

# Antiferromagnetic textures imaged by probing thermally excited spin waves

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Team Solid-State Quantum Technologies (S2QT)

<https://solidstatequantumtech-12c.fr/>

CNRS and Université de Montpellier, Montpellier, France

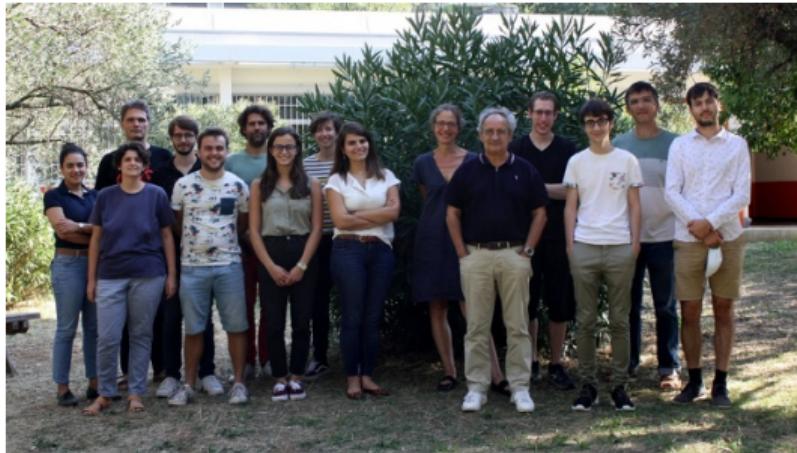


CHIRON workshop, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2022

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

# S2QT team at L2C in Montpellier

Laboratoire Charles Coulomb  
Team Solid-State Quantum Technologies



- Ultrawide bandgap semiconductors
- Point defects in semiconductors
- Quantum sensing

# S2QT team at L2C in Montpellier

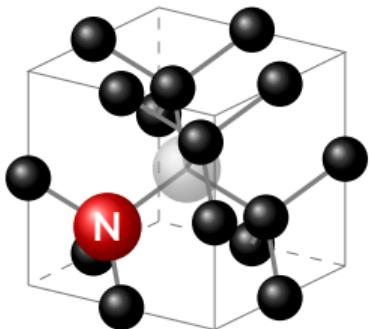
Laboratoire Charles Coulomb  
Team Solid-State Quantum Technologies



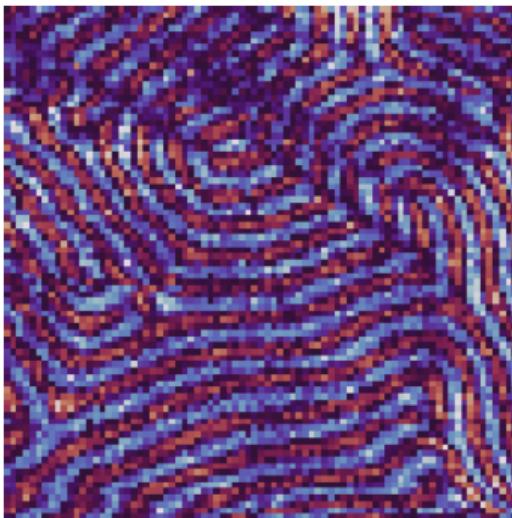
- Ultrawide bandgap semiconductors
- Point defects in semiconductors
- Quantum sensing

# Outline

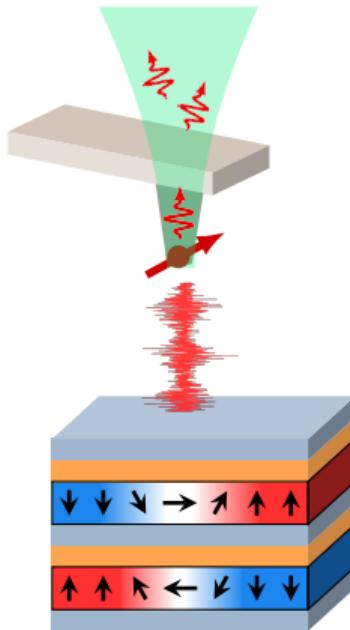
Spin waves detection with NV  
centers in diamond



Scanning-NV magnetometry  
applied to antiferromagnets

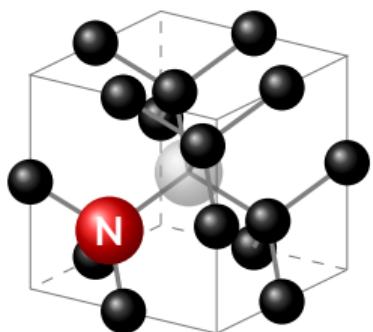


Imaging of antiferromagnetic  
textures by probing  
thermally excited spin waves

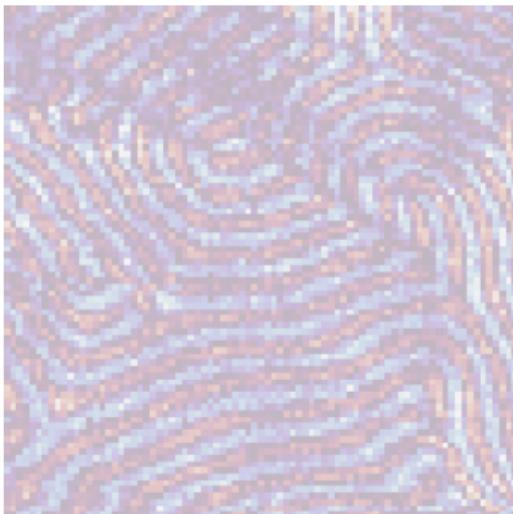


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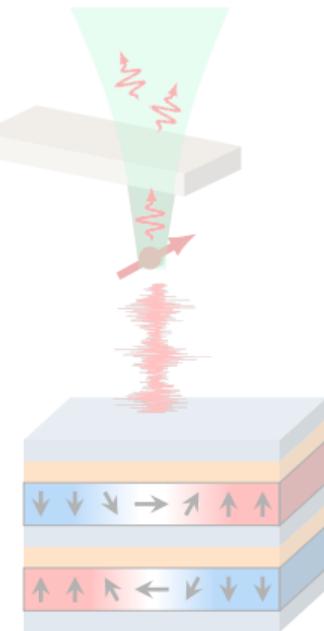
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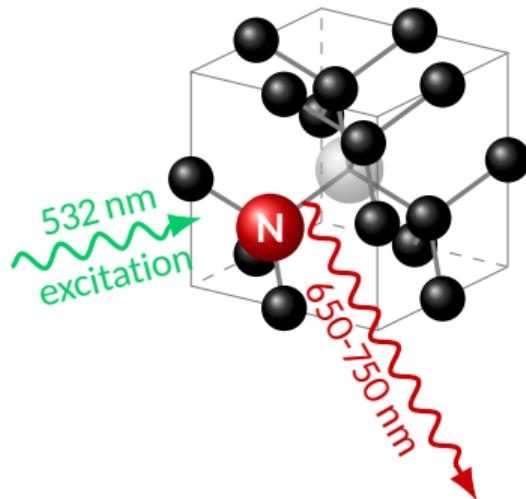
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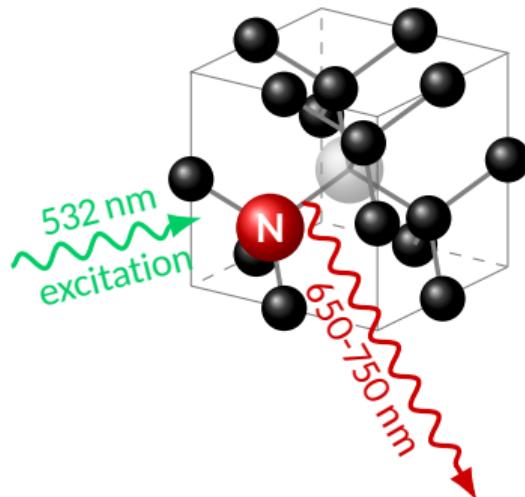


# Quantum sensing with NV centers in diamond

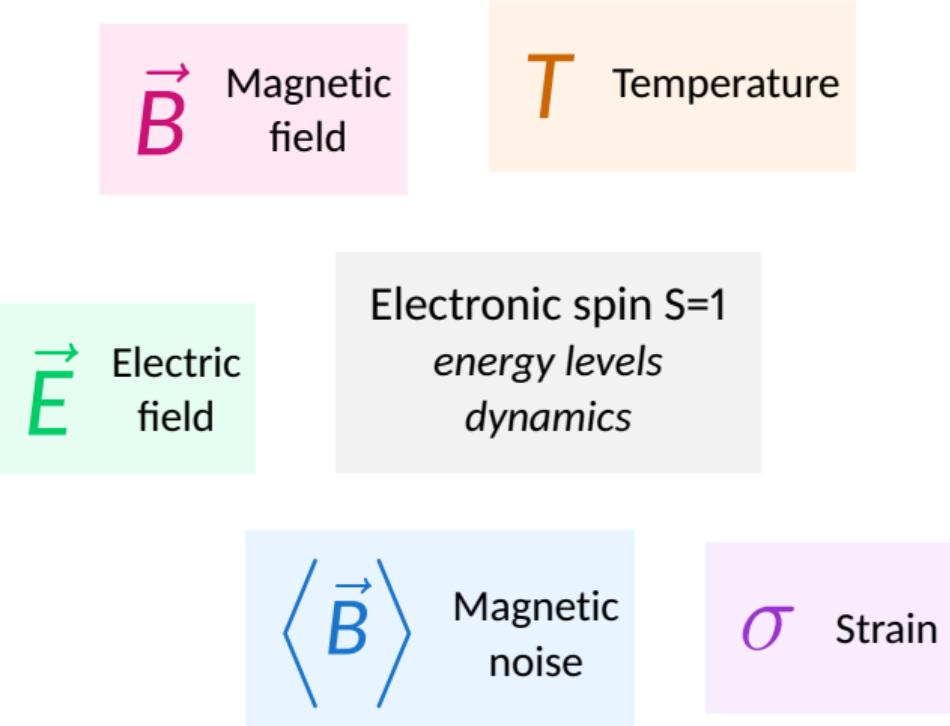


Nitrogen-Vacancy defect  
in diamond

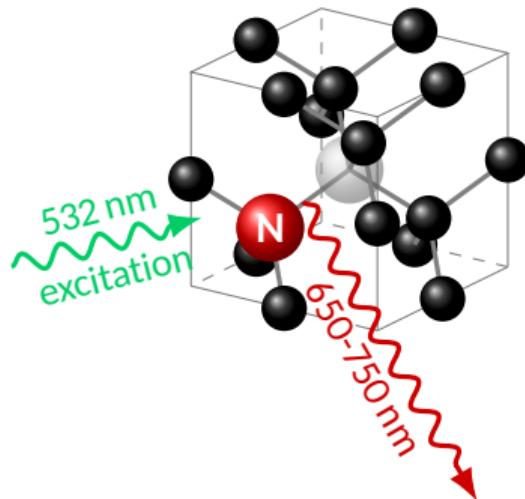
# Quantum sensing with NV centers in diamond



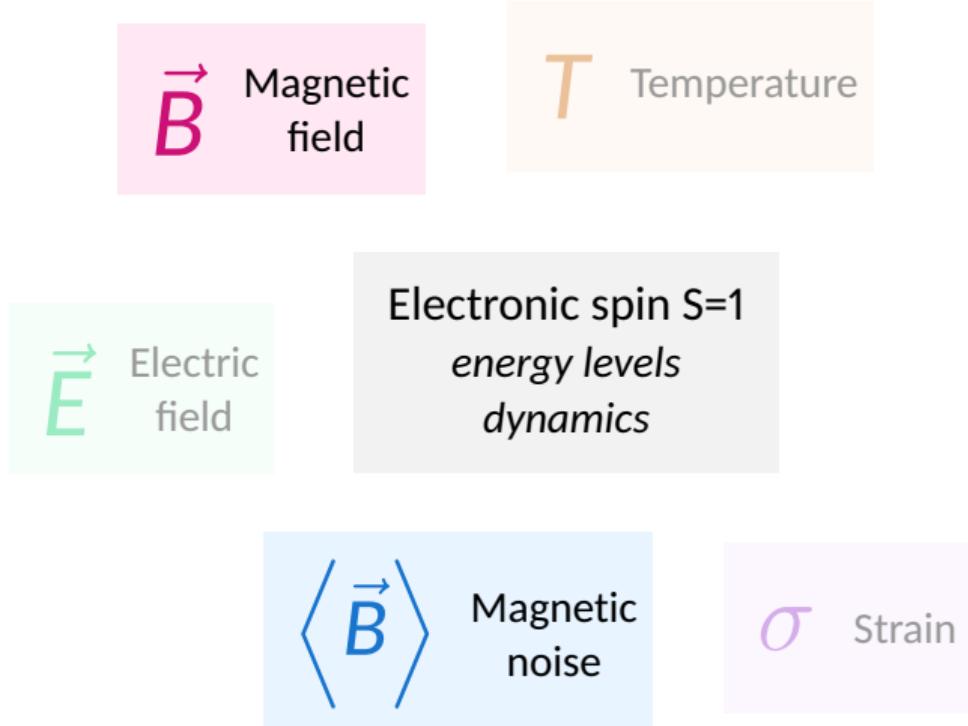
Nitrogen-Vacancy defect  
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# Quantum sensing with NV centers in diamond

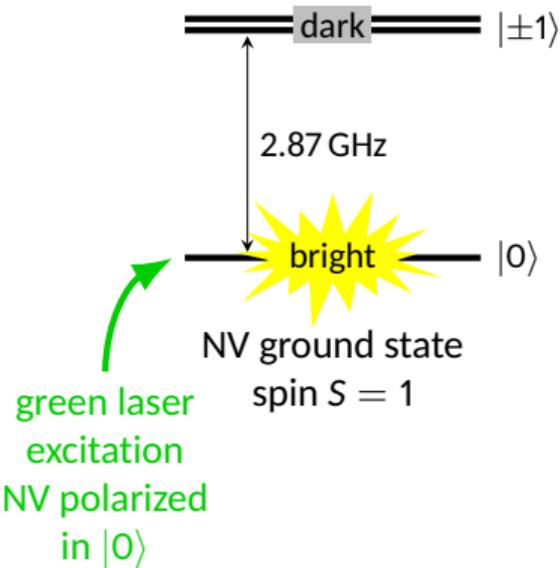


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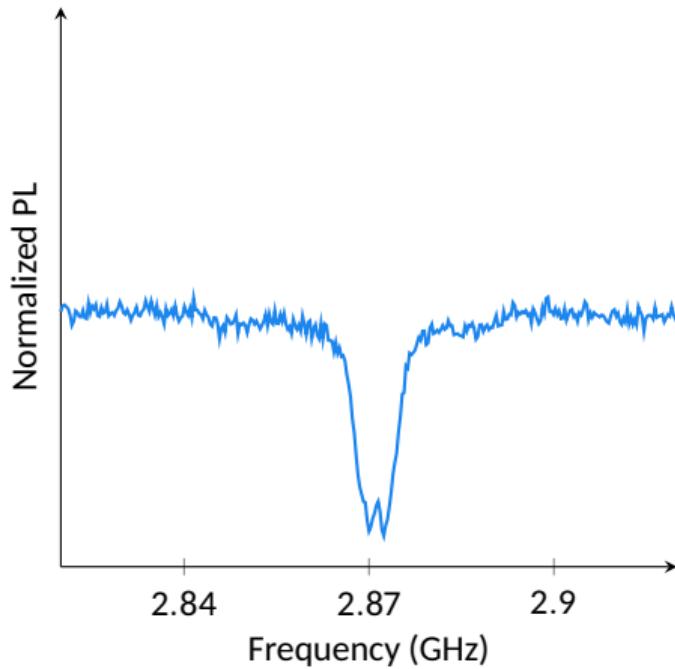
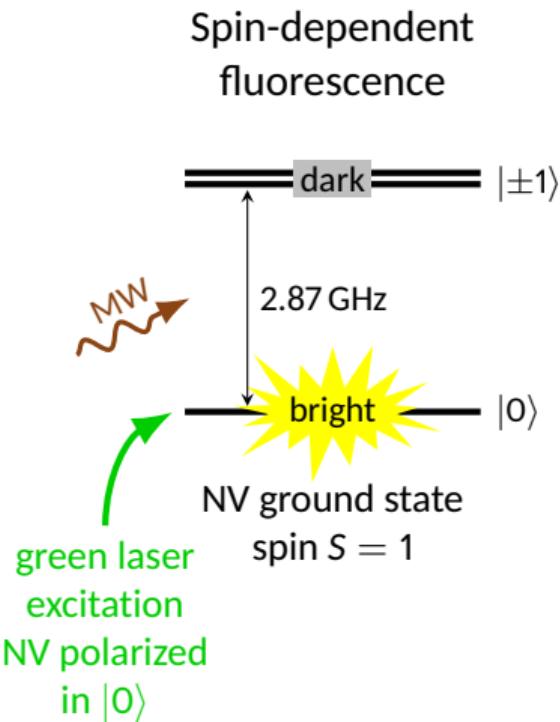


# How do we measure magnetic field?

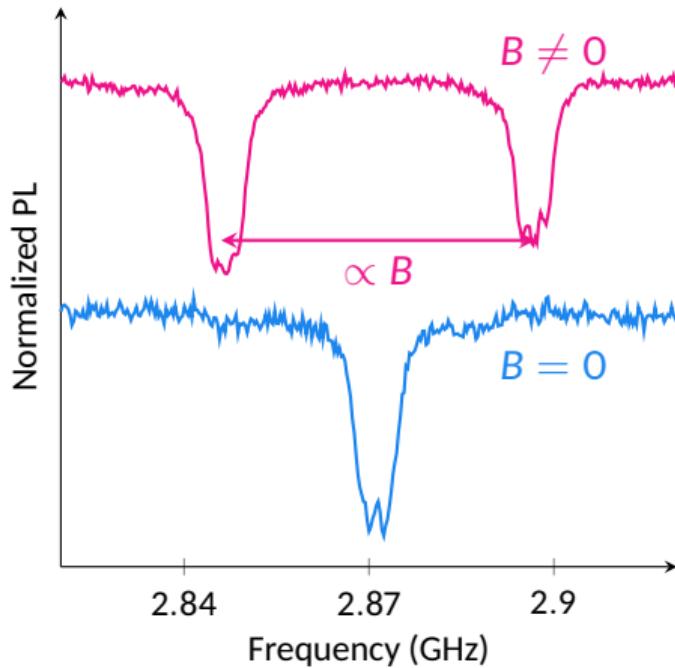
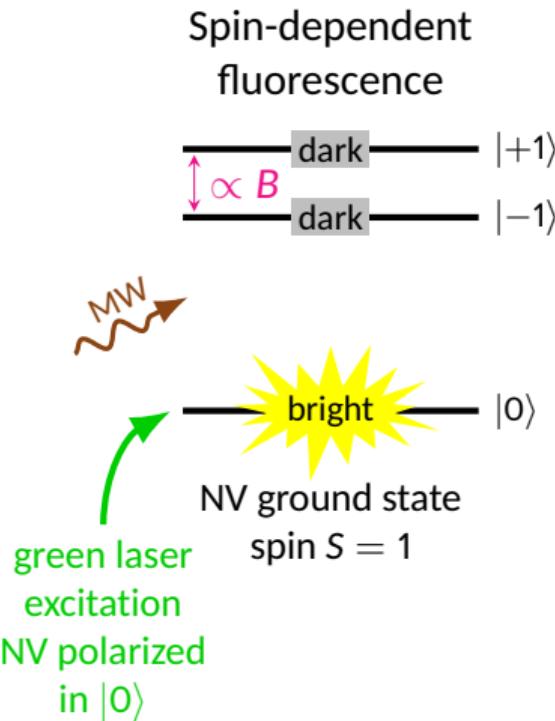
Spin-dependent  
fluorescence



# How do we measure magnetic field?



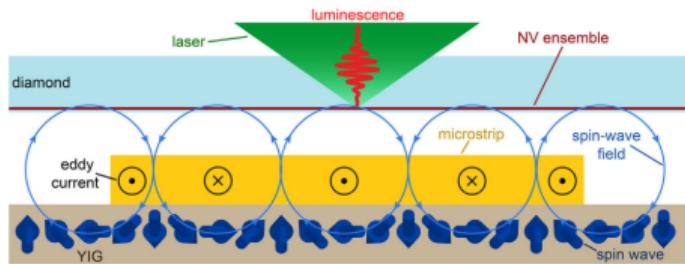
# How do we measure magnetic field?



- Stronger MW signal  $\rightarrow$  larger contrast
- Sensibility: a few  $\mu\text{T}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

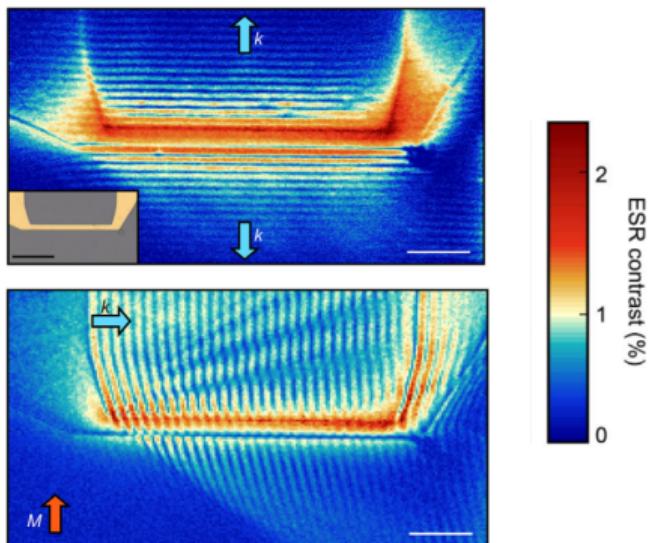
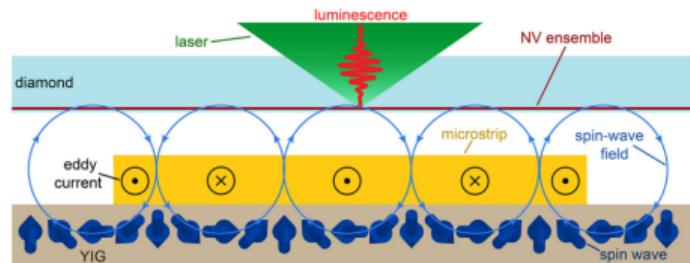
# Application to the detection of resonant spin waves

T. van der Sar  
group  
*Delft*



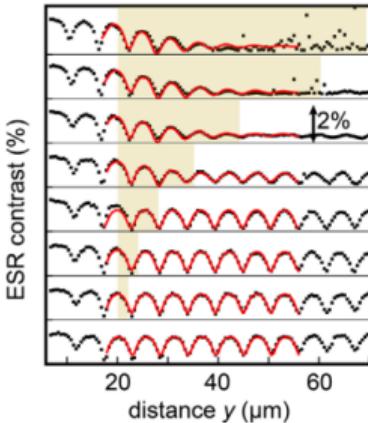
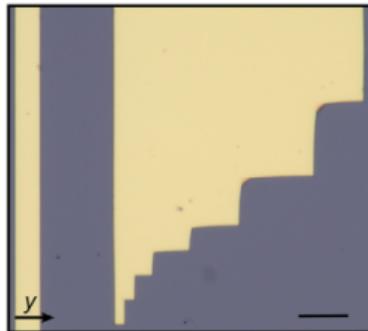
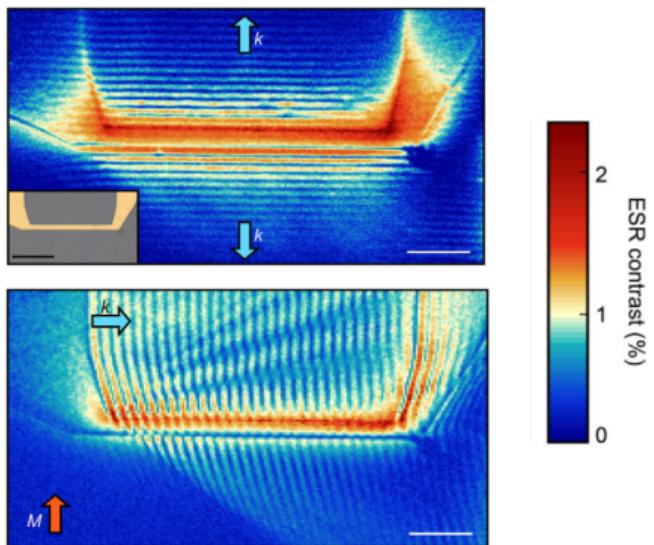
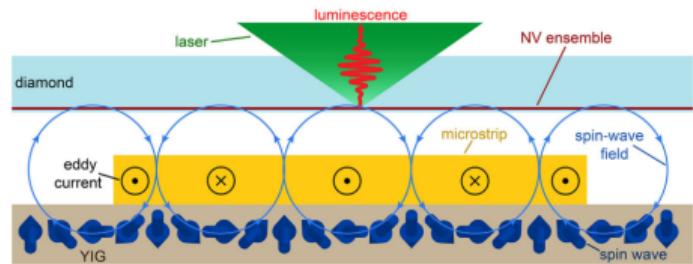
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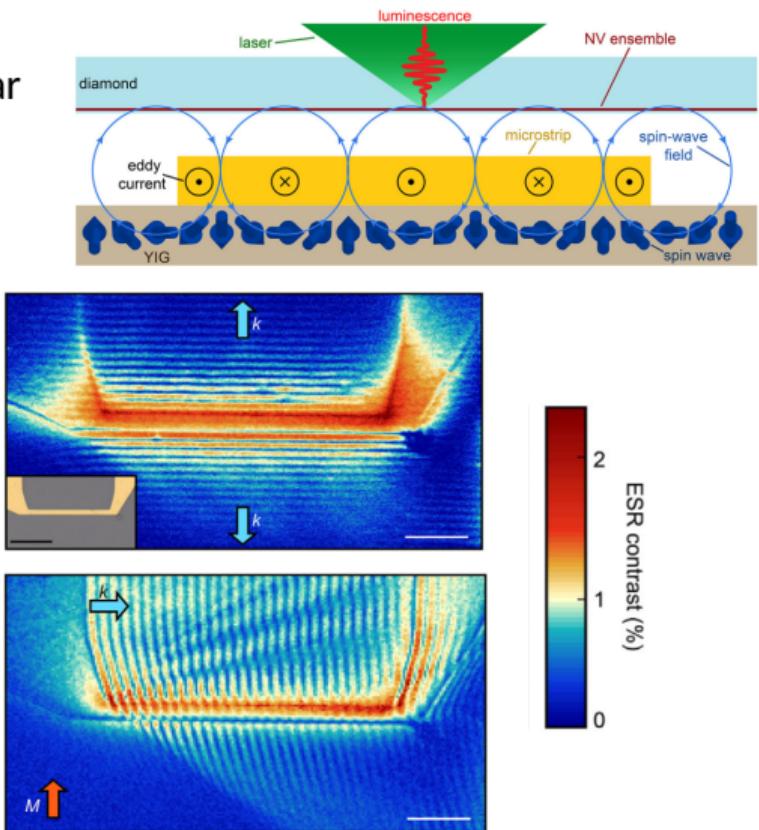
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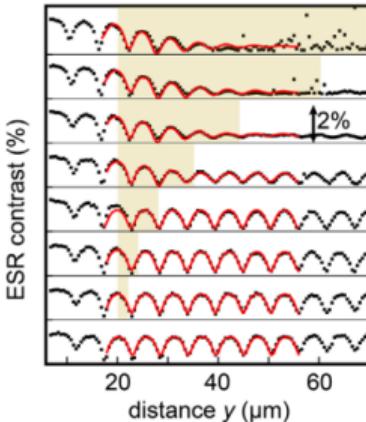
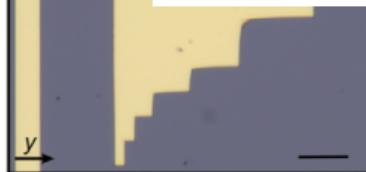


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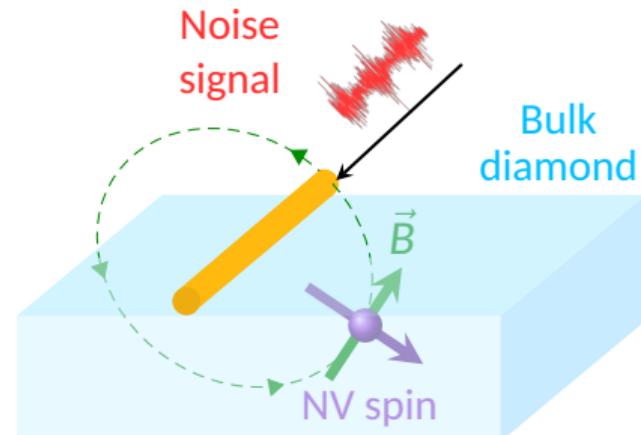
T. van der Sar  
group  
*Delft*



Increased damping  
below the metallic layer  
because of eddy currents

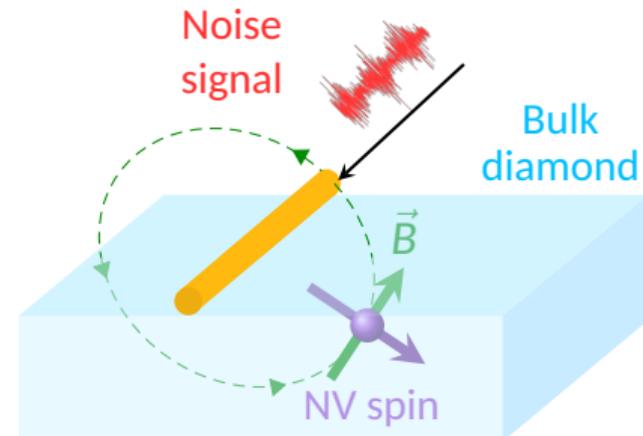


## Other approach: relaxometry to probe magnetic noise

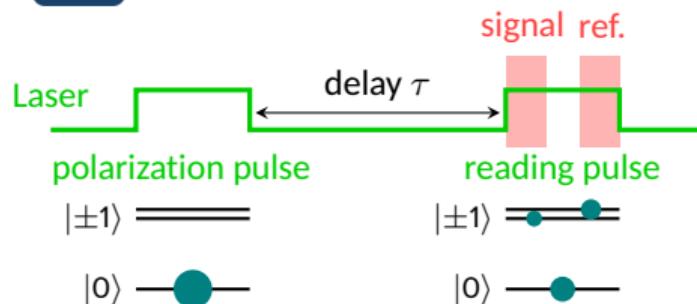


Collaboration C2N: T. Devolder

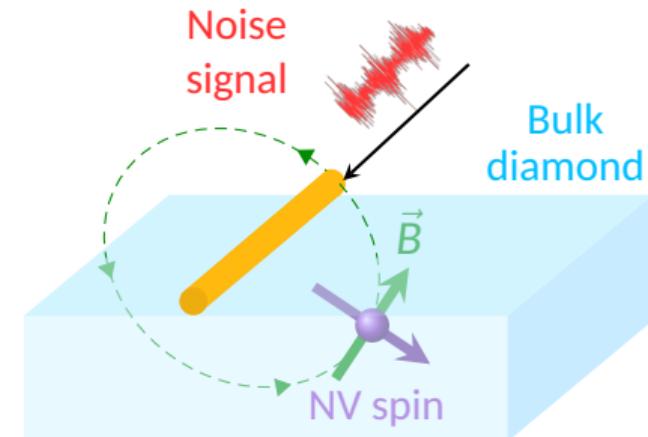
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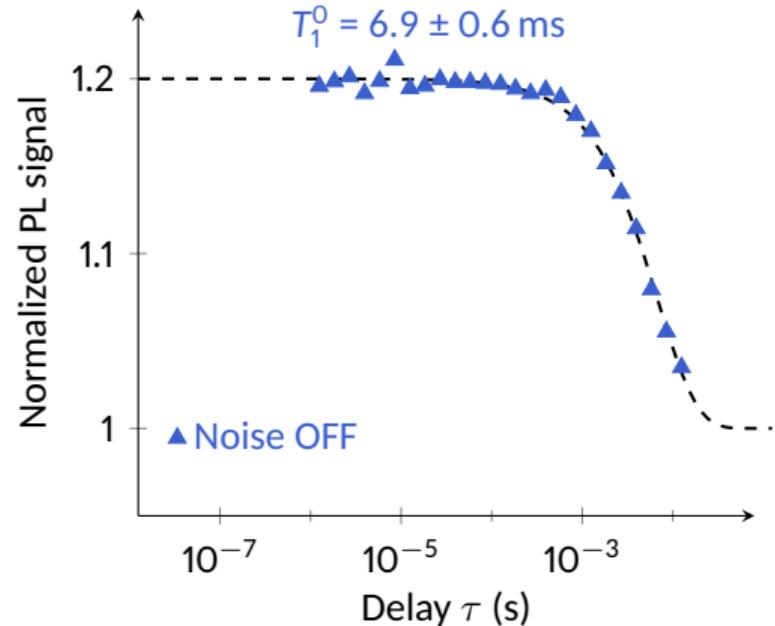
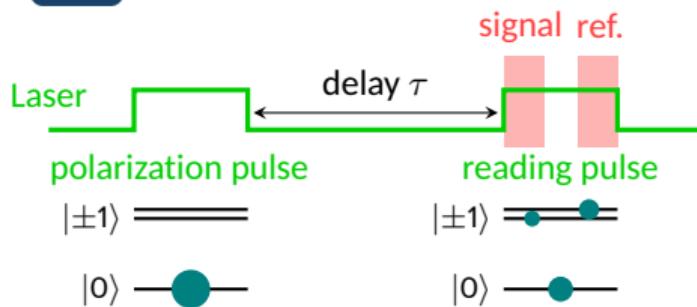
Collaboration C2N: T. Devolder



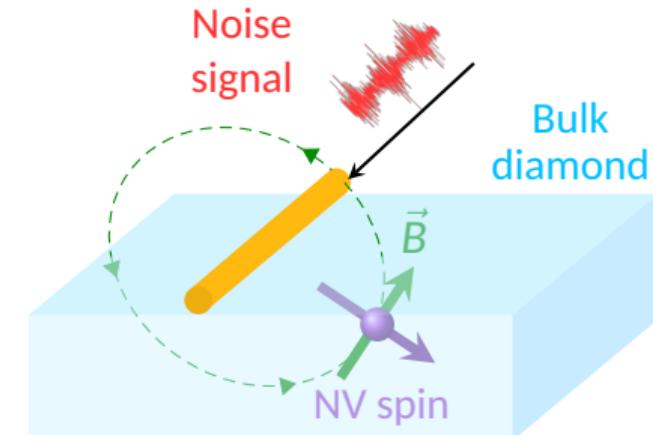
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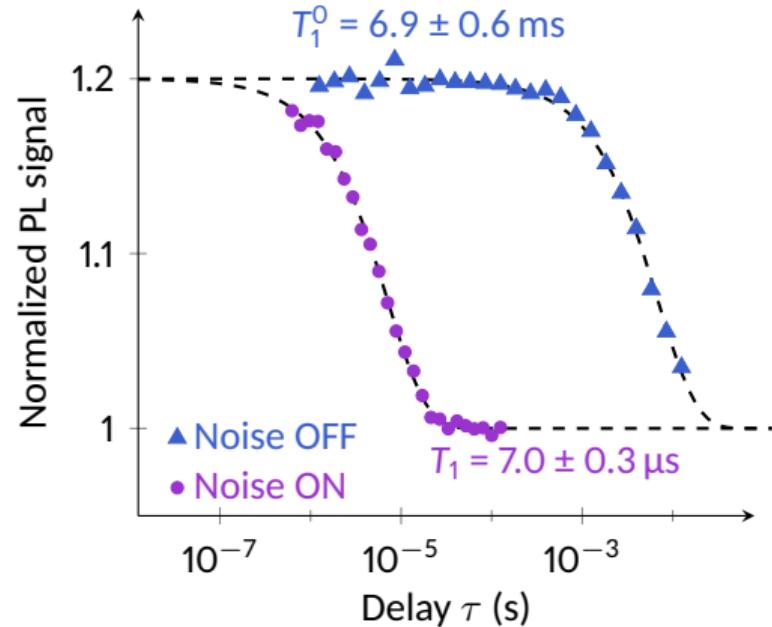
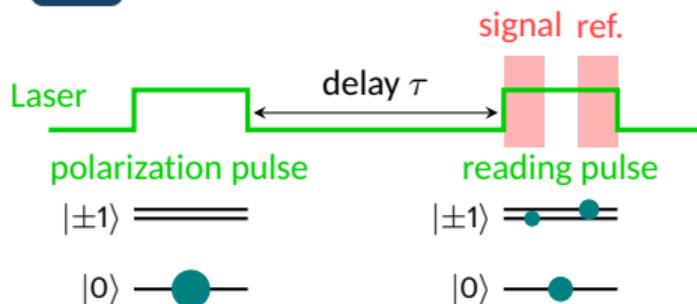
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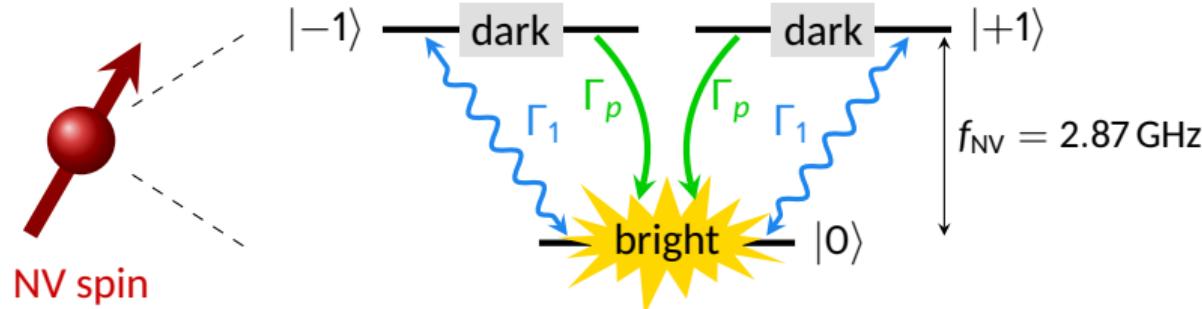


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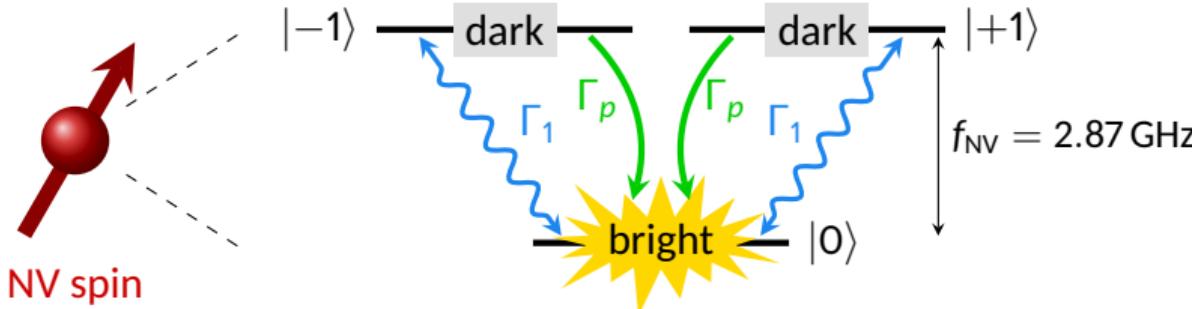
Noise spectrum centered  
at the NV transition frequency

## Effect on the emitted photoluminescence

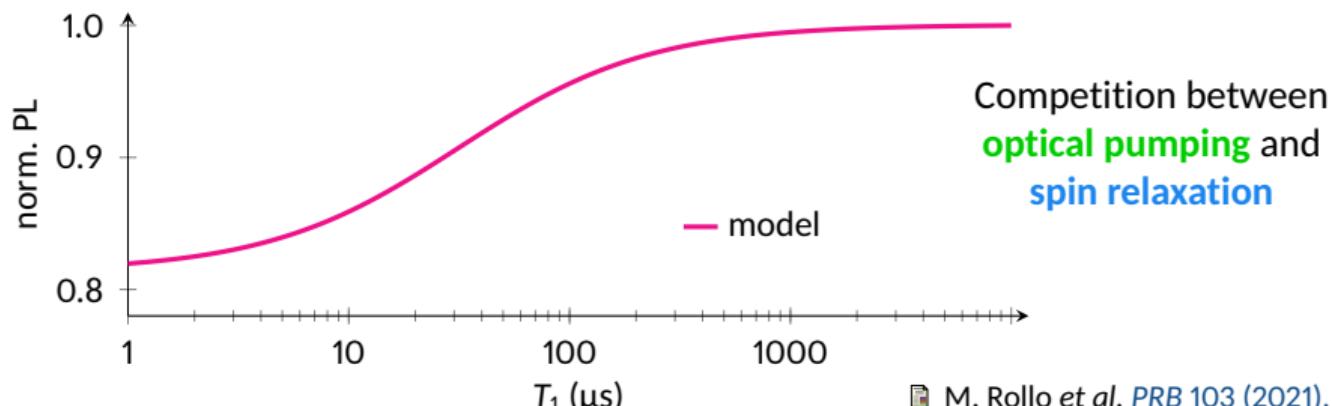


Relaxation rate  $\Gamma_1 \propto S_{B_\perp}(f_{\text{NV}})$  magnetic field spectral density at the resonance frequency  $f_{\text{NV}}$

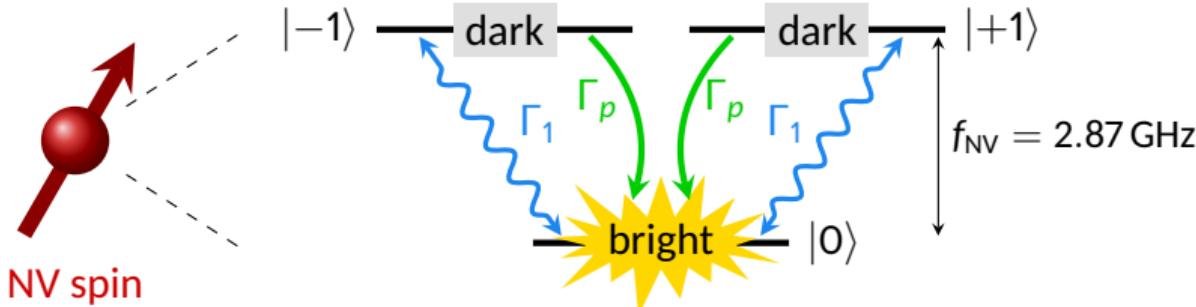
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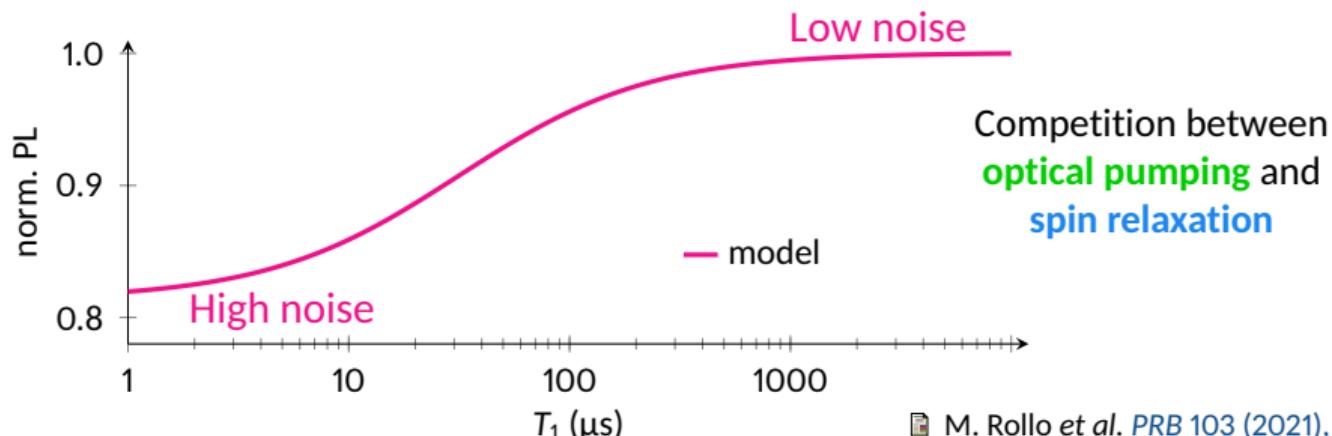
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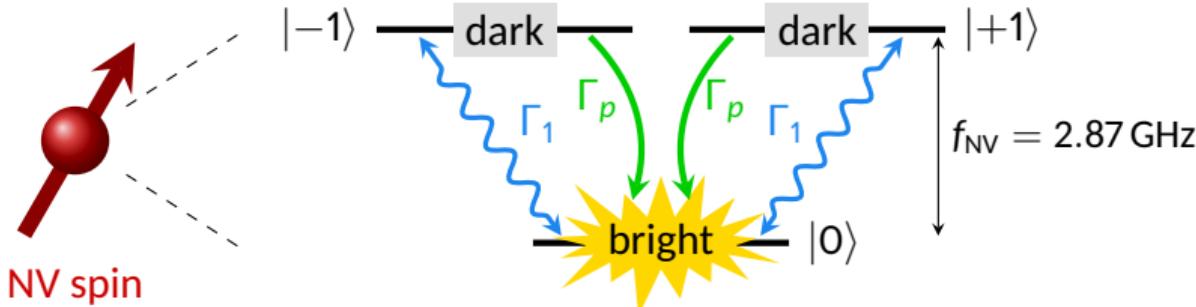
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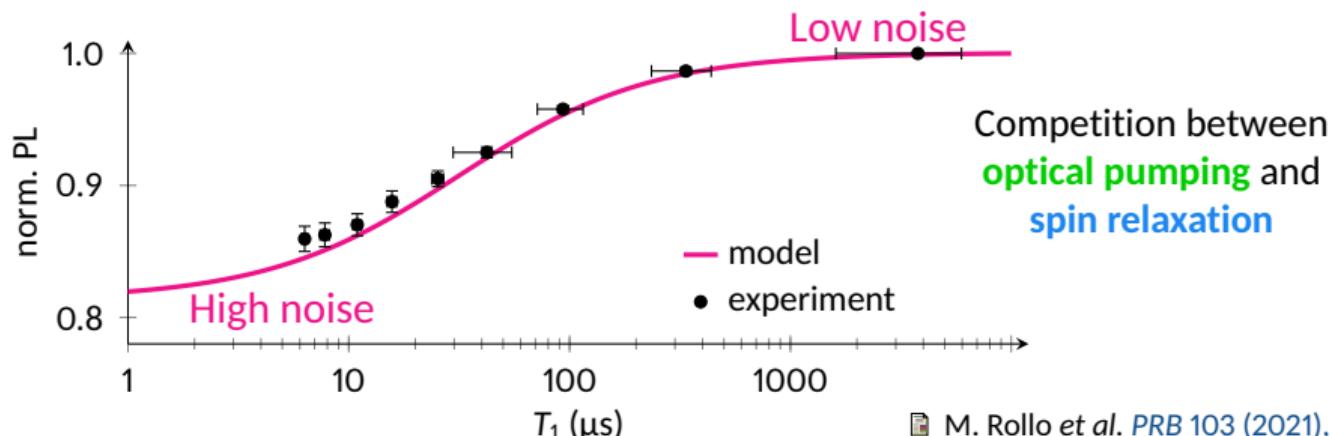
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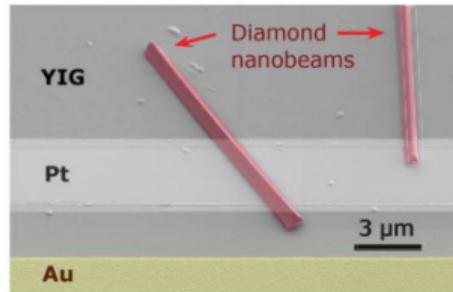
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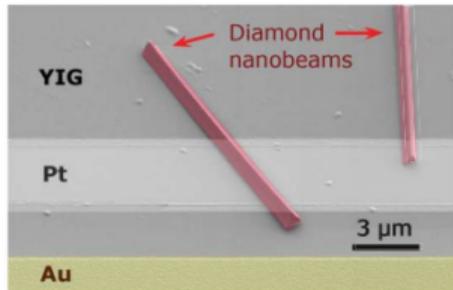
# Example in YIG



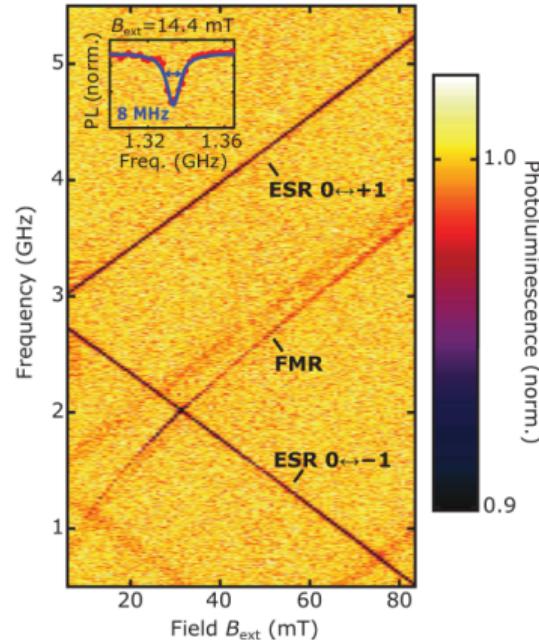
A. Yacoby  
group  
*Boston*

C. Du *et al.* *Science* 357 (2017), 195–198

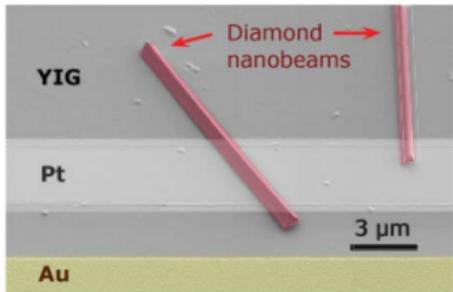
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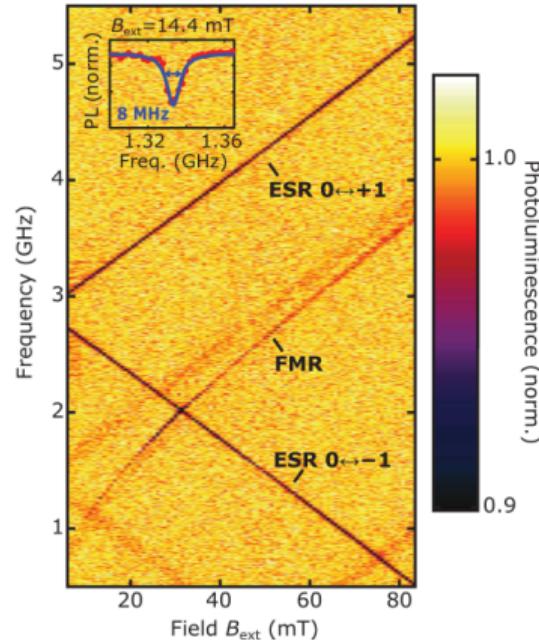
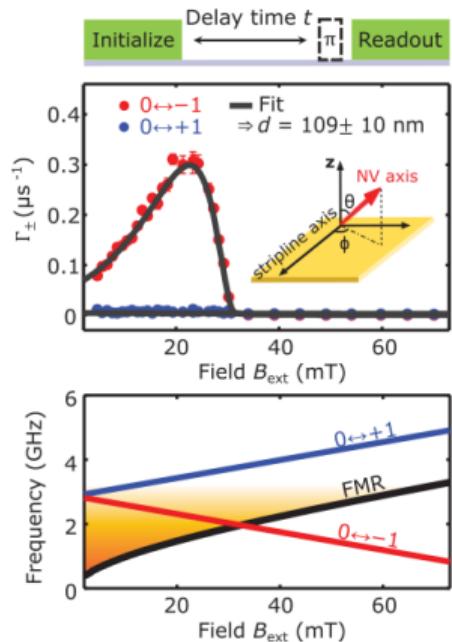
A. Yacoby  
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*Boston*



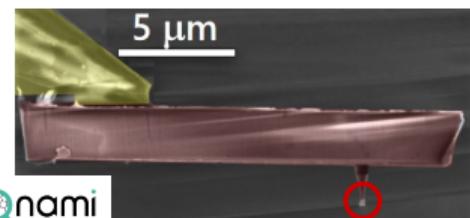
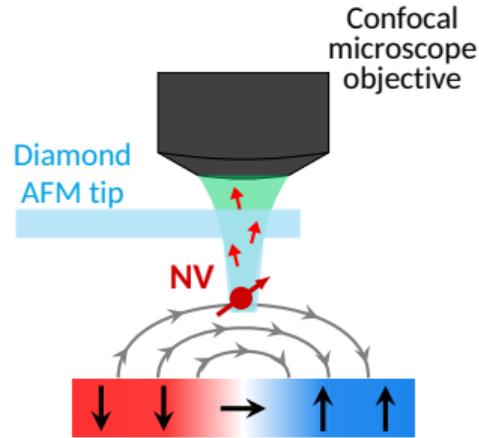
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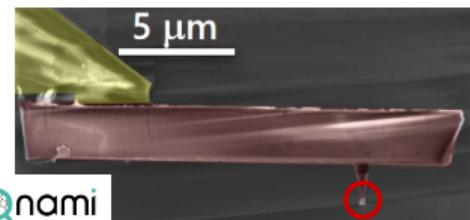
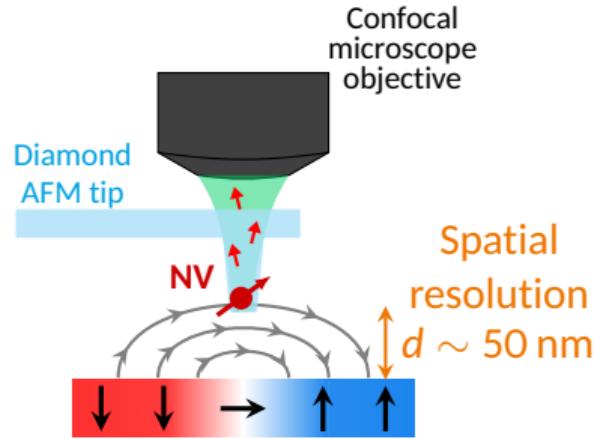


# Our scanning-NV microscopes



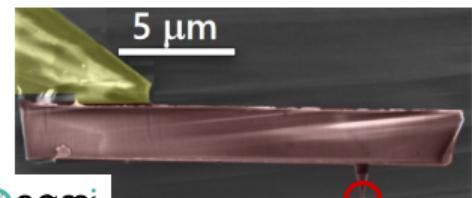
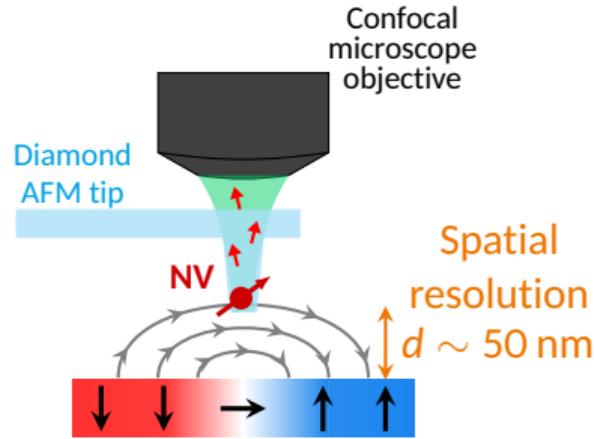
Implanted single  
NV center

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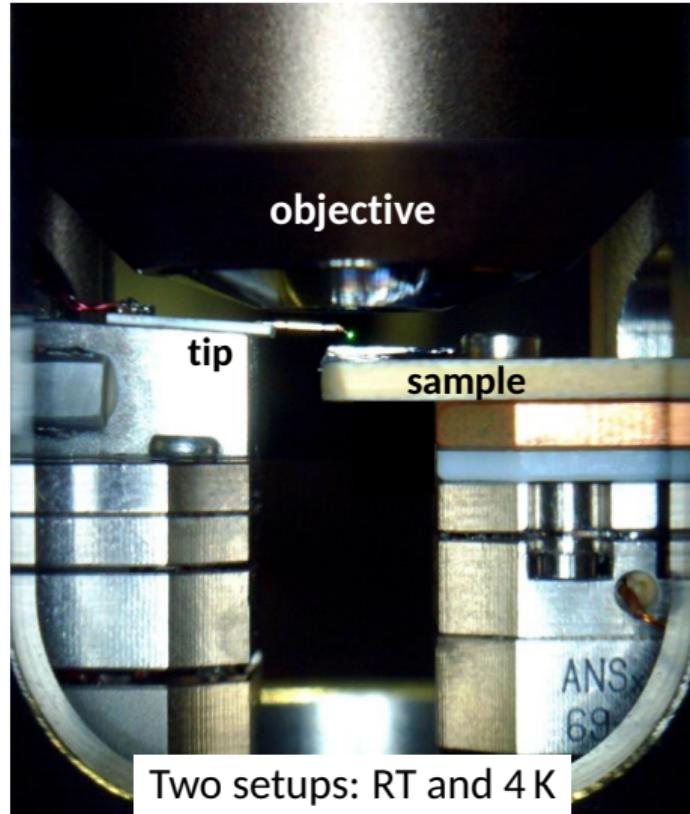


Implanted single  
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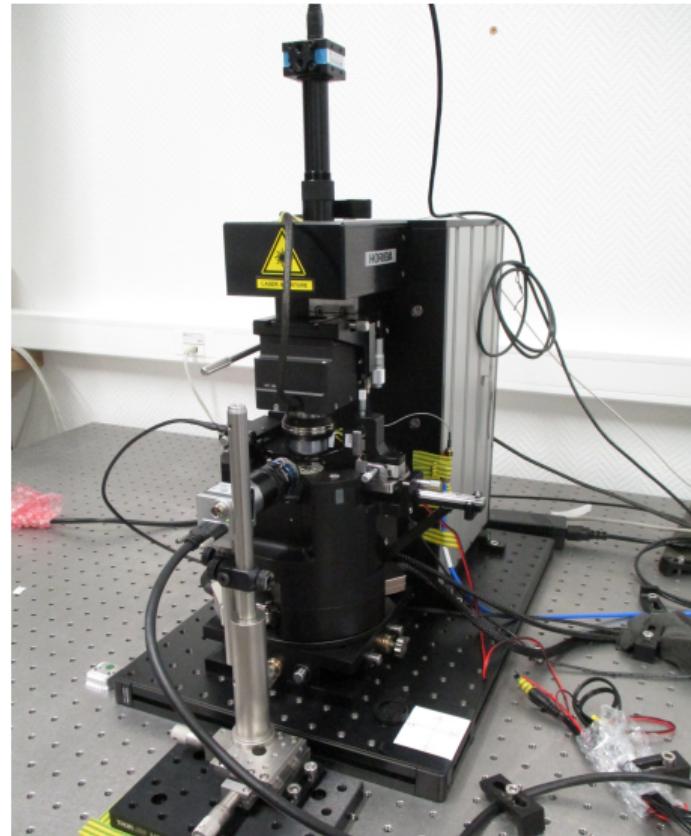
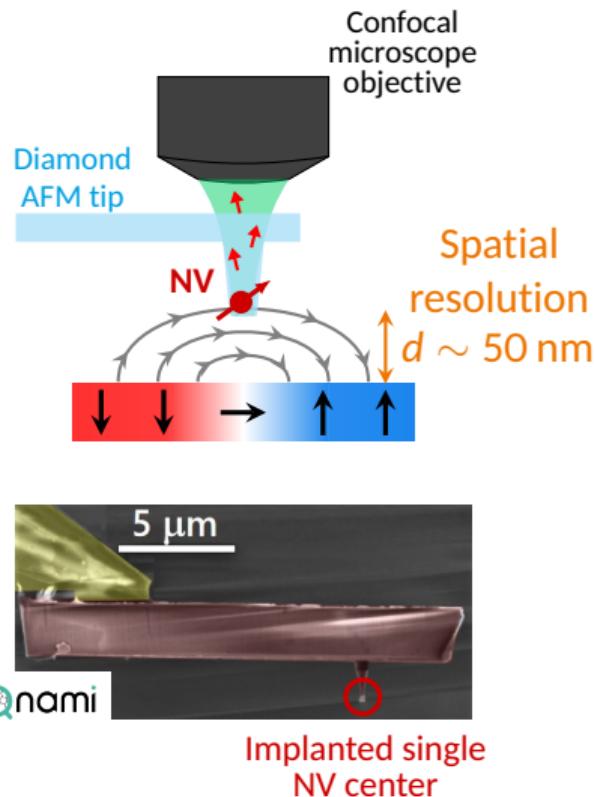
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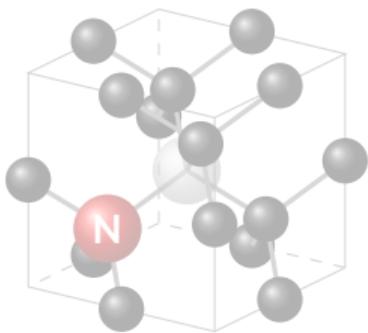
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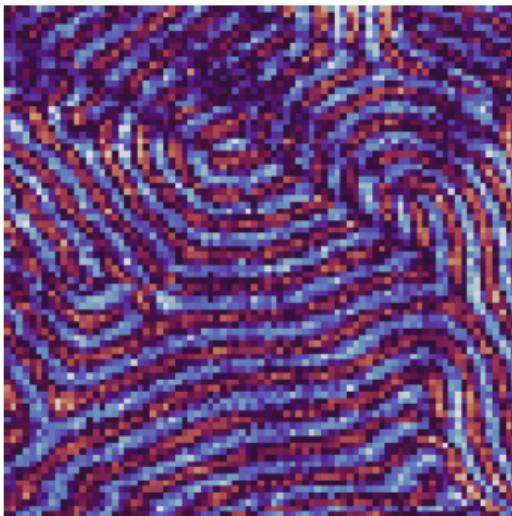
Commercial microscope from Qnami

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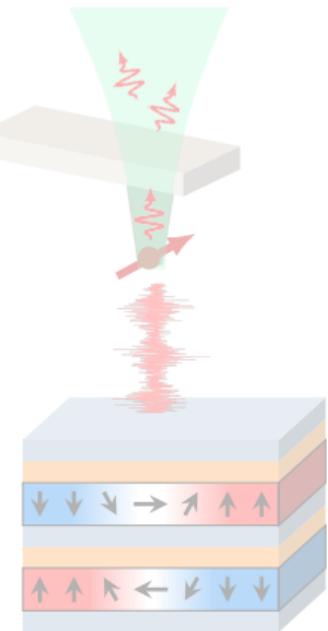
Spin waves detection with NV  
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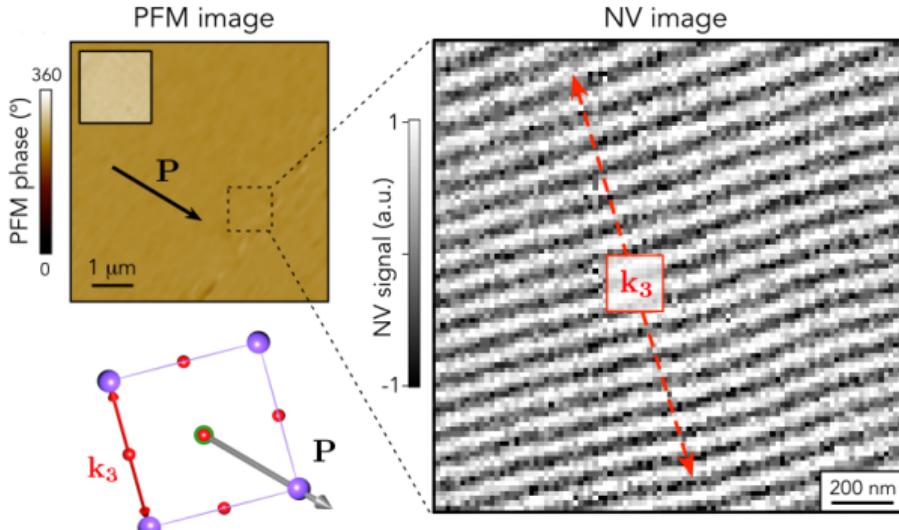
## Scanning-NV magnetometry applied to antiferromagnets



Imaging of antiferromagnetic  
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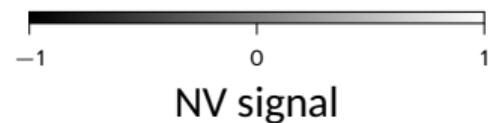
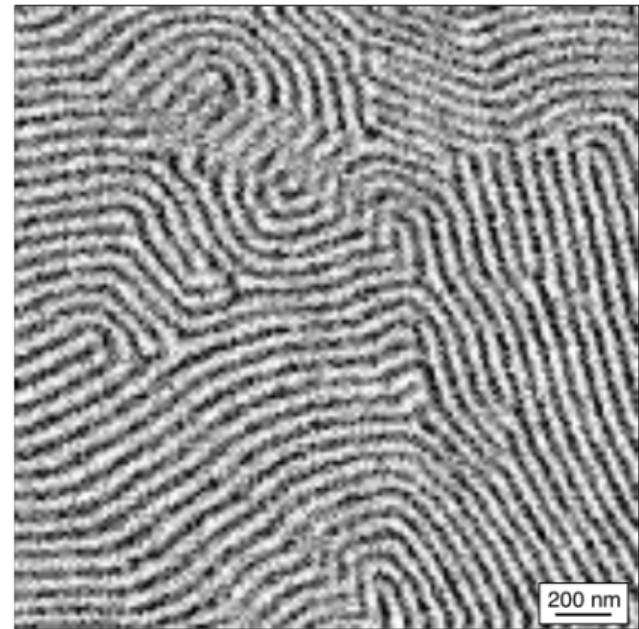
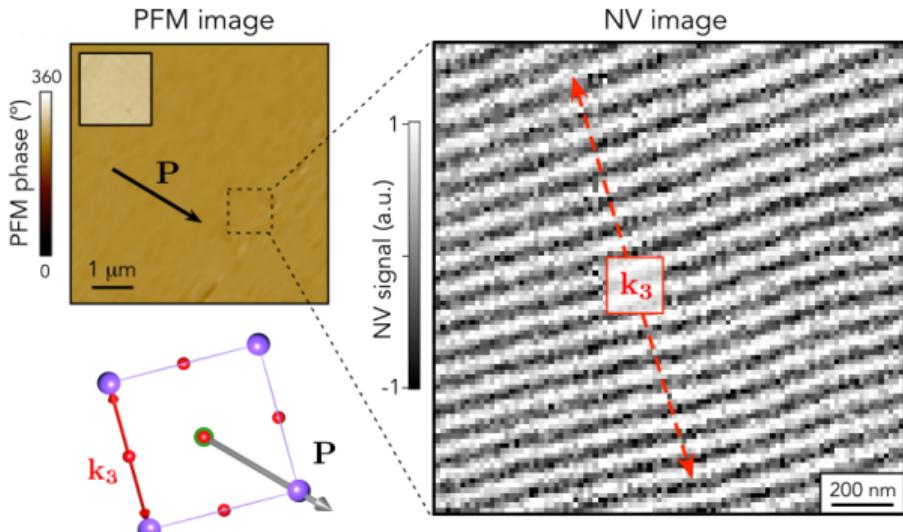


# Imaging the antiferromagnetic cycloid in bulk BiFeO<sub>3</sub>



Collaboration SPEC: J.-Y. Chauleau, M. Viret

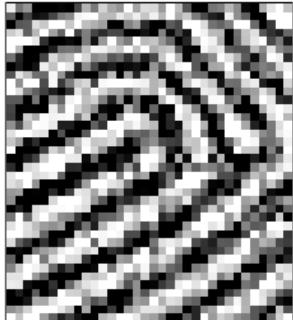
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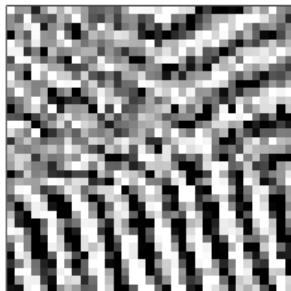
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# Topological defects in the antiferromagnetic cycloidal order

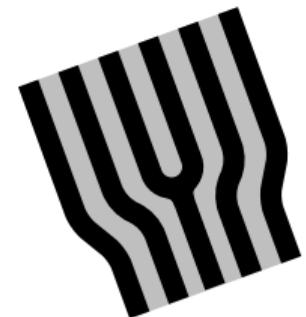
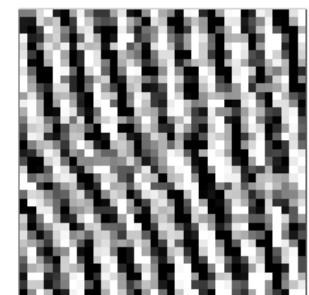
$\pi$ -disclination



$-\pi$ -disclination



Edge dislocation

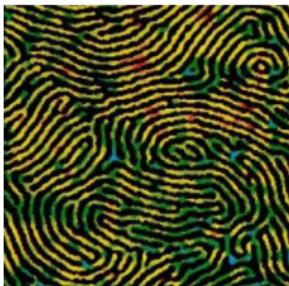


**Advantages in  $\text{BiFeO}_3$ :** i) robustness of antiferromagnetic textures  
ii) energy-efficient electrical control

# Overview of various lamellar systems: universal patterns!

Block copolymer

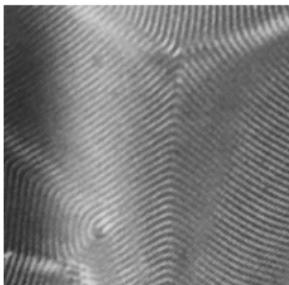
Period 40 nm



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

Liquid crystals

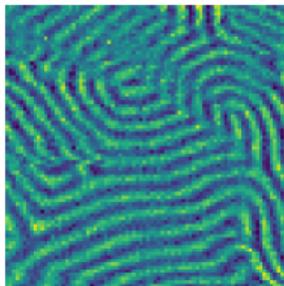
Period 800 nm



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

BiFeO<sub>3</sub> magnetic cycloid

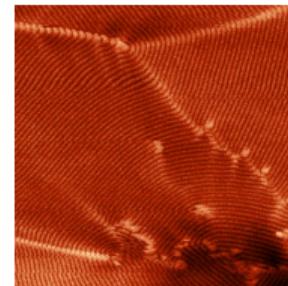
Period 64 nm



■ A. Finco et al. *arXiv:2202.02243* (2022)

FeGe magnetic helix

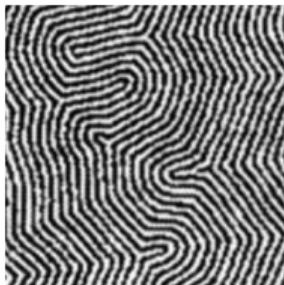
Period 70 nm



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

Ferrimagnetic garnet

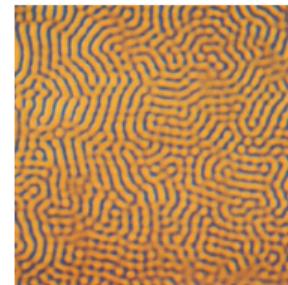
Period 8  $\mu$ m



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

Fluid diffusion

Period 250  $\mu$ m



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

# Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

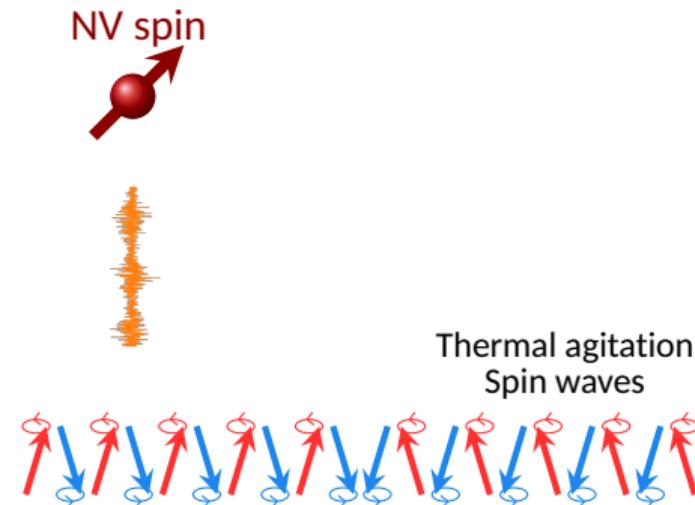
 B. Flebus *et al.* *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- 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

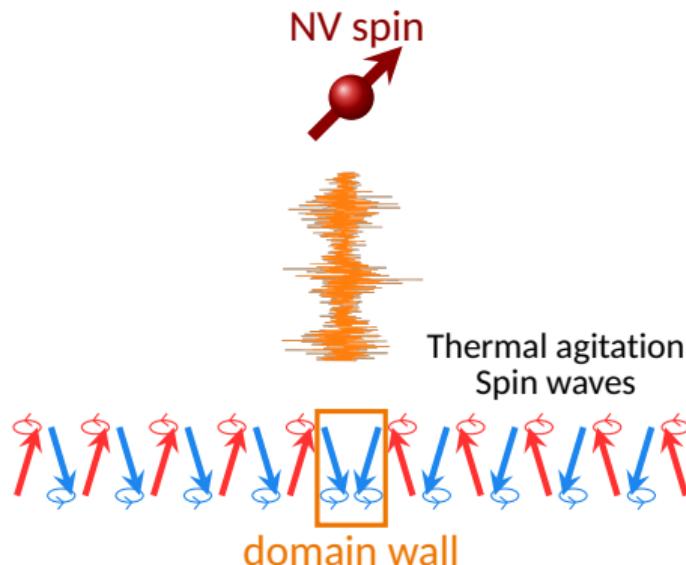
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- Use the different noise properties above domains and domain walls for imaging



# Detection of magnetic noise rather than stray field

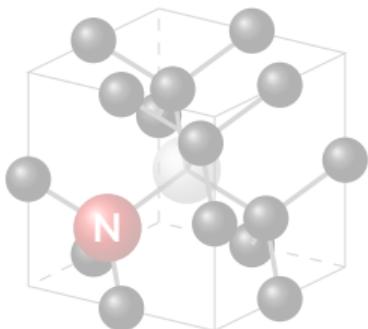
■ B. Flebus et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 98 (2018), 180409

- 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

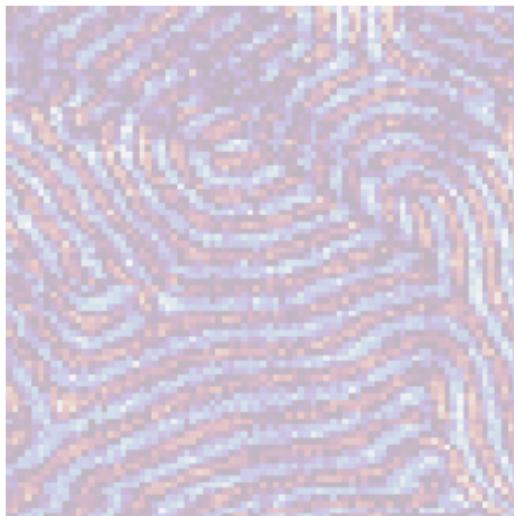


# Outline

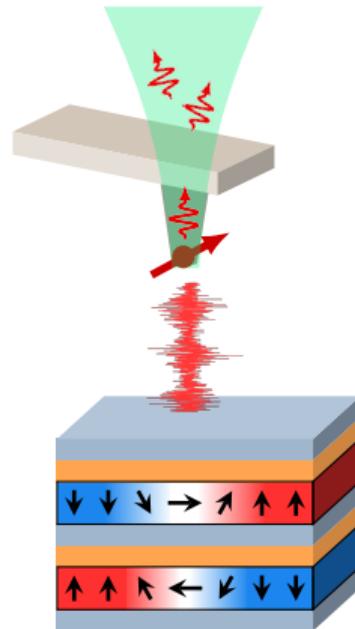
Spin waves detection with NV  
centers in diamond



Scanning-NV magnetometry  
applied to antiferromagnets



Imaging of antiferromagnetic  
textures by probing  
thermally excited spin waves

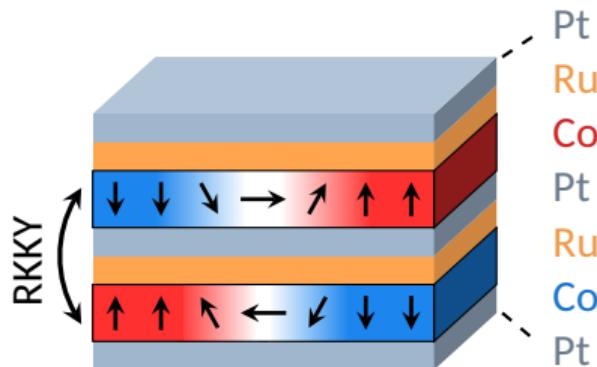


# Imaging of synthetic antiferromagnets

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



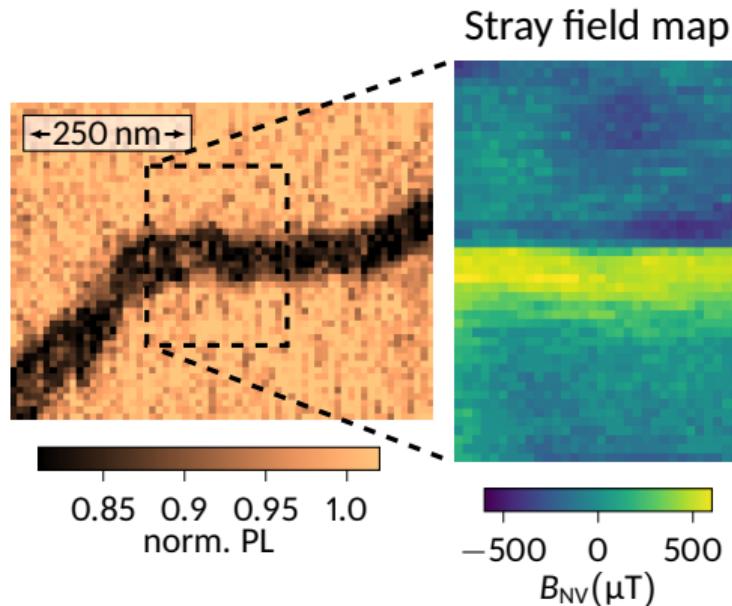
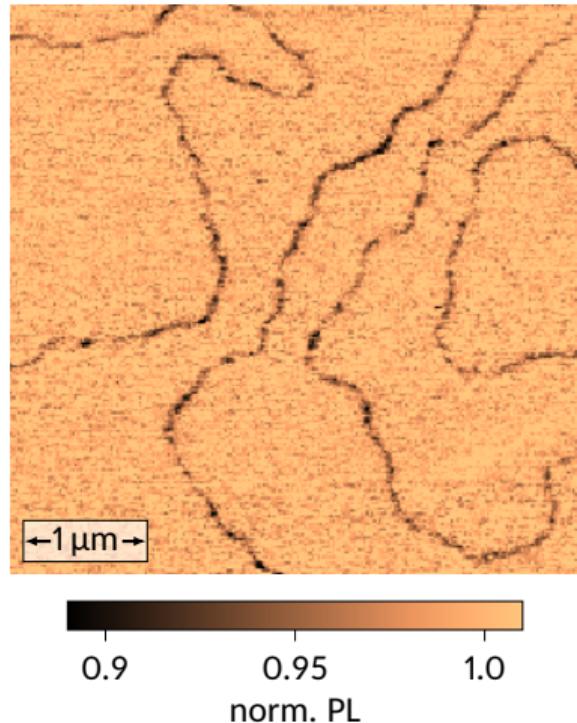
Two **ferromagnetic** layers coupled **antiferromagnetically**



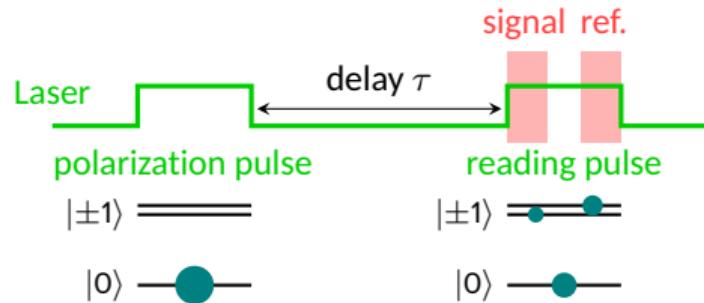
- No net magnetic moment
- Compensation of dipolar effects  
→ small skyrmions
- No skyrmion Hall effect
- Small stray field due to vertical spacing  
→ test system for noise imaging

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

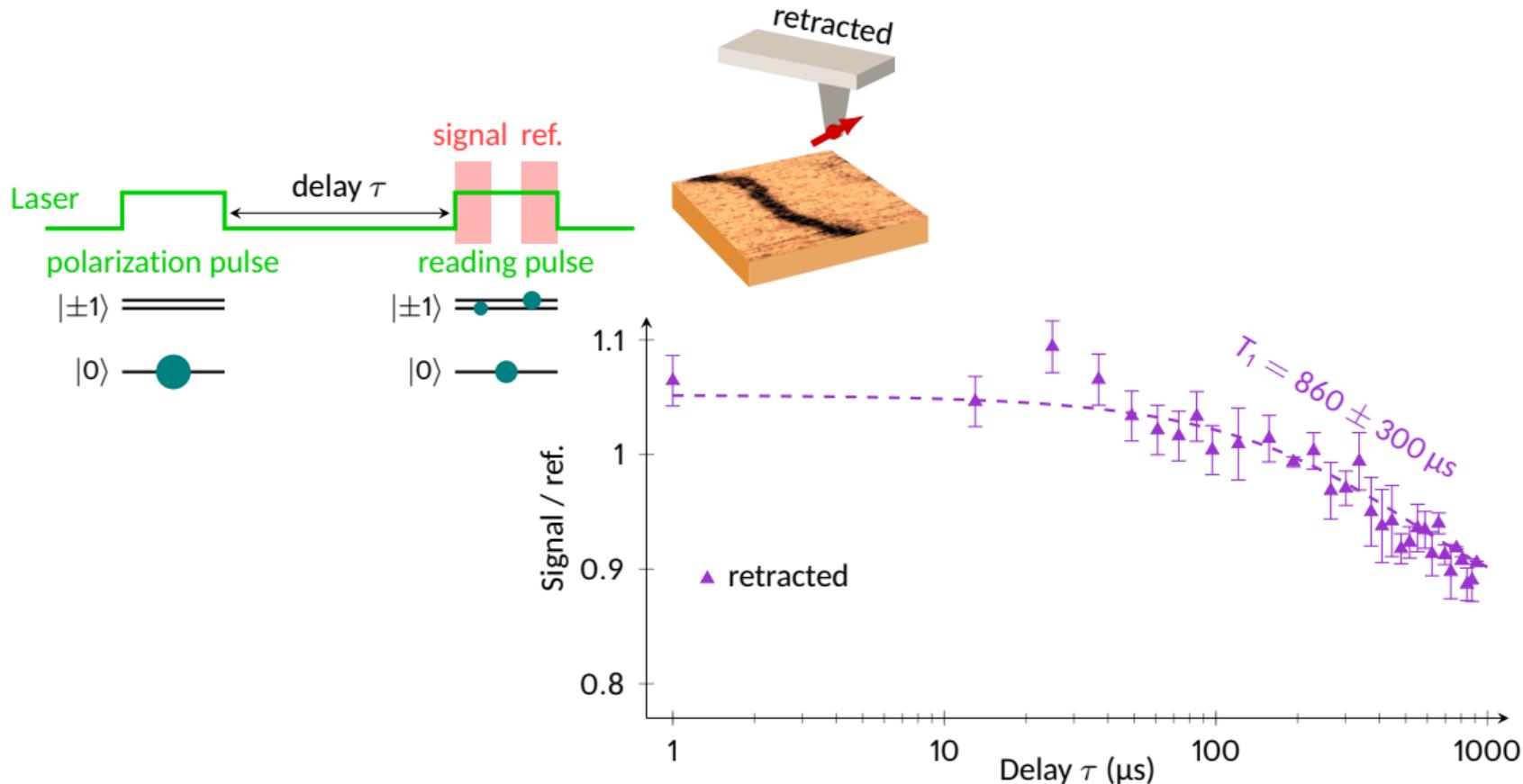
# Detection of domain walls by relaxometry



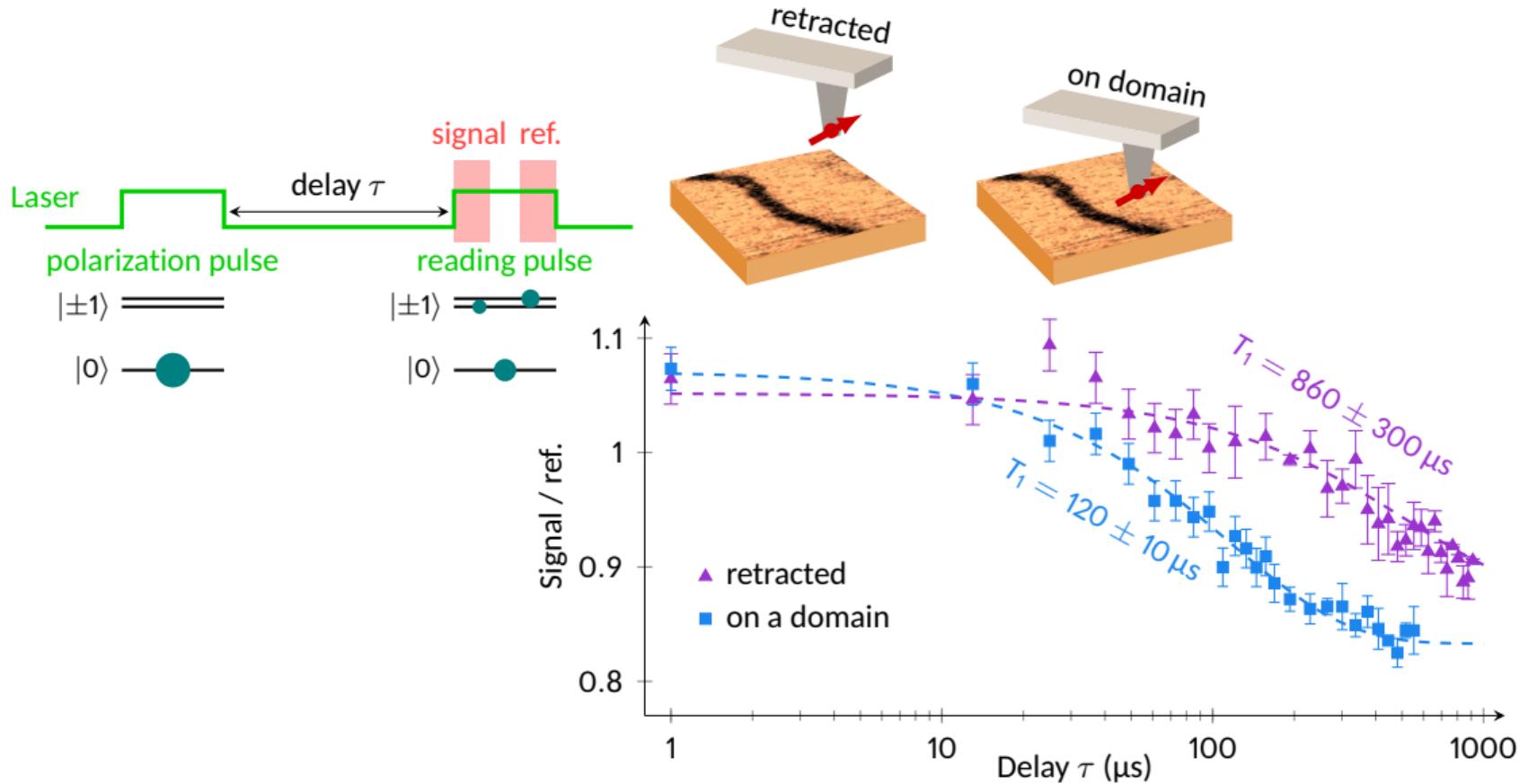
# Local variation of the relaxation time



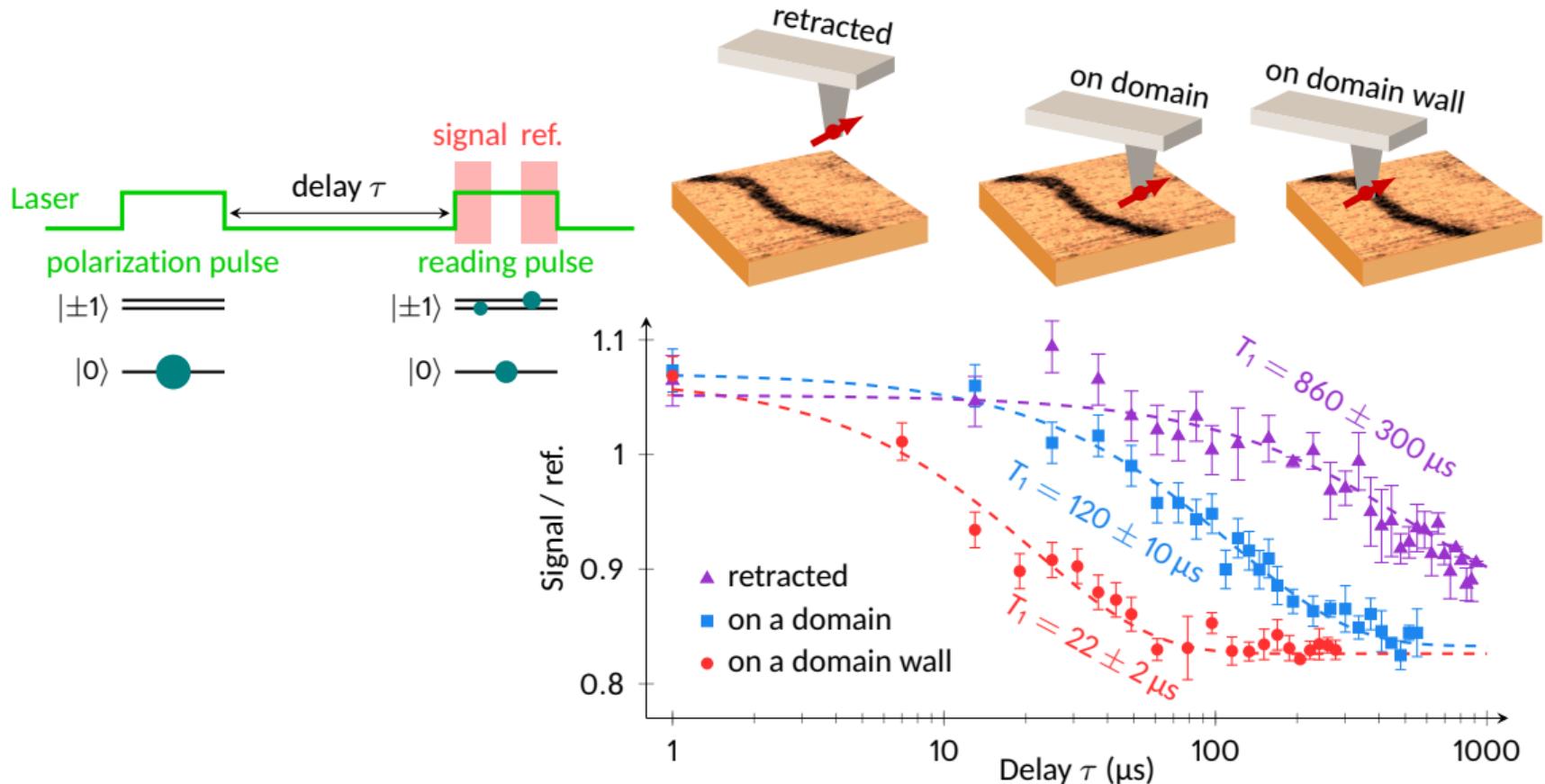
# Local variation of the relaxation time



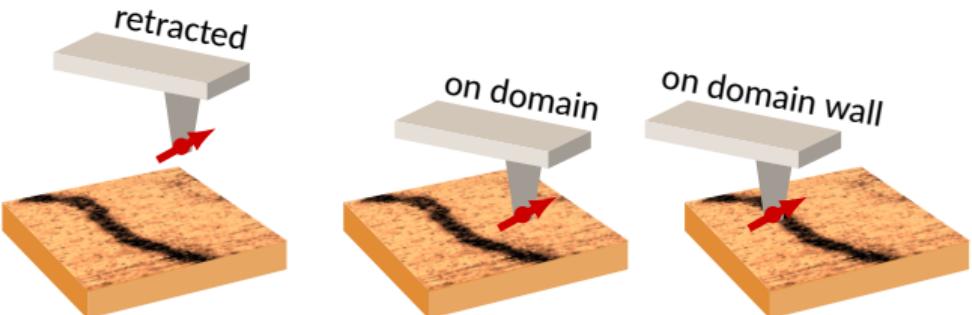
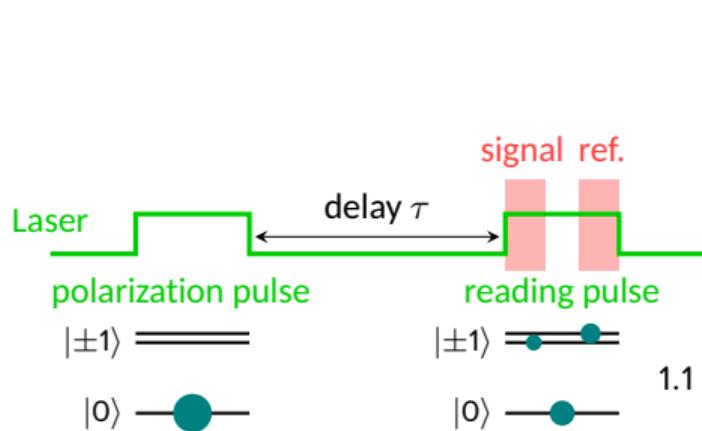
# Local variation of the relaxation time



# Local variation of the relaxation time

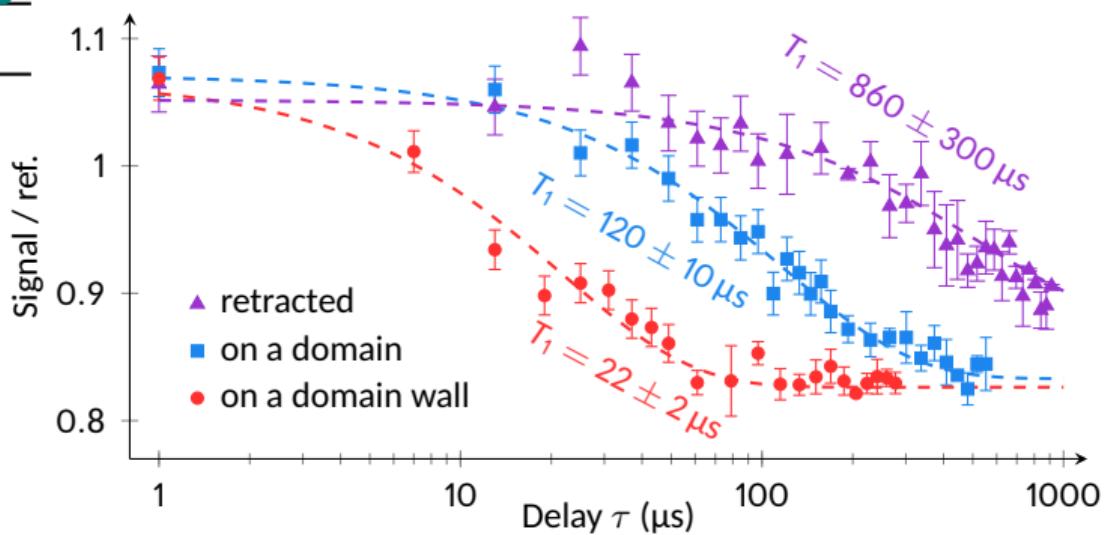


# Local variation of the relaxation time



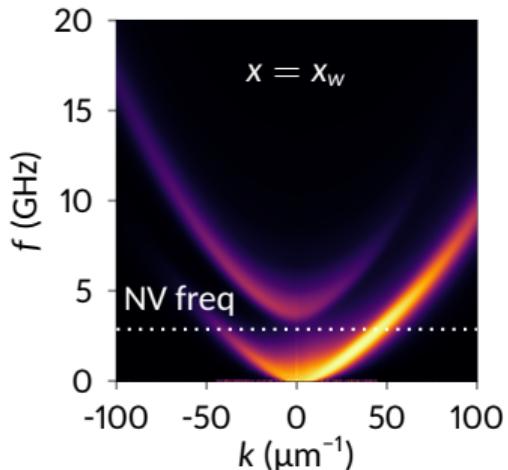
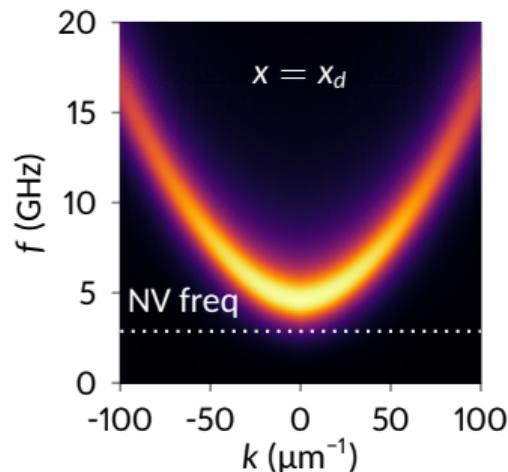
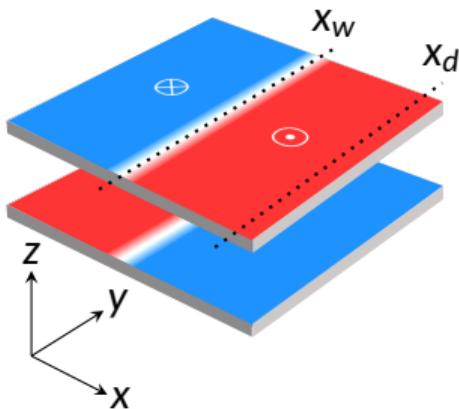
Clear diminution of  $T_1$

→ Enhancement of the  
spin relaxation



# Origin of the noise: spin waves

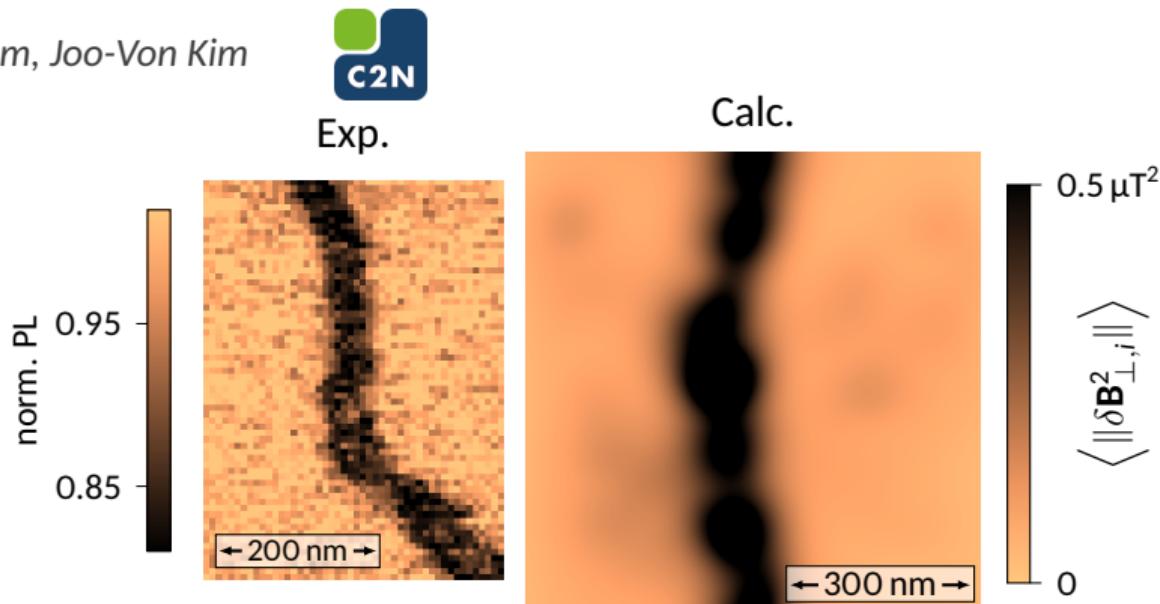
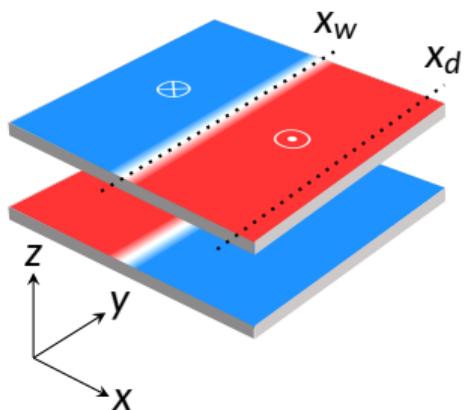
Collaboration C2N: Jean-Paul Adam, Joo-Von Kim



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

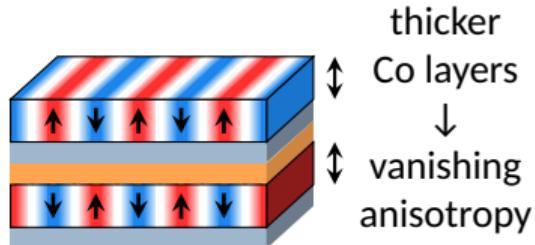
# Origin of the noise: spin waves

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



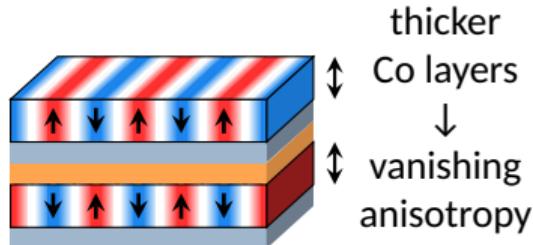
- NV frequency slightly below the gap, in the tail of power spectral density, which is the reason why we detect some noise when approaching the tip.
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# Imaging a spin spiral

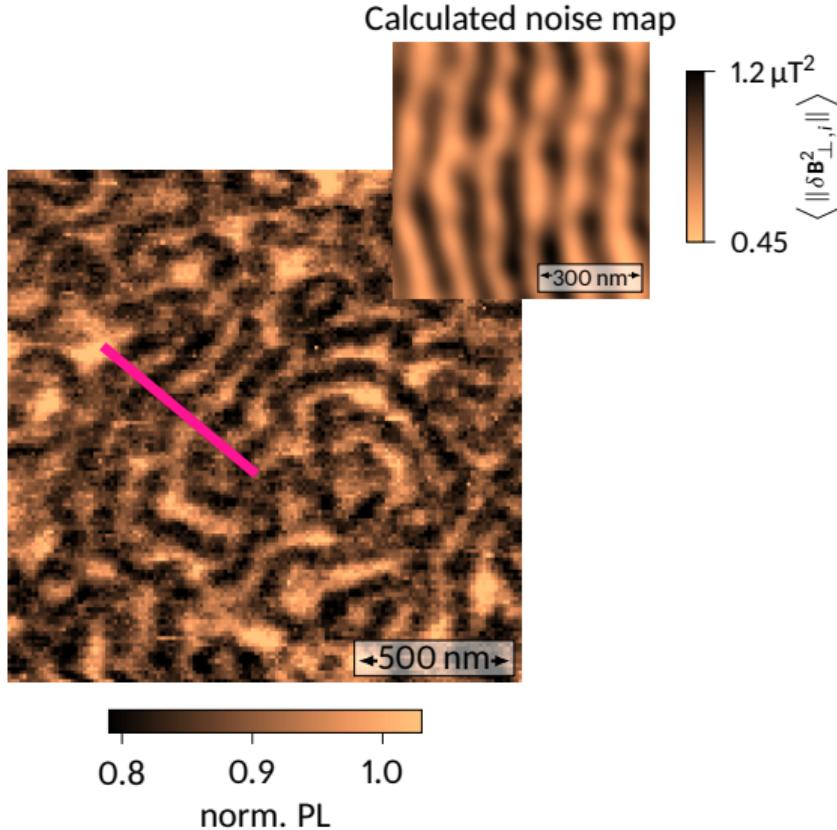
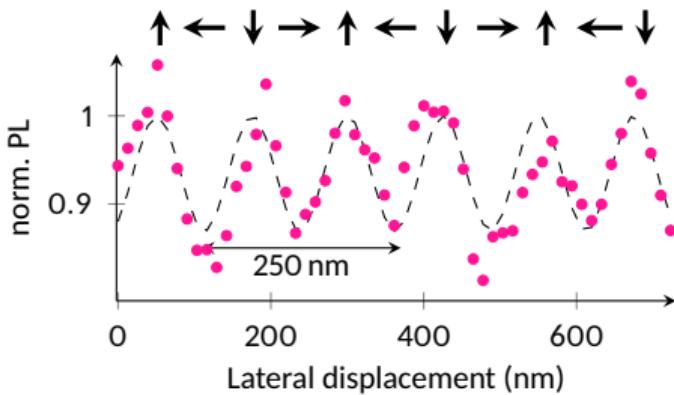


W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34

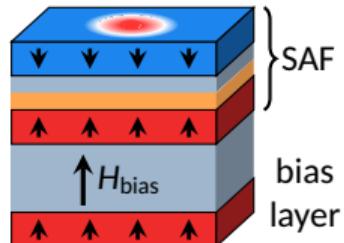
# Imaging a spin spiral



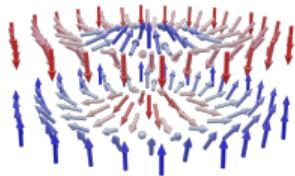
W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



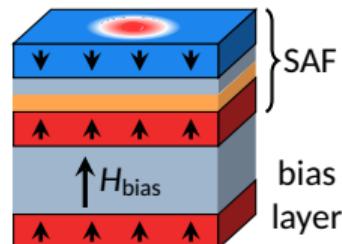
# and antiferromagnetic skyrmions!



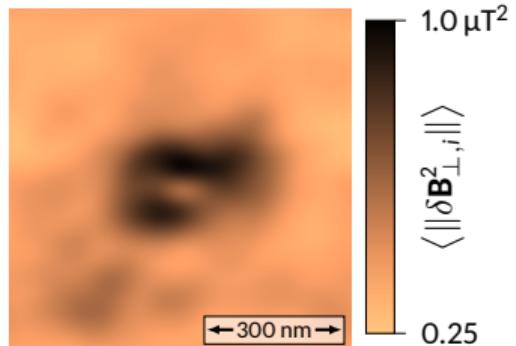
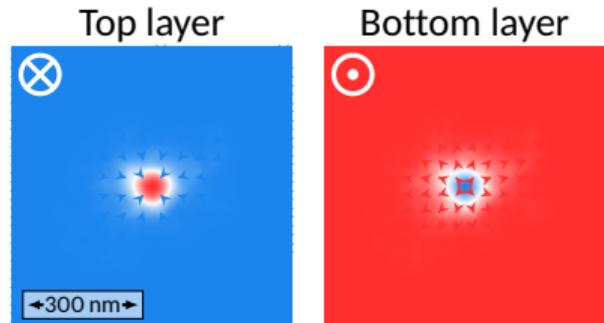
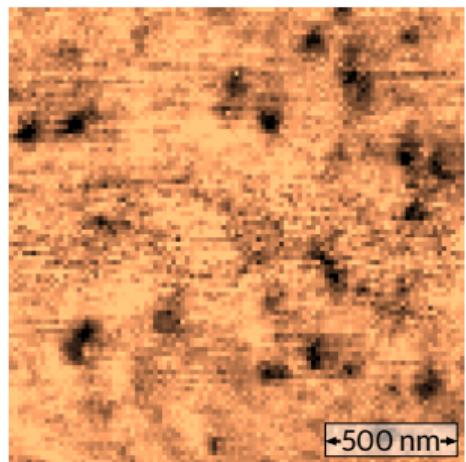
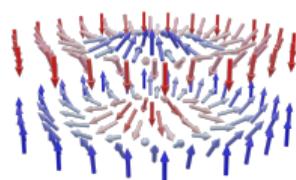
■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



# and antiferromagnetic skyrmions!

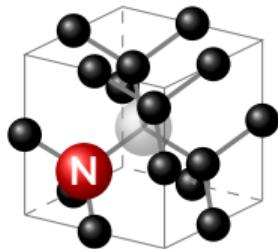


■ W. Legrand et al. *Nat. Mat.* 19 (2020), 34



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

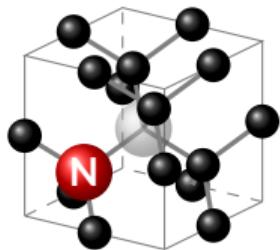
## To conclude



- NV centers are **quantum sensors** with the ability to probe spin waves in the GHz range, resonant or not.
- **Two magnons processes** can also be detected, e.g. in **antiferromagnets** where the spin wave frequencies are out of reach.

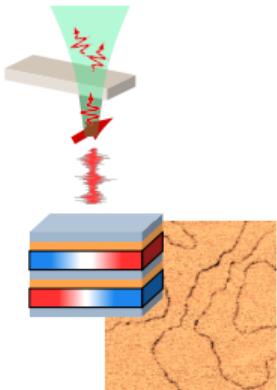
*Example in Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (C. Du group):* H. Wang et al. *Science Adv.* 8 (2022), eabg8562

# To conclude



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*Example in Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (C. Du group):* H. Wang et al. *Science Adv.* 8 (2022), eabg8562



- Measurements in a scanning-NV microscope  
→ **spatial resolution 50 nm** + combination with **magnetic imaging**.
- Easy fully optical detection of spin waves through **magnetic noise**.

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

- Allows the study of **spin waves confined in textures** like domain walls.

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

# Acknowledgments

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Nicolas Jaouen

