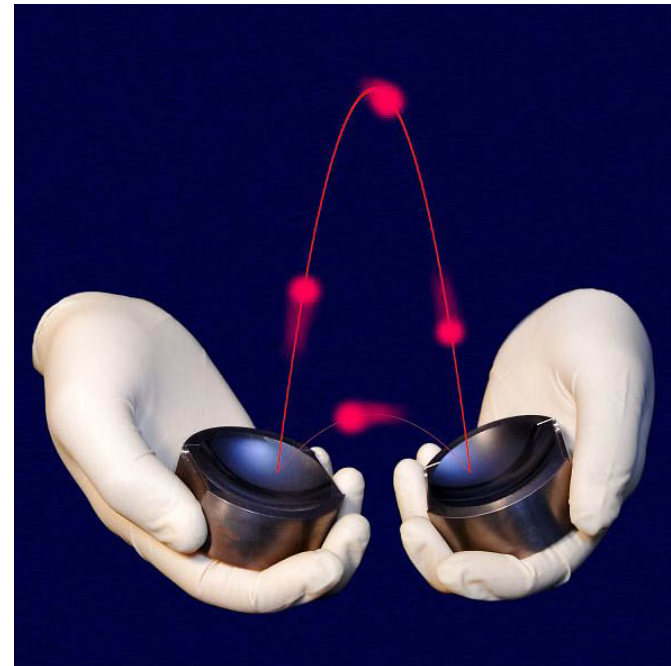


# A 30 years walk in the quantum with atoms and cavities

*J.M. Raimond*  
*Université Pierre et Marie Curie*

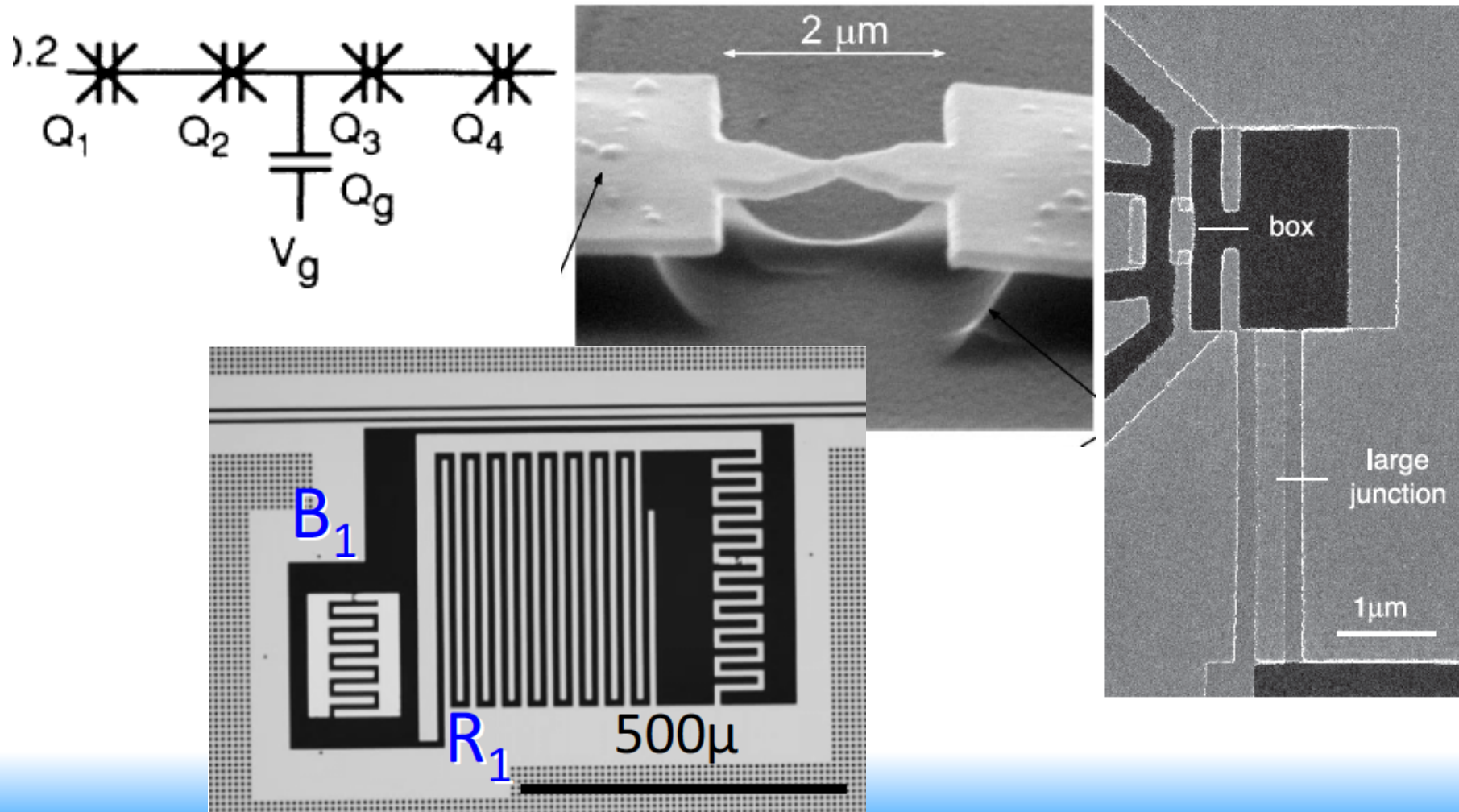


Laboratoire Kastler Brossel  
Physique quantique et applications



# Happy anniversary, Quantronics

- 30 years of (very successful) quantum world exploration
  - From tunnel effect in junctions to single electron control
  - From Quantronium to circuit QED

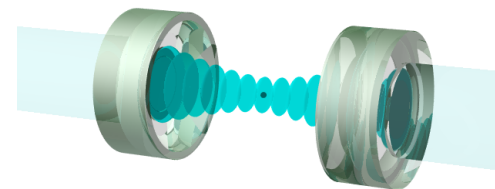
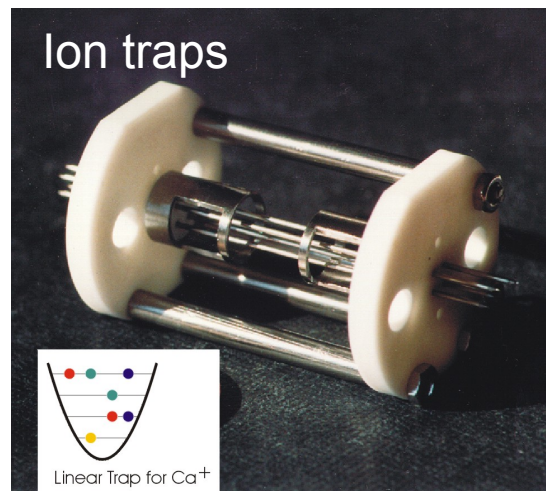
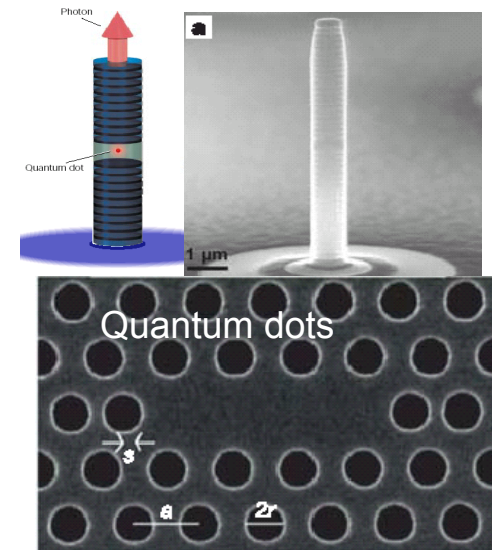
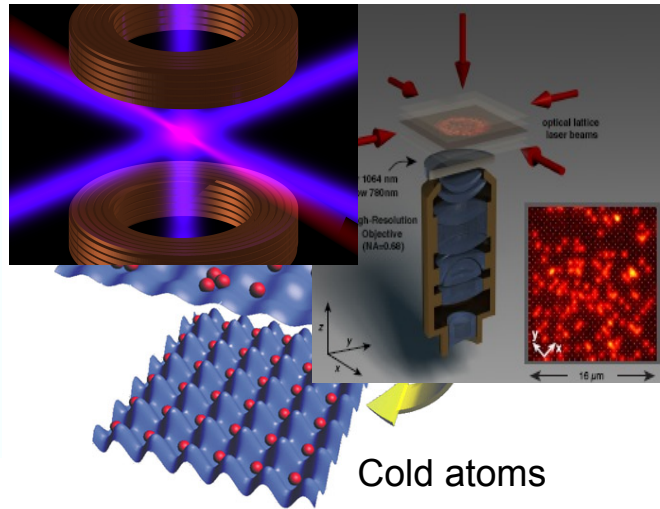
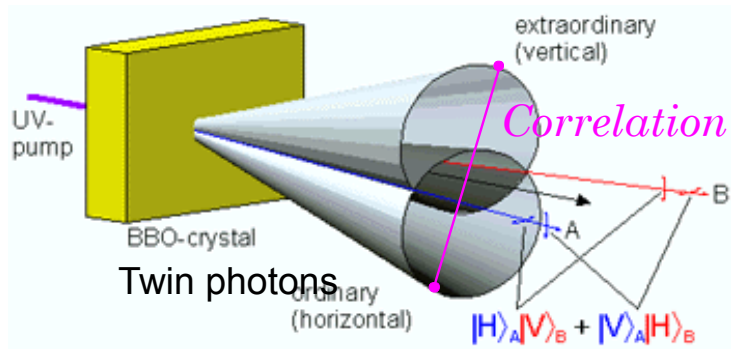


# Happy anniversary, quantronics

- Curiosity-driven research on basic quantum phenomena
  - Quantum coherence
  - Quantum measurement
  - Quantum entanglement
- Leading to a better understanding of the quantum
  - Quantum and information
  - Quantum postulates
  - Limits of the quantum world
    - Why is the classical world classical at all?
- And to possible applications
  - Quantum metrology
  - Quantum simulation
  - Quantum communication and computing

# A thriving field worldwide

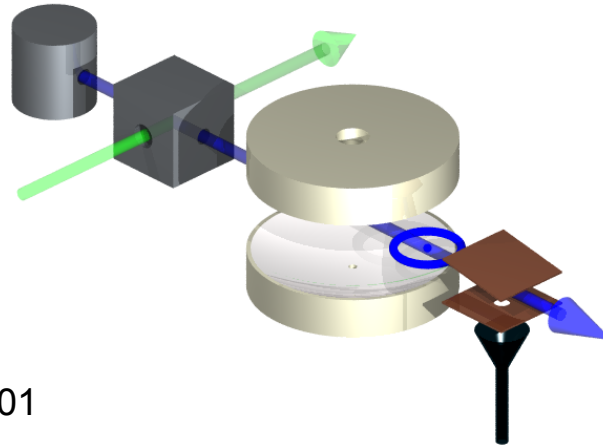
- Many other experiments explore fundamental quantum physics





# Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics

- A spin and a spring



J.M. Raimond and M. Brune, EPL **110**, 200001

- Realizes the simplest matter-field system: a single atom coherently coupled to a few photons in a single mode of the radiation field.
  - Direct illustrations of quantum postulates
- CQED group at ENS
  - 30 years + of CQED
    - In parallel with the Quantronics group, with similar aims
    - And with a similar group organization
      - Kernel of senior permanent people

# A history of QED: the origin

- Purcell 1946
  - spontaneous emission rate modification for a spin in a resonant circuit
  - Definition of the ‘Purcell factor’
  - Brief but seminal
- Kleppner 81
  - Inhibition of spontaneous emission

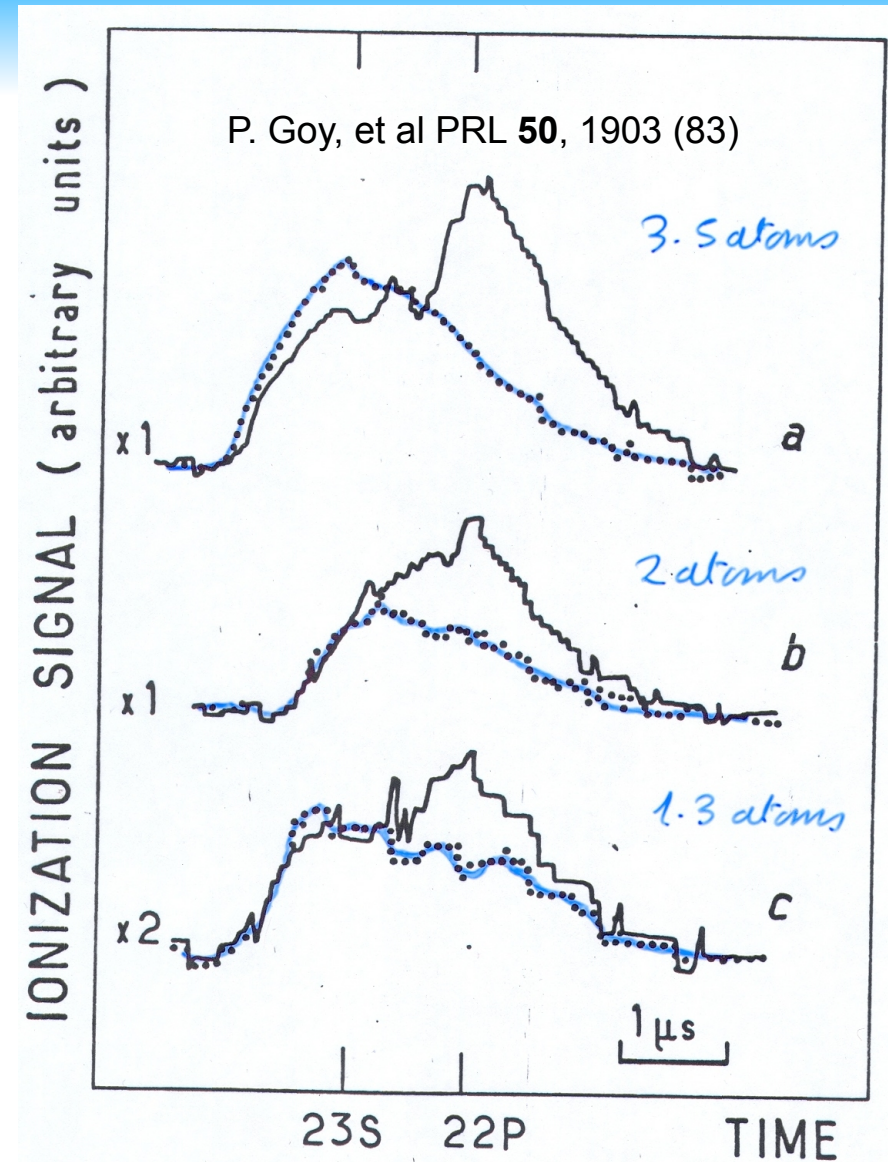
**B10. Spontaneous Emission Probabilities at Radio Frequencies.** E. M. PURCELL, *Harvard University*.—For nuclear magnetic moment transitions at radio frequencies the probability of spontaneous emission, computed from

$$A_{\nu} = (8\pi\nu^2/c^3)h\nu(8\pi^3\mu^2/3h^2) \text{ sec.}^{-1},$$

is so small that this process is not effective in bringing a spin system into thermal equilibrium with its surroundings. At 300°K, for  $\nu = 10^7 \text{ sec.}^{-1}$ ,  $\mu = 1$  nuclear magneton, the corresponding relaxation time would be  $5 \times 10^{21}$  seconds! However, for a system coupled to a resonant electrical circuit, the factor  $8\pi\nu^2/c^3$  no longer gives correctly the number of radiation oscillators per unit volume, in unit frequency range, there being now *one* oscillator in the frequency range  $\nu/Q$  associated with the circuit. The spontaneous emission probability is thereby increased, and the relaxation time reduced, by a factor  $f = 3Q\lambda^3/4\pi^2 V$ , where  $V$  is the volume of the resonator. If  $a$  is a dimension characteristic of the circuit so that  $V \sim a^3$ , and if  $\delta$  is the skin-depth at frequency  $\nu$ ,  $f \sim \lambda^3/a^2\delta$ . For a non-resonant circuit  $f \sim \lambda^3/a^3$ , and for  $a < \delta$  it can be shown that  $f \sim \lambda^3/a\delta^2$ . If small metallic particles, of diameter  $10^{-3}$  cm are mixed with a nuclear-magnetic medium at room temperature, spontaneous emission should establish thermal equilibrium in a time of the order of minutes, for  $\nu = 10^7 \text{ sec.}^{-1}$ .

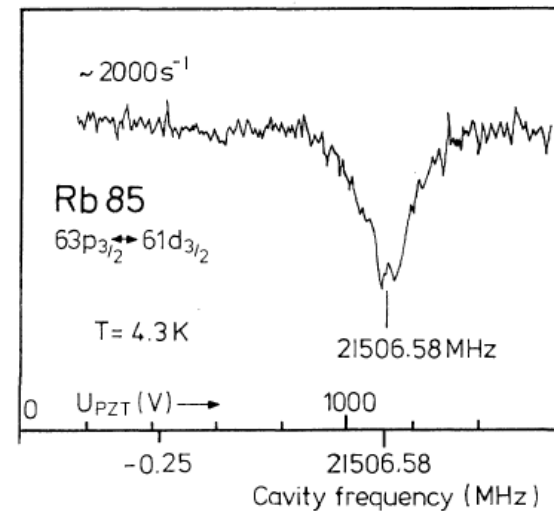
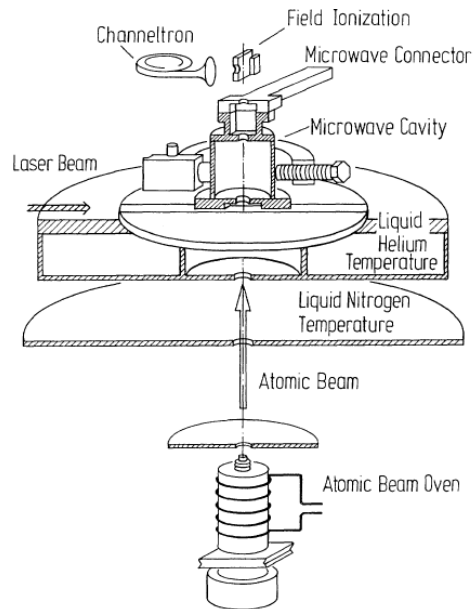
## First single-atom experiments

- Spontaneous emission enhancement
  - Superconducting FP cavity
    - $Q \propto 10^6$
    - 340 GHz transition
  - Acceleration x 530
  - First experimental evidence of Purcell effect
- Spontaneous emission inhibition
  - Gabrielse and Dehmelt (85)
  - Hulet, Hilfer and Kleppner (85)
- Spontaneous emission can be altered at will by imposing limiting conditions to the field



# The Micromaser

- H. Walther and D. Meschede, 85
  - Cumulative emissions in the cavity in the strong coupling regime



- A maser with less than one atom at a time in the cavity
- A new type of quantum oscillator. Role of quantum fluctuations
- Strong coupling regime
  - Single-Atom-cavity coupling overwhelms dissipation



# The four time scales of CQED

- Atomic levels lifetime

$$T_{at} = 1 / \Gamma$$

- Cavity lifetime

$$T_c = 1 / \kappa$$

- Atom-cavity coupling

$$\Omega_0 = 2g = 1 / T_{res}$$

- Atom-cavity interaction time

$$T_{int}$$

- Strong coupling conditions

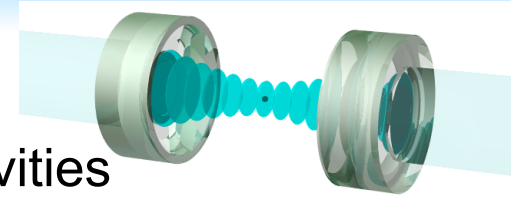
$$T_{int} \Omega_0 \approx 1; \quad T_{res}, T_{int} \ll T_{at}, T_c$$

# The four flavours of modern CQED

- Optical CQED

- Ordinary atomic transitions and high finesse FP cavities

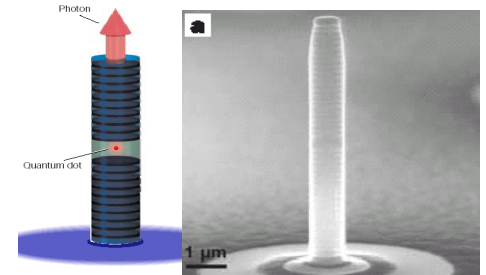
$$g \approx 50 \text{ MHz}; \kappa \approx 100 \text{ kHz}; \Gamma \approx 10 \text{ MHz}; T_{\text{int}} \approx 1 \text{ s}$$



- Solid-state CQED

- Quantum dots coupled to bragg mirrors/PBG

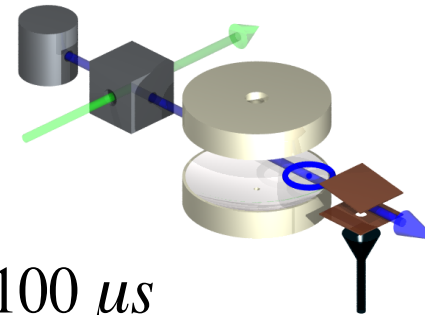
$$g \approx 10 \text{ GHz}; \kappa \approx 1 \text{ GHz}; \Gamma \approx 1 \text{ GHz}; T_{\text{int}} = \infty$$



- Microwave CQED

- (Circular) Rydberg atoms and superconducting cavities

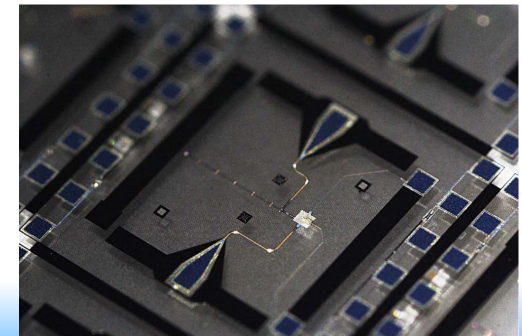
$$g \approx 10 \text{ kHz}; \kappa \approx 1 \text{ Hz}; \Gamma \approx 30 \text{ Hz}; T_{\text{int}} \approx 100 \mu\text{s}$$



- Circuit QED

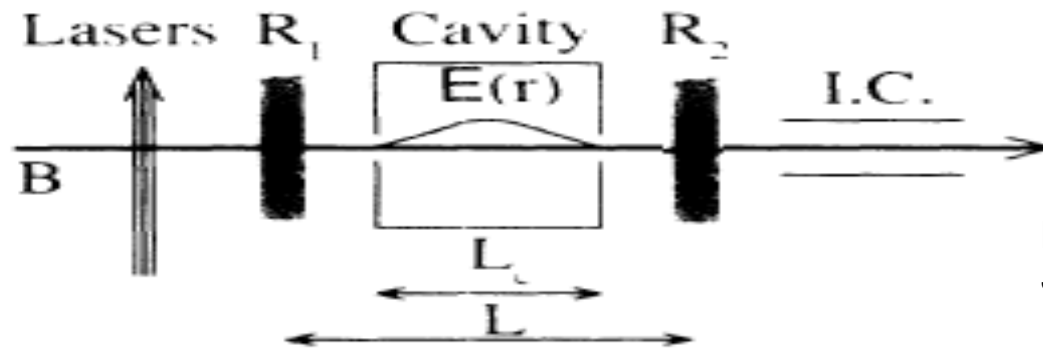
- Solid-state qubits and microwave cavities

$$g \simeq 100 \text{ MHz}; \Gamma \ll \kappa \simeq 1 \text{ MHz}; T_{\text{int}} = \infty$$



## The 'modern age' of microwave QED

- 25 years ago: a proposal
  - Use dispersive atom-field interaction to perform a QND photon counting
    - Measurement of quantized light shifts with a Ramsey set-up

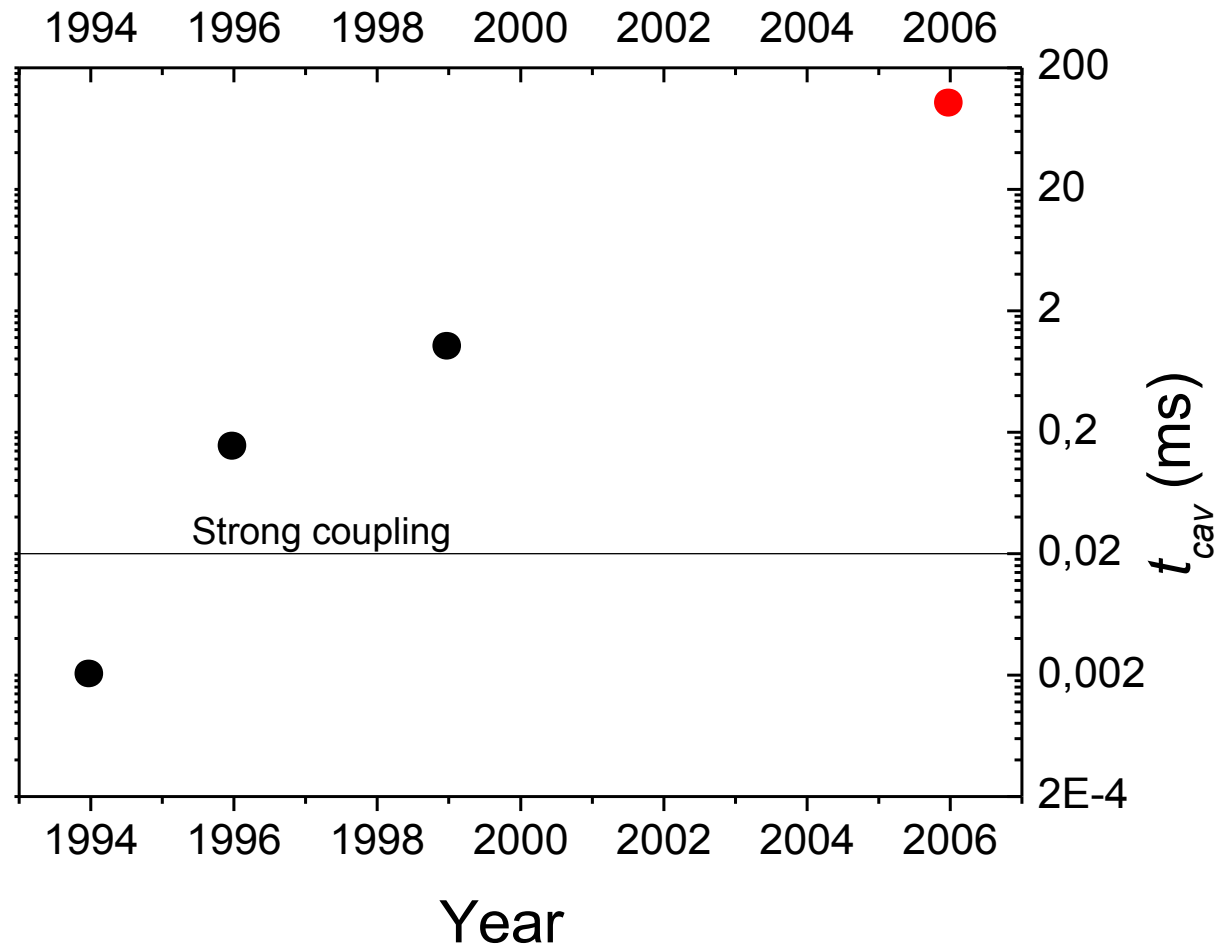


M. Brune, S. Haroche, V. Lefèvre,  
J.M. Raimond, N. Zagury, PRL **65**, 976 (1990)

- The beginning of a long quest
  - Severe experimental requirements
    - Long atomic lifetimes
      - Circular Rydberg atoms
    - Even longer cavity storage times
      - Superconducting Fabry Perot cavities
    - Extreme shielding from outer perturbations
      - Many technical developments

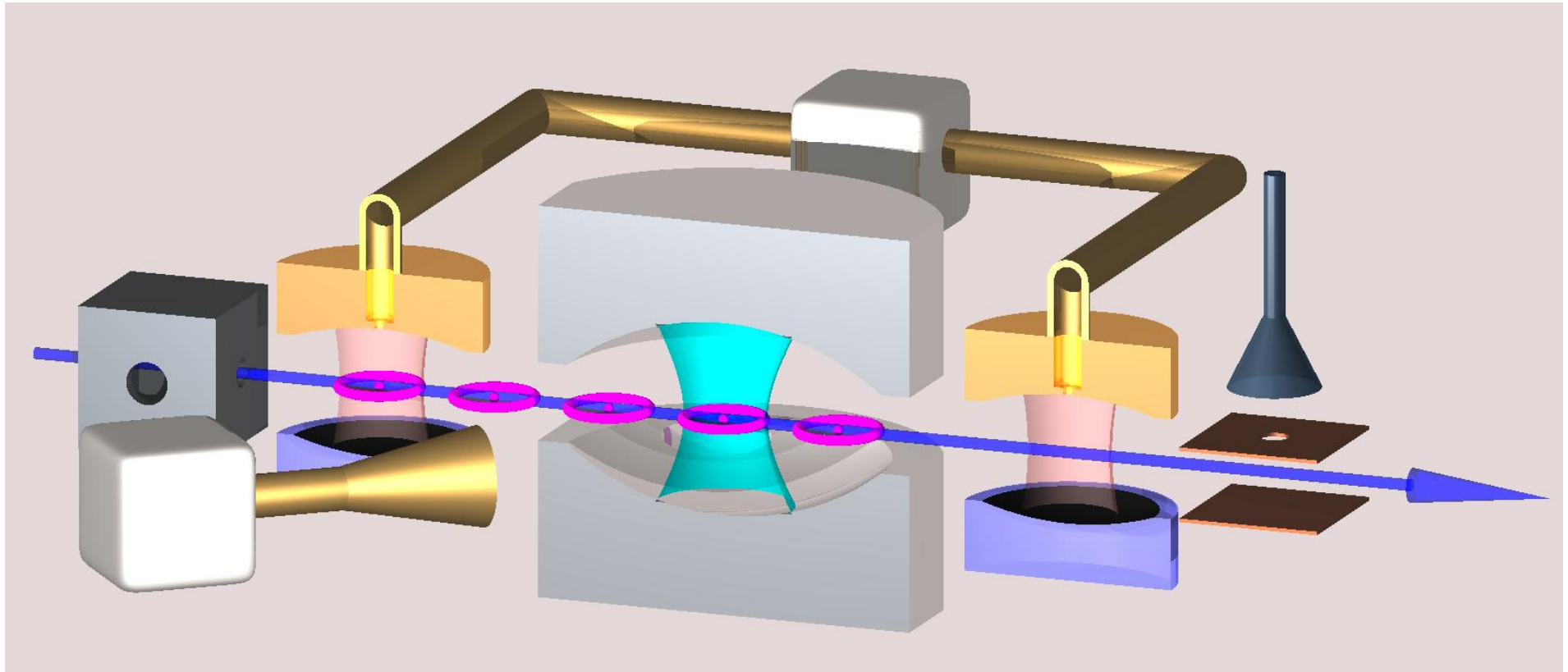
## Progress at the (slow) pace of cavity technology...

- Time evolution of photon life expectancy...



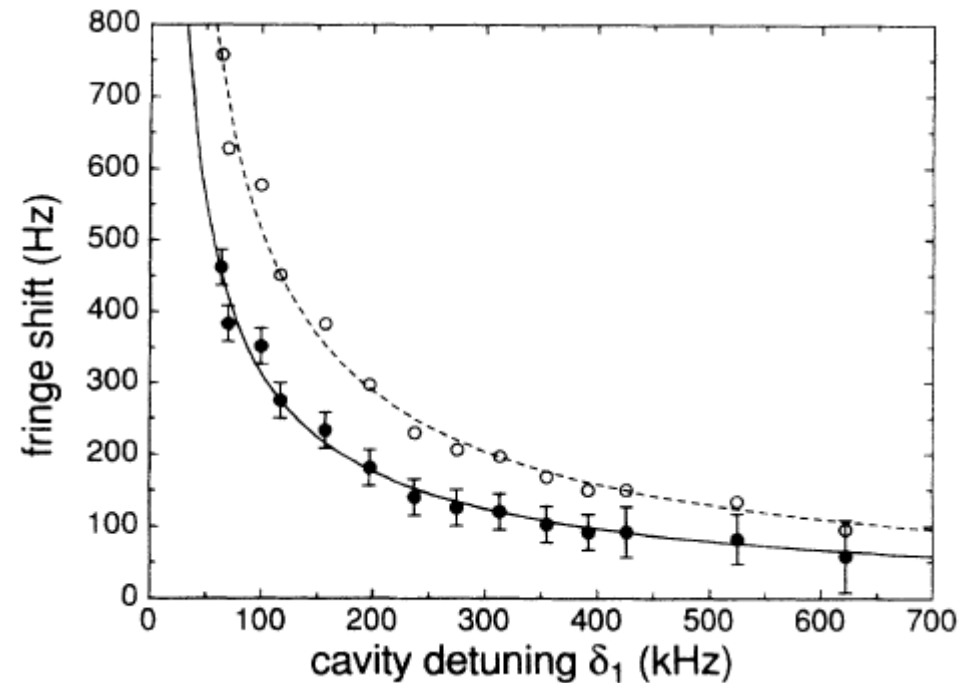
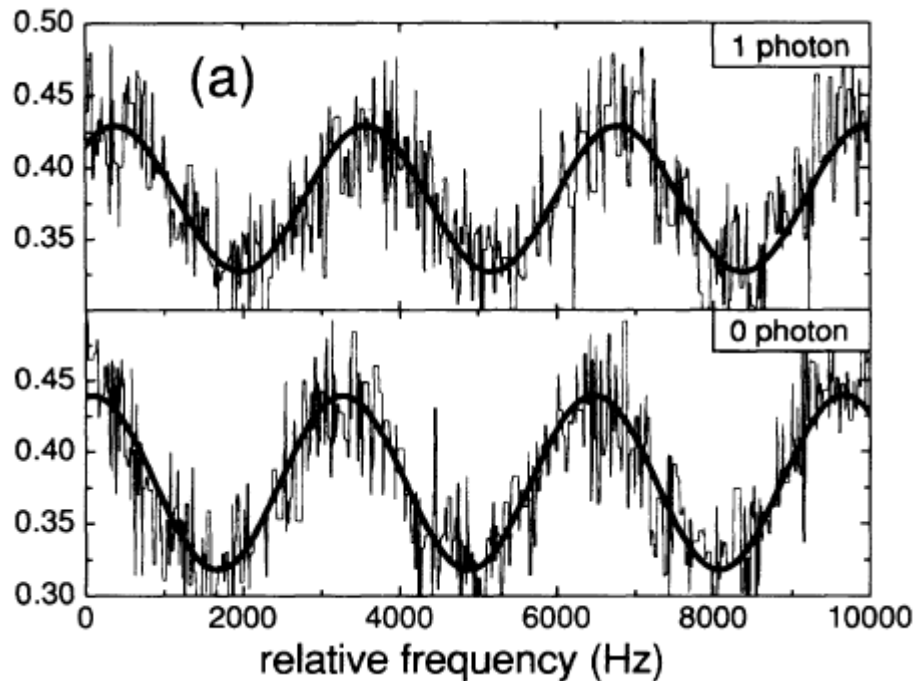
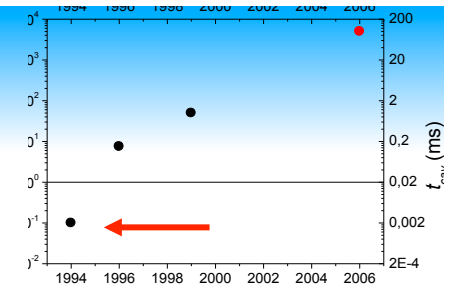


... with a simple experimental scheme



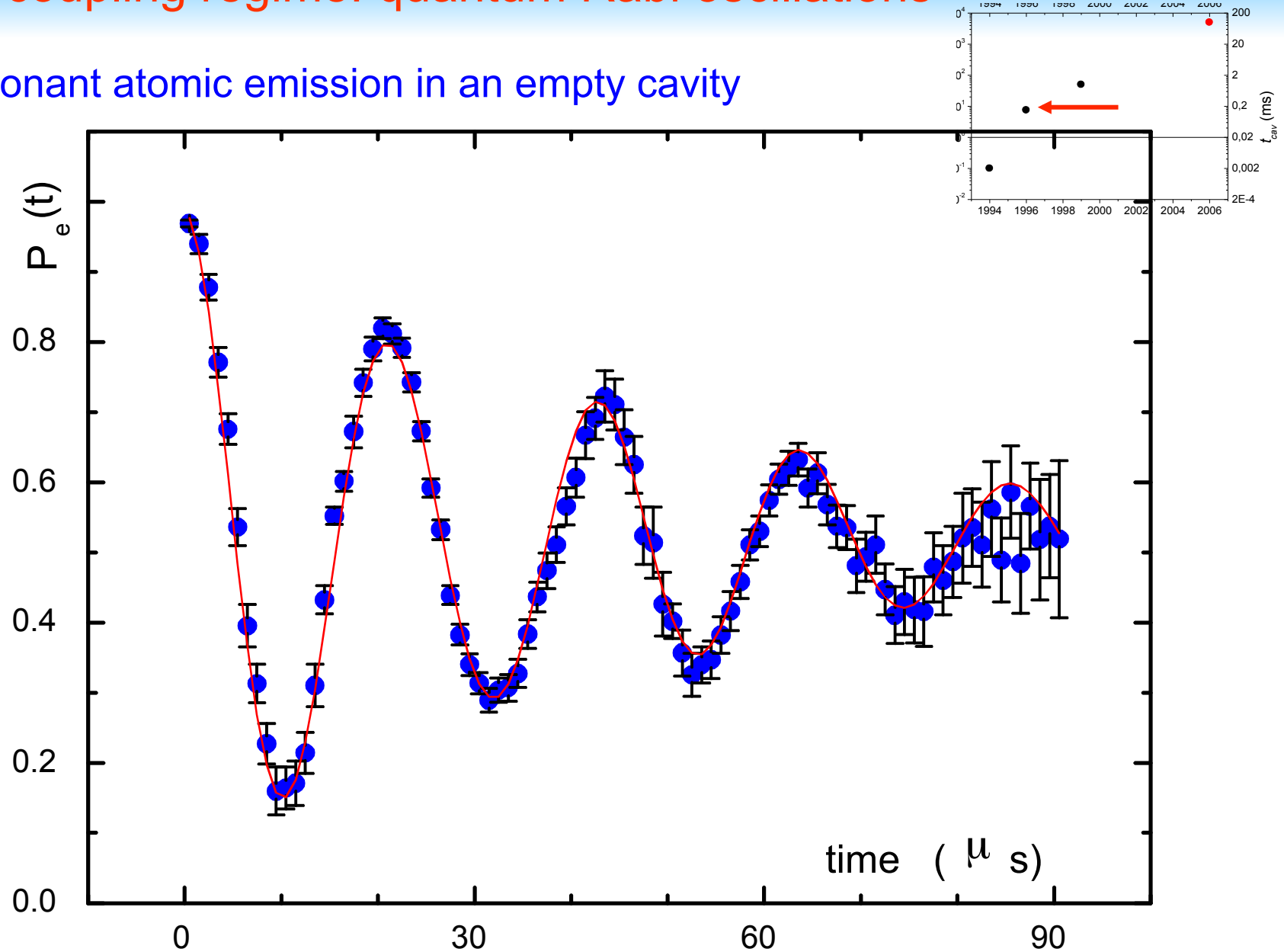
# Early days: Lamb shifts and Light shifts

- Weak coupling regime
  - Cavity damping time = 1/10 atomic transit time !
    - Observation of Light shifts (no field quantization effect yet) and cavity-vacuum induced Lamb shift



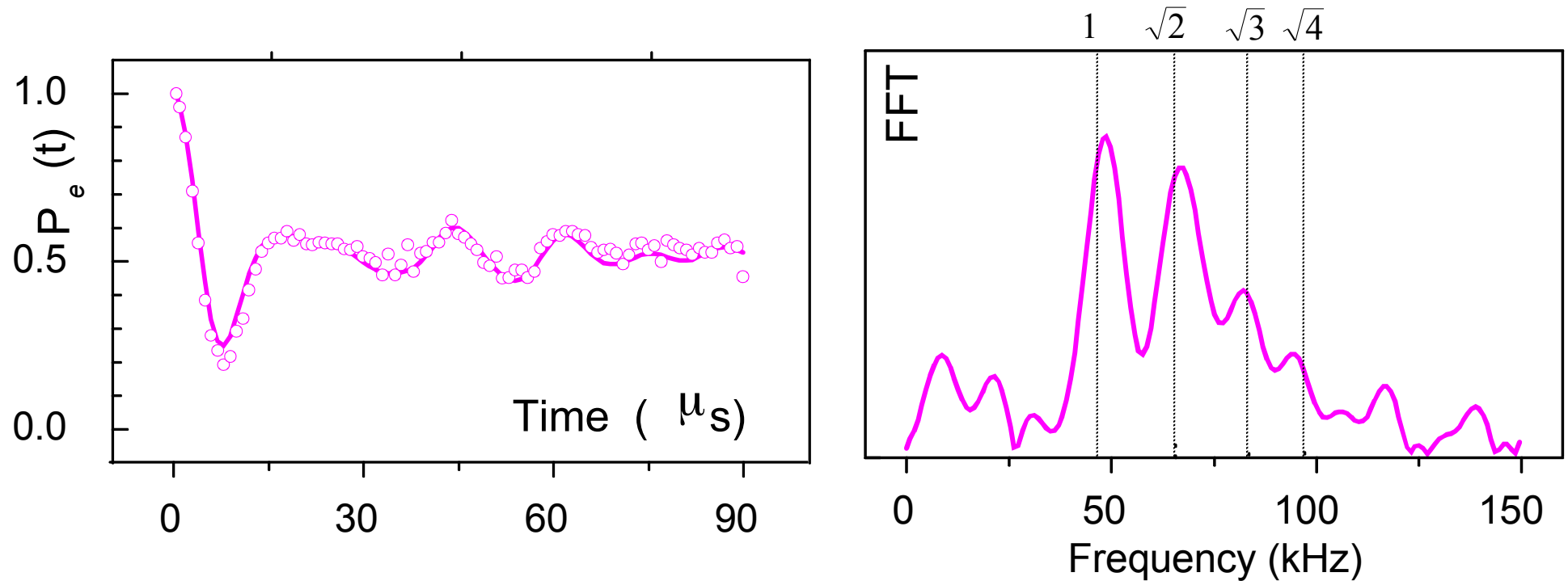
# Strong coupling regime: quantum Rabi oscillations

- Resonant atomic emission in an empty cavity



## Strong coupling regime: quantum Rabi oscillations

- Rabi oscillation in a small (0.85 photon) coherent field

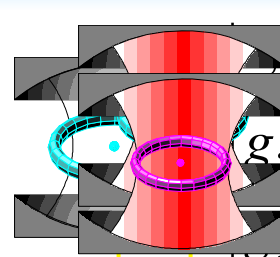
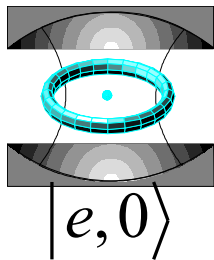


– A visceral evidence of field quantization



# Quantum Rabi oscillations: state transformations

Initial state

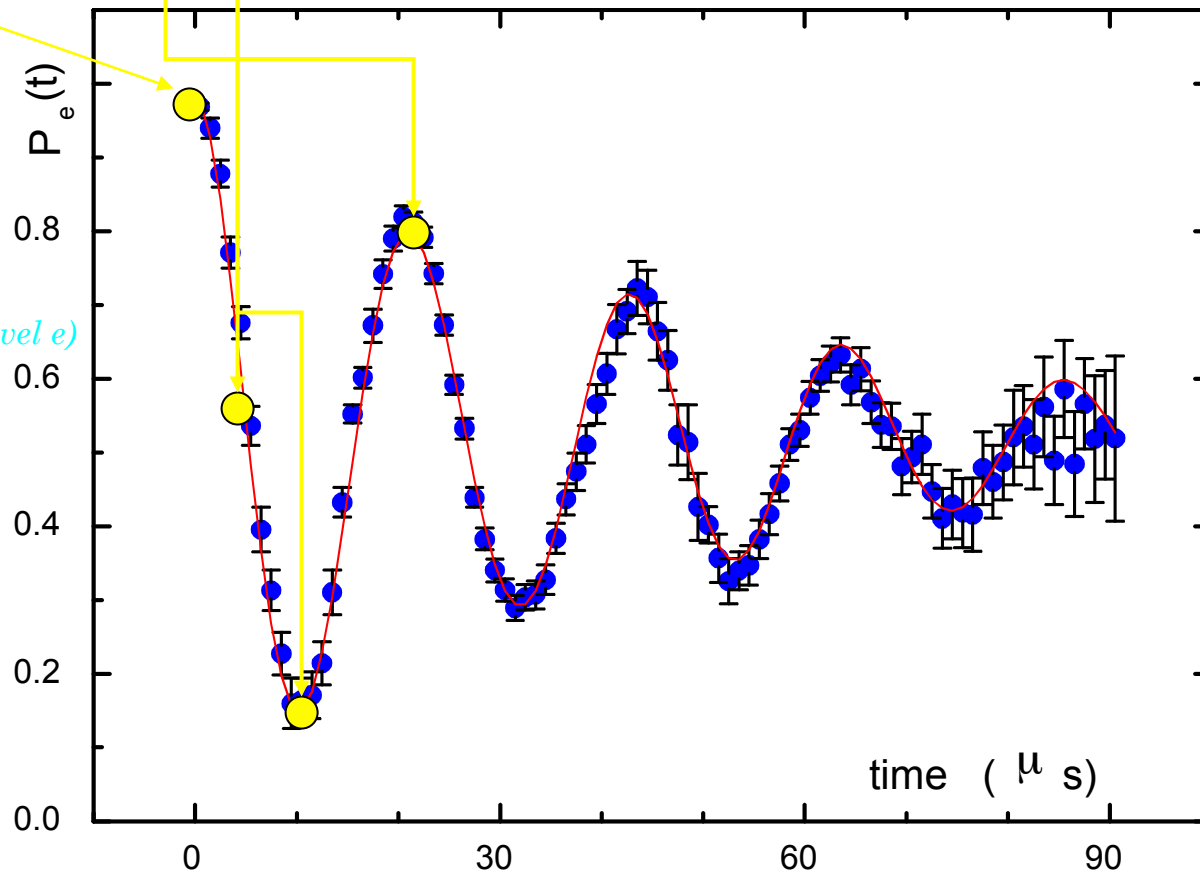
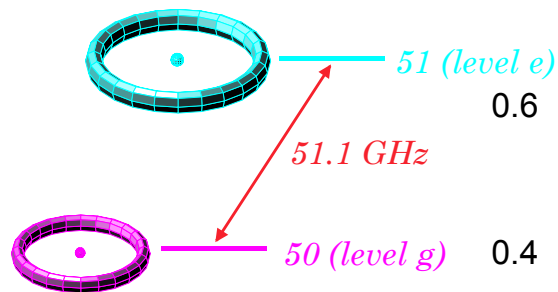


$$|0\rangle|e, 0\rangle \rightarrow |g, 0\rangle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|e, 0\rangle + |g, 1\rangle)$$

$$|g, 1\rangle (c_e |e\rangle + c_g |g\rangle) |0\rangle \rightarrow |g\rangle (c_e |1\rangle + c_g |0\rangle)$$

Atom/cavity state copy phase gate  
Atom-cavity EPR pair

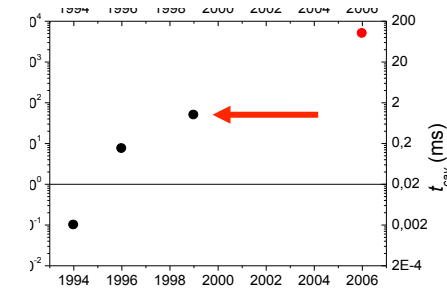
Conditional dynamics  
p-spontaneous emission pulse  
Entanglement creation  
p/2 spontaneous emission pulse



# Three "stitches" to "knit" quantum entanglement

Combine elementary transformations to create complex entangled states

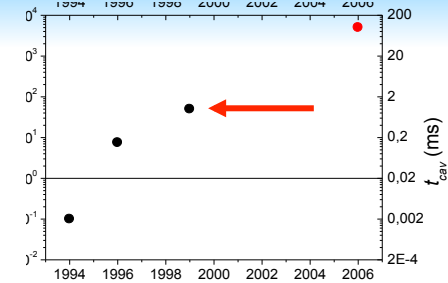
- State copy with a  $\pi$  pulse
  - Quantum memory : PRL **79**, 769 (97)
- Creation of entanglement with a  $\pi/2$  pulse
  - EPR atomic pairs : PRL **79**, 1 (97)
- Quantum phase gate based on a  $2\pi$  pulse
  - Quantum gate : PRL **83**, 5166 (99)
  - Absorption-free detection of a single photon: Nature **400**, 239 (99)
- Entanglement of three systems (six operations on four qubits)
  - GHZ Triplets : Science **288**, 2024 (00)
- Entanglement of two radiation field modes
  - Phys. Rev. A **64**, 050301 (2001)
- Direct entanglement of two atoms in a cavity-assisted collision
  - Phys. Rev. Lett. **87**, 037902 (2001)



# The cavity field as a mesoscopic quantum object

## Coherent state in the cavity field : a mesoscopic object.

- Low photon number: large quantum fluctuations
- High photon number : essentially a classical field



Very well isolated from the environment (long cavity damping time)

An excellent tool to study the quantum/classical limit

A few problems addressed in 1996-2005

- **Complementarity**

- P. Bertet, S. Osnaghi, A. Rauschenbeutel, G. Nogues, A. Auffèves, M. Brune, J.M. R., S. Haroche, Nature, **411**, 166 (2001)

- **Decoherence of a mesoscopic state quantum superposition:**

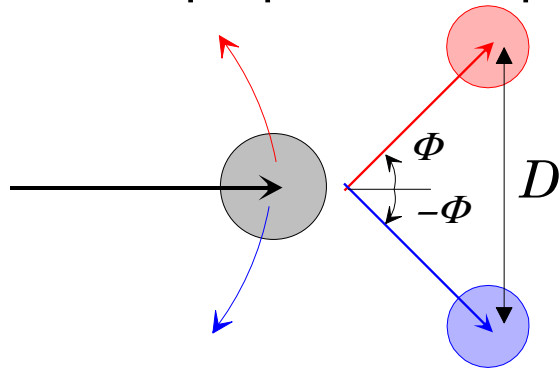
- a **Schrödinger cat experiment**

- **Creation of large cats by resonant atom-field interaction**

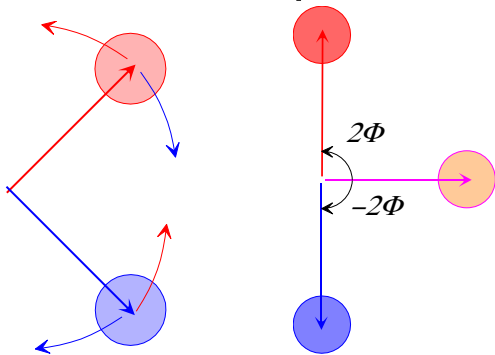
- A. Auffèves, P. Maioli, T. Meunier, S. Gleyzes, G. Nogues, M. Brune, J.M. R., S. Haroche, PRL **91**, 230405 (2003); T. Meunier, S. Gleyzes, P. Maioli, A. Auffèves, G. Nogues, M. Brune, J.M. R., S. Haroche, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 010401 (2005)

# A laboratory version of Schrödinger's cat

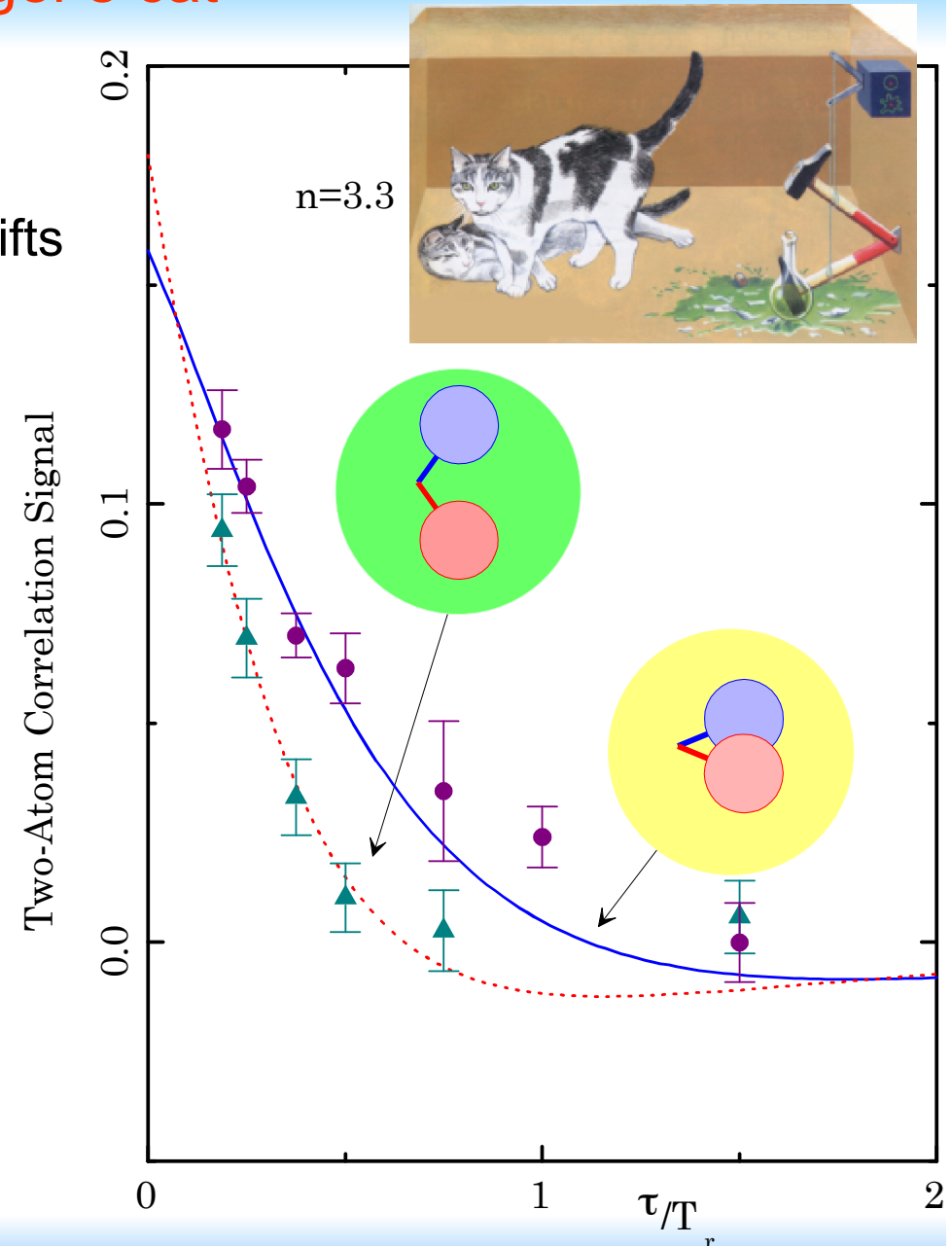
- Dispersive atom-field interaction
  - Atom in level superposition creates superposition of phase shifts



- Second atom probes it

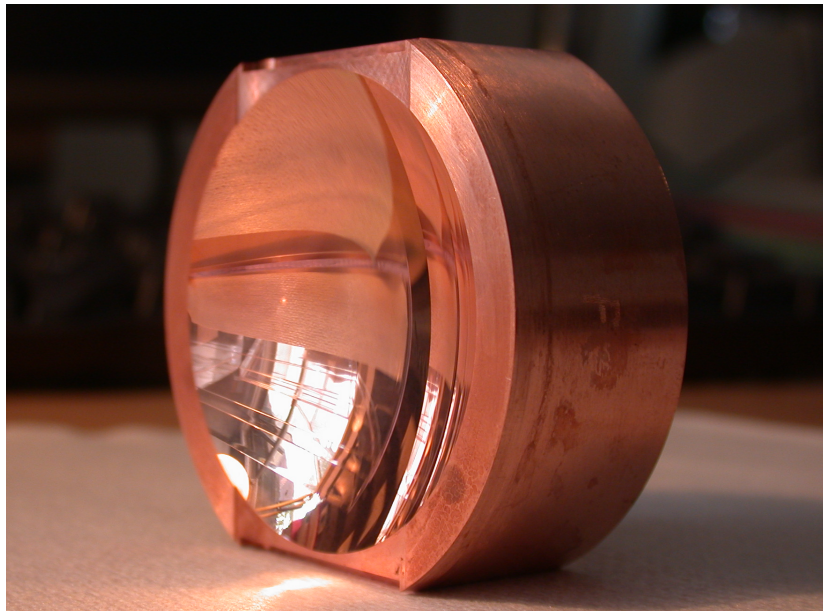
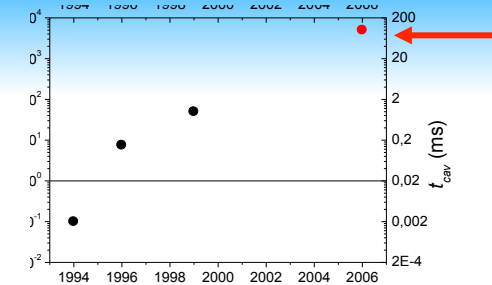


- Correlation signal measures quantumness

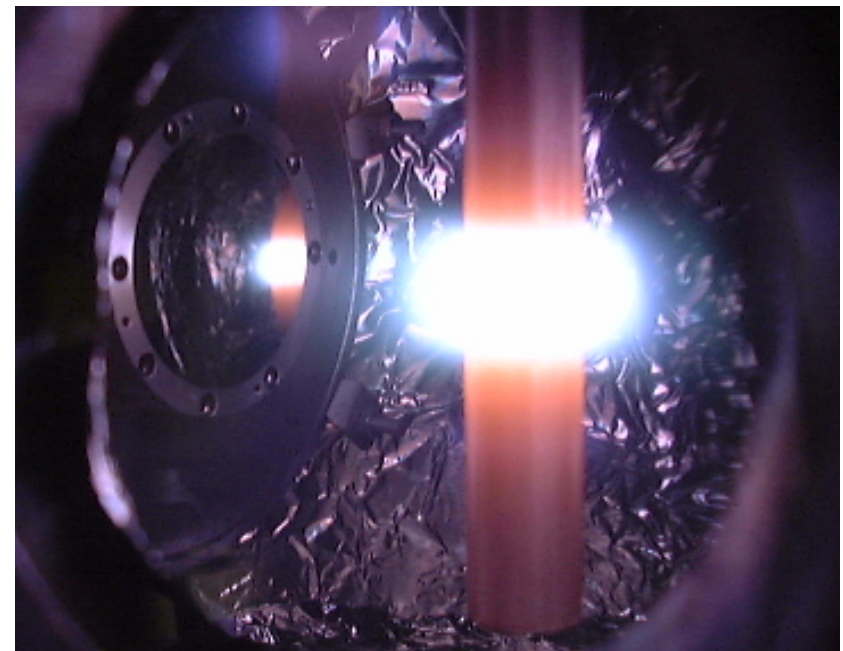


# A quantum jump in cavity quality

- The key bottleneck
  - Cavity lifetime:
    - A new technology
      - Niobium on diamond machined copper



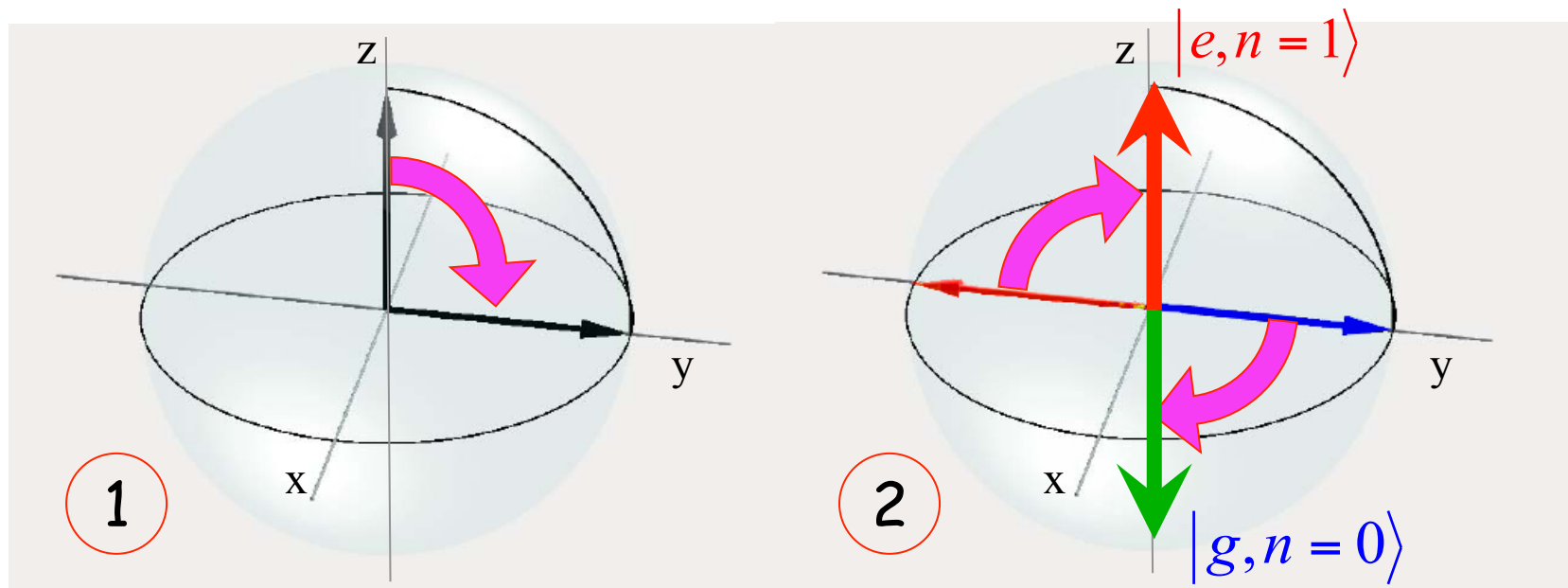
- Unprecedented lifetime
  - $T_c = 0.13$  s
  - $Q = 4.2 \cdot 10^{10}$ ,  $F = 4.6 \cdot 10^9$



CEA, Saclay  
[E. Jacques, B. Visentin, P. Bosland]

## Realization of the 1990 proposal in a simple case

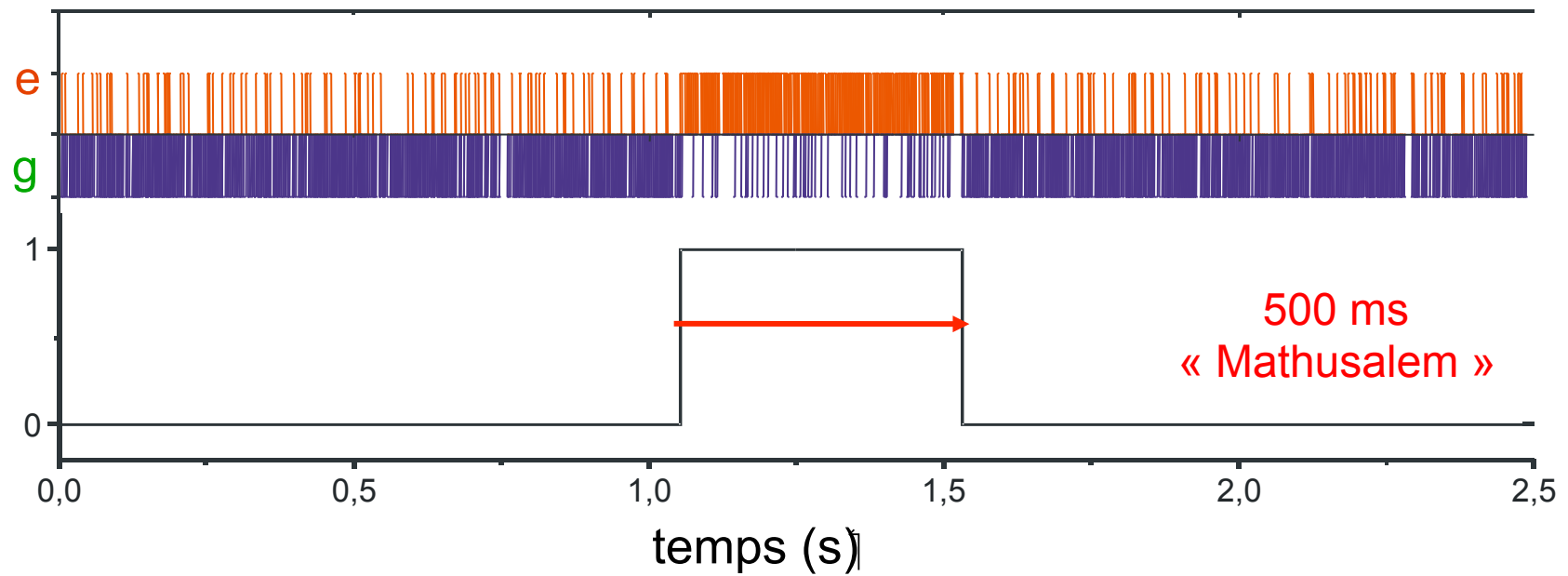
- A zero/one photon measurement
  - $\pi$  phase shift per photon



- in an ideal experiment, the final atomic state directly reveals the photon number
  - $g$  for zero photon
  - $e$  for one photon

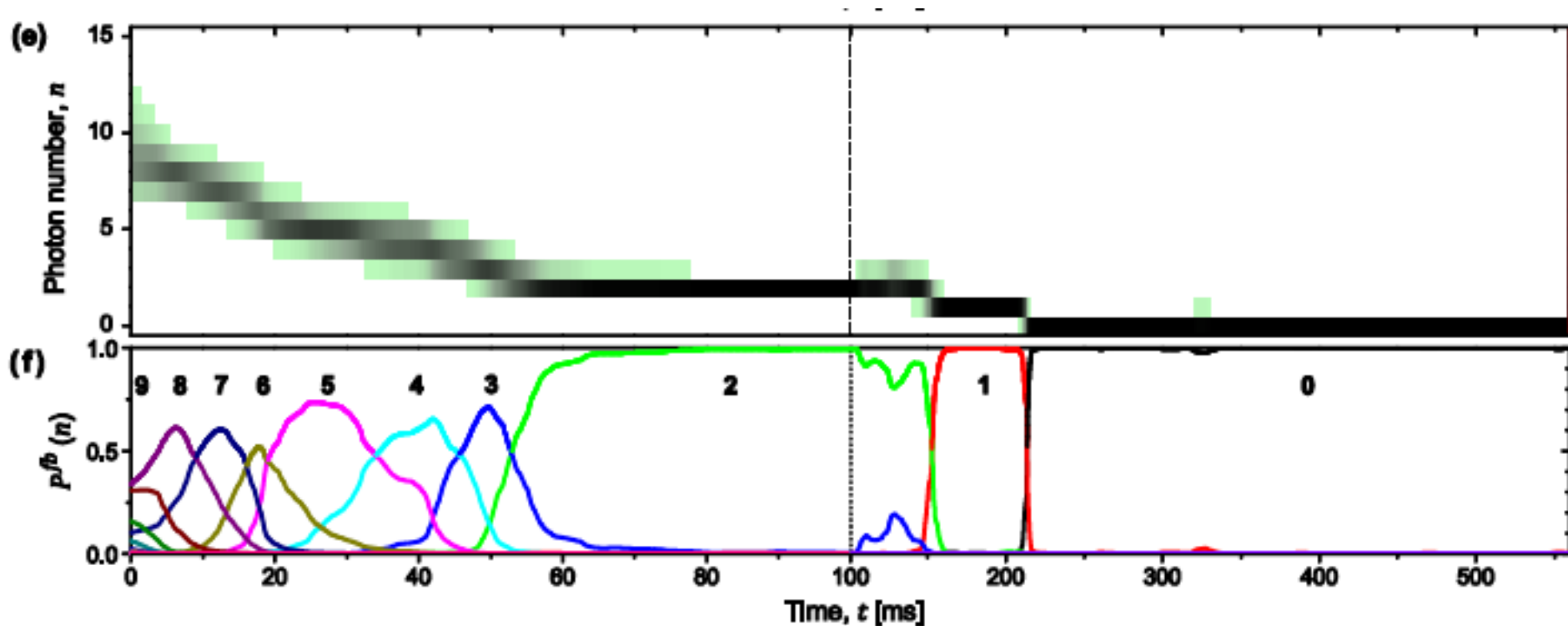


# Birth, life and death of a single photon



# Photon number quantum jumps

- A single quantum trajectory



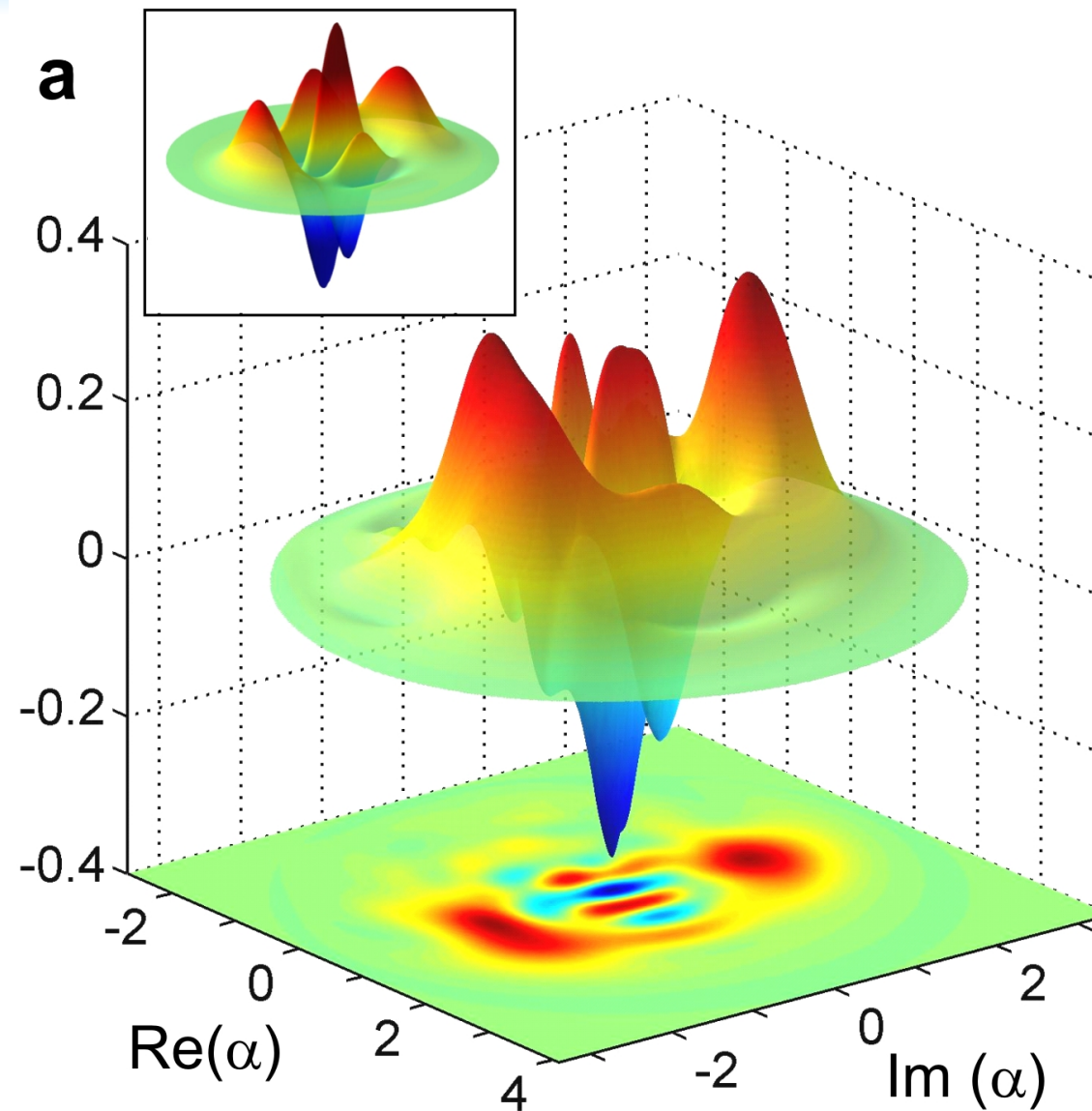
- Optimized reconstruction of the photon number evolution based on the Past Quantum State formalism  
(S. Gammelmaek et al. PRL 111, 160401)

T. Rybarczyk et al., PRA **91** 062116

C. Guerlin, J. Bernu, S. Deléglise, C. Sayrin, S. Gleyzes, S. Kuhr, M. Brune, J.M. R., S. H. Nature **448**, 889 (07)24

# Schrödinger cat states

- Even cat
- 3.5 photons
- $\zeta=0.37\pi$
- $D^2=11.8$  photons

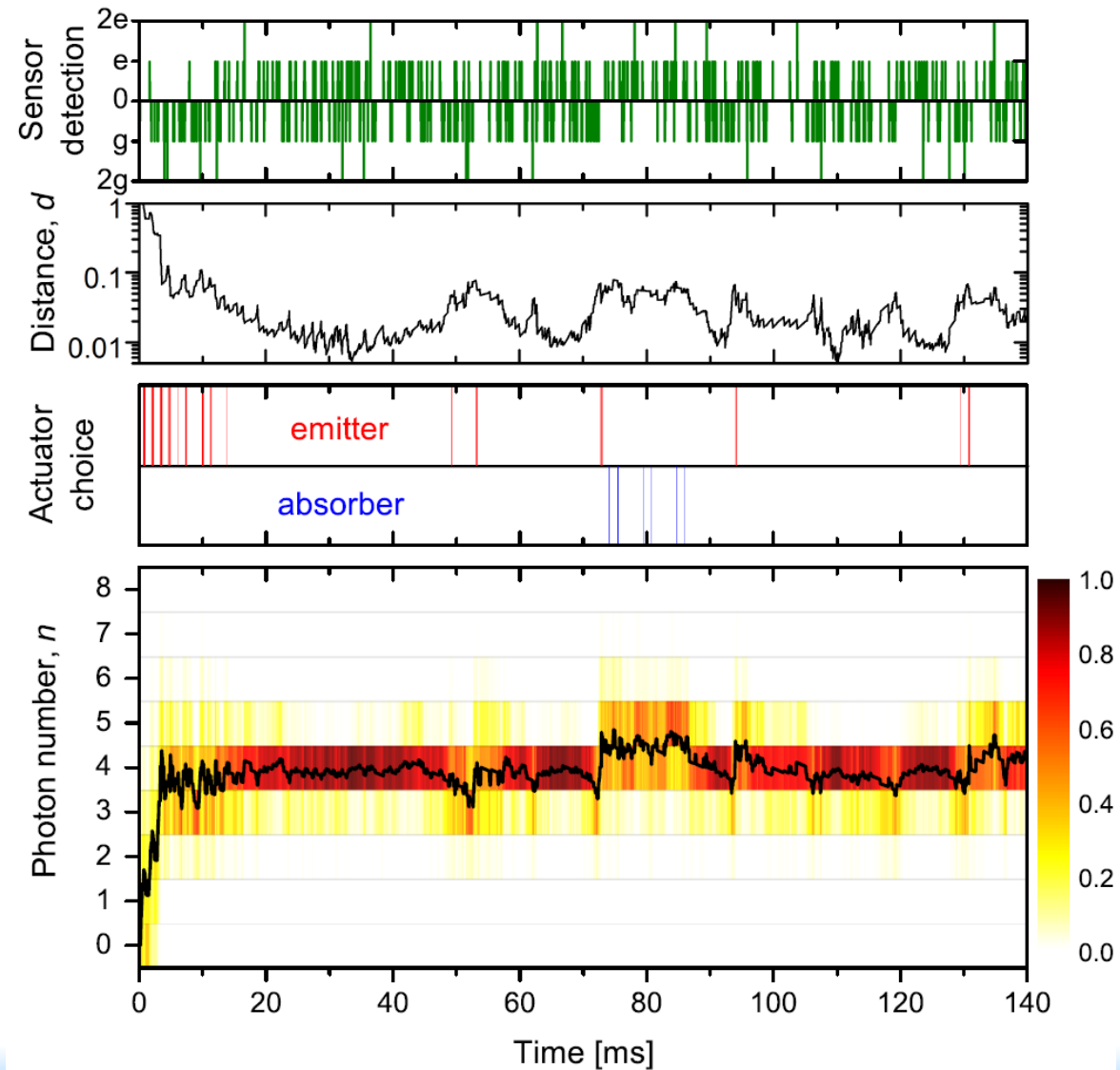


# Fighting decoherence

- Quantum feedback
  - Prepare and stabilize quantum states on demand
    - Get information by a quantum measurement
    - Estimate state after measurement
    - React to optimize overlap with target state
    - Iterate loop.
  - Must face a fundamental difficulty:
    - measurement changes the system state
- Our goal
  - Prepare and stabilize a photon-number state in the cavity
    - Get information by QND atoms
    - React

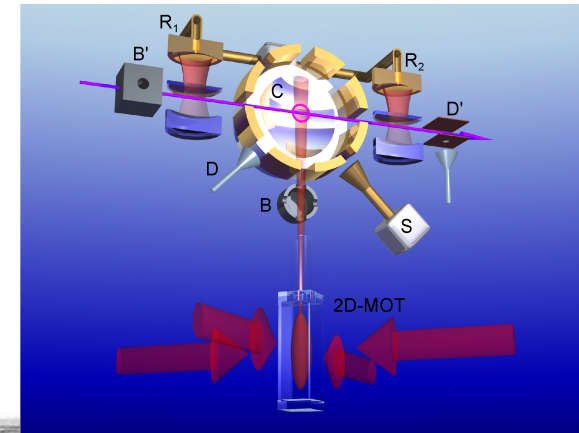
# A single trajectory

- Target photon number  $n_t=4$



# A new cavity QED set-up

- A strong limitation of present experiments
  - Atom-cavity interaction time  $\ll$  both systems lifetime
    - $100 \mu\text{s} \ll 30\text{ms}, 0.13 \text{ s}$
- Achieving long interaction times
  - A set-up with a nearly stationary Rydberg atom in a cavity
  - Circular state preparation and detection in the cavity
  - Interaction time ms range
  - Large cats
  - Quantum Zeno dynamics

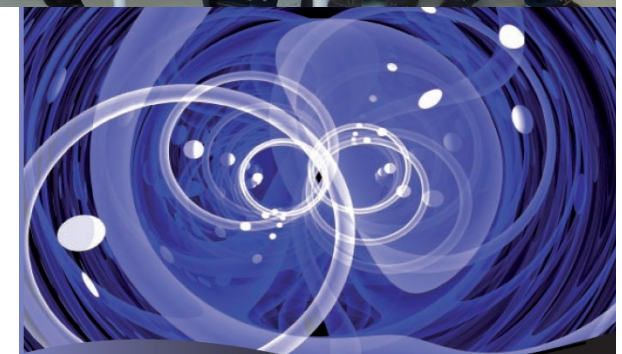
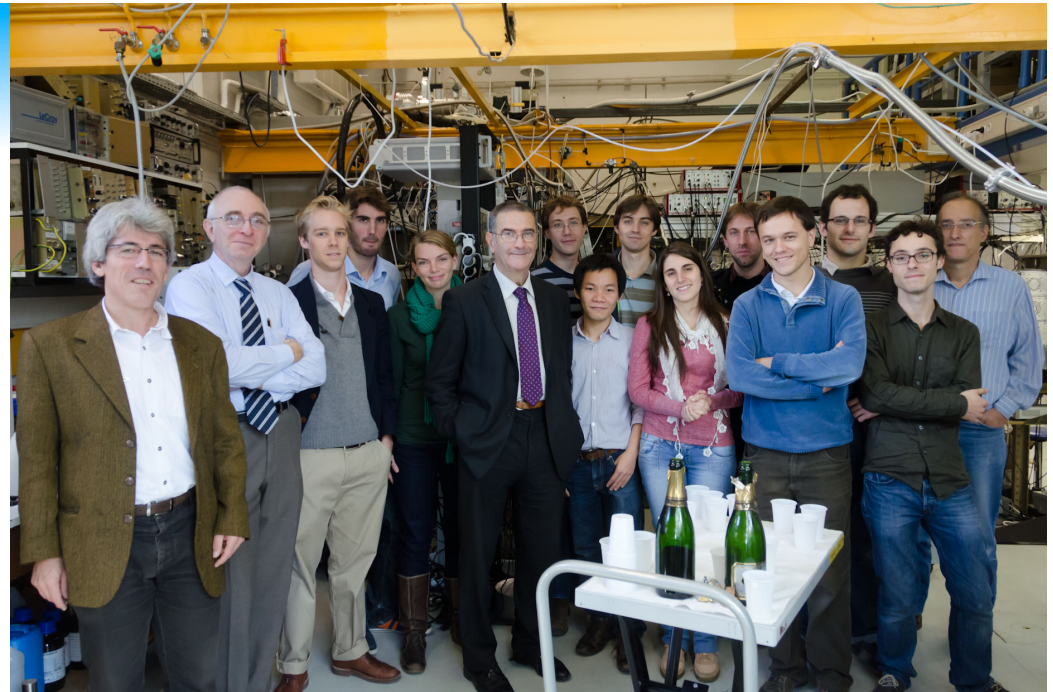


*“About your cat, Mr. Schrödinger—I have good news and bad news.”*



## A team work

- S. Haroche, M. Brune, JM Raimond, S. Gleyzes, I. Dotsenko
- Cavity QED experiments
  - S. Gerlich
  - T. Rybarczyk, M. Penasa, A. Facon, D. Grosso, E.K. Dietsche,
- Superconducting atom chip
  - Thanh Long Nguyen, T. Cantat-Moltrecht
- Collaborations:
  - **Cavités**: P. Bosland, B. Visentin, E. Jacques
    - CEA Saclay (DAPNIA)
  - **Rétroaction**: P. Rouchon, M. Mirrahimi, A. Sarlette
    - Ecole des Mines Paris
  - **QZD**: P. Facchi, S. Pascazio
    - Uni. Bari and INFN
- €€:ERC (Declic), EC (SIQS, RYSQ),
  - CNRS, UMPC, ENS, CdF



### Exploring the Quantum

*Atoms, Cavities, and Photons*


[www.cqed.org](http://www.cqed.org)

Serge Haroche and  
Jean-Michel Raimond

OXFORD GRADUATE TEXTS



# A team work... on the long term (1973-2014)

- 
- Serge Haroche
  - Michel Gross
  - Claude Fabre
  - Philippe Goy
  - Pierre Pillet
  - Jean-Michel Raimond
  - Guy Vitrant
  - Yves Kaluzny
  - Jun Liang
  - Michel Brune
  - Valérie Lefèvre-Seguín
  - Jean Hare
  - Jacques Lepape
  - Aephrain Steinberg
  - Andre Nussenzveig
  - Frédéric Bernardot
  - Paul Nussenzveig
  - Laurent Collot
  - Matthias Weidemüller
  - François Treussart
  - Abdelamid Maali
  - David Weiss
  - Vahid Sandoghdar
  - Jonathan Knight
  - Nicolas Dubreuil
  - Peter Domokos
  - Ferdinand Schmidt-Kaler
  - Jochen Dreyer
  - Ed Hagley
  - Xavier Maître
  - Christoph Wunderlich
  - Gilles Nogues
  - Vladimir Ilchenko
  - Jean-François Roch
  - Stefano Osnaghi
  - Arno Rauschenbeutel
  - Wolf von Klitzing
  - Erwan Jahier
  - Patrice Bertet
  - Alexia Auffèves
  - Romain Long
  - Sébastien Steiner
  - Paolo Maioli
  - Philippe Hyafil
  - Angie Qarry
  - Tristan Meunier
  - Perola Milman
  - Jack Mozley
  - Stefan Kuhr
  - Sébastien Gleyzes
  - Christine Guerlin
  - Thomas Nirrengarten
  - Cédric Roux
  - Julien Bernu
  - Ulrich Busk-Hoff
  - Andreas Emmert
  - Adrian Lupascu
  - Jonas Mlynek
  - Igor Dotsenko
  - Samuel Deléglise
  - Clément Sayrin
  - Xingxing Zhou
  - Bruno Peaudecerf
  - Raul Teixeira
  - Sha Liu
  - Theo Rybarczyk
  - Carla Hermann
  - Adrien Signolles
  - Adrien Facon
  - Eva Dietsche
  - Stefan Gerlich
  - Than Long Nguyen
  - Mariane Penasa
  - Dorian Grosso
  - Tigrane Cantat
  - ...