

# Imaging antiferromagnetic textures with NV-center microscopy

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*Centre de Nanosciences et de Nanotechnologies, CNRS, Université Paris-Saclay, Palaiseau, France*

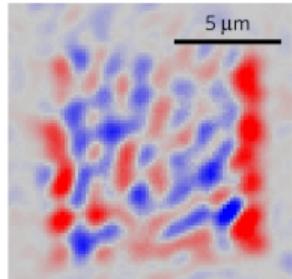


QUOROM 4, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2021

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

# Techniques to image antiferromagnets

SHG



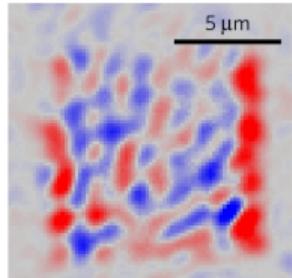
■ J.-Y. Chauleau *et al.* *Nat. Mat.* 16 (2017), 803



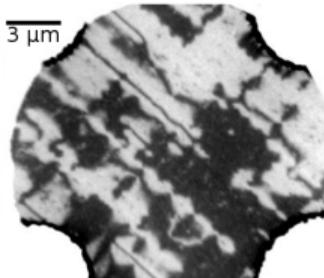
Spatial  
resolution

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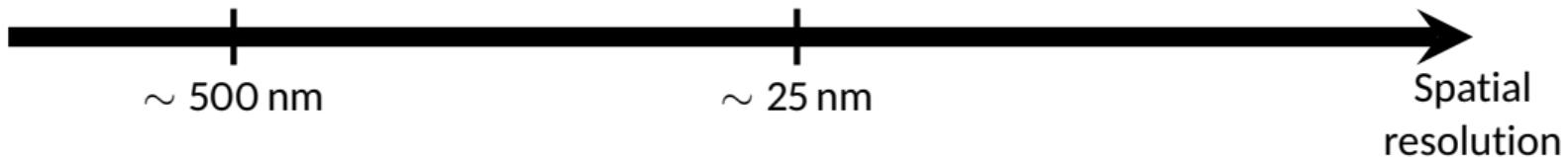


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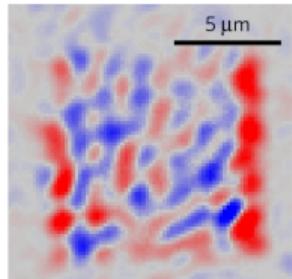
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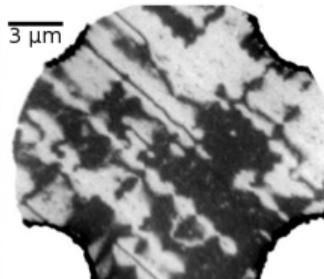


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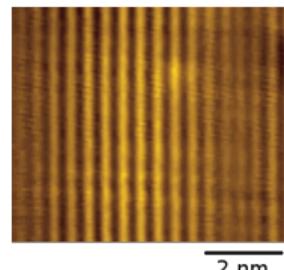
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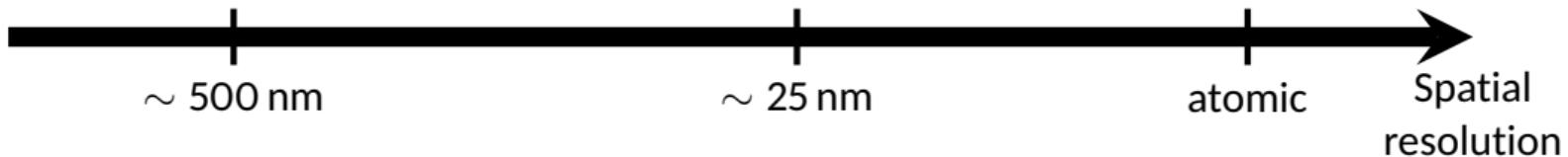
SP-STM



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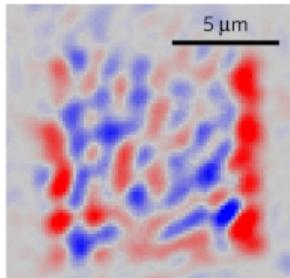
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■ M. Bode et al. *Nature* 447 (2007), 190



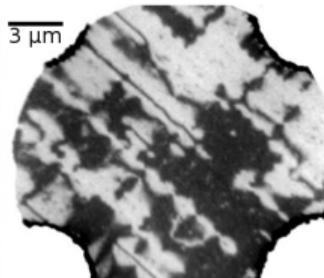
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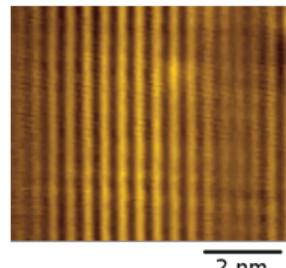
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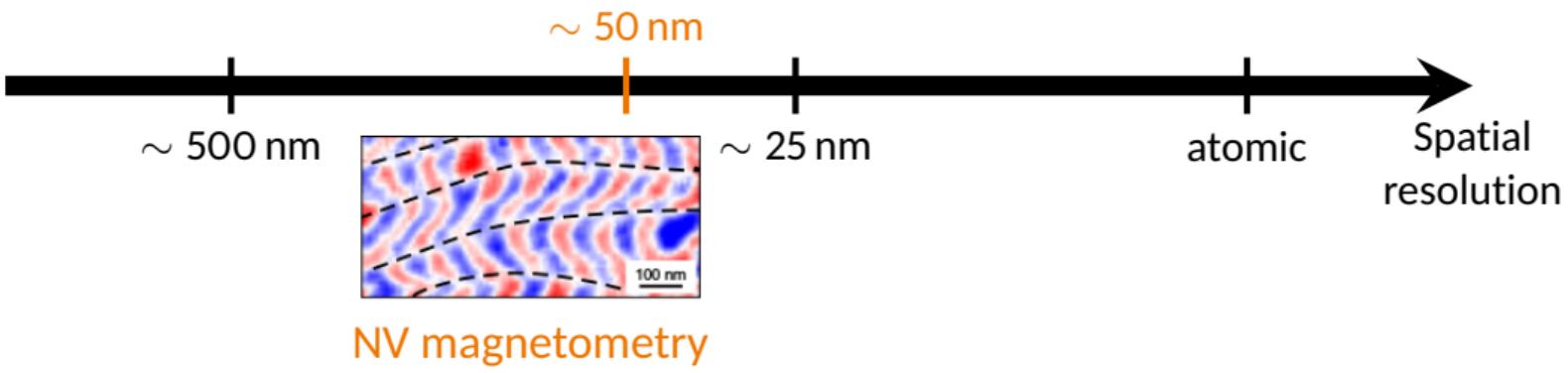


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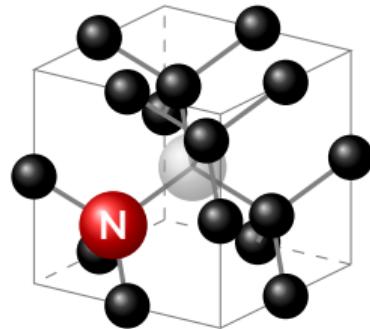


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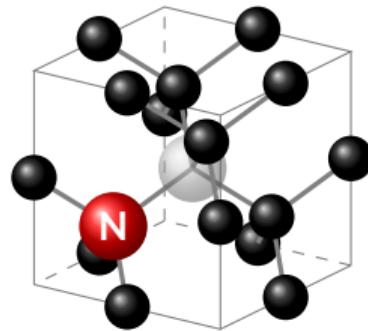
■ I. Gross et al. *Nature* 549 (2017), 252

# NV centers to measure magnetic fields



Defect in diamond

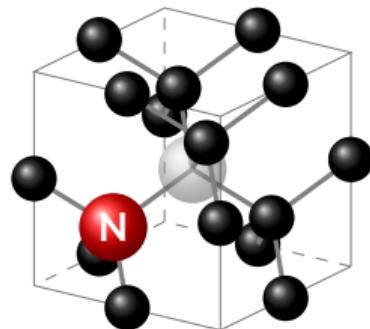
# NV centers to measure magnetic fields



Defect in diamond

- Optical manipulation and reading
- Ambient conditions

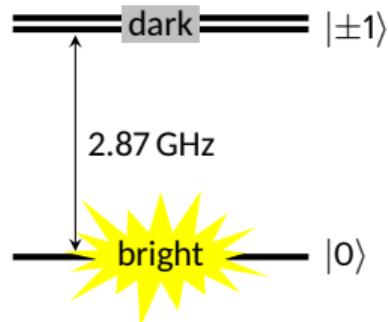
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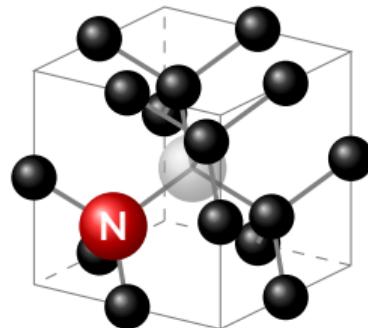
- Optical manipulation and reading
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Spin-dependent  
fluorescence



NV ground state  
spin  $S = 1$

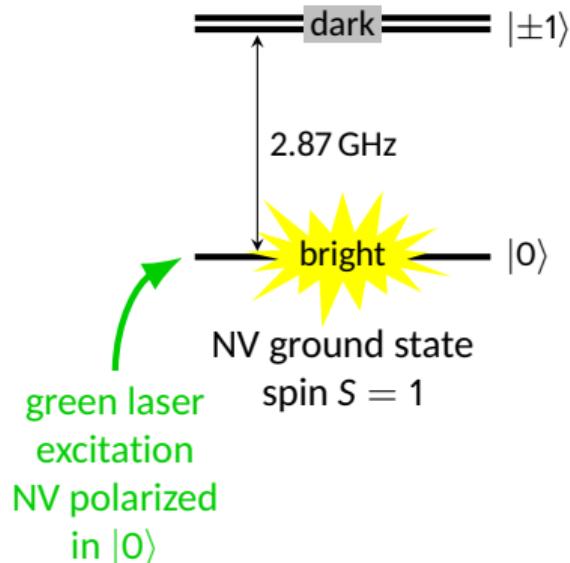
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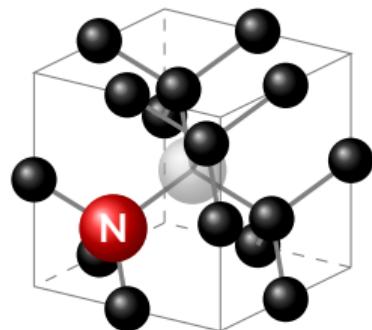
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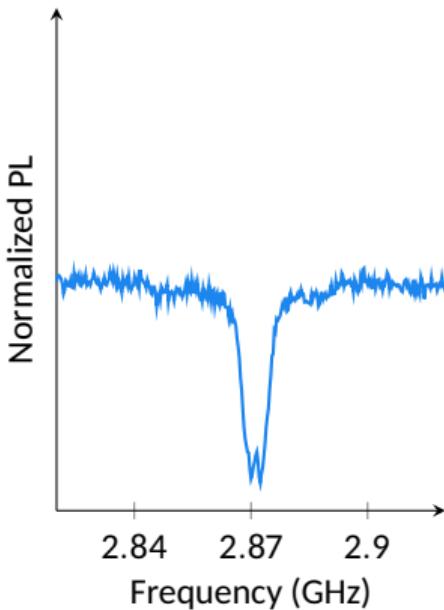
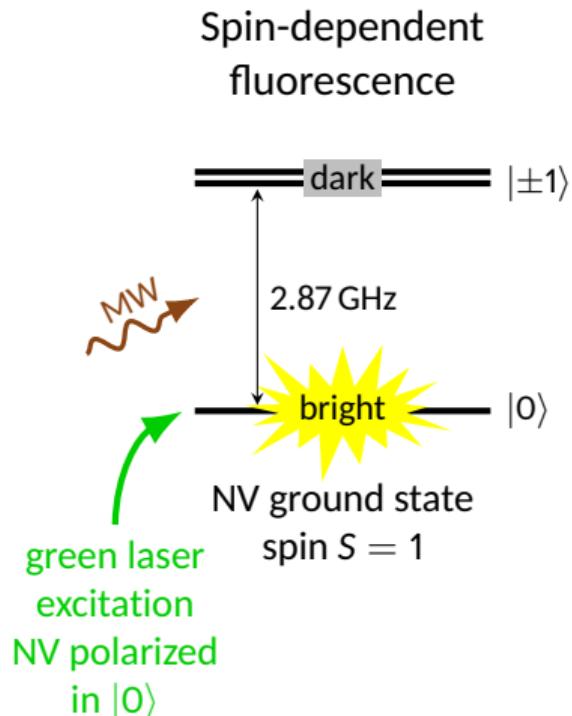


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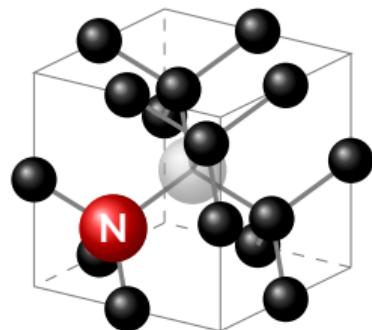


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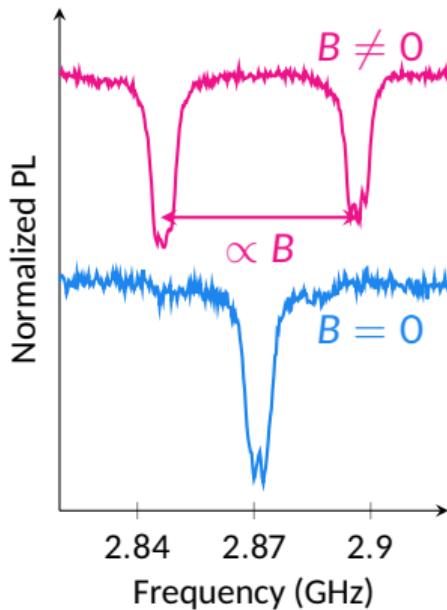
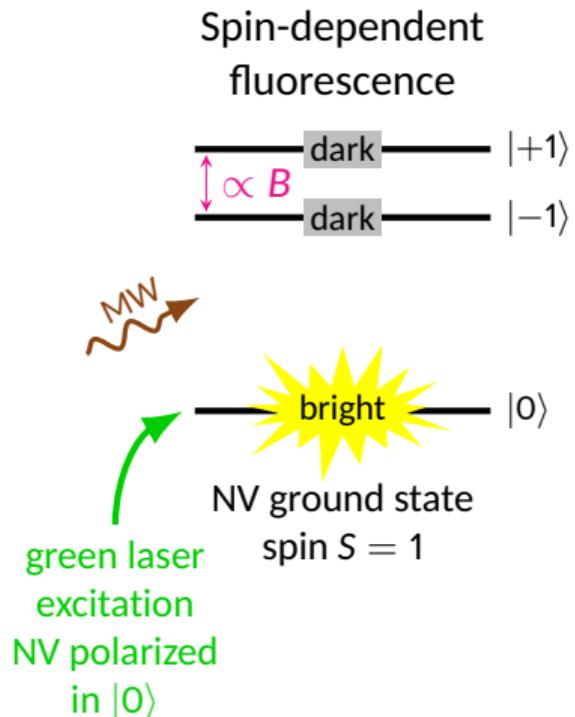
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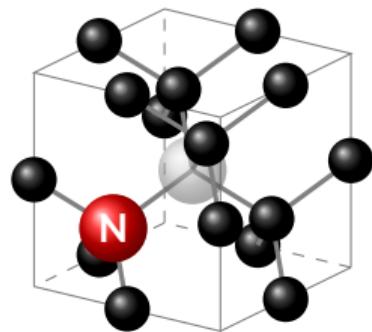
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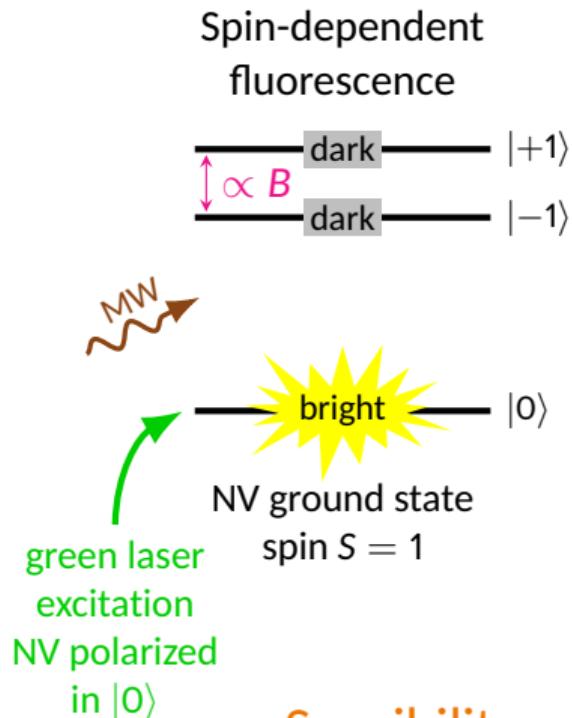


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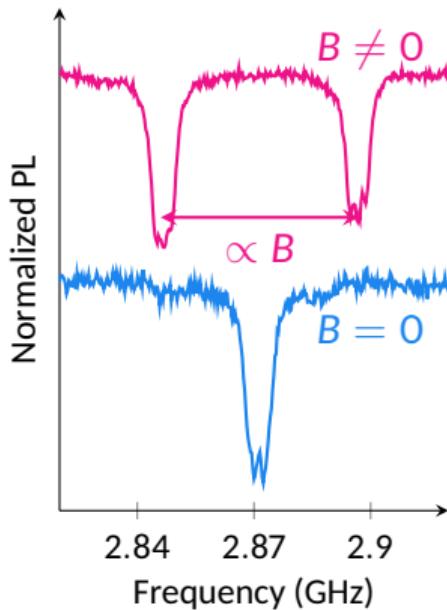


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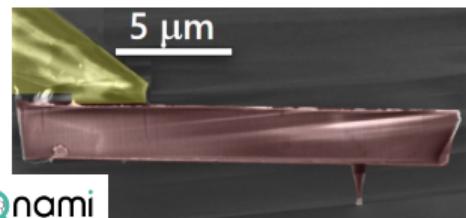


Sensibility: a few  $\mu\text{T}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

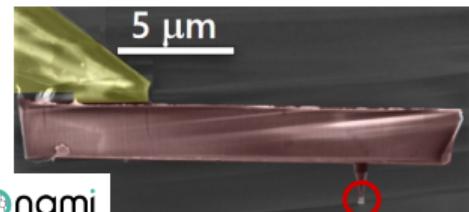


# Quantitative scanning NV magnetometry on antiferromagnets

Diamond  
AFM tip

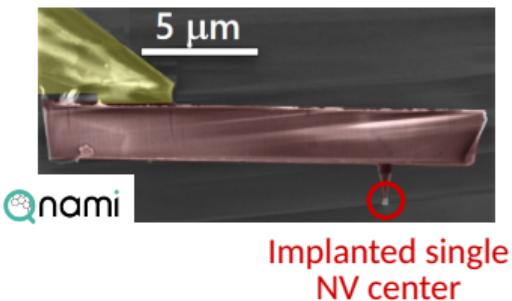
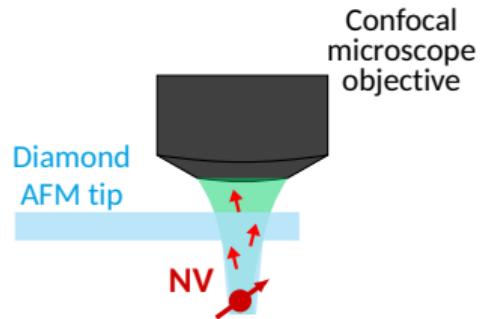


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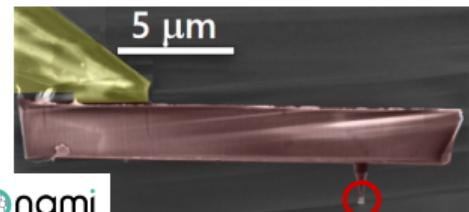
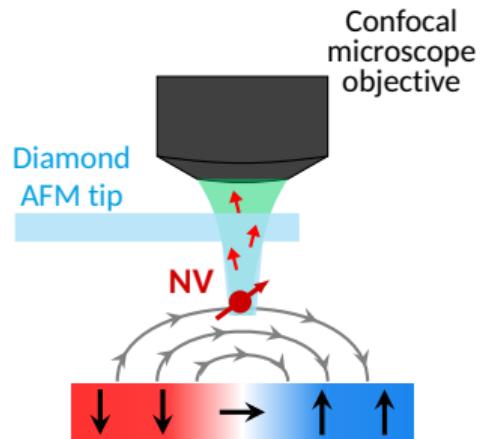


Implanted single  
NV center

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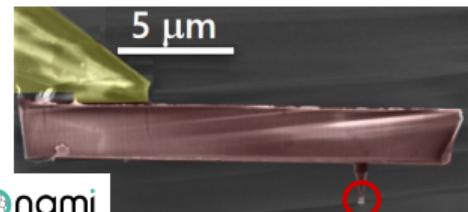
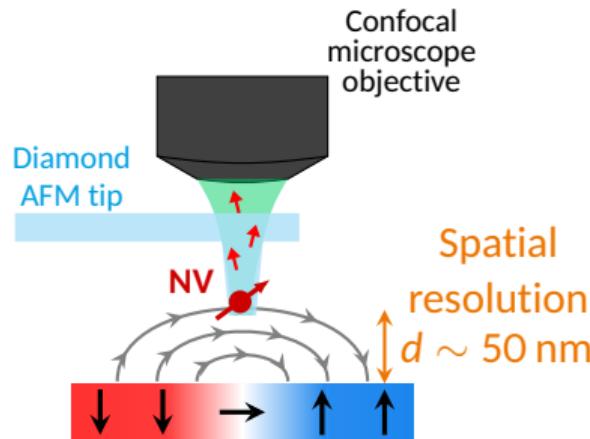
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Qnami

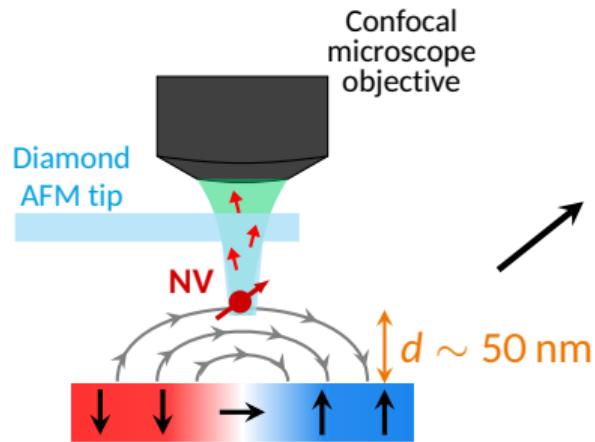
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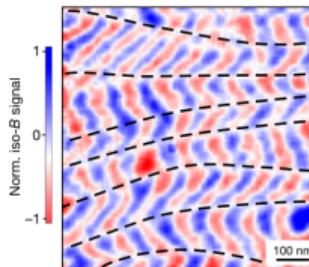
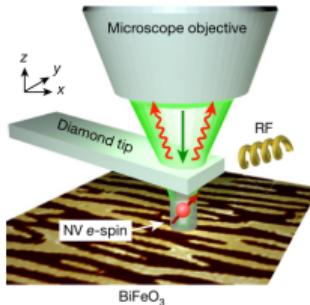


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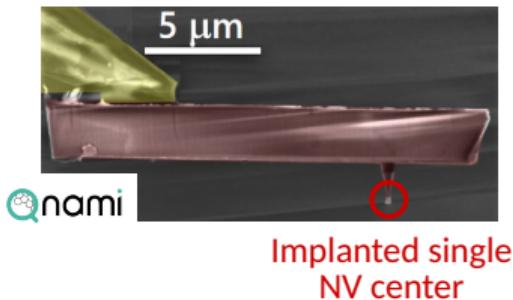


**BiFeO<sub>3</sub>:** a room-temperature multiferroic

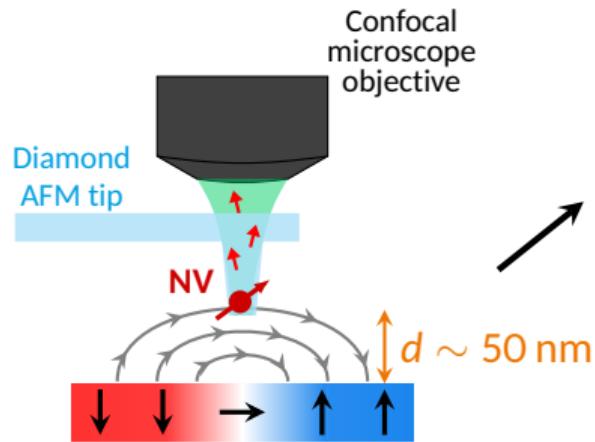


I. Gross et al. *Nature* 549 (2017), 252

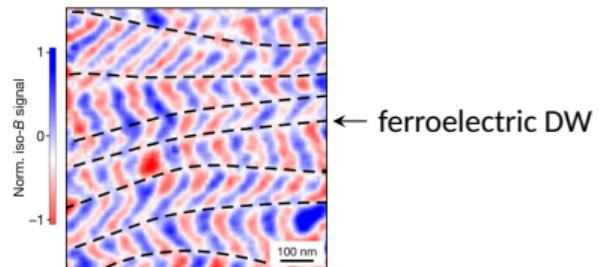
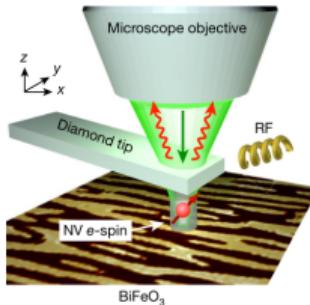
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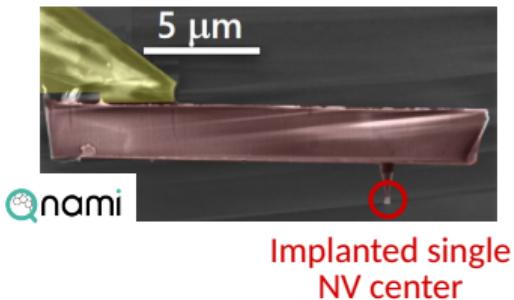


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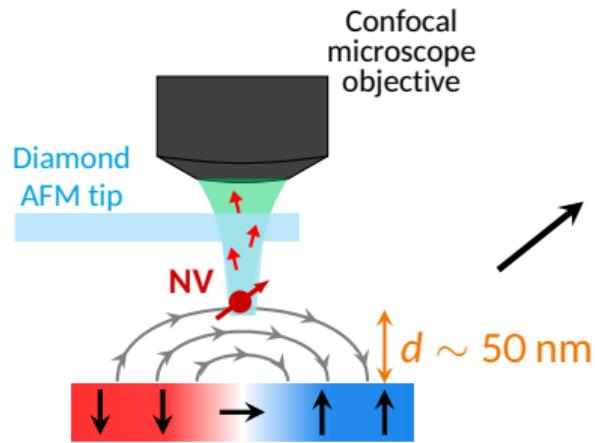


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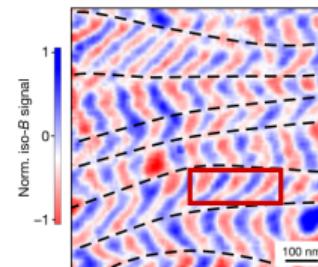
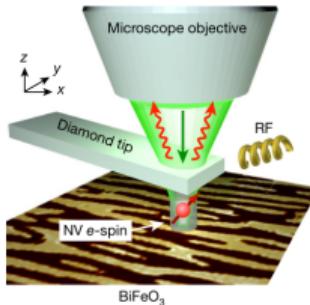
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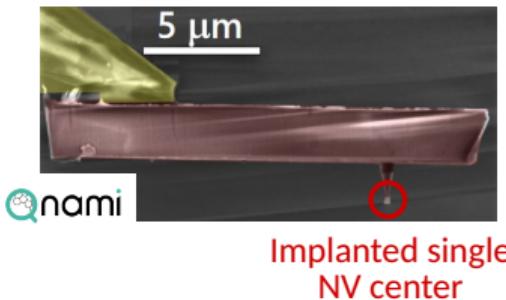


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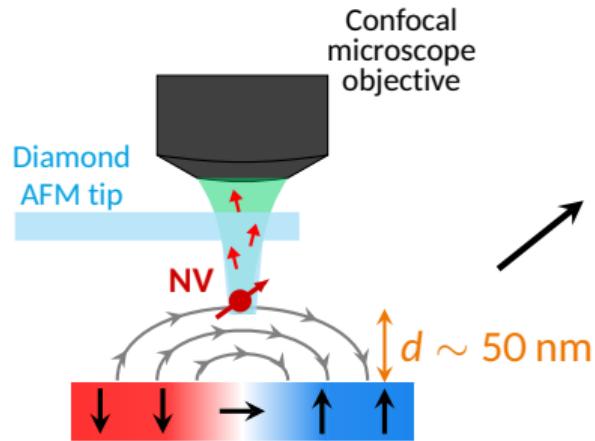


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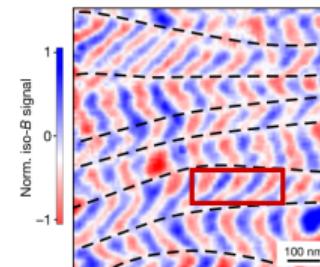
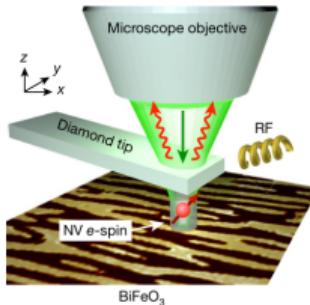
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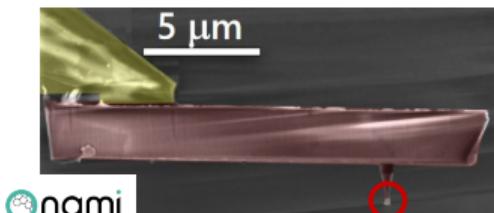
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← ferroelectric DW  
Cycloidal modulation of the AFM order

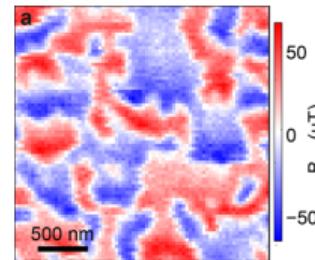
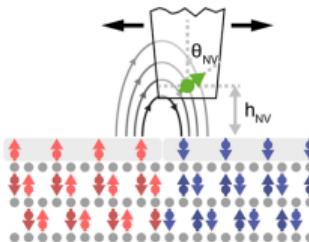
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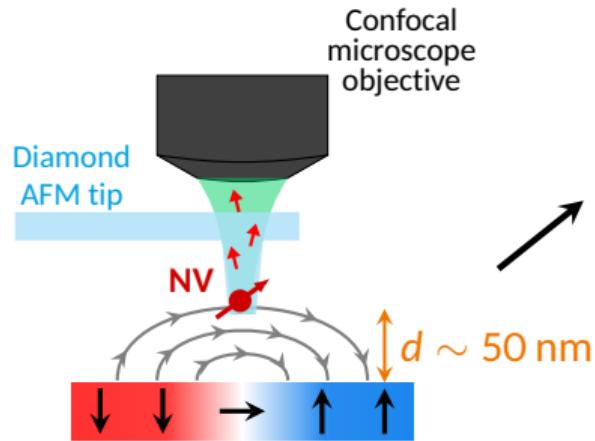
Implanted single NV center

**Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:** a layered antiferromagnet

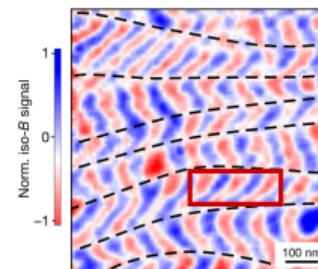
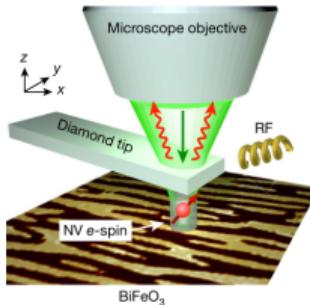


P. Appel et al. *Nano Lett.* 19 (2019), 1682

# Quantitative scanning NV magnetometry on antiferromagnets



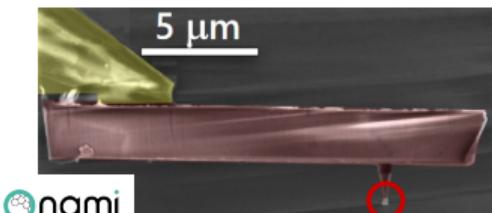
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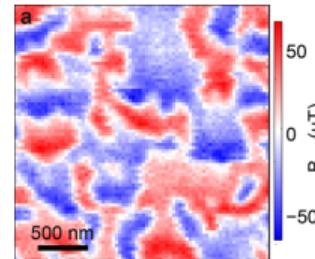
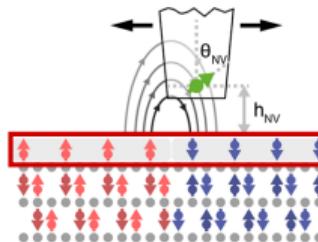
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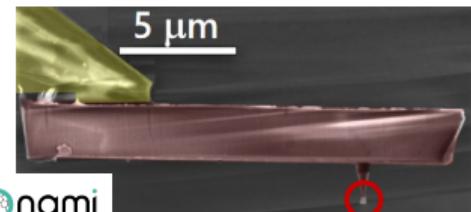
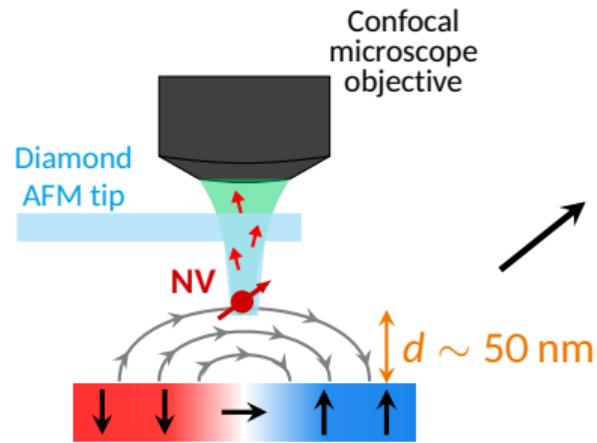
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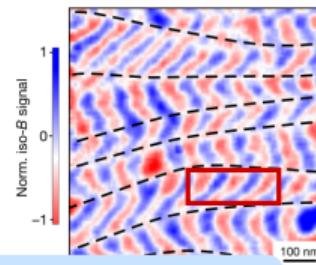
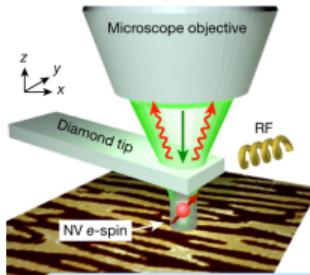
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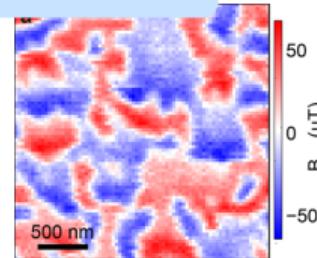
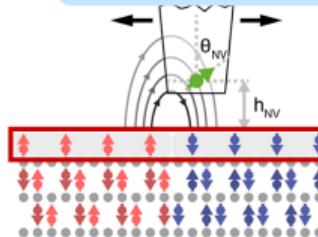
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Nature 549 (2017), 252  
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Antiferromagnets with small uncompensated moments

**What if this is not the case?**



P. Appel et al. Nano Lett. 19 (2019), 1682

# Use magnetic noise instead of stray field!

- Completely compensated antiferromagnets = **no static stray field** to probe

# Use magnetic noise instead of stray field!

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- But NV centers are also sensitive to **magnetic noise!**

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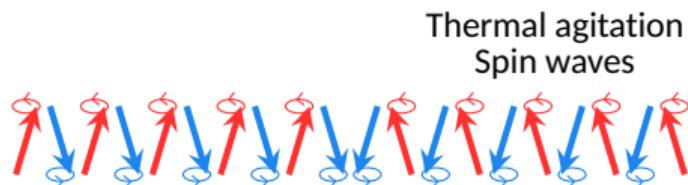
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- Completely compensated antiferromagnets = **no static stray field** to probe
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- Use the different noise properties above domains and domain walls for imaging

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

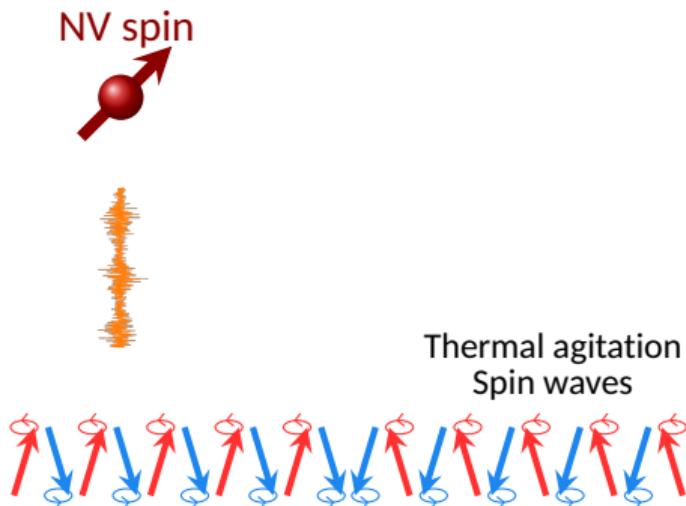
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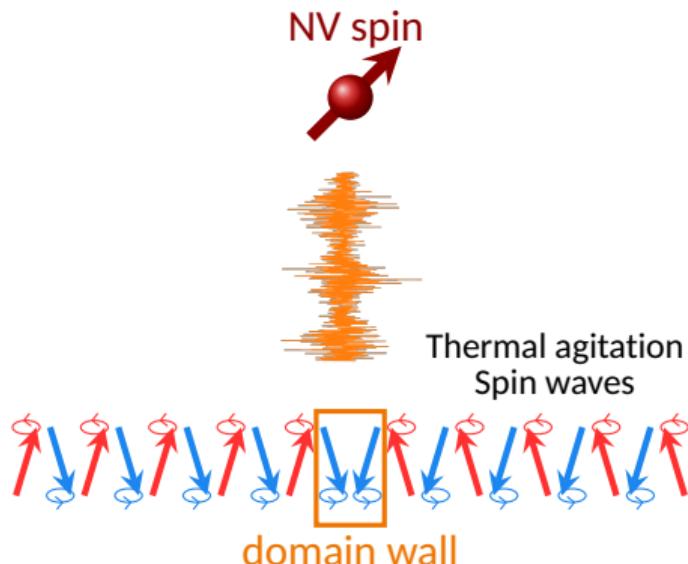
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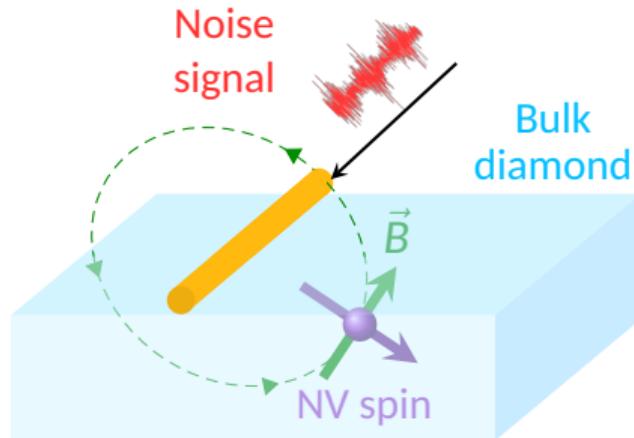
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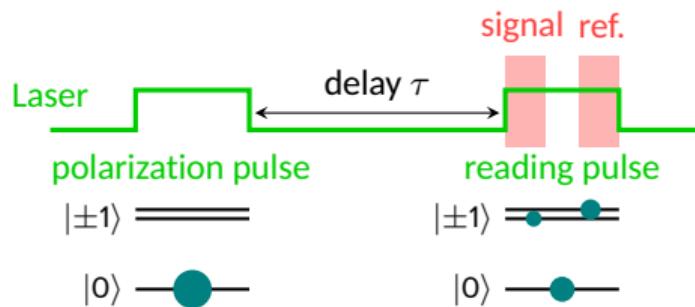
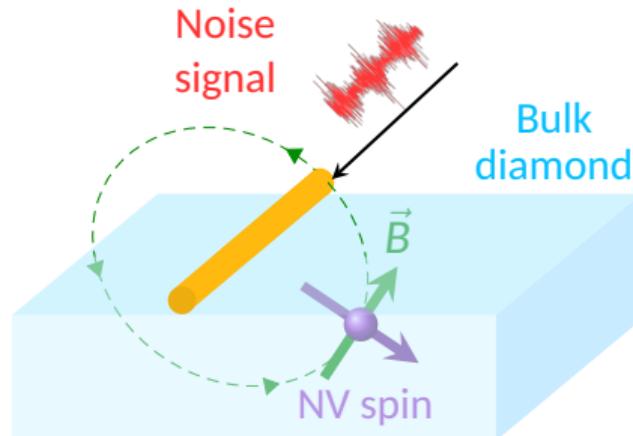
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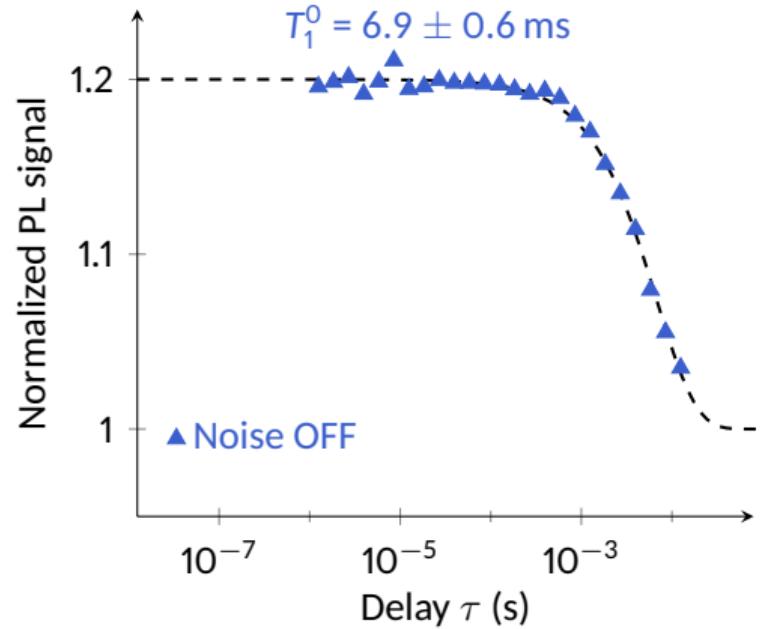
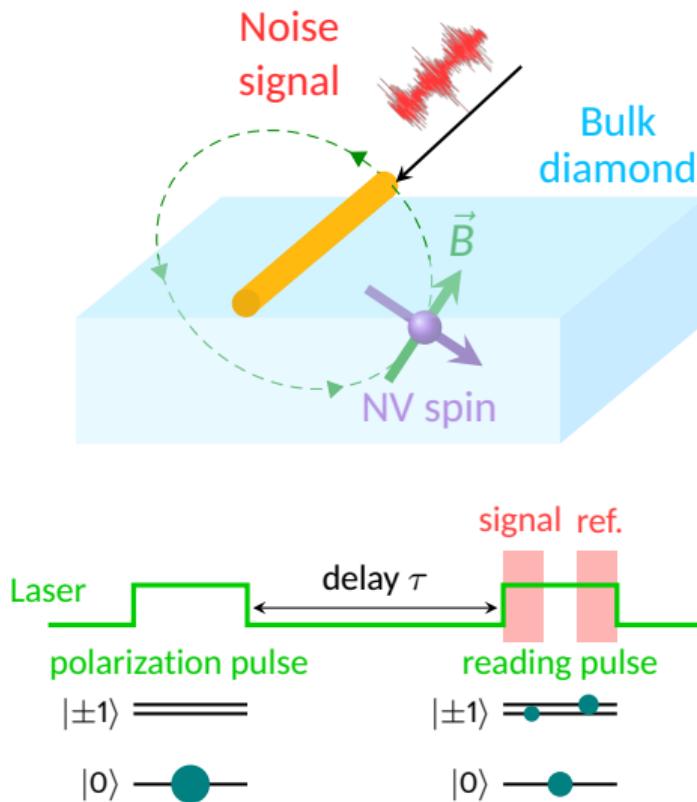
# Acceleration of the NV spin relaxation with noise



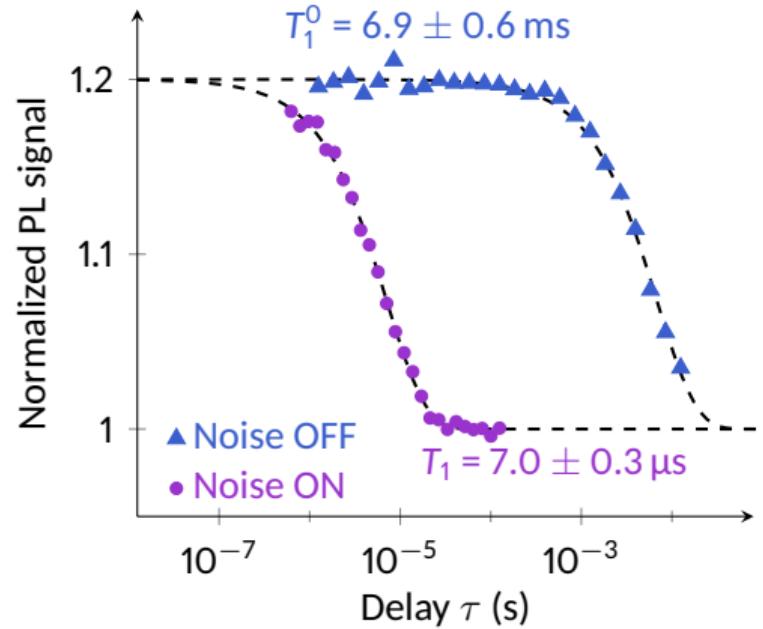
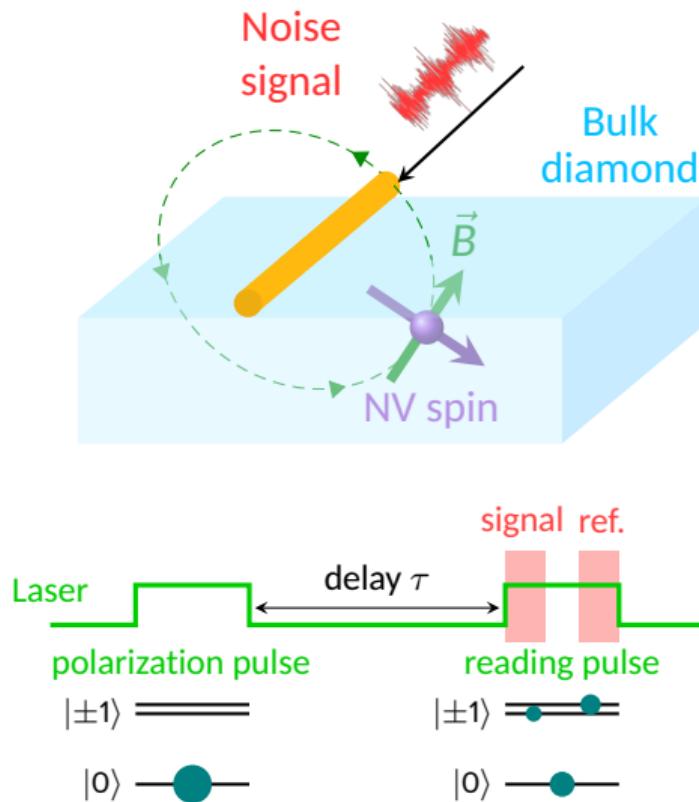
# Acceleration of the NV spin relaxation with noise



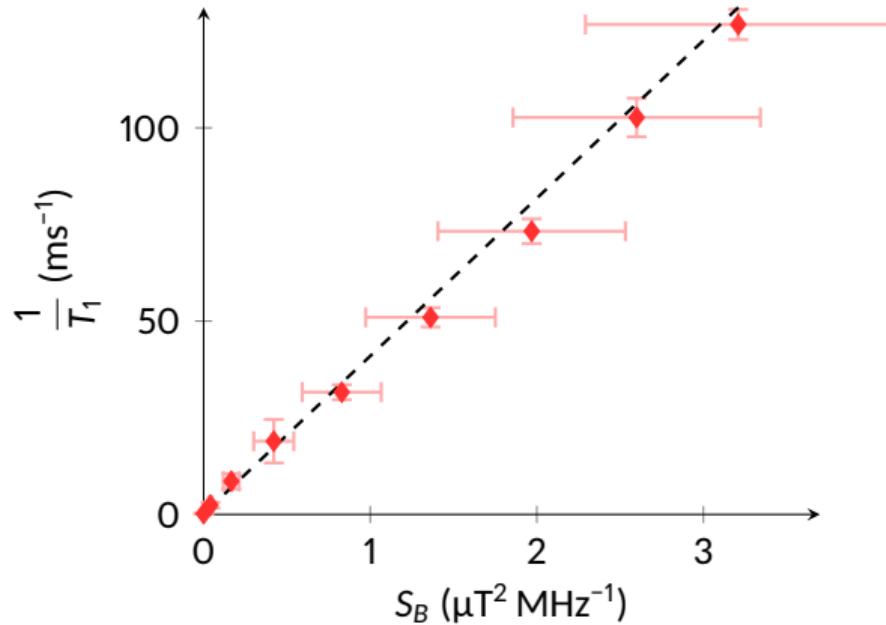
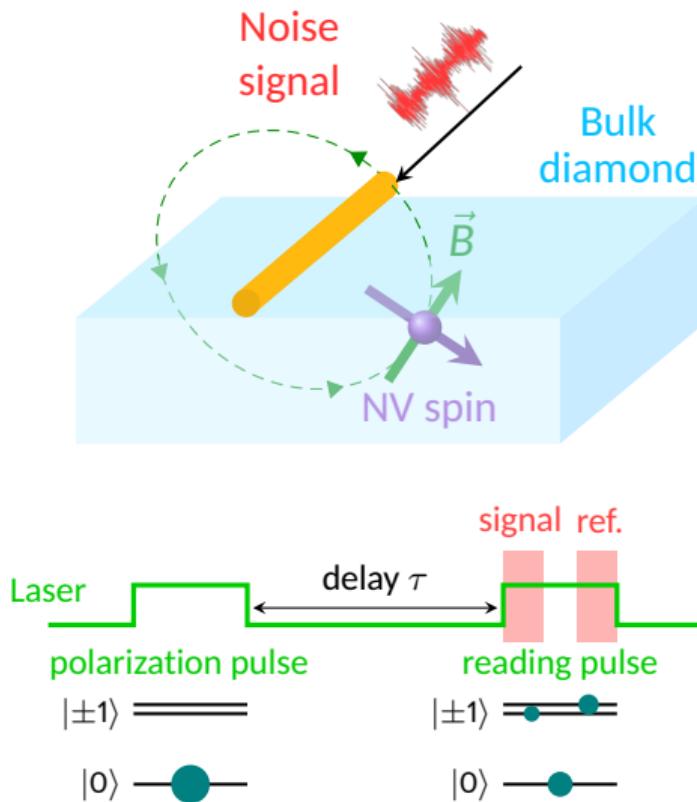
# Acceleration of the NV spin relaxation with noise



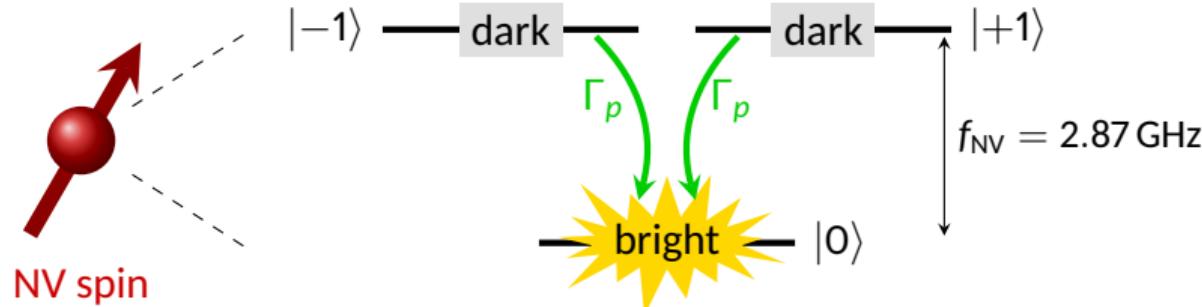
# Acceleration of the NV spin relaxation with noise



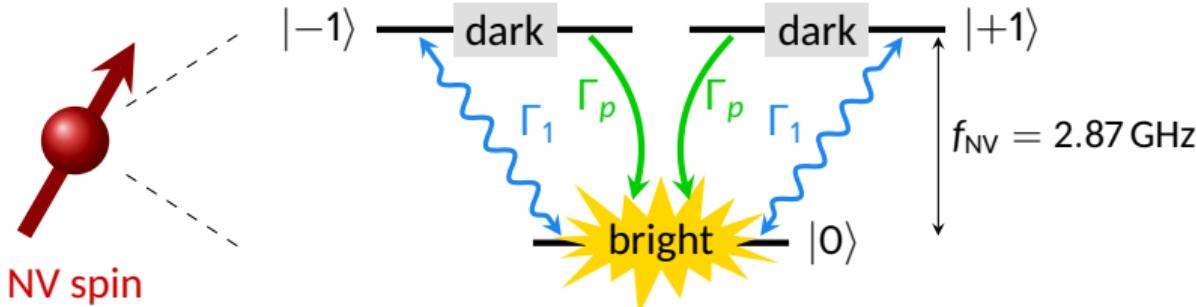
# Acceleration of the NV spin relaxation with noise



# Effect on the emitted photoluminescence

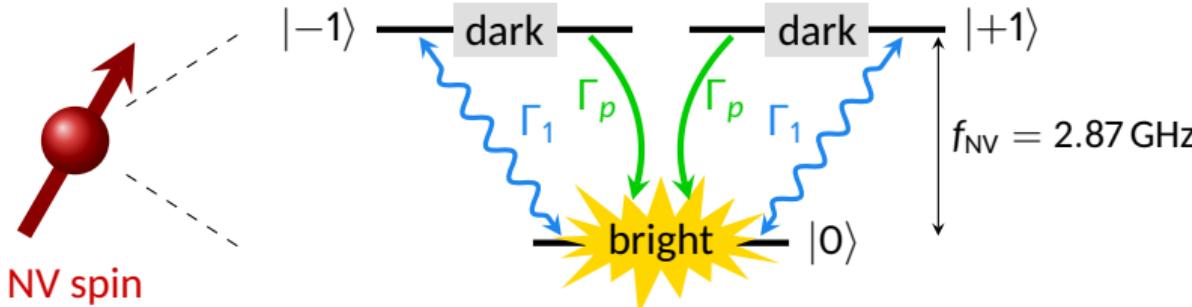


## Effect on the emitted photoluminescence

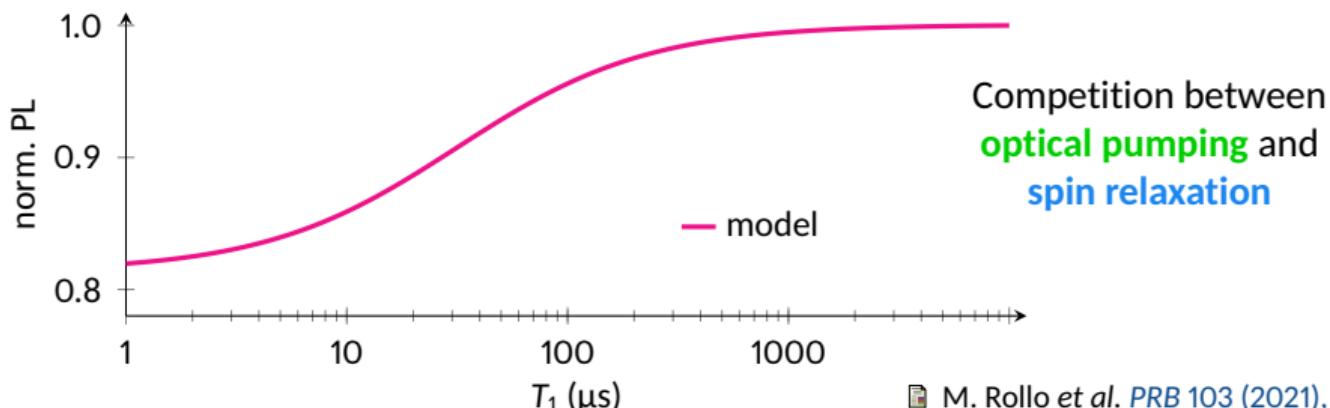


Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$

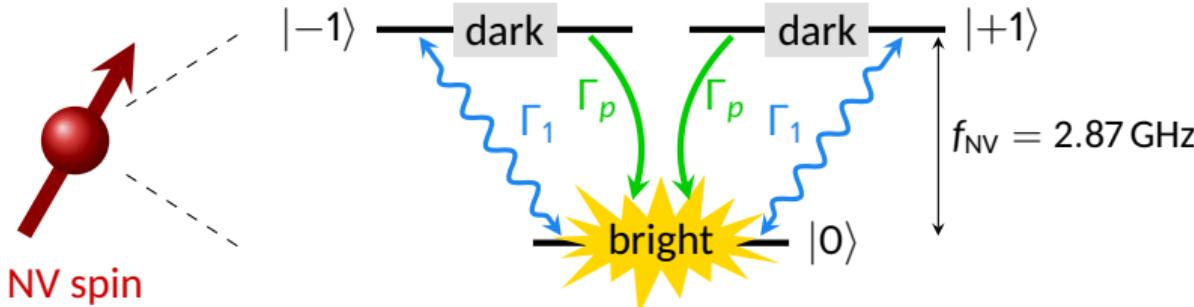
# Effect on the emitted photoluminescence



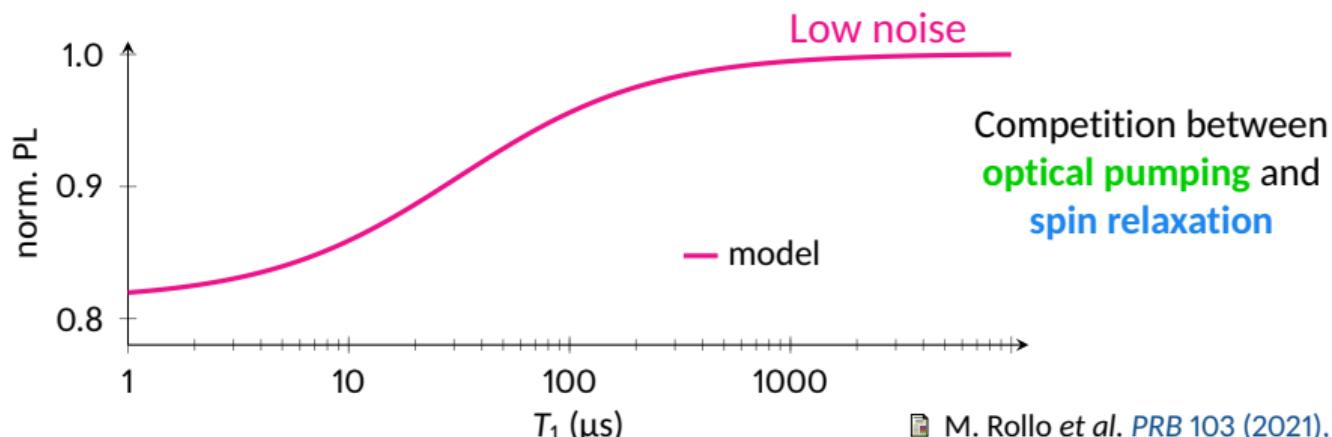
Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$



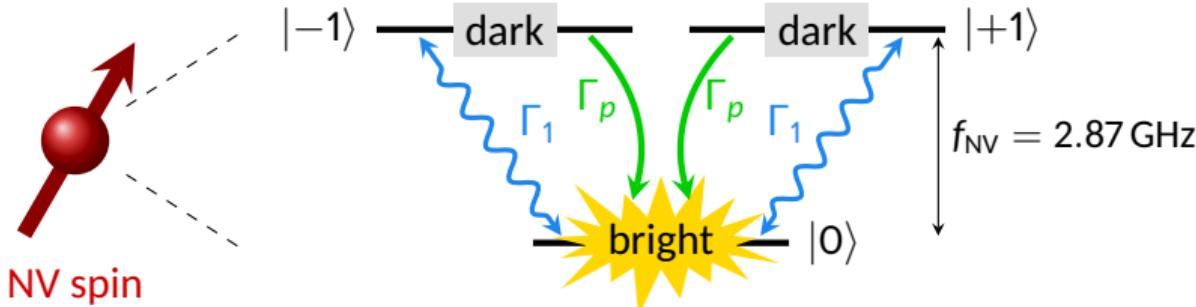
# Effect on the emitted photoluminescence



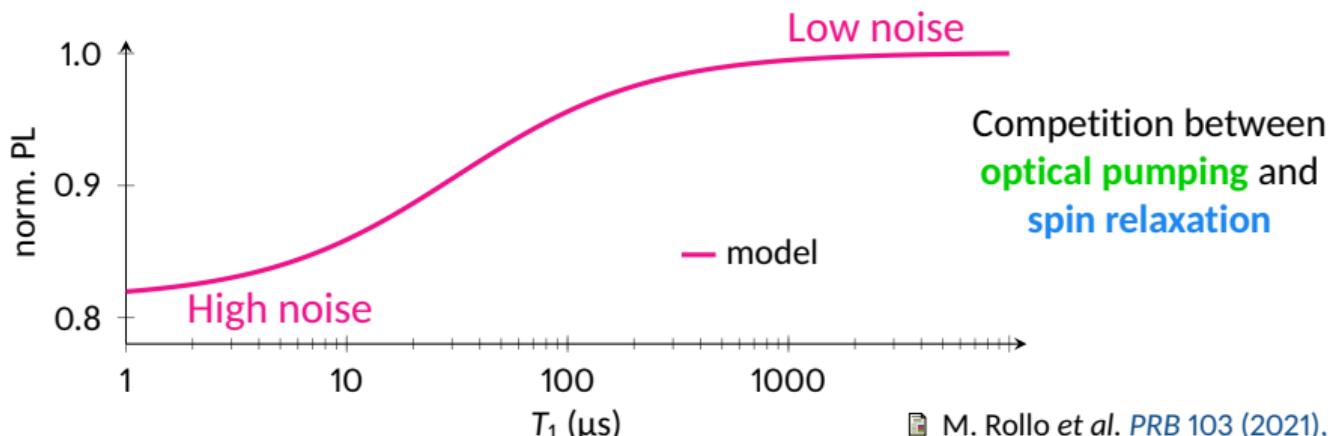
Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$



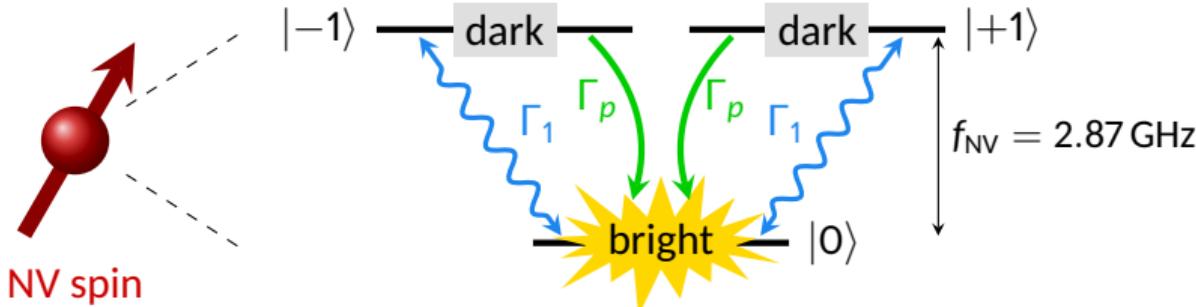
# Effect on the emitted photoluminescence



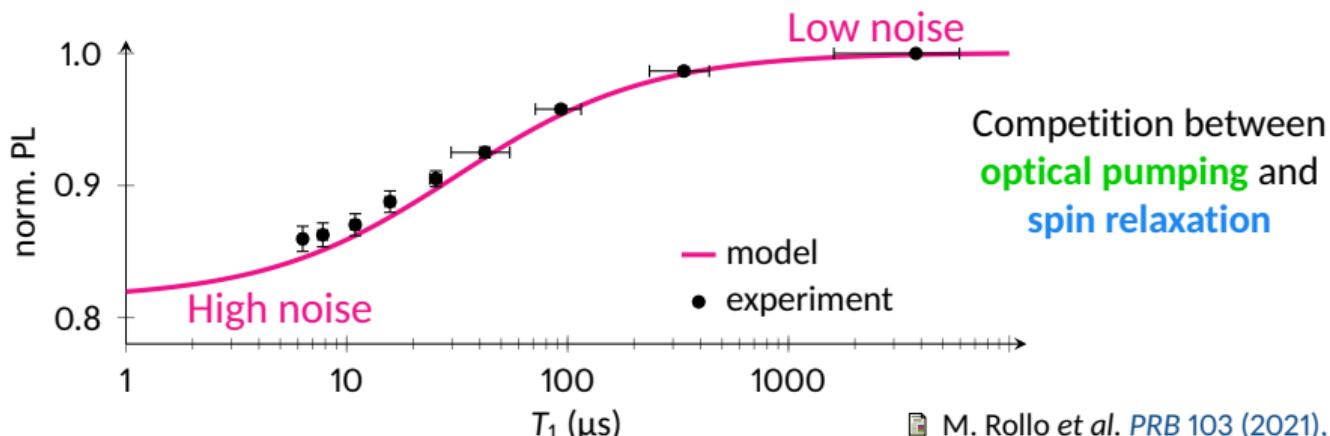
Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$



# Effect on the emitted photoluminescence



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



# Application to imaging of synthetic antiferromagnets

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



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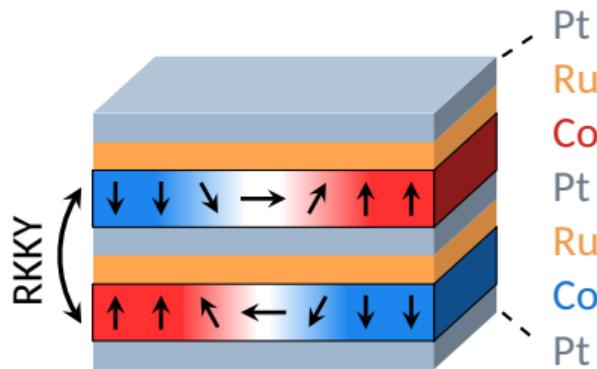
Two **ferromagnetic** layers coupled **antiferromagnetically**

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



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

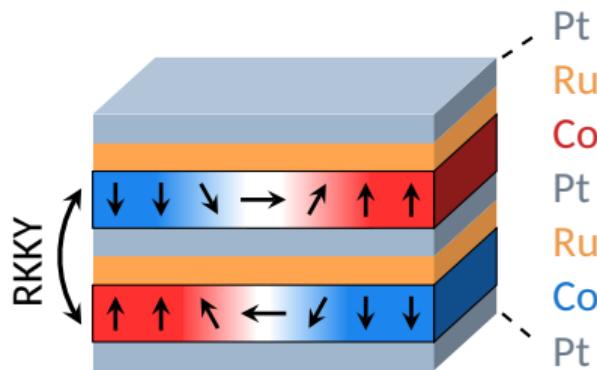
■ A. Finco et al. *Nat. Commun.* 12 (2021), 767

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



- No net magnetic moment
- Small stray field (vertical shift)
- Highly tunable properties

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

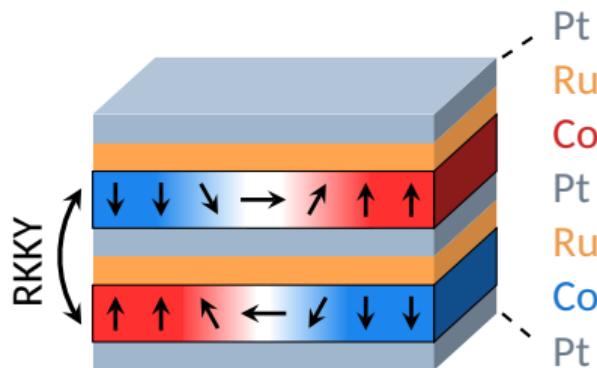
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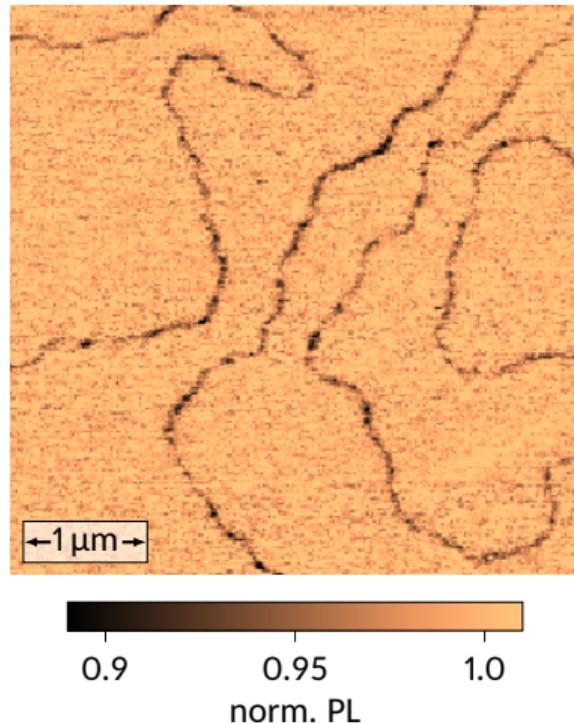
- No net magnetic moment
- Small stray field (vertical shift)
- Highly tunable properties

Perfect **test system** for noise imaging!

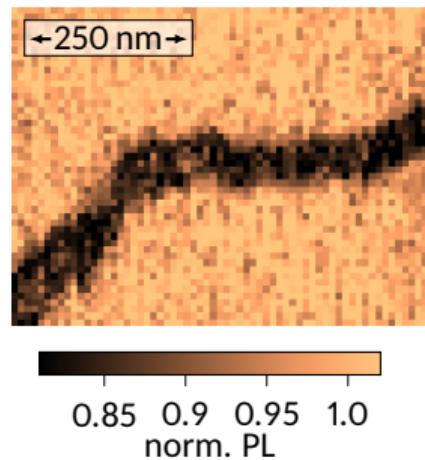
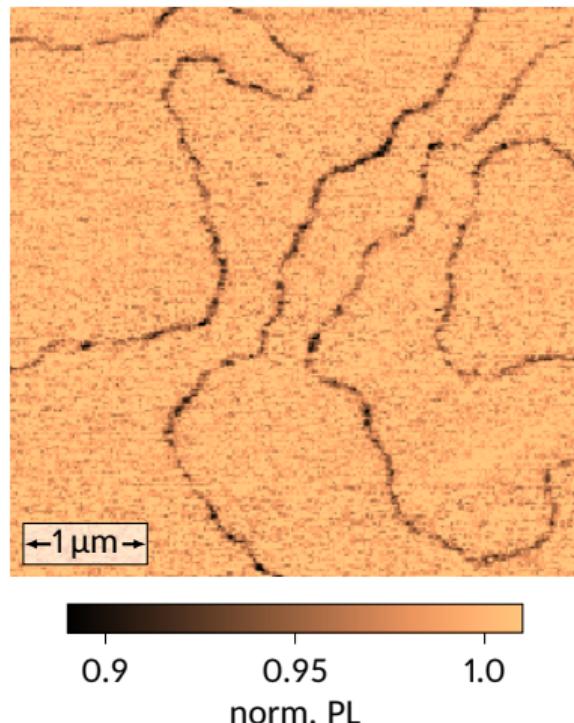
W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

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

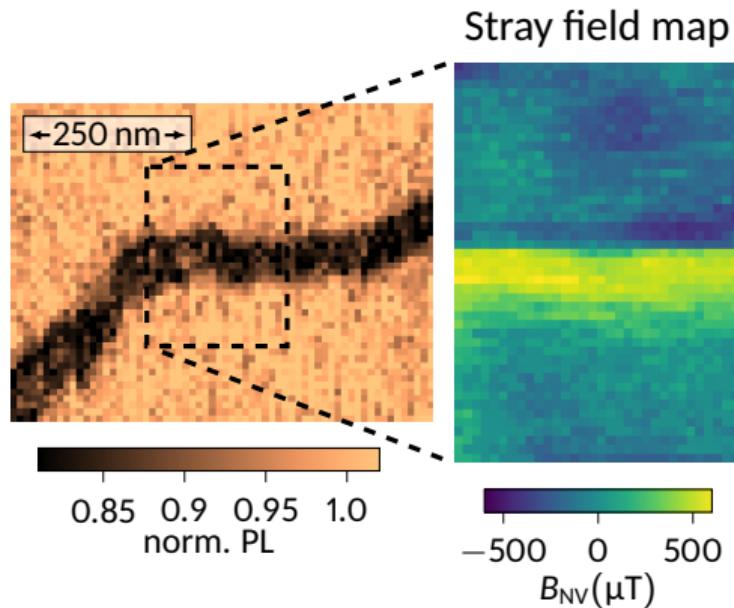
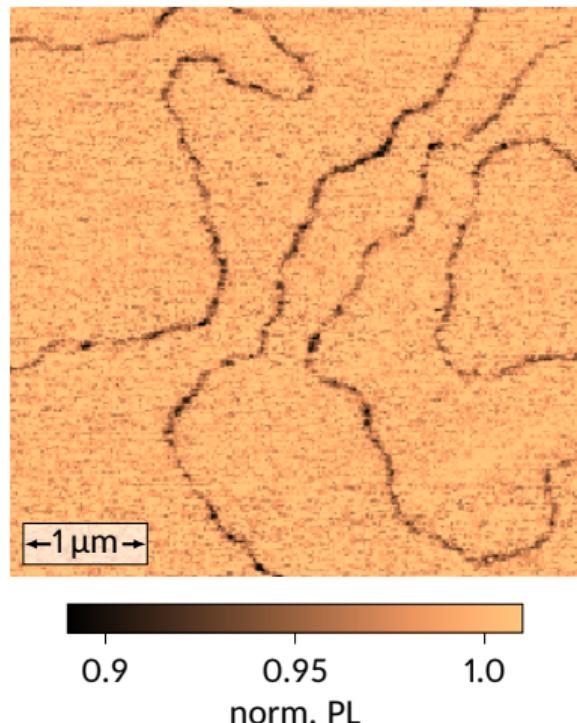
# Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



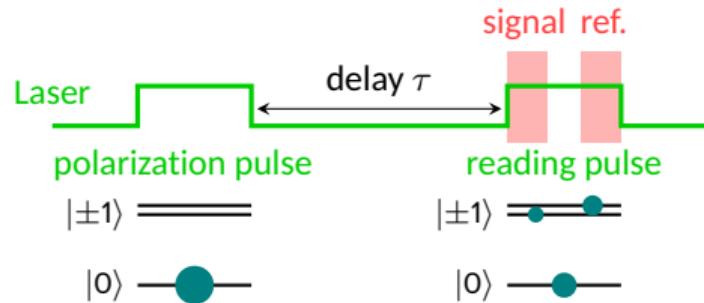
# Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



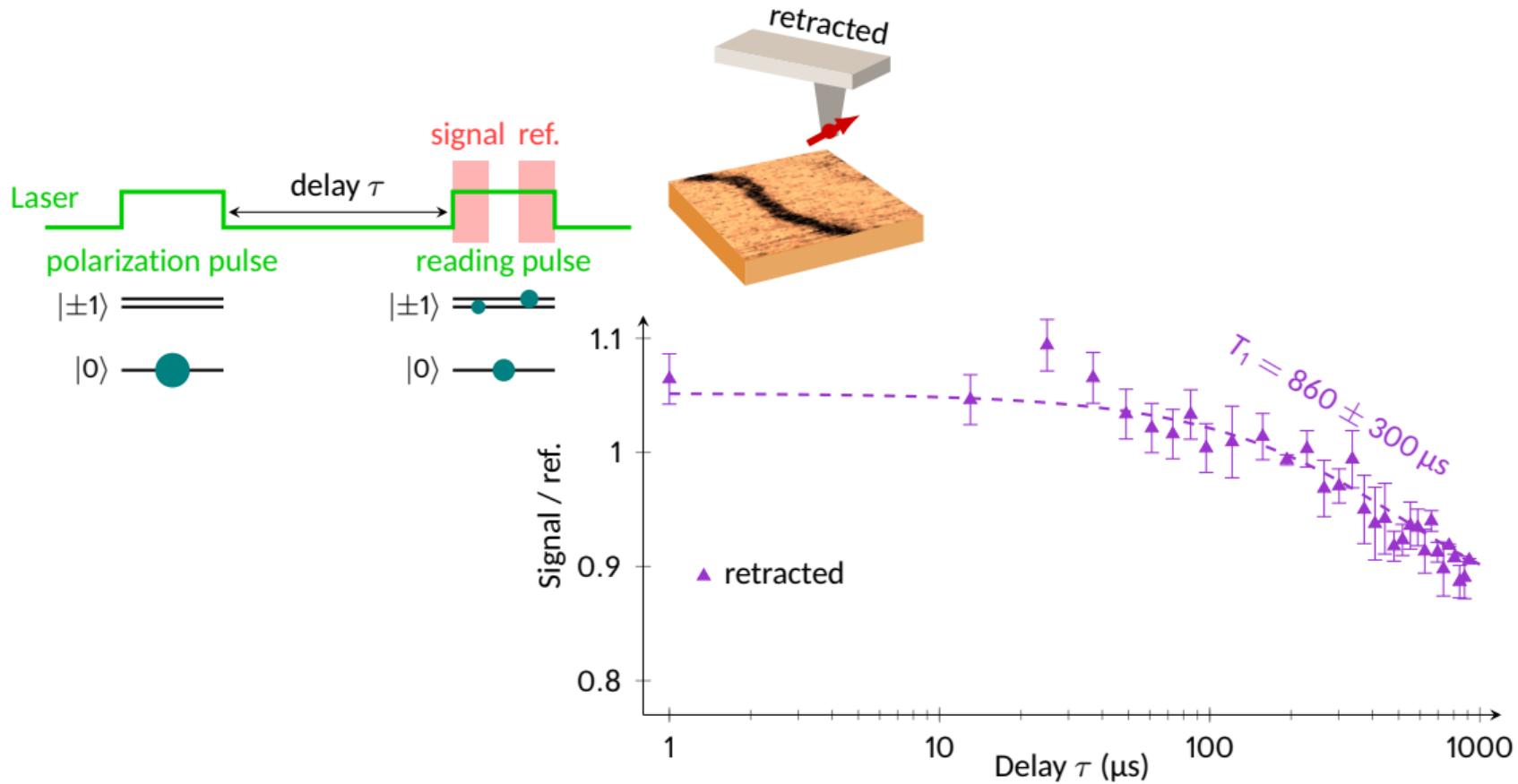
# Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



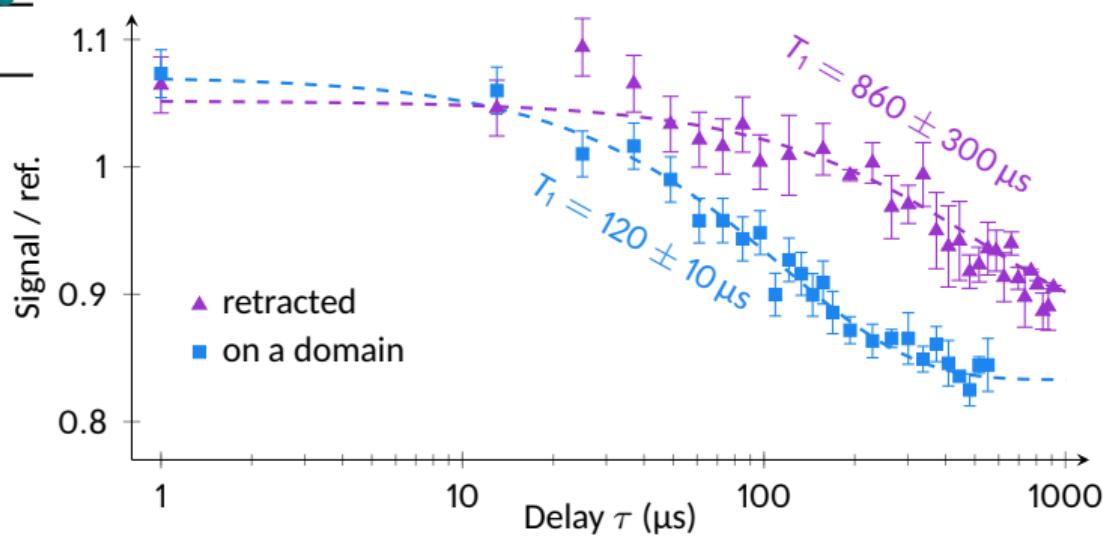
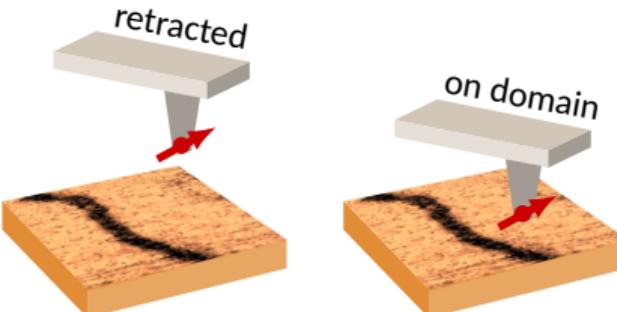
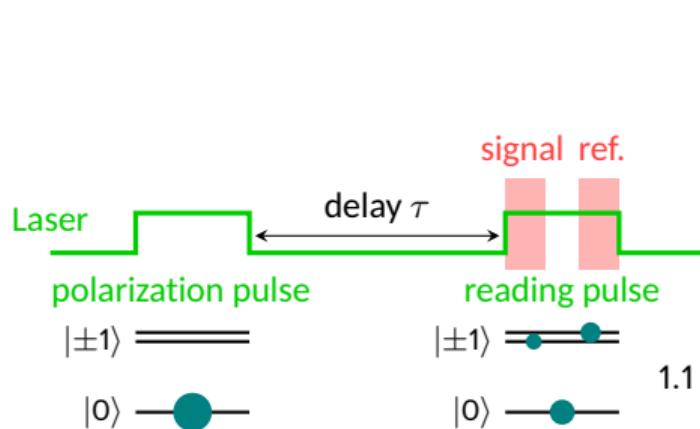
# Local variation of the relaxation time



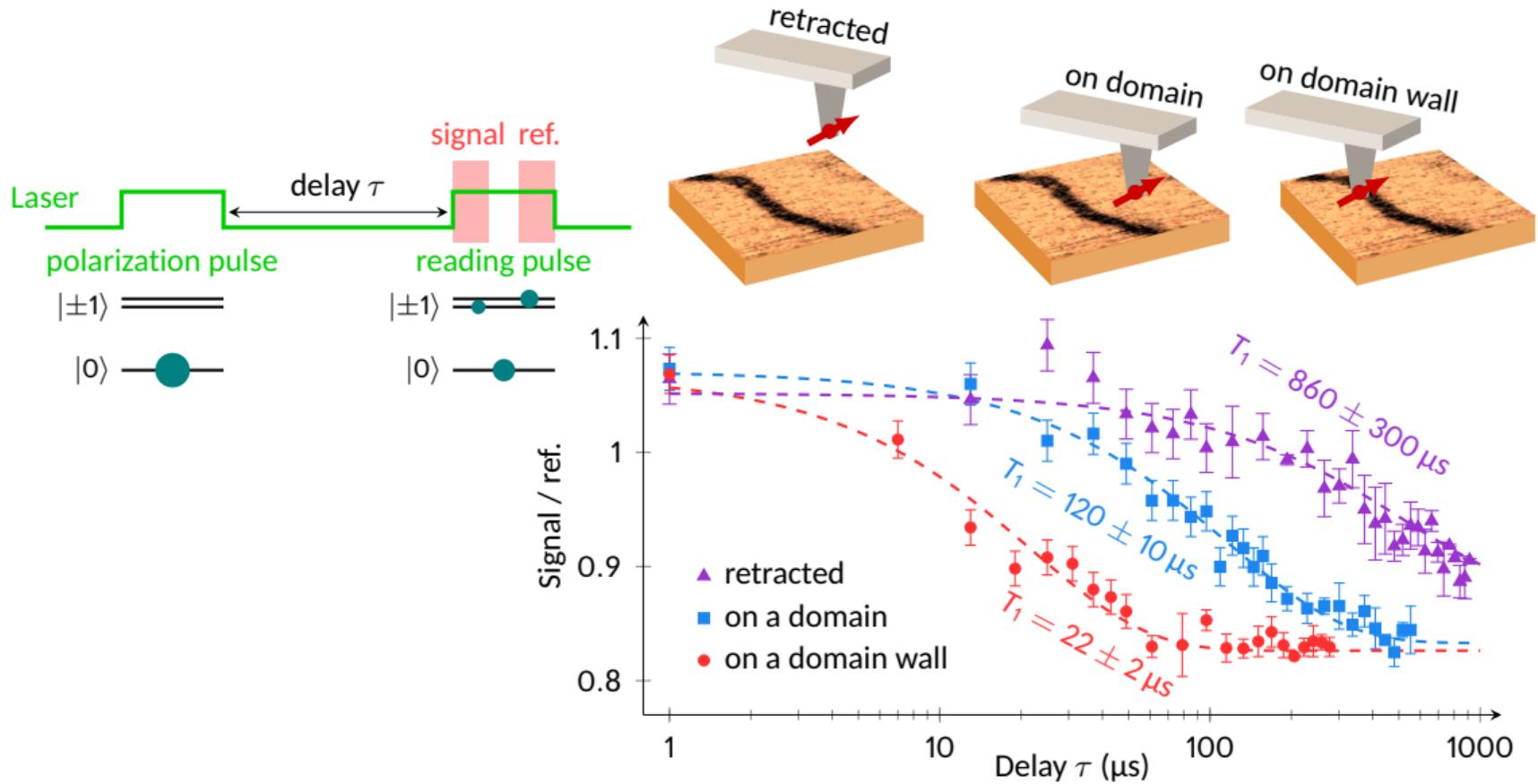
# Local variation of the relaxation time



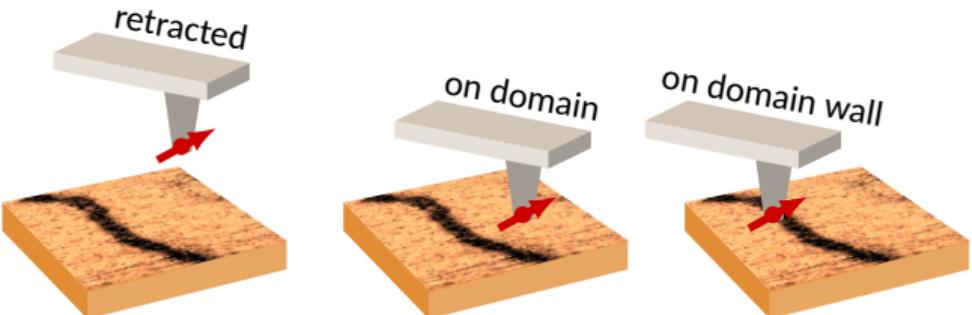
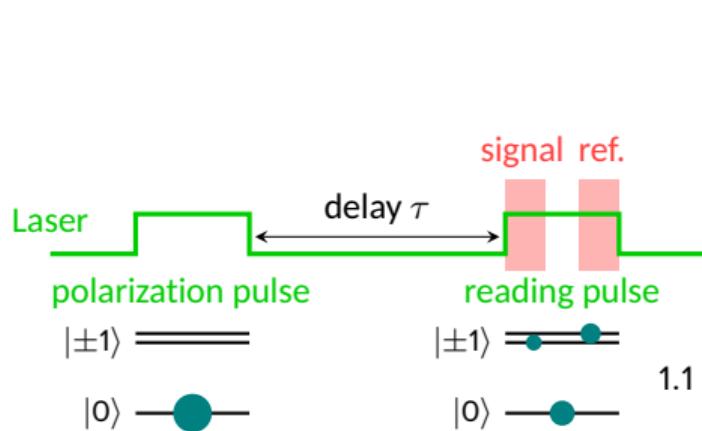
# Local variation of the relaxation time



# Local variation of the relaxation time

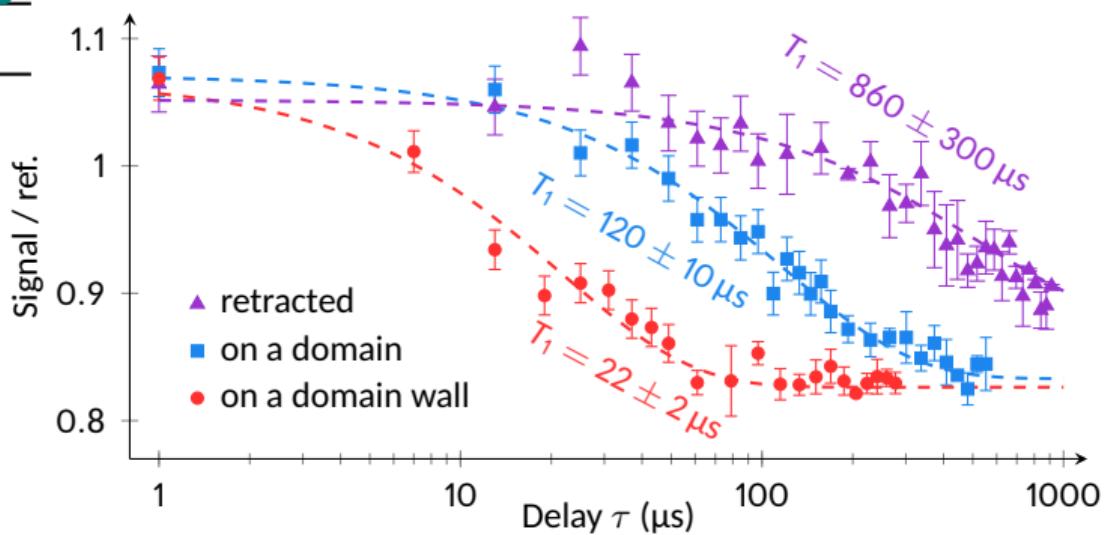


# Local variation of the relaxation time



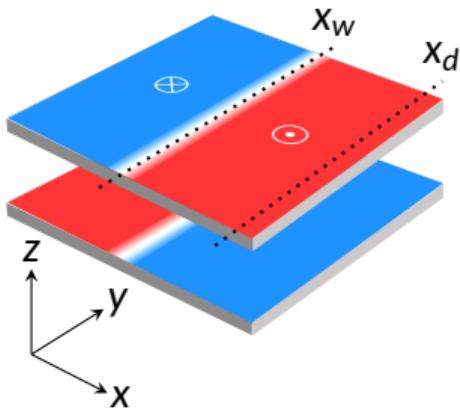
Clear diminution of  $T_1$

→ Enhancement of the  
spin relaxation



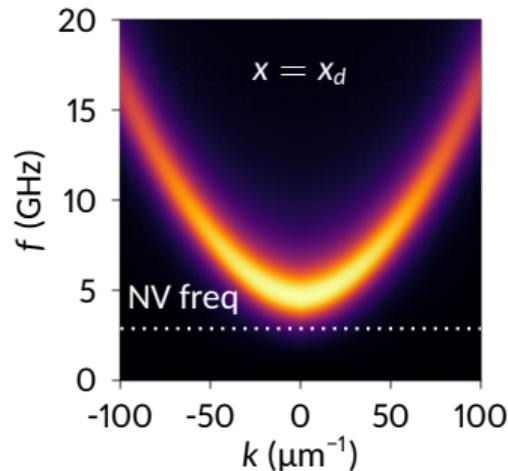
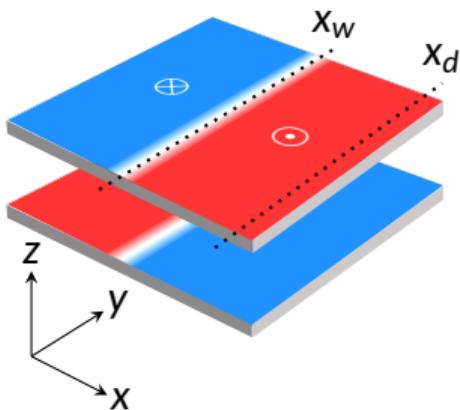
# Origin of the noise: spin waves

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



# Origin of the noise: spin waves

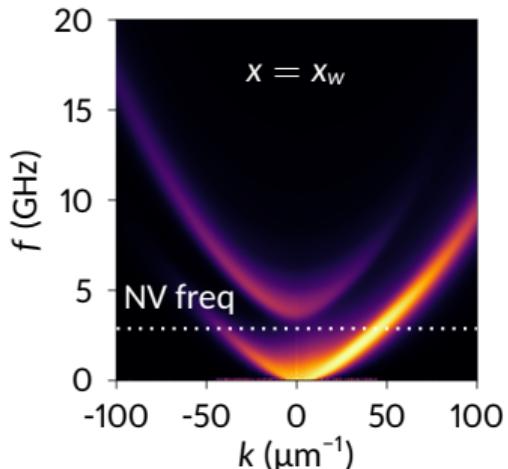
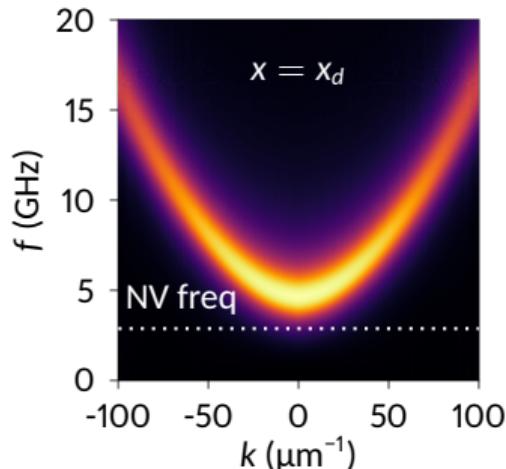
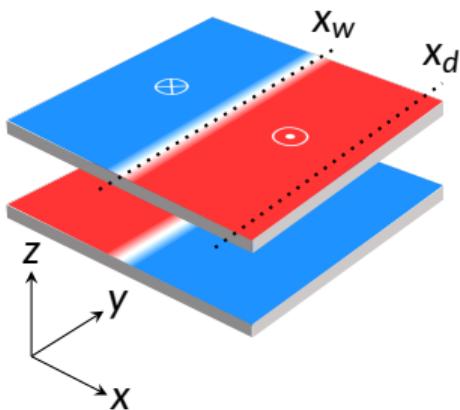
Collaboration C2N: Jean-Paul Adam, Joo-Von Kim



- 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.

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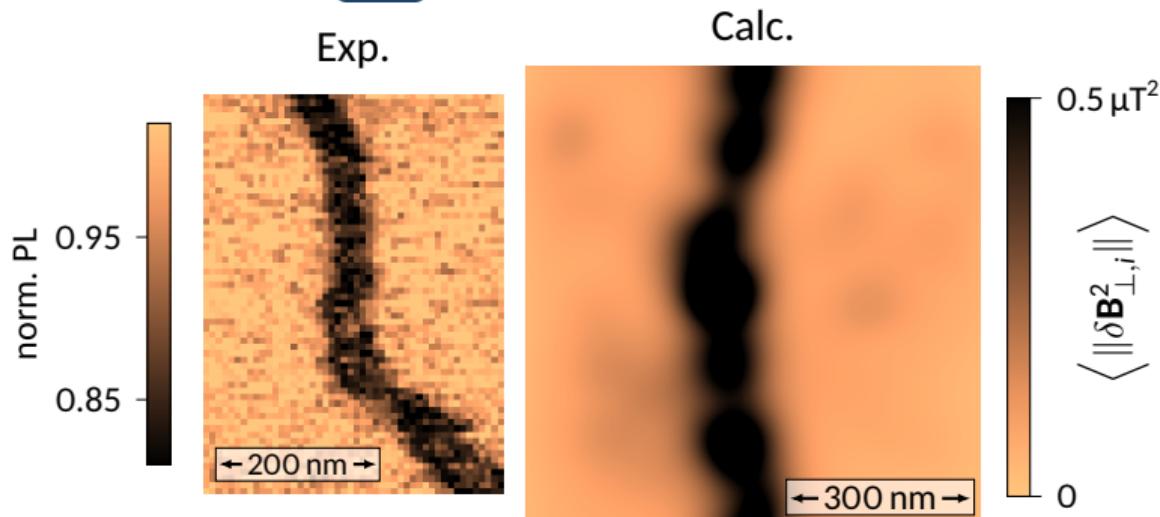
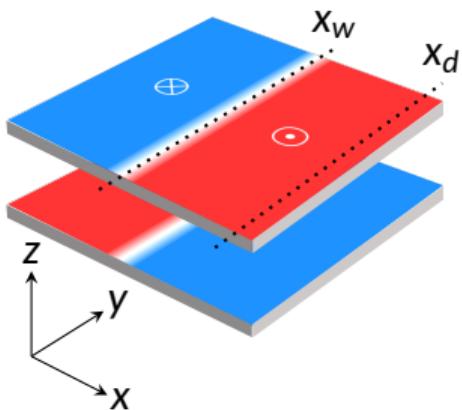
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- NV frequency slightly below the gap, in the tail of power spectral density, which is the reason why we detect some noise when approaching the tip.
- No gap in the domain walls, presence of modes at the NV frequency: **the NV center is more sensitive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

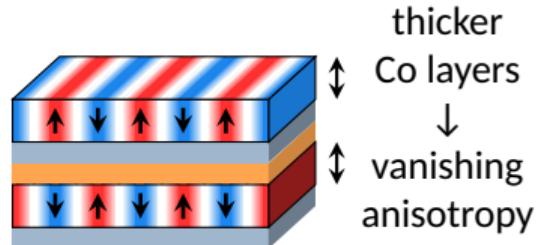
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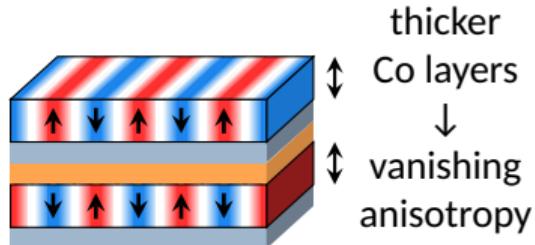
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# Imaging a spin spiral

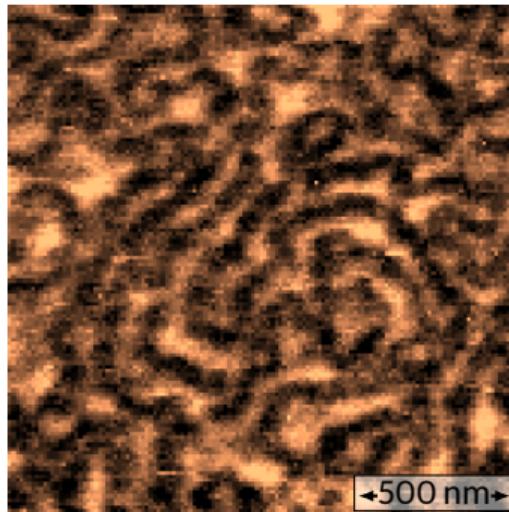


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# Imaging a spin spiral

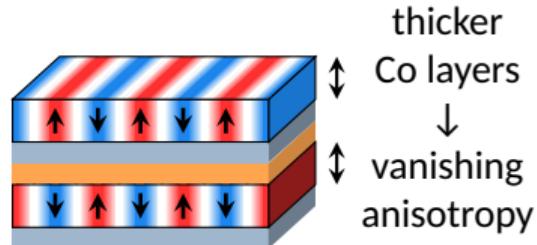


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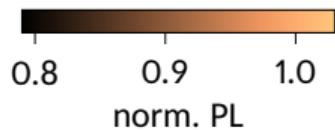
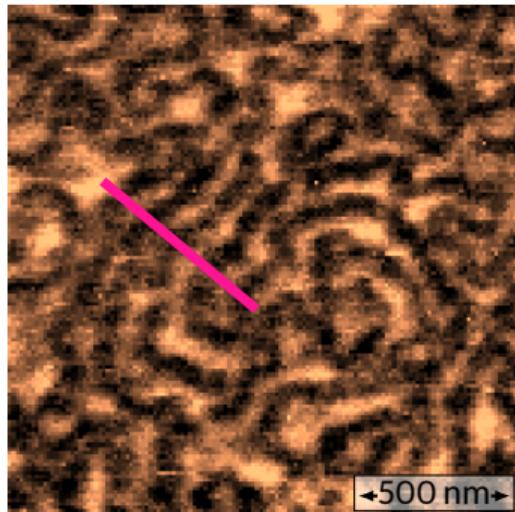
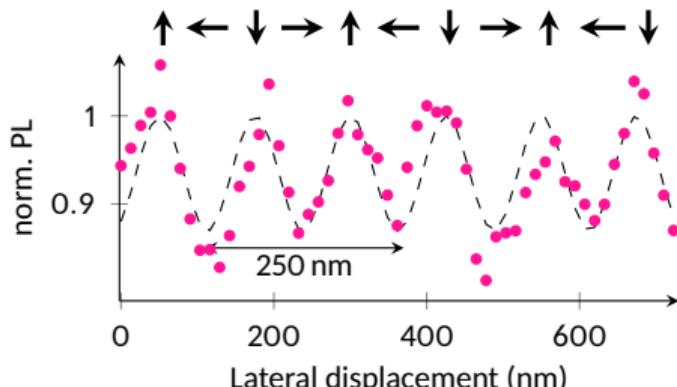


0.8    0.9    1.0  
norm. PL

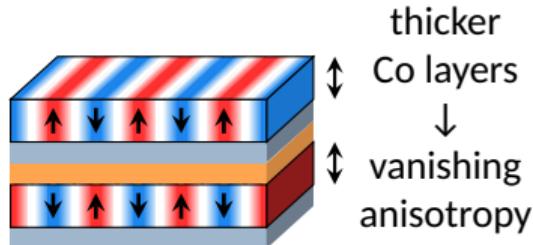
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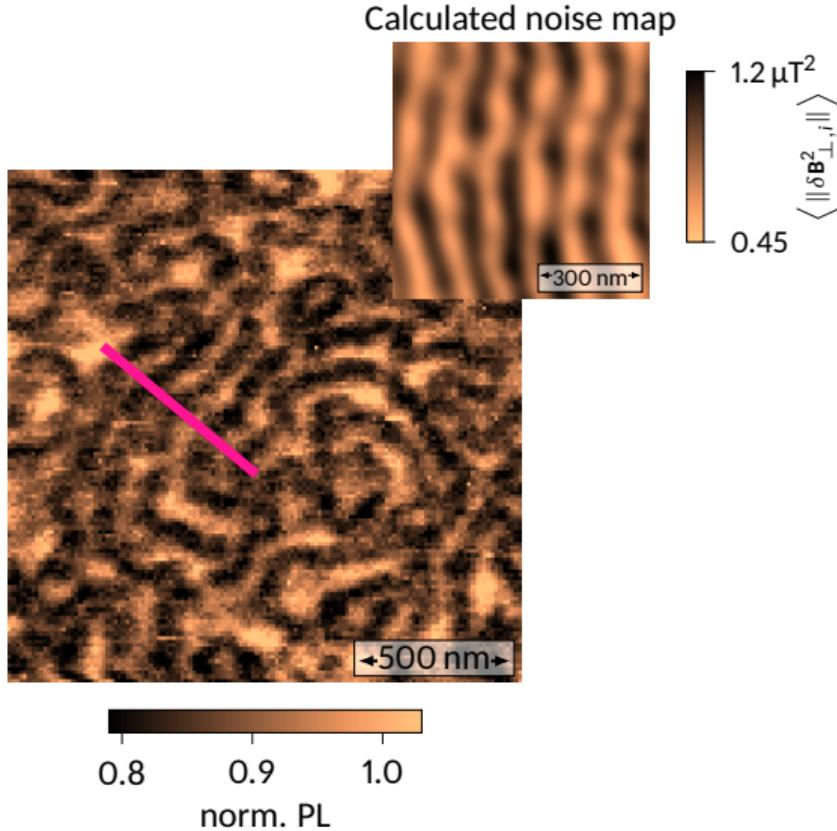
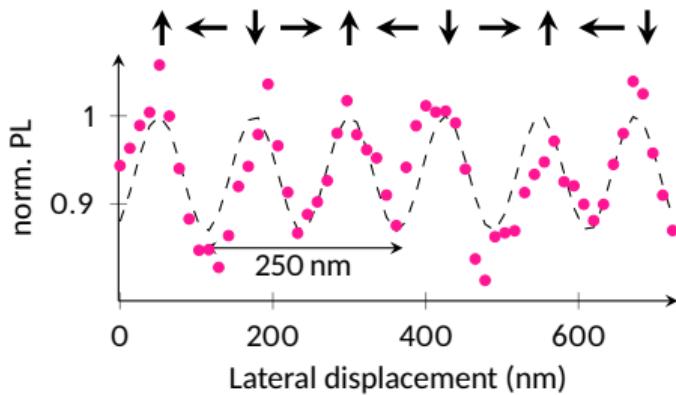
W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



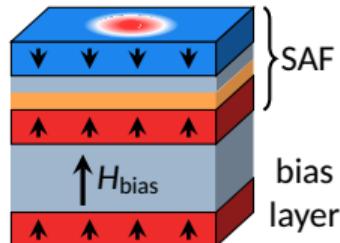
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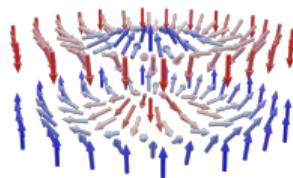
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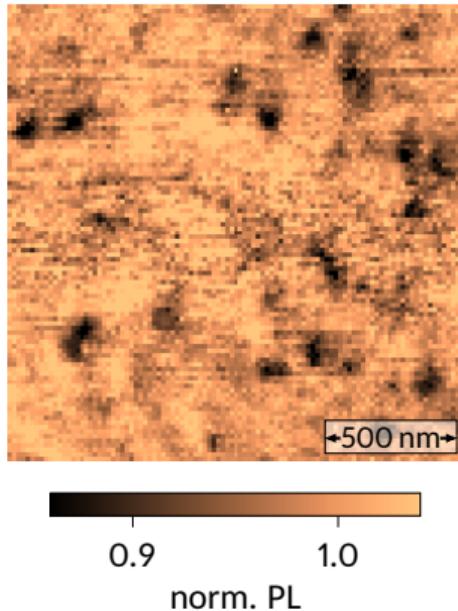
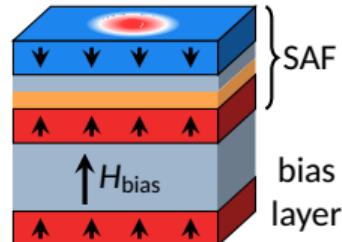
# and antiferromagnetic skyrmions!



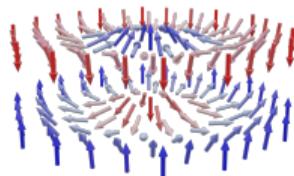
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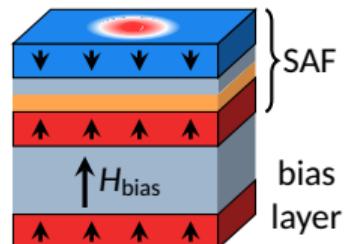
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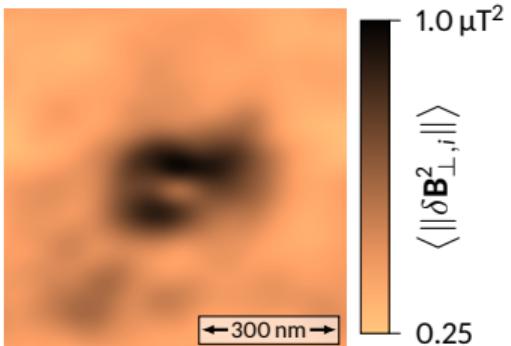
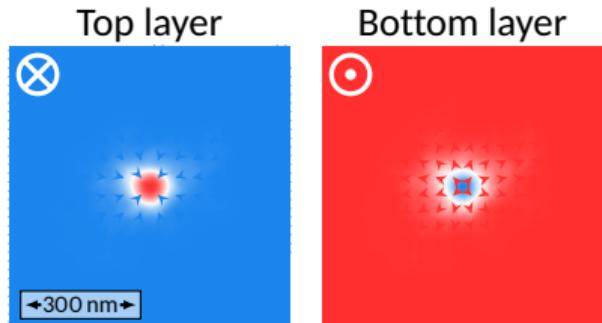
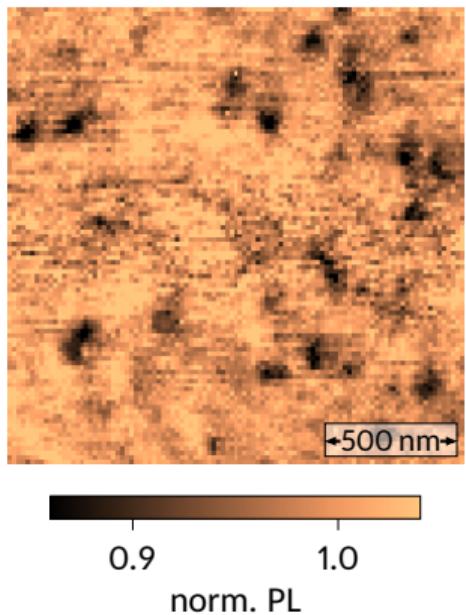
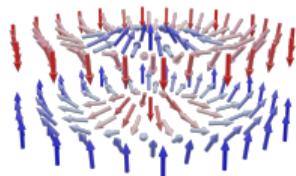
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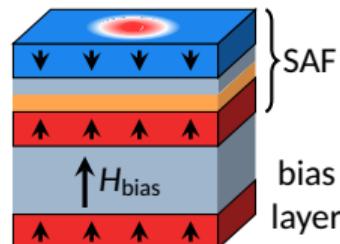
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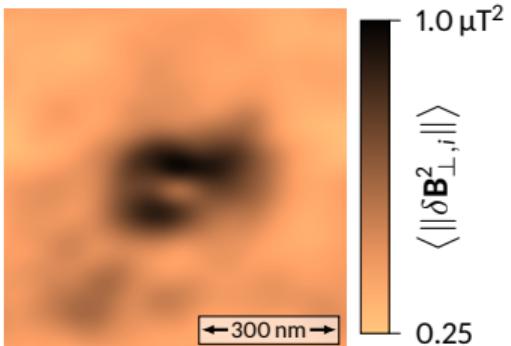
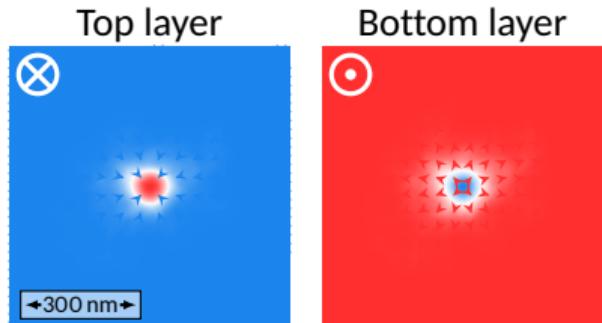
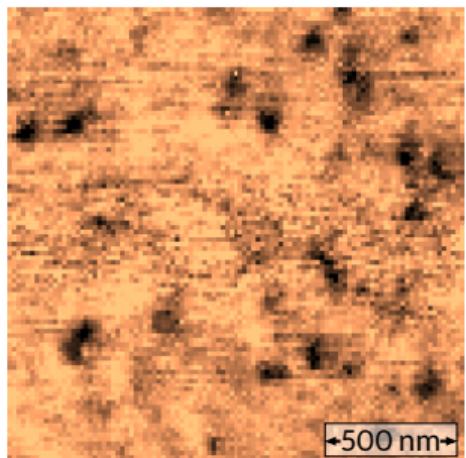
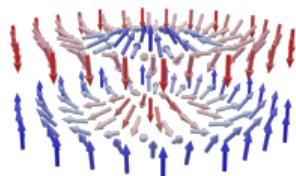
■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



# and antiferromagnetic skyrmions!



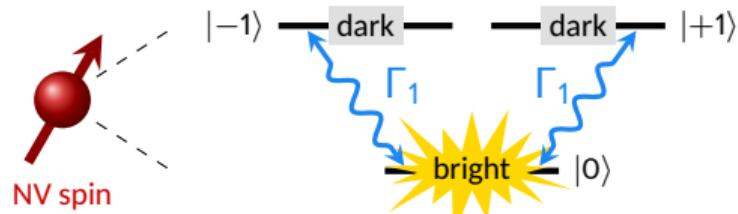
■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



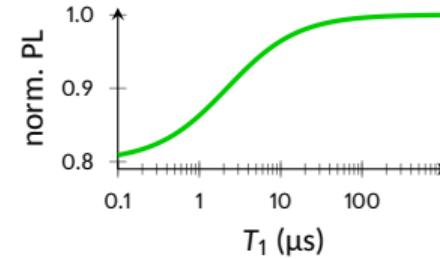
We are not probing the internal modes but the scattering of spin waves on the skyrmions

# Summary

→ All optical detection of magnetic noise with NV centers

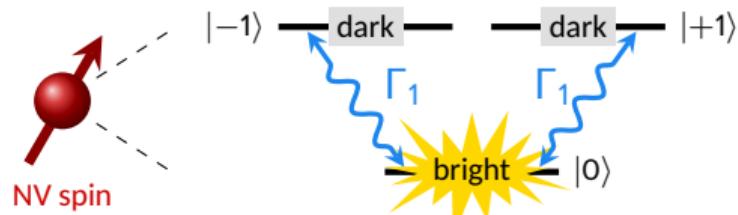


M. Rollo et al. PRB 103 (2021), 235418

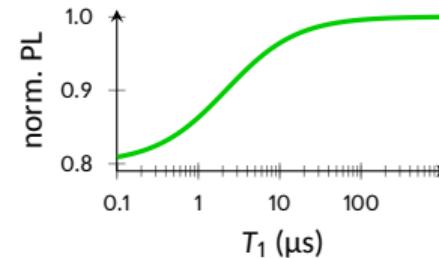


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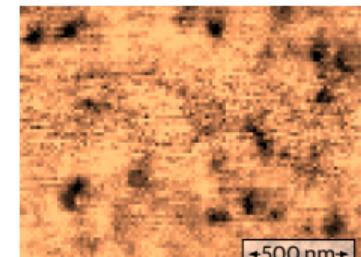
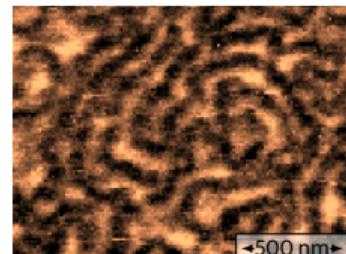
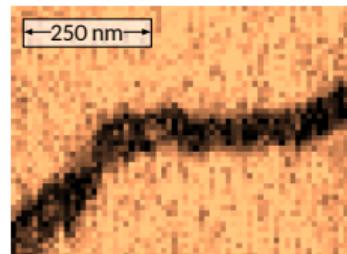
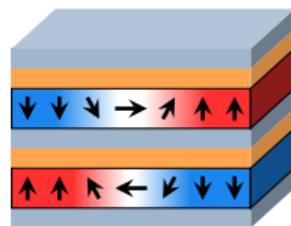
→ All optical detection of magnetic noise with NV centers



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



→ Application to the imaging of magnetic textures in synthetic antiferromagnets



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

# Acknowledgments

## L2C, Montpellier

Angela Haykal

Rana Tanos

Maxime Rollo

Saddem Chouaieb

Florentin Fabre

Waseem Akhtar

Isabelle Robert-Philip

Vincent Jacques

## UMR CNRS/Thales, Palaiseau

William Legrand

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Karim Bouzehouane

Nicolas Reyren

Vincent Cros

## C2N, Palaiseau

Jean-Paul Adam

Thibaut Devolder

Joo-Von Kim



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