

# Status of CASPER-~~wind~~<sup>gradient</sup> and study of its quantum sensitivity limits

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Yuzhe Zhang and Dr. Hendrik Bekker  
for the CASPER collaboration

1. Introduction
2. Nuclear magnetic resonance
3. Hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$
4. Reaching the quantum projection noise limit
5. Conclusions and outlook

# Axions and axion-like particles (ALPs)

Coupling to	Operator	Experiment
Photon	$\frac{a}{f_a} F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$	ABRACADABRA, ADMX, ALPS, CAST, HAYSTAC...
Gluon	$\frac{a}{f_a} G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$	CASPER-electric -> Dr. Deniz Aybas, today 16:10 "Searching for axion-like dark matter with CASPER-electric"
Fermion	$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\Psi}_f \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \Psi_f$	QUAX, ARIADNE, GNOME -> Hector M. Roig, today 14:15 "Search for Axion domain walls using the Global Network of Optical Magnetometers for Exotic physics (GNOME)" CASPER-gradient

$a$  axion field

$F_{\mu\nu}$  field strength of electromagnetism

$G_{\mu\nu}$  field strength of QCD

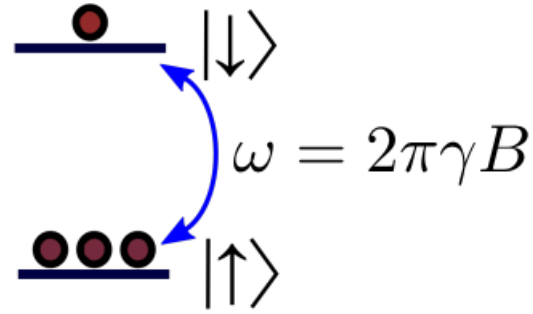
$\Psi_f$  standard model fermion

\*Operators from Graham, P. W. and S. Rajendran, Phys. Rev. D 88, 035023 (2013)

# Motivation: search for ALPs with nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)

Magnetic field

$$H = \gamma \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\sigma}$$

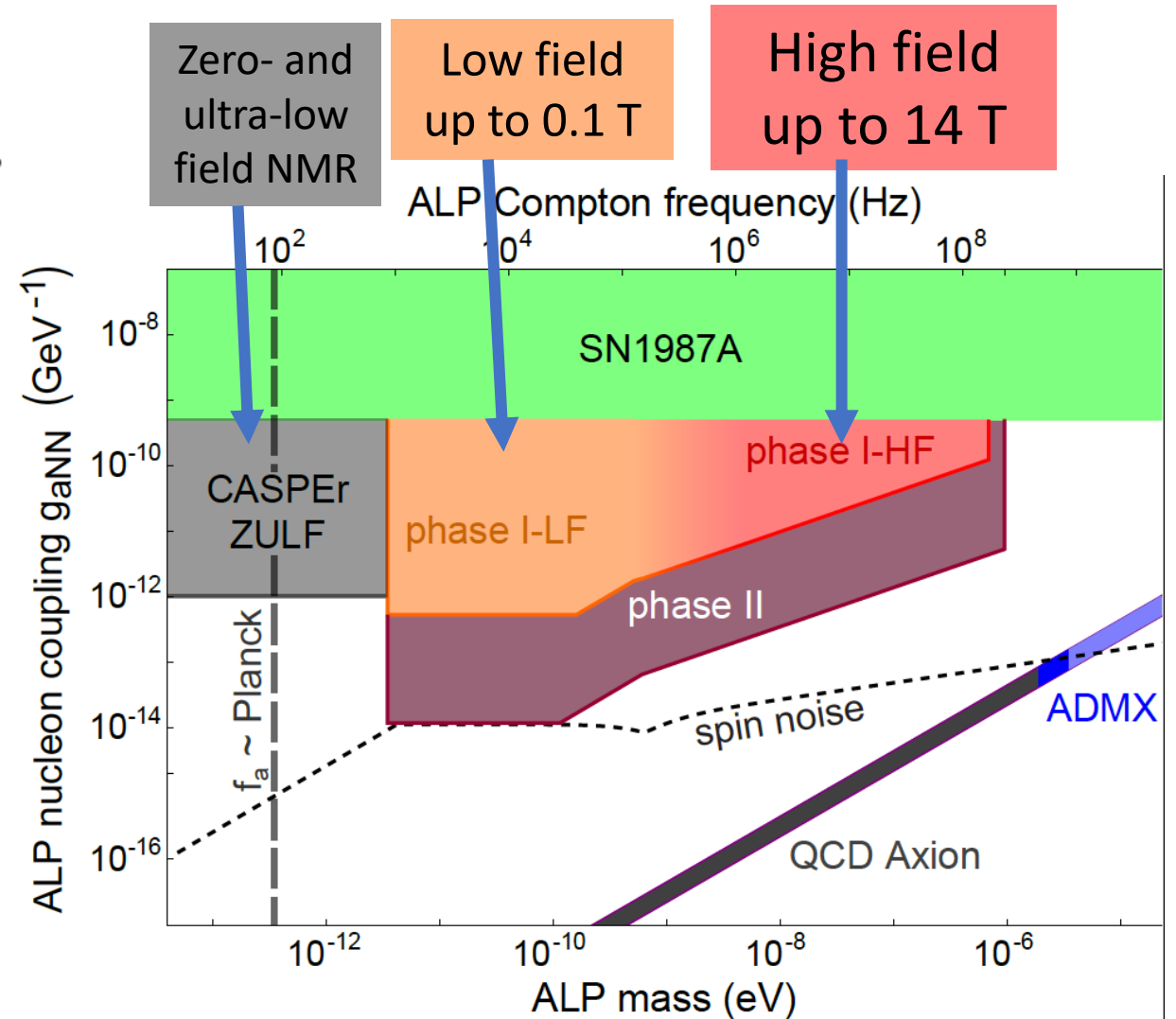


ALP field

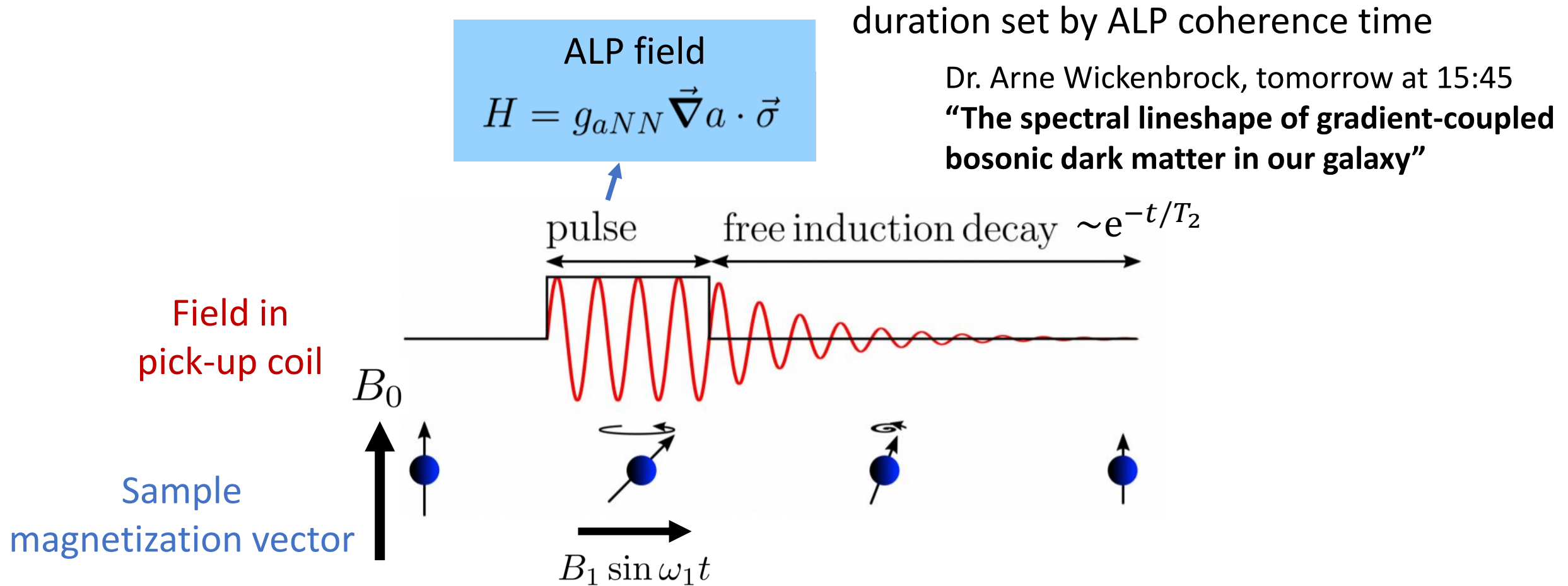
$$\frac{\partial_\mu a}{f_a} \bar{\Psi}_f \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \Psi_f \rightarrow H = g_{aNN} \nabla a \cdot \vec{\sigma}$$

pseudomagnetic field

- $H$  Hamiltonian
- $\gamma$  gyromagnetic ratio
- $\vec{B}$  magnetic field
- $\vec{\sigma}$  nuclear spin
- $\omega$  Larmor frequency
- $g_{aNN}$  coupling constant
- $a$  axion or ALP field



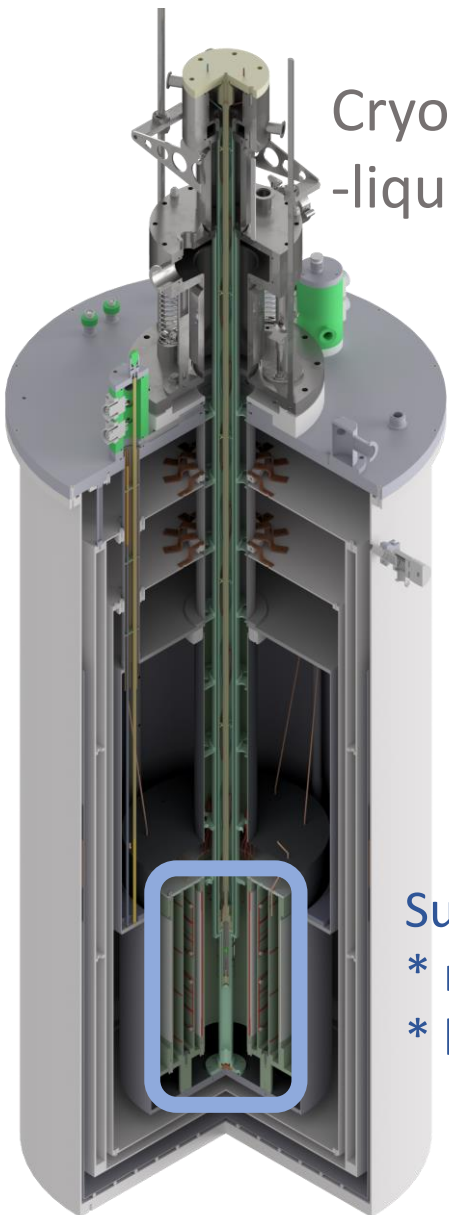
# Pulsed NMR scheme



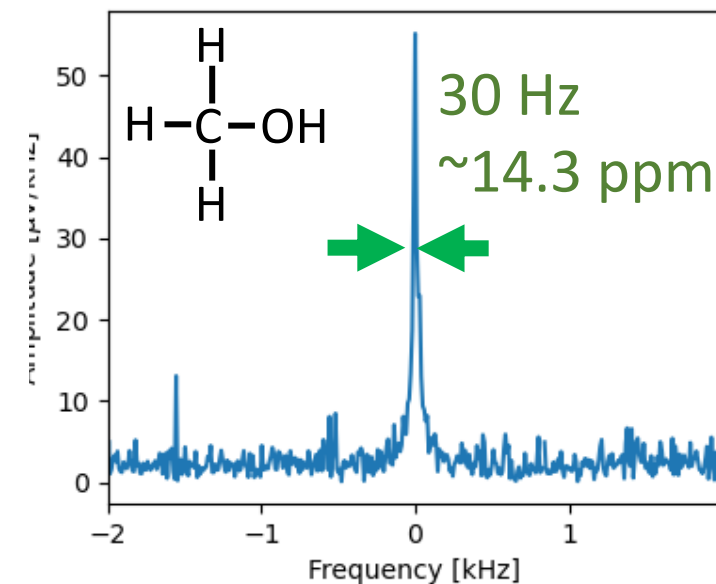
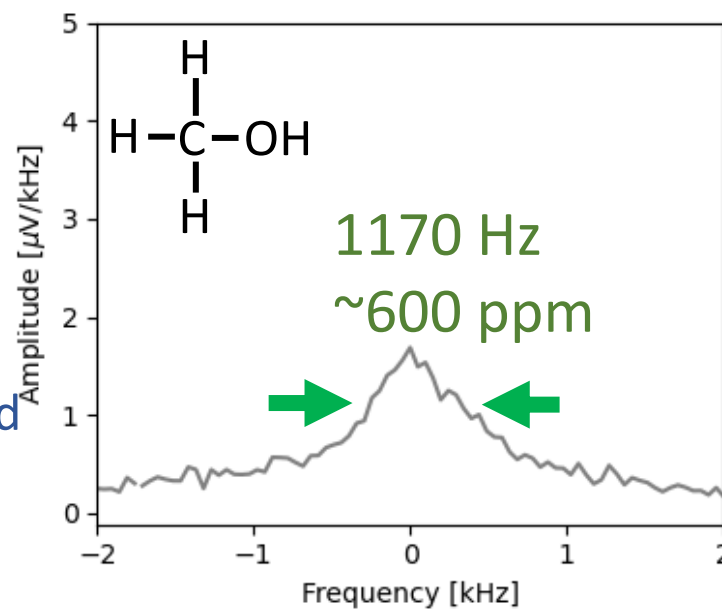
\*Figure from D. Aybas *et al*, Search for axion-like dark matter using solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (14), 141802

# Methanol $\text{H}-\text{C}-\text{OH}$ (proton) NMR experiment

Cryostat  
-liquid  $\text{He}$  ( $\sim 4\text{ K}$ )

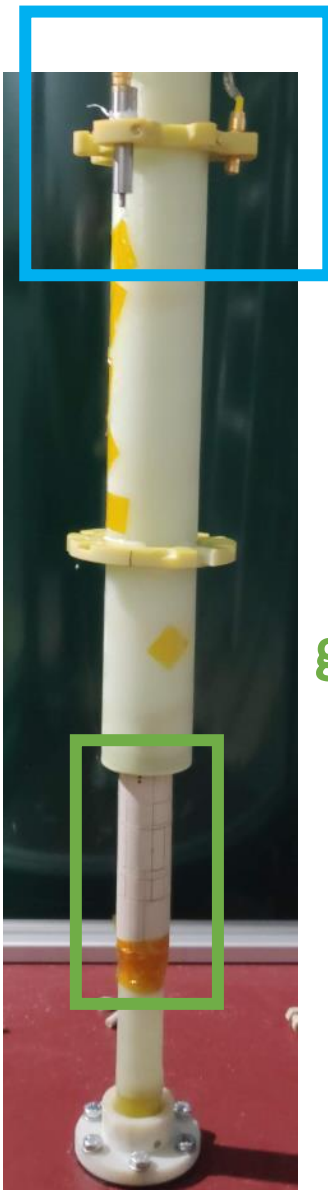
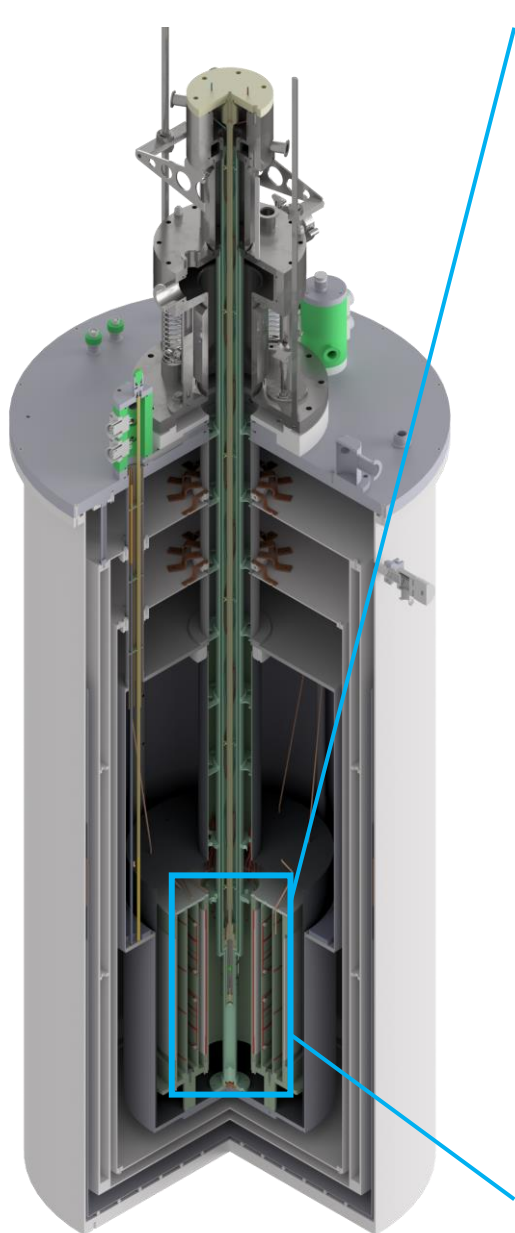


Superconducting coil  
\* magnetically shielded  
\* homogeneity 2 ppm



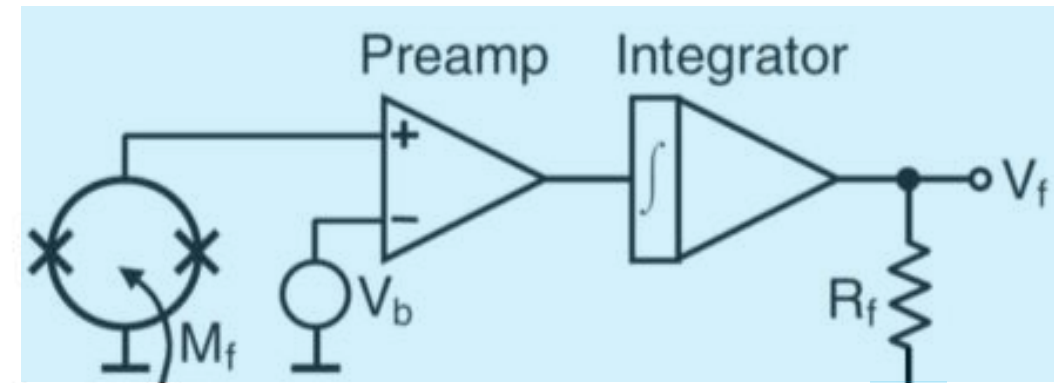
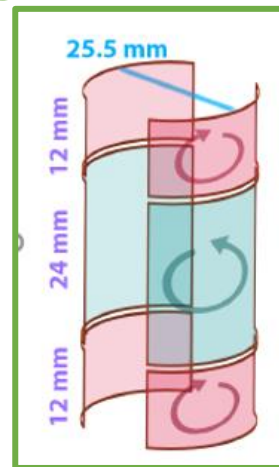
$^1\text{H}$  NMR signals at  $\sim 2\text{ MHz}$

# Superconducting quantum interference devices (SQUIDs)



SQUIDs

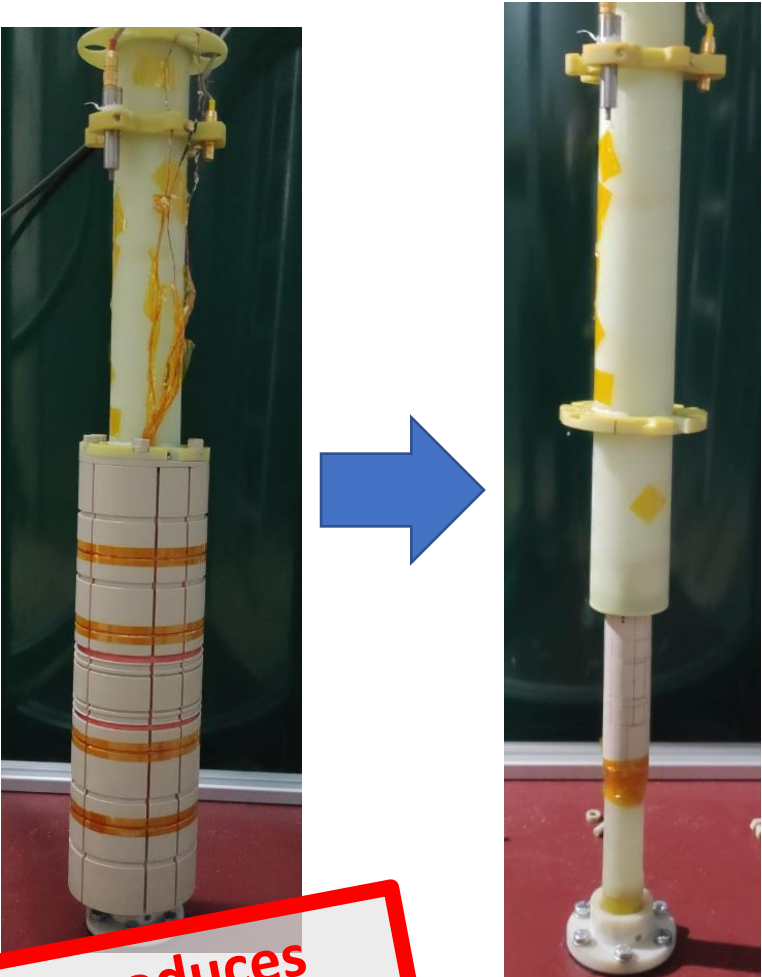
gradiometer



\*Scheme of SQUID [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SQUID\\_IV.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SQUID_IV.jpg)

\*\*Gradiometer coil illustration made by Nataniel Figueroa Leigh

# Noise limit of the SQUIDs

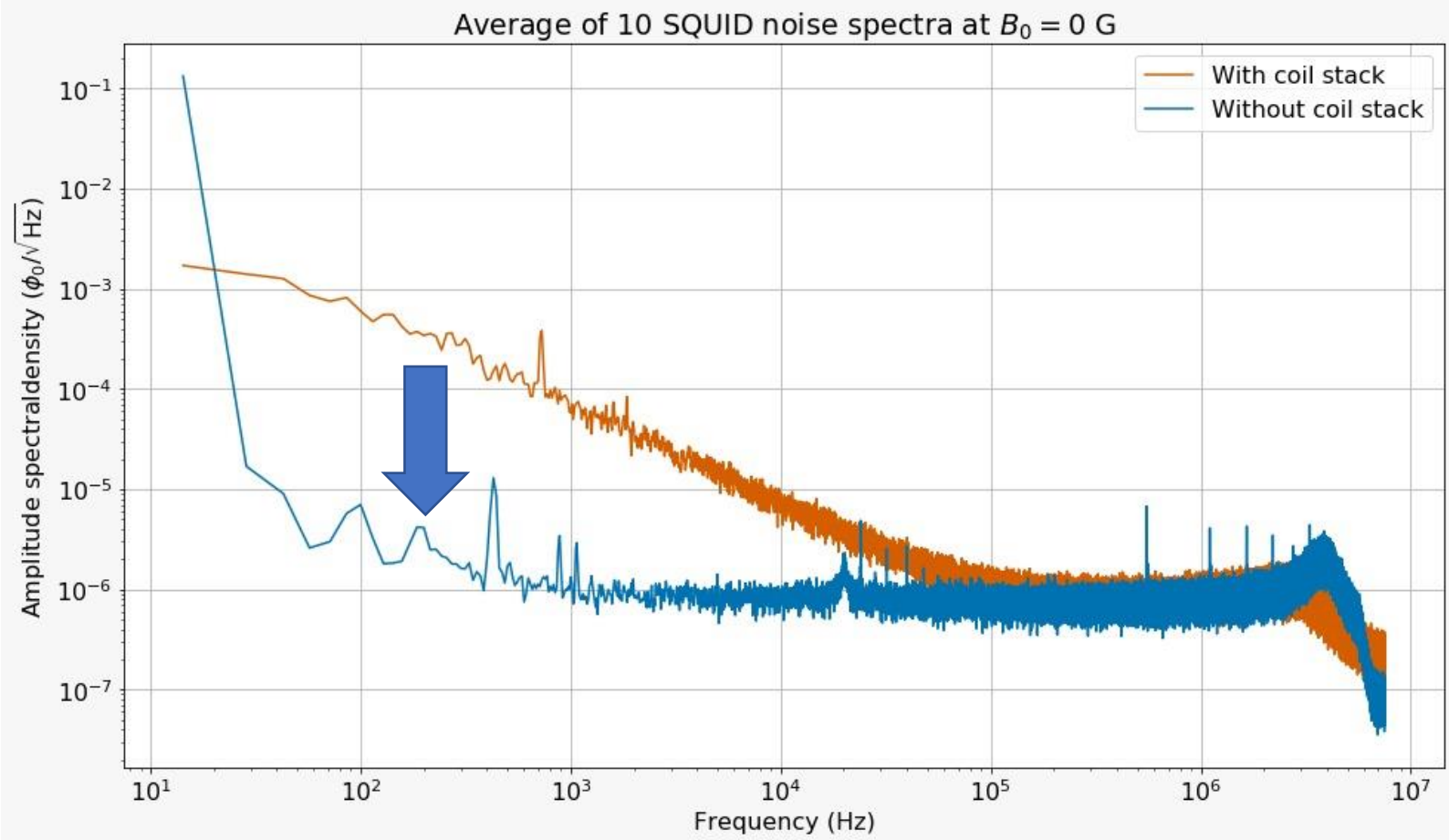


**Introduces Johnson noise!**

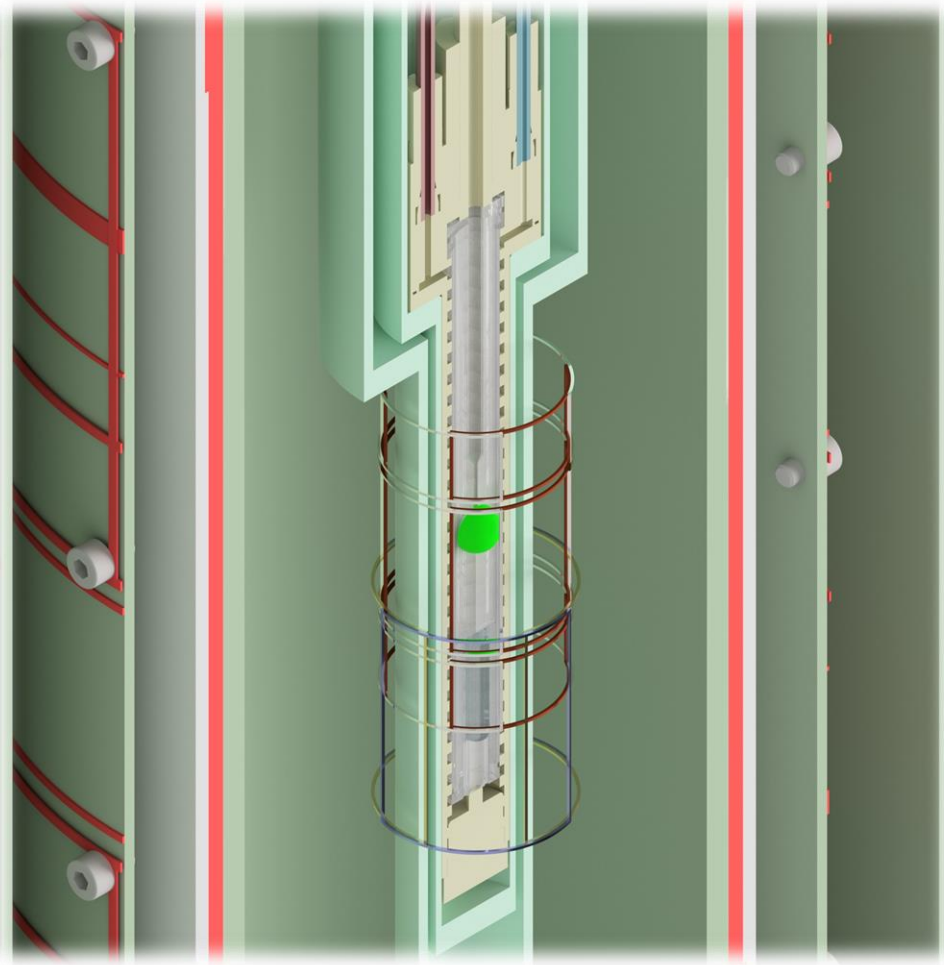
$$\sqrt{\frac{qk_B T R}{\pi N^2 A^2 \nu^2}} \propto \nu^{-1}$$

q (geometric) filling factor  
 k<sub>B</sub> Boltzmann constant  
 T temperature of the copper coil

R resistance of the copper coil  
 N number of turns  
 A area of the coil  
 ν frequency



# Hyperpolarized $^{129}\text{Xe}$ sample



Sensitivity of NMR to perturbing field determined by population imbalance, polarization

$$Pol = \frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{N_{\uparrow} + N_{\downarrow}}$$

In thermal equilibrium, typically

$$Pol \approx 10^{-6}$$

Hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$ , several labs demonstrated

$$Pol > 0.5$$

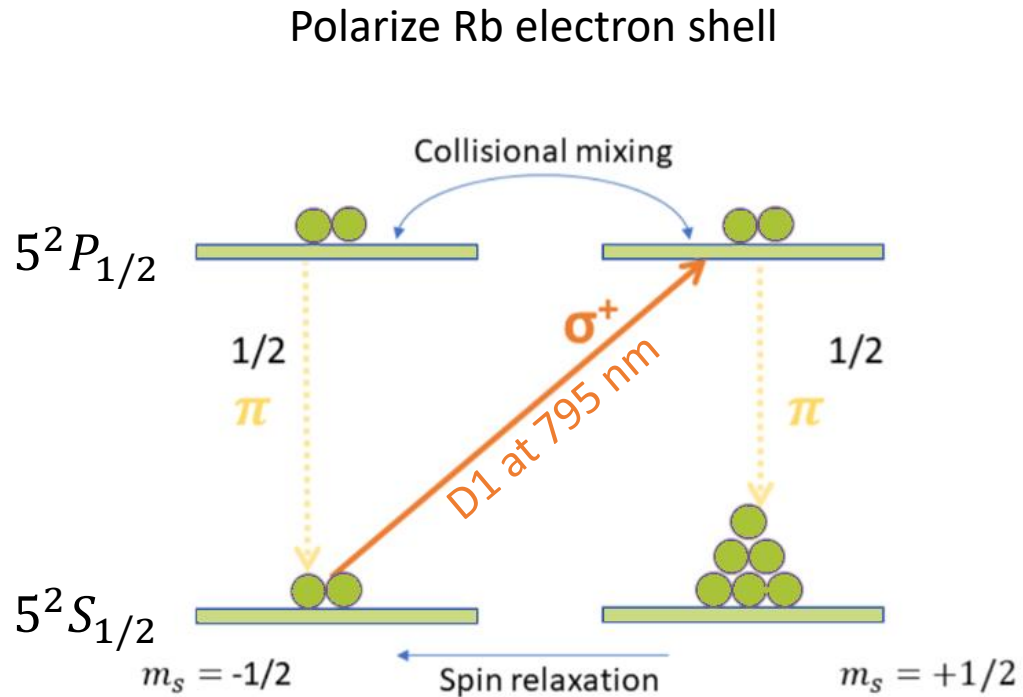
Property	Value
Liquid temp. range	161 – 165 K
Spin density	$1.3 \cdot 10^{22} \text{cm}^{-3}$
Volume	0.25 mL
Transverse spin relaxation $T_2$	$\approx 1300 \text{ s}$
Longitudinal relaxation $T_1$	$\approx 1500 \text{ s}$

Romalis, M. V., and M. P. Ledbetter. "Transverse Spin Relaxation in Liquid  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  in the Presence of Large Dipolar Fields." *Phys. Rev. Letters* 87, no. 6 (2001): 067601

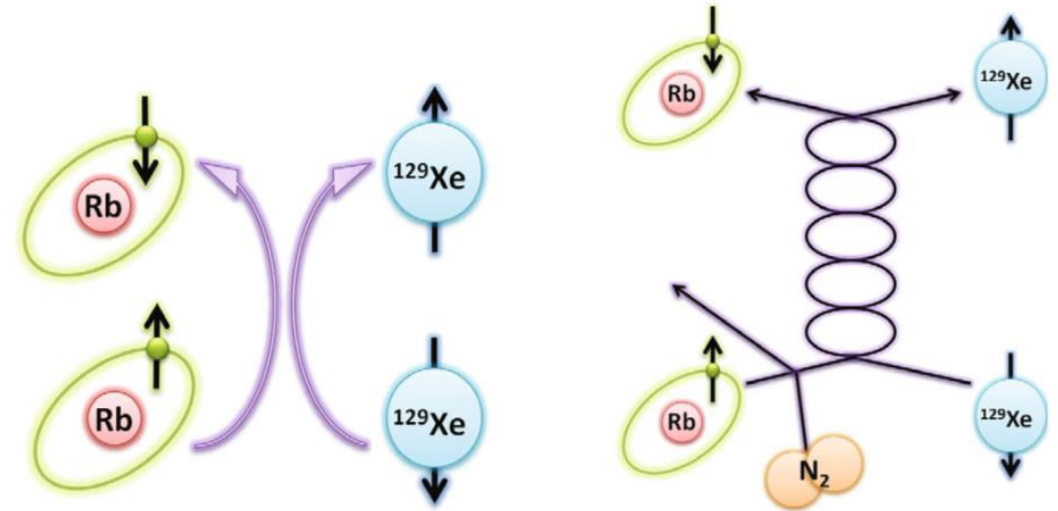
Limes, M. E., Z. L. Ma, E. G. Sorte, and B. Saam. "Robust Solid  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  Longitudinal Relaxation Times." *Phys. Rev. B* 94, no. 9 (2016): 094309



# Spin exchange optical pumping (SEOP)



Transfer spin to  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  nucleus



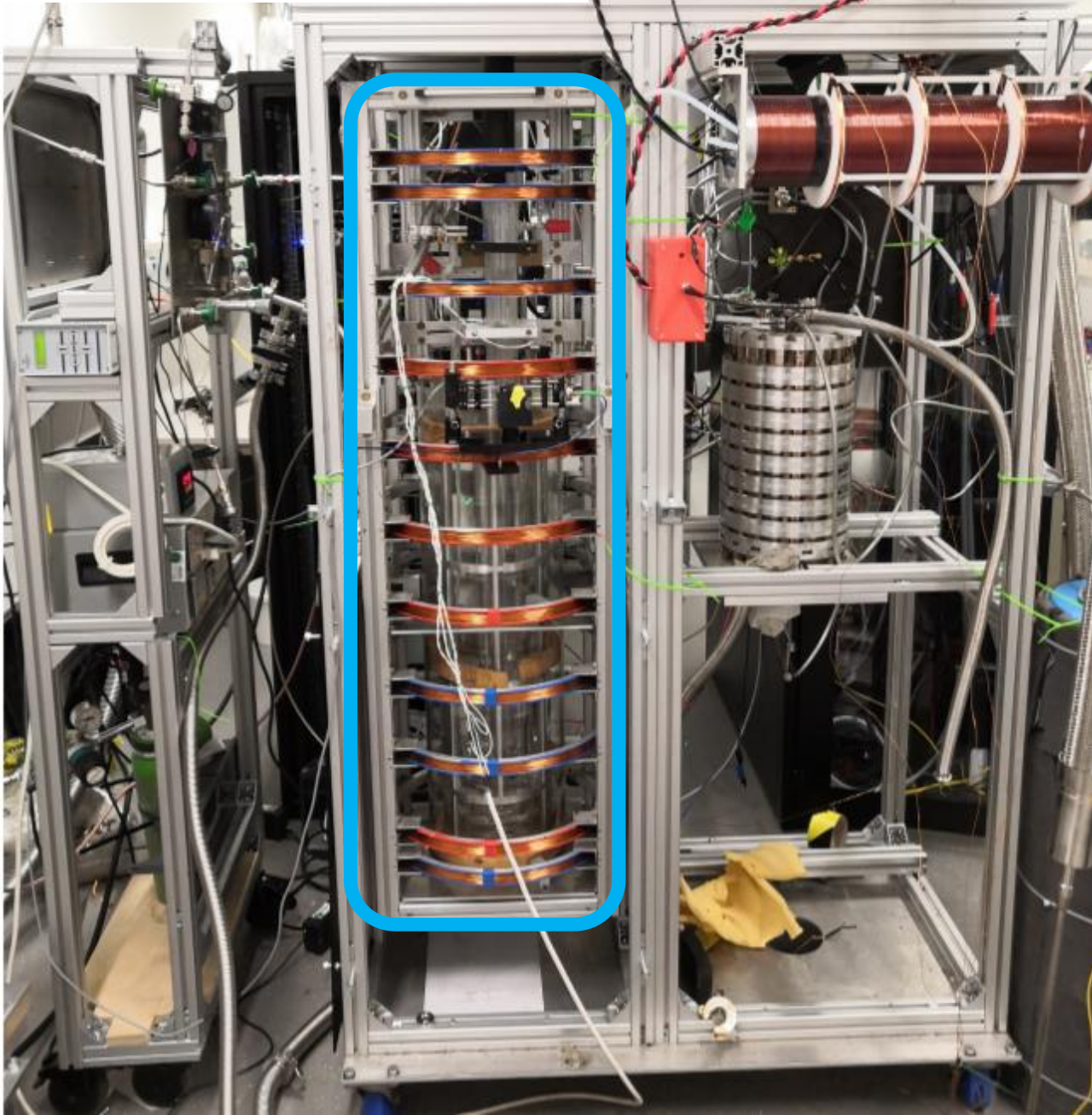
M. G. Sendra, "Characterization and preparation of hyperpolarized xenon for the Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment", MSc thesis JG University Mainz (2017)

Imai *et al*, "Continuous Flow Production of Concentrated Hyperpolarized Xenon Gas from a Dilute Xenon Gas Mixture by Buffer Gas Condensation." *Scientific Reports* 7, no. 1 (2017): 7352

Kavtanyuk *et al*, "Production of Hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  Using Spin Exchange Optical Pumping." *Journal of the Korean Phys. Soc.* 73, no. 10 (2018): 1458–65

Hersman *et al*, "Large Production System for Hyperpolarized  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  for Human Lung Imaging Studies." *Academic Radiology* 15, no. 6 (2008): 683–92

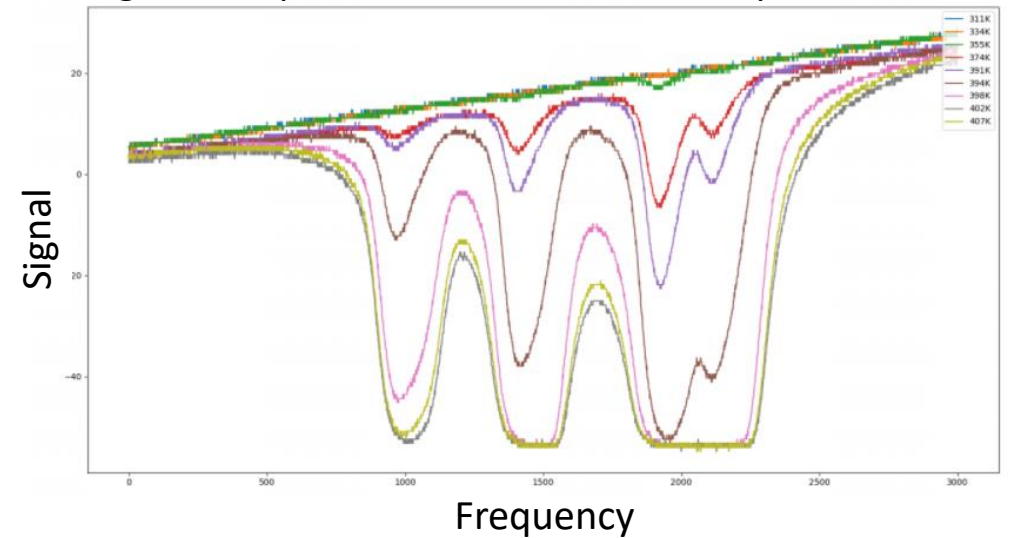
# The SEOP setup

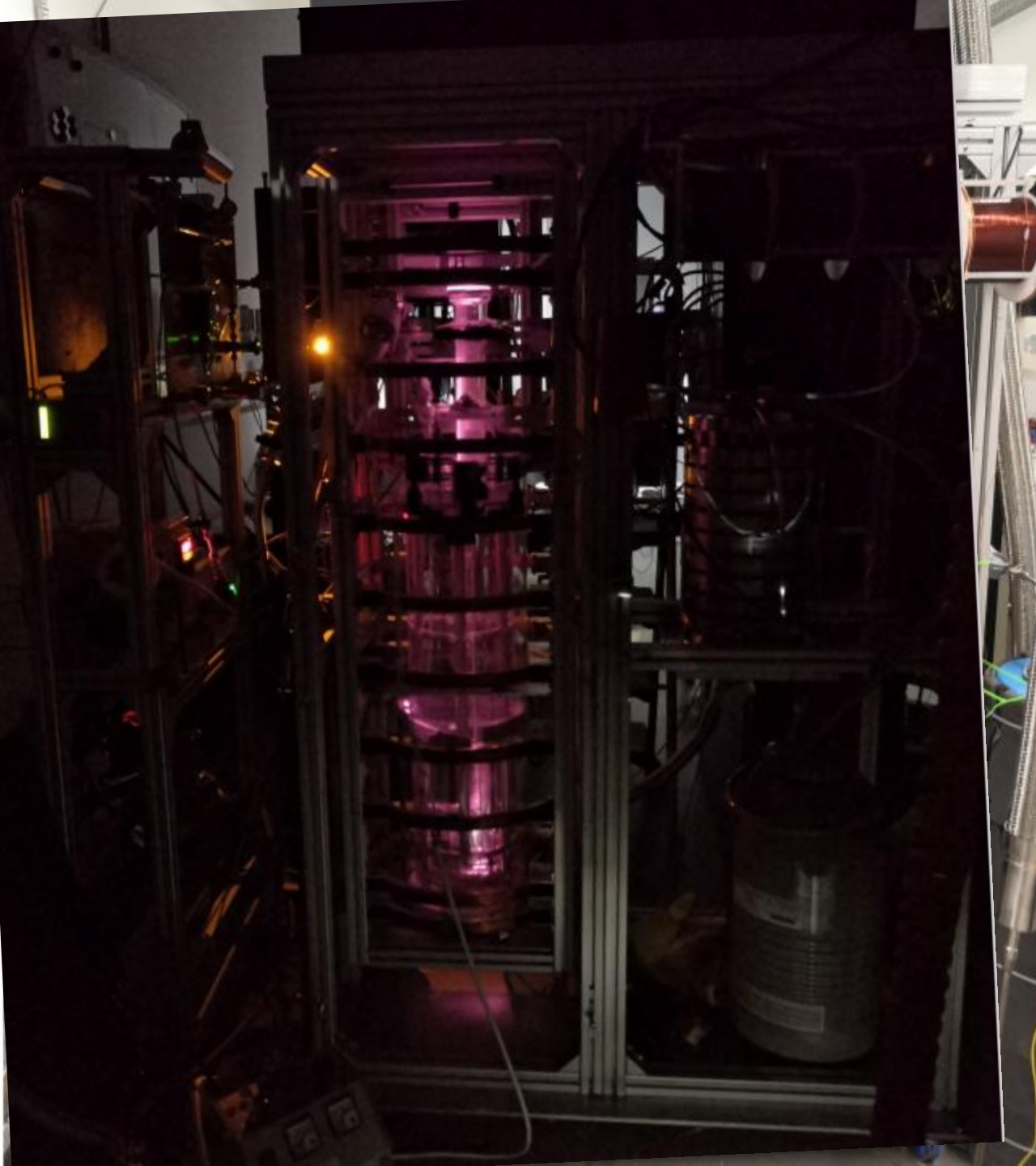


## SEOP cell

- Xe, N<sub>2</sub>, and He mixed with Rb vapor
- Interaction region for 795 nm laser light at D1 line
- Spin exchange between Rb and <sup>129</sup>Xe

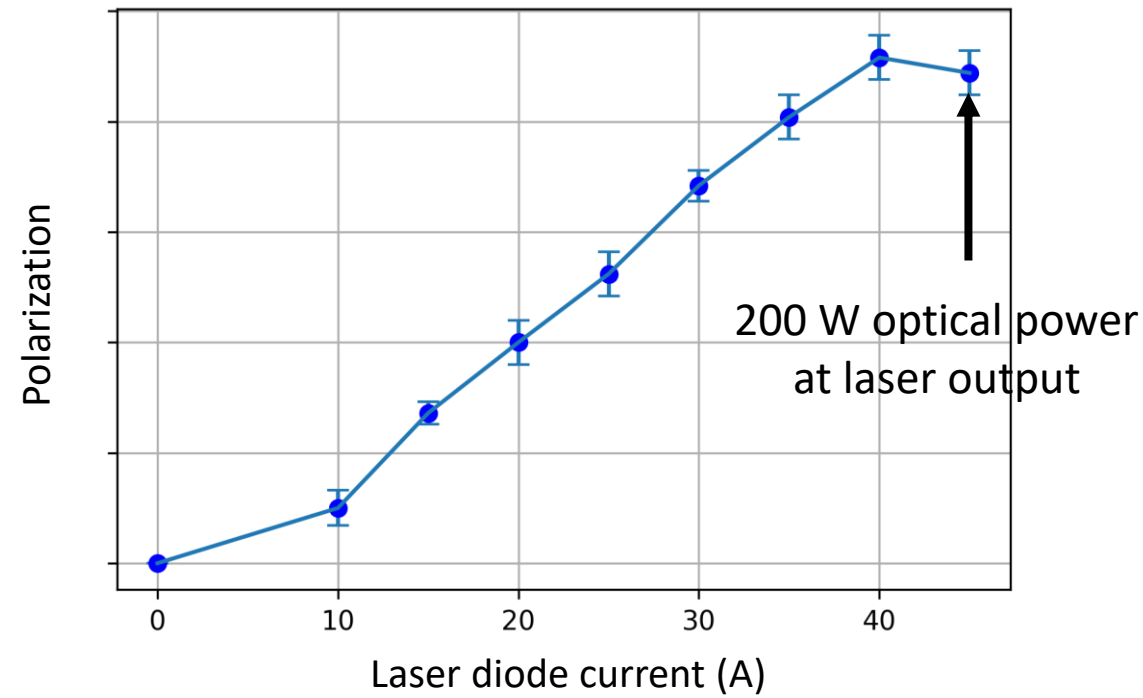
Light absorption of Rb D2 at various vapor densities

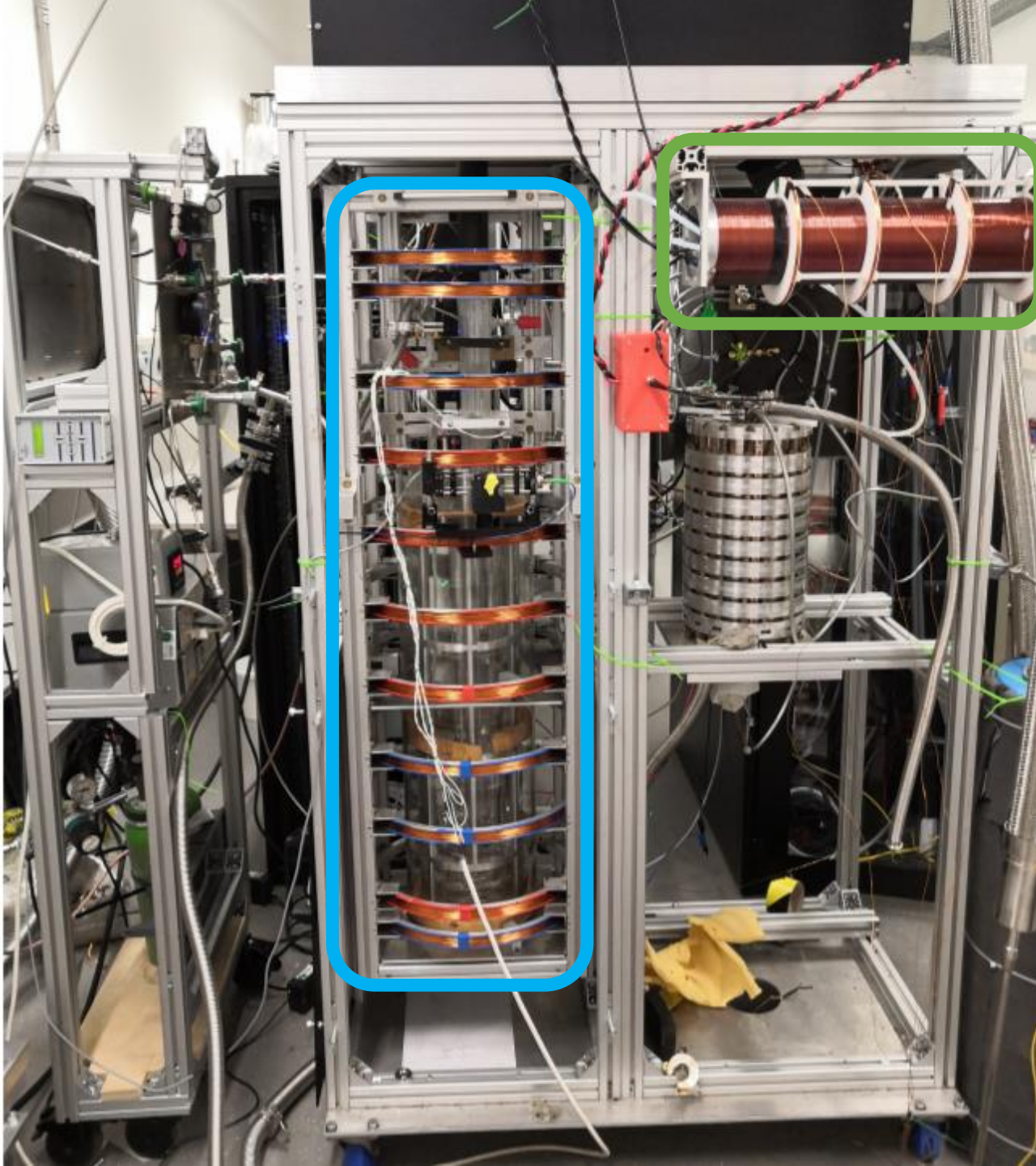




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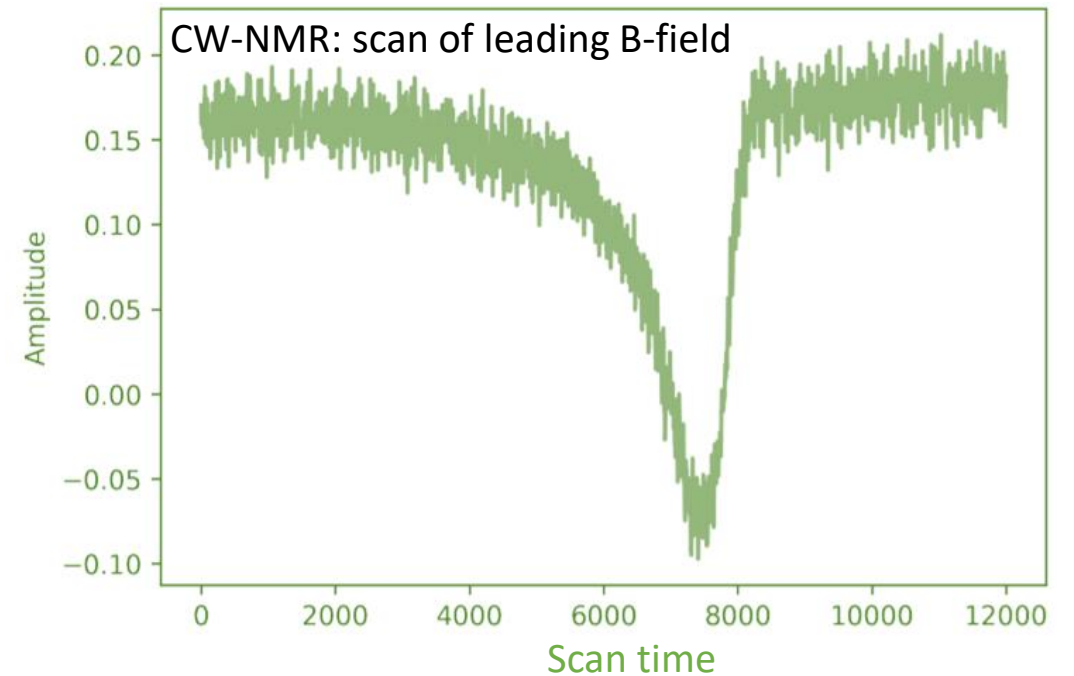


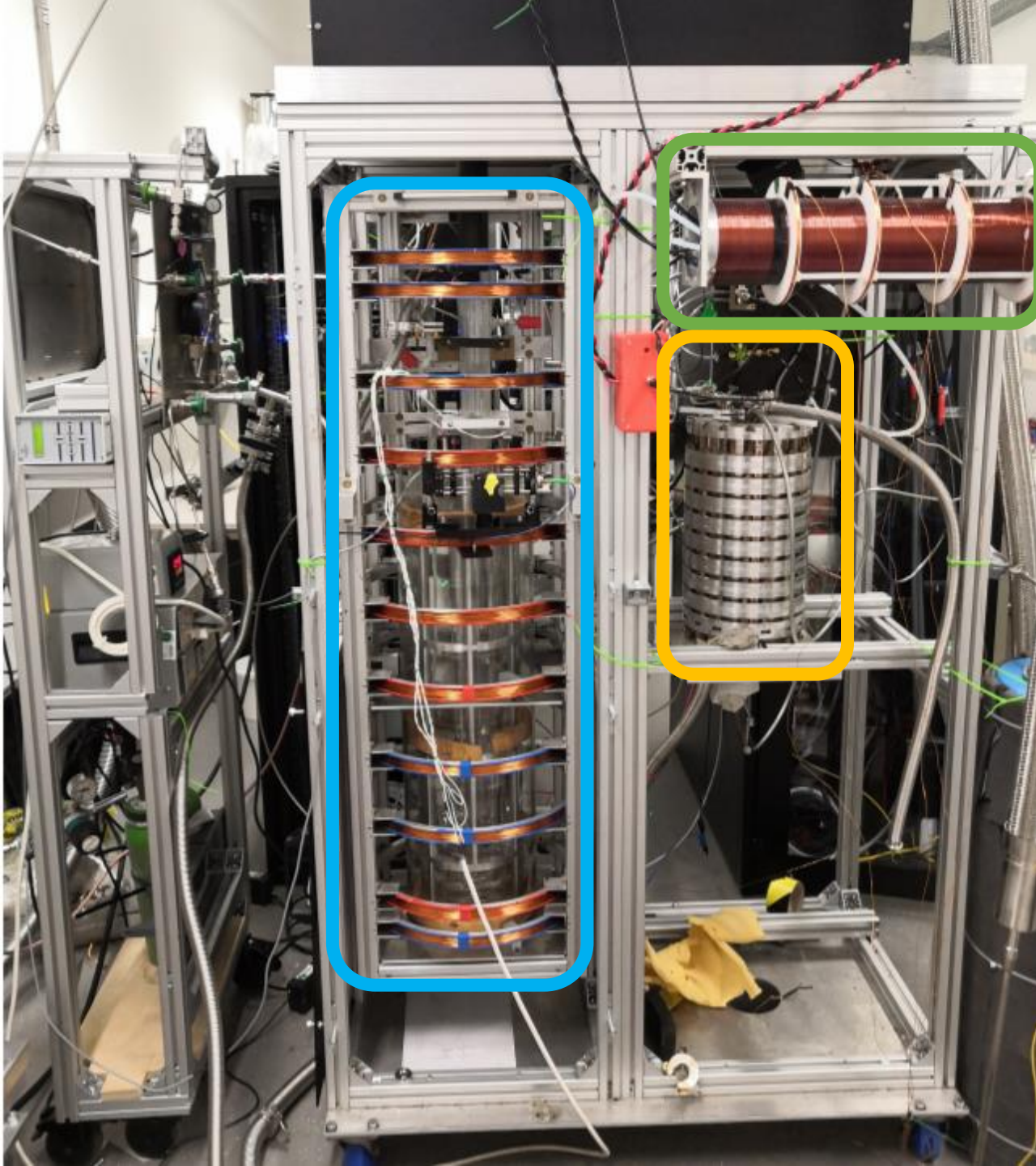
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## NMR diagnostic

- Polarization,  $P = 11(3) \%$  achieved, further optimization underway





### SEOP cell

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### NMR diagnostic

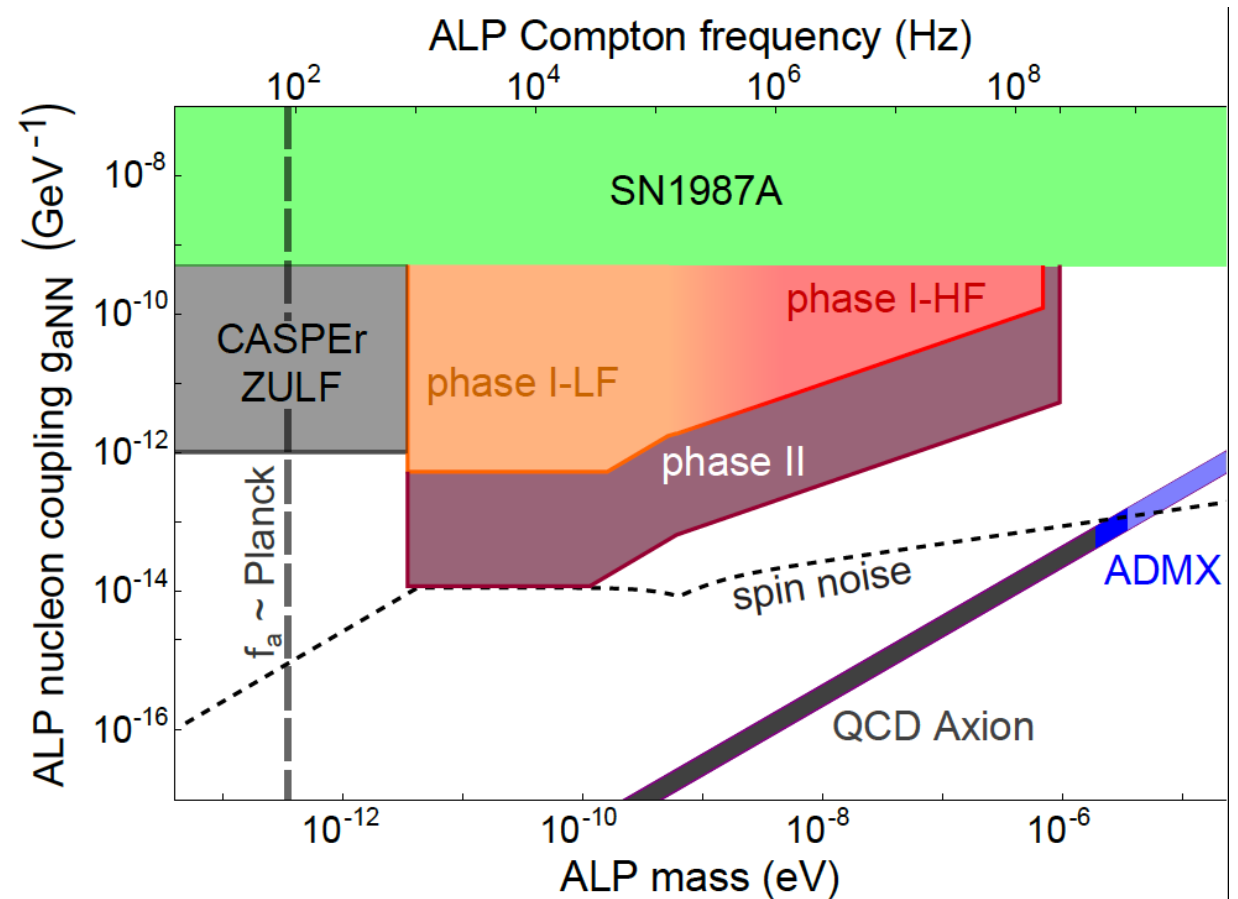
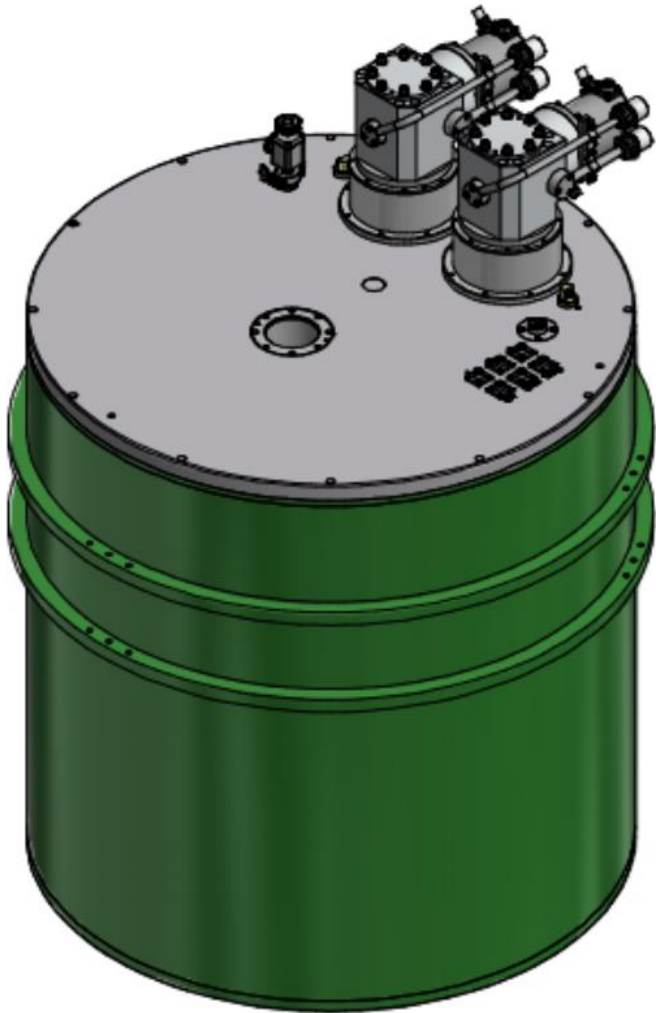
- Polarization,  $P = 11(3) \%$  achieved, further optimization underway

### Cryoseparator

- Freeze out Xe
- Store until needed
- Conserve polarization in 0.2 T field ( $T_1 > 1$  h)

# CASPER-gradient high field

- Magnet and cryostat in production
  - 0 - 14.1 T
  - Actively shielded
  - Warm bore
- Classical NMR probe to be designed

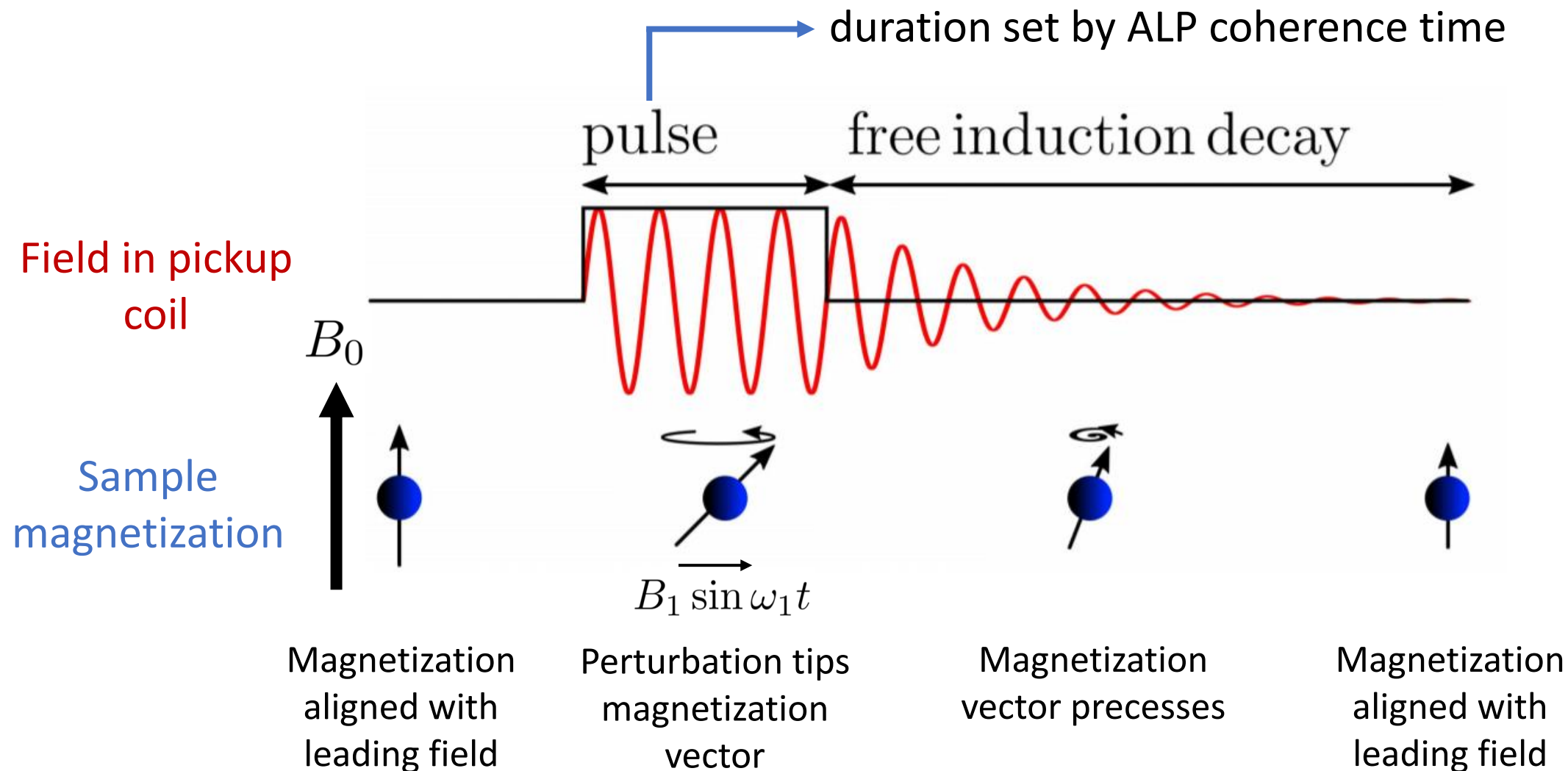


# Conclusions so far

- CASPEr-gradient low field
  - Probe  $g_{aNN}$  in mass range  $5 \cdot 10^{-12} - 5 \cdot 10^{-9}$  eV
  - First test measurements on thermal proton spins underway
  - Polarization of 11(3) % achieved for  $^{129}\text{Xe}$
  - Connection of  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  to cryostat under construction
- CASPEr-gradient high field
  - Probe  $g_{aNN}$  in mass range  $10^{-9} - 10^{-6}$  eV
  - Magnet expected Christmas 2021
  - NMR probe to be designed



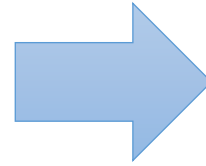
# Fundamental noise limit of NMR



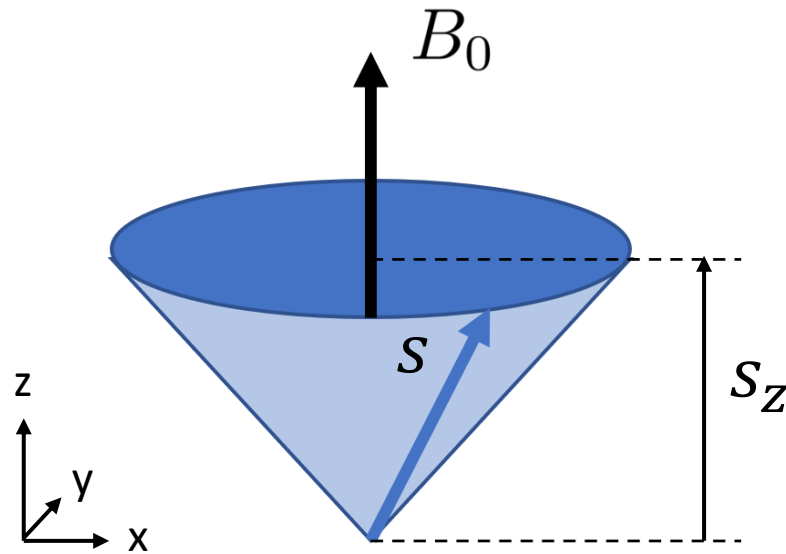


# Spin projection noise 1, Heisenberg

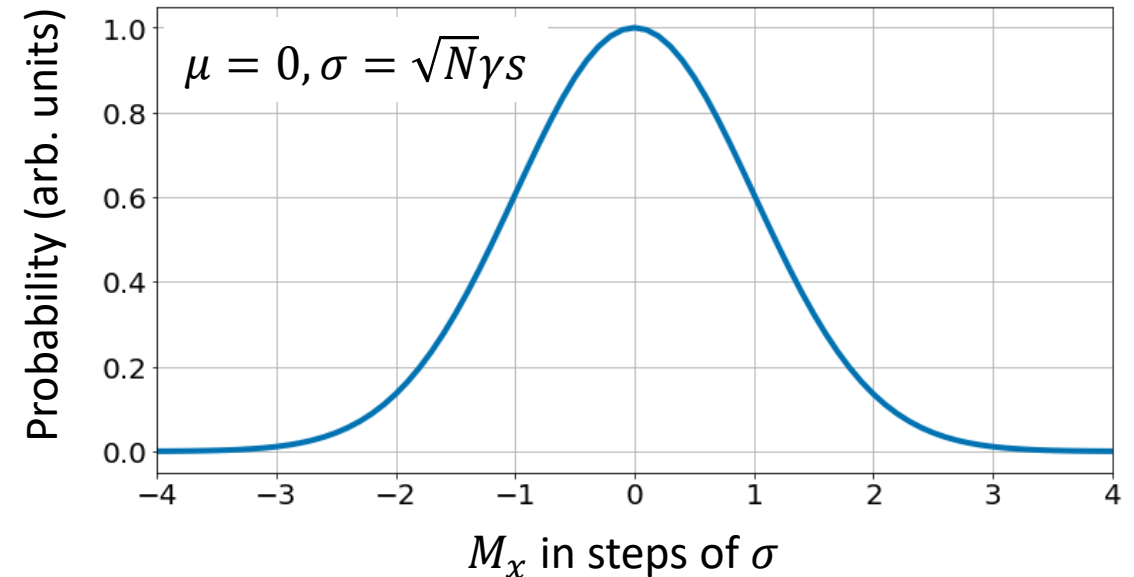
$$\begin{aligned}[s^2, s_z] &= [s^2, s_z] = [s^2, s_z] = 0 \\ [s_x, s_z] &= i\hbar s_y \\ [s_y, s_z] &= i\hbar s_x\end{aligned}$$



Measurement of  $s_x$  of a spin in the state  $\{s, s_z\}$  will yield  $s_x = \pm|m_s|$  with 50 % probability each



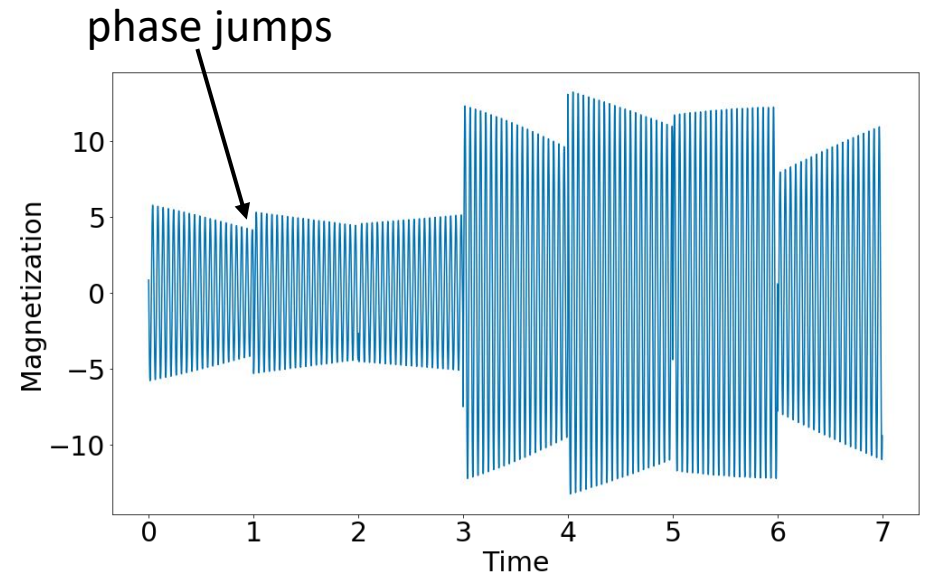
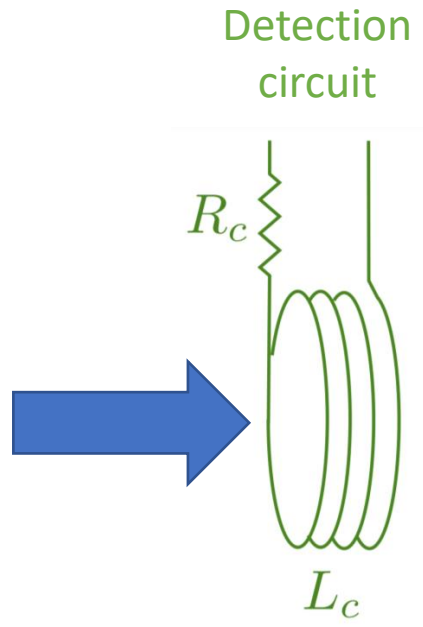
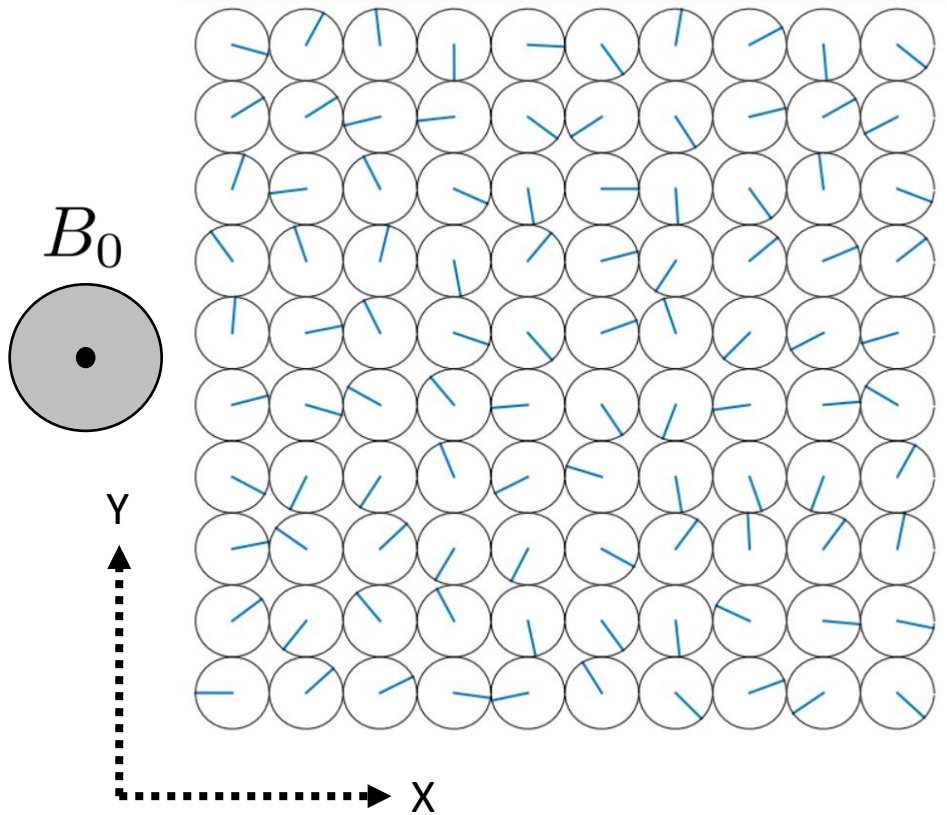
Central limit theorem: for  $N$  independent spins the magnetization  $M_x \propto \sum_N m_s$  follows the normal distribution



# Spin projection noise 2, Bloch

*“Even in the absence of any orientation by an external magnetic field one can expect in a sample with  $N$  nuclei of magnetic moment  $\mu_N$  to find a resultant moment of the order  $\sqrt{N}\mu_N$  because of statistically incomplete cancellation.”*

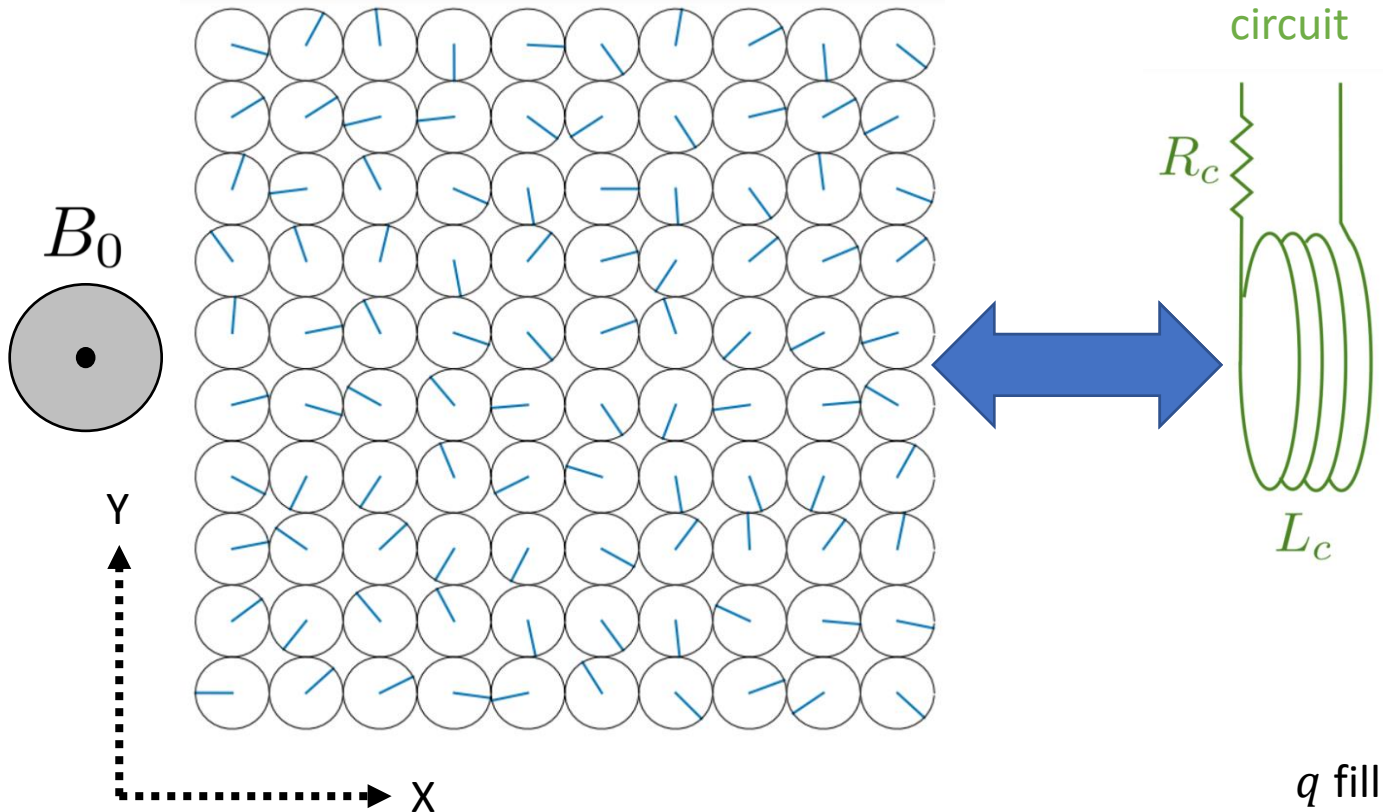
100 precessing spins with random phases



$$\frac{M_x^{\frac{\pi}{2}\text{pulse}}}{M_x^{\text{noise}}} \approx \frac{N \cdot Pol}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{10^{22} \cdot 10^{-6}}{\sqrt{10^{22}}} = 10^5$$

# Spin projection noise 2, Bloch

100 precessing spins with random phases



Two contributions to NMR spin noise

1. Spin projection noise
2. Back action (absorbed circuit noise, Jerschow *et al*)
  - Historically called “radiation damping” in the NMR community
  - Described by relaxation mechanism with characteristic time  $T_r$  -> line broadening

$$\frac{1}{T_r} = \frac{1}{2} q Q_c \gamma \mu_0 M_0$$

$q$  filling factor

$Q_c$  coil Q-value

$\gamma$  spin gyromagnetic ratio

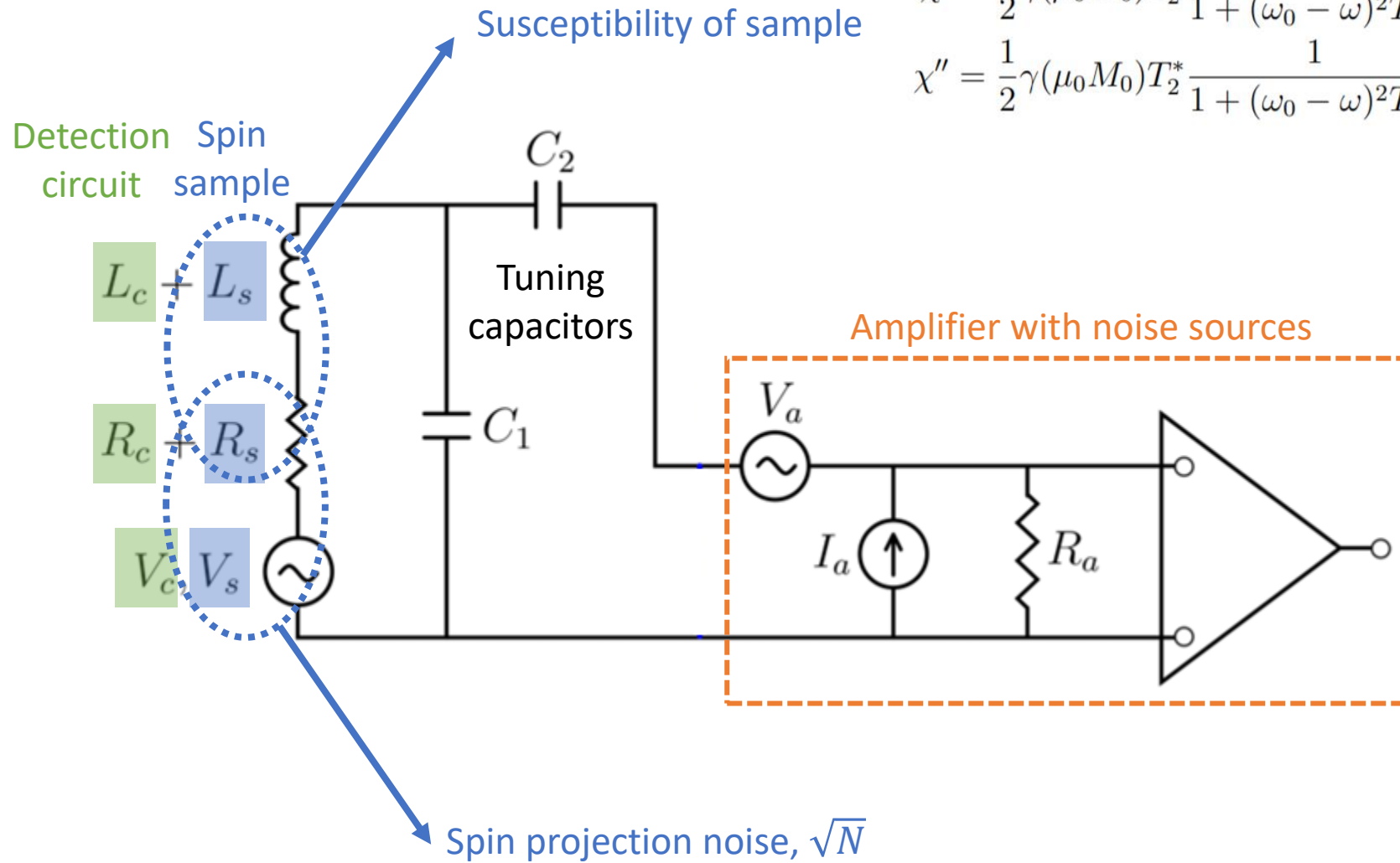
$\mu_0$  permeability of free space

$M_0$  sample magnetization

# Equivalent network

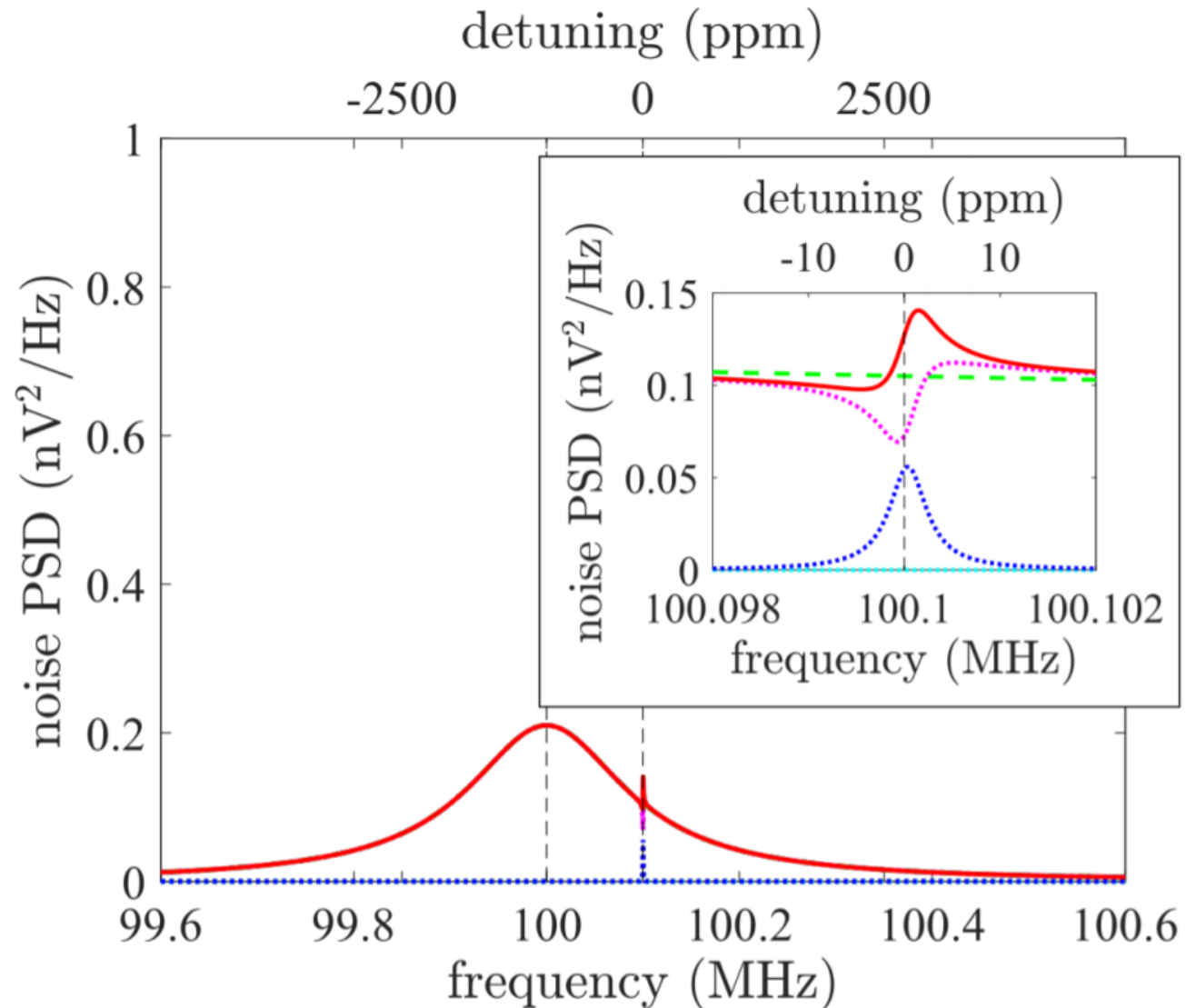
$$\chi' = \frac{1}{2}\gamma(\mu_0 M_0)T_2^* \frac{(\omega_0 - \omega)T_2^*}{1 + (\omega_0 - \omega)^2 T_2^{*2}},$$

$$\chi'' = \frac{1}{2}\gamma(\mu_0 M_0)T_2^* \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_0 - \omega)^2 T_2^{*2}}.$$



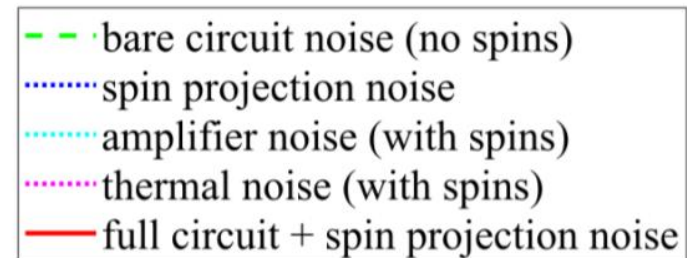
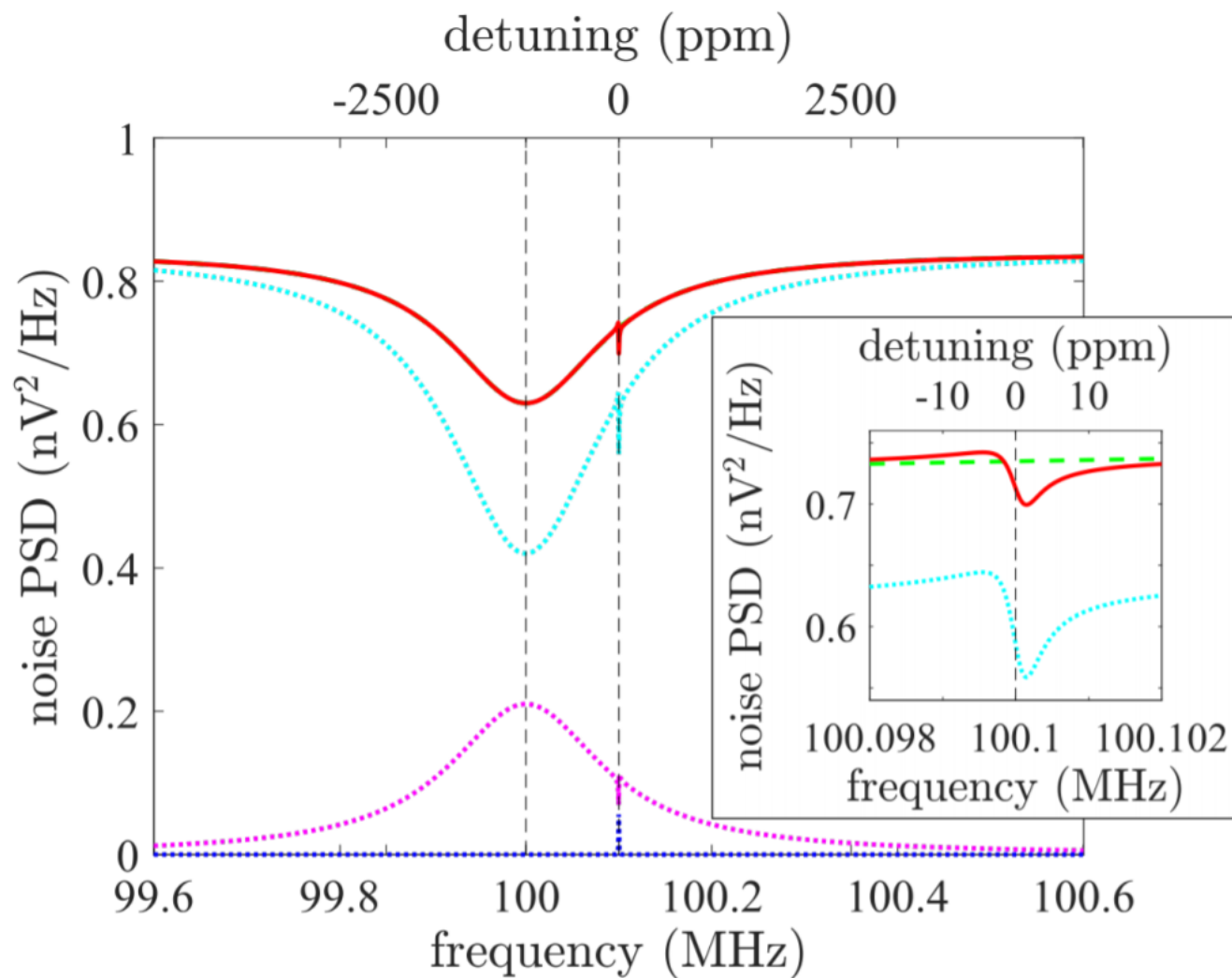
# Noiseless amplifier

Sample + coil in thermal equilibrium at 300 K



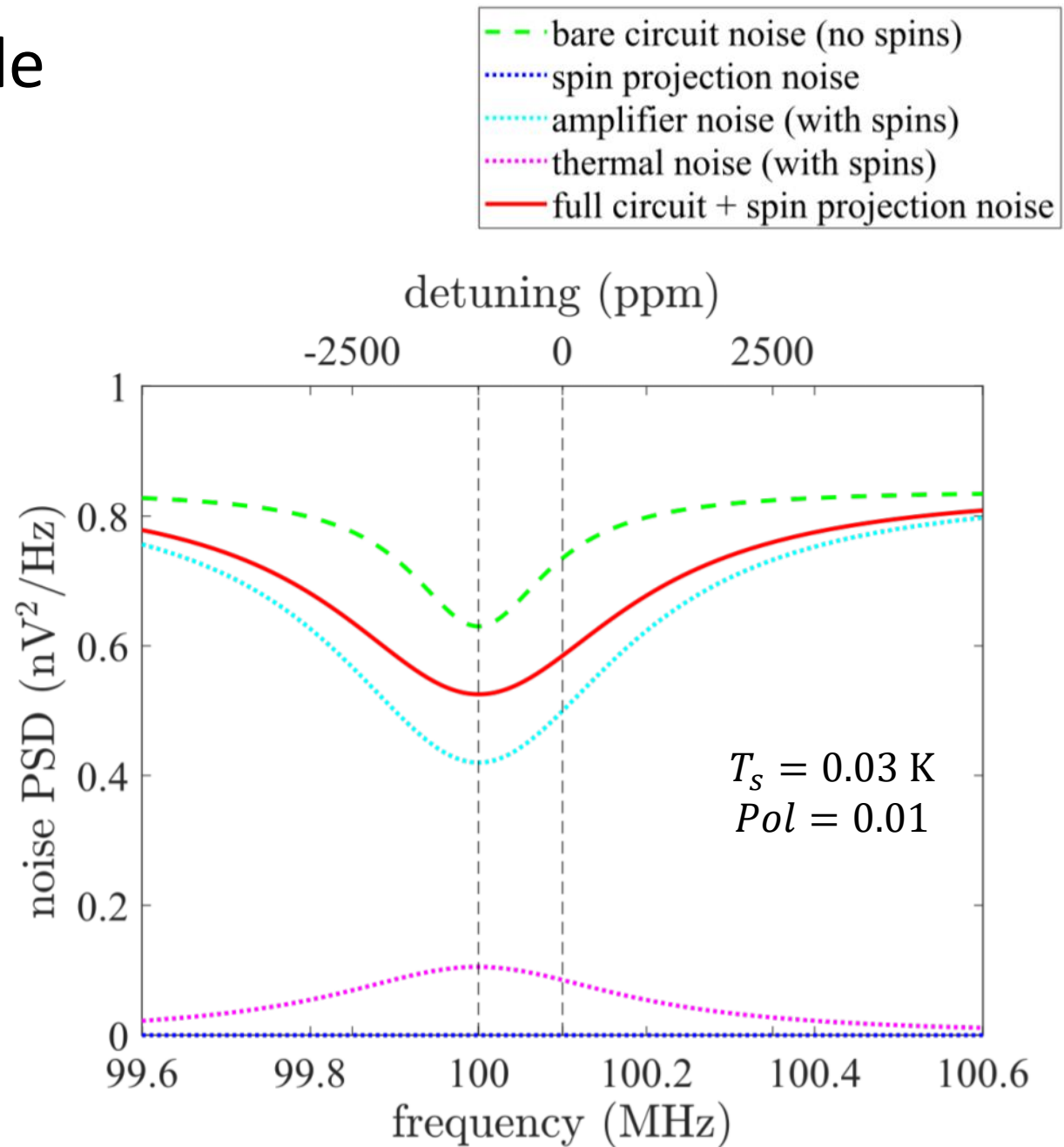
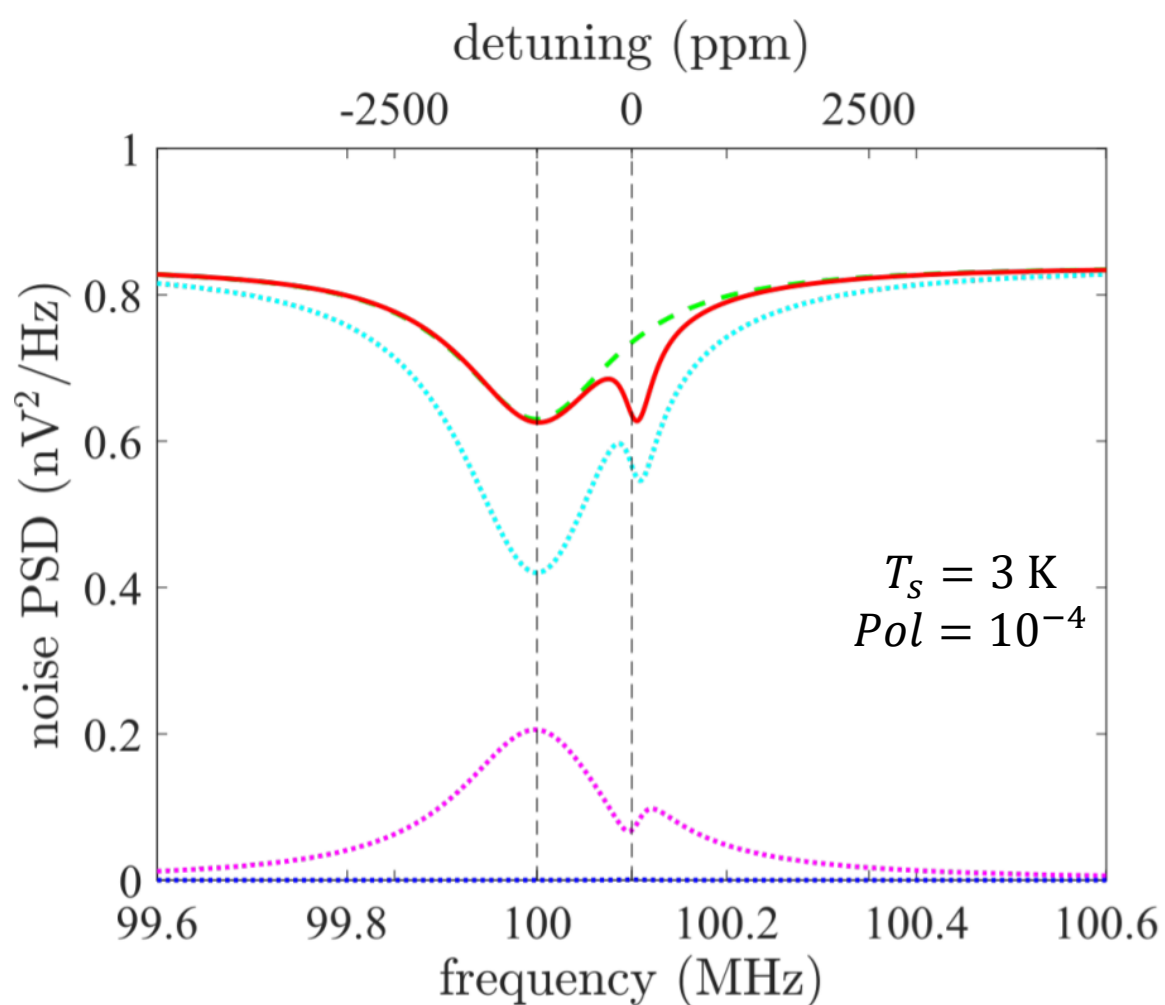
# Real amplifier

Amplifier + sample + coil in thermal equilibrium at 300 K

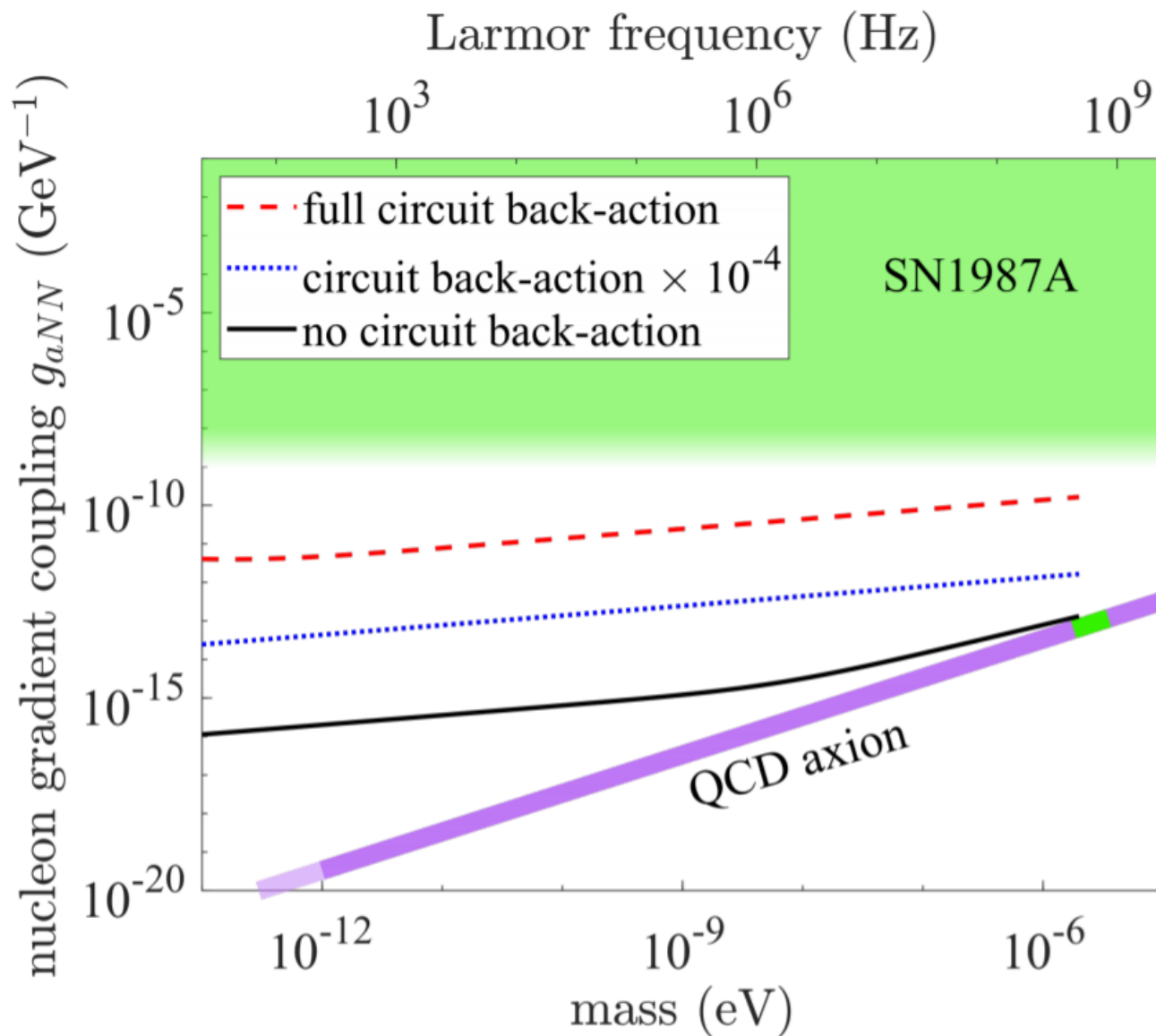


# Real amplifier, hyperpolarized sample

Amplifier + coil in thermal equilibrium at 300 K



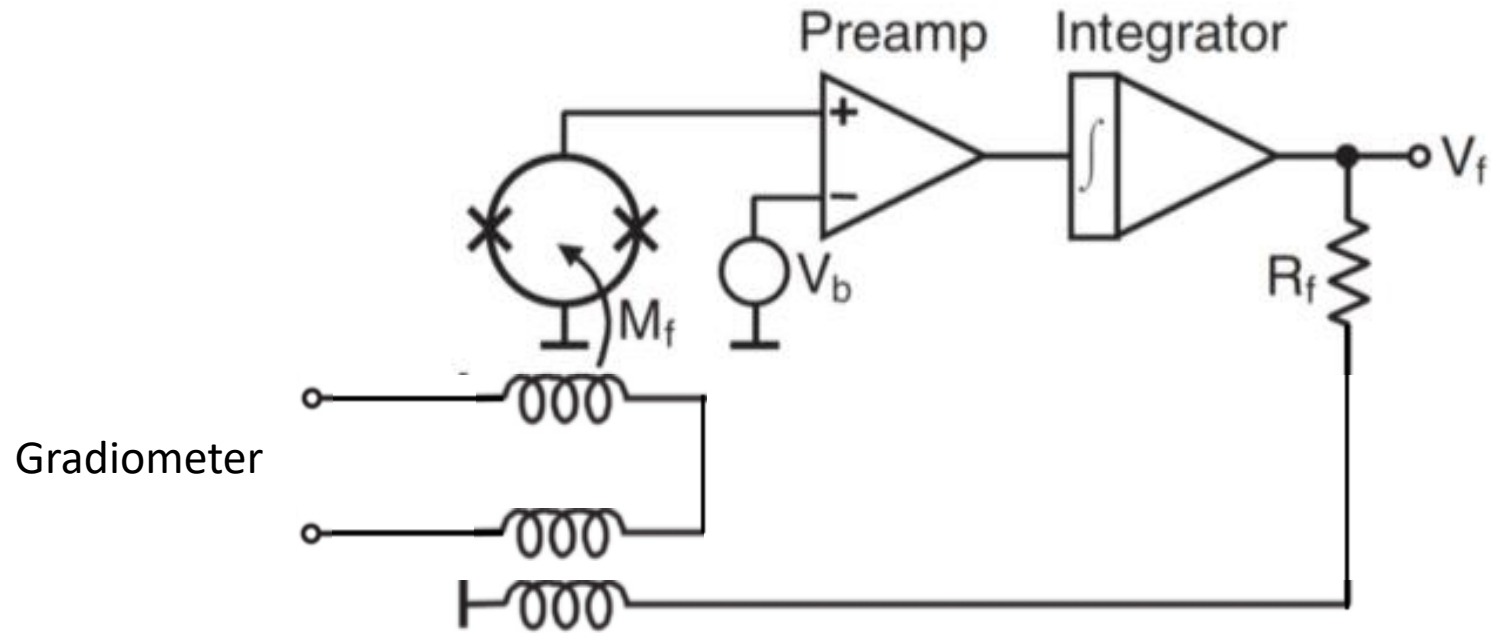
# Noise limit including back action





# Back-action evasion in SQUIDs

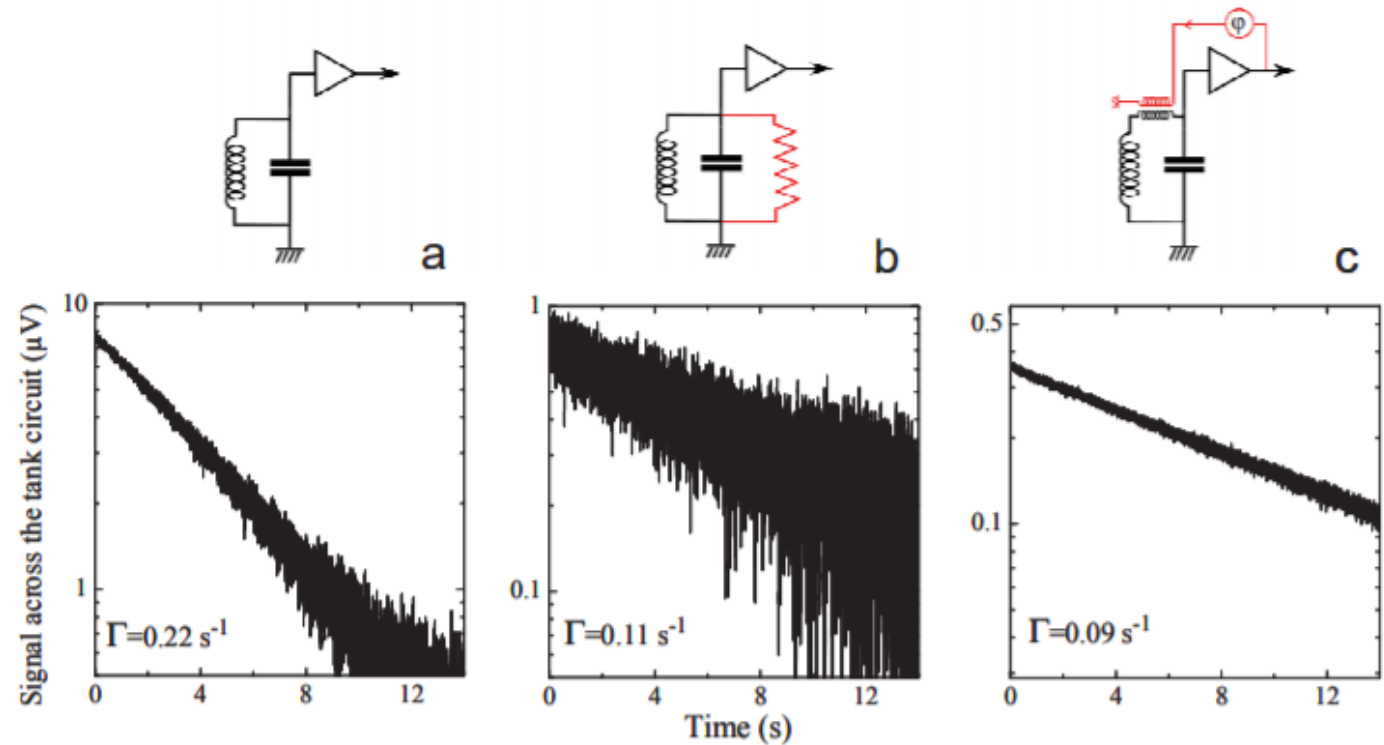
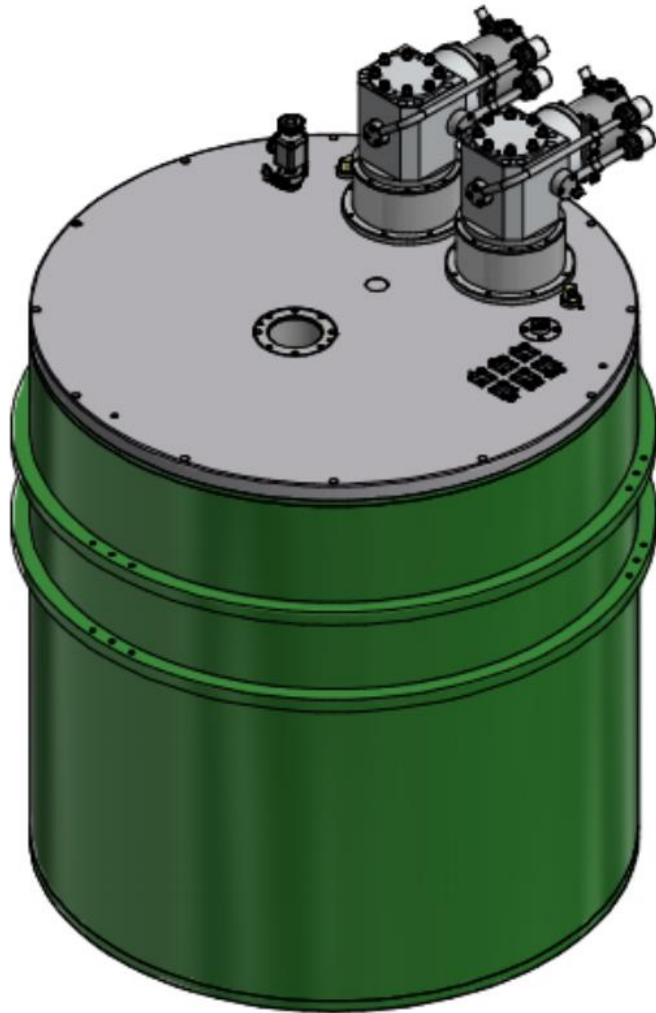
Flux-locked loop network  
compensates flux in SQUID



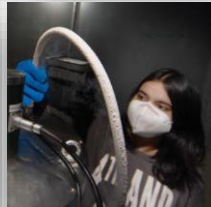
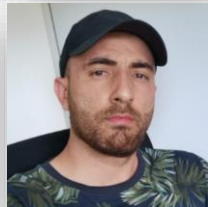
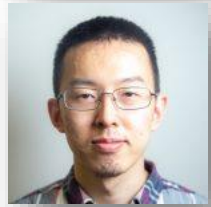
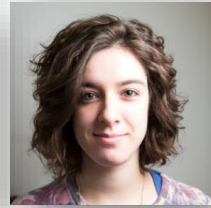
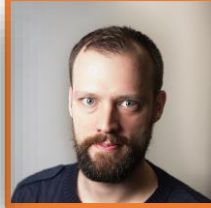
# CASPER-gradient high field

- Magnet and cryostat in production
  - 0 - 14.1 T
  - Actively shielded
  - Warm bore
- Classical NMR probe to be designed
  - Optimized for DM search
  - Q-switching?
  - Active feedback?

$$\frac{1}{T_r} = \frac{1}{2} q Q_c \gamma \mu_0 M_0$$



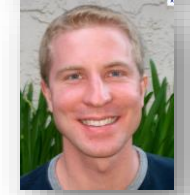
# Acknowledgements



Dr. Arne Wickenbrock  
Tomorrow at 15:45  
“The spectral lineshape of  
gradient-coupled bosonic dark  
matter in our galaxy”

Dr. Deniz Aybas today at 16:10  
“Searching for axion-like dark  
matter with CASPER-electric”

## Collaborators



# Conclusions and outlook

- CASPER-gradient low field
  - Probe  $g_{aNN}$  in mass range  $5 \cdot 10^{-12} - 5 \cdot 10^{-9}$  eV
  - First test measurements on thermal proton spins underway
  - Polarization of 11(3) % achieved for  $^{129}\text{Xe}$
  - Connection of  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  to cryostat under construction
- CASPER-gradient high field
  - Probe  $g_{aNN}$  in mass range  $10^{-9} - 10^{-6}$  eV
  - Magnet expected Christmas 2021
- Probe design considerations
  - Goal: reach spin projection noise limit
  - Suppress backaction!



D. Aybas *et al*, Quantum sensitivity limits of nuclear magnetic resonance experiments searching for new fundamental physics, Quantum Science and Technology, Focus on Quantum Sensors for New-Physics Discoveries (2021)

