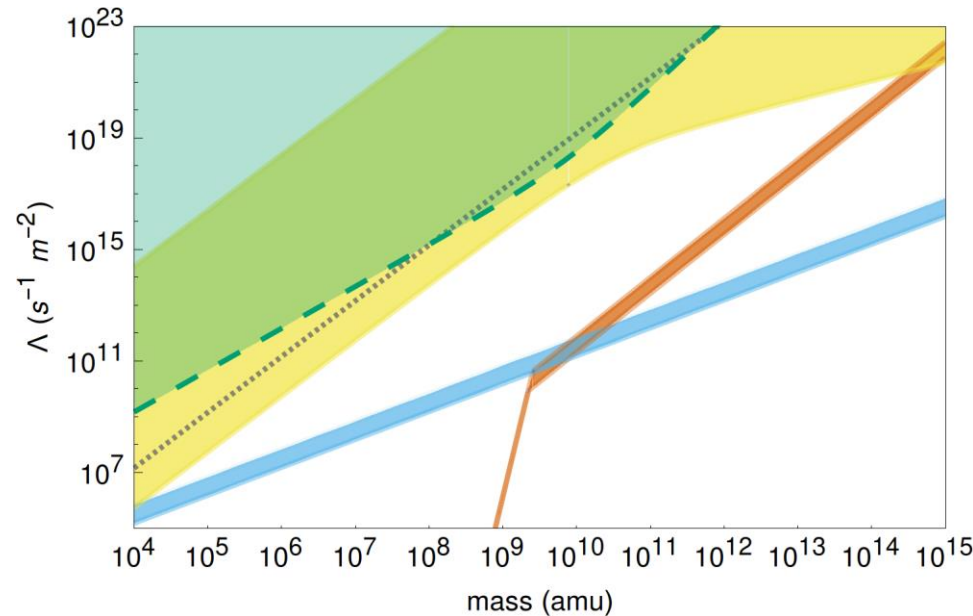
## How well can we measure the width of the wavefunction?

$$w(t)^2 = \langle \hat{x}^2(0) \rangle + \frac{t^2}{m^2} \langle \hat{p}^2(0) \rangle + \frac{2 \Lambda \hbar^2}{3 m^2} t^3$$

$$w = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-1}} \left( \sum_{j=1}^N (x_j - \bar{x})^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\frac{\Delta w}{w} \cong (2N)^{-1/2} \text{ for } N \gg 1$$

$$\Lambda_{\min}(t) = 3 m^2 \frac{w^2(t)}{\sqrt{2N} \hbar^2 t^3} \cong 3 m^2 \frac{w_S^2(t)}{\sqrt{2N} \hbar^2 t^3}$$



Assuming  $\omega = 10^5$  rad/s, 0.3 occupation at  $m = 5 \times 10^9$  amu, fused-silica particle, 30-day measurement run, 100s per measurement

Narrow the gap between existing experiments & „quantum-gravity“ regime

# Free expansion of the wavefunction

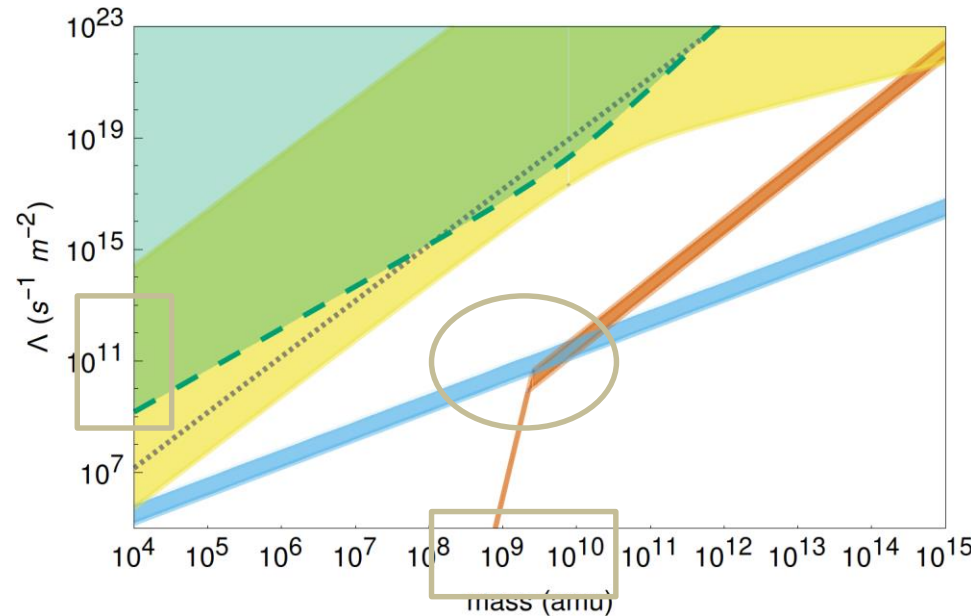
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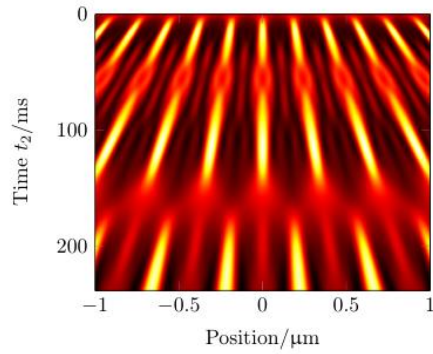
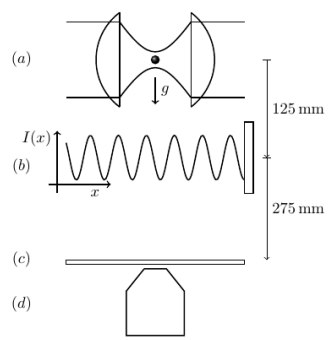
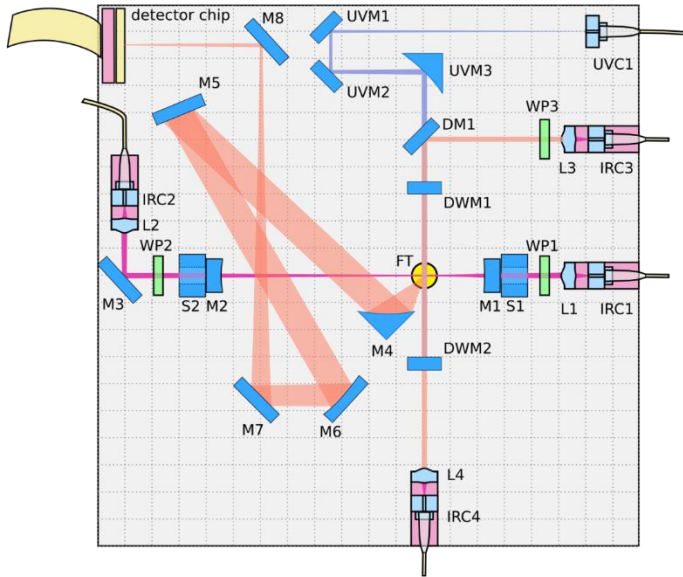


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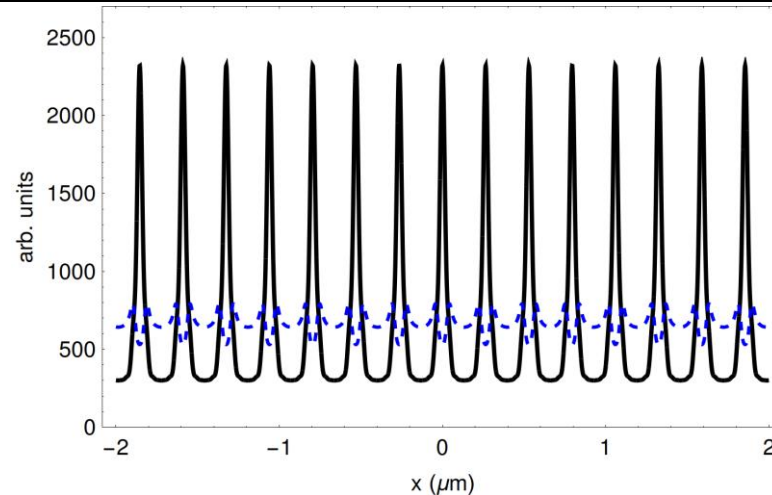
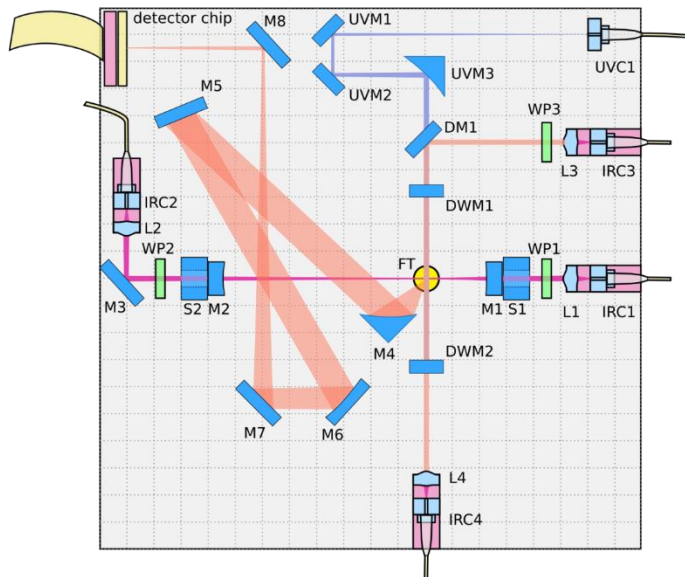
Narrow the gap between existing experiments & „quantum-gravity“ regime

# Matter-wave interferometry I/II

## Working principle



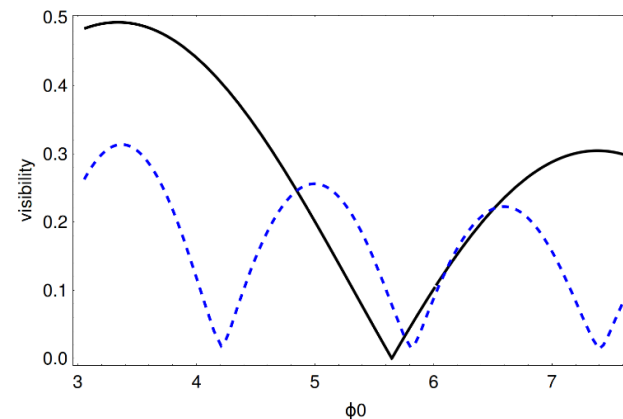
## Working principle



- Blue, dashed: classical Moire shadowing
  - Black, solid: quantum prediction
- (mass:  $10^9$  amu,  $T=100$ s,  $\lambda_g = 100$ nm,  $\phi_0 = 5\pi$ )

Pattern:

$$P(x) = g_1 \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2g_2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_n(\phi_0 \sin(n g_3)) \cos(n x g_4) \exp(-n^2 g_5)\right)$$



# Matter-wave interferometry II/II

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

CHALLENGES

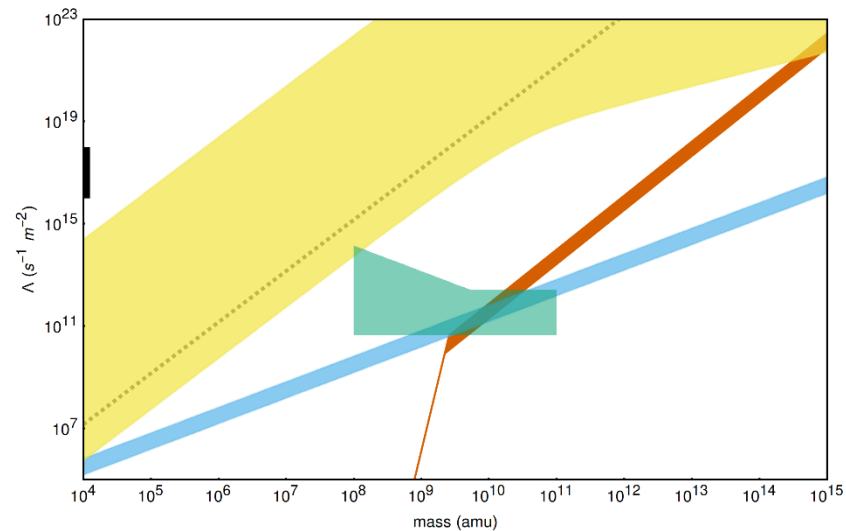
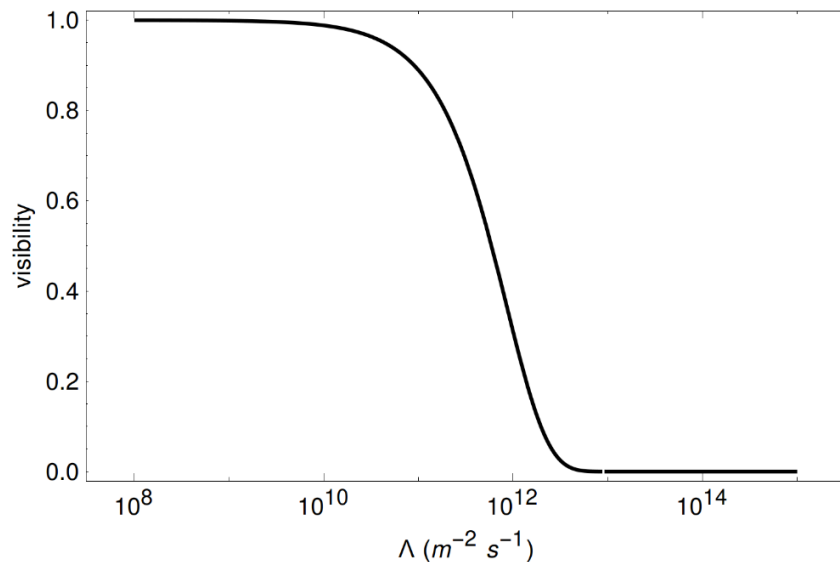
PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL.

THANKS

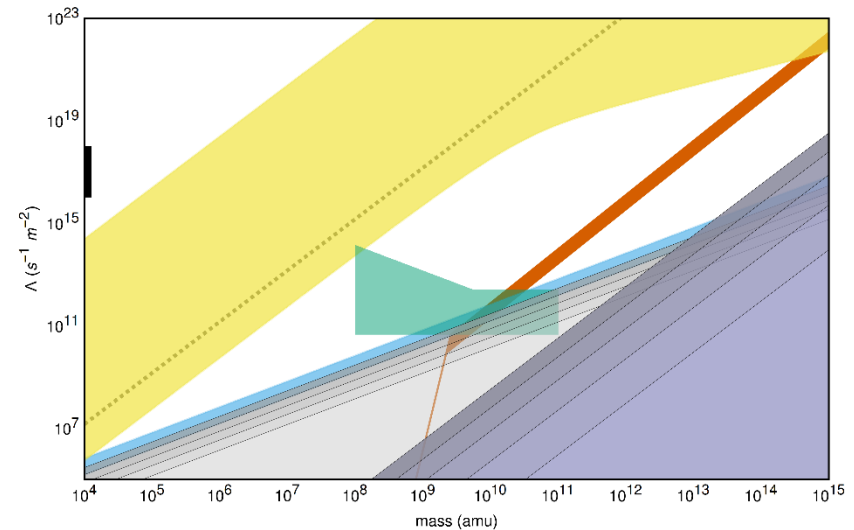
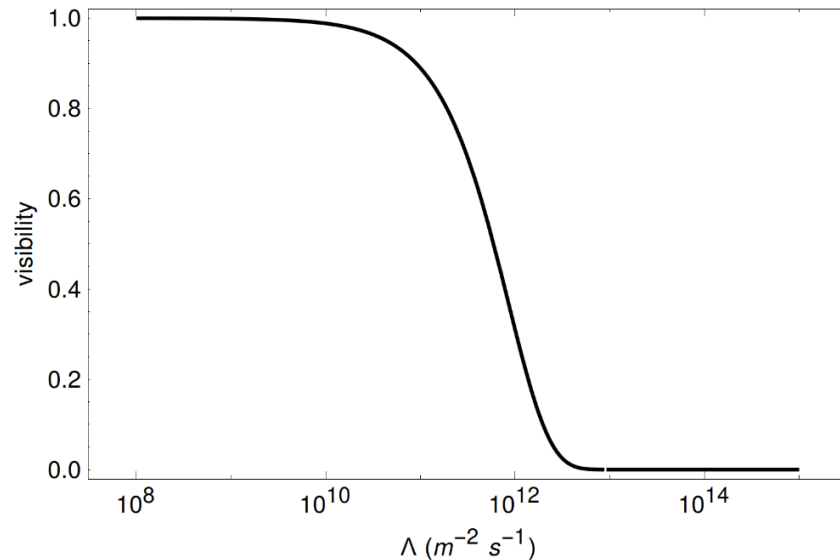
## Sensitivity

Reduction of interference visibility for increasing  $\Lambda$  for 100s free fall & 1e9 amu



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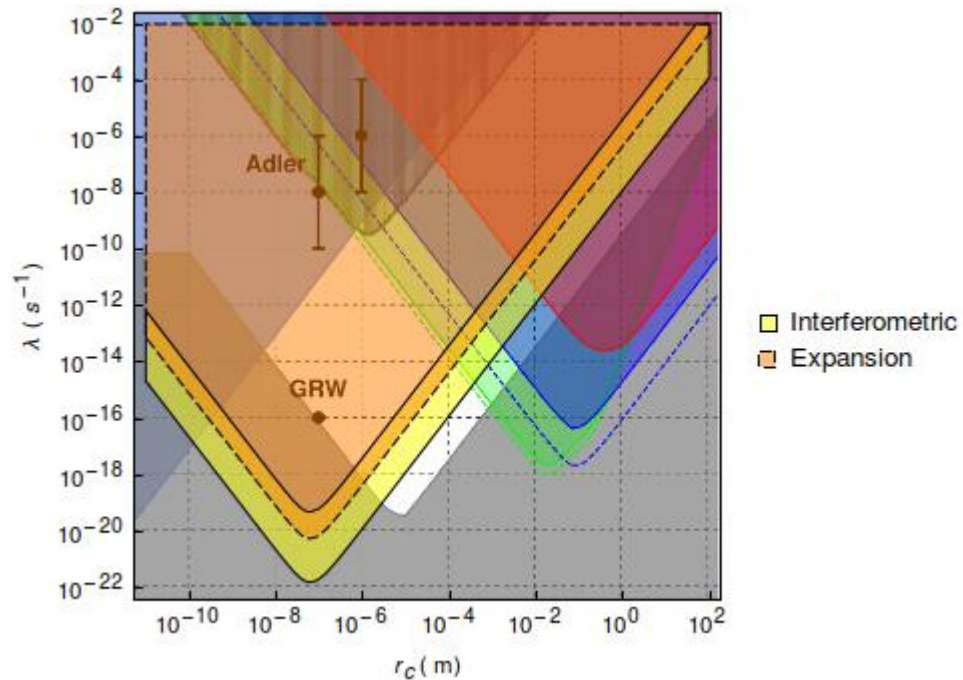
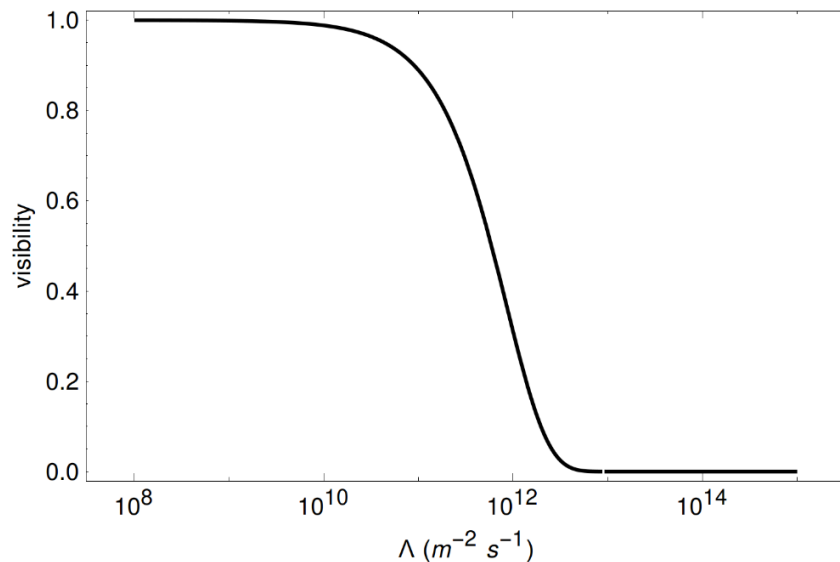


- **Blue-gray:** scattering for environment temperature in 5K steps [10K,30K]
- **Gray:** absorption/emission for temp. in 2K steps [16k,24K]

# Matter-wave interferometry II/II

## Sensitivity

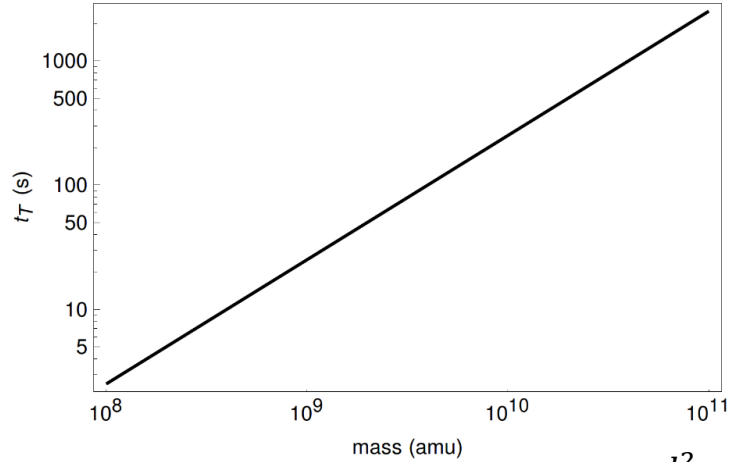
Reduction of interference visibility for increasing  $\Lambda$  for 100s free fall & 1e9 amu



# Case for space



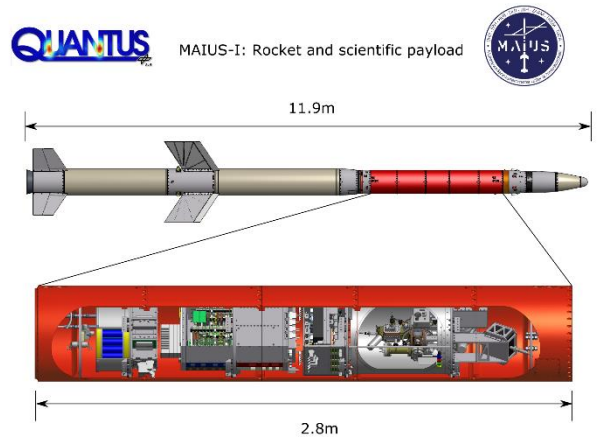
- Free-fall time ( $\sim 100$  s)
- Micro-gravity / vibrations ( $\sim 10^{-9}$  g)
- Statistics ( $\gtrsim 10^4$  data points per meas.)



Interferometry – Talbot time:

$$t_T = \frac{md^2}{h}$$

Wavepacket expansion:  $\Lambda_{\min}(t) \cong 3 m^2 \frac{w_s^2(t)}{\sqrt{2N} \hbar^2 t^3}$





# Before QPPF study: passive radiative cooling

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

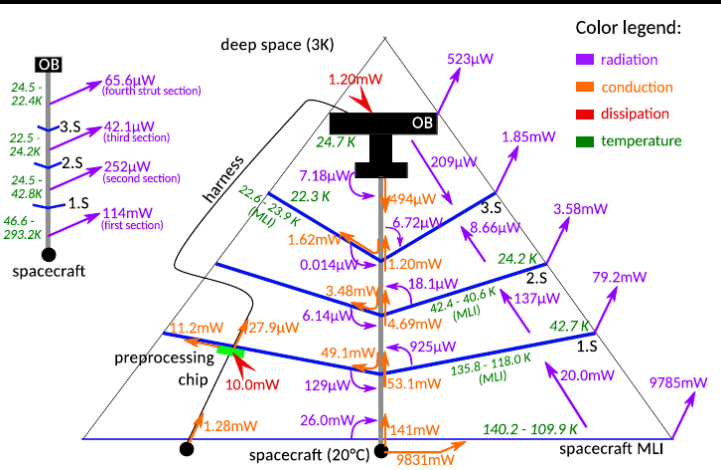
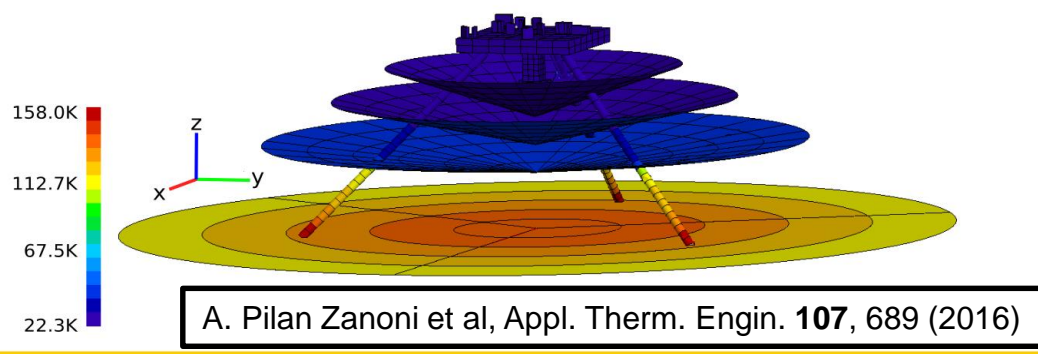
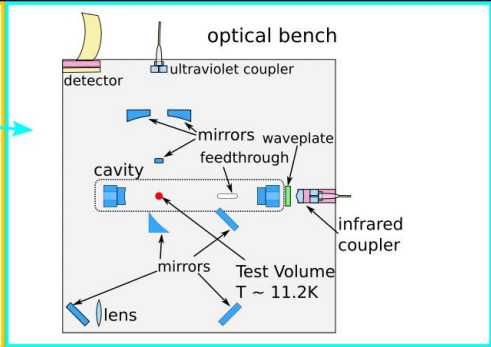
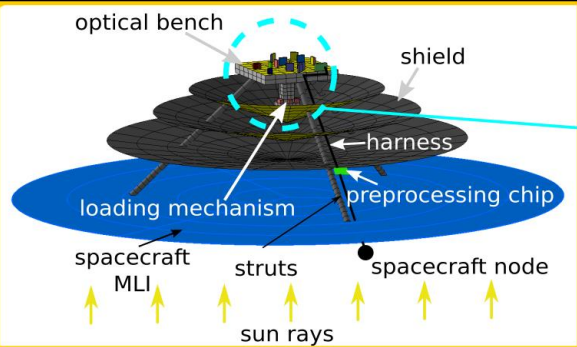
EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

CHALLENGES

PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL. THANKS



- + Low vibrations
- + "unlimited" lifetime
- + Outgassing to space

- Electron bombardment
- Not easily testable
- Outgassing plume

# New spacecraft & orbit configuration

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

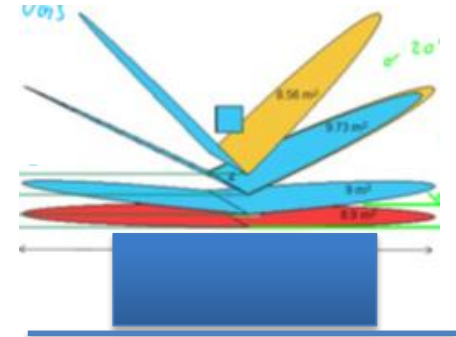
SPACE

CHALLENGES

PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL. THANKS

- Optical bench enclosed in protective cover
- Hydrogen sorption cooler between v-grooves
- Passive + active cooling → 20 K on bench

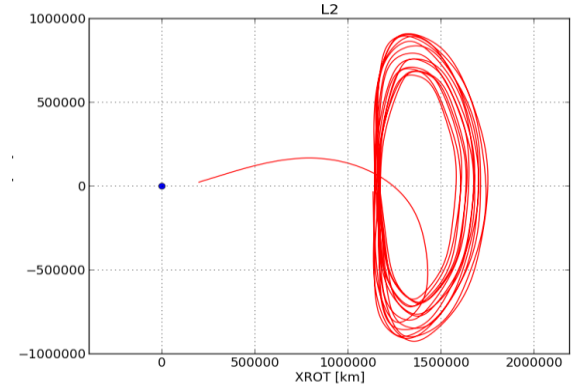


Sketch of QPPF-S/C configuration, courtesy: ESA

# New spacecraft & orbit configuration



- Orbit around L2, direct injection
- Better science-wise: Earth trailing, but limited data-rate and lifetime



**MAR 2030**  
**Payload Commissioning**

- Calibrate temperature
- Test Free Fall
- Test Collision rate

**JAN 2030**  
**LEOP and Commissioning**

- Transfer Correction Manouevres
- Cooling of Payload (1 month)

**APR 2030**  
**Science Phase**

- 3 years
- 1 month per batch - 3 weeks of science 1 week of communications

**APR 2033**  
**Disposal**



**JAN 2030**  
**Launch to L2**  
**Ariane 6.2**

Science Phase	
Number of Test Batches (combination of 1e8amu and 1e9amu)	15
No. of Test Samples per Batch (@ 80%Pr of <2 collisions)	10000 valid 12500 actual
Test Duration (s) per Test Sample	100s 40s free fall - 60s prep

# Critical challenge I/II: particle loading

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

CHALLENGES

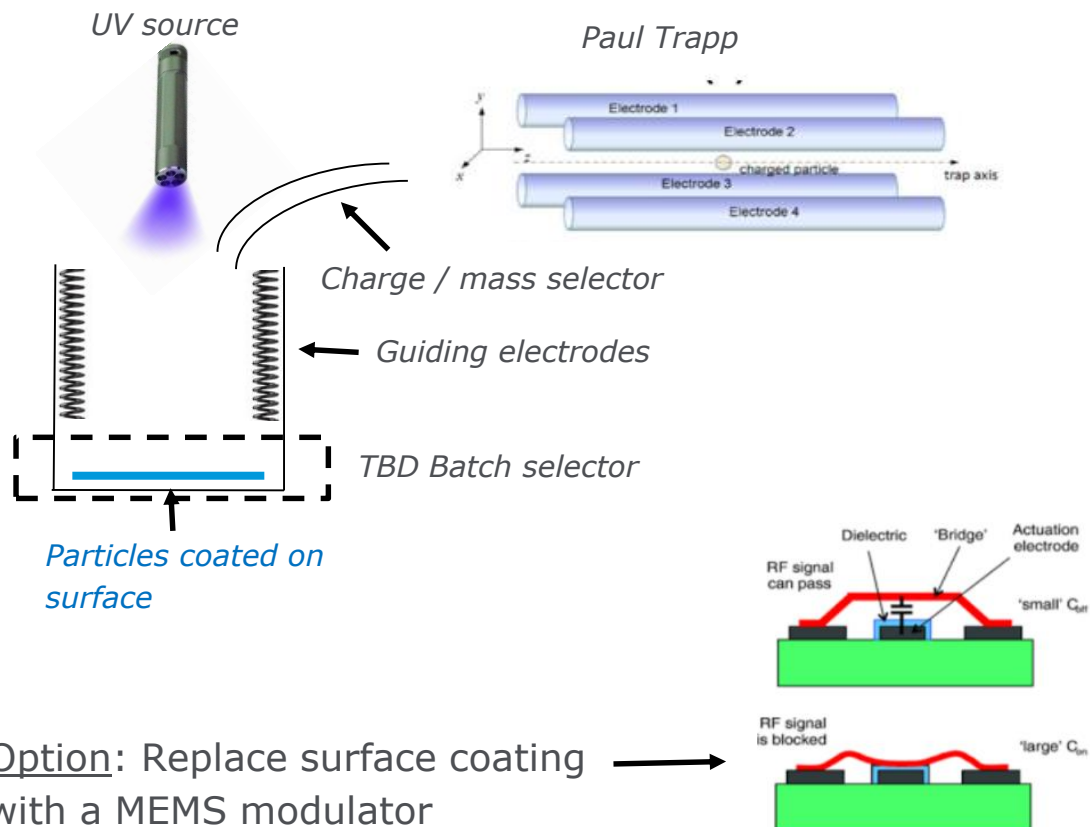
PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL.

THANKS

## Particle Transportation Sequence:

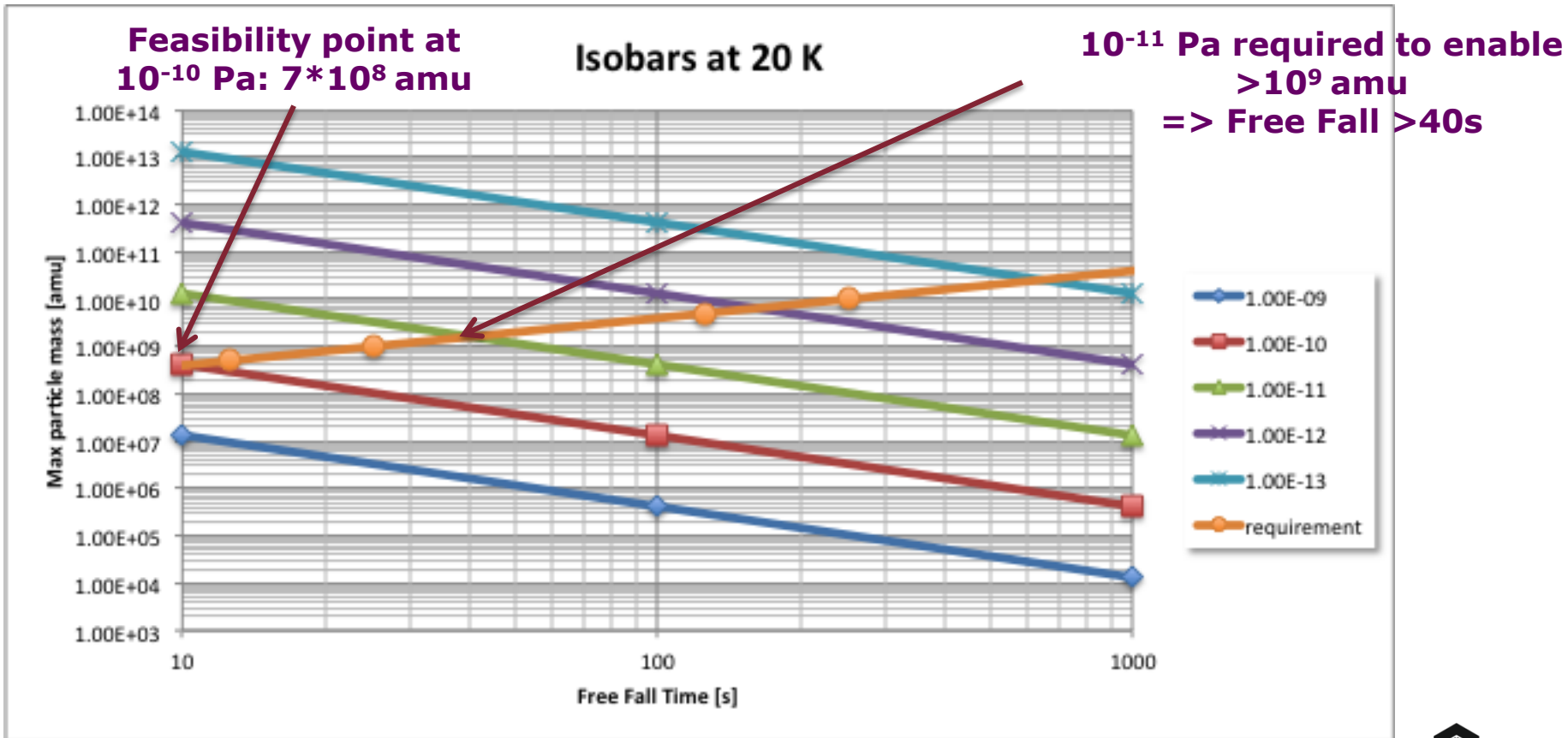
1. Select Batch
2. UV Active Paul Trapp
3. LED fires at particle
4. Particle(s) absorb energy and remove from surface, charged negatively
5. Electrodes guide charged particle into piping
6. Particles travel through charge/mass selection piping
7. Particle arrives into Paul Trap
8. Transferred into optical trap
9. Particle discharged using UV light



# Critical challenge II/II: vacuum



Limit number of collisions during Talbot time  $t_T = \frac{md^2}{h}$

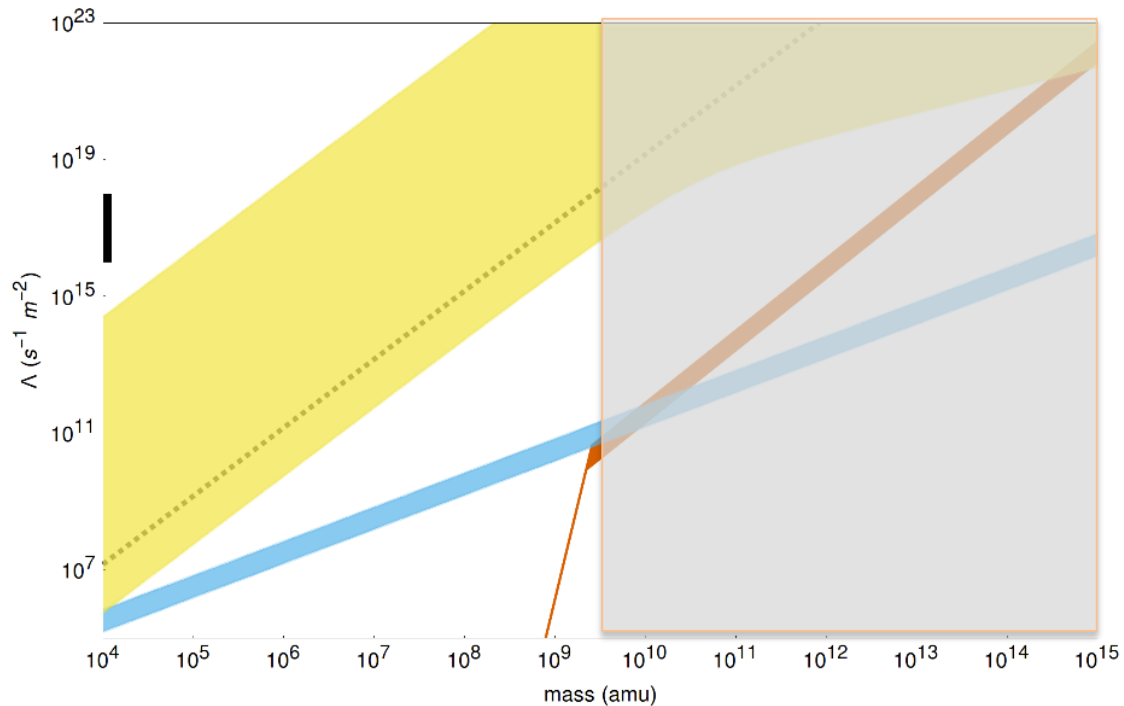


# Critical challenge II/II: vacuum



Accessible decoherence regimes with current baseline

- Gray: QG Model (Ellis, Mohanty et al)
- Yellow: CSL model (Ghirardi, Rimini, Weber, Pearle, et al,  $\lambda \in [10^{-8}, 2.2 \times 10^{-17}]$ Hz,  $r_c = 100$ nm)
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■ Current mass record:  
 $10^4$  atomic mass units (amu)

# “Normal” Challenges for payload

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

CHALLENGES

PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL. THANKS

- Consolidation of science requirement on pressure
- Technology development of payload components:
  - High-finesse cavities
  - interferometric position measurement of test-particle
  - GHz EOMs
  - AOMs
  - DUV laser/grating
  - cooling with multiple cavity modes
  - spatial mode multiplexers
  - narrow-band fiber Bragg filters
  - low-noise amplifiers
  - homodyne detection
- Acquiring/testing  $>10^5$  particles with ‘identical’ (< few %) properties within batch
- Long term degradation of particles?
- Particle disposal

# Proof-of-principle experiments I/III

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

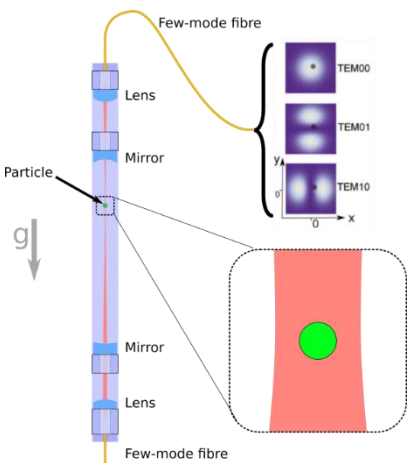
CHALLENGES

PROOF OF PRINC.

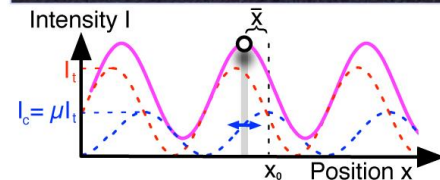
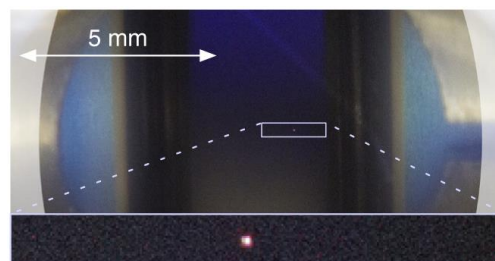
CONCL.

THANKS

- Develop optomechanical platform using optically trapped particles
- 3D optomechanical cooling and control
- non-classical state preparation
- free-fall experiments in the lab
- quantum state tomography

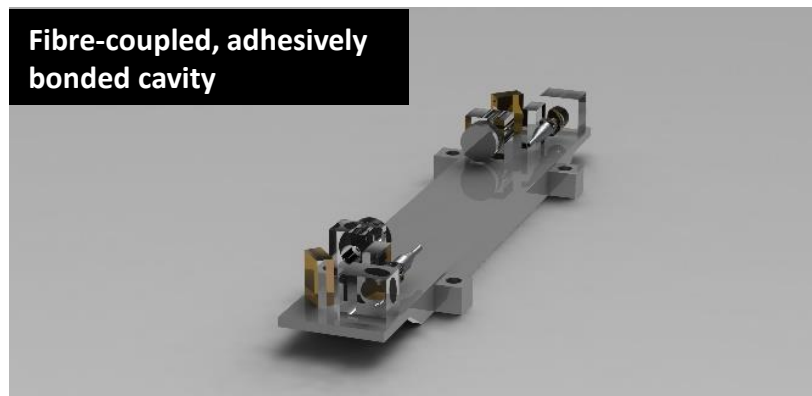


## Optical trapping & 3D cooling



N. Kiesel et al, PNAS (2013)

## Fibre-coupled, adhesively bonded cavity





# Proof-of-principle experiments I/III



- Develop optomechanical platform using optically trapped particles
- 3D optomechanical cooling and control
- non-classical state preparation
- free-fall experiments in the lab
- quantum state tomography



# Proof-of-principle experiments II/III

INTRO

SCIENCE GOALS & REQ.

EXPERIMENTS

SPACE

CHALLENGES

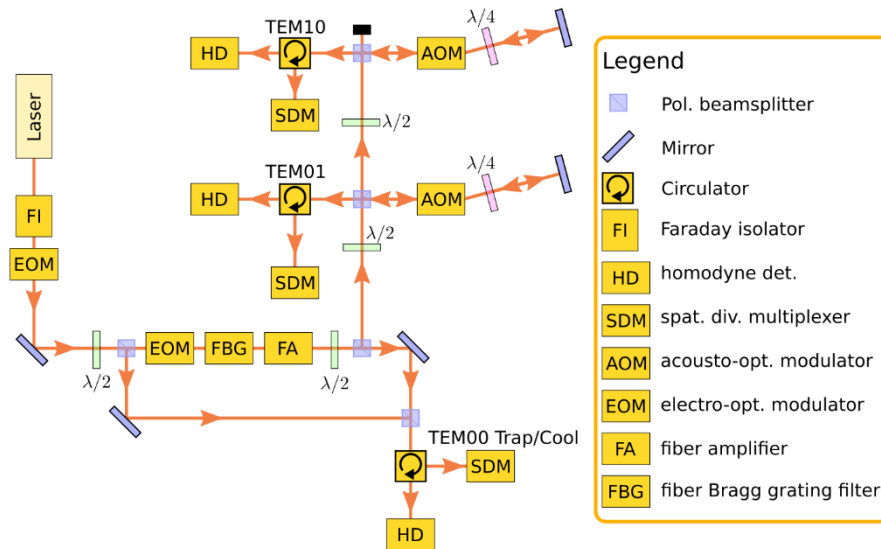
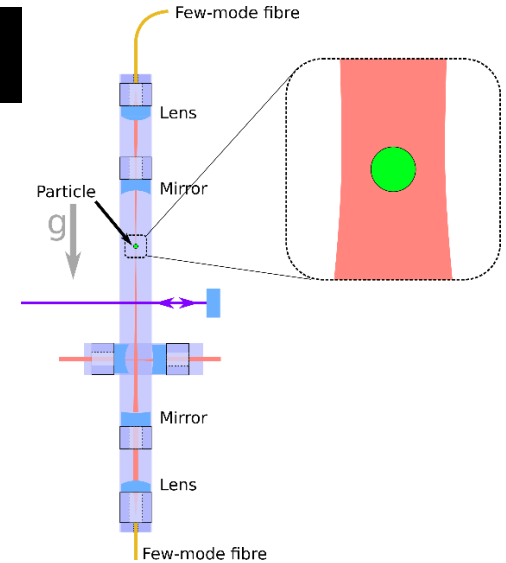
PROOF OF PRINC.

CONCL.

THANKS

**Stable, fiber-integrated optomechanical setup**

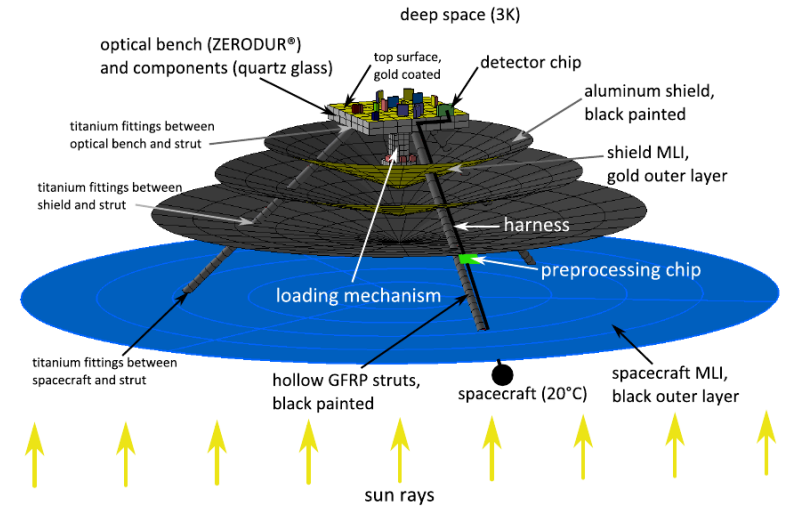
**Free-fall experiments with UV phase grating**



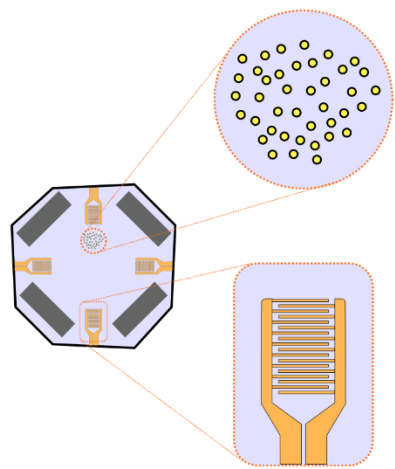
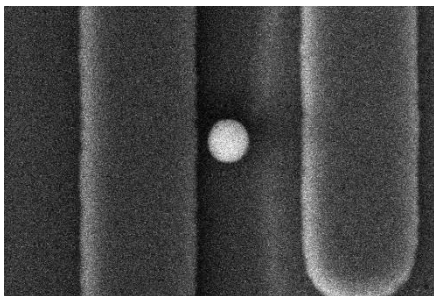
# Proof-of-principle experiments III/III



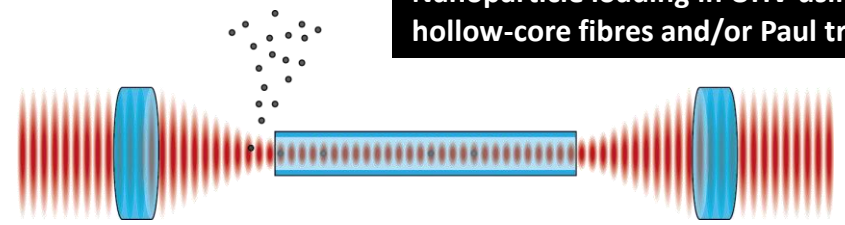
- Demonstrator for passive radiative cooling
- Lab / cubesat
- Extremely high vacuum
- Pressure sensors



## Nanoparticle loading in UHV using SAW chips



## Nanoparticle loading in UHV using hollow-core fibres and/or Paul traps



Loading & guiding with hollow-core photonic crystal fibres  
D. Grass et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **108**, 221103 (2016)

## Discharging particles using DUV light?

# Conclusion & Outlook



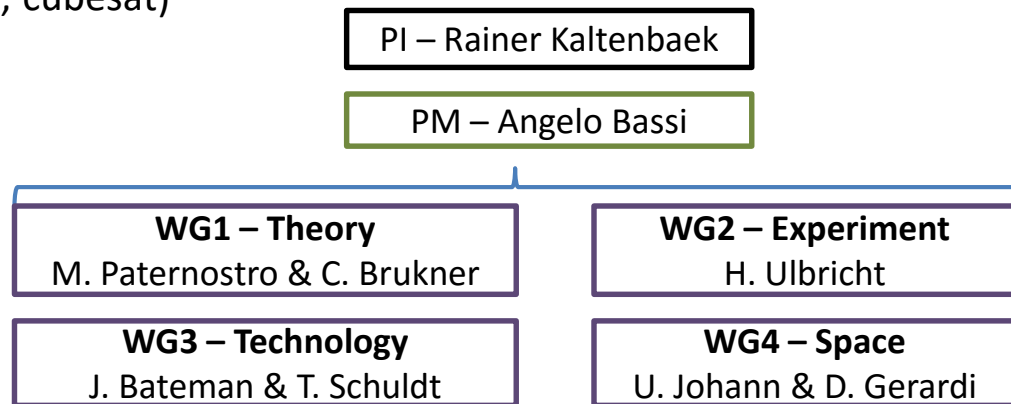
- ESA find's the topic of macroscopic tests of quantum physics very interesting
- → New Science Ideas – topic of interest for future space missions
- QPPF → possible to realize a platform for such experiments

**QPPF Final Presentation:  
22/11/2018**

## Next steps

- Structure consortium, working groups, regular meetings
- Address challenges & develop technologies
- Increase TRL of core technologies
- Demonstration experiments (lab, drop-tower, cubesat)

**MAQRO next-steps meeting:  
early 2019**



# THANKS



QTSpace COST action (CA15220)

10/16 – 10/20

26 countries

[www.maqro-mission.org](http://www.maqro-mission.org)



FFG

Austrian Research Promotion Agency  
(MAQROsteps, Project no. 840089)  
(ULE-Cavity-Access, Project no. 854036)  
(QuantumShield, Project no. 865996)



MQES study (ESA contract Po P5401000400)  
NanoTrapS project (ESA contract  
4000105799/127NL/Cbi)  
QPPF CDF Study 2018

