

# High Frequency Electron Spin Resonance Spectroscopy Today and Tomorrow

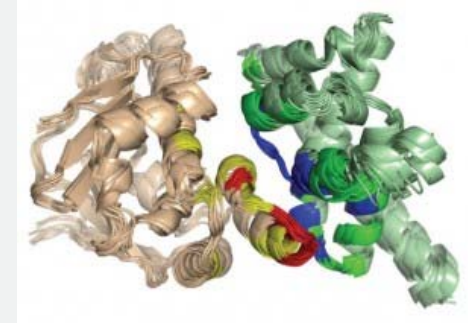


**Petr NEUGEBAUER**  
petr.Neugebauer@ceitec.vutbr.cz

# Nobel Prizes in Magnetic Resonance

## Nobel Prizes Directly Related to MR

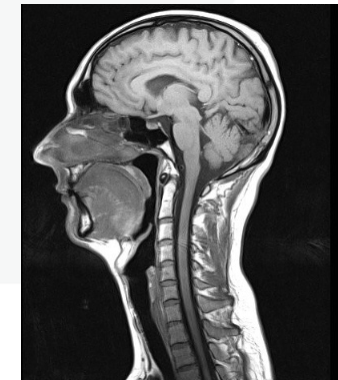
Name	Year	Category	Description
Paul C. Lauterbur	2003	Medicine	“For their discoveries concerning magnetic resonance imaging”
Sir Peter Mansfield	2003	Medicine	“For their discoveries concerning magnetic resonance imaging”
Kurt Wüthrich	2002	Chemistry	“For his development of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy for determining the three-dimensional structure of biological macromolecules in solution”
Richard R. Ernst	1991	Chemistry	“For his contributions to the development of the methodology of high resolution nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy”
Felix Bloch	1952	Physics	“For their development of new methods for nuclear magnetic precision measurements and discoveries in connection therewith”
Edward Mills Purcell	1952	Physics	“For their development of new methods for nuclear magnetic precision measurements and discoveries in connection therewith”
Isidor Isaac Rabi	1944	Physics	“For his resonance method for recording the magnetic properties of atomic nuclei”



10

## Nobel Prizes in Other Fields, Awarded to Individuals Who Also Contributed to the Development of MR

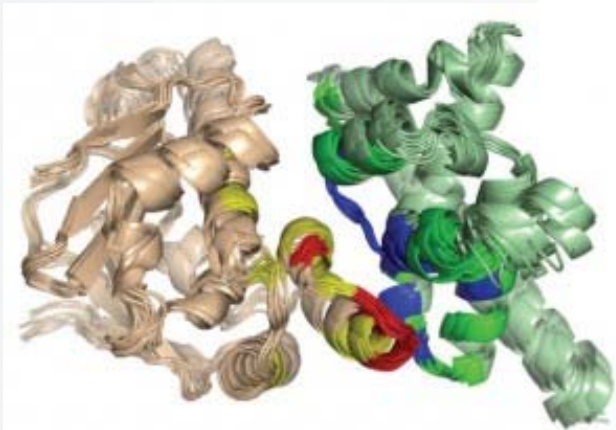
Name	Year	Category	Description
Norman F. Ramsey	1989	Physics	“For the invention of the separated oscillatory fields method and its use in the hydrogen maser and other atomic clocks”
Hans G. Dehmelt	1989	Physics	“For the development of the ion trap technique”
K. Alexander Müller	1987	Physics	“For their important break-through in the discovery of superconductivity in ceramic materials”
Nicolaas Bloembergen	1981	Physics	“For their contribution to the development of laser spectroscopy”
John H. Van Vleck	1977	Physics	“For their fundamental theoretical investigations of the electronic structure of magnetic and disordered systems”
Alfred Kastler	1966	Physics	“Optical methods for studying Hertzian resonances”



# Motivation – Why is so?

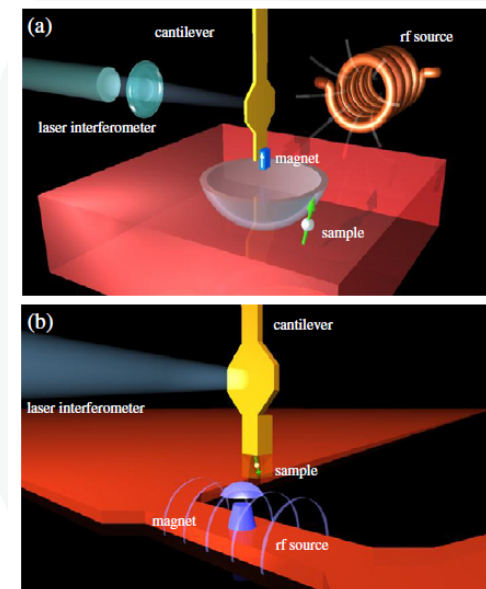
- Non invasive and not ionizing beam
- Dynamics and structure determination of biological relevant complexes (in X-ray only crystalized systems can be measured)

Determination of Structure, Function and Dynamics of Large Molecular objects



Magnetic Resonance Imaging

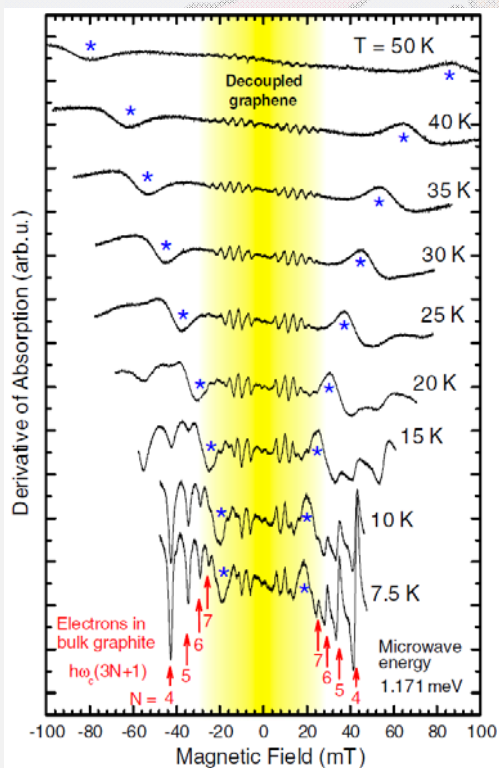
## Detection of Single Spin



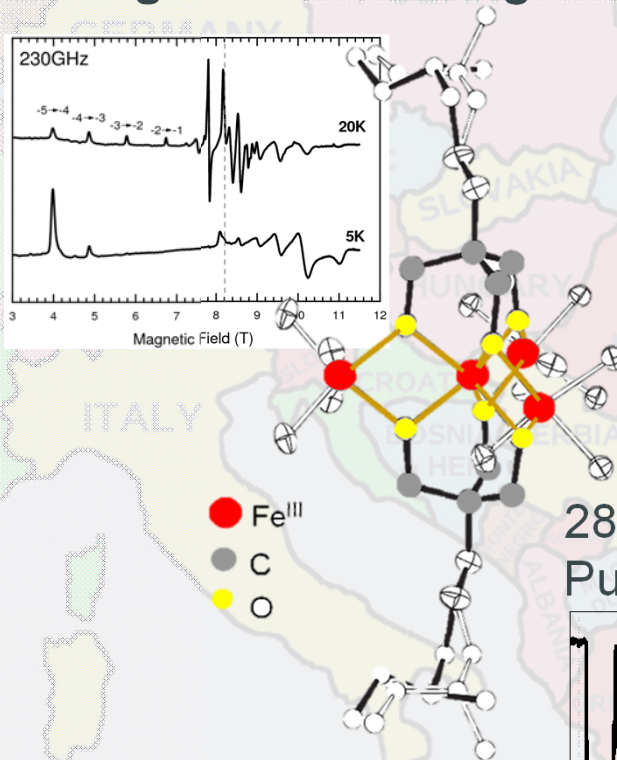
# PhD topic

## Development of Heterodyne High Field / High Frequency Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Spectrometer at 285 GHz

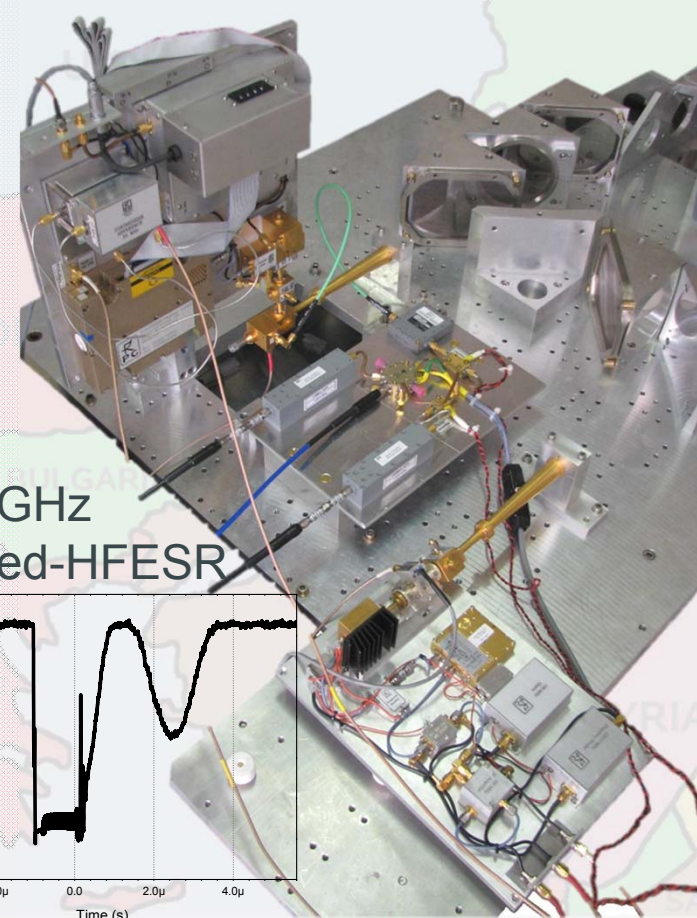
### Graphene



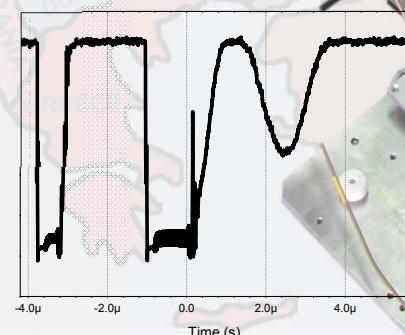
### Single Molecule Magnets



### HFESR Development



### 285 GHz Pulsed-HFESR

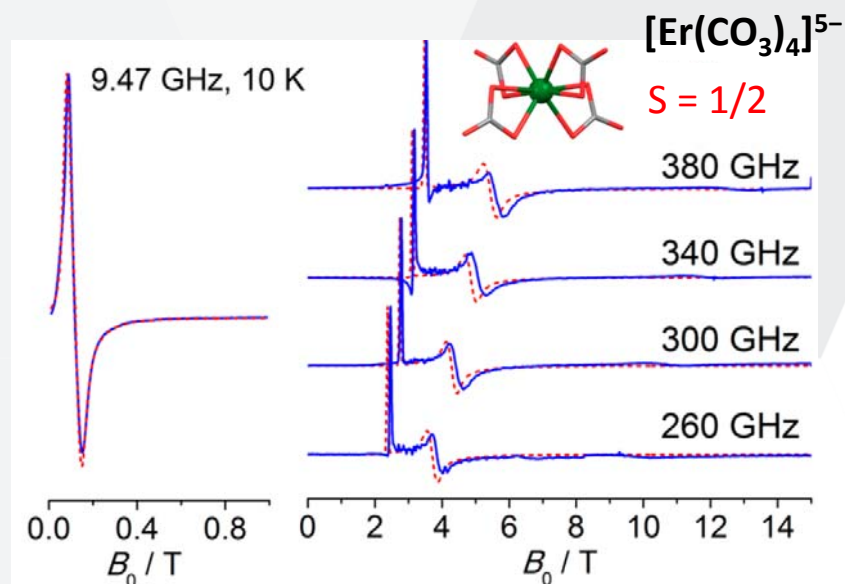


- Observation of the highest electron mobility ever demonstrated ( $10^7 \text{ V cm}^{-2}$ ) in graphene!

*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 101, 267601 (2008); *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 103, 136403 (2009) *Chem. Eur. J.*, 15, 6456 – 6467 (2009); *Appl. Magn. Reson.* 37, 833 (2010); *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 108, 017602 (2012); unpublished

## ESR

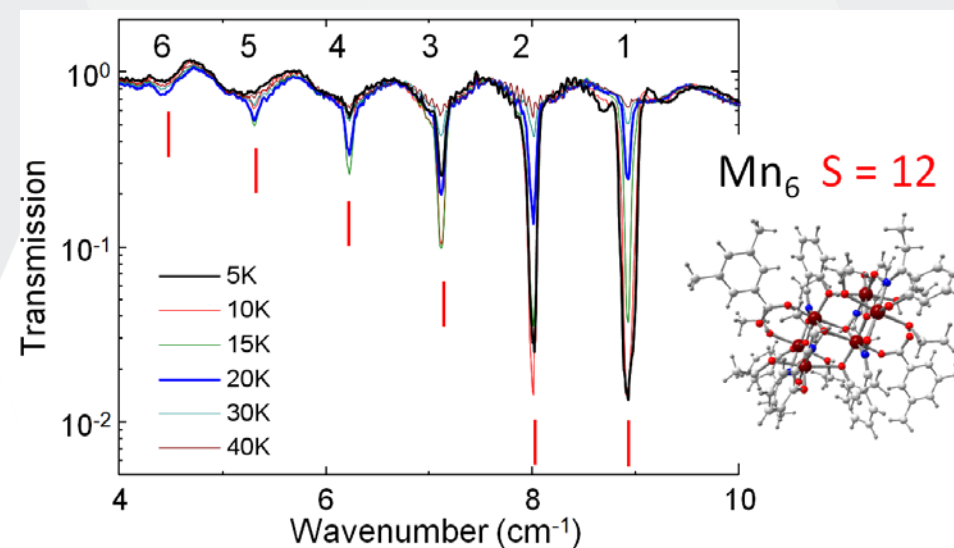
Field necessary:  $H \neq 0$ .



Y. Rechkemmer, P.N. et al. *JACS* **2016**

## FDMR

No field necessary:  $H = 0$ .



Van Slageren, Carretta, Guidi et al. *PRL* **2008**; *PRB* **2010**.

## HFESR:

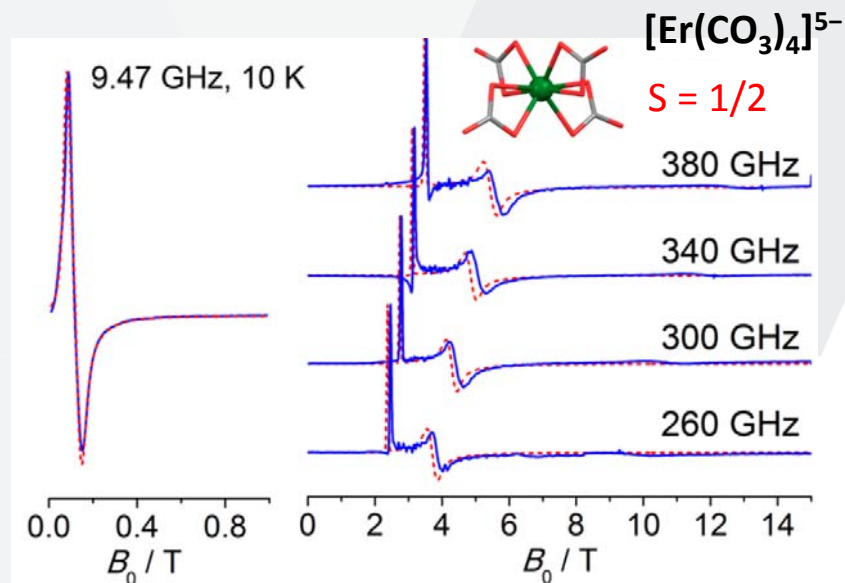
- Very powerful tool in molecular magnetism, biology, structure determination and spin dynamics

## Advantages of FDMR:

- Convenient – *spectrum is recorded as a function of energy (frequency)*
- No influence on the sample by changing high magnetic field - *no higher order field terms*
- Fast – *recording takes less than a minute*

## ESR

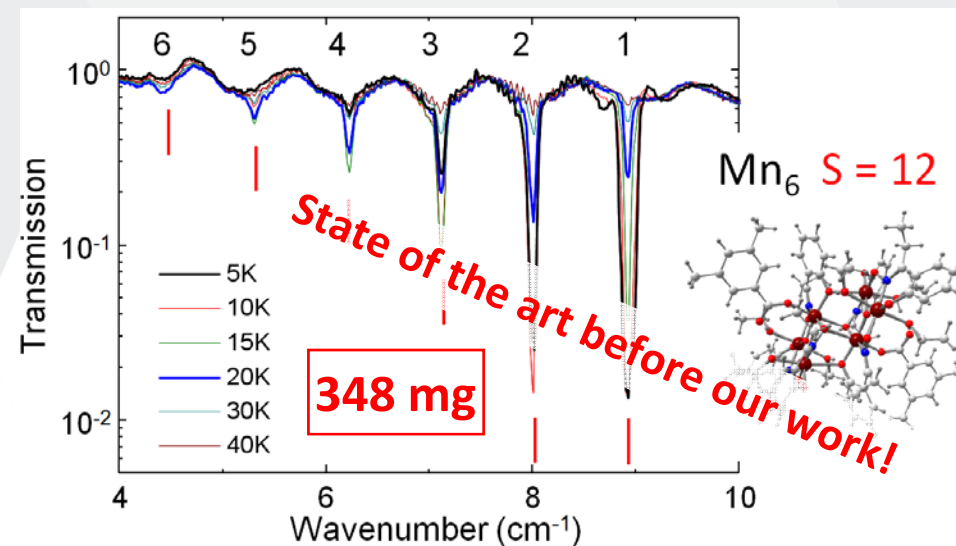
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Y. Rechkemmer, P.N. et al. *JACS* 2016

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Van Slageren, Carretta, Guidi et al. *PRL* 2008; *PRB* 2010.

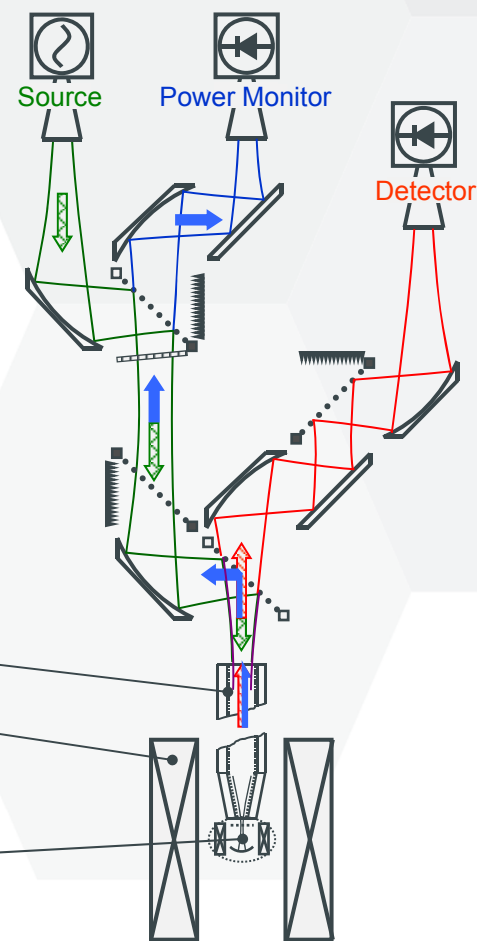
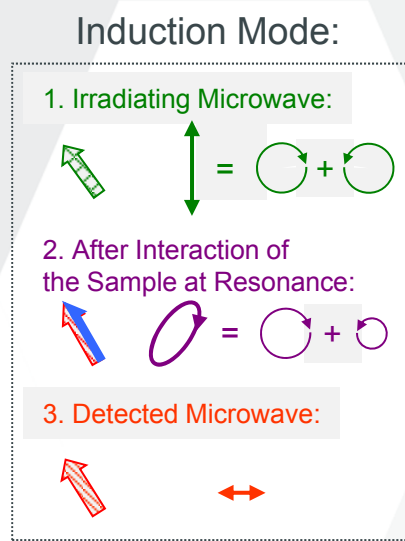
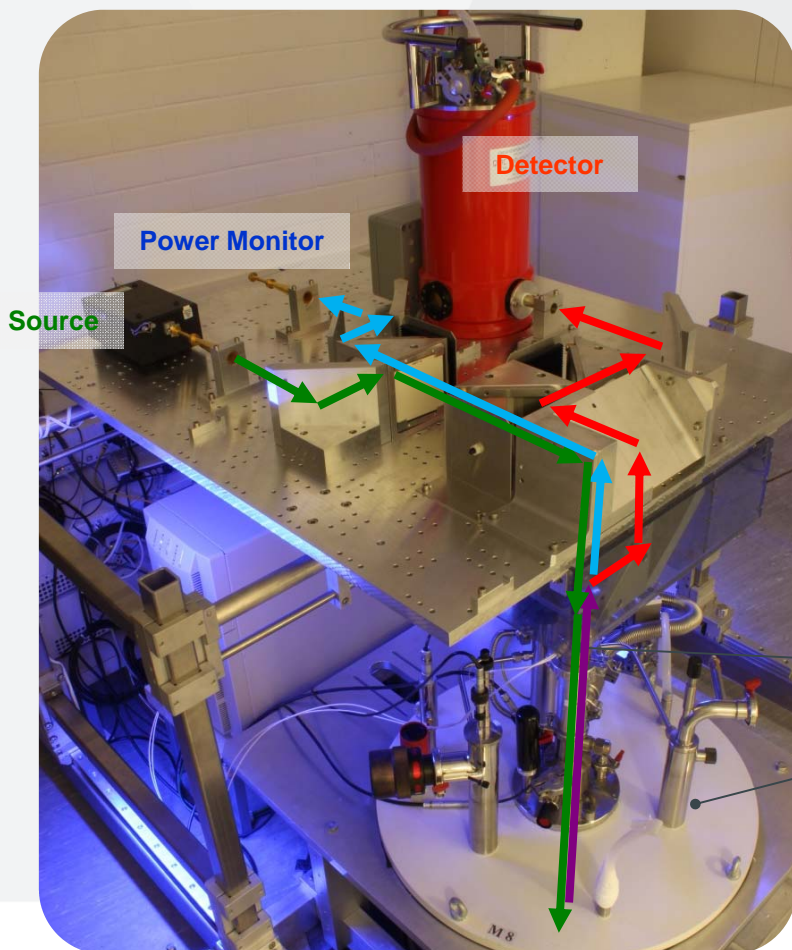
## HFESR:

- Very powerful tool in molecular magnetism, biology, structure determination and spin dynamics

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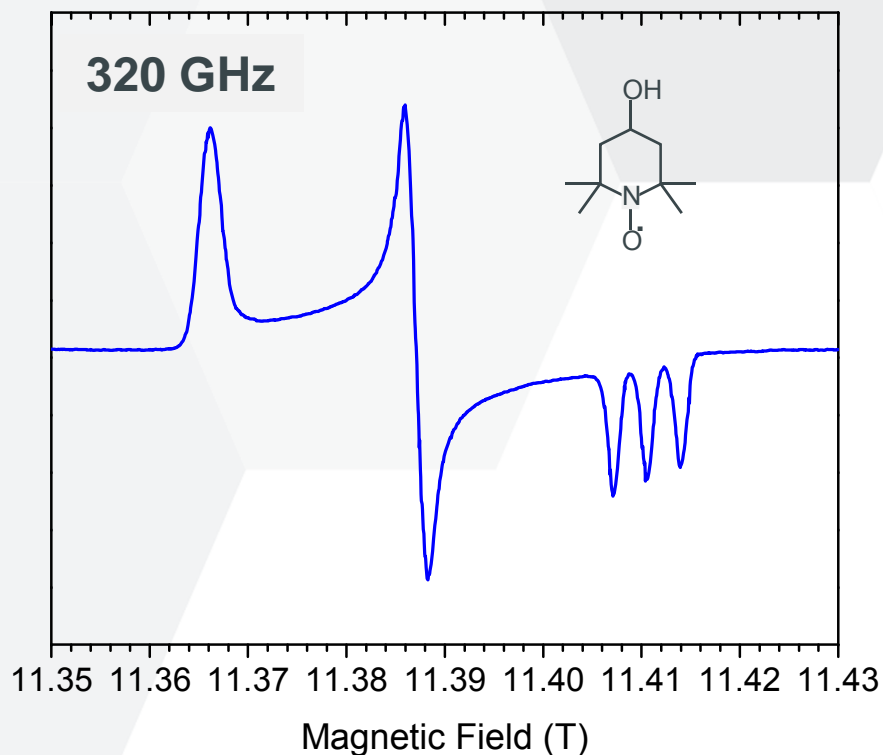
# Combine HFEPR and FDMR



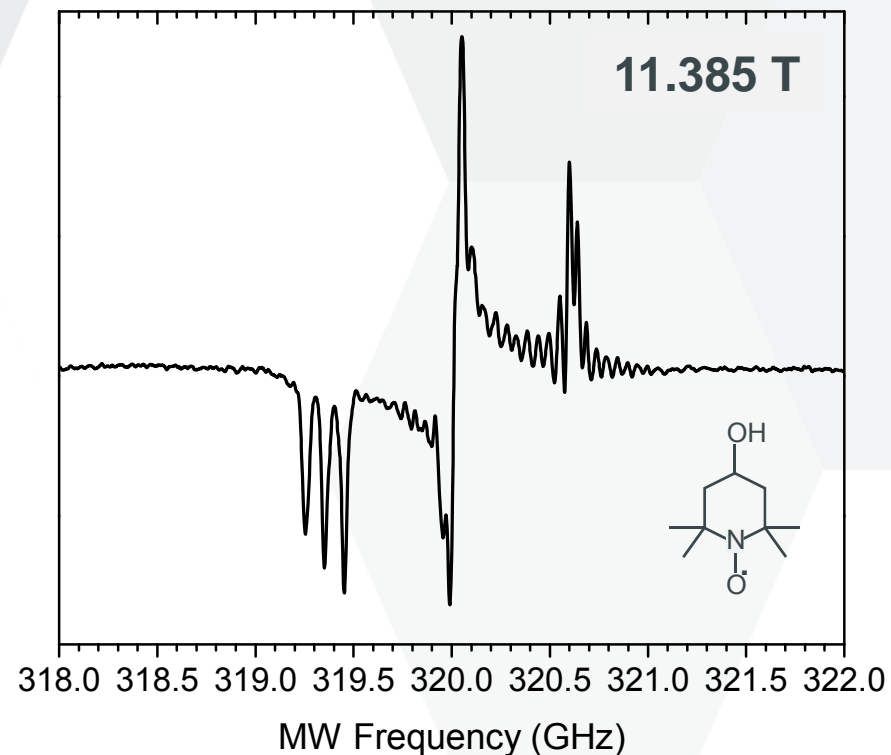
Corrugated Waveguide  
 Superconducting Magnet 15(17) T  
 Sample Holder in VT1 1.8-300K

# Combine HF-EPR and FDMR

**100  $\mu\text{M}$**   $^{14}\text{N}$ -TEMPO in polystyrene  
60 K, **1 mg**,  $\sim 10^{15}$  spins



**EPR**

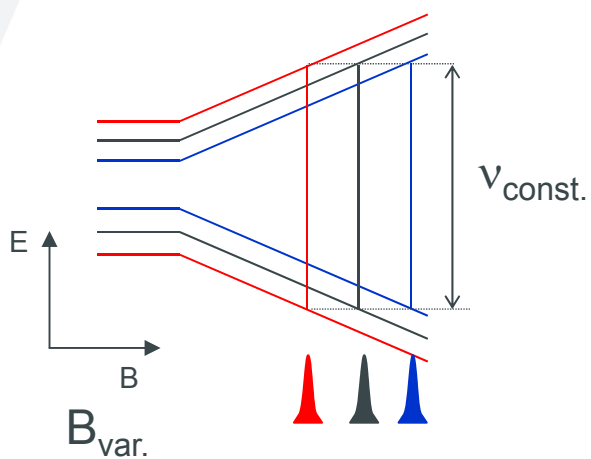
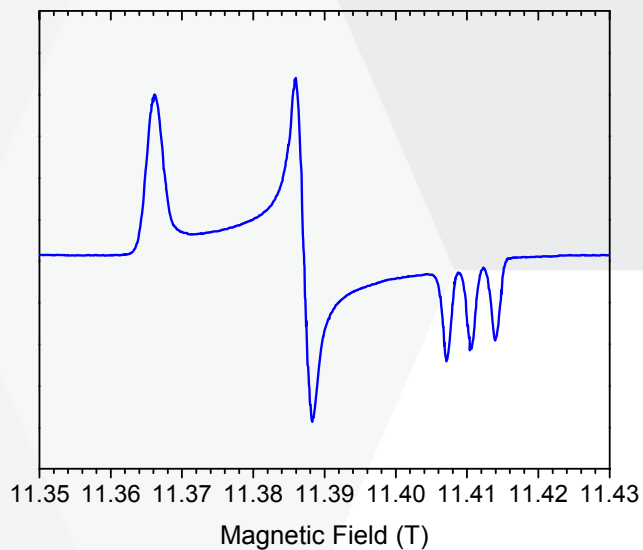


**FDMR**

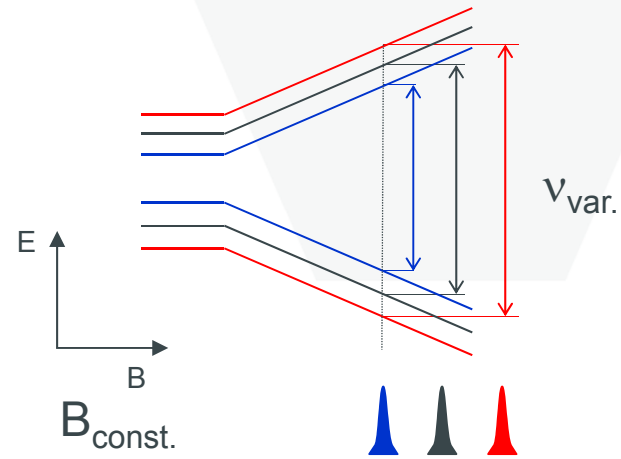
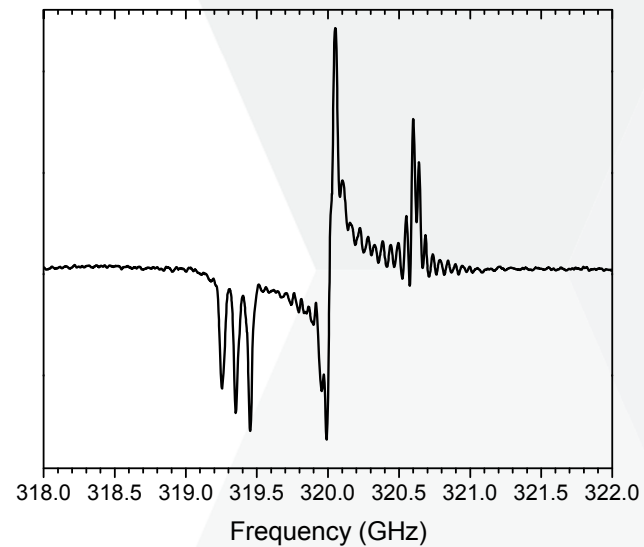


# Combine HF-EPR and FDMR

## EPR

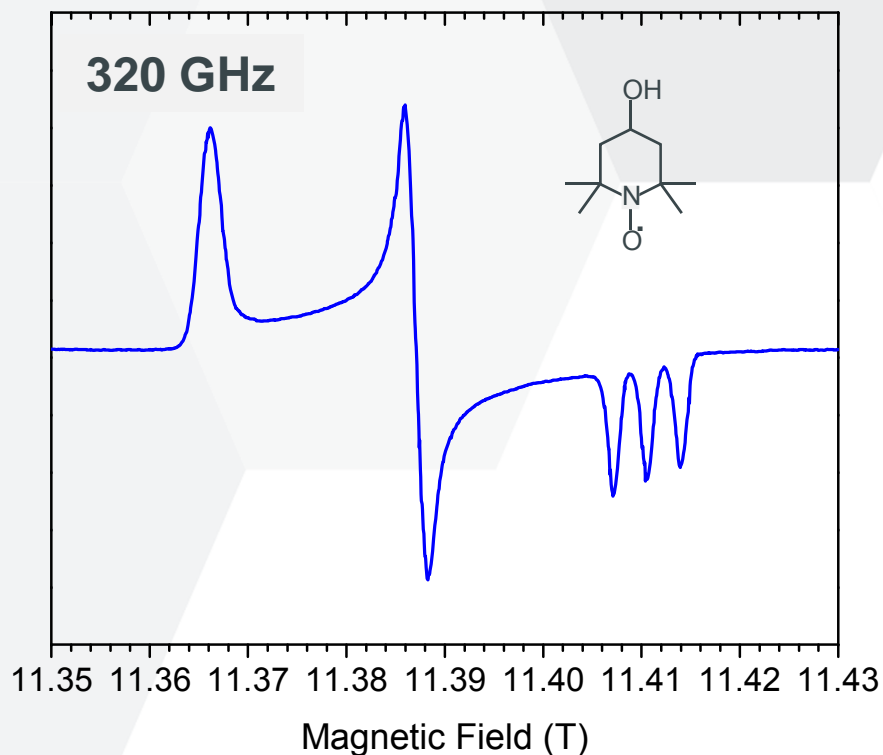


## FDMR

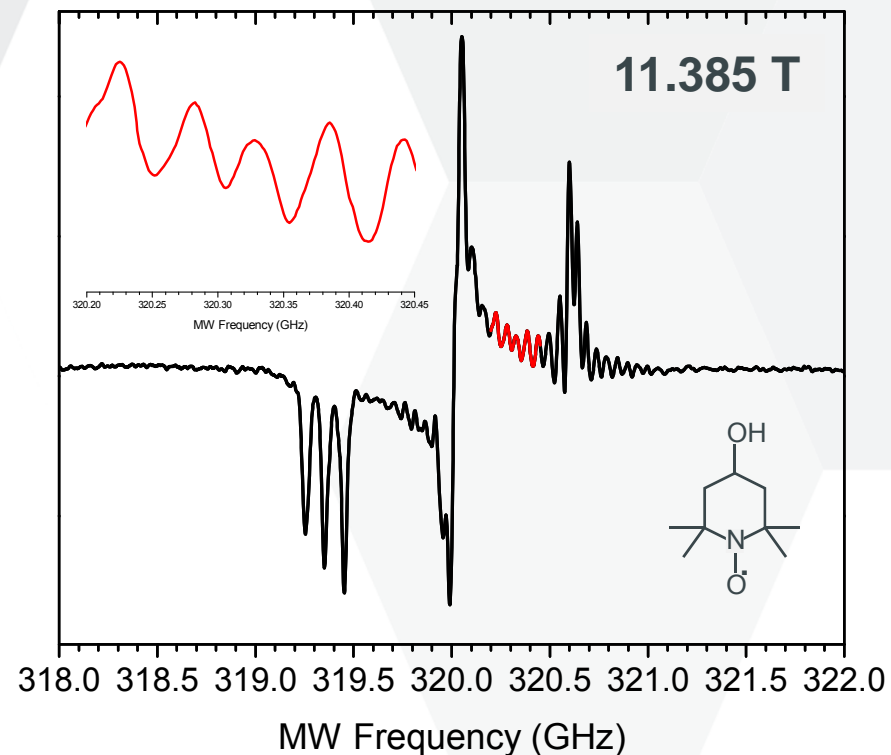


# Combine HF-EPR and FDMR

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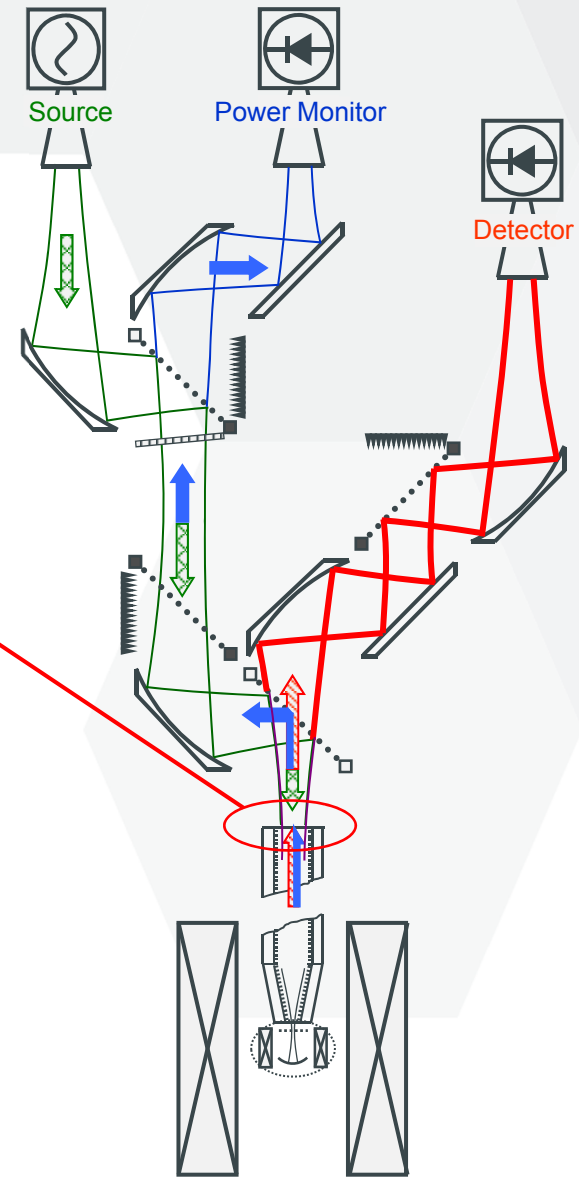
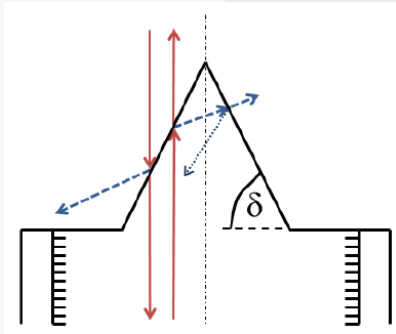
**EPR**



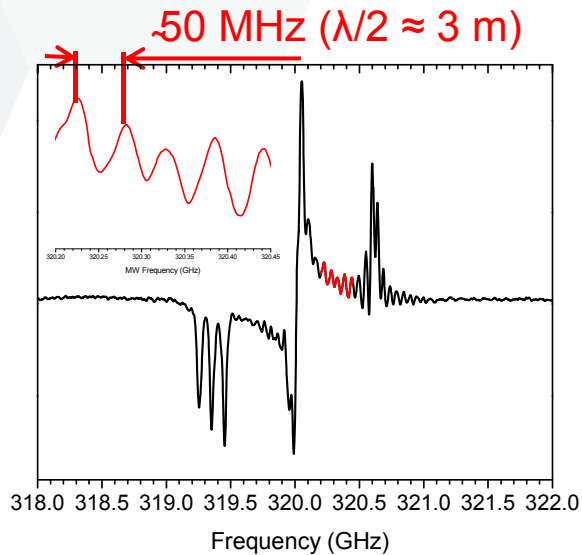
**FDMR**

# Standing Waves

- Off axial quasi-optical components
- Elimination of standing waves in a probe:



- Standing waves between sample and detector

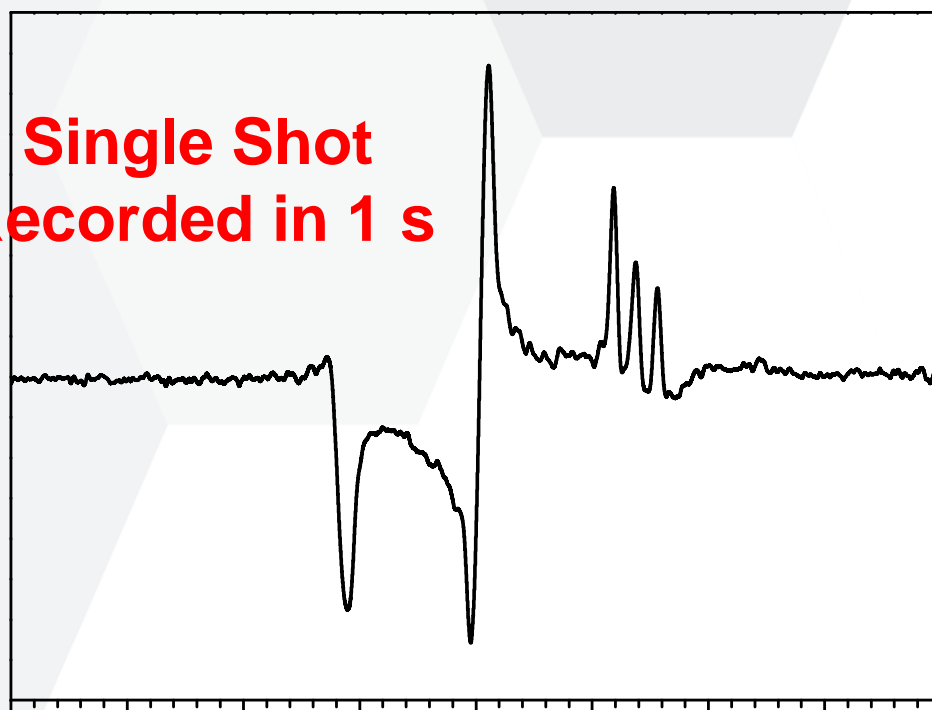


# Standing Waves

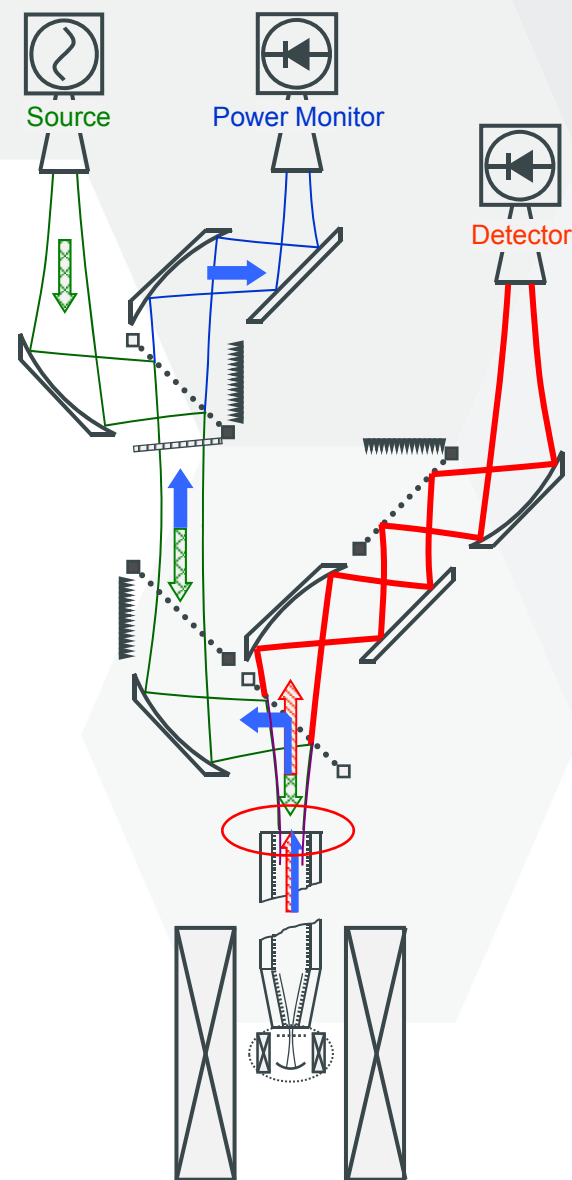
Implementation of 2nd quasi optical isolator

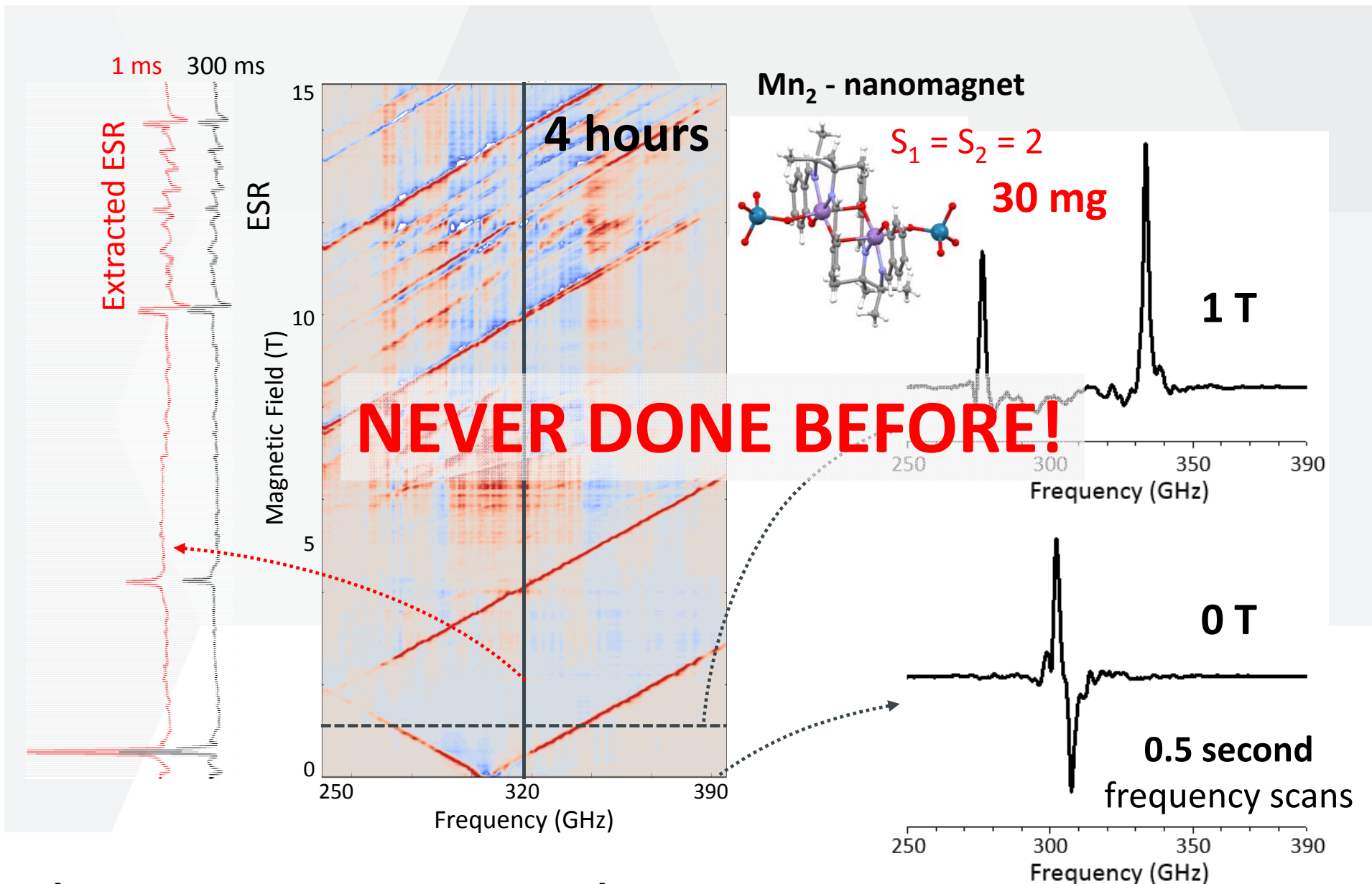
**100  $\mu\text{M}$**   $^{14}\text{N}$ -TEMPO in polystyrene  
60 K, **1 mg**,  $\sim 10^{15}$  spins

**Single Shot  
Recorded in 1 s**



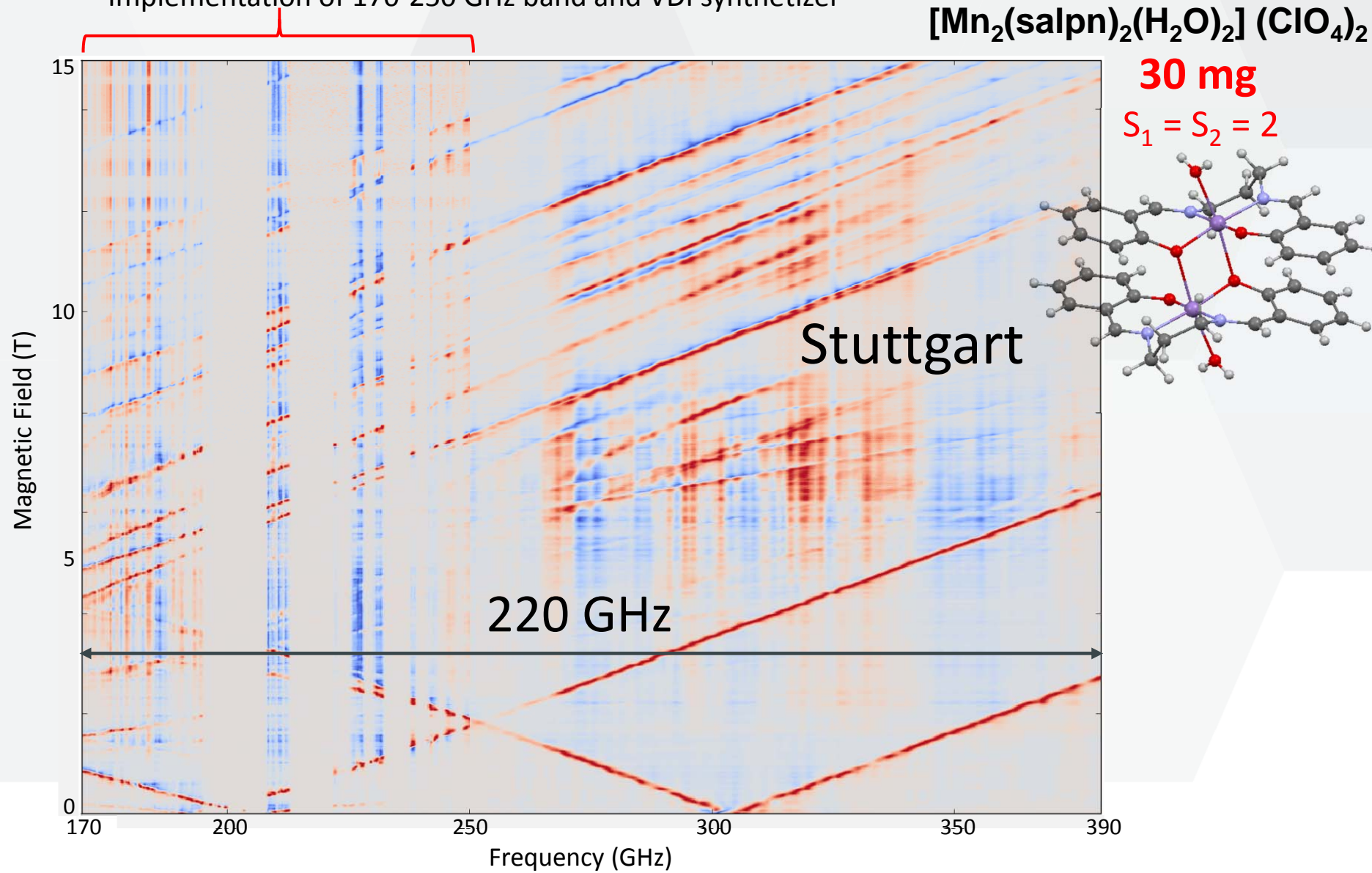
MW Frequency (GHz)





**4 hours** (frequency scans) vs. **104 days** (field scans - ESR)

- Implementation of 170-250 GHz band and VDI synthesizer



## First combine ESR/FDMR spectrometer

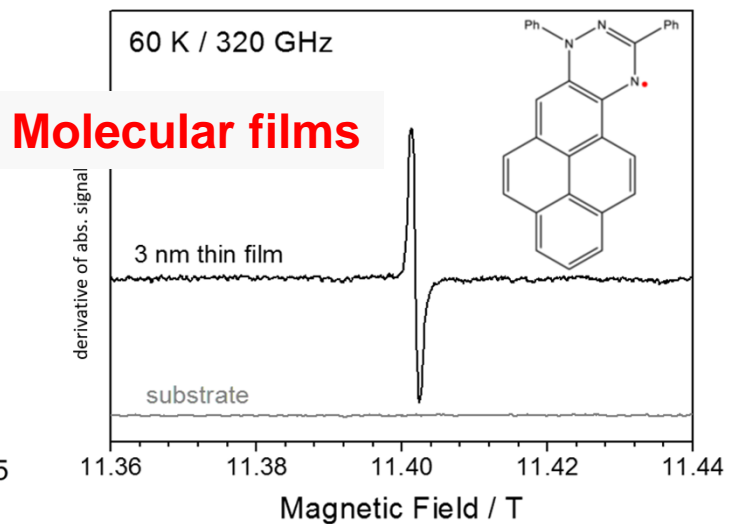
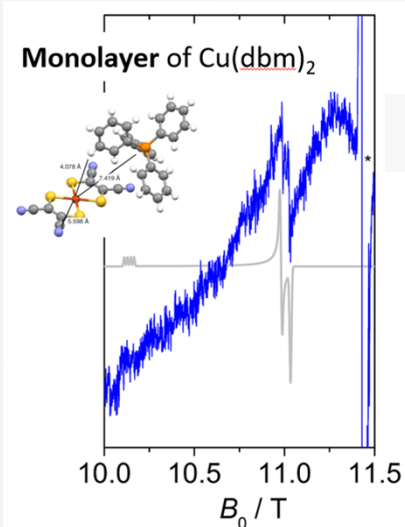
- The current **worldwide state of the art** THz ESR spectrometer.

- [1] *Phys.Chem.Chem.Phys.*, 20, 15528 (2018)
  - [2] *Inorg. Chem.*, 56, 402–413 (2017)
  - [3] *Inorg. Chem.*, 56, 2417–2425 (2017)
  - [4] *Phys. Rev. B*, 96, 094415 (2017)
  - [5] *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem.* DOI: 10.1002/zaac.201700282 (2017)
  - [6] *Materials*, 10(3), 249 (2017)
  - [7] *Nat. Commun.*, 7, 10467 (2016)
  - [8] *Chemical Science*, 7,4347–4354 (2016)
  - [9] *Dalton Trans.*, 45, 12301-12307 (2016)
  - [10] *Inorg. Chem.*, 55 (12), 6186-6194 (2016)
  - [11] *Dalton Trans.*, 45, 7555-7558 (2016)
  - [12] *Dalton Trans.*, 45, 8394-8403 (2016)
  - [13] *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 137, 13114-13120 (2015)
  - [14] *Dalton Trans.*, 44,15014-15021 (2015)
  - [15] *J. Mater. Chem. C*, 3, 7936-7945 (2015)
  - [16] *Dalton Trans.*, 44,15014-15021 (2015)
  - [17] *J. Mater. Chem. C*, 3, 7936-7945 (2015)
  - [18] *Nat. Commun.*, 5, 5243 (2014)
  - [19] *Nat. Phys.*, 10, 233–238 (2014)
  - [20] *Chem. Eur. J.*, 20, 3475 – 3486 (2014)
  - [21] *Chem. Commun.*, 50, 15090-15093 (2014)
  - [22] *Chem. Sci.*, 5, 3287 - 3293 (2014)
- And others...

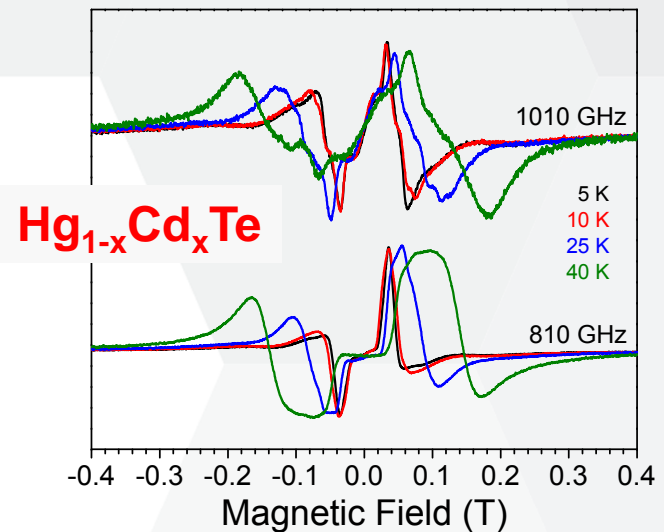


Used by institutions from: *Manchester (UK), Washington DC (USA), Bordeaux, Grenoble (France), Lisbon (Portugal), Valencia, Barcelona (Spain), Berlin, Leipzig, Stuttgart (Germany), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Brno, Olomouc (Czech), Vienna (Austria), Beijing, Xi'an (China), Dublin (Ireland), Copenhagen (Denmark)*

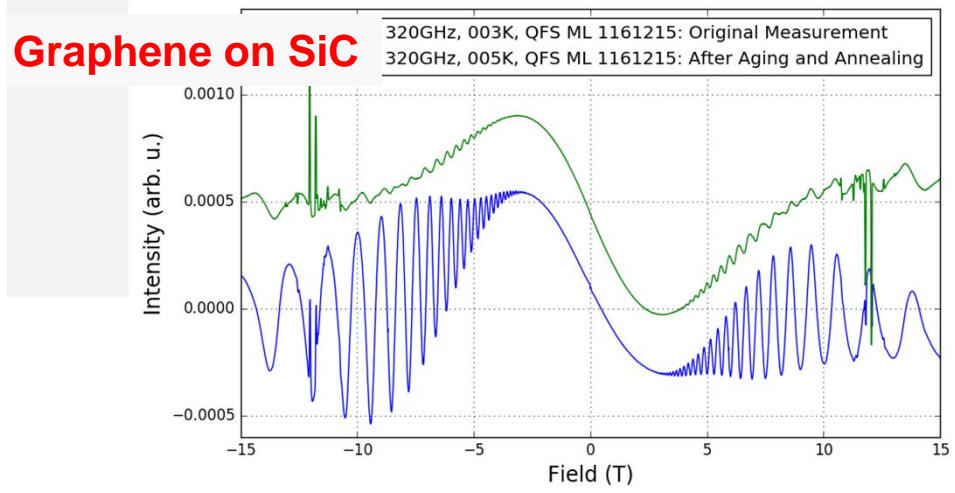
# Thin Films, Modern Materials,...



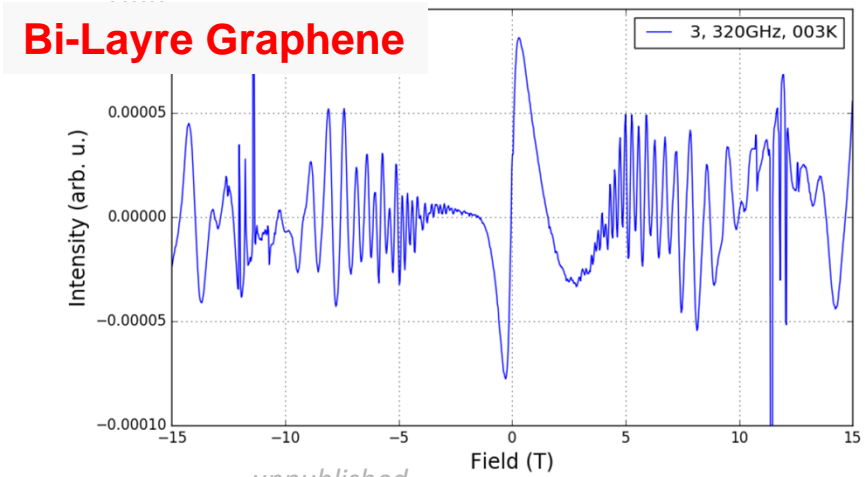
*J. Mater. Chem. C*, **2018**, *6*, 8028–8034



*Nat. Phys.*, **10**, 233–238 (2014)  
unpublished



*2D Mater.* **6** 035028 (2019)



unpublished



# EU FET-Open Project



Starting date 1.1.2018

**PETER - Plasmon-Enhanced Terahertz Electron paramagnetic Resonance spectroscopy**

- scanning Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) microscopy
- high-sensitivity local analysis of paramagnetic organic and inorganic species and materials
- 4 partners, 3 MilEUR

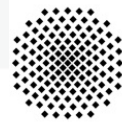
Czech Republic



**T. Šikola (project coordinator)**

J. Čechal, V. Křápek

Germany



**University of Stuttgart**  
Germany

J. Van Slageren

P. Neugebauer

Spain



R. Hillenbrand

A. Nikitin

United Kingdom



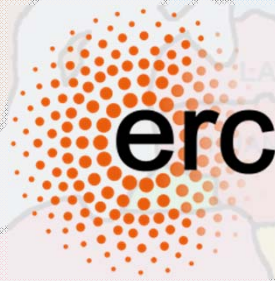
R. J. Wylde

K. Pike

# 2018 Brno Spin and Molecular Dynamics



CEITEC  
MOTES



Magneto-Optical and THz Spectroscopy group, established 1.1.2018 at Brno.



# Why Brno?

- Home, parents,...
- Long history of Magnetic Resonance in Brno (TESLA Brno); J. Dadok.  
V. Zeman (2008) DOI: 10.3247/SL2Nmr08.003 (in Czech)

NMR in TESLA Brno



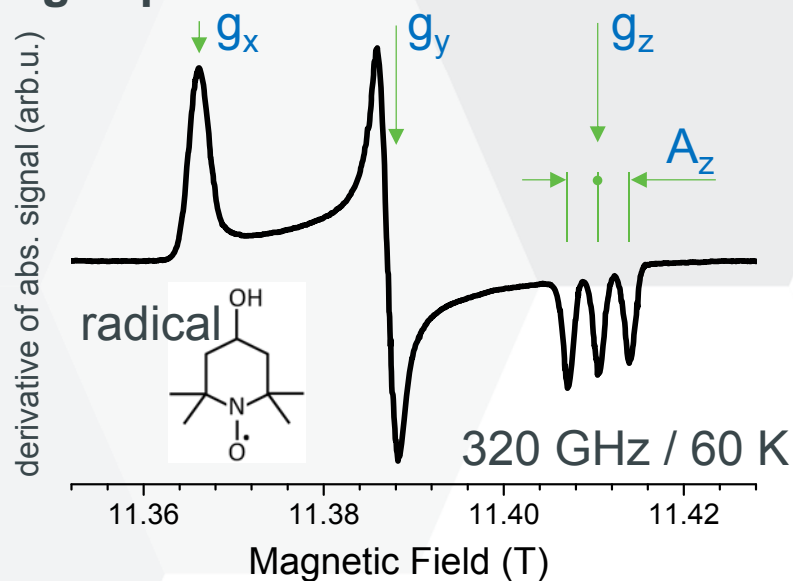
Our group in Stuttgart



# Today's THz Electron Spin Resonance

(single frequency, field sweeps)

## High spectral resolution:



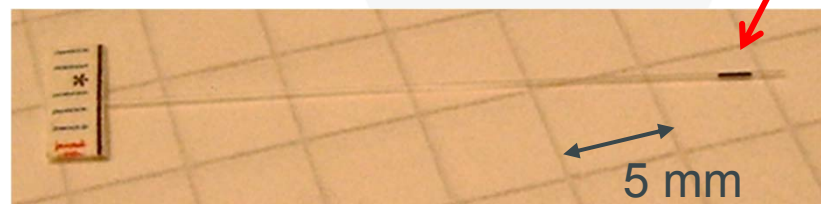
## Powerful tool in:

- systems with zero field splitting
- biomolecules
- heterogeneous catalysis
- solar-cells, batteries
- ... everywhere where unpaired electrons are involved

## Limitations:

- resonant cavities
- restrictions on samples
- single frequency / narrow bandwidth
- high power MW sources (expensive)

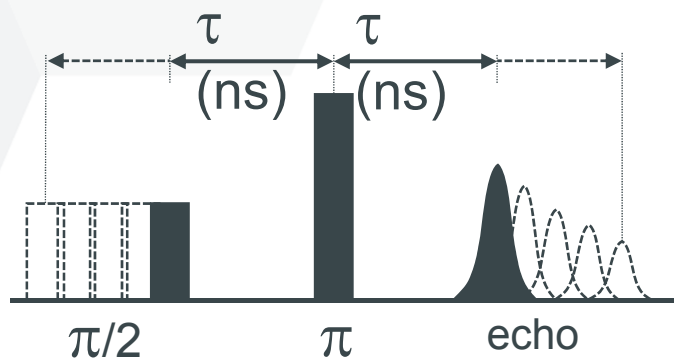
263 GHz sample capillary  
Inner diameter (30 – 100)  $\mu\text{m}$



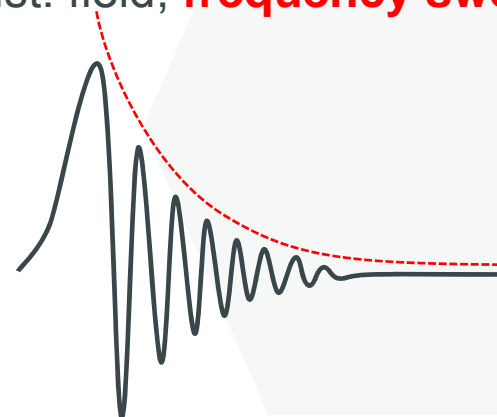
**PROBLEM:**

- **NO** method to investigate **spin dynamics** of bulk and thin film materials at THz frequencies.
- **NO** method to provide comprehensive information about spin dynamics in a **broad frequency range**.
- Limiting the technological progress in quantum computation and NMR signal enhancement.

**TODAY**  
(single frequency, **field sweeps**)

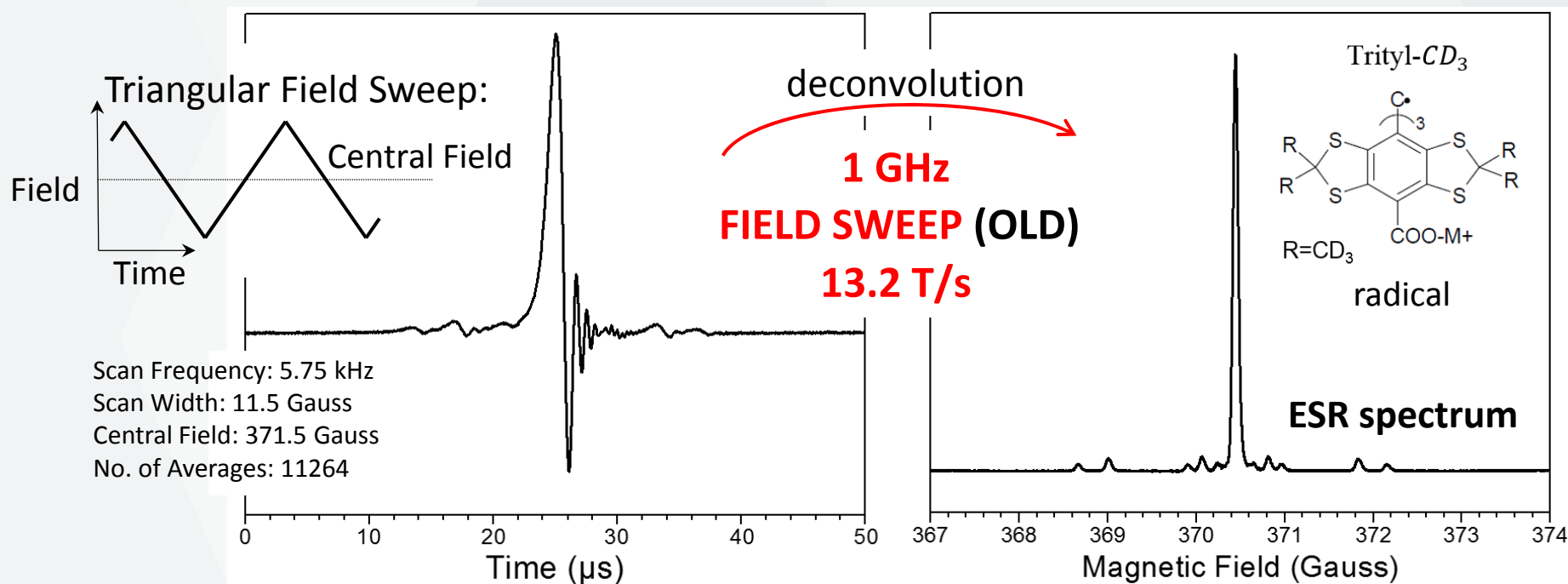


**TOMORROW**  
(const. field, **frequency sweeps**)



*Determination of electron spin dynamics.*

# Development of the THz-FRaScan-ESR Spectrometer



- Access to relaxation rates if  $|\gamma|(dv/dt) > T_2^{-2}$
- Rapid **FREQUENCY sweeps (NEW)** above **100 THz/s (3600 T/s)**
- Access to spin relaxation times below **10 ns (1 ns)!**
- **Multi frequency** relaxation studies of **large samples** – non-resonant sample holders
- Measurement of spin dynamics at user selected frequency in range of **85 GHz – 1100 GHz**



## Conventional ESR

Vs.

## THz-FRaScan-ESR

- + **established method**
- **single frequency / narrow bandwidth**
  - different setups for different frequencies
- **high power MW sources**
- **restrictions on samples**
  - limits the studies to liquid or powder samples
- **ring down of the cavity**
  - limits the studies to relaxations above 100 ns
- **expensive**
- **the method approaches its limits**
  - there is no more space to lower the cavity dimensions



- + **non-resonant cavities**
- + **no restrictions on samples**
  - thin films, oriented crystals, powders, liquids
- + **multi frequency relaxation studies in one setup**
  - frequency is defined only by magnetic field
- + **zero field experiments**
- + **operating at low MW power**
- + **very fast and direct measurement**
  - provides significantly better S/N ratio in given time
  - higher content of information in the spectra
- + **convenient**
  - spectra as a function of energy (frequency)
- + **opens new possibilities**
- + **cheap and extendable concept**
- + **applications in NMR magnets**
- + **reduction of MW heating in DNP exp.**
- **novel approach**

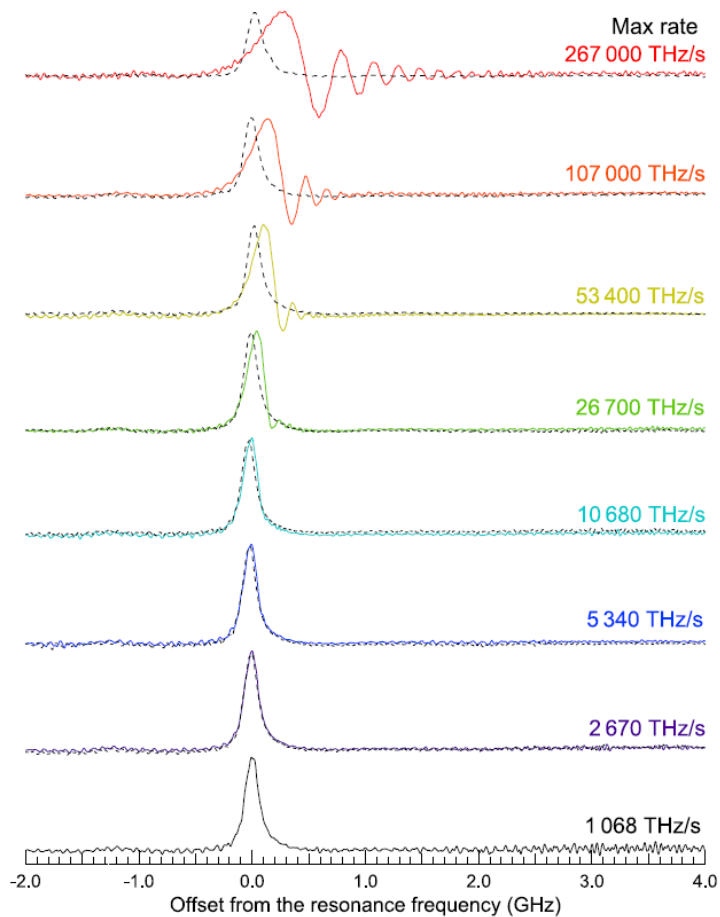


# Multi-frequency rapid-scan HFEPR

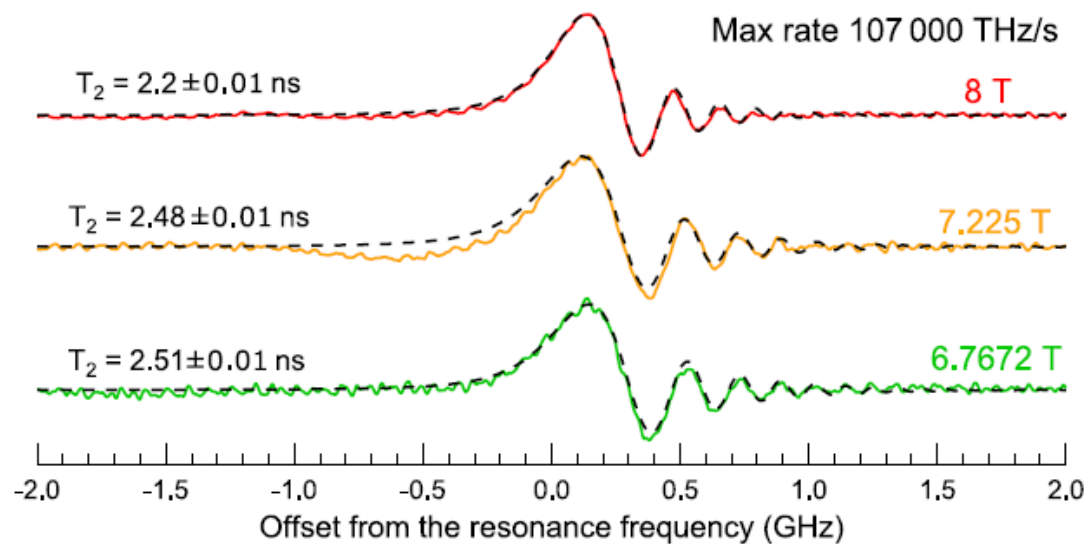
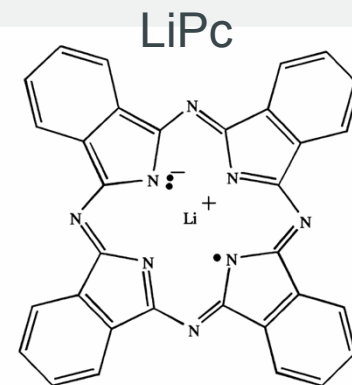
O. Laguta<sup>a</sup>, M. Tuček<sup>b</sup>, J. van Slageren<sup>a</sup>, P. Neugebauer<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Institute for Physical Chemistry and Center for Integrated Quantum Science and Technology, Universität Stuttgart, Pfaffenwaldring 55, Stuttgart D-70569, Germany

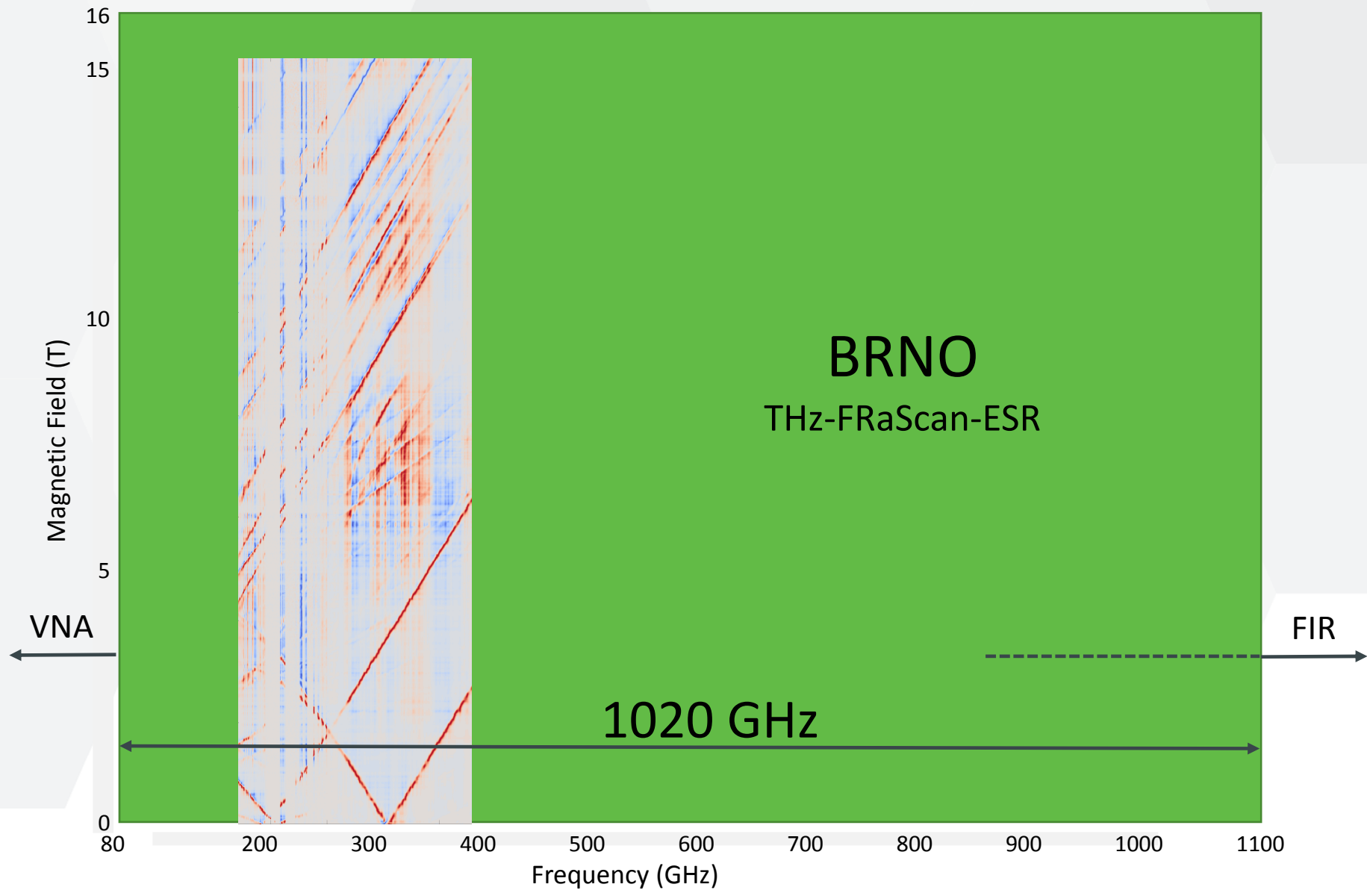
<sup>b</sup>Central European Institute of Technology, Brno University of Technology, Purkyňova 656/123, Brno 61200, Czech Republic



Note:  
100 000 THz/s ~ 36 MT/s!



O. Laguta et al. *J. Magn. Reson.* **2018**, 296, 138





# Reconstruction



# Current State



## cw X-band (magnettech)

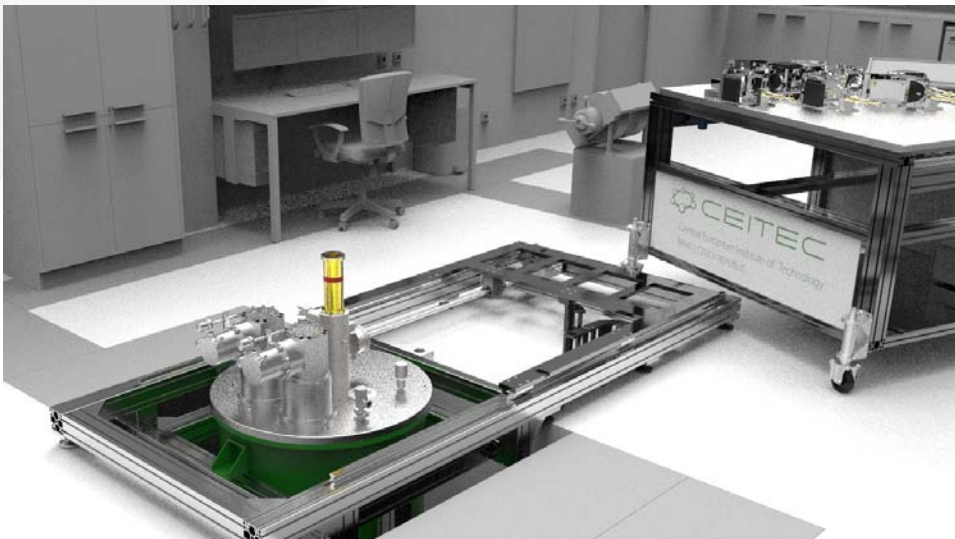
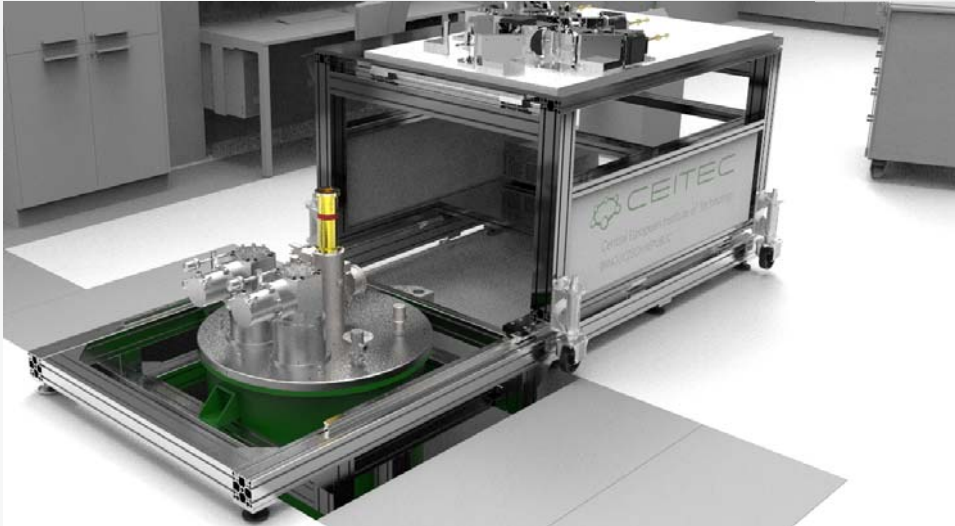


Thanks to Valentin Laguta  
(Academy of Science, Prague)

# THz-FRaScan-EPR



CEITEC  
MOTES



**Magnetic field:**  
 $\pm 16$  Tesla (Cryogen Free)

**Temperature range:**  
1.6 – 400 K

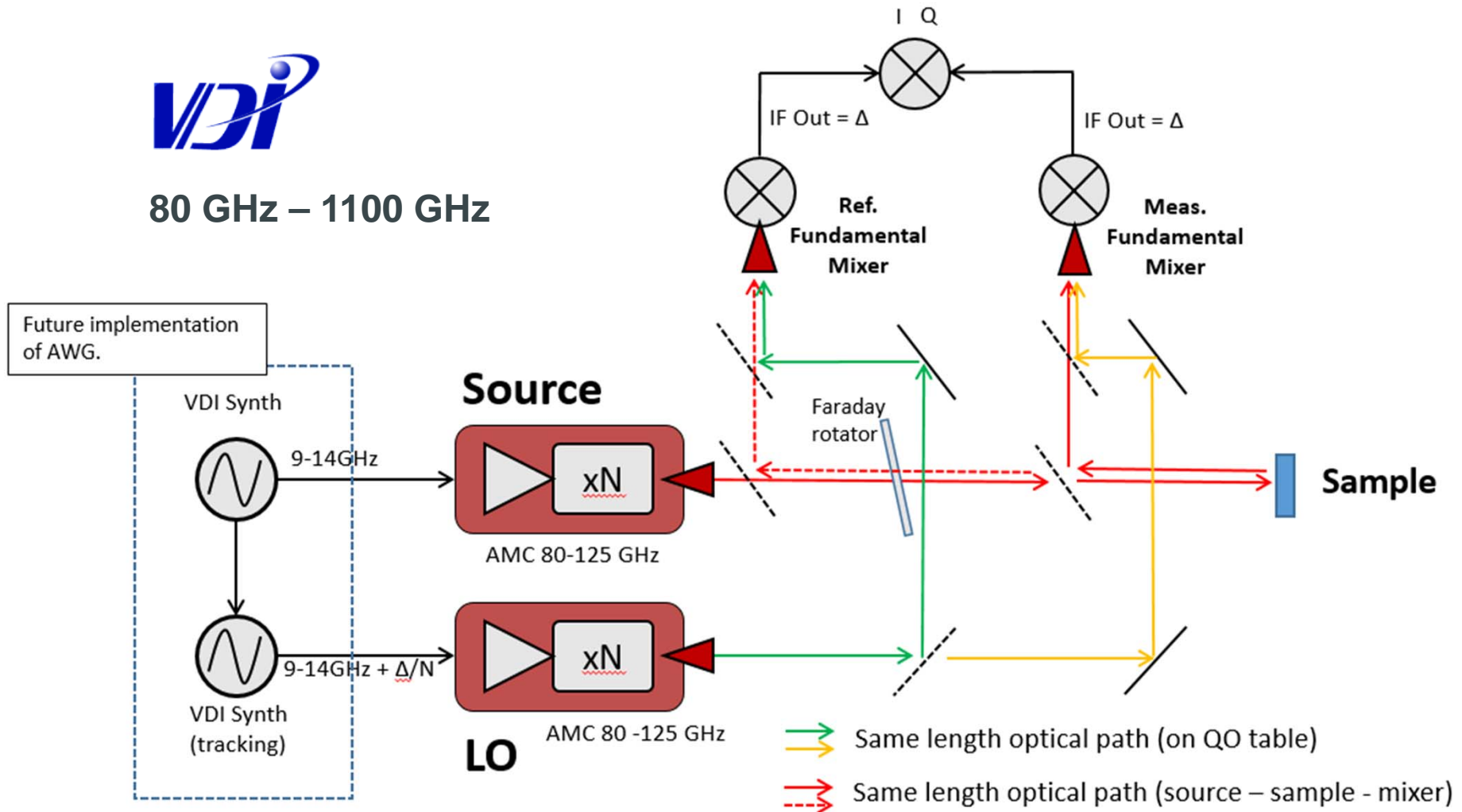
**Frequency range:**  
80 – 1100 GHz  
Heterodyne detection

**Samples:**  
Pellets, Oriented Crystals,  
Liquids, Air Sensitive

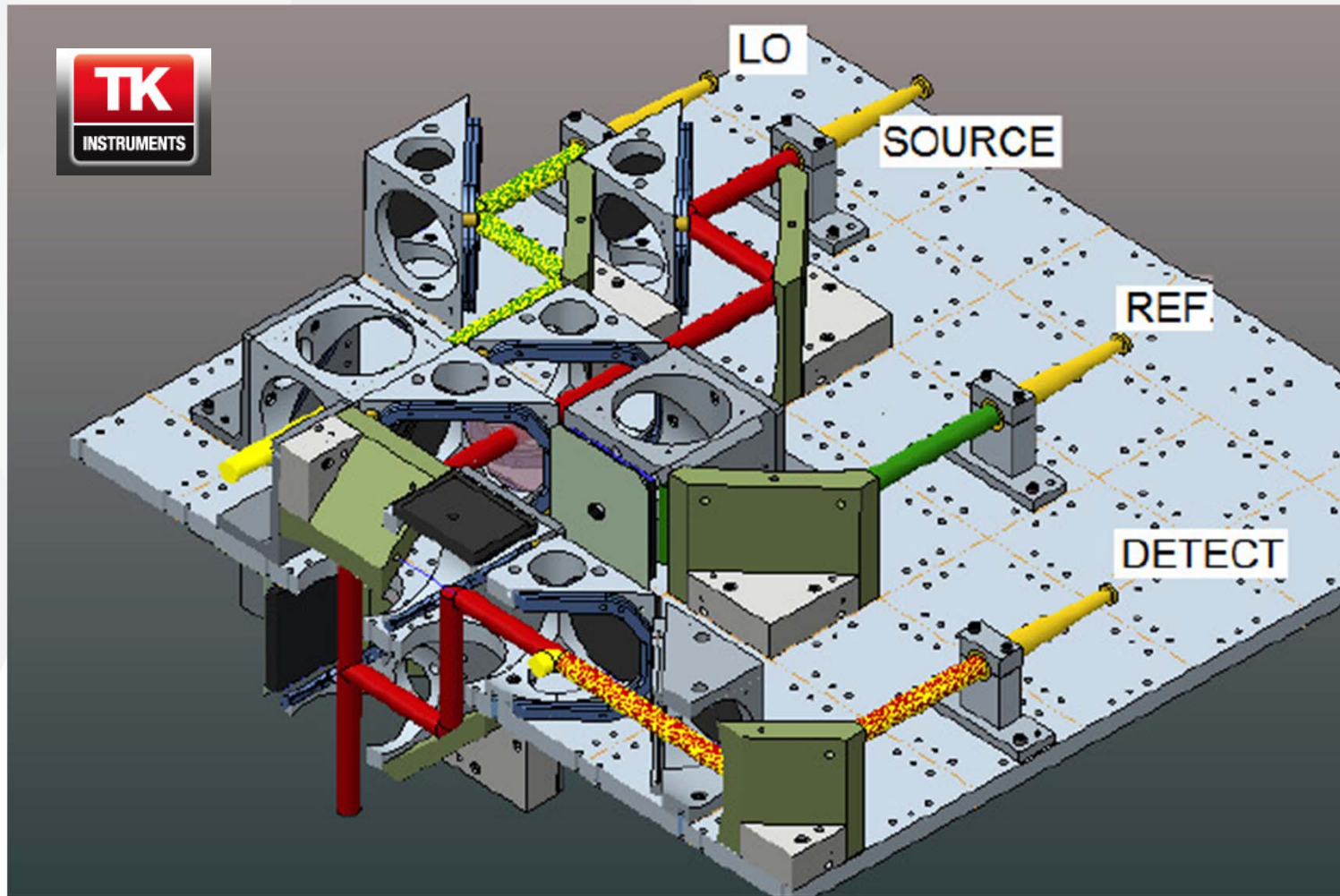
# Excitation-Detection



80 GHz – 1100 GHz



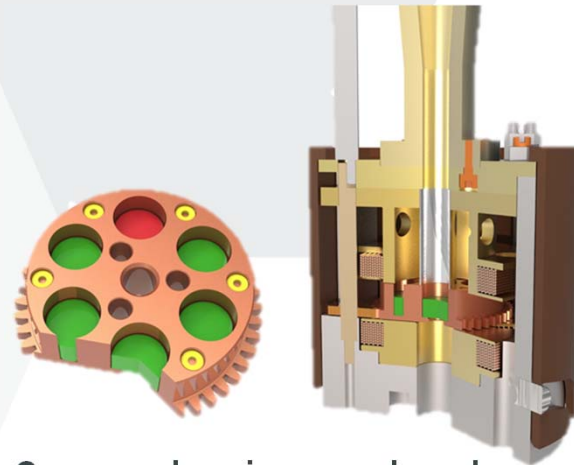
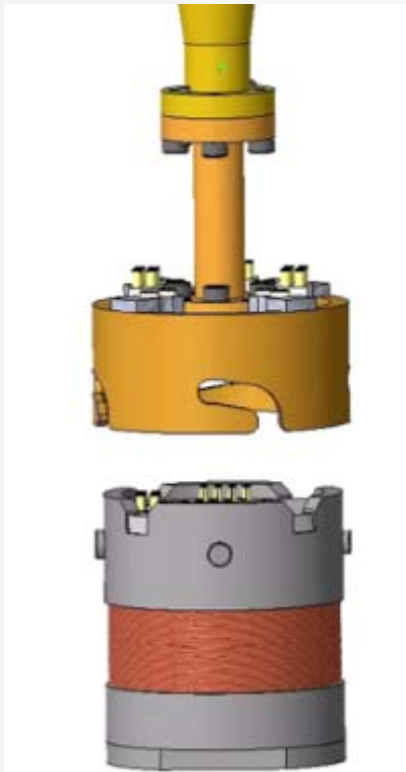
# Quasi-Optics





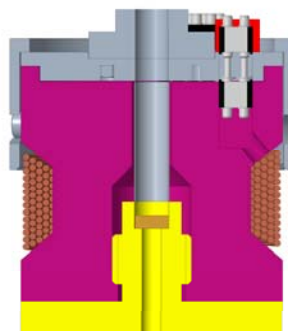
# 4 Sample Holders

**Carrousel sample holder**



6 samples in one load

**Pellets/liquid samples**



*A. Sojka  
unpublished*

**Single-crystal rotator**



*3D prints of prototypes*

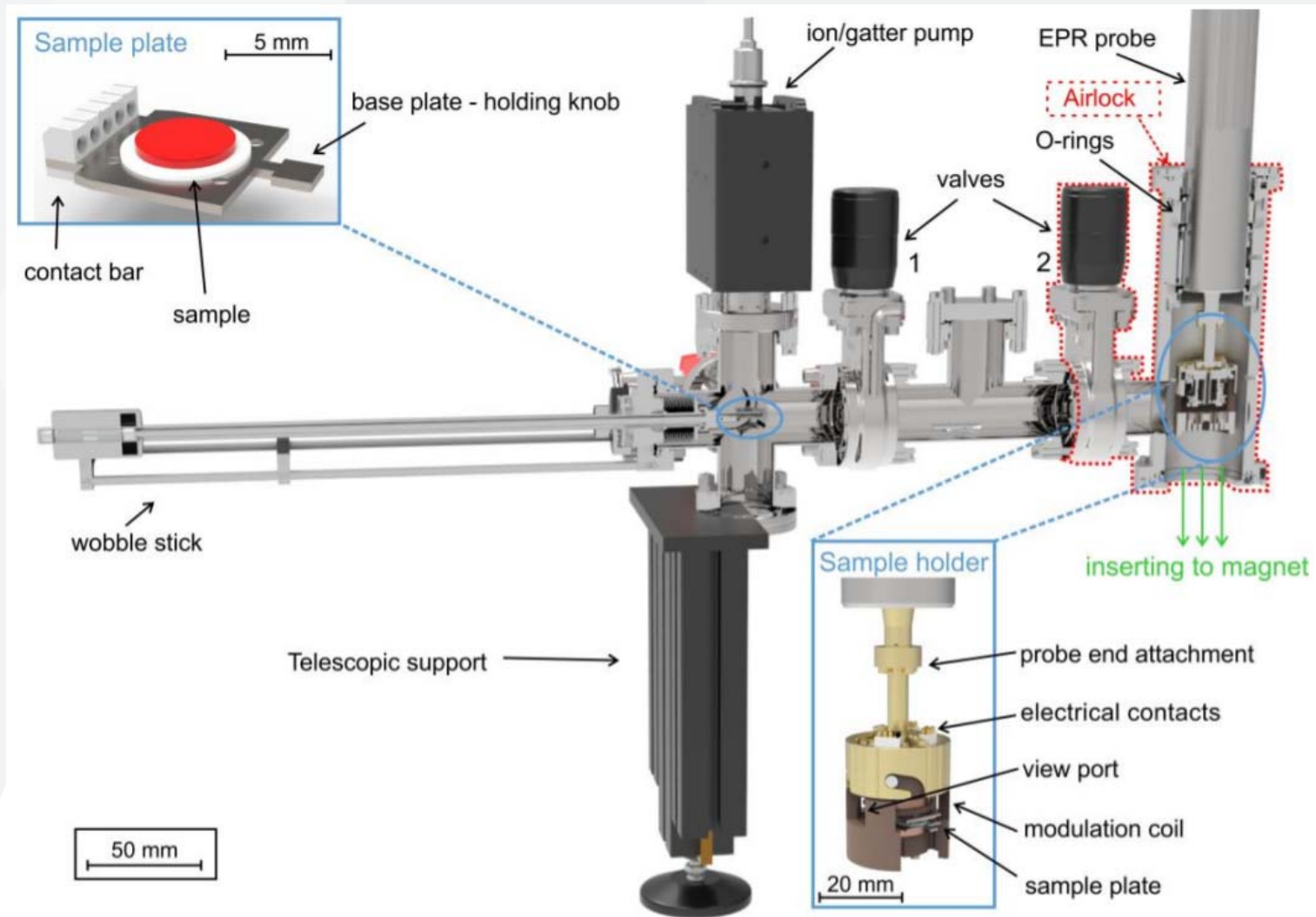
**Chip-Set sample holder**



*3D prints of prototypes*

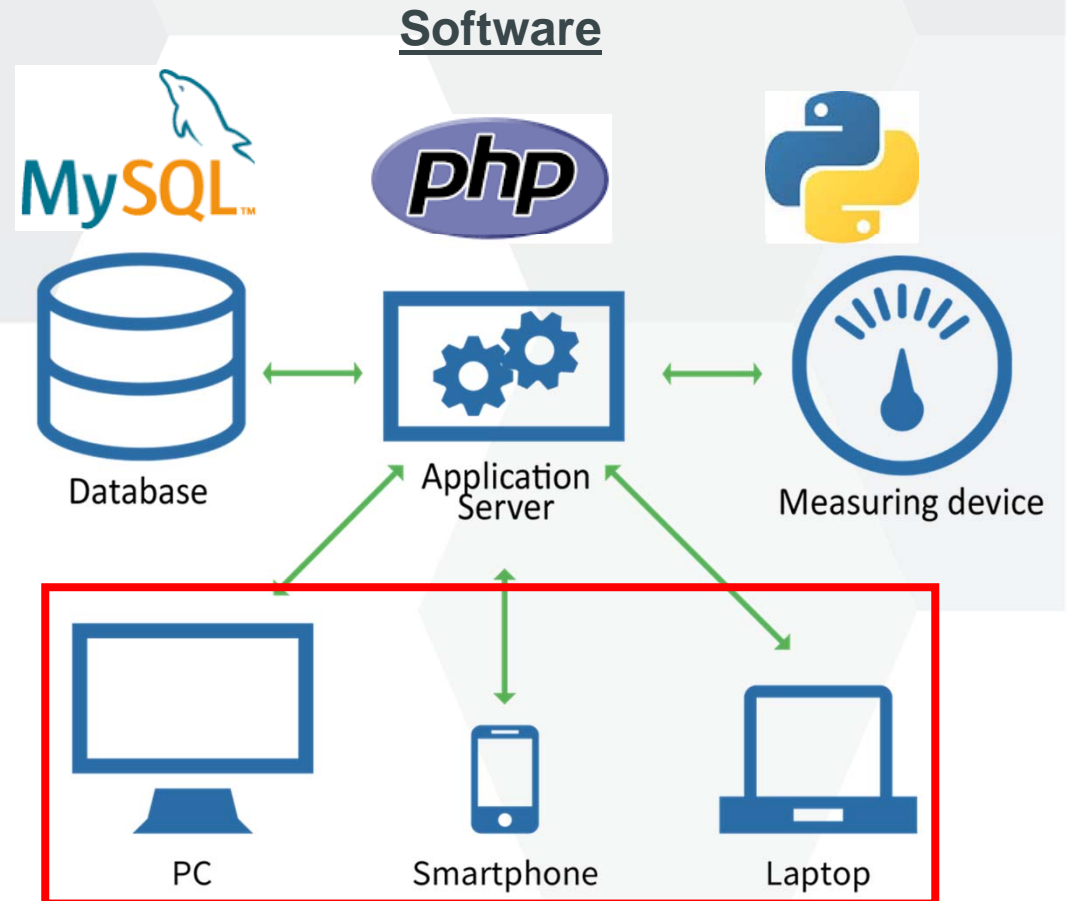
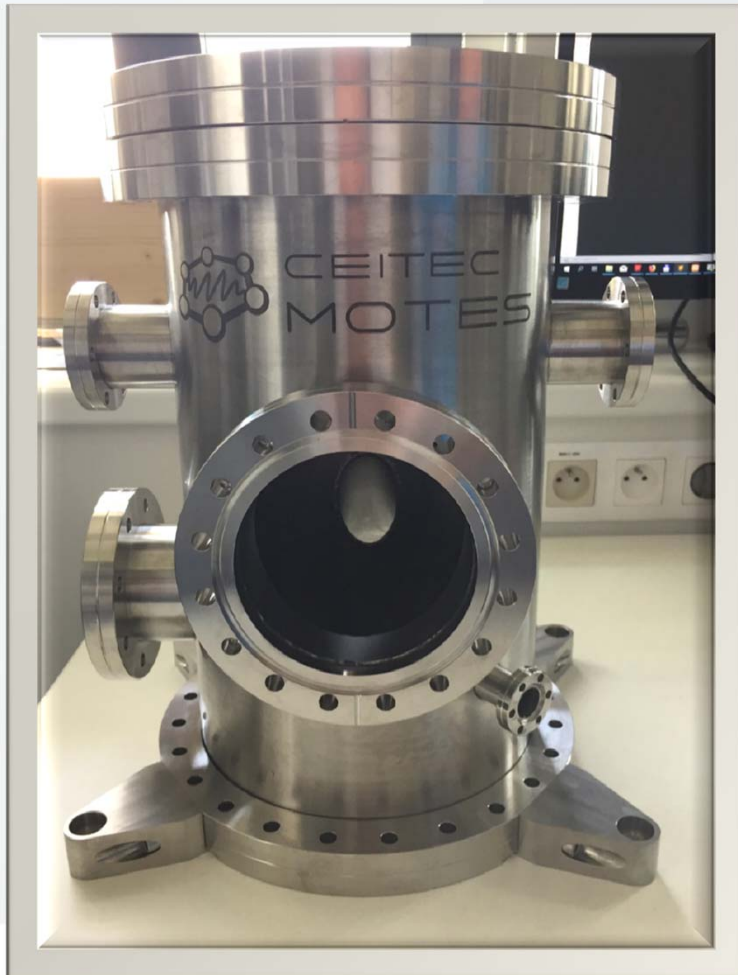
*PETER workshop, Hirscheegg*

# Sample Transfer



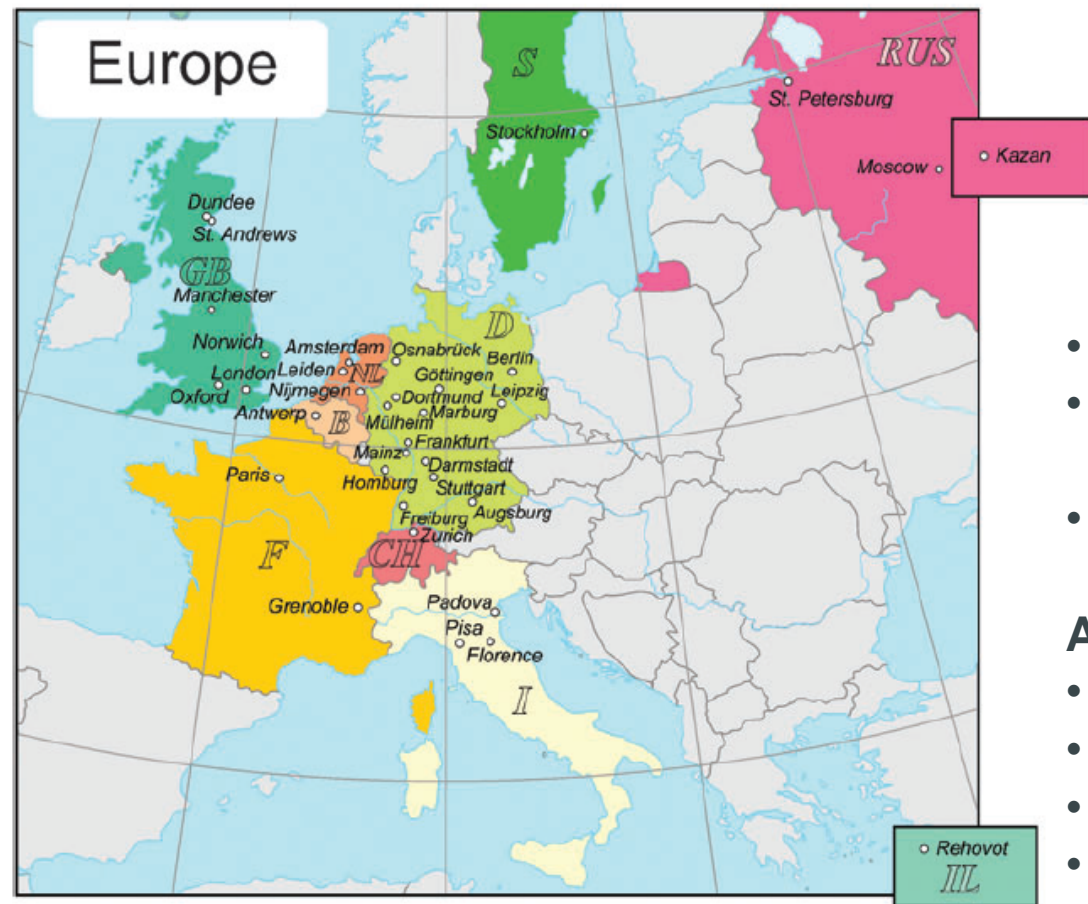
A. Sojka  
unpublished

# Molecular films preparation



# Conclusion

# Our Mission



- HFEPR in central Europe
- Modern THz method development
- EPR center (user facility)

## Applications

- Molecular Magnetism
- Solid State Materials
- Hybrid Materials
- ...

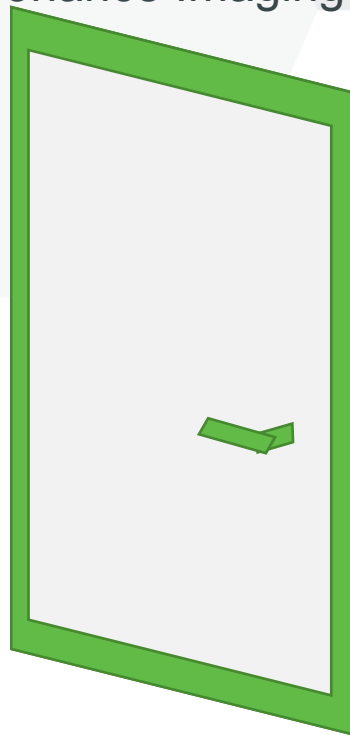
Figure 1.2 High-field EPR groups in Europe (2008).

*K. Moebius*

# Long Term Vision

## “A Door”

A Highly Efficient  
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner



5 m  
with a relaxed walk it takes about 7 s



## “A Super-Computer”

A Quantum-Computer

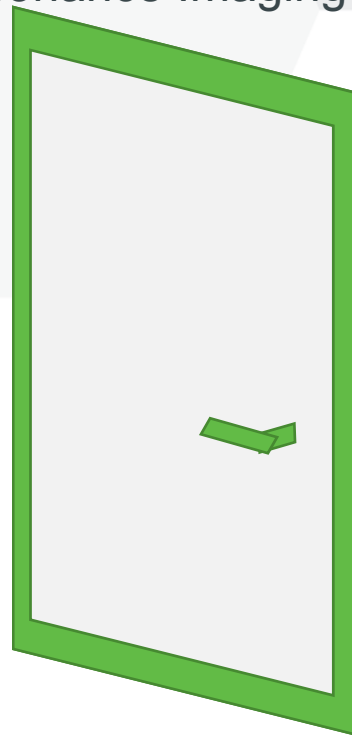
# Long Term Vision

1 “A Tool” - THz-FRaScan-ESR

3

“A Door”

A Highly Efficient  
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner



Doctor



5 m

with a relaxed walk it takes about 7 s

2

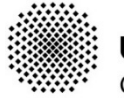
“A Super-Computer”

A Quantum-Computer





CEITEC  
MOTES



University of Stuttgart  
Germany



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

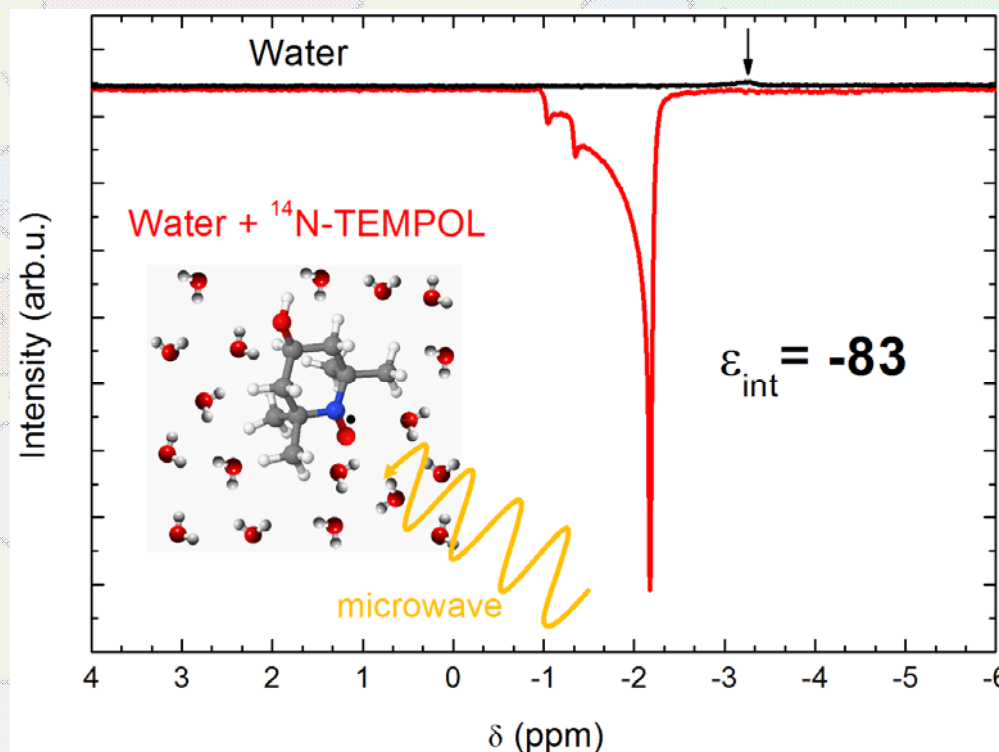
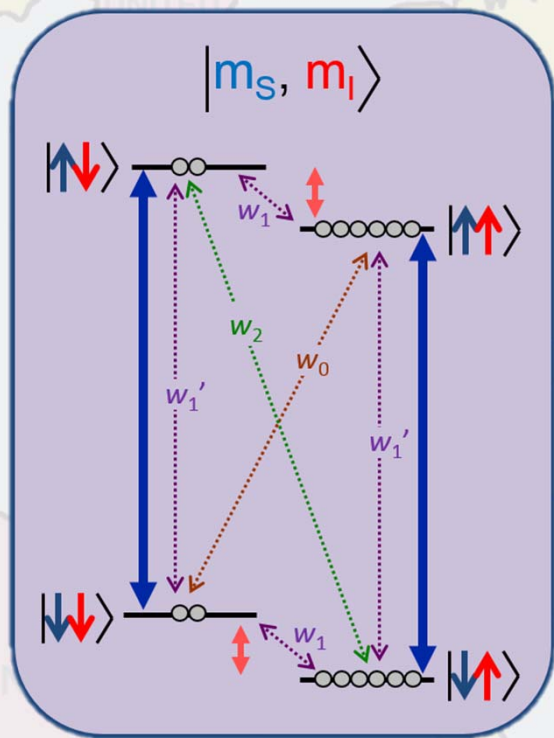


**Thank you for your attention!**



# Main Focus

## High field liquid 400 MHz $^1\text{H}$ -DNP / Pulsed ESR at 180 GHz



### Extremely high NMR enhancement

- NMR enhancement by factor of **>83**
- Reduction of NMR experimental time by factor of **6900**, reduction from hours to seconds!

*Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 15, 6049 – 6056 (2013); *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 16, 18781–18787 (2014);

*Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 17, 6618 – 6628 (2015)

## Solid state materials

- **Molecular Nanomagnets** (qubits) – ideal candidates for quantum computations
- Relaxation studies on **oriented single crystals** – today nearly impossible
- Spin dynamics of **modern solid state materials** – graphene, topological insulators, TMDC

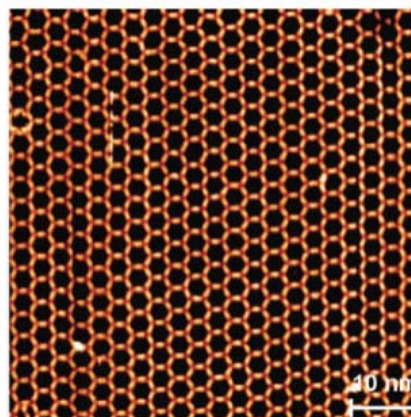
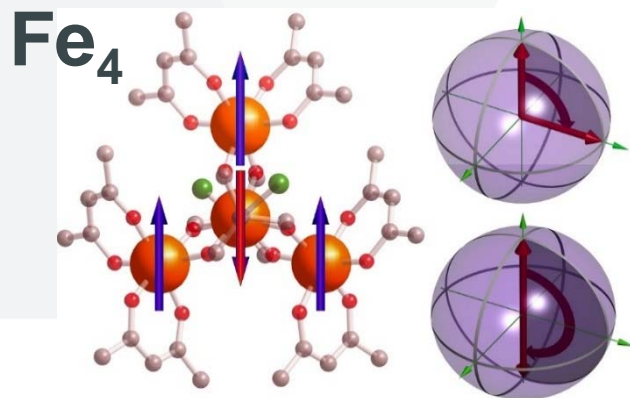
## Molecular thin films

- Towards the applications
- Functionalized substrates

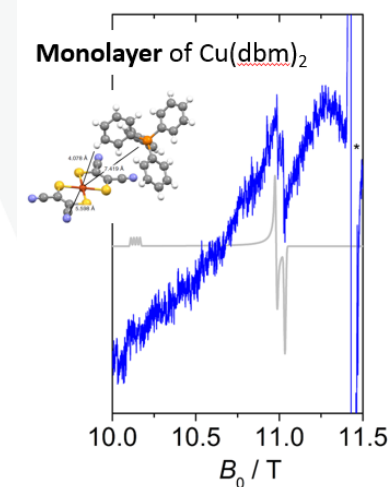
# QUANTUM TECHNOLOGIES FLAGSHIP (1 billion EUR)

*Nature* 532, 426 (28 April 2016)

## Molecular Nanomagnets - qubits



Molecular Framework



*J. Mater. Chem. C*, 2018, 6, 8028--8034

# MOTeS Evaporation Chamber

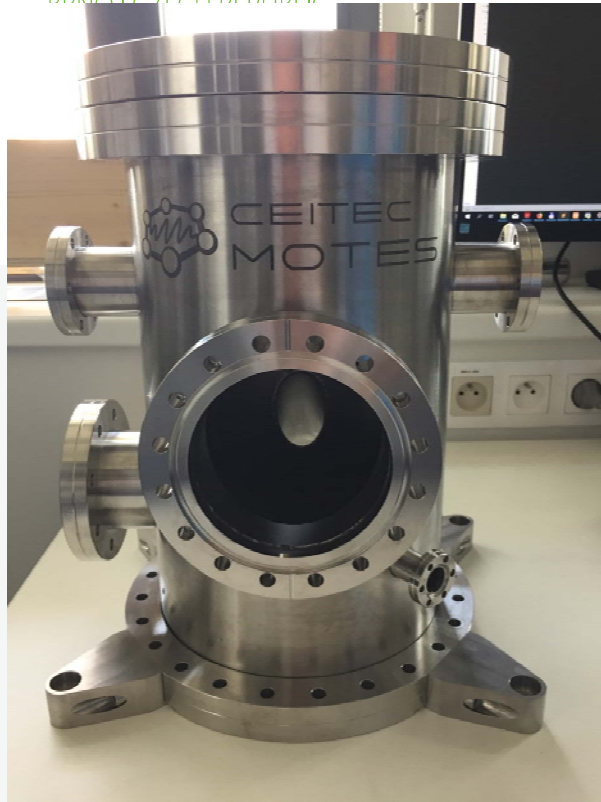


CEITEC

## Hardware

Central European Institute of Technology

BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC



## Software



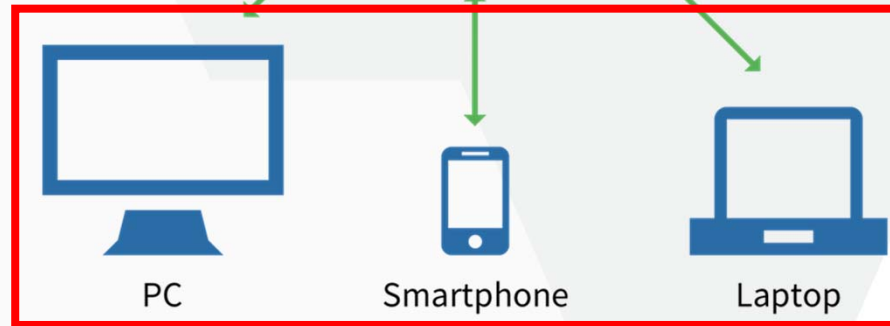
Database



Application Server



Measuring device



- Temperature – Thermocouple
- Thickness + Evaporation rate – Quartz Crystal Microbalance
- Pressure – Turbo Station Gauge

• Power Supply – Voltage, Current Control



## 3b) Thermal evaporation

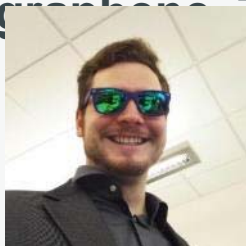
Where: MOTeS EPR lab

When: June 2019

What: Sublimable molecules

Substrate: Glass, gold, silicon, graphene, TMDs

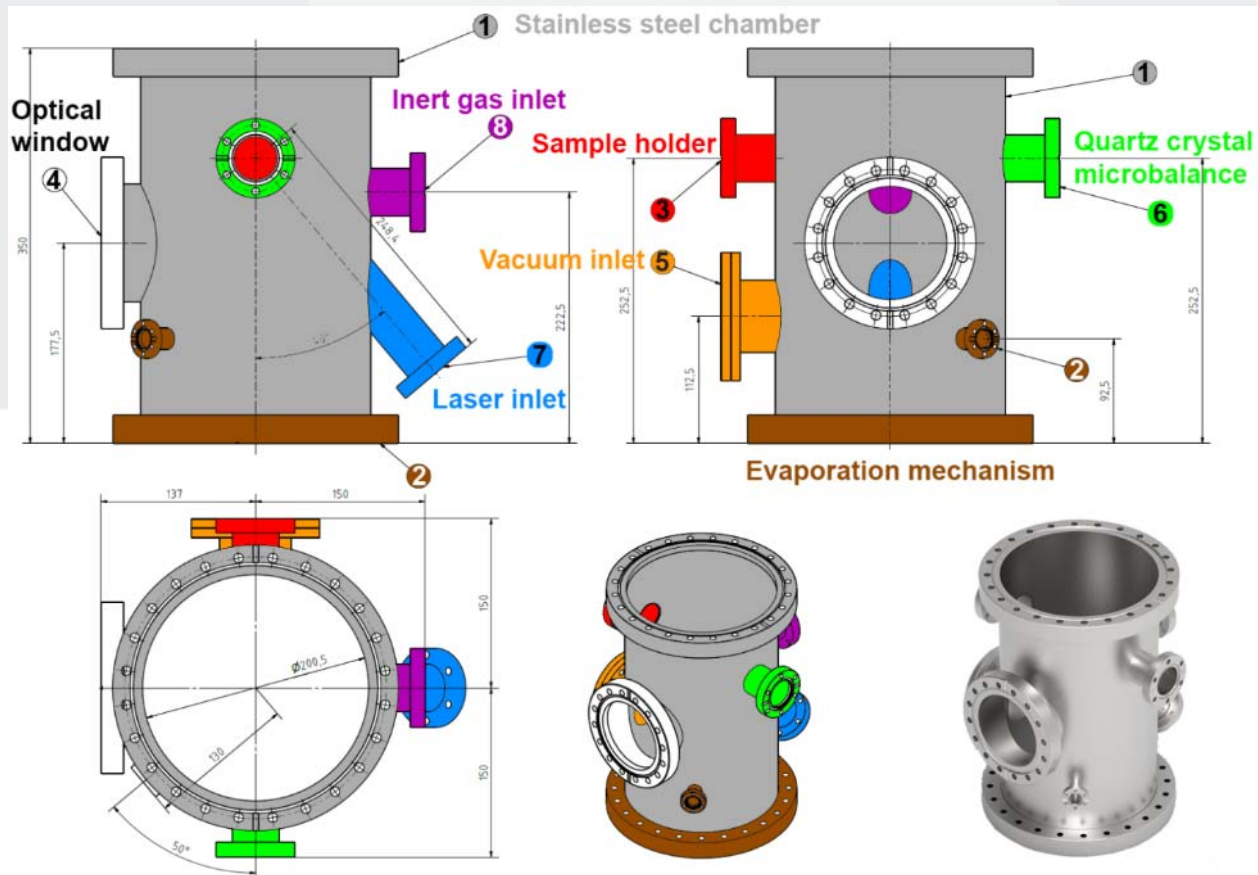
Team:



Depositions



Software



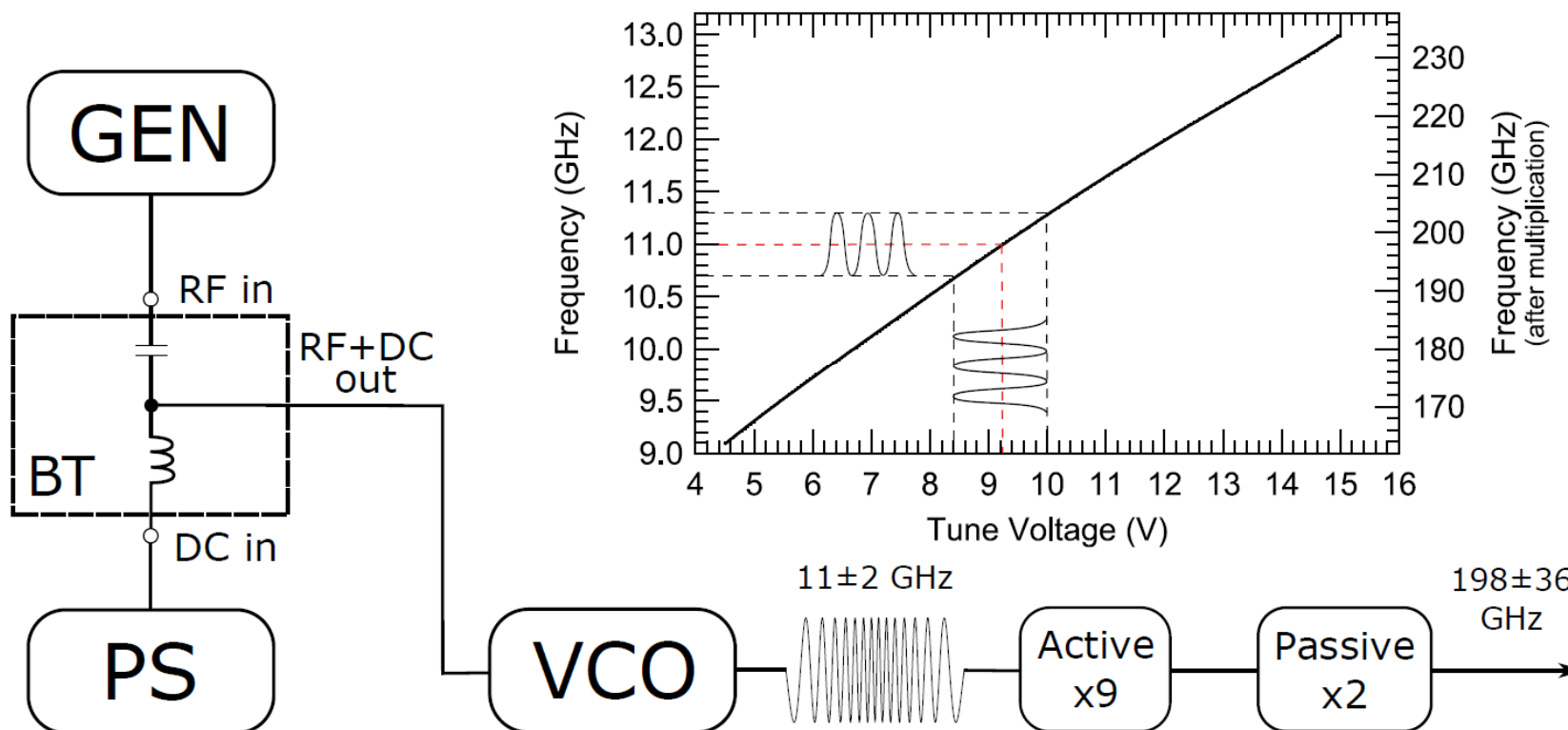
- Temperature
- Thickness + evaporation rate
- Pressure

# Multi-frequency rapid-scan HFEPR

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<sup>b</sup>Central European Institute of Technology, Brno University of Technology, Purkyňova 656/123, Brno 61200, Czech Republic



*J. Magn. Reson.* **2018**, 296, 138