

Imaging of multiferroic solitons and investigation of DMI with a quantum sensor

Aurore Finco

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

CNRS and Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France



**UNIVERSITÉ DE
MONTPELLIER**

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

Outline

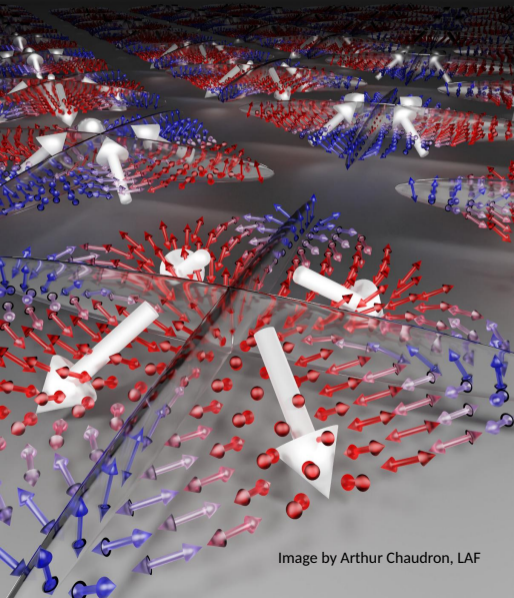


Image by Arthur Chaudron, LAF

1. Observation of multiferroic solitons in BiFeO₃ microstructures

 A. Chaudron et al. *Nat. Mater.* 23 (2024), 905

2. Characterization of DMI with the help of spin wave magnetic noise

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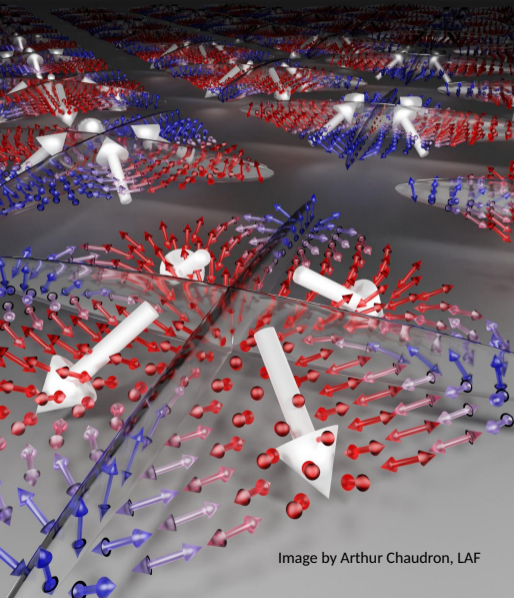
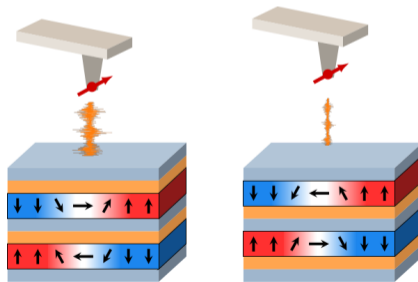


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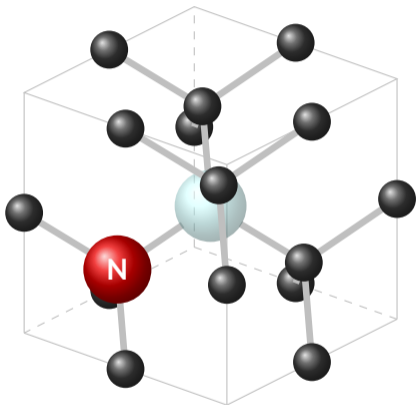
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📄 A. Chaudron et al. *Nat. Mater.* 23 (2024), 905

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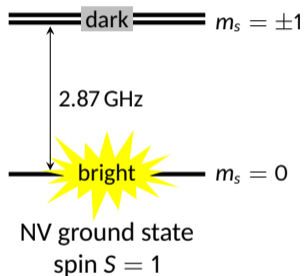
Our quantum sensor: the NV center in diamond



- Artificial atom: energy levels in the diamond bandgap
- Photostable defect
- Spin $S=1$
- Individual defects can be isolated/implanted
- Ambient conditions

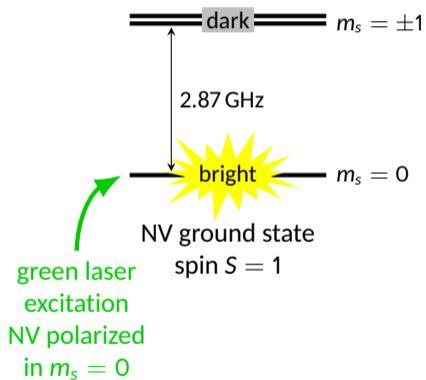
Measuring magnetic field with NV centers

Spin-dependent
fluorescence

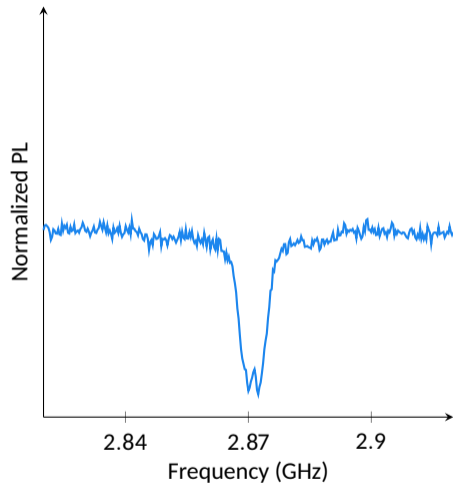
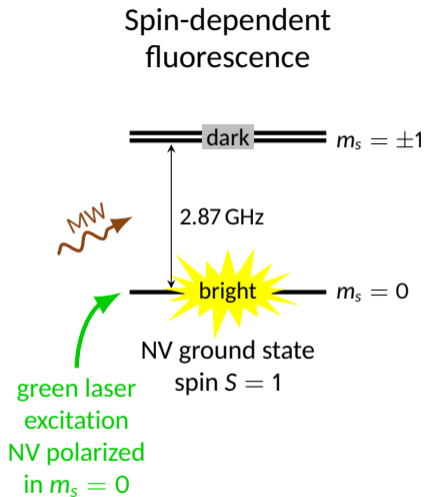


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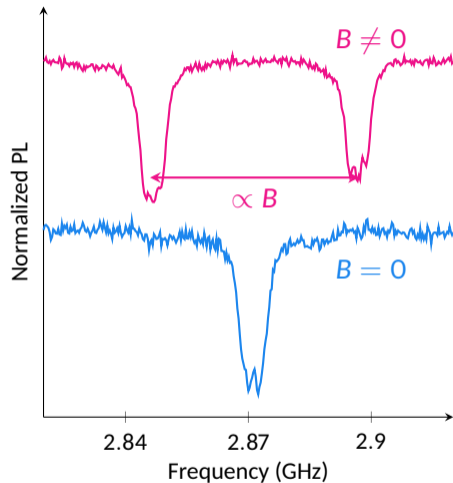
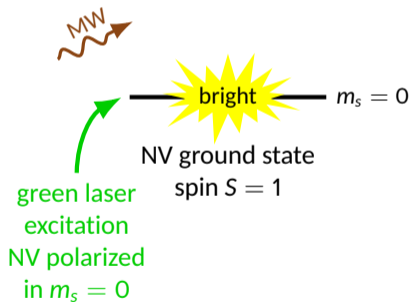


Measuring magnetic field with NV centers

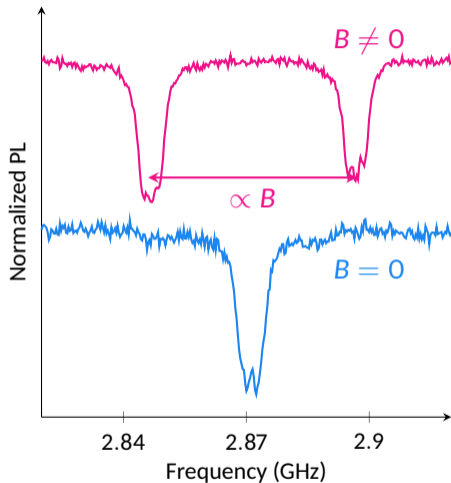
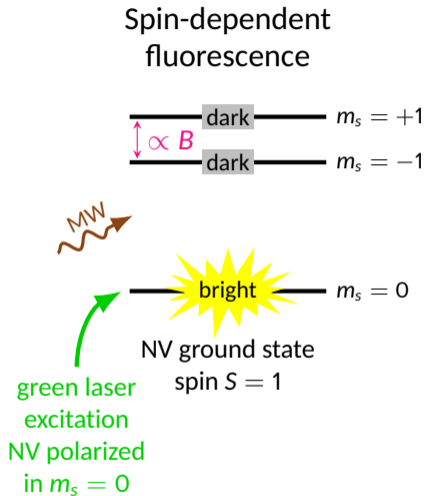


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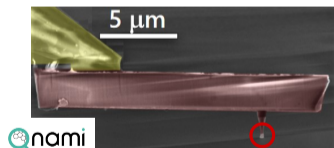
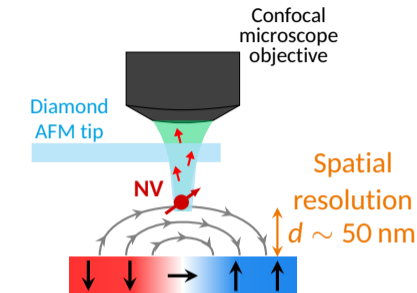


Measuring magnetic field with NV centers

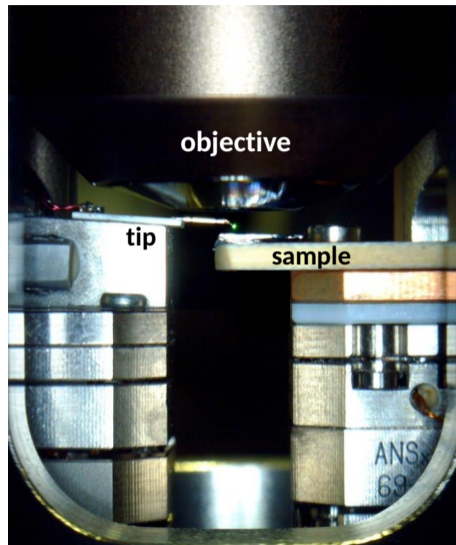


Sensitivity: a few $\mu\text{T}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

Integration of the defect in a scanning probe microscope



Implanted single NV center



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

Outline

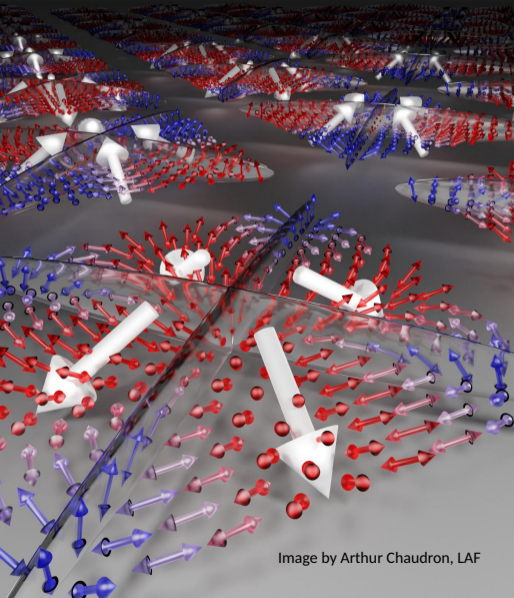


Image by Arthur Chaudron, LAF

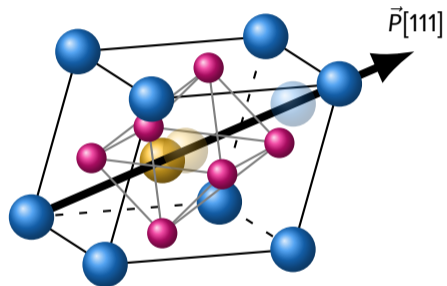
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2. Characterization of DMI with the help of spin wave magnetic noise

Bismuth ferrite, a room-temperature multiferroic

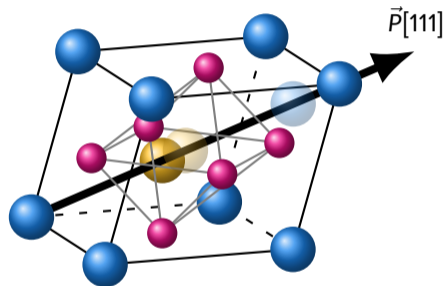
Electric polarization



Ferroelectric phase ($T < 1100$ K)

Bismuth ferrite, a room-temperature multiferroic

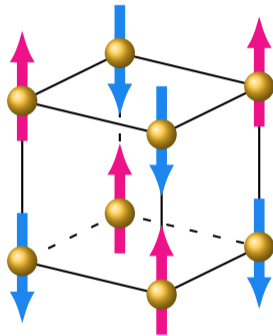
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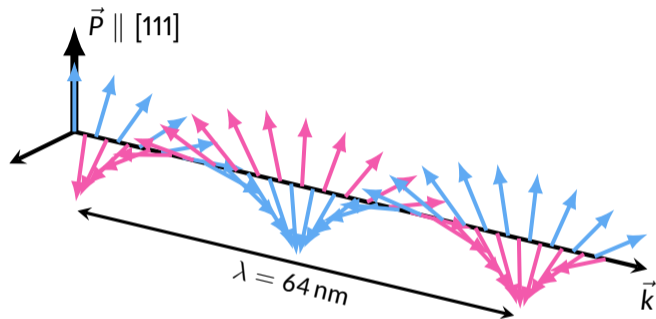
 G. Catalan *et al.* *Adv. Mater.* 21 (2009), 2463–2485

Magnetism



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

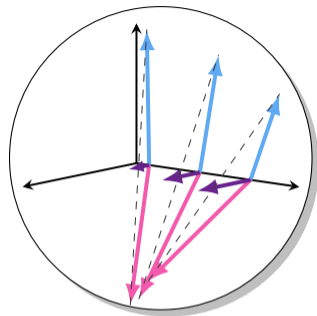
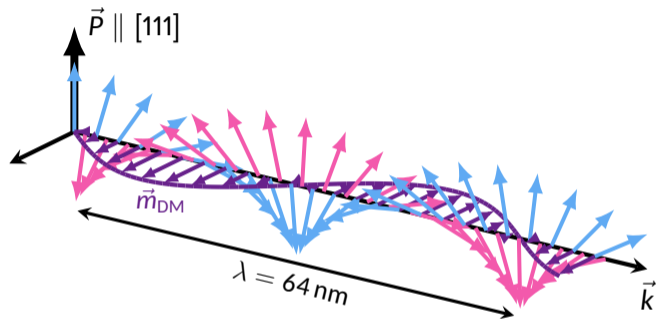
The effects of magnetoelectric coupling in BiFeO_3



Fully compensated cycloid

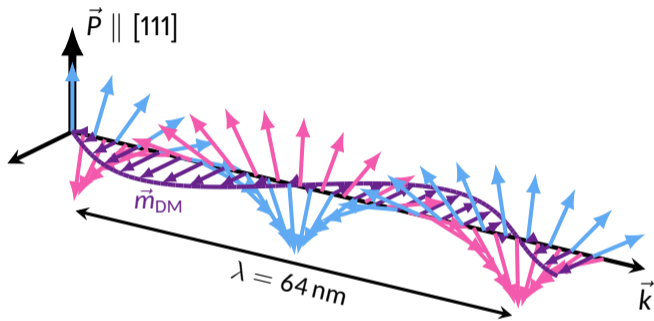
→ **No stray field!**

The effects of magnetoelectric coupling in BiFeO_3

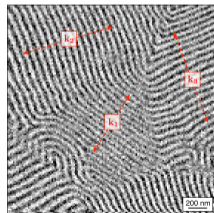
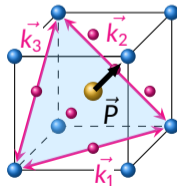
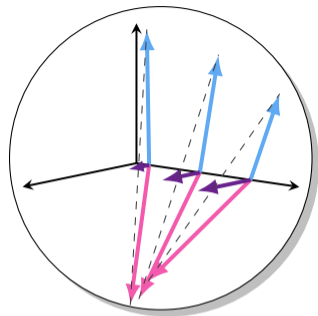


Spin density wave
Weak uncompensated moment
→ **Small stray field**

The effects of magnetoelectric coupling in BiFeO₃



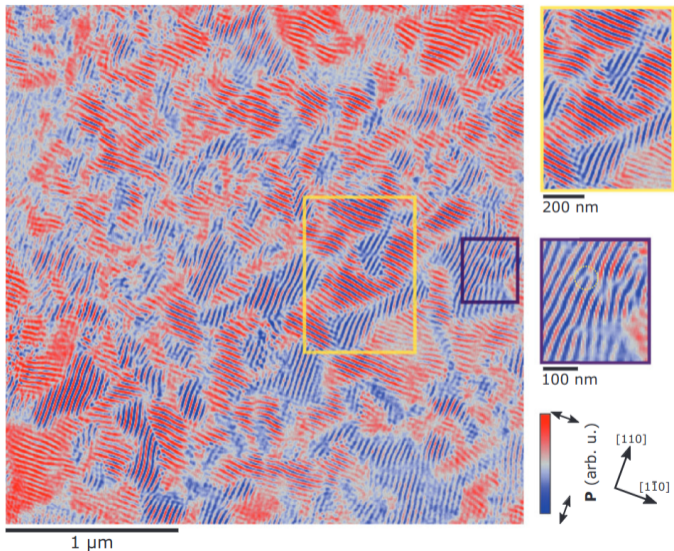
Spin density wave
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M. Ramazanoglu et al. *PRL* 107 (2011), 207206

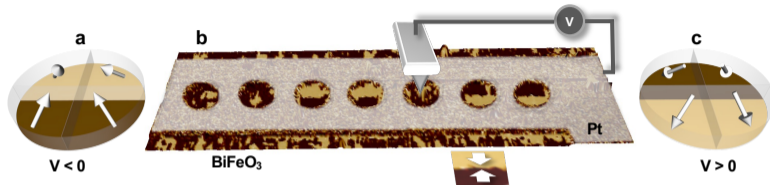
A. Finco et al. *PRL* 128 (2022), 187201

Soft X-ray ptychography now also sees the cycloid!



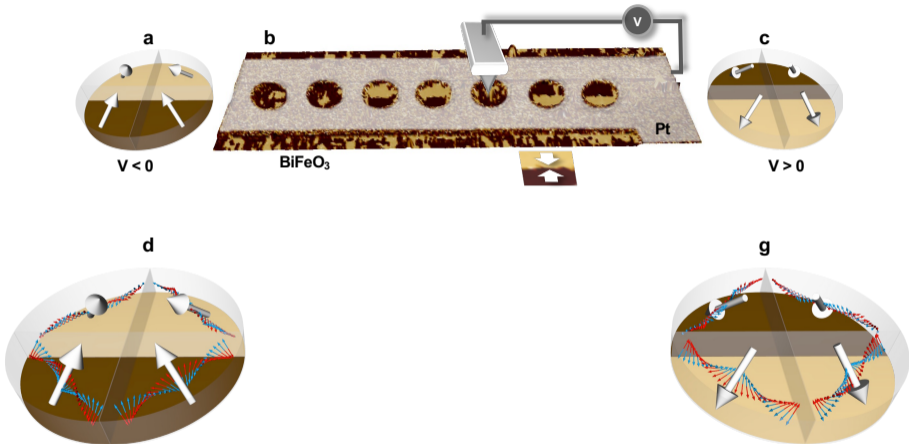
Towards topological textures

Objective: use the magnetoelectric coupling to stabilize an antiferromagnetic topological state



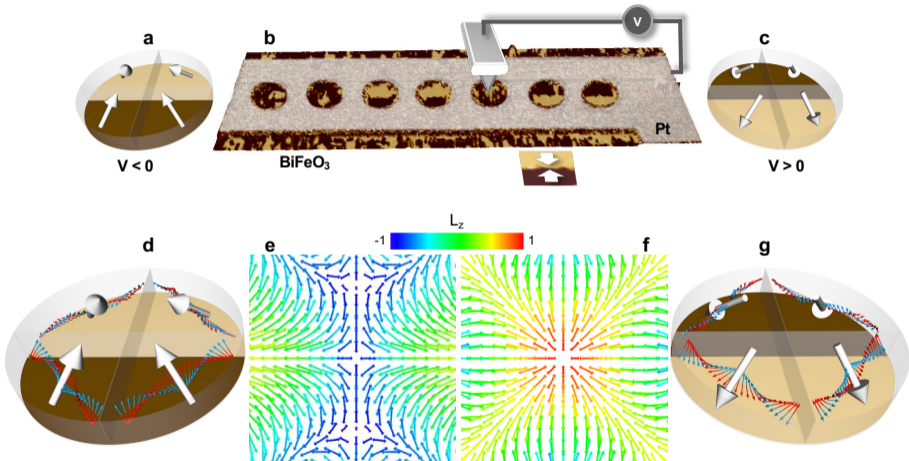
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Towards topological textures

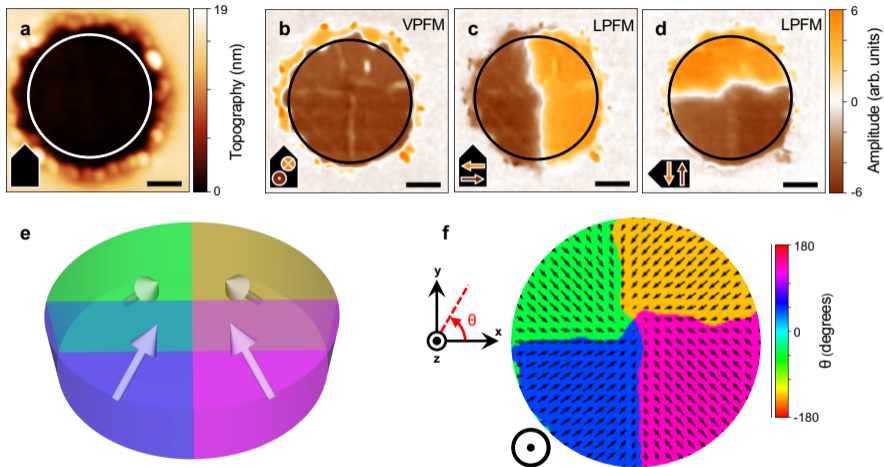
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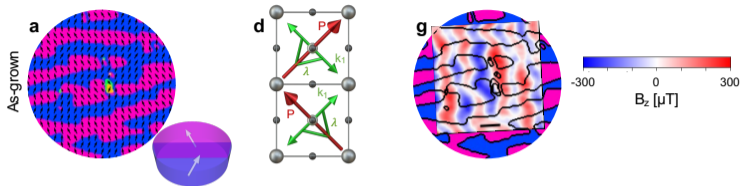
Z. Li, J.-Y. Chauleau, M. Viret

A. Chaudron *et al.* *Nat. Mater.* 23 (2024), 905

Center ferroelectric domains imaged with PFM



Discs hosting the cycloidal state

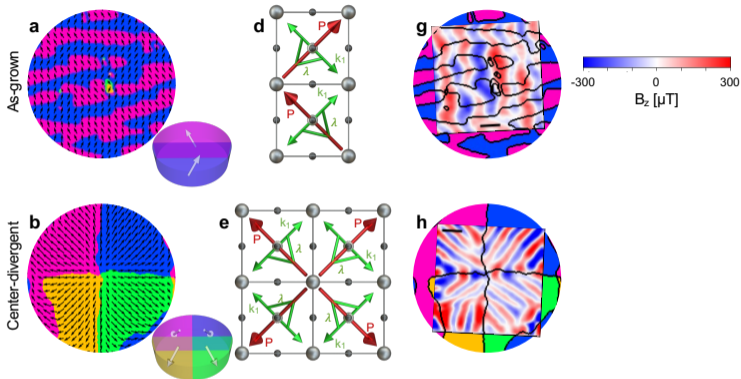


Discs hosting the cycloidal state



Laboratoire
Albert Fert

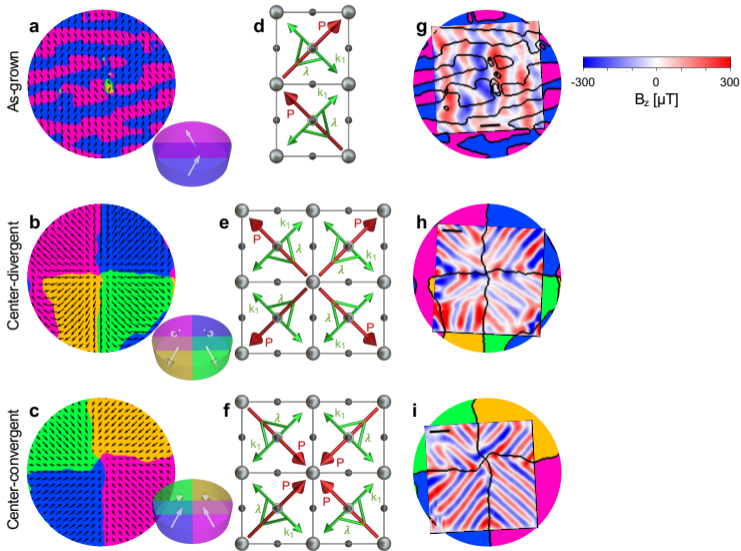
A. Chaudron, S. Fusil, V. Garcia



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Laboratoire
Albert Fert A. Chaudron, S. Fusil, V. Garcia

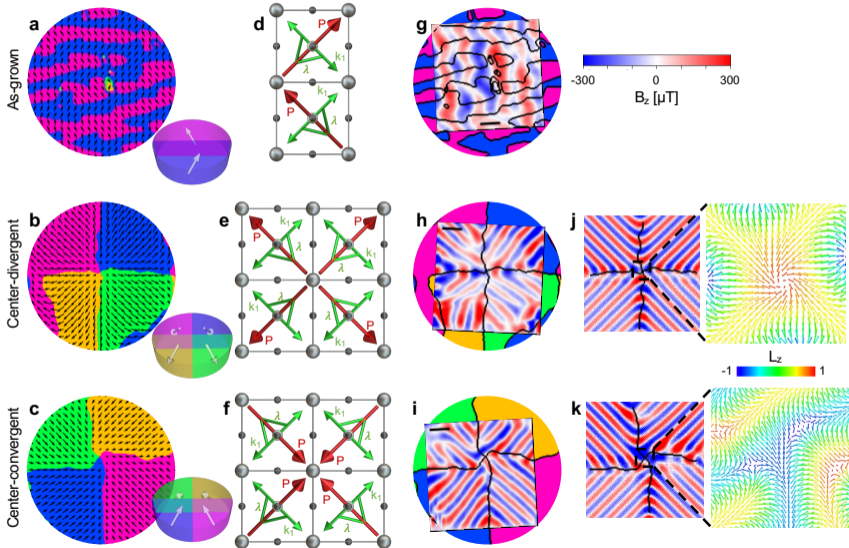


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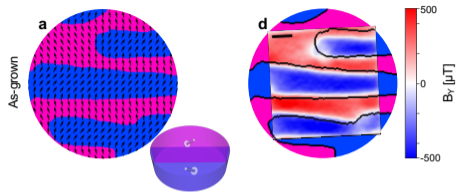


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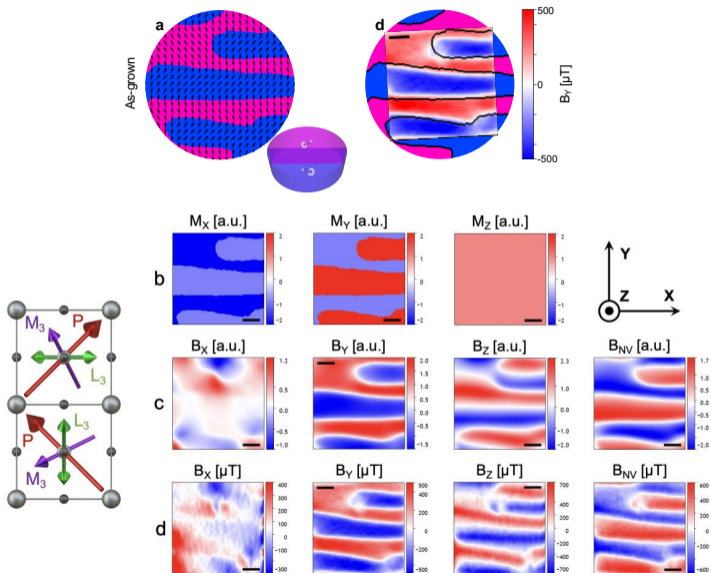
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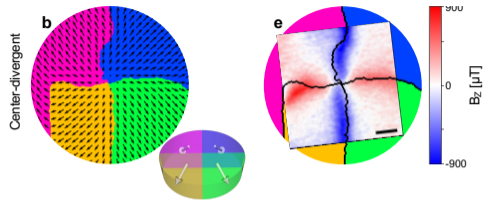
Discs hosting the AFM state - FE stripes



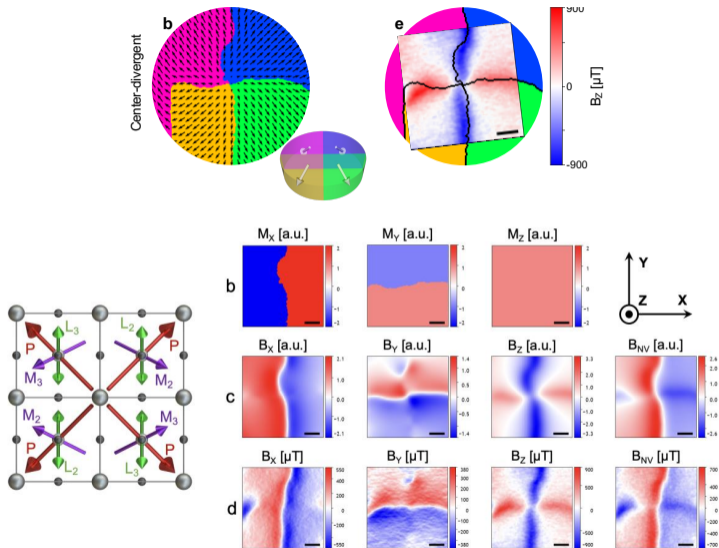
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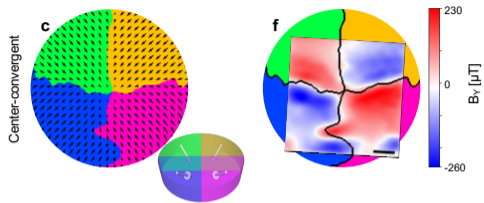
Discs hosting the AFM state – divergent FE state



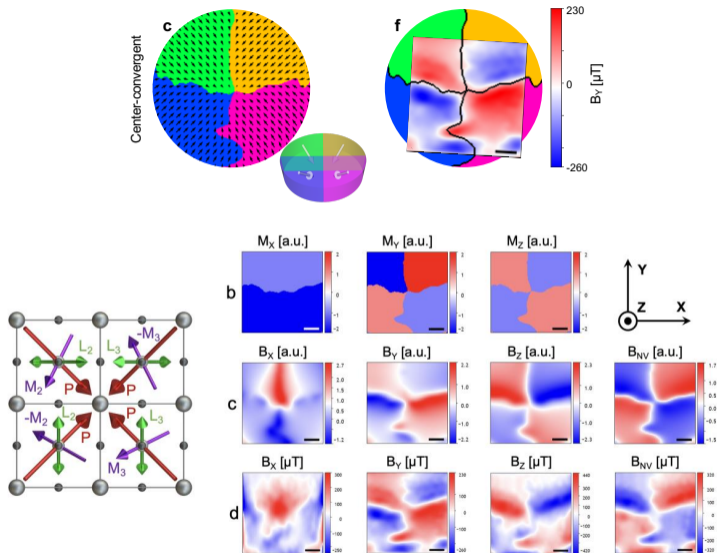
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Discs hosting the AFM state – convergent FE state



Discs hosting the AFM state – convergent FE state



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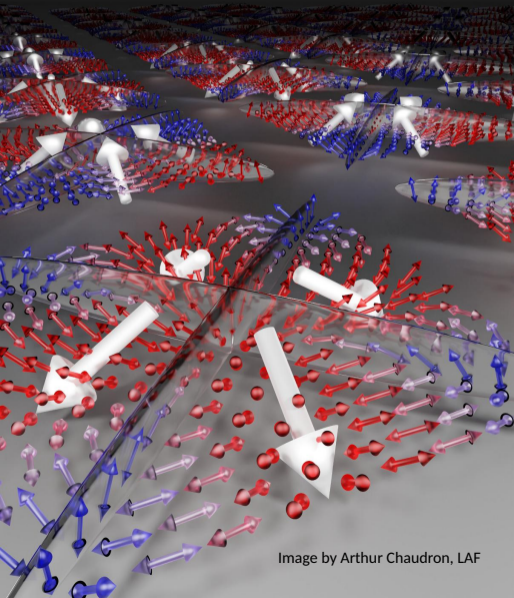
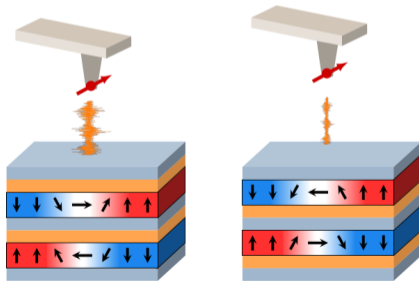


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Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

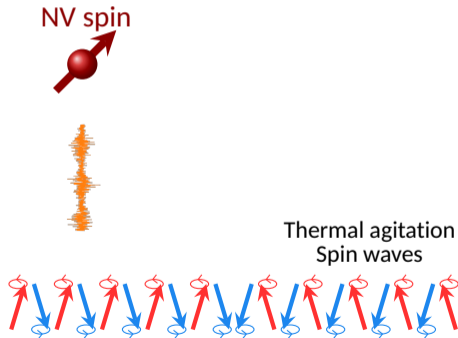
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- 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

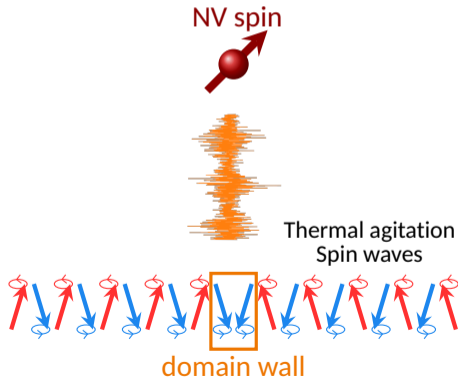
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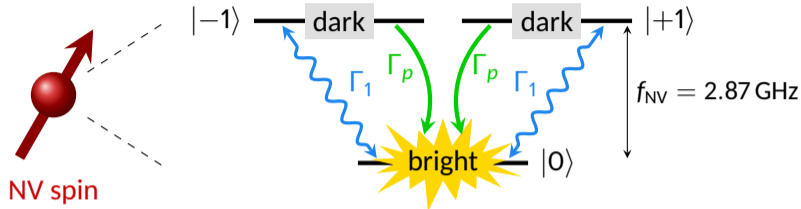
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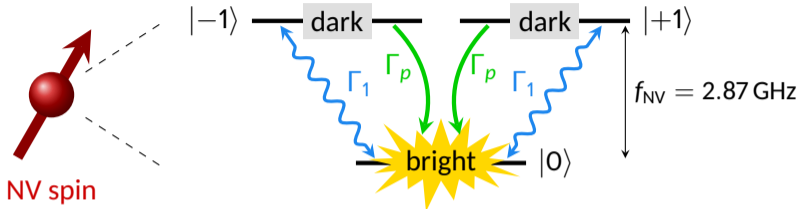


Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence

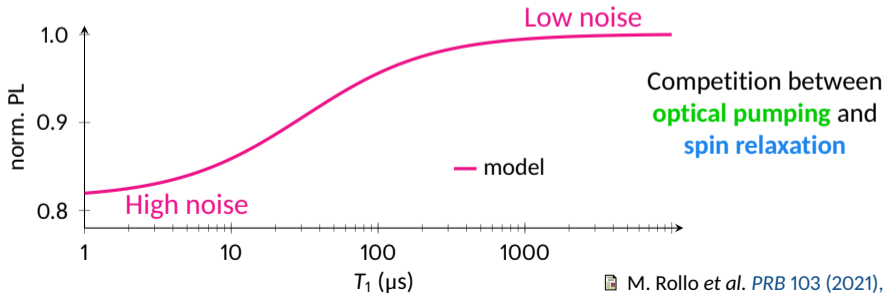


Relaxation rate $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{NV})$ magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency f_{NV}

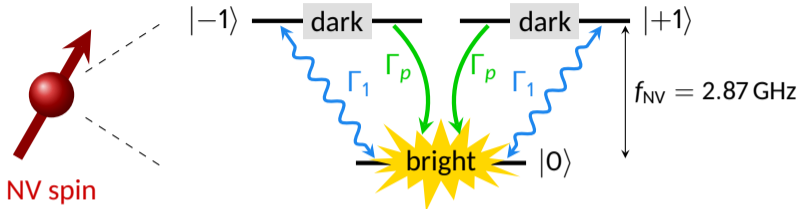
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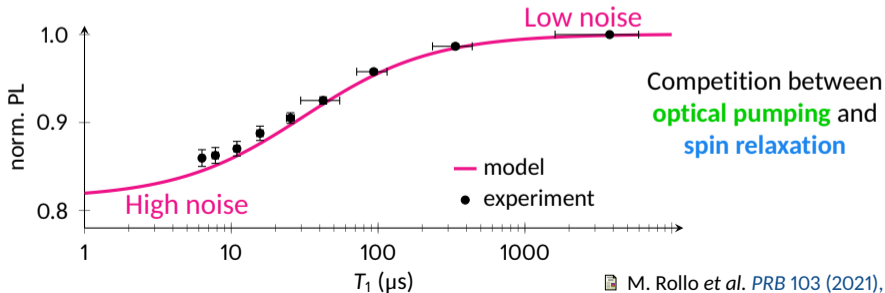
Relaxation rate $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_{\perp}}(f_{\text{NV}})$ magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency f_{NV}



Effect of magnetic noise on the emitted photoluminescence



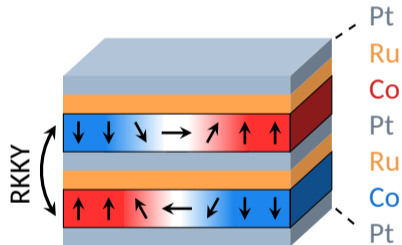
Relaxation rate $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$ magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency f_{NV}



Synthetic antiferromagnets

Samples: LAF, Palaiseau (W. Legrand, K. Bouzehouane, N. Reyren, V. Cros)
Spintec, Grenoble (V.-T. Pham, J. Urrestarazu, R. Guedas, O. Boulle)

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



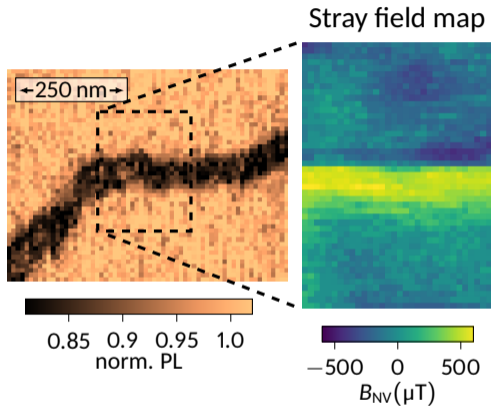
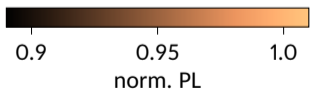
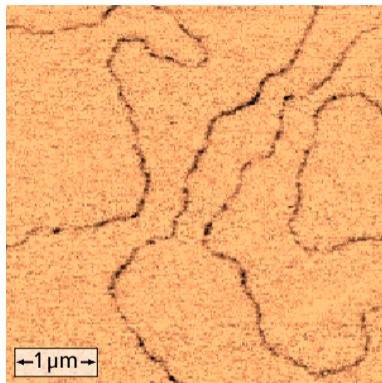
- No net magnetic moment
- Small stray field (vertical shift)
- Highly tunable properties
- Spin wave frequencies in the few GHz range

→ Perfect **test system**
for noise imaging!

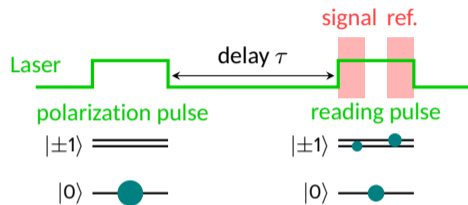
W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

V. T. Pham et al. *Science* 384 (2024), 307

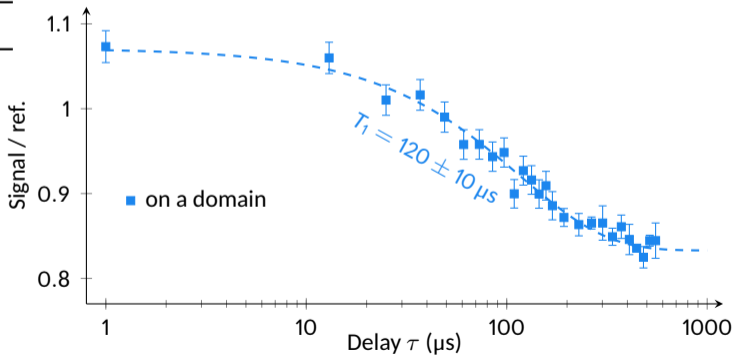
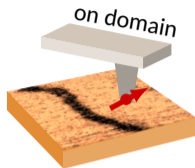
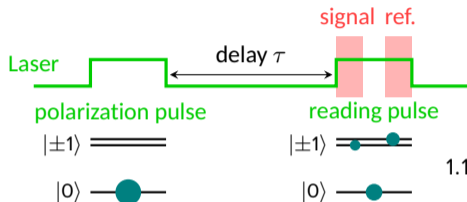
Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



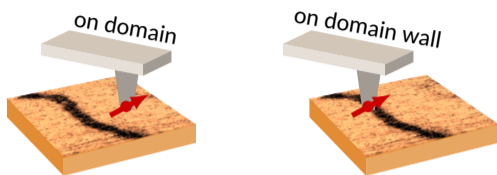
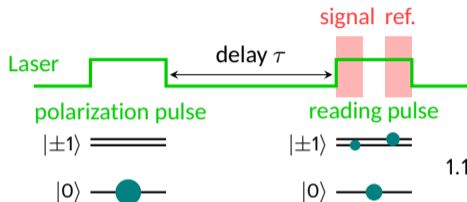
Local variation of the relaxation time



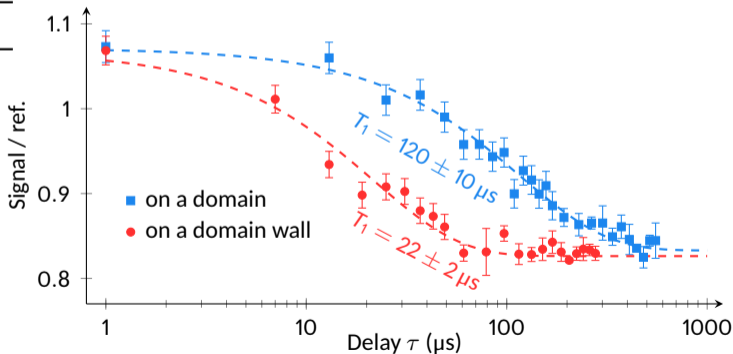
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Local variation of the relaxation time

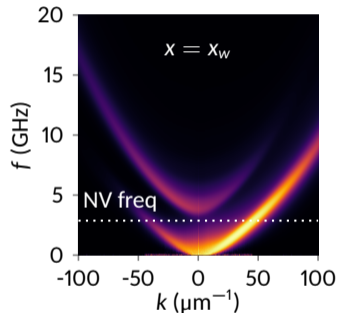
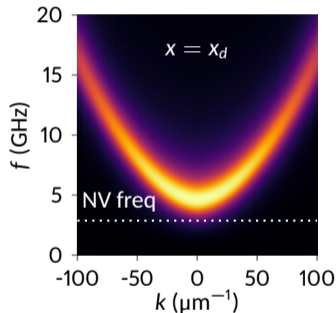
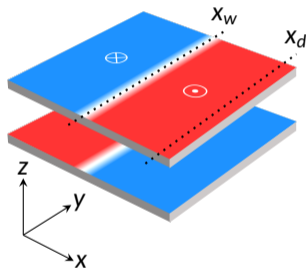


Clear diminution of T_1
→ **Enhancement of the spin relaxation**



Origin of the noise: spin waves

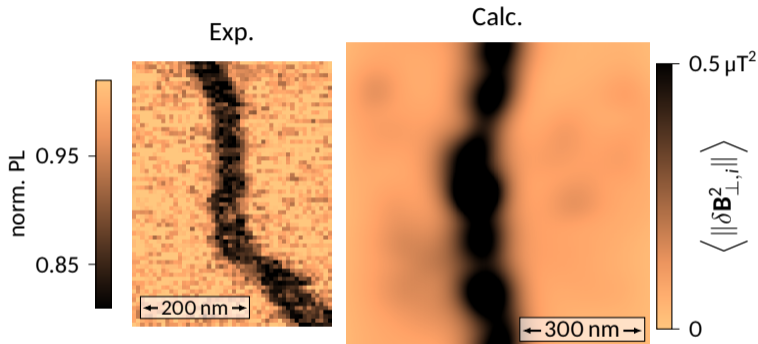
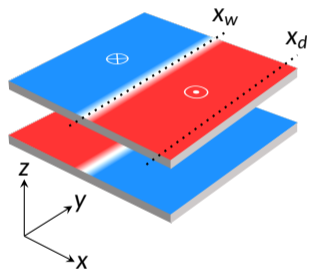
Collaboration: C2N, Palaiseau (J.-P. Adam, J.-V. Kim)



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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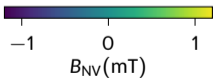
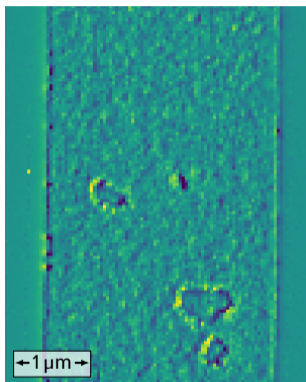
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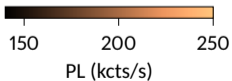
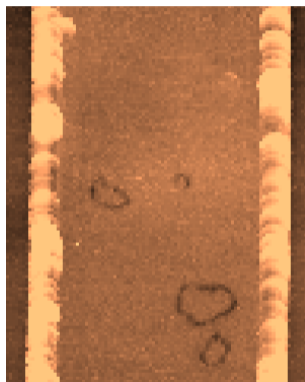
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After applying magnetic field

NV stray field map

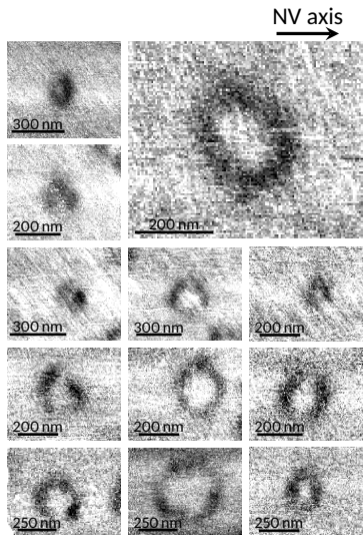


Noise (PL) map

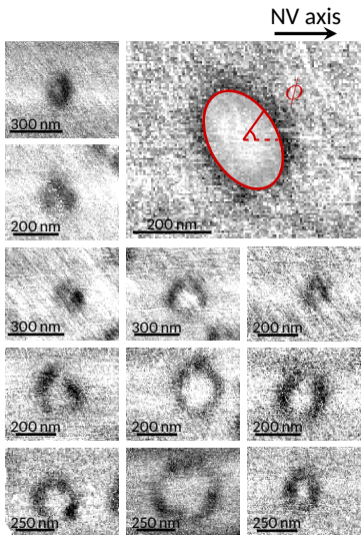


- Oop field of about 150 mT applied for nucleation
- Skyrmions and big bubbles pinned

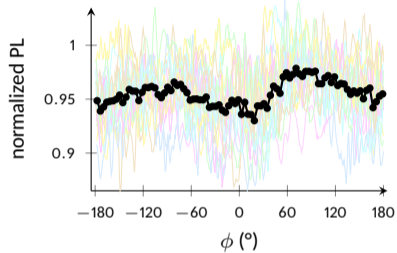
Statistics on Néel left (CCW) skyrmions



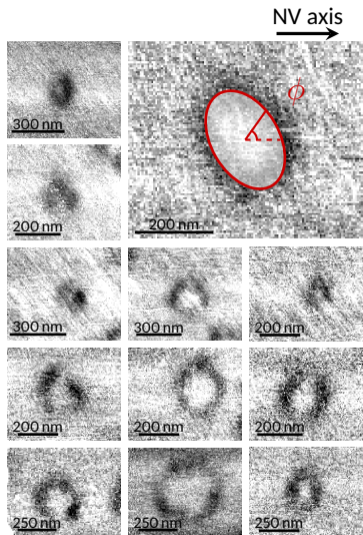
Statistics on Néel left (CCW) skyrmions



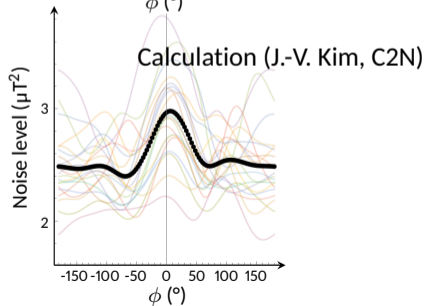
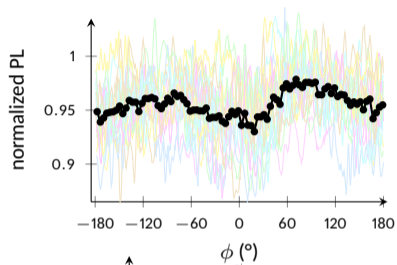
Angular variation of PL



Statistics on Néel left (CCW) skyrmions

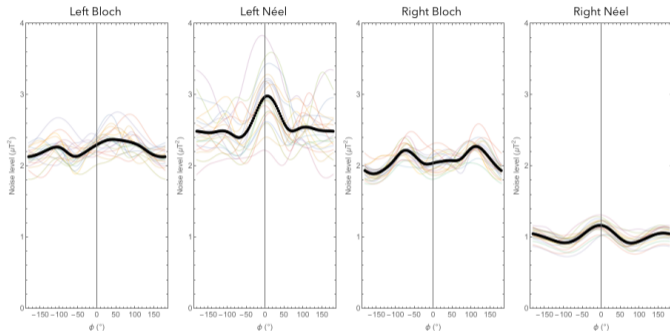


Angular variation of PL

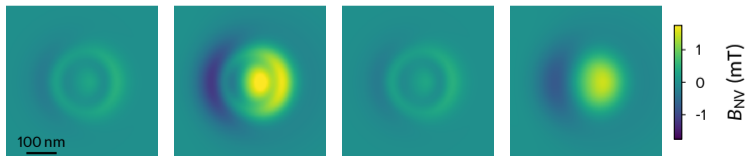


Expected pattern on other skyrmion types

Simulated noise distribution along the contour



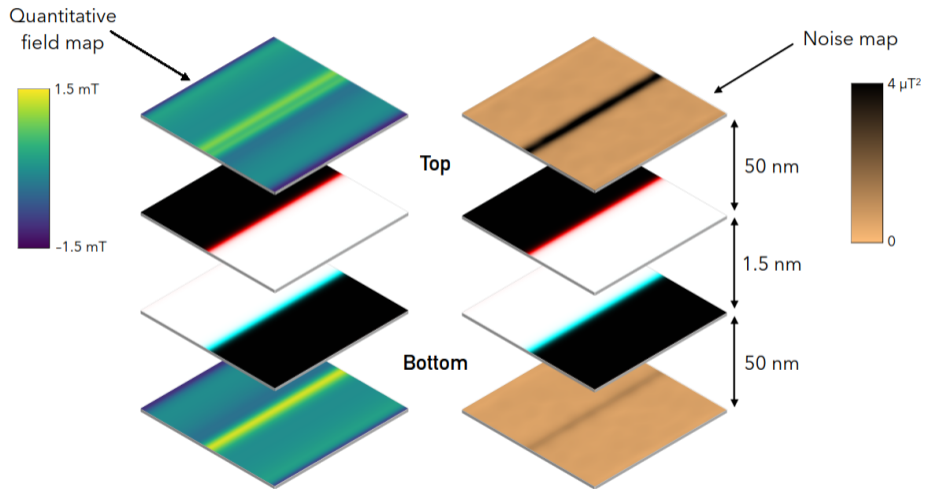
Simulated stray field maps



- The pattern allows us to identify Néel skyrmions
- Strong difference in noise amplitude expected between Néel left and Néel right skyrmions...
- ... while the stray field maps are very similar!

Do we also expect this for domain walls? Yes!

Calculation: C2N, Palaiseau (J.-V. Kim)

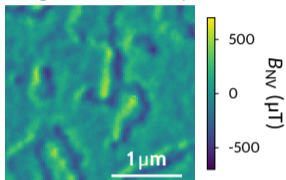


Experiment: looking at both sides of the film

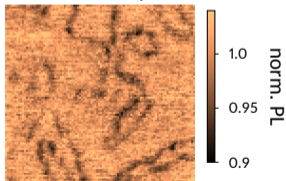
Initial stack: Néel left

TaOx 3 nm
Ru 0.6 nm
Co 1.5 nm
Pt 0.5 nm
Ru 0.8 nm
Co 1.5 nm
Pt 3 nm
Ta

Magnetic field map



Noise map

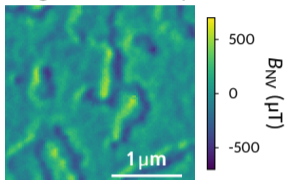


Experiment: looking at both sides of the film

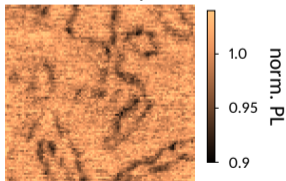
Initial stack: Néel left



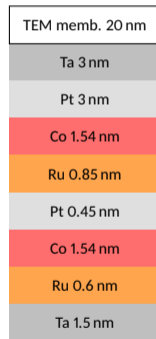
Magnetic field map



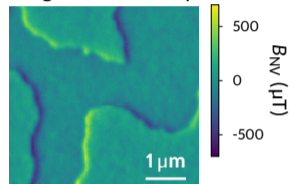
Noise map



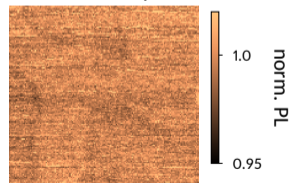
Inverted stack: Néel right



Magnetic field map

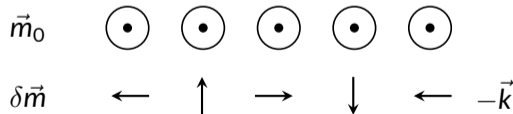
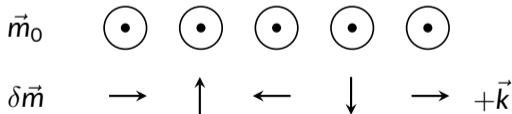
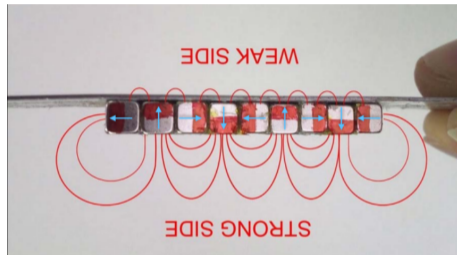
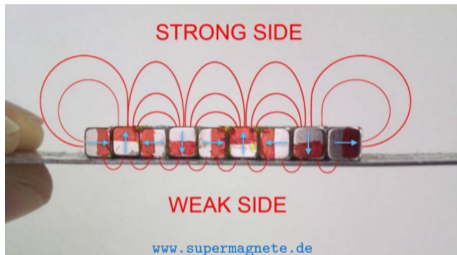


Noise map



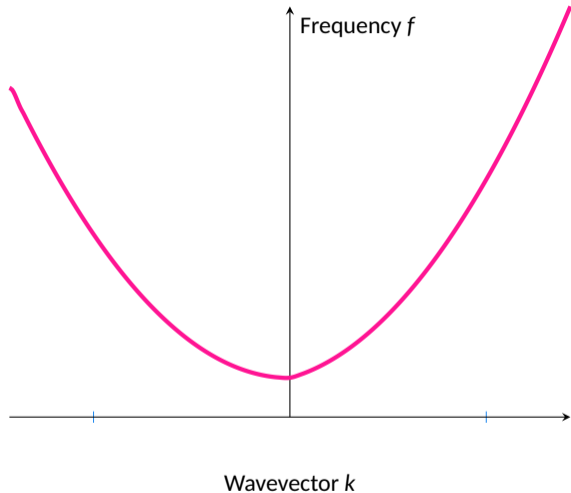
Origin of this effect, 1st ingredient : Spin waves = fridge magnets

Halbach arrays



Origin of this effect, 2nd ingredient: DMI

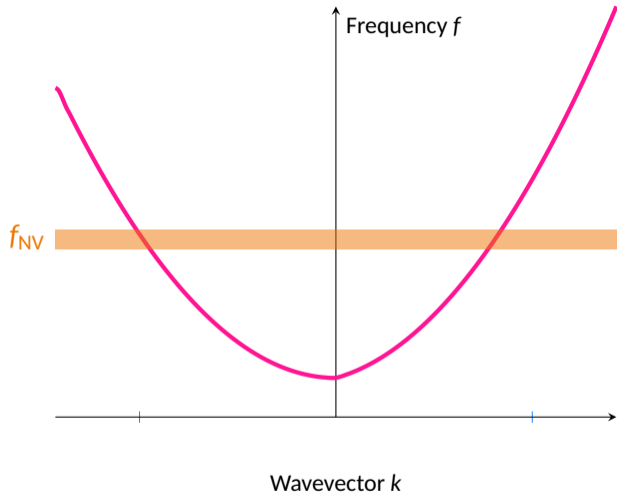
1. DMI induces non-reciprocity in the SW dispersion



Origin of this effect, 2nd ingredient: DMI

1. DMI induces non-reciprocity in the SW dispersion

2. The NV probe is filtering SW at f_{NV}

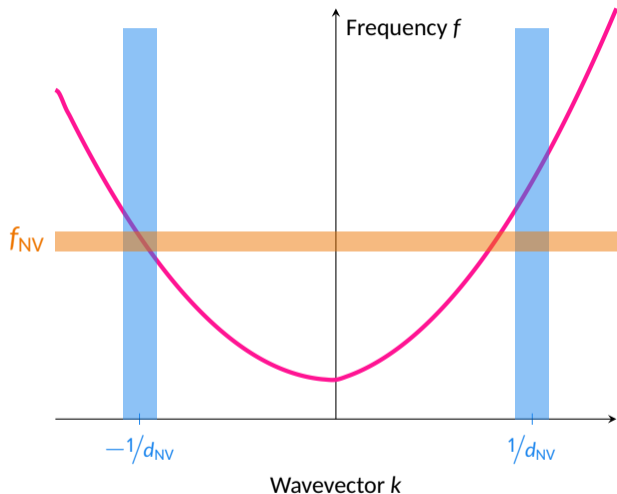


Origin of this effect, 2nd ingredient: DMI

1. DMI induces non-reciprocity in the SW dispersion

2. The NV probe is filtering SW at f_{NV}

3. The NV probe is filtering SW at $\pm 1/d_{\text{NV}}$



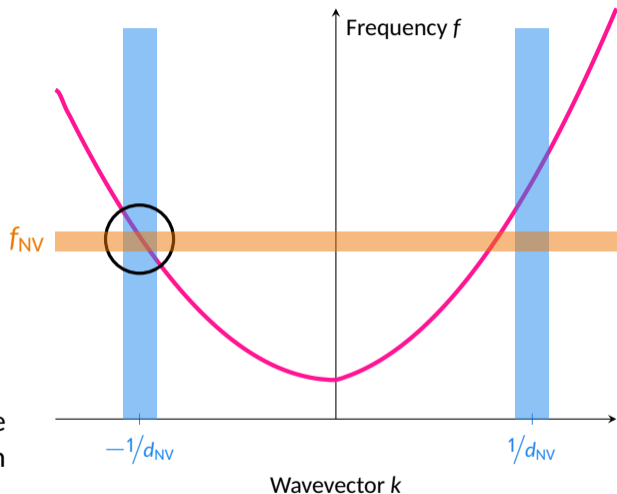
Origin of this effect, 2nd ingredient: DMI

1. DMI induces non-reciprocity in the SW dispersion

2. The NV probe is filtering SW at f_{NV}

3. The NV probe is filtering SW at $\pm 1/d_{\text{NV}}$

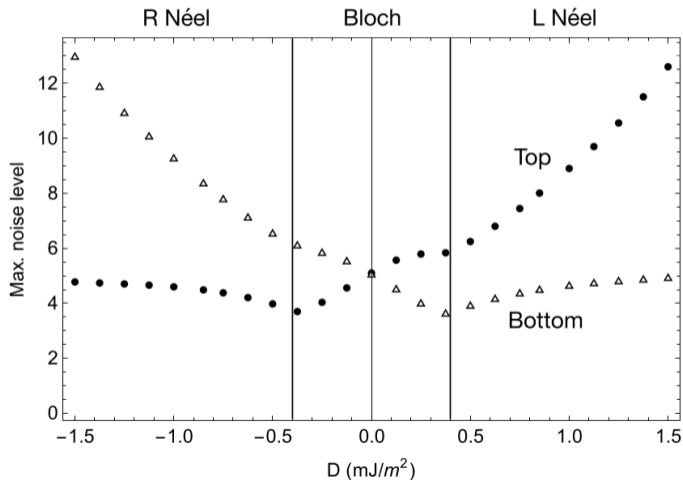
→ The NV center is more sensitive to a k direction than the other



Expected noise level vs DMI

Calculation: J.-V. Kim, C2N, Palaiseau

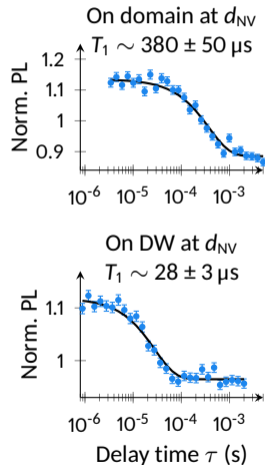
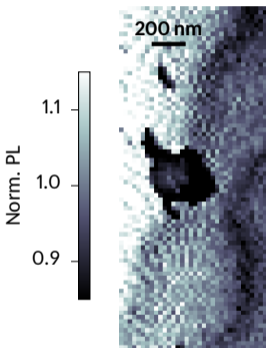
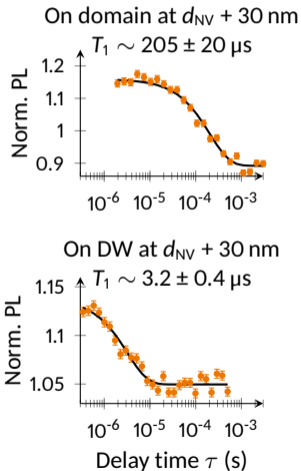
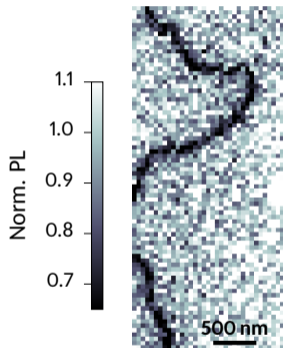
For a **single** ferromagnetic layer



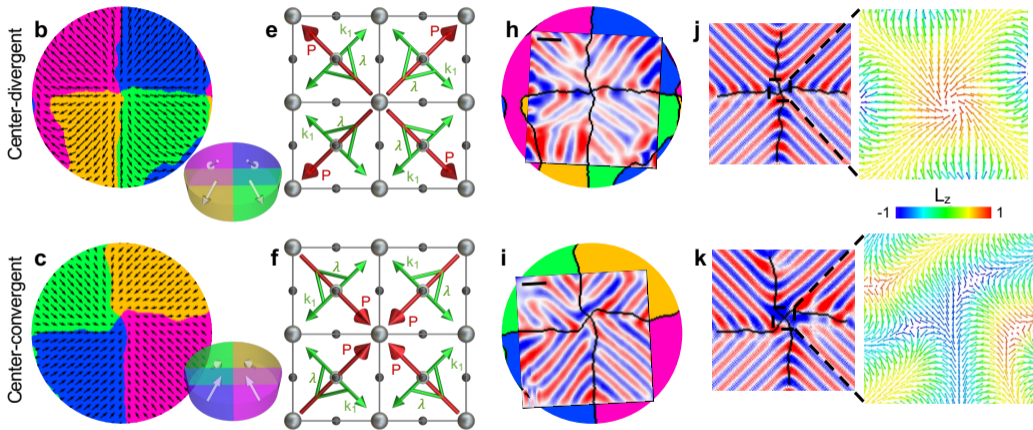
Data measured on a single FM layer grown on a membrane

Néel left side of the membrane (top)

Néel right side of the membrane (bottom)

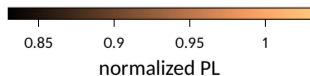
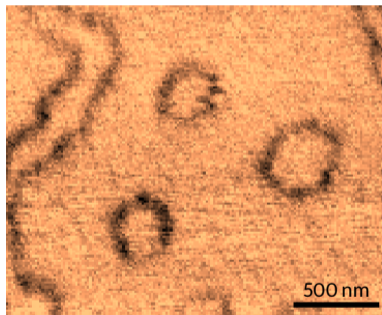


Summary: multiferroic solitons in BFO discs

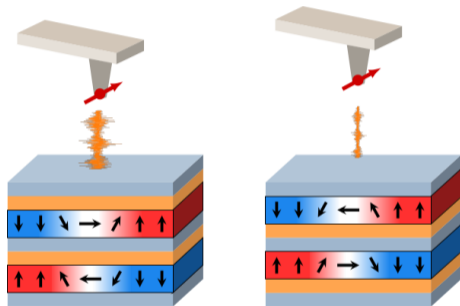


Summary: DMI probing from noise

Localization and characterization of magnetic textures from thermal spin wave noise using scanning NV center microscopy



Method to get insight about sign and strength of DMI



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

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

 A. Finco *et al.* *in preparation* (2024)

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