NIST on a Chip with Alkali Vapor Cells

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Concept

- Realize fundamental metrological units ([s], [m], [A], [K], etc.) in chip-scale instrument
- Goals: deployable, useable, flexible, manufacturable
- Ultimately: deploy in instruments to enable **in-situ** lifetime SI-traceable calibration



Core Technologies

Atomic spectroscopy





SiN Photonics



Alkali cell fabrication





Realization of SI Units



4+1 of 7 base SI units could be realized at chip-scale with microfabricated alkali vapor cells

Manufacturing and Parallel Fabrication

• To what extent can precision SI-traceable calibration tools be

⊢ Bond **Buffer gas** Alkali atoms

Glass

Silicon

1 mm

Photonically Integrated Alkali Vapor Cells

- Integrate microfabricated alkali vapor cells with single-mode photonics
- Ability to design atomic systems into photonic circuits: high non-linear coefficients, high accuracy, good signal-to-noise ratios





Bond



fabricated using low-cost processes similar to integrated circuits? • Potential impact: an SI-traceable reference in every instrument



Toward Compact Cold Atom Systems

- All cold atom systems: most accurate clocks, sensors made so far require active pumping (ion pumps) for long-term operation
- Large, cumbersome, HV...



- 778 nm transition in Rb: high line Q (109) \Rightarrow better accuracy



Compact spectroscopy module:



3000 6000 9000

time [s]

10³

10

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10²

averaging time [s]

10'

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