

Spintronics and orbital computing

M. Kläui

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Centre for Quantum Spintronics, NTNU Trondheim

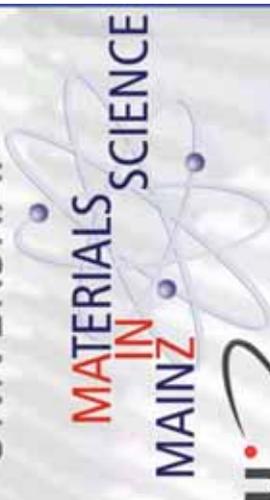
- Introduction: **devices & chiral interactions**
- Topologically stabilized **Skyrmions**
- Fast dynamics: **Spin and Orbital Torques**
- Efficient dynamics: **thermal diffusion**
- **Non-conventional logic** with skyrmions



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Spintronics and orbital computing memory & unconventional computing

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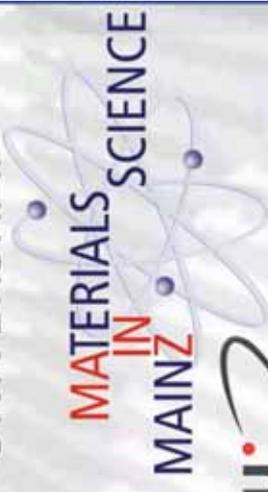


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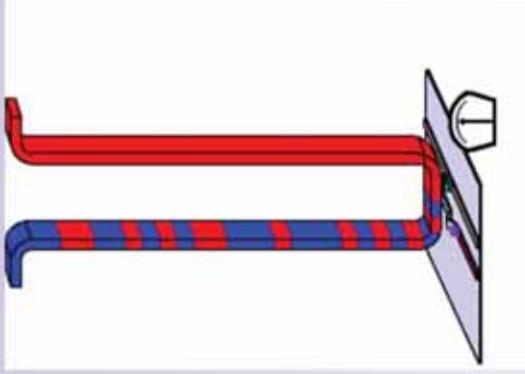
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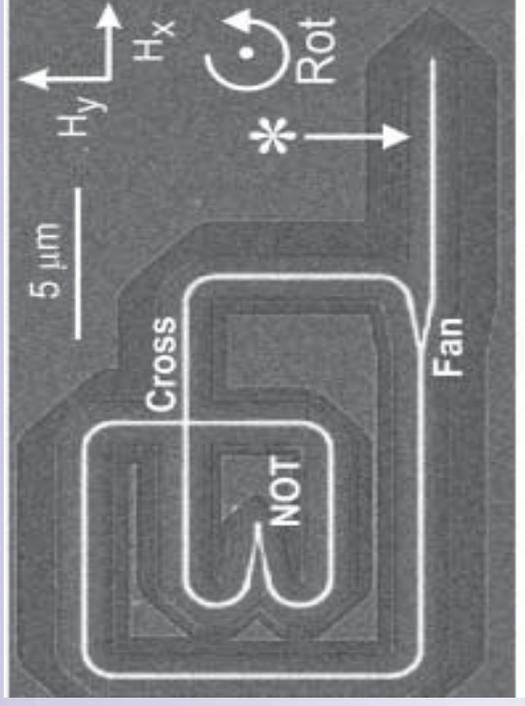
Devices based on Domain Walls and Skyrmions

Memory



Parkin et al, Science **320**, 190 ('08)
Fert et al., Nature Nano **8**, 152 ('13)

Magnetic Logic



D. A. Allwood et al., Science **309**, 1688 (2005)
J. Grollier et al., Nature Electron. **3**, 360 (2020)

Position & angle sensors



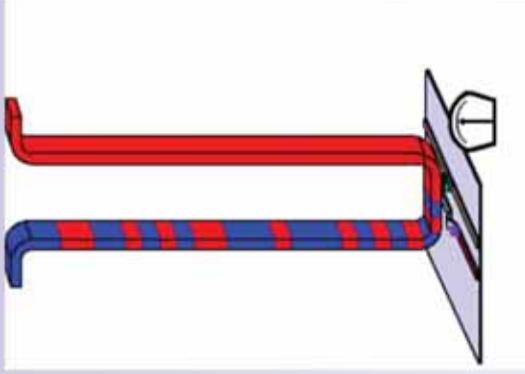
R. Mattheis et al., IEEE Trans. Magn. **45**, 3792 (2009)
A. Bisig et al., Nature Comm. **4**, 2328 (2013)

- Key low power IT devices based on magnetic spin structures include:
- Memory: non – volatile, no mechanically moving parts, one memory fits all
→ low power and simplified device architecture
- Logic: non – volatile, non – contact, no constant power source necessary:
→ low power + thermally excited diffusive dynamics → ultra-low power logic
- Sensing - Angle and position sensors: non – volatile, no constant power source necessary → low power, low maintenance



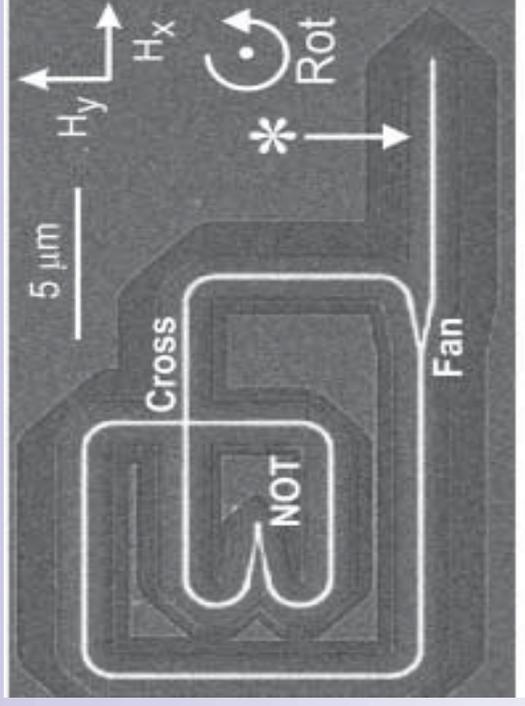
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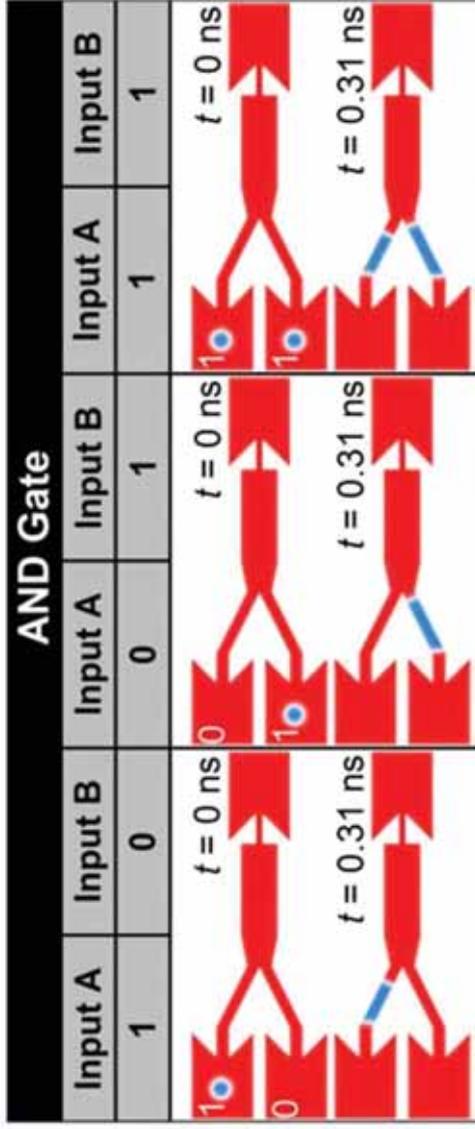


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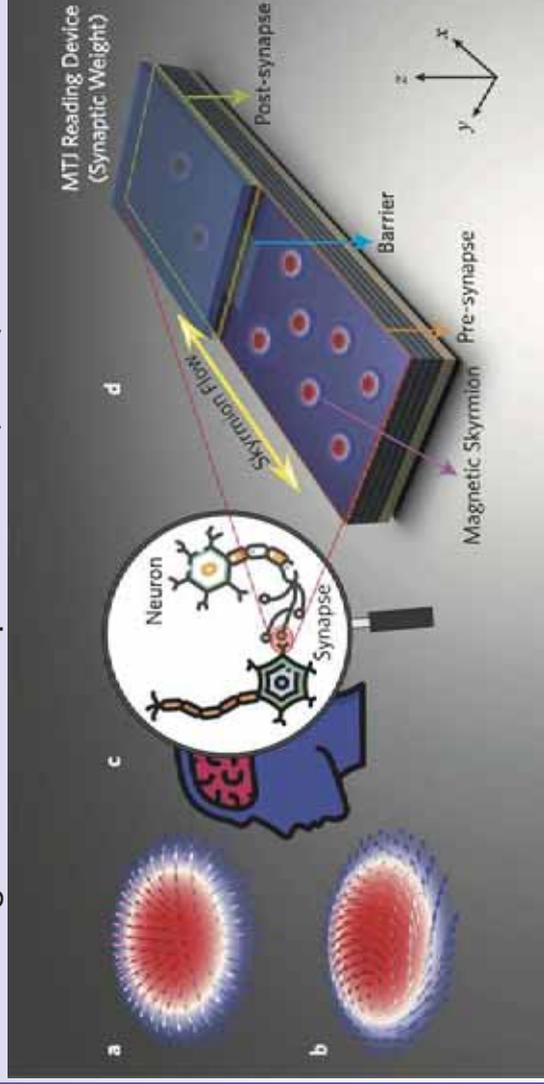
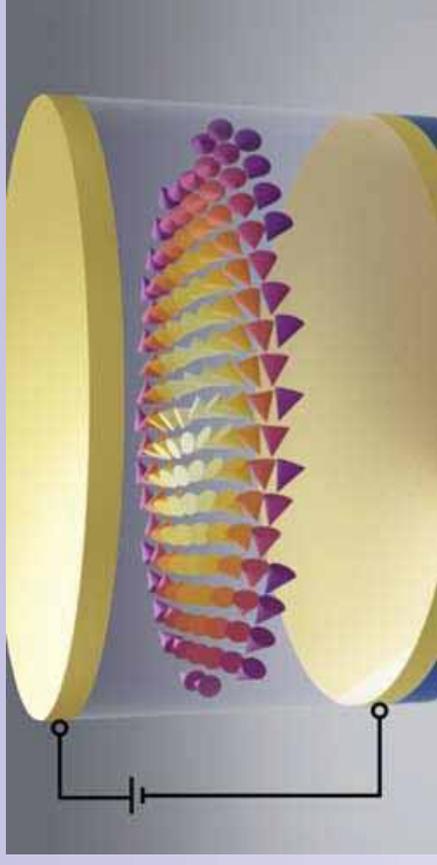


Introduction to logic devices based on spin structures

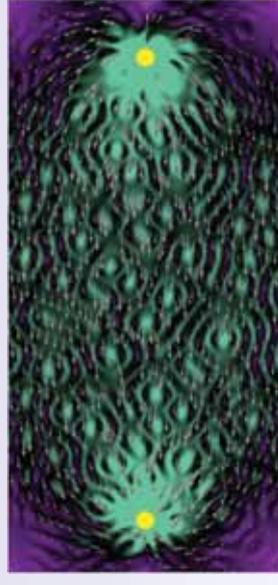
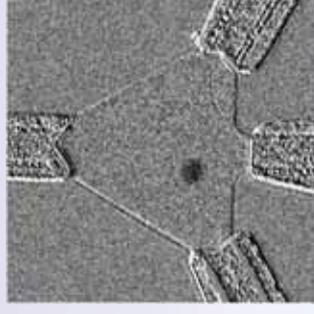


X. Zhang et al., Sci. Rep. 5, 9400 (2015); Z. Yan et al., PRAppl. 15, 064004 (2021)

C. Psaroudaki et al.,
Phys. Rev. Lett. 127,
067201 (2021)



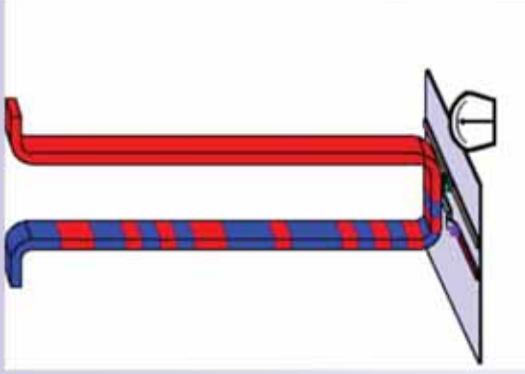
R. Chen et al., Phys. Rev. Appl. 14, 014096 (2020);
K. Song et al., Nature Electron. 3, 148 (2020);
Y. Huang et al., Nanotechnology 28, 08LT02 (2017)



- Spin structures such as skyrmions have been suggested for logic schemes:
- -Conventional Boolean Logic
- -Non-conventional Logic (neuromorphic, stochastic, reservoir - later more!)
- -Quantum Computing

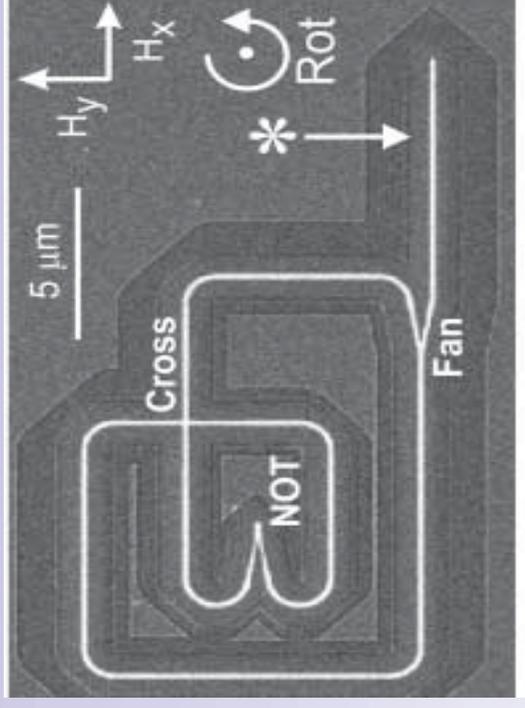
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Challenges for Spintronics Devices:

Statics: Stability – Long term information retention

→ Topological Spin Structures to the rescue

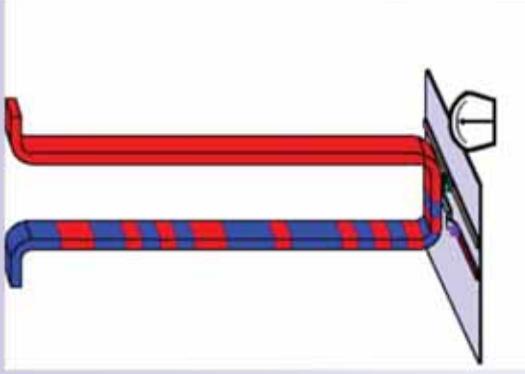
Dynamics: Manipulation – Efficiency and Speed

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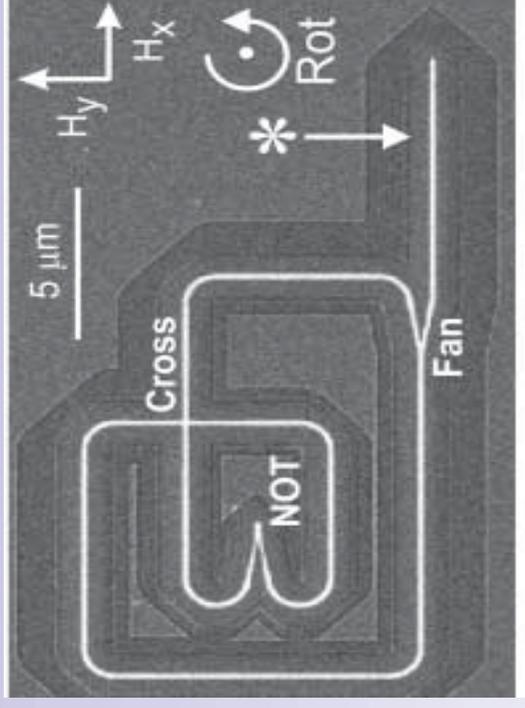
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MATERIALS
IN
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Qu.
Spin



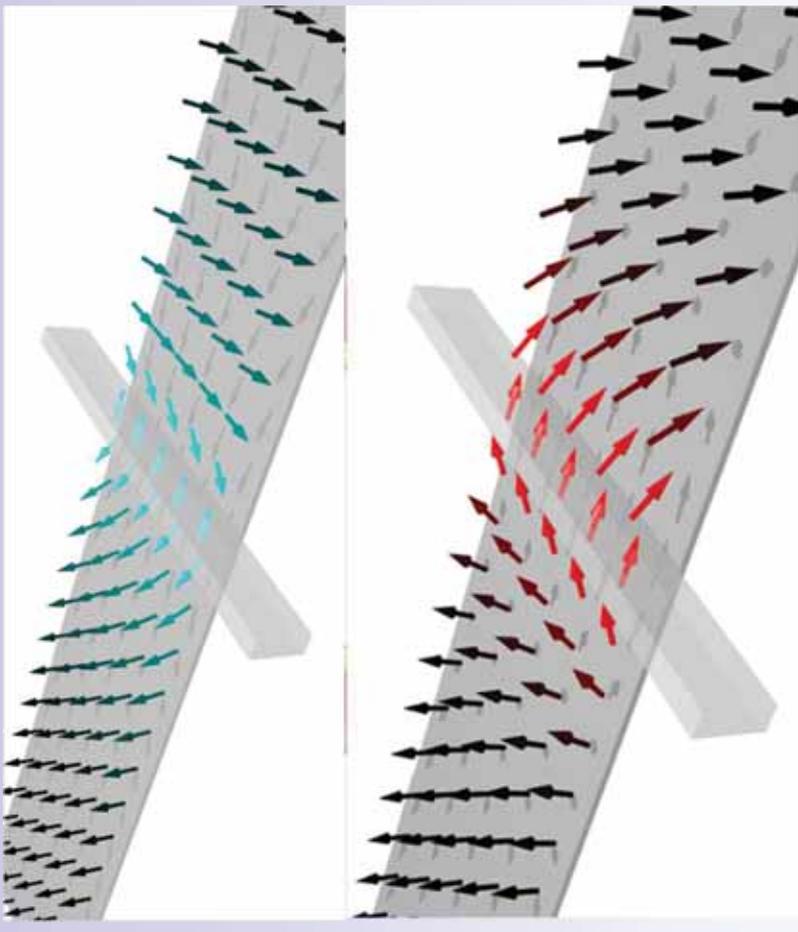
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0. Magnetic coupling – Heisenberg exchange coupling

Conventional:

Spin-Spin Heisenberg exchange interaction

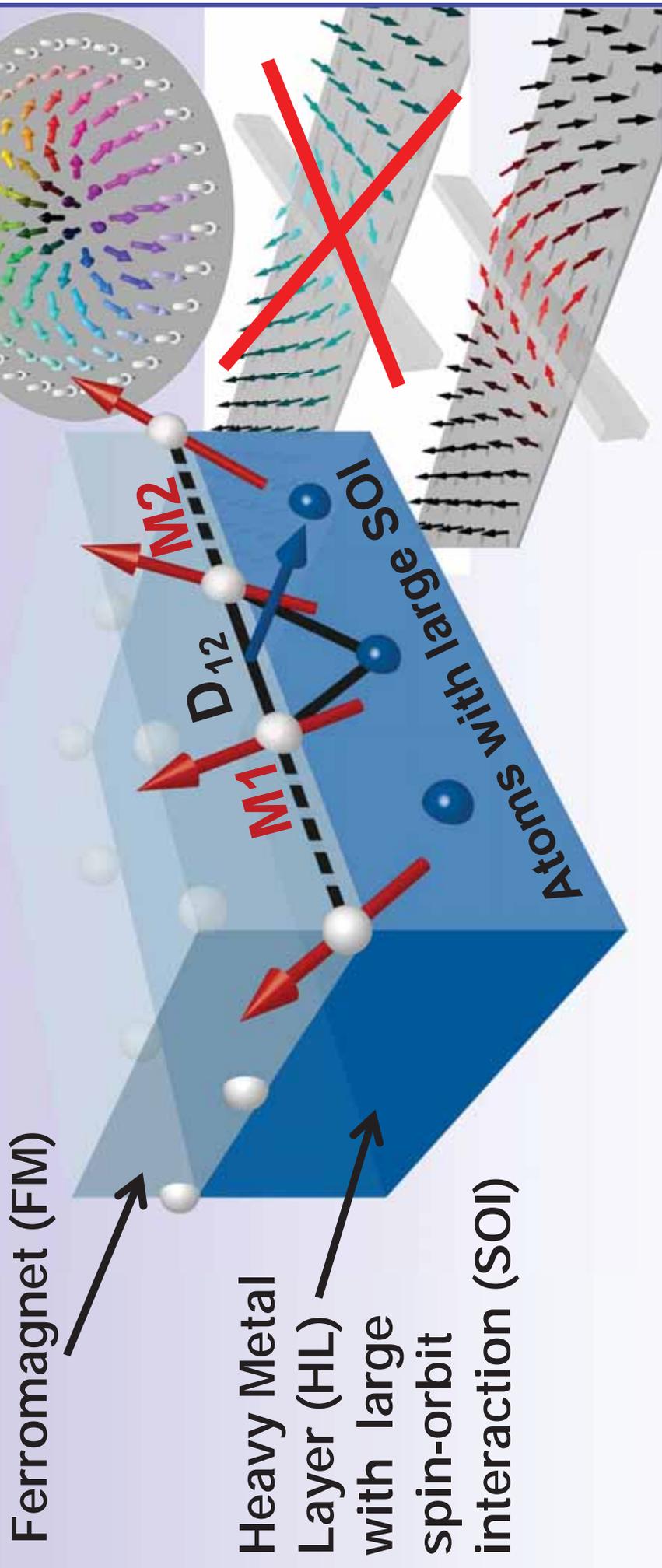
➔ Stabilization of states with **random topology and random chirality**



- Heisenberg exchange interaction sets the magnetic ordering.
- However many energetically degenerate spin structures can be stabilized → spin structures do not have a set chirality.

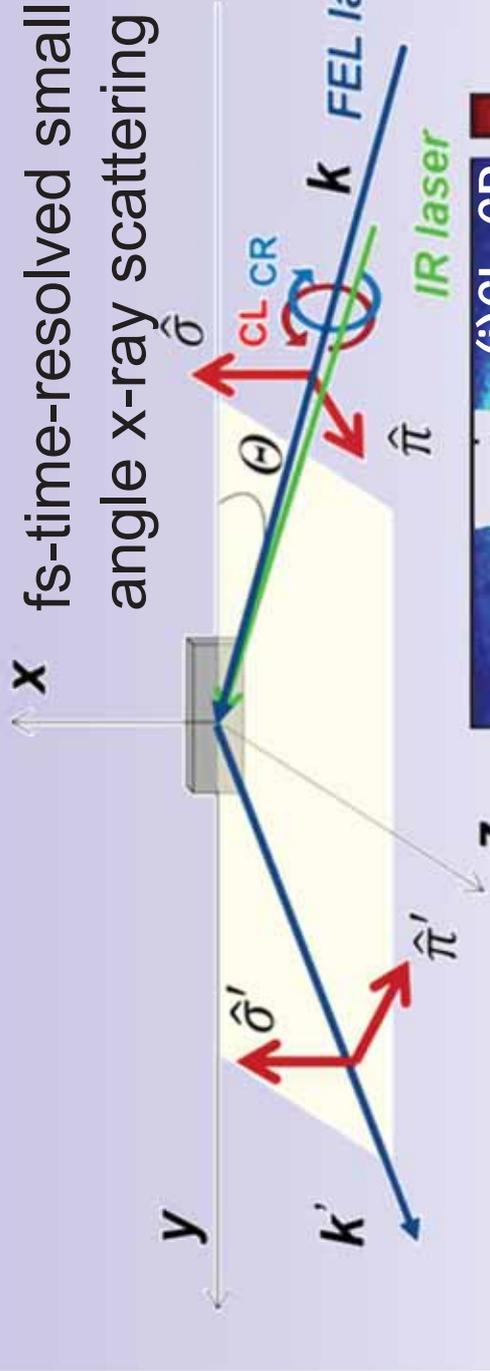
0. Chiral exchange coupling – Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction

Chiral exchange coupling mediated by Spin-Orbit interaction



- Two spins in the ferromagnet are coupled via an atom with large SOI in a heavy metal layer → Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction (DMI)
- Favours a spin canting with defined chirality → Chiral Domain Walls!

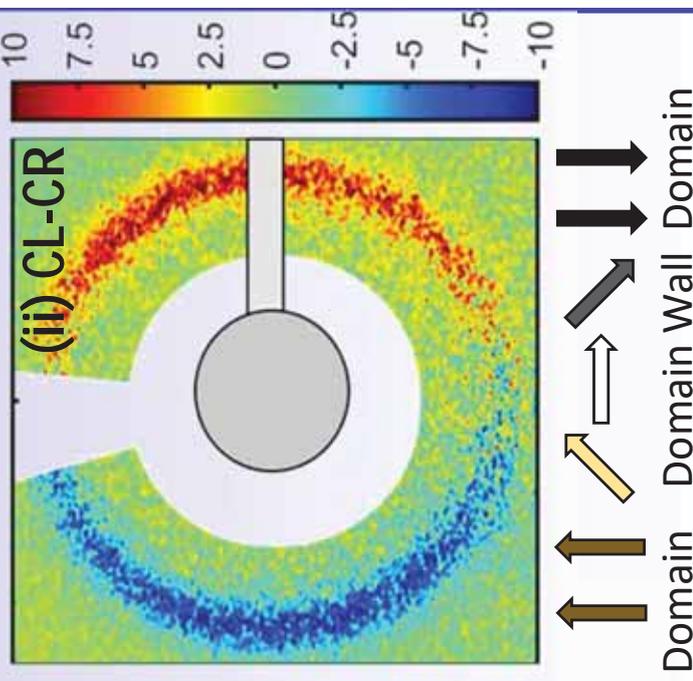
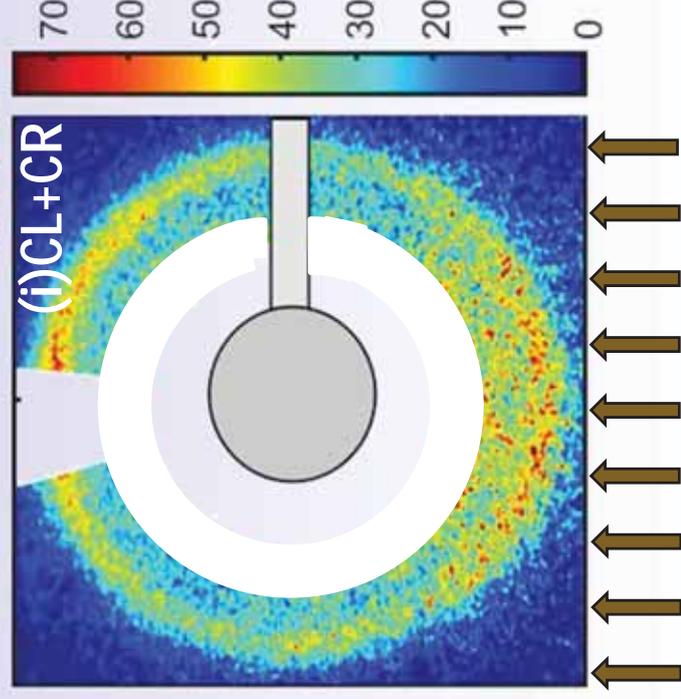
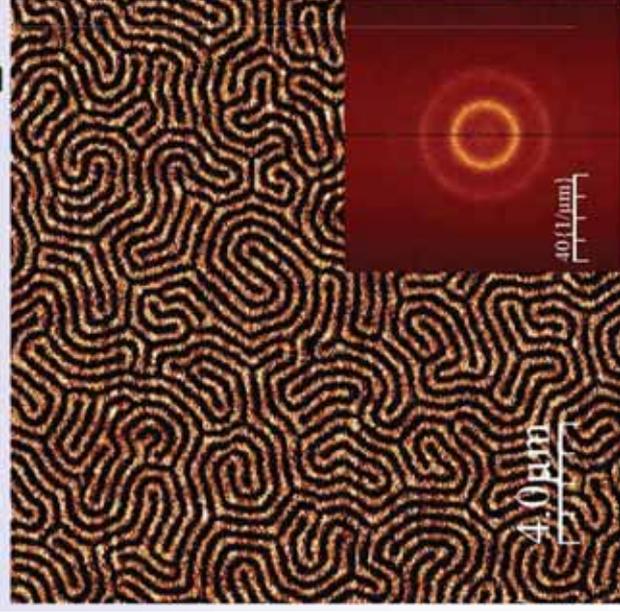
0. Chiral exchange coupling – ultra-fast spin-orbitronics



Method see:

J. Chauleau et al., Phys.

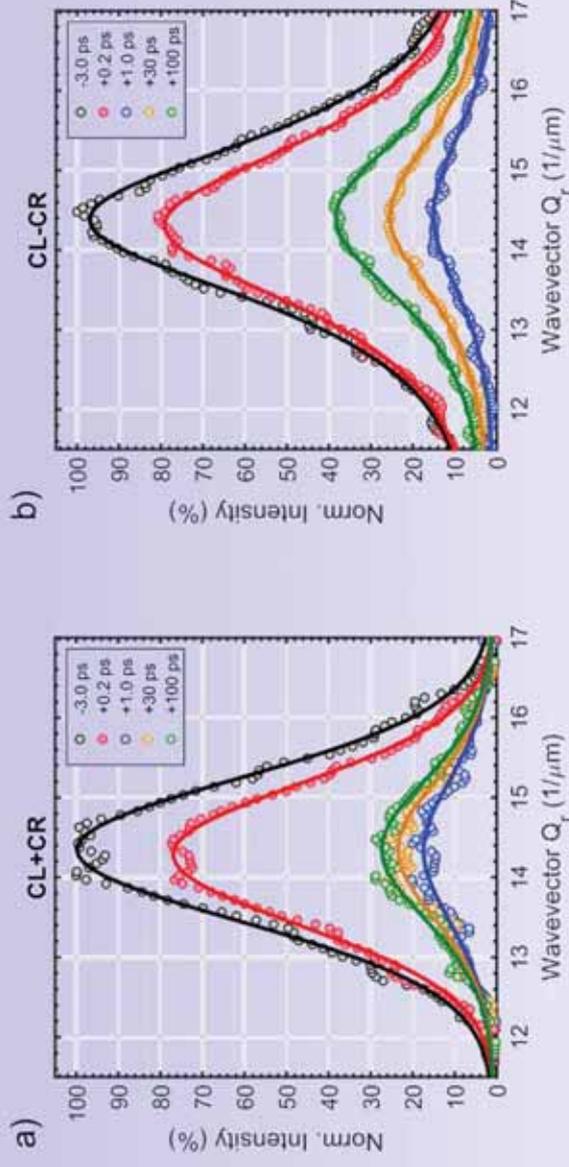
Rev. Lett. **120**, 037202 (2018)



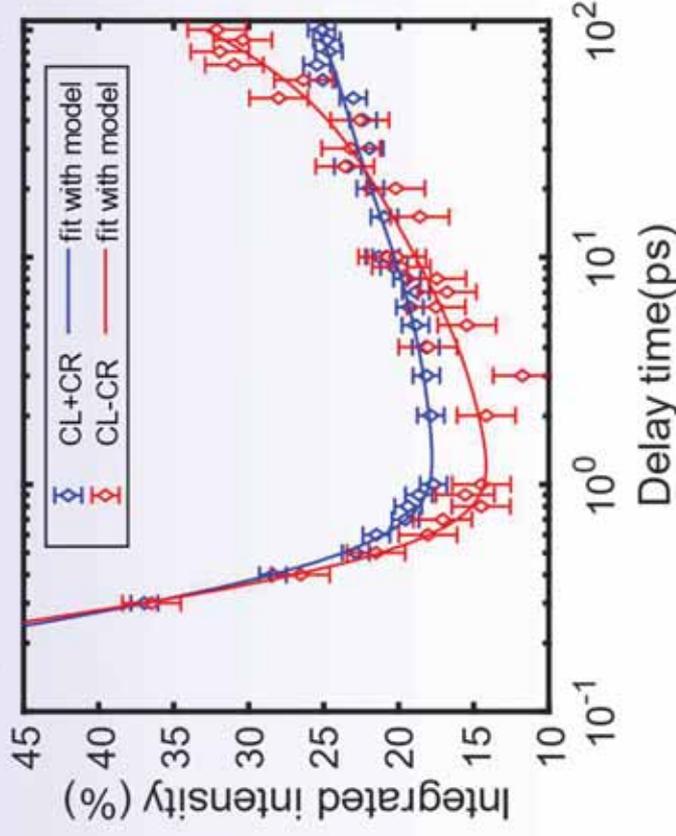
↑↑↑ Domain
 ↗ Domain Wall
 ⇐⇐⇐ Domain

- Time evolution of (i) collinear order in domains and (ii) chiral order in DWs

0. Chiral exchange coupling – ultra-fast spin-orbitronics



- “Dechiralisation” of chiral domain walls: same timescale as “demagnetization” of the collinear domains.
- Faster recovery of chiral magnetic order than collinear magnetic order
- → Chiral magnetic order more robust → enhanced stability of chiral spin structures



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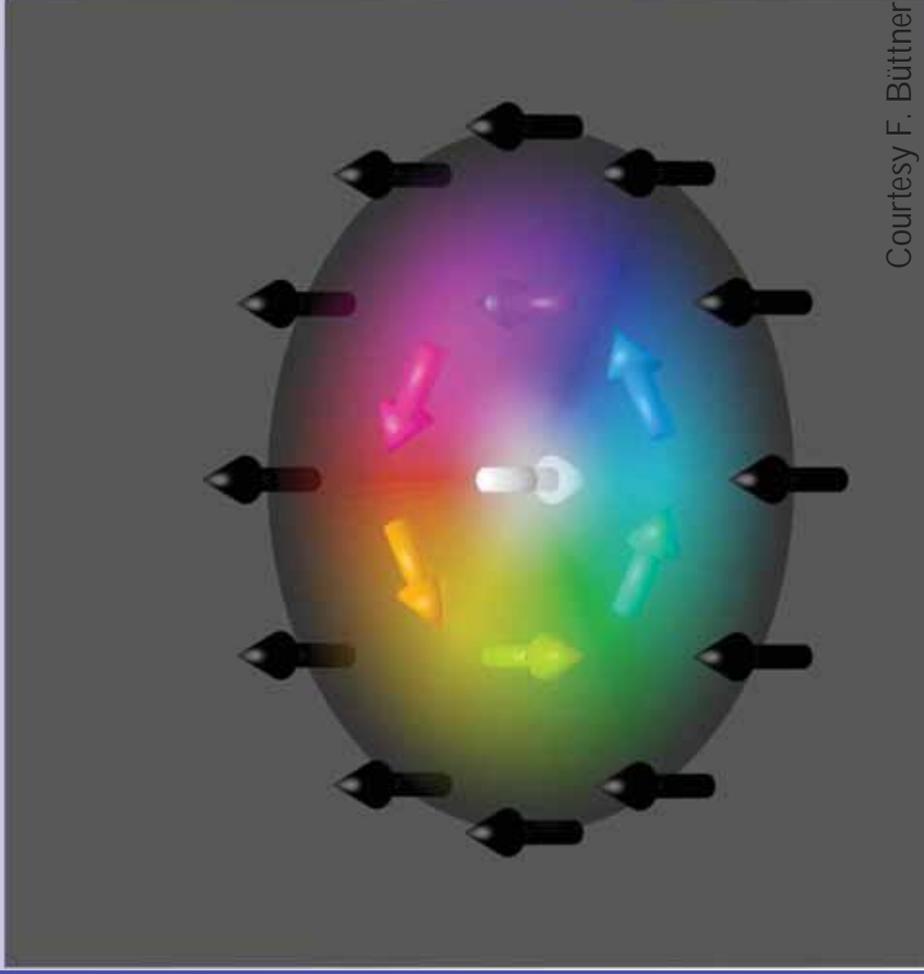
Qu.
Spin



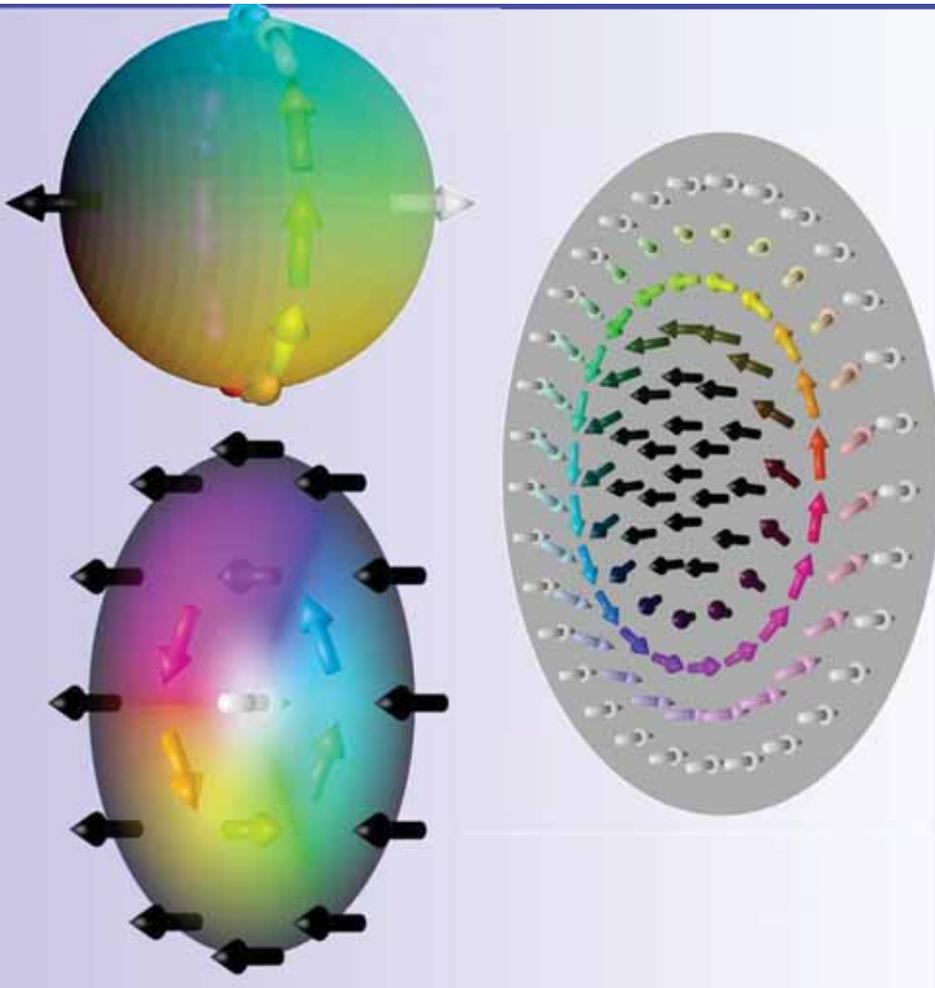
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1. Topological Skyrmion Spin Structures in high-anisotropy materials



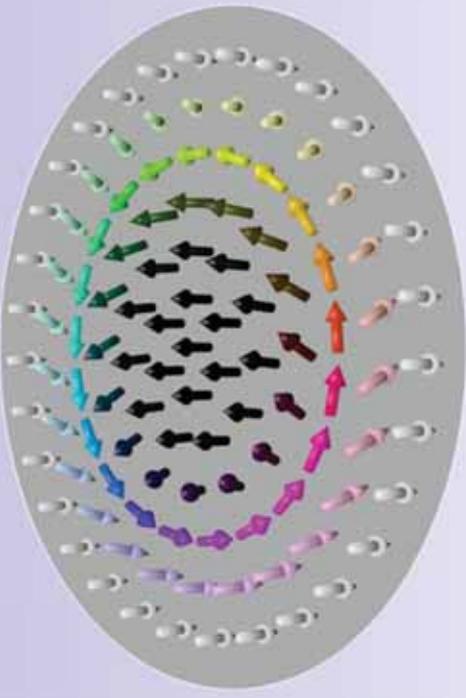
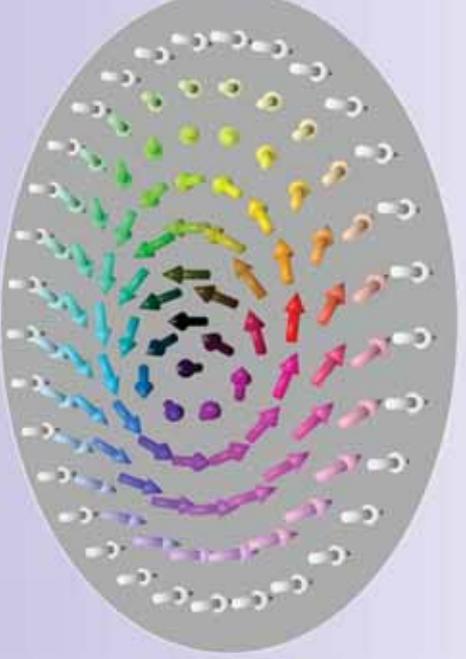
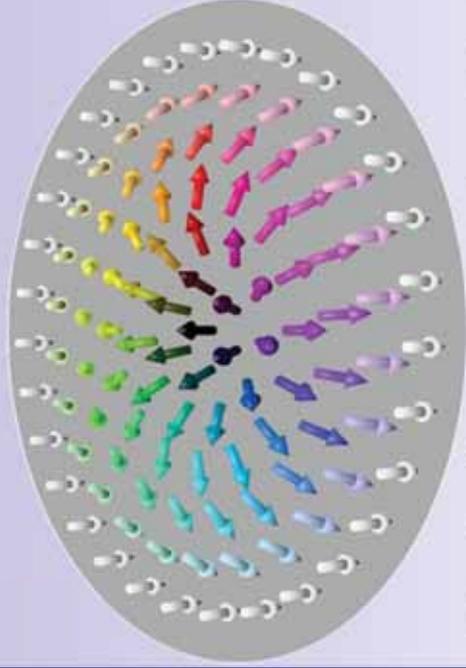
Courtesy F. Büttner



- Skyrmions are vector fields that can be continuously deformed into a sphere.
- For appropriately designed DMI, exchange, anisotropy, saturation magnetization, skyrmion spin structures can be stabilized as metastable states or ground states.

U. Rößler et al., Nature **442**, 797 (2006); S. Mühlbauer et al. Science **323**, 915–919 (2009); X. Yu, et al. Nature **465**, 901 (2010)
 S. Seki et al., Science **336**, 198 (2012); A. Nayak et al., Nature **561**, 548 (2017); Heinze et al., Nat. Phys. **7**, 713 (2011);
 N. Romming et al., Science **341**, 636 (2013); A. Malozemoff et al., Magnetic DWs in Bubble Materials, Ac. Press (1979)

1. Spin Structures stabilized by the chiral DMI



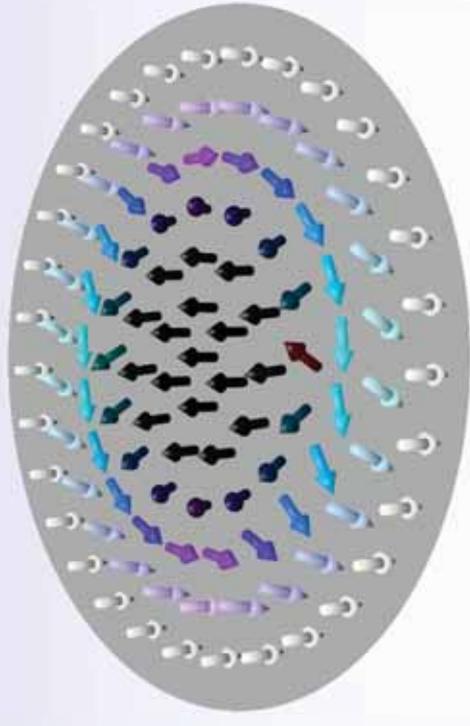
Hedgehog skyrmion (N=1) Chiral skyrmion (N=1) Bubble skyrmion (N=1)

- Hedgehog skyrmion is not stable without DMI with in-plane \mathbf{D}_{12} .
- Topology of an object is characterized by its winding number¹:

$$N = (8\pi)^{-1} \int dx dy n$$

With the topological density n :

$$n = \epsilon_{\mu\nu} (\partial_\mu \mathbf{m} \times \partial_\nu \mathbf{m}) \cdot \mathbf{m}.$$

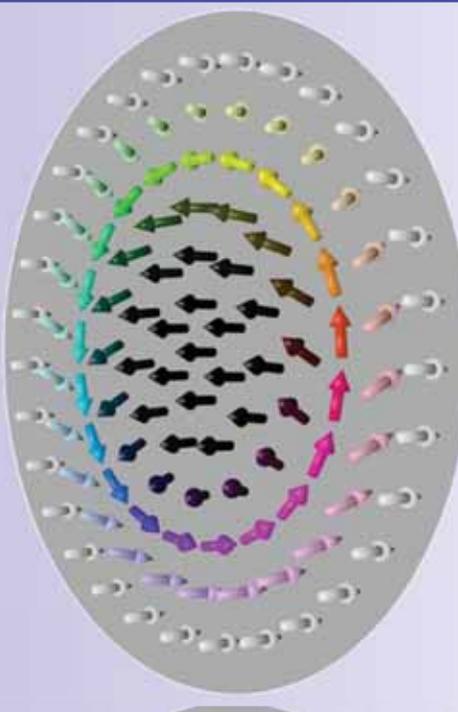
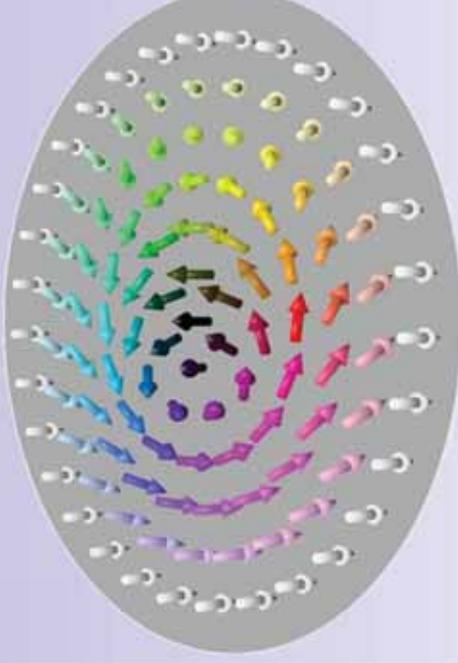
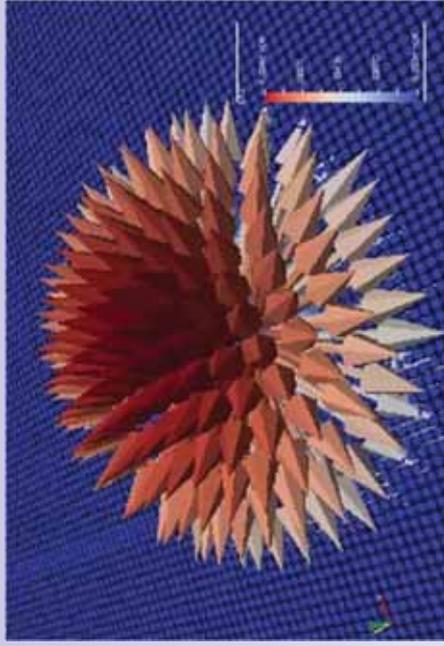


Bubble Skyrmion (N=0)



¹N. Papanicolaou et al., Nuclear Physics B 360, 425–462 (1991)
F. Büttner, MK et al., Nature Phys. 11, 225 (2015)

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Hedgehog skyrmion (N=1) Chiral skyrmion (N=1)

Bubble skyrmion (N=1)

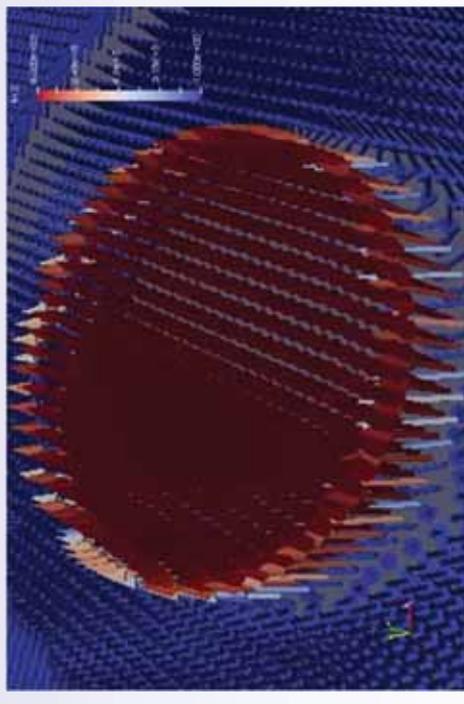
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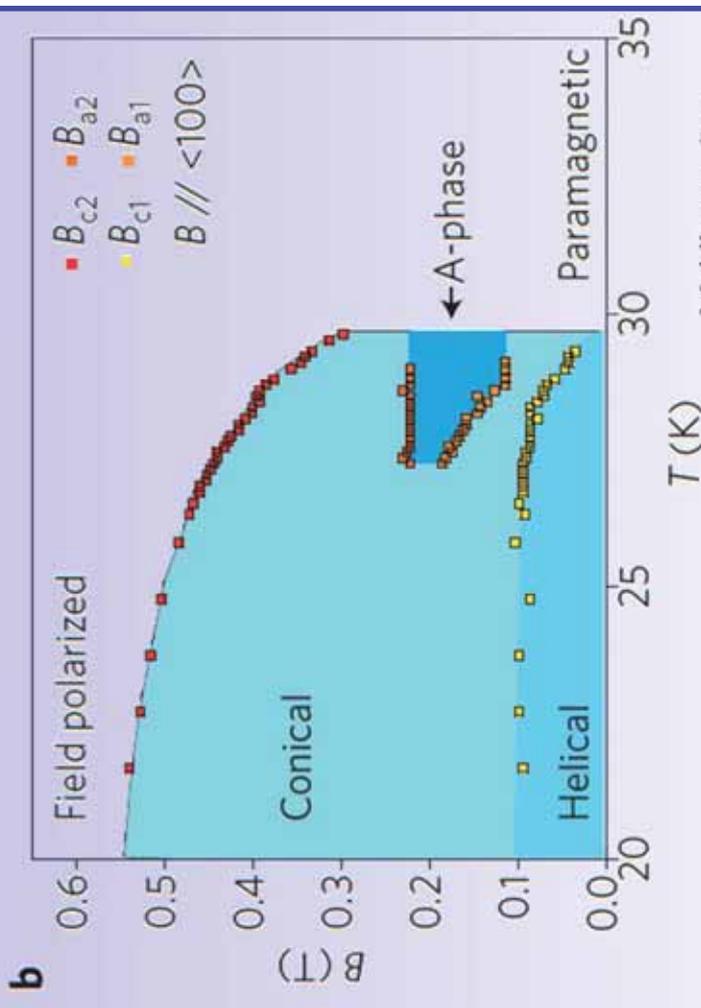
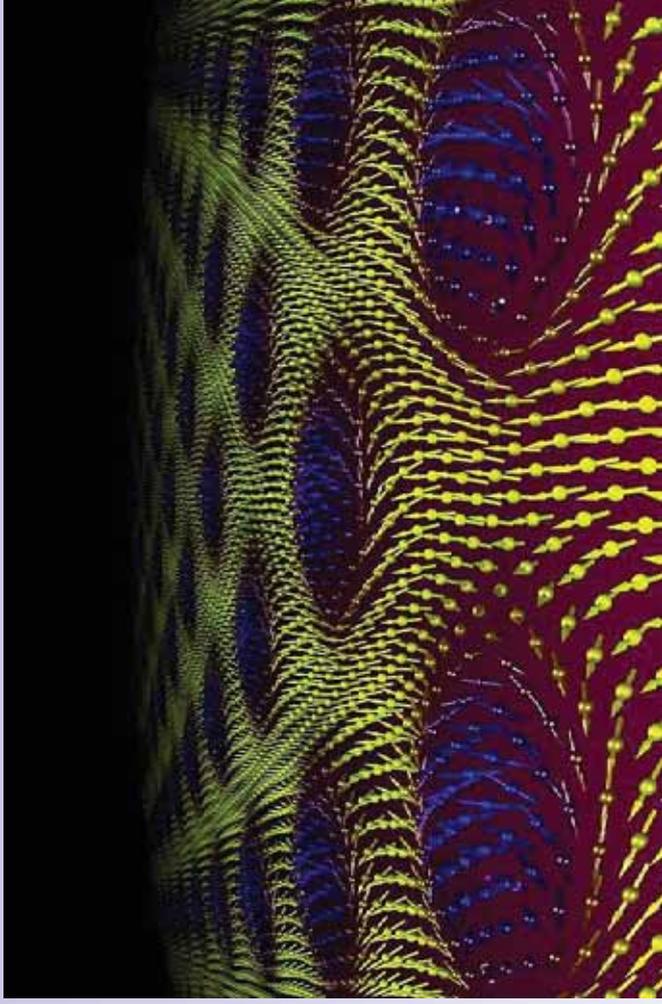
- Skyrmion with N=0 (topology of uniform state) is less stable than N=1.



Bubble Skyrmion (N=0)

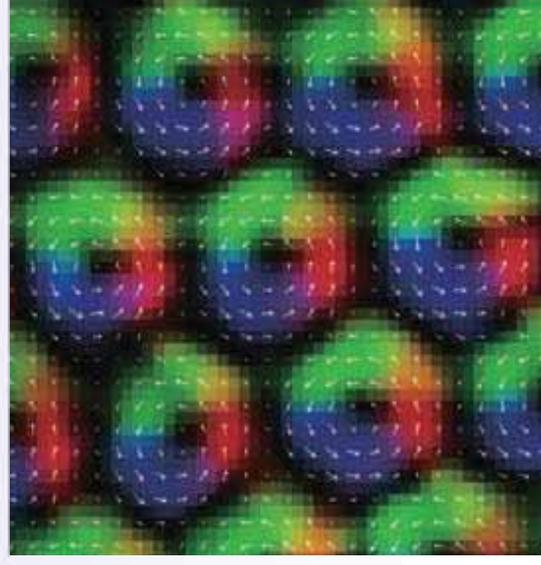
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F. Büttner, MK et al., Nature Phys. 11, 225 (2015)

1. Experimental observation of Skyrmions in bulk systems



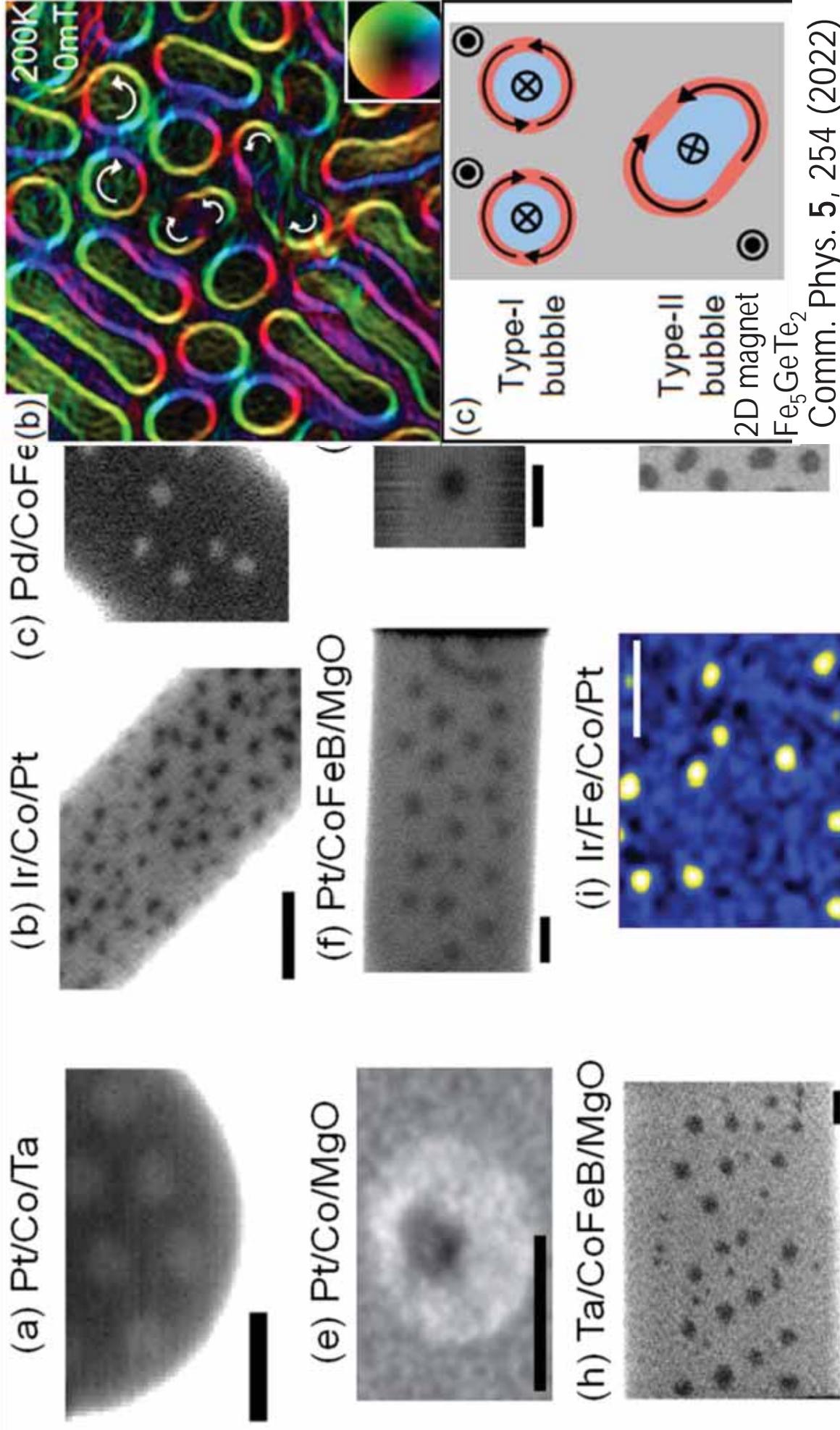
Mühlbauer, S. *et al.*
Science **323**,
 915–919 (2009).

Yu, X. Z. *et al.*
Nature **465**,
 901 (2010).



- Skyrmions form in systems with inversion asymmetry a lattice (skyrmion-phase).
- So far observed at low temperatures in a small field and temperature range!
- Skyrmion – stability and size depends on DMI, M_s , anisotropy and exchange.

1. Experimental observation of skyrmions in multilayers

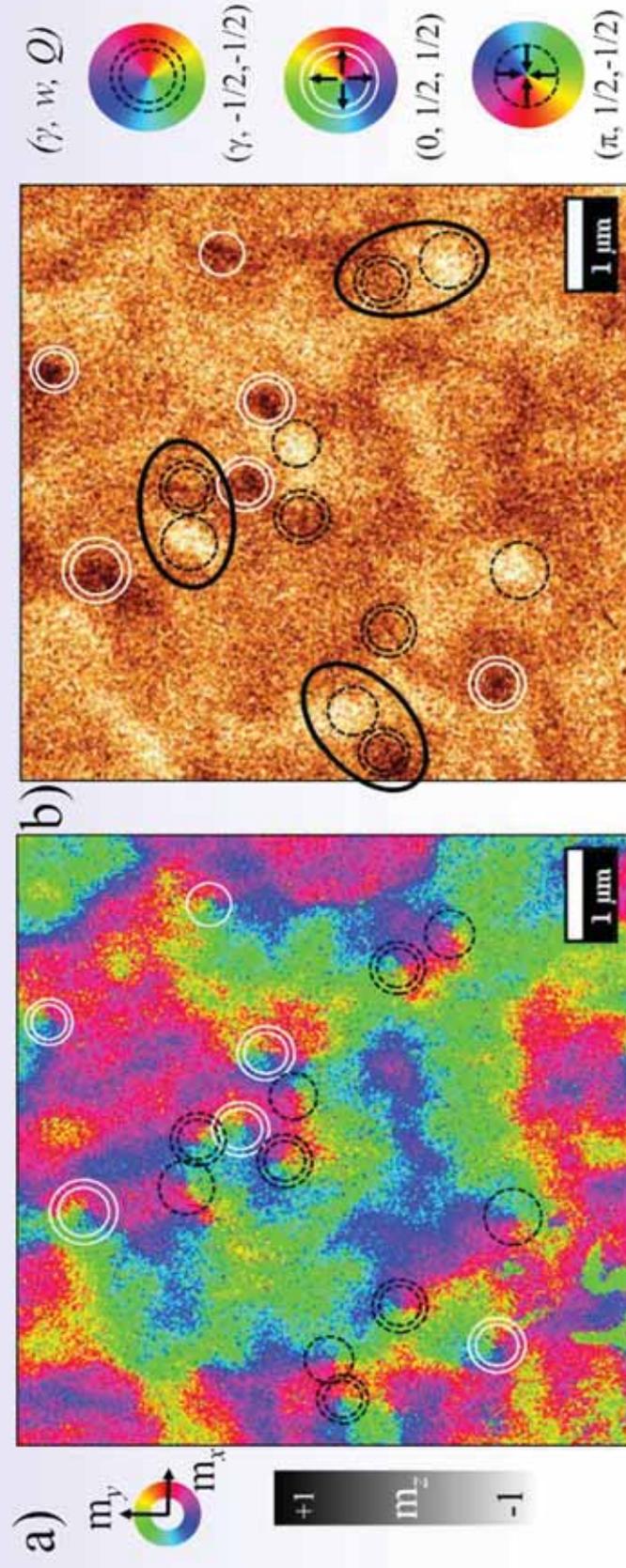
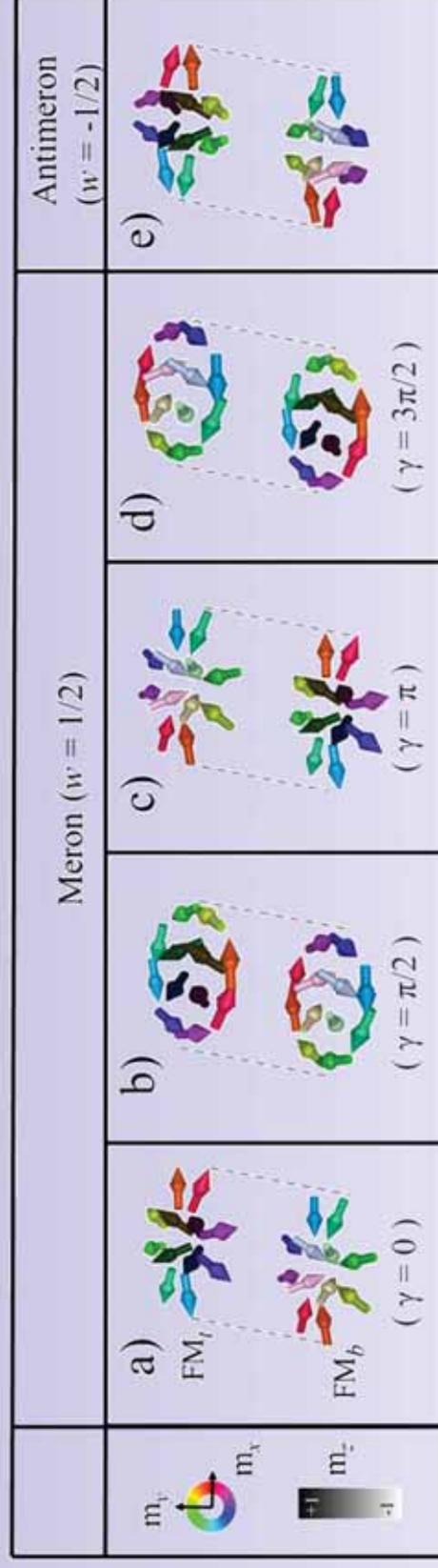


Comm. Phys. **5**, 254 (2022)

K. Everschor-Sitte, JAP **124**, 240901 (2018); G. Finocchio et al., J.PhysD: Appl. Phys. **49**, 423001 (2016)
 Nature Mater. **15**, 501 (2016); Science **349**, 283 (2015); Nat. Nano. **11**, 444; Nat. Nano. **11**, 449 (2016)

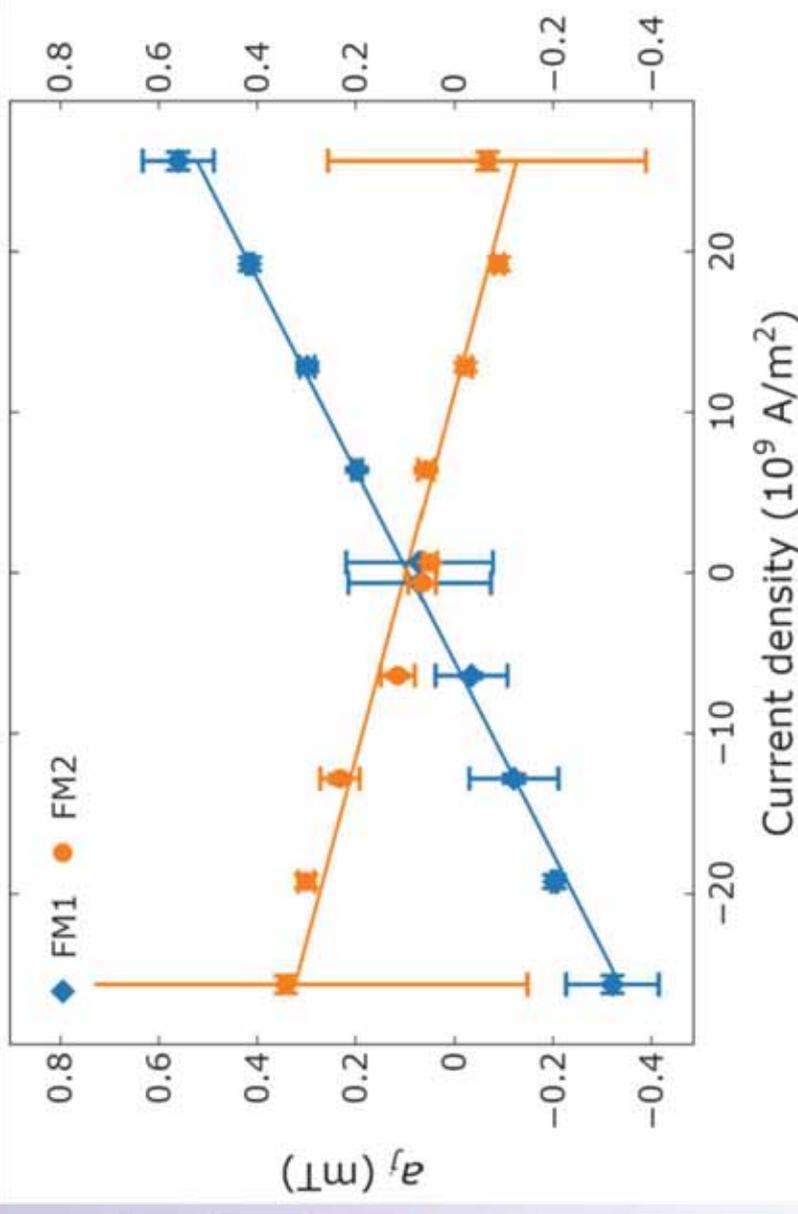
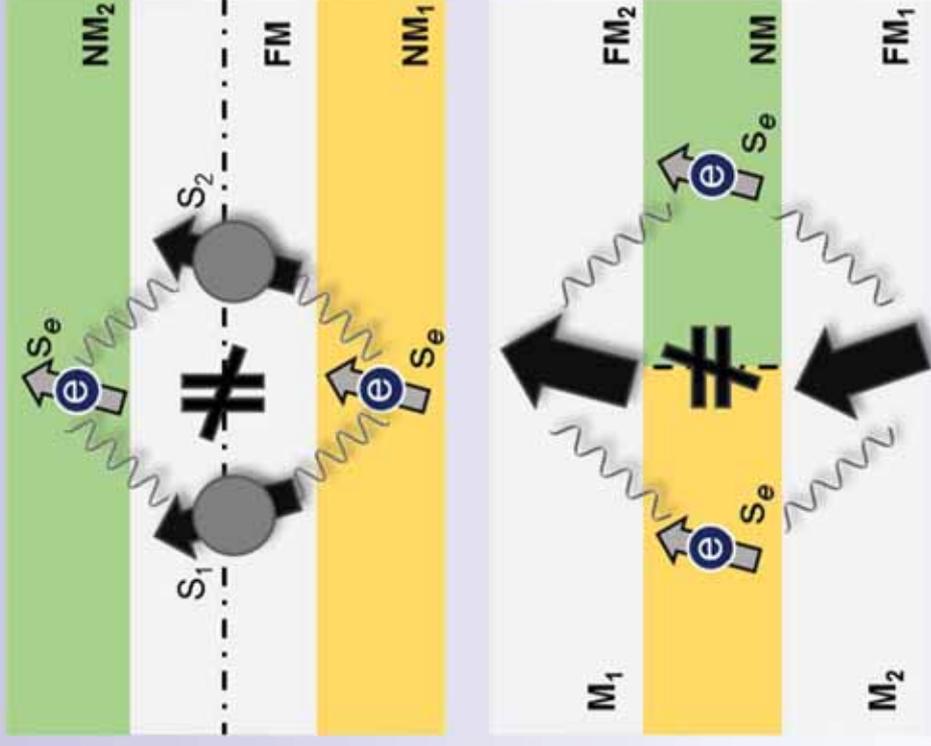
2. Bimerons in synthetic antiferromagnets

- In multi-layers: Different merons can be stabilized
- Observation using combine: SEMPA + MFM¹



¹ M. Bhukta, MK et al., arxiv:2303.14853 (Nature Commun. in press 2024)

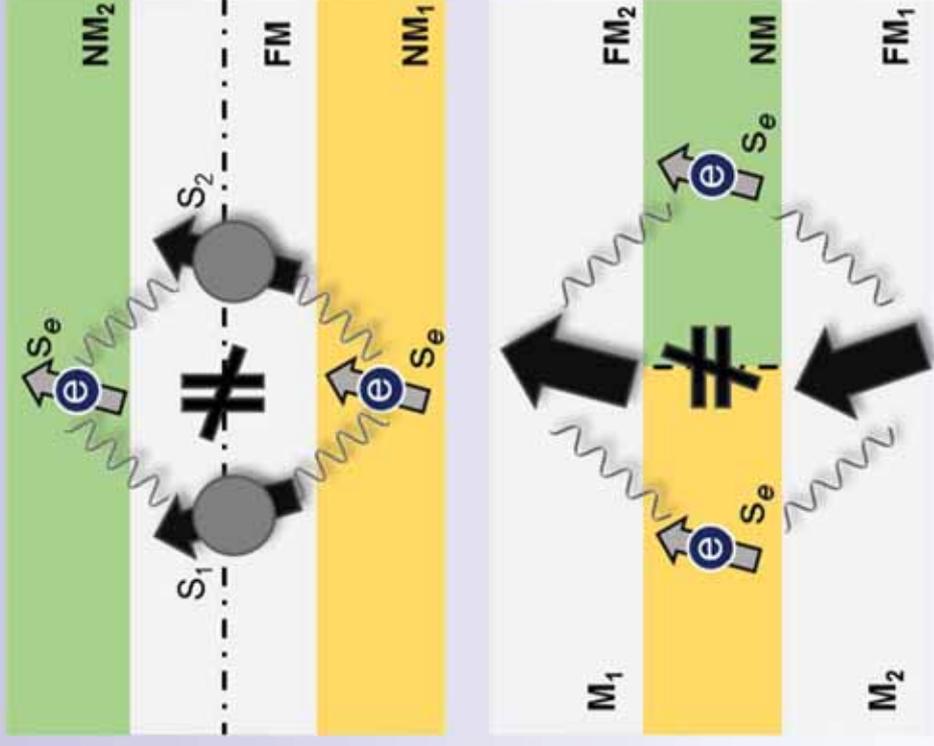
2. Chiral interlayer exchange coupling



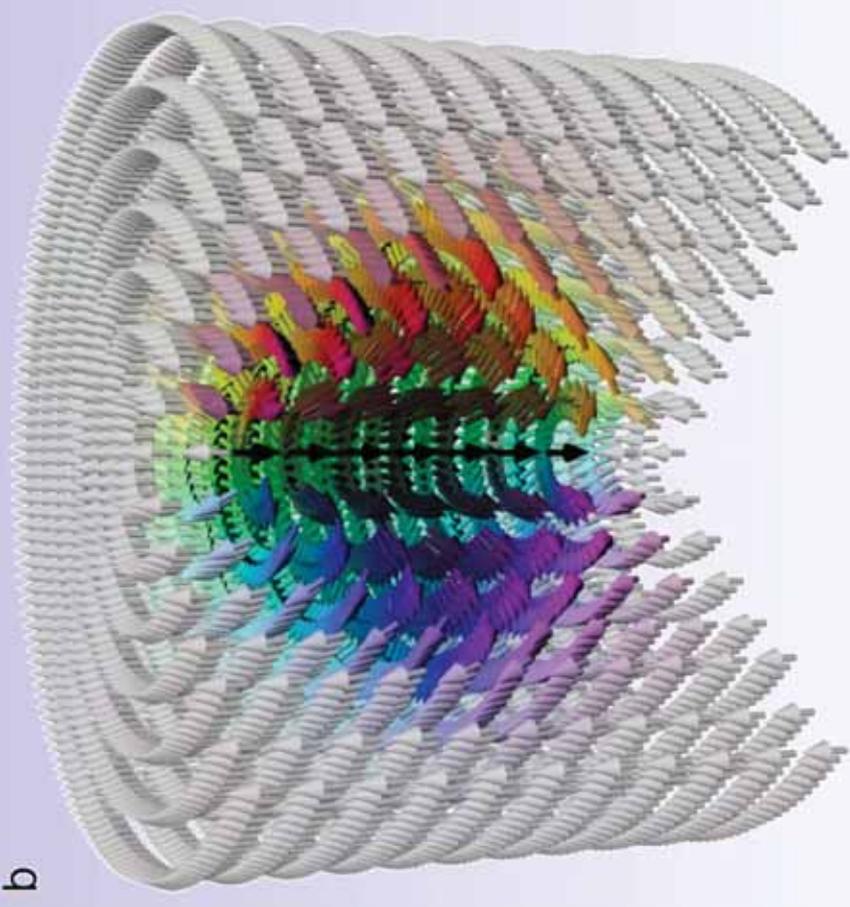
- Two spins in 2 magnetic layers are coupled by interlayer RKKY
- Chiral antisymmetric interlayer exchange coupling \rightarrow RKKY-DMI¹
- Strength of RKKY-DMI can be tuned by currents on-the-fly!²

¹D. Han, MK et al., Nat. Mat. **18**, 703 (2019); ²F. Kammerbauer, MK et al., Nano Lett. **23**, 7070 (2023)

2. Chiral interlayer exchange coupling – 3D skyrmion structures



b

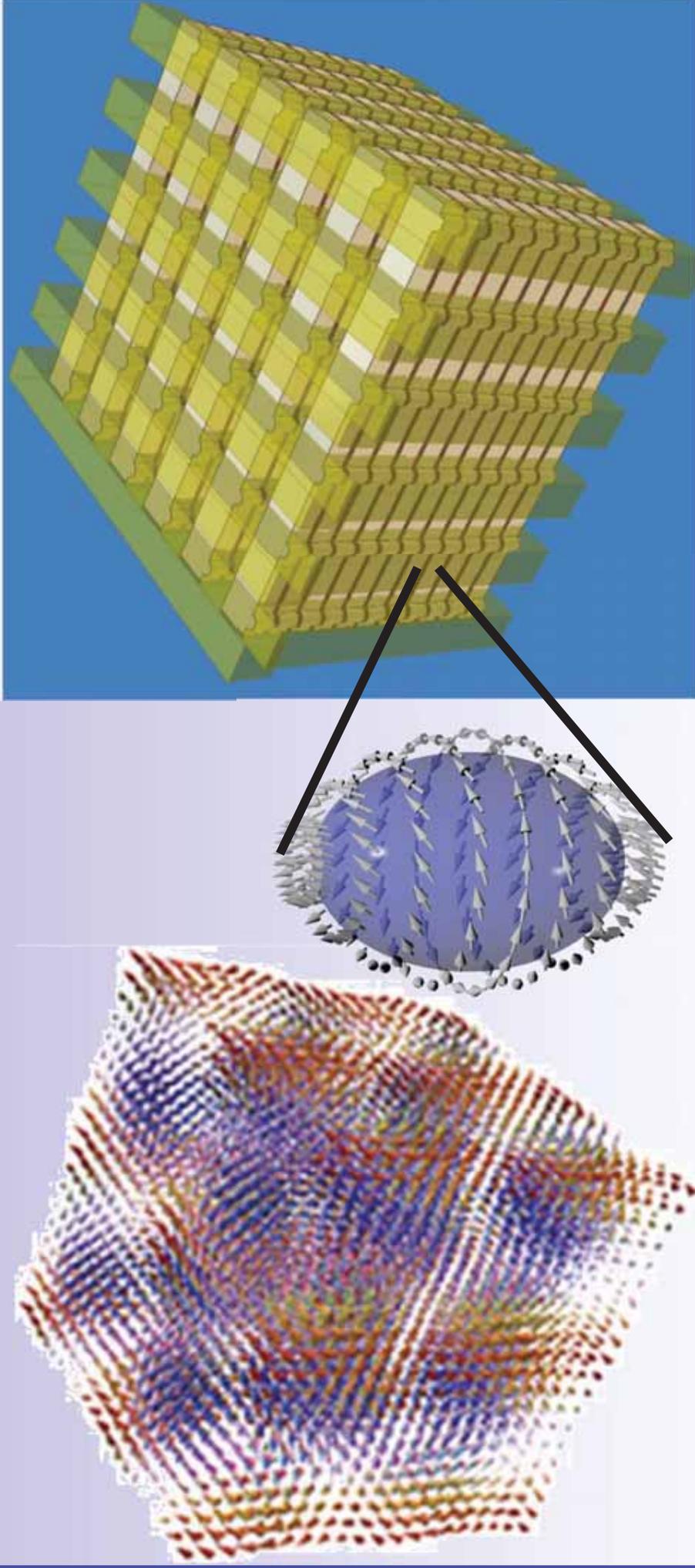


Courtesy N. Kiselev

- Two spins in 2 magnetic layers are coupled by interlayer RKKY
- Recently we found a chiral antisymmetric interlayer exchange coupling:
→ RKKY-DMI¹ stabilizes three-dimensional spin structures!

¹D. Han, MK et al., Nat. Mat. **18**, 703 (2019); see also A. Fernandez-Pacheco et al., Nat. Mat. **18**, 679 (2019)

2. 3D skyrmion structures – interconnectivity in 3D space



¹T. Tanigaki et al., Nano Lett. 15, 5438 (2015)

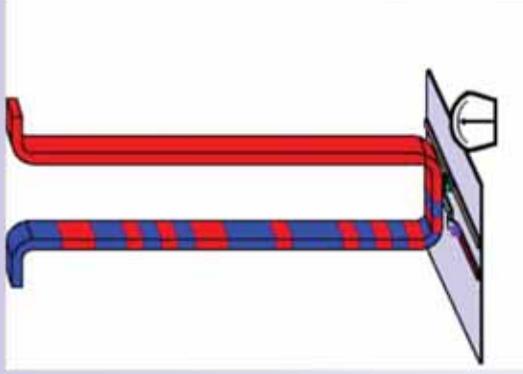
Courtesy R. Cowburn

- Claimed observation of a 3D lattice of 3D skyrmions¹
- Possible 3D interconnects → move 3D particles in all directions in space
→ realize (potentially) the huge interconnectivity of neurons in 3D!²

²D. Han, MK et al., Nature Mater. 18, 703 (2019); Computing: X. Zhang, MK et al., Sci. Adv. 9, ade7439 (2023)

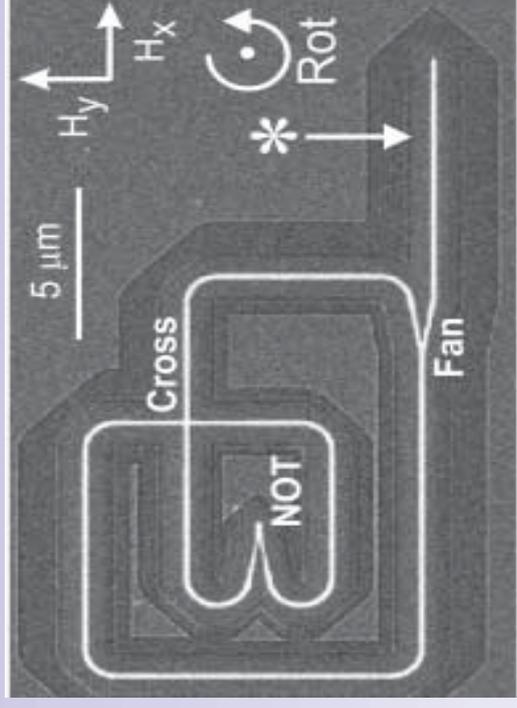
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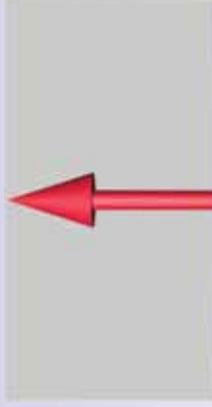
3. Challenge Efficient Manipulation - Spin Transfer Torques (STT)

Conventional STT: Transfer electron

Spin ($\frac{h}{2}$) to switch magnetization

Efficiency: $1h$ per electron for

→ **spin transfer torque**



Domain Wall motion: In the

adiabatic limit, each electron

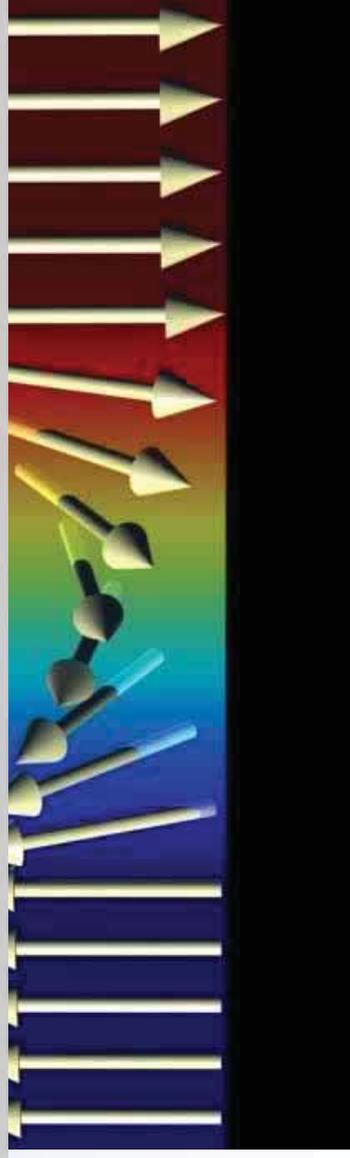
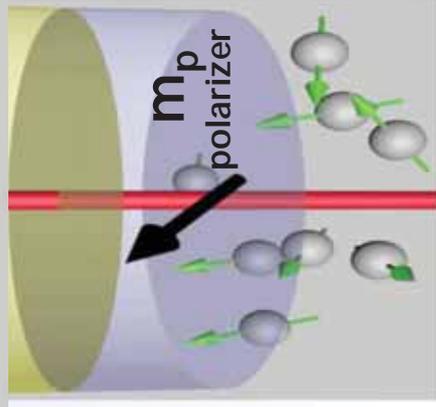
also transfers $1h$ of spin angular momentum due to the

spin transfer torque

Higher efficiency:

Use Orbital Angular Momentum from lattice

→ $\gg 1h$ per electron transferred by spin orbit torques

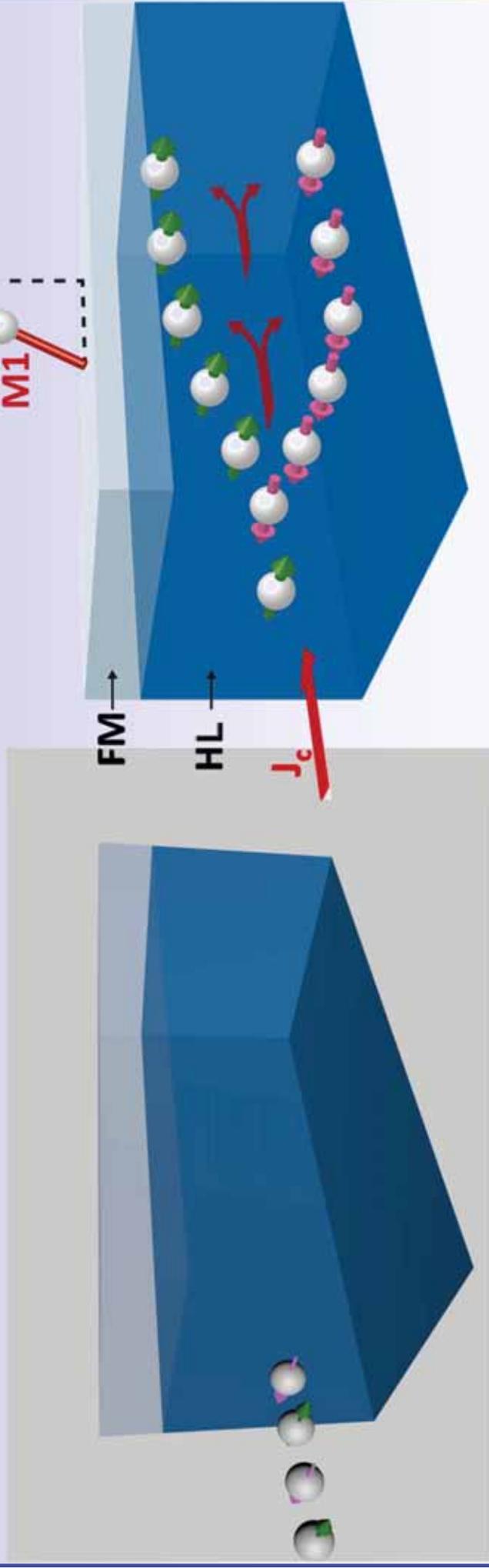


Side view of a wire with a Bloch wall

3. Spin – orbit torques in multilayers - Theory

Spin-orbit Torque Origin 1 - Spin Hall Effect (SHE):

J. Sinova et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. **87**, 1213 (2015)



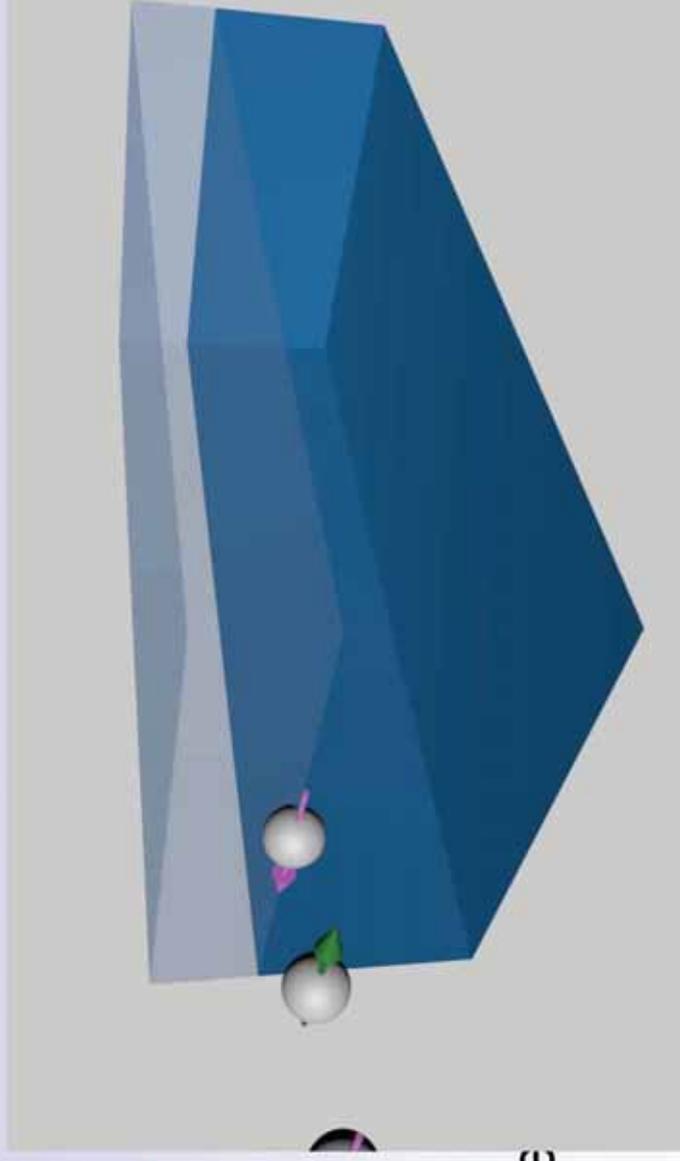
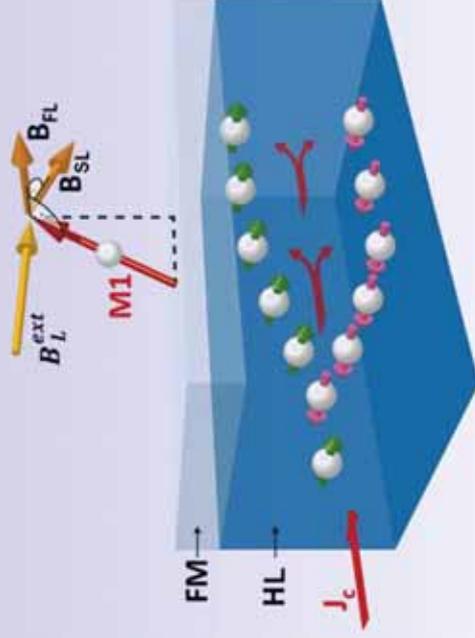
- In a heavy metal (HL=Ta, W, etc.): charge current generates spin current
→ spin accumulation diffuses into the ferromagnet → measured by THz¹
- These spins exert new damping-like and field-like spin orbit torques²

¹T. Seifert et al., Nat. Phot. **10**, 483 (2016); ²A. Brataas et al., Nat. Nano **9**, 86 ('14); A. Manchon et al., RMP **91**, 035004 ('19)

3. Spin – orbit torques in multilayers - Theory

Spin-orbit Torque Origins:

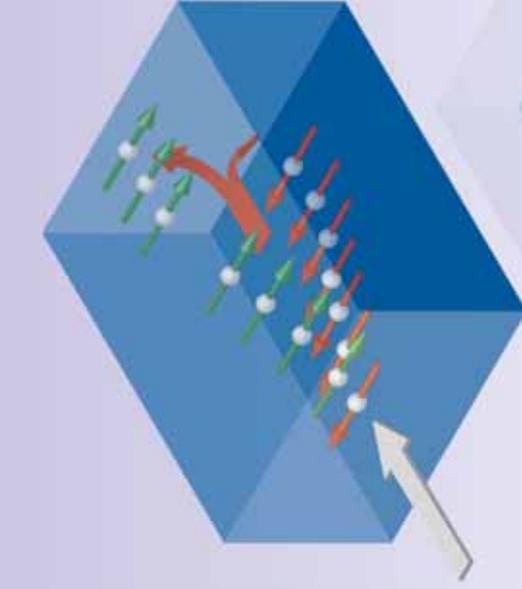
- Origin 1:
Spin Hall Effect (bulk property)
- Origin 2:
Inverse Spin Galvanic Effect
(interface property)



- Additionally the Inverse Spin Galvanic Effect generates a non-equilibrium spin density for electrons flowing at the interface.¹
- → interaction by exchange manipulates magnetization → SOT!

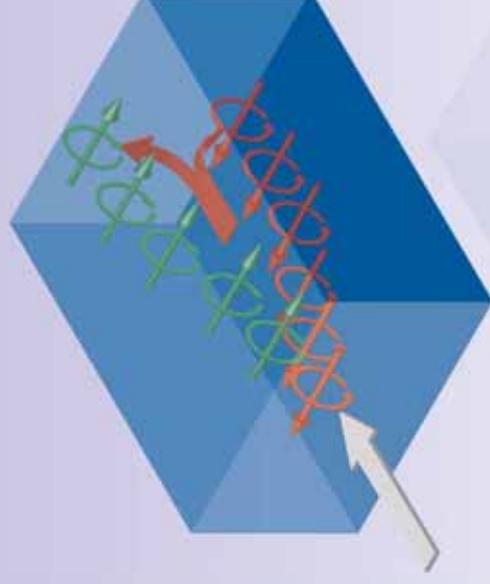
¹K. Shen et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 096601 (2014); V. m. Edelstein, Sol. State Comm. 73, 233 (1990)

3. Spin-, Orbit- and Spin-Orbit Torques



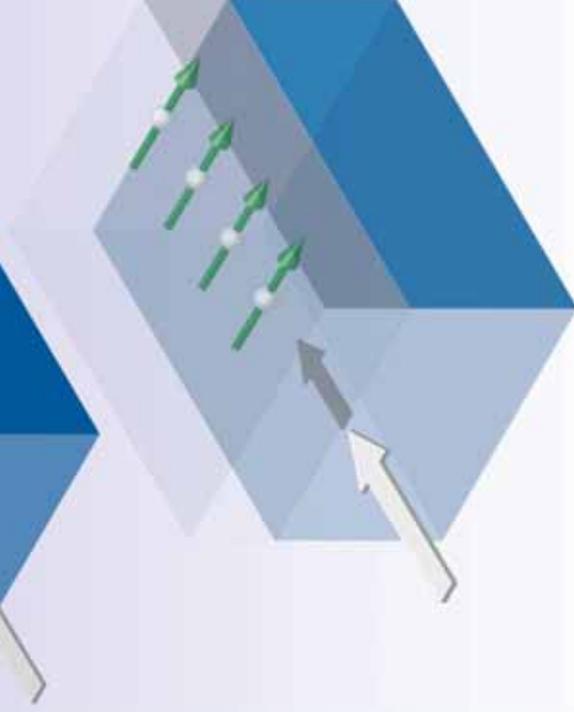
Spin
Hall
Effect

Rev. Mod.
Phys. **87**,
1213 (2015)



Orbital Hall
Effect

H. Kontani et al.,
PRL **102**, 016601
(2009)



Inverse
Spin
Galvanic
Effect /
Rashba
Edelstein
Effect

PRL **112**,
096601 (2014)

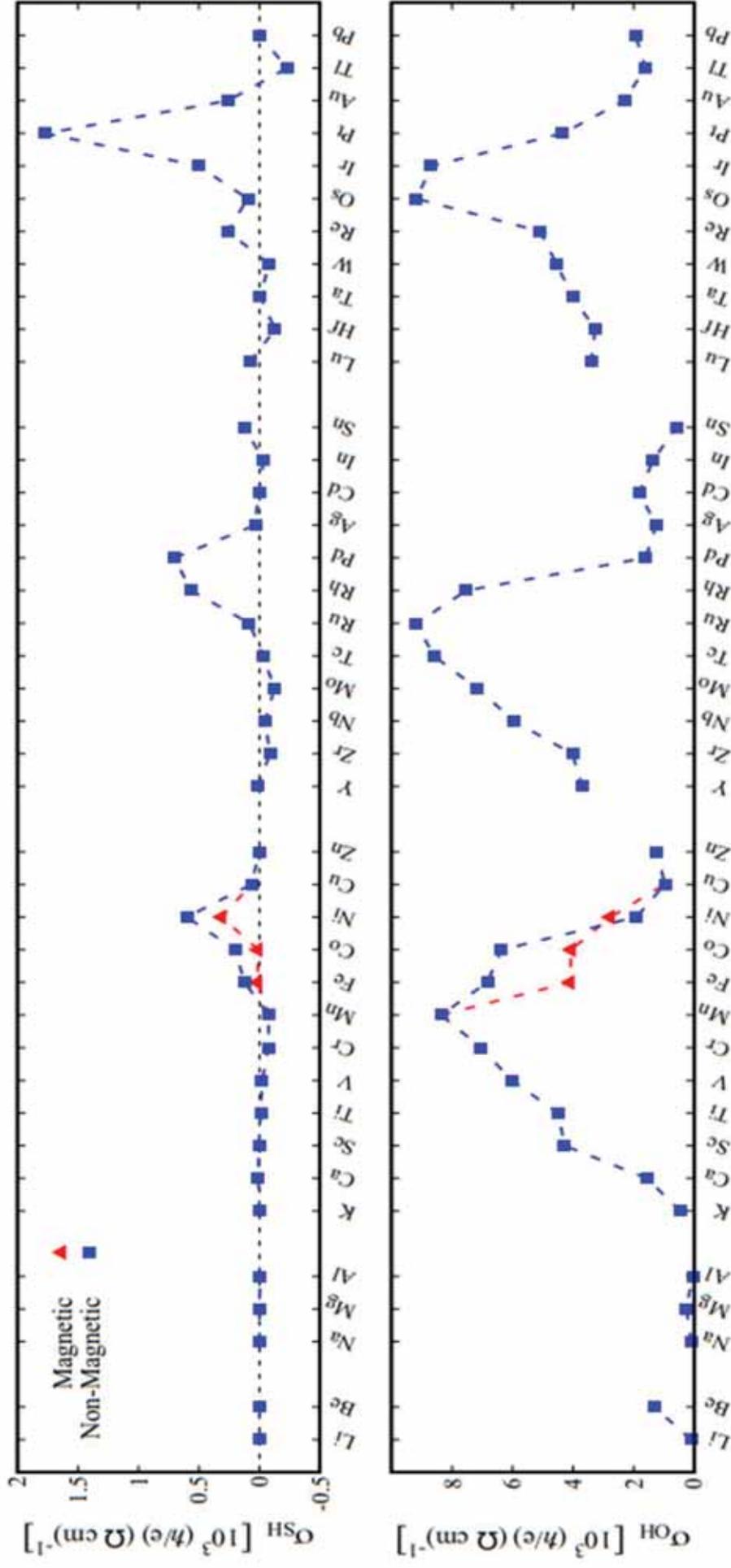


Orbital Rashba
Edelstein Effect

D. Go et al., PRL **121**,
086602 (2018)

- Dynamics induced by spin-orbit torques due to SHE (a) and ISGE/REE (b),
- Additionally orbital angular momentum: Orbital Hall Effect (OHE) (c) [1] & Orbital Rashba Edelstein Effect (OREE) (d) [2].

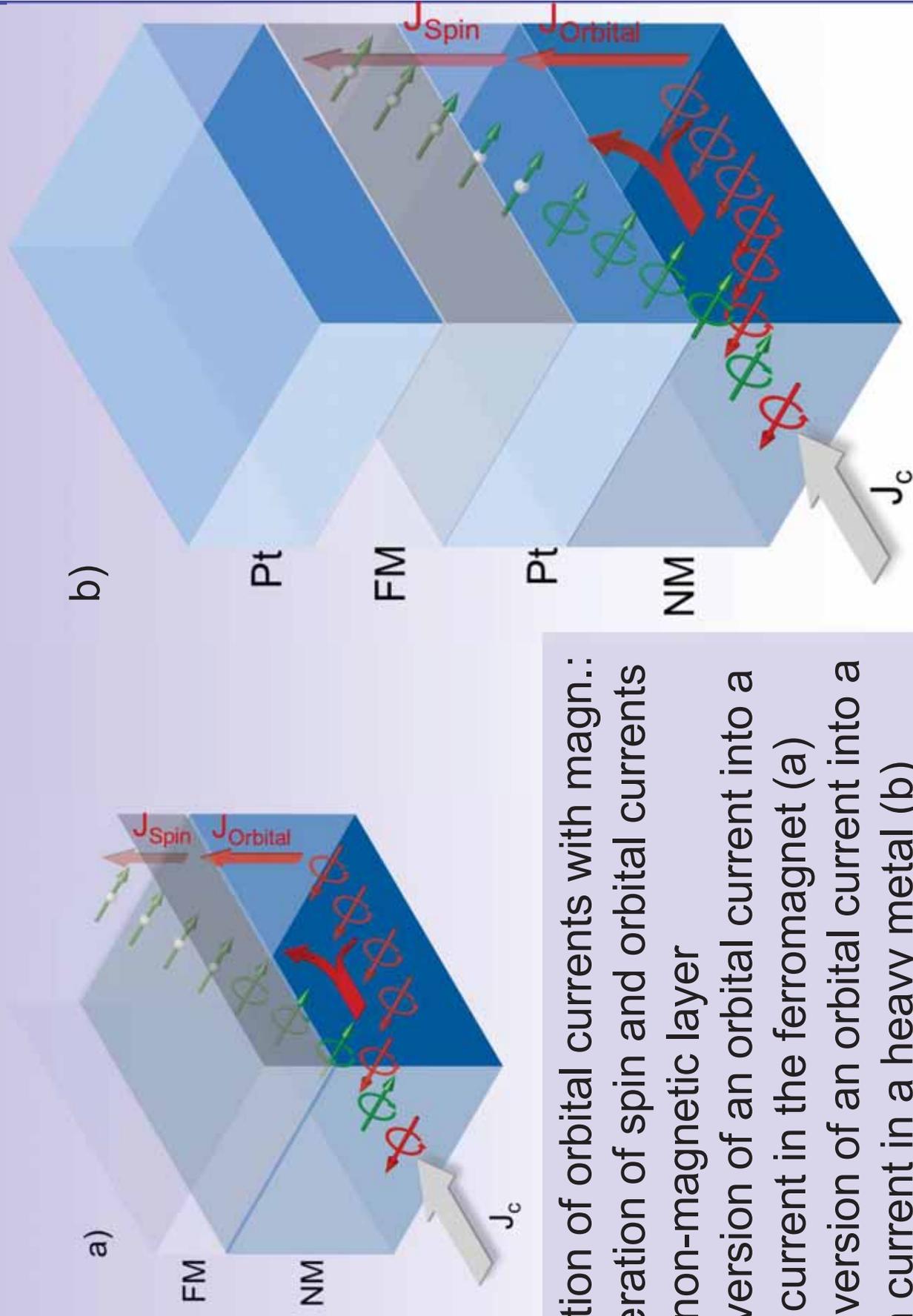
3. Spin-, Orbit- and Spin-Orbit Torques



- Prediction of orbital currents orders of magnitude larger than spin currents¹
→ potentially orders of magnitude larger torques (also for CuOx)!
- Also possibly larger Orbital Rashba Edelstein Effects²

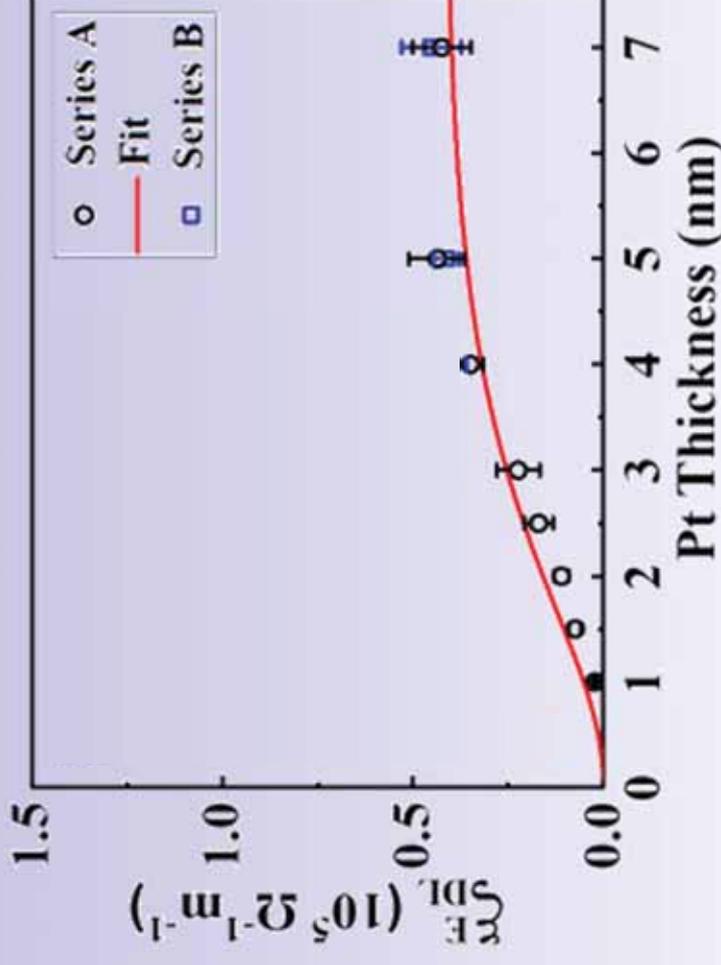
¹D. Jo et al. PRB **98**, 214405 (2018); T. Tanaka et al. PRB **77**, 165117 (2008); L. Salemi et al., Phys. Rev. B **106**, 024410 (2022); ²J. Kim et al. Phys. Rev. B **103**, L020407 (2021); S. Park et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 156803 (2011).

3. Orbital Currents and Orbital Torques



- Interaction of orbital currents with magn.:
 - (i) Generation of spin and orbital currents in a non-magnetic layer
 - (ii) Conversion of an orbital current into a spin current in the ferromagnet (a)
 - (iii) Conversion of an orbital current into a spin current in a heavy metal (b)

3. Orbital Currents and Orbital Torques



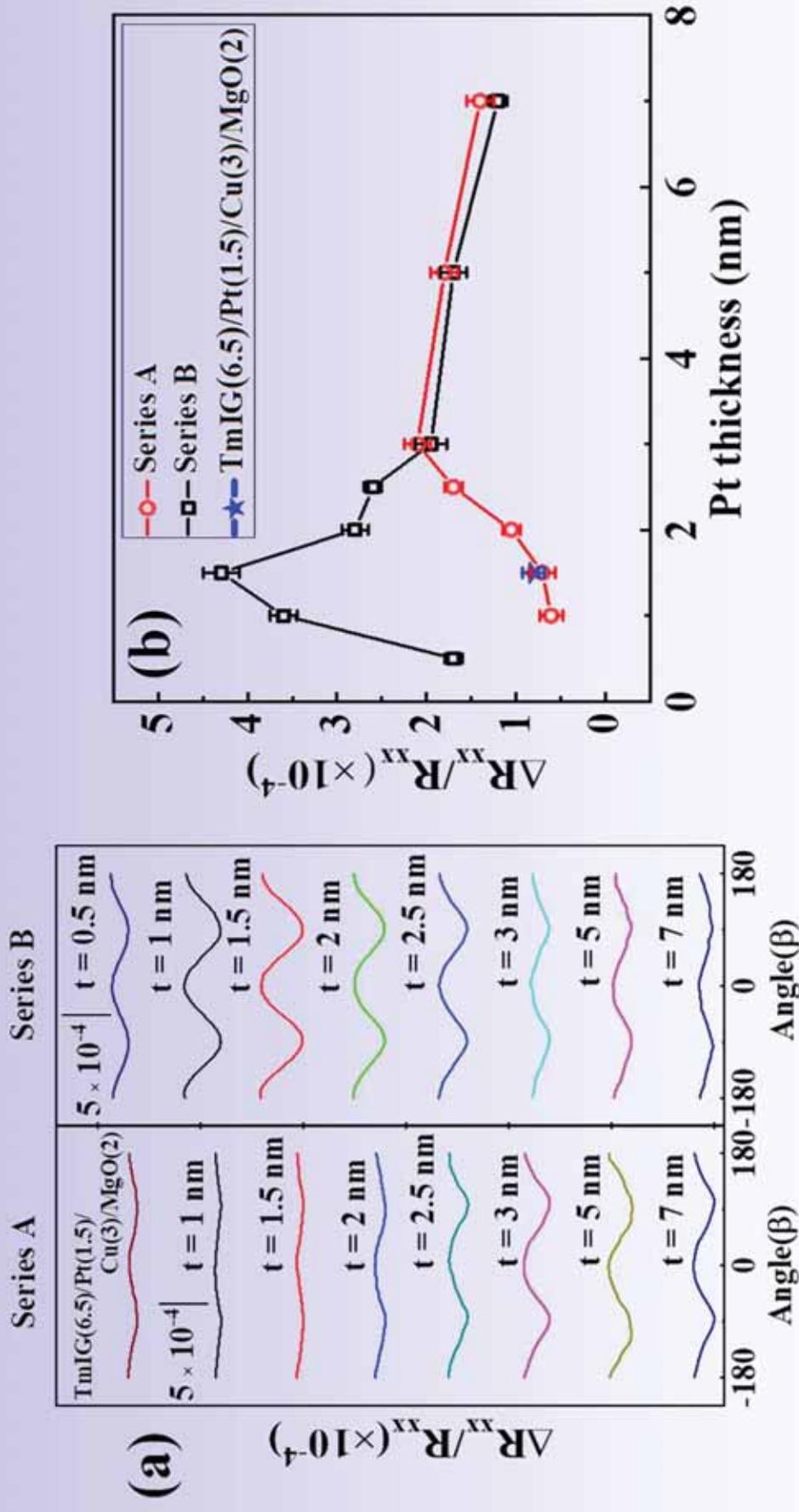
Series A: TmIG (6.5) / Pt (t_{Pt})

Series B: TmIG (6.5) / Pt (t_{Pt}) / CuO_x

- $\xi_{DL}^E = \xi_{DL-SHE}^E + \xi_{DL-OREE}^E$

- Conventional TmIG/Pt: SOTs due to SHE
- In TmIG/Pt/CuO_x: 1. Orbital Rashba Edelstein Effect generates orbital current at CuO_x interface; 2. Conversion of orbital current to spin current by spin-orbit coupling in Pt; 3. Spin current generates SOT on magnetization.
- Torques are 16x larger with CuO_x than without → massive improvement!

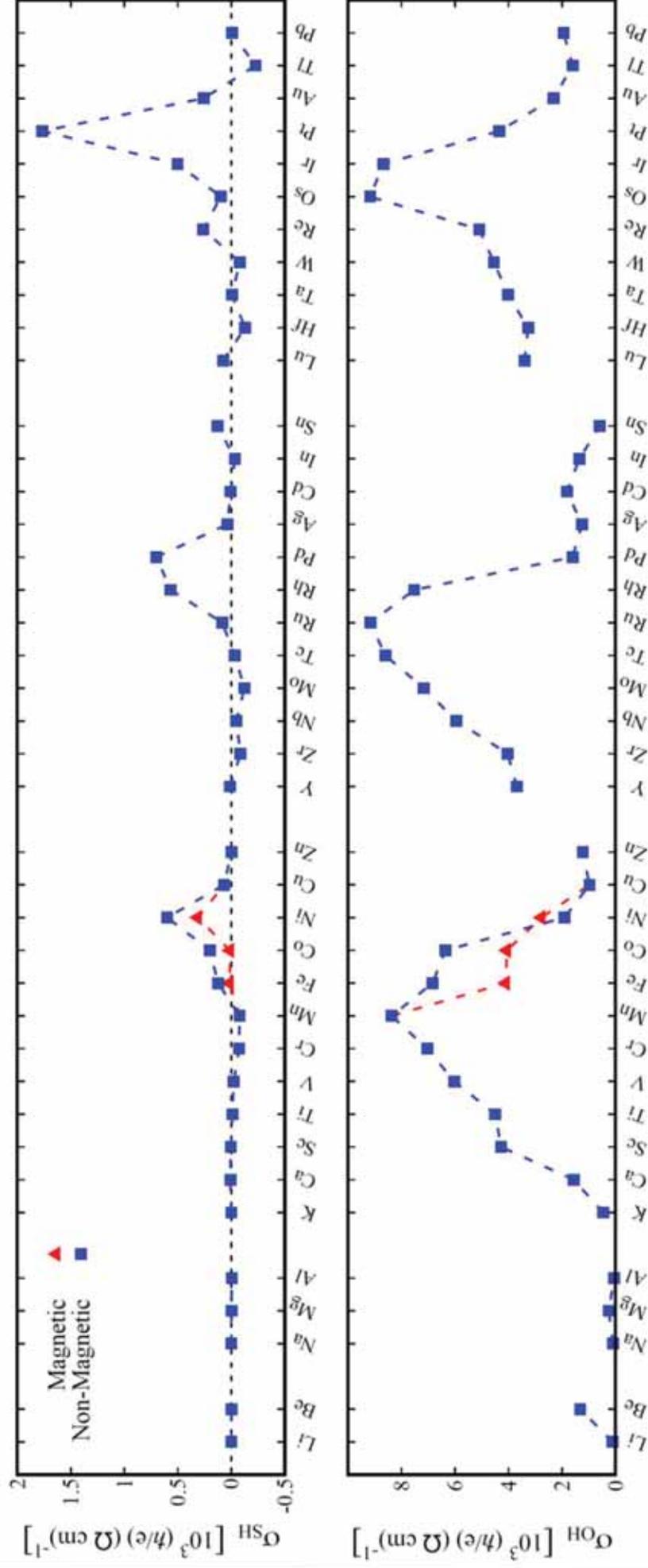
3. Magnetoresistance effects in TmIG-CuOx



- Spin Hall Magnetoresistance – type measurements show similar thickness dependence as the torques in series B: increase & decrease with Pt thickness indicating orbital current contribution to magnetoresistance signal.¹

¹S. Ding, D. Go, Y. Mokrousov, MK et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 177201 (2020)

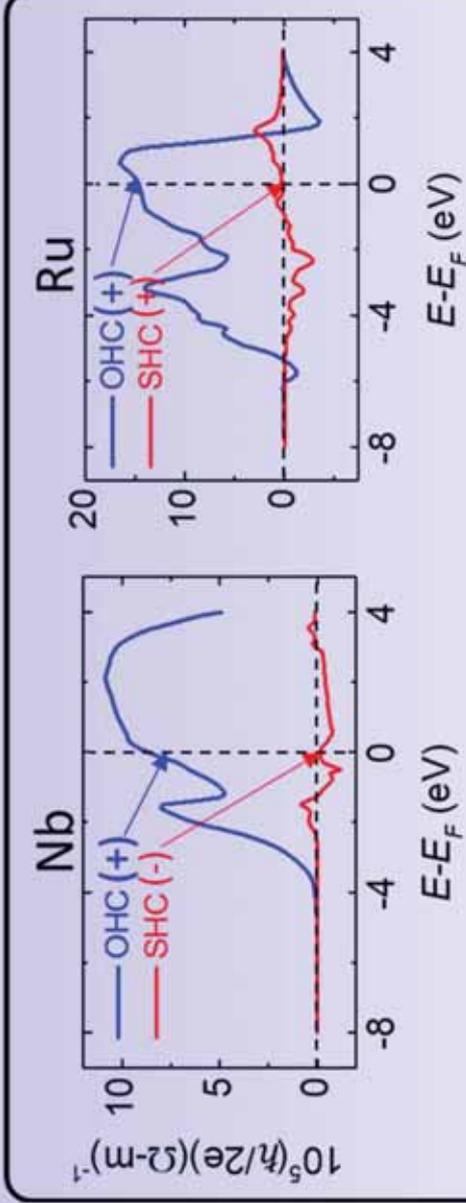
3. Orbital currents and orbital torques from Nb and Ru



- In particular for Nb and Ru large orbital hall and negligible spin Hall conductivity have been calculated.¹⁻⁴

¹H. Kontani et al., PRL **102**, 016601 (2009); ²L. Salemi et al., PRB **106**, 024410 (2022); ³L. Salemi et al., Phys. Rev. Mater. **6**, 095001 (2022); ⁴A. Bose, D. Go, Y. Mokrousov, MK et al., Phys. Rev. B **107**, 134423 (2023)

3. Orbital currents and orbital torques from Nb and Ru

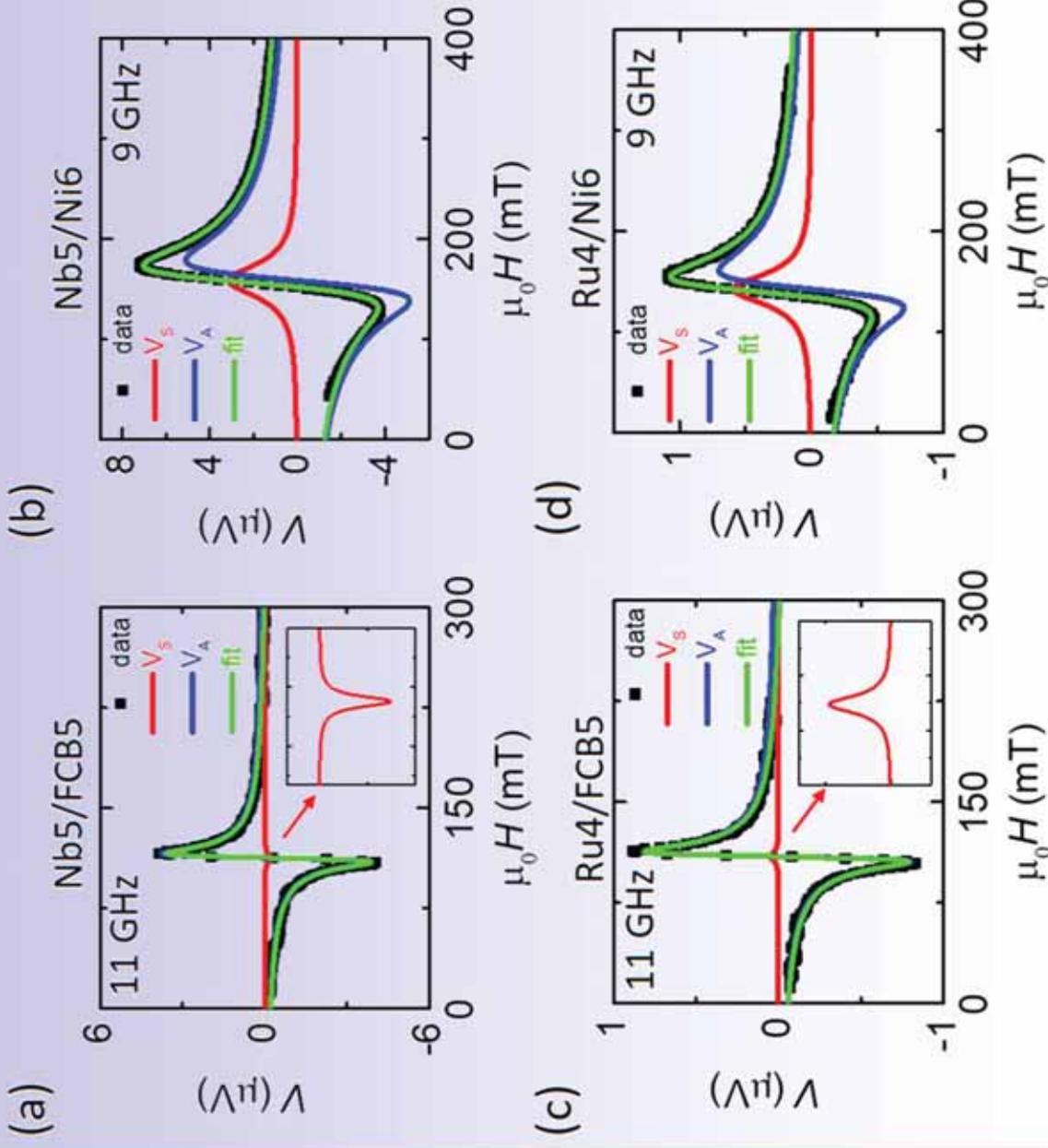


Theory: (1) Negligible SHE and (2) large OHE

- Predicted strong +ve orbital Hall effect in Nb and Ru but small +ve spin Hall effect in Ru and small -ve in Nb.

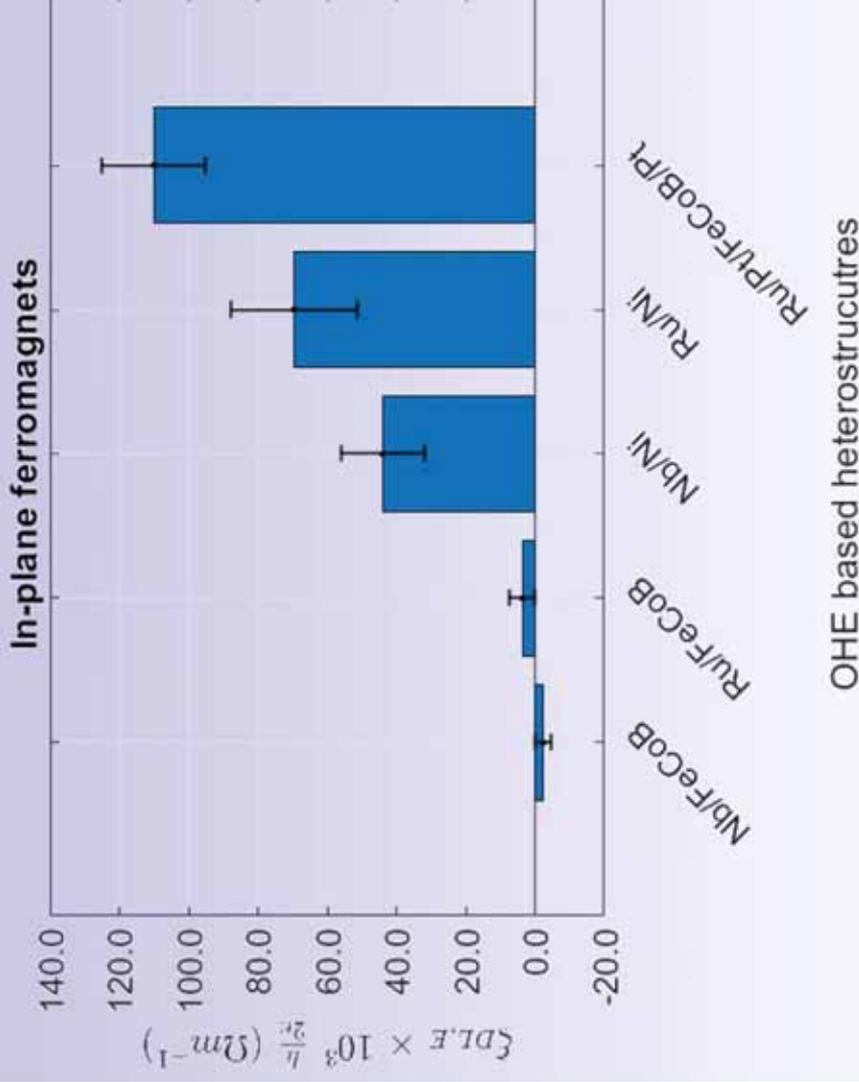
NIM	SHC	OHC
Ru	+ve	+ve
Nb	-ve	+ve

3. Orbital currents and orbital torques from Nb and Ru

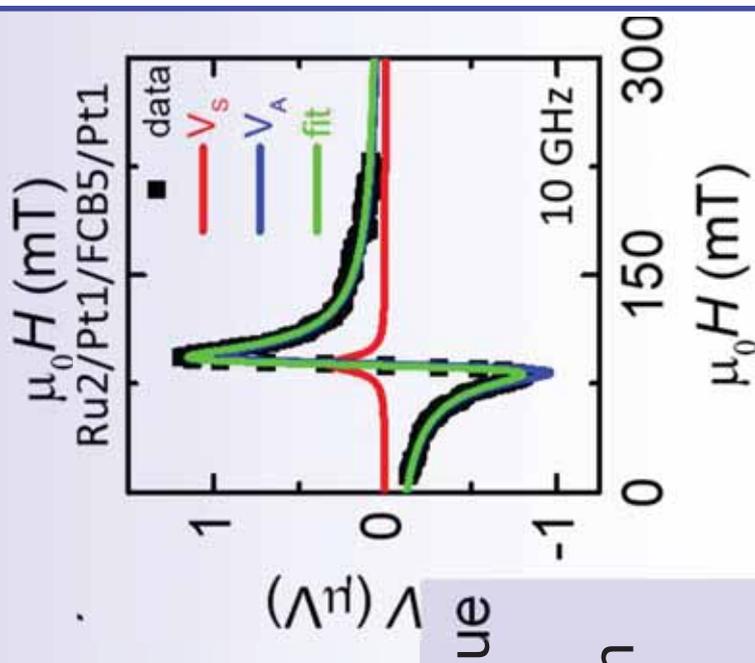
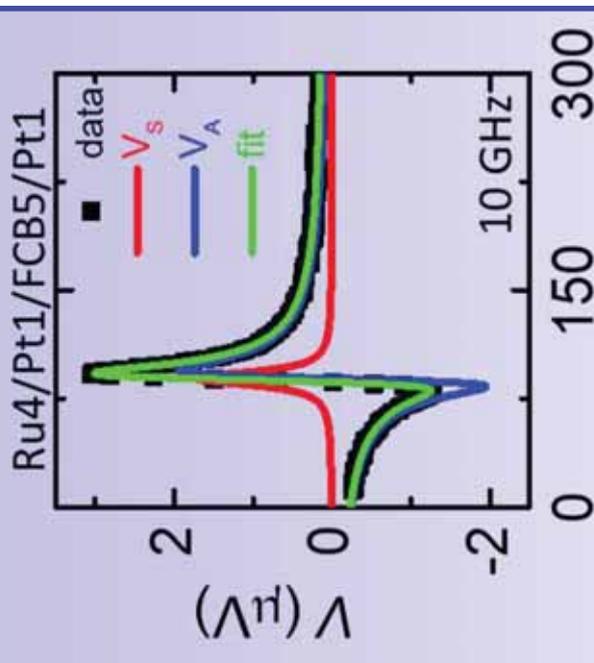


- Predicted strong +ve orbital Hall effect in Nb and Ru but small +ve spin Hall effect in Ru and small -ve in Nb.
- Nb/Ni and Ru/Ni show strong orbital torques Nb/CoFeB and Ru/CoFeB show small SOTs (different signs) (measured by ST-FMR)

3. Orbital torques from Nb and Ru

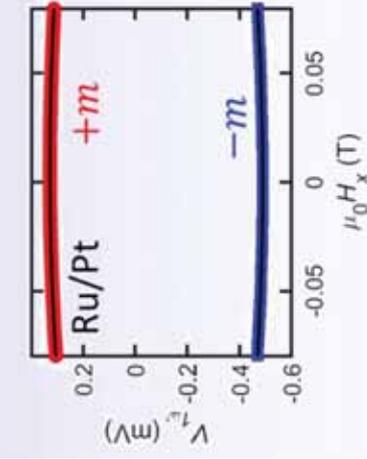
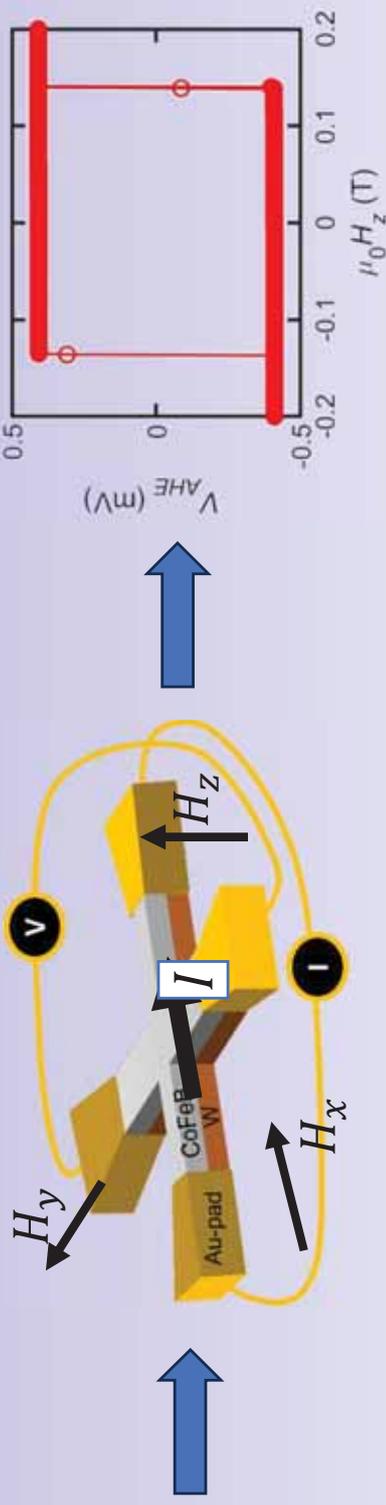
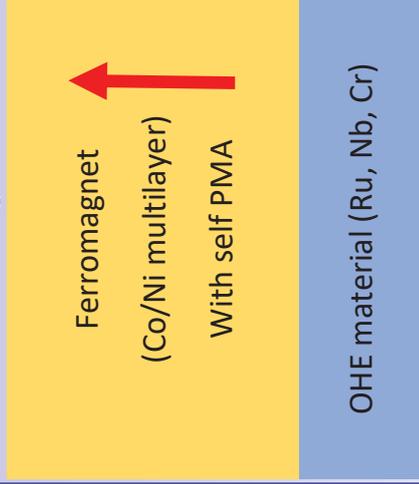


- Ru/CoFeB does not generate sizeable orbital torque
- Ru/Pt/CoFeB does generate a large torque → Orbital Hall current is converted by Pt layer to spin current that acts on CoFeB
- Maximum torque by converting Orbit to Spin!

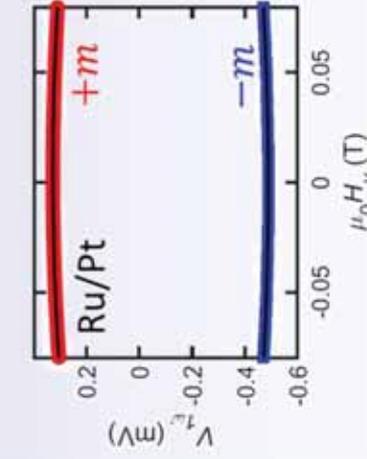
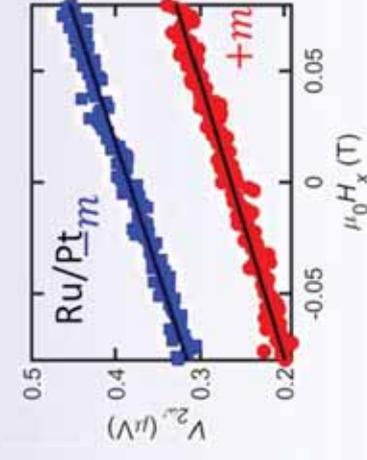


3. Orbital torque switching of perpendicularly magnetized stack

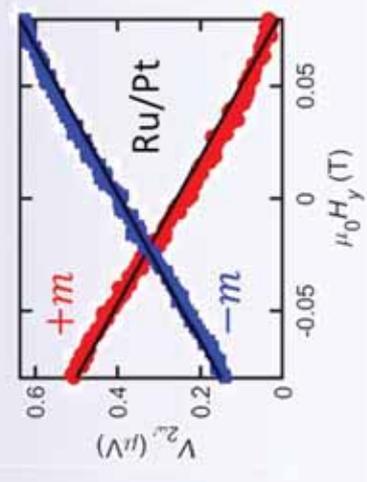
PMA magnet



$$\Gamma_{DL} \rightarrow m \times (\sigma \times m)$$



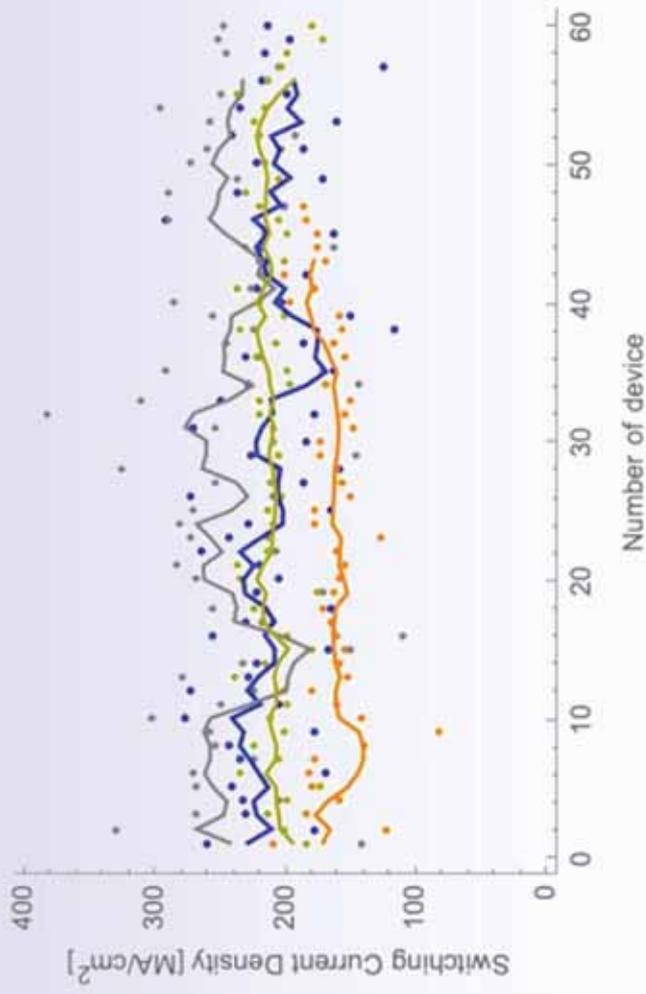
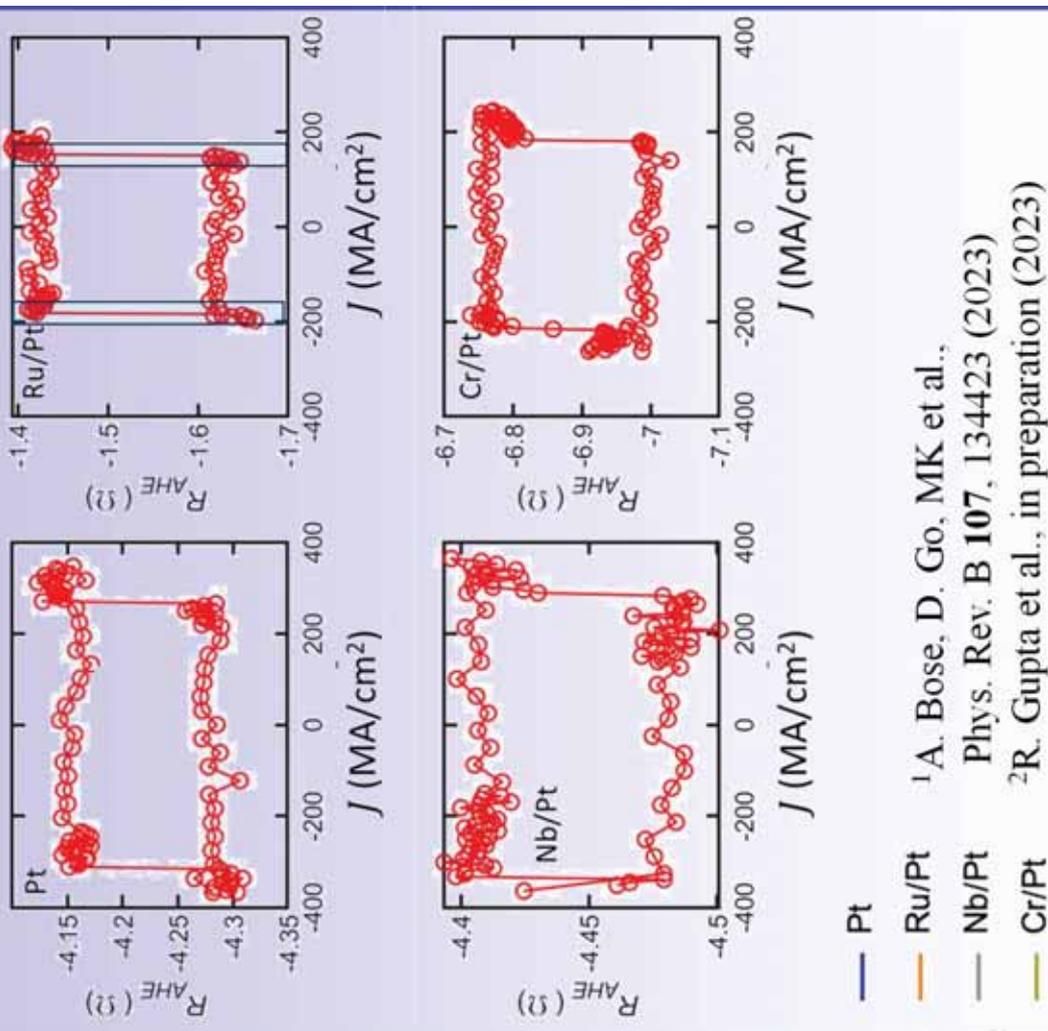
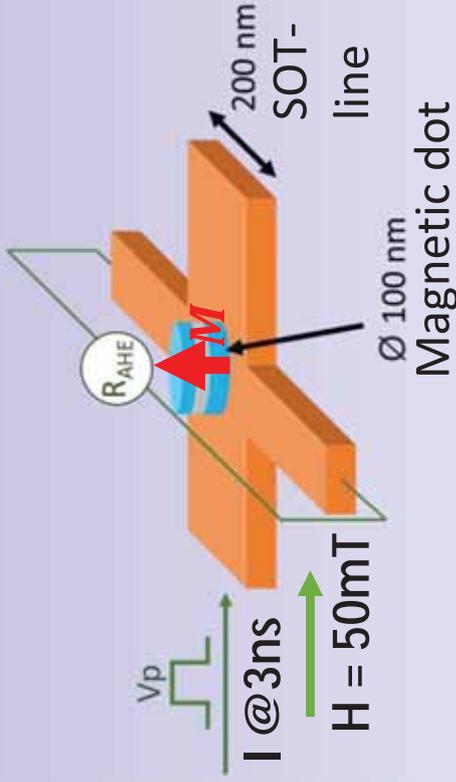
$$\Gamma_{FL} \rightarrow (m \times \sigma)$$



¹R. Gupta et al., in preparation (2023)

- Design of complex multilayer stack that allows for switching experiments.
- Strong damping-like torque and sizeable field-like torques found.¹

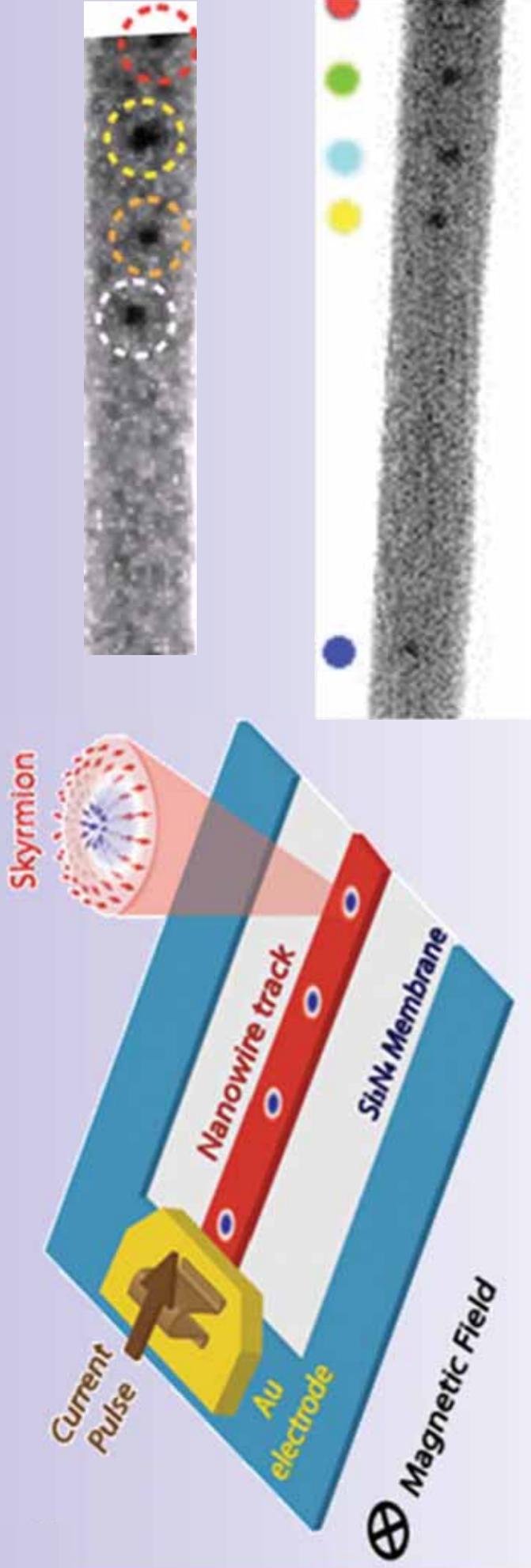
3. Orbital torque switching of perpendicularly magnetized stack



¹A. Bose, D. Go, MK et al.,
 Phys. Rev. B **107**, 134423 (2023)
²R. Gupta et al., in preparation (2023)

- Massive systematic study of switching current densities in >250 devices.
- Lowest critical current density in Ru/Pt based stack 30% lower than Pt!

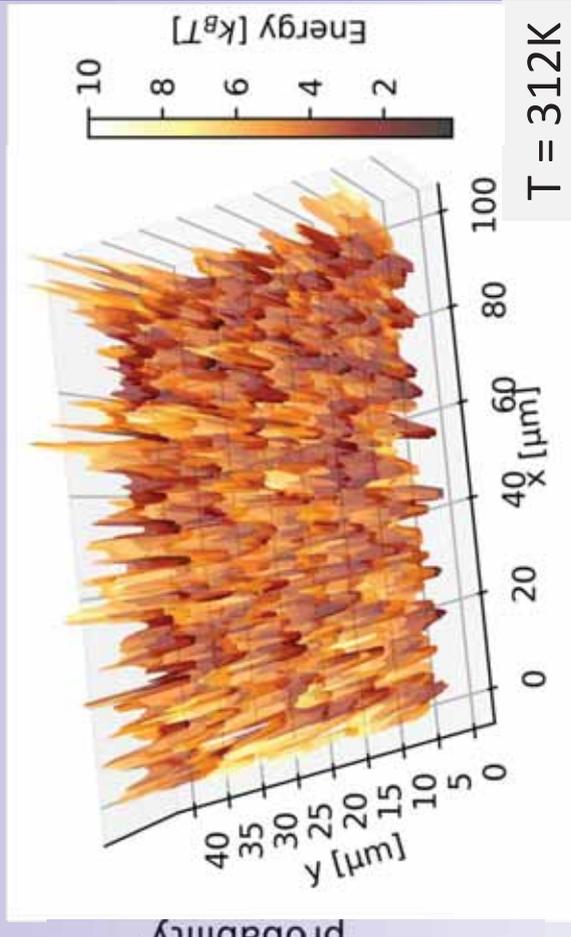
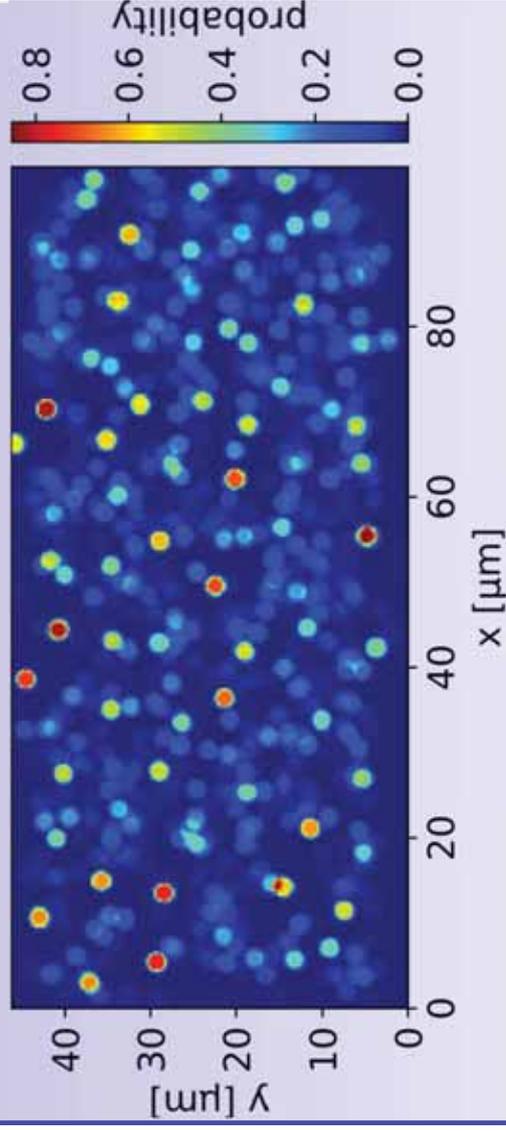
3. Skyrmion Racetrack



- Skyrmion racetrack¹: advantages compared to a DW-based racetrack: total magnetization does not change with skyrmion motion
→ less susceptible to stray fields.
- Topological protection of skyrmions → more reliable motion?
- Nanowire is patterned out of Pt/Co/Ta (μm width)²
- Single skyrmions can be moved by spin orbit torques on the nano-track

¹A. Fert et al., Nature Nano 8, 152 (2013); ²S. Woo, MK et al., Nature Mater. 15, 401 (2016)

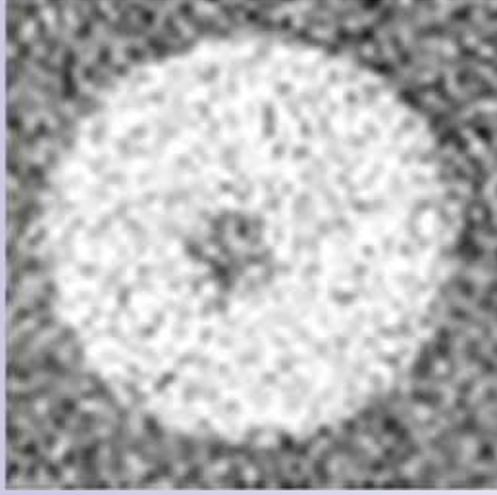
3. Origin of pinning



- Measure pinning and depinning of skyrmions
 - Determine probability of finding skyrmions at a certain position
- Variations due to non-flat energy landscape (pinning sites present)

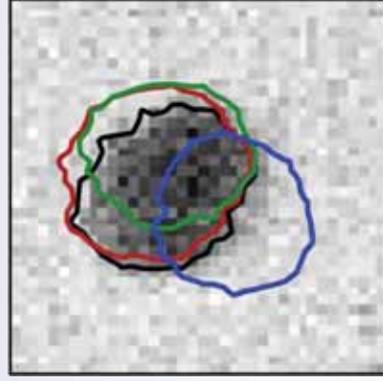
- Use probability density to calculate energy landscape
- Pinning and thermal energy on same scale
- Look at specific pinning site to understand origin: → grain boundaries

3. Origin of pinning

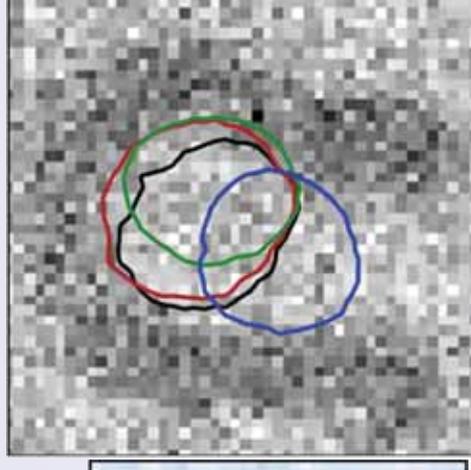
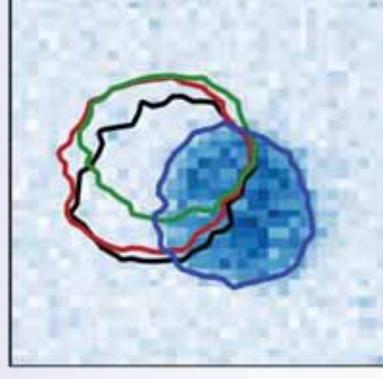
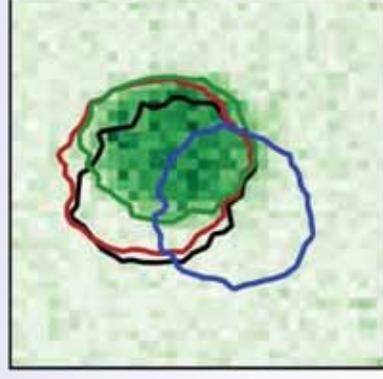
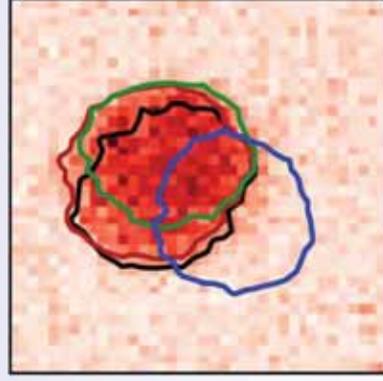


- Single skyrmion moving in confined geometry
- Skyrmion moves between distinct positions
- obtain statistics to investigate pinning effects
- Skyrmions are found in characteristic configurations of the domain wall.

10 μm

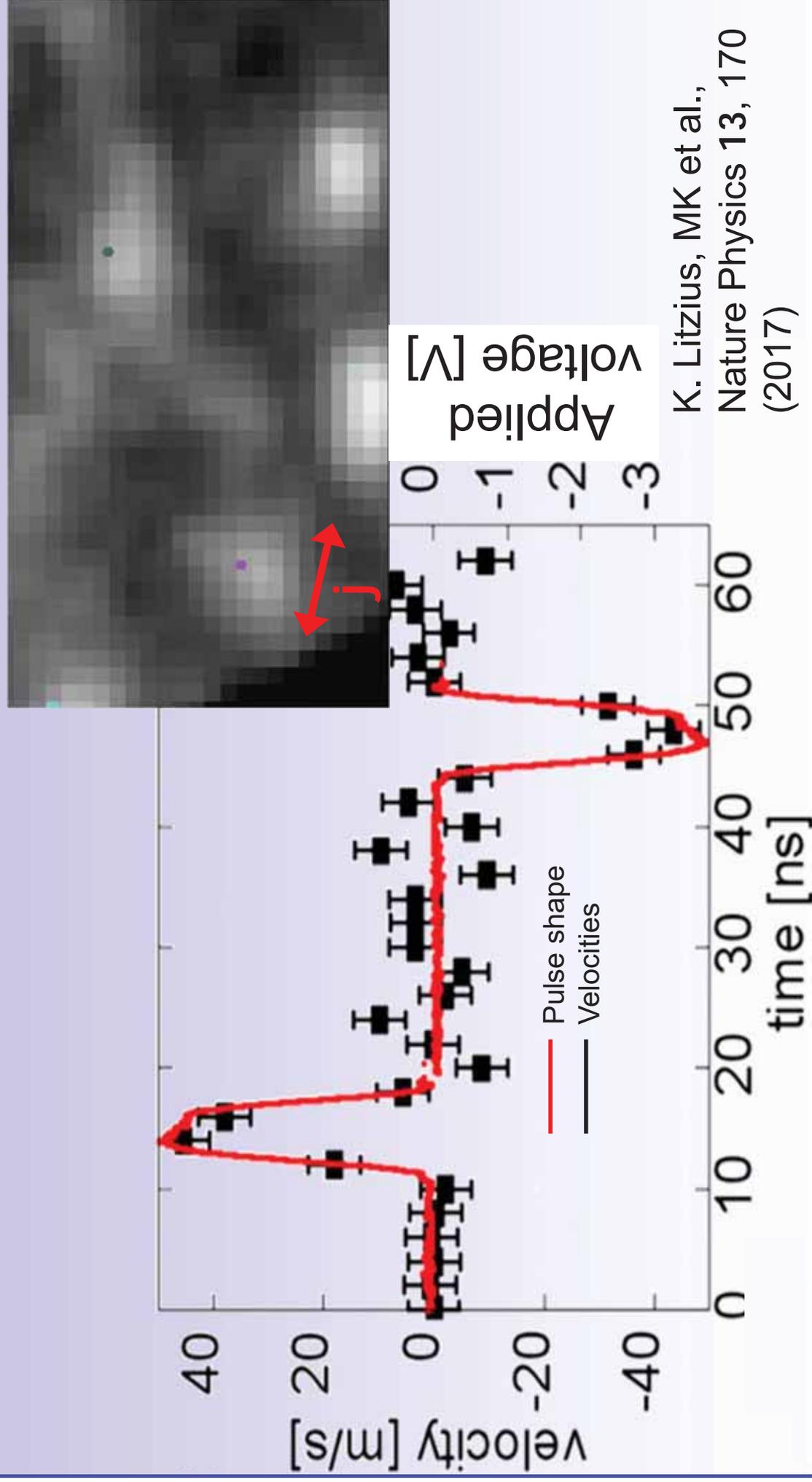


5 μm



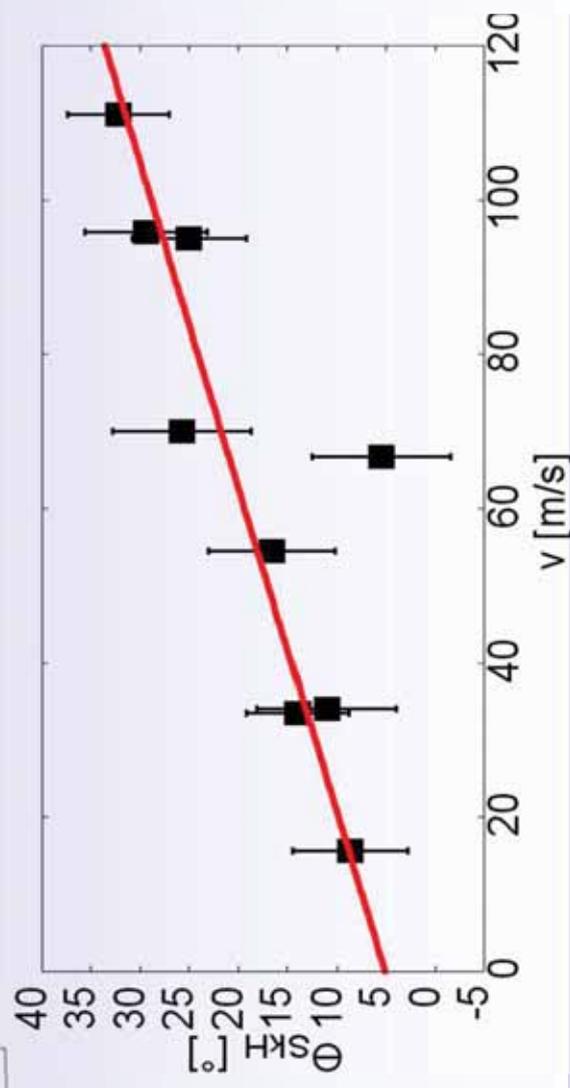
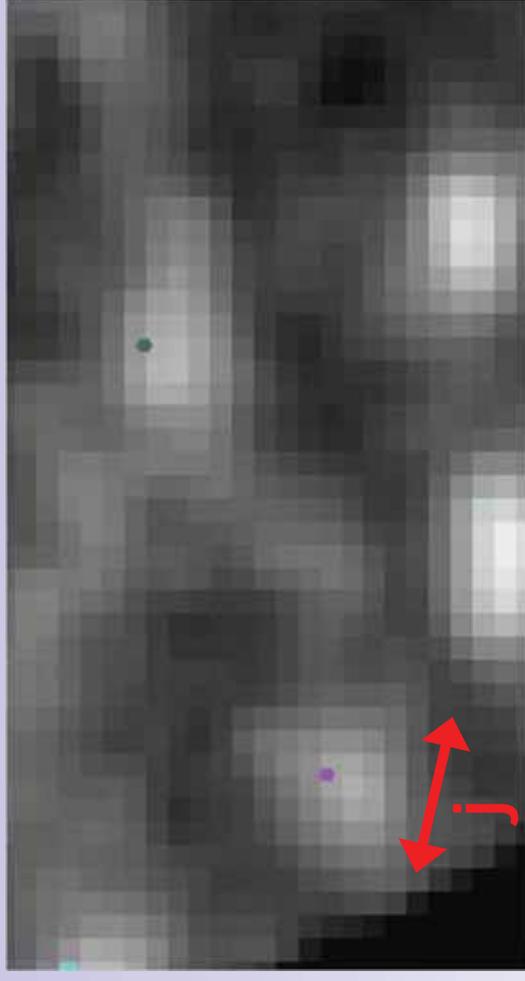
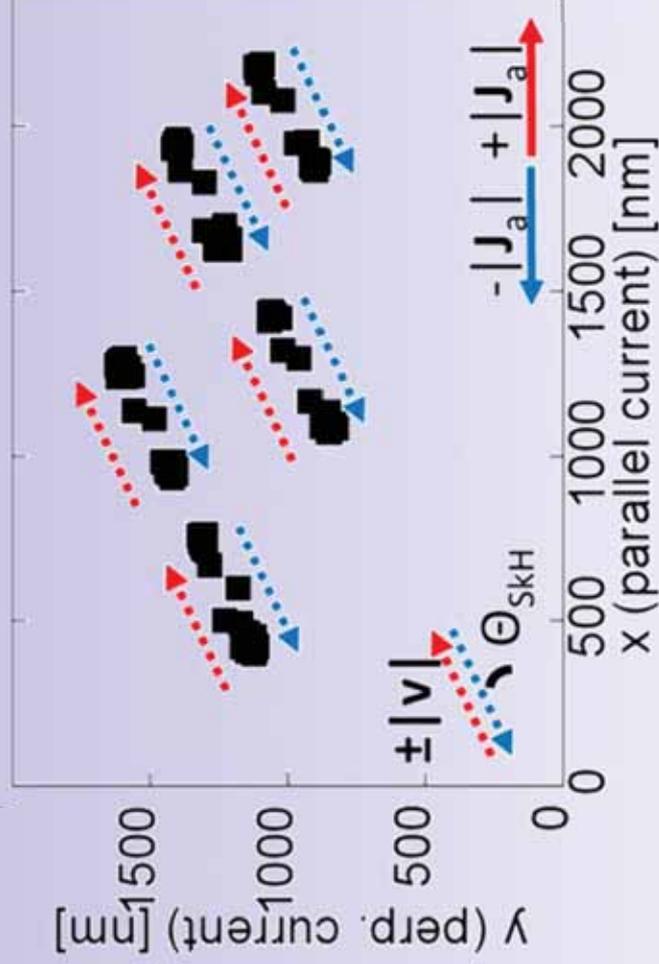
- Pinning of the skyrmion boundary domain wall: confirmed by stripe domain pinning

3. Real time magnetic imaging of spin-orbit torque induced dynamics



- Dynamic imaging enabled by low pinning Pt/CoFeB/MgO \rightarrow reliability $> 10^{10}$ cycles!
- Skyrmions move synchronously at an angle with current flow \rightarrow skyrmion Hall effect.

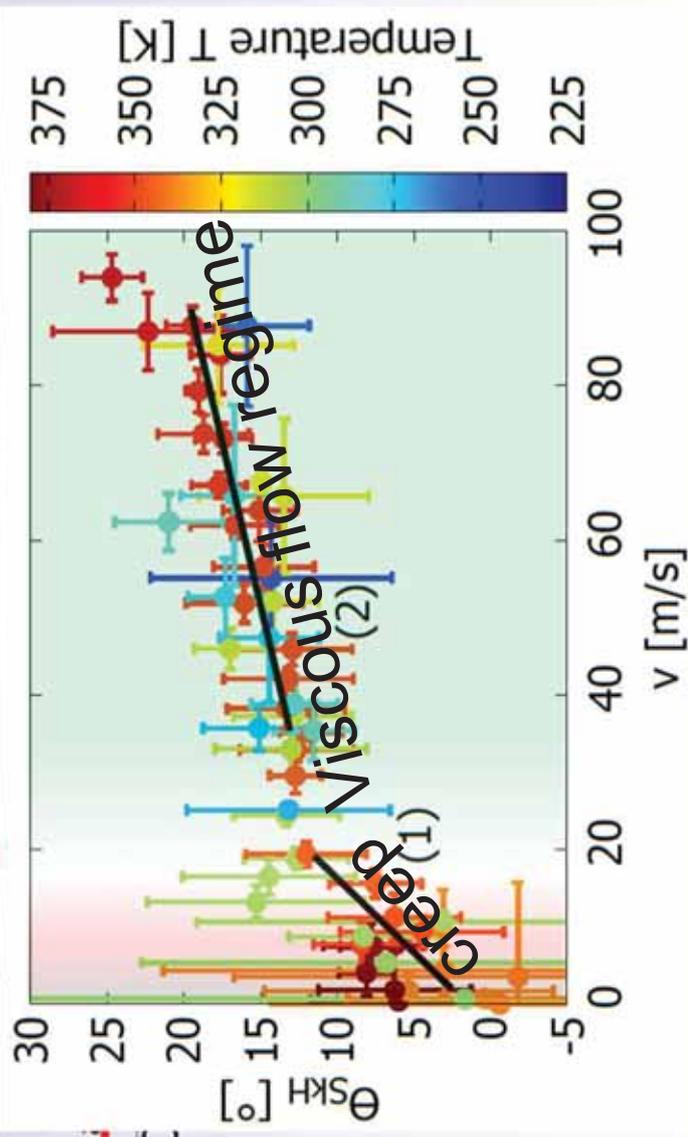
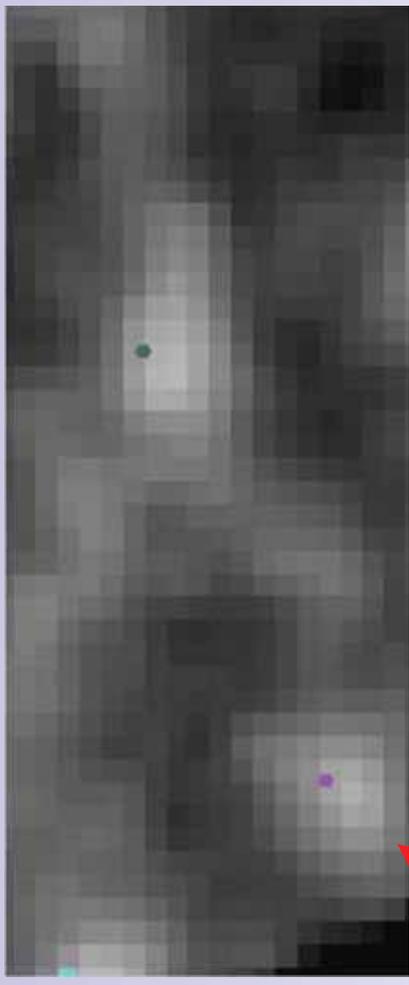
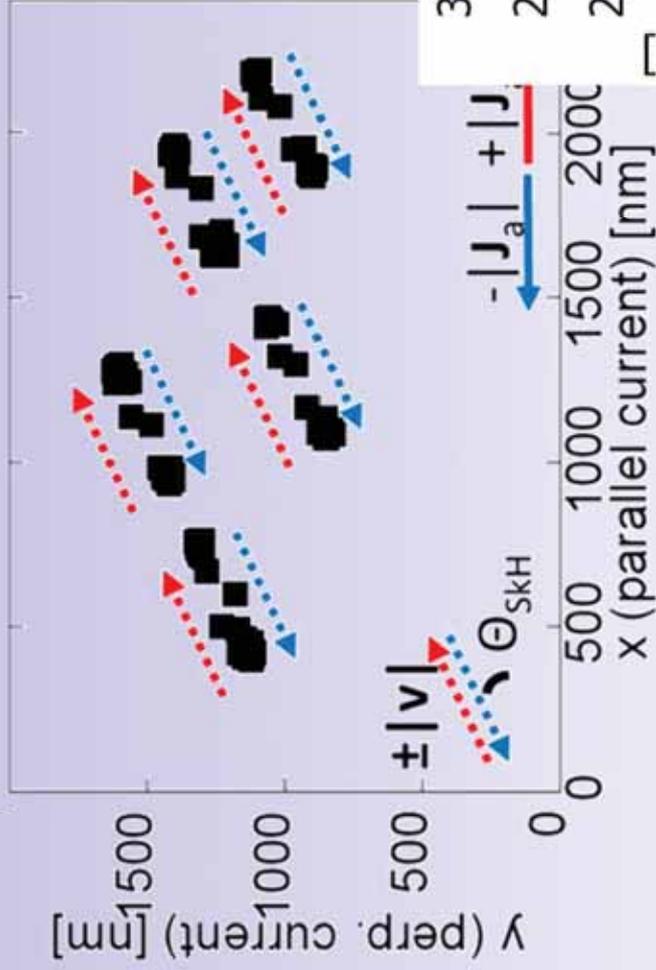
3. Real time magnetic imaging of spin-orbit torque induced dynamics



- K. Litzius, MK et al.,
Nature Physics 13, 170 (2017)
- W. Jiang et al.,
Nature Physics 13, 162 (2017)

- Skyrmion Hall angle (Θ_{SkH} between j and skyrmion direction) scales with velocity
→ Conventional rigid skyrmion model incomplete! → new theory needed!

3. Skyrmion Hall Angle



K. Litzius et al., *Nat. Electron.* **3**, 30 (2020)

K. Litzius et al., *Nat. Phys.* **13**, 170 (2017)

W. Jiang et al., *Nat. Phys.* **13**, 162 (2017)

K. Zeissler et al., *Nat. Com.* **11**, 428 (2020)

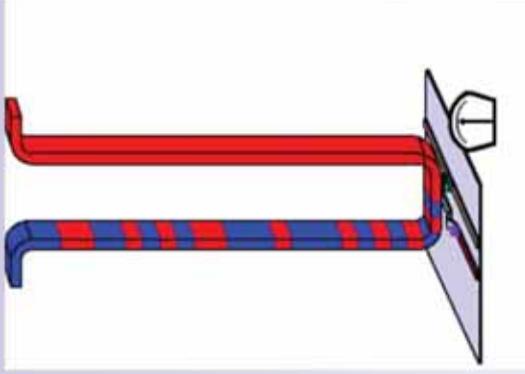
R. Juge et al., *PR Appl.* **12**, 044007 (2019)

C. Reichhardt et al., *Nat. Com.* **11**, 738 (2020)

- Skyrmion Hall angle (Θ_{SkH} between j and skyrmion direction) scales with velocity
 → Two different slopes in creep and viscous flow regime → different origins!

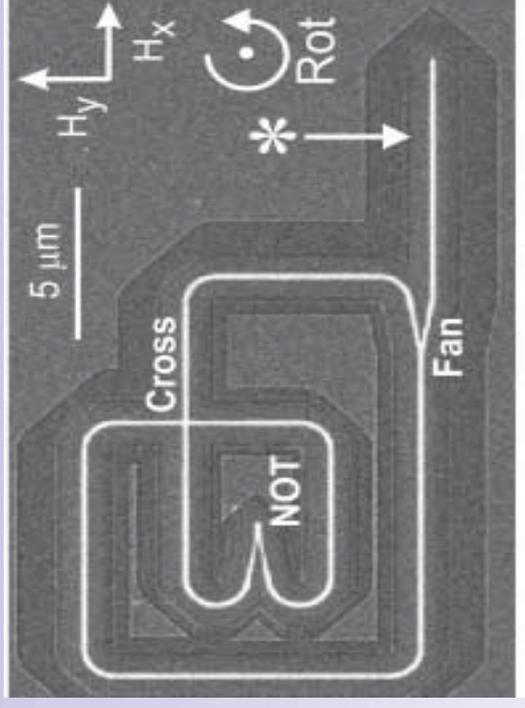
Devices based on Domain Walls and Skyrmions

Memory



Parkin et al, Science **320**, 190 ('08)
Fert et al., Nature Nano **8**, 152 ('13)

Magnetic Logic



D. A. Allwood et al., Science **309**, 1688 (2005)
J. Grollier et al., Nature Electron. **3**, 360 (2020)

Position & angle sensors



R. Mattheis et al., IEEE Trans. Magn. **45**, 3792 (2009)
A. Bisig et al., Nature Comm. **4**, 2328 (2013)

Challenges for Spintronics Devices:

Statics: Stability – Long term information retention

→ Topological Spin Structures to the rescue

Dynamics: Manipulation – **Efficiency** and Speed

→ Topological Spin Structures to the rescue



Spintronics and orbitalronics for memory & unconventional computing

M. Kläui

Institut für Physik & Materials Science in Mainz

Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

Centre for Quantum Spintronics, NTNU Trondheim

- Introduction: devices & chiral interactions
- Topologically stabilized Skyrmions
- Fast dynamics: Spin and Orbital Torques
- Efficient dynamics: **thermal diffusion**
- Non-conventional logic with skyrmions



www.klaui-lab.de

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JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

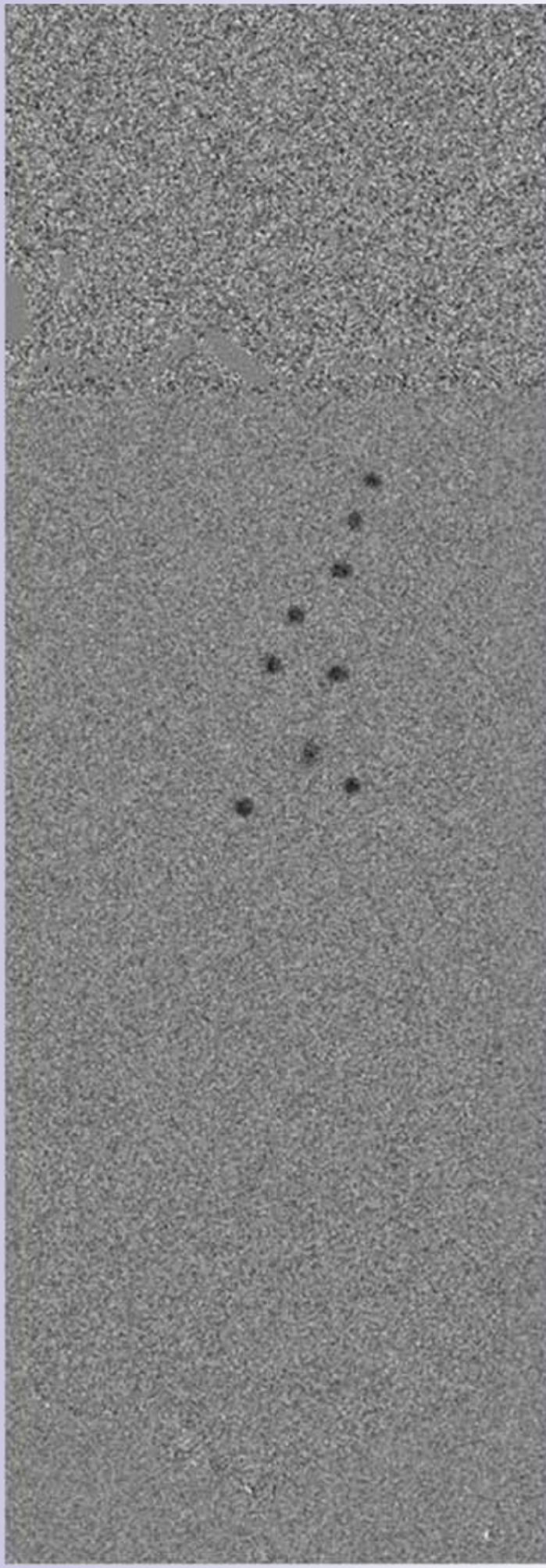
MATERIALS
IN
MAINZ SCIENCE

Qu.
Spin



SPIN+X
SFB/TRR 173
Kaiserslautern • Mainz

4. Skyrmion Writing and Skyrmion Motion in low pinning materials



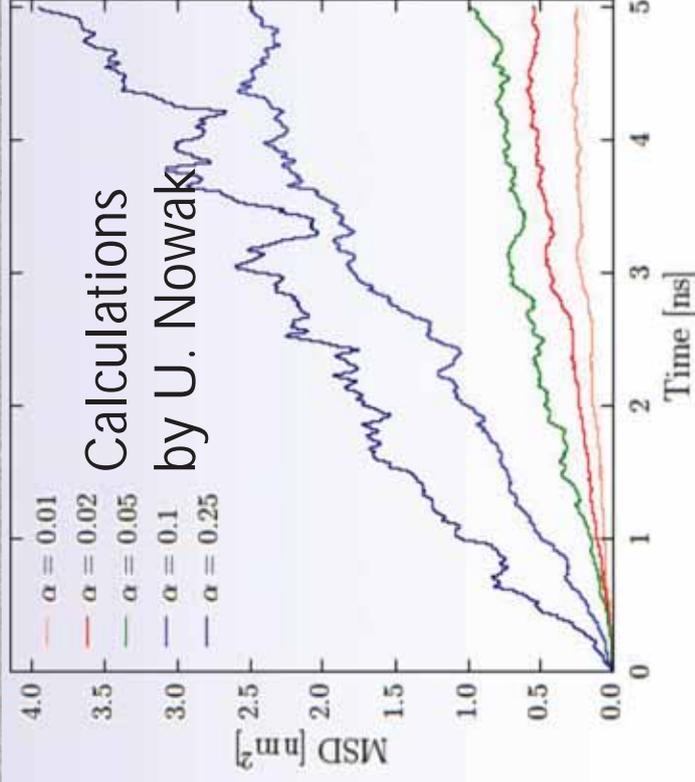
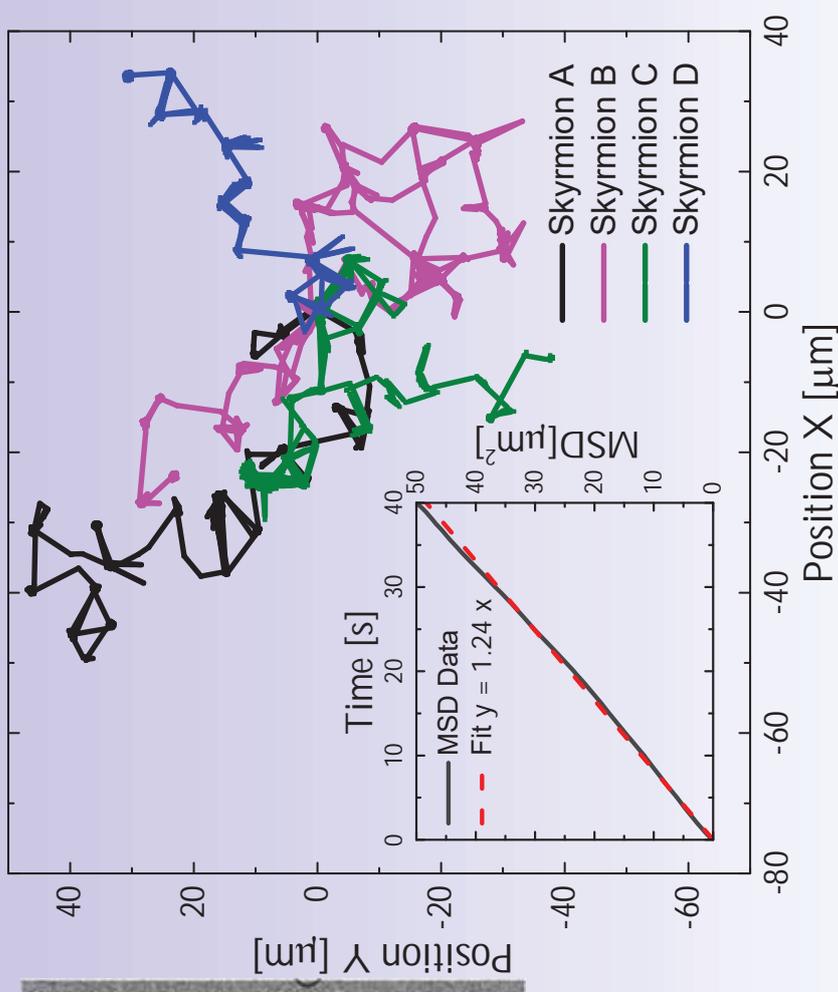
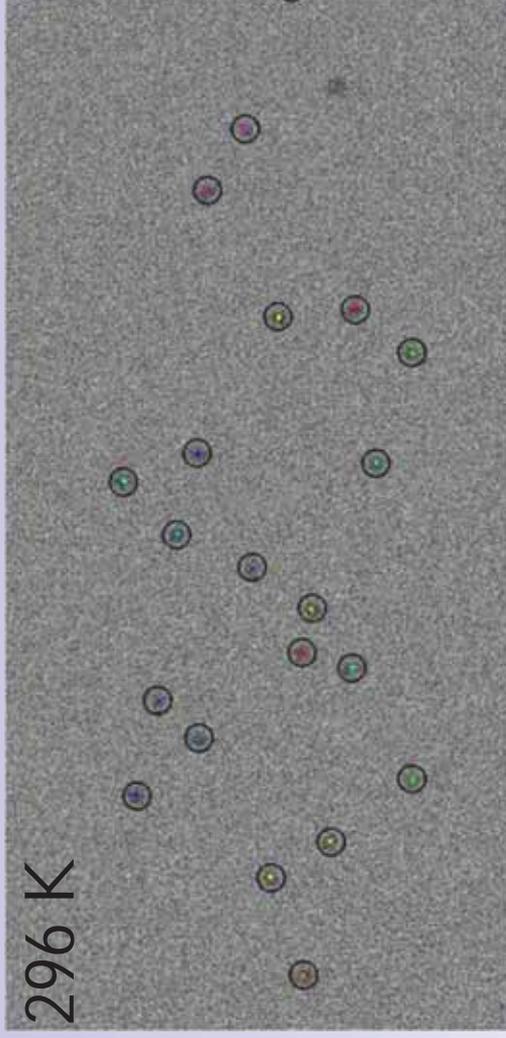
- Ultra-low pinning stack: Ta(5)/CoFeB(1)/Ta(0.08)/MgO(2)/Ta(5)¹
 - Using spin-orbit torques, skyrmions can be produced by pulses „on-demand“²
 - Synchronous displacement along current flow → chiral skyrmions
- In addition to deterministic „writing“ and „shifting“, we see thermally induced dynamics leading to random motion → diffusion? Predicted to be suppressed³

¹G. Yu et al., Nano Lett **16**, 1981 (2016); J. Zazvorka, K. Everschor-Sitte, U. Nowak et al., Nature Nano. **14**, 658 (2019)

²K. Everschor-Sitte et al., NJP **19**, 92001 (2017); M. Stier et al., PRL **118**, 267203 (2017); Z. Wang et al., Nat. El. **3**, 672 (2020)

³C. Schütte et al., Phys. Rev. B **90**, 174434 (2014)

4. Skyrmion Diffusion

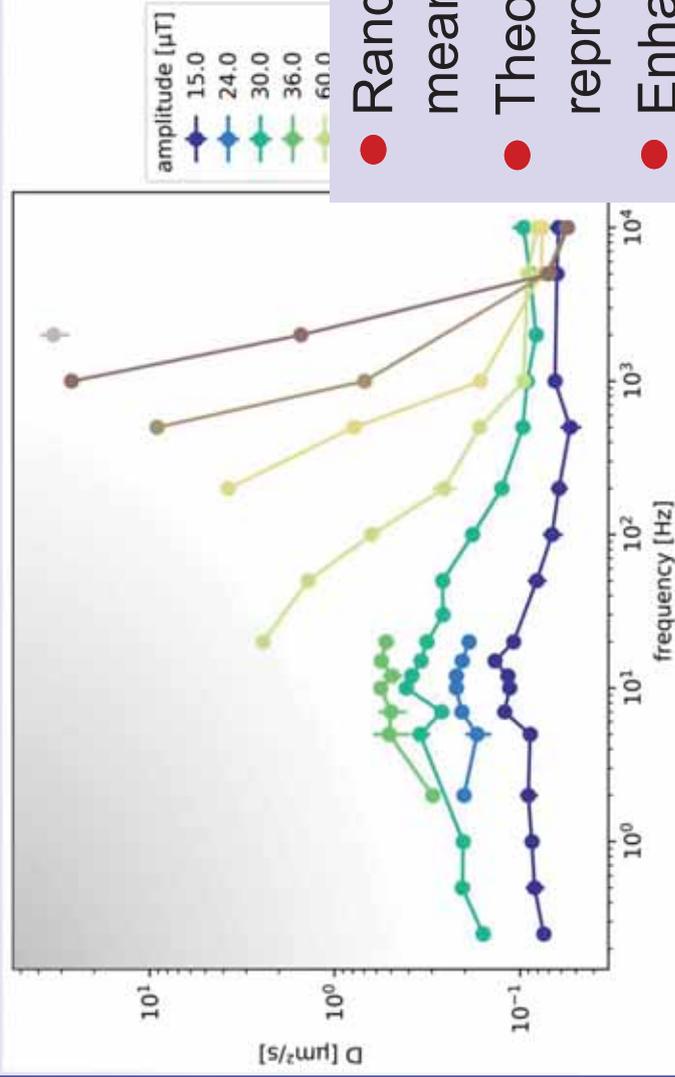
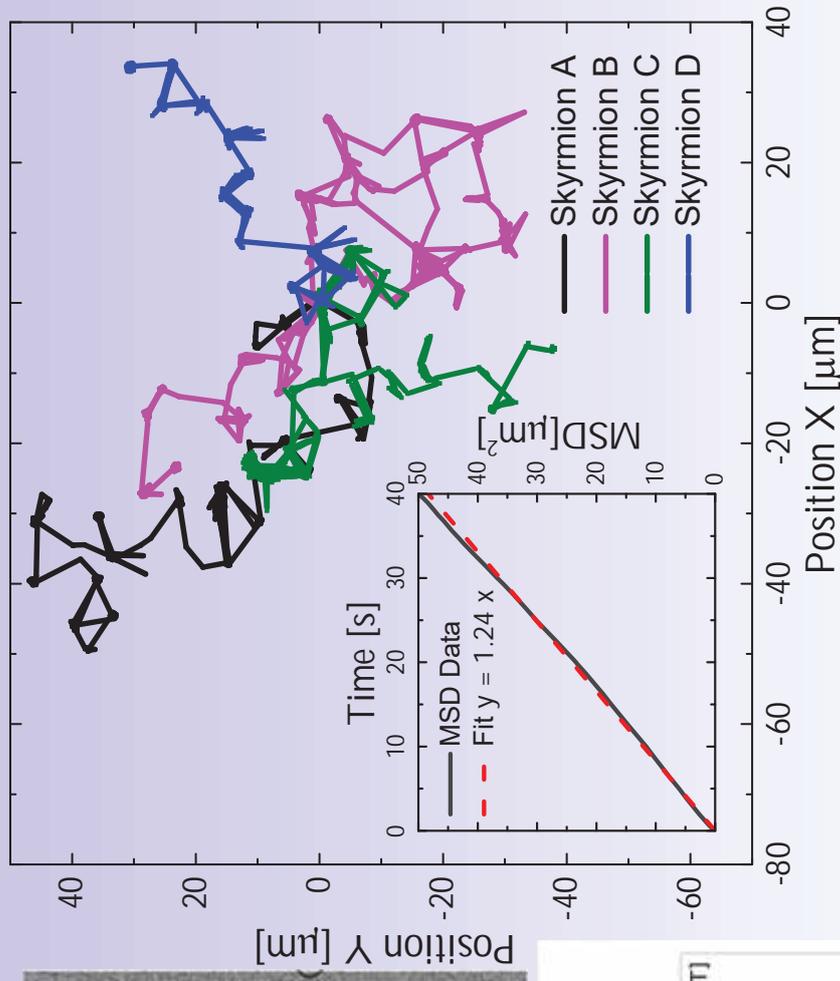
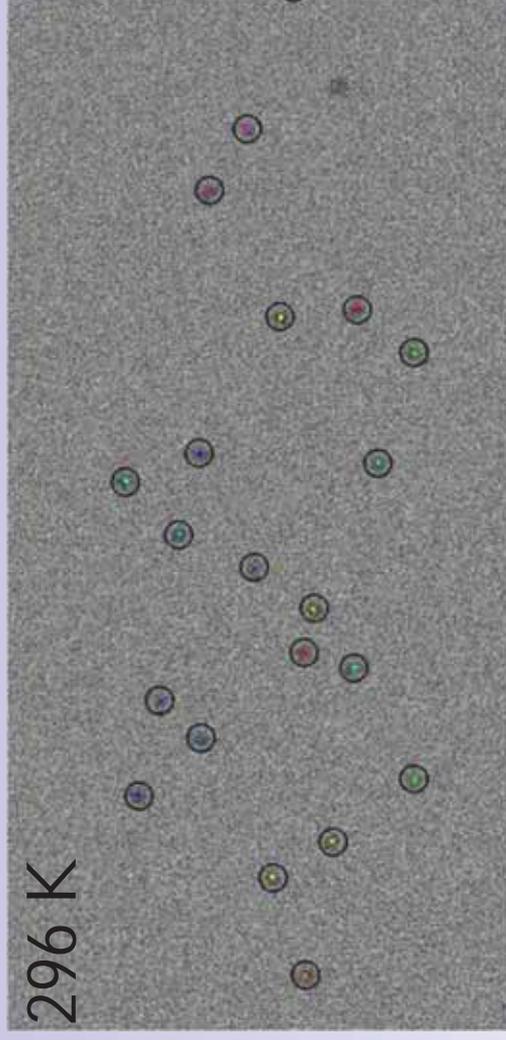


- Random motion exhibits linear scaling for mean square displacement \rightarrow diffusion!
- Theoretical numerical spin simulations reproduce diffusion
- Use in unconventional computing?^{1,2}

¹J. Zazvorka, MK et al., Nature Nano. **14**, 658 (2019)
cf. L. Zhao et al., PRL **125**, 027206 (2020)

²D. Pinna et al., PRAppI. **9**, 064018 ('18); PRAppI. **9**, 014034 ('18)

4. Skyrmion Diffusion



- Random motion exhibits linear scaling for mean square displacement \rightarrow diffusion!
- Theoretical numerical spin simulations reproduce diffusion
- Enhanced diffusion by AC excitations²

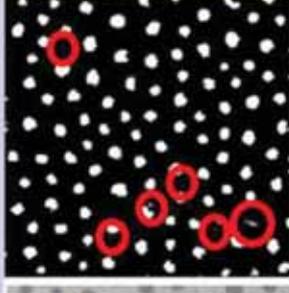
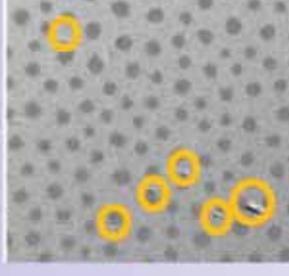
¹J. Zazvorka, MK et al., Nature Nano. **14**, 658 (2019)

Tracking using U-NET: I. Labrie, MK et al., PRAPpl. **21**, 014014 (2024) ²R. Gruber, MK et al., Adv. Mat. **35**, 2208922 (2023)

4. Skyrmion Detection

First approach: 2-class prediction task (skyrmion, background)

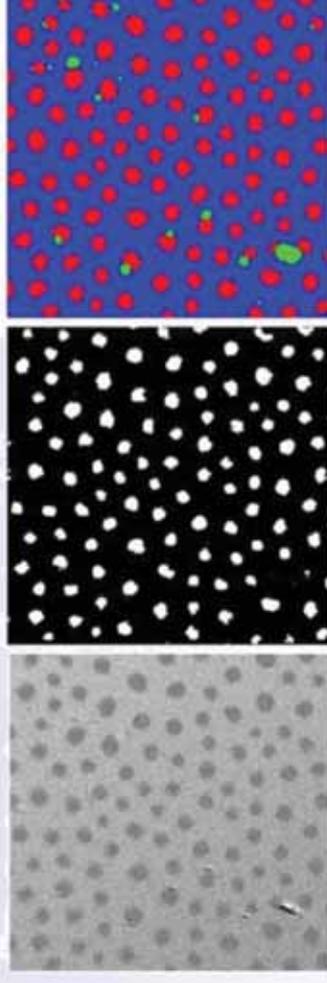
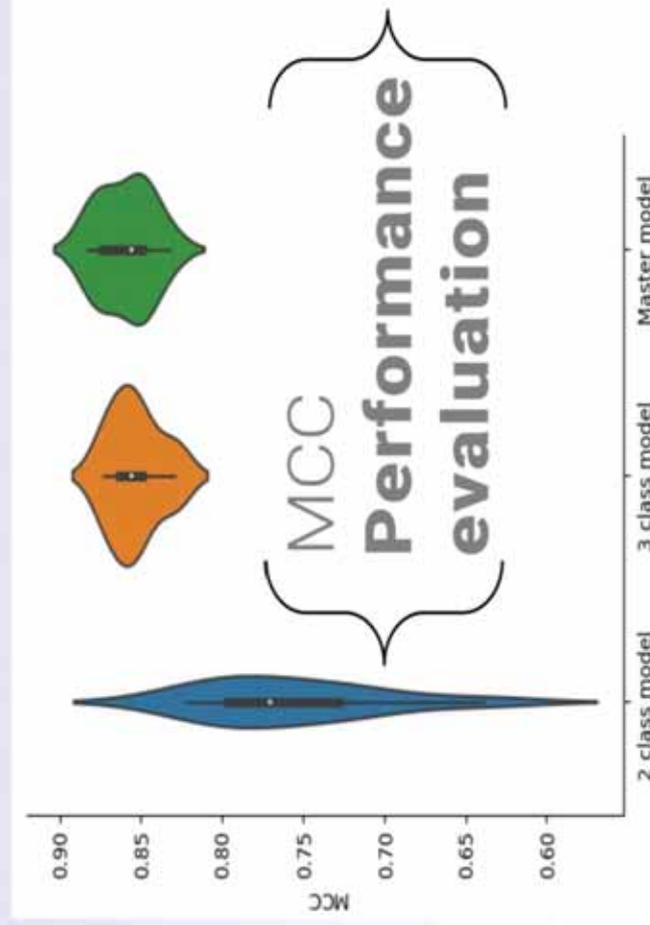
- One-hot encoding
- dark skyrmions, bright background
- Training set: 1900 images,



Exemplary
Training data

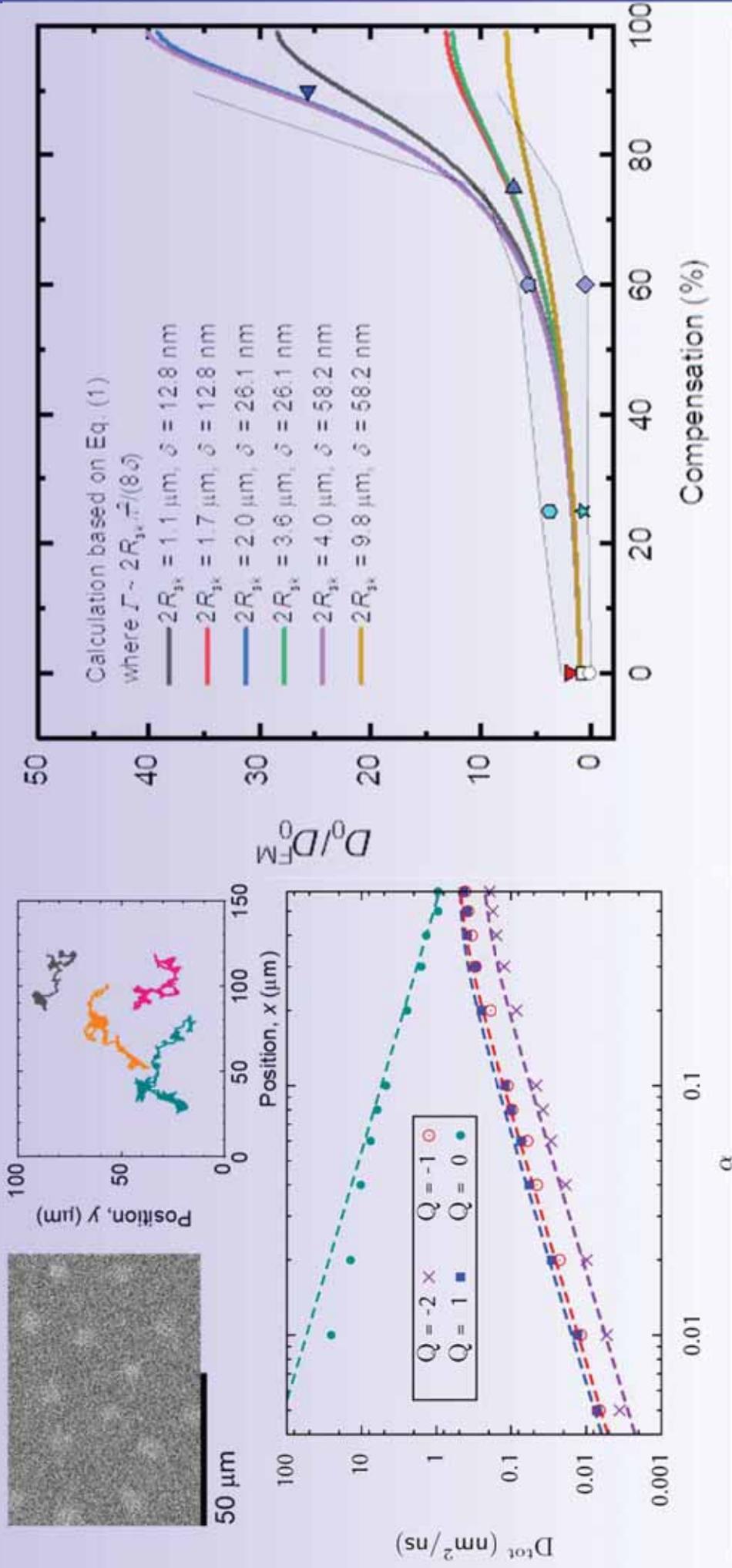
Second approach: 3-class prediction (skyrmion, defect, background)

- Small dataset focusing on defects (100 images)



- Convolutional neural network for optical pattern recognition to detect skyrmions
- 2-class model labels defect as skyrmion
- 3-class prediction works well (MCC=0.9)
- Hands-on training at Intermag24 (event)!

4. Ultimately fast Skyrmion Diffusion in (synthetic) antiferromagnets



- Synthetic antiferromagnets: topological charge tuned by compensation ratio!
- Developed synthetic antiferromagnets SAFs with tailored compensation ratio
- Thermal dynamics: predicted to be suppressed by finite topological charge¹
- Diffusion enhanced >20 times for maximally compensated (fully AFM) SAFs²

¹M. Weissenhofer et al., NJP 22, 103059 (2020); ²T. Dohi, MK et al., Nature Comm. 14, 5424 (2023)

Spintronics and orbitalronics for memory & unconventional computing

M. Kläui

Institut für Physik & Materials Science in Mainz

Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

Centre for Quantum Spintronics, NTNU Trondheim

- Introduction: devices & chiral interactions
- Topologically stabilized Skyrmions
- Fast dynamics: Spin and Orbital Torques
- Efficient dynamics: thermal diffusion
- **Non-conventional logic with skyrmions**



www.klaui-lab.de

JG|U

JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

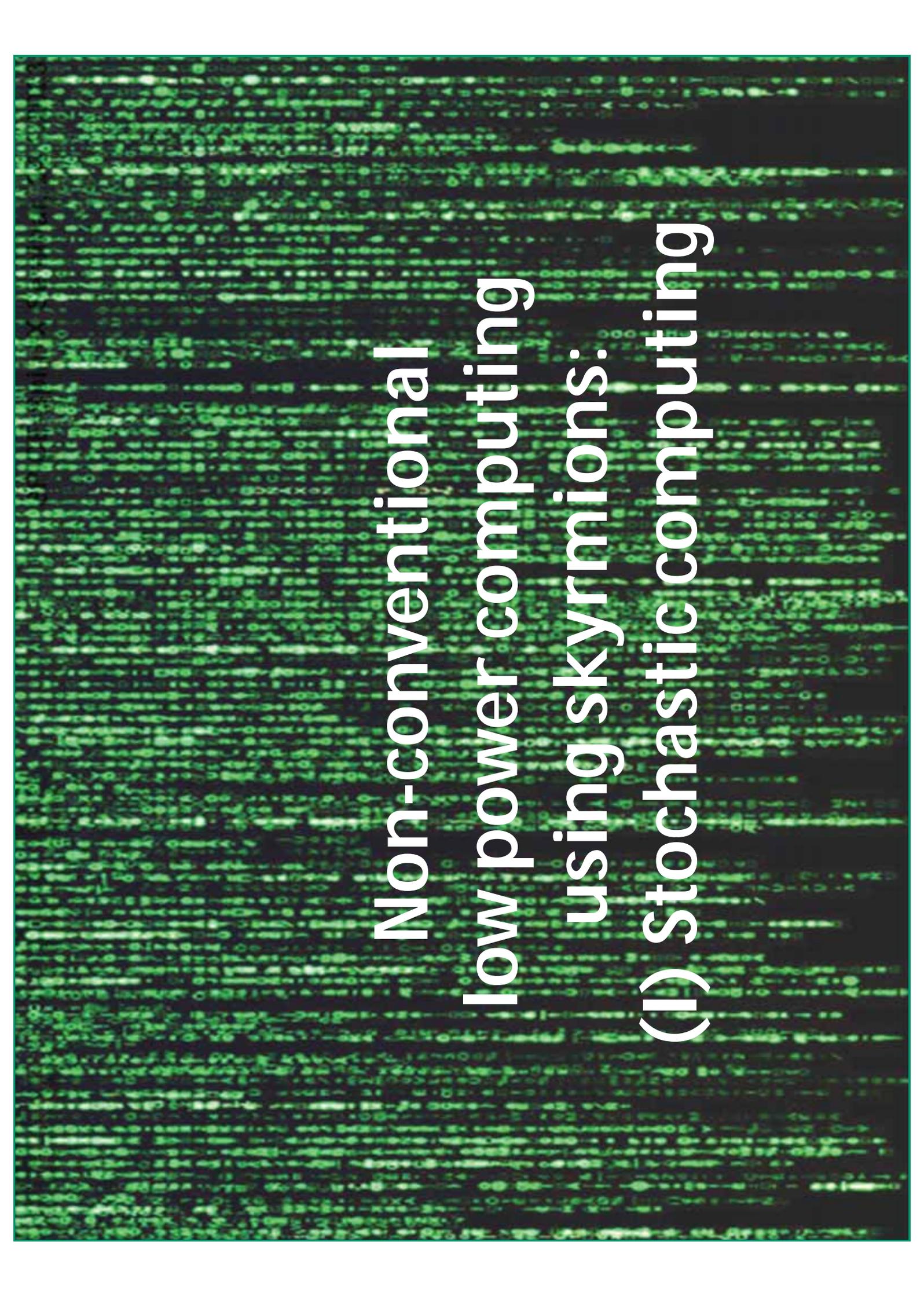
MATERIALS
IN
MAINZ SCIENCE

Qu.
Spin



erc

SPIN+X
SFB/TRR 173
Kaiserslautern • Mainz



**Non-conventional
low power computing
using skyrmions:
(I) Stochastic computing**

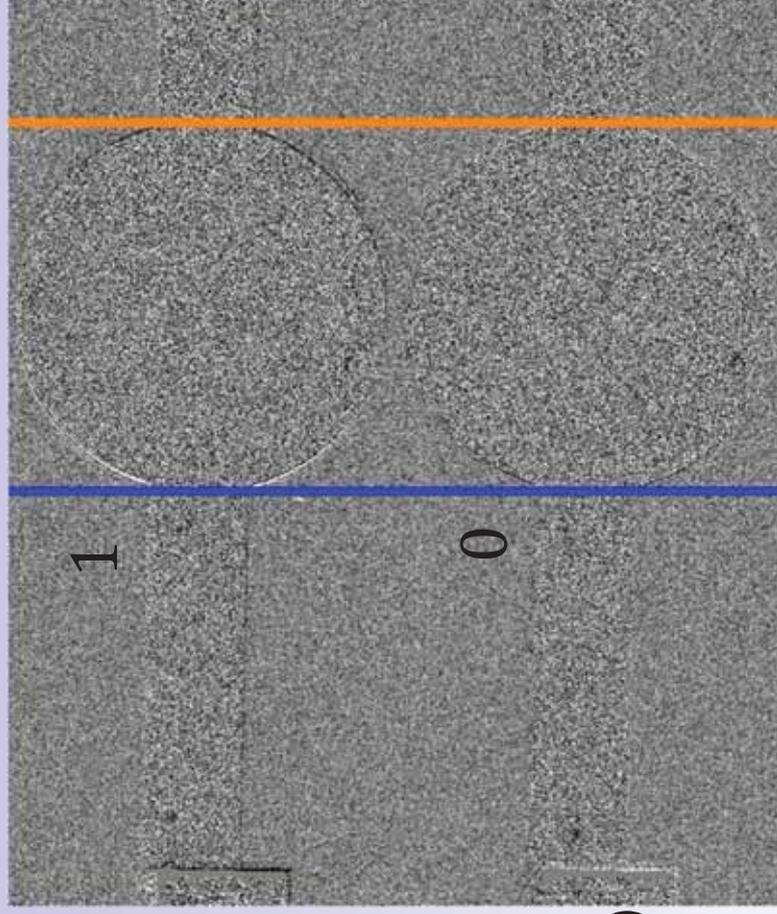
5. Stochastic Computing

- Stochastic computing
- Non-arithmetic way of calculation using random bit streams
- Only approximation of result - “progressive precision”
- Simple way of multiplying numbers using only AND-gates (and some other functions such as scaled addition, etc.)
- Problem in stochastic computing is the creation of unbiased, uncorrelated bit streams
→ reshuffler to decorrelate streams needed

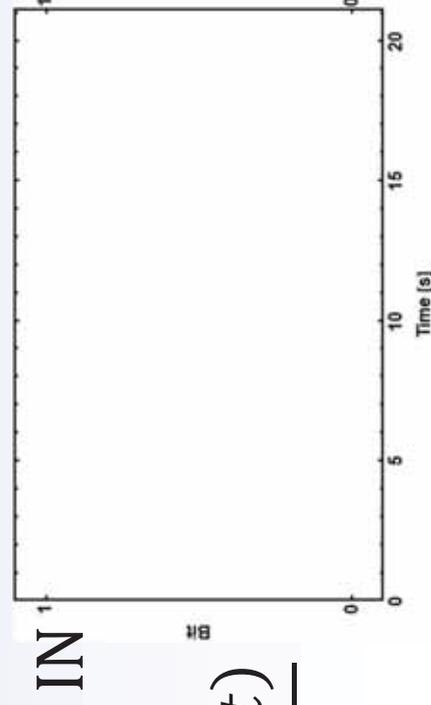
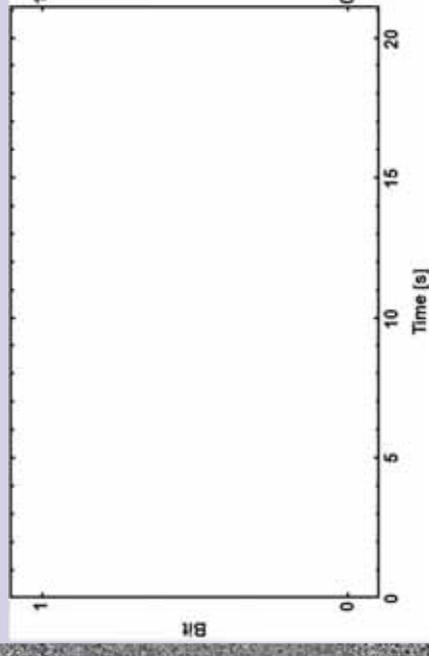
5. Skyrmion Reshuffler to create uncorrelated bitstreams

Realization:

- Skyrmion nucleation with pulses or DC.
- Readout with imaging.
- Skyrmions enter the chamber (blue line \rightarrow input)
- Exiting chamber (orange line) triggers corresponding bit \rightarrow output signal



OUT



Analysis of videos yields

Current density [$A \cdot m^{-2}$]	3×10^8
p-value change	0.01 ± 0.08
Correlation ρ	0.11 ± 0.14

Perfect p-value retention
and good decorrelation!

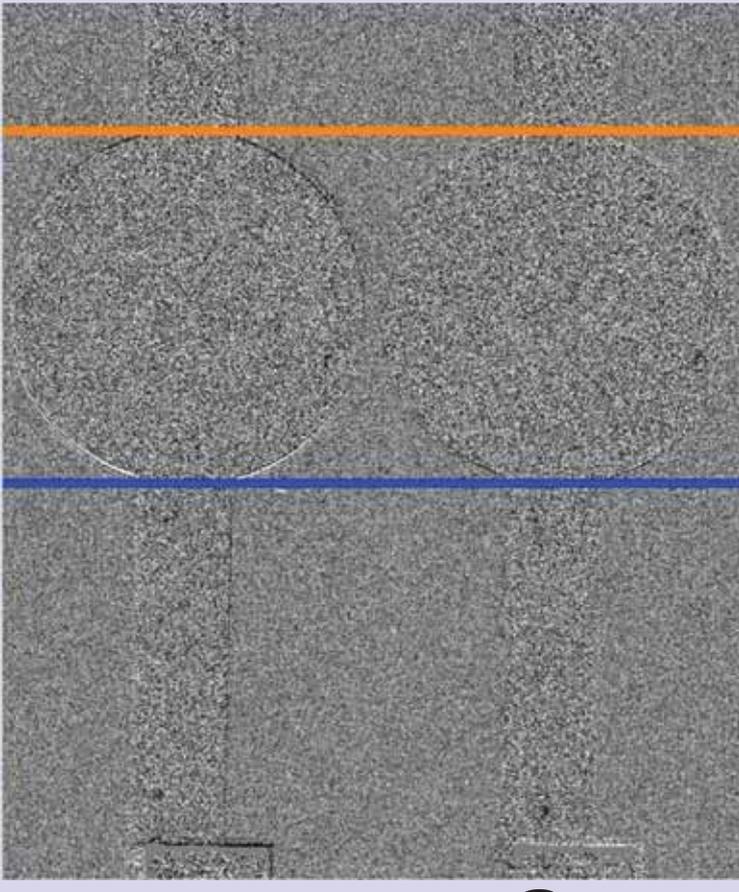
$$\rho = \frac{cov(in, out)}{\sigma_{in} \cdot \sigma_{out}}$$

5. Logic using skyrmions

- Stochastic Logic can be realized with Skyrmions
- Combining:

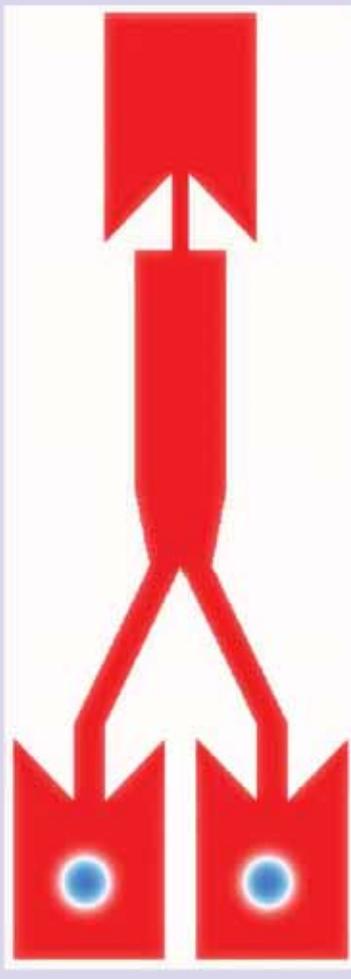
1. Skyrmion Reshuffler

J. Zazvorka, MK et al., Nature Nano. 14, 658 ('19)



2. AND Gate

X. Zhang et al., Sci. Rep. 5, 9400 (2015)



→ Multiplication using probabilistic computing approach

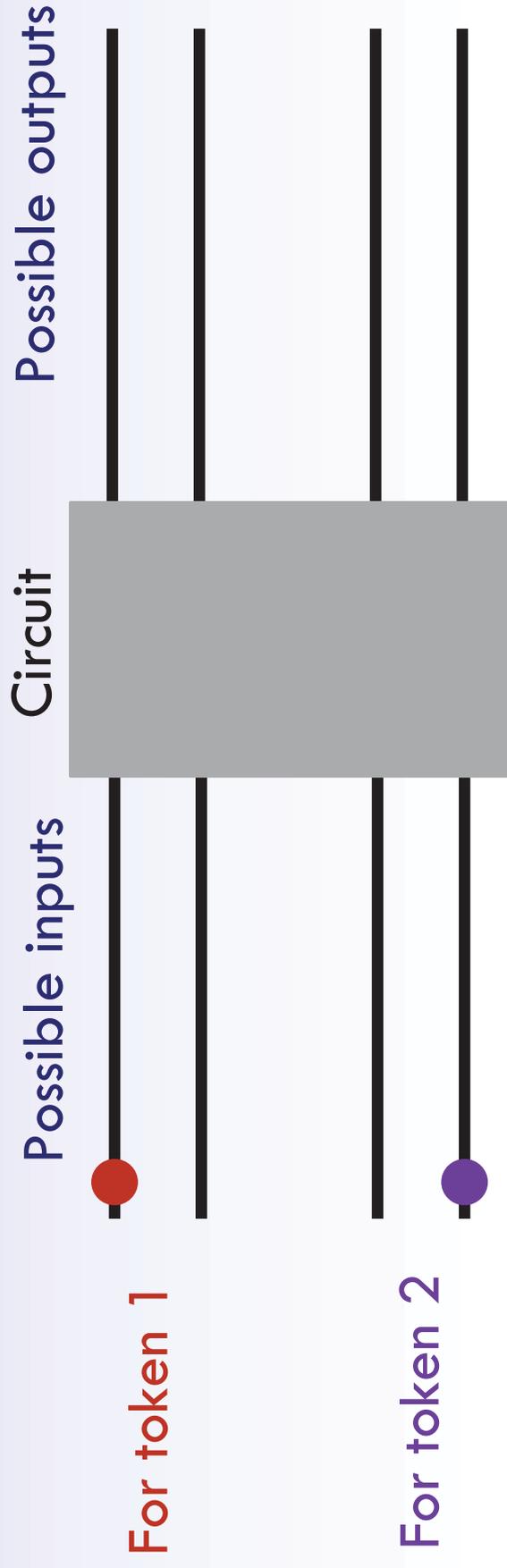
**Non-conventional
low power computing
using skyrmions:
(II) Token-based
Brownian Computing**

6. Token-based Brownian Computing - Basics

TOKEN-BASED COMPUTING FUNDAMENTALS

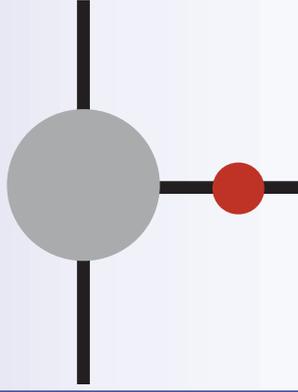
Token: Discrete signal carrier

Circuit: Network with special transition rules

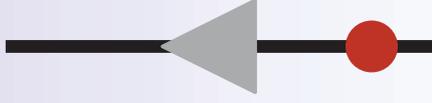


6. Token-based Brownian Computing – Circuit Components

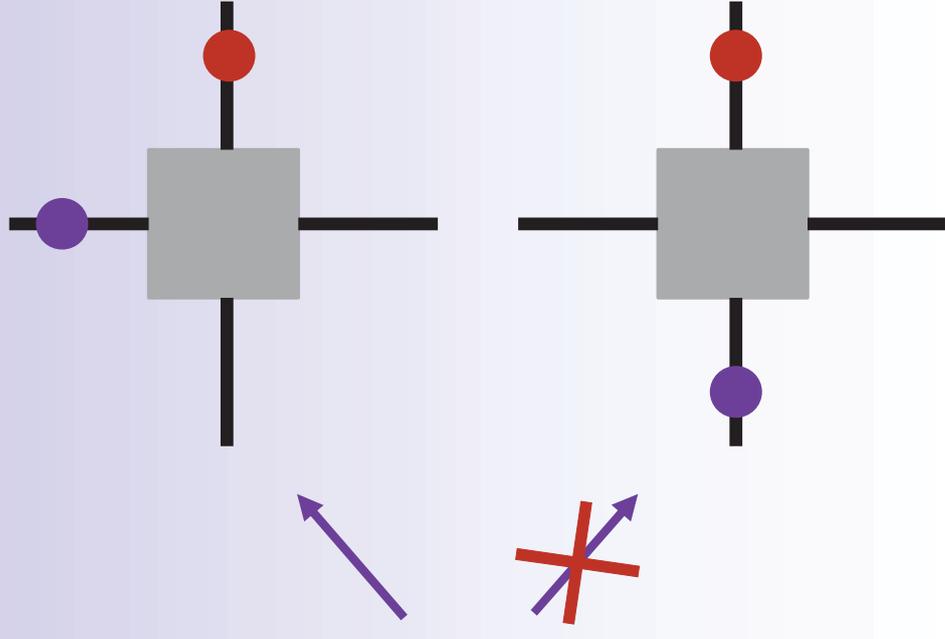
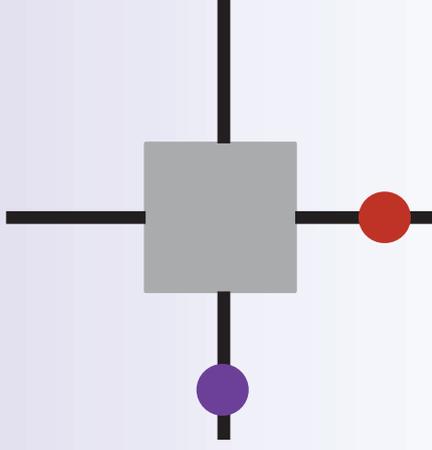
Hub



Ratchet



C-Join



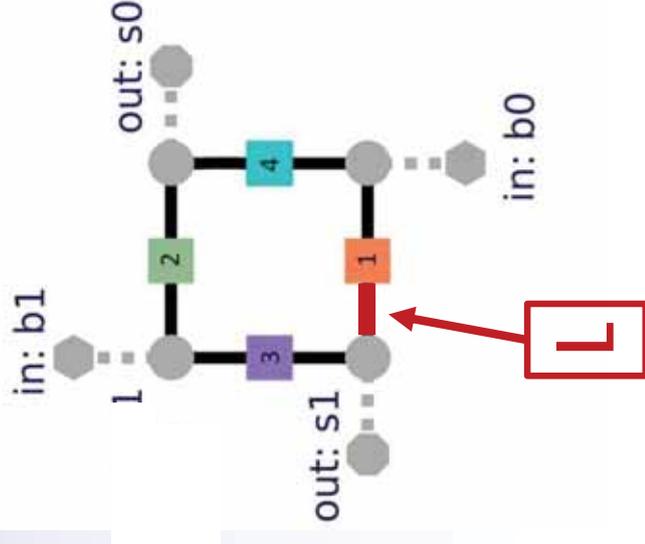
J. Lee, F. Peper, S. D. Cotofana, M. Naruse, M. Ohtsu,
 T. Kawazoe, Y. Takahashi, T. Shimokawa, L. B. Kish, T. Kubota,
 “Brownian circuits: Designs”, *Int. J. Unconv. Comput.* 12, 341-362 (2016)

6. Token-based Brownian Computing

COMPARISON IN REAL TIME

Layout	Condition	$L = 10 \mu\text{m}$	$L = 5 \mu\text{m}$
Crossing (thermal)	$T = 307.6 \text{ K}$	16 min	4 min

Using synthetic antiferromagnet: sub- μs operation!²



¹M. A. Brems, P. Virnau, M. Kläui,

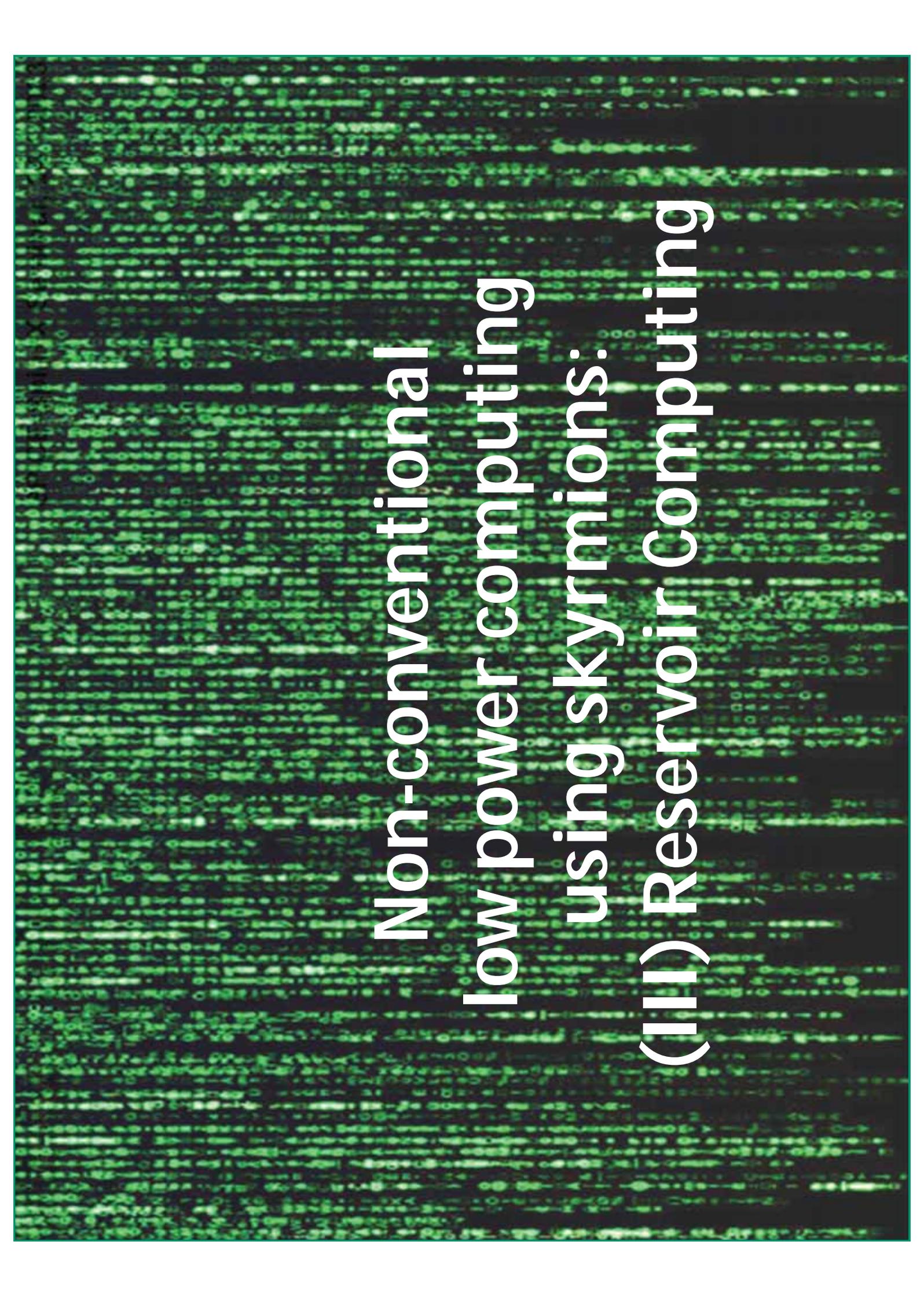
“Circuits and excitations to enable Brownian token-based computing with skyrmions”, Appl. Phys. Lett. 119, 132405 (2021)

M. A. Brems, P. Virnau, M. Kläui,

“Information processing apparatus”,

European patent disclosure, EP21164676.5 (2021)

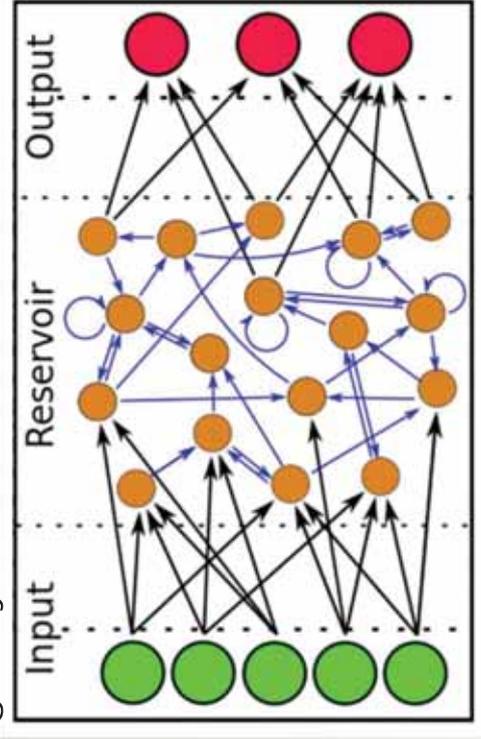
²T. Dohi, MK et al., Nature Comm. 14, 5424 (2023)



**Non-conventional
low power computing
using skyrmions:
(III) Reservoir Computing**

6. Reservoir Computing with Skyrmions

originally: artificial neural network with



recursive
neural network
feed forward
only

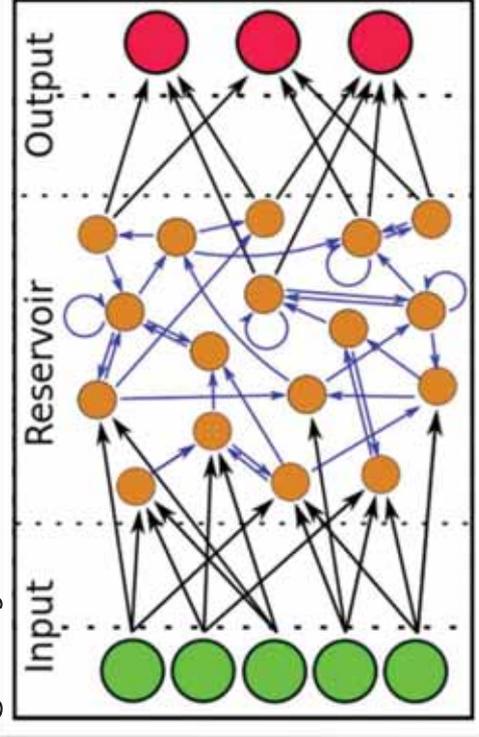
Goal: map a complex problem to a linearly solvable one

- **Network does not need tuning:** internal connections are fixed
- Only output connections are trained

RC bypasses training constraints

6. Reservoir Computing with Skyrmions

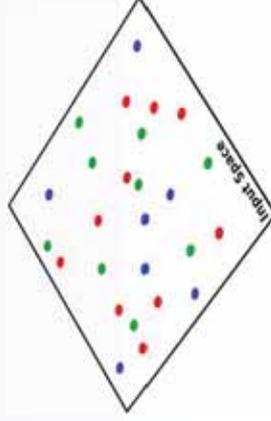
originally: artificial neural network with



Goal: map a complex problem to a linearly solvable one

Functionality:

Reservoir projects different spatial-temporal events into a sparsely populated high dimensional space where they become easier to recognise and categorise

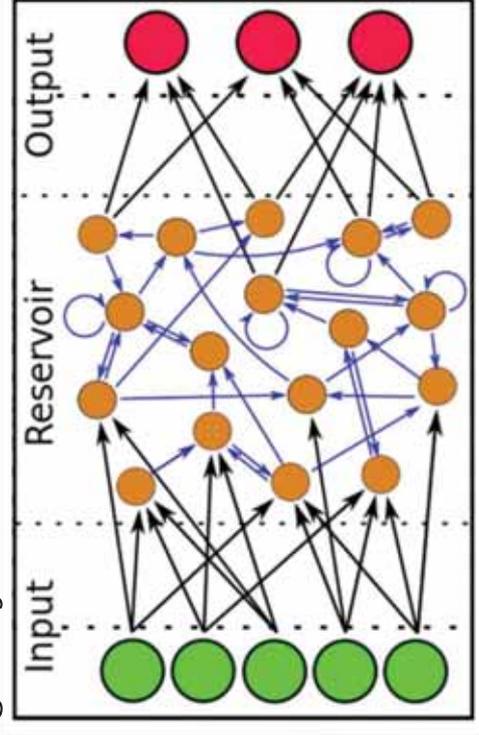


Courtesy Karin Everschor-Sitte

D. Pinna, et al., Phys. Rev. Appl. **14**, 054020 (2020)

6. Reservoir Computing with Skyrmions

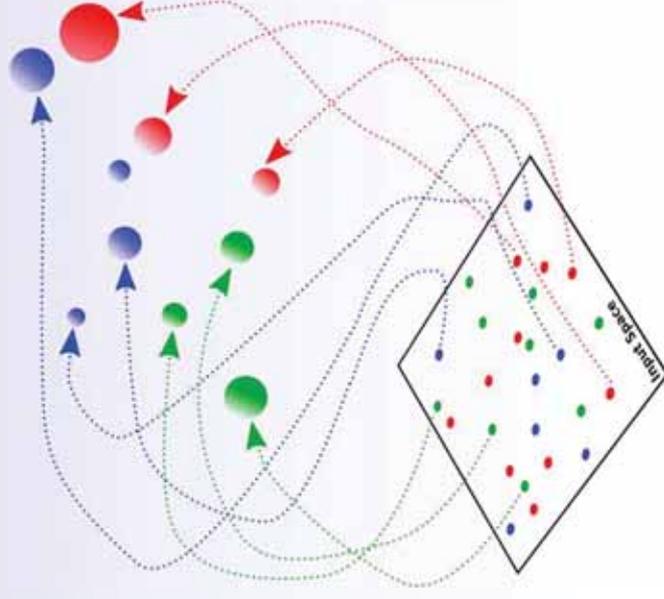
originally: artificial neural network with



Goal: map a complex problem to a linearly solvable one

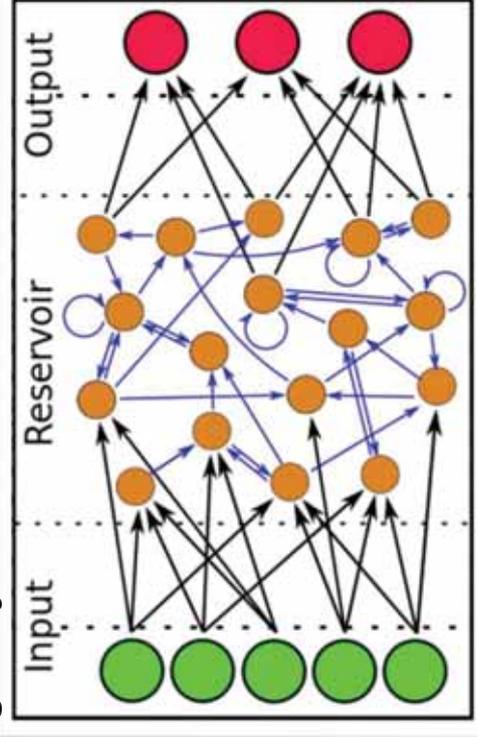
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6. Reservoir Computing with Skyrmions

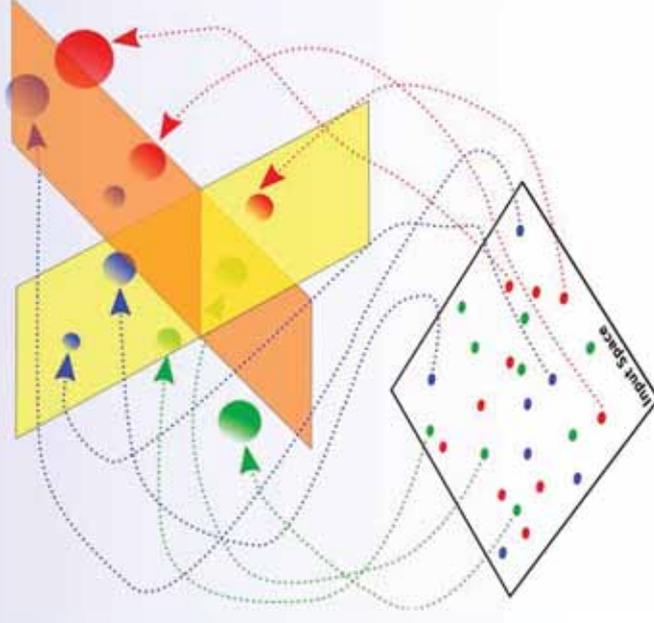
originally: artificial neural network with



Goal: map a complex problem to a linearly solvable one

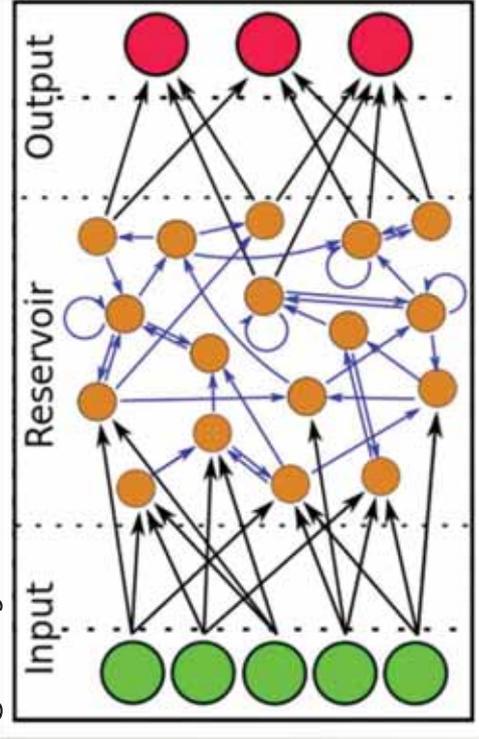
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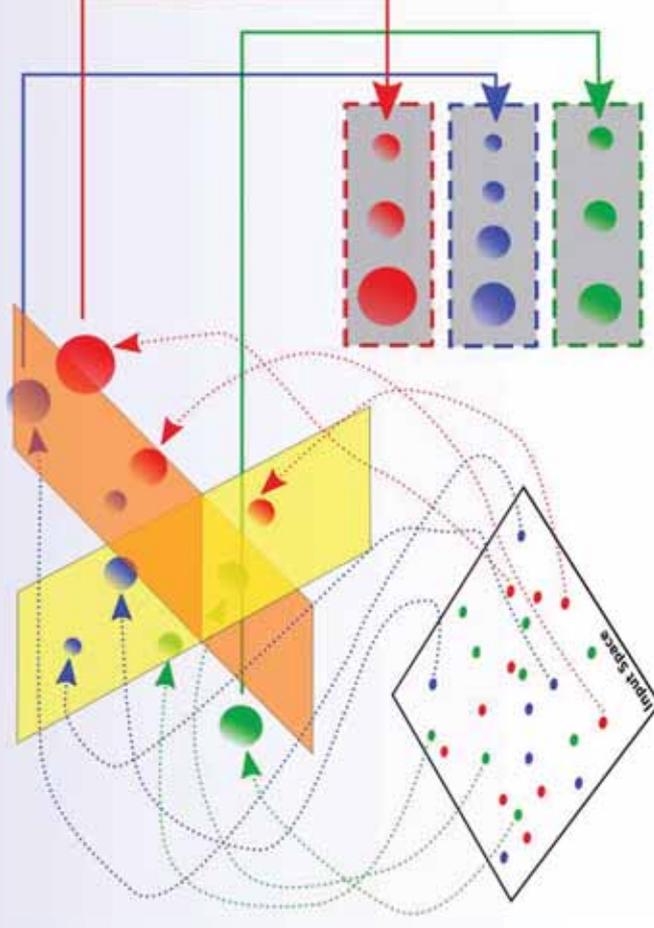
originally: artificial neural network with



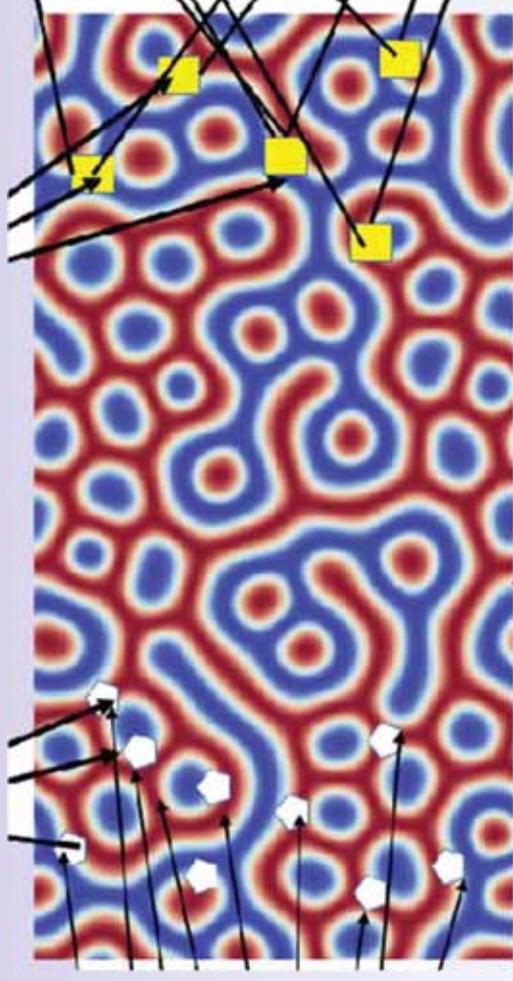
Goal: map a complex problem to a linearly solvable one

Functionality:

Reservoir projects different spatial-temporal events into a sparsely populated high dimensional space where they become easier to recognise and categorise



6. Reservoir Computing using Skyrmions



“skyrmion fabrics” as reservoir



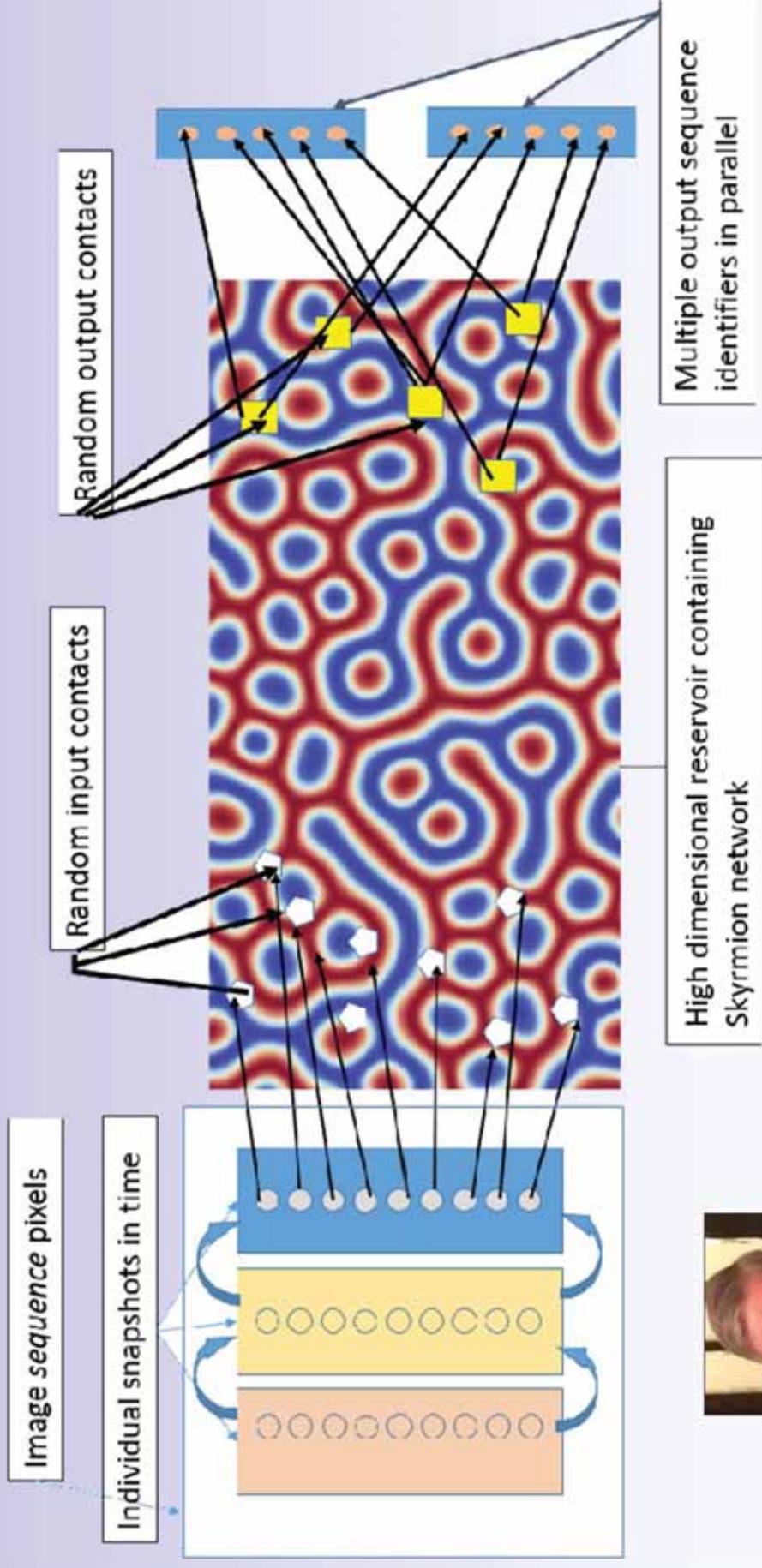
George Bourianoff



courtesy K. Everschor-Sitte

D. Prychynenko, MK et al., Phys. Rev. Appl. **9**, 14034 (2018)

6. Reservoir Computing using Skyrmions



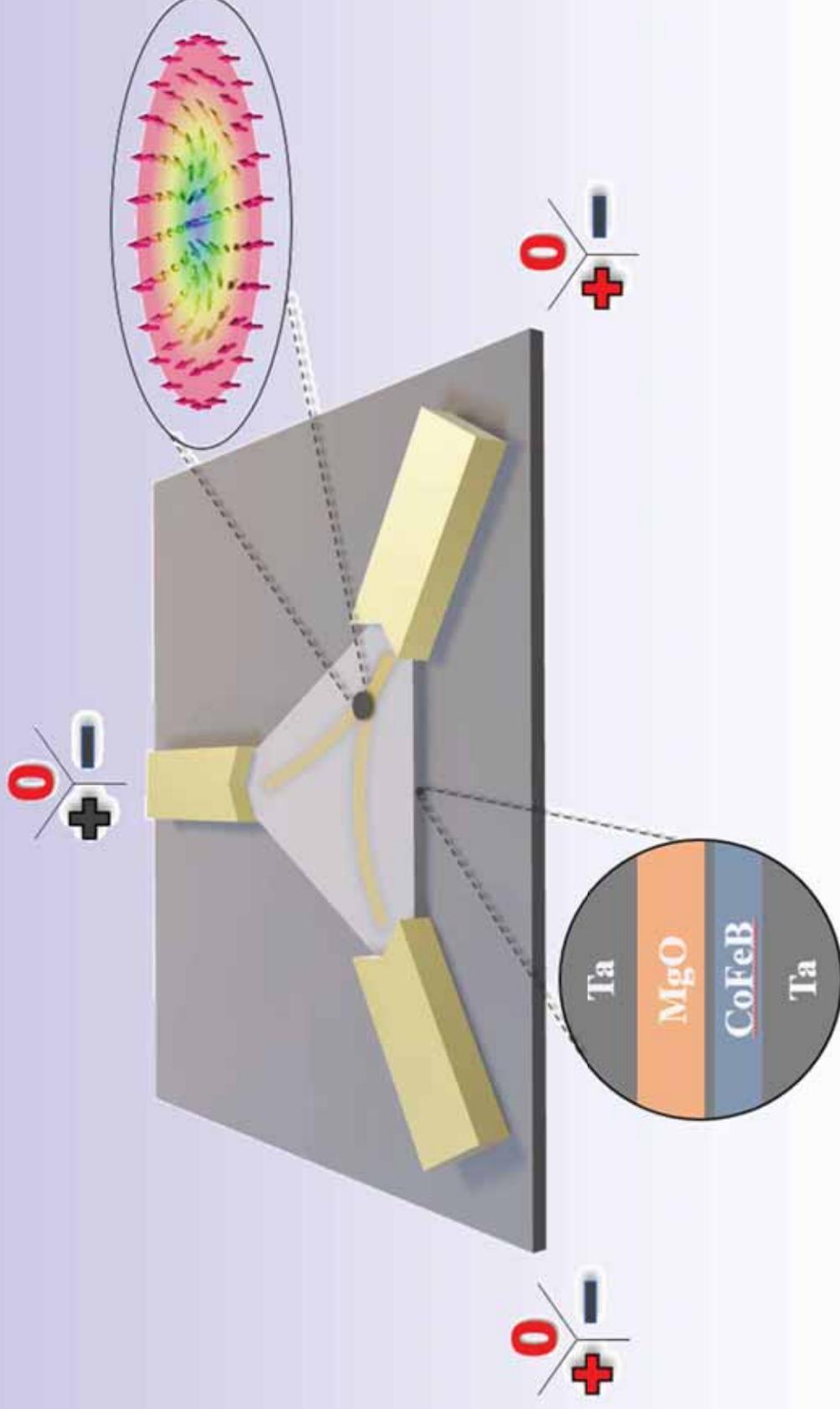
George Bourianoff



courtesy K. Everschor-Sitte

D. Prychynenko, MK et al., Phys. Rev. Appl. **9**, 14034 (2018)

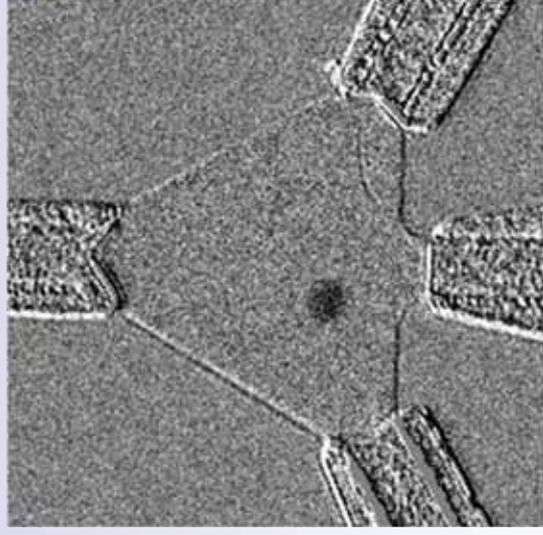
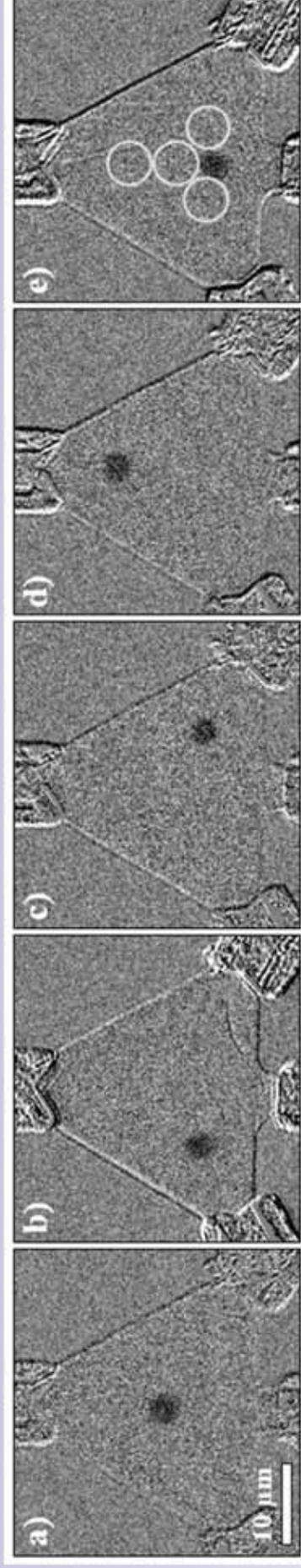
7. Realization of spatial multiplexing reservoir computing



K. Raab, MK et al., Nature Comm. **13**, 6982 (2022)

- Analysis of dynamics of skyrmions in a confined geometry with additional **input currents** → aim to learn input current combinations from skyrmion positions.

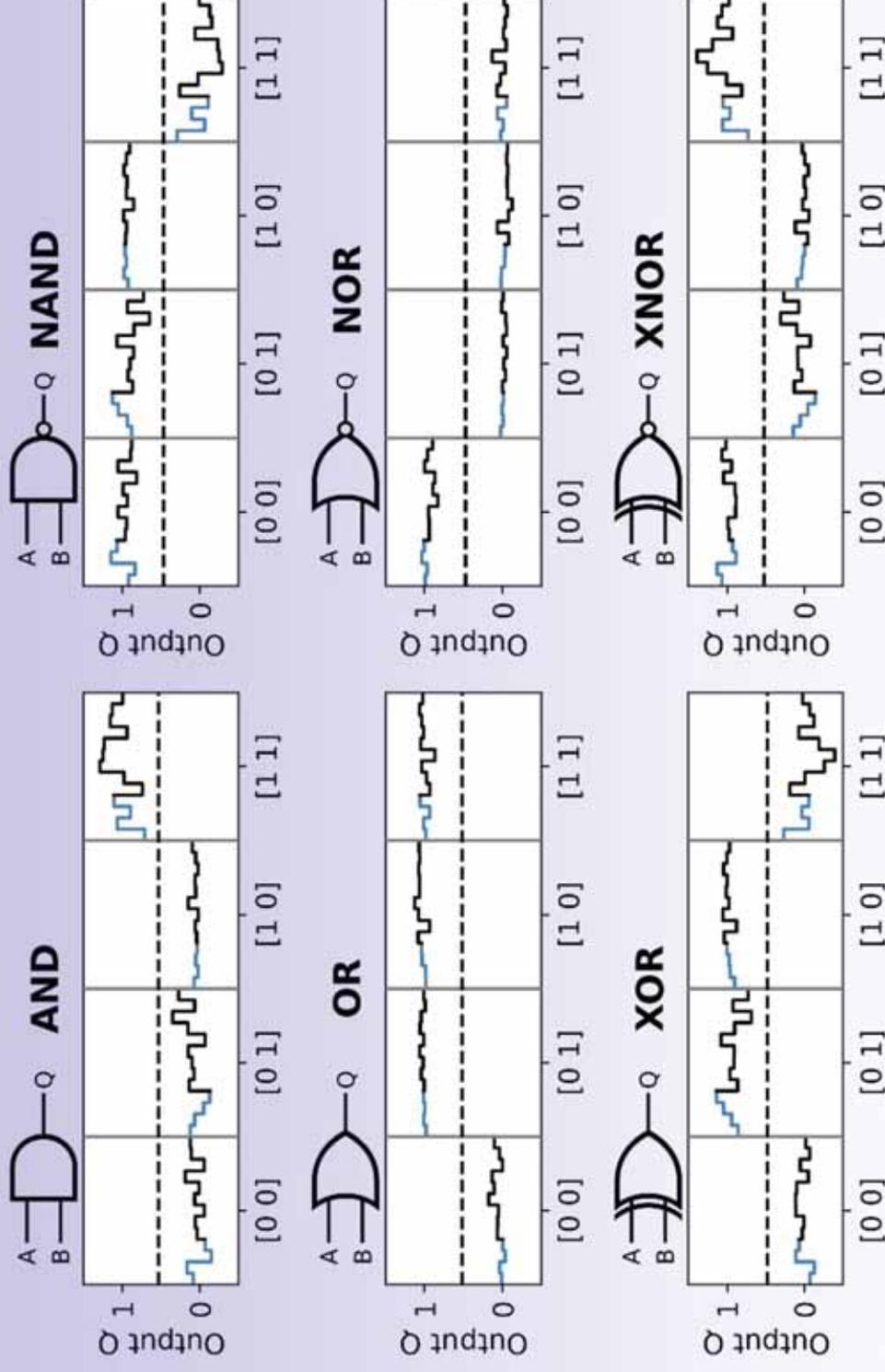
7. Realization of spatial multiplexing reservoir computing



K. Raab, MK et al., Nature Comm. **13**, 6982 (2022)

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7. Realization of spatial multiplexing reservoir computing



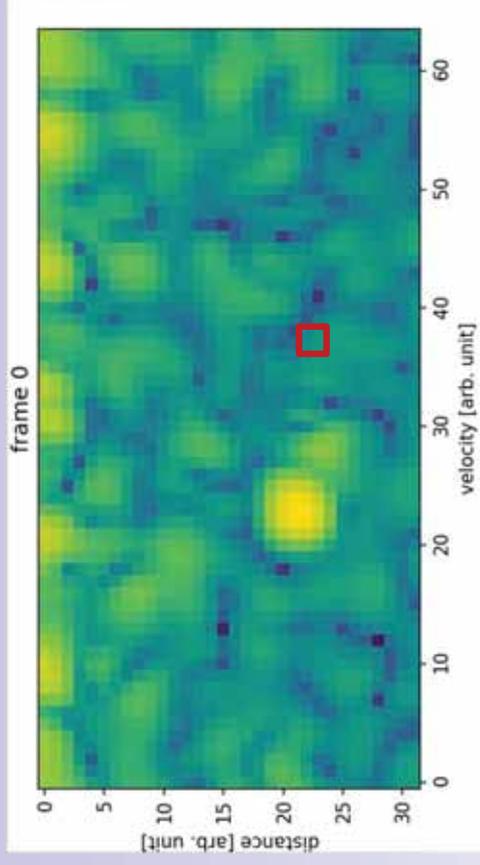
K. Raab, MK et al.,
Nature Comm. 13,
6982 (2022)

← Non-separable
functions
(outperforming
simple perceptron)

Analysis of Output $Q = W_{left}P_{left} + W_{right}P_{right} + W_{top}P_{top} + W_{middle}P_{middle} + W_{intercept}$

- Outputs of the linear read-out optimized for different Boolean operations.
- For each input combination [A B] the output Q of the linear read-out is shown for sets of local skyrmion occurrence probabilities. Light blue: training sets; Black: sets used for testing
- Dashed horizontal line indicates a possible threshold for perceptron read-out.

7. Realization of time-multiplexed reservoir computing



Gesture Name



push



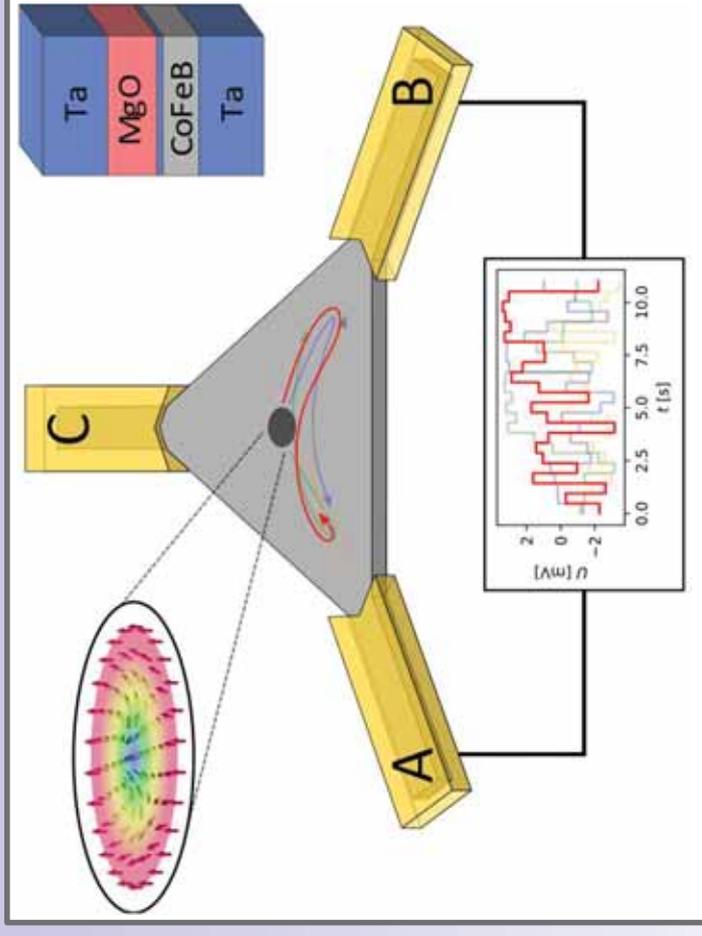
swipe left



swipe right



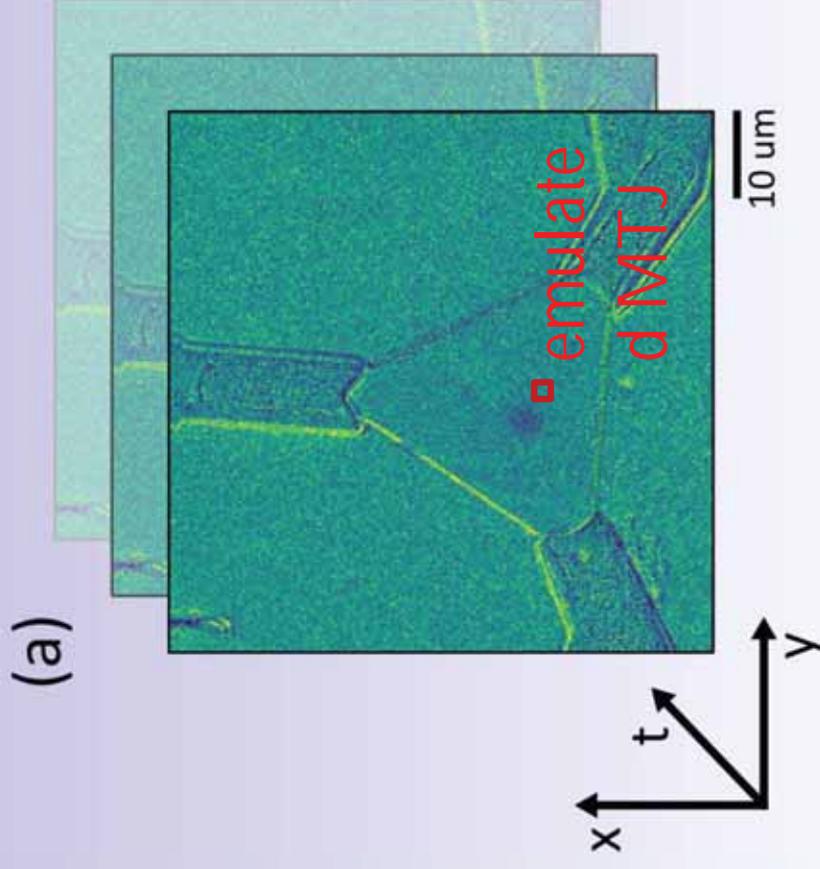
no gesture



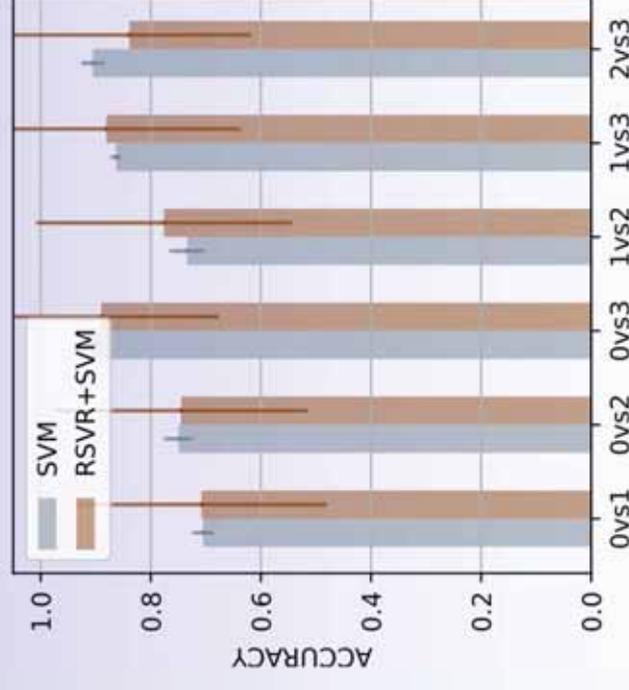
G. Beneke, MK et al., (submitted)

- Distinguish different hand gestures using reservoir computing
- Conversion of radar data to time dependent voltage and feeding into reservoir
- Observation of time dependent skyrmion position

7. Realization of time-multiplexed reservoir computing



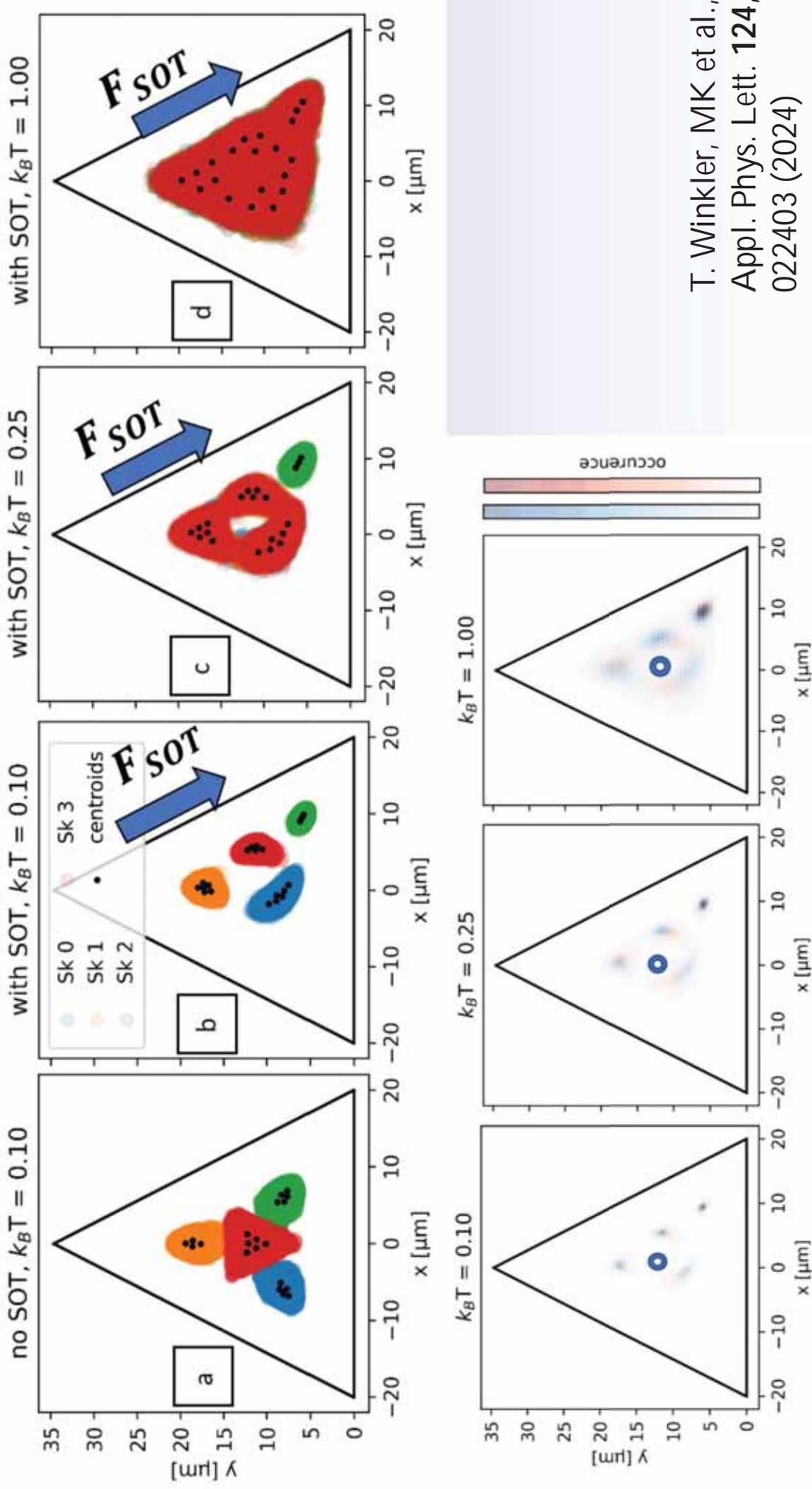
Gesture	Number	Name
	0	push
	1	swipe left
	2	swipe right
X	3	no gesture



G. Beneke, MK et al., (submitted)

- Conversion of MOKE video to magnetic tunnel junction (MTJ) signal
- Learn linear support vector machine on MTJ signal
- Reservoir (RSVR) delivers competitive results compared to state-of-the-art support vector machine (SVM)

8. Coarse graining



T. Winkler, MK et al.,
Appl. Phys. Lett. **124**,
022403 (2024)

- Study different positions of 4 skyrmions in a triangle with current injection.
- Use different analysis methods including PCA and generalized Peron cluster analysis (GPCCA), which uses Schur decomposition techniques to coarse-grain the system.

Thanks!

1. Great people@JGU

M. Bhukta, F. Kammerbauer, N. Kerber
K. Raab, A. Lucia, M. Syskaki, S. Krishnia
R. Gruber, M. Brems, S. Ding, A. Bose,
J. Rothörl, T. Winkler, R. Gupta, O. Ledsm
T. Sparmann, G. Beneke, T. Saunderson,
K. Leutner, P. Virnau, R. Frömter, M. Jourdan, G. Jakob & many former group members!



European Research Council Grant 3D MAGiC, ADI, Infineon, Spin
Stanford-Tohoku-Mainz SpinNet, TopDyn Centre, MagSens



Summary:

Interested in the slides? Interested in joining us?

We have open PhD and Postdoc positions

Send me an email: klaeui@uni-mainz.de

- **DMI stabi**

fined topology: pinning at domain walls

Nature Mater. **15**, 501 (2016); Nature Mater. **18**, 703 (2019); Nano Lett. **23**, 7070 (2023); Nature Com. **11**, 6304 (2020); Nature Com. **13**, 3144 (2022);

- **Skymion motion due to spin-orbit &**

orbital torques → Skymion Hall Angle

Nature Physics **13**, 170 (2017); Nature Electron. **3**, 30 (2020); Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 177201 ('20); Phys. Rev. Lett. **128**, 067201 ('22)

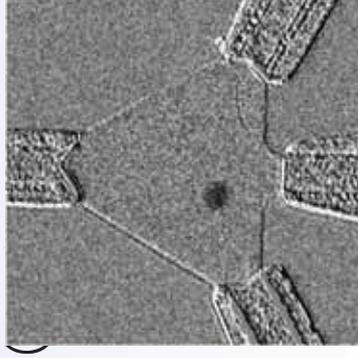
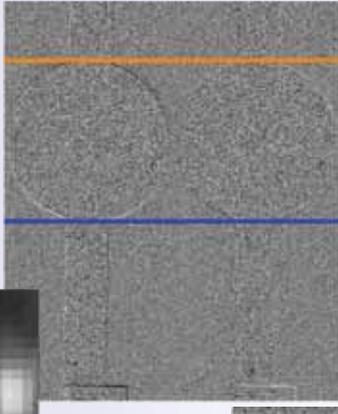
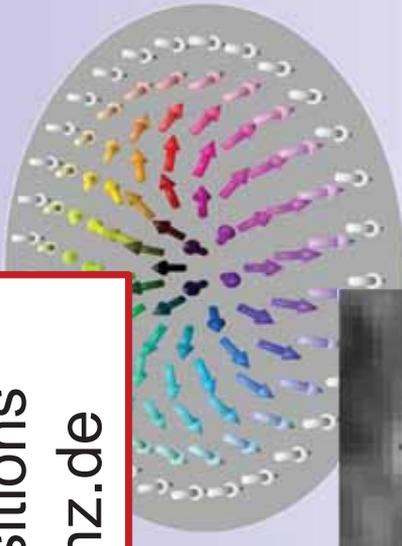
- **Thermally induced diffusion (in sAFMs!) used**

for probabilistic logic Comm. Phys. **6**, 30 (2023); Adv. Mater. **35**, 2208922 (2023), Nat. Com. **14**, 5424 (2023); Nat. Nano. **14**, 658 (PRAppl. **21**, 014014 (2024); APL **124**, 022403 (2024)

- **Low power Token-based Brownian**

Computing and Reservoir Computing

Nature Nano. **15**, 726 (2020); PRAppl. **9**, 14034 (2018); APL **119**, 132405 (2021); Nature Com. **13**, 6982 (2022)



Reviews on Skyrmions: Ann. Rev. Cond. Mat. Phys. **13**, 73 (2022); JAP **124**, 240901 (2018); J. Phys. D:Appl. Phys. **49**, 423001 (2016); Orbital Torques: D. Go, MK et al., EPL **135**, 37001 (2021)