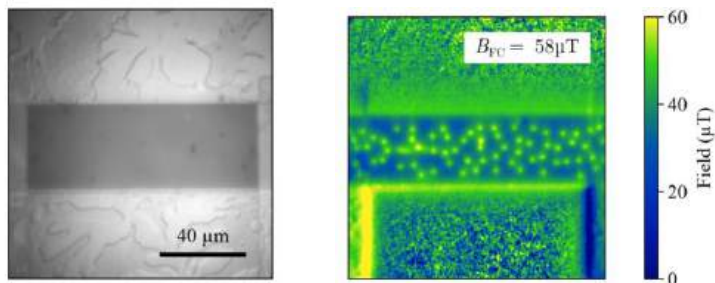


# Wide-field quantitative imaging of superconducting vortices using diamond quantum sensors

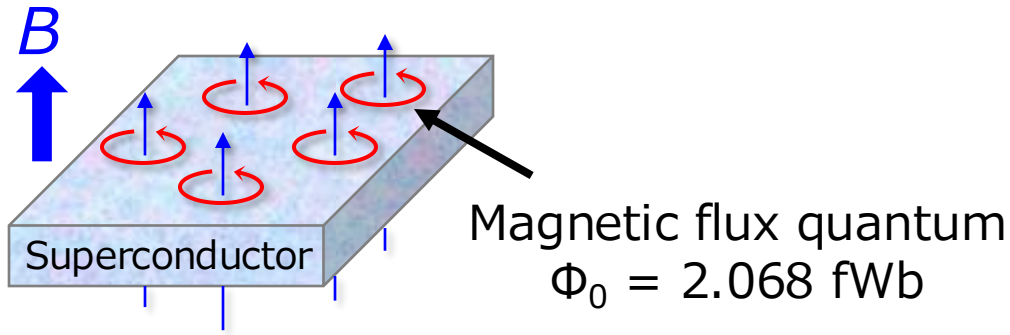
Related work: S. Nishimura, KS et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **123**, 112603 (2023).



Kento Sasaki

*Department of Physics, The University of Tokyo*

- Background
  - Vortex imaging techniques
- Diamond quantum sensing
  - Color centers in diamond
  - Principles
- Our techniques and recent results
  - Experimental setup
  - Quantitative visualization of vortices
- Summary & Outlook
- Acknowledgement

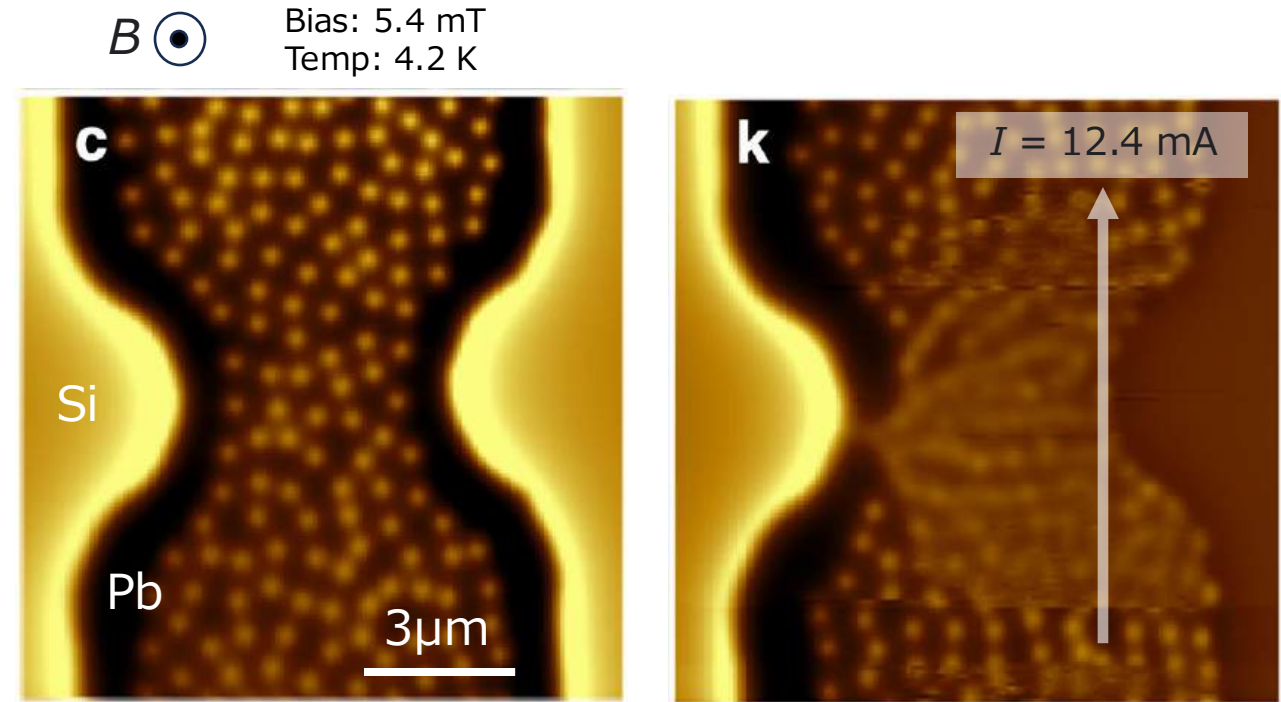


## Superconducting vortices

- ✓ Fundamental
- ✓ Reproducible

## Influences on IV characteristic

- ✓ Resistance M. Tinkham "introduction to superconductivity" (1973).
- ✓ Diode effect A. Gutfreund *et al.*, **14**, 1630 (2023).



Vortices in Pb wire (Scanning SQUID)

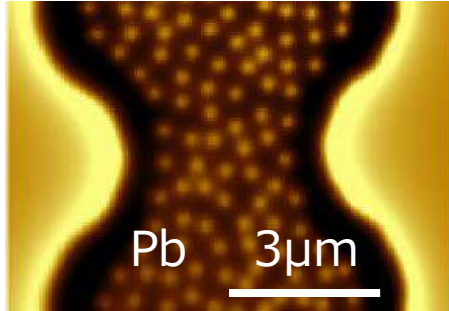
Weizmann Institute / Zeldov group  
L. Embon *et al.*, Nat. Comm. **8**, 85 (2017).

# Various imaging techniques

Other techniques are found in a review on conventional methods: S. J. Bending, Adv. Phys. **48**, 449 (1999).

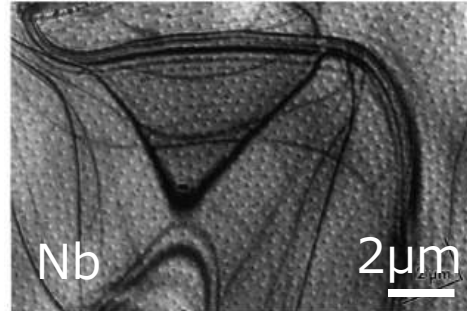
High resolution & Quantitative

Scanning SQUID



L. Embon *et al.*,  
Nat. Comm. **8**, 85 (2017).

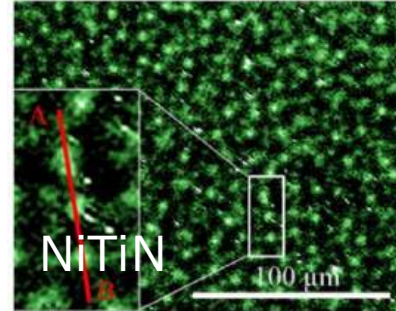
Electron microscope



K. Harada *et al.*,  
Nature **360**, 51 (1992).

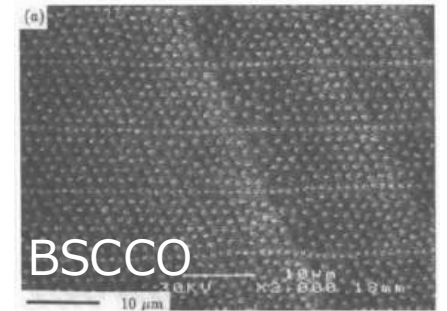
Wide-field

Magneto-optical imaging



Y. Tsuchiya *et al.*,  
Phys. C. Supercond. **470**, 1123 (2010).

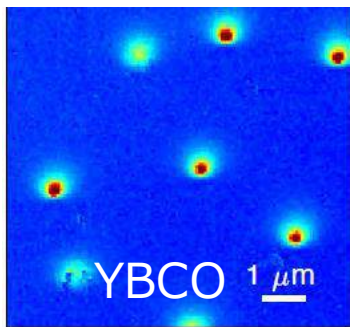
Bitter decoration



I. V. Grigorieva,  
Supercond. Sci. Technol. **7**, 161 (1994).

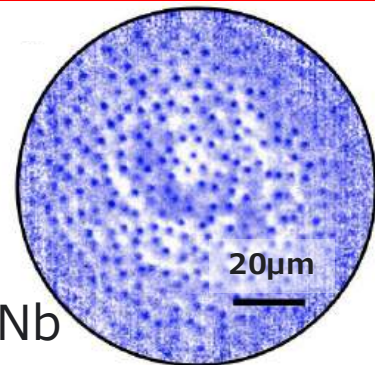
Diamond quantum sensors

Quantitative & High resolution or Wide-field/Versatile



Scanning type

V. Acosta *et al.*,  
J. Super. Nov. Magn. **32**, 85 (2018).



Wide-field type

S. E. Lillie *et al.*,  
Nano Lett. **20**, 1855 (2020).

This presentation

- Principles of diamond sensor
- Our wide-field technique
- Recent results on cuprate thin film

- Background
  - Vortex imaging techniques
- **Diamond quantum sensing**
  - **Color centers in diamond**
  - Principles
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H4

NV

GR1



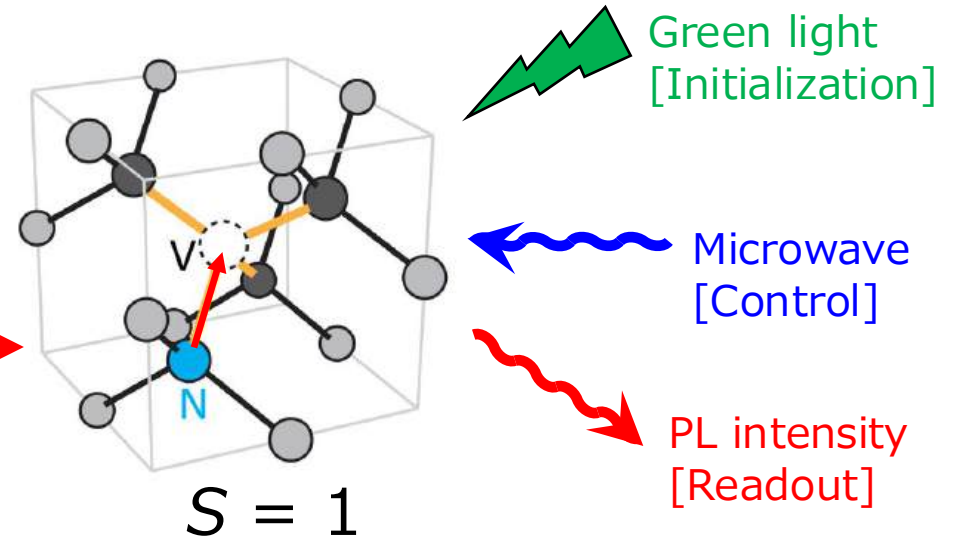
Boron-related

Nitrogen donor

Vacancy cluster

More than a hundred...

J. E. Shigley and C. M. Breeding, *Gems & Gemology* **42**, 107 (2013).



## Nitrogen-vacancy (NV) center

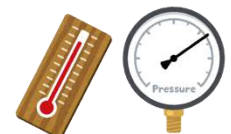
- ✓ Electron spin  $S = 1$
- ✓ Long spin lifetime even at RT ( $\sim 1\text{ms}$ )
- ✓ Optical / Microwave control

## Zeeman splitting



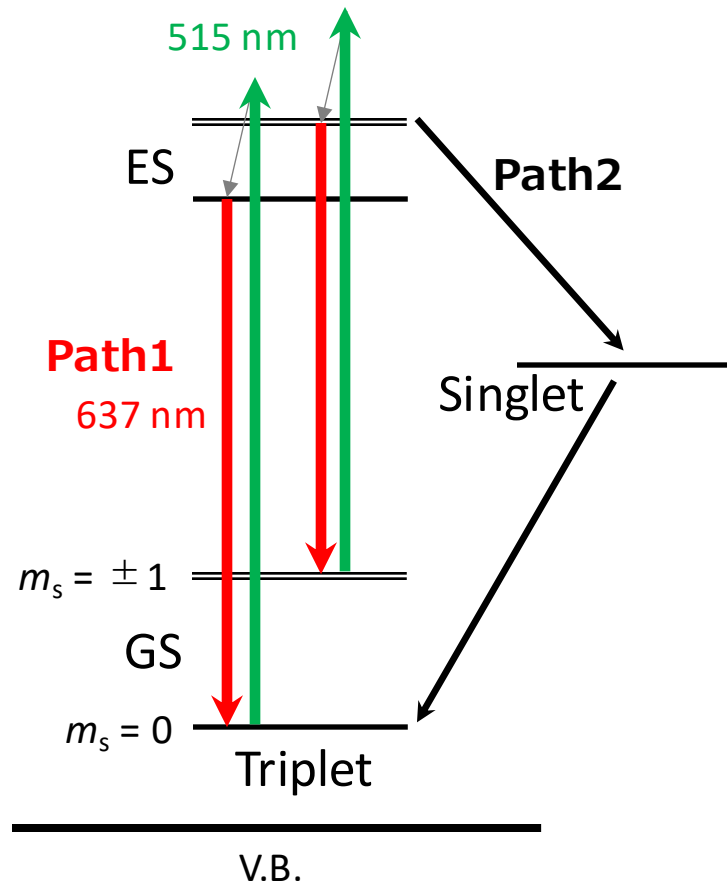
J. M. Taylor *et al.*, *Nat. Phys.* **4**, 810 (2008).

## Lattice expansion



V. M. Acosta *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **104**, 070801 (2011).

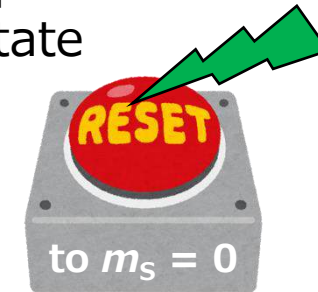
C.B. ( $E_g = 5.47 \text{ eV} = 227 \text{ nm}$ )



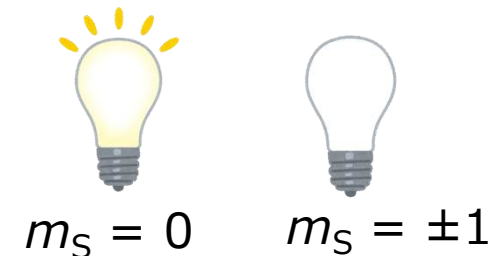
**Path1:** Photoluminescence, spin conservation

**Path2:** No luminescence,  $m_S = \pm 1 \rightarrow m_S = 0$

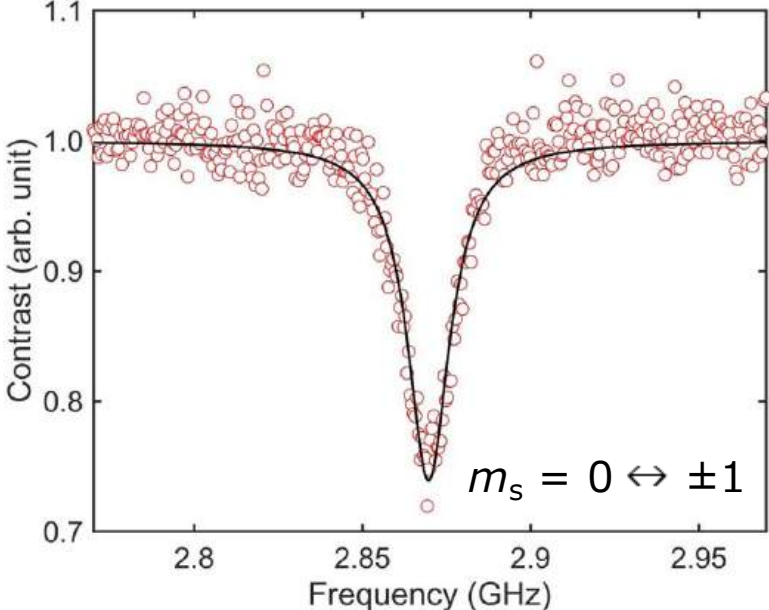
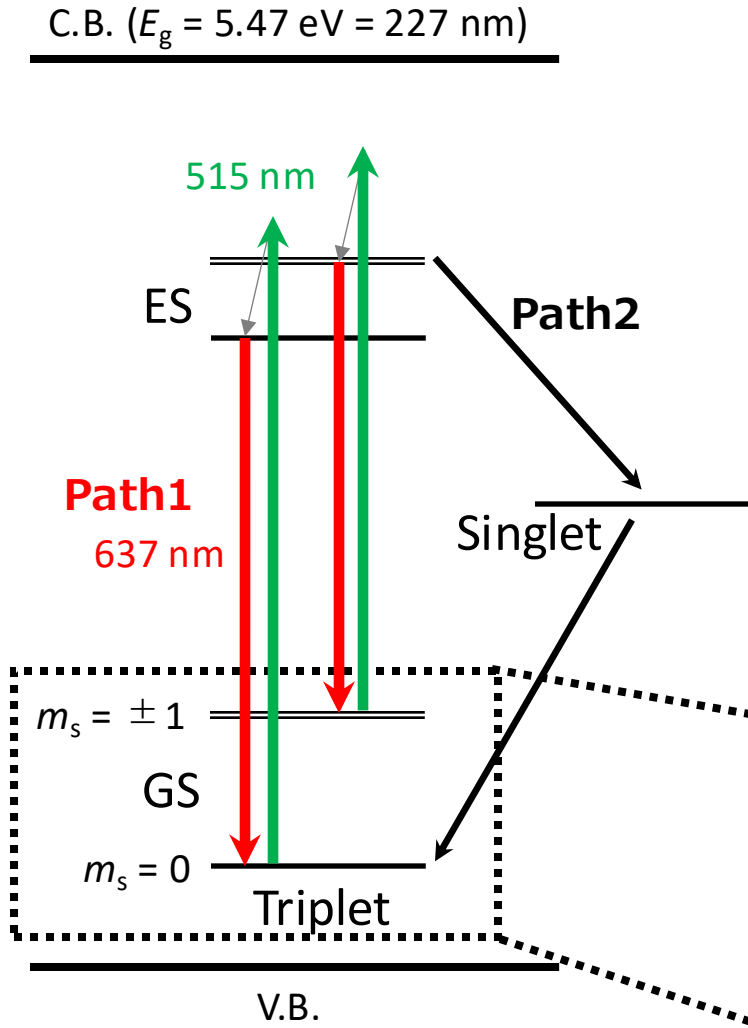
- ✓ Continuous excitation polarizes the NV center to  $m_S = 0$  state  
→ **Initialization**



- ✓  $m_S = \pm 1$  state has less intensity due to the non-radiative transition  
→ **Readout**



# Optically detected magnetic resonance (ODMR)

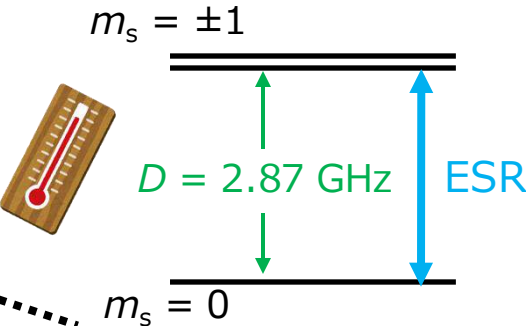


ODMR spectrum

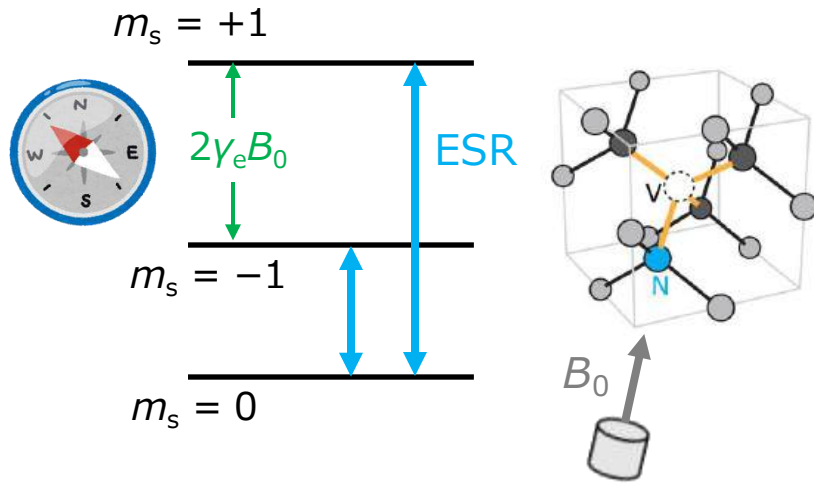
**Zero-field splitting  
(dipole interaction)**

$$\hat{H} = D \hat{S}_Z^2$$

$dD/dT \sim -74 \text{ kHz/Kelvin}$





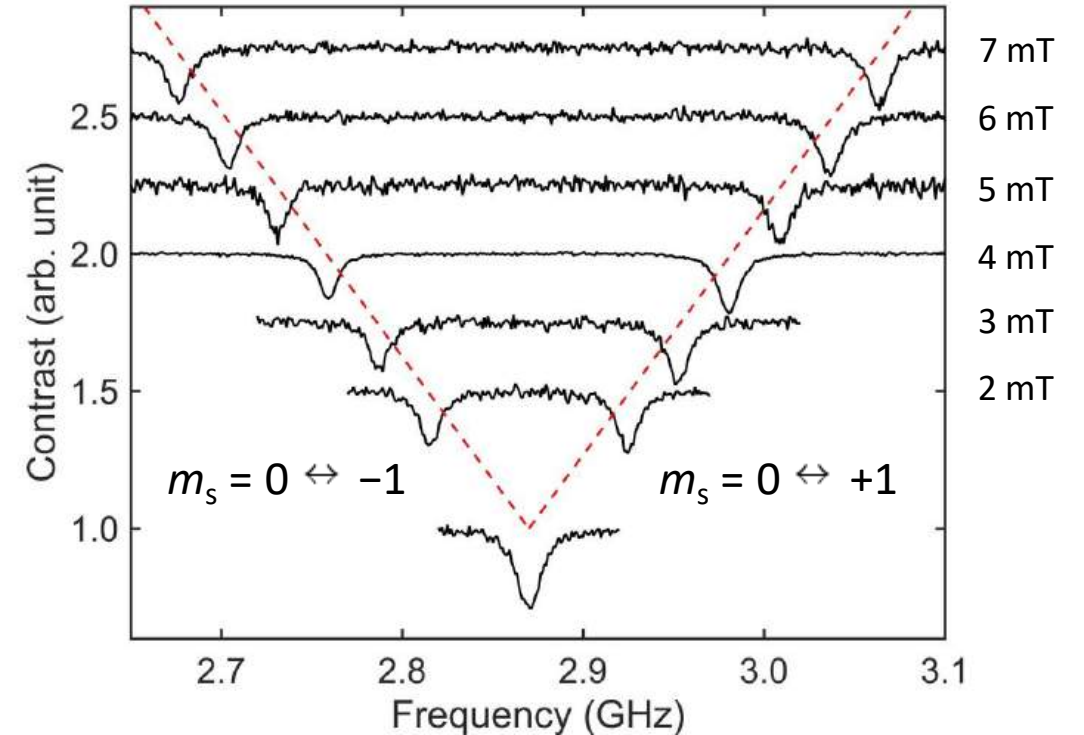


## Zeeman splitting

$$\hat{H} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + \gamma_e B_0 \hat{S}_z$$

Gyromagnetic ratio  $\gamma_e = 28.035 \pm 0.002$  GHz/T

Free electron + 0.03%  $\pm$  0.01%



Magnetic field dependence

Quantitative!

Spectral overlap is avoided with perfectly aligned NV ensemble

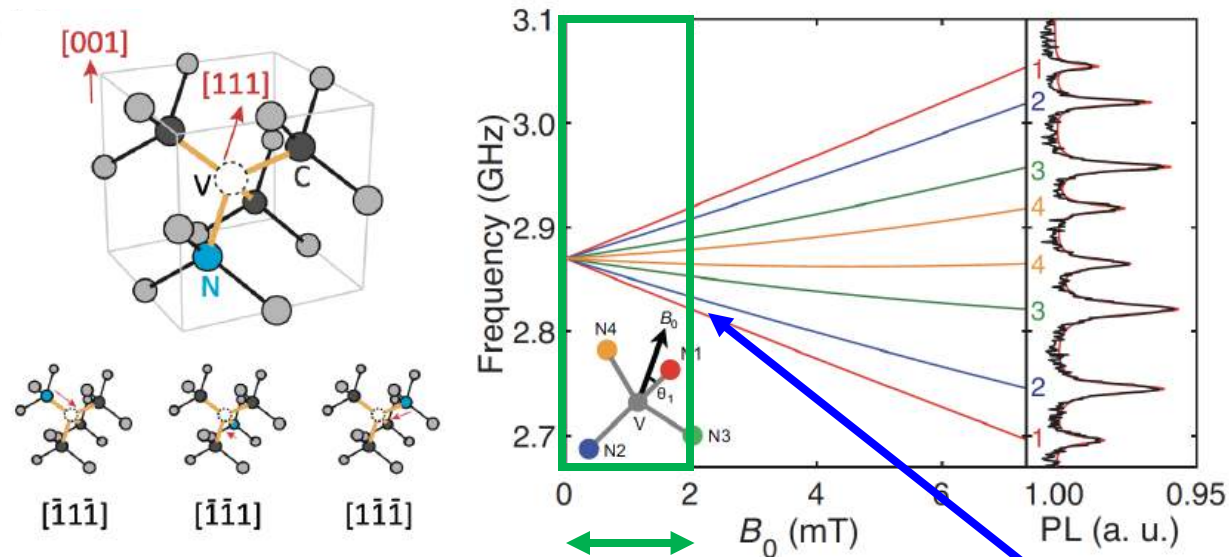
→ Magnetic field can be quantitatively estimated at low magnetic fields

Conventional NV ensemble

Our case: Perfectly aligned NV ensemble

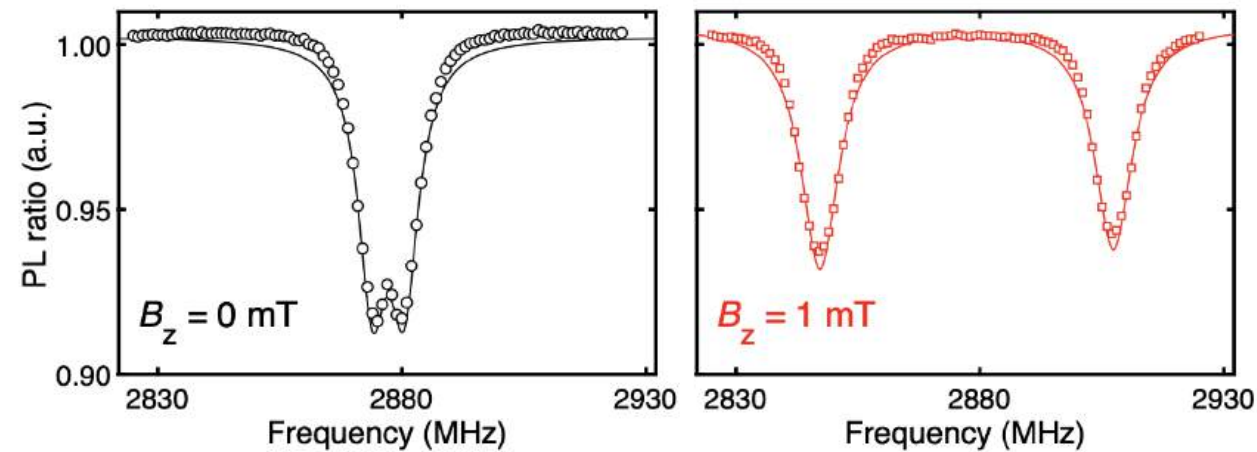
CVD growth on (111) substrate

Miyazaki APL 105, 261601 (2014); Tahara APL 107, 193110 (2015);  
Ishiwata APL 111, 043103 (2017); Ozawa APEX 10, 045501 (2017);  
Tsuji Diam. Relat. Mater. 123, 108840 (2022).



Vortex density  $< 1 \mu\text{m}^2$   
( $< 2 \text{ mT}$ )

× Spectral overlap

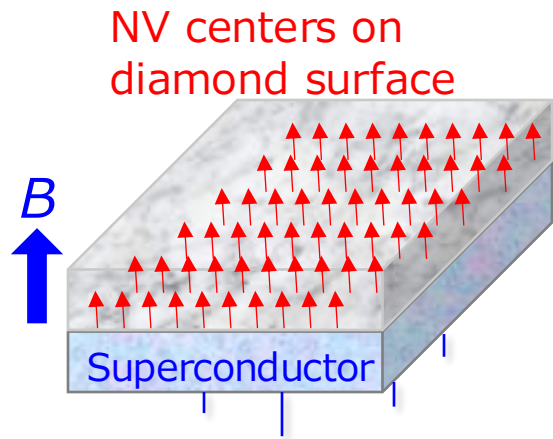


○ Avoiding spectral overlap

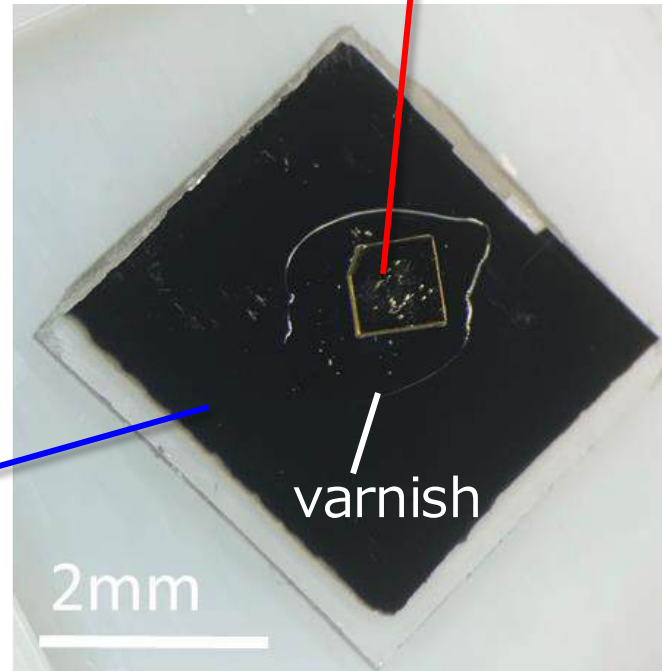
- Background
  - Vortex imaging techniques
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- **Our techniques and recent results**
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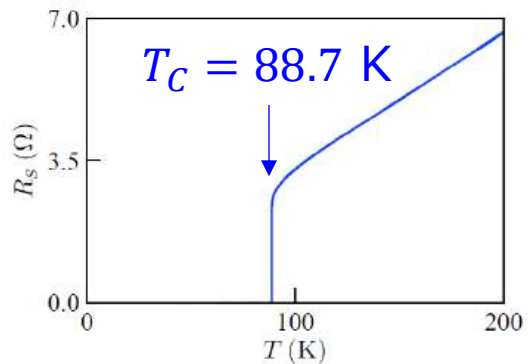
# Experimental setup



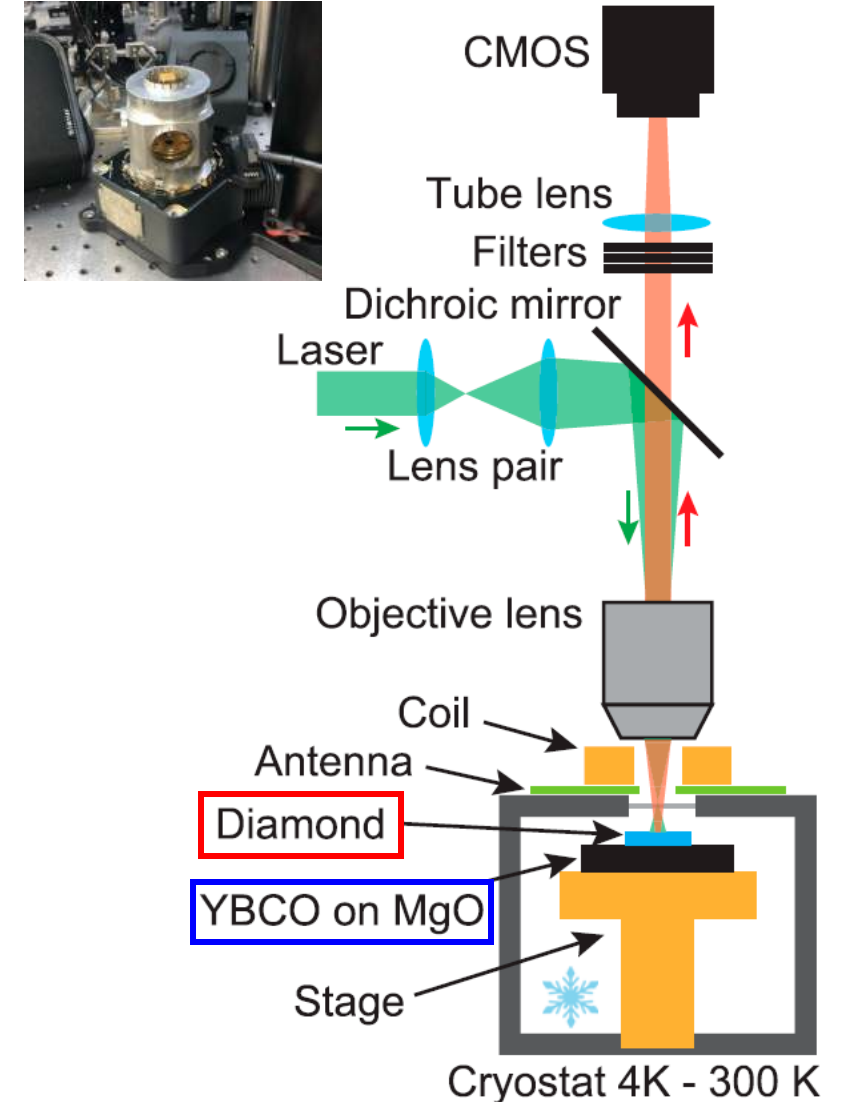
Perfectly aligned NV centers along [111] direction on (111) substrate



YBCO thin film (Ceraco) thickness 250nm

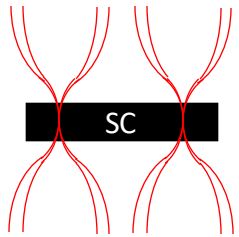


## Optical cryostat

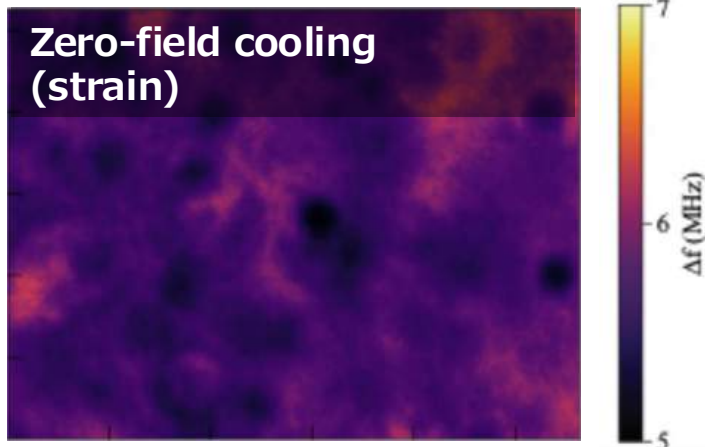
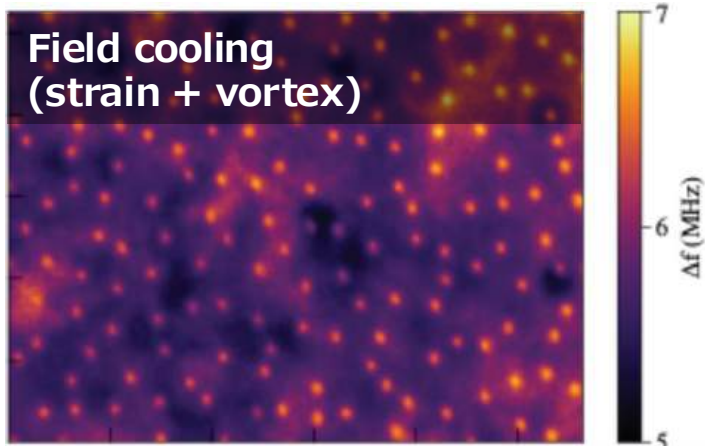


# Quantitative analysis of stray field strength

Obtain  $\Delta f$  map at ZFC and FC

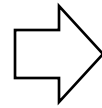


Vortices



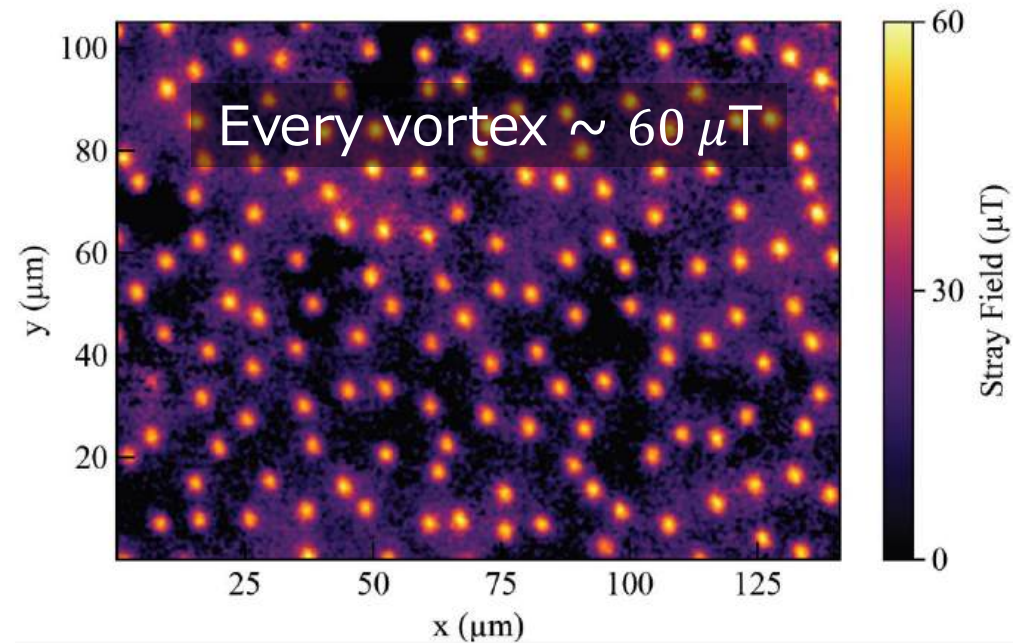
SC

No vortex



Position-dependent strain subtracted

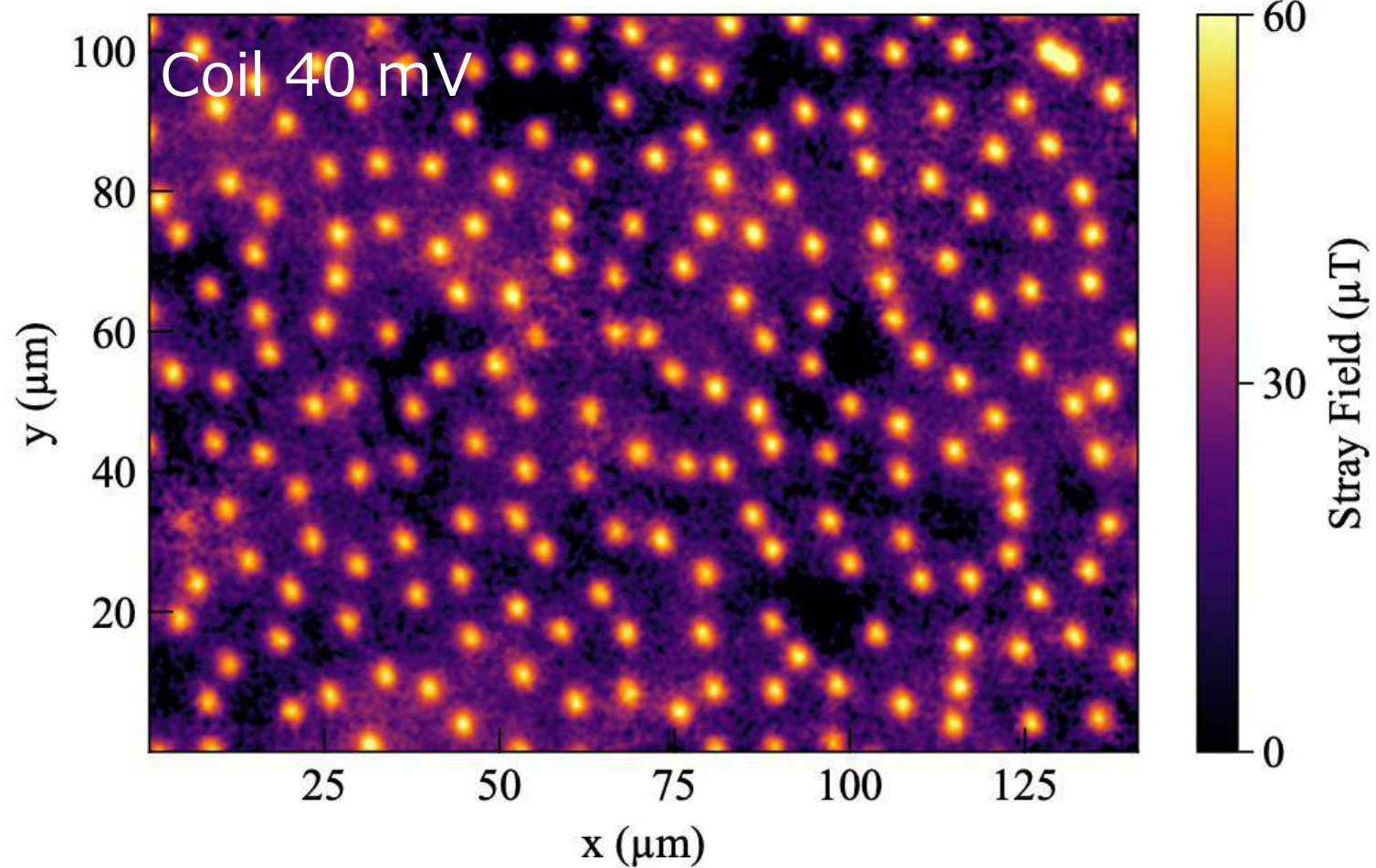
$$B_z = \sqrt{(\Delta f/2)^2 - E^2/\gamma_e}$$



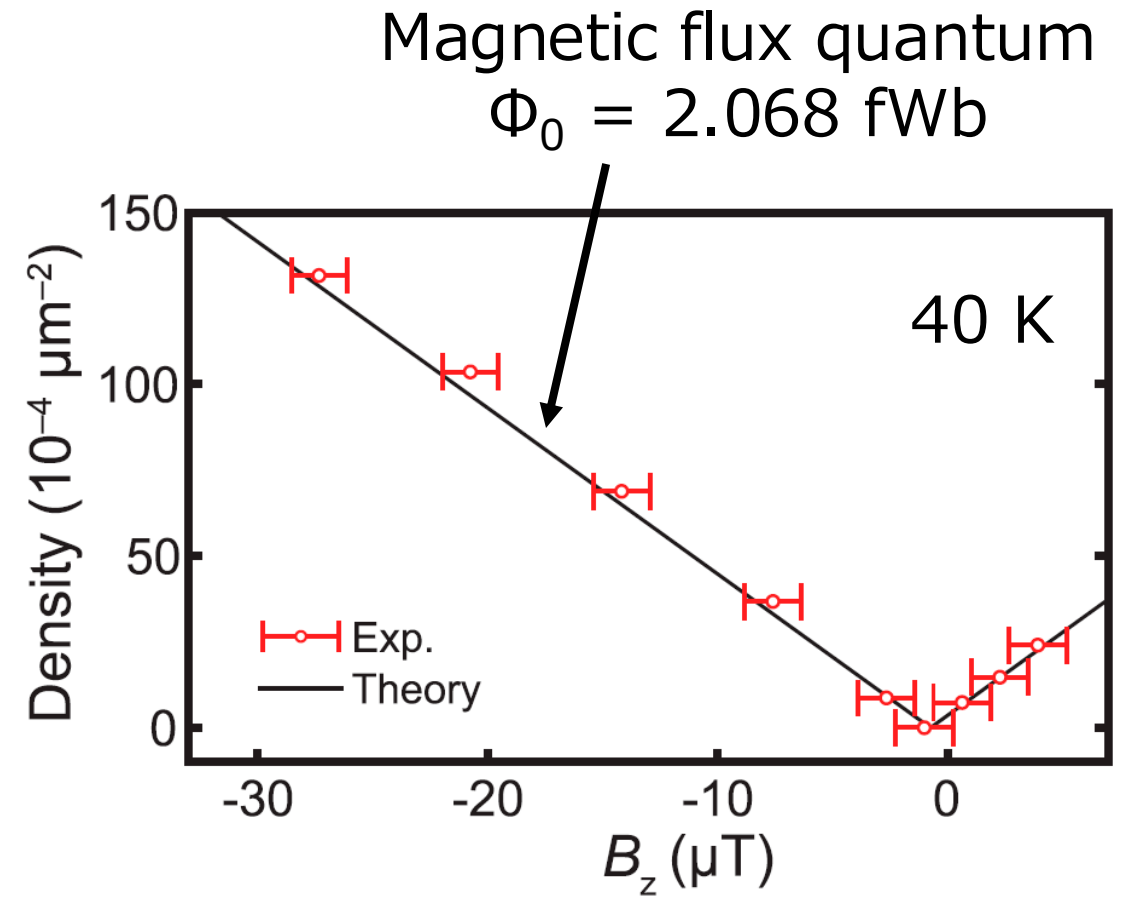
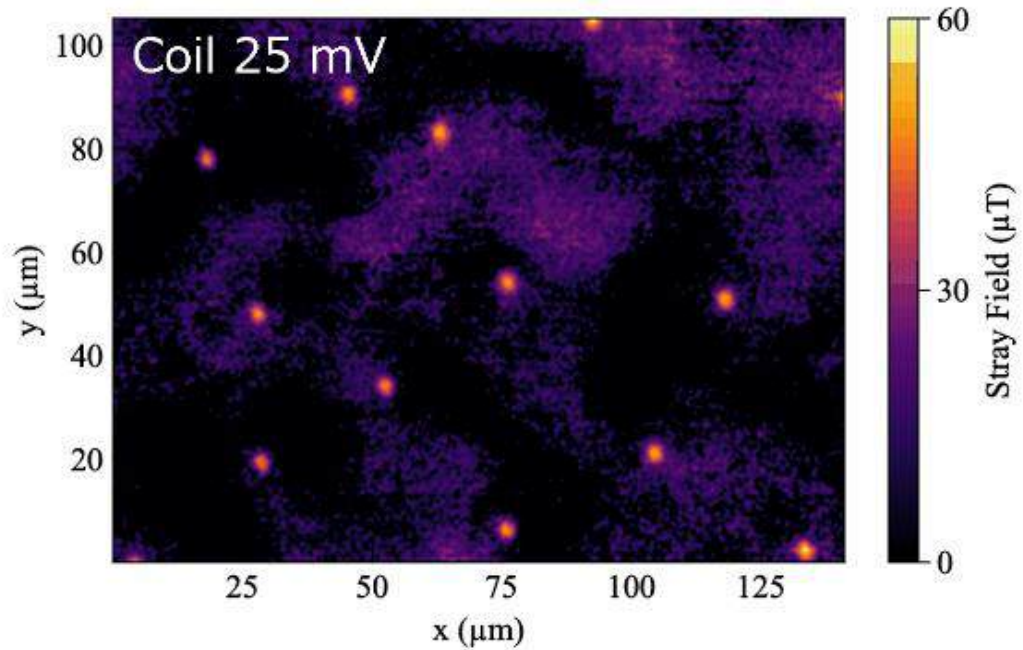


# Visualization of vortices

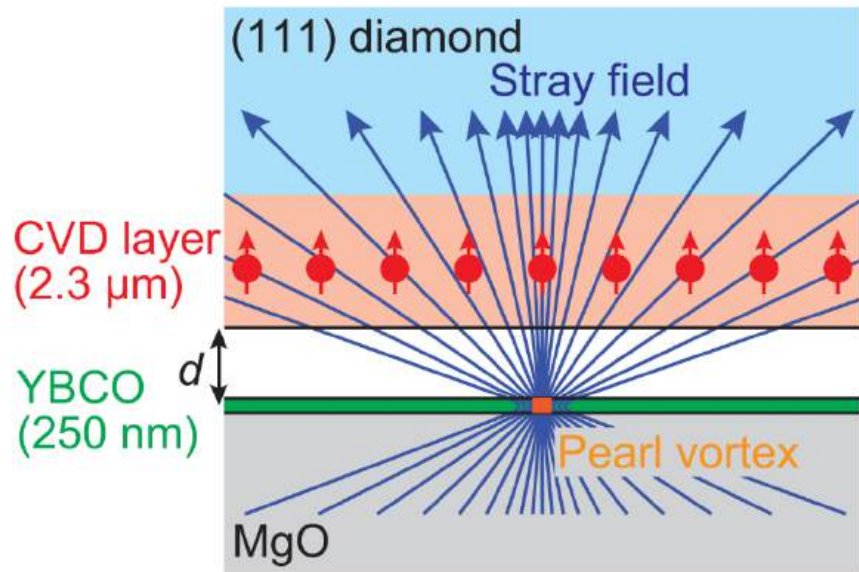
Cool down in  $B$ -field from above  $T_C$  to below  $T_C$ .



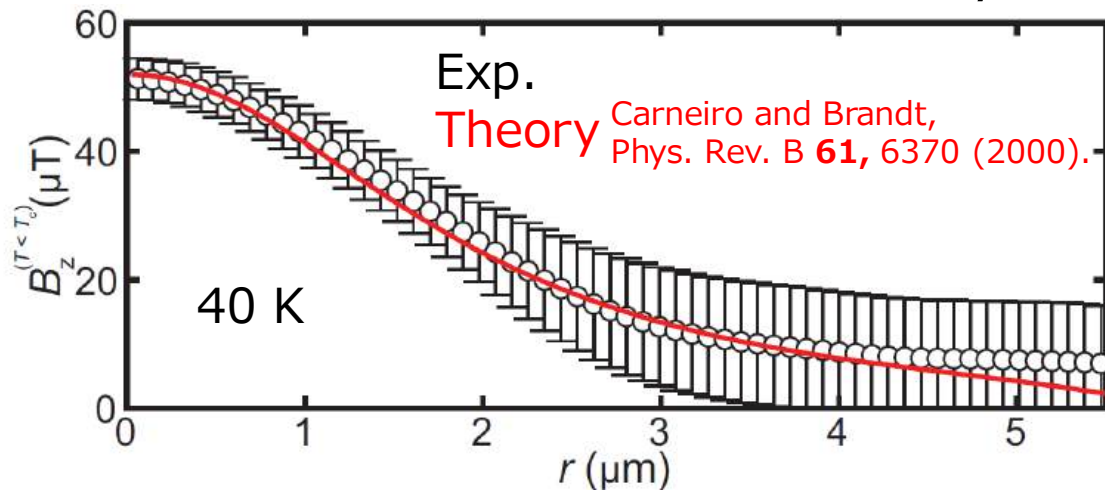


Vortex density  $\propto$  Magnetic field

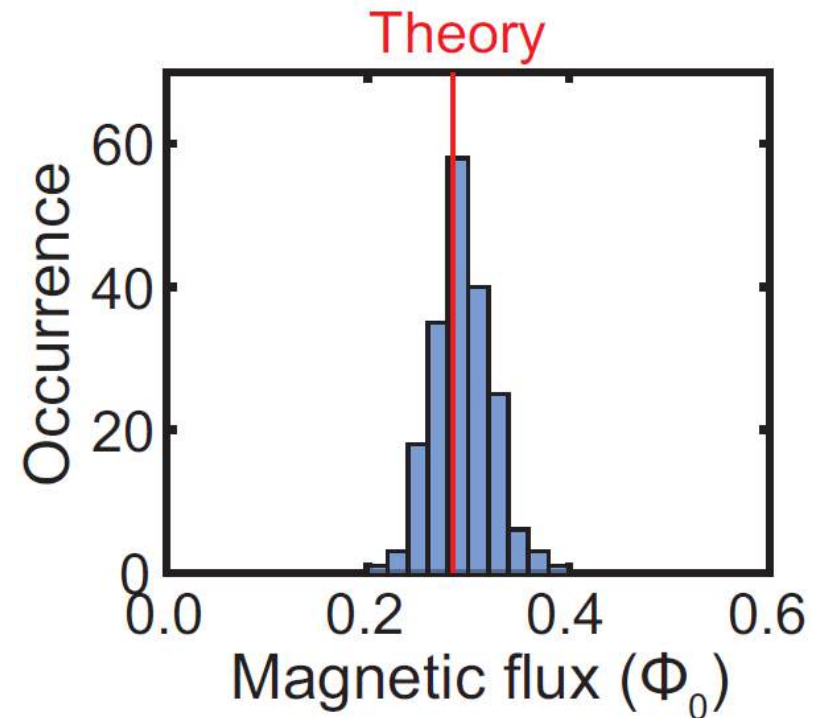
# Estimation of quantitativity



\*190 vortices analyzed

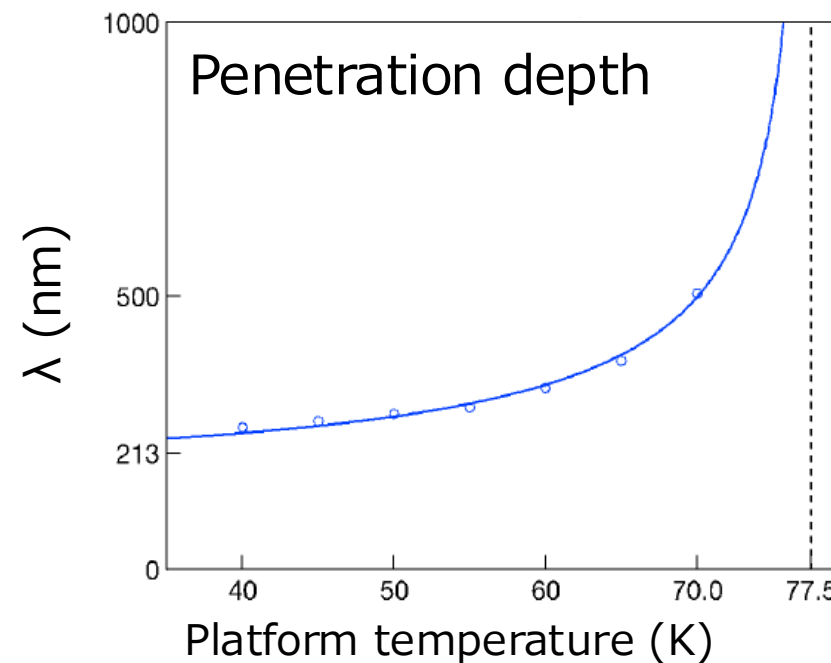
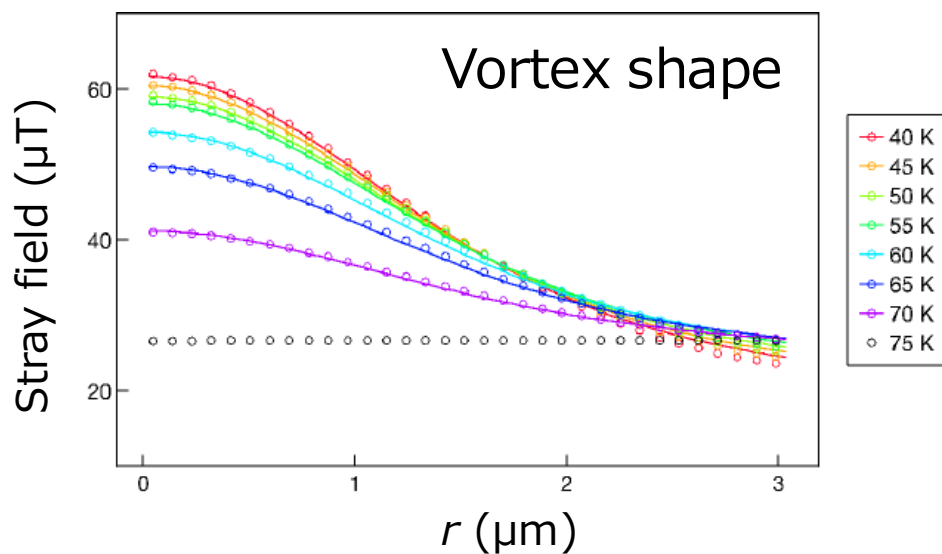
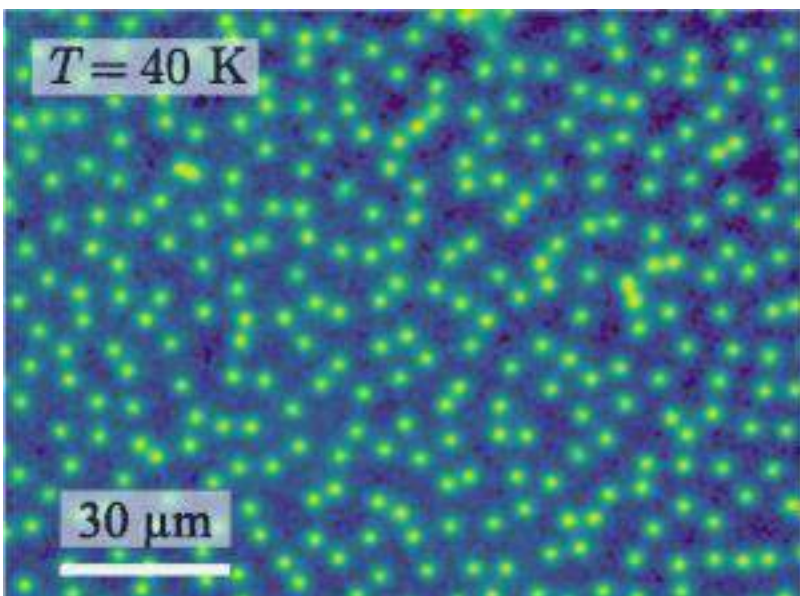


Within  $\pm 10\%$  accuracy



Technique to address half-integer quantization

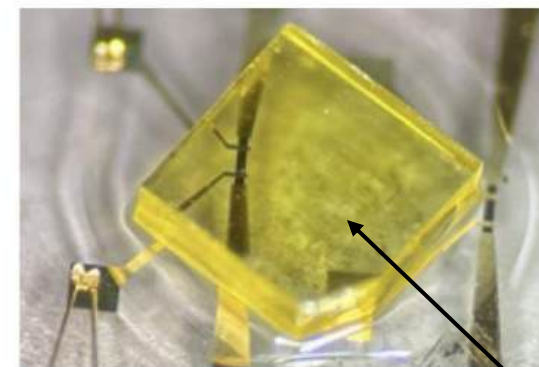
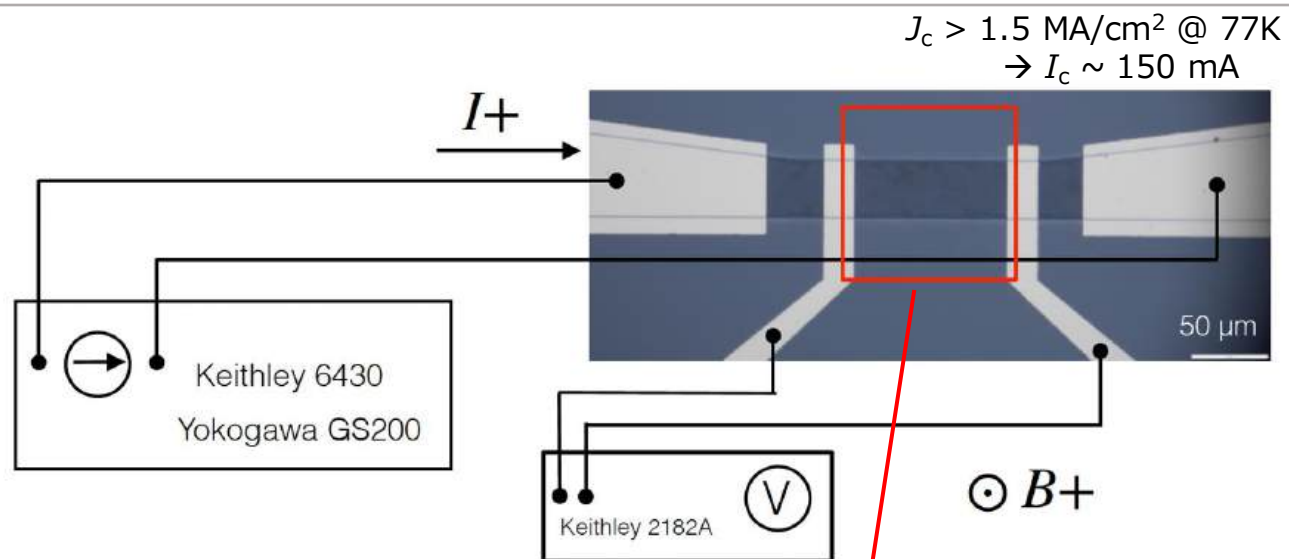
# Temperature dependence



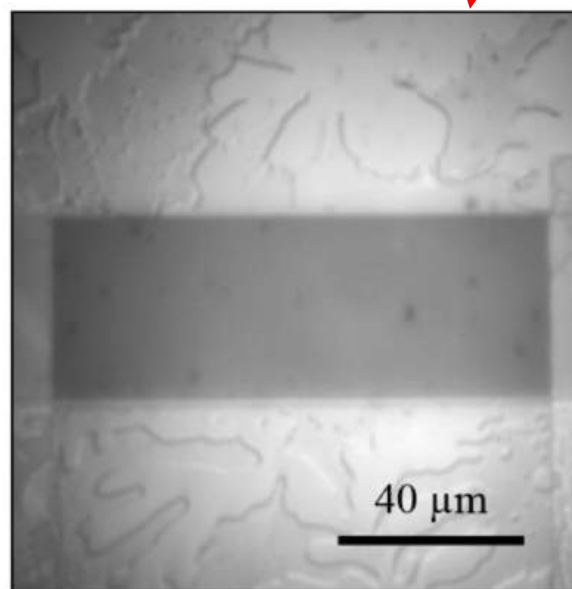
$$\lambda(T) = \left( \frac{m}{\mu_0 n_s e^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\lambda(0)}{\sqrt{1 - (T/T_c')^2}}$$

M. Prohammer and J. P. Carrott, Phys. Rev. B **43**, 5370 (1991).

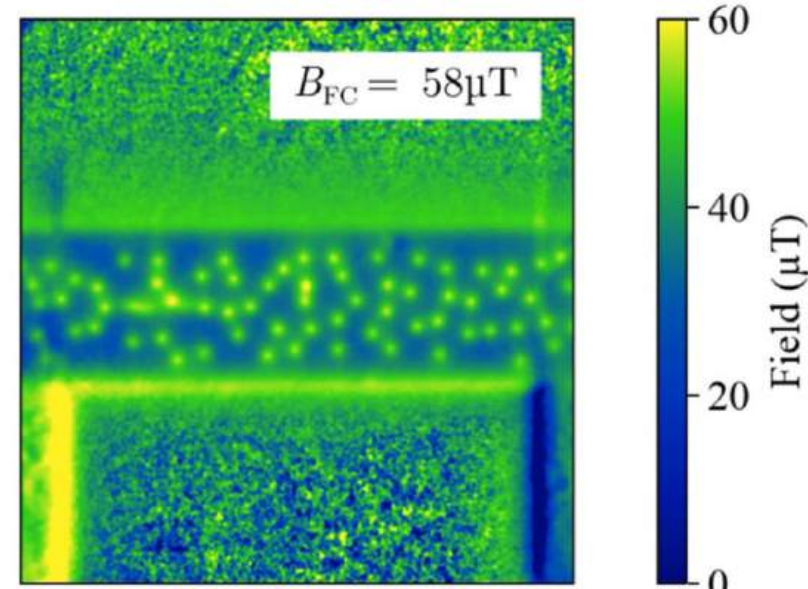
# Imaging of YBCO wire



Diamond



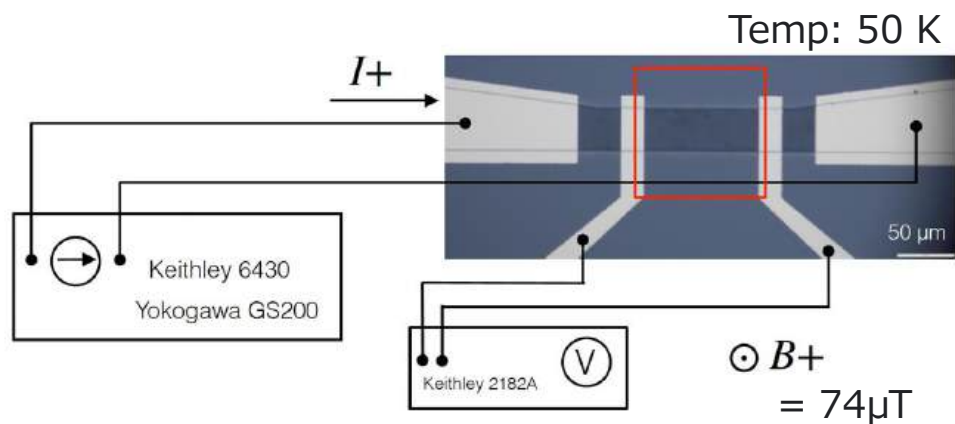
Optical image



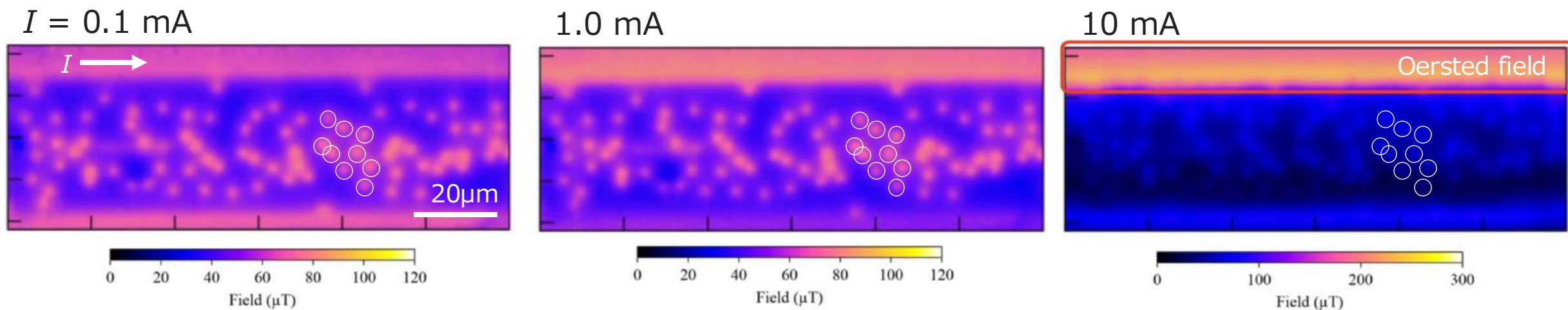
Magnetic image



# Current bias after field cooling



We observed vortex pinning!



## Summary

- Perfectly aligned NV ensembles successfully visualizes the superconducting vortices
- Statistical analysis on 190 vortices supports 10% accuracy of our technique
- We could observe vortex pinning in YBCO wire at 50 K

## Outlook

- Apply this technique on various materials & device structures
  - > Field cooling under current bias, Temperature dependence, etc.
  - > Josephson junction
  - > Pristine superconductors (ex. NbN single crystal)
  - > Candidates of topological superconductors (ex. FeSe)
- Enhance precision, accuracy, FOV
  - > Diamond sample ( $^{12}\text{C}$  enrichment, low strain/less NV centers, high quality substrate...)
  - > Camera (Large and low noise CMOS sensor) & Coil (homogeneity, resolution, stability)





Group photo (2024)

Collaborators  
Sci. Tokyo : **T. Tsuji**, T. Iwasaki, M. Hatano



Diamond Growth

Staff:  
K. Kobayashi (PI)  
K. Sasaki

D3: K. Ogawa  
M. Tsukamoto

D2: Y. Nakamura  
**S. Nishimura**

D1: H. Gu  
K. Yamamoto

M2: T. Kobayashi  
R. Suda

M1: R. Harada

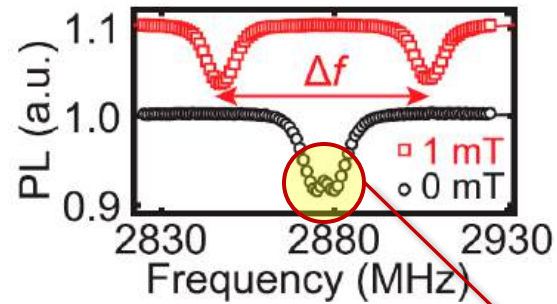
Alumni: D. Sasaki



ODMR Meas.  
Analysis



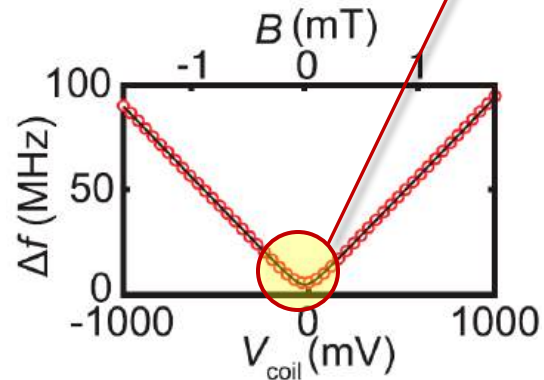
## 1. Obtain ODMR spectra



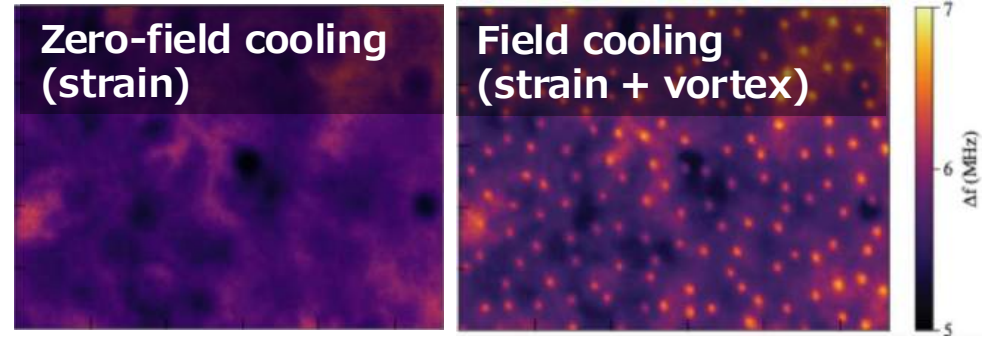
$$\mathcal{H} = DS_z^2 + \gamma B_z S_z + E (S_x^2 - S_y^2)$$

Strain

## 2. B-field calibration



## 3. Obtain $\Delta f$ map at ZFC and FC



## 4. Position-dependent strain subtracted

$$B_z = \sqrt{(\Delta f/2)^2 - E^2/\gamma}$$

## 5. B field calculated at each pixel

