

# Sensing the quantum motion of nanomechanical oscillators

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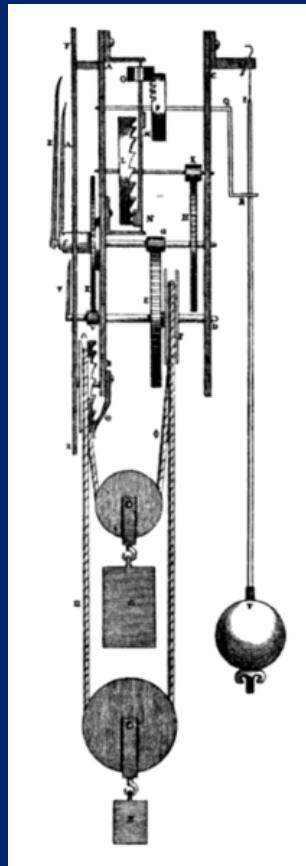
Reed Andrews

Hsiang-Shen Ku

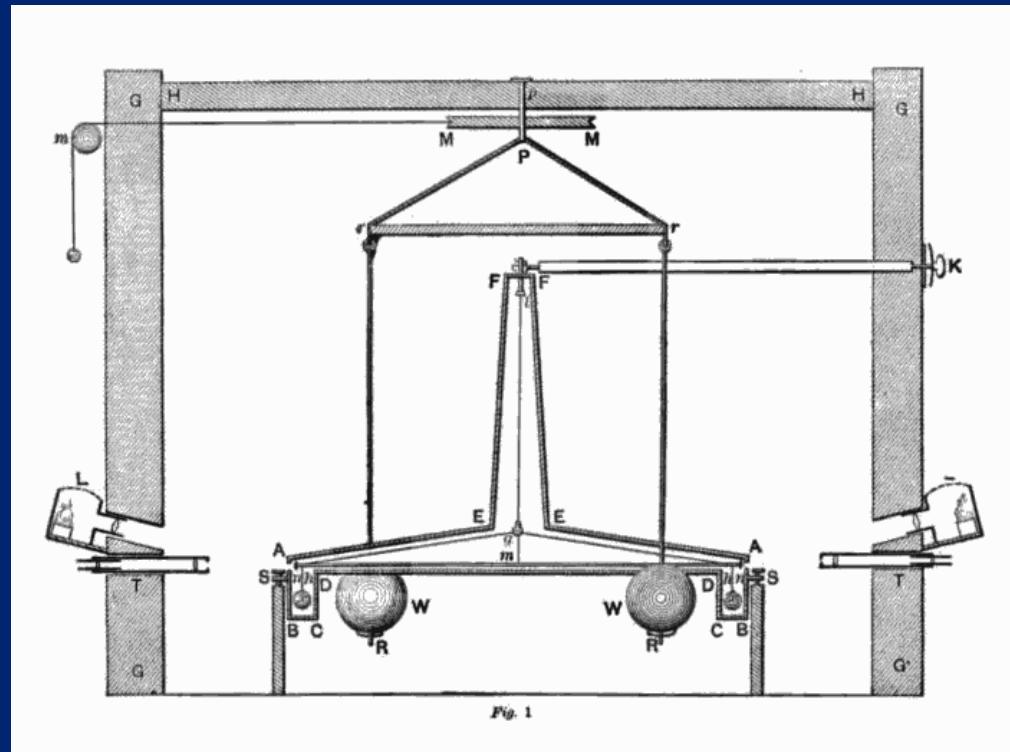
William Kindel

Adam Reed

# Precision measurement tools were once mechanical oscillators



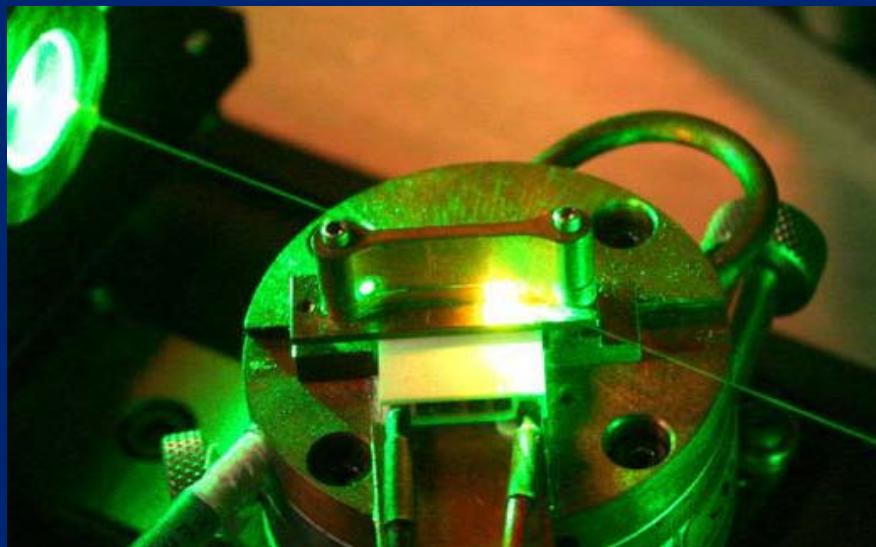
Huygens pendulum clock



The Cavendish balance  
for weighing the earth

# Modern measurement tools exploit optics and electronics, not mechanics

Laser light



electricity



Image: Cundiff lab JILA

Optical and electrical measurement tools:  
Large dynamic range

# Compact, high-Q mechanical oscillators are ubiquitous in information technology

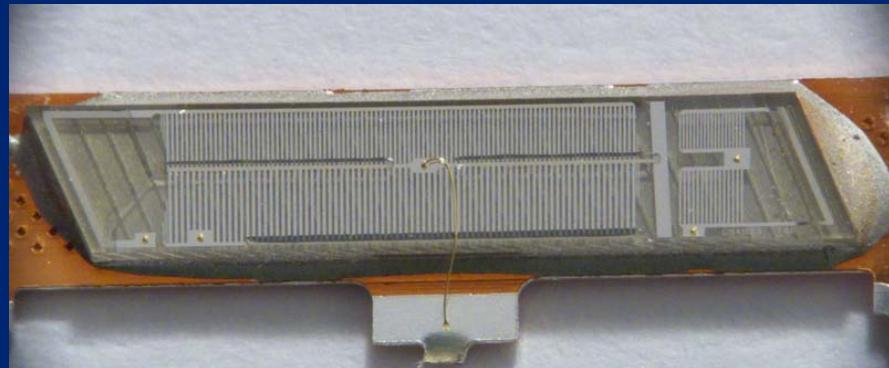
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Quartz crystal oscillator:  
in everything electronic

Applications:  
Timing and filtering

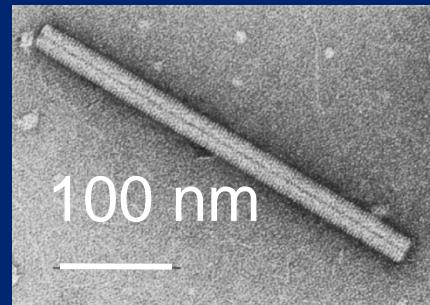
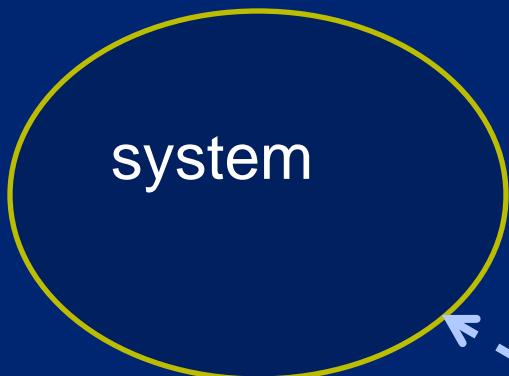
$Q \sim 100,000$



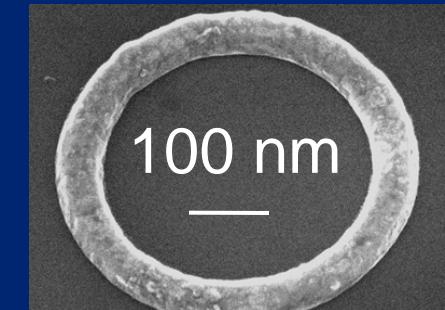
Surface acoustic wave filters:  
In radios, tuners, mobile phones

sound speed  $\ll$  light speed  
Compact and high-Q oscillators

# Optical probes are ill-suited to directly measuring many interesting systems



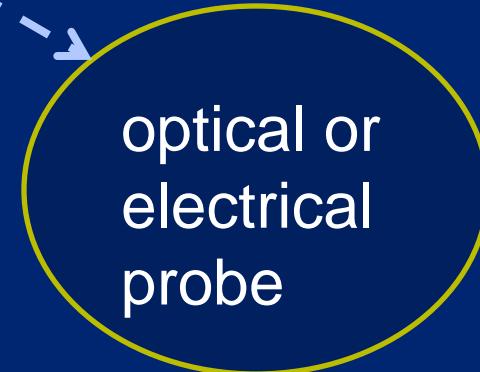
nuclear spins  
in a virus



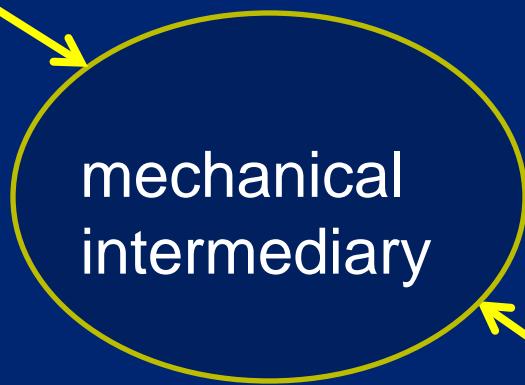
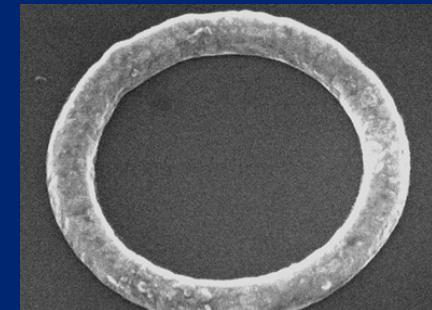
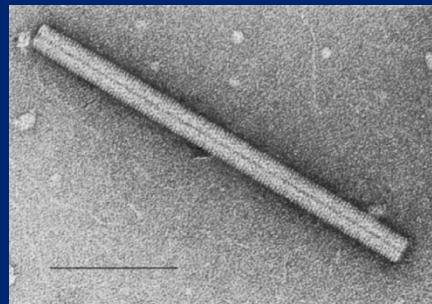
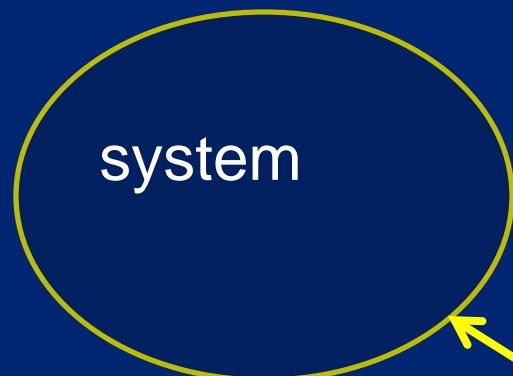
electrons in an  
aluminum ring  
(Harris lab, Yale)

Systems with:

- dense low-energy spectra
- nanometer length scales
- weak coupling to light

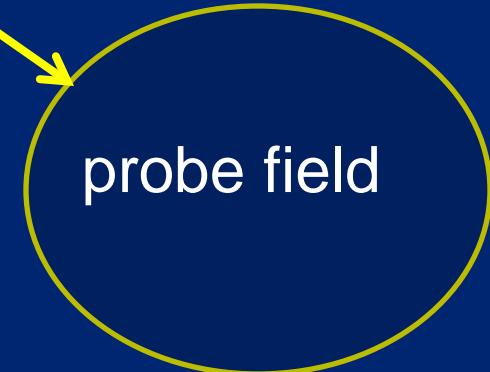


# Mechanical oscillators enable measurements of non-atomic systems



Systems with:

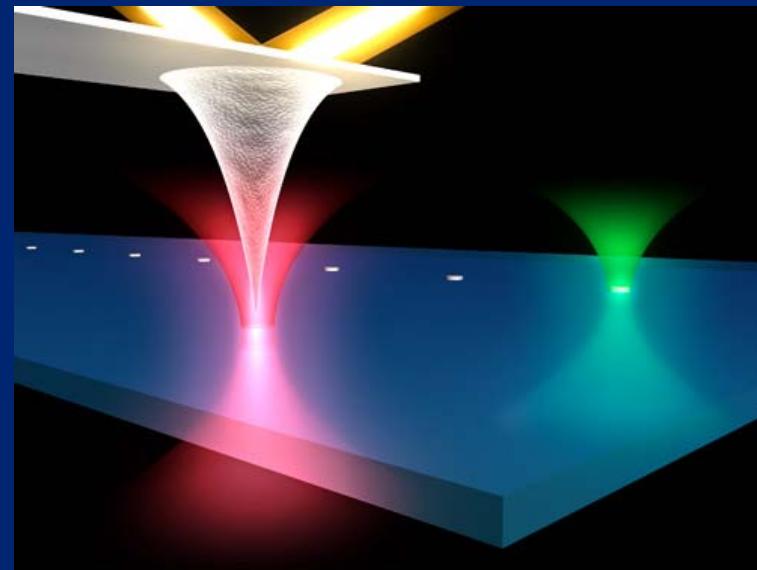
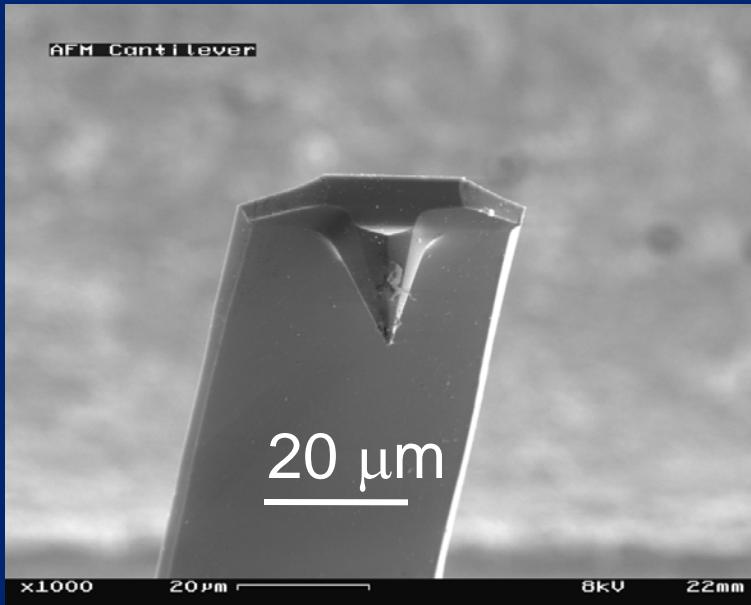
- dense low-energy spectra
- nanometer length scales
- weak coupling to light



# Mechanical oscillators are tools that access the nano-world

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## Atomic Force Microscope

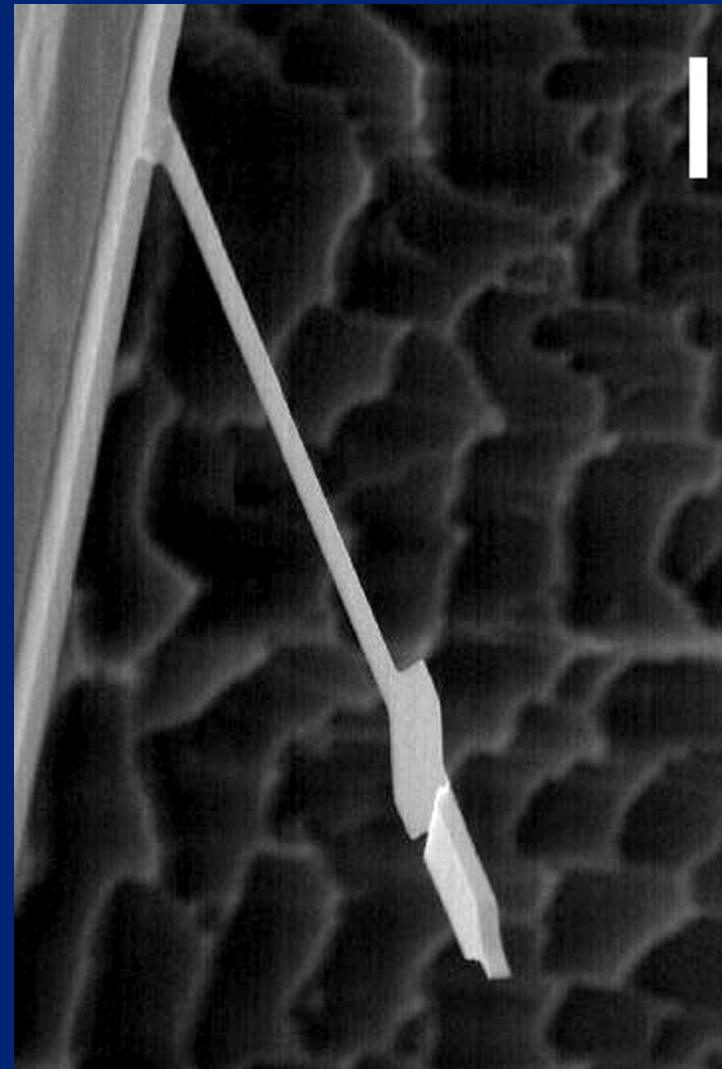
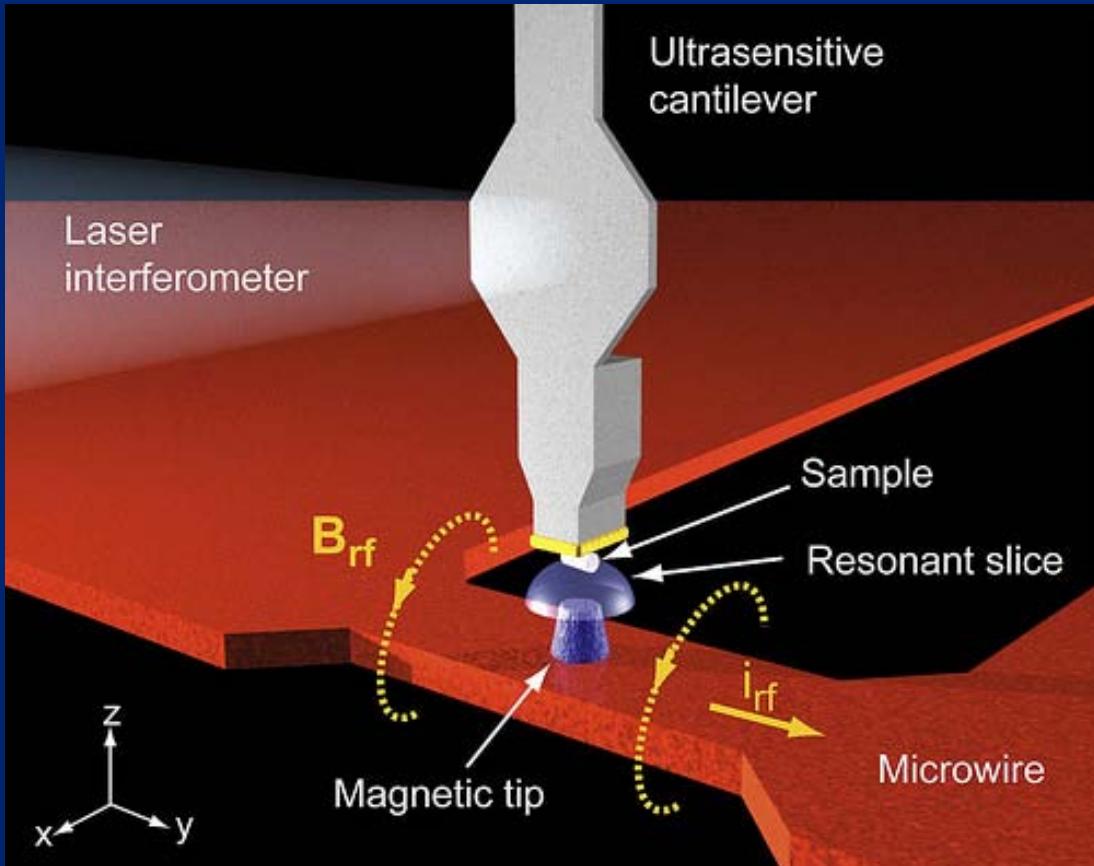


Perkins lab, JILA

Mechanical oscillator  
nanometer probe  
universal coupling (senses any force)

Optical interferometer detects oscillator motion

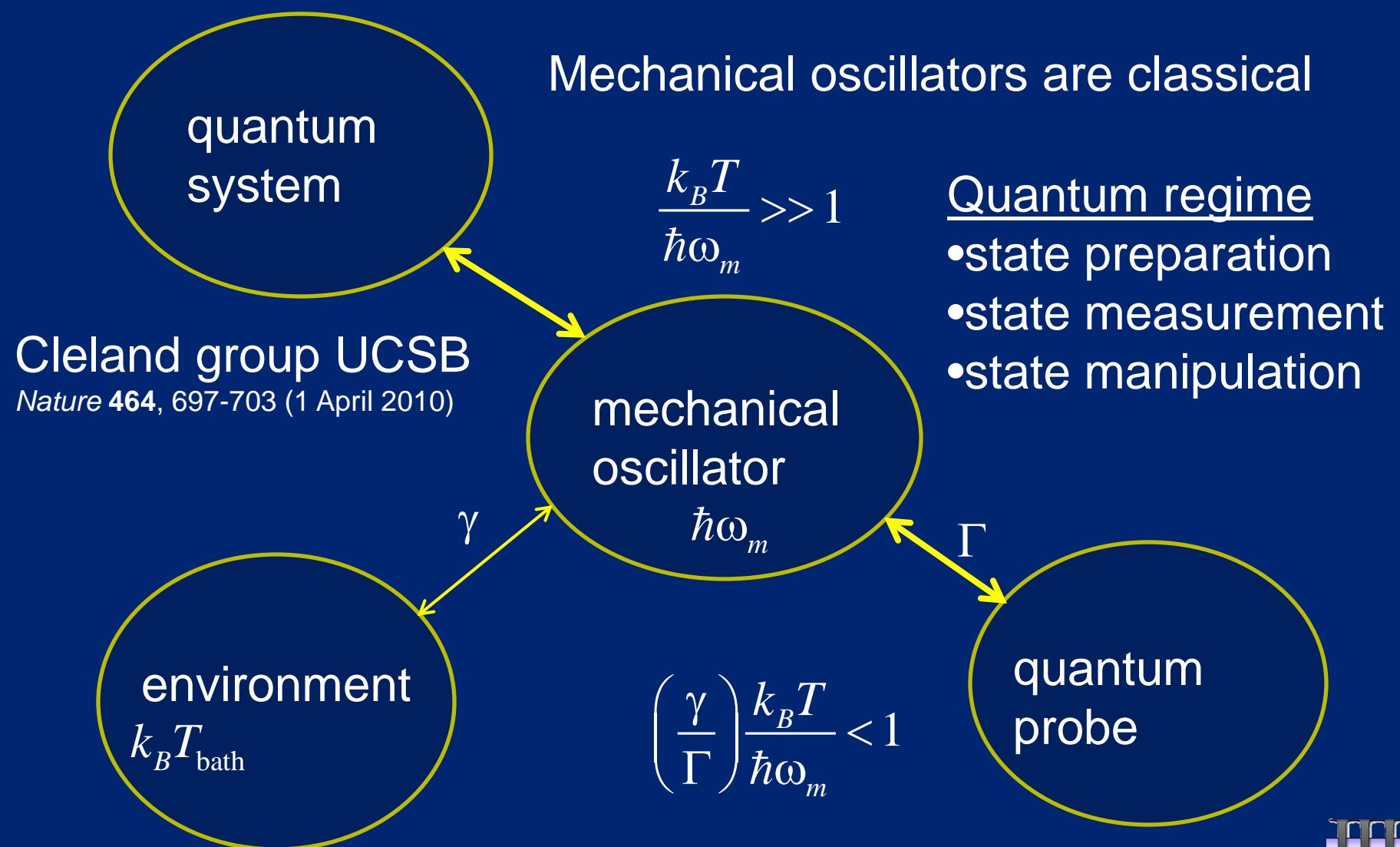
# Mechanical oscillators form ultrasensitive, mesoscopic magnetometers



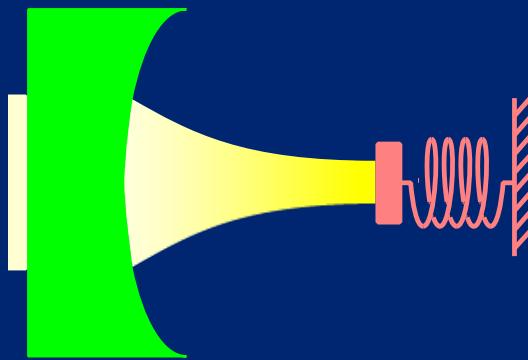
nanoscale MRI of a single virus

Rugar Lab, IBM  $\sqrt{S_f^{\text{tot}}} = 0.8 \text{ aN/Hz}^{1/2}$

# Mechanical oscillators as quantum coherent interfaces between incompatible systems



# Cavity optomechanics: Use radiation pressure for state preparation and measurement



Fabry-Perot cavity with oscillating mirror

Infer motion through optical phase

Cool with cavity-retarded radiation force

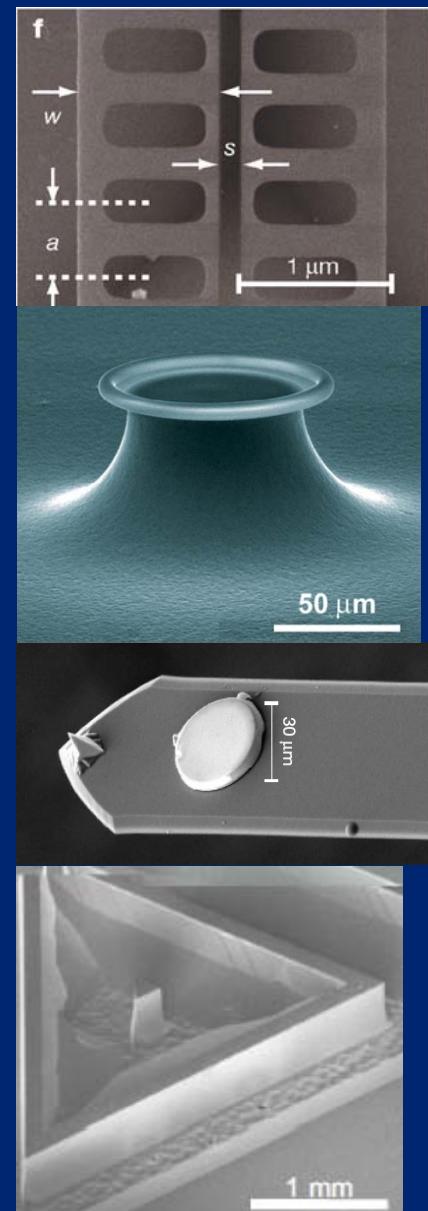
$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega_c \left( a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} \right) + \hbar\omega_m \left( b^\dagger b + \frac{1}{2} \right) + \hat{H}_I$$

$$\hat{H}_I = \hat{F} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}} = \hbar a^\dagger a g x_{zp} (b^\dagger + b)$$

$$g x_{zp} \equiv G \sim 2\pi \times 10 \text{ Hz}$$

# Images of cavity optomechanical systems

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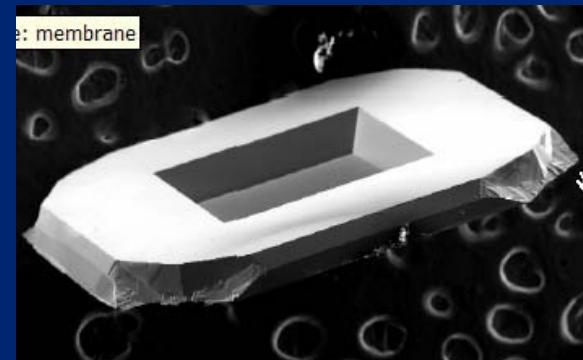


Caltech, Painter  
 $G \approx 2\pi \times 1 \text{ MHz}$

EPFL, Kippenberg

UCSB: Bouwmeester

ENS: Pinard and Heidmann



Yale, Harris

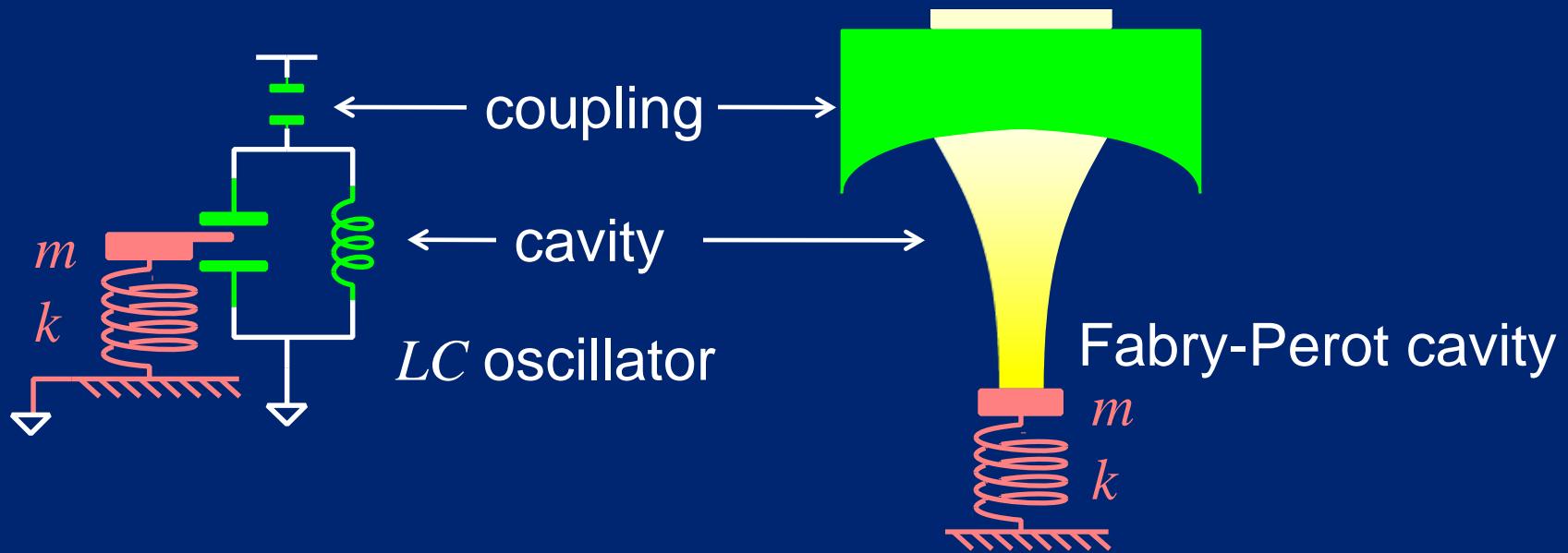


MIT, Mavalvala

# Microwave cavity optomechanics

# Reduce coupling to the environment by lowering temperature: microwave optomechanics

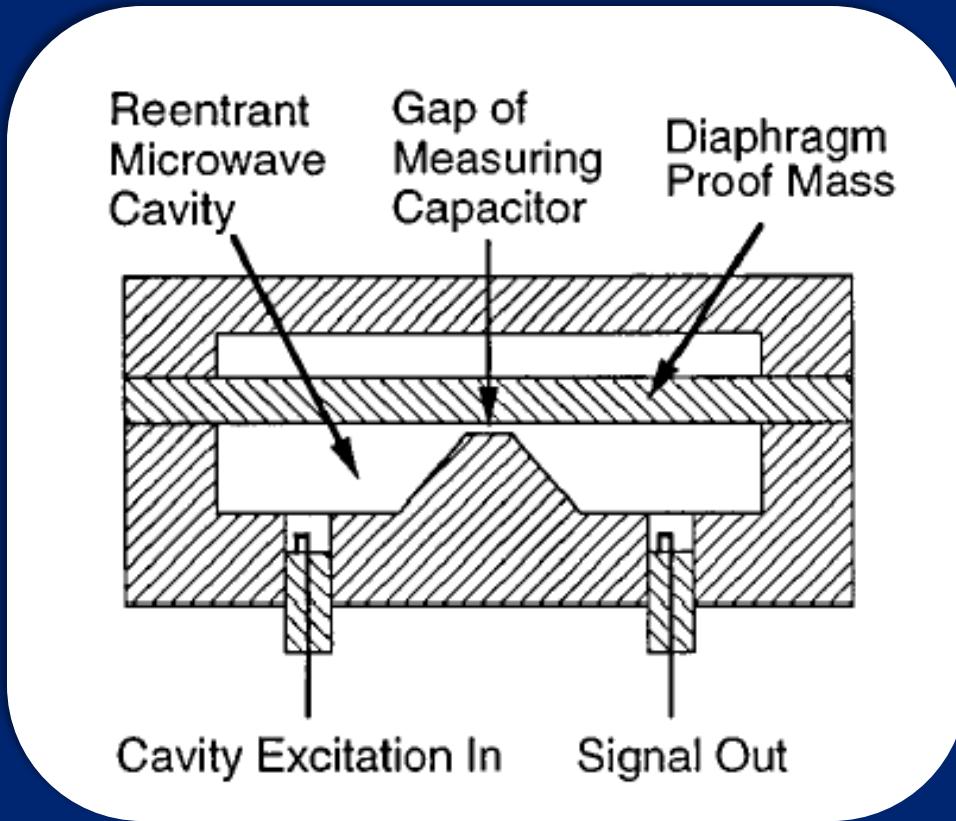
Microwave “light” in ultralow temperature cryostat



Strategy

Cool environment to  $T_{\text{bath}} \ll 1 \text{ K}$   $\left(\frac{\gamma}{\Gamma}\right) \frac{k_B T_{\text{bath}}}{\hbar \omega_m} < 1$   
High Q mechanical oscillators

# Superconducting electromechanics used in resonant mass gravitational wave detectors



Meter sized  
superconducting cavity  
with mechanically  
compliant element

Braginsky, V. B., V. P. Mitrofanov, and V. I. Panov, 1981,  
*Sistemi s maloi dissipatsiei* (Nauka, Moscow) [English translation:  
*Systems with Small Dissipation* (University of Chicago,  
Chicago, 1985)].

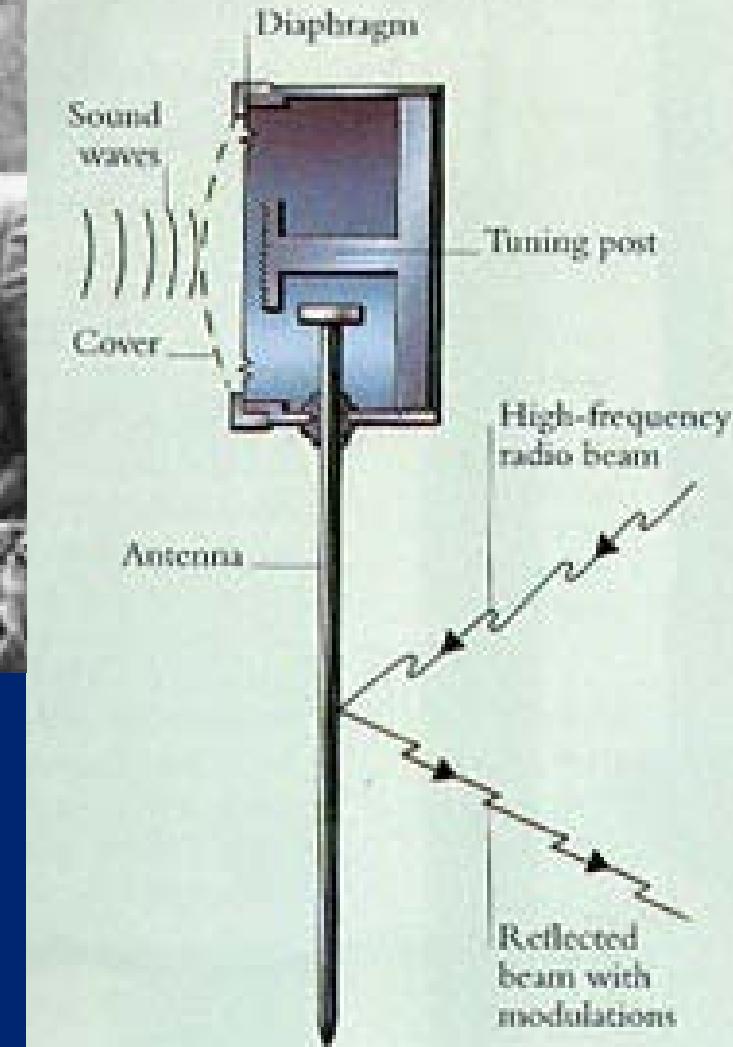
# Resonant electromechanics used in surveillance

Soviet passive bug hidden in the United States Seal



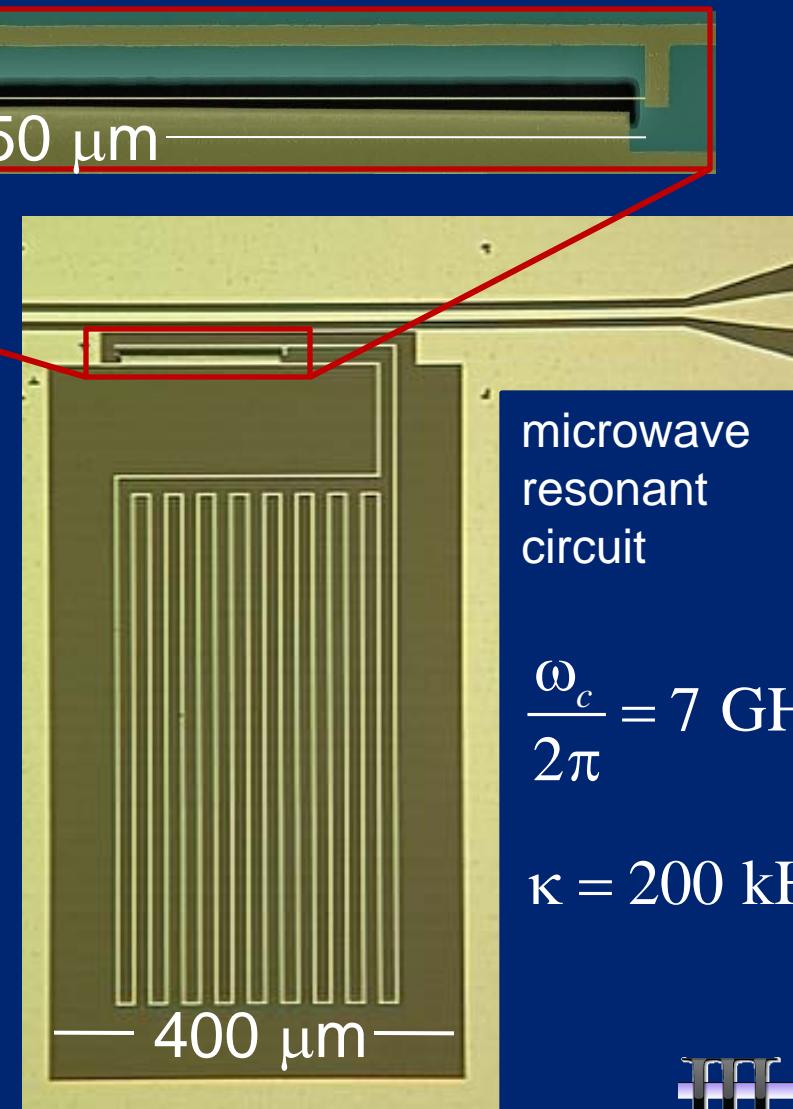
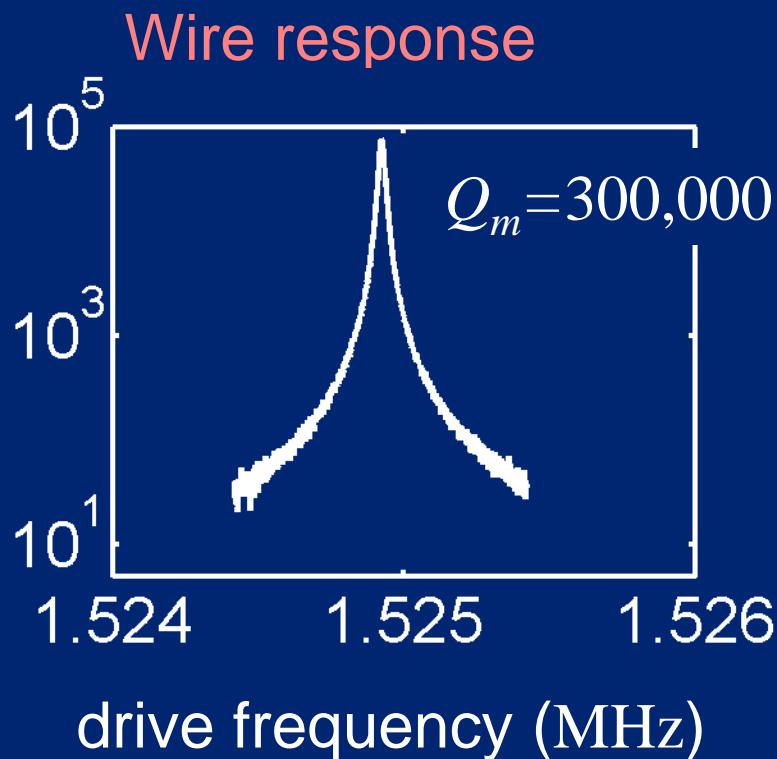
Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. May 26, 1960  
in the UN

Images appear in [http://www.spybusters.com/Great\\_Seal\\_Bug.html](http://www.spybusters.com/Great_Seal_Bug.html)



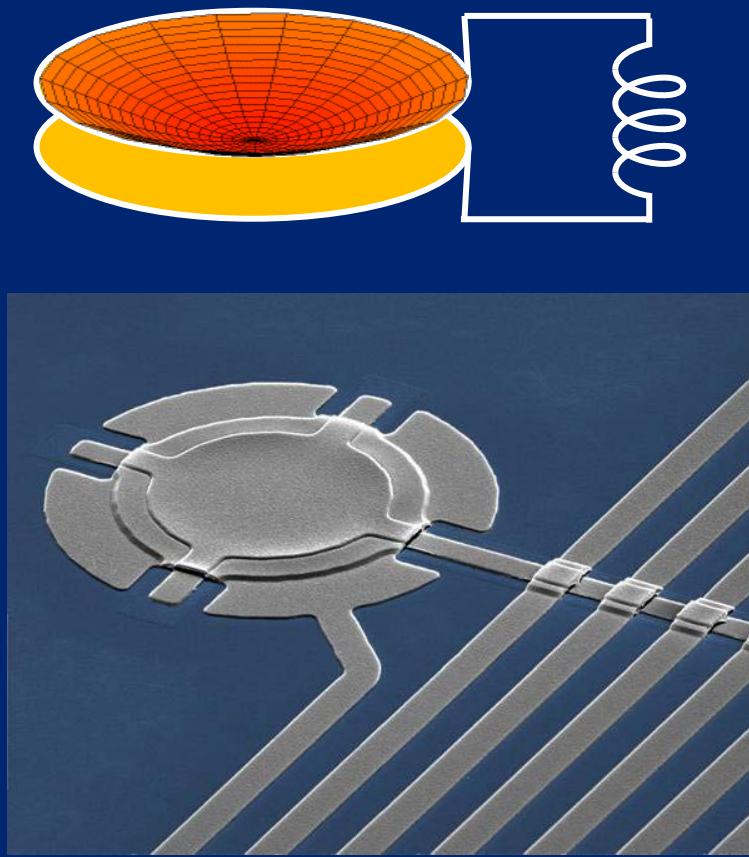
# Cavity optomechanical system realized from a nanomechanical wire in a resonant circuit

$$G = 2\pi \times 0.3 \text{ Hz}$$

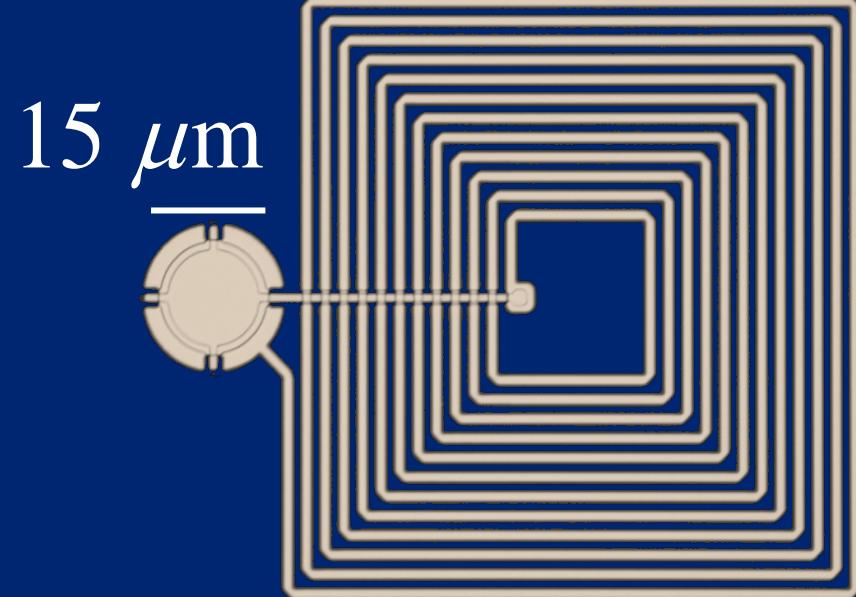


# Parallel-plate capacitor geometry enhances microwave—mechanics interaction

capacitor built with suspended  
micromechanical membrane\*



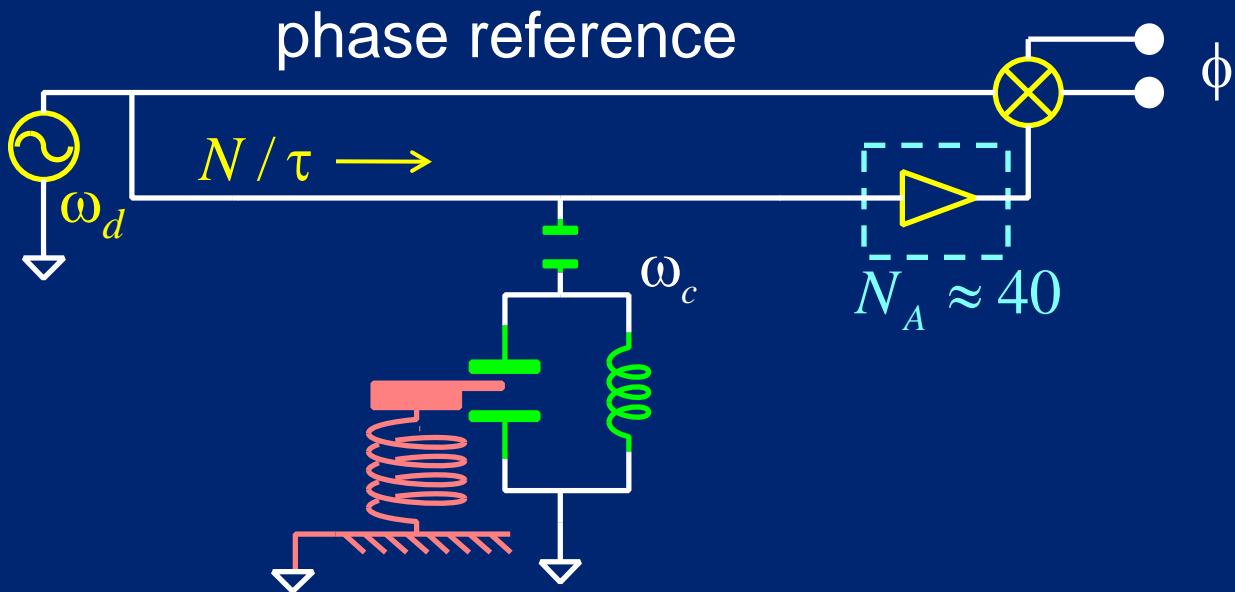
Electrical circuit  
resonant at 7 GHz



$$G \approx 2\pi \times 50 \text{ Hz}$$

\*K. Cicak, et al APL **96**, 093502 (2010)  
. J. D. Teufel et al arXiv:1011.3067

# Nanomechanical motion monitored with a microwave Mach-Zehnder interferometer

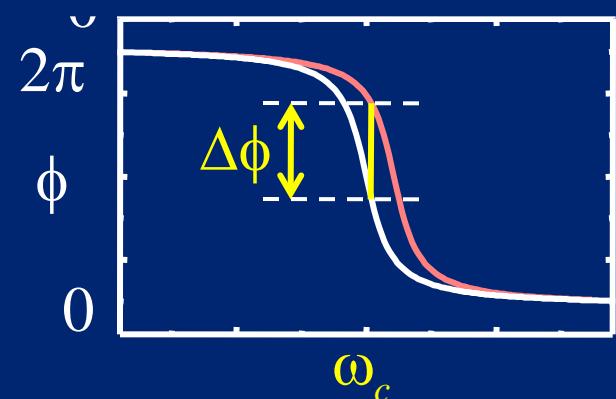


Infer wire motion from phase shift

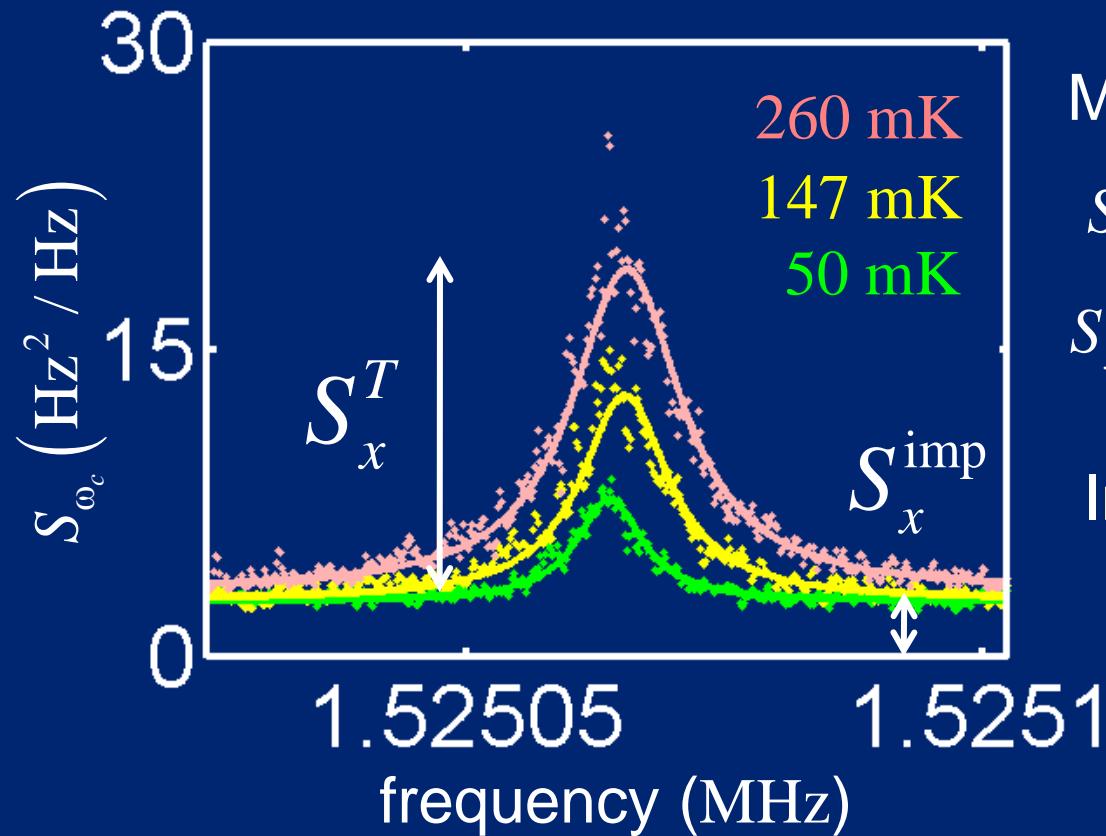
$$\Delta\phi = \frac{\Delta\omega_c}{\kappa} = \frac{g\mathbf{x}}{\kappa}$$

Phase sensitivity limited by amplifier (HEMT)

$$S_\phi = \frac{N_A + \frac{1}{2}}{N/\tau} = \frac{\text{noise quanta}}{\text{photon flux}}$$



# Thermal motion of beam calibrates interferometer noise (imprecision)



Minimum imprecision

$$S_x^{\text{imp}} = 145 \text{ ZPE}$$

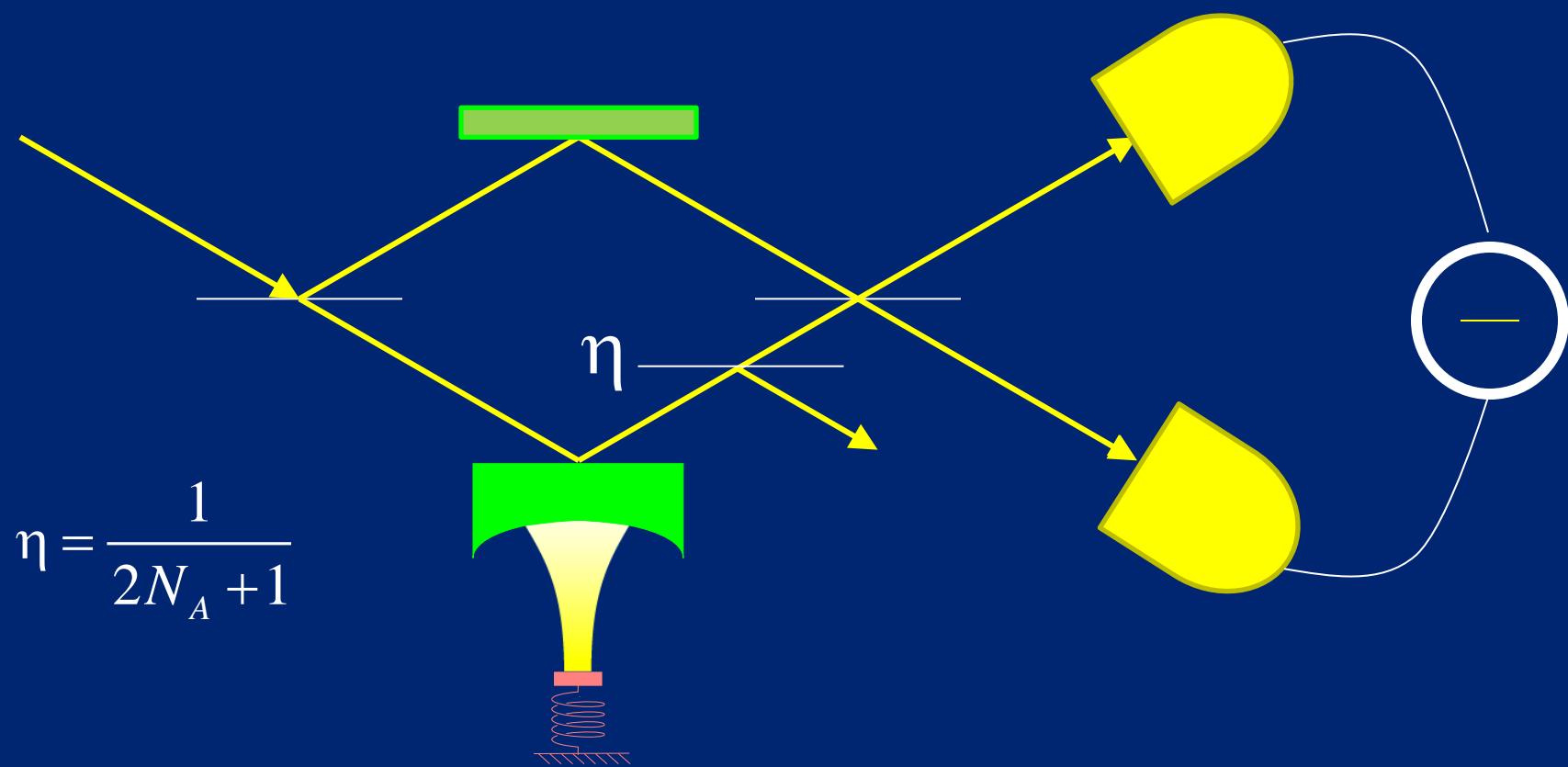
$$S_x^{\text{imp}} = 290 \times \text{SQL}$$

Imprecision at the SQL

$$S_x^{\text{sql}} = \frac{\hbar}{m\omega_m\gamma}$$

Determine measurement imprecision  $S_x^{\text{imp}}$

# Amplifier added noise mimics quantum inefficiency



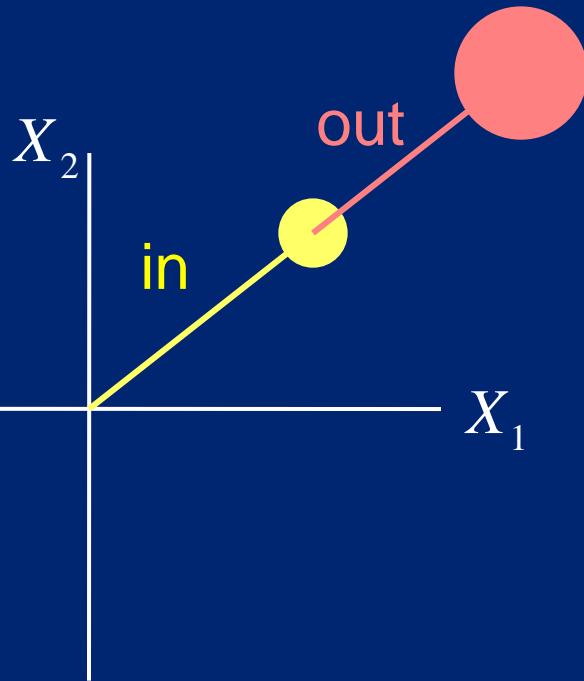
Excellent microwave amplifier:

$$N_A = 40 \quad \eta = 1.2\%$$

# Efficient quantum measurement

# Linear amplifiers must add noise

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$$V(t) = V_q (\hat{X}_1 \cos \omega t + \hat{X}_2 \sin \omega t)$$

$$V^{out} = G(V^{in} + N_A)$$

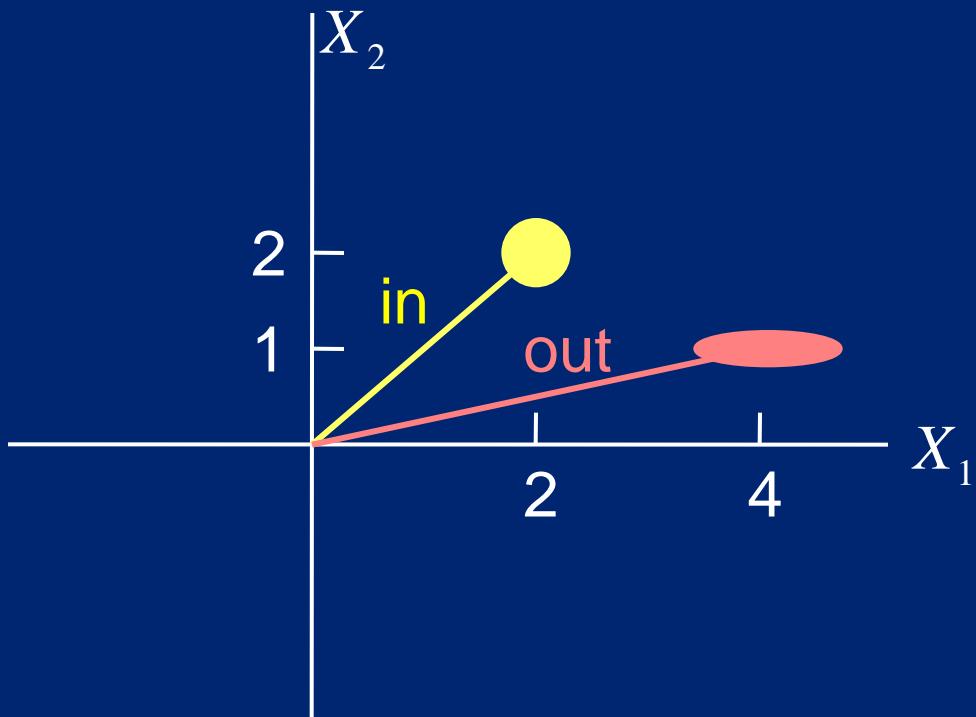
Phase-preserving linear amplifiers at least  
double quantum noise

$$N_A \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

# A single quadrature amplifier preserves entropy with photon number gain



$$V(t) = V_q \left( \hat{X}_1 \cos \omega t + \hat{X}_2 \sin \omega t \right)$$



$$\hat{X}_1^{out} = G \hat{X}_1^{in}$$

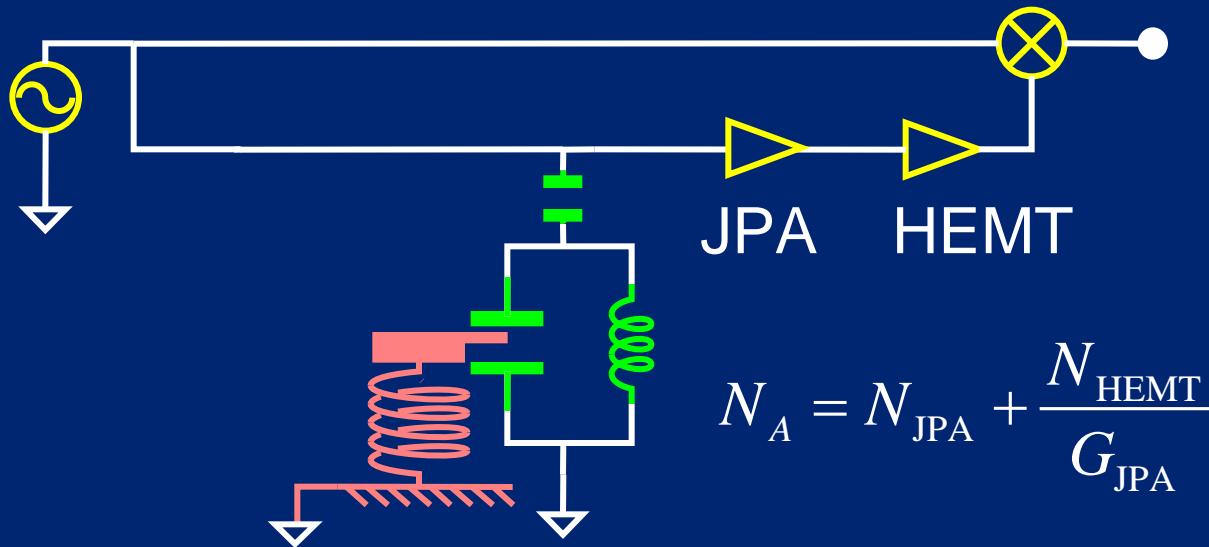
$$\hat{X}_2^{out} = \frac{1}{G} \hat{X}_2^{in}$$

$$\hat{X}_1^{out} \hat{X}_2^{out} - \hat{X}_2^{out} \hat{X}_1^{out} = \frac{i}{2}$$

$$N_A \geq 0$$

# Incorporate quantum pre-amplifier into the Mach-Zehnder interferometer

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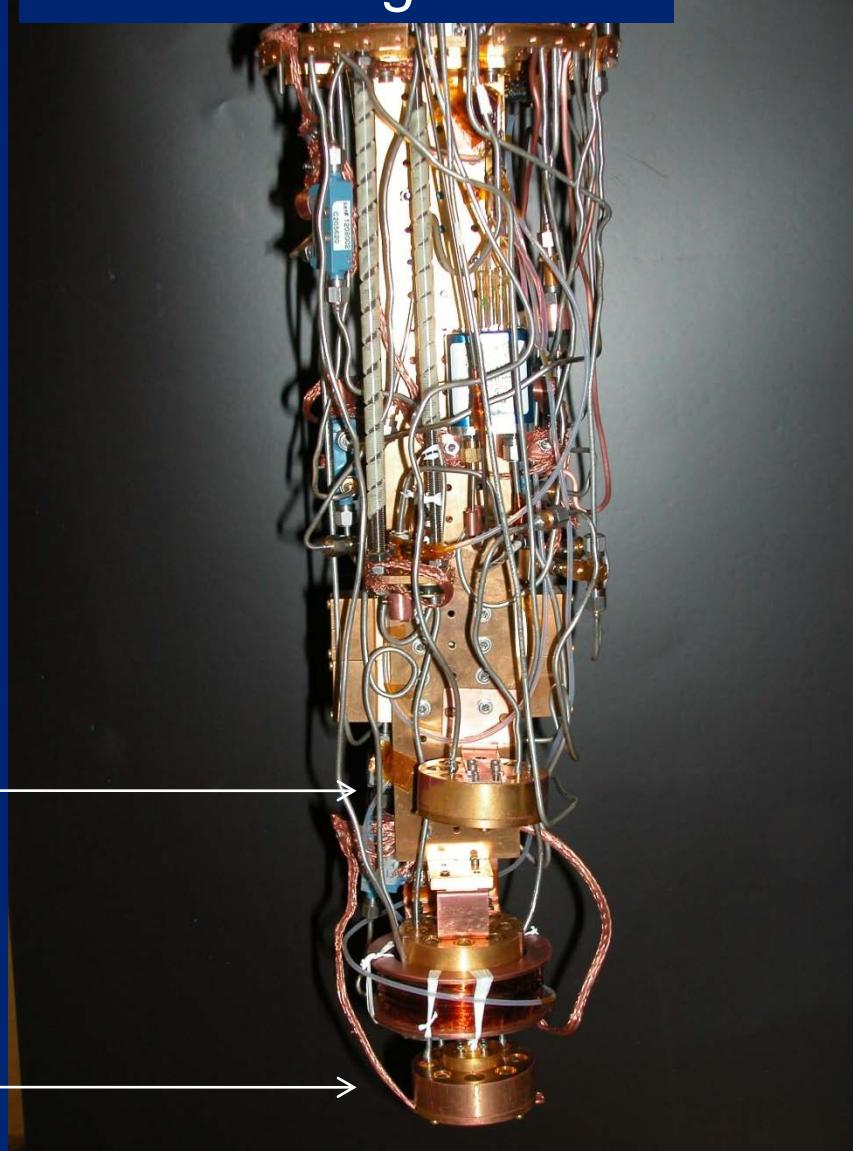


$$N_A = N_{\text{JPA}} + \frac{N_{\text{HEMT}}}{G_{\text{JPA}}}$$

Josephson parametric amplifier (JPA)  
makes more photons without more entropy

# Diagram conceals some complexity

Dilution refrigerator

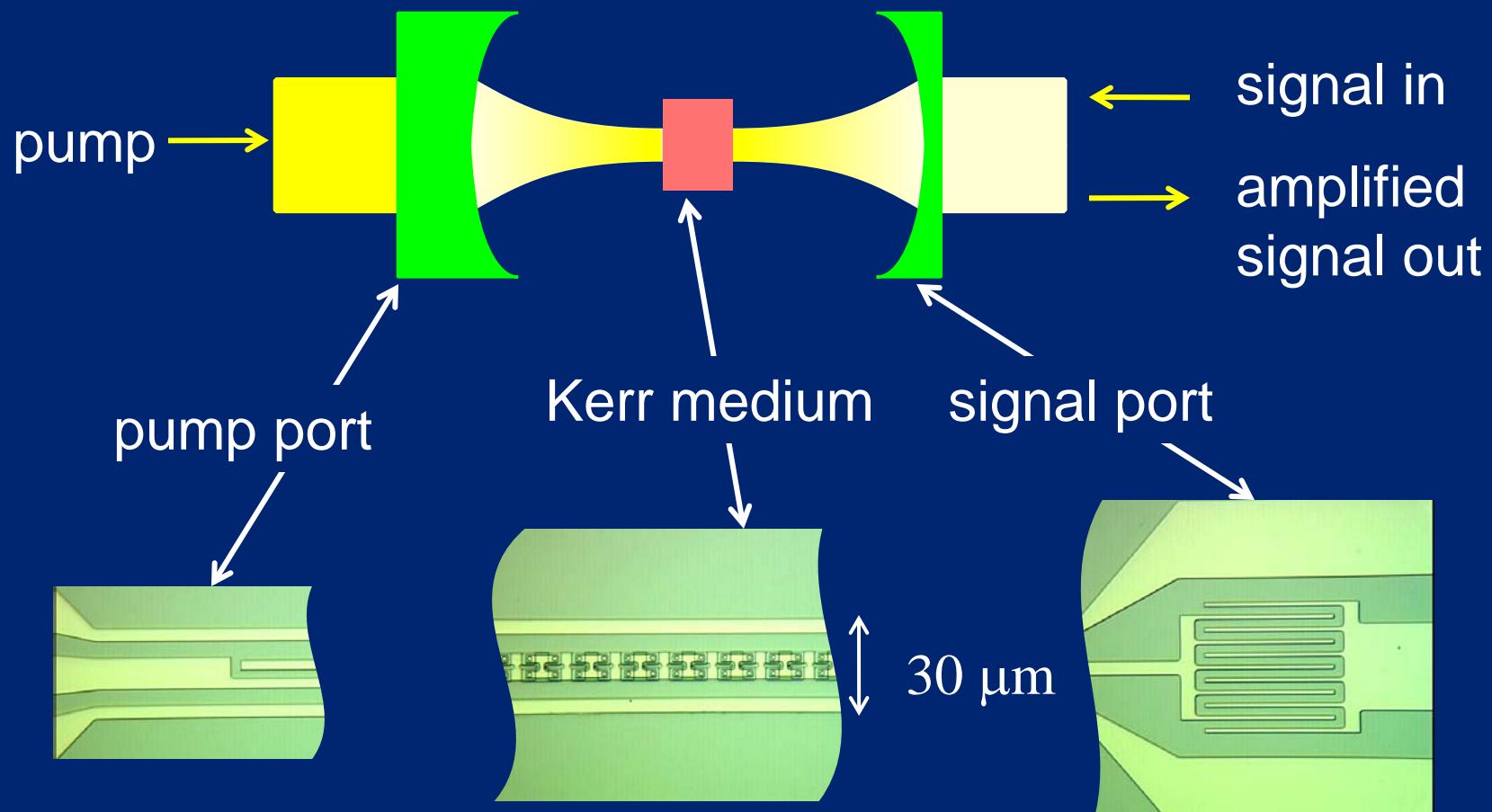


mechanics

JPA

50 cm

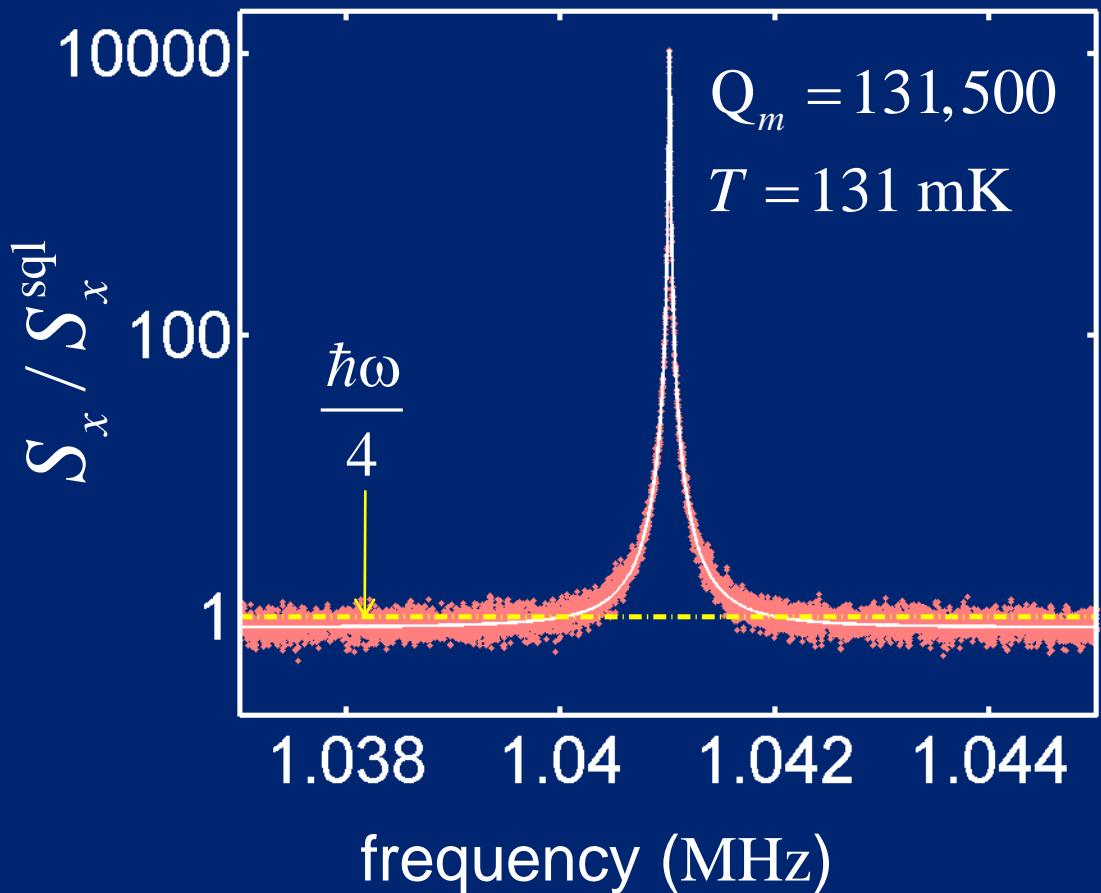
# Realization of Josephson parametric amplifier



$$N_{\text{JPA}} < 0.1$$

array of 480 SQUIDs  
embedded in a CPW resonator

# Imprecision noise is below the standard quantum limit with the JPA

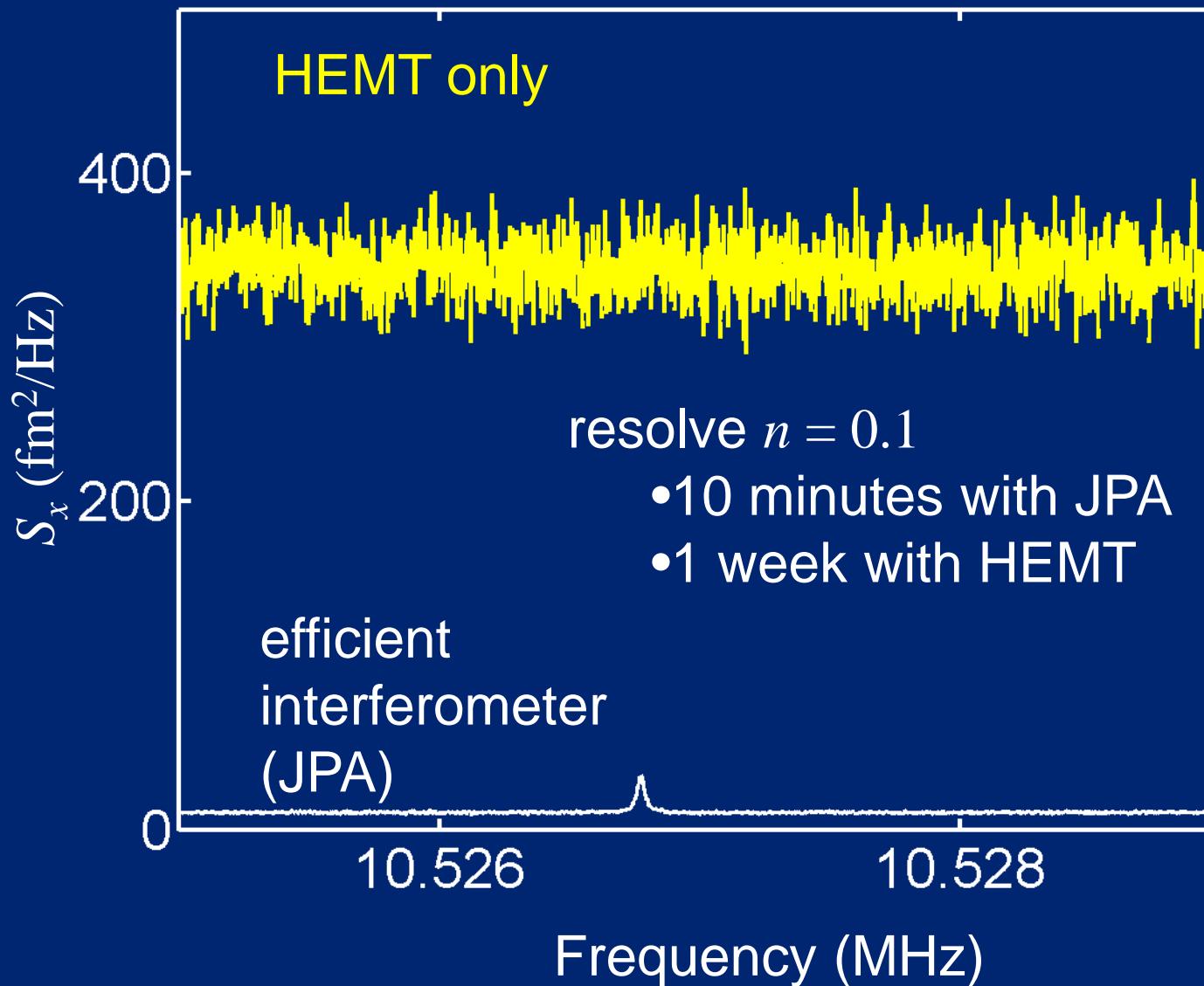


$$S_x / S_x^{\text{sql}} = 0.83$$

$$\sqrt{S_x^{\text{sql}}} = 5.7 \text{ fm}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$$

# Detecting near ground state motion requires a quantum efficient interferometer

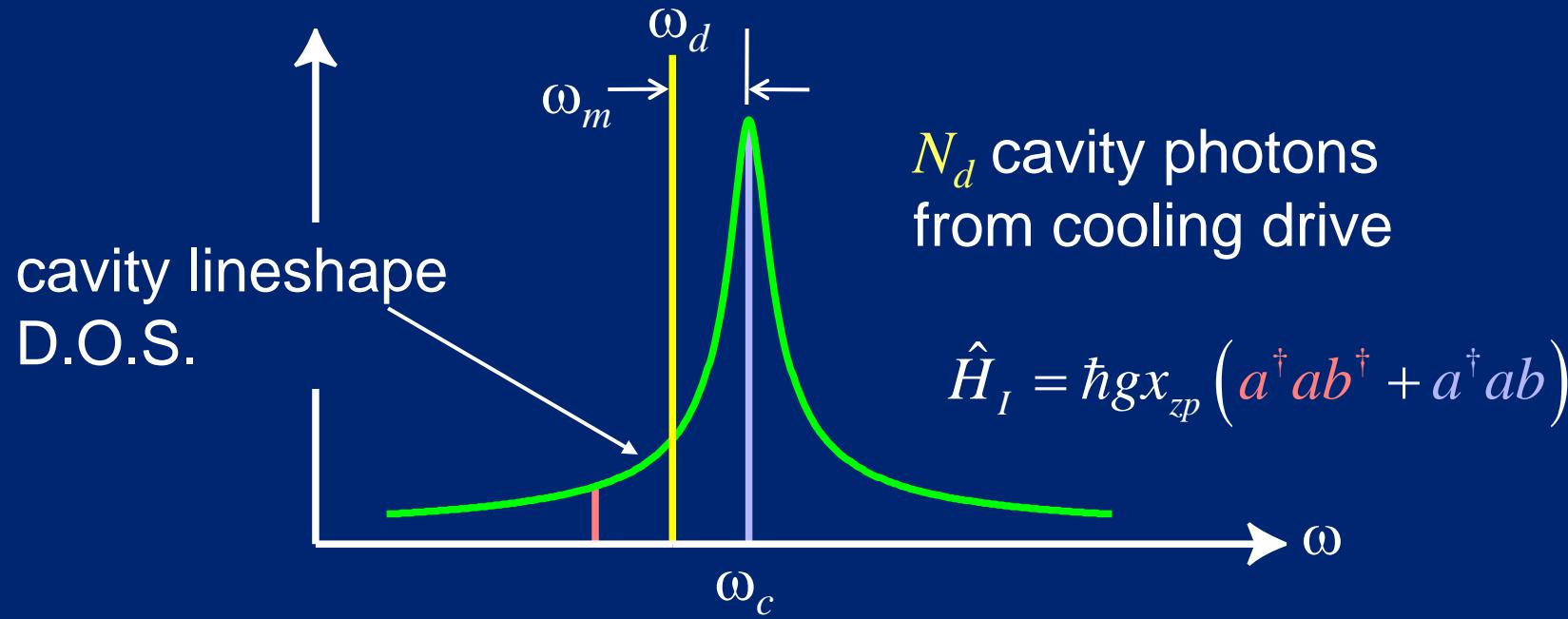
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# Radiation pressure cooling

# Radiation pressure can cool the beam to ground state in the resolved sideband limit

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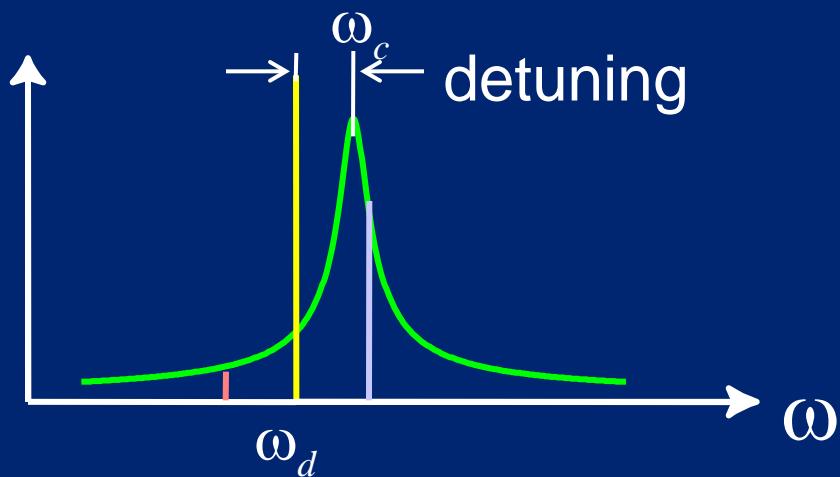


linearized interaction around strong cooling drive

$$\hat{H}_I = \hbar G \sqrt{N_d} (a b^\dagger + a^\dagger b)$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{4 N_d G^2}{\kappa}$$

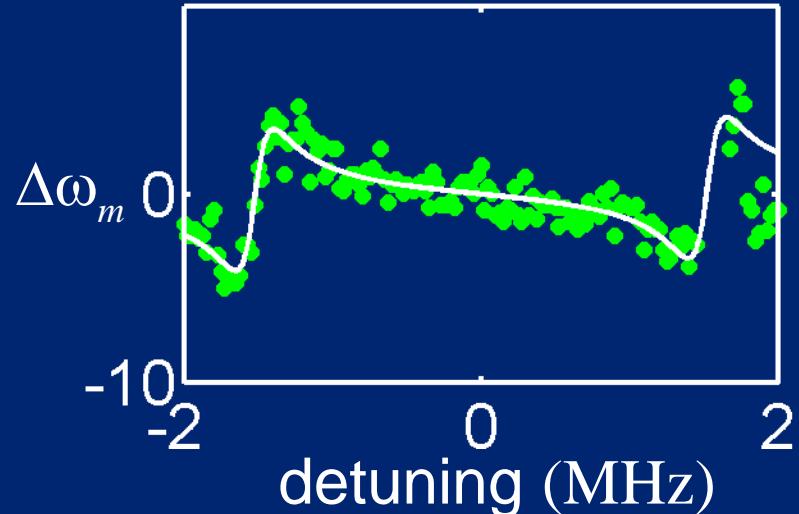
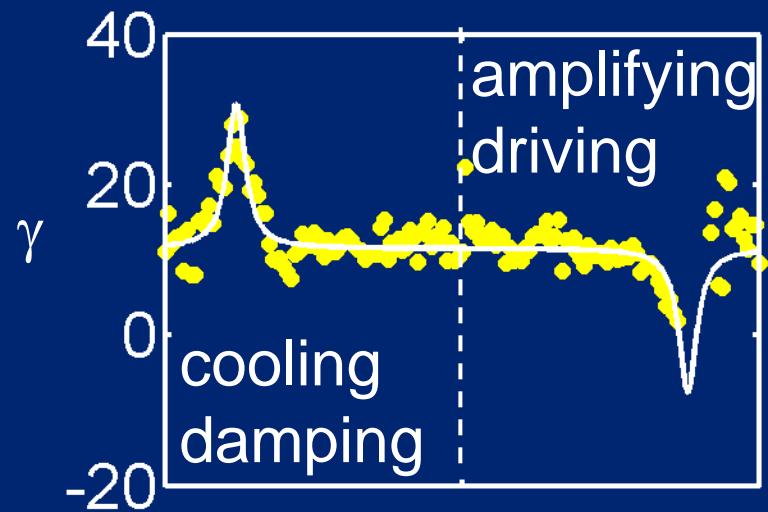
# Radiation pressure changes the wire's damping rate and resonance frequency



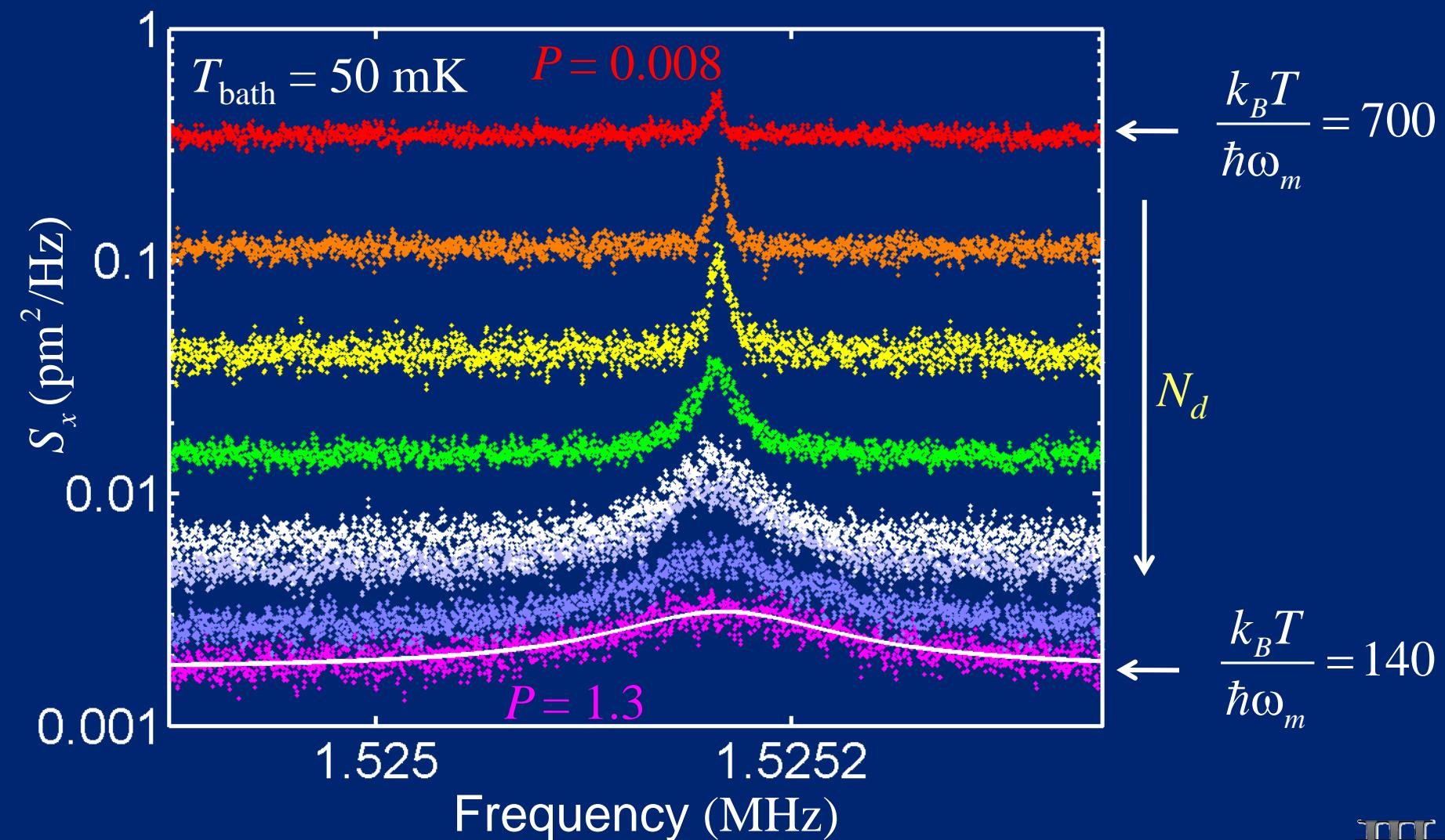
Mechanical response measures  
antisymmetric force noise

$$\Gamma = \frac{x_{zp}^2}{\hbar^2} [S_f(\omega_m) - S_f(-\omega_m)]$$

$$f = \hbar G a^\dagger a \quad G = 2\pi \times 0.1 \text{ Hz}$$

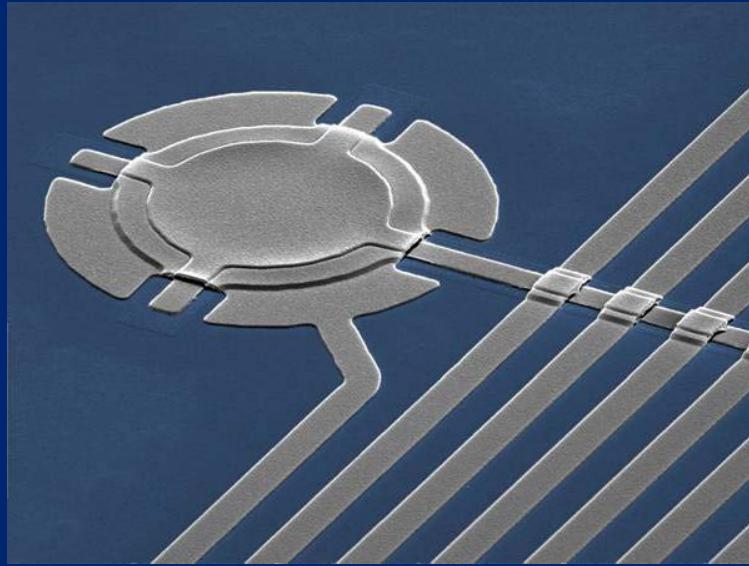
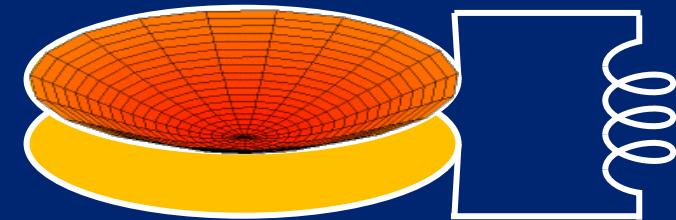


# Coupling to radiation is too weak to cool wire to motional ground state

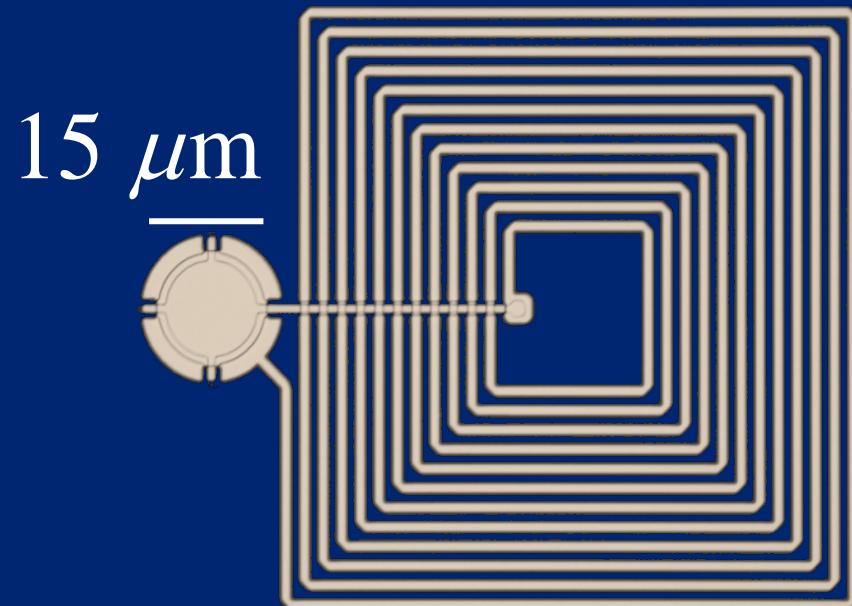


# Use parallel-plate capacitor geometry to enhance coupling in microwave optomechanics

capacitor built with suspended  
micromechanical membrane\*



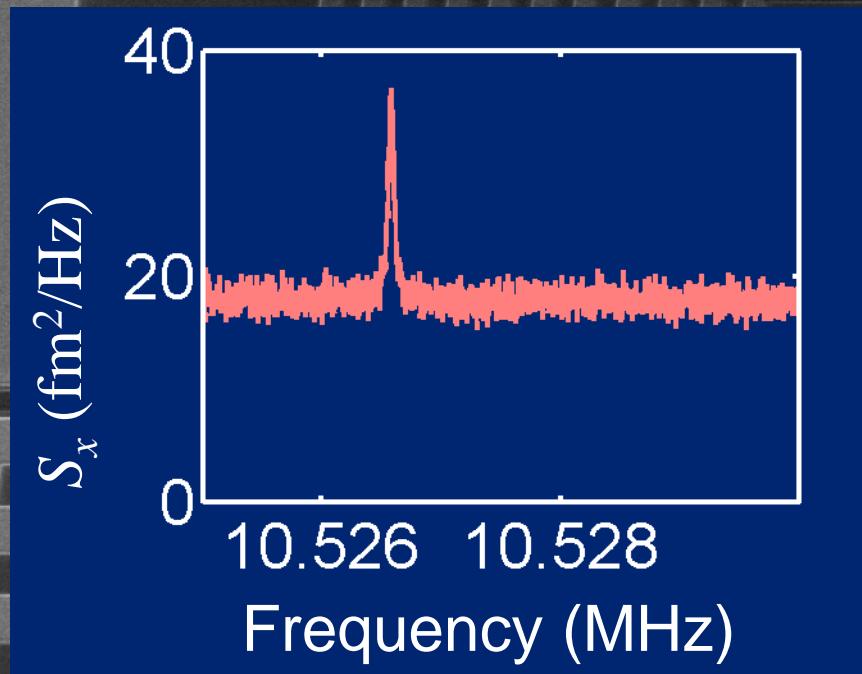
Electrical circuit  
resonant at 7 GHz



\*K. Cicak, et al APL **96**, 093502 (2010)  
. J. D. Teufel et al arXiv:1011.3067

$\omega_m = 2\pi \times 10.5 \text{ MHz}$

$\gamma = 2\pi \times 30 \text{ Hz}$

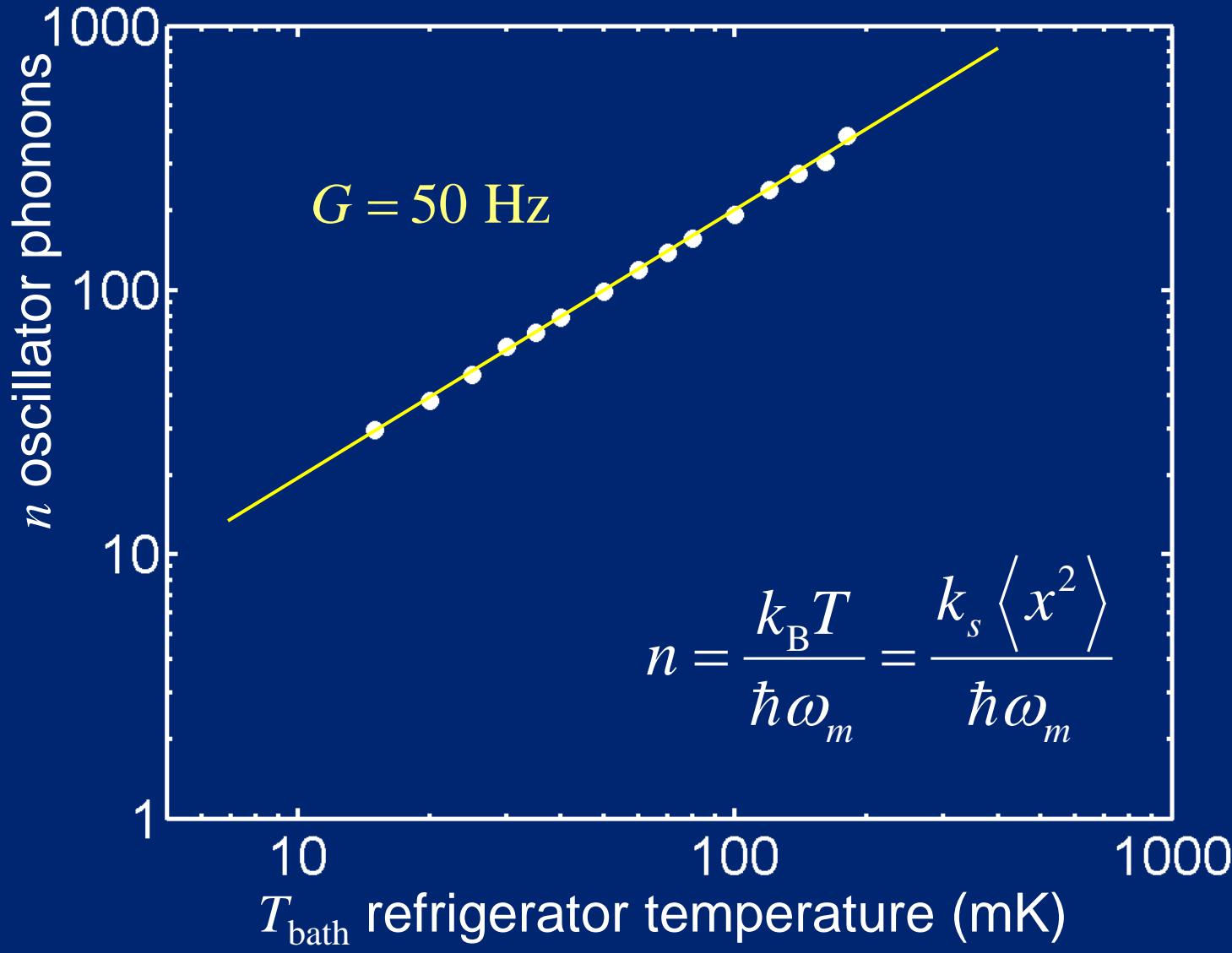


$\omega_c = 2\pi \times 7.5 \text{ GHz}$

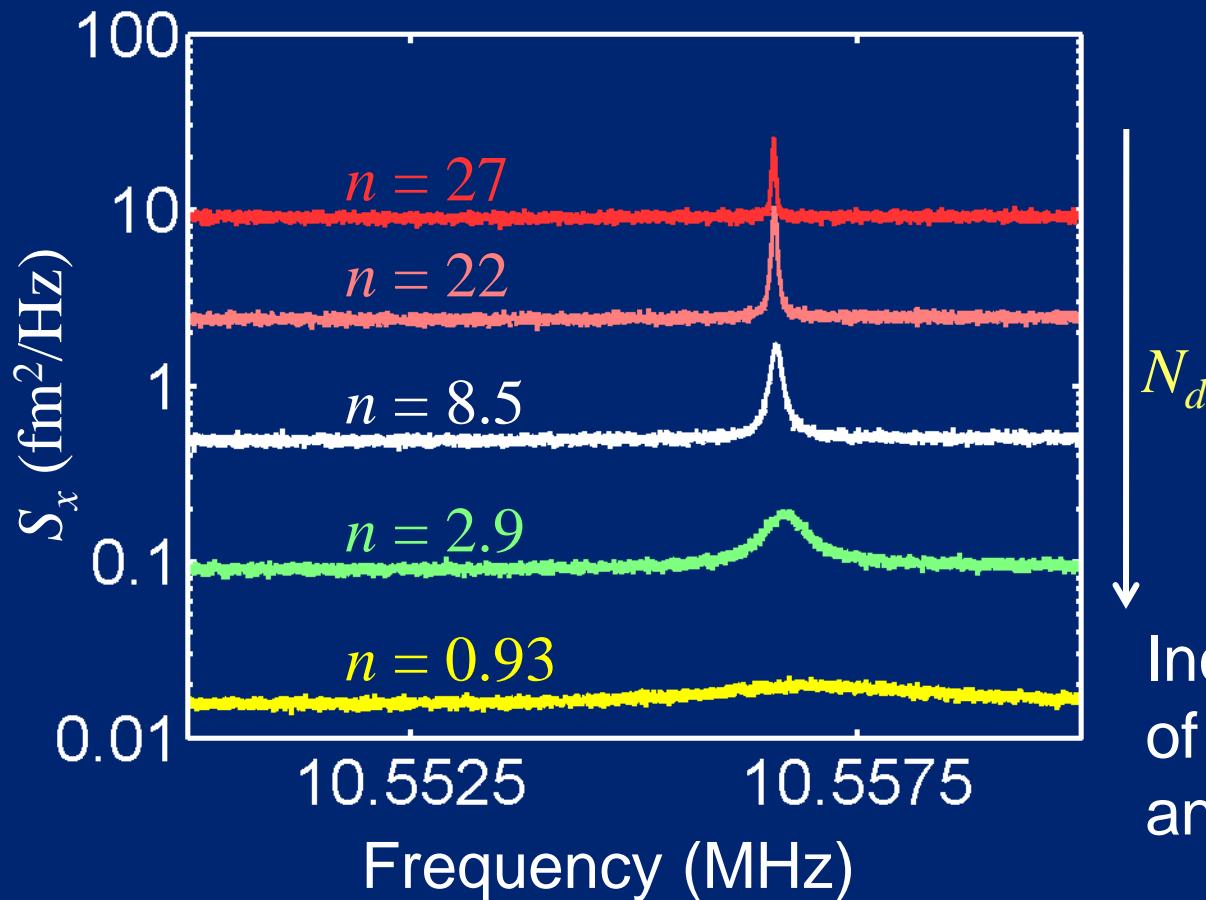
$\kappa = 2\pi \times 250 \text{ kHz}$

Acc.V Spot Magn Det WD | 20  $\mu\text{m}$   
5.00 kV 2.0 650x SE 20.0 NIST

# Thermal motion reveals large coupling

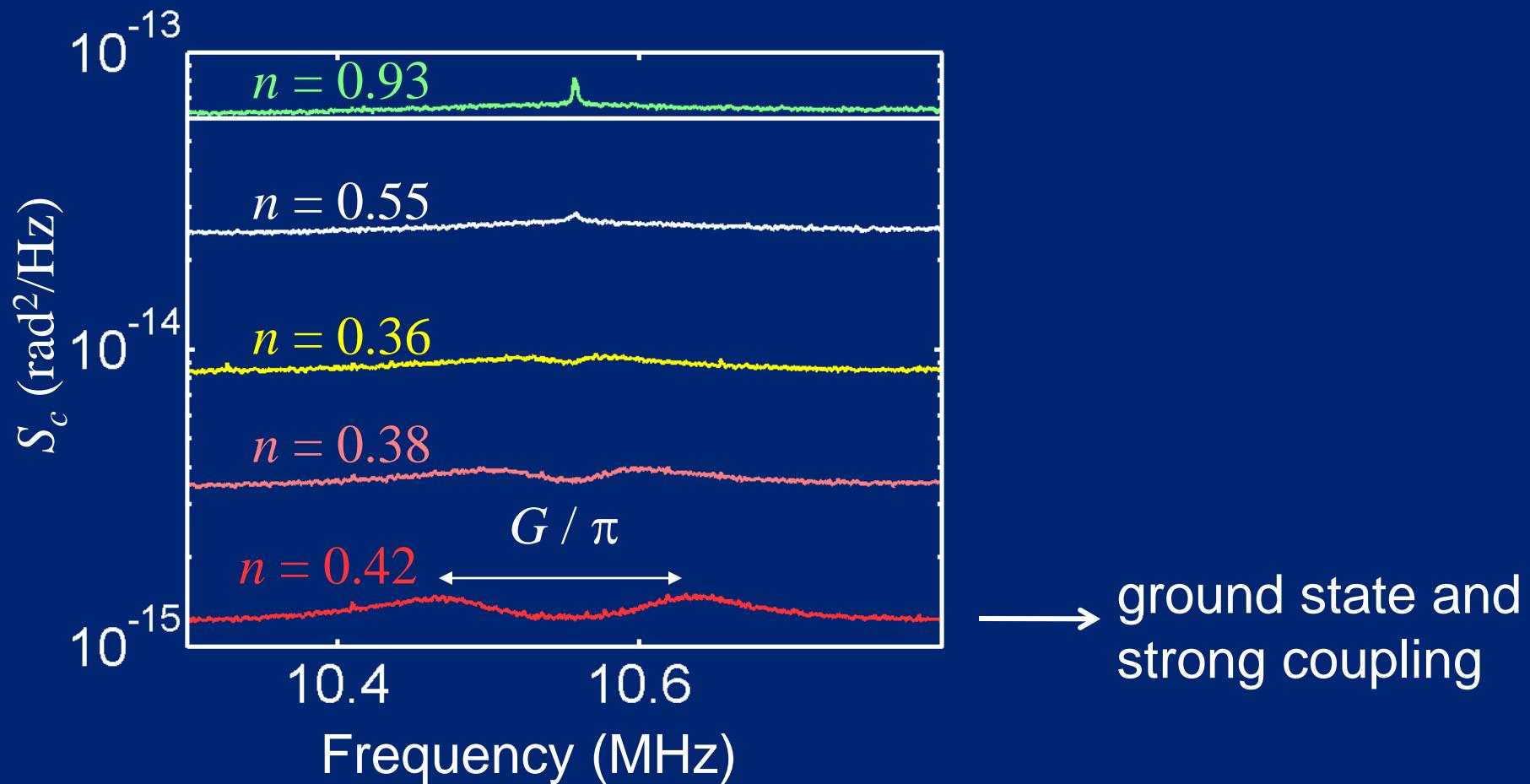


# Cooling mechanics to motional ground state



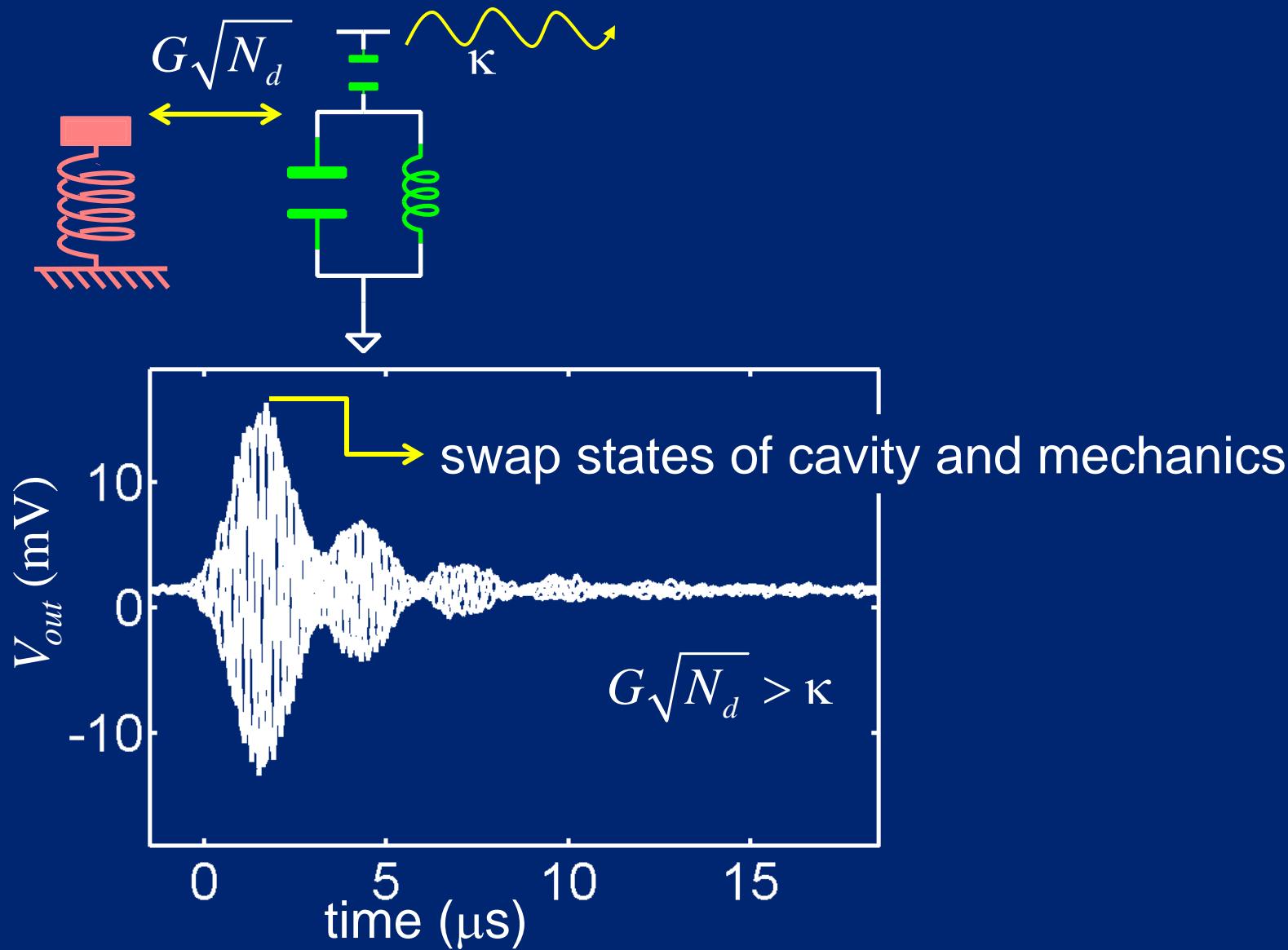
Increasing strength  
of measurement  
and cooling

# Cooling mechanics to motional ground state

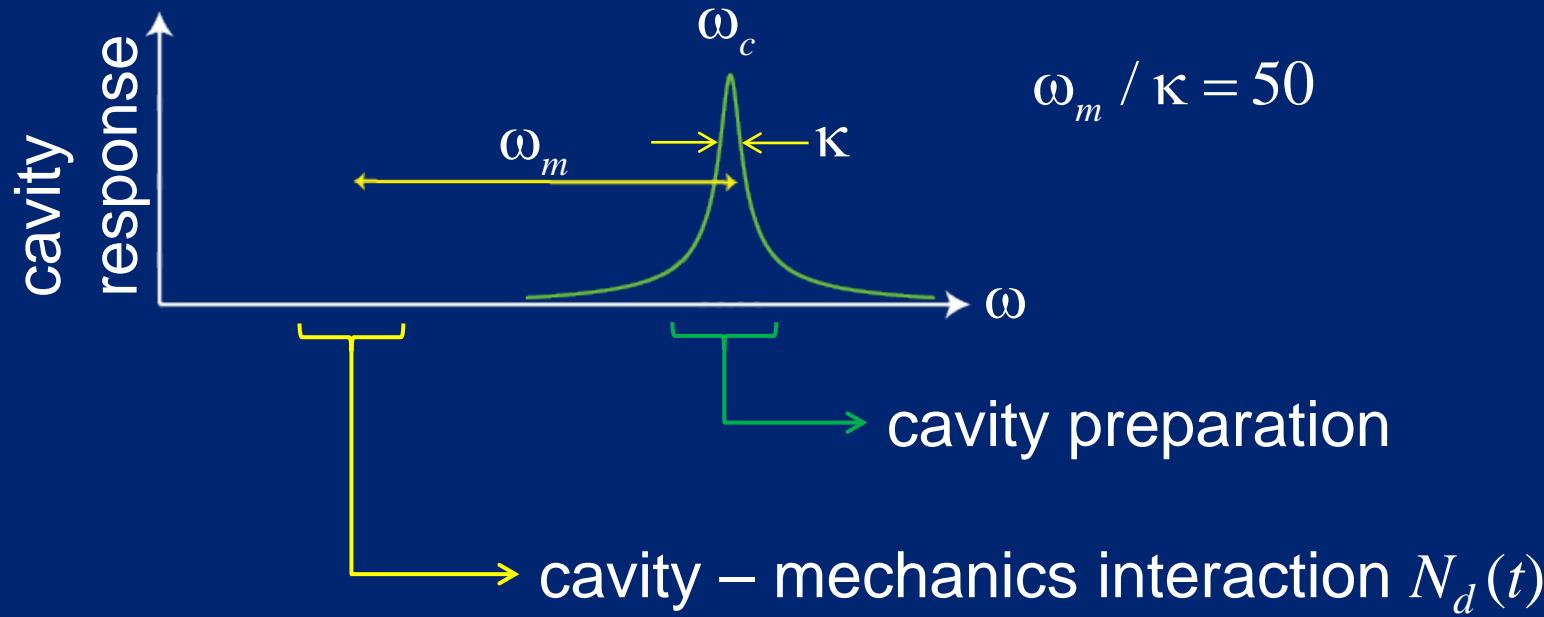


# Manipulating mechanics with microwave

# Strong coupling enables coherent control of mechanics



# Agile state control provided by extreme resolved sideband limit

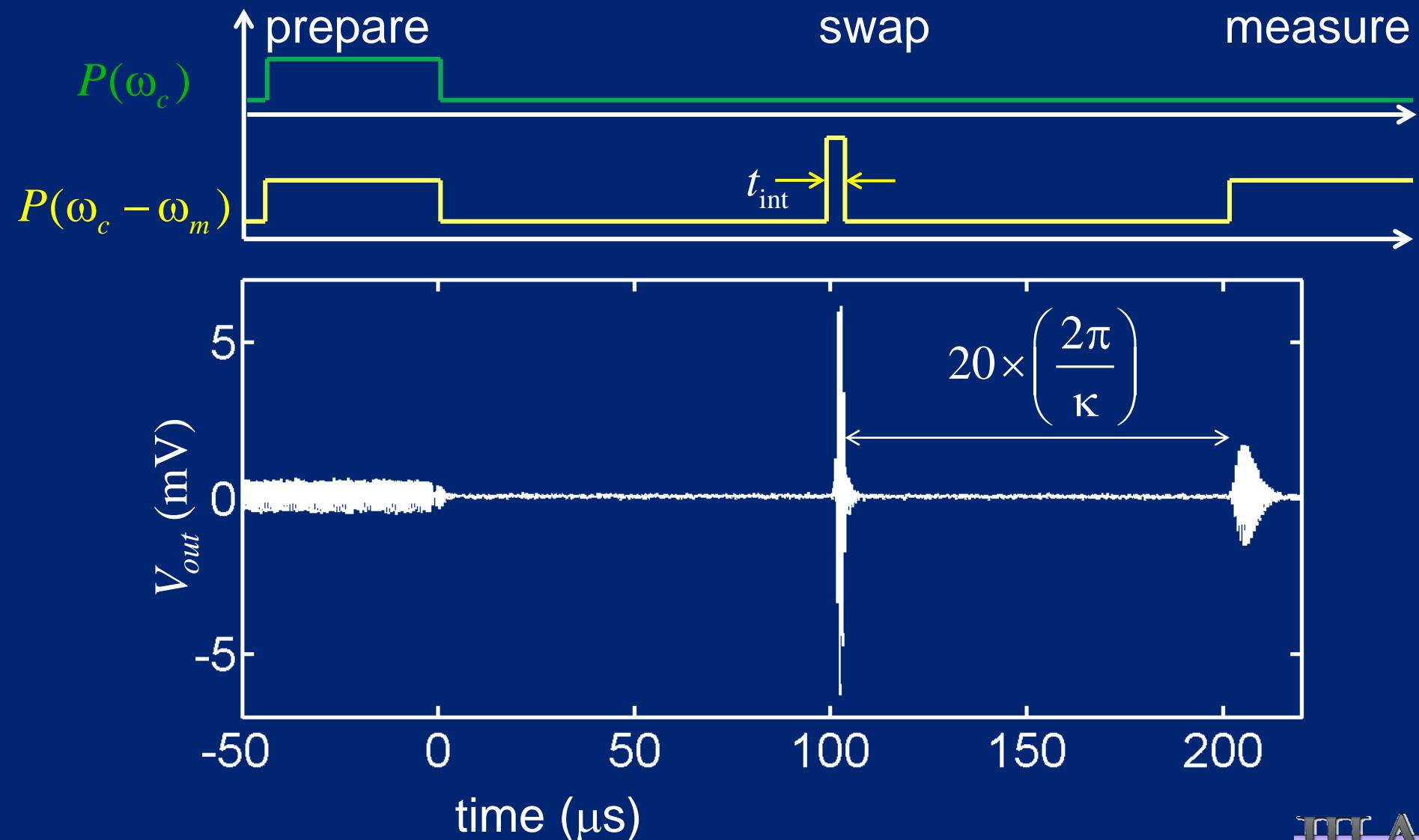


$$\hat{H}_I = \hbar G \sqrt{N_d(t)} (a b^\dagger + a^\dagger b)$$

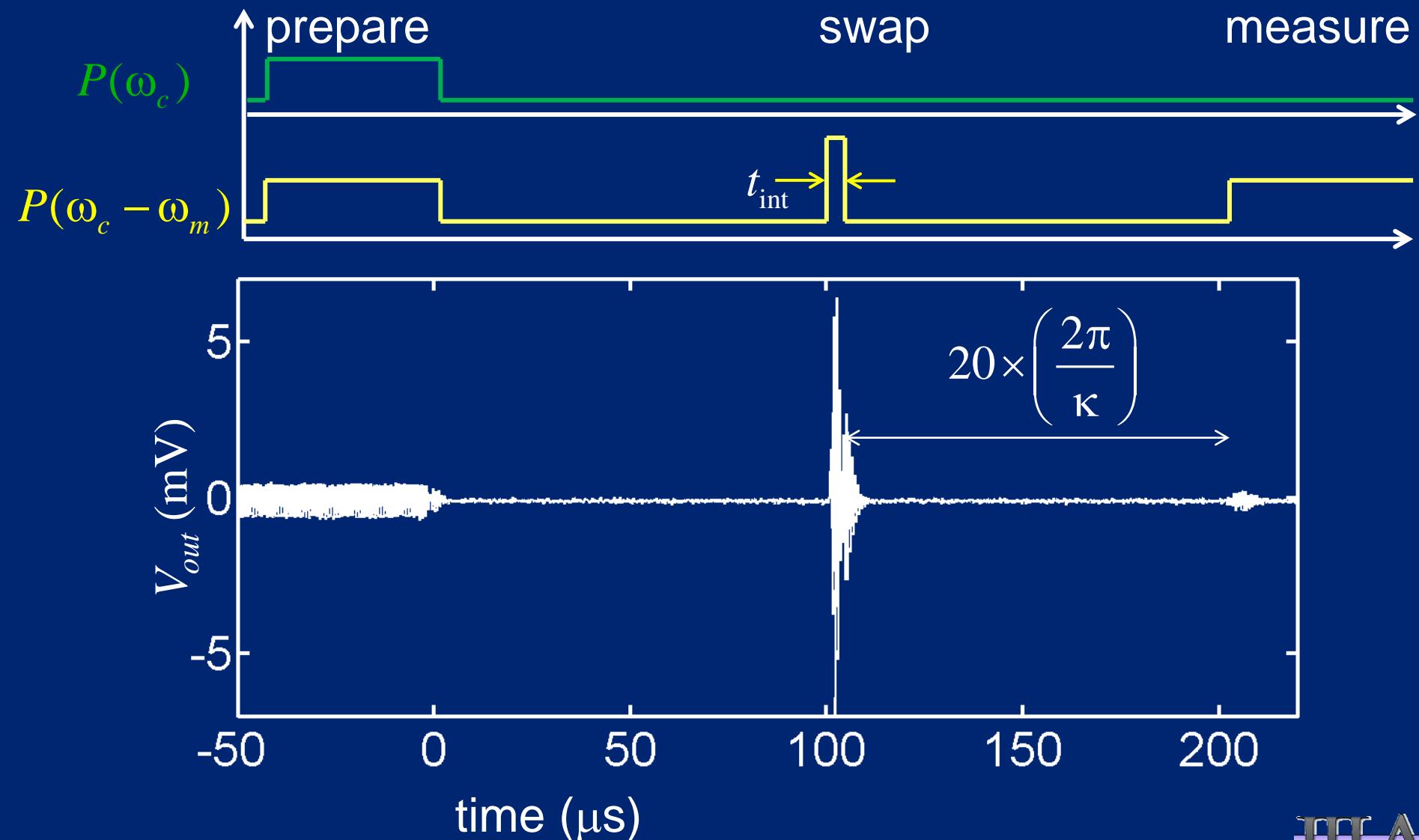
linearized phonon – photon interaction

- beam splitter
- time dependent

# Mechanical oscillators are long-lived coherent memories

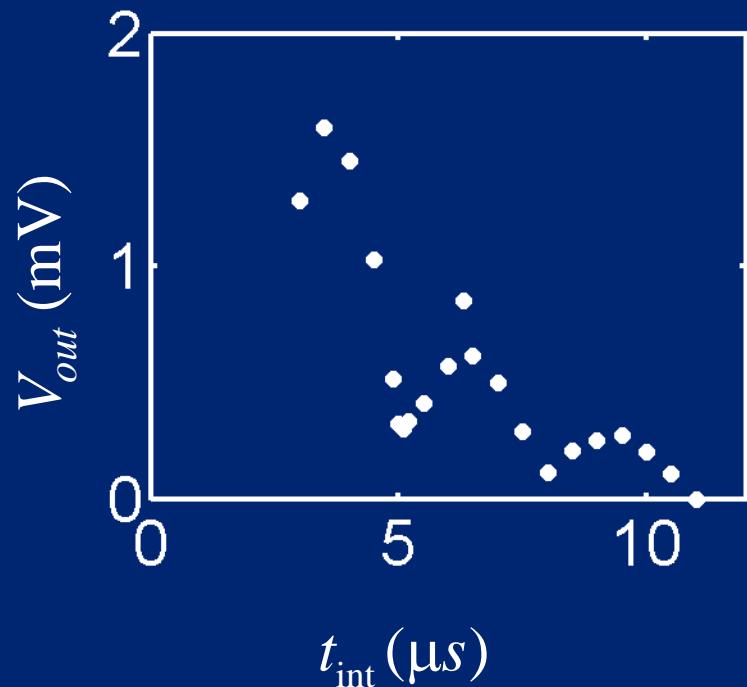


# Mechanical oscillators are long-lived coherent memories



# Mechanical oscillators are long-lived coherent memories

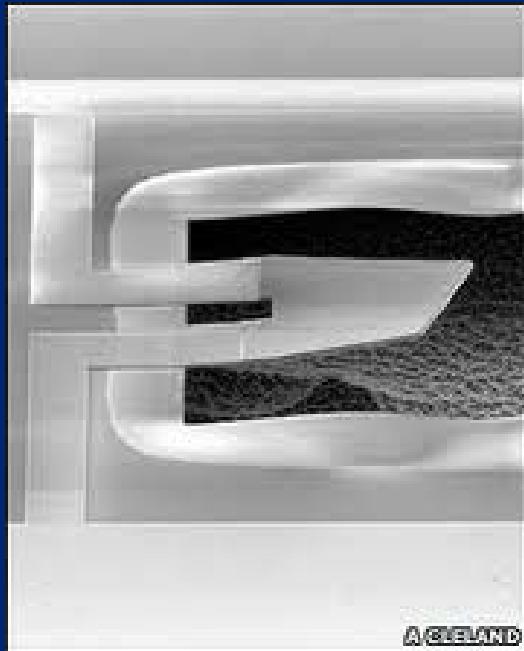
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Ramsey like oscillation in coupled microwave-mechanical system

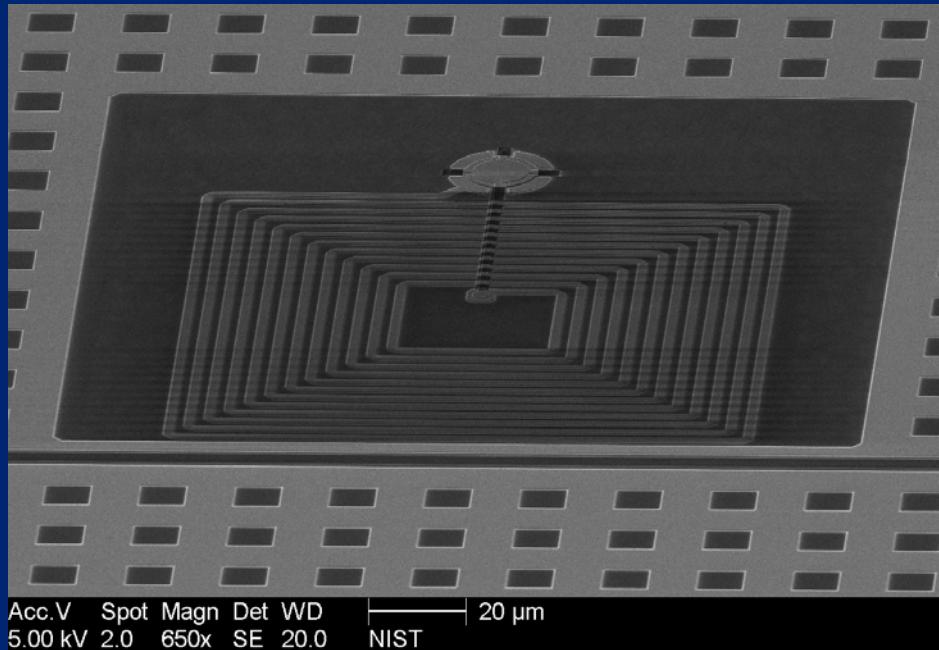
# Quantum states of the micro-drum harmonic oscillator are long-lived

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$$T_1 = 6.1 \text{ ns}$$

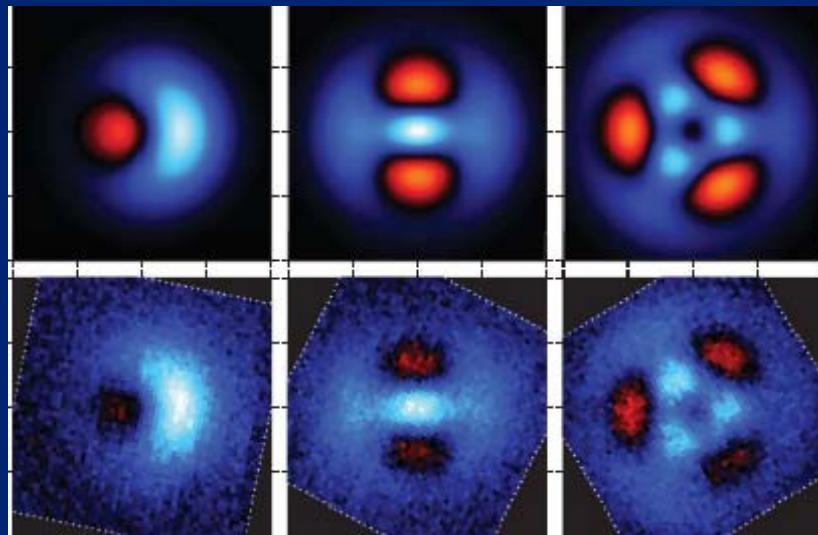
Cleland group UCSB  
*Nature* **464**, 697-703 (1 April 2010)



$$T_1 \approx 100 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$$

$$1/T_1 = n_{\text{bath}} \gamma$$

# Microwave to optical quantum state transfer



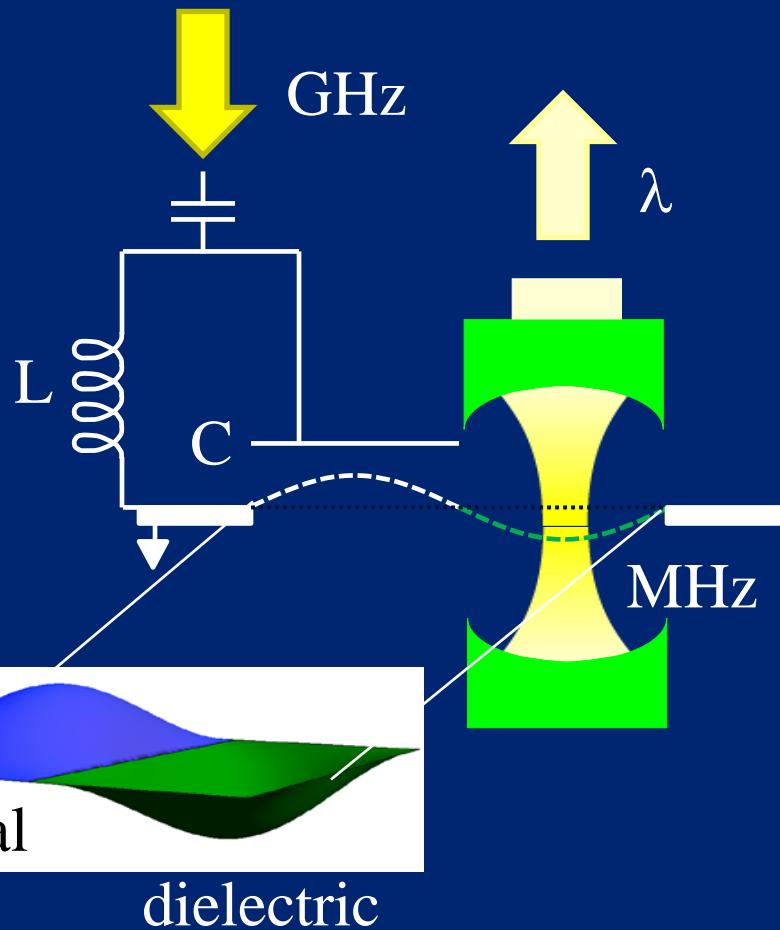
Hofheinz...Martinis, Cleland, Nature (2009)

Microwaves:  
Arbitrary quantum states  
Require ultralow temperatures

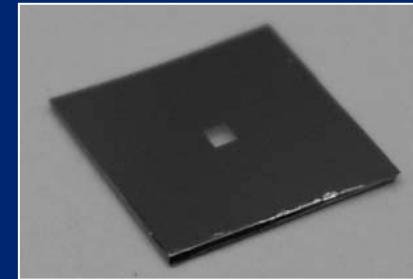
Optics:  
Communication and storage



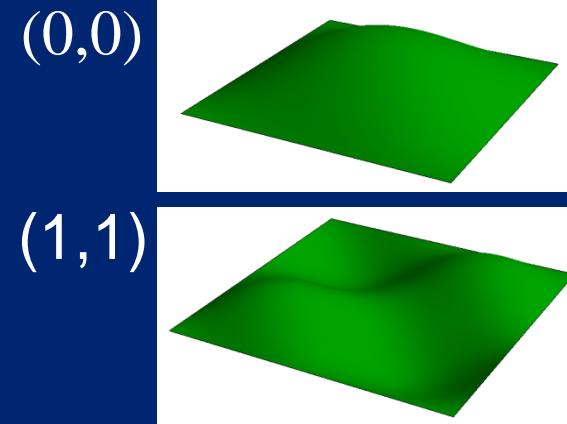
# Ingredients for two cavities coupled to one oscillator



Membrane in free-space cavity  
Superconducting LC circuit



$\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$  membrane



Mechanics and optics  
couple to different antinodes

# Conclusions

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- Measure, cool, and manipulate nanomechanical elements with microwaves
- Optomechanical performance: in quantum regime!
  - cooling: 0.35 phonons
  - imprecision:  $0.83 \times \text{SQL}$
  - force:  $0.5 \text{ aN/Hz}^{1/2}$
- Microwave Mach-Zehnder interferometer
  - quantum efficiency 30%



Funding: NSF, NIST, DARPA QuEST, DARPA QuASR, NASA