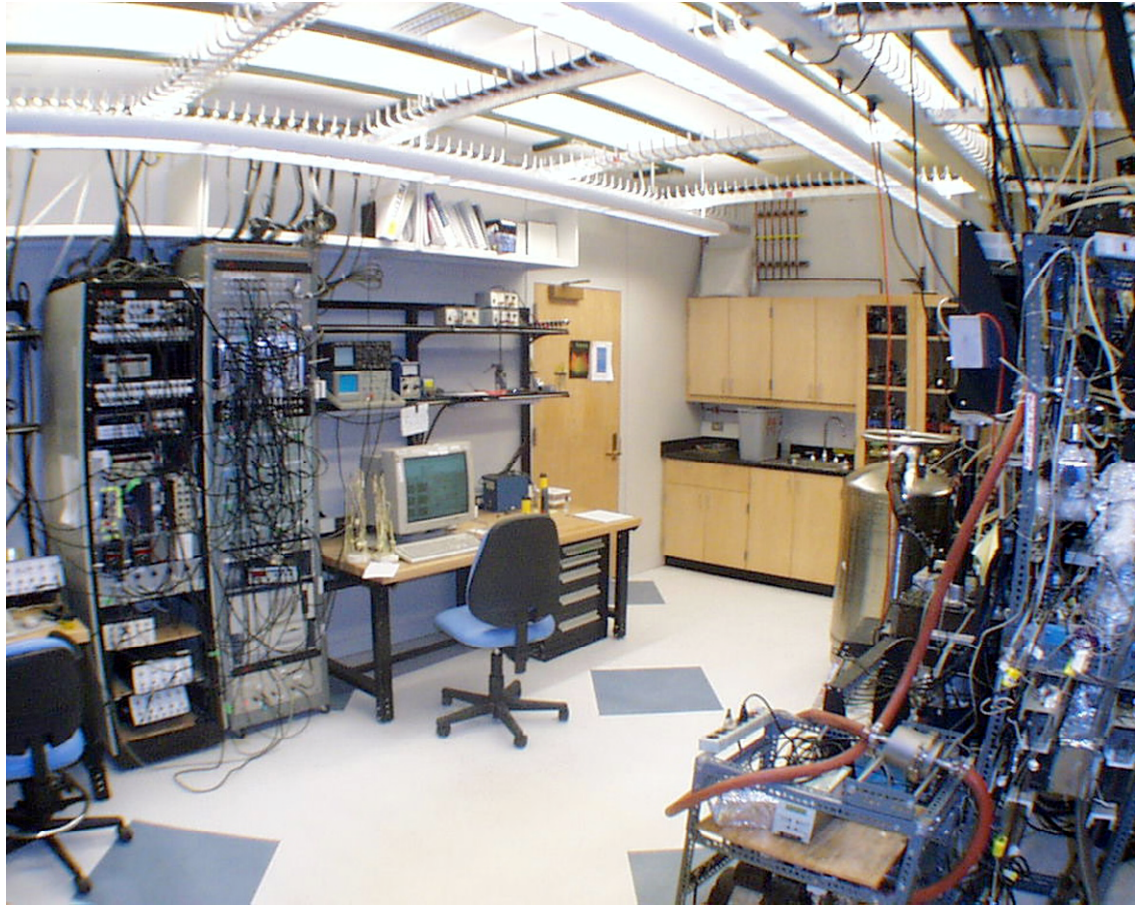


Ketterle Laboratory, MIT Center for Ultracold Atoms (Building 26)

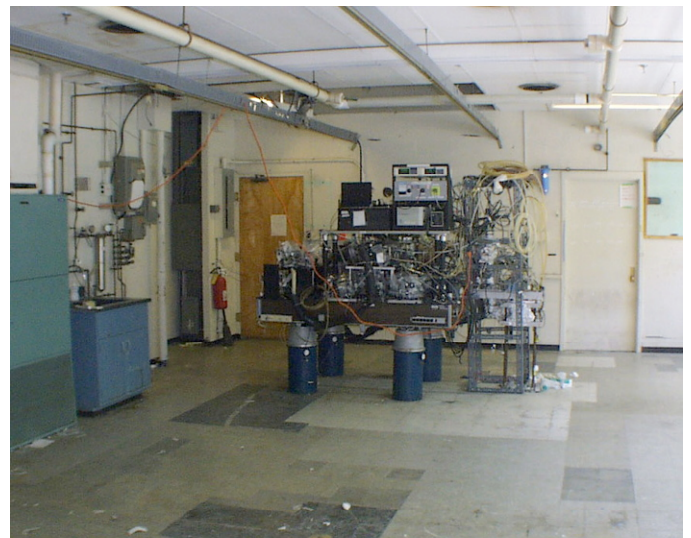


Wolfgang Ketterle's research activities focus on dense samples of ultracold atoms. Ketterle was among the first to observe and study Bose-Einstein condensate – a fourth state of matter that forms at extremely low temperatures (only fractions of a degree above absolute zero Kelvin).

In designing a lab for cutting edge physics research, we concentrated on flexibility. Services are located at the ceiling, so that experiments can be easily reconfigured. A network of trays allows cables and hoses to be relocated as needed, and a demountable partition allows two lab spaces to be combined.

Dimensionally stable optics tables provide experiment surfaces isolated from building vibrations. A heat exchanger provides high-pressure and low-pressure secondary chilled water.

Minimizing on-site construction time was critical, in order that Ketterle's research not fall behind that of competitive colleagues. The lab was gutted and reconstructed within four weeks.



Before renovation

Wolfgang Ketterle received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2001.
Completed 1999.