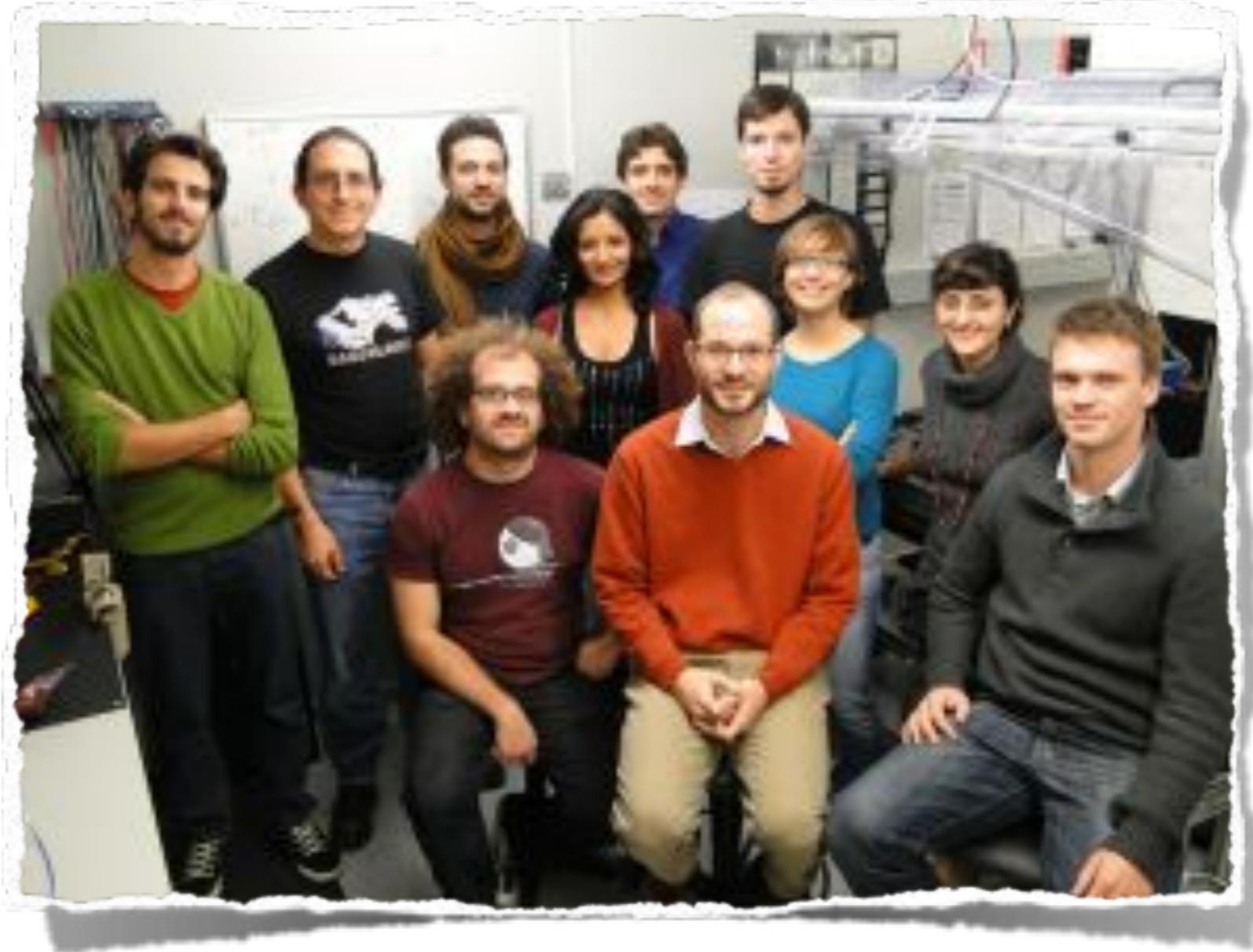


# Generation of a macroscopic singlet state in a cold atomic ensemble

Rob Sewell, ICFO, Barcelona  
[robert.sewell@icfo.es](mailto:robert.sewell@icfo.es)



# Singlet state project...



## PEOPLE

N. Behbood, R.J.S.,  
F. Martin Ciurana,  
G. Colangelo,  
M. Napolitano,  
G. Tóth &  
M.W. Mitchell\*

## PLACES

ICFO, Barcelona  
UPV, Bilbao

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# Singlet state project...



## PEOPLE

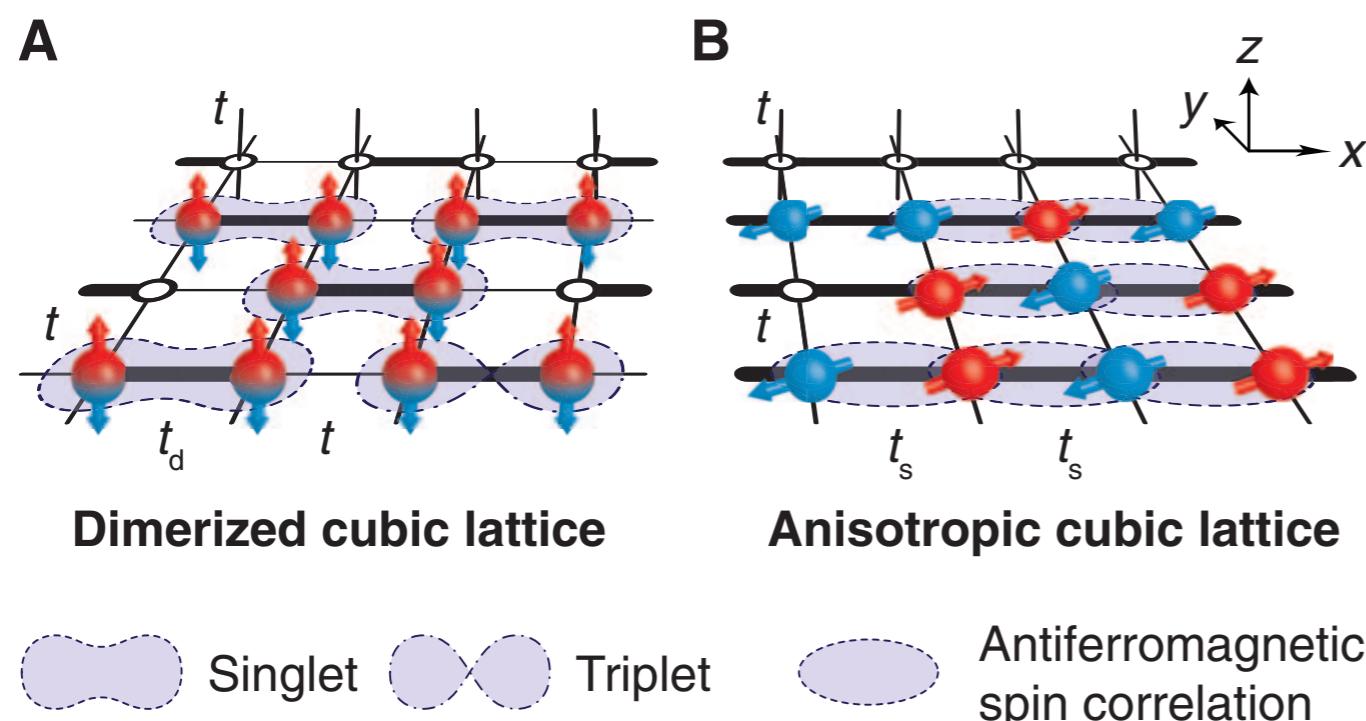
N. Behbood, R.J.S.,  
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# Simulating quantum magnetism

Short range quantum magnetism of ultra cold fermions in an optical lattice



nearest-neighbour  
spin correlations

low temperature &  
entropy

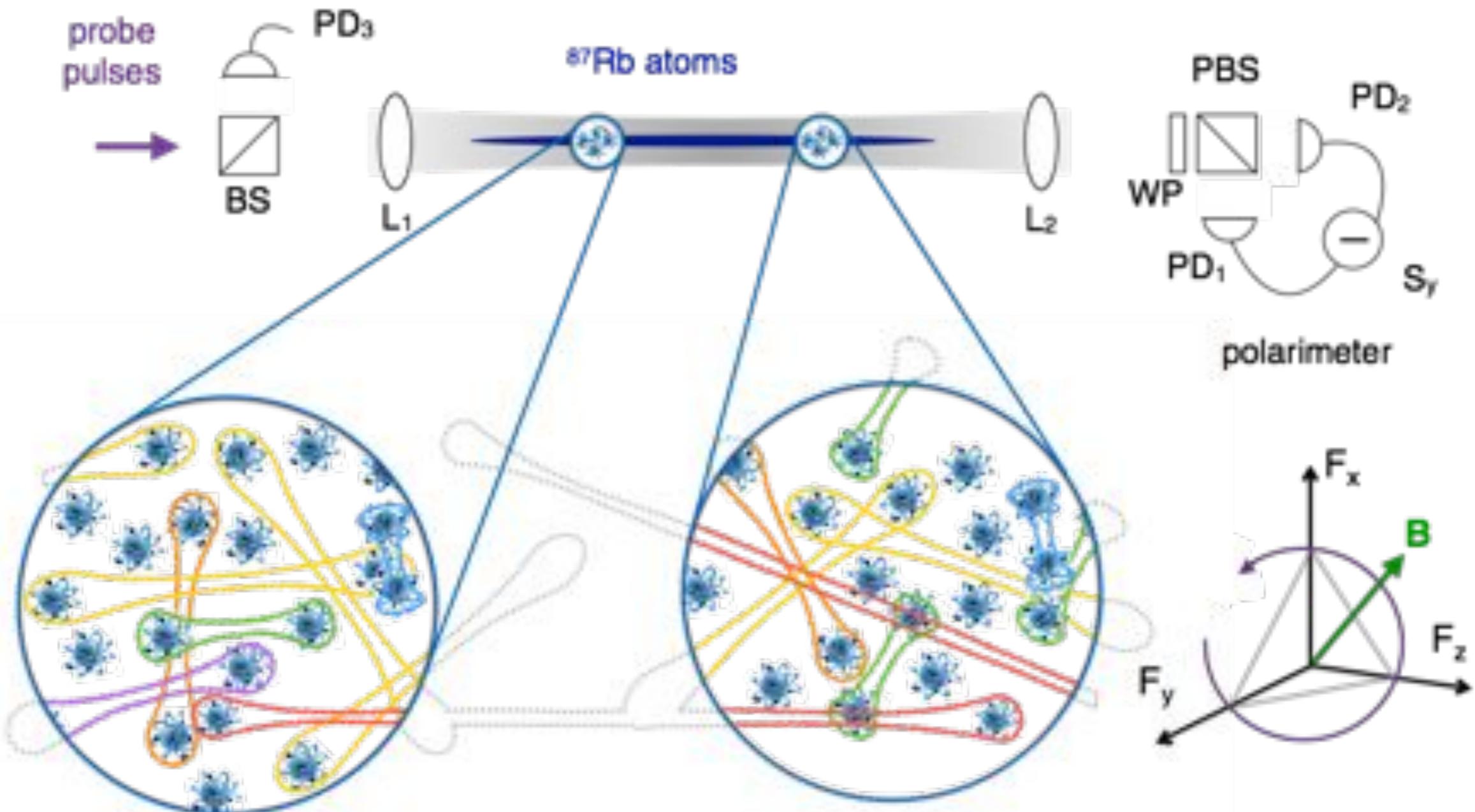
# Simulating quantum magnetism

many problems in quantum simulators are characterised by long-range correlations, e.g. high-T<sub>c</sub> superconductors & quantum Hall effects

classic example: quantum anti-ferromagnets, characterised by behaviours such as Néel ordering, valence bond solids, spin liquid phases, etc

open (& very difficult) experimental challenge, requiring very low temperatures, long time scales...

# A different approach...



collective spin measurements directly  
generate long-range entanglement

# A different approach...

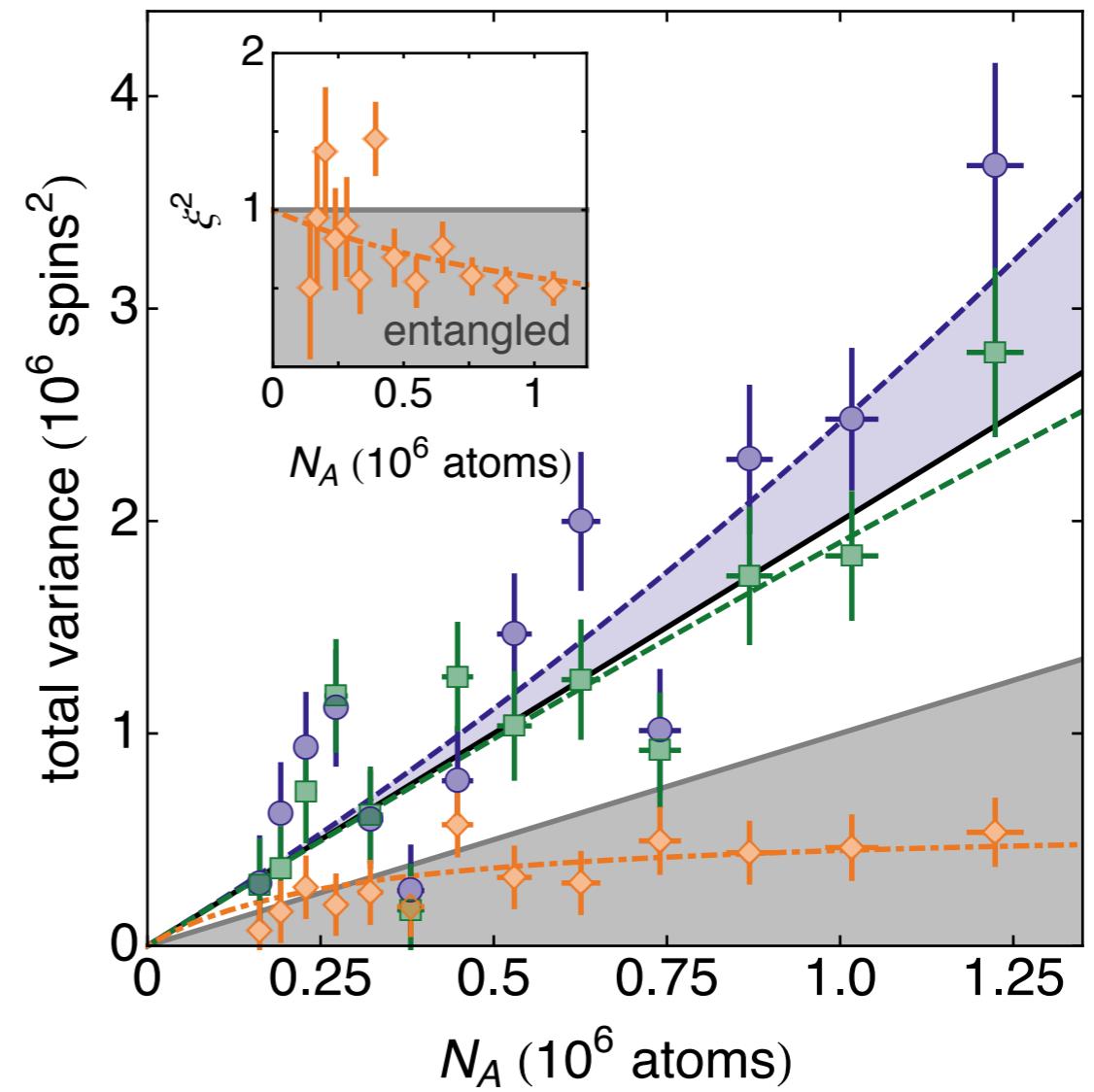
direct generation of  
long-range entanglement

via quantum non-demolition  
(QND) measurement &  
spin squeezing

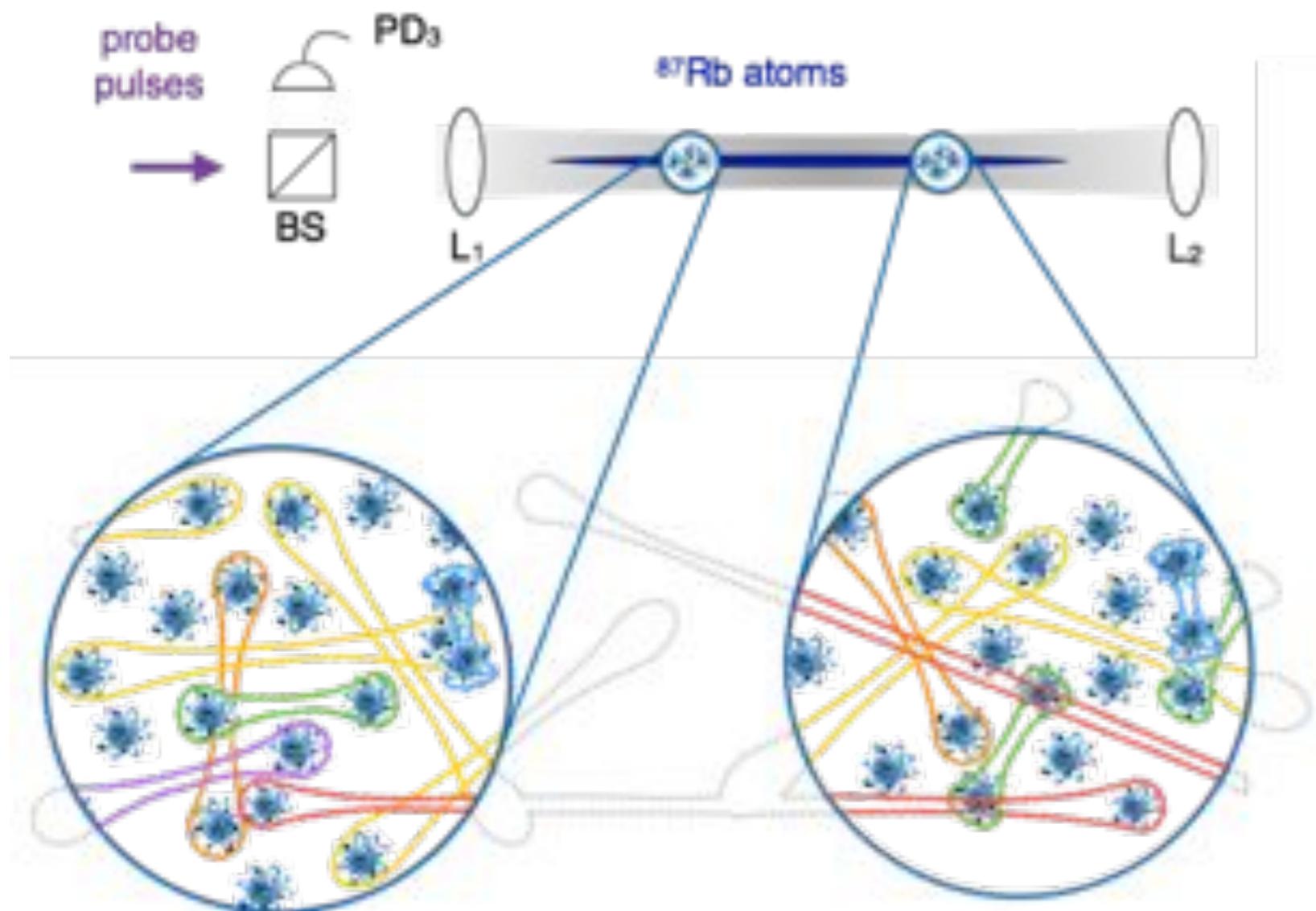
create a macroscopic  
singlet state (MSS)

Tóth, NJP 12, 053007 (2010)

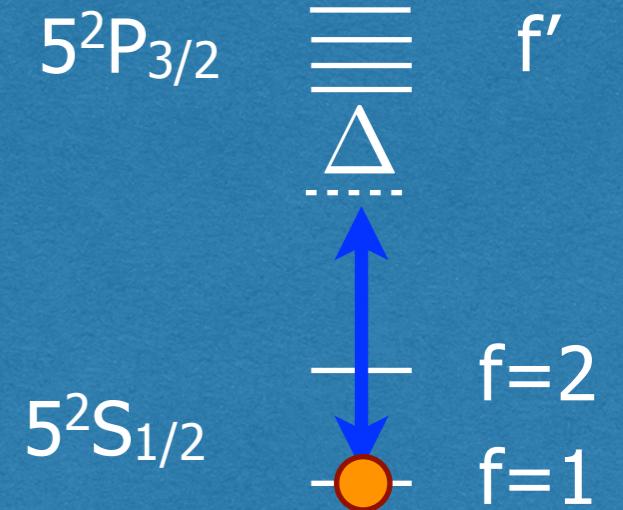
Behbood, arXiv:1403.1964 (2014)



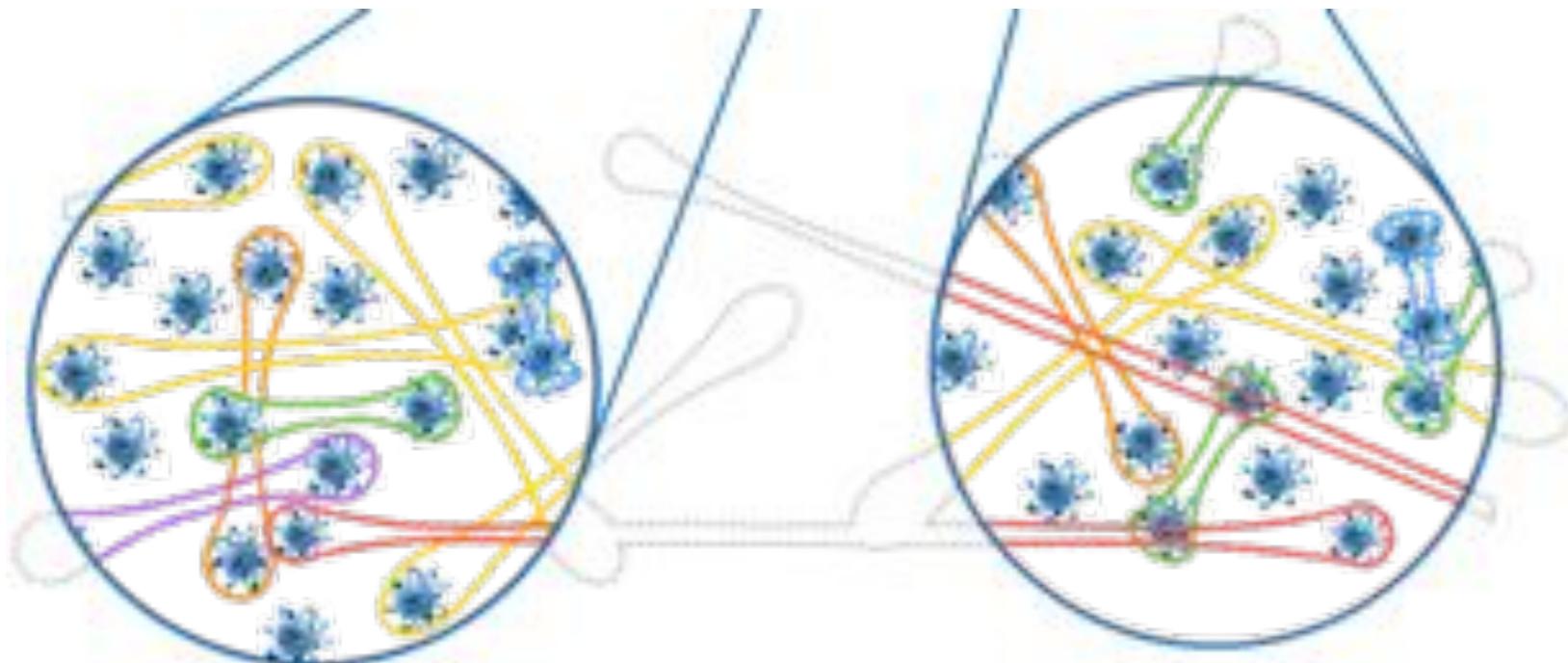
# Quantum atom-light interface



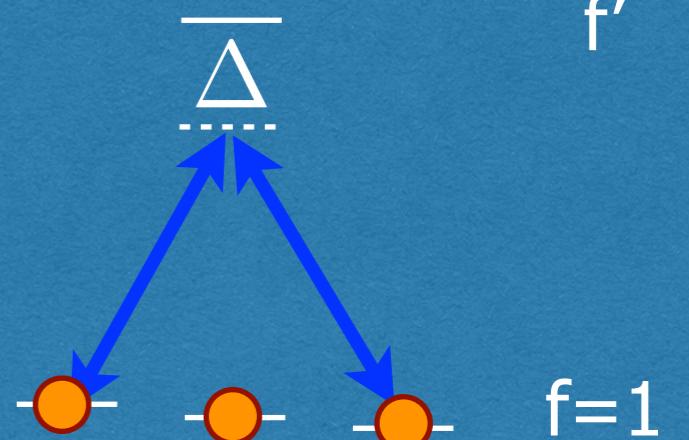
$^{87}\text{Rb D}_2$  line



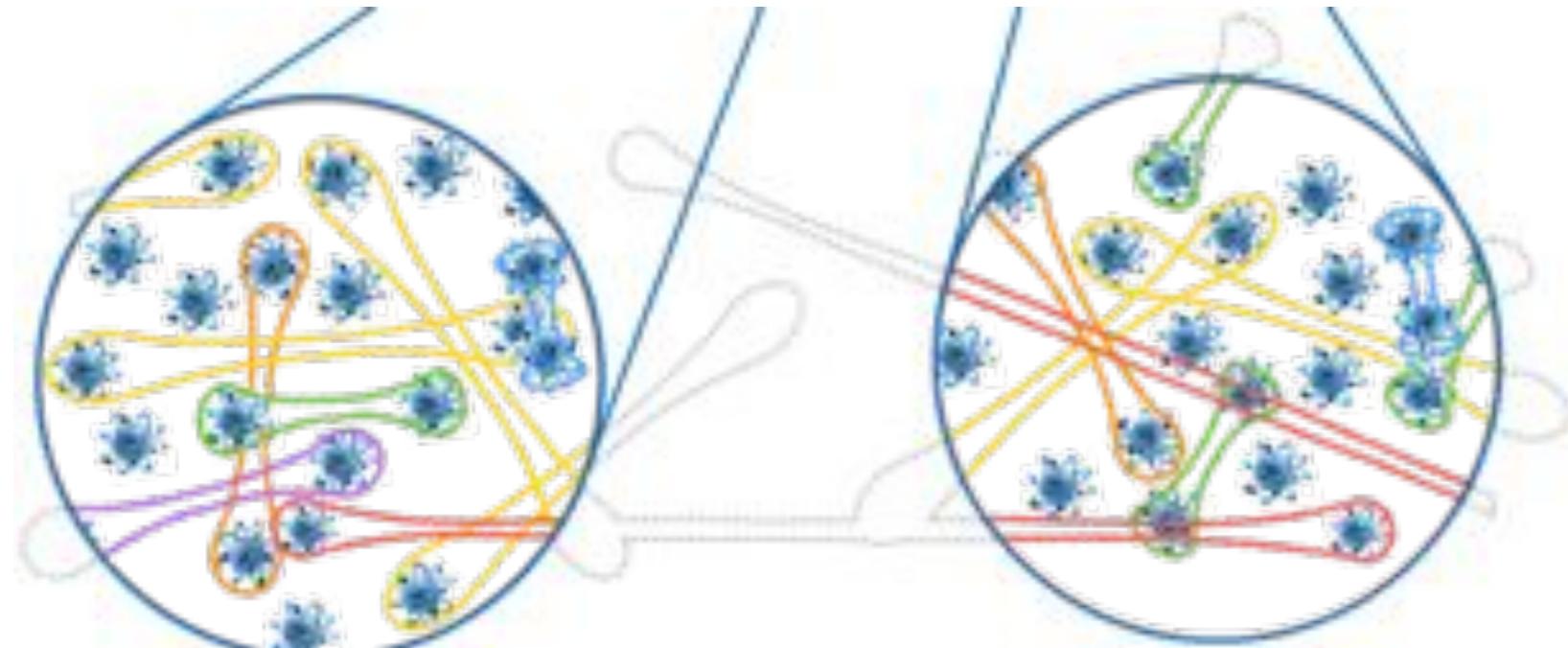
# Collective atomic spin



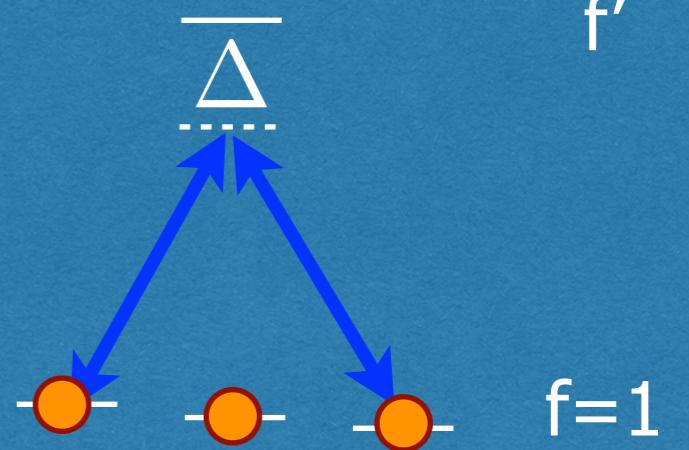
spin-1 atoms



# Collective atomic spin



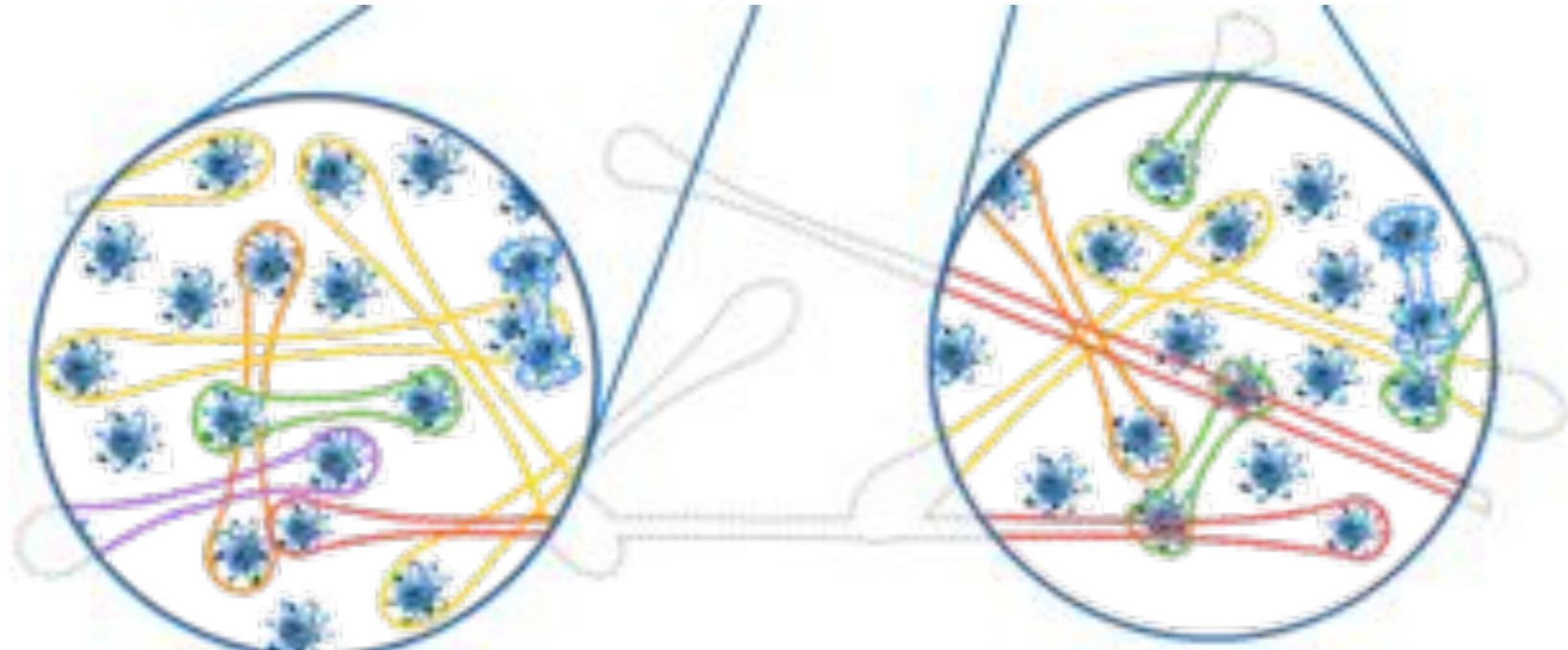
spin-1 atoms



collective spin

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^{N_A} f^{(i)}$$

# Thermal spin state



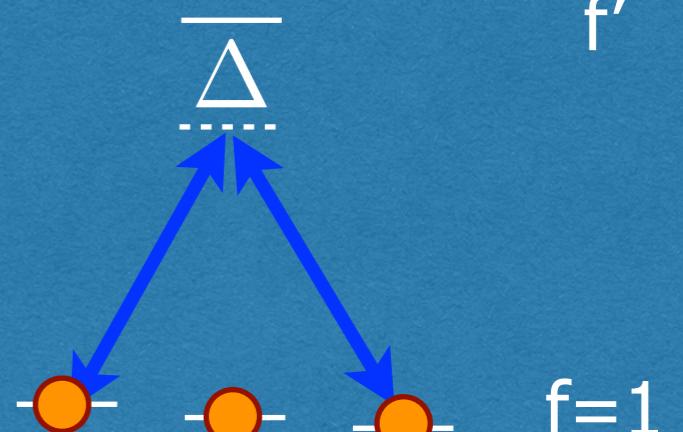
unpolarised

$$\Delta F_i \Delta F_j \geq |\langle F_k \rangle|/2 = 0$$

uniform noise distribution

$$(\Delta F_i)^2 = (2/3)N_A$$

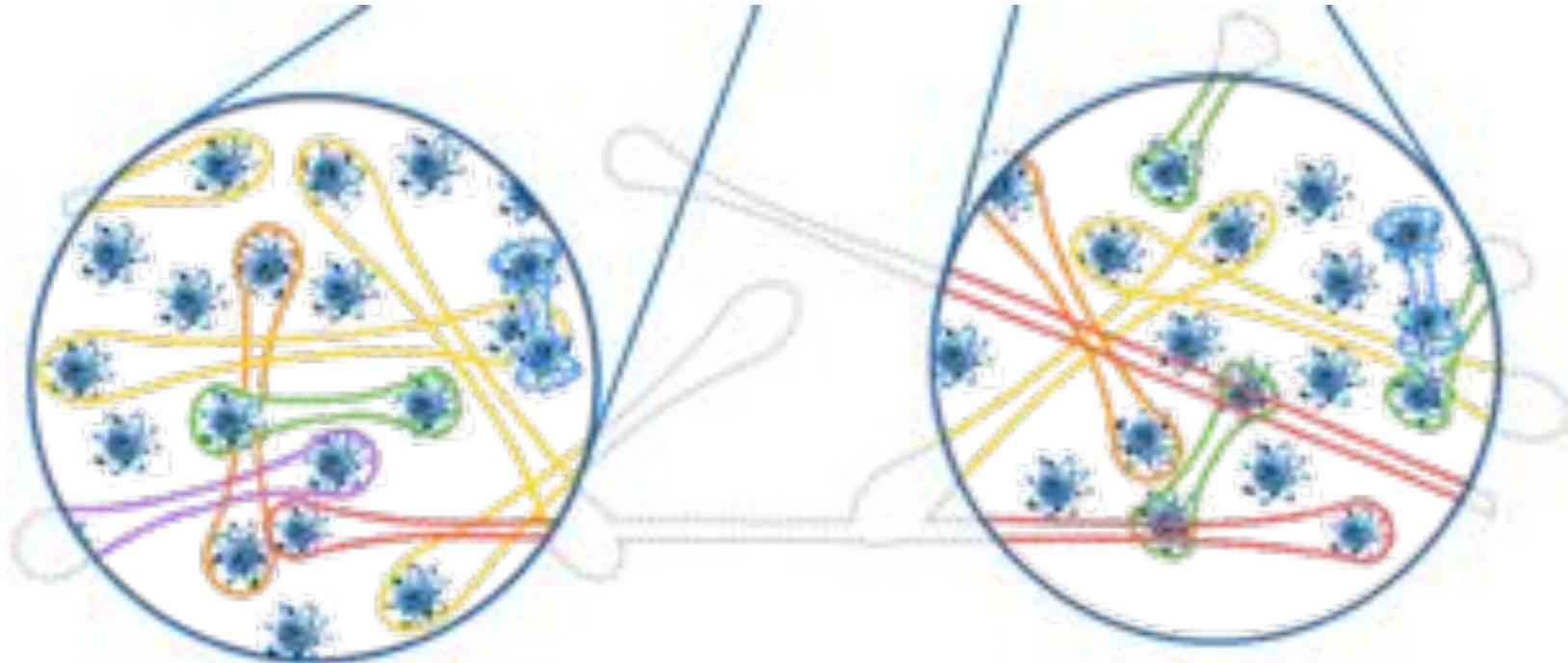
spin-1 atoms



collective spin

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^{N_A} f^{(i)}$$

# Spin squeezing & entanglement



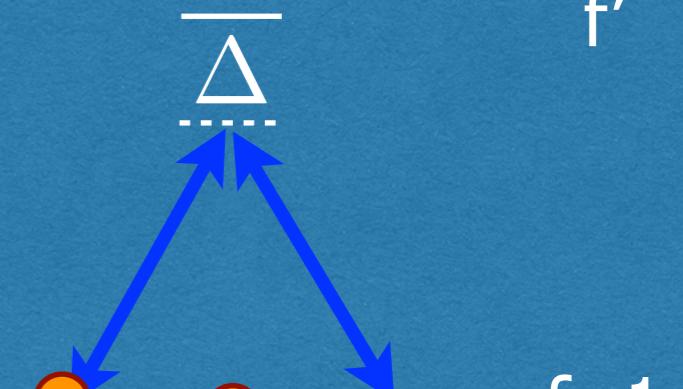
standard quantum limit

entanglement witness

$$\sum_i (\Delta F_i)^2 = f N_A$$

$$\xi^2 = (\Delta F_i)^2 / (f N_A)$$

spin-1 atoms



collective spin

$$F = \sum_{i=1}^{N_A} f^{(i)}$$

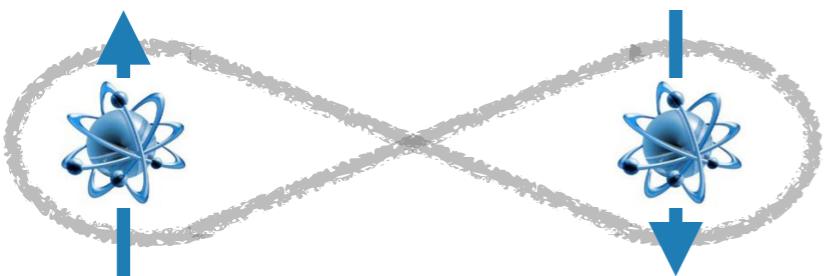
# Spin singlet

singlet state

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle)$$

zero spin  $f = 0$

no fluctuations  $\Delta f = 0$



# Macroscopic spin singlet

singlet state

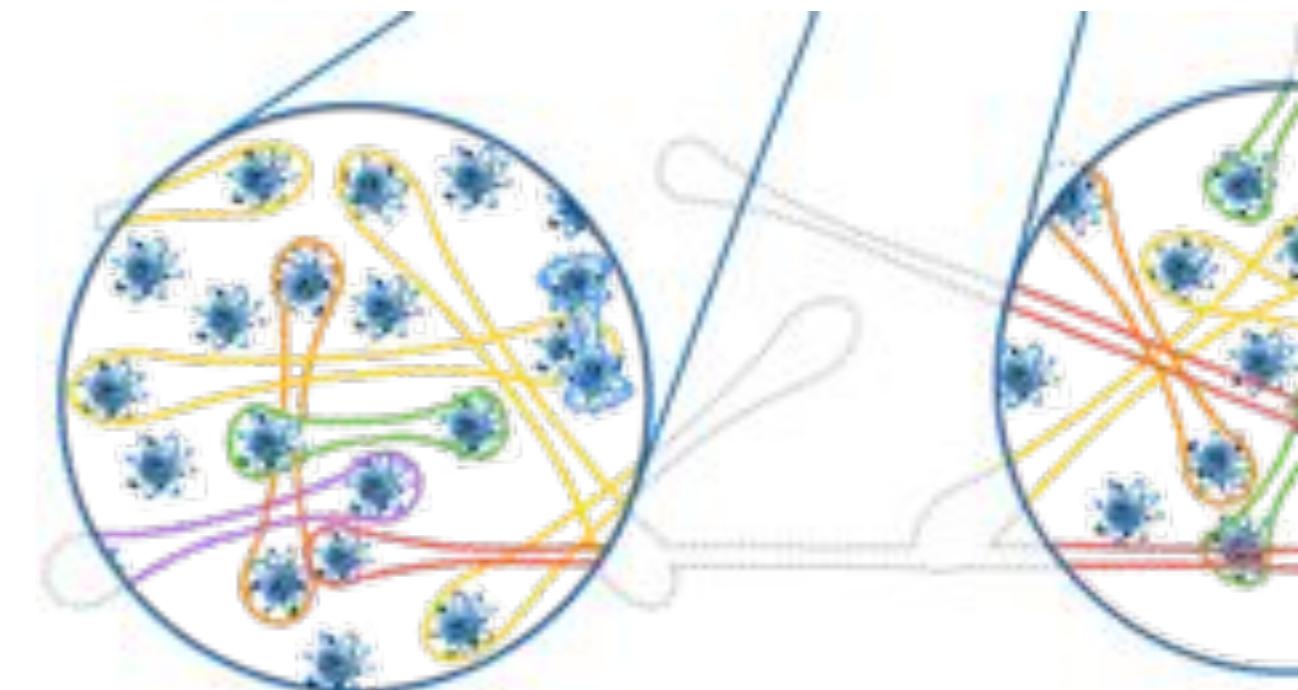
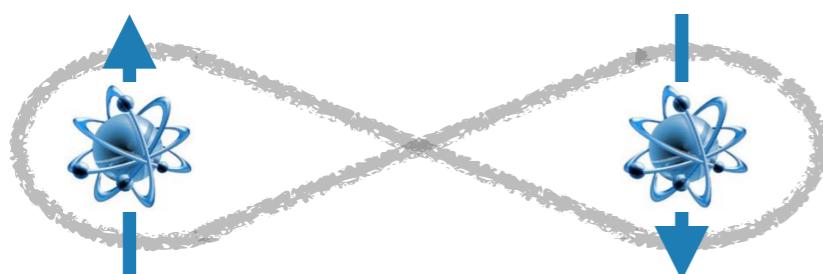
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle - |\downarrow\rangle)$$

zero spin

$$f = 0$$

no fluctuations

$$\Delta f = 0$$



macroscopic singlet state

$$F = 0$$

$$\Delta F = 0$$

# Macroscopic spin singlet

spin squeezing parameter

$$\xi^2 \equiv \sum_i (\Delta F_i)^2 / (f N_A)$$

entanglement

$$\xi^2 < 1$$

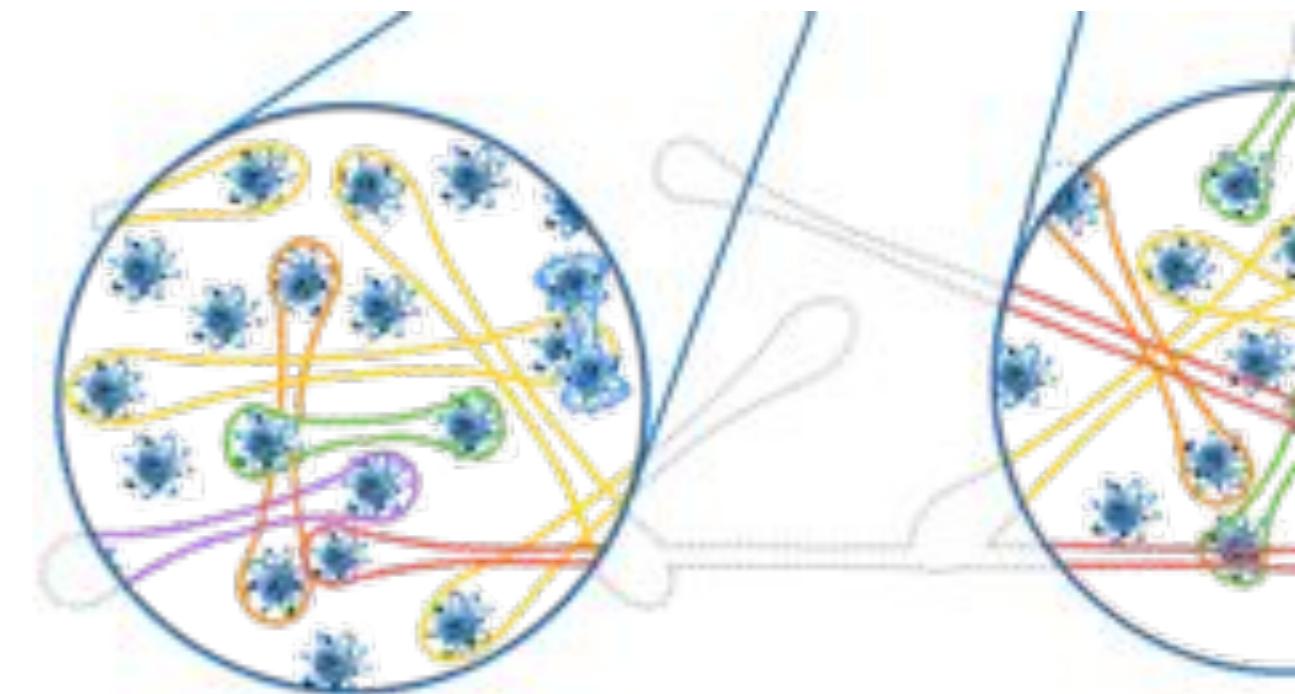
true singlet

$$\xi^2 \rightarrow 0$$

entangled atoms

$$(1 - \xi^2) N_A$$

Tóth, NJP 12, 053007 (2010)



macroscopic singlet state

$$\mathbf{F} = 0$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{F} = 0$$

# Macroscopic spin singlet

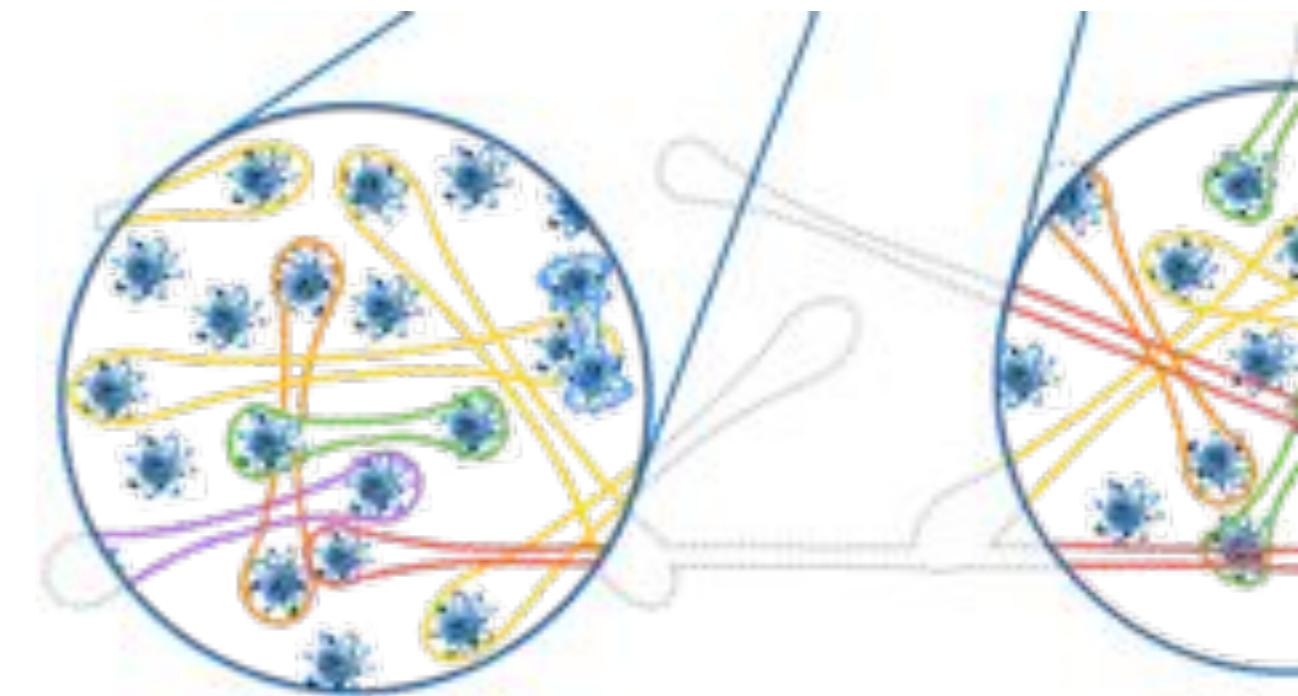
ground state of Heisenberg  
model with uniform coupling

$$H = F_x^2 + F_y^2 + F_z^2$$

SU(2)-invariant  
permutationally  
invariant

entanglement over  
many length scales

Tóth, NJP 12, 053007 (2010)

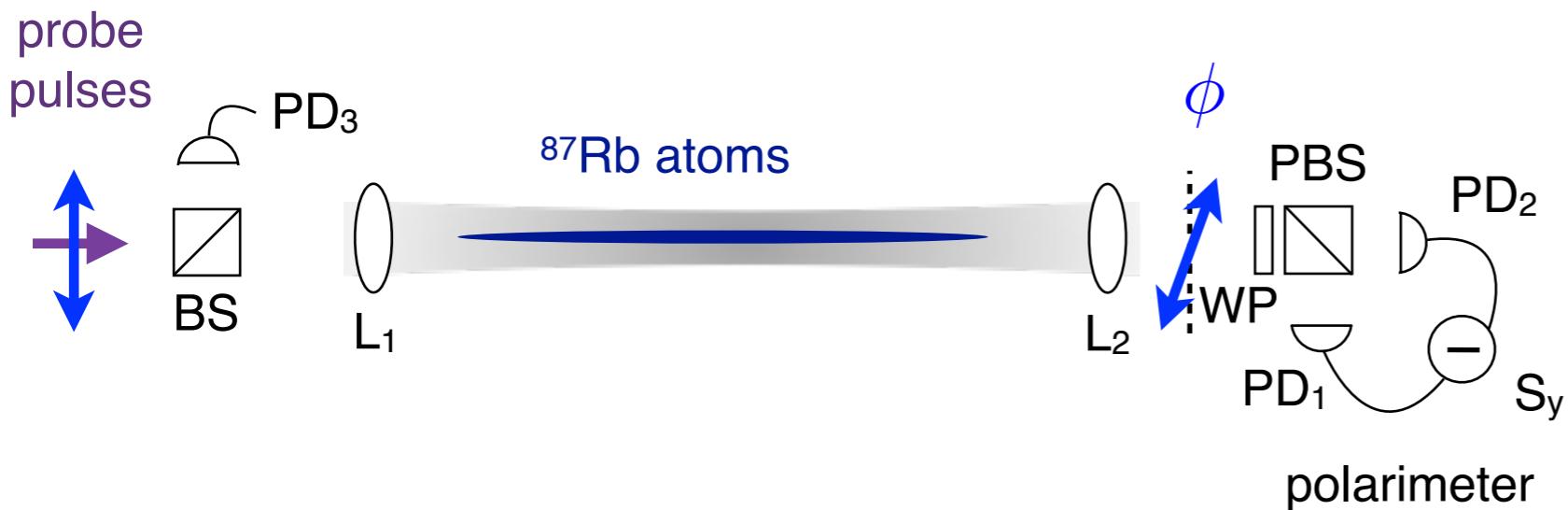


macroscopic singlet state

$$\mathbf{F} = 0$$

$$\Delta\mathbf{F} = 0$$

# Quantum atom-light interface



# quantum non-demolition interaction

$$\tau H = G_1 S_z F_z$$

# collective spin

$$F \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{N_A} f^{(i)}$$

# Stokes operators

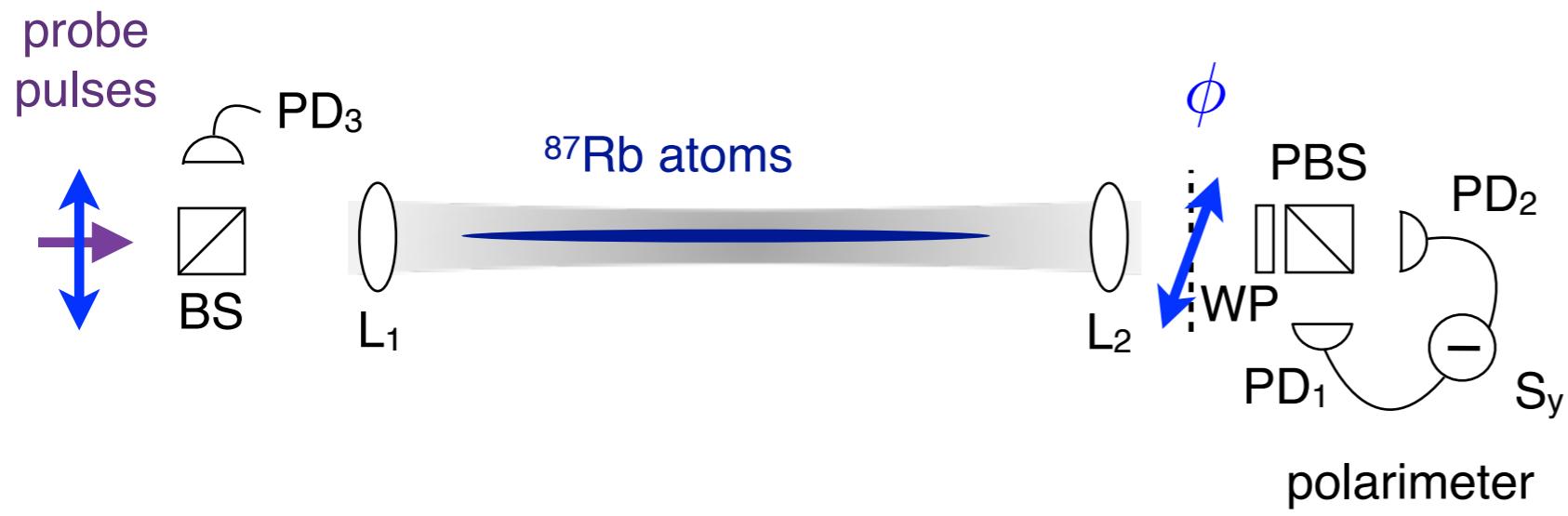
$$S \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{N_L} s^{(i)}$$

$$s_x = n_h - n_v$$

$$s_y = n_\nearrow - n_\nwarrow$$

$$S_z = n_r - n_l$$

# Spin squeezing



spin squeezing

$$(\Delta F_z^{(\text{out})})^2 = (\Delta F_z^{(\text{in})})^2 / (1 + \zeta)$$

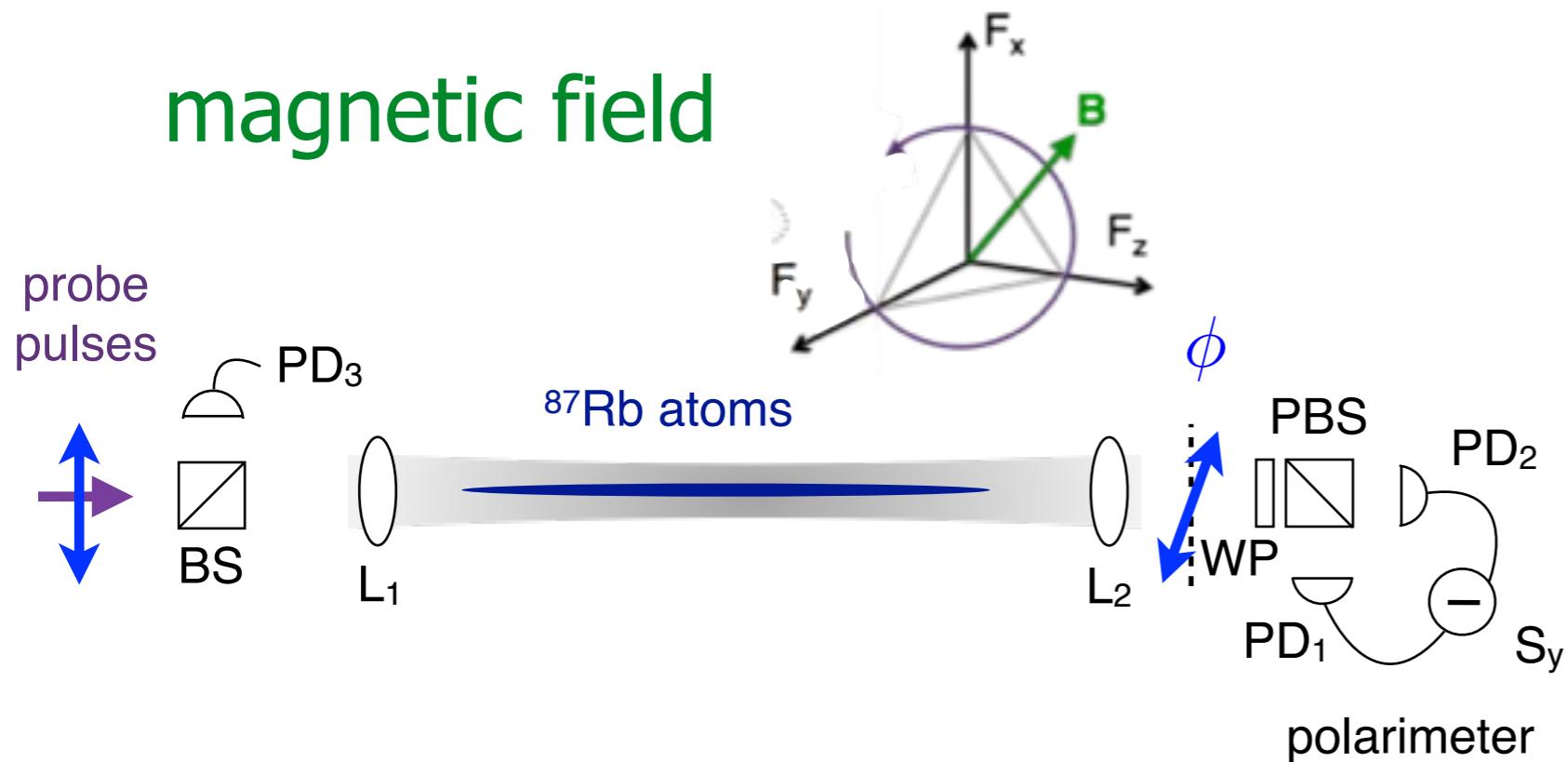
Faraday rotation

$$\phi = \frac{S_y}{S_x} = G_1 F_z$$

signal-to-noise

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= \frac{G_1^2 S_x^2 (\Delta F_z)^2}{(\Delta S_y)^2} \\ &= \frac{2}{3} G_1^2 N_L N_A \end{aligned}$$

# Stroboscopic probing



magnetic field

$$\mathbf{B} = B(1, 1, 1)$$

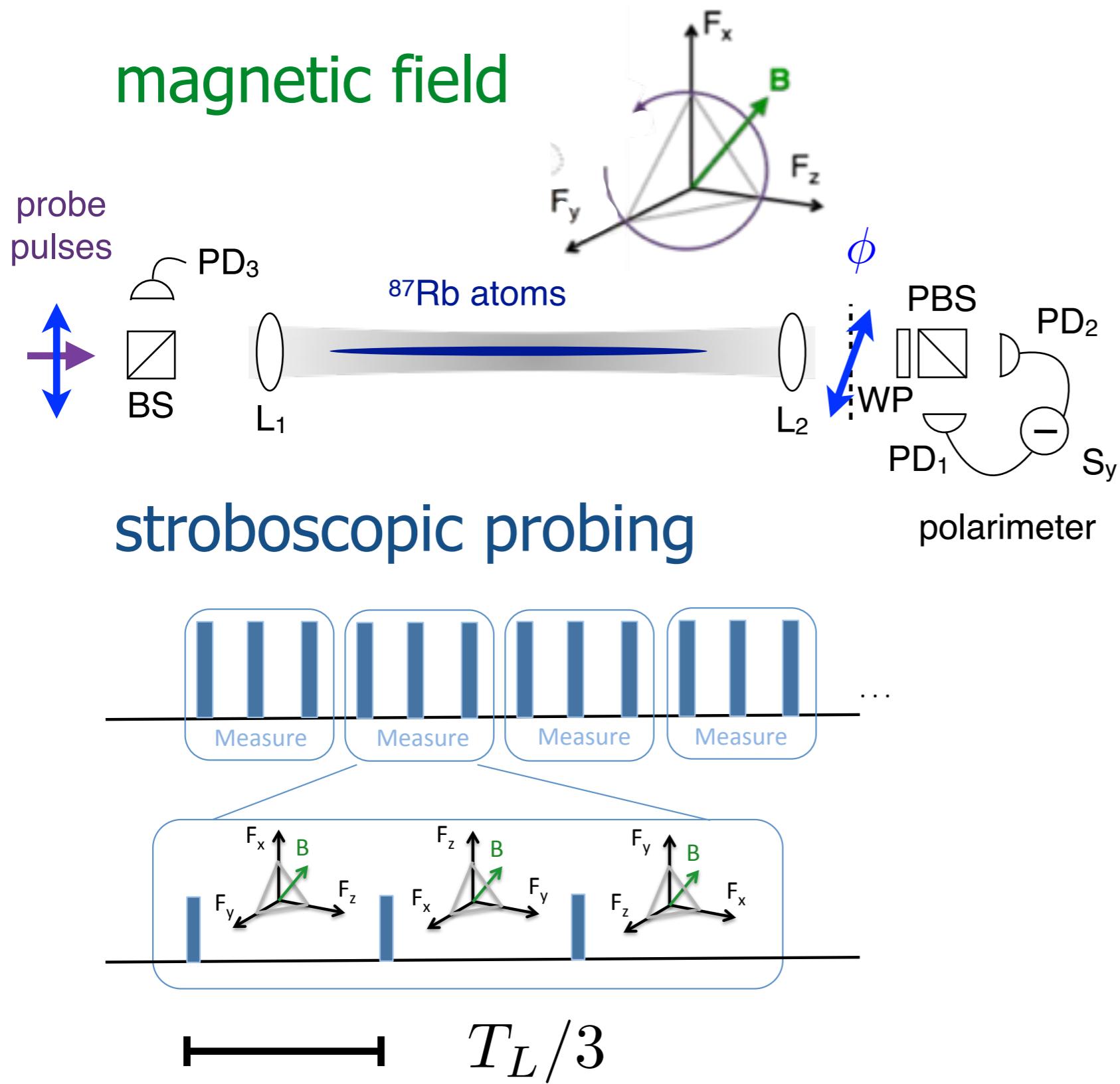
Larmor period

$$T_L = 2\pi/(\gamma B)$$

$$\gamma = \mu_B g_F / \hbar$$

Behbood, PRL 111,  
103601 (2013)

# Stroboscopic probing



magnetic field

$$\mathbf{B} = B(1, 1, 1)$$

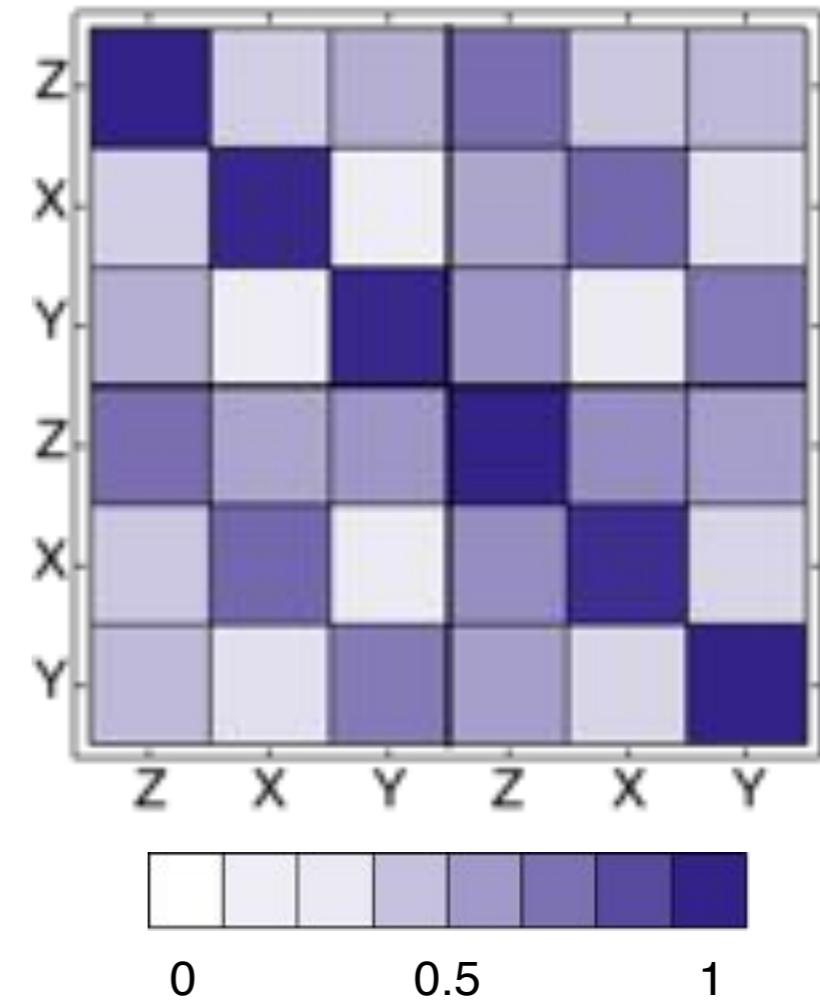
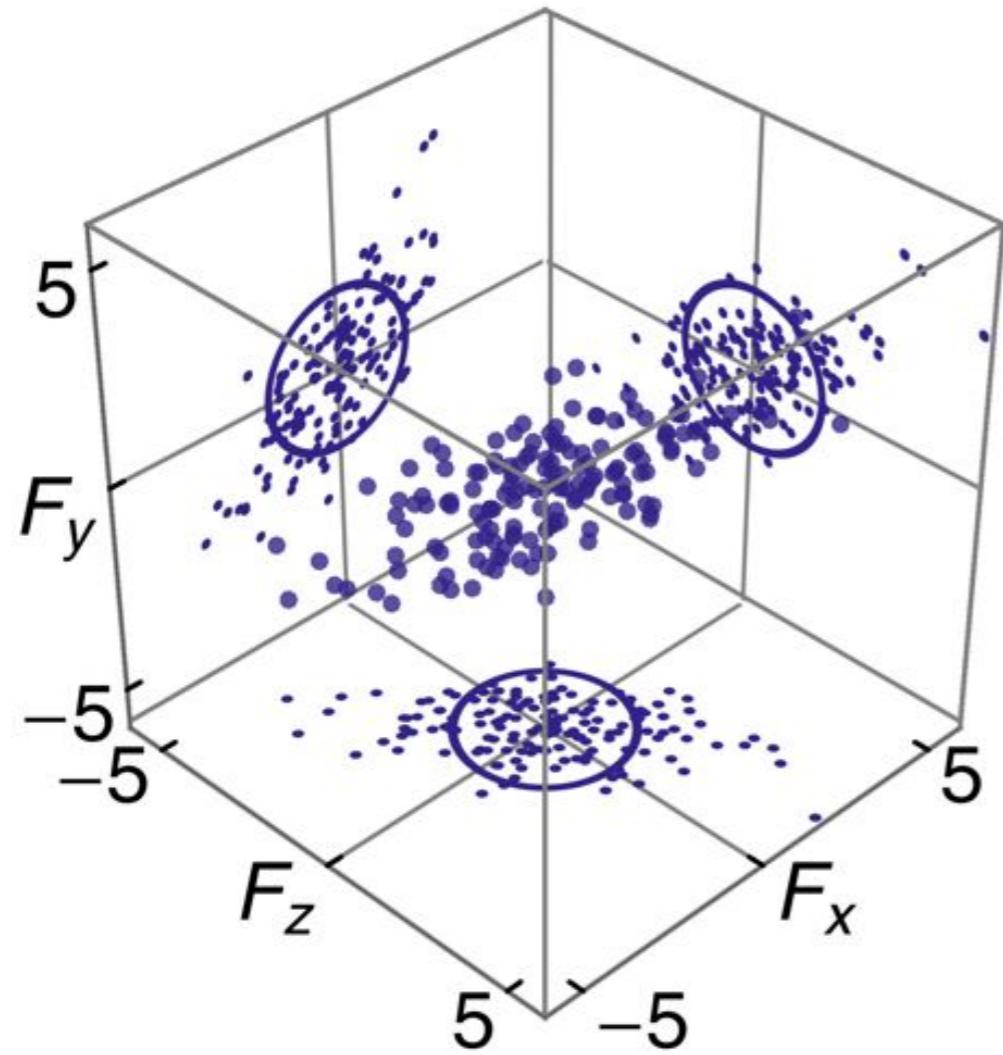
Larmor period

$$T_L = 2\pi/(\gamma B)$$

$$\gamma = \mu_B g_F/\hbar$$

Behbood, PRL 111,  
103601 (2013)

# Spin state tomography



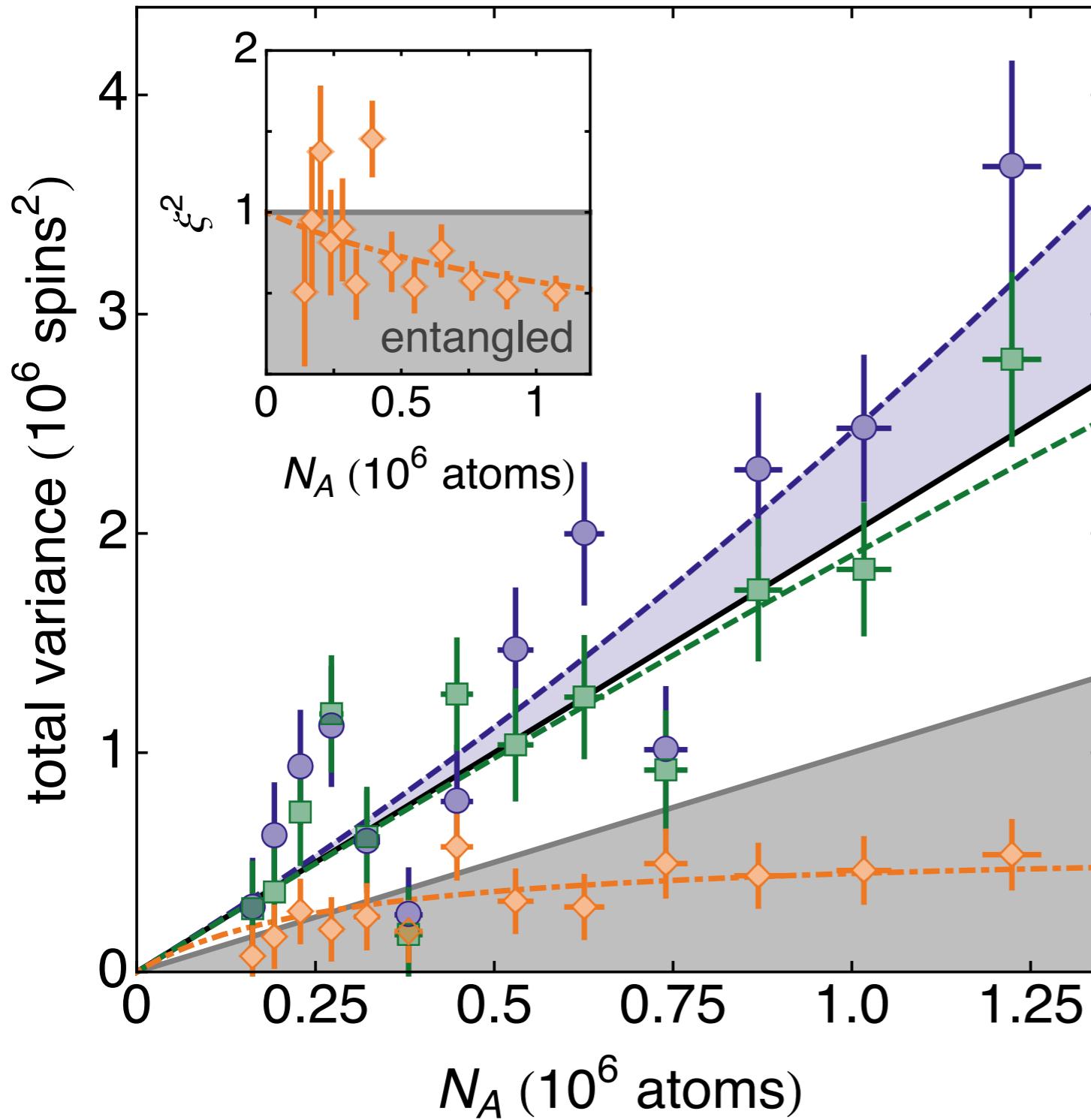
measurements

$$F_i^{(m)} = \{F_z^{(1)}, F_x^{(1)}, F_y^{(1)}, F_z^{(2)}, \dots\}$$

covariance

$$\Gamma_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \langle F_i F_j + F_j F_i \rangle - \langle F_i \rangle \langle F_j \rangle$$

# Spin squeezing



total variance

$$\mathcal{V}_p = \text{Tr}(\Gamma_p)$$

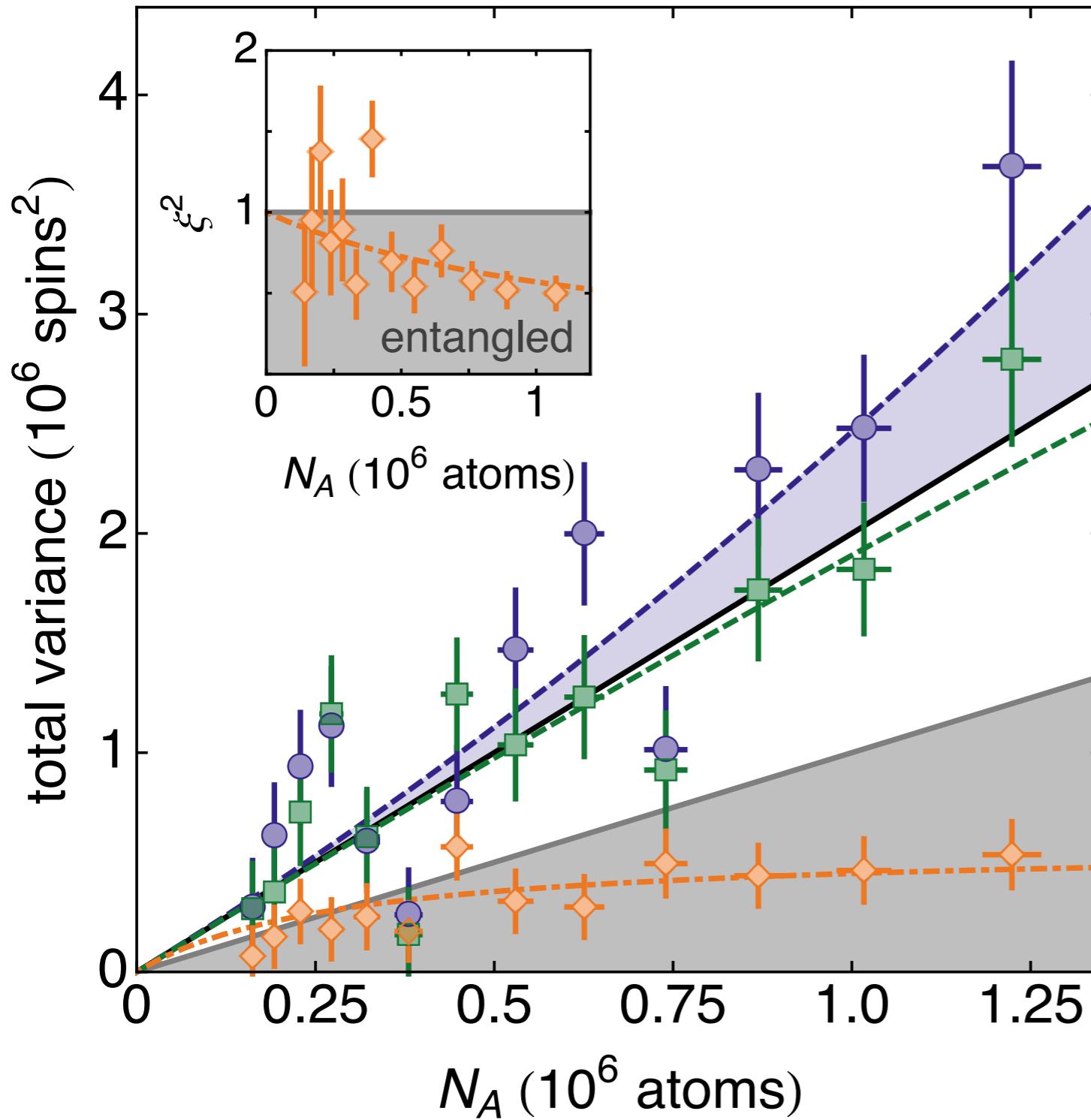
conditional covariance

$$\Gamma_{2|1} = \Gamma_2 - \Gamma_{2,1}\Gamma_1^{-1}\Gamma_{1,2}$$

spin squeezing

$$\xi^2 = \text{Tr}(\Gamma_{2|1})/(fN_A)$$

# Spin squeezing



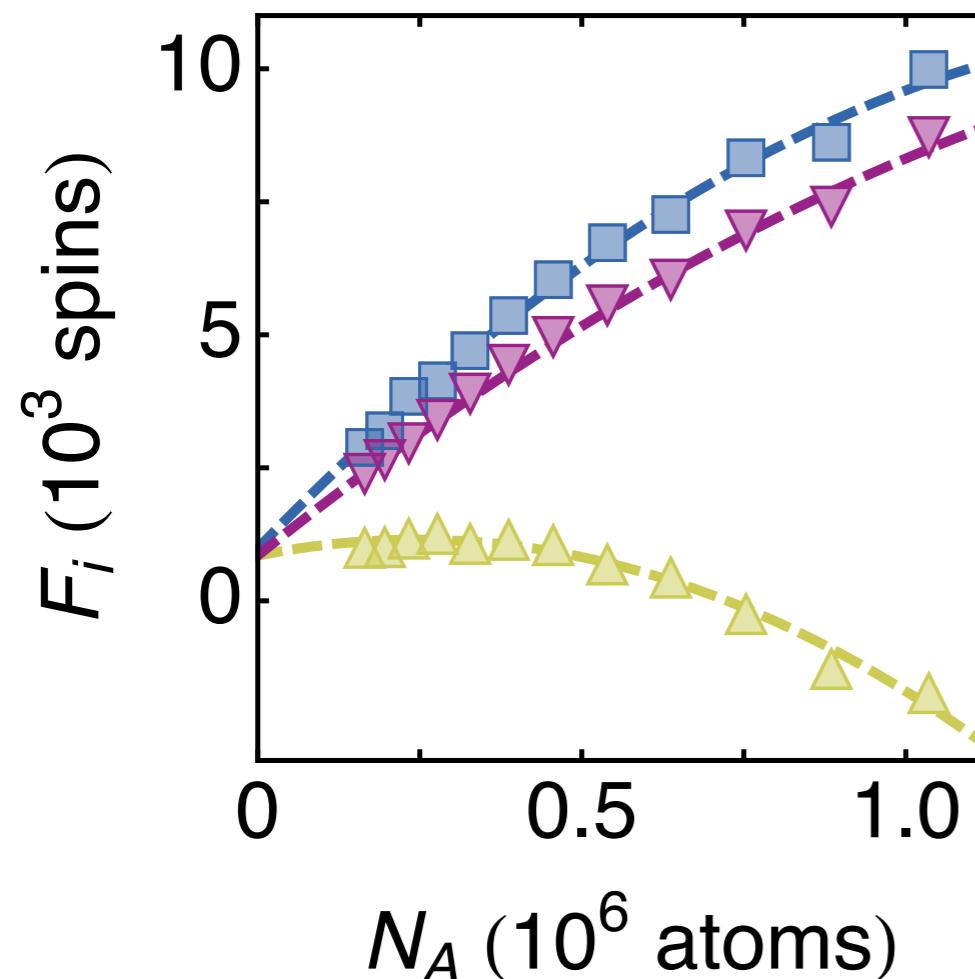
3dB spin squeezing

$5.5 \times 10^5$  atoms  
in the  
entangled  
singlet state

spin squeezing

$$\xi^2 = \text{Tr}(\Gamma_{2|1})/(fN_A)$$

# Unpolarised atoms

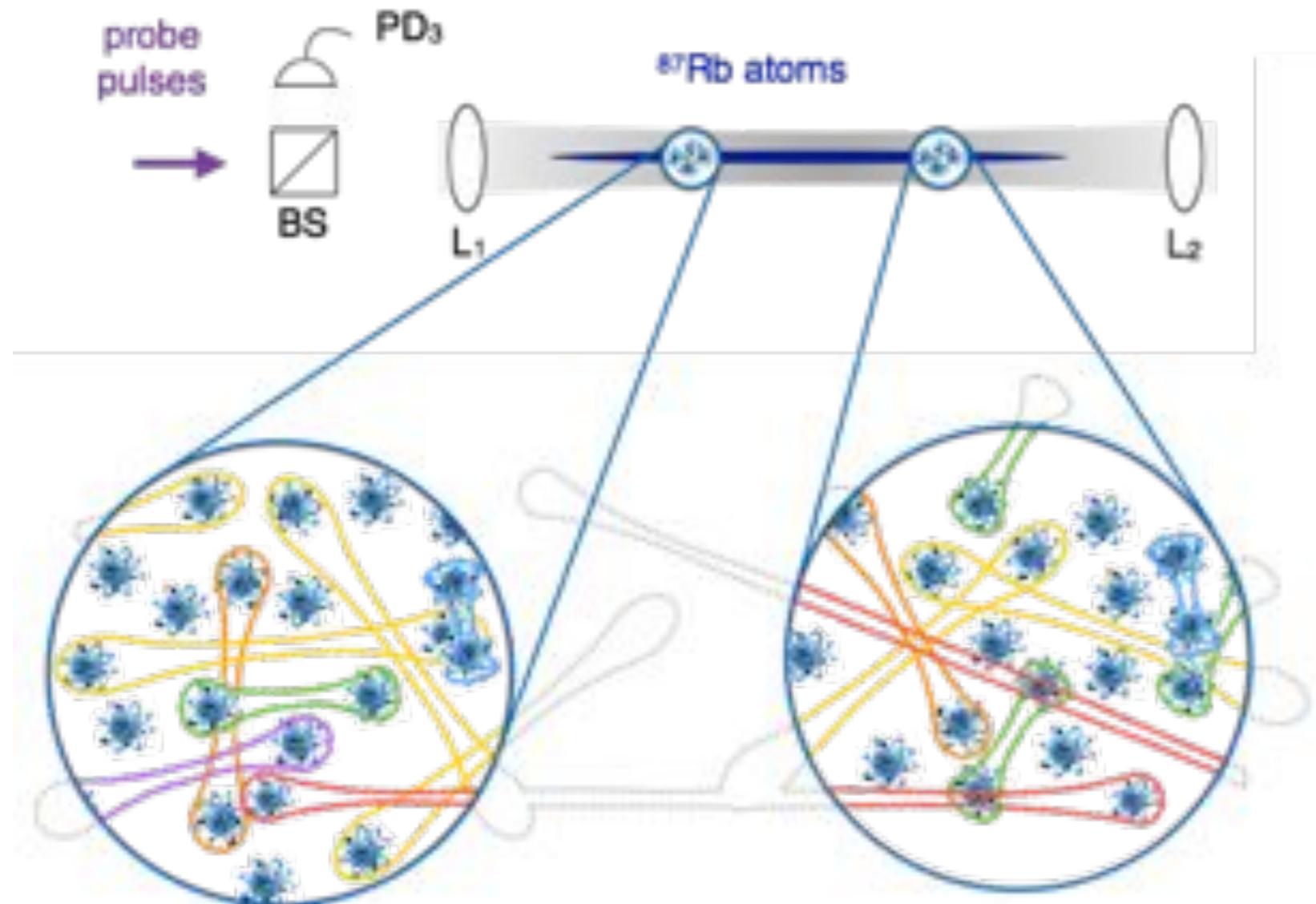


$\ll 1\%$  polarisation

in principle allow up to  
20dB squeezing  
(much more than we can  
achieve)

$$\Delta F_i \Delta F_j \geq |\langle F_k \rangle|/2 = 0$$

# Long-range entanglement



symmetric  
input state

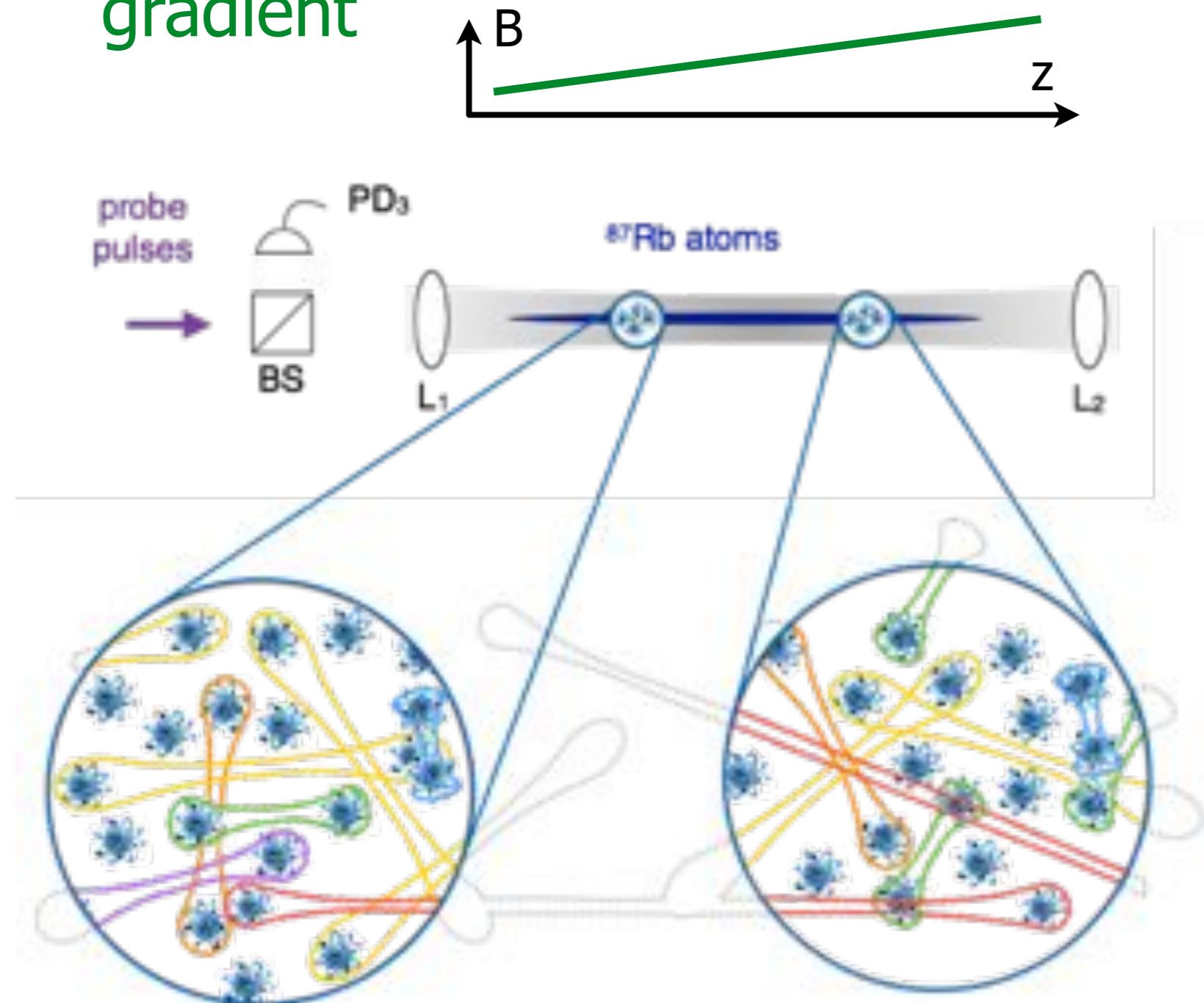
$$R = \rho^{\otimes N_A}$$

collective  
measurement

$$\tau H = G_1 S_z F_z$$

# Decoherence

magnetic field  
gradient



singlet  $\Rightarrow$  triplet  
spin flips

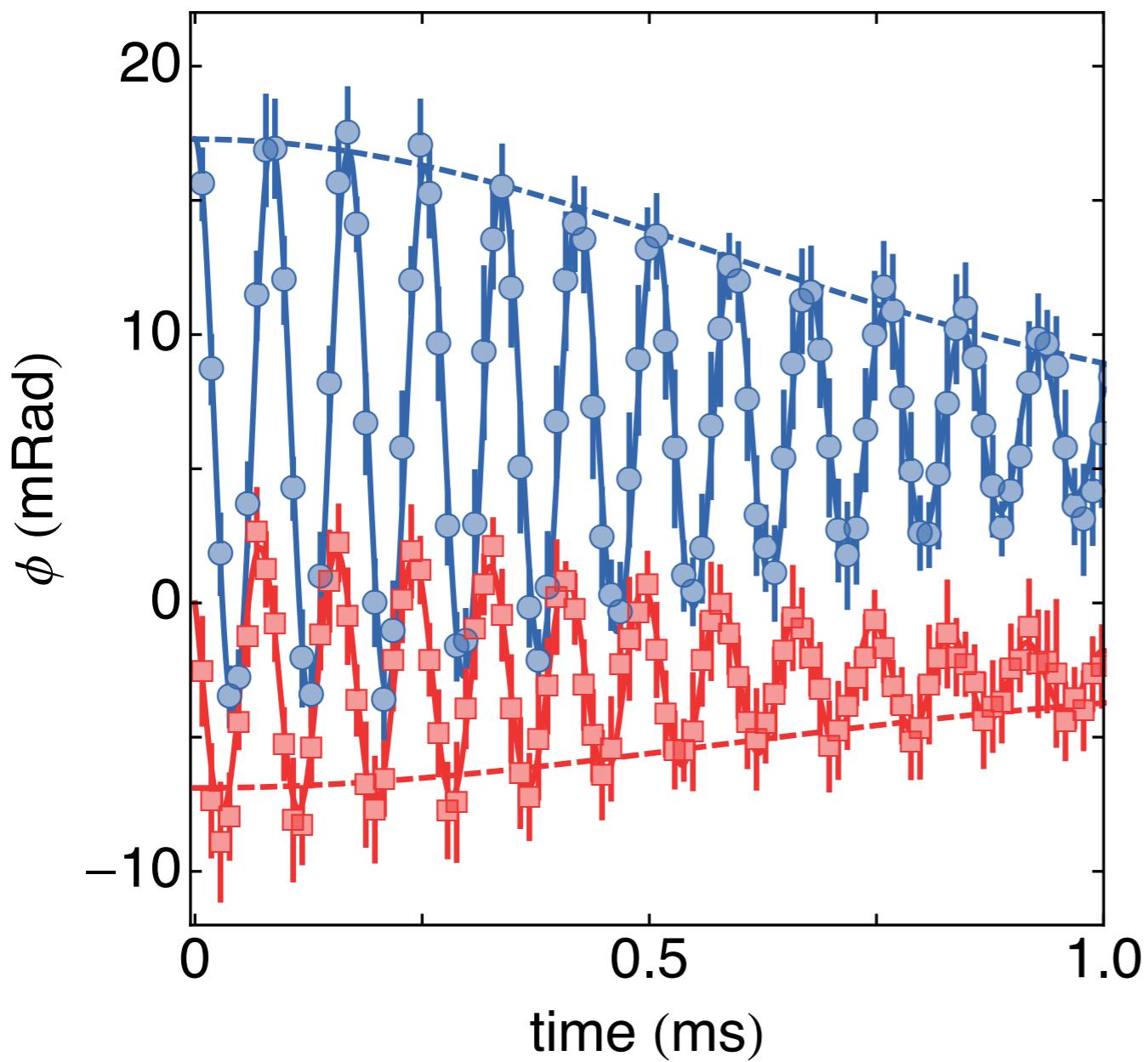
dephasing  
at a rate

$$\exp(-t^2/T_2^2)$$

$$1/T_2 = \sigma\gamma(\partial B/\partial z)$$

Urizar-Lanz, PRA 88,  
013626 (2013)

# Spin dephasing



input coherent  
spin state

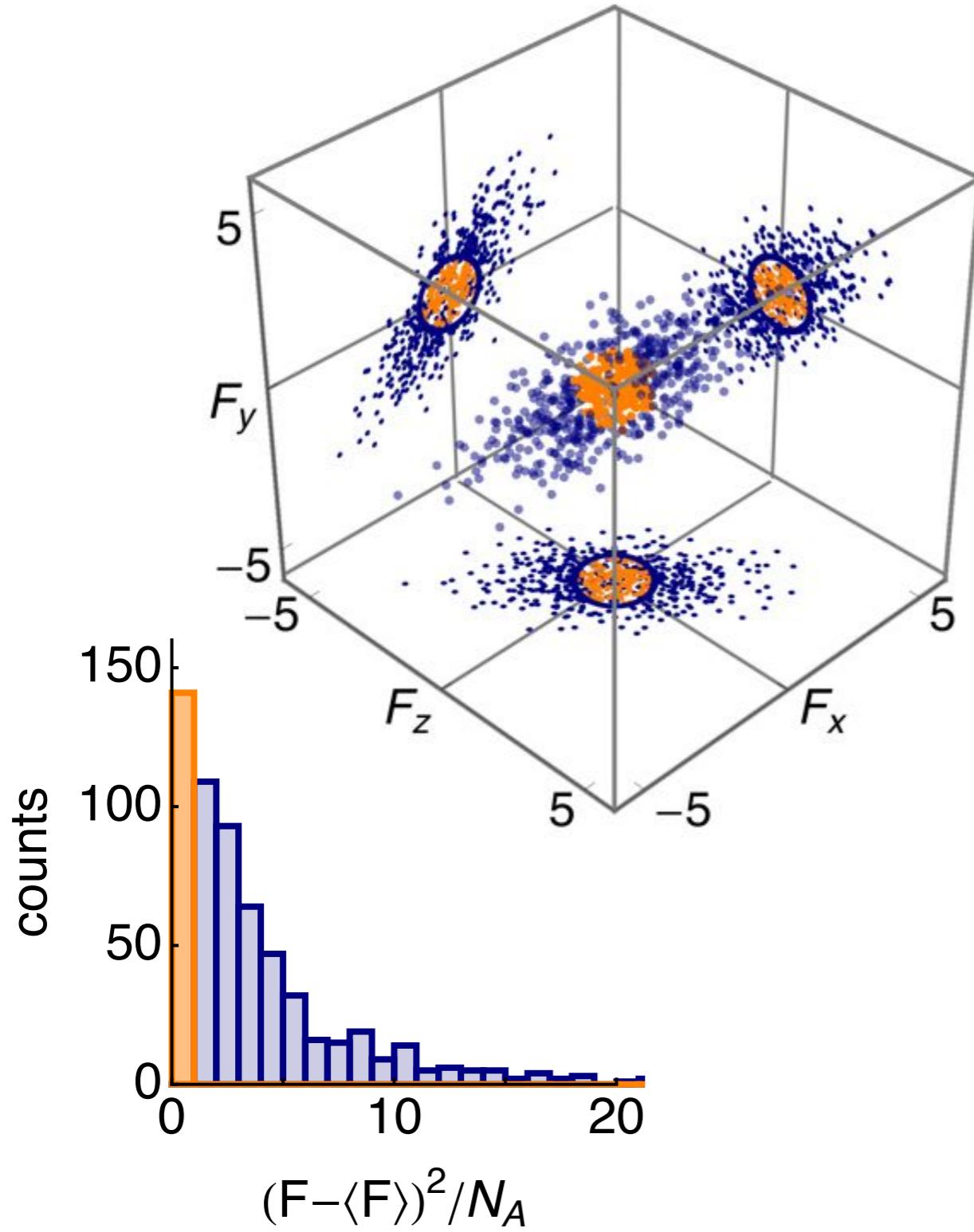
dephasing  
at a rate

$$\exp(-t^2/T_2^2)$$

$$1/T_2 = \sigma\gamma(\partial B/\partial z)$$

Behbood, APL 102,  
173504 (2013)

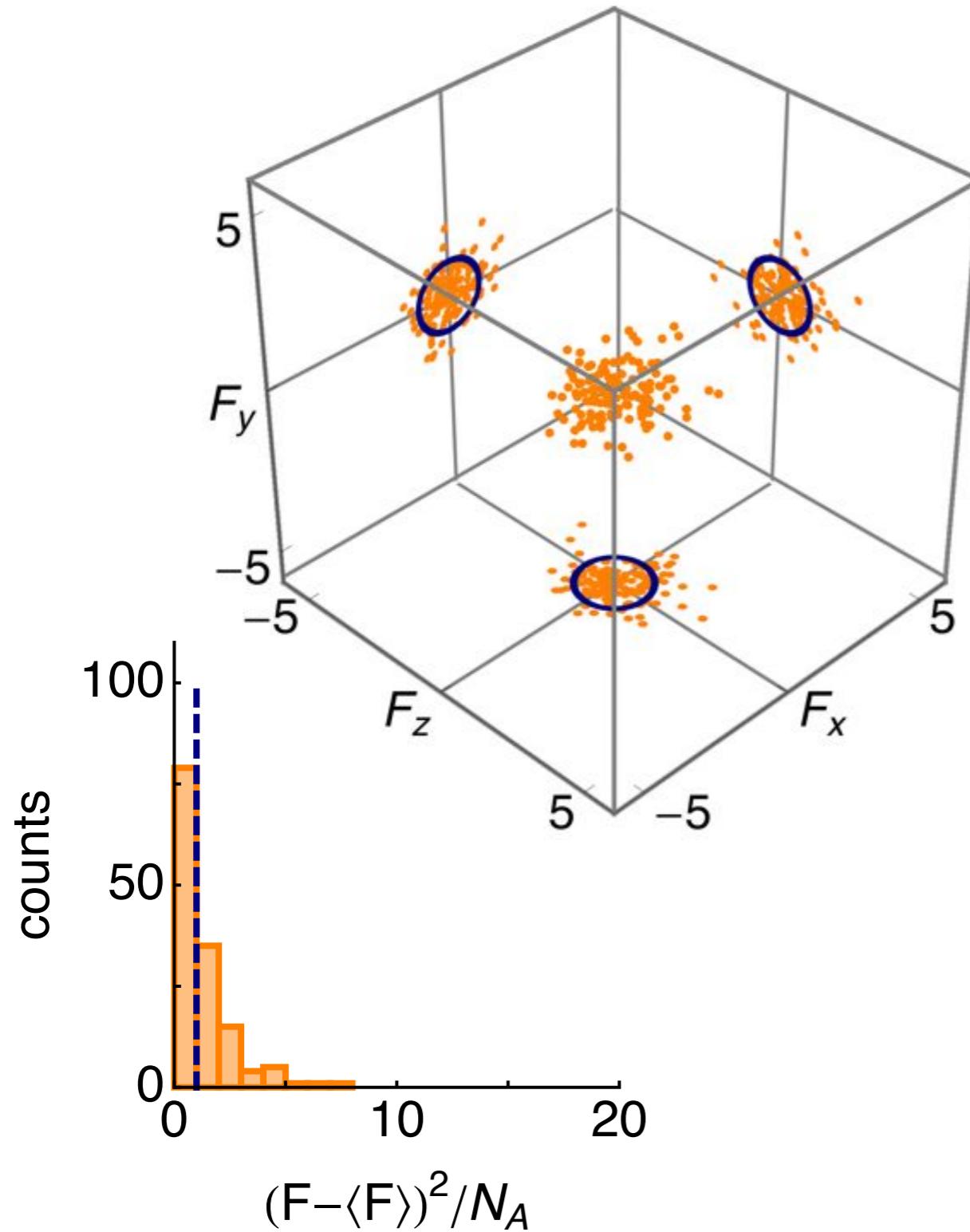
# (Post-)select spin singlets



cutoff parameter

$$|\mathbf{F}^{(1)} - \langle \mathbf{F}^{(1)} \rangle| / N_A < C$$

# (Post-)select spin singlets



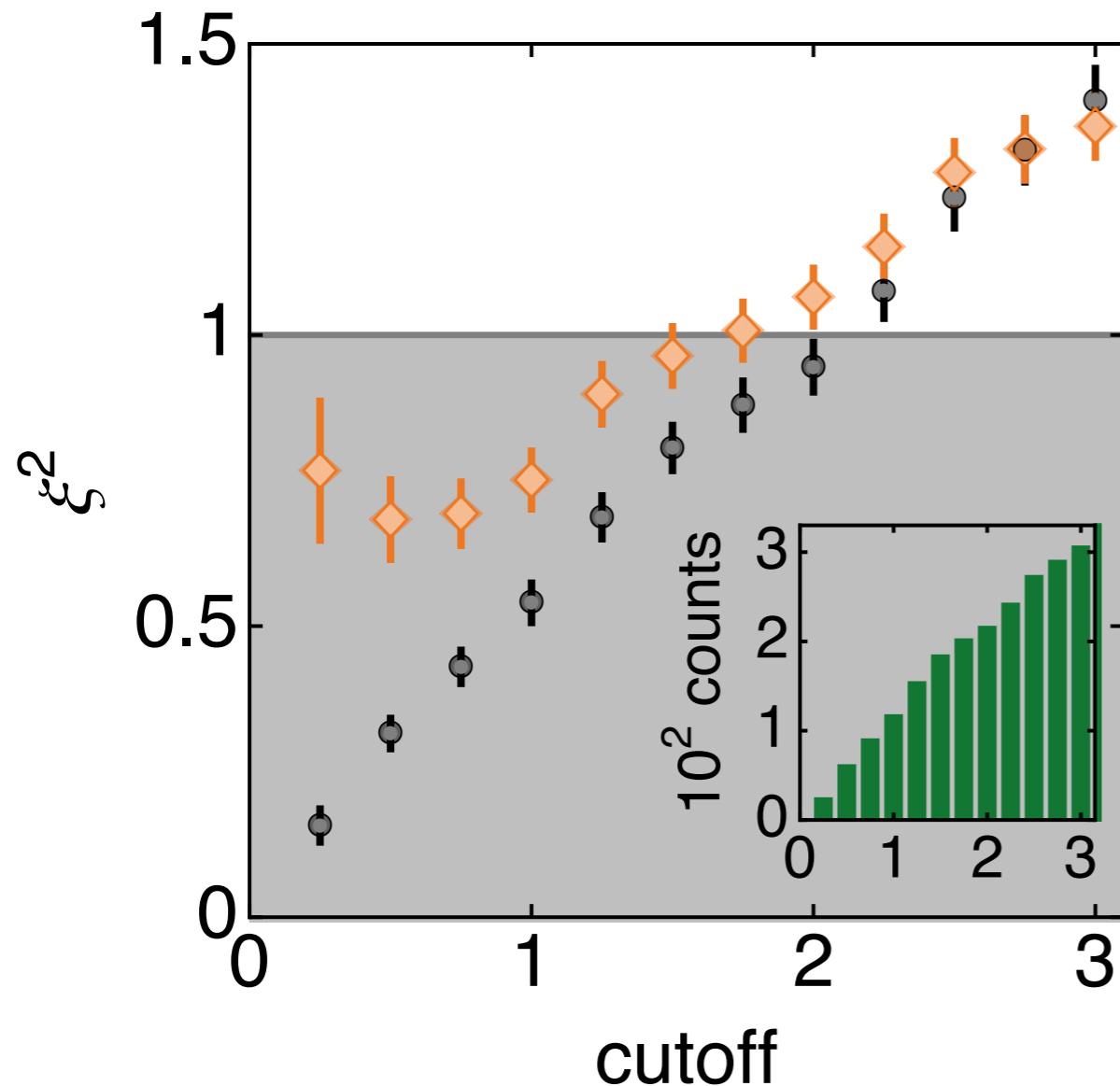
cutoff parameter

$$|\mathbf{F}^{(1)} - \langle \mathbf{F}^{(1)} \rangle| / N_A < C$$

total variance

$$\mathcal{V}_p = \text{Tr}(\Gamma_p)$$

# (Post-)select spin singlets



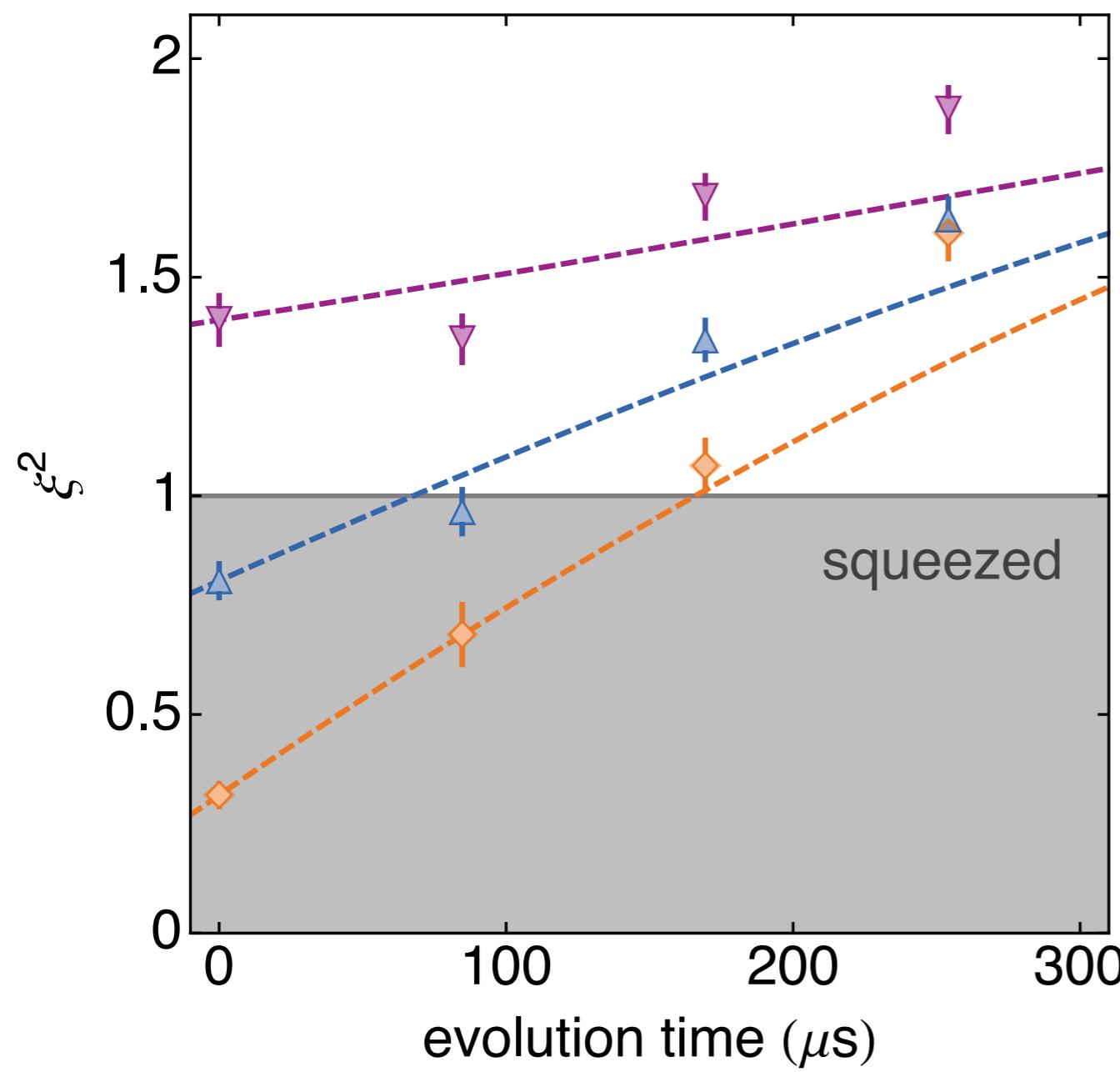
cutoff parameter

$$|\mathbf{F}^{(1)} - \langle \mathbf{F}^{(1)} \rangle|/N_A < C$$

total variance

$$\mathcal{V}_p = \text{Tr}(\Gamma_p)$$

# Decoherence



increase in total variance

$$\xi^2(t) \propto (1 - \exp(-t^2/T_2^2))$$

$$1/T_2 = \sigma \gamma (\partial B / \partial z)$$

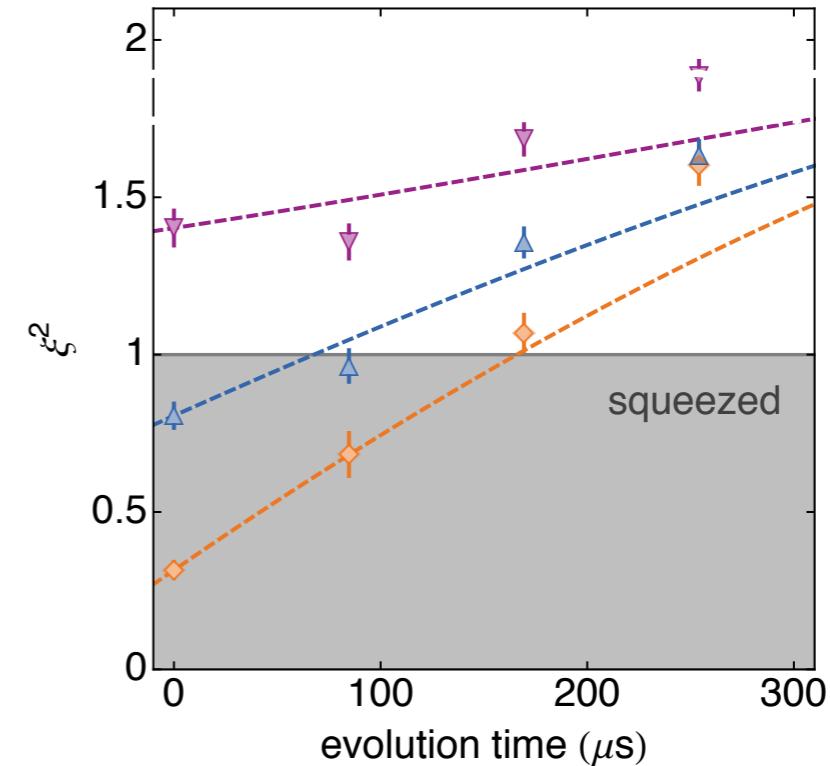
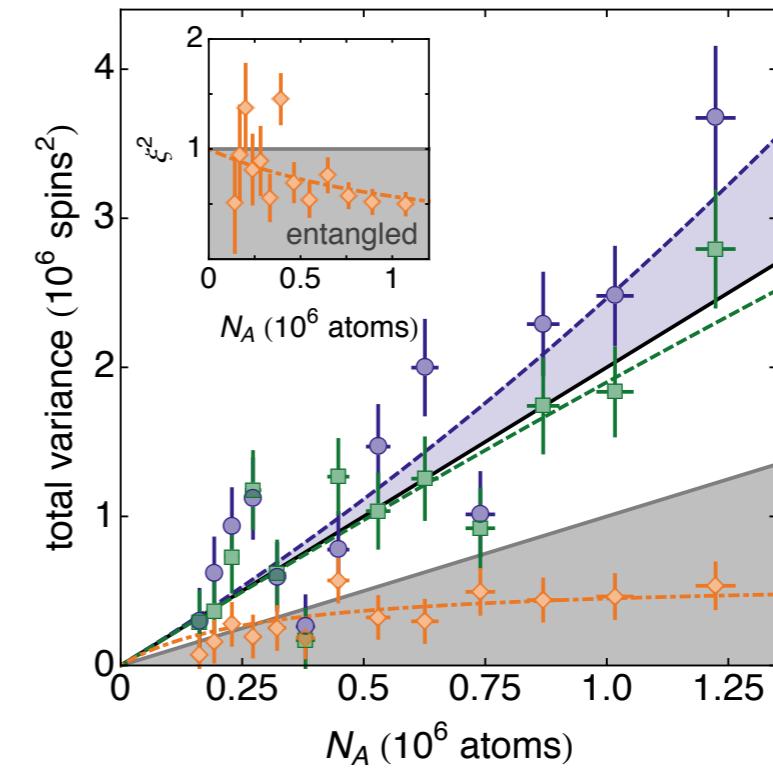
indirect evidence for  
long range  
entanglement

# Macroscopic spin singlet

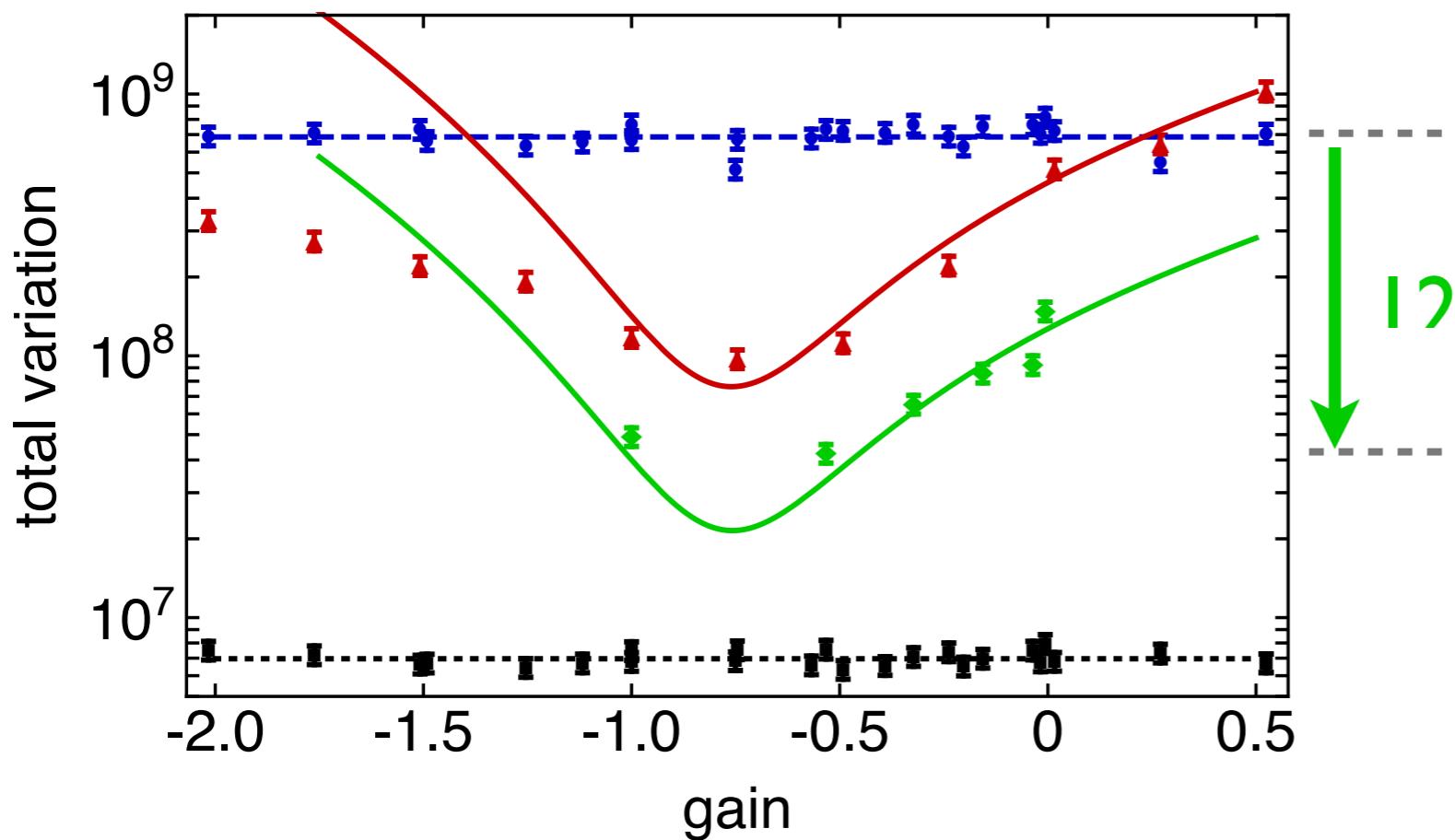
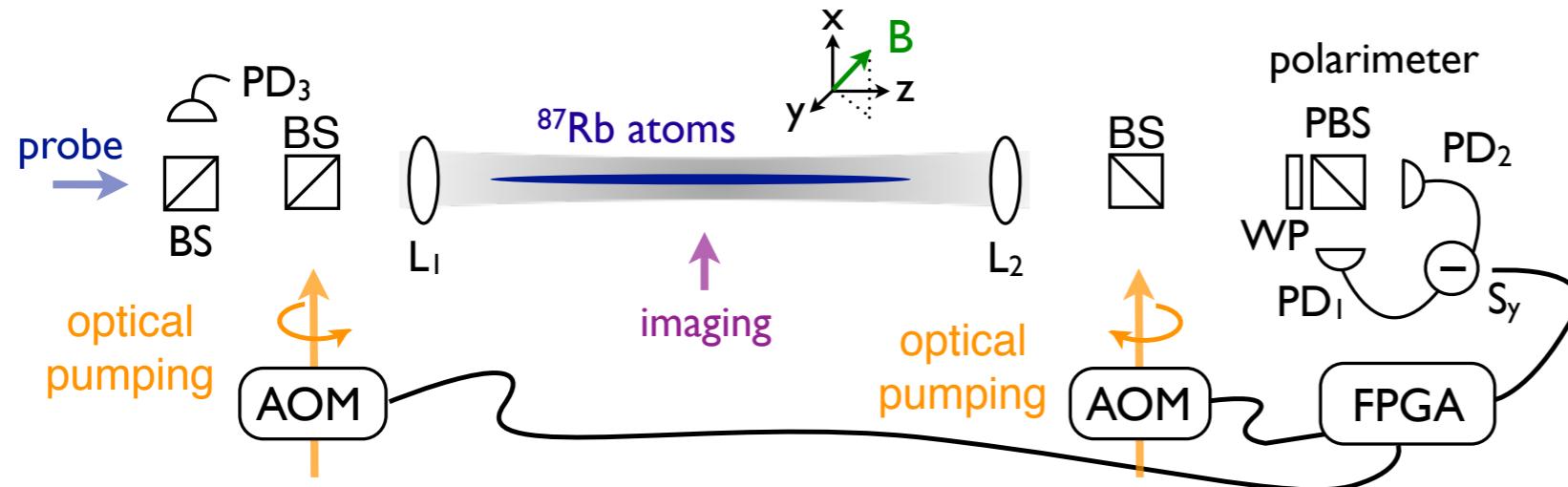
we have created a macroscopic singlet state by measurement-induced spin squeezing

$5.5 \times 10^5$  atoms in the entangled singlet state

evidence for long range entanglement



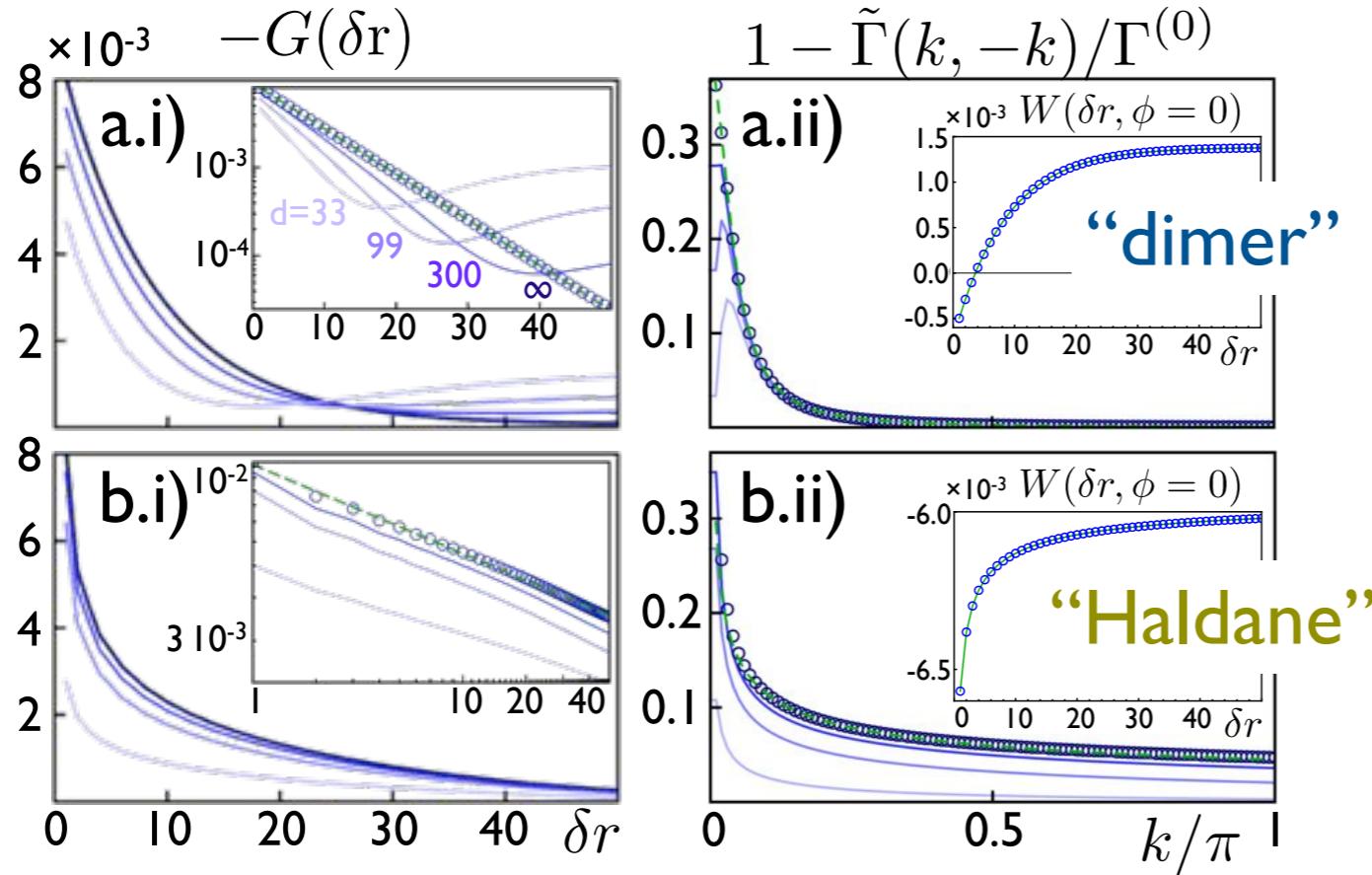
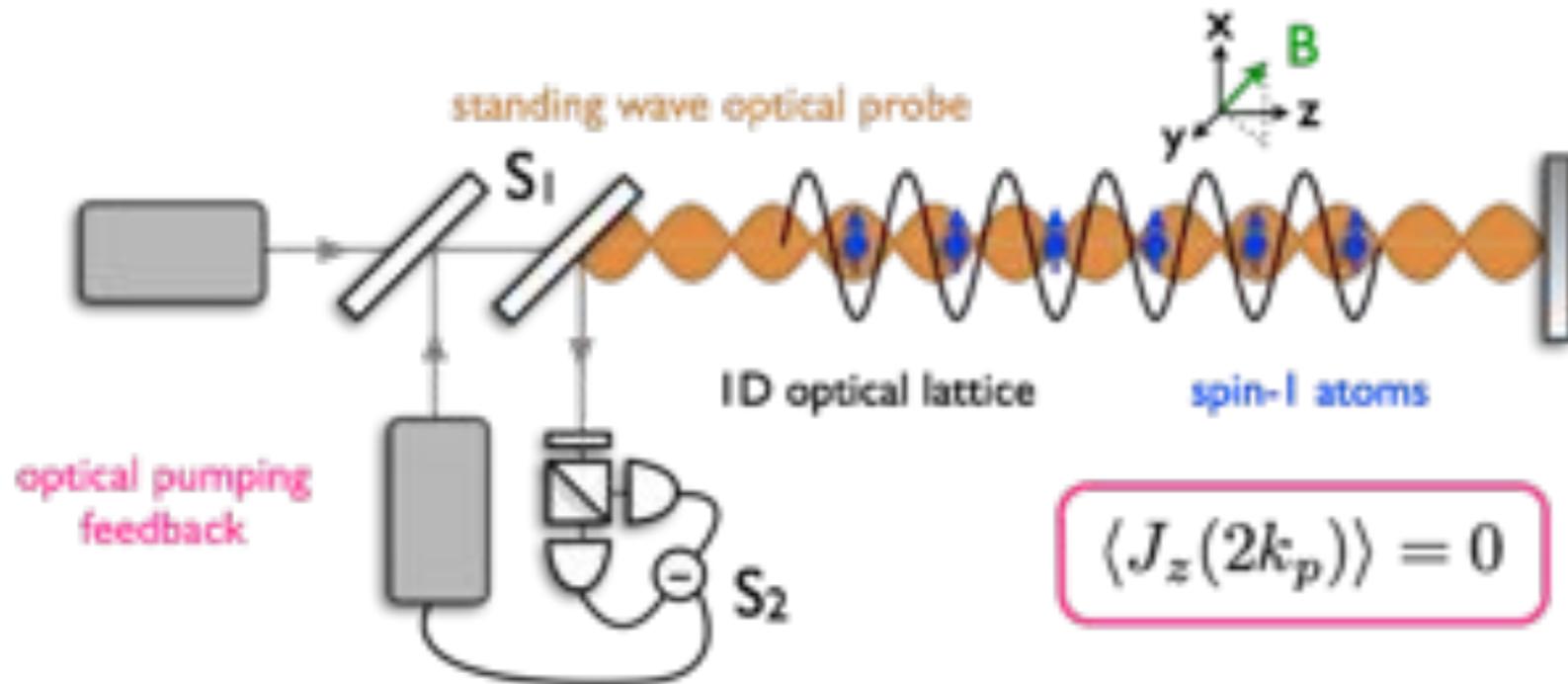
# Feedback cooling



quantum control & feedback cooling

Behbood, PRL 111,  
103601 (2013)

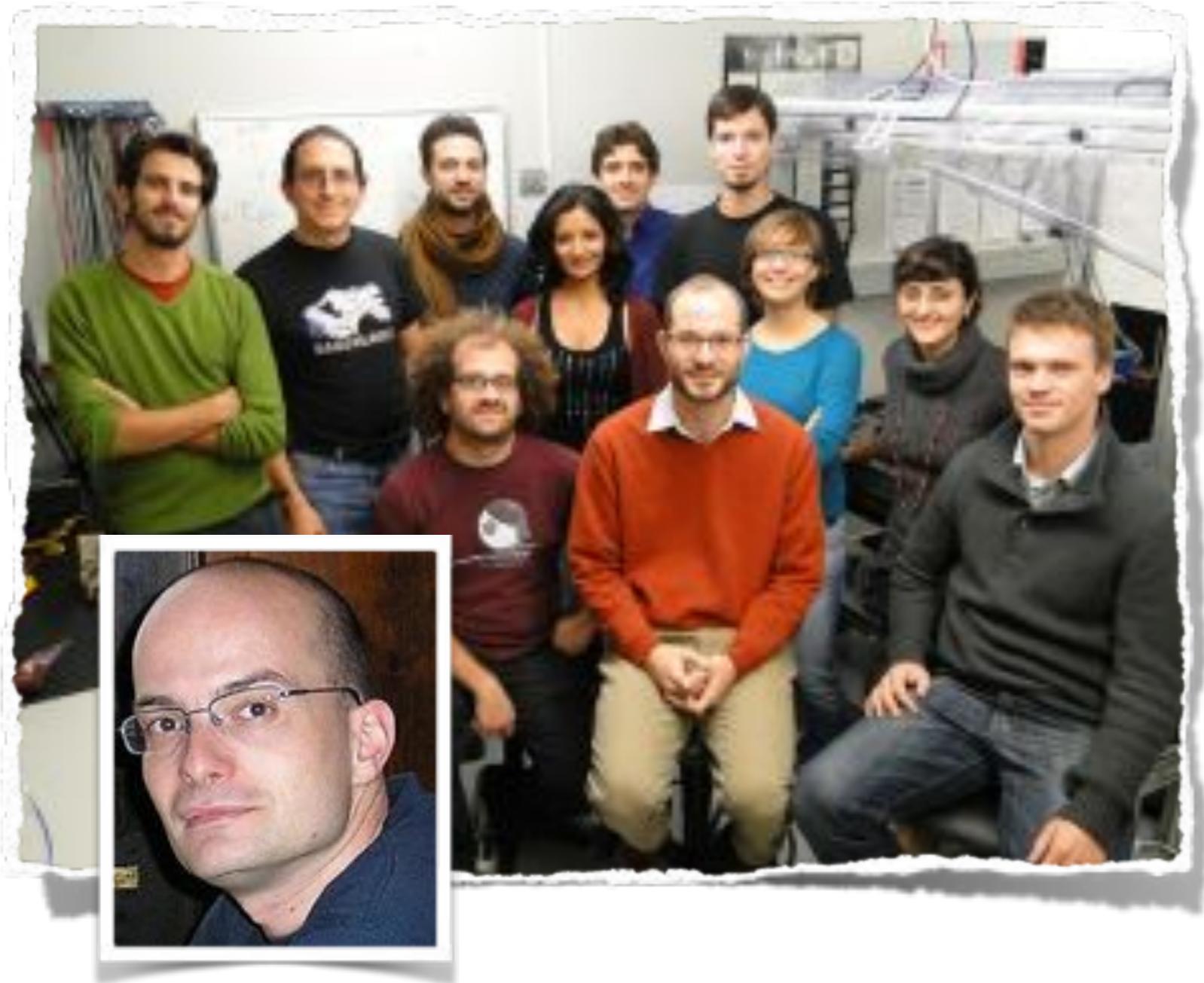
# Quantum engineering



preparation of  
spatially structured  
quantum spin  
correlations

Hauke, PRA 87,  
021601R (2013)

# Acknowledgments



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M. Napolitano,  
G. Tóth &  
M.W. Mitchell\*

ICFO<sup>R</sup>  
Institut  
de Ciències  
Fotòniques  
NG  
roup  
itchell

# Thankyou

current work

Behbood, arXiv:1403.1964 (2014)

experiments

Behbood, PRL 111, 103601 (2013)

Behbood, APL 102, 173504 (2013)

theory

Tóth, NJP 12, 053007 (2010)

Urizar-Lanz, PRA 88, 013626 (2013)

Hauke, PRA 87, 021601R (2013)



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