

New perspectives in Rare Earth metallic nanoparticles: Spin glass phases, Crystal fields and Kondo decoherence

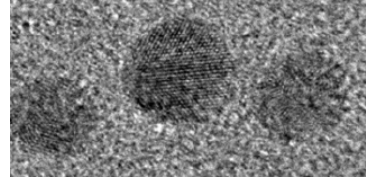
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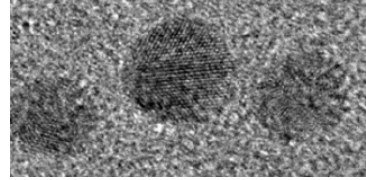


Outline



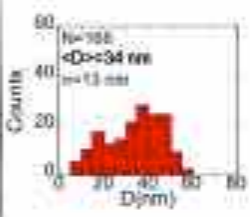
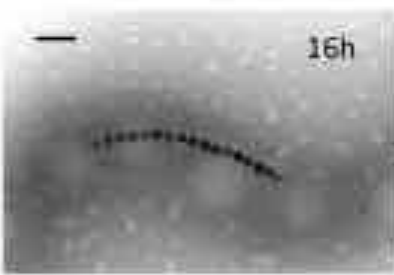
- ▶ **I. Context: 3d-4f-Nanoparticles**
- **II. RX_2 Nanoparticles**
- **III. $YbAl_3$ NPs: Intro + Structure + Resistivity**

I. Context: Nanoparticles (3d/4f-compounds)



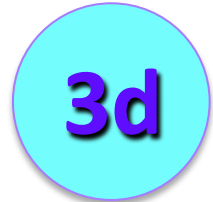
Interest: Size effects, Surface Effects, Interaction & Core (disorder)-Shell

Applications: Biomedicine, Fe-oxides (Review, QA Pankhurst et al., J Phys D (2003)) + Waste Management...



Magnetite/Maghemite:
40000 articles!
Superparamagnetic

Fe-Oxides: P. Bender et al., Sci Rep (2017); L. Marcano et al., Nanoscale(2018), ...



GMR
Ultrasoft

GdAl₂: Zhou et al., PRL (1994)

YbAl₃, YbNi₂: D. P. Rojas et al., PRB (2008); C. Echevarria-Bonet JPCM (2018); D. P. Rojas SSC (2016) + JMMM (2018).



TbCu₂: C. Echevarria et al., PRB Rapid (2013); JPCM (2015), M de la Fuente et al., J. Nano Res (2017).

TbAl₂: D. P. Rojas et al., Mat Res Ex (2015)

OPEN **Structural and magnetic properties of multi-core nanoparticles analysed using a generalised numerical inversion method**

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Published: 11 April 2017

P. Bender¹, L. K. Bogart², O. Posth³, W. Szczerba^{4,5}, S. E. Rogers⁶, A. Castro⁷, L. Nilsson^{7,8}, L. J. Zeng⁹, A. Sugunan¹⁰, J. Sommertune¹⁰, A. Fornara¹⁰, D. González-Alonso¹, L. Fernández Barquín¹ & C. Johansson¹¹

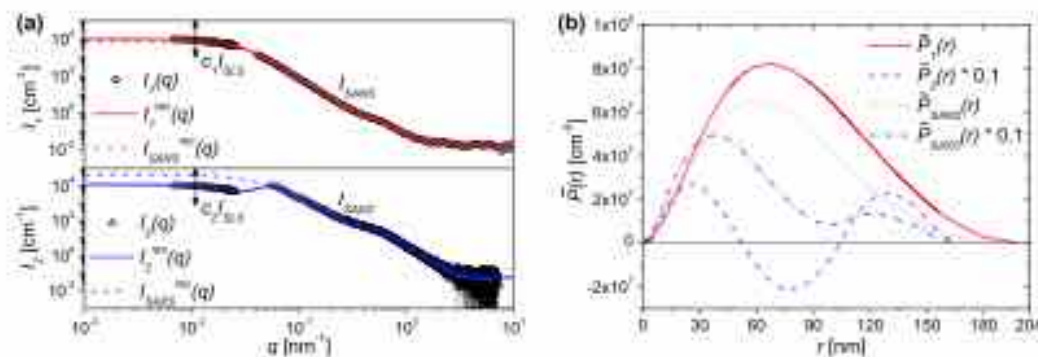
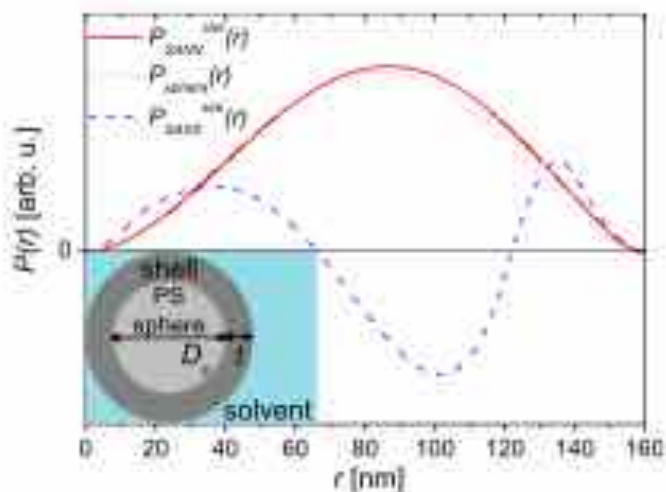
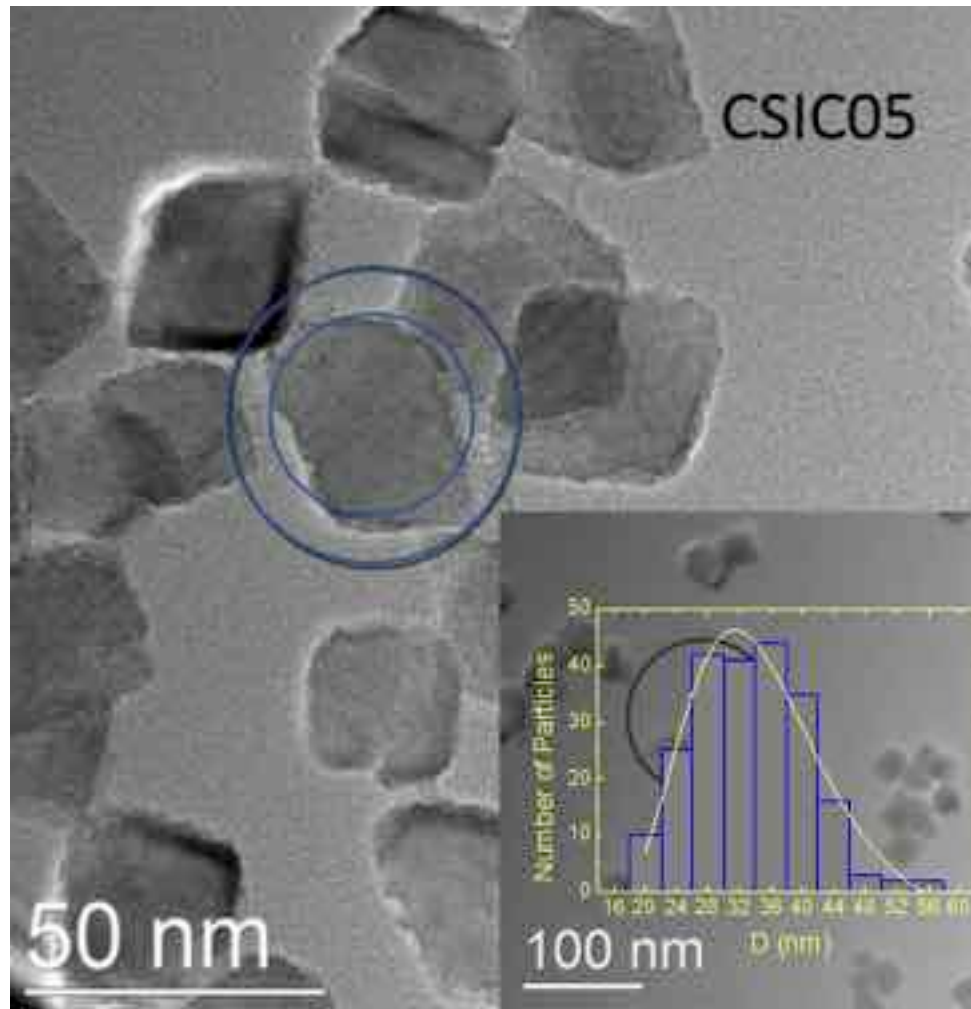


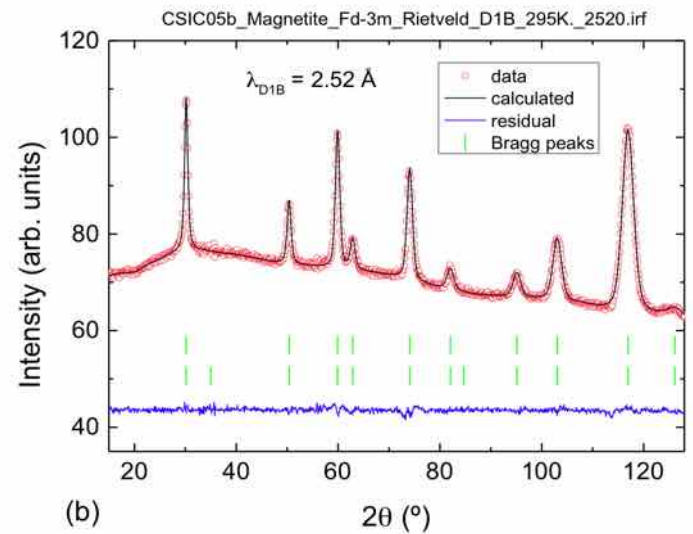
Figure 3. Results of the structural characterisation of the multi-core particles via SANS, SAXS and SLS. (a) The experimentally measured scattering intensities $I_{SANS}(q)$, $I_{SAXS}(q)$ and $I_{SLS}(q)$. The static light scattering intensity was scaled by c_1 and c_2 , respectively. The reconstructed curves $I_1^{sim}(q)$, $I_2^{sim}(q)$, $I_{SANS}^{sim}(q)$ and $I_{SAXS}^{sim}(q)$ were calculated for the distributions $\bar{P}_1(r)$, $\bar{P}_2(r)$, $\bar{P}_{SANS}(r)$ and $\bar{P}_{SAXS}(r)$ from Fig. 3(b). (b) The pair distance distribution functions $\bar{P}_1(r)$, $\bar{P}_2(r)$, $\bar{P}_{SANS}(r)$ and $\bar{P}_{SAXS}(r)$ determined by an indirect Fourier transform of $I_1(q)$, $I_2(q)$, $I_{SANS}(q)$ and $I_{SAXS}(q)$.

Figure 2. Simulated PDDFs. Comparison of simulated PDDFs for small angle scattering via neutrons ($P_{SANS}^{sim}(r)$) and X-rays ($P_{SAXS}^{sim}(r)$) from a 120 nm poly(styrene) sphere with a 20 nm thick shell embedded in water, as well as the calculated profile of a homogeneous sphere with $D = 160$ nm (equation 3). Assumed scattering length densities for neutrons and X-rays are provided in Table 1.

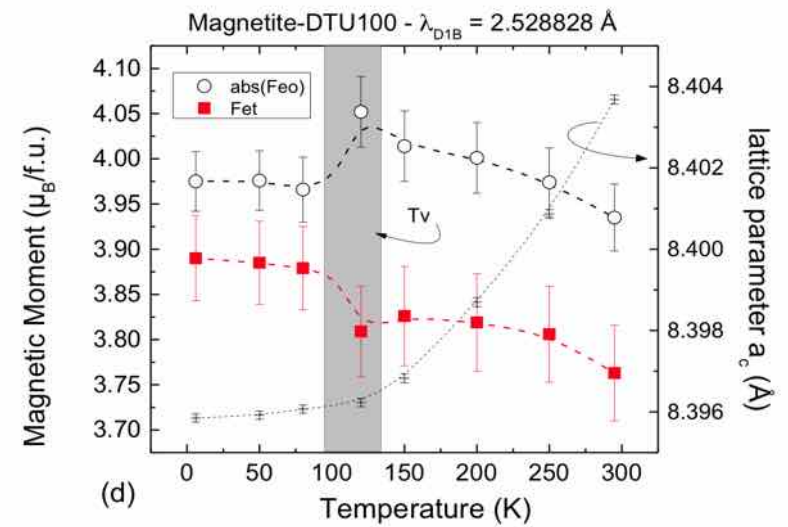
Fe-oxide Nanoparticles CSIC05 (Puerto Morales)



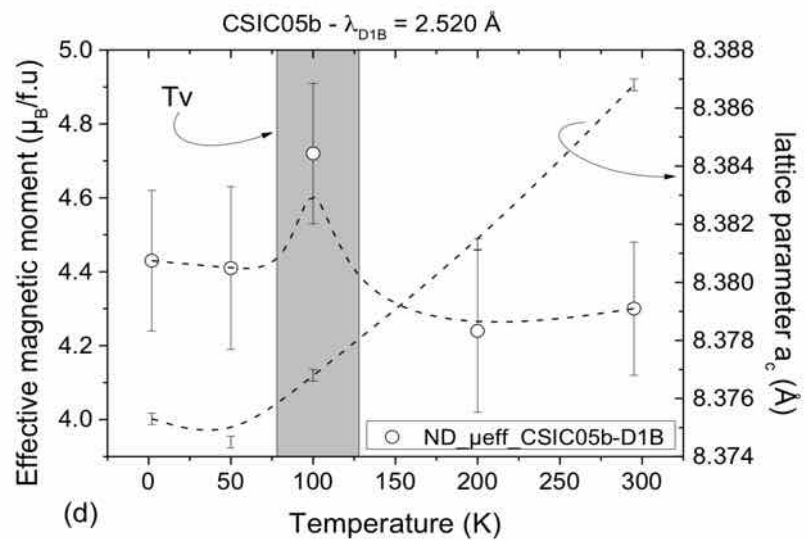
Neutrons revealing Verwey (Inst. Laue-Langevin, Grenoble)



(b)



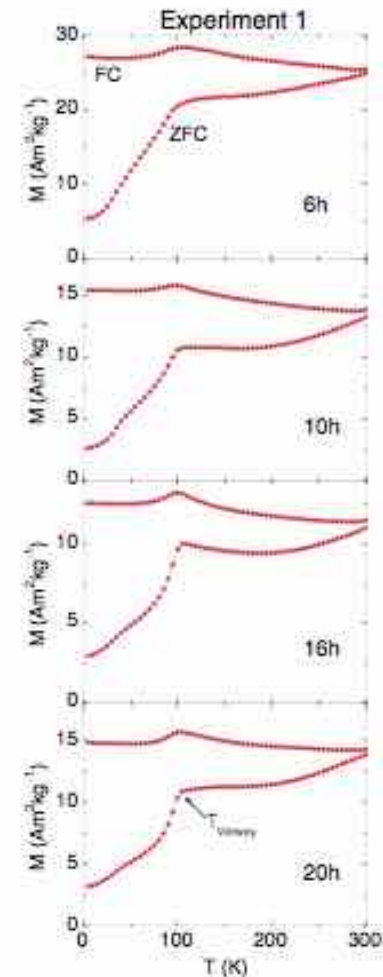
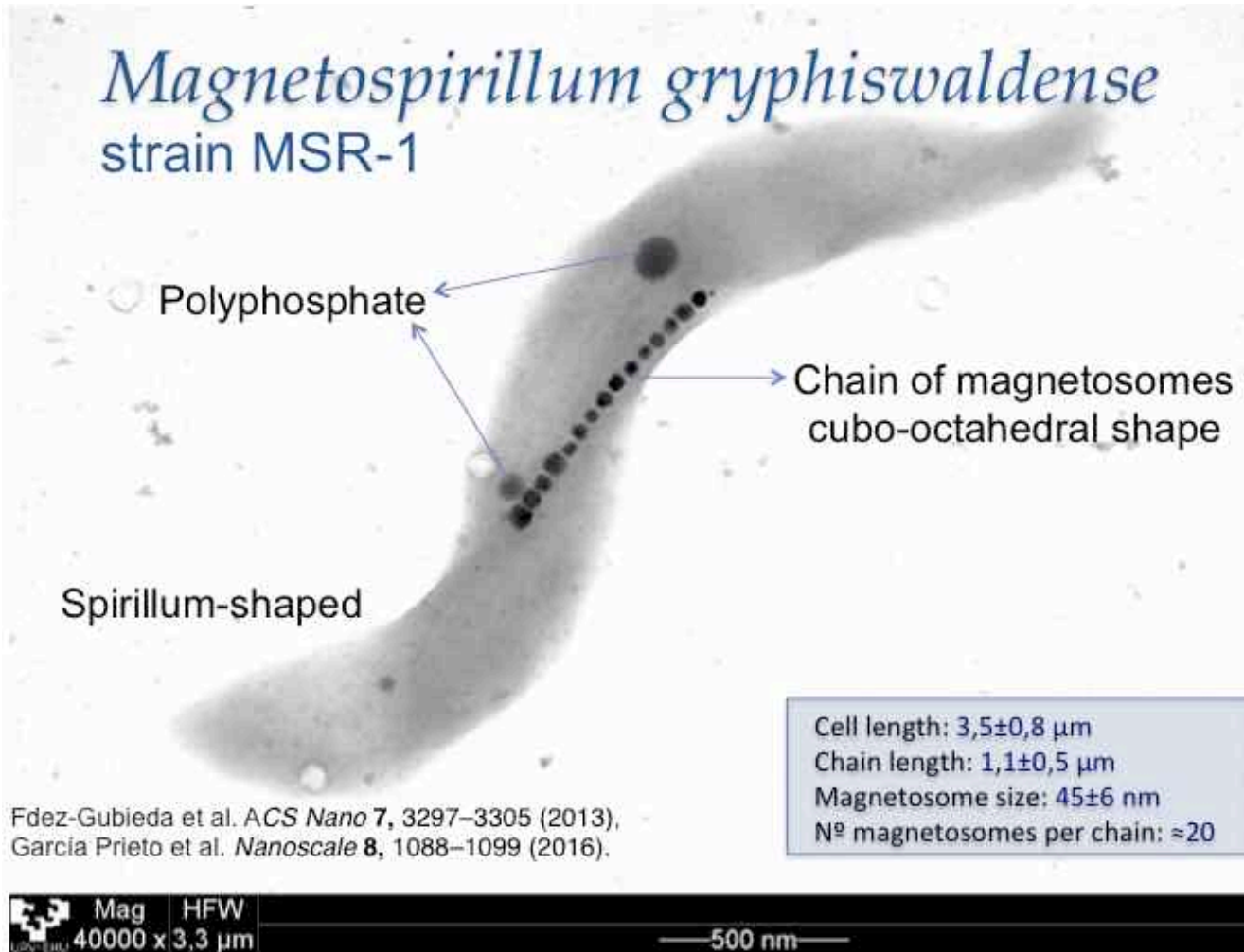
(d)



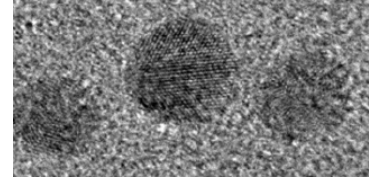
(d)

Magnetotactic Bacteria (UPV/EHU)

Alicia Muela, M.L. Fdez-Gubieda,...

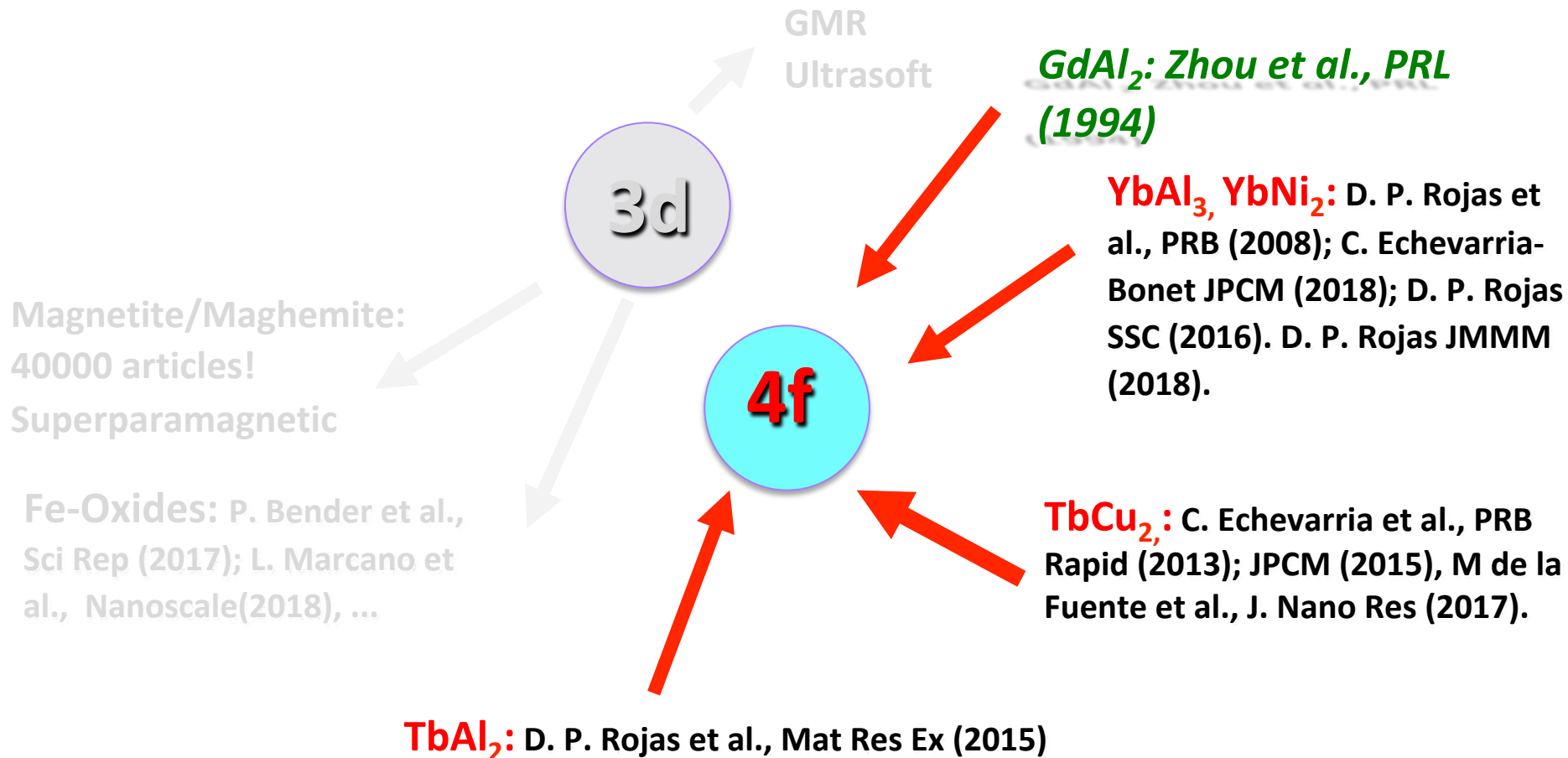


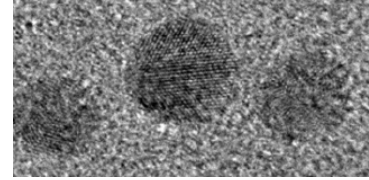
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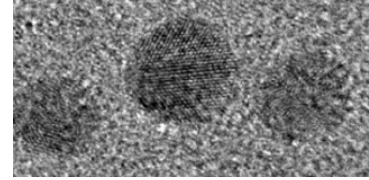
Context: RE-NPs

Conventional MAGNETIC 4f-ALLOYS

- Binary Alloys
(R=Tb, Nd,..., X=Al,Cu,
...): FM or AFM... **RX_2**
- Dilution
- **Disorder**
- Small record in
nanoparticles
- Surfaces

- - Permanent Magnets
- - CEF influence
- - Spin glass

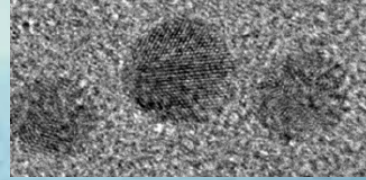




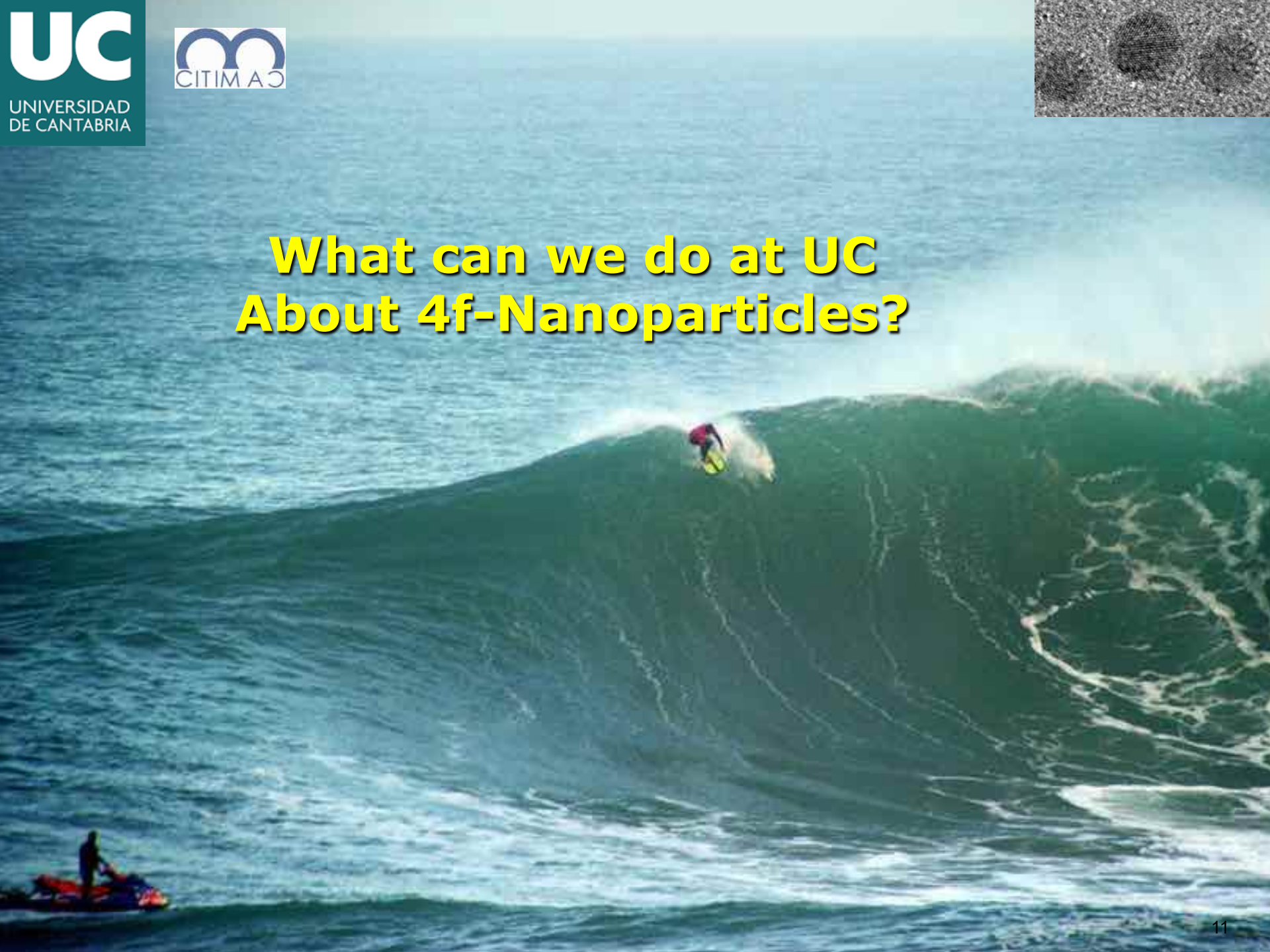
Context: RE-NPs

ANOMALOUS EFFECTS IN 4f- ALLOYS

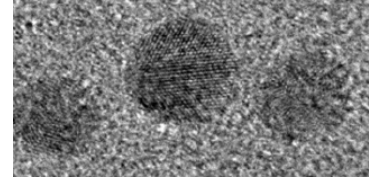
- Unconventional behaviour in Yb, Ce, Sm or Eu alloys
 - Strongly Correlated Electron Systems (SCES)
 - Unconventional Physics
 - Very scarce record in nanoparticles. Surfaces.
- **Kondo effect**
 - Heavy fermions
 - **Intermediate valence**



What can we do at UC About 4f-Nanoparticles?



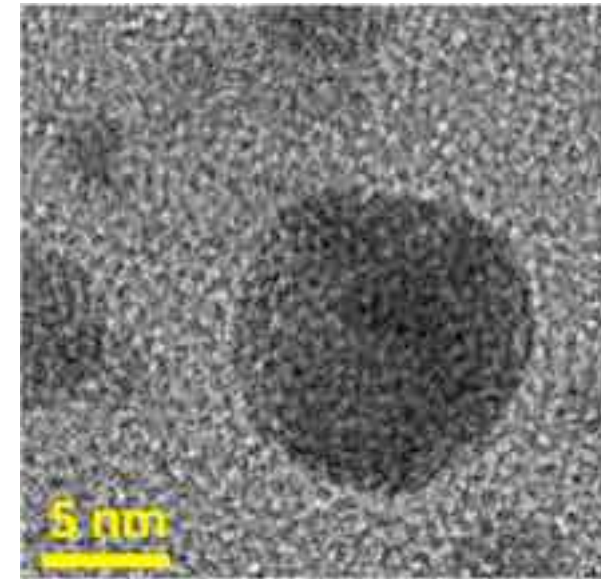
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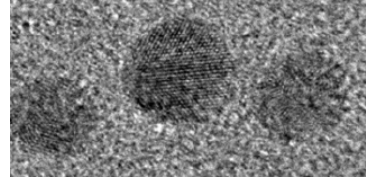
Synthesis of 4f-RX₂ NPs

High-Energy Inert-atmosphere Milling (CW, ZrO₂)



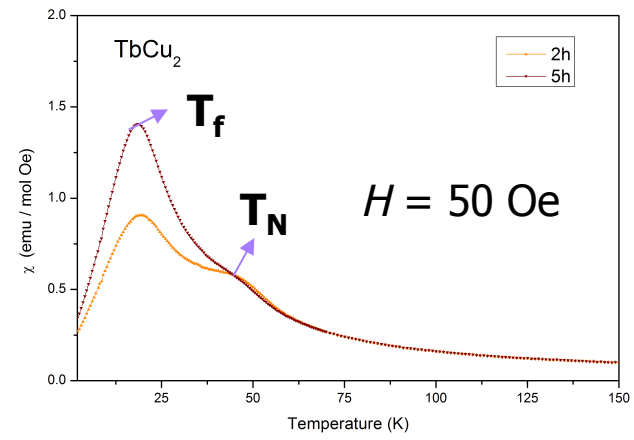
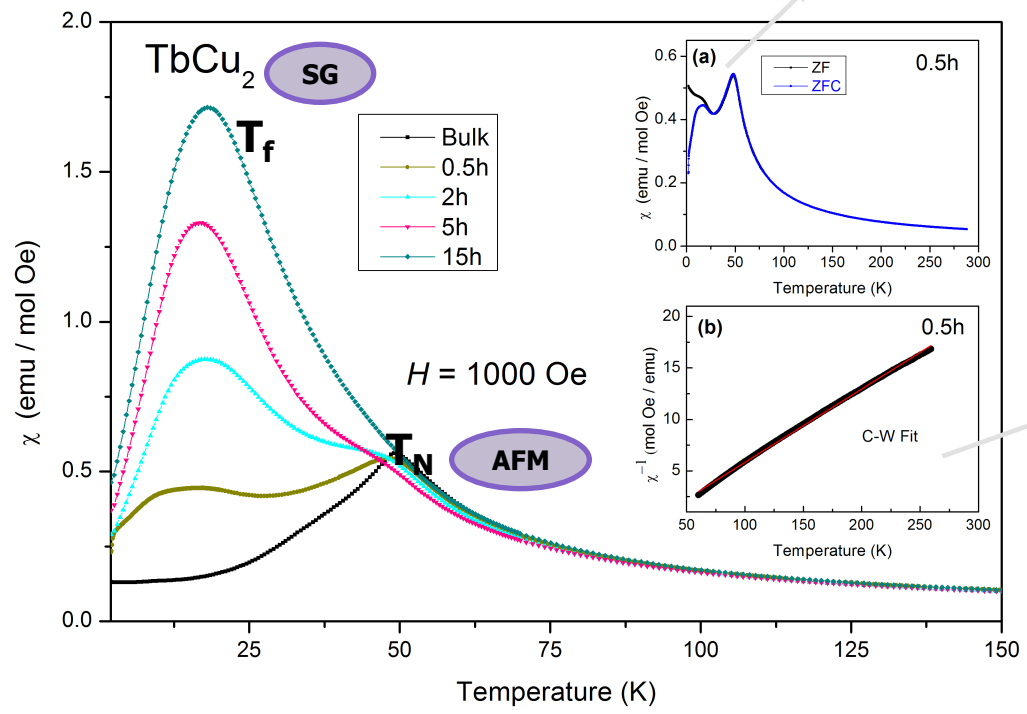
- Mass production of Metallic Nanoparticles
- Decent size distribution
- Presence of oxides (Controlled).
- Cost effective. Re-scalable (technology)

Nano-RX₂, R = Tb, X = Cu



Susceptibility-DC:

ZFC- FC: Irreversibility
→ magnetic disorder

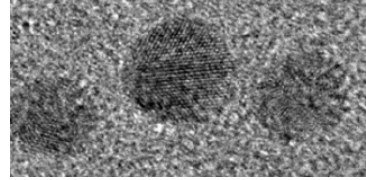


$Tb^{3+} (J = 6) \mu_{eff} = 9.72 \mu_B$
 $t = 0.5 h \rightarrow \mu_{eff} = 10.56(2) \mu_B$
 $\theta_p = 18.2(3) K$

increase t :
AFM → SG, ↓ T_N
→ ↑ T_f

t (h)	D (nm)	T_N (K)	T_f (K)
Bulk	--	49.1(1)	--
0.5	13(1)	48.2(1)	16.7(1)
2	8(1)	47.4(1)	17.5(1)
5	7(1)	47.1(1)	16.4(1)
15	6(1)	--	18.4(1)

Disorder in TbCu₂

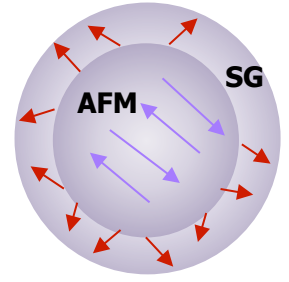
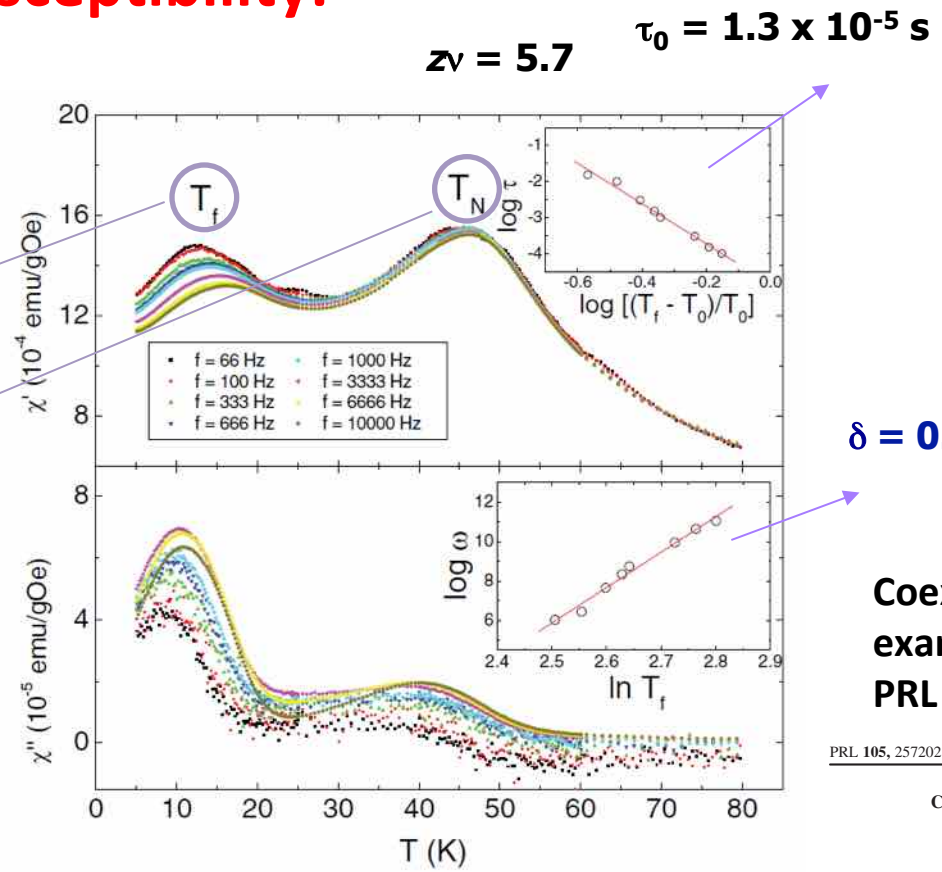


AC-susceptibility:

D = 9 nm

SG
 $T_f \approx 10$ K

AFM
 $T_N \approx 47$ K



core-shell

Core → AFM
Shell → SG
Nps
TbCu₂



Super-AFM

Coexistence of AFM+SG...as in bulk, for example, multiferroic PbFeNbO, PRL (2010)

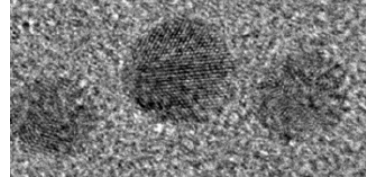
PRL 105, 257202 (2010) PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS week ending 17 DECEMBER 2010

Coexistence of Antiferromagnetic and Spin Cluster Glass Order in the Magnetolectric Relaxor Multiferroic PbFe_{0.5}Nb_{0.5}O₃

W. Kleemann,* V. V. Shvartsman,† and P. Borisov‡
Angewandte Physik, Universität Duisburg-Essen, Lotharstrasse 1, D-47048 Duisburg, Germany

A. Kania
Institute of Physics, University of Silesia, PL-40-007 Katowice, Poland
(Received 29 July 2010; published 13 December 2010)

Anisotropy, TbCu₂



M(H):

Metamagnetic transition →
typical AFM

mechanism spin – flip
sublattice AFM → FM

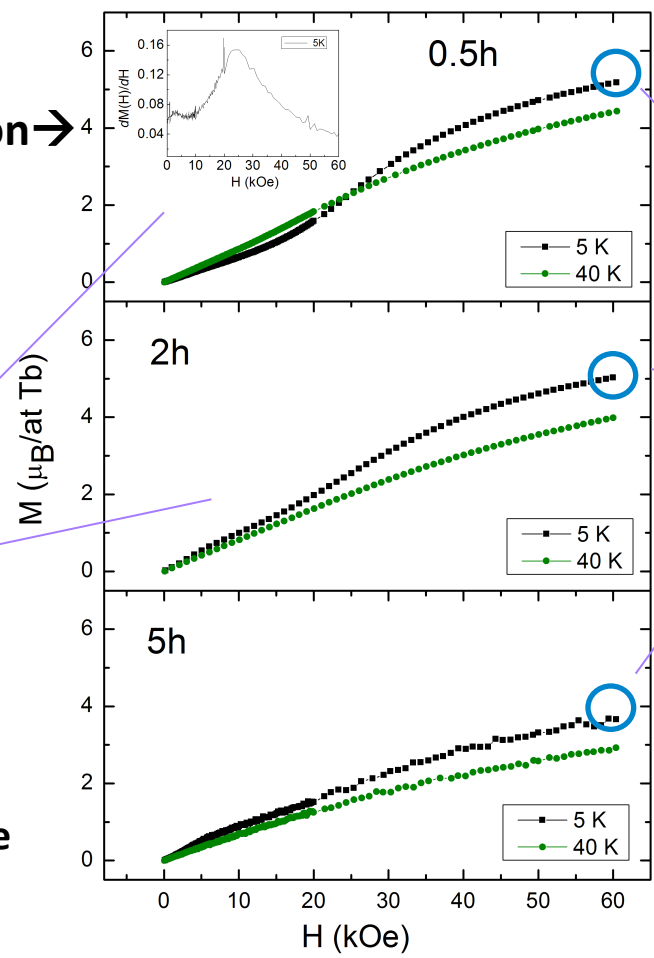
$H_{SF} = 19$ kOe Bulk

$H_{SF} = 24$ kOe (D = 13 nm)

$H_{SF} = 23$ kOe (D = 8 nm)

SAFM + SG

Size decrease → AFM core ↓, disordered shell ↑



No magnetic saturation ~ 8.8 m_B Bulk

bulk CEF prevents saturation

5 K

5.2 m_B /at Tb (D = 13 nm)

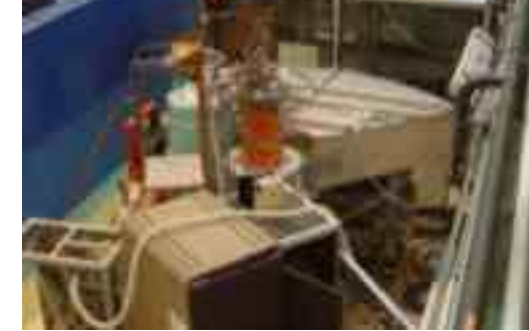
5.0 m_B /at Tb (D = 8 nm)

3.8 m_B /at Tb (D = 7 nm)

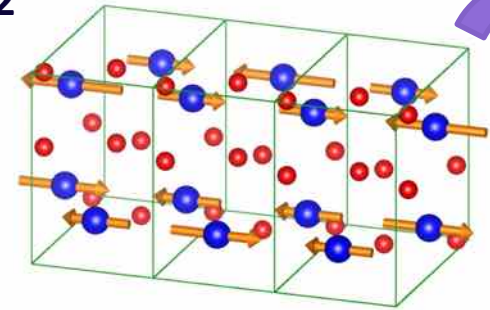
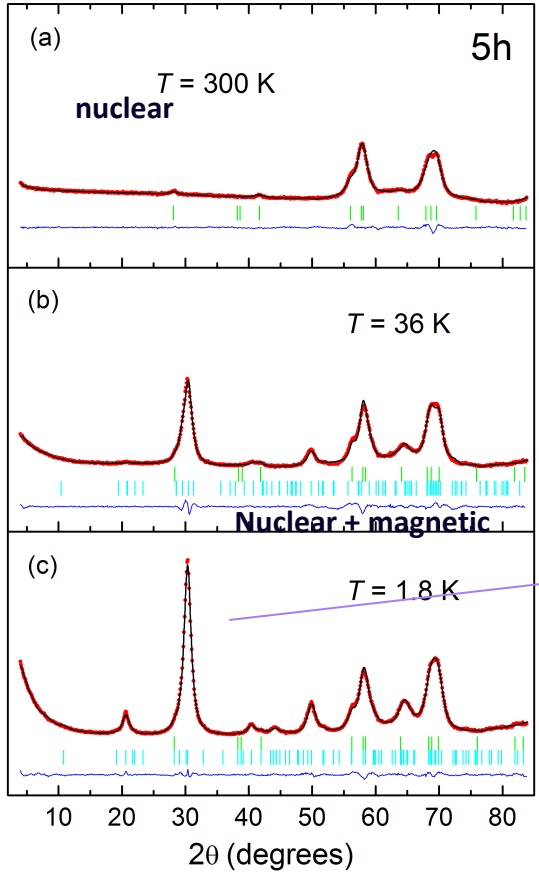


M_s decreasing size → Shell moments with high anisotropy

Neutron Diffraction (LLB G4.1), F. Damay

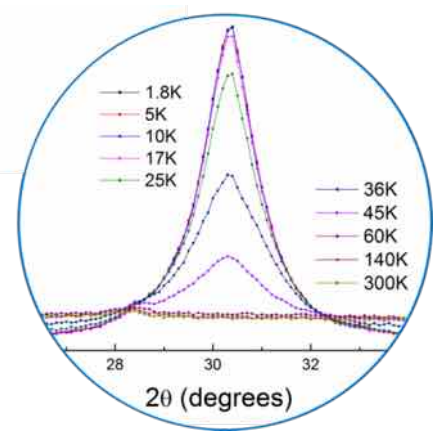


► Magnetic structure TbCu₂ 5h

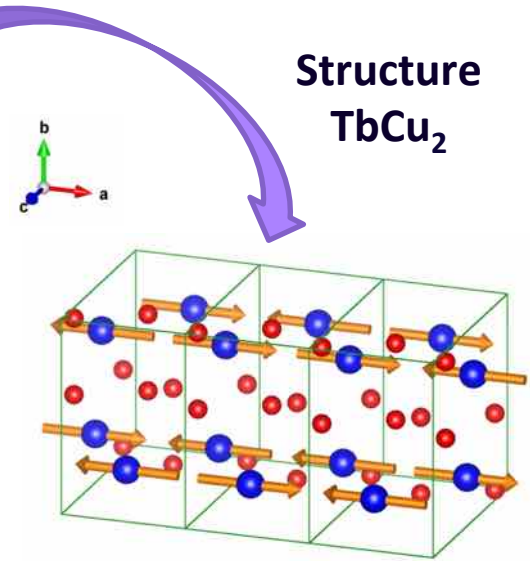


$D \approx 8 \text{ nm}$

$T = 36 \text{ K}$



Sima et al, JMMM (1986)



Structure
TbCu₂

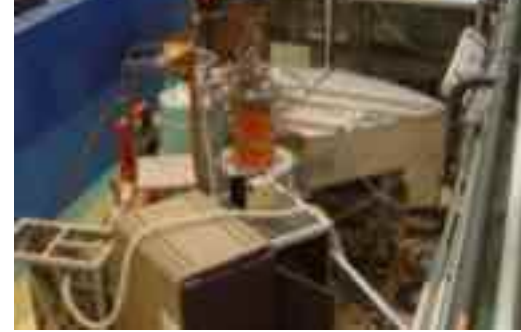
$T = 1.8 \text{ K}$

AFM commensurate

Propagation vectors $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (0,0,0) \\ (1/3,0,0) \end{array} \right.$

High CEF anisotropy

Neutron diffraction



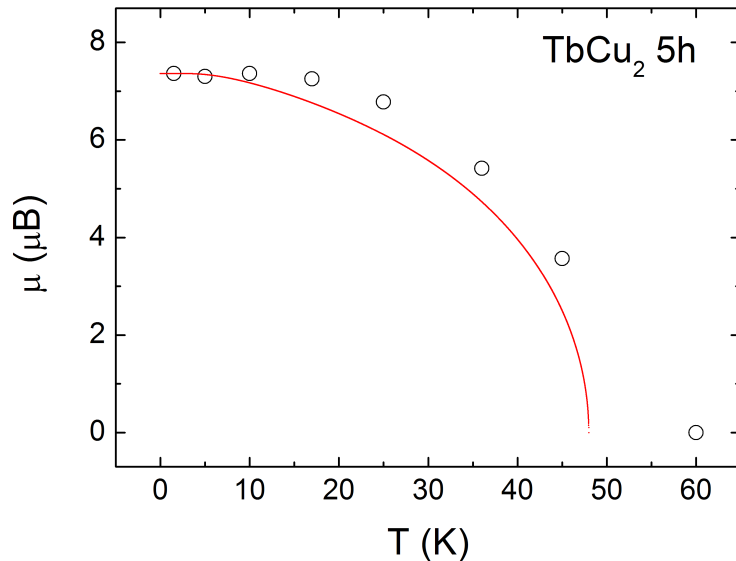
► Magnetic moment evolution TbCu_2 5h

5h $\mu_{\text{Tb}^{3+}} = 7.3(5) \mu_{\text{B}}$

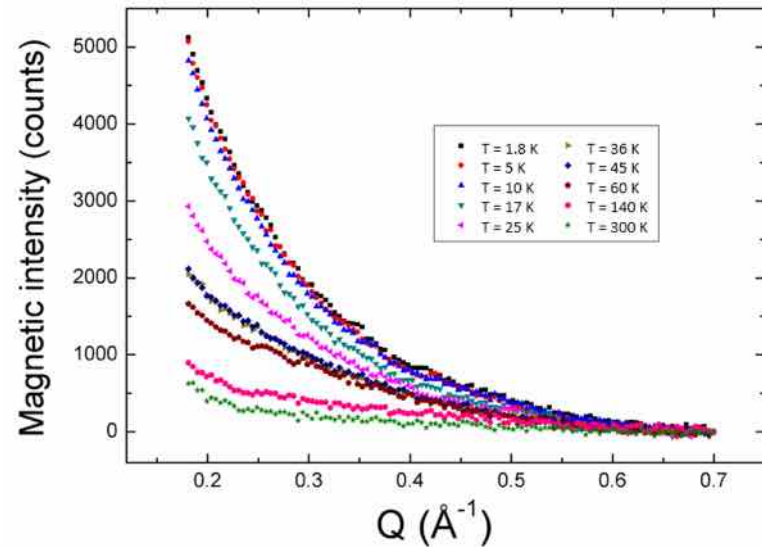
Bulk $\mu_{\text{Tb}^{3+}} = 8.8 \mu_{\text{B}}$



reduction $\mu \sim 20\% \rightarrow$ disordered moments



Brillouin $J = 6$

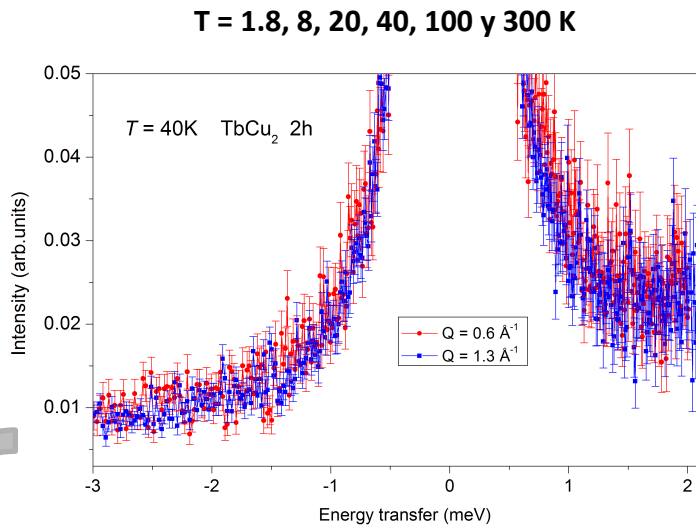


Low T nanoparticle correlation

Inelastic Neutron Scattering (INS), B. Fåk (Inst Laue-Langevin)



Experiment IN6: TbCu₂ Bulk, 2h y 5h



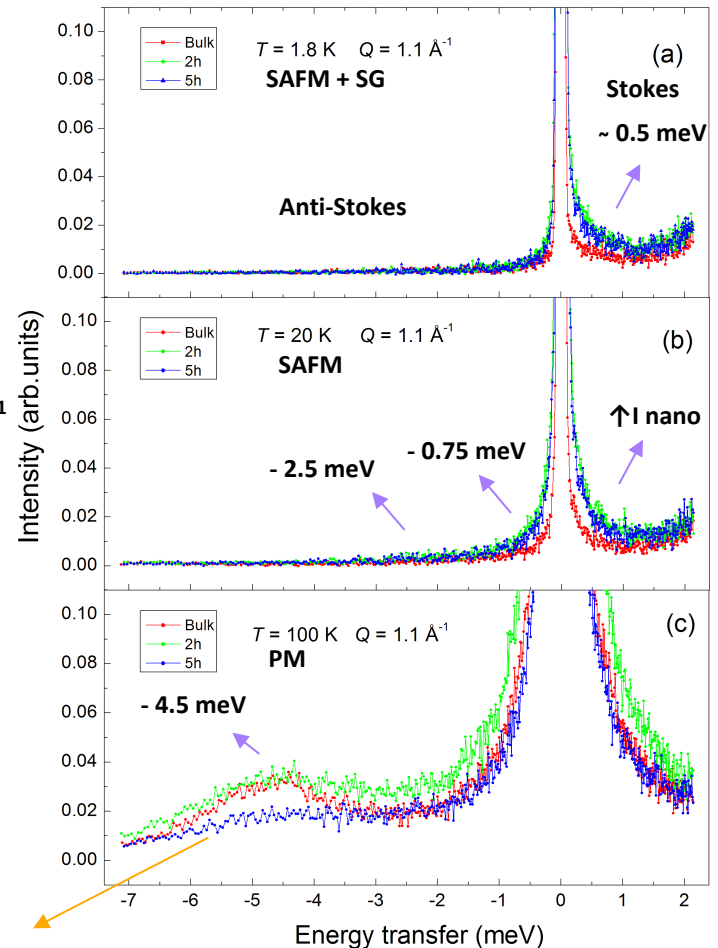
$\lambda = 5.1 \text{ \AA}$

$0.6 \text{ \AA}^{-1} \leq Q \leq 1.3 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

I(Q) Vs E : feeble ↓I when ↑Q → magnetic + Incoherent phonon contribution

Lower Intensity in nano-TbCu₂ → less defined multiplets

Distributions of CEF



I ↑ when ↑T, CEF excitations

SANS

(D. Alba, RAL-ISIS)



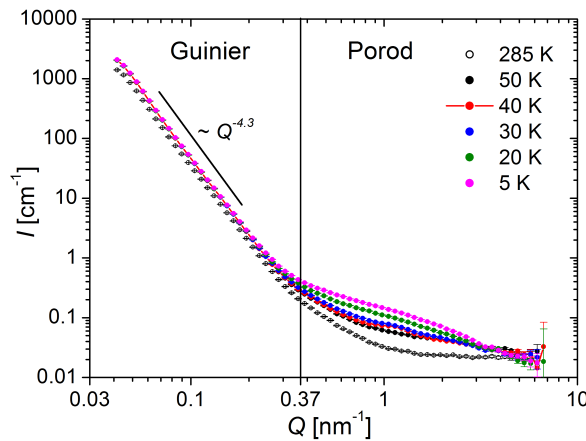
► RAL-ISIS: SANS2D, TbCu₂ 5h

Guinier zone:

I (Q) independent of T → Guinier (low Q)



Nuclear: NP's spherical, pores



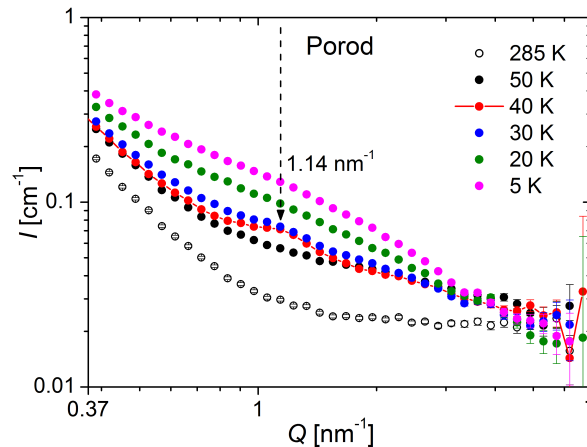
Porod Zone:

I (Q) varies with T → Porod (high Q)



Magnetic contribution

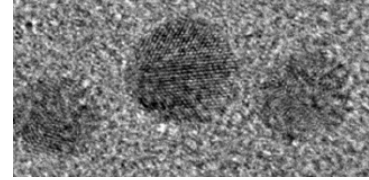
T = 40 K,
Peak Q ~ 1.14 nm⁻¹



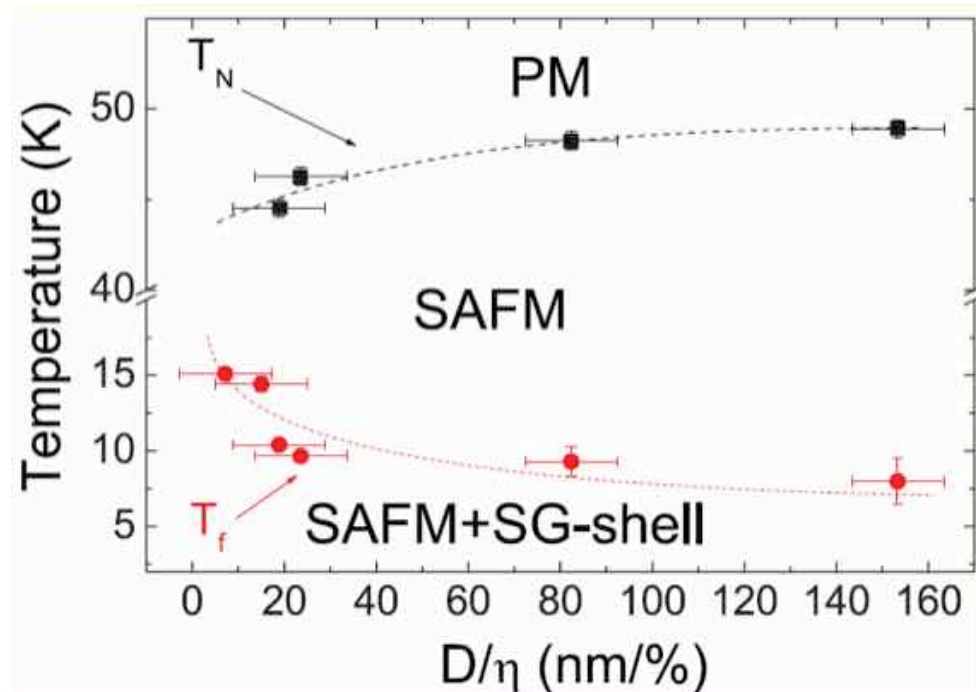
Magnetic Peak (open):
- Correlation of neighbouring MNPs, chains?

2.- helicoidal → Tb Bulk?

TbCu₂ phase diagram



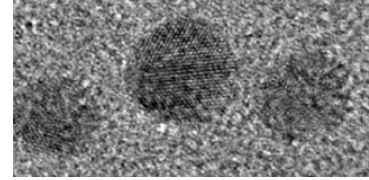
- ▶ Progressive variation of magnetic disorder + SAFM
- ▶ High anisotropy (SG influence)
- ▶ Variation of CEF levels due to disorder
- ▶ Disorder is crucial



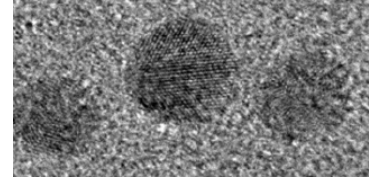
C. Echevarria-Bonet et al., JPCM (2015)

Work in TbCu₂NPs, with oleic acid, (surfactant), separating NPs... see J. Nanopart. Res (2017)

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Context: Intermediate Valence

ANOMALOUS EFFECTS IN 4f- ALLOYS

Electronic configurations are well defined when Fermi level and 4f-band are well separated. For an Yb ion:

If $E_F \gg E_{4f} \Rightarrow Yb^{3+} ; 4f^{13} \Rightarrow$ localised magnetism.

If $E_F \ll E_{4f} \Rightarrow Yb^{2+} ; 4f^{14} \Rightarrow$ non-magnetic state.

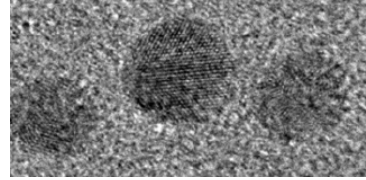
If $E_F \sim E_{4f} \Rightarrow$ hybridisation of states \Rightarrow Anomalous effects:

Heavy fermions.

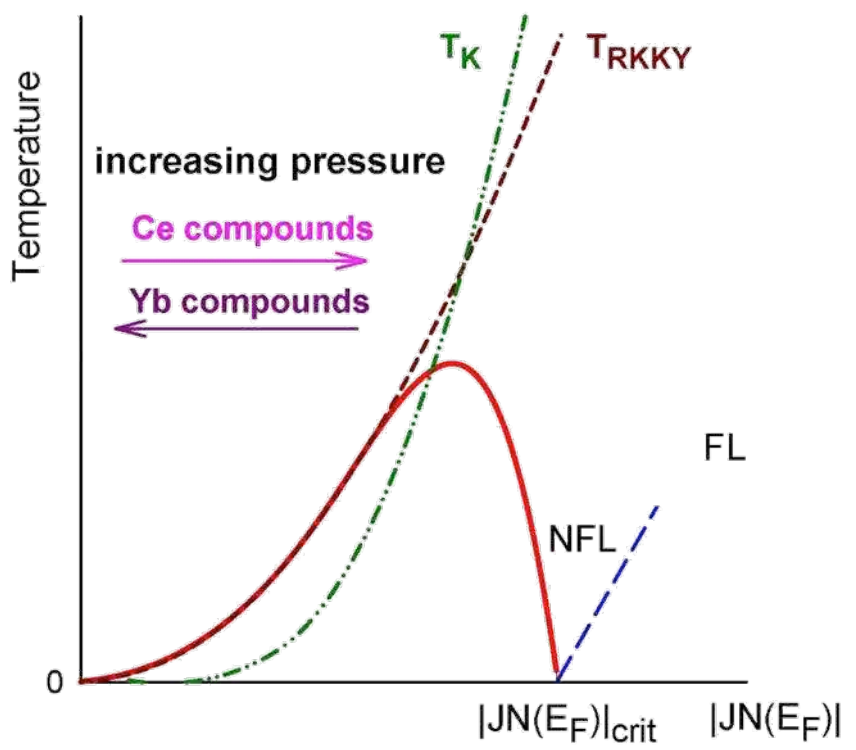
Intermediate valence.

Kondo effect.

Different characteristics but same origin.



Context: Doniach diagram



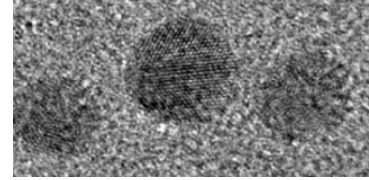
$$T_{RKKY} \propto J^2 N(E_F)$$

$$T_K \propto e^{-\left(\frac{1}{JN(E_F)}\right)}$$

- **Several behaviours:**
 - If $T_{RKKY} \gg T_K$: the system is ordered magnetically.
 - If $T_K \gg T_{RKKY}$: non-magnetic.
 - If $T_K < T_{RKKY}$: μ reduced by the screening of the Kondo effect, but the system can be ordered at a reduced T_C .
 - If $T_K \approx T_{RKKY}$: HF.
- QPT: NFL. Magnetic instability.

[S. Doniach, *Physica B* 91, 231 (1977)]

Context-YbAl₃



YbAl₃ bulk

cubic

susceptibility maximum: intermediate valence

valence: 2.86

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 78, 094412 (2008)

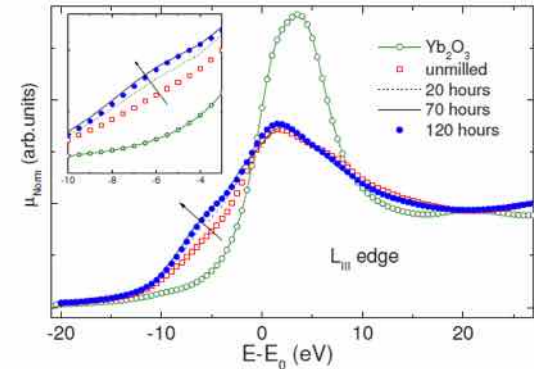
Reduction of the Yb valence in YbAl₃ nanoparticles

D. P. Rojas, L. Fernández Barquín, J. I. Espeso, and J. Rodríguez Fernández
CITIMAC, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Cantabria, 39005 Santander, Spain

J. Chaboy

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50009 Zaragoza, Spain

(Received 29 November 2007; revised manuscript received 23 July 2008; published 16 September 2008)



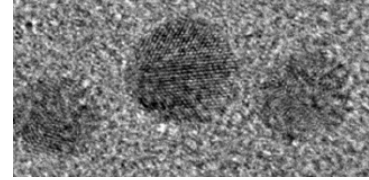
- XANES, BM25A ESRF & SPRING8 (Japan)
- Yb LIII. Change from Yb³⁺ to Yb²⁺ due to surface atoms

Inspiring work/conversations:

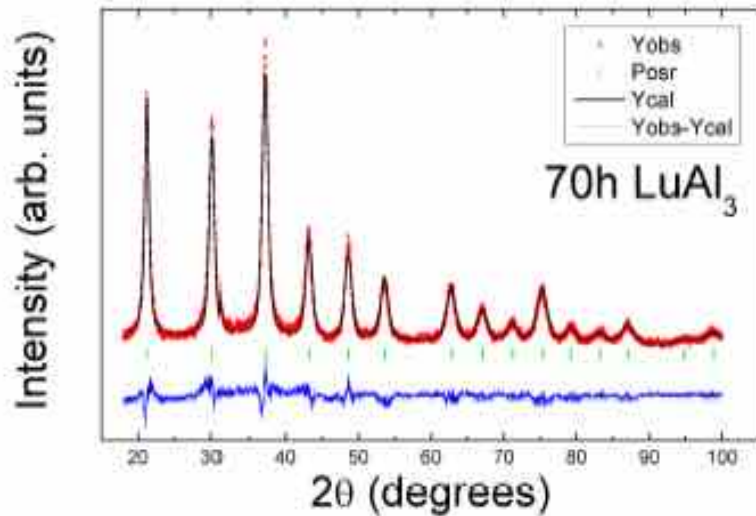
Bulk, YbAl₃, YbAl₂, T. Görlach et al., PRB (2005); P. Schlottman PRB (2002);

YbAl₃ nano, De et al., JAC (2017); B. Coqblin (privste...)

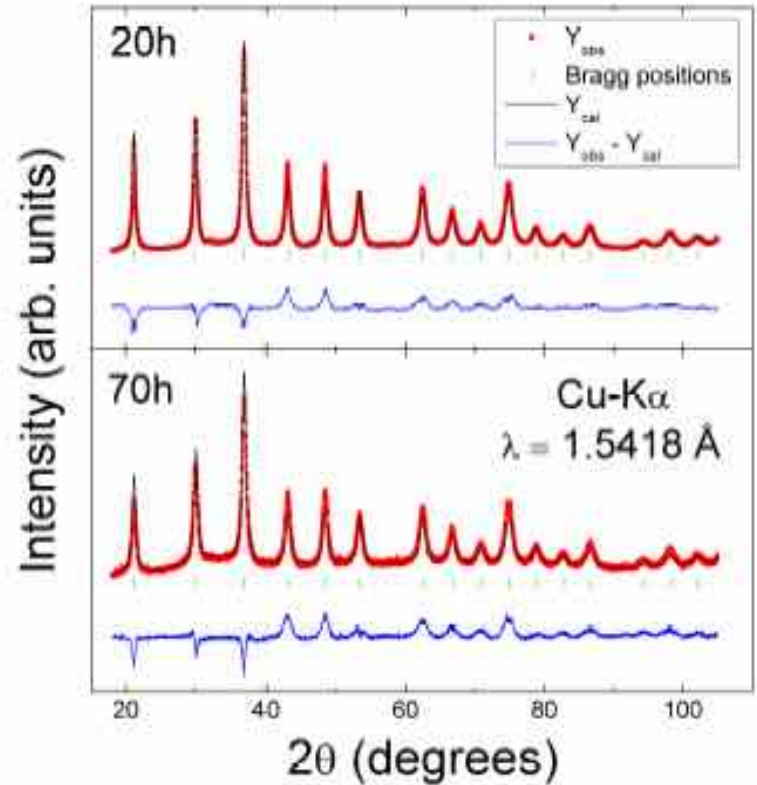
Nano-structure



Cubic $Pm-3m$



70 h, D = 11 nm

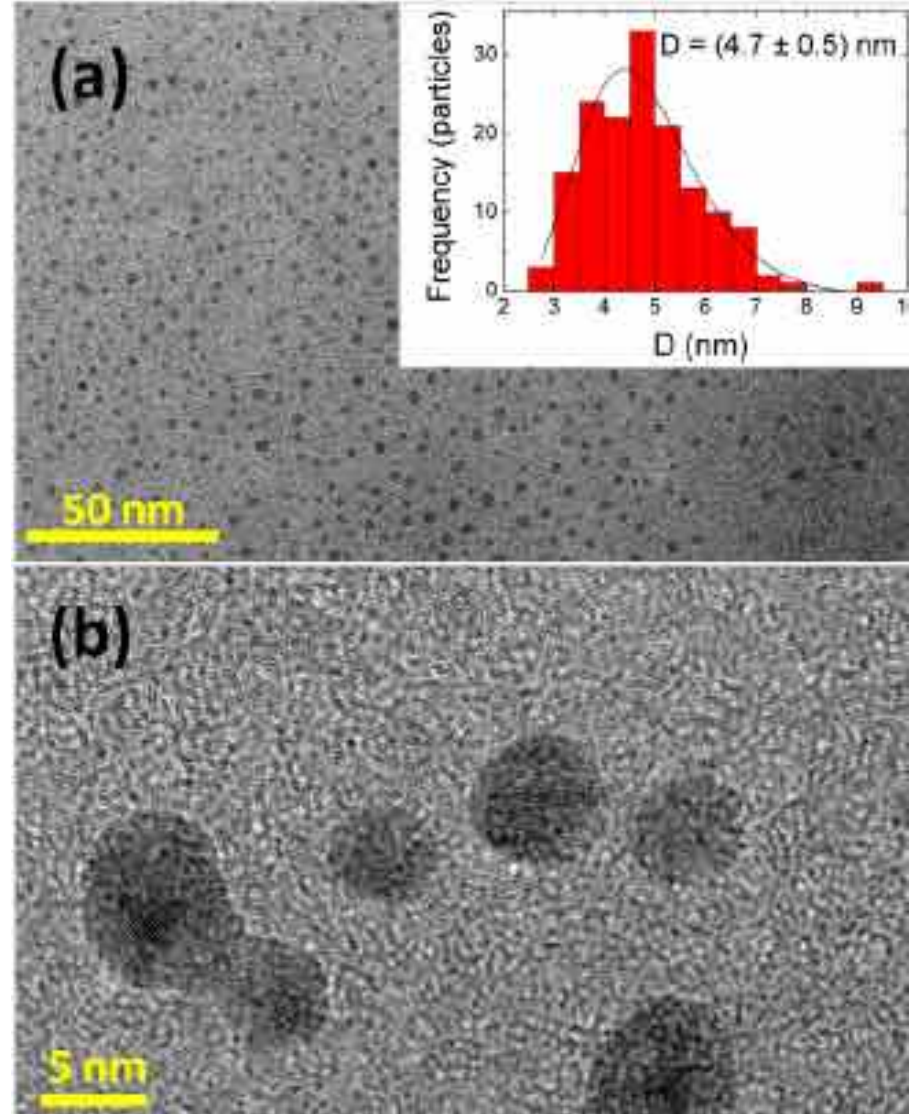
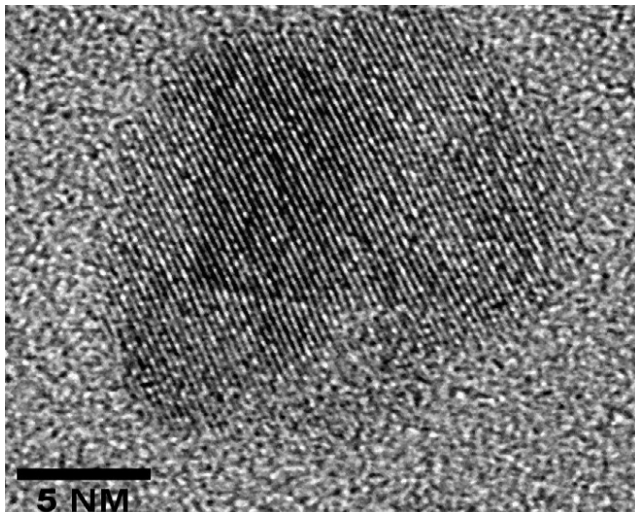


20h, D = 20 nm

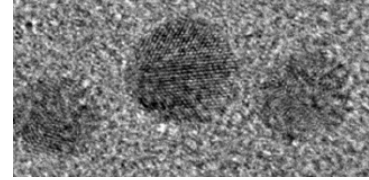
70 h, D = 12 nm

Structure (TEM at UC)

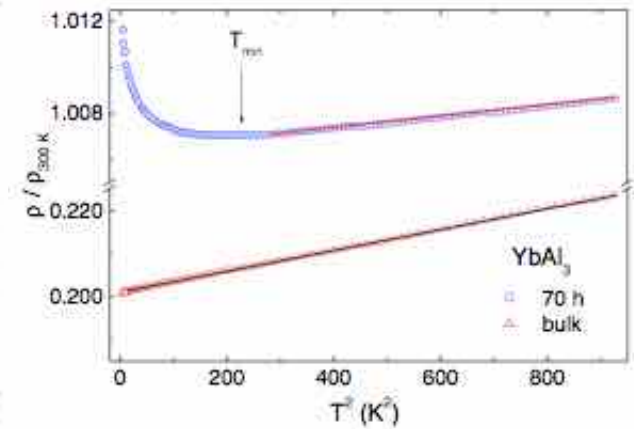
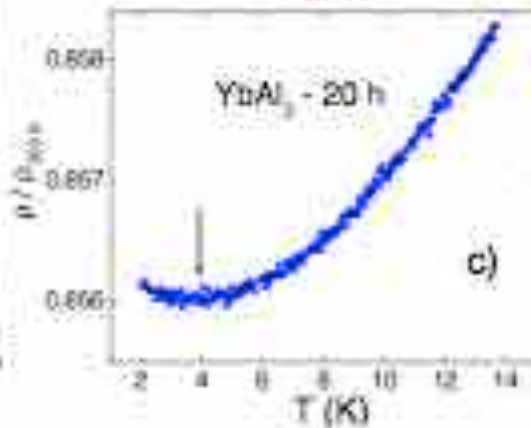
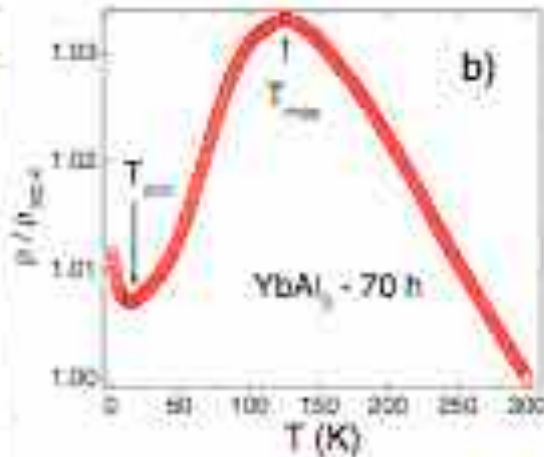
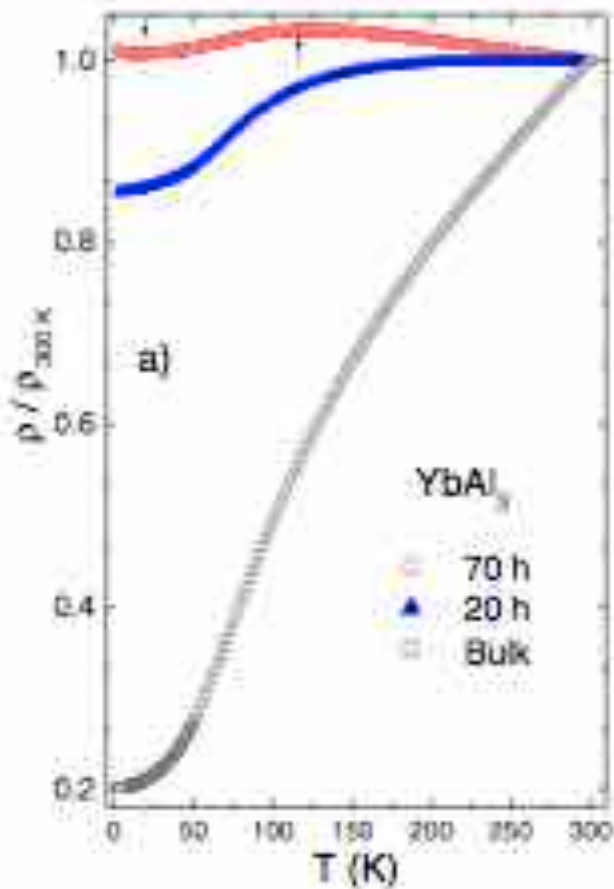
- The milling of YbAl_3 results in a decrease of particle size as it is also deduced from the TEM analysis.
- The size distribution of nanoparticles relatively narrow.



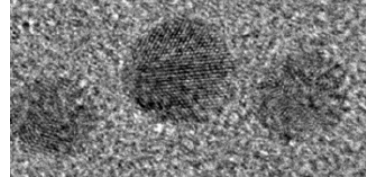
Resistivity in YbAl_3



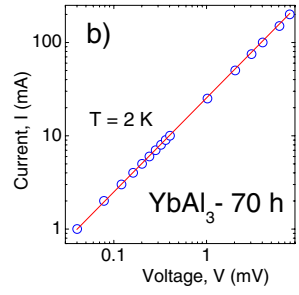
Evolution from Fermi liquid to Kondo Minimum



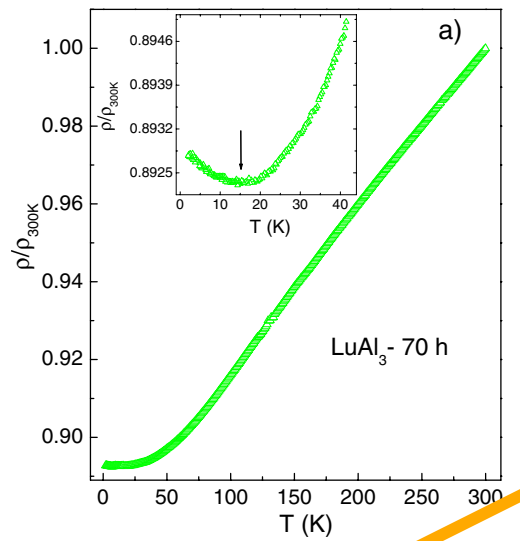
Resistivity-Analysis



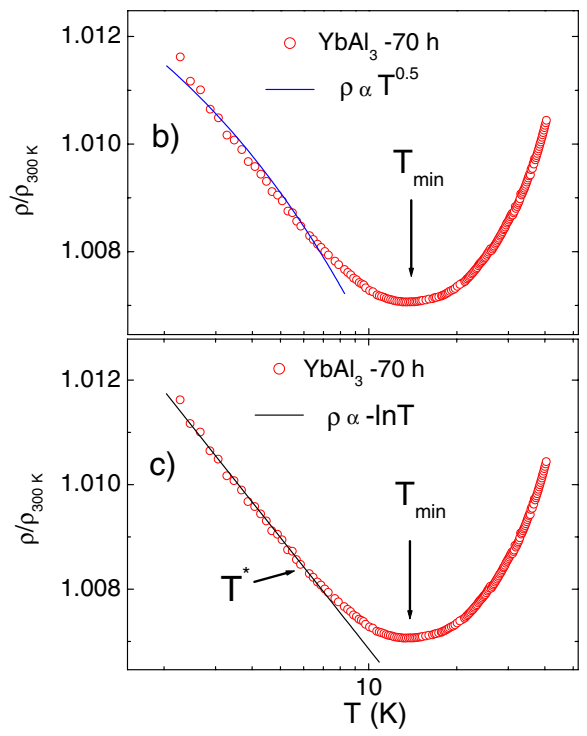
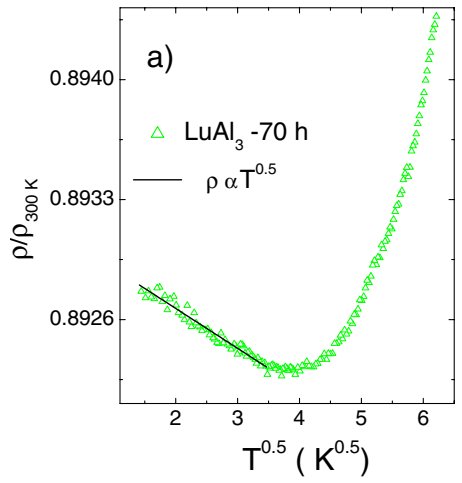
1.- Ohmic YbAl₃:



2.- QIE Effects in LuAl₃:

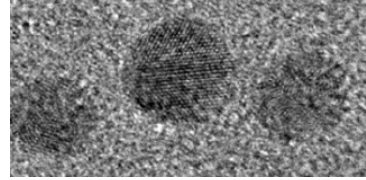


3.- $\rho \propto \ln T$ vs. $T^{1/2}$, YbAl₃

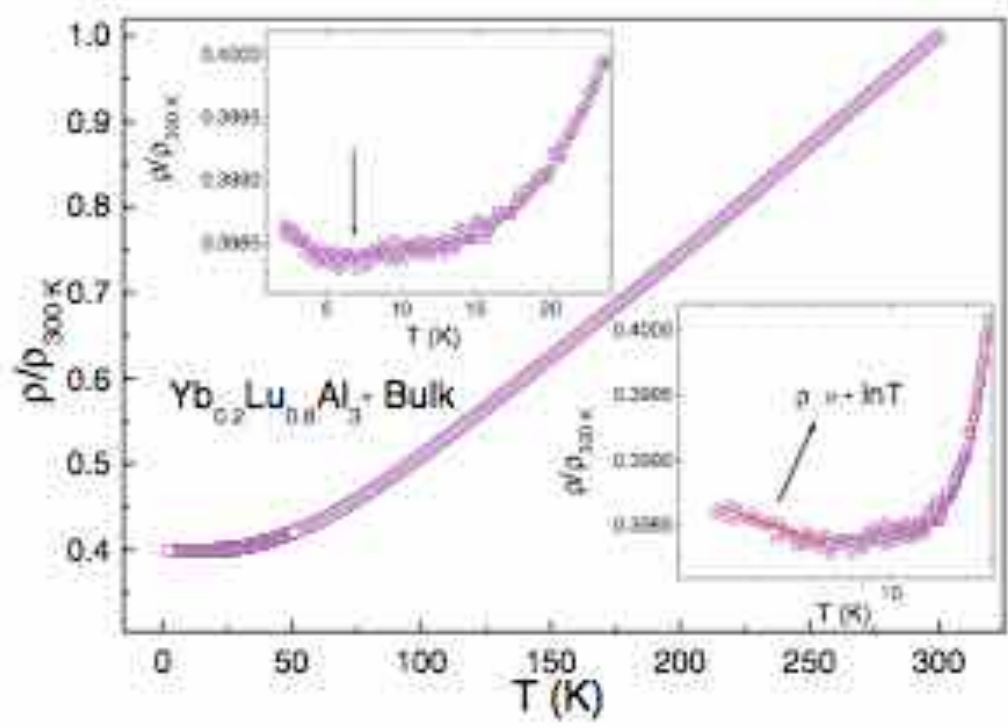


$$\Delta\sigma_{xx} = \frac{1.3}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{e^2}{2\pi h} F_0 \sqrt{\frac{2\pi k_B T}{hD}}$$

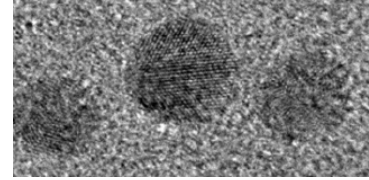
For example: Lee P A and Ramakrishnan T V 1985 Rev. Mod. Phys. 57 287



4.- In Bulk? Dilution with Lu (in YbLuAl_3) also favours the existence of resistivity minimum



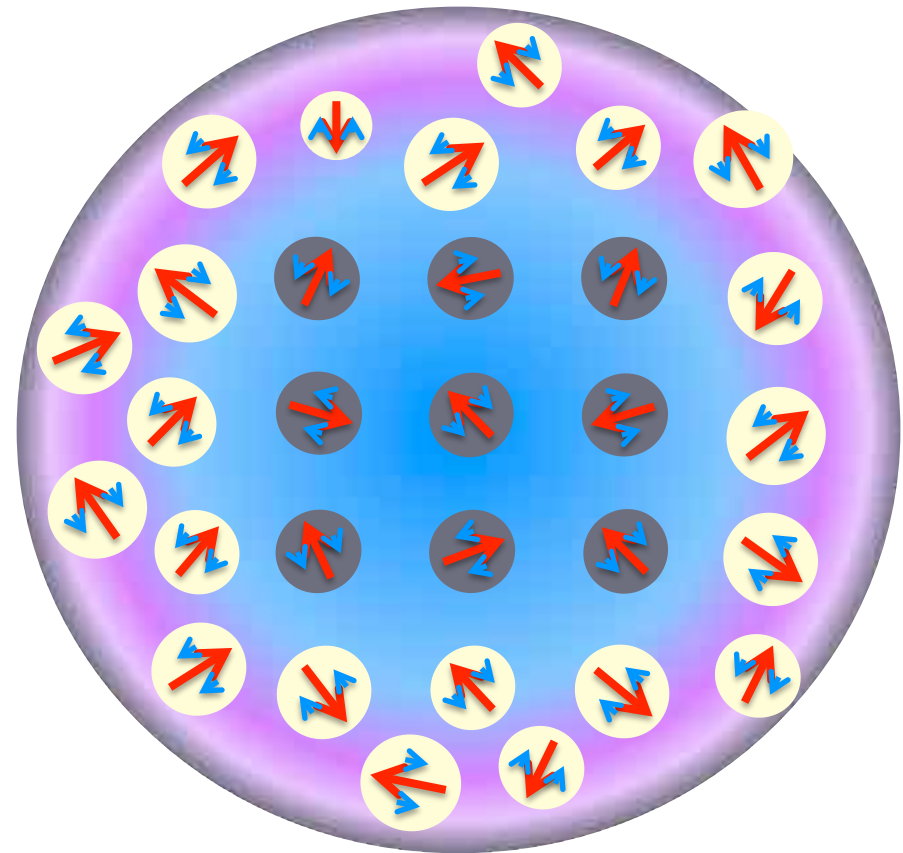
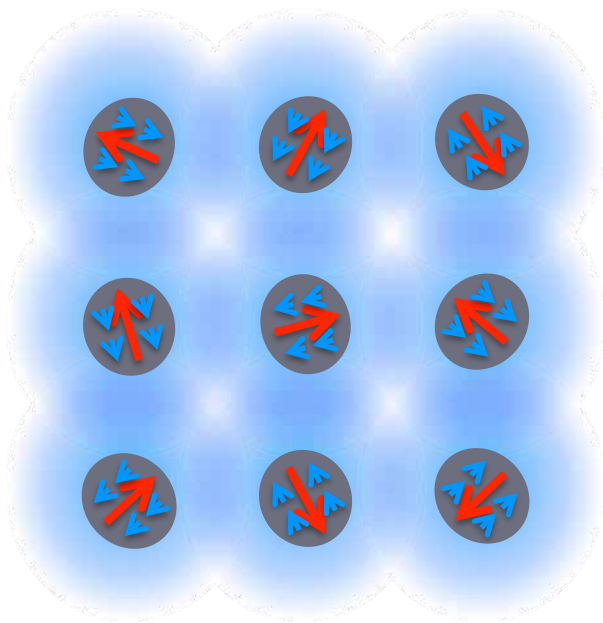
C. Echevarria-Bonet et al., JPCM 30, 135604 (2018)



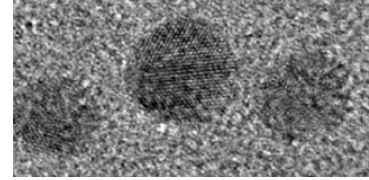
Just a sketch!

Kondo + Surface disorder in NPs

**Coherence (Kondo lattice)
in bulk**



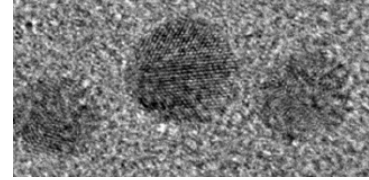
Conclusions



- The milling of RX_2 produces NPs with an AFM core and a SG shell in a SAFM behavior. Disorder in the Shell changes CEF levels, forced by distortions?
- The milling of $YbAl_3$ enables the production of large quantities of nanoparticles below 10 nm which show a drastic change in the electrical resistivity with decoherence effects. QIE (Electron-Electron Int) likely to be present ($LuAl_3$).

Near Future:

- $NdCu_2$ INS + SANS, modeling (Jesús Blanco, Oviedo)
- RX_2 NPs: Y-La dilutions: magnetic properties
- $YbNi_2$ NPs, heavy fermion FM, $YbAl_3$ dots?
- Ho,Tb-NPs (Andreas Michels, U Luxembourg)
- Griffiths Phase + SG in Magnetocaloric TbLaSiGe (bulk) (Noelia Marcano, Zaragoza, Spain)
- Verwey (Charge order) in Fe-oxides NPs in Magnetotactic Bacteria (ML Fdez, Bilbao, Spain)



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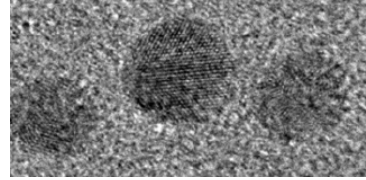
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CEMAG, Gijón 2018



Thank you!
Muchas Gracias