

Quantum Diamonds

Using diamonds to build quantum sensors, quantum computers, and for testing the quantum nature of gravity

Gavin W Morley, University of Warwick



Acknowledgments

Warwick: Angelo Frangeskou, Colin Stephen, Anis Rahman, Ben Green, Ben Breeze, Alexander Nikitin, Ray Zhou, Guy Stimpson, Yashna Lekhai, Rajesh Patel, Eleanor Nichols, Will Thornley, Ben Wood, James March, Joe Gore, Alex Newman, Stuart Graham

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Queensland: Gerard Milburn

Ulm: Julen Pedernales, Martin Plenio

NHS: Faizel Osman



Oxford: Jason Smith's group, Patrick Salter's group

Oxford Instruments Plasma Technology: Colin Welch, Andrew Newton

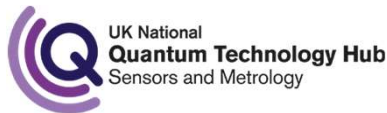
Element Six: Matthew Markham, Andrew Edmonds, Daniel Twitchen

Tsukuba: Junichi Isoya

NIQRST, Japan: Shinobu Onoda

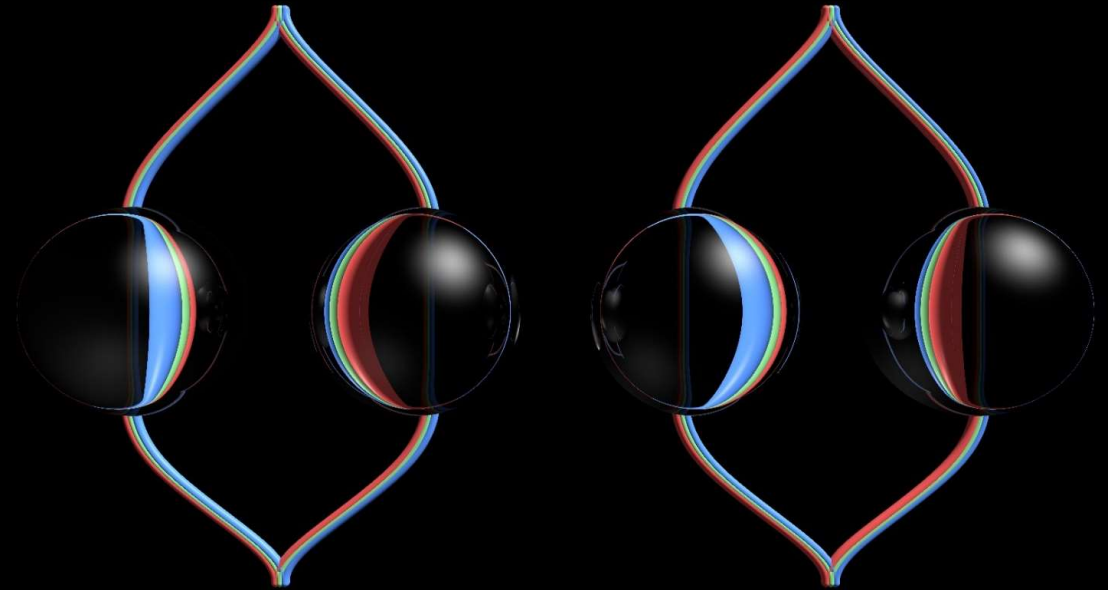
DSTL: Owen Griffiths

NNL: Doug Offin



Outline

1. Introduction to nitrogen vacancy centres in diamond
2. Magnetometry
3. Nanodiamonds for quantum sensing
4. Towards quantum computing and communication
5. Levitated nanodiamonds towards testing the quantum nature of gravity



Nitrogen-vacancy centres in a diamond

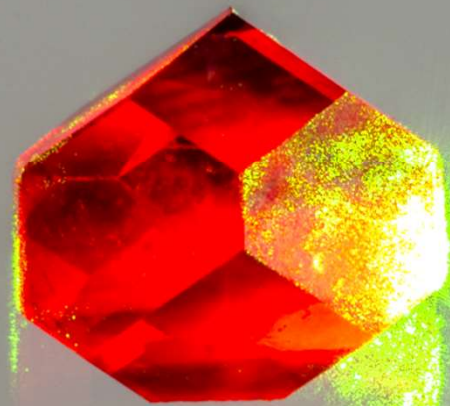
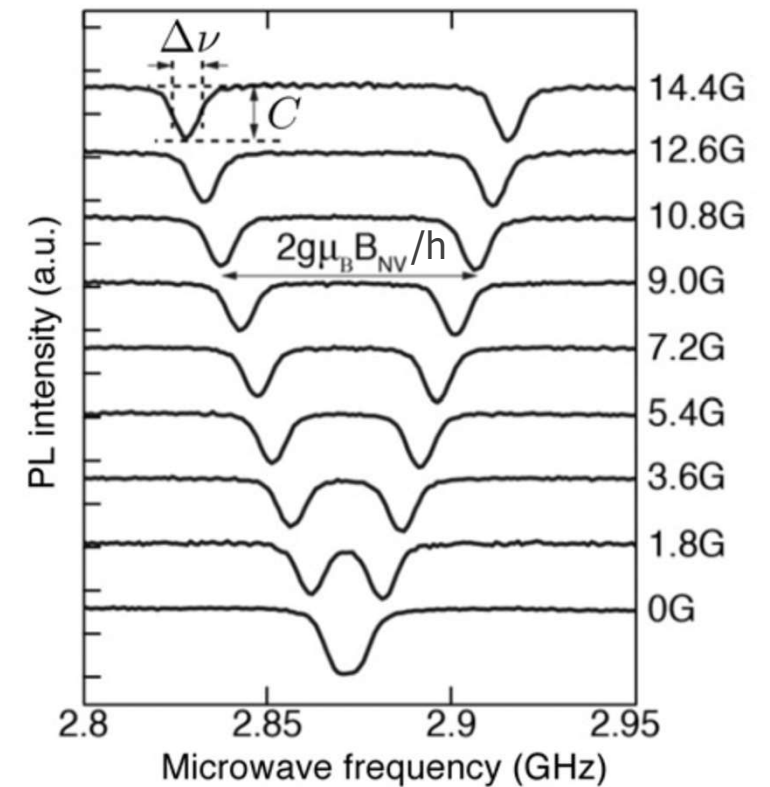
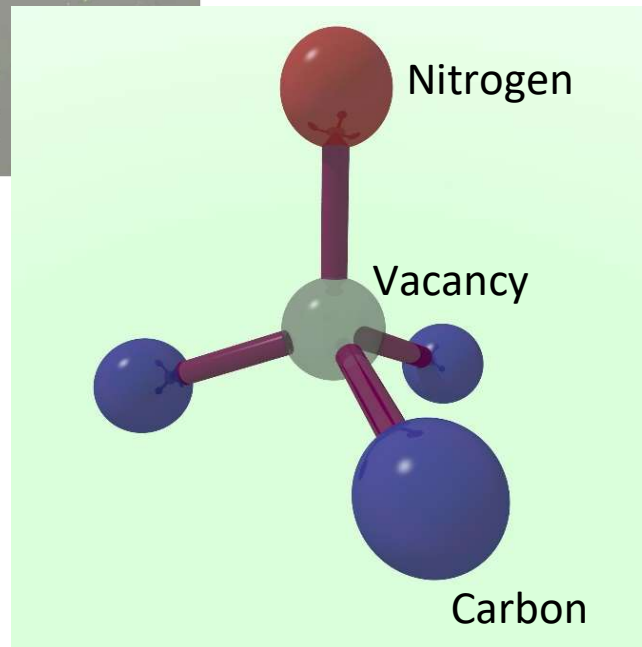
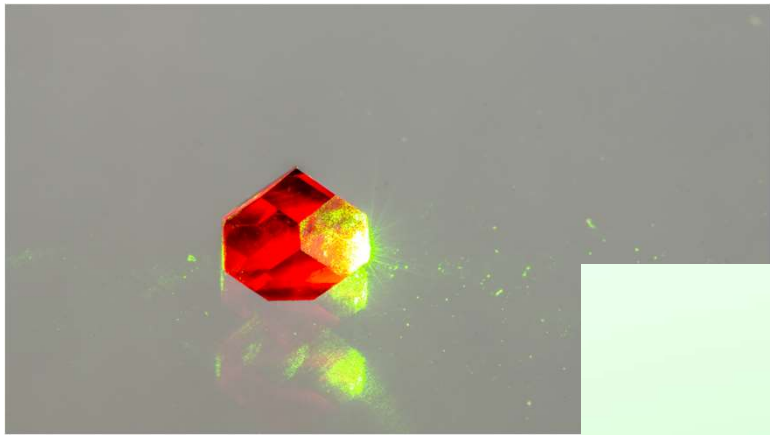


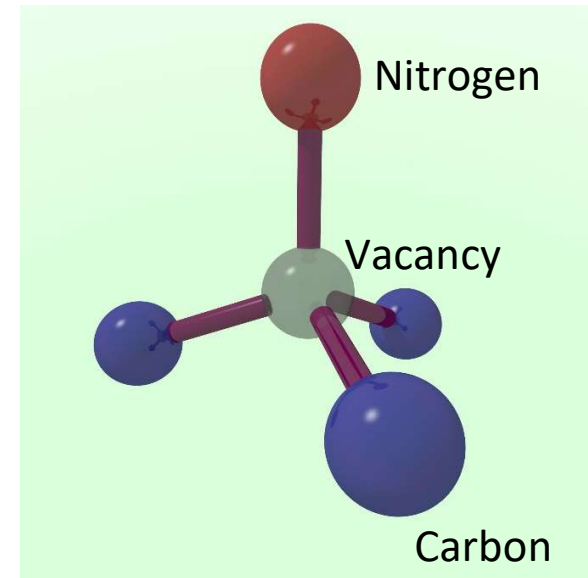
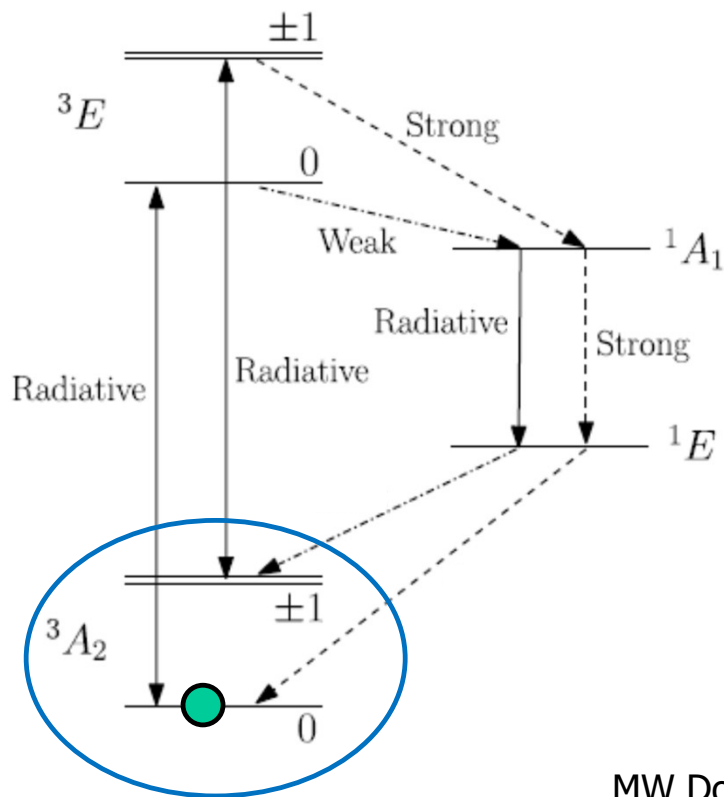
Photo by Jon Newland (Warwick)

NV centre red fluorescence vs microwave frequency



L Rondin *et al*, Rep Prog Phys 77, 056503 (2014)

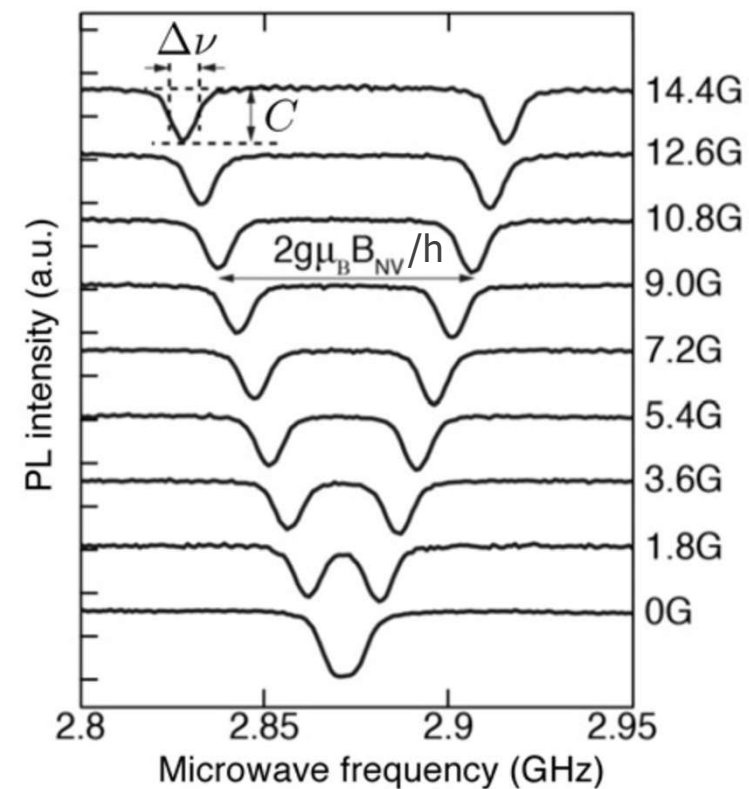
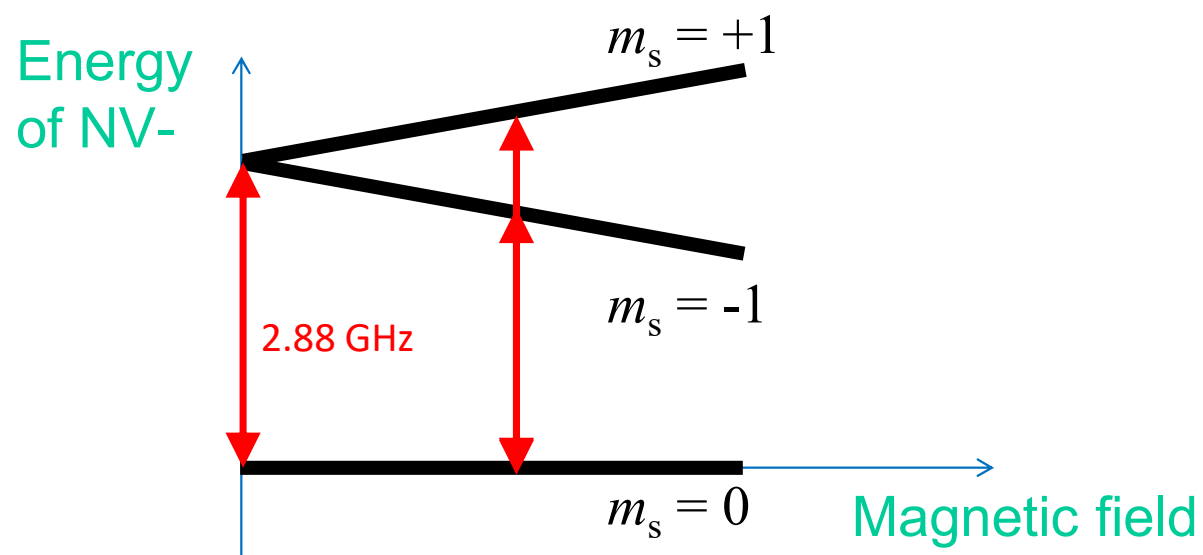
Nitrogen-vacancy (NV⁻) energy levels



Green excitation →
1. Spin polarization
2. Spin-dependent
fluorescence

MW Doherty, NB Manson, P Delaney, F Jelezko, J Wrachtrup
and LCL Hollenberg, Physics Reports **528**, 1 (2013)

Nitrogen-vacancy (NV⁻) magnetometry

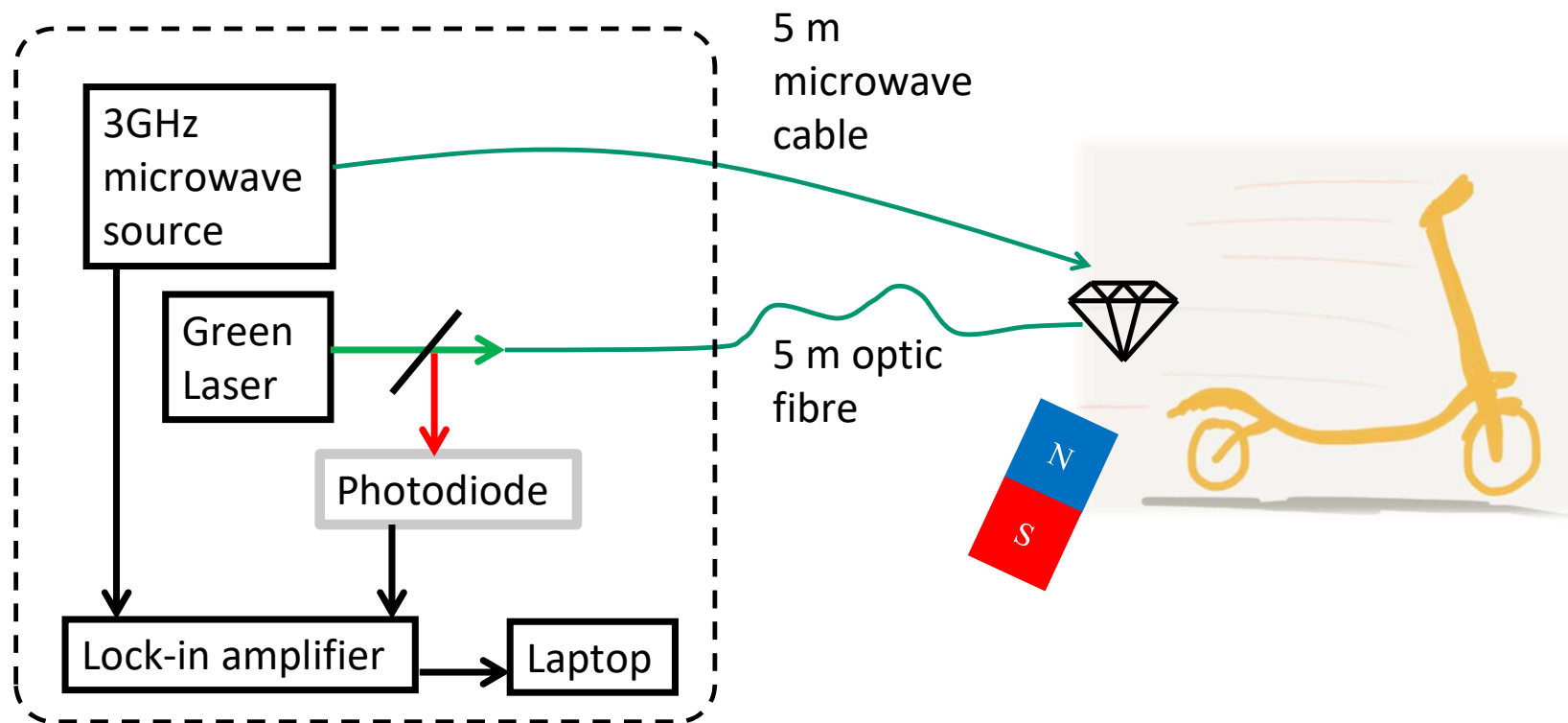


L Rondin *et al*, Rep Prog Phys 77, 056503 (2014)

Nitrogen vacancy centres in diamond for magnetometry



Our fibre-coupled diamond magnetometer: schematic



Our fibre-coupled diamond magnetometer

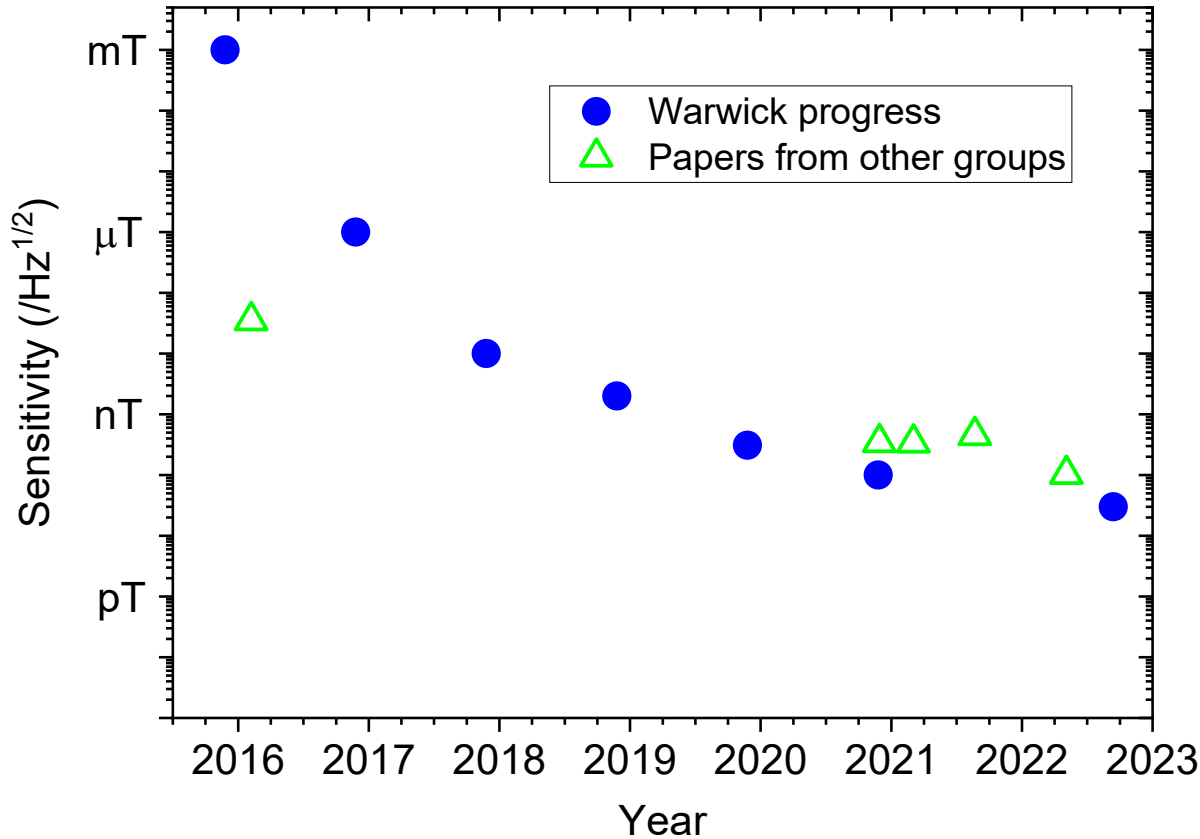


Stuart Graham

Sensitivity between 10-500 Hz is $30 \text{ pT/Hz}^{1/2}$.

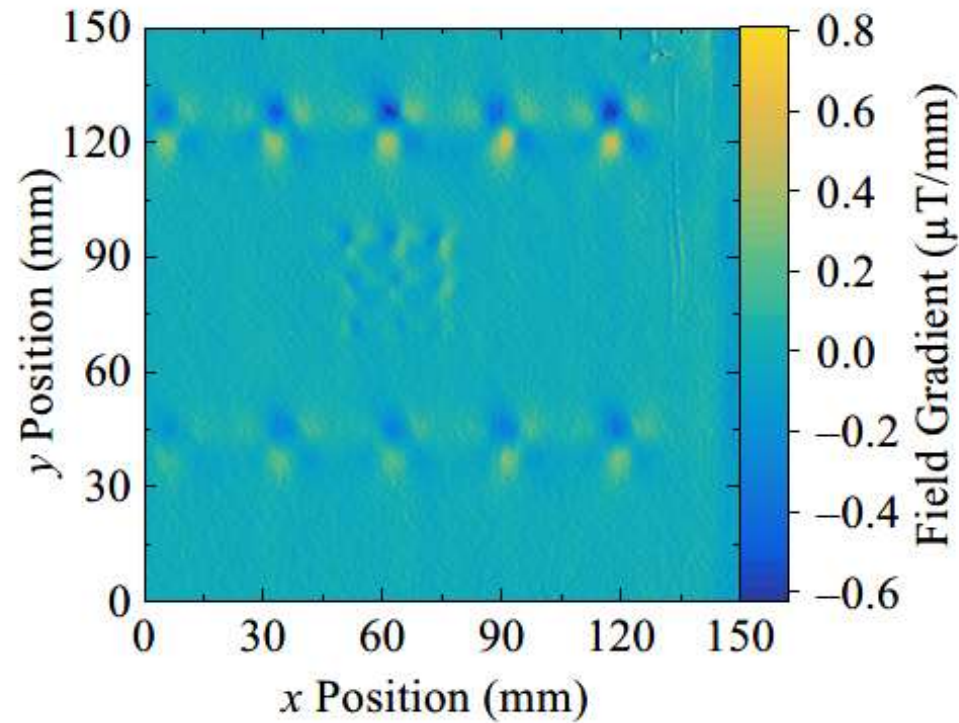
SM Graham, ATMA Rahman, L Munn, RL Patel, AJ Newman, CJ Stephen, G Colston, A Nikitin, AM Edmonds, DJ Twitchen, ML Markham & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 19, 044042 (2023)

Our fibre-coupled diamond magnetometer



- SM Graham... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 19, 044042 (2023)
- LQ Zhou... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 15, 024015 (2021)
- RL Patel... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 14, 044058 (2020)

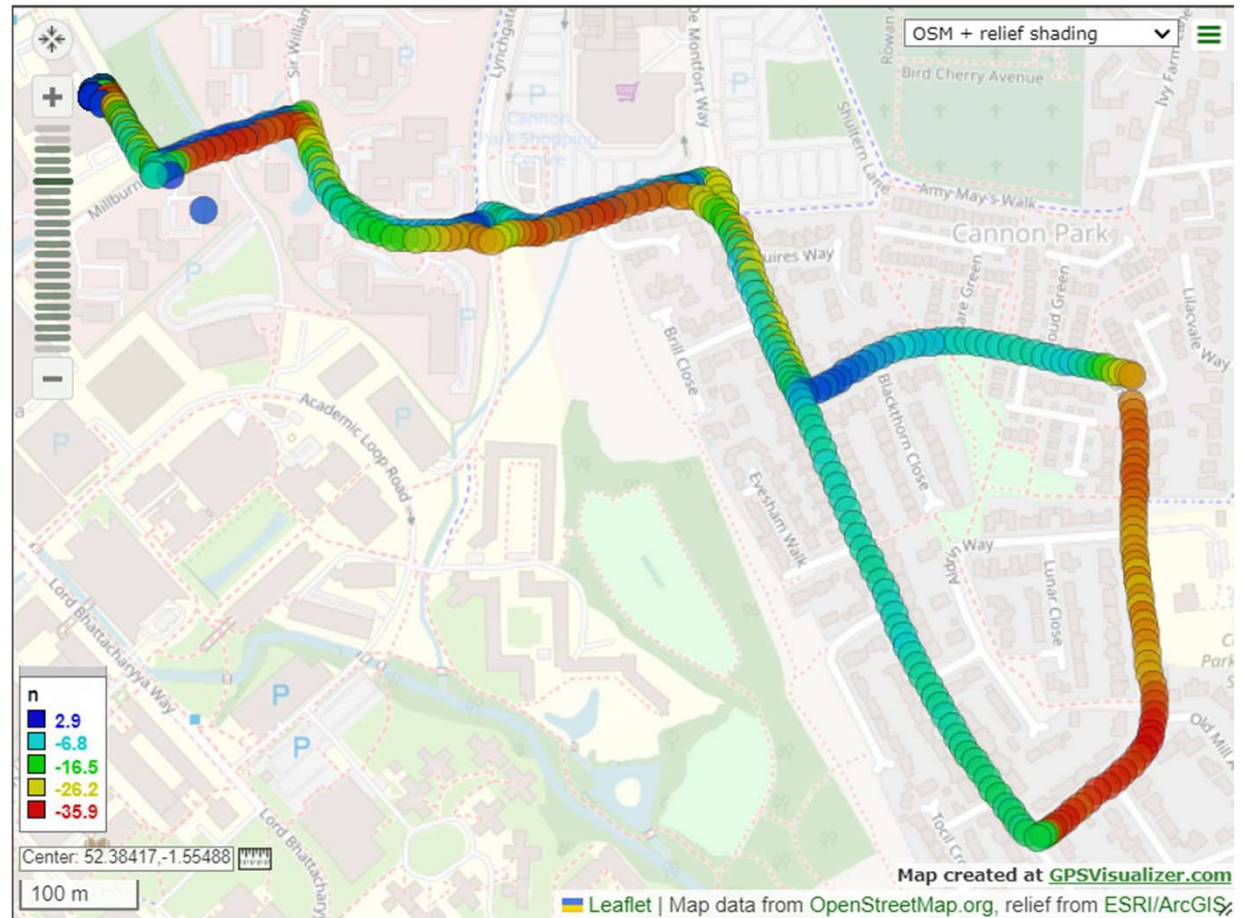
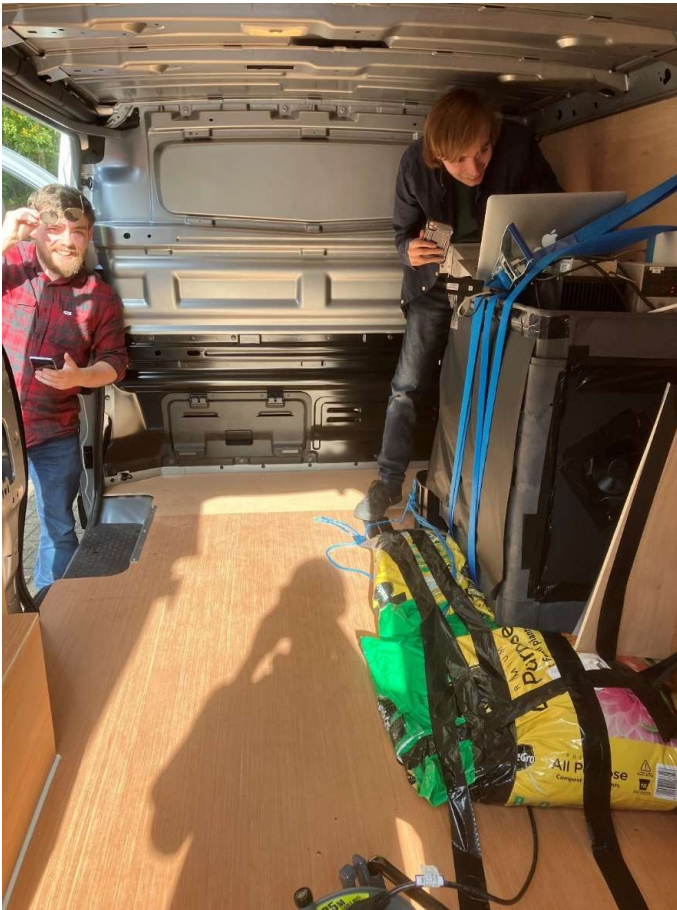
Scanning vector magnetometry



Alex Newman

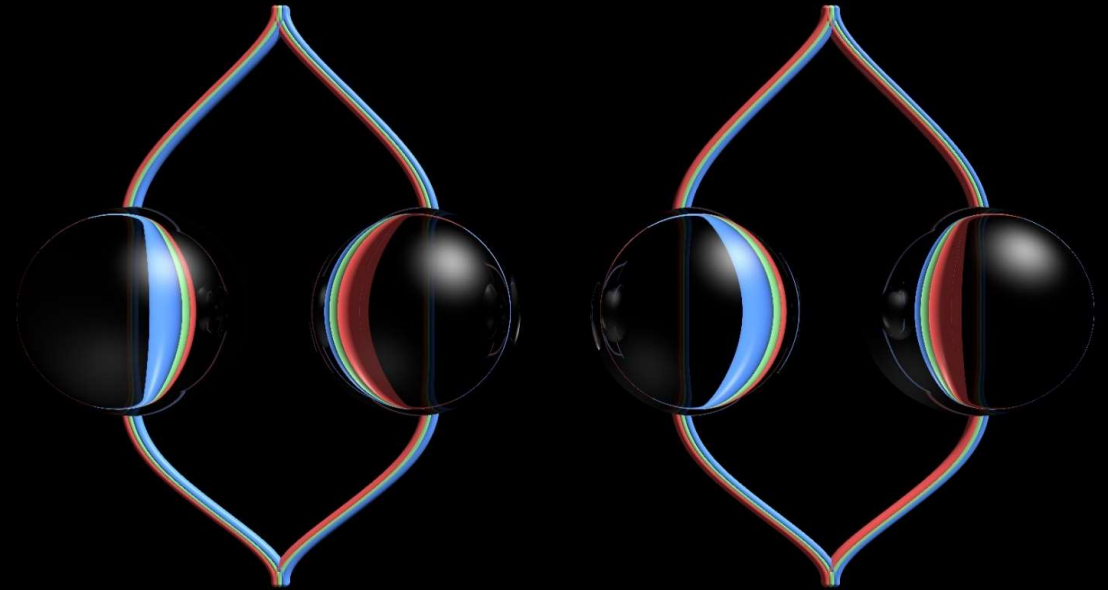
AJ Newman, SM
Graham, AM Edmonds,
DJ Twitchen, ML
Markham & GWM,
Tensor gradiometry
with a diamond
magnetometer,
Physical Review
Applied 21, 014003
(2024)

Diamond magnetometry for navigation

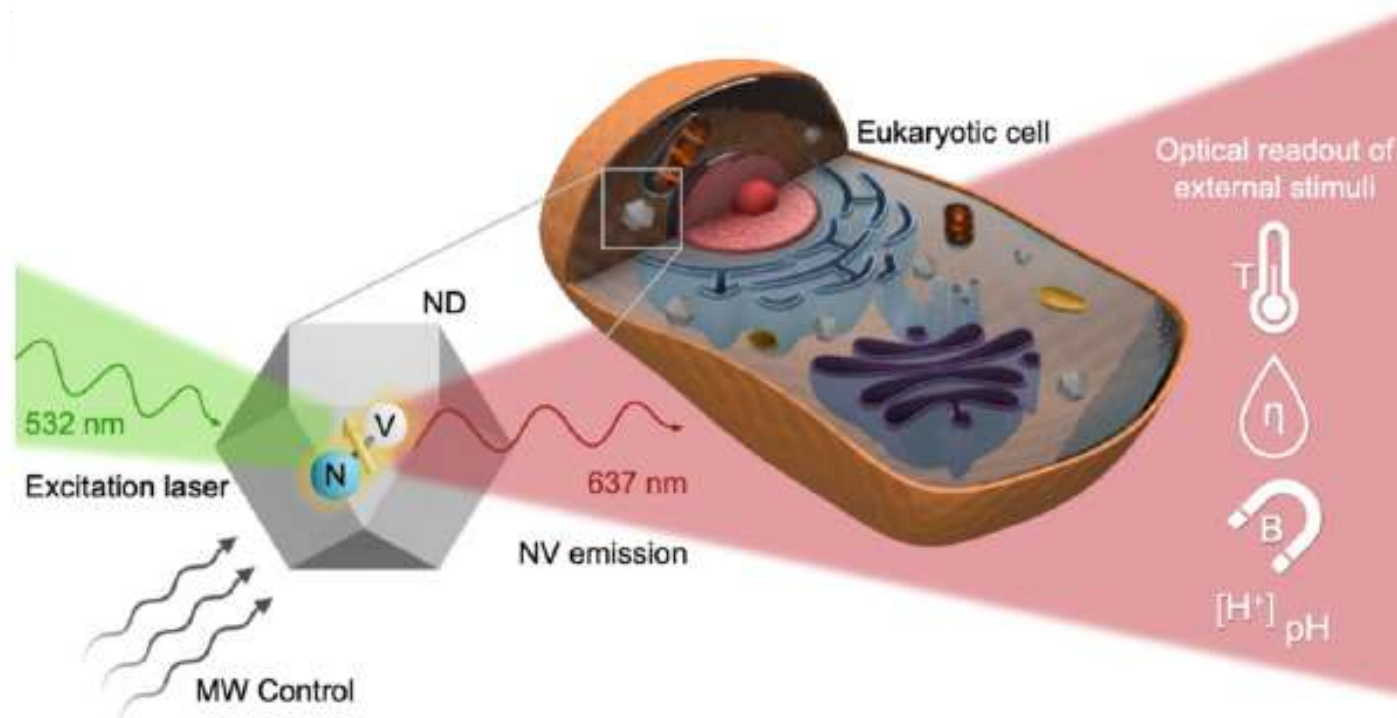


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Nanodiamonds for sensing inside cells



Review paper: S Belser, J Hart, Q Gu, L Shanahan & HS Knowles, APL **123**, 020501 (2023)

More pure diamonds



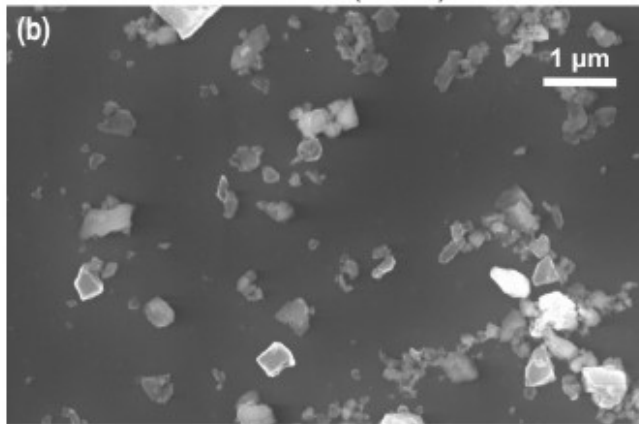
150 ppm nitrogen
impurities



120 ppb nitrogen
impurities

AC Frangeskou, ATMA Rahman, L Gines, S Mandal, OA Williams, PF
Barker & GWM, New Journal of Physics, 20, 043016 (2018)

More pure diamonds



120 ppb nitrogen
impurities



Milling by Ollie Williams' group, Cardiff

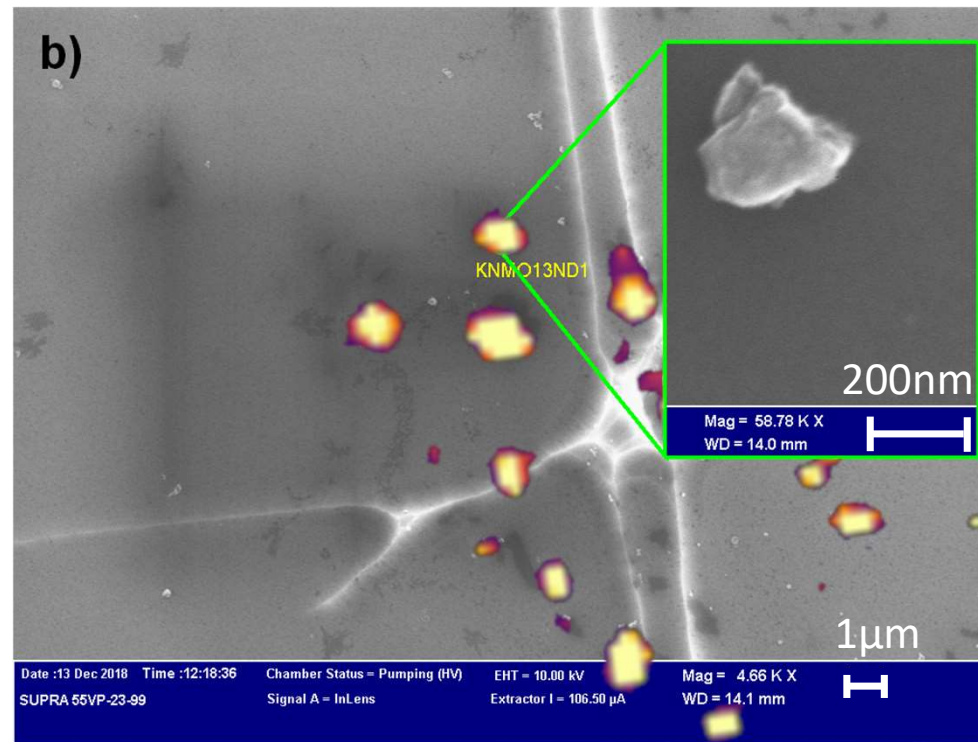
AC Frangeskou, ATMA Rahman, L Gines, S Mandal, OA Williams, PF Barker & GWM, *New Journal of Physics*, 20, 043016 (2018)

Purer nanodiamonds have longer spin coherence

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)



Guy Stimpson



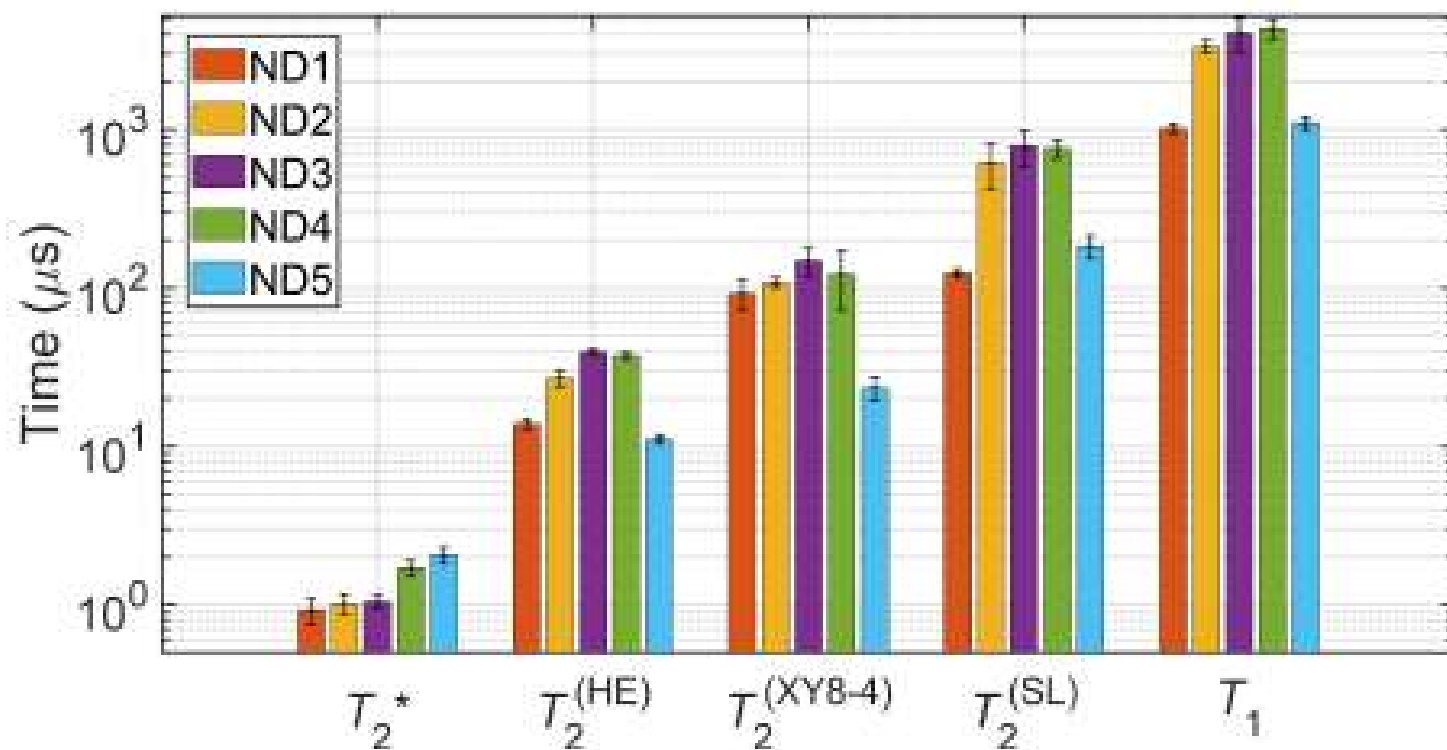
BD Wood, GA
Stimpson... & GWM,
PRB 105, 205401
(2022)

T_2 Hahn echo = 177 μ s
 T_2 XY8-4 = 460 μ s



Ben Wood

Longest spin coherence in nanodiamonds

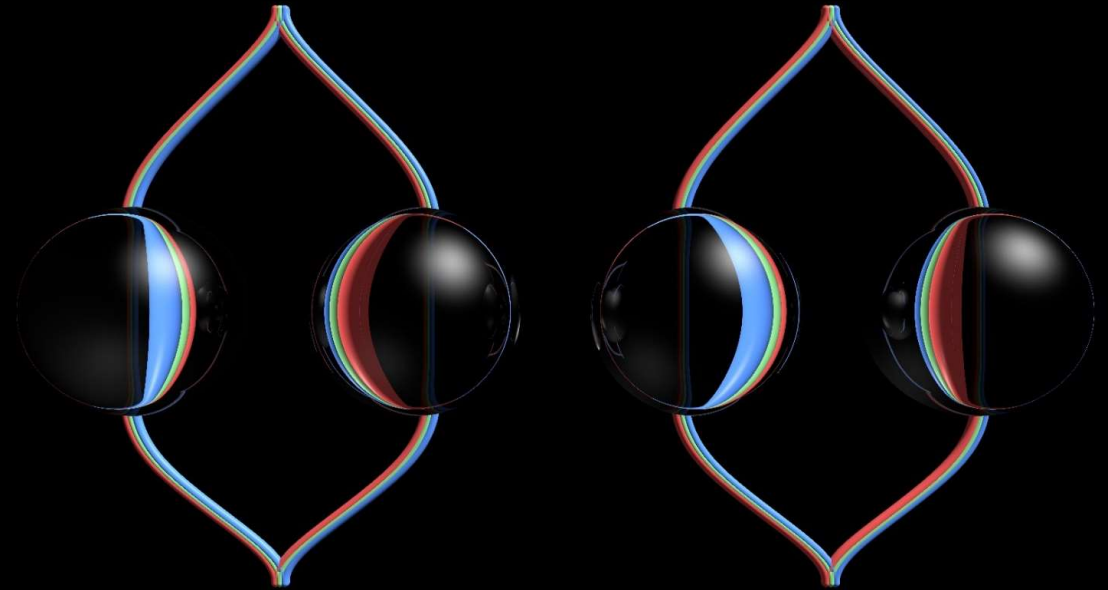


James March

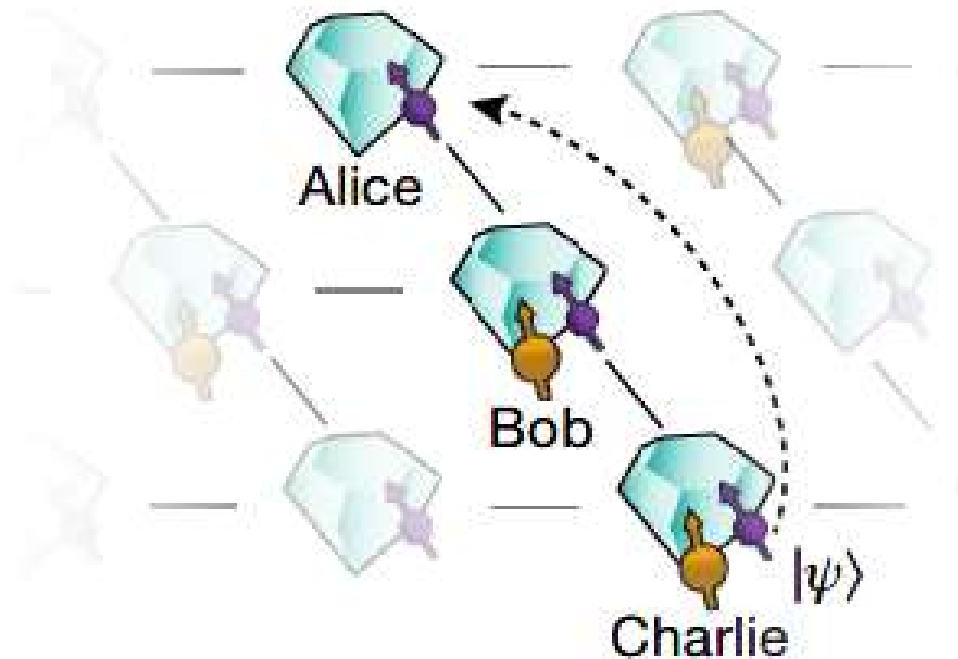
James E March, Benjamin D Wood, Colin J Stephen, Soumen Mandal, Andrew M Edmonds, Daniel J Twitchen, Matthew L Markham, Oliver A Williams & GWM, Physical Review Applied 20, 044045 (2023)

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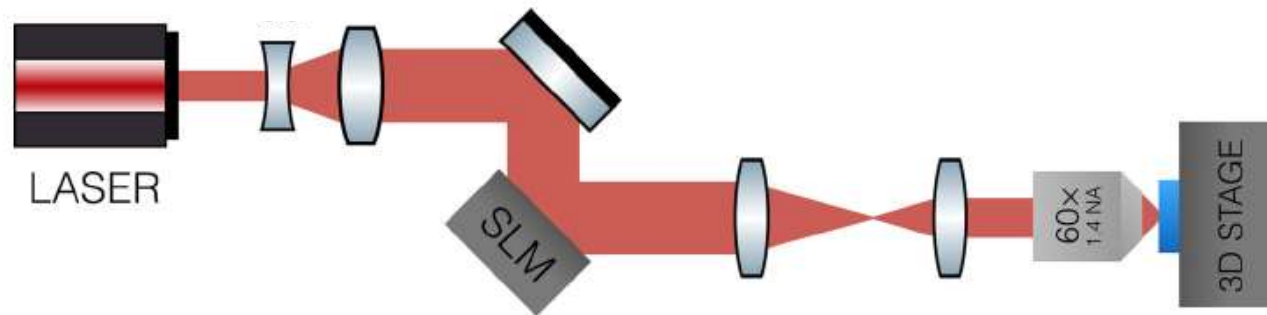


NV centres in diamond for quantum computing and communication



SLN Hermans, M
Pompili, HKC
Beukers, S Baier, J
Borregaard & R
Hanson, Nature
605, 663 (2022)

Arrays of good NV⁻ with laser writing

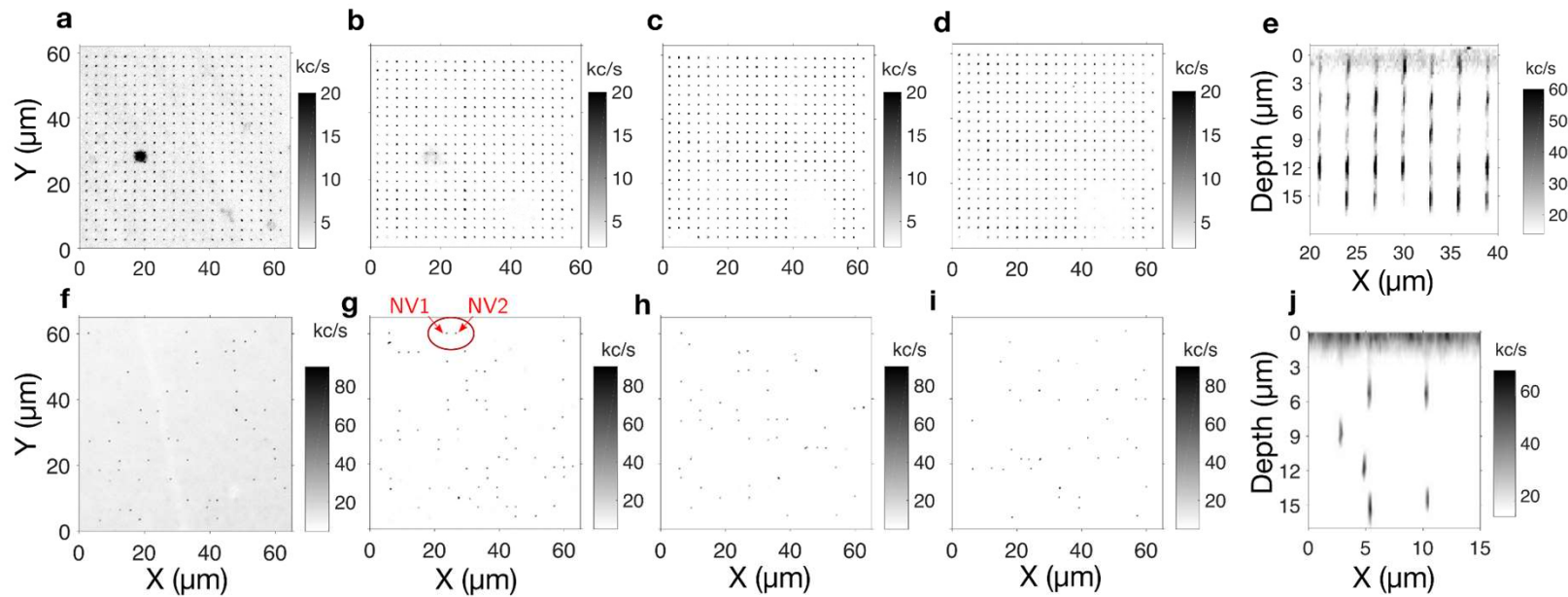


Jason
Smith



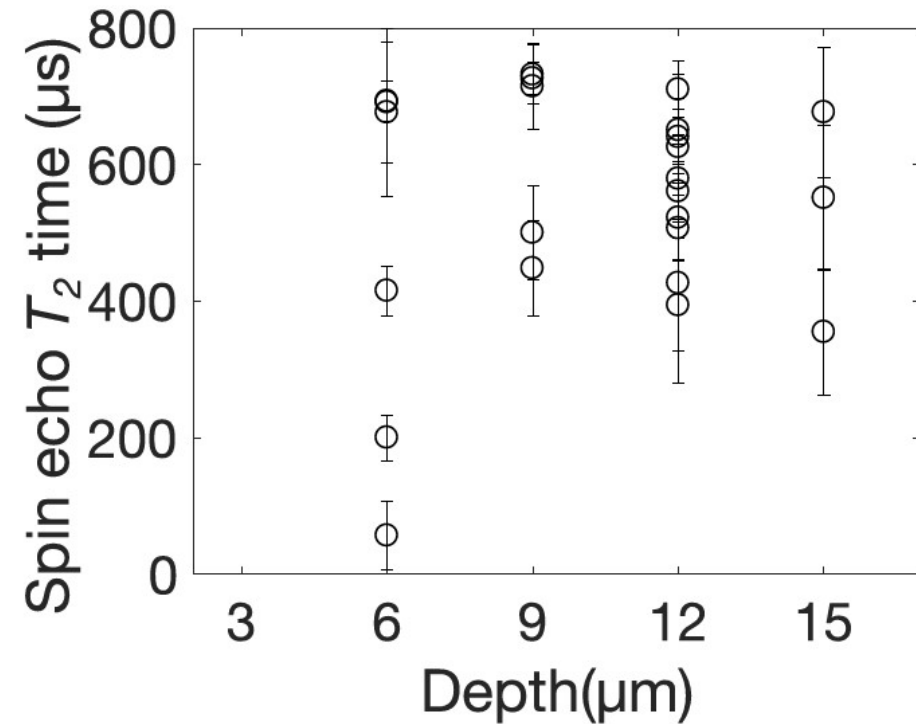
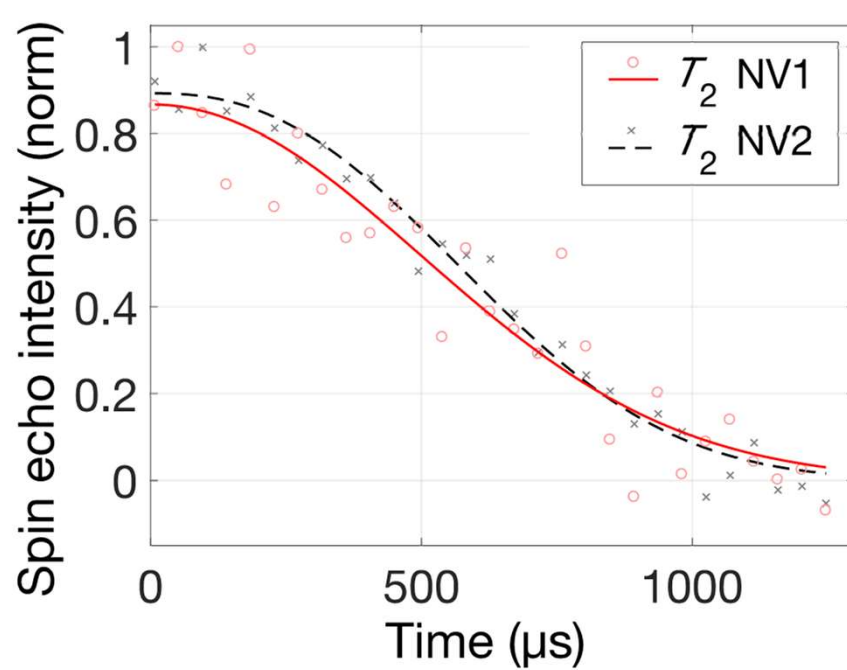
Patrick
Salter

Laser-writing deep nitrogen vacancy centres in diamond



C.J. Stephen, B.L. Green, Y.N.D. Lekhai, L. Weng, P. Hill, S. Johnson, A.C. Frangeskou, P.L. Diggle, M.J. Strain, E. Gu, M.E. Newton, J.M. Smith, P.S. Salter & G.W. Morley, *Phys. Rev. Applied* 12, 064005 (2019)

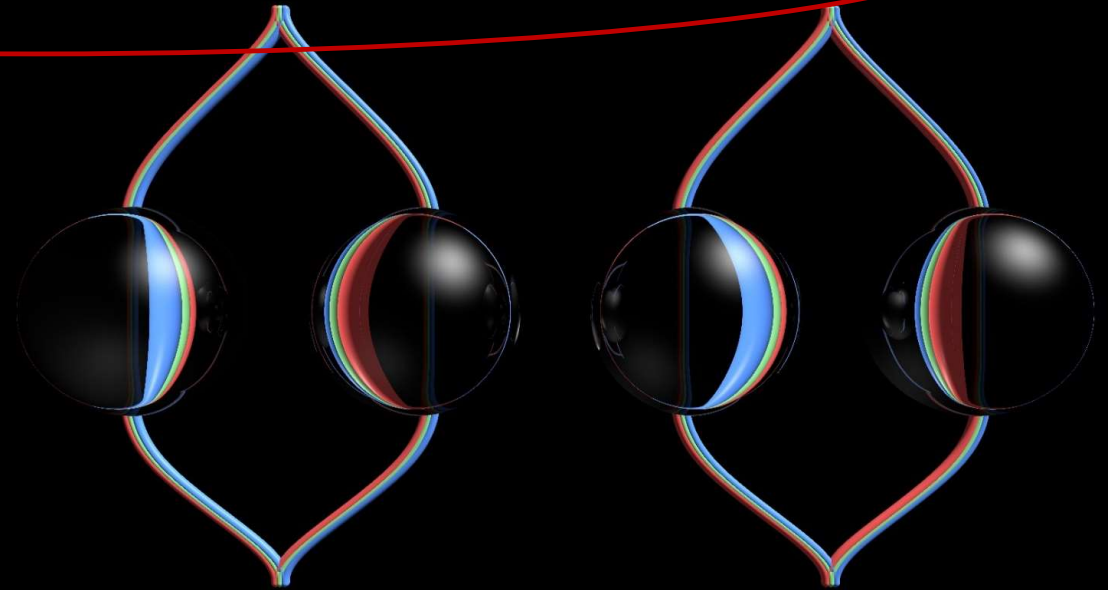
Long spin coherence times



C.J. Stephen, B.L. Green, Y.N.D. Lekhai, L. Weng, P. Hill, S. Johnson, A.C. Frangskou, P.L. Diggle, M.J. Strain, E. Gu, M.E. Newton, J.M. Smith, P.S. Salter & G.W. Morley, Phys. Rev. Applied 12, 064005 (2019)

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$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|L\rangle + |R\rangle)$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|L\rangle + |R\rangle)$$

$$|\psi_{\text{cat}}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\left| \begin{array}{c} \text{house} \\ \text{cat} \end{array} \right\rangle + \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{house} \\ \text{no cat} \end{array} \right\rangle \right)$$

The diagram illustrates the state $|\psi_{\text{cat}}\rangle$ as a superposition of two states. The first term is a state where a cat is inside a house, and the second term is a state where a house is empty. The cat is drawn with a blue collar and a bell.

What is the gravitational effect
from a mass in a spatial superposition?

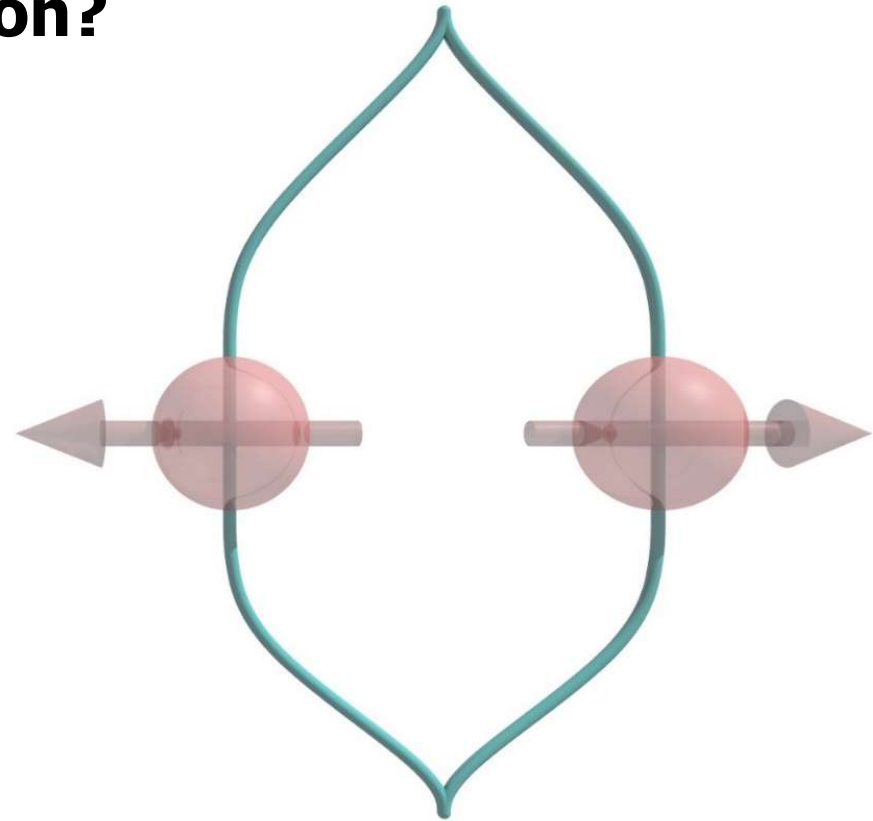
What is the gravitational effect from a mass in a spatial superposition?



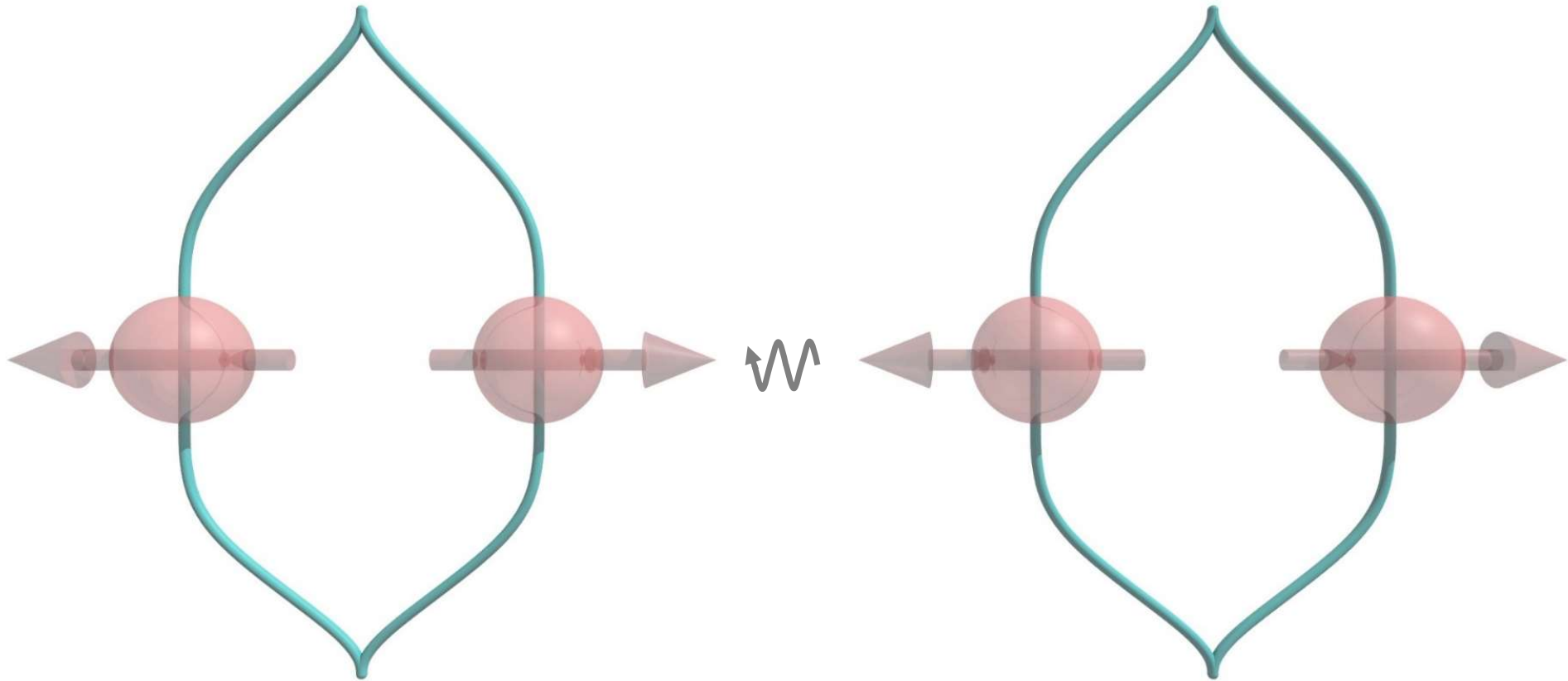
Matvei Bronstein:
G Gorelik, Phys Usp 48, 1039
(2005)
MP Bronstein, Phys Z Sowjetunion
9.2–3, 140 (1936)



Richard Feynman
CM DeWitt, D Rickles (eds), The
role of gravitation in physics:
report from the 1957 Chapel Hill
Conference, page 250,
Published 2011



Can gravity entangle things?



S Bose, A Mazumdar, GWM, H Ulbricht, M Toroš, M Paternostro,
AA Geraci, PF Barker, MS Kim & G Milburn, PRL 119, 240401 (2017)

C Marletto & V Vedral, PRL 119, 240402 (2017)

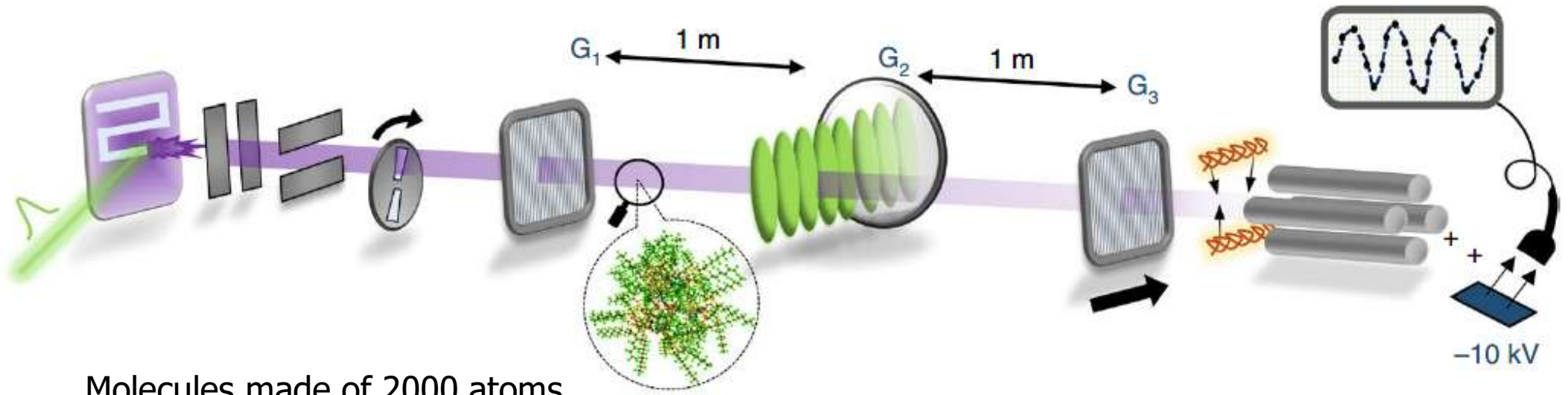
2 μm object, $\Delta x \sim 250 \mu\text{m}$

Closest approach $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$

Time $\sim 8 \text{ s}$



The most macroscopic spatial superposition

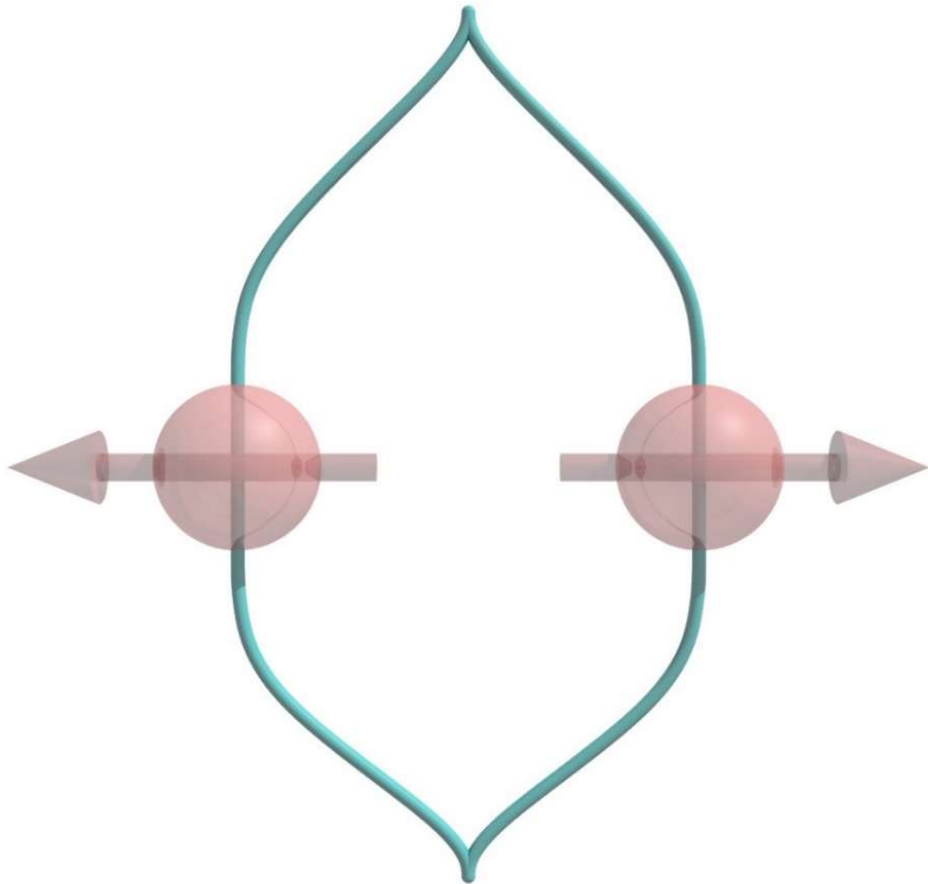


Molecules made of 2000 atoms
266 nm slit period

Y. Y. Fein, P. Geyer, P. Zwick, F. Kiałka, S. Pedalino, M. Mayor, S. Gerlich & M. Arndt, Nature Physics 15, 1242 (2019)



Our proposal: drop a nanodiamond containing a spin



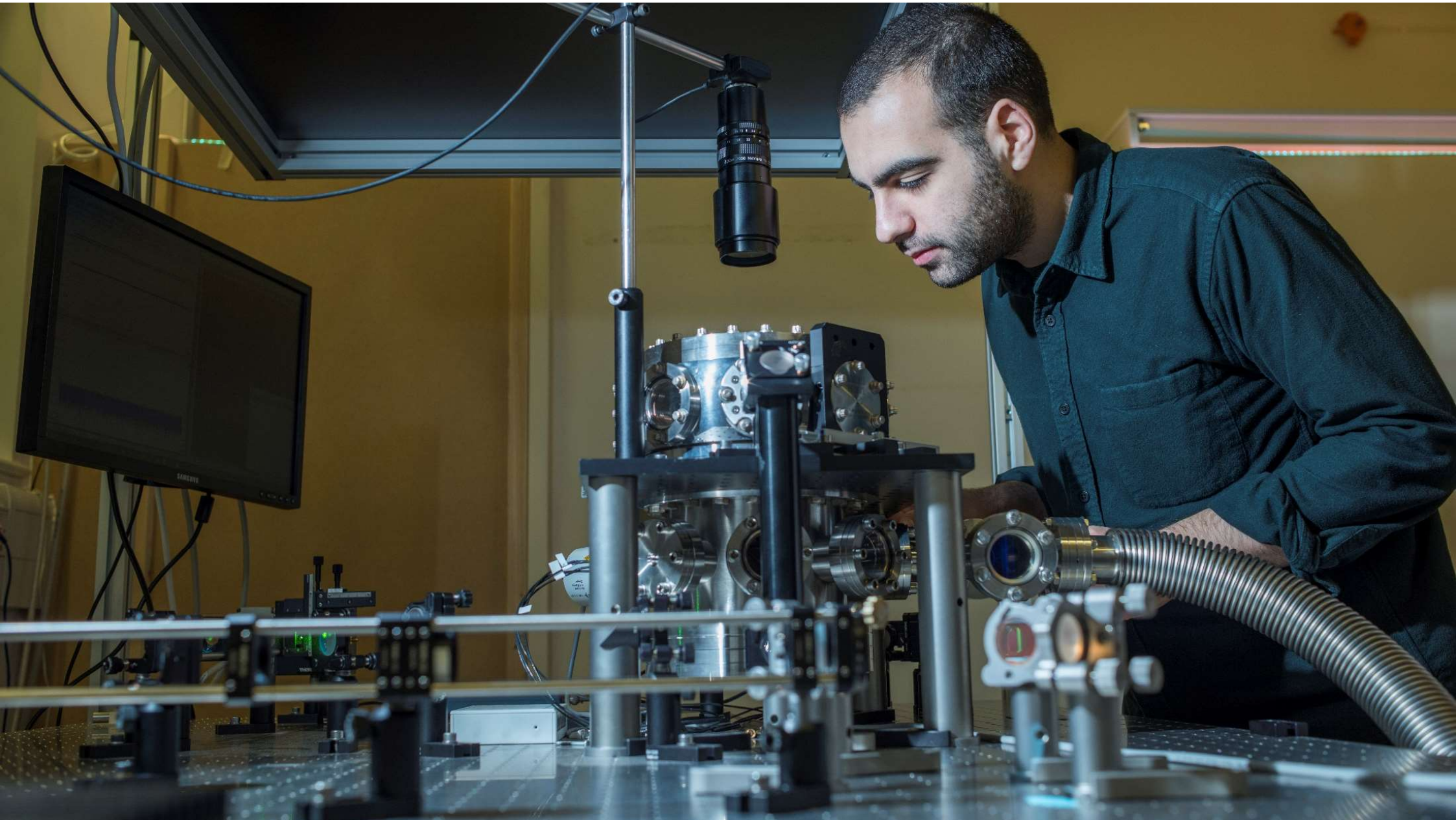
Proposals from our collaboration:

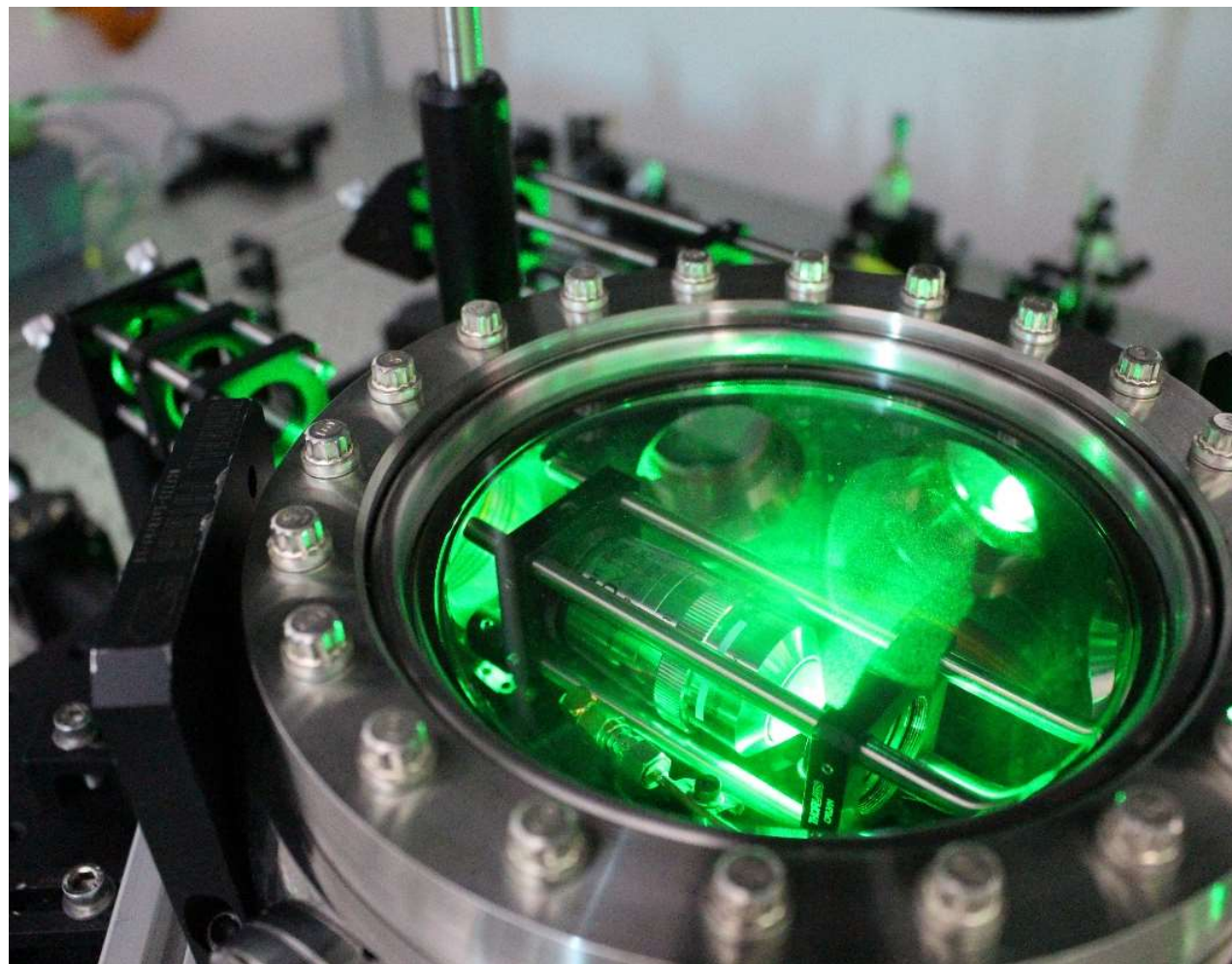
- M Scala... & S Bose, PRL **111**, 180403 (2013)
- C Wan... & MS Kim, PRA **93**, 043852 (2016)
- C Wan... & MS Kim, PRL **117**, 143003 (2016)
- S Bose... & G Milburn, PRL **119**, 240401 (2017)
- JS Pedernales, GWM & MB Plenio, PRL **125**, 023602 (2020)
- BD Wood, S Bose & GWM, PRA **105**, 012824 (2022)

From other groups:

- Z-q Yin, T Li, X Zhang & LM Duan, PRA **88**, 033614 (2013)



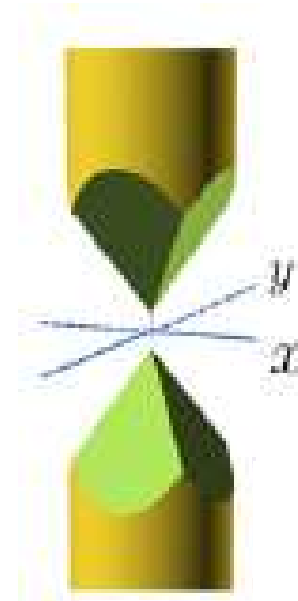
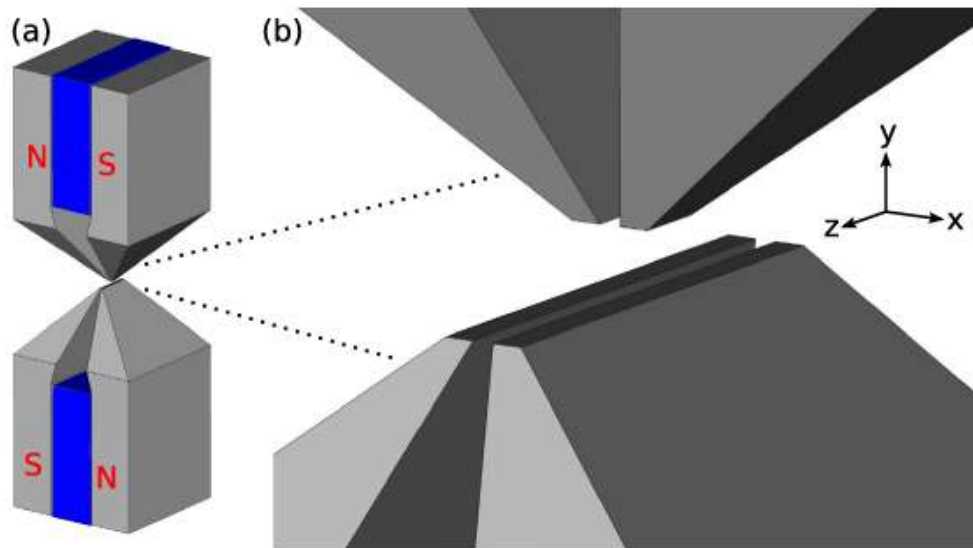




ATMA Rahman... & PF Barker, *Scientific Reports* **6**, 21633 (2016)
AC Frangeskou... & GWM, *NJP*, 20, 043016 (2018)
ATMA Rahman... & GW Morley, *Rev Scientific Instrum* 89, 023109 (2018)

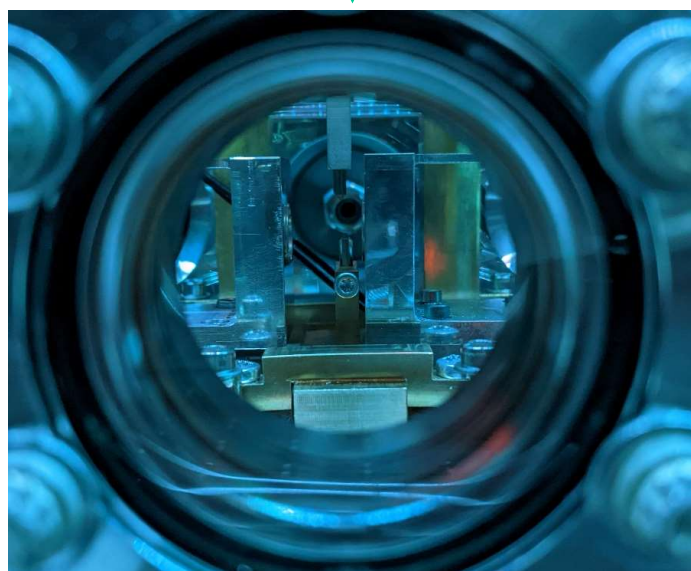
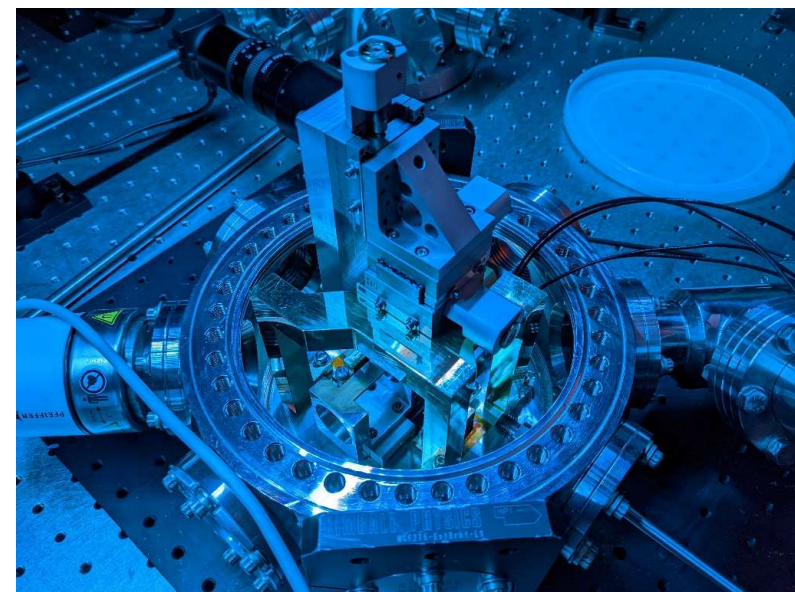
Magnetic traps for microdiamonds

J-F Hsu, P Ji, CW Lewandowski &
B D'Urso, Sci Rep **6**, 30125 (2016)



MC O'Brien, S Dunn,
JE Downes & J
Twamley, APL 114,
053103 (2019)



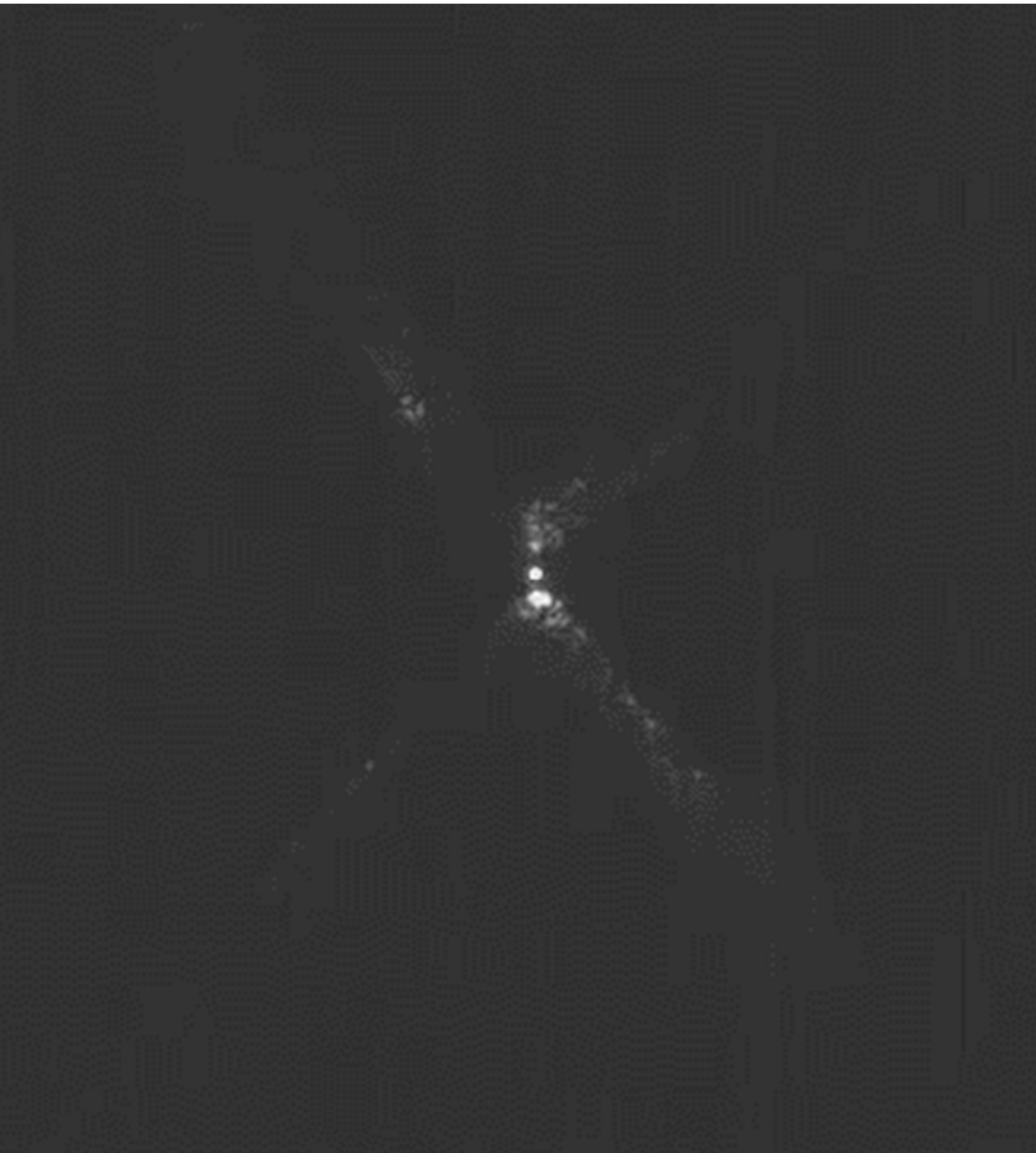


Our magnetic trap for microdiamonds



James March and Ben Wood





Our magnetic trap for nanodiamonds

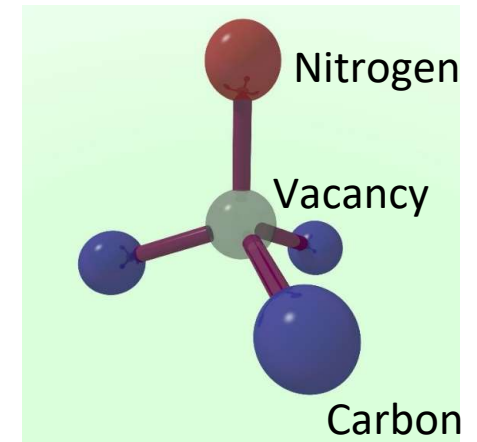


James March and Ben Wood

Conclusions

1. Sensitive fibre-coupled diamond magnetometer

- AJ Newman... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 21, 014003 (2024)
- SM Graham... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 19, 044042 (2023)
- LQ Zhou... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 15, 024015 (2021)



2. Nanodiamonds with the longest spin relaxation and coherence times

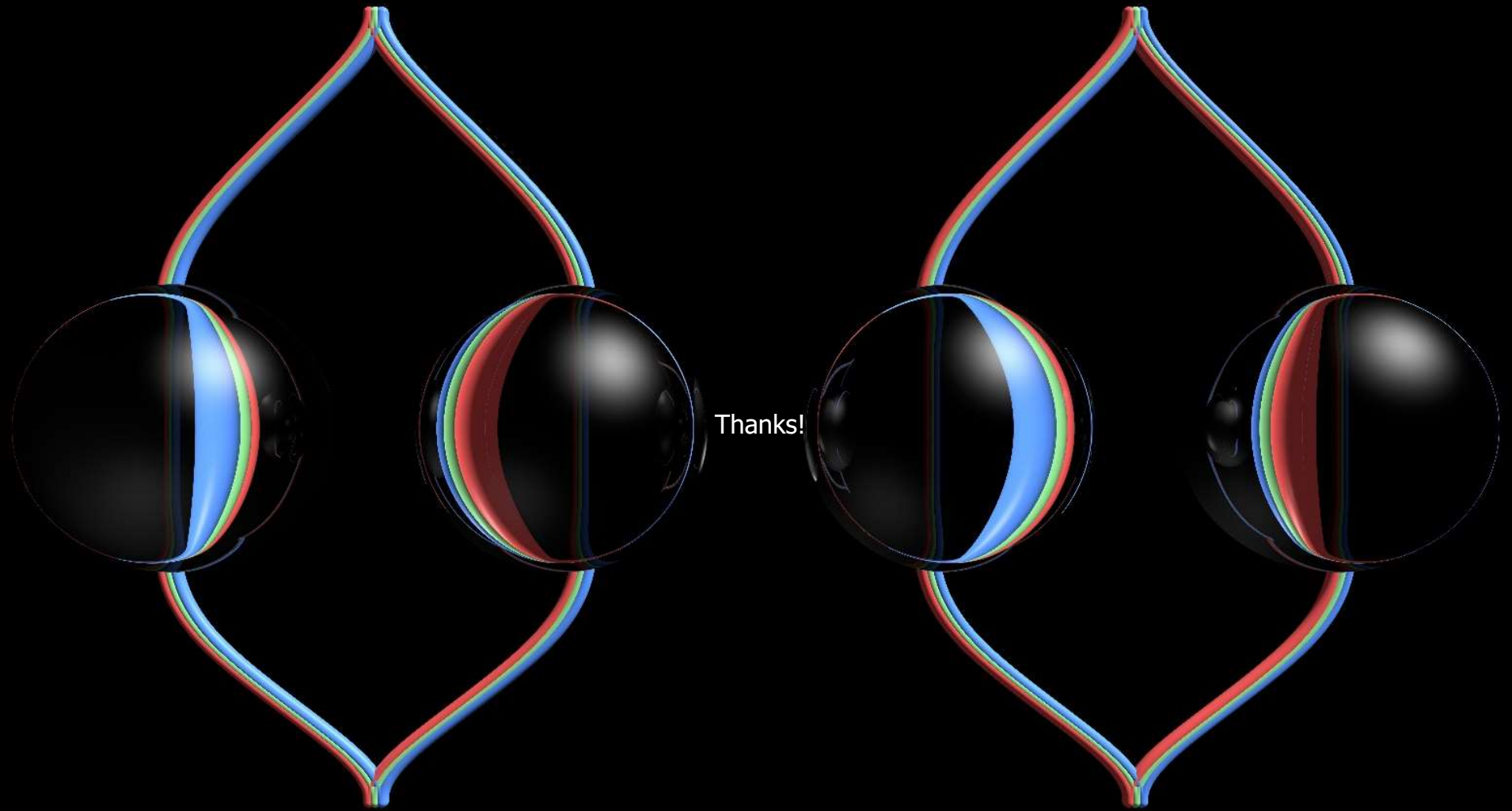
- JE March... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 20, 044045 (2023)
- BD Wood... & GWM, Phys Rev B 105, 205401 (2022)

3. NV centre arrays for quantum computing & communications

- Y-C Chen... & JM Smith, Nature Photonics 11, 77 (2017)
- CJ Stephen... & GWM, Phys Rev Applied 12, 064005 (2019)

4. Levitated microdiamonds towards testing quantum gravity

- S Bose... & G Milburn, Phys Rev Letters **119**, 240401 (2017)
- BD Wood, S Bose & GWM, Phys Rev A **105**, 012824 (2022)



Thanks!

