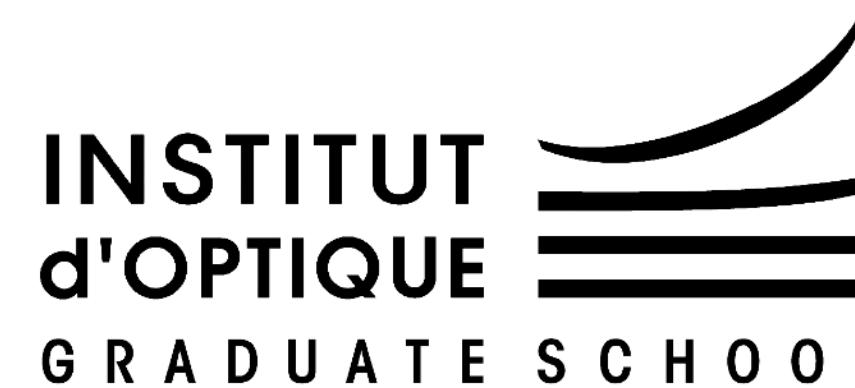


# Light-matter interaction

## Collective light scattering in cold atom ensembles

*Igor Ferrier-Barbut*

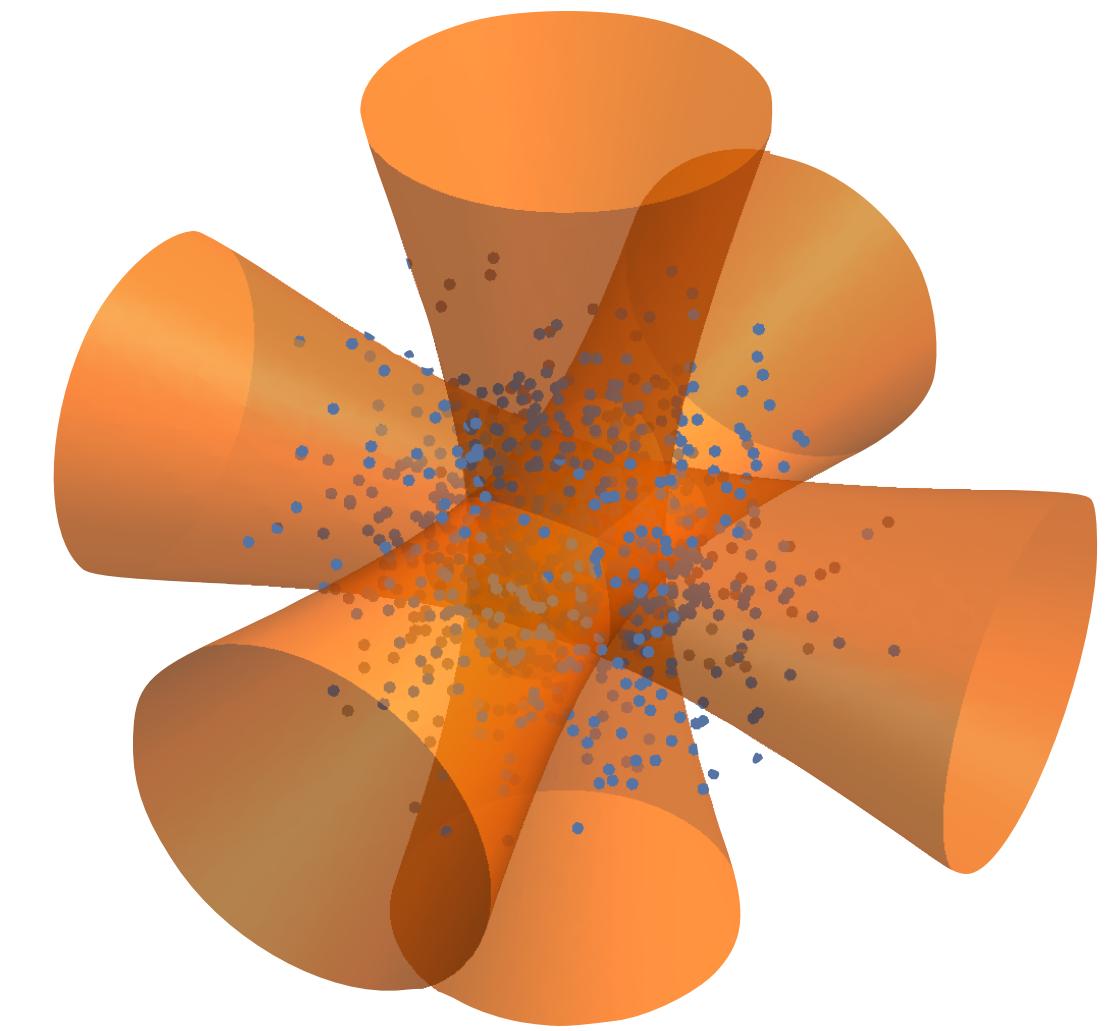


# Collective light scattering in cold atoms

Do  $N$  atoms respond differently w.r.t a single atom?

Experimental bias?

- Absorption or fluorescence imaging.
- Optical clocks: shift of the resonance?

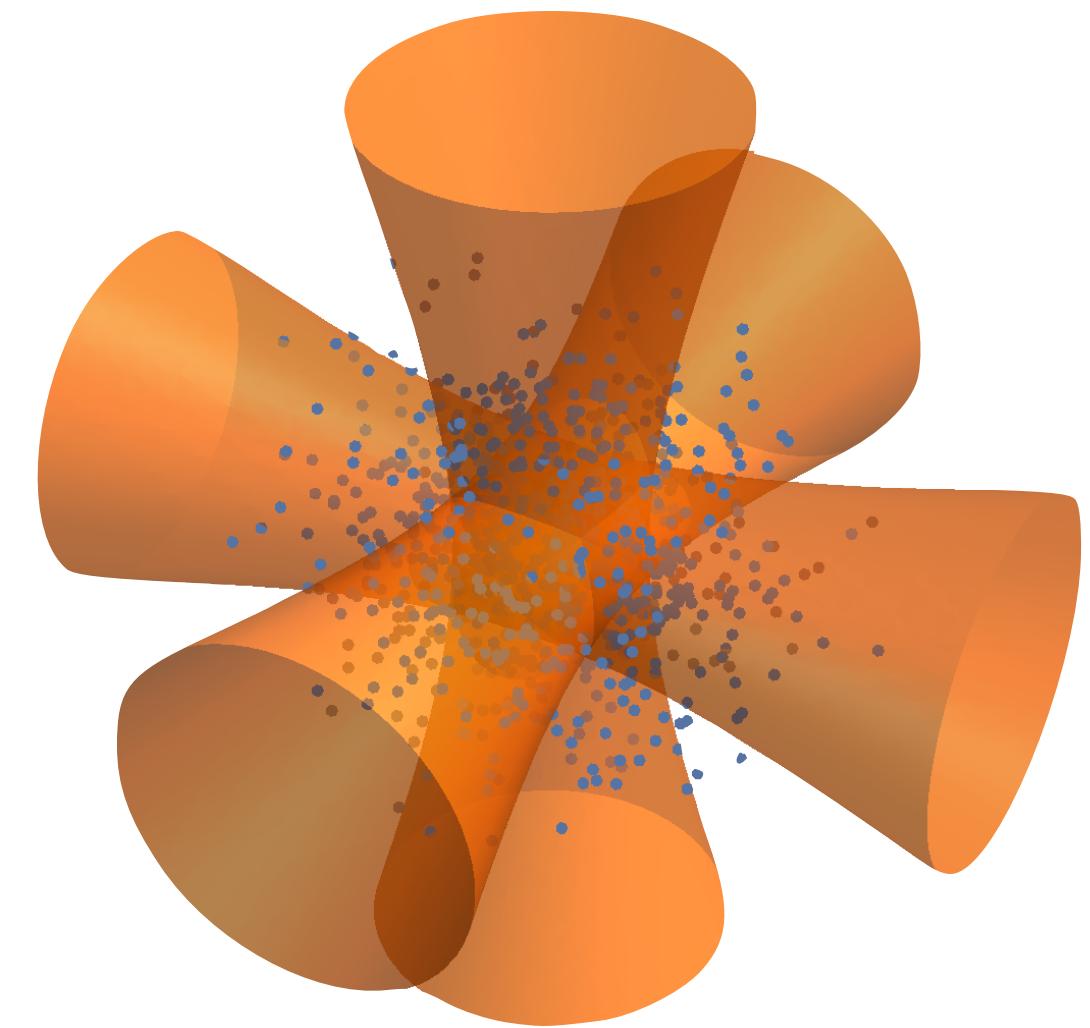


# Collective light scattering in cold atoms

Do  $N$  atoms respond differently w.r.t a single atom?

Experimental bias?

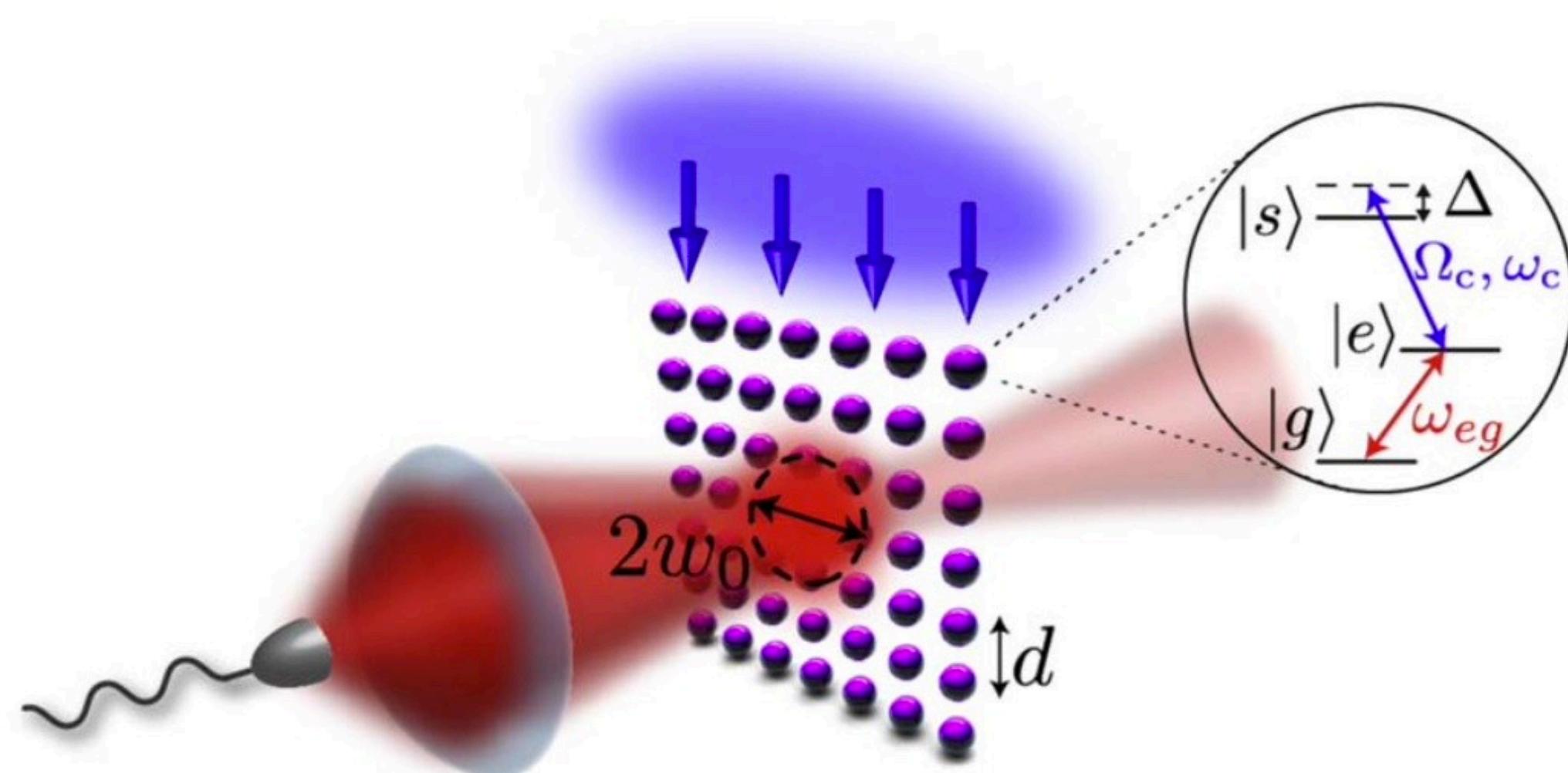
- Absorption or fluorescence imaging.
- Optical clocks: shift of the resonance?



Collective enhancement ==> quantum technologies

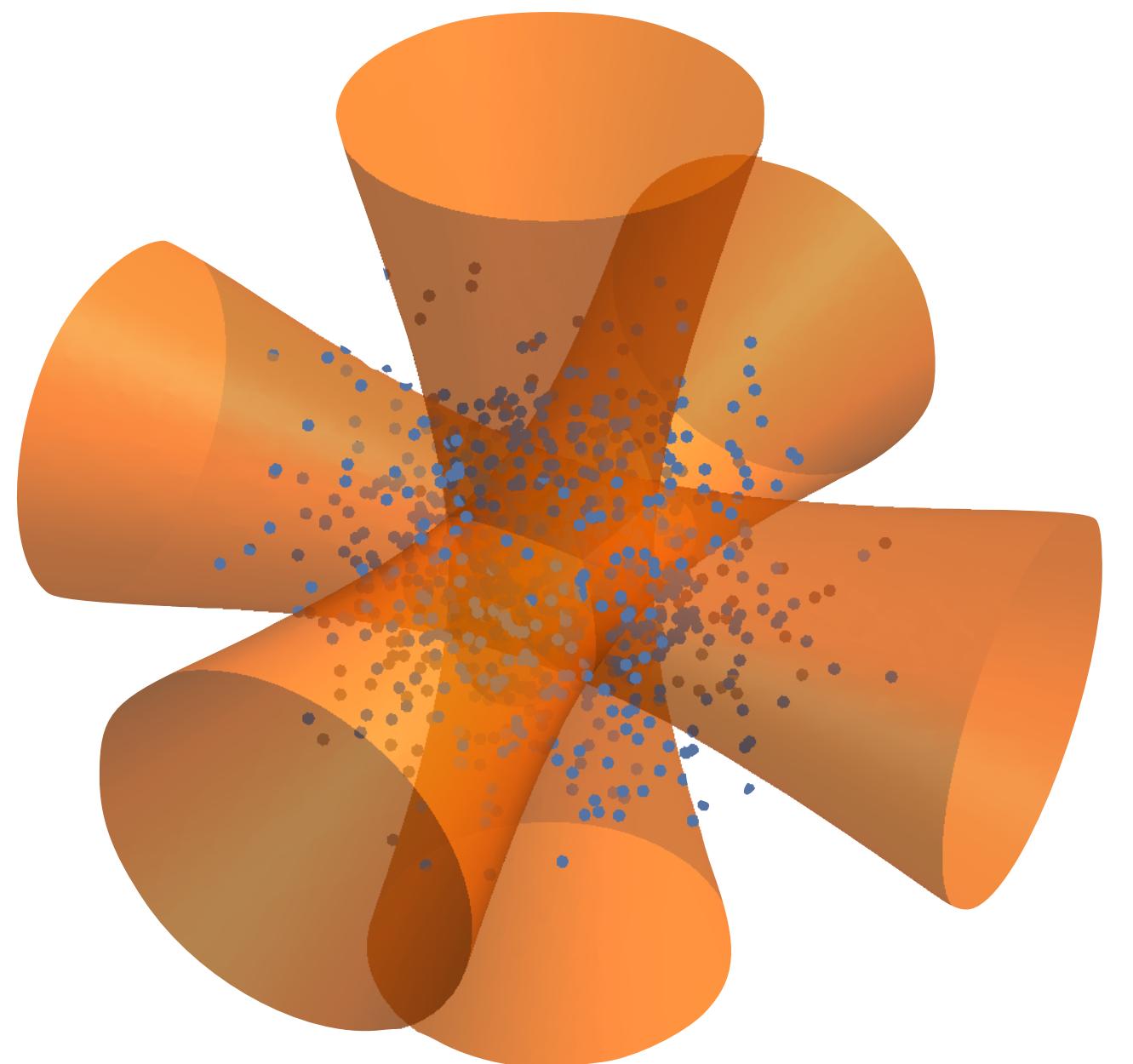
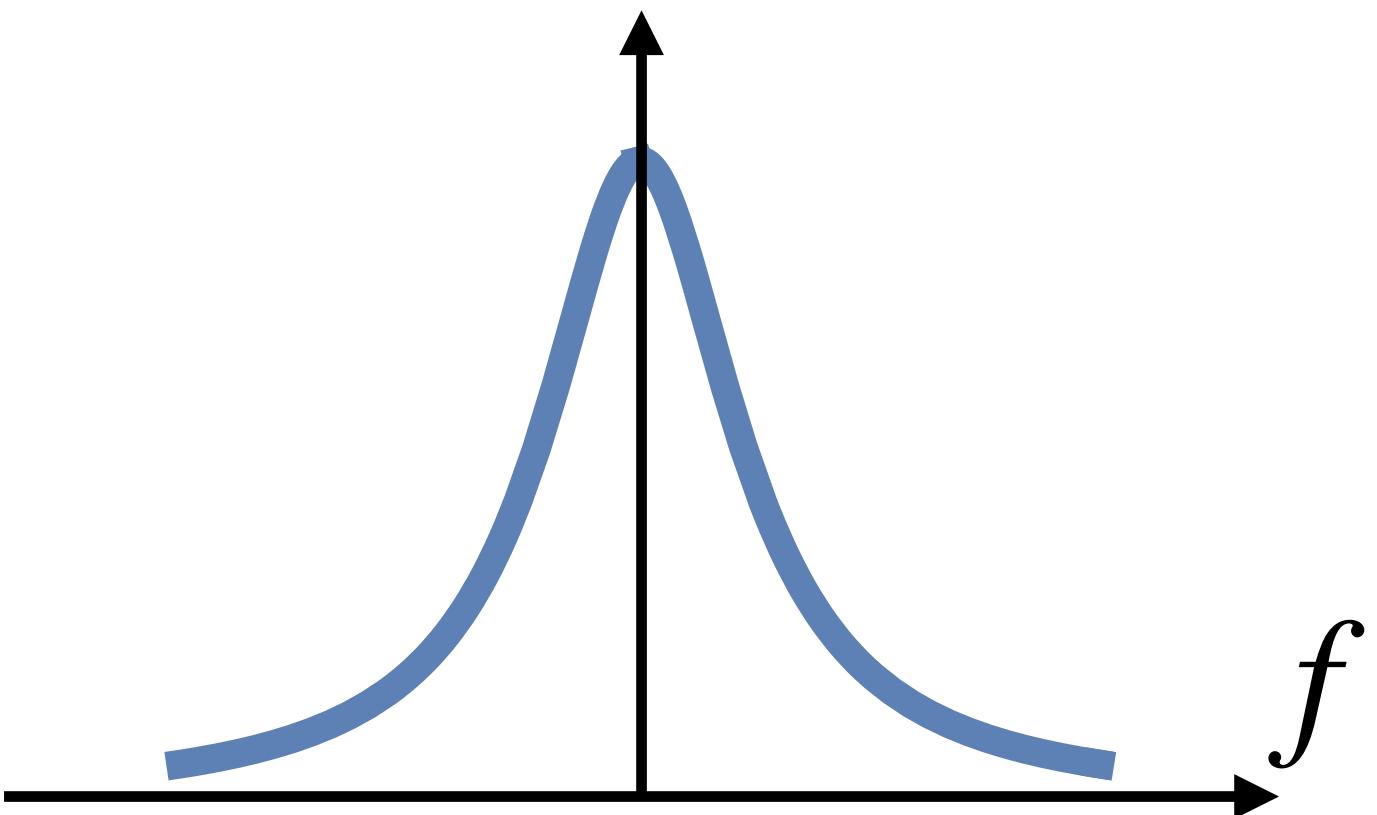
- One-photon nonlinearities
- Quantum memories
- Improve clock accuracy?

Basic, many-body problem (driven dissipative)



# Laser-cooled atoms

Typical atomic linewidth for alkalis:  $\Gamma/2\pi \sim \text{MHz}$



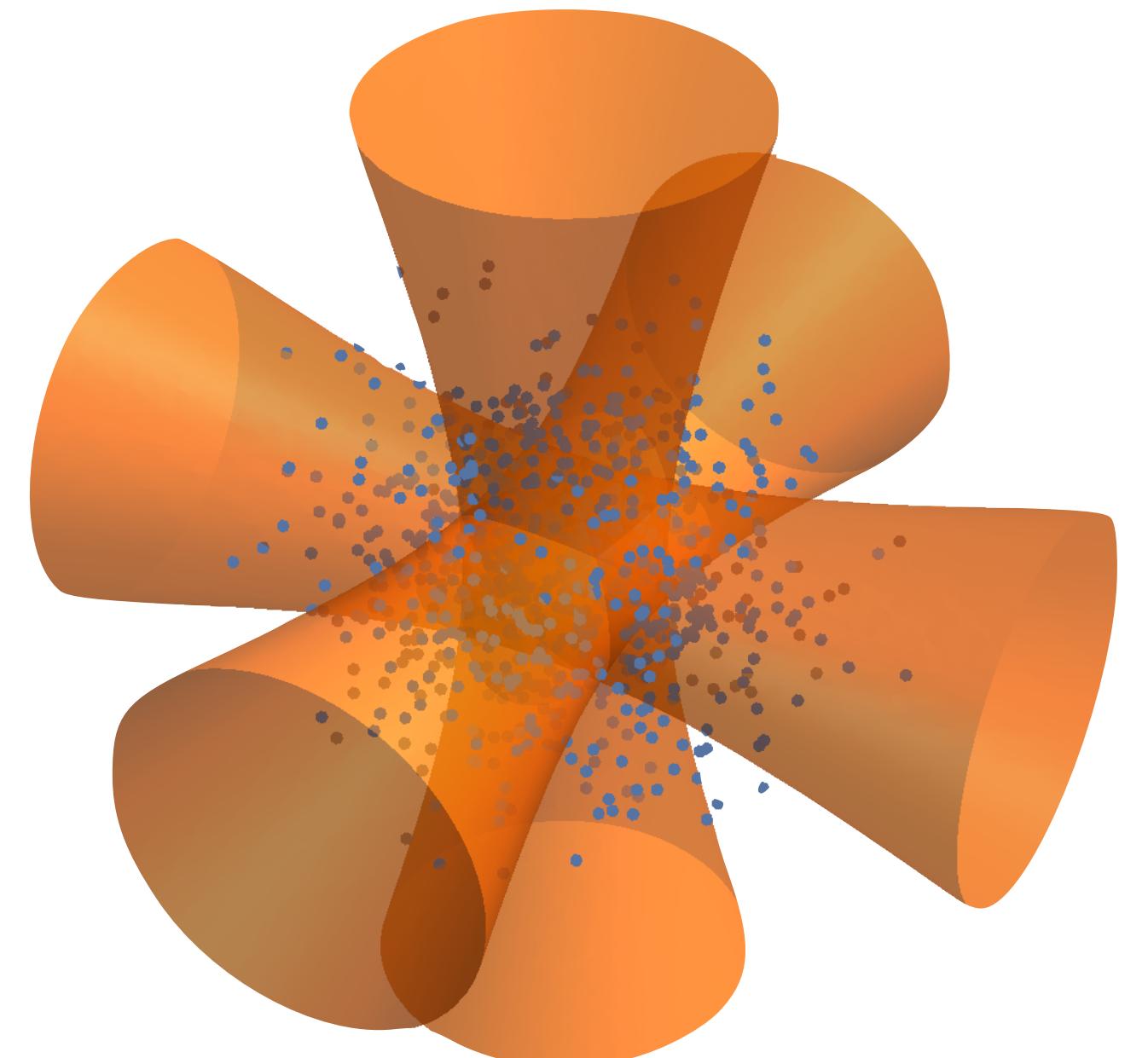
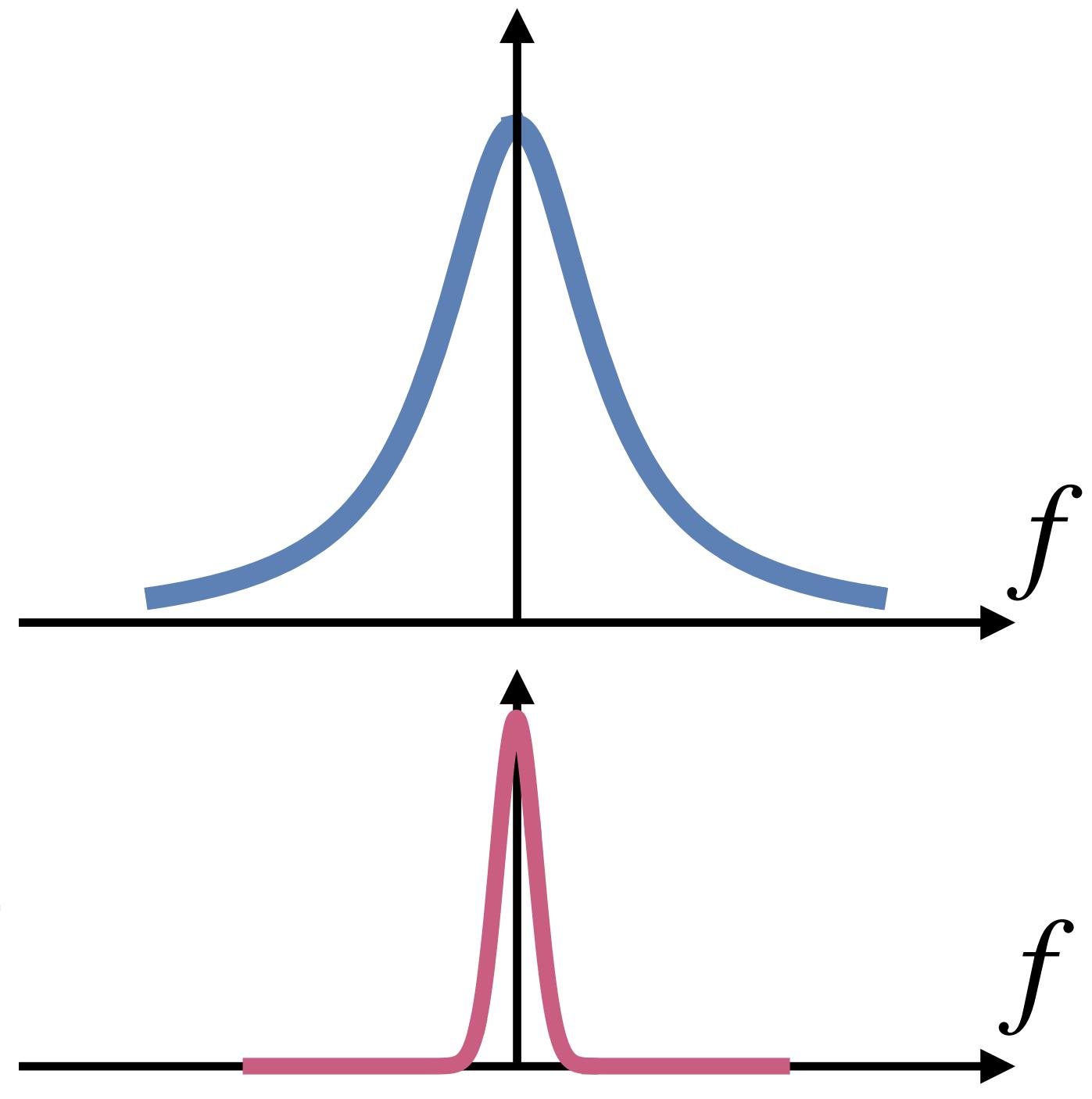
# Laser-cooled atoms

Typical atomic linewidth for alkalis:  $\Gamma/2\pi \sim \text{MHz}$

Temperature  $T \sim 1 - 100 \mu\text{K}$

Typical Doppler broadening:  $\Delta\omega = k\Delta\nu$ ,  $\Delta\omega_D/2\pi \sim 10^4 - 10^5 \text{ Hz}$

Typical collision rate:  $\lesssim 10 \text{ kHz}$ : no dephasing



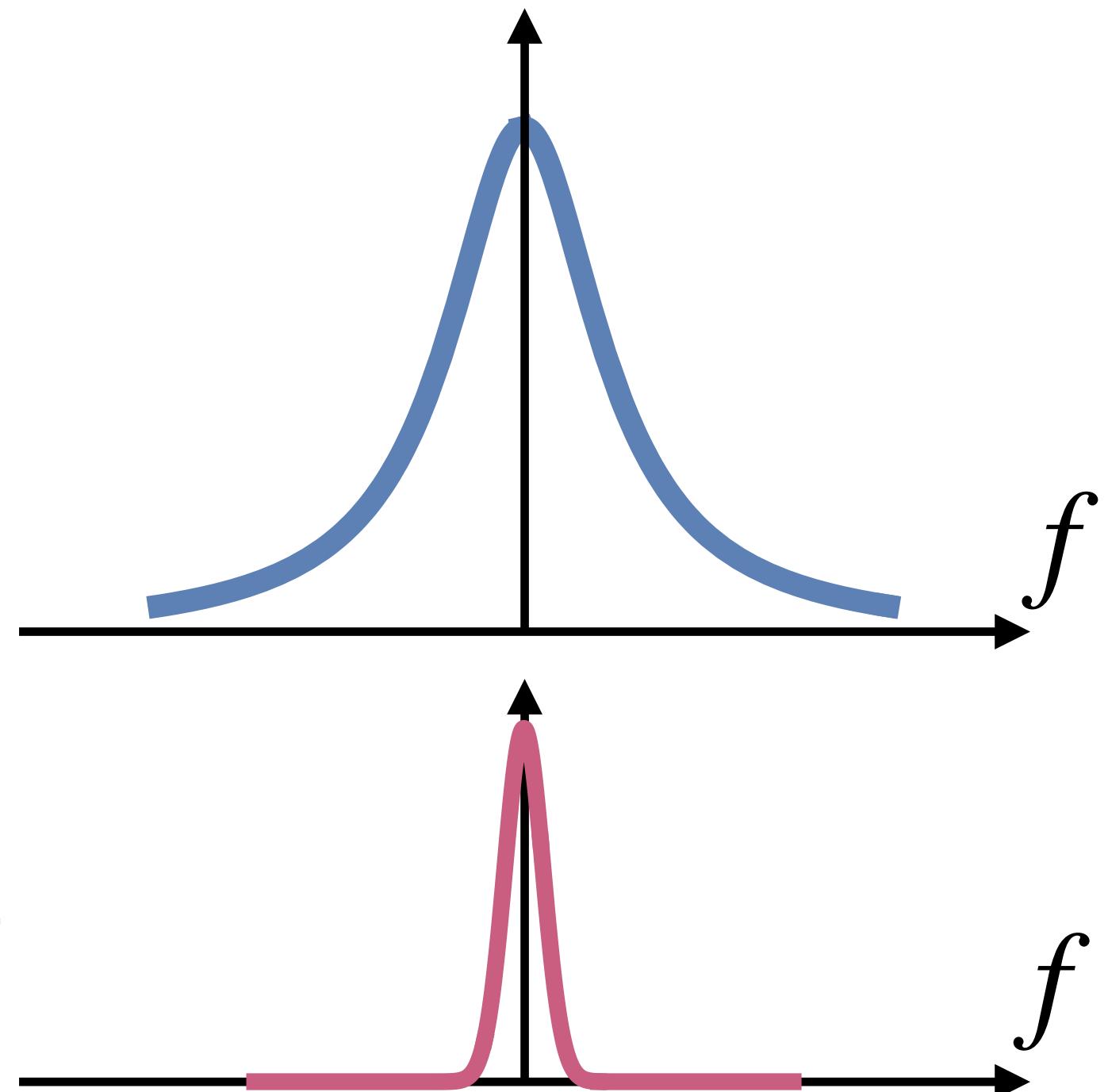
# Laser-cooled atoms

Typical atomic linewidth for alkalis:  $\Gamma/2\pi \sim \text{MHz}$

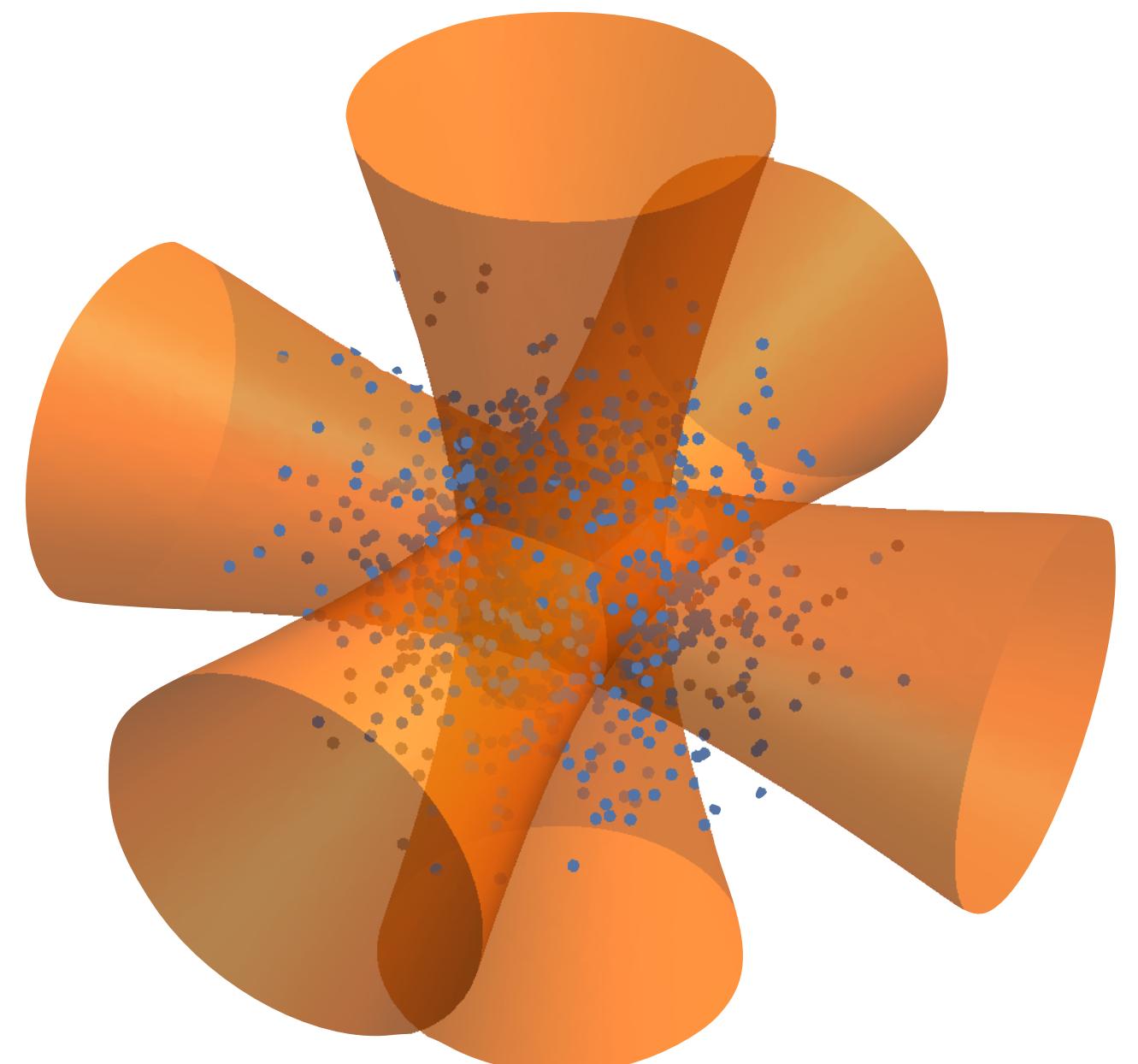
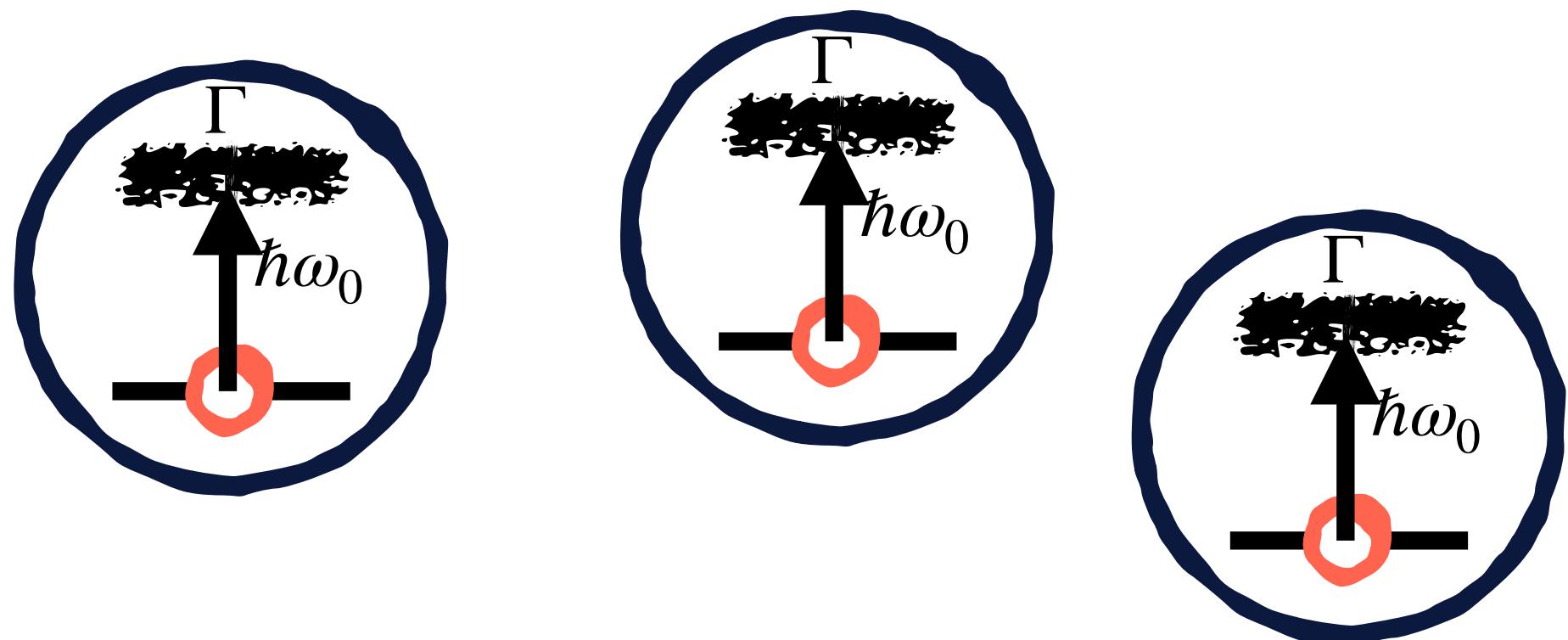
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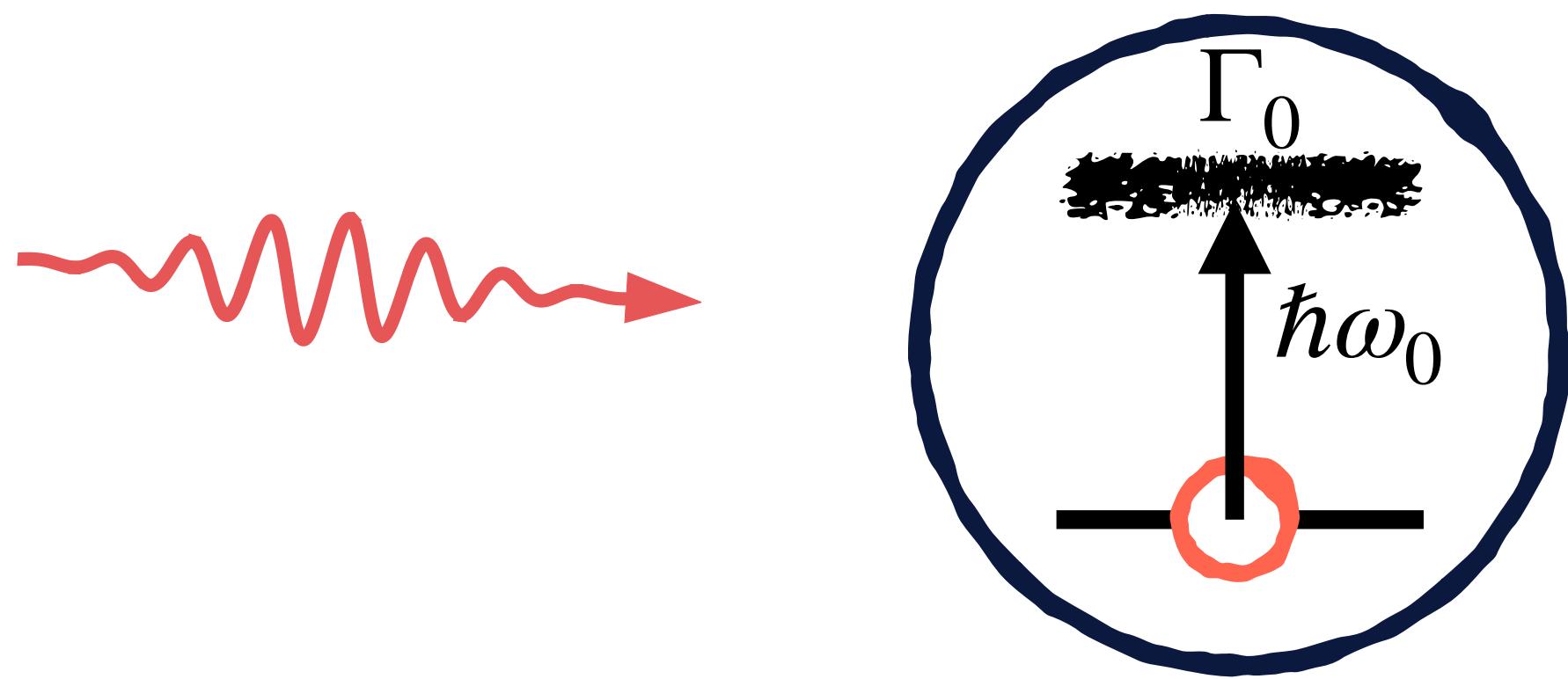


No inhomogeneous broadening  $\Gamma \gg \Delta\omega$ : atoms are identical

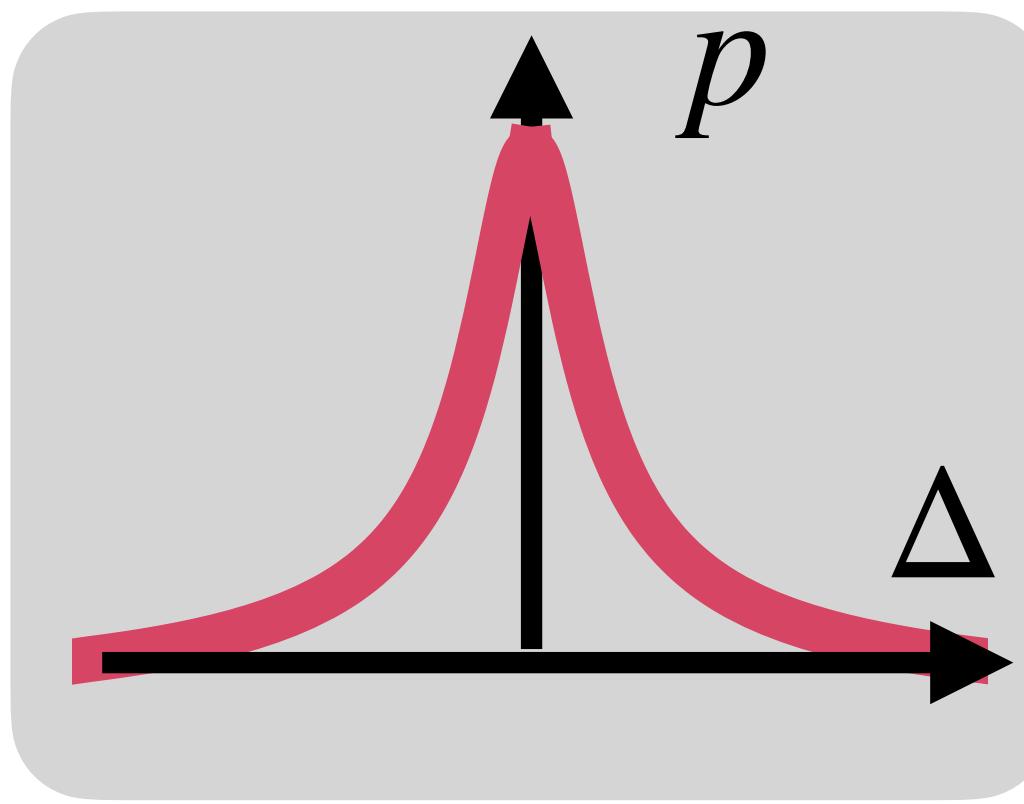


# Light scattering

Single two-level atom in **free space**

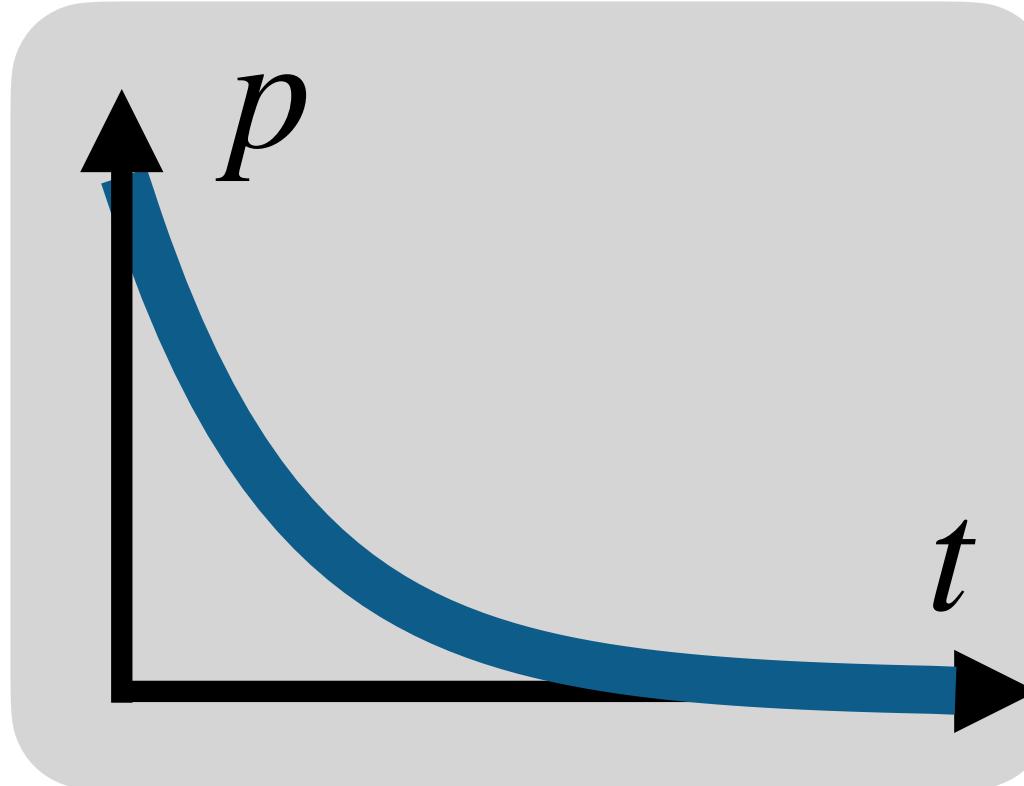


Scattered power vs detuning



$$p(\Delta) \propto \frac{\Gamma}{2} \frac{s}{1 + s + (2\Delta/\Gamma_0)^2}$$

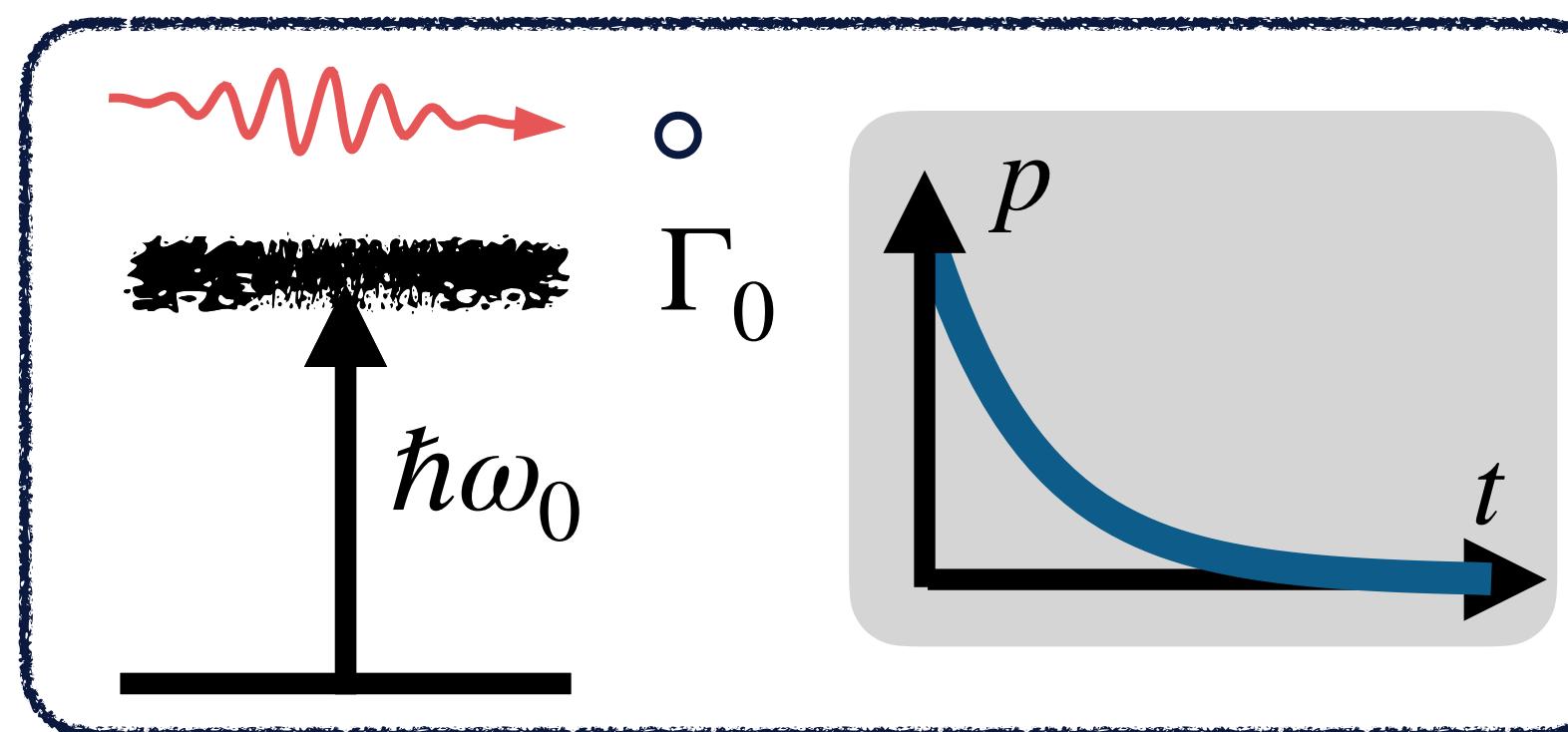
Scattered power vs time



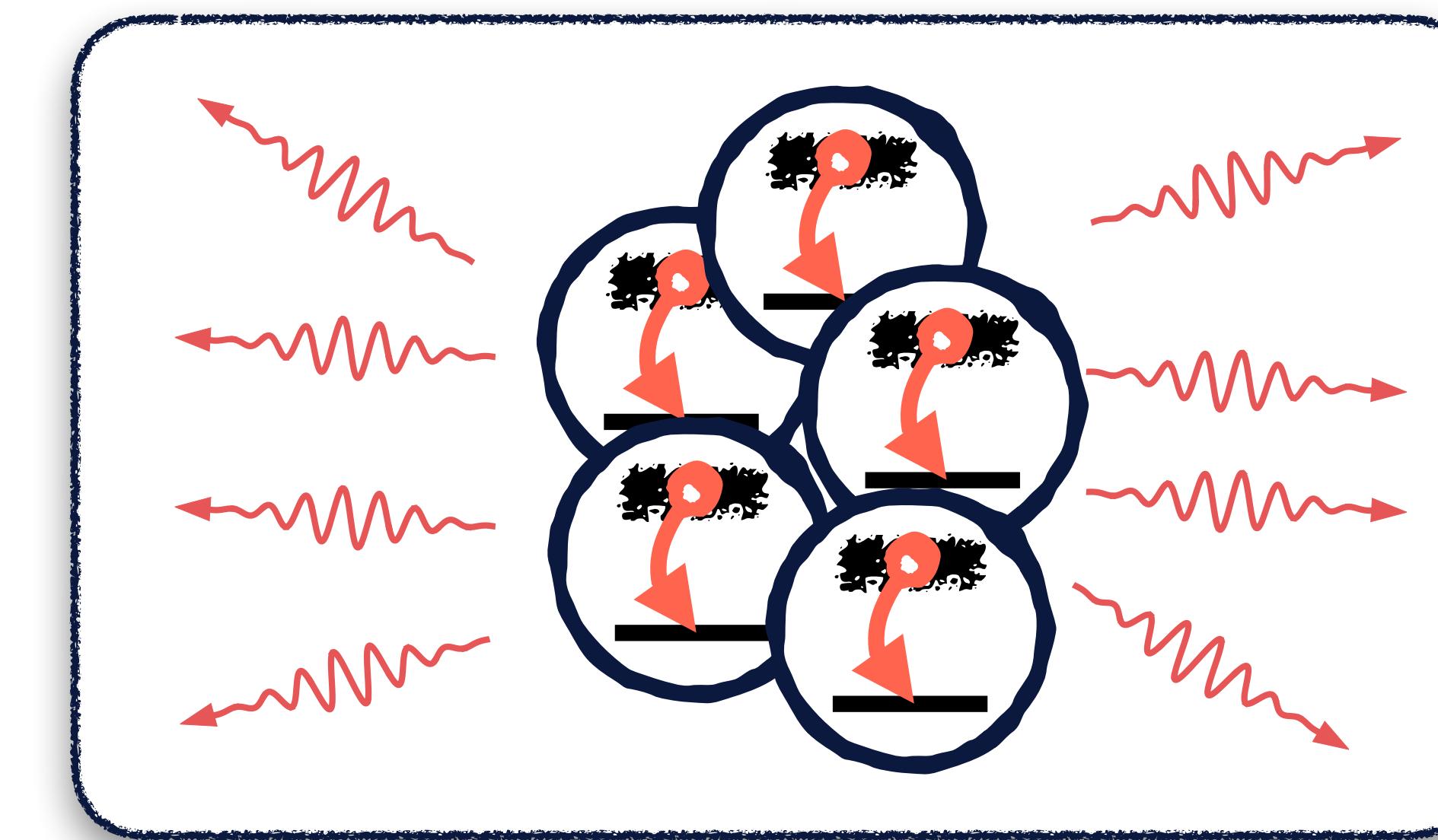
$$p(t) \propto e^{-\Gamma_0 t}$$

# Collective light scattering

Single atom in free space

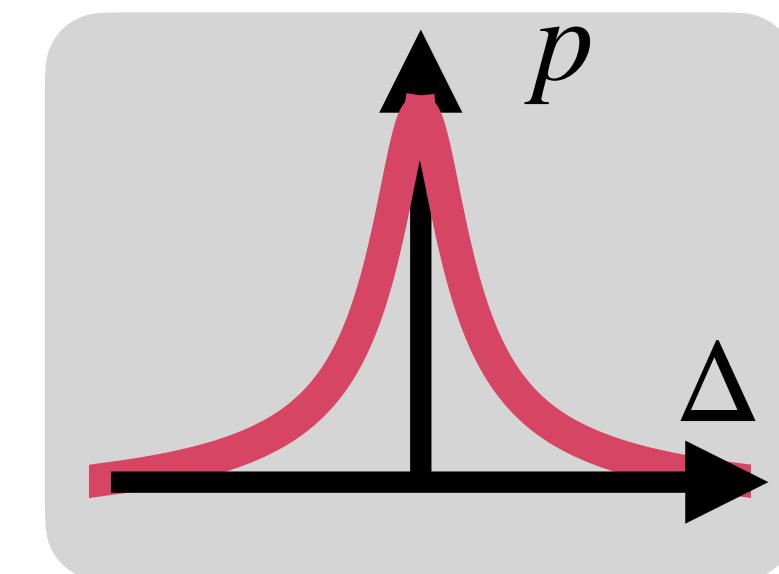


N-atom collective response

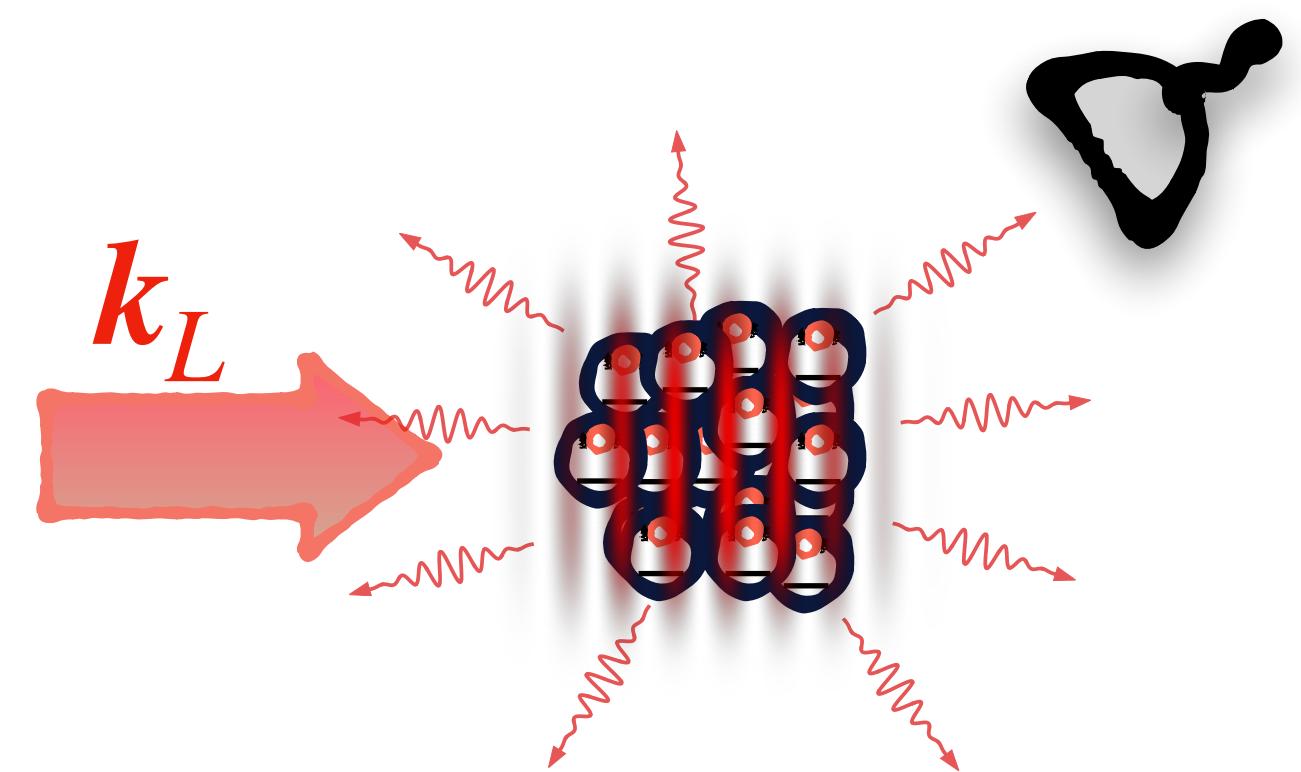


# Outline

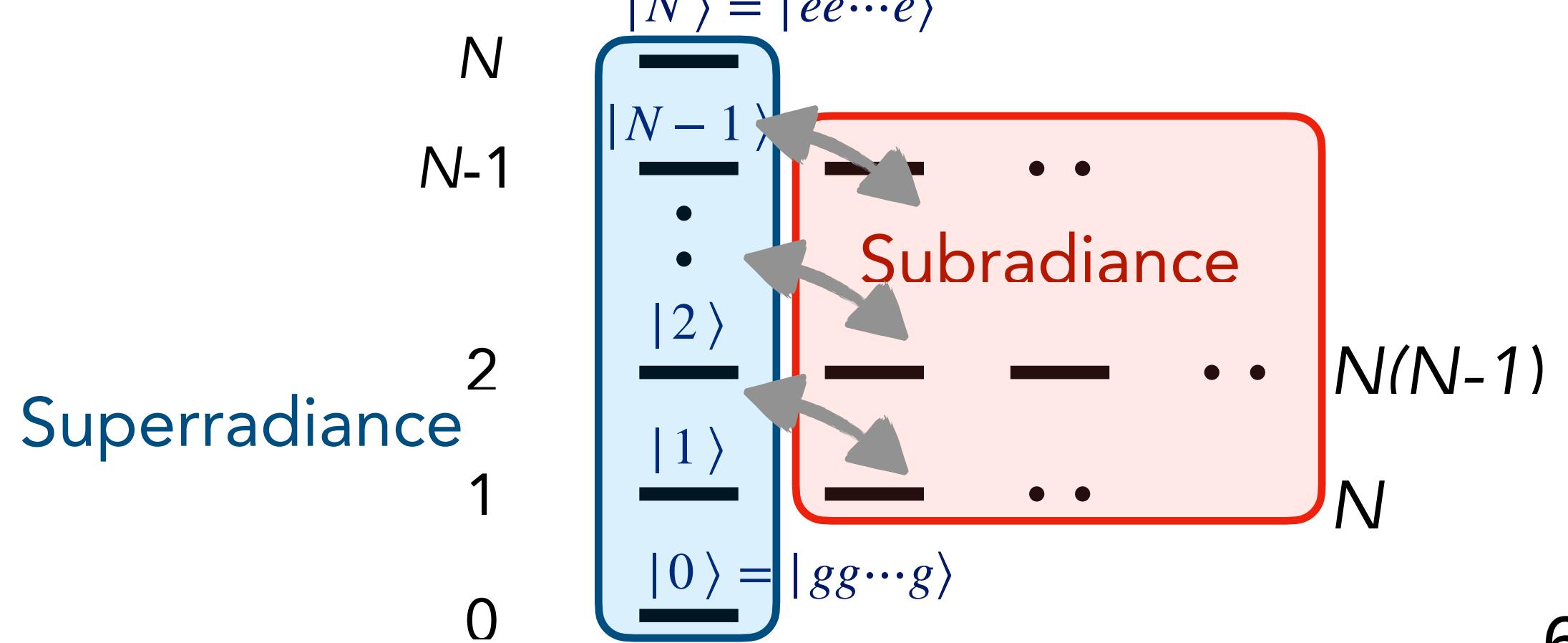
Lecture 1: Quantum optics of single atoms



Lecture 2: Collective light scattering by  $N$  atoms

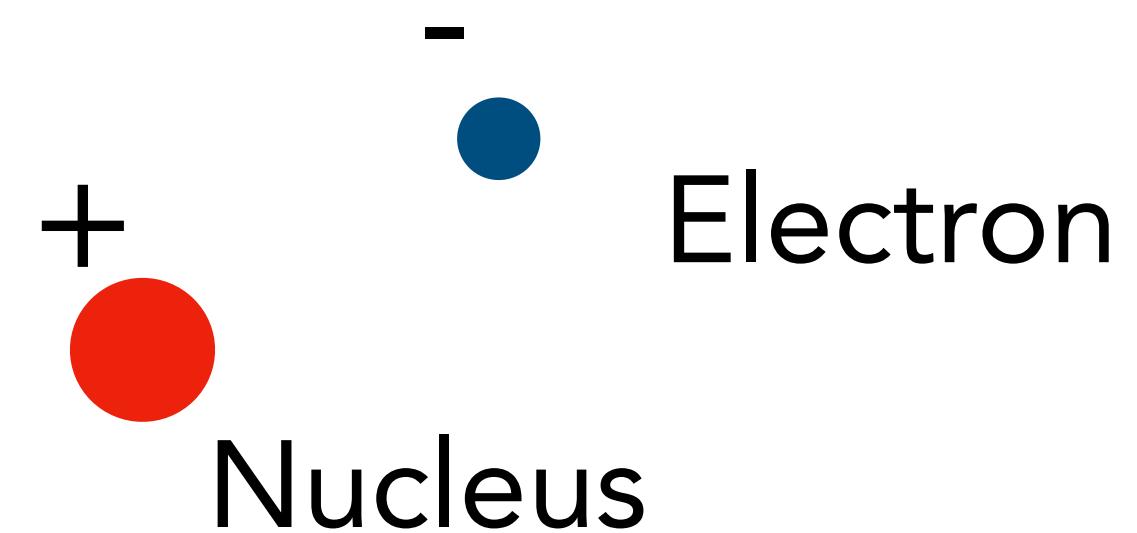


Lecture 3: Many-body quantum optics

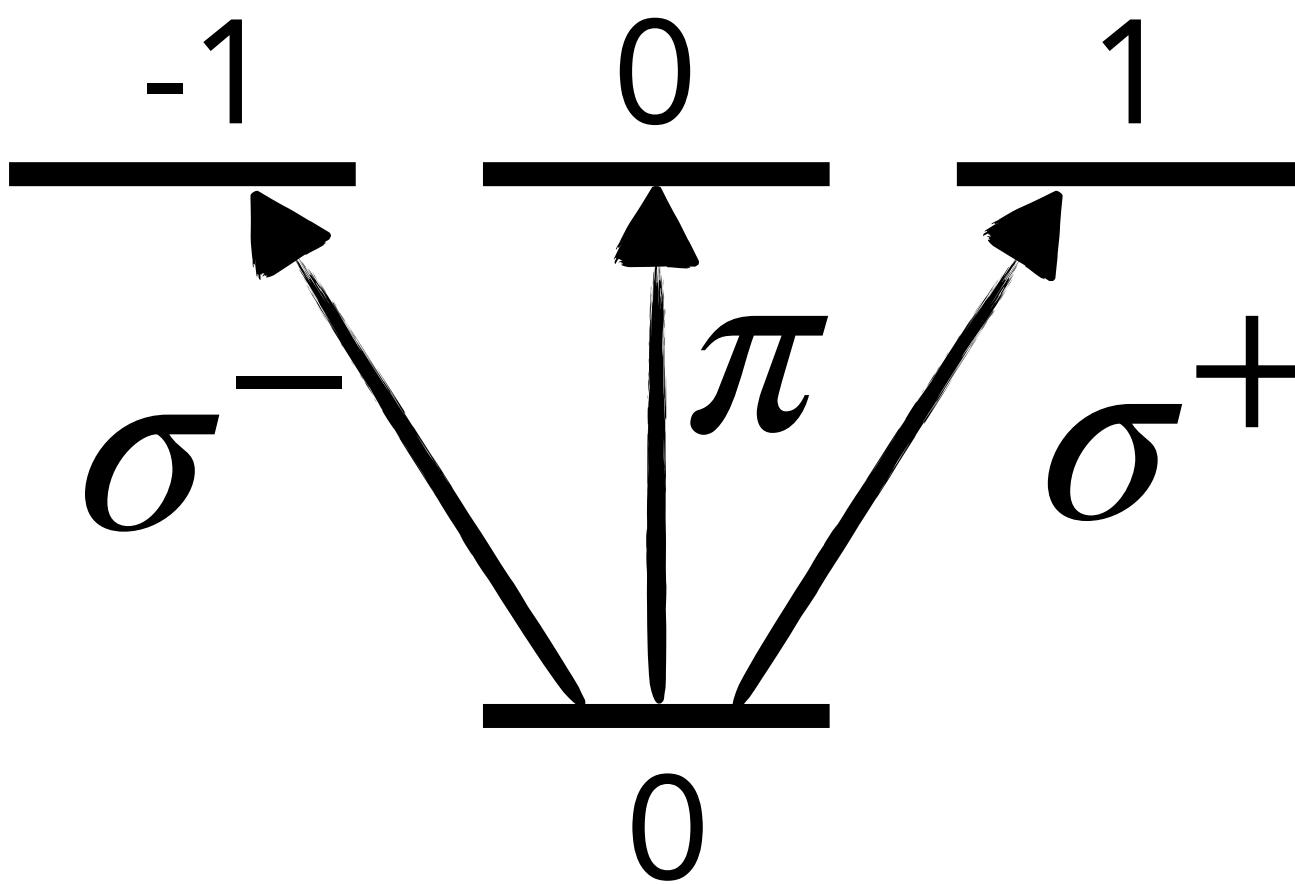


# The atomic dipole

Classical dipole



Quantized electronic motion



$$\hat{d} = q\hat{r}$$

$$\hat{D} = \sum_i q\hat{r}_i$$

$$|n', l', m'_l\rangle$$

$$|n, l, m_l\rangle$$

Dipole elements:

$$\langle n', l', m'_l | \hat{D} | n, l, m_l \rangle$$

# Spontaneous emission

Fermi's golden rule  $\Gamma = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle g,1_k | \hat{D} \cdot \hat{E} | e,0 \rangle|^2 \rho(\hbar\omega_0)$

$$\Gamma = \frac{\omega_0^3}{3\pi\hbar\varepsilon_0 c^3} |d_{eg}|^2 \quad |d_{eg}|^2 = |\langle e | \hat{D} | g \rangle|^2$$

Atoms and field are entangled:  $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|e,0\rangle + \sum_k \beta_k|g,1_k\rangle$

$$\rho_{at} = \alpha^2|e\rangle\langle e| + \beta^2|g\rangle\langle g| \quad \rightarrow \quad \langle \hat{D} \rangle = 0 \quad \text{during spontaneous emission}$$

Description of the atomic systems tracing out the field: Master equation

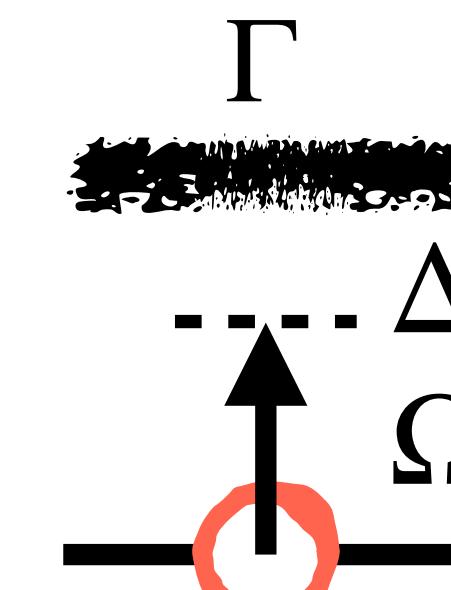
# Optical Bloch equations

Master equation

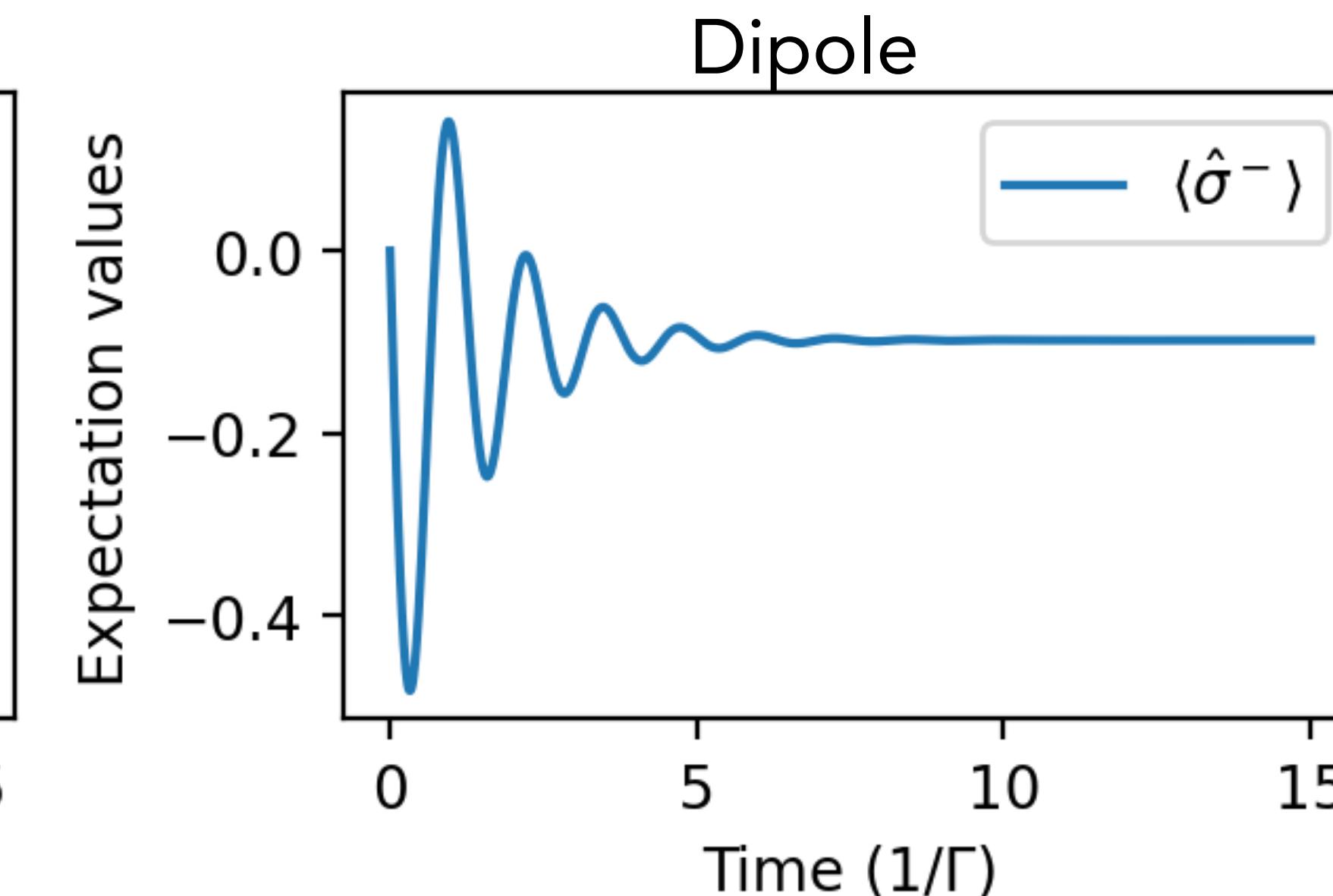
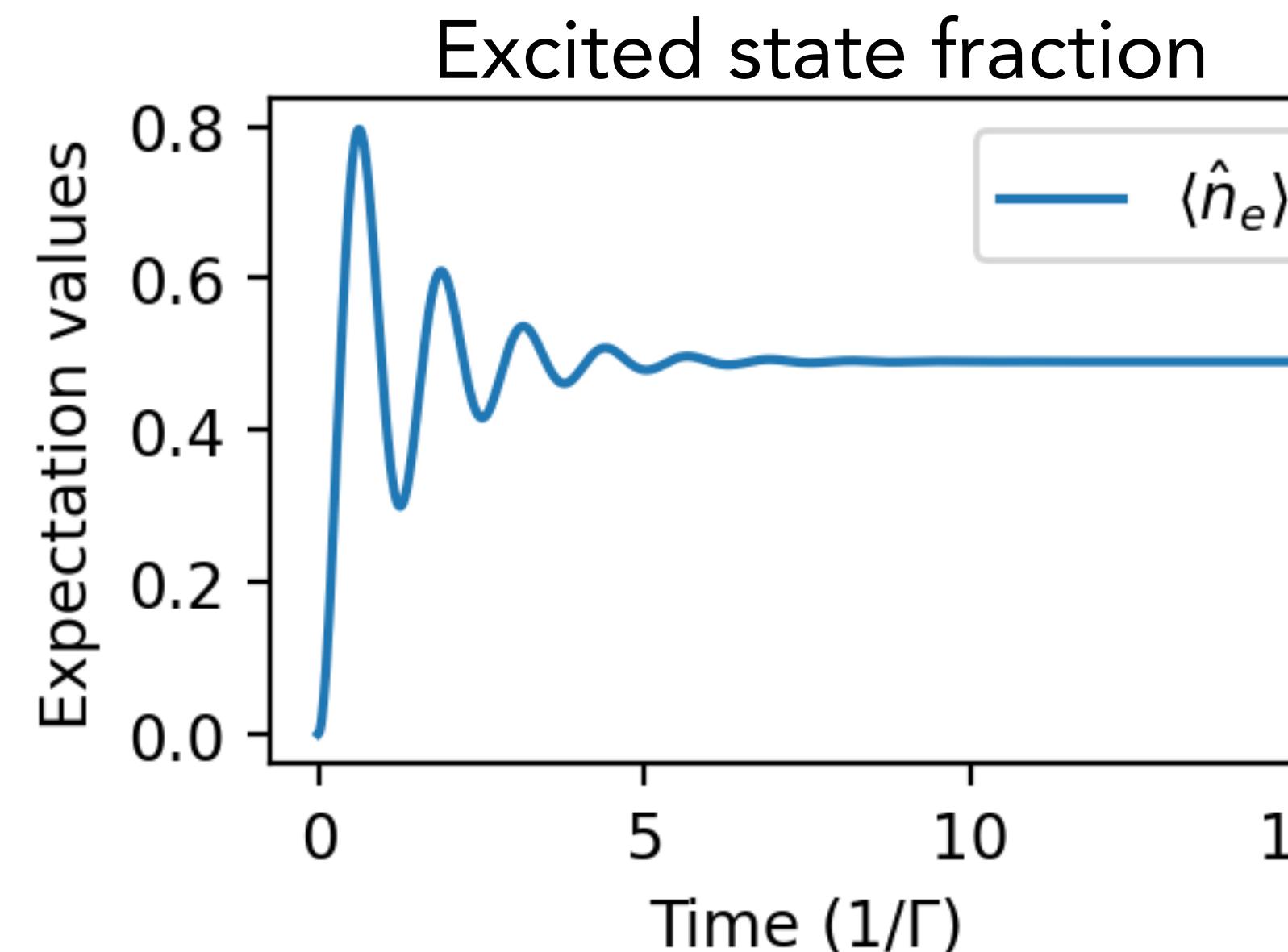
$$\dot{\rho}_{ee} = -\frac{i\Omega}{2}(\rho_{eg} - \rho_{ge}) - \Gamma\rho_{ee}$$

$$\dot{\rho}_{eg} = -\frac{i\Omega}{2}(\rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg}) - \frac{\Gamma}{2}\rho_{eg} + i\Delta\rho_{eg}$$

$$\dot{\rho} = \frac{1}{i\hbar} [H, \rho] + L(\rho)$$

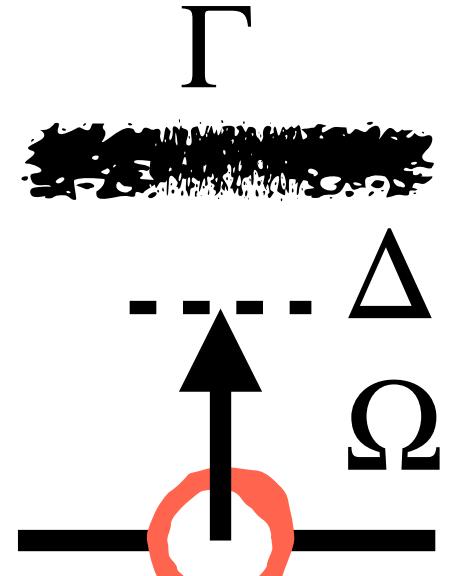


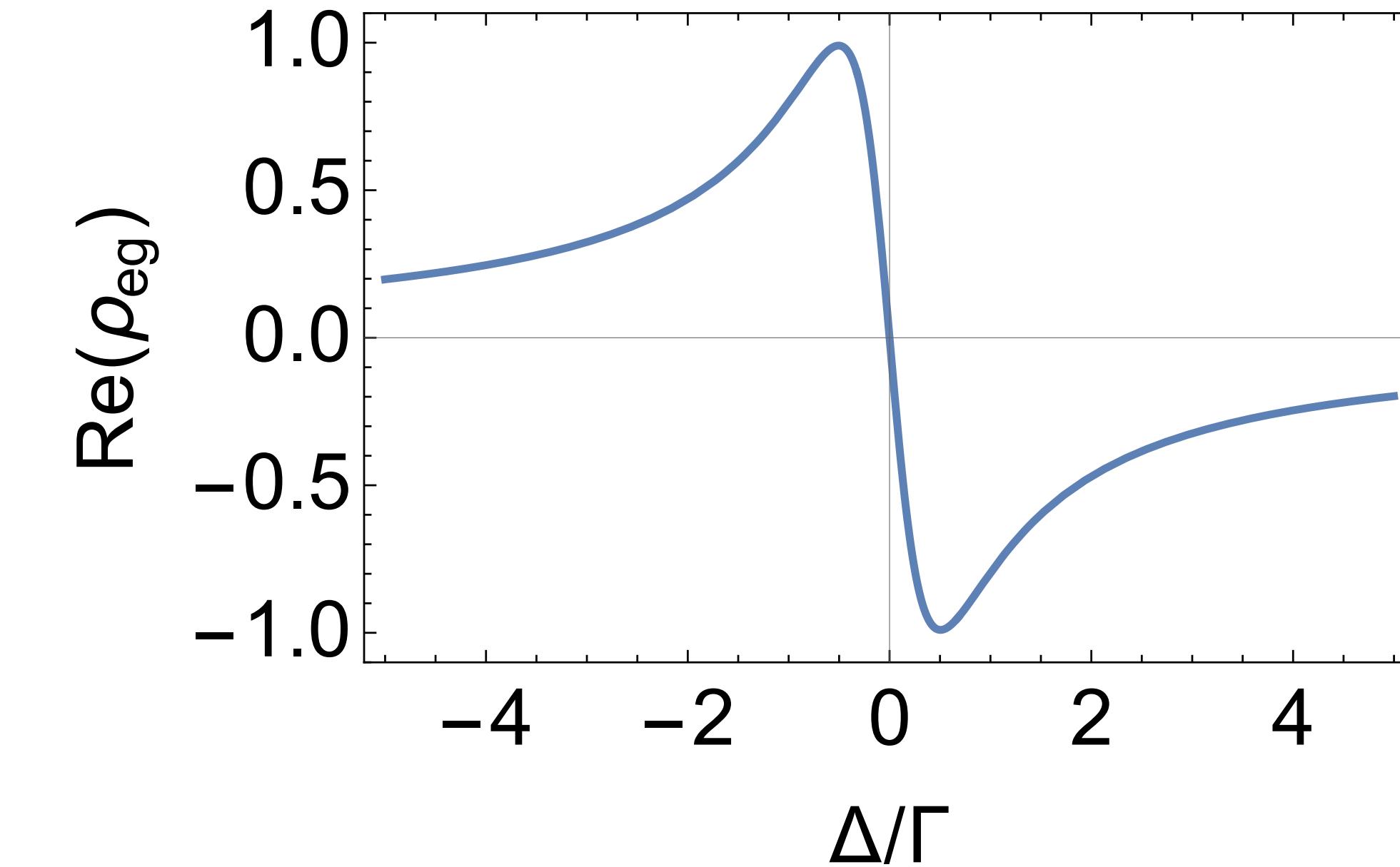
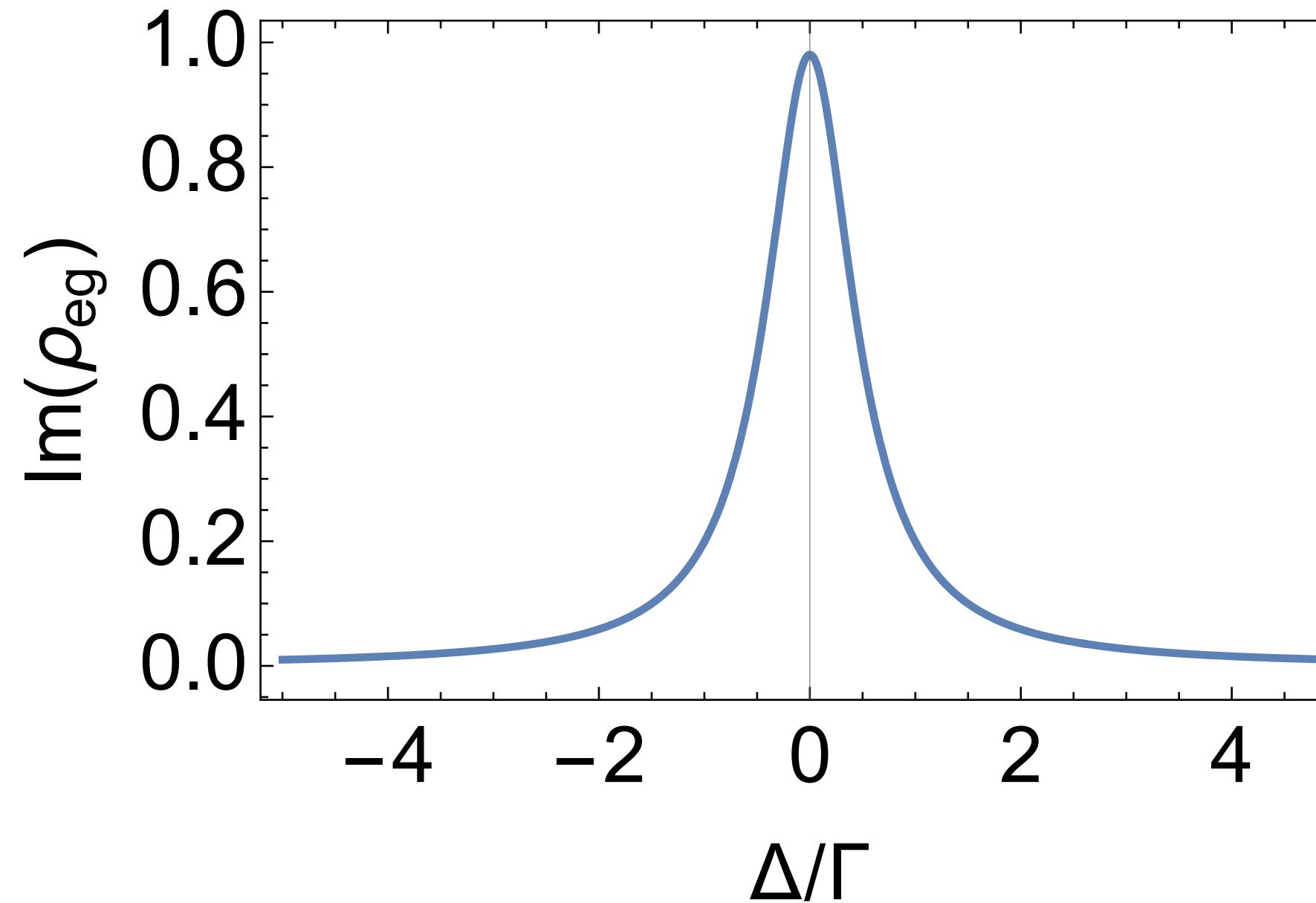
Rabi oscillations



# Optical Bloch equations

Steady-state solutions:

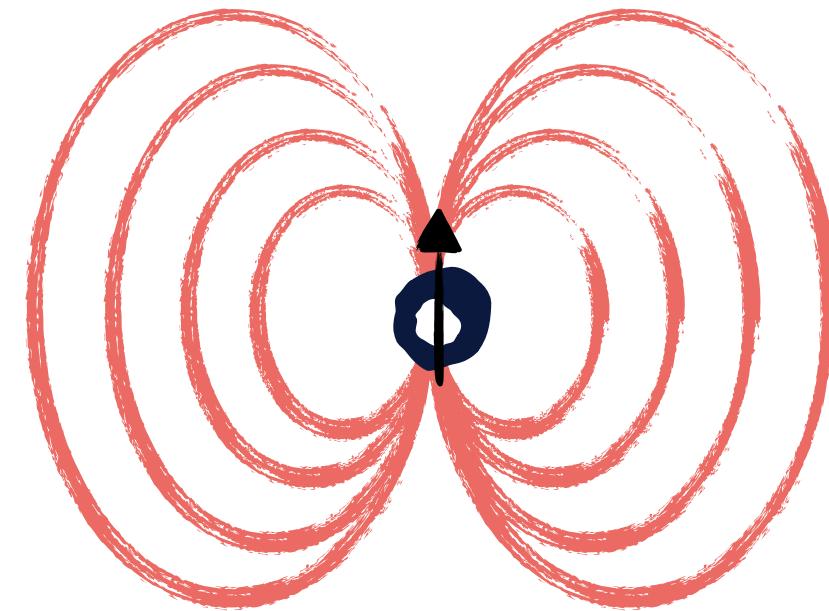
$$\rho_{ee} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2\Omega^2/\Gamma^2}{1 + 2\Omega^2/\Gamma^2 + 4\Delta^2/\Gamma^2}$$
$$\rho_{eg} = i \frac{\Omega}{2} \frac{\Gamma/2 + i\Delta}{\Gamma^2/4 + \Omega^2/2 + \Delta^2}$$
$$s = I/I_{\text{sat}} = \frac{2\Omega^2}{\Gamma^2}$$
$$I_{\text{sat}} = \frac{2\pi^2 \hbar \Gamma c}{3\lambda^3}$$




# Dipole radiation

Classical dipole field

$$E_z = \frac{\langle d \rangle k^3}{4\pi\epsilon_0} e^{ikr} \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{kr} + (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \left( \frac{1}{(kr)^3} - i \frac{1}{(kr)^2} \right) \right]$$



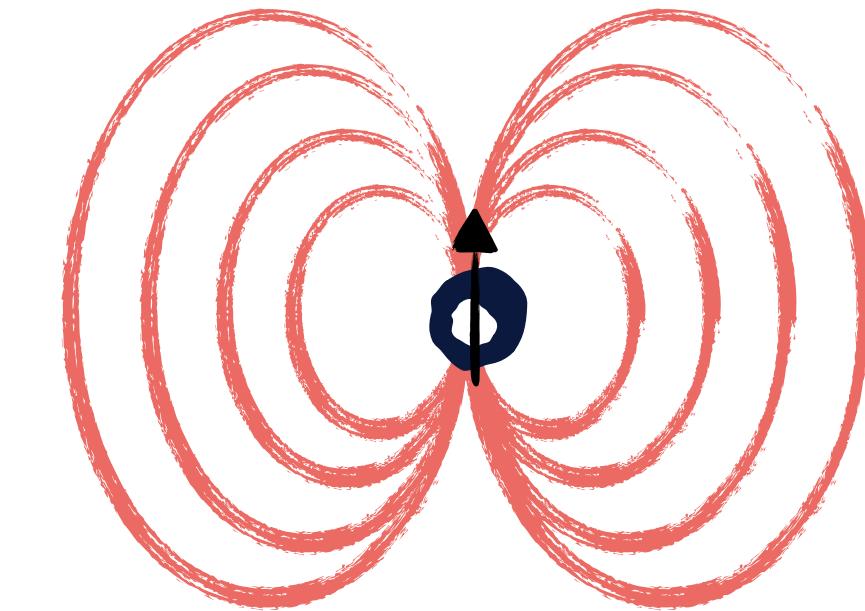
Weak driving: classical dipole

$$\langle d \rangle = d_{eg} \rho_{eg} = \frac{6\pi\epsilon_0}{k^3} i E_0$$

# Dipole radiation

Classical dipole field

$$E_z = \frac{\langle d \rangle k^3}{4\pi\epsilon_0} e^{ikr} \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{kr} + (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \left( \frac{1}{(kr)^3} - i \frac{1}{(kr)^2} \right) \right]$$

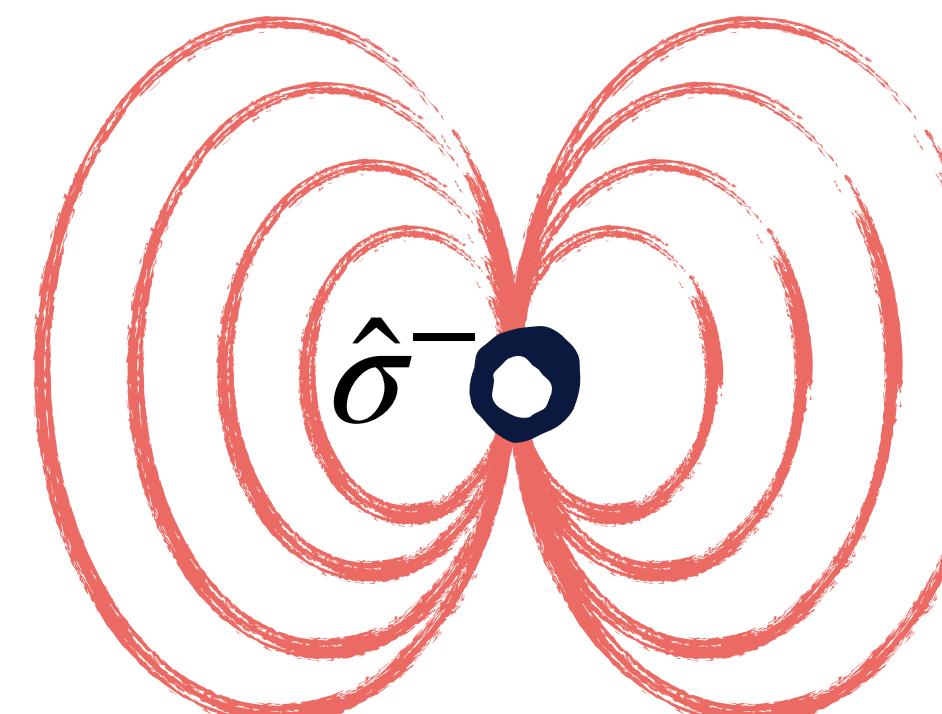


Weak driving: classical dipole

$$\langle d \rangle = d_{eg} \rho_{eg} = \frac{6\pi\epsilon_0}{k^3} i E_0$$

Two-level atom

$$\hat{E}^+(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k^3}{\epsilon_0} G(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{at}) \hat{\sigma}^-$$



$$\hat{\sigma}^+ \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{r})$$
$$I = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{r}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$$

\*see many-atom case 11

# Single atom absorption

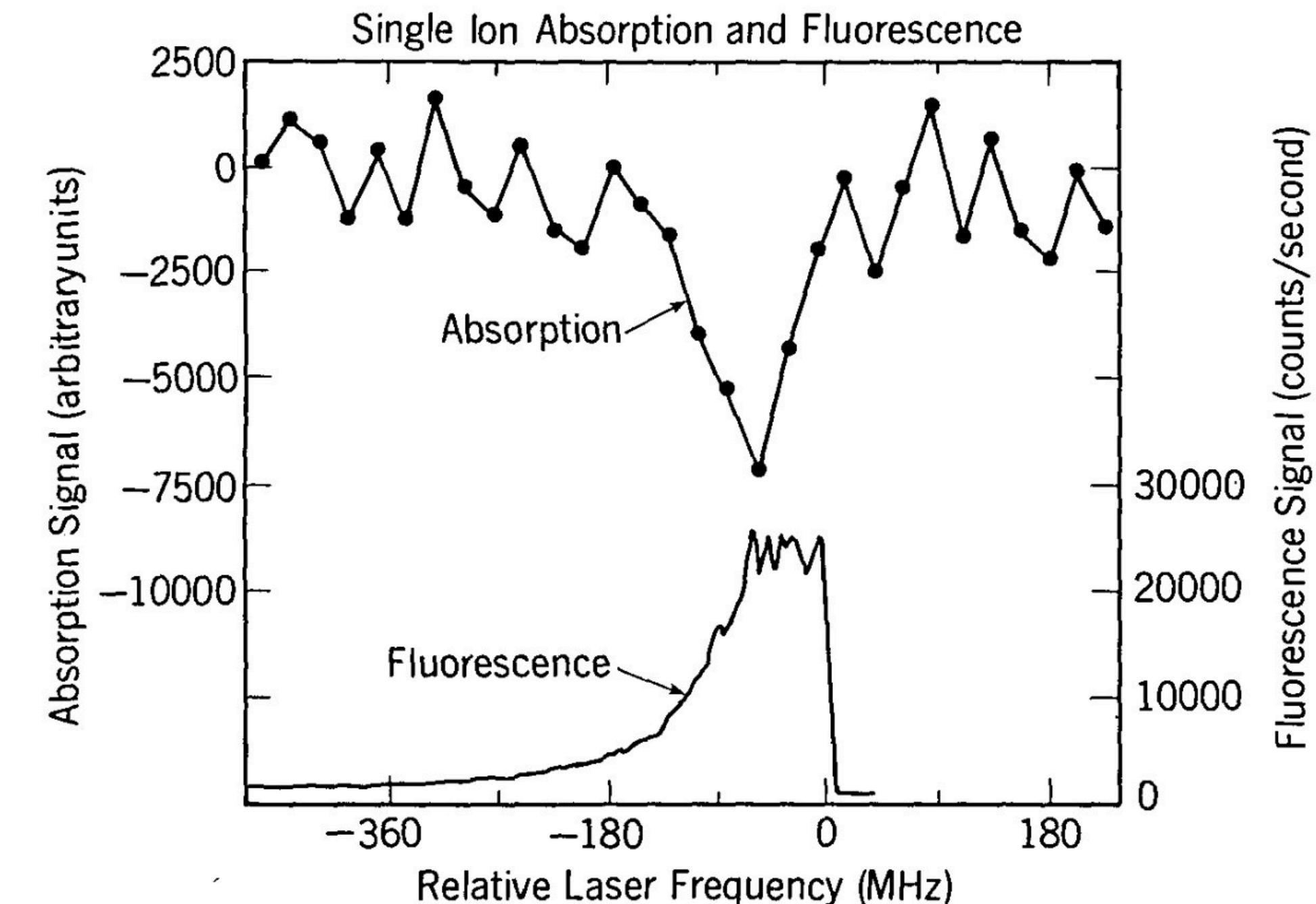
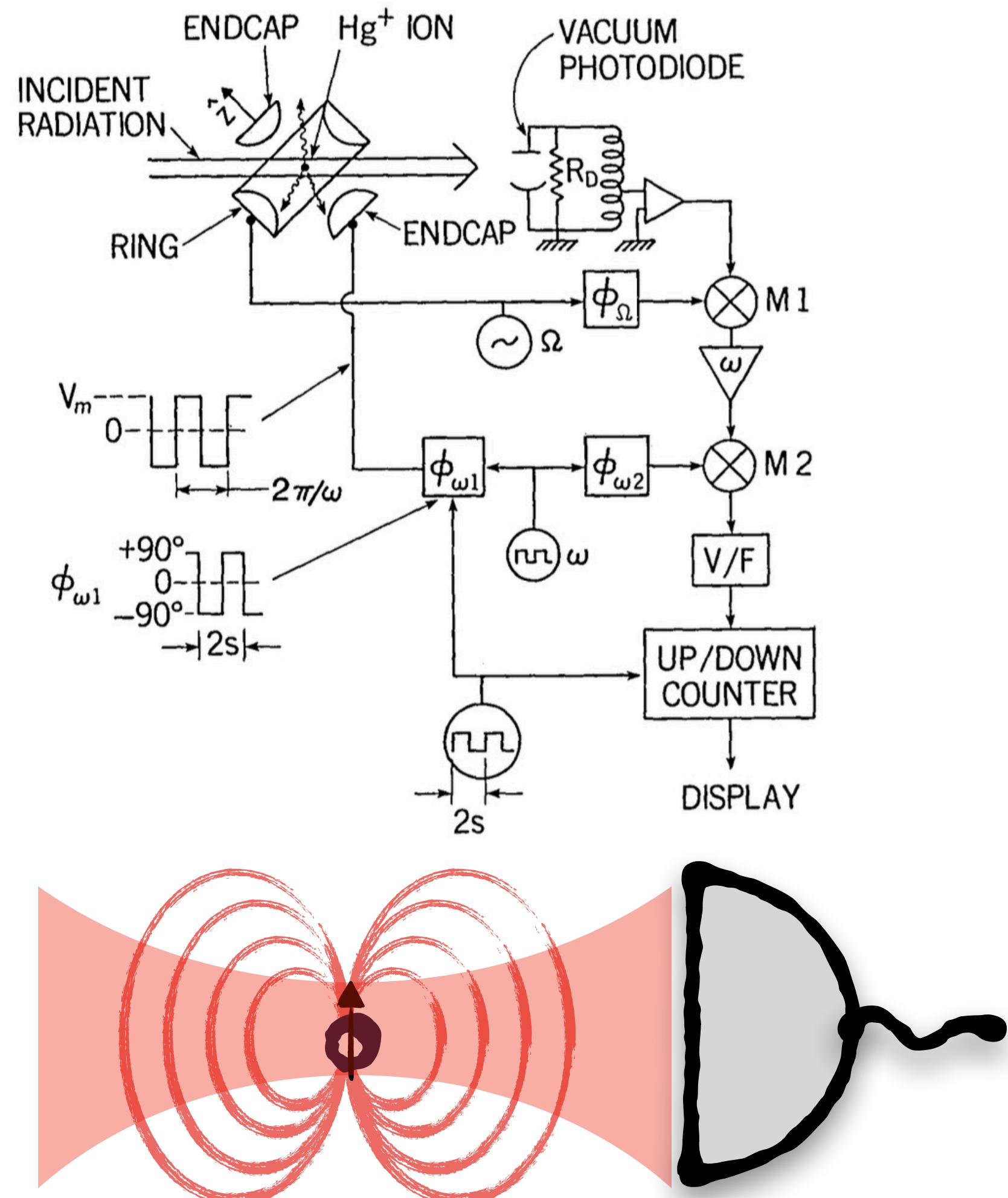
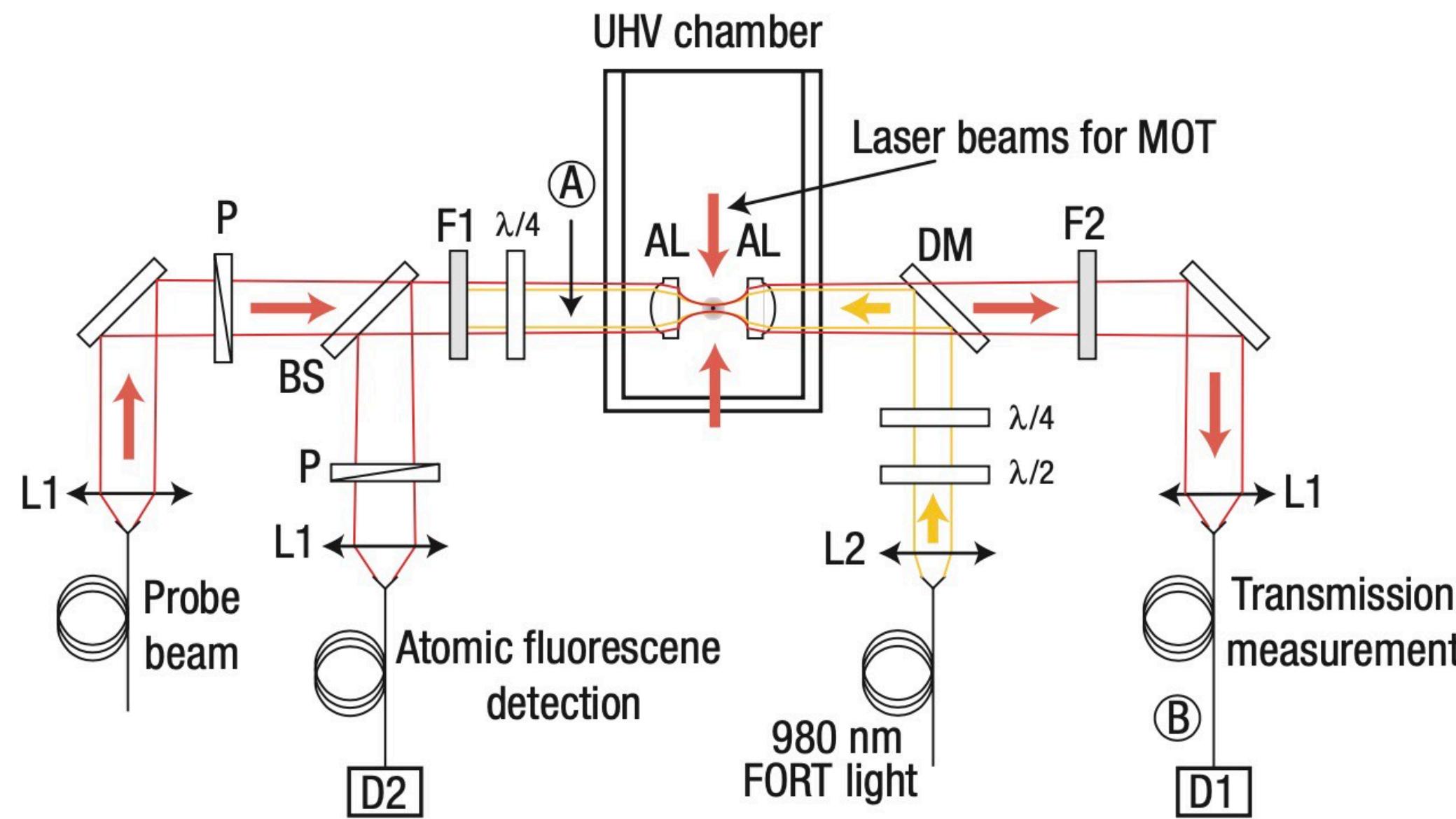
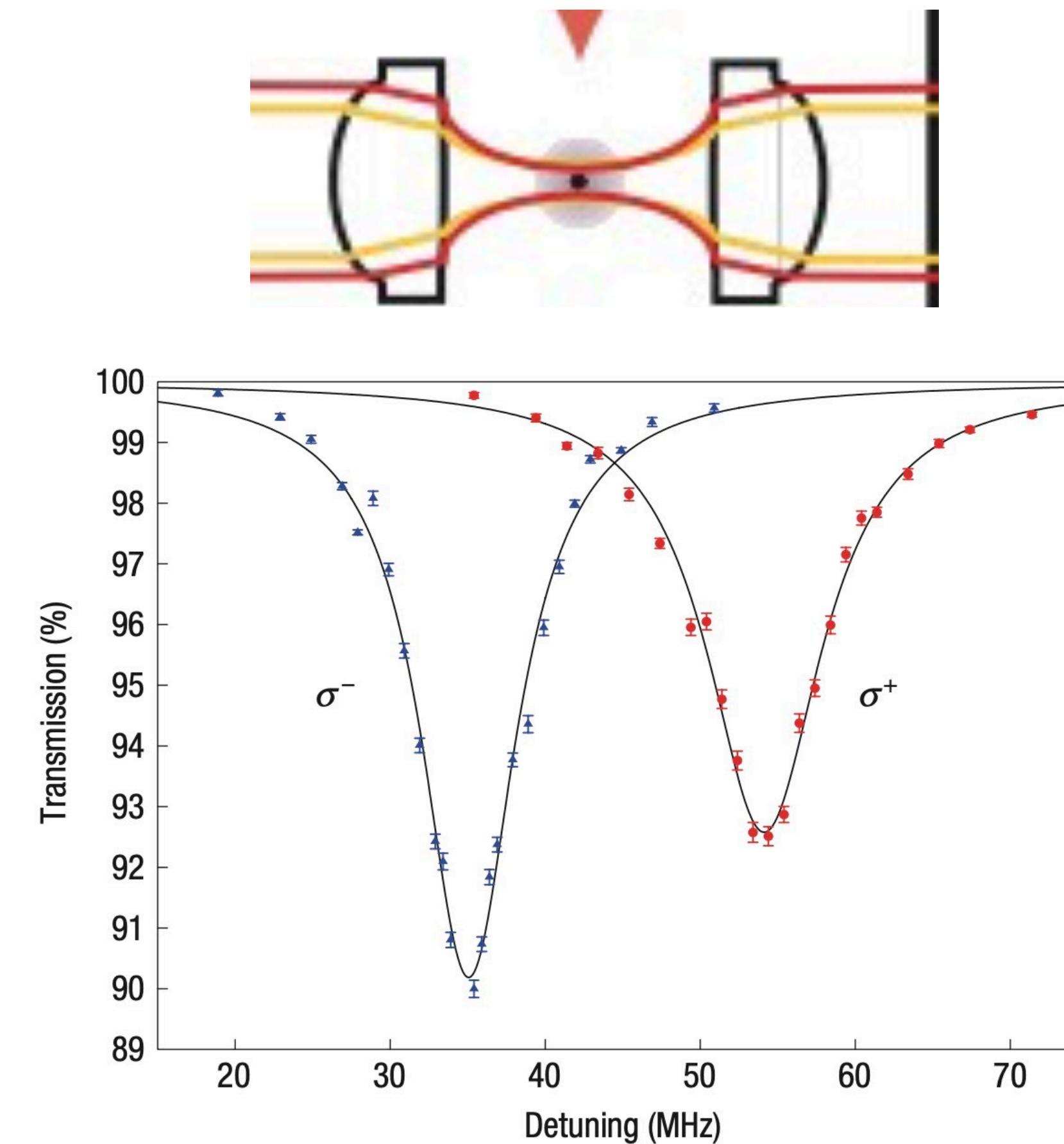


Fig. 2. Absorption signal observed as the 194-nm source is tuned through  $\nu_0$ . Lower trace shows the simultaneously observed fluorescence scattering; the flat-topped appearance of this curve is due to the frequency modulation of the ion resonance. Integration times per point are 50 and 10 sec in the upper and lower traces, respectively.

# Single atom absorption



**Figure 1** Experimental set-up for measuring the extinction of a light beam by a single atom. AL: aspheric lens ( $f = 4.5$  mm, full NA = 0.55), P: polarizer, DM: dichroic mirror, BS: beam splitter with 99% reflectivity,  $\lambda/4$ ,  $\lambda/2$ : quarter- and half-wave plates, F1: filters for blocking the 980 nm FORT light, F2: interference filter centred at 780 nm, D1 and D2: Si avalanche photodiodes, UHV: ultrahigh vacuum. Four more laser beams forming the MOT lie in an orthogonal plane and are not shown explicitly.



**Figure 4** Transmission of the probe beam versus detuning from the natural resonant frequency of the  $|g\rangle$  to  $|e\rangle$  transition. The absolute photon scattering rate is kept at  $\approx 2,500\text{ s}^{-1}$  for every point by adjusting the probe intensity according to the measured extinction. The solid lines are Lorentzian fits. Error bars indicate  $\pm 1$  standard deviations obtained from propagated Poissonian counting statistics (see the Methods section).

# Resonance fluorescence

First order coherence

$$g^{(1)}(\tau) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle E^-(t)E^+(t + \tau) \rangle$$

Interference between the field at  $t$  and  $t + \tau$

Resonance spectrum

$$S(\omega) = \int_0^\infty g^{(1)} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

# Resonance fluorescence

First order coherence

$$g^{(1)}(\tau) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle E^-(t)E^+(t + \tau) \rangle$$

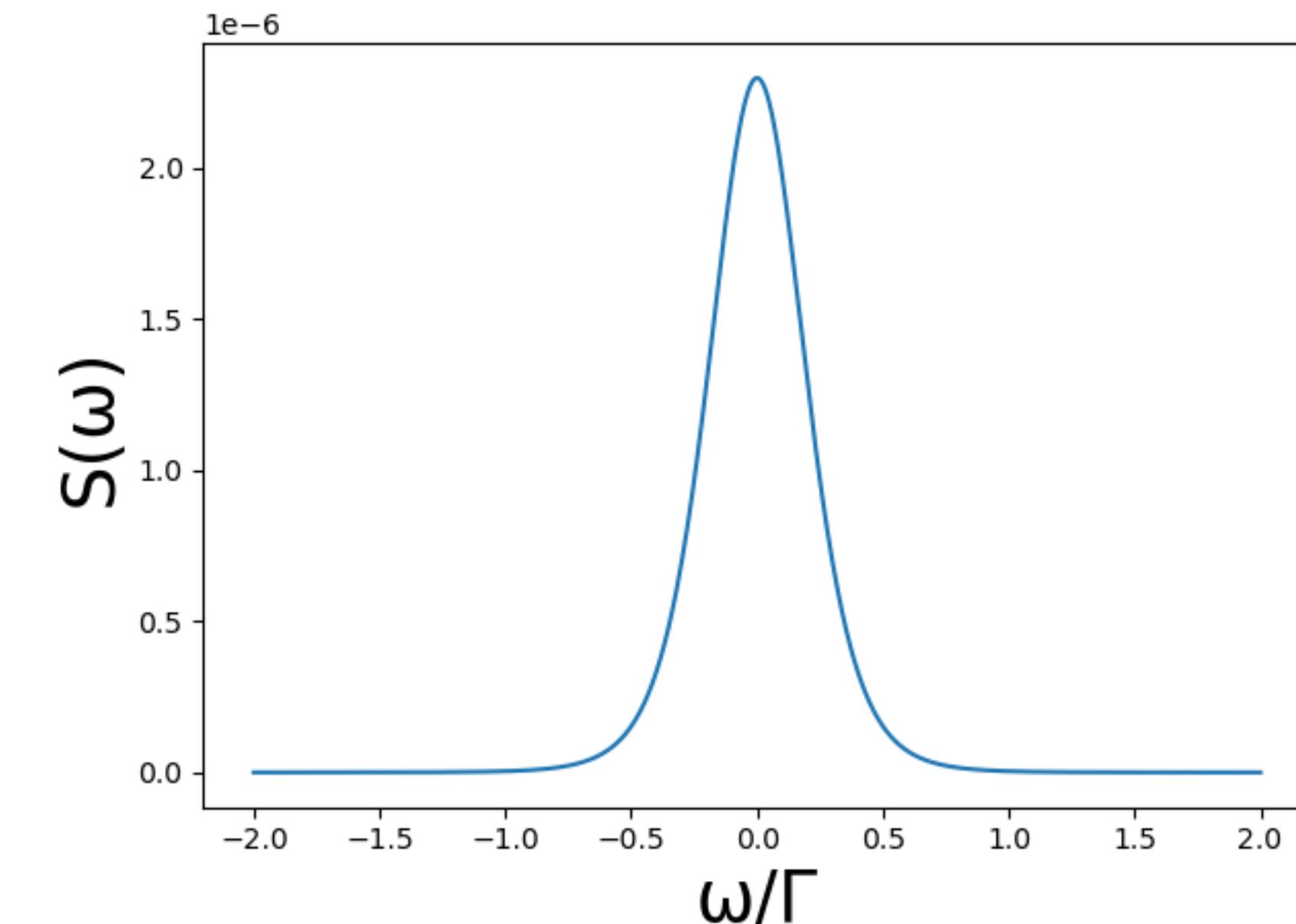
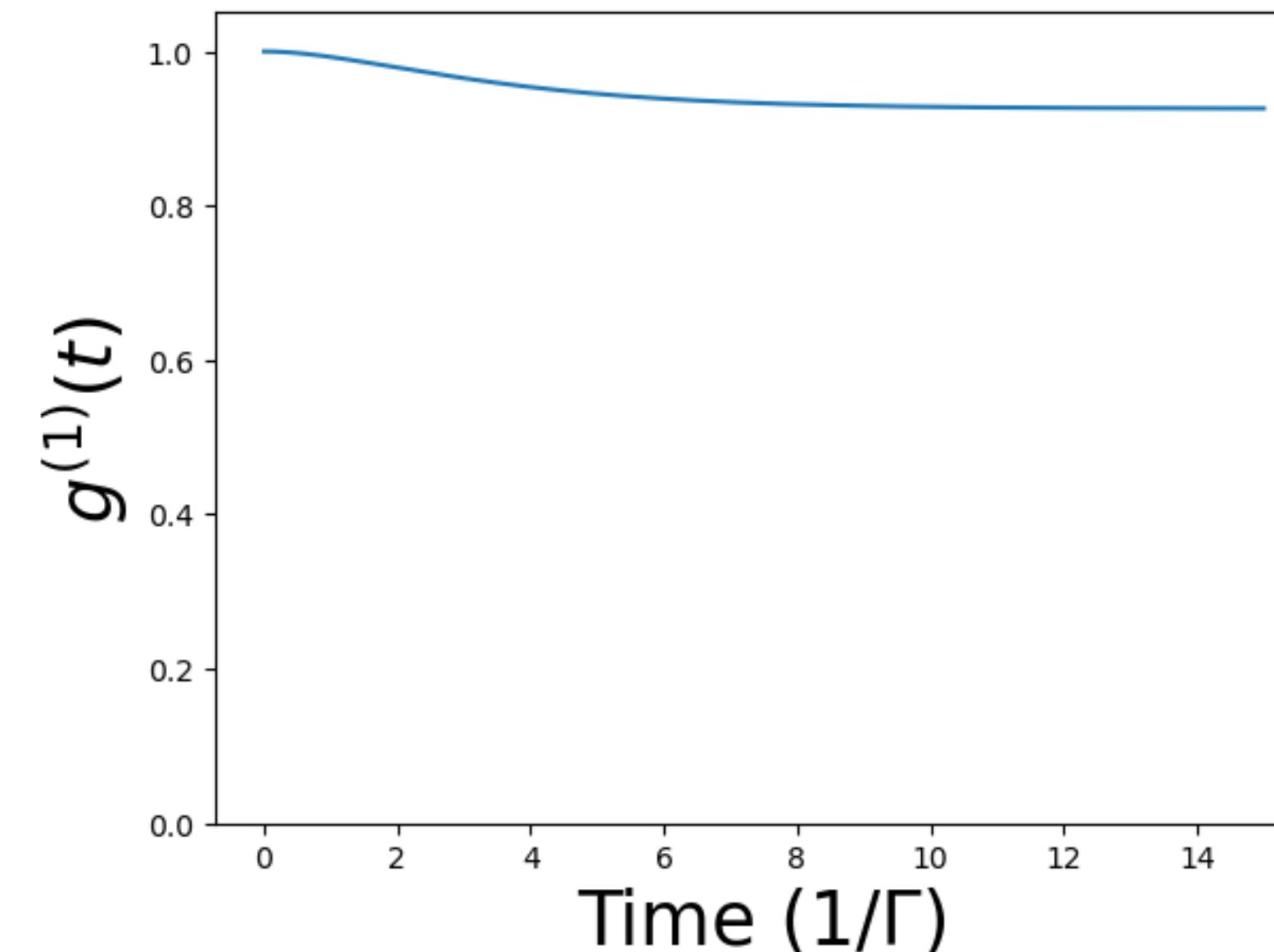
Interference between the field at  $t$  and  $t + \tau$

Resonance spectrum

$$S(\omega) = \int_0^\infty g^{(1)} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

Weak drive

$$\Omega < \Gamma$$



# Resonance fluorescence

First order coherence

$$g^{(1)}(\tau) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \langle E^-(t)E^+(t + \tau) \rangle$$

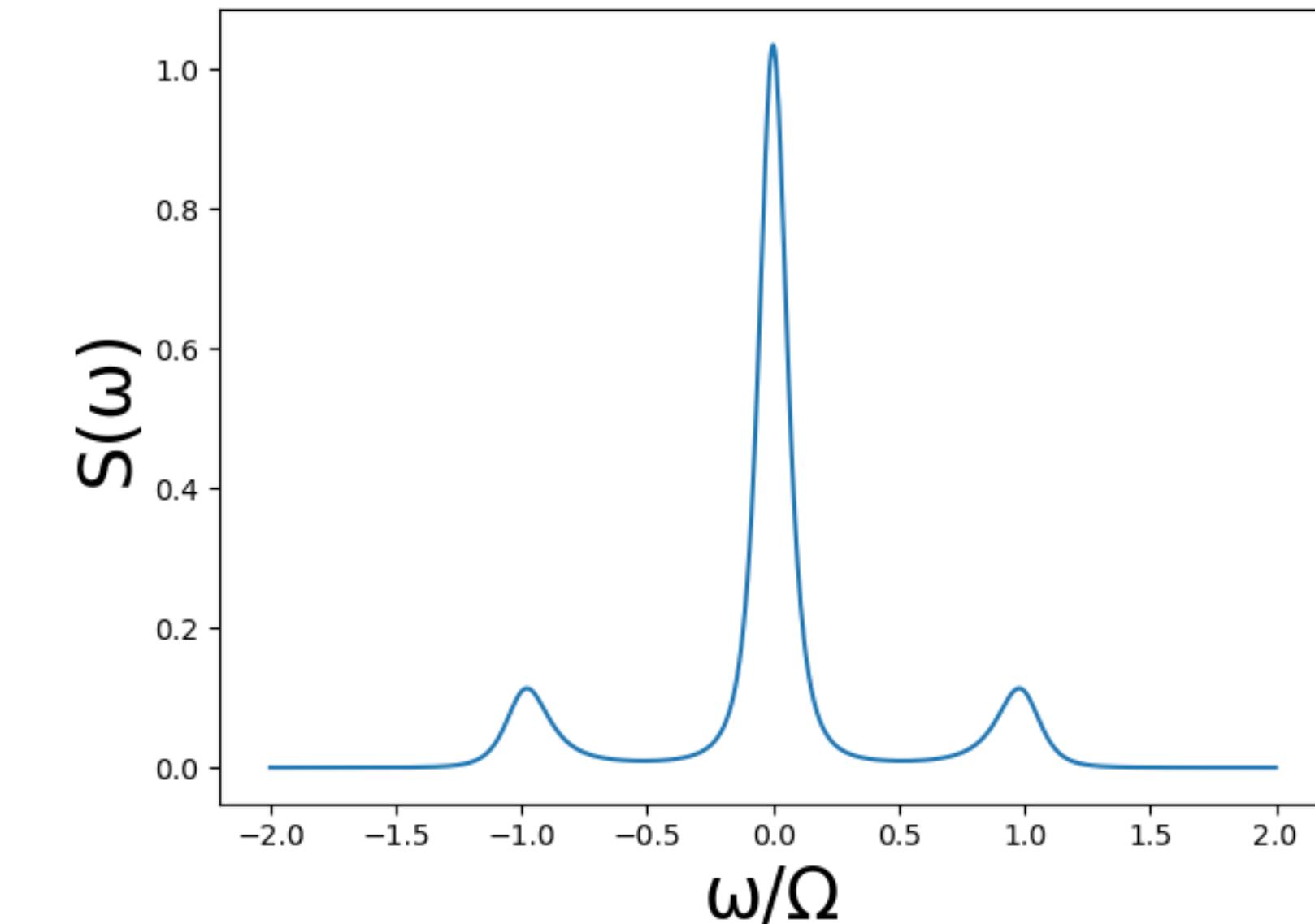
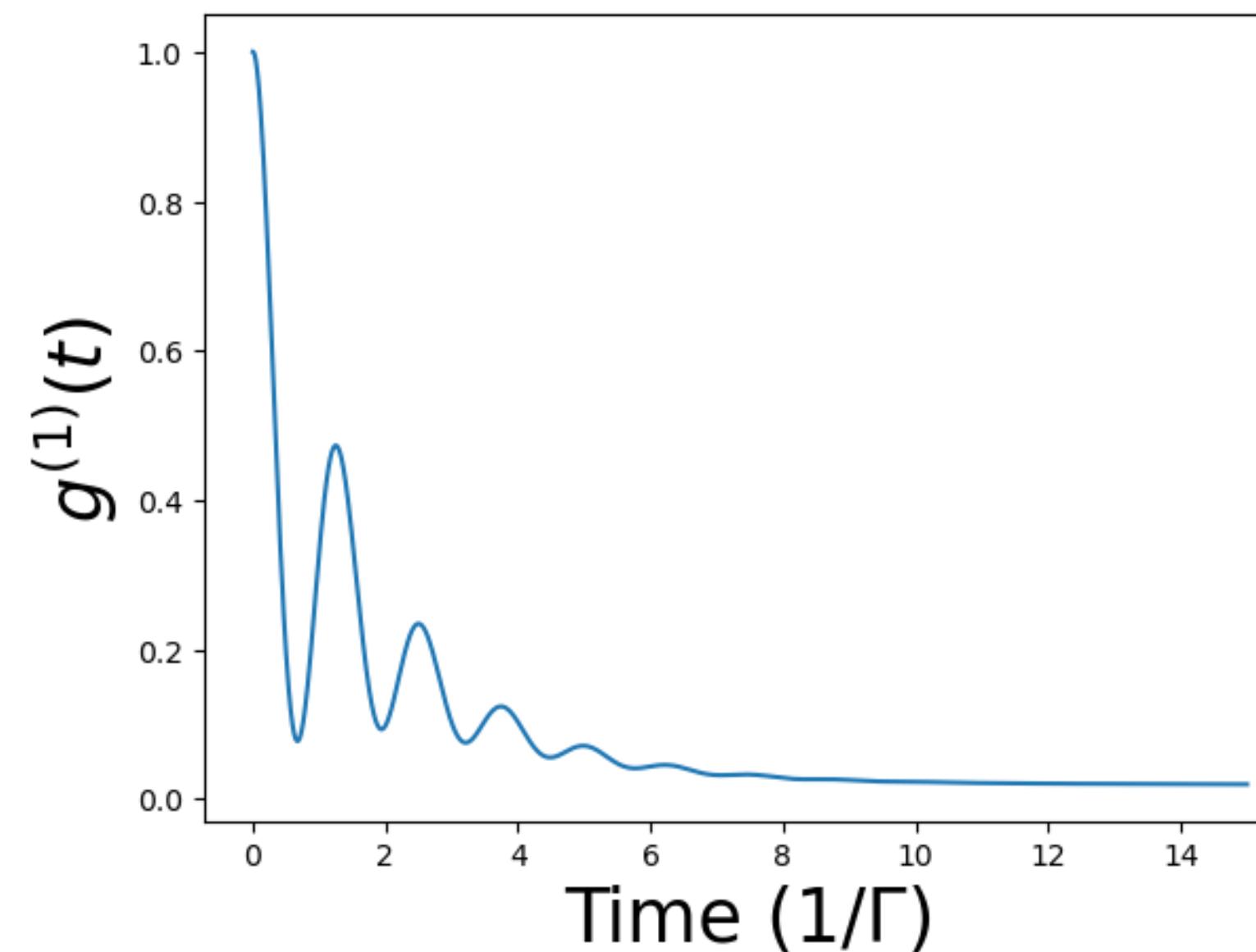
Interference between the field at  $t$  and  $t + \tau$

Resonance spectrum

$$S(\omega) = \int_0^\infty g^{(1)} e^{-i\omega\tau} d\tau$$

Strong drive

$\Omega \gg \Gamma$



# Resonance Fluorescence

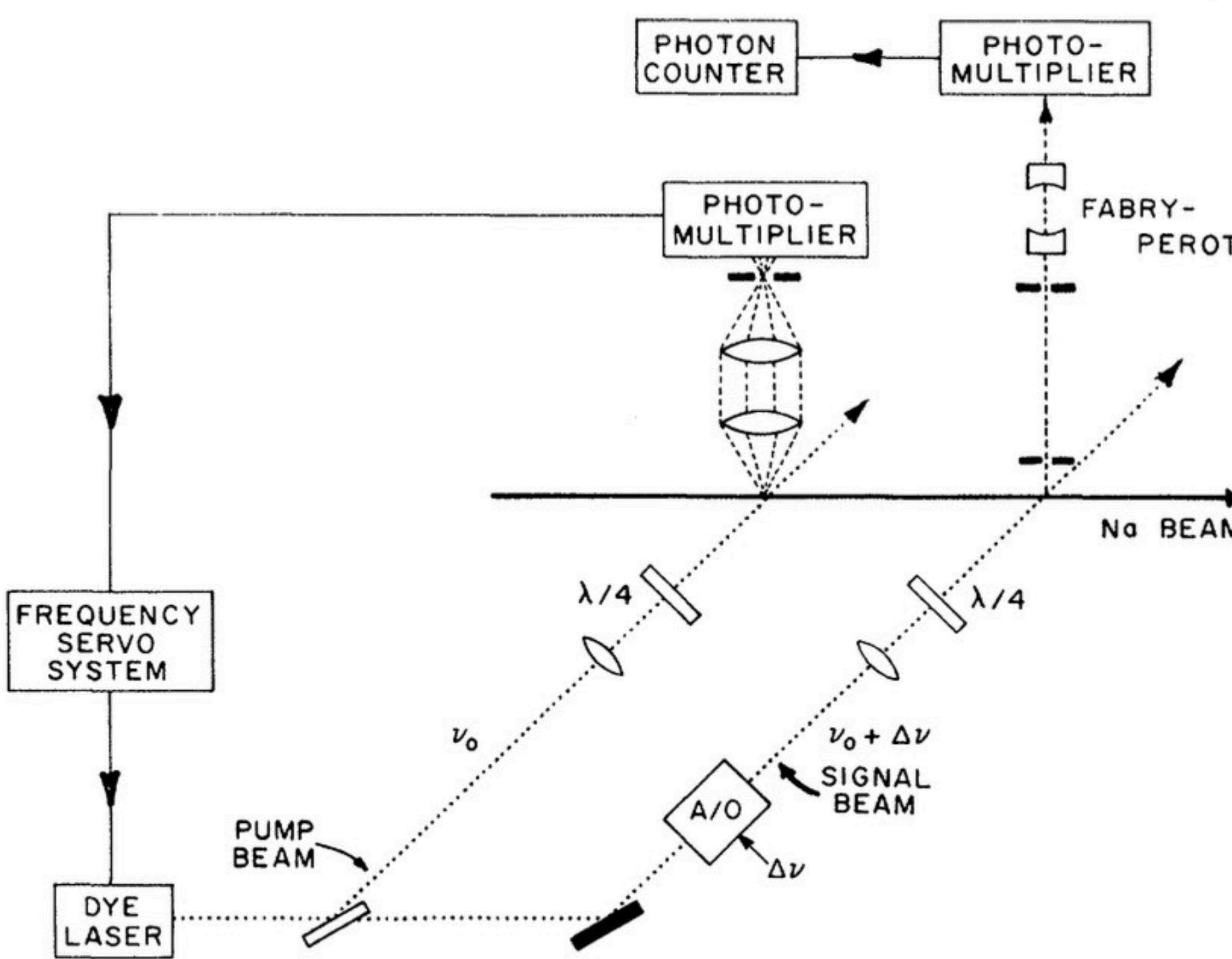
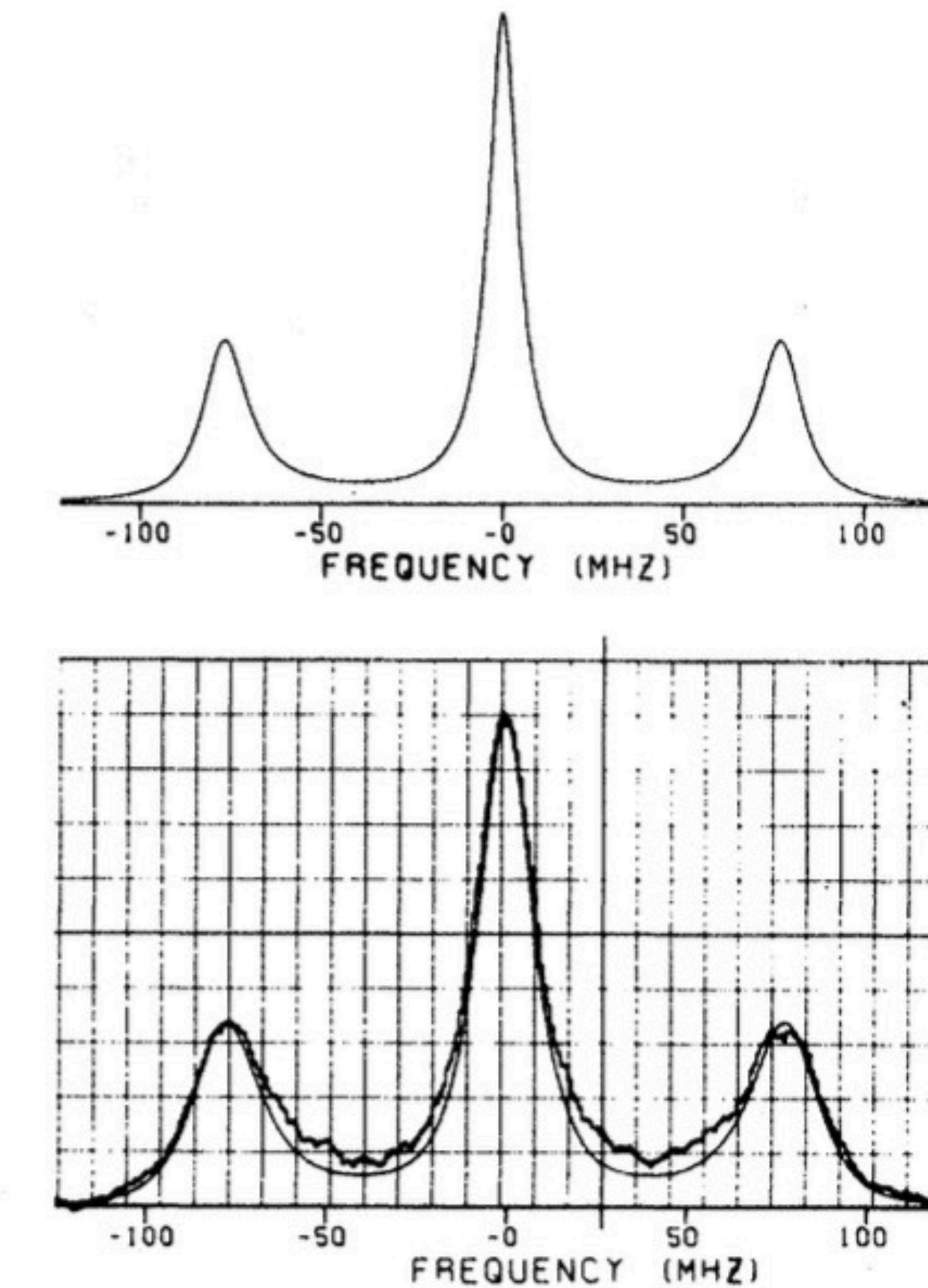


FIG. 4. Experimental setup used to measure the spectrum of resonance fluorescence. The A/O shifter is removed to obtain on-resonance data.



Grove, Wu & Ezekiel. Phys. Rev. A 15, 227(1977).

# Resonance Fluorescence

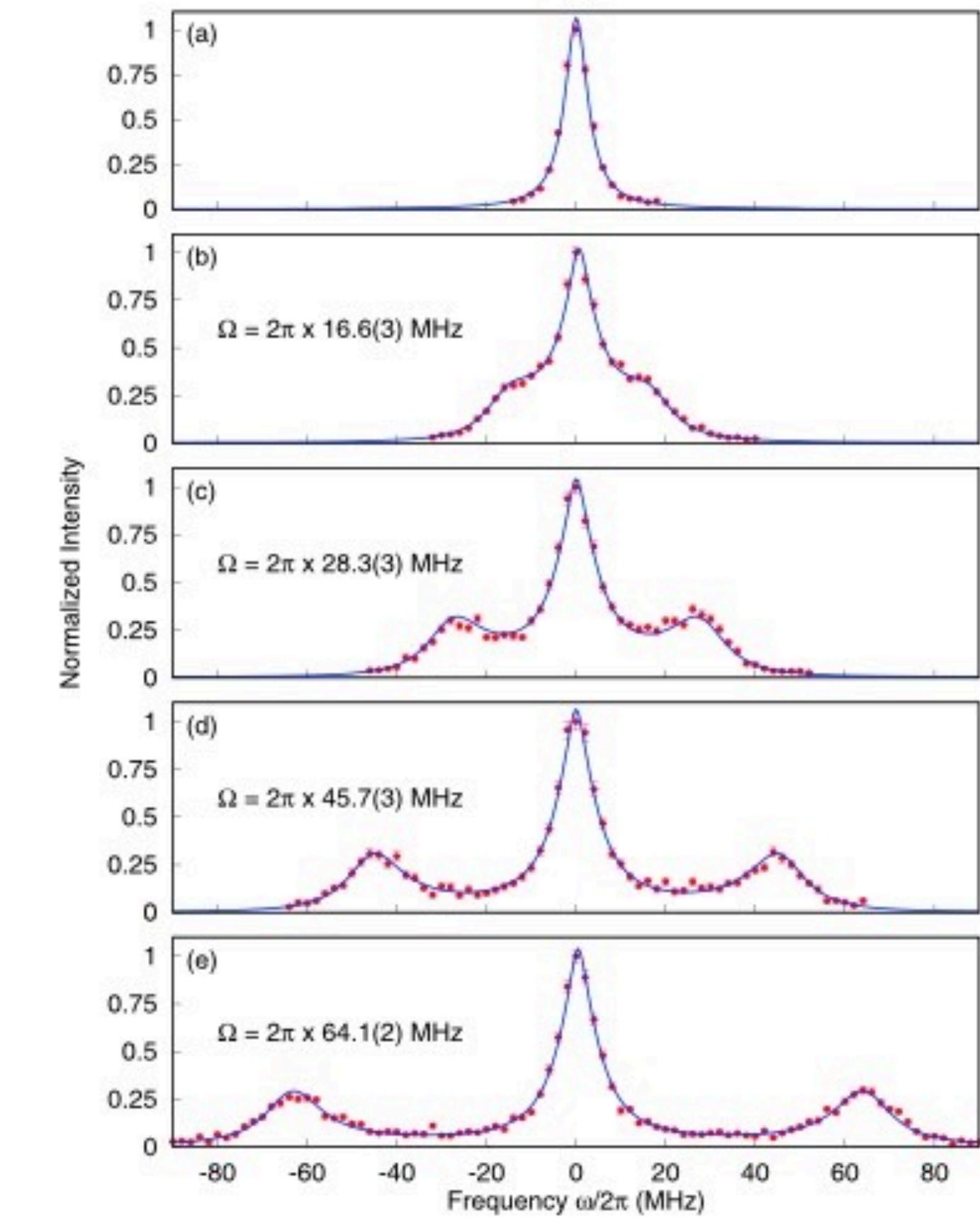
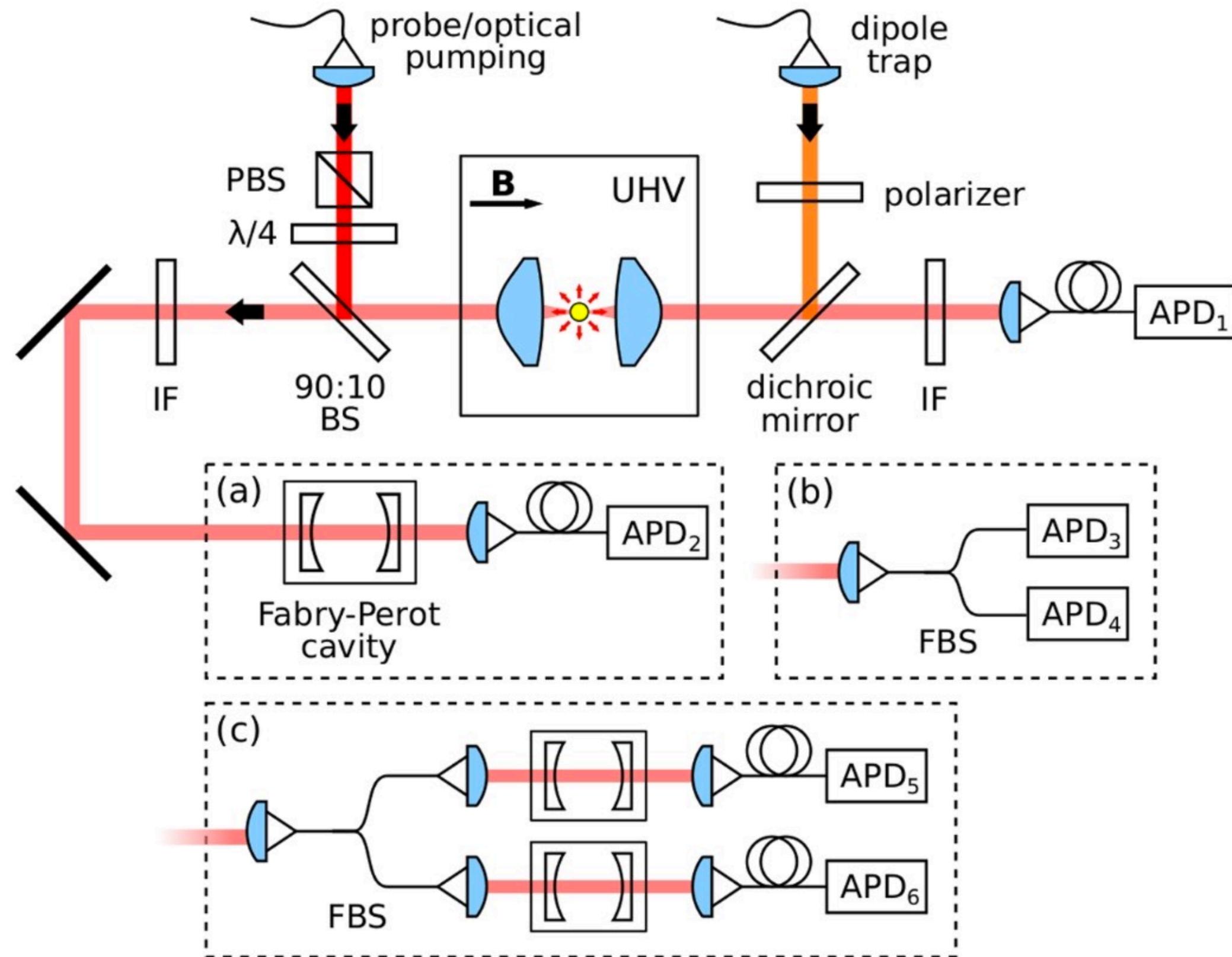


FIG. 4. Normalized resonance atomic emission spectra at different excitation intensities recorded by scanning the Fabry-Perot cavity with the setup in Fig. 2(a). For (b)–(e), the solid line is a fit to Eq. (1) convoluted with the cavity transfer function and the effect of laser reflection. The Rabi frequency  $\Omega$  extracted from the fit is labeled in (b)–(e).

Ng, Chow & Kurtsiefer, *Phys. Rev. A* **106**, 063719 (2022).

Original expt: Aspect, Roger, Reynaud, Dalibard & Cohen-Tannoudji, *Phys Rev Lett* **45**, 617 (1980).

# Resonance Fluorescence

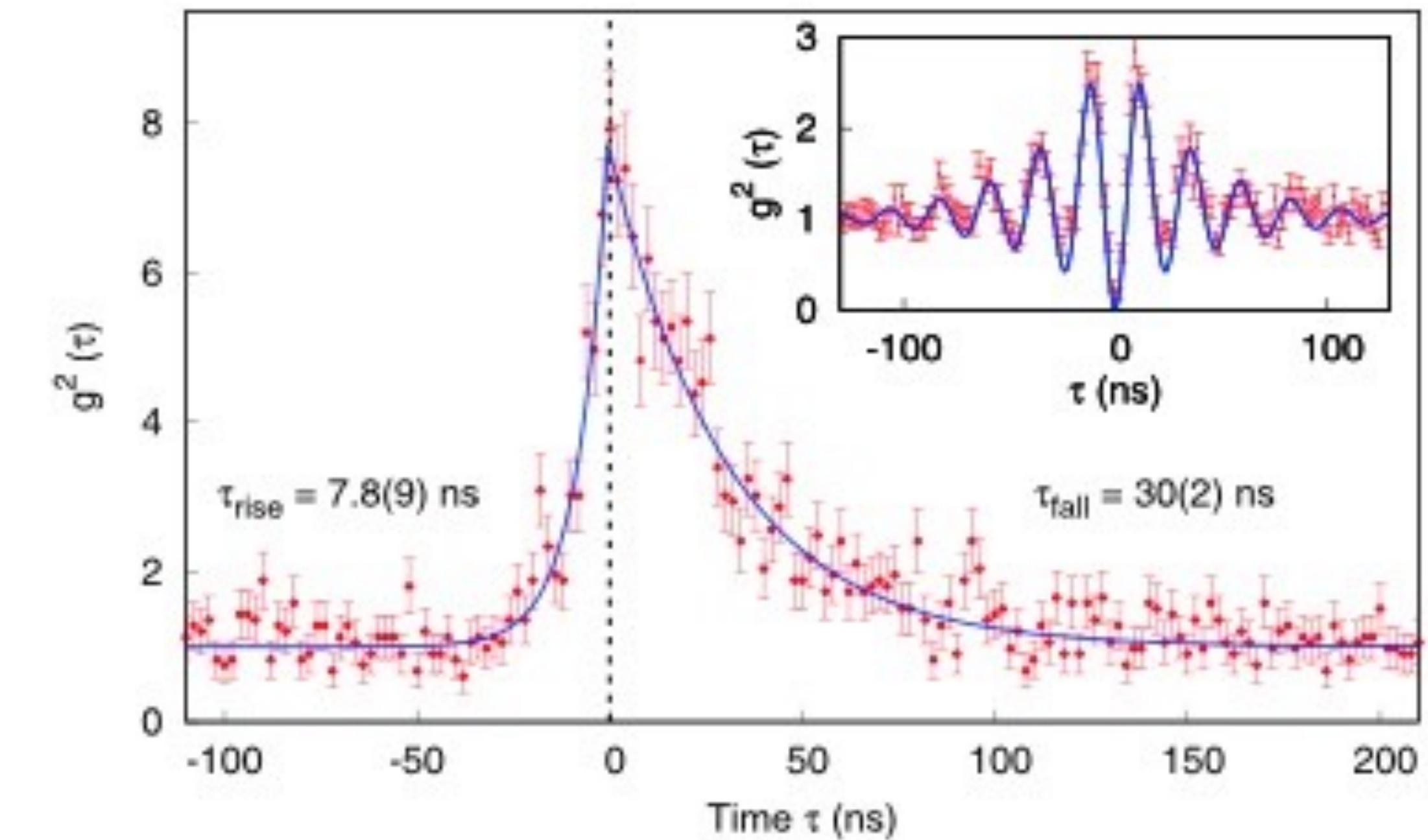
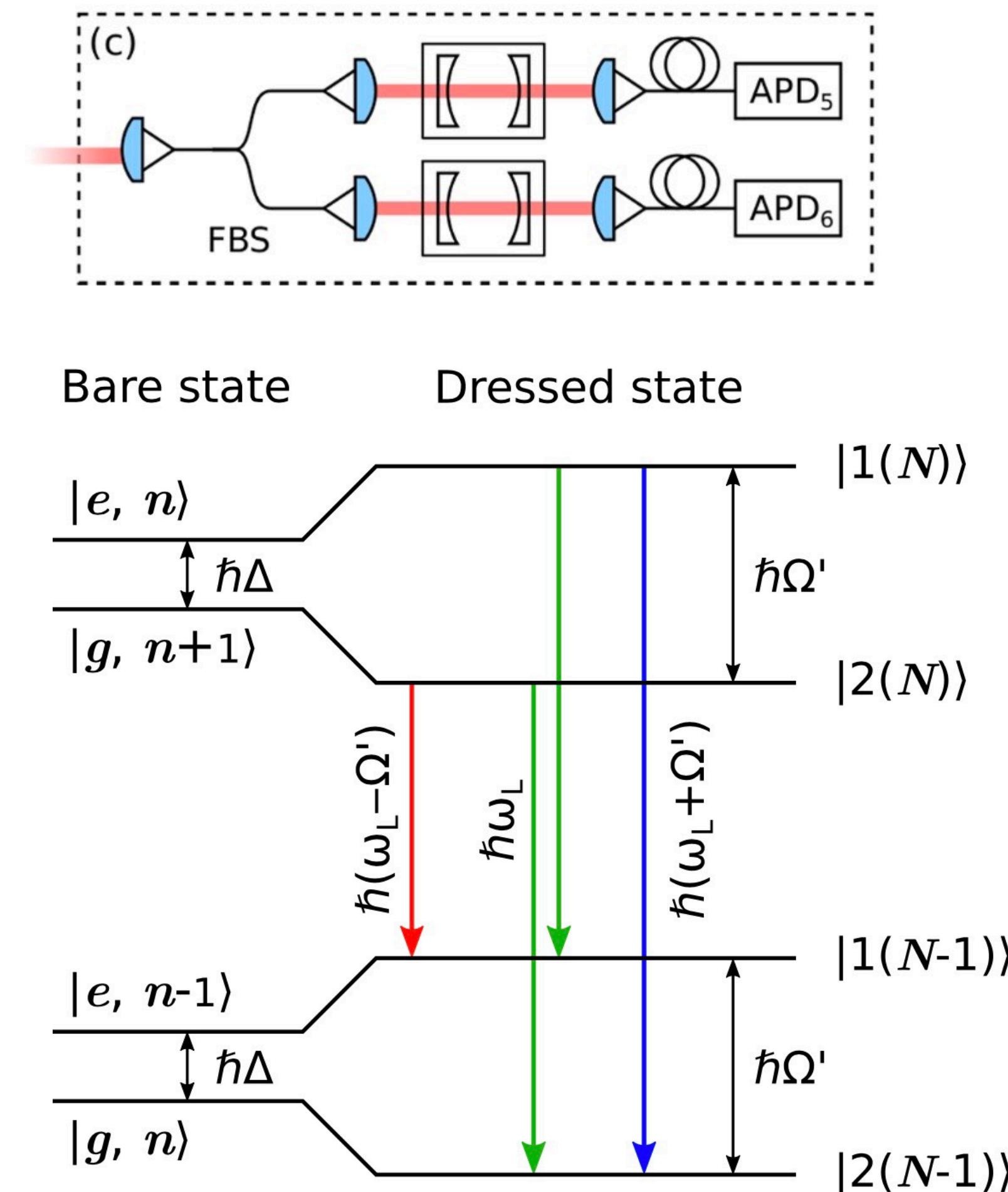
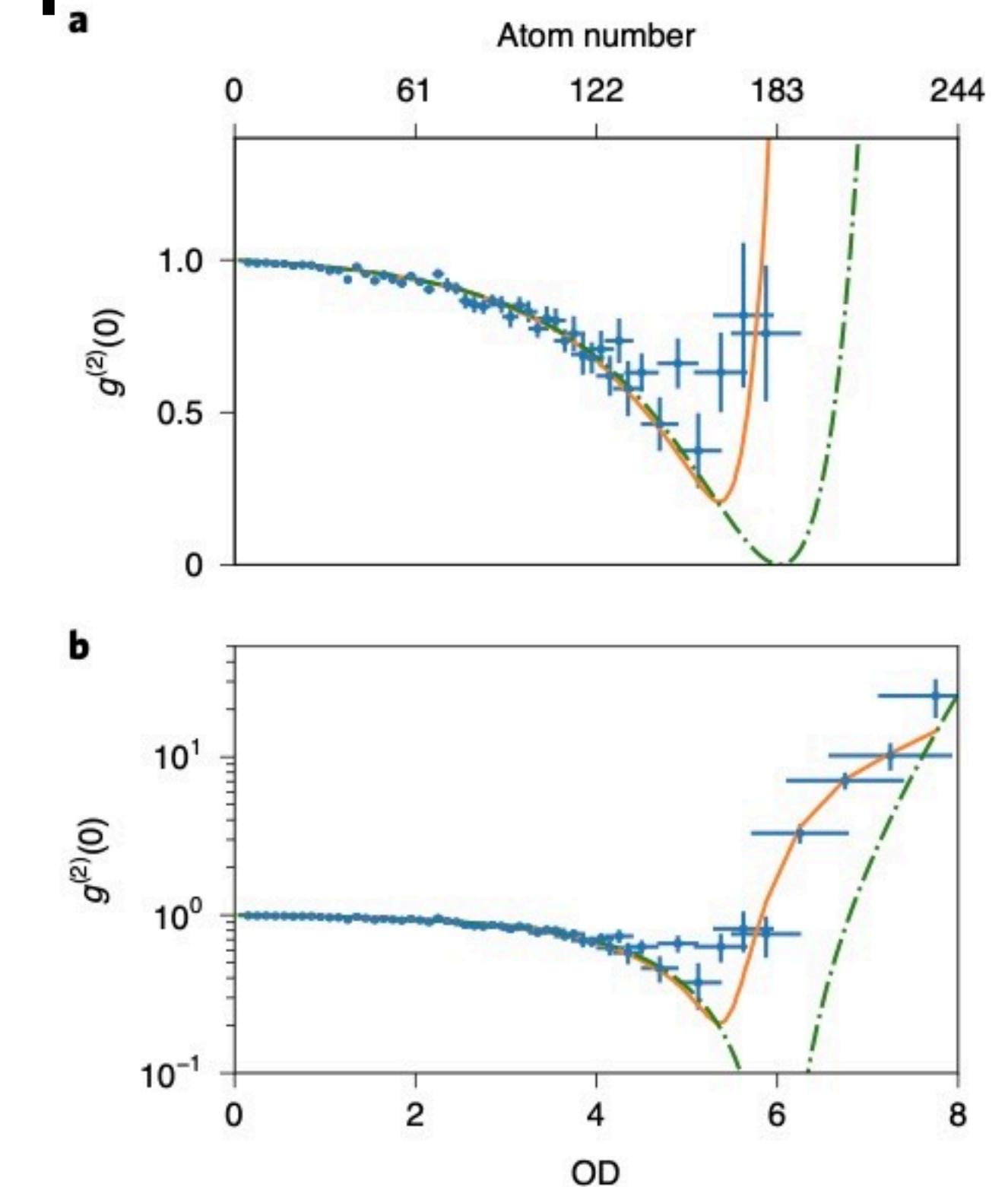
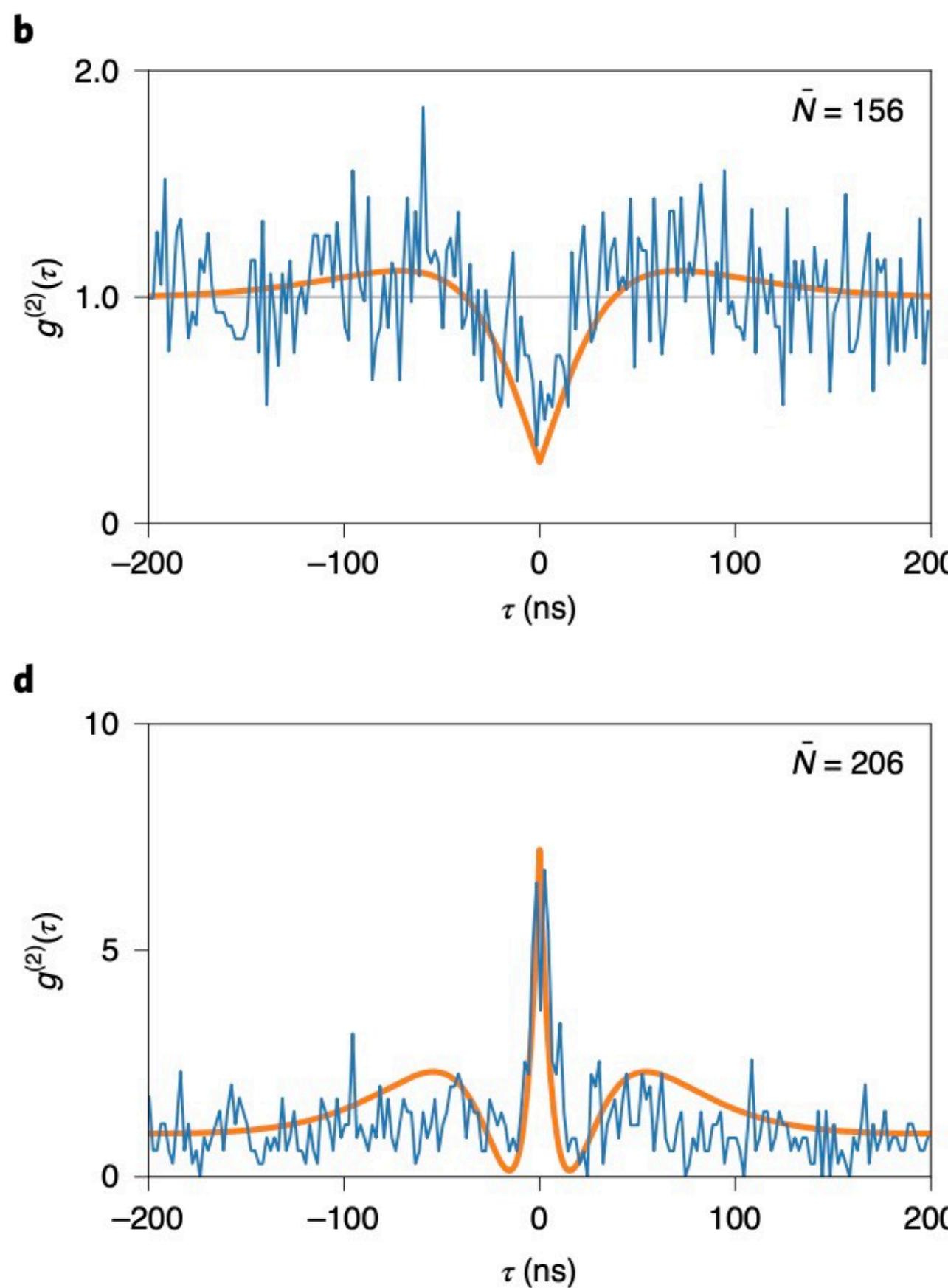
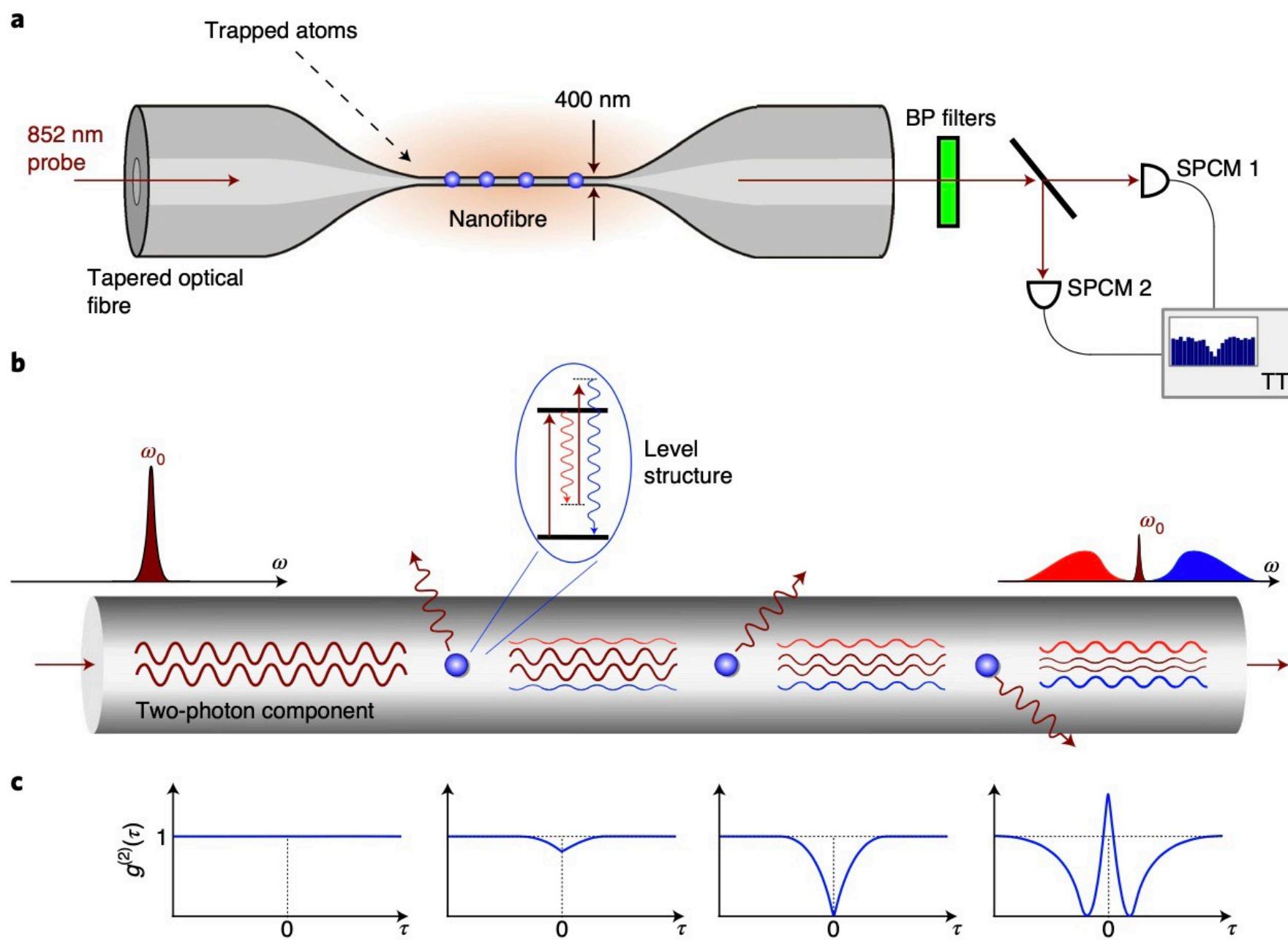


FIG. 6. Normalized cross-correlation between photons from two opposite Mollow sidebands as a function of delay  $\tau$  between detection of a photon from the higher-energy sideband after detection of a photon from lower-energy sideband. Inset: Normalized intensity autocorrelation of the unfiltered off-resonance atomic fluorescence to extract  $\Omega'$ .

Ng, Chow & Kurtsiefer, *Phys. Rev. A* **106**, 063719 (2022).

Original expt: Aspect, Roger, Reynaud, Dalibard & Cohen-Tannoudji, *Phys Rev Lett* **45**, 617 (1980).

# $g^{(2)}(0)$ with large optical depth



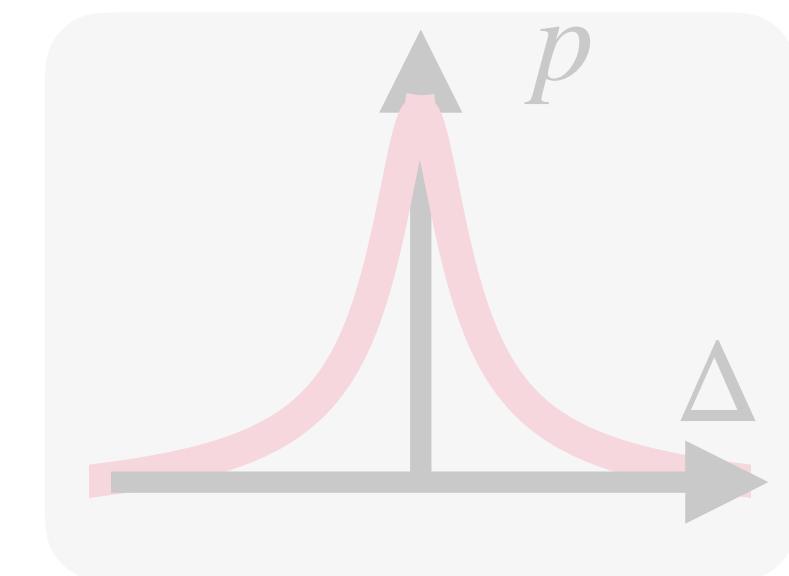
**Fig. 3 | Correlations at zero time delay versus the number of trapped atoms.** **a,b**, The zero time delay-value,  $g^{(2)}(0)$  of the measured second-order correlation functions (blue data points) plotted on a linear (**a**) or logarithmic (**b**) scale versus the OD of the atomic ensemble (bottom x axes) or average number of trapped atoms (top x axes). The values of  $g^{(2)}(0)$  stem from maximum-likelihood fits to the individual correlation functions. The vertical and horizontal error bars indicate the  $1\sigma$  error in  $g^{(2)}(0)$  and the atom number, respectively (see Methods). The solid orange line is the theory prediction taking into account the experimental uncertainty in OD using the coupling strength  $\beta$  as the only fit parameter (see Methods). For comparison, the dashed green curve shows the theory prediction without uncertainty in OD for the same value of  $\beta$ .

Optical depth is narrow in frequency: does not absorb the sidebands

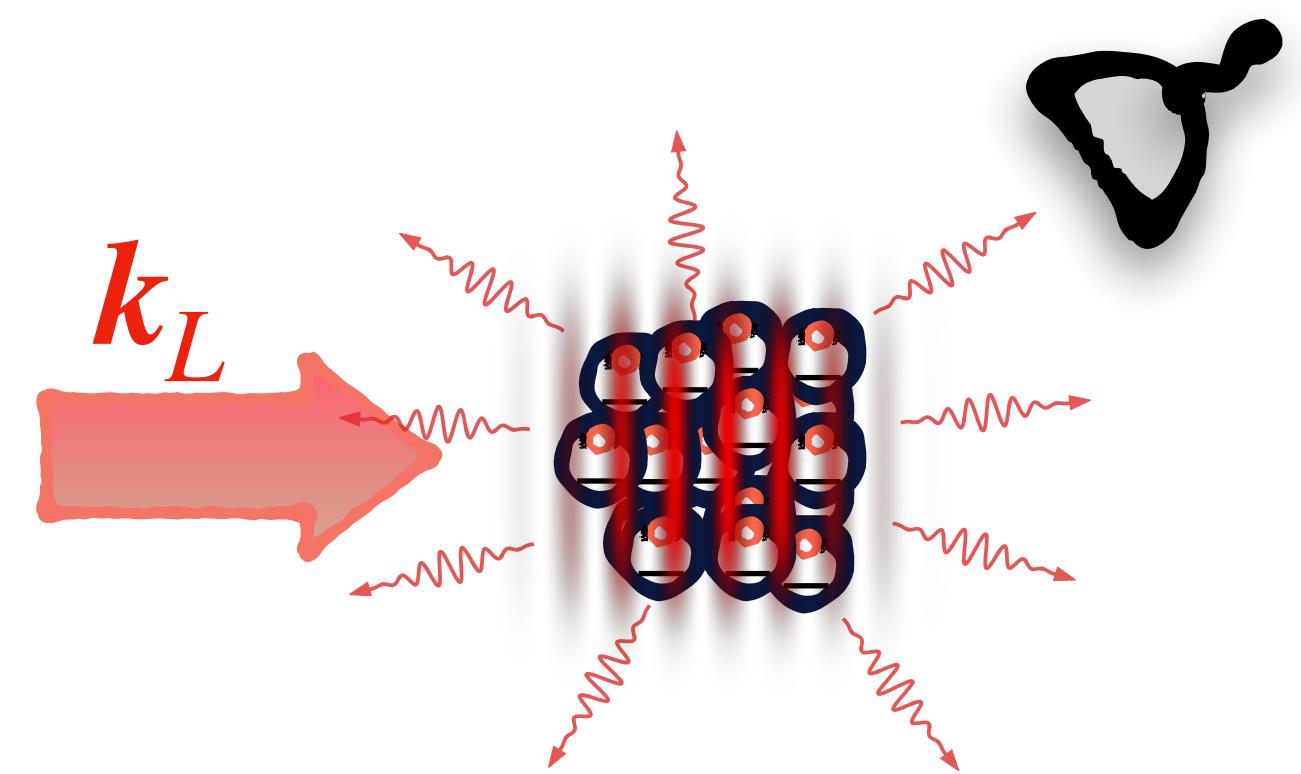
Prasad et al.. Nat. Photonics 14, 719 (2020).

# Outline

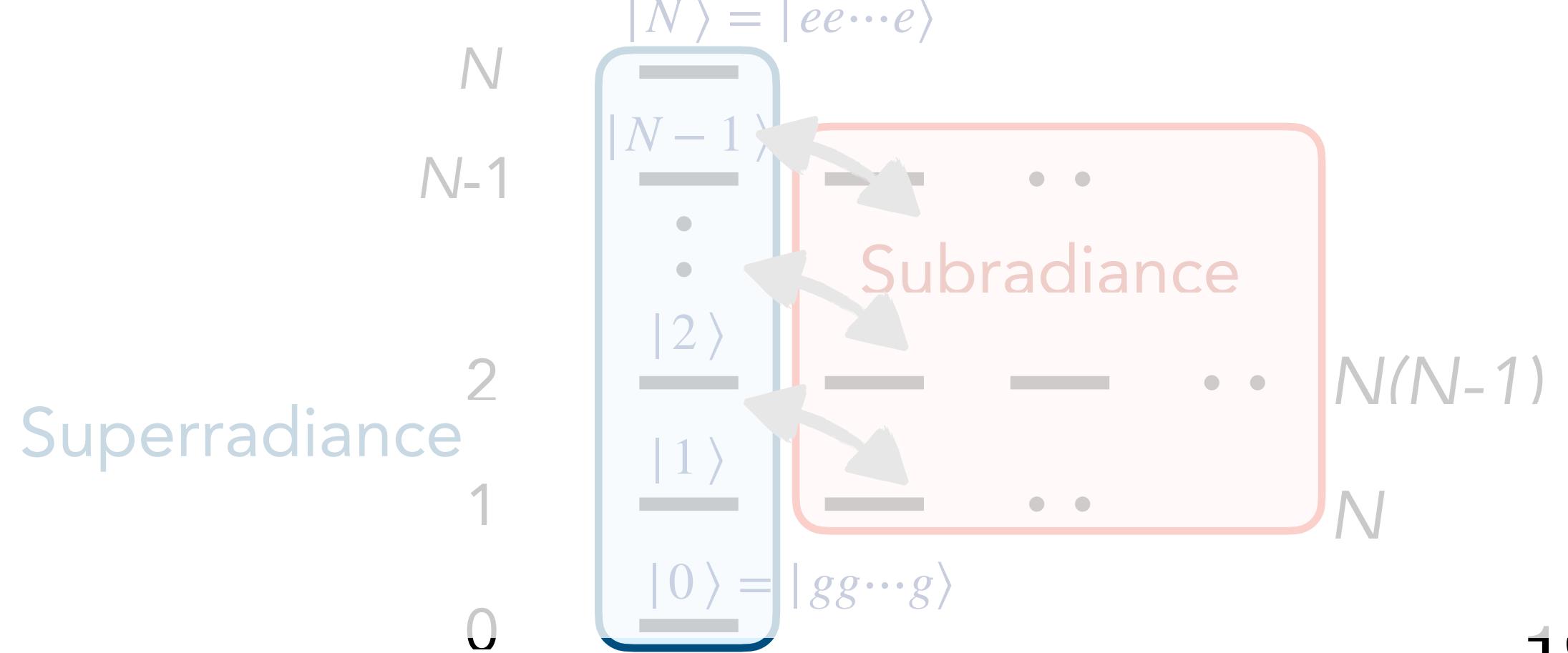
Lecture 1: Quantum optics of single atoms



Lecture 2: Collective light scattering by  $N$  atoms

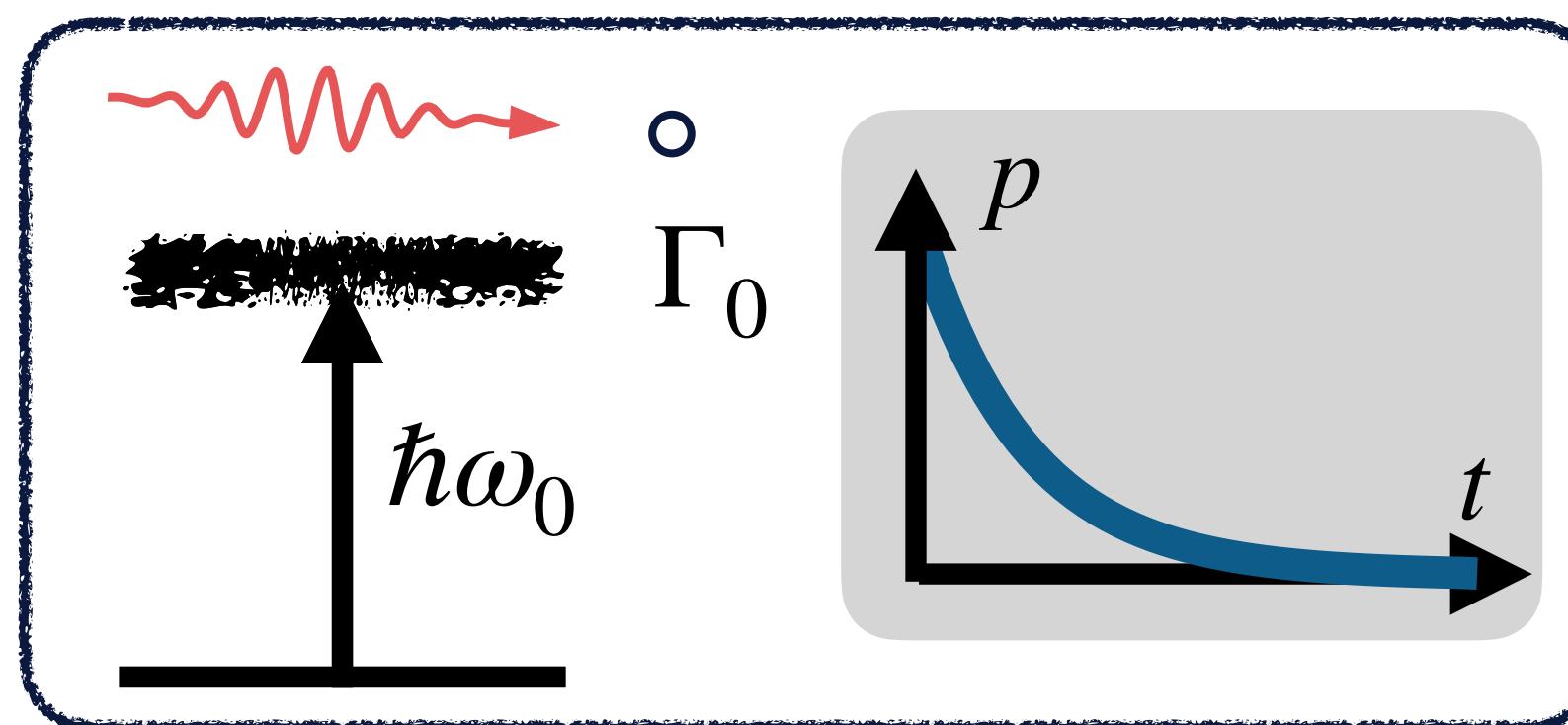


Lecture 3: Many-body quantum optics

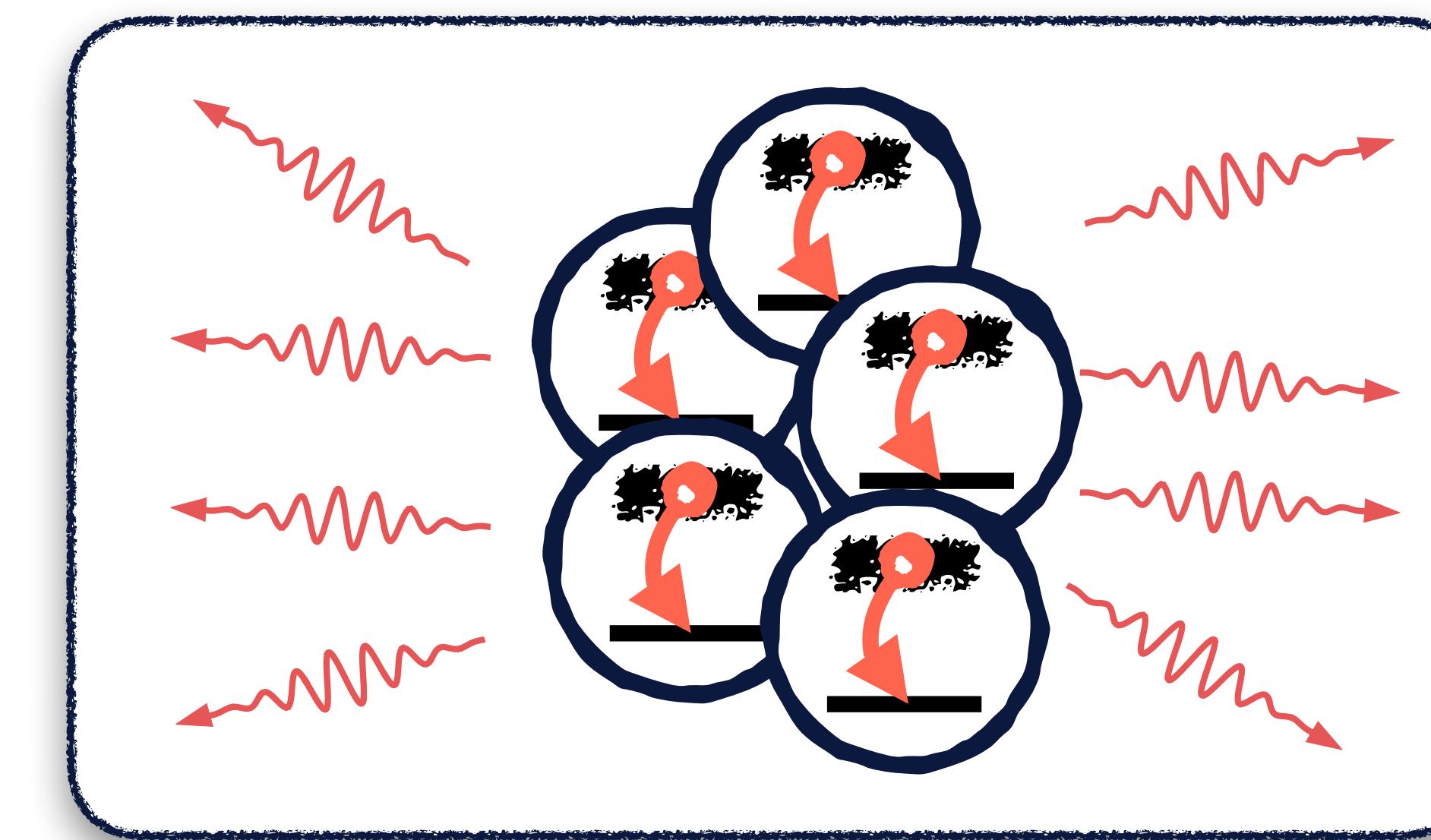


# Collective light scattering

Single atom in free space



N-atom spontaneous emission

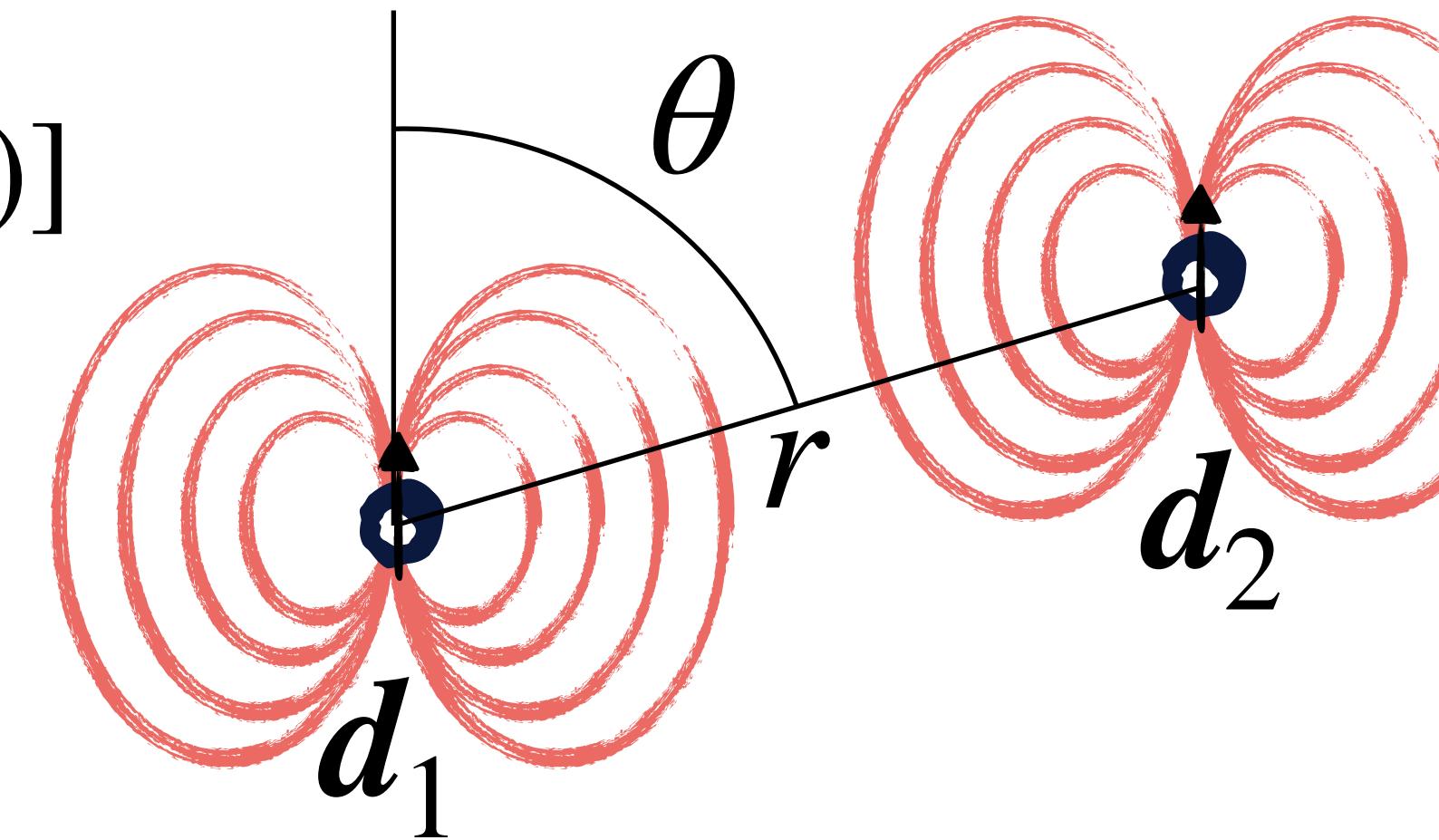


# Resonant dipole-dipole interaction

Two dipoles interact with light: resonant dipole-dipole interaction

$$-d_2^* \cdot E_1$$

$$E_z^1 = \frac{d_1 k^3}{4\pi\epsilon_0} e^{ikr} \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{kr} + (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \left( \frac{1}{(kr)^3} - i \frac{1}{(kr)^2} \right) \right]$$

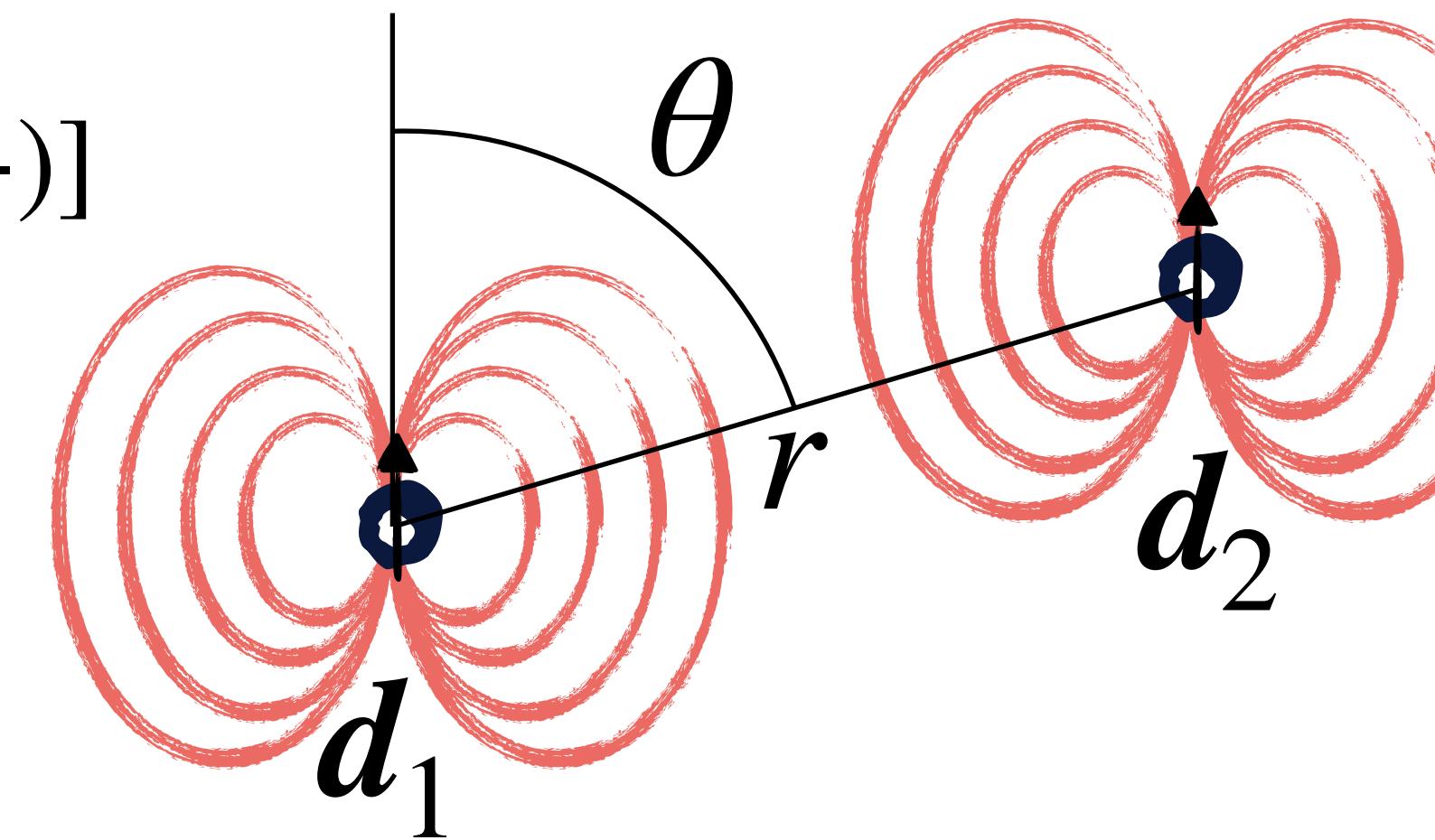


# Resonant dipole dipole interaction

Two dipoles interact with light: resonant dipole-dipole interaction

$$-d_2^* \cdot E_1$$

$$V_{dd}(r, \theta) = -\frac{3\hbar\Gamma}{4} e^{ikr} \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{kr} + (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \left( \frac{1}{(kr)^3} - i \frac{1}{(kr)^2} \right) \right]$$



# Resonant dipole dipole interaction

Two dipoles interact with light: resonant dipole-dipole interaction

$$-\mathbf{d}_2^* \cdot \mathbf{E}_1$$

$$V_{dd}(r, \theta) = -\frac{3\hbar\Gamma}{4}e^{ikr} \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{kr} + (3\cos^2 \theta - 1)\left(\frac{1}{(kr)^3} - i\frac{1}{(kr)^2}\right) \right]$$

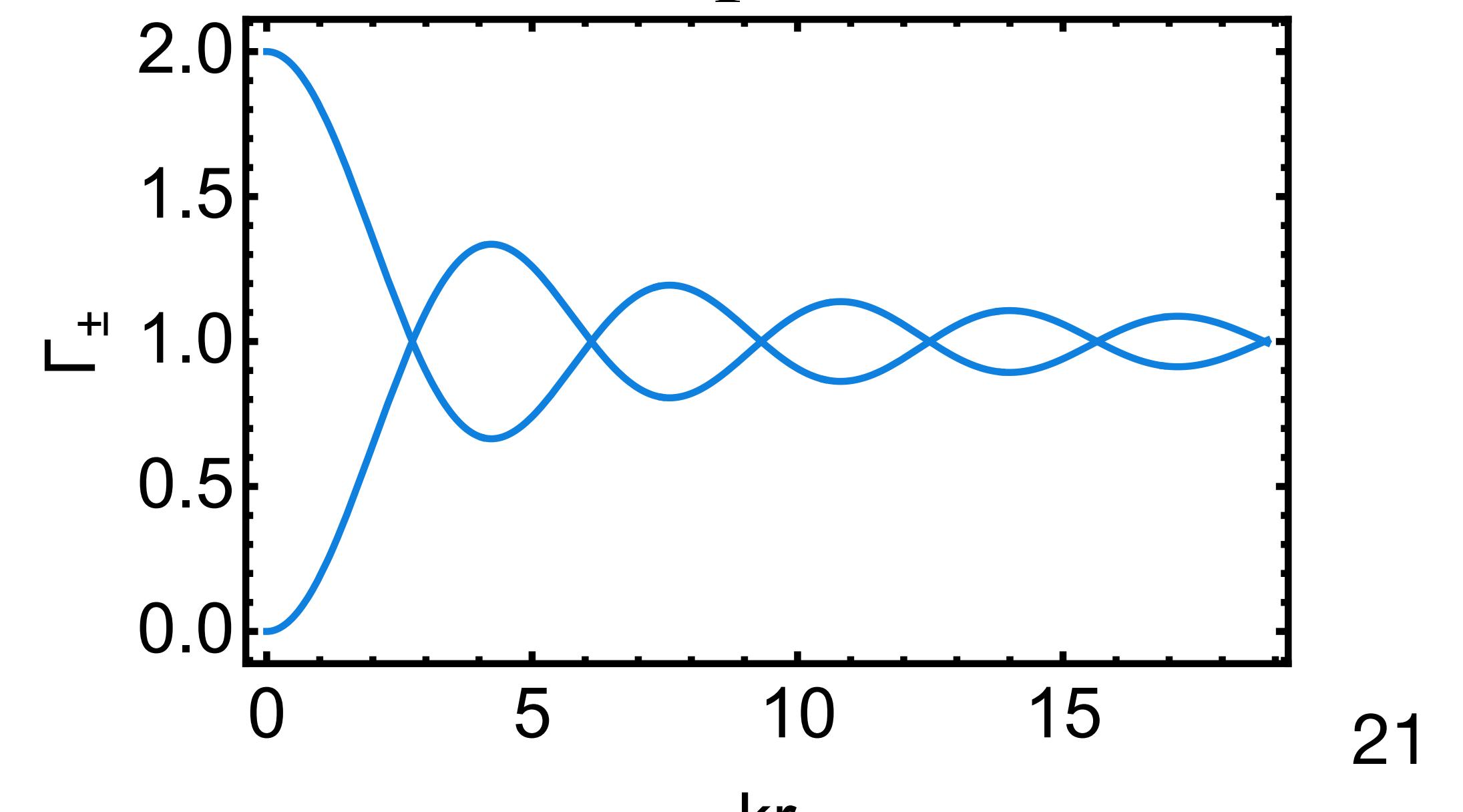
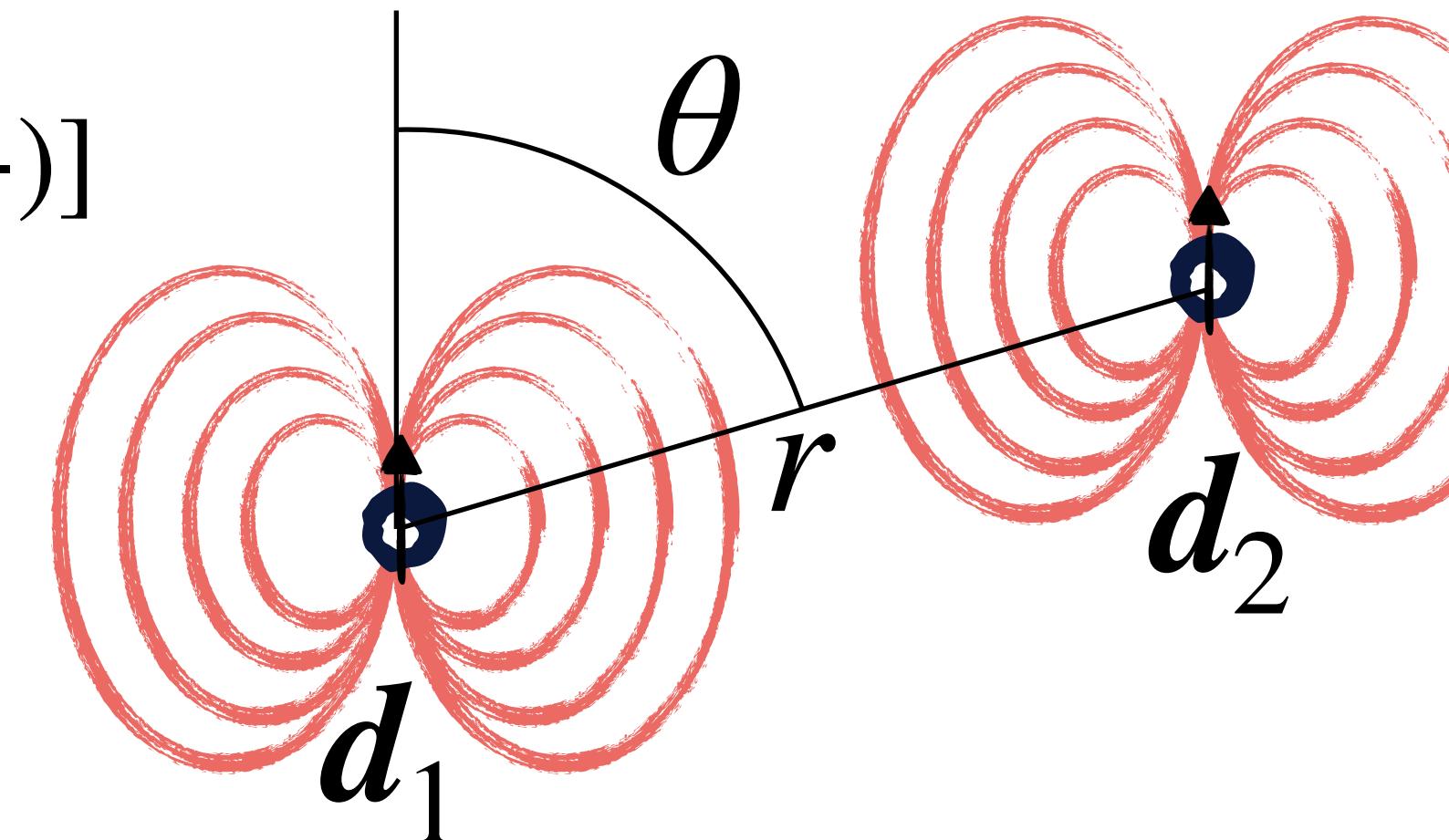
Coupled equations

$$\dot{d}_n = (i\Delta - \frac{\Gamma}{2})d_n - i\frac{\Omega}{2} + i \sum_{m \neq n} d_m^* V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n)$$

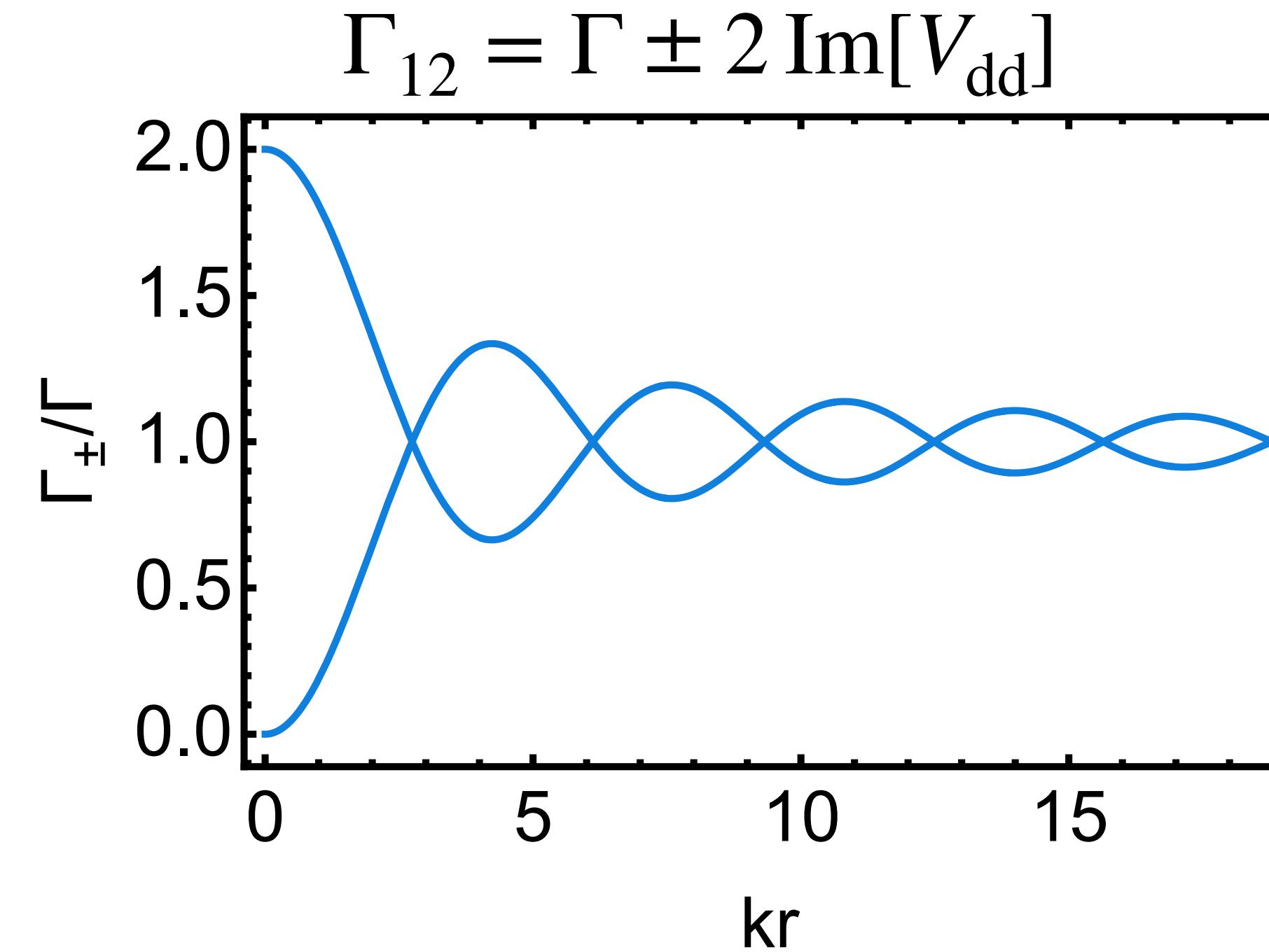
Two modes

$$\omega_{\pm} = \Delta \pm \text{Re}[V_{dd}]$$

$$\Gamma_{12} = \Gamma \pm 2 \text{Im}[V_{dd}]$$



# Resonant dipole dipole interaction



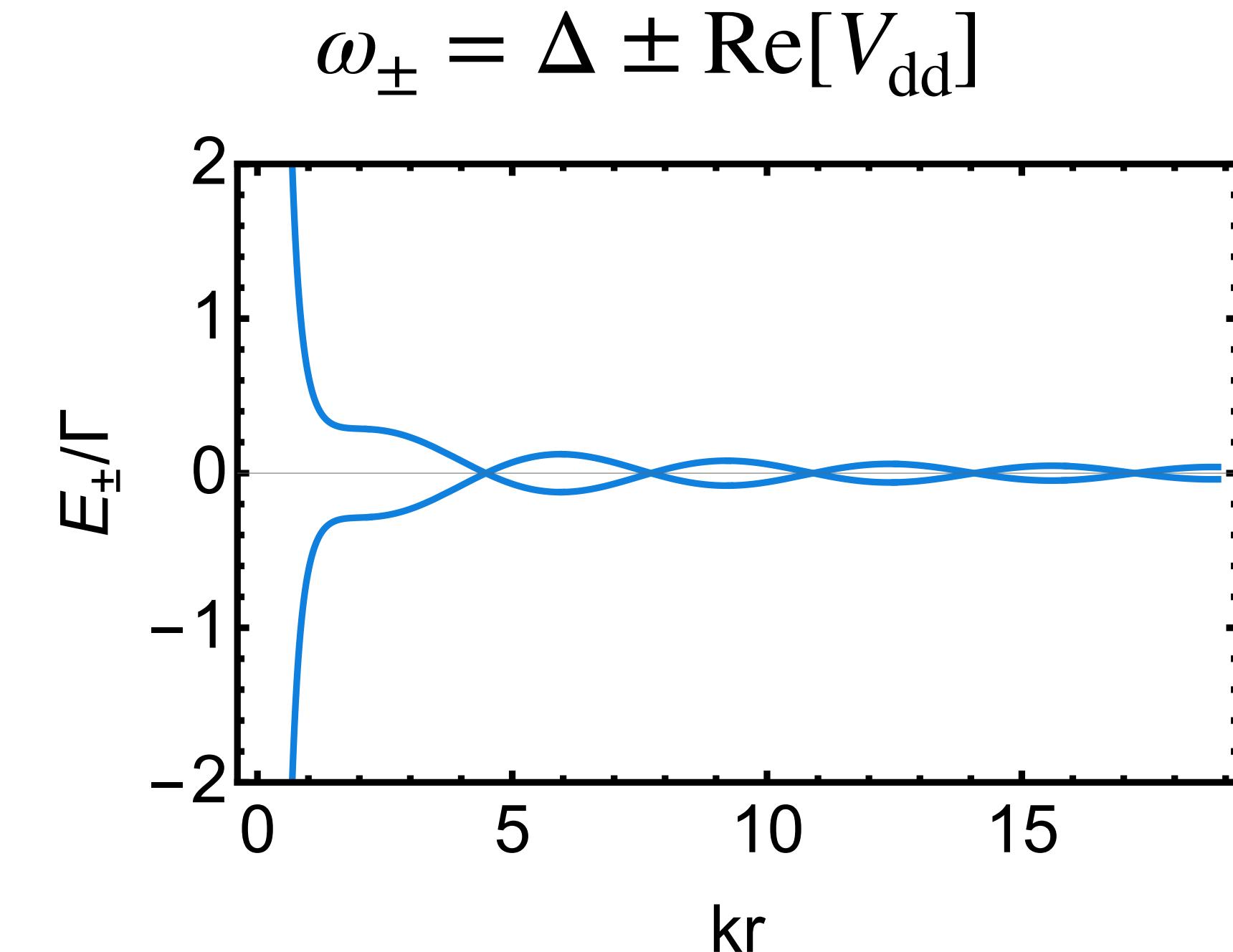
In-phase mode: constructive interference

Out-of-phase mode: destructive interference

Classical case:  $-d_2^* \cdot E_1 \sim -d_2^* \cdot d_1$

Quantum case:  $\hat{d} = d_{eg}\hat{\sigma}^-$

Flip-flop interaction  $V_{dd} \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \sigma_1^-$

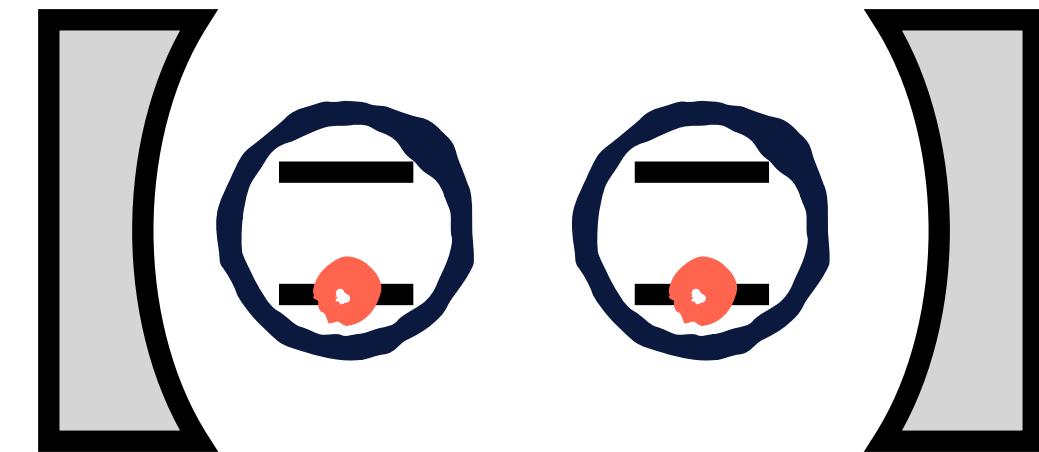


Divergence of shift with  $1/(kr)^3$

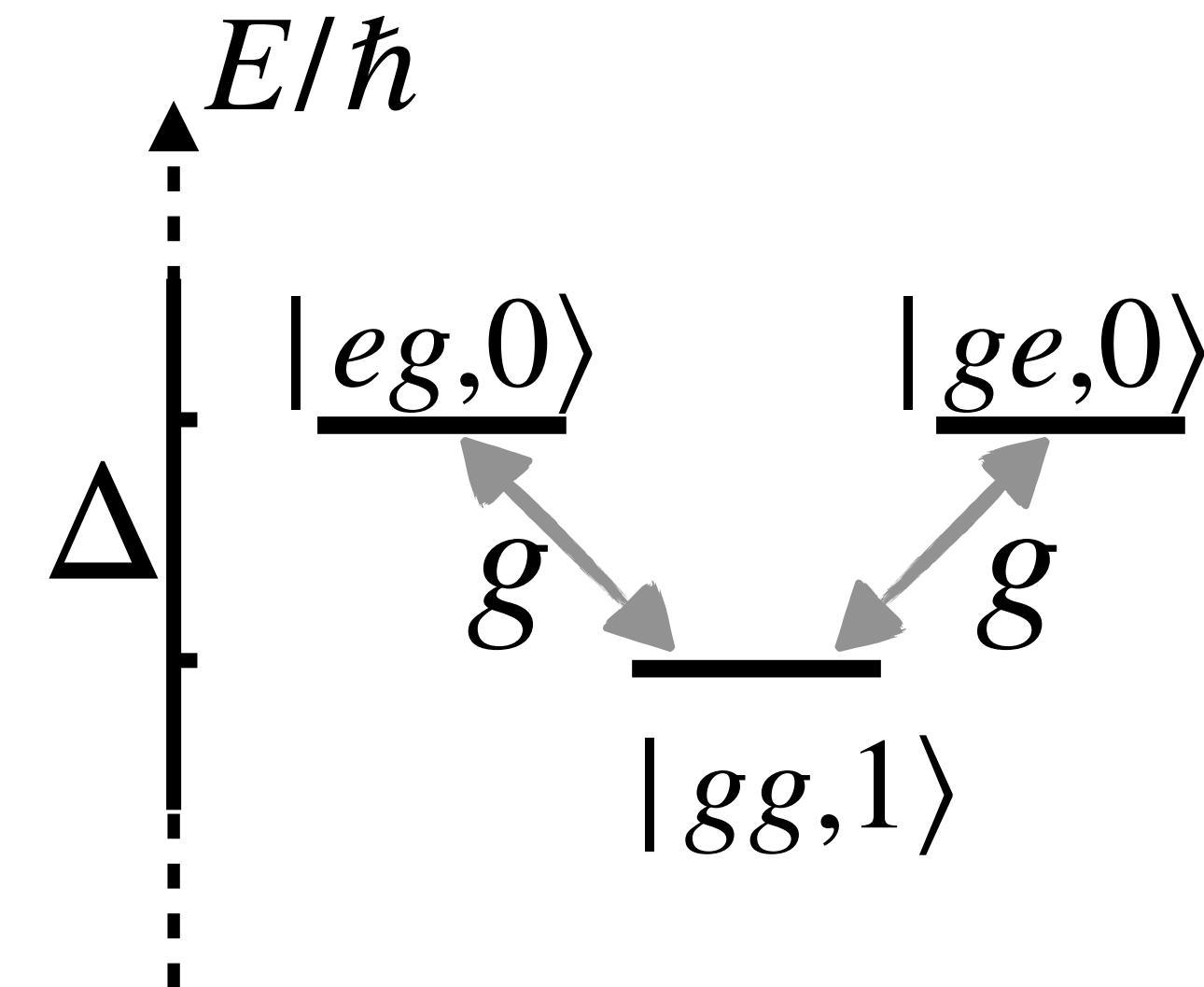
# 2 atoms and 1 cavity mode

Cavity atom coupling =  $g$

$$\hat{H} = \sum_i g(\hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_i^+ + \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{\sigma}_i^-) + \Delta \sum_i |e_i\rangle\langle e_i|$$



Far-detuned cavity  $\Delta > g$  ( $\Delta \ll \omega_0$ )



Adiabatic elimination of  $|gg,1\rangle$

Flip-flop interaction :

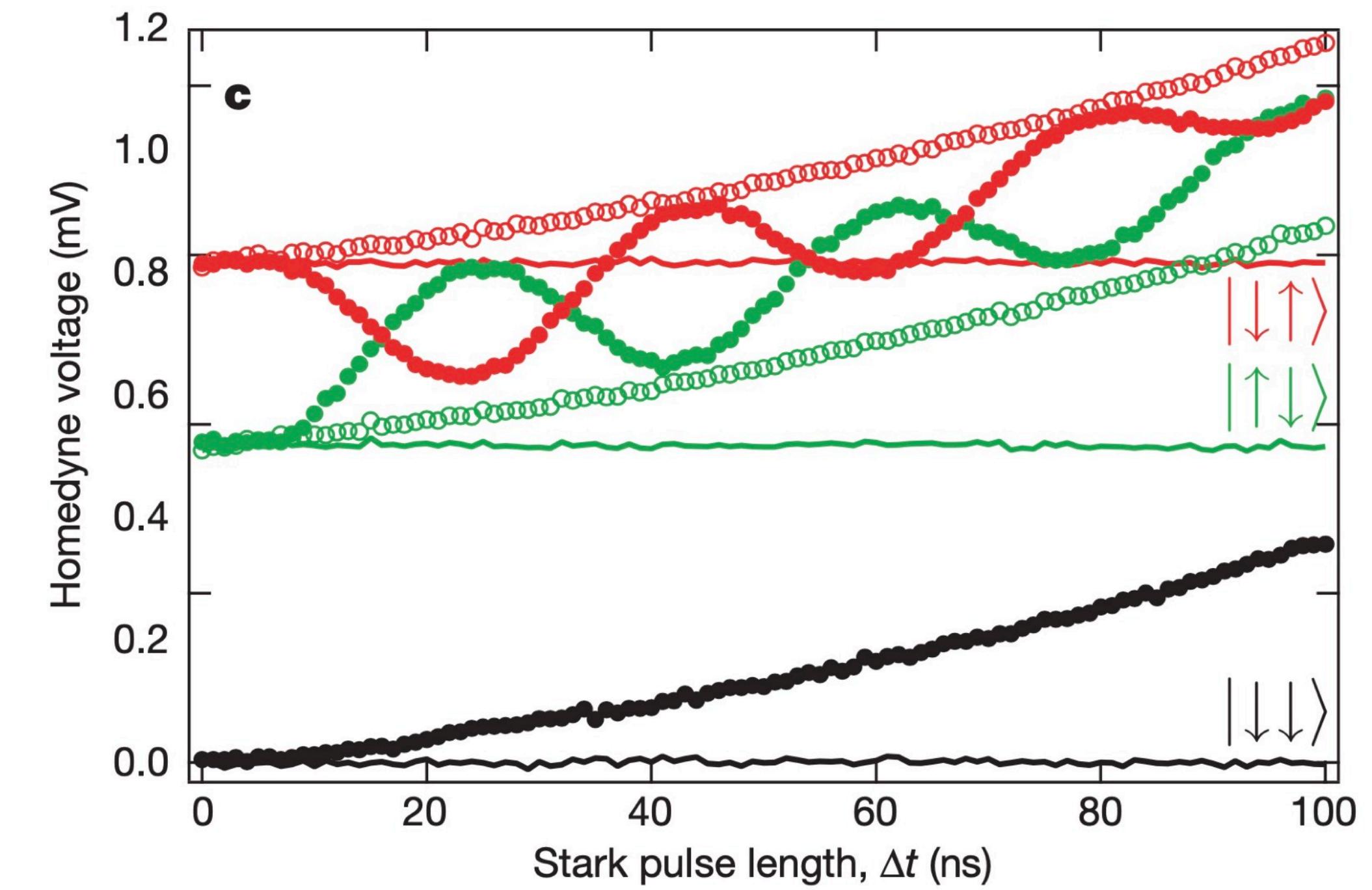
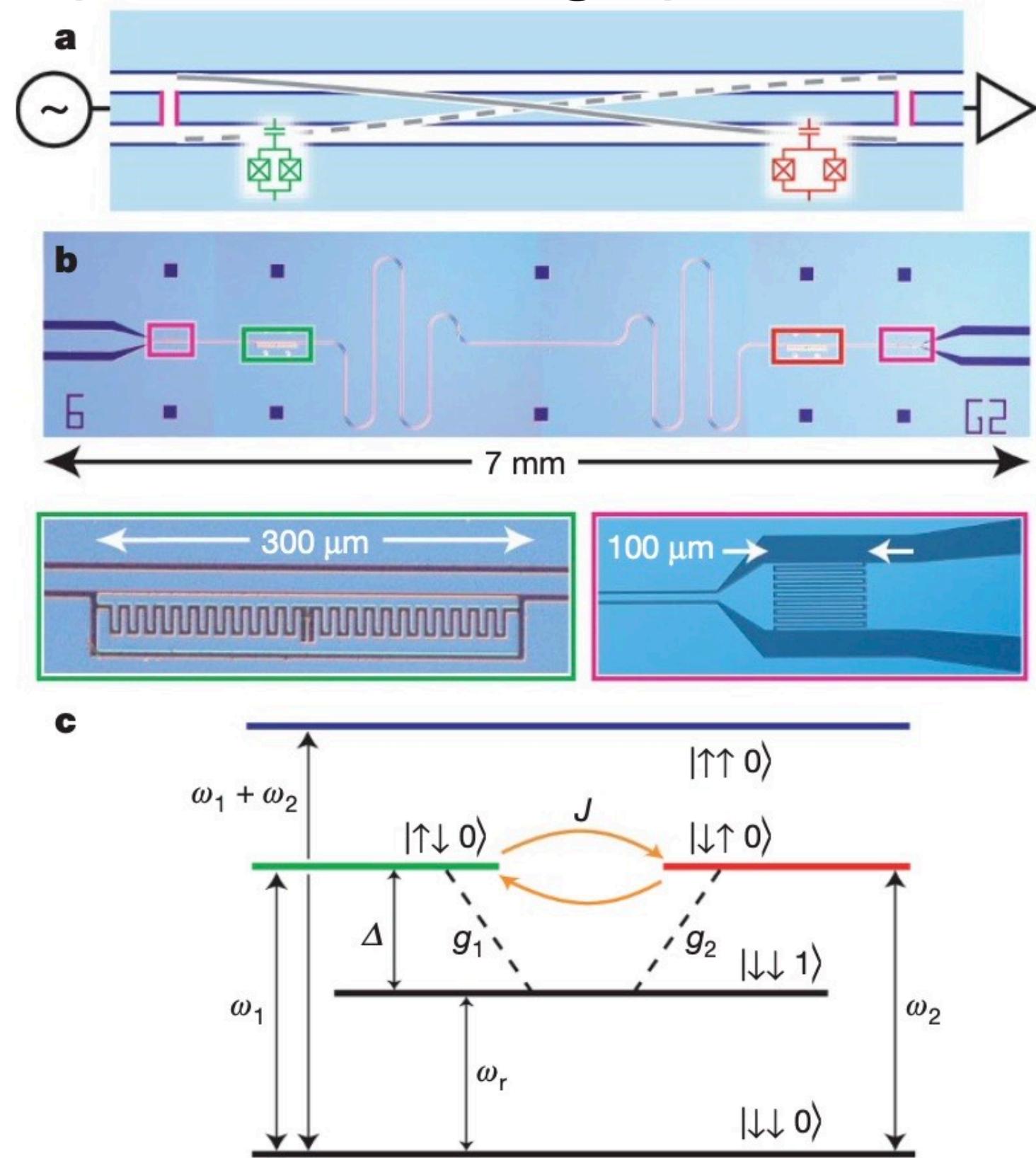
$$V_{dd} = -\frac{g^2}{\Delta}(|eg\rangle\langle ge| + |ge\rangle\langle eg|)$$

# 2 atoms and 1 cavity mode

Flip-flop interaction :

$$V_{dd} = -\frac{g^2}{\Delta}(|eg\rangle\langle ge| + |ge\rangle\langle eg|)$$

Superconducting qubits and microwave cavity



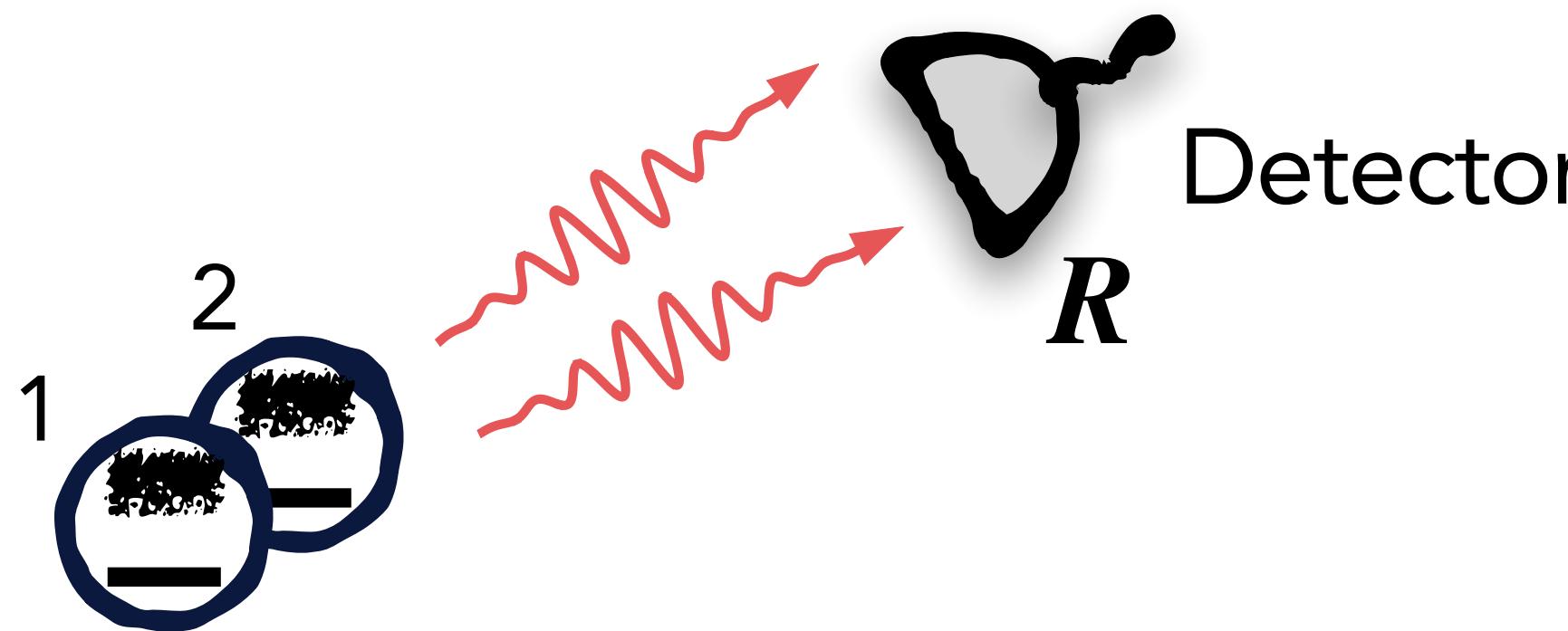
Majer et al.. Nature **449**, 443 (2007).

Original expt. with Rydberg atoms: Hagley et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **79**, 1 (1997)

# 2-atom spontaneous emission

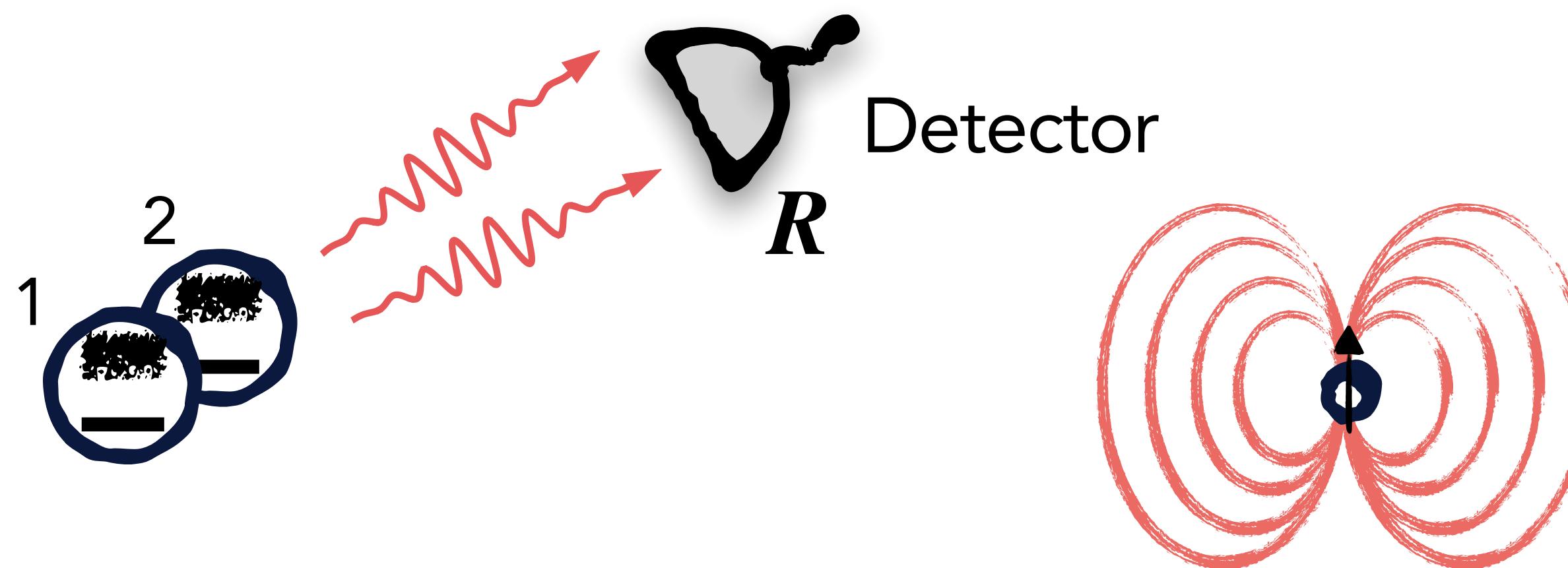
Collective decay

$$I(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{R}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \rangle$$

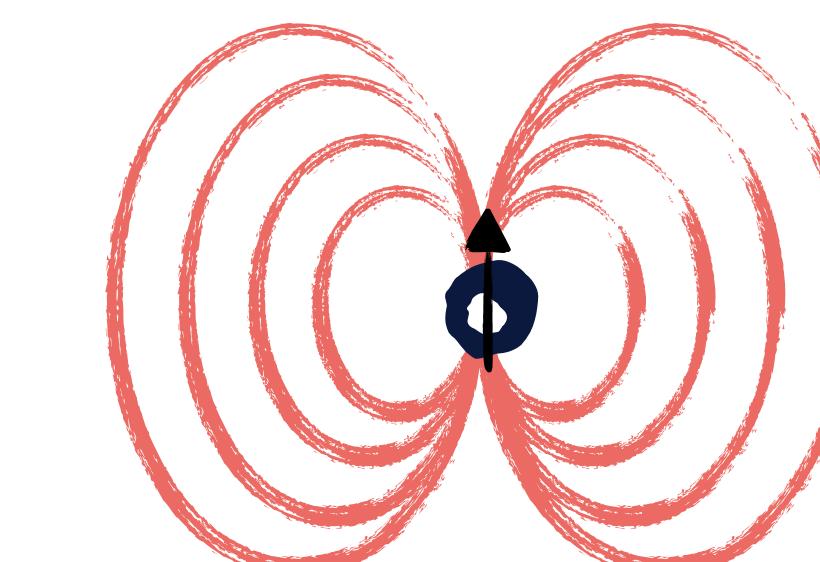


# 2-atom spontaneous emission

Collective decay



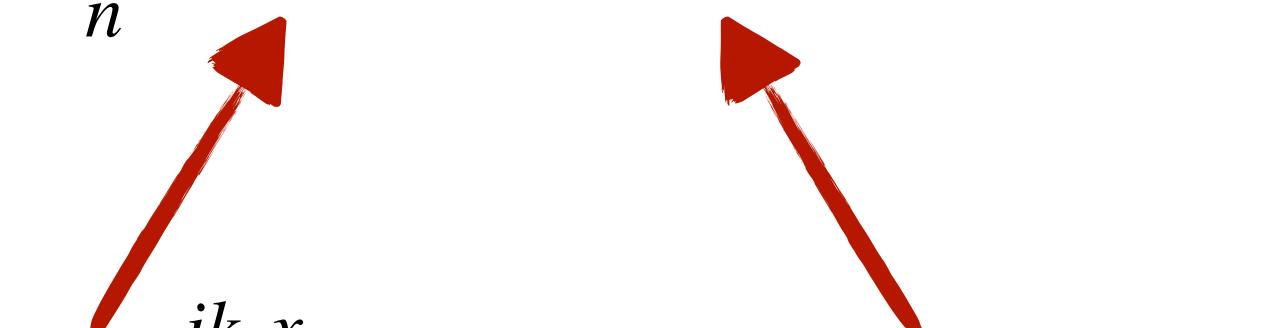
$$I(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{R}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \rangle$$



$$\hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \propto \sum_n G(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}_n, \omega_0) \hat{\sigma}_n^-$$

$$G(x, \omega_0) \sim \frac{e^{ik_0x}}{4\pi k_0 x}$$

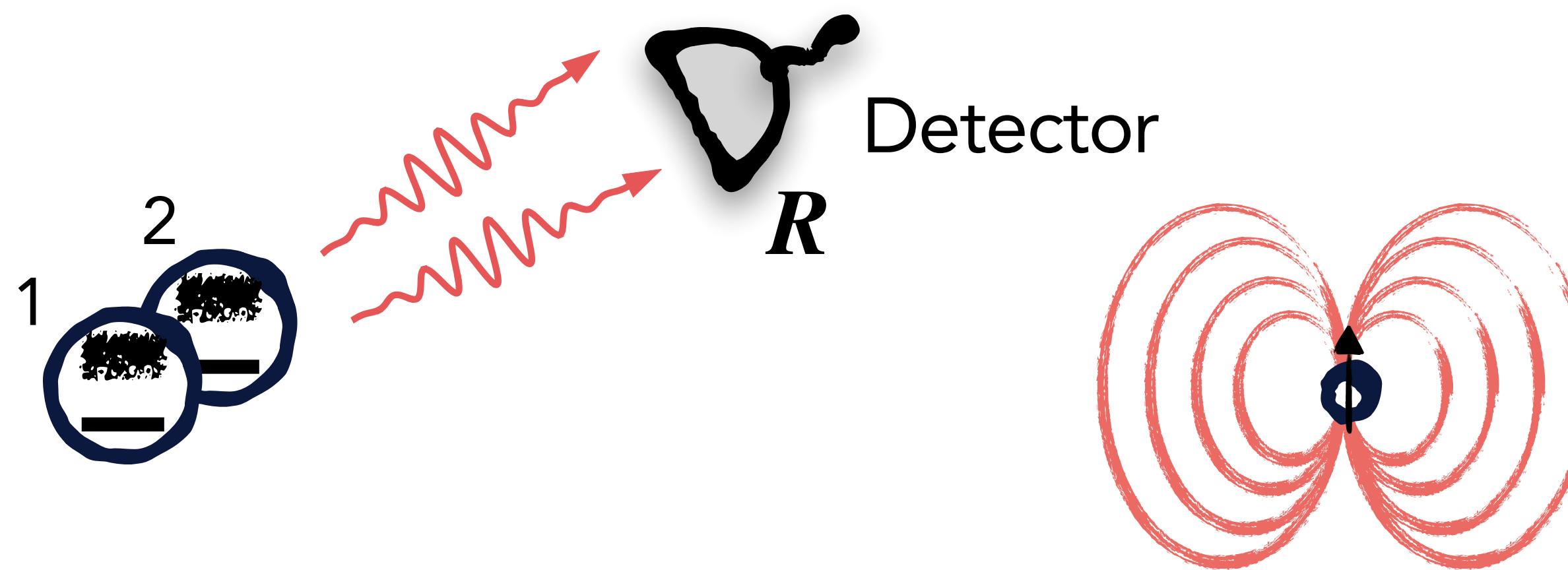
Far field Green's function



$$\hat{\sigma}_n^- = |g_n\rangle\langle e_n|$$

# 2-atom spontaneous emission

Collective decay



$$I(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{R}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \rangle$$

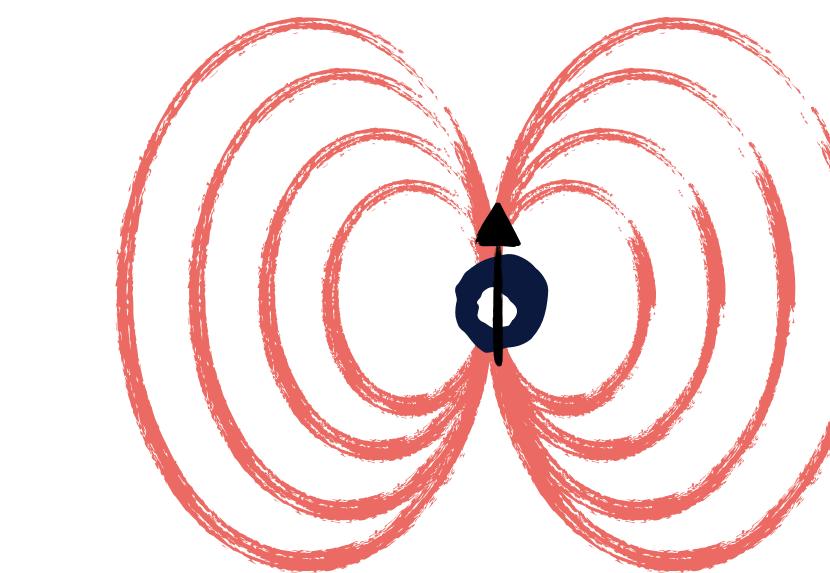
$$\hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \propto \sum_n G(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}_n, \omega_0) \hat{\sigma}_n^-$$

$$e^{ik_0x}$$

$$G(x, \omega_0) \sim \frac{e^{ik_0x}}{4\pi k_0 x}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_n^- = |g_n\rangle\langle e_n|$$

Far field Green's function



Far field intensity in direction  $\mathbf{k} = k_0 \hat{\mathbf{k}}$

$$I(\mathbf{k}) = I_1(\mathbf{k}) [\langle \hat{e}_1 \rangle + \langle \hat{e}_2 \rangle + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1)} \langle \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^- \rangle + \text{cc}]$$

# 2-atom spontaneous emission

$$I(\mathbf{k}) = I_1(\mathbf{k}) [\langle \hat{e}_1 \rangle + \langle \hat{e}_2 \rangle + e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{r}_2-\mathbf{r}_1)} \langle \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^- \rangle + \text{cc}]$$

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2 excitations:  $|ee\rangle$      $I(\mathbf{k}) = 2I_1(\mathbf{k})$

$$\Gamma_{ee} = 2\Gamma_0$$

# 2-atom spontaneous emission

$$I(\mathbf{k}) = I_1(\mathbf{k}) [\langle \hat{e}_1 \rangle + \langle \hat{e}_2 \rangle + e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1)} \langle \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^- \rangle + \text{cc}]$$

2 excitations:  $|ee\rangle$      $I(\mathbf{k}) = 2I_1(\mathbf{k})$

$$\Gamma_{ee} = 2\Gamma_0$$

1 excitation:  $|\pm\rangle = (|eg\rangle \pm |ge\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$      $\langle \pm | \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^- | \pm \rangle = \pm \frac{1}{2}$

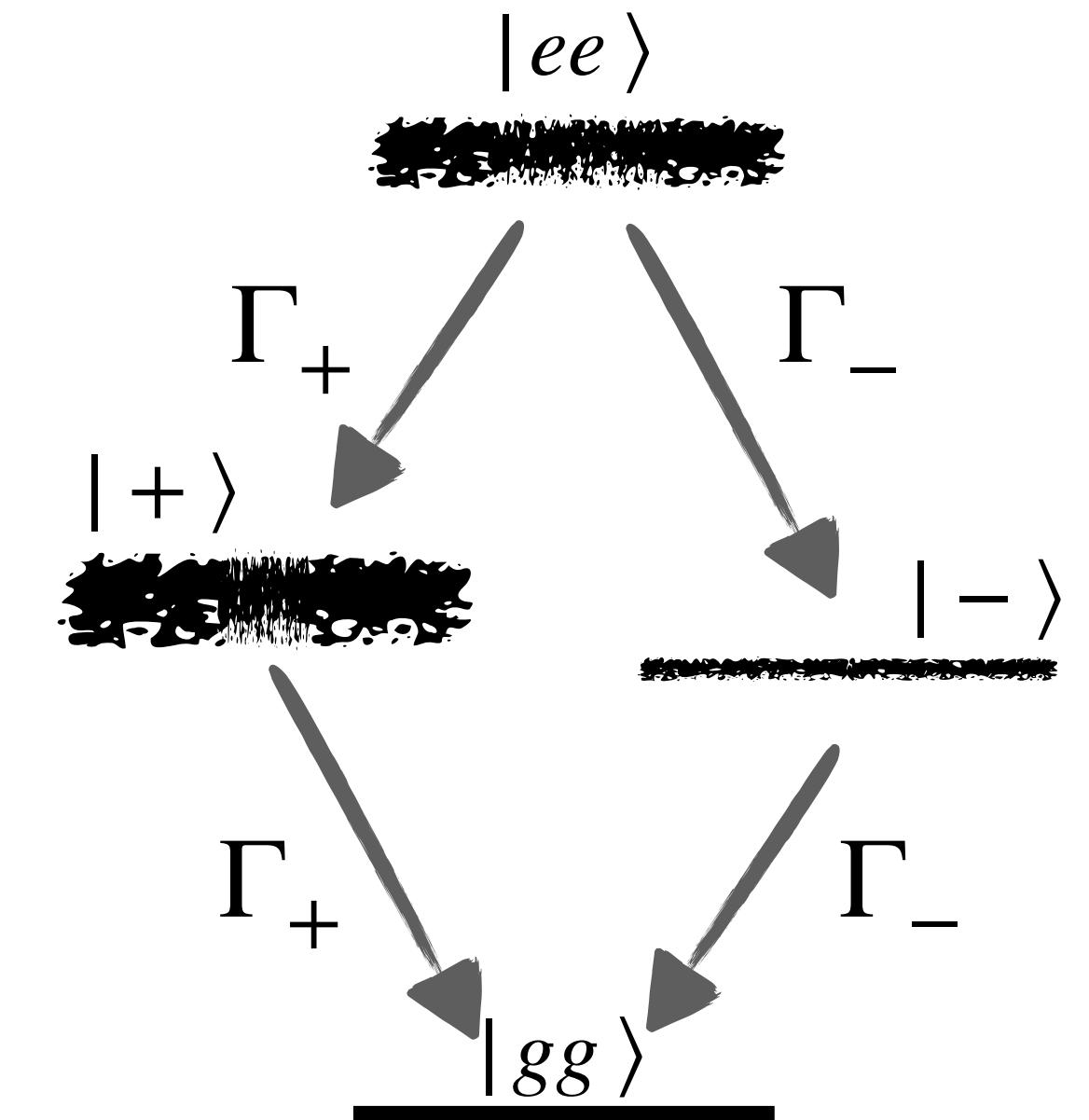
$$I_{\pm}(\mathbf{k}) = I_1(\mathbf{k}) [1 \pm \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1))]$$

Integrate:

$$\Gamma_{\pm} = \Gamma_0(1 + 2\text{Im}V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}))$$

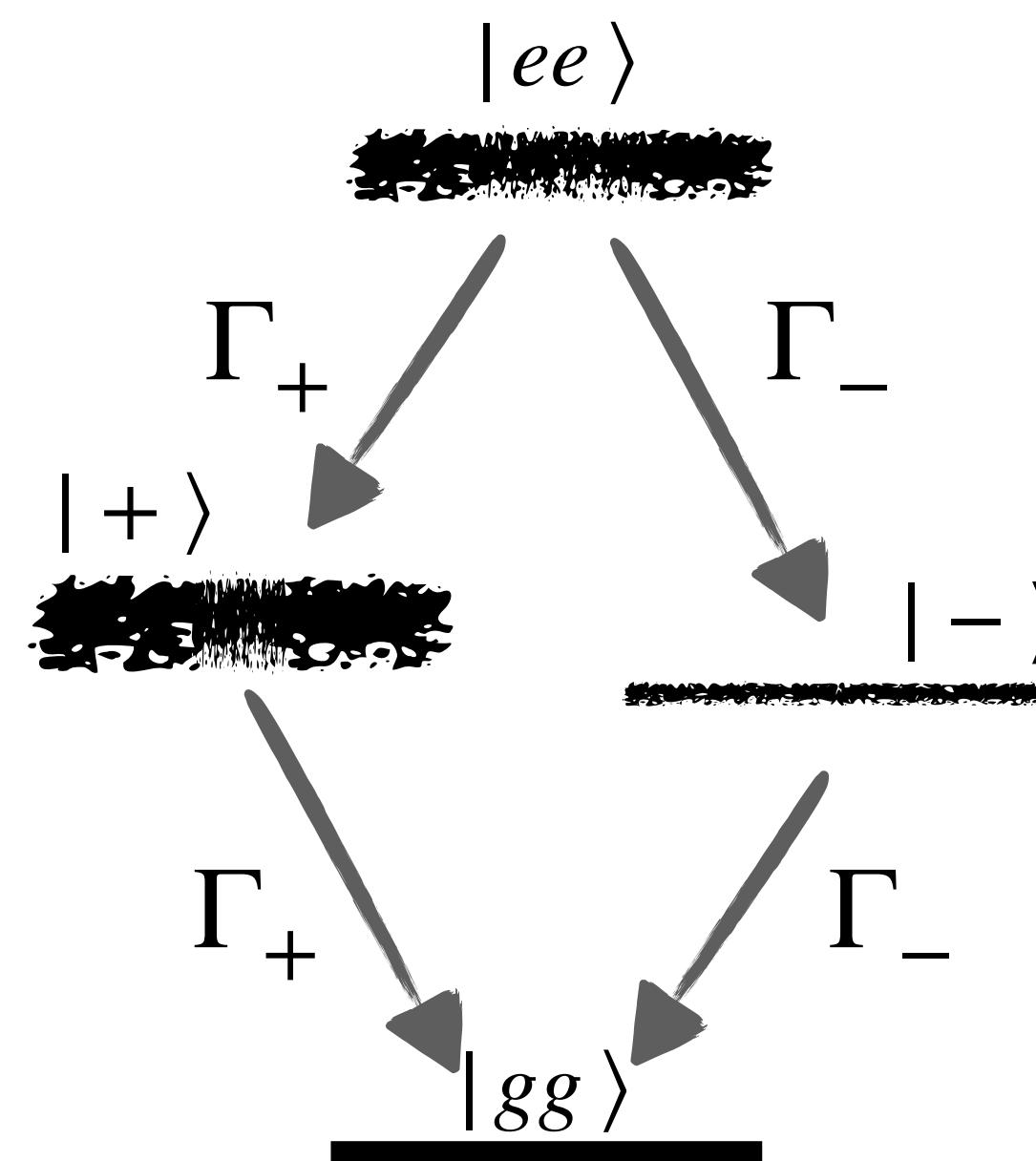
Faraway atoms

$$\Gamma_{\pm} \sim \Gamma_0(1 \pm \frac{3}{2}\sin(k_0 r)/k_0 r)$$



# 2-atom spontaneous emission

$$\Gamma_{\pm} \sim \Gamma_0 \left( 1 \pm \frac{3}{2} \frac{\sin(k_0 r)}{k_0 r} \right)$$



# 2-atom spontaneous emission

2 ions at variable distance

DeVoe & Brewer *Phys Rev Lett* **76**, 2049 (1996).

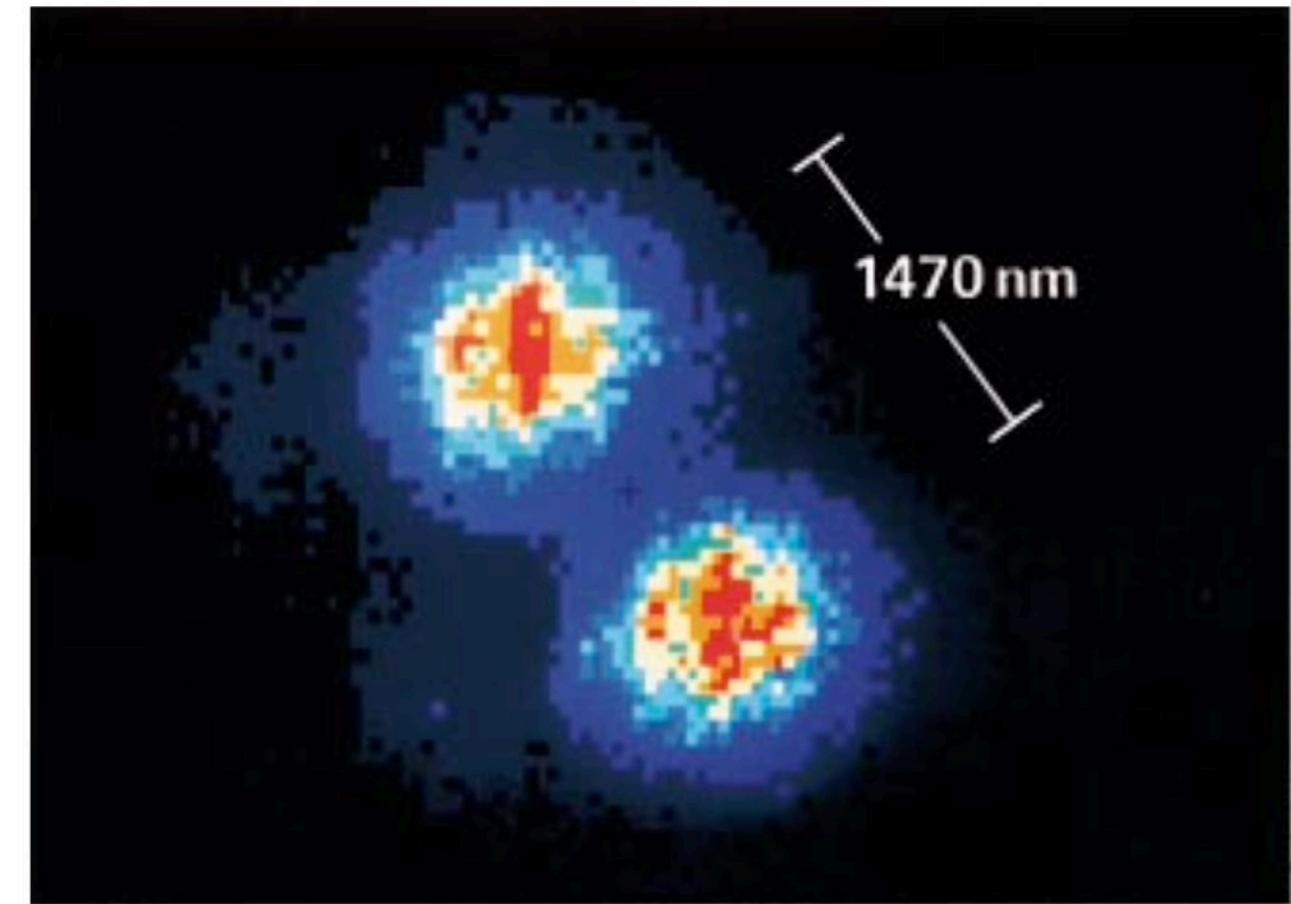
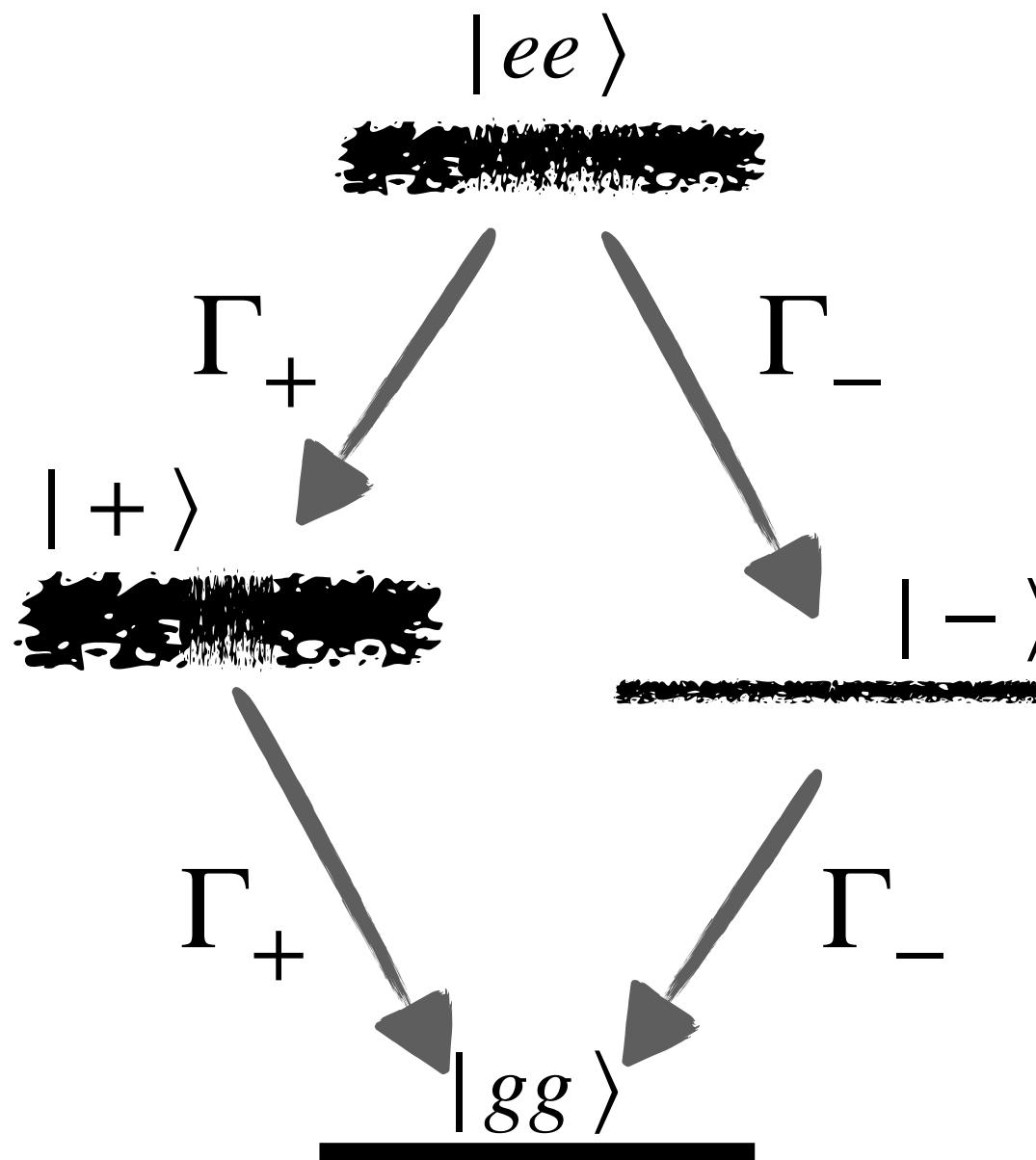


FIG. 4. (color) Diffraction-limited image of a two-ion crystal with  $R = 1470$  nm. This determines the orientation of the interatomic vector  $R$  enabling a no-free-parameter fit.

$$\Gamma_{\pm} \sim \Gamma_0 \left( 1 \pm \frac{3}{2} \frac{\sin(k_0 r)}{k_0 r} \right)$$



# 2-atom spontaneous emission

2 ions at variable distance

DeVoe & Brewer *Phys Rev Lett* **76**, 2049 (1996).

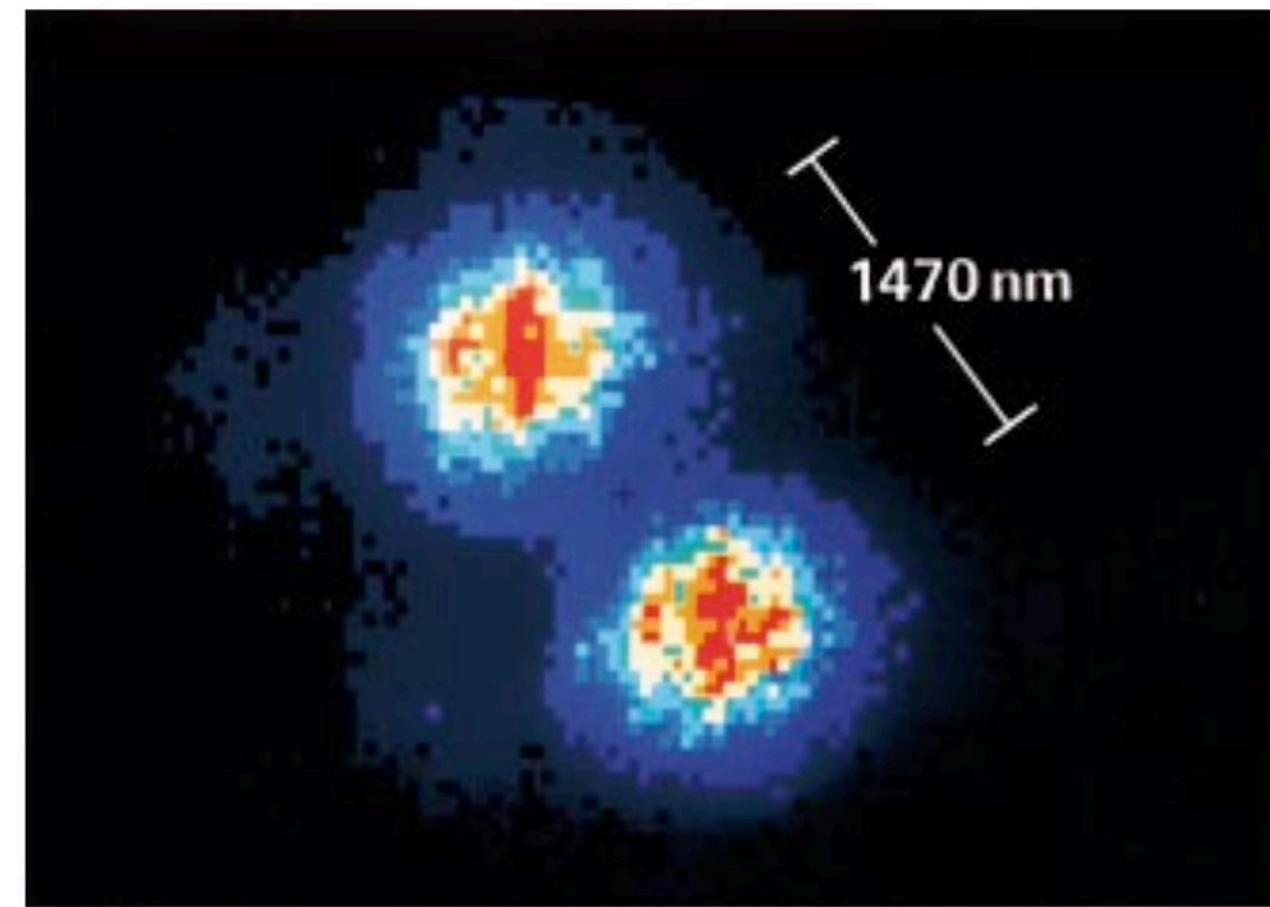
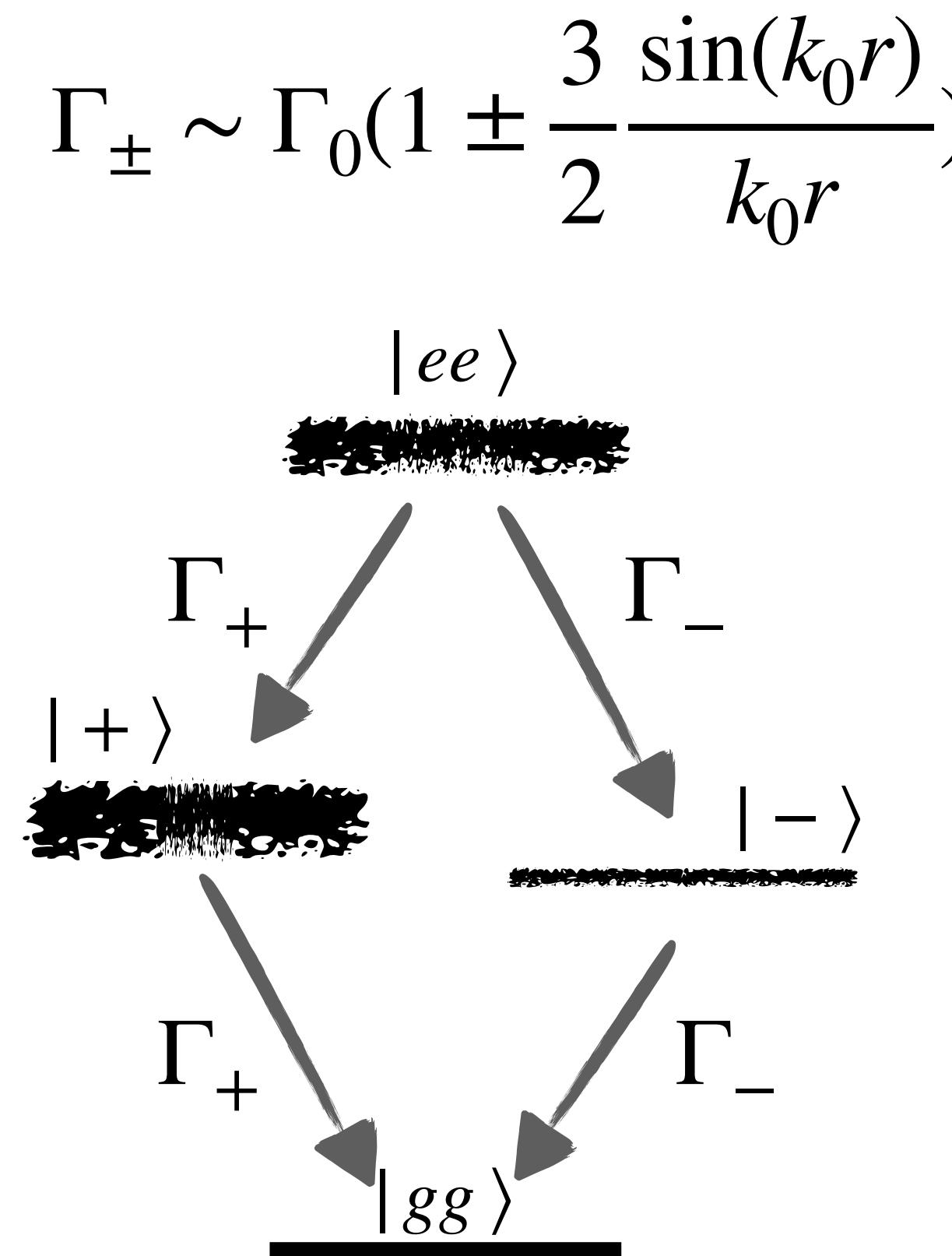


FIG. 4. (color) Diffraction-limited image of a two-ion crystal with  $R = 1470$  nm. This determines the orientation of the interatomic vector  $R$  enabling a no-free-parameter fit.



$$\Gamma_{\pm} \sim \Gamma_0 \left( 1 \pm \frac{3}{2} \frac{\sin(k_0 r)}{k_0 r} \right)$$

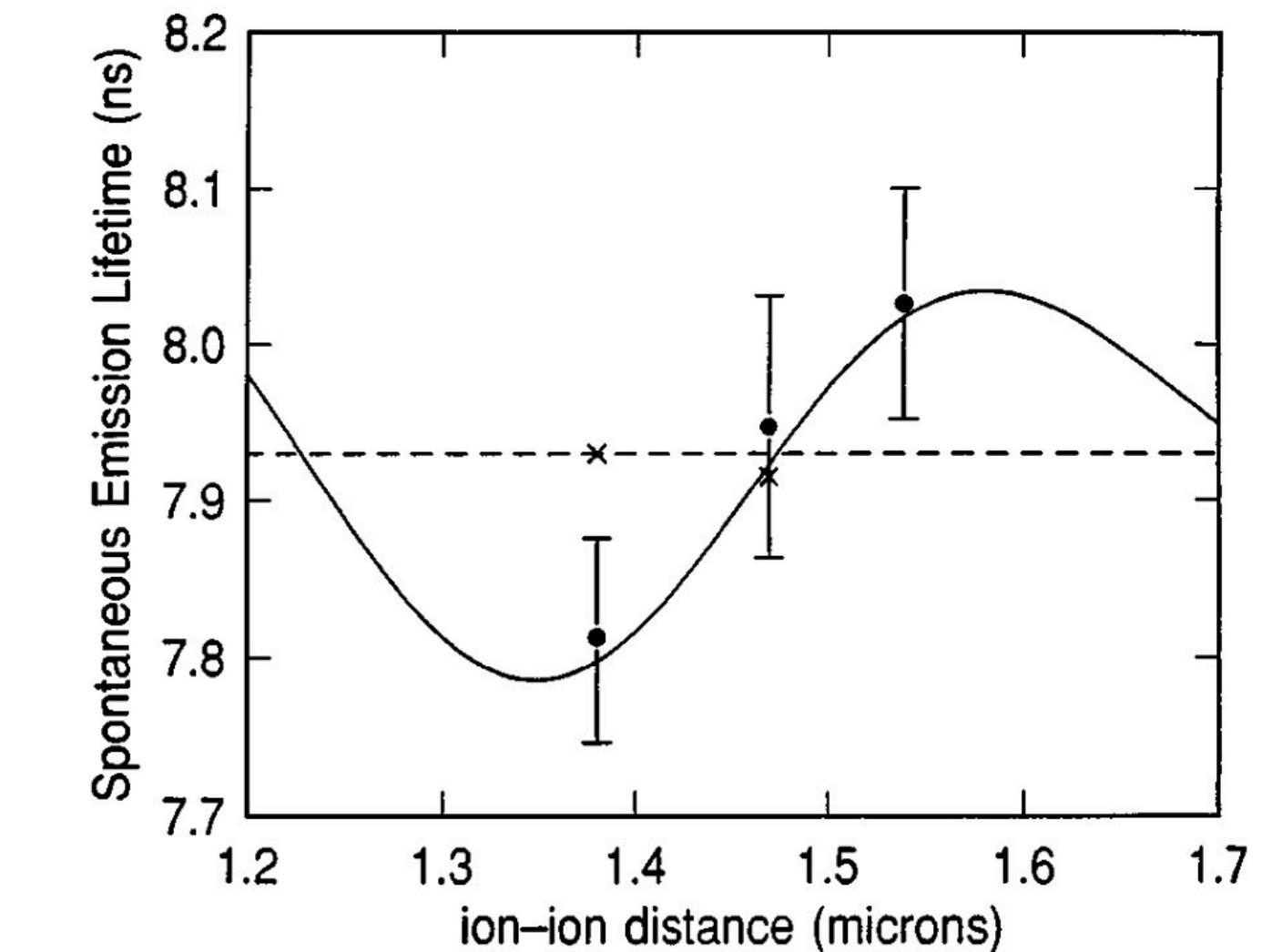
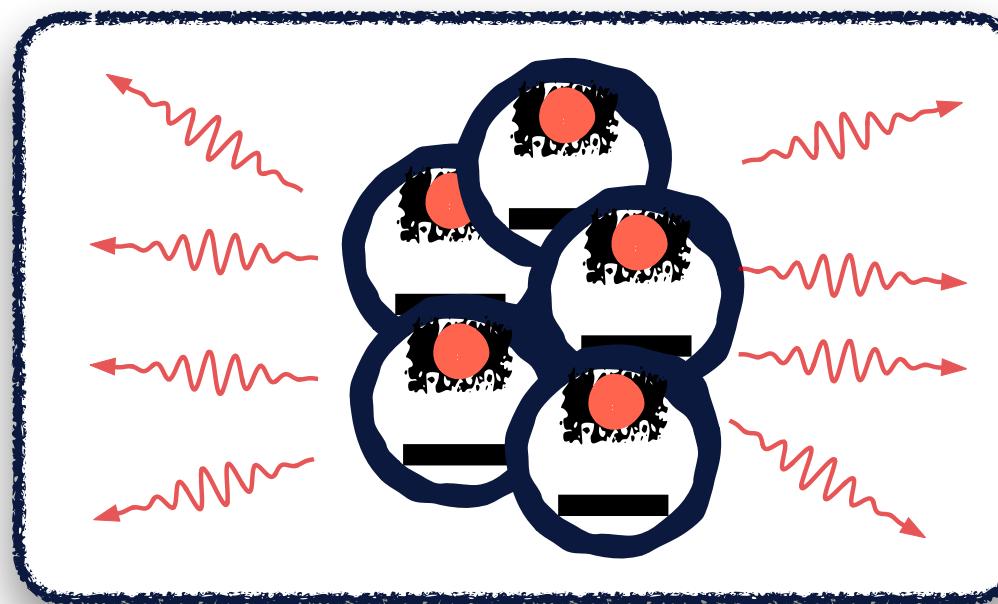


FIG. 6. Comparison of theory to experimental points at 1380, 1470, and 1540 nm (see text). The ion-ion distance is independently known by measuring the secular oscillation frequency of one ion. The lifetime is calibrated by comparison to  $7.930 \pm 0.03$  ns measured for a single ion in the same apparatus. Note the polarization sensitivity (crosses, with error bars omitted for clarity).

# Master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [H, \rho] + L(\rho)$$



$$H = H_0 + \sum_{nm} V_{nm} \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^-$$

$$V_{nm} = \text{Re}[V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}_{nm})]$$

$$L(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{nm} \Gamma_{nm} (2\hat{\sigma}_m^- \rho \hat{\sigma}_n^+ - \rho \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^- - \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^- \rho)$$

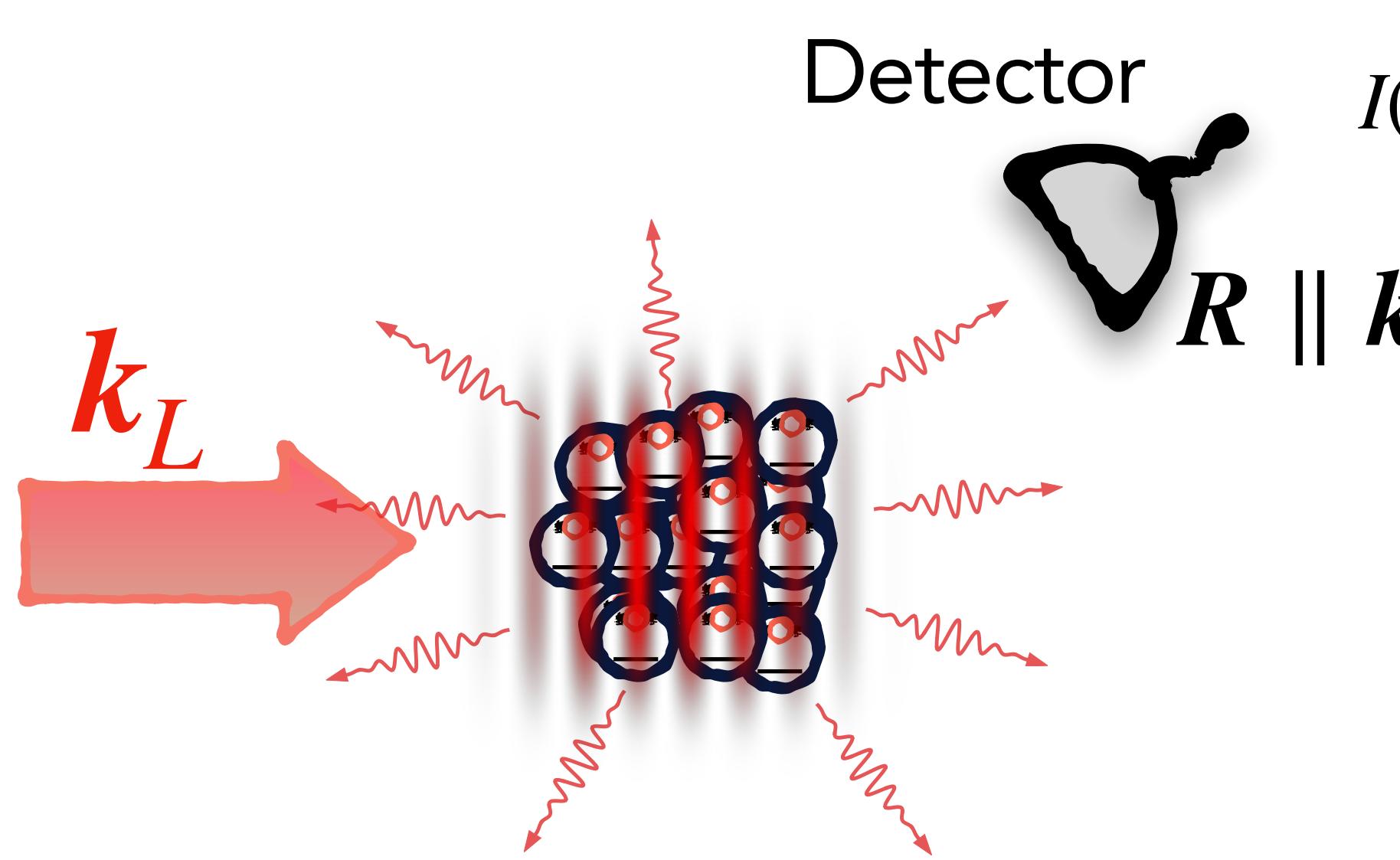
$$\Gamma_{nm} = 2 \text{Im}[V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}_{nm})]$$

Equation valid under the Born-Markov approximation

Ignore correlations between field and atoms (free space)

Ignore propagation time  $L/c \ll 1/\Gamma$  typical evolution time

# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms



The diagram illustrates a laser field  $k_L$  (red arrow) interacting with a group of atoms (represented by blue circles). Red wavy arrows indicate the emission of photons from the atoms. A detector is positioned at a distance  $R$  from the atom cluster, with the condition  $R \parallel k$ .

Detector

$R \parallel k$

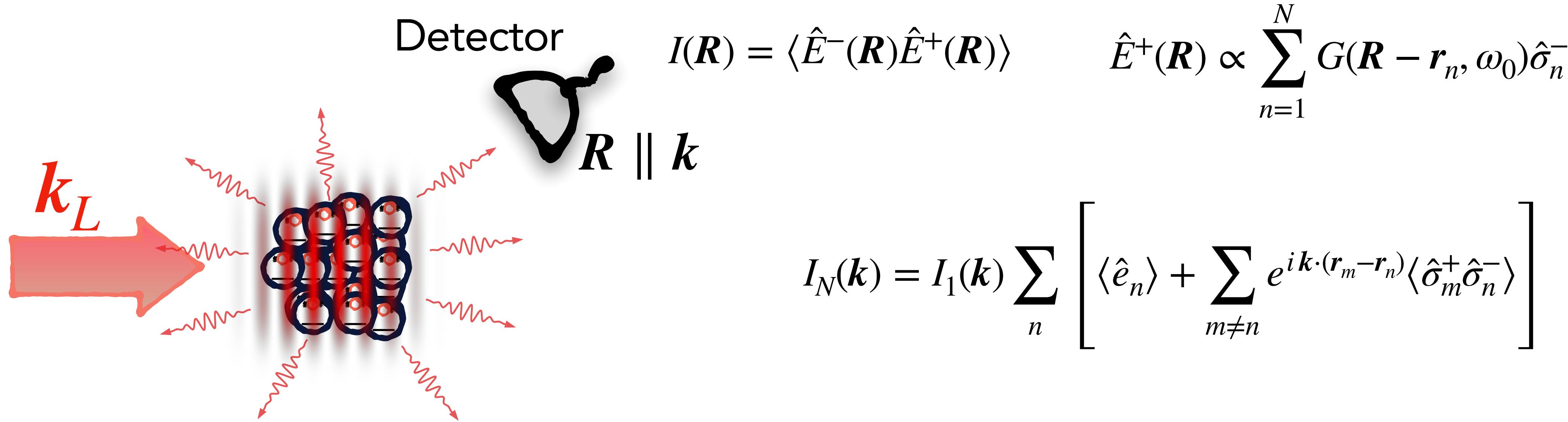
$k_L$

$I(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{R}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \rangle$

$\hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \propto \sum_{n=1}^N G(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{r}_n, \omega_0) \hat{\sigma}_n^-$

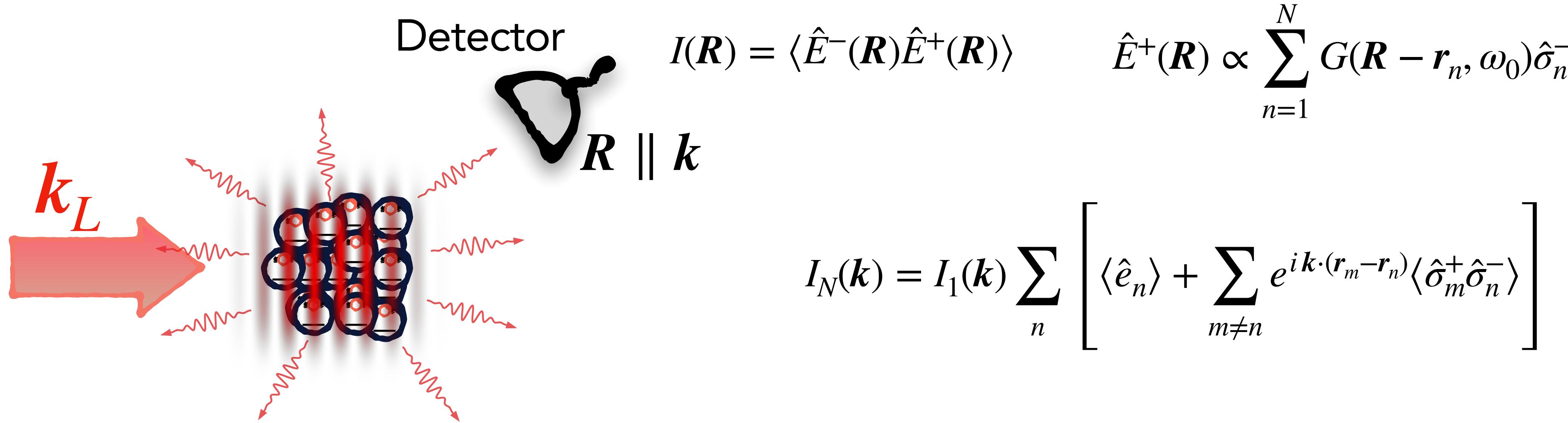
$I_N(k) = I_1(k) \sum_n \left[ \langle \hat{e}_n \rangle + \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i \mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n)} \langle \hat{\sigma}_m^+ \hat{\sigma}_n^- \rangle \right]$

# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms



Laser propagating along  $k_L$  excites each atom to:  $|\psi_n\rangle \propto (|g_n\rangle + \varepsilon e^{i\mathbf{k}_L \cdot \mathbf{r}_n} |e_n\rangle)$   $|\psi\rangle = \Pi_{\otimes n} |\psi_n\rangle$

# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms

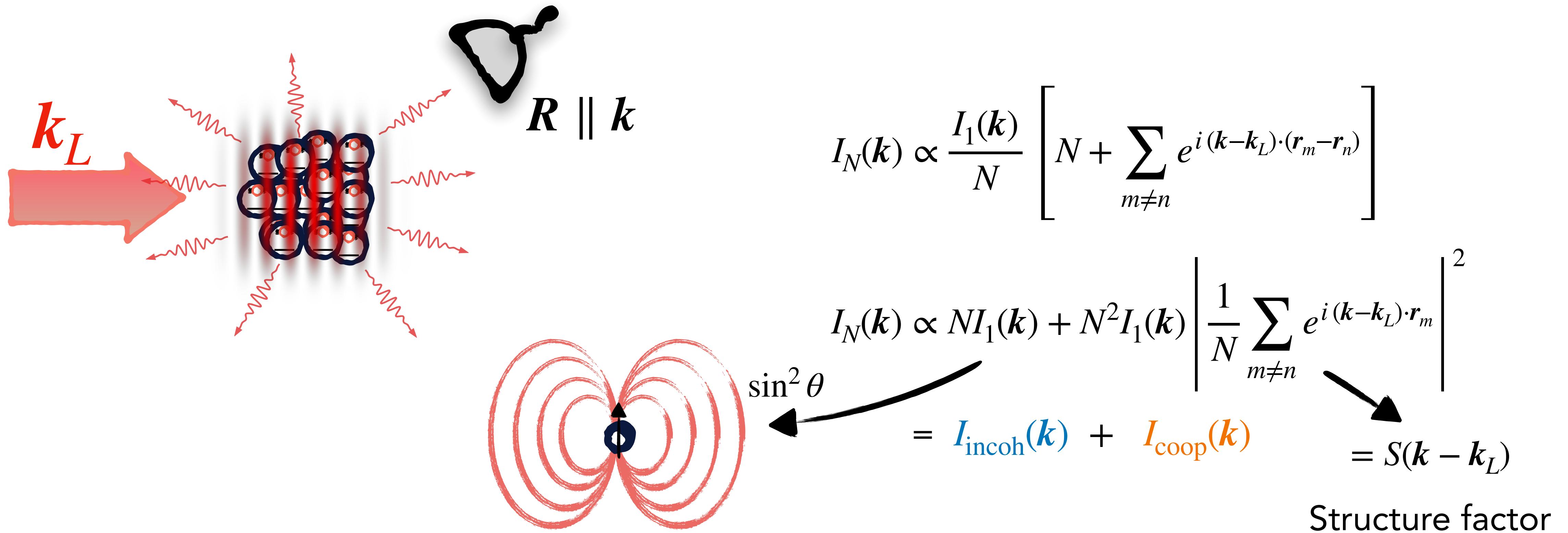


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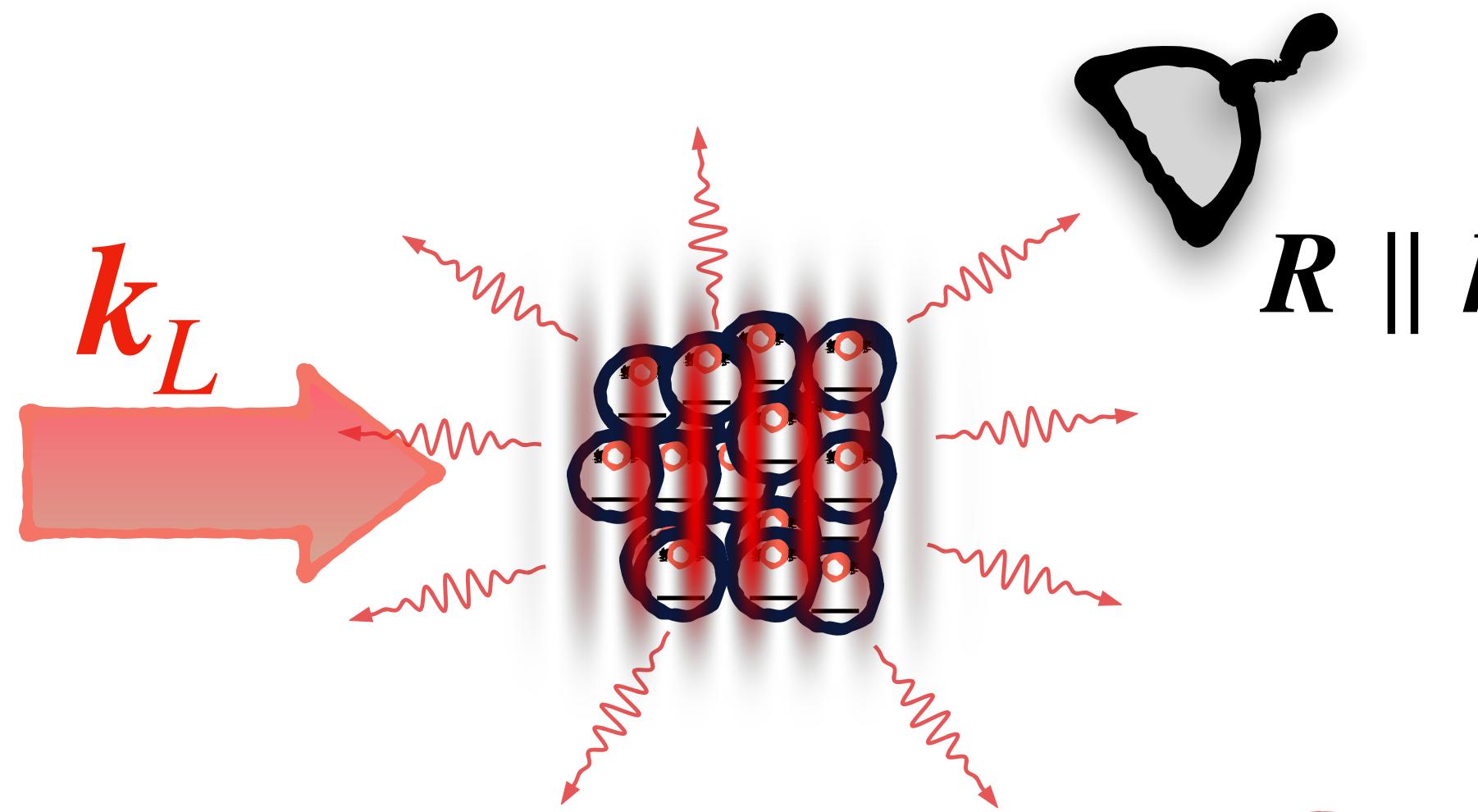
$$\text{Weak excitation } (\varepsilon \ll 1) \quad \langle \hat{e}_n \rangle = \varepsilon^2 \quad \langle \hat{\sigma}_m^+ \hat{\sigma}_n^- \rangle = \varepsilon^2 e^{i \mathbf{k}_L \cdot (\mathbf{r}_n - \mathbf{r}_m)}$$

$$I_N(\mathbf{k}) = \varepsilon^2 I_1(\mathbf{k}) \left[ N + \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i (\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L) \cdot (\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n)} \right]$$

# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms



# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms



Defines the **cooperativity**  $\mu$

$$I_N(\mathbf{k}) \propto \frac{I_1(\mathbf{k})}{N} \left[ N + \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_L) \cdot (\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n)} \right]$$

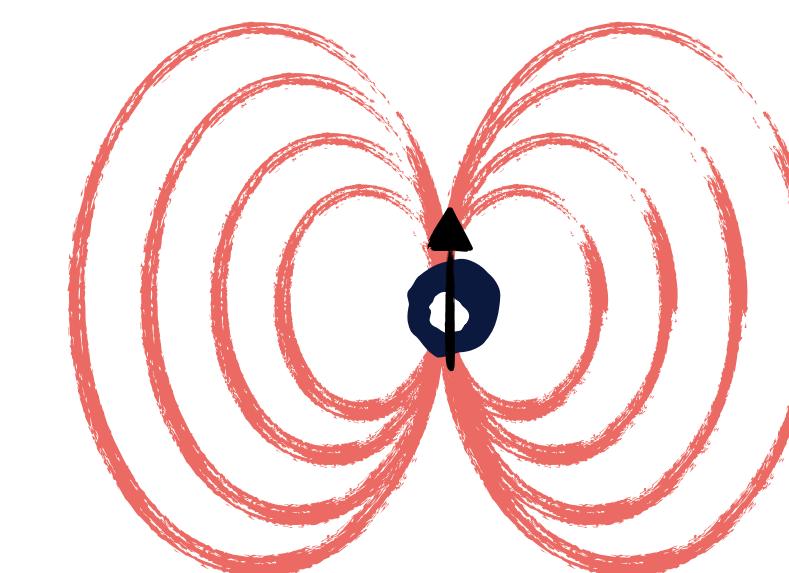
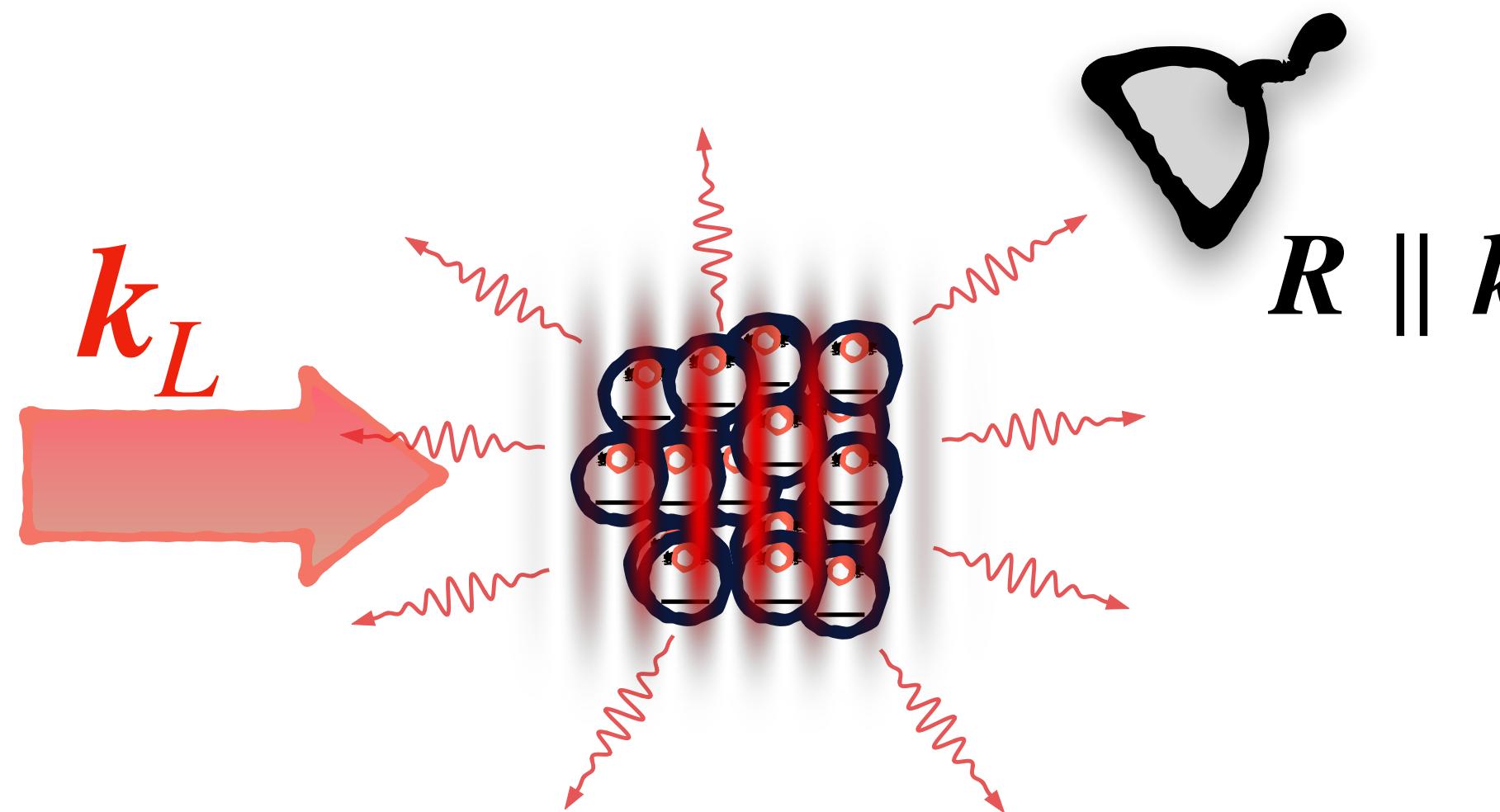
$$\begin{aligned} I_N(\mathbf{k}) &\propto NI_1(\mathbf{k}) + N^2I_1(\mathbf{k}) \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_L) \cdot \mathbf{r}_m} \right|^2 \\ &= I_{\text{incoh}}(\mathbf{k}) + I_{\text{coop}}(\mathbf{k}) \\ &= S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L) \end{aligned}$$

Structure factor

$$\mu = \frac{\int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k}) |S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L)|^2}{\int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k})}$$

$$\mu = \frac{P_{\text{coop}}}{P_{\text{incoh}}}$$

# Emission from $N$ weakly excited atoms



Defines the **cooperativity**  $\mu$

Collective initial scattering rate

$$I_N(\mathbf{k}) \propto \frac{I_1(\mathbf{k})}{N} \left[ N + \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_L) \cdot (\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n)} \right]$$

$$I_N(\mathbf{k}) \propto NI_1(\mathbf{k}) + N^2 I_1(\mathbf{k}) \left| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{m \neq n} e^{i(\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_L) \cdot \mathbf{r}_m} \right|^2$$

$$= I_{\text{incoh}}(\mathbf{k}) + I_{\text{coop}}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$= S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L)$$

Structure factor

$$\mu = \frac{\int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k}) |S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L)|^2}{\int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k})}$$

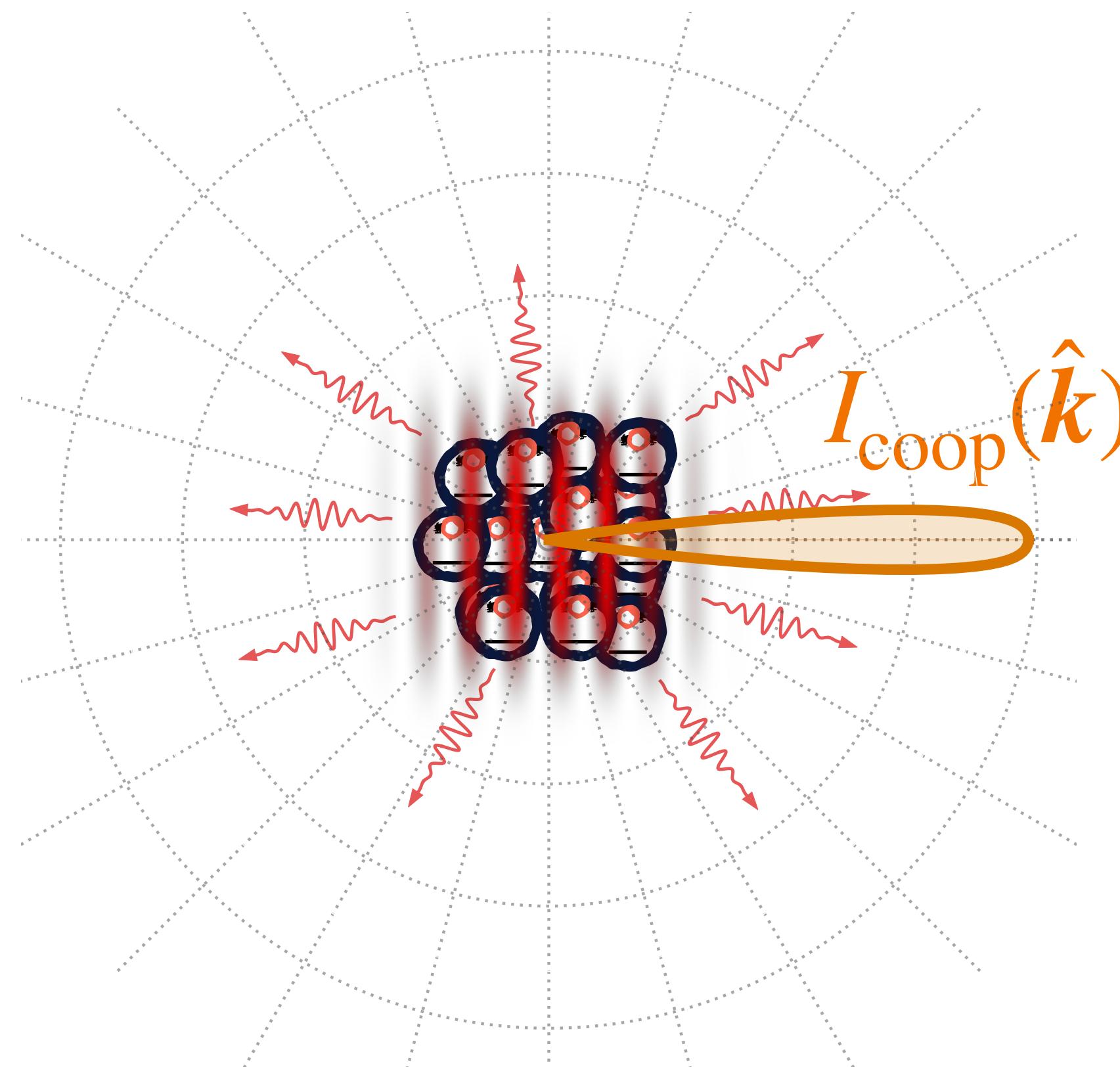
$$\mu = \frac{P_{\text{coop}}}{P_{\text{incoh}}}$$

$$\Gamma_N = \Gamma_0(1 + \mu N)$$

# Cooperativity

$$I(\mathbf{k}) = I_{\text{incoh}}(\mathbf{k}) + I_{\text{coop}}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$\mu = \frac{P_{\text{coop}}}{NP_1} \sim \frac{\Delta\Omega}{4\pi}$$



Cooperative scattering  
in solid angle  $\Delta\Omega$

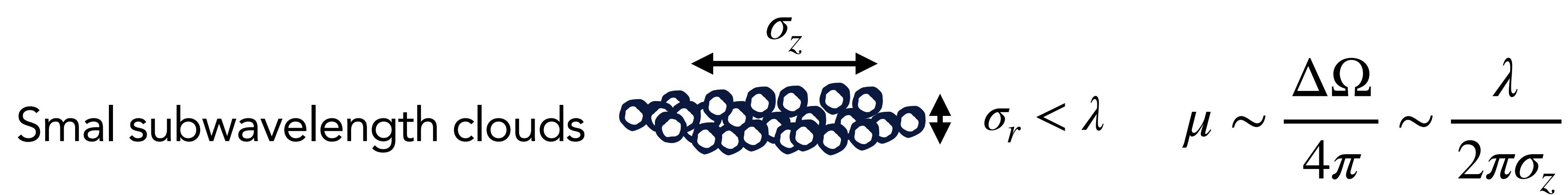
Gross & Haroche, *Physics Reports* **93**, 301 (1982).

Allen & Eberly, *Optical resonance and two-level atoms*, Courier Corp. (1987)

# “Classical” superradiance

Cooperativity

$$\mu = \frac{N^2 \int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k}) |S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L)|^2}{N \int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k})}$$



Couples to one diffraction mode set by cloud dimensions

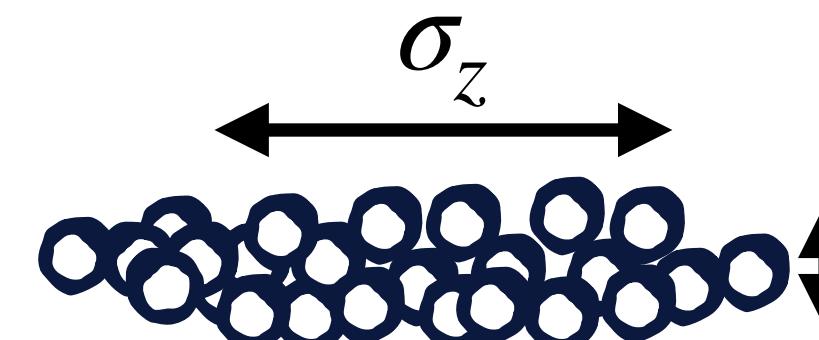
Coupling set by the optical depth in the direction of excitation

# “Classical” superradiance

Cooperativity

$$\mu = \frac{N^2 \int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k}) |S(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_L)|^2}{N \int d\Omega I_1(\mathbf{k})}$$

Small subwavelength clouds

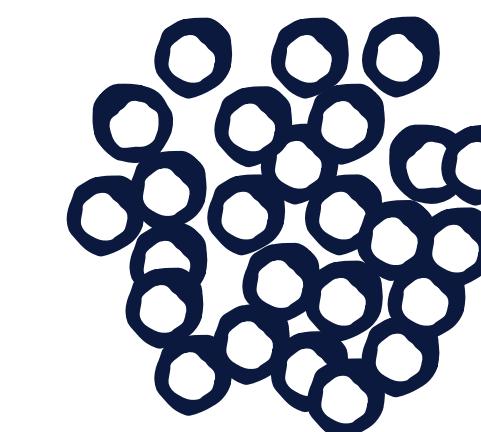


The diagram shows a horizontal row of small, overlapping circles representing particles or atoms. A double-headed arrow above the row is labeled  $\sigma_z$ , indicating the transverse dimension of the cloud.

$$\sigma_r < \lambda \quad \mu \sim \frac{\Delta\Omega}{4\pi} \sim \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\sigma_z}$$

Couples to one diffraction mode set by cloud dimensions

Cloud  $\sigma \gg \lambda_0$

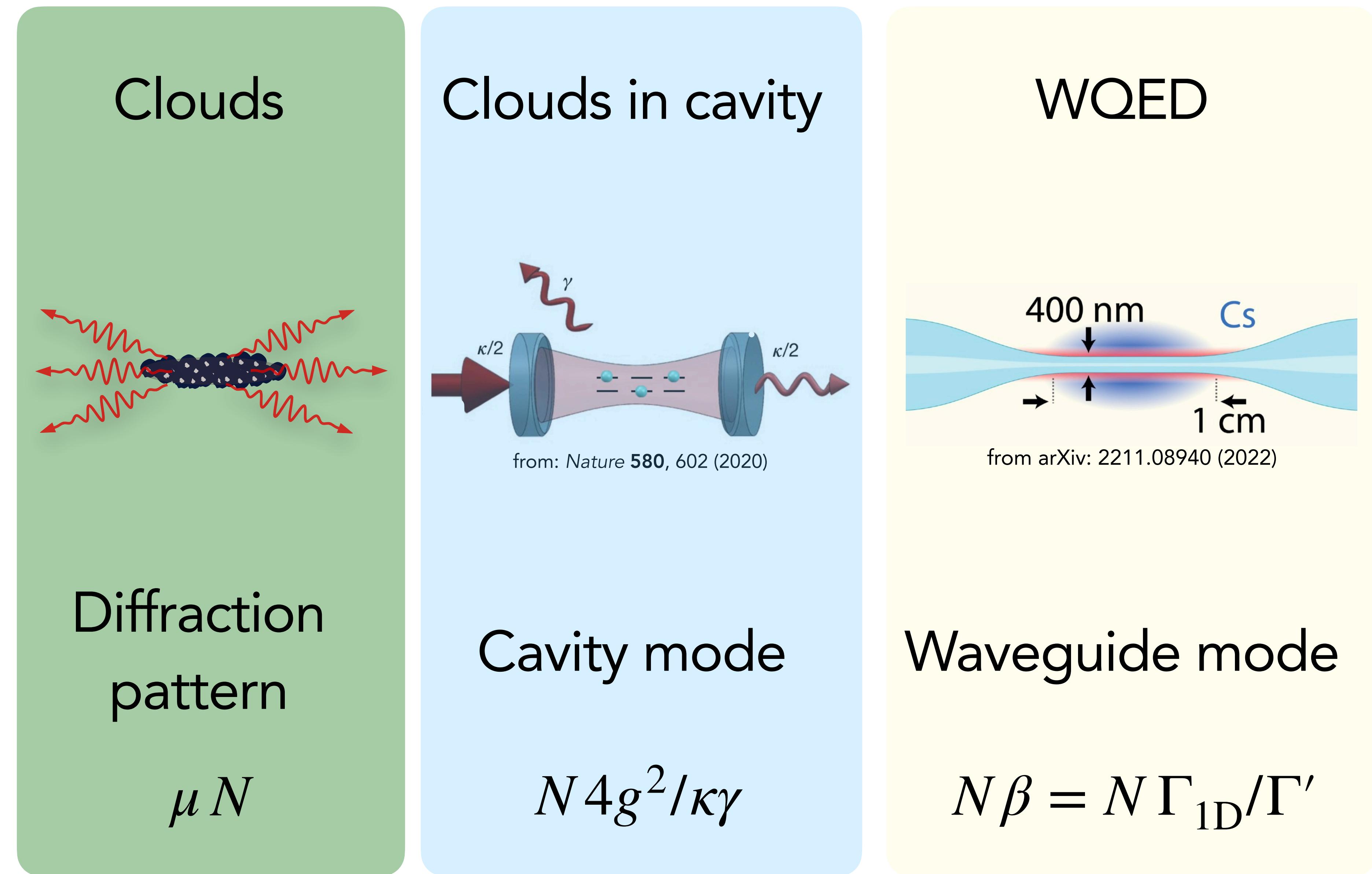


$$\mu N = \text{OD} = \frac{3N}{k_0^2 \sigma^2} \quad \text{optical depth}$$

Coupling set by the optical depth in the direction of excitation

# Analogies

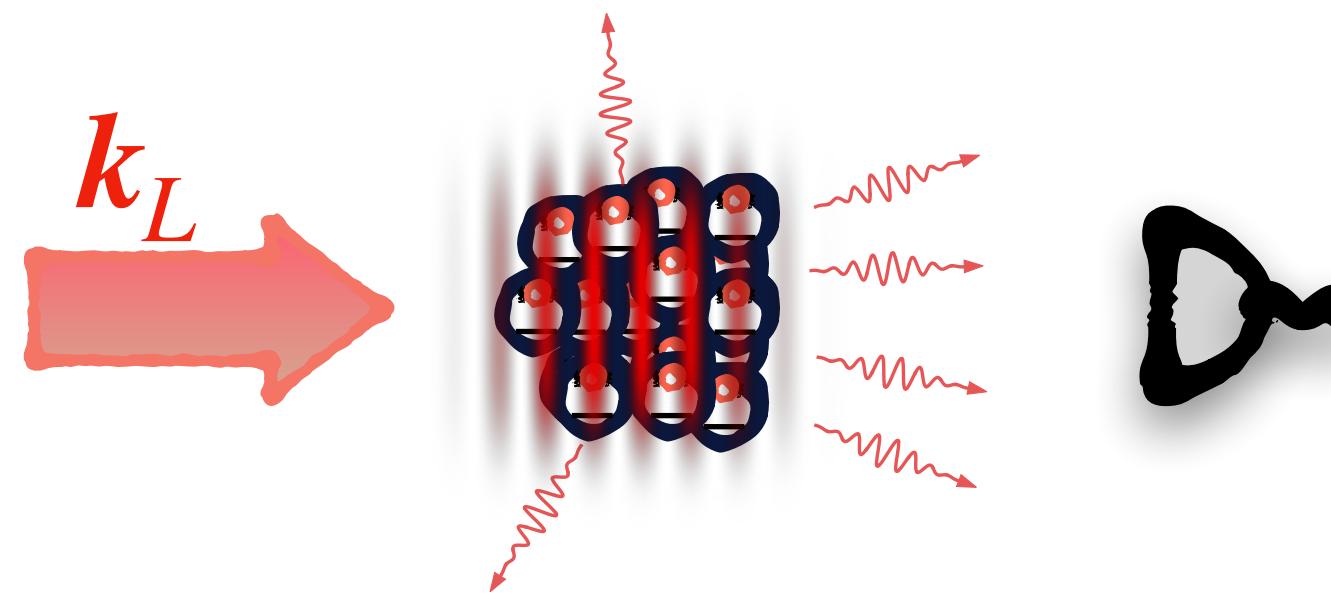
Collective mode  
N-atom  
cooperativity



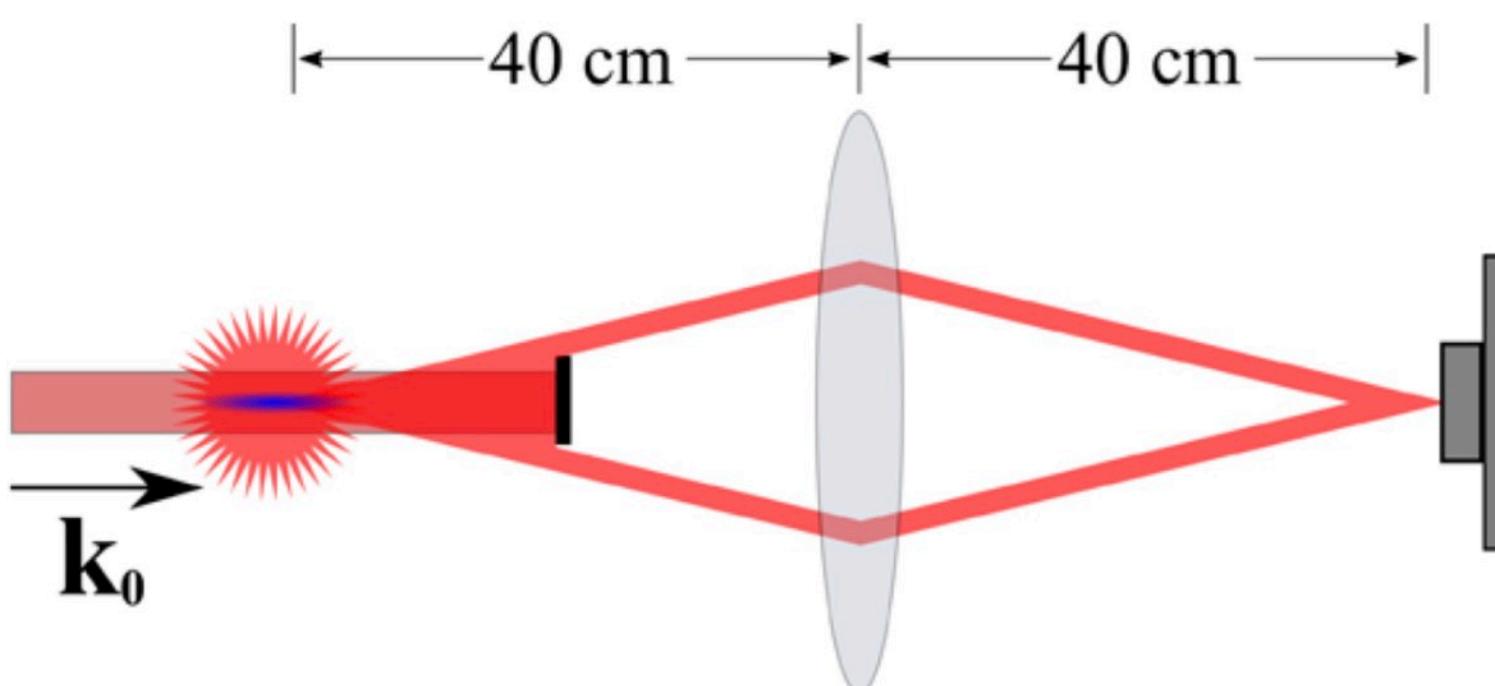
# Classical ("single-photon") superradiance

Mark Havey, ODU

Roof. et al., *Phys Rev Lett* 117, 073003 (2016).  
Araújo et al., *Phys Rev Lett* 117, 073002 (2016).



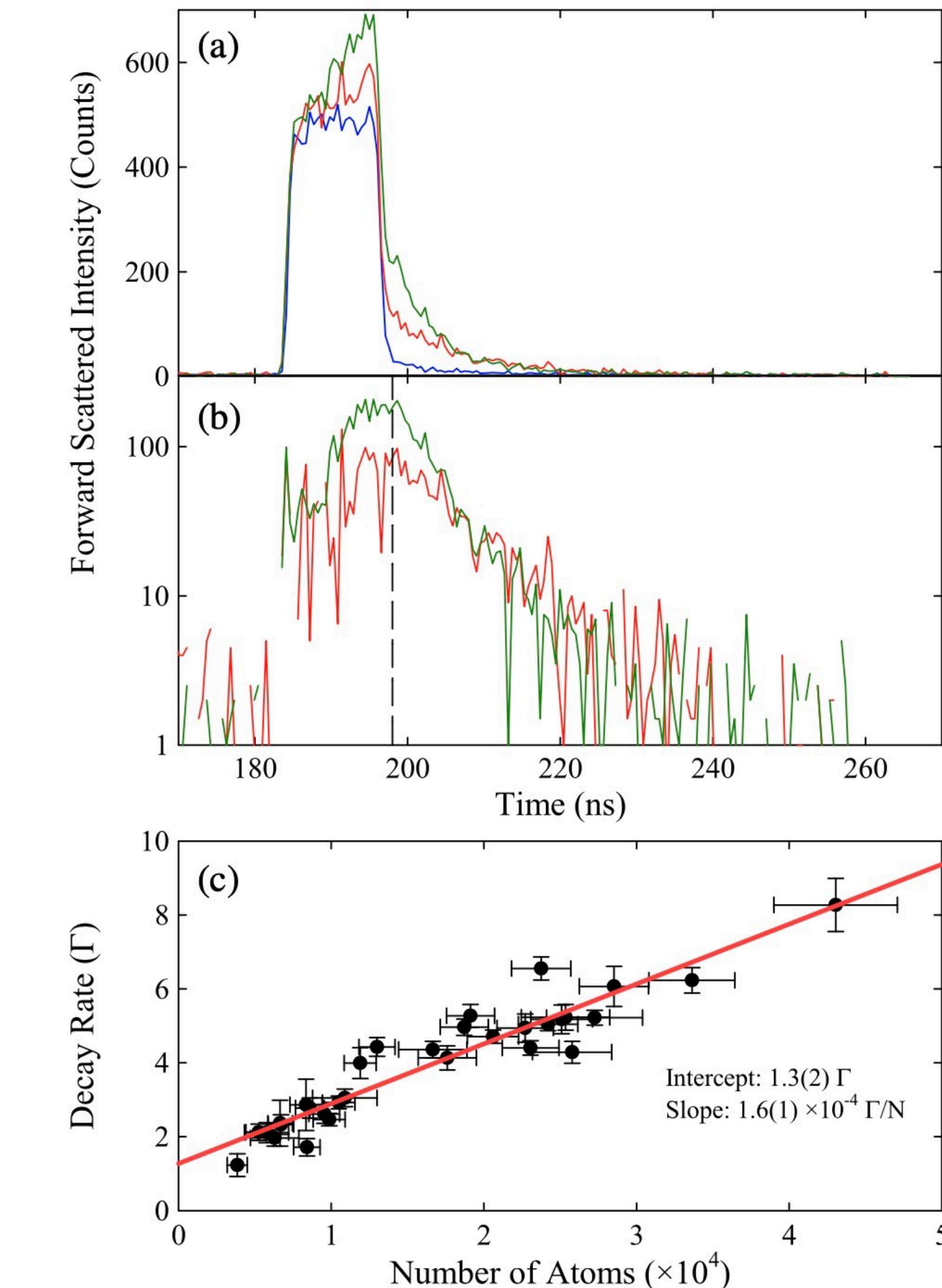
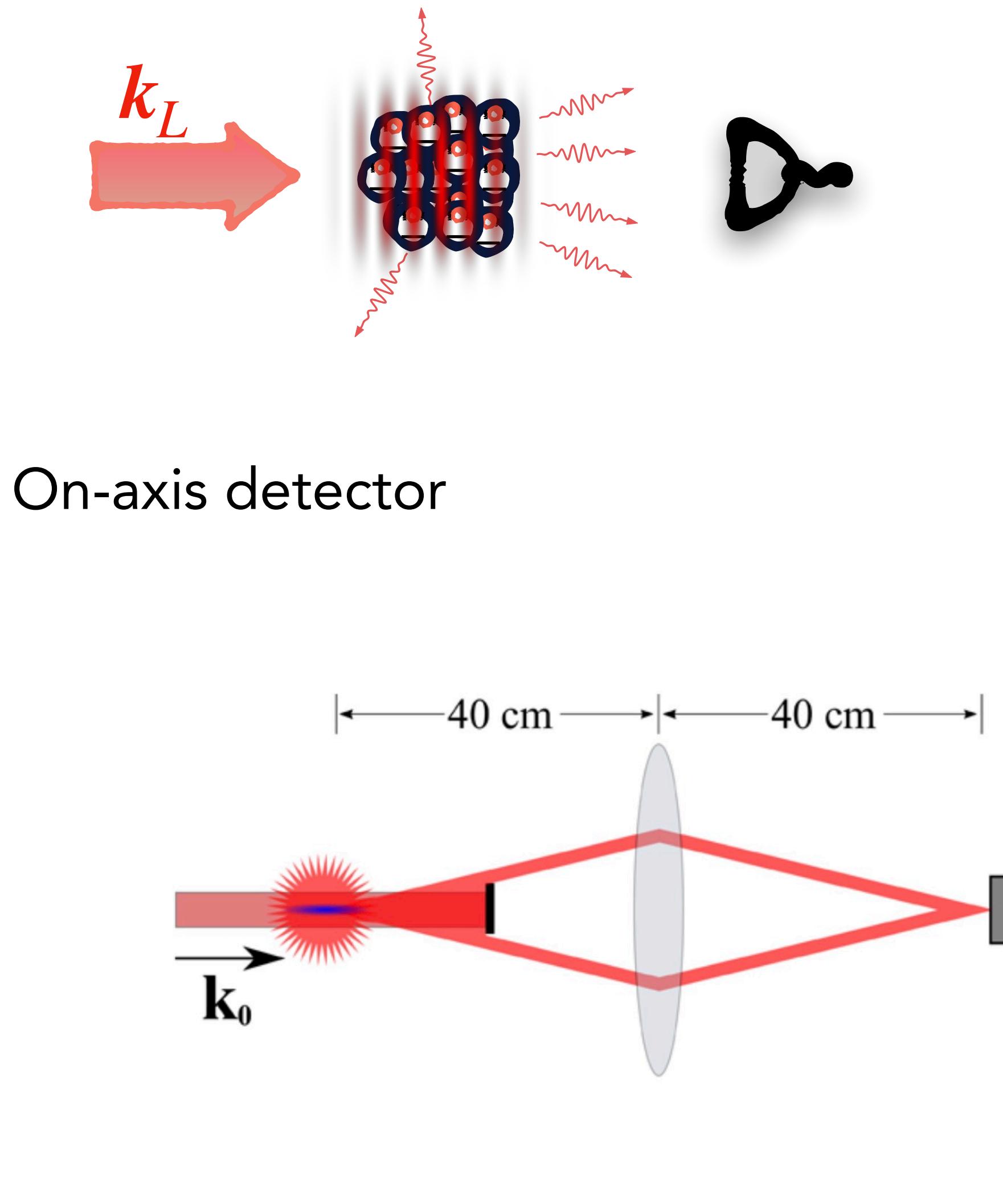
On-axis detector



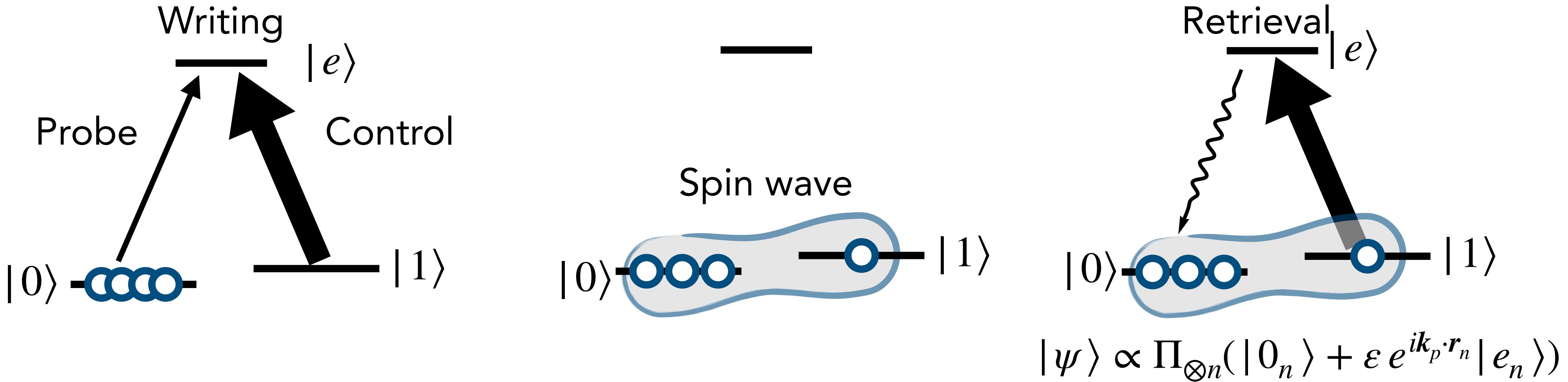
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Roof. et al., *Phys Rev Lett* 117, 073003 (2016).  
Araújo et al., *Phys Rev Lett* 117, 073002 (2016).



# Quantum memory efficiency



Total emission

$$\Gamma_0(1 + \text{OD})$$

$$\mu N = \text{OD}$$

Cooperative emission

$$\Gamma_0 \text{OD}$$

Efficiency of retrieval:  $\eta = \frac{\text{OD}}{1 + \text{OD}}$

# Quantum memory efficiency

Efficiency of retrieval:

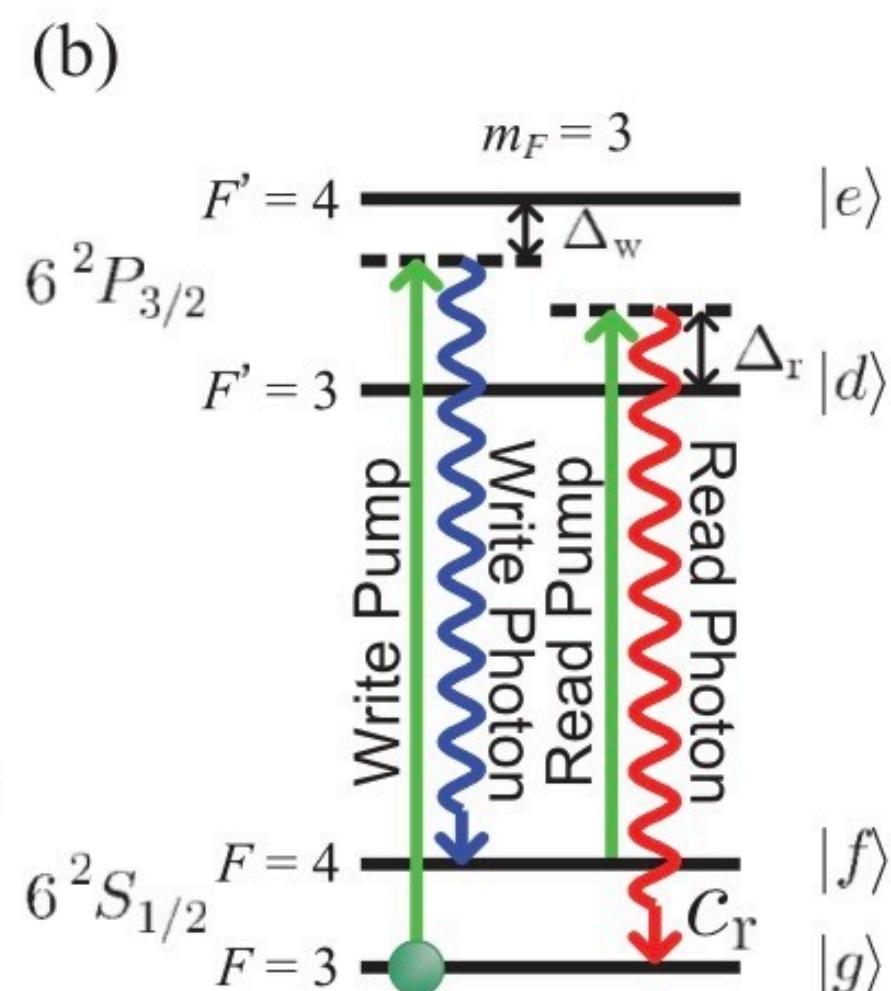
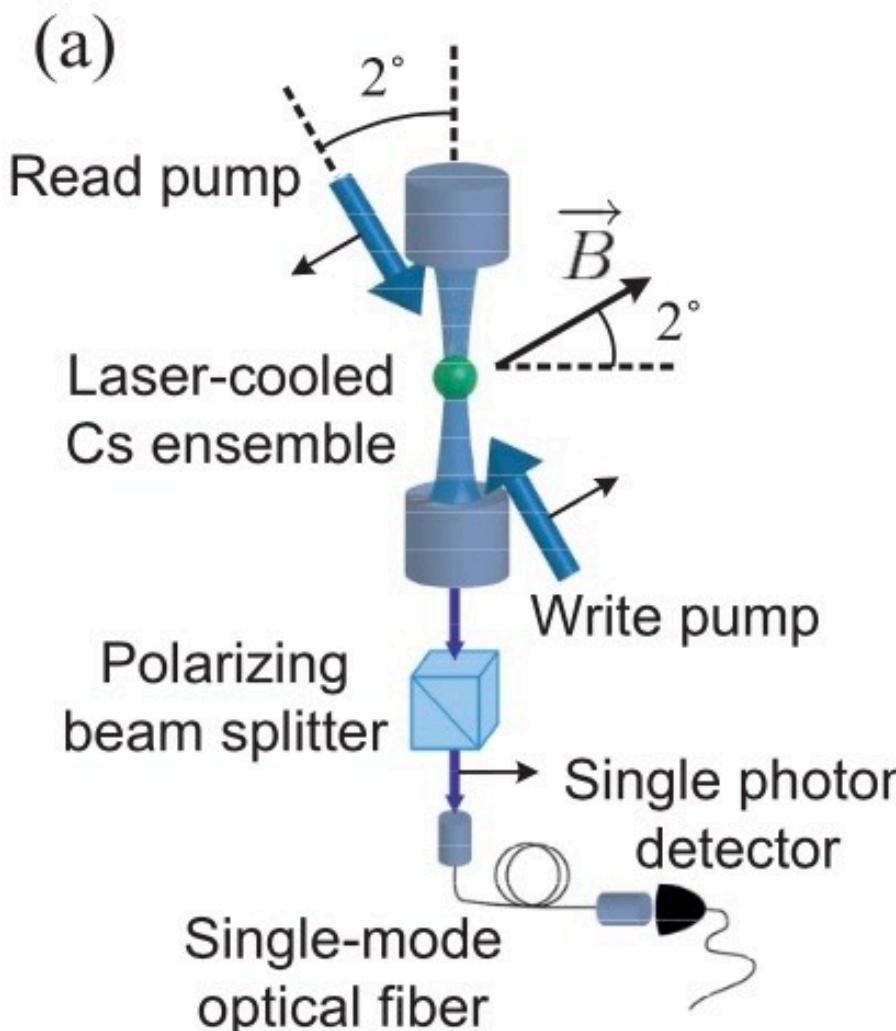


FIG. 1 (color online). (a) Setup for the conditional generation of single photons using a sample of laser-cooled Cs atoms inside an optical resonator. (b) Level scheme for the system with hyperfine and magnetic sublevels  $|F, m_F\rangle$ . The atomic sample is initially prepared in  $|g\rangle$  by optical pumping.

Simon et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 183601 (2007)

$$\eta = \frac{\text{OD}}{1 + \text{OD}}$$

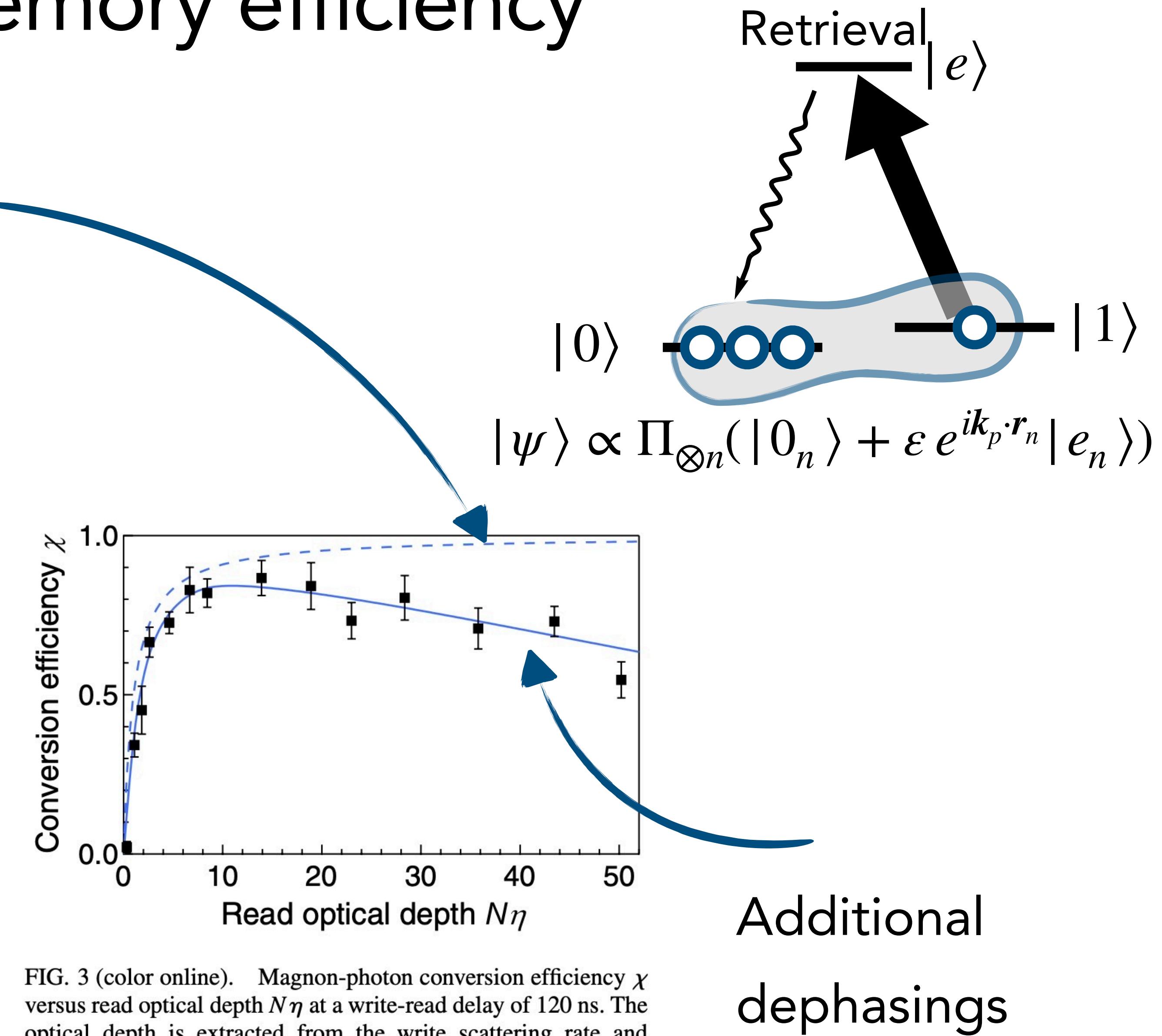
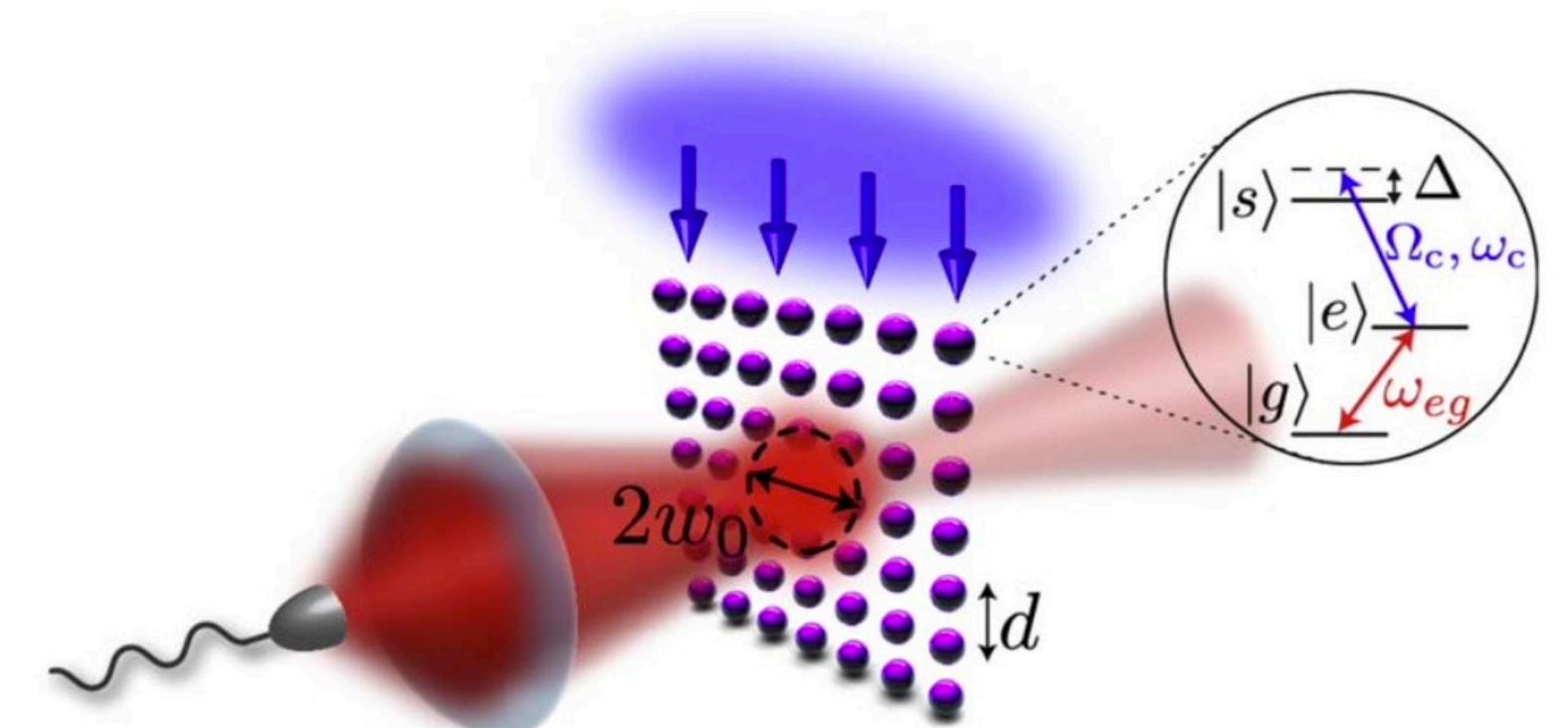


FIG. 3 (color online). Magnon-photon conversion efficiency  $\chi$  versus read optical depth  $N\eta$  at a write-read delay of 120 ns. The optical depth is extracted from the write scattering rate and known intensities and detunings. The dashed line shows the predicted conversion  $\chi_0$  for a three-level system; the solid line is the prediction from a model including dephasing from additional excited states.

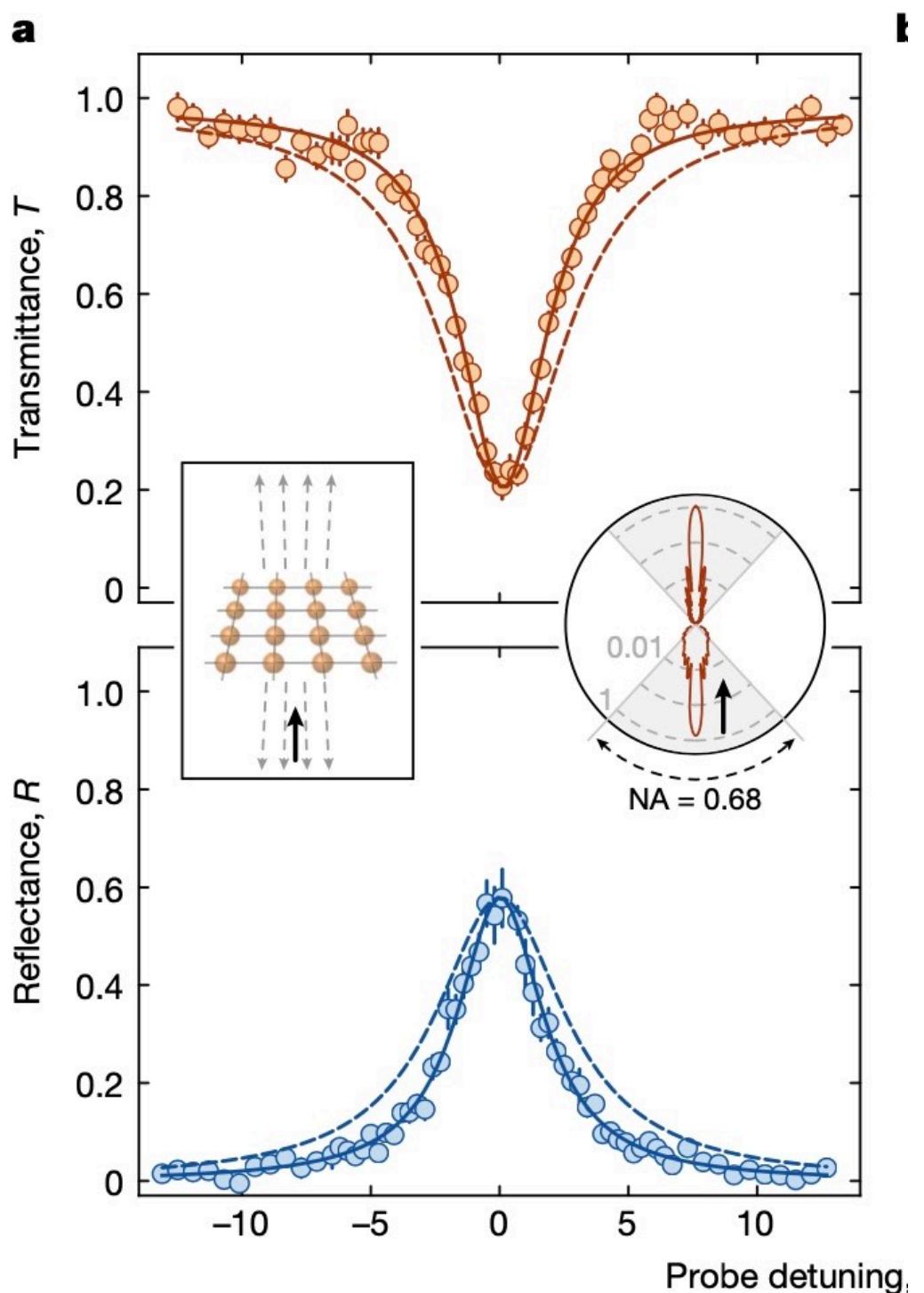
# Atom arrays

Equivalent with Bragg: diffraction orders

At subwavelength spacing: can switch all orders off



**Figure 1.** Schematic of a quantum memory using a two-dimensional atomic array. An excitation initially stored in the  $|s\rangle$ -manifold is retrieved as a photon by turning on the classical control field  $\Omega_c$  (blue arrows), which then creates a Raman scattered photon from the  $|g\rangle - |e\rangle$  transition. The photon is detected in some given mode, illustrated here as a Gaussian beam.

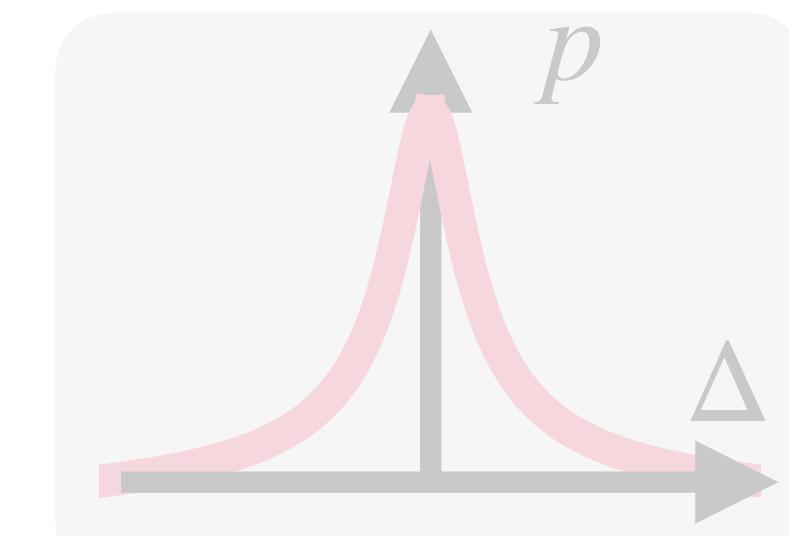


Manzoni et al. New J Phys **20**, 083048 (2018).

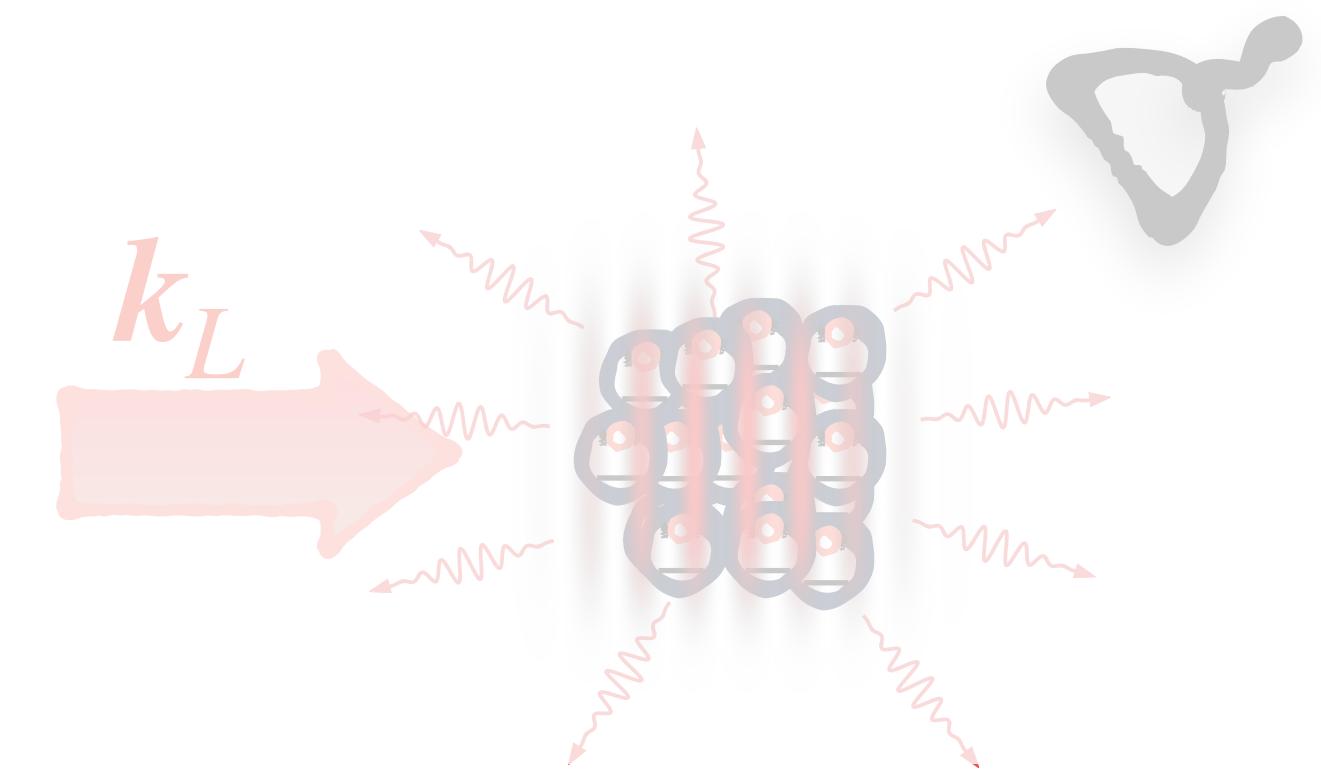
Rui et al. Nature **583**, 369 (2020).

# Outline

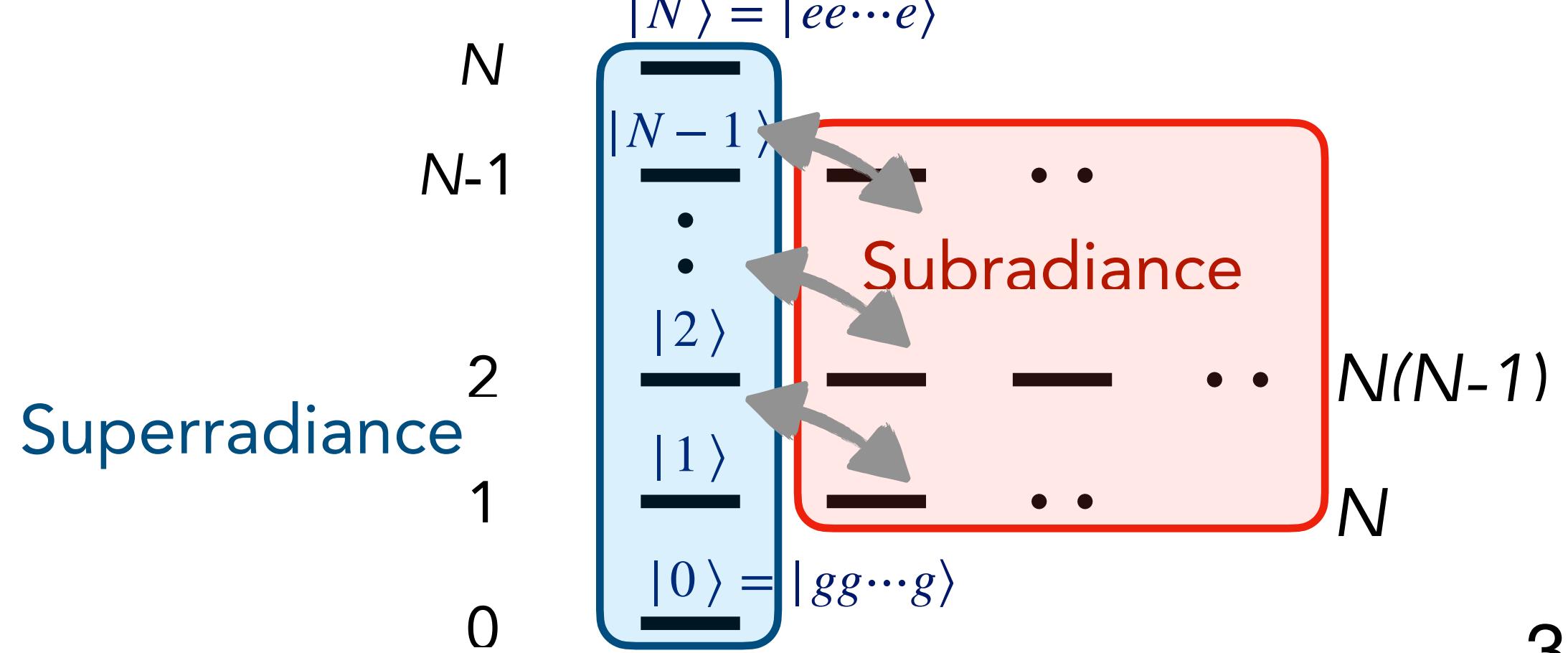
Lecture 1: Quantum optics of single atoms



Lecture 2: Collective light scattering by  $N$  atoms

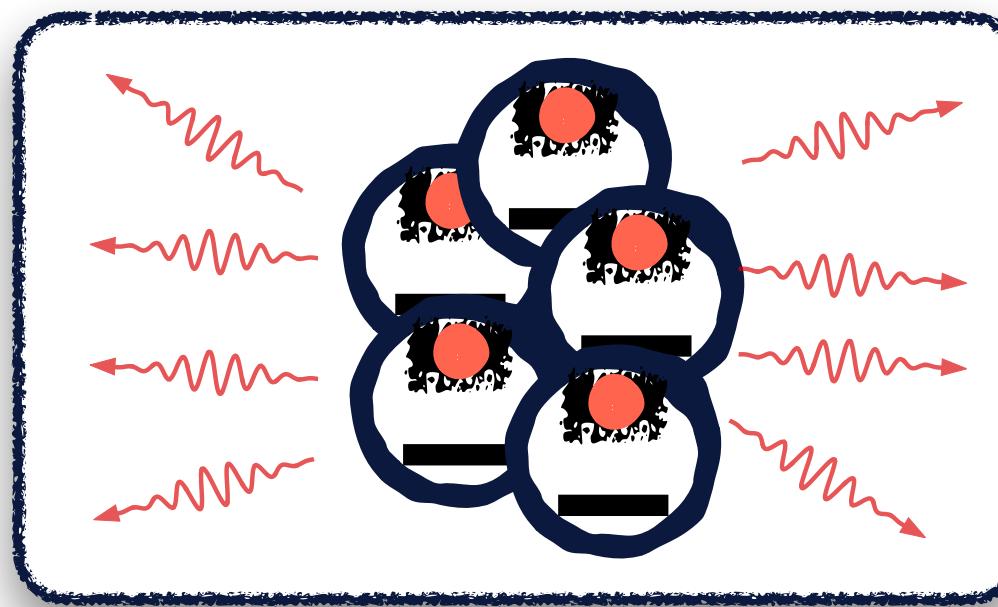


Lecture 3: Many-body quantum optics



# Master equation

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [H, \rho] + L(\rho)$$



$$H = H_0 + \sum_{nm} V_{nm} \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^-$$

$$V_{nm} = \text{Re}[V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}_{nm})]$$

$$L(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{nm} \Gamma_{nm} (2\hat{\sigma}_m^- \rho \hat{\sigma}_n^+ - \rho \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^- - \hat{\sigma}_n^+ \hat{\sigma}_m^- \rho)$$

$$\Gamma_{nm} = 2 \text{Im}[V_{dd}(\mathbf{r}_{nm})]$$

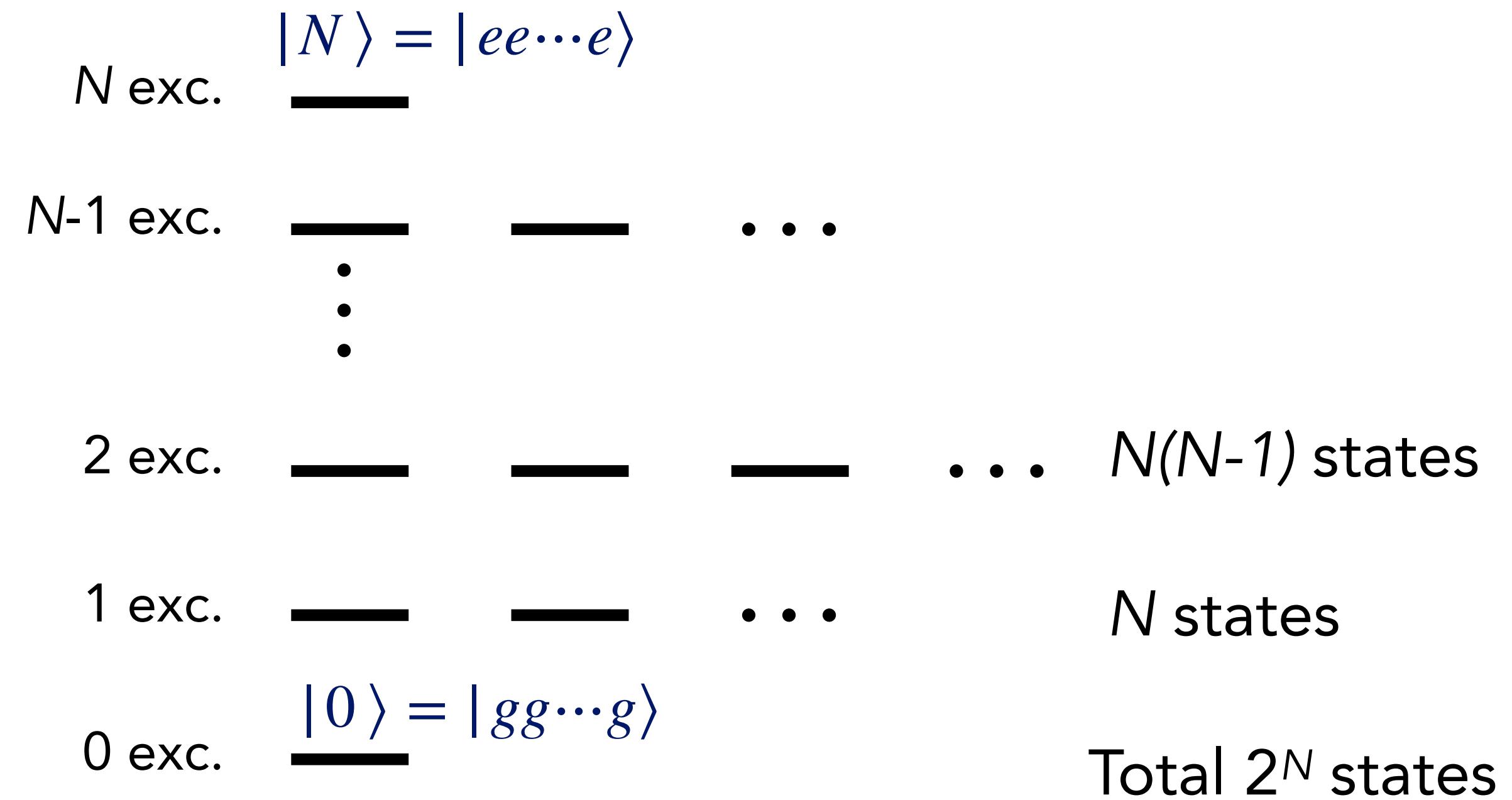
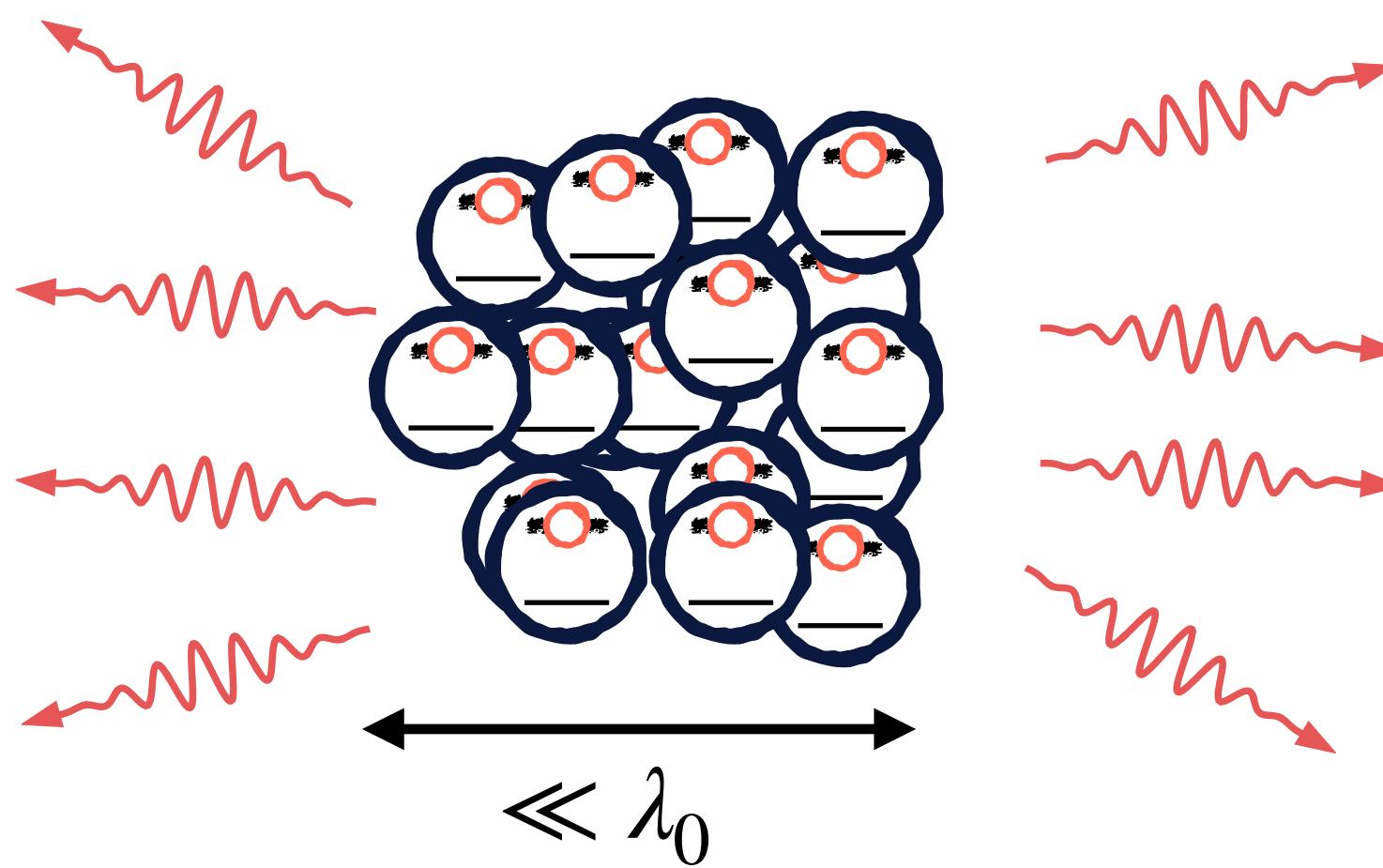
Equation valid under the Born-Markov approximation

Ignore correlations between field and atoms (free space)

Ignore propagation time  $L/c \ll 1/\Gamma$  typical evolution time

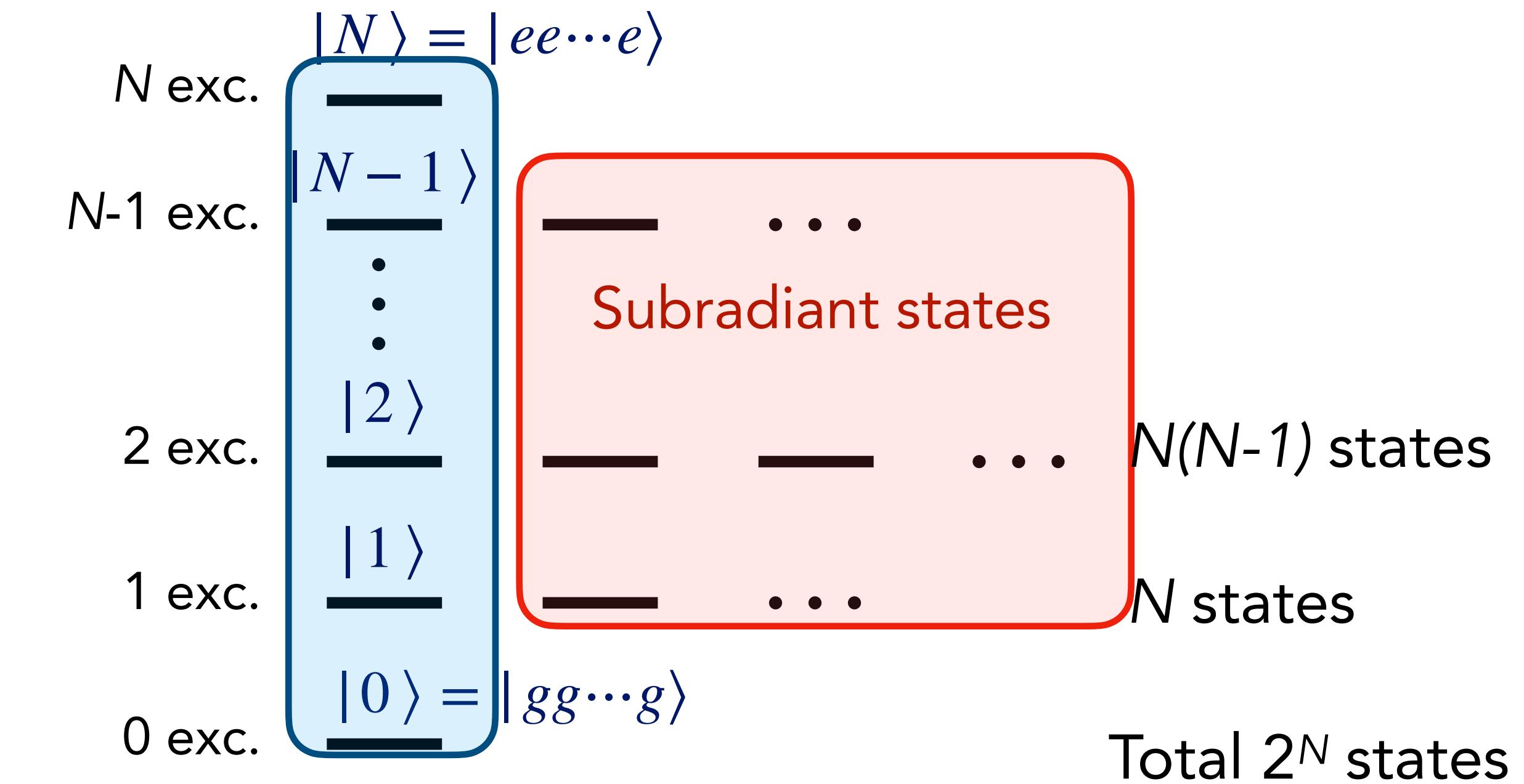
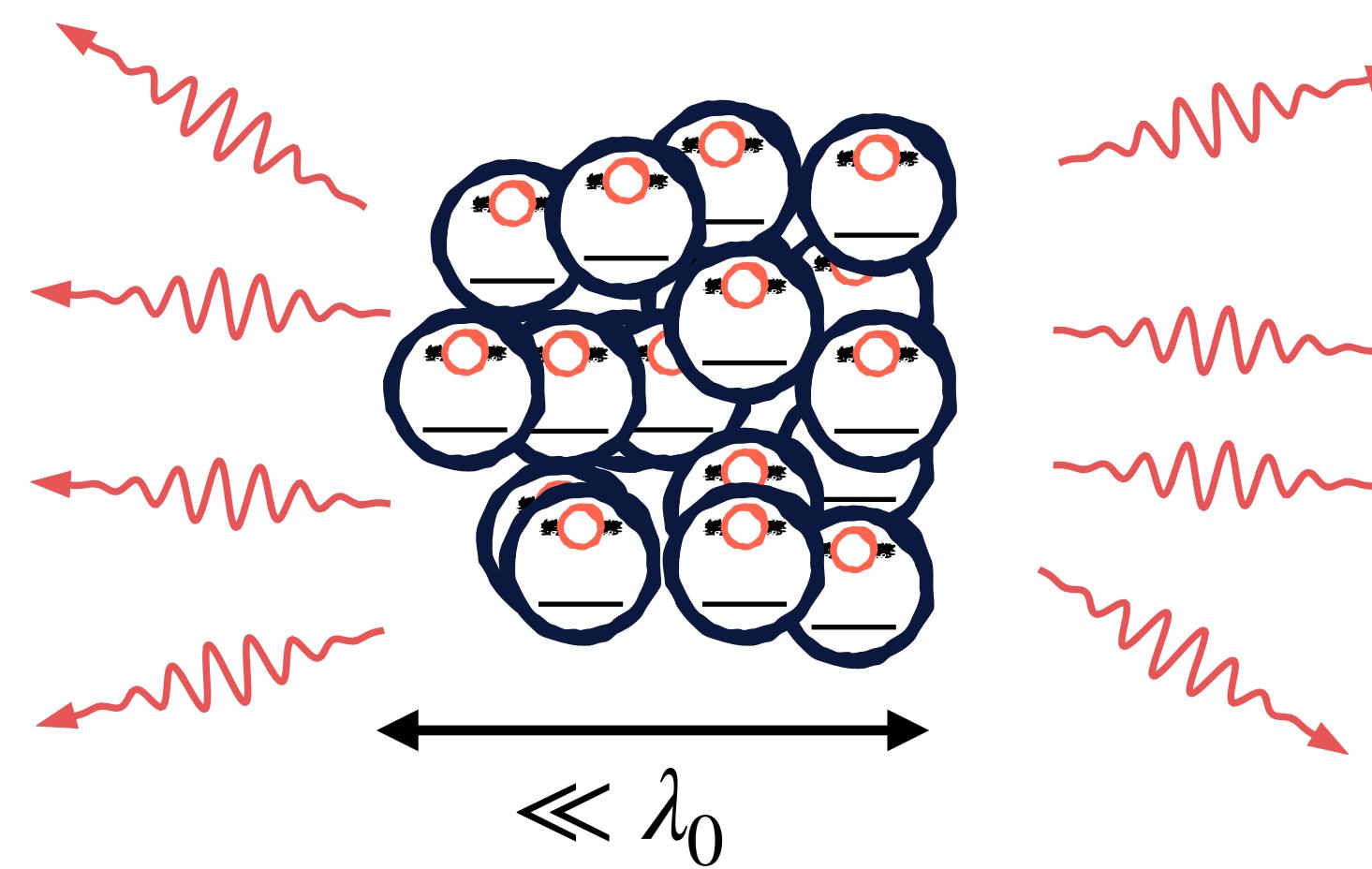
# Dicke superradiance

R. H. Dicke, *Phys. Rev.* **93**, 99 (1954).



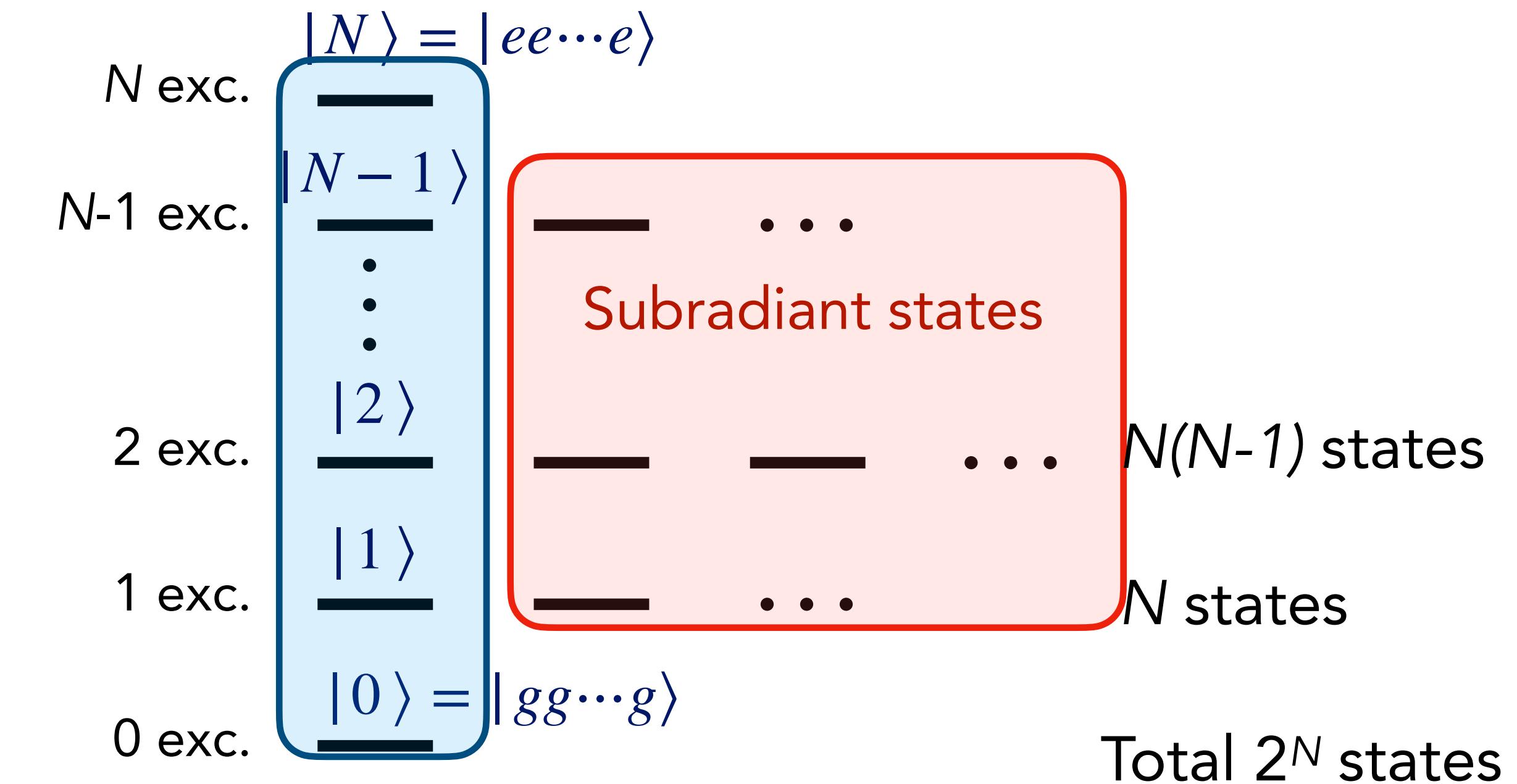
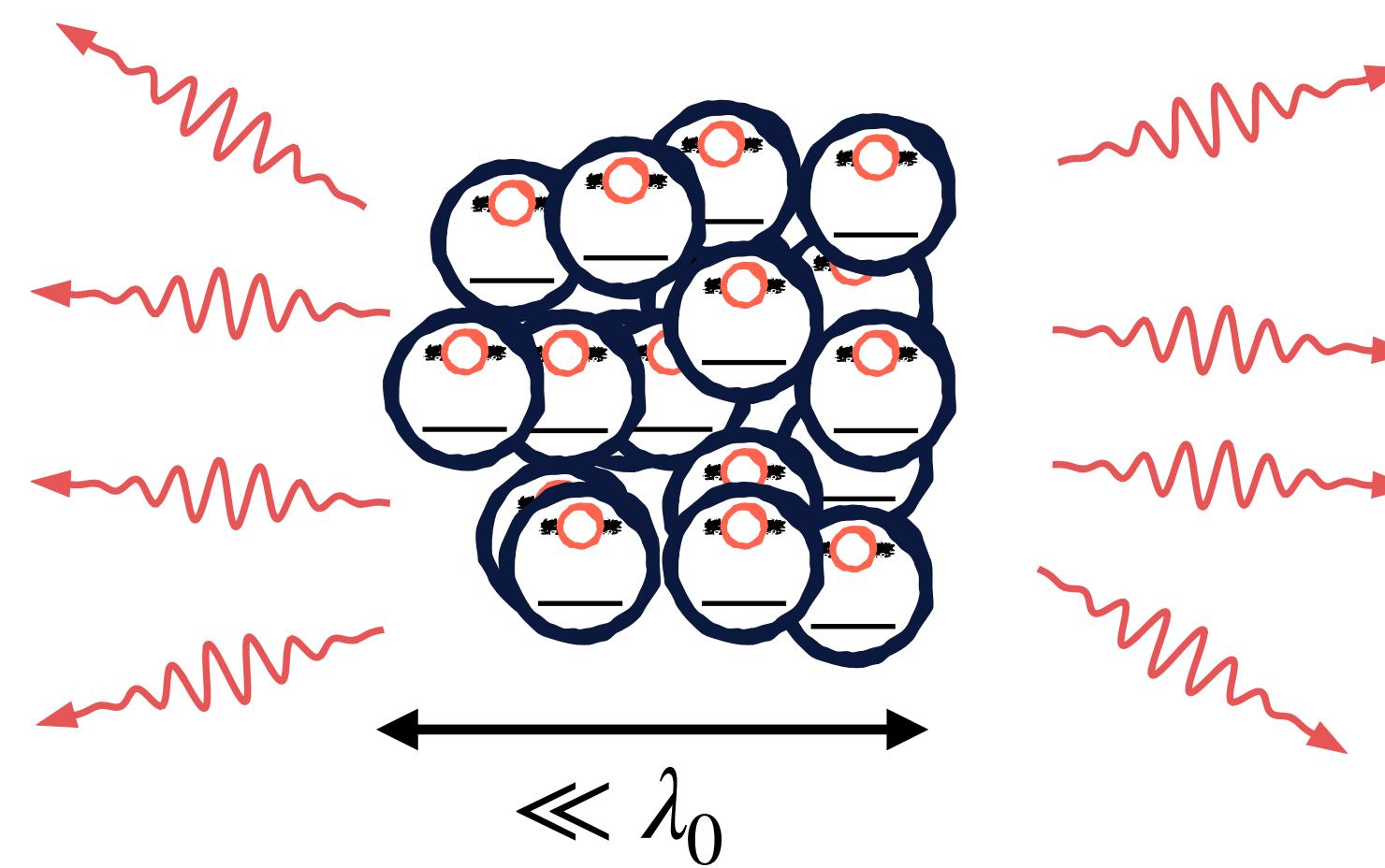
# Dicke superradiance

R. H. Dicke, Phys. Rev. 93, 99 (1954).



# Dicke superradiance

R. H. Dicke, Phys. Rev. 93, 99 (1954).



Dicke states

$$|n\rangle \propto (\hat{S}^+)^n |0\rangle$$

$$|n\rangle = |J, m\rangle$$

$$J = \frac{N}{2}, m = n - J$$

$$\hat{S}^+ = \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{S}_i^+$$

$$H = \frac{\Omega}{2} (\hat{S}^- + \hat{S}^+)$$

$$L(\rho) = \frac{\Gamma}{2} (2\hat{S}^-\rho\hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+\hat{S}^-\rho - \rho\hat{S}^+\hat{S}^-)$$

# Dicke superradiance

R. H. Dicke, *Phys. Rev.* **93**, 99 (1954).

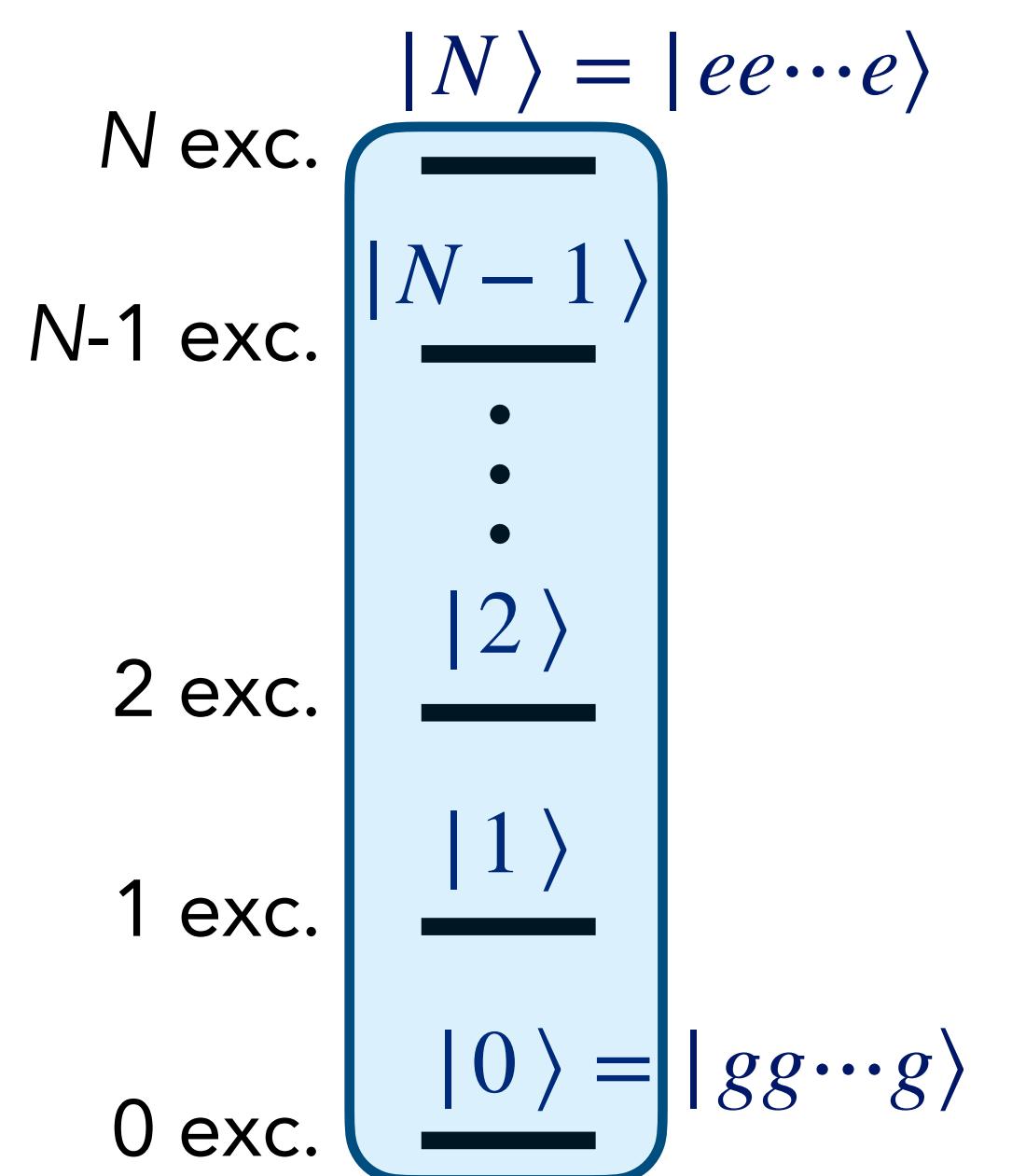
$$I(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \hat{E}^-(\mathbf{R}) \hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \rangle$$

$$\hat{E}^+(\mathbf{R}) \propto \sum_{n=1}^N G(\mathbf{R} - \cancel{\mathbf{r}}_n, \omega_0) \hat{\sigma}_n^-$$

$$I = I_1 \langle \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \rangle$$

$$\Gamma_N = \Gamma_0 \langle \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \rangle$$

$$\langle n-1 | \hat{S}^- | n \rangle = \sqrt{n(-n+N+1)}$$



# Dicke superradiance

R. H. Dicke, *Phys. Rev.* **93**, 99 (1954).

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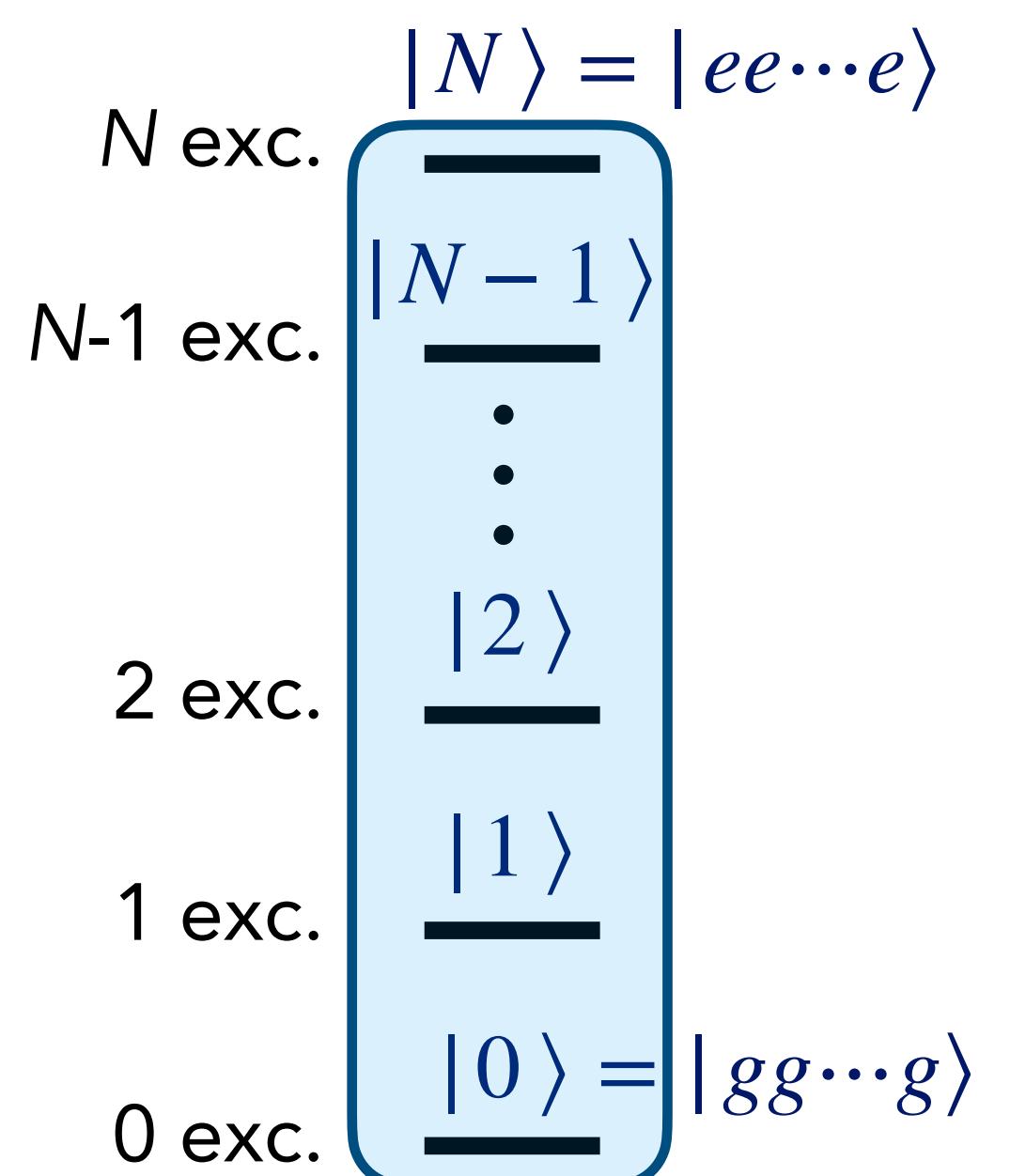
$$\Gamma_N = \Gamma_0 \langle \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \rangle$$

$$\langle n-1 | \hat{S}^- | n \rangle = \sqrt{n(-n+N+1)}$$

$$\Gamma_N = \Gamma_0 n(N-n+1)$$

in state  $|n\rangle$

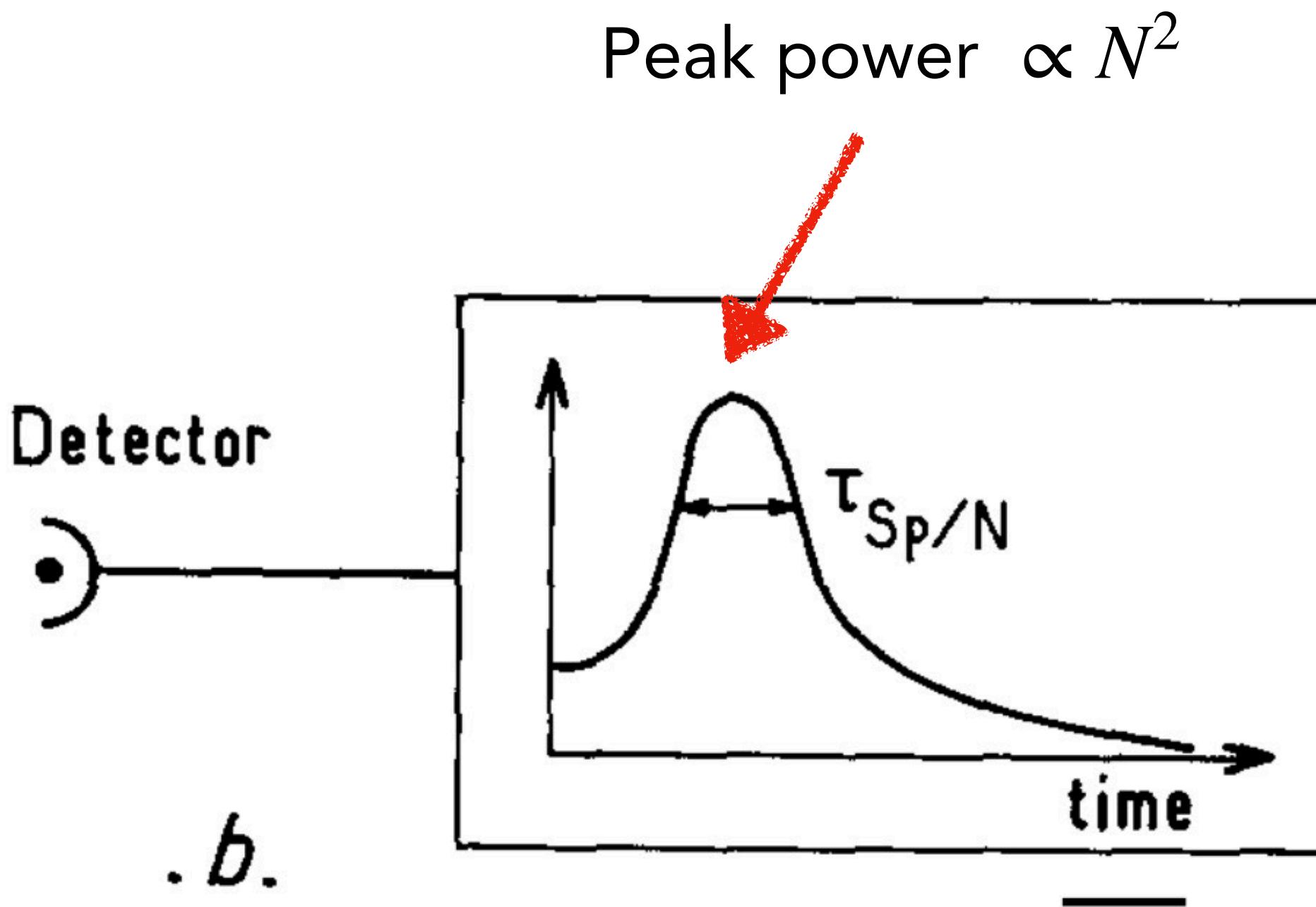
Reaches maximum for  $|n\rangle = |N/2\rangle$ , with  $\Gamma_N \simeq N^2 \Gamma_0 / 4$



# Dicke superradiance

$$\Gamma_N = \Gamma_0 n(N - n + 1) \quad \text{in state } |n\rangle$$

Starting from fully excited state: pulse of light



Gross & Haroche, Physics Reports 93, 301 (1982).

$$|N\rangle = |ee\dots e\rangle$$

$$\langle \hat{\sigma}_i^+ \hat{\sigma}_j^- \rangle = 0$$

$$|2\rangle$$

$$|1\rangle$$

$$|0\rangle = |gg\dots g\rangle$$

$$\langle \hat{\sigma}_i^+ \hat{\sigma}_j^- \rangle = 0$$

Superradiance induces correlations during decay

Despite  $\langle \hat{\sigma}_i^- \rangle = \langle \hat{S}^- \rangle / N = 0$  at all times

$$\langle \hat{\sigma}_i^+ \hat{\sigma}_j^- \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{4}$$

# Dicke superradiance

Extended clouds (size  $\gg \lambda_0$ ): dynamics governed by effective atom number

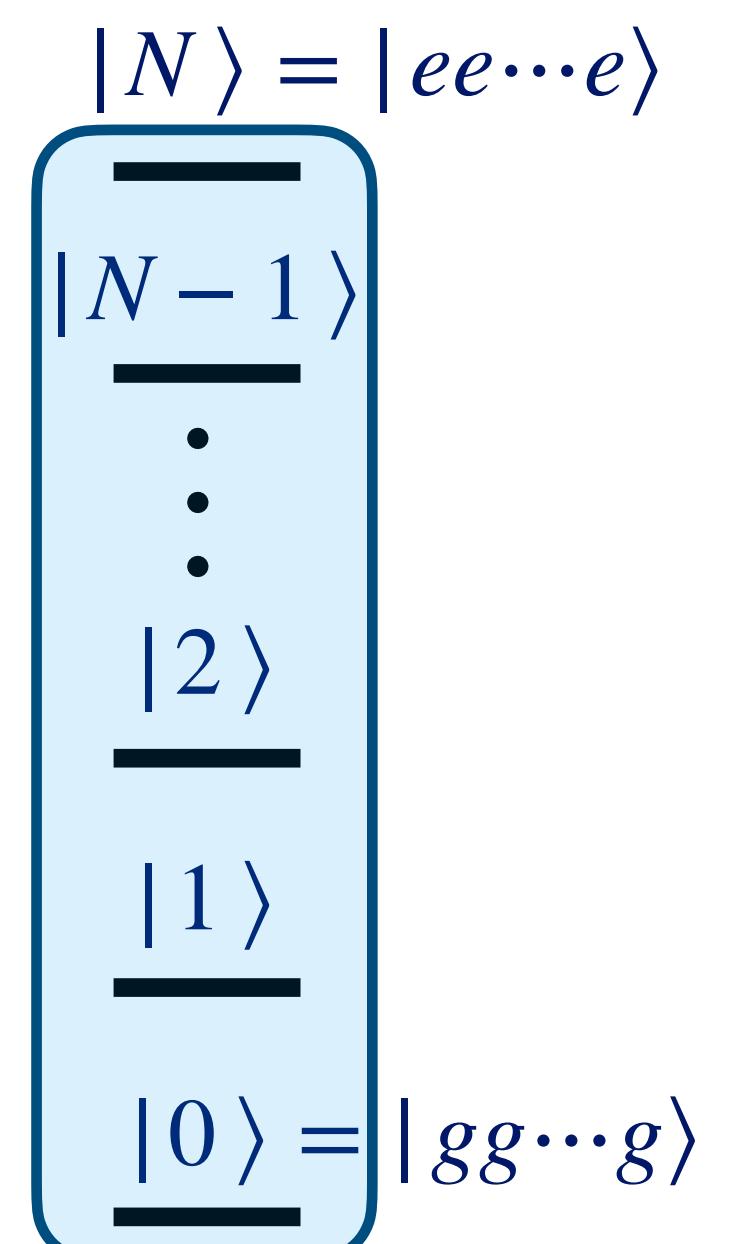
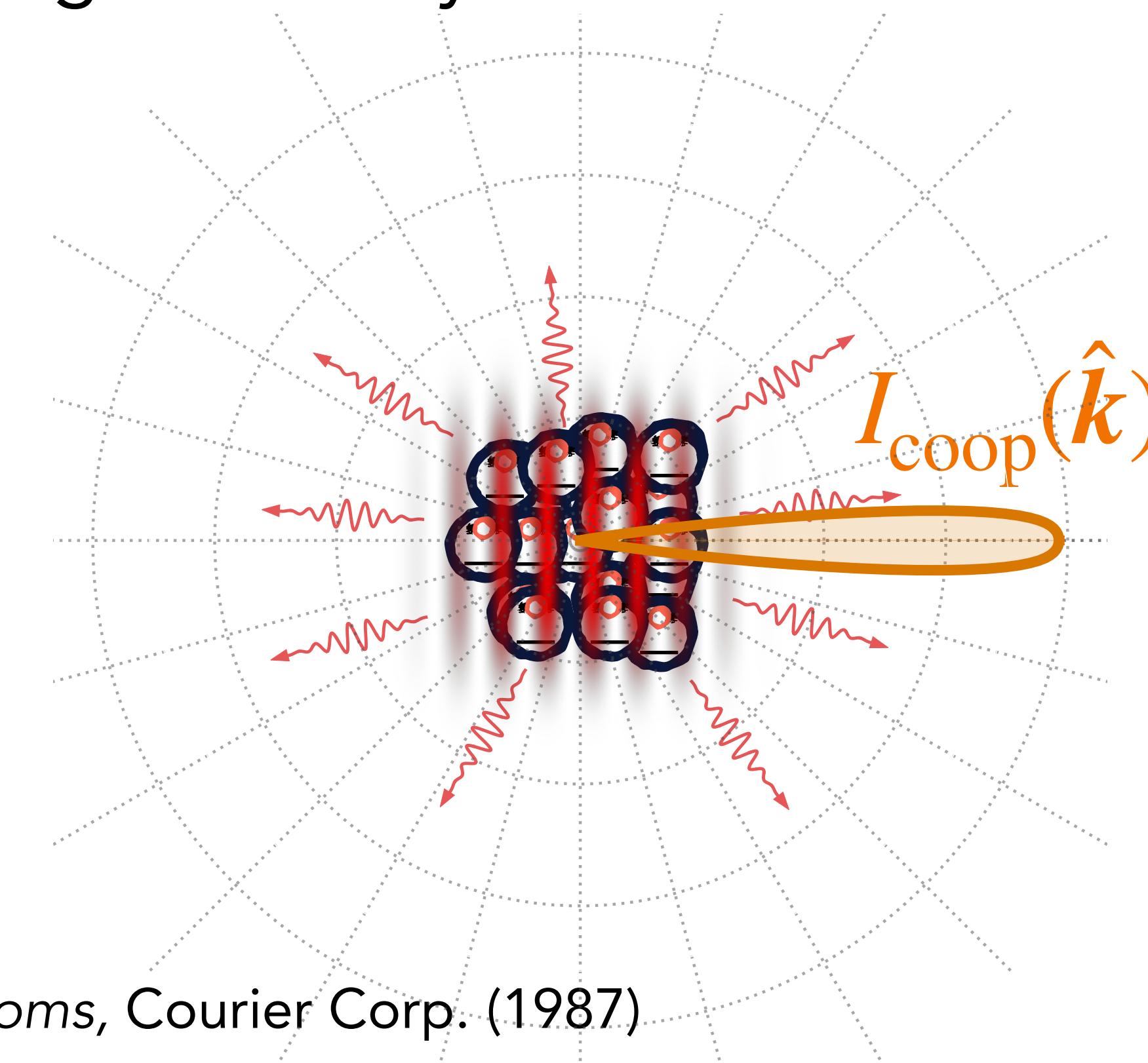
$$\mu = \frac{P_{\text{coop}}}{NP_1}$$

Dicke case:  $\mu = 1$

General case:  $N \rightarrow \tilde{N} = \mu N$

Gross & Haroche, *Physics Reports* **93**, 301 (1982).

Allen & Eberly, *Optical resonance and two-level atoms*, Courier Corp. (1987)



# Dicke superradiance

Extended clouds (size  $\gg \lambda_0$ ): dynamics governed by effective atom number

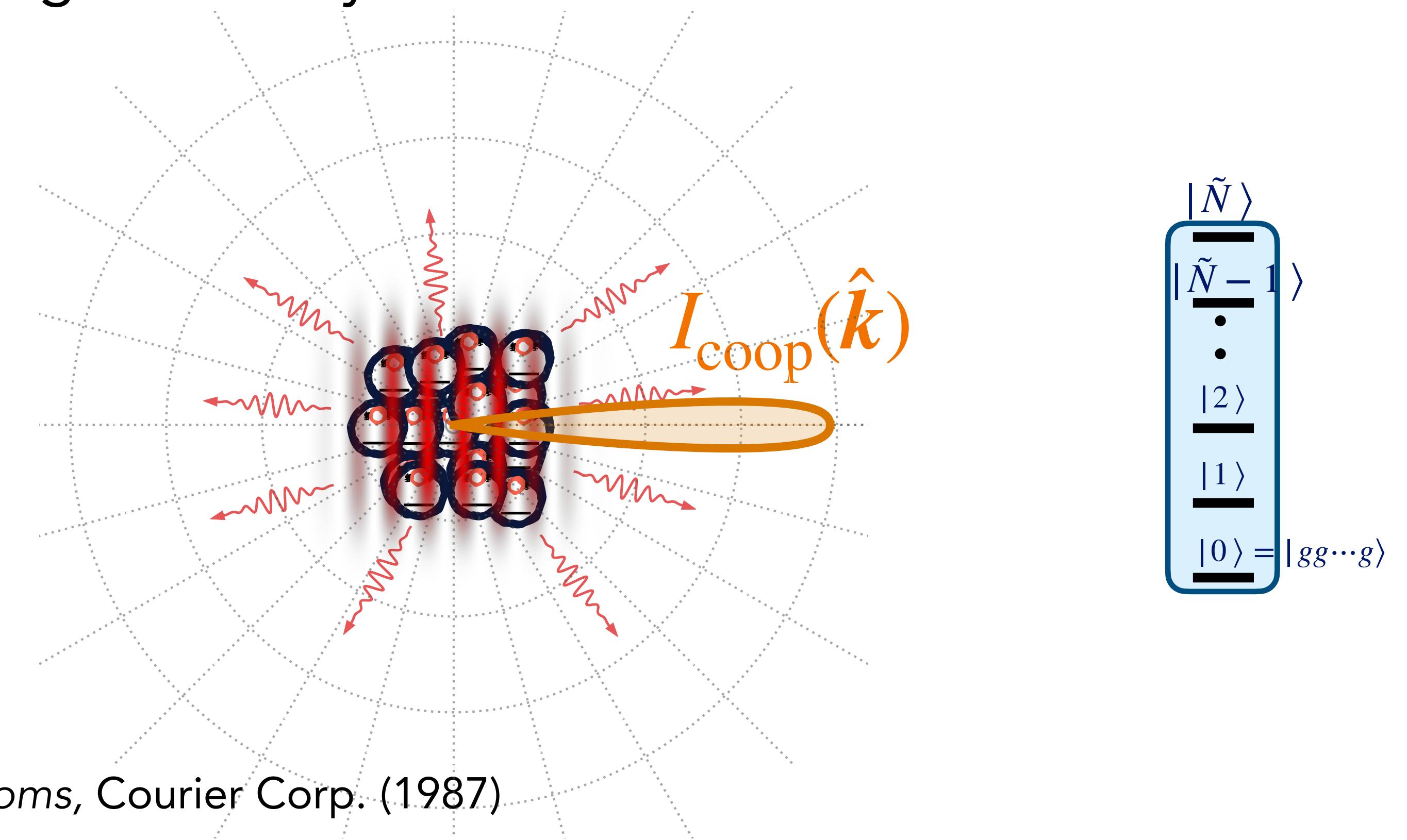
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Allen & Eberly, *Optical resonance and two-level atoms*, Courier Corp. (1987)



# Dicke superradiance, first observations

Skribanowitz et al., *Phys Rev Lett* **30**, 309–312 (1973).

Gross et al., *Phys Rev Lett* **36**, 1035–1038 (1976).

Multilevel molecules of atoms, pumped via auxiliary transition

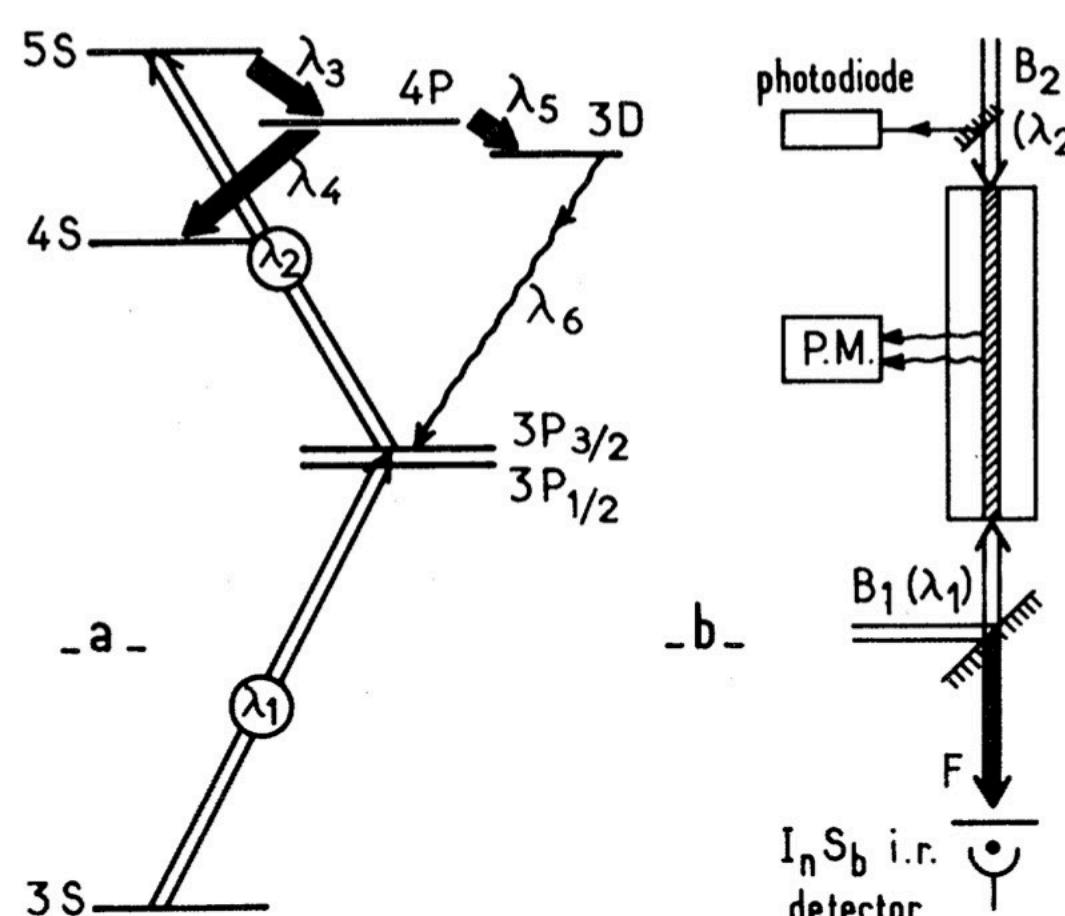


FIG. 1. (a) Diagram of Na energy levels relevant for superradiance experiment. Double-line arrows, pumping transition at  $\lambda_1 = 0.5890$  and  $\lambda_2 = 0.6160 \mu\text{m}$ ; solid-line arrows, superradiant transitions  $\lambda_3 = 3.41$ ,  $\lambda_4 = 2.21$ , and  $\lambda_5 = 9.10 \mu\text{m}$ ; wavy line, transition at  $\lambda_6 = 0.8191 \mu\text{m}$  detected off-axis by the photomultiplier. (b) Sketch of experimental setup showing collinear pumping beams  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ , on-axis InSb detector, and off-axis photomultiplier.

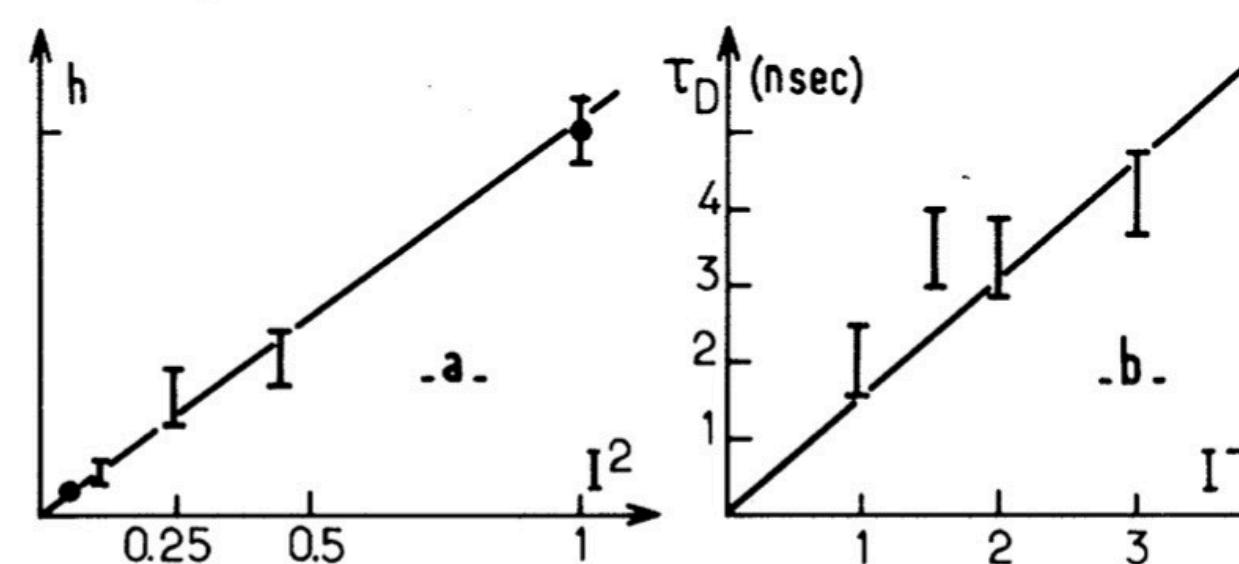


FIG. 3. (a) Height  $h$  of 3.41- $\mu\text{m}$  pulse versus  $I^2$ , square of  $B_2$  pumping beam intensity. (b) Delay of 3.41- $\mu\text{m}$  pulse versus  $I^{-1}$  ( $I$  in arbitrary units).

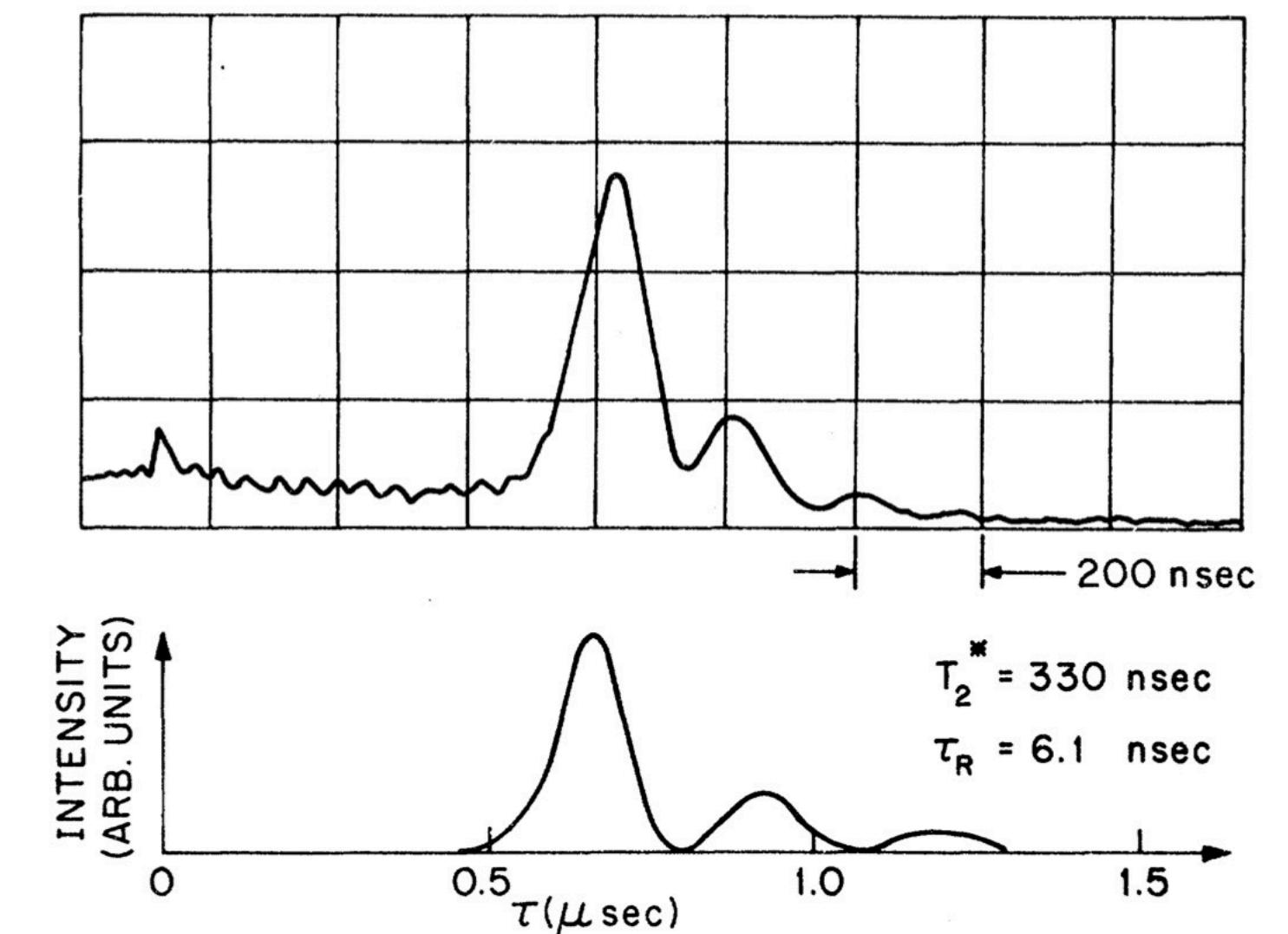
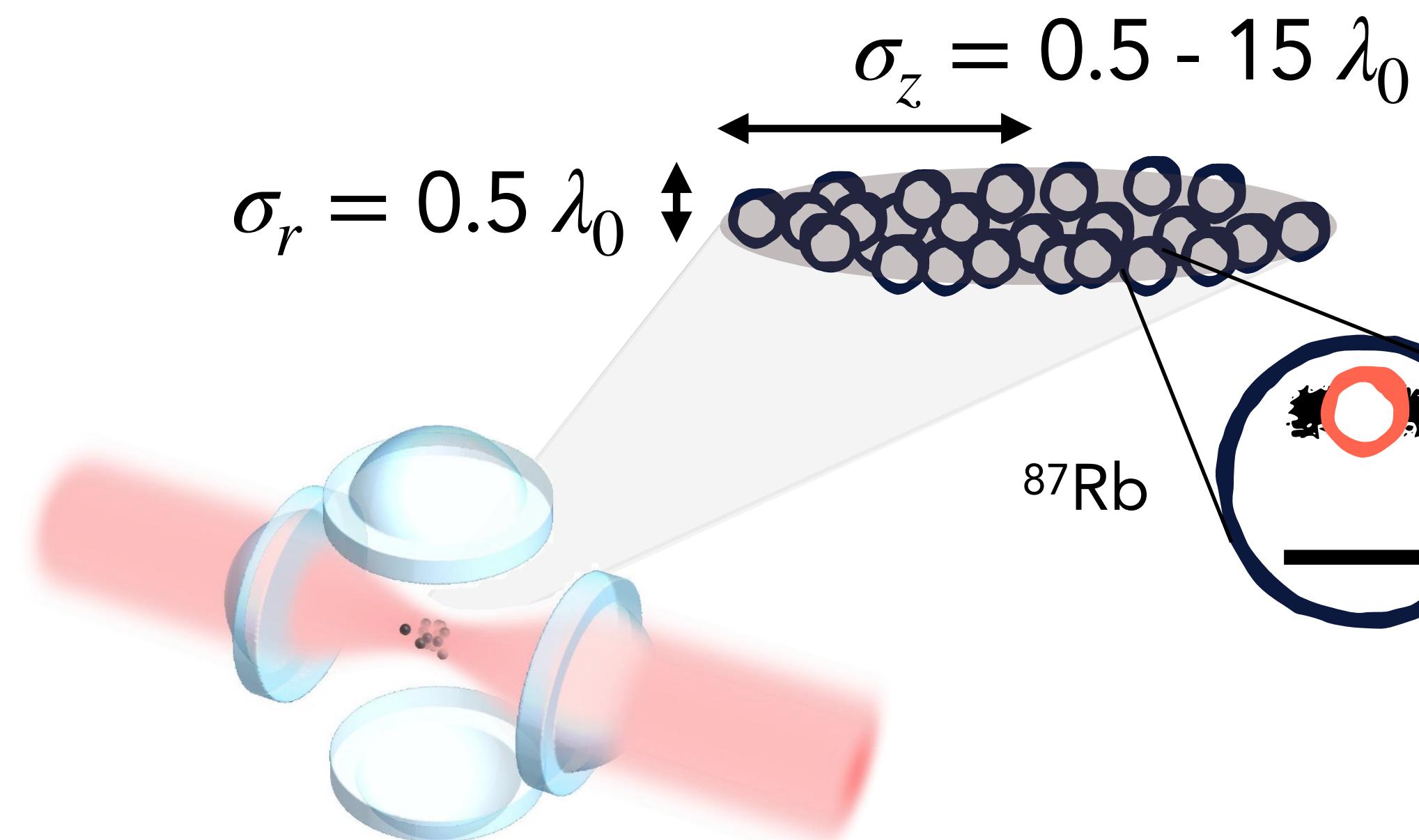


FIG. 1. Oscilloscope trace of superradiant pulse at  $84 \mu\text{m}$  ( $J = 3 \rightarrow 2$ ), pumped by the  $R_1(2)$  laser line, and theoretical fit. The parameters are  $I = 1 \text{ kW/cm}^2$ ,  $p = 1.3 \text{ mTorr}$ , and  $kl = 2.5$  for  $l = 100 \text{ cm}$ . The small peak on the scope trace at  $r = 0$  is the 3- $\mu\text{m}$  pump pulse, highly attenuated.

# Dicke superradiance, recent experiments

Modern tools: dense clouds of 2-level atoms, resonantly driven



D<sub>2</sub> transition,  $\lambda_0 = 780$  nm,  
 $\Gamma_0 = 2\pi \times 6$  MHz,  $\tau_0 \simeq 25$  ns

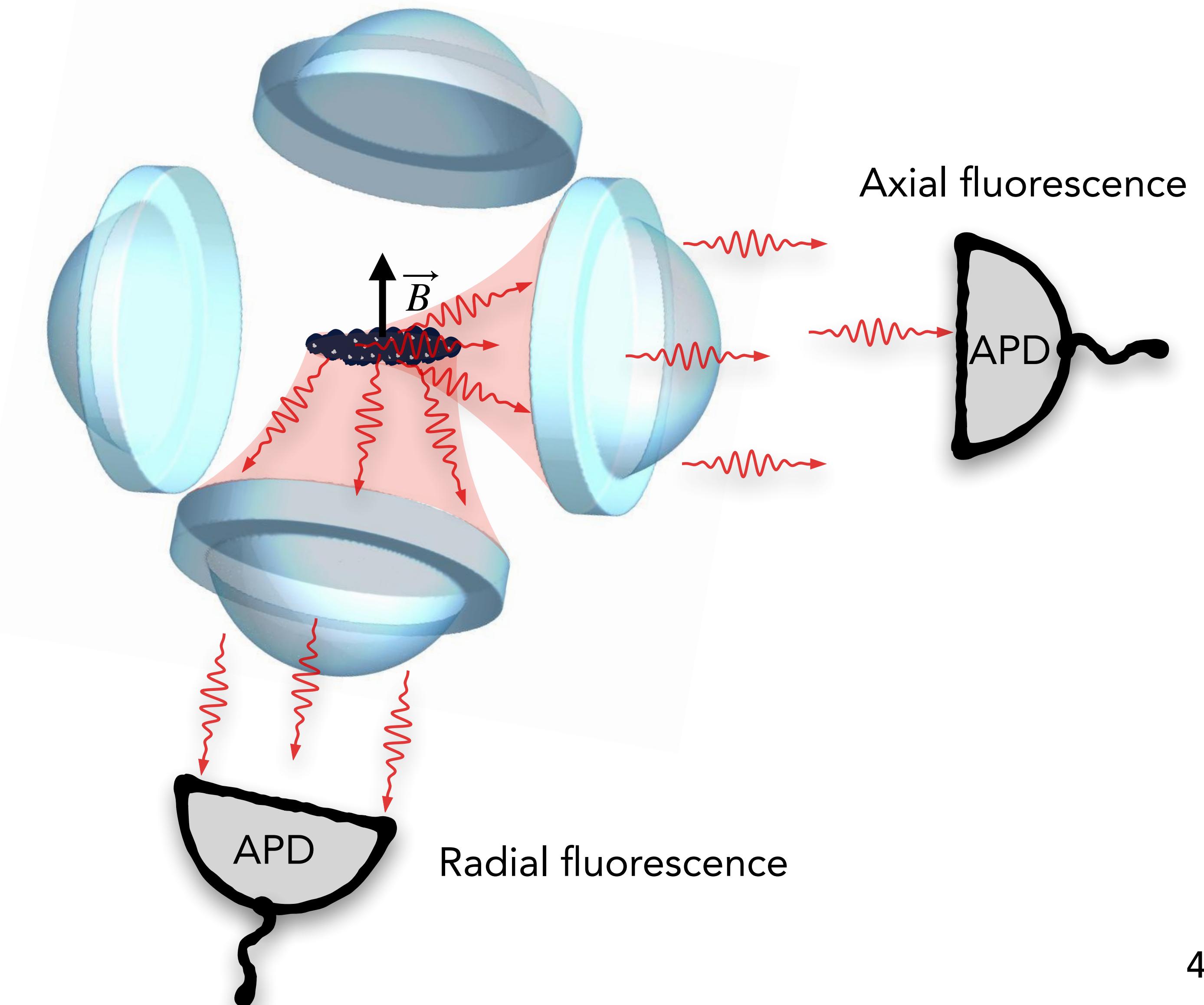
$F' = 3, m_F = \pm 3$   
 $F = 2, m_F = \pm 2$

$$\sigma_r < \lambda_0 \rightarrow \mu \sim \frac{1}{k_0 \sigma_z}$$

# Dense clouds of 2-level atoms

## Observations

Single photon detection (NA=0.45)  
Along two directions



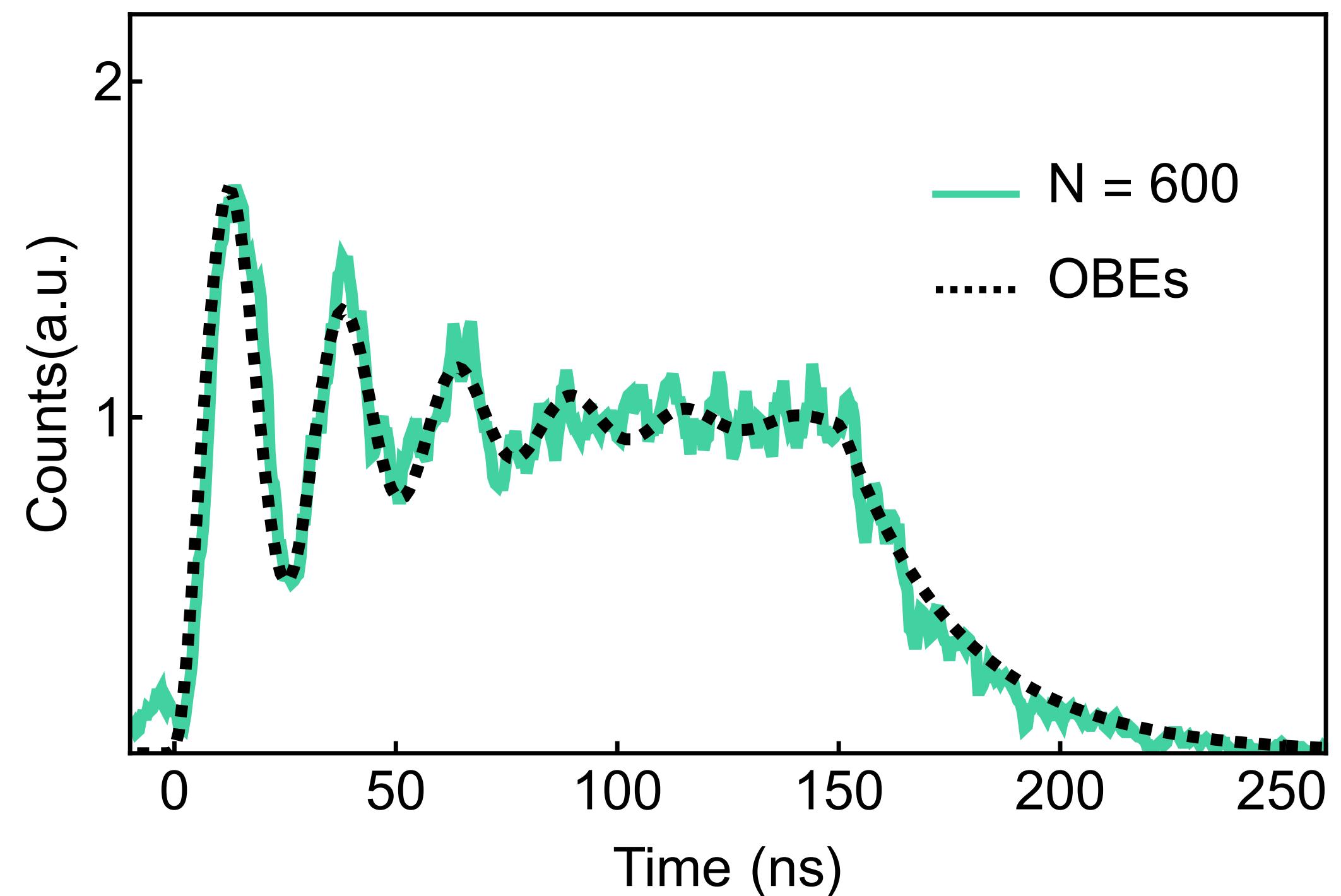
# Rabi oscillations

Low atom number

Record axial fluorescence

Very good fit with optical Bloch equations

Independent atoms



# Rabi oscillations

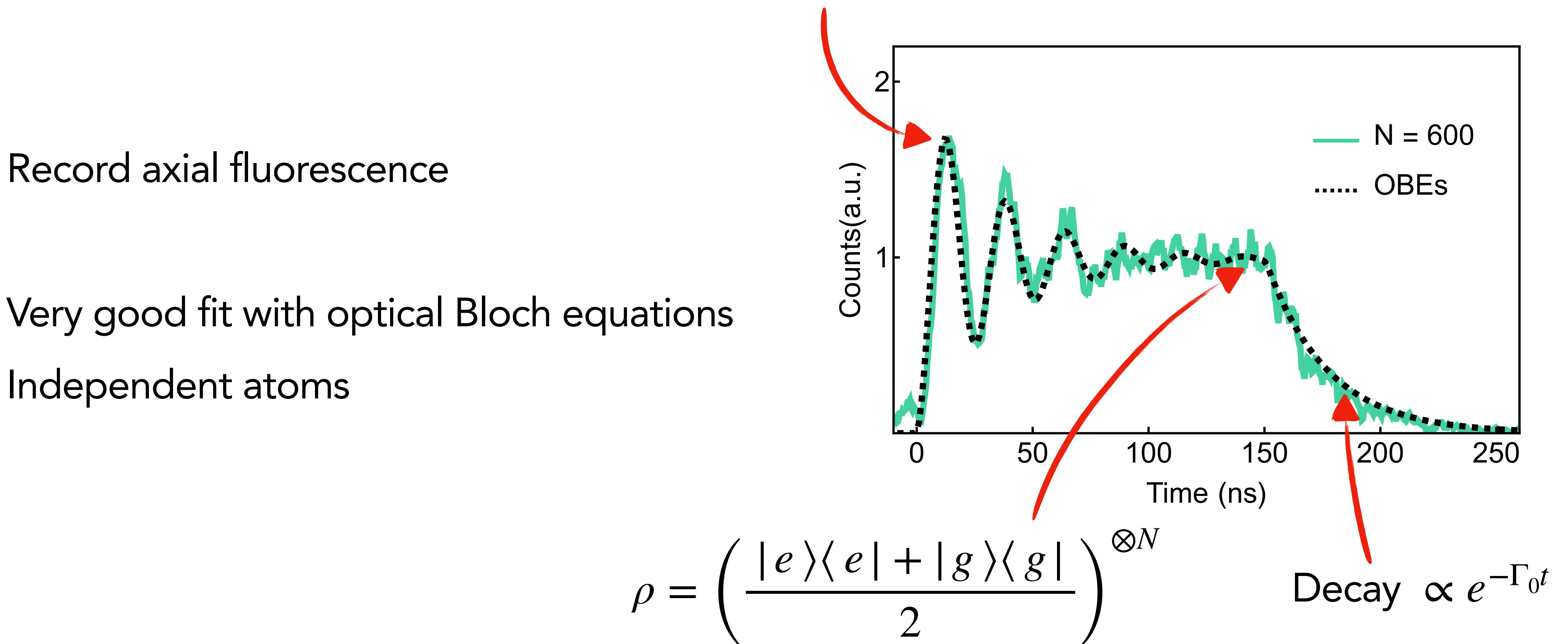
Low atom number

Record axial fluorescence

Very good fit with optical Bloch equations

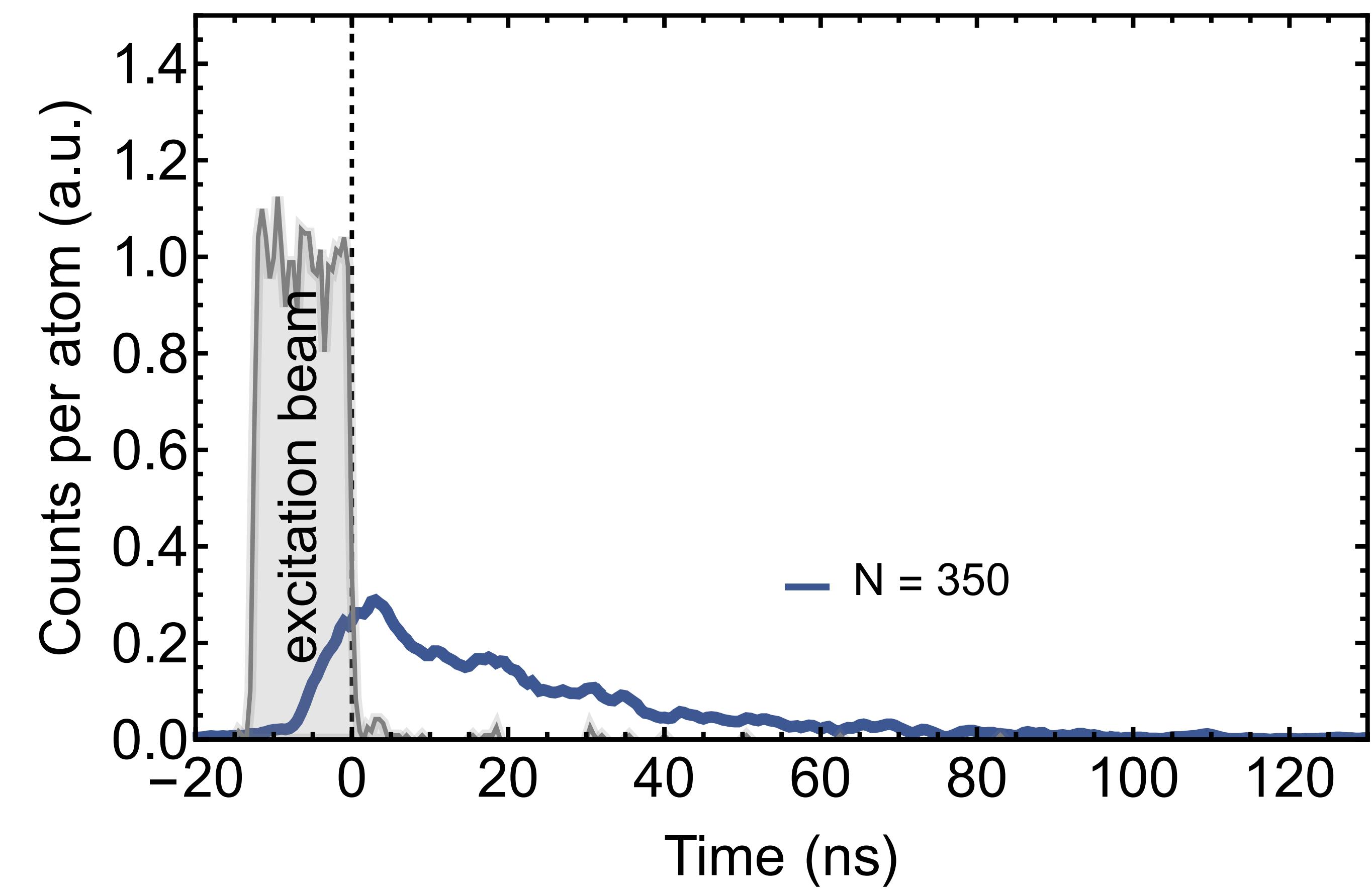
Independent atoms

$\pi$  - time, 85 % in  $|e\rangle$



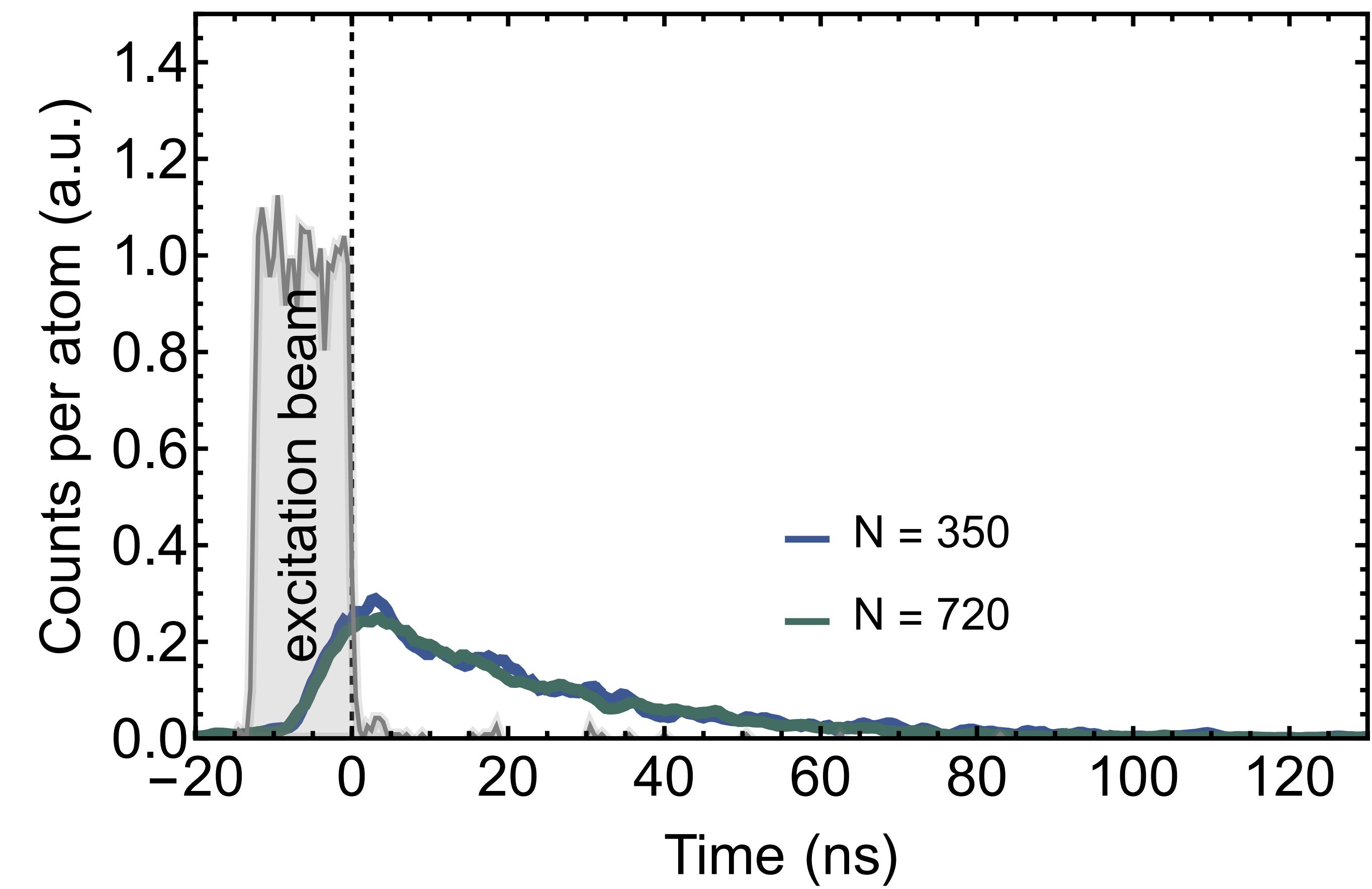
# Dicke superradiance

$\pi$  - pulse (12 ns,  $s = 85$ )  
Increasing atom number  
Axial fluorescence



# Dicke superradiance

$\pi$  - pulse (12 ns,  $s = 85$ )  
Increasing atom number  
Axial fluorescence

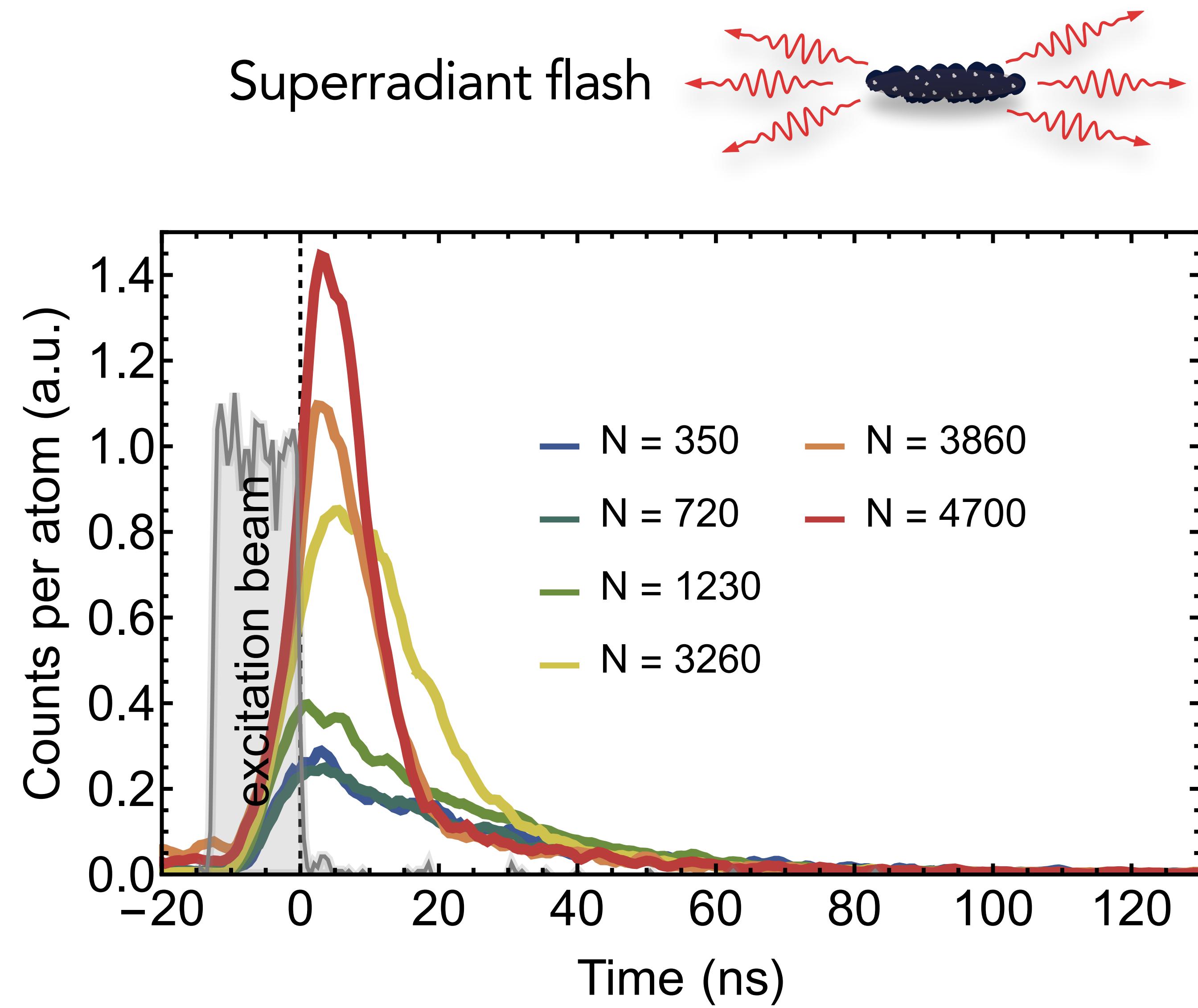


# Dicke superradiance

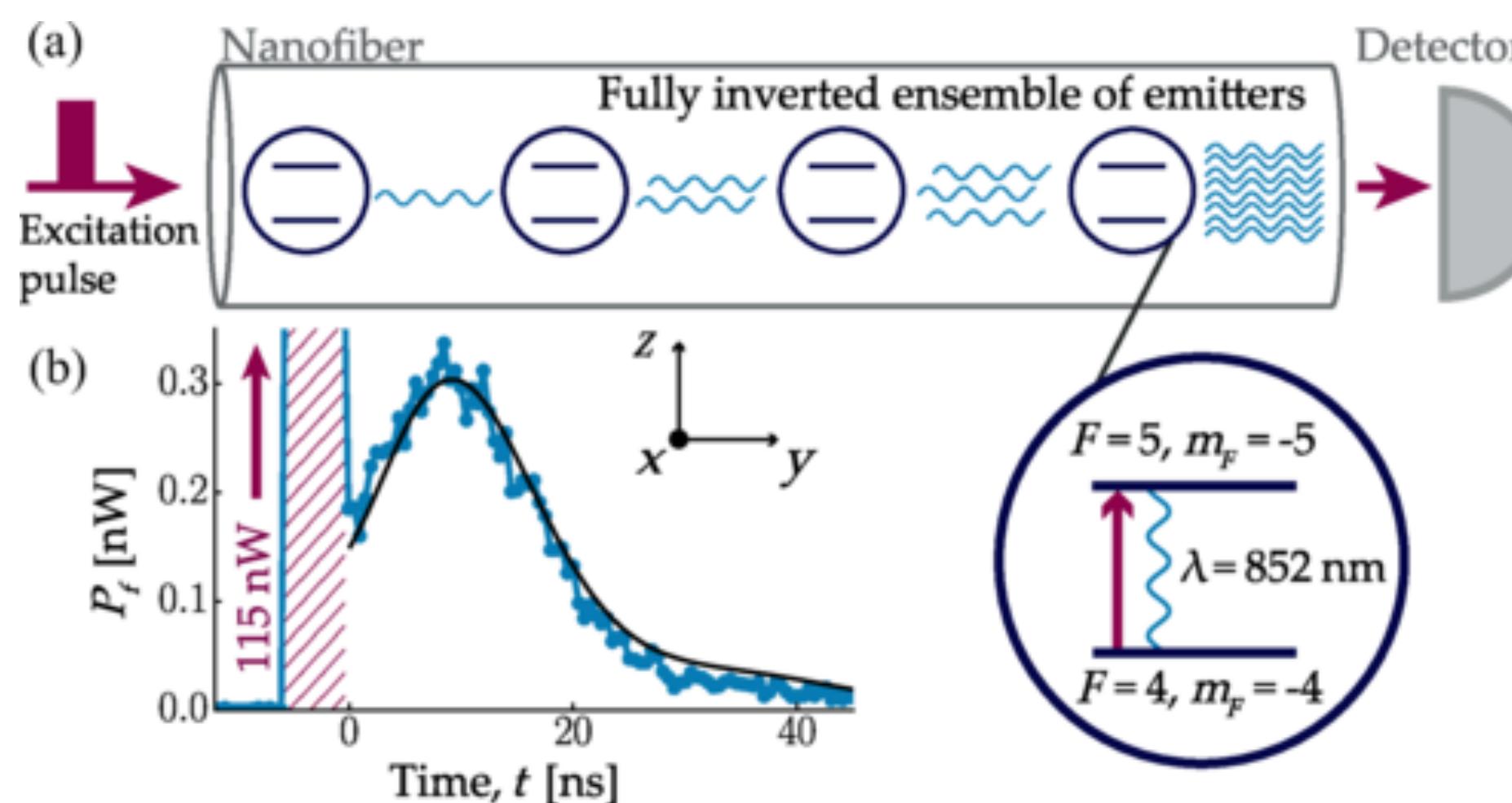
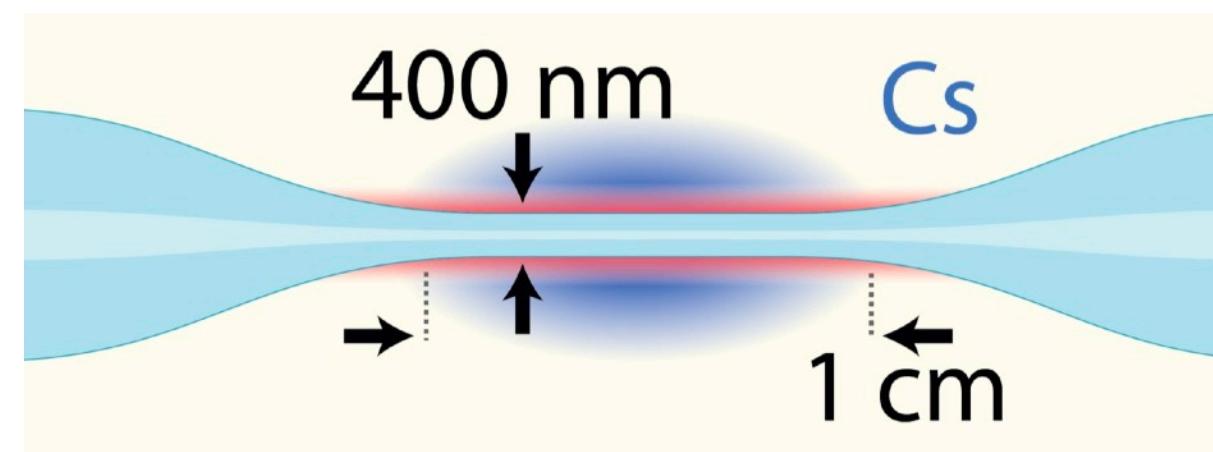
$\pi$  - pulse (12 ns,  $s = 85$ )

Increasing atom number

Axial fluorescence

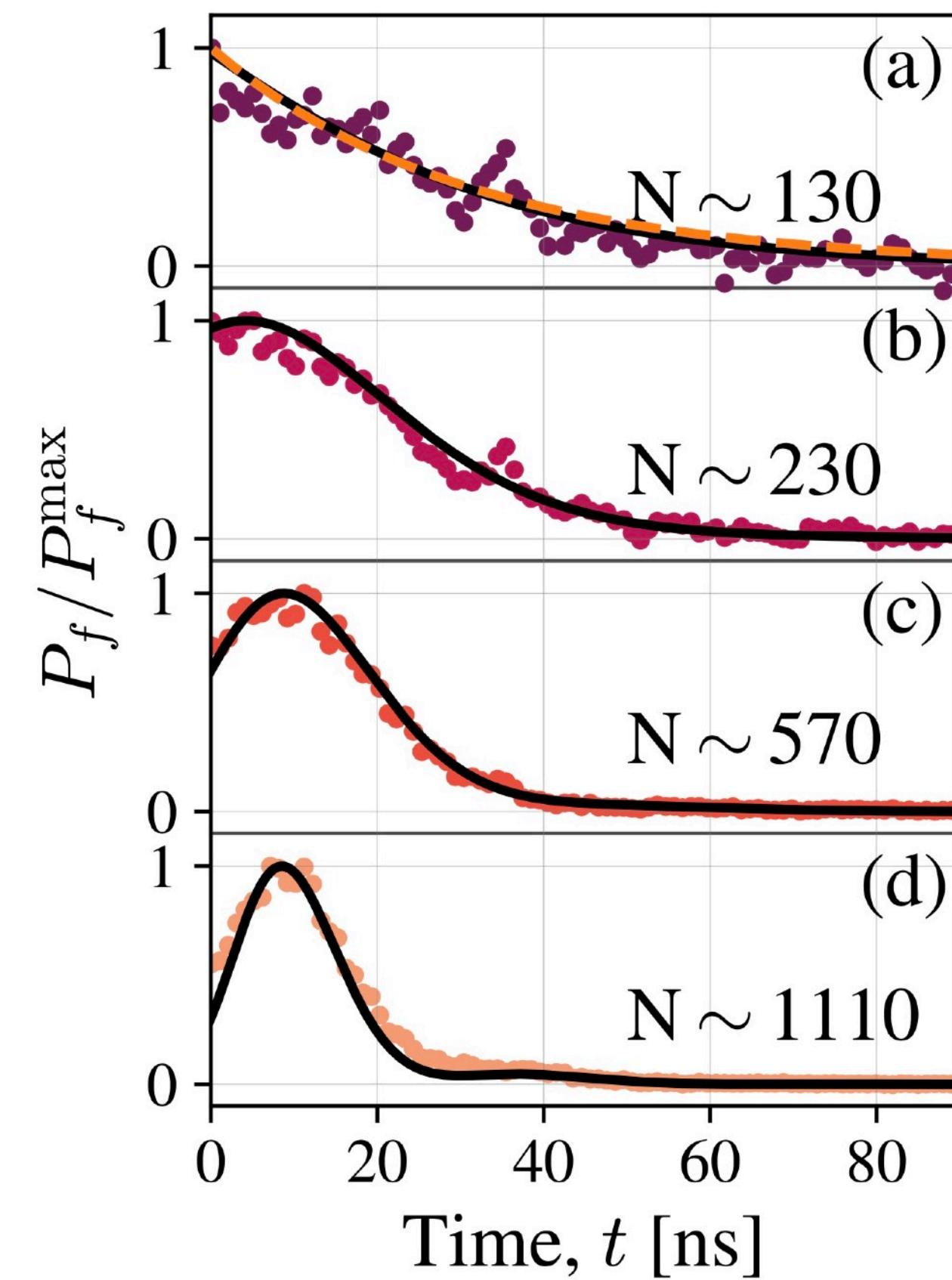
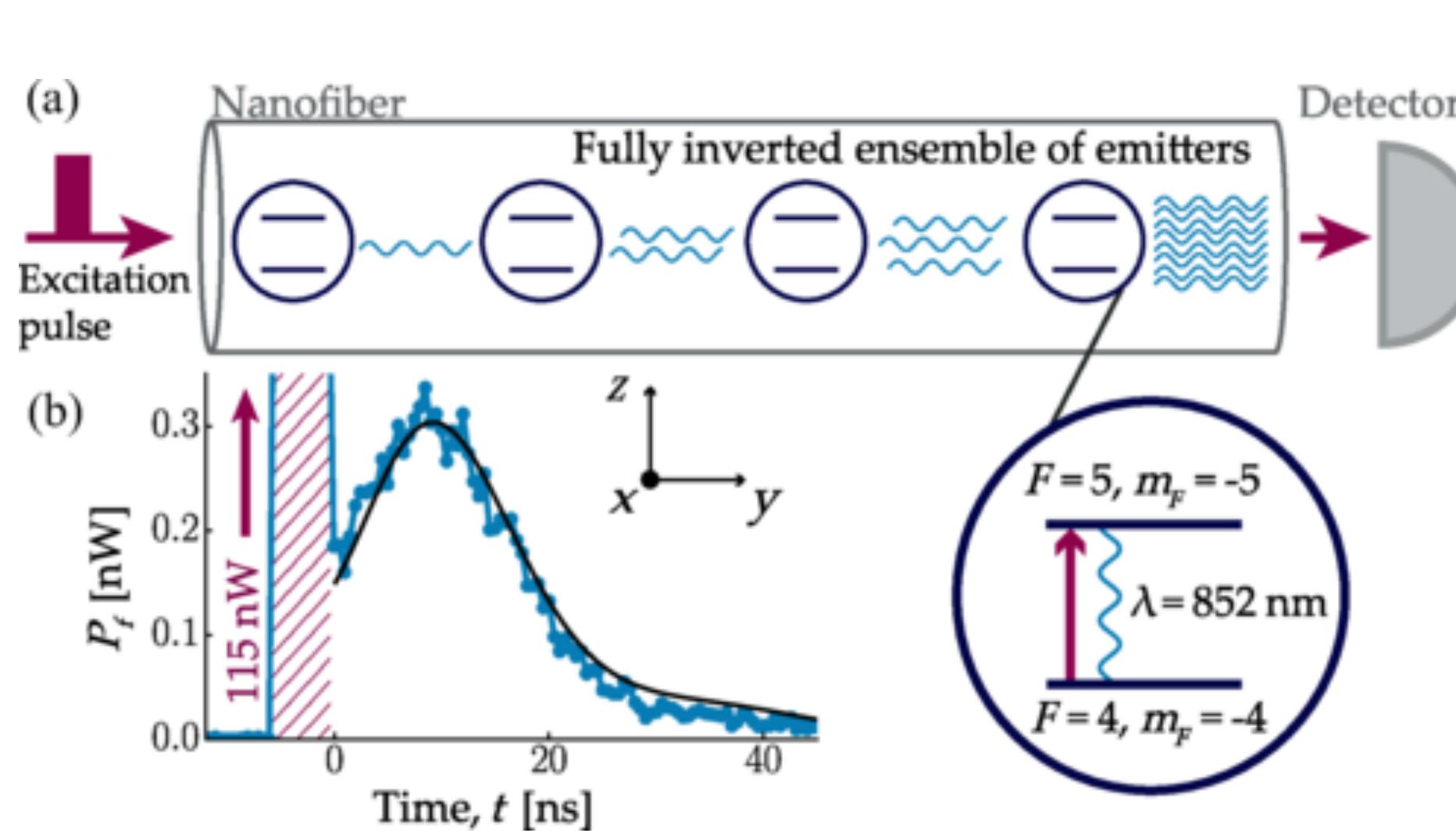
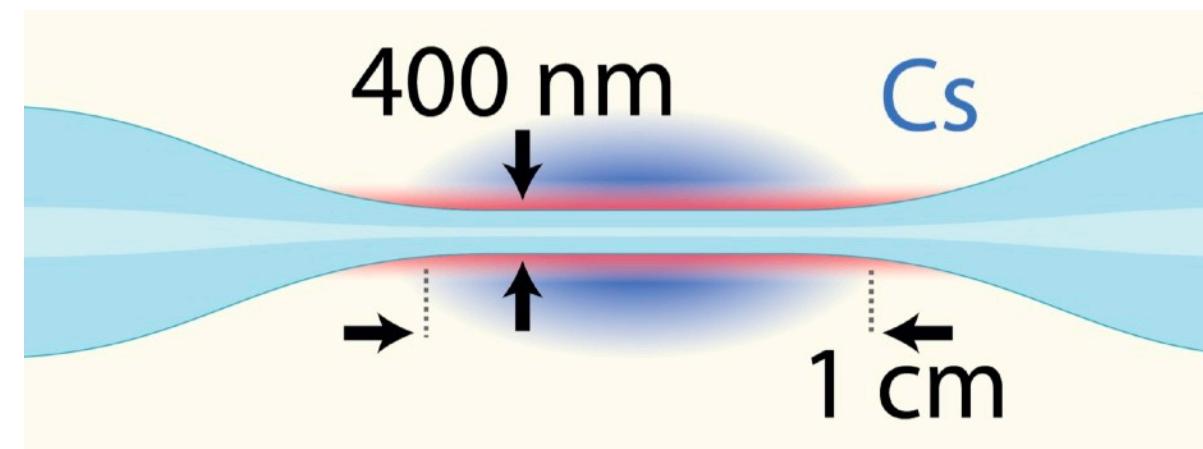


# Dicke superradiance



Liedl et al., Phys. Rev. X 14, 011020 (2024)

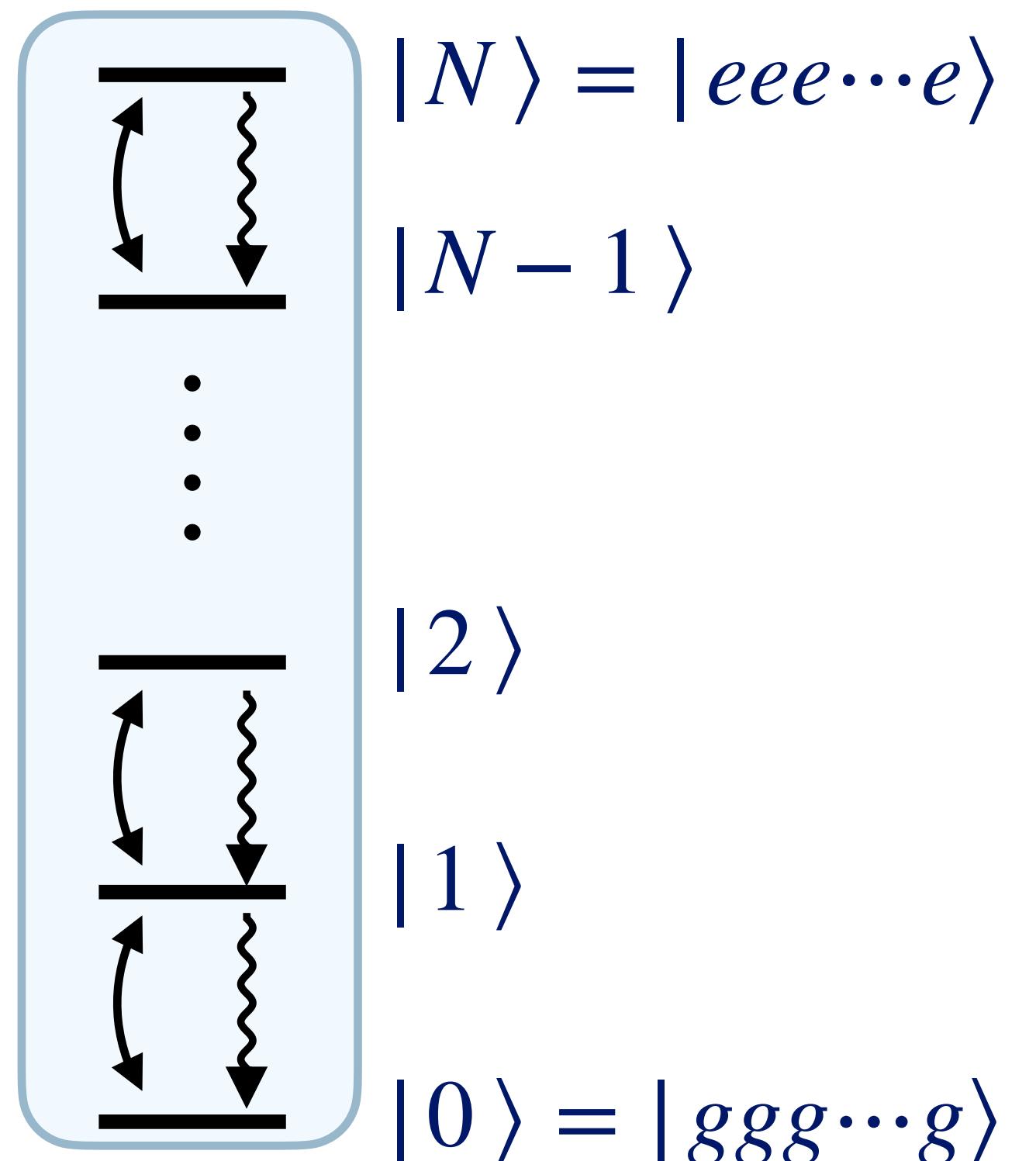
# Dicke superradiance



Liedl et al., Phys. Rev. X 14, 011020 (2024)

# Dicke + drive

Dicke symmetric conditions + classical drive



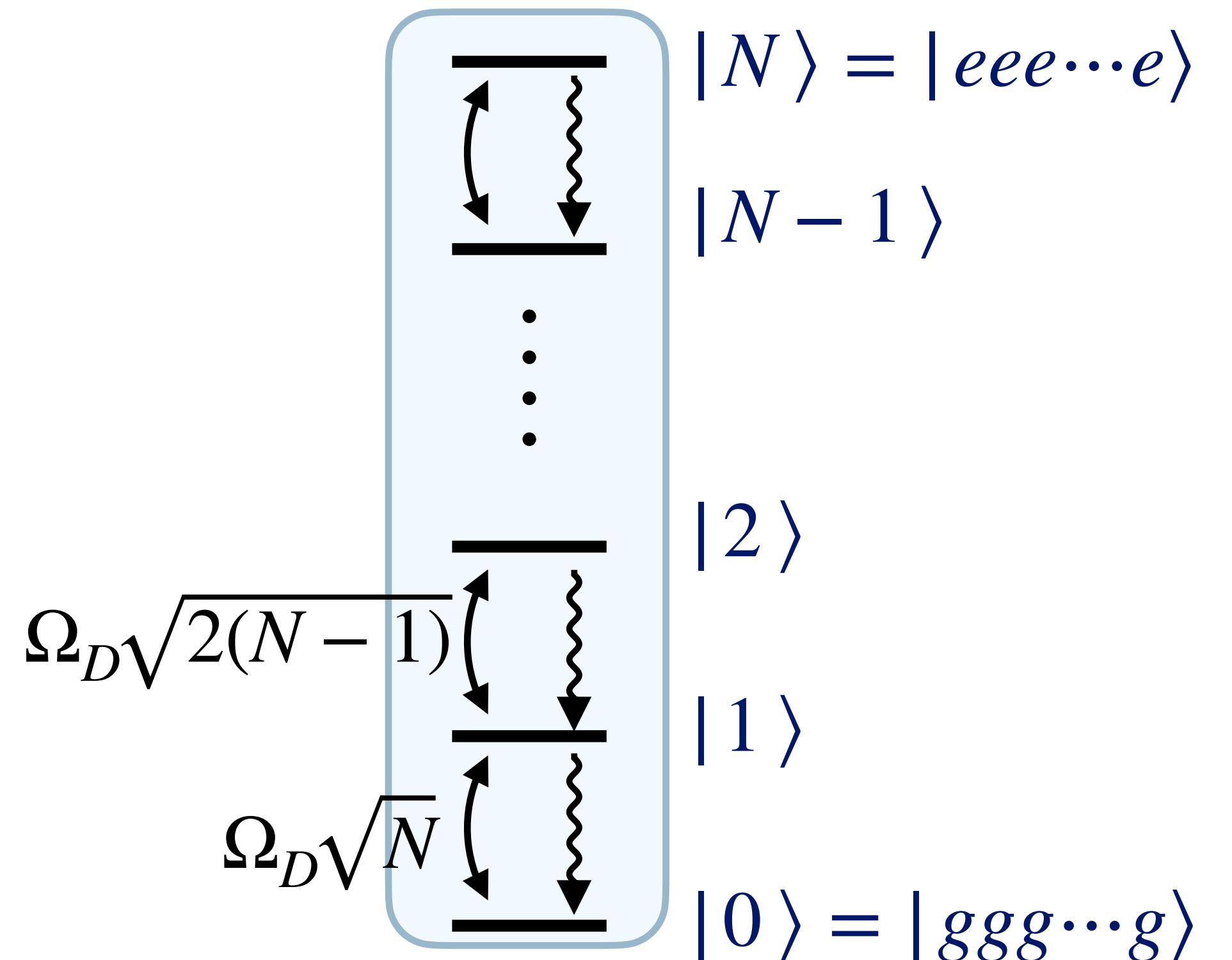
# Dicke + drive

Dicke symmetric conditions + classical drive

$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = \frac{i}{\hbar} [\hat{\rho}, \hat{H}] + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} (2\hat{S}^- \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^-)$$

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hbar \Omega_D}{2} (\hat{S}^+ + \hat{S}^-)$$

$$\langle n-1 | \hat{S}^- | n \rangle = \sqrt{n(-n+N+1)}$$



# Dicke + drive

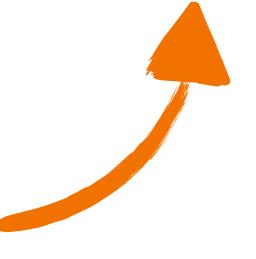
$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = i\frac{\Omega_D}{2} \left( \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ + \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^- - \hat{S}^+\hat{\rho} - \hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} \right) + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} \left( 2\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+\hat{S}^- \right)$$

# Dicke + drive

$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = i\frac{\Omega_D}{2} \left( \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ + \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^- - \hat{S}^+\hat{\rho} - \hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} \right) + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} \left( 2\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+\hat{S}^- \right)$$

Effective Rabi frequency:  $\Omega_{\text{eff}} = \Omega_D + i\Gamma_0 \langle \hat{S}^- \rangle$

Screening by collective dipole

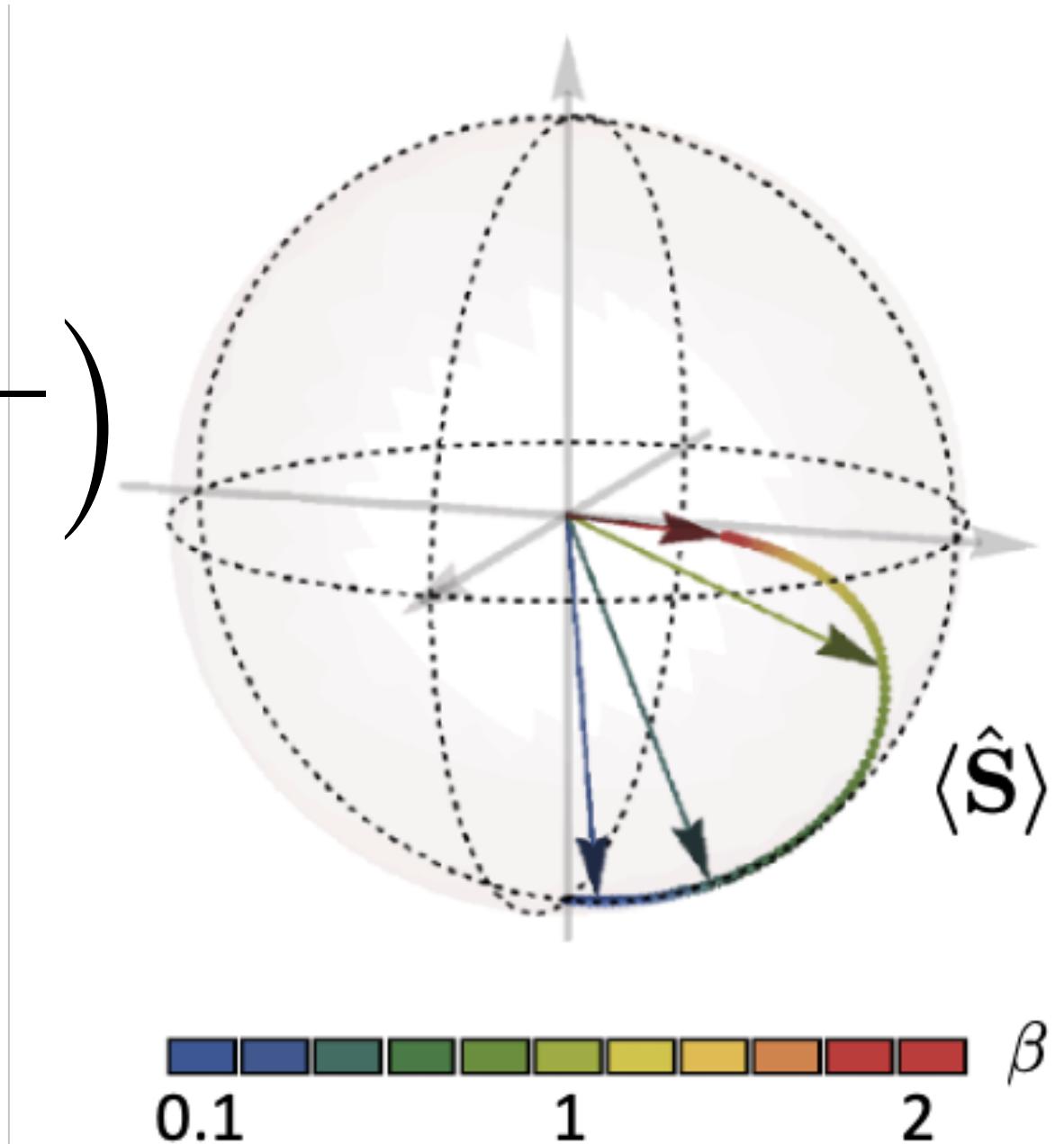


# Dicke + drive

$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = i\frac{\Omega_D}{2} \left( \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ + \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^- - \hat{S}^+\hat{\rho} - \hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} \right) + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} \left( 2\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+\hat{S}^-\hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho}\hat{S}^+\hat{S}^- \right)$$

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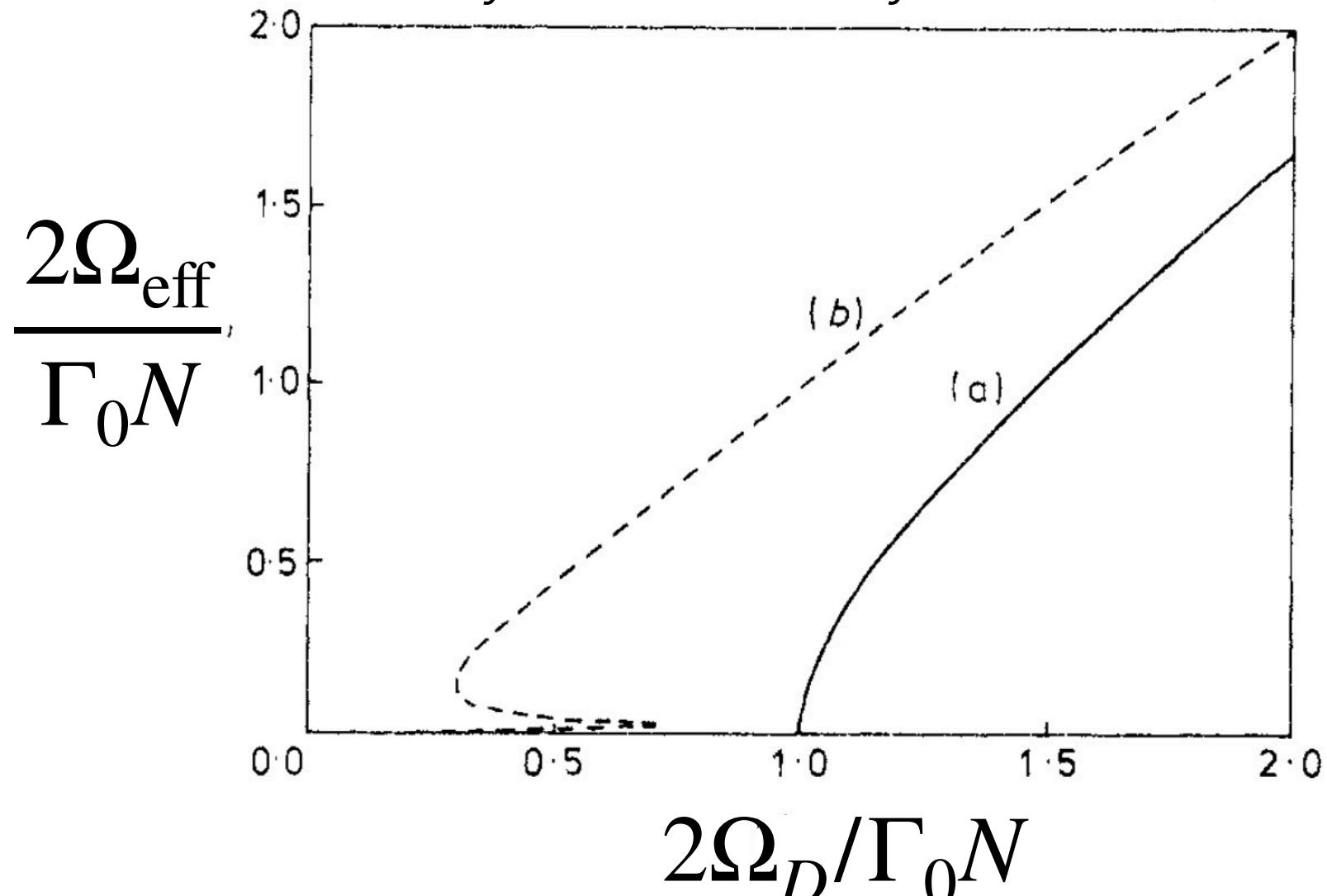
Maximum achievable dipole:  $\langle \hat{S}^- \rangle \simeq iN/2$

Recover Rabi oscillations for  $\Omega_D > N\Gamma_0/2$

Scaling with  $\beta = 2\Omega_D/\Gamma_0 N$

Existence of a non-equilibrium phase transition

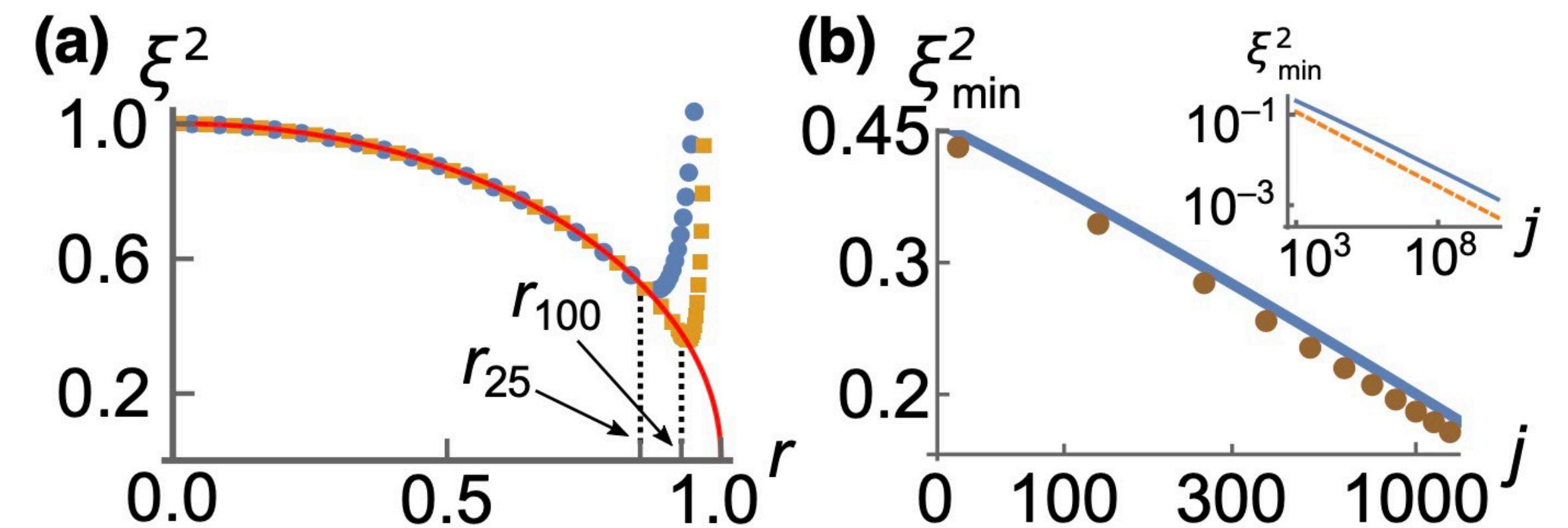
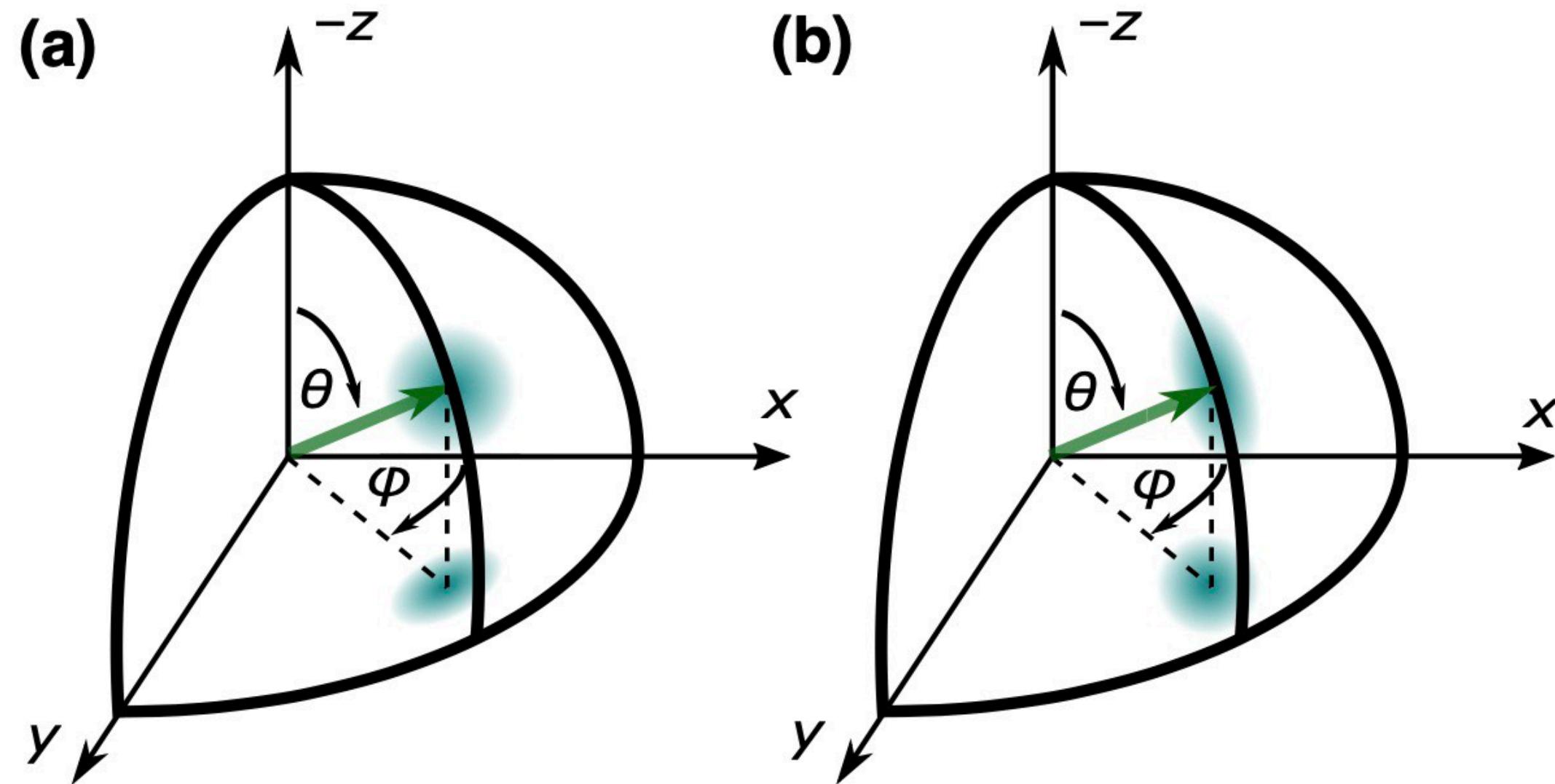
D. F. Walls, *J. Phys. B At. Mol. Phys.* **13**, 2001 (1973).



# Dicke + drive

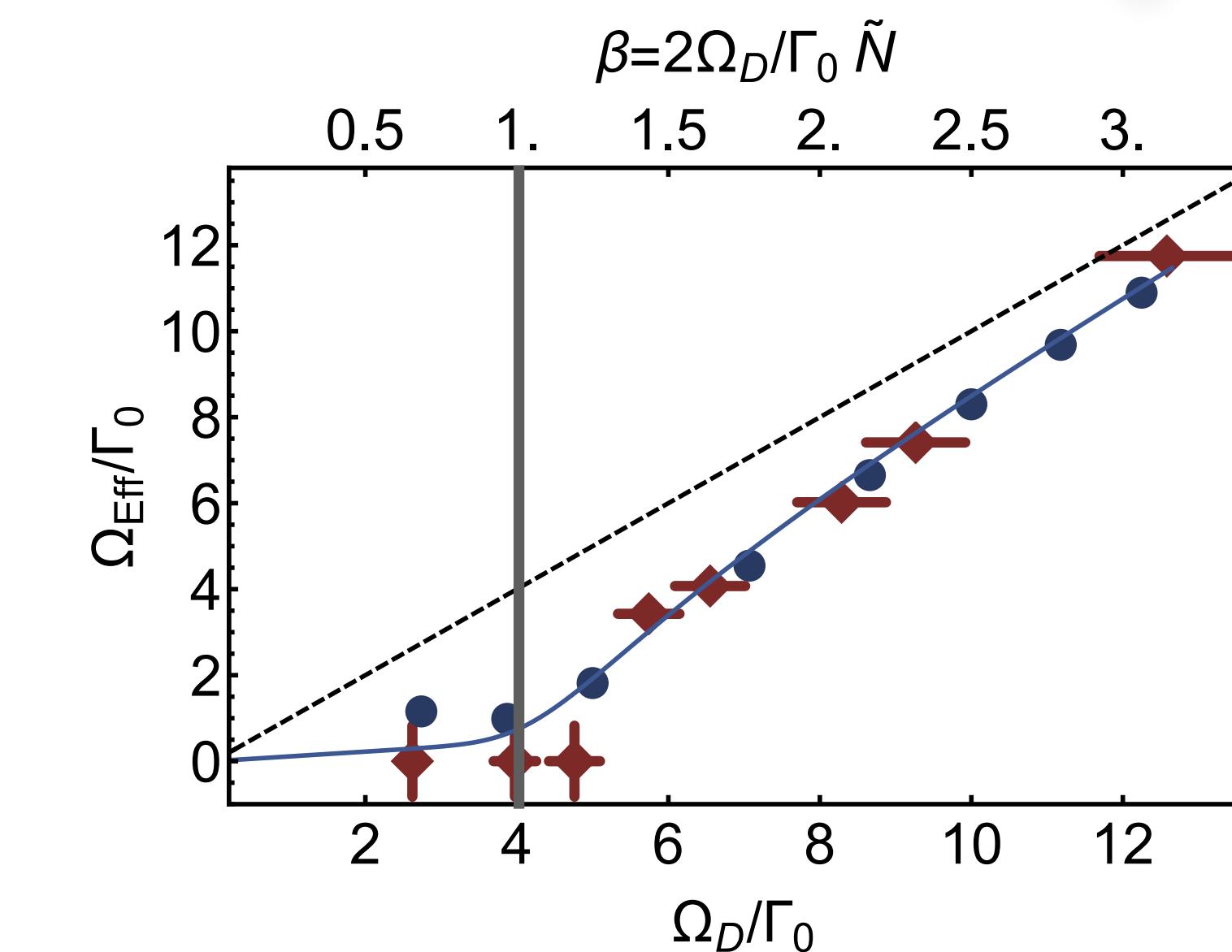
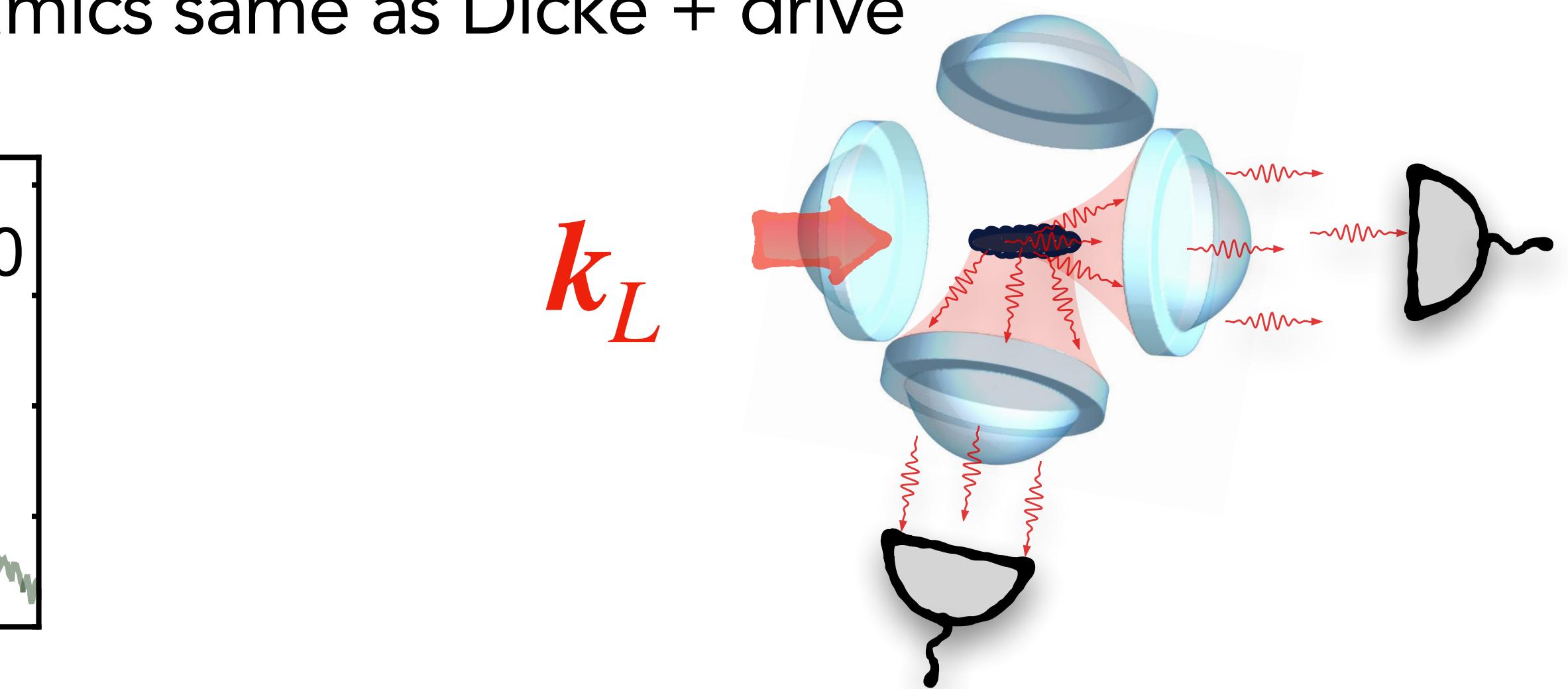
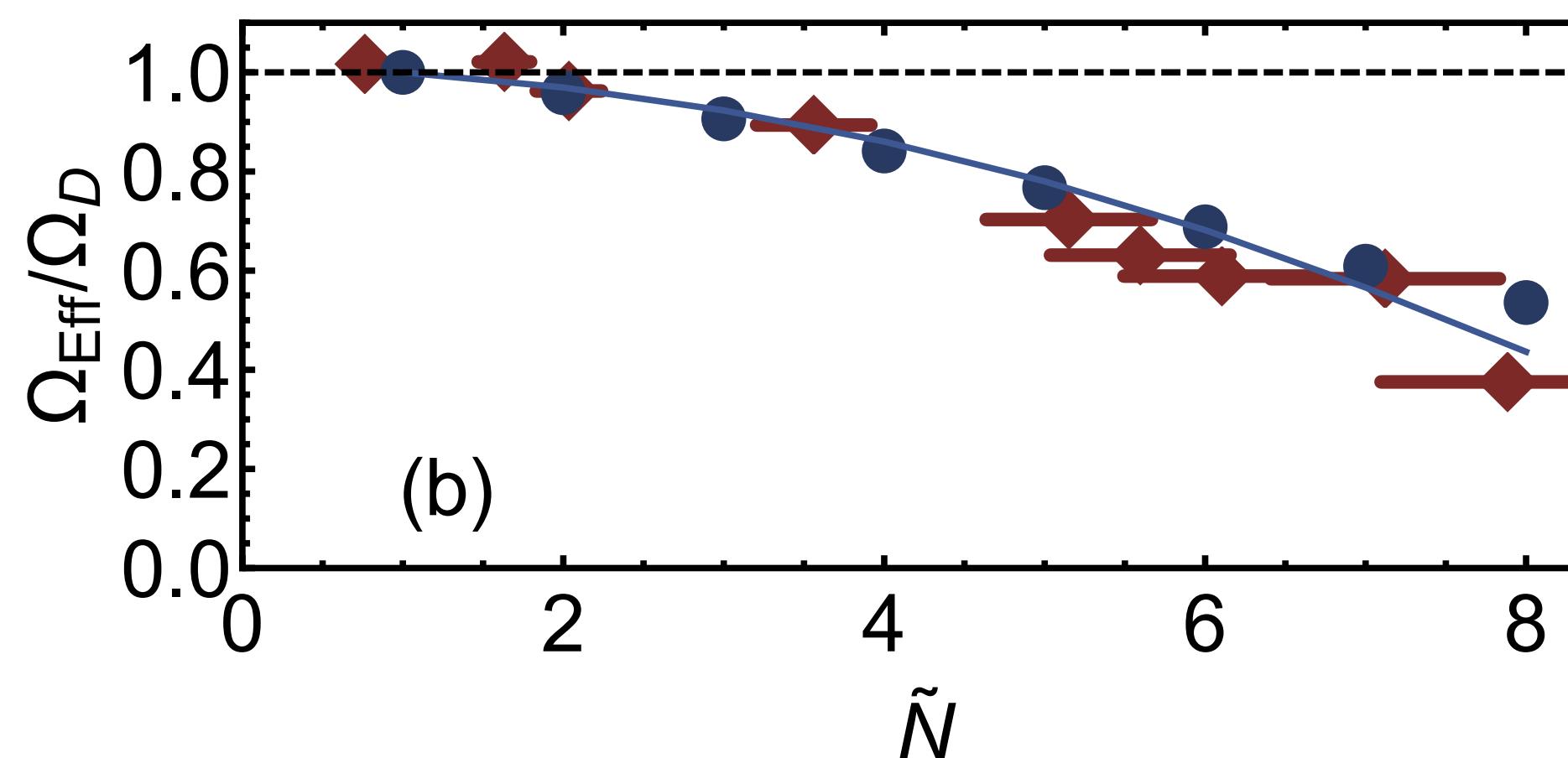
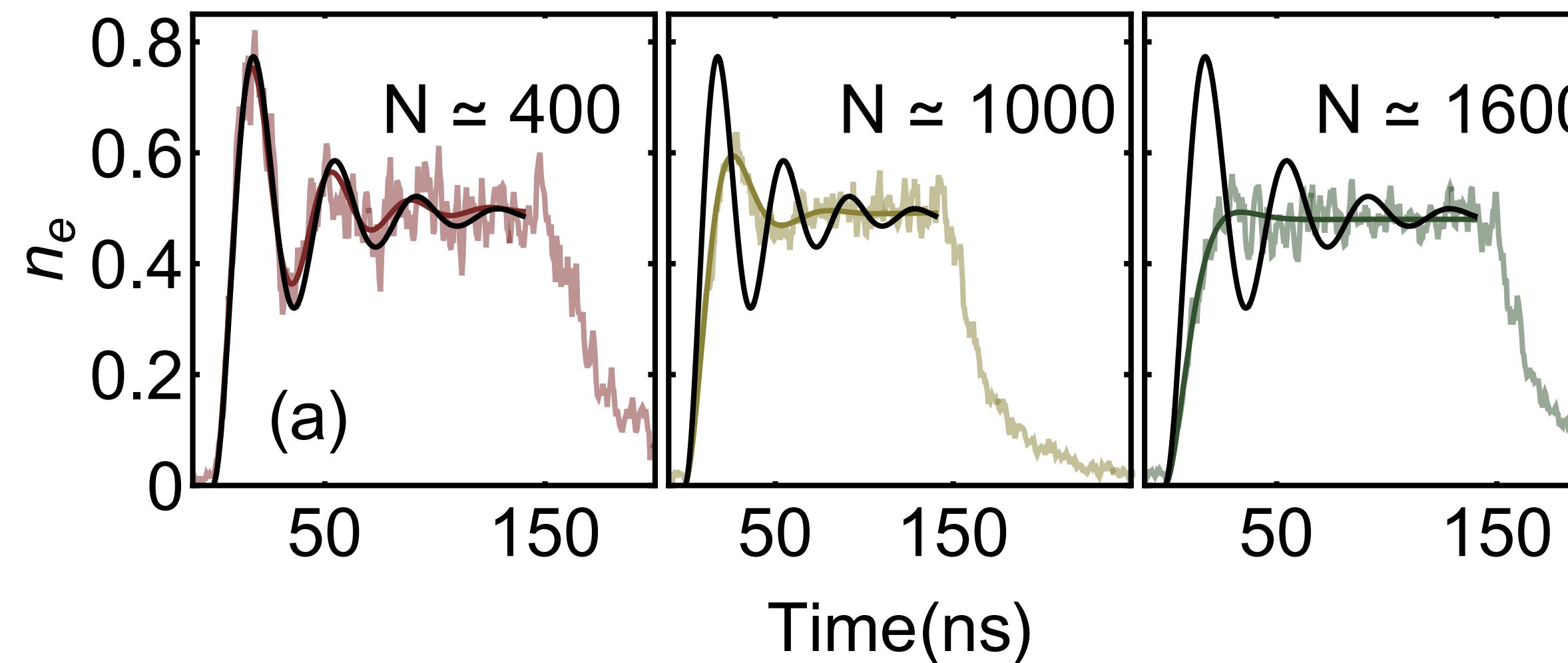
Collective spontaneous emission induces squeezing

$$\dot{\hat{\rho}} = i \frac{\Omega_D}{2} \left( \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^+ + \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^- - \hat{S}^+ \hat{\rho} - \hat{S}^- \hat{\rho} \right) + \frac{\Gamma_0}{2} \left( 2 \hat{S}^- \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^+ - \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \hat{\rho} - \hat{\rho} \hat{S}^+ \hat{S}^- \right)$$



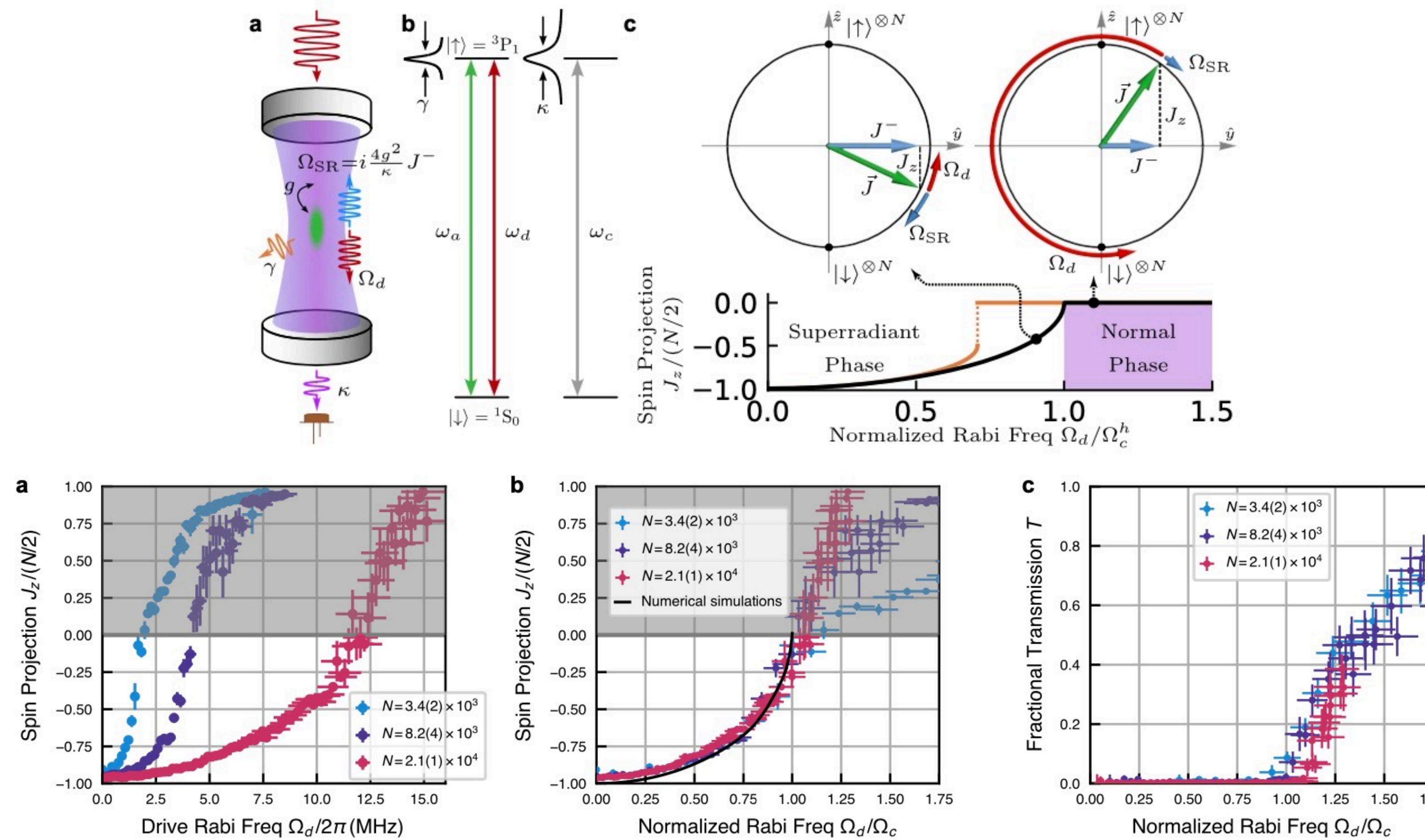
# The Dicke ladder with drive

In dense microscopic clouds, mean-field dynamics same as Dicke + drive



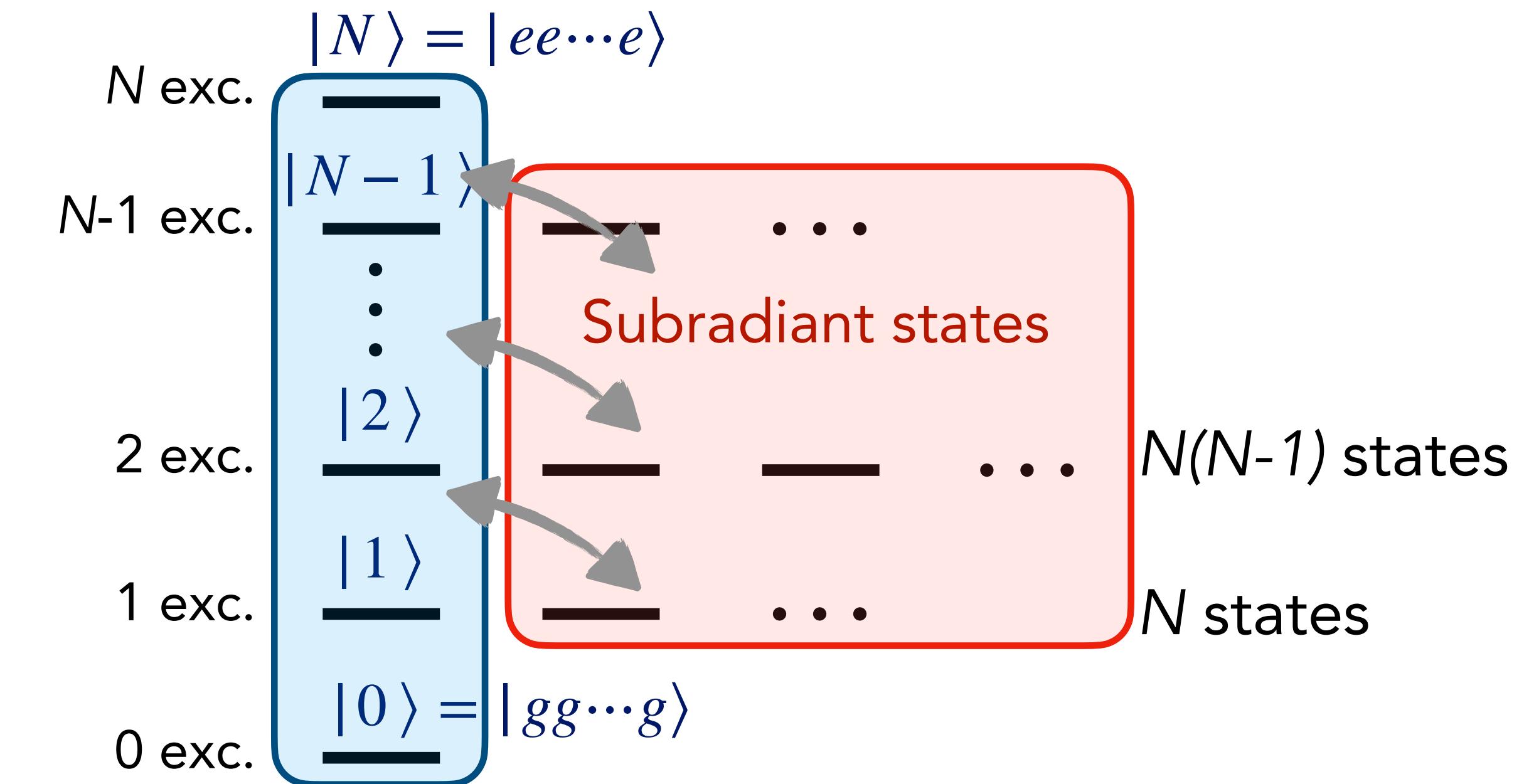
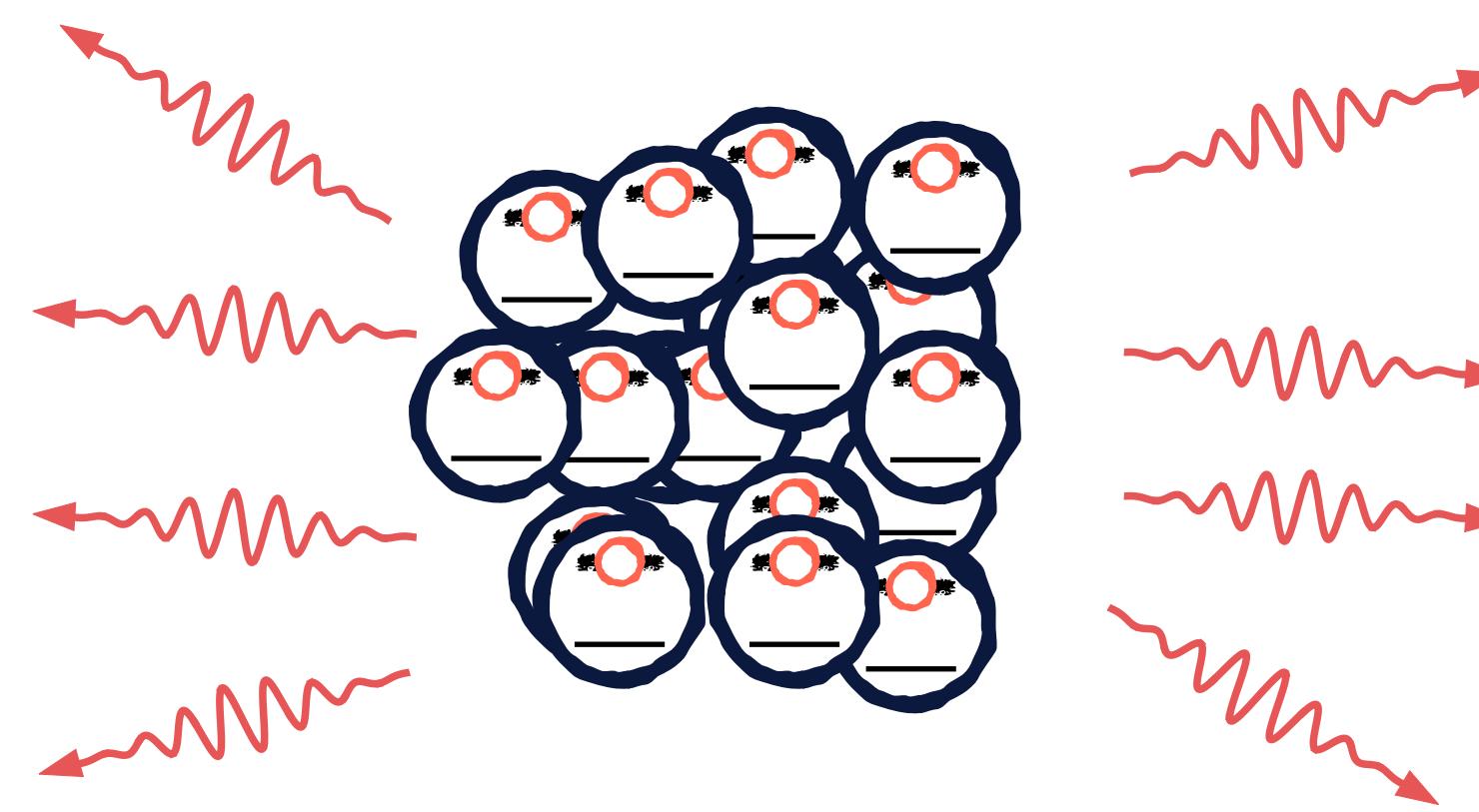
# The Dicke ladder with drive

Realization in a cavity QED system (Sr on the intercombination line)



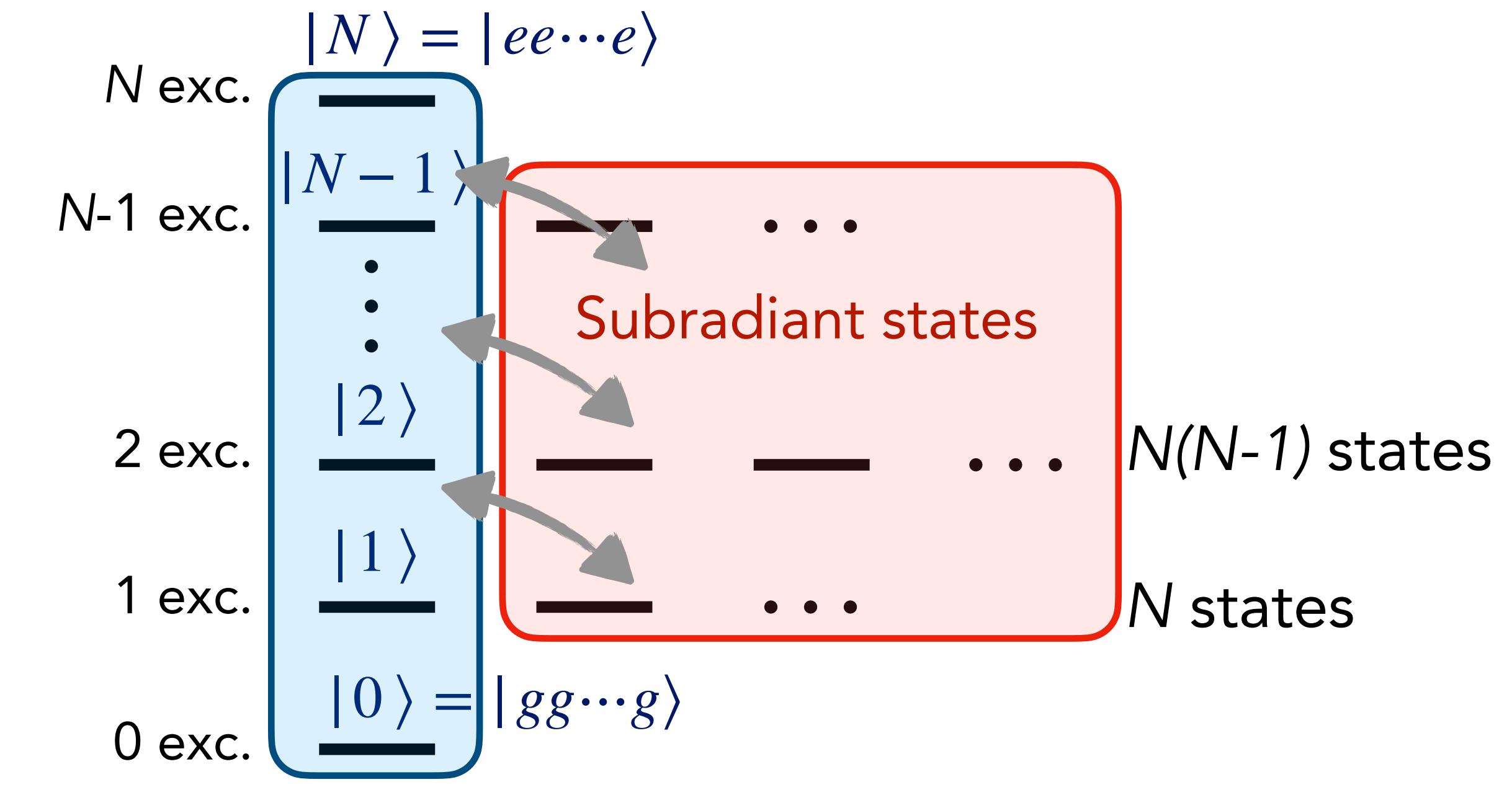
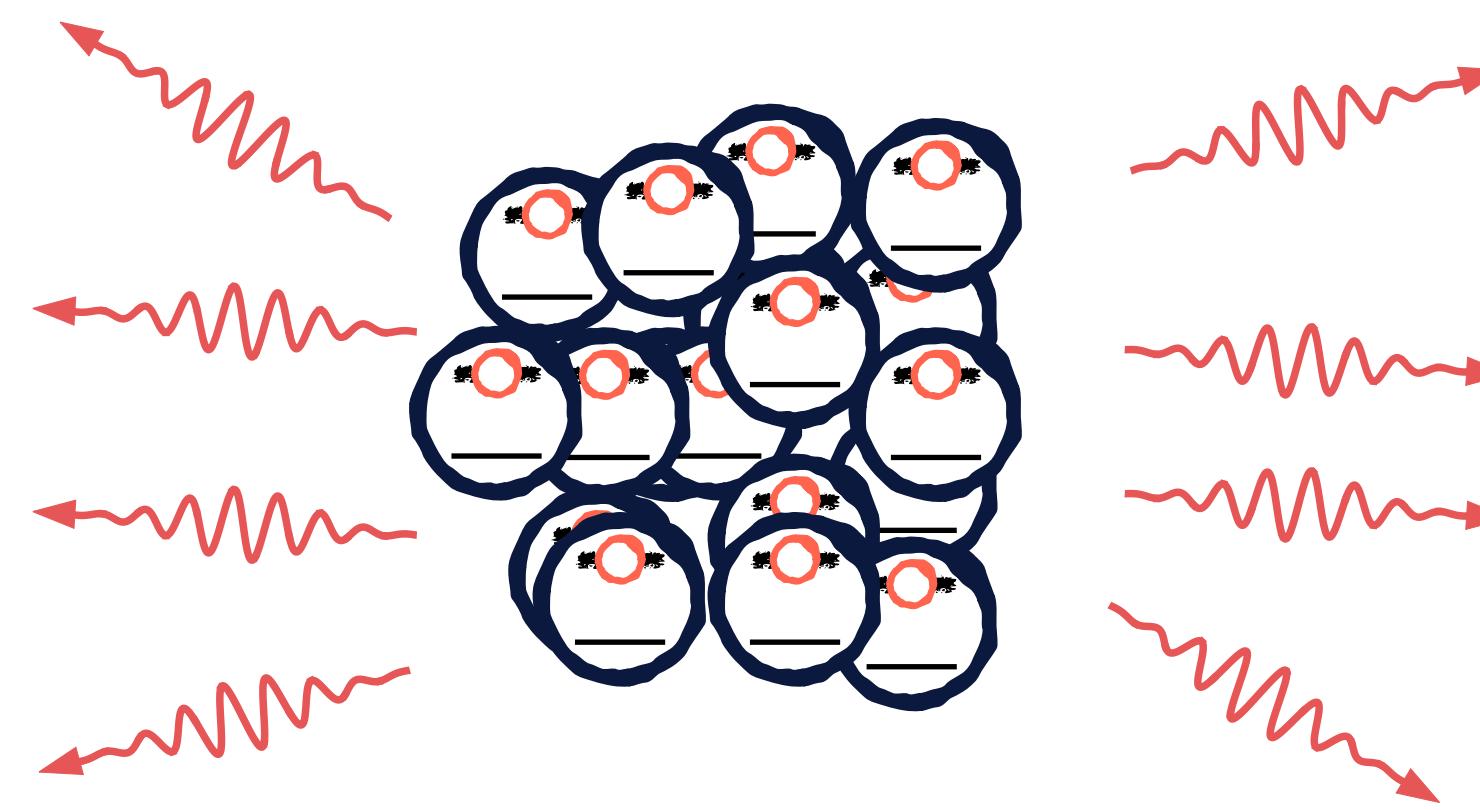
# Subradiance

R. H. Dicke, Phys. Rev. 93, 99 (1954).



# Subradiance

R. H. Dicke, Phys. Rev. 93, 99 (1954).



Classical regime

Break Dicke symmetry

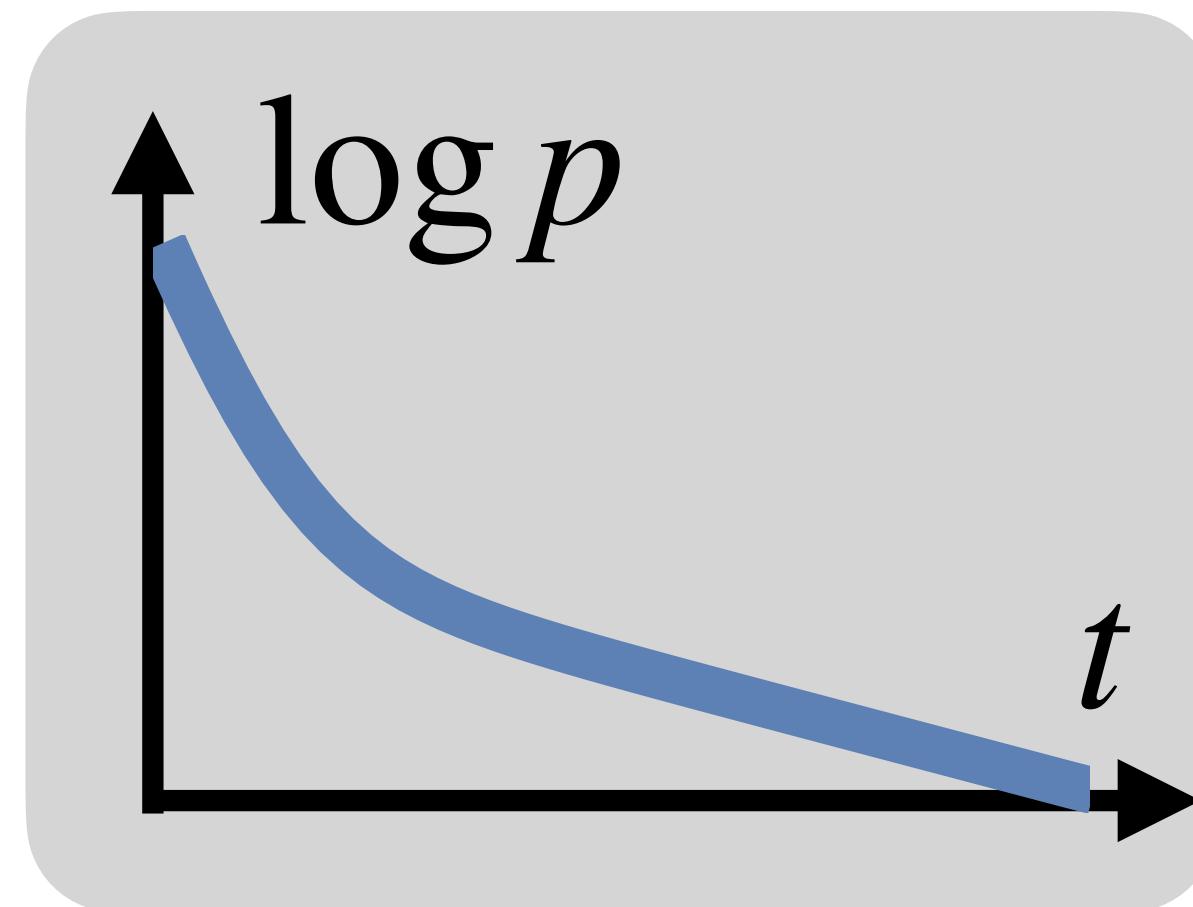
Finite-size effects, dipole-dipole interactions : Access to subradiant states

# Subradiance

Laser pulse: mostly populates superradiant levels

But long pulse to steady state solution, overlaps with subradiant states

Fast decay of superradiant excitations, followed by slow decay



Very few observations

Pavolini et al., *Phys Rev Lett* **54**, 1917 (1985).

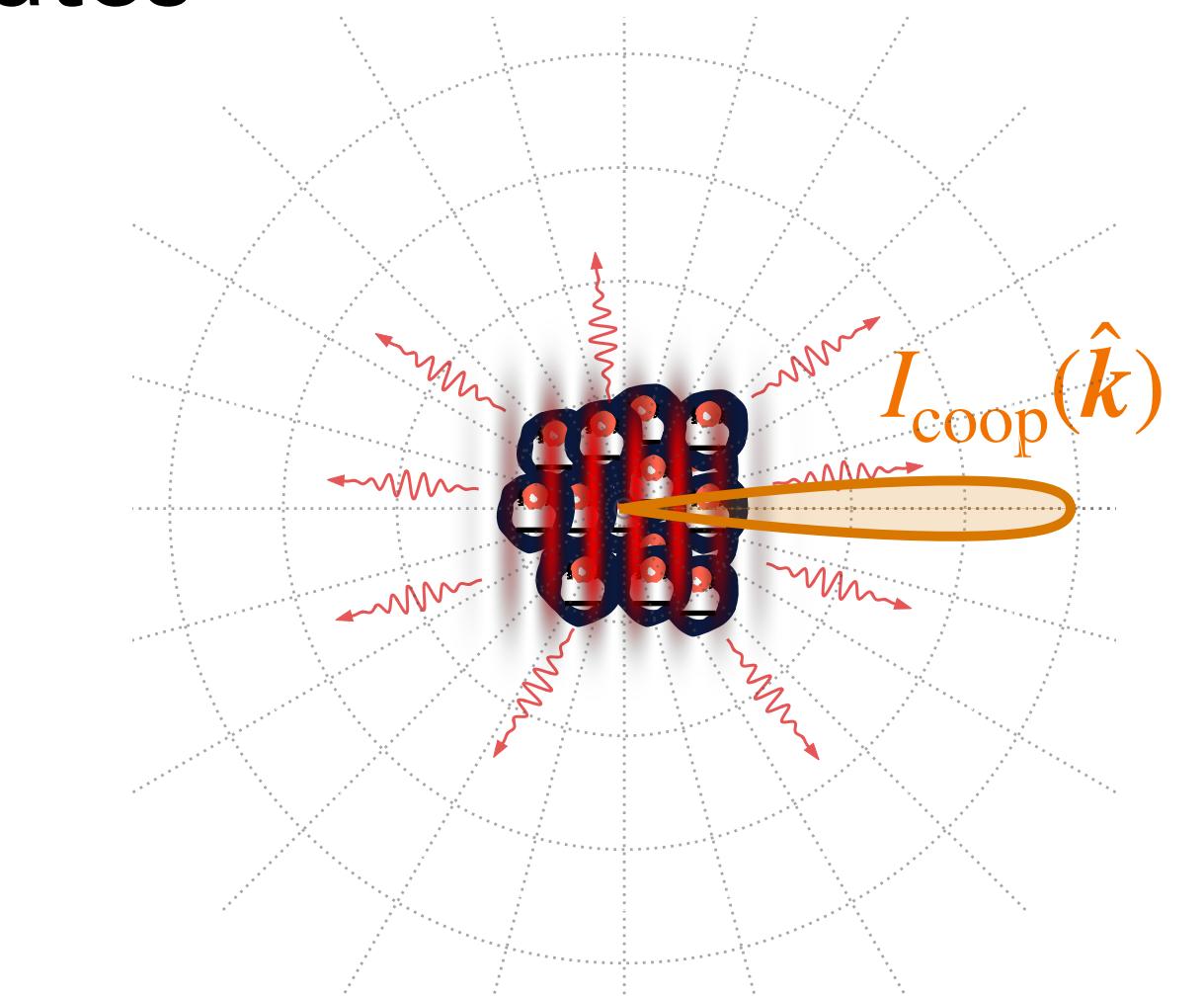
2 atoms (ions or dimer)

DeVoe & Brewer *Phys Rev Lett* **76**, 2049 (1996).

Hettich et al. *Science* **298**, 385 (2002).

Takasu et al., *Phys Rev Lett* **108**, 173002 (2012).

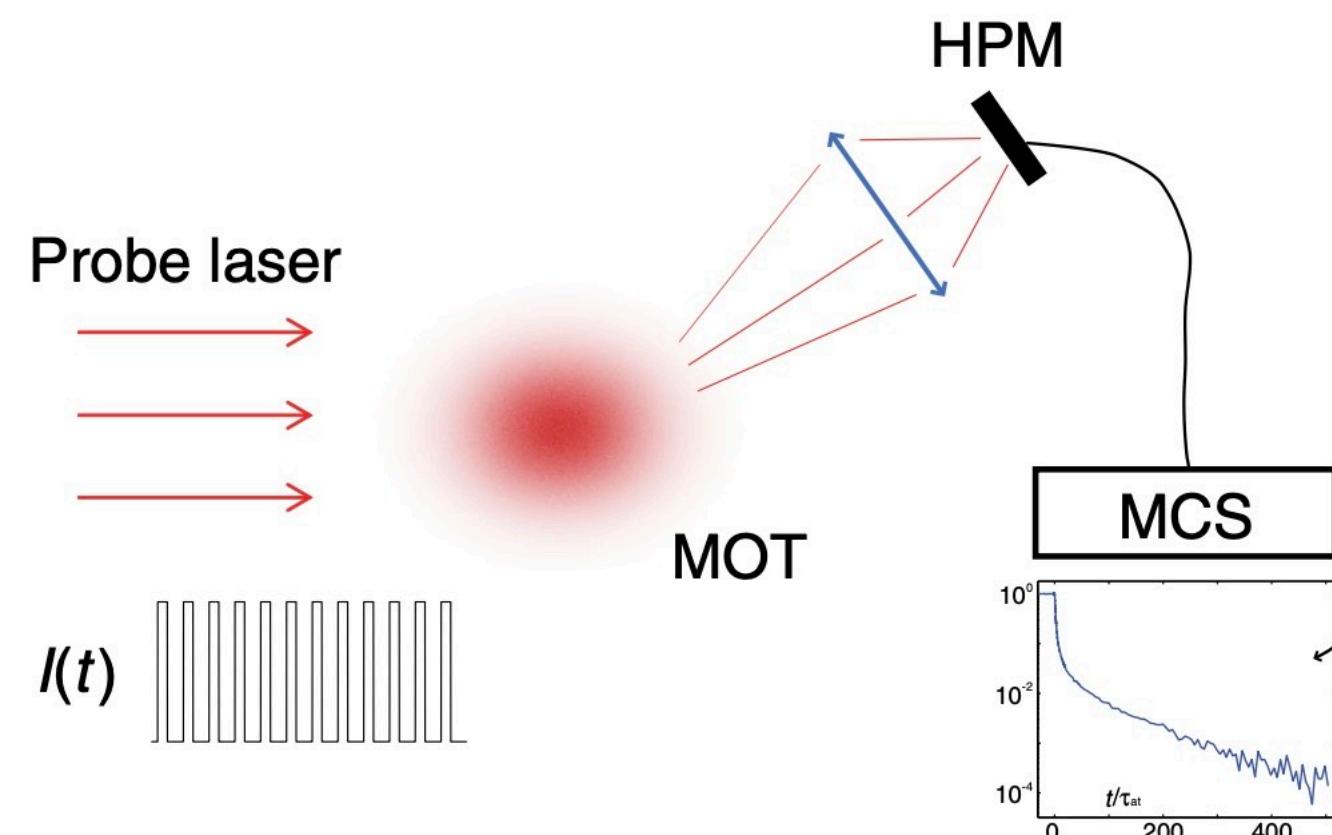
McGuyer et al., *Nat Phys* **11**, 32–36 (2015).



# Subradiance with $N$ atoms

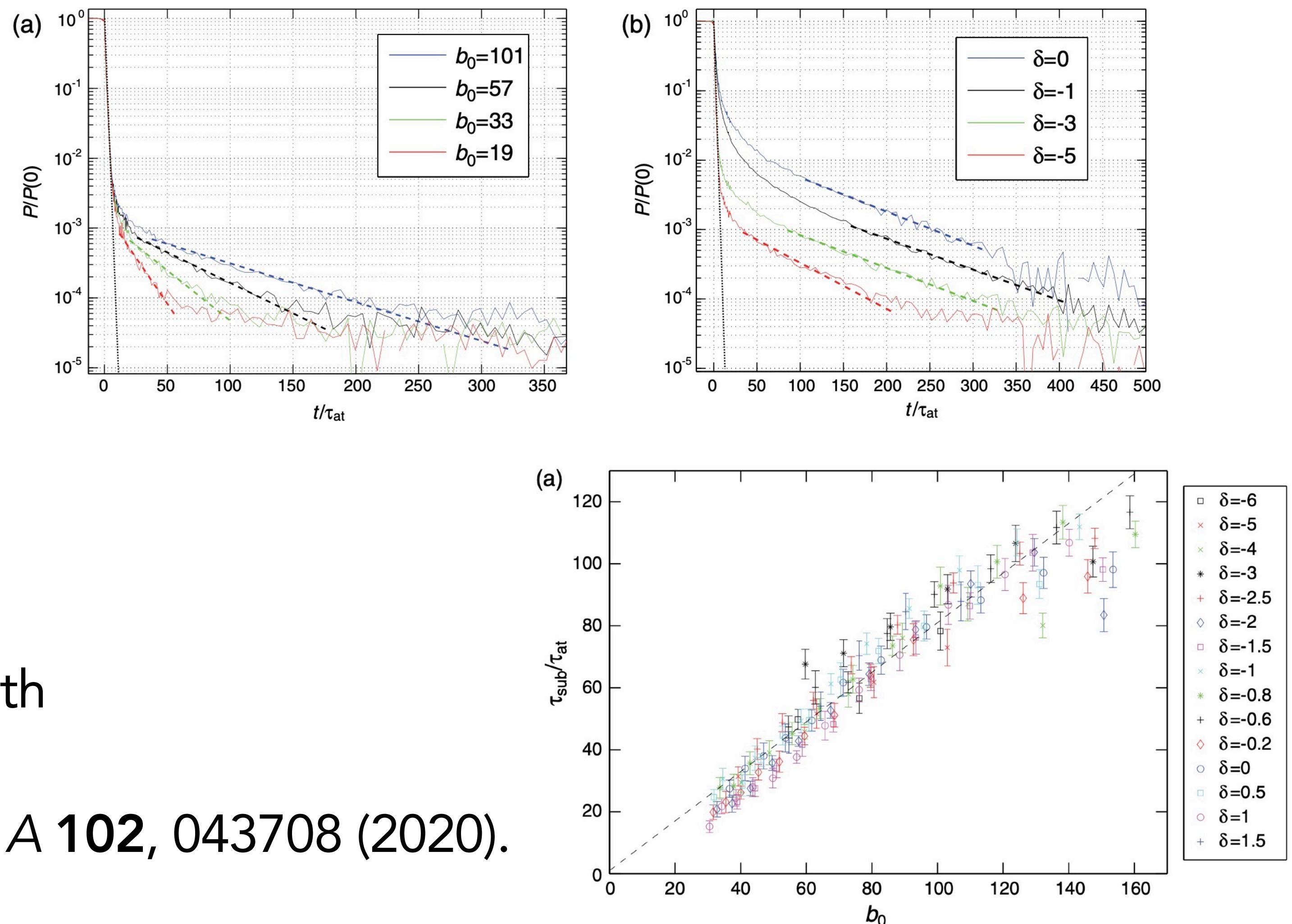
Guerin, Araujo & Kaiser, *Phys Rev Lett* **116**, 083601 (2016).

Extended samples in MOTs



Observed scaling with optical depth

Das, Lemberger & Yavuz *Phys Rev A* **102**, 043708 (2020).

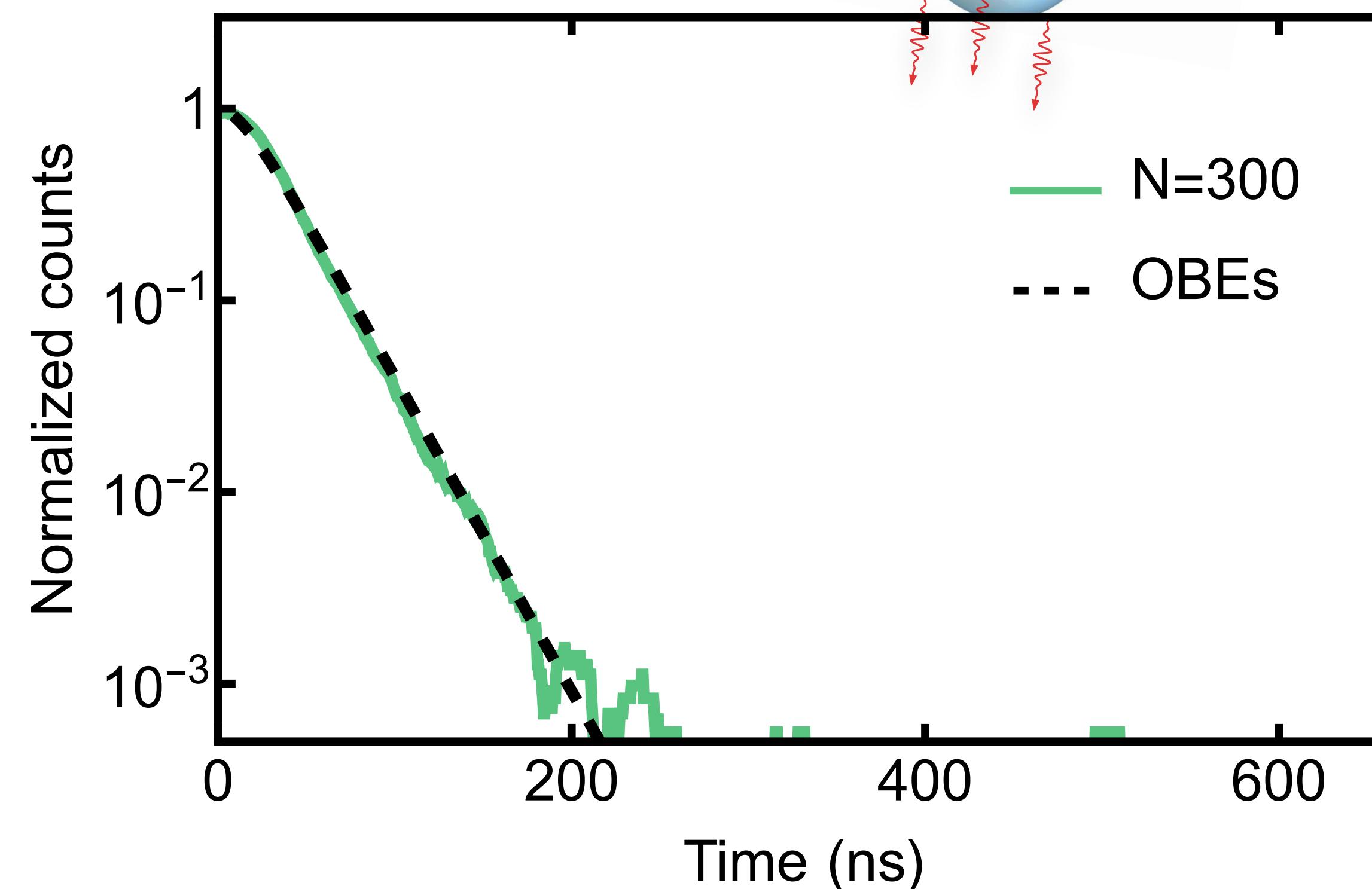
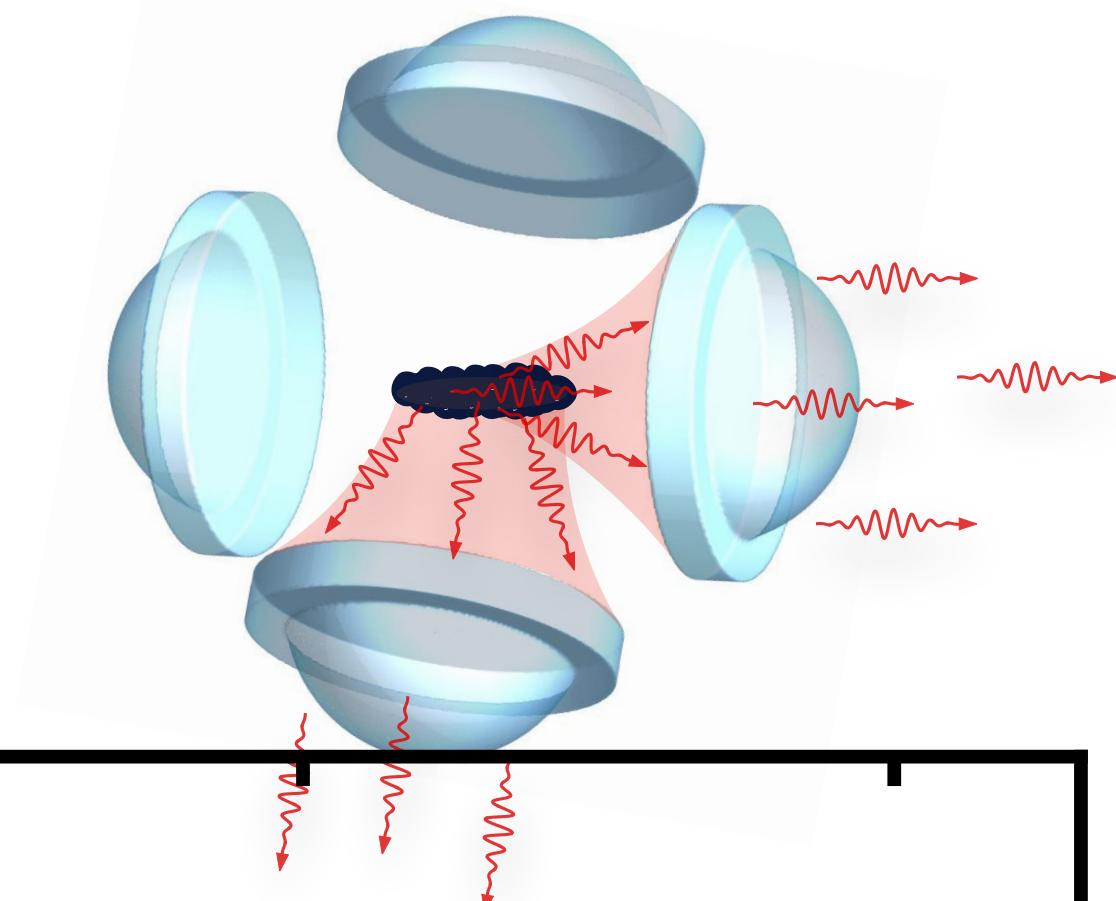


# Subradiance in dense samples

Small dense samples ( $\sigma_r < \lambda_0$ ,  $\sigma_z \sim 10\lambda_0$ )

Low atom number:

Single lifetime exponential decay

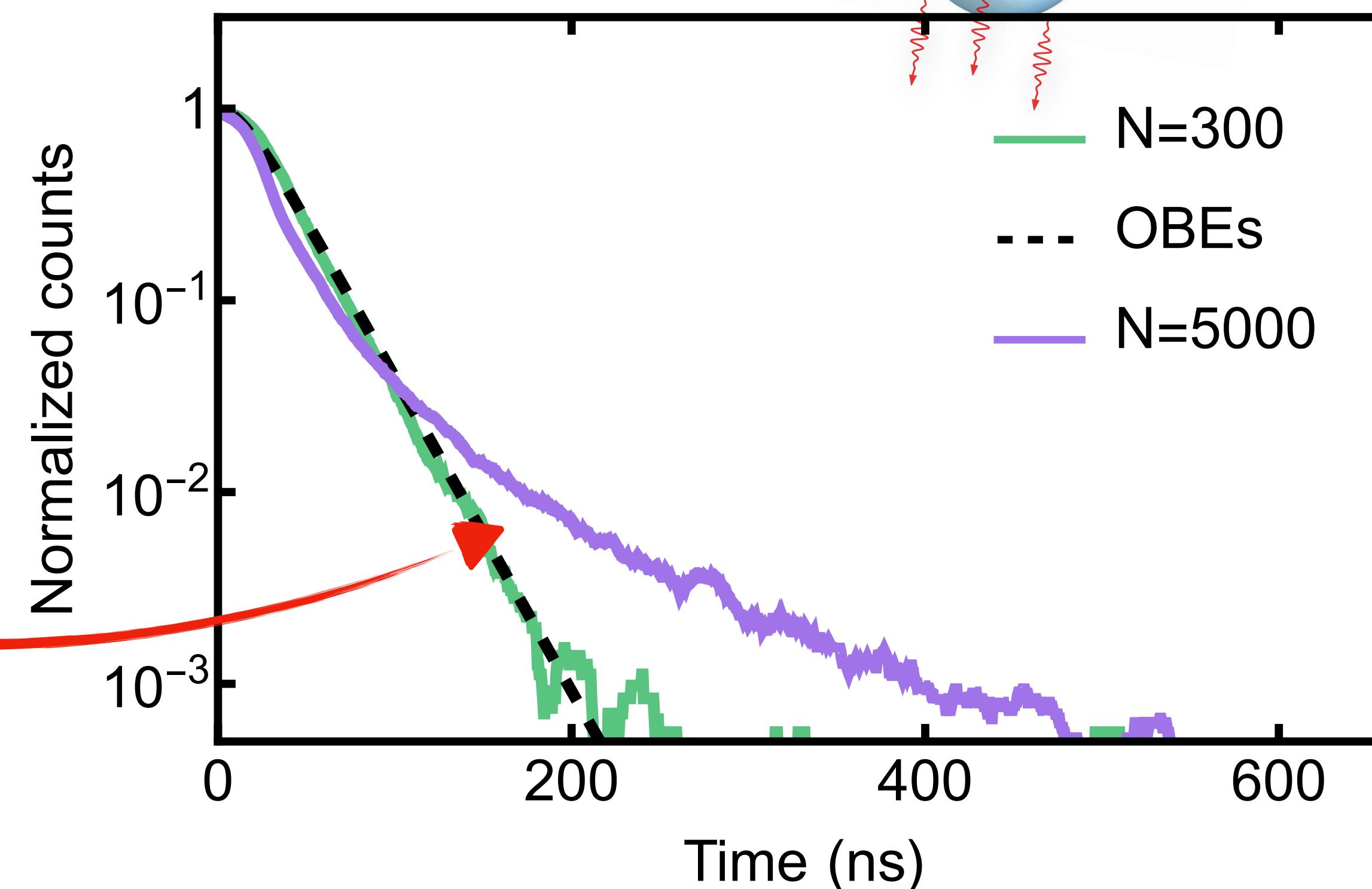
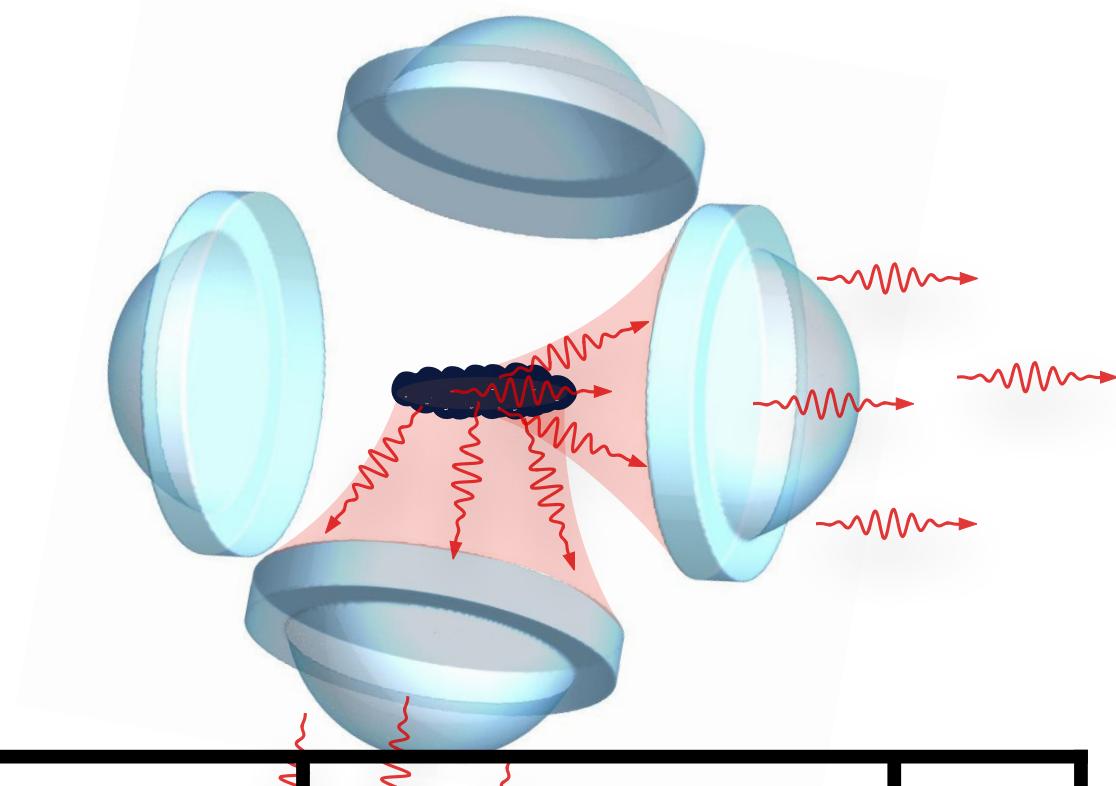


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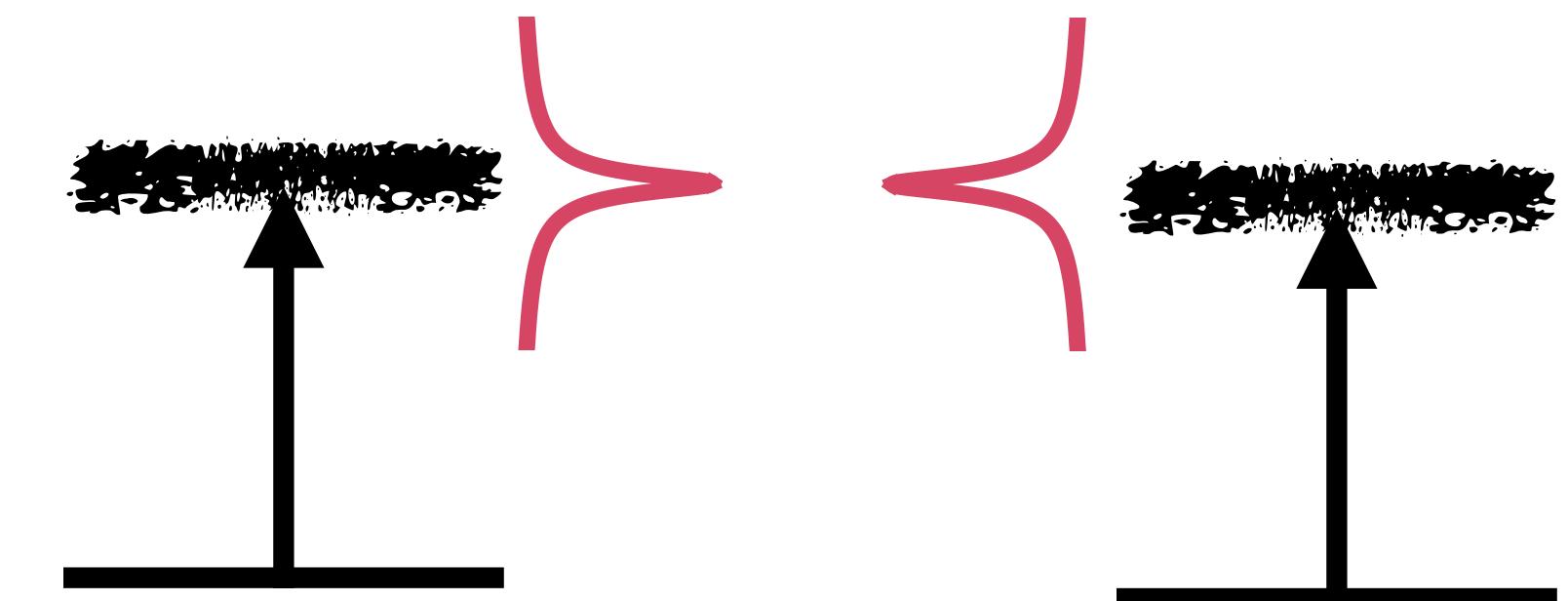
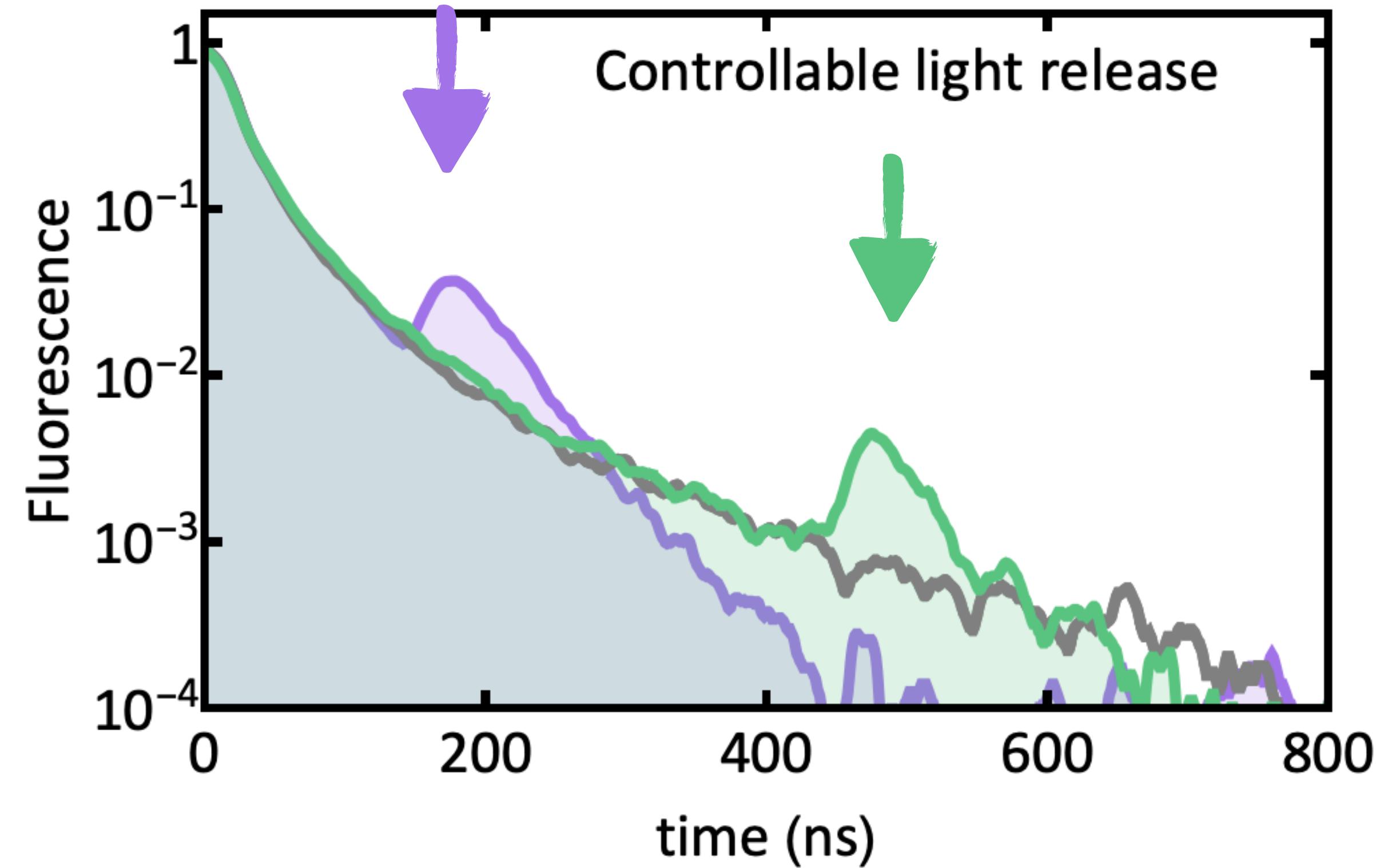
Single lifetime exponential decay



Subradiance

# Storage and release in subradiance

Motivation for subradiance: photon storage



# Storage and release in subradiance

Motivation for subradiance: photon storage

