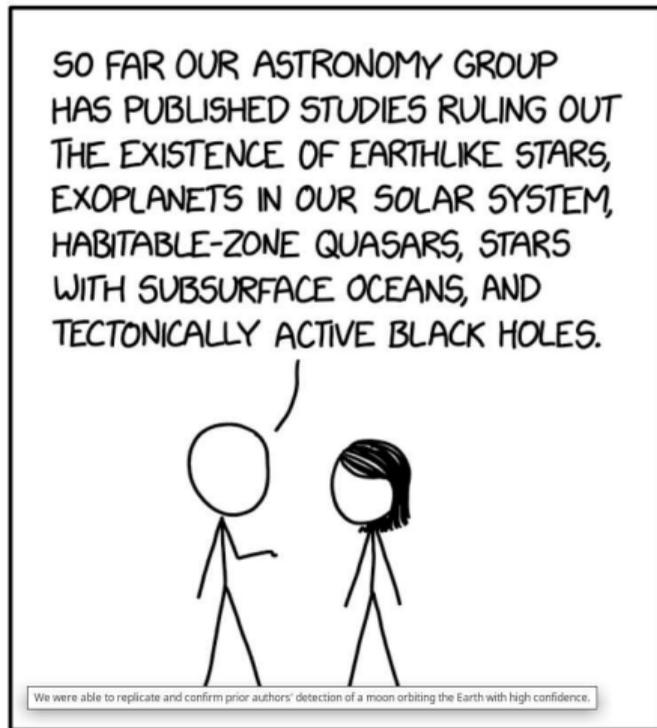


BAD NEWS: THEY FINALLY DID A META-ANALYSIS OF ALL OF SCIENCE, AND IT TURNS OUT IT'S NOT SIGNIFICANT.



SCIENCE GOT WAY EASIER WHEN WE REALIZED YOU WERE ALLOWED TO DO STUDIES JUST TO RULE STUFF OUT.



# Laser Atom Traps at TRIUMF

- How atoms traps don't work, and how they do

- Intro to Parity:

Its signatures in decays and in atoms

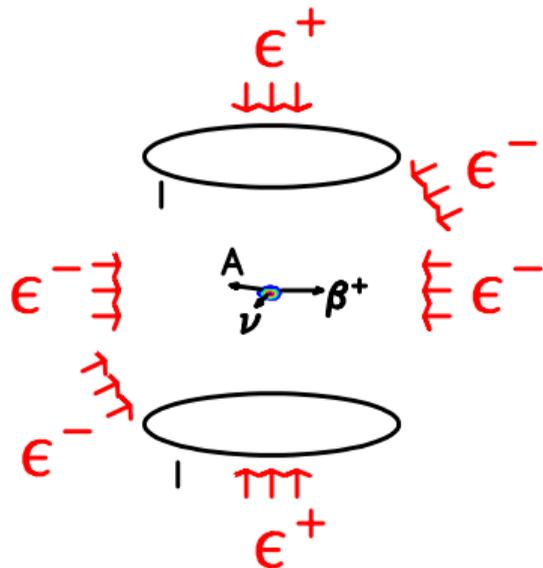
- TRIUMF Atom Trap for Beta Decay

Deduce  $\nu$  momentum from the other products

Test standard model predictions for angular distributions: so far all  $\nu$ 's are left-handed

- Francium Trapping Facility

Measuring the weak interaction in atoms by parity violation



# Collaborations

## TRIUMF Neutral Atom Trap collaboration:



M.  
Vargas-Calderon  
D. Melconian



A. Gorelov  
J.A. Behr  
Undergrad  
P. Miri



J.C. McNeil



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA  
M. Anholm  
G. Gwinner

Support: NSERC, NRC through TRIUMF, U.S. DOE, State of Texas

## FrPNC collaboration



G. Gwinner  
A. Sharma  
I. Halilovic  
G. Arrowsmith-Kron



L. Orozco

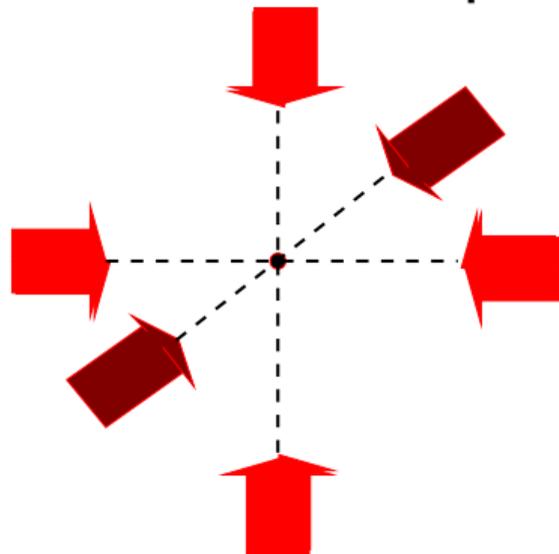


J.A. Behr  
A. Gorelov

Support: NSERC, NRC through TRIUMF, U.S. NSF

## Magneto-optical trap: damping

For a trap, we want a damped harmonic oscillator  
'Red-detuned' beams provide the "damping"

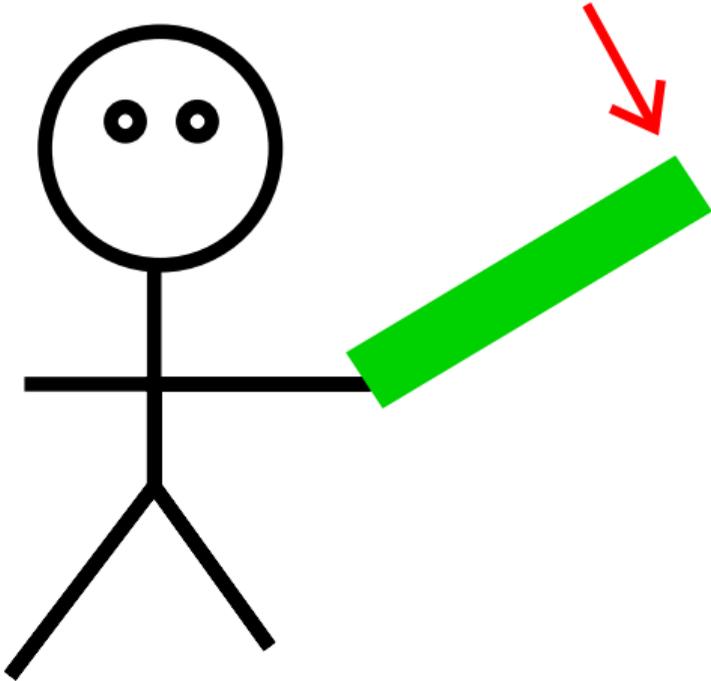


'Optical molasses'

We still need a position-dependent force

# “Light sabers’ would make atom traps easy” (H. Norton)

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{S} \neq 0$$



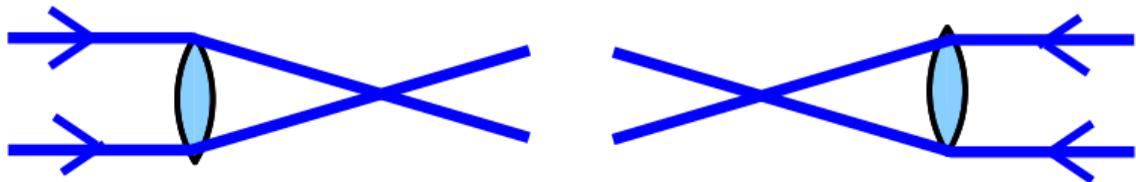
But light sabers violate Poynting's theorem

## “Why Optical Traps Can’t Work”

Earnshaw Theorem:  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \Rightarrow$

no electrostatic potential minimum for charge-free region

“Optical Earnshaw Theorem” (Ashkin + Gordon 1983):



$\Rightarrow$  no 3-D traps from spontaneous light forces  
with static light fields

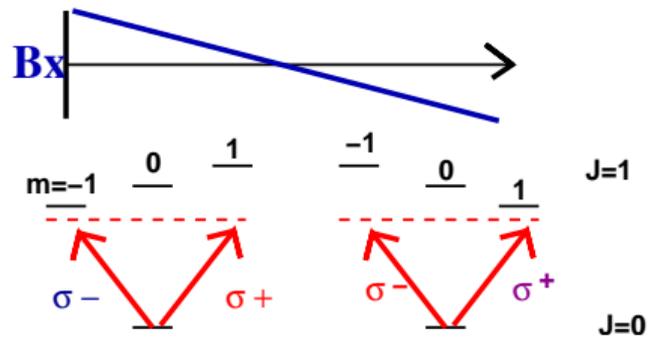
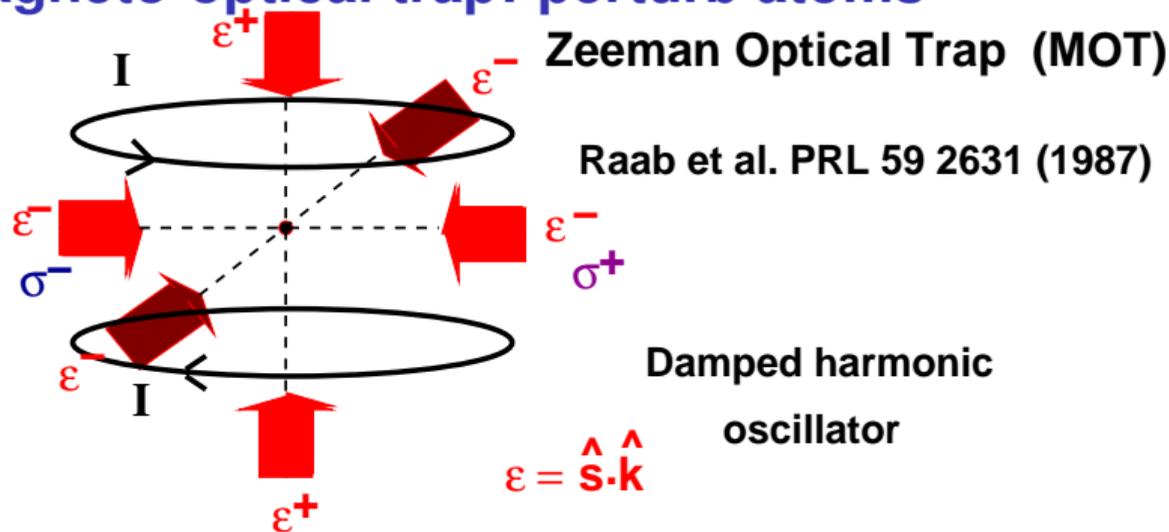
Using Poynting's theorem:

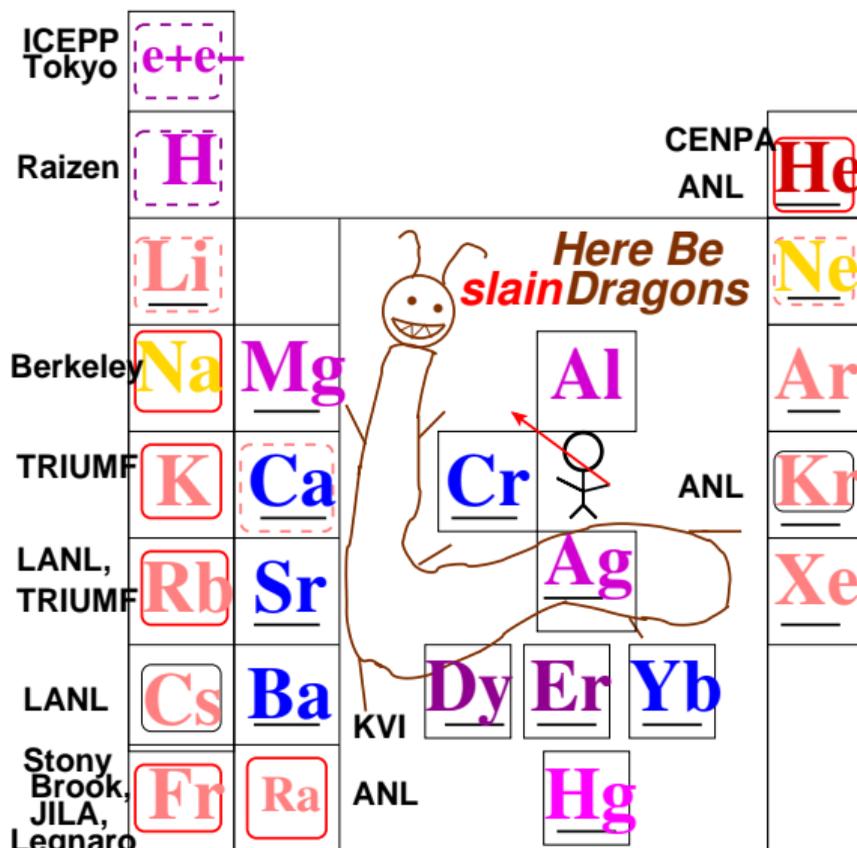
$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{S} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{E} \times \vec{B}) = -\vec{J} \cdot \vec{E} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0$$

Dodges !

- Time-dependent forces (pulsed lasers)
- Dipole Force traps (“optical tweezers”)
- Modify internal structure of atom with external fields

# Magneto-optical trap: perturb atoms





What elements can be laser cooled?

— Trapped in MOT      Radioactives traps

○ Long-lived Rad.      Plans

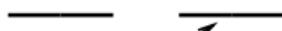
# How to spin-polarize a nucleus with a laser

## Polarization of nuclei by Optical Pumping

Biased random walk

Simple example:

$J' = 1/2$



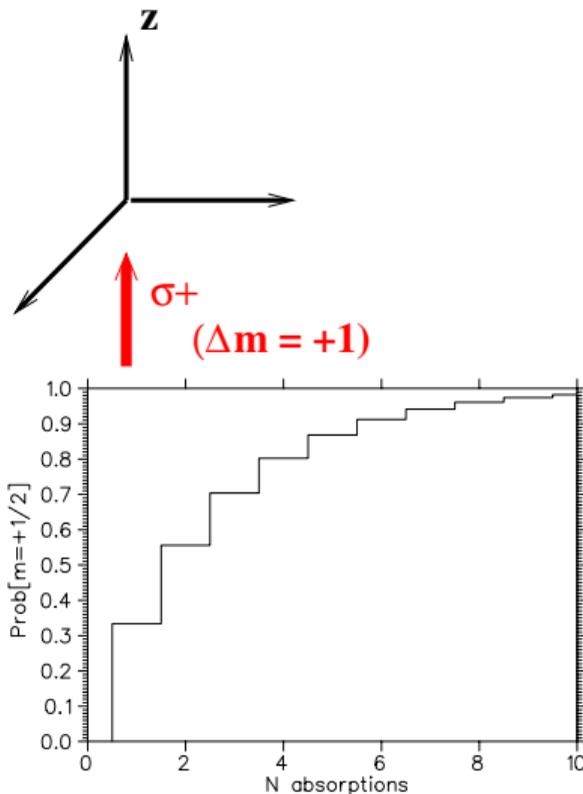
$J = 1/2$



$m_J = -1/2$      $m_J = +1/2$

$P(m=1/2) = 1 - (2/3)^N$  after  $N$   
steps

Need 12 cycles to get to 99% of  
maximum.

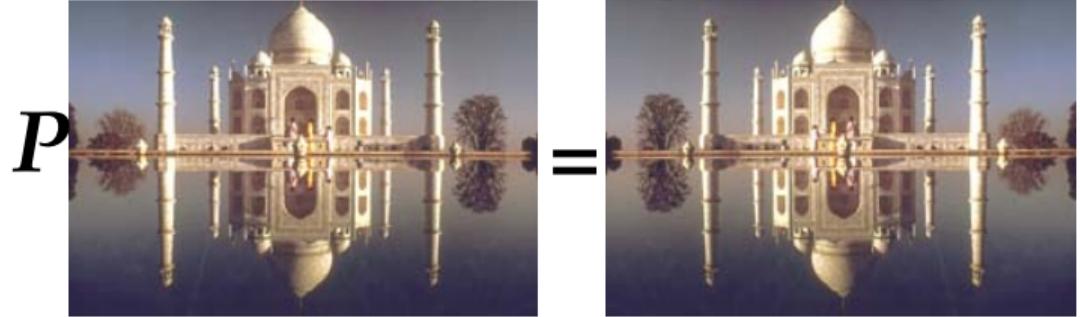


# Parity (From A. Zee “Fearful Symmetry”)

As of 1956, we thought  
all interactions  
respected parity

Parity operator

$$P \psi(\vec{r}) \rightarrow \pm \psi(-\vec{r})$$

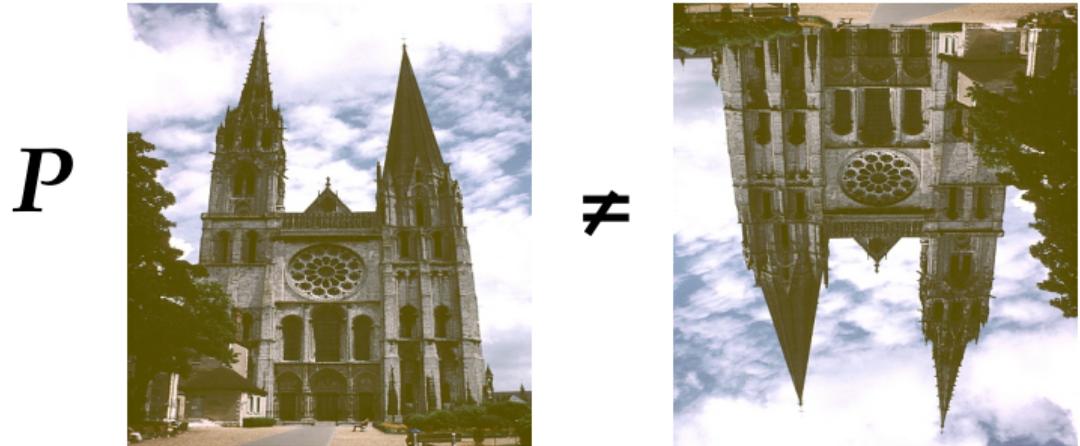


1957:

$\tau - \theta$  Puzzle

+  $\mu$  decay

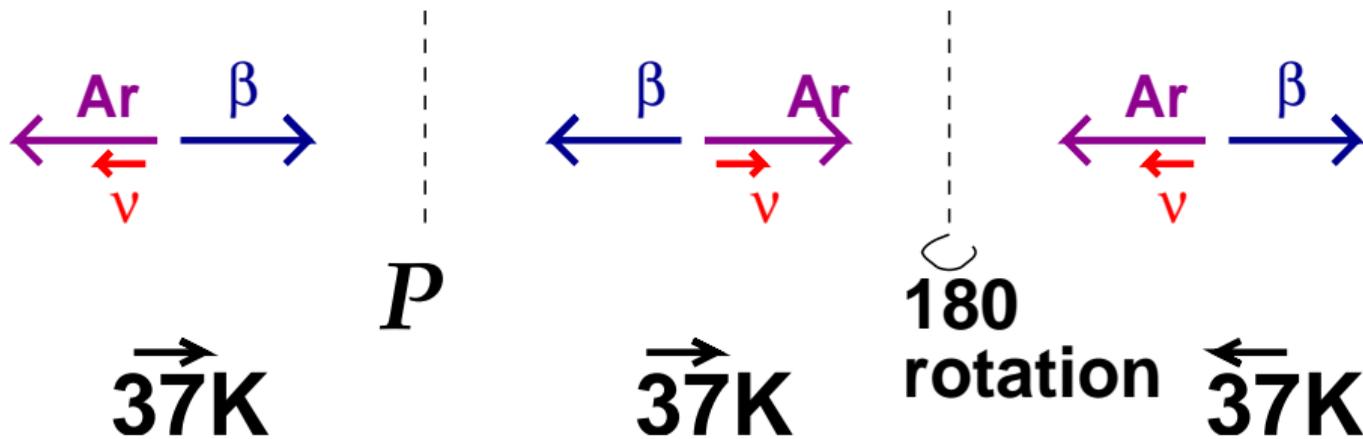
+  $^{60}\text{Co}$  decay  $\Rightarrow$



## Decays: Parity Operation can be simulated by Spin Flip

Under Parity operation  $P$ :

$$\vec{r} \rightarrow -\vec{r} \quad \vec{p} \sim \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} \rightarrow -\vec{p} \quad \vec{J} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p} \rightarrow +\vec{J}$$





# One experimental discovery of parity violation

**Wu, Ambler, Hayward,  
Hopper, Hobson,  
PR 105 (1957) 1413**

**Dilution Refrigerator to  
spin-polarize**



$$W[\theta] = 1 + PA\hat{\mathbf{I}} \cdot \frac{\vec{p}_\beta}{E_\beta}$$

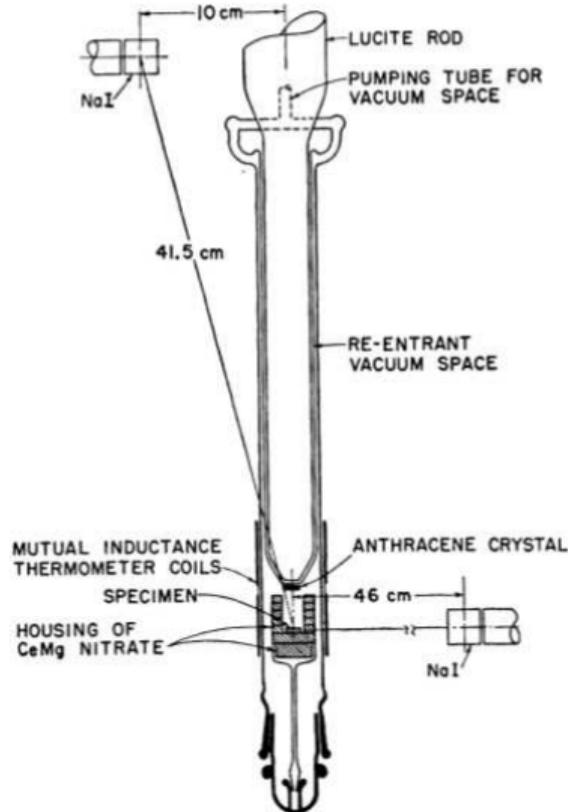
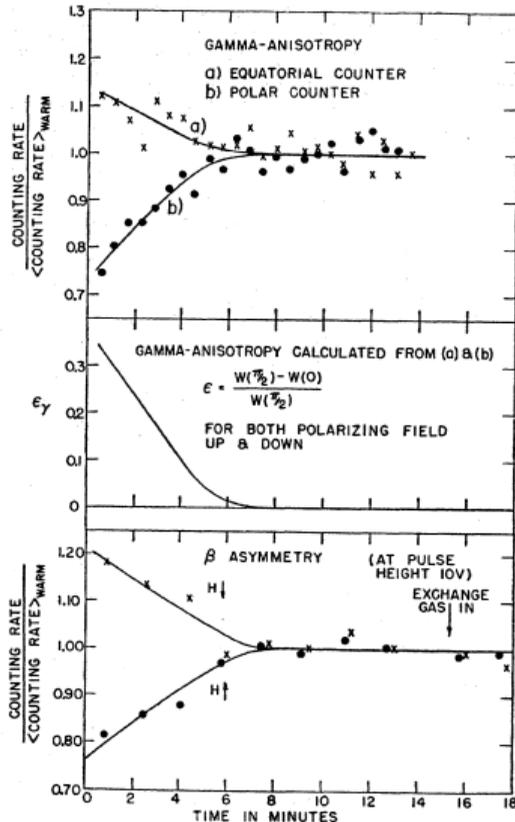
$$= 1 + A_C^V \cos[\theta]$$

$$A_{\beta^-} \approx -1.0$$

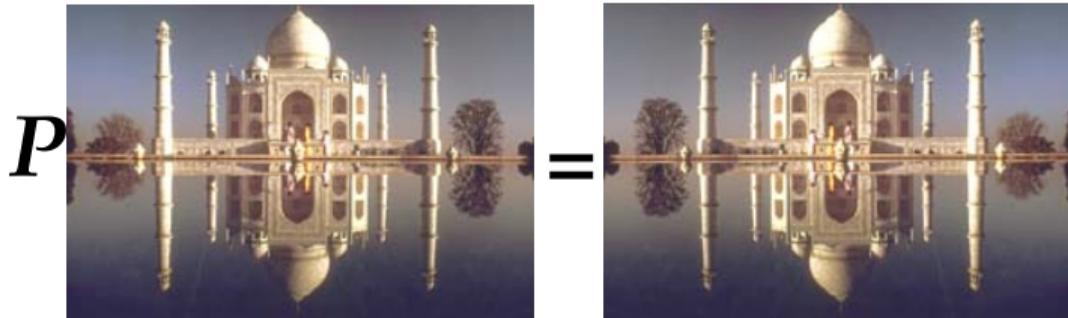
**Followup:**



$$A_{\beta^+} > 0$$



## $\mathcal{P}$ in atoms is tiny



A “chargeless” weak interaction: the biggest Standard Model prediction

1973  $\nu$  scattering  
Gargamelle CERN



Atoms are mostly chemistry,  
i.e. electromagnetism,  
which respects Parity  
**Some  $\mathcal{P}$  effects are ppb**

Consider 2 signatures:  
Molecular enantiomer energies;  
Controlled Stark- $\mathcal{P}$  interference

## Stark - Weak interference: flip E field

This idea is credited to the Bouchiat's  
(theorist-experimentalist couple)

**Wieman in Boulder made the best 'chargeless weak interaction' measurement in Cesium atoms in 1999.**

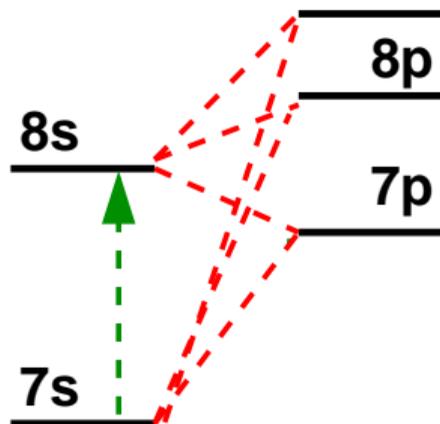
Emulating Boulder Cs scheme in Fr:

$$|A_{7s \rightarrow 8s}|^2 = |E1_{\text{Stark}} + E1_{\text{PNC}}|^2 \\ \approx |E1_{\text{stark}}|^2 + 2E1_{\text{Stark}}E1_{\text{PNC}}$$

The interference term is  $\sim 10^{-9}$  of an allowed E1 transition amplitude (rather than  $10^{-18}$ ).

By picking an E field one can make the asymmetry about  $10^{-3}$

- Then calculate (or, preferably, measure)  $E1_{\text{Stark}}$  to extract  $E1_{\text{PNC}}$

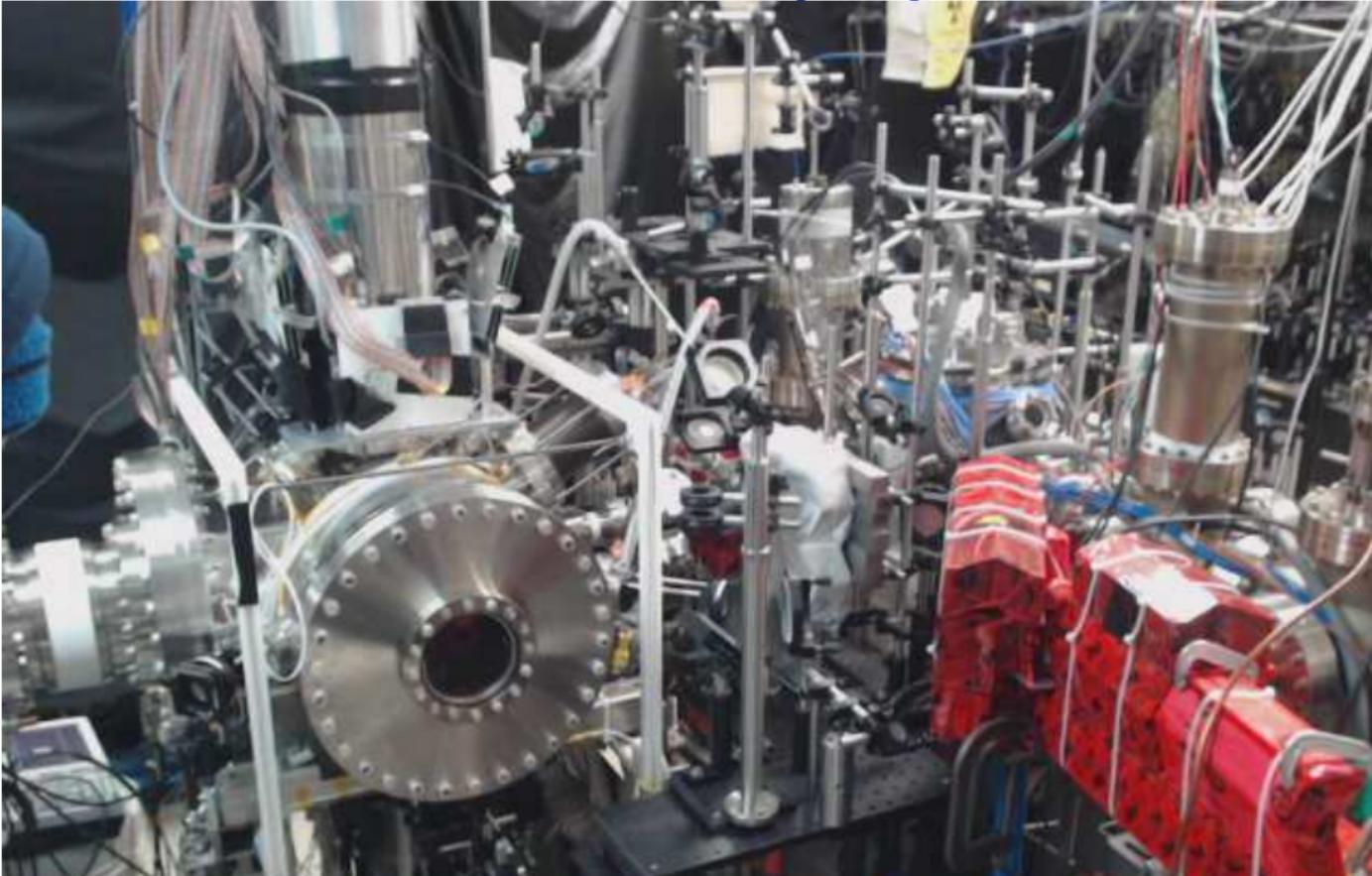




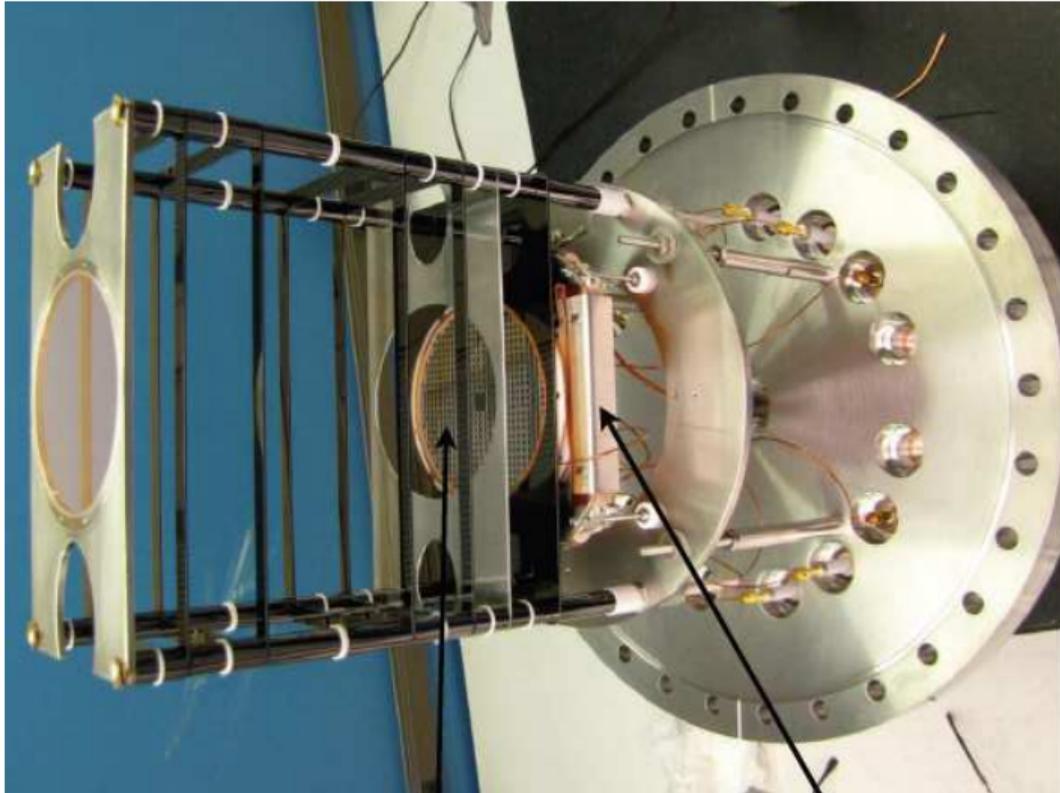


**TRIUMF**

# TRINAT lab: “tabletop experiment”



## ion MCP assembly



**14 inch CF flange**

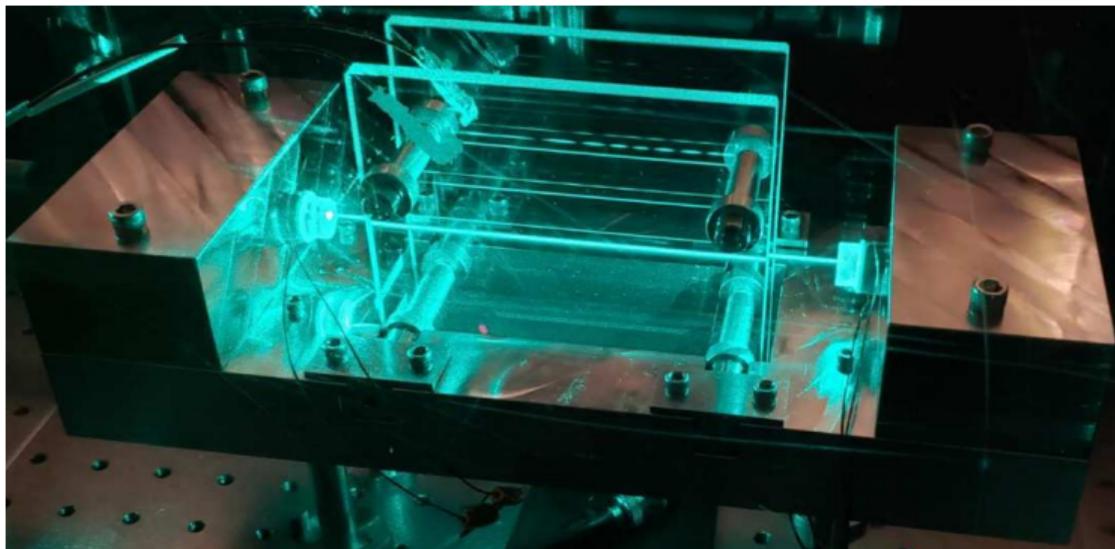
**Electrostatic field**

**delay-line anode for  
position info**

**no stray wires**

**Low-Z (glassy carbon,  
titanium) to minimize  $\beta^+$   
scattering**

# Optical Power Buildup Cavity



To drive the weak transition

- 316LN SS + titanium +PEEK (no magnetism)
- $Q \approx 4,000$

- Laser frequency-locked to UltraLowExpansion cavity (drifts  $\sim$  MHz/month)
- PBC length is locked by PZT stack to keep integral number of  $\lambda$ 's in cavity