

Rare Earth Doped Nanostructures: Quantum Leaps for Optical Technologies

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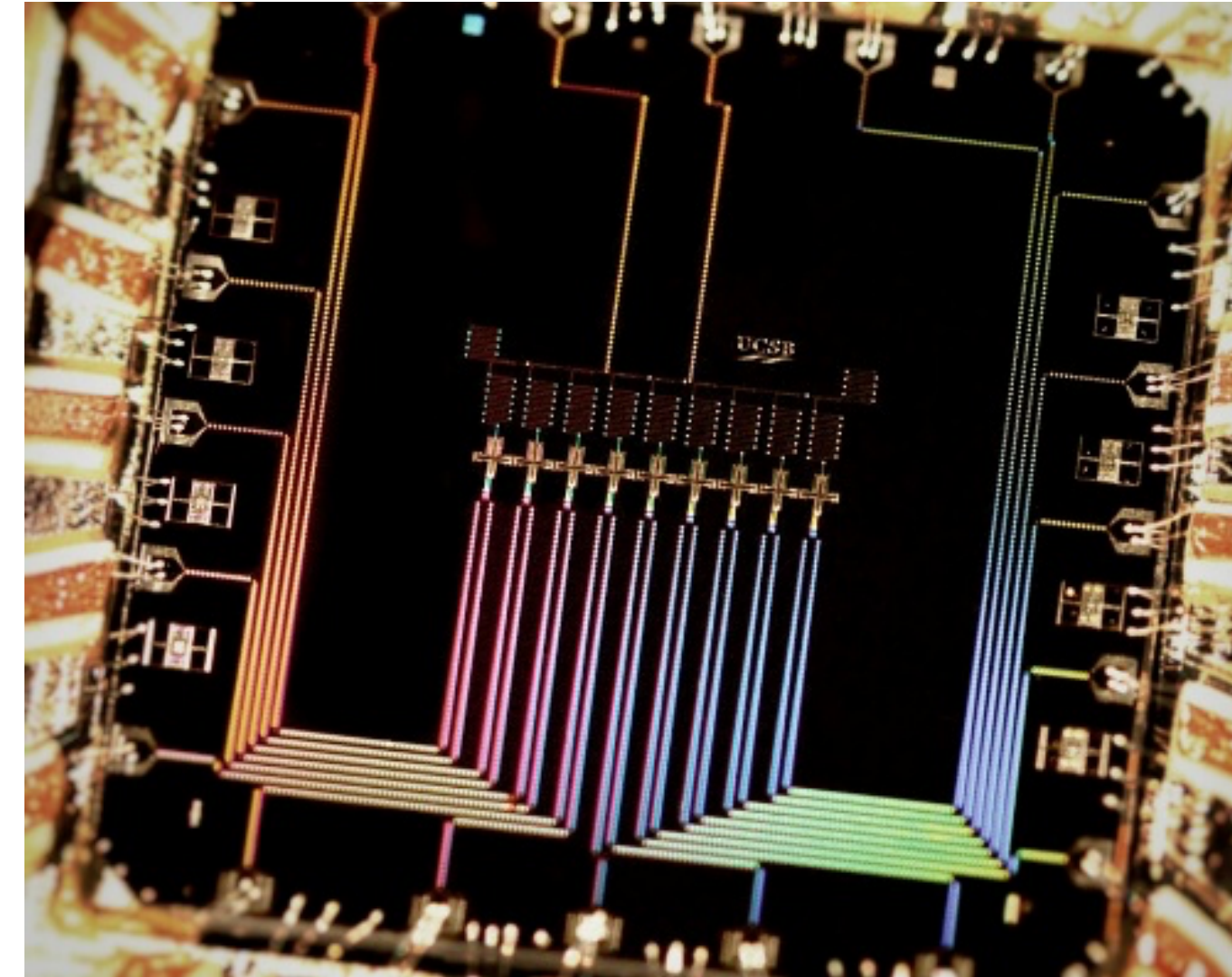
Computing

The Sunway TaihuLight



10 million CPU - 10^{17} operations/s

A digital quantum computer



Google

49 quantum registers by 2017

Quantum Technologies

Applications

Quantum computing

Molecule, drugs, material design

Machine learning

Quantum sensing

Magnetic and electric fields

Forces, gravity

Quantum communication

Quantum internet

Quantum cryptography

Quantum technology companies



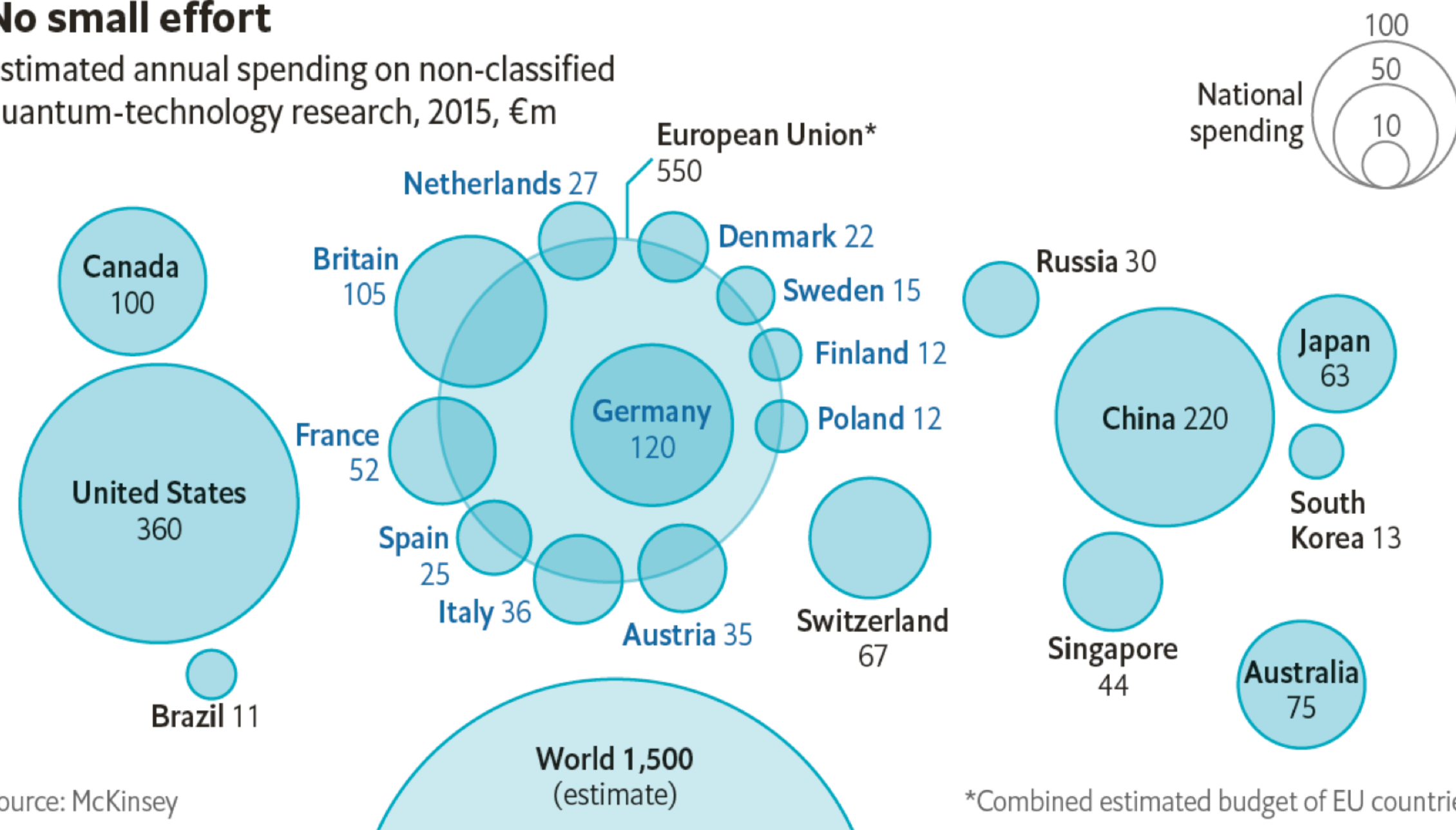
High-tech companies



No Small Effort

No small effort

Estimated annual spending on non-classified quantum-technology research, 2015, €m



Source: McKinsey

*Combined estimated budget of EU countries

The Economist, 2017

Large scale research programs

China : five-year national plan
(2016-2020)

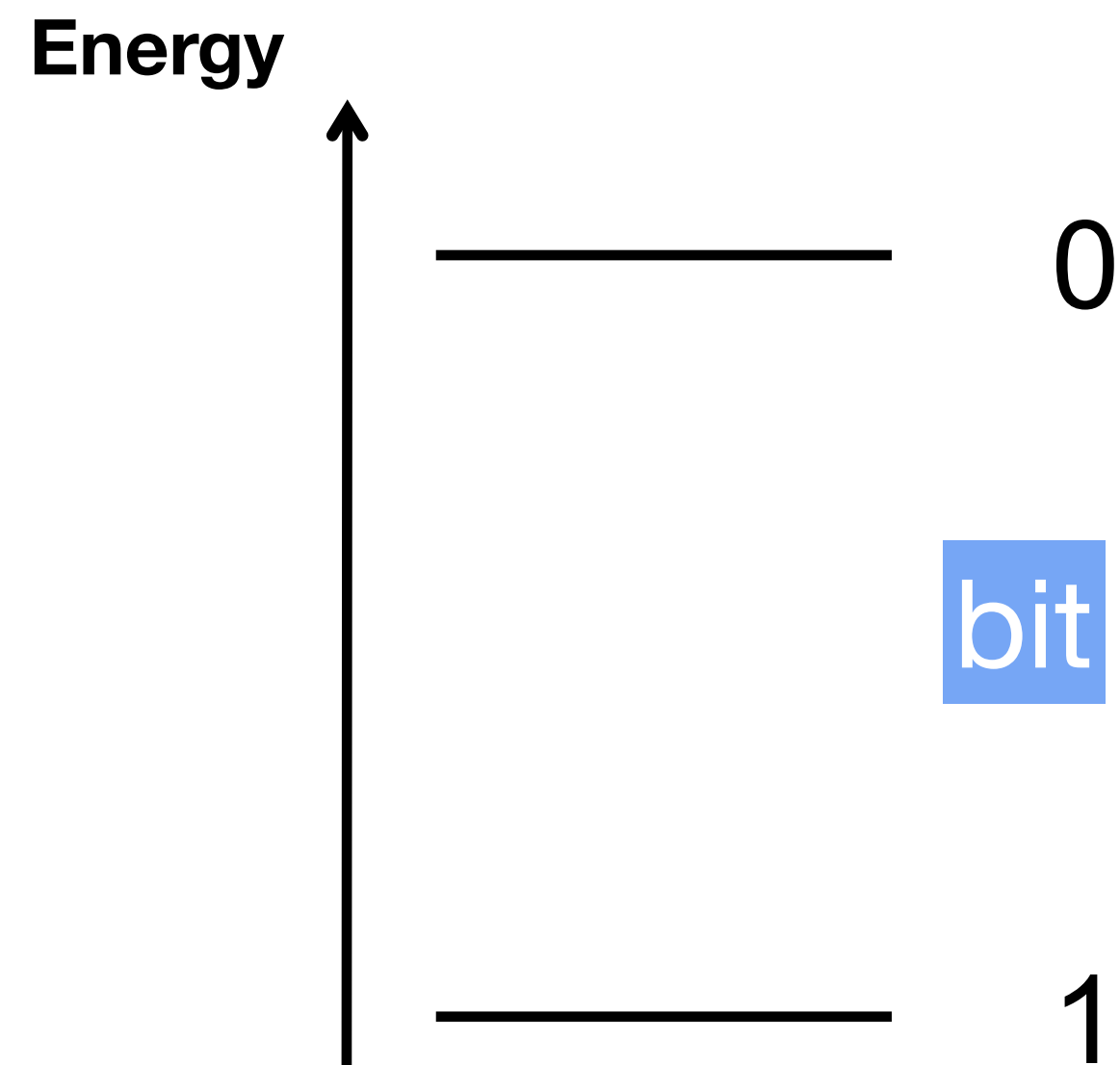
UK Quantum Tech. Programme
(2015-2019, 300 M€)

EU Quantum Flagship
(2018-2028, 1 B€)

A new platform

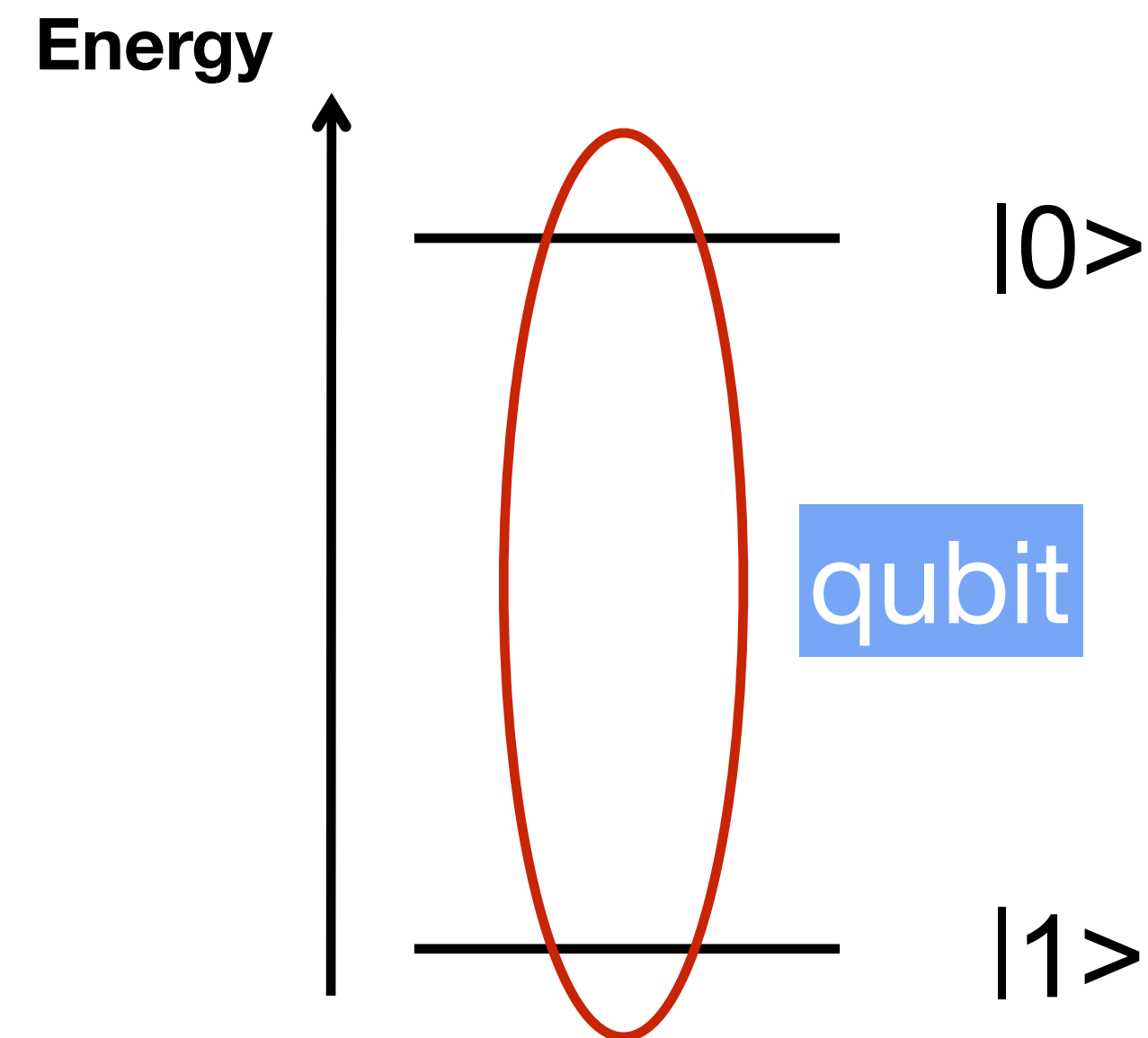
Quantum States

Classical system



2 states: '0' and '1'

Quantum system



Quantum states:
 $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$

IR
CP

Lifetime

classical:

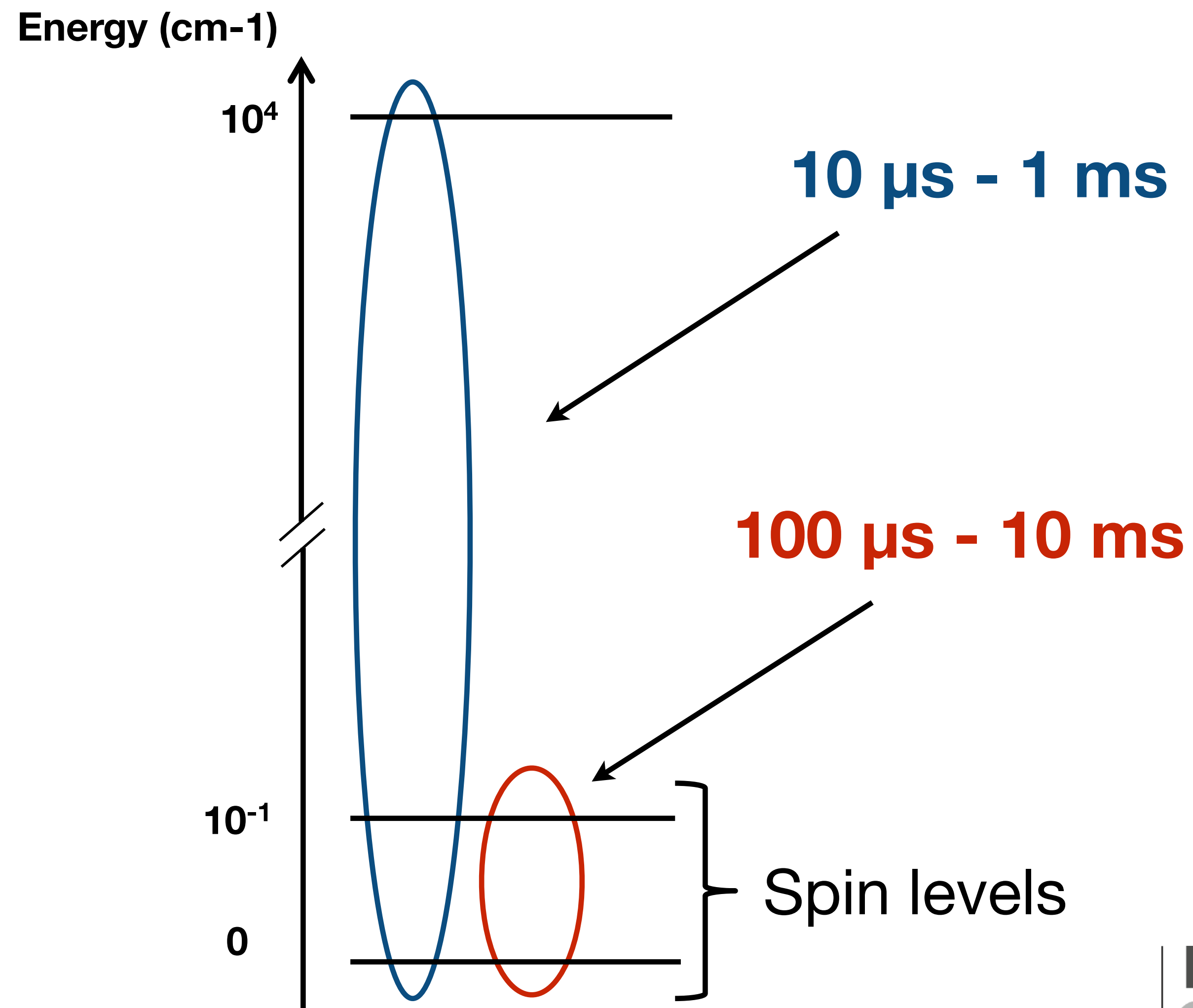
energy exchange
population lifetime, T_1

quantum:

α/β **perturbation**
coherence lifetime, T_2

$T_2 < T_1$

Rare Earth Ions: Qubits



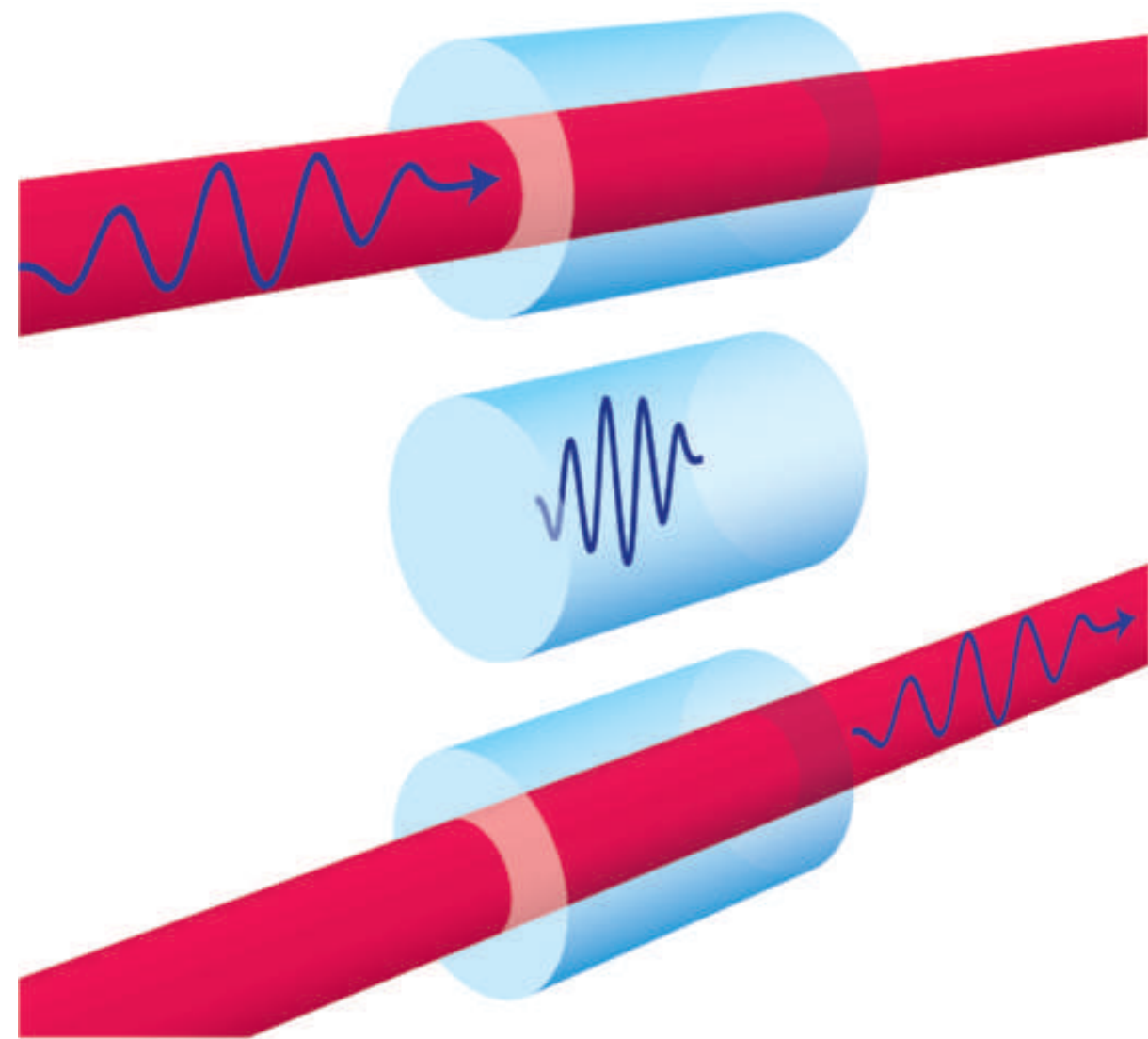
Optical transitions in the visible and infrared range

Screening of 4f electrons: long optical T₂ (at LHe temp)

Electron and/or nuclear spins

RE: Interfaces and Memories

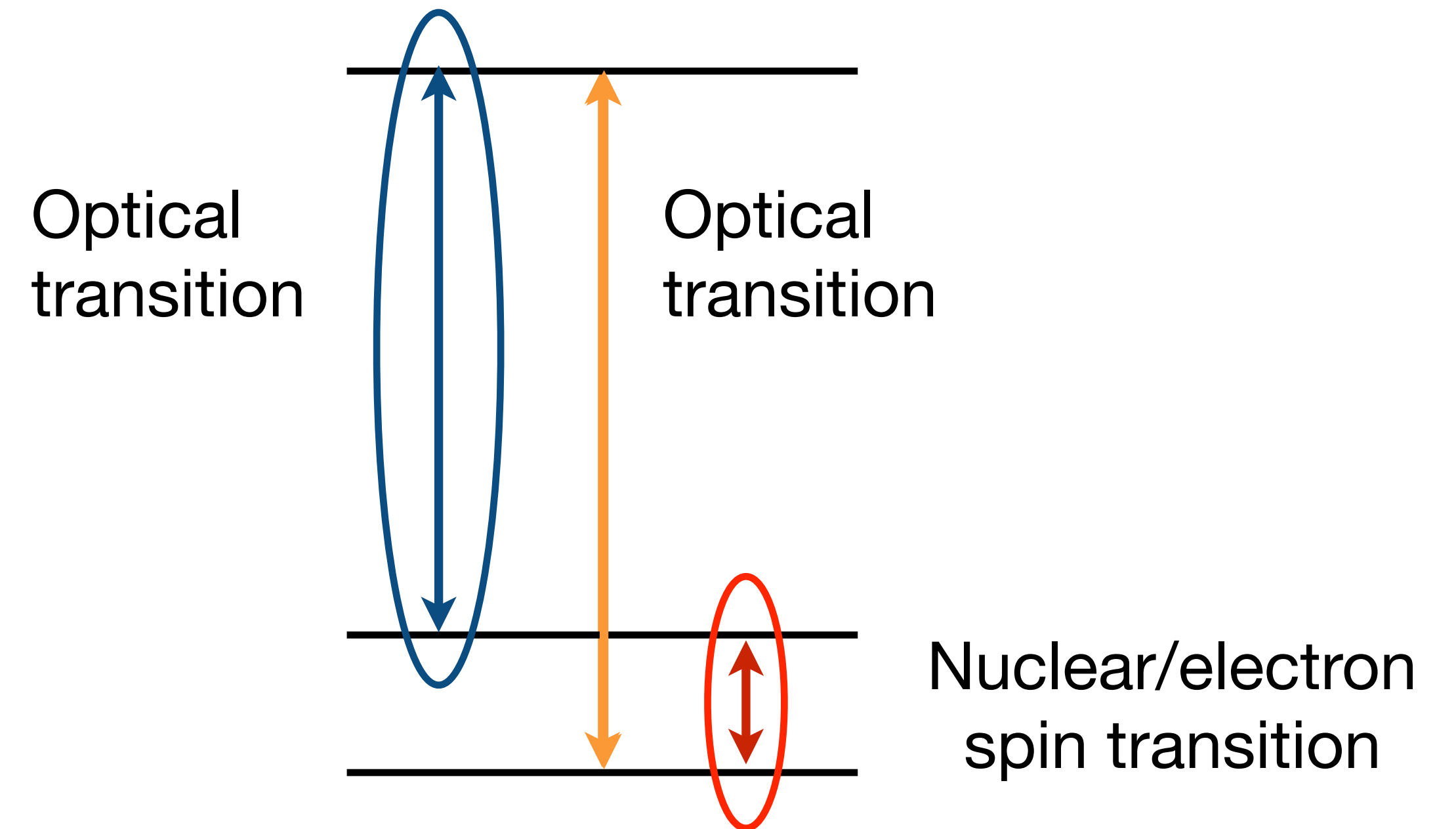
With light



Quantum memories
for optical photons

W. Tittel et al., Nature Photon. 2009.

Between internal states



Long storage time
Microwave/optical quantum interface

Some Results in Bulk Materials

Material properties

Optical coherence lifetimes

$\text{Er}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$: up to 4 ms

T. Böttger et al., Phys. Rev. B 2009.

Spin coherence lifetimes

$\text{Eu}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$: up to 6 hours

M. Zhong et al., Nature 2015.

State transfer

Optical to spin

$\text{Pr}^{3+}:\text{La}_2(\text{WO}_4)_3$: spin control

M. Lovric, ..., PG, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2013.

Electron to nuclear spin

$\text{Nd}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$: high fidelity

G. Wolfowicz, ..., PG, Phys. Rev. Lett. 2015.

Quantum information

Optical memories

$\text{Nd}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$: teleportation

*F. Bussi eres, ..., PG et al.,
Nat. Photonics 2015.*

Er^{3+} glass fiber: 1.5 μm storage

*E. Saglamyurek et al.,
Nat. Photonics 2015.*

Microwave memories

$\text{Er}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$: strong coupling

S. Probst et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 2013.

At the nanoscale

Nanoscale Systems

New opportunities

Enhanced light-matter interactions

micro/nano optical cavities

Single center detection and control

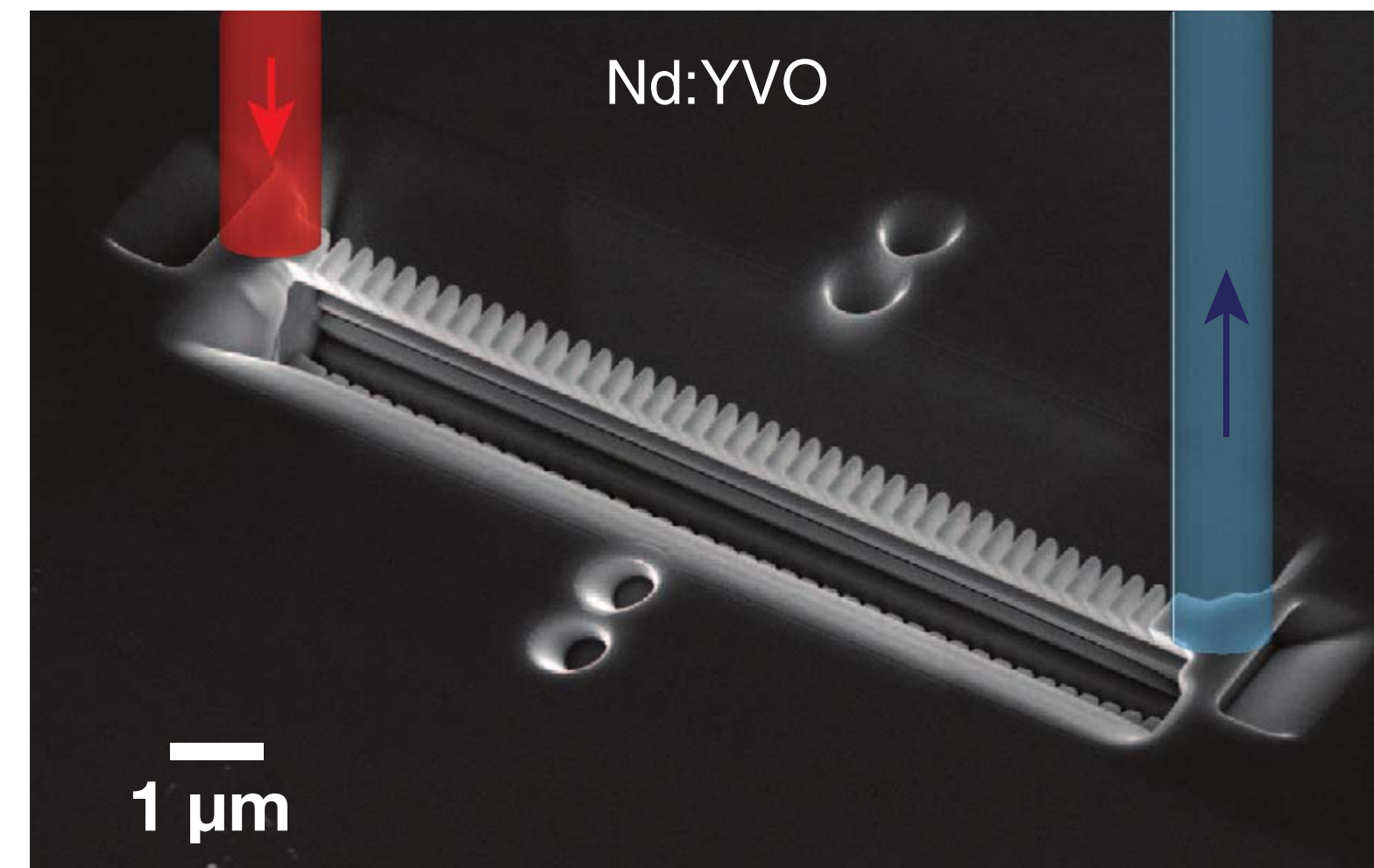
small detection volume

Hybrid quantum systems

interactions at short distances

An example

Optical nano-resonator



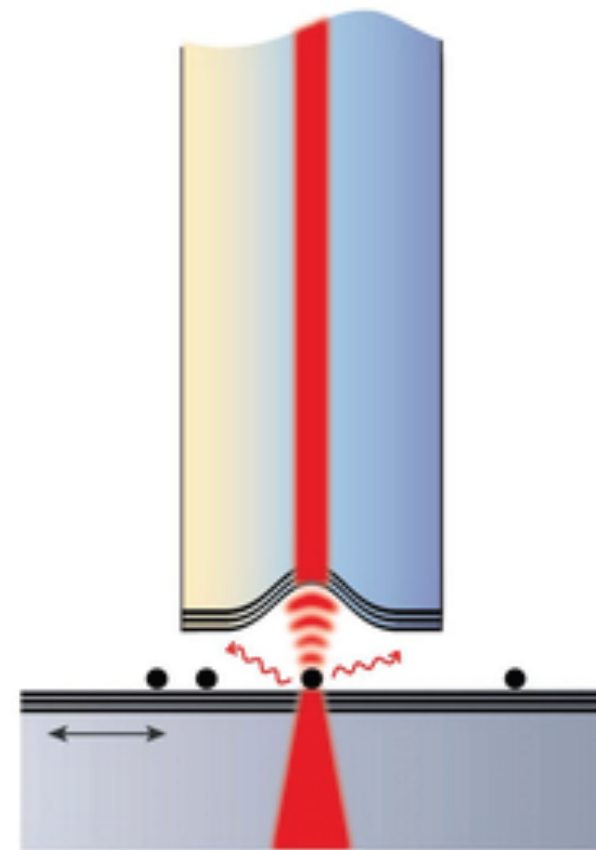
A Versatile Approach

Bottom-up synthesis

Nanoparticles

Thin films

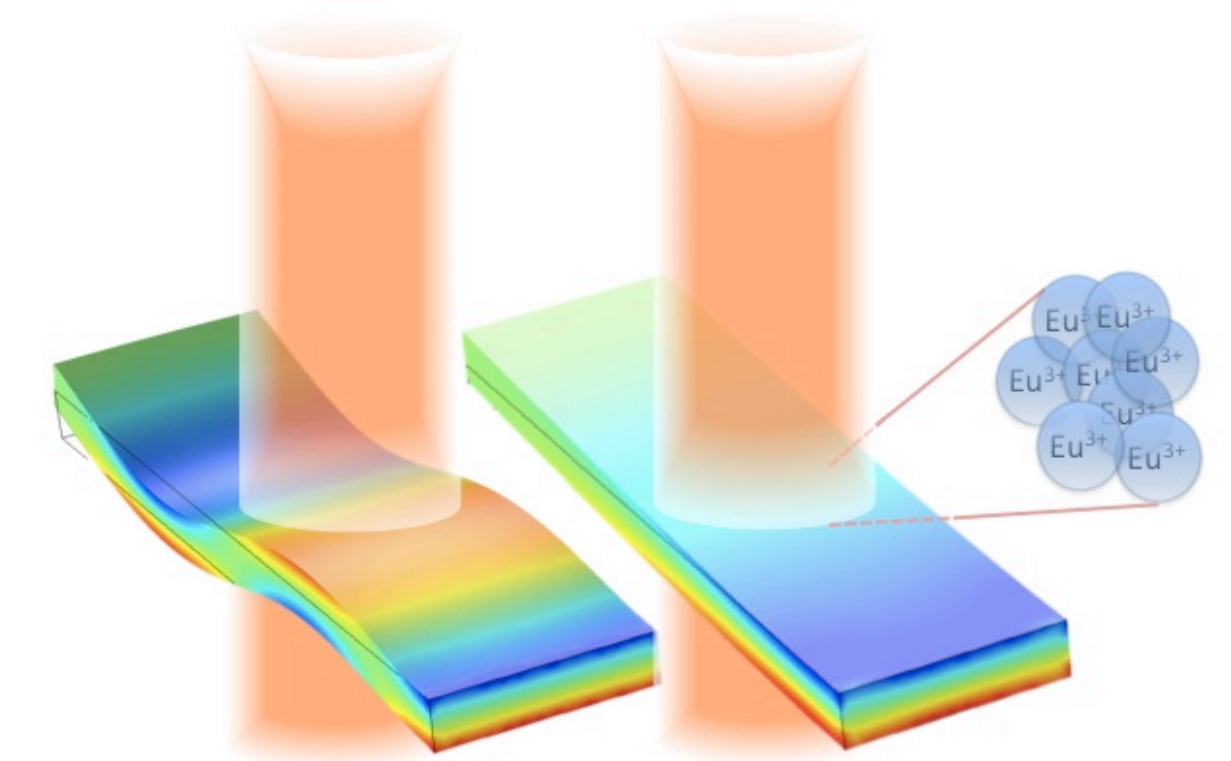
High-Q micro-cavity



Quantum memories
Single photon sources

Hybrid systems

Force sensors



Quantum opto-
electronics w/ graphene

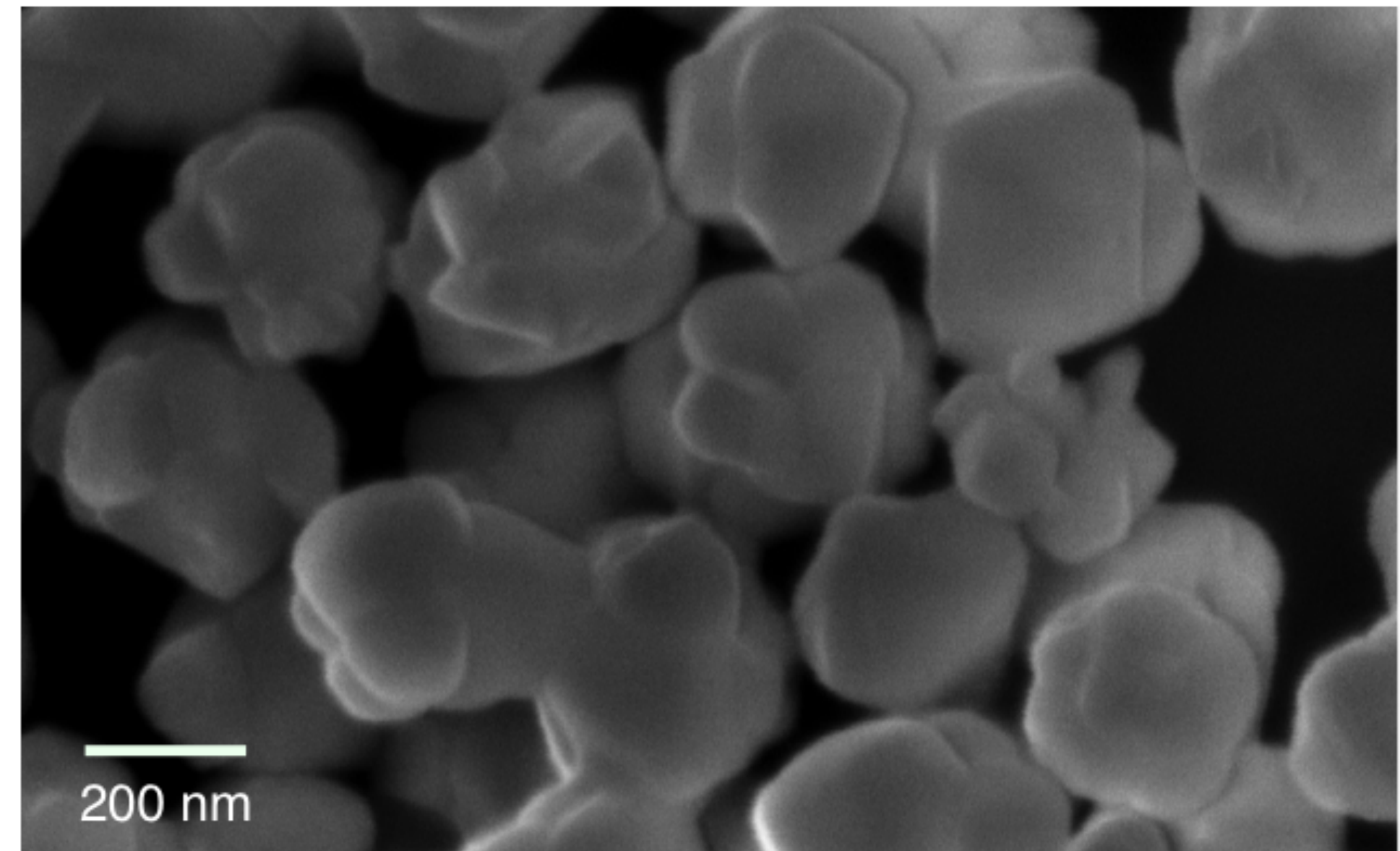
Nanoparticles

0.5% $\text{Eu}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$

Homogeneous precipitation
Monodispersed, spherical

High temperature annealing
Cubic phase
Defects reduced at 1200 °C

Long T_2 in bulk crystal
and transparent ceramics



Particle size: 400 nm

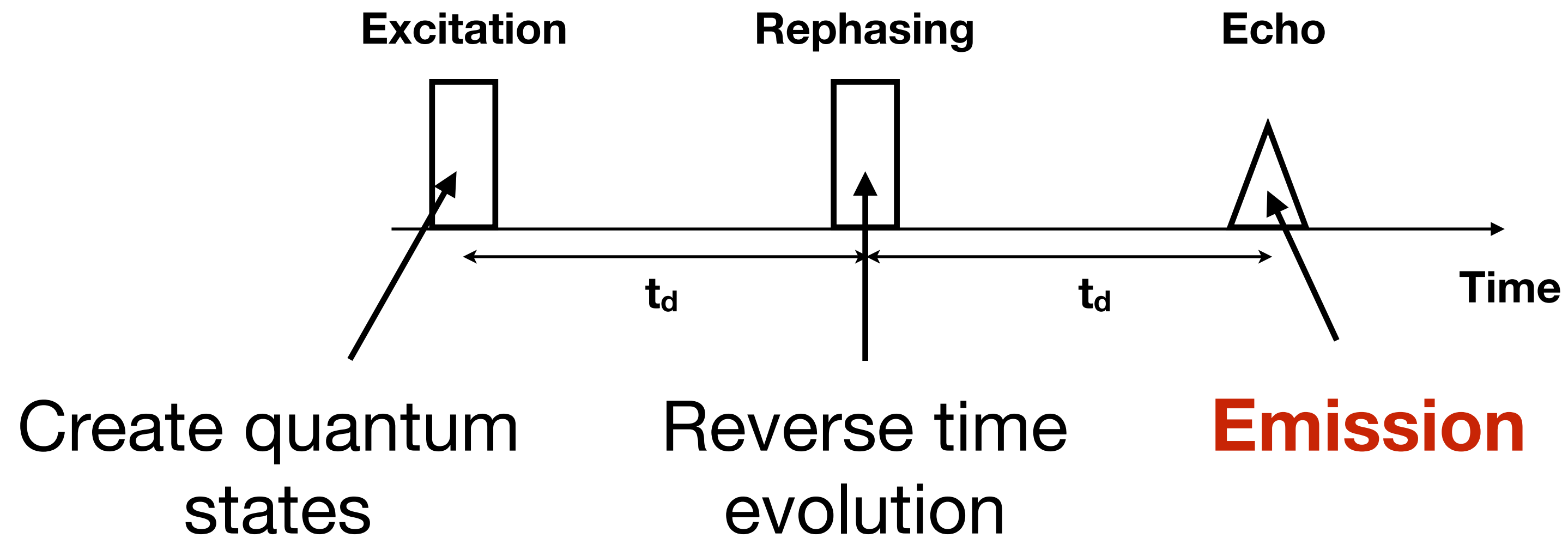
Crystallite size: 130 nm

Particles: K. de Oliveira Lima, ..., PG, J. Lumin. 2015.



Ceramics: A. Ferrier, ..., PG, Phys Rev B 2013 - N. Kunkel, ..., PG, APL Mat. 2015, J. Phys. Chem. C 2016, PRB 2017.

The Photon Echo



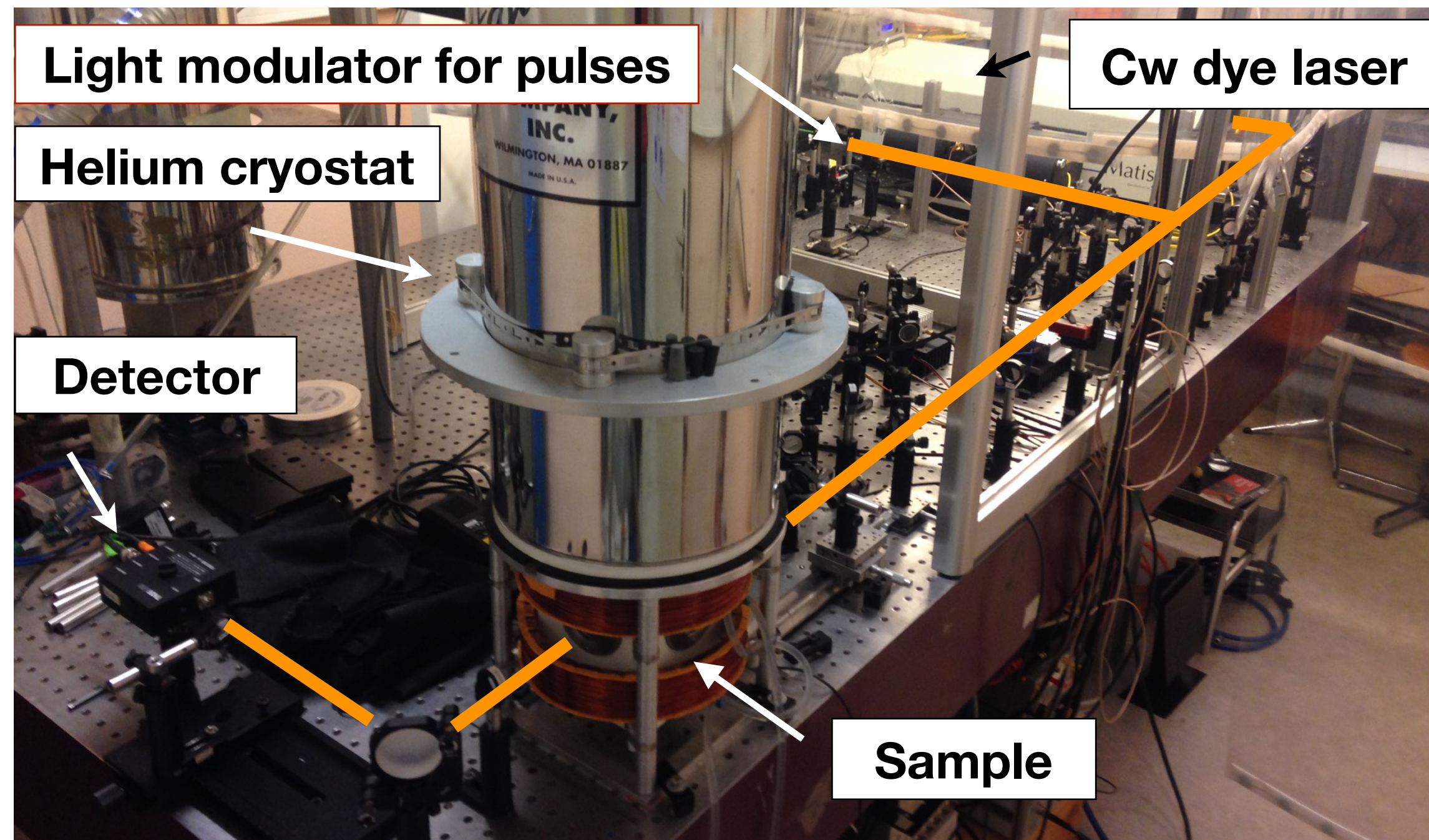
Echo: only ions with unperturbed quantum states

Coherence lifetime: $I_{\text{echo}} = \exp(-4t_d/T_2)$

Homogeneous linewidth: $\Gamma_h = (\pi T_2)^{-1}$

Measuring Coherence Times

Setup for photon echo experiments



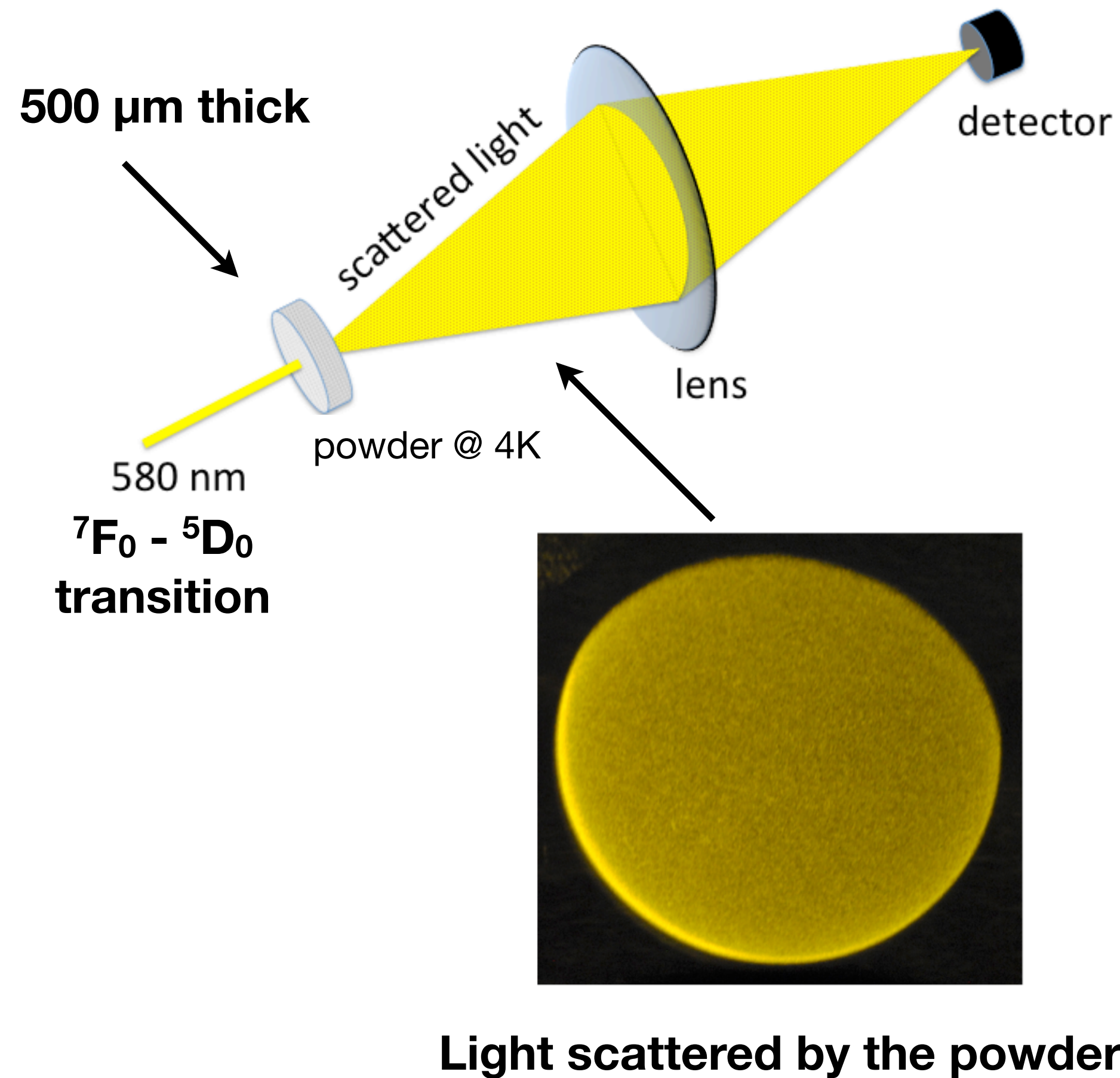
Samples: transparent materials
or... **powders?**



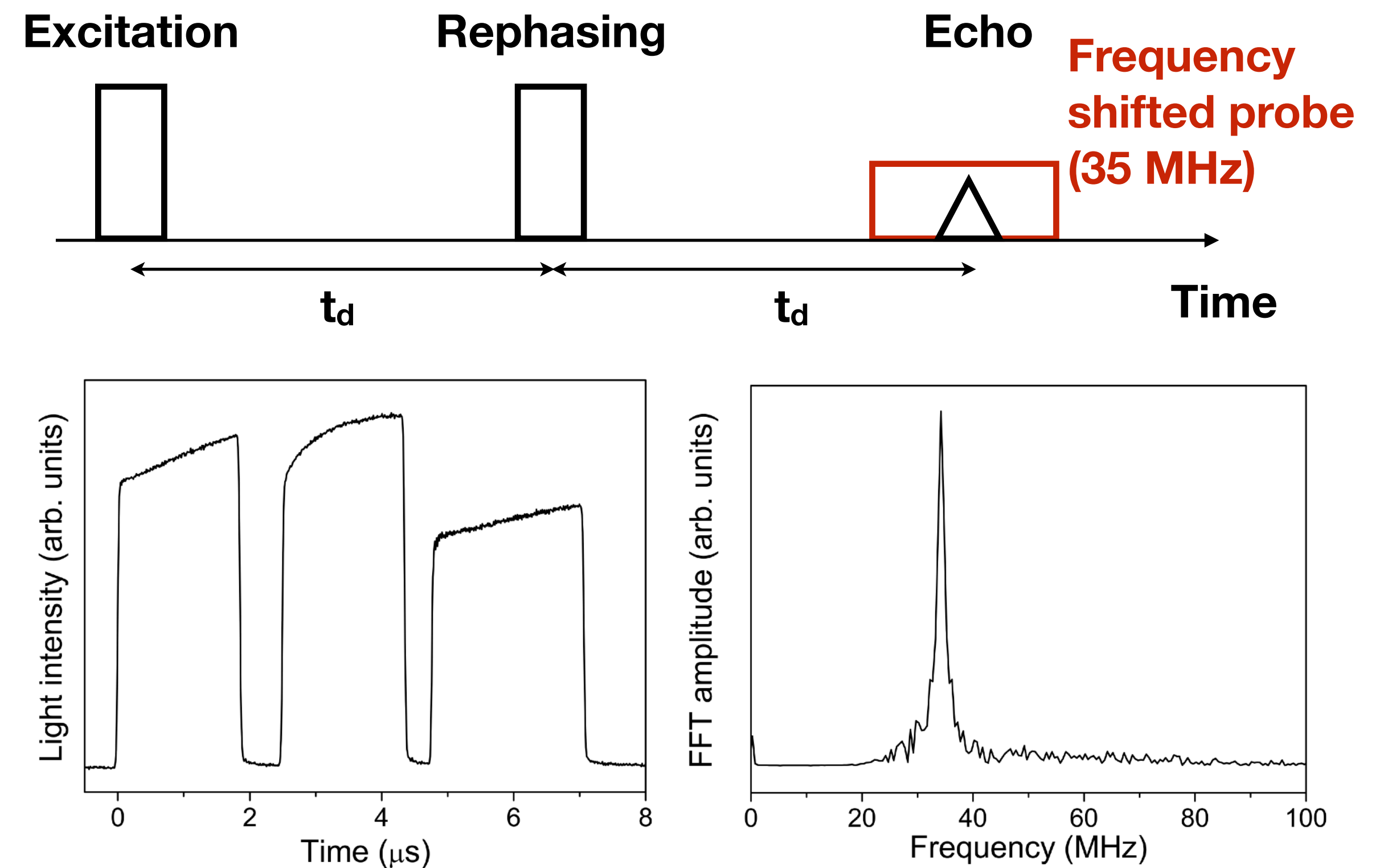
?



Photon Echo in Powders



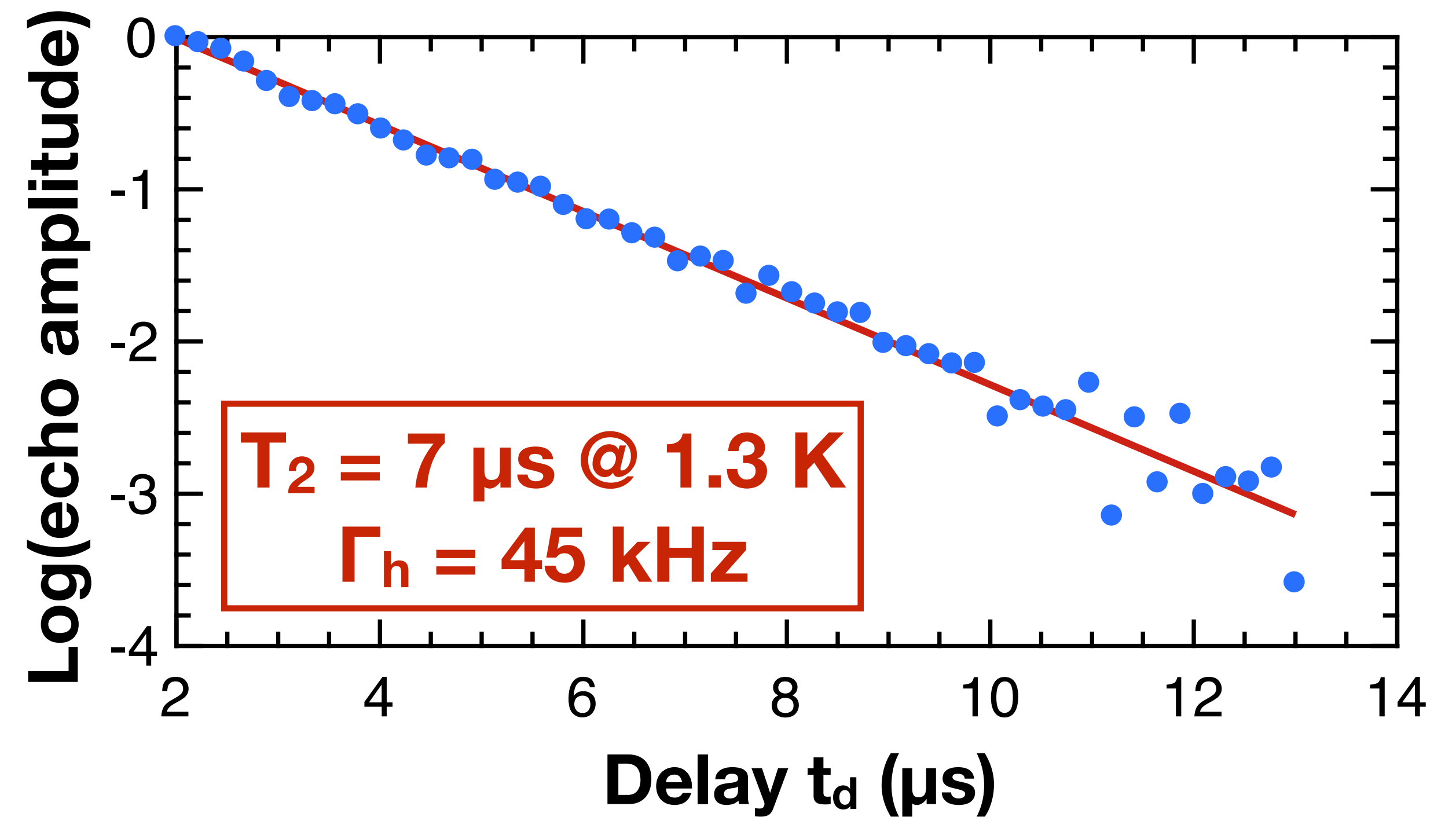
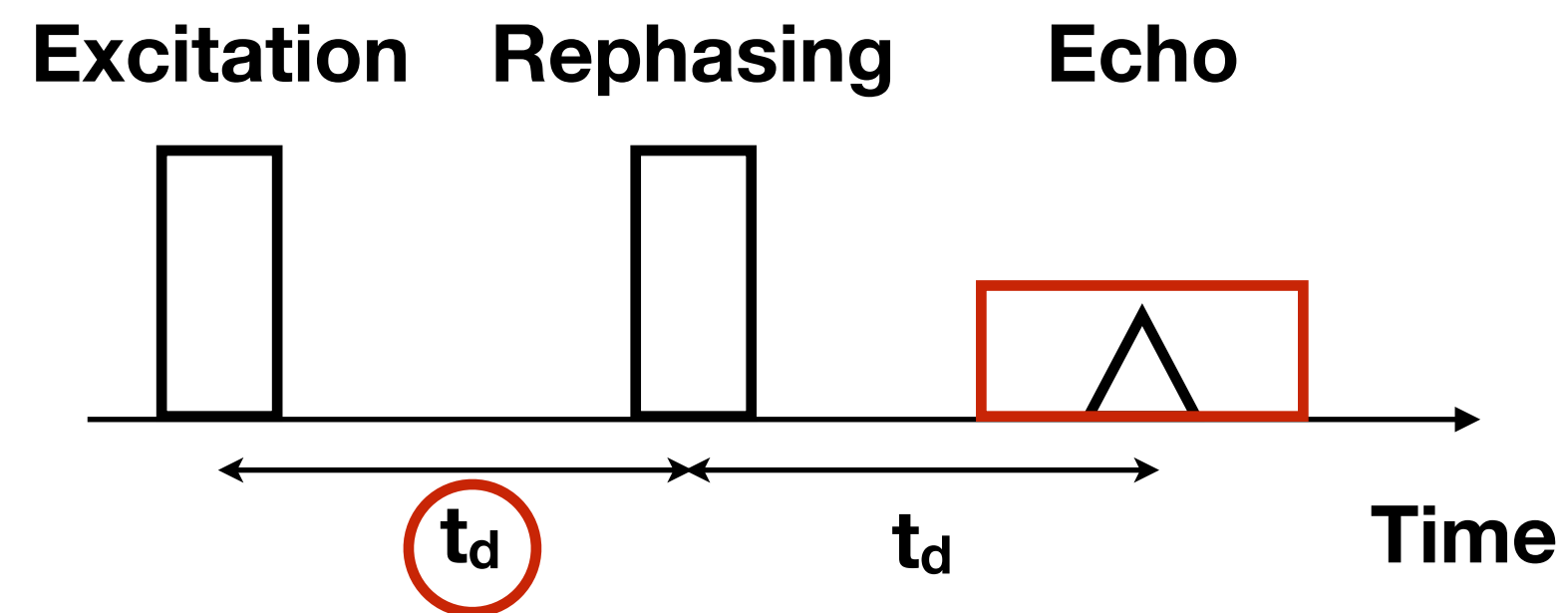
Interferometric detection



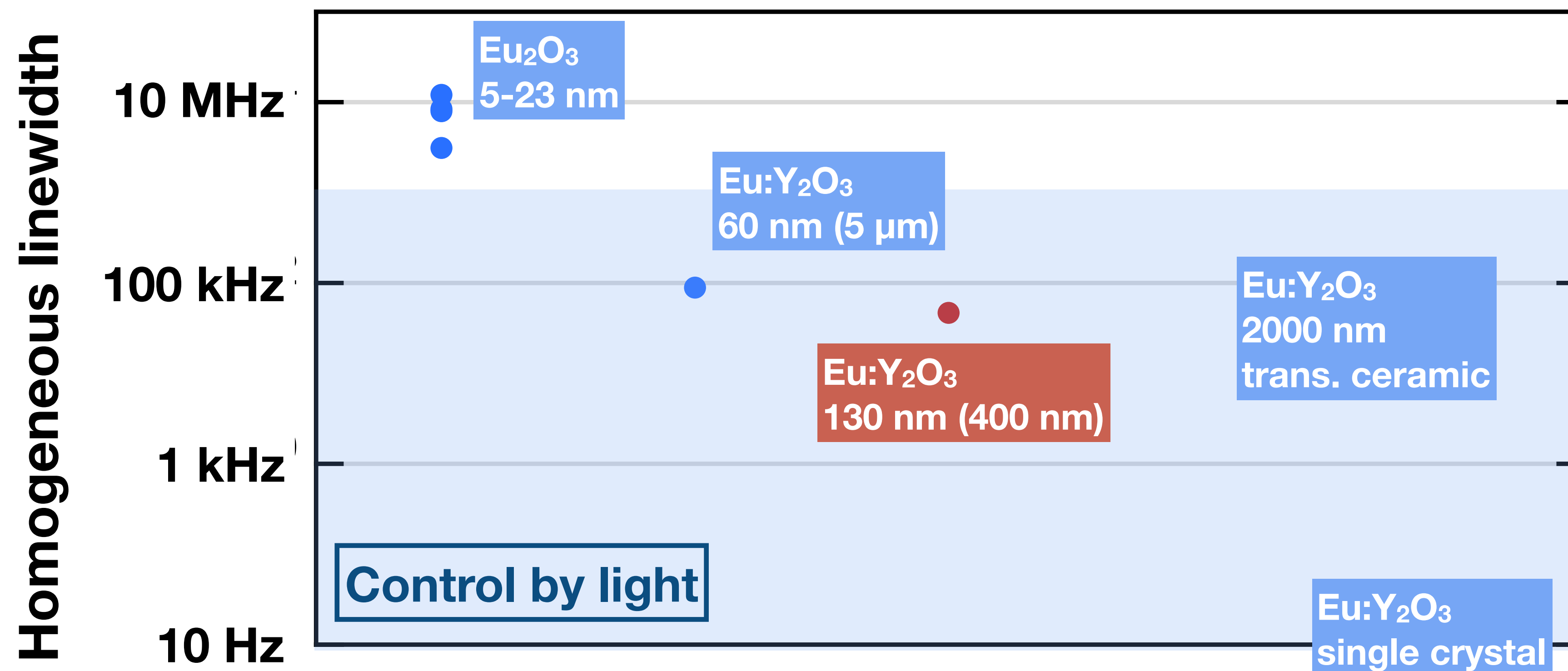
A. Perrot, PG, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2013.
F. Beaudoux, ..., PG, *Opt. Express* 2011.

Optical T_2 in nanocrystals

Echo Decay in Nanocrystals



Eu:Y₂O₃ Homogeneous Linewidths

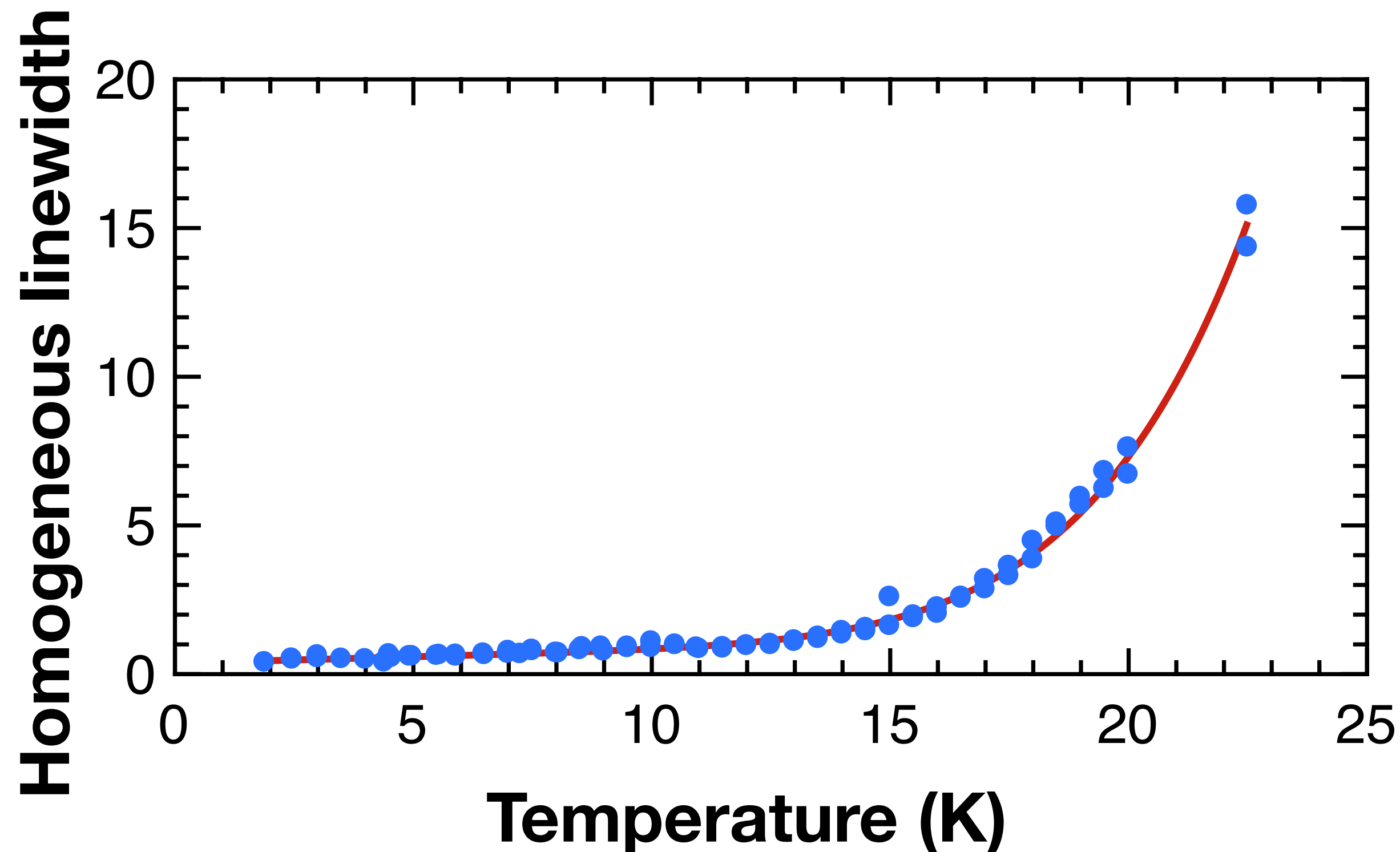


R. S. Meltzer et al., *Phys. Rev. B* 2000, 2001.
A. Perrot, PG, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 2013.
J. G. Bartholomew, ..., PG, *Nano. Lett.* 2017.



C. Thiel, private communication.
N. Kunkel, ..., PG, *Phys. Rev. B* 2017.

Size Limited Linewidth?



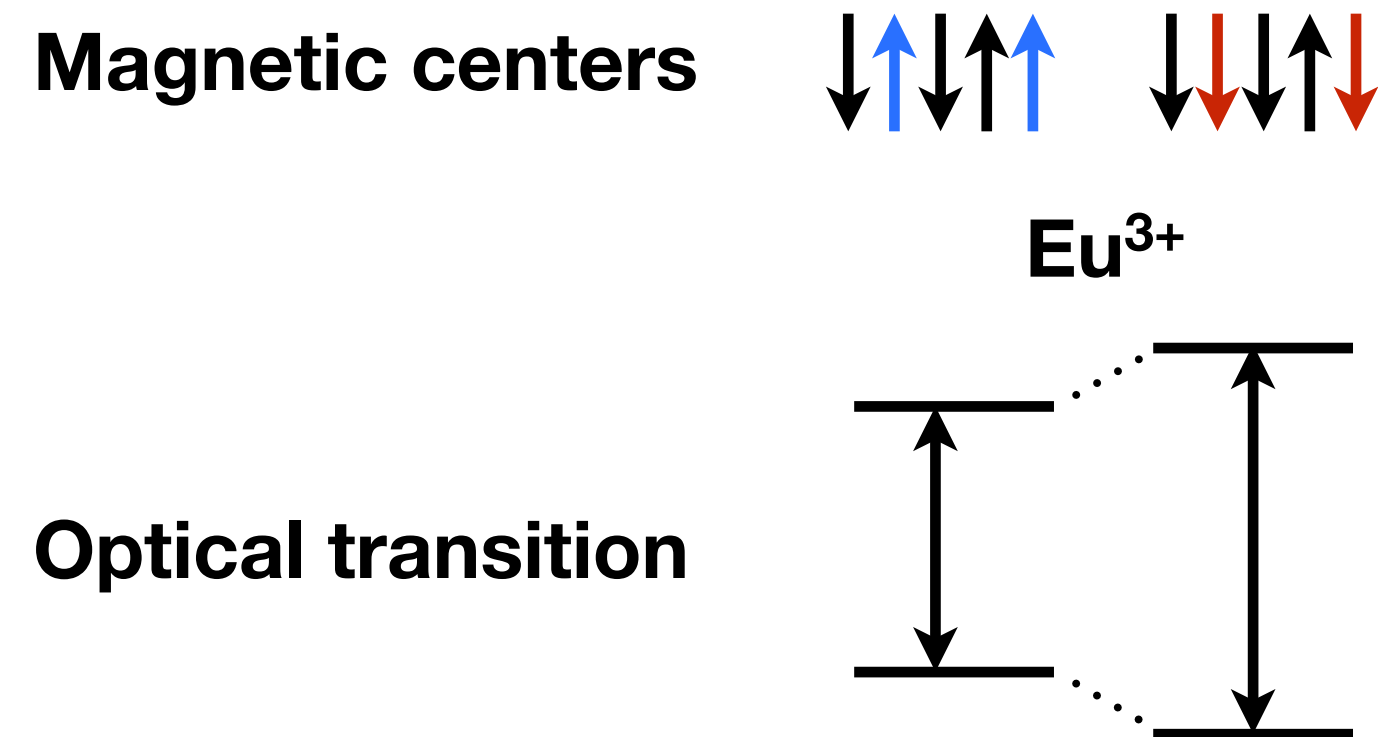
$$\Gamma_h = \Gamma_0 + \alpha_D T + \alpha_R T^7$$

↓ ↘
Disorder Raman process

**also in ceramics and
bulk crystals**

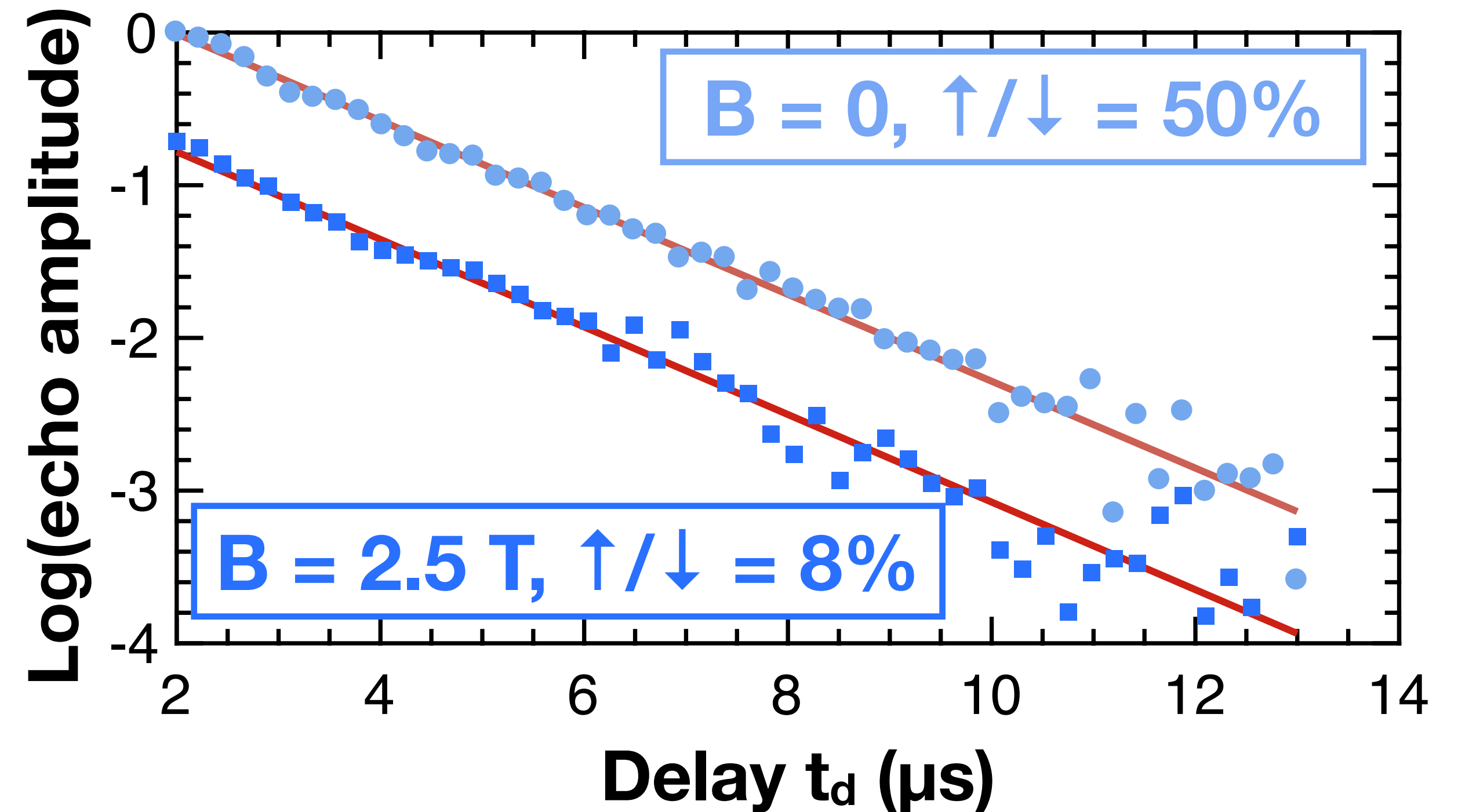
**no contribution from
size related phonon modes**

Magnetic Centers



**no contribution from
magnetic impurities or defects**

surface electric charges?

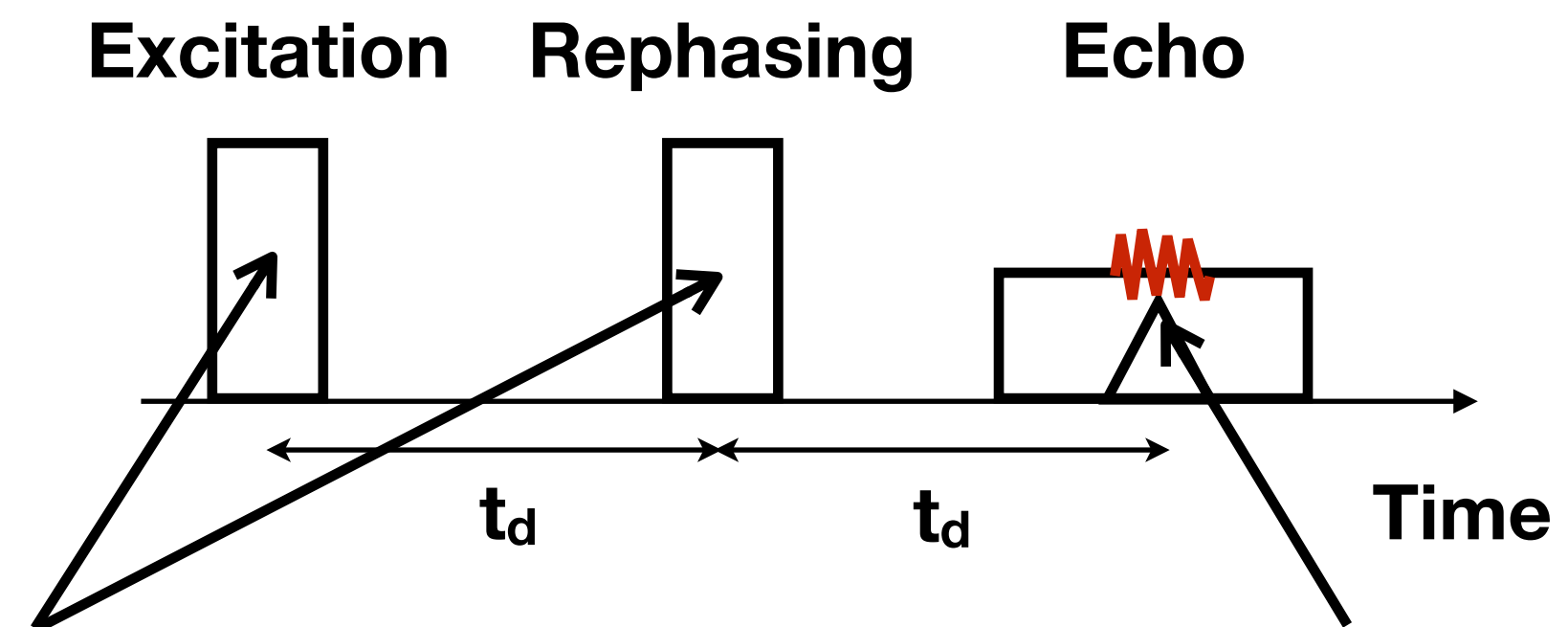
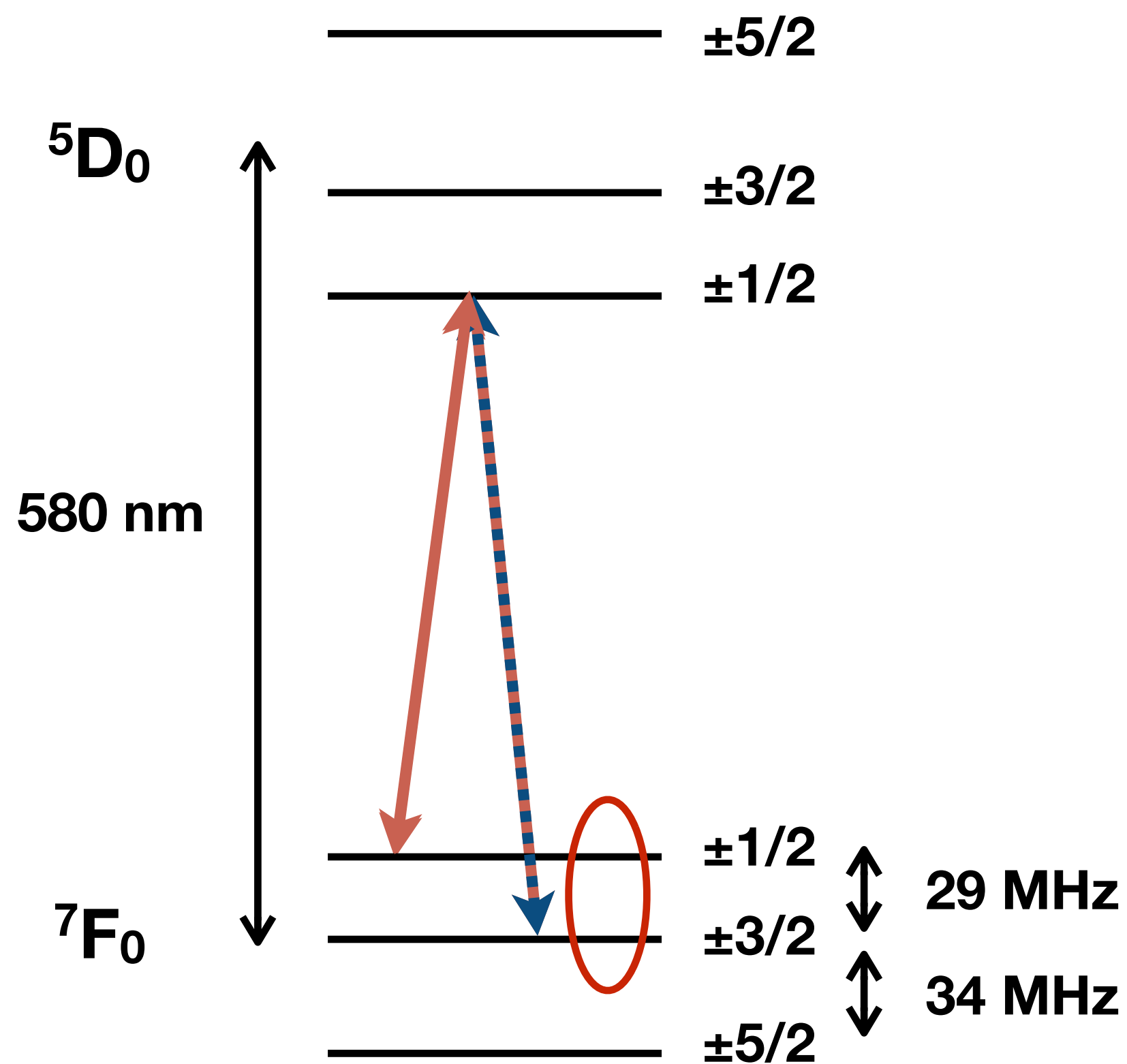


Q. dots: N. Ha, et al., *Phys. Rev. B*, 92, 075306, (2015).
NV: M. Kim, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 115, 087602, (2015).

Spin T_2 in ceramics

Spin Quantum States

$^{151}\text{Eu}^{3+}$: nuclear spin $I = 5/2$

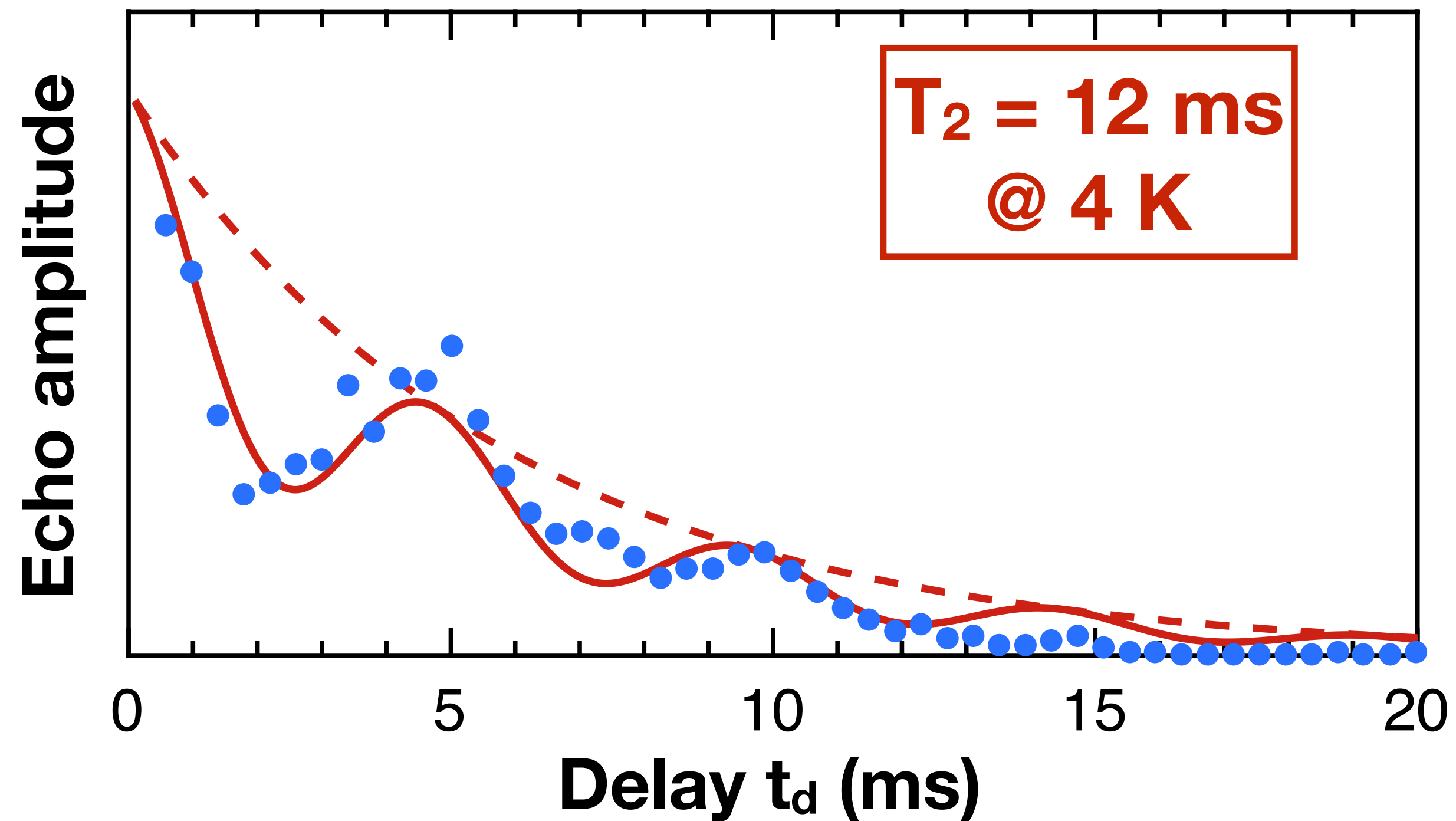


Optical 2-color pulses

Optical probe

Spin Coherence Lifetimes

$\text{Eu}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ transparent ceramics



Spin T_2 comparable to single crystals

$\text{Eu}^{3+}:\text{Y}_2\text{SiO}_5$ single crystal: $T_2 = 19 \text{ ms}$

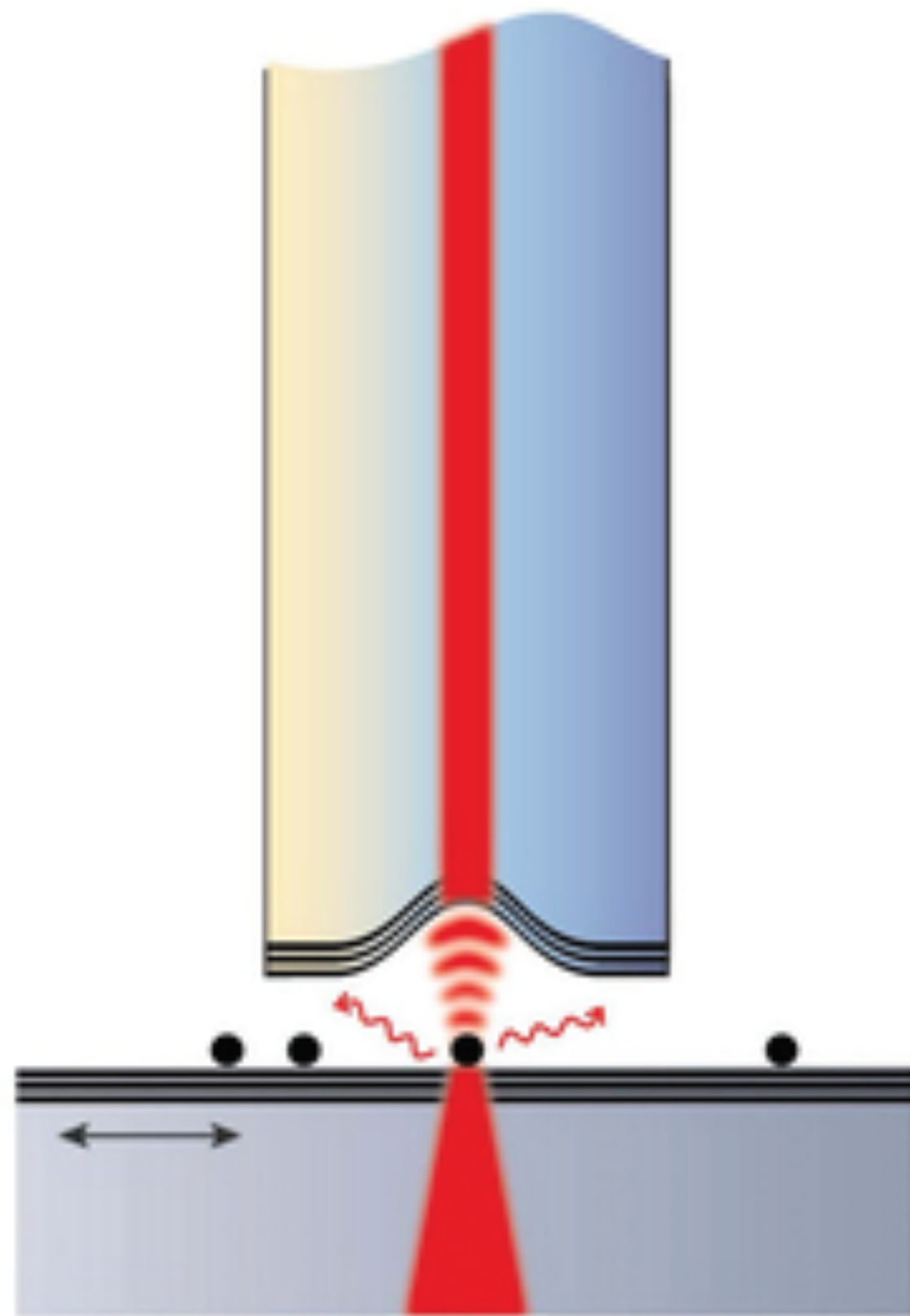
Magnetic vs. Electric Perturbations

| | Sensitivity | | Linewidth in ceramics (Hz) | Contribution (Hz) | |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Magnetic field | Electric field | | Magnetic perturbation | Electric perturbation |
| Optical transition | 1-100 kHz/mT | 50 kHz/(V/cm) | 3200 | ≈ 3-300 | 3200-2900 |
| Spin transition | 10 kHz/mT | ≈1 Hz/(V/cm) | 26 | 26 | ≈ 0 |

Electric
Magnetic

What is next?

Outlook: Micro-cavities



D. Hunger

Smaller particles (< 100 nm)

Longer optical coherence lifetime

Spin properties

Single particle spectroscopy

Summary

Rare earth doped nanostructures for optical quantum technologies

unique capability of **interfacing light, atoms and spins**

long optical coherence lifetimes for applications in:
quantum memories, single photon sources, hybrid systems

outside quantum technologies:
probing materials with high resolution spectroscopy:
defects, disorder, impurities, surface

Acknowledgment

Paris team: **A. Ferrier**, D. Serrano, A. Tallaire, M. Mortier, Shuping Liu, Zhonghan Zhang, Sacha Welinski, Alexandre Fossati, Marion Scarafagio. Former members: **Marko Lovrić, Karmel de Oliveira Lima, John Bartholomew, Jenny Karlsson**

Collaborators: **R. Gonçalves, USP, Brazil** - D. Hunger, KIT, Germany - S. Kröll, Lund University, Sweden
Y. Le Coq, SYRTE, France - S. Seidelin, Grenoble University, France - H. de Riedmatten, ICFO, Spain - F. Koppens, ICFO, Spain - K. Mølmer, Aarhus University, Denmark
N. Oliverio, Keysight Inc., USA



Funding:

The logo for NanOQTech features the word 'NanOQTech' in a blue sans-serif font. The 'O' is stylized with orange lines radiating from its top, resembling a sun or a quantum state. The 'Q' is also blue.

Nanoscale Systems for Optical Quantum Technologies

<http://www.nanoqtech.eu>

European Union's Horizon 2020 programme



IR
CP