

# Nanoscale magnetic imaging with quantum sensors

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UNIVERSITÉ  
DE MONTPELLIER



Multimag, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023, Lille

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

# Solid-state quantum technologies team in Montpellier



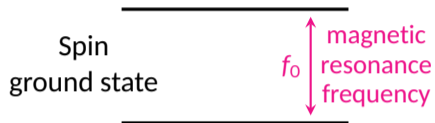
- Defects in semiconductors, and their use as quantum sensors
- Ultrawide bandgap semiconductors for deep-UV electronics

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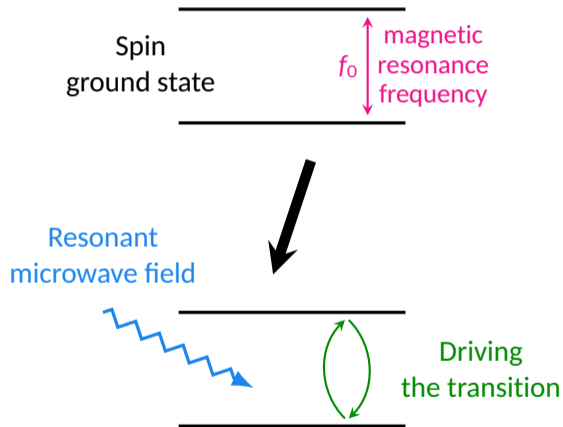


- Defects in semiconductors, and their use as **quantum sensors**
- Ultrawide bandgap semiconductors for deep-UV electronics

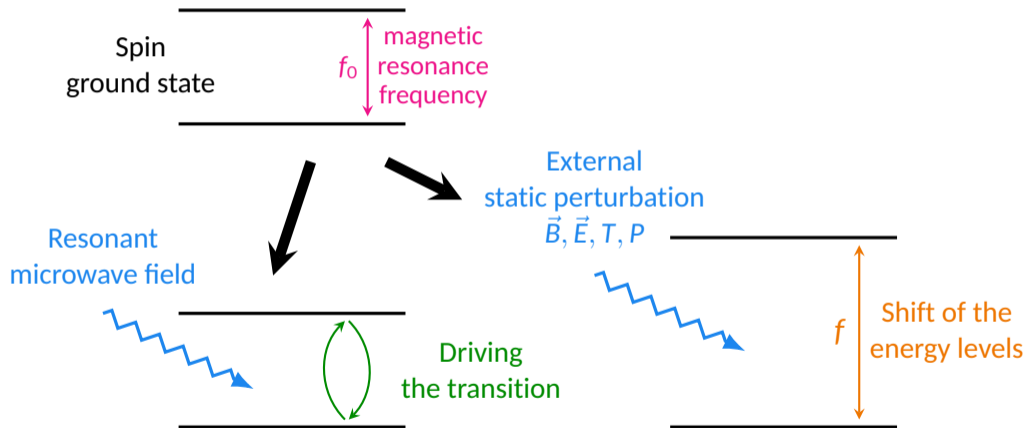
# Can we use a quantum system to probe nanomagnetism?



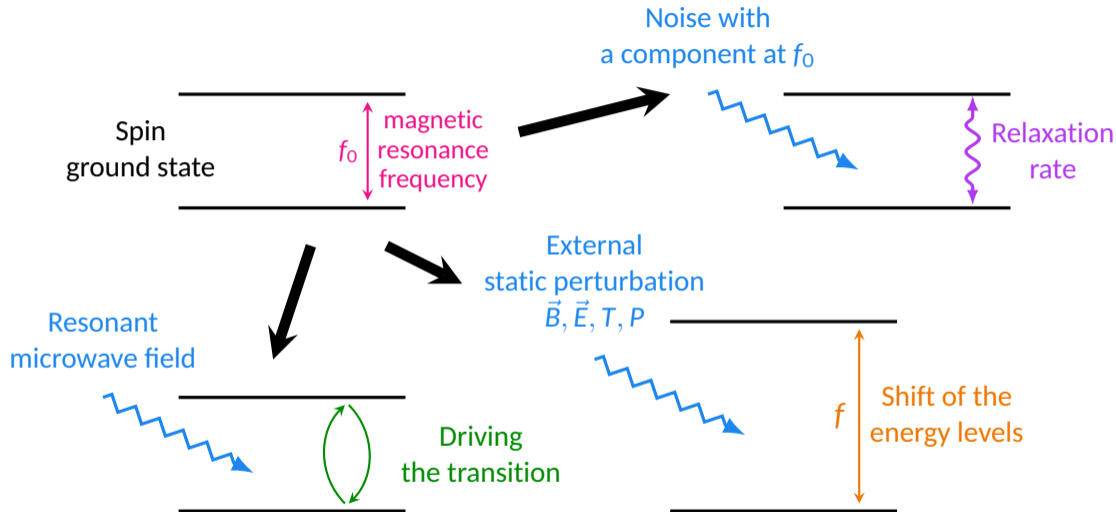
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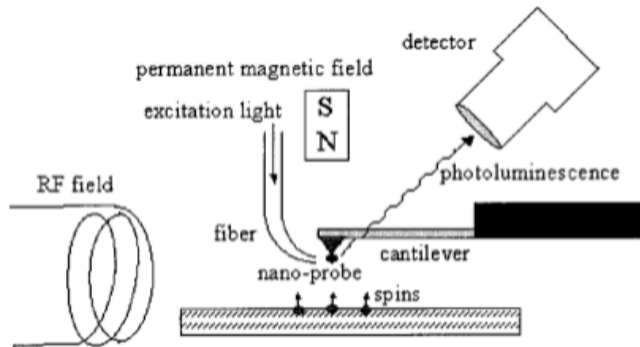
# Can we use a quantum system to probe nanomagnetism?



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# The proposal of Chernobrod and Berman

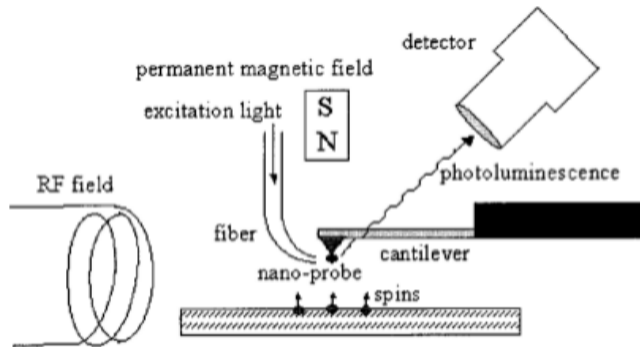


- Atomic force microscope for **spatial resolution**
- **High sensitivity** to perturbations of the quantum system
- Sensor: point defect in a semiconductor

 B. M. Chernobrod *et al.* *J. Appl. Phys.* 97 (2004), 014903



# The proposal of Chernobrod and Berman

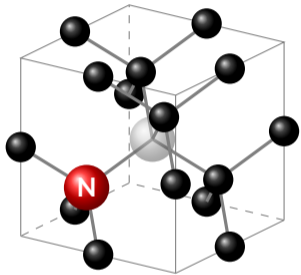


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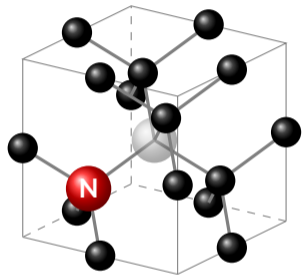
NV center in diamond

# The NV center in diamond

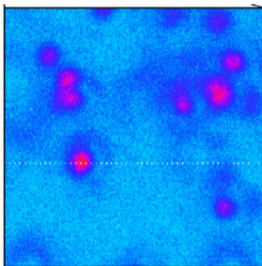


Nitrogen-Vacancy defect

# The NV center in diamond



Nitrogen-Vacancy defect

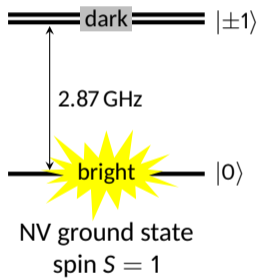


- Photostable defect
- Spin  $S=1$
- Individual defects can be isolated/implanted
- Ambient conditions

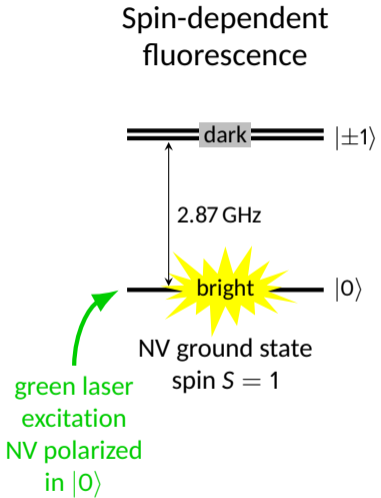
 A. Gruber et al. *Science* 276 (1997), 2012

# Principle of static magnetic field measurement

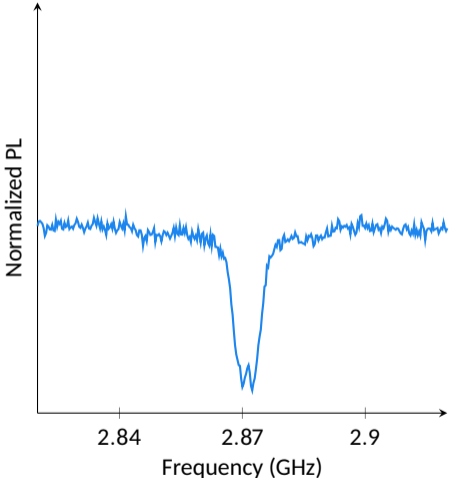
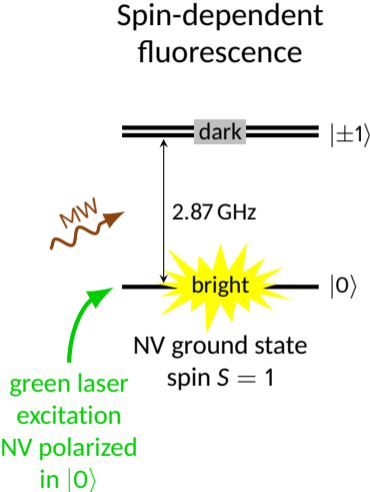
Spin-dependent  
fluorescence



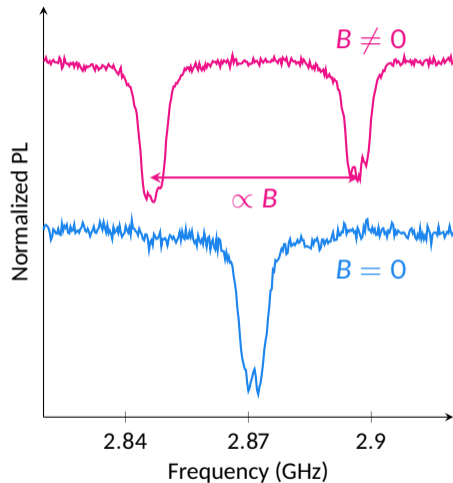
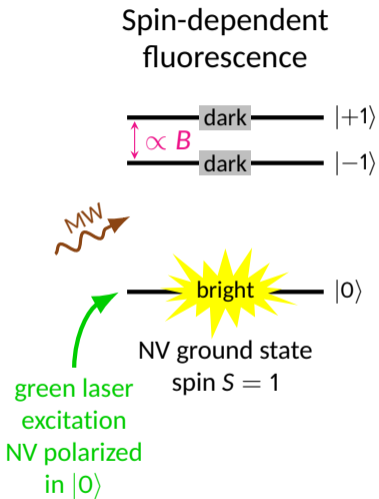
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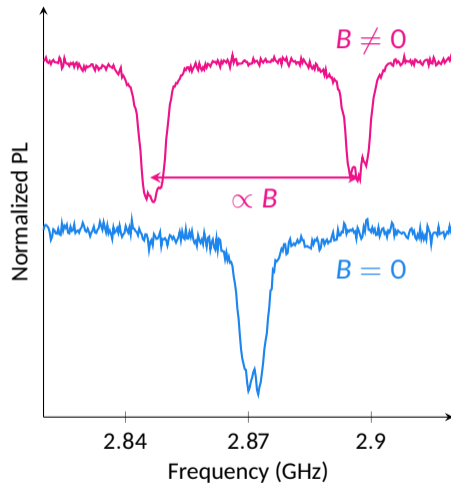
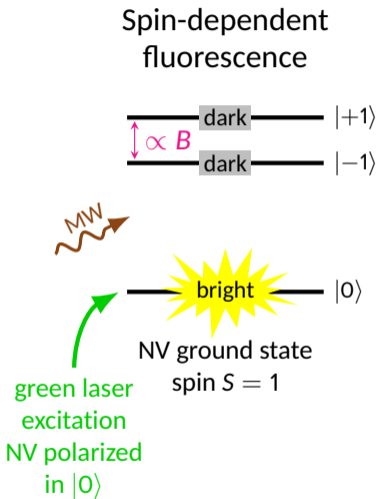
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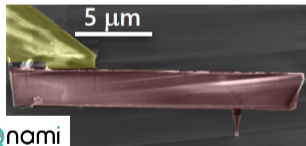
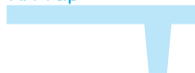


Sensitivity: a few  $\mu\text{T}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$



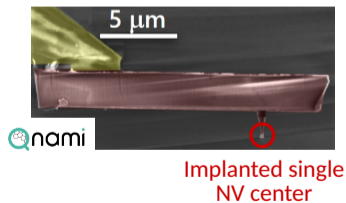
# Integration of the defect in a scanning probe microscope

Diamond  
AFM tip



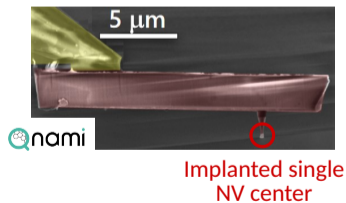
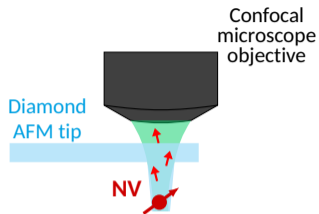
 P. Maletinsky *et al.* *Nat. Nano.* 7 (2012), 320

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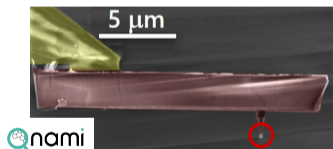
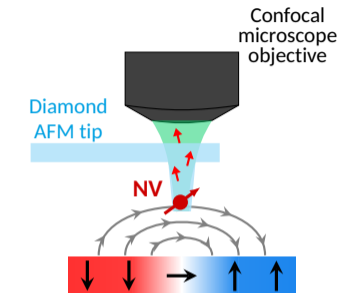
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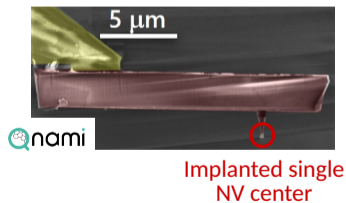
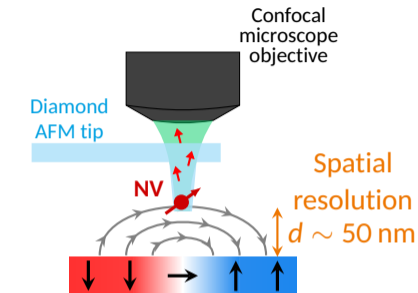
# Integration of the defect in a scanning probe microscope



Implanted single  
NV center

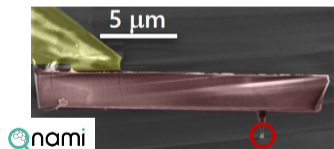
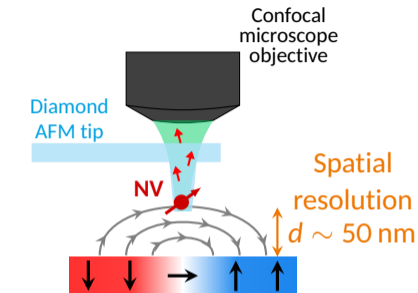
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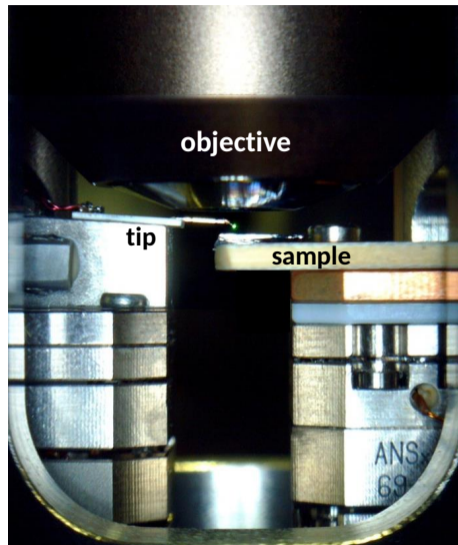


P. Maletinsky et al. *Nat. Nano.* 7 (2012), 320

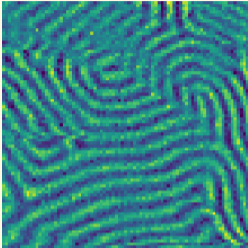
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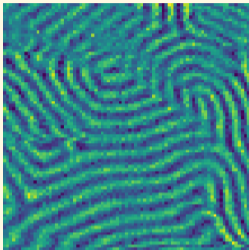
# Outline



Imaging topological defects  
in a multiferroic antiferromagnet

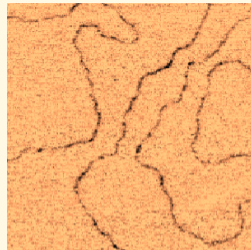
 A. Finco *et al.* *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 128 (2022), 187201

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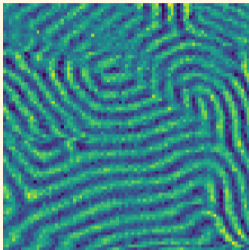


Detection of magnetic textures  
through channelled spin waves

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

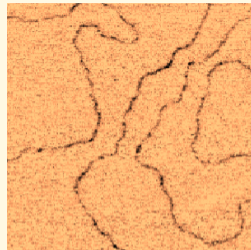


# Outline



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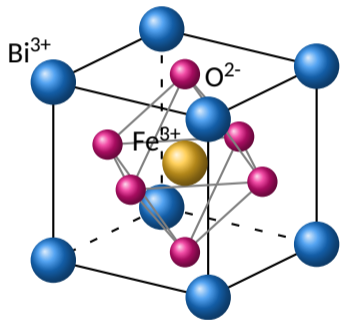
## Outlook: further sensing possibilities

- Sensing electric field or temperature
- Other defects: boron vacancies in h-BN

 P. Kumar *et al.* *Phys. Rev. Appl.* 18 (2022), L061002

# Bismuth ferrite, a room temperature multiferroic

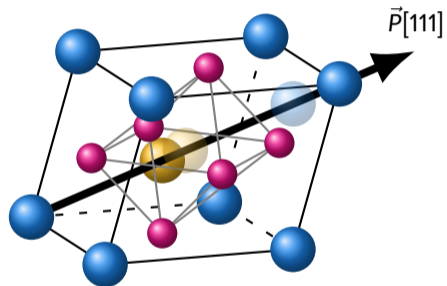
Electric polarization



**Paraelectric phase ( $T > 1100$  K)**

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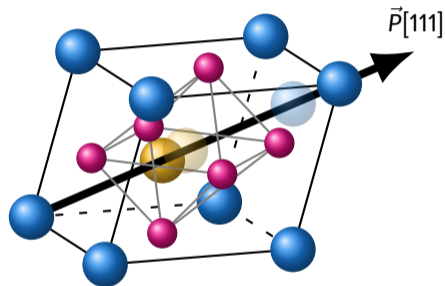
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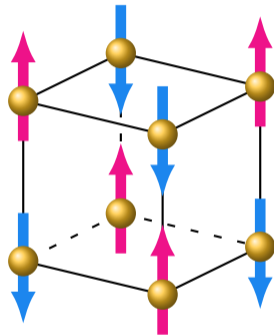
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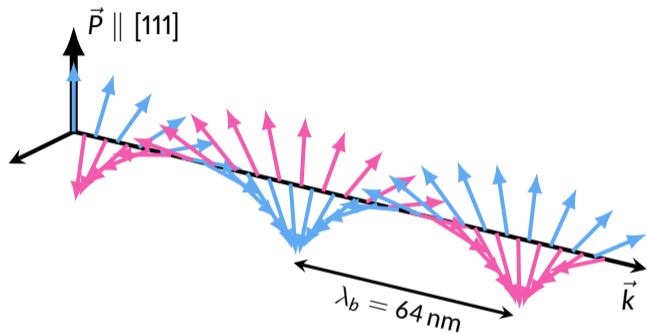
 G. Catalan *et al.* *Adv. Mater.* 21 (2009), 2463–2485

Magnetism



**G-type antiferromagnetic phase ( $T_N = 643$  K)**

# The effects of magnetoelectric coupling in $\text{BiFeO}_3$



Fully compensated cycloid

→ **No stray field!**

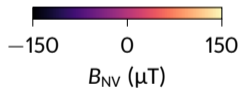
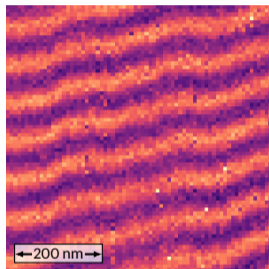




# Quantitative analysis of the cycloid in bulk single crystals

*Collaborations:* UMR CNRS/Thales, Palaiseau (V. Garcia, S. Fusil)

CEA SPEC, Gif-sur-Yvette (J.-Y. Chauleau, M. Viret)

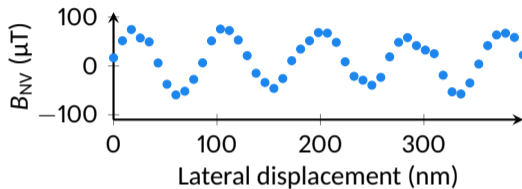
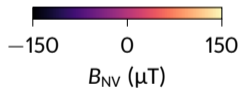
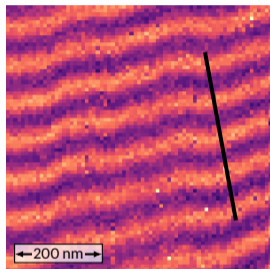




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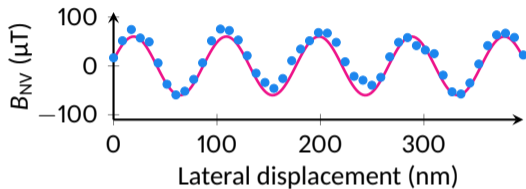
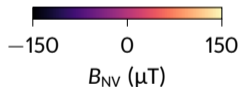
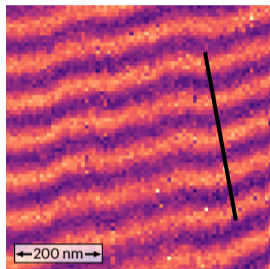
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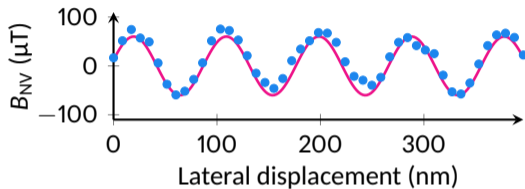
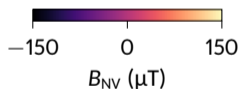
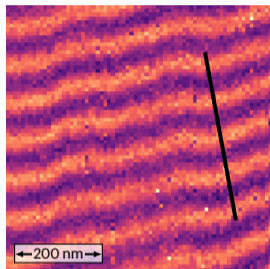


$$\begin{cases} B_x = 0 \\ B_y = -\frac{A}{\sqrt{2}} (\text{Re}\{S\} - \text{Im}\{S\}) \\ B_z = \sqrt{2} A \text{Re}\{S\} \end{cases} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} A = \frac{\mu_0 m_{\text{DM}}}{\sqrt{3} a^3} \sinh\left(\frac{ka}{2\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ S = e^{-kz/\sqrt{2}} e^{ik(y-z)/\sqrt{2}} \frac{1 - e^{-kt(1+i)/\sqrt{2}}}{1 - e^{-ka(1+i)/\sqrt{2}}} \end{cases}$$

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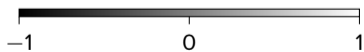
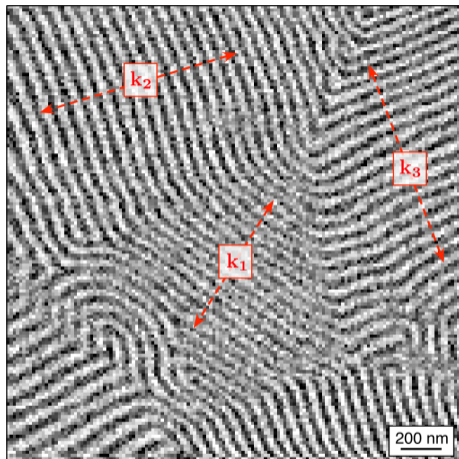
$$m_{\text{DM}} = 0.09 \pm 0.03 \mu_{\text{B}}$$

□ M. Ramazanoglu et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 107 (2011), 207206

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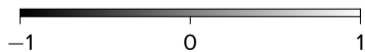
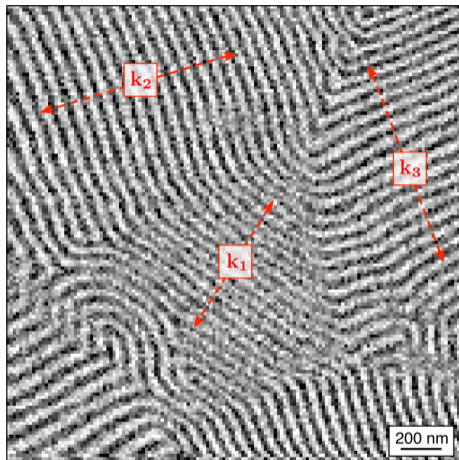
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# Rotation of the cycloid propagation direction measured in real space...

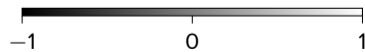
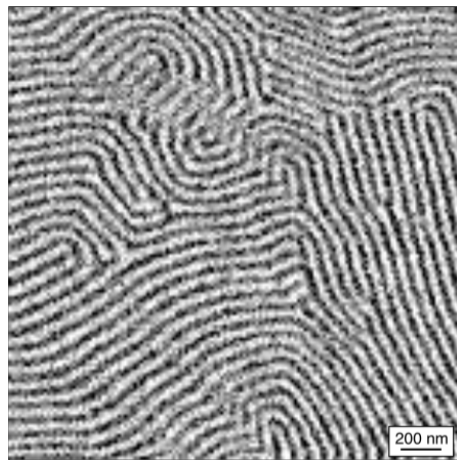


iso-B signal

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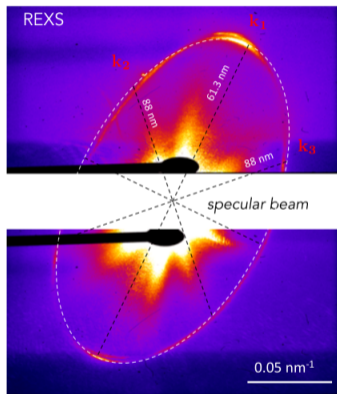
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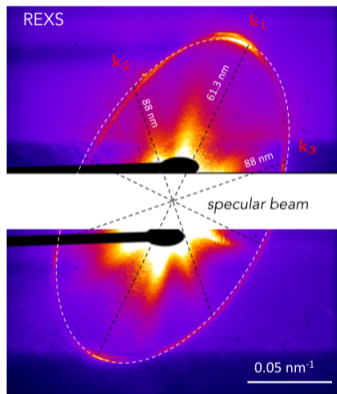
# ... and in reciprocal space

## Resonant X-ray scattering

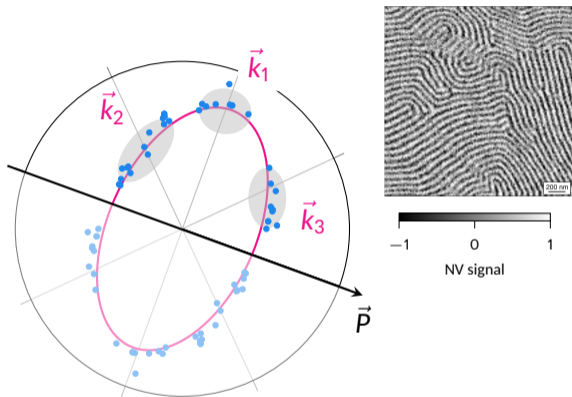


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## Resonant X-ray scattering

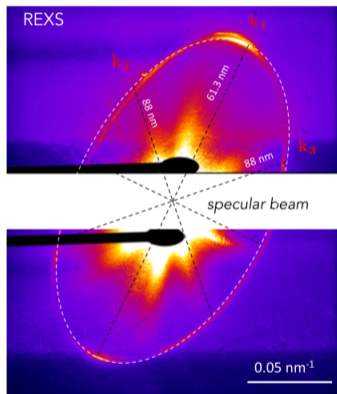


Polar plot of  $\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$  vs  $\vec{k}$  direction

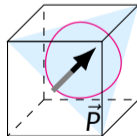
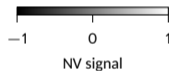
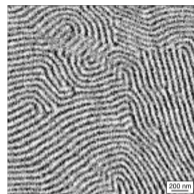
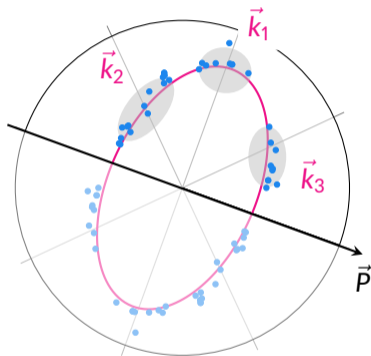


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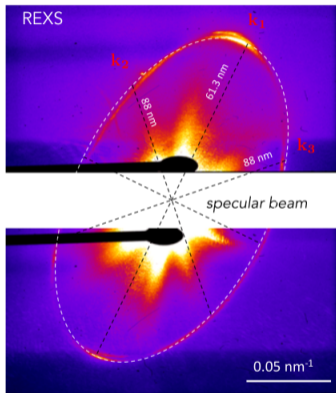
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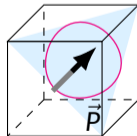
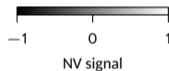
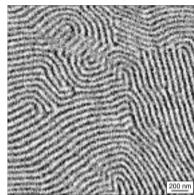
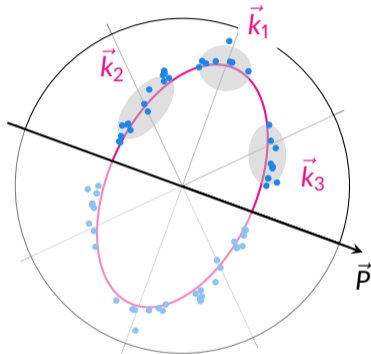


# ... and in reciprocal space

Resonant X-ray scattering



Polar plot of  $\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$  vs  $\vec{k}$  direction



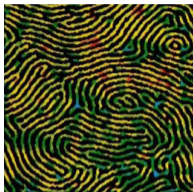
Surface effect? Only  $\vec{k}_1$  seen by neutrons

 D. Lebeugle et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 100 (2008), 227602

# Universal patterns in lamellar systems

**Block copolymer**

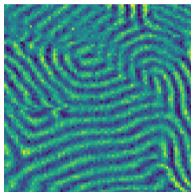
Period 40 nm



 T. A. Witten. *Phys. Today* 43 (1990), 21

**BiFeO<sub>3</sub> magnetic cycloid**

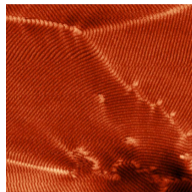
Period 64 nm



 A. Finco et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 128 (2022), 187201

**FeGe magnetic helix**

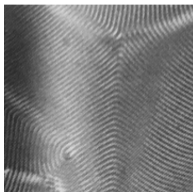
Period 70 nm



 P. Schönherr et al. *Nat. Phys.* 14 (2018), 465

**Liquid crystals**

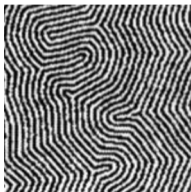
Period 800 nm



 Y. Bouligand. *Dislocations in solids* (1983), Chap. 23

**Ferrimagnetic garnet**

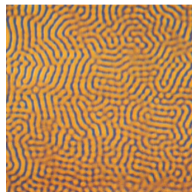
Period 8  $\mu\text{m}$



 M. Seul et al. *Phys. Rev. A* 46 (1992), 7519

**Fluid diffusion**

Period 250  $\mu\text{m}$



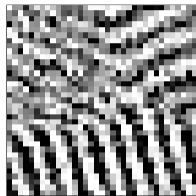
 Q. Ouyang et al. *Chaos* 1 (1991), 411

# Identification of these topological defects in $\text{BiFeO}_3$

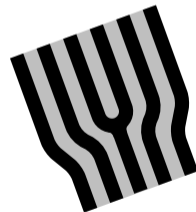
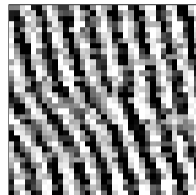
$+\pi$ -disclination



$-\pi$ -disclination



Edge dislocation

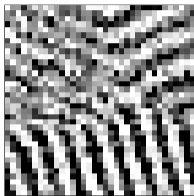


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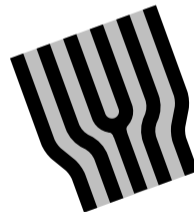
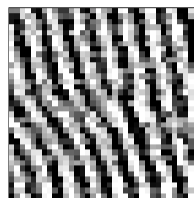
$+\pi$ -disclination



$-\pi$ -disclination

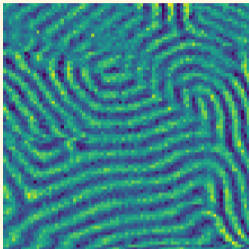


Edge dislocation



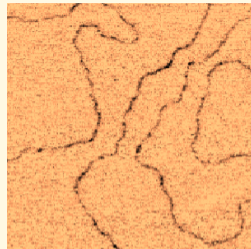
Perspective: electrical control?

# Outline



Imaging topological defects  
in a multiferroic antiferromagnet

 A. Finco et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 128 (2022), 187201



Detection of magnetic textures  
through channelled spin waves

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

## Outlook: further sensing possibilities

- Sensing electric field or temperature
- Other defects: boron vacancies in h-BN

 P. Kumar et al. *Phys. Rev. Appl.* 18 (2022), L061002

# Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

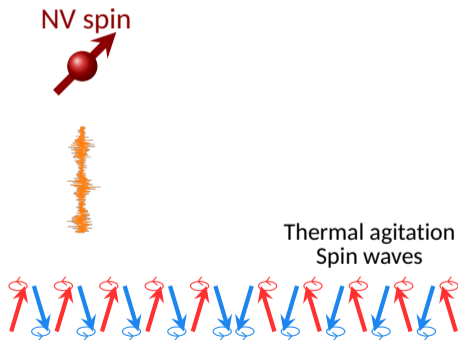
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- 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

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

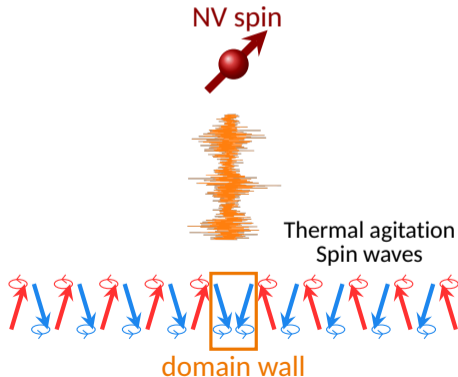
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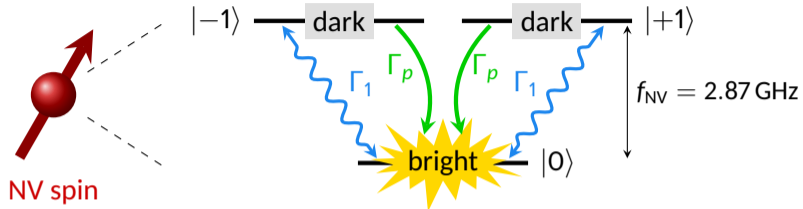
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

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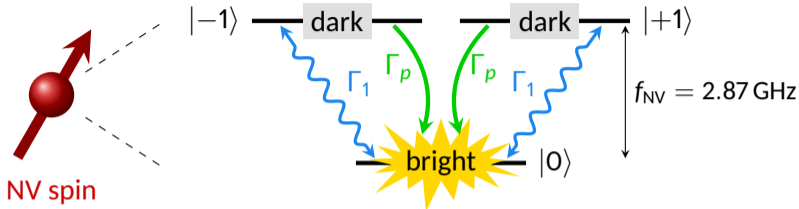


# Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence

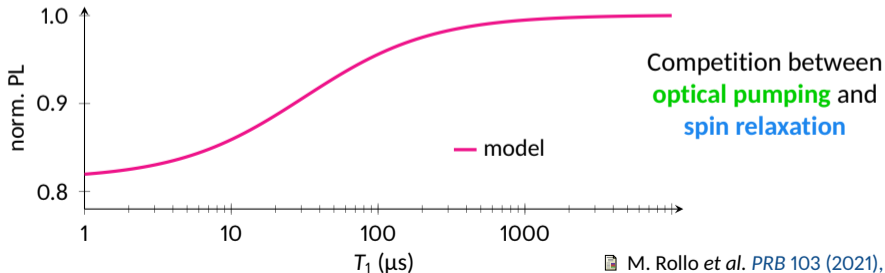


Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{NV})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{NV}$

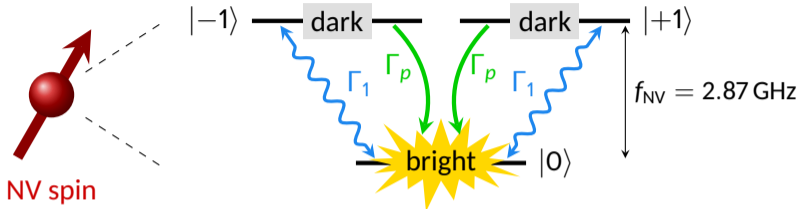
# Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence



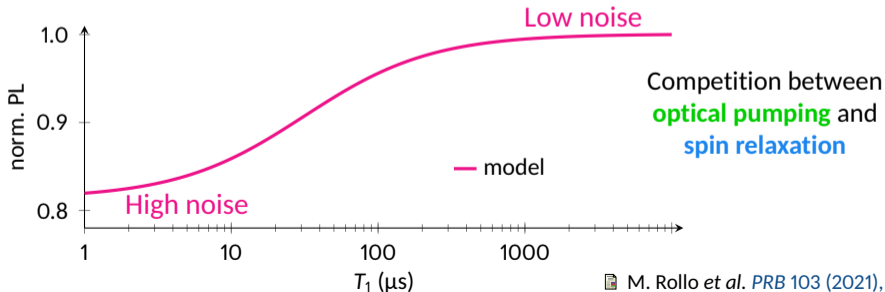
Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$



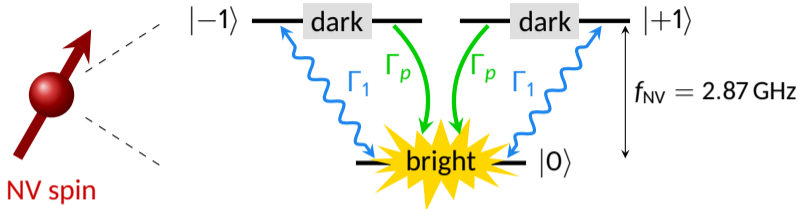
# Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence



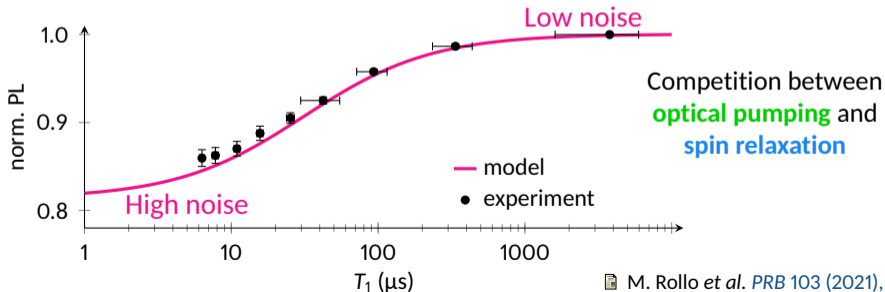
Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{NV})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{NV}$



# Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence



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



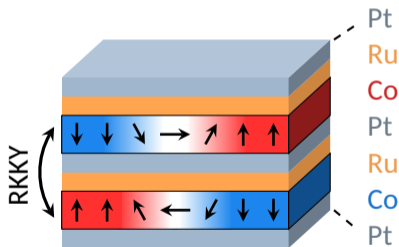
# Imaging of synthetic antiferromagnets

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



THALES

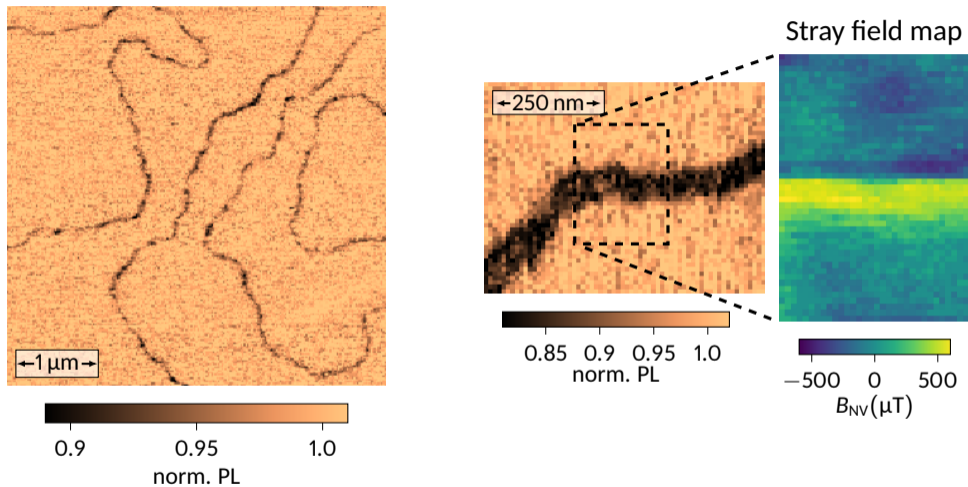
Two **ferromagnetic** layers coupled **antiferromagnetically**



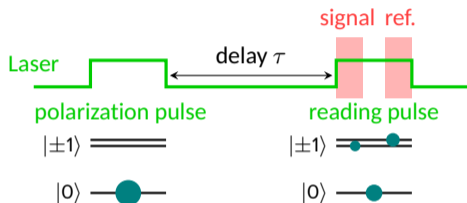
- No net magnetic moment
- Compensation of dipolar effects  
→ small skyrmions
- Small stray field due to vertical spacing  
→ test system for noise imaging

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

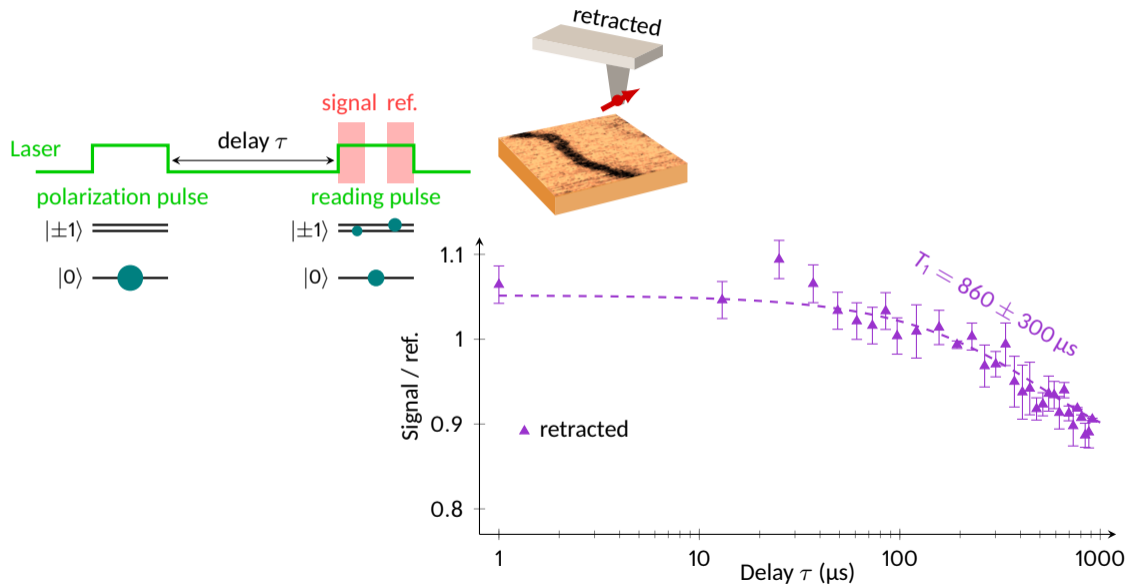
# Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



# Local variation of the relaxation time

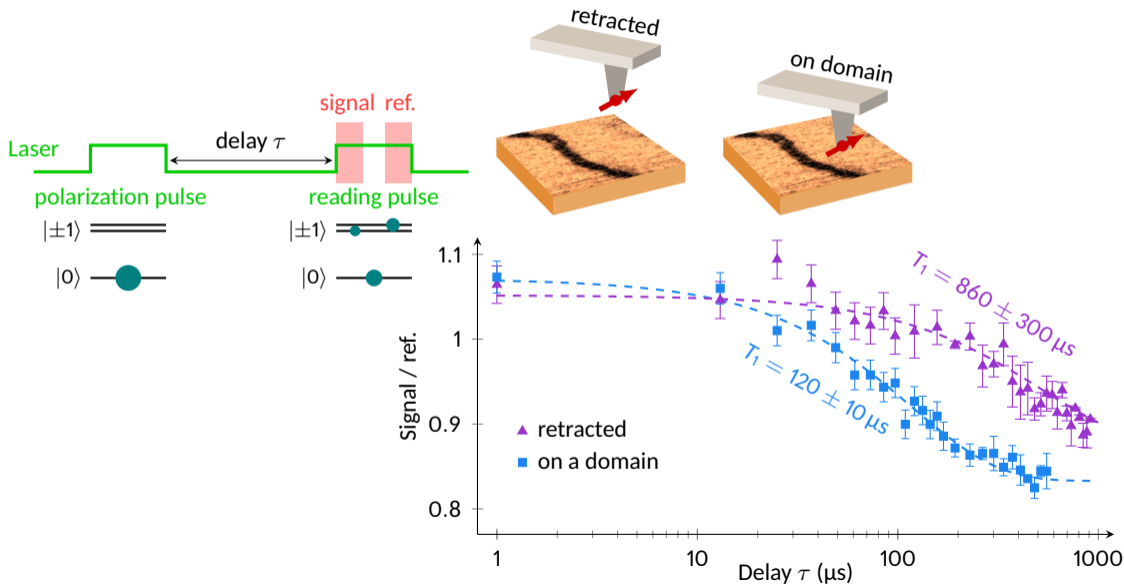


# Local variation of the relaxation time

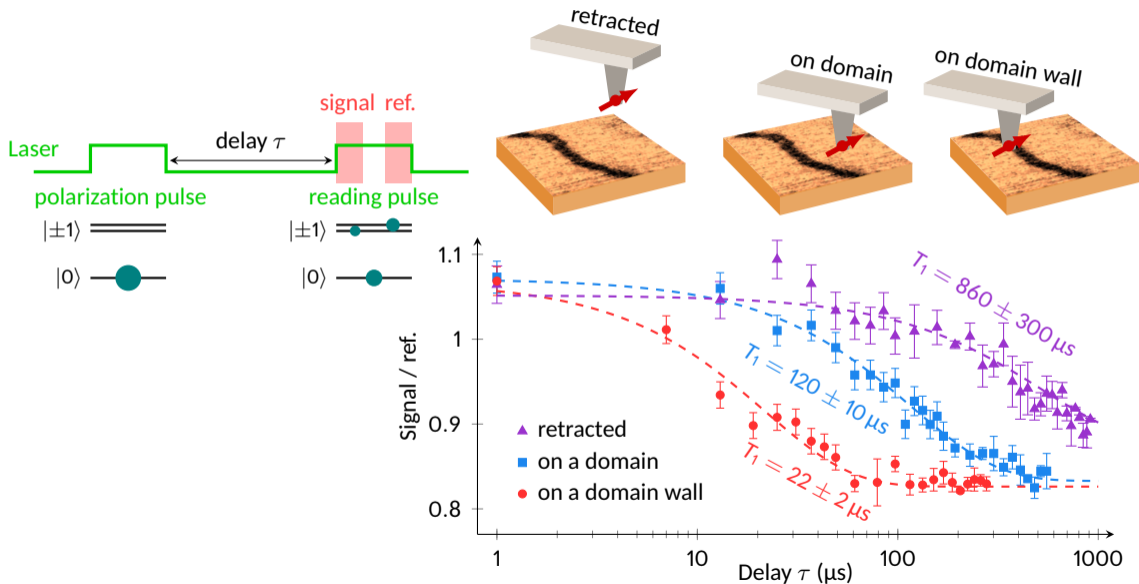




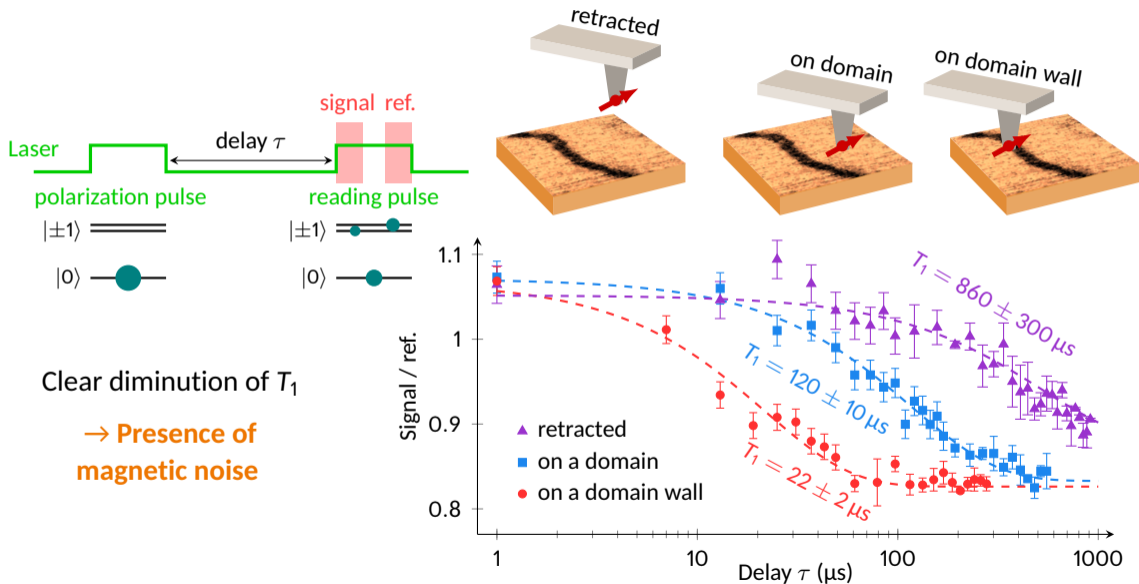
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# Local variation of the relaxation time

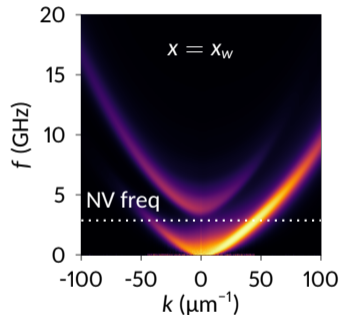
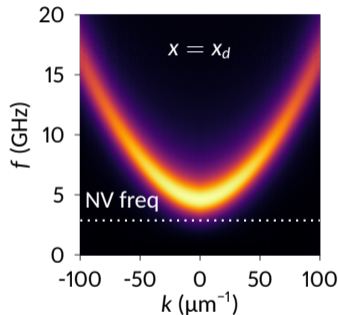
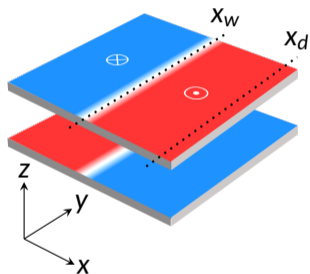


# Local variation of the relaxation time



# Origin of the noise: spin waves

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



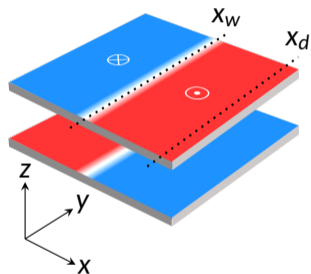
- NV frequency slightly below the gap, in the tail of power spectral density, which is the reason why we detect some noise when approaching the tip.
- No gap in the domain walls, presence of modes at the NV frequency: **the NV center is more sensitive to the noise from the walls!**

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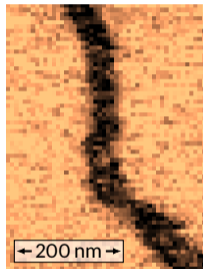
Collaboration C2N: Jean-Paul Adam, Joo-Von Kim



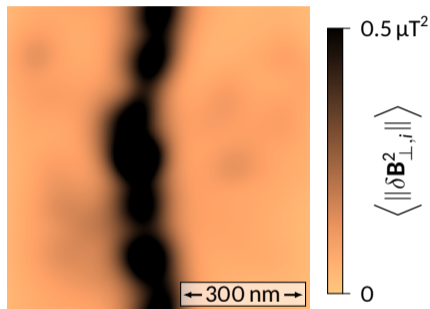
Exp.



norm. PL  
0.95  
0.85



Calc.



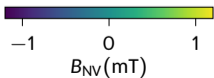
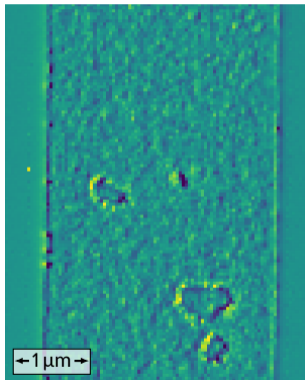
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# Skyrmions stabilized by pinning

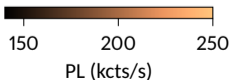
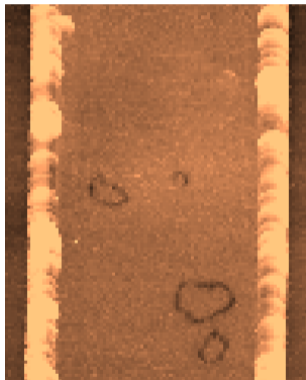
Collaboration Spintec: Van-Tuong Pham, Olivier Boulle



NV stray field map



Noise (PL) map

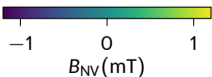
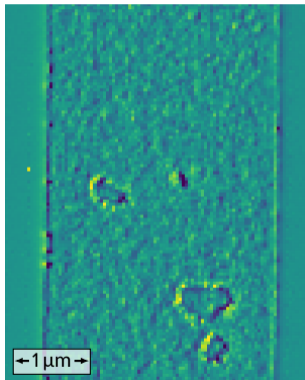


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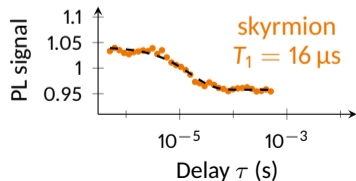
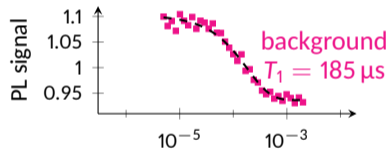
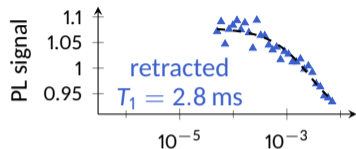
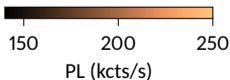
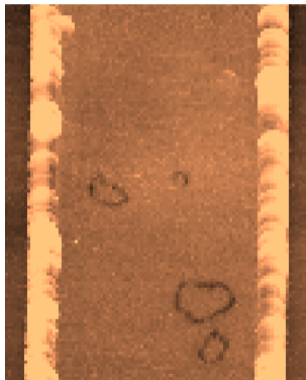
Collaboration Spintec: Van-Tuong Pham, Olivier Boulle



NV stray field map

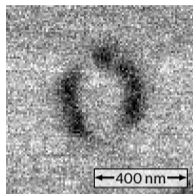


Noise (PL) map



# Insight about the internal structure of the skyrmions

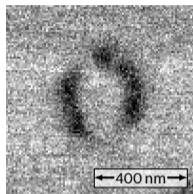
*Collaboration C2N: Joo-Von Kim*



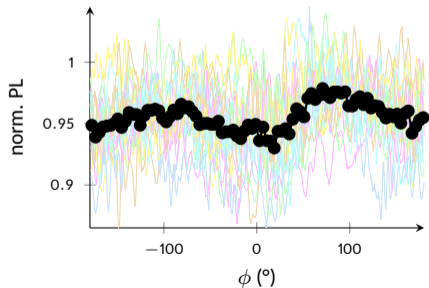


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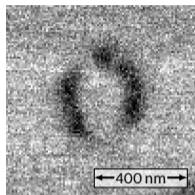


Analysis of the PL signal along the skyrmion contour

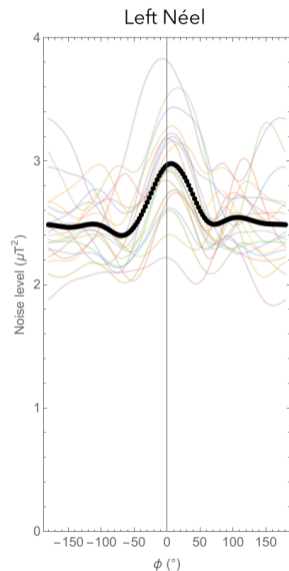
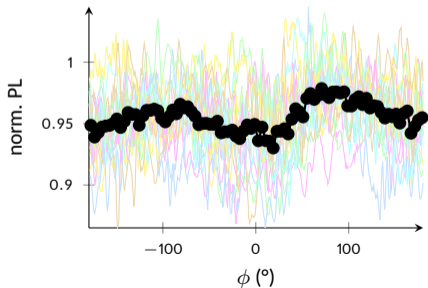


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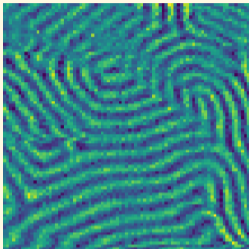
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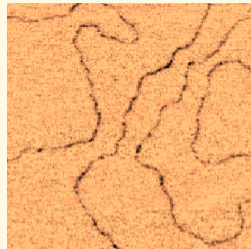


# Outline



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 A. Finco et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 128 (2022), 187201



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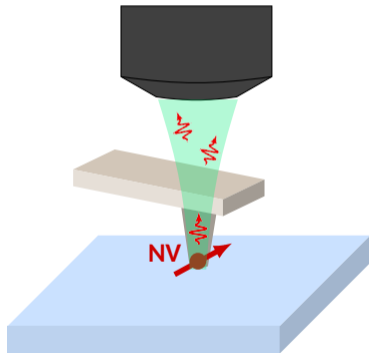
 A. Finco et al. *Nat. Commun.* 12 (2021), 767

## Outlook: further sensing possibilities

- Sensing electric field or temperature
- Other defects: boron vacancies in h-BN

 P. Kumar et al. *Phys. Rev. Appl.* 18 (2022), L061002

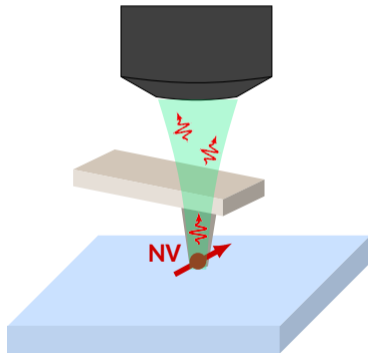
## NV centers as multifunctional sensors



# NV centers as multifunctional sensors

## Magnetic field

(Anti)ferromagnetic  
textures  
Currents



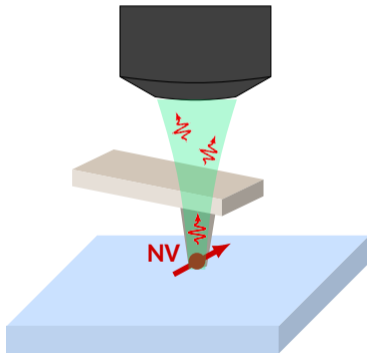
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## Magnetic field

*(Anti)ferromagnetic textures*  
*Currents*

## Magnetic noise

*Spin waves*  
*Conductivity*



# NV centers as multifunctional sensors

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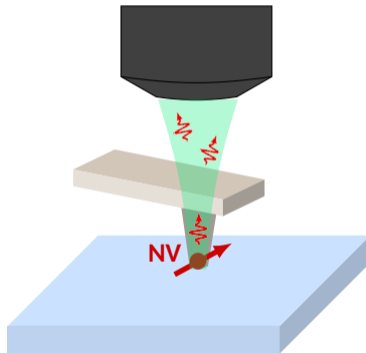
(Anti)ferromagnetic textures  
Currents

## Magnetic noise

Spin waves  
Conductivity

## Electric field

Ferroelectric textures



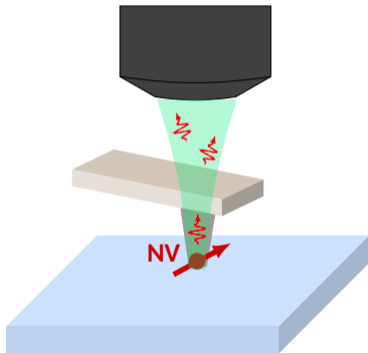
# NV centers as multifunctional sensors

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## Electric field

*Ferroelectric textures*

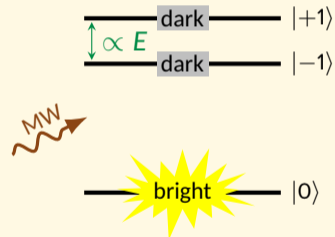
## Temperature

*Localized hot spots*

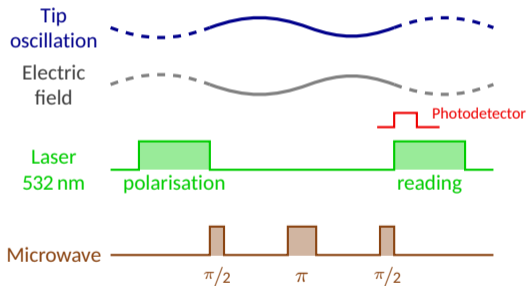


# Electric field sensing

## Stark shift



- Need to apply off-axis field to avoid that Zeeman effect dominates
- Electric susceptibilities rather small  
→ spin echo sequences

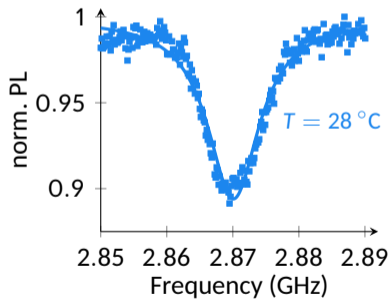


Z. Qiu et al. *npj Quantum Information* 8 (2022)

W. S. Huxter et al. *Nature Physics* (2023)

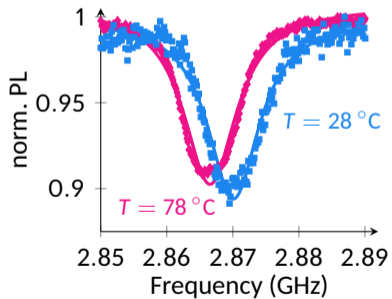
# Temperature sensing

Crystal dilatation  $\rightarrow$  Shift of the zero-field splitting



# Temperature sensing

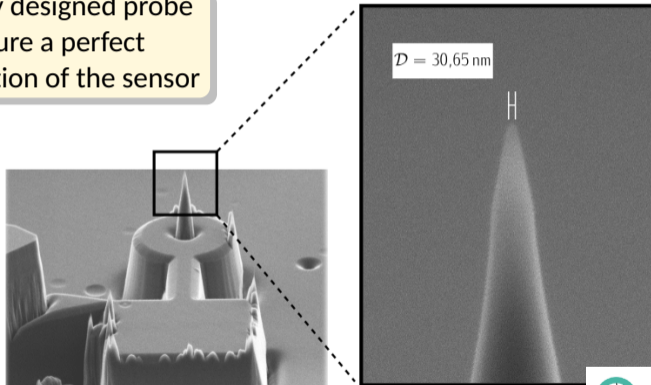
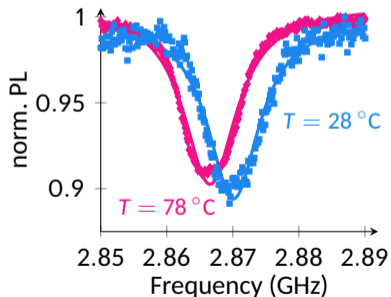
Crystal dilatation  $\rightarrow$  Shift of the zero-field splitting



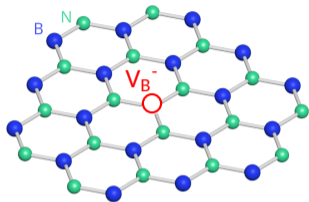
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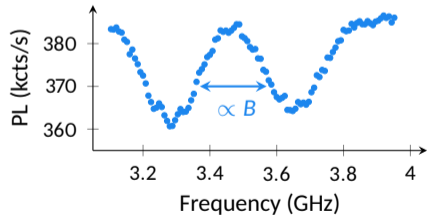
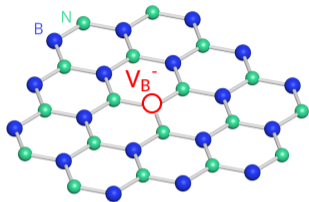
Specifically designed probe  
to ensure a perfect  
thermalization of the sensor



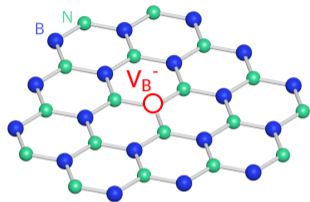
# Magnetic field sensing with boron vacancies in h-BN



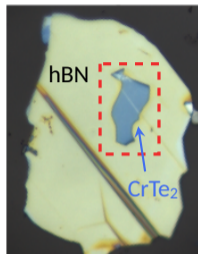
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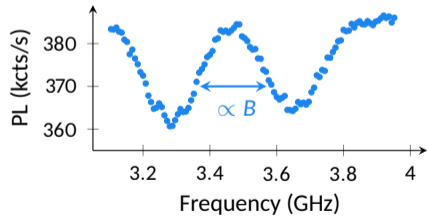
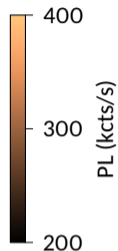
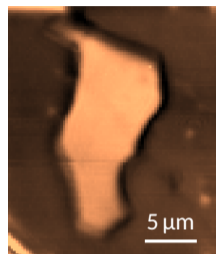
# Magnetic field sensing with boron vacancies in h-BN



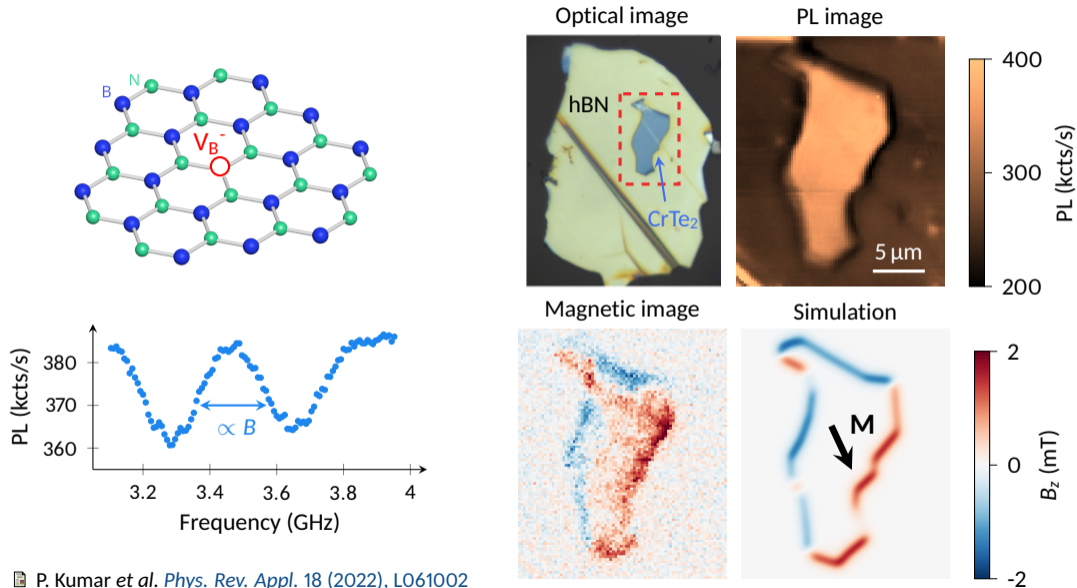
Optical image



PL image

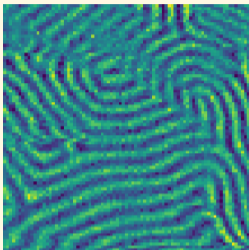


# Magnetic field sensing with boron vacancies in h-BN



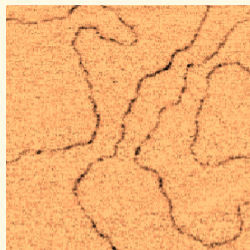


# Summary



Imaging topological defects  
in a multiferroic antiferromagnet

 A. Finco et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 128 (2022), 187201




Detection of magnetic textures  
through channelled spin waves

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

## Further sensing possibilities

- Sensing electric field or temperature
- Other defects: boron vacancies in h-BN

 P. Kumar et al. *Phys. Rev. Appl.* 18 (2022), L061002

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