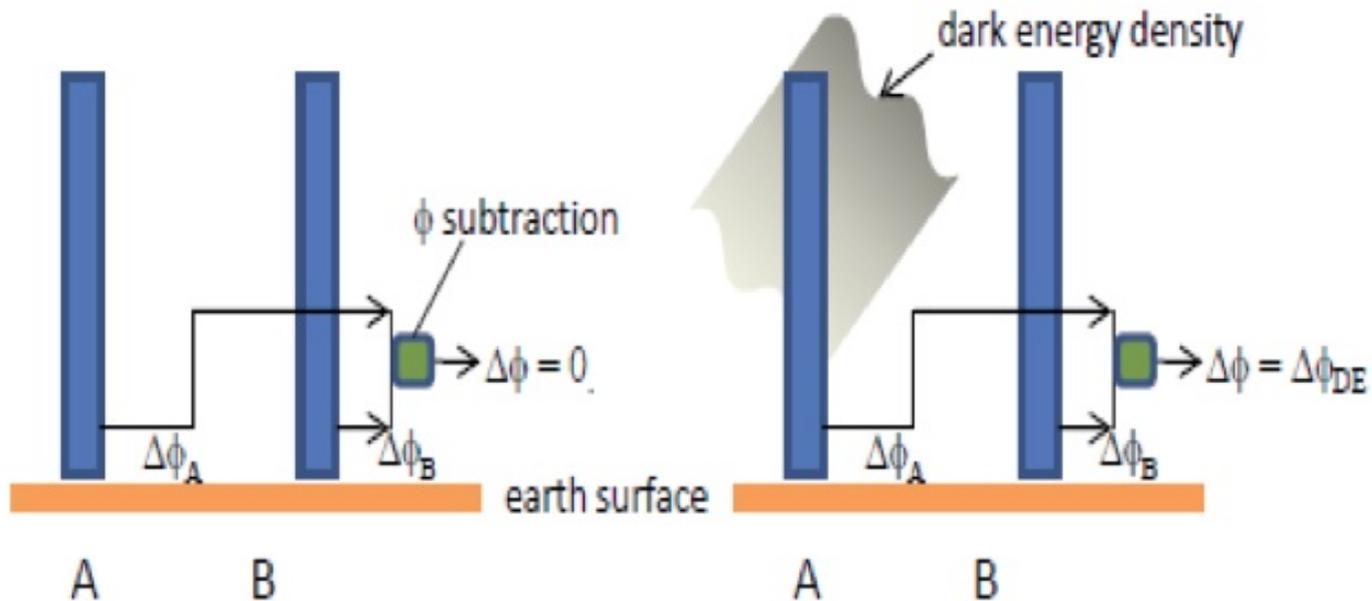


THE DARK ENERGY ATOM-INTERFEROMETER

EXPERIMENT



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Presented by Josh Francis, 28 Oct 2011

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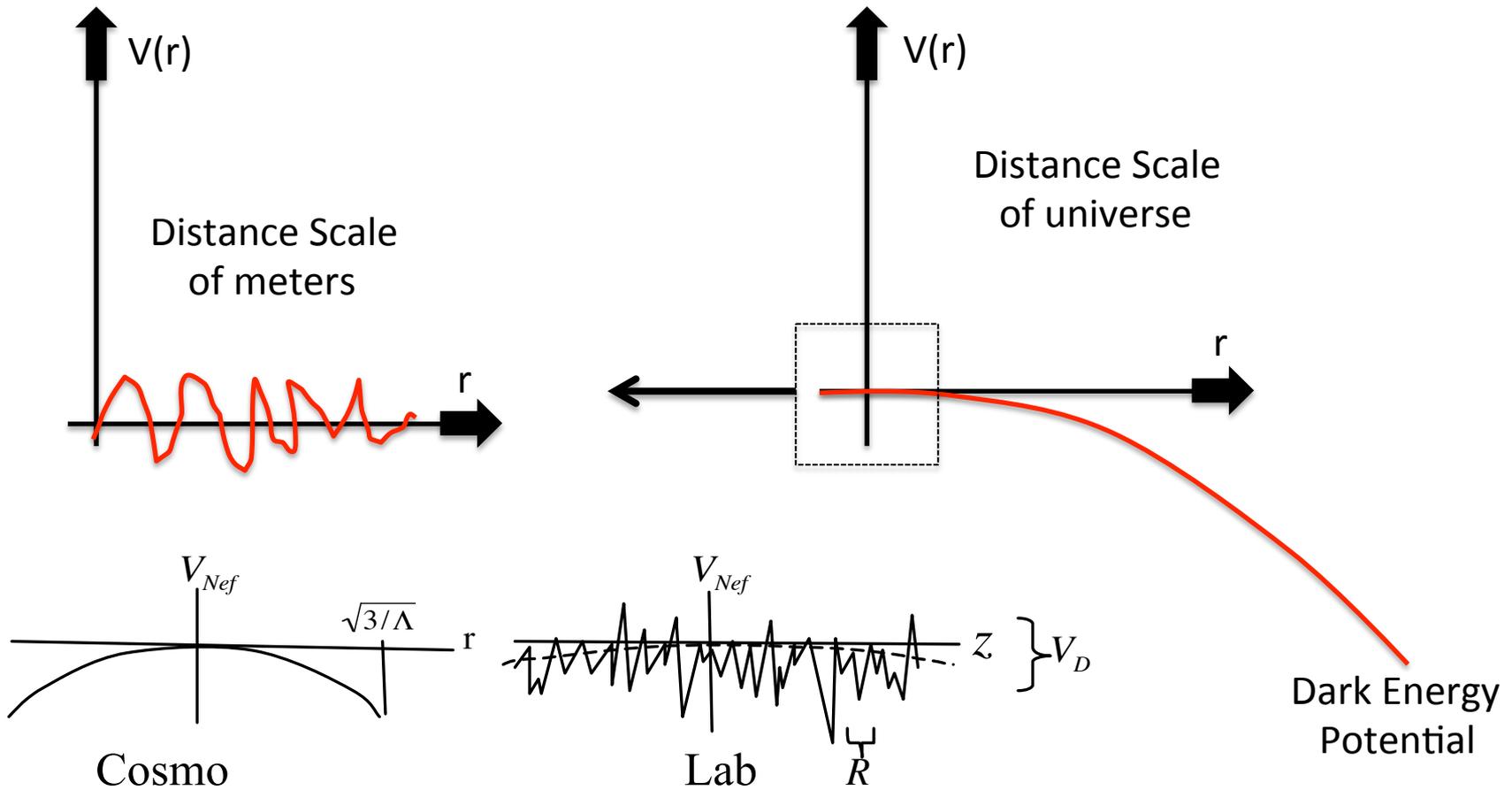
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The assumptions about dark energy underlying our experiment:

1. Dark energy exerts a small, but not zero, force on matter; not the direct gravitational force on energy.
2. The distribution of dark energy density is not uniform

Theory with Caveats:



Maybe more accurate to say we are looking for any gravitating background energy density and not necessarily "Dark Energy"

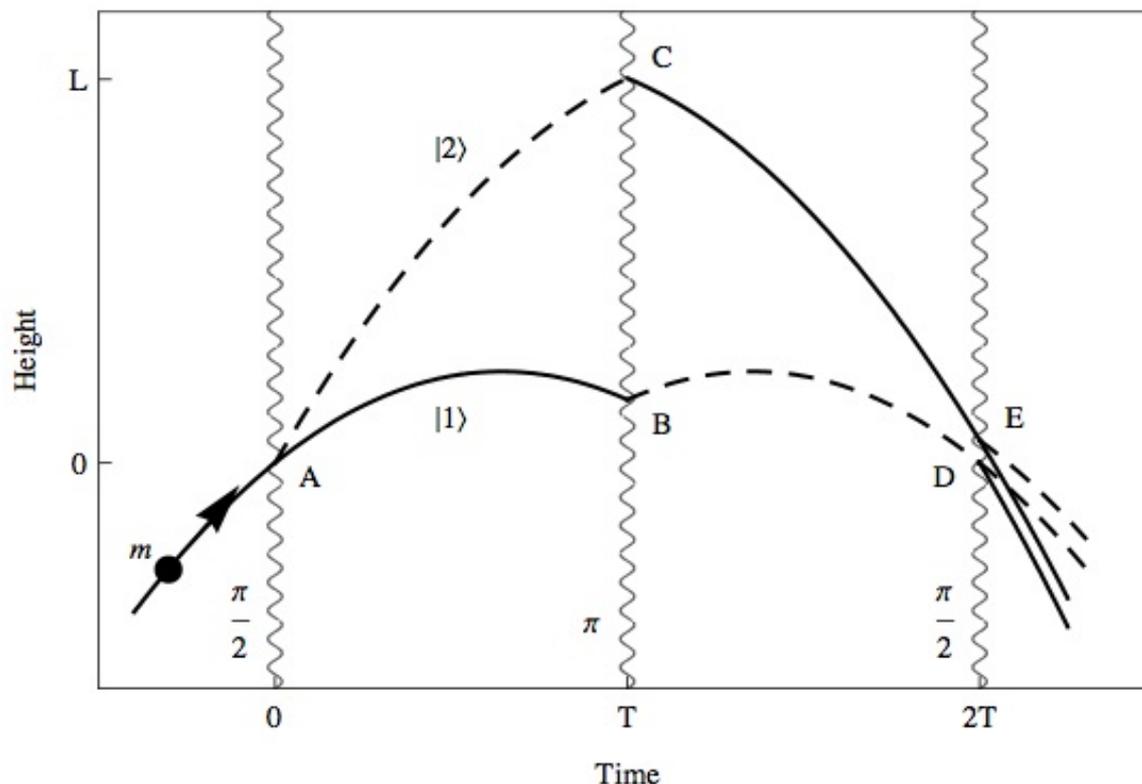


Fig. 10. – Space-time diagram for a single atom of mass m during the interferometer pulse sequence. The atom is launched with velocity v_z from the bottom of the vacuum system. At time $t = 0$, a $\frac{\pi}{2}$ (beamsplitter) pulse is applied to coherently divide the atom wavefunction. After a time T , a π (mirror) pulse is applied that reverses the relative velocity between the wavefunction components. A final $\frac{\pi}{2}$ (beamsplitter) pulse at time $2T$ results in interference between the two space-time paths. The interferometer phase shift is inferred by measuring the probability of detecting the atom in either state |1> (solid line) or state |2> (dashed line). Note that points D and E are in general spatially separated in the presence of non-uniform forces, leading to a separation phase shift.

Error Model

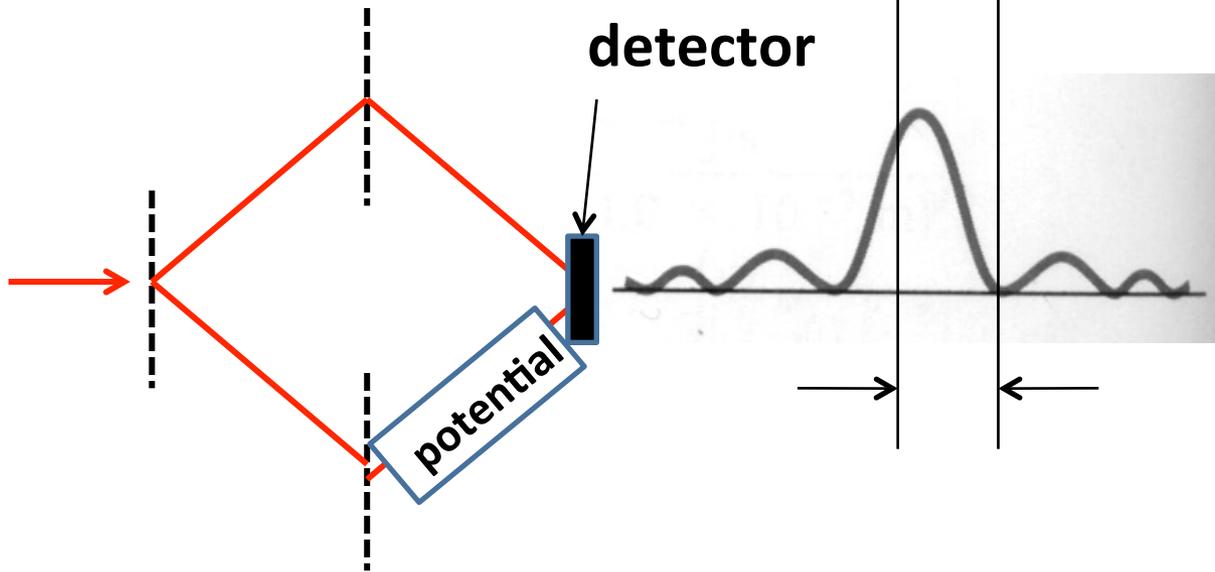
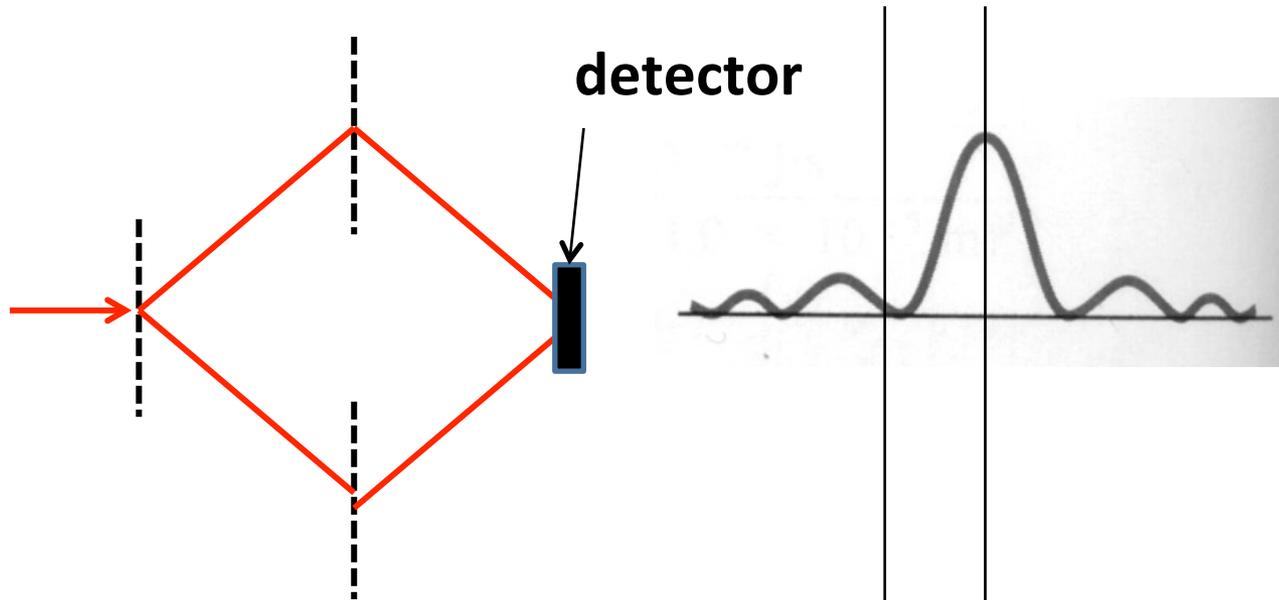
Use standard methods to analyze spurious phase shifts from uncontrolled:

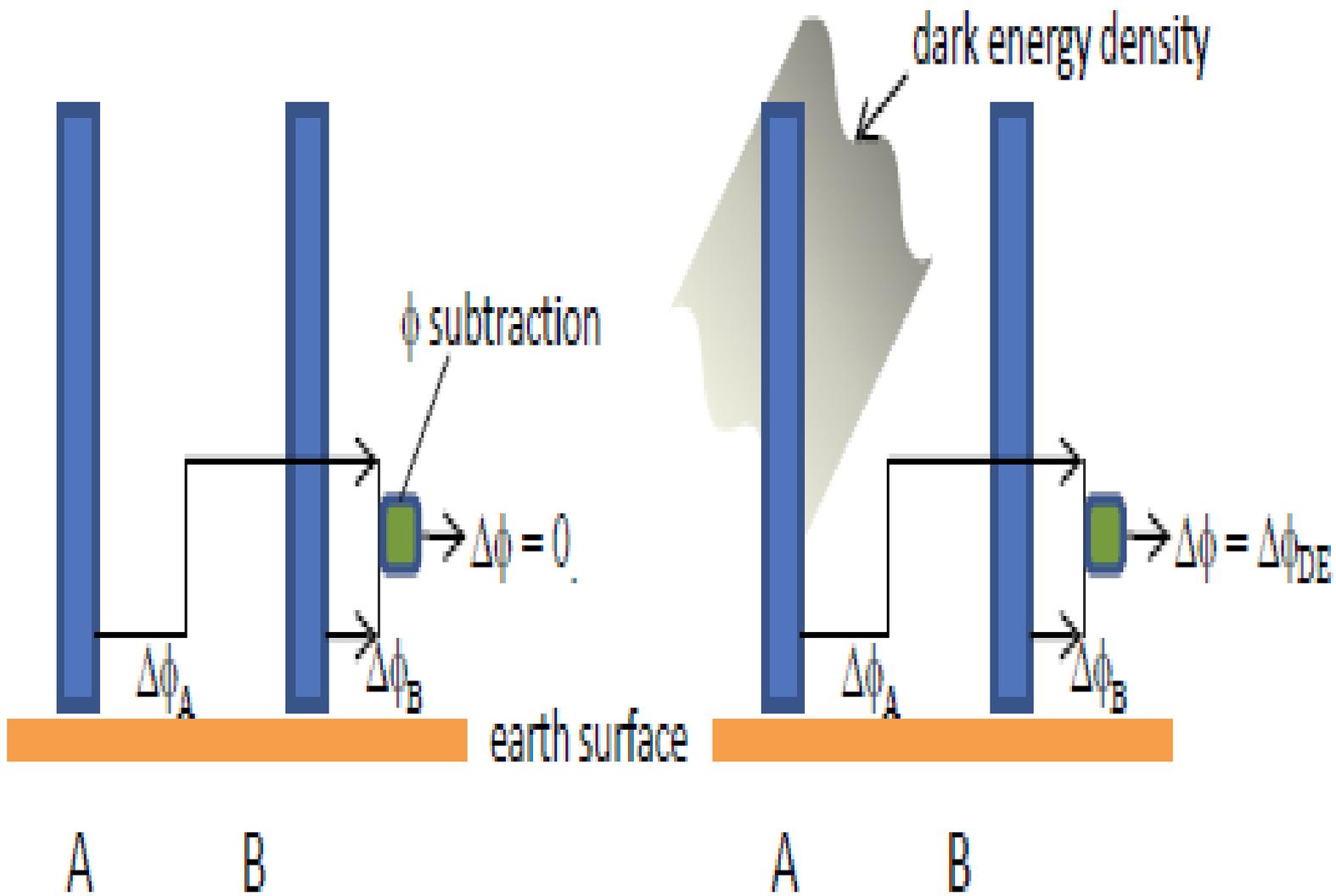
- Rotations
- Gravity anomalies/gradients
- Magnetic fields
- Proof-mass overlap
- Misalignments
- Finite pulse effects

Known systematic effects appear controllable at the $\delta g \sim 10^{-16}$ level.

[$\delta G/G \sim 10^{-5}$ is feasible (limited by test mass)]

$-K_{\text{eff}} g T^2$	-2.84724×10^8	1.
$K_{\text{eff}} R_c \Omega_y^2 T^2$	6.21045×10^5	2.18122×10^{-3}
$K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} V_L T^2$	1.57836×10^3	5.54347×10^{-6}
$-\frac{7}{12} K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} g T^4$	-9.20709×10^2	3.23369×10^{-6}
$2 K_{\text{eff}} V_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y T^2$	1.97884×10^3	6.95002×10^{-6}
$-3 K_{\text{eff}} V_L \Omega_y^2 T^2$	-5.16411	1.81373×10^{-8}
$\frac{7}{4} K_{\text{eff}} \Omega_y^2 g T^4$	3.0124	1.05801×10^{-8}
$\frac{7}{12} K_{\text{eff}} R_c T_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y^2 T^4$	2.00827	7.05338×10^{-9}
$\frac{3K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} \delta T^2}{2m}$	7.05401×10^{-1}	2.47749×10^{-9}
$K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} V_{\text{ax}} T^2$	7.05401×10^{-1}	2.47749×10^{-9}
$K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} T^2 z_0$	8.92817×10^{-2}	3.13573×10^{-10}
$-\frac{7}{4} K_{\text{eff}} R_c \Omega_y^4 T^4$	-6.57069×10^{-3}	2.30774×10^{-11}
$-\frac{7}{4} K_{\text{eff}} R_c \Omega_y^2 \Omega_a^2 T^4$	-3.84744×10^{-3}	1.35129×10^{-11}
$-\frac{3K_{\text{eff}} V_{\text{ax}} \delta T^2}{2m}$	-2.30795×10^{-3}	8.10592×10^{-12}
$-3 K_{\text{eff}} V_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y^2 T^2$	-2.30795×10^{-3}	8.10592×10^{-12}
$\frac{1}{4} K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}}^2 V_L T^6$	2.18739×10^{-3}	7.68251×10^{-12}
$3 K_{\text{eff}} V_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y \Omega_a T^2$	1.76607×10^{-3}	6.20273×10^{-12}
$-\frac{35}{200} K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}}^2 g T^4$	-7.53436×10^{-4}	2.6462×10^{-12}
$4 B_0 V_L T^2 \alpha b_{\text{el}}$	5.14655×10^{-4}	1.80756×10^{-12}
$-4 B_0 g T^2 \alpha b_{\text{el}}$	-5.14655×10^{-4}	1.80756×10^{-12}
$K_{\text{eff}} \Omega_y^2 T^2 z_0$	9.73714×10^{-5}	3.41985×10^{-13}
$-K_{\text{eff}} \Omega_y \Omega_a T^2 y_0$	-7.45096×10^{-5}	2.61691×10^{-13}
$\frac{7}{8} K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} V_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y T^4$	6.39894×10^{-5}	2.24742×10^{-13}
$-7 V_L g T^4 \alpha b_{\text{el}}^2$	-4.7766×10^{-5}	1.67762×10^{-13}
$\frac{7}{8} K_{\text{eff}} T_{\text{ax}} V_{\text{ax}} \Omega_y T^4$	-3.19947×10^{-5}	1.12371×10^{-13}
$4 V_L^2 T^4 \alpha b_{\text{el}}^2$	2.72948×10^{-5}	9.58642×10^{-14}
$3 g^2 T^8 \alpha b_{\text{el}}^2$	2.04711×10^{-5}	7.18982×10^{-14}





Progress at Stanford

