60TH MEETING OF THE CIVIL GPS SERVICE INTERFACE COMMITTEE

### ATOMIC CLOCKS FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS: TIME FOR DISCOVERY

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**European Research Council** 





#### We don't know what most (95%) of the Universe is!



Optical atomic clocks will not lose one second in

**30 billion years** 

GPS satellites: microwave atomic clocks



### **Applications of atomic clocks**





**Very Long Baseline Interferometry** 



**Relativistic geodesy** 



#### **Gravity Sensor**





#### Definition of the second Quantum simulation





#### Searches for physics beyond the Standard Model

Image Credits: NOAA, Science 281,1825; 346, 1467, University of Hannover, PTB, PRD 94, 124043, Eur. Phys. J. Web Conf. 95 04009

#### Search for physics beyond the standard model with atomic clocks

Atomic clocks can measure and compare frequencies to exceptional precisions!

If fundamental constants change (now) due to for various "new physics" effects atomic clock may be able to detect it.





#### BEYOND THE STANDARD MODEL?

#### Search for physics beyond the Standard Model with atomic clocks



Are fundamental constants constant?

# χ

Gravitational wave detection with atomic clocks PRD 94, 124043 (2016)

### Variation of fundamental constants

#### Theories with varying dimensionless fundamental constants

J.-P. Uzan, Living Rev. Relativity 14, 2 (2011)

- String theories
- Other theories with extra dimensions
- Loop quantum gravity
- Dark energy theories: chameleon and quintessence models
- ...many others

Frequency of optical transitions  $\nu \simeq cR_{\infty}AF(\alpha)$ 

depends on the fine-structure constant  $\alpha$ .

Some clocks are more sensitive to this effect than others

Measure the ratio of two optical clock frequencies to search for the variation of  $\alpha$ . Keep doing this for a while.

### Variation of fundamental constants

Theories with varying dimensionless fundamental constants

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#### Frequency of optical transitions $\nu \simeq cR_{\infty}AF(\alpha)$

#### depends on the fine-structure constant $\alpha$ .



Measure the ratio of two optical clock frequencies to search for the variation of  $\alpha$ .

dark matter

uminous matter

Dark matter can also cause variation of fundamental constants!

A. Derevianko and M. Pospelov, Nature Phys. 10, 933 (2014), A. Arvanitaki et al., PRD 91, 015015 (2015)

### Dark matter can affects atomic energy levels



What dark matter can you detect if you can measure changes in atomic/nuclear frequencies to 20 digits?



Dark matter density in our Galaxy >  $\lambda_{dB}^{-3}$ 

 $\lambda_{dB}$  is the de Broglie wavelength of the particle.

Then, the scalar dark matter exhibits coherence and behaves like a wave  $\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos \left( m_{\phi} t + \bar{k}_{\psi} \times \bar{x} + \dots \right)$ 

A. Arvanitaki et al., PRD 91, 015015 (2015)

#### How to detect ultralight dark matter with clocks?



Dark matter field  $\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos \left( m_{\phi} t + \bar{k}_{\phi} \times \bar{x} + \dots \right)$ 

couples to electromagnetic interaction and "normal matter"

It will make fundamental coupling constants and mass ratios oscillate

Atomic energy levels will oscillate so clock frequencies will oscillate

Can be detected with monitoring ratios of clock frequencies over time (or clock/cavity).

Asimina Arvanitaki, Junwu Huang, and Ken Van Tilburg, PRD 91, 015015 (2015)



From PRL 120, 141101 (2018)

physics

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 17 NOVEMBER 2014 | DOI: 10.1038/NPHYS3137

# Hunting for topological dark matter with atomic clocks

A. Derevianko<sup>1\*</sup> and M. Pospelov<sup>2,3</sup>

Dark matter clumps: point-like monopoles, onedimensional strings or two-dimensional sheets (domain walls).

If they are large (size of the Earth) and frequent enough they may be detected by measuring changes in the synchronicity of a global network of atomic clocks, such as the Global Positioning System.



GPM.DM collaboration: Roberts at el., Nature Communications 8, 1195 (2017)



Topological dark matter may be detected by measuring changes in the synchronicity of a global network of atomic clocks, such as the Global Positioning System, as the Earth passes through the domain wall.

Rana Adhikari, Paul Hamiton & Holger Müller, Nature Physics 10, 906 (2014)

#### APPLIED PHYSICS

# New bounds on dark matter coupling from a global network of optical atomic clocks



**Global sensor network.** The participating Sr and Yb optical lattice atomic clocks reside at NIST, Boulder, CO, USA, at LNE-SYRTE, Paris, France, at KL FAMO, Torun, Poland, and at NICT, Tokyo, Japan

Wcisło et al., Sci. Adv. 4: eaau4869 (2018)



How to improve laboratory searches for the variation of fundamental constants & dark matter?

M. S. Safronova, D. Budker, D. DeMille, Derek F. Jackson-Kimball, A. Derevianko, and Charles W. Clark, Rev. Mod. Phys. 90, 025008 (2018).

#### Improve atomic clocks: better stability and uncertainty



**Measurements beyond the quantum limit** 

Image credits: NIST, Innsbruck group, MIT Vuletic group, Ye JILA group

**Entangled clocks** 

#### **Clocks based on new systems**



#### **Nuclear clock**



# Clocks with ultracold highly charged ions

First demonstration of quantum logic spectroscopy at PTB, Germany Nature 578 (7793), 60 (2020)

## Atomic clocks & networks of clocks: Great potential for discovery of new physics



# Many new developments coming in the next 10 years!