

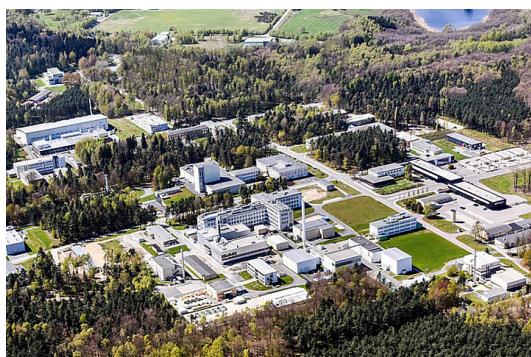
Creation and characterization of quantum defects

Georgy Astakhov

Andrei Anisimov, Ayisha Suhana, Tatiana Uaman

HZDR, Institute of Ion Beam Physics and Materials Research,
Quantum Technologies (FWIQ)

Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf



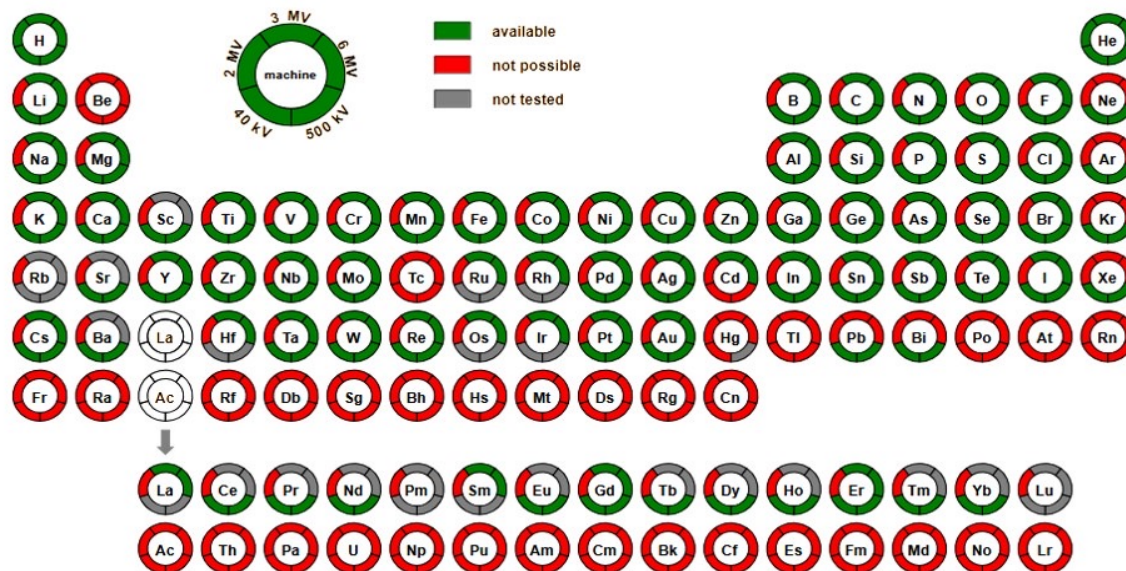
SCHENEFELD

LEIPZIG
DRESDEN
FREIBERG
GÖRLITZ
HZDR
HELMHOLTZ ZENTRUM
DRESDEN ROSSENDORF



GRENOBLE

Ion Beam Center at HZDR





Outline

1. Motivation
2. Scanning Quantum Magnetometer
3. Imaging DC Current in Quantum Microscope
4. Advanced Protocol for Imaging Electrical Signal



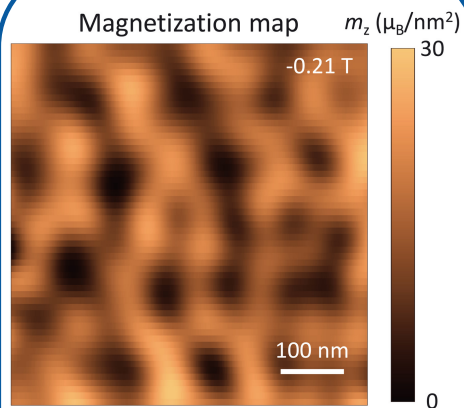
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Application Domains: Materials, Health, Energy and Environment



Materials

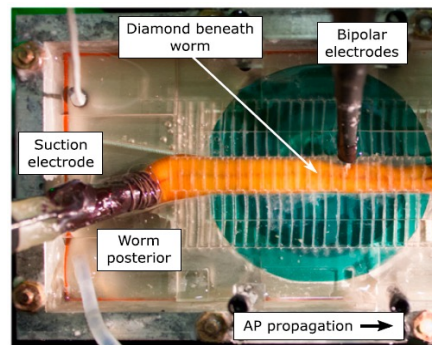


Visualization of magnetic domains and moire magnetism in twisted 2D magnets

T. Song et al., Science **374**, 1140 (2021)



Health

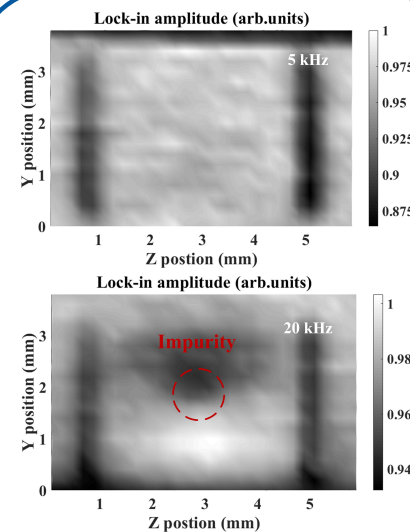


Overhead photo of *M. infundibulum* positioned on an NV diamond sensor for single-neuron action

J. F. Barry et al., PNAS **113**, 14133 (2016)



Energy

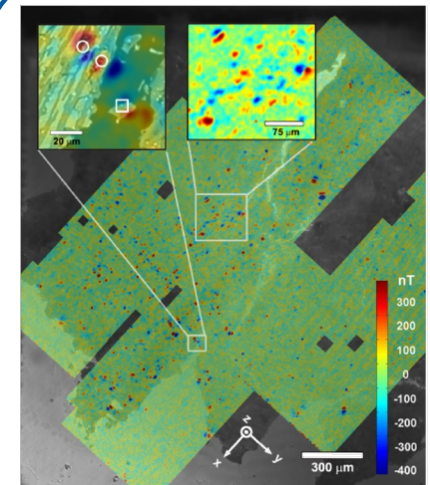


Battery characterization via eddy-current imaging

X. Zhang et al., Appl. Sci. **11**, 3069 (2021)



Environment



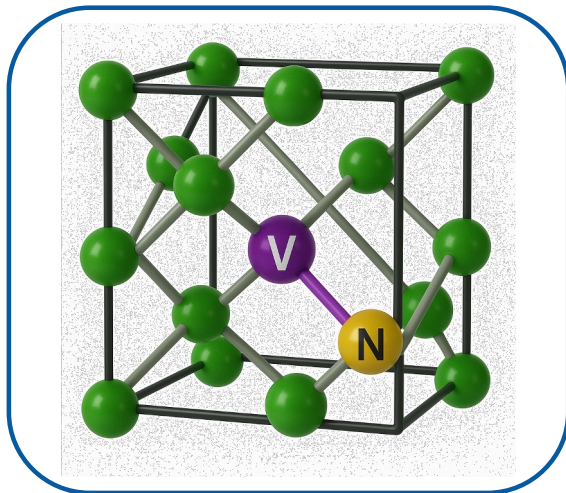
Quantum diamond microscope image of a geological sample

D. R. Glenn et al., Geochem. Geophys. Geosyst. **18**, 3254 (2017)

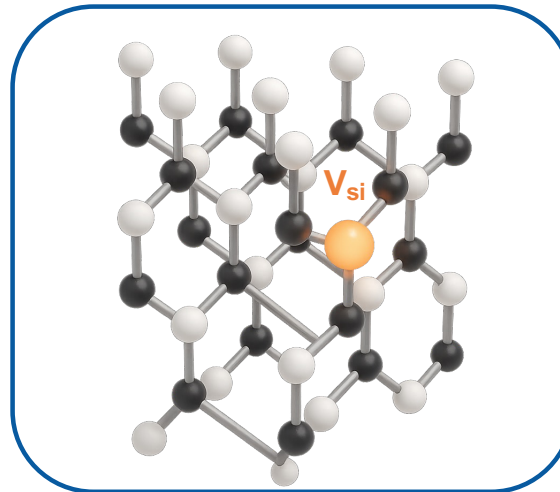
Comparison of Material Platforms for Quantum Sensing

- **Diamond NV center** - Sensitivity: $1 \text{ pT/Hz}^{1/2}$, The most developed system
- **SiC** - Sensitivity: better than $100 \text{ nT/Hz}^{1/2}$, Wafer-scale, industrially relevant
- **hBN** - New, Sensitivity: $100 \text{ }\mu\text{T/Hz}^{1/2}$, Promising for 2D quantum sensing, proximity

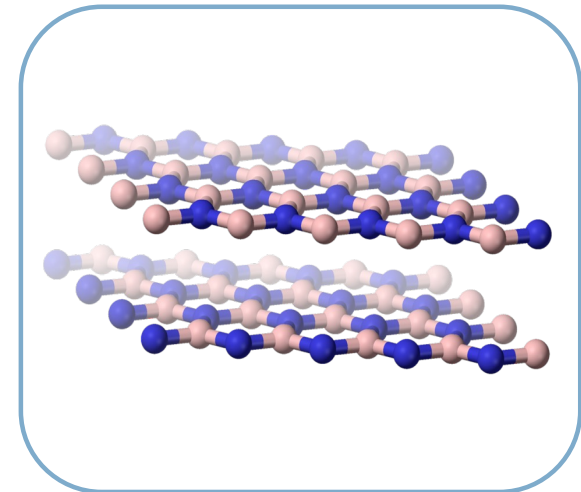
Nitrogen-vacancy in diamond



Silicon vacancy in SiC



Boron vacancy in hBN



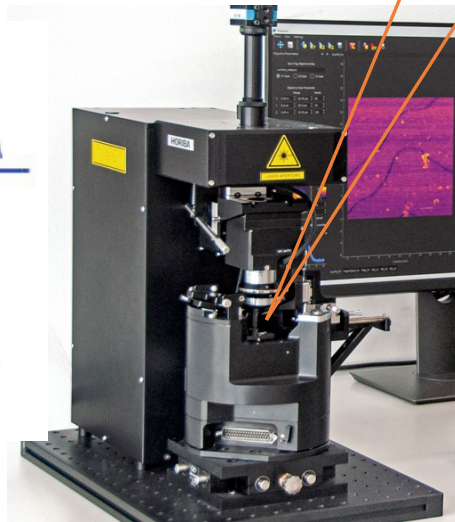
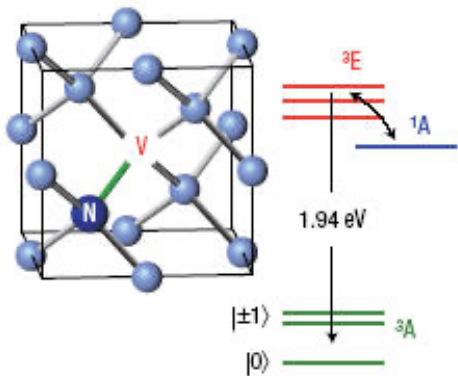


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Scanning Quantum Magnetometry with NV Defects in Diamond

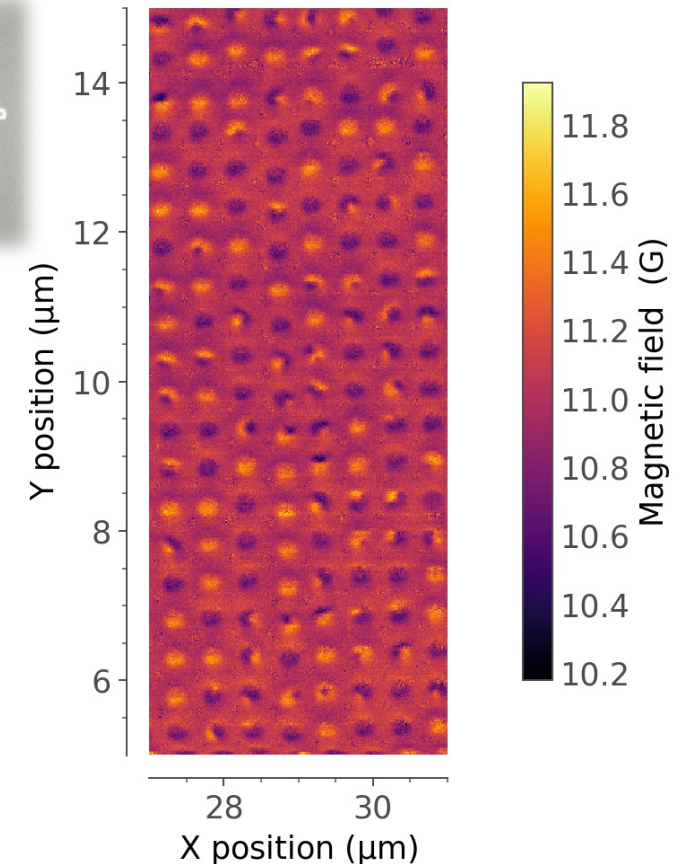
- Scan range $80\text{ }\mu\text{m} \times 80\text{ }\mu\text{m} \times 10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$
- Magnetic spatial resolution $<100\text{ nm}$
- Single NV center with sensitivity $3\text{ }\mu\text{T/Hz}^{1/2}$
- Magnetic field range up to 5 mT
- Time-domain measurements including Rabi, Hahn-Echo



Imaging of
antiferromagnetic
domains

Cooperation:
P. Makushko,
D. Makarov (FWID)

P. Rickhaus et al., Nano Lett.
24, 13172 (2024)



Quantum Sensing in Hybrid Structures hBN-3C-SiC

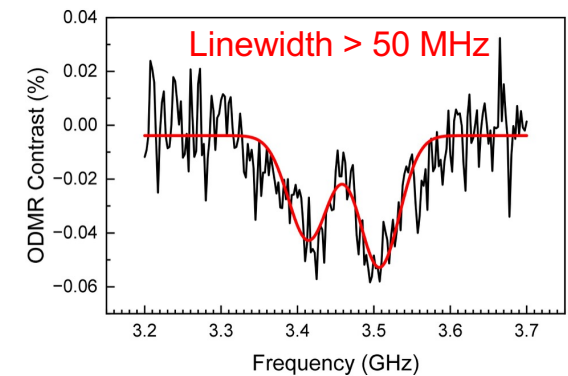
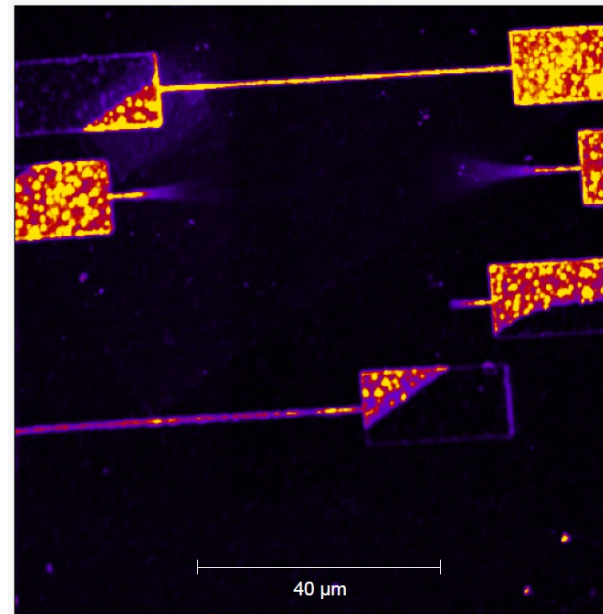
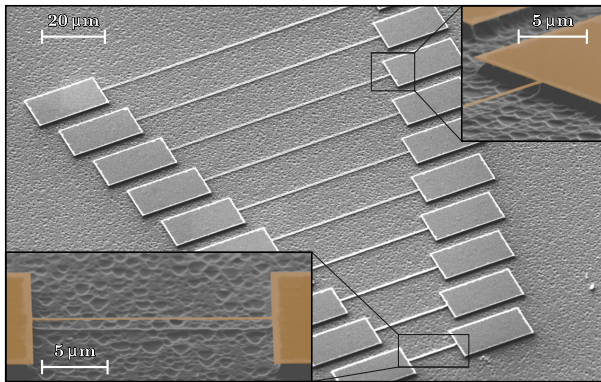
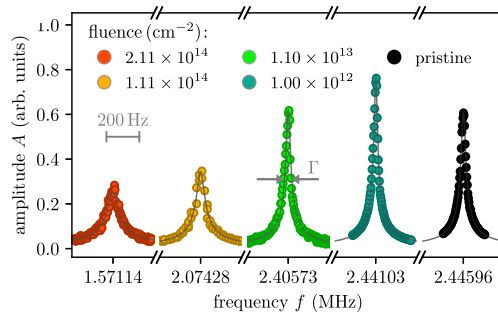
Cooperation:

E. Weig (TU München) and A. Erbe (FWIO)

3C-SiC nanostrings: High mechanical Q-factor ($>10,000$)

hBN: Quantum sensing with boron vacancies (V_B) near the surface

3C-SiC
on Silicon



Theoretical questions

- Strain-spin interaction of atomic defects in 2D materials

P. Bredol, et al, GA, A. Erbe, E. Weig, Phys. Rev. Applied **22**, 034036 (2024)



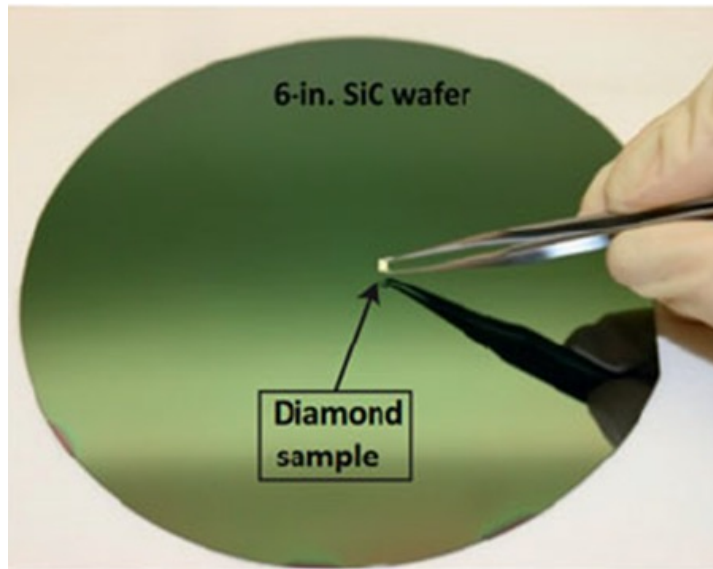
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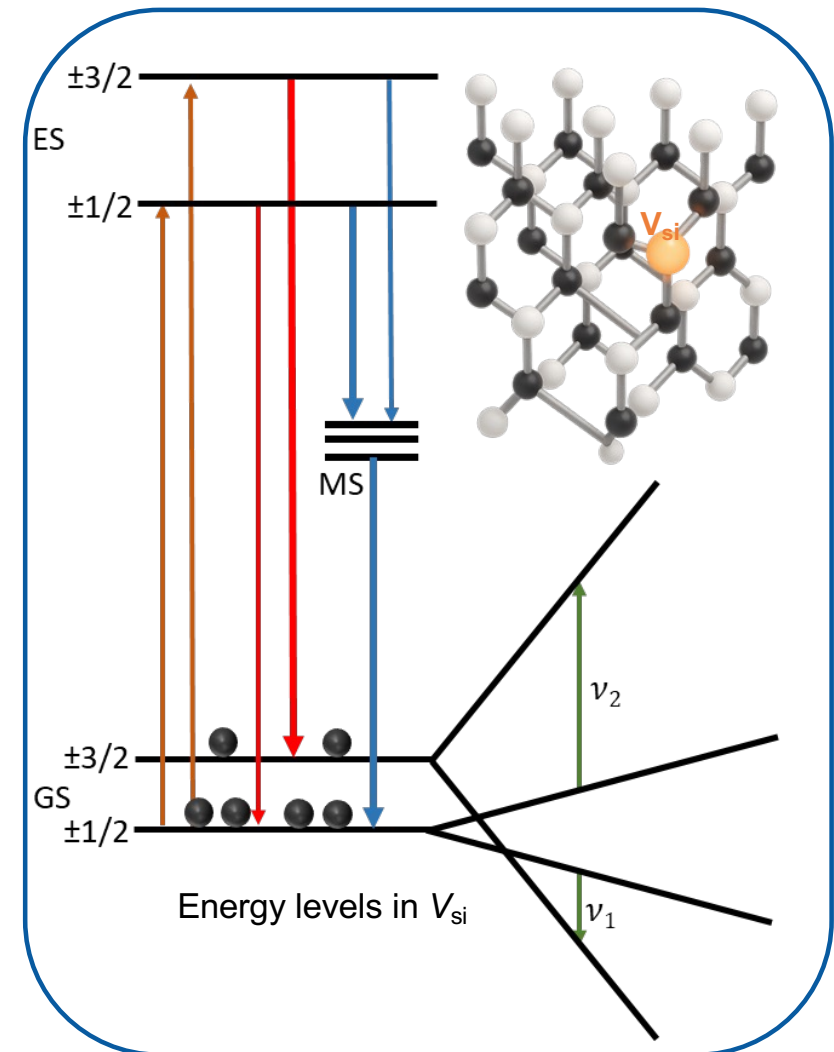
Quantum Sensing with Defects in SiC

Silicon Vacancy in SiC:

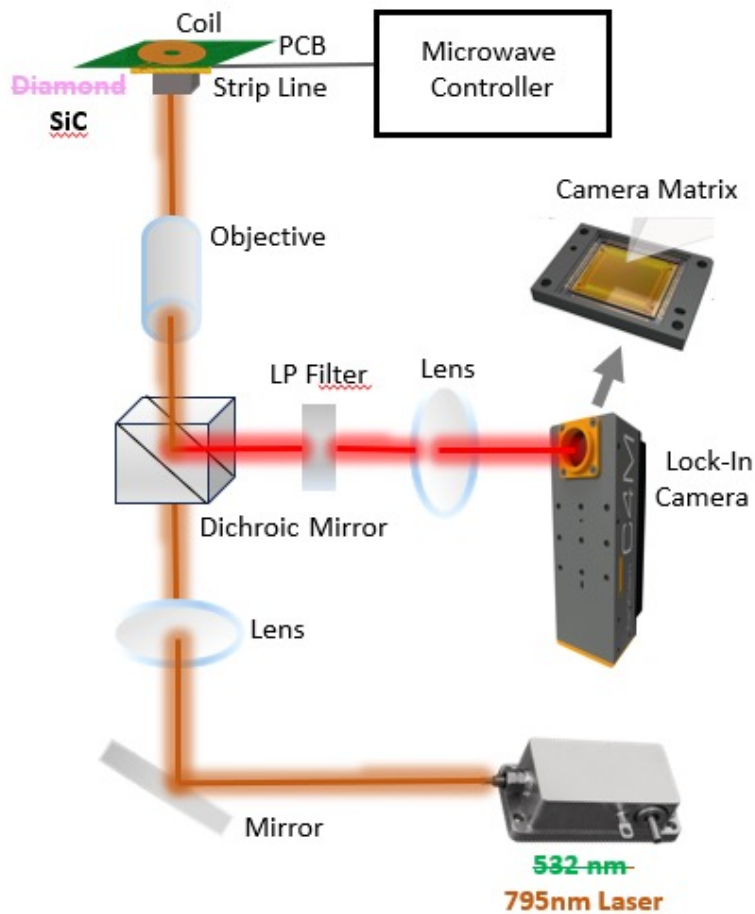
- SiC, with its wafer compatibility, allows quantum sensing under ambient conditions, making it a promising material for advanced applications



W. F. Koehl et al., MRS Bulletin **40**, 146 (2015)

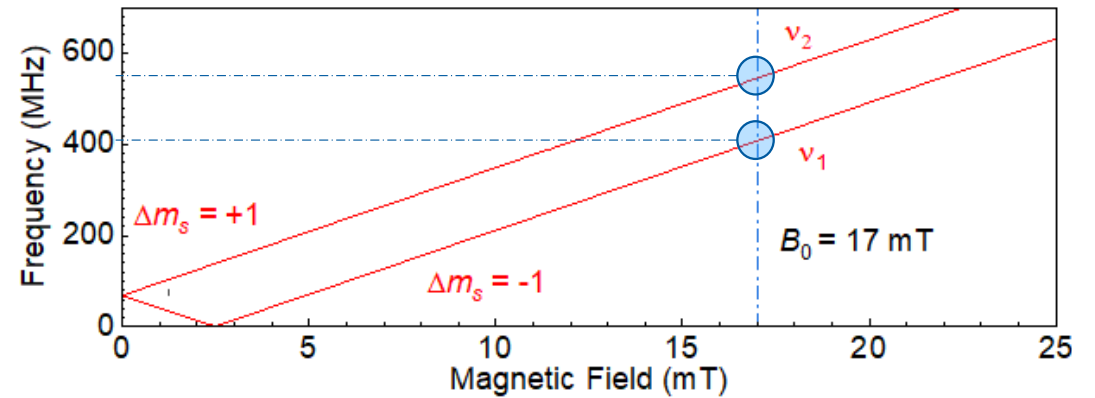


Optical detection scheme

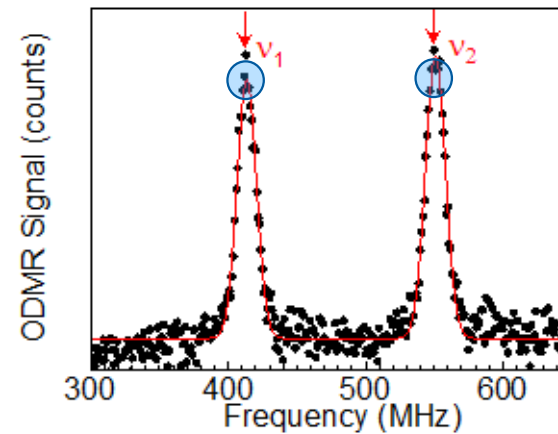


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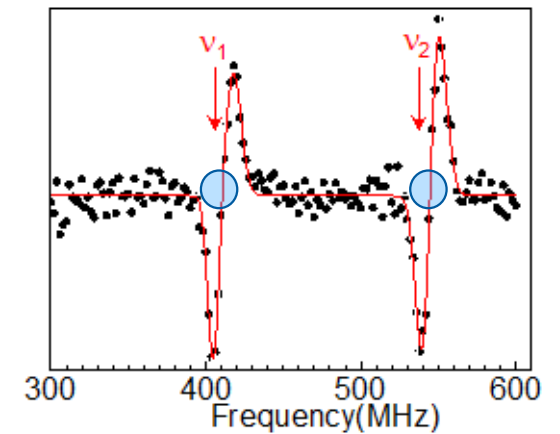
Spin resonances in SiC



ODMR with AM



ODMR with FM



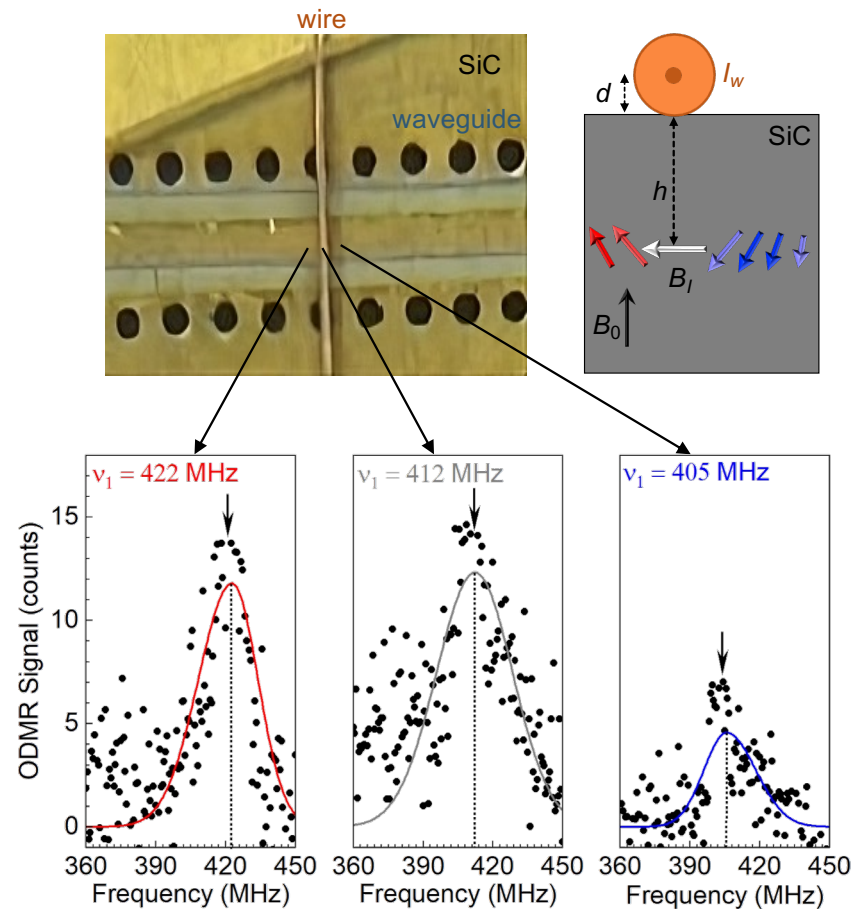
A. Suhana et al., arXiv:2509.14888 (2025)

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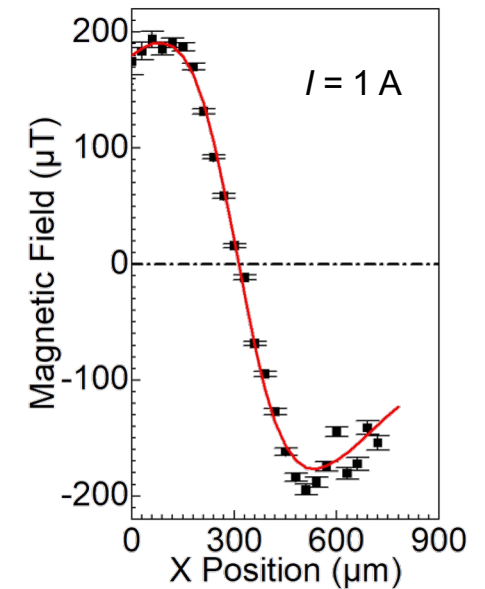
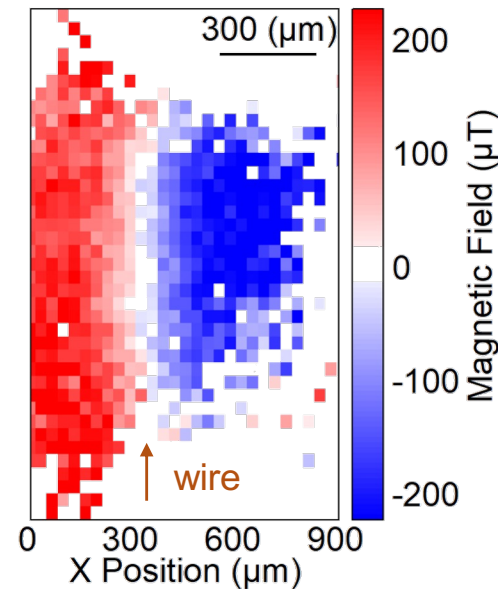
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Imaging magnetic fields generated by electrical signals

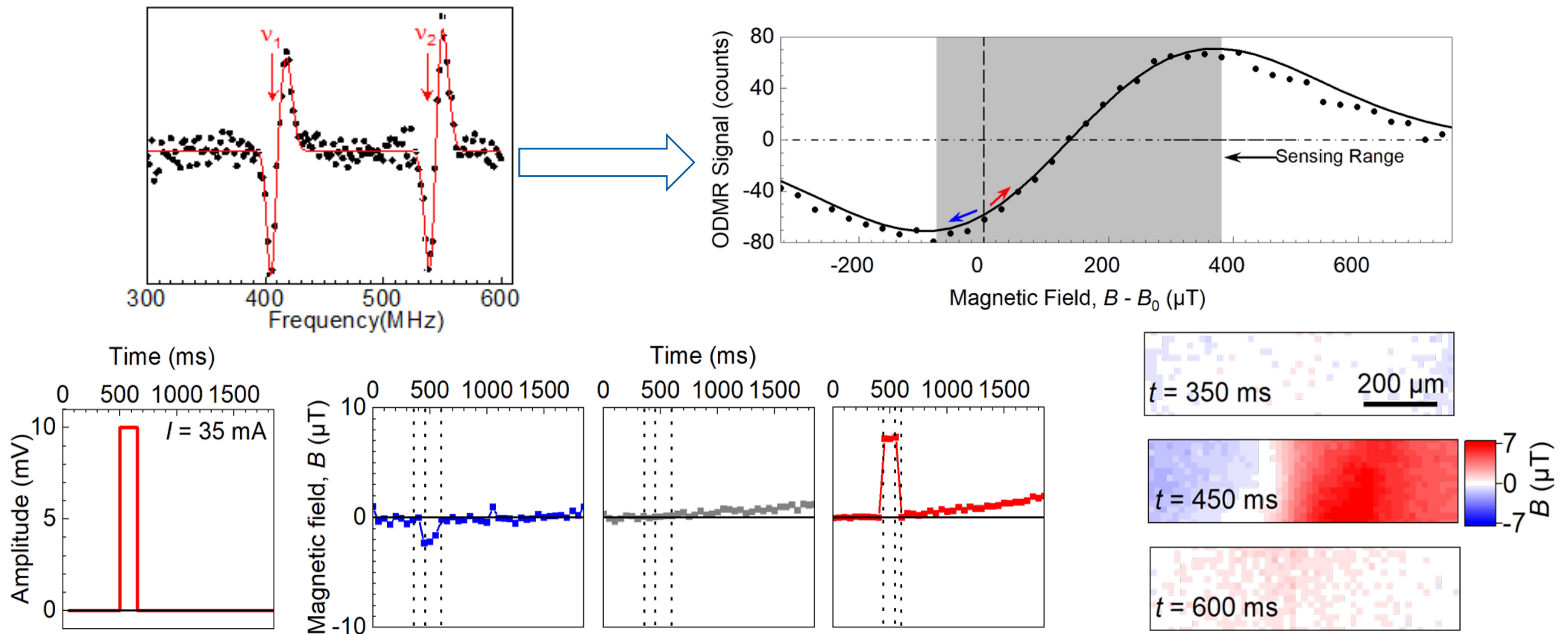


$$B_I = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{I}{d + h}$$

$$B_{detect} = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{x}{\sqrt{(d + h)^2 + x^2}} I - B_0$$



Imaging magnetic pulses using two-frequency modulation

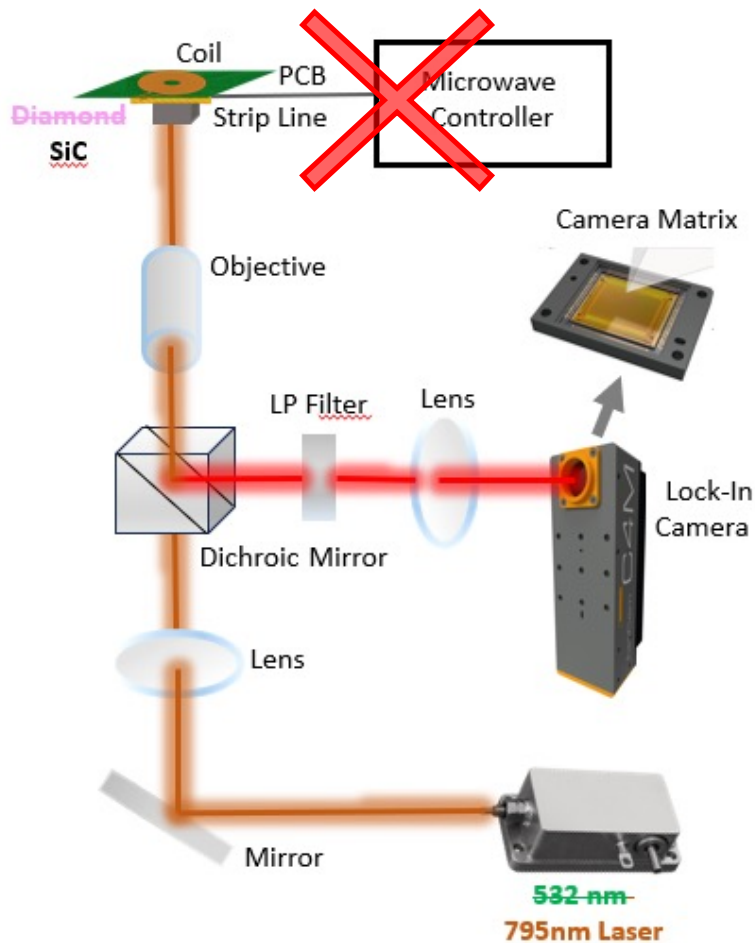




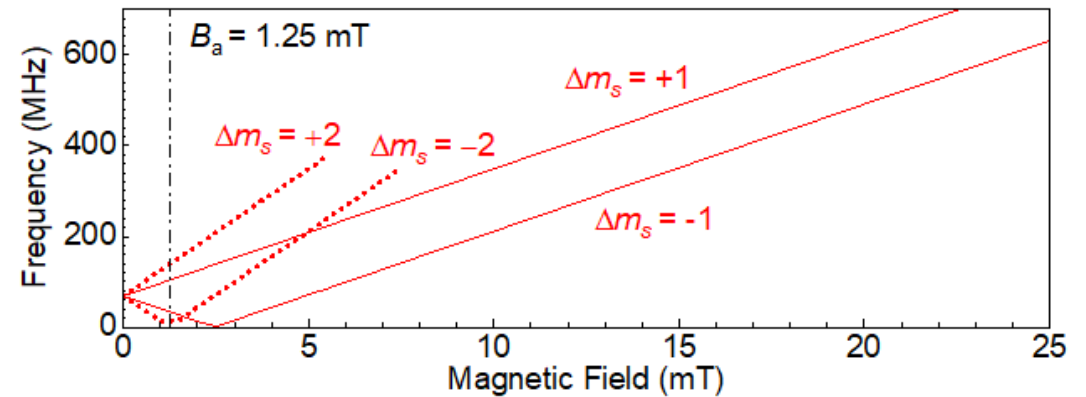
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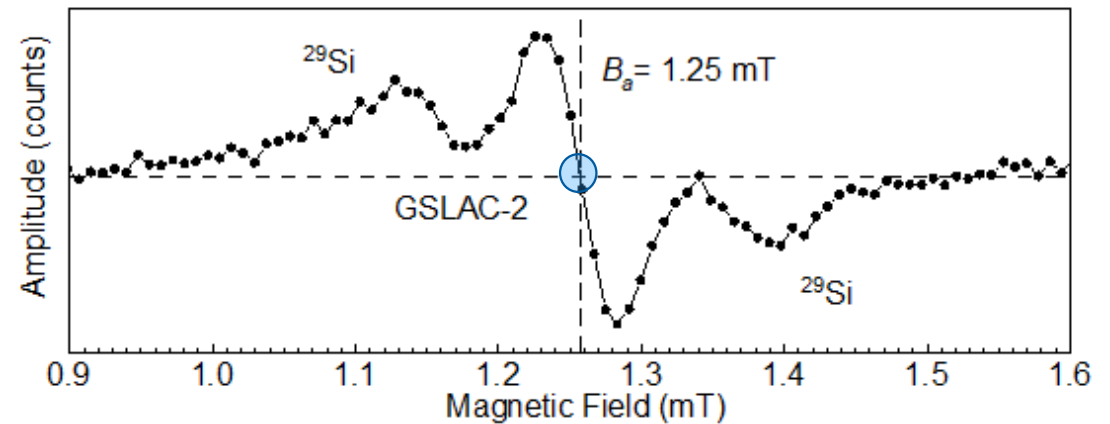
Microwave-free detection scheme



Spin resonances in SiC



Level-anticrossing signal (GSLAC – 2)



20.11.25

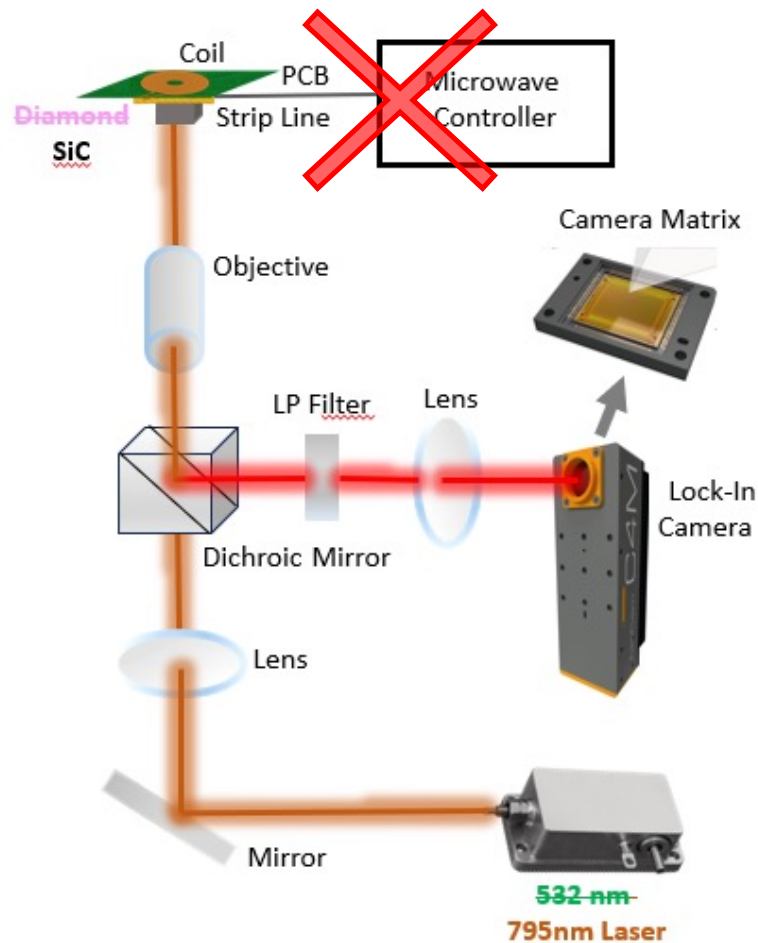
A. Suhana et al., arXiv:2509.14888 (2025)

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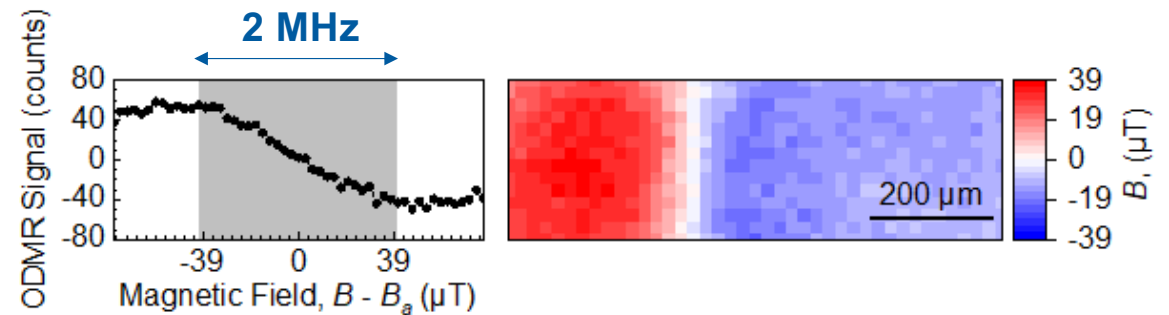
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Microwave-free quantum imaging

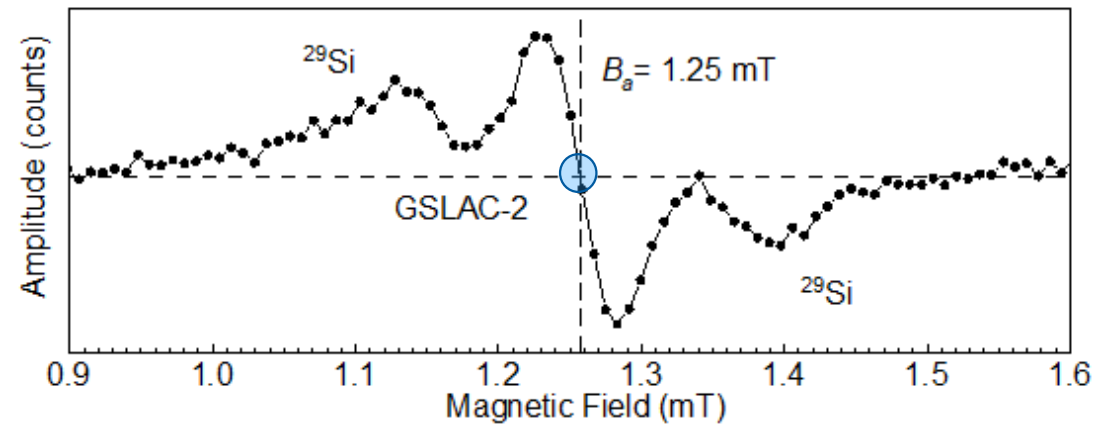


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Level-anticrossing signal imaging (GSLAC – 2)



Level-anticrossing signal (GSLAC – 2)



A. Suhana et al., arXiv:2509.14888 (2025)

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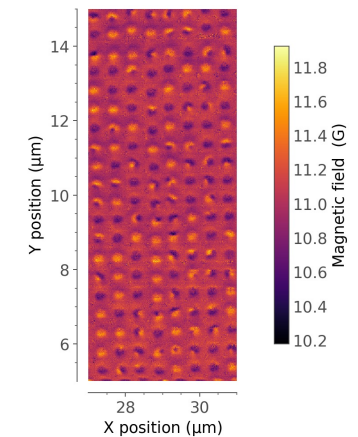
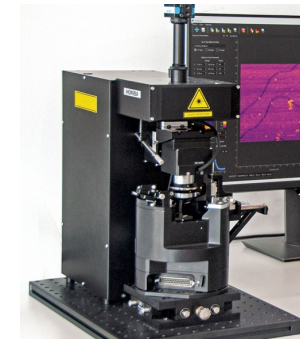


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Summary: Quantum Sensing Modalities

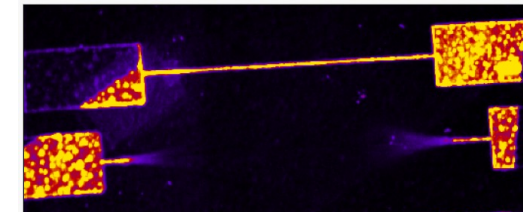
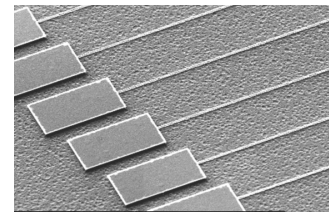
➤ Scanning Quantum Magnetometer

High spatial resolution (< 100 nm) but slow
Moderate sensitivity ($3 \mu\text{T}/\text{Hz}^{1/2}$)



➤ Hybrid Quantum Sensors

Close proximity (< 100 nm)
Low sensitivity ($100 \mu\text{T} / \text{Hz}^{1/2}$)



➤ Quantum Microscope

Optical spatial resolution ($> 1 \mu\text{m}$) and fast
High sensitivity ($< 50 \text{ nT}/\text{Hz}^{1/2}/\text{pixel}$)
Time resolved signals (> 1 ms)

