

# Lecture 3: Magnetocaloric materials

Karl G. Sandeman  
ESM 2013

## Overview of Lecture 3

1. Examples of tricritical materials
2. What are the limits of magnetocaloric performance?
3. An introduction to several room temperature magnetocaloric materials
4. Some words on measurement
5. An example of material-device integration: the SSEC project
6. Where else to look for caloric effects?
7. Conclusion

## Real tricritical material #1: classic metamagnet $\text{FeCl}_2$

MAGNETIC TRICRITICAL BEHAVIOR OF  $\text{FeCl}_2$  AIP Conf. Proc. **24**, 195 (1975); doi: 10.1063/1.30043

J. A. Griffin<sup>1</sup> and S. E. Schmetterly  
<sup>1</sup>Joseph Henry Laboratories,  
Princeton University,  
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Magnetic Circular Dichroism of  $\text{FeCl}_2$  vs.  
Internal Magnetic Field for Different Temperatures

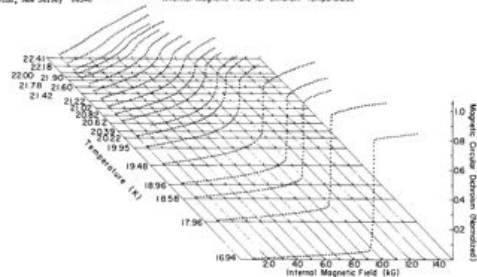


Fig. 5: Normalized magnetic circular dichroism versus internal magnetic field for nineteen isotherms near the tricritical point.

## $\text{FeCl}_2$ Continued...

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 18

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

28 OCTOBER 1974

### Tricritical-Point Phase Diagram in $\text{FeCl}_2$

R. J. Birgenbaum<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

and

G. Shirane and M. Blument  
Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11972

and

W. C. Koehler<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>2</sup>Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

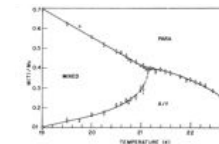


FIG. 1. Reduced magnetization versus temperature in  $\text{FeCl}_2$  along the first-order phase-separation line and the second-order A line. The solid dashed lines are guides to the eye.

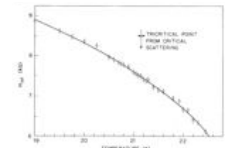


FIG. 2. Internal field versus temperature in  $\text{FeCl}_2$  along the first-order phase-separation line and the second-order A line. The solid line is a smooth curve drawn as a guide to the eye.

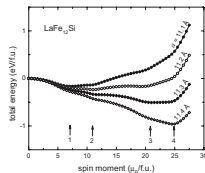
## Real tricritical material #2: La-Fe-Si

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 76, 092401 (2007)

### Mechanism of the strong magnetic refrigerant performance of LaFe<sub>13</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>

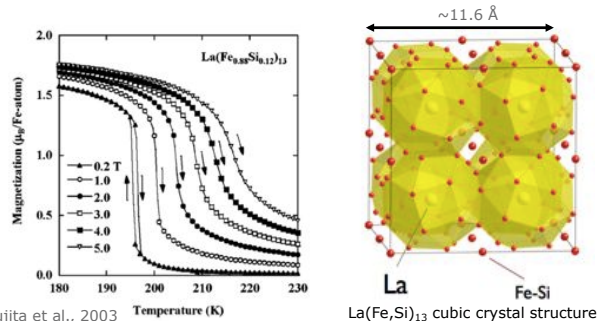
Michael D. Kuz'min and Mannel Richter  
*Leibniz-Institut für Festkörper- und Werkstoffforschung, IFW Dresden, FF 270116, D-01171 Dresden, Germany*  
(Received 21 June 2007; published 5 September 2007)

Electronic structure calculations reveal the presence of several shallow minima and maxima in the energy-vs-magnetization curves, which otherwise are surprisingly flat. The main implication—a fast magnetization and/or demagnetization process with little hysteresis—is of primary importance for the performance of LaFe<sub>13</sub>Si<sub>4</sub> in magnetic cooling devices.



## Real tricritical material #2, continued: La-Fe-Si

A candidate magnetic refrigerant at room temperature: La(Fe,Si)<sub>13</sub>



Fujita et al., 2003

La(Fe,Si)<sub>13</sub> cubic crystal structure

## Real tricritical material #3: Fe<sub>2</sub>P

Similar effects modeled and seen

Phase Transitions, 2002, Vol. 75, No. 1-2, pp. 231-242



### FIRST-ORDER TRANSITION OF Fe<sub>2</sub>P AND ANTI-METAMAGNETIC TRANSITION

H. YAMADA\* and K. TERAO

Faculty of Science, Shizuoka University, Matsumoto 390-8621, Japan

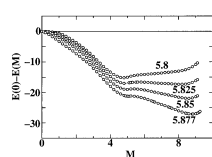
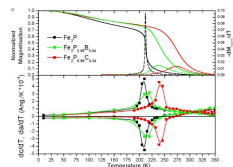


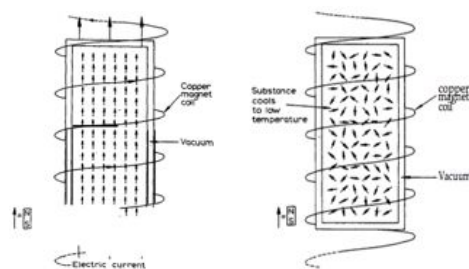
FIGURE 3 Calculated values for  $\Delta E(M) = E(0) - E(M)$  in mRy per unit cell as a function of the total moment  $M$  (in  $\mu_B$  unit cell) for lattice constants  $a = 5.8, 5.825, 5.85$  and  $5.877$  Å.

Gercsi, Sandeman et al., *cond-mat/*

Experiment:



## Magnetocaloric principles: not new!

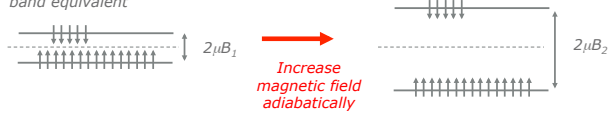


"These are some examples of the type of things that are to be found by those who inquire into the subject of entropy. We consider it a rich field for further investigation."

William Giauque, Nobel Prize Lecture, 1949

## Magnetocaloric principles: not new!

e.g. demagnetising a paramagnetic salt - the rubber band equivalent

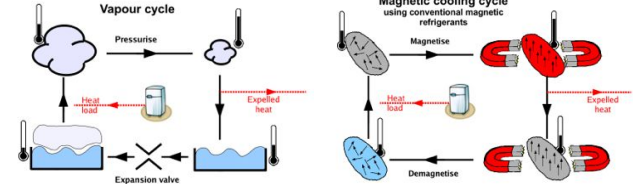


**No phase transition here  
(ie no forced or  
spontaneous change of  
state)**

Despite bigger energy difference between states, occupation is same (due adiabatic application of field)

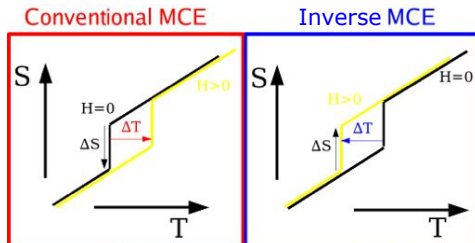
So this new arrangement represents a higher characteristic, thermodynamical temperature

## The cycle



K. G. Sandeman, Mag. Tech. Int. 1 30-32 (2011)

## Magnetocaloric principles



## What makes a good magnetic refrigerant?

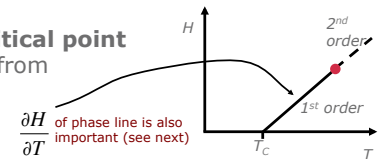
**Cheap**  
d-metal magnetism

MnFe(P,Z)  
La(Fe,Co,Mn,Si)<sub>13</sub>

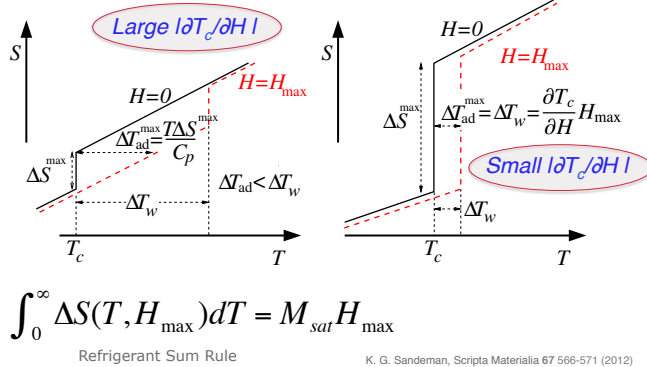
**First order transition**  
because  $\Delta T_{ad}$  of second order transition is too low (if d-metal alloy)

$$\Delta T_{ad}(H, T) = \frac{T \Delta S}{C_p}$$

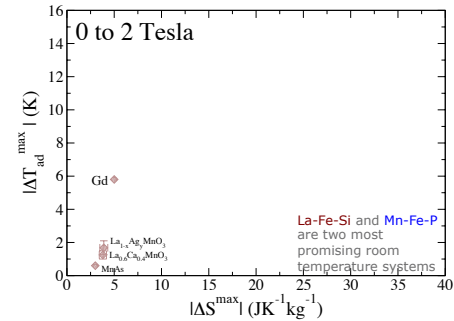
**Proximity to (tri)critical point**  
Minimise energy loss from hysteresis



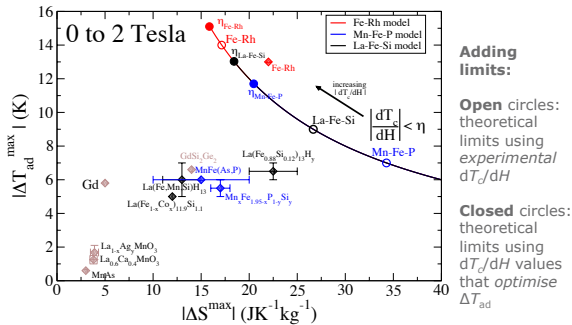
## What are the limits?



## An Ashby plot for magnetic refrigerants



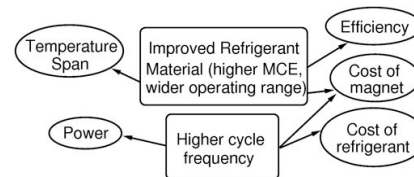
## An Ashby plot for magnetic refrigerants



In 2 Tesla, the value of  $\mu_0 |\partial T_c / \partial H|$  which is optimum is  $\mu_0 \eta \approx \pm 7 \text{ KT}^{-1}$



Scope of the project:

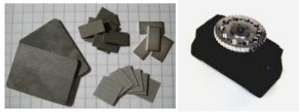
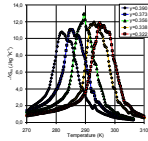


Materials Research Aims:  
Identification, synthesis, modelling & production of magnetocaloric materials





Feedback between the steps in this multidisciplinary research chain is essential



Production (metals)

Fabrication and characterisation (alloys)

Manufacture (plates, particles)

Cooling engine (design integration)



**Some examples**

Some Examples...

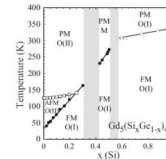
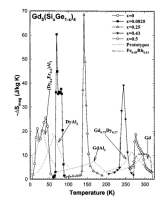
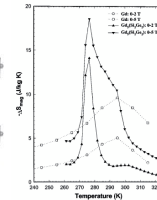
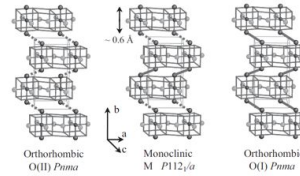
**Strategies for coupling magnetism to the lattice**

- 1) Don't bother! (Gadolinium, second order phase transitions)
- 2) Push a second order magnetic transition towards a bi/tricritical point ( $b \rightarrow 0^+$ )
- 3) Push a first order transition towards a bi/tricritical point ( $b \rightarrow 0^-$ )

In (2) or (3) we can either:

- Use a magneto-elastic transition (no change of crystal symmetry)
  - La(Fe,Si)<sub>13</sub>, (Mn,Fe)<sub>2</sub>P, FeRh, CoMnSi, Mn<sub>3</sub>GaC
- Use a magneto-structural transition (change in crystal symmetry)
  - Shape memory alloys, Gd<sub>5</sub>Ge<sub>4</sub>, CoMnGe

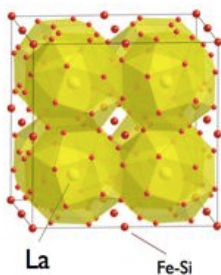
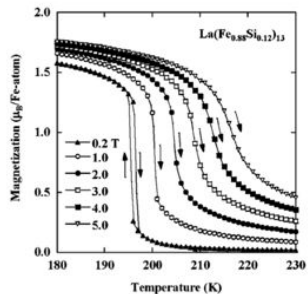
**The original giant magnetocaloric: Gd-Si-Ge**



V.K. Pecharsky and K.A. Gschneidner Jr.,  
Appl. Phys. Lett. **70**, 3299 (1997)  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **78**, 4494 (1997).

Structures differ by number of Si-Ge bonds made or broken

## La(Fe,Si)<sub>3</sub>

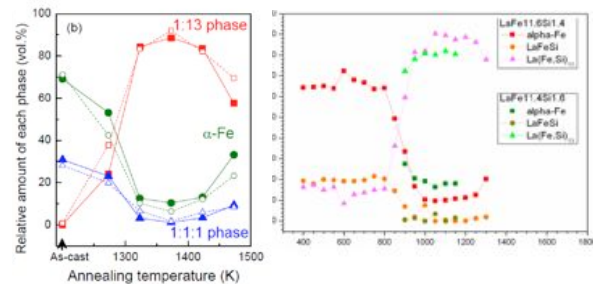


Fujita et al., 2003

## La(Fe,Si)<sub>3</sub> contd.



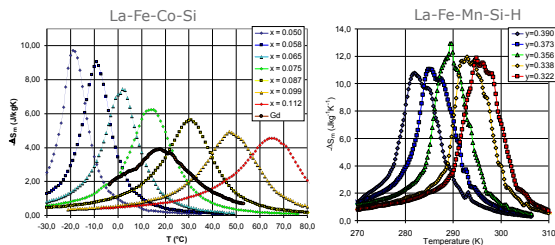
Curie temperature ~ 190 K



**Left:** Volume fraction of constituent phases as a function of annealing temperature for bulk alloys (closed symbols determined by SEM images, open symbols determined by Rietveld refinement). **Right:** Phase concentration in melt spun ribbons as a function of annealing temperature. Annealing time for all samples was 2 hours.

Liu et al., Acta Materialia (2011)

## Tuning transition temperature

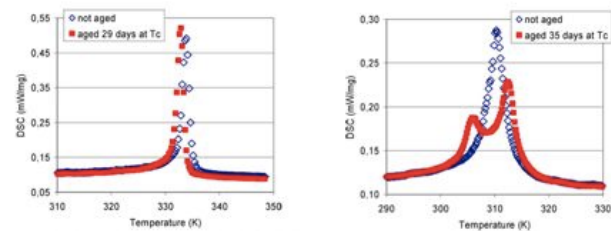


Magnetic entropy change as a function of temperature of: La(Fe<sub>0.915</sub>Co<sub>0.085</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (left) and five LaFe<sub>1-72x</sub>Mn<sub>7x</sub>Si<sub>20</sub>H<sub>12</sub> alloys with different *x* (right) for a magnetic field change of 1.6 T. The entropy change is higher than that seen in gadolinium (Gd, left plot only).

Katter et al., private communication

Barcza et al., IEEE Trans. Magn. (2011)

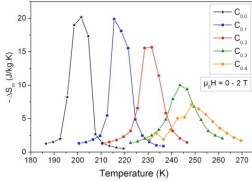
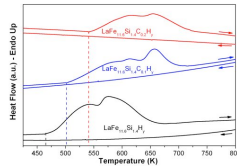
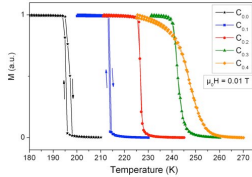
## Hydrogen stability



**Fig. 1.** The aging behavior of fully hydrogenated La<sub>0.915</sub>Fe<sub>0.085</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>H<sub>12</sub> produced by rapid solidification. After 29 days at *T<sub>c</sub>*: the peak shape is unchanged. **Fig. 2.** The aging behavior for partially hydrogenated La<sub>0.8</sub>Fe<sub>1.2</sub>Si<sub>3</sub>H<sub>12</sub> produced by arc melting. After 35 days at 309 K, the original peak (open symbols) splits into two peaks (full symbols).

Barcza et al., IEEE Trans. Magn. (2011)

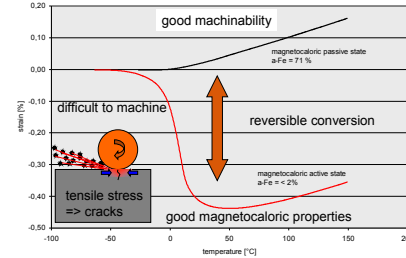
## Tuning $T_c$ and controlling H desorption



- With C, desorption temperature is increased to 500 K ( $x = 0.1$ ) and 540 K ( $x = 0.2$ ).
- C stabilizes the H in LaFe<sub>11.6</sub>Si<sub>1-x</sub>C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub> alloys
- Important as the materials should be stable over extended periods of time
- Even small losses in H content translate to large decrease in the working temperature as set by  $T_c$ .

C. de Texeira J. Appl. Phys. **111** 07A927 (2012)

## Machinability of La-Fe-Si material



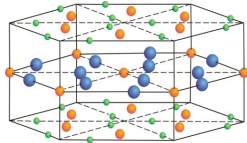
How to avoid cracking during machining

In order to be able to machine parts made of sintered La-Fe-So-Si the materials has to undergo the Thermal Decomposition and Recombination (TDR) process.

## (Mn,Fe)<sub>2</sub>P-based materials



Hexagonal Fe<sub>2</sub>P type of structure



Bacmann, JMMM 1994

● Mn ● P/As ● Fe

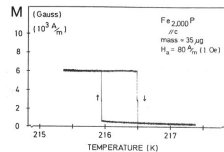
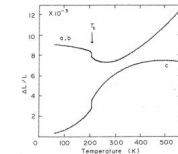


Fig. 10. 10-10 T curve for a single crystal of Mn<sub>2</sub>P showing the first order ferri- to paramagnetic phase transition.  $H_0 = 80$  T.

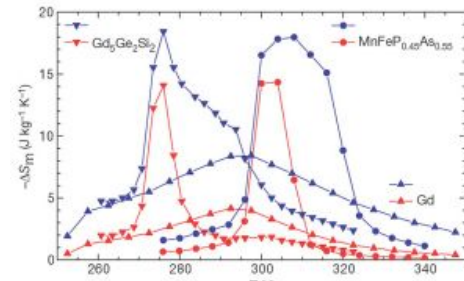
Lundgren and Nordblad, 1980



Fujii et al., 1977

Change of c/a ratio across first order phase transition

## (Mn,Fe)<sub>2</sub>P-based materials



Tegus et al., Nature (2002)

## (Mn,Fe)<sub>2</sub>P-based materials



### Mixed Magnetism for Refrigeration and Energy Conversion

Nguyen H. Dung, Zhi Qiang Ou, Luana Caron, Lian Zhang, Dinh T. Cam Thanh, Gilles A. de Wijn, Rob A. de Groot, K. H. Jürgen Buschow, and Ekke Brück\*

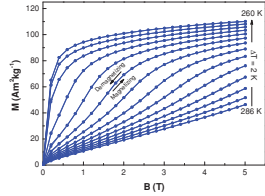


Figure 6. Magnetic isotherms of Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>1+x</sub>P<sub>1-y</sub>Si<sub>1+y</sub> in the vicinity of the Curie temperature.

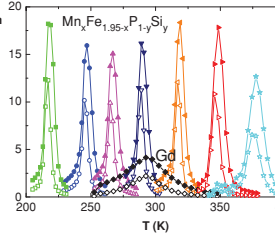
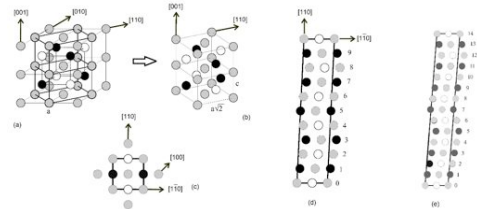


Figure 4. Isothermal magnetic entropy change under a field change  $\Delta S$  (open curves) and 0.2 T (solid curves) for some typical Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>1+x</sub>P<sub>1-y</sub>Si<sub>1+y</sub> compounds with from left to right  $x = 1.34, 1.32, 1.30, 1.25, 0.66$  and  $y = 0.46, 0.48, 0.50, 0.52, 0.54, 0.34, 0.37$ , respectively. of Gd metal under a field change of 0.1 T (open diamond) and 1 T (filled diamond) are included.

Dung et al., Adv. Eng. Mat. (2011)

## Shape memory alloys



Planes and Mañosa, in "Magnetic Cooling: from fundamentals to high efficiency refrigeration" Eds. Sandeman and Gutfleisch, (Wiley in press)

Parent and martensitic structures of Ni-Mn-based Heusler alloys.

- Parent L<sub>21</sub> structure (Fm3m). Black: 4(a), white: 4(b) and grey: 8(c) positions.
- The relationship with the tetragonal L<sub>10</sub> unit cell is shown
- Tetragonal unit cell viewed from top.
- The 10M structure constructed from nanotwinned variants of the L<sub>10</sub> structure.
- 14M-modulated structure. "M" refers to monoclinicity which results from the distortion associated with modulation.

## Curie temperature and hysteresis dependence

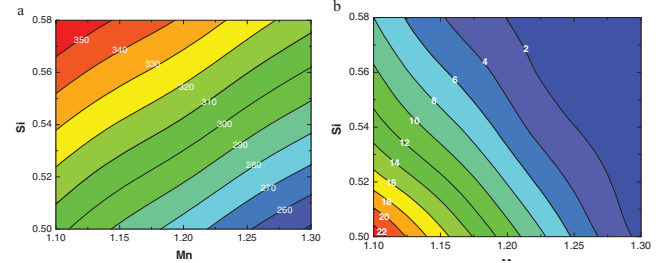
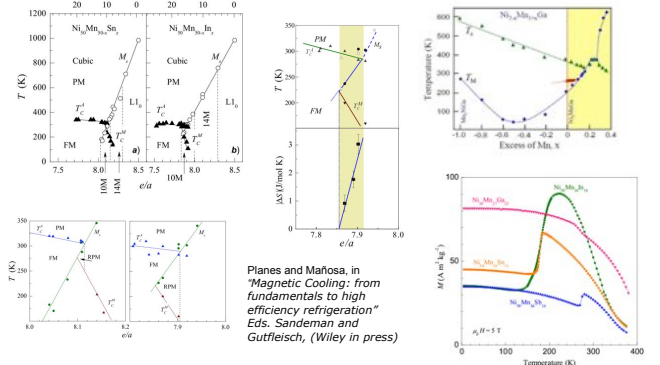


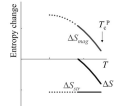
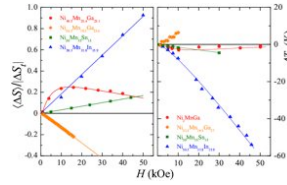
Figure 3. Partial phase diagram of the quaternary (MnFePSi) system (a) illustrating the composition dependence of the magnetic ordering temperature  $T_C$  (K) for Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>2-x</sub>P<sub>1-y</sub>Si<sub>y</sub> compounds. (b) Composition dependence of the thermal hysteresis  $\Delta T_{hys}$  (K) for Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>2-x</sub>P<sub>1-y</sub>Si<sub>y</sub> compounds.

## Shape memory ferromagnets: phase diagrams

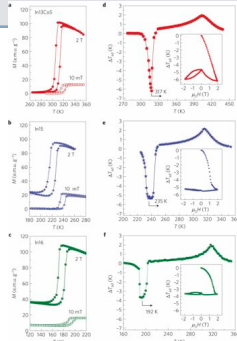


Planes and Mañosa, in "Magnetic Cooling: from fundamentals to high efficiency refrigeration" Eds. Sandeman and Gutfleisch, (Wiley in press)

## Structural and magnetic entropy, shift of transition temperature



Planes and Mañosa



$$F = \frac{1}{2}a(T - T_C)\epsilon^2 - \frac{1}{3}b\epsilon^3 + \frac{1}{4}c\epsilon^4 + \frac{1}{2}A(T - T_C)M^2 + \frac{1}{4}BM^4 + \kappa\epsilon M^2$$

Liu et al., Nature Materials (2012)

## What about antiferromagnets?

Fe-Rh still holds the record for the one-shot  $\Delta T_{50}$  per Tesla of applied field. A  $\sim 1\mu_B$  moment develops on the Rh in the FM state!

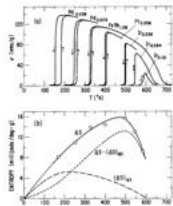


Fig. 1. (a) Magnetization in 120kOe field vs temperature for Fe<sub>1-x</sub>Rh<sub>x</sub> alloys. (b) Entropy change ΔS<sub>m</sub> (J/mol-K) vs temperature for Fe<sub>1-x</sub>Rh<sub>x</sub> alloys. The arrows indicate the field-induced enhancement of ΔS<sub>m</sub> for the transition AF → FM at low temperatures.

J.S. Kouvel, J. Appl. Phys. (1966)

A large % of ΔS is due to electronic entropy

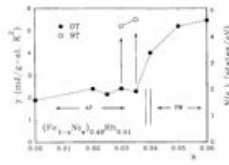


Fig. 1. Concentration dependence of the electronic specific-heat coefficient; or the DOS at the Fermi energy  $E_F$  in states/eV for an FeRh formula unit; for  $0 < x < 0.035$  the AF range and for  $x > 0.8$  the FM state is stable at low temperatures. The arrows indicate the field-induced enhancement of  $\gamma$  for the transition AF → FM at low temperatures.

K. Kreiner et al., JMMM (1998)

## Shape memory alloys: tuning hysteresis

M. L. ...  
ViewS

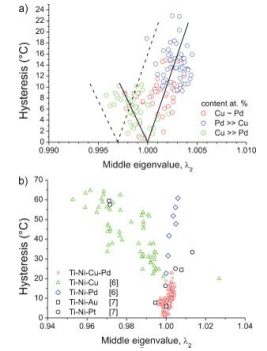
ADVANCED  
FUNCTIONAL  
MATERIALS

### Identification of Quaternary Shape Memory Alloys with Near-Zero Thermal Hysteresis and Unprecedented Functional Stability

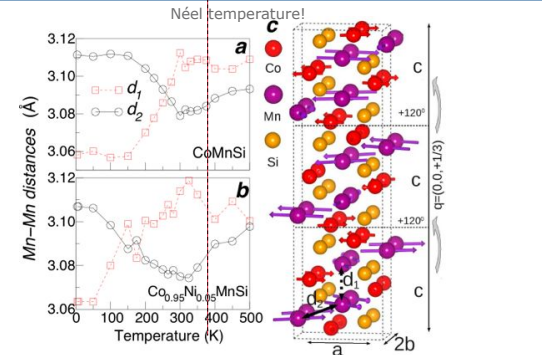
By Robert Zarnetta,\* Ryota Takahashi, Marcus L. Young, Alan Sawa, Yasubumi Furuya, Sigurd Thienhaus, Burkhard Maßf, Mustafa Rahim, Jan Frenzel, Hajo Brunken, Yong S. Chu, Vijay Srivastava, Richard D. James, Ichiro Takeuchi, Gunther Eggler, and Alfred Ludwig

Hysteresis can potentially be minimised by controlling interfacial strain

Zarnetta et al., Adv. Func. Mat. (2010)

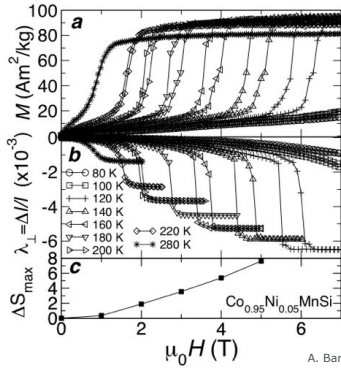


## Giant magneto-elastic coupling!



A. Barcza et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 104 247202 (2010)

## (Co,Ni)MnSi: magnetostriction

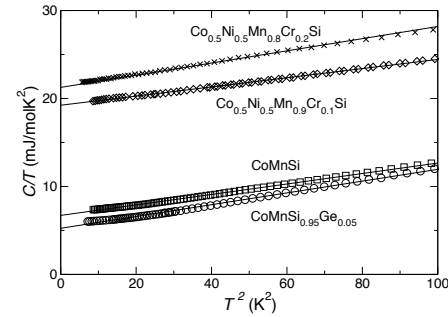


Enhanced magnetostriction with onset of first order behaviour

Accompanies enhanced entropy change (magnetocaloric effect)

A. Barcza et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **104** 247202 (2010)

## Electronic origin of entropy change



Compositions tuned to high magnetisation (ferromagnetic) ground state

Antiferromagnetic Ground state

A. Barcza et al., Phys. Rev. B **87** 064410 (2013)

## Methods of measurement

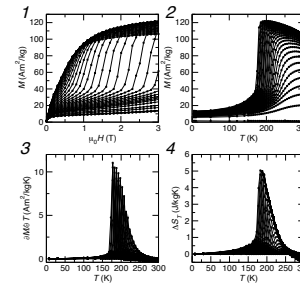
### Direct

- adiabatic temperature change,  $\Delta T_{ad}$
- field-induced latent heat measurement (the first order part of  $\Delta S$ )

### Indirect

- magnetisation vs. temperature and field  $\rightarrow$  estimated isothermal entropy change
- heat capacity, integrated  $\rightarrow$  isothermal entropy change and/or adiabatic temperature change

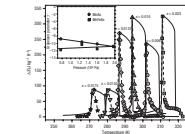
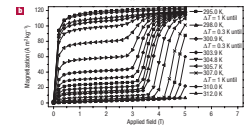
## Measurement: estimation of $\Delta S$ from magnetisation



A. Barcza, PhD thesis, Cambridge 2009

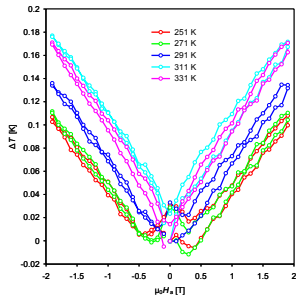
### LETTERS

Ambient pressure colossal magnetocaloric effect tuned by composition in  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xAs$

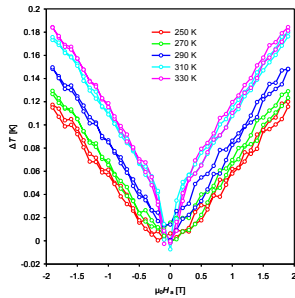


de Campos  
*Nature* (2006)

Be careful with magnetisation history



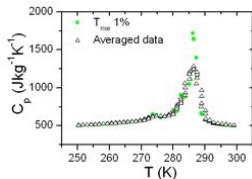
H parallel to alignment axis



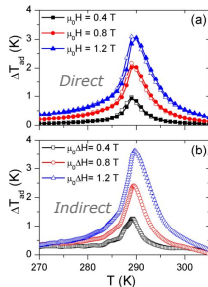
H perpendicular to alignment axis

Pressing equipment (VAC) was used to fabricate magnetically-aligned solid samples of approximately  $9 \times 9 \times 4$  mm size.

## Results of comparison, II

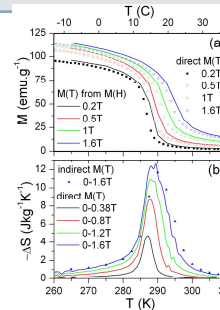


Result of averaging heat capacity over a large temperature window ( $\sim 2\% T_{bath}$ ) causes the sharp change in heat capacity to instead resemble broad behaviour observed in the pellet.

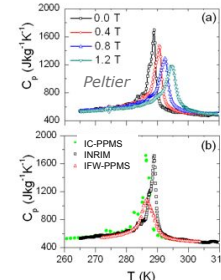


Good agreement between  $\Delta T_{ad}(T)$  curves  $\sim 10\%$  difference in peak  $\Delta T_{ad}$ . Could be demag factor or pressing of pellet for upper curve.

## Comparing measurement techniques



(a)  $M(T)$  curves measured directly (VAC) and extracted from  $M(H)$  curves (IC/IFW).  
(b) Entropy change  $\Delta S$  calculated from the  $M(T)$  curves shown in (a).



(a) INRIM:  $C_p(T)$  at different  $H$  fields  
(b) comparison of 3 different zero-field  $C_p(T)$

## Measurement: phenomenological scaling

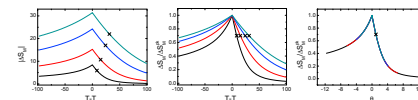
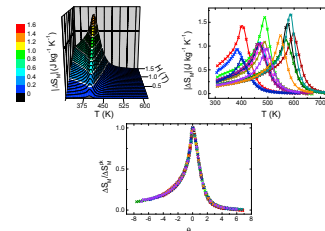


Fig. 2 - The three different steps in the phenomenological construction of the universal curve: identification of the reference temperatures (crosses); normalization, rescaling the temperature axis to place  $T_r$  at  $\theta = 1$ .



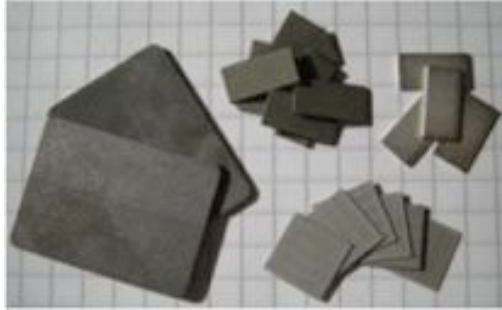
Scaling laws for the magnetocaloric effect in second order phase transitions: From physics to applications for the characterization of materials

V. Franco\*, A. Conde  
Department of Condensed Matter Physics, CSIC-CM, Madrid University, P.O. Box 290, 6000 Madrid, Spain

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF REFRIGERATION 33 (2010) 465-473

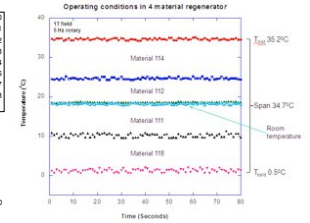
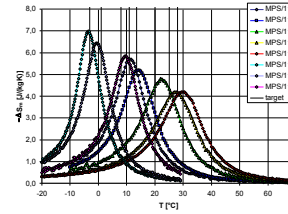
$$\theta = (T - T_C)/(T_r - T_C)$$





Plates of La-Fe-Si material, made by Vacuumschmelze (Germany)

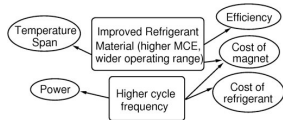
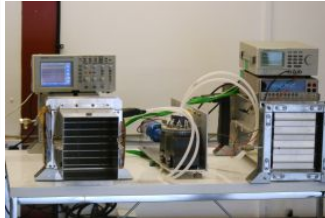
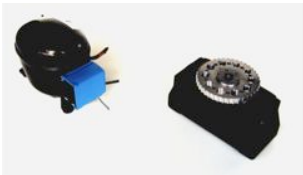
La-Fe-Co-Si refrigerants



Flat plates machined by EDM

Target for prototype II achieved!

Final device matches weight and size requirements! (Same as gas compressor)



Elastocalorics

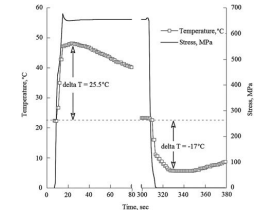
- Strain-driven changes in sample volume
- Large at, e.g. martensitic phase changes
- Hysteresis requires care!

Barocalorics

- Similar, but 3D hydrostatic pressure applied
- MCE materials often yield a "BCE" e.g. 0.06 K/MPa in FeRh

Electrocalorics

- Electric field, applied to bulk or to thin film FE/AFE materials



Cui et al., APL (2012)

$$dG = -SdT + \sum_i X_i dY_i$$

$$= \underbrace{-SdT}_{\text{Magnetocaloric}} - \underbrace{MdH}_{\text{Elastocaloric}} + \underbrace{Vdp}_{\text{Electrocaloric}} - \epsilon d\sigma + PdE...$$



## Where else to look for large changes of entropy?

### Elastocalorics

- Strain-driven changes in sample volume
- Large at, e.g. martensitic phase changes
- Hysteresis requires care!

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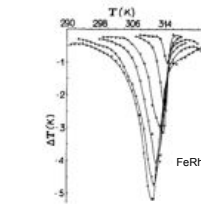


Fig. 3. Temperature dependence of the elastocaloric effect for FeRh alloy under various tensile stresses: (x) 34, (□) 151, (+) 336, (○) 336, (v) 453, (x) 539 MPa (ref.).  
Nikitin et al., Phys. Lett. A (1992)

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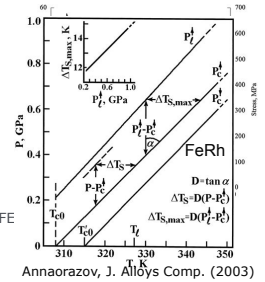
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Annaorazov, J. Alloys Comp. (2003)

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Animated plots  
(not preserved in pdf)

## Conclusions



There's lots of interesting physics, chemistry and materials science in magnetocaloric (MCE) materials!

Structural and calorimetric characterisation is key and can shed light on what triggers the onset of (tri)criticality

[Theoretical modelling can help to predict new materials – not shown here

See, e.g. Z. Gercsi et al., Phys. Rev. B **83** 174403 (2011)]

Building a magnetic fridge is an inter-disciplinary challenge that continues to provide challenges in physics, materials science, metallurgy, mechanical engineering, corrosion and other areas.