

Is a Stern-Gerlach splitter possible with an ion beam?

C. Henkel¹, G. Jacob², F. Stopp², F. Schmidt-Kaler²,
Y. Japha³, M. Keil³, and R. Folman³

¹Universität Potsdam – ²JGU Mainz – ³BGU Beer Sheva

DPG Erlangen March 2018

merci à :

DFG (IANV project/DIP programme)



talks on web



Institute of Physics and Astronomy, Universität Potsdam, Germany
www.quantum.physik.uni-potsdam.de

Motivation – Quantum Histories

Historic Landmark Experiment

– spin splitting a beam of Ag atoms

Gerlach & Stern [*Z Phys* 1922]

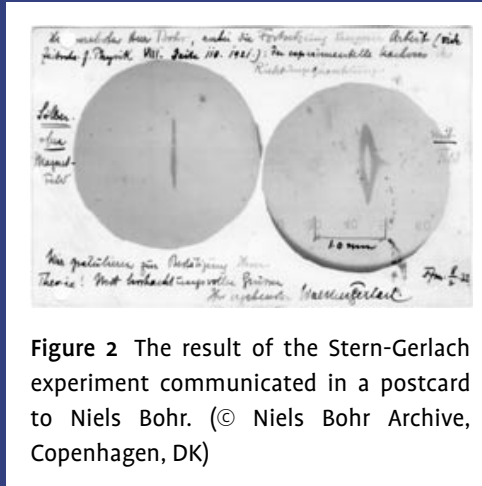
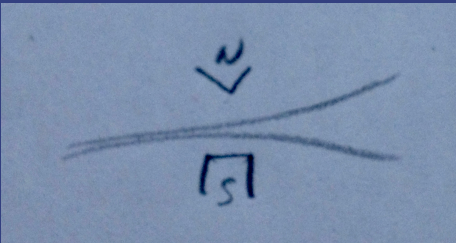


Figure 2 The result of the Stern-Gerlach experiment communicated in a postcard to Niels Bohr. (© Niels Bohr Archive, Copenhagen, DK)

– spins align by M1 radiation? . . . too slow

Einstein & Ehrenfest [*Z Phys* 1922]

“Einstein, Ehrenfest, and the quantum measurement problem”,
Unna & Sauer [*Ann Phys (Berlin)* 2013]

Motivation – Quantum Histories

Historic Landmark Experiment

– spin splitting a beam of Ag atoms

Gerlach & Stern [Z Phys 1922]

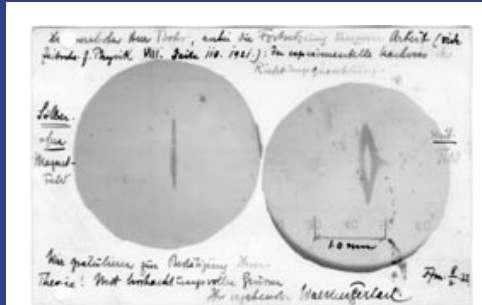
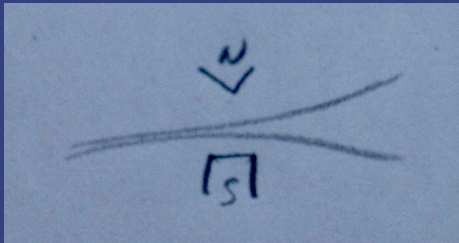


Figure 2 The result of the Stern-Gerlach experiment communicated in a postcard to Niels Bohr. (© Niels Bohr Archive, Copenhagen, DK)

– spins align by M1 radiation? ... too slow

Einstein & Ehrenfest [Z Phys 1922]

“Einstein, Ehrenfest, and the quantum measurement problem”,
Unna & Sauer [Ann Phys (Berlin) 2013]

... and the spinning electron?

- “no go”

Bohr & Mott (Como 1927) Pauli (Solvay 1930)

Brillouin (Acad Sci USA 1928)

Stern-Gerlach split vs. Lorentz blur $\delta x \frac{\partial B}{\partial x}$



Garraway & Stenholm [Phys Rev A 1999]

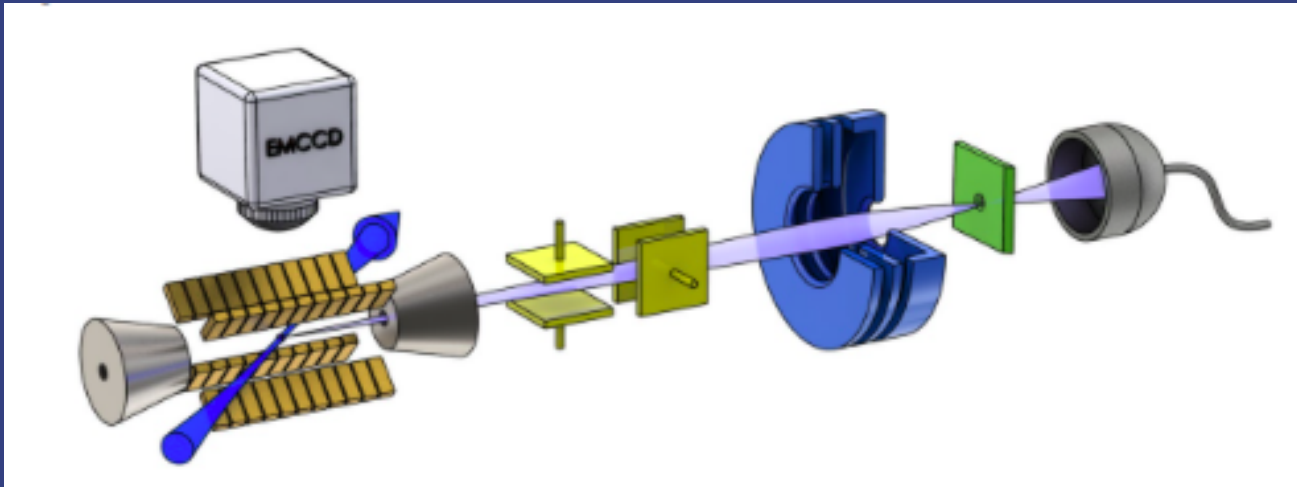
“Electrons, Stern–Gerlach magnets, and quantum mechanical propagation”,
Batelaan [Am J Phys 2002]

Our Proposal

Split an ion beam

mag. moment $\mu = -g_s \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e} \mathbf{S}$ vs. $\frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times$ Lorentz force

Single ion beam machine $^{40}\text{Ca}^+$ isotope
– segmented Paul trap – ion optics



Jacob & Schmidt-Kaler group [*Phys Rev Lett* 2016]

ion energy 10 keV ... 0.1 eV

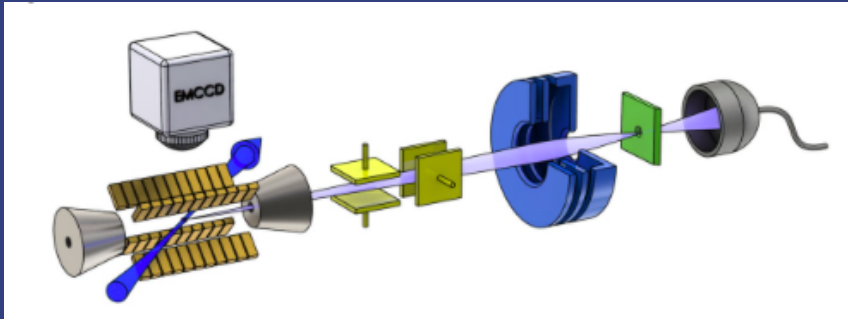
dispersions $v_z/\delta v_z \gtrsim 500$, $\delta\theta_{\perp} \sim 25 \mu\text{rad}$

- implant single ions with ~ 10 nm precision in surface

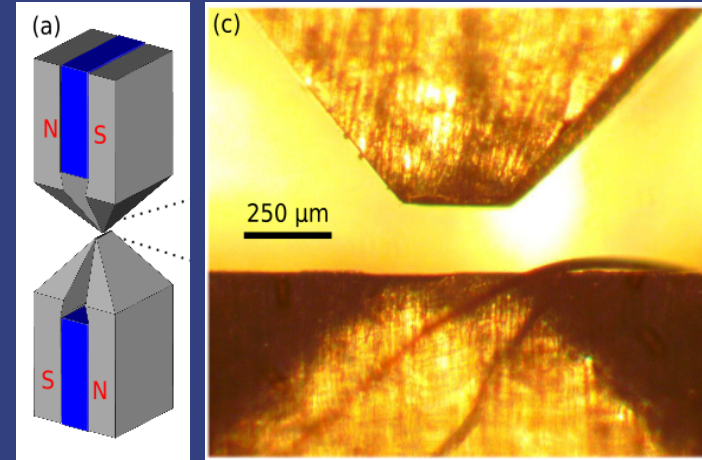
Our Proposal

Split an ion beam

$$\mu = -g_s \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e} \mathbf{S} \quad \text{vs.} \quad \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times$$

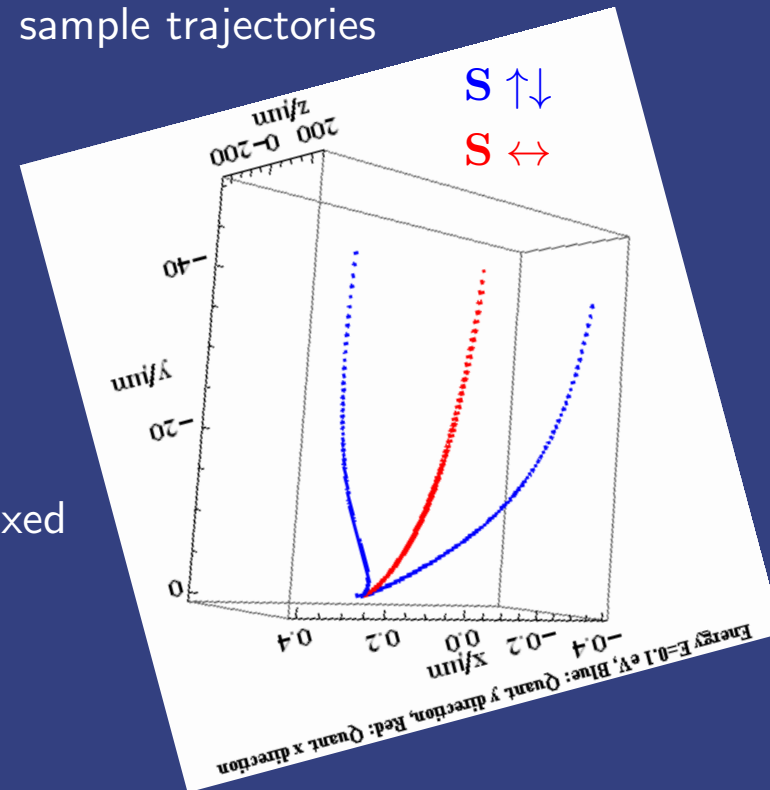


Tight magnetic quadrupole



Hsu & al [Sci Rep 2016]

sample trajectories

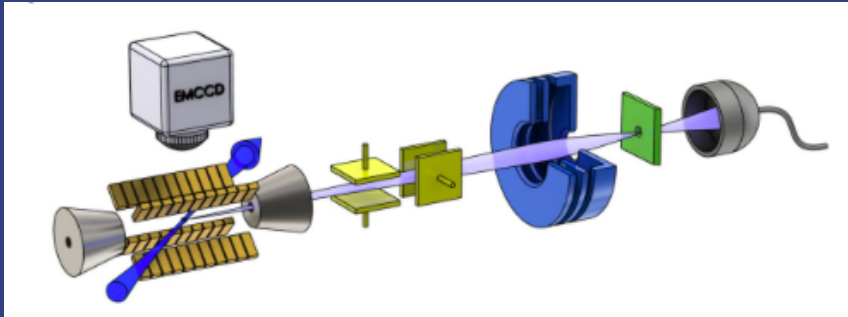


simulation with spin direction fixed
but . . . fast precession

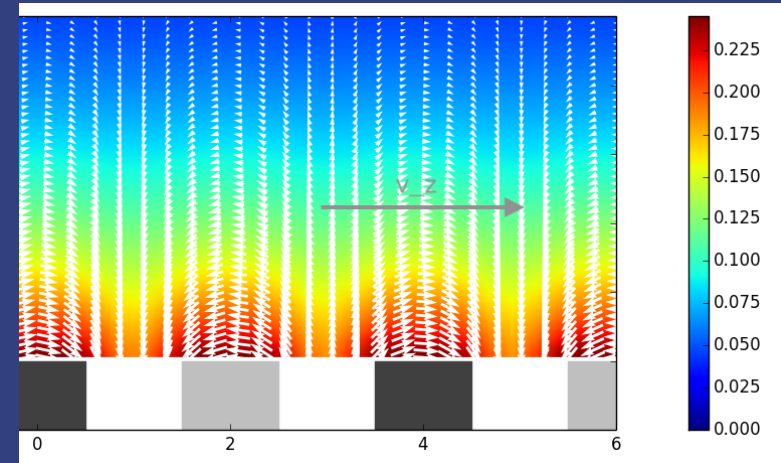
Our Proposal

Split an ion beam

$$\mu = -g_s \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e} \mathbf{S} \quad \text{vs.} \quad \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times$$

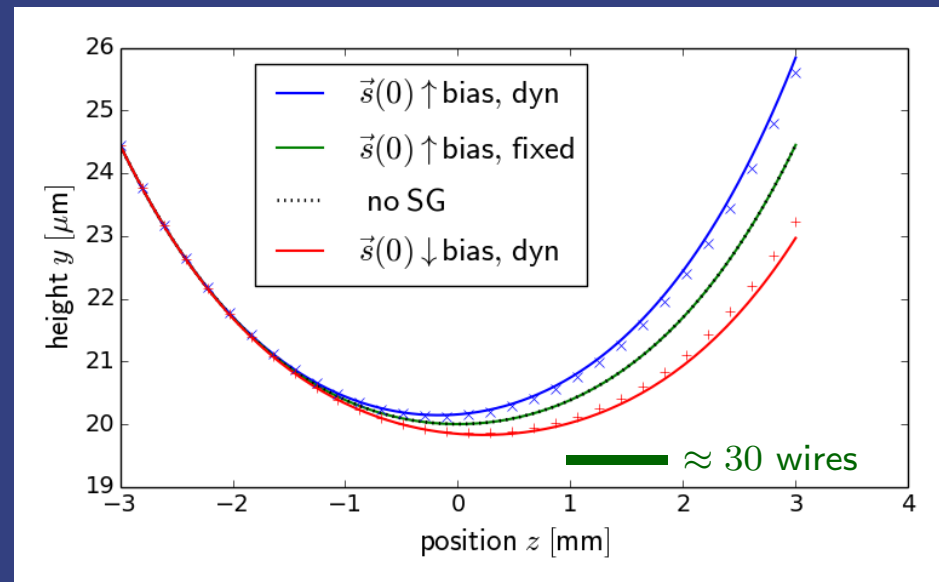


Array of wires on chip



CH & al [in prep 2018]

sample trajectories



simulation with dynamic spin
 \sim follows rotating field

Enga, Bloom, Lew (& Erdman):
 “transverse Stern–Gerlach” (≥ 1962)

Semiclassical trajectories

Spin & c.m. dynamics

$$\begin{aligned} \text{spin } \frac{d\mathbf{S}}{dt} &= \frac{g_s e}{2m_e} \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{S}, & \mathbf{S} &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \\ \frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} &= -\frac{g_s e}{2m_e} (\mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla V_{\text{im}} \\ & \quad \text{Stern-Gerlach} & \quad \text{Lorentz} & \quad \text{Coulomb} \\ & & & \quad \text{(image)} \end{aligned}$$

average spin, deterministic motion (no splitting)

→ debate “quantum vs classical”

[Ranada & Ranada 1979;
França 2009; Arantes Ribeiro 2010 ...]

→ spin-polarised proton beams?

relativistic dynamics

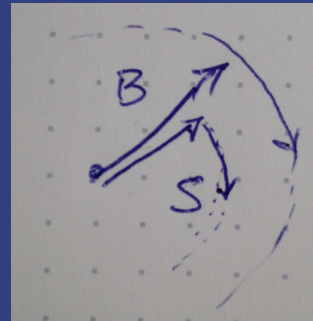
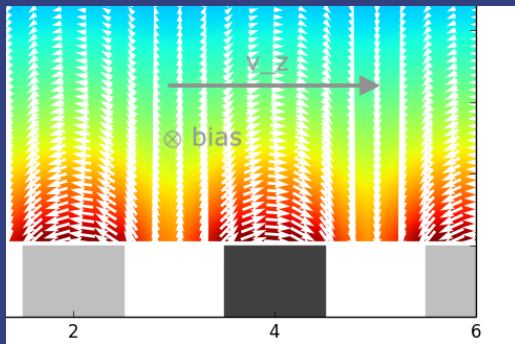
much weaker nuclear magneton

[Barber 2008]

Semiclassical trajectories

$$\text{spin } \frac{d\mathbf{S}}{dt} = \frac{g_s e}{2m_e} \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{S}, \quad \mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle$$
$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = -\frac{g_s e}{2m_e} (\mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla V_{\text{im}}$$

Spin precession



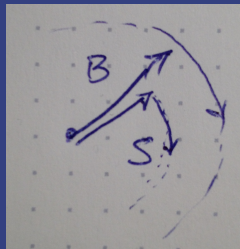
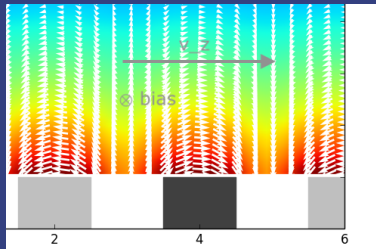
magnetic field rotates, spin rotates (in sync)

Semiclassical trajectories

$$\text{spin } \frac{d\mathbf{S}}{dt} = \frac{g_s e}{2m_e} \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{S}, \quad \mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = \boxed{-\frac{g_s e}{2m_e} (\mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{B}} - \nabla V_{\text{im}}$$

Spin precession



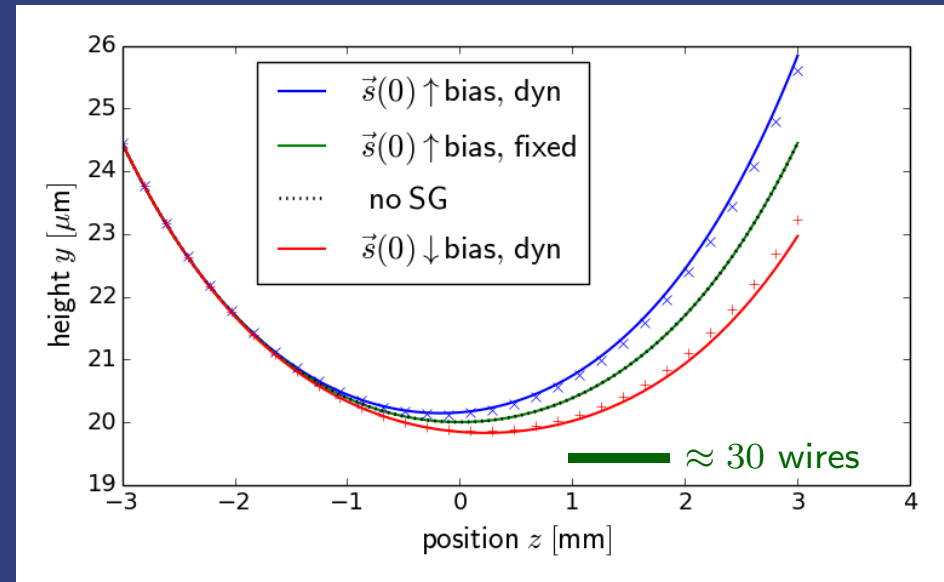
magnetic field rotates, spin rotates (in sync)

'Adiabatic' (precession-averaged) force

$$\overline{F}_y \approx M u \omega_1 e^{-2\kappa y} \frac{\Omega_1 (\Omega_0 - \kappa v_{z0})}{\tilde{\Omega}^2} S_{x0} + \frac{M \omega_1^2 e^{-2\kappa y}}{2\kappa} + e B_0 v_{z0} - \frac{e^2 R_{\text{im}}}{16\pi \epsilon_0 y^2}$$

symbols $\times\times$ $++$ in plot \uparrow

cyclotron $\omega = eB/M$, Larmor $\Omega = g_s eB/2m_e \gg \omega$, $u \sim \hbar \kappa / m_e \sim 100 \text{ m/s}$

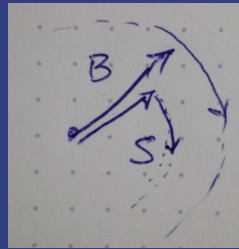
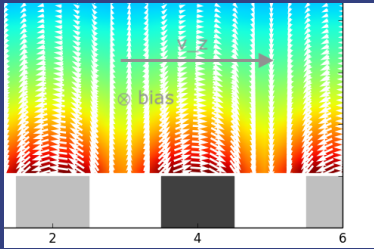


Semiclassical trajectories

$$\text{spin } \frac{d\mathbf{S}}{dt} = \frac{g_s e}{2m_e} \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{S}, \quad \mathbf{S} = \frac{1}{2} \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = -\frac{g_s e}{2m_e} (\mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \frac{e}{M} \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{B} \quad \boxed{-\nabla V_{\text{im}}}$$

Spin precession



magnetic field rotates, spin rotates (in sync)

'Adiabatic' (precession-averaged) force

Compensate image force

bias field $B_0 = 15$ G

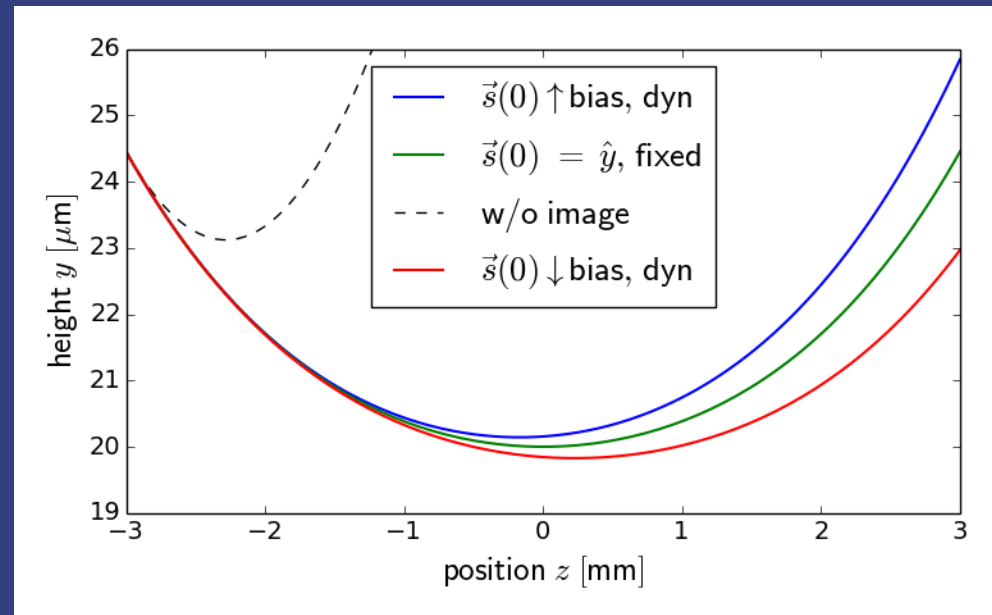
rotating field $B_1(20 \text{ } \mu\text{m}) = 19.92$ G

beam velocity $v = 700$ m/s

wire+ to wire- dist = 30 micron

splitting: 1.715 mrad

total time: 8.571 us



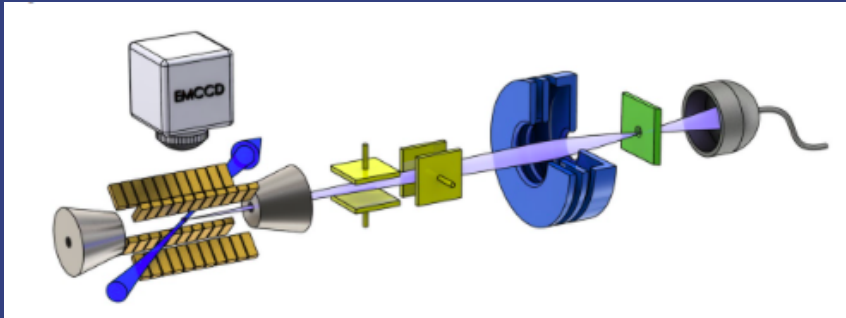
Conclusions

Spin splitting of an ion beam?

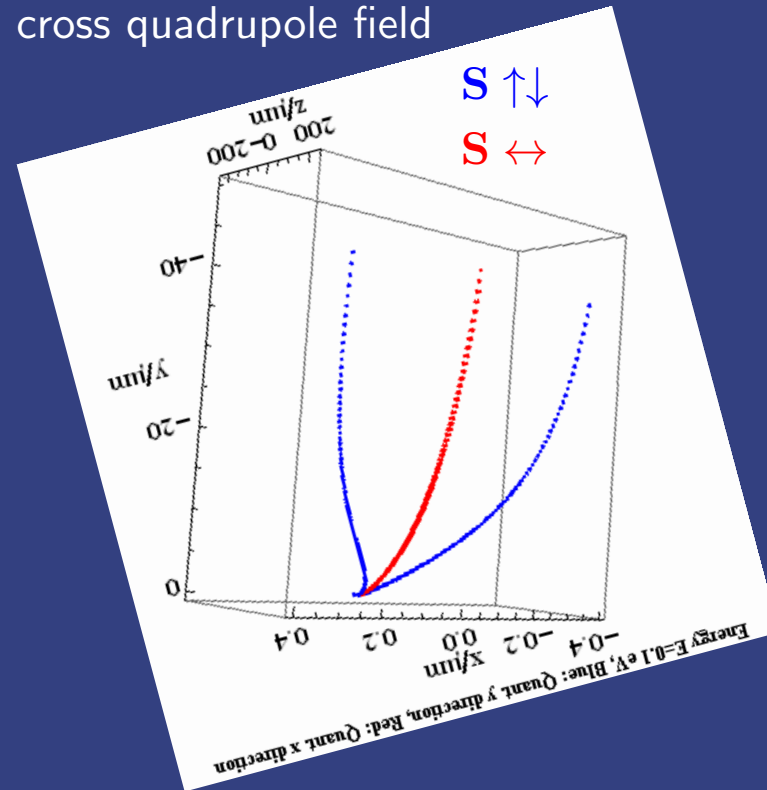
... yes.

widths $\delta x, \delta v_y \dots$ to estimate

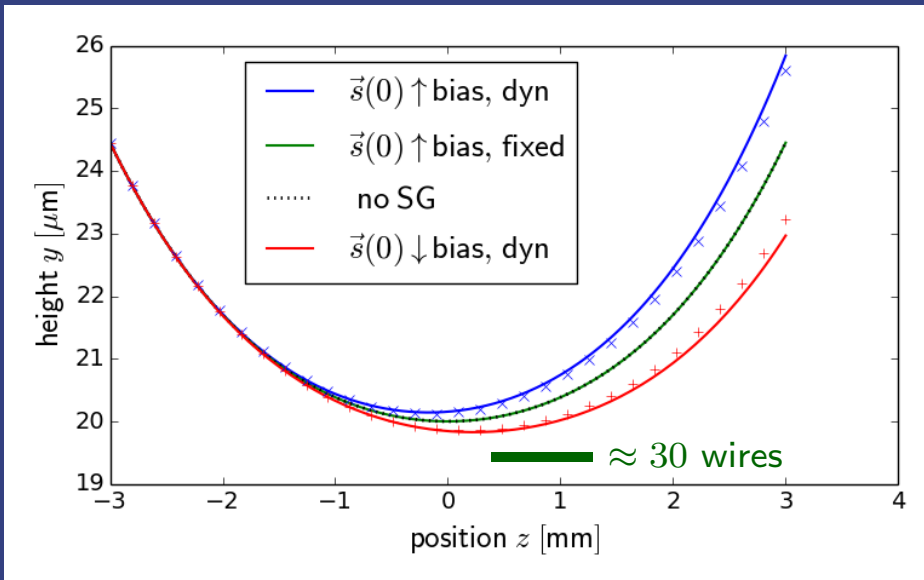
“quantum machine”



cross quadrupole field



“transverse Stern-Gerlach”



recombine atoms → Stern-Gerlach interferometer

Margalit & Folman group, arXiv:1801.02708