

Antiferromagnetic textures imaged by probing thermally excited spin waves

Aurore Finco

Laboratoire Charles Coulomb
Team Solid-State Quantum Technologies (S2QT)

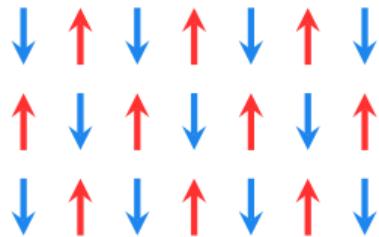
CNRS and Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France



Magnonics 2022, August 1st

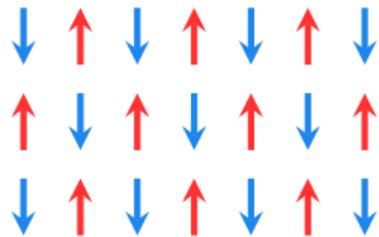
slides available at <https://magimag.eu>

Investigation of antiferromagnets



Alternating magnetic moments

Investigation of antiferromagnets



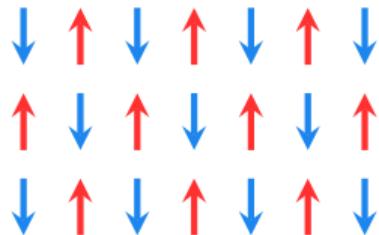
Alternating magnetic moments

- **Spintronics:** robust, fast, efficient

■ T. Jungwirth *et al.* *Nature Nanotechnology* 11 (2016), 231–241

■ V. Baltz *et al.* *Reviews of Modern Physics* 90 (2018)

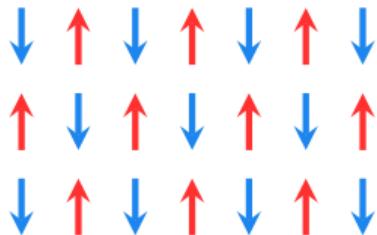
Investigation of antiferromagnets



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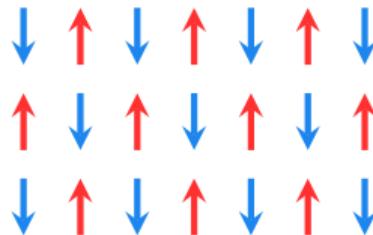
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Investigation of antiferromagnets



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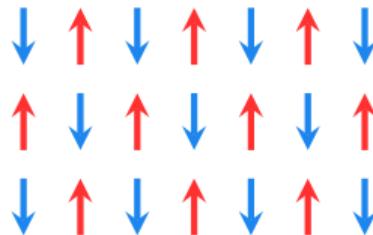


No net magnetization

Weak signals

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Investigation of antiferromagnets



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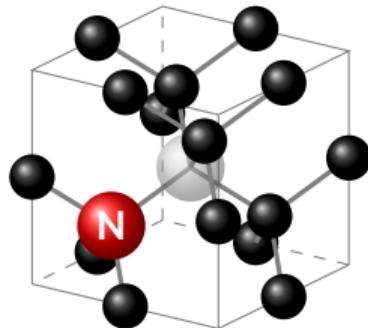
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→ Antiferromagnetic structures are difficult to image!

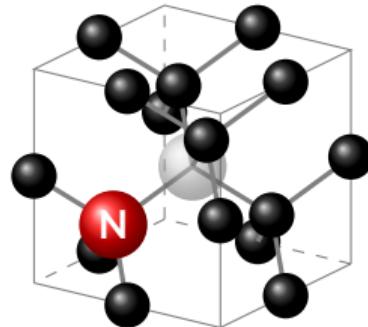
▣ S.-W. Cheong et al. *npj Quantum Materials* 5 (2020), 1-10

NV centers as magnetic field sensors



Nitrogen-Vacancy defect
in diamond

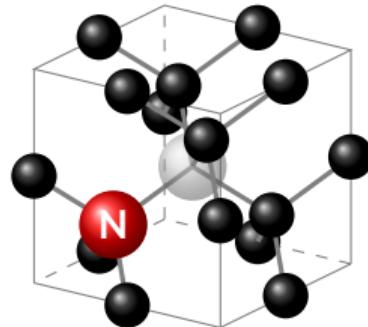
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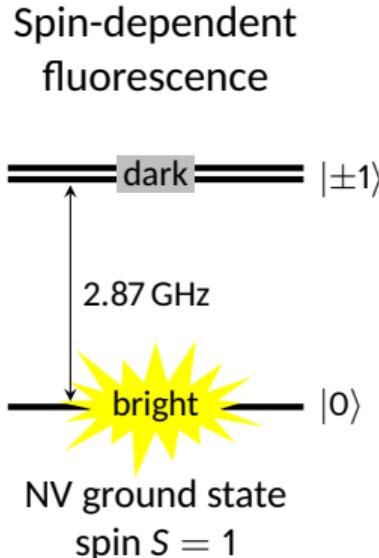
- Optical manipulation and reading
- Ambient conditions

NV centers as magnetic field sensors

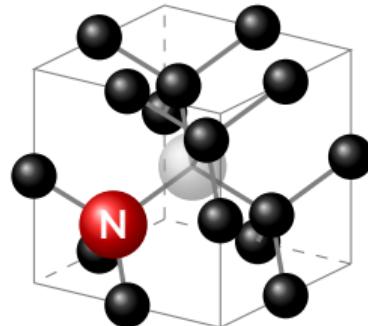


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Spin-dependent
fluorescence

dark $|\pm 1\rangle$

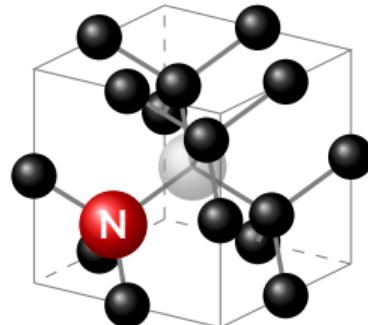
2.87 GHz

bright $|0\rangle$

NV ground state
spin $S = 1$

green laser
excitation
NV polarized
in $|0\rangle$

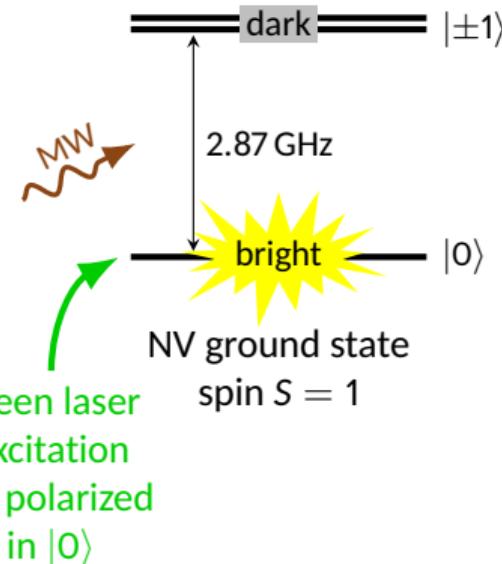
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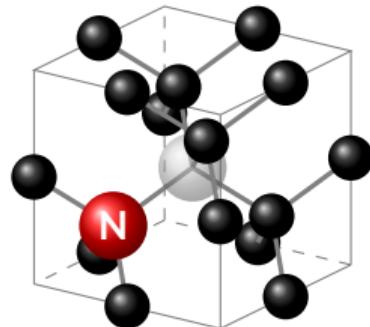
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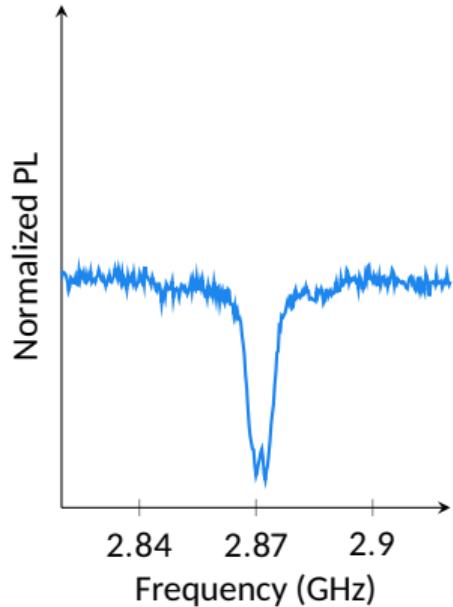
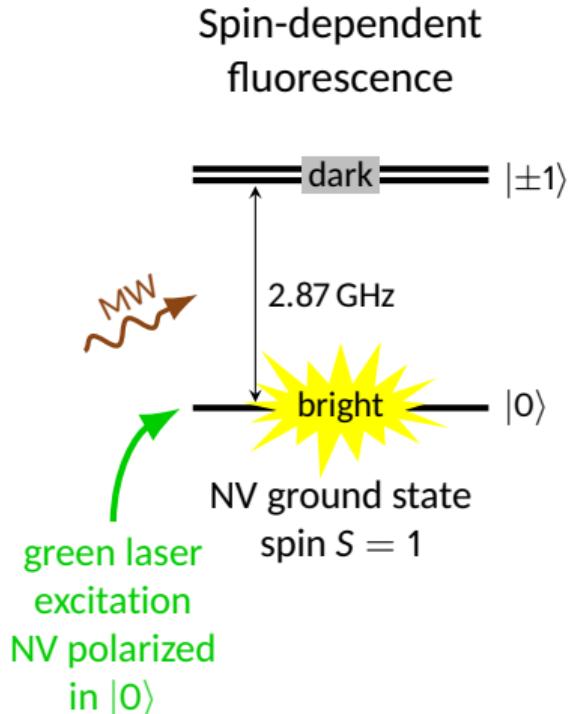


NV centers as magnetic field sensors

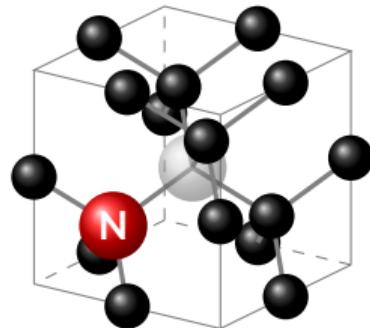


Nitrogen-Vacancy defect
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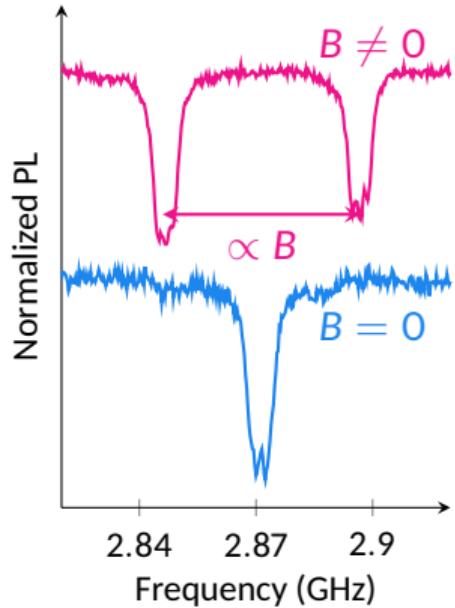
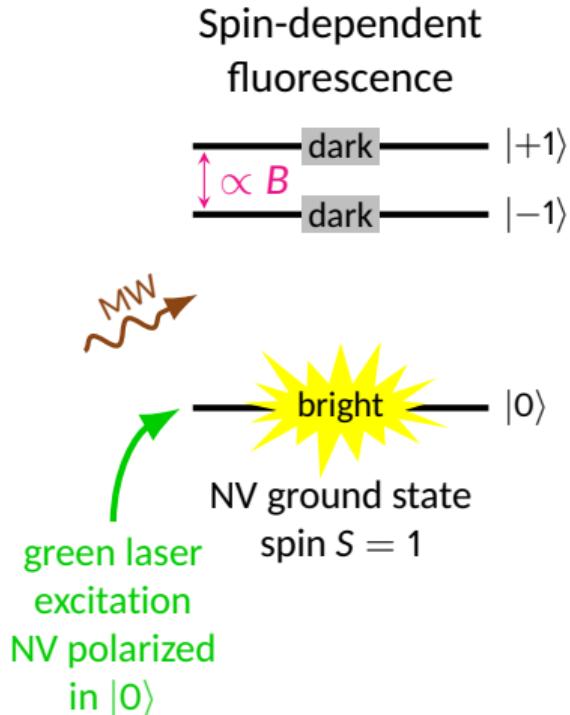


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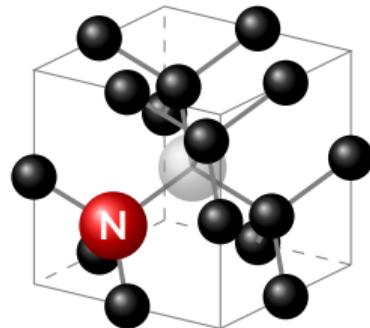


Nitrogen-Vacancy defect
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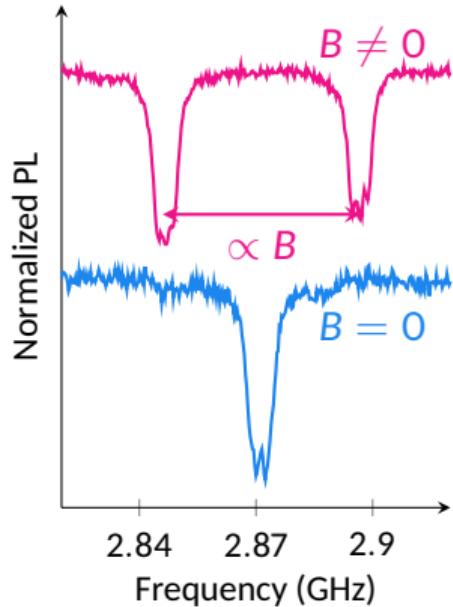
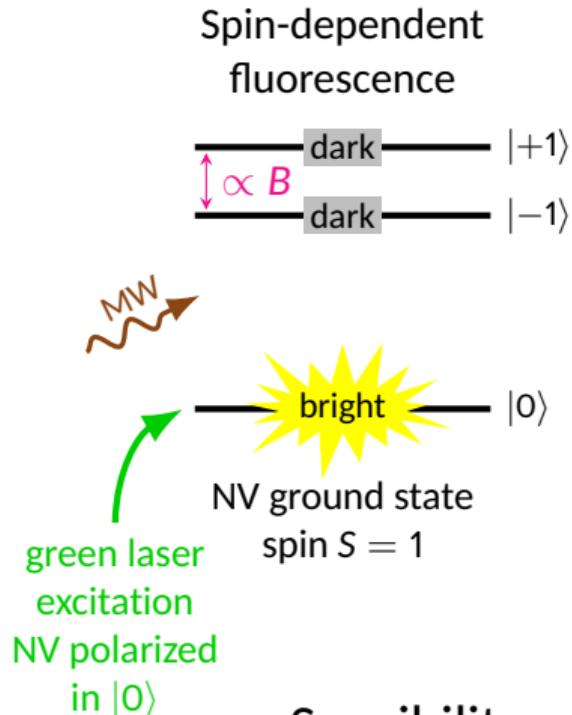


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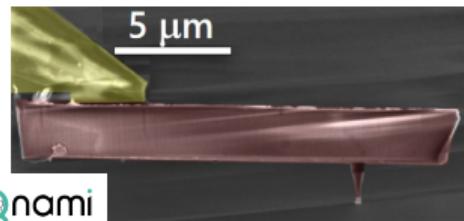


Sensibility: a few $\mu\text{T}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

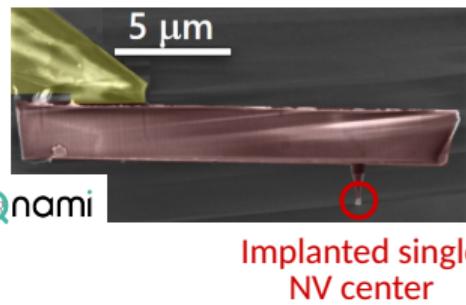
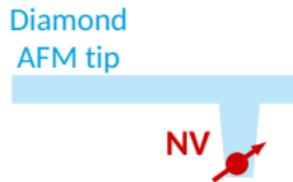
Probing of resonant excited spin waves

Scanning NV center microscopy

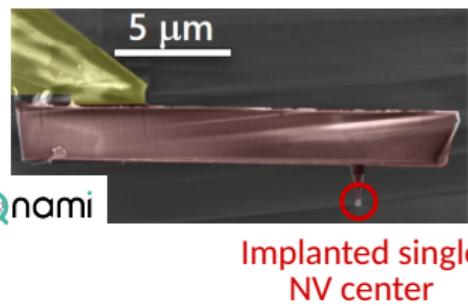
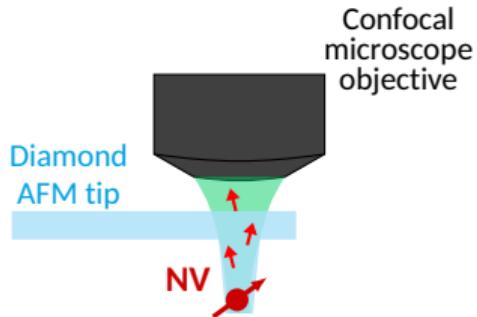
Diamond
AFM tip



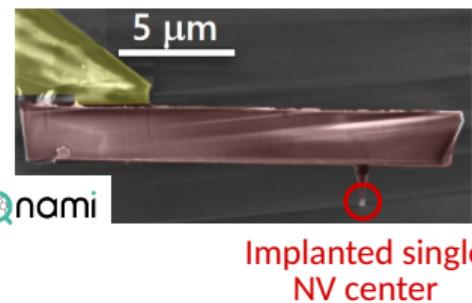
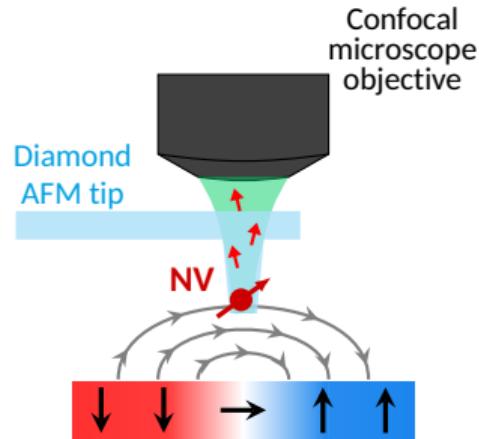
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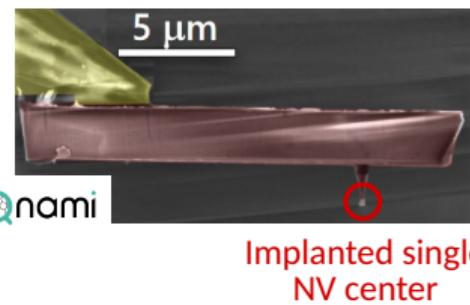
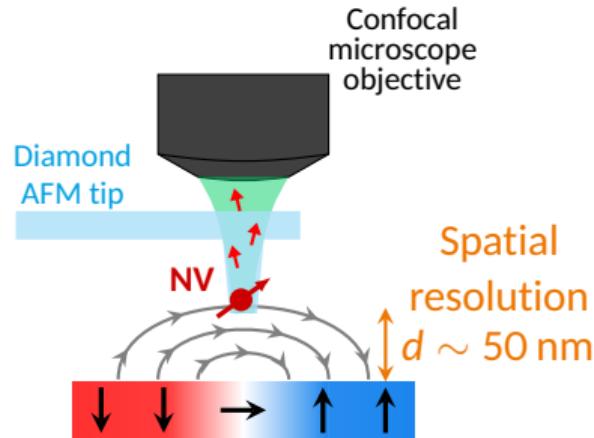
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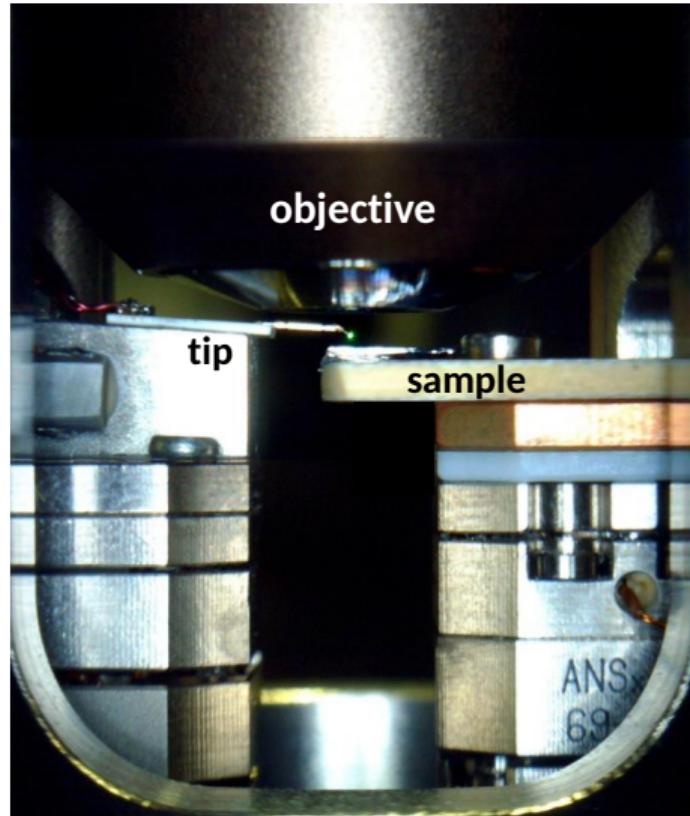
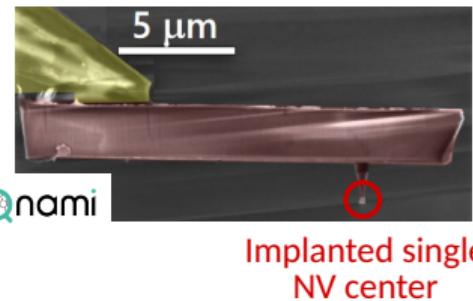
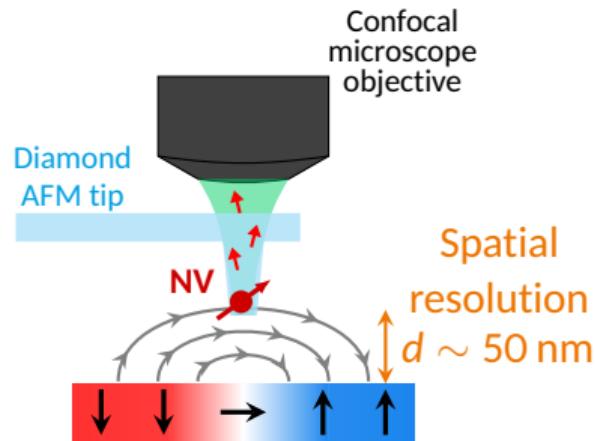
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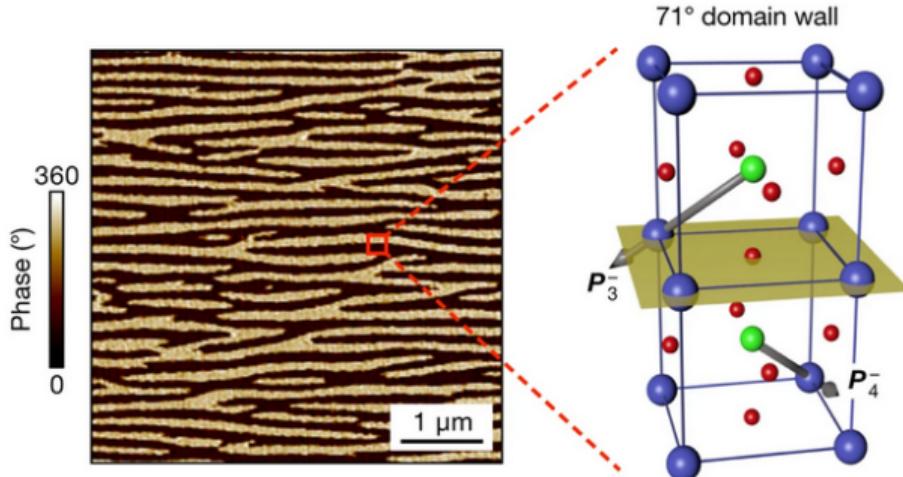
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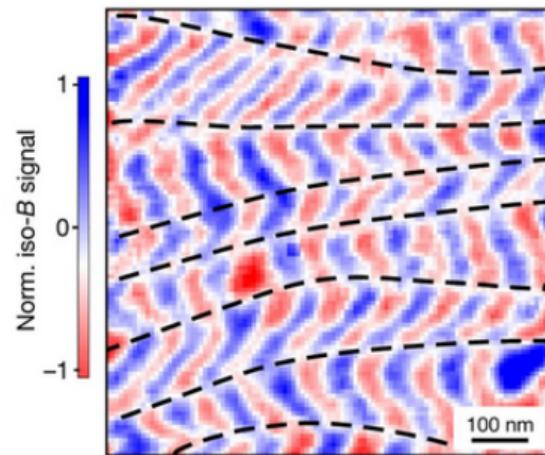
Quantitative imaging of canted antiferromagnetic textures

Example: antiferromagnetic cycloid in the multiferroic BiFeO_3

PFM image
Ferroelectric domains



NV magnetic image
Alternating cycloid propagation direction



Collaboration UMR CNRS/Thales: V. Garcia, S. Fusil

THALES

I. Gross et al. *Nature* 549 (2017), 252–256

Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

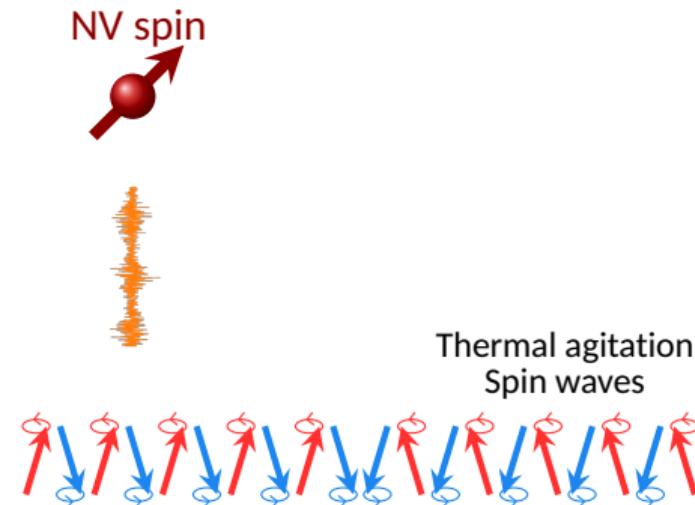
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- Completely compensated antiferromagnets = **no static stray field** to probe
- But NV centers are also sensitive to **magnetic noise!**
- Use the different noise properties above domains and domain walls for imaging

Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

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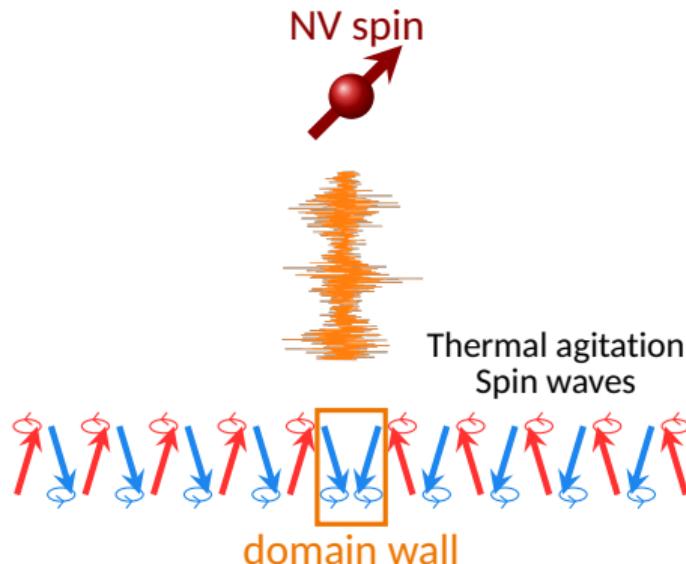
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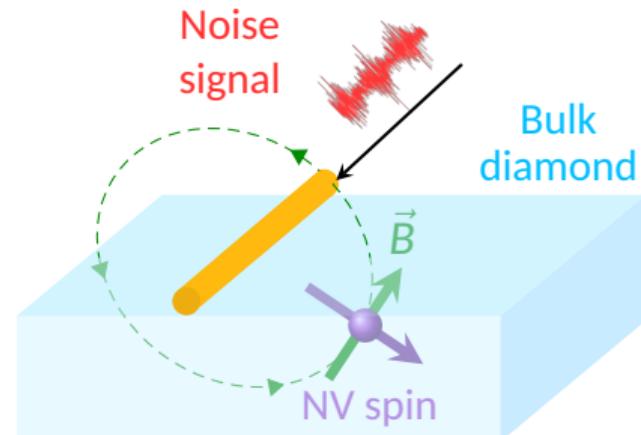
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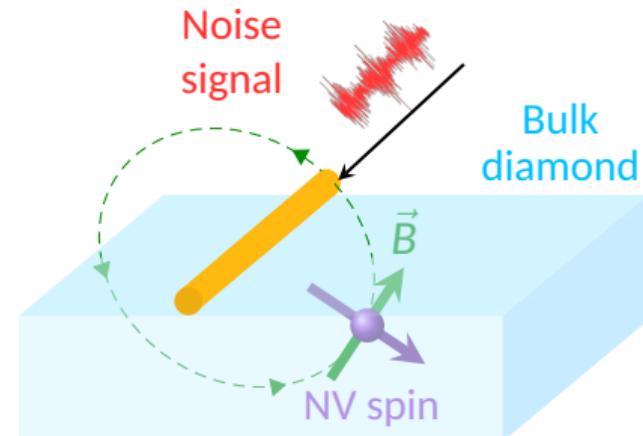


Other approach: relaxometry to probe magnetic noise

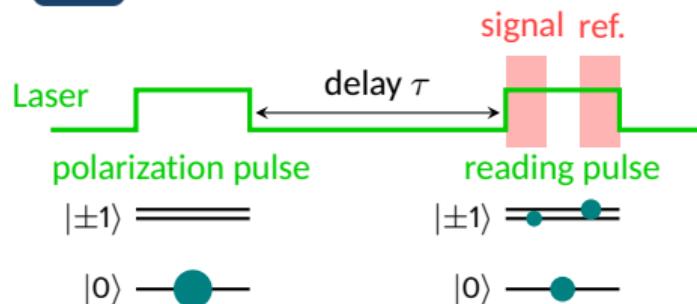


Collaboration C2N: T. Devolder

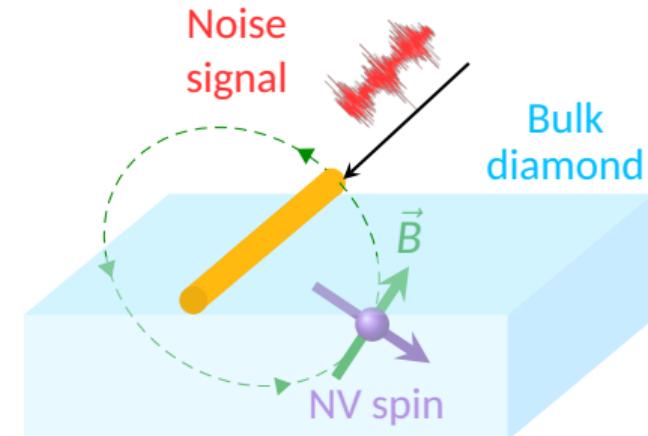
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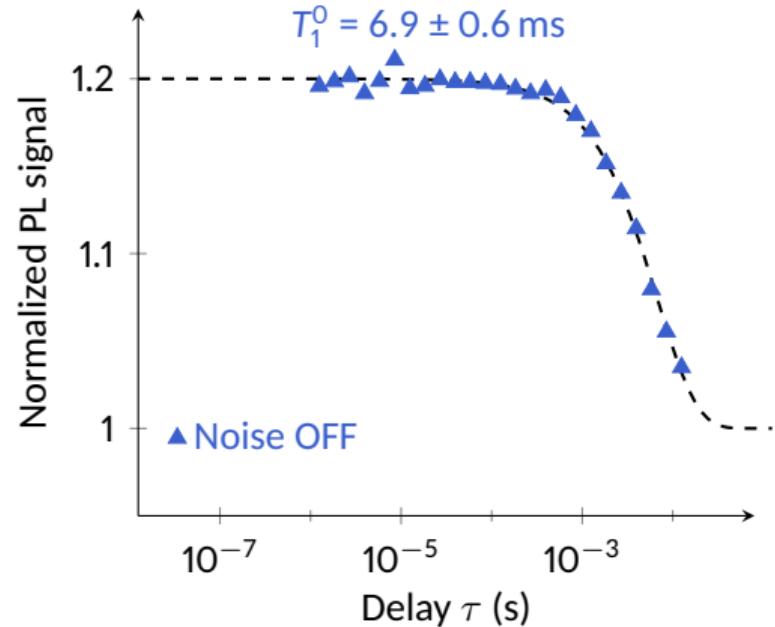
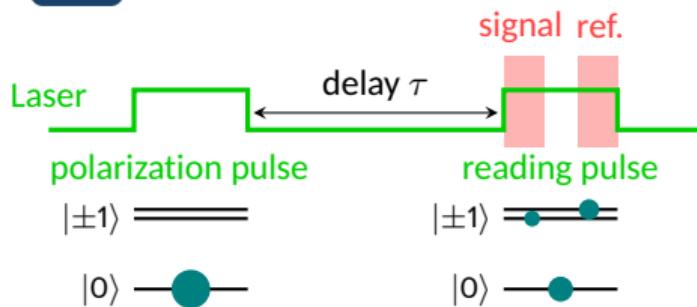
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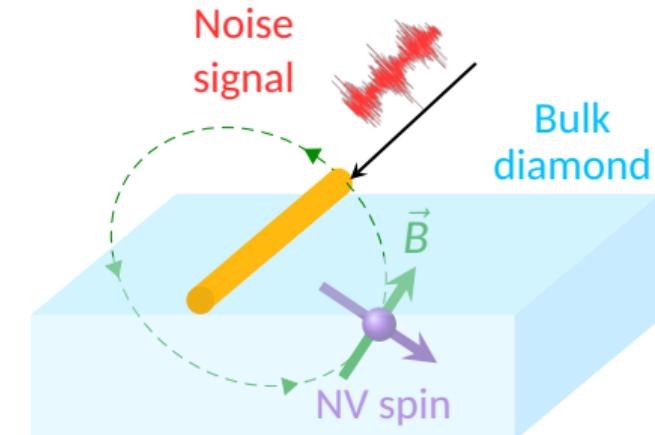
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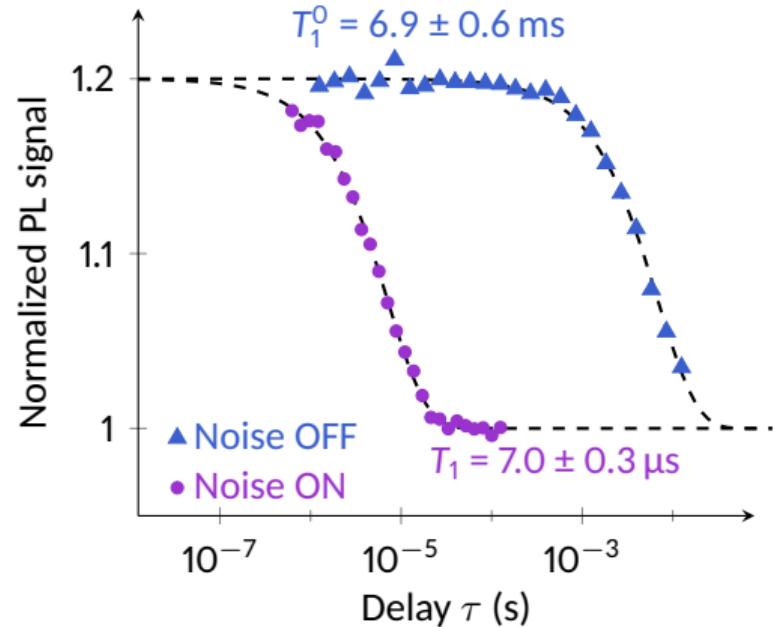
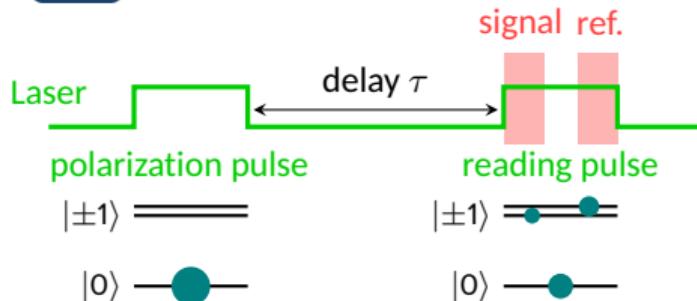
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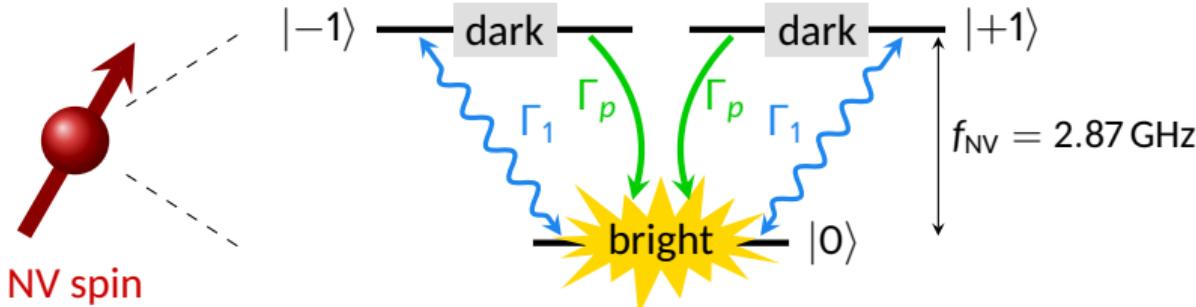


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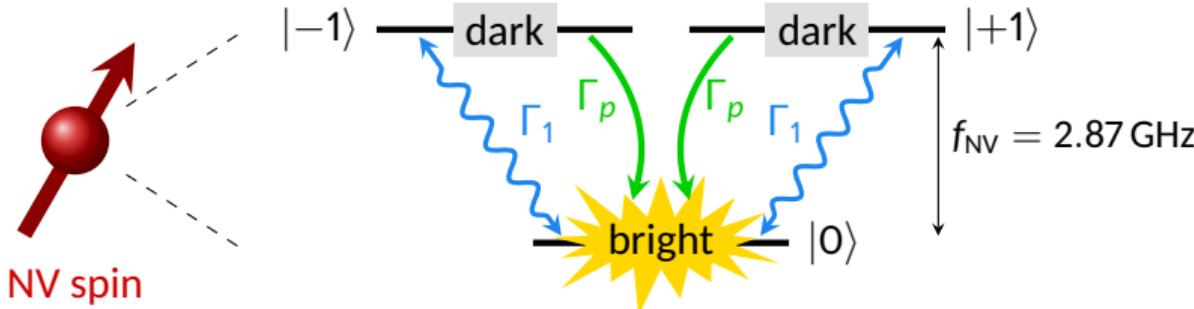
Noise spectrum centered
at the NV transition frequency

Effect on the emitted photoluminescence

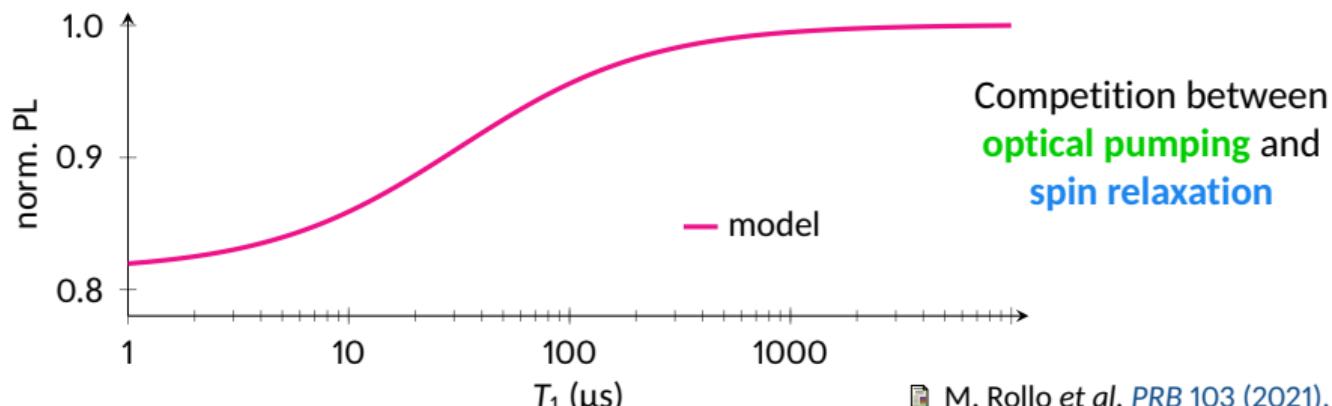


Relaxation rate $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$ magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency f_{NV}

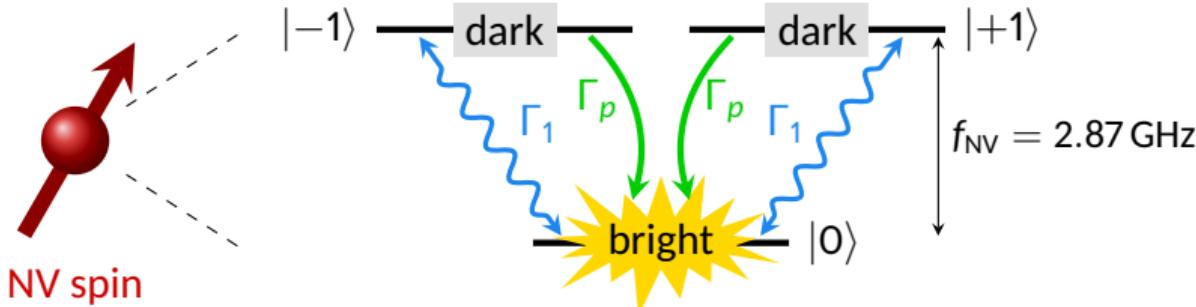
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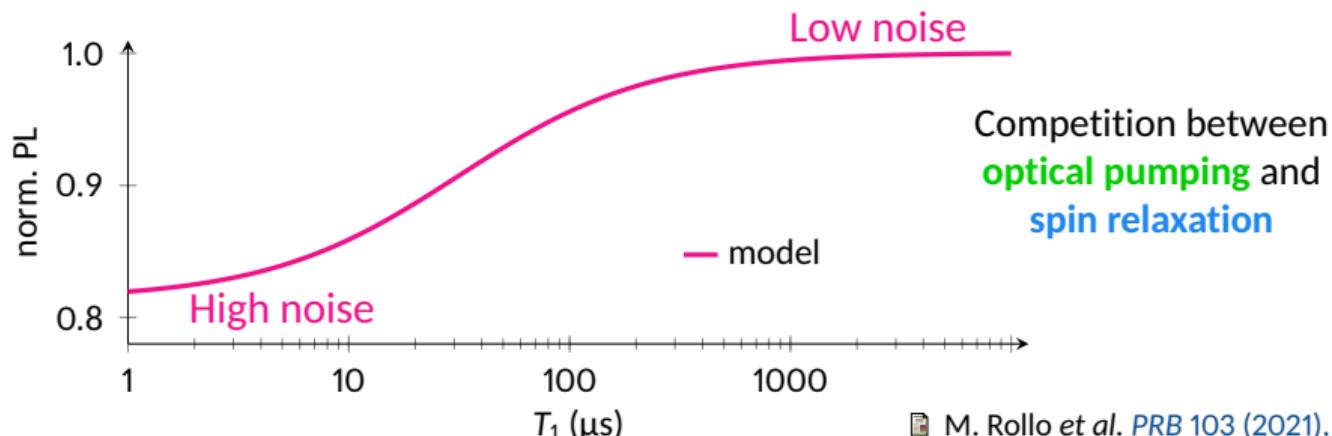
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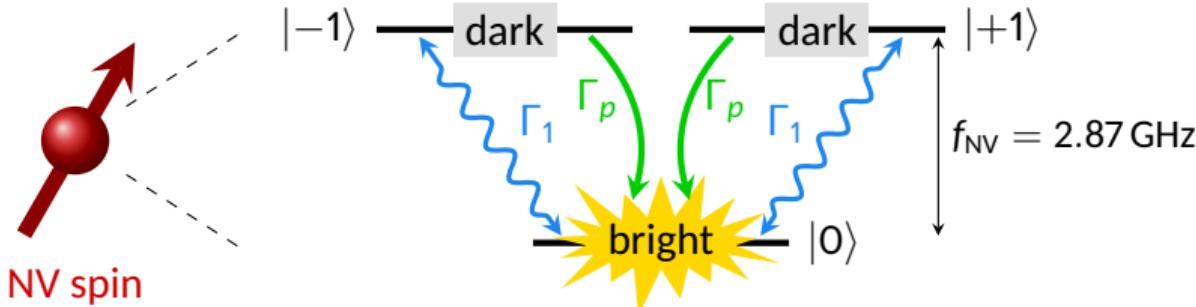
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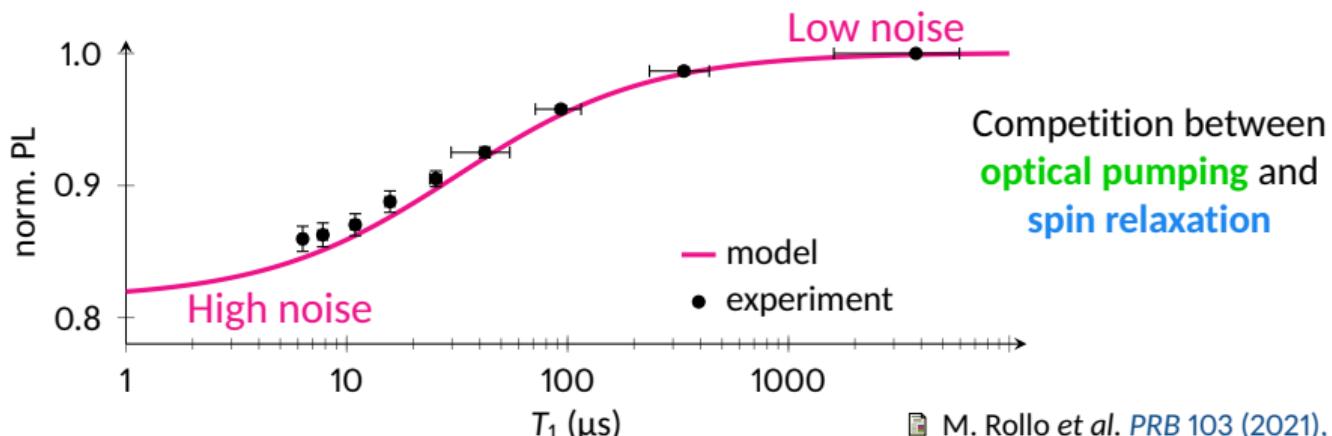
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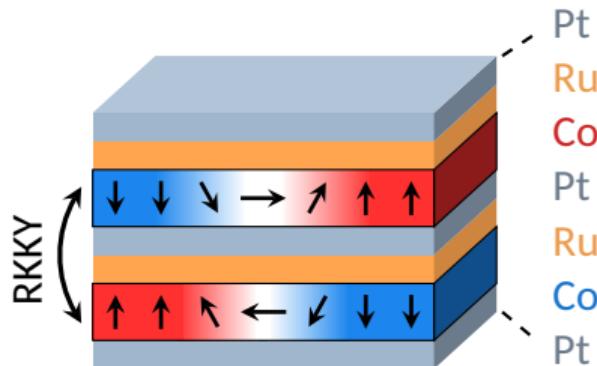


Imaging of synthetic antiferromagnets

Collaboration UMR CNRS/Thales: William Legrand, Fernando Ajejas, Karim Bouzehouane,
Nicolas Reyren, Vincent Cros



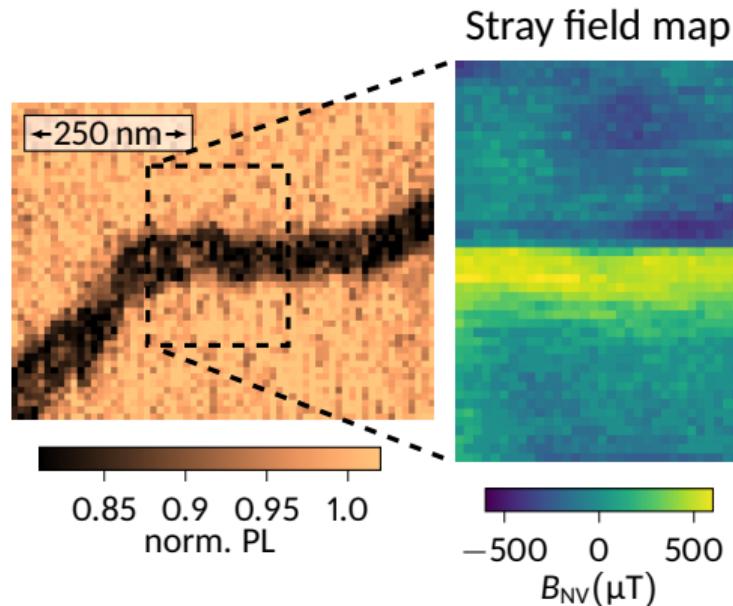
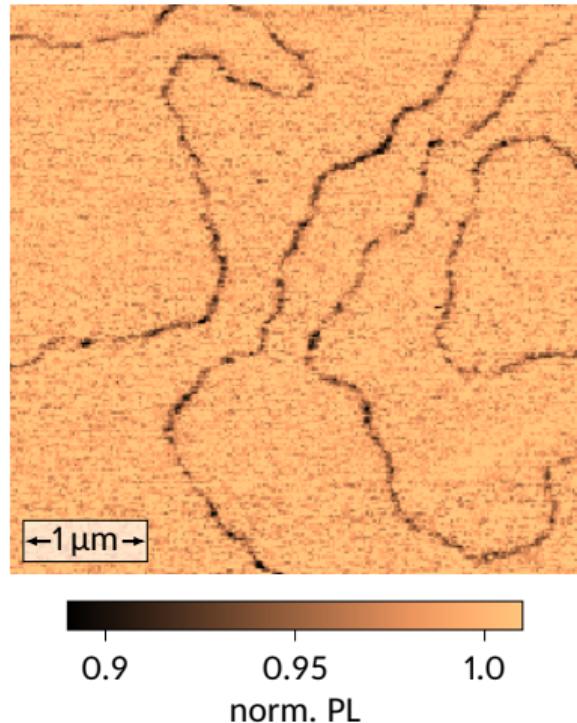
Two **ferromagnetic** layers coupled **antiferromagnetically**



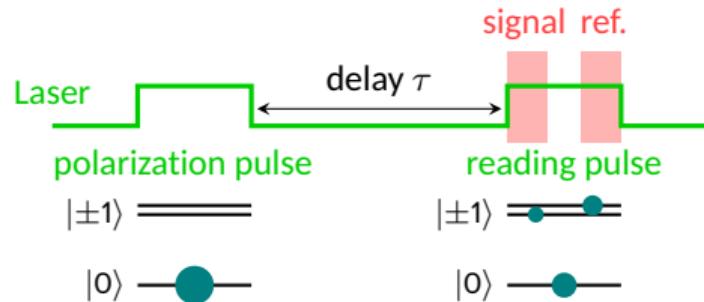
- No net magnetic moment
- Compensation of dipolar effects
→ small skyrmions
- No skyrmion Hall effect
- Small stray field due to vertical spacing
→ test system for noise imaging

W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

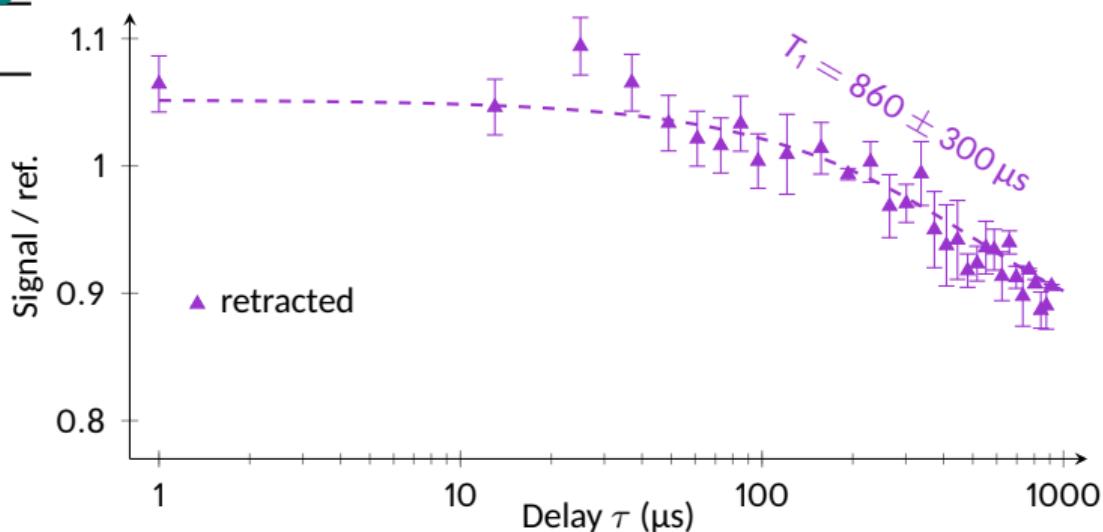
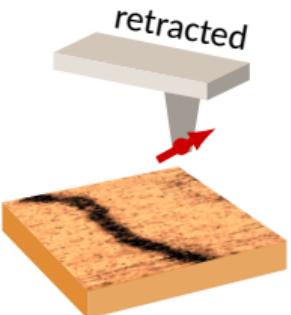
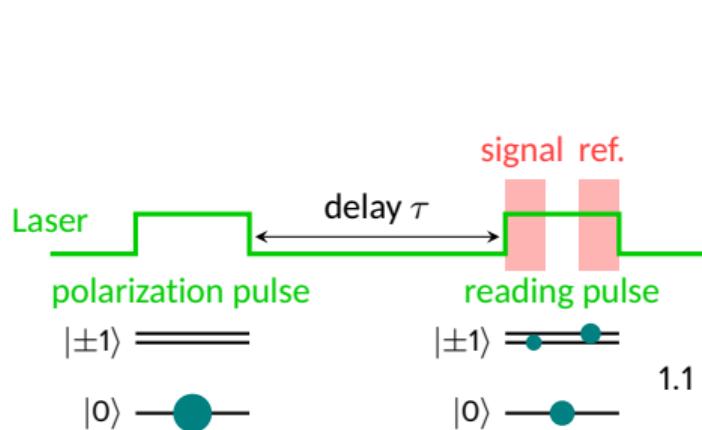
Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



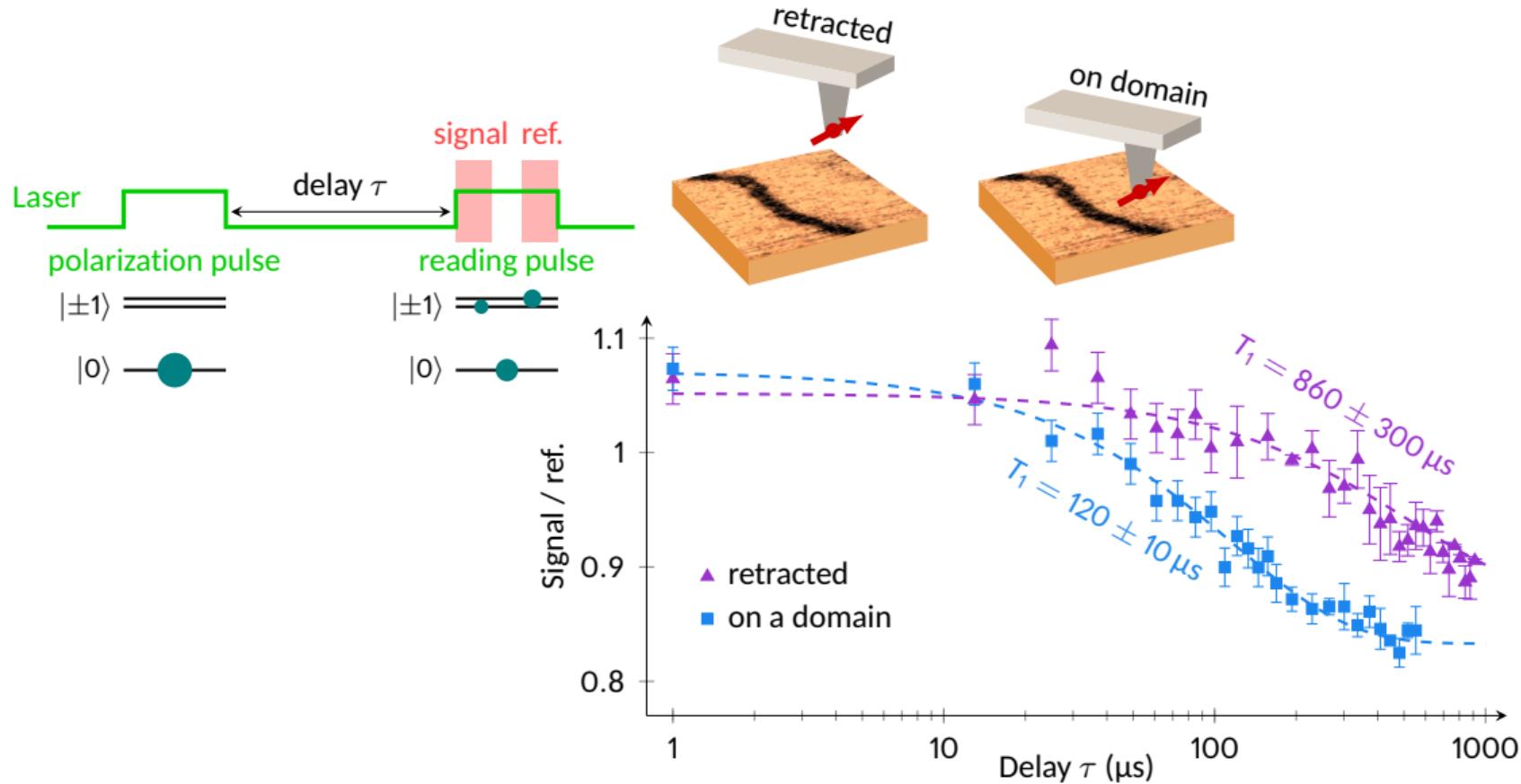
Local variation of the relaxation time



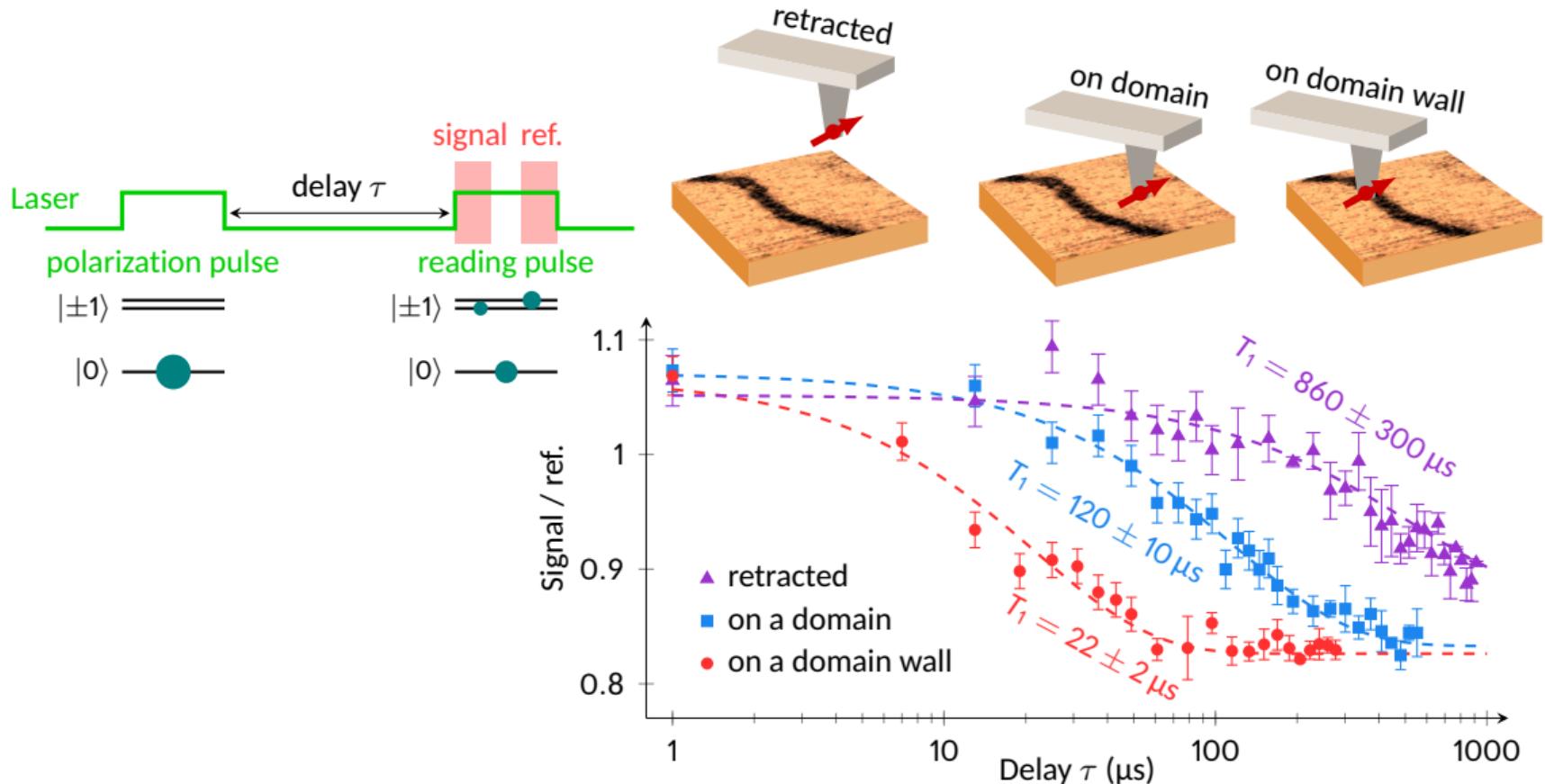
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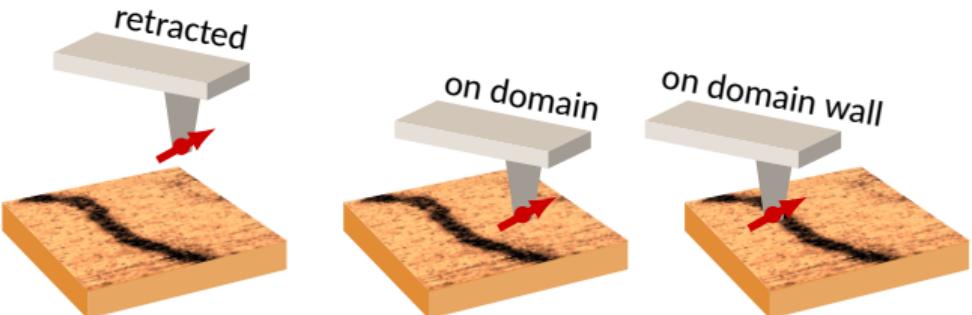
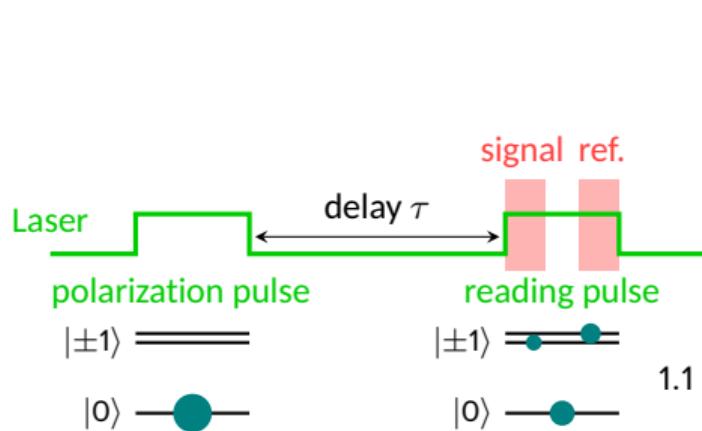
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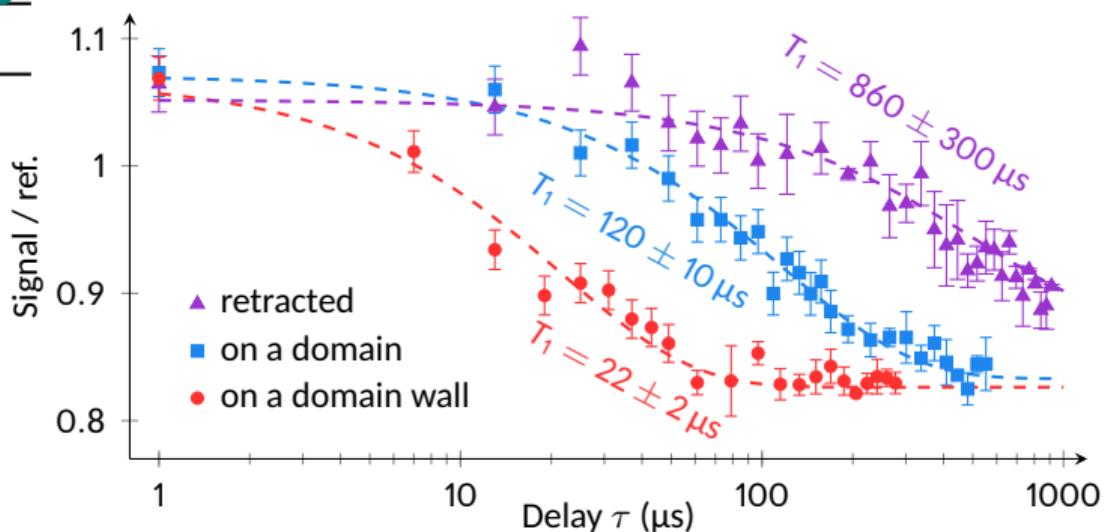


Local variation of the relaxation time



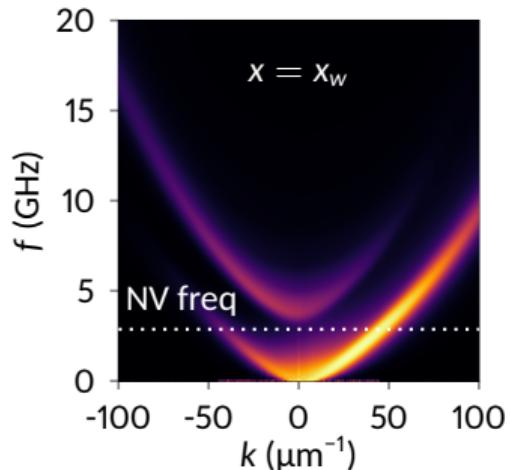
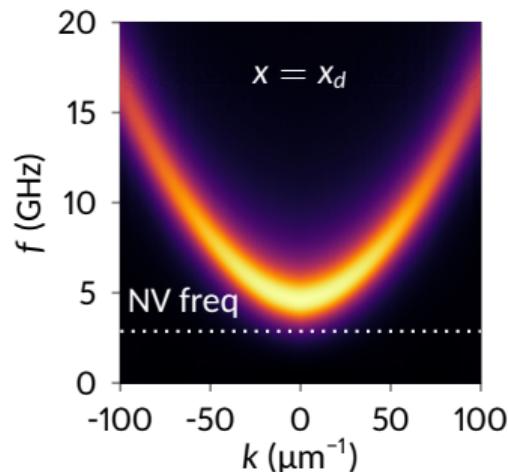
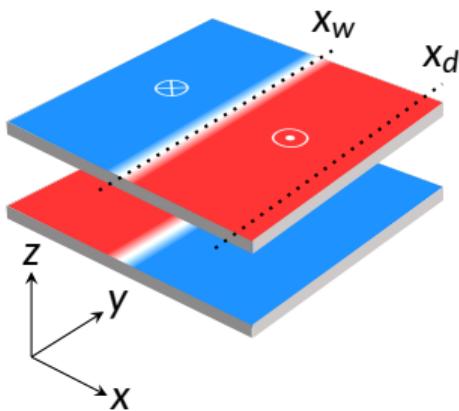
Clear diminution of T_1

→ Enhancement of the
spin relaxation



Origin of the noise: spin waves

Collaboration C2N: Jean-Paul Adam, Joo-Von Kim



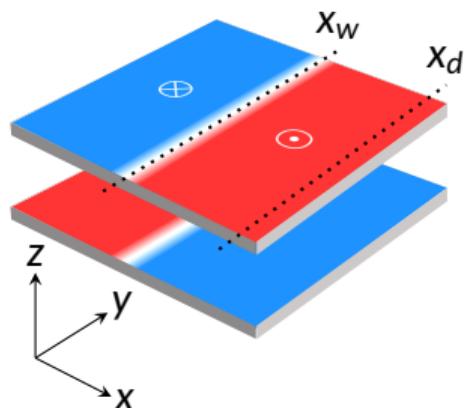
- NV frequency slightly below the gap, in the tail of power spectral density, which is the reason why we detect some noise when approaching the tip.
- No gap in the domain walls, presence of modes at the NV frequency: **the NV center is more sensitive to the noise from the walls!**

Origin of the noise: spin waves

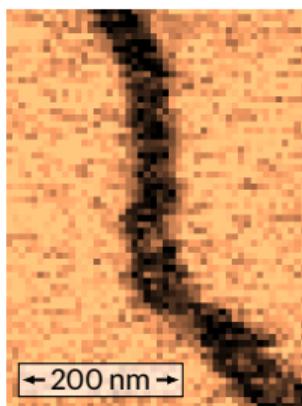
Collaboration C2N: Jean-Paul Adam, Joo-Von Kim



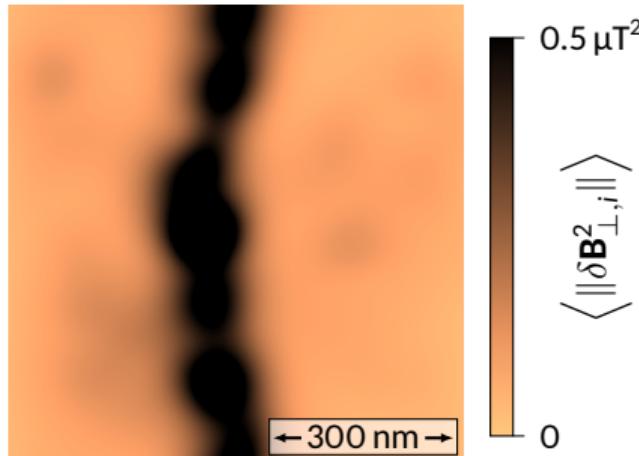
Exp.



norm. PL

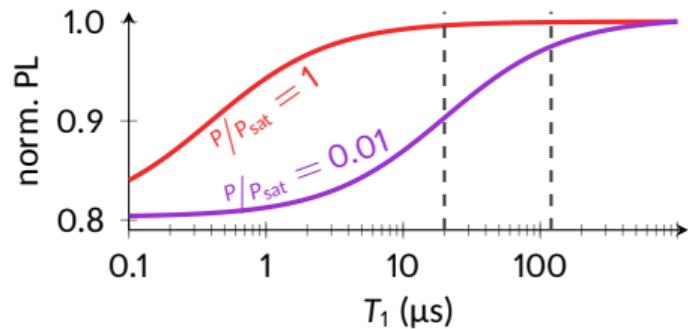


Calc.

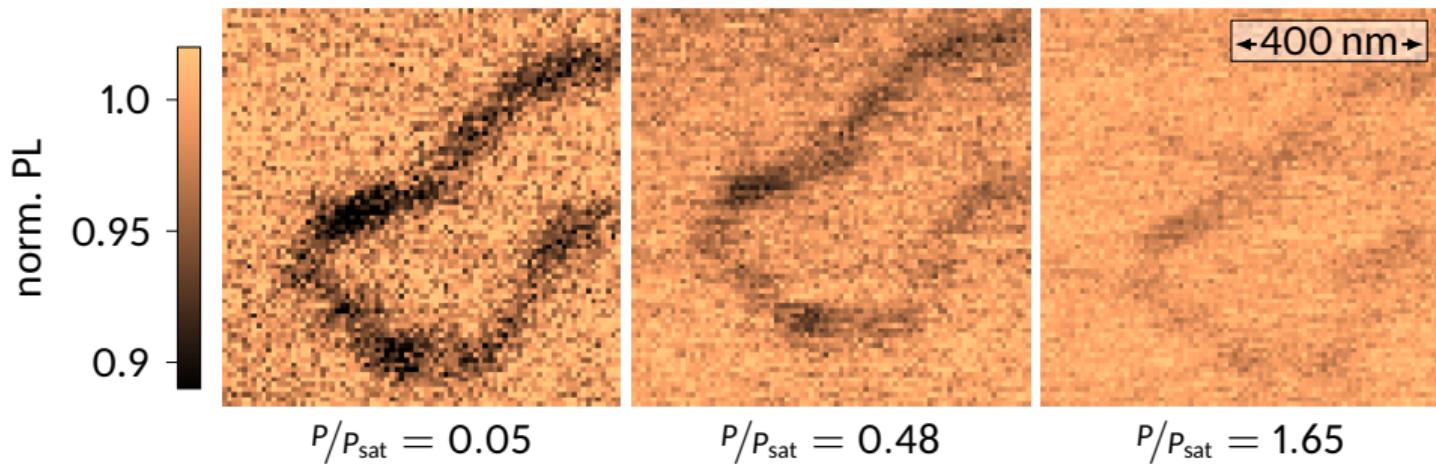
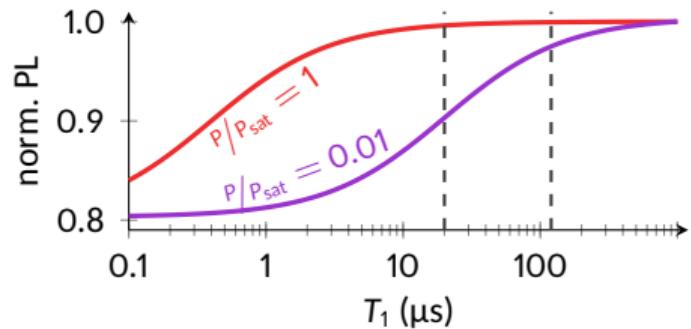


- NV frequency slightly below the gap, in the tail of power spectral density, which is the reason why we detect some noise when approaching the tip.
- No gap in the domain walls, presence of modes at the NV frequency: **the NV center is more sensitive to the noise from the walls!**

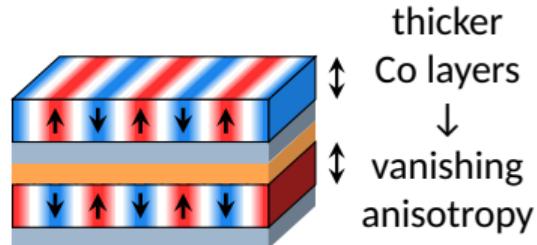
Dependence on the optical power



Dependence on the optical power

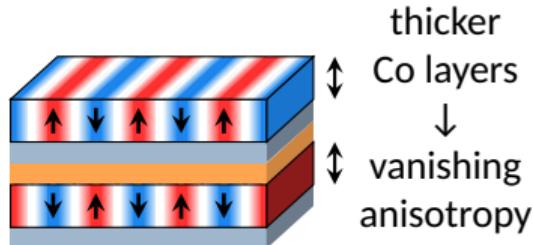


Imaging a spin spiral

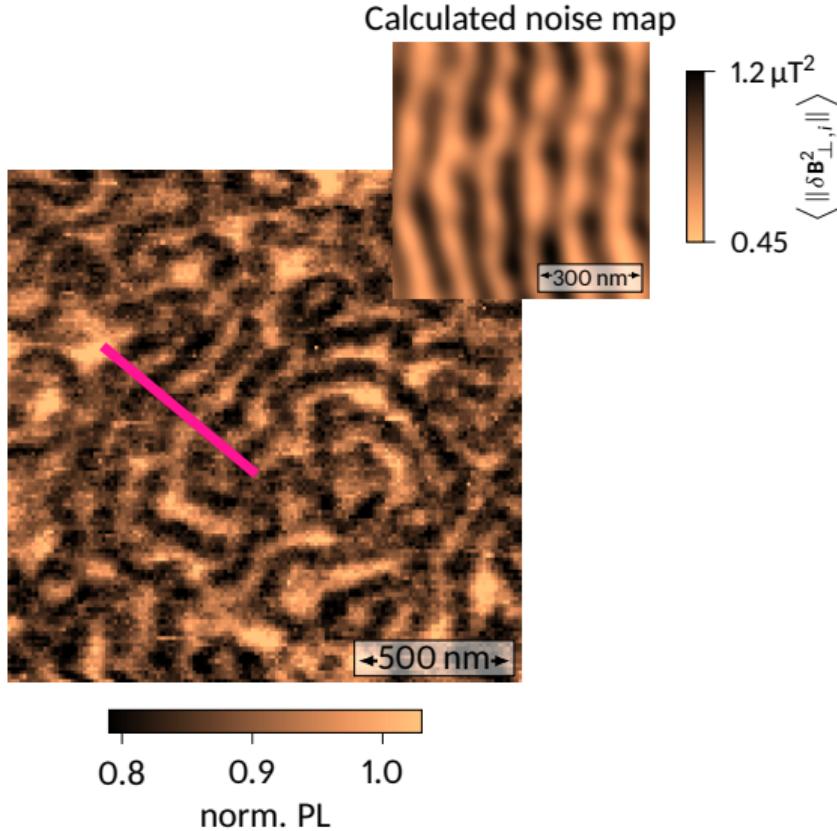
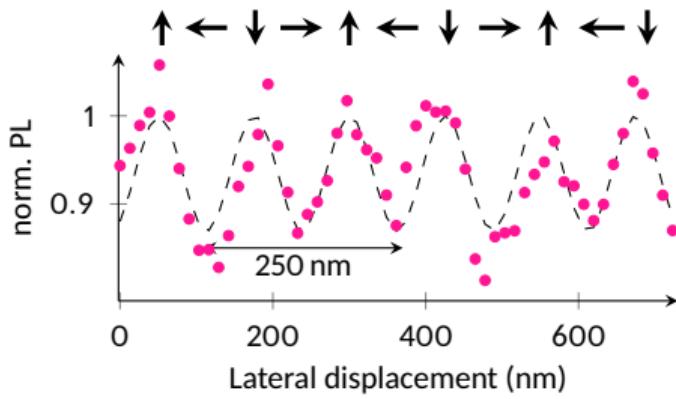


W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

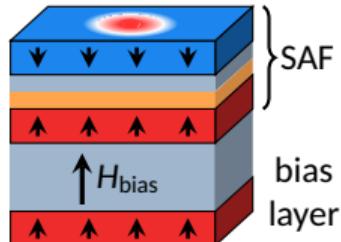
Imaging a spin spiral



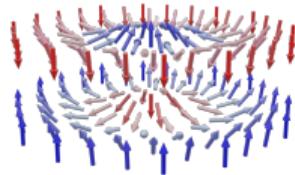
W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



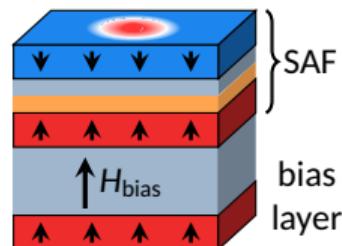
Skyrmions stabilized by a bias layer



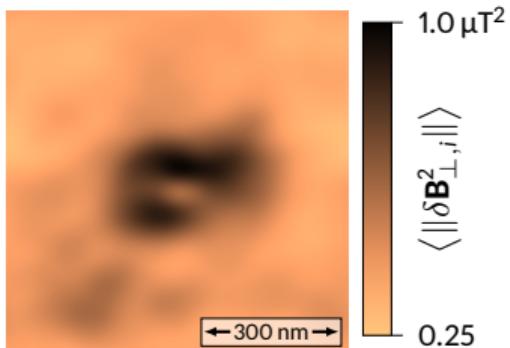
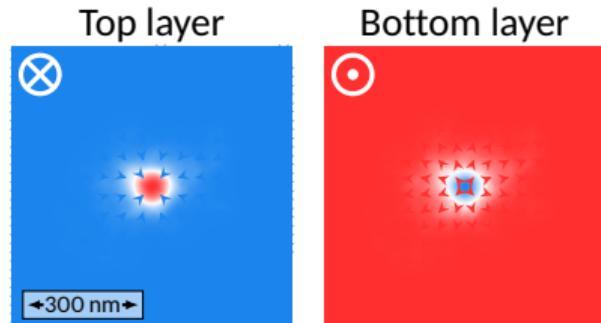
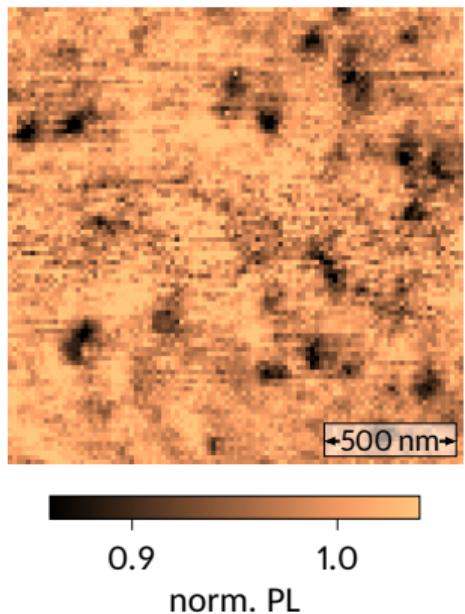
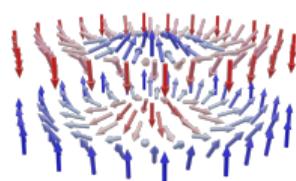
■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



Skyrmions stabilized by a bias layer



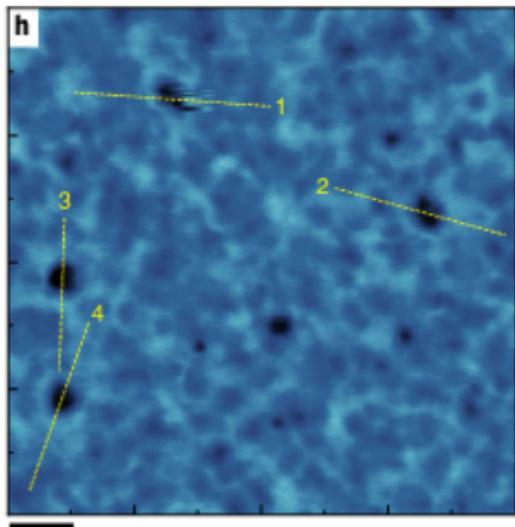
■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



We are not probing the internal modes but the scattering of spin waves on the skyrmions

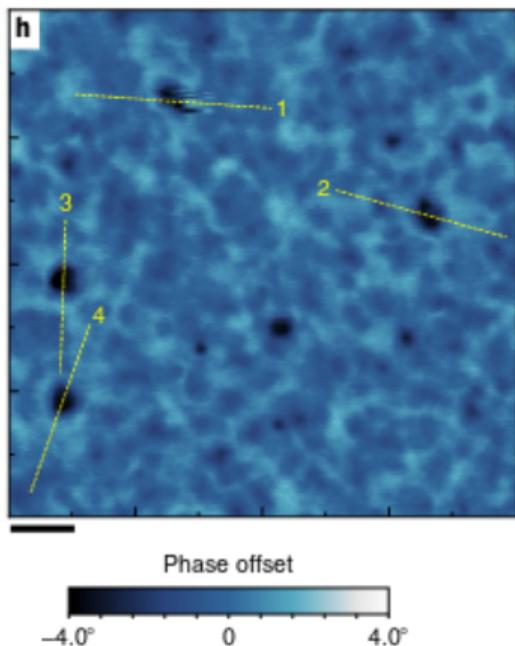
Are these really skyrmions?

MFM under oop field 110 mT

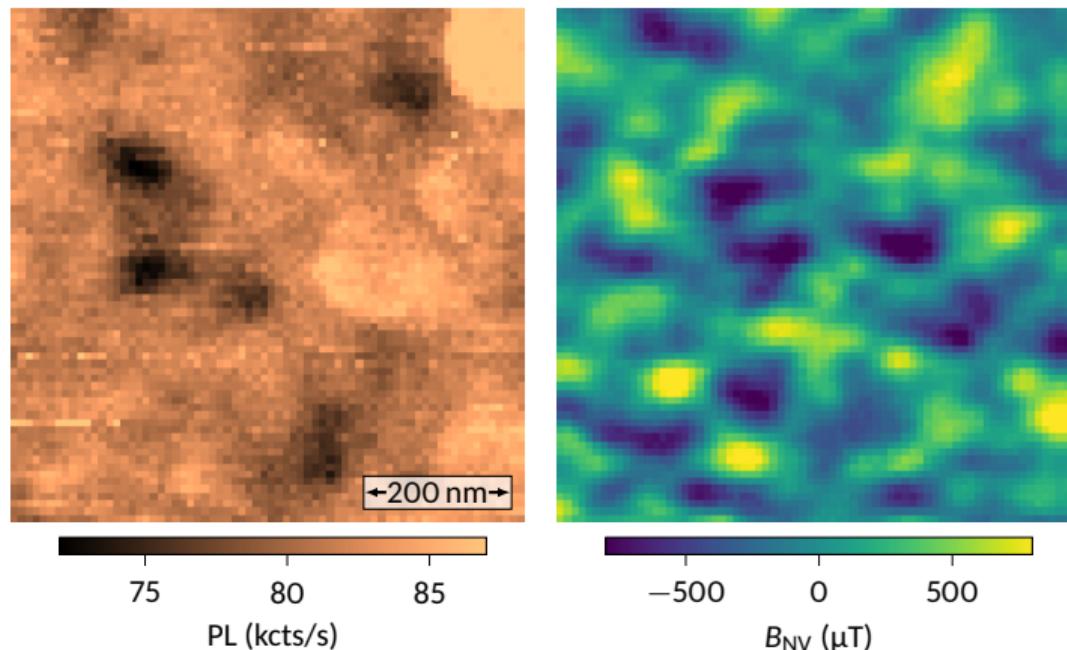


Are these really skyrmions?

MFM under oop field 110 mT



NV images (zero field)

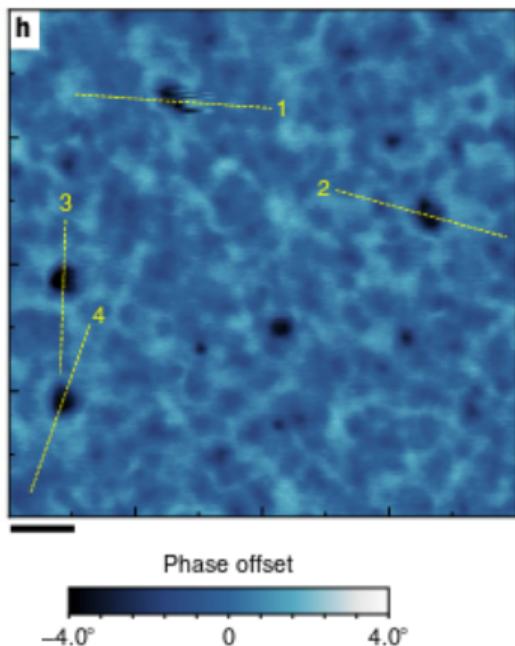


W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

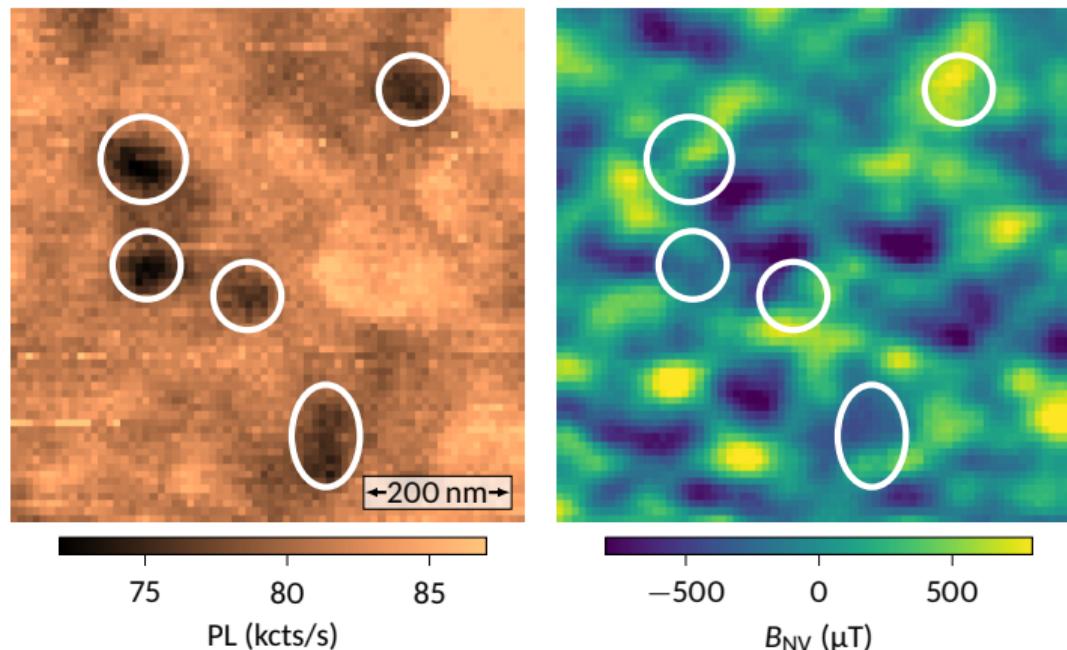
Large background fluctuations (roughness of the film)

Are these really skyrmions?

MFM under oop field 110 mT



NV images (zero field)

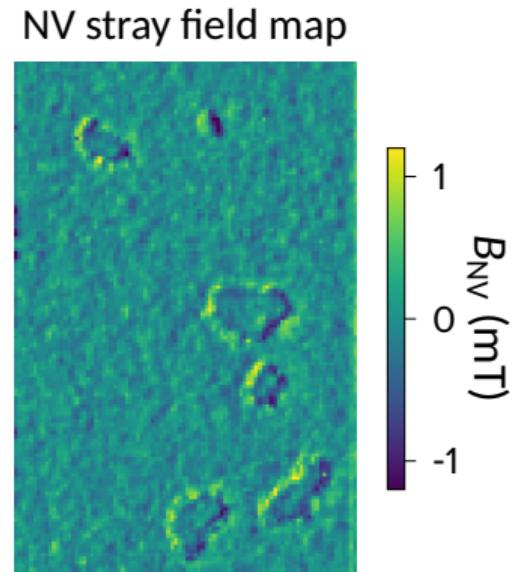
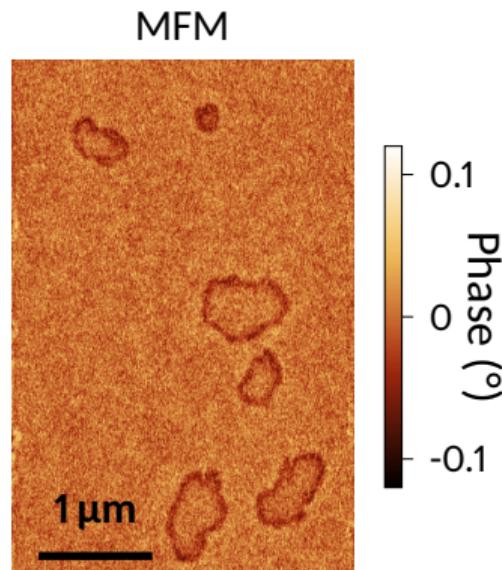


W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

Large background fluctuations (roughness of the film)

Stabilization by pinning in SAF without bias layer

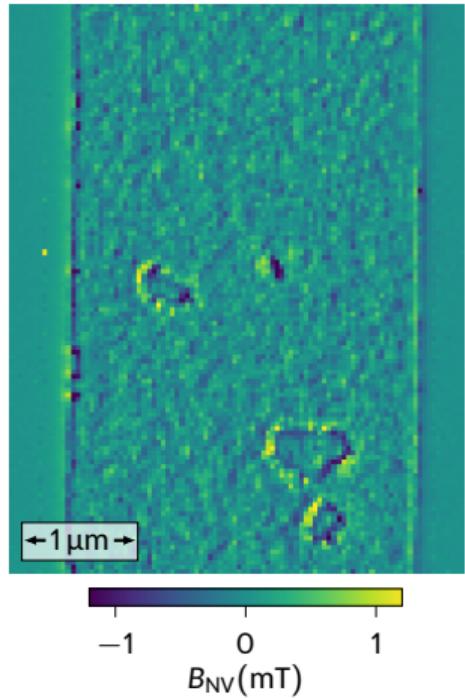
- Similar samples without bias layer
- Opp field of about 150 mT applied



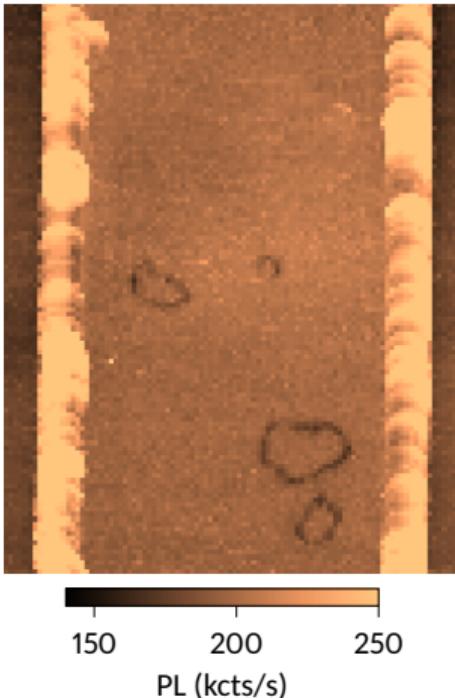
Van-Tuong Pham
Olivier Boulle

Combined magnetic stray field/magnetic noise imaging

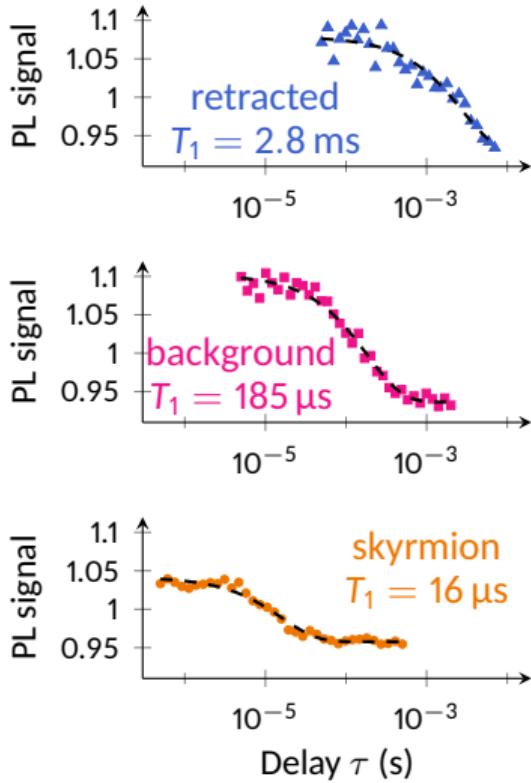
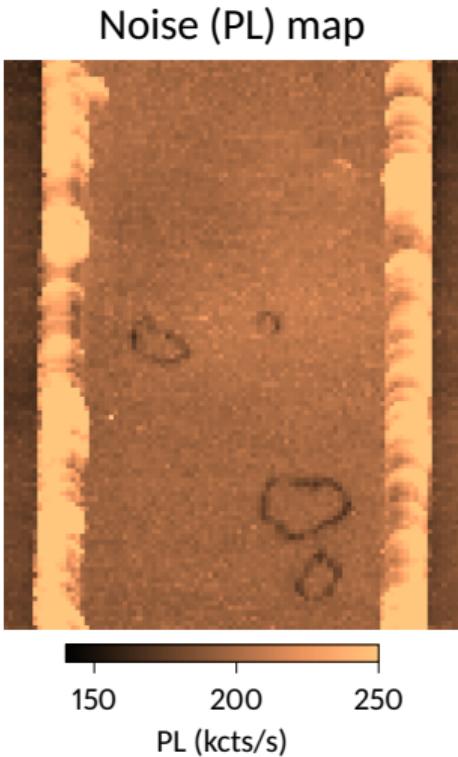
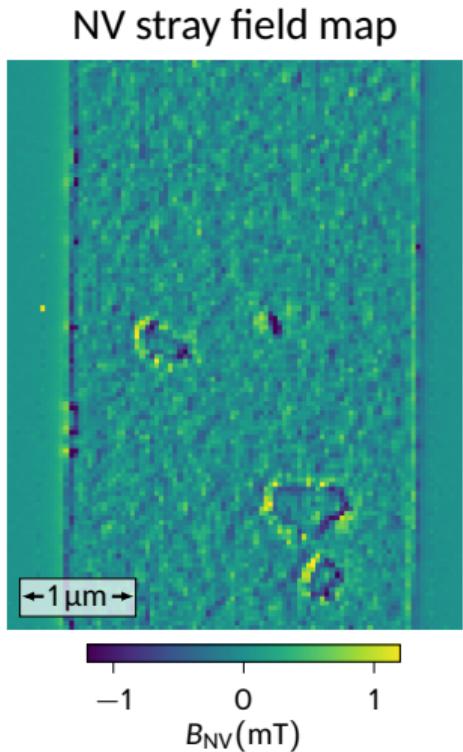
NV stray field map



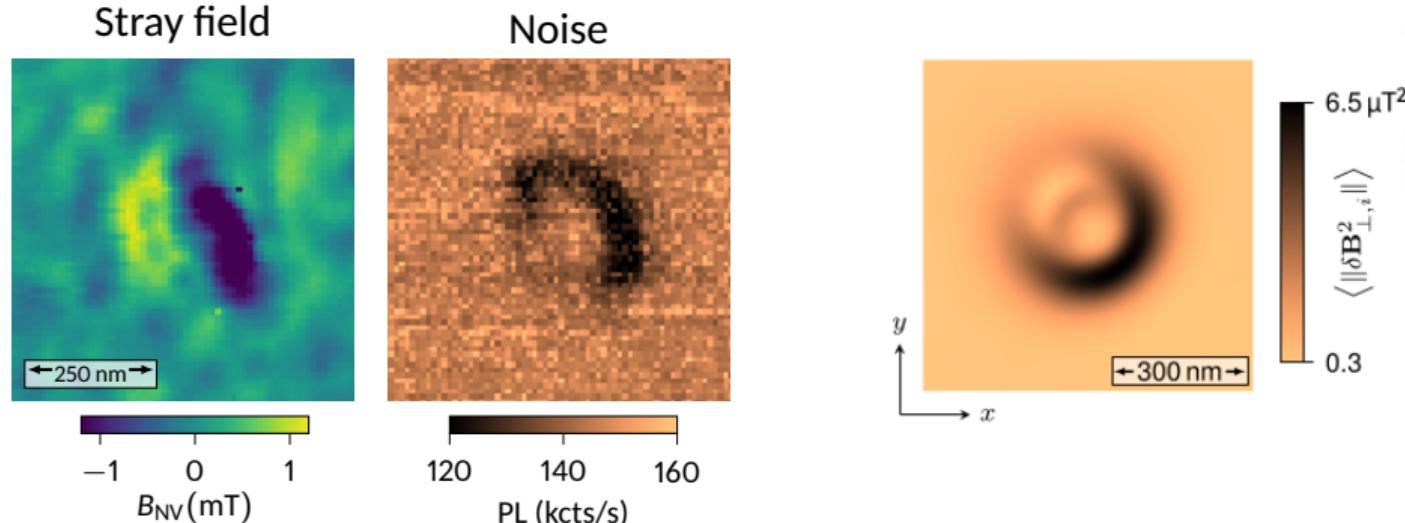
Noise (PL) map



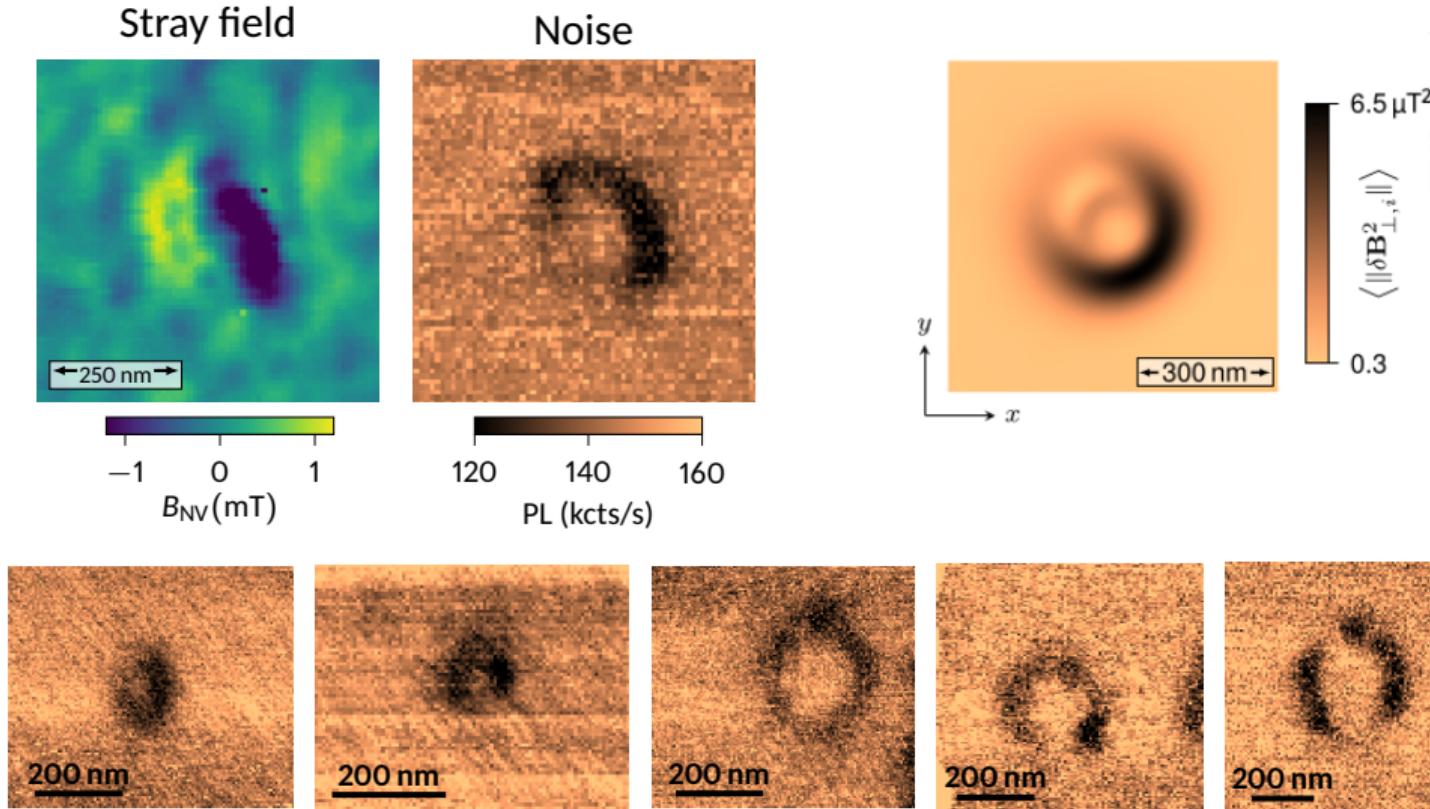
Combined magnetic stray field/magnetic noise imaging



Could we get some insight about the skyrmions' internal structure?



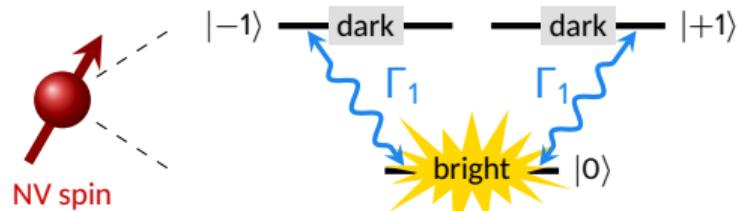
Could we get some insight about the skyrmions' internal structure?



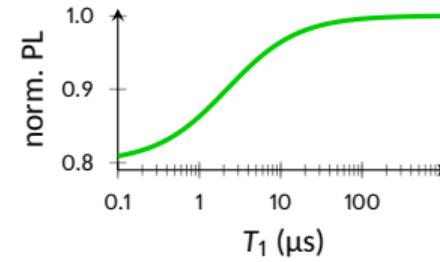
Work in progress...

Summary

→ All optical detection of magnetic noise with NV centers

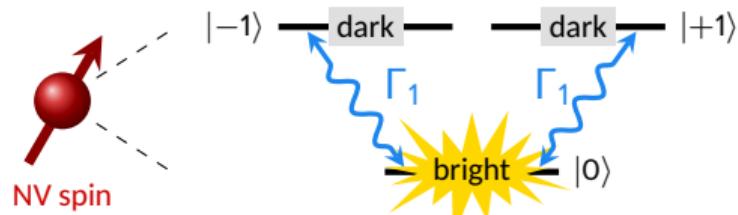


■ M. Rollo et al. PRB 103 (2021), 235418

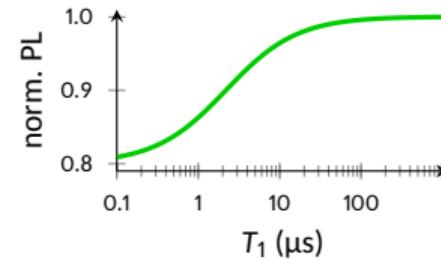


Summary

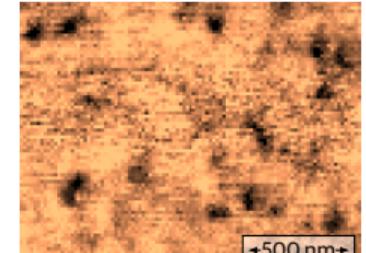
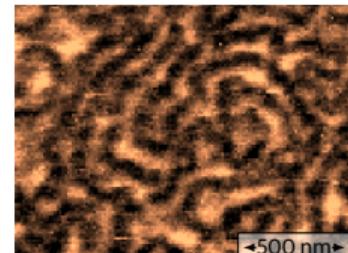
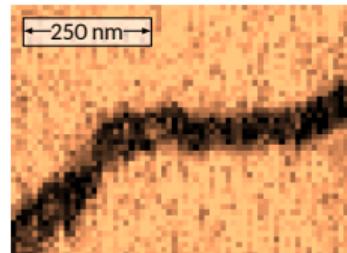
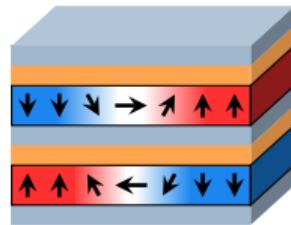
→ All optical detection of magnetic noise with NV centers



■ M. Rollo et al. *PRB* 103 (2021), 235418



→ Imaging of magnetic textures in SAF stacks from spin wave noise



■ A. Finco et al. *Nat. Commun.* 12 (2021), 767

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C2N, Palaiseau

Jean-Paul Adam, Thibaut Devolder, Joo-Von Kim

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