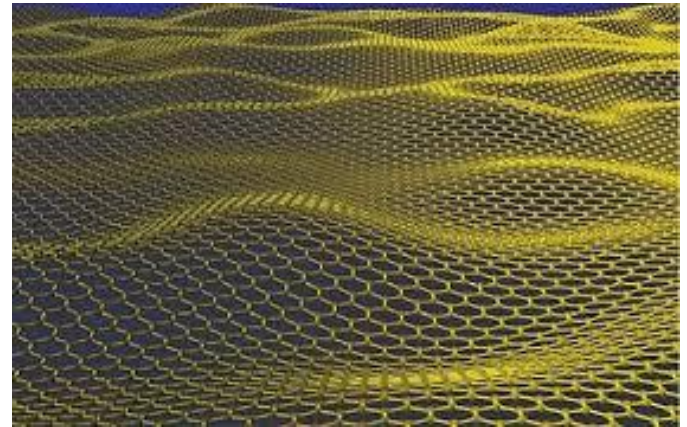
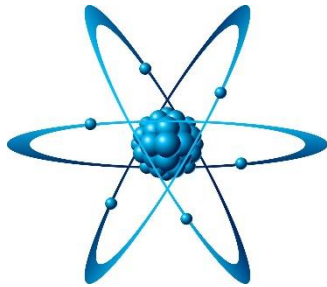


# Towards macroscopic superposition of quantum states: atoms and nano-drums

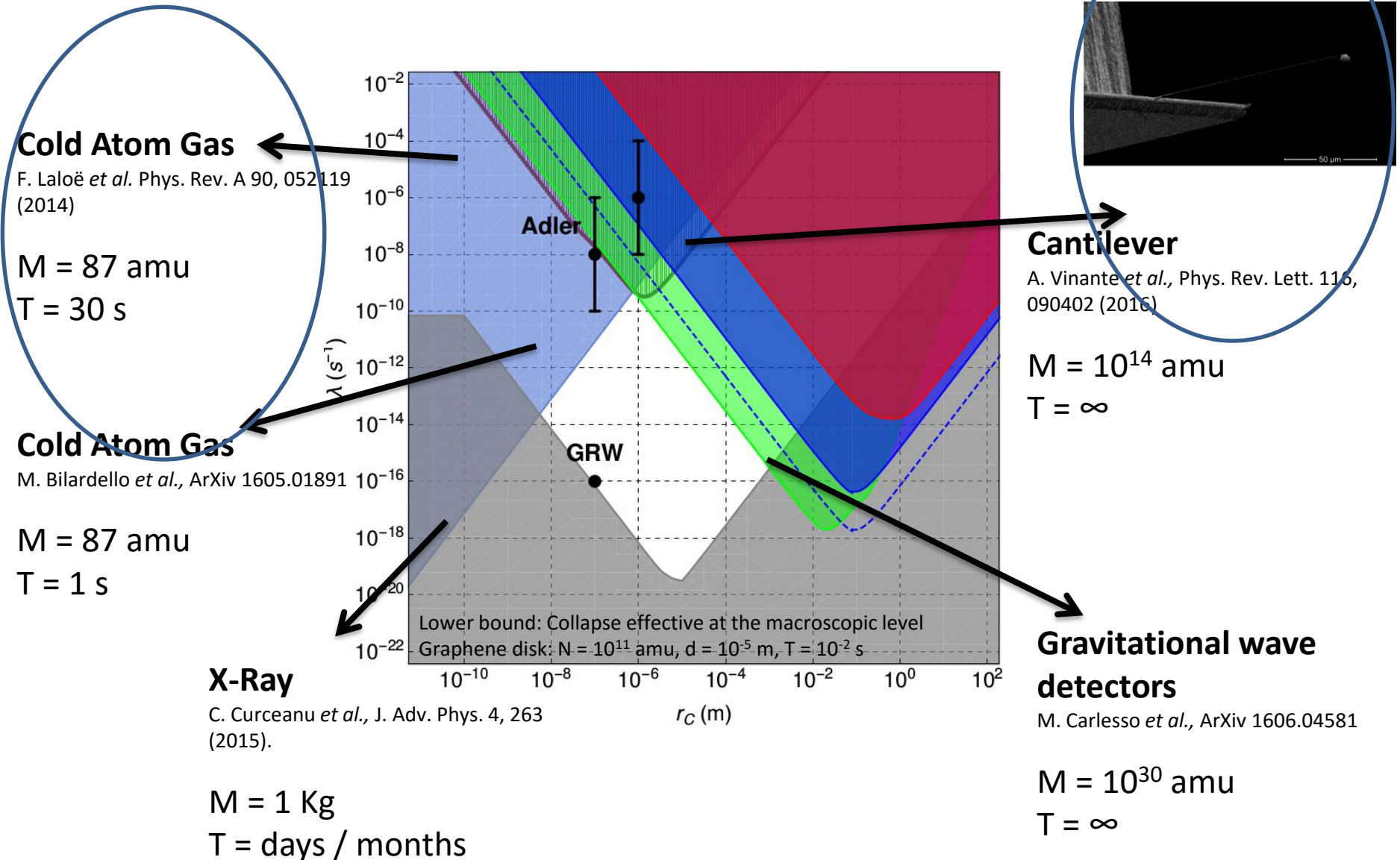


Saikat Ghosh, IIT-Kanpur

Fundamental Problems of Quantum Physics

ICTS, Bangalore

# Non-Interferometric Experiments



# Towards macroscopic superposition of quantum states: atoms and nano-drums

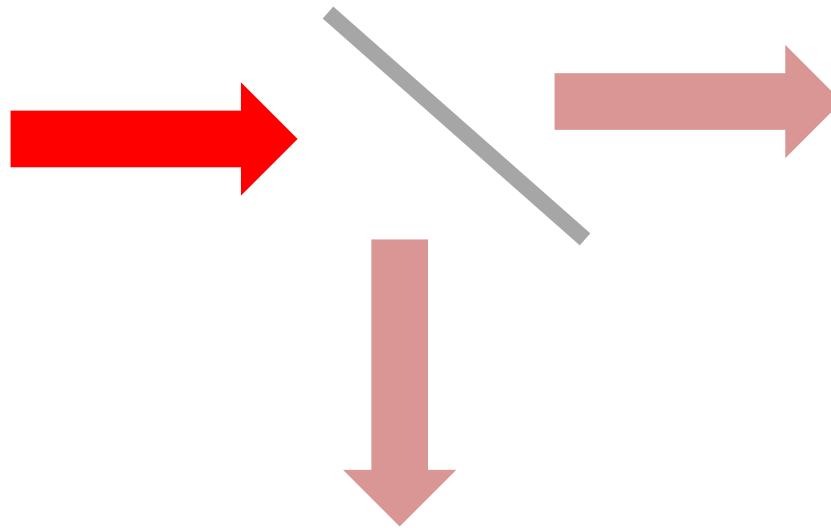
$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{|N\rangle|0\rangle + e^{iN\varphi}|0\rangle|N\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Saikat Ghosh, IIT-Kanpur

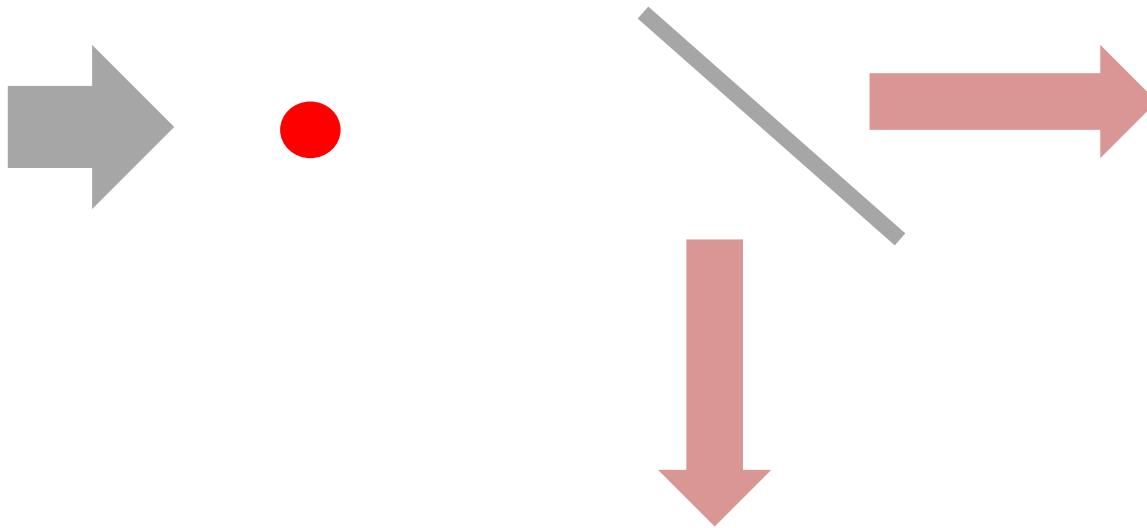
Fundamental Problems of Quantum Physics

ICTS, Bangalore

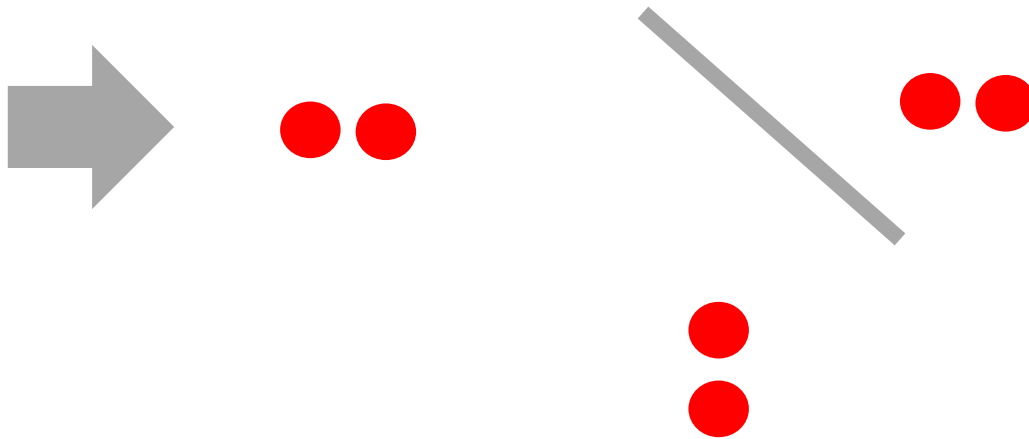
# Quiz 1: A photon and a beam splitter



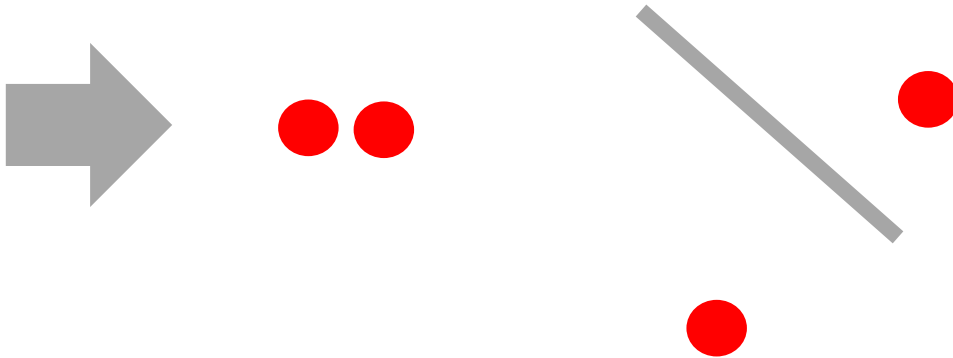
# Quiz 1: A photon and a beam splitter



# Quiz 1: Two photons and a beam splitter

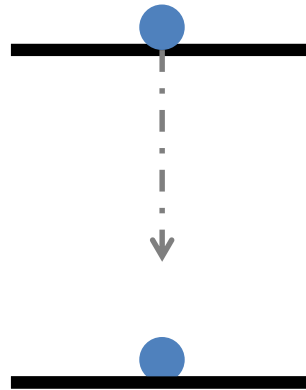


# Quiz 1: Two photons and a beam splitter



The probability of one photon in each port is zero !

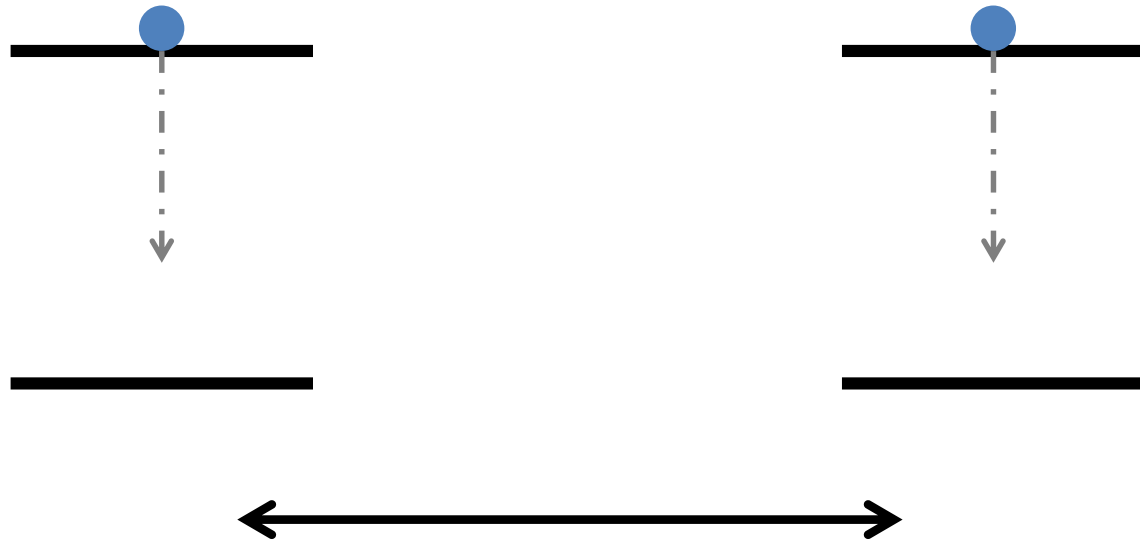
## Quiz 2: An atom decaying from an excited state



An atom in an excited state decays in a time scale  $T$



# Quiz 2: Two atoms decaying from an excited state



$D \gg$  de-Broglie wavelength (say 100 times)

How long does the first atom stay in the excited state?

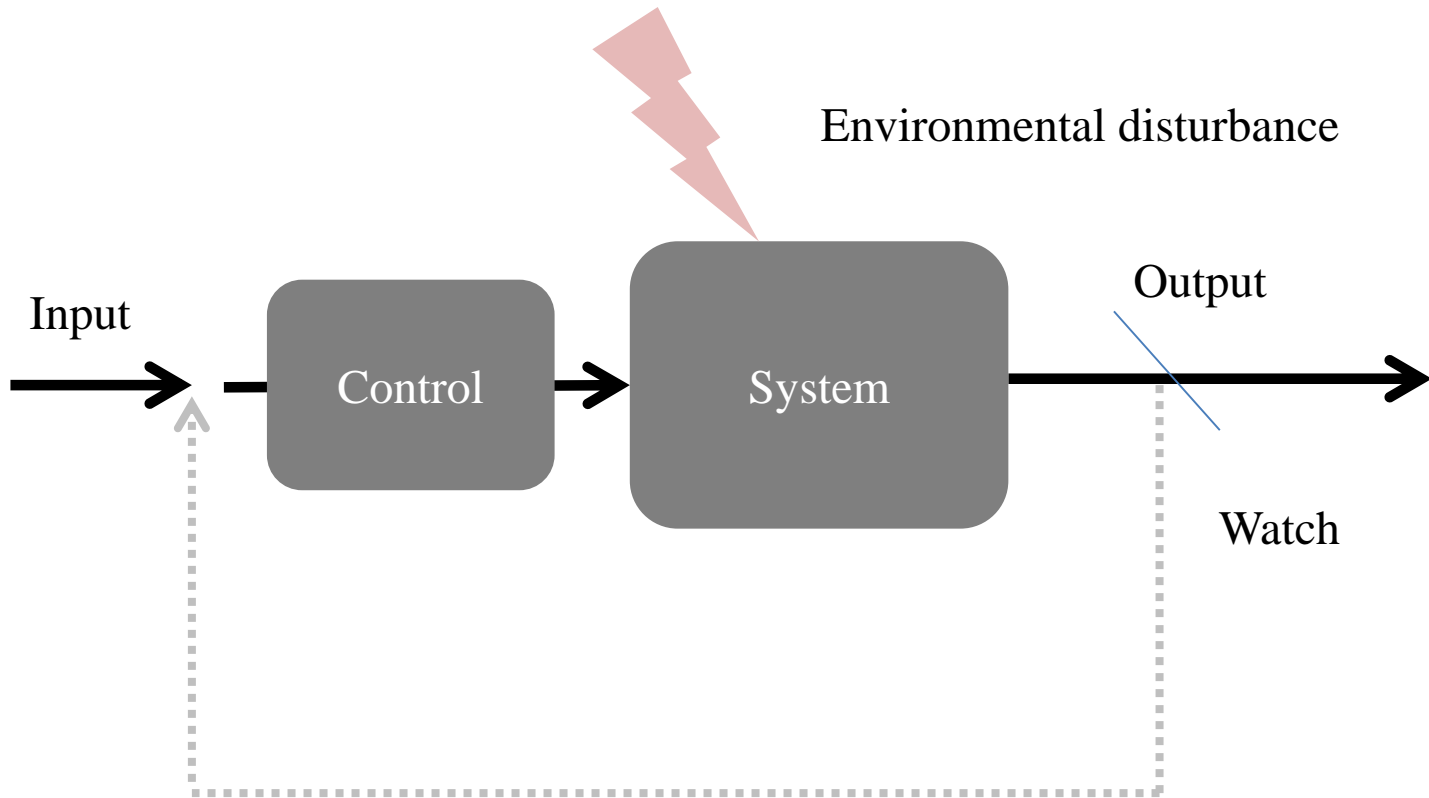
# Outline

Superposition of states in single atoms

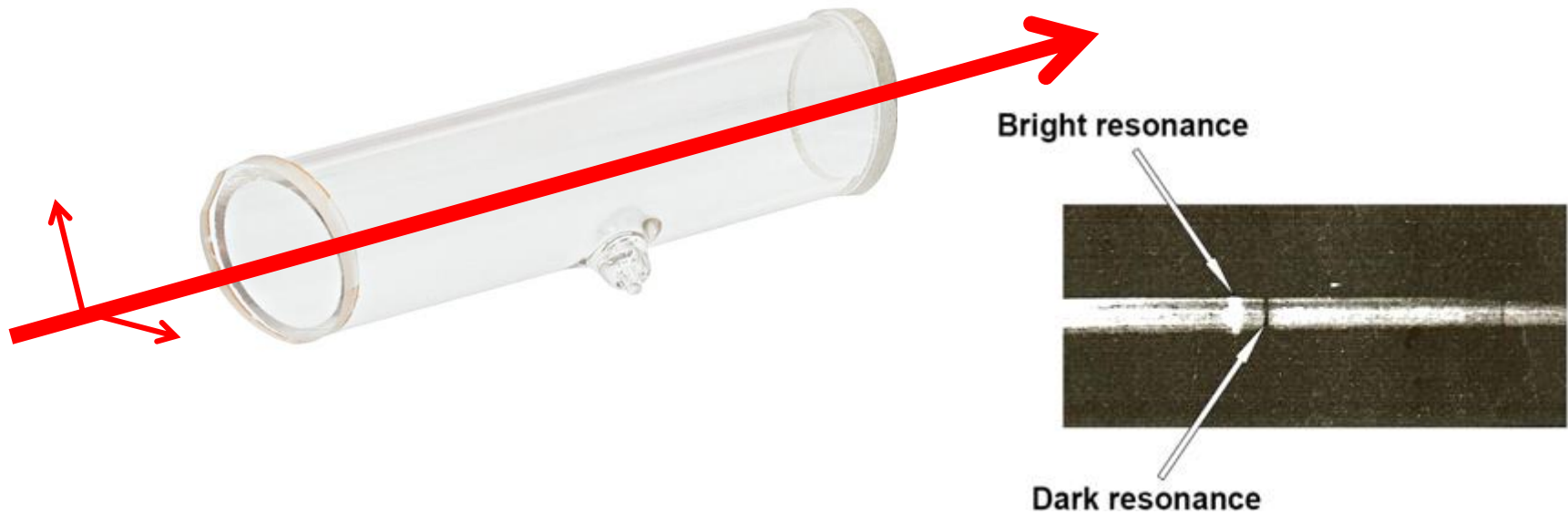
Superposition of states with many atoms: towards macroscopic superpositions

Superposition of states with macroscopic oscillators: graphene nano-drums

# Feedback Control(will not cover here)



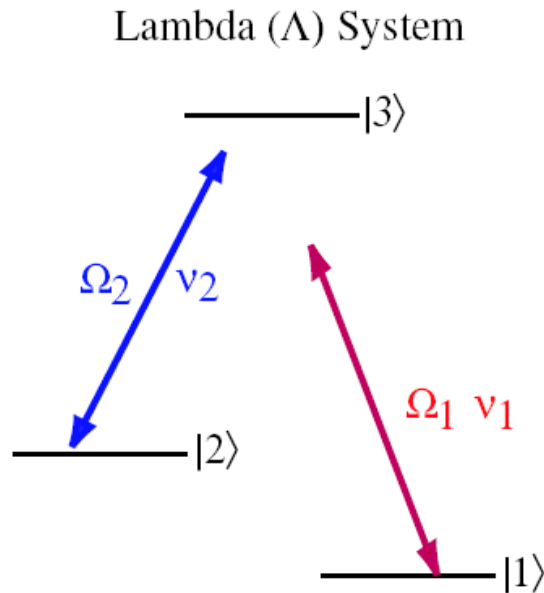
# Dark resonances: A strange observation in 1970's



For polarized light, there were certain spectral lines missing

# Why missing lines?

## Signature of superposition of states

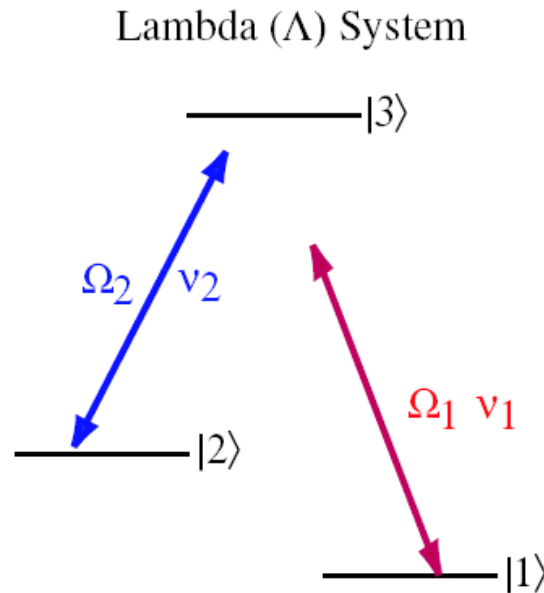


First demonstration in hot atomic vapor, followed by cold atom, single atoms, ions, quantum dots, dye molecules and many more

Hammerer K, Sorensen A S and Polzik E S, Rev. Mod. Phys. 82 1041 (2010)

Reiserer A and Rempe G, Rev. Mod. Phys. 87 1379 (2015)

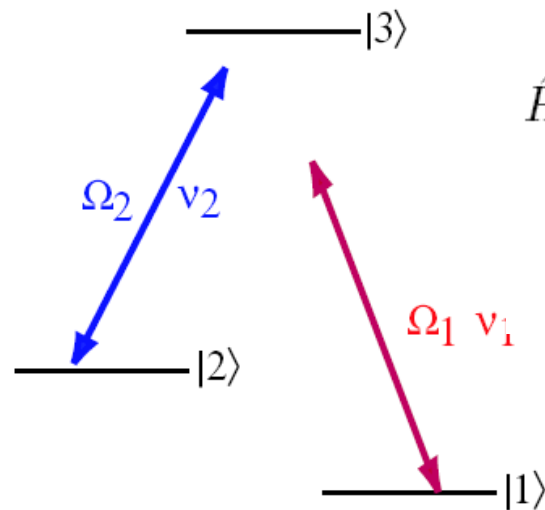
# Signature of quantum superposition: Electromagnetically Induced Transparency (EIT)



$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{i\hbar\gamma_3}{2}|3\rangle\langle 3| - (\Omega_1^*|1\rangle\langle 3| + \Omega_2^*|2\rangle\langle 3| + h.c.)$$

# Electromagnetically Induced Transparency (EIT)

Lambda ( $\Lambda$ ) System



$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} &= -\frac{i\hbar\gamma_3}{2}|3\rangle\langle 3| - (\Omega_1^*|1\rangle\langle 3| + \Omega_2^*|2\rangle\langle 3| + h.c.) \\ &= -\frac{i\hbar\gamma_3}{2}|3\rangle\langle 3| - \underbrace{(\Omega_1^*|1\rangle + \Omega_2^*|2\rangle)}_{|B\rangle}\langle 3| - |3\rangle \underbrace{(\Omega_1\langle 1| + \Omega_2\langle 2|)}_{\langle B|}\end{aligned}$$

$$|D\rangle = \frac{\Omega_2|1\rangle - \Omega_1|2\rangle}{\sqrt{|\Omega_1|^2 + |\Omega_2|^2}}$$

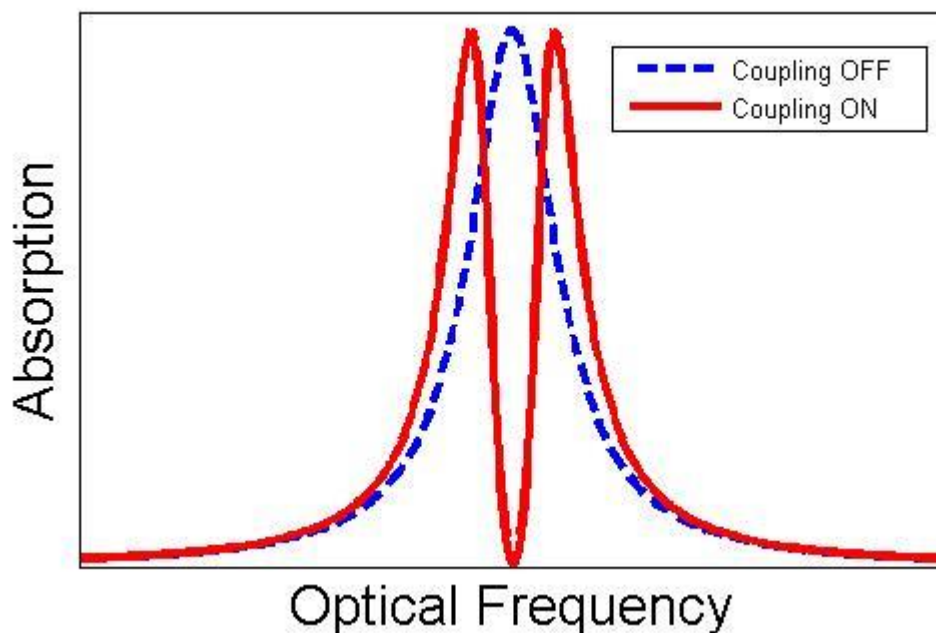
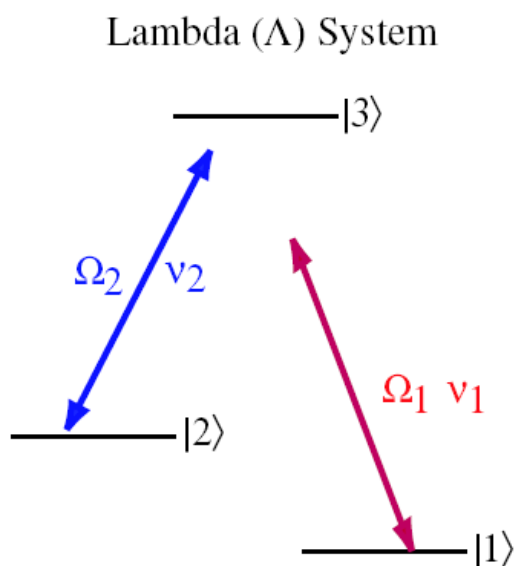
$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}}|D\rangle = 0.$$

The “Dark State” is completely decoupled from the excited state:  
**No spontaneously scattered photons**

*K. J. Boller, A. Imamoglu and S. E. Harris, Phys. Rev. Lett. 66 2593 (1991)*

# Standard experimental signature of superposition

- A transparency window on an absorption profile



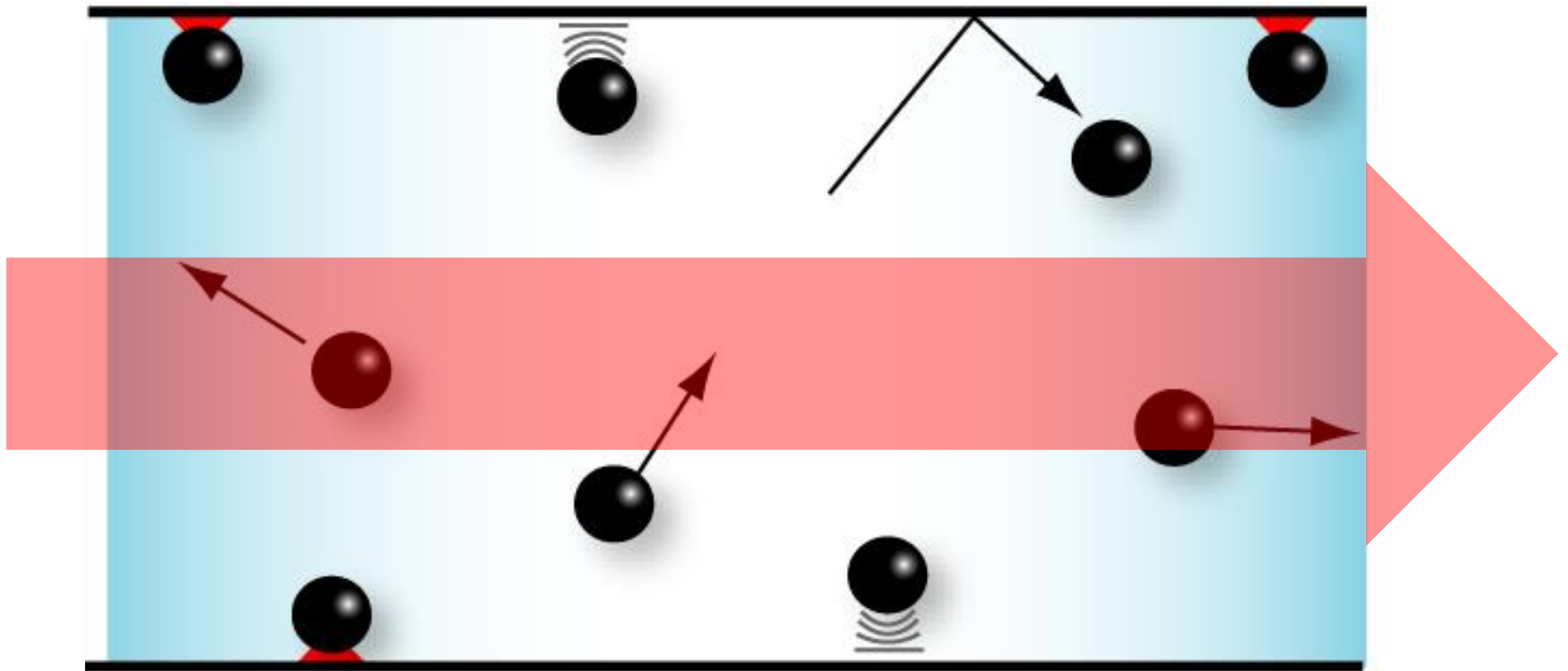
- Controlling superposition:

$$|D\rangle = \frac{\Omega_2|1\rangle - \Omega_1|2\rangle}{\sqrt{|\Omega_1|^2 + |\Omega_2|^2}}$$

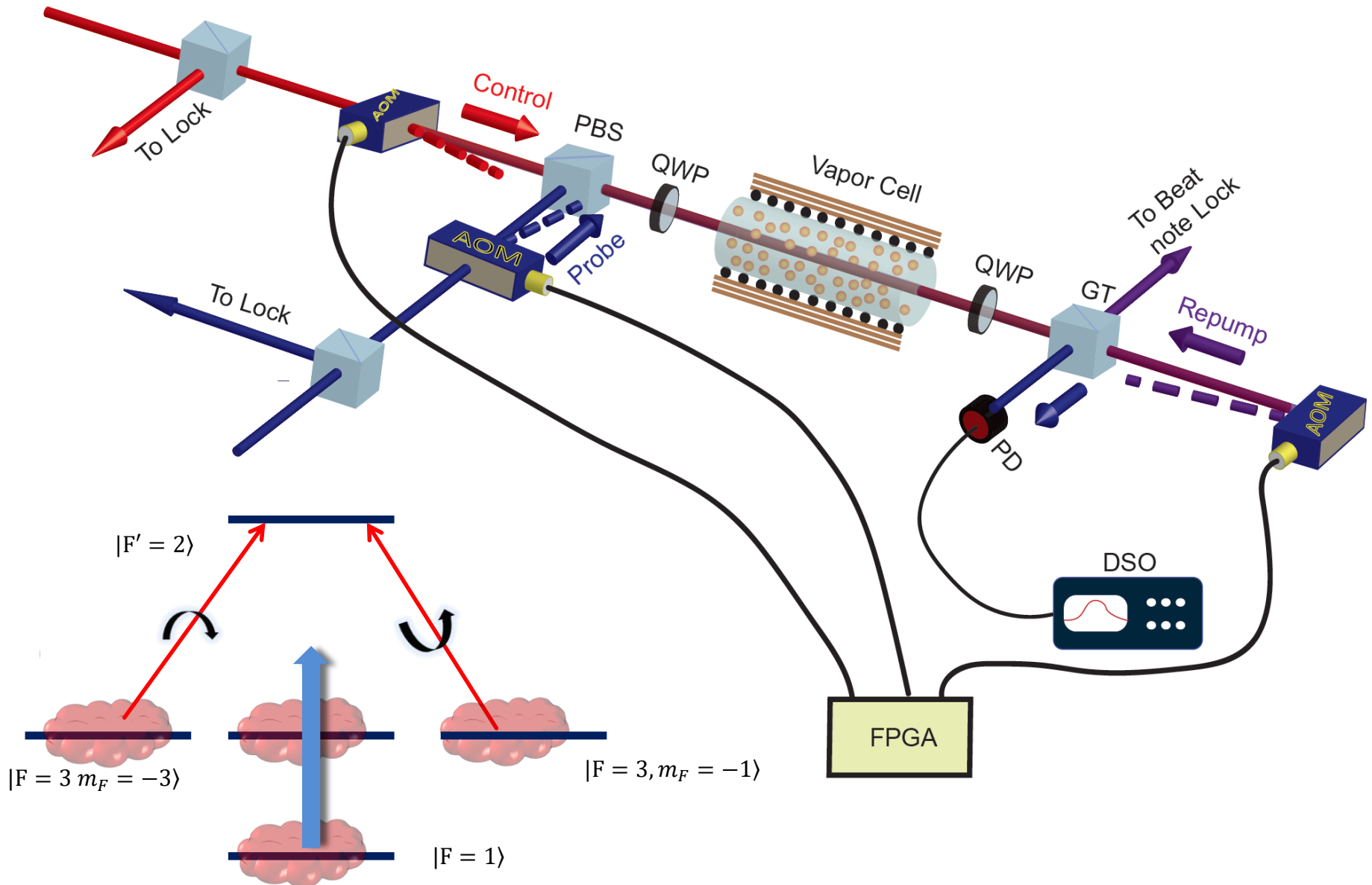
Control knobs



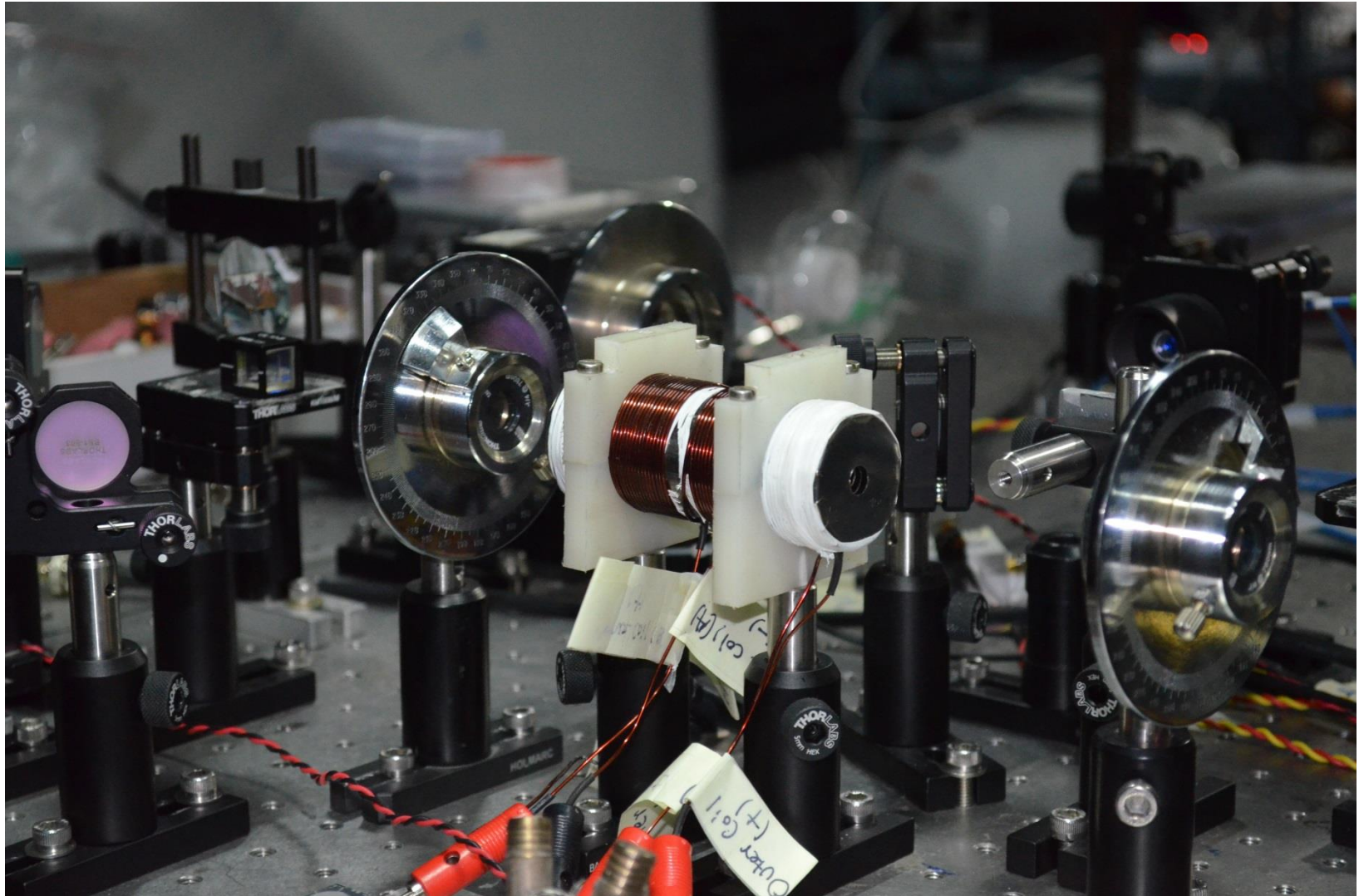
Atomic vapor at room-temperature: what about classical processes?



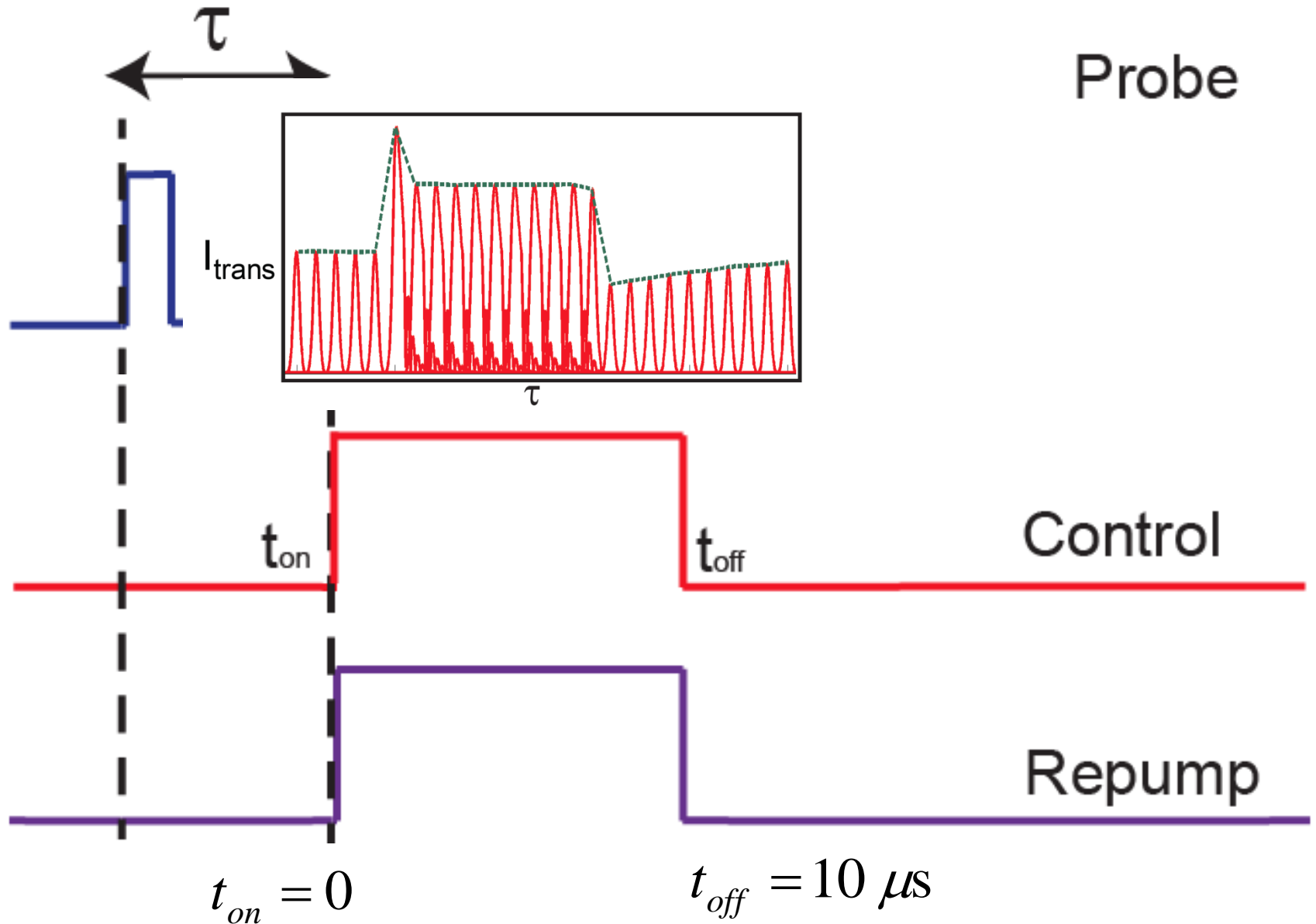
# How is the superposition forming? Experiment



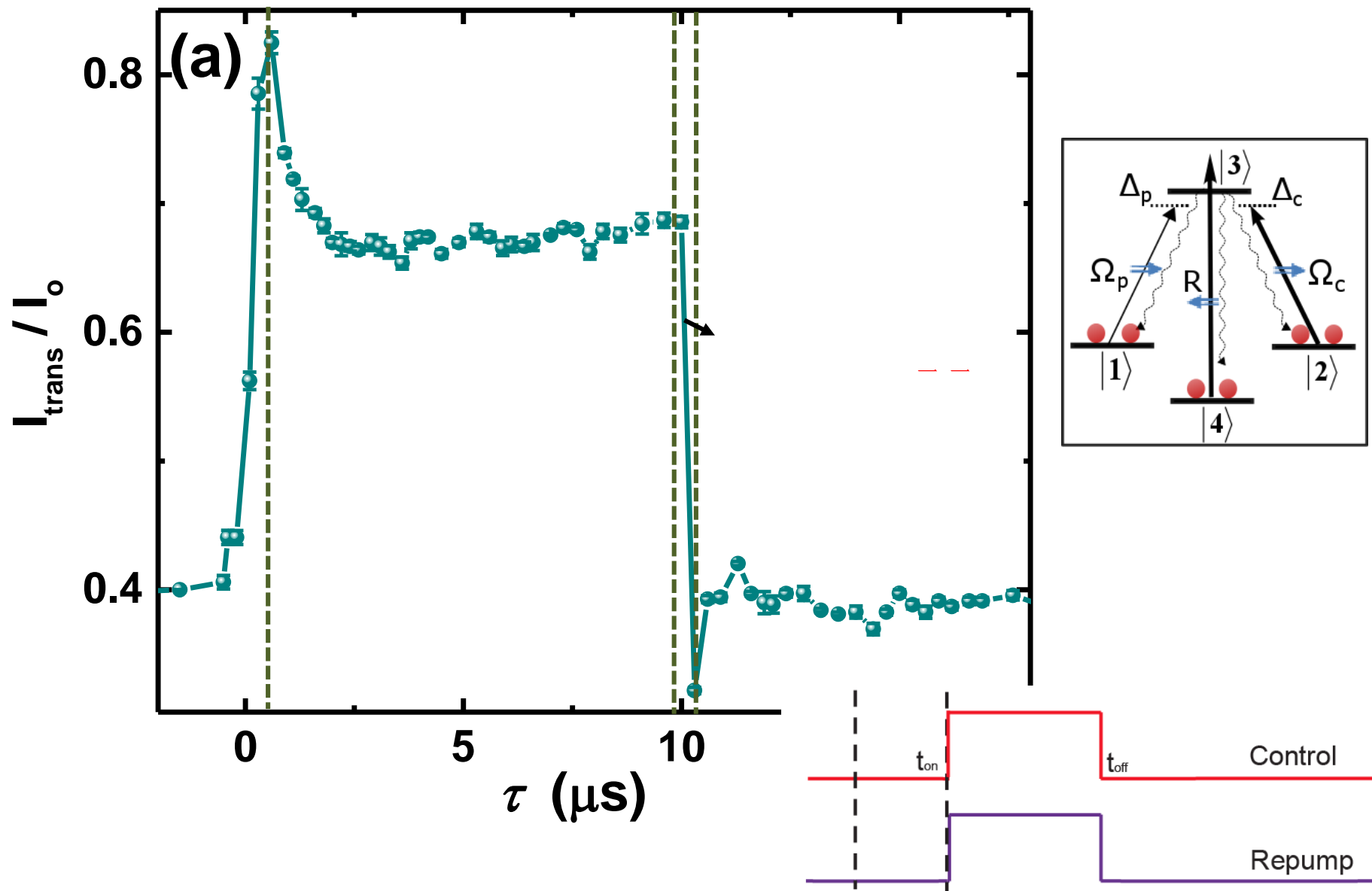
# Experimental Table



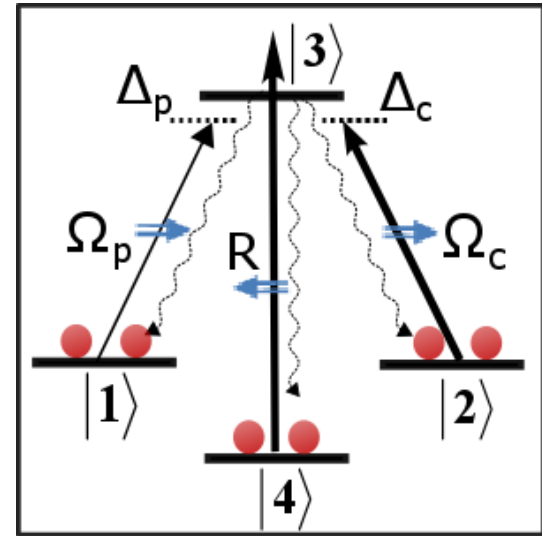
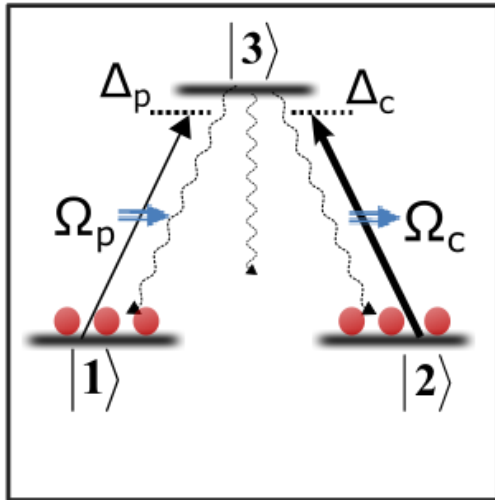
# Stroboscopic Probing



# Observation: Closed system



# Closed system: Simulations

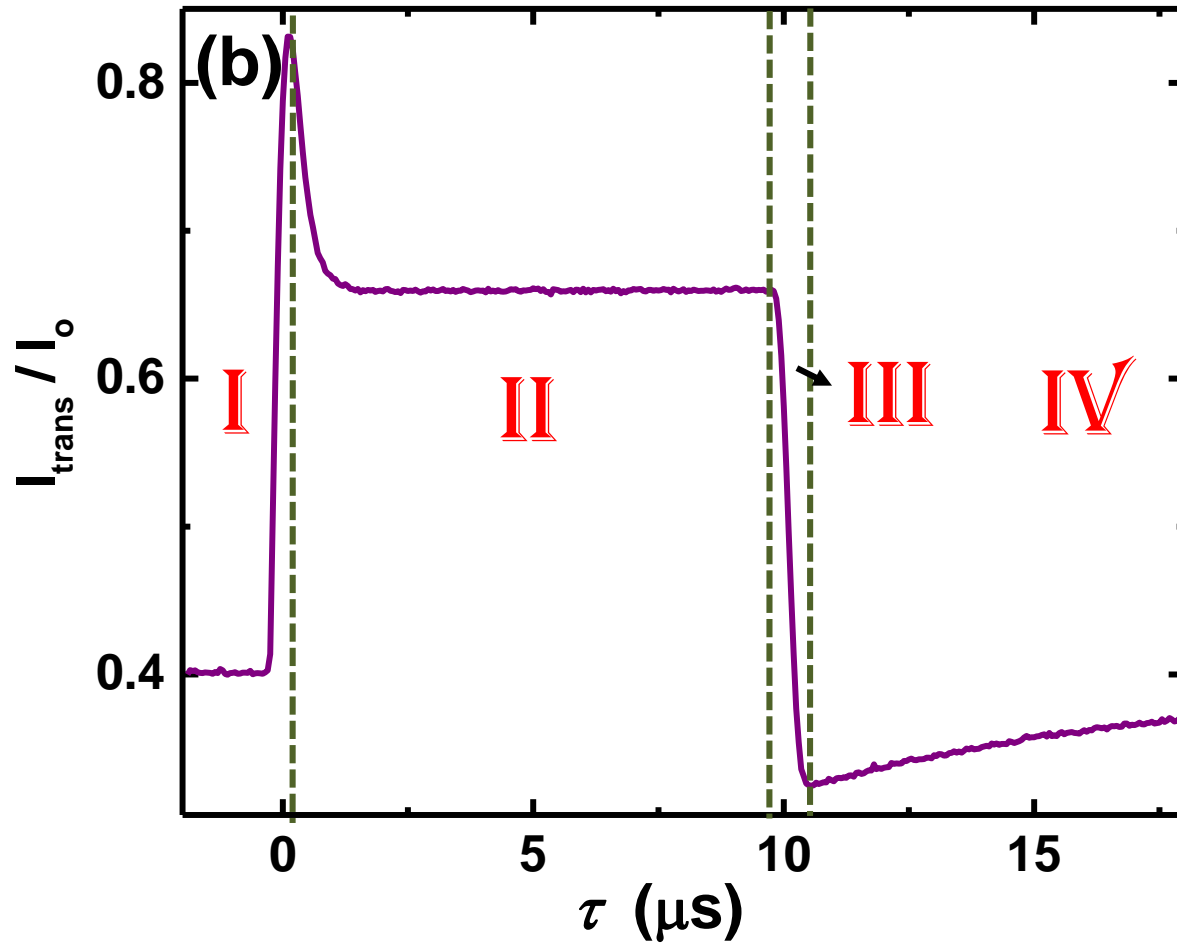


Coupled Maxwell-Bloch equations

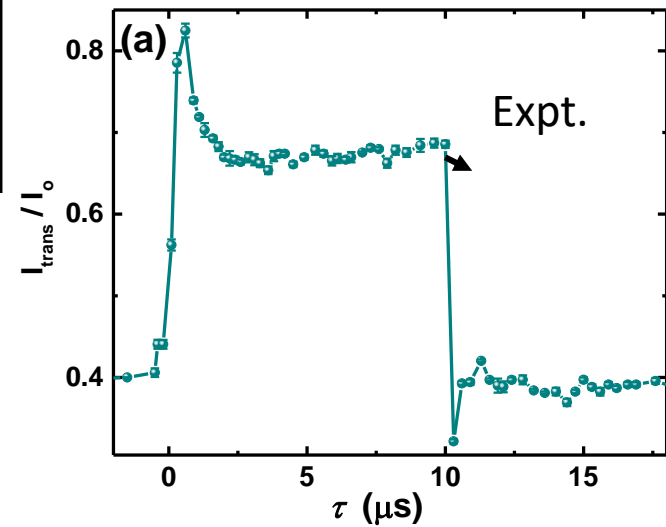
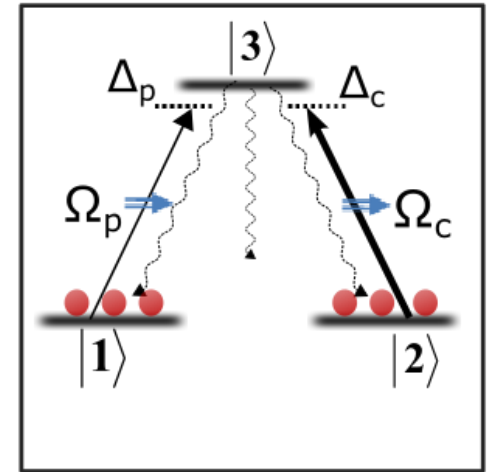
$$\dot{\rho}(t) = -i[\hat{H}, \rho] + \hat{L}(\rho)$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{P}}{\partial t^2}$$

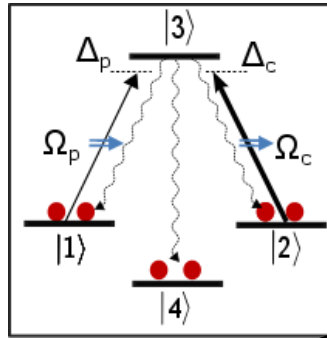
# Closed system: Numerical experiments



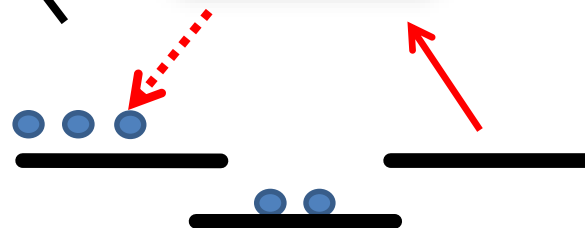
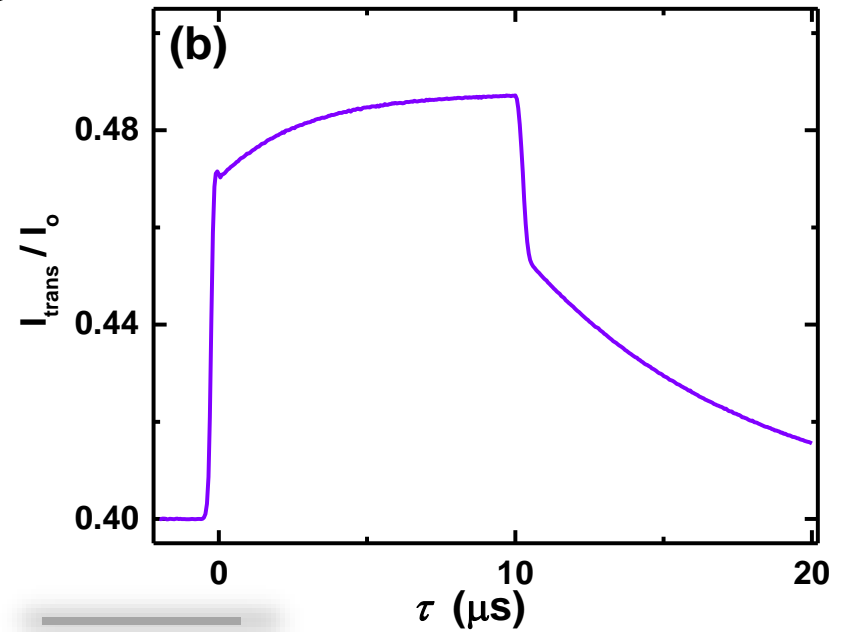
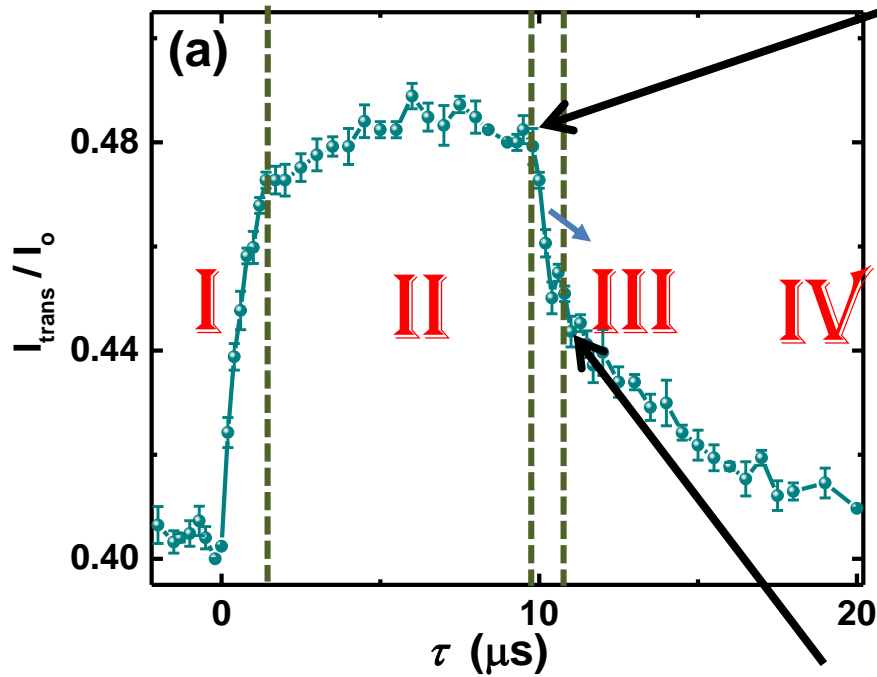
$$\Omega_c = 4.5 \gamma_3$$



# Open quantum system: dynamics

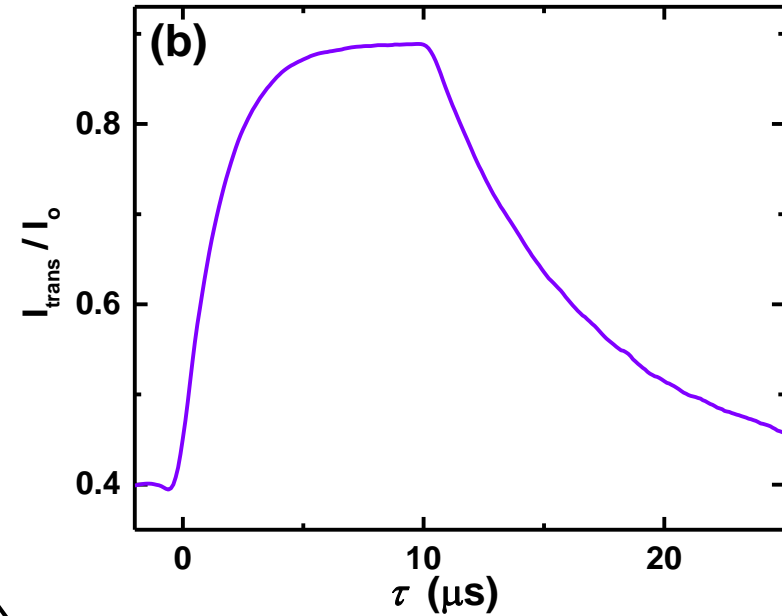
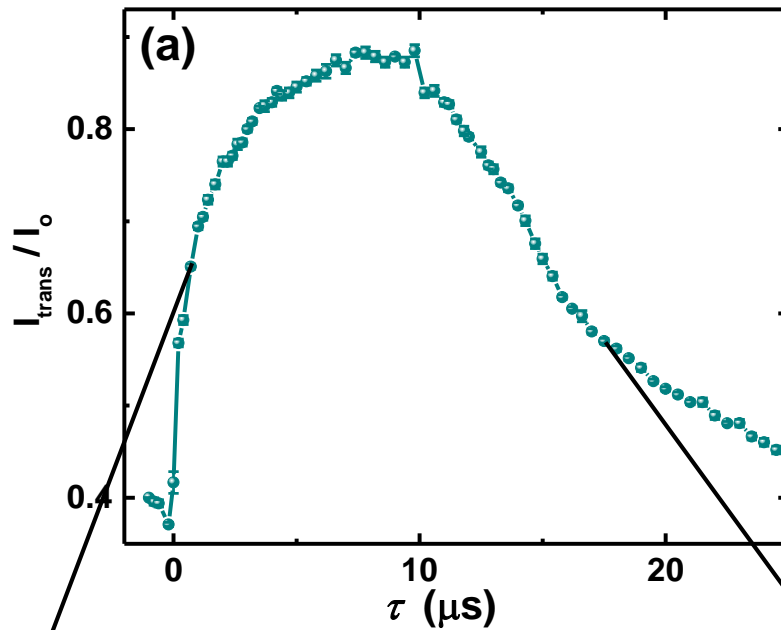


Quantum coherence  
Sustaining transparency



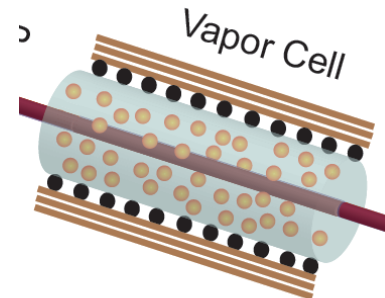


# Case C: Incoherent pumping



Incoherent pumping:  
Proportional to the square of Rabi frequency

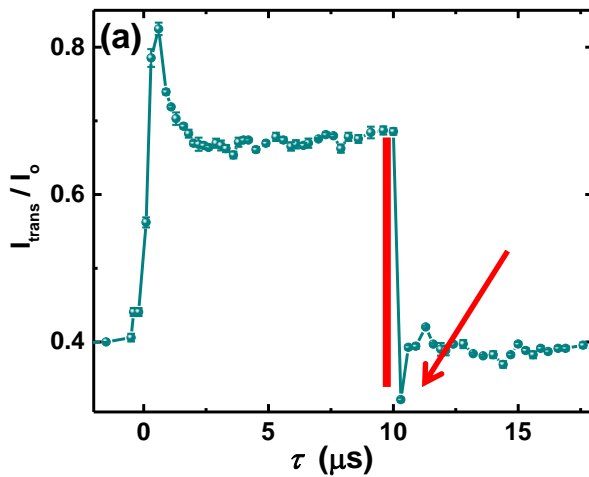
Thermalization: Time of flight of atoms  
through the beam path, moving at 300 m/s



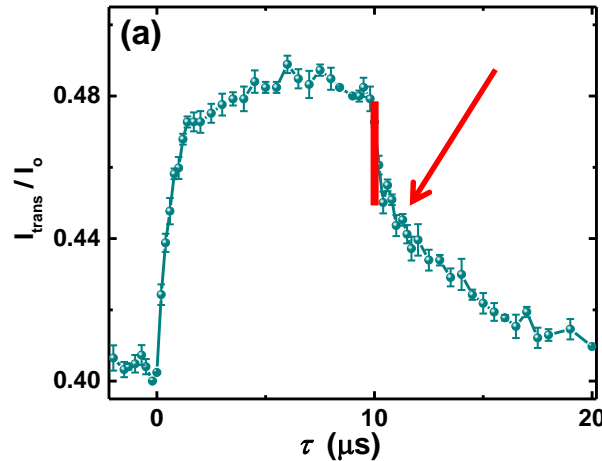
# Single atom superpositions: Summary

Testing competing hypothesis: K. Molmer, Phys. Rev. Lett. **114** 040401 (2015)

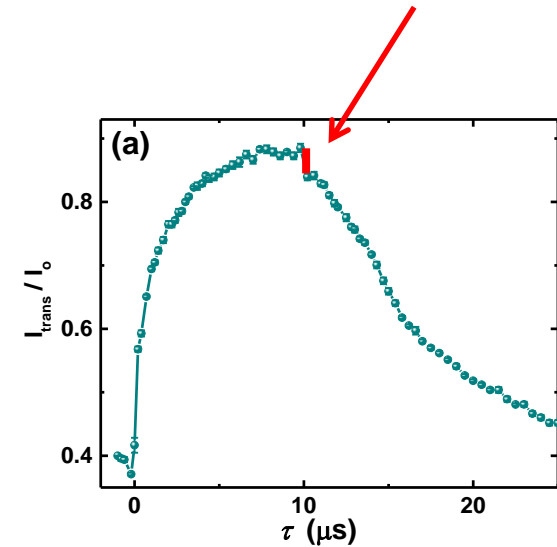
$$\dot{\rho}(t) = -i[\hat{H}, \rho] + \hat{L}(\rho)$$



Closed, coherent



Open, coherent



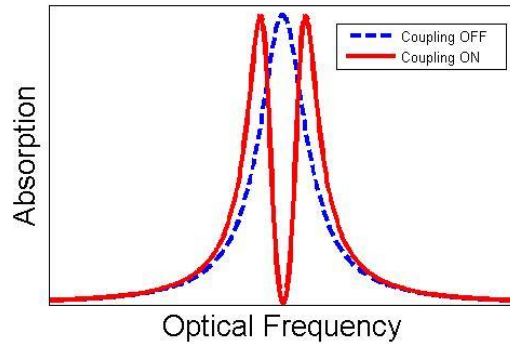
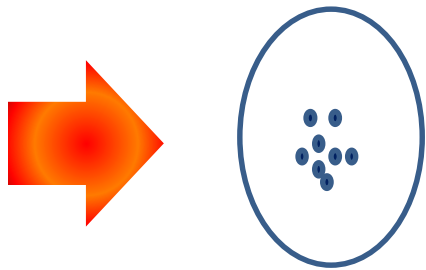
Open, incoherent

- In short time-scales, the atoms Rabi flop
- Superposition creates Lasing without Inversion(LWI)
- Possibility of improving quantum coherence through repeated Zeno-like measurements

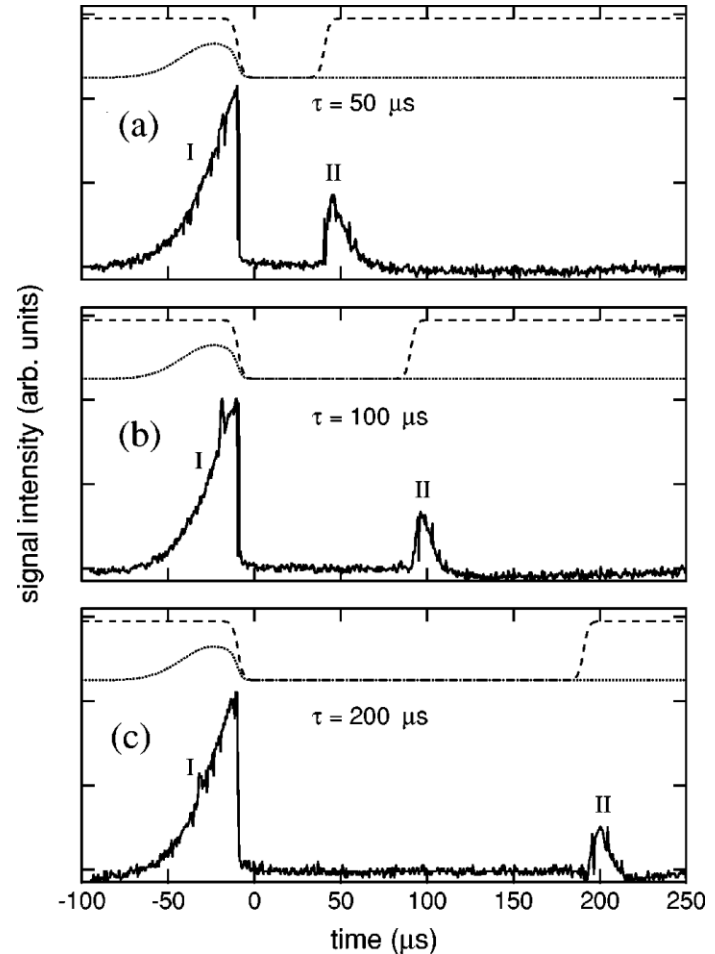
Arif Warsi, Niharika Singh, Arunabh Mukherjee and Saikat Ghosh

*New J. Phys.* 18, 053022 (2016)

# Slow and stopped Light



- A *classical* pulse with an atomic ensemble: travelling at 17 m/s and then, stopped!

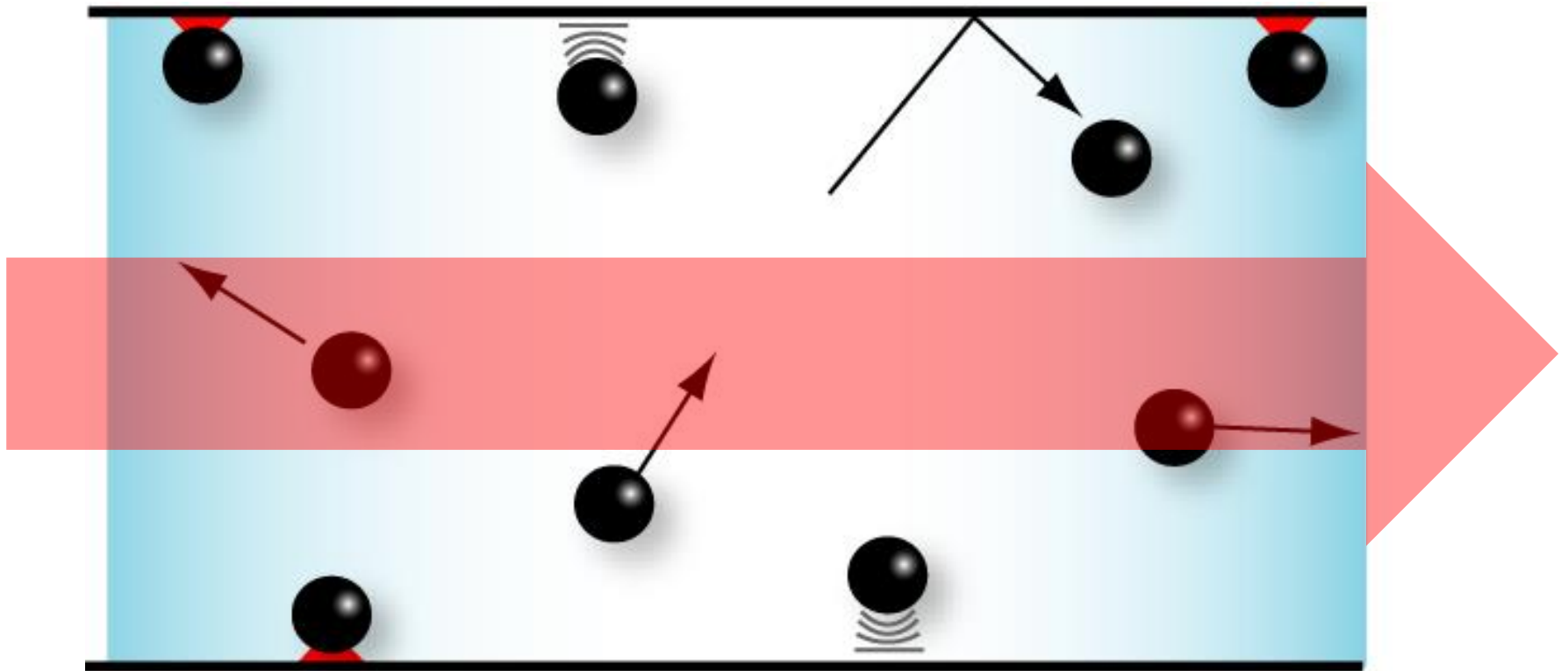


L. V. Hau, *et al.*, *Nature* **397**, 594, (1999);

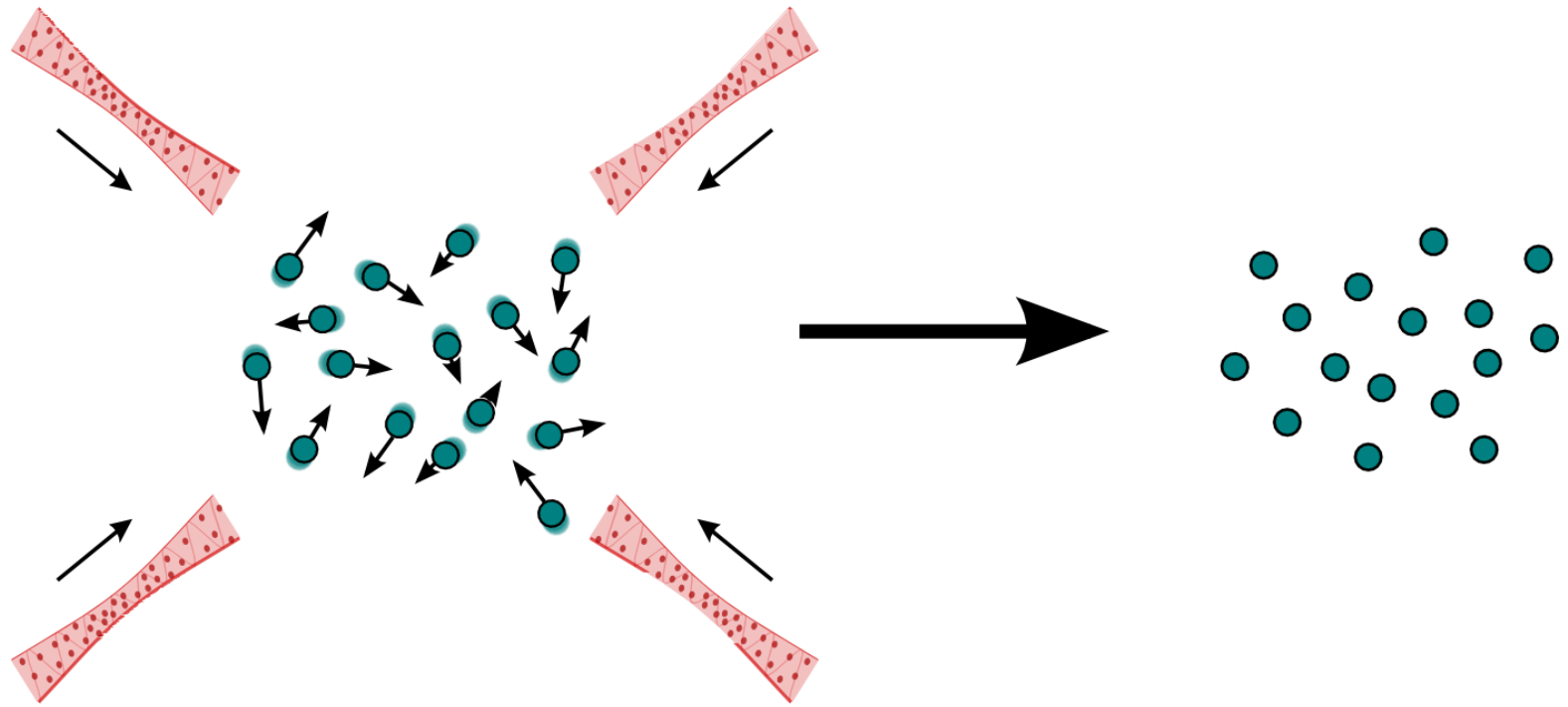
C. Liu *et al.*, *Nature*, **409**, 490, (2001) D. Philips *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **86**, 783, (2001)

Saikat Ghosh, A. Bhagwat, A. Gaeta *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **97**, 023603 (2006).

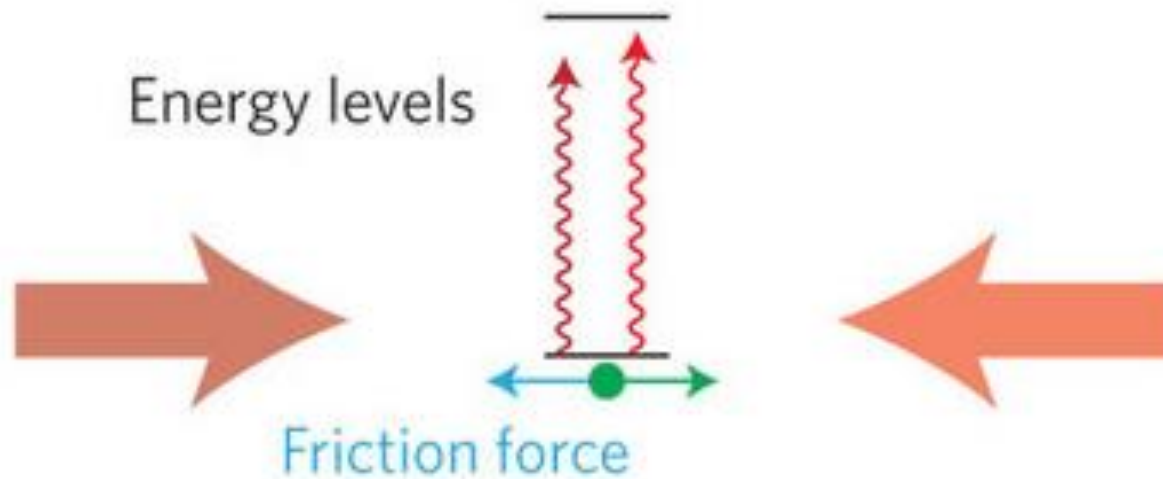
# Creating superposed states of many atoms



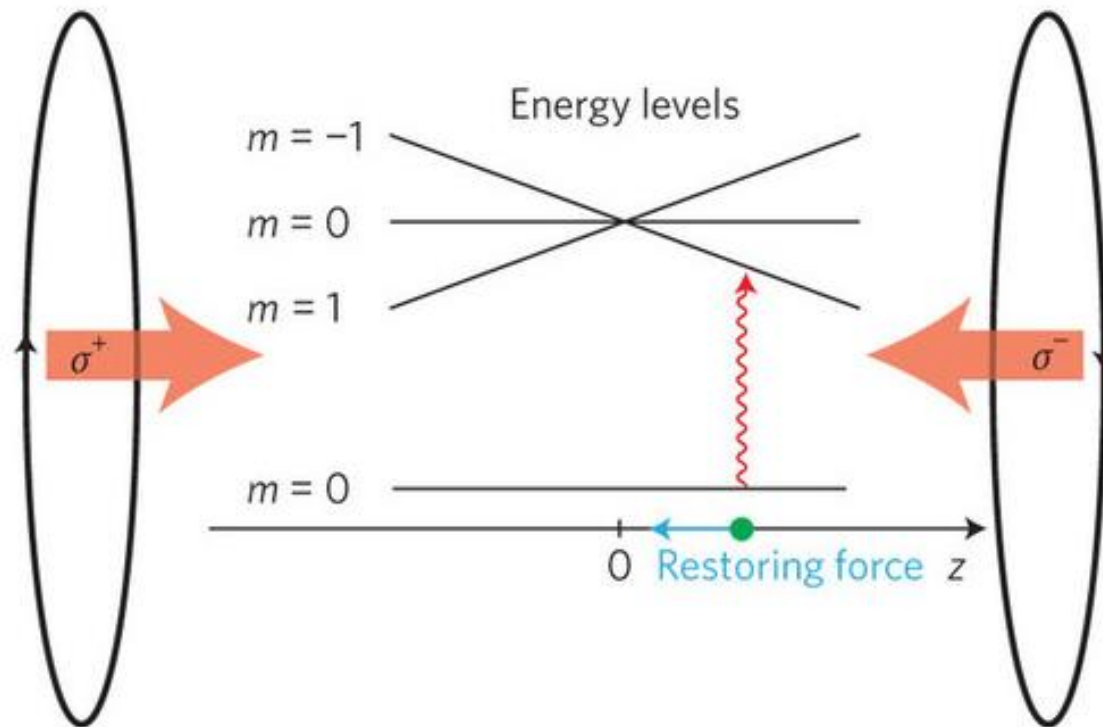
# Creating superposed states of many atoms



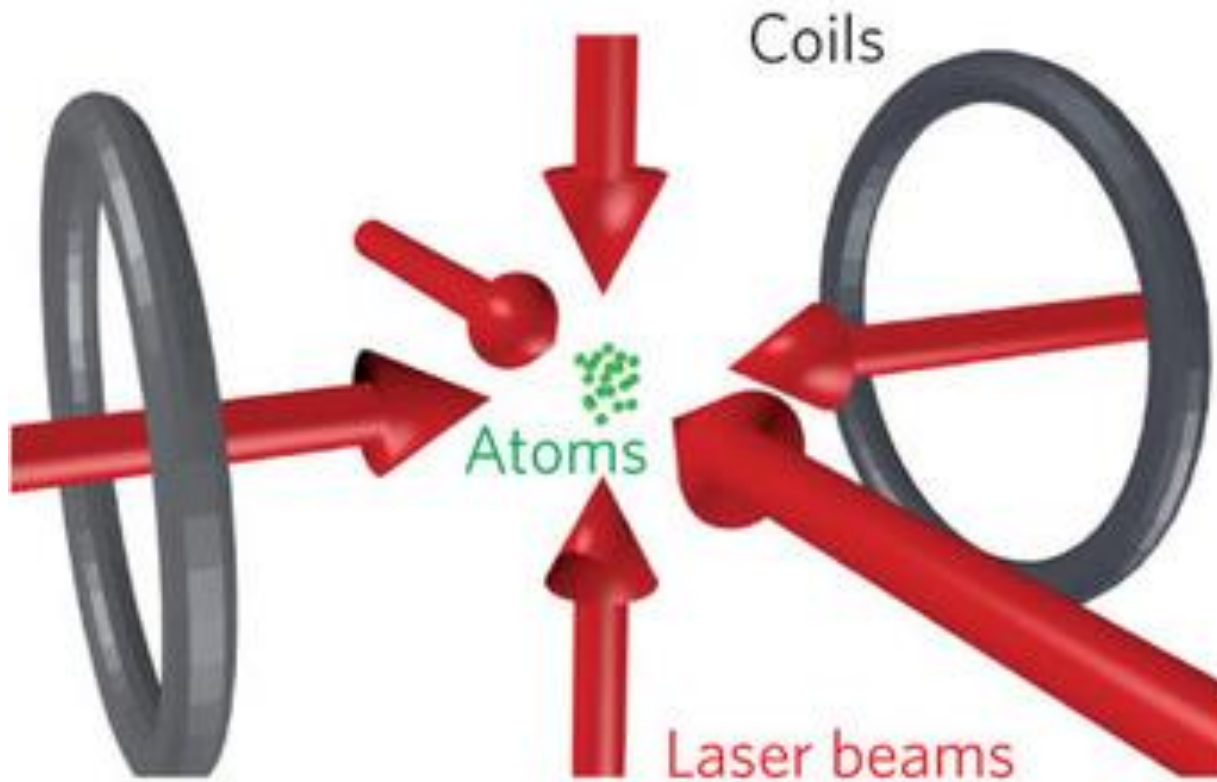
# Laser cooling and magnetic trapping of atoms



# Laser cooling and magnetic trapping of atoms

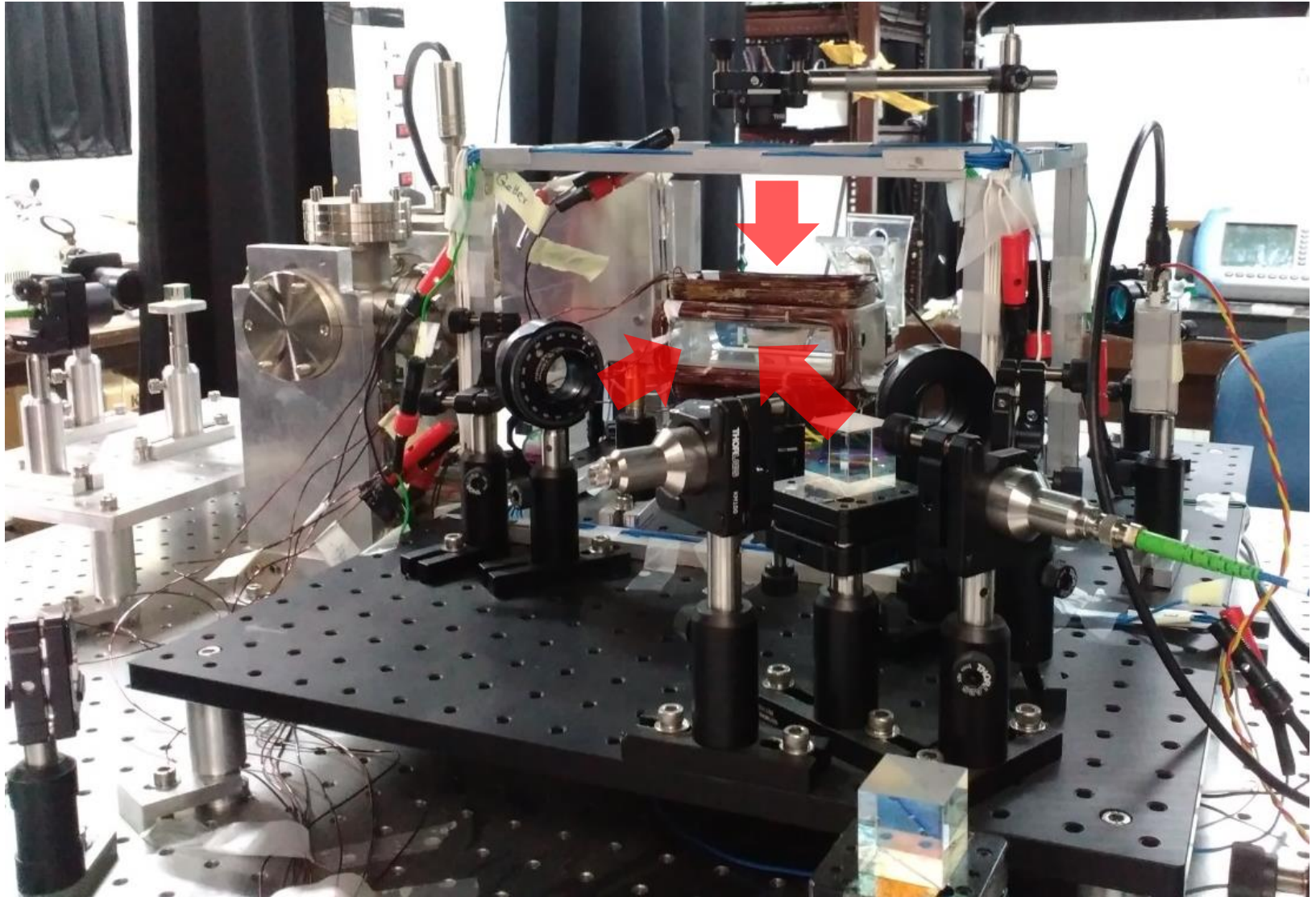


# Laser cooling and magnetic trapping of atoms

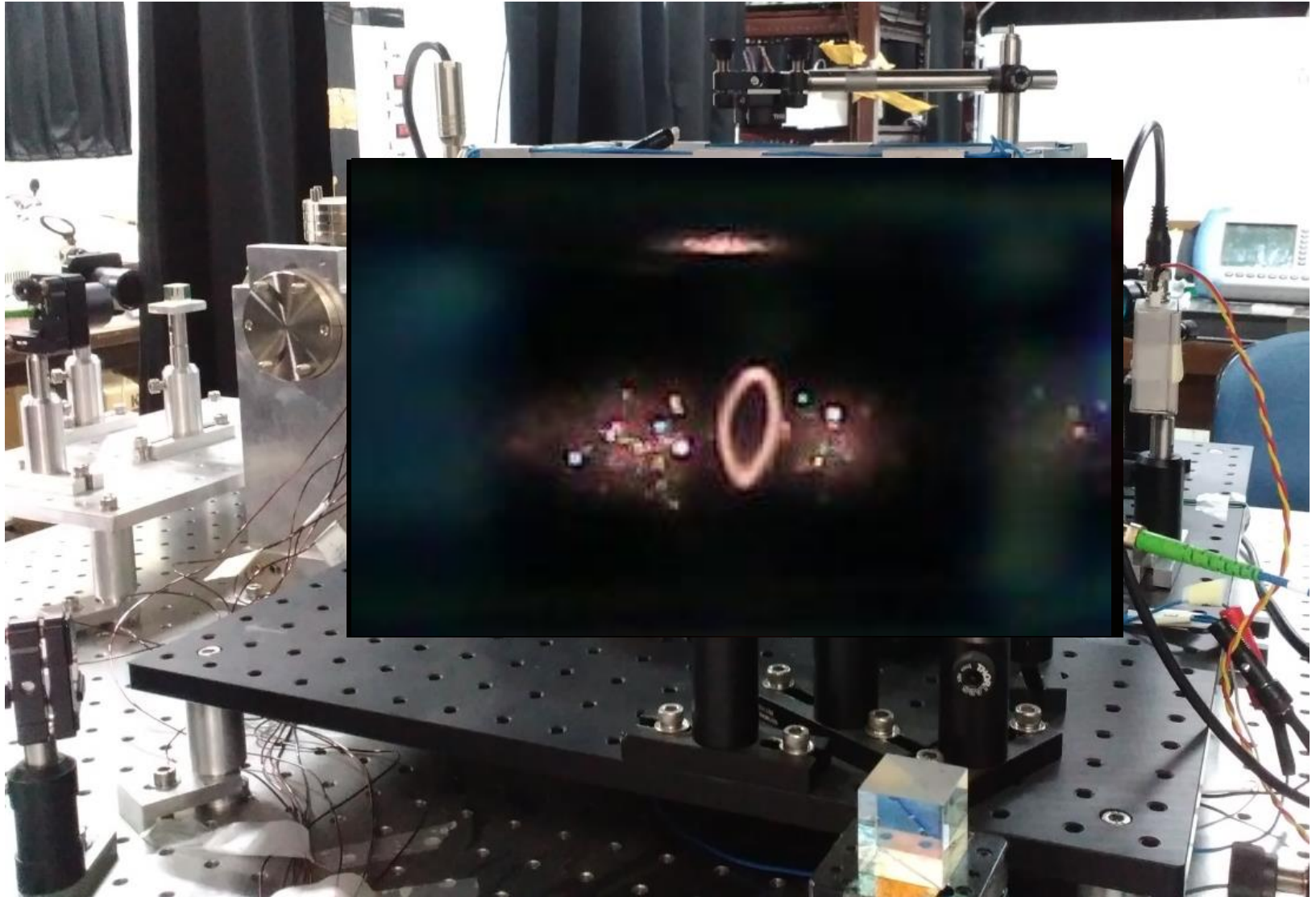




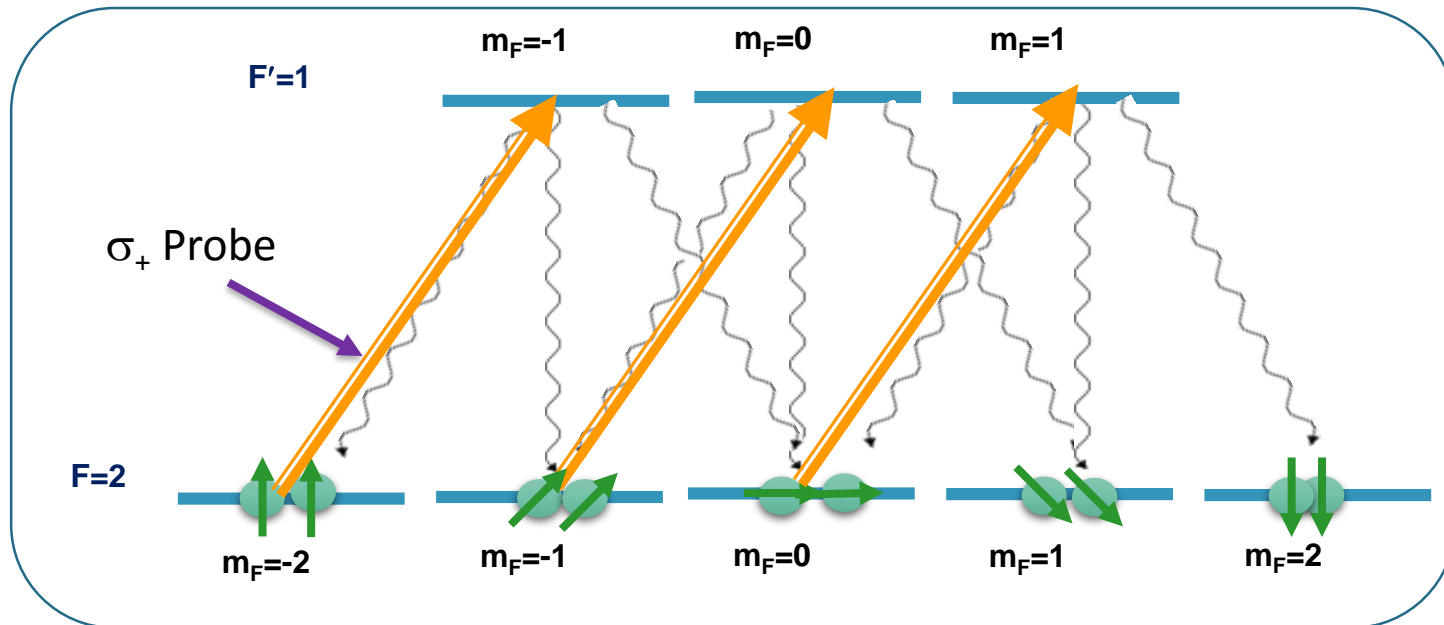
# Laser cooling and magnetic trapping of atoms



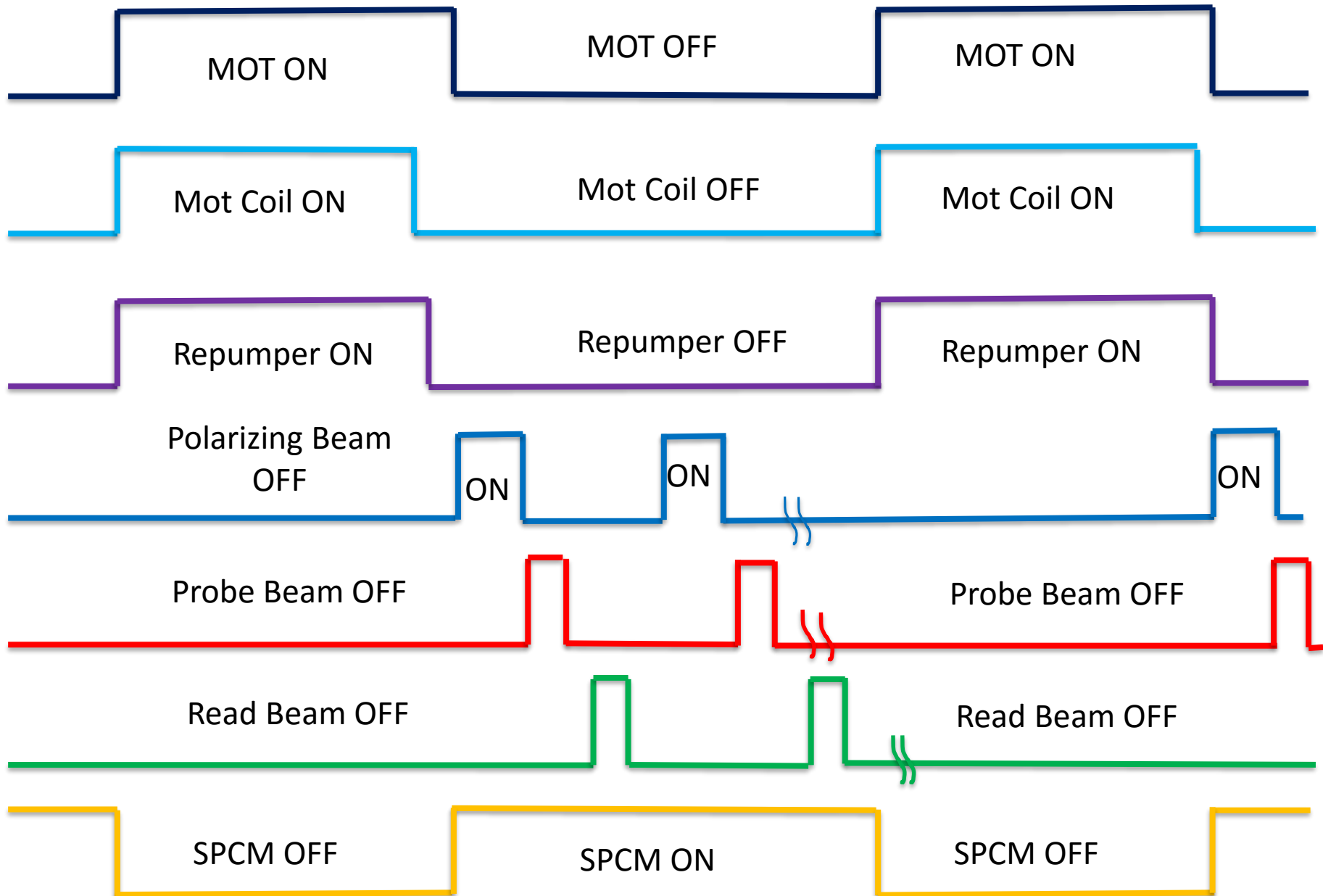
# Laser cooling and magnetic trapping of atoms



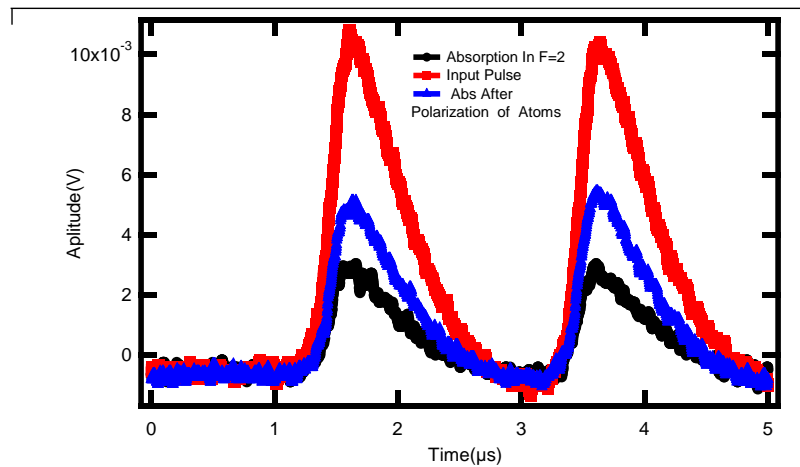
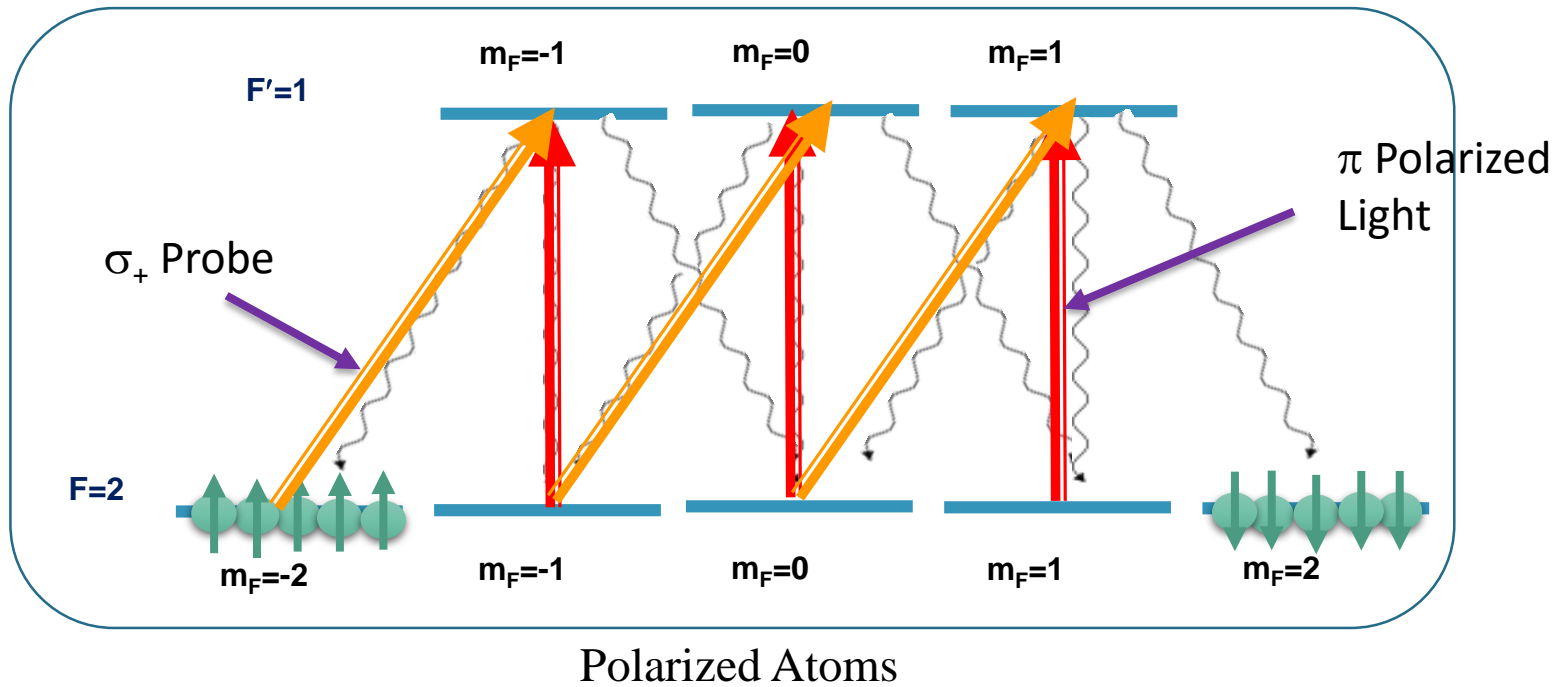
# Towards many atom states



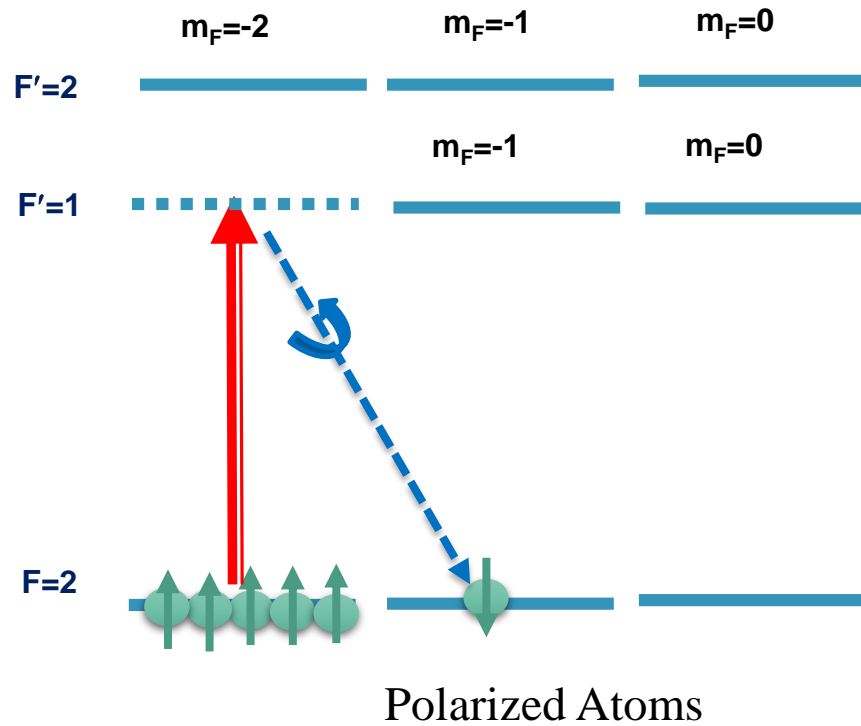
# Preparing the atoms on the fly



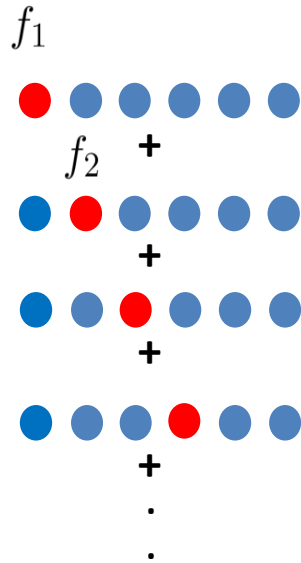
# State preparation: Polarization of atoms



# Writing a collective excitation: a “W” state



# Writing a collective excitation: a “W” state

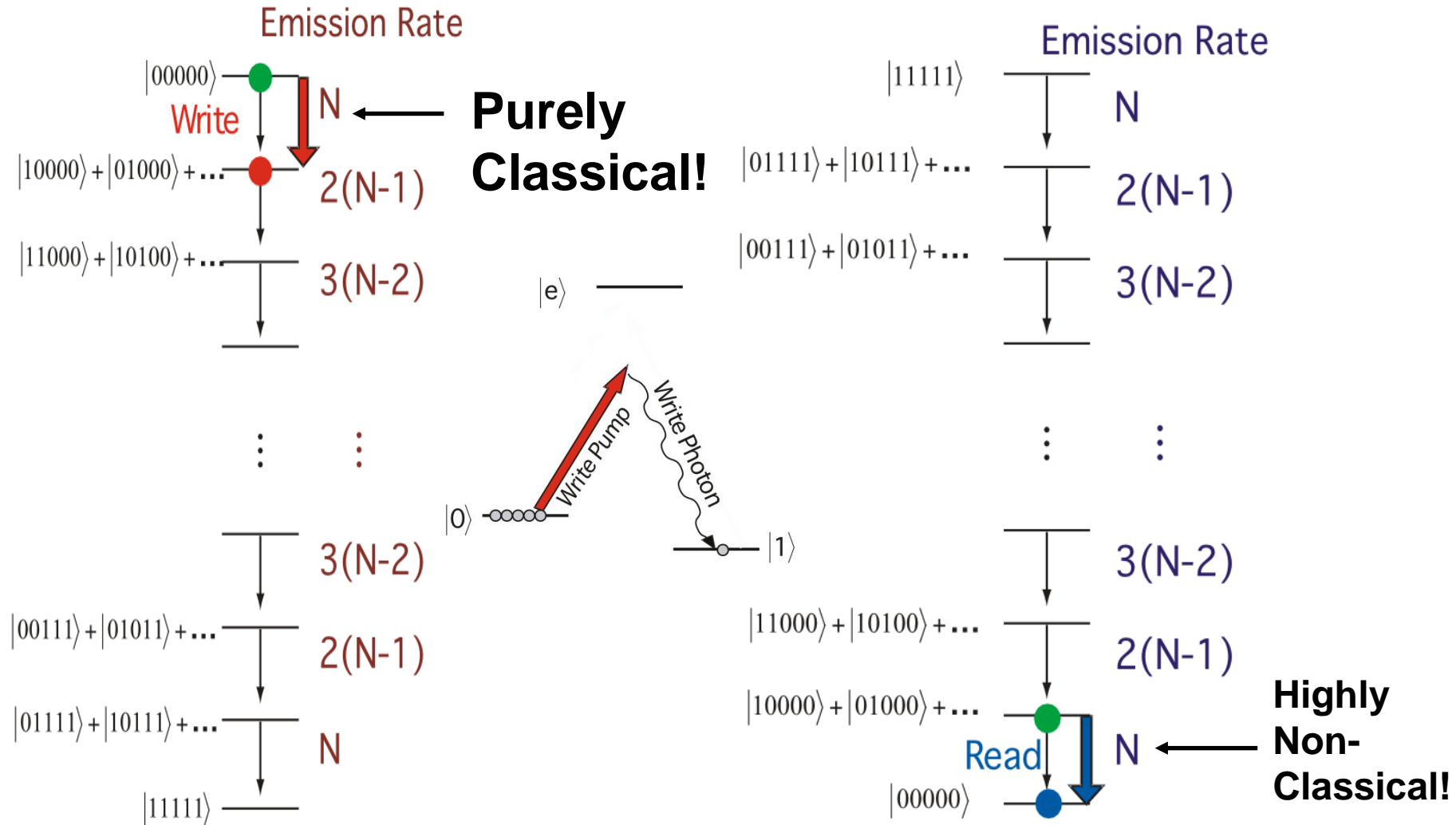


- The write beam, through measurement writes an *entangled state* in the form of collective excitation
- The information of a detector click is stored as an excitation in the sample - *memory*

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |f_i\rangle$$

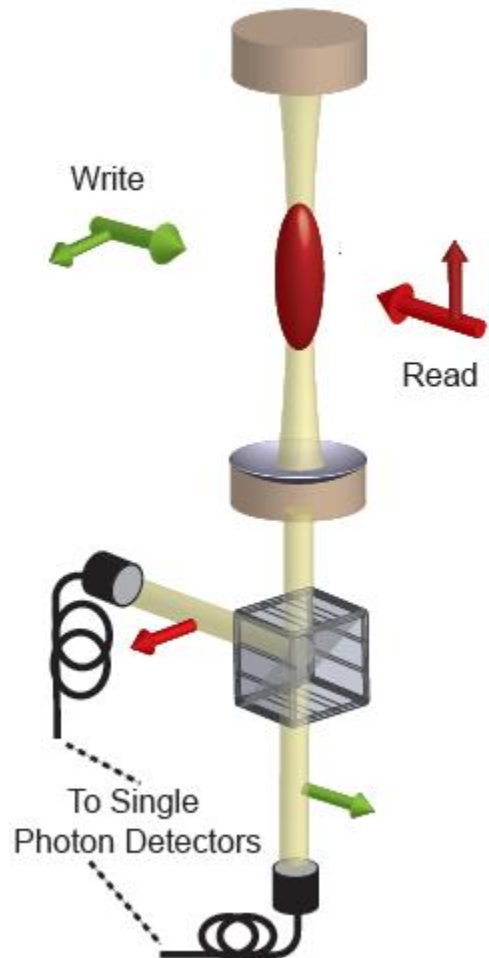


# Dicke States





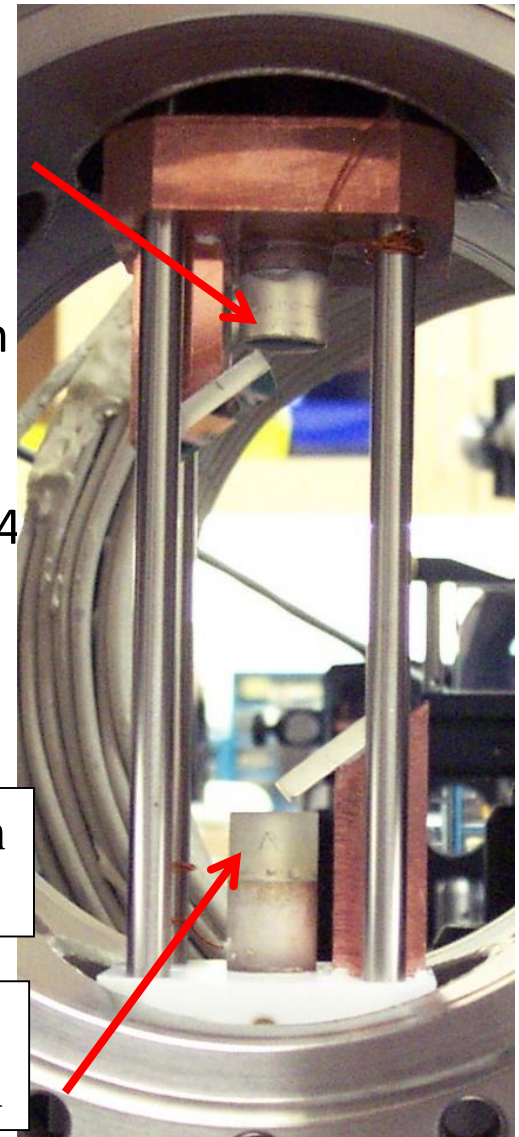
# Physical system



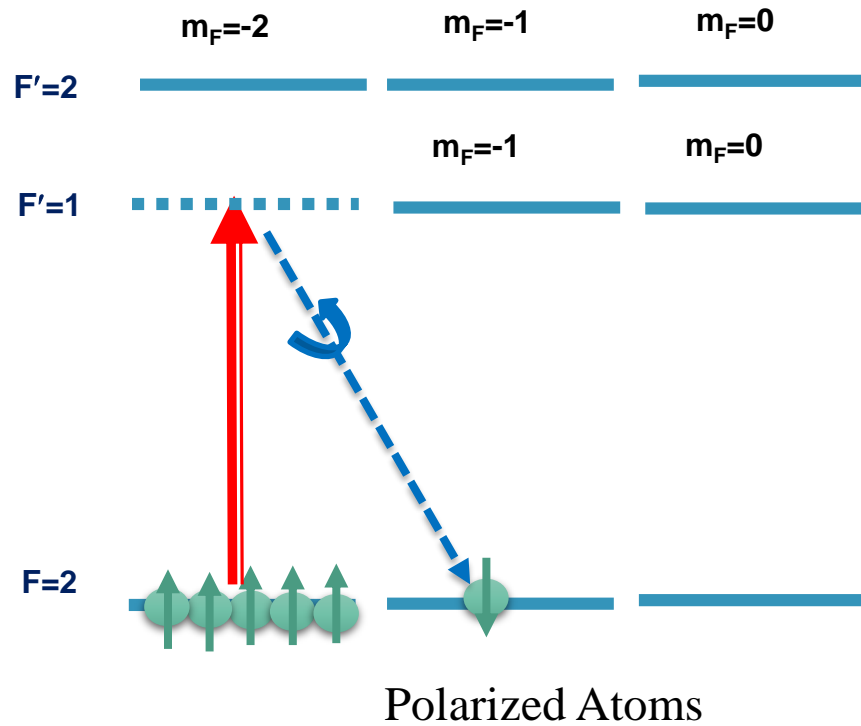
- Laser cooled Cesium temperature of  $20\text{ }\mu\text{K}$
- A cavity finesse of 24

**Length  
6.6 cm**

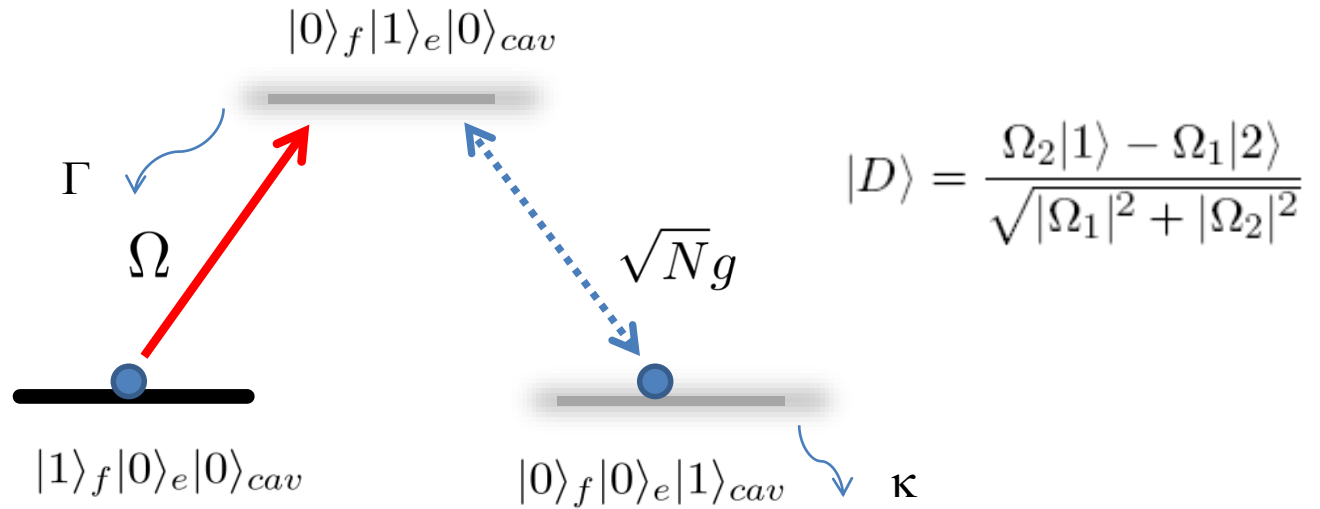
**Waist  
 $110\text{ }\mu\text{m}$**



# Writing a collective excitation: a “W” state

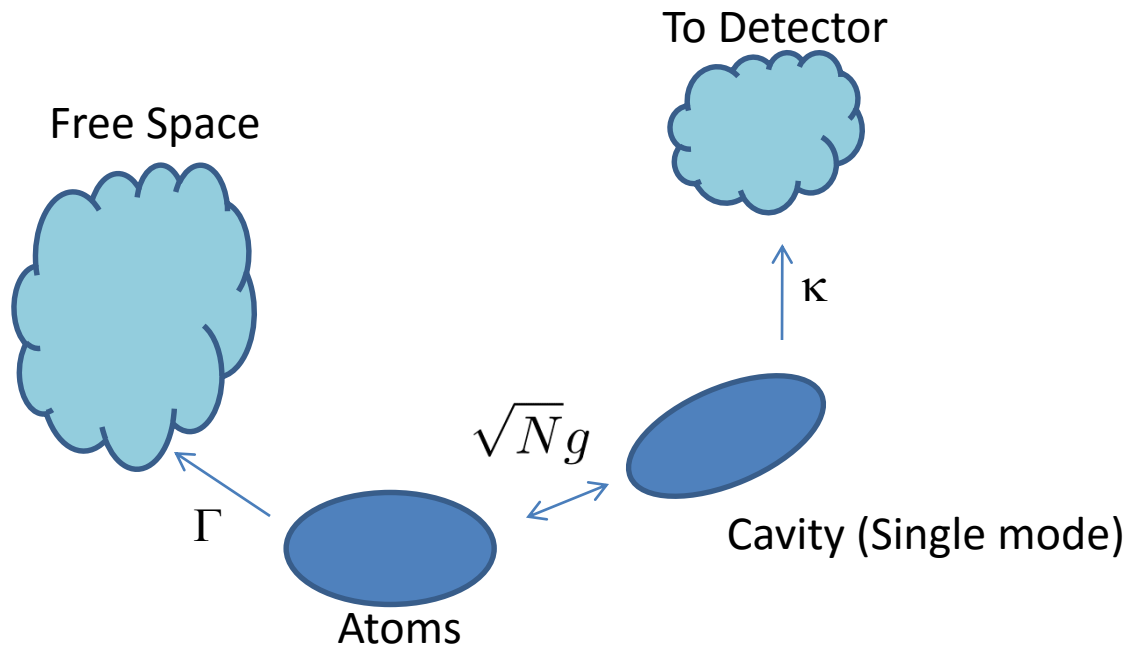


# “W” state emitting a single photon



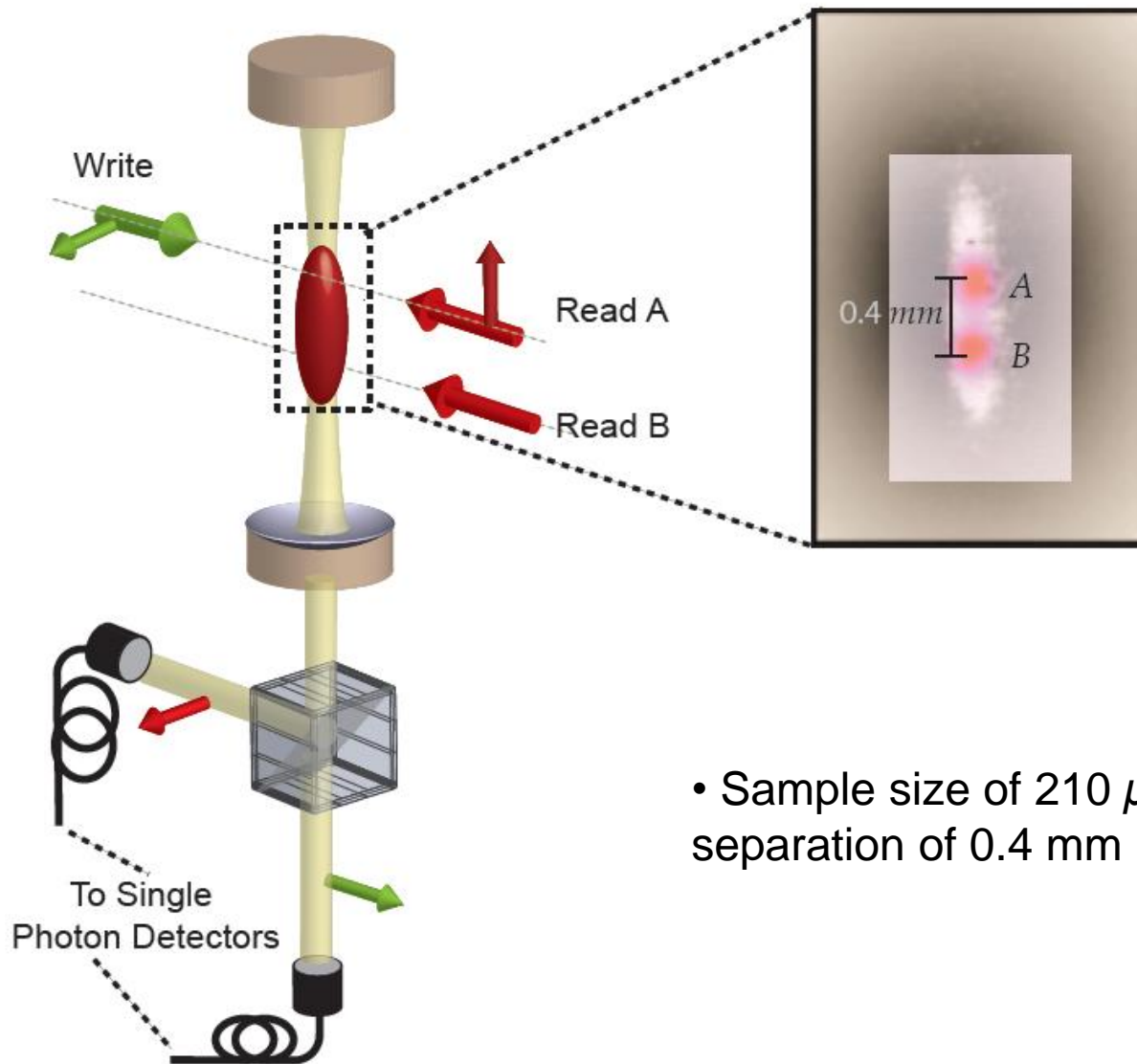
$$|\Psi\rangle_{Dark} \rightarrow \sqrt{N}g|1\rangle_f|0\rangle_e|0\rangle_{cav} - \Omega|0\rangle_f|0\rangle_e|1\rangle_{cav}$$

# Adiabatic Transfer: Dark state rotation



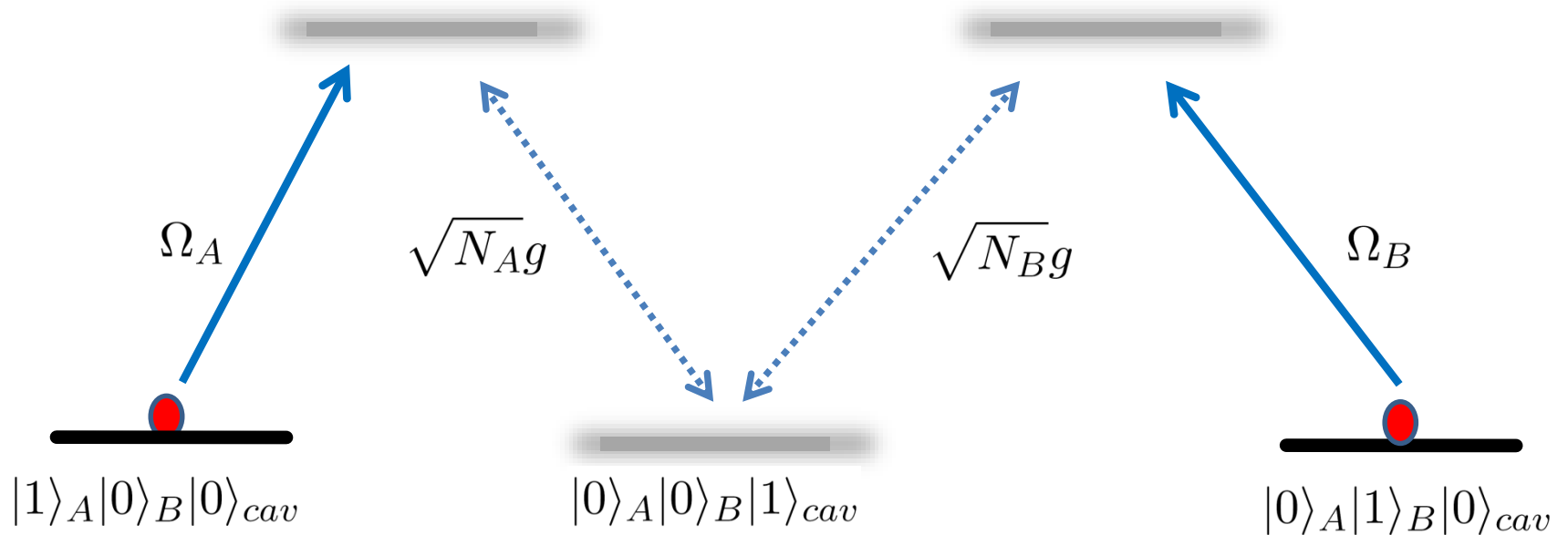
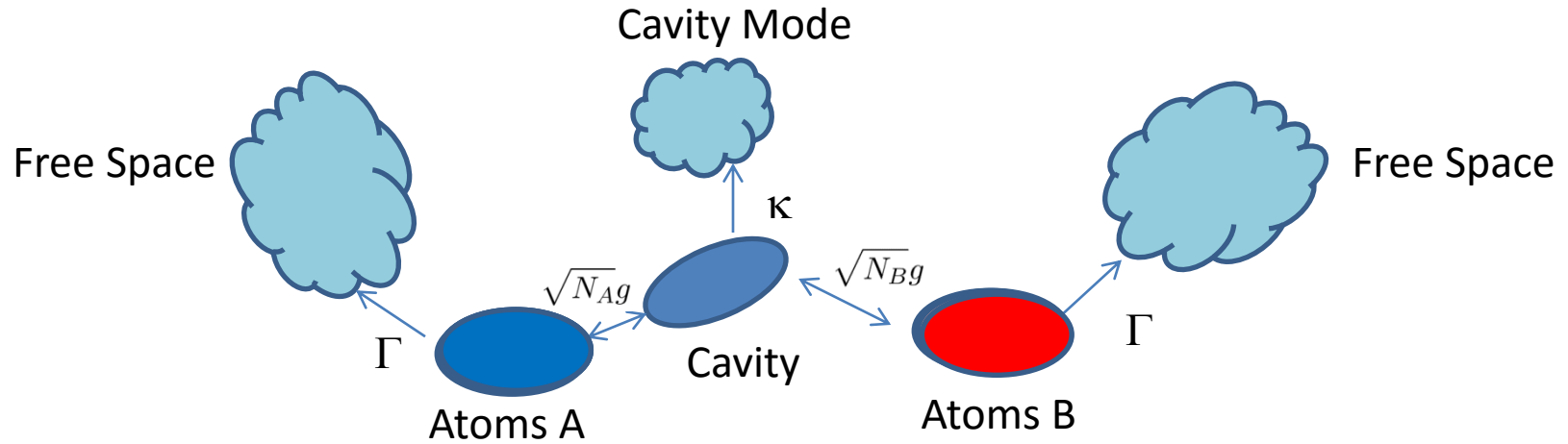
- An excellent source of single photons, two-photons and a photon memory
- Can we generalize the transfer process to two ensembles coupled to a cavity?

# Physical System

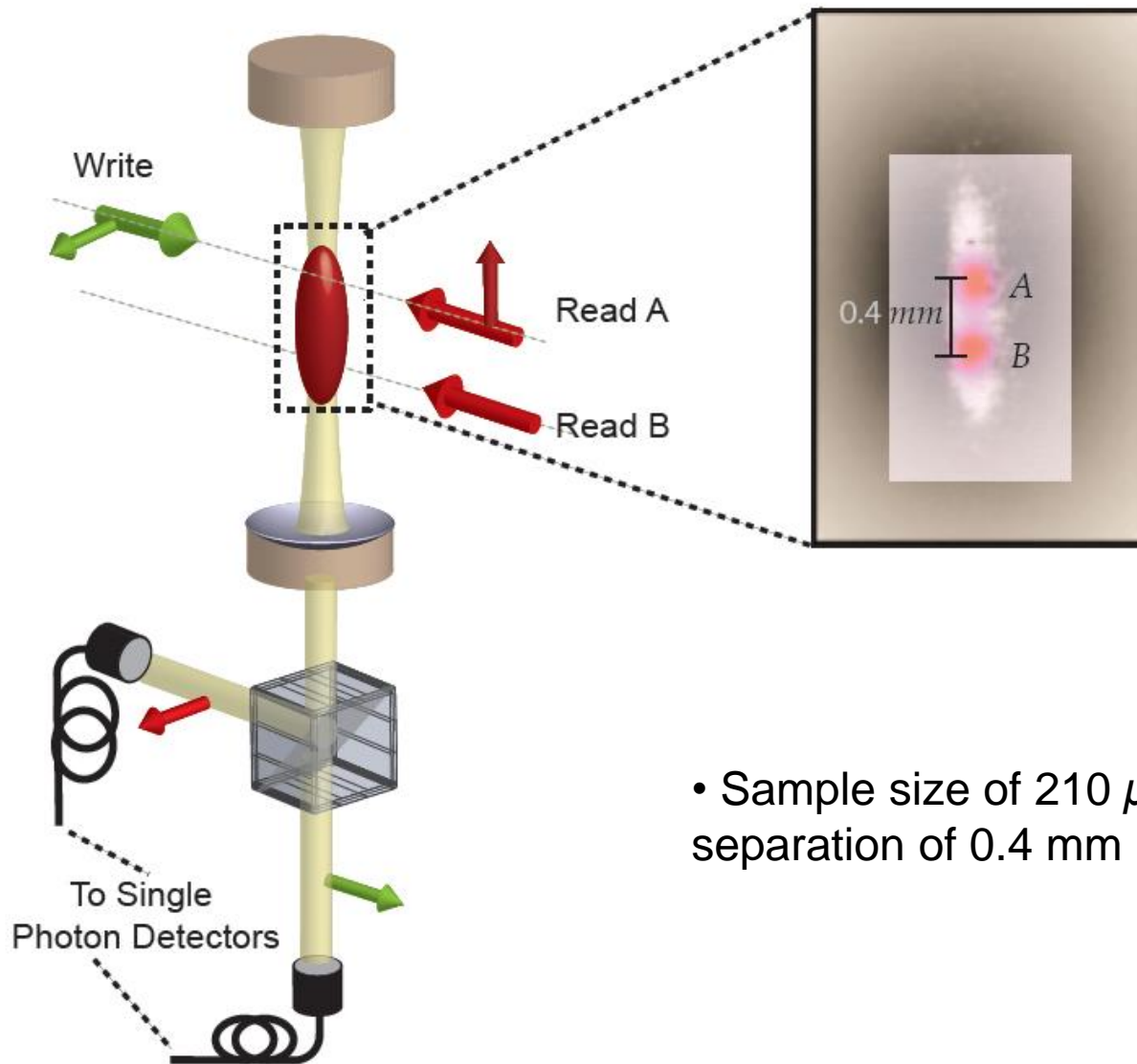


- Sample size of  $210\ \mu\text{m}$  each, with a separation of  $0.4\ \text{mm}$  between them.

# Transfer Between Two Ensembles

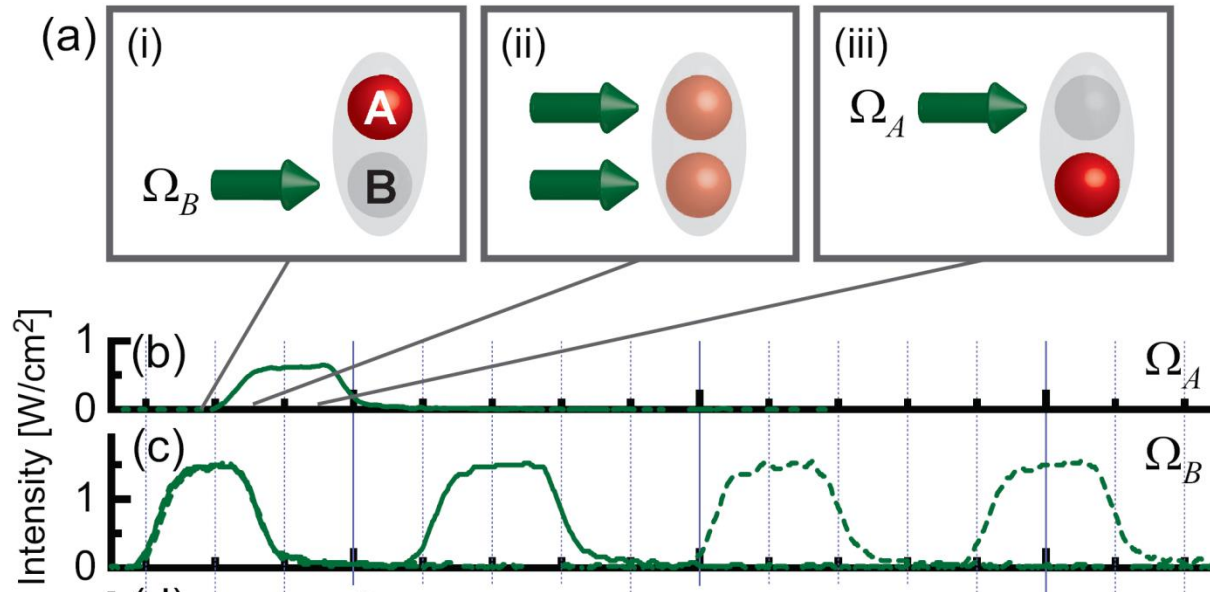


# Physical System



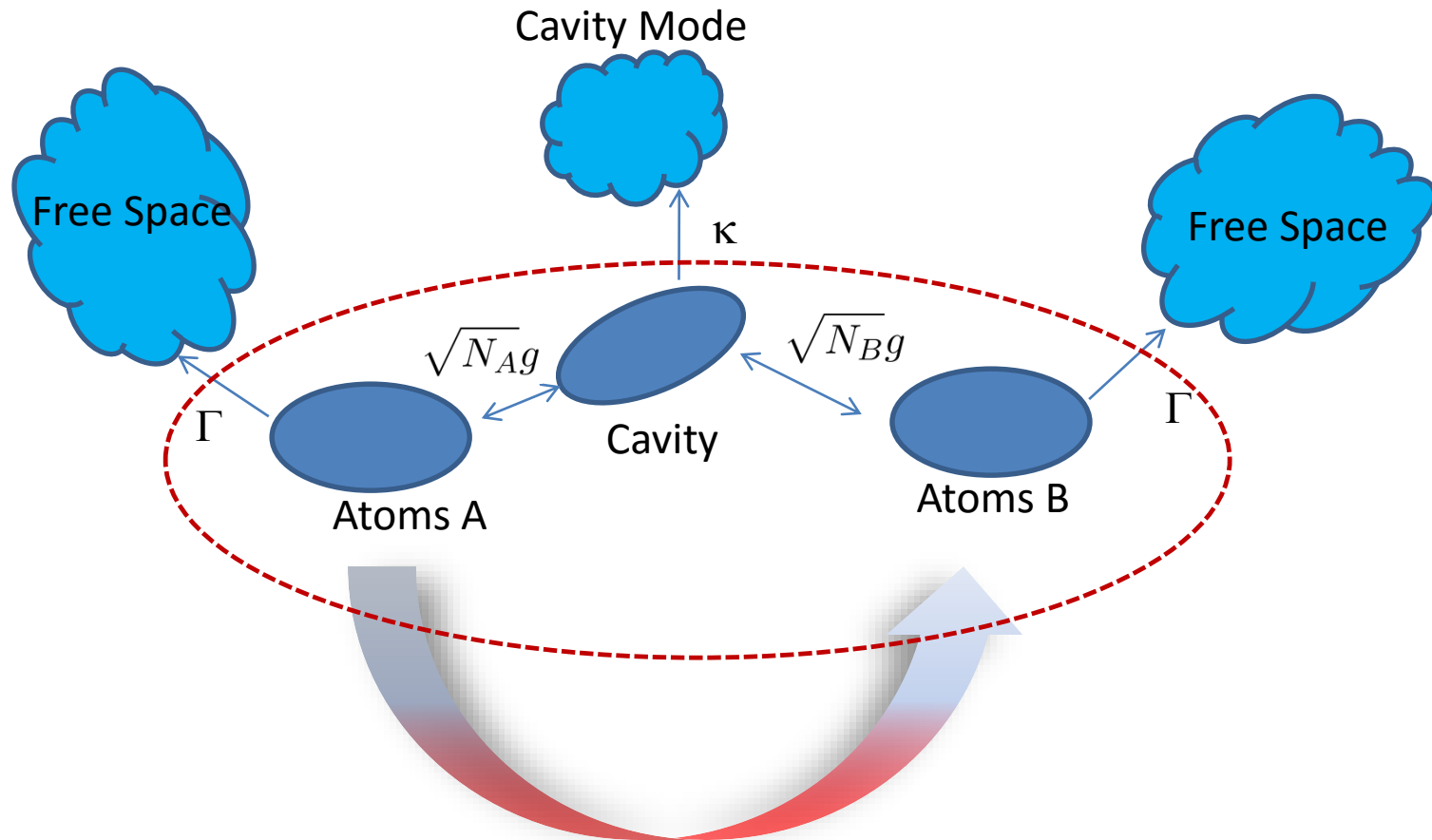
- Sample size of  $210\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  each, with a separation of 0.4 mm between them.

# Transfer of excitation between samples

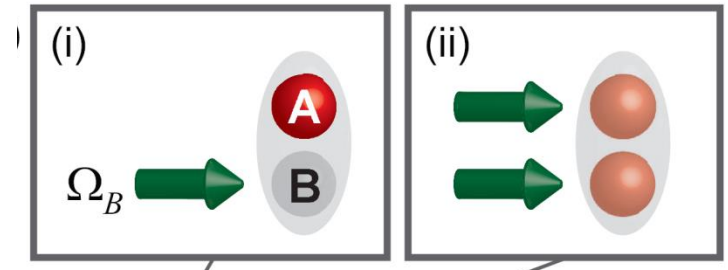
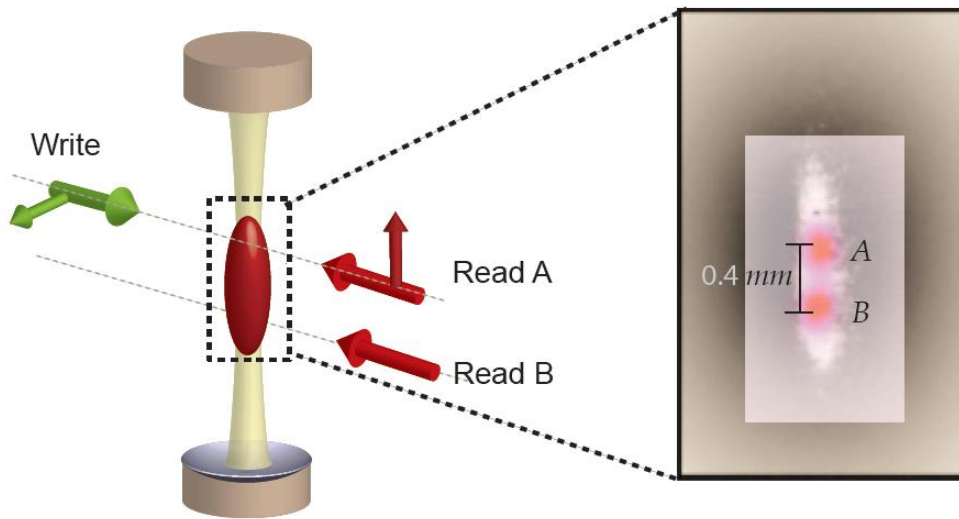




# Photonic Bus/Channel



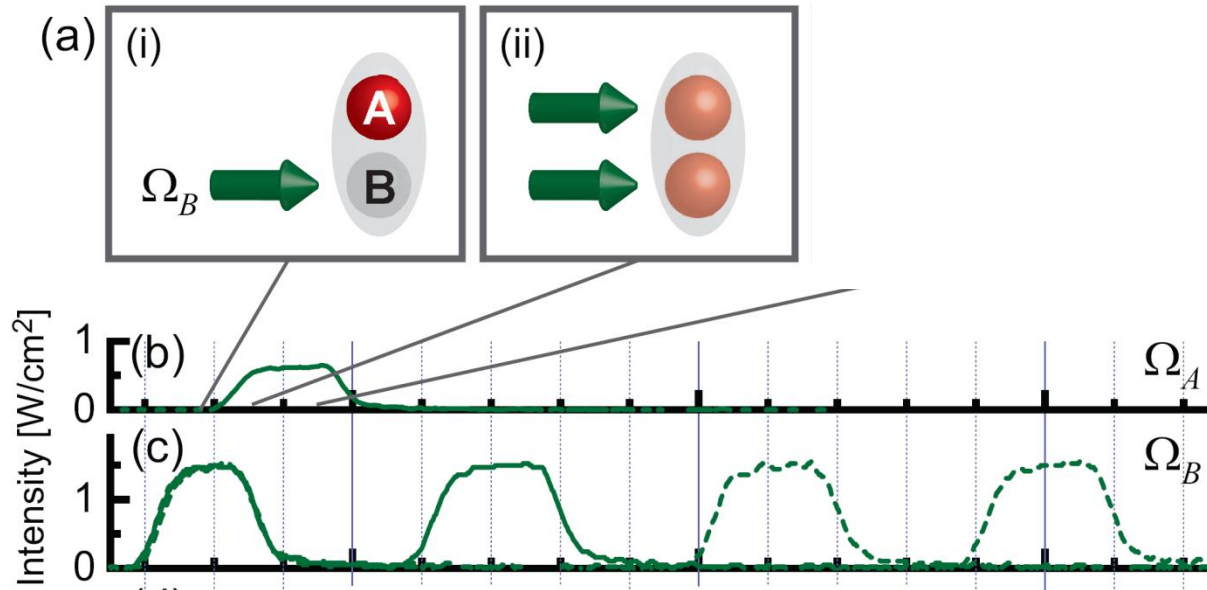
# Deterministic Entanglement Generation



- A net transfer of one photon from pump A to B.
- If the transfer is interrupted, in the idealized limit we expect a state

$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos\theta|1\rangle_A|0\rangle_B - e^{i\phi}\sin\theta|0\rangle_A|1\rangle_B$$

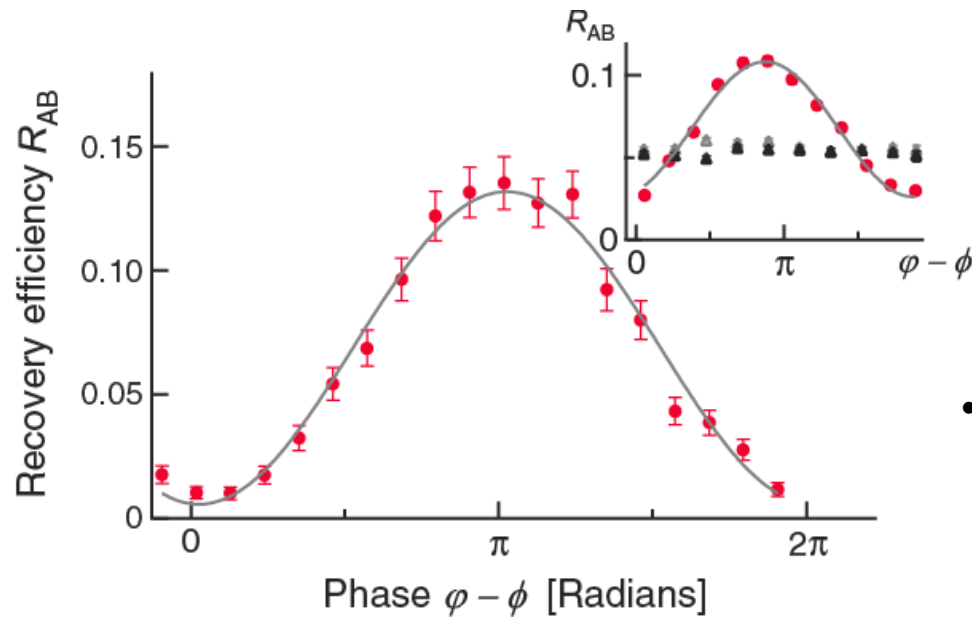
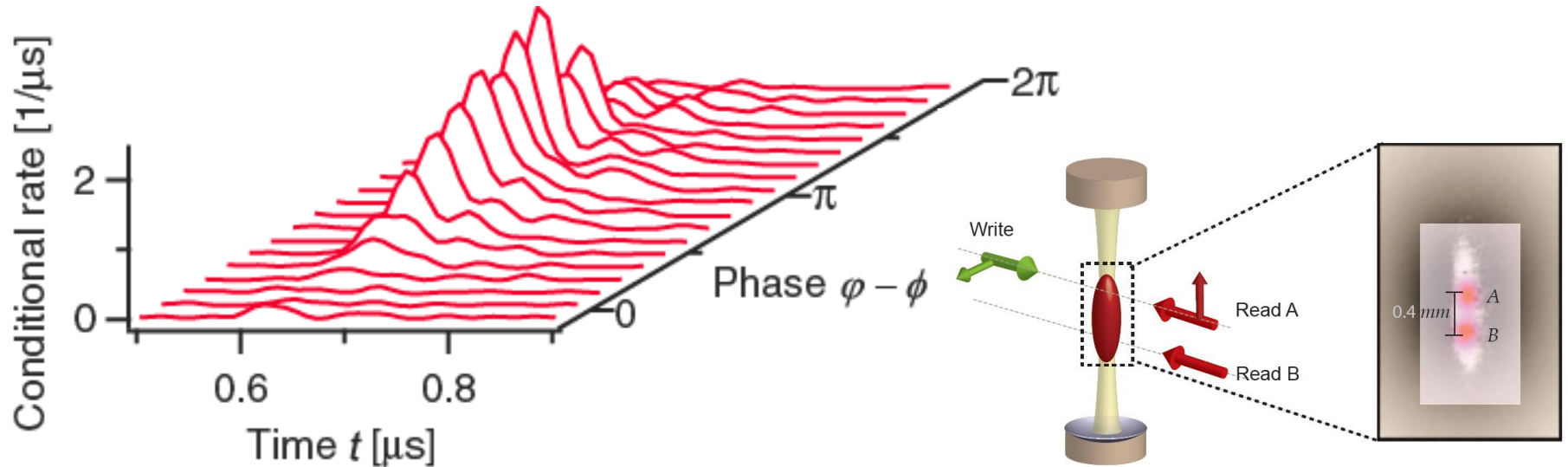
# Deterministic Entanglement Generation



$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos\theta|1\rangle_A|0\rangle_B - e^{i\phi}\sin\theta|0\rangle_A|1\rangle_B$$

- Angle  $\theta$  depends on the relative population of the two samples A and B
- Angle  $\phi$  depends on the phase difference between the pumps

# Phase Coherent Transfer



$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos\theta|1\rangle_A|0\rangle_B - e^{i\phi}\sin\theta|0\rangle_A|1\rangle_B$$

- Measured visibility of 88 %

# Entanglement Verification

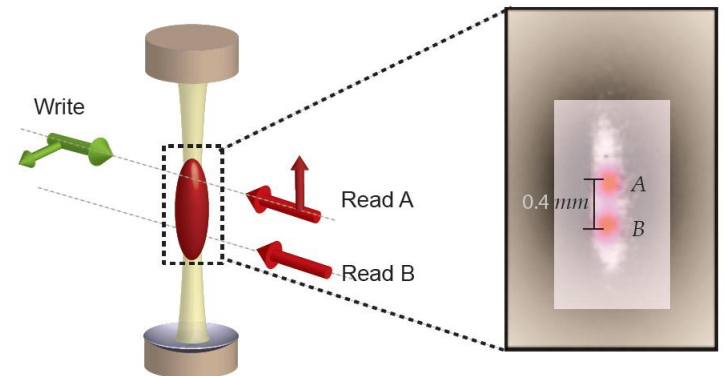
- Bounds on **concurrence** through photonic correlations

$$C = 2 \cdot \sqrt{m_{10}m_{01}} \left( \frac{|k|}{\sqrt{m_{10}m_{01}}} - \sqrt{\frac{m_{00}m_{11}}{m_{10}m_{01}}} \right) = 2m(V - \sqrt{G_{AB}})$$

$$\mathcal{C} \geq 0.041(11) > 0$$

- Single excitation regime:  $g_{AA} \leq g_{AA}^{photonic} = 0.13(8) < 1$
- With *post-selection*:

$$C_{post} \geq (V - \sqrt{G_{AB}}) = 0.41(11)$$



J. Simon, H. Tanji, S. Ghosh and V. Vulteic, *Nature Physics* **3**, 765, (2007).

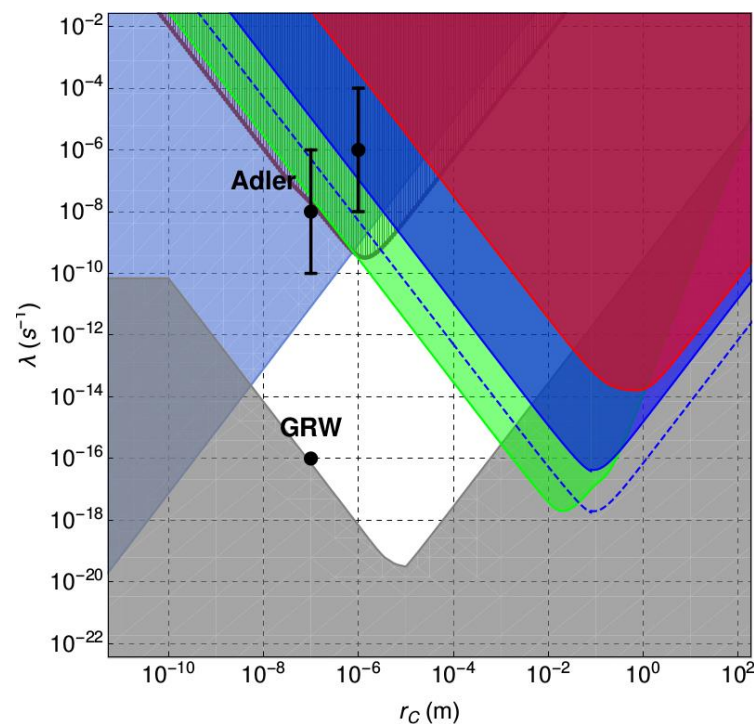
W. K. Wootters, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **80**, 2245 (1998).

# Many atoms: Outlook

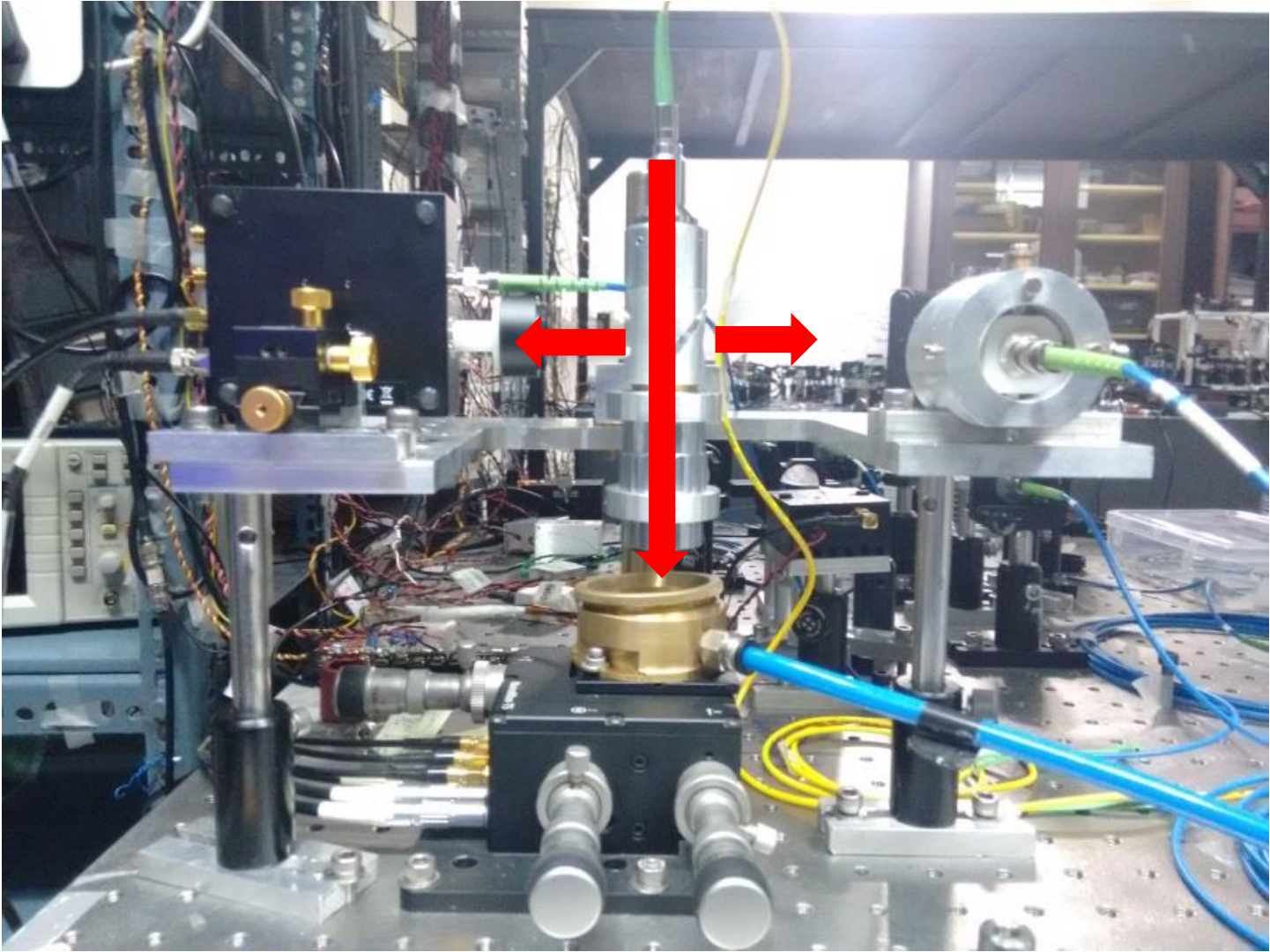
Can one scale up these techniques towards a cat, or at-least a kitten state?

$$|\Psi\rangle = \frac{|N\rangle|0\rangle + e^{iN\varphi}|0\rangle|N\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

In Angelo's graph, how many atoms(N) one requires to hit the middle?



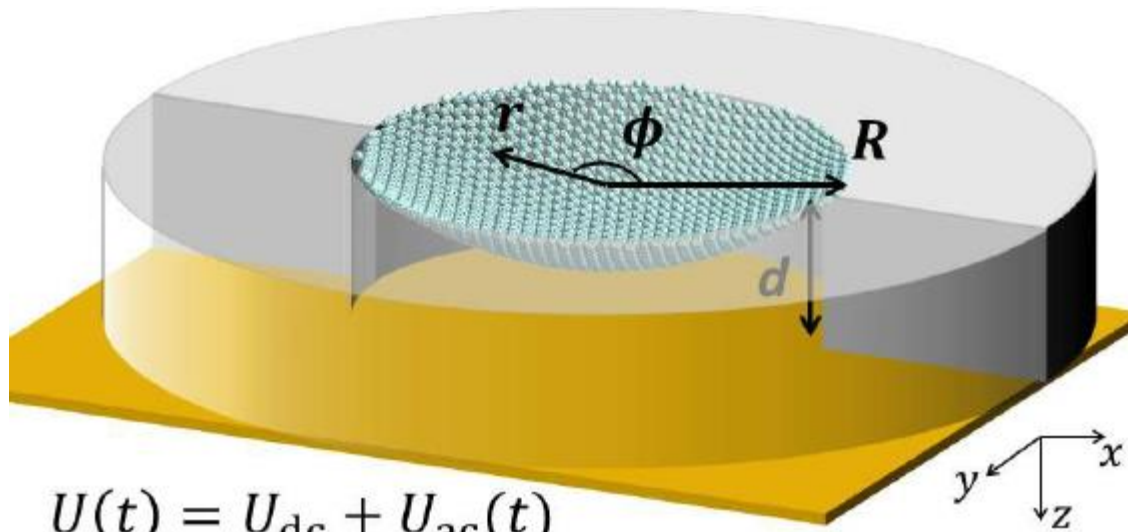
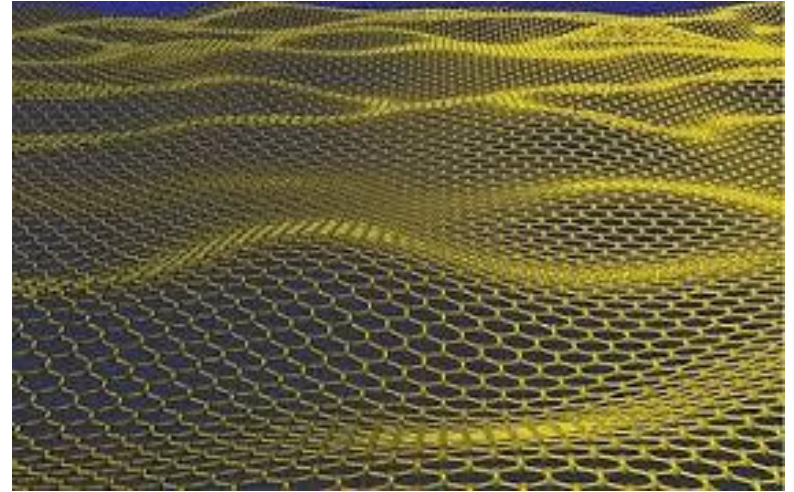
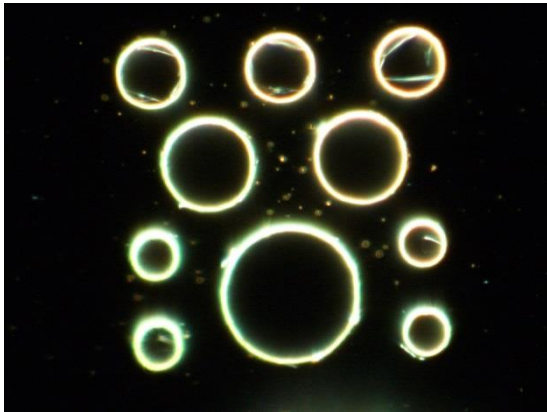
# Coherent Phononics



In collaboration with:  
Kirill Bolotin (Max Planck)



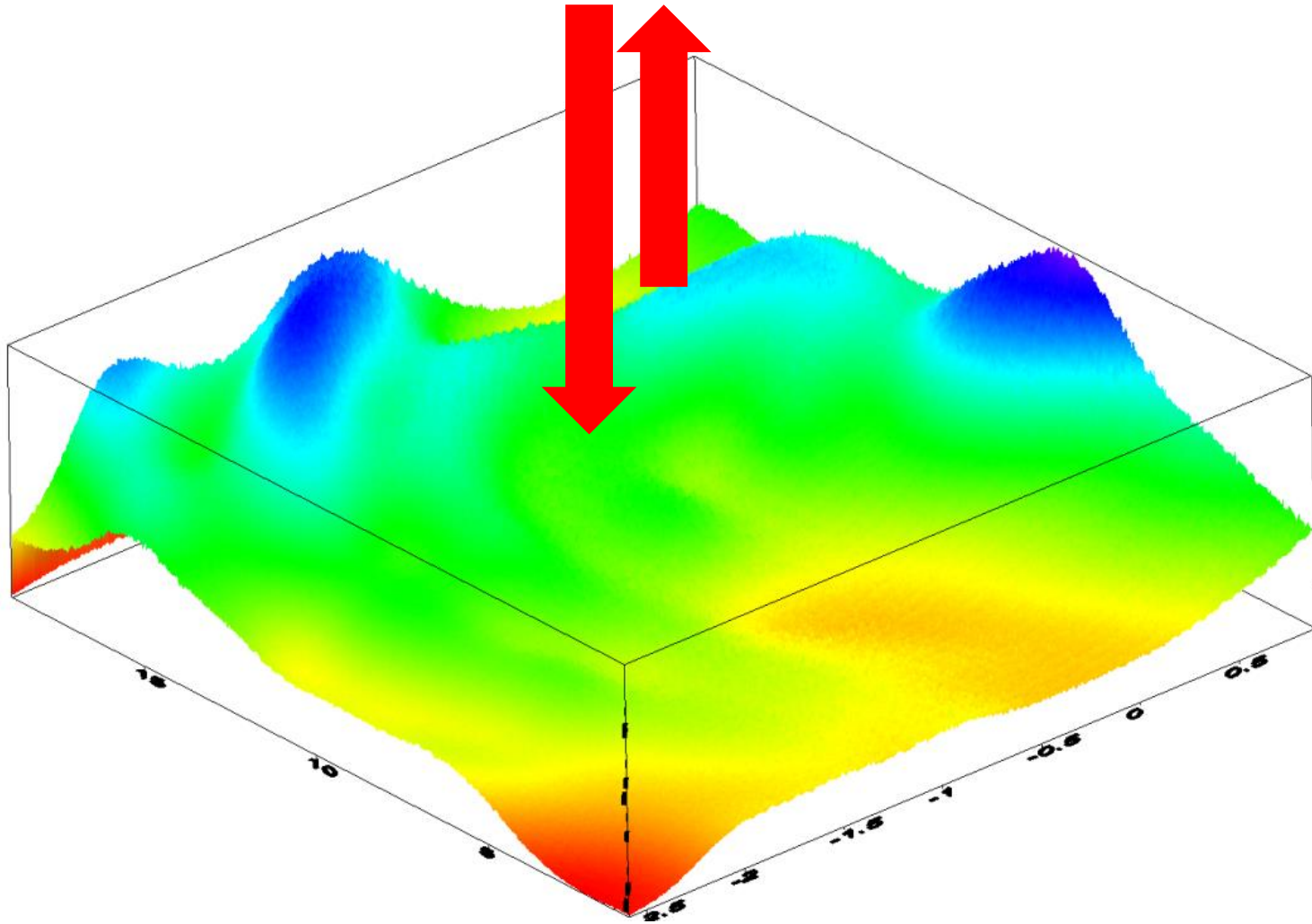
# Graphene Drums



In collaboration with:  
Kirill Bolotin (Max Planck)

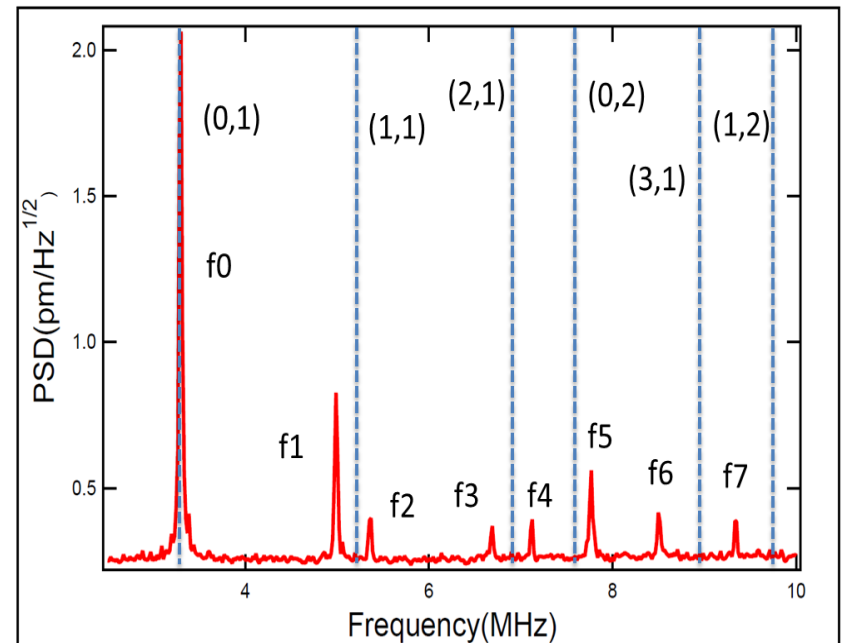
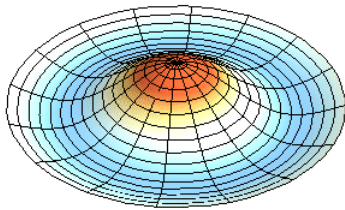
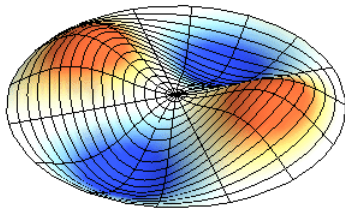
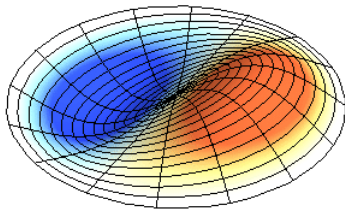
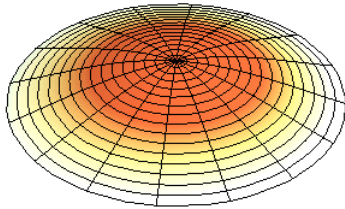


# Graphene Drums

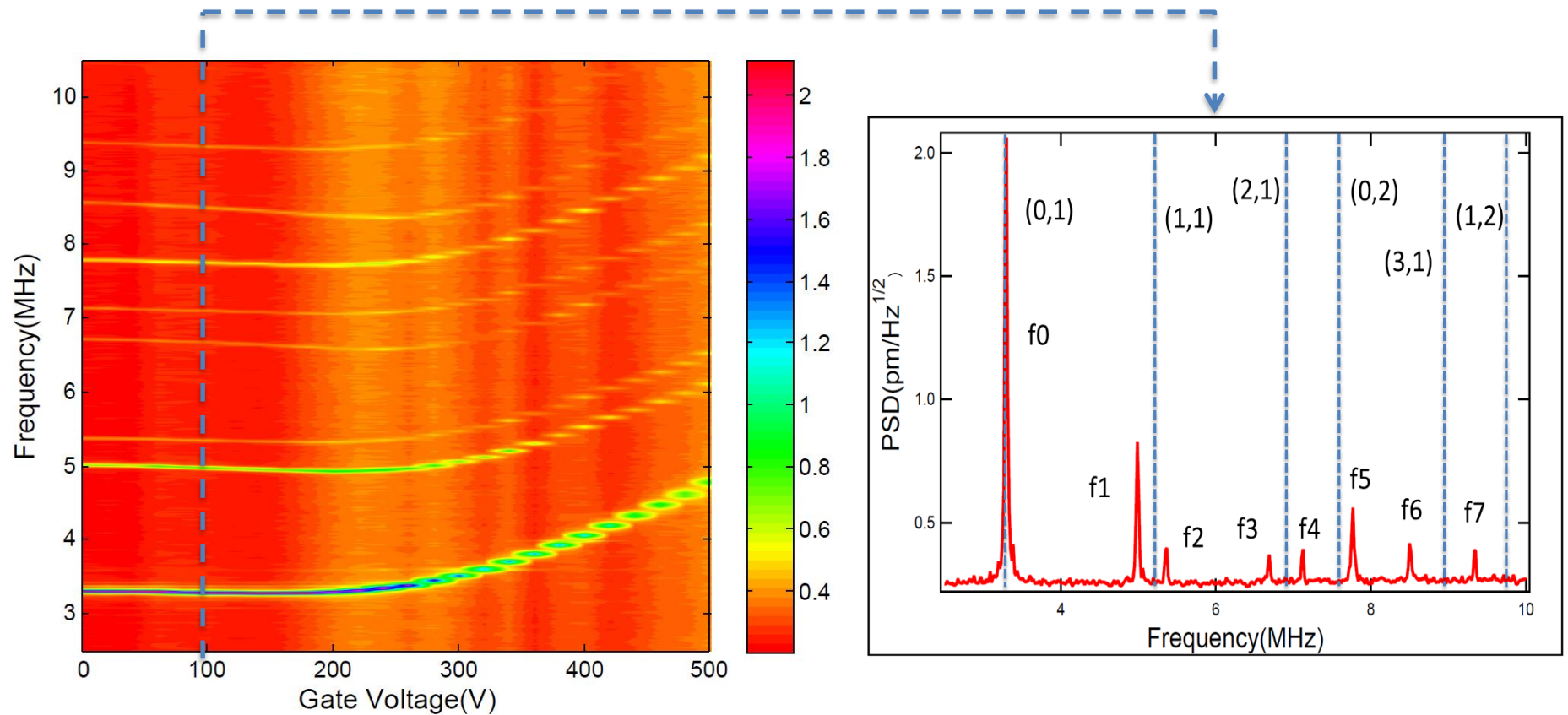


In collaboration with:  
Kirill Bolotin (Max Planck)

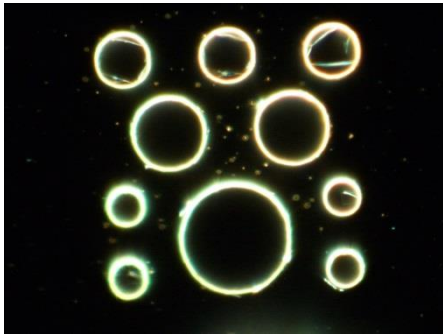
# Brownian walk of graphene membrane



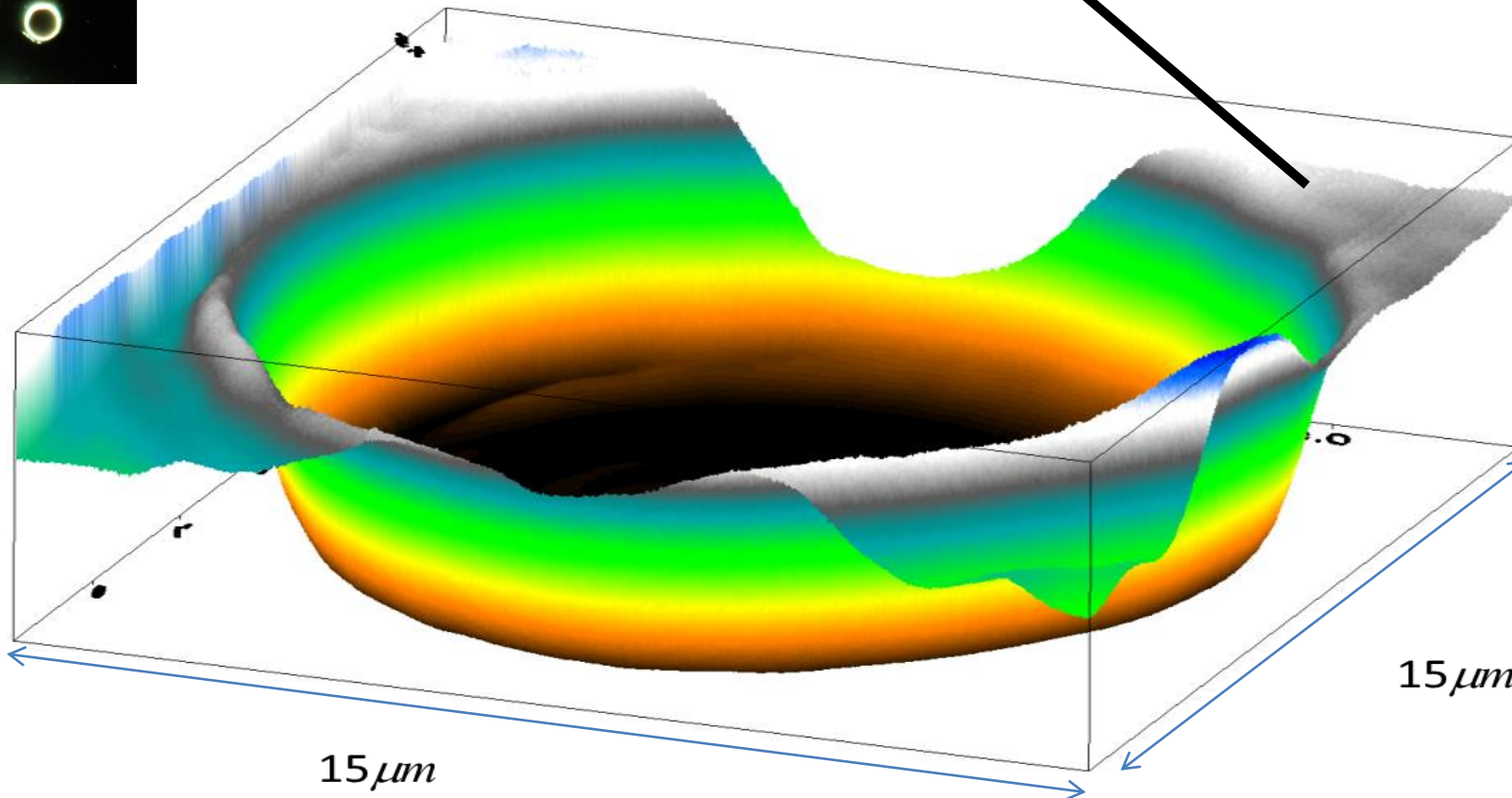
# Brownian walk of graphene membrane



# Coherent coupling of two harmonic oscillators

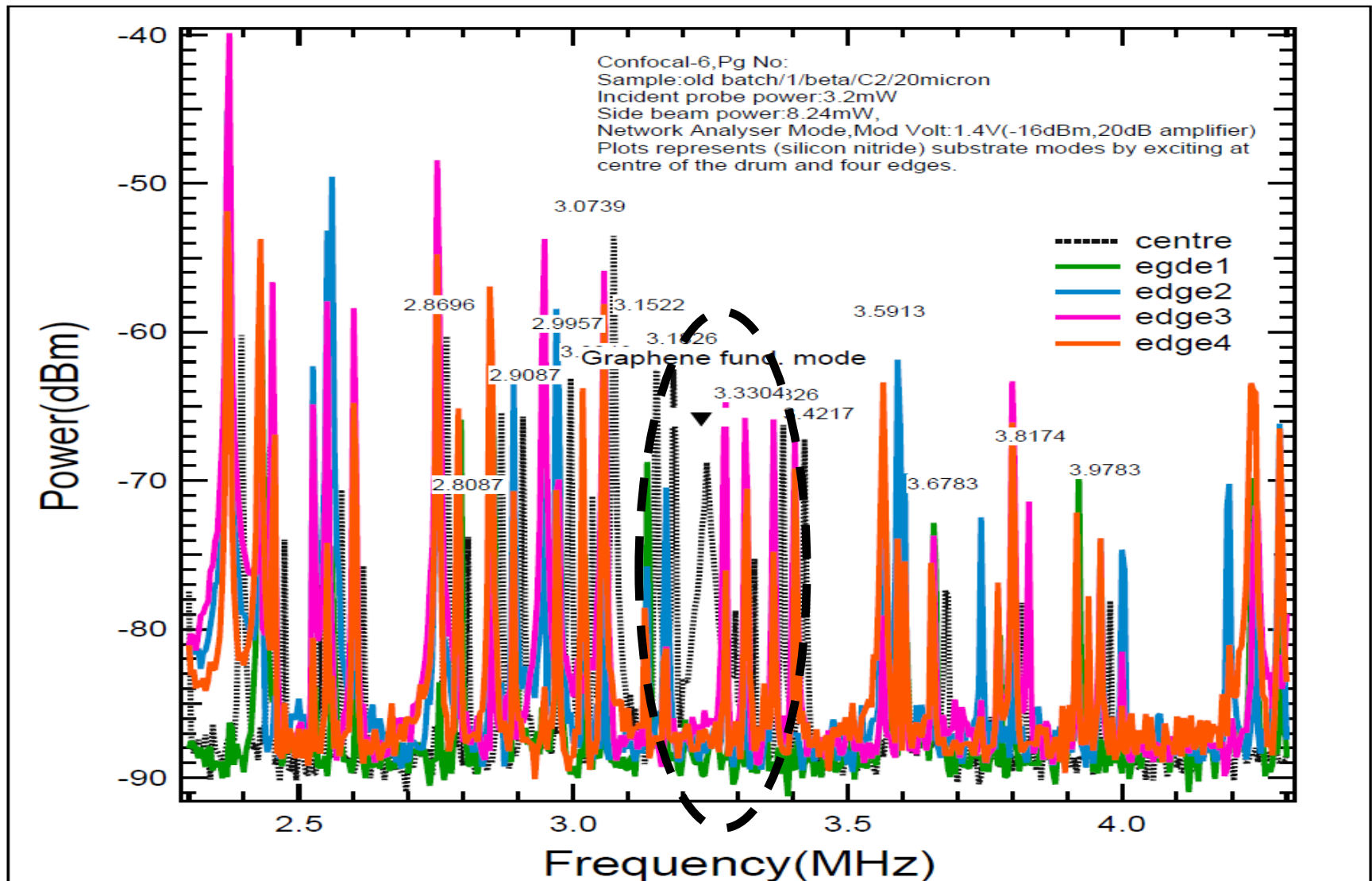


300 nm SiN Membrane



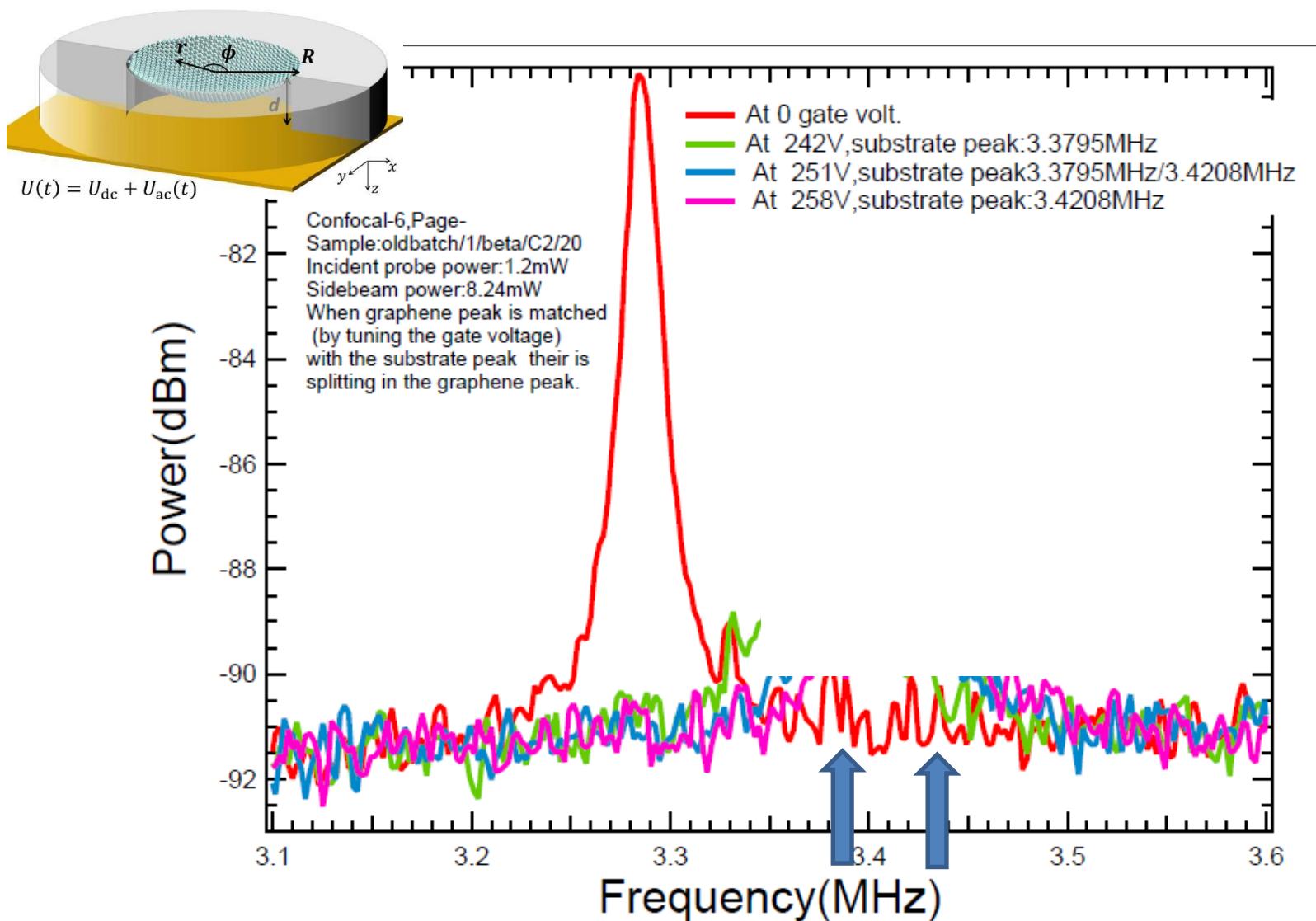
Free-standing graphene drums

# SiN substrate mode: Driven Oscillator



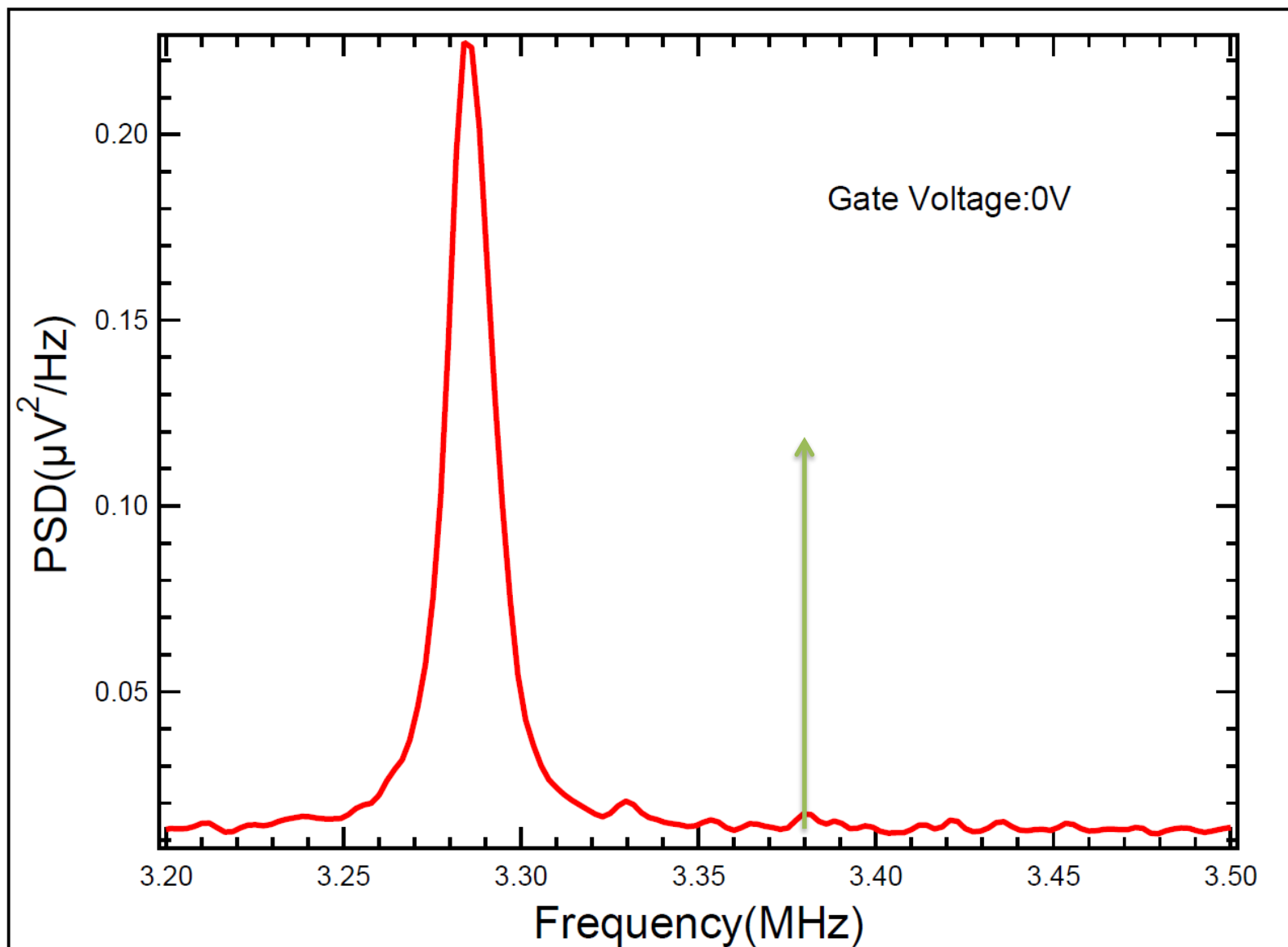


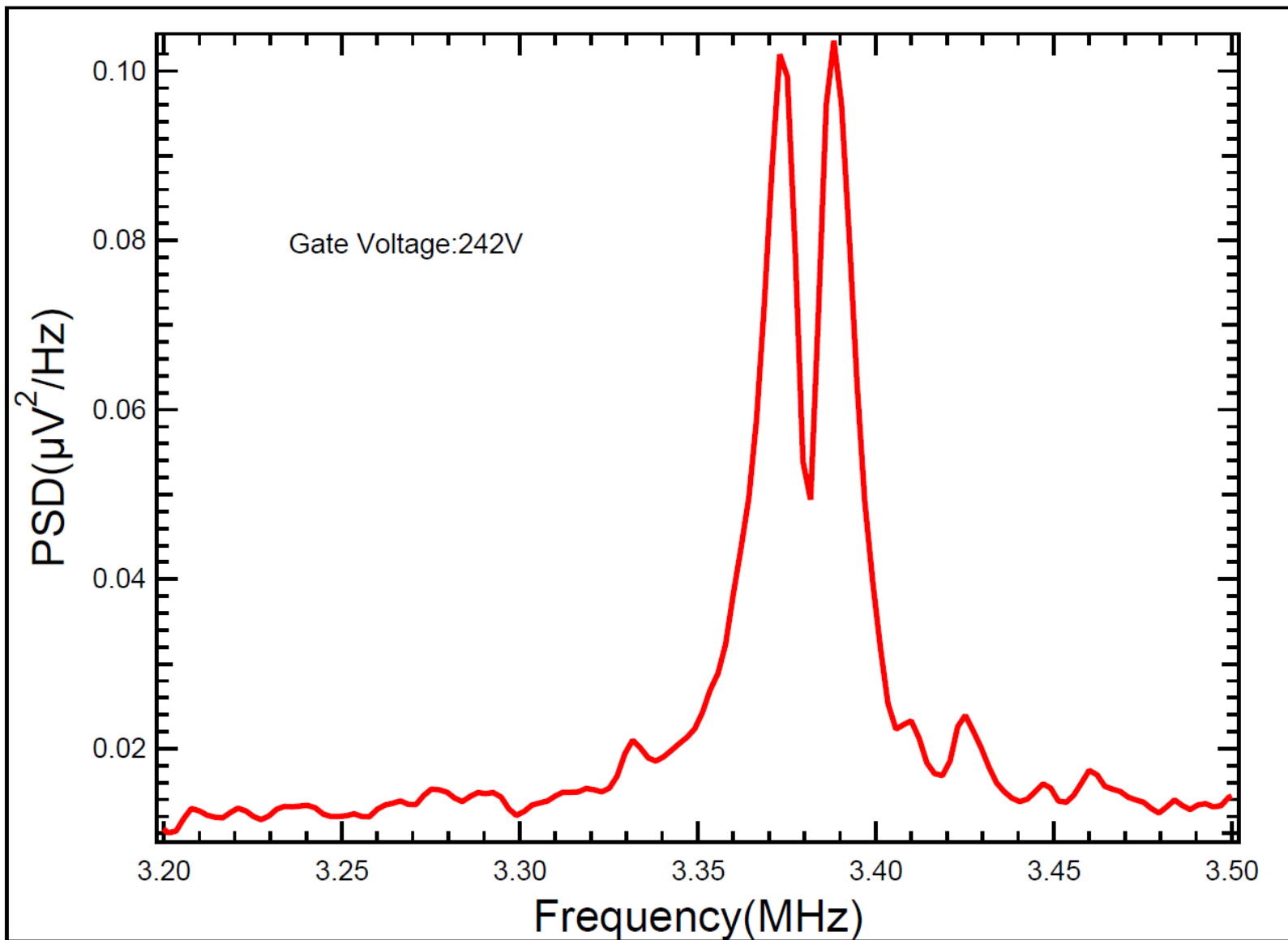
# Coherent interaction with phonons



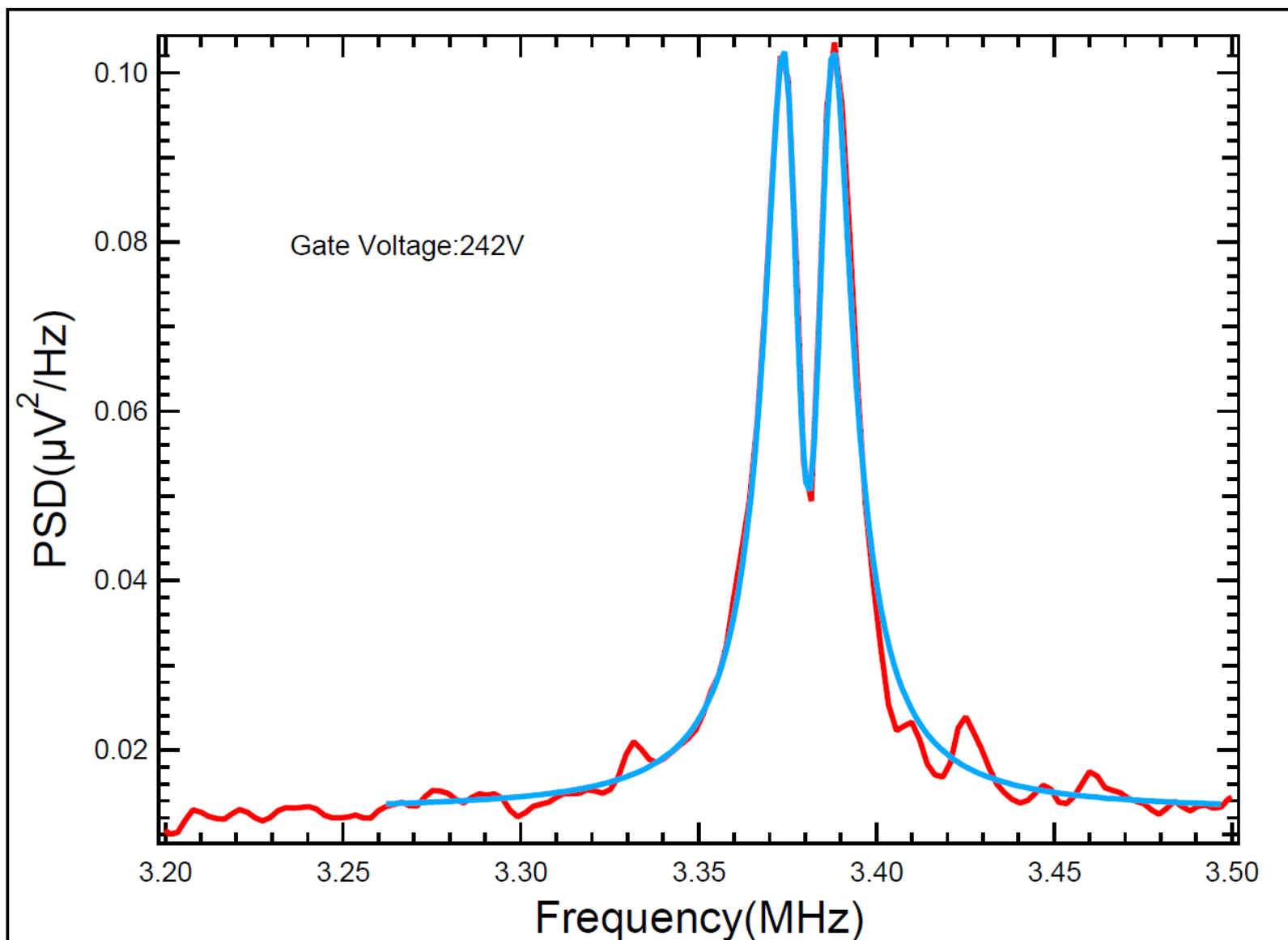
In collaboration with:

Kirill Bolotin (Max Planck) , Anjan Gupta, Amit Agarwal(IITK)

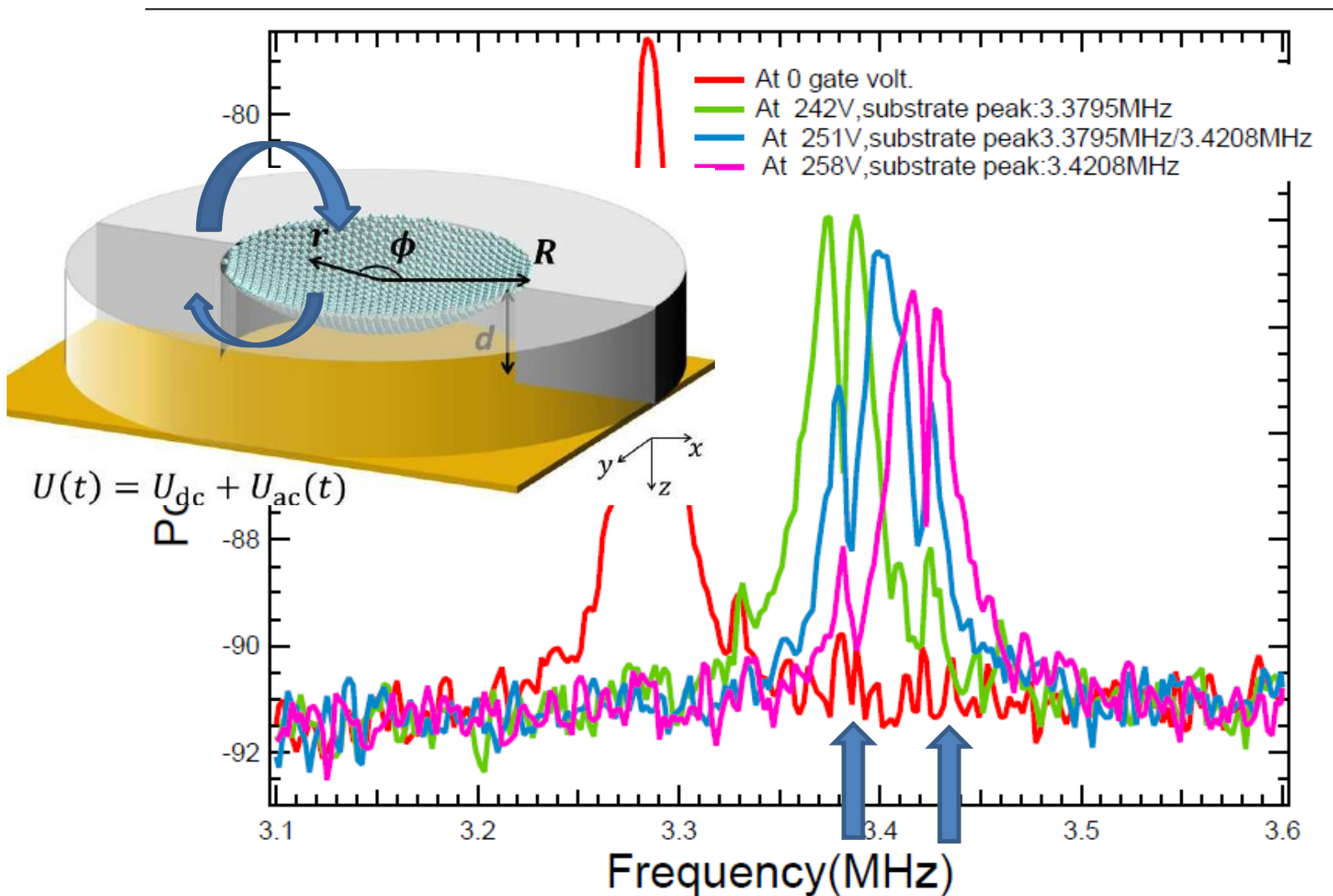








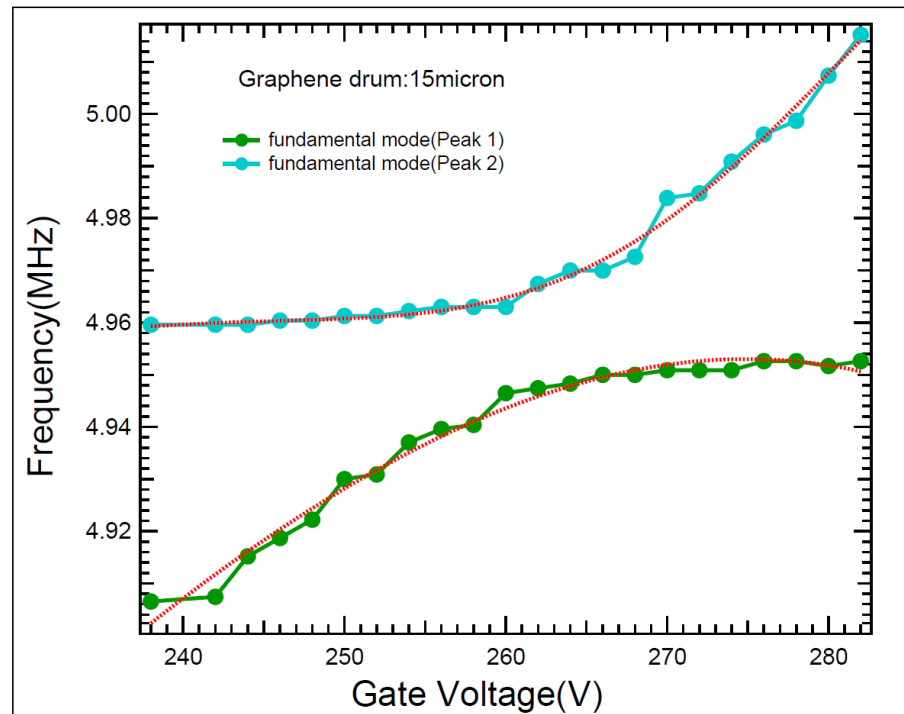
# A single phonon in a superposition



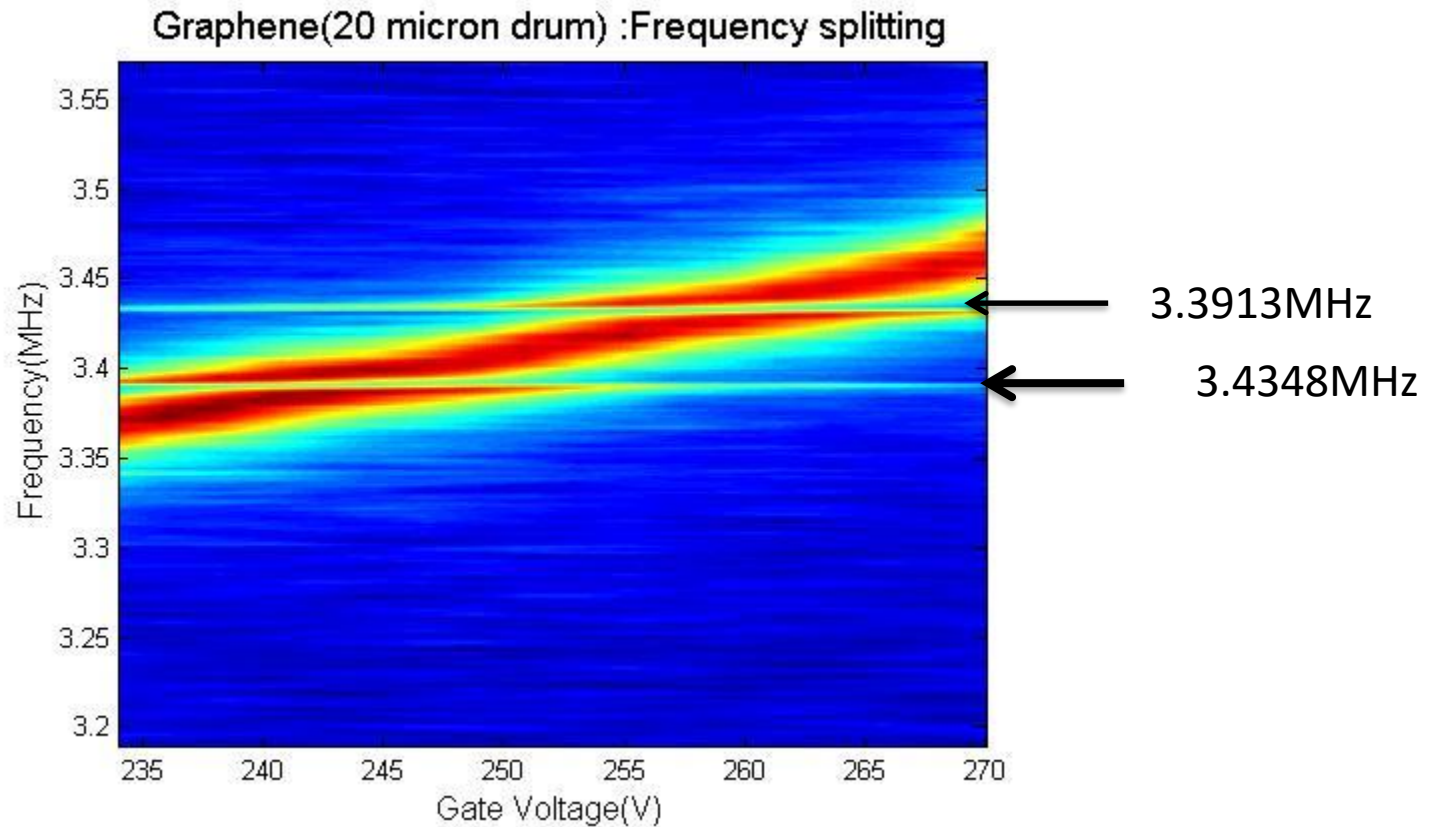
In collaboration with:

Kirill Bolotin (Max Planck) , Anjan Gupta, Amit Agarwal(IITK)

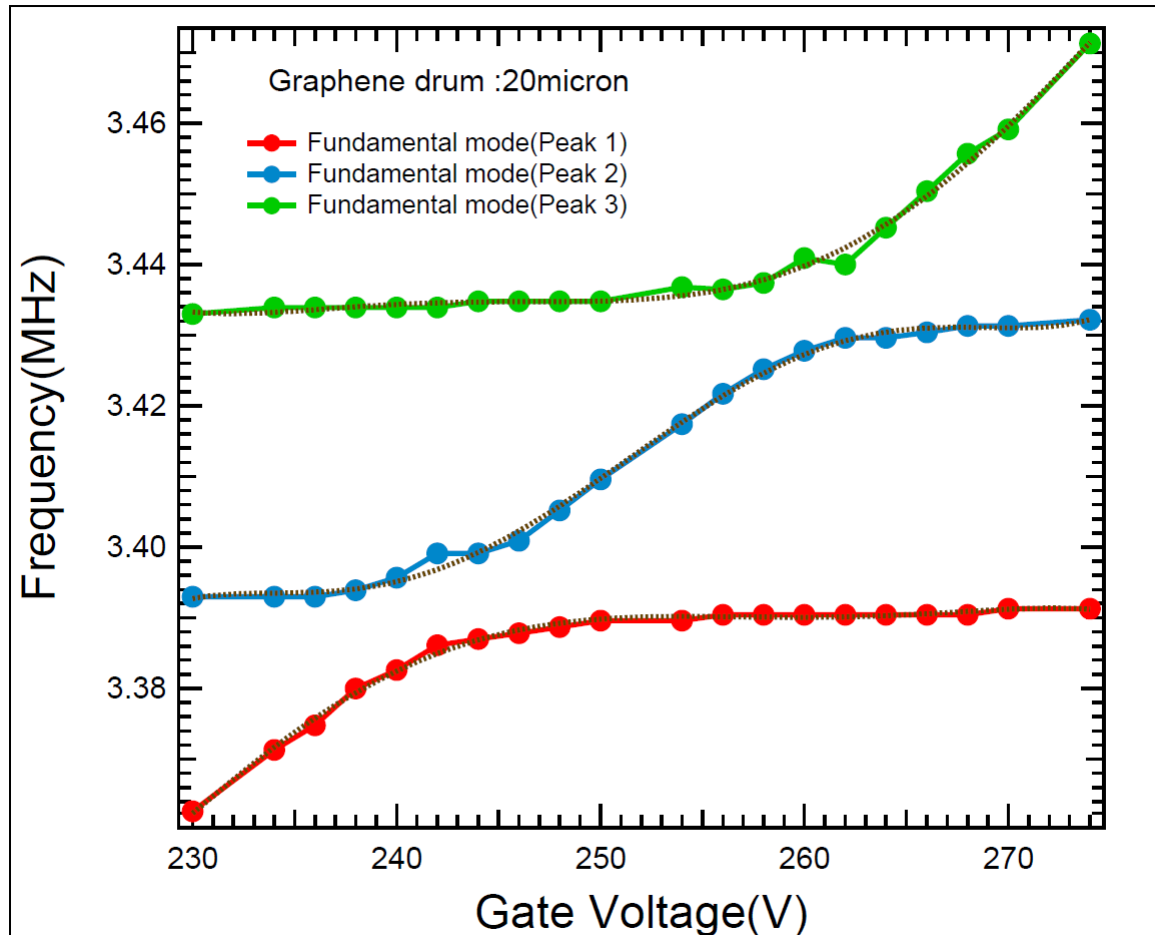
# Avoided Level Crossing



# Avoided Level Crossing

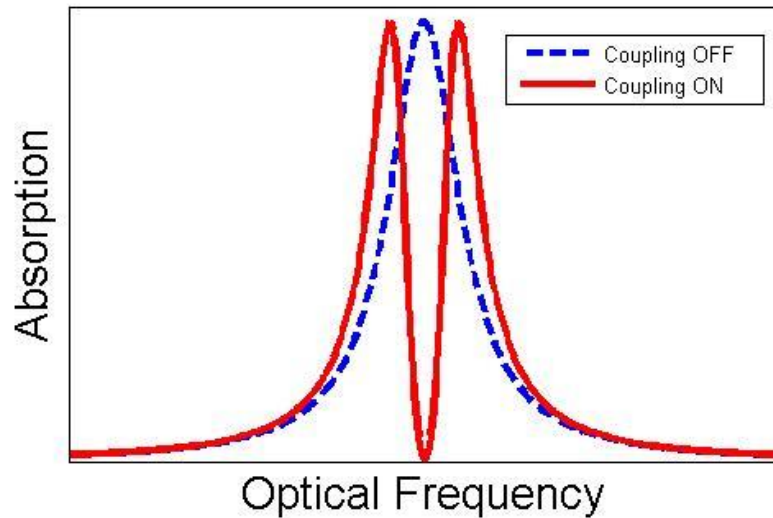


# Mixing of three states: EIT with phonons!

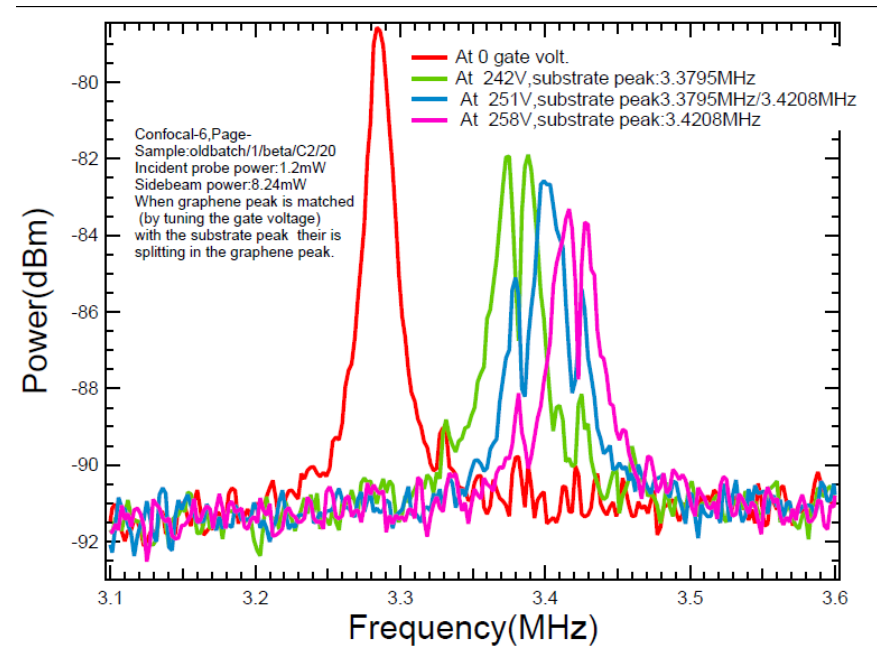


Frequency splitting:13KHz

# Conclusion



Photons



Phonons

- Understanding and engineering superposition of discrete quantum states