

MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES

I. SPATIAL SCALES

GROUND STATE AND COERCIVITY MECHANISMS IN FERROMAGNETS

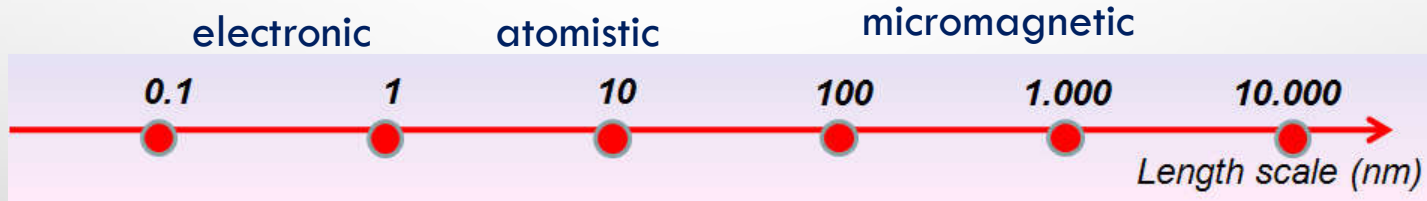
O.CHUBYKALO-FESENKO

INSTITUTO DE CIENCIA DE MATERIALES DE MADRID,

CSIC, SPAIN



SCALES IN MAGNETISM





Magnetism processes at different scales

Quantum

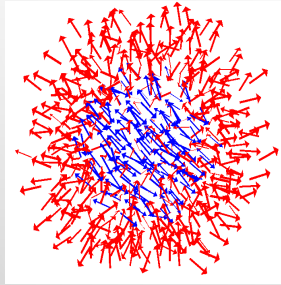
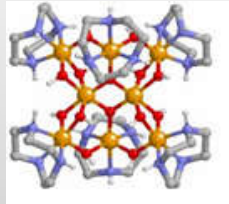
Single-domain

Multi-domain

1nm

exchange energy

Surface dominating

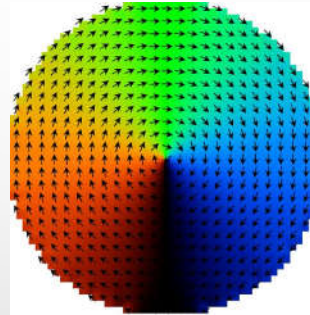
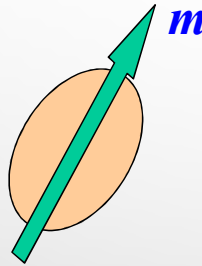


100nm

magnetostatic energy

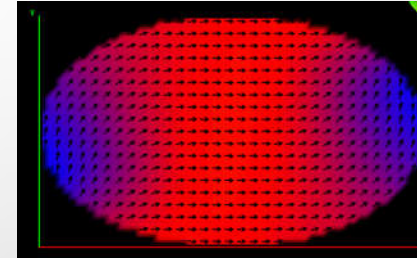
Core dominating

Vortex state

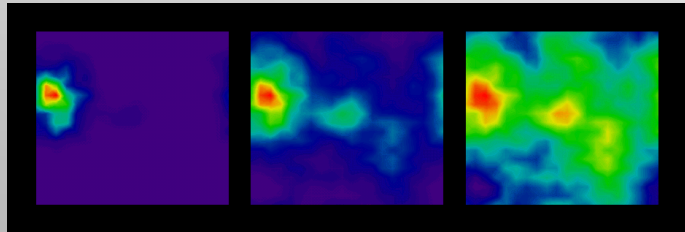


1000nm

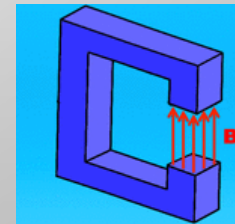
Inhomogeneous state



The sequence of nucleation-propagation-pinning-depinning
is governed by atomistic defects: inclusions, grain boundaries, interfaces etc.



Magnets design



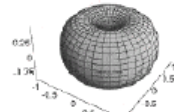
MAGNETIC ENERGIES

exchange



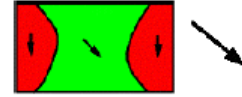
⇒ parallel spins

anisotropy



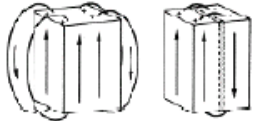
⇒ easy directions

external field



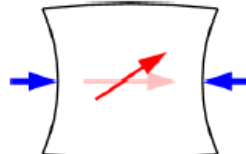
⇒ rotation

magnetostatics



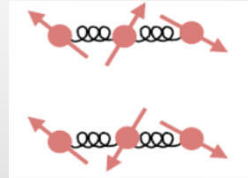
⇒ domains

strain effects



⇒ "modified anisotropy"

DMI



thermal activation

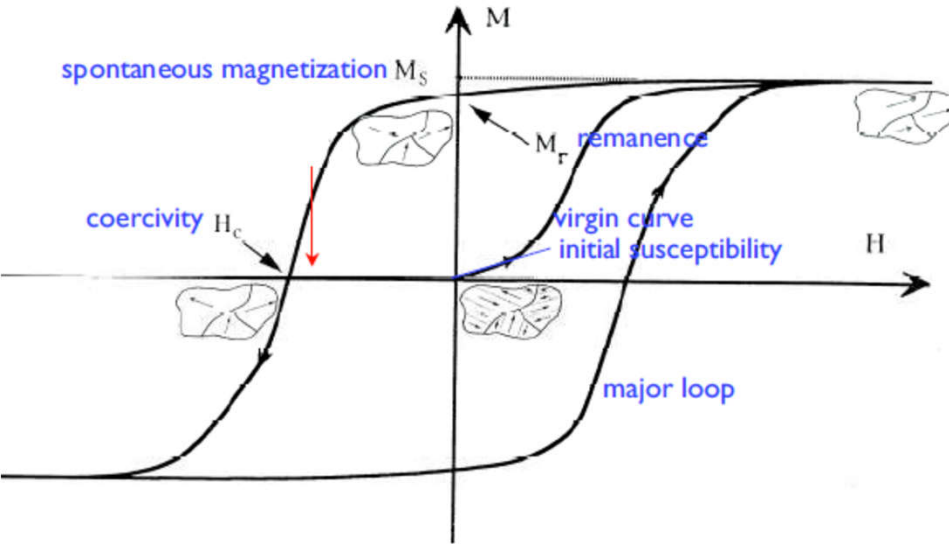


⇒ fluctuations

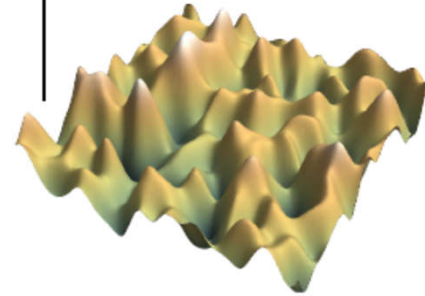
Novel torques
and fields

The relevance of different
energies depend on the system
dimensions

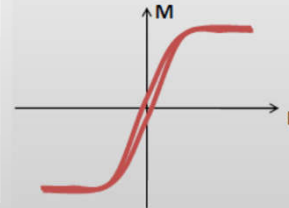
MAGNETIC HYSTERESIS



Energy



Soft materials
(sensors etc.)



Small H_c

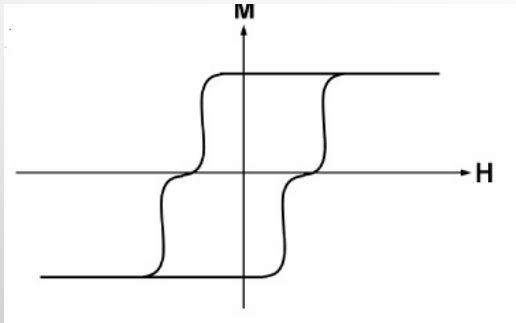
Hard materials
(permanent magnets etc.)



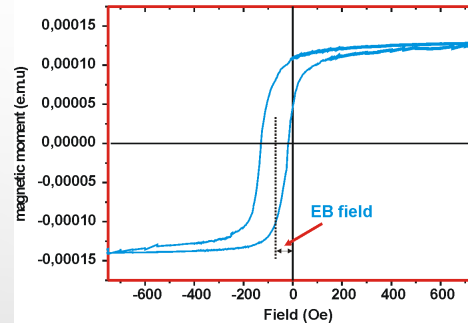
Large H_c

DIFFERENT HYSTERESIS HYSTERESIS LOOPS

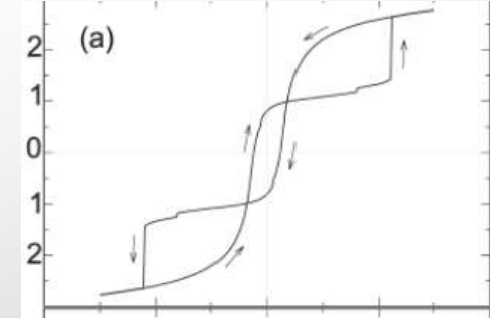
Composite materials: soft FM+hard FM



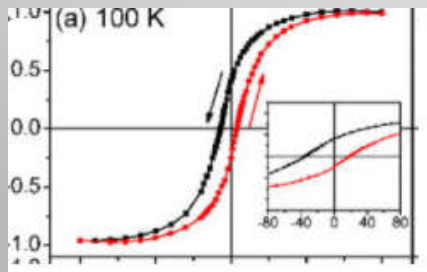
Exchange bias (FM coupled to AFM)



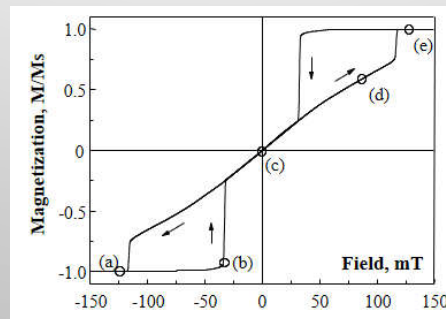
Spin-flop transition (AFM)



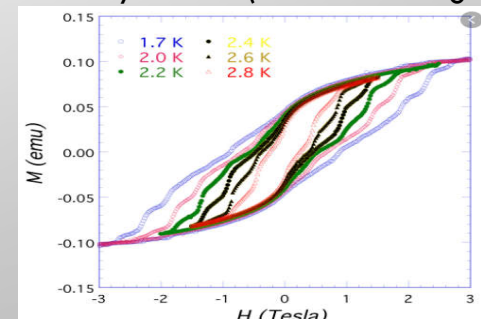
Inverted hysteresis loop
(influence of interactions)

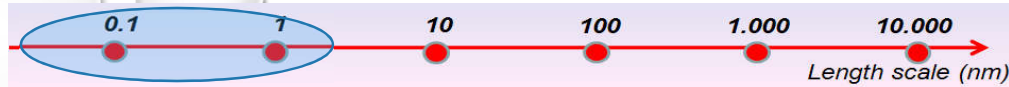


Magnetic vortex in dots



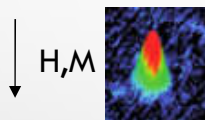
Quantum hysteresis (molecular magnets)





Very small scale: Quantum nanomagnets:

Magnetism of
Individual atoms on
surfaces:



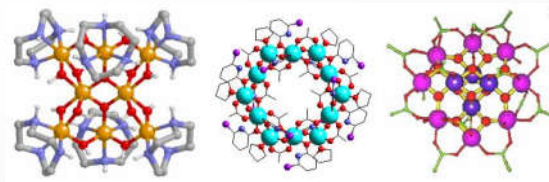
SP-STM: Co on Pt

Clusters
and islands



Fe/Mo(110)

Magnetic molecules



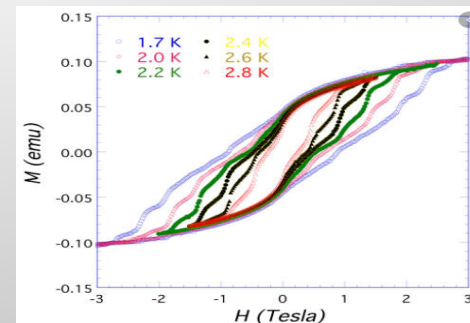
Fe8

Ni12

Mn12

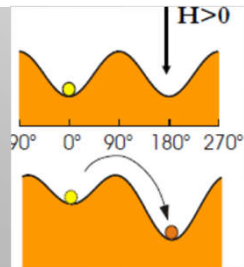
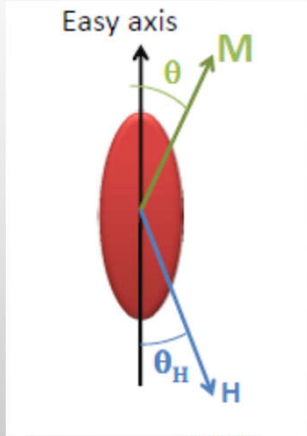
Quantum mechanics phenomenon:

- Quantum tunneling
- Quantum oscillations, quantum interference, quantum coherence
- Relatively non-small values of the anisotropy barriers
- Small interactions between objects
- Normally paramagnetic at room T

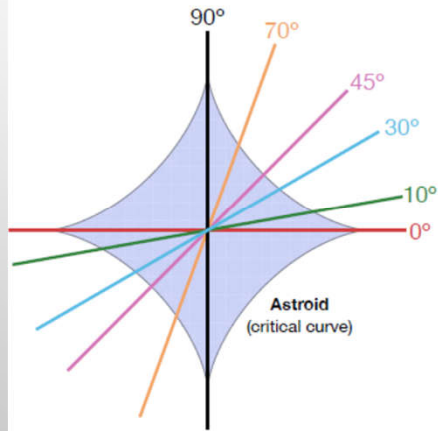




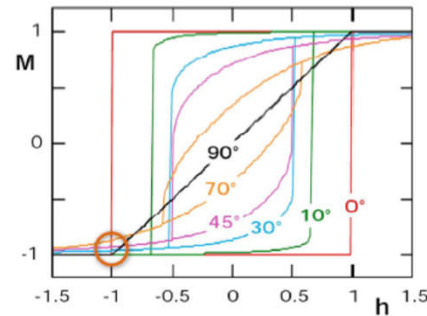
NANOPARTICLES: THE STONER-WOLFARTH MODEL FOR COHERENT REVERSAL



$$E = K_{\text{eff}} \sin^2 \theta - \mu_0 M_s H \cos(\theta + \theta_H)$$



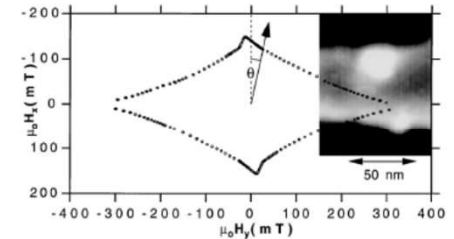
$$H_K(H_A) = \frac{2K}{M_s} \quad \text{Anisotropy field}$$



$$\frac{H_{\text{sw}}}{H_K} = \left[\sin^{2/3} \theta_H + \cos^{2/3} \theta_H \right]^{-3/2}$$

The maximum coercive field
is equal to the anisotropy field

Real measurement
Nano-SQUID Co 25 nm



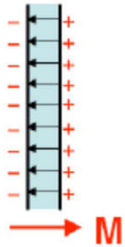
Wernsdorfer et al
PRL 78 (1997)

THE CONCEPT OF SHAPE ANISOTROPY

shape anisotropy

Thin film

$$H_{\text{demag}} = -M$$

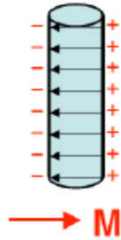


$$H_{\text{demag}} = 0$$



Thin wire

$$H_{\text{demag}} = -\frac{1}{2}M$$

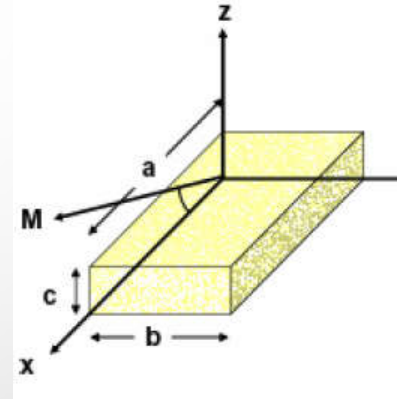
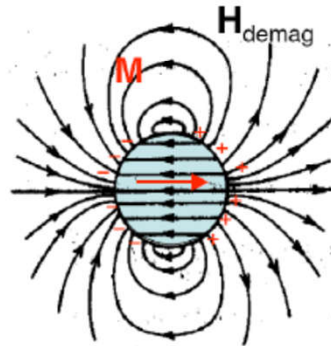


$$H_{\text{demag}} = 0$$



Sphere

$$H_{\text{demag}} = -\frac{1}{3}M$$



$$E_{\text{magn}} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_0 (N_c - N_a) M_s^2 \sin^2(\theta)$$

Shape anisotropy acts similar to magnetocrystalline anisotropy

But the concept is valid for saturated objects only

Surface dominating



NANOPARTICLES: SURFACE EFFECT

Also in thin films

$$K_{eff} = K_V + \frac{K_s S}{V}$$

Shape

Surface reconstruction

Lattice relaxation

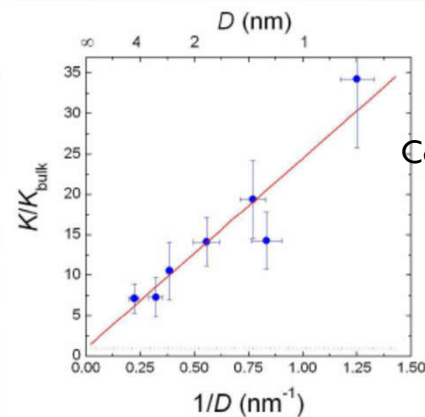
Oxidation & capping

Charge transfer

Variation of magnetic moment,

Lost of exchange

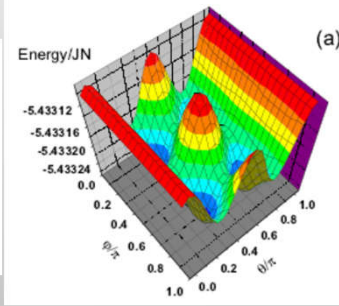
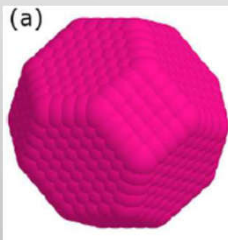
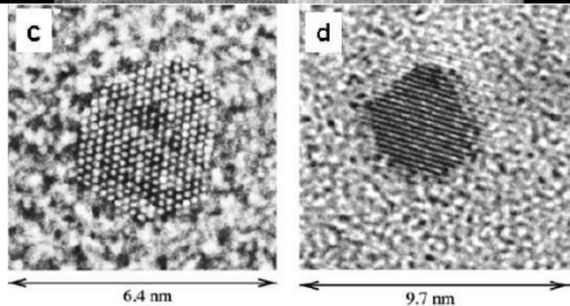
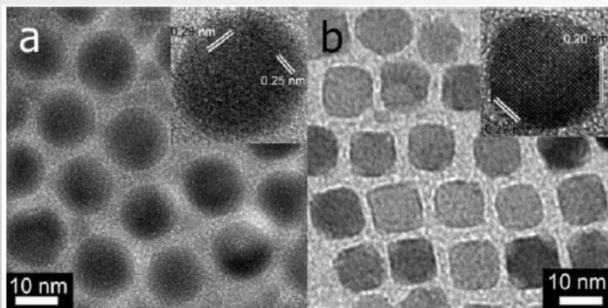
Surface anisotropy



Co nanopart.

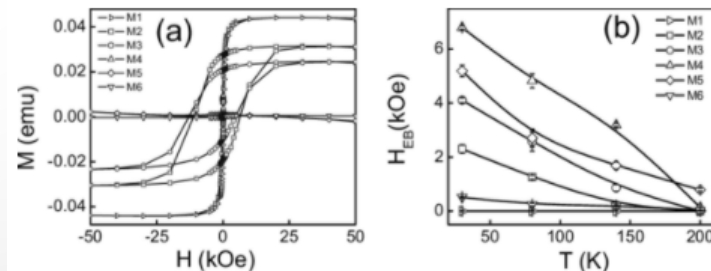
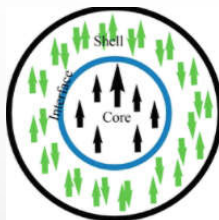
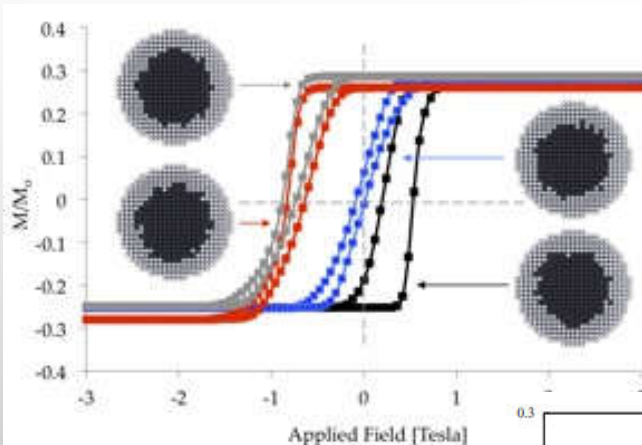
F.Luis et al PRB 65 (2002)

R.Yanes et al PRB 40 (2007)



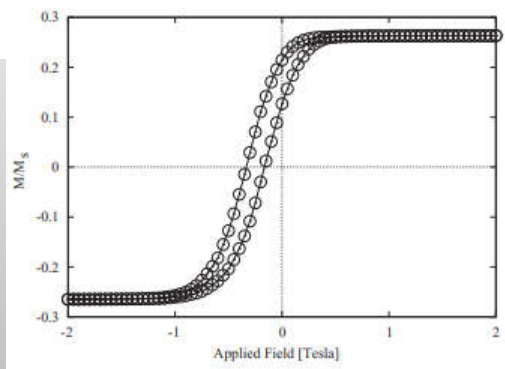
NANOPARTICLES: EXCHANGE BIAS

Co/CoO



M.Feygenson et al PRB 81 (2010)

R.Evans et al PRB 84 (2011)



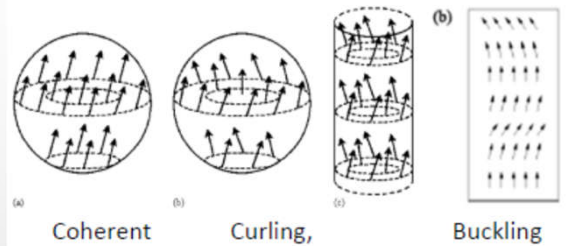
Also in thin films

BROWN'S PARADOX

Brown's paradox

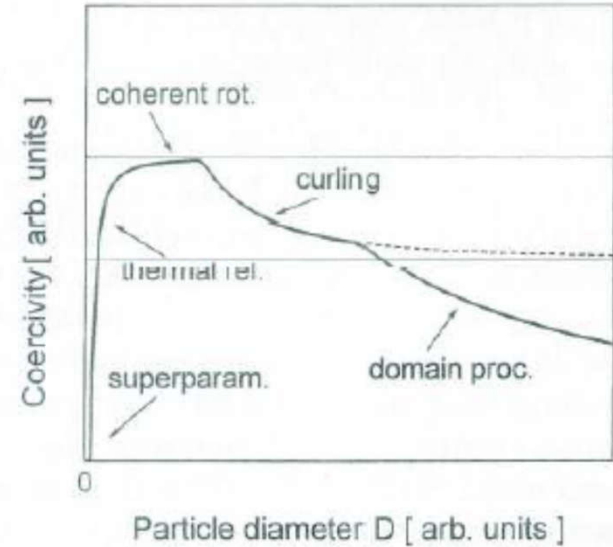
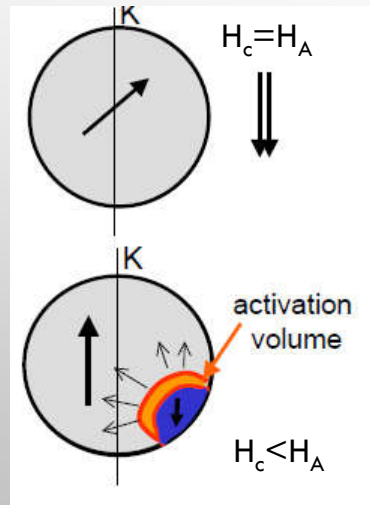
In most systems $H_c \ll \frac{2K}{\mu_0 M_s}$

For nanomagnets: Non-uniform reversal modes



For larger systems:
Nucleation (on defects and thermal nucleation)

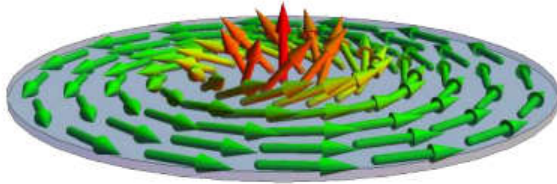
Pinning and depinning of structures.





NANOMAGNETS GROUND STATES

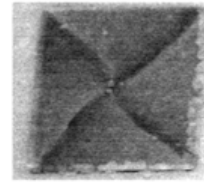
Magnetic vortex



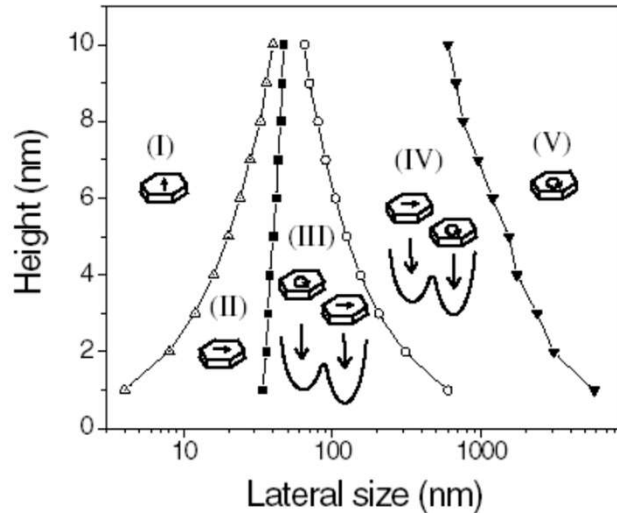
C-state



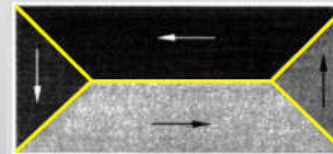
2 μm



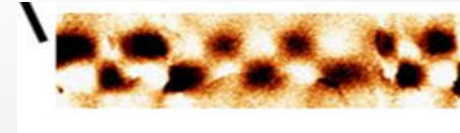
Vortex



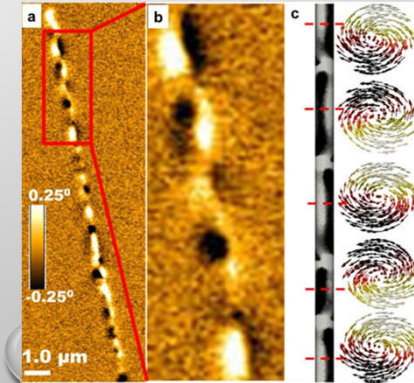
Landau pattern

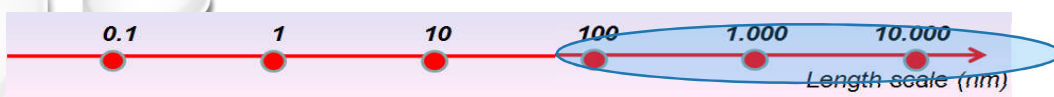


Co stripe with perpendicular anisotropy: perp domains

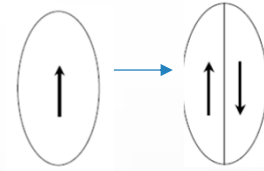


Co cylindrical nanowire with perpendicular anisotropy: vortex domains





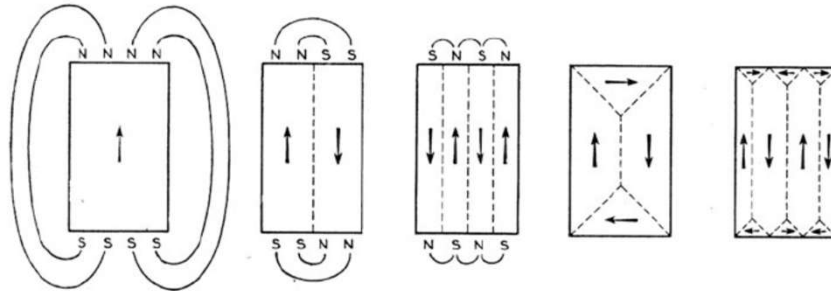
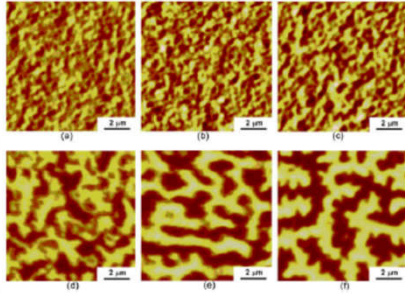
DOMAINS



$$2\pi R^2 \sqrt{AK} = \frac{1}{2} N M_s^2$$

$$R_{sd} = \sqrt{AK} / \mu_0 M_s^2$$

Criterion for
single domain
particle

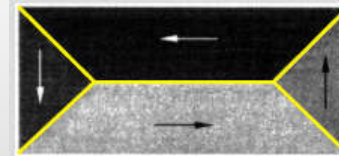


domains form to minimize the magnetic energy

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

$$\hat{n} \cdot \mathbf{M}|_{\text{surface}} = 0$$

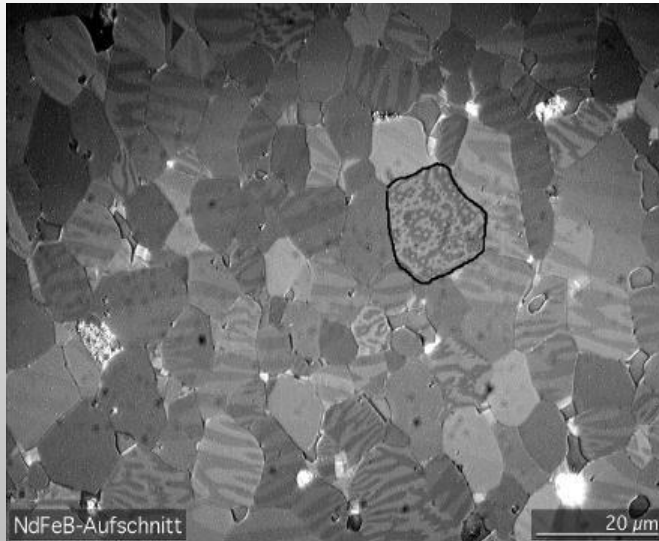
Glosure domains



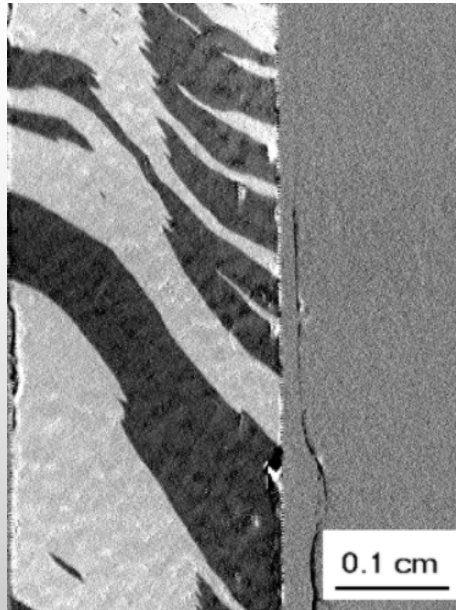


DOMAINS

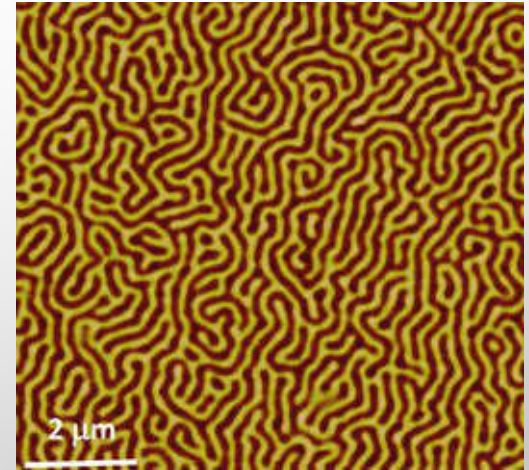
Hard magnet: NiFeB



Soft magnetic material: finemet
(FeSiB)



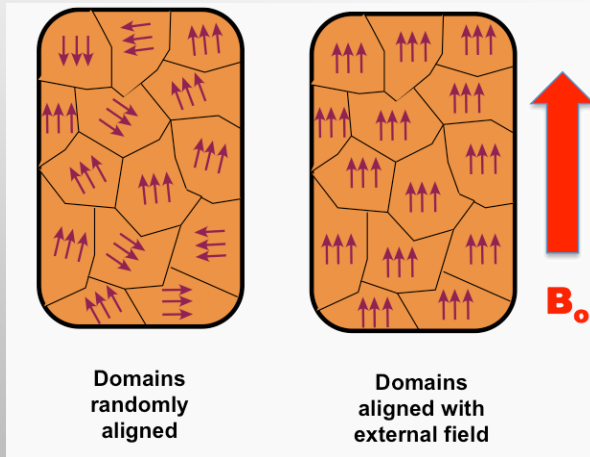
Systems with PMA: stripe domains



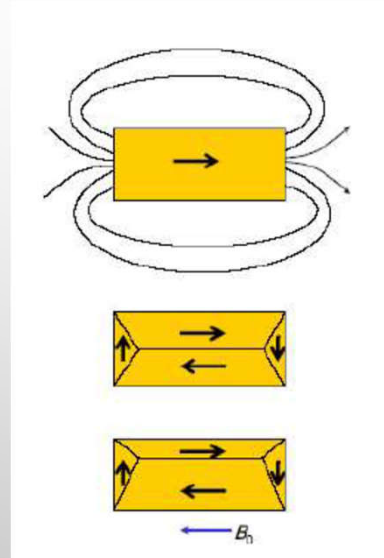


GROWTH OF DOMAINS UNDER MAGNETIC FIELD

Rotation



Domain wall propagation



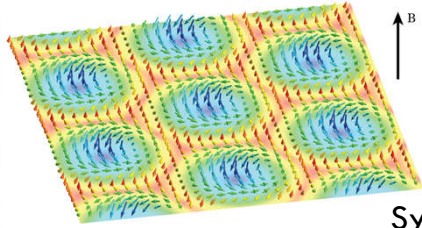
Steel





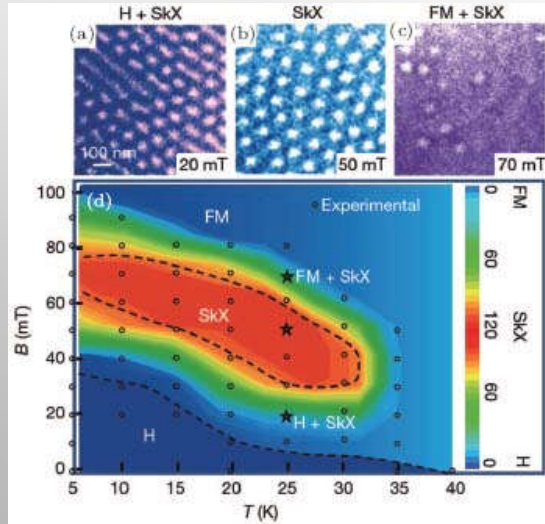
SYSTEMS WITH DMI: SKYRMIONS AND CHIRAL DOMAIN WALLS

Systems with SO-coupling and broken symmetry

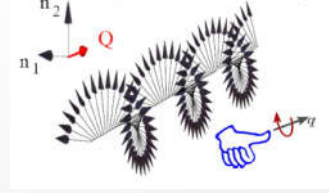


Systems with intrinsic DMI

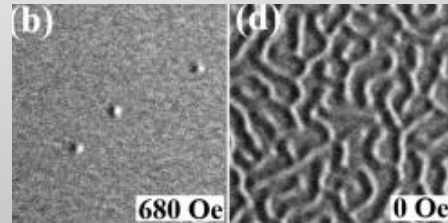
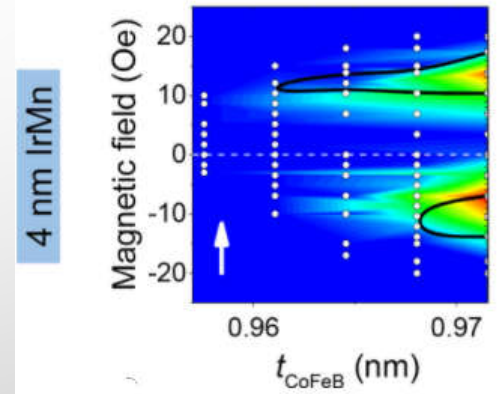
MnSi Ye-Hua et al



Ultra thin multilayers: TM + strong SO coupling materials



Hao Wu et al

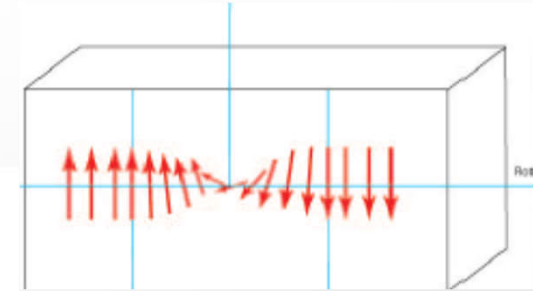


Pt/Co/Ta
He et al APL 2017



DOMAIN WALL

$$\mathcal{E} = \int dx \left[A \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} \right)^2 + K_u \sin^2 \theta \right] \longrightarrow 2A \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2} - K_u \sin 2\theta = 0$$

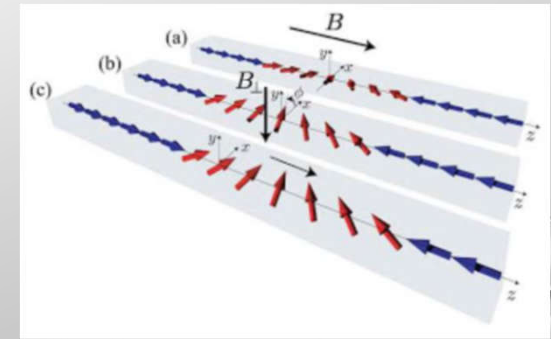


$$\theta(x) = 2 \tan^{-1} [\exp (x/\Delta)]$$

$$\Delta = \sqrt{A/K_u}$$

DOMAIN WALL WIDTH

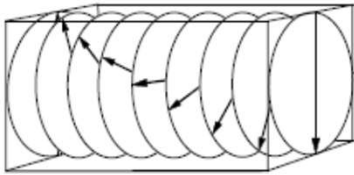
$\Delta=2$ nm (very hard materials) ----- more than 100 nm (very soft materials)





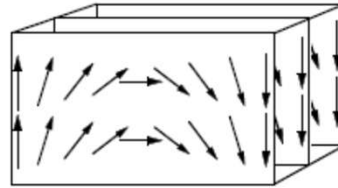
DOMAIN WALLS

Bloch wall

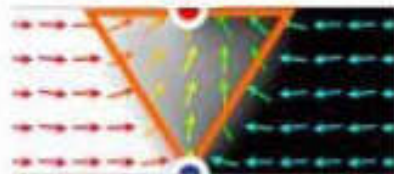
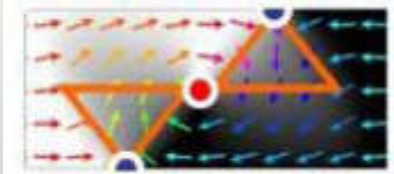
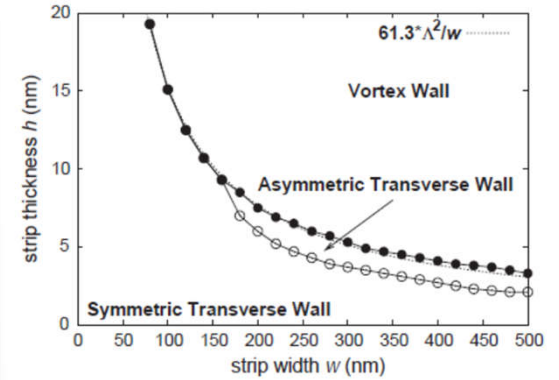
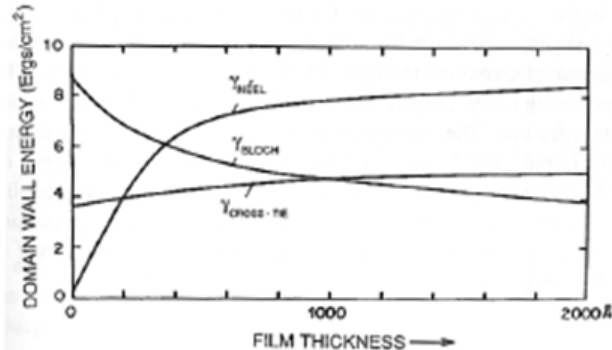
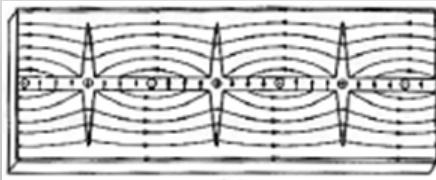


$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} = 0$$

Neel wall



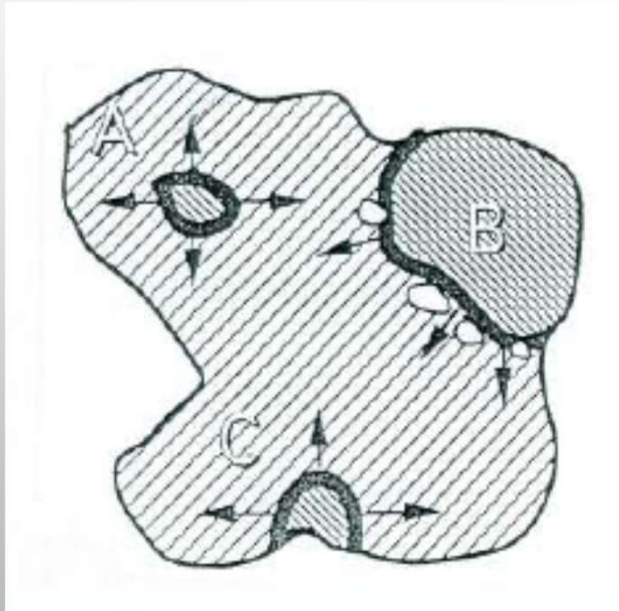
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} \neq 0$$





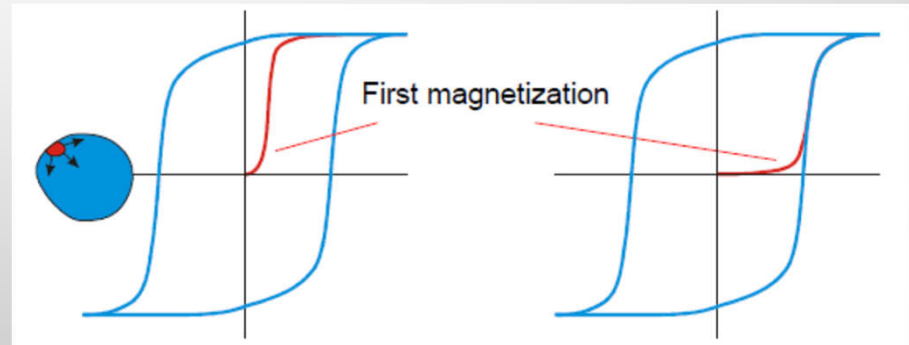
COERCIVITY TYPE MECHANISMS

Rotation, nucleation, DW propagation, pinning, depinning



Nucleation-type
coercivity

Pinning-type
coercivity





NUCLEATION AND DOMAIN WALL PROPAGATION THEORIES

Nucleation mechanism

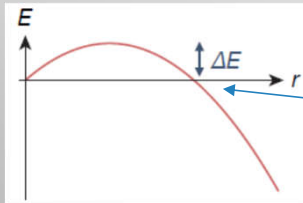
The concept of nucleation volume

$$E(r) = (2\pi r d)\sigma - (\pi r^2 d)(2\mu_0 M_s H_0)$$

Wall
energy

Zeeman energy

$$\sigma = 4\sqrt{AK_u}$$

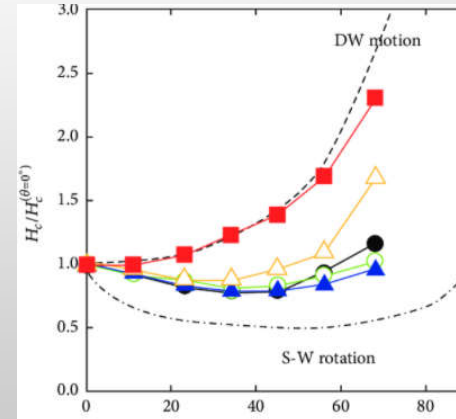


Nucleation size

DW nucleation + propagation

$$H_c(\theta_H) = \frac{H_c(0)}{\cos(\theta)}$$

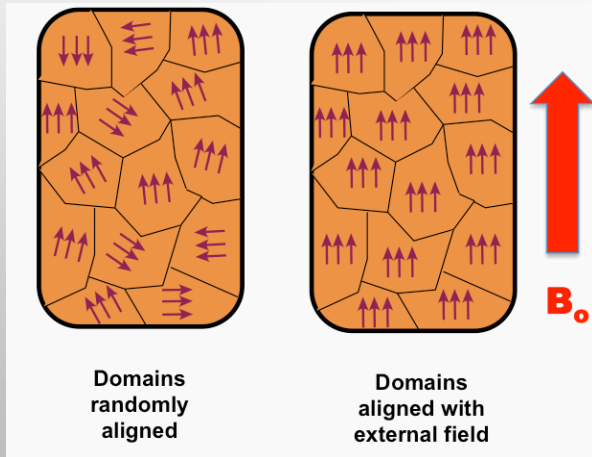
Angular dependence of coercivity
DW energy > thermal energy



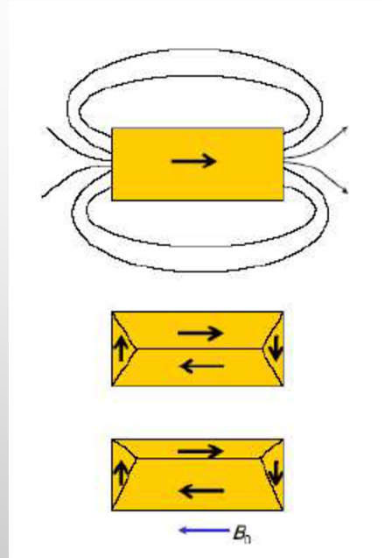


GROWTH OF DOMAINS UNDER MAGNETIC FIELD

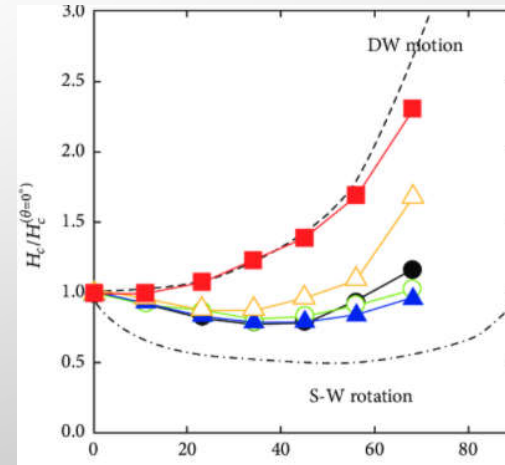
Rotation



Domain wall propagation



Angular dependence of coercivity





COERCIVITY IN SOFT MATERIALS: RANDOM ANISOTROPY MODEL

Exchange correlation length is much larger than the grain size

Mostly demagnetize by domain wall propagation

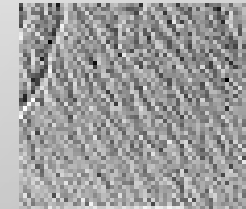
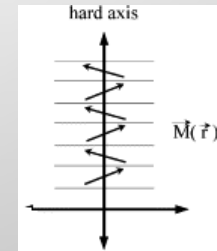
$$\langle K \rangle = \frac{K}{\sqrt{N}}, \quad N = \frac{L_{ex}^3}{D^3}$$

Number of grains within exchange correlation length

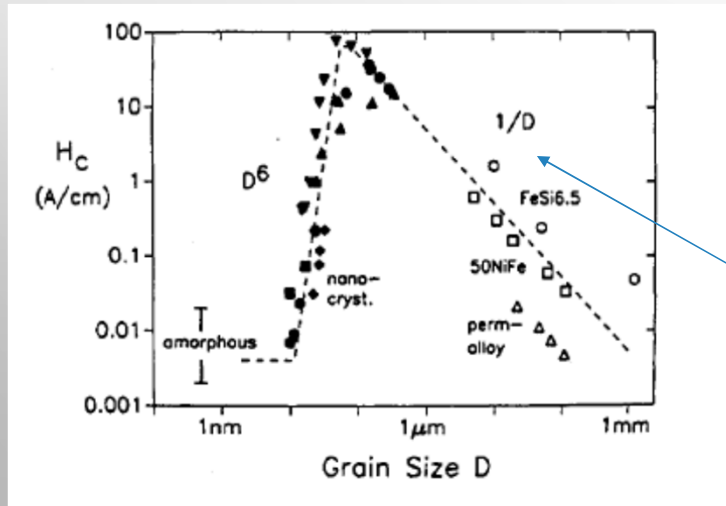
$$\langle K \rangle \propto K_1 D^6$$

Nucleation model

Magnetisation ripple

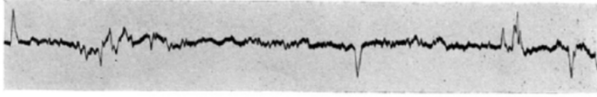


TEM image: NiFe
L.Heyderman et al JMMM

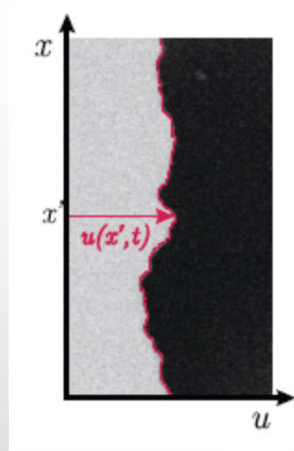
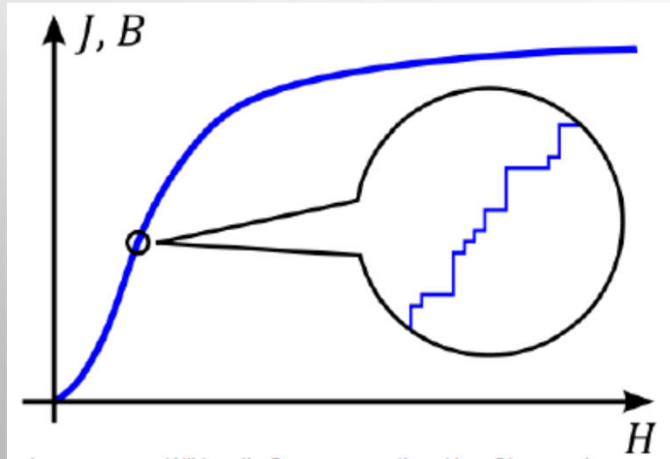




BARKHAUSEN EFFECT



R.M.Bozorth PRB 34 (1929)



Domain wall as an elastic band in a
Random potential : creep motion

Disorder (pinning) energy

$$E_{\text{pin}} = -f_{\text{pin}} \sqrt{\xi L n}$$

Characteristic strength of disorder $\uparrow$ f_{pin}
 Characteristic length of disorder $\uparrow$ ξ
 Defect density $\uparrow$ n

SCBS (2007-11) = KUL-UV



COERCIVITY IN HARD MAGNETIC MATERIALS:

Exchange correlation length is smaller or comparable with grain size

Mostly demagnetize via multiple nucleation and pinning sequence at grain boundary

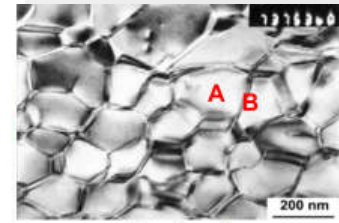
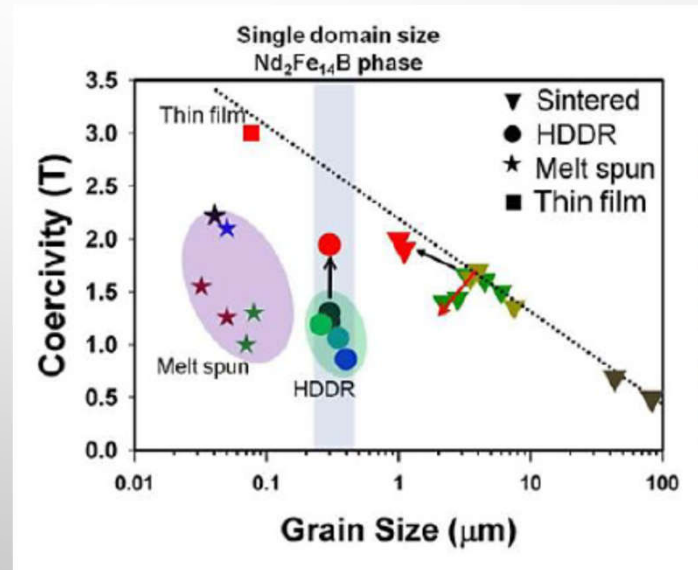
Kronmuller Equation

$$H_c = \alpha_K (2K_1 / \mu_0 M_s) - N_{eff} M_s$$

Pinning strength

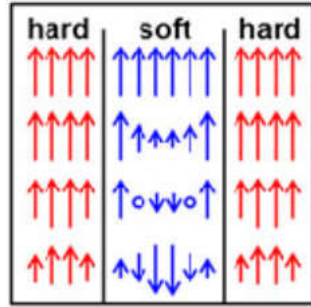
Grain shape factor

- ✓ Grain size reduction
- ✓ Exchange decoupling



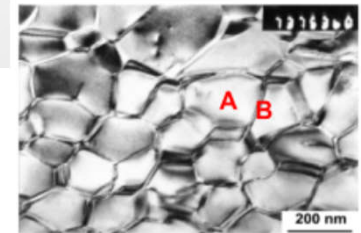
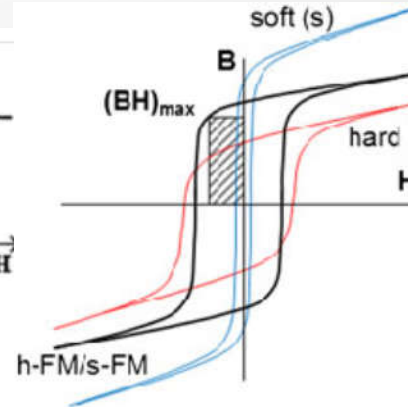
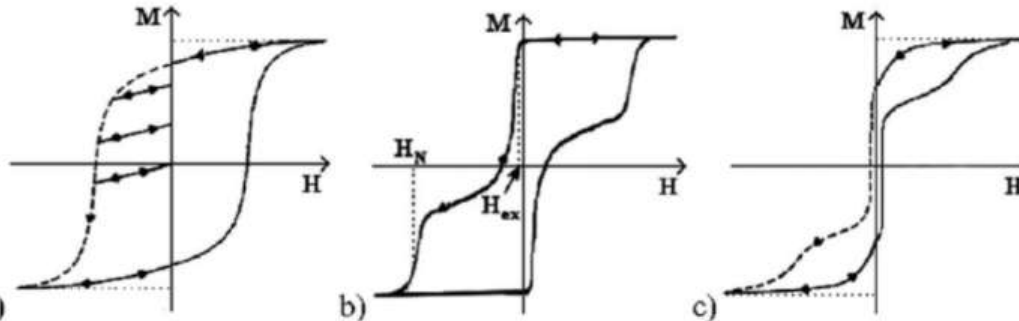


COMPOSITE MATERIALS: THE CONCEPT OF “EXCHANGE SPRING”



Soft phase: nucleation-type coercivity, also provides high M
e.g. $\text{Sm}_2\text{Co}_{17}$

Hard phase: pinning type coercivity, e.g. SmCo_5



Typical hysteresis loops for the three types of magnets: (a) rigid nanocomposite, (b) exchange-spring nanocomposite, (c) two uncoupled phases.



MESSAGES

- MAGNETISATION PROCESSES DEPEND STRONGLY ON SPATIAL DIMENSIONS. MAGNETIC STATES CANNOT BE RESCALED
- NANOPARTICLES: SURFACE EFFECTS ARE IMPORTANT
- LARGER NANOSTRUCTURES: SHAPE IS VERY IMPORTANT, NEW NONHOMOGENEOUS
- THIN FILMS, BULK MATERIALS: NUCLEATION, PROPAGATION, PINNING OF DOMAIN WALLS

MAGNETIZATION PROCESSES II

TEMPORAL SCALES

(MAGNETIZATION DYNAMICS AND TEMPERATURE EFFECTS)

O.CHUBYKALO-FESENKO

INSTITUTO DE CIENCIA DE MATERIALES DE MADRID,
CSIC, SPAIN



TIME SCALES IN MAGNETISM

10^{-17} s as

Light-induced
coherent
processes.

Atto-second
Laser pulses

10^{-14} s fs

10^{-11} s ps

Electron-spin
relaxation
processes.
Spin-orbit coupling
Magnetisation
precession.

All-optical
laser-pulsed
experiments
Fast-Kerr
measurements,
FMR,
Domain
Wall motion

10^{-9} s ns

10^{-6} s μ s

10^{-3} s ms

Hysteresis
measurements.

Conventional
magnetometers
(VSM, SQUID)

10^{-0} s s

10^3 s hs

Magnetic viscosity
experiments.

10^6 s month

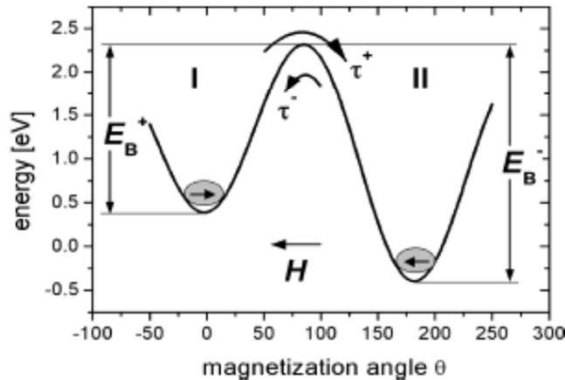
10^9 s years

Long-time thermal stability
for magnetic recording.

LONG-TIME DYNAMICS: TEMPERATURE EFFECTS



The Stoner-Wolfarth particle



Easy axis

θ

M

H

$$E = -KV \cos^2 \theta - MH \cos \theta$$

Energy barrier:

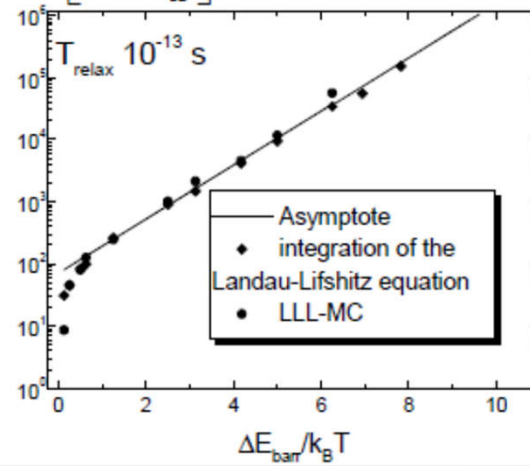
$$\Delta E = KV \left[1 - \frac{H}{H_K} \right]^2, \quad H_K = 2K / M_s$$

The Arrhenius-Neél law

$$\tau_{\pm}^{-1} = f_0 \exp(-\Delta E_{\pm} / kT) = f_{1,2}$$

$$dm_1 / dt = -f_1 m_1 + f_2 m_2 \quad \text{- Master equation}$$

$$f_2 \ll f_1 \quad m(t) \propto \exp(-t / \tau)$$



Relaxation in complex systems



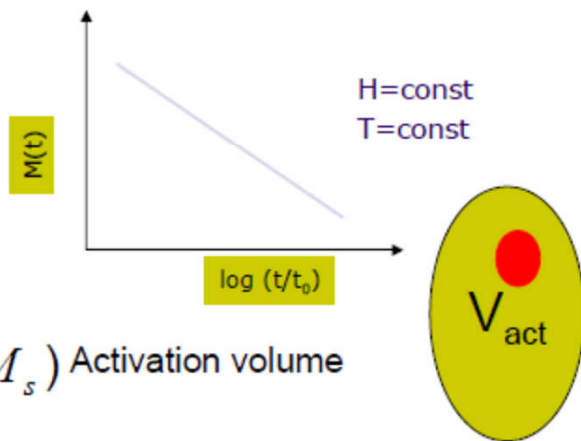
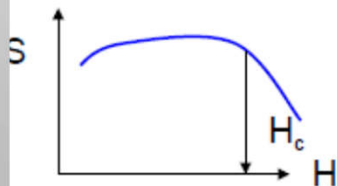
$$\tau_{\pm}^{-1} = f_0 \exp(-\Delta E_{\pm} / kT) \quad m(t) \propto \int \exp[-t / \tau(\Delta E)] \rho(\Delta E) d\Delta E$$

If in some interval $[\Delta E, \Delta E + \delta\Delta E]$ $\rho(\Delta E) \approx \text{const}$

$m(t) \propto \Delta E \propto M_0 - S \log(t)$ -widely observed behavior

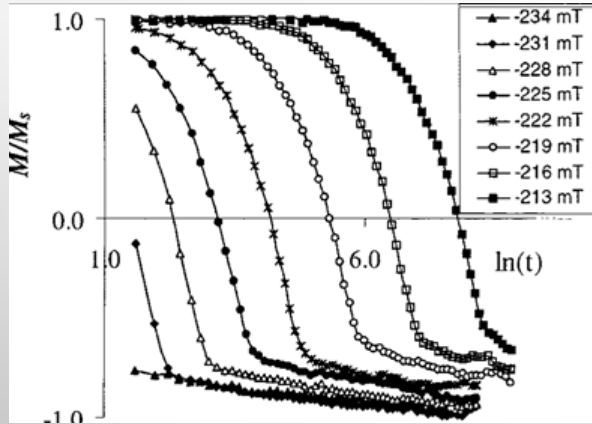
•Based on the assumption of
Homogeneous energy barrier distribution
which is constant in time

$S = dM / d(\log t)$ -magnetic viscosity



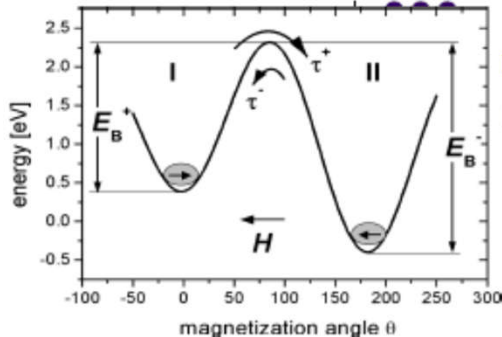
$$V_{\text{act}} = k_B T / (\mu_0 H M_s) \text{ Activation volume}$$

MAGNETIC VISCOSITY



Co/Pt multilayer film

Superparamagnetism



- The relaxation time of a grain is given by the Arrhenius-Neel law

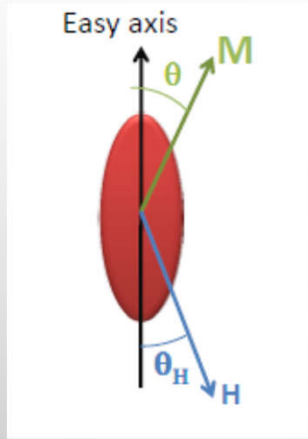
$$\tau_{\pm}^{-1} = f_0 \exp(-\Delta E_{\pm} / kT)$$

- where $f_0 = 10^9 \text{s}^{-1}$. and ΔE is the energy barrier
- This leads to a critical energy barrier for superparamagnetic (SPM) behaviour $\Delta E_c = KV_c = k_B T \ln(t_m f_0)$

- where t_m is the 'measurement time'
 - Nanoparticles with $\Delta E < \Delta E_c$ exhibit thermal equilibrium (SPM) behaviour - no hysteresis

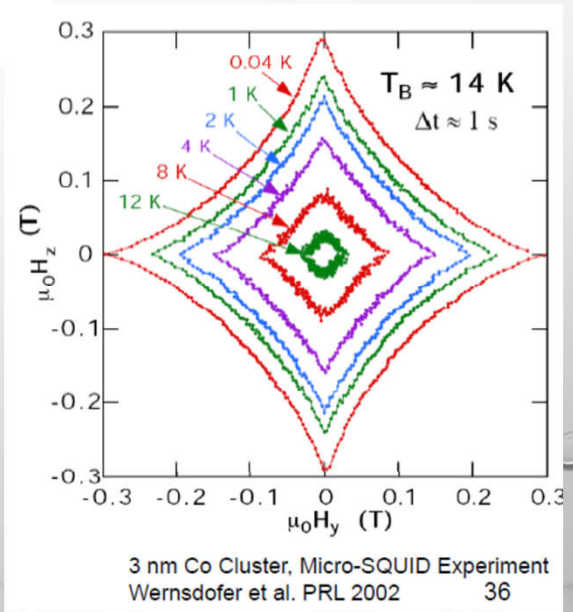
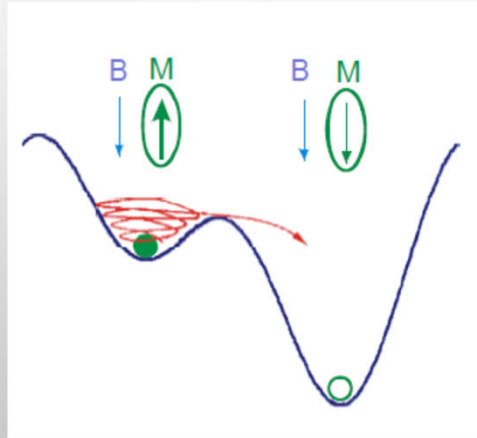
$KV > 25k_B T$ – for stability at room temperature, $KV > 60k_B T$ – for magnetic recording

NANOPARTICLES: THE STONER-WOLFARTH MODEL FOR COHERENT REVERSAL (NOW WITH TEMPERATURE)

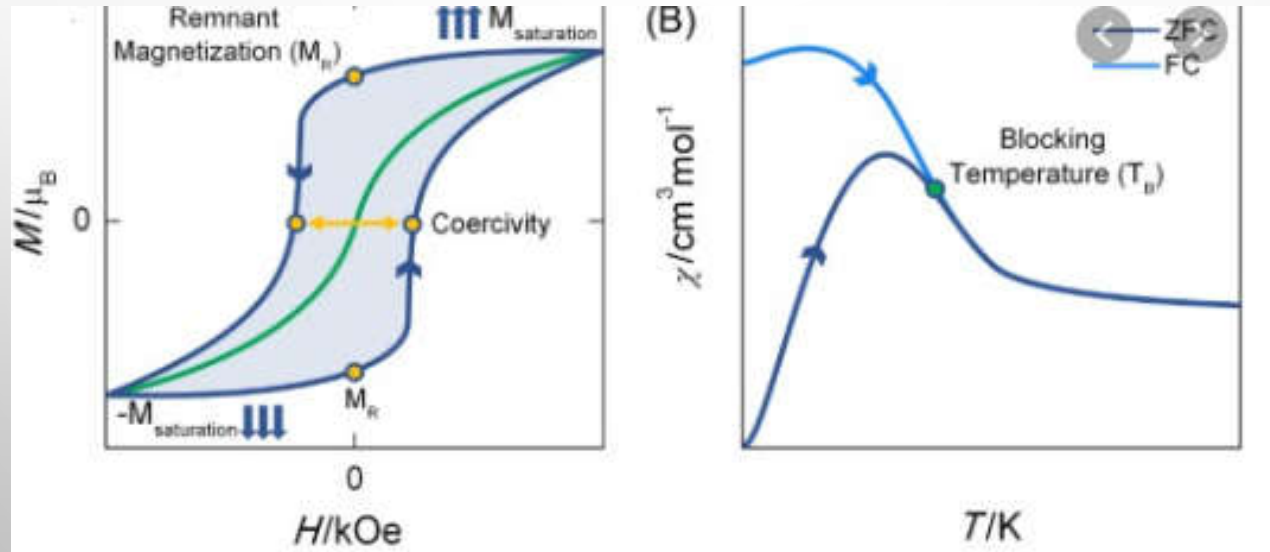


$$E = K_{eff} \sin^2 \theta - \mu_0 M_s H \cos(\theta + \theta_H)$$

$$\Delta E = KV \left(1 - \frac{H}{H_{sw}(0)}\right)^2$$



DYNAMIC COERCIVITY AND BLOCKING TEMPERATURE



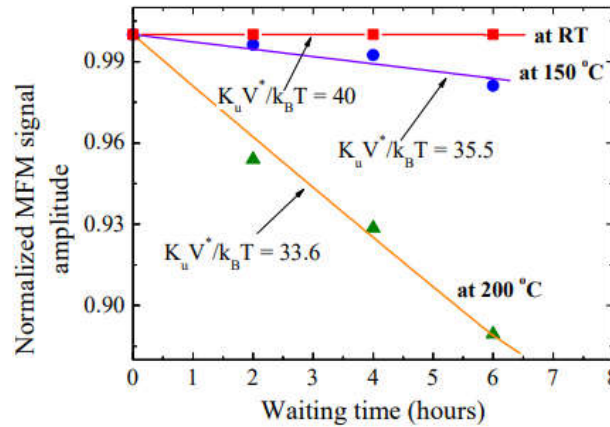
MAGNETIC RECORDING: SHARROCK'S LAW

$$\Delta E = KV \left(1 - \frac{H}{H_{sw}(0)}\right)^n$$

$n=2$ for the simplest case
(field parallel to anisotropy)

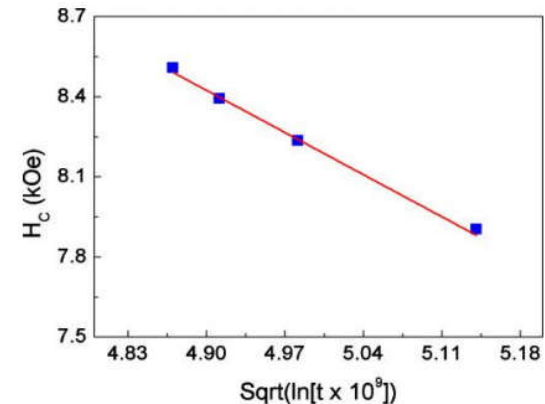
$$\Delta E > 50k_B T$$

$$\frac{H_c(t, T)}{H_0} = 1 - \left[\frac{k_B T}{KV} \ln \frac{f_0 t}{0.69} \right]^{1/n}$$



Z-Zhang et al JMMM (2005)

A.Perumal et al JAP (2010)

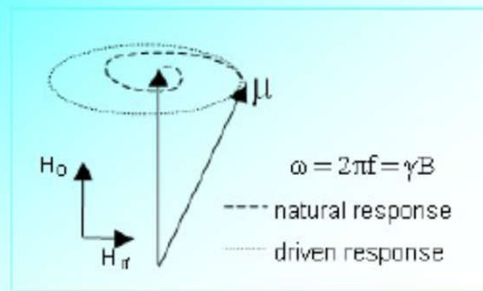


Ferromagnetic resonance(FMR): (Arkadiev, 1911; Kittel, 1947)

A ferromagnetic body under applied field has a maximum absorption in frequencies:

$$\omega = \gamma \sqrt{[H + (N_x - N_z)M][H + (N_y - N_z)M]}$$

The absorption peak contains information about anisotropy field.

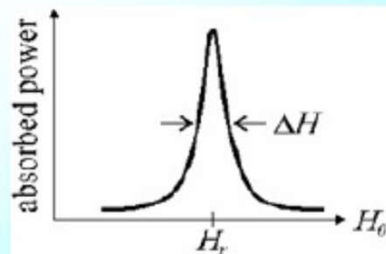


Precession and relaxation of $\mathbf{M}$ in response to an applied field $\mathbf{H}$.

Torque on magnetisation

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\partial \mathbf{M}}{\partial t} = -[\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{H}_0]$$

Lorentzian absorption line typical of FMR showing microwave power absorption as a function of swept bias field.



The absorption line width contains information on damping processes

The Landau-Lifshitz (LL) and the Landau-Lifshitz-Gilbert (LLG) equations of motion

(for magnetization vector):

LL equation

Landau-Lifshitz damping, 1935

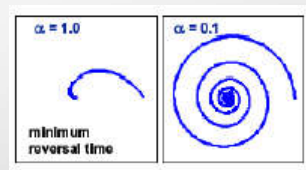
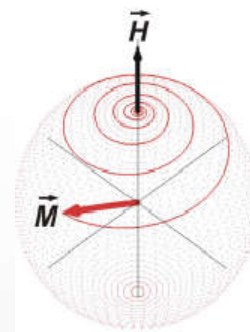
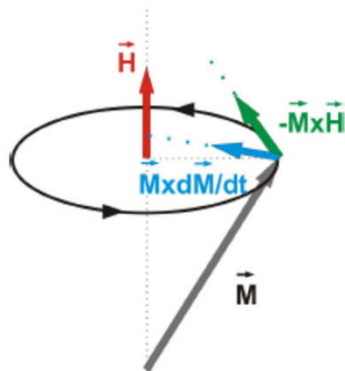
$$\frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} = -\gamma'_0 [\vec{M} \times \vec{H}] - \frac{\alpha_{LL}\gamma_0}{M_s} [\vec{M} \times [\vec{M} \times \vec{H}]]$$

Gilbert equation

(physically more reasonable for large damping)

Gilbert damping, 1955

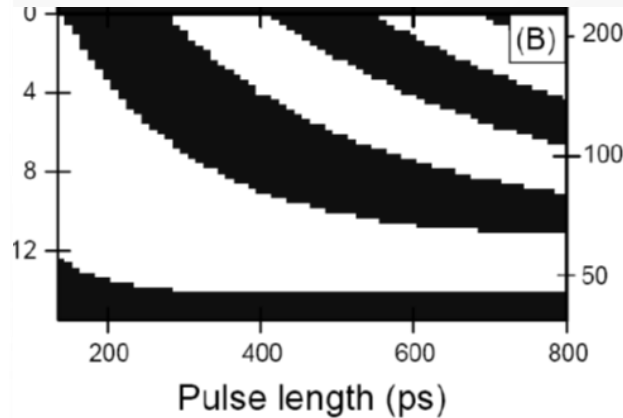
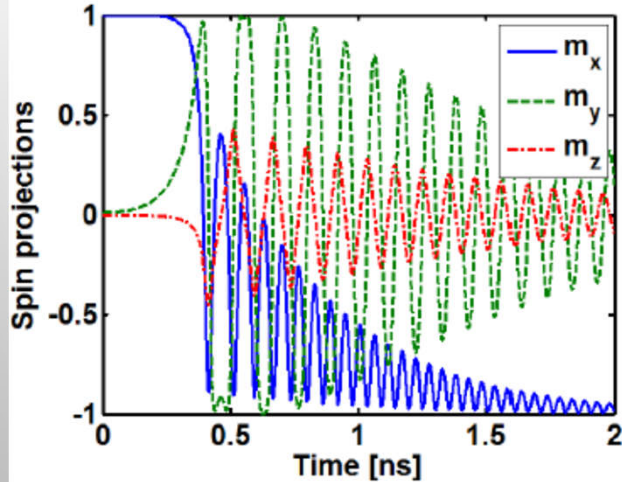
$$\frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} = -\gamma_0 [\vec{M} \times \vec{H}] + \frac{\alpha_G}{M_s} \left[\vec{M} \times \frac{d\vec{M}}{dt} \right]$$



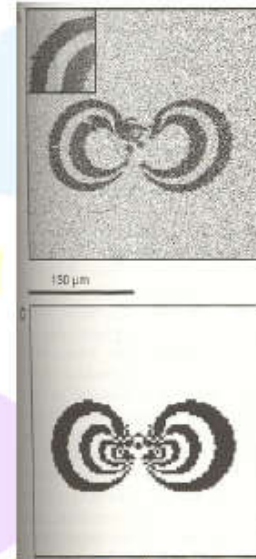
Damping form is phenomenological
The value includes many intrinsic and extrinsic contributions

PRECESSIONAL SWITCHING

Perpendicular to M field

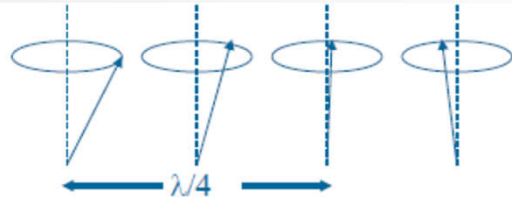


**Experiment with ps field pulses
perpendicular to the magnetisation
(C. Back et al, Science, 1999)**
Fe/GaAs



SPIN WAVES

Kittel formula



$$\omega(\mathbf{k}) = \omega(0) + Ak^2$$



Anisotropic single crystal ferromagnet:

$$\left(\frac{\omega}{\gamma}\right)^2 = (H_0 + H_A + Ak^2)(H_0 + H_A + Ak^2 + 2\pi M_s \sin^2 \theta_k)$$

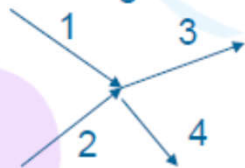
Labels for the terms in the Kittel formula:

- H_0 : Applied field
- H_A : Anisotropy field
- Ak^2 : Exchange interaction
- $2\pi M_s \sin^2 \theta_k$: Magnetostatic interaction
- θ_k : Angle between $\mathbf{M}$ and $\mathbf{k}$

Magnons and their interactions:

- Classical spinwaves correspond to quasiparticles called magnons.
- Homogeneous magnetisation (FMR mode) corresponds to magnon with $k=0$.
- Linear normal modes (magnons) do not interact. Nonlinear processes correspond to magnon-magnon interactions.

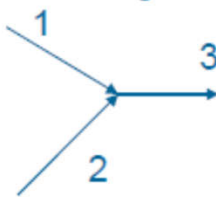
magnon scattering



Magnon decay

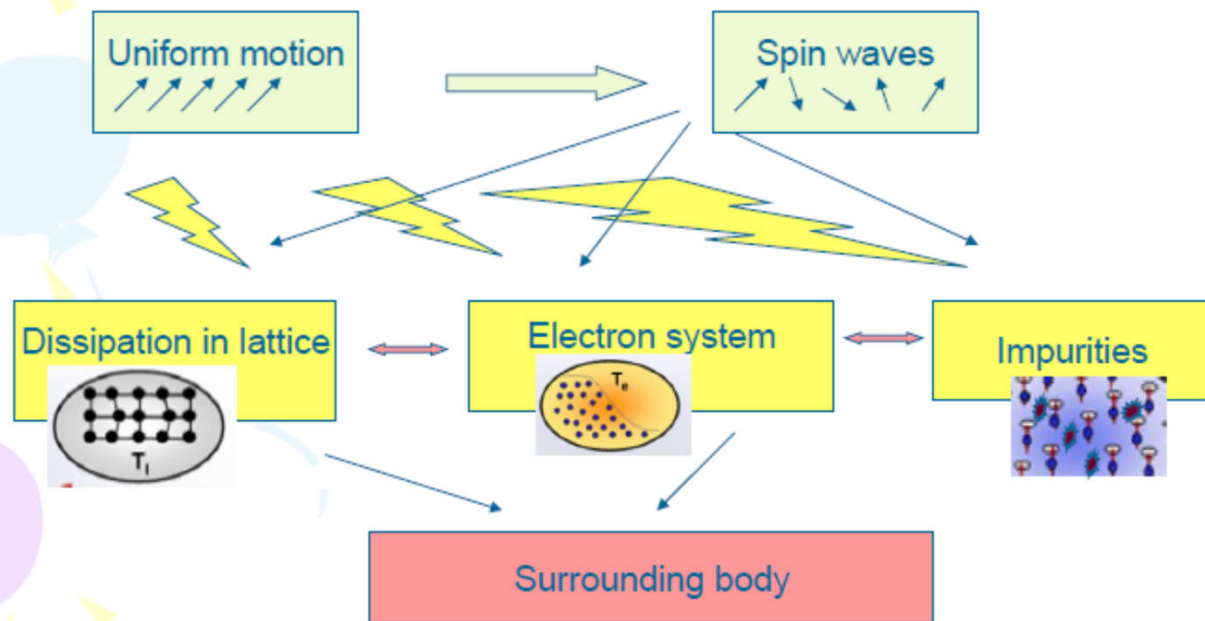


Two magnon merging



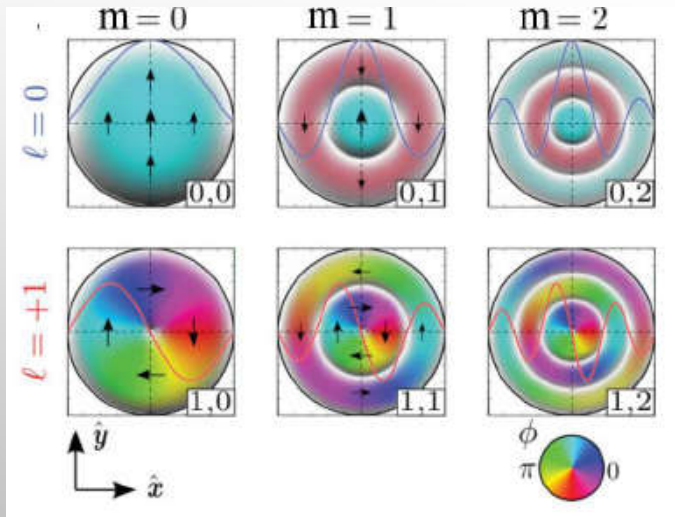
These interactions define kinetic effects (e.x. heat conductivity) and width and shape of the FMR line and magnon lifetime

Theory of magnetic damping constant (α):



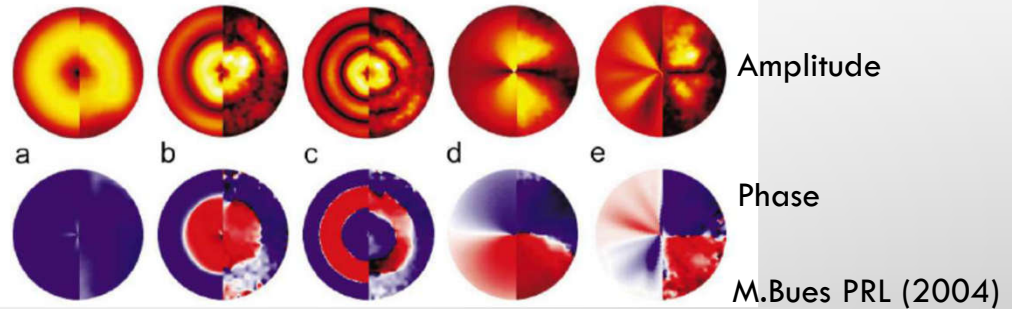
EXCITATION MODES IN NANOMAGNETS

Uniform magnetization in Py disc

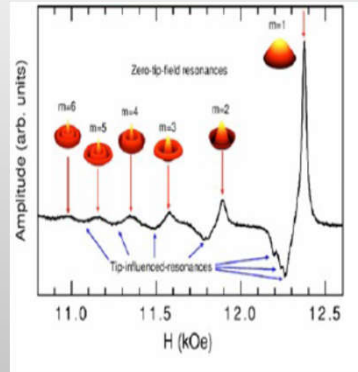


B.Pegeau PhD

Vortex state in Py disc



M.Bues PRL (2004)



G.Kakazei et al

DOMAIN WALL DYNAMICS: WALKER BREAKDOWN

$$\frac{1}{w_{ex}} \dot{X} - \alpha \dot{\phi} = k_p \sin(2\phi)$$

$$\dot{\phi} + \frac{\alpha}{w_{ex}} \dot{X} = \gamma H$$

DW angle

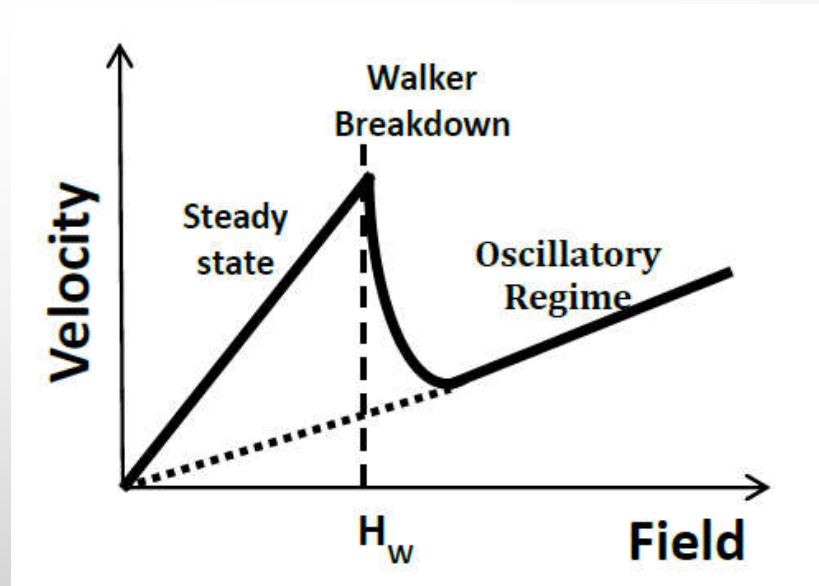
DW position

Linear regime

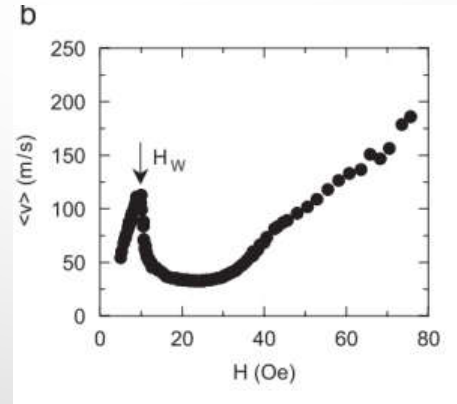
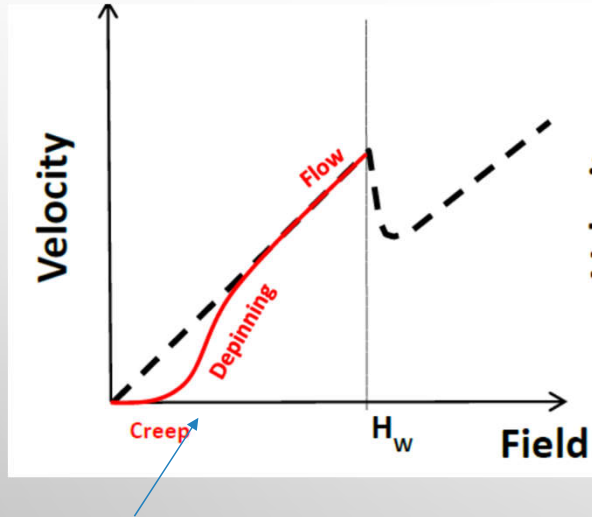
$$\ddot{X} + 2\alpha k_p \dot{X} = 2\gamma k_p w_{ex} H$$

+ pinning potential

Newtonian particle



DOMAIN WALL DYNAMICS

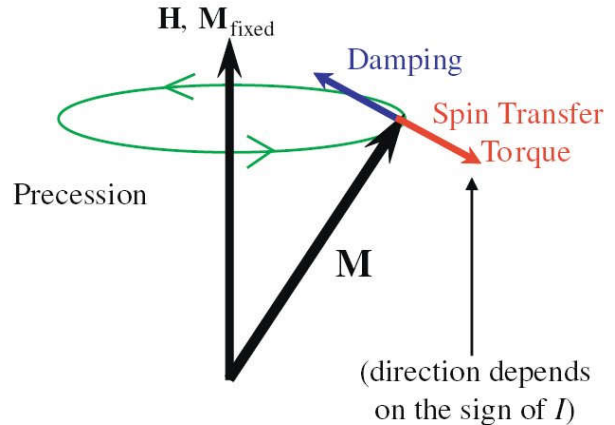
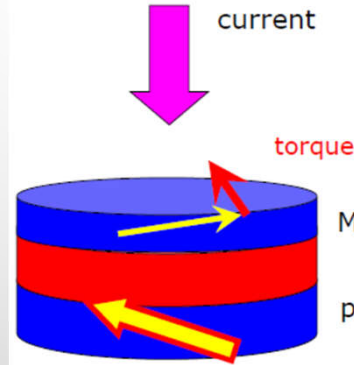
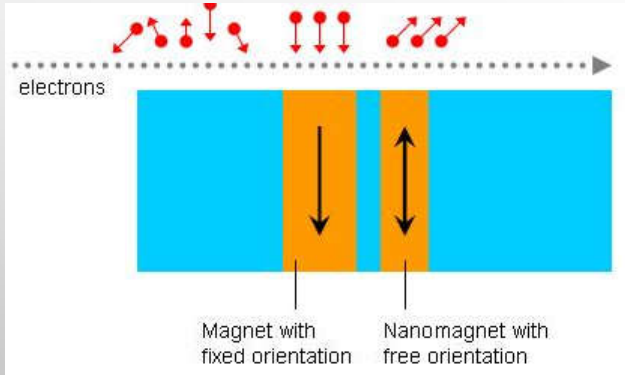


$$v_{DW} = d_0 f_0 \exp\left(-\frac{E}{k_B T} (H_z^{-1/4} - H_c^{-1/4})\right)$$

G.Beach et al JMMM 320 (2008)

SPIN-TRANSFER TORQUE

- Electrons in magnetic material are spin polarised
- When electrons move through another thin magnetic layer with different M , they transfer their angular momentum exerting torque on magnetisation
- This can lead to magnetisation precession or switching



Magnetic random Access memories
Spin-torque nano-oscillators



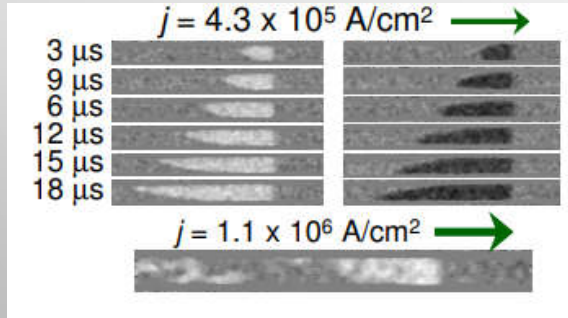
$$\frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} = -\gamma [\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{B}_{\text{eff}}] + \frac{\alpha}{M_s} \left[\mathbf{M} \times \frac{d\mathbf{M}}{dt} \right] - \frac{\Gamma}{g(\theta)} [\mathbf{M} \times [\mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{p}]]$$

effective field damping spin transfer

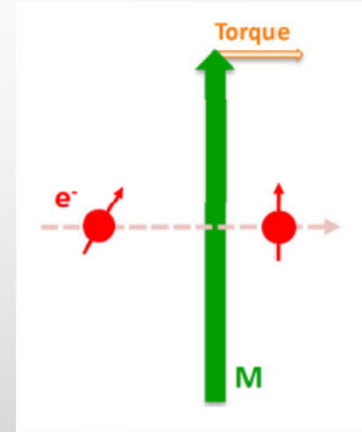
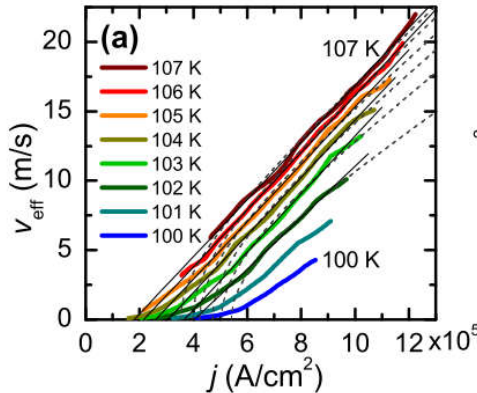
SPIN-TRANSFER TORQUE: ZHANG AND LI MODEL

Action of conduction electrons on the local magnetisation

$$\frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial t} = -\gamma \vec{M} \times H_{eff} + \alpha \vec{M} \times \frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial t} + -u \frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial x} + \beta u \vec{M} \times \frac{\partial \vec{M}}{\partial x}$$

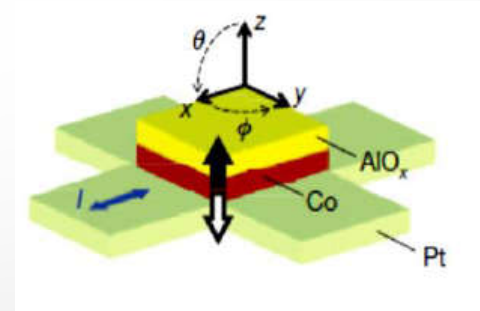
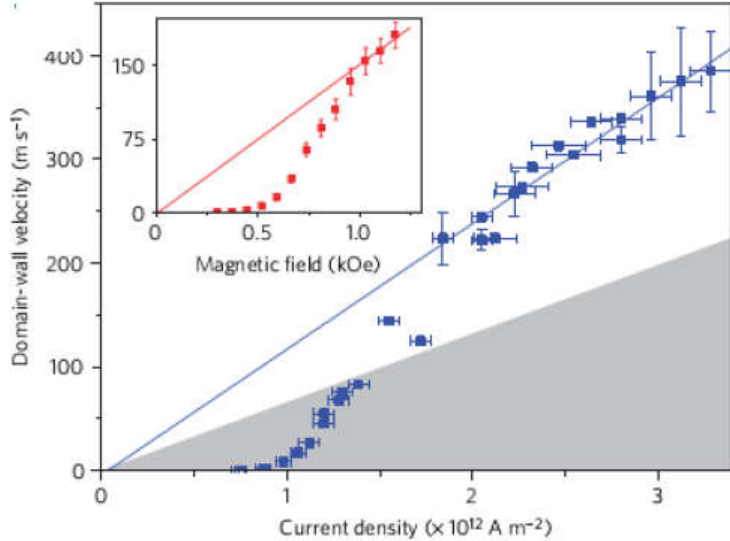


Yamanouchi et al PRL (2006)

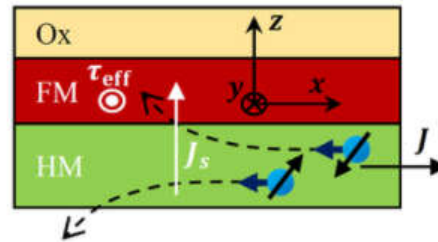


SPIN-ORBIT TORQUE

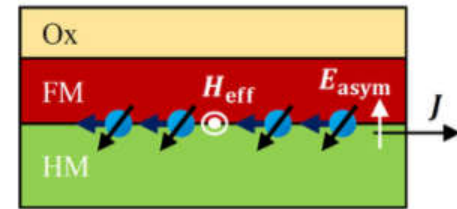
Pt/Co/AIO multilayers with spin-orbit field-like torque



Spin-Hall effect

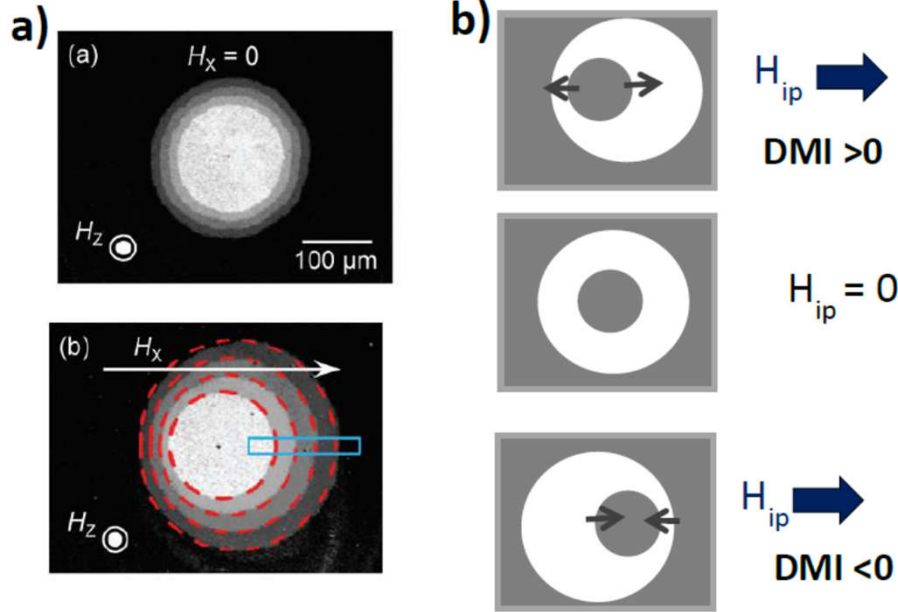


Rashba field



DW MOTION IN THE PRESENCE OF DMI

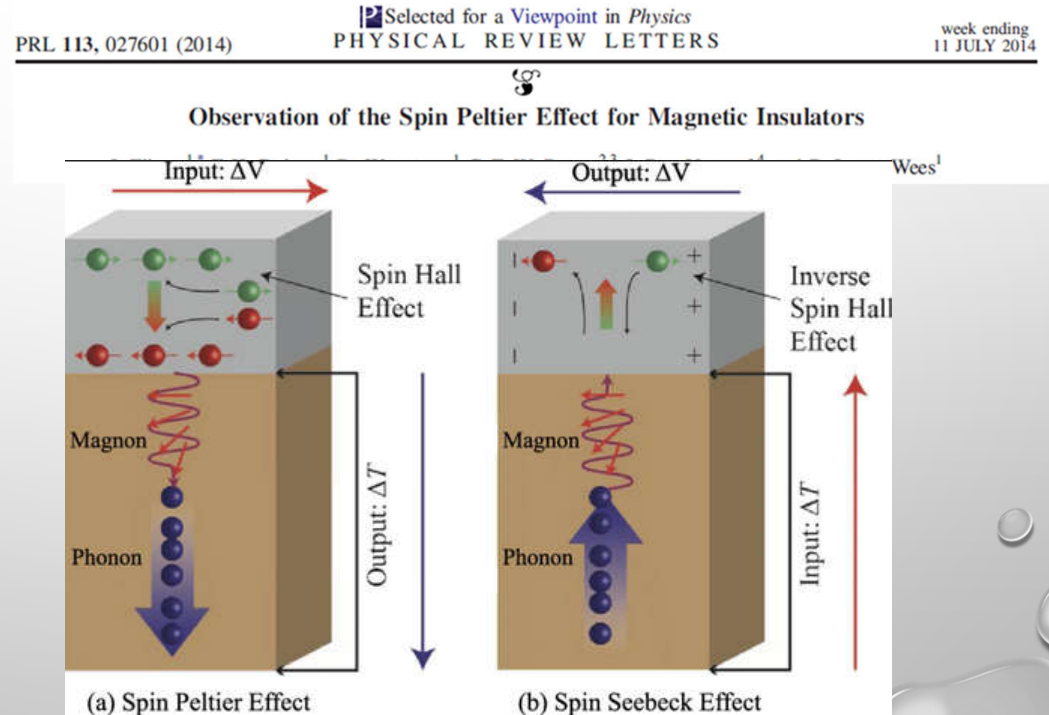
Asymmetric bubble expansion in the presence of DMI



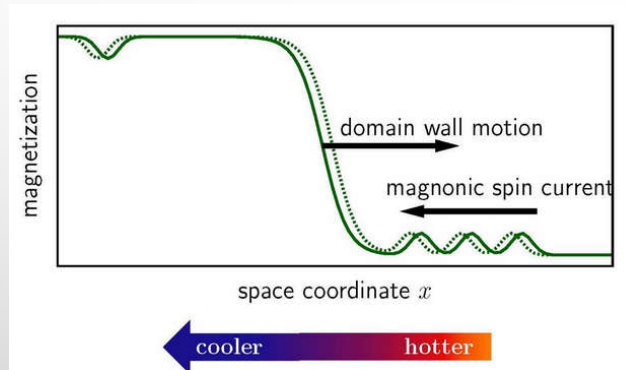
THERMAL GRADIENTS

Spin Seebeck: create ΔT
-> measure spin current

Spin Peltier: create spin
current -> measure ΔT



DOMAIN WALL MOTION BY SPIN-SEEBECK EFFECT



D. Hinzke and U. Nowak

Phys. Rev. Lett. 107, 027205 (2011)

PRL 110, 177202 (2013)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
26 APRIL 2013

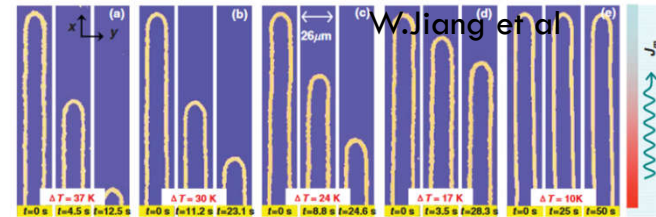
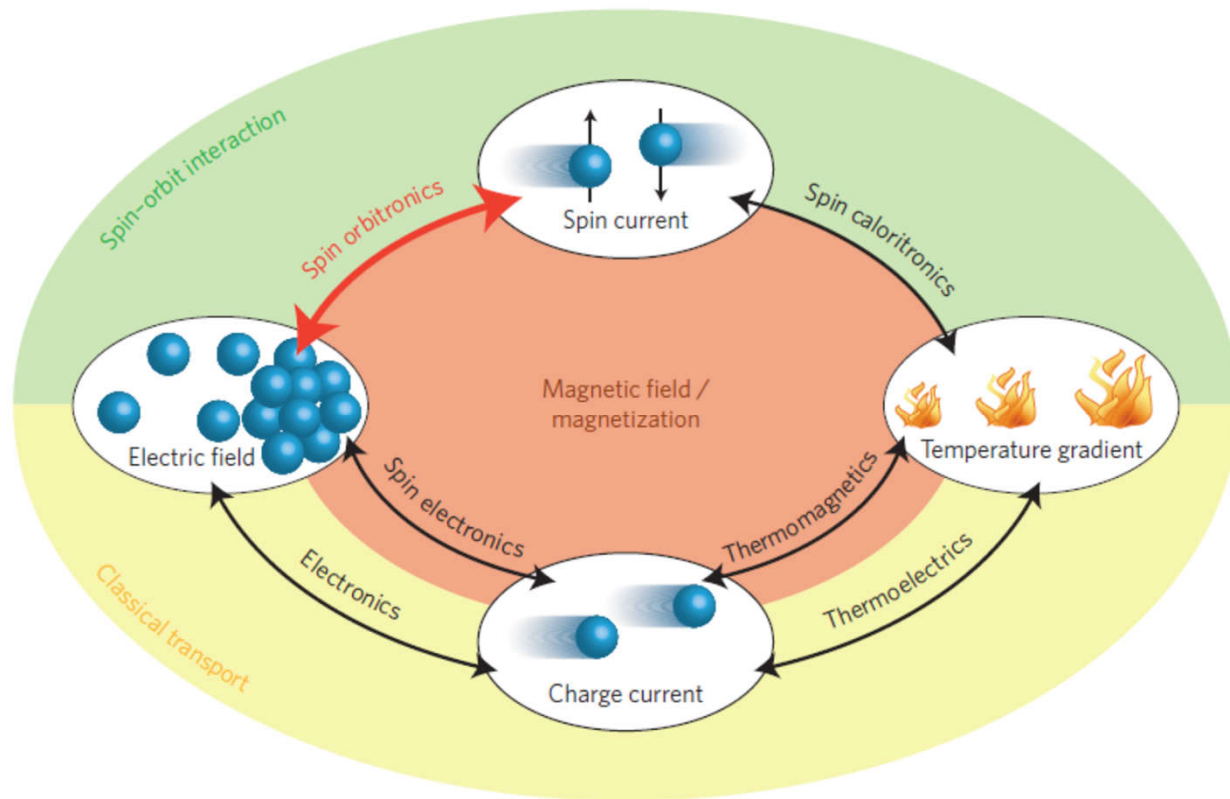
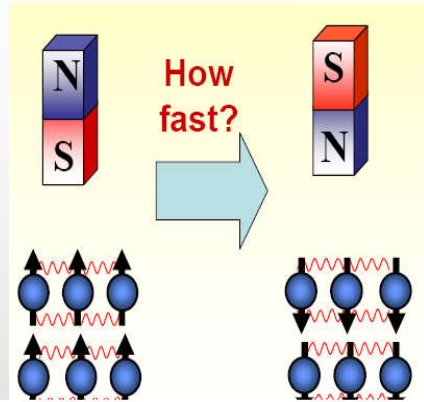


FIG. 4 (color online). Evolutionary demonstration of DW motion under varying temperature gradients. In the presence of the progressively decreasing temperature gradient, one clearly sees that the overall DW displacements decrease and the time intervals spent in traveling increase. These images together yield the decreasing average DW velocity. Here the corresponding temperature gradients for each measurement are (a) $\nabla T = 18.5$, (b) $\nabla T = 15$, (c) $\nabla T = 11.5$, (d) $\nabla T = 8.5$, and (e) $\nabla T = 5$ K/mm.

NEW TYPES OF DYNAMICS

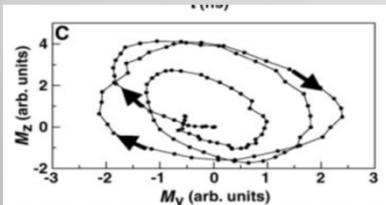


“SPIN-FLIP” AS A FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM



Imaging Precessional Motion of the Magnetization Vector

Y. Acremann,¹ C. H. Back,^{1*} M. Buess,¹ O. Portmann,¹
A. Vaterlaus,¹ D. Pescia,¹ H. Melchior²



Applied physics

Speed limit ahead

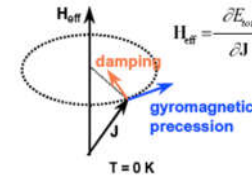
C. H. Back and D. Pescia

Are there any limits to what science and technology can achieve?
When it comes to recording data in magnetic media, the answer is yes:
there is a natural limit to the speed at which data can be encoded.

Via field pulses:

The ultimate speed of magnetic switching in granular recording media

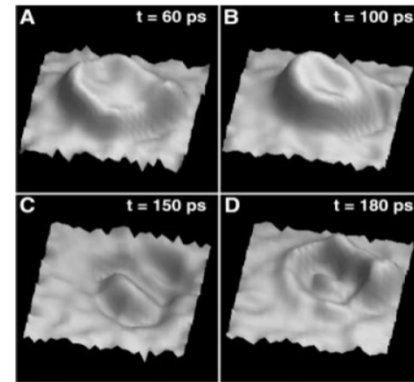
I. Tudosa¹, C. Stamm¹, A. B. Kashuba², F. King³, H. C. Siegmann¹,
J. Stöhr¹, G. Ju⁴, B. Lu⁴ & D. Weller⁴



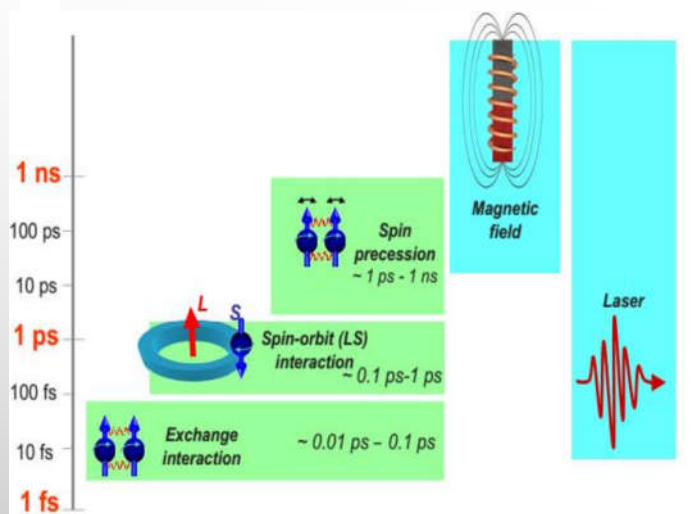
2000



The precessional switching is limited to 100ps



RELEVANT TIME SCALE OF INTERACTIONS



Kirilyuk et al Rev. Mod. Phys. **82**, 2731 (2010)

Laser pulse duration (τ_p)

50 fs

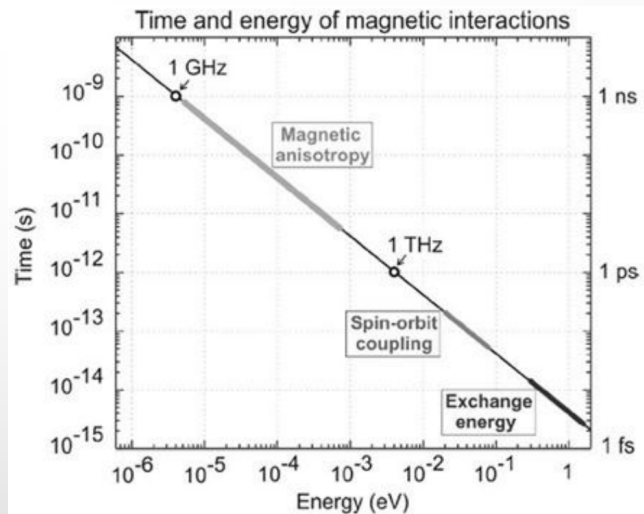
$$\Delta t \Delta E \geq \hbar/2$$



Stöhr et al Magnetism Springer-Verlag. (2006)

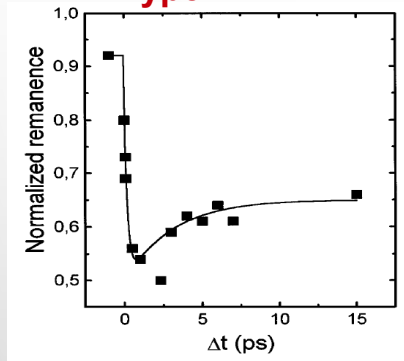
Corresponding energy

$$E \approx 10^{-21} \text{ J} \approx 6 \text{ meV}$$

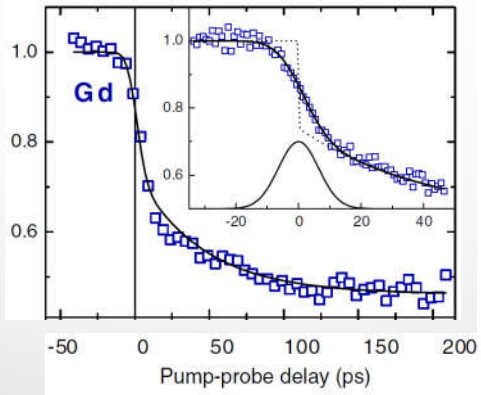


FEMTOSECOND DYNAMICS

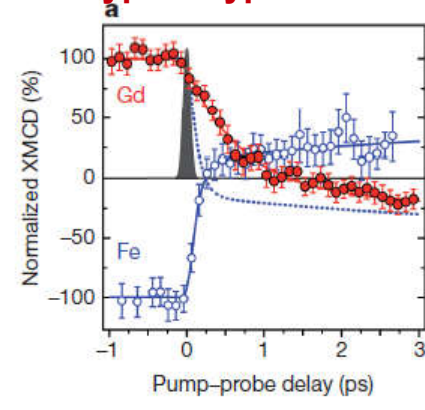
Nickel
Type I



Gadolinium
Type II



GdCoFe alloys
Type I+Type II



Nickel: Magnetisation breaks down in sub-ps time scale and recovers in ps.

Beaurepaire, Merle, Daunois, Bigot, Phys. Rev. Lett. **76**, 4250 (1996)

Gadolinium: Magnetisation decay in two 10/100ps timescales.

Wietstruk *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **106**, 127401 (2011)

GdCoFe alloys: All-optical magnetisation switching in GdCoFe alloys.

(recently TbCo, TbFe)

Kimel *et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. **99**, 047601 (2007), Nature **435**, 655 (2005)

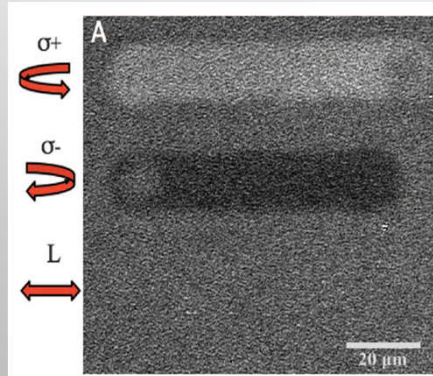
TWO TYPES OF AOS MECHANISMS

First mechanism (HD-AOS)

Helicity dependent all optical switching

- Helicity dependent
- Typically requires multiple laser shots
- Found in several materials FePt
- CoPt multilayers, ferrimagnets

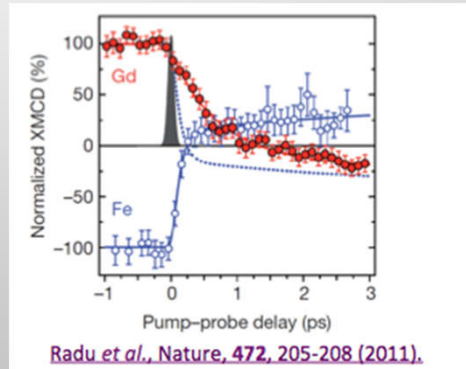
El Hadri et al,
Phys. Rev. B
, 94, 064412
(2016)



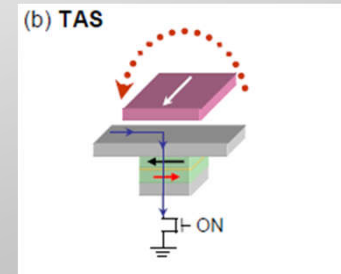
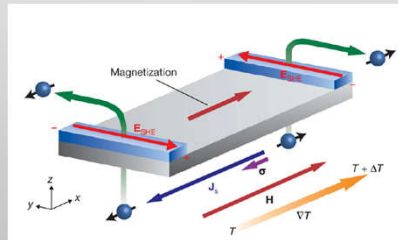
Second mechanism (TIMS)

Thermally induced magnetisation switching

- Helicity independent
- Only requires one laser shot
- Found only in GdFeCo (Other ferrimagnets?)



-
- The diagram illustrates the HAMR (Heat-Assisted Magnetic Recording) process. A laser beam is directed at a magnetic disk, creating a localized 'Heated spot'. This spot temporarily reduces the coercivity of the magnetic material, allowing a recording head to write data. The disk surface is divided into segments labeled S, N, S, W, S, and N, representing different magnetic states. Arrows indicate the direction of the magnetic field or data flow.



ATTOSECOND DYNAMICS?

LETTER

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1333-x>

Light-wave dynamic control of magnetism

Florian Siegrist^{1,2}, Julia A. Gessner^{1,2}, Marcus Ossiander¹, Christian Denker³, Yi-Ping Chang¹, Malte C. Schröder¹, Alexander Guggenmos^{1,2}, Yang Cui², Jakob Walowski³, Ulrike Martens³, J. K. Dewhurst⁴, Ulf Kleineberg^{1,2}, Markus Münzenberg³, Sangeeta Sharma⁵ & Martin Schultze^{1,6*}

Initial non-dissipative processes

Optically-induced spin and orbital momentum transfer due to charge reallocation leads to the decrease of magnetic moment

