

## NV defects in diamond Physics and applications

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## From Paris to Montpellier...

















## An appealing material : **Diamond**

A perfect diamond would not absorb visible light...





...but many defects are optically active

Color centers



The « Hope » diamond (diamant bleu de la couronne, Louis XIV)



The « Hortensia » diamond (diamant rose de la couronne, Louis XIV)

## Defects in diamond, a real zoology...

more than 500 optically-active defects are known in diamond



## Outline

1. The NV defect in diamond

Main properties



2. Applications in 'quantum information science'



**3.** Magnetic sensing with a single NV defect



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## Nitrogen-Vacancy (NV) defect in diamond

> An artificial atom « trapped » in the diamond lattice



## Nitrogen-Vacancy (NV) defect in diamond

> An artificial atom « trapped » in the diamond lattice



Detection at the single emitter level at room T – perfect photostability

Gruber et al., Science 276, 2012 (1997)



## A robust single photon source



## A robust single photon source



## Engineering NV defect in diamond





2012

Spinicelli et al., NJP 13, 025014

μm

High purity diamond using CVD growth





Gicquel and Achard group(Villetaneuse)



Meijer group (Leipzig)







(z) : quantization axis of the defect

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- Spin-conserving optical transition  $\Delta m_s = 0$ .
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### (z) : quantization axis of the defect

### Important properties

- Spin-conserving optical transition  $\Delta m_s = 0$ .
- Spin-dependent ISC to singlet states.

### Consequences

- Polarization in m<sub>s</sub>=0 by optical pumping.
- Spin-dependent fluorescence.





## **Coherent spin manipulation**



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Coherence time – Ramsey fringes



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Coherence time – Ramsey fringes





High Pressure High Temperature (HPHT diamond)

 $[N] \simeq 100 \, \text{ppm}$  $[^{13}\text{C}] \simeq 1,1\%$ 

T<sub>2</sub>\*~ 100 ns





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Isotopically modified CVD-diamond

$$\begin{split} [\mathrm{N}] &\simeq 1\,\mathrm{ppb} \\ [^{13}\mathrm{C}] &\simeq 0,01\% \end{split}$$

#### **Spin-free lattice**

### Isotopically modified CVD-diamond

### D. Twitchen, Element 6



## Engineering the spin Hamiltonian

 $\mathcal{H} = DS_z^2 + \gamma_e BS_z + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$ 

zero-field splitting ~ 3 GHz

e-spin Zeeman ∼ 3 MHz/G

Strain/electric field *E*~100 kHz












$$[^{13}C] = 1.1\%$$











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## Nuclear spins as qubits





#### Coupling with nearby nuclear spins



## Discrete values of <sup>13</sup>C hyperfine splittings





#### Real-time evolution of a single <sup>13</sup>C nuclear spin @ room T



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Nuclear-spin dependent photon counting distributions



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Nuclear-spin dependent photon counting distributions



Initialization Fidelity 
$$\mathcal{F}_i > 99\%$$
  
Readout fidelity  $\mathcal{F}_r = 96 \pm 1\%$ 

Real-time evolution of a single <sup>13</sup>C nuclear spin @ room T



Probability for « no spin-flip » over a time  $\,\delta t$  :

 $\implies e^{-\delta t/T_1}$ 

*T*<sub>1</sub> : nuclear spin lifetime

- Increasing the collection efficiency
  e.g. with SIL or nanopillars
- $\succ$  Increasing the T<sub>1</sub>





Hadden *et al., APL* (2010) Babinec *et al., Nat. Nano* (2010)

#### Nuclear spin relaxation time





Real-time observation of the Overhauser field produced by a diluted nuclear spin bath [N nuclear spins] @ room T

Dréau et al. PRL 113, 137601 (2014)

Scaling-up...

10<sup>4</sup>

10<sup>3</sup>

0

10

20

Distance r (nm)

P. Neumann, Nat. Phys. 6, 249 (2010)



30

40

 $T_2 \sim 1 \text{ ms} \rightarrow r < 40 \text{ nm}$ 

#### Engineering NV defects by ion implantation



#### Improving the spatial resolution



Improving the spatial resolution

# Ion beam focused into an AFM tip Hole made by Focused Ion Beam 1µm

Cortesy of S. Pezzagna and J. Meijer (Leipzig)



#### Improving the spatial resolution

#### Ion beam focused into an AFM tip



Spatial resolution limited by diffraction  $\sim \lambda/2$ Sub-diffraction optical imaging is required STED

Hell, Opt. Lett. 19, 780-782 (1994)

Cortesy of S. Pezzagna and J. Meijer (Leipzig)









Nanoscale optical resolution

Rittweger, Nat. Phot. (2009)



Main advantage of NV defects ... its perfect photostability

Rittweger, Nat. Phot. (2009)





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Back to the implantation through the AFM tip





Array of NV defects coupled by dipolar coupling (remains highly challenging...)



□ Long distance entanglement with a spin/photon interface



#### (with trapped ions)

Moehring, *Nature* 449, 68 (2007) Olmshenk, *Science* 323, 486 (2009)

challenging as well...

#### Long-distance entanglement with a spin/photon interface



Long-distance entanglement with a spin/photon interface

Loophole-free violation of a Bell inequality using entangled electronspins separated by 1.3 km



Hansen, Nature 526, 682 (2015) - R. Hanson group (Delft)



#### Hybrid quantum systems



Kubo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 220501 (2011) - P. Bertet (CEA)

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#### The seminal proposal

Chernobrod and Berman "Spin microscope based on optically detected magnetic resonance" J. Appl. Phys. **97** 014903 (2005).



Proposal for NV defects : Taylor, Nat. Phys. (2008), Degen, APL (2008) First proof of principle : Maze, Nature (2008), Balasubramanian, Nature (2008)




# Scanning-NV magnetometry



- ★ Atomic-sized detection volume
- ★ Quantitative and vectorial
- ★ No magnetic back-action

# Scanning-NV magnetometry



## Imaging the core of a magnetic vortex

AFM image



Rondin, Nat. Com. 4, 2279 (2013)

Maletinsky group (Basel)

## Information storage and processing



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HDD : mechanical motion

large energy consumption

> use current-induced motion (spin torque)



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HDD : mechanical motion

large energy consumption

> use current-induced motion (spin torque)

e.g.: the domain wall (DW) "racetrack memory"



## Ferromagnets "shrink" to few atomic layers...



e.g.: the domain wall (DW) "racetrack memory"



### Domain walls in ultrathin ferromagnets



#### Inner structure of a domain wall

Bloch wall

Néel wall (right)

<u>++++</u>×++++++

Bloch walls are predicted by elementary magnetostatic theory

Néel wall (left)

<u>++++</u>×++++++

#### Inner structure of a domain wall



### Inner structure of a domain wall

Bloch wall

Néel wall (right)

<u>+++++</u>

Bloch walls are predicted by elementary magnetostatic theory

But inconsistencies in recent current-induced domain wall motion experiments *Miron et al., Nat. Mater. 10, 419 (2011)* 

Ryu et al., Nat. Nano. 8, 527 (2013)
Interfacial Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction proposed as a way to stabilize Néel walls

Thiaville et al., EJP 100, 57002 (2012)

Néel wall (left)

<u>++++</u>



Fert et al. Nat. Nano. 8, 152 (2013)

#### Determining the structure of the DW



#### Determining the structure of the DW



## DW imaging with a scanning NV magnetometer



## DW imaging with a scanning NV magnetometer





AFM





















AFM

 $\otimes$ 

40

20

0

Height (nm)

200 nm

 $\odot$ 







Zeeman shift (MHz)



## Quantum sensing with NV defects





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#### Quantum information, Spin physics

