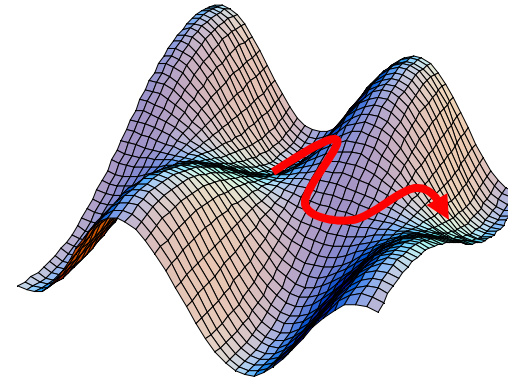


# Dynamics Modelling & Simulation



Robert Stamps received BS and MS degrees from the University of Colorado, and a PhD in Physics from Colorado State University. He was with the University of Western Australia until 2010, and is currently Professor of Solid State Physics at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. He was an IEEE Magnetics Society Distinguished Lecturer in 2008 (including visits to CBPF and elsewhere in Brazil), and he was the IEEE/IOP Wohlfarth Lecturer in 2004. He is chair of the IRUK IEEE Magnetics Society Chapter, was chair of the 2007 MML Symposium, and will co-chair the Joint European Magnetics Symposia in 2016. This is the fourth time he has lectured at an IEEE Magnetics School.



University  
of Glasgow

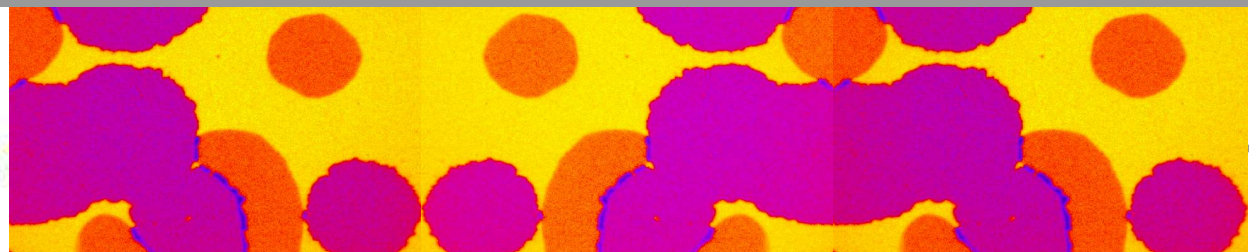


# Dynamics: Modelling and Simulation

*Robert Stamps*

IEEE Magnetics Society School 2017

 **IEEE**  
MAGNETICS



# Aim of lectures:

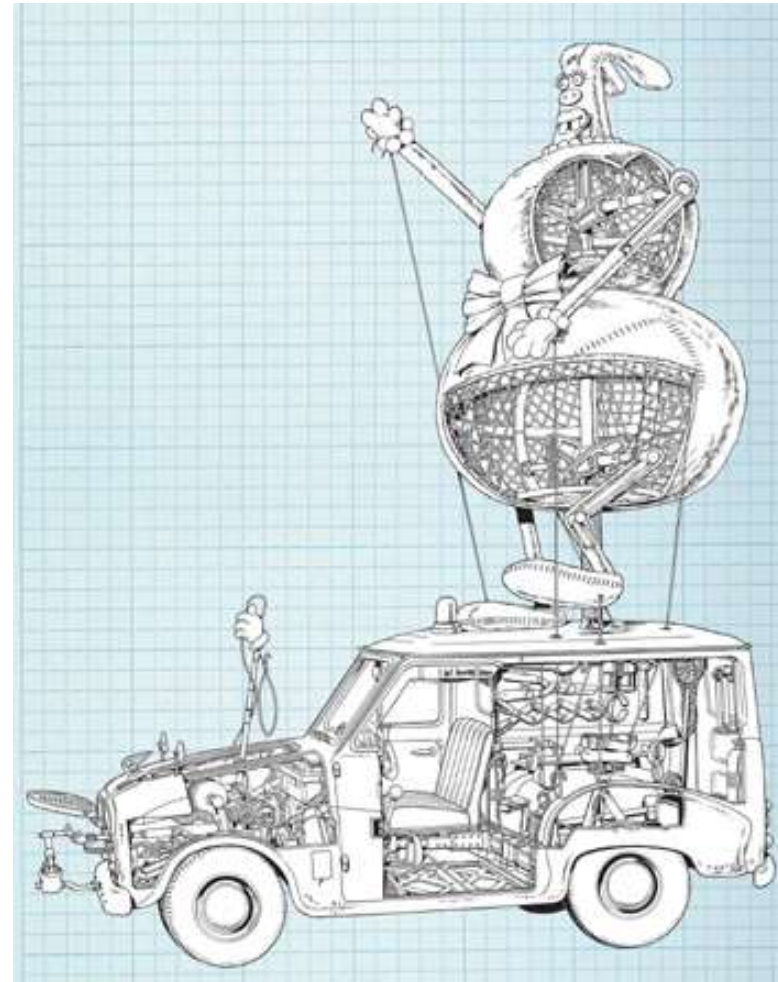
To provide an introduction to the philosophy and art of modelling of the essential physics at play in dynamic magnetic systems.

Examples will be given of how simple models can be constructed and applied to understand and interpret observable phenomena, ranging from magnetisation processes to high frequency spin wave dynamics.

Along the way, an introduction to some general tools will be provided, including Monte Carlo models and micromagnetics.

# Outline

- **Modelling Dynamics: where to start?**
  - Starting points
  - Phenomenology
- **Some generic tools:**
  - Micromagnetics
  - Mean field theory & Monte Carlo
- **Spin dynamics**
  - Torque equations
  - Spinwaves & resonances
- **Domains and domain walls**
  - Stoner-Wohlfarth models
  - Magnetic domains and domain walls



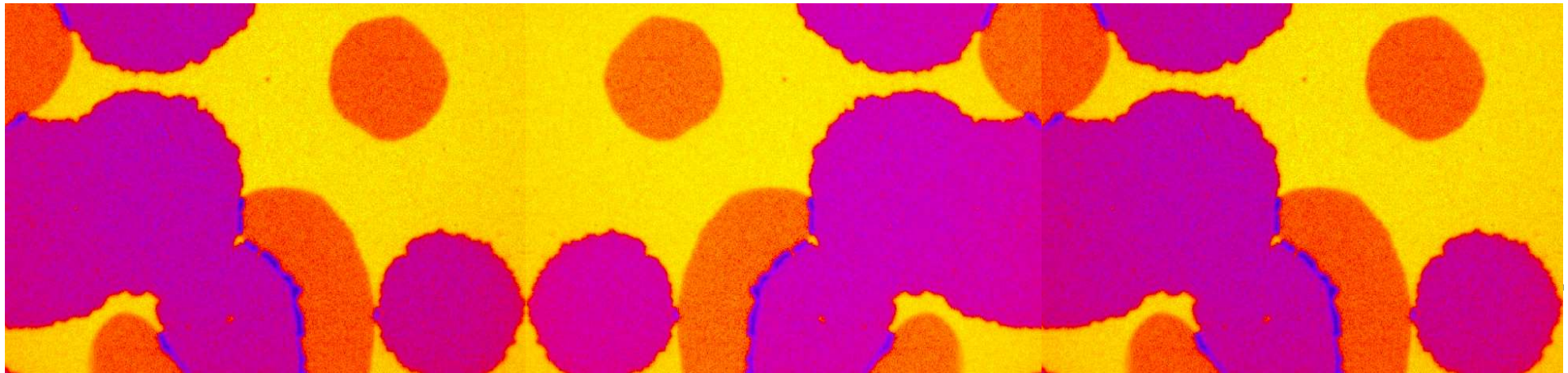
*With examples from PhD works!*



University  
of Glasgow



# Modelling: where to start?



# Models for **research & development**: magnetic ordering, dynamics, transport ...

Some starting points for model makers



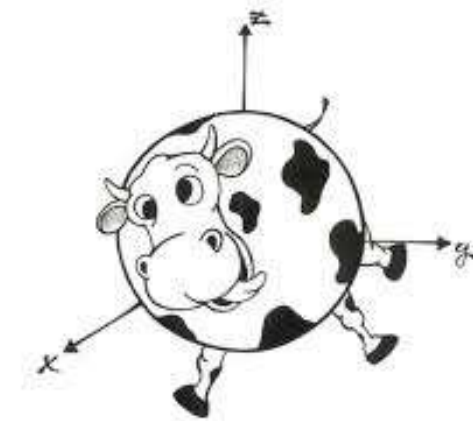
# Tools

## 1) Simulations

do not by themselves provide interpretations or insights

## 2) Analytic/conceptual models

often go where simulations cannot



The dark arts of  
simplification:

*Energies, symmetry  
and phenomenology*



# Energies

Relevant energy scales (P. W. Anderson, 1953):

	1 – 10 eV	Atomic Coulomb integrals Hund's rule exchange energy Electronic band widths Energy/state at $\varepsilon_f$
	0.1 – 1.0 eV	Crystal field splitting
	$10^{-2}$ – $10^{-1}$ eV	Spin-orbit coupling $k_B T_C$ or $k_B T_N$
<i>magnon region</i>	$10^{-4}$ eV	Magnetic spin-spin coupling Interaction of a spin with 10 kG field
	$10^{-6}$ – $10^{-5}$ eV	Hyperfine electron-nuclear coupling

# Concept: Exchange Energy

Pauli exclusion **separates** like spins:



Can be **energetically favourable**: *suppose* alignment determines average separation. Then *if*:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \langle r_a \rangle \sim 0.3 \text{ nm} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{e^2}{r_a} \sim 4.8 \text{ eV} \\ \langle r_p \rangle \sim 0.31 \text{ nm} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{e^2}{r_p} \sim 4.75 \text{ eV} \end{array} \right\} E_{\uparrow\uparrow} - E_{\uparrow\downarrow} = 0.05 \text{ eV} (580 \text{ K})$$

... equivalent field:  $\frac{E_{\uparrow\uparrow} - E_{\uparrow\downarrow}}{\mu_B} = 870 \text{ T}$

# Exchange Interactions

**Exchange:** electrostatic repulsion + quantum mechanics.

Hamiltonian as **spin functions:** (Dirac & Heisenberg)

$$H = -J_{1,2} \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2$$

*Pauli spin matrices*

Generalised for multi-electron orbitals (**van Vleck**):

$$H_{ex} = -\sum J(r_a - r_b) S(r_a) \cdot S(r_b)$$

*total spin at sites  $r$*

# Using Symmetry: Exchange

Measurable moment **density** (not an operator):

$$m(r) = \text{Tr}(\rho \hat{M}(r))$$

*density matrix*

**Exchange** still in Heisenberg form:

$$E_{ex} = \sum J m(r_j) \cdot m(r_{j+\delta})$$

*neighbours*

**Atomic to continuum:** Expand  $m$  field about  $r_j$

$$m(r_{j+\delta}) = m(r_j) + [(\delta \cdot \nabla) m(r_{j+\delta})]_{j=\delta} + \frac{1}{2} [(\delta \cdot \nabla)^2 m(r_{j+\delta})]_{j=\delta} + \dots$$

# Using Symmetry: Exchange

When **lattice symmetry** allows:

$$\delta_x \frac{\partial m}{\partial x} + (-\delta_x) \frac{\partial m}{\partial x} = 0$$

Example: **isotropic medium**

$$E_{ex} = m_x (\nabla^2 m_x) + m_y (\nabla^2 m_y) + m_z (\nabla^2 m_z)$$

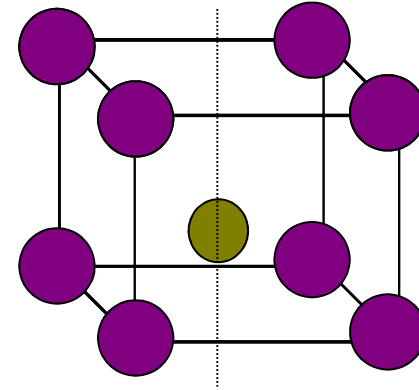
**Exchange energy must be** compatible with symmetry of the crystal

$$E_{ex} = \sum C_{kl} \frac{\partial m_\alpha(r)}{\partial r_k} \frac{\partial m_\alpha(r)}{\partial r_l}$$

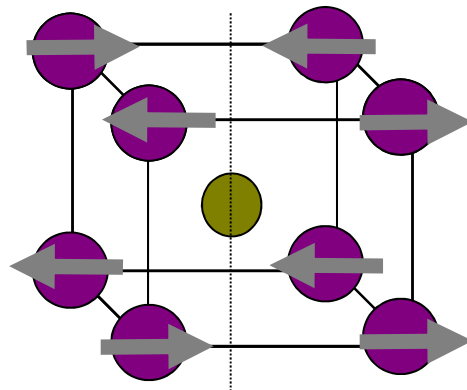
# Dzyaloshinski-Moriya Interaction

**Asymmetric** interaction possible when **inversion symmetry** is absent:

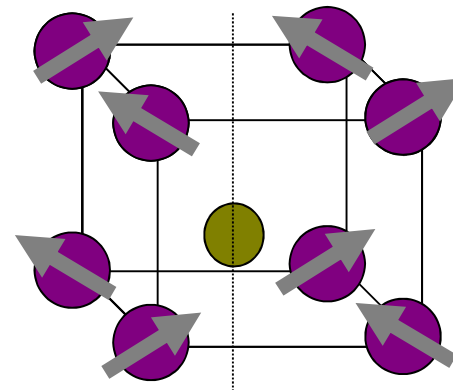
$$H = \sum [JS_i \cdot S_j - D \cdot (S_i \times S_j)]$$



Describes weak ferromagnetism of canted antiferromagnets:



$D = 0$

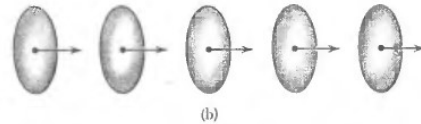
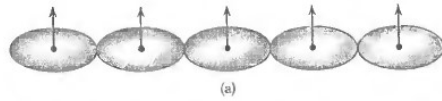


$D \neq 0$



# Using Symmetry: Anisotropy

Local **atomic environment** affects spin orientation:



[Kittel, Introduction to Solid State]

*Spin orbit  
interaction and  
crystal field effects*

Anisotropies & **symmetries**: ( $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{m}/M_s$ )

- Uniaxial:  $E_{ani}(u_z) = E_{ani}(-u_z)$

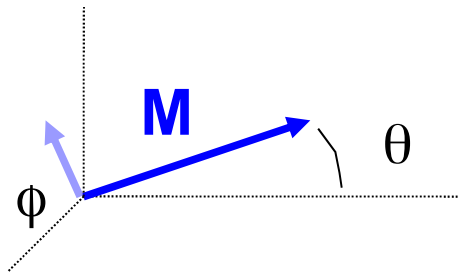
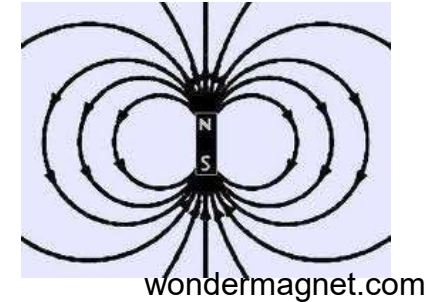
$$E_{ani} = -K_u^{(1)} u_z^2 - K_u^{(2)} u_z^4 + \dots$$

- Cubic:  $E_{ani}(u_x, u_y, u_z) = E_{ani}(-u_x, u_y, u_z)$ , etc.

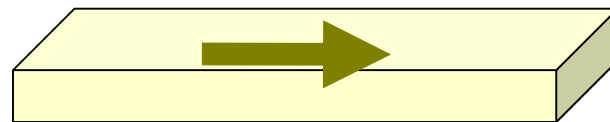
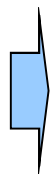
$$E_{ani} = K_4 (u_x^2 u_y^2 + u_x^2 u_z^2 + u_y^2 u_z^2) + \dots$$

# Using Symmetry: Dipolar Fields

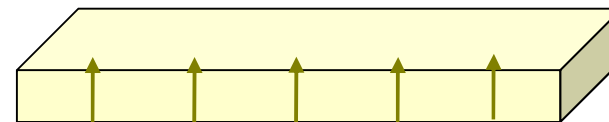
All moments interact throughout a sample via dipolar fields. Sample **shape** creates an **effective** anisotropy:



$$E_{ani} = \frac{M^2 V}{2\mu_0} (N_x \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi + N_y \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi + N_z \cos^2 \theta)$$



*Easy direction*



*Hard direction*



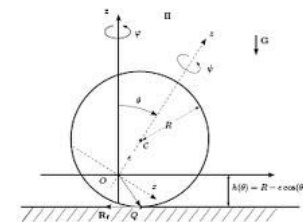
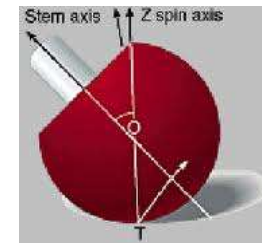
# It's only Angular Momentum

Everything (nearly) important for magnetic dynamics can be understood from a toy...

Precession  
Dissipation  
Instabilities

# It's Only Angular Momentum

Bohr and Pauli Study  
Angular Momentum



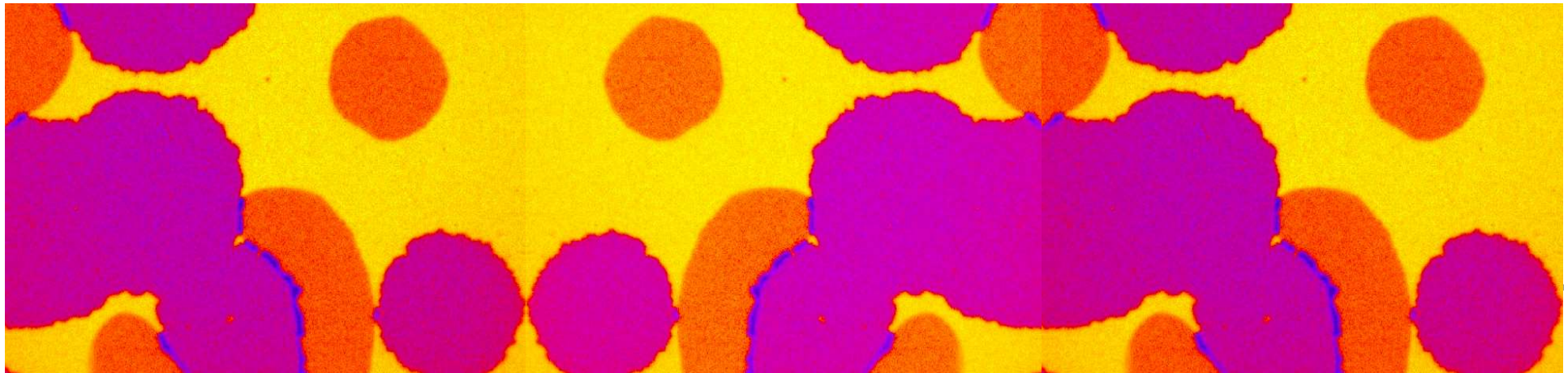
Interesting video at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=58sryfWQOa0>



University  
of Glasgow



# Some generic tools



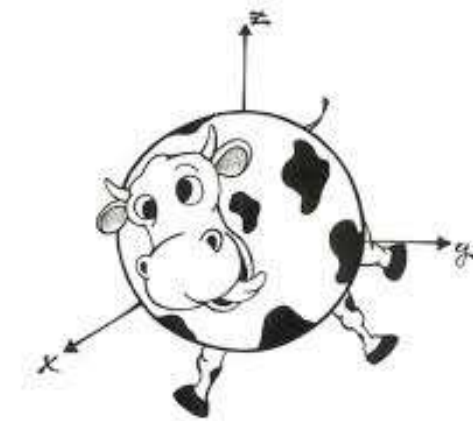
# Tools

## 1) Simulations

do not by themselves provide interpretations or insights

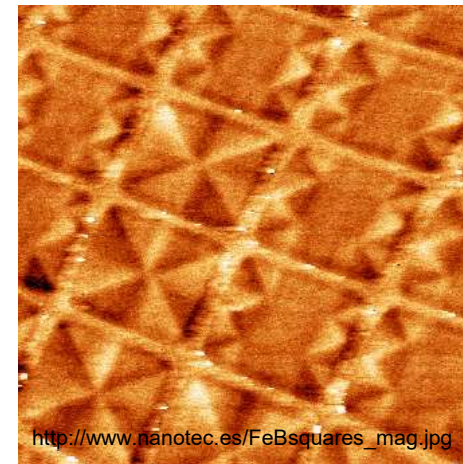
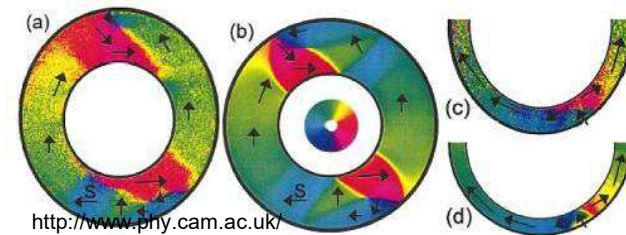
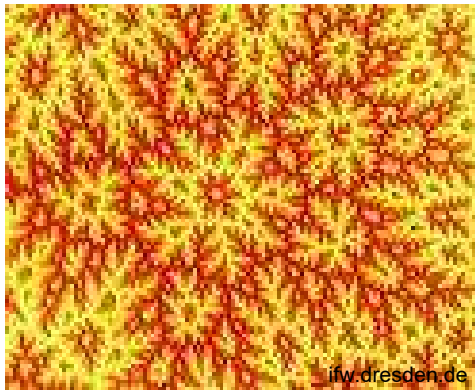
## 2) Analytic/conceptual models

often go where simulations cannot



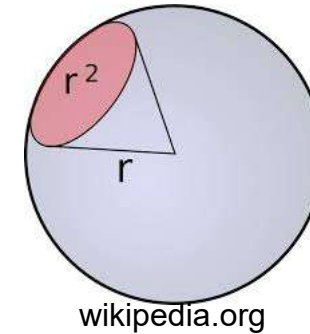
# Domain Patterns

Pattern detail depends on competition between dipolar interactions, exchange and anisotropy.

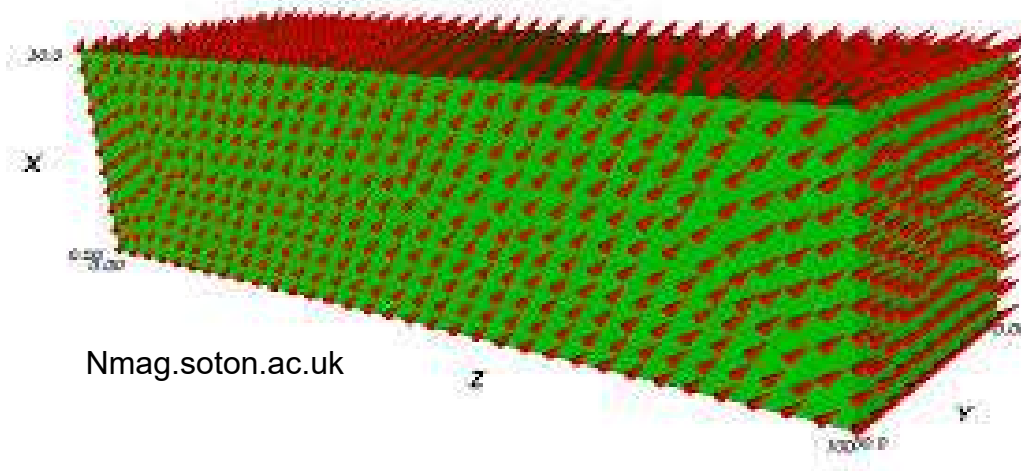


# The Problem of Dipolar Interactions

Magnetic fields decrease slowly  
with distance-- sample shape matters



Magnetisation is generally not uniform:



# Tools: Micromagnetics

# Minimising the Energy

**Goal:** find stable (and metastable) configurations that define minima of the total energy  $E$

$$E(\vec{u}) = \int \left[ A(\nabla \vec{u})^2 - K_n (\hat{n} \cdot \vec{u})^2 - \mu_o M_s (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{H}_a + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{h}_d) \right] dV$$

*exchange*

*anisotropy*

*applied field*

*magnetostatic*

$$\vec{u} = \frac{\vec{M}}{M_s}$$

*reduced M*

**Minimisation = vanishing torques:**

$$\delta E = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{u} \times \left( -\frac{\partial E}{\partial \vec{u}} \right) = 0$$

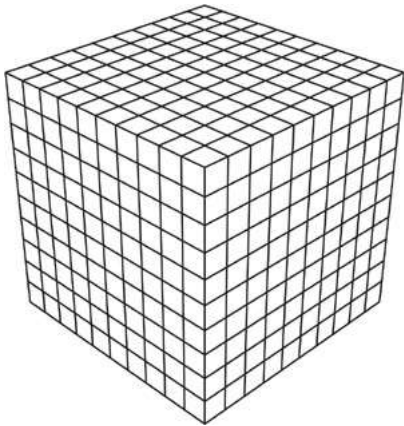


# A Numerical Method: Finite Differences

Convert differential equations to difference equations:

$$u_{\beta}(x + \Delta x) = u_{\beta}(x) + \Delta x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_{\beta}(x) + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta)^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u_{\beta}(x)$$

$$u_{\beta}(x - \Delta x) = u_{\beta}(x) - \Delta x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_{\beta}(x) + \frac{1}{2} (\Delta)^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u_{\beta}(x)$$



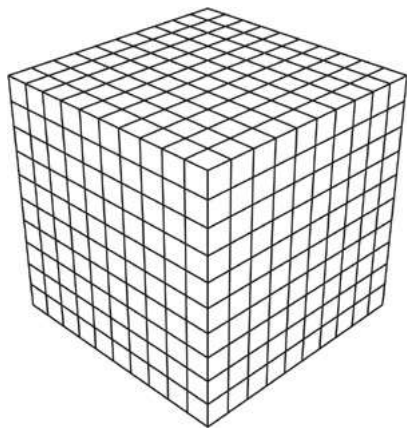
Divide **magnetisation** into blocks, replace differentials, construct torque equations for **each** block

# Magnetostatic Terms

**Maxwell equations** can define a magnetostatic potential (if we are not worried about an electric field during dynamics)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= \mu_o (\vec{H} + \vec{M}) \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{B} &= 0 \\ \nabla \times \vec{H} &= \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \approx 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \vec{H} &= -\nabla \Phi \\ \nabla^2 \Phi &= -\nabla \cdot \vec{M} \end{aligned}$$

*Blocks are sources of H field*

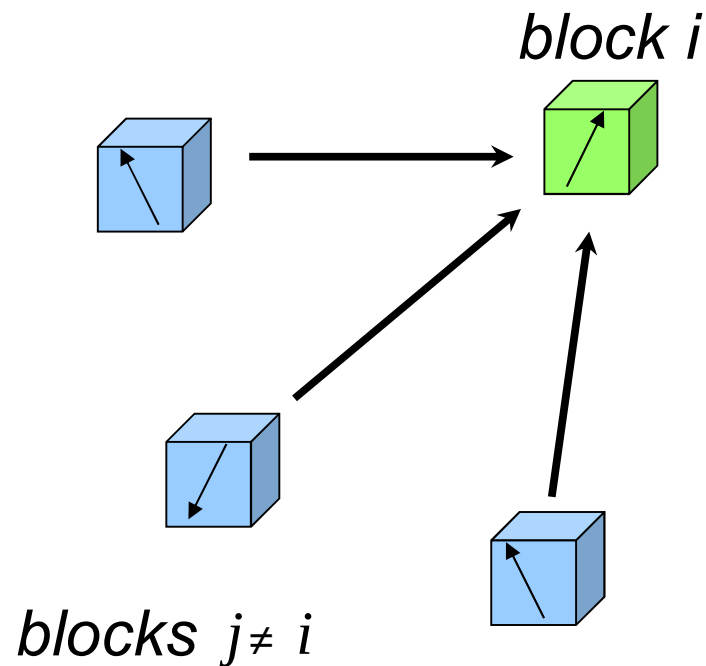


The magnetostatic terms link **all blocks** throughout the sample

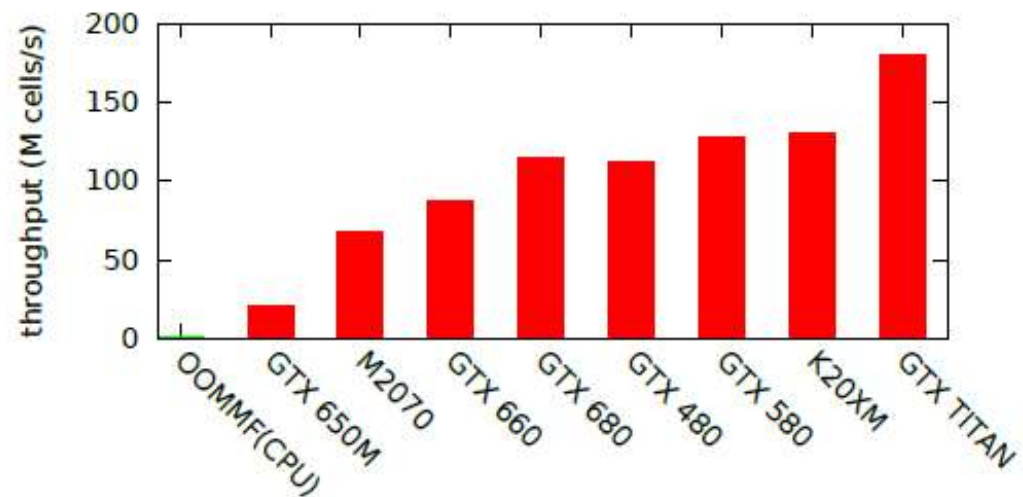
# Note: Micromagnetics and GPU's

The magnetostatic calculation involves convolution over all blocks:

$$\vec{H}(i) = \hat{K}(i, j) * \vec{M}(j)$$



*Accelerate calculations using  
Graphical Processing Units*



[Vansteenkiste, et al. arXiv:1406.7635]

# Example: Mumax3

## // Standard Problem #4

```
SetGridsize(256, 64, 1)  
SetCellsize(500e-9/256, 125e-9/64, 3e-9)
```

} *define grid and sizes (m)*

```
Msat = 800e3  
Aex = 13e-12  
alpha = 0.02
```

} *parameters (SI)*

**Information & Download:**

<http://mumax.github.io/index.html>

```
m = uniform(1, .1, 0)  
relax()  
save(m) // relaxed state
```

} *initialise M*  
} *find zero torque configuration*  
} *save configuration*

```
autosave(m, 200e-12)  
tableautosave(10e-12)
```

} *save configurations every 0.2 ns*  
} *create table of m(t)*

```
B_ext = vector(-24.6E-3, 4.3E-3, 0)  
run(1e-9)
```

} *apply magnetic field*  
} *time evolution*

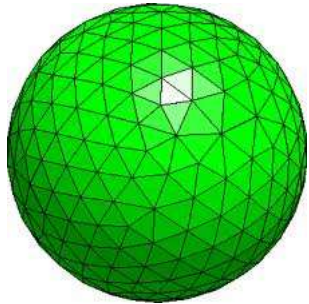
# Run Standard Problem 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DPQFppEbqf4>

# Approaches (with example codes)

**Finite difference:** mumax3, OOMMF

**Finite element:** useful for complex geometries



<http://nmag.soton.ac.uk>

**Nmag**

<http://nmag.soton.ac.uk/nmag/>

**MAGPAR**

<http://magnet.atp.tuwien.ac.at/>

**Atomistic:** model atomic lattice scale variations

**VAMPIRE**

<http://www-users.york.ac.uk/~rfl500/research/vampire/>

*... and many more !*

# Limitations!

Lengthscales are limited

Shapes are approximate

Timescales are limited

Classical limits: dynamics  
& thermodynamics

# Questions?



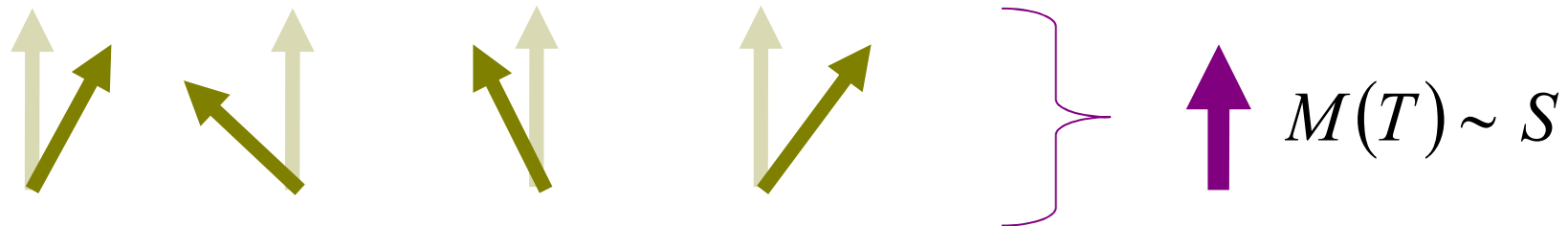


# Tools:

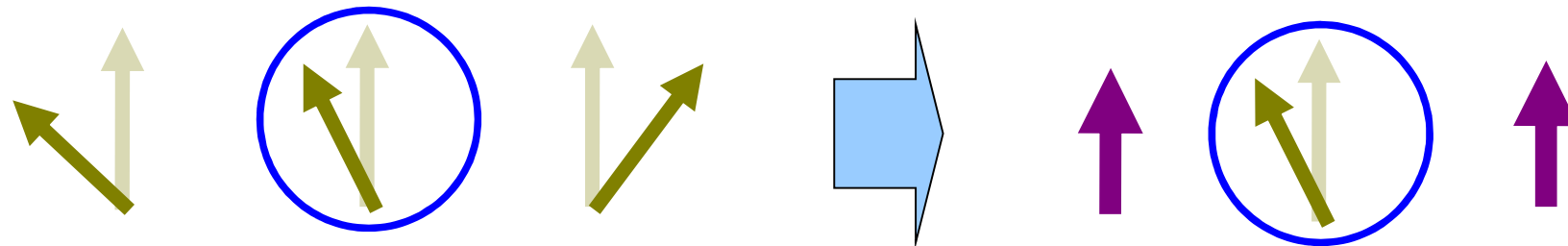
## Mean field approximation

# Thermal Fluctuations

**Reduction** in magnetisation:



Replace local site field with **averaged effective field**:



Dynamic correlations are replaced by a **static field**:

$$H = -2\sum J_{ex} S_i \cdot S_j \approx -2\sum S_i \cdot B_{ex} \quad B_{ex} = \frac{2ZJ_{ex}}{Ng\mu_B} S$$

# Heisenberg Model and Mean Field

Heisenberg exchange energy:

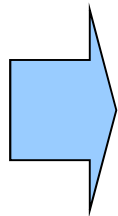
$$H = -\sum J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

Thermal averaged magnetisation (N moments):

$$\vec{M} = Ng\mu_B \vec{S}$$

Fluctuations:

$$\vec{s}_i = \vec{S}_i - \vec{S}$$



$$H = -\sum J_{ij} (\vec{s}_i + \vec{S}) \cdot (\vec{s}_j + \vec{S})$$

# Heisenberg Model and Mean Field


Z near neighbours:

$$H = -J \sum \vec{s}_i \cdot \vec{s}_j - 2ZJ \sum \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S} + ZN |\vec{S}|^2$$

Second term is the **mean field**:

$$\vec{B}_{ex} = -2ZJ \vec{S}$$

Mean field approximation: neglect first term (**correlations**)

$$H_{fluctuations} = -J \sum \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$


# Reminder: Paramagnetism

Probabilities to be antiparallel (down) and parallel (up):

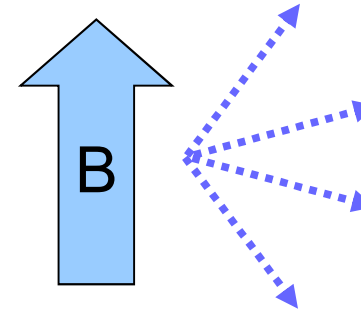
$$\frac{n_{\downarrow}}{N} \propto \exp\left(\frac{-\mu_B B}{k_B T}\right) \quad \frac{n_{\uparrow}}{N} \propto \exp\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{k_B T}\right)$$

Magnetisation = difference:

$$\Rightarrow S = \left( \frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{N} \right) = \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{k_B T}\right)$$

# Generalised Paramagnetism

Angular momentum states  
(  $J = 1/2, 3/2, 5/2, \dots$  ):



Brillouin function for any  $J$ :

$$B_J(x) = \frac{2J+1}{2J} \coth\left(\frac{2J+1}{2J}x\right) - \frac{1}{2J} \coth\left(\frac{1}{2J}x\right)$$

$x = \frac{gJ\mu_B B}{k_B T}$

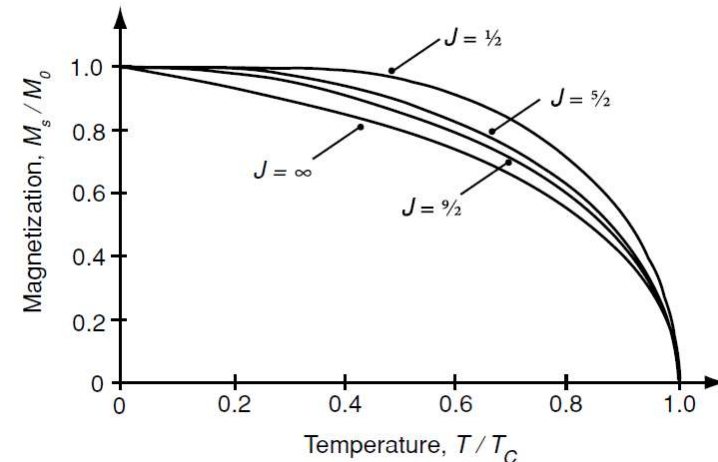
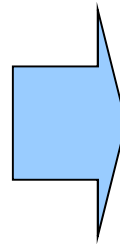
Average magnetisation from:  $M \propto S = B_J(x)$

# Exchange: Replace B by $B_{ex}$

Average M with **mean field**  $B_{ex}$ :

$$\vec{S} = B_J \left( \frac{g\mu_B Z J_{ex} \vec{S}}{k_B T} \right)$$

Plot left and right hand sides to see graphical solution:



# Note: Landau Ginzburg Theory

A **general form** for mean field theory, created by Landau and Ginzburg, begins with an energy that is a function of an **order parameter**  $\psi$  :

$$F = \int \left[ F_0 + \frac{1}{2} a |\psi|^2 + \frac{1}{4} b |\psi|^4 + \dots + \frac{1}{2} \lambda |\nabla\psi|^2 \dots \right] d^3r$$

Allowed terms must be consistent with the **symmetries** of the problem that the order parameter  $\psi$  must obey. **The equilibrium value of the order parameter minimises F**. The coefficients represent various contributions to the system's energy. **Temperature** is introduced in the first coefficient:

$$a = \alpha(T - T_c)$$



# L-G and the Ferromagnet

Let the order parameter be the ferromagnetic  $M$  that is uniformly magnetised over a volume  $V$ :

$$\psi = M \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{F}{V} = F_o + \frac{1}{2}\alpha(T - T_c)M^2 + \frac{1}{4}bM^4$$

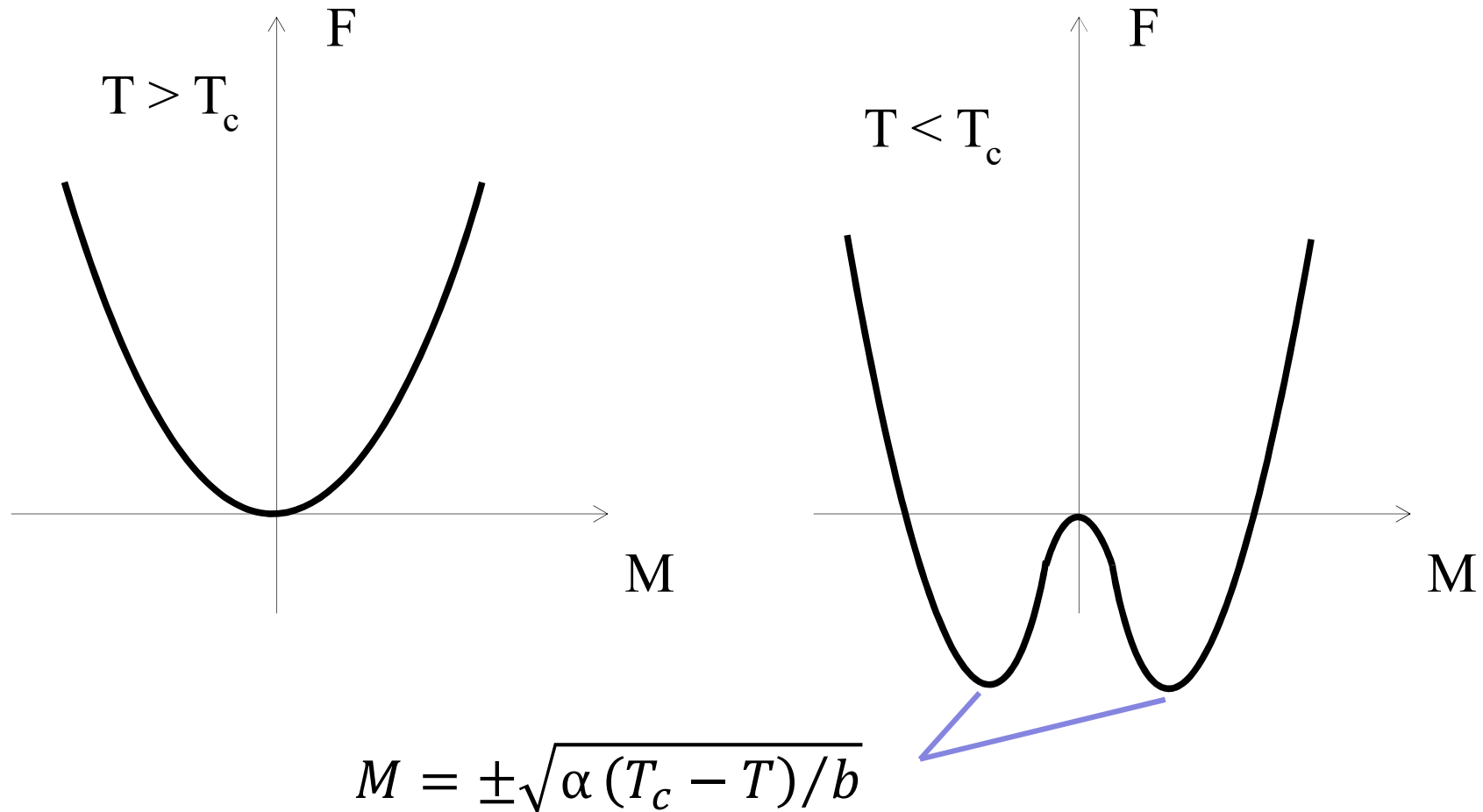
This energy is easily minimised with respect to  $M$ :

$$\frac{d}{dM} \left( \frac{F}{V} \right) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha(T - T_c)M + bM^3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad M = \pm \sqrt{\alpha(T_c - T)/b}$$

# Energy Landscapes

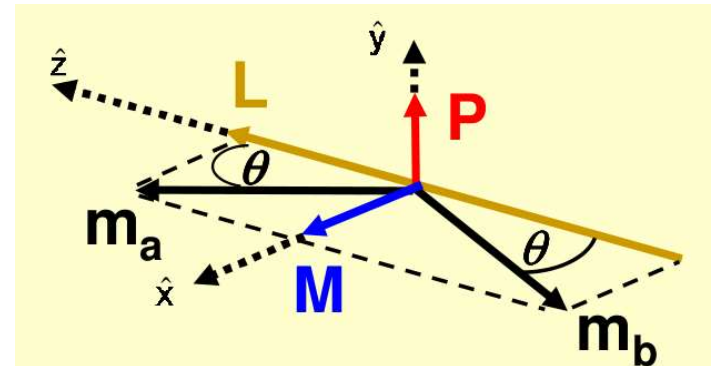
This can be pictured using a plot of the energy landscape for  $F(M)$ :



# Example: Multiferroics

**Coupled** order  
parameters: **M** & **P**

*(M = sum of canted  
antiferromagnetic  
sublattices)*

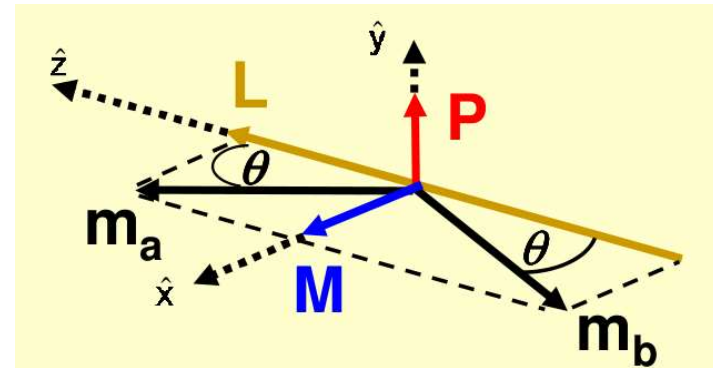


## Challenges:

- correlations between spin and charge distributions
- how to describe dynamics?
- how to describe effects of thermal fluctuations?

# Example Application: Multiferroics

**Coupled** order parameters: **M** & **P**



**Approach:**  
(*Vincinsius Gunawan PhD 2012*)

Mean field approximation for **free energy**:

$$F = F_{FE}(P) - \vec{P} \cdot \vec{E} - \lambda \vec{m}_a \cdot \vec{m}_b - K(m_{az}^2 + m_{bz}^2) - \vec{m} \cdot \vec{H} + F_{ME}$$

polarization part

magnetization part

magneto-  
electric  
coupling

# Example Application: Multiferroics

**Brillouin function** for components of  $\mathbf{m}$ :

$$m_{s,\alpha} = g\mu_B J B_J(\vec{m}_s \cdot \vec{B}_s)$$

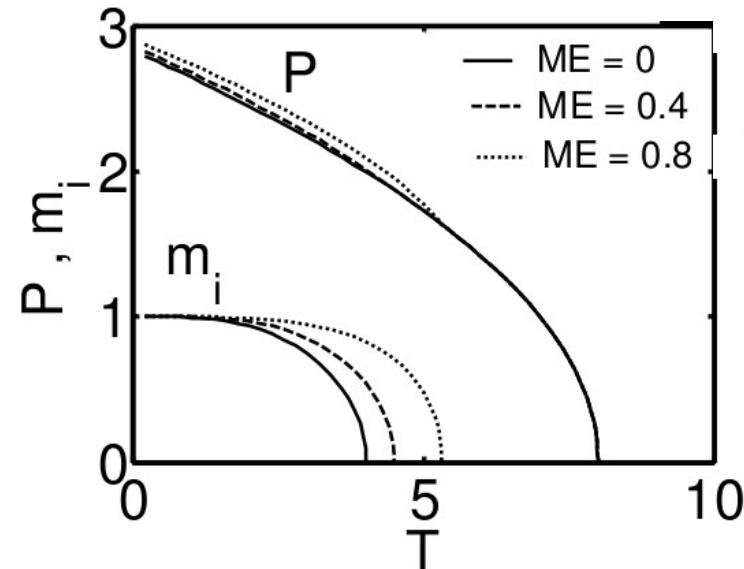
**Landau-Ginzburg** mean field theory for  $P$ :

$$F_{FE}(P) = \alpha_o(T - T_c)P^2 + \beta P^4$$

**Minimise** free energy for  $P$  and  $\theta$ :

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} F = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dP} F = 0$$



[Gunawan et al., JPCM (2011)]

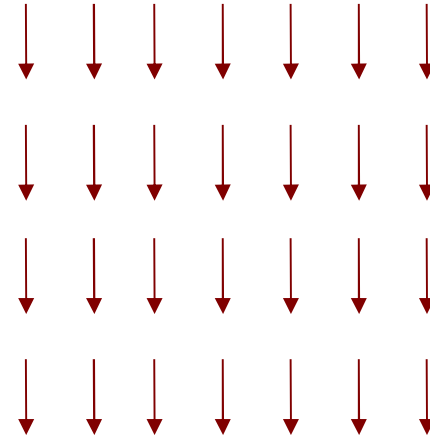
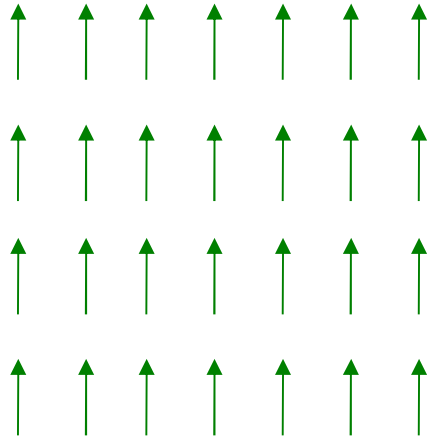
# Break!



# Tools: Monte Carlo methods

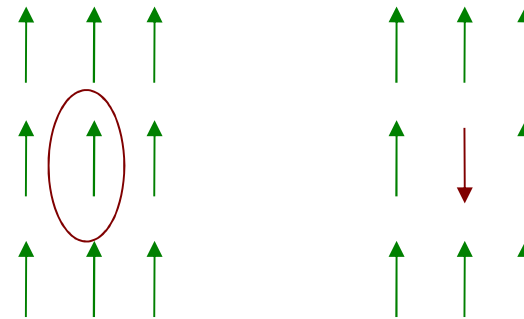
# Ising model and Monte Carlo

Suppose two possible states: 'up' and 'down'



Suppose near neighbour interactions. Probability to flip depends on 4 neighbours:

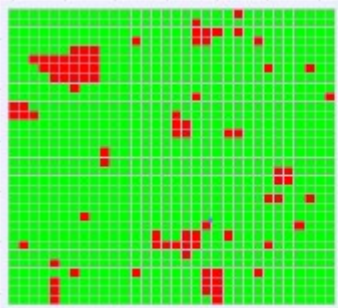
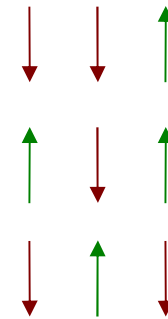
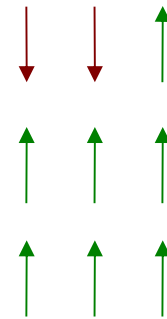
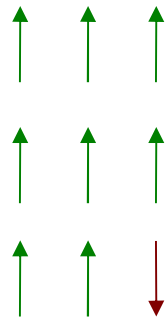
$$P(-S_i) \sim \exp\left(\frac{-J(\sum S_i)}{k_B T}\right)$$



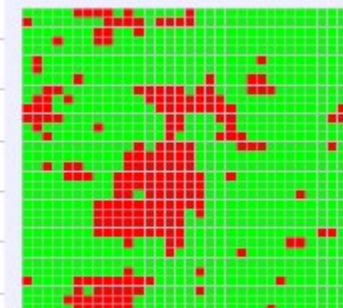


# Sampling Random Fluctuations

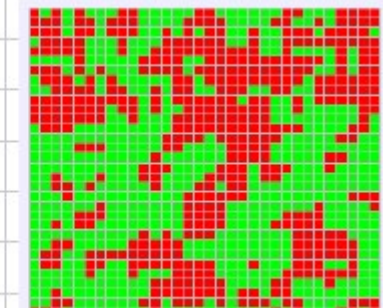
Thermal fluctuations and 2 dimensional Ising model:



Low  $T$



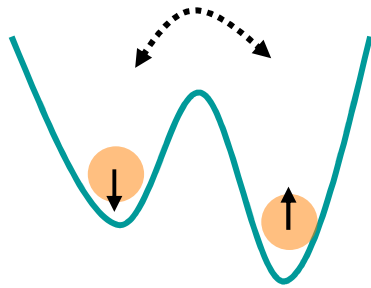
Near  $T_c$



Above  $T_c$

# Constructing Averages

Fluctuations drive the system towards thermal **equilibrium**.



$$P_{\uparrow\downarrow} \sim \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E(\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow)}{k_B T}\right)$$

$$P_{\downarrow\uparrow} \sim \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E(\downarrow \Rightarrow \uparrow)}{k_B T}\right)$$

Sample a **distribution** for averages:

$$A = \sum A(\sigma)\rho(\sigma) \quad \rho(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(-\frac{E(\sigma)}{k_B T}\right)$$

**Key idea:**  $\sigma$  is a configuration from the **ensemble of equilibrium spin configurations**

# The Metropolis Algorithm

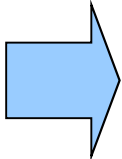
**Sample from  $\{\sigma\}$ :** Start with some  $\xi$ , generate a  $\sigma'$  with a single spin flip.

**Rules:** Calculate  $\Delta E = E(\xi) - E(\sigma')$

- 1) If  $\Delta E < 0$ , accept  $\sigma'$  as an equilibrium fluctuation
- 2) If  $\Delta E > 0$ , accept  $\sigma'$  if  $P(\Delta E) < 1$

For **equilibrium** fluctuations,  $P(\Delta E)$  must satisfy **detailed balance**:

$$P(\sigma')W(\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow) = P(\xi)W(\downarrow \Rightarrow \uparrow)$$

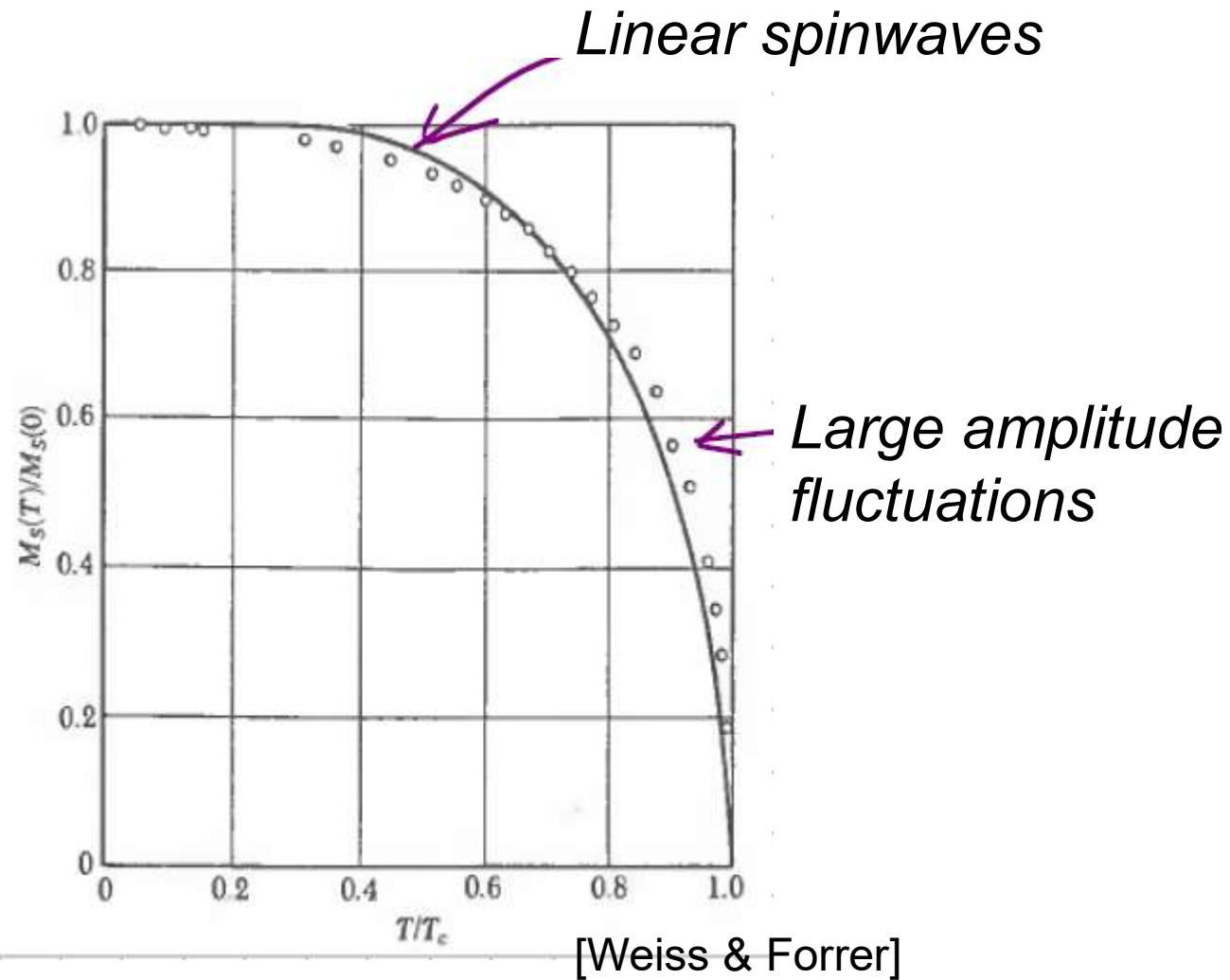

$$\frac{W(\uparrow \Rightarrow \downarrow)}{W(\downarrow \Rightarrow \uparrow)} = \frac{P(\xi)}{P(\sigma')} = P(\Delta E) = \exp\left(-\frac{E(\xi) - E(\sigma')}{k_B T}\right)$$

# Monte Carlo for the Ising Model

OSP Library 2.0 released December 8, 2008  
Open Source Physics Project  
[www.opensourcephysics.org](http://www.opensourcephysics.org)

# Note on phase transitions: Scaling near *critical points*

# Schematic of the Transition (2<sup>nd</sup> order)



# Scaling

Mean field theory:  $M(T) \sim (T - T_C)^{1/2}$

Reality includes correlations:  $M(T) \sim (T - T_C)^\beta \quad \beta \approx 0.34$

**Note** on dimensionality:

- Ultra thin films ~ two dimensional systems
- fluctuations destroy long range order
- nano-thermodynamics for small elements (~ 0 D!)

*Remember this for later when we talk about domain wall creep*

# Example: Interacting magnetic particles

## Challenges:

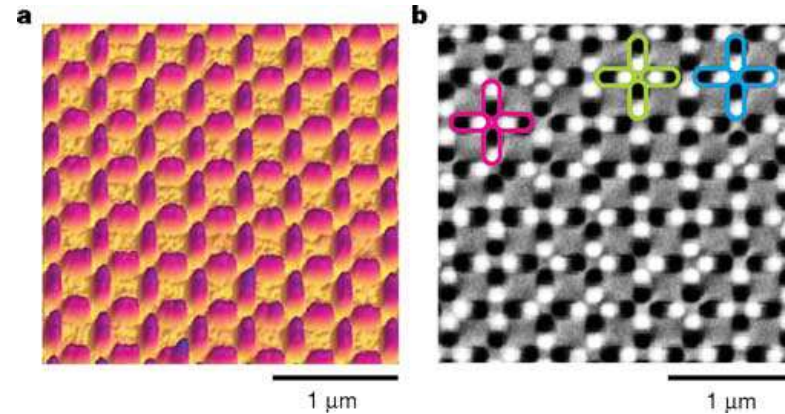
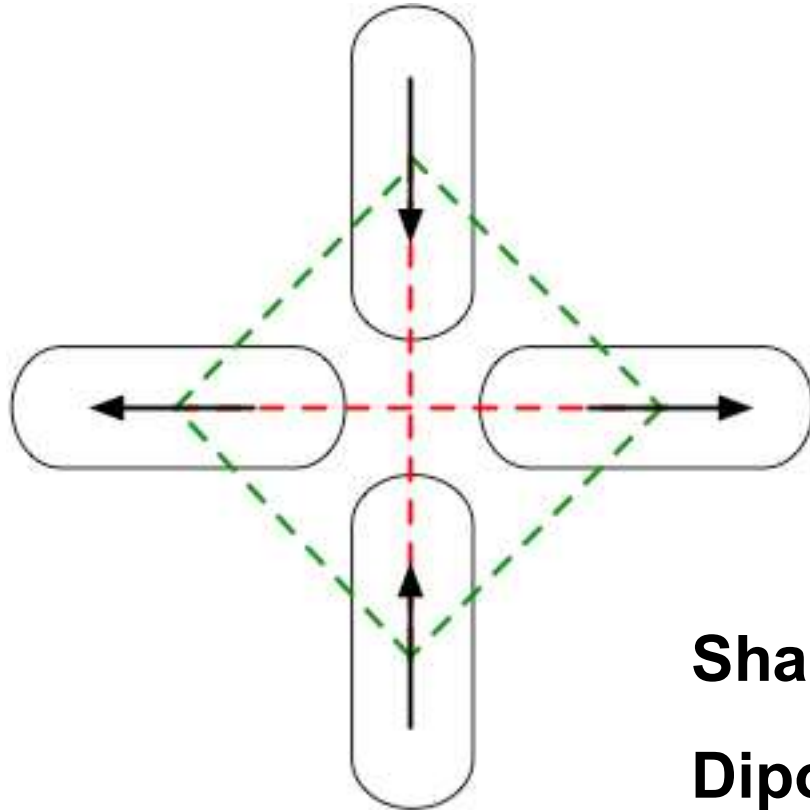
- large arrays of submicron elements
- super-paramagnetic
- long range interactions

**Approach: (*Zoe Budrikis, PhD 2012*)**

Combine Mean Field & Monte Carlo



# An Artificial Antiferromagnet (artificial square spin ice)



Wang et al., Nature (2006)

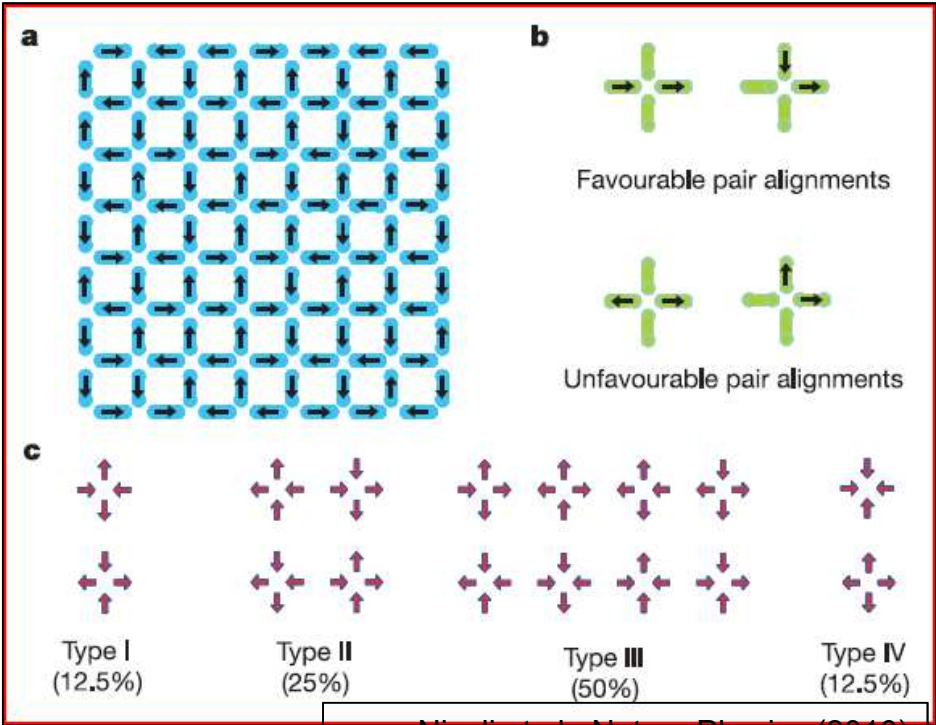
**Shape anisotropy:** Ising spins

**Dipolar** interactions

**6** interactions but can only **minimise 4**

# Configurations

## Local spin configurations:



Nisoli et al., Nature Physics (2010)



Type I  
(ground)



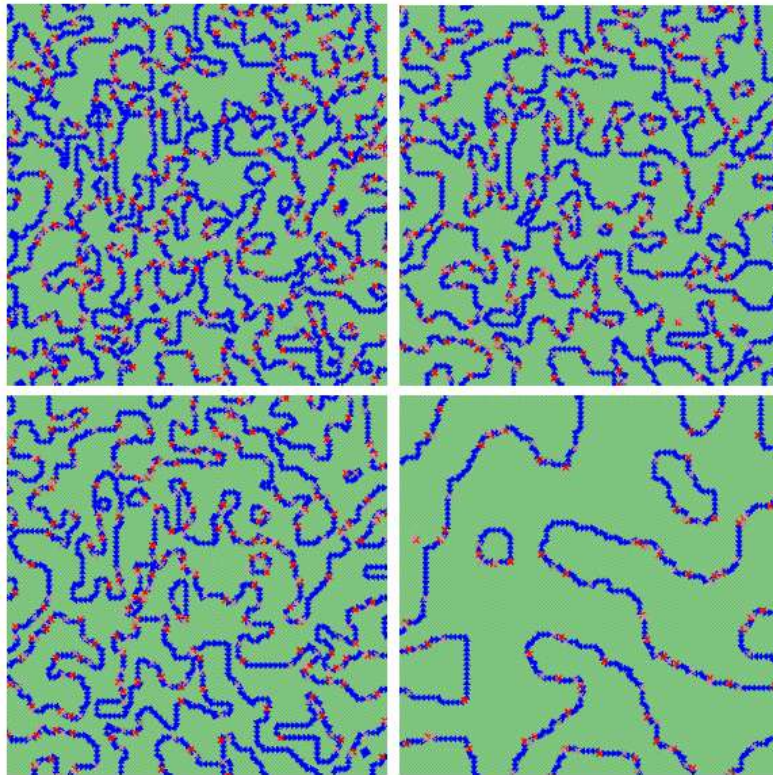
Type II  
(wall)



Type III  
(defect)

# Growth of Domains and Wall Motion

Type I domains separated by Type II walls:



- Type I
- Type II
- Type III

*Type III 'charge' production during wall motion*

# Thermal evolution of domains

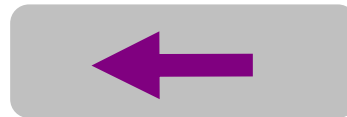
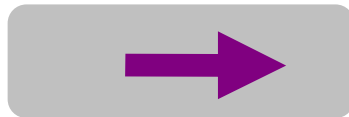
Thermal fluctuations on 2 timescales:

- small volumes (reversal)
- thermal reduction of element  $M$

$$\frac{KV}{k_B T} \sim 1$$



*enhancement*



*suppression*

***Configuration dependent local  $M$***

# Mean field model: thermal dynamics

**Mean field** model for *element* magnetisations:

$$m_j = B_{1/2} \left[ \beta m_j \cdot \left( h_c + \sum J_{j,k} m_k \right) \right] \quad h_c = K m_j$$

**Algorithm:**

- self consistent iteration for  $\langle m_j \rangle$
- stochastic reversal (**Monte Carlo**)

**Disorder:** uniform distribution for  $K$  centred on  $K_o$

$$K = K_o \left( 1 + \frac{r}{2} \right) \quad r \in [-\Delta, \Delta]$$

# Thermal fluctuations at walls

*(Karen Livesey PhD 2010)*



- **M = 1**

- **M = 0.1**

*Thermal **fluctuations**  
largest on domain  
walls*

# Challenge: modelling kinetics in real time with Monte Carlo

# Continuous Time Monte Carlo

Probability for **acceptance** of a single flip (out of  $N$  spins):

$$Q = \frac{1}{N} \sum n(\Delta E) P(\Delta E)$$

*number of spins with  $\Delta E$*

Probability that a spin **will flip**  
in time  $\Delta t$ :

$$P_{flip}(\Delta t) = \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau} Q\right)$$

**Rejection free** algorithm:

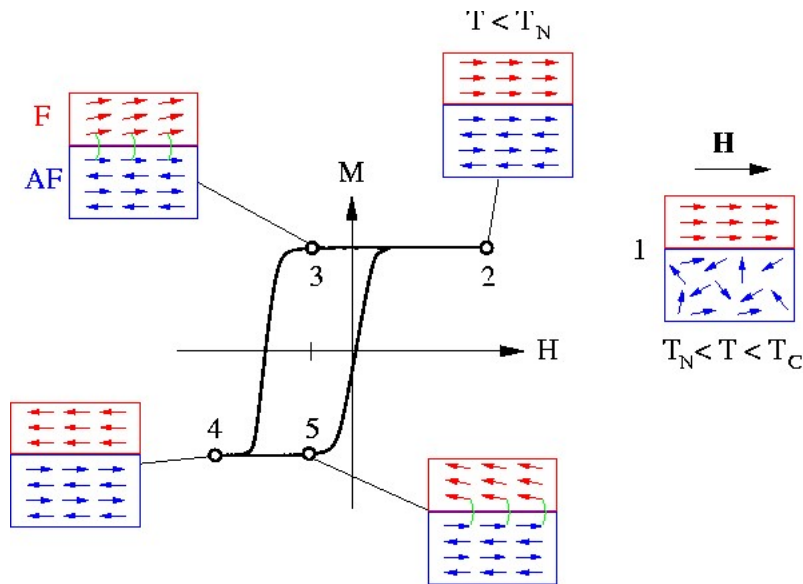
- 1) track **all** possible transitions
- 2) accept **one** according to random  $R$
- 3) **time** update determined by  $R$

$$\Delta t = -\frac{\tau}{Q} \ln R$$



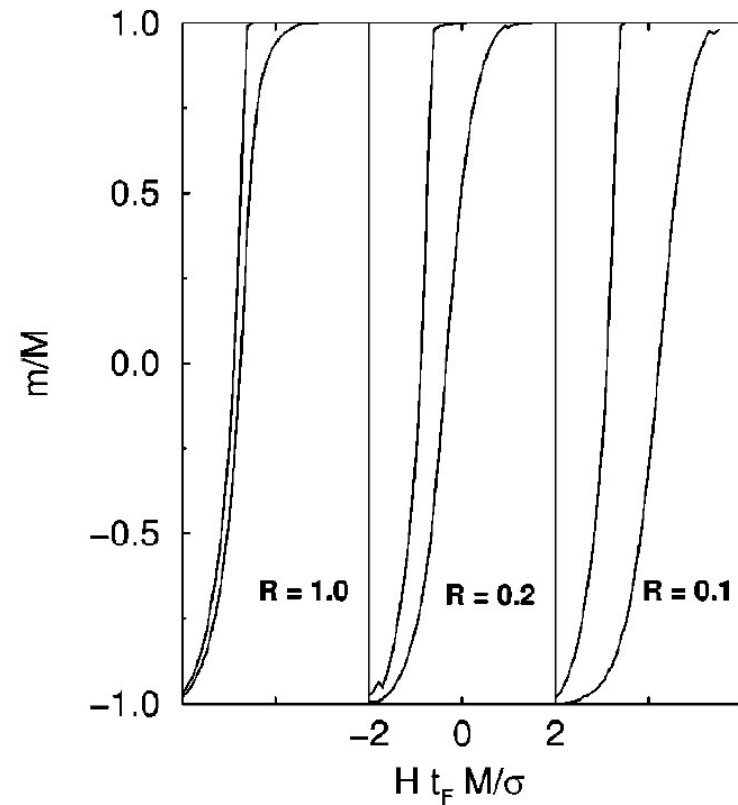
# Example: Exchange Bias

Thermal setting of bias:



M Kirschner <http://magnet.atp.tuwien.ac.at>

Time dependent coercivity:  
Field sweep rates



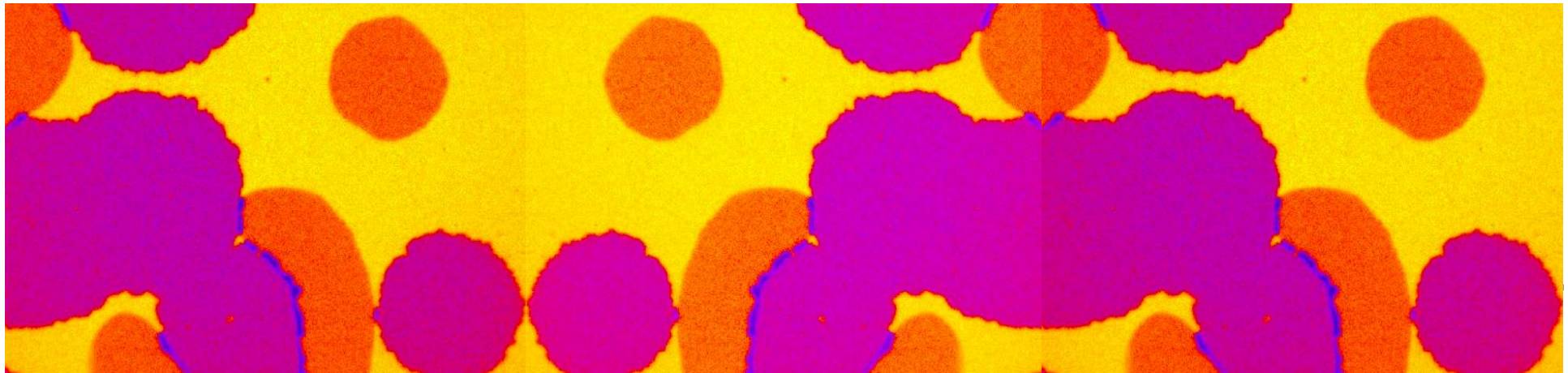
Stamps, PRB 2000



University  
of Glasgow



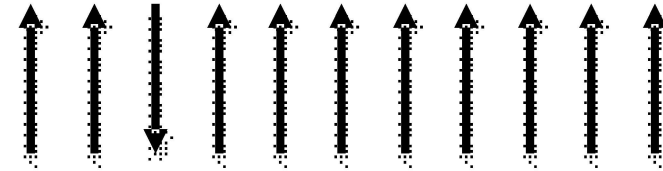
# Spin Wave Dynamics



# Low Temperature Fluctuations

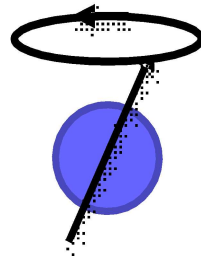
Energy to reverse one spin:  $2J$

$$H = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_j$$



Superposition of ways to flip one spin:

$$|n = 1\rangle = |\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\downarrow\uparrow\rangle + \dots$$

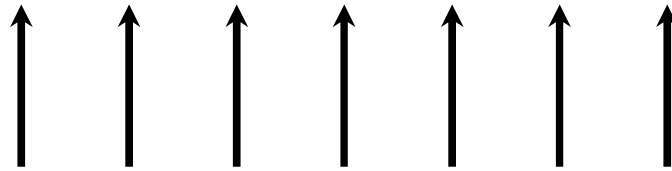


*Spinwave  
excitation*

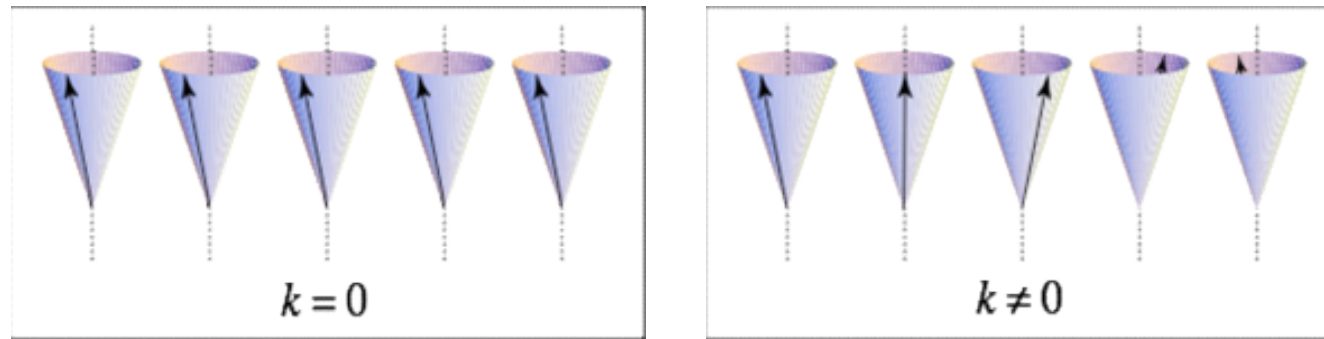
# Model: Torque equations

# Excitations: Spin Waves

**Ground state** magnetic orderings:



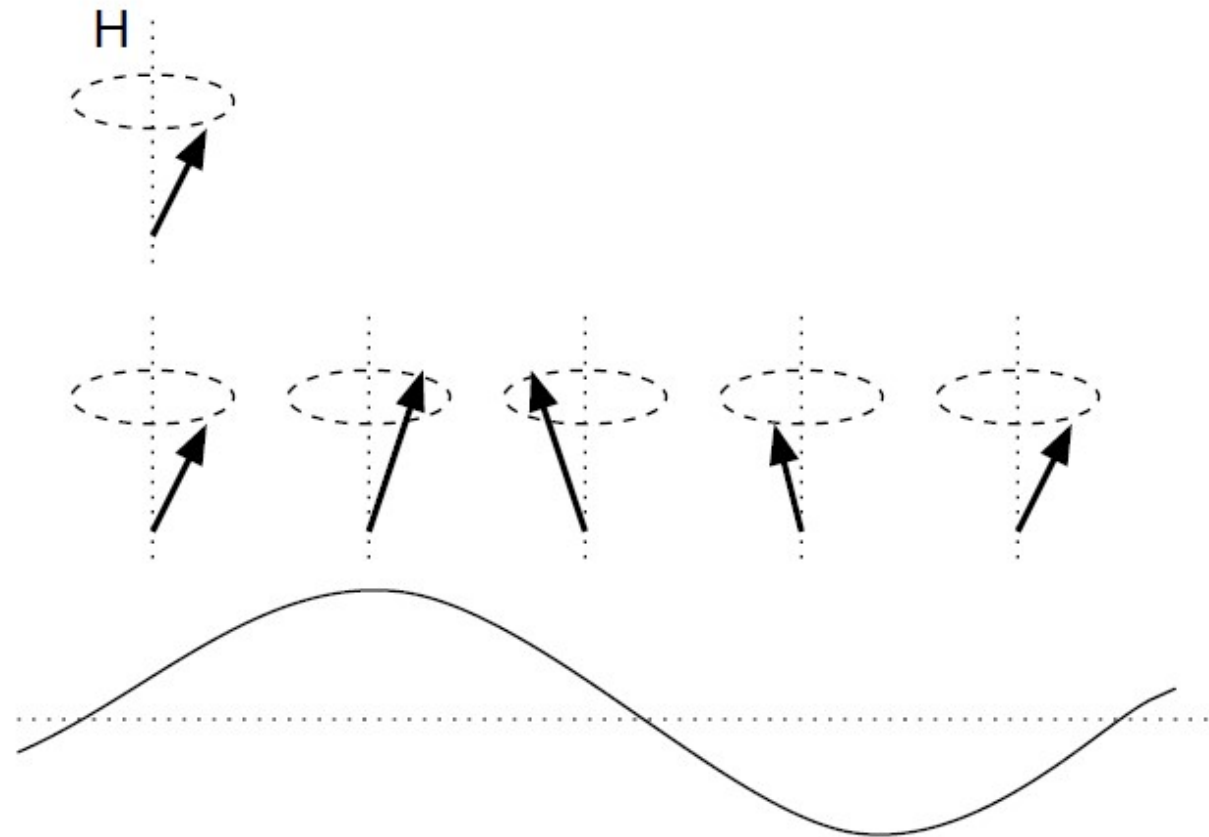
**Excitations:** Precessional dynamics



slide courtesy J-V Kim

**Note:** *The excitations are bosons!*

# Classical Precession



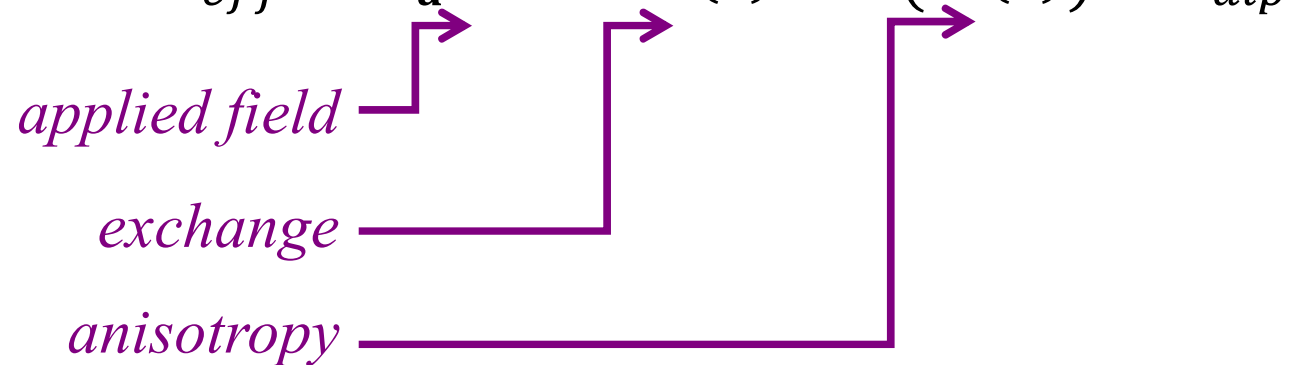
Transverse oscillations define wavelength

# Equations of Motion

Torque equations:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) = -\gamma \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \times \mathbf{H}_{eff}$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{eff} = \mathbf{H}_a + A \nabla^2 \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) + \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})) - \mathbf{h}_{dip}$$

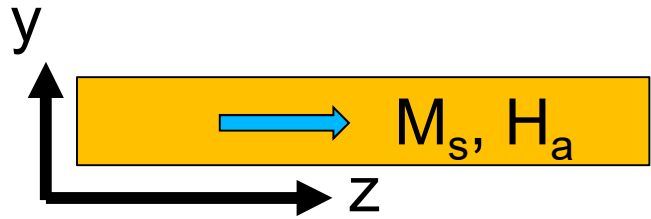


Note: Dissipation adds additional torques

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) = -\gamma \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \times \mathbf{H}_{eff} + \lambda \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t}$$

# Equations of Motion: FMR

No exchange contribution for uniform precession and dipole field modelled as shape anisotropy ( $K \sim M_s$ ).



$$\mathbf{H}_{eff} = \hat{z}H_a + \hat{y}2Km_y$$

Linearisation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}M_z \approx 0$$

$$(m_x, m_y) \sim e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}m_x = -\gamma[H_a m_y - 2KM_z m_y]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}m_y = \gamma[H_a m_x]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}M_z = \gamma 2K m_x m_y$$

$$\frac{\omega^2}{\gamma^2} = H_a(H_a - 2KM_s)$$

*Anisotropy shifts frequency*



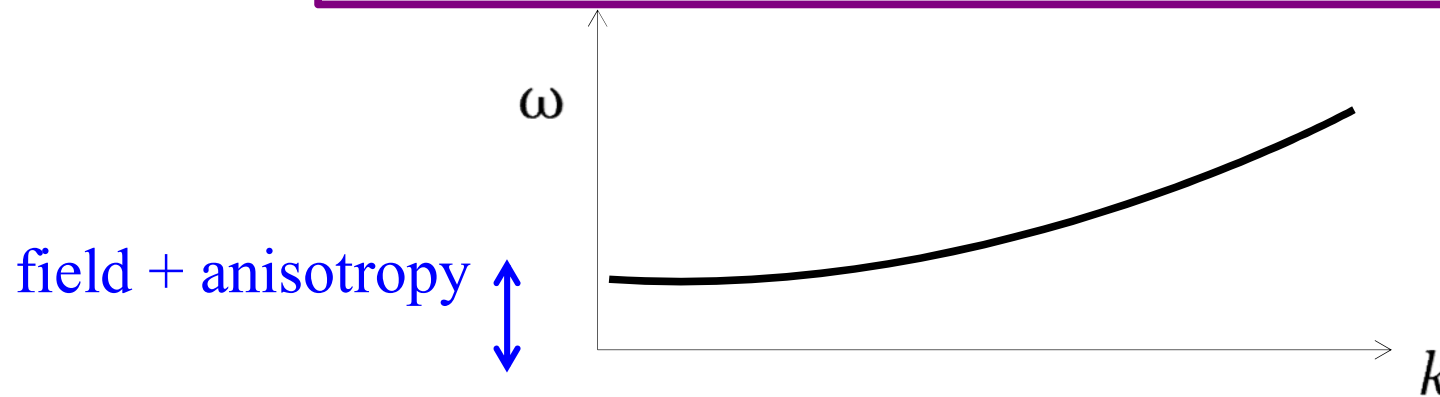
# With Exchange: Dispersion

Effect of interactions: exchange

$$(m_x, m_y) \sim \exp[-i(\omega t - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})]$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{ex} \sim A \nabla^2 \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r}) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{H}_{ex} \sim -Ak^2 \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})$$

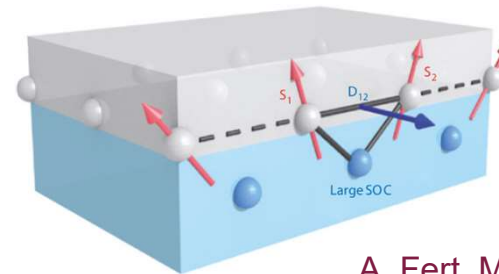
$$\frac{\omega^2}{\gamma^2} = (H_a + Ak^2)(H_a - 2KM_s + Ak^2)$$



# Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya Interactions

**Interface-driven** DMI interaction in ultrathin ferromagnets

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{DM}} = -\vec{D}_{12} \cdot (\vec{S}_1 \times \vec{S}_2)$$

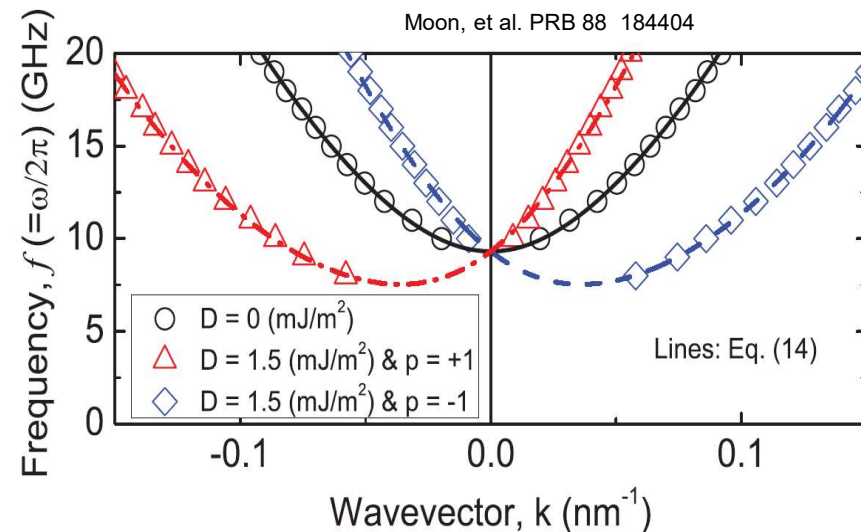


A. Fert, Mat. Sci. Forum (1990)  
A. Fert and P. M. Levy, PRL (1980)

*Effects of DMI on spin waves:*

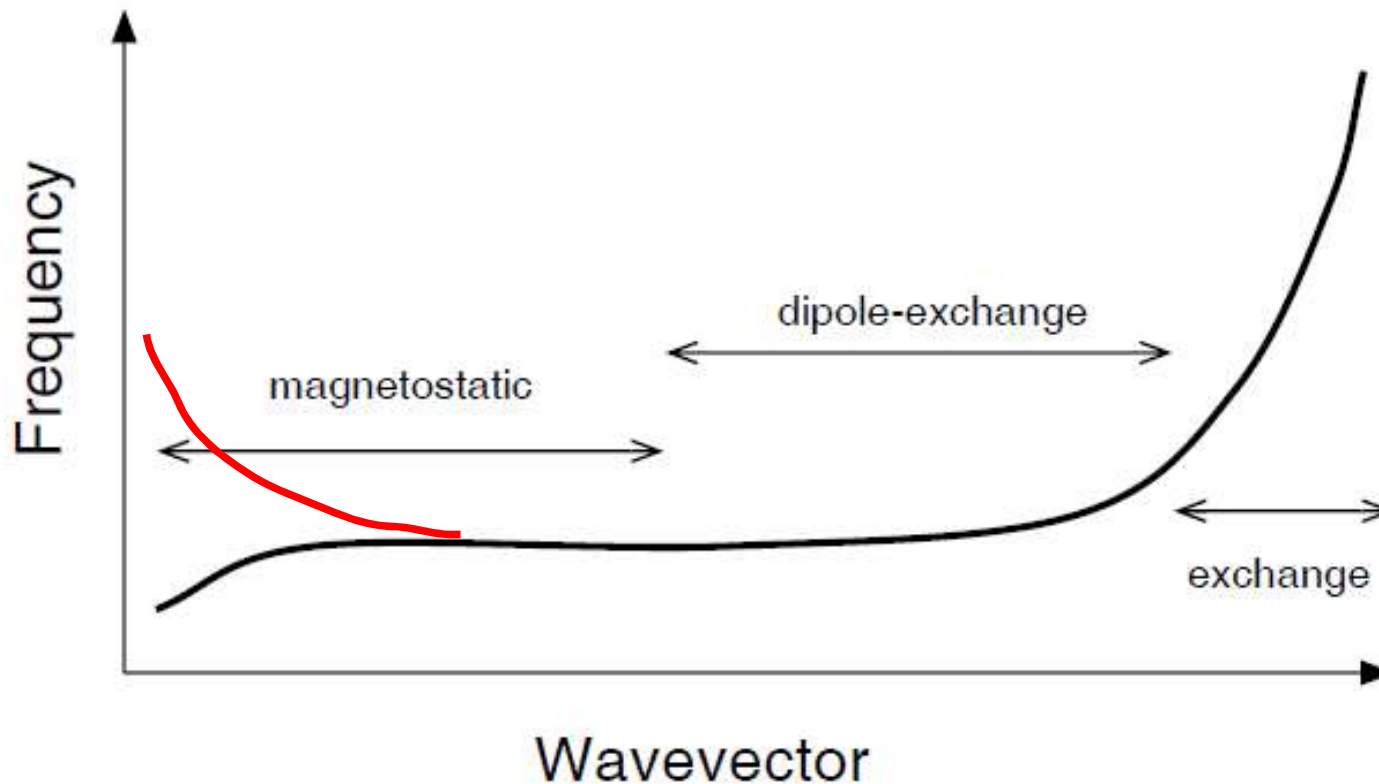
$$\omega(k) = \Omega(k^2) \pm Dk_{\parallel}$$

Moon et al. PRB 2013  
Iguchi et al., ArXiv 2015



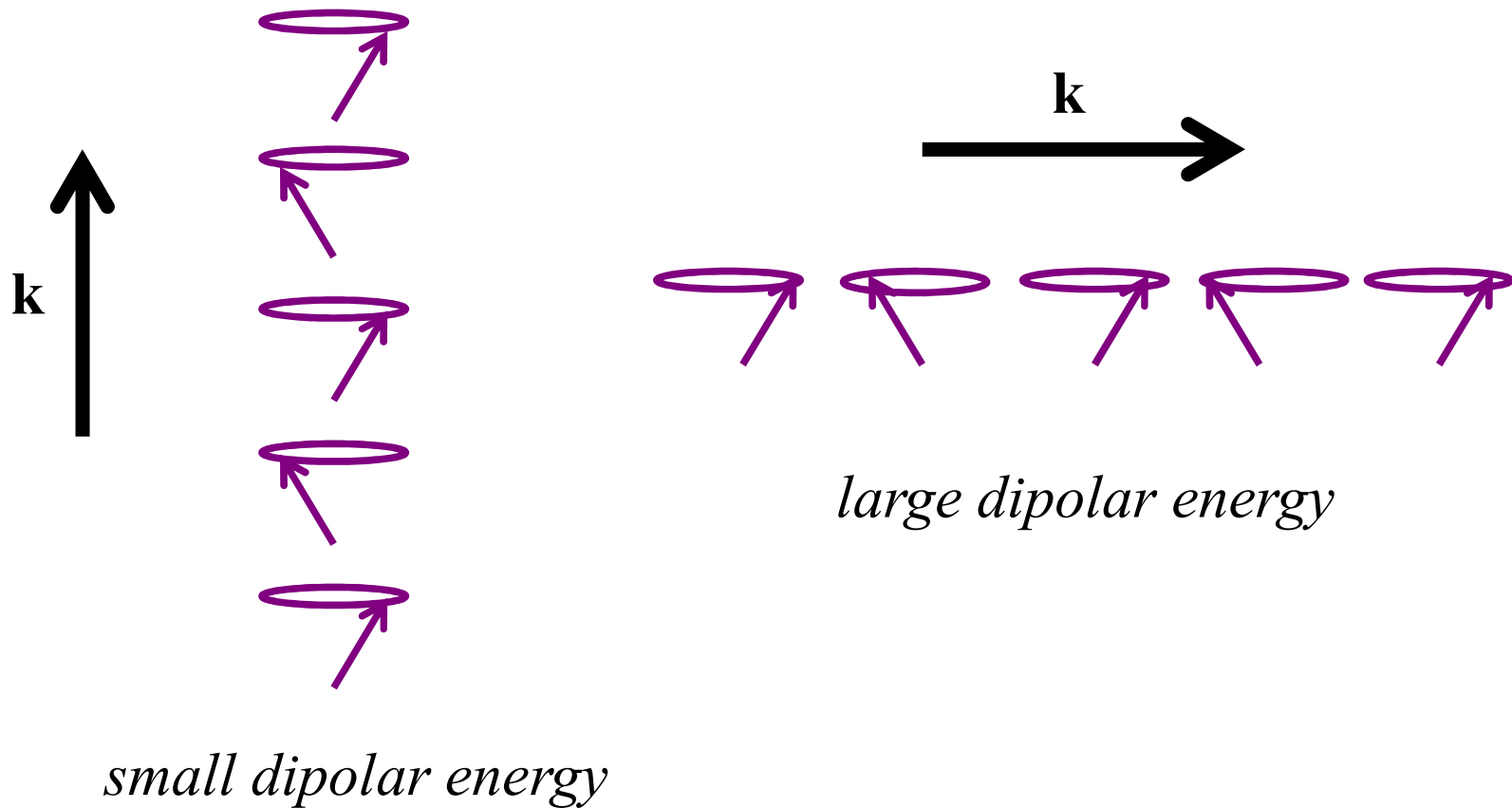
# Dispersion: Dipole Exchange Modes

Dipolar: long range interaction terms compete with short range exchange interactions:



# Anisotropic Propagation

Dipolar effect: dependence on propagation direction



# Spin Waves and Micromagnetics

## Procedure:

- 1) **Relax** to steady state
- 2) Use **broadband** pulse to excite spin waves
- 3) Record **time** evolution (for spectral analysis)

## Example: exciting precession in mumax3 script

```
defregion(1,rect(10e-9,125e-9)) } define antenna region  
save(regions)
```

```
driv := 0.001      // amplitude driving field  
f    := 1.0e9      // frequency units  
fdel := 20.*f*2.*pi // frequency window  
time := 1000./fdel // evolve time  
toff := 3./f       // offset
```

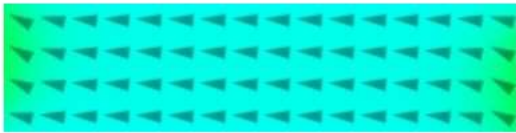
*sinc function pulse*



```
B_ext = vector(-24.6E-3, 4.3E-3,driv*sin( (t-toff)*fdel )/(2*pi*(t-toff)*fdel))  
run(time)
```

# Results

Ground state:

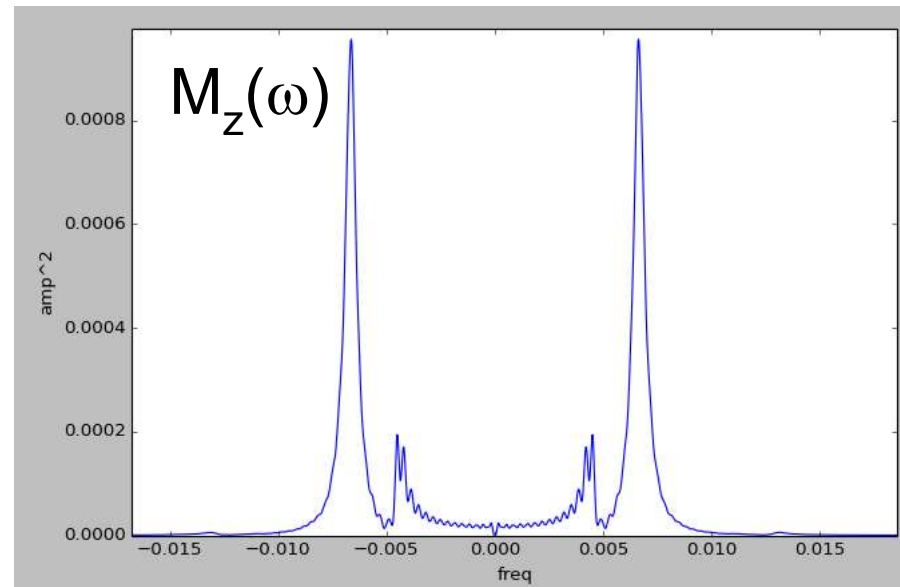
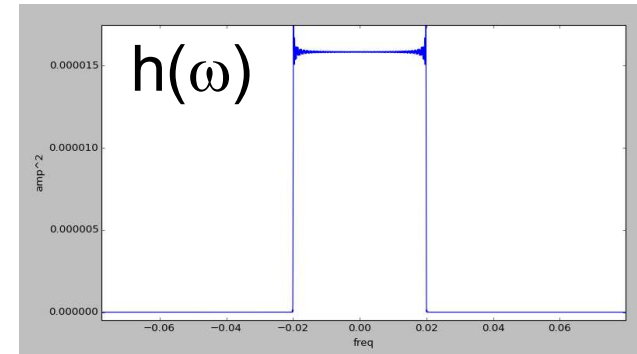


Antenna:



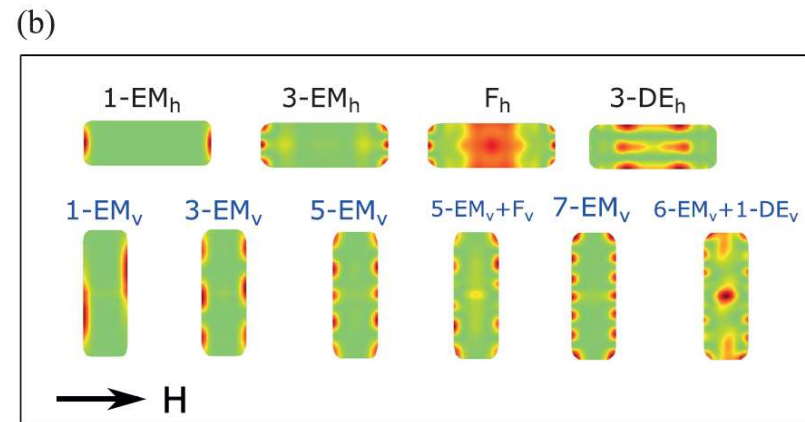
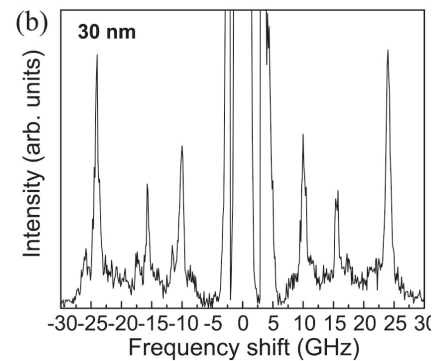
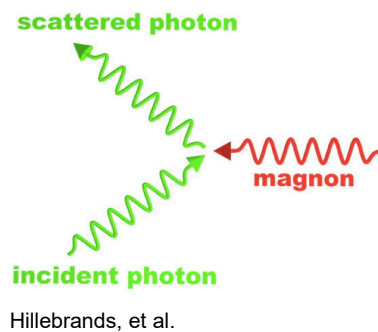
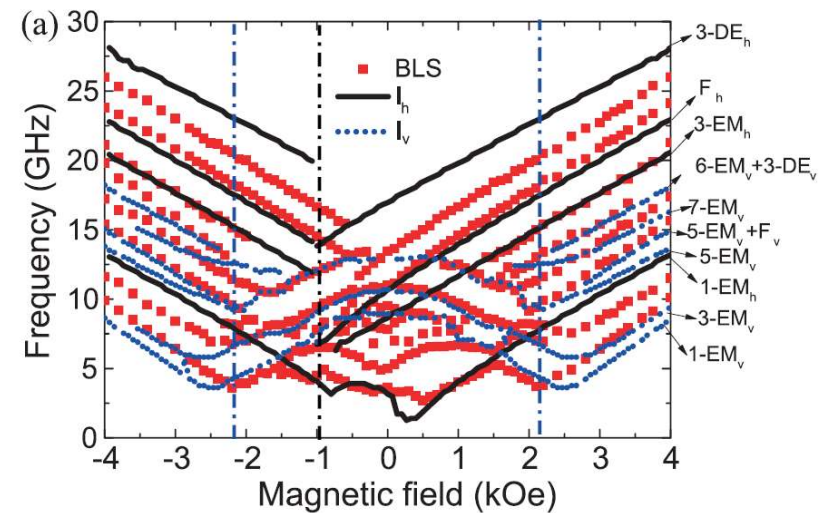
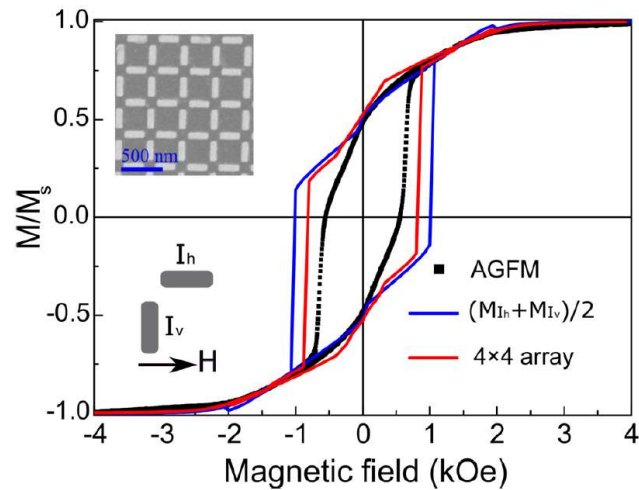
**Note:** Spectral analysis performed separately on mumax generated data.

Spectra:



# Example: Spin Waves on Spin Ice

(Yue Li PhD ~2017)

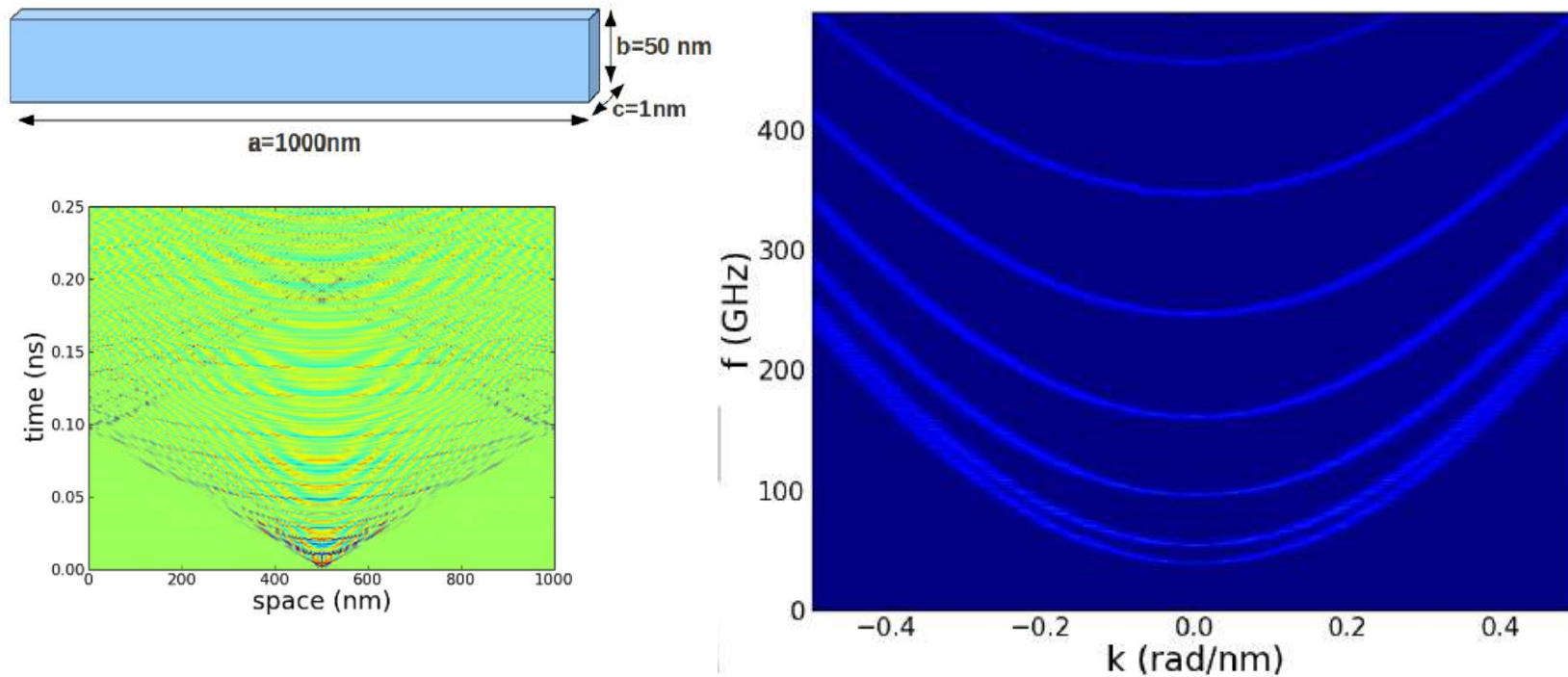


Li, et al. J. Appl. Phys. 2017

# Note: Spin Wave Dispersions

Spin wave  $\omega(\mathbf{k})$  from micromagnetics: apply 4D pulse

$$h(x, y, z, t) = \text{sinc}((x - x')k_x) \text{sinc}((y - y')k_y) \text{sinc}((t - t')\omega)$$



Venkat, Fangohr, et al., IEEE Trans. Magn. 49 (2013)

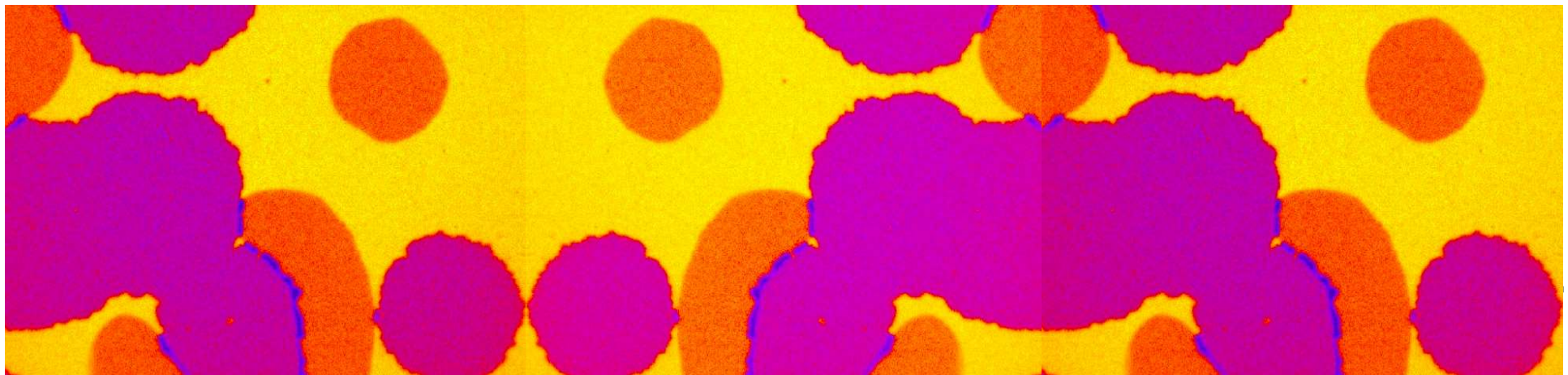




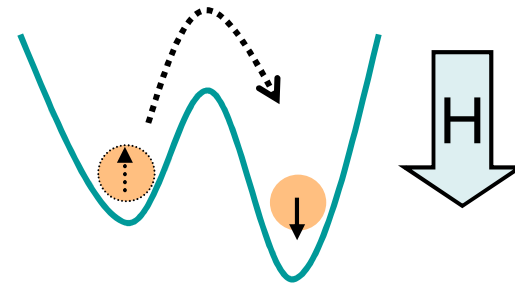
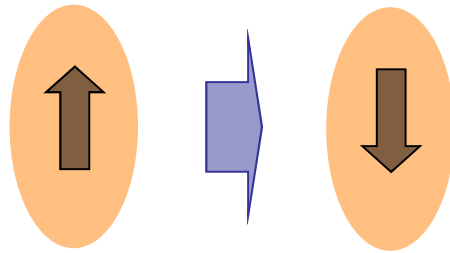
University  
of Glasgow



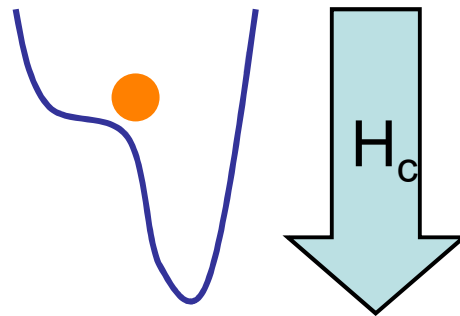
# Reversal Processes, Domains and Domain Walls



# Switching of Single Domain Particles

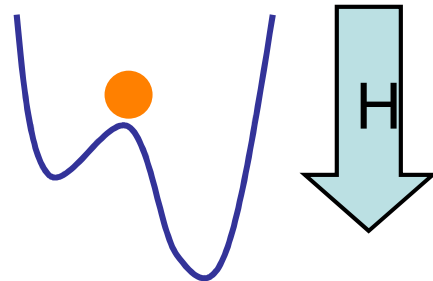


$$H \geq H_c$$



**Dynamics:**  
Precessional  
reversal

$$H < H_c$$



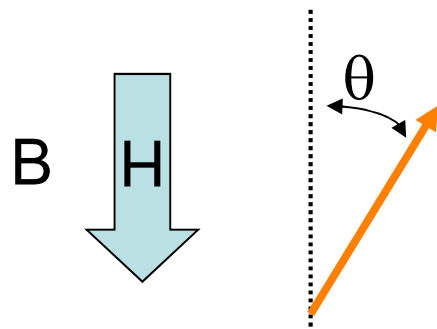
**Stability:** Thermal  
activation

**Challenge:** fluctuations over  
long time scales

**Approach:** Stoner-Wohlfarth  
models

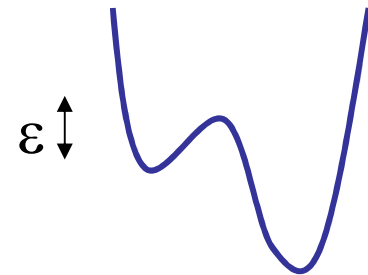
# Single Domain Rotation

**Approximate reversal as pure relaxation:**



$$E = V(-BM\cos\theta + K\sin^2\theta)$$

$$= VK \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{BM}{2K} \right)^2 \right]$$



## **Stoner-Wohlfarth Model**

Rate depends on activation energy and attempt frequency

$$\Gamma = \frac{1}{\tau} = f_o \exp(-\epsilon/k_B T)$$

# Reversal of a Particle Ensemble

**Ensemble of particles:**  $B=0$ , thermal fluctuations reduce  $M$

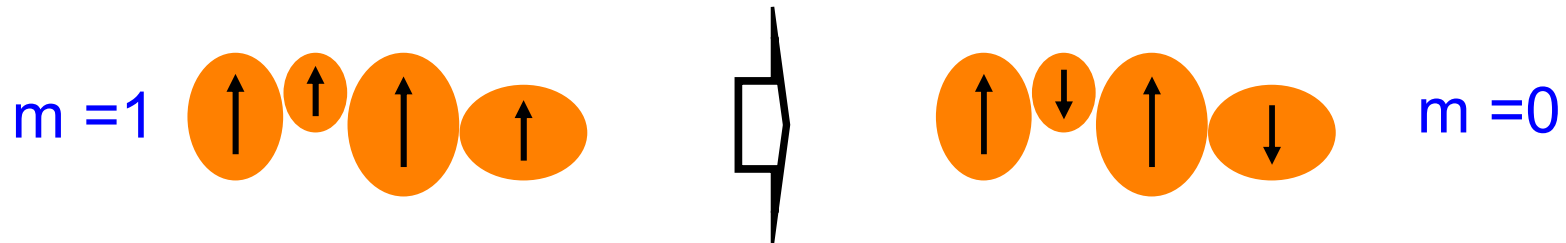


**Approach to equilibrium:** Chemical rate problem

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{dn_{\uparrow}}{dt} &= W_{\downarrow\uparrow}n_{\downarrow} - W_{\uparrow\downarrow}n_{\uparrow} \\ \frac{dn_{\downarrow}}{dt} &= W_{\uparrow\downarrow}n_{\uparrow} - W_{\downarrow\uparrow}n_{\downarrow} \end{aligned} \right\} m(t) = n_{\uparrow} - n_{\downarrow} = Ae^{-\Gamma t}$$

# Reversal of a Particle Ensemble

**Ensemble of particles:**  $H=0$ , dipolar fields drive  $m$  to 0



**Approach to equilibrium:** Distribution of rates

$$m(t) = A \int P(\Gamma) e^{-\Gamma t} d\Gamma$$

*Can one measure the distribution of rates  $P(\Gamma)$ ?  
(Rebecca Fuller, PhD 2010)*

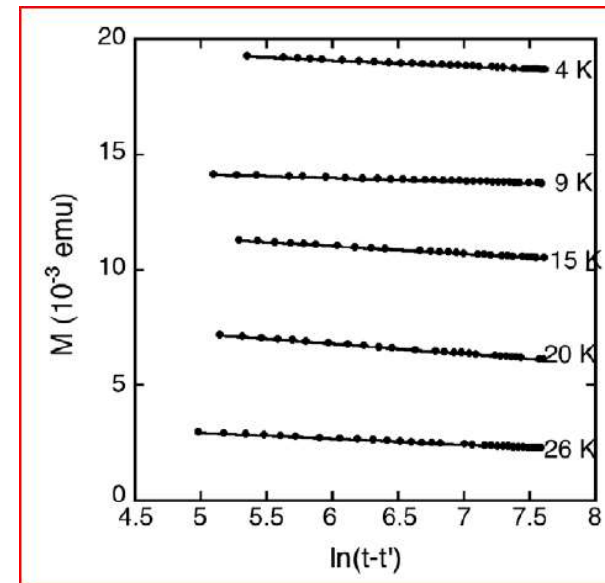
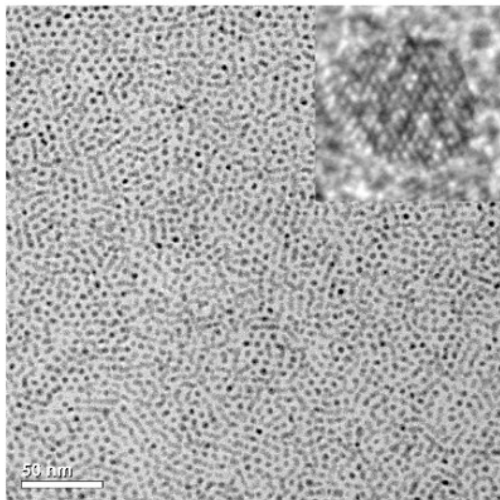
# Relaxation: Distributions

**Distribution of energy barriers:**  $\Gamma = f_o \exp(-\varepsilon / k_B T)$

$$m(t) = m(\infty) + A \int P(\Gamma) e^{-t\Gamma} d\Gamma$$

**Magnetic viscosity:  $\ln(t)$  for broad distributions**

$$m(t) = C - S(H) \ln(t\Gamma_o)$$

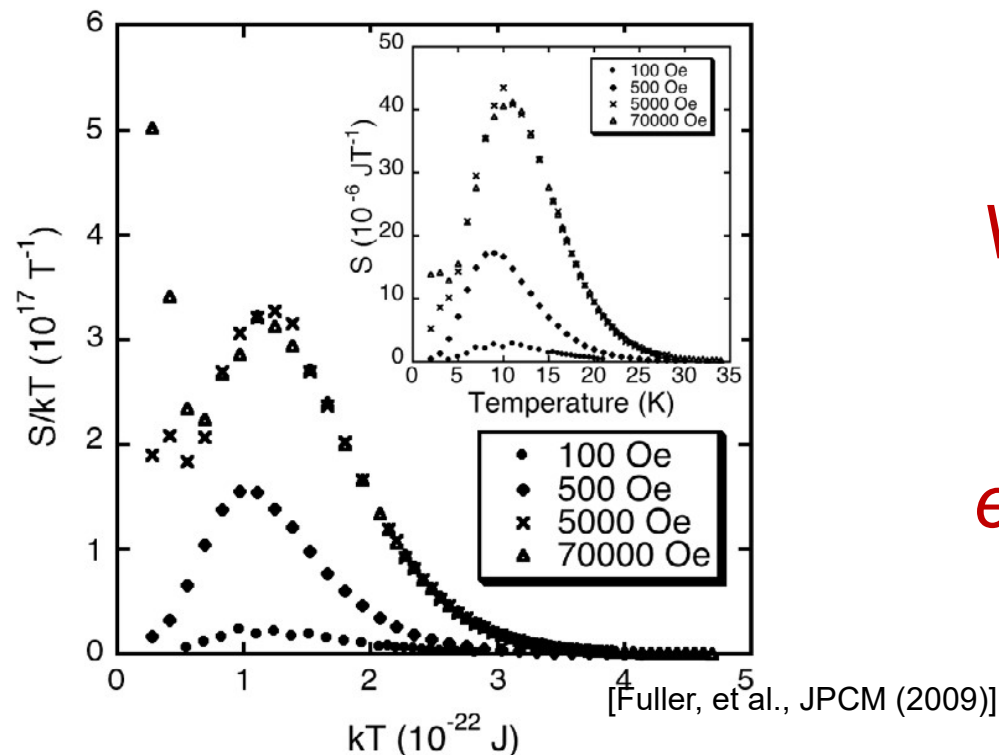


[Fuller, et al., JPCM 2009]

# Relaxation: Energy Barriers

**Useful measure:** study  $dm/dt$  at different  $T$

$$P(\varepsilon) \approx \frac{S}{Ak_B T}$$



*Viscosity at different temperatures and fields provides estimates for energy barrier distribution*

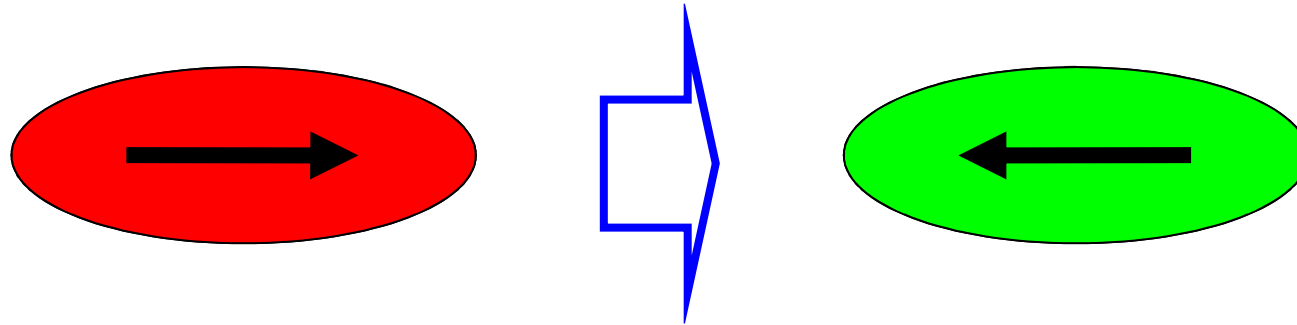


# Questions?

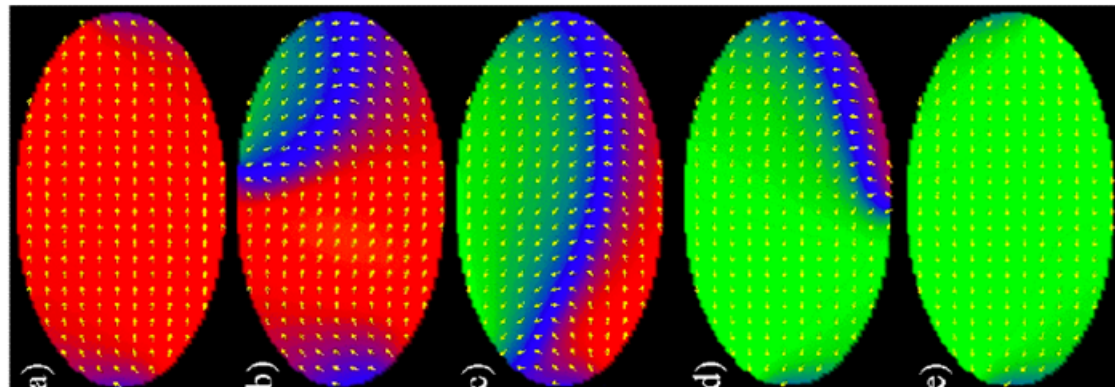


# Reversal processes, magnetic domains and domain walls

# Routes to Reversal

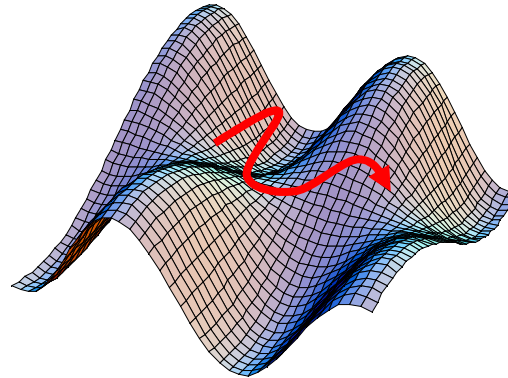


Nucleation of domains and domain walls



[Slaughter, 2000]

**Challenge: fluctuations over long times and large lengthscales**



**Approach: a Stoner-Wohlfarth model for fluctuating lines**

# Magnetization Processes & Domains

**Nucleation** processes:



Growth of a critical domain volume



$$E_{Zeeman} = -\mu MVH$$

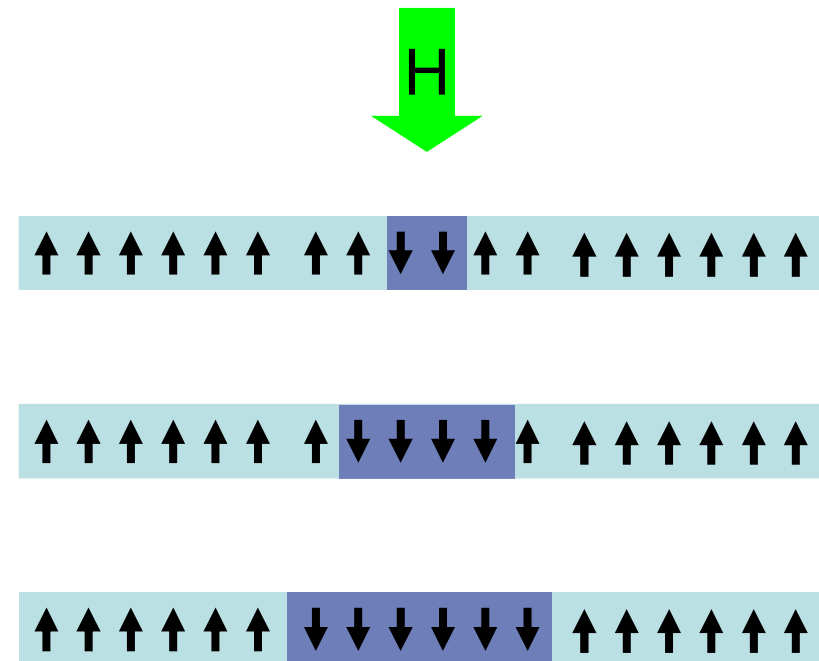
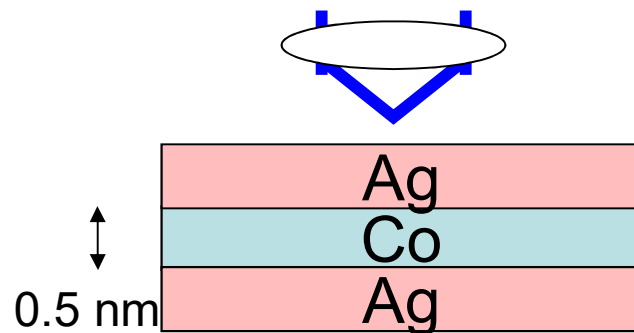
$$E_{DW} = \sigma A$$

Surface energy

$$\left( \frac{V}{A} \right)_c = \frac{\sigma}{(\mu MH)}$$

# Domain & Wall Dynamics

- **Example:** MOKE study
- Perpendicular M in Co
- Method:
  - saturate
  - apply field pulse
  - image & repeat



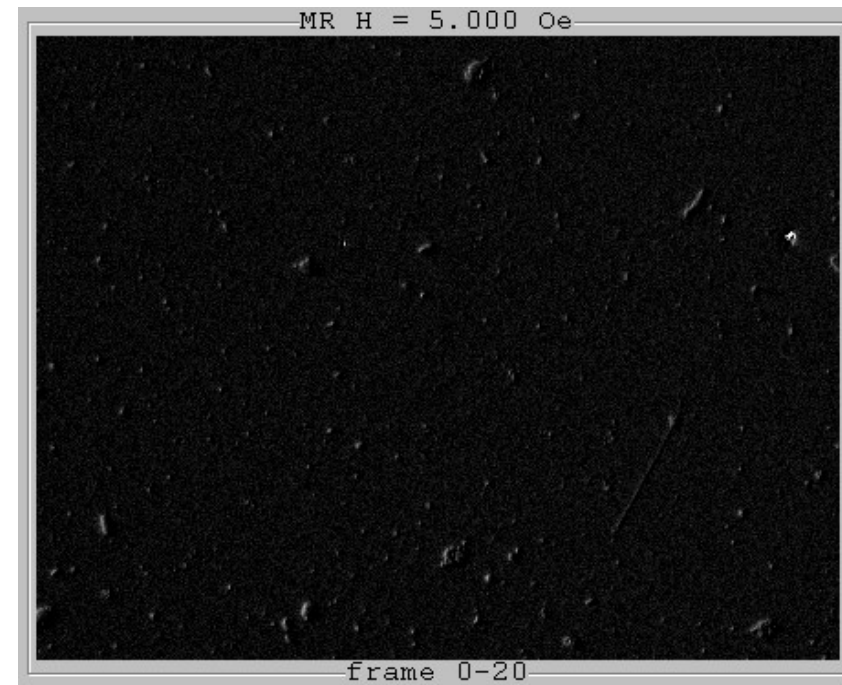
# Magnetisation Processes & Domains

Growth stops at local  
field gradients  
(pinning 'pressure')



$$pressure \sim - \nabla E_{local}$$

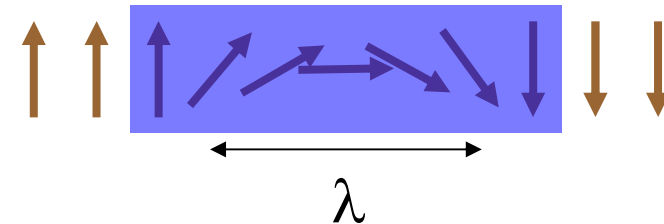
Stroboscopic 'movie' of  
domain growth



# Magnetization Processes & DW's

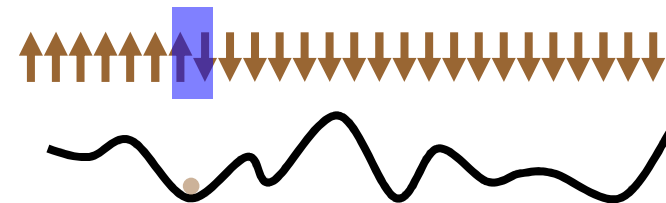
## Wall structure:

- Topological excitation
- Surface tension
- Characteristic width



## Dynamics:

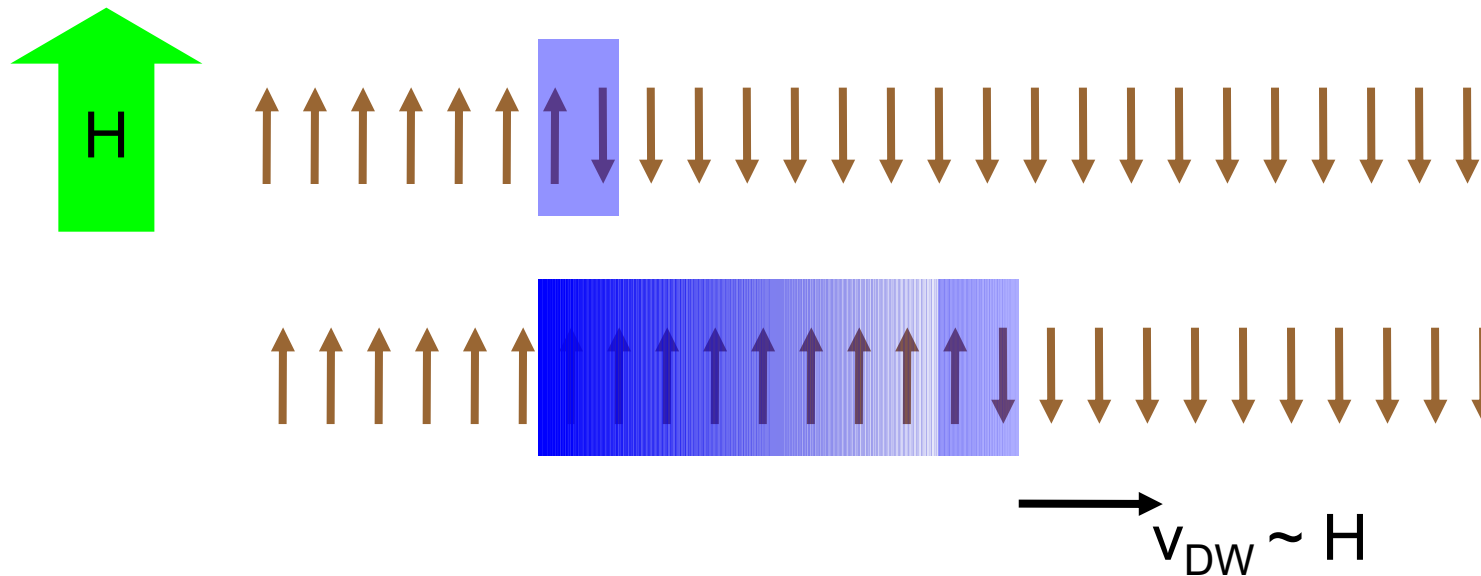
- **Translation** & fluctuations
- **Pinning** & 'creep'
- Internal modes





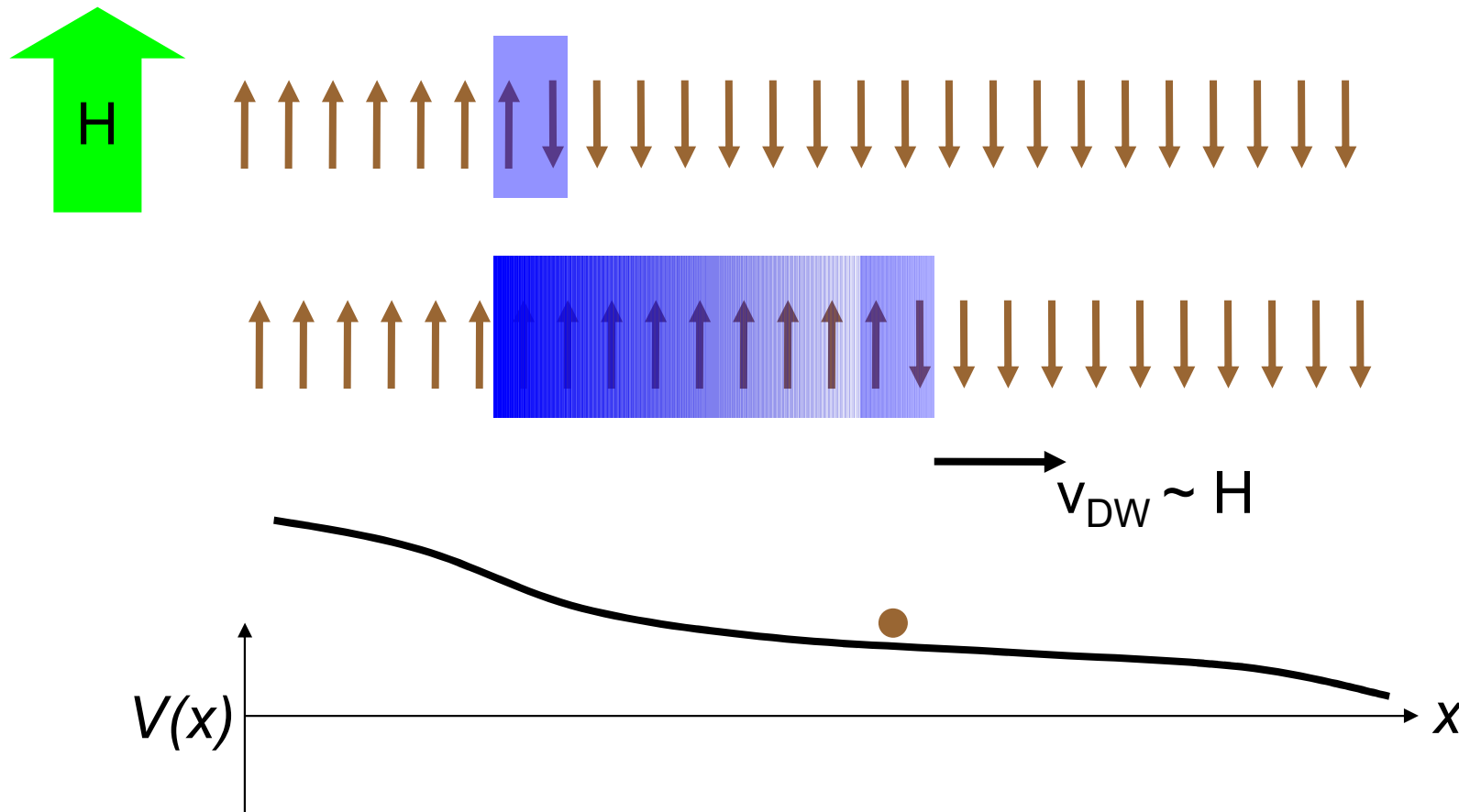
# DW Mobility: High Field Flow

**Viscous Flow:** High field driven dynamics



# DW Mobility: High Field Flow

**Viscous Flow:** High field driven dynamics



# DW Mobility Theory: Flow

Torque equations of motion:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial t} = \underbrace{-\gamma \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H}}_{\text{precessional torque}} + \frac{\alpha}{M_s} \underbrace{\mathbf{m} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial t}}_{\text{Gilbert damping}}$$

Effective local field: (exchange, anisotropy, dipolar)

$$\mathbf{H} = H_{\text{applied}} - \frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{m}}$$

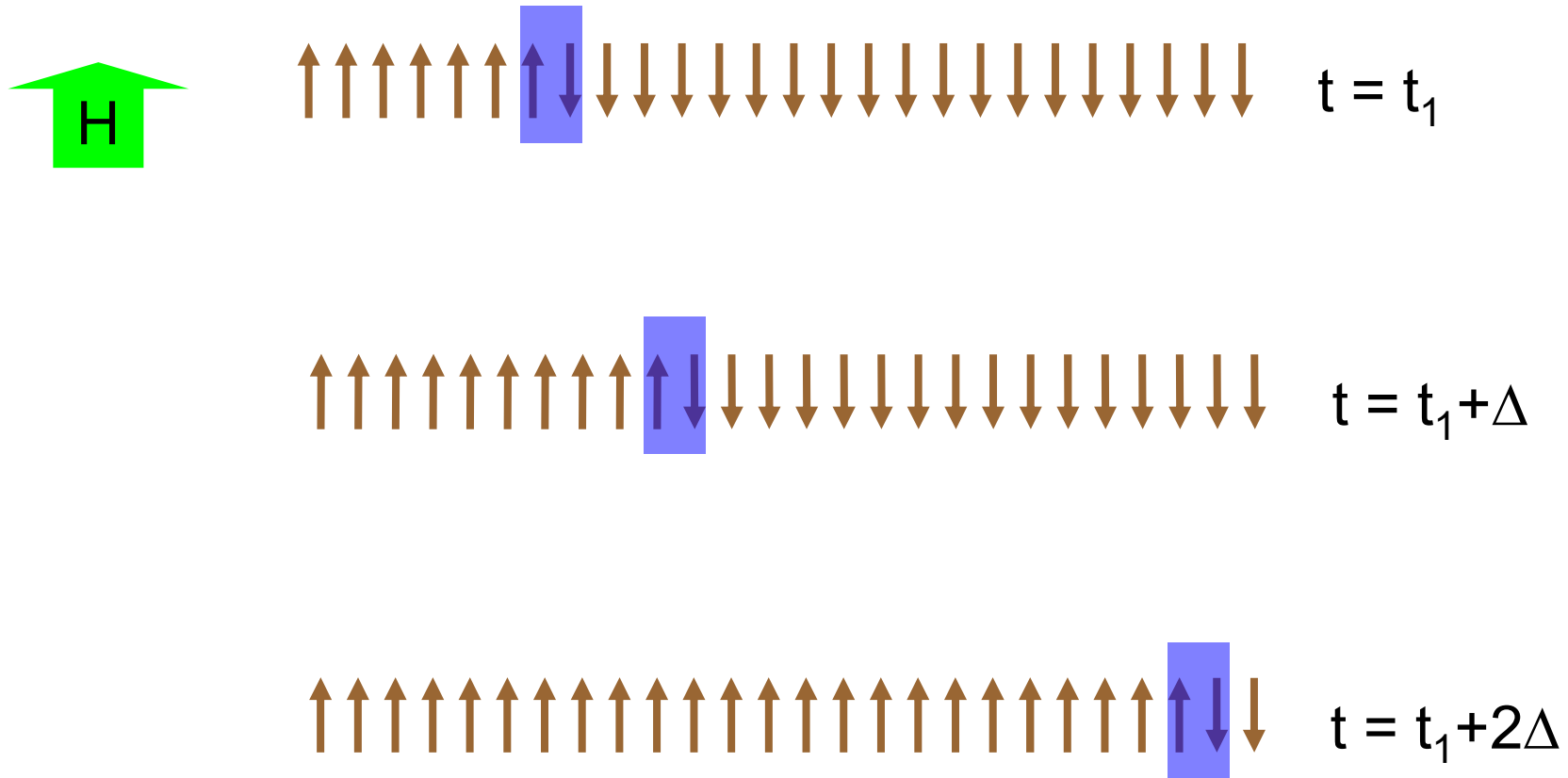
Time averaged velocity (in Flow regime):

$$v \propto \int \overline{|\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H}|^2} d^3 x$$

[X Wang, P Yan, J Lu]

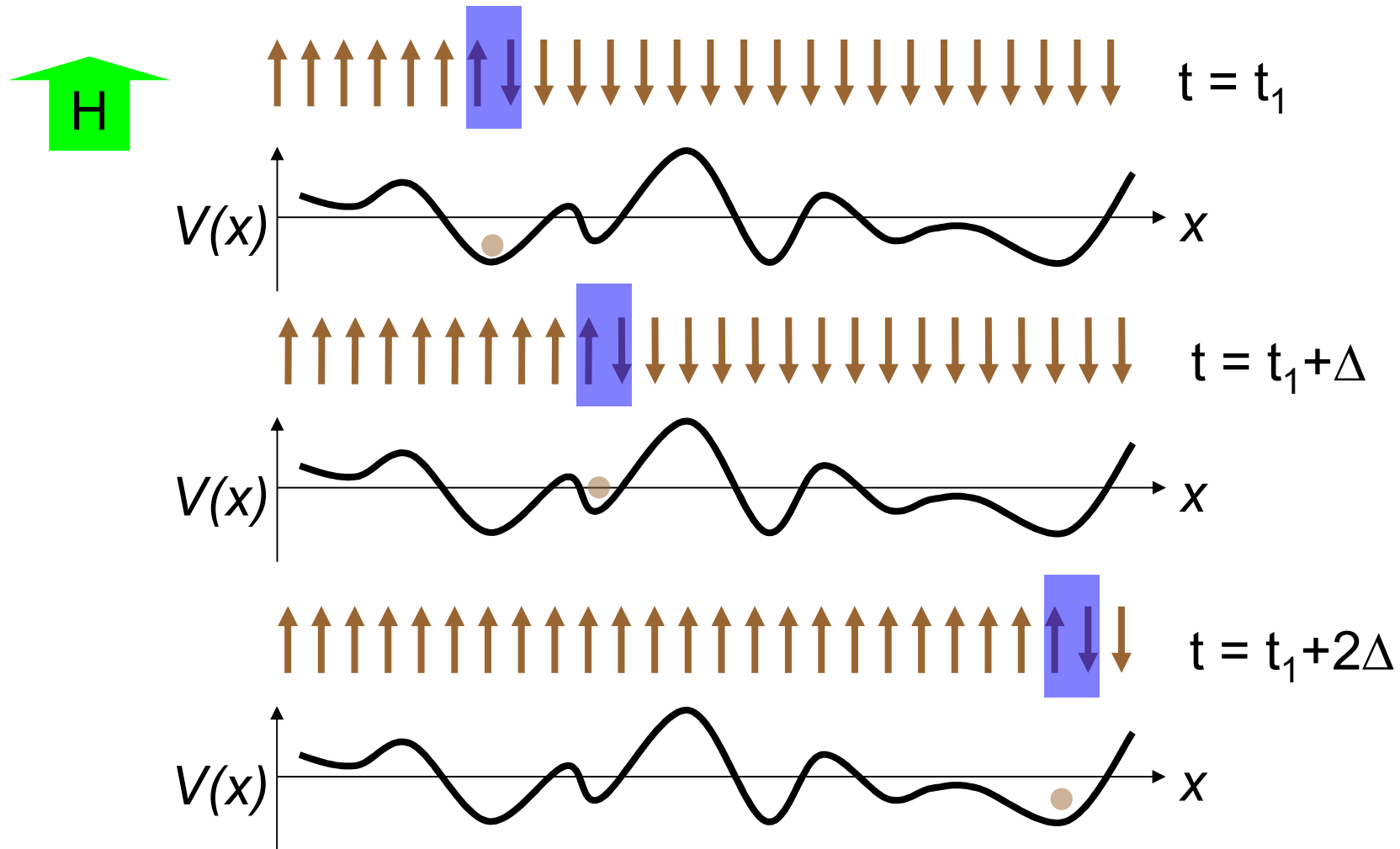
# DW Mobility: Low Field Creep

**Creep:** low field thermally activated dynamics



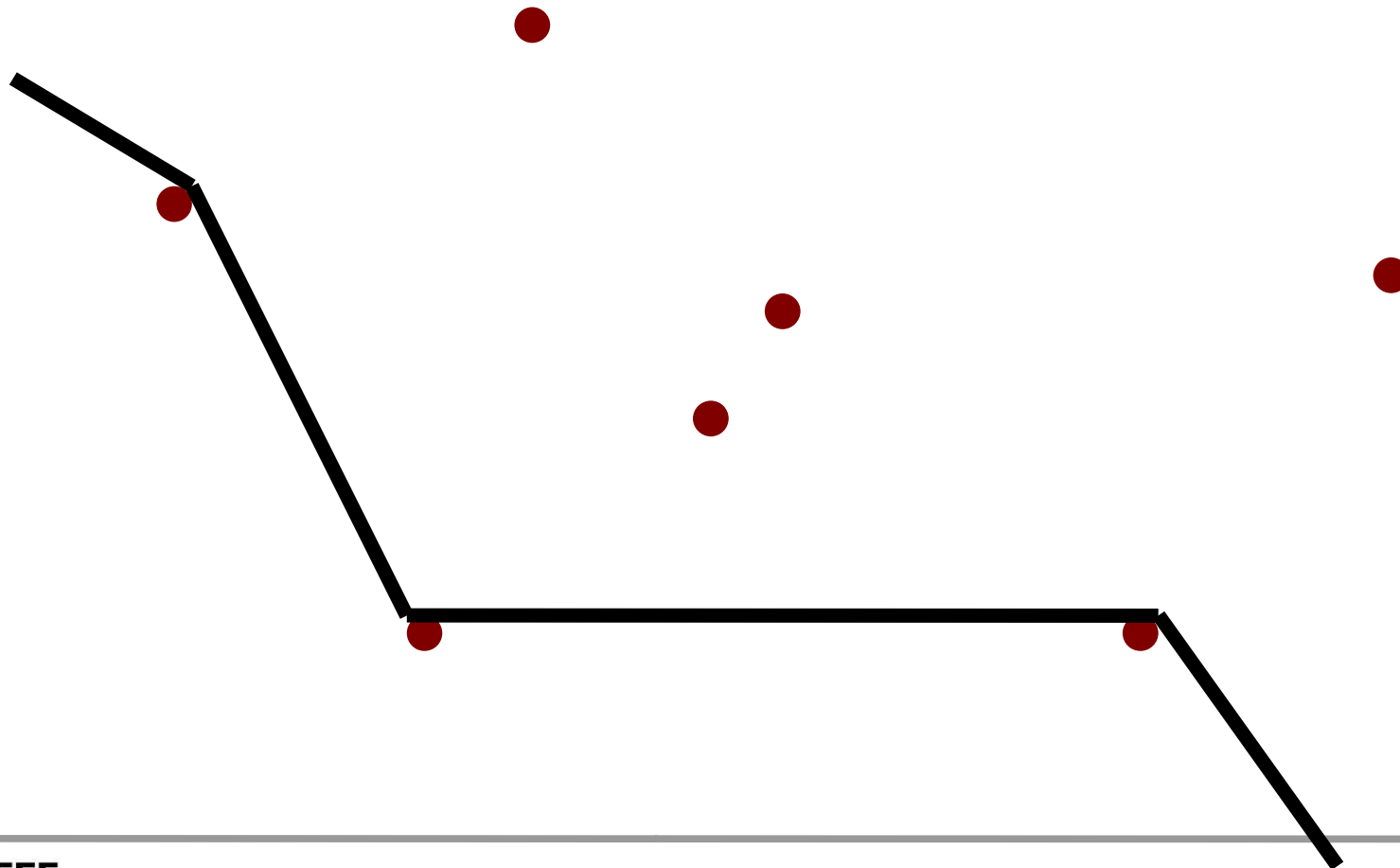
# DW Mobility: Low Field Creep

**Creep:** low field thermally activated dynamics



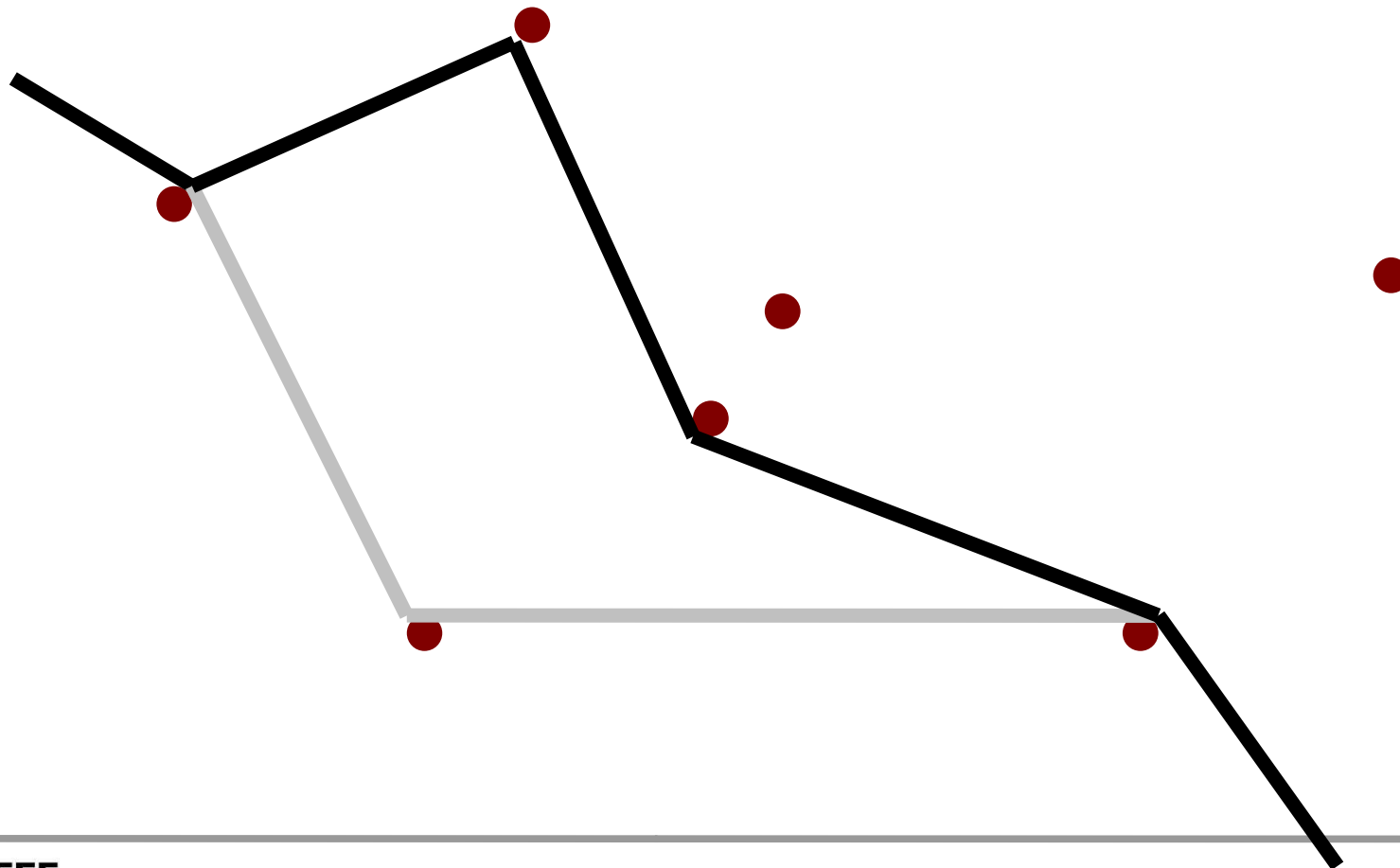
# DW Mobility Theory: Creep

Pinning sites oppose wall motion:



# DW Mobility Theory: Creep

Pinning sites oppose wall motion:

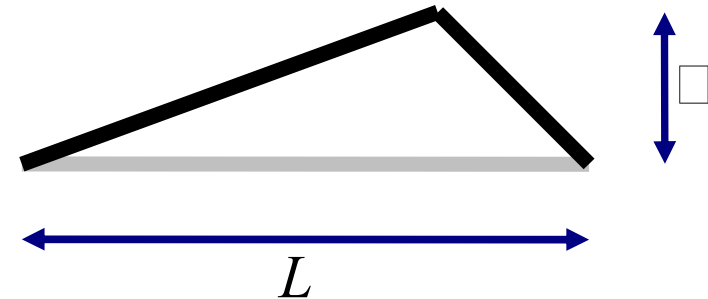


# DW Mobility Theory: Creep

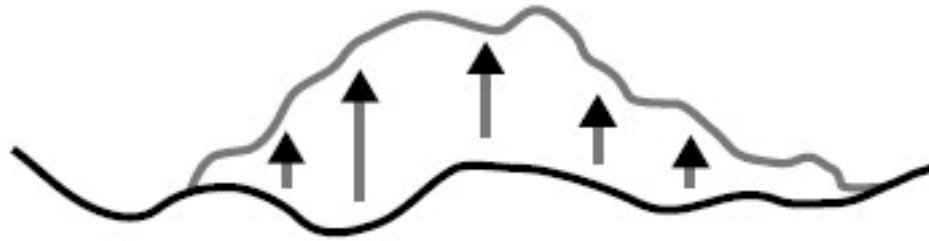
Number of pinning sites:

$$E_p = \sqrt{f_{pin}^2 N_p \xi}$$

*pin force*



Macroscopic wall motion through **avalanche**:



**Scaling: critical field for avalanche onset**

$$[E_{elastic} - E_{Zeeman}] = E_B \approx U_C \left( \frac{H_{dep}}{H_{applied}} \right)^{\frac{2\xi - 2 + D}{2 - \xi}}$$



# DW Mobility Theory: Creep

Depinning rate:

$$\frac{1}{\tau(L)} = \frac{1}{\tau_0} \exp\left[\frac{-E_B(L)}{k_B T}\right]$$

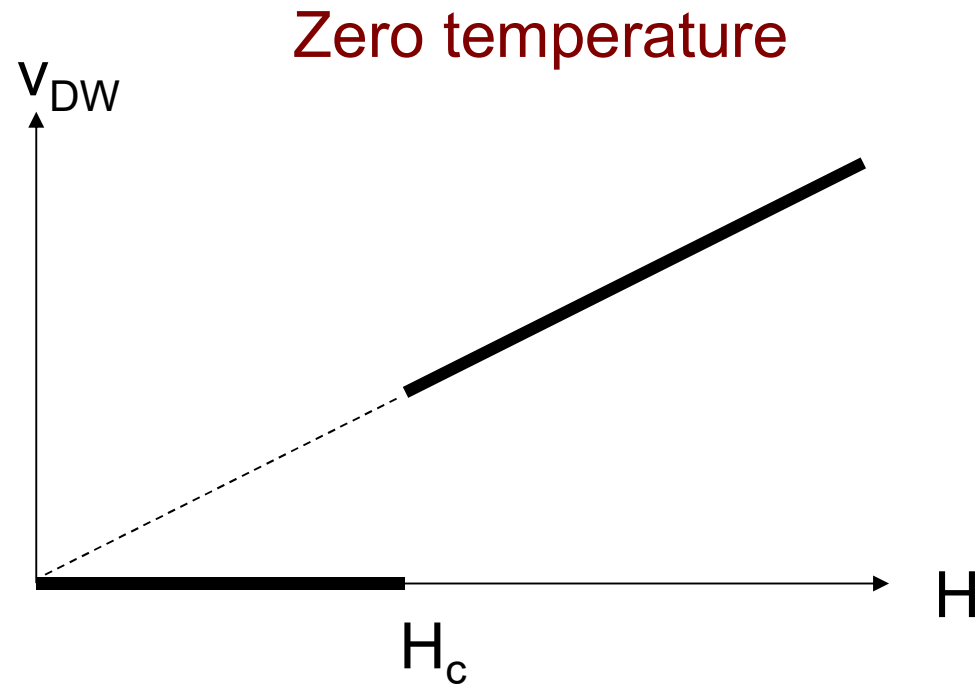
Multiply by distance travelled to give velocity:

$$v = \frac{w(L)}{\tau(L)} \approx \frac{\xi}{\tau_0} \exp\left[\frac{-U_C}{k_B T} \left(\frac{H_{dep}}{H_{applied}}\right)^\mu\right]$$

Expect  $\mu = 1/4$  for ultra thin films.

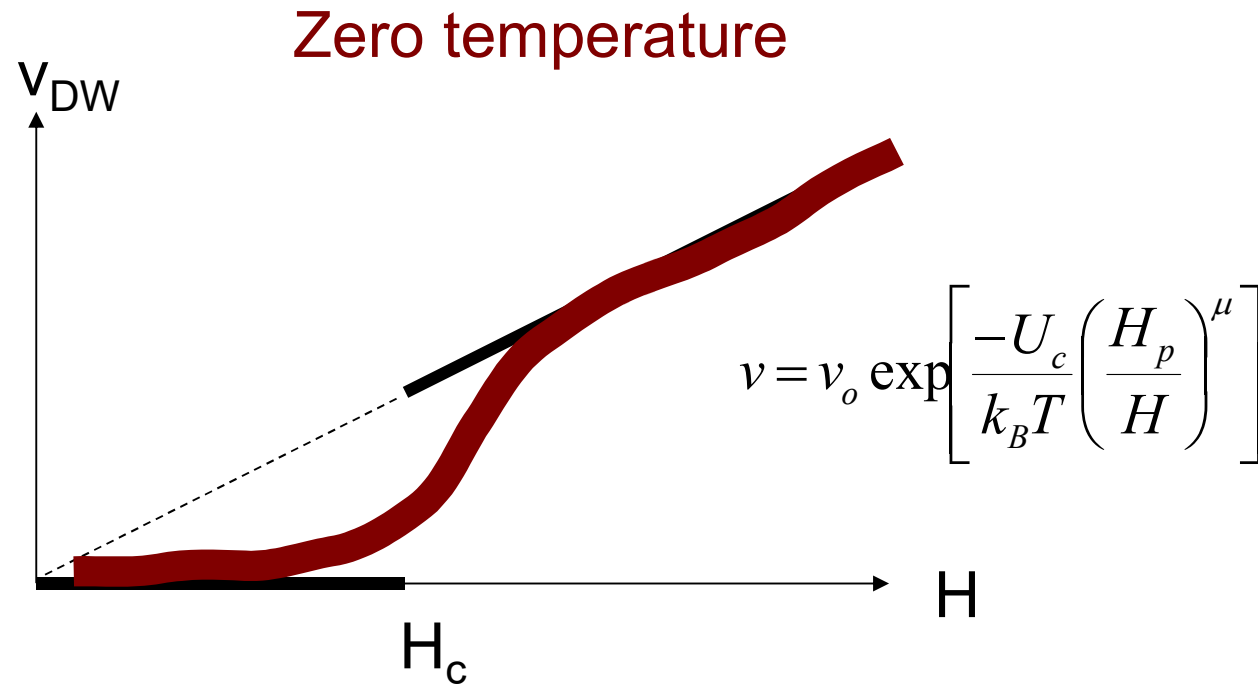
# DW Motion: Transition

**Threshold:** transition from creep to viscous flow



# DW Motion: Transition

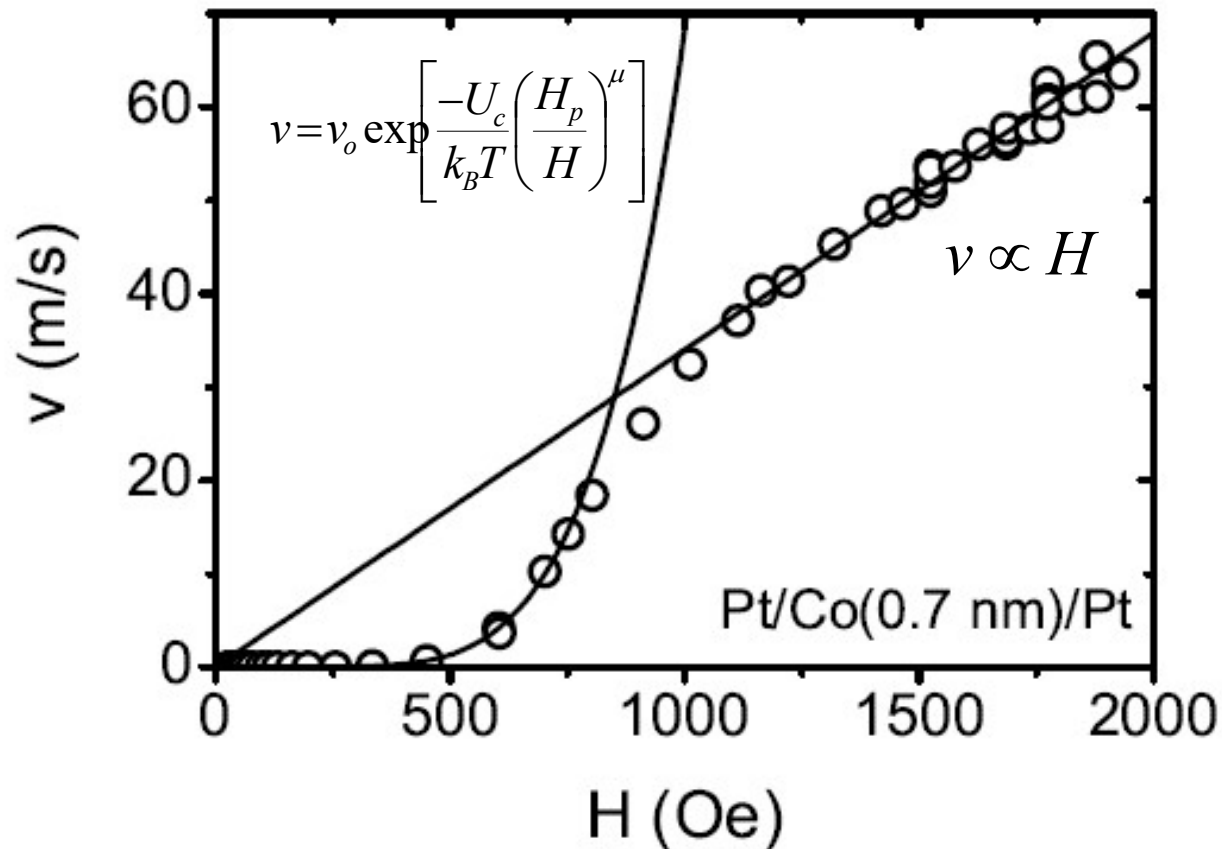
**Threshold:** transition from creep to viscous flow



# DW Motion: Transition

Observed transition from creep to viscous flow:

*(Peter Metaxas, PhD 2009)*



[Metaxas, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 2007]

# Summary

- **Approximations:** Heisenberg exchange, anisotropy, mean field theory
- **Simulations:** Micromagnetic, Monte Carlo
- **Analytic models:** spin waves, domain walls, thermal activation

# Thank you!

