



BY

# Fundamentals of magnetism

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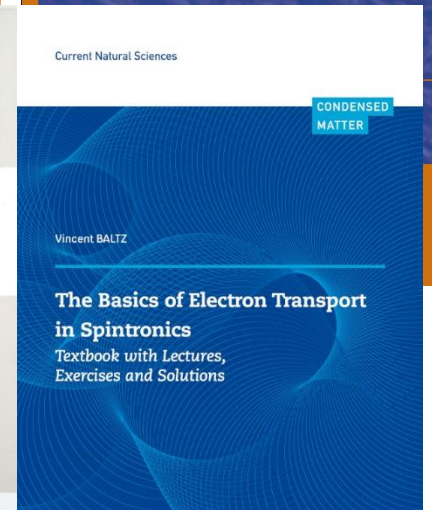
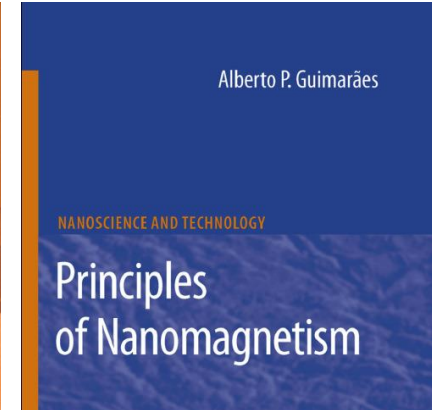
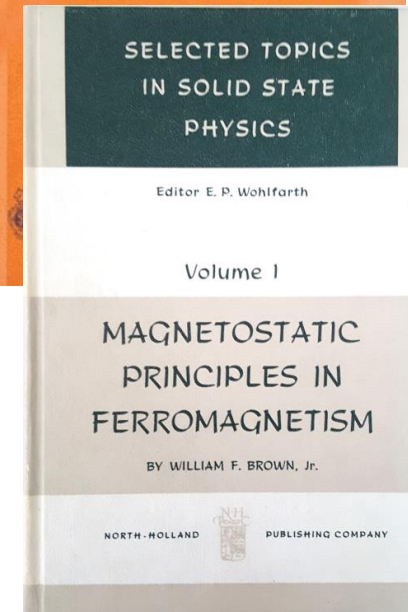
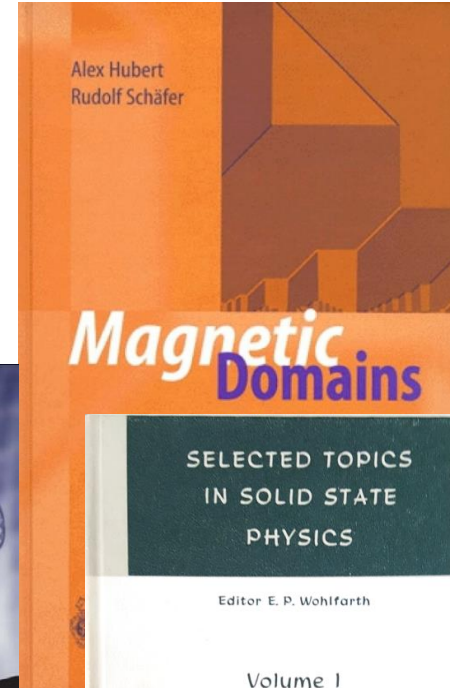
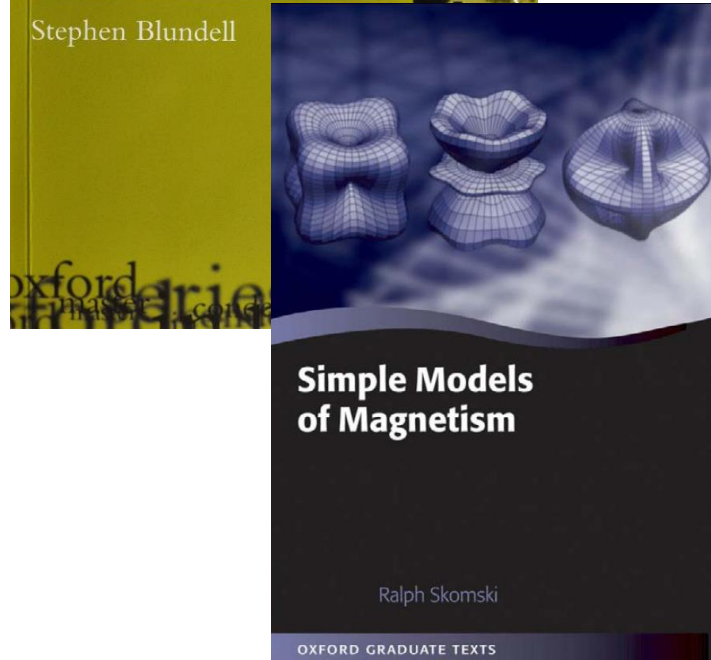
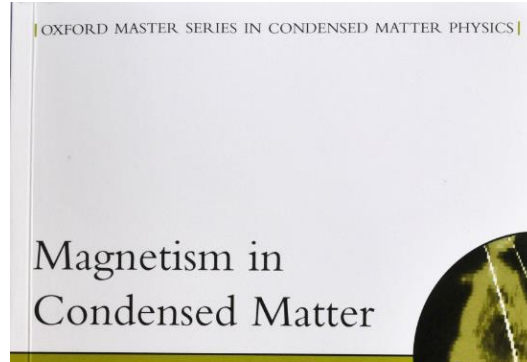
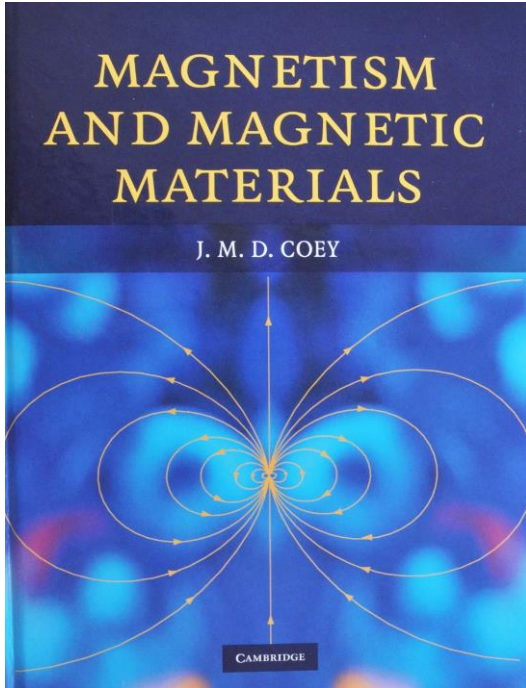
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Slides: <http://fruchart.eu/slides>



- Personal and light overview
- Keep in mind main ideas not detailed concepts and maths
- Not a research talk







The lectures of all ESM schools since 2003 are ordered here in terms of topics. Those pertaining to several topics are listed several times. The topics are:

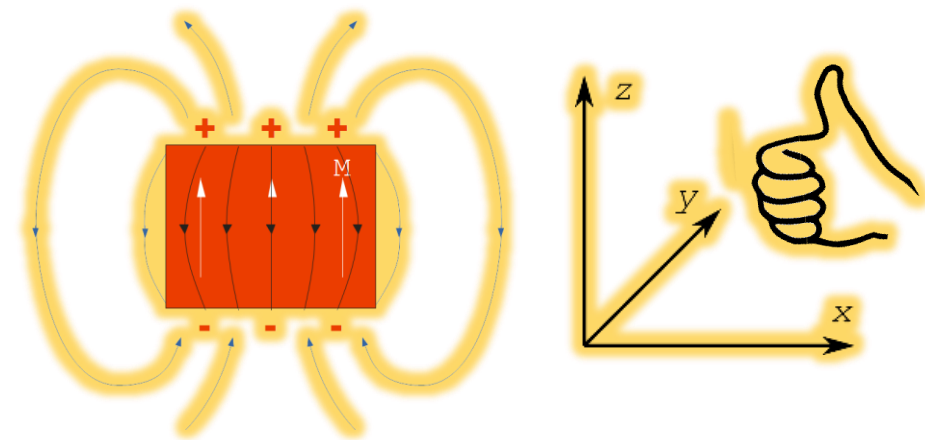
### Magnetic field and moments

- [2020] Origin of magnetism (spin and orbital momentum, atoms and ions, paramagnetism and diamagnetism): **STEPHEN BLUNDELL**, Oxford, UK [ [Slides](#) | [Recording](#) ]
- [2020] Fields, moments, units: **OLIVIER FRUCHART**, Grenoble, France [ [Slides](#) | [Recording](#) ]
- [2019] Fields, moments, units: **OLIVIER FRUCHART**, Grenoble, France [ [Abstract](#) | [Slides](#) ]
- [2019] Magnetism of atoms, Hund's rules, spin-orbit in atoms: **VIRGINIE SIMONET**, Grenoble, France [ [Abstract](#) ]
- [2018] Units in Magnetism (practical): **OLIVIER FRUCHART**, Grenoble, France [ [Questions](#) | [Answers](#) ]
- [2018] Magnetism of atoms and ions: **JANUSZ ADAMOWSKI**, Kraków, Poland [ [Abstract](#) | [Slides](#) ]
- [2018] Fields, Moments, Units, Magnetostatics: **RICHARD EVANS**, York, UK [ [Abstract](#) | [Slides](#) ]
- [2017] Fields, Units, Magnetostatics: **LAURENT RANNO**, Grenoble, France [ [Abstract](#) | [Slides](#) ]
- [2017] Magnetism of atoms and ions: **WULF WULFHEKEL**, Karlsruhe, Germany [ [Abstract](#) | [Slides](#) ]
- [2017] Units in Magnetism (practical): **OLIVIER FRUCHART**, Grenoble, France [ [Questions](#) | [Answers](#) ]
- [2015] Units in Magnetism (practical): **OLIVIER FRUCHART**, Grenoble, France [ [Questions](#) | [Answers](#) ]

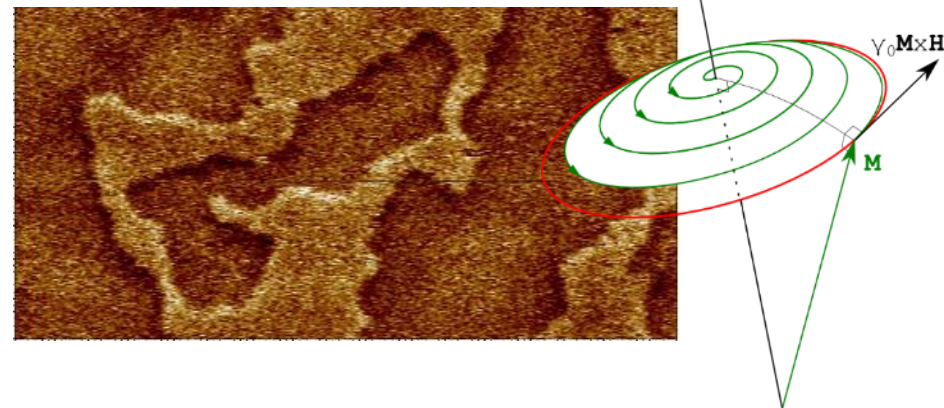
### Topics

- Units, fields and moments
- Exchange, magnetic ordering, magnetic anisotropy
- Temperature effects and excitations
- Correlated systems
- Transport
- Magnetization processes
- Simulations
- Materials
- Nanoparticles, microstructures etc
- Nanomagnetism and spintronics
- Techniques
- Applications and interdisciplinary magnetism
- Industry perspectives
- Open sessions

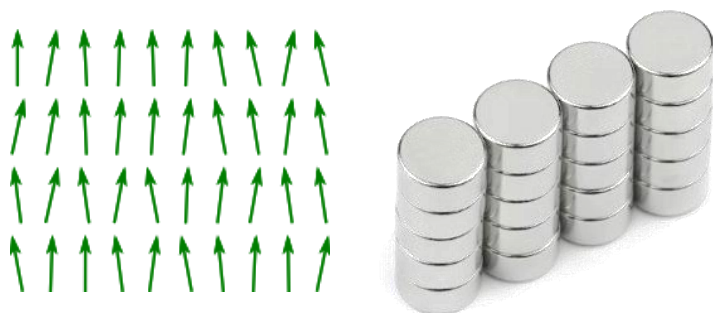
## Units and fields



## Magnetization processes and micromagnetism basics

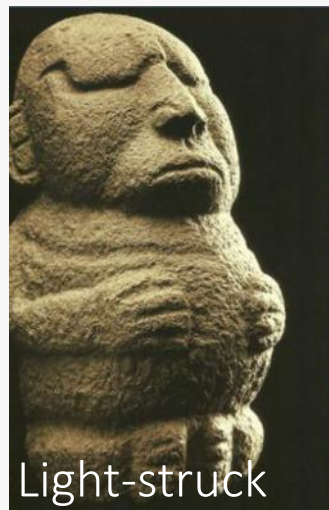


## Magnetic ordering and materials



## Century-old facts

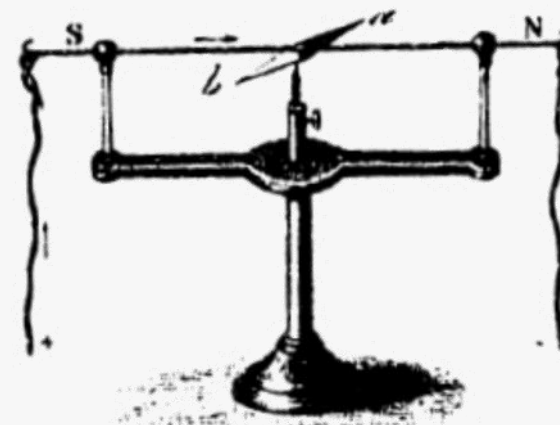
- Magnetic materials (rocks)



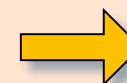
- Magnetic field of the earth



## Oersted experiment in 1820

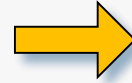


Hans-Christian Oersted,  
1777–1851.



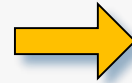
Birth of  
electromagnetism

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$



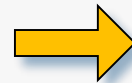
Gauss theorem

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$



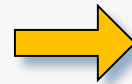
Faraday law of induction

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left( \mathbf{j} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$



Ampère theorem

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

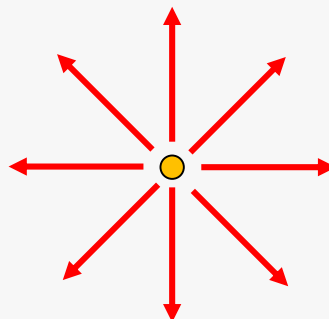


B is divergence free  
(no magnetic poles)

### Macroscopic level: Gauss theorem

- ▣ Ostogradski theorem

$$\iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} \, dV = \oiint_{\partial V} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$$



➔  $\frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} = \iiint_V \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \, dV = \oiint_{\partial V} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$

#### Link

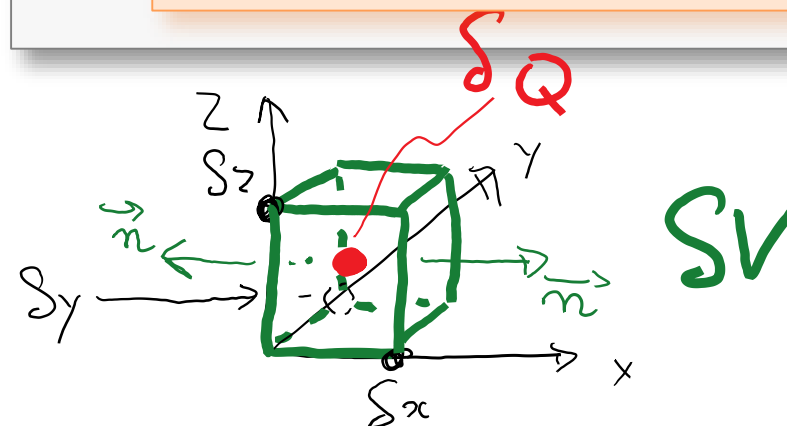
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + \dots = \frac{E_x(x + \delta x) - E_x(x)}{\delta x} + \dots$$

### Microscopic level: Maxwell equation

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\rho = \frac{\delta Q}{\delta V} \quad \text{Volume density of electric charge}$$

- ▣  $\rho$  is the scalar source of  $\mathbf{E}$





# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – Fields in Physics

## The electric current and the magnetic induction field

### Macroscopic level: Ampere theorem

- Stokes theorem

$$\iint_S (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell}$$

→  $I = \mu_0 \iint_S (\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \, dS = \oint_{\partial S} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell}$

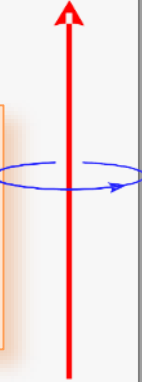
### Microscopic level: Maxwell equation

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j}$$

$\mathbf{j}$ : Volume density of current (A/m<sup>2</sup>)

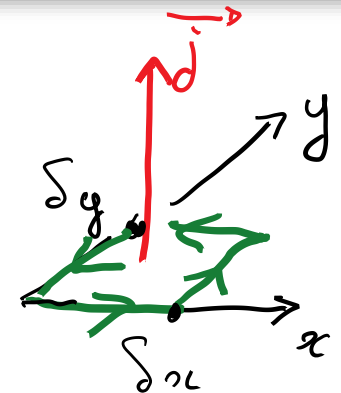
- $\mathbf{j}$  is the vectorial source of curl of  $\mathbf{B}$

**Unit for  $\mathbf{B}$ : tesla (T)**



### Link

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial B_y}{\partial x} & -\frac{\partial B_x}{\partial y} \\ \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \dots & \dots \\ \frac{B_y(x + \delta x) - B_y(x)}{\delta x} & -\frac{B_x(y + \delta y) - B_x(y)}{\delta y} \\ \dots & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$



# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – The magnetic dipole and magnetization


## The magnetic point dipole

### Biot and Savart

$$\delta \mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I \delta \mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{u}}{4\pi r^2}$$

- Note:  $1/r^2$  decay

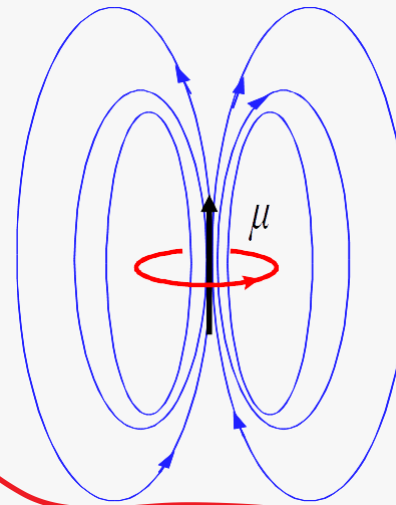
### Ampere theorem and Ørsted field


$$B_\theta = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r}$$

- Note:  $1/r$  decay

*Integrate*

### The magnetic point dipole



- Simple loop

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = I \mathcal{S} \mathbf{n} \quad \text{Unit: } \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{m}^2$$

- General definition

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \iiint_V \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) dV$$

*Derive*

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r^3} \left[ \frac{3}{r^2} (\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right]$$

- Note:  $1/r^3$  decay

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r^3} (2\mu \cos \theta \mathbf{u}_r + \mu \sin \theta \mathbf{u}_\theta)$$

# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – The magnetic dipole and magnetization

## The magnetic point dipole in a magnetic induction field

### Energy

$$\mathcal{E} = -\boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{B} \quad \text{Zeeman energy} \quad (J)$$

Demonstration

- ❑ Work to compensate Lenz law during rise of  $\mathbf{B}$
- ❑ Integrate torque from Laplace force while flipping dipole in  $\mathbf{B}$

### Force

$$\mathbf{F} = \boldsymbol{\mu} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{B})$$

- ❑ Valid only for fixed dipole
- ❑ No force in uniform magnetic induction field

### Torque

$$\boldsymbol{\Gamma} = \oint \mathbf{r} \times I(d\boldsymbol{\ell} \times \mathbf{B}) = \boldsymbol{\mu} \times \mathbf{B}$$

- ❑ Inducing precession of dipole around the field
- ❑ It is energy-conservative, as expected from Laplace (Lorentz) force

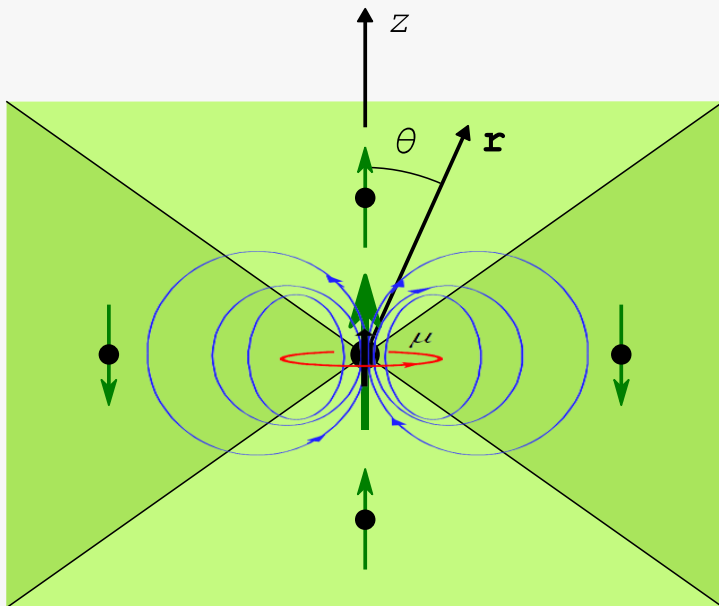
# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – The magnetic dipole and magnetization

## Two interacting magnetic point dipoles

### Energy

$$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{\mu_0}{4\pi r^3} \left[ \frac{3}{r^2} (\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \cdot \mathbf{r})(\boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r}) - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \right]$$

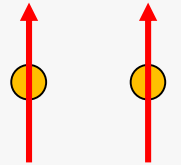
- The dipole-dipole interaction is anisotropic



### Examples



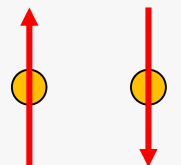
Two dipoles with opposite moments (one pointing right, one pointing left) are shown horizontally. The energy is  $\mathcal{E} = +2 \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$ .



Two dipoles with parallel moments (both pointing up) are shown vertically. The energy is  $\mathcal{E} = + \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$ .



Two dipoles with perpendicular moments (one pointing up, one pointing left) are shown. The energy is  $\mathcal{E} = 0$ .



Two dipoles with antiparallel moments (one pointing up, one pointing down) are shown vertically. The energy is  $\mathcal{E} = - \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$ .



Two dipoles with parallel moments (both pointing right) are shown horizontally. The energy is  $\mathcal{E} = -2 \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$ .

### Definition

- Volume density of magnetic point dipoles

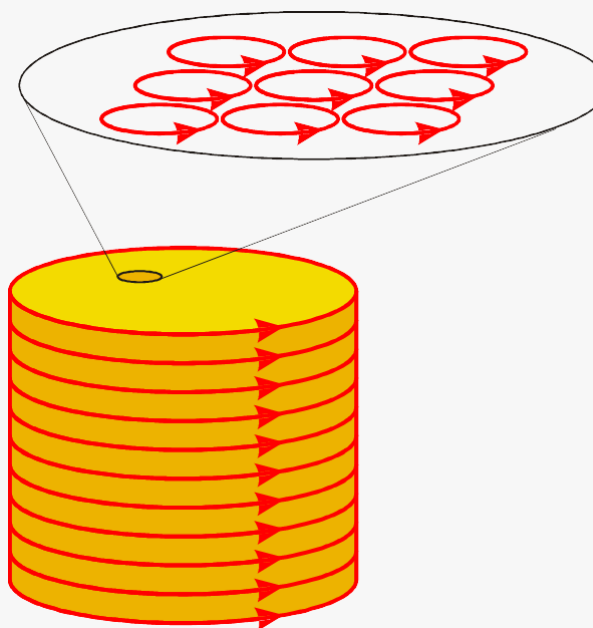
$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{\delta\boldsymbol{\mu}}{\delta\mathcal{V}} \quad \text{A/m}$$

- Total magnetic moment of a body

$$\mathcal{M} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{M} d\mathcal{V} \quad \text{A} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

- Applies to: ferromagnets, paramagnets, diamagnets etc.
- Must be defined at a length scale much larger than atoms
- Is the basis for the micromagnetic theory

### Equivalence with surface currents



- Name: Amperian description of magnetism
- Surface current equals magnetization  $\text{A/m}$

### Back to Maxwell equations

- Disregard fast time dependence: magnetostatics

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left( \mathbf{j} + \cancel{\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}} \right)$$

- Consider separately real charge current,  $\mathbf{j}_c$  from fictitious currents of magnetic dipoles  $\mathbf{j}_m$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 (\mathbf{j}_c + \mathbf{j}_m)$$

- One can show:  $\nabla \times \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{j}_m$       $\text{A/m}^2$   
 $\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{n} = \mathbf{j}_{m,s}$       $\text{A/m}$

- Outside matter,  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mu_0 \mathbf{H}$  coincide and have exactly the same meaning.

### The magnetic field $\mathbf{H}$

- One has:  $\nabla \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} - \mathbf{M} \right) = \mathbf{j}_c$

- By definition:  $\mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\mu_0} - \mathbf{M}$       $\text{A/m}$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{j}_c$$

### $\mathbf{B}$ versus $\mathbf{H}$ : definition of the system

- $\mathbf{M}$ : local (infinitesimal) part in  $\delta V$  of the system defined when considering a magnetic material
- $\mathbf{H}$ : The remaining of  $\mathbf{B}$  coming from outside  $\delta V$ , liable to interact with the system

### The dipolar field $H_d$

- By definition: the contribution to  $H$  not related to free currents (possible to split as Maxwell equations are linear)

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H}_d = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{H}_d = -\nabla \phi_d$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_d + \mathbf{H}_{app} \quad \text{External to magnetic body}$$

### Analogy with electrostatics

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{E} = -\nabla \phi$$

→ Magnetic scalar potential

### Derive the dipolar field

Maxwell equation  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{H}_d = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{M}$

Source for  $H_d$

$$\longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) = -M_s \iiint_{V'} \frac{[\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}')] (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dV'$$

To lift the singularity that may arise at boundaries, a volume integration around the boundaries yields:

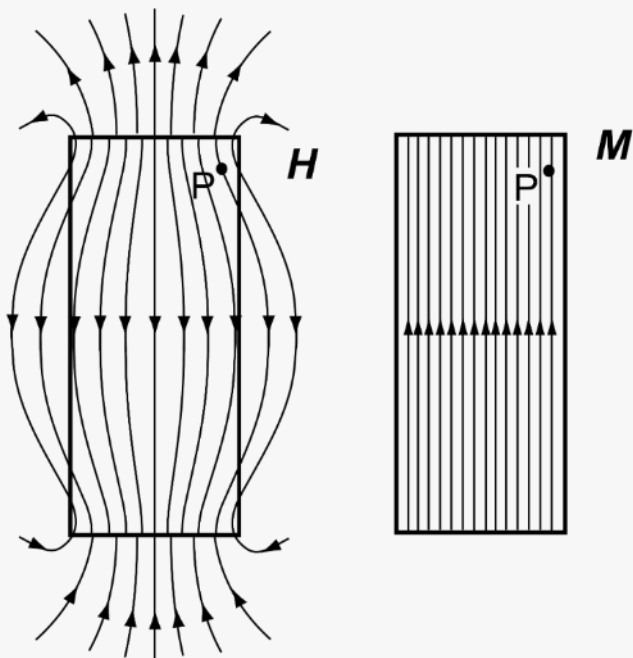
$$\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) = \iiint \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}') (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dV' + \iint \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{r}') (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = -M_s \nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \quad \rightarrow \text{volume density of magnetic charges}$$

$$\sigma(\mathbf{r}) = M_s \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{r}) \quad \rightarrow \text{surface density of magnetic charges}$$

### Example

Permanent magnet (uniformly-magnetized)



- Surface charges

$$\sigma(\mathbf{r}) = M_s \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{r})$$

- Dipolar field

$$\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) = \iint \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{r}') (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

### Vocabulary

- Generic names

Magnetostatic field

Dipolar field

- Inside material

Demagnetizing field

- Outside material

Stray field

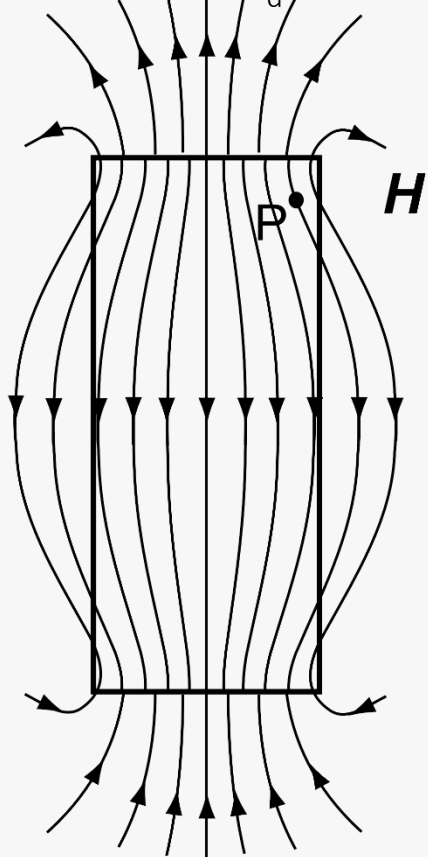
Illustration from: M. Coey's book



# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – The magnetic field $H$ $B$ versus $H$ – Amperian versus Coulombian – Continuity conditions

## Coulombian description

- Pseudo-charges source of  $H_d$



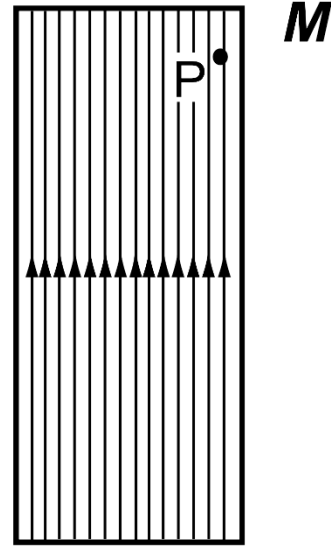
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = 0$$

- No closed lines

$$\Delta H_{\parallel} = 0$$

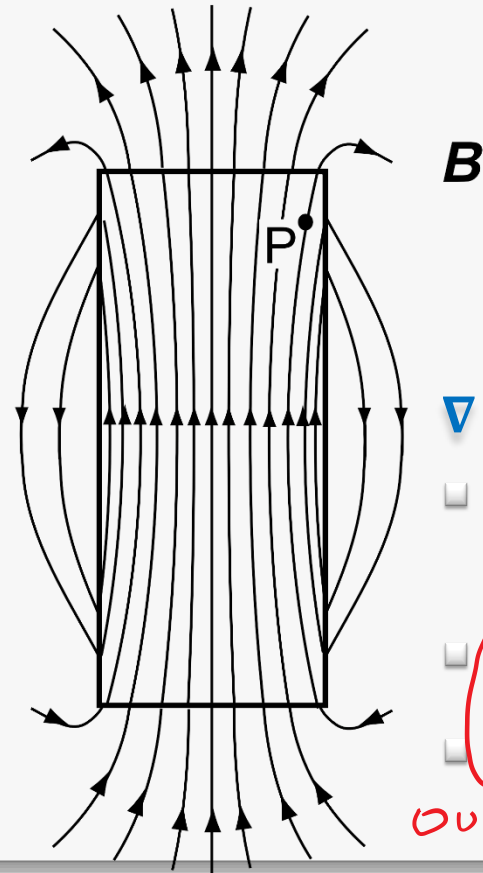
$$\Delta \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{n} = \sigma$$

out - in



## Amperian description

- Fictitious currents source of  $B$



$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

- No magnetic monopole

$$\Delta B_{\perp} = 0$$

$$\Delta \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{n}$$

out - in

From: M. Coey's book

### Size considerations

$$\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) = \text{Volume} + \iint \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{r}') (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

- Unchanged if all lengths are scaled: homothetic.  
NB: the following is a solid angle:

$$d\Omega = \frac{(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') dS'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3}$$

- $H_d$  does not depend on the size of the body
- Said to be a long-range interaction

### Dipolar energy

- Zeeman energy of microscopic volume  
 $\delta\mathcal{E}_Z = -\mu_0 \mathbf{M} \delta\mathcal{V} \cdot \mathbf{H}_{\text{ext}}$

- Elementary volume of a macroscopic system creating its own dipolar field

$$E_d = \delta\mathcal{E}_d / \delta\mathcal{V} = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{H}_d$$

*mutual energy*

- Total dipolar energy of macroscopic body

$$\mathcal{E}_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \iiint_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{H}_d d\mathcal{V}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_d = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \iiint_{\mathcal{V}} \mathbf{H}_d^2 d\mathcal{V}$$

- Always positive. Zero means minimum

### Dipolar energy for uniform magnetization

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{M} = M_s(m_x \hat{\mathbf{x}} + m_y \hat{\mathbf{y}} + m_z \hat{\mathbf{z}})$$

- No volume charges:  $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = -M_s \nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$

- Dipolar field: 
$$\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) = \oiint_{\partial V} \frac{[\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{r}')] (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS' = M_s m_i \oiint_{\partial V} \frac{n_i(\mathbf{r}') (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

Implicit  $\sum_{i=x,y,z}$

- Dipolar energy:

$$\varepsilon_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \iiint_V \mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) dV = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 M_s^2 m_i \iiint_V dV \oiint_{\partial V} \frac{n_i(\mathbf{r}') \mathbf{m} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

$$\varepsilon_d = -K_d m_i m_j \iiint_V dV \oiint_{\partial V} \frac{n_i(\mathbf{r}') (r_j - r'_j)}{4\pi |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} dS'$$

Implicit  $\sum_i \sum_j = x, y, z$

$$\langle \mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = -M_s \bar{\mathbf{N}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

$$\varepsilon_d = K_d V \mathbf{m} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{N}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

See more detailed approach: M. Beleggia et al., JMMM 263, L1-9 (2003)

### For any shape of body

$$\langle \mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = -M_s \bar{\bar{\mathbf{N}}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_d = K_d V \mathbf{m} \cdot \bar{\bar{\mathbf{N}}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

Dipolar anisotropy is always of second order

- $\bar{\bar{\mathbf{N}}}$  demagnetizing tensor. Always positive, and can be diagonalized.  $N_x + N_y + N_z = 1$

$$\mathcal{E}_d = K_d V (N_x m_x^2 + N_y m_y^2 + N_z m_z^2)$$

- Along main directions

$$\langle H_{d,i}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = -N_i M_s$$



Hypothesis uniform  $\mathbf{M}$  may be too strong  
Remember: dipolar field is NOT uniform

### For ellipsoids etc.

- Condition: boundary is a polynomial of the coordinates, with degree at most two

Slabs (thin films), cylinders, ellipsoids

$$z^2 = \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = 1$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{c}\right)^2 = 1$$

$$\mathbf{H}_d = -M_s \bar{\bar{\mathbf{N}}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_d = K_d V \mathbf{m} \cdot \bar{\bar{\mathbf{N}}} \cdot \mathbf{m}$$

- Along main directions

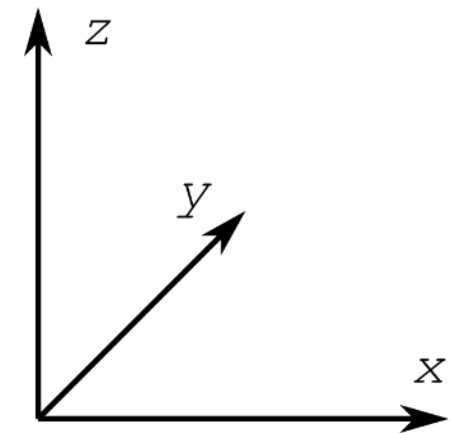
$$H_{d,i} = -N_i M_s$$



$\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{H}$  may not be colinear along non-main directions

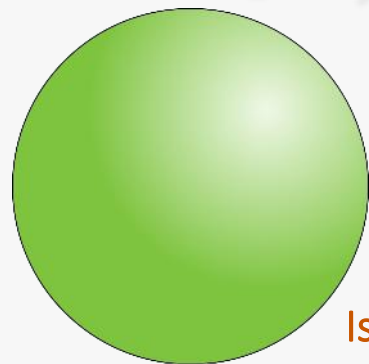
# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – Magnetostatics

## Demagnetizing coefficient (examples)



**Sphere**

$$L_x = L_y = L_z = D$$



Isotropic

$$N_x = N_y = N_z = \frac{1}{3}$$

**Cylinder**

$$L_x = L_y = D$$

$$L_z = \infty$$

$$N_x = N_y = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$N_z = 0$$



Favors axial magnetization

**Slab (thin film)**

$$L_x = L_y = \infty$$



Favors in-plane magnetization

$$N_x = N_y = 0$$

$$N_z = 1$$

**Take-away message**

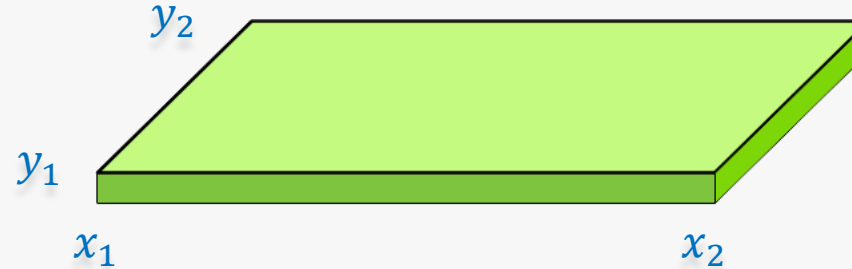
Dipolar energy favors alignment of magnetization with longest direction of sample

Core function for the magnetic scalar potential

$$F_{000}(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{r} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

➔  $\phi(x, y, z) = \frac{Q}{4\pi} F_{000}(x, y, z)$

Magnetic potential from a charged plate



$$\phi(x, y, z) = \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} dx' \int_{y_1}^{y_2} dy' F_{000}(x - x', y - y', z)$$

➔ Sum of four terms involving here  $F_{110}$

**Definition for  $F_{ijk}$  function**

$F_{000}$  Can be integrated and/or derived analytically to any order, against  $x, y, z$

- $F_{ijk}(x, y, z)$
- ❑ Integrated  $i$  times versus  $x$
  - ❑ Integrated  $j$  times versus  $y$
  - ❑ Integrated  $k$  times versus  $z$

Example

$$F_{100}(x, y, z) = \int F_{000}(x, y, z) dx + Cste$$

A. Hubert, R. Schäfer, Magnetic domains, Springer (2000)

# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – Magnetostatics

## The $H_{ijk}$ functions – Examples of use (for an $xy$ charged plate)

### Magnetic scalar potential

$F_{110}$  Magnetic scalar potential

### Components of magnetic field

$F_{11-1}$   $H_{d,z}$

$F_{010}$   $H_{d,x}$

$F_{100}$   $H_{d,y}$

### Gradients of magnetic field

$F_{11-2}$   $\frac{dH_{d,z}}{dz}$

$F_{01-1}$   $\frac{dH_{d,x}}{dz}$

$F_{10-1}$   $\frac{dH_{d,y}}{dz}$

MFM contrast

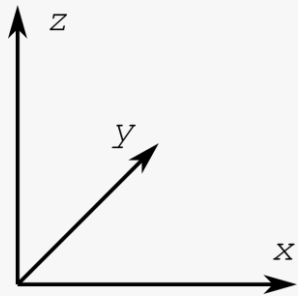
### Demag coefficients

$F_{220}$   $N_z$

$F_{022}$   $N_x$

$F_{202}$   $N_y$

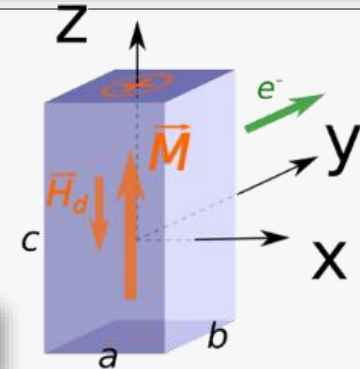
### Examples of other specific cases



$F_{12-1}$  z component of H, integrated along y

$F_{120}$  z-averaged z component of H, integrated along y

Electron holography of a PSA



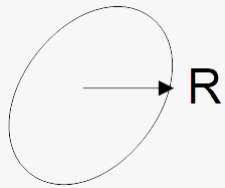
### Range

Example: upper bound of dipolar field in thin films

$$\|\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r})\| \leq M_{st} \int \frac{2\pi r}{r^3} dr$$

*Integration*

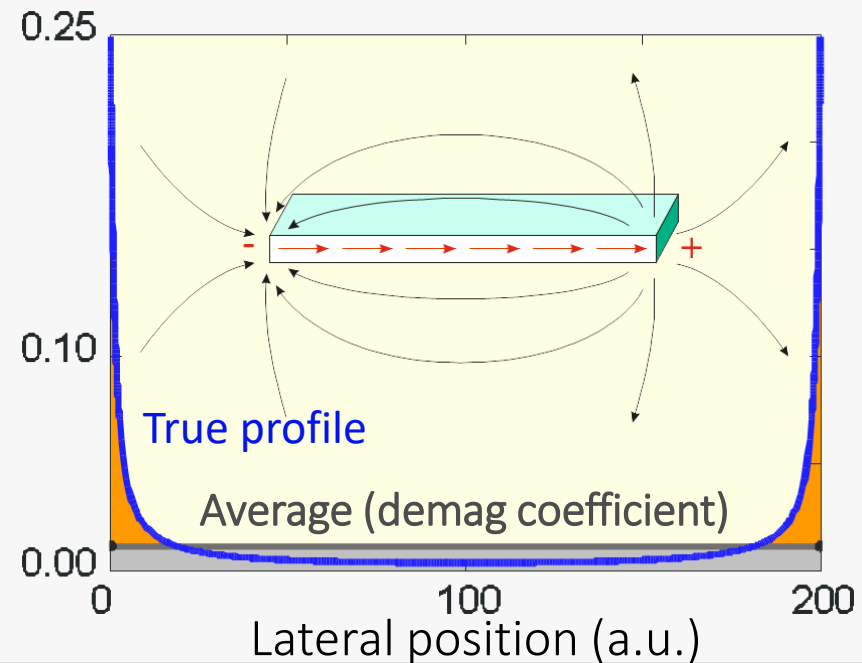
*$\rightarrow H_d$  for dipole*



**→**  $\|\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{R})\| \leq C_{ste} + \mathcal{O}(1/R)$

### Non-homogeneity

Example: flat strip with aspect ratio 0.0125



- ❑ Dipolar fields are short-ranged and inhomogeneous in low dimensions
- ❑ Consequences: non-uniform magnetization switching, edge modes etc.

**→** A 1D/2D system in space behaves very differently from a nano-bulk magnet



# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – Units in Physics

## Units in Magnetism

	S.I.		cgs-Gauss	
<b>Definitions</b>	Meter	m	Centimeter	cm
	Kilogram	kg	Gram	g
	Second	s	Second	s
	Ampere	A	Ab-Ampere	ab-A = 10 A
	$\mathbf{B} = \mu_0(\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{M})$		$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{H} + 4\pi\mathbf{M}$	
	$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$ S.I.		"μ <sub>0</sub> " = 4π.	

### Problems with cgs

- ❑ The quantity for charge current is missing  
No check for homogeneity;  
paradox for spintronics
- ❑ Inconsistent definition of H  
Dimensionless quantities are affected:  
demag coefficients, susceptibility etc.

### Conversion

Field	<b>H</b>	1 A/m	↔	$4\pi \times 10^{-3}$ Oe	Ersted
Moment	<b>μ</b>	1 A · m <sup>2</sup>	↔	10 <sup>3</sup> emu	
Magnetization	<b>M</b>	1 A/m	↔	10 <sup>-3</sup> emu/cm <sup>3</sup>	Electromagnetic Unit
Induction	<b>B</b>	1 T	↔	10 <sup>4</sup> G	Gauss
Susceptibility	$\chi = M/H$	1	↔	1/4π	

**Tutorial on units** Questions: <http://magnetism.eu/esm/2018/abs/fruchart-practical-abs1.pdf>  
 Answers: <http://magnetism.eu/esm/2018/abs/fruchart-practical-answers1.pdf>

# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – Units in Physics

## Quantum revolution in SI units in 2019

### Define quantities

- ▣ Times
- ▣ Length
- ▣ Mass
- ▣ Electric charge

### Fixed values

- ▣ Speed of light -> Define meter
- ▣ Planck constant -> Defines kg
- ▣ Charge of the electron

### To be measured

- ▣ Magnetic permeability of vacuum

$$\mu_0 \neq 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ S.I.}$$

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi[1 + 2.0(2.3) \cdot 10^{-10}] \times 10^{-7} \text{ S.I.}$$



R. B. Goldfarb, IEEE Trans. Magn. MAG. 8, 1-3 (2017); R. B. Goldfarb, IEEE Mag. Lett. 9, 1205905 (2018)  
S. Schlamminger, Redefining the kilogram and other SI units, IOP Physics World Discovery (2018)

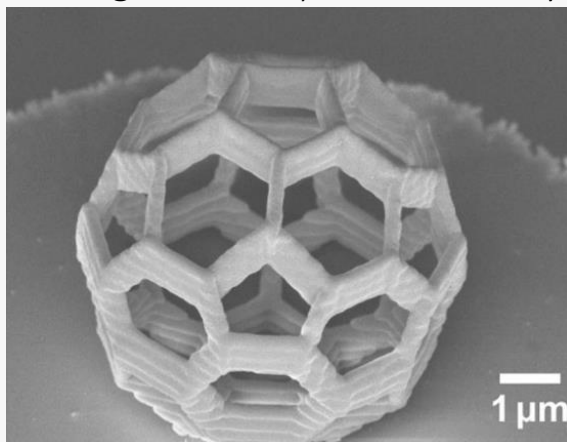
# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – General considerations

## What is dimensionality?

### Space

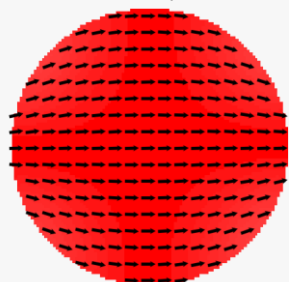
- Physical quantities (incl. magnetization) defined at any location in space

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}(x, y, z)$$

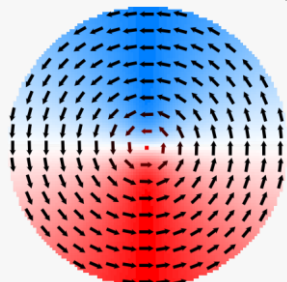


C. Donnelly, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 114, 115501 (2015)

- Features: shape, dimensions, dimensionality



Single-domain

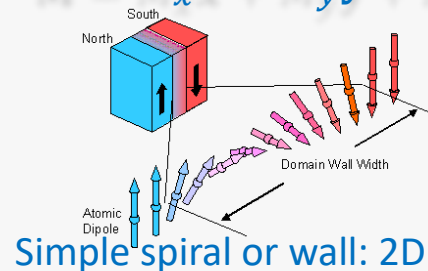


Size > magn. length scale

### Magnetization components

- Vector field for magnetization has three components

$$\mathbf{M} = M_x \hat{x} + M_y \hat{y} + M_z \hat{z}$$

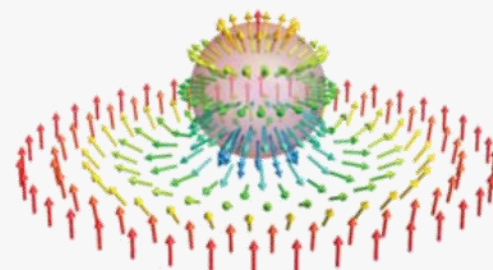


Simple spiral or wall: 2D

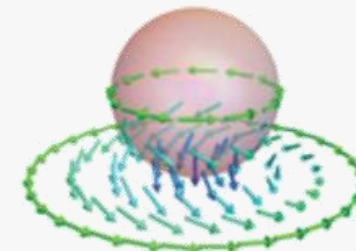


A. Fert, *Skyrmion: 3D*  
*Nat. Nanotech.* 8, 152 (2013)

- Mapping magnetization on the unit sphere



Skyrmion

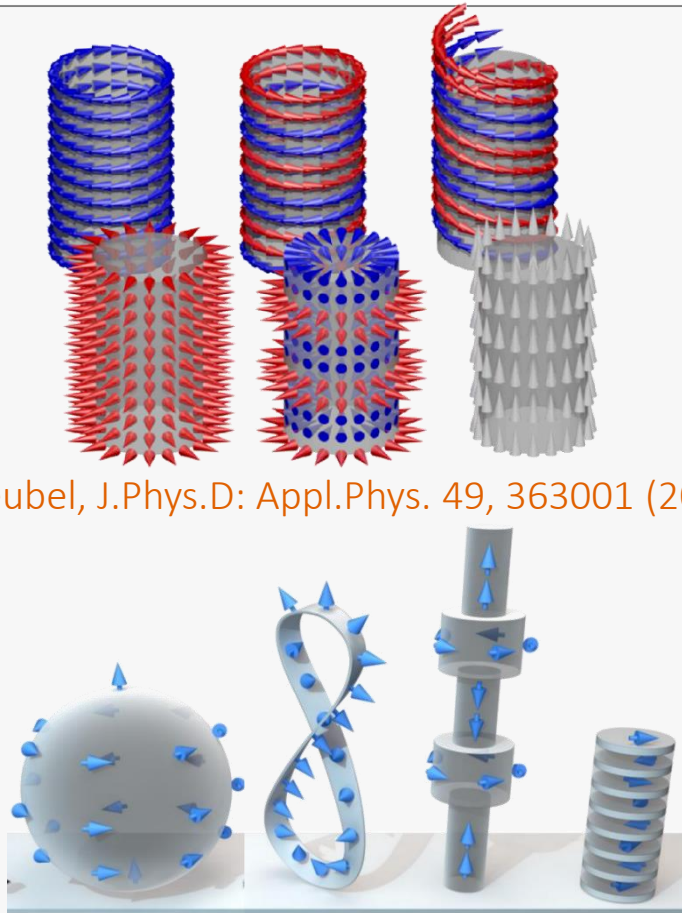


Vortex

In: H.B. Braun, *Solitons in real space: domain walls, vortices, hedgehogs and skyrmions*, Springer (2018)

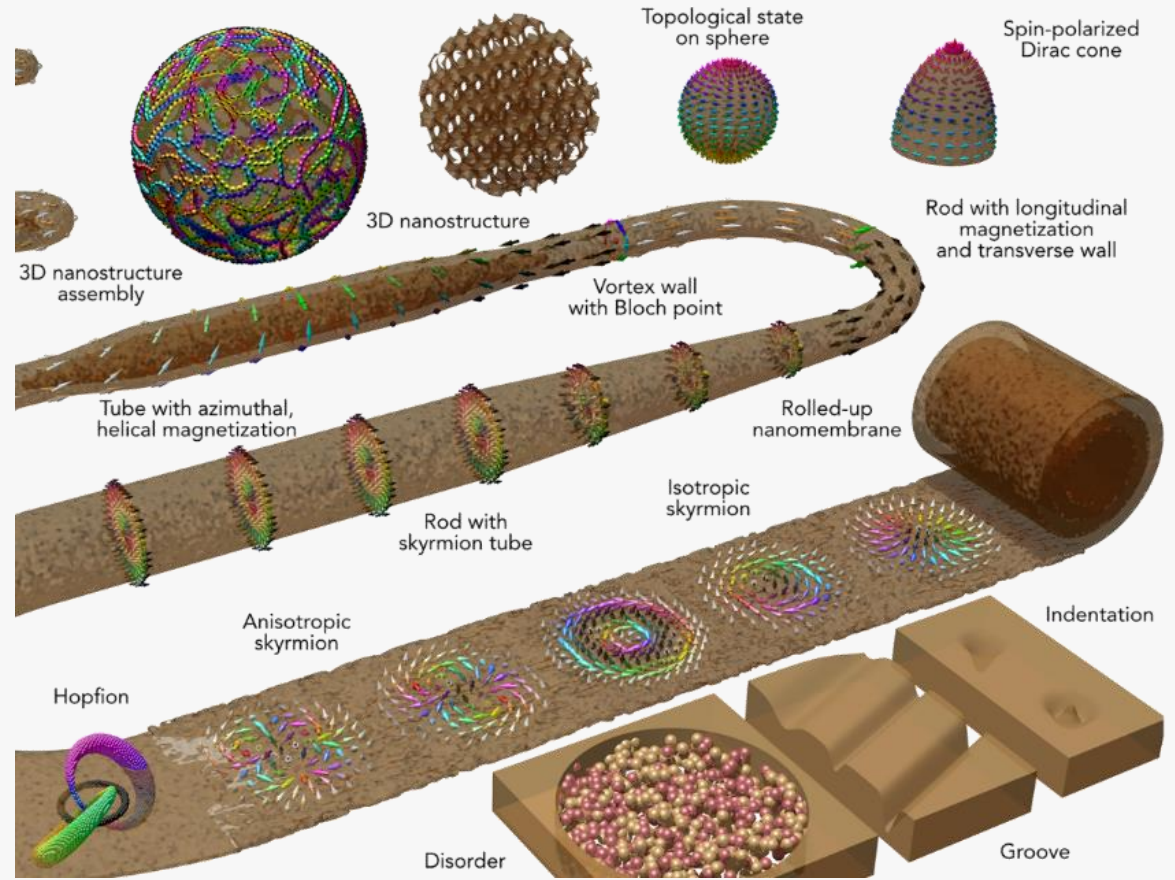
# 1. UNITS AND FIELDS – General considerations

## Sharp rise of contributions on 3D nanomagnetism



R. Streubel, J.Phys.D: Appl.Phys. 49, 363001 (2016)

A. Fernandez-Pacheco, Nat. Comm., 8, (2017)



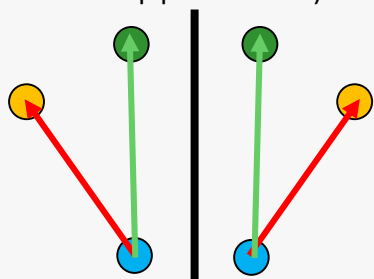
A. Fernandez-Pacheco, Nat. Comm., 8, (2017)

Lecture  
Denys Makarov

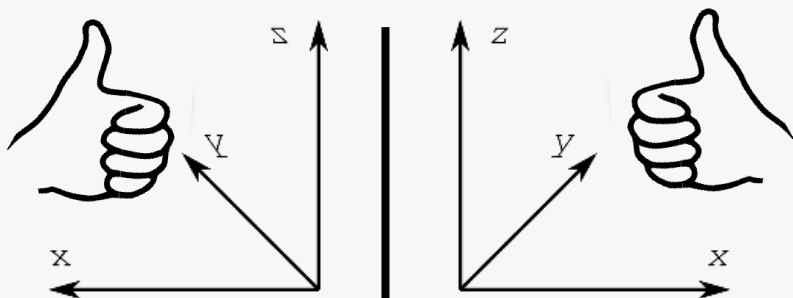
### Definition

An object that cannot be superimposed onto itself, following a mirror symmetry

- Two vectors do not allow chirality (the image can be flipped 180°)

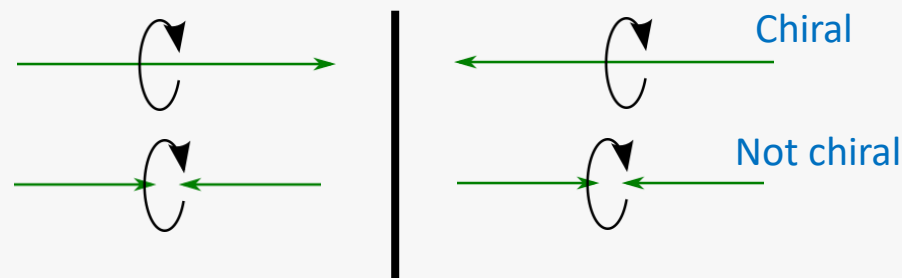


- Three vectors are required for chirality



### (Counter-)examples

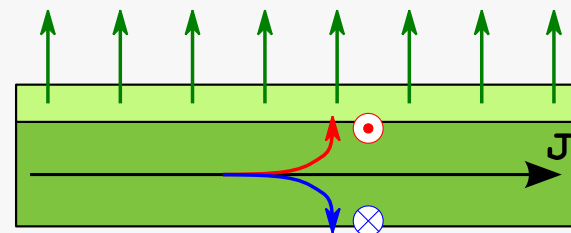
- Not all curling structures are chiral



- Competition or promotion with chiral physical effects, i.e., those involving a vector product

LLG equation

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = -|\gamma_0| \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H} + \alpha \mathbf{m} \times \frac{dm}{dt}$$

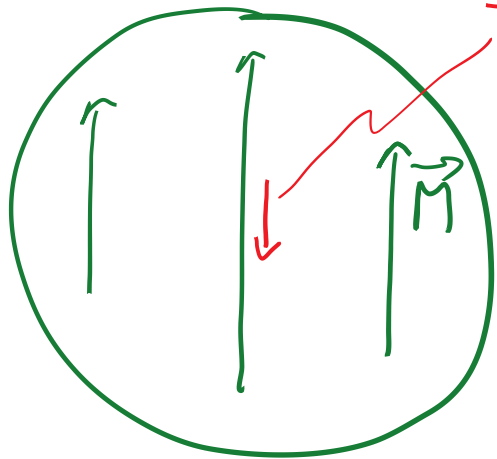


Spin-orbit torques

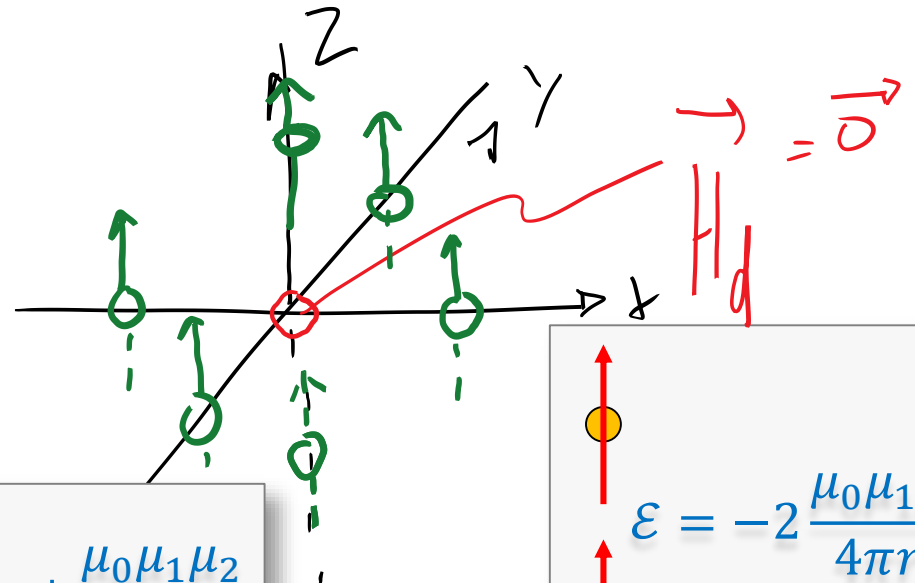
Lecture  
Hyunsoo Yang

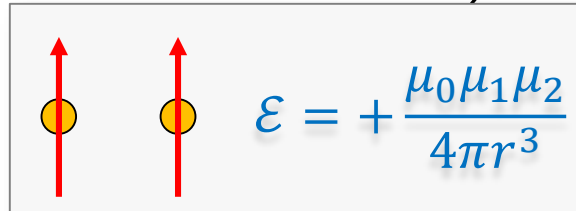
### Quizz #1

I can prove that demagnetizing field does NOT exist!



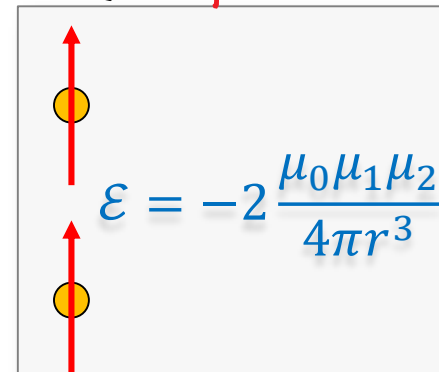
$$-\frac{1}{3}\vec{M}$$





Two parallel magnetic dipoles are shown, each consisting of a red arrow pointing up and a yellow dot below it. The interaction energy is given by:

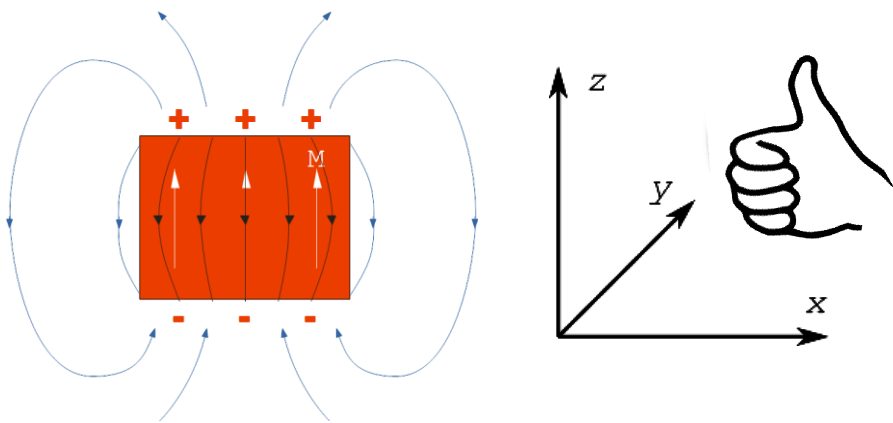
$$\varepsilon = + \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$$



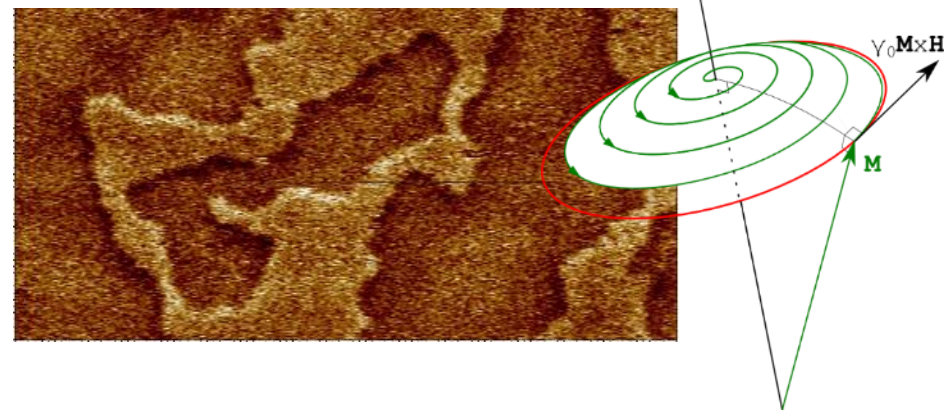
Two parallel magnetic dipoles are shown, each consisting of a red arrow pointing up and a yellow dot below it. The interaction energy is given by:

$$\varepsilon = -2 \frac{\mu_0 \mu_1 \mu_2}{4\pi r^3}$$

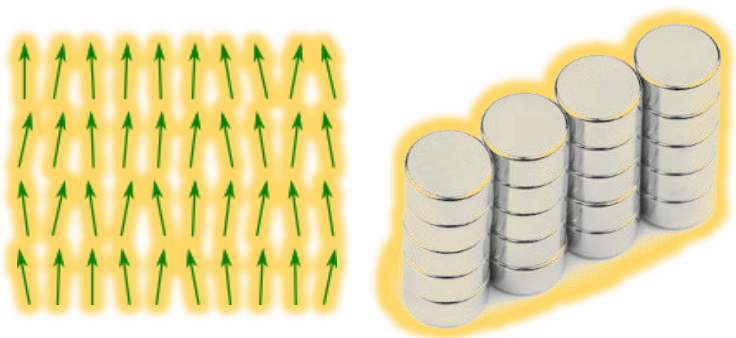
## Units and fields



## Magnetization processes and micromagnetism basics

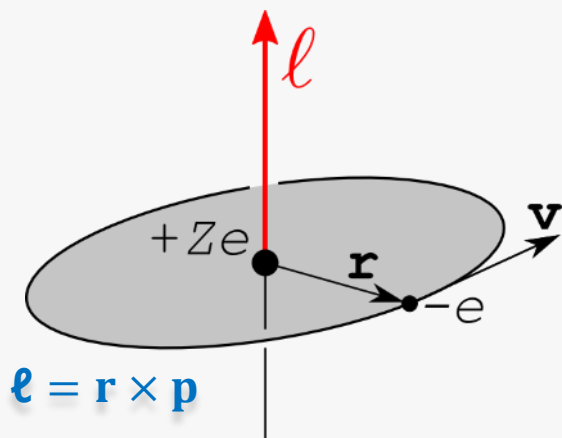


## Magnetic ordering and materials



### Angular momentum

Classical view: electron orbiting around the nucleus



➔  $l = m_e r v$

Niels Bohr postulate: is quantized

$$l = m_e r v \in \hbar N$$

$$\hbar = \frac{h}{2\pi} = 1.0546 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$$

### Orbital magnetic moment

Results from angular momentum

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \frac{1}{2} \iiint \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} = I \boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}$$

$$\mu = \pi r^2 I = -e r v / 2 \quad \text{A} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

### Gyromagnetic ratio $\gamma$

Magnetic moment associated with angular momentum:  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \gamma \boldsymbol{\ell}$

For the orbital motion of electrons:  $\gamma = -\frac{e}{2m_e}$

### Bohr magneton $\mu_B$

Quantum for magnetic moments, resulting from the quantization of angular momentum

$$\mu_B = \gamma \hbar \quad \mu_B = 9.274 \times 10^{-24} \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^2$$



#### Spin magnetic moment


- Spin = intrinsically-quantized angular momentum
- Electrons are fermions (half-integer spin)

$$s = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

- Angular momentum  $s\hbar = \pm \frac{\hbar}{2}$

- Magnetic moment (Dirac equation, not classical)

$$\gamma = -\frac{e}{m_e}$$

-  Electrons carry a spin magnetic moment  $\approx 1 \mu_B$

#### Gyromagnetic ratio $\gamma$

- Magnetic moment associated with angular momentum  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \gamma \boldsymbol{\ell}$
- Orbital motion of electrons  $\gamma \approx -\frac{e}{2m_e}$
- Spin of electrons  $\gamma \approx -\frac{e}{m_e}$

#### Bohr magneton $\mu_B$

- Quantum for magnetic moment, resulting from the quantization of angular momentum
- $$\mu_B = \gamma \hbar \quad \mu_B = 9.274 \times 10^{-24} \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

#### Landé factor $\frac{|\boldsymbol{\mu}|}{\mu_B} = g \frac{|\boldsymbol{\ell}|}{\hbar}$

- Orbital moment  $g = 1$
- Electron spin  $g \approx 2$

### Physics

- Spin + space wave function must be antisymmetric
- Coulomb repulsion
- Pauli exclusion

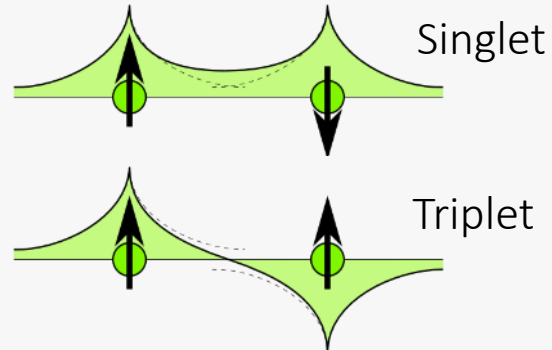
➔ May be viewed as interatomic Hund's rules

Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = -2J_{1,2} \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$

$J_{1,2}$  Exchange integral

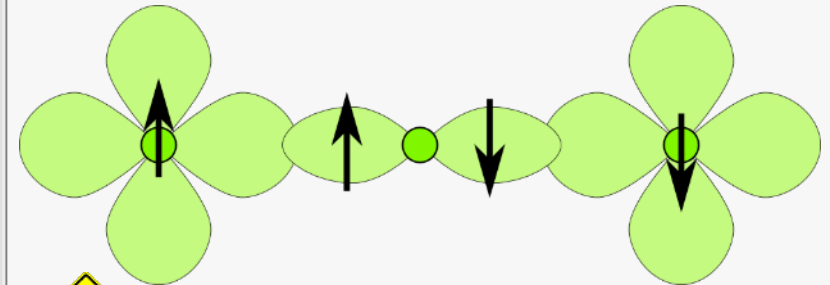
### Direct exchange



Molecules → Singlet

Metals → Ferro/Antiferro

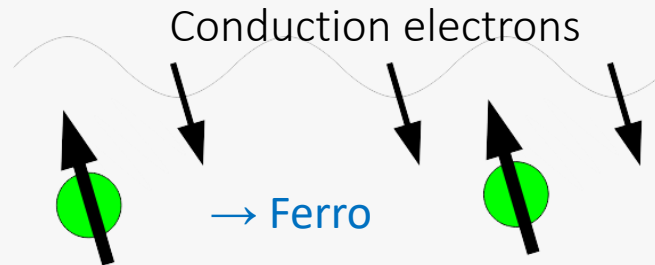
### Superexchange



Bond-length and  
– orientation dependent

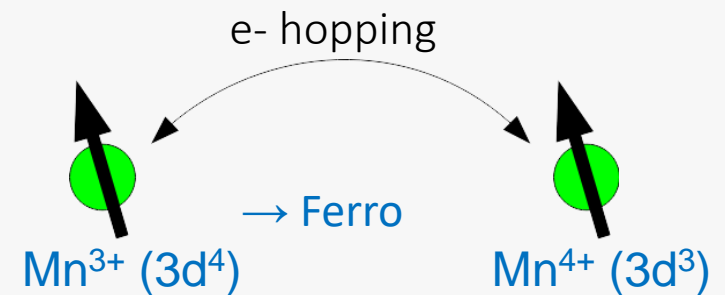
Often:  $\pi \rightarrow$  Antiferro;  $\pi / 2 \rightarrow$  ferro

### Indirect exchange



RKKY, rare-earth (4f), GaMnAs (3d)

### Double exchange Mixed-valence states



Example:  $(\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3})\text{MnO}_3$

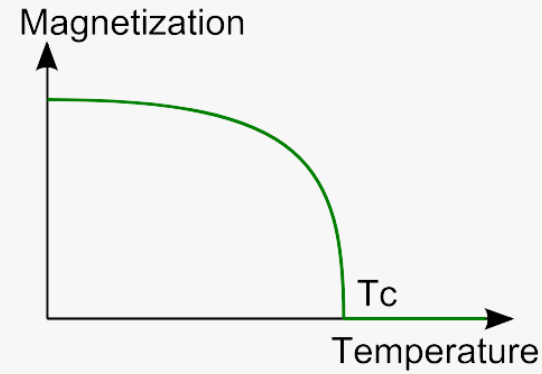
# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetism in matter

## Magnetic ordering and orders

### Magnetic ordering

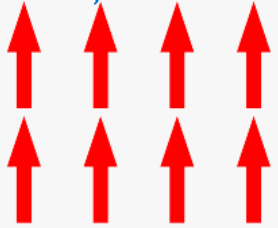
Magnetic exchange between microscopic moments:

$$\mathcal{E} = -2 \sum_{i < j} J_{1,2} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$



### Ferromagnetism

$$J_{1,2} > 0$$

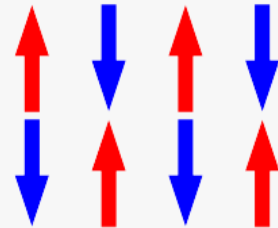


$$T_C = 1043 \text{ K}$$

$$M_S = 1.73 \times 10^6 \text{ A/m}$$

### Antiferromagnetism

$$J_{1,2} < 0$$

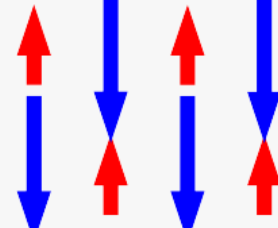


$$T_N = 292 \text{ K}$$

$$J = 3/2$$

### Ferrimagnetism

$$J_{1,2} < 0$$

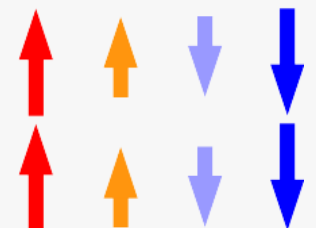


$$T_C = 858 \text{ K}$$

$$M_S = 480 \text{ kA/m}$$

### Helimagnetism

$$J_1, J_2 \dots$$



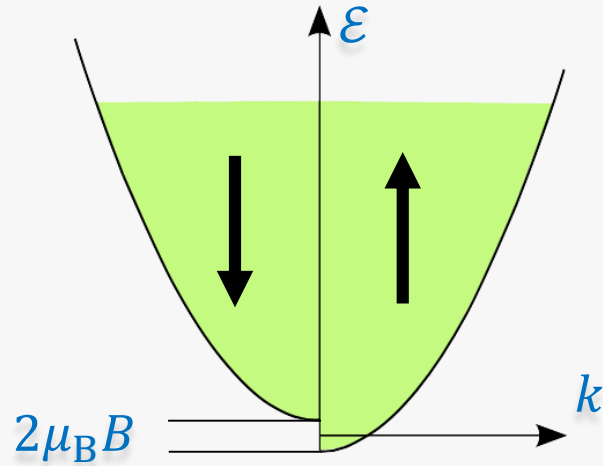
$$T \in 85 - 179 \text{ K}$$

$$\mu = 10.4 \mu_B$$

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetism in matter

## Magnetic exchange (band magnetism)

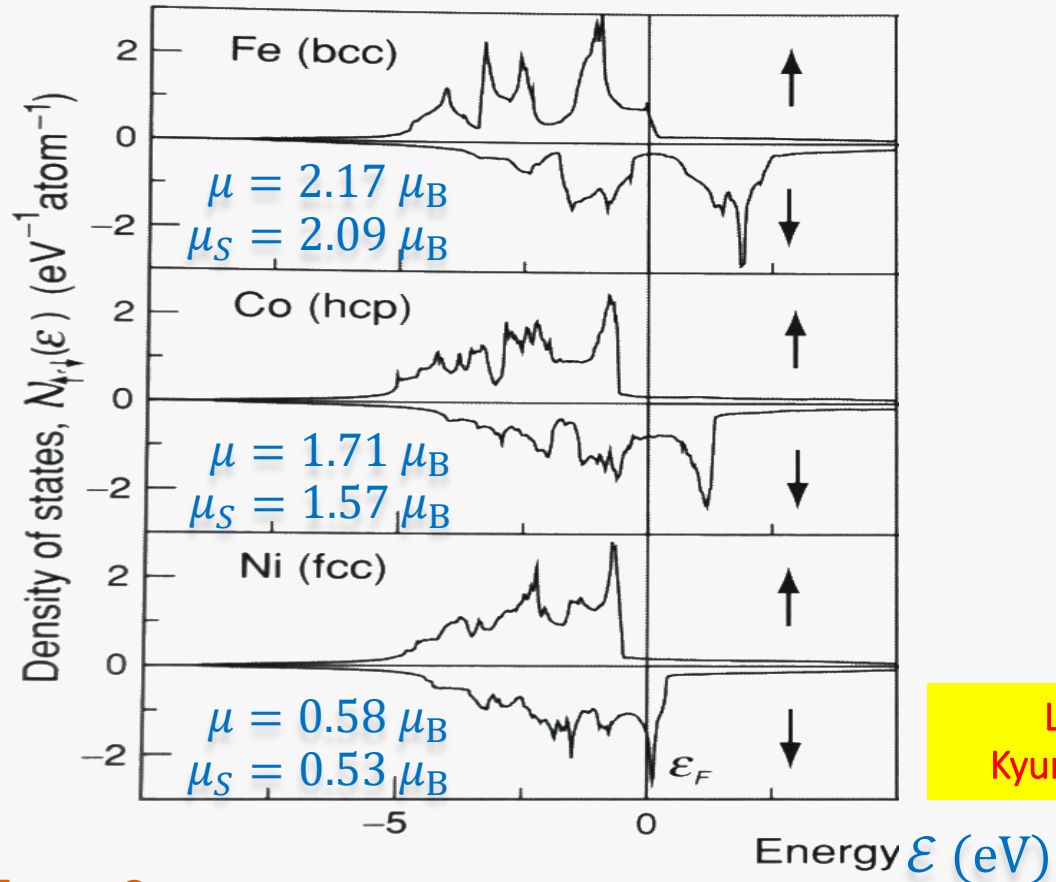
### Stoner criterium



- Cost in kinetic energy
- Gain in Coulomb interaction

Criterion for ordering:  $I\rho_{\uparrow,\downarrow}(\mathcal{E}_F) > 1$

### Spin-polarized band structure

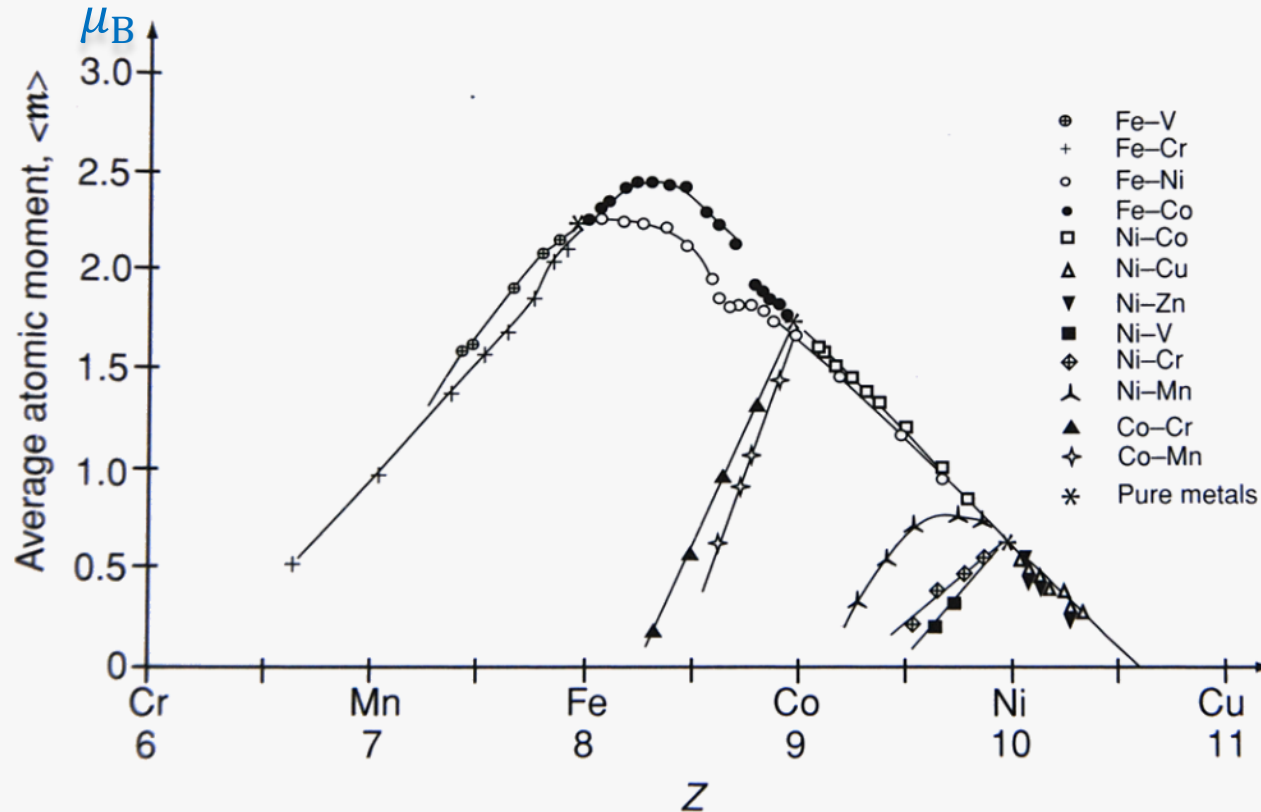


Lecture  
Kyung-Jin Lee

From: Coey

### Slater-Pauling curve

Magnetic moment per atom versus 3d band filling



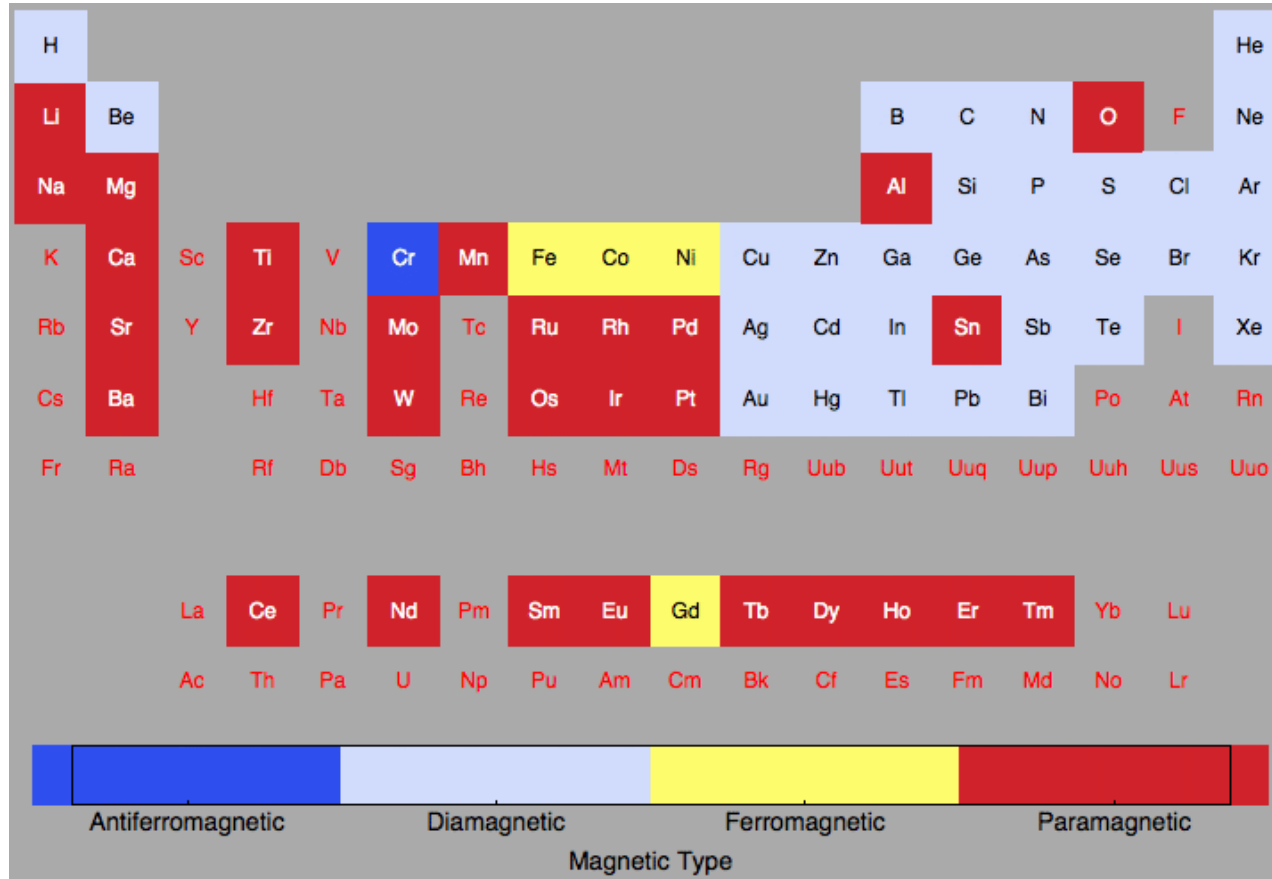
- Moment per atom is lower than for atomic species
- Reasonably well explained by a rigid flat band model
- Illustrates the transfer from 4s to 3d electrons

From: Coey

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetism in matter

## Magnetic ordering

Magnetic properties at room temperature, single elements



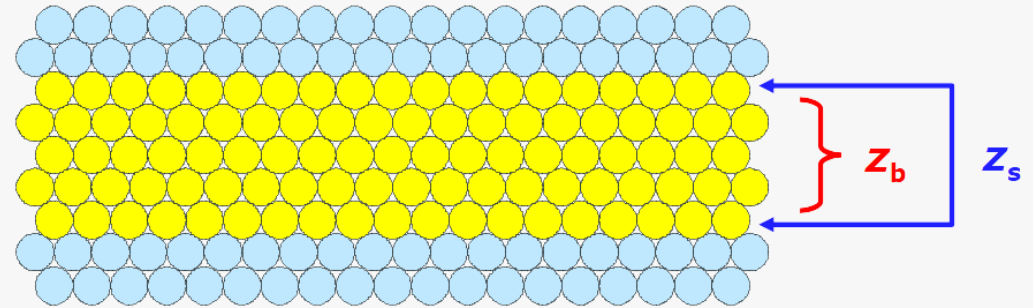
periodic table.com

### A bit of theory

- Ising (1925). No magnetic order at  $T > 0K$  in 1D Ising chain.
- Bloch (1930). No magnetic order at  $T > 0K$  in 2D Heisenberg (spin-waves)  
N. D. Mermin, H. Wagner, PRL17, 1133 (1966)
- Onsager (1944) + Yang (1951). 2D Ising model:  $T_c > 0K$

➔ Magnetic anisotropy promotes ordering

### Naïve views: mean field



$$T_C = \frac{\mu_0 z n_{W,1} n g_J^2 \mu_B^2 J(J+1)}{3k_B}$$

$N$  atomic layers ➔  $\langle z \rangle = z_b - \frac{2(z_b - z_s)}{N}$   
nearest neighbors

➔  $\Delta T_C(t) \sim 1/t$

Confirmed by a more robust layer-dependent mean-field theory

G.A.T. Allan, PRB1, 352 (1970)

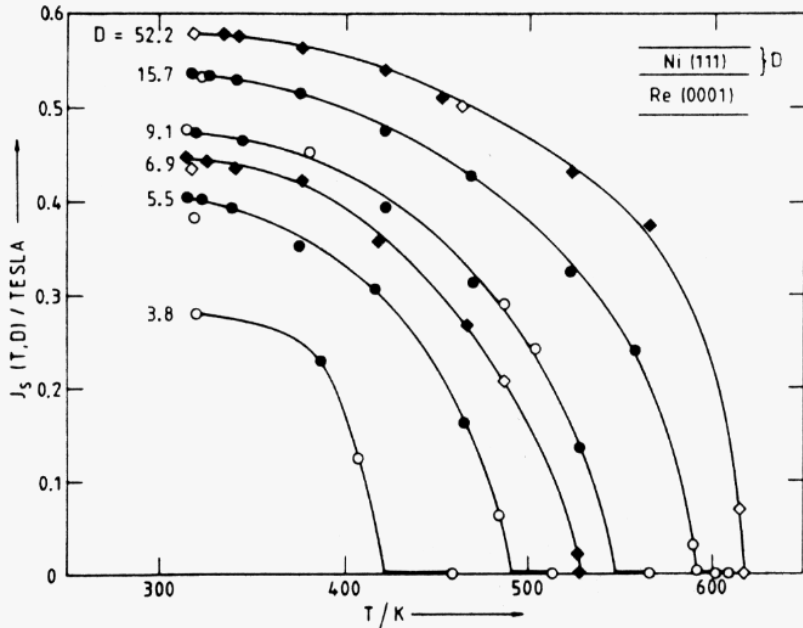
Lecture  
Peng Li

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Low-dimensional effects

## Ordering and dimensionality (experiments)

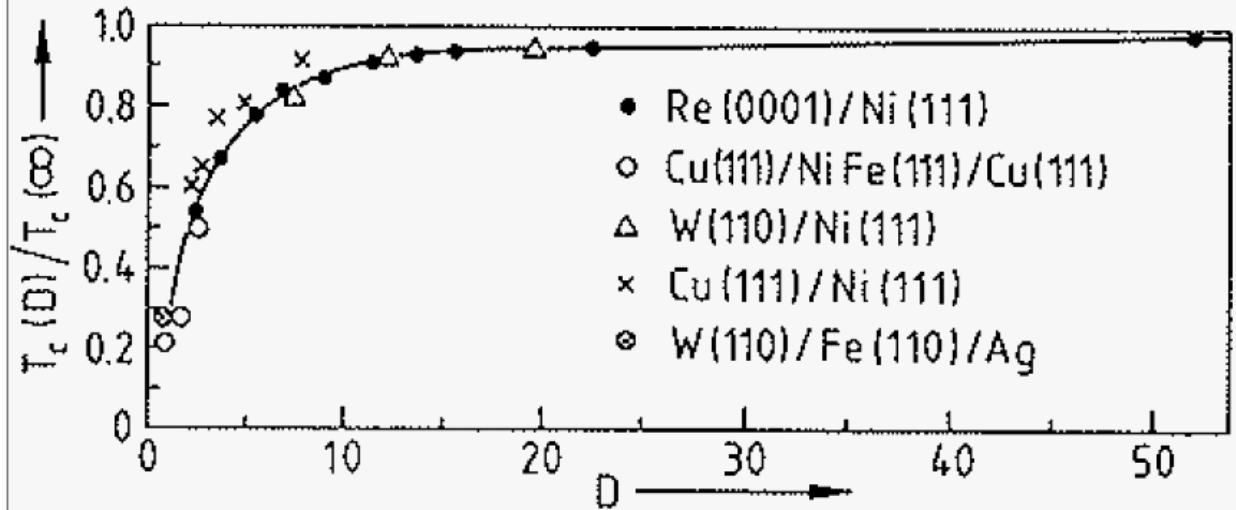
### Qualitative

Ni(111)/Re(0001)



R. Bergholz and U. Gradmann, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 45, 389 (1984)

### Quantitative, master curve



Curie temperature well fitted by molecular field  $\Delta T_c(t) \sim 1/t$

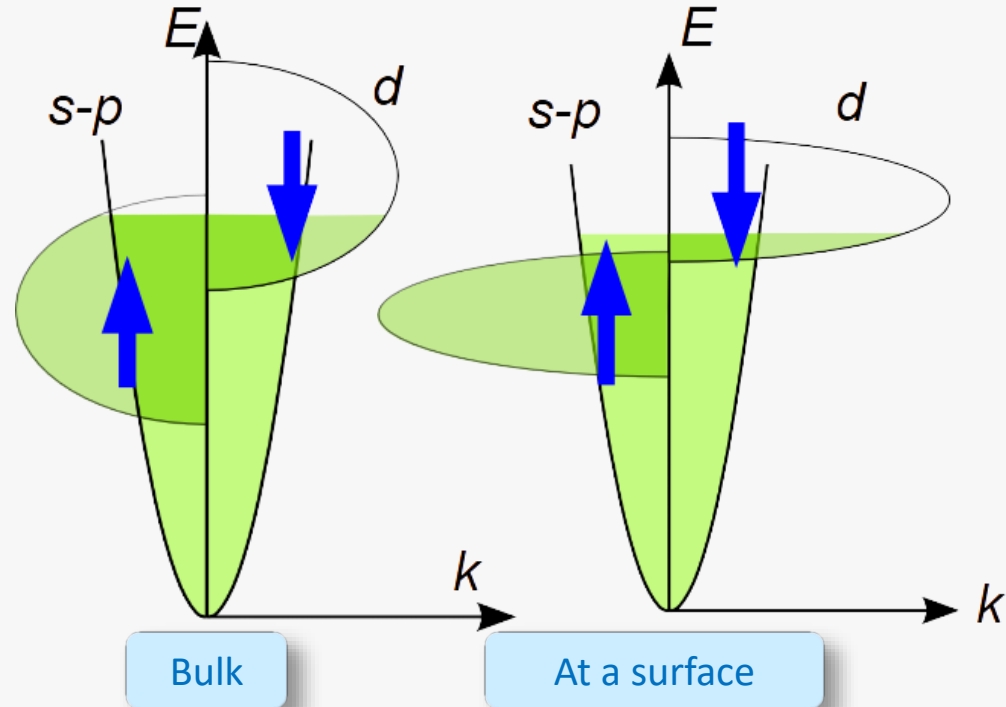
- Ordering temperature decreases with thickness
- Very significant below  $\approx 1\text{nm}$
- Check also: critical exponents



# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Low-dimensional effects

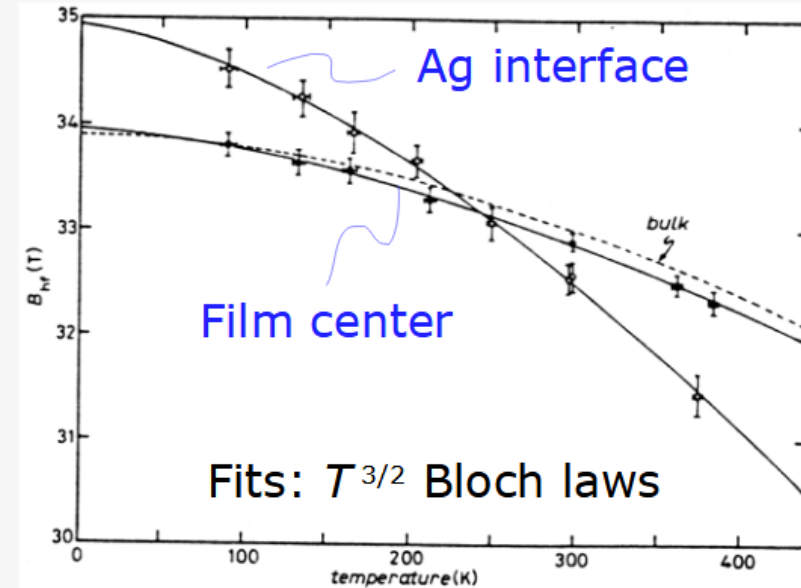
## Magnetic moment versus dimensionality

Simple picture: band narrowing at surfaces



In practice

Ag/Fe(110)/W(110)



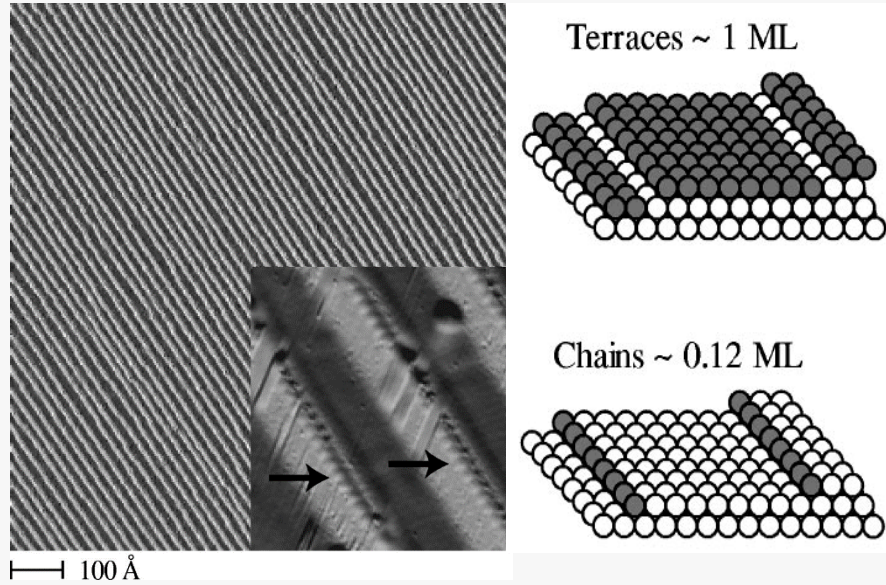
U. Gradmann et. al.

- ❑ Surface moments are usually 20-30% larger than in the bulk
- ❑ However, decay faster with temperature

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetism in matter

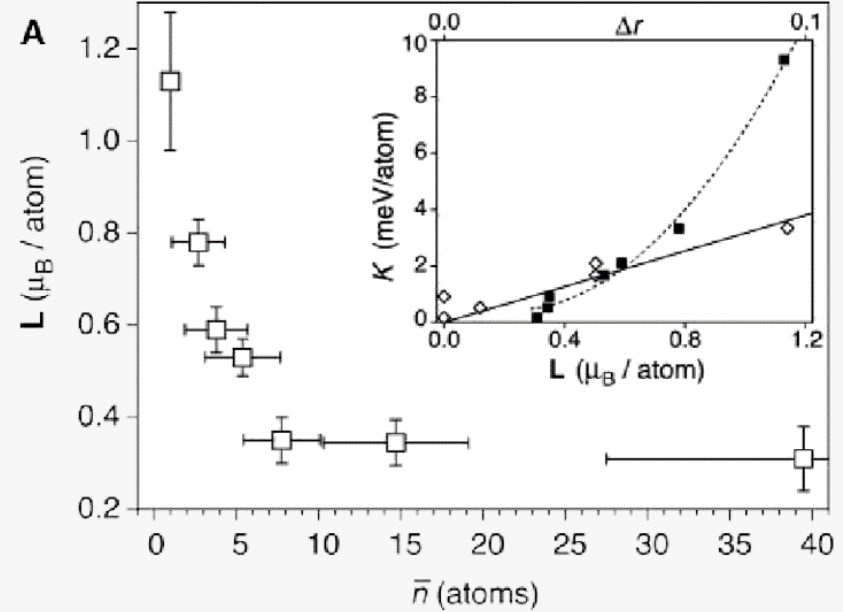
## Magnetic moment versus dimensionality

### Example of system: sub-monolayer Co/Pt(997)



A. Dallmeyer et al., Phys.Rev.B 61(8), R5153 (2000)

### Example of system: Co/Pt(111)



P. Gambardella et al., Science 300, 1130 (2003)

### Conclusions

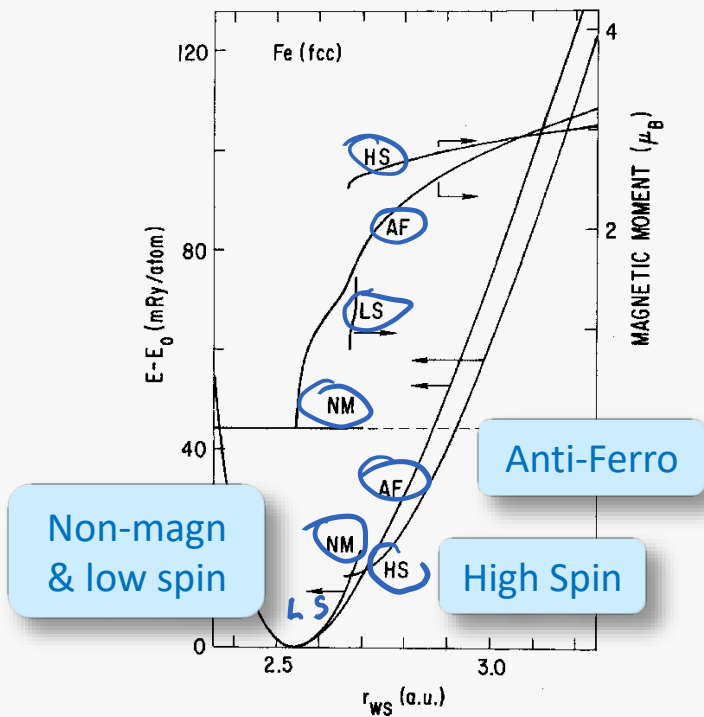
- From bulk to atoms: considerable increase of orbital moment
- 2 atoms closer to wire than 1 atom
- bi-atomic wire closer to surface than wire

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Low-dimensional effects

## Magnetic order versus dimensionality – Example: Fe

### Theory (bulk)

- fcc  $\gamma$ -Fe for  $T > 1185\text{K}$ : non-magnetic
- ‘ground-state’: sensitive on strain

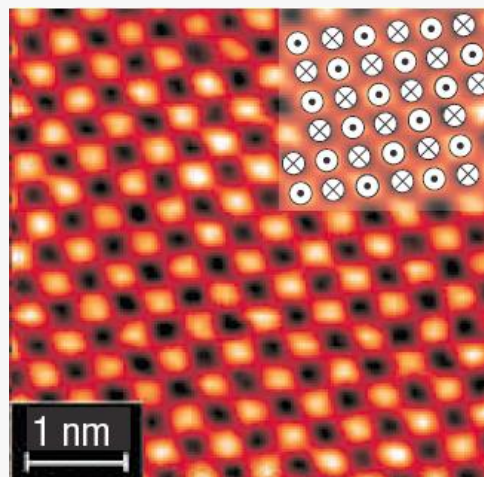


V. L. Moruzzi et al., PRB39, 6957 (1989)

See also: O.K. Andersen, Physica B 86, 249 (1977)

### (Some) experiments in low dimensions

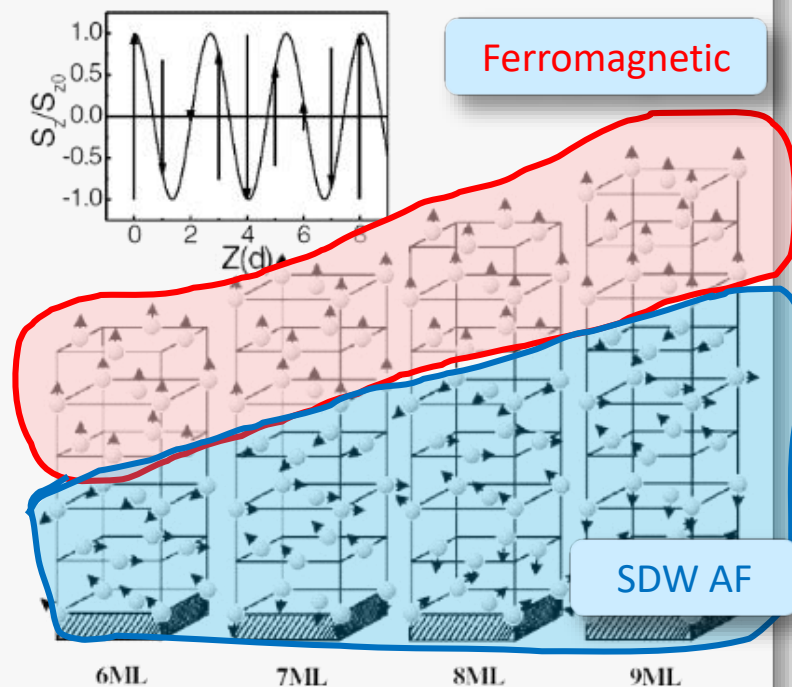
#### AF Fe(1ML)/W(001)



Antiferromagnetic domain (SP-STM)

M. Bode et al., Nat. Mater. 5, 477-481 (2006)

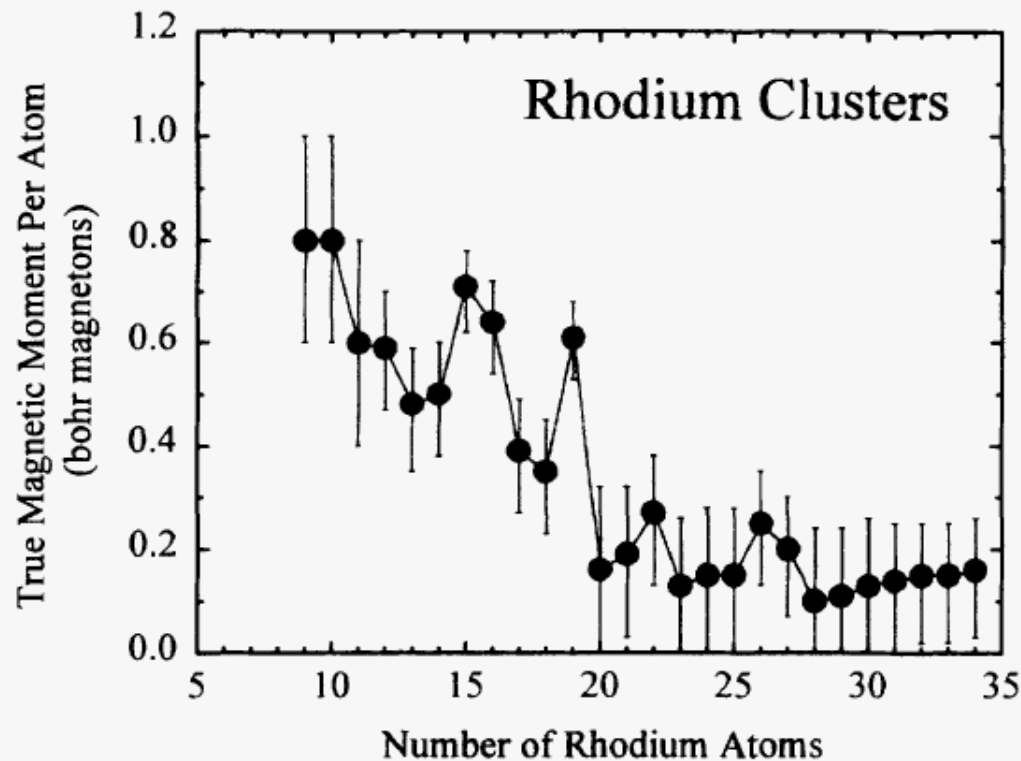
#### Spin-density-wave AF Fe(001)



D. Qian et al., PRL87, 227204(2001)

See also V. Cros et al.,  
Europhys. Lett. 49, 807 (2000)

#### Rh turning magnetic in small clusters



#### Physics

- Narrowing of band
- Stoner criterium
- Quantum size effects

A. J. Cox et al., Magnetism in 4d-transition metal clusters,  
Phys. Rev. B 49, 12295 (1994)

### Underlying physics

- Crystal electric field (CEF): Coulomb interaction between electronic orbitals and the crystal environment  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{CEF}}$
- Spin-orbit coupling S and L  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{SO}}$

	$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CEF}}$	$\mathcal{H}_{\text{SO}}$
3d	1 – 10 eV	10 – 100 meV
4f	25 meV	100 – 500 meV

### Numbers

- Low symmetry favors high anisotropy
- Large range of values in known materials

### Phenomenology

- Angular dependence of the energy of a magnetic material
- Applies to all orders: ferromagnets, antiferromagnets etc.
- Group theory predict terms in expansions:

Cubic  $E_{\text{mc}} = K_1(\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2 + \alpha_2^2\alpha_3^2 + \alpha_3^2\alpha_1^2) + K_2\alpha_1^2\alpha_2^2\alpha_3^2 + \dots$

Hexagonal

$$E_{\text{mc}} = K_1 \sin^2 \theta + K_2 \sin^4 \theta + K_3 \sin^6 \theta + K'_3 \sin^6 \theta \sin^6 \phi + \dots$$

### Crucial importance for applications

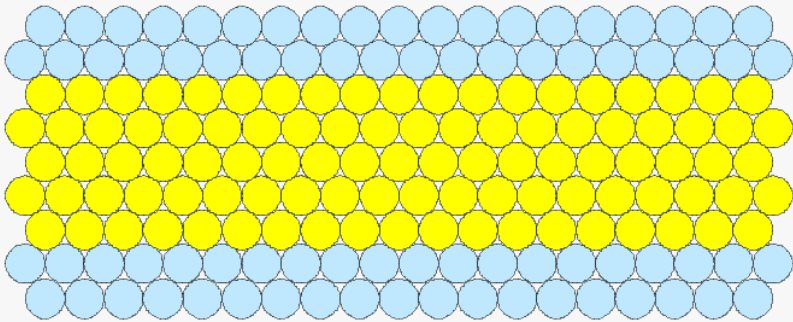
- Compass, spintronic-based magnetic sensors
- Magnetic recording, including tapes, hard-disk drives, magnetic random access memories

Lectures  
Ester Palmero,  
Yoichiro Tanaka

# 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetic anisotropy

## Interfacial magnetic anisotropy

### Simple picture: interfacial magnetic anisotropy



- ❑ Breaking of symmetry for surface/interface atoms
- ❑ Brings a correction to magnetocrystalline anisotropy

$$E_s = K_{s,1} \cos^2 \theta + K_{s,2} \cos^4 \theta + \dots$$

L. Néel, J. Phys. Radium 15, 15 (1954),  
*Superficial magnetic anisotropy and orientational superstructures*

*This surface energy, of the order of 0.1 to 1 erg/cm<sup>2</sup>, is liable to play a significant role in the properties of ferromagnetic materials spread in elements of dimensions smaller than 100Å.*

➔ Visionary !!!

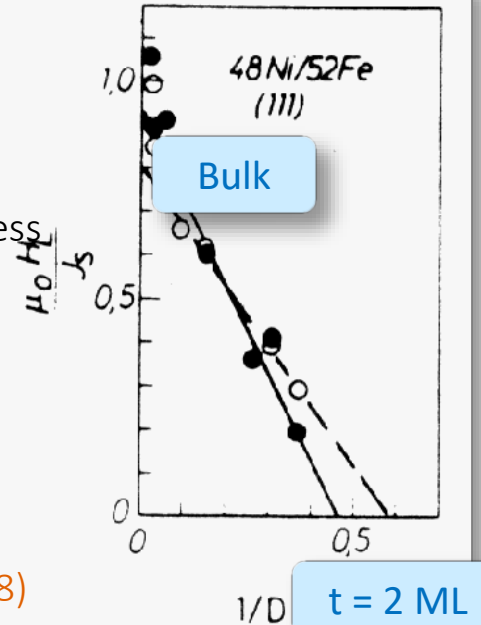
Lecture  
Yoichiro Tanaka

### First Experimental evidence

- ❑ Total anisotropy energy
- ❑ Anisotropy per unit thickness

$$E(t) = K_V t + 2K_S$$
$$E(t) = K_V + \frac{2K_S}{t}$$

U. Gradmann and J. Müller,  
Phys. Status Solidi 27, 313 (1968)

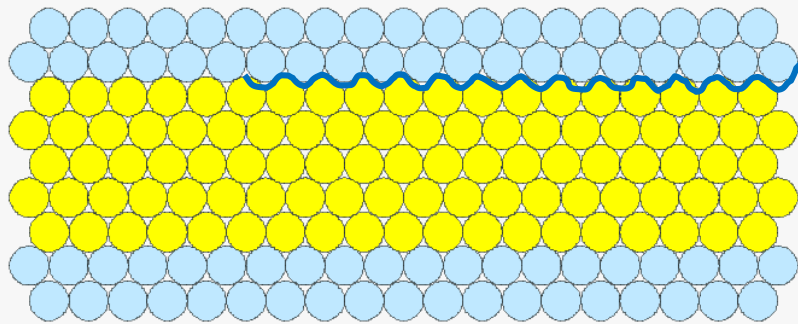


- ### Figures
- ❑ Magnitude around **1 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>**
  - ❑ **May promote perpendicular magnetization below thickness 1nm or so**
  - ❑ 80's & 90's: in contact with high spin-orbit materials (Au, Pt ...)
  - ❑ Since: Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, MgO, graphene...

## 2. MAGNETIC ORDERING AND MATERIALS – Magnetic anisotropy

### Atomic contribution to magnetostatic energy

#### Surface contribution to shape anisotropy



Atomic-scale roughness

Interface dipolar anisotropy (per interface)

$$\epsilon_{s,atom} = -k_s \delta \left( \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 M_s^2 \right) \cos^2(\theta)$$

- ❑ Decreases slab demag coeff 1
- ❑ Change is large for open surface

Surface	$k_s$
fcc(111)	0.0344
fcc(001)	0.1178
fcc(110)	0.0383
bcc(001)	0.2187
hcp(0001)	0.0338

H.J.G. Draaisma et al., JAP 64, 3610 (1988)

#### Notes

- ❑ Included in Néel's pair interaction model from 1954 !
- ❑ Specific case of the dipolar crystalline anisotropy
- ❑ This effect is expected to be large in VdW materials, due to the large difference of in-plane versus out-of-plane distance between magnetic ions

P. Bruno, Physical origins and theoretical models of magnetic anisotropy, Ferienkurse des Forschungszentrums Jülich, Ch.24 (1993)



Lecture  
Peng Li

#### Phenomenology

- ❑ Dependence of magnetic anisotropy on strain
- ❑ Can be viewed as the strain-derivative of magneto-crystalline anisotropy
- ❑ Source of
  - ❑ **Magnetostriction**: direction of magnetization induces strain
  - ❑ **Inverse magnetostriction**: strain tends to orient magnetization along specific directions
- ❑ Example: polycrystalline sample under uniaxial strain

$$E_{\text{mel}} = -\lambda_s \frac{E}{2} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \epsilon - \frac{1}{2} E \epsilon^2 + \dots$$

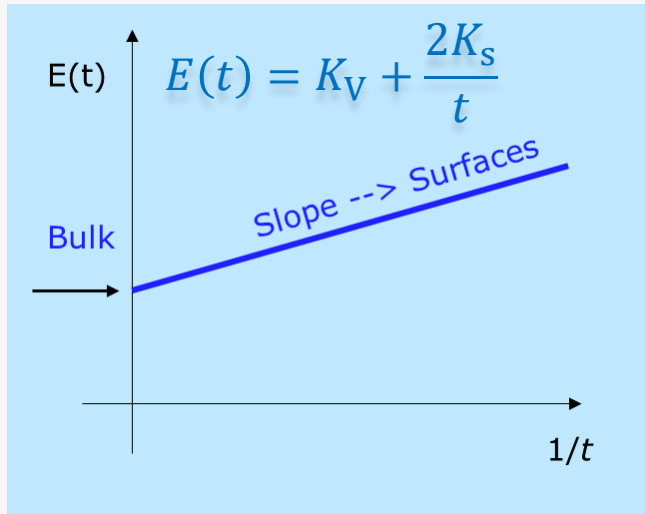
$E$  Young modulus

#### Impact

- ❑ Order of magnitude of Lambda:  $10^{-6}$
- ❑ **Contributes to coercivity** in low-anisotropy materials
- ❑ Underpins effects such as **Invar**
- ❑ Magnetostriction is used in **actuators**

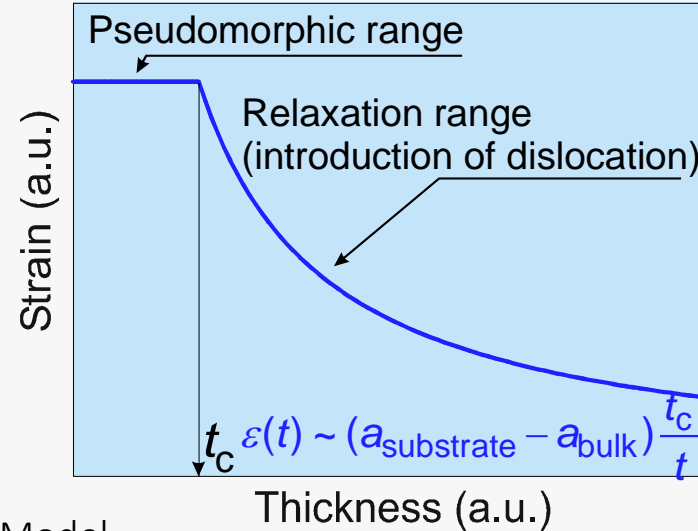


### Surface anisotropy alone



→ Bulk and surface anisotropy inferred from intercept with y axis and slope

### Inverse magnetostriction in films



Model

W. A. Jesser, Phys. Stat. Sol. 19, 95 (1967)

Experiments

U. Gradmann, Appl. Phys. 3, 161 (1974)

→ Induces a  $1/t$  variation of anisotropy, similar to interface contribution

C. Chappert and P. Bruno., JAP64, 5736 (1988)

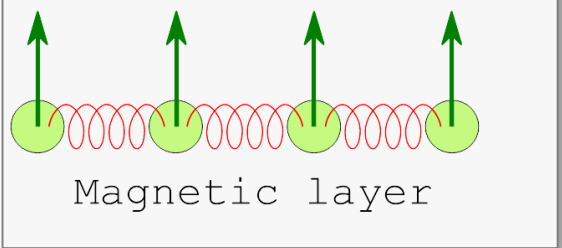
### Other effects...

- ❑ Interface roughness and intermixing
- ❑ Thickness-dependent thermal decay (when measured at  $T > 0K$ )
- ❑ Non-linearity of magneto-elastic coupling coefficients

D. Sander, Rep. Prog. Phys. 62, 809 (1999)

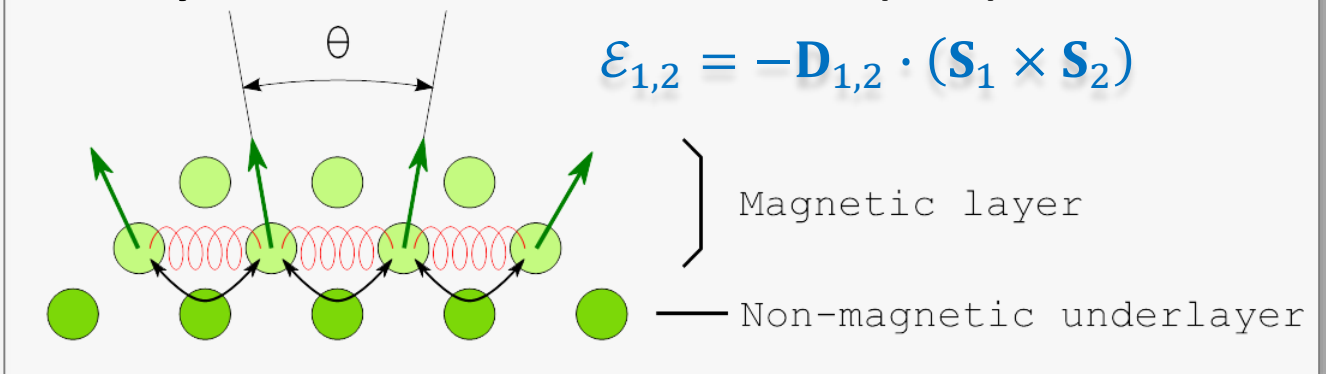
U. Gradmann, Magnetism in ultrathin transition metal films, in Handbook of magnetic materials, vol. 7, Buschow, K. H. J. (Ed.), Elsevier (1993)

### Magnetic exchange

$$\mathcal{E}_{1,2} = -J_{1,2} \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$


Magnetic layer

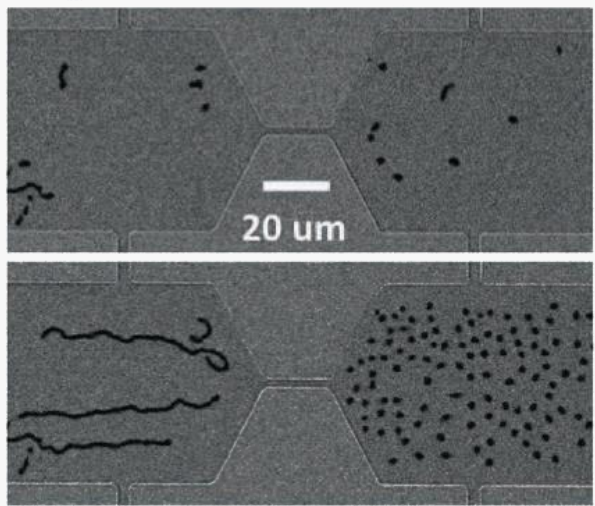
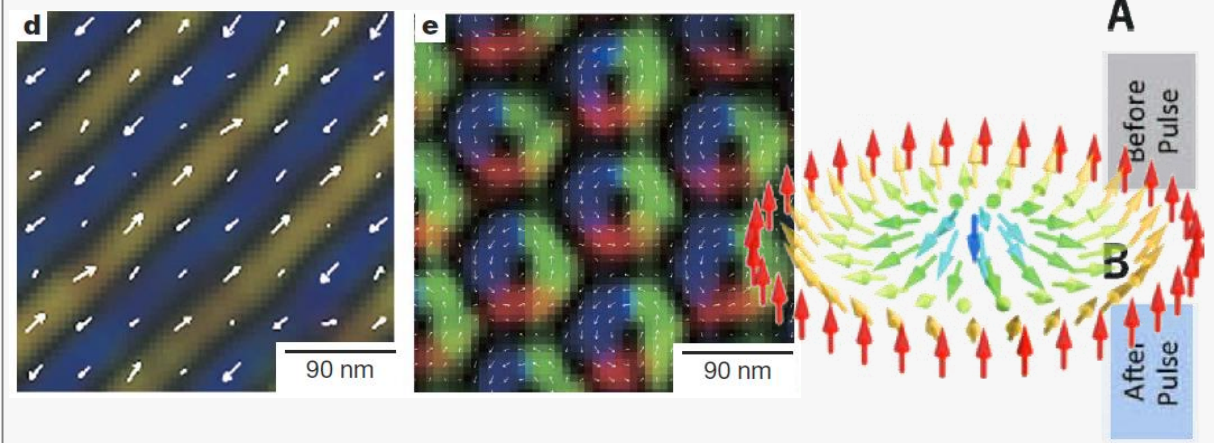
### The Dzyaloshiiinski-Moriya interaction (DMI)

$$\mathcal{E}_{1,2} = -\mathbf{D}_{1,2} \cdot (\mathbf{S}_1 \times \mathbf{S}_2)$$


Magnetic layer

Non-magnetic underlayer

### Chiral magnetization textures: spirals and skyrmions

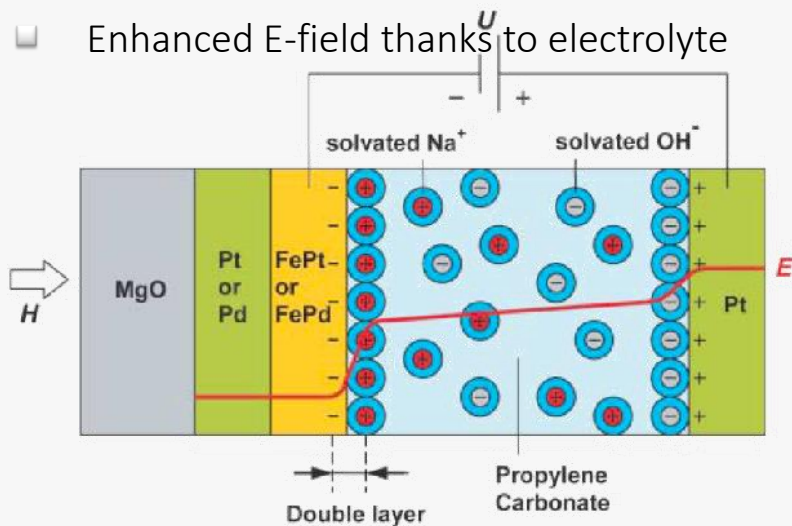


W. Jiang et al.,  
Science 349,  
283 (2015)

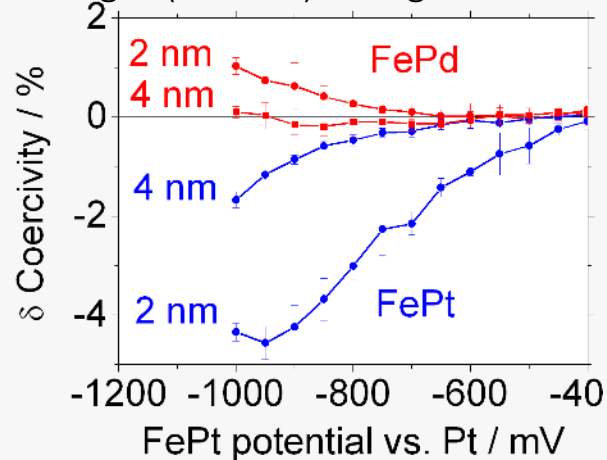
X. Z. Yu et al., Nature 465, 901 (2010)

### Seminal report

- Enhanced E-field thanks to electrolyte



- Slight (relative) change of coercivity



- Effect was not expected for metals, due to short screening length
- Relative change of coercivity is weak as coercivity is large

M. Weisheit et al., Science 315, 349 (2007)

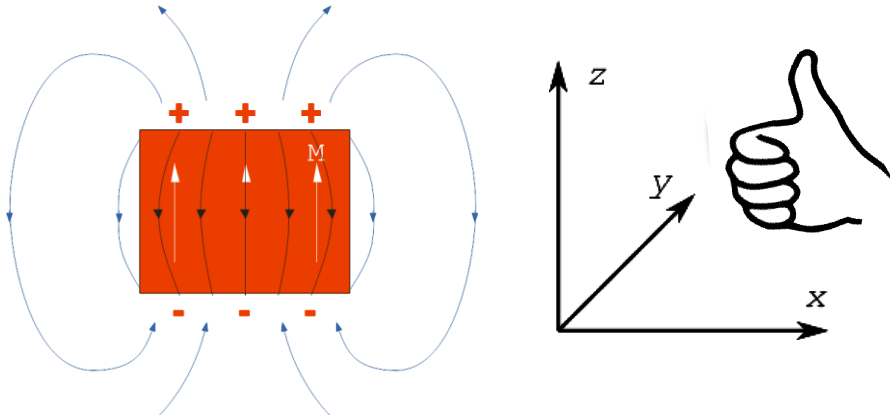
### Developments

- Precessional switching with pulse of E-field  
Y. Shiota et al., Nature Mater.11, 39 (2012)
- Ferromagnetic resonance with ac E-field  
T. Nozaki et al., Nature Phys. 8, 491 (2012)
- Inversion of sign of DMI and skyrmions chirality  
R. Kumar et al., arXiv: 2009.13136 (2020)

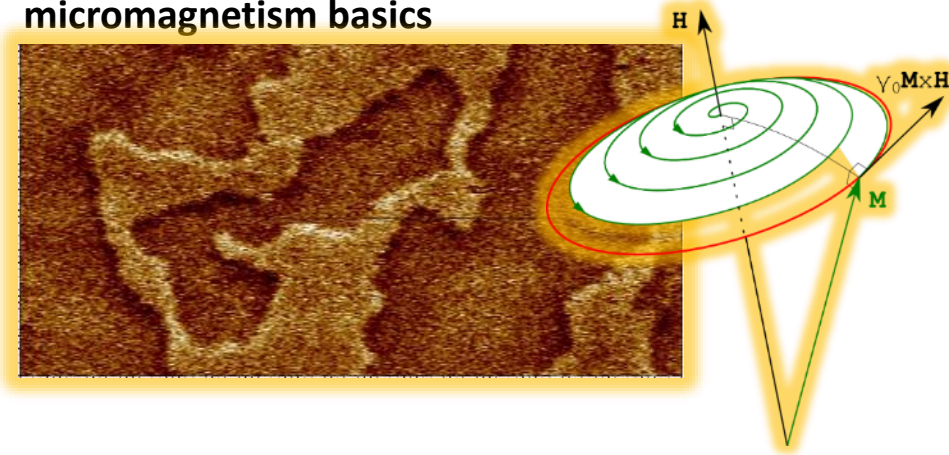
### Motivations for technology

- Drastically reduce Joule heating (only capacitance current)
- Gateable functionality

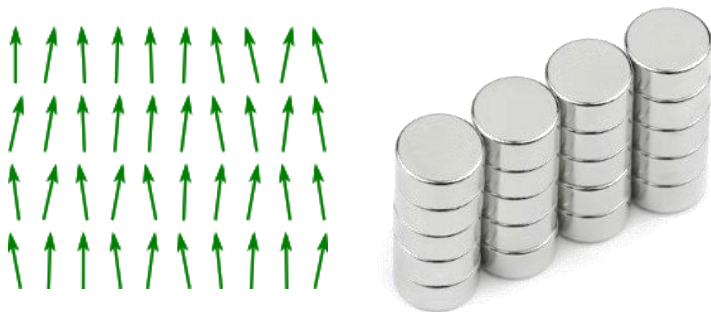
## Units and fields



## Magnetization processes and micromagnetism basics



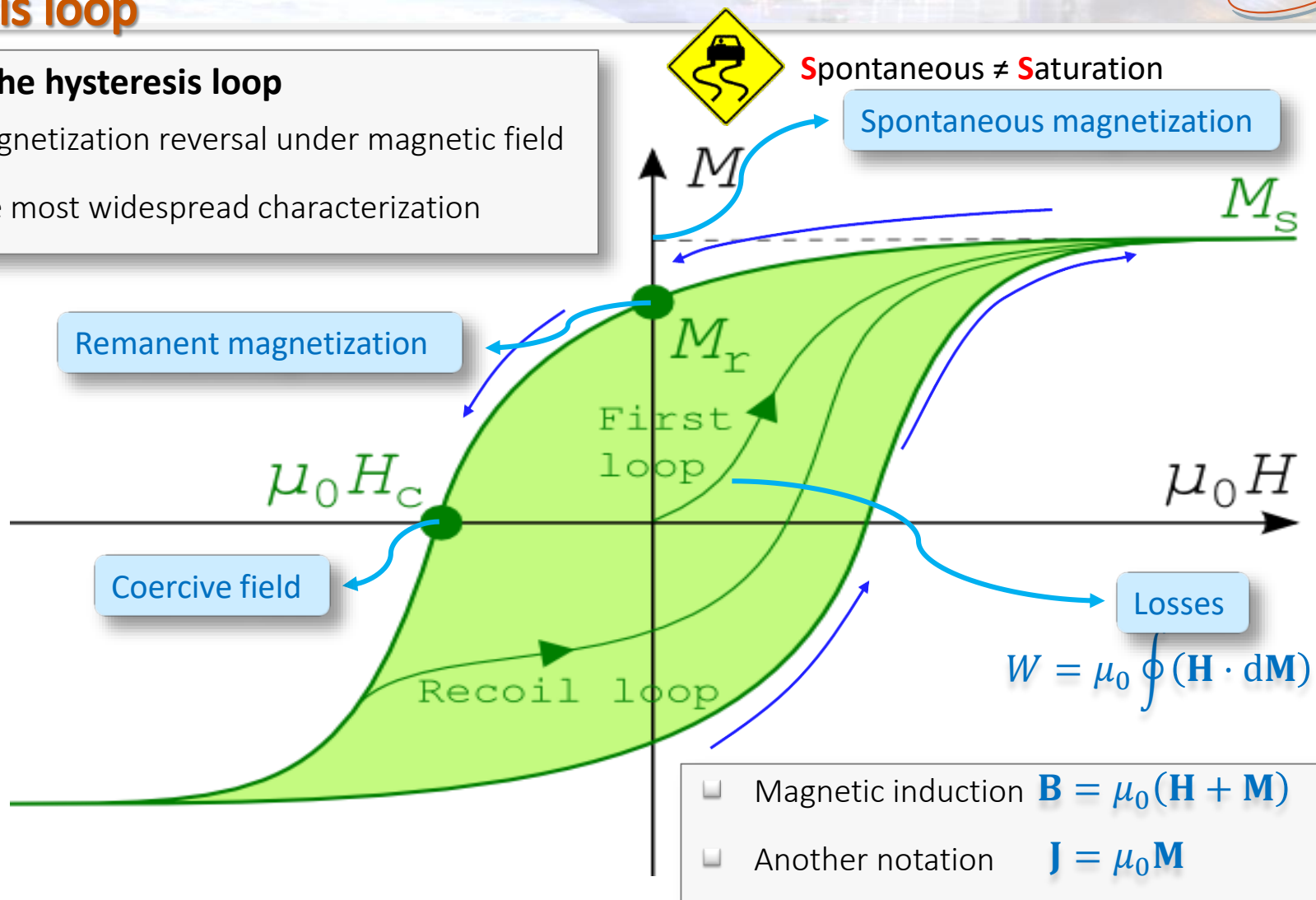
## Magnetic ordering and materials



# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – General considerations

## The hysteresis loop

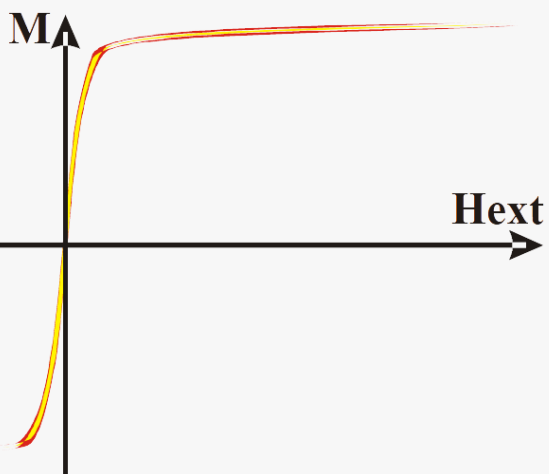
- The hysteresis loop**
- ❑ Magnetization reversal under magnetic field
- ❑ The most widespread characterization



- ❑ Magnetic induction  $\mathbf{B} = \mu_0(\mathbf{H} + \mathbf{M})$
- ❑ Another notation  $\mathbf{J} = \mu_0 \mathbf{M}$

### Soft-magnetic materials

- ❑ Low remanence
- ❑ Low coercivity

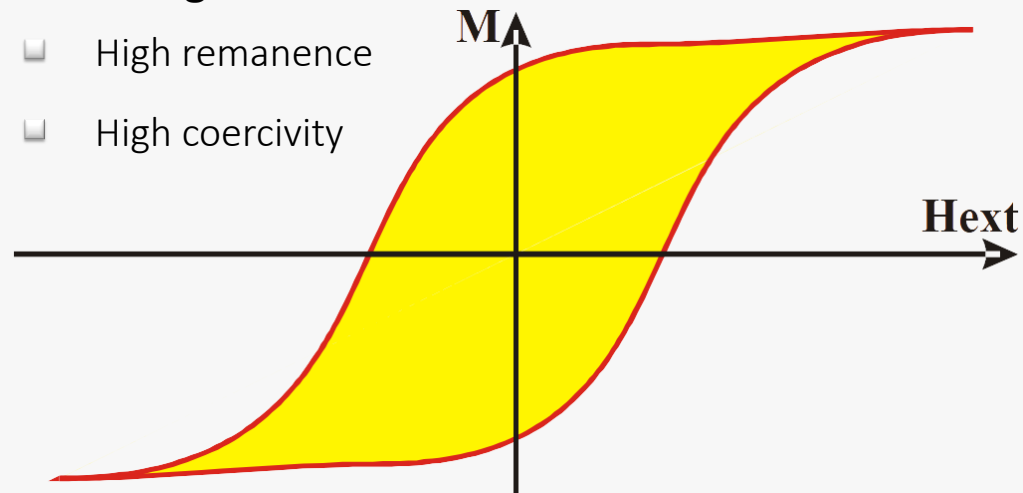


#### Applications

- ❑ Transformers
- ❑ Flux guides, sensors
- ❑ Magnetic shielding

### Hard-magnetic materials

- ❑ High remanence
- ❑ High coercivity



#### Applications

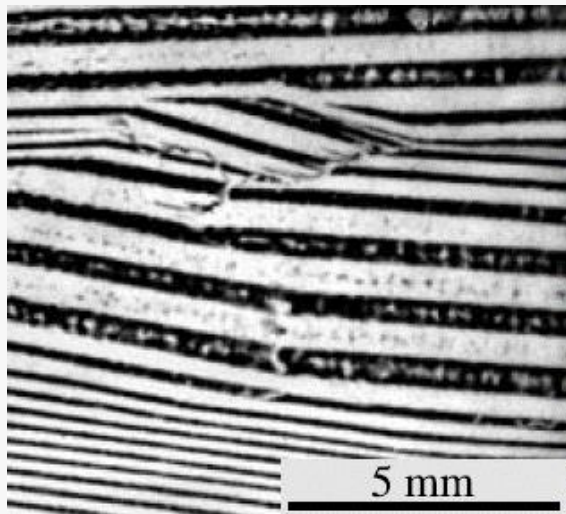
- ❑ Permanent magnets,
- ❑ Motors and generators
- ❑ Magnetic recording

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – General considerations

## The origin of magnetic domains

### Historical background

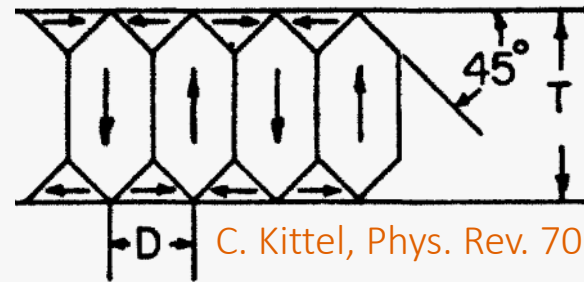
- ❑ **Puzzle from the early days of magnetism:** some materials may be magnetized under applied field, however “loose” their magnetization when the field is removed
- ❑ **Postulate from Weiss:** existence of magnetic domains, i.e., large (3D) regions with each uniform magnetization
- ❑ **Magnetic domain walls** are the narrow (2D: planes) regions separating neighboring domains



FeSi sheet (transformer)  
A. Hubert, magnetic domains

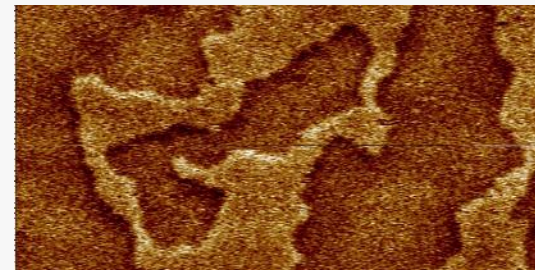
### Origin of domains

- ❑ **Minimization of energy:** closure of magnetic flux to decrease dipolar energy, at the expense of energy in the domain walls (exchange, anisotropy...)



C. Kittel, Phys. Rev. 70 (11&12), 965 (1946)

- ❑ **Magnetic history:** magnetic domains along various directions may form through the ordering transition or following a partial magnetization process, persisting even though leaving the system not in the ground state



MgO\Co(1nm)\Pt

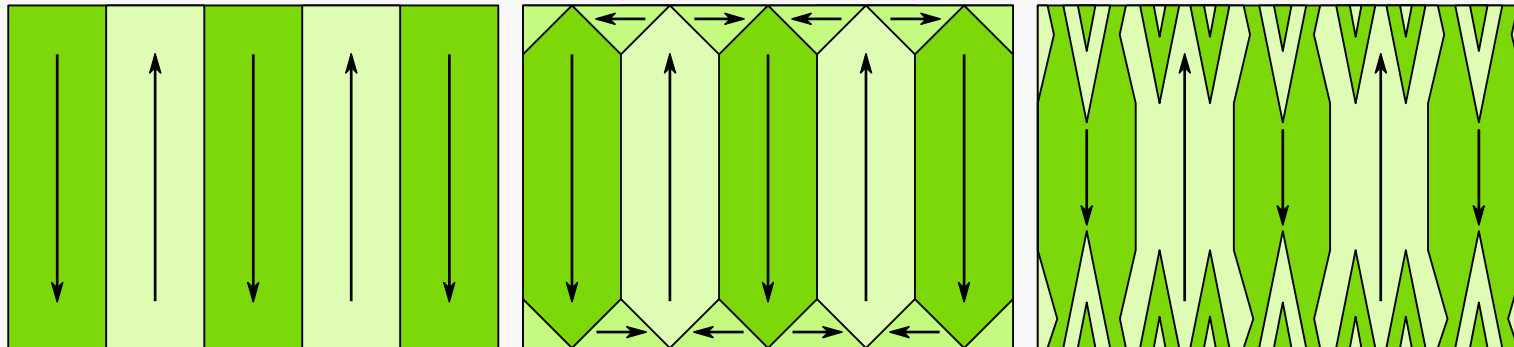
Magnetic Force  
Microscopy,  
5 x 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – General considerations

## Statics – Tendency for flux-closure domains

### Films with easy axis out-of-the-plane: Kittel domains

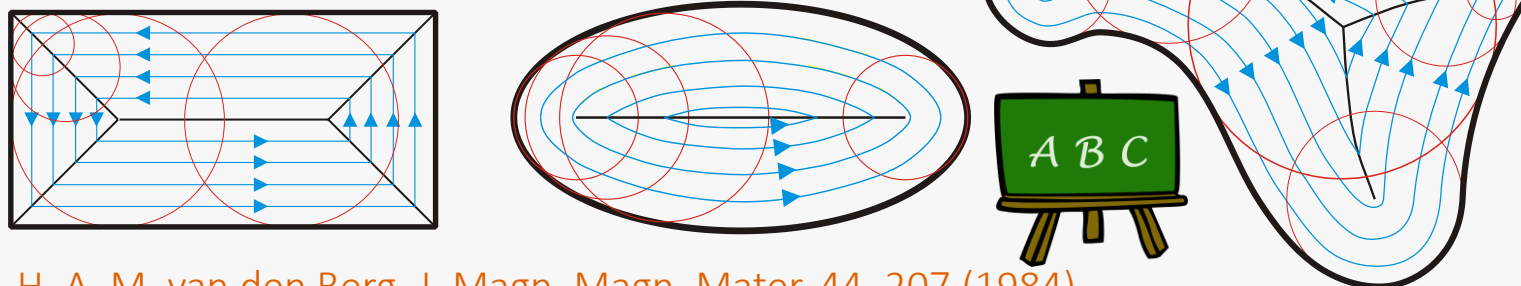
Principle: compromise between gain in dipolar energy, and cost in wall energy



C. Kittel, Physical theory of ferromagnetic domains, Rev. Mod. Phys. 21, 541 (1949)

### Nanostructures with in-plane magnetization – Van den Berg theorem

Principle: Reduce dipolar energy to zero



H. A. M. van den Berg, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 44, 207 (1984)

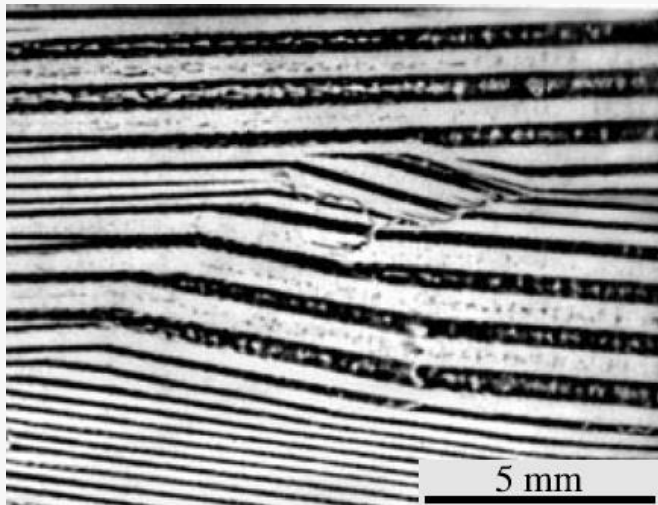


# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – General considerations

## Magnetic domains from bulk to nano

### Bulk materials

Numerous and complex magnetic domains

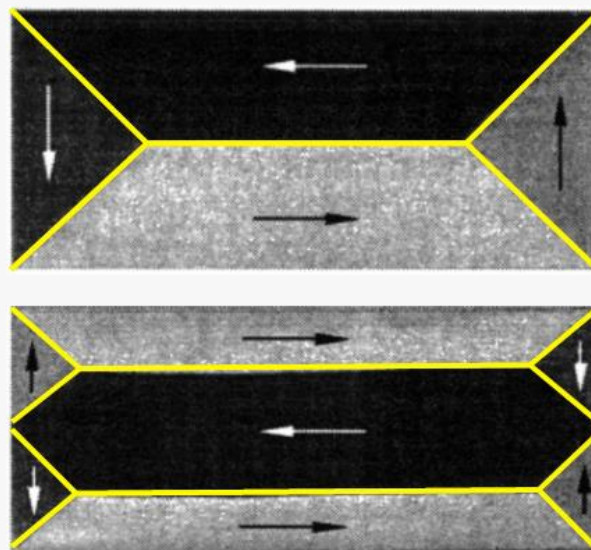


FeSi sheet (transformer)

A. Hubert, magnetic domains

### Mesoscopic scale

Small number of domains, simple shape

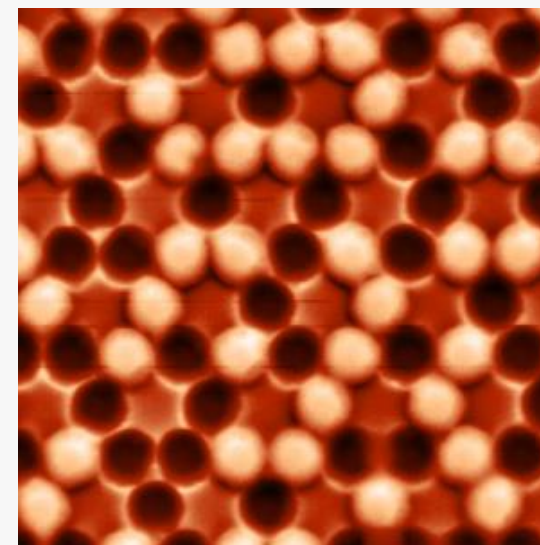


Microfabricated dots,  
Kerr magnetic imaging

A. Hubert, magnetic domains

### Nanometric scale

Magnetic single domain




Microfabricated dots,  
magnetic force microscopy

Sample courtesy: I. Chioar

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Macrospins

## The Stoner-Wohlfarth model

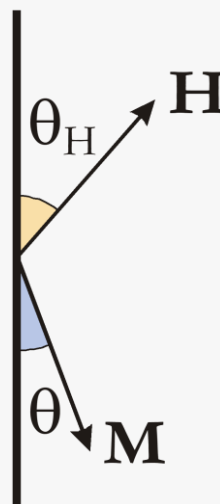
### Framework: uniform magnetization

- ❑ Drastic, unsuitable in most cases 
- ❑ Remember: demagnetization field may not be uniform

$$\mathcal{E} = E\mathcal{V}$$

$$= \mathcal{V}[K_{\text{eff}} \sin^2 \theta - \mu_0 M_s H \cos(\theta - \theta_H)]$$

- ❑ Anisotropy:  $K_{\text{eff}} = K_{\text{mc}} + (\Delta N)K_d$



### Names used

- ❑ Uniform rotation / magnetization reversal
- ❑ Coherent rotation / magnetization reversal
- ❑ Macrospin etc.

### Dimensionless units

$$e = \sin^2 \theta - 2h \cos(\theta - \theta_H)$$

$$e = \mathcal{E}/(K\mathcal{V})$$

$$h = H/H_a$$

$$H_a = 2K/(\mu_0 M_s)$$

L. Néel, *Compte rendu Acad. Sciences* 224, 1550 (1947)

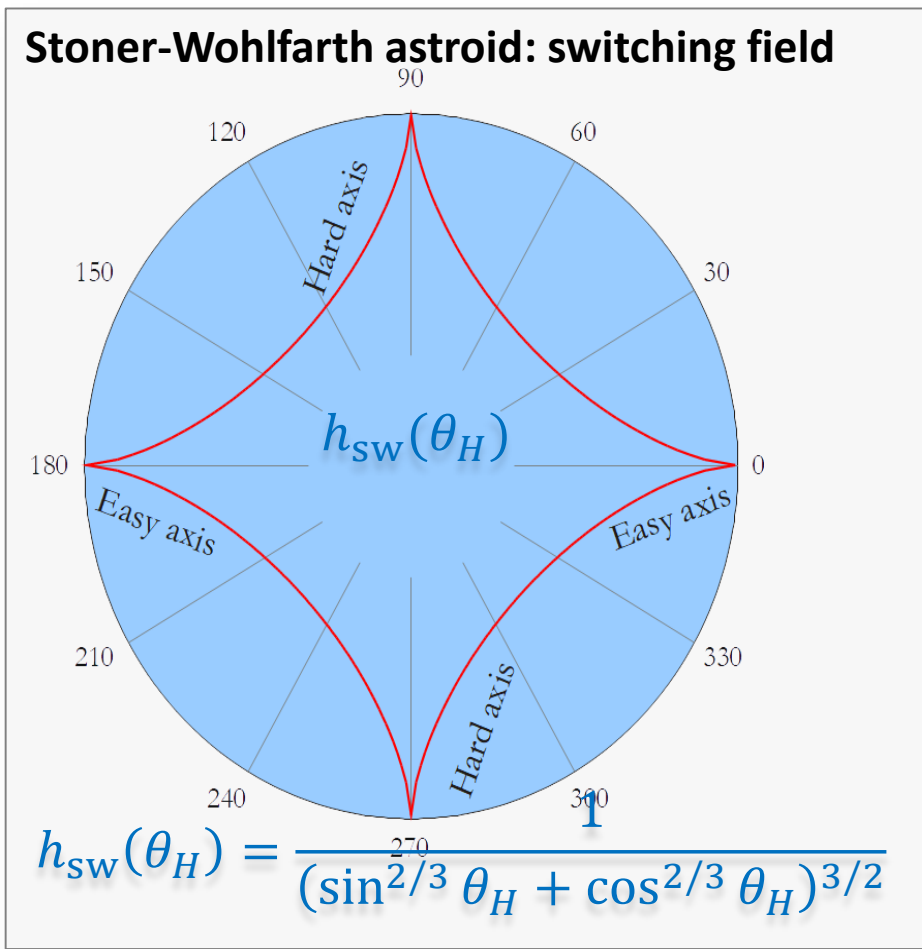
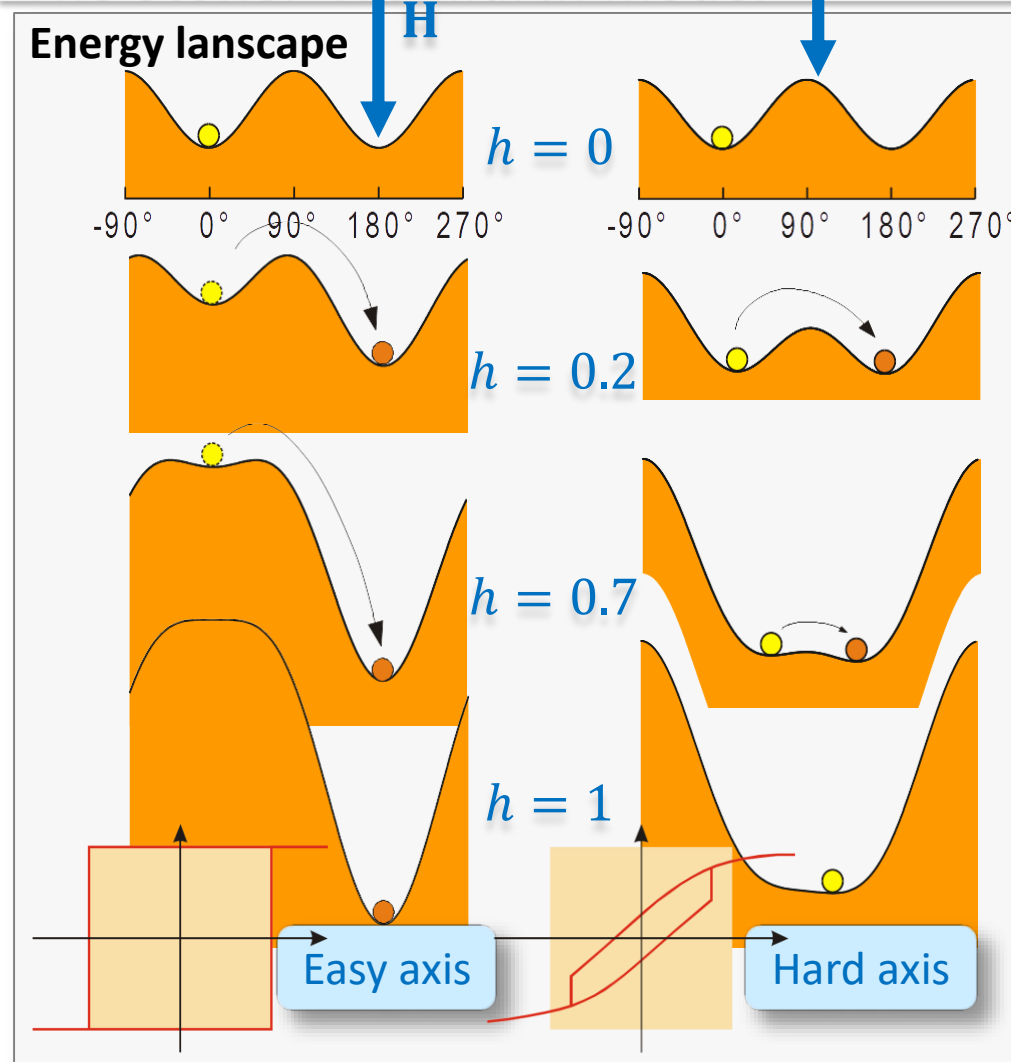
E. C. Stoner and E. P. Wohlfarth,

*Phil. Trans. Royal. Soc. London A*240, 599 (1948)

Reprint: *IEEE Trans. Magn.* 27(4), 3469 (1991)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Macrospins

## The Stoner-Wohlfarth model



J. C. Slonczewski, Research Memo RM 003.111.224, IBM Research Center (1956)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Macrospins

## Switching field versus coercive field

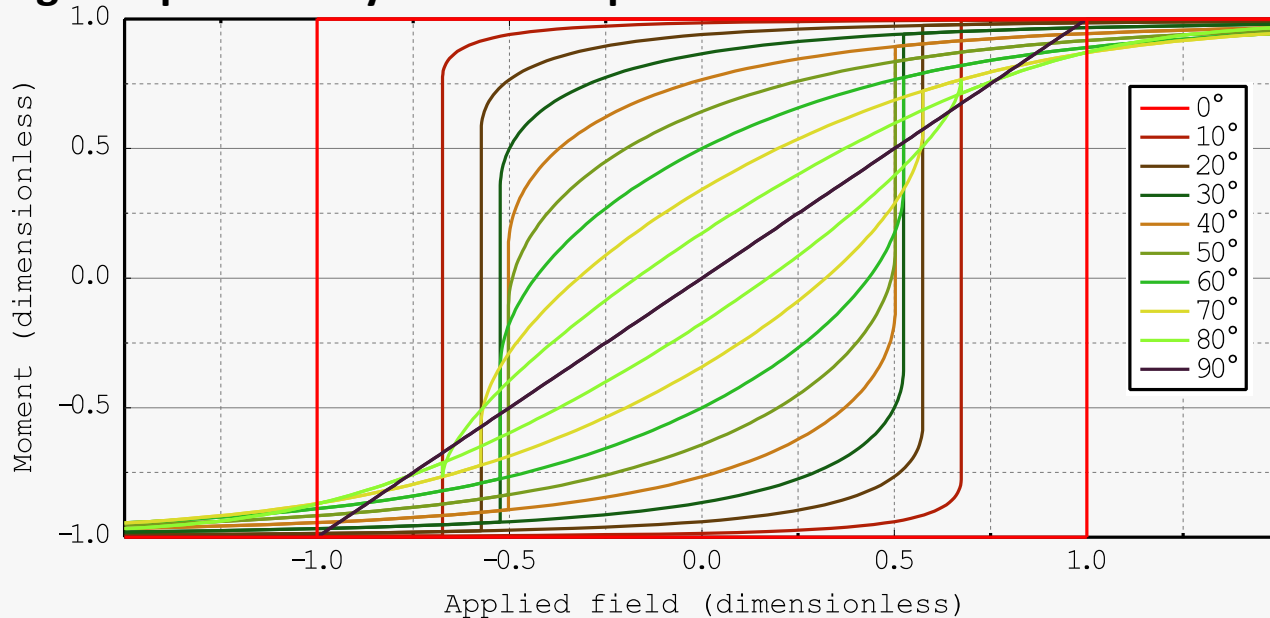
### Switching field $H_{sw}$

- ❑ A value of field at which an irreversible (abrupt) jump of magnetization angle occurs.
- ❑ Can be measured only in single particles.

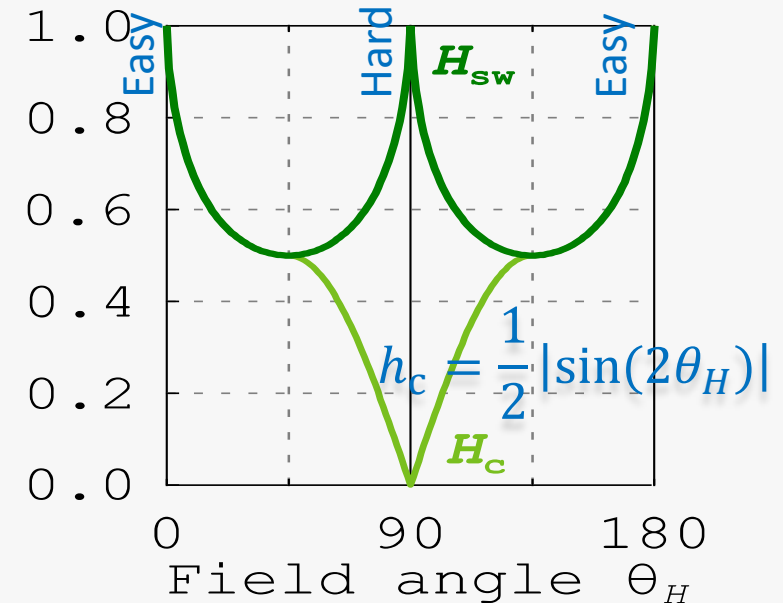
### Coercive field $H_c$

- ❑ The field at which  $\mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{M} = 0$
- ❑ Measurable in materials (large number of 'particles').
- ❑ May or may not be a measure of the mean switching field at the microscopic level

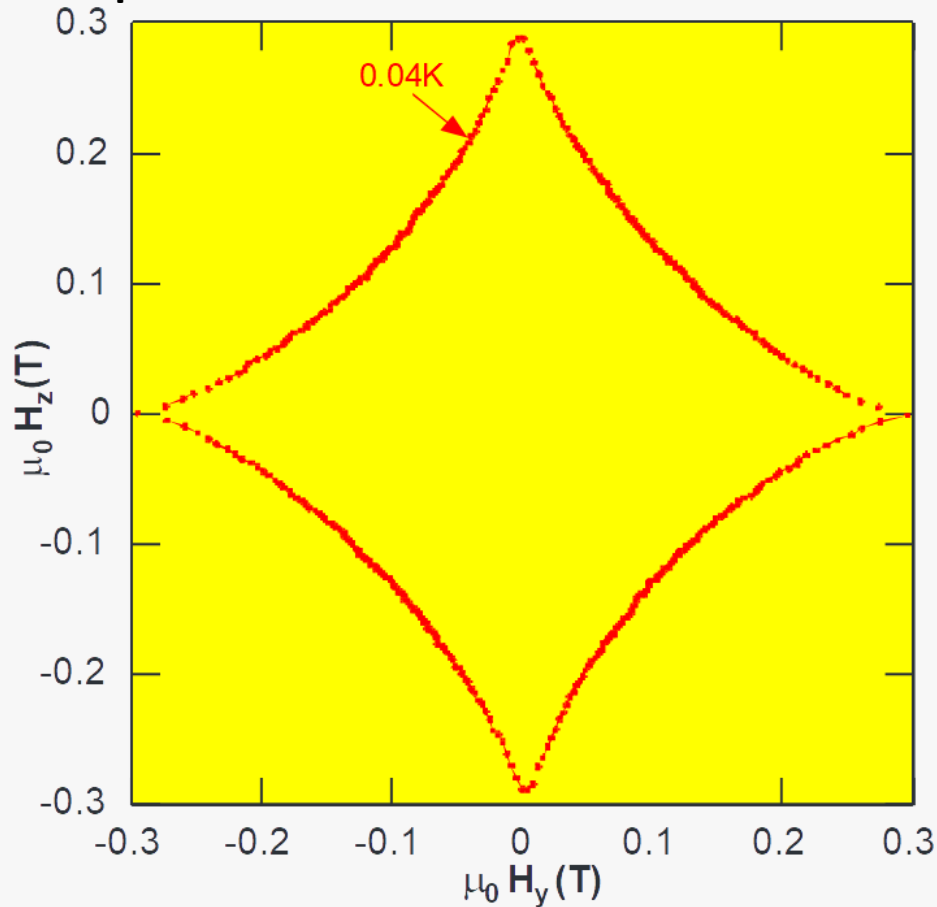
### Angle-dependent hysteresis loops



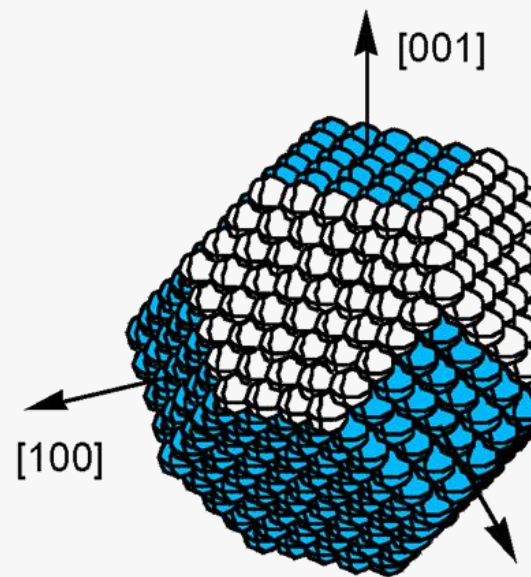
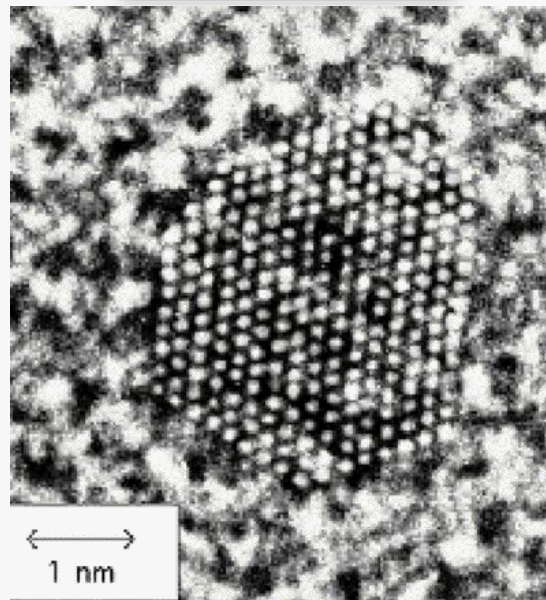
### Switching versus coercive field



## First experimental evidence



Co cluster

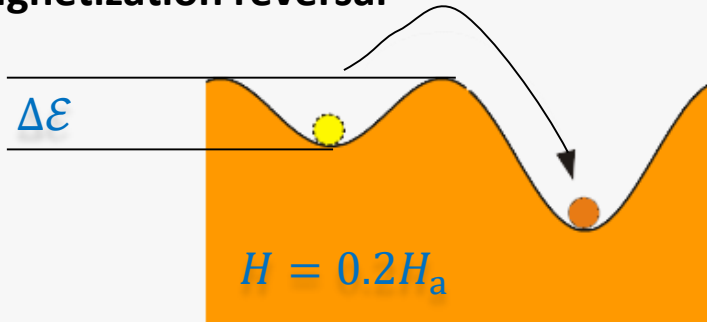


W. Wernsdorfer et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 78, 1791 (1997)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Macrospins

## Superparamagnetism and the blocking temperature

### Energy barrier preventing magnetization reversal



$$\Delta E = KV \left( 1 - \frac{H}{H_a} \right)^2$$

E. F. Kneller, J. Wijn (ed.) Handbuch der Physik XIII/2: Ferromagnetismus, Springer, 438 (1966)

M. P. Sharrock, J. Appl. Phys. 76, 6413-6418 (1994)

- Coercivity and remanence are lost at small size
- Incentive to enhance magnetic anisotropy

### Thermal activation

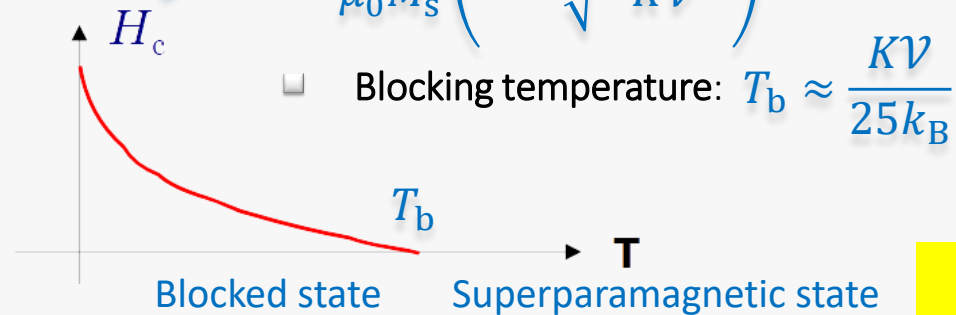
Brown, Phys.Rev.130, 1677 (1963)

- Waiting time (Arrhenius law)  $\tau = \tau_0 \exp\left(\frac{\Delta E}{k_B T}\right)$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta E = k_B T \ln\left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_0}\right)$$

- Lab measurement:  $\tau \approx 1 \text{ s}$   $\Rightarrow \Delta E \approx 25k_B T$

$$\Rightarrow H_c = \frac{2K}{\mu_0 M_s} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{25k_B T}{KV}} \right)$$



Lecture  
Sara Majetich

### The case of magnetic recording or memory

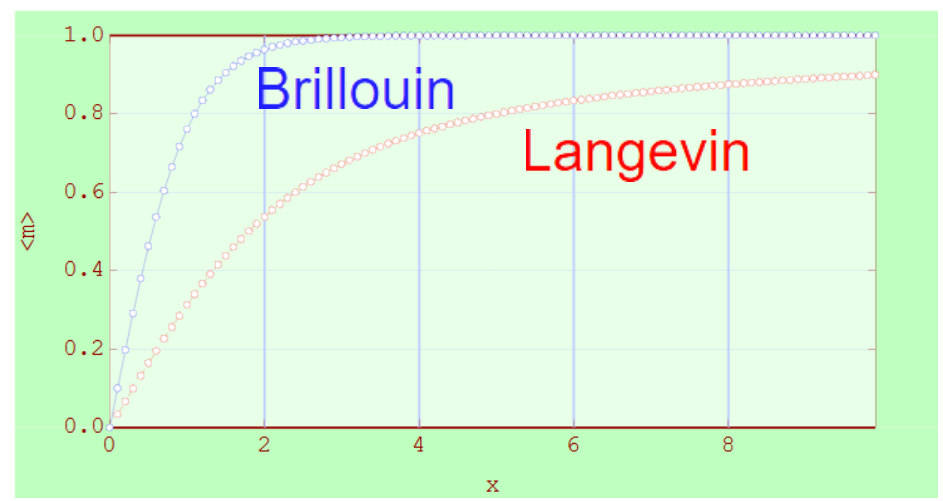
$$\tau \approx 10^9 \text{ s} \Rightarrow KV_b \approx 40 - 60 k_B T$$

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Macrospins

## Superparamagnetism – Modeling

### Formalism

- Energy  $\mathcal{E} = KVf(\theta, \phi) - \mu_0\mu H$
- Partition function  $Z = \sum \exp(-\beta\mathcal{E})$
- Average moment  $\langle \mu \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta\mu_0 Z} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial H}$



- Fit  $M(H)$  curve to extract magnetization (and hence the volume) of nanoparticles
- Beware of anisotropy strength and distribution in fits !

### Isotropic case

$$Z = \int_{-\mathcal{M}}^{\mathcal{M}} \exp(-\beta\mathcal{E}) d\mu$$

Note: equivalent to integrate on solid angle

$$\langle \mu \rangle = \mathcal{M} \left[ \coth(x) - \frac{1}{x} \right]$$

Langevin function

Note: refers to the moment of the particle, not a spin 1/2



### Highly anisotropic case

$$Z = \exp(\beta\mu_0\mathcal{M}H) + \exp(-\beta\mu_0\mathcal{M}H)$$

Note: only two states are populated, 'up' and 'down'

$$\langle \mu \rangle = \mathcal{M} \tanh(x)$$

Brillouin 1/2 function

## Magnetization

Magnetization vector  $\mathbf{M}$

- Continuous function
- May vary over time and space
- Modulus is constant and uniform (hypothesis in micromagnetism)

$$\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} M_x \\ M_y \\ M_z \end{pmatrix} = M_s \begin{pmatrix} m_x \\ m_y \\ m_z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$m_x^2 + m_y^2 + m_z^2 = 1$$



Mean field approach is possible:  $M_s = M_s(T)$

Lecture  
Denys Makarov

## Exchange interaction

- Atomistic view  $\mathcal{E} = - \sum_{i \neq j} J_{i,j} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$  (total energy, J)

- Micromagnetic view  $\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j = S^2 \cos(\theta_{i,j}) \approx S^2 \left( 1 - \frac{\theta_{i,j}^2}{2} \right)$

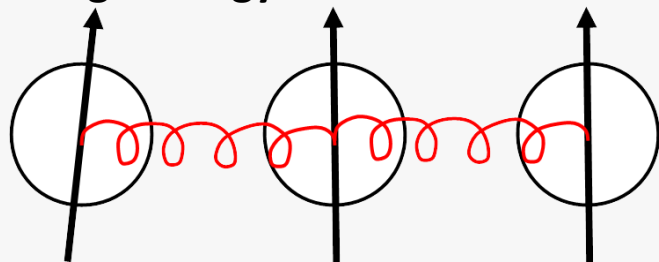
$$E_{\text{ex}} = A(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m})^2 = A \sum_{i,j} \left( \frac{\partial m_i}{\partial x_j} \right)^2$$



# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Micromagnetism

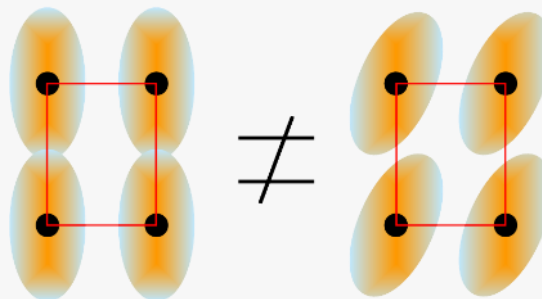
## The various types of magnetic energy

### Exchange energy



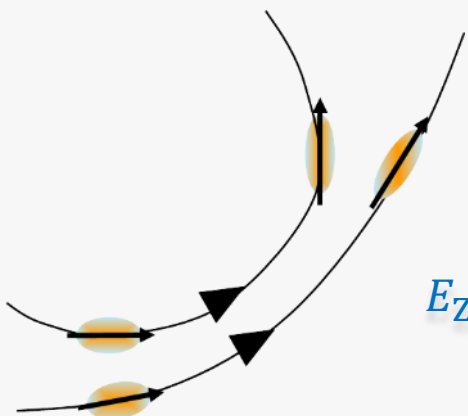
$$E_{\text{ex}} = A(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m})^2 = A \sum_{i,j} \left( \frac{\partial m_i}{\partial x_j} \right)^2$$

### Magnetocrystalline anisotropy energy



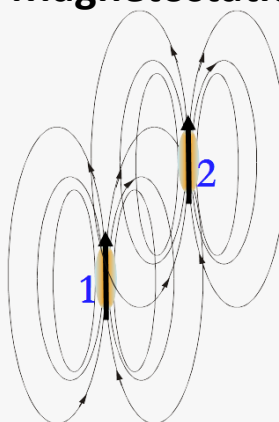
$$E_{\text{mc}} = K f(\theta, \varphi)$$

### Zeeman energy ( $\rightarrow$ enthalpy)



$$E_Z = -\mu_0 \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{H}$$

### Magnetostatic energy



$$E_d = -\frac{1}{2} \mu_0 \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{H}_d$$

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Micromagnetism

## Magnetic length scales (analytics)

### The dipolar exchange length

When: anisotropy and exchange compete

$$E = A \left( \frac{\partial m_i}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 + K_d \sin^2 \theta$$

$\downarrow$  Exchange
 $\downarrow$  Dipolar

$\text{J/m}$ 
 $\text{J/m}^3$

$K_d = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 M_S^2$

$$\Delta_d = \sqrt{A/K_d} = \sqrt{2A/\mu_0 M_S^2}$$

$$\Delta_d \approx 3 - 10 \text{ nm}$$

Critical single-domain size, relevant for small particles made of soft magnetic materials



Often called: exchange length

### The anisotropy exchange length

When: anisotropy and exchange compete

$$E = A \left( \frac{\partial m_i}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 + K \sin^2 \theta$$

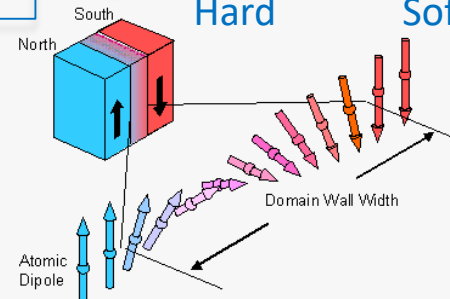
$\downarrow$  Exchange
 $\downarrow$  Anisotropy

$\text{J/m}$ 
 $\text{J/m}^3$

$$\Delta_u = \sqrt{A/K}$$

$$\Delta_u \approx 1 \text{ nm} \rightarrow 100 \text{ nm}$$

Hard
Soft



Sometimes called: Bloch parameter, or wall width

**Note:** Other length scales can be defined, e.g. with magnetic field

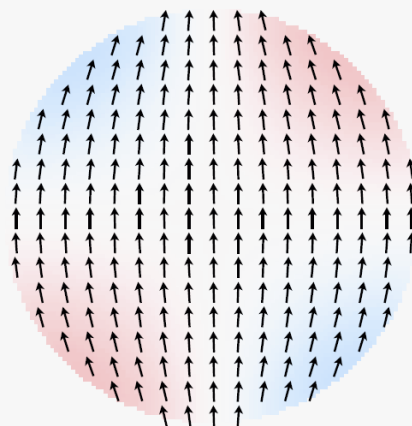
# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Micromagnetism

## Micromagnetic simulation

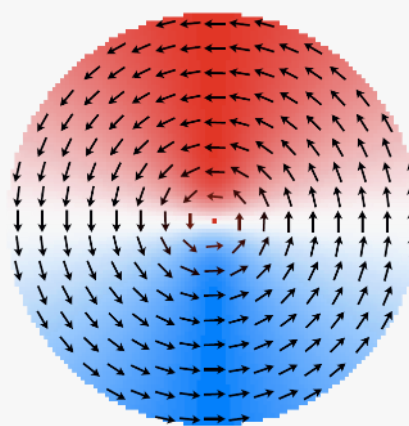
### Principle

- Subdivides a system in small prisms or tetrahedrons
- Considers all energies
- Solves the Landau-Lifshitz equation

### Flat disk

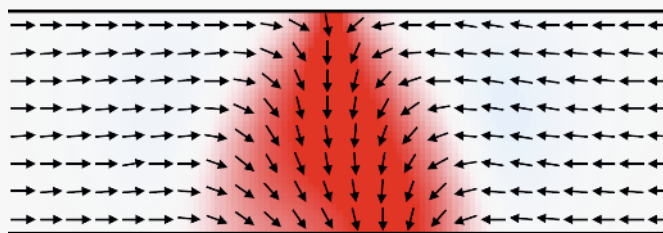


Near single-domain



Vortex state

### Domain wall in a flat strip

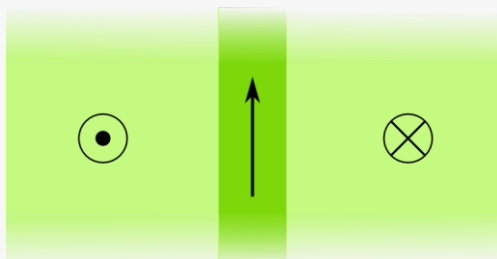


Transverse domain wall

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Micromagnetism

## Magnetic domains walls (and dimensionality)

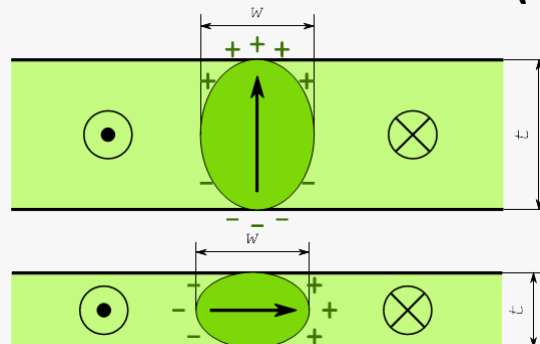
### Bloch wall in the bulk (2D)



- ❑ No magnetostatic energy
- ❑ Width  $\Delta u = \sqrt{A/K}$
- ❑ Energy  $\gamma_w = 4\sqrt{AK}$

F. Bloch, Z. Phys. 74, 295 (1932)

### Domain walls in thin films (towards 1D)

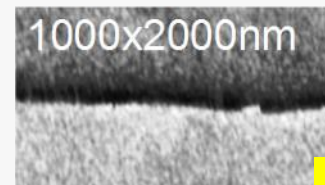
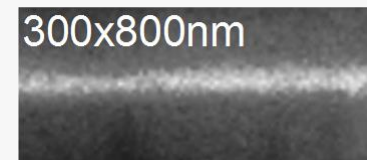


Bloch wall  
 $t \gtrsim w$

Néel wall  
 $t \lesssim w$

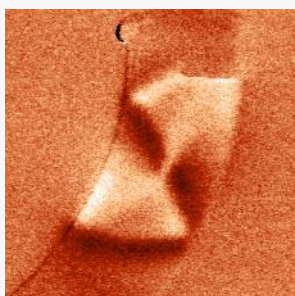
- ❑ Implies magnetostatic energy
- ❑ No exact analytic solution

L. Néel, C. R. Acad. Sciences 241, 533 (1956)



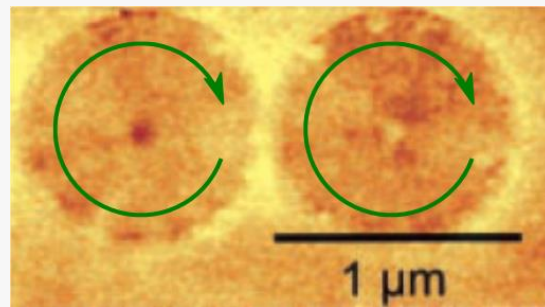
Lecture  
Manuel Vazquez

### Constrained walls (eg in strips)



Permalloy (15nm)  
Strip width 500nm

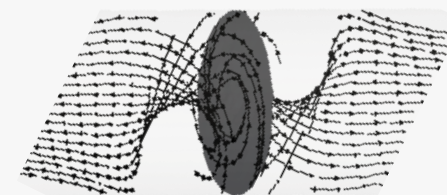
### Vortex (1D → 0D)



T. Shinjo et al.,  
Science 289,  
930 (2000)

### Bloch point (0D)

- ❑ Point with vanishing magnetization

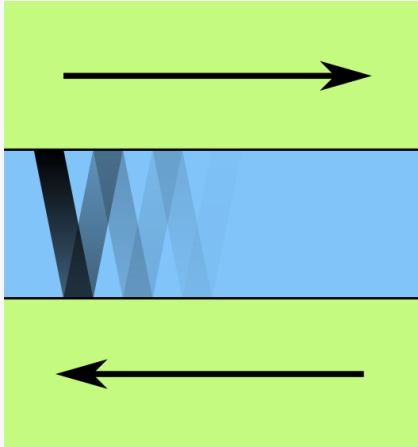


W. Döring,  
JAP 39, 1006 (1968)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Composite systems

## Interlayer exchange coupling

### Spin-dependent quantum confinement



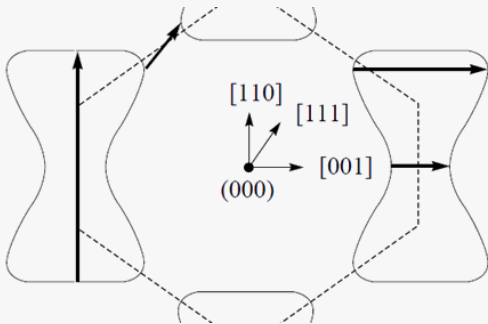
- Forth & back phase shift

$$\Delta\varphi = qt + \varphi_A + \varphi_B$$

- Spin dependence:

$$r_A, \varphi_A, r_B, \varphi_B$$

➔ Oscillating constructive and destructive interferences with spacer thickness



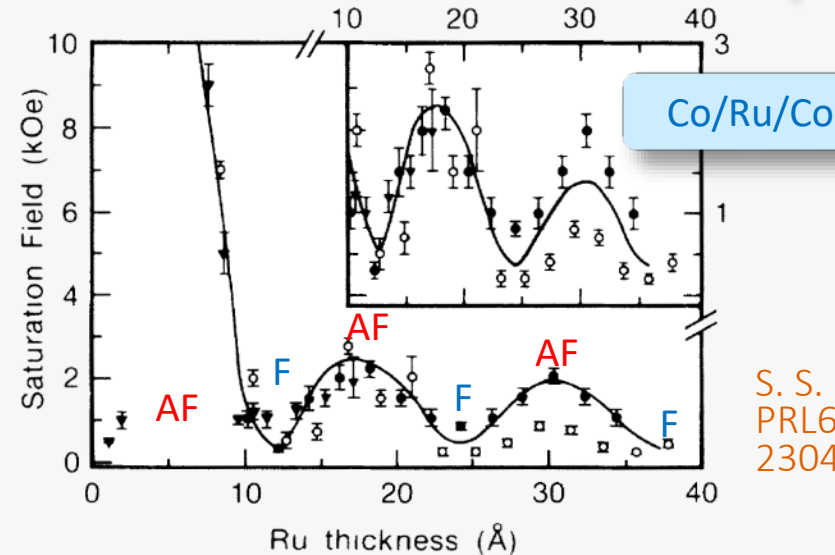
Cu Fermi surface

- Importance of nesting
- Depends on crystal direction

### Coupling strength

$$E_s(t) = J(t) \cos \theta \quad \text{with unit: } J/\text{m}^2 \quad \theta = \langle \mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{m}_2 \rangle$$

$$J(t) = \frac{A}{t^2} \sin(q_\alpha t + \Psi)$$

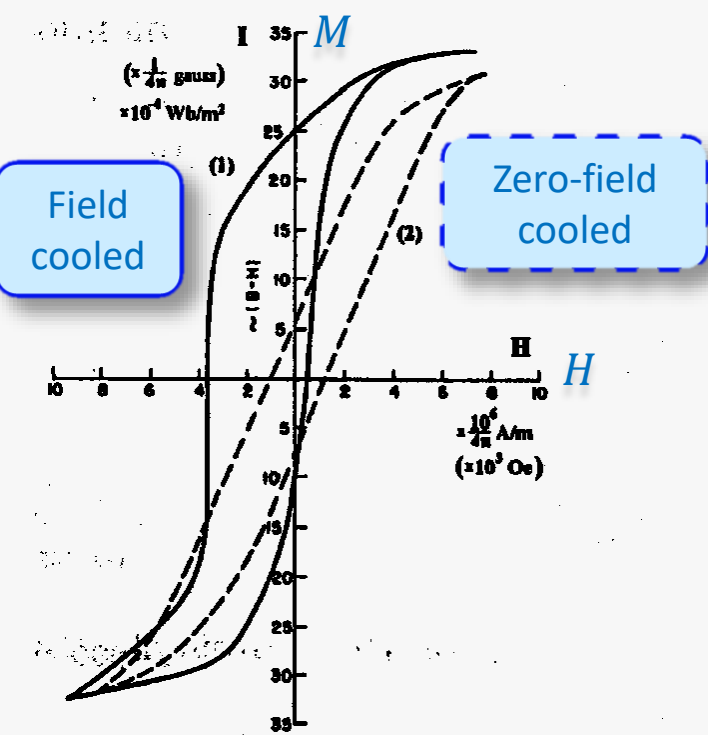


S. S. P. Parkin et al.,  
PRL64,  
2304 (1990)

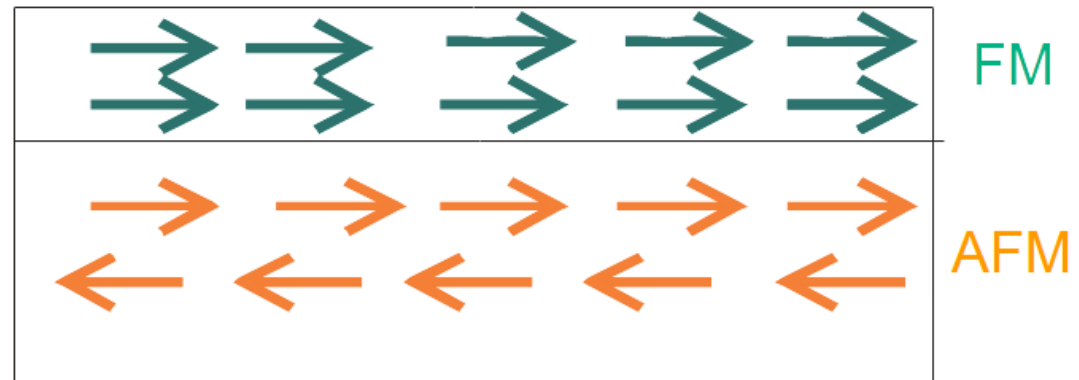
- RKKY = Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yoshida
- A function quantum effect at room temperature !
- Crucial to couple magnetic layers in stacks

## Exchange bias

### Seminal investigation



Meiklejohn and Bean, Phys. Rev. 102, 1413 (1956), Phys. Rev. 105, 904, (1957)



- Field-shift of hysteresis loop
- Increase of coercivity
- Crucial to design reference layer in memories

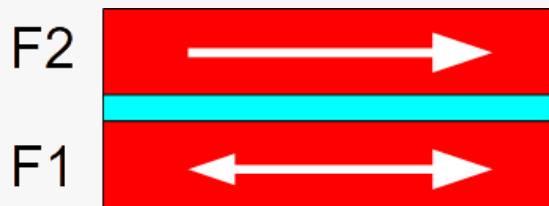
Exchange bias, J. Nogués and Ivan K. Schuller, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 192 (1999) 203

Exchange anisotropy—a review, A E Berkowitz and K Takano, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 200 (1999)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Composite systems


## Synthetic antiferromagnets and spin valves

### RKKY Synthetic Ferrimagnets (SyF) – Basics



- Crude phenomenology

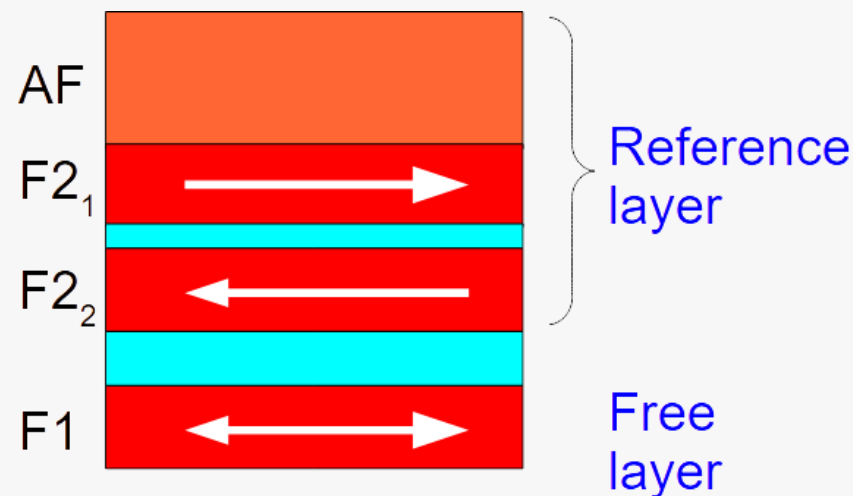
$$M = \frac{|e_1 M_1 - e_2 M_2|}{e_1 + e_2} \quad K = \frac{e_1 K_1 + e_2 K_2}{e_1 + e_2}$$


$$H_c \approx \frac{e_1 M_1 H_{c,1} + e_2 M_2 H_{c,2}}{|e_1 M_1 - e_2 M_2|}$$

- Enhances coercivity
- Reduces cross-talk in dense arrays

### Spin valves

- “Free” and reference layers



B. Diény et al., J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 93, 101 (1991)

- Spin-valves are key elements in magnetoresistive devices (sensors, memories)
- Control Ru thickness within the Angström !

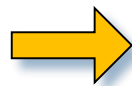
Lectures  
Susana Cardoso Freitas  
Yoichiro Tanaka

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

## Magnetization switching of extended systems

### Brown paradox

In most (extended systems):  $H_c \ll \frac{2K}{\mu_0 M_s}$



### (Micromagnetic) modeling

Exhibit analytic, nevertheless realistic models for magnetization reversal

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 119, NUMBER 1

JULY 1, 1960

## Reduction in Coercive Force Caused by a Certain Type of Imperfection

A. AHARONI

*Department of Electronics, The Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel*

(Received February 1, 1960)

As a first approach to the study of the dependence of the coercive force on imperfections in materials which have high magnetocrystalline anisotropy, the following one-dimensional model is treated. A material which is infinite in all directions has an infinite slab of finite width in which the anisotropy is 0. The coercive force is calculated as a function of the slab width. It is found that for relatively small widths there is a considerable reduction in the coercive force with respect to perfect material, but reduction saturates rapidly so that it is never by more than a factor of 4.

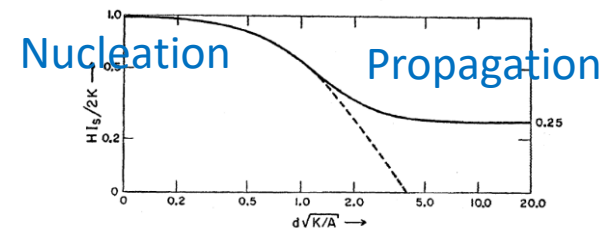
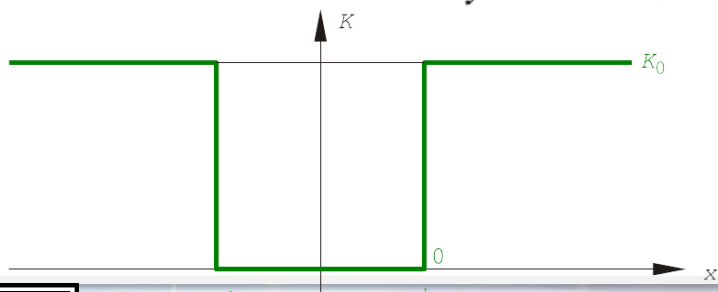


FIG. 1. The nucleation field (dashed) and coercive force (full curve) in terms of the coercive force of perfect material,  $H I_s / 2K$ , as functions of the defect size,  $d$ .

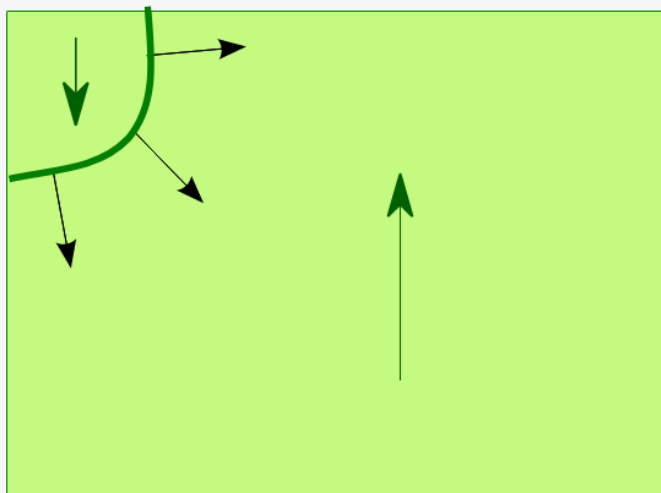


# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

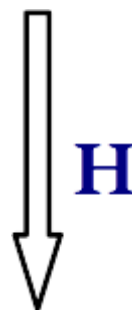
## Nucleation – Propagation mechanisms

How are domain walls involved in magnetization reversal?

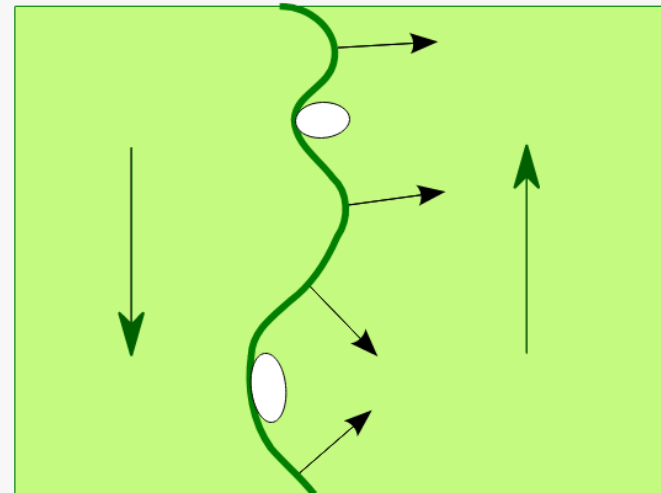
### Coercivity determined by nucleation



- ❑ Concept of nucleation volume
- ❑ Physics has some similarity with that of the Stoner-Wohlfarth model for small particles



### Coercivity determined by propagation



- ❑ Physics of surface/string in heterogeneous landscape
- ❑ Modeling necessary

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

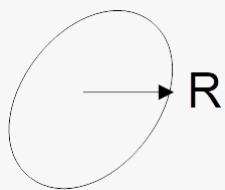
## Magnetostatics – Range considerations

### Range

Example: upper bound of dipolar field in thin films

$$\|\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{r})\| \leq M_s t \int \frac{2\pi r}{r^3} dr$$

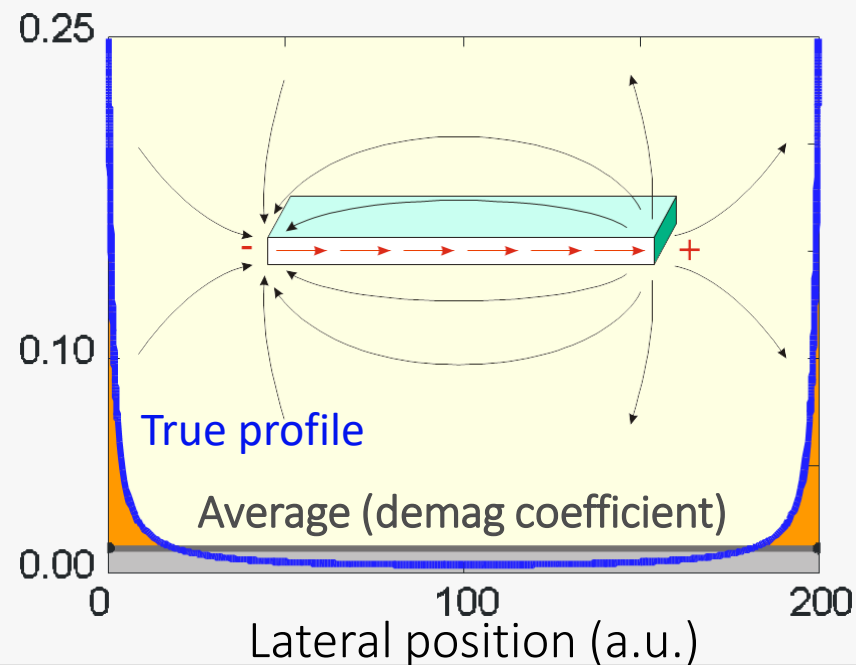
*Integration*  
 *$\rightarrow H_d$  for dipole*



**→**  $\|\mathbf{H}_d(\mathbf{R})\| \leq C_{ste} + \mathcal{O}(1/R)$

### Non-homogeneity

Example: flat strip with aspect ratio 0.0125



- ❑ Dipolar fields are short-ranged and inhomogeneous in low dimensions
- ❑ Consequences: non-uniform magnetization switching, edge modes etc.

**→** A 1D/2D system in space behaves very differently from a nano-bulk magnet

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

## Magnetostatics – End domains and curling

### Historical background

Introduced in the context of the Brown paradox for magnetization reversal

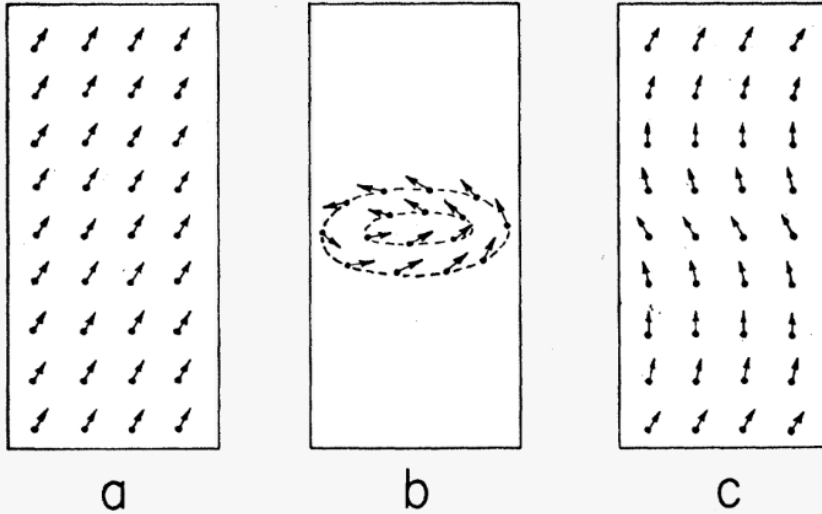


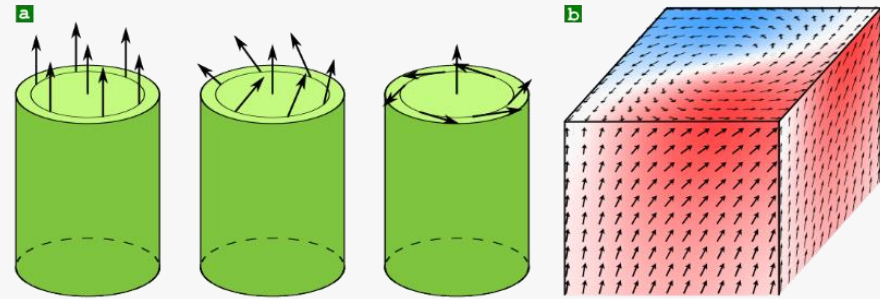
FIG. 2. Modes of magnetization change for the infinite cylinder: (a) spin rotation in unison; (b) magnetization curling; (c) magnetization buckling.

E. H. Frei, Phys. Rev. 106, 446 (1957)

Lecture  
Manuel Vazquez

### Example in 3D nanomagnets

End curling in elongated 3D objects (wires etc.)



Curling spreads surface charges into volume charges

$$\sigma(\mathbf{r}) = M_s \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathbf{n}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = -M_s \nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) = -M_s \frac{\partial m_z}{\partial z}$$

### Notes

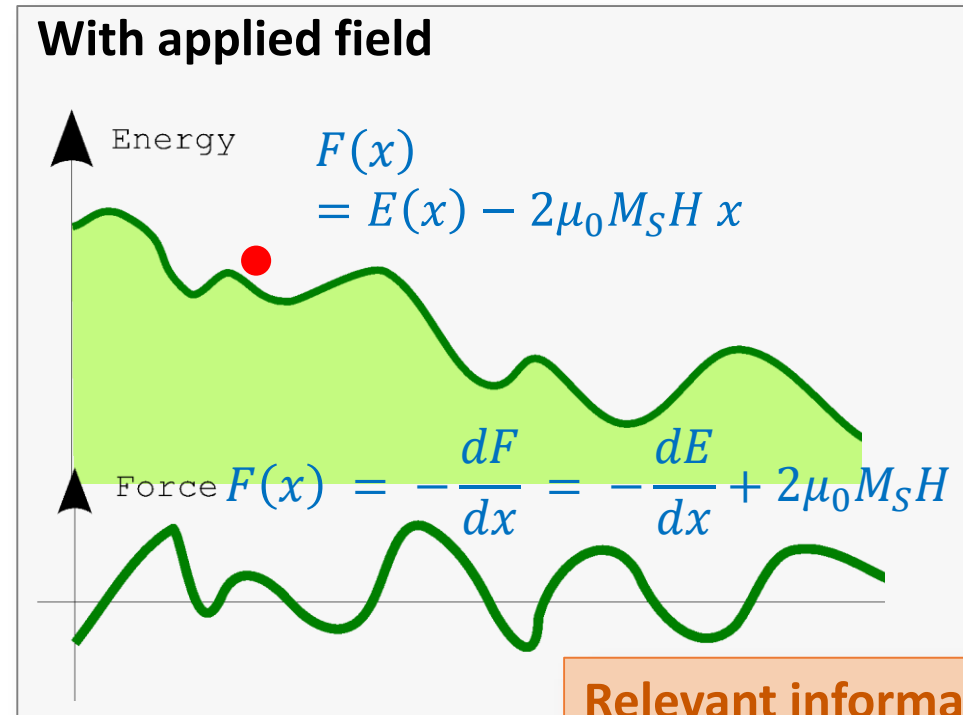
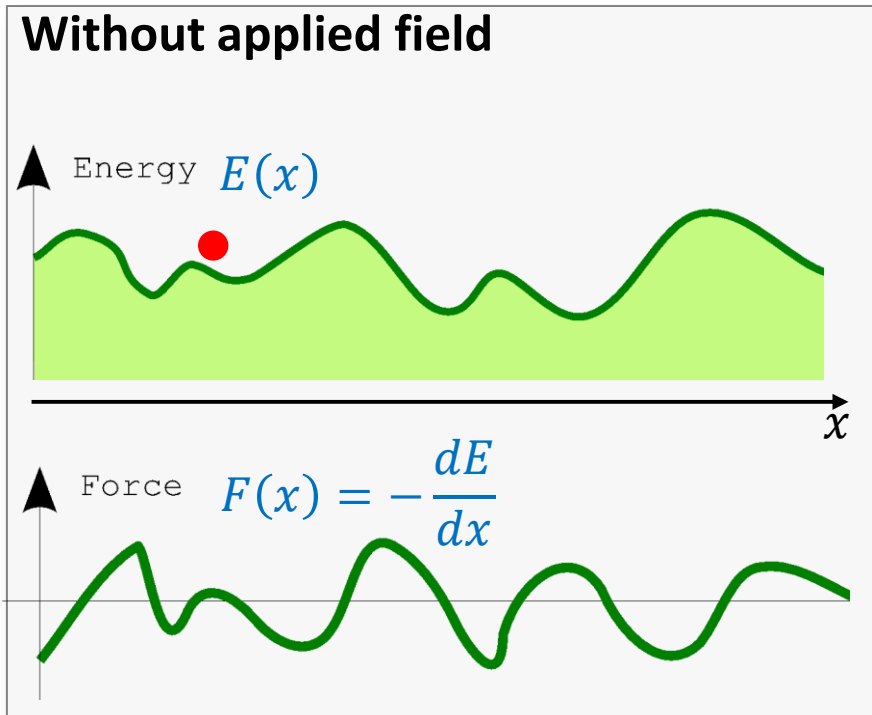
- Surface + volume charges is conserved
- Curling may develop whenever a dimension is larger than 7 dipolar exchange lengths

$$\Delta_d = \sqrt{2A/\mu_0 M_s^2}$$

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

## Pinning of domain walls

Example : domain wall to be moved along a 1d system



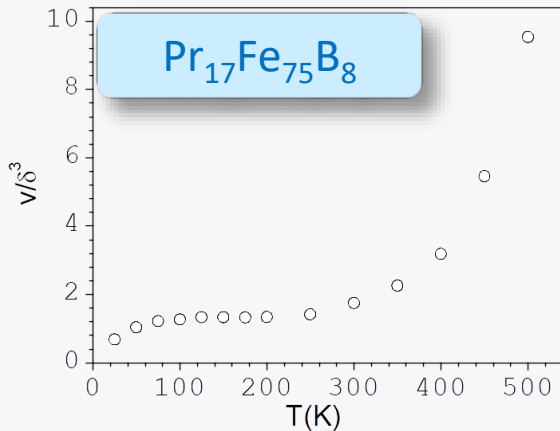
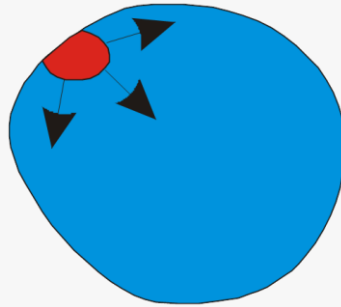
E. Kondorski, On the nature of coercive force and irreversible changes in magnetisation, Phys. Z. Sowjetunion 11, 597 (1937)

### Relevant information

- Microstructure
- Chemical composition
- Crystal structure

### Activation volume

- Also called: nucleation volume
- Should be considered if system is larger than the characteristic length scale
- Use for: estimate  $H_c(T)$ , long-time relaxation, dimensionality
- Size similar to wall width  $\delta$



Courtesy D. Givord

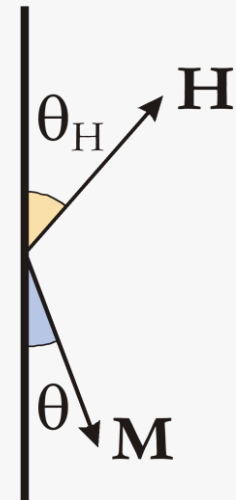
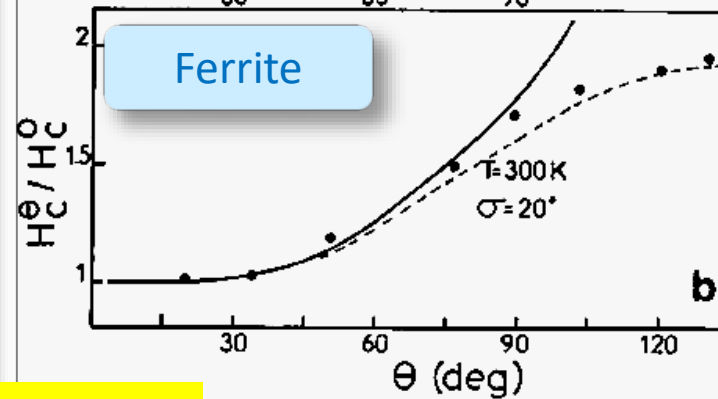
Lecture  
Ester Palmero

### 1/cos( $\vartheta$ ) law, Becker-Kondorski model

E. J. Kondorsky, J. Exp. Theor. Fiz. 10, 420 (1940)

- Assumes:  
coercivity  $\ll$  anisotropy field
- Energy barriers overcome by Zeeman + thermal energy

$$\Delta E = -\mu_0 M_s H v_a \cos \theta_H + 25 k_B T$$



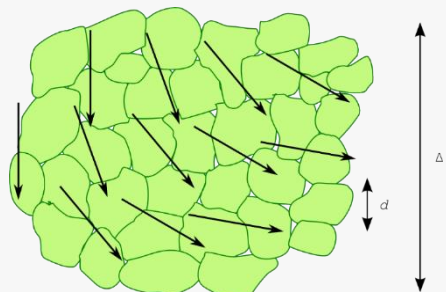
REVIEW: D. Givord et al., JMMM258, 1 (2003)

D. Givord et al., JMMM72, 247 (1988)

# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Large systems

## Switching – Size dependence

Coercivity versus size of microstructure

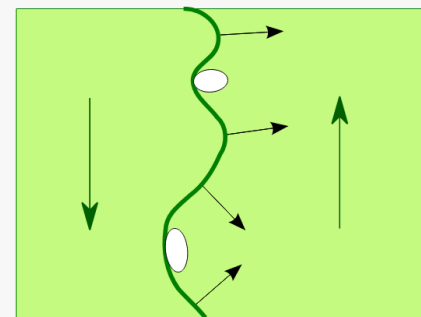
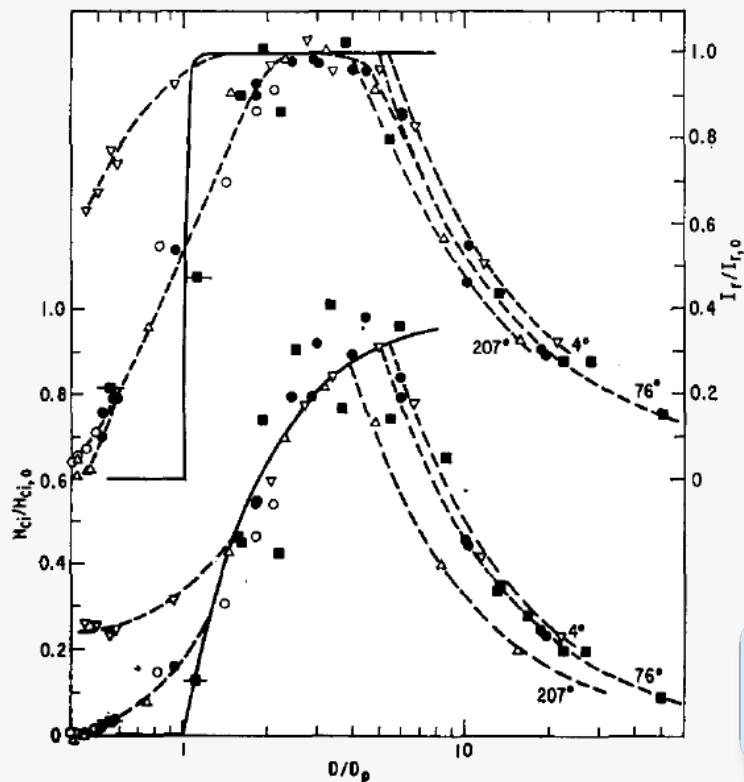


$$H_c \sim d^6$$

G. Herzer, IEEE Trans. Magn 26, 1397 (1990)

Evanescent anisotropy

Superparamagnetism



Towards nucleation-Propagation mechanisms

FIG. 1. Particle size dependence of essentially spherical, randomly oriented, iron particles. Calculated curve given by solid line. Diameters  $D = \hat{d}_v$ . Data at 76°K obtained from electron microscopic examination ■, calculated from  $I_r/I_s$  vs temperature ○, and from smoothed data of  $H_{ci}$  vs  $D$  ●.

E. F. Kneller & F. E. Luborsky, Particle size dependence of coercivity and remanence of single-domain particles, J. Appl. Phys. 34, 656 (1963)

### LLG equation

- Describes: precessional dynamics of magnetic moments
- Applies to magnetization, with phenomenological damping

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = -|\gamma_0| \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H} + \alpha \mathbf{m} \times \frac{dm}{dt}$$

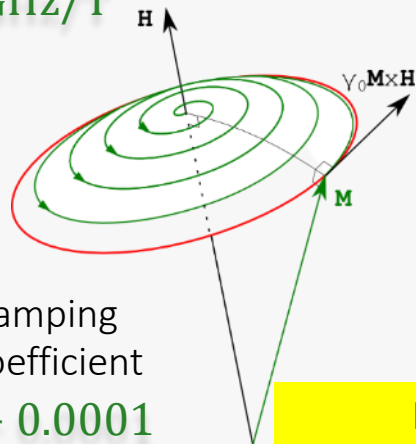
$$\gamma_0 = \mu_0 \gamma < 0 \quad \text{Gyromagnetic ratio}$$

$$\gamma_s = 28 \text{ GHz/T}$$

Larmor precession

$$\alpha > 0 \quad \text{Damping coefficient}$$

$$\alpha = 0.1 - 0.0001$$



Lecture  
Andrii Chumak

### Ferromagnetic resonance

Small-angle precession

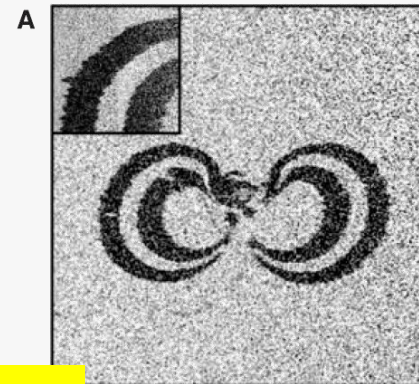
NATURE November 9, 1946 Vol. 158

#### Anomalous High-frequency Resistance of Ferromagnetic Metals

J. H. E. Griffiths, Anomalous high-frequency resistance of ferromagnetic materials, Nature, , 158, 670 (1946)

C. Kittel, Interpretation of Anomalous Larmor Frequencies in Ferromagnetic Resonance Experiment, Phys. Rev 71, 270 (1947)

### Precessional switching of magnetization



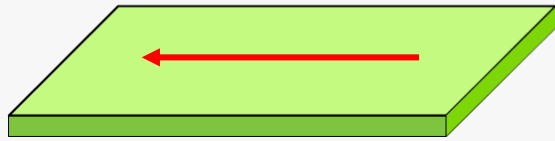
Large-angle precession

C. Back et al., Science 285, 864 (1999)

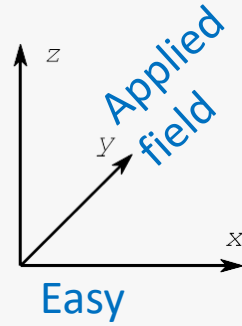
# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Precessional dynamics

## Precessional trajectories

### Geometry



Initial magnetization



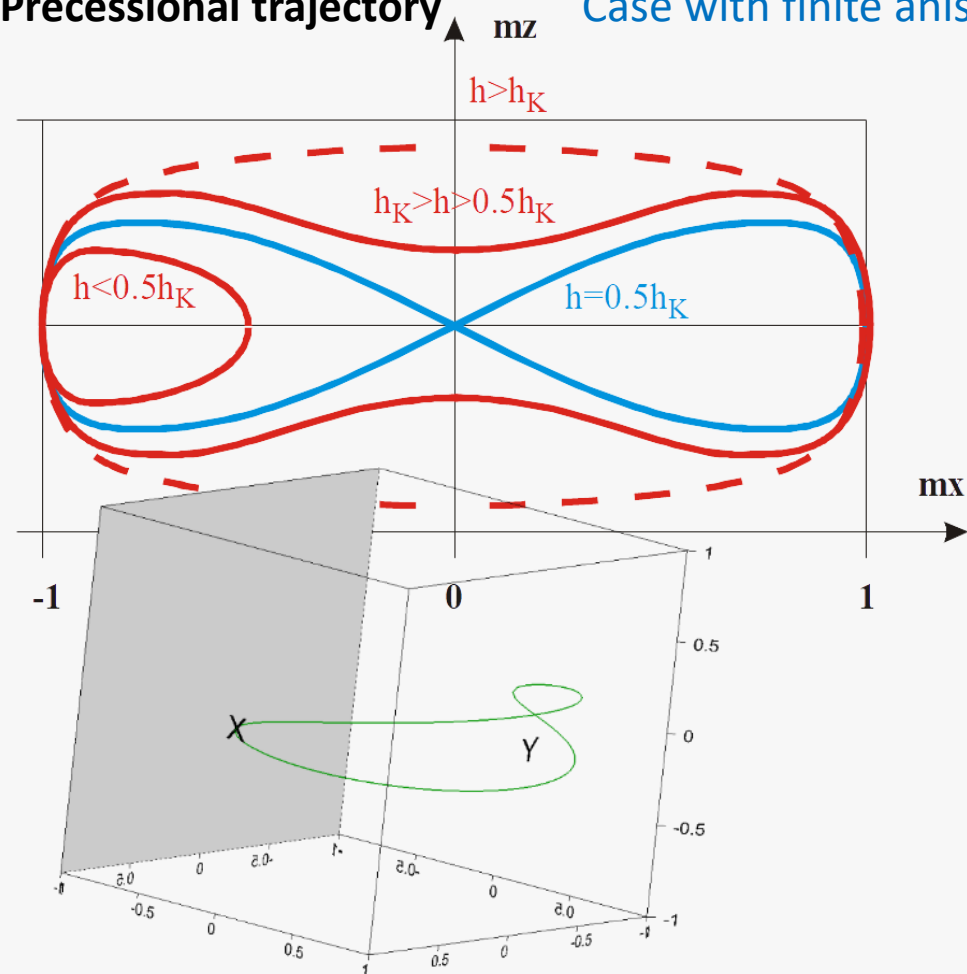
Easy

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = -|\gamma_0| \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H} + \text{damping}$$

- Precession around its own demagnetizing field
- Threshold for switching is half the Stoner-Wohlfarth one

### Precessional trajectory

Case with finite anisotropy

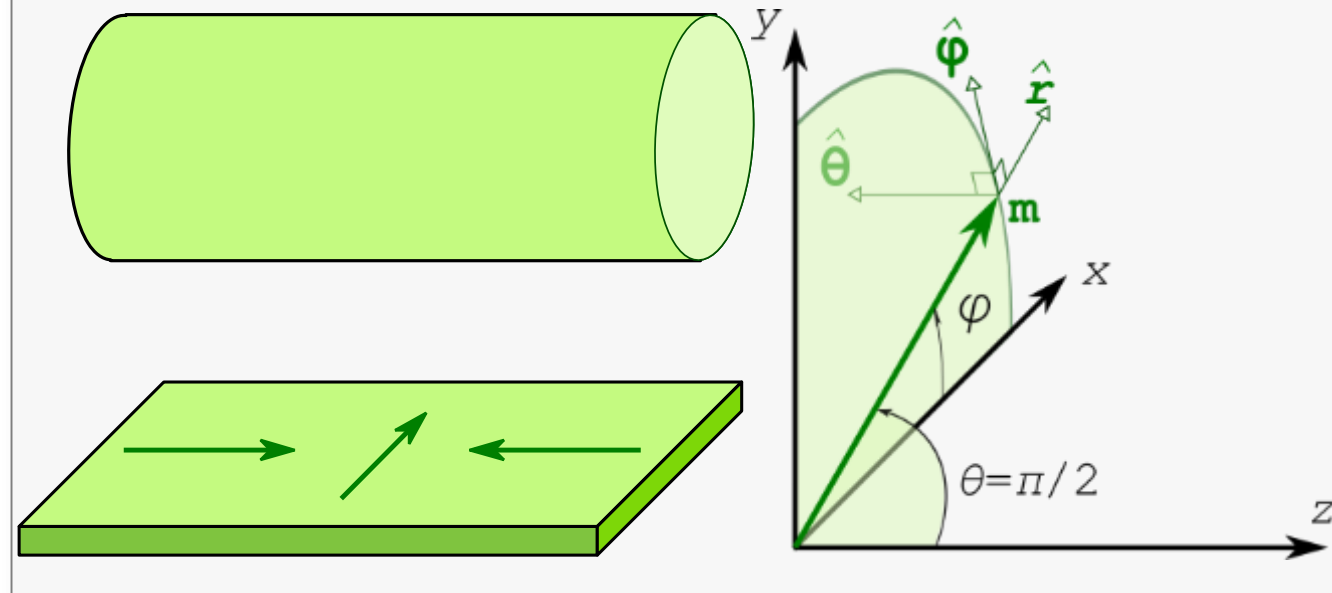




# 3. MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES – Precessional dynamics

## Precessional motion of magnetic domain walls

### Precessional dynamics of transverse walls under magnetic field

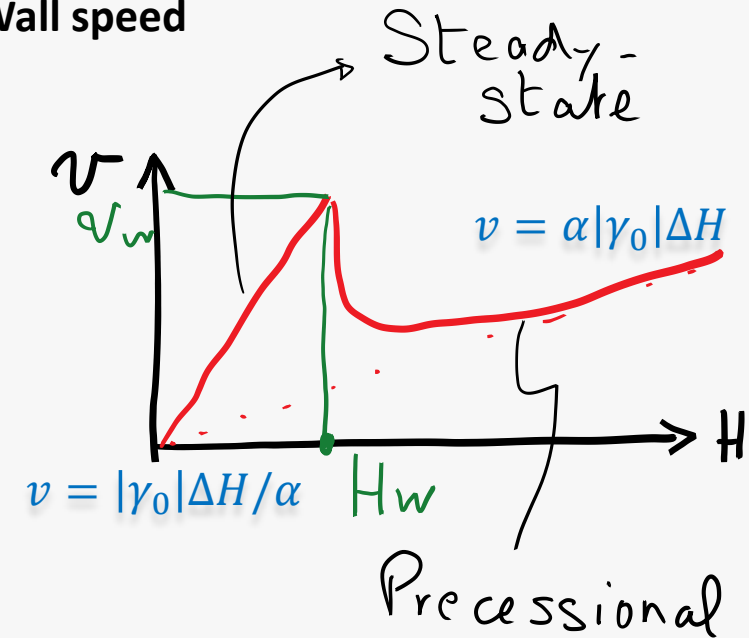


#### Precessional dynamics under magnetic field

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = -|\gamma_0| \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H} + \alpha \mathbf{m} \times \frac{dm}{dt}$$

A. Thiaville, Y. Nakatani, Domain-wall dynamics in nanowires and nanostrips, in *Spin dynamics in confined magnetic structures {III}*, Springer (2006)

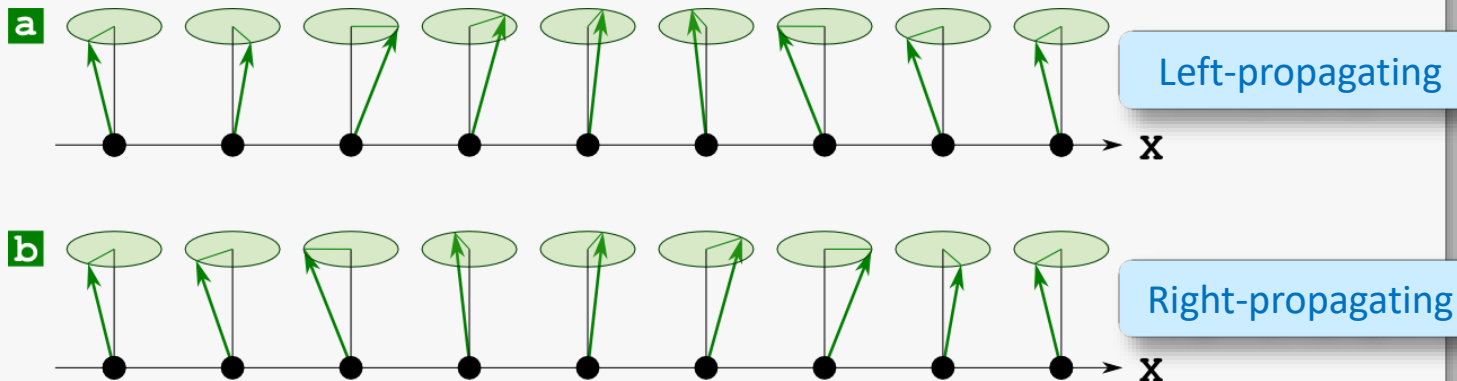
#### Wall speed



- Walker field  $H_W = \alpha M_S / 2$   
 $\approx$  few mT
- Walker speed  $v = |\gamma_0| M_S \Delta / 2$   
up to  $\approx 100$  m/s, to km/s

### Propagating Larmor precession

- ❑ Physics: exchange promotes propagation
- ❑ Spin waves have an angular frequency  $\omega$  and a vector for propagation
- ❑ There exist various geometries, related to the direction of  $\mathbf{M}$  versus  $\mathbf{k}$ , and the geometry of the system (thin film etc.)



### Dispersion curve

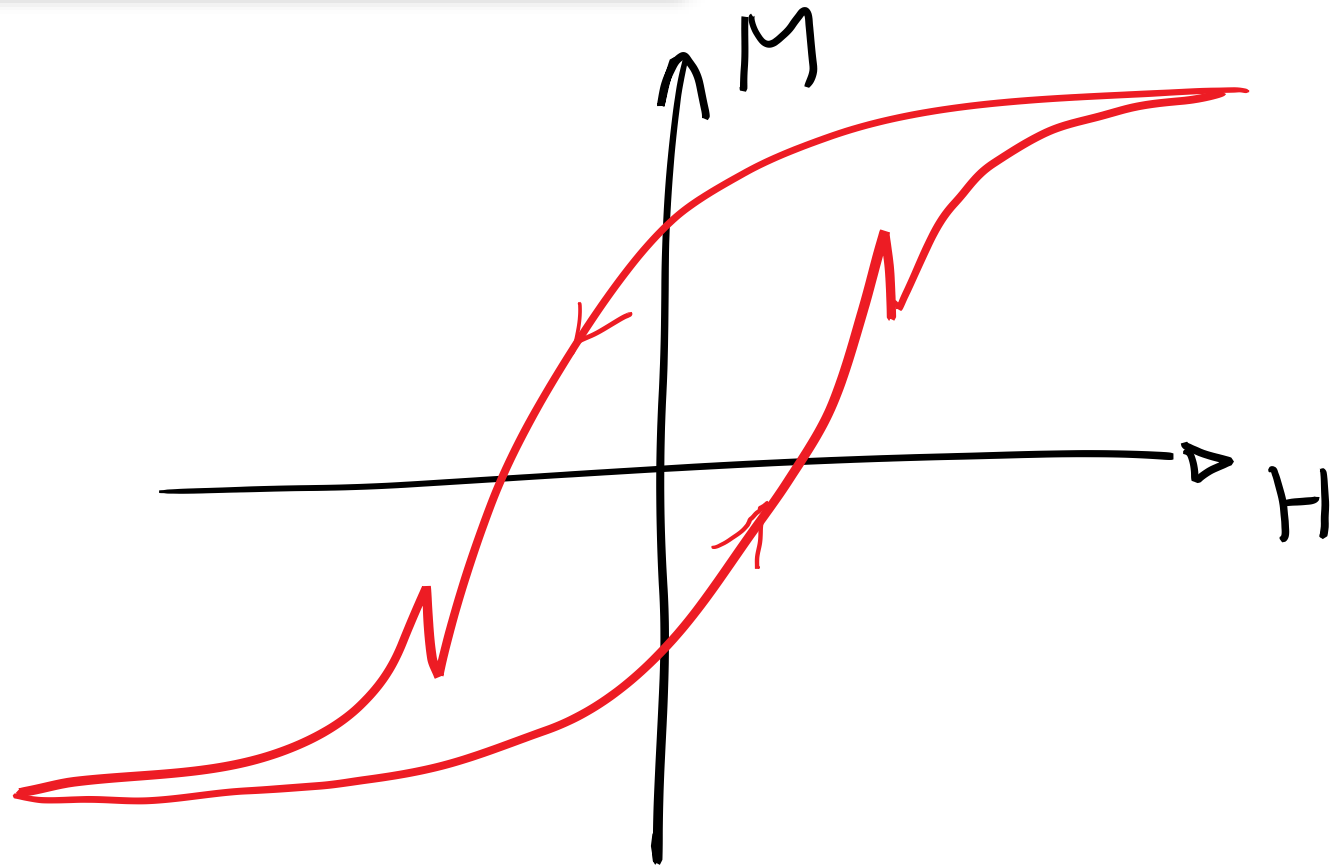
- ❑ Physics: exchange implies additional energy, and thus higher frequency
$$\omega(k) = \omega_0 + Dk^2$$
- $D$  Spin-wave stiffness coefficient
- ❑ Dipolar energy: depending on the spin-wave geometry, dipolar energy provides additional contributions to  $D$ , possibly with a negative value.

### Situations for spin waves

- ❑ Thermally-excited  $\rightarrow$  Contributes to the decay of magnetization with temperature
- ❑ Magnonics: excited on purpose using a radio-frequency field or a spin-polarized current.

Quizz #2

Is such a hysteresis loop possible ?



*"That's all Folks!"*

