

Supplementary Materials for  
**Magnetic-field-dependent stimulated emission from nitrogen-vacancy centers  
in diamond**

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*Sci. Adv.* **8**, eabn7192 (2022)  
DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.abn7192

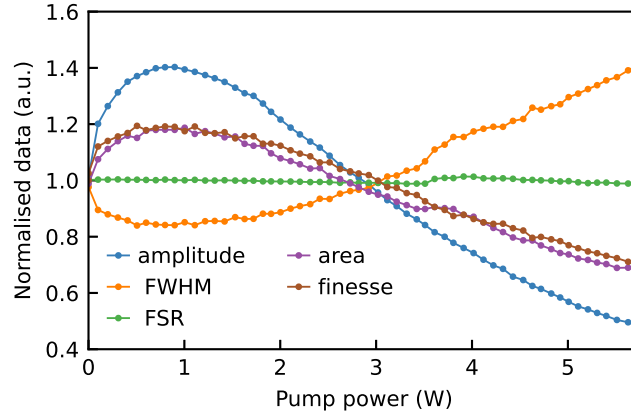
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## S1. Investigation of the cavity parameters

We investigate the origin of the amplification by the detection of the cavity amplitude, FSR and FWHM during a scan of the pump power in Fig. S1. The measurement proves that the increase of the cavity finesse (orange trace) comes from gain caused by stimulated emission reducing the total loss of the cavity (blue trace). The gain shown in the main article is calculated from the finesse with formula  $\mu_g = \pi/l(\mathcal{F}_0^{-1} - \mathcal{F}_g^{-1})$ . The value of the finesse at zero pump power is  $\mathcal{F}_0 = 847$  and the maximal value when pumping is  $\mathcal{F}_{max} = 1011$ . The FSR is constant as expected. This shows that no thermal effect, like thermal expansion of the diamond is influencing the FSR of the cavity. Stimulated emission, should also lead to an increasing

number of photons  $n$  in the cavity, not just a narrowing of the peak width. Thus, an increase in the area  $S \propto n$  is expected, as well. The Lorentzian amplitude  $A$  is given by  $A = 2S/(\pi\mu)$  with the area  $S$  under the curve and the total gain/loss  $\mu = \mu_0 L - \mu_g l$ . Thus, the area is calculated from the measured amplitude and FWHM and shown in Fig. S1. The increase in the area proves the increase in the number of photons in the cavity as expected from stimulated emission.

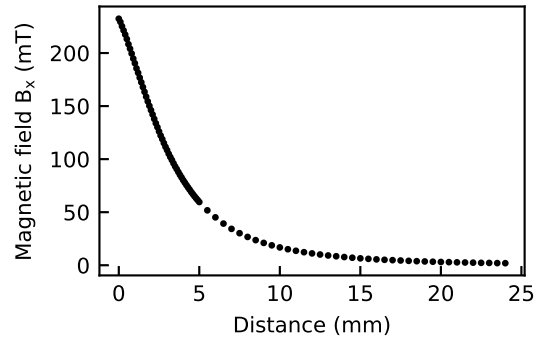


**Fig. S1. Light amplification and cavity parameters dependent on pump power.** Detection of the amplitude, FSR and FWHM of the cavity modes over the pumping power. Area and finesse are calculated by the other measured quantities (see text). The data is normalised to the values at zero pump power. The data show the mean value of 100 measurements. The seeding power is  $P_{710} = (123.5 \pm 0.8)$  mW.

## S2. Magnetic field of the permanent magnet

We measured the magnetic field with a Hall sensor at varying distance from the magnet. The magnetic field is applied in the (100) crystal direction. The diamond contains NV-centres in all four possible NV-directions. In this configuration the projections of the applied magnetic field onto and perpendicular to the NV-axis is symmetric and of the same magnitude for all NV-orientations. The angle between the NV-axis is  $\alpha = 109.5^\circ$  (2I). The effective transverse magnetic field that the electron spin is interacting with is then calculated by  $B_x = B \sin(\alpha/2)$ ,

where  $B$  is the magnitude of the measured magnetic field. We assume a constant magnetic field within the mode of the diamond of diameter  $2\omega_0 \approx 110 \mu\text{m}$ . The resulting effective magnetic field is shown in Fig. S2. The excited NV-centres in the diamond mode in the experiment are located at a distance of  $(2 \pm 1)$  mm from the magnet. The effective transverse magnetic field is  $B_x = (146 \pm 25)$  mT.



**Fig. S2. Transverse magnetic field strength of the permanent magnet.** The effective transverse magnetic field  $B_x$  (perpendicular to the NV-axis) as a function of the distance to the permanent magnet.

### S3. NV PL contrast by a constant transverse magnetic field $B_x$

Stimulated emission in a cavity can significantly enhance the contrast, theoretically up to 100 % when working above a laser threshold (22). The strong contrast observed in the main article in stimulated emission is higher than the maximal contrast possible in spontaneous emission according to the current model of the NV centre, as we show below. We calculate theoretically the change of spontaneous emission, i.e. the photoluminescence contrast of the NV-centres as a function of a constant, external magnetic field perpendicular to the NV direction. Without loss of generality, the perpendicular magnetic field can be chosen to match the direction of transverse magnetic field component  $B_x$  and leads to mixing spin states.

We assume the 7-level model of Fig. S3A for the calculation. Following established litera-

ture (2I), we assume the radiative decay rate  $\Gamma = 83.3$  MHz, the intersystem crossing rate from the  $\pm 1$  states to the singlet state  $L_1 = 1/(2 * 12 \text{ ns} + 0.9 \text{ ns})$  as half of the radiative decay rate, no transition from the  $m_s = 0$  state to the singlet state, the rate  $L_3 = 2.2$  MHz and  $L_2 = L_3/2$ , such that the lifetime of the singlet ground state becomes  $1/(L_2 + L_3) = 308$  ns. The singlet state is just represented by one state. However, it has an additional short-lived excited state with a lifetime  $\approx 0.9$  ns (2I), which we integrated into the rate  $L_1$  to simplify the calculation.

Assuming the weak excitation limit, we consider the effect of magnetic field on the ground-state spin triplet only, and ignore dynamics and coherence in the excited-state triplet. The ground state triplet with spin operators  $\vec{S}$  in an external magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  is represented by the Hamiltonian

$$H^{PL} = D_g S_z^2 + \gamma_e \vec{B} \vec{S} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_e B_z + D_g & \gamma_e B_c^* & 0 \\ \gamma_e B_c & 0 & \gamma_e B_c^* \\ 0 & \gamma_e B_c & -\gamma_e B_z + D_g \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.1})$$

where  $B_c = (B_x + iB_y)/\sqrt{2}$  represents the magnetic field perpendicular to the NV direction,  $D_g$  the zero-field splitting of the ground state and  $\gamma_e$  the electron gyromagnetic ratio. The X-axis can be chosen in the direction of the transverse magnetic field, making  $B_c = B_x/\sqrt{2}$  a real number. We then construct a superoperator matrix describing the quantum evolution of the 3x3 density matrix for the ground-state triplet according to the von-Neumann equation. We then extend the 9x9 superoperator describing the coherent evolution to a 13x13 matrix describing the populations of the other 4 states. We do not consider any further coherences. The transition rates are then integrated via a Lindblad equation with a Lindblad-operator  $L_j = \sigma^-$  on the corresponding two states. We then find the steady state solution of the system analytically by calculating the Nullspace of the superoperator matrix using Mathematica. The emission of the NV centre is then given by the sum of the populations in the triplet excited state multiplied with the radiative decay rate  $\Gamma$ .

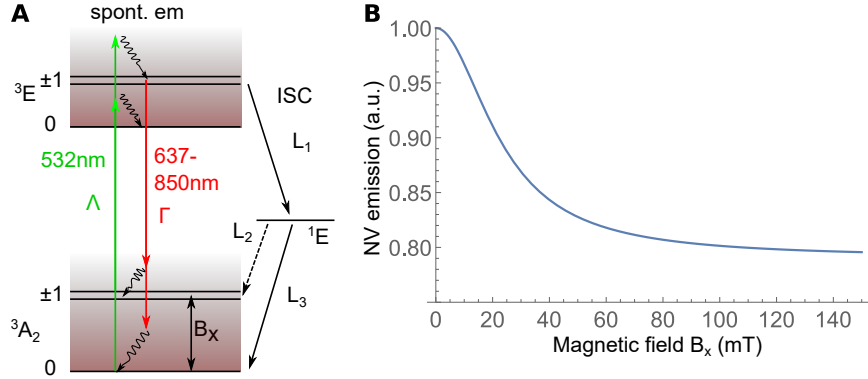
We find that the NV emission is reduced by a transverse magnetic field as shown in Fig. S3B.

This relative reduction is true for all excitation rates  $\Lambda \ll \Gamma$  in the weak-excitation regime, for which this solution is valid. Since we are pumping a cavity mode with  $111 \mu\text{m}$  diameter even a high pump power of  $3 \text{ W}$  is still in the weak-excitation regime  $\Lambda < 0.1\Gamma$  and far from saturation, see Fig. S5. The magnetic field along the NV direction  $B_z = 0$  in Fig. S3B. Minimizing the relative emission for arbitrary  $B_z$  and  $B_c$  we find that the minimum is  $0.78$ , i.e. the strongest reduction is  $22\%$ .

This means that the maximal contrast of spontaneous emission of an NV ensemble, caused by the introduction of an external magnetic field is  $22\%$ . The literature parameters of the model (21) were developed from mostly measurements of ensembles of NV centres, so the result applies to ensembles and single NV centres can potentially achieve better contrast. Specifically, single NV-centres in a confocal setup can be pumped into a high-excitation limit, which can enhance contrast to  $>40\%$  when a permanent magnetic field mixes the ground- and excited-state spin populations (42). However, for pumping larger volumes of NV ensembles even high powers typically stay in the weak-excitation limit, as is the case for all our measurements. The strong contrast in ensembles measured through stimulated emission in the main article is stronger than a contrast could be with spontaneous emission according to the current model for NV centre ensembles.

## **S4. Amplification and absorption study of different samples**

In Fig. S4A the relative amplification, absorption at the seeding wavelength of  $710 \text{ nm}$  and  $\text{NV}^-$  concentration are shown for four different samples that were investigated. The data shows that both, low absorption and high  $\text{NV}^-$  concentration, i. e. high gain, is needed for a strong stimulated emission signal. For decreasing absorption the amplification is increasing, as the loss inside the cavity is decreasing. At the same time the amplification is also dependent on the gain which is proportional to the number of pumped NV-centres (37). The highest amplification

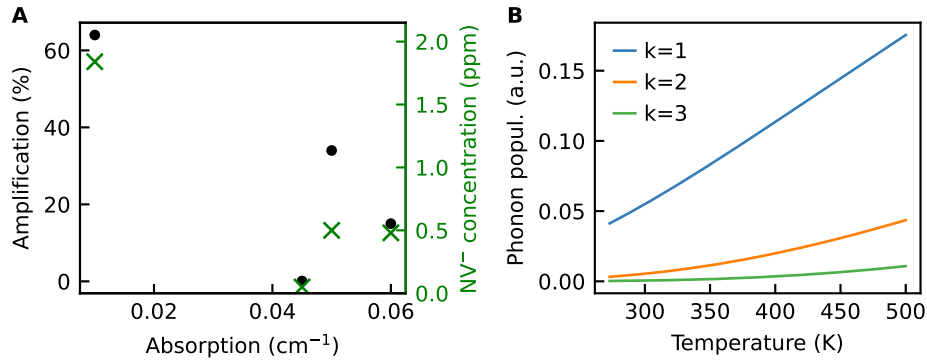


**Fig. S3. PL emission quenching by a transverse magnetic field.** (A) Energy levels and transitions of the NV centre. (B) Calculated PL emission of the NV-centre dependent on the transverse magnetic field strength. The PL reduction saturates at 22 %.

is measured for the lowest absorption and highest  $NV^-$  concentration. For equal  $NV^-$  concentration a stronger amplification is detected when the absorption is lower. A very low  $NV^-$  concentration (50 ppb) leads to no significant gain/amplification. Fig. S4B shows the calculated population of the NV-centre ground state phonon levels as a function of the temperature. The population of the  $k$ -th phonon sideband  $p_k$  is normalised to the zero phonon level  $p_0$  and given by the Boltzmann distribution  $p_k = \exp(-\Delta E_k / (k_B T))$ , where  $k_B$  is Boltzmann's constant,  $T$  temperature and  $\Delta E_k$ , the energy difference of the  $k$ -th phonon level to the zero phonon level. The energy differences are taken from (43). The population of the third phonon level is below 1 %, consequently the absorption of the red seeding laser at this transition is negligible.

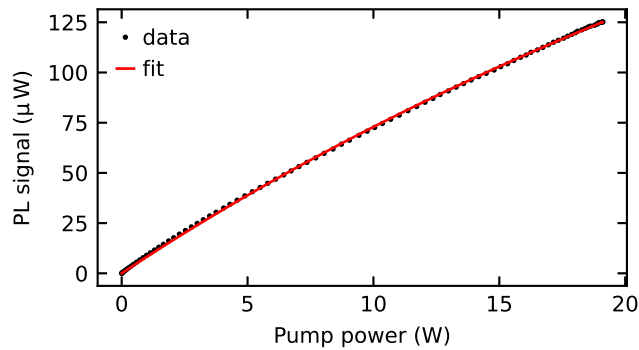
## S5. Saturation measurement - PL calibration

We collected the PL with an objective laterally to the pumped NV centres (main article, Fig. 1B) and measured the power with a photo-diode power sensor (det3). The PL was maximised for this measurement. We fitted the function  $P_{PL} = P_{inf} P_{pump} / (P_{pump} + P_{sat})$  to the data with the fitting parameters  $P_{inf}$ ,  $P_{sat}$ . The fit gave  $P_{inf} = 587.68 \mu W$  which is the PL power at infinite pump power and  $P_{sat} = 70.61 W$  which is the pump power at saturation. In the ODMR measurement



**Fig. S4. Influence of initial absorption of the diamond and NV centres.** (A) Data pairs of the maximal achieved relative amplification in the cavity (black dots) and  $\text{NV}^-$  concentration (green crosses) for four different investigated samples over the absorption. The decadic absorption coefficient is measured at 710 nm via UV-Vis measurement of the whole sample taking into account the thickness and reflection. The  $\text{NV}^-$  concentration was calculated from a calibrated PL measurement in a confocal setup. (B) Simulated population of the  $k = 1st, 2nd, 3rd$  phonon side-band over the temperature.

the antenna partially blocked the PL signal. For a fair comparison, we therefore used the fit of Fig. S5 and the green pump power to determine the corresponding absolute PL signal for Fig. 5 of the main article.



**Fig. S5. Saturation measurement of the PL emission.** The PL of the NV centres is detected while the laser power is increased. The amplification measurements (up to 4 W) are conducted in the linear regime.



## S6. ODMR magnetic field sensitivity

In measurements of the magnetic field  $B$  in the standard quantum limit the measurement error, i.e. the standard deviation  $\sigma_B \propto 1/\sqrt{T}$ , reduces with longer measurement time  $T$ . Therefore, the definition of the DC magnetic field sensitivity captures precision independent of the measurement time and is defined as  $\eta_{DC} = \sigma_B \sqrt{T}$ . Assuming photon shot-noise limited sensitivity, it can be calculated directly from the intensity  $I$  in counts per second as

$$\eta_{DC} = \frac{\partial B}{\partial I} \sqrt{I} = \frac{h}{g_e \mu_B} \left| \frac{\partial I}{\partial f} \right|^{-1} \sqrt{I}. \quad (\text{S.2})$$

In the second step the optically detected magnetic resonance (ODMR) measurement is considered where the intensity is recorded as a function of the microwave frequency  $f$ . The fundamental constants  $h, g_e, \mu_B$  are Planck's constant, the electron g-factor and Bohr magneton, respectively. This yields the sensitivity at each point of the ODMR curve as a function of the intensity gradient  $\partial I/\partial f$  and the intensity  $I$  at that point. The minimum of this sensitivity can be calculated for Lorentzian line shapes as (39, 40)

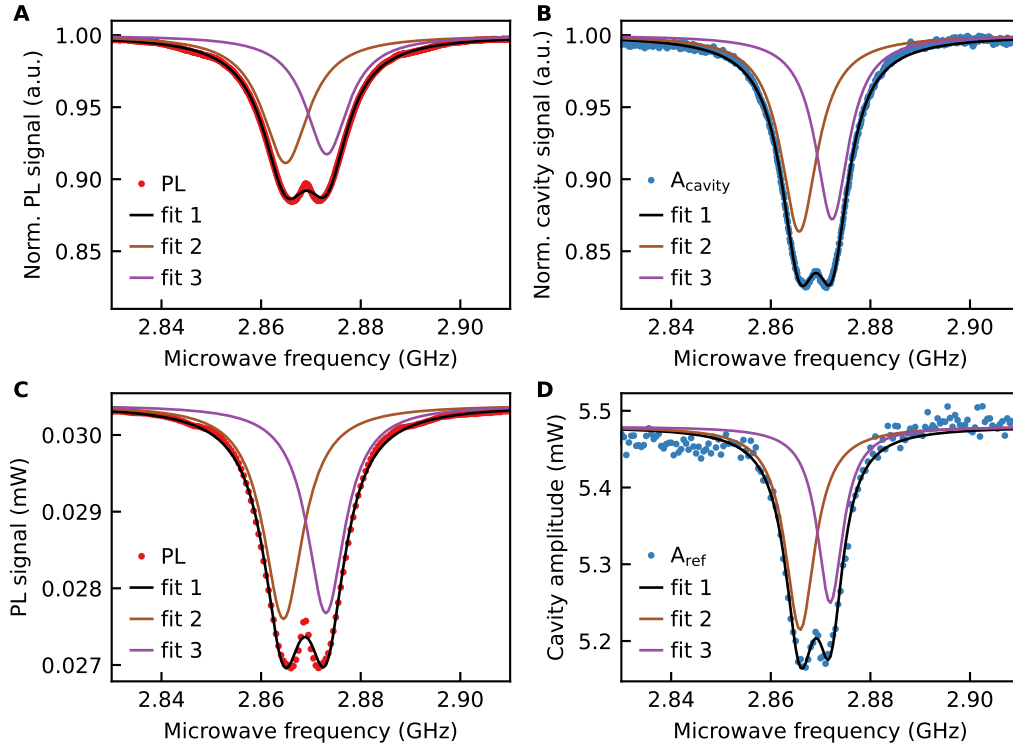
$$\eta_{DC} \approx \frac{4}{3\sqrt{3}} \frac{h}{g_e \mu_B} \frac{\Delta\nu}{C\sqrt{I}}, \quad (\text{S.3})$$

where  $\Delta\nu, C, I$  are the linewidth (FWHM), contrast and detected signal strength of the measurement, respectively. For the sensitivity calculations in the main article the formula (S.3) is used. The intensity  $I$  is calculated from the detected power  $P_0$  as  $I = P_0 \lambda / (ch)$ , where  $c$  is the speed of light and  $\lambda = 710$  nm the wavelength of the detected signal. We obtain the detected power from power calibrated detectors (Sec. Methods in main article). The pump power was 3.75 W, the seeding power was 1.32 W. This regime was not optimal for the stimulated emission contrast since the strong seeding laser is not filtered from the signal but achieved much higher output powers and thus improved sensitivity due to stronger stimulated emission from

the increased seeding. A double Lorentzian

$$P(\nu) = P_0 \left( 1 - \frac{C_1 \Delta\nu_1^2}{(\nu - \nu_{c,1})^2 + \Delta\nu_1^2} - \frac{C_2 \Delta\nu_2^2}{(\nu - \nu_{c,2})^2 + \Delta\nu_2^2} \right), \quad (\text{S.4})$$

is fitted to the data in the main article (Fig. 5). Here  $\nu, P_0, C, \Delta\nu, \nu_c$  are the microwave frequency, baseline, contrast, HWHM and centre frequency, respectively. The index represents the number of the single Lorentzian. The data is shown in Fig. S6. The plots also show the contributions of the single Lorentzian fits. The related fit parameters are listed in Table S1. The parameters for the calculation of the setup sensitivities were taken from column C, index 2 for the PL measurement and from column D, index 2 for the cavity setup.



**Fig. S6. Lorentzian fits to ODMR measurement.** ODMR measurement optimised for high contrast ((A), (B)) and optimised for sensitivity ((C), (D)). For every dataset a double Lorentzian (fit1) and the contribution of the single Lorentzian fits (fit2, fit3) is fitted to the data.

**Table S1. ODMR fit parameters.** Fit parameters obtained from the double Lorentzian fits in Fig. S6. The header line indicates the related plot.

| Fit Fig. S6               | A                 | B                  | C                   | D                 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| $P_0$                     | 1 (a u)           | 1 (a u)            | $30.39 \mu\text{W}$ | 5.48 mW           |
| $C_1(\%)$                 | $(8.87 \pm 0.03)$ | $(13.64 \pm 0.09)$ | $(9.20 \pm 0.08)$   | $(4.84 \pm 0.18)$ |
| $C_2(\%)$                 | $(8.23 \pm 0.03)$ | $(12.79 \pm 0.10)$ | $(8.95 \pm 0.09)$   | $(4.20 \pm 0.20)$ |
| $\Delta\nu_1(\text{MHz})$ | $(5.63 \pm 0.02)$ | $(4.46 \pm 0.04)$  | $(4.81 \pm 0.07)$   | $(3.64 \pm 0.21)$ |
| $\Delta\nu_2(\text{MHz})$ | $(5.16 \pm 0.02)$ | $(4.07 \pm 0.04)$  | $(4.60 \pm 0.07)$   | $(3.11 \pm 0.23)$ |
| $\nu_{c,1}(\text{GHz})$   | 2.865             | 2.866              | 2.864               | 2.867             |
| $\nu_{c,2}(\text{GHz})$   | 2.873             | 2.872              | 2.873               | 2.872             |

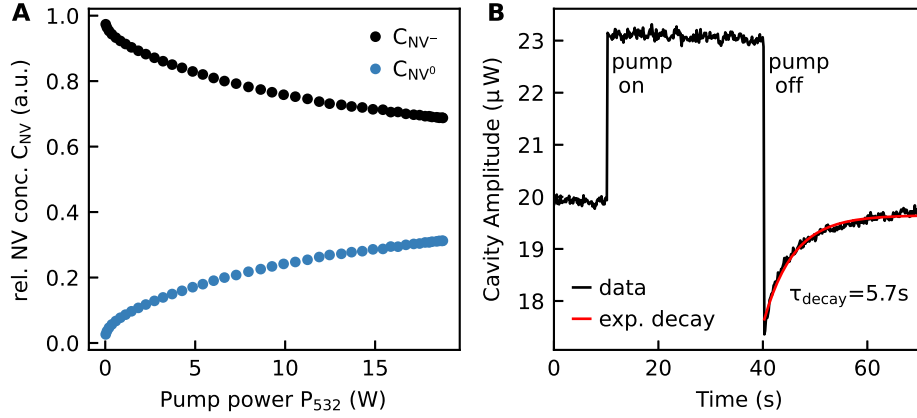
## S7. Ionisation and induced absorption

Fig. S7A shows the relative concentrations of negatively and neutrally charged NV centres and thus the photoionisation over the pump power. A least squares fit method determines the relative contributions of the charge states to the measured spectrum. The basis are reference  $\text{NV}^-$  and  $\text{NV}^0$  spectra measured in the same setup. The method fits the reference spectra to the measured original PL spectrum taken from the side (det3, Fig. 1A in the main article).

Fig. S7B shows the timetrace of the maximal cavity amplitude on resonance when the green pump laser is applied and turned off again. The time scale of the immediate amplification from stimulated emission is below the temporal resolution  $< 1$  ms, limited due to the unlocked cavity setup and read-out of the cavity amplitude. The amplitude also immediately decays when the pump laser is turned off, as expected for stimulated emission. However, when the pump is turned off the decay of the cavity amplitude goes below the initial value before pumping. This means less red light is transmitted through the cavity after the green laser illumination than before. In other word an additional absorption at the seed wavelength of 710 nm is 'induced' by the green pump laser. After the green laser is turned off and the signal has immediately dropped to a value lower than the initial value, the signal starts to rise again slowly back to the initial

value before green pumping. The decay time of the "induced absorption" is in the order of several seconds  $\tau_{decay} = 5.7$  s. The temporal behaviour indicates that we are not in the regime of excited state absorption due to the  $NV^-$  excited state lifetime of 12 ns (21).

However, ionisation occurs with increasing pump power as shown in Fig. S7A. A certain reduction of the  $NV^-$  population can be seen although it is still above 80 % of the initial value for pump powers below 5W. While this could explain a small reduction in gain from  $NV^-$  centres, it can not be the reason for the induced absorption of the red laser since the created  $NV^0$  centres do not absorb light at 710 nm. We think the ionisation plays a different role in this novel effect. We suggest the following explanation: The photoionisation of the NV centres leads the creation of certain charge states of other defects or in other words leads to a population of long lived intra band gap states. These states absorb light at the seeding wavelength of 710 nm. A possible candidate could be the H2/H3 centre in diamond as the H2 centre absorbs at this wavelength (44). The resulting absorption induced by the pump laser is higher than the initial absorption before the NV centres were pumped.



**Fig. S7. Effect of ionisation and induced absorption on light amplification.** (A) Relative NV concentration over pump power  $P_{532}$  of the sample used in the main article. The point of minimal pump power corresponds to  $C_{NV^-} = 1.8$  ppm and  $C_{NV^0} = 0.07$  ppm. (B) Investigation of the amplification and decay time scales. Detected is the cavity amplitude over time. The red seeding is kept constant at  $P_{seed} = 610$  mW. After 10 s the pump laser is applied at a pump power of  $P_{532} = 260$  mW and turned off after another 30 s. An exponential function  $y = a * \exp(-t/\tau_{decay}) + b$  is fitted to the slow decay when the pump laser is turned off.

## S8. Analytic solution of an externally seeded NV cavity

For the seeded NV lasing cavity we assume the 7-level model presented in Fig. S8A with a constant excitation rate  $\Lambda$  and coupling constant between the NV centres and the cavity  $G$  for both spin states. We set up the equations of motion describing the populations of the 7-level system as a superoperator matrix and assume the transition rates by the standard NV model as in (21, 22). The matrix and transition rates are given at the last page of the Supplementary Material. The simulation of the seeded cavity is based on a realistic cavity with a finesse of  $\mathcal{F} = 800$  leading to a loss rate of  $\kappa \approx 80$  MHz corresponding to the cavity used in the main article. The coupling constant  $G$  between the NV centre and cavity is chosen to be  $G = 6$  GHz which corresponds to the theoretically expected coupling  $G = 3\Gamma\omega_{seed}\lambda_m^3/(4\pi^2\Delta\omega_3V_c)$  (37) at the 3-phonon transition of the NV centre with a linewidth of  $\Delta\omega_3 = 15$  THz (34), spontaneous emission rate  $\Gamma = 83$  MHz angular frequency  $\omega_{seed} = 2.65$  PHz and medium wavelength  $\lambda_m =$

$\lambda_{seed}/n_d$  of the seed laser with  $\lambda_{seed} = 710$  nm and a cavity mode volume of  $V_c = 0.14$  mm<sup>3</sup>.

The cavity rate equation (S.5)

$$\dot{n} = G(\rho_{22} + \rho_{55} - \rho_{33} - \rho_{66})n - \kappa n + \alpha \quad (\text{S.5})$$

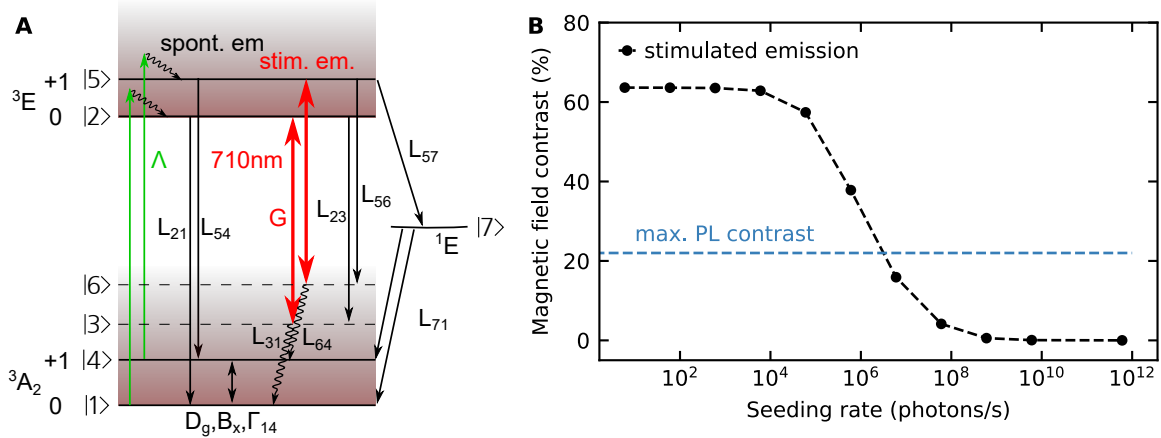
describes the seeded cavity with seeding rate  $\alpha$  and number of cavity photons per NV centre  $n$ . In order to find the solution of the system we first calculate the steady state solution, i.e. the nullspace of the superoperator matrix, treating  $n$  as a steady-state parameter. We solve for two cases: no applied magnetic field  $B_x = 0$  and large magnetic field  $\gamma_e B_x \gg D_g$ , where the spin states are fully mixed by the transverse magnetic field. We normalise the resulting solutions for the density matrix elements  $\rho_{ij}$  via the sum of the diagonal elements  $\rho_{ii}$  and insert these into the cavity rate equation (S.5) for the steady state

$$0 = G(\rho_{22} + \rho_{55} - \rho_{33} - \rho_{66}) - \kappa + \frac{\alpha}{n} \quad (\text{S.6})$$

to find the non-zero solution for  $n \neq 0$ .

We then simulate the behaviour of the system with an applied transverse magnetic field  $B_x$  via the stimulated emission rate of the cavity by  $\Gamma_{stim} \propto \rho_e G n$ , where the excited state population is  $\rho_e = \rho_{22} + \rho_{55} - \rho_{33} - \rho_{66}$ .

The simulation in the main article in Fig. 3 calculates the contrast by stimulated emission via the solution at zero magnetic field  $B_x = 0$  and strong magnetic field, i.e.  $D_g \ll \gamma_e B_x / \sqrt{2}$ . We assume a constant excitation rate  $\Lambda = 1$  MHz in the low excitation regime leading to a cavity below threshold as in the experiment. The simulation in Fig. S8B shows an increasing contrast by stimulated emission when the seeding is low, i.e. the contribution of the stimulated emission to the overall cavity signal is large. This is what is also measured experimentally in the main article in Fig. 4C and Fig. 5A. In this regime the contrast by stimulated emission exceeds the maximal achievable contrast via PL of 22%.



**Fig. S8. Modelling magnetic field response of seeded laser cavity below threshold.** (A) Schematic of the NV 7-level-model describing the lasing transitions between the  $m_s = 1$  and  $m_s = 0$ . The seven states are numbered by  $|X\rangle$  and the transition rates between the states by  $L_{XX}$ . Stimulated emission is generated by the coupling between the NV and the cavity  $G$ . The ground state is split by the zero field splitting constant  $D_g$ . The dephasing rate between the ground spin states is given by  $\Gamma_{14}$ . The applied transverse magnetic field  $B_x$  leads to spin-mixing similar to the PL case in Fig. S3A. (B) Magnetic field contrast over the cavity seeding rate  $\alpha$  calculated by the method presented in Sec. S8. The maximal PL contrast is calculated by the method in Sec. S3.

## S9. NV PL contrast by MW driving and similarity to transverse magnetic field $B_x$

In the main article we used two experiments/methods to mix the spin states  $m_s = 0, \pm 1$  of the NV centre ensemble in the bulk diamond sample. The first (method 1) uses a constant transverse magnetic field  $B_c = B_x/\sqrt{2}$  applied by a permanent magnet (section ‘Magnetic field dependency’). The theoretical calculation (Ch.S3, supplementary material) calculates the PL quenching due to spin mixing which results from the off-diagonal  $B_c = B_x/\sqrt{2}$  components which equals the transverse component in the experiment.

The second method (method 2) uses the ODMR technique (section ‘ODMR and sensitivity measurements’ in the main article), where the Rabi driving by an applied oscillating magnetic field  $B_\Omega(t) = B_1 \cos(\omega t)$  with constant amplitude  $B_1$  and frequency  $\omega$  is mixing the spin states

and creates the decrease in PL or rather stimulated emission.

In the interaction picture of constant Rabi-driving with a magnetic field amplitude  $B_1$ , the Hamiltonian (45)

$$H^{MW} = D_g S_z^2 - \vec{\mu} \vec{B}_\Omega(t) \stackrel{RWA}{=} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_e B_z + D_g - \omega & -\frac{\gamma_e B_1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ -\frac{\gamma_e B_1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{\gamma_e B_1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & -\frac{\gamma_e B_1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\gamma_e B_z + D_g - \omega \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{S.7})$$

in the rotating wave approximation (RWA) describes the system.

We can now compare the Hamiltonian for a constant transverse magnetic field above (Ch.S3, supplementary material) with the Hamiltonian for a constant microwave (MW) drive  $H^{MW}$ . For both experimental methods in the main article the component  $B_z = 0$ , as the applied field is transverse (method 1) and we don't apply a bias field (method 2).

We now distinguish two cases: 1) The case without spin mixing, i.e. a zero transverse field  $B_x = 0$  (method 1) corresponding to a detuned microwave drive  $\omega \ll D_g$  or  $\omega \gg D_g$  (method 2) and 2) the case with spin mixing, i.e. a strong transverse magnetic  $\gamma_e B_x \gg D_g$  (method 1) corresponding to a resonant drive  $\omega = D_g$  (method 2). For both cases the Hamiltonians  $H^{PL}, H^{MW}$  are mathematically equivalent and the physics of the NV centre is the same. Of course the microwave field  $B_1$  mixes the spin states at much lower field values than a transverse magnetic field, since the transverse field  $B_x$  has to overcome the zero-field splitting  $D_g$ . However this shows that in the extreme cases the transverse magnetic field component  $B_x$  of the permanent magnet plays the equivalent role to the constant microwave amplitude  $B_1$  for mixing the spin states.

In the experiment a transverse magnetic field is the easiest way to test maximal spin mixing due to better homogeneity. Once an improved contrast is measured that way (see main article) we succeeded to see this improved contrast in ODMR as well, which is lower to the permanent magnet as it has the additional challenge of creating a good homogeneity but is the necessary way for good sensitivity.



$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{\rho}_{14} \\ \dot{\rho}_{41} \\ \dot{\rho}_{11} \\ \dot{\rho}_{22} \\ \dot{\rho}_{33} \\ \dot{\rho}_{44} \\ \dot{\rho}_{55} \\ \dot{\rho}_{66} \\ \dot{\rho}_{77} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Gamma_1 - \Lambda & 0 & iB_x & 0 & 0 & -iB_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\Gamma_1^* - \Lambda & -iB_x & 0 & 0 & iB_x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ iB_x & -iB_x & -\Lambda & L_{21} & L_{31} & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_{71} \\ 0 & 0 & \Lambda & a & Gn & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & L_{23} + Gn & -L_{31} - Gn & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -iB_x & iB_x & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\Lambda & L_{54} & L_{64} & L_{74} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \Lambda & b & Gn & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_{56} + Gn & -L_{64} - Gn & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & L_{57} & 0 & -L_{71} - L_{74} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{14} \\ \rho_{41} \\ \rho_{11} \\ \rho_{22} \\ \rho_{33} \\ \rho_{44} \\ \rho_{55} \\ \rho_{66} \\ \rho_{77} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_{14} - iD_g$$

$$a = -L_{21} - L_{23} - Gn$$

$$b = -L_{54} - L_{56} - L_{57} - Gn$$

$$L_{21} = L_{54} = 68.2 \text{ MHz}, L_{31} = L_{64} = 1 \text{ THz}, L_{23} = L_{56} = 18 \text{ MHz}, L_{71} = 2.16 \text{ MHz}, L_{74} = 1.08 \text{ MHz}, L_{57} = 40.2 \text{ MHz}, \Gamma_{14} = 0.167 \text{ MHz}, D_g = 2\pi \cdot 2.87 \text{ GHz}$$

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