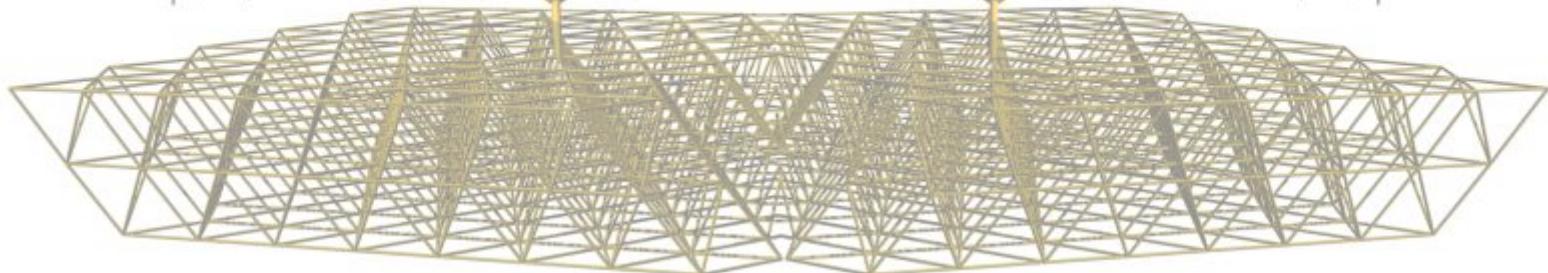
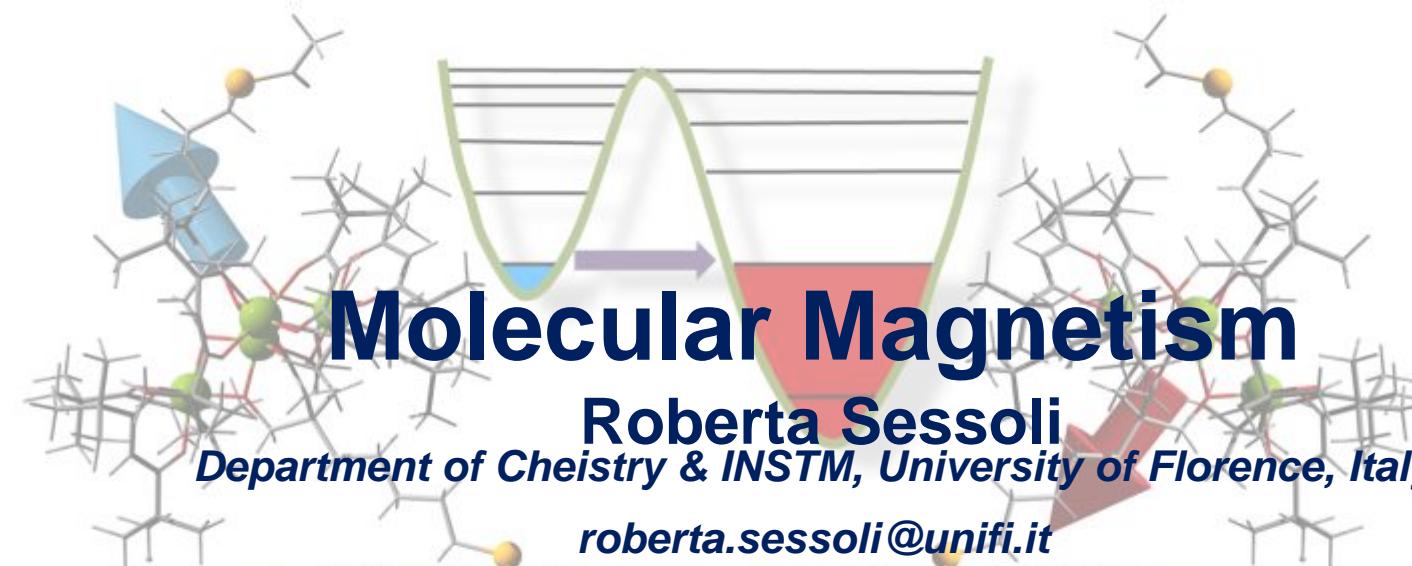
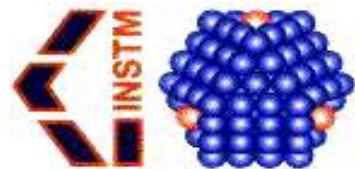




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"UGO SCHIFF"



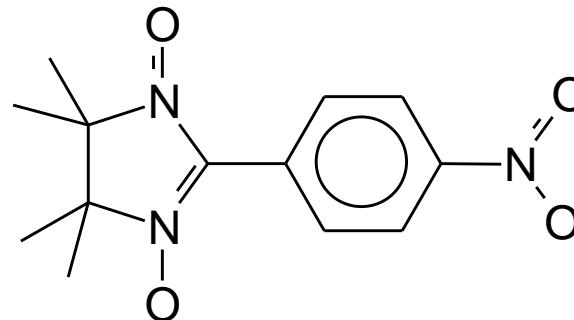


# Outline

- Introduction
- 0d Materials (Single Molecule Magnets)
  - Reversal of the magnetization: thermal process
  - Reversal of the magnetization: quantum process
  - Rational Design of SMMs
- 1d materials (Single Chain Magnets)
- Addressing individual molecules
  - SMMs on surfaces
  - SMMs in transport experiments

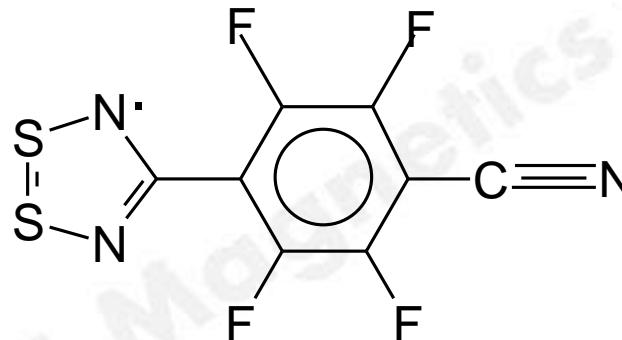
# Organic ferromagnets

Magnetism of  $S=1/2$  for each molecule, not of “impurities”



the first one (1991)

$T_c = 0.6 \text{ K}$



the highest  $T_c$

$T_c = 36 \text{ K}$

# Magnetic Exchange in Molecular Materials

$$H = \mathbf{S}_A \cdot \mathbf{J} \cdot \mathbf{S}_B$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} J_{xx} & J_{xy} & J_{xz} \\ J_{yx} & J_{yy} & J_{yz} \\ J_{zx} & J_{zy} & J_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H = \mathbf{J} \mathbf{S}_A \cdot \mathbf{S}_B + \mathbf{S}_A \cdot \mathbf{D}_{AB} \cdot \mathbf{S}_B + \mathbf{d}_{AB} \cdot (\mathbf{S}_A \times \mathbf{S}_B)_A$$

Isotropic

(Heisenberg)

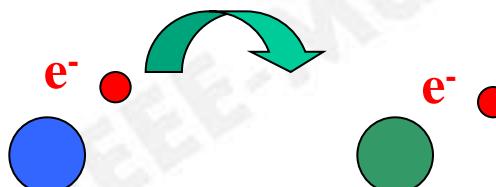
$$J=1/3\text{Tr}(\mathbf{J})$$

Anisotropic

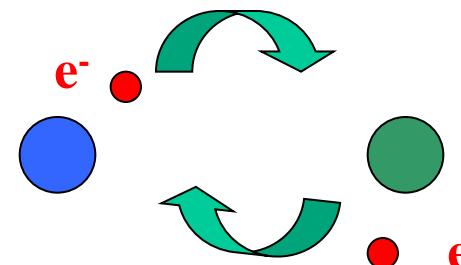
(traceless matrix)

Antisymmetric

(Dzyaloshinsky-Moriya)



Favours AF interaction



Favours F interaction

# Isotropic Exchange in a pair

$$\underline{S} = \underline{S}_a + \underline{S}_b$$

$$\underline{S}^2 = (\underline{S}_a + \underline{S}_b)^2 = \underline{S}_a^2 + \underline{S}_b^2 + 2\underline{S}_a \cdot \underline{S}_b$$

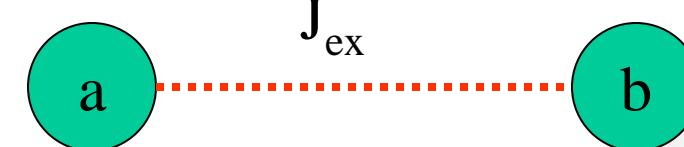
$$\underline{S}_a \cdot \underline{S}_b = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{S}^2 - \underline{S}_a^2 - \underline{S}_b^2)$$

$$H = J_{\text{ex}} / 2(\underline{S}^2 - \underline{S}_a^2 - \underline{S}_b^2)$$

$$E(S, S_a, S_b) = J_{\text{ex}} / 2(S(S+1) - S_a(S_a+1) - S_b(S_b+1))$$

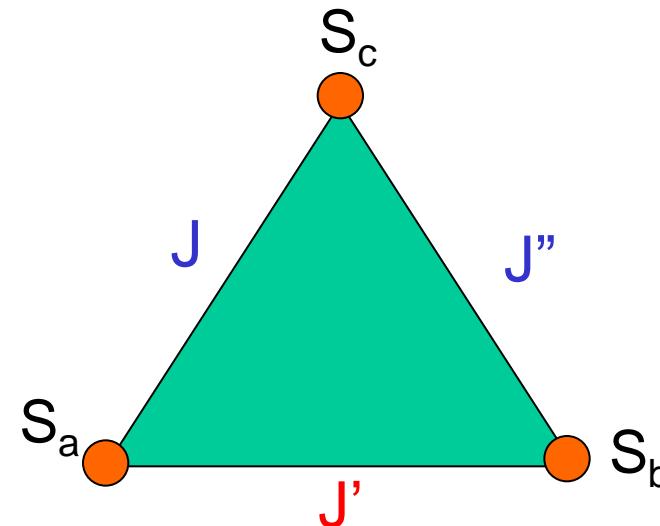
**Lande's rule** for the intervals:  $E(S) - E(S-1) = JS$

$$\chi_M = 1/3 \frac{N \mu_B^2 g^2}{kT} \frac{\sum_s S(S+1)(2S+1) \exp(-E(S)/kT)}{\sum_s (2S+1) \exp(-E(S)/kT)}$$



$$H = J_{\text{ex}} \underline{S}_a \cdot \underline{S}_b$$

# Beyond the pair of spins



$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{i,j>l}^N J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

- 1)  $\mathbf{St}^2$  commutes with  $\mathcal{H}$ ,
- 2)  $\mathbf{Stz}$  commutes with  $\mathcal{H}$ ,
- 3) In zero field and zero anisotropy each  $\mathbf{St}$  state is  $(2\mathbf{St}+1)$  degenerate
- 4) The base is defined by  $n-1$  intermediate spin states plus  $\mathbf{St}$   
e. g. :  $|\mathbf{Sa}, \mathbf{Sb}, \mathbf{Sc}, \mathbf{Sab}, \mathbf{St}, M\rangle$
- 5)  $\mathcal{H}$  does not commute with intermediate spin states ( e.g.  $\mathbf{Sab}$ )

$$\mathcal{H} = JS_a \cdot Sc + J'S_a \cdot Sb + J''Sb \cdot Sc$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{St} &= (\mathbf{Sa} + \mathbf{Sb}) + \mathbf{Sc} = \mathbf{Sa} + (\mathbf{Sb} + \mathbf{Sc}) = \\ &= (\mathbf{Sa} + \mathbf{Sc}) + \mathbf{Sb} \end{aligned}$$



# Magnetic anisotropy in molecular materials

The magnetic anisotropy is mainly associated to the asymmetry of the crystal field

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CF}} = \sum_{N,k} B_N^k \mathbf{O}_N^k \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{with} \\ \text{and} \end{matrix} \quad N = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2S. \quad -N \leq k \leq +N$$

Stevens operators

The  $O_n^m$  operators are defined as:

$$O_2^0 = 3S_z^2 - s(s+1)$$

$$O_2^2 = \frac{1}{2}(S_+^2 + S_-^2)$$

$$O_4^0 = 35S_z^4 - [30s(s+1) - 25]S_z^2 + 3s^2(s+1)^2 - 6s(s+1)$$

$$O_4^2 = \frac{1}{4}[7S_z^2 - s(s+1) - 5](S_+^2 + S_-^2)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4}(S_+^2 + S_-^2)[7S_z^2 - s(s+1) - 5]$$

$$O_4^3 = \frac{1}{4}S_z(S_+^3 + S_-^3) + \frac{1}{4}(S_+^3 + S_-^3)S_z$$

$$O_4^4 = \frac{1}{2}(S_+^4 + S_-^4).$$



# Magnetic anisotropy in molecular materials

## Alternative notations commonly used

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CF}} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{S} = D_{xx}S_x^2 + D_{yy}S_y^2 + D_{zz}S_z^2$$

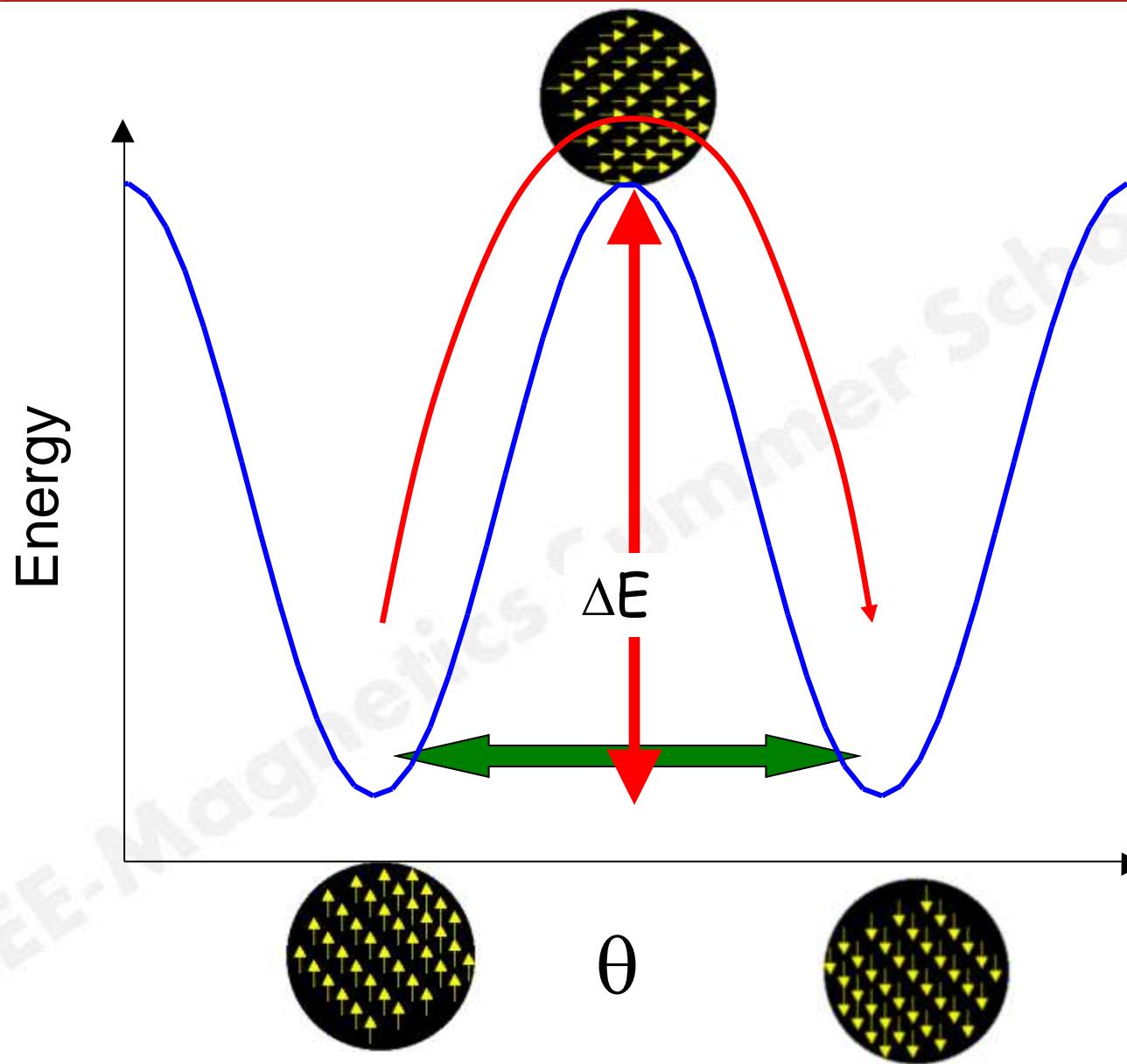
$$D = D_{zz} - \frac{1}{2}D_{xx} - \frac{1}{2}D_{yy}; E = \frac{1}{2}(D_{xx} - D_{yy}).$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CF}} = D \left[ S_z^2 - \frac{1}{3}S(S+1) \right] + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2). \text{ with } -1/3 \leq E/D \leq +1/3.$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CF}} = -D'S_z^2 + BS_x^2$$

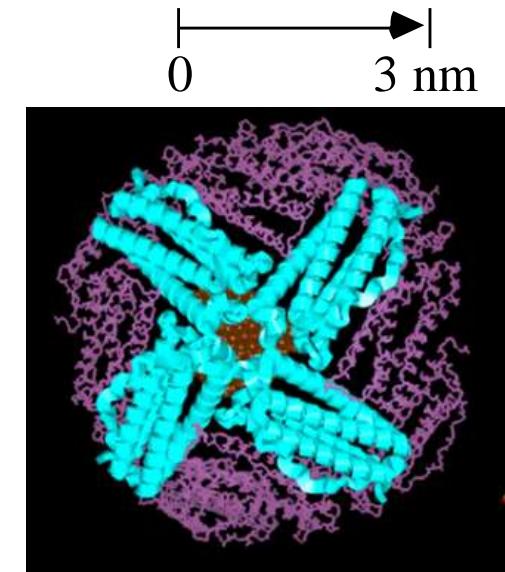
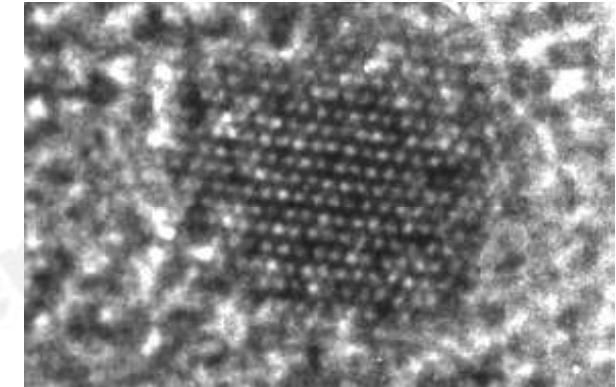
$$\text{with } \tilde{B} = 2E \quad \text{and} \quad D' = -(D + B/2)$$

# Single Domain Nanoparticles



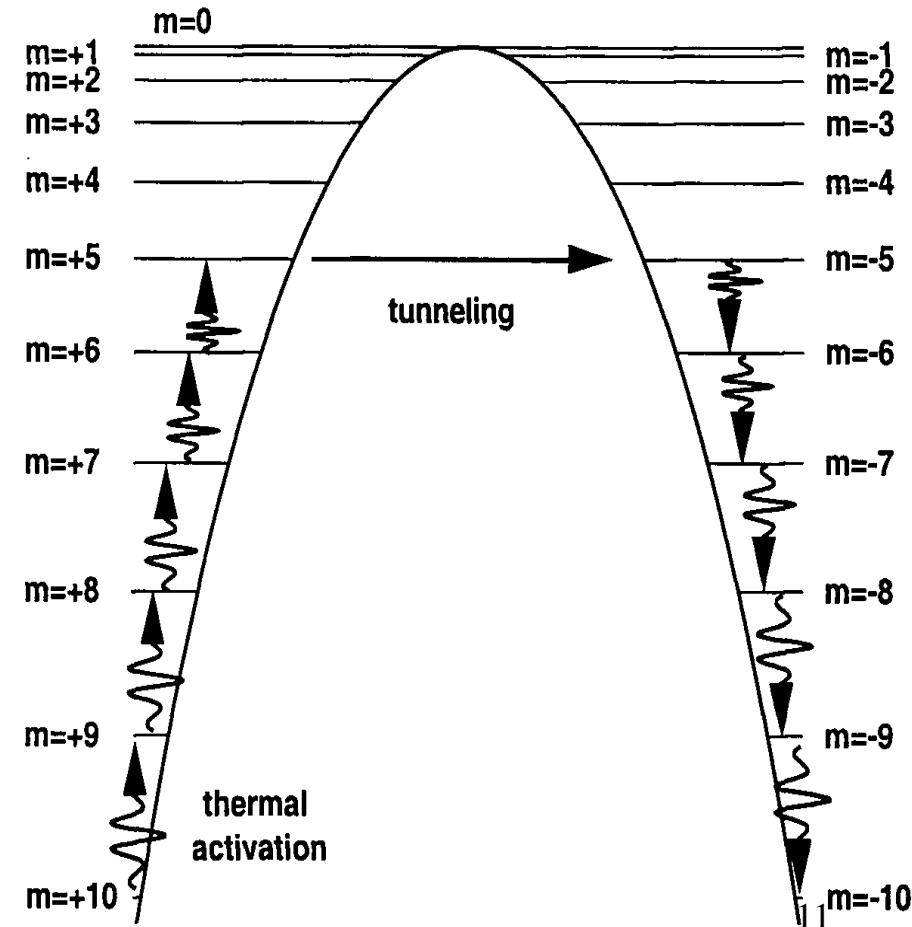
# Quantum Tunneling of Magnetization

- First evidences of Quantum Tunneling in nanosized magnetic particles  
(difficulties due to size distribution)
- Quantum Coherence in ferrihydrite confined in the ferritin mammalian protein  
(inconclusive due to distribution of iron load)



# Reducing further the size ...

- The continuum of levels within the potential wells breaks down and quantum size effects, like tunneling, are observed: this is the exciting region for new properties



# Single Molecule Magnets

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{an}} = D S_z^2$$



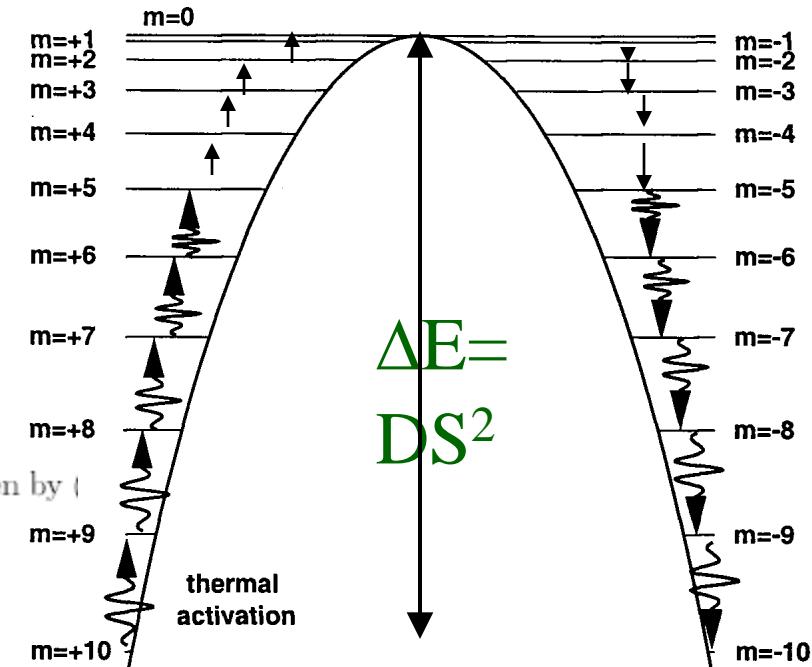
$$S_z |m\rangle = m |m\rangle$$

$$E_m = -|D|m^2$$

At equilibrium, the probability  $p_m^0$  that the spin is in state  $|m\rangle$  is given by

$$p_m^0 = (1/Z) \exp[-\beta(E_m)]$$

Intuitively, it may be expected that the relaxation rate  $1/\tau$  is proportional to the probability to be at the top of the barrier.

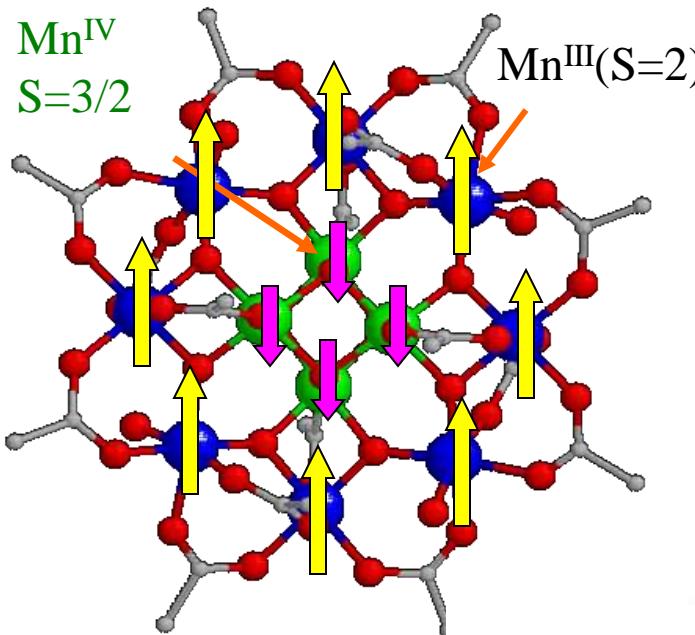


$$1/\tau = (1/\tau_0)p_0^0 = (1/Z)(1/\tau_0) \exp(-\beta E_0) \approx$$

$$\approx (1/\tau_0) \exp[-\beta(E_0 - E_s)] \approx (1/\tau_0) \exp(-\beta|D|s^2)$$

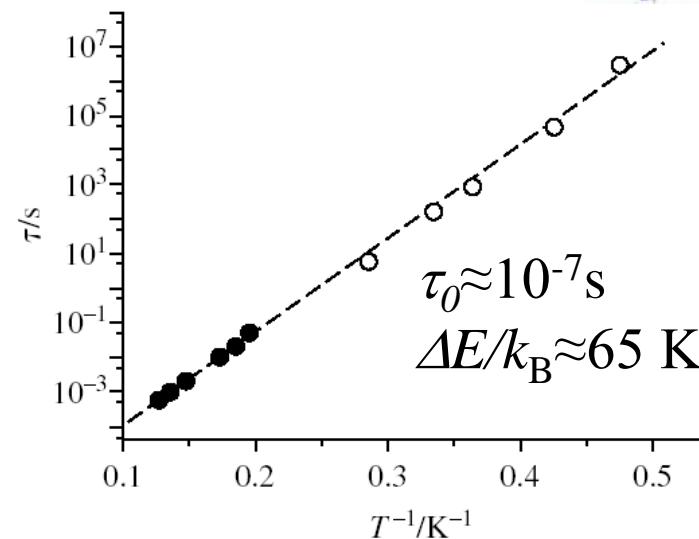
$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp(\Delta E / k_B T)$$

# Single Molecule Magnets: a school of physics

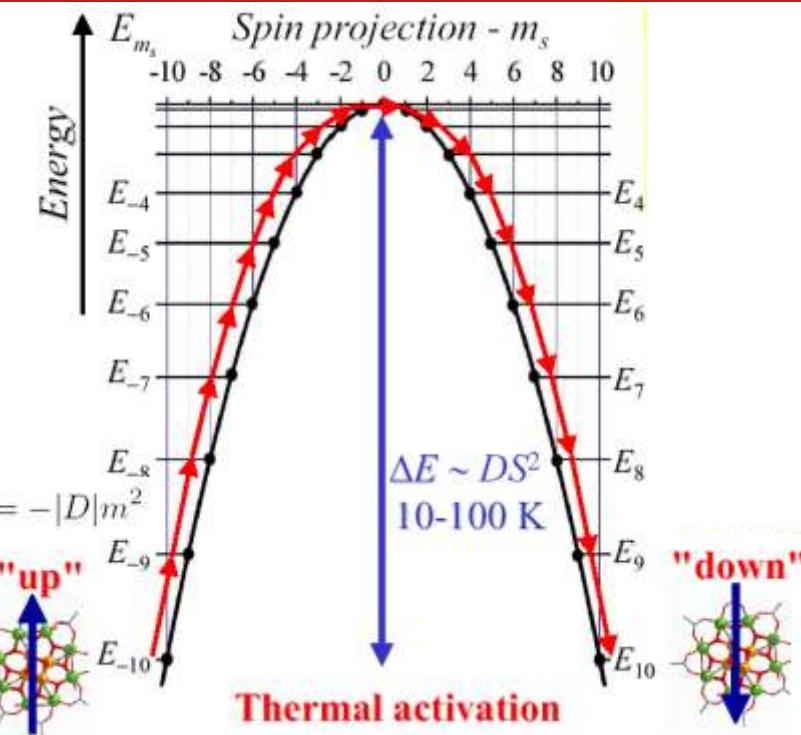
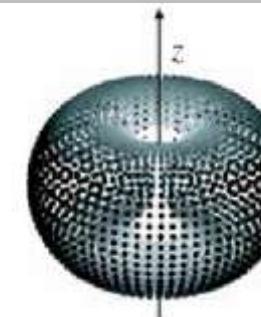


$$S_{\text{tot}} = 10$$

$$D \approx -0.7 \text{ K}$$

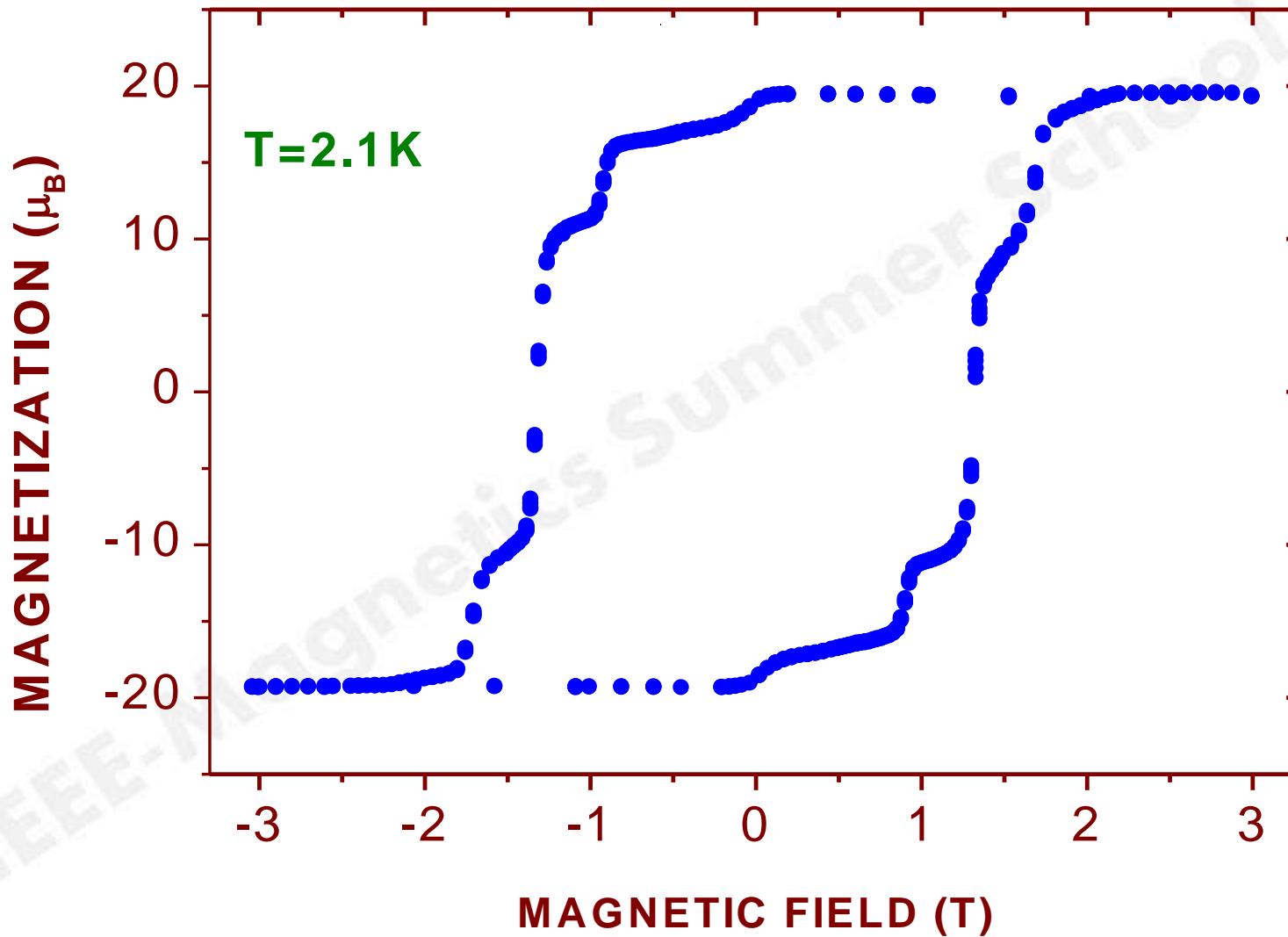


$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{an}} = DS_z^2$$



$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp(\Delta E / k_B T)$$

# Hysteresis loop of molecular origin





# Master equation and transition probability

The time evolution of the population of the  $|m\rangle$  state is given by:

$$\frac{d}{dt}p_m(t) = \sum_q [\gamma_q^m p_q(t) - \gamma_m^q p_m(t)]$$

Where  $\gamma$  are the transition probabilities independent from each other (Markov process)  
And are related to spin-phonon interactions.

A trivial solution is that at equilibrium:  $p_m^0 = (1/Z) \exp(-\beta E_m)$

$$\sum_q [\gamma_q^m p_q^0 - \gamma_m^q p_m^0] = 0$$

The detailed balance principle tell us that also each term of the sum vanishes at equilibrium  $\gamma_m^{m'} p_m^0 = \gamma_{m'}^m p_{m'}^0$

$$\gamma_m^{m'}/\gamma_{m'}^m = p_{m'}^0/p_m^0 = \exp[\beta(E_m - E_{m'})]$$

# Solution of the master equation

In a more general case (biaxial anisotropy, transverse field)

$$| m^* \rangle = \sum_{m'} \varphi_{m'}^{(m)} | m' \rangle$$

With  $k=0,1, 2.., 2s$ .

The population of each state varies exponentially:

$$p_m(t) = \varphi_m^{(k)} \exp(-t/\tau_k)$$

And substituting in

$$\frac{d}{dt} p_m(t) = \sum_q [\gamma_q^m p_q(t) - \gamma_m^q p_m(t)]$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau_k} \varphi_m^{(k)} = \sum_q [\gamma_q^m \varphi_q^{(k)} - \gamma_m^q \varphi_m^{(k)}] = \sum_q \left[ \gamma_q^m - \delta_q^m \sum_{q'} \gamma_m^{q'} \right] \varphi_q^{(k)}$$

where the Kronecker symbol  $\delta_q^m$  ( $=1$  if  $q = m$ , while  $\delta_q^m = 0$  if  $q \neq m$ ) has been introduced.



# The Master matrix

$$\frac{d\vec{N}}{dt} = \tilde{\Gamma}\vec{N}$$

$$\Gamma_q^m = \gamma_q^m - \delta_q^m \sum_{m'} \gamma_{m'}^m$$

$$\tilde{\Gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sum_{m' \neq 1} \gamma_1^{m'} & \gamma_2^1 & \cdot & \cdot & \gamma_{2s+1}^1 \\ \gamma_1^2 & -\sum_{m' \neq 2} \gamma_2^{m'} & \cdot & \cdot & \gamma_{2s+1}^2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \gamma_1^{2s+1} & \gamma_2^{2s+1} & \cdot & \cdot & -\sum_{m' \neq s} \gamma_{2s+1}^{m'} \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{N} = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ \vdots \\ N_{2s+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

There are  $2s+1$  solution of  $(\det\Gamma - \lambda) = 0$

One solution is  $\lambda=0$ , corresponding to  $\tau=\infty$  (the equilibrium)

The relaxation rate at low temperature is

$$\tau = \max_{\lambda_i \neq 0} \left\{ -\frac{1}{\lambda_i} \right\}$$



# Transition probabilities

The allowed transitions for spin-phonon coupling have

$$|m-m'|=1,2$$

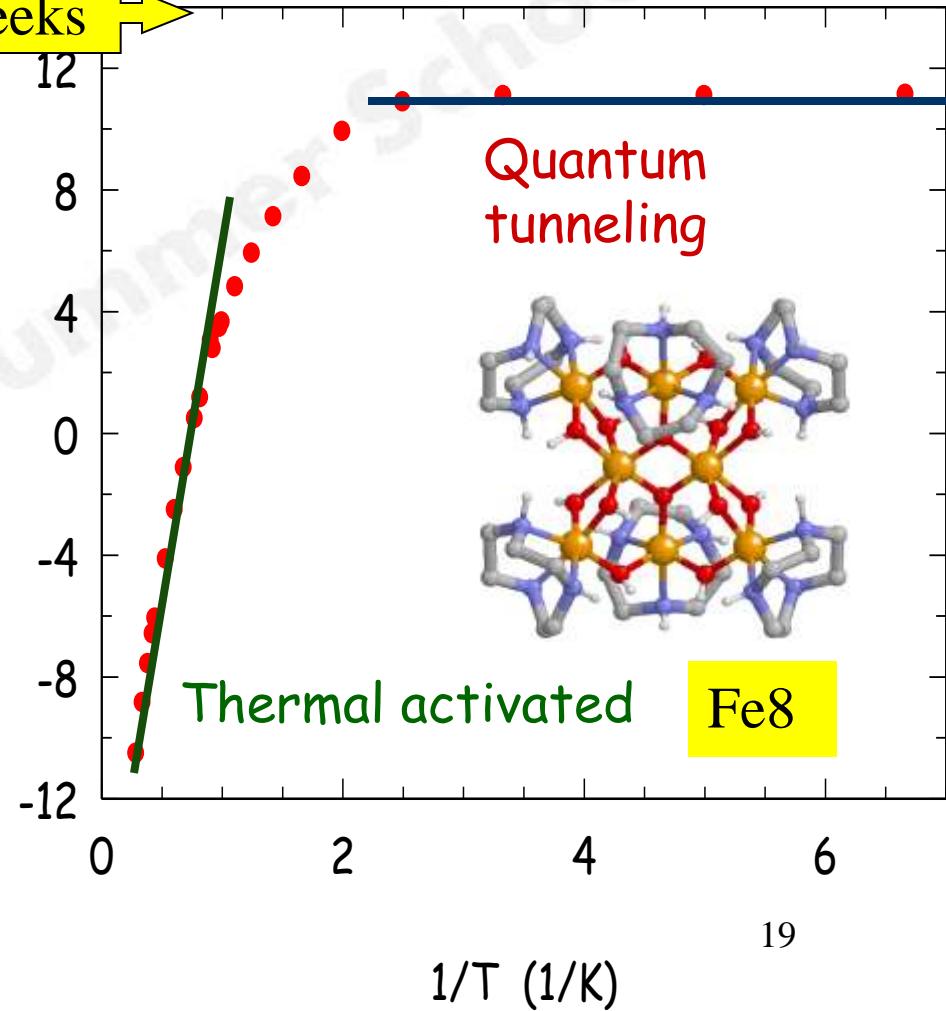
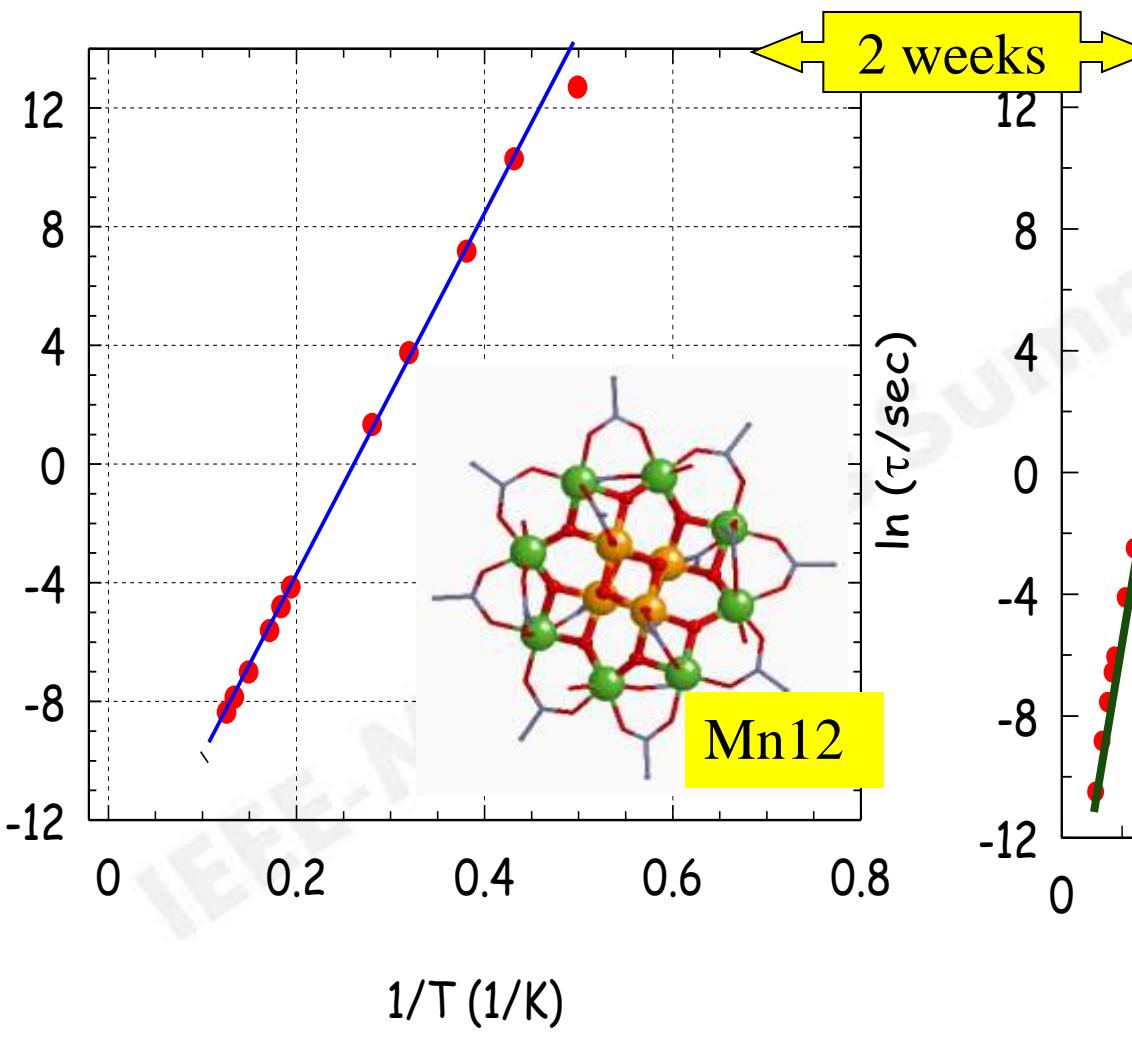
$$\gamma_m^p = \frac{3}{2\pi\rho\hbar^4 c^5} \frac{(E_p - E_m)^3}{e^{\beta(E_p - E_m)} - 1} \left\{ g_a \left[ (S_+^2)_{mp}^2 + (S_-^2)_{mp}^2 \right] + g_b \left[ (\{S_+, S_z\})_{mp}^2 + (\{S_-, S_z\})_{mp}^2 \right] \right\}$$

When  $(E_m - E_p)$  is small (which also corresponds to the top of the barrier) the transition probability is small because of the factor  $(E_m - E_p)^3$ , which mainly reflects the fact that there are few phonon states of very low energy.

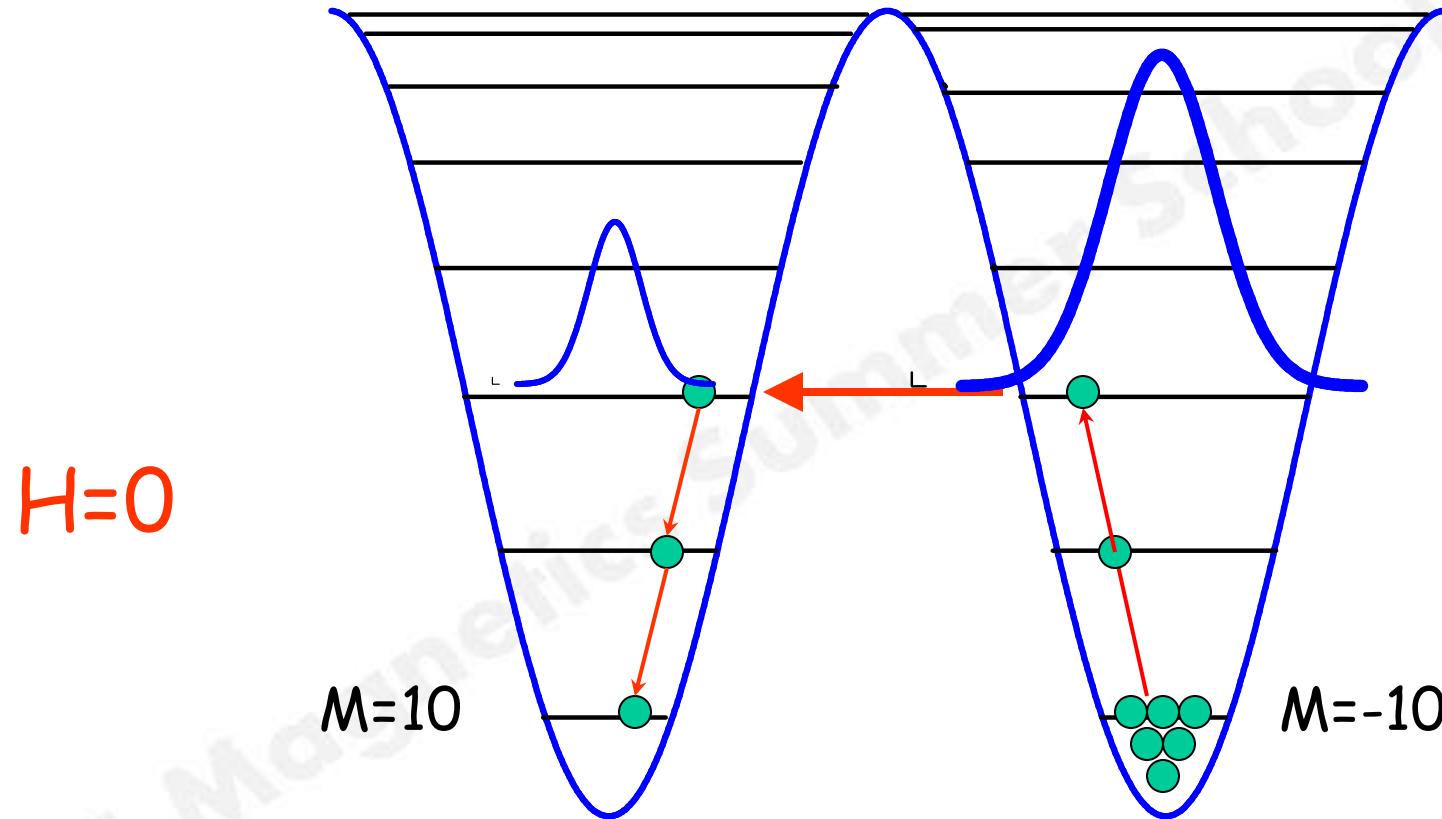
$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp(\Delta E / k_B T)$$

$$\tau_0(\text{SMM}) > \tau_0(\text{MNP})$$

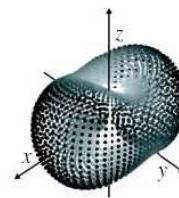
# Low temperature dynamics



# Tunnel mechanism & return to equilibrium

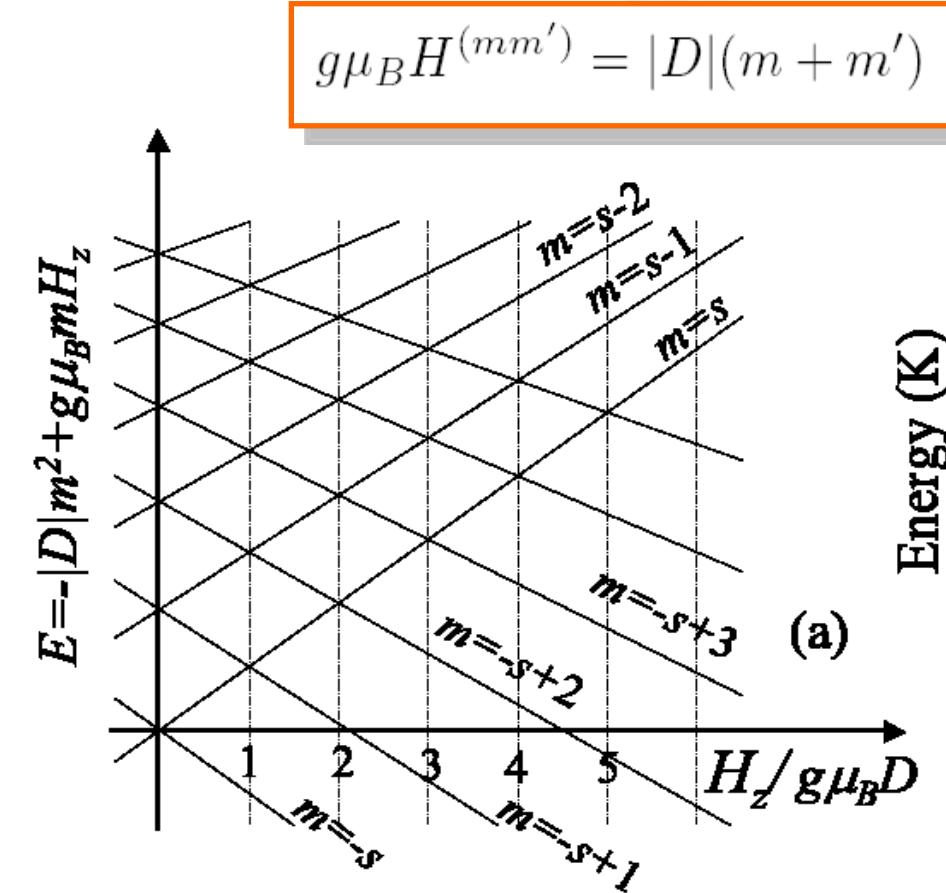
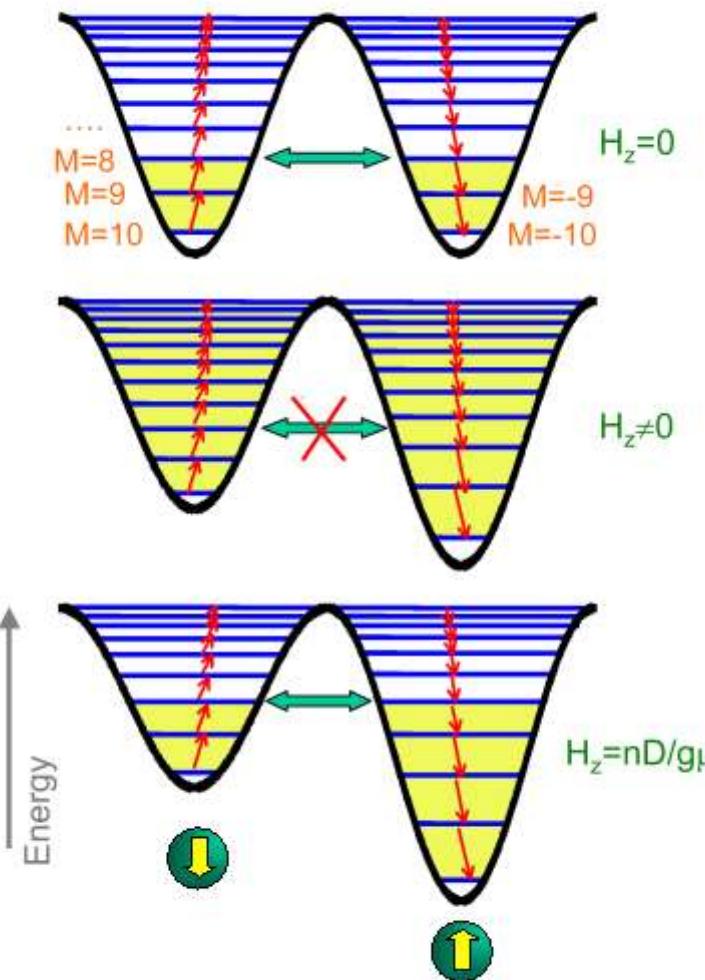


# Resonant Quantum Tunneling of the Magnetization

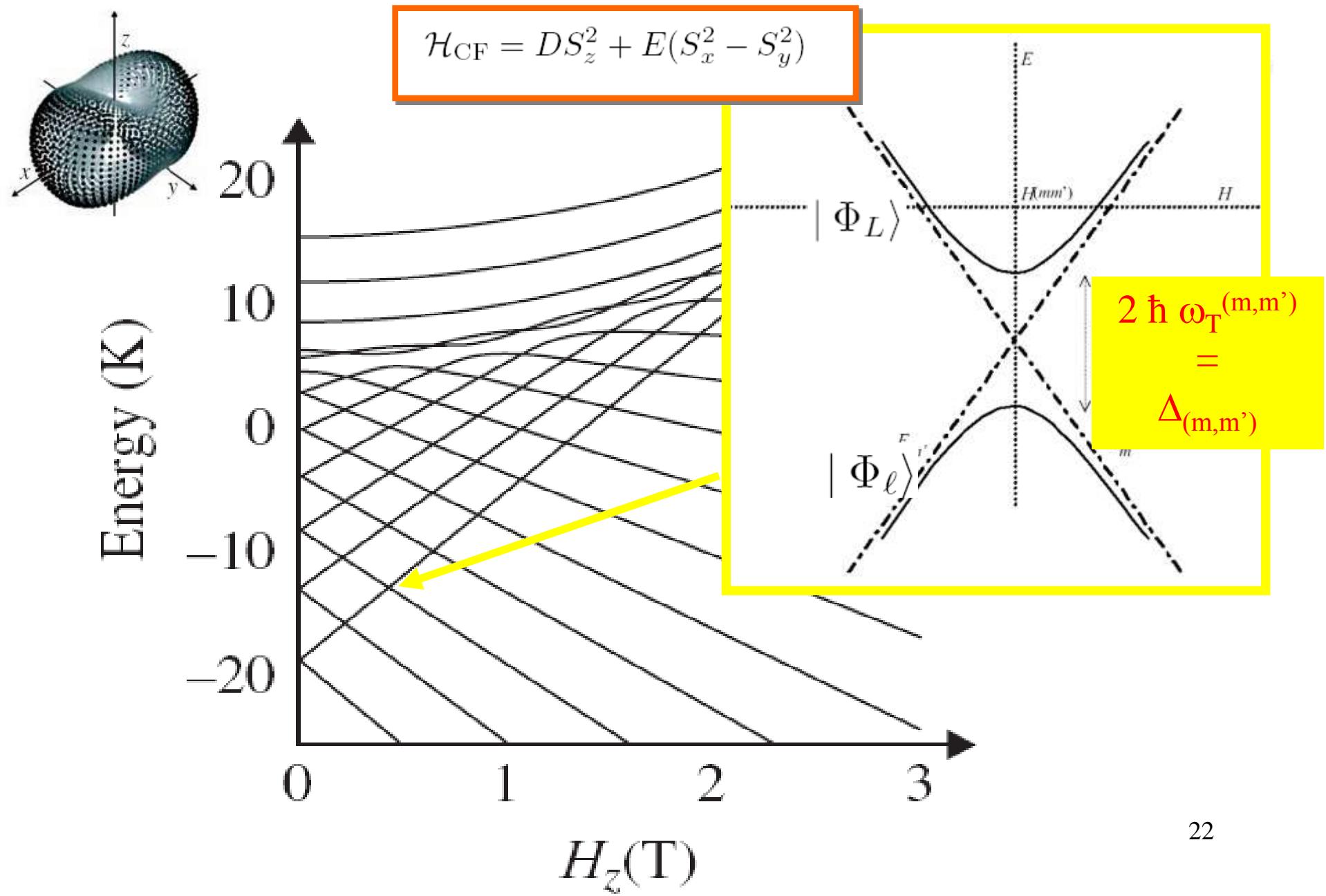


$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CF}} = D S_z^2 + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$$

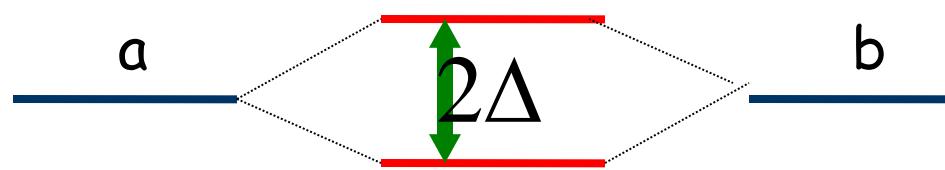
$$E_m^{(0)} - E_{m'}^{(0)} = 0$$



# Resonant Quantum Tunneling of the Magnetization



# Two levels description

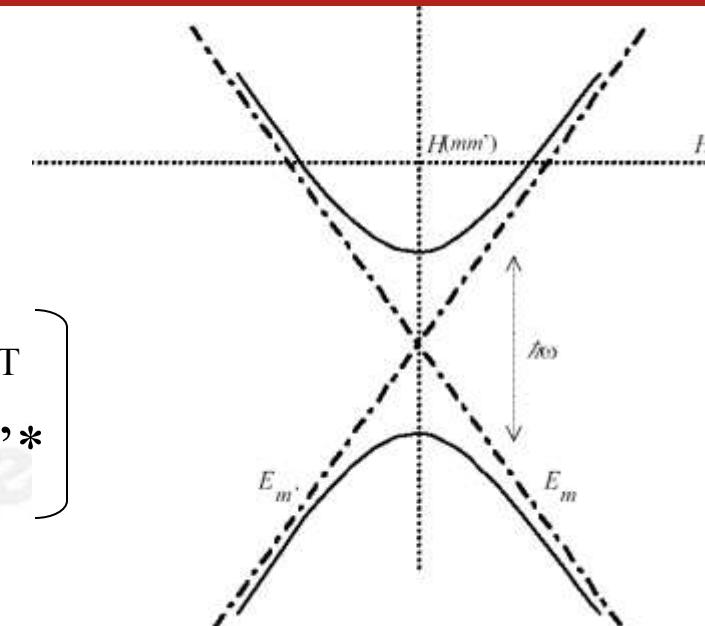


Diagonal terms  $\propto S_z$

$$\begin{pmatrix} E_{m^*} & \hbar\omega_T \\ \hbar\omega_T & E_{m'^*} \end{pmatrix}$$

Out of diagonal terms  $\propto S_{x,y}$

$$\Delta = \frac{\langle m^* | \mathcal{H} | m^* \rangle - \langle m'^* | \mathcal{H} | m'^* \rangle}{2} \approx g\mu_B(m - m')\delta H_z/2$$



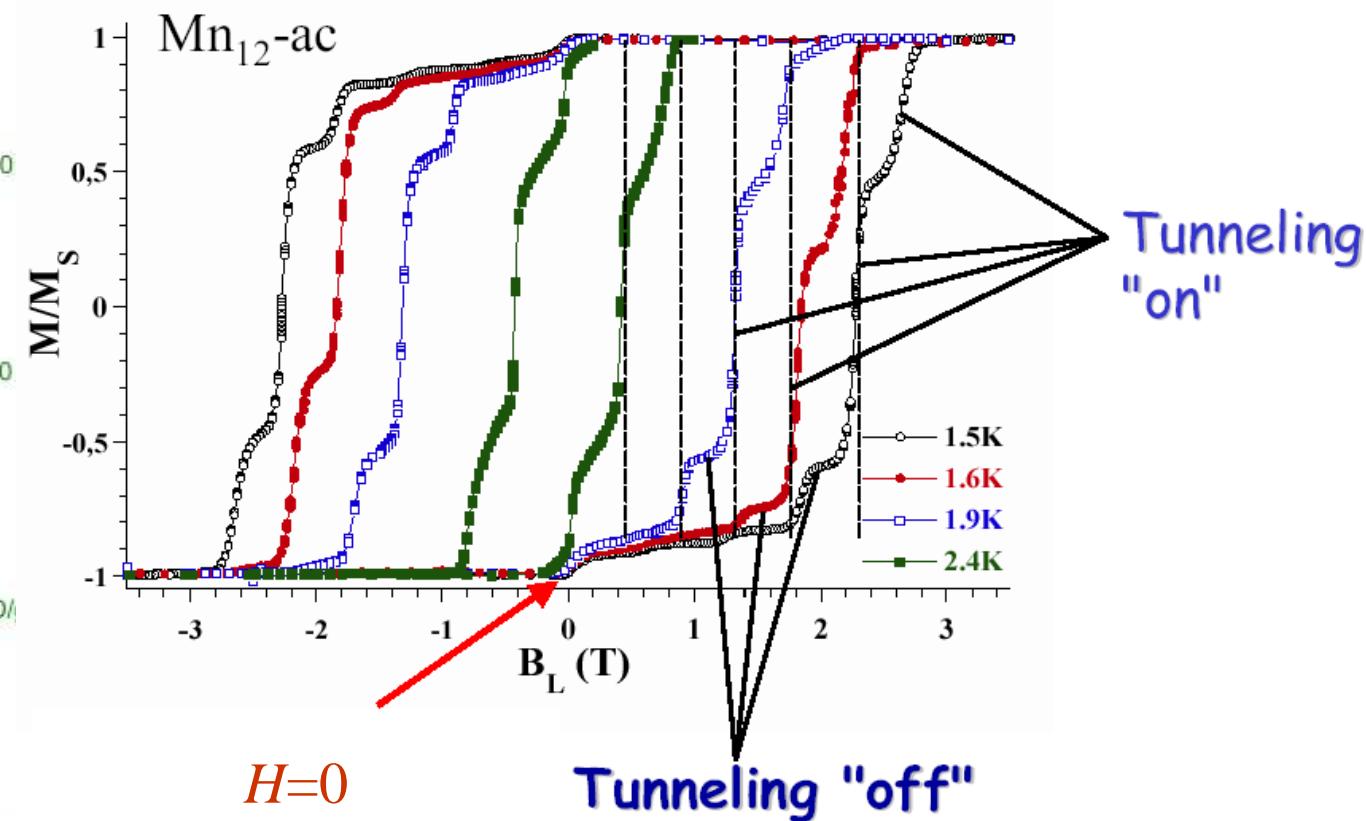
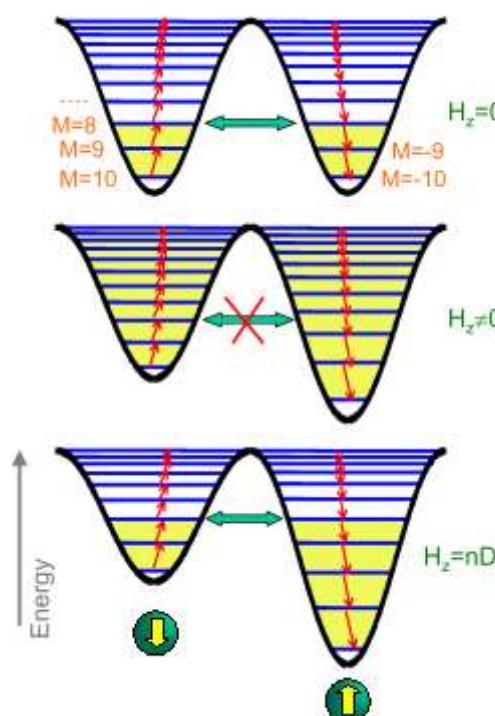
$$\delta E = \pm \sqrt{\Delta^2 + \hbar^2 \omega_T^2}$$

$$| \Phi_\ell \rangle = | m^* \rangle \cos \phi + | m'^* \rangle \sin \phi$$

$$| \Phi_L \rangle = - | m^* \rangle \sin \phi + | m'^* \rangle \cos \phi$$

$$|\tan \phi| = \frac{\hbar \omega_T}{|\delta E - \Delta|}$$

# Resonant Quantum Tunneling of the Magnetization



# Classical anisotropy potential

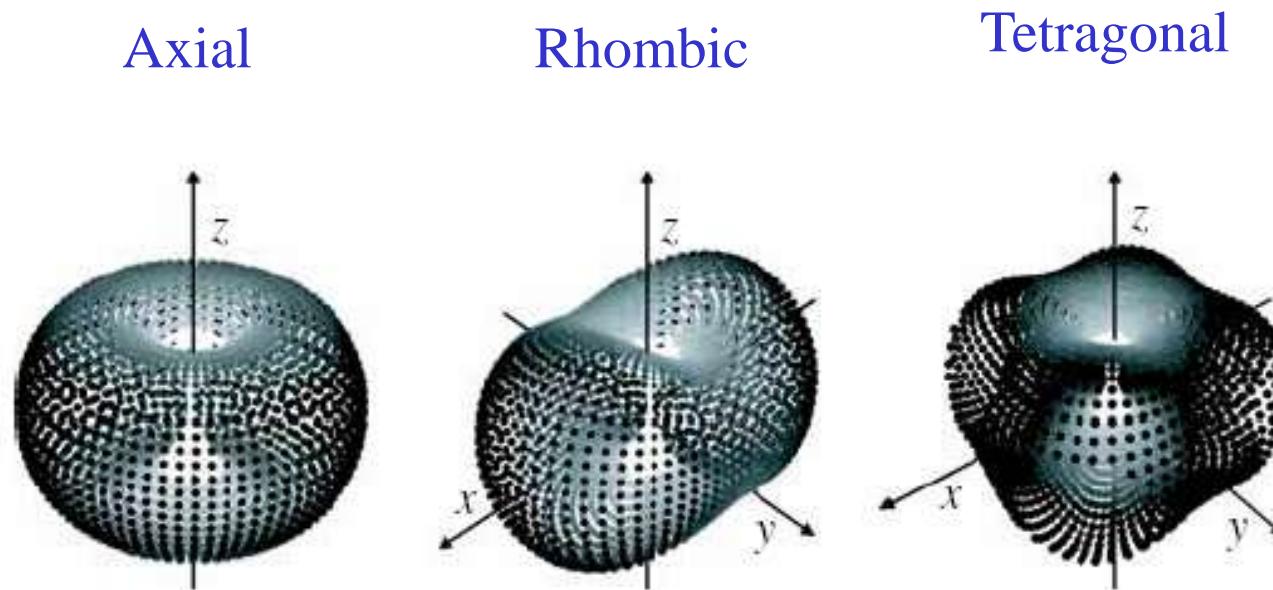


FIG. 2.2. The distance of the surface from the origin represents the classical potential energy of a spin experiencing a uniaxial crystal field with negative  $D$  (left), the same including a transverse second-order term (middle), or a transverse fourth-order term (right).

$$\mathcal{H} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + E(\hat{S}_x^2 - \hat{S}_y^2) + \dots$$



# Tunneling and symmetry

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \delta\mathcal{H}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = -|D|S_z^2 + g\mu_B H_z$$

- Biaxial anisotropy (rhombic symmetry,  $x \neq y \neq z$ )

$$\delta\mathcal{H} = (B/4)(S_+^2 + S_-^2)$$

$\langle m | \mathcal{H} | m' \rangle \neq 0$  only when  $|m-m'|$  is even

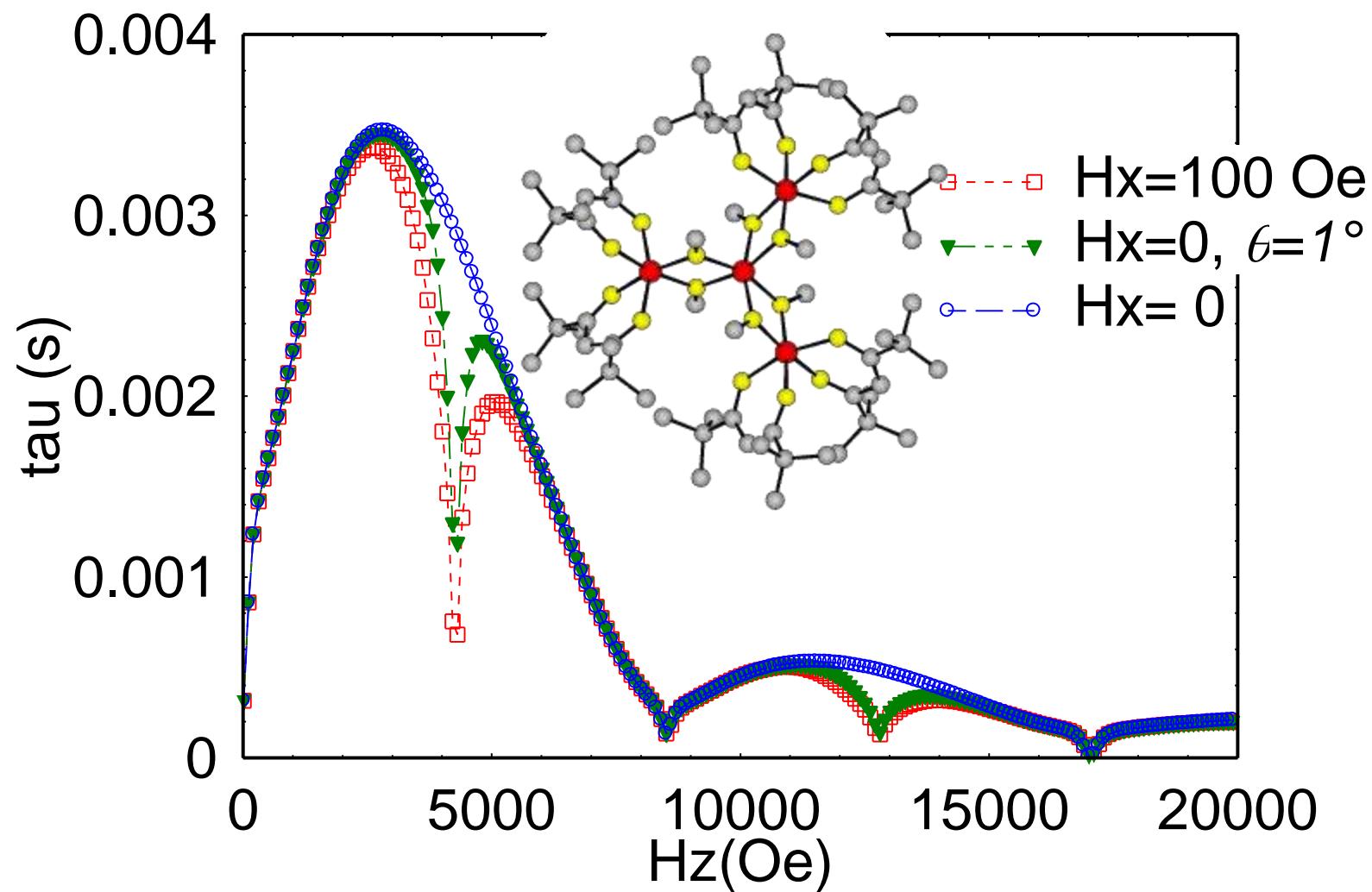
$$| \Psi \rangle = \sum_p \varphi(s-2p) | s-2p \rangle$$

$$| \Psi \rangle = \sum_p \varphi(s-2p-1) | s-2p-1 \rangle$$

$$m - m' = 2k$$

# Simulated relaxation time

Relaxation time for a Fe4 star:  $S=5$   $D=-0.4$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $E=0.04$





# Tunneling and symmetry

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \delta\mathcal{H}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = -|D|S_z^2 + g\mu_B H_z$$

- Uniaxial symmetry (e.g. tetragonal symmetry,  $x=y \neq z$ )

$$\delta\mathcal{H} = C(S_+^4 + S_-^4)$$

$\langle m | \mathcal{H} | m' \rangle \neq 0$     only when  $|m-m'|$  is  $4n$

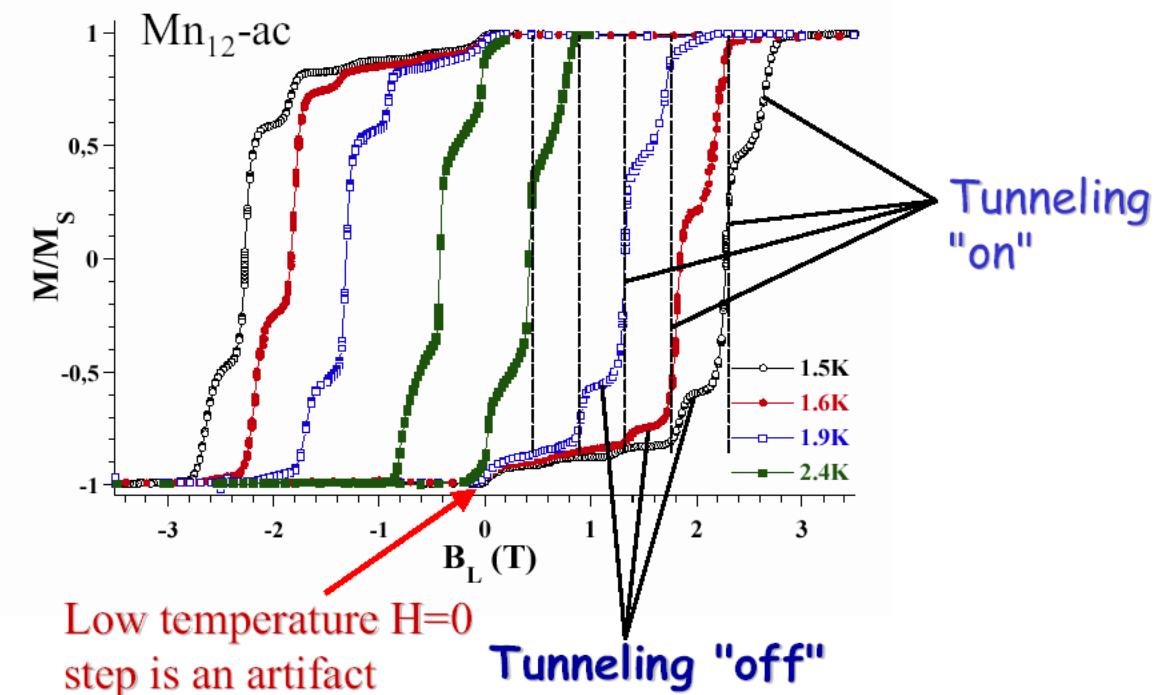
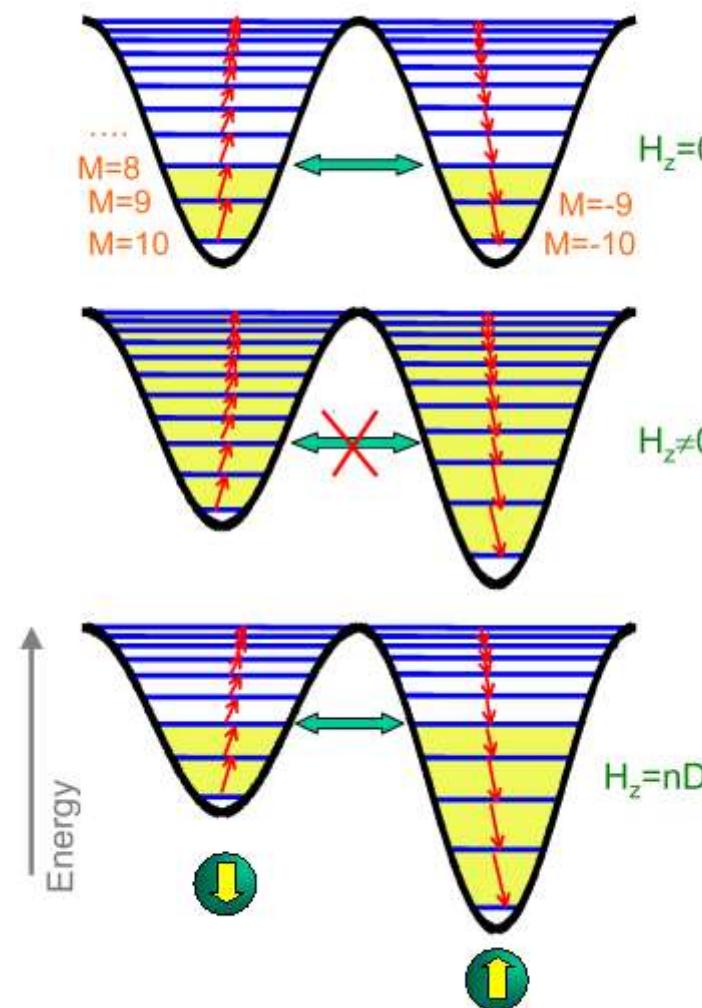
$$| \Psi \rangle = \sum_p \varphi(s - 4p) | s - 4p \rangle$$

$$m - m' = 4k$$

$$| \Psi \rangle = \sum_p \varphi(s - 4p - 1) | s - 4p - 1 \rangle$$

For any symmetry tunneling in zero field is not allowed for an half-integer spin state

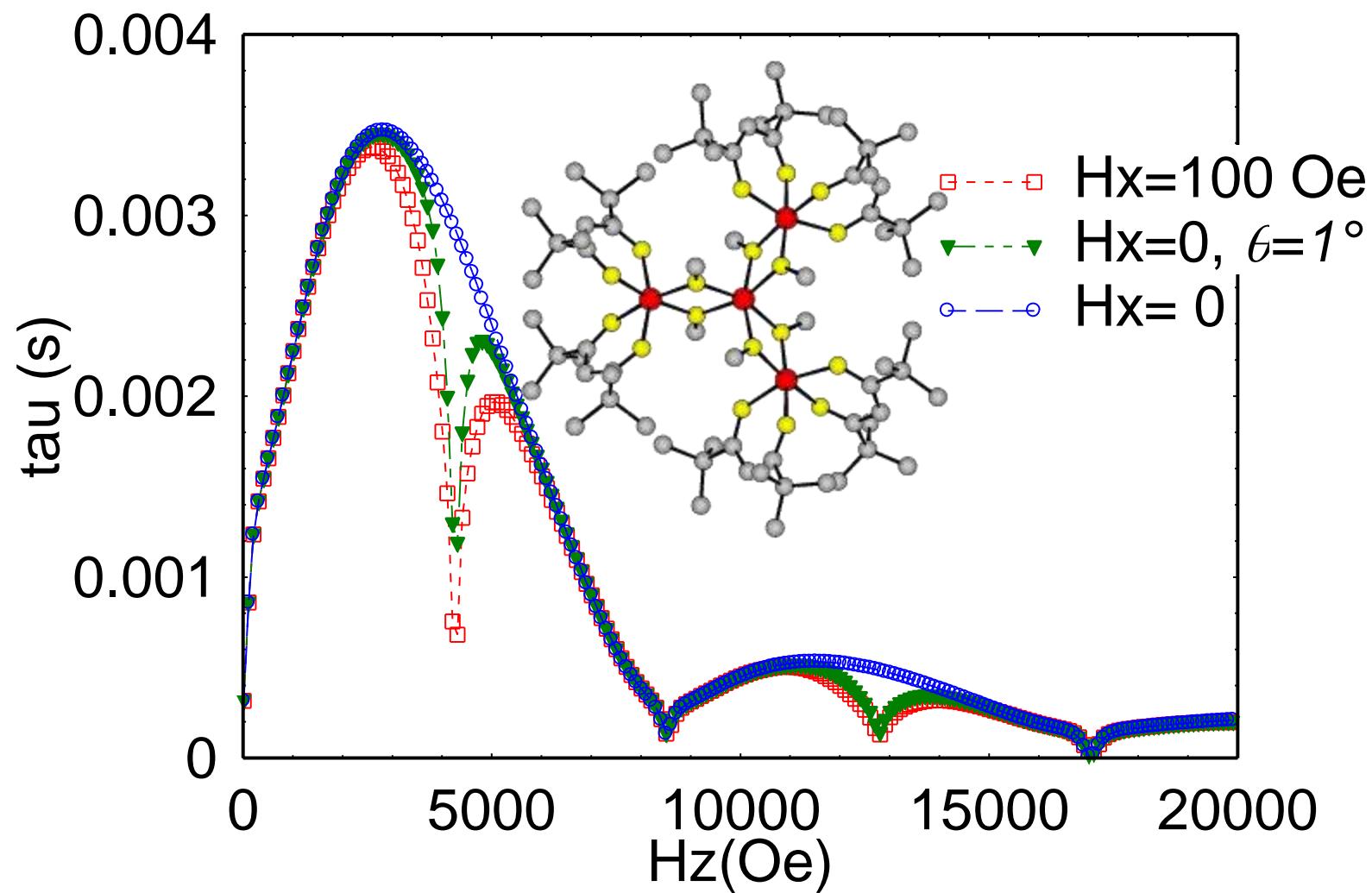
# Relaxed selection rules



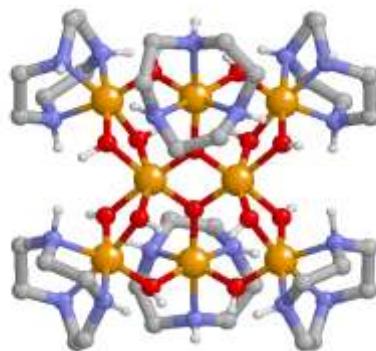
Thomas et al., *Nature* 1996  
Friedman et al., *PRL* 1996

# Simulated relaxation time

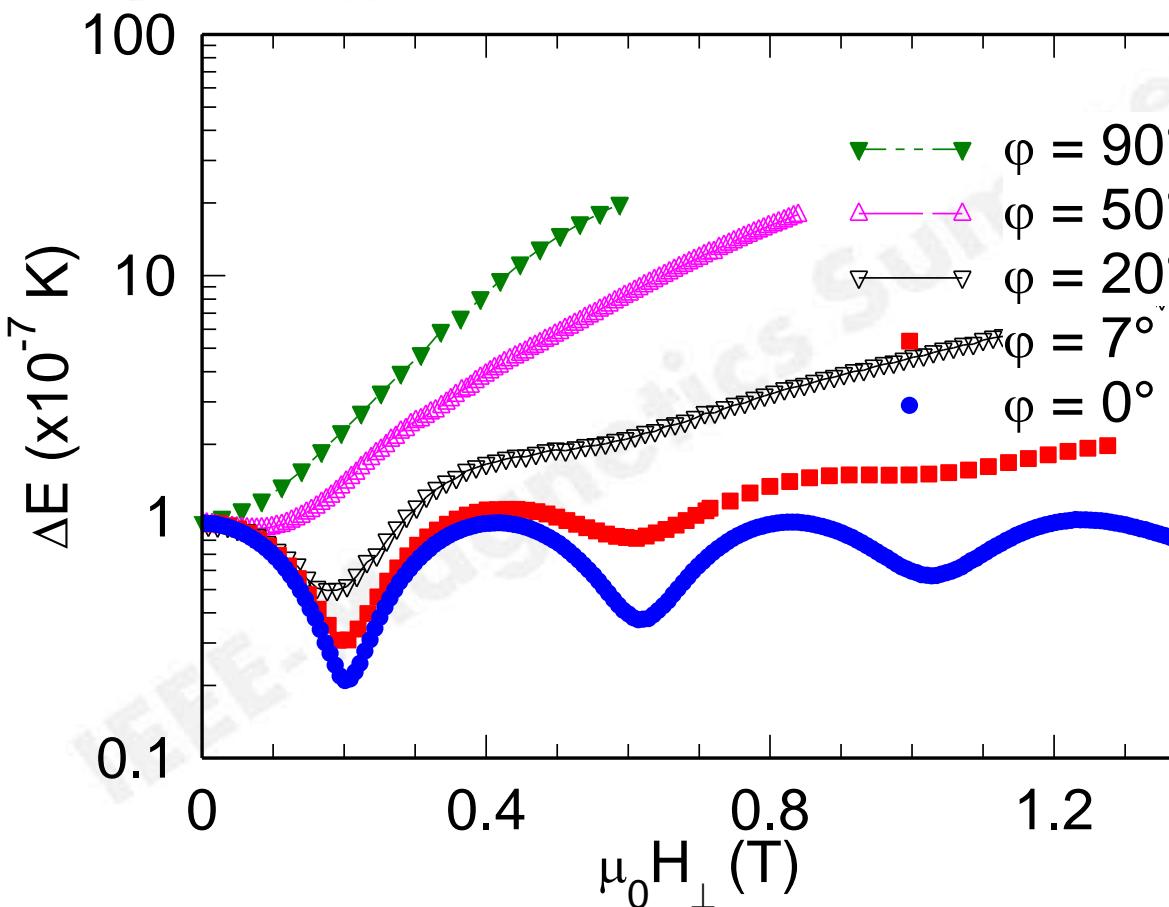
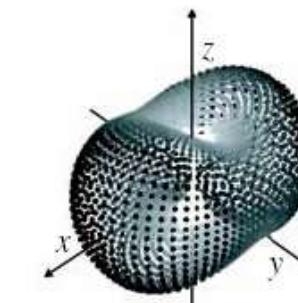
Relaxation time for a Fe4 star:  $S=5$   $D=-0.4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   $E=0.04$



# Transverse field dependence of the tunnel-splitting



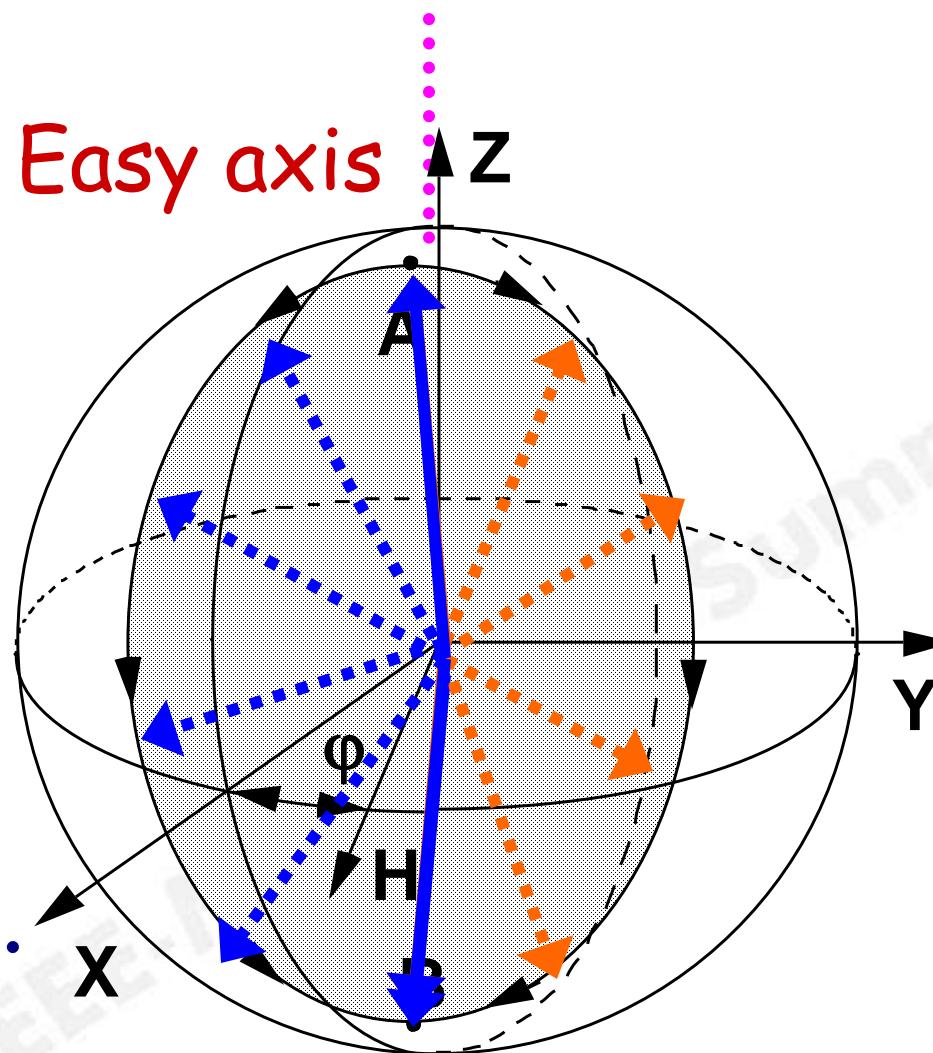
**Fe<sub>8</sub> SMM  
biaxial symmetry**



**φ=90°**  
**intermediate**  
**axis**

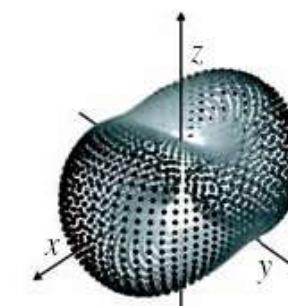
**φ=0°**  
**hard axis**

# A semiclassical picture

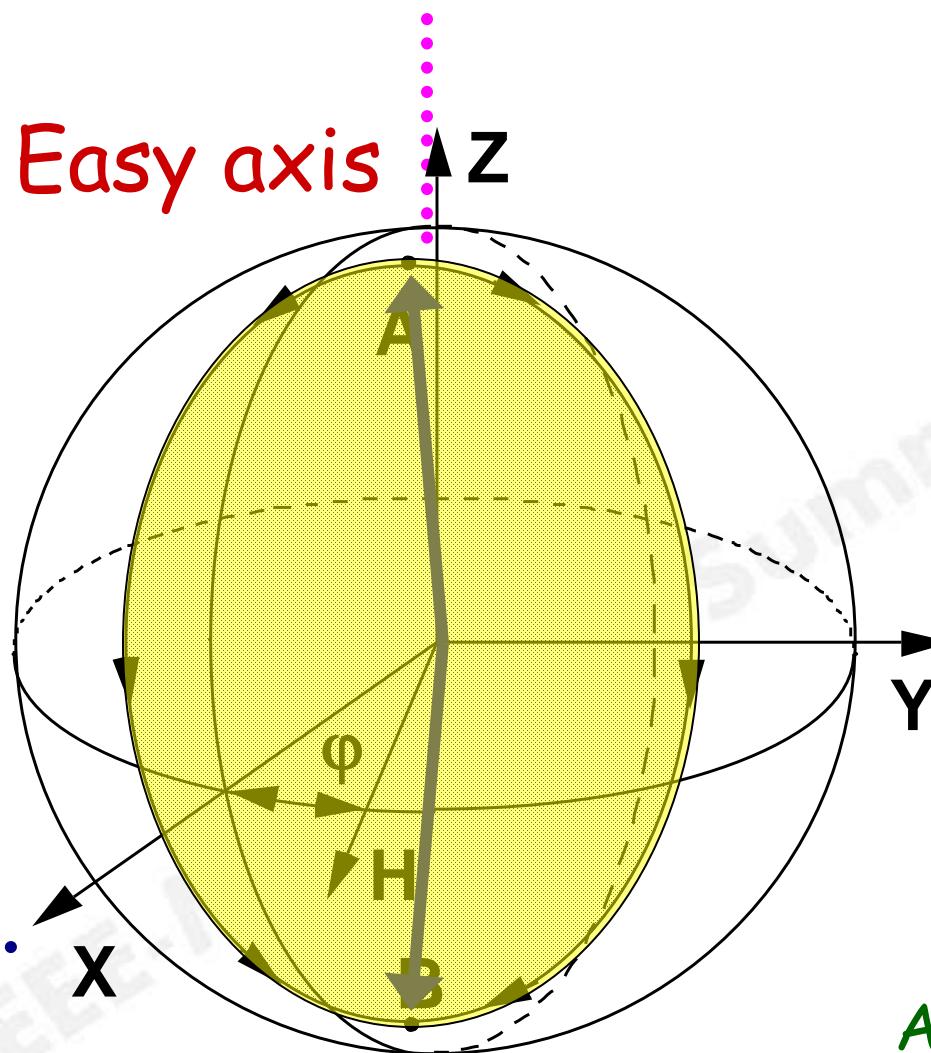


Clock-wise

Anti-Clock-wise



# Destructive Topological Interferences



Hard axis

destructive if

$$A = k\pi/S \text{ (k odd)}$$

$$\Delta H_x =$$

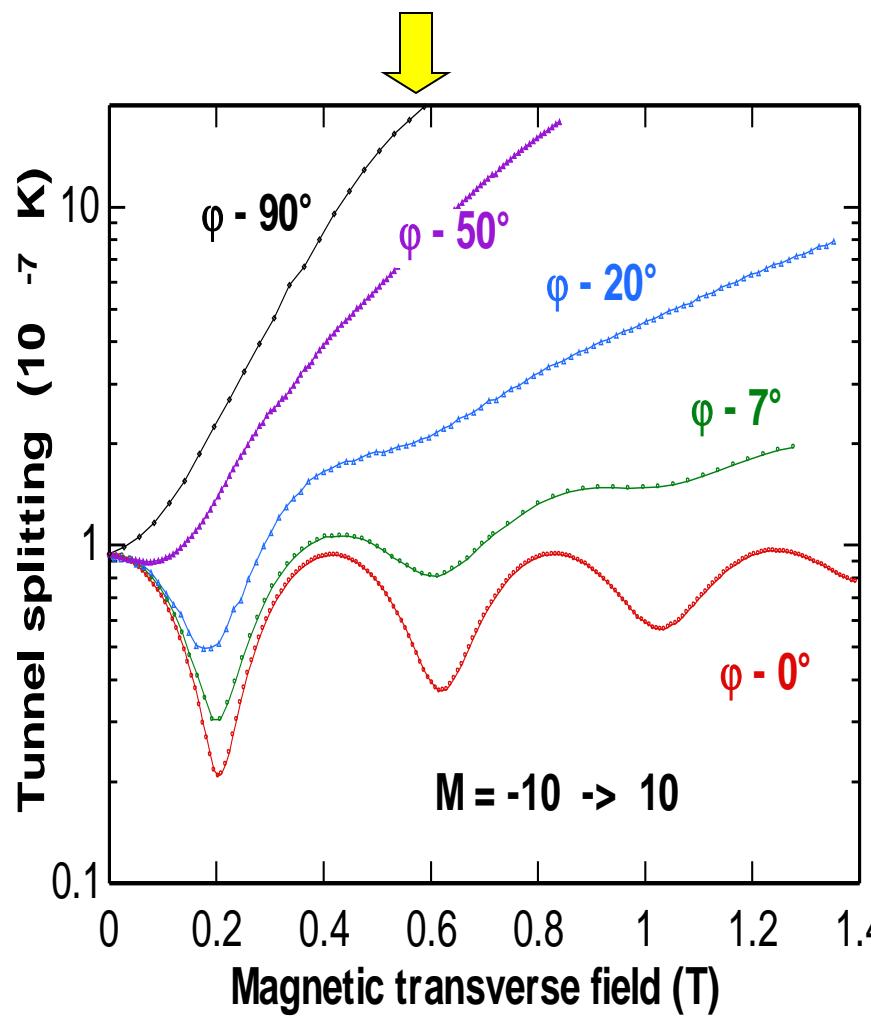
$$2/g\mu_B \sqrt{2E(E-D)}$$

A. Garg. *Europhys. Lett.*  
1993, 22, 205

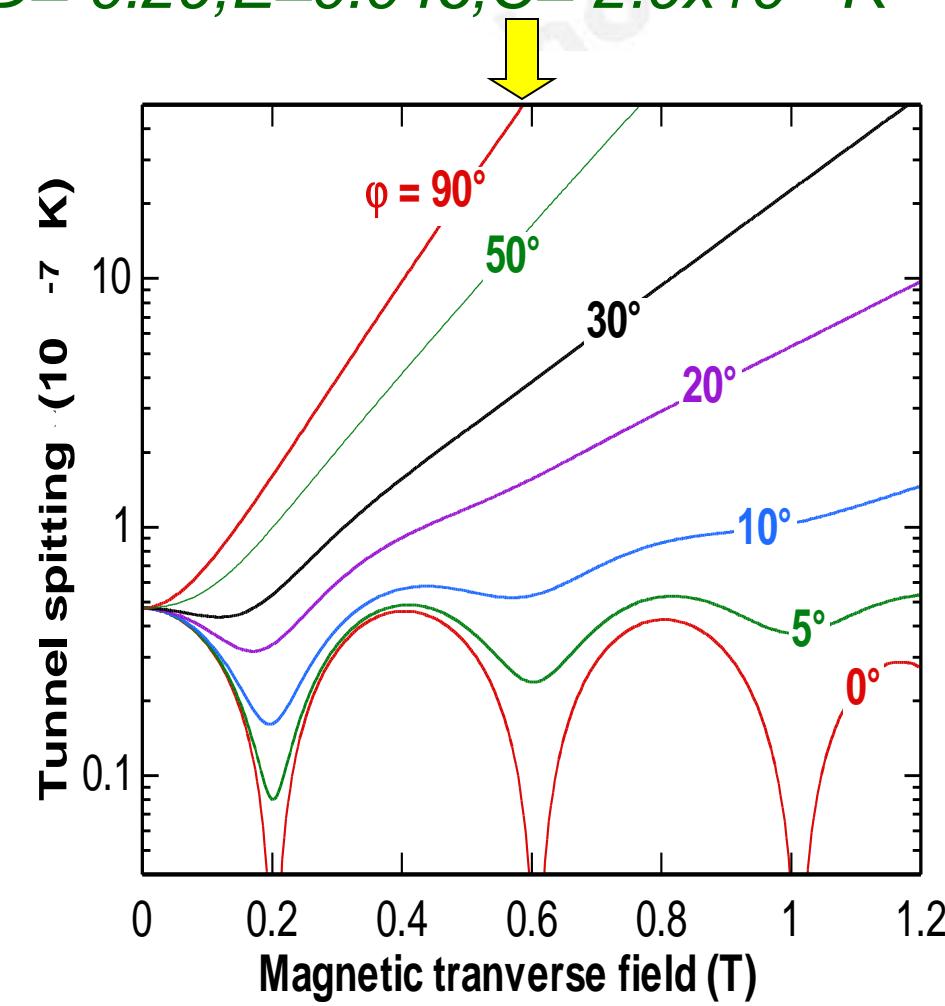
# Destructive Topological Interferences

$$H = D S_z^2 + E (S_x^2 - S_y^2) + C (S_+^4 - S_-^4)$$

*experimental*

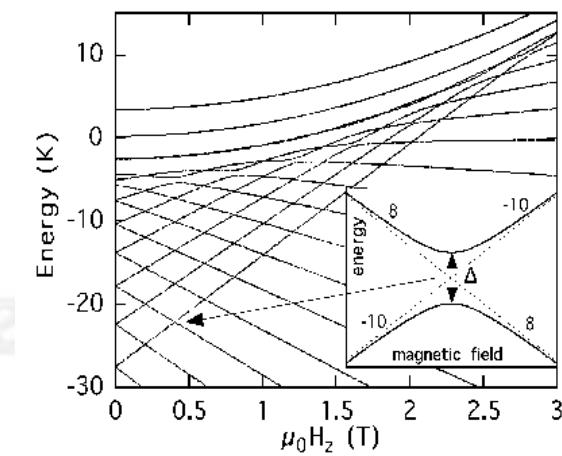
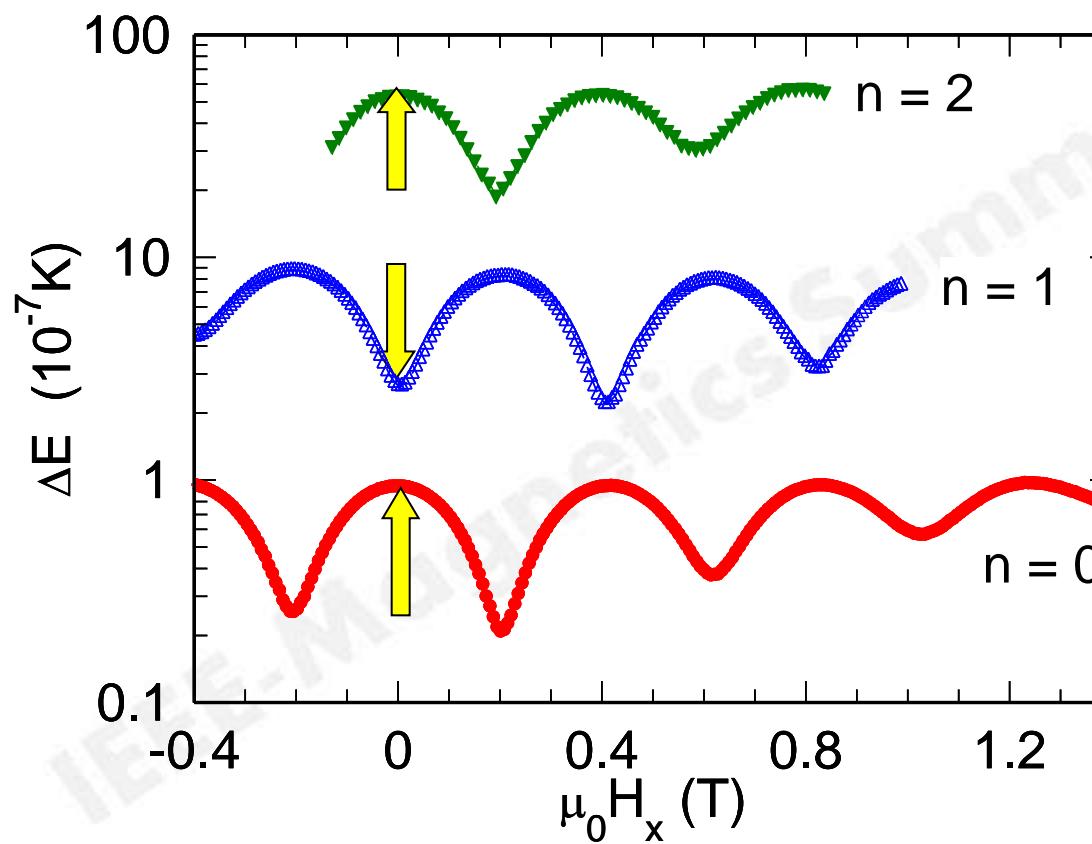


*calculated with*  
 $D = -0.29, E = 0.046, C = -2.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ K}$



# Parity effect on the topological interference

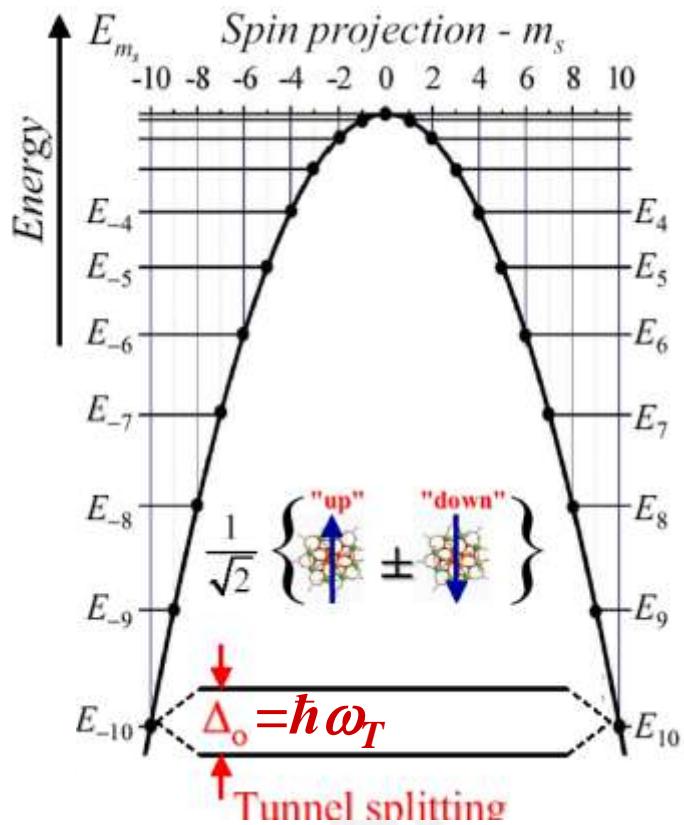
Tunnel resonance  $|m_s=10\rangle \leftrightarrow |m_s=-10+n\rangle$



The effect of the transverse field is different for allowed and forbidden quantum resonances

# Engineering Single Molecule Magnets

## Why high order Spin Hamiltonian terms are important ?



Tunnel splitting according to perturbation theory

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \delta\mathcal{H}$$

$$\mathcal{H}_0 = -|D|S_z^2 + g\mu_B H_z$$

1. at order  $2s$  if  $\delta\mathcal{H}$  is  $H_x$

$$\hbar\omega_T = 4|D|s^2 \left( \frac{g\mu_B H_x}{2|D|} \right)^{2s} \frac{1}{(2s)!}$$

Zeeman

2. at order  $s$  if  $\delta\mathcal{H} = (B/4)(S_+^2 + S_-^2)$

$$\hbar\omega_T = 4|D|s^2 \left( \frac{B}{16|D|} \right)^s \frac{(2s)!}{(s!)^2}$$

2<sup>th</sup> order

3. At order  $s/2$  if  $\delta\mathcal{H} = C(S_+^4 + S_-^4)$

$$\hbar\omega_T = 4|D|s^2 \left( \frac{C}{16|D|} \right)^{s/2} \frac{(2s)!}{[(s/2)!]^2}$$

4<sup>th</sup> order

$$s! \simeq s^{s+1/2} e^{-s} \sqrt{2\pi}.$$



# From the single spin to the pair

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{SS}} = -J_{12}\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$$

$$|S_1 - S_2| \leq S \leq S_1 + S_2$$

$$W(S) = -(J_{12}/2)[S(S+1) - S_1(S_1+1) - S_2(S_2+1)]$$

$$\mathbf{g}_S = c_1 \mathbf{g}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{g}_2$$

$$\mathbf{D}_S = d_1 \mathbf{D}_1 + d_2 \mathbf{D}_2 + d_{12} \mathbf{D}_{12}$$

$$c_1 = (1+c)/2; c_2 = (1-c)/2$$

$$d_1 = (c_+ + c_-)/2; d_2 = (c_+ - c_-)/2$$

$$d_{12} = (1 - c_+)/2$$

and

$$c = \frac{S_1(S_1+1) - S_2(S_2+1)}{S(S+1)}$$

$$c_+ = \frac{3[S_1(S_1+1) - S_2(S_2+1)]^2 + S(S+1)[3S(S+1) - 3 - 2S_1(S_1+1) - 2S_2(S_2+1)]}{(2S+3)(2S-1)S(S+1)}$$

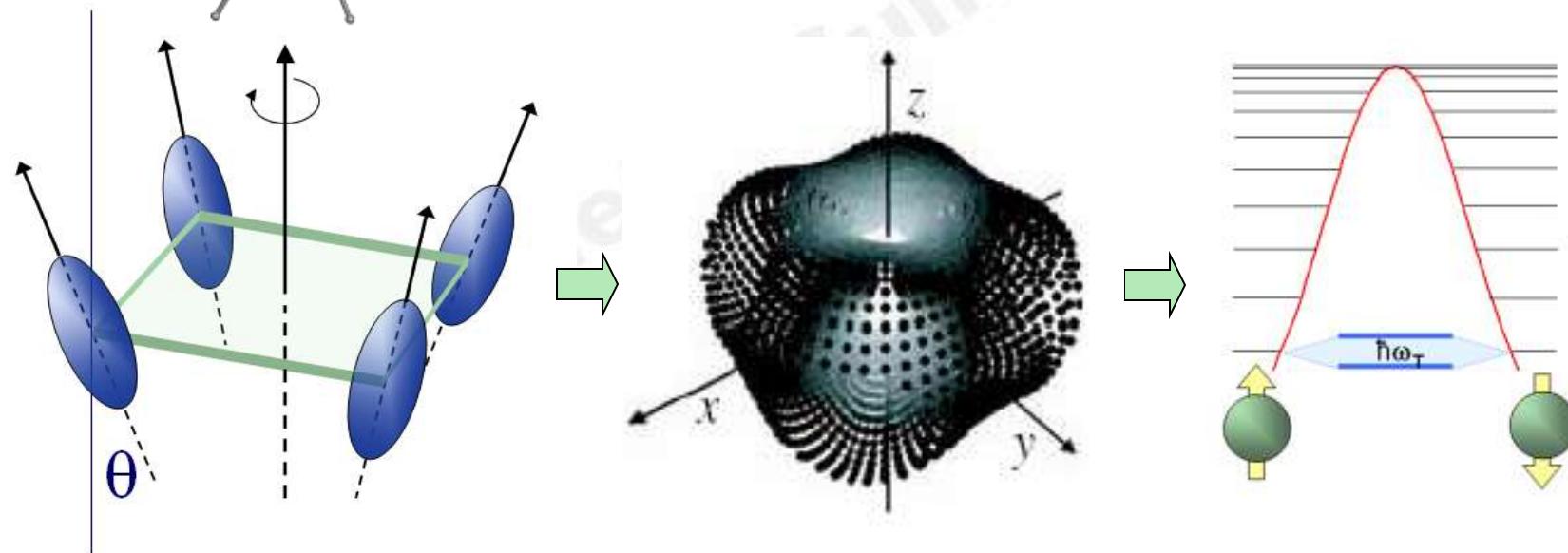
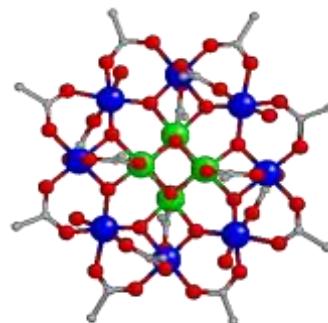
$$c_- = \frac{4S(S+1)[S_1(S_1+1) - S_2(S_2+1)] - 3[S_1(S_1+1) - S_2(S_2+1)]}{(2S+3)(2S-1)S(S+1)}.$$

# Magnetic anisotropy of spin clusters

I-4

$$D_S = \sum_i d_i \mathbf{D}_i + \sum_{i < j} d_{ij} \mathbf{D}_{ij}$$

Single Ion      Exchange anisotropy



Non-collinearity is a key ingredient in molecular magnets



# Non-collinearity of magnetic anisotropy

- High Order Transverse Anisotropy is a key factor in Quantum Tunneling of the Magnetization
- Its major source is the multispin nature of SMMs
- Non-collinearity of the anisotropy is necessary to observe transverse anisotropy in axial molecules

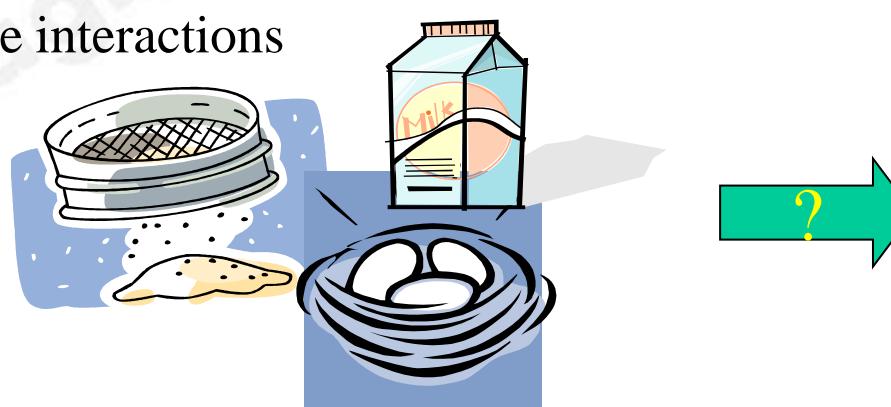
## Why spin non-collinearity is so important in Molecular Magnetism?

- The use of organic ligand reduces the symmetry on the metal ion
- Most organic compounds crystallize in the monoclinic or orthorhombic systems
- If the symmetry of the magnetic center is lower than that of the space group INEVITABILY more than one non-magnetically equivalent center are present (metal ions not in special Wyckoff positions)

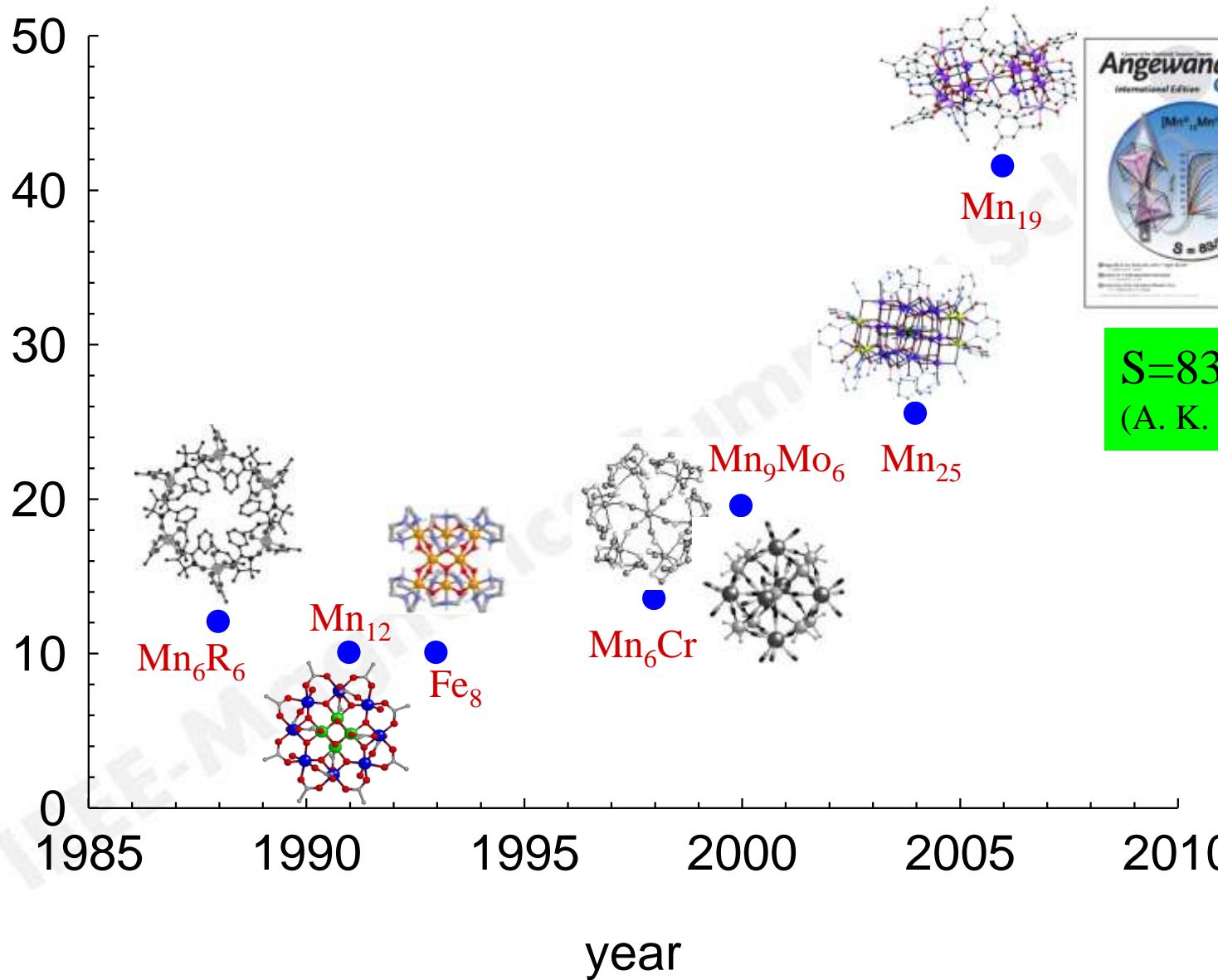
## Mid-term goals:

### ● Increase the blocking temperature

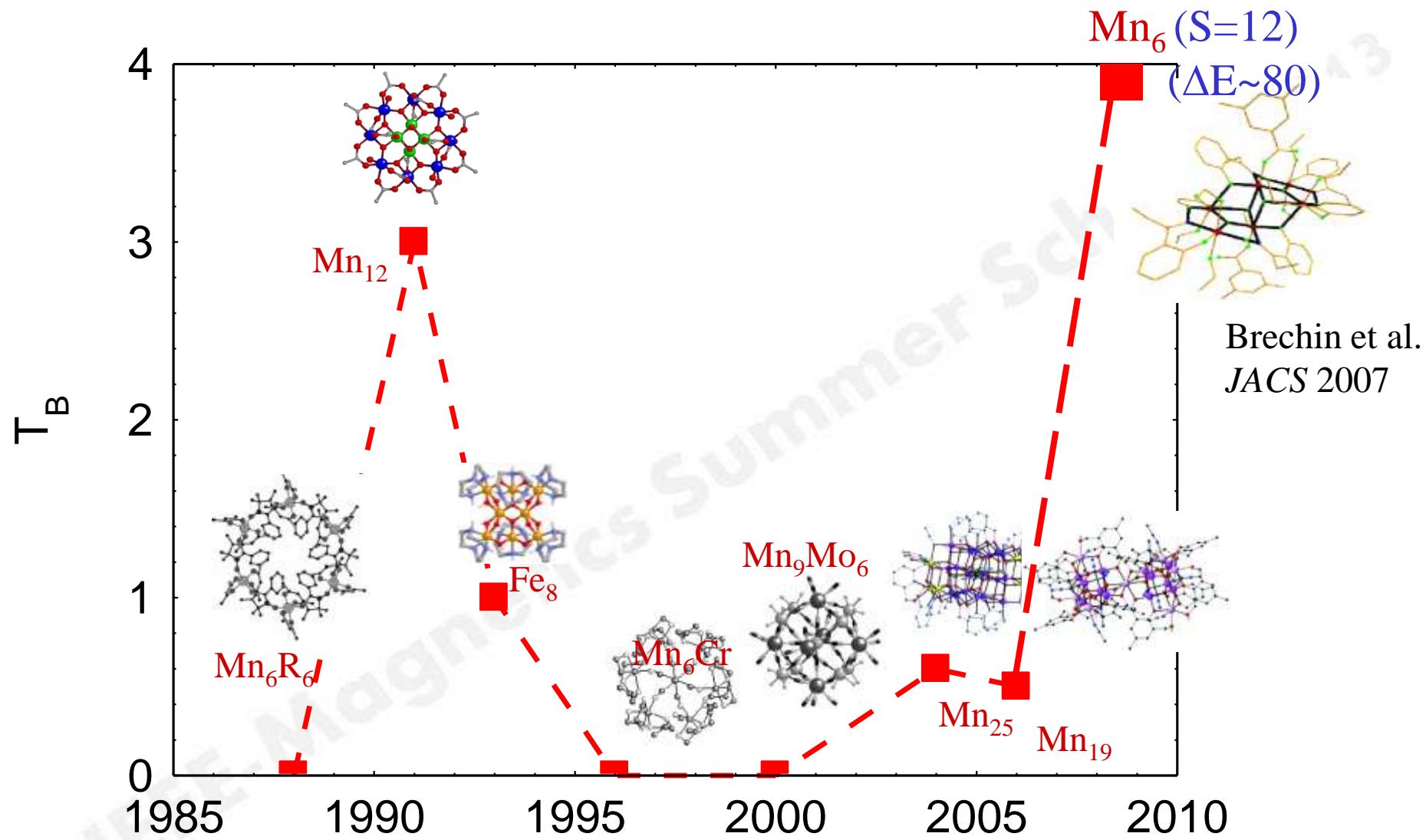
- Total Spin (intra-molecular interactions)
- Axial Magnetic Anisotropy
- Transverse Magnetic Anisotropy
- Inter-molecular interactions
- Hyperfine interactions



# Evolution of SMMs



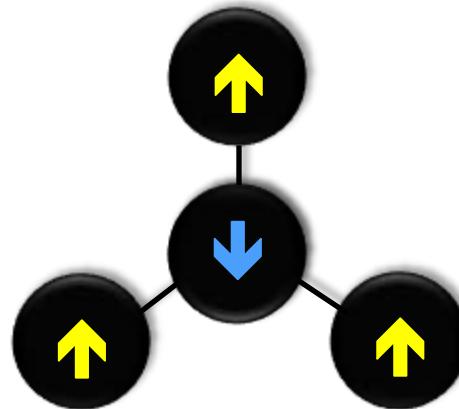
# Evolution of SMMs



# Why do SMMs work only at low temperature?

$$\Delta E \sim |D|S_{\text{tot}}^2$$

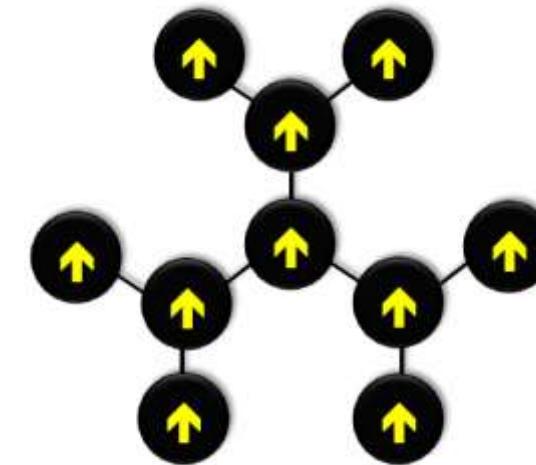
Increase  $S_{\text{tot}}$  through ferromagnetic interaction



$$D = \sum_i c_i d_i \quad \text{but} \quad c_i \propto \frac{1}{S_{\text{tot}}^2}$$

$\Delta E$  does not increase with  $S_{\text{tot}}$

Increase  $S_{\text{tot}}$  by the n° of interacting spins



$$D = \sum_i c_i d_i \quad \text{but} \quad c_i \propto \frac{1}{n_{\text{spin}}}$$

$\Delta E$  increases as  $S_{\text{tot}}$

# Increase orbital contribution in 3d metal ions

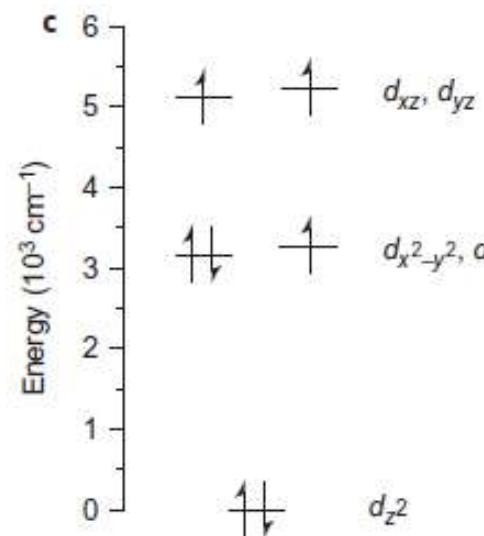
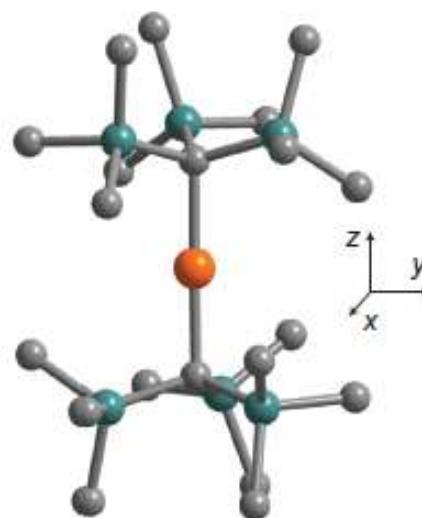
nature  
chemistry

ARTICLES

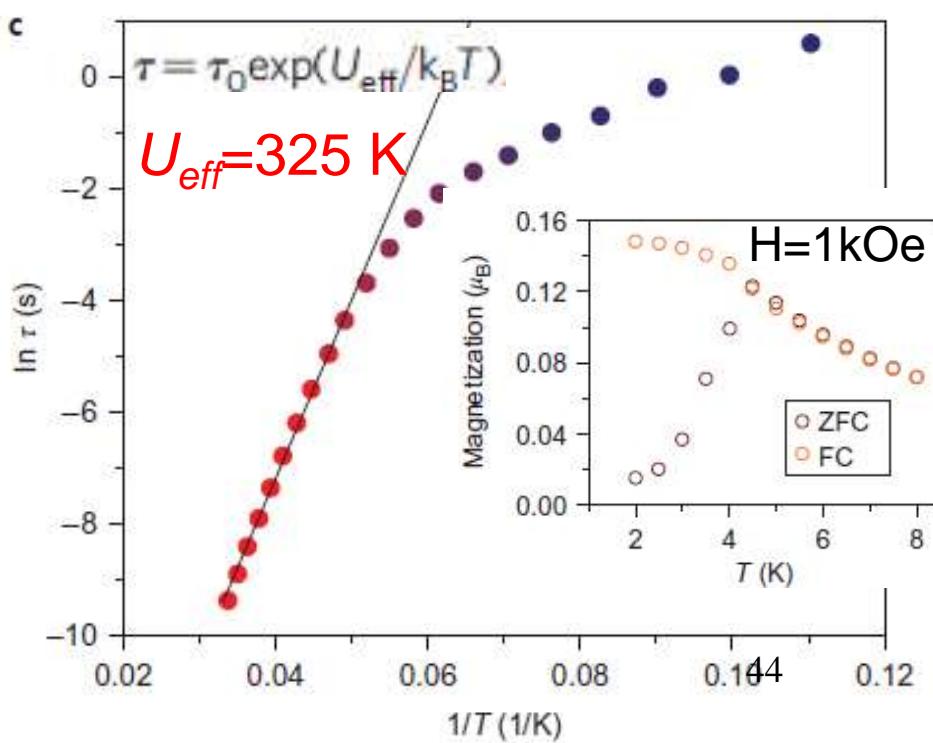
PUBLISHED ONLINE: 5 MAY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NCHEM.1630

## Magnetic blocking in a linear iron(I) complex

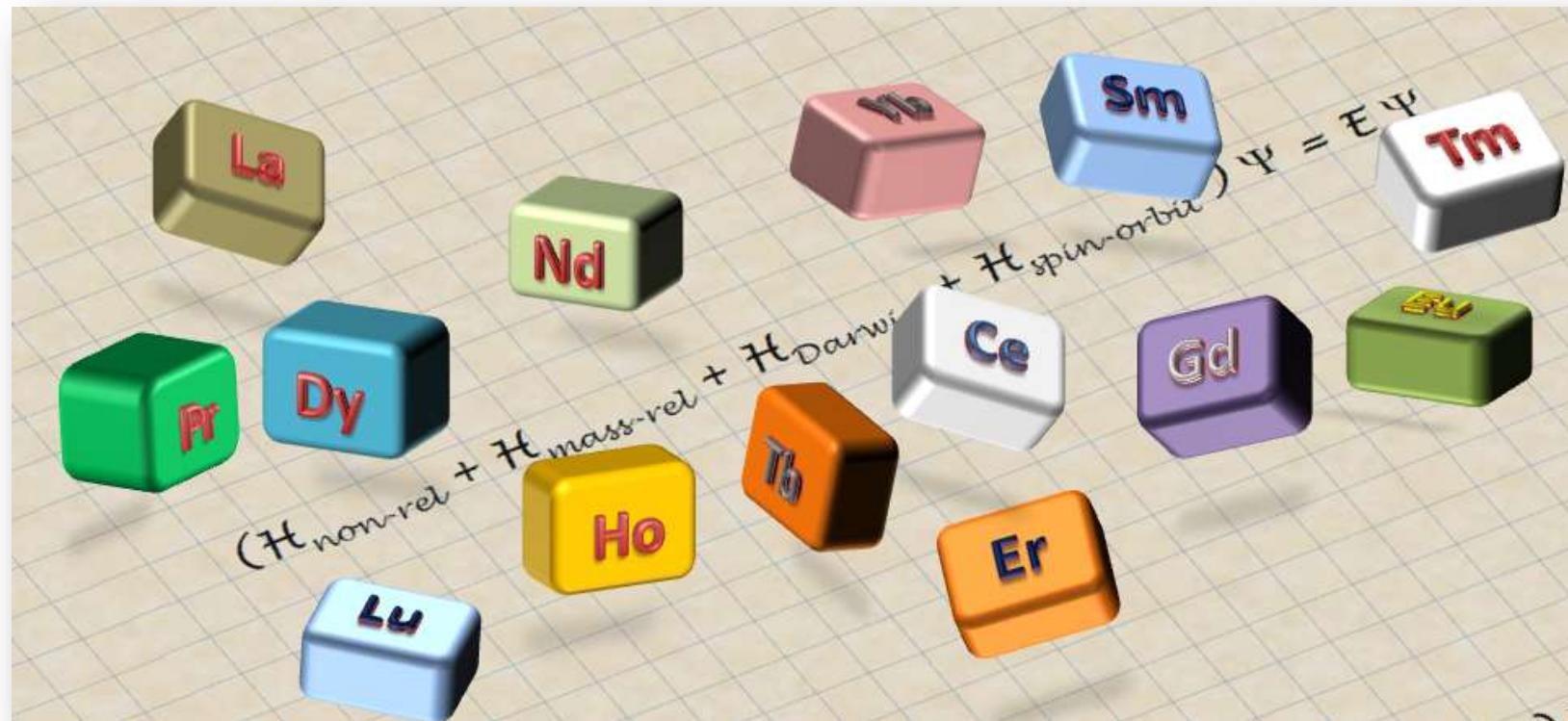
Joseph M. Zadrozny<sup>1</sup>, Dianne J. Xiao<sup>1</sup>, Mihail Atanasov<sup>2,3</sup>, Gary J. Long<sup>4</sup>, Fernande Grandjean<sup>4</sup>, Frank Neese<sup>3</sup> and Jeffrey R. Long<sup>1\*</sup>



Fe(I) in linear coordination  
**J=7/2**



# Lanthanides: a source of magnetic anisotropy



## Dalton Transactions

Dynamic Article Links

Cite this: DOI: 10.1039/c2dt31388j

[www.rsc.org/dalton](http://www.rsc.org/dalton)

PERSPECTIVE

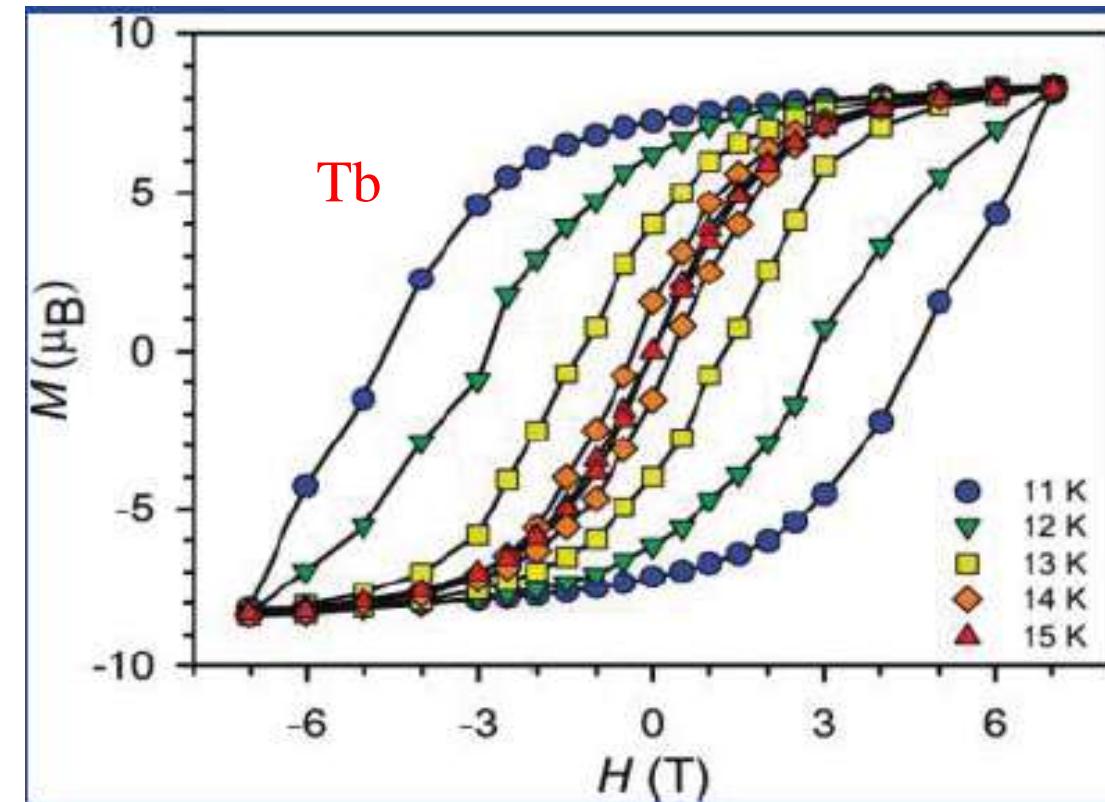
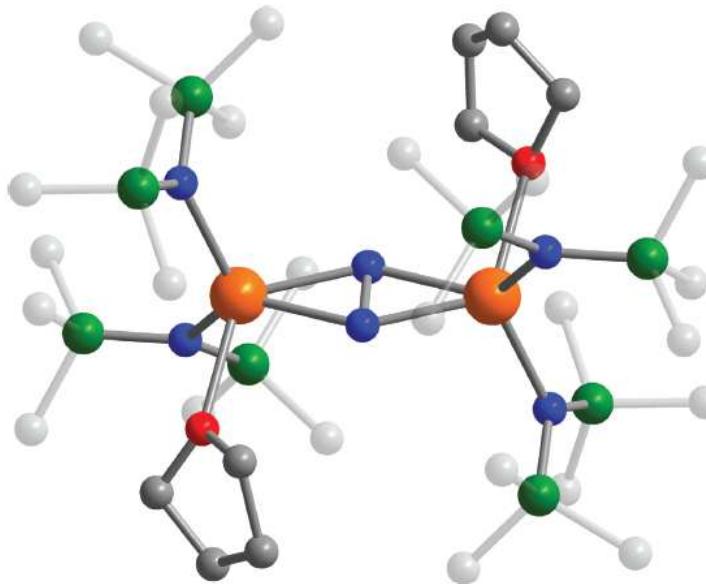
## Lanthanides in molecular magnetism: so fascinating, so challenging†

Javier Luzon<sup>a,b</sup> and Roberta Sessoli<sup>\*c</sup>

45

† Dedicated to the memory of Ian J. Hewitt.

# Record Blocking Temperature in a RE SMM



$\text{N}_2^{3-}$   $S=1/2$

$J(\text{R-Gd}) = 27 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
Anti-Ferromagnetic  
 $S_{\text{tot}} = 13/2$

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 22 MAY 2011 | DOI: 10.1038/NCHEM.1063

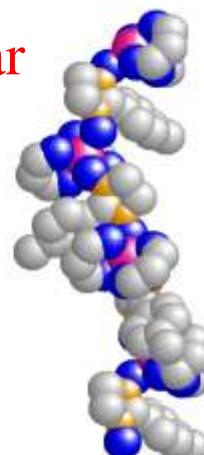
nature  
chemistry

Strong exchange and magnetic blocking in  $\text{N}_2^{3-}$ -radical-bridged lanthanide complexes<sup>46</sup>

Jeffrey D. Rinehart<sup>1</sup>, Ming Fang<sup>2</sup>, William J. Evans<sup>2\*</sup> and Jeffrey R. Long<sup>1\*</sup>

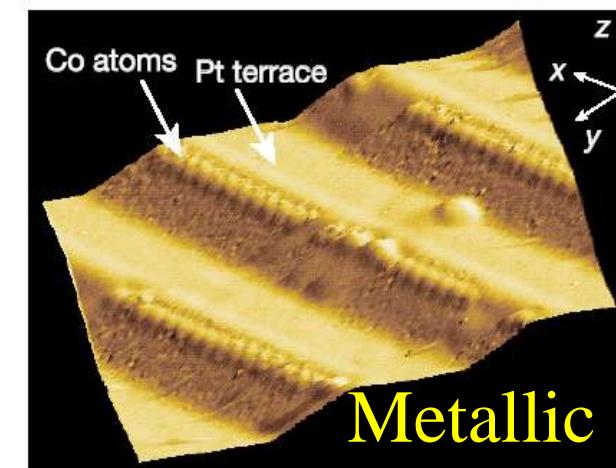
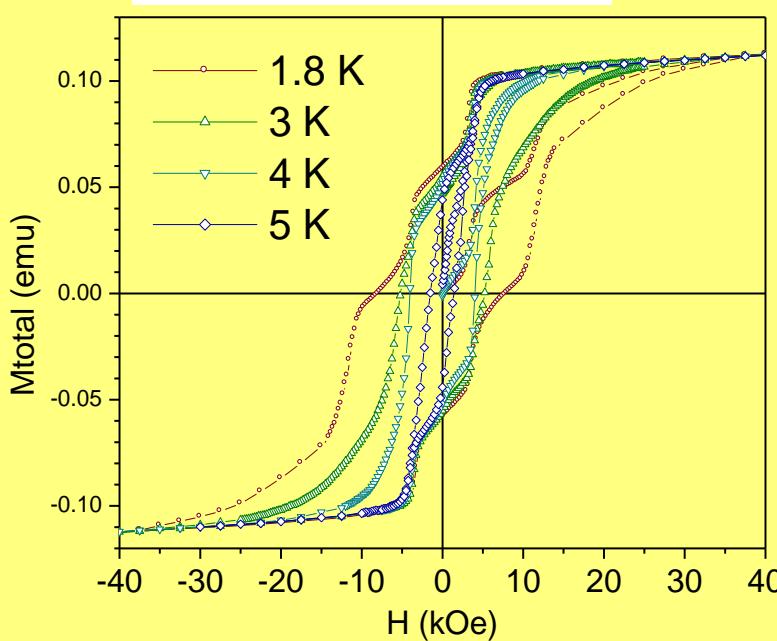
# From 0d to 1d: Single Chain Magnets

Molecular

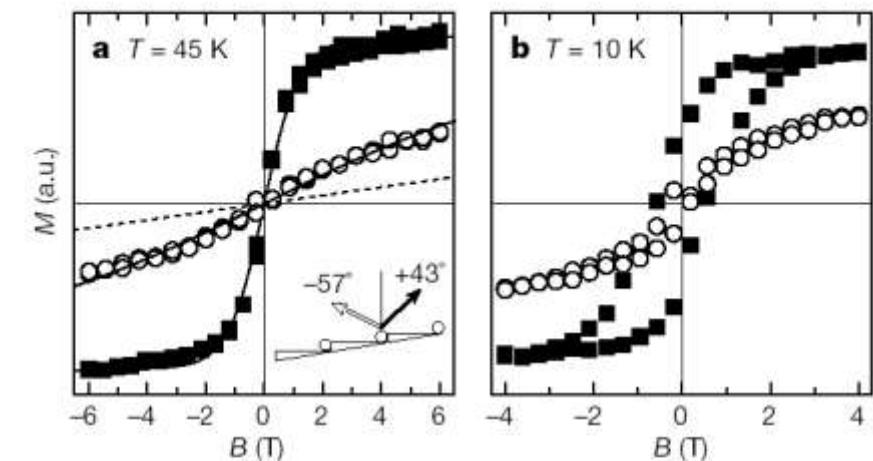


Caneschi et al.

Angew. Chem. 2001

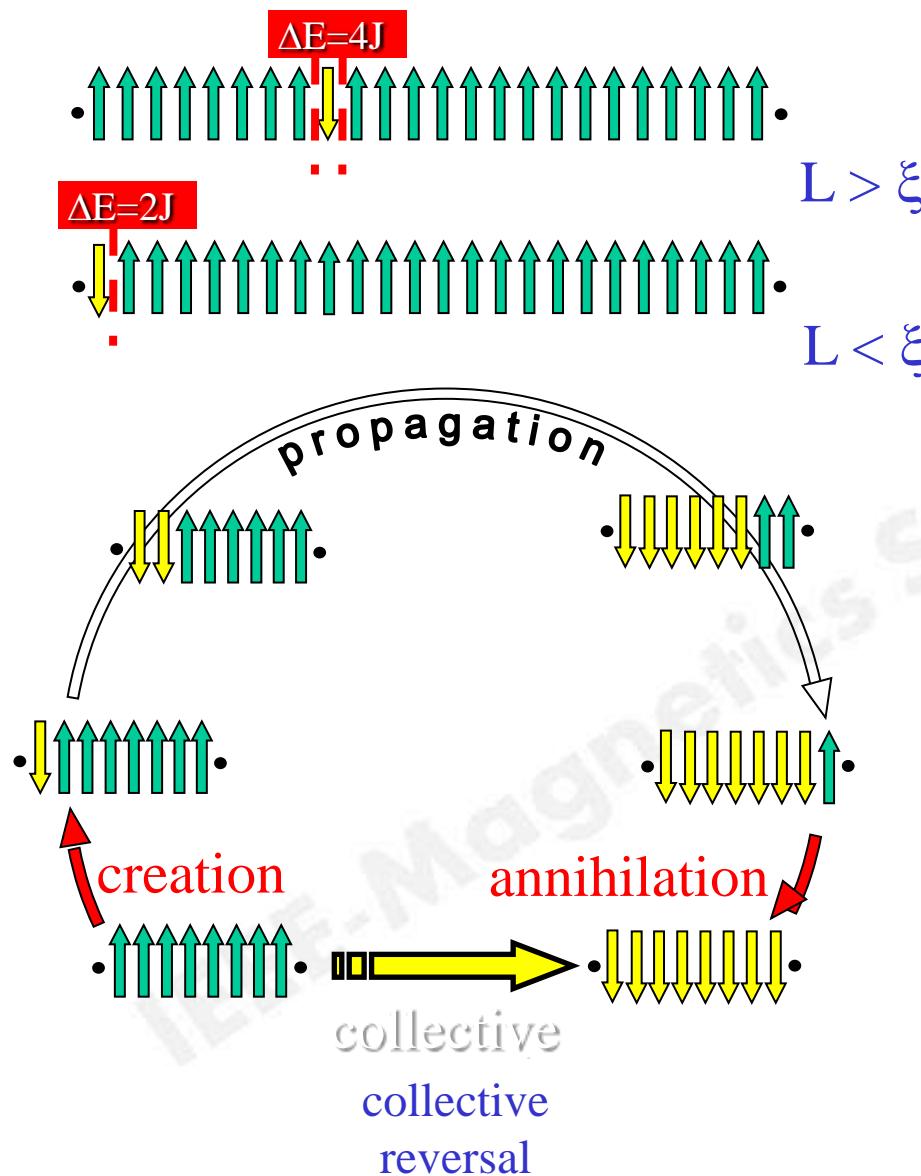


P. Gambardella et al.  
Nature 2002



**Figure 3** Magnetization of a monatomic wire array recorded at the  $L_3$  edge. **a**,  $M$  as a function of the applied field at  $T = 45$  K measured along the easy direction (filled squares) and at  $80^\circ$  away from the easy direction (open circles) in the plane perpendicular 47

# Spin Dynamics in Single Chain Magnets



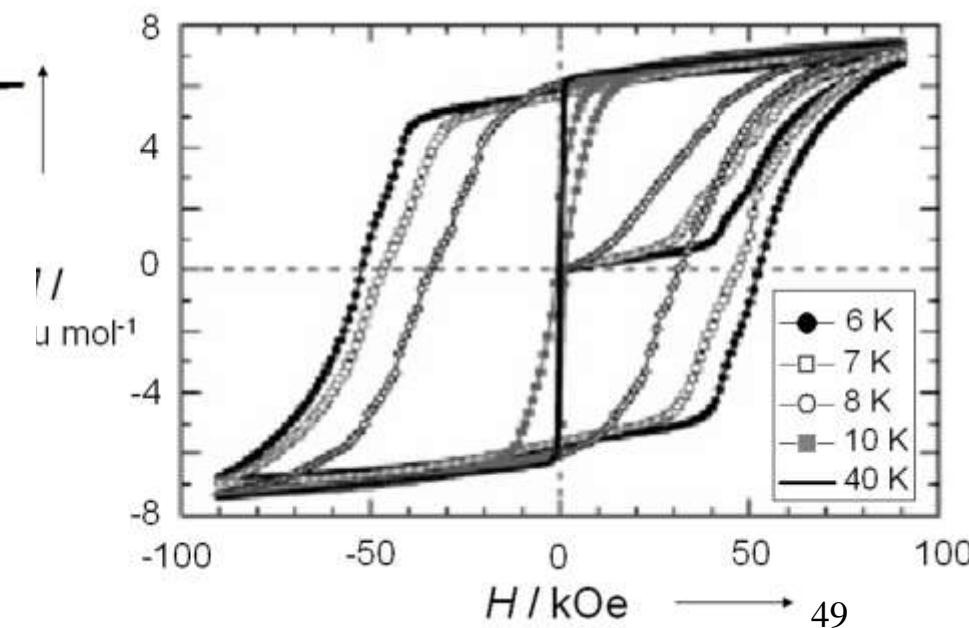
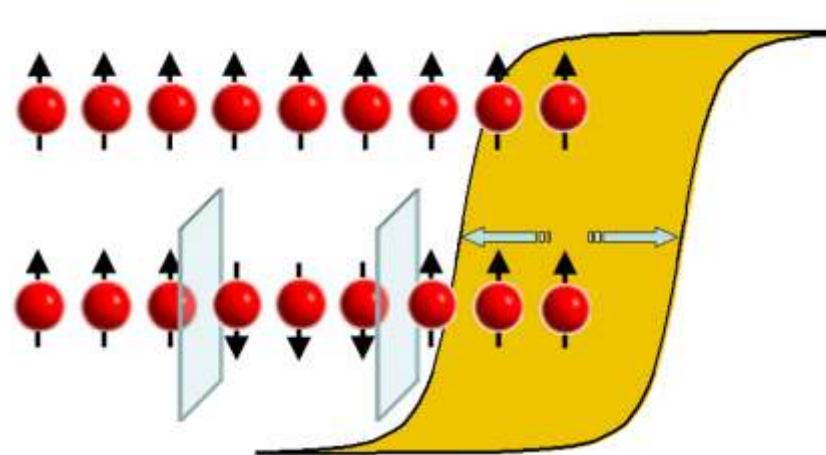
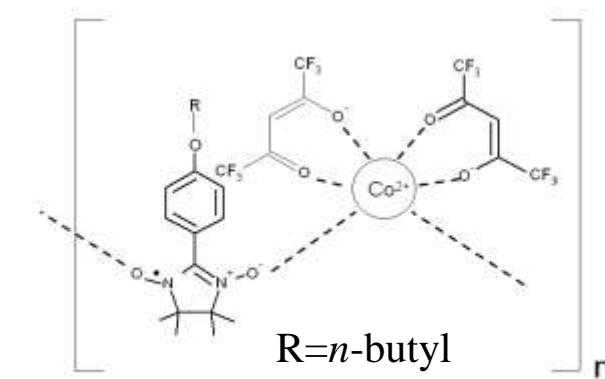
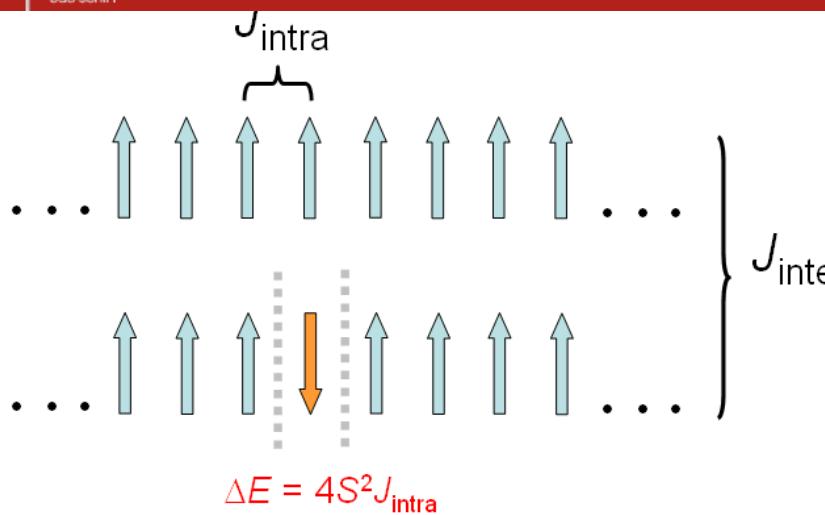
$$M(t) = M_{\text{sat}} \exp(t/\tau)$$

$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp(4J/k_B T)$$

$$\xi_{\text{Ising}} \propto (2J/k_B T)$$

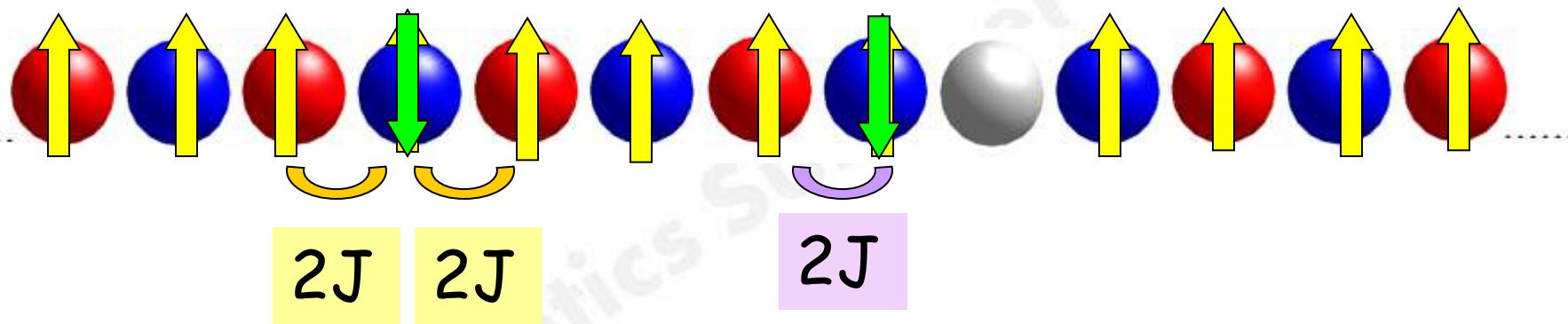
The relaxation time  
diverges at low  
temperature as  $\xi^2$

# High Coercitivity in SCMs



## Finite size effects in SCMs

The role of diamagnetic defects in the dynamics



J. K. L. da Silva et al. *Phys. Rev. E* 52 (1995) 4527

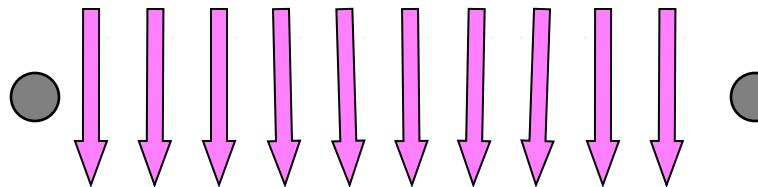
$$\tau \propto \xi^2 \approx \exp(4J/k_B T) \text{ if } L \gg \xi_{\text{th}}$$

$$\tau \propto \xi \approx \exp(2J/k_B T) \text{ if } L \ll \xi_{\text{th}}$$

# Finite size effects in SCMs

in the  $\xi > \bar{N}$  regime

$$\Delta E = 2J$$



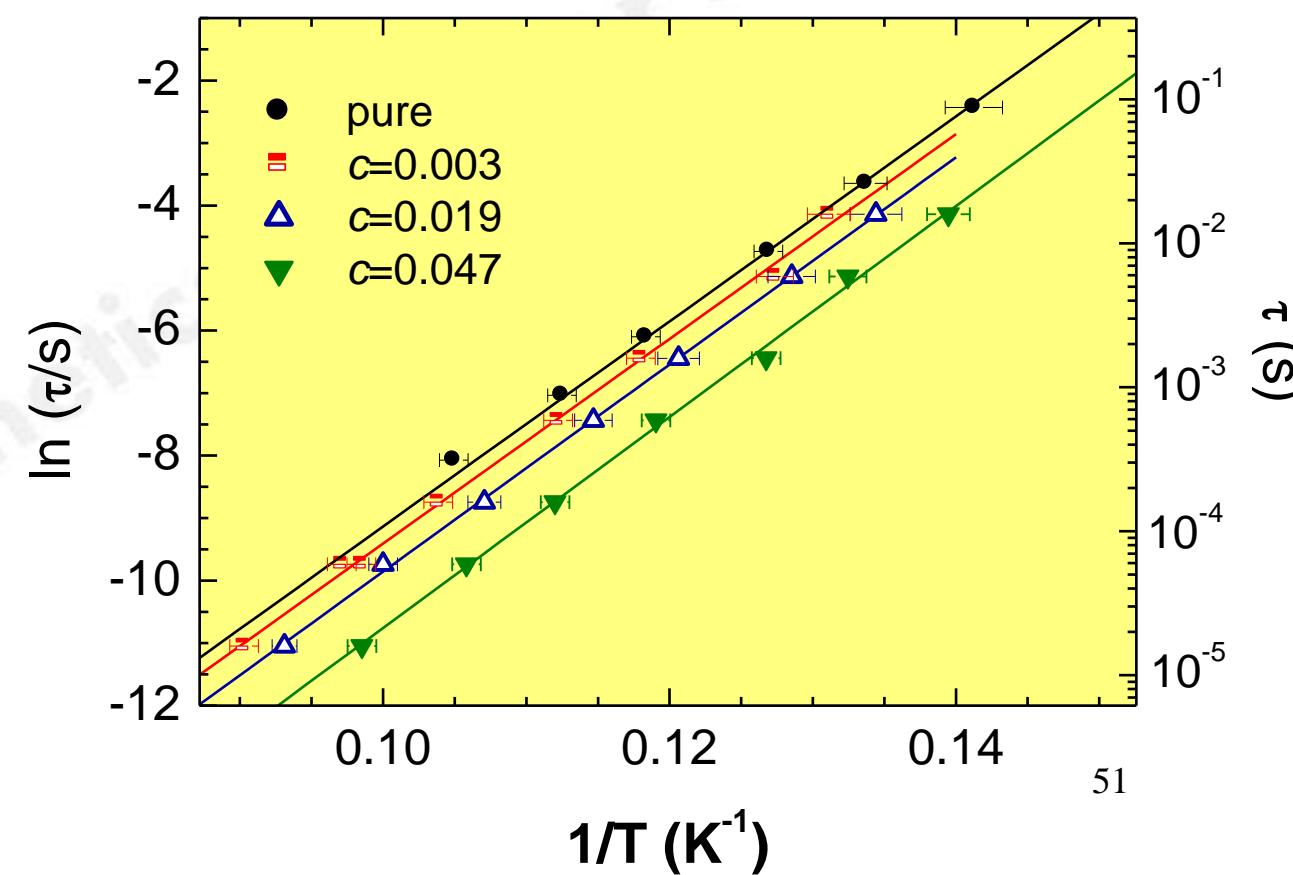
The domain wall motion  
is a classical random walk:  
propagation  $\sim$

$$\frac{1}{N-1}$$

$$\lambda_1 \approx \frac{2q\alpha}{N-1} \exp\left(-\frac{2J}{k_B T}\right)$$

$$\tau_1 \propto (N-1) \exp\left(\frac{2J}{k_B T}\right)$$

$\tau_0$  shifting

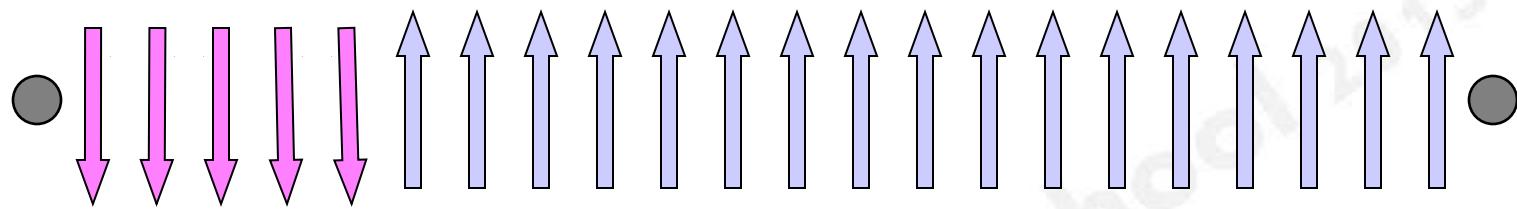


# Finite size effects in SCMs

...taking into account multiple events...

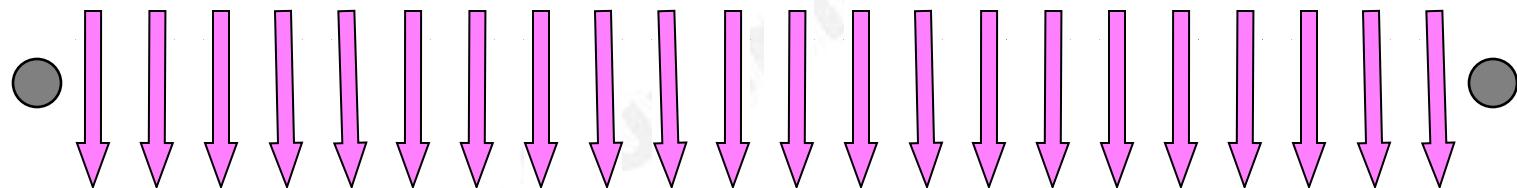
$$\Delta E = 2J$$

$$\text{Prob} \sim q^5$$



$$\Delta E = 0$$

$$\text{Prob} \sim q^N$$



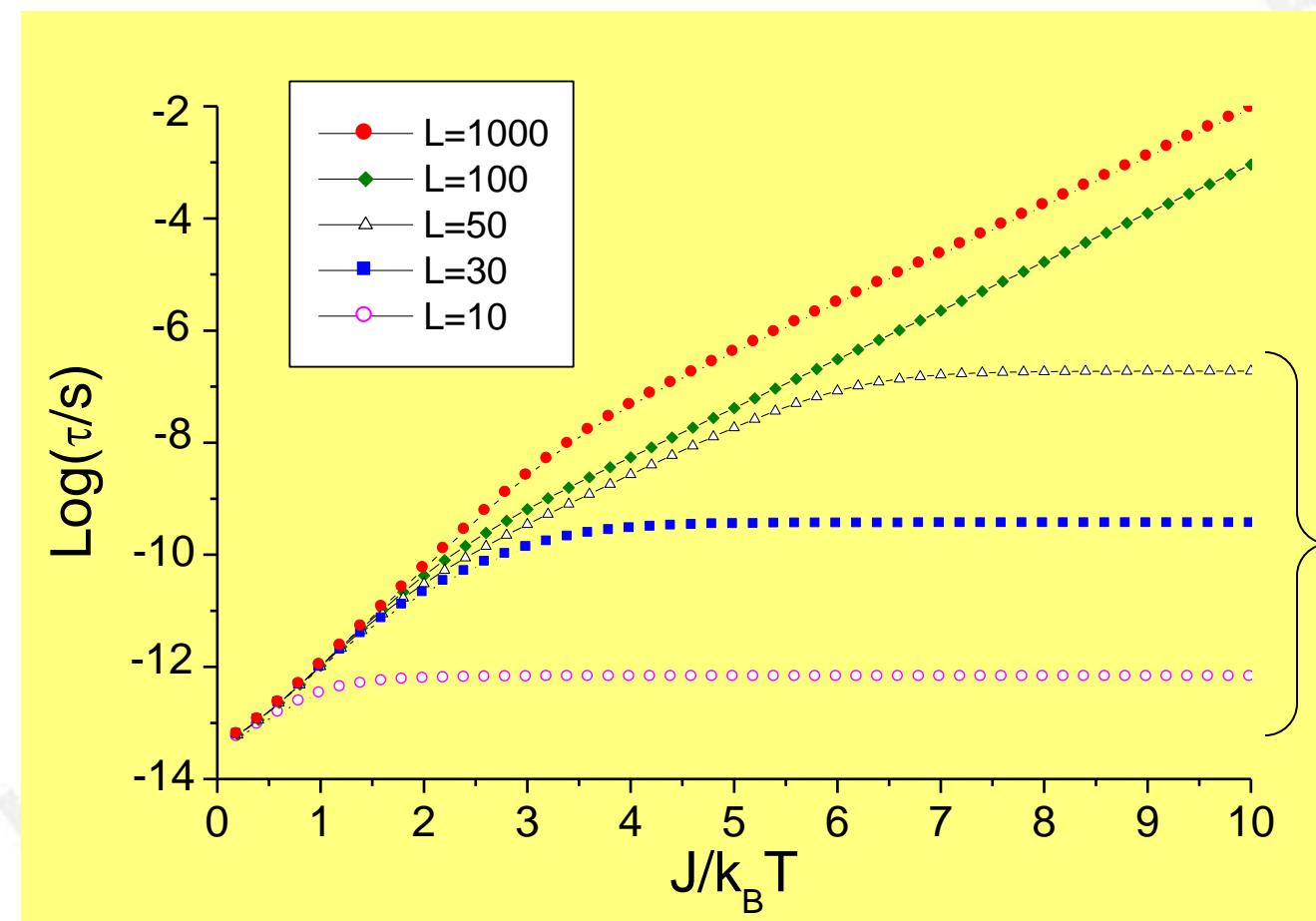
For short segments

the UNDERBARRIER process can become faster than any **thermally activated** mechanism

$$\frac{1}{\tau(N)} = \frac{1}{\tau_1} + \alpha q^N$$

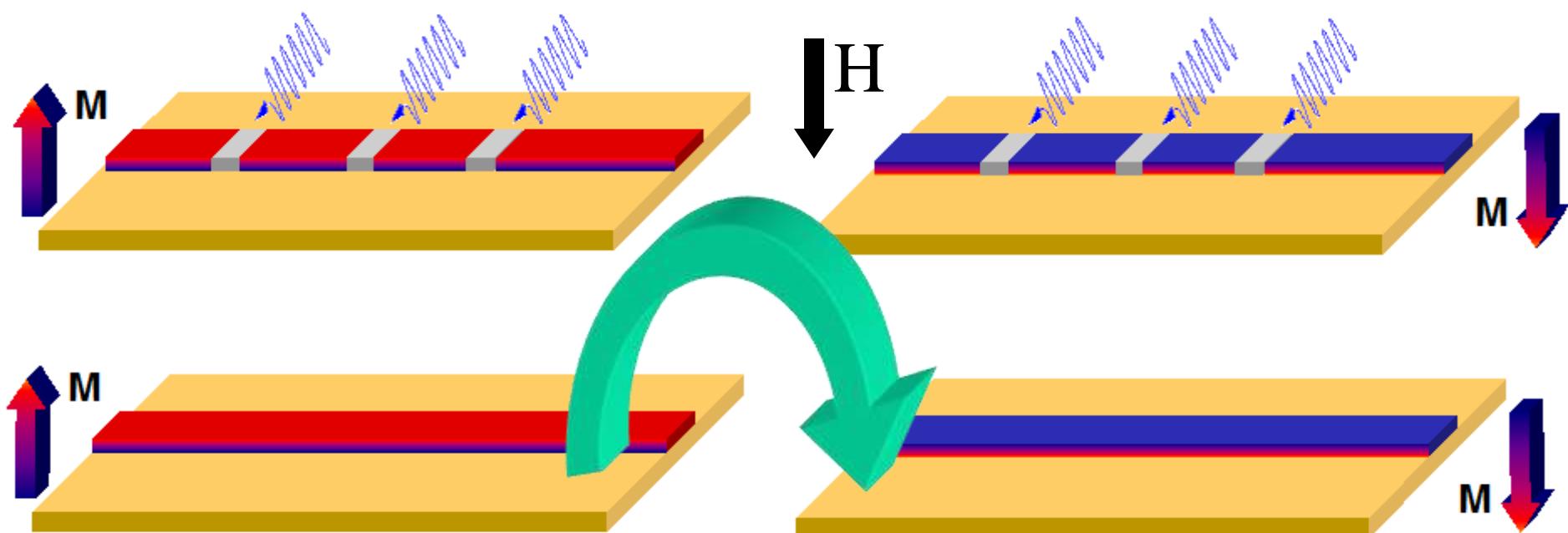
# Transition from SCM to SMMs behavior

If  $q$  is temperature independent the cross-over to tunneling regime depends on the length  $L$



# A perspective: switching from SCM to SMM

Perturbed state  short segments:  
the magnetization can reverse  
(collective reversal of the spins)



Unperturbed state  long segments:  
the magnetization is frozen  
(Glauber's dynamics)

# Light-induced magnetic relaxation

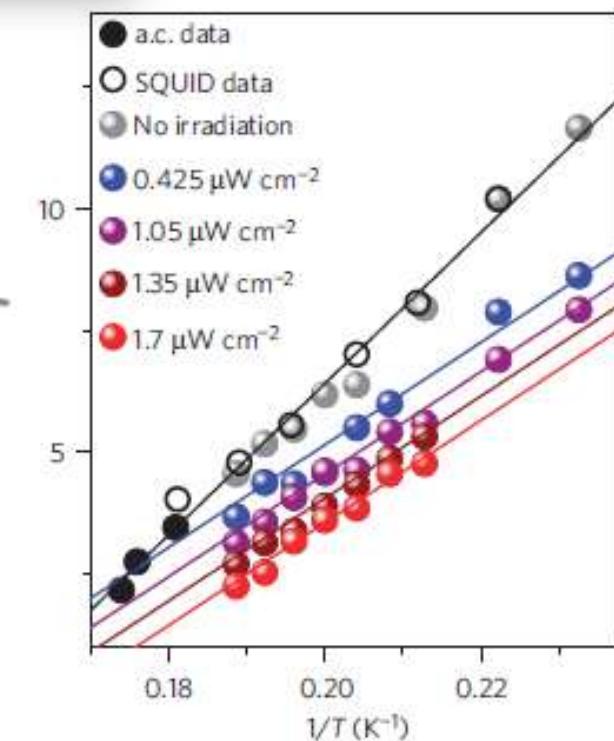
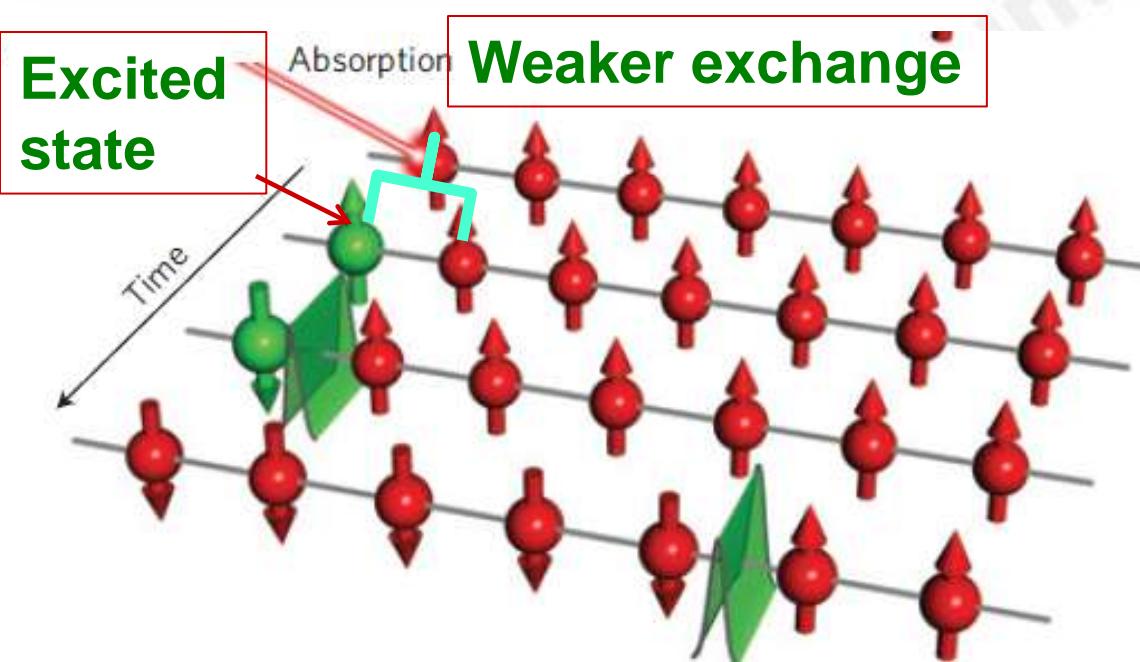
nature  
materials

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 2 DECEMBER 2012 | DOI: 10.1038/NMAT3498

## Dynamic control of magnetic nanowires by light-induced domain-wall kickoffs

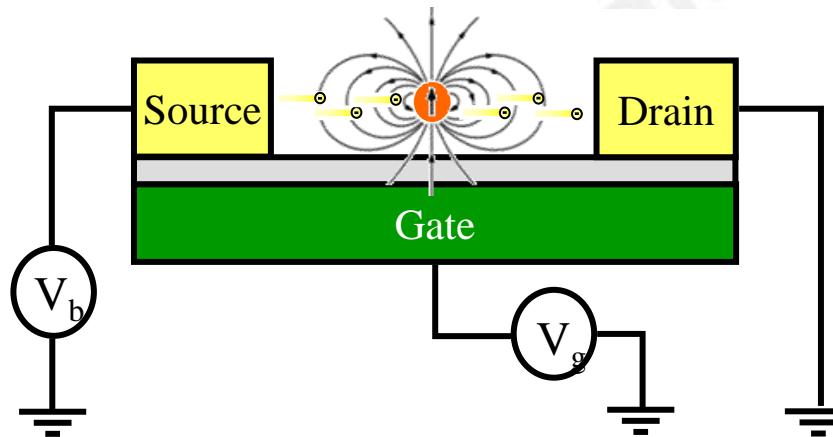
Eric Heintze<sup>1</sup>, Fadi El Hallak<sup>1</sup>, Conrad Clauß<sup>1</sup>, Angelo Rettori<sup>2,3</sup>, Maria Gloria Pini<sup>4</sup>, Federico Totti<sup>5</sup>, Martin Dressel<sup>1</sup> and Lapo Bogani<sup>1\*</sup>



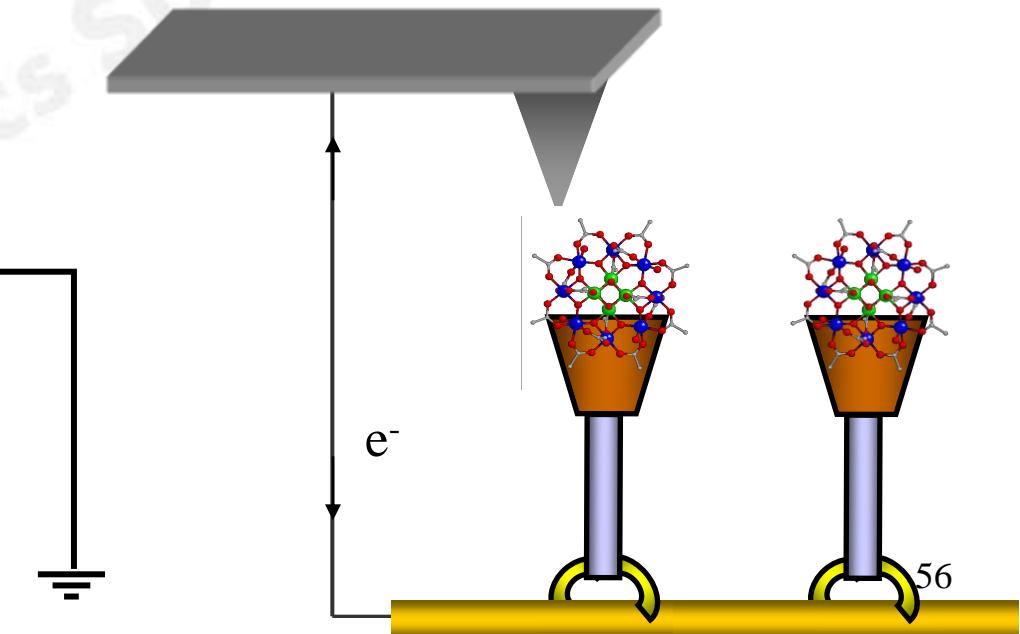
# Why magnetic molecule @ surfaces ?

- Electric field can be much more “local”
- Address individual molecules

Molecules in nano-junctions



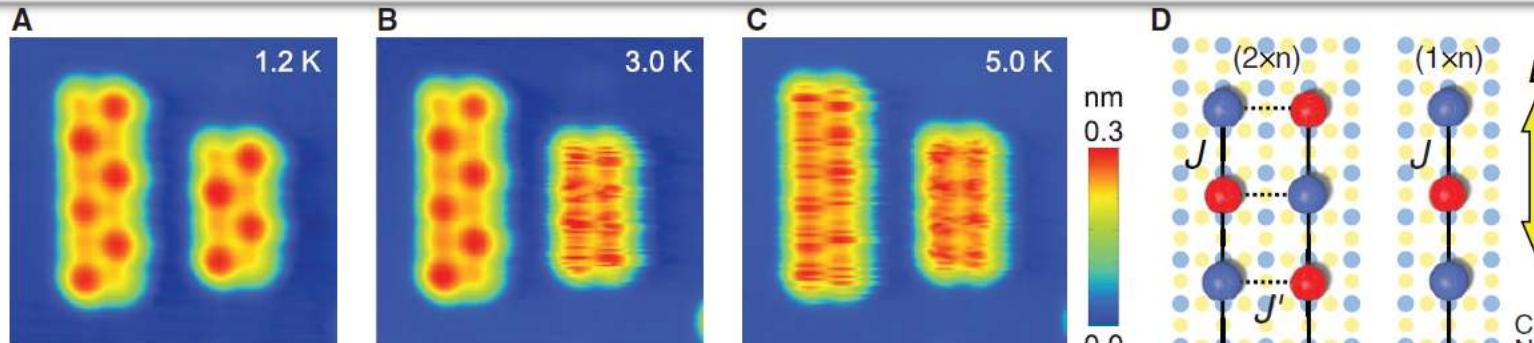
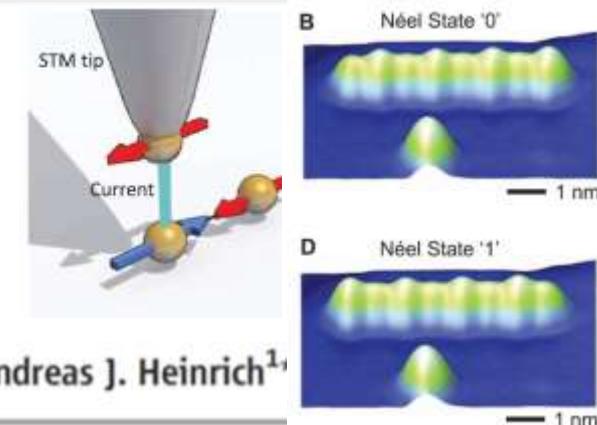
Scanning Probe Microscopies



## REPORTS

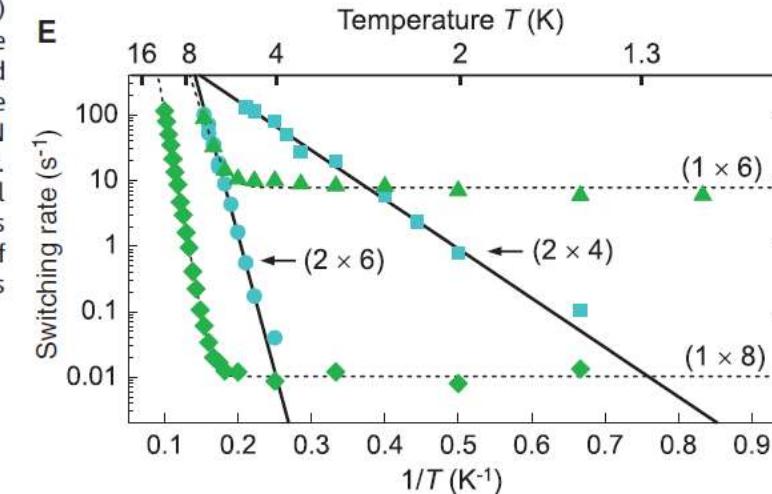
# Bistability in Atomic-Scale Antiferromagnets

Sebastian Loth,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Susanne Baumann,<sup>1,3</sup> Christopher P. Lutz,<sup>1</sup> D. M. Eigler,<sup>1</sup> Andreas J. Heinrich<sup>1,4</sup>

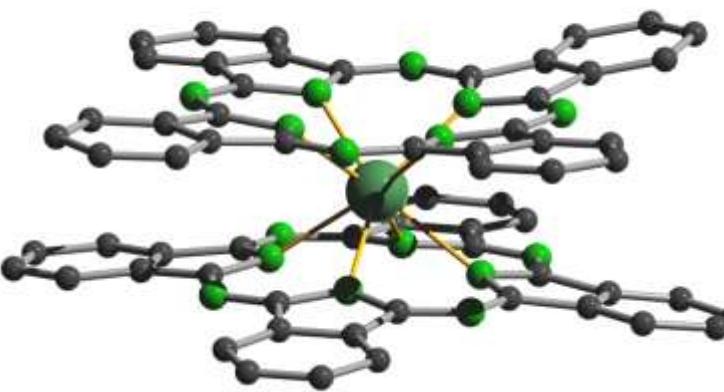


**Fig. 3.** Thermal stability of AFM arrays. (A to C) STM images of  $(2 \times 6)$  and  $(2 \times 4)$  arrays of Fe atoms. (A) 1.2 K. Both arrays have stable Néel states. (B) 3.0 K. The smaller array switched rapidly during the image. (C) 5.0 K. Both arrays switched rapidly. Image size,  $7.7 \times 7.7$  nm. Image was taken at 2 mV and 3 pA, and image acquisition time was 52 s. (D) Schematic of the atomic positions of Fe and  $\text{Cu}_2\text{N}$  substrate atoms in  $(2 \times n)$  and  $(1 \times n)$  arrays. Cu atoms, yellow; N atoms, light blue. Ball colors depict the spin alignment of one Néel state, with red being parallel and blue antiparallel with the tip's spin. (E) Arrhenius plot of the switching rates for the arrays of (A) and a  $(1 \times 8)$  and  $(1 \times 6)$  chain (fig. S5). The determination of switching rates is explained in fig. S3. Magnetic field was 3 T. Fig. S4 shows comparison to a 1-T field. Fit parameters are given in table S1.

$\text{Fe}_n$   
@  
 $\text{Cu}_2\text{N}$   
@  
 $\text{Cu}(100)$

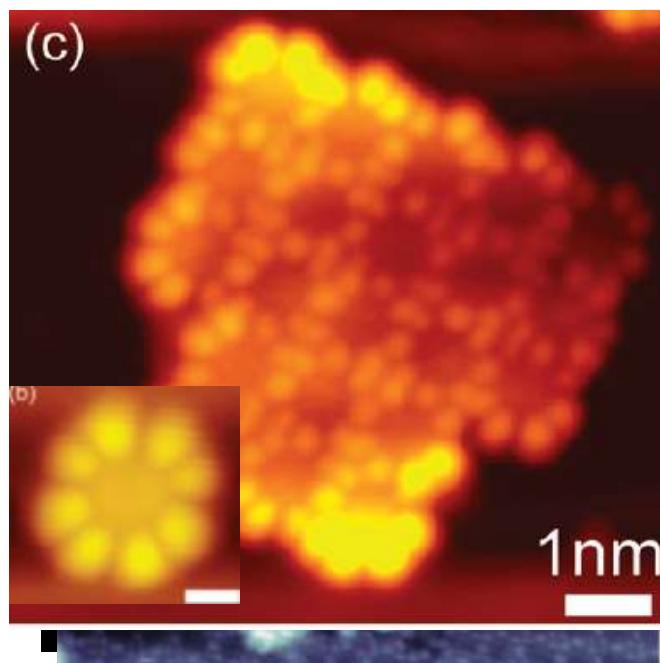


# TbPc<sub>2</sub>: a single ion SMM



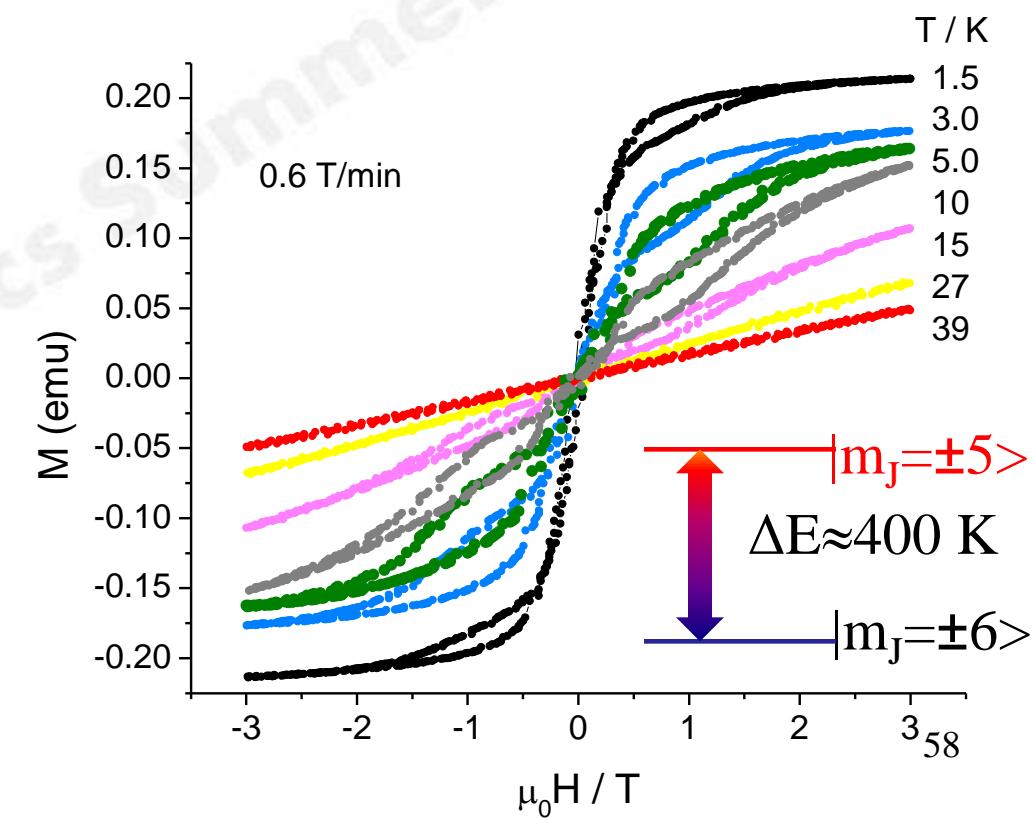
$\text{Tb}^{3+}$   
 $L=3$   
 $S=3$

$J=6$

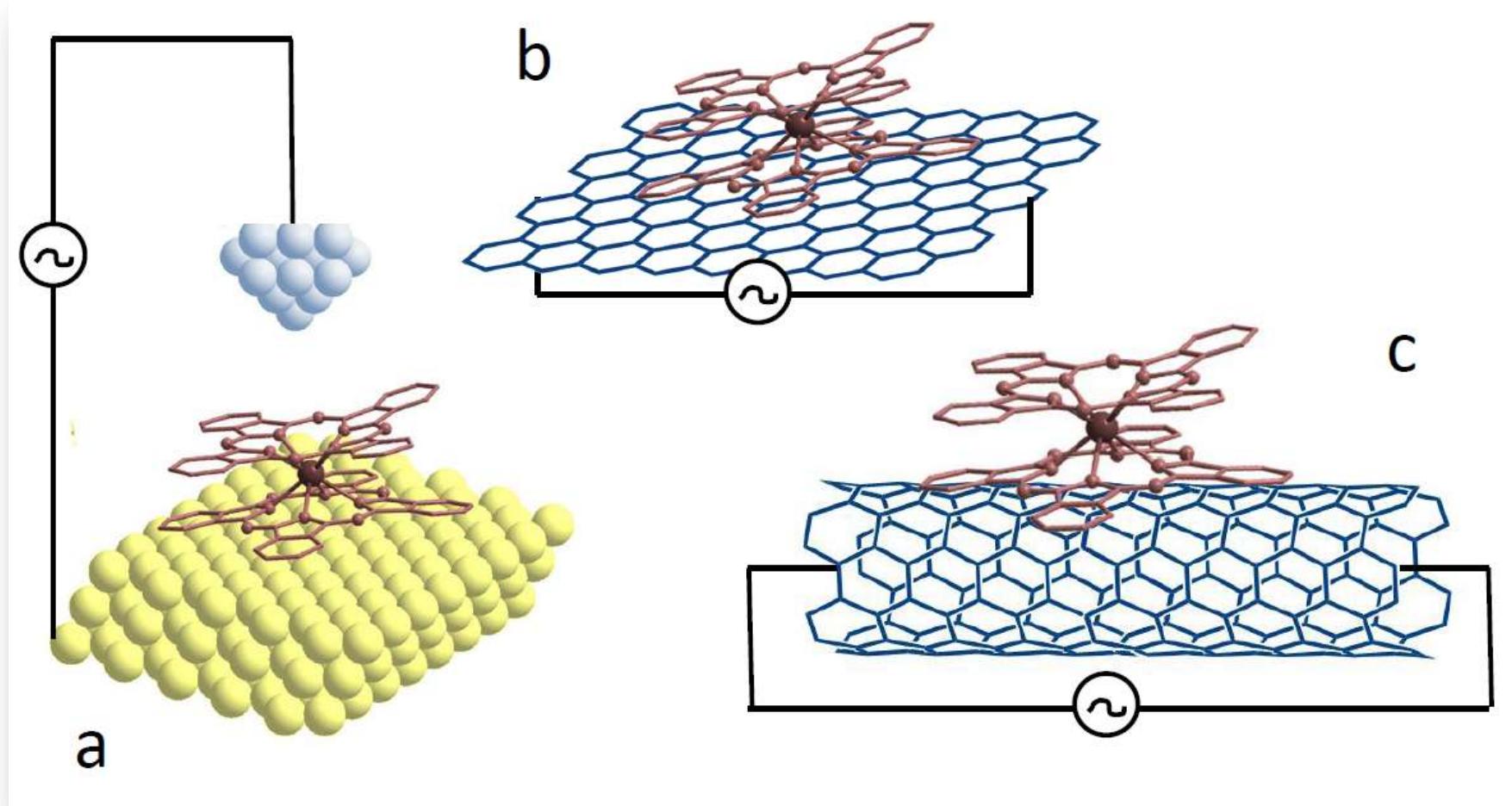


Komeda et al. 2009  
Kern et al., Nano Lett. 2008  
Hietschol et al. JACS 2011

- Thermally Evaporable
- Flat
- Large magnetic moment
- Large anisotropy
- High  $T_B$

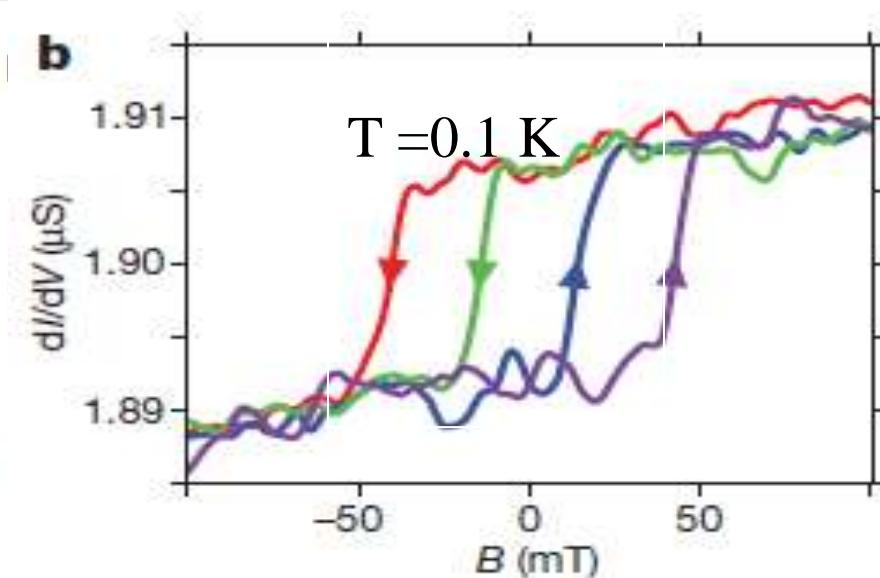
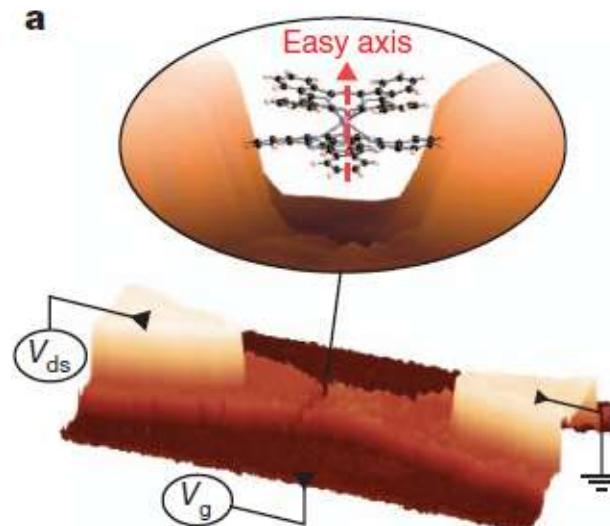


# Spintronics architectures based on $\text{TbPc}_2$



- a) Komeda et al. *Nature Commun.* 2011
- b) Candini et al. *Nanoletters* 2011
- c) Urdampilleta et al. *Nature Materials* 2011

# Spintronics architectures based on $\text{TbPc}_2$



16 AUGUST 2012 | VOL 488 | NATURE | 357

doi:10.1038/nature11341

## Electronic read-out of a single nuclear spin using a molecular spin transistor

Romain Vincent<sup>1</sup>, Svetlana Klyatskaya<sup>2</sup>, Mario Ruben<sup>2,3</sup>, Wolfgang Wernsdorfer<sup>1</sup> & Franck Balestro<sup>1</sup>

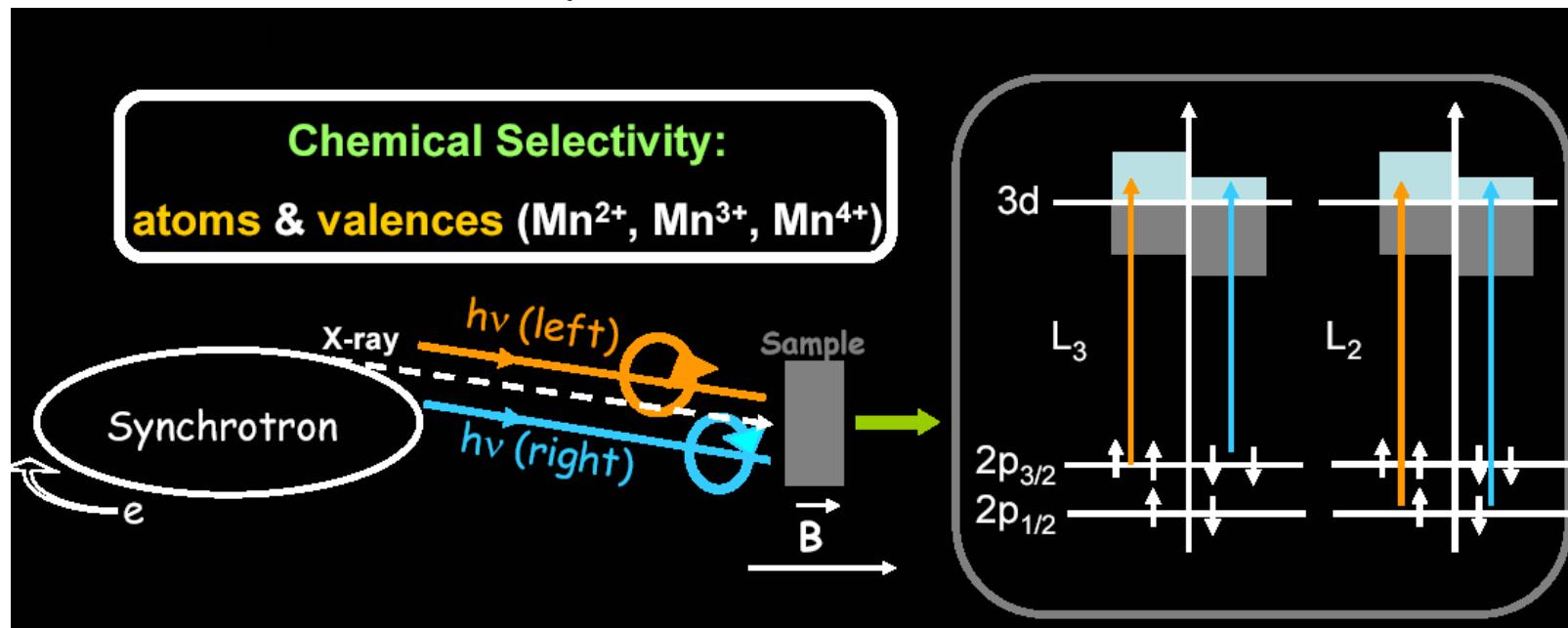


# Challenges

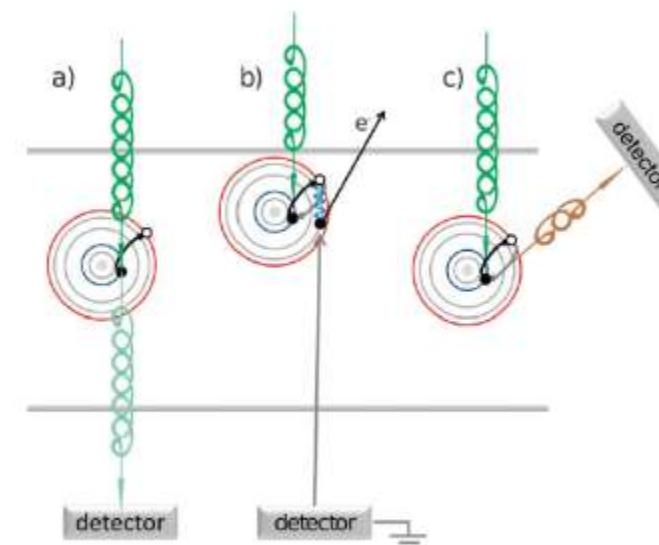
- Chemical stability on surfaces
- Robustness of SMM behavior

# X-ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism

- Element & valence selectivity



- Surface sensitivity when absorption is detected as Total Electron Yield (b)

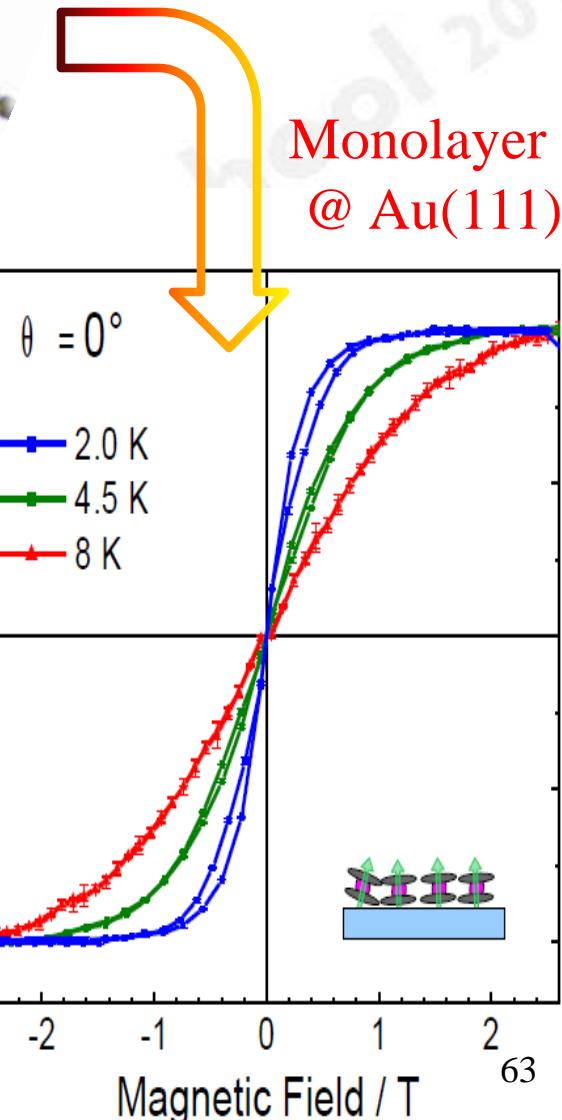
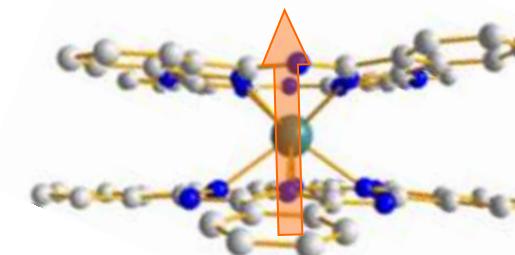
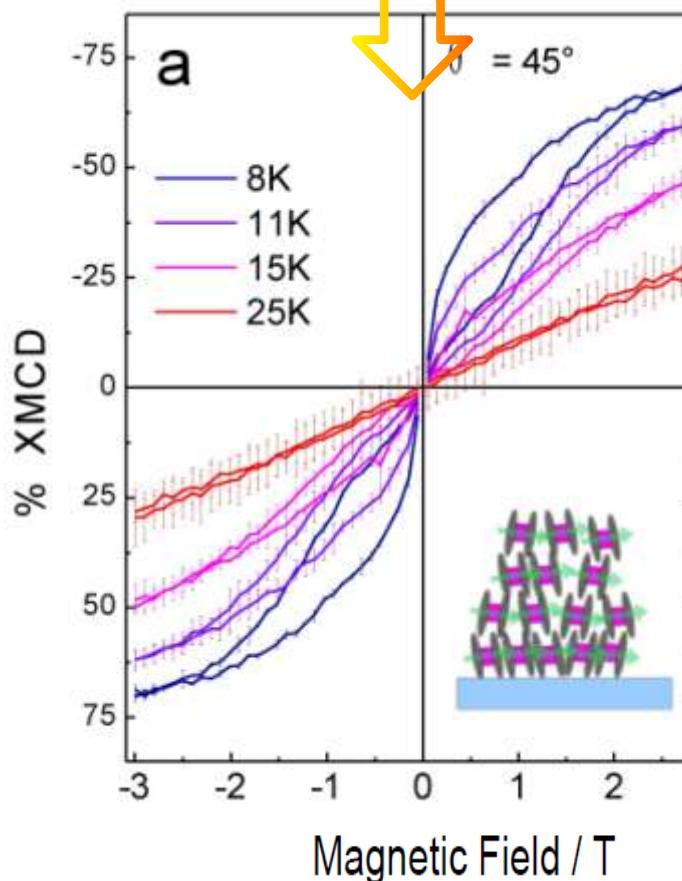


- a) absorption
- b) T. E. Y
- c) Fluorescence

# SMM behavior is sensitive to nanostructure

TbPc<sub>2</sub>  
Terbium bis-  
phthalocyaninato

thick film



ID8 @



# Implanted probes ( ${}^8\text{Li}^+$ , $\mu^+$ )

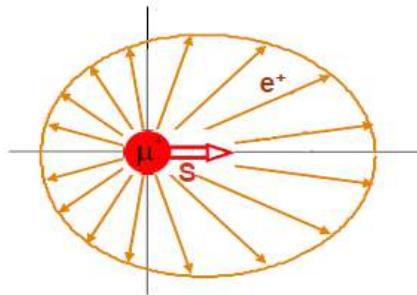
In muon spin relaxation muons are employed like local probe of magnetic field.

Muon:  $S=1/2$

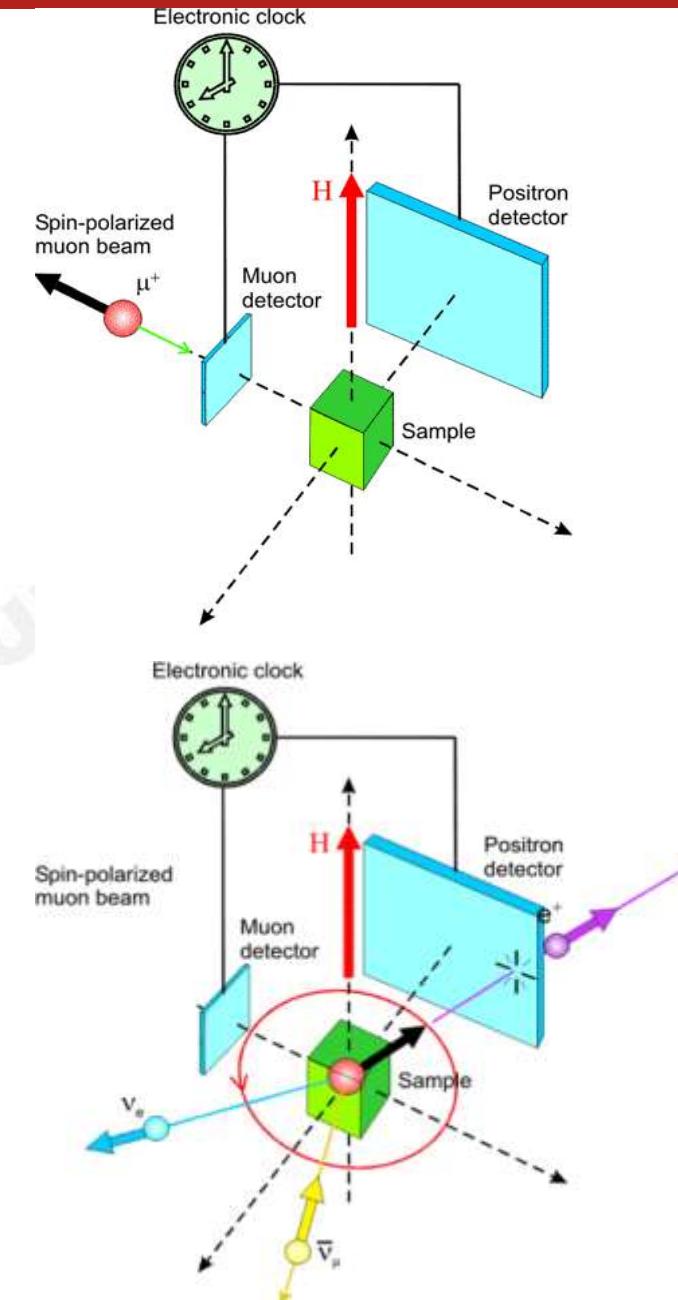
Muon decay (life time 2.2  $\mu\text{s}$ )



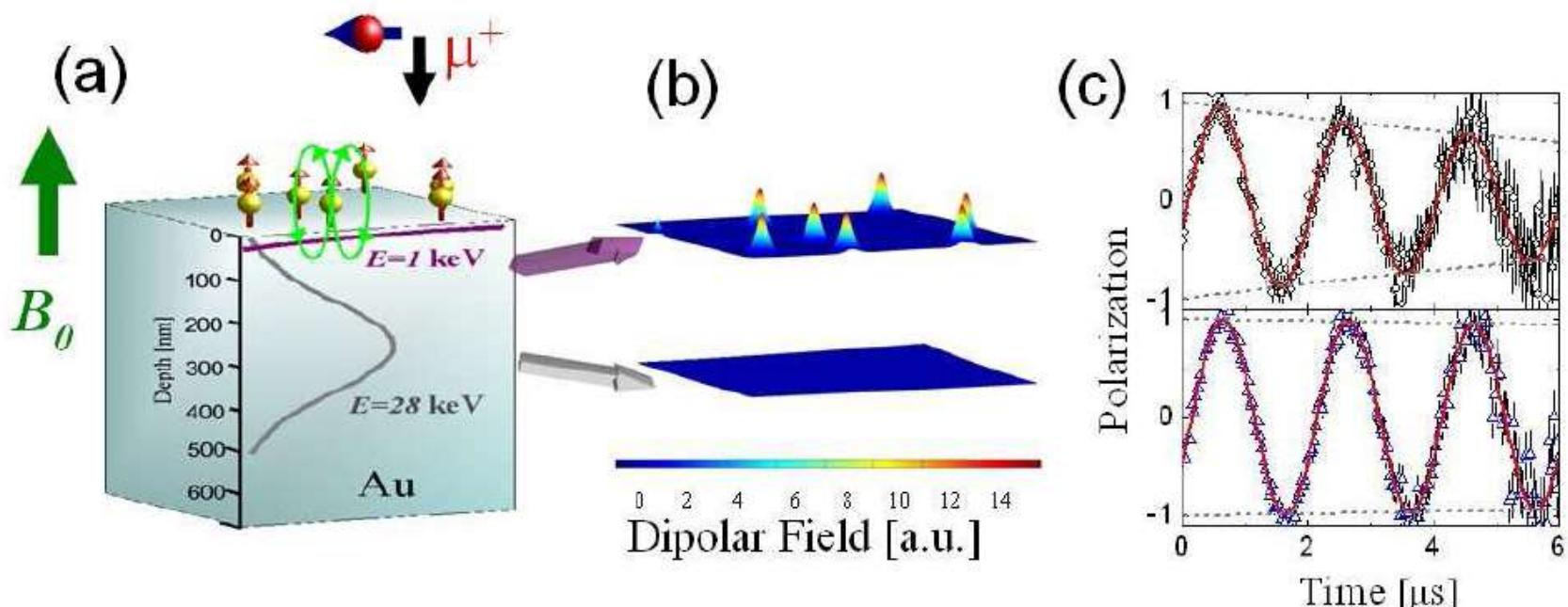
Positrons are preferentially emitted along muon spin



Measuring the variation of the spatial distribution of positrons emitted in the time it's possible to obtain information about the local magnetic fields experienced by the muons.



# Implanted probes ( ${}^8\text{Li}^+$ , $\mu^+$ )



Muon:  $S=1/2$

Muon decay (life time  $2.2 \mu\text{s}$ )

Low energy muons

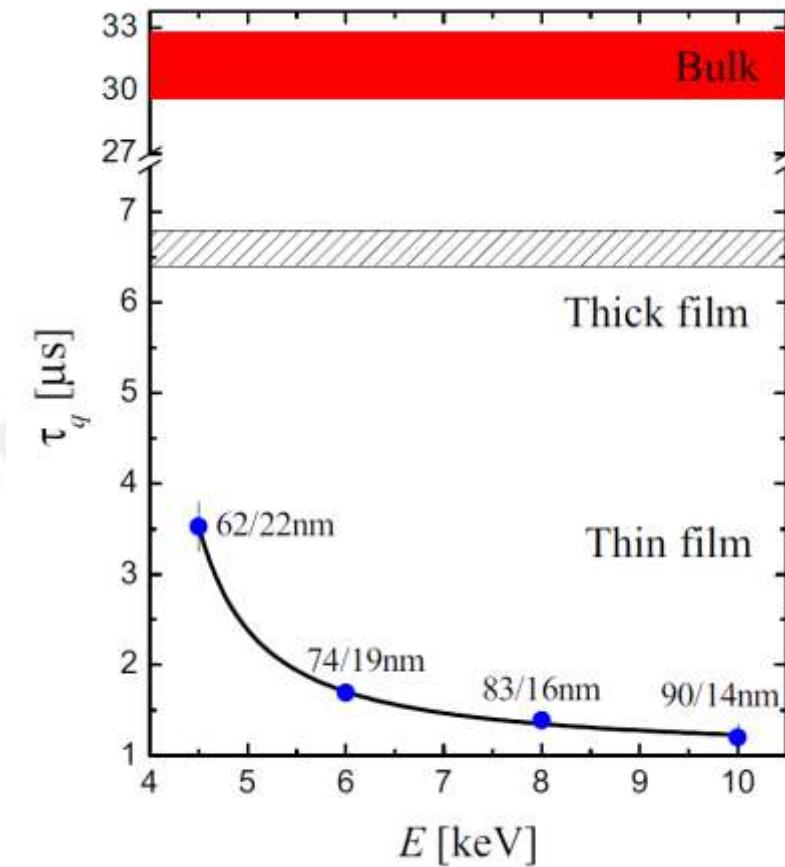
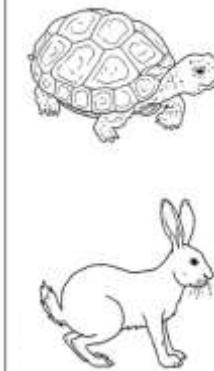
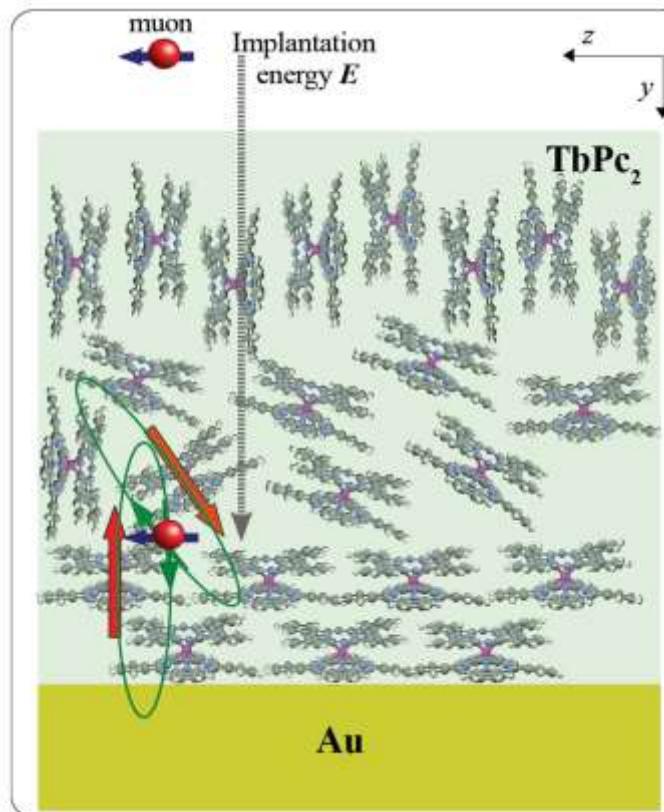


Positrons are preferentially emitted along muon spin

In collaboration with Zaher Salman @ PSI

# TbPc<sub>2</sub> SMM films: implanted muons studies

Gradual increase of the relaxation time on increasing the distance from the Au substrate



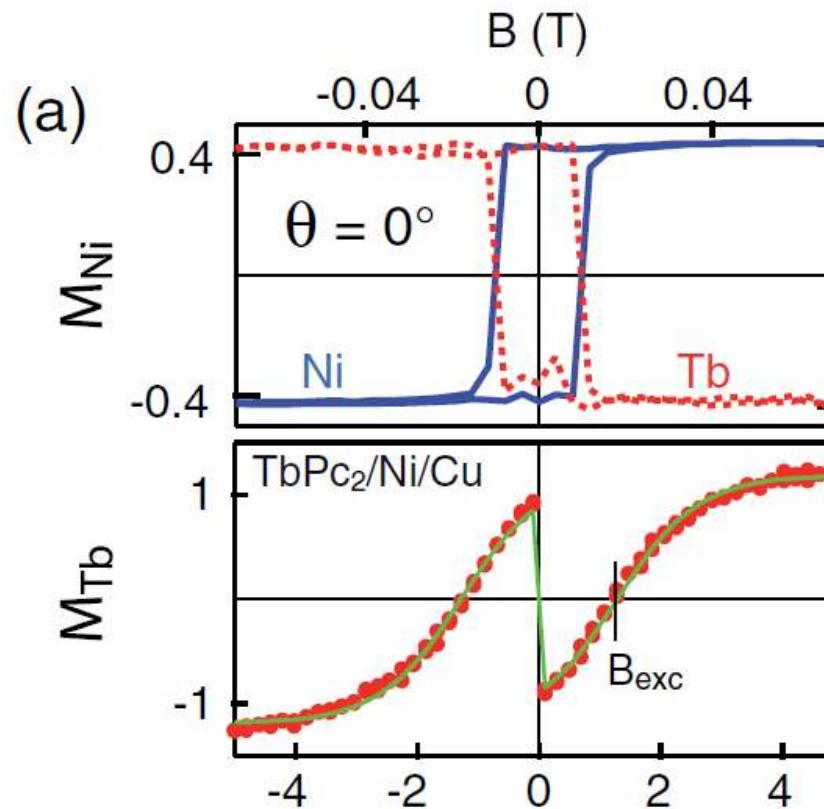
Molecular packing is more important than electronic interaction with the substrate

# TbPc<sub>2</sub> on a magnetic substrate

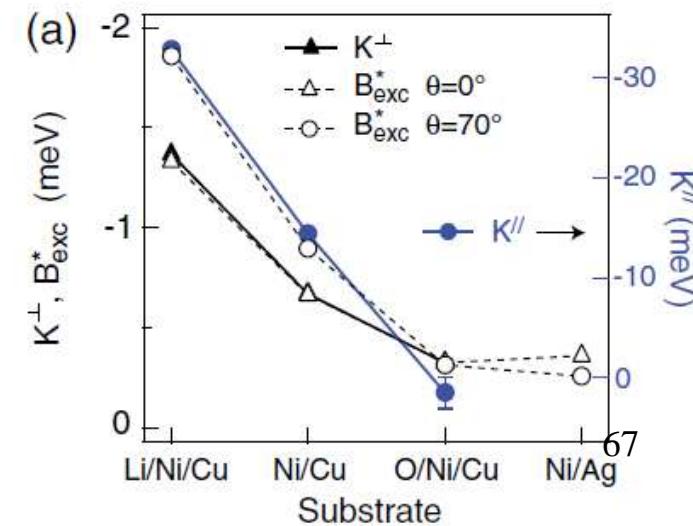
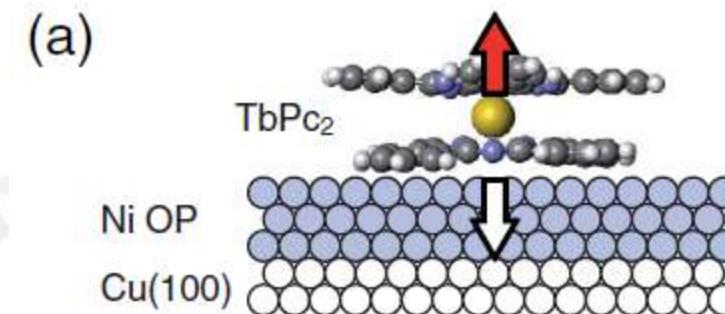
PRL 107, 177205 (2011)

## Coupling Single Molecule Magnets to Ferromagnetic Substrates

A. Lodi Rizzini,<sup>1</sup> C. Krull,<sup>1</sup> T. Balashov,<sup>1</sup> J. J. Kavich,<sup>1</sup> A. Mugarza,<sup>1</sup> P. S. Miedema,<sup>2</sup> P. K. Thakur,<sup>3</sup> V. Sessi,<sup>3</sup> S. Klvatskava,<sup>4</sup> M. Ruben,<sup>4,5</sup> S. Stepanow,<sup>6</sup> and P. Gambardella<sup>1,7,8</sup>

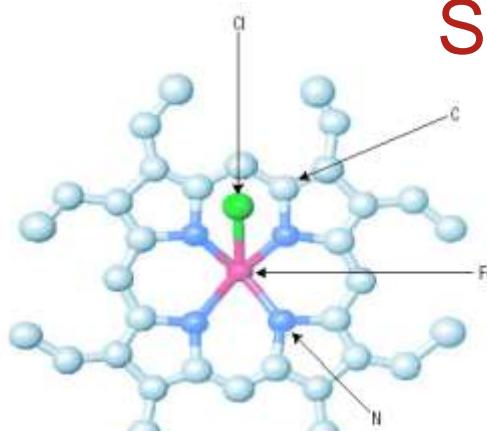


MODERATE AF INTERACTION

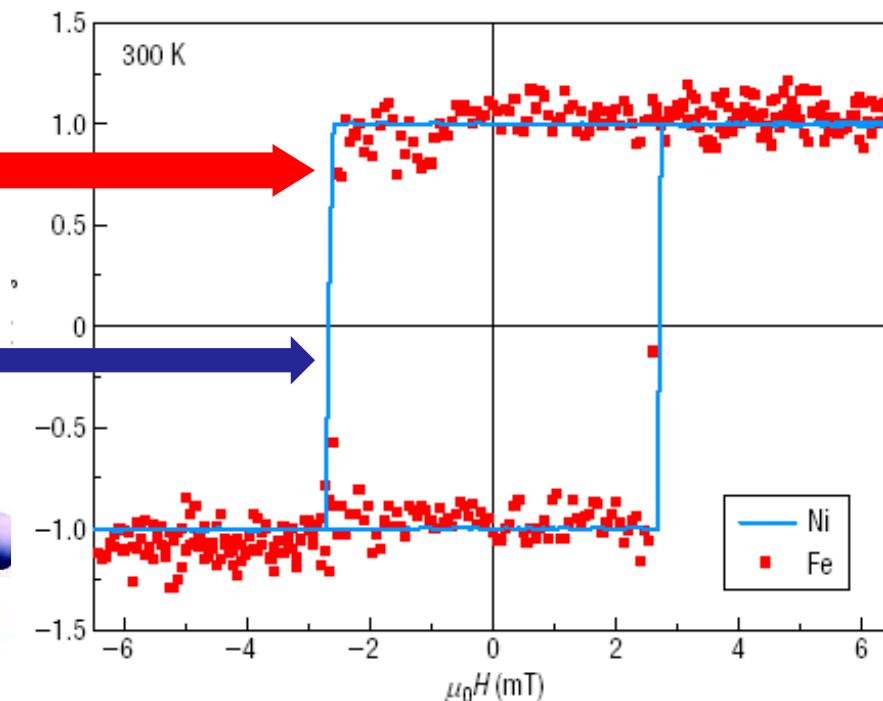
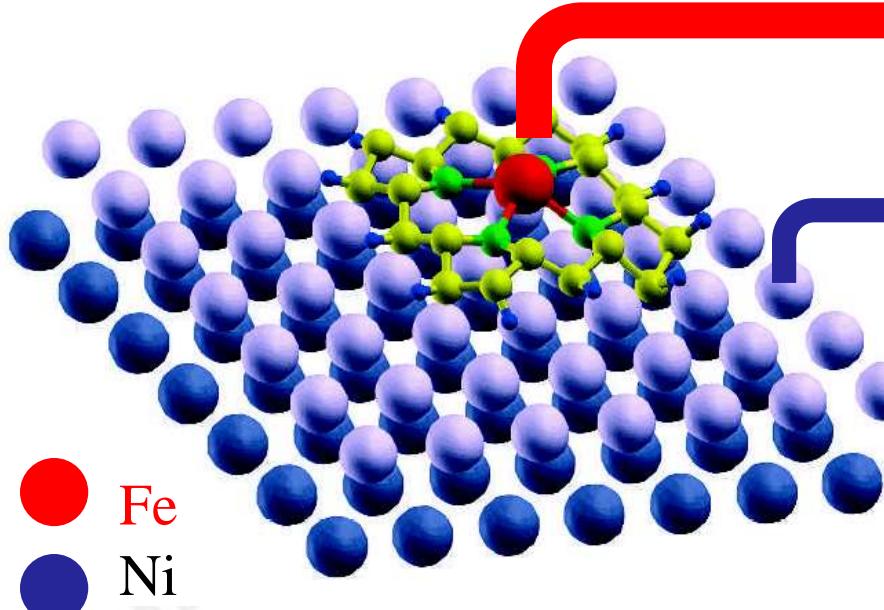


# Magnetic molecules on a magnetic surface

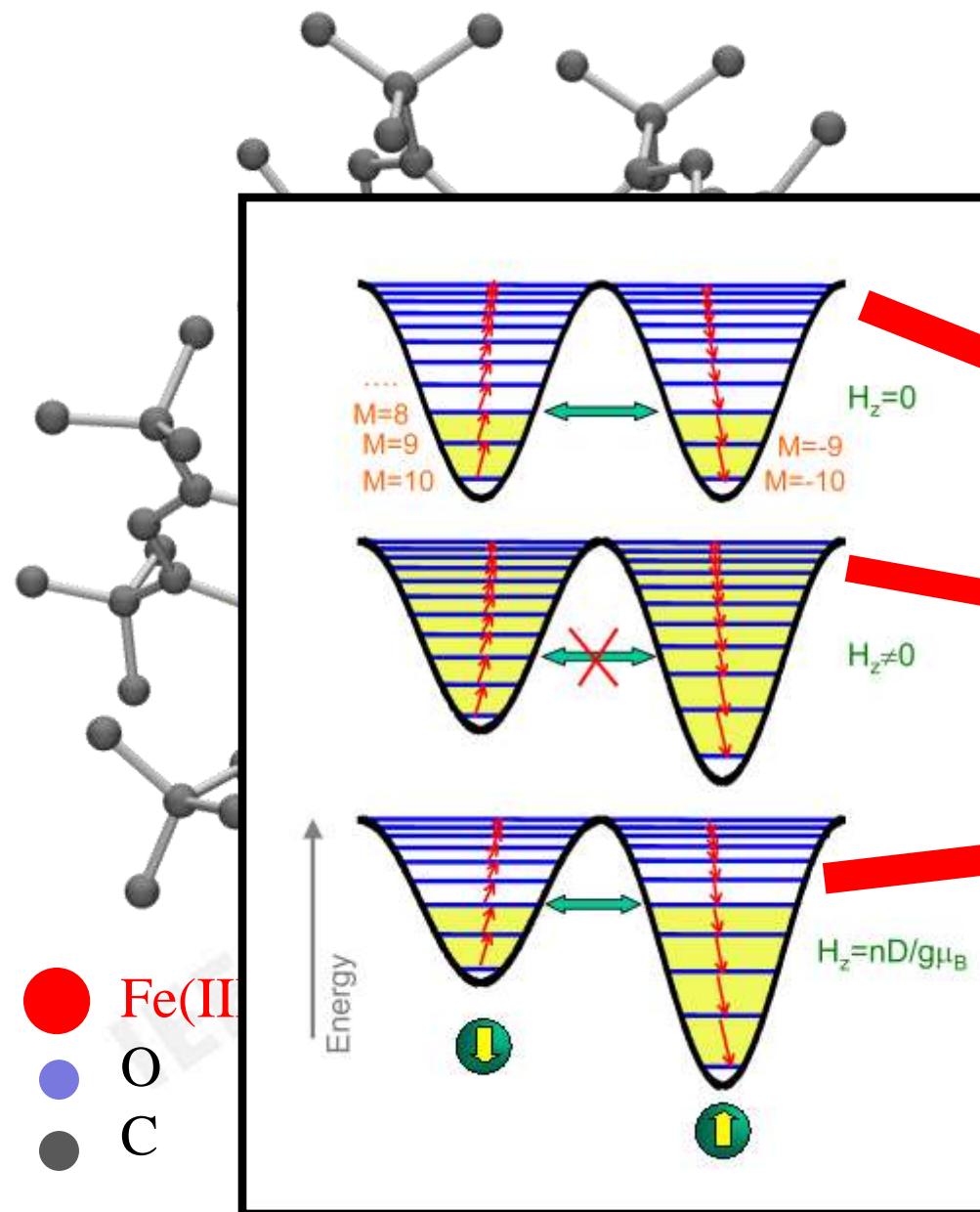
## Surface induced hysteresis @ 300 K



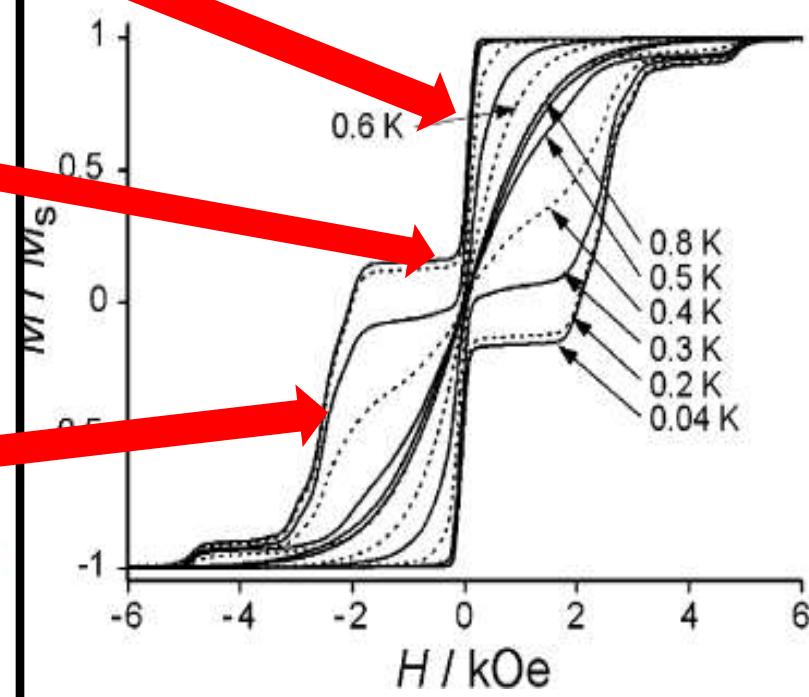
Sublimated on Co or Ni films on Cu(100)



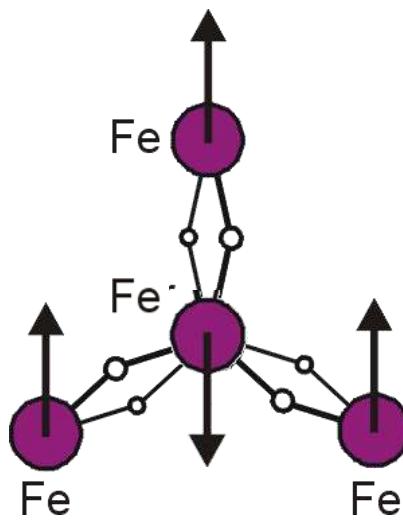
# Fe<sub>4</sub>: another robust SMM



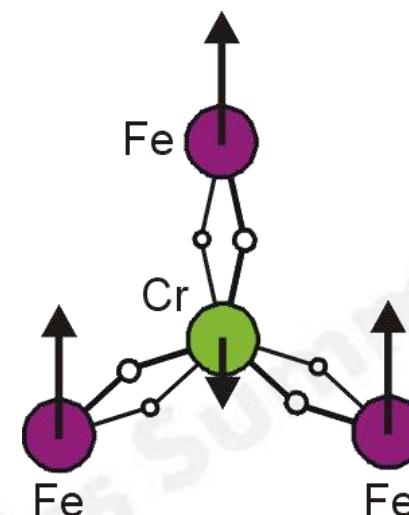
$S_T = 3 \times 5/2 - 5/2 = 5$   
↓  
Lower T<sub>B</sub> than Mn<sub>12</sub>



# Fe<sub>3</sub>M propellers

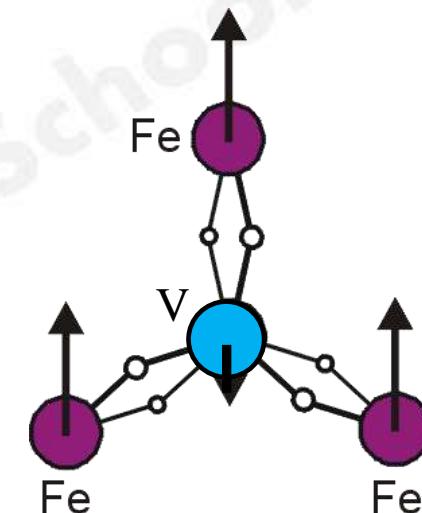


$S = 5$   
 $D = -0.45 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
 $\Delta E \sim 15 \text{ K}$



$S = 6$   
 $D = -0.16 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
 $\Delta E \sim 8 \text{ K}$

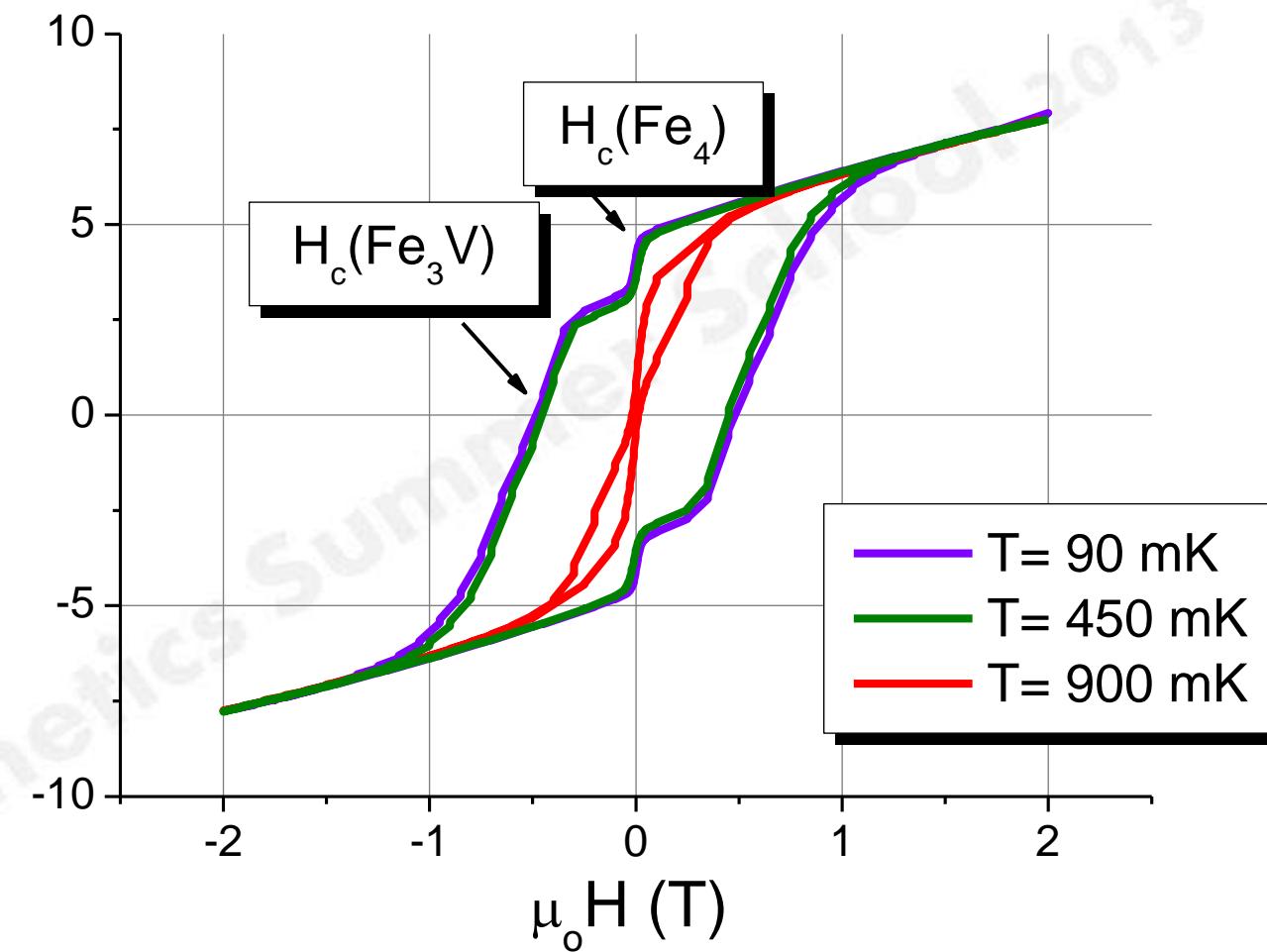
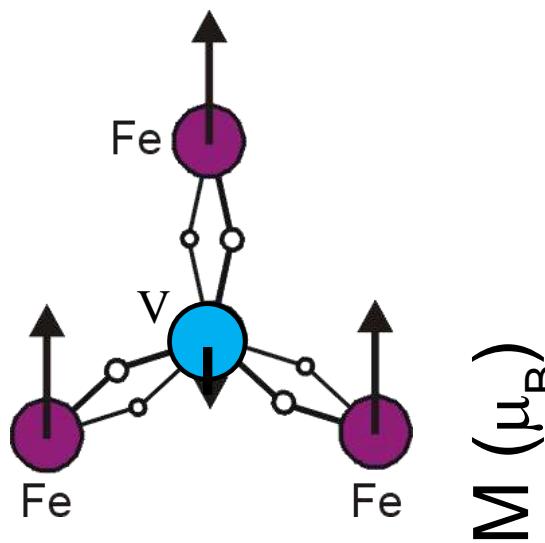
100% pure



$S = 13/2$   
 $D \sim -0.35 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
 $\Delta E \sim 21 \text{ K}$

Small impurity of Fe<sub>4</sub>

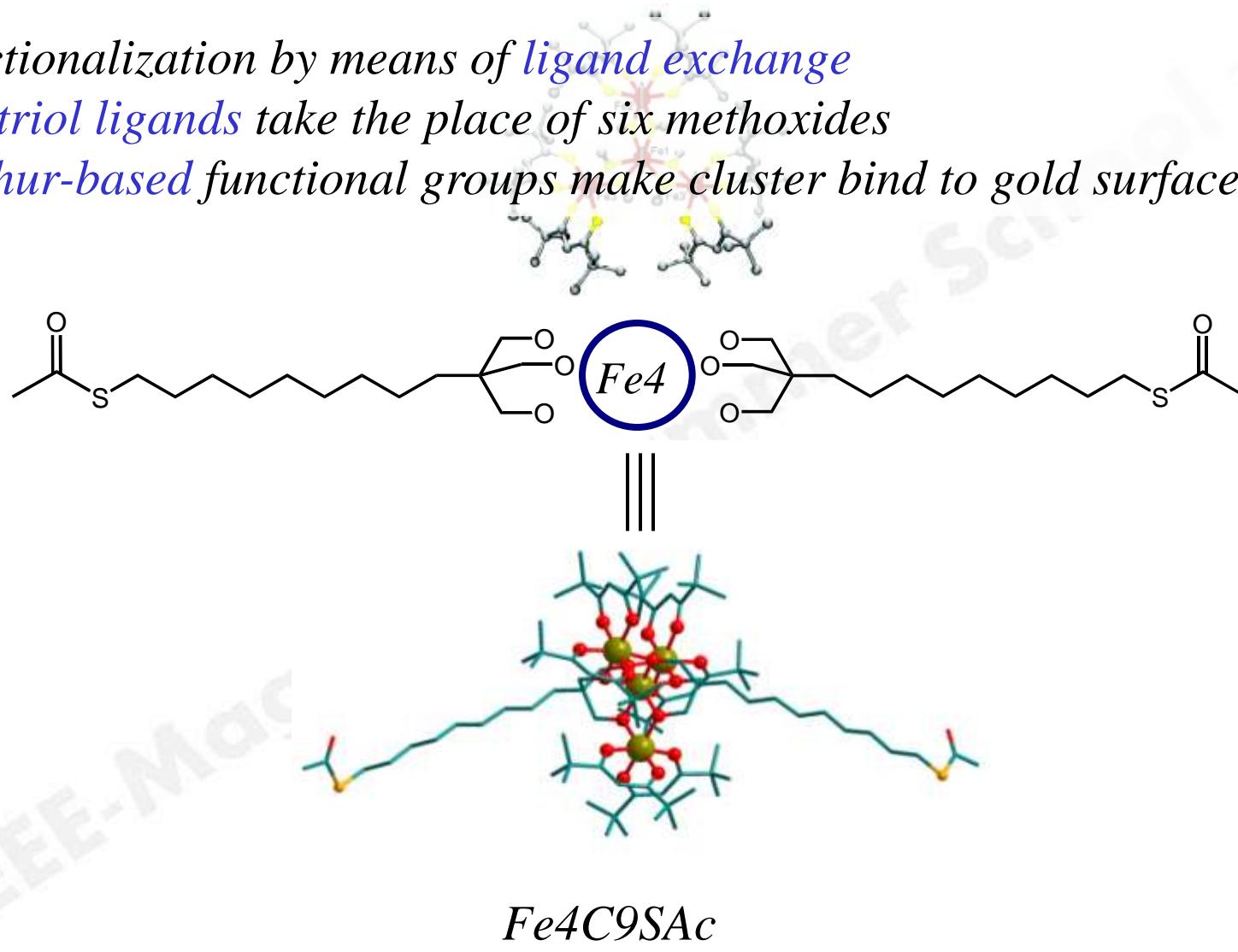
# Adding remnant magnetization by chemical design



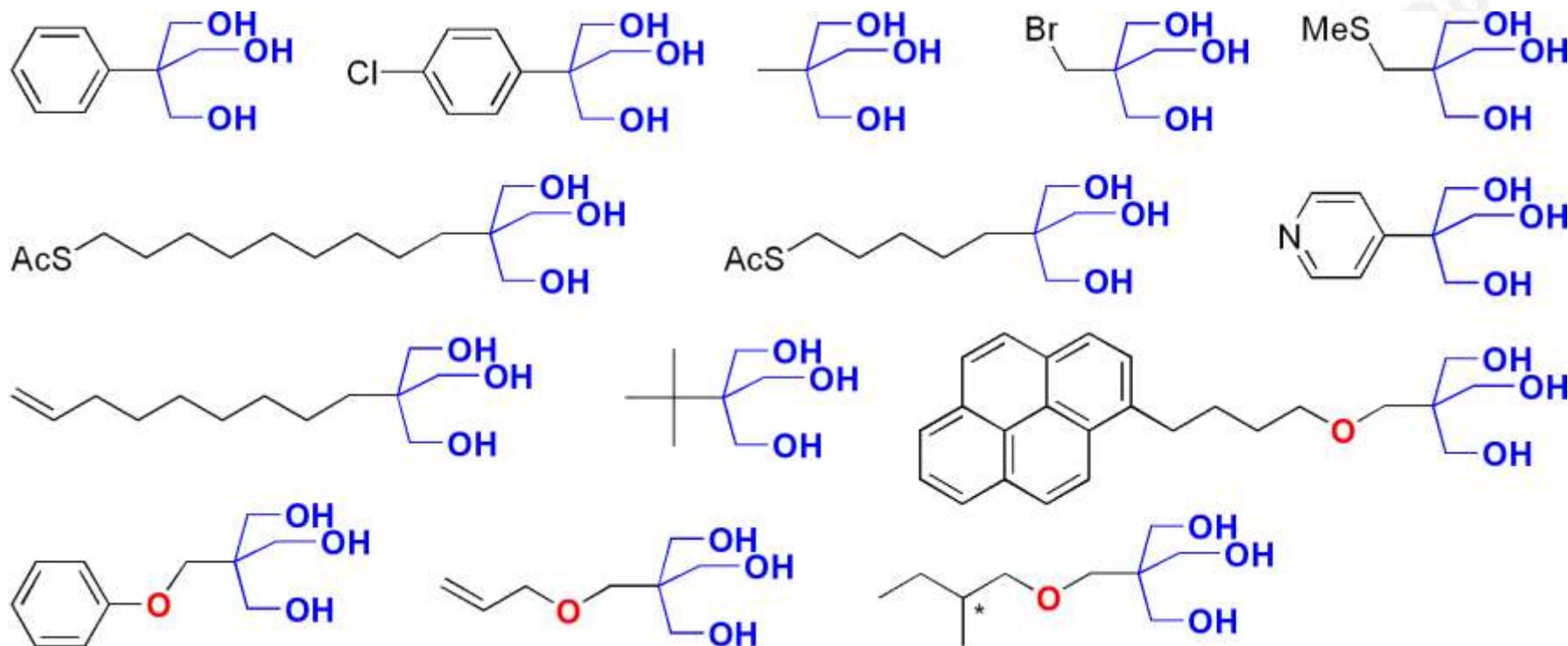
Zero Field Tunneling is less efficient for  $S=13/2$

# Functionalization of Fe<sub>4</sub> clusters

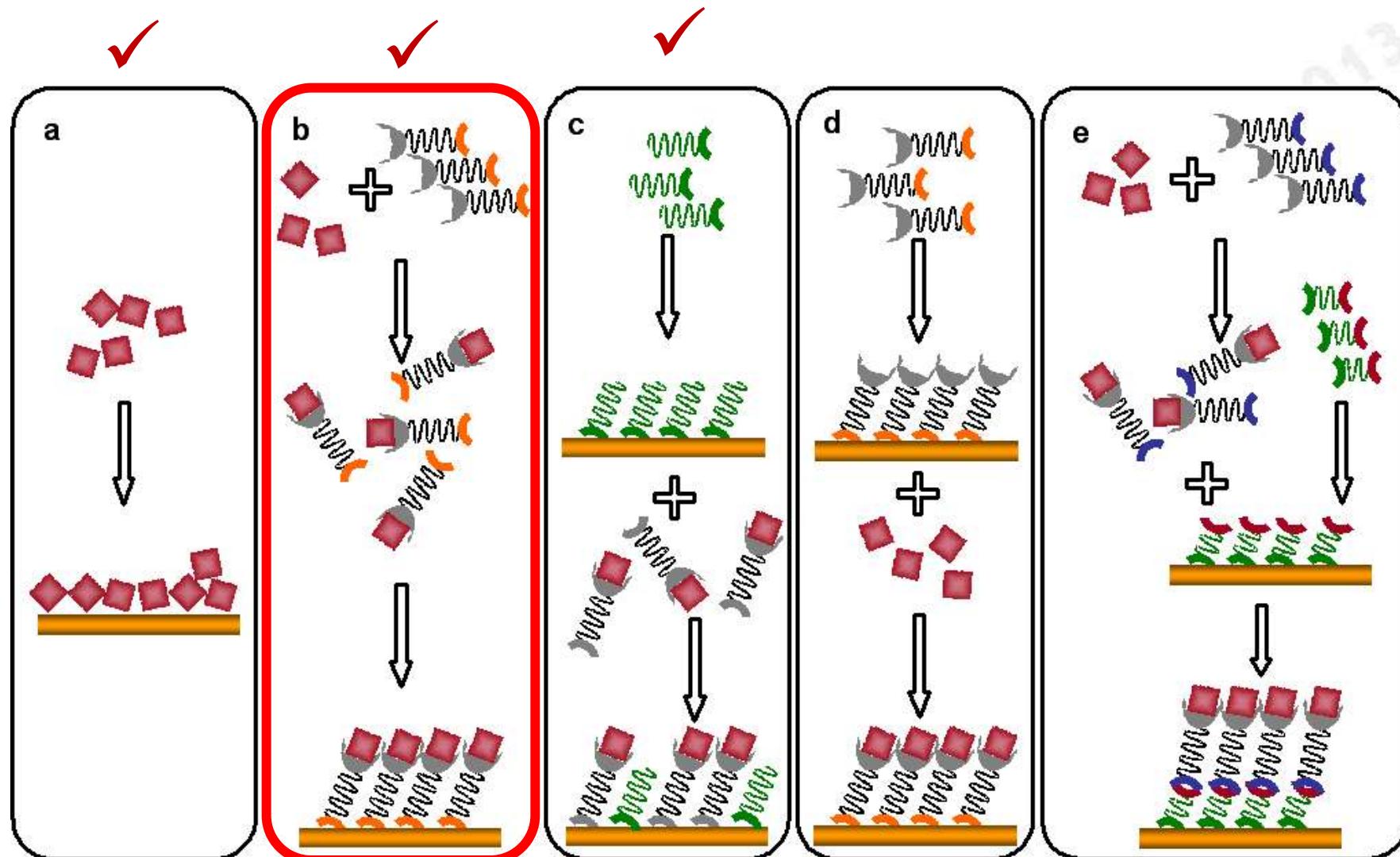
- Functionalization by means of *ligand exchange*
- Two triol ligands take the place of six methoxides
- Sulphur-based functional groups make cluster bind to gold surfaces



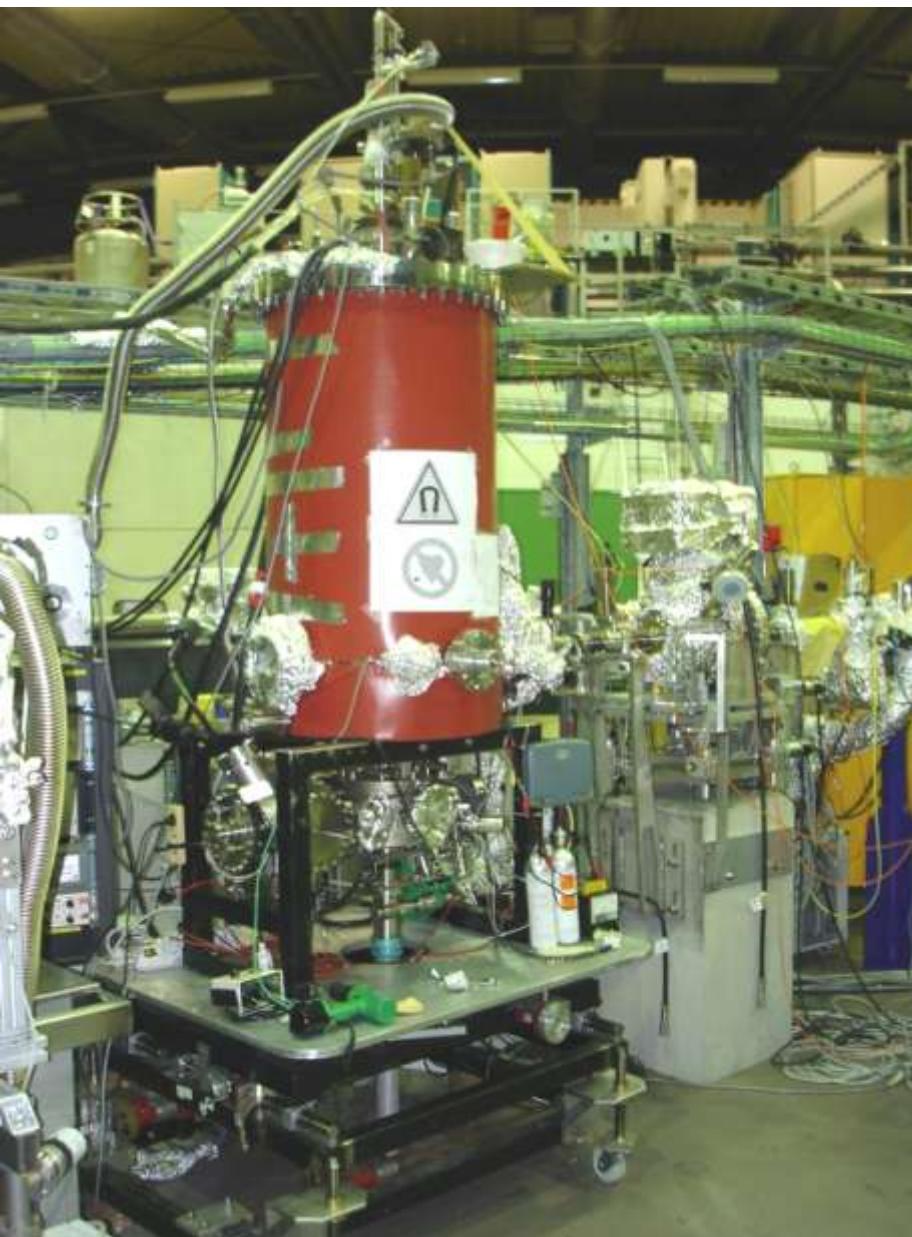
# Functionalization of Fe<sub>4</sub> clusters



# Deposition of molecules on surfaces



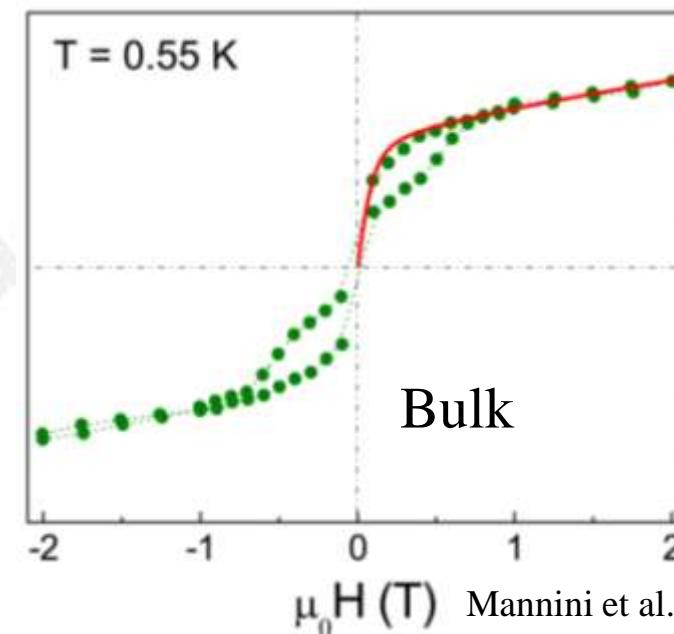
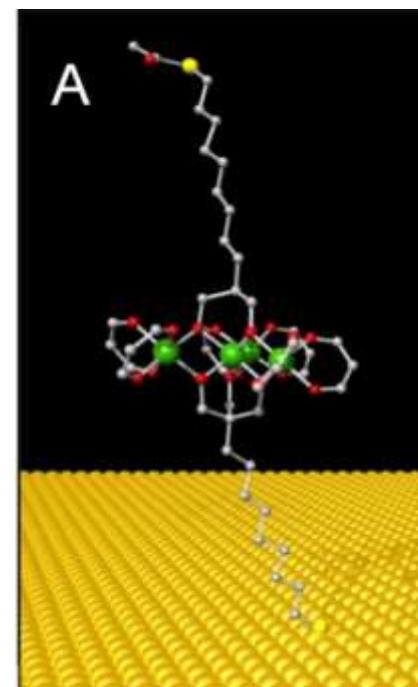
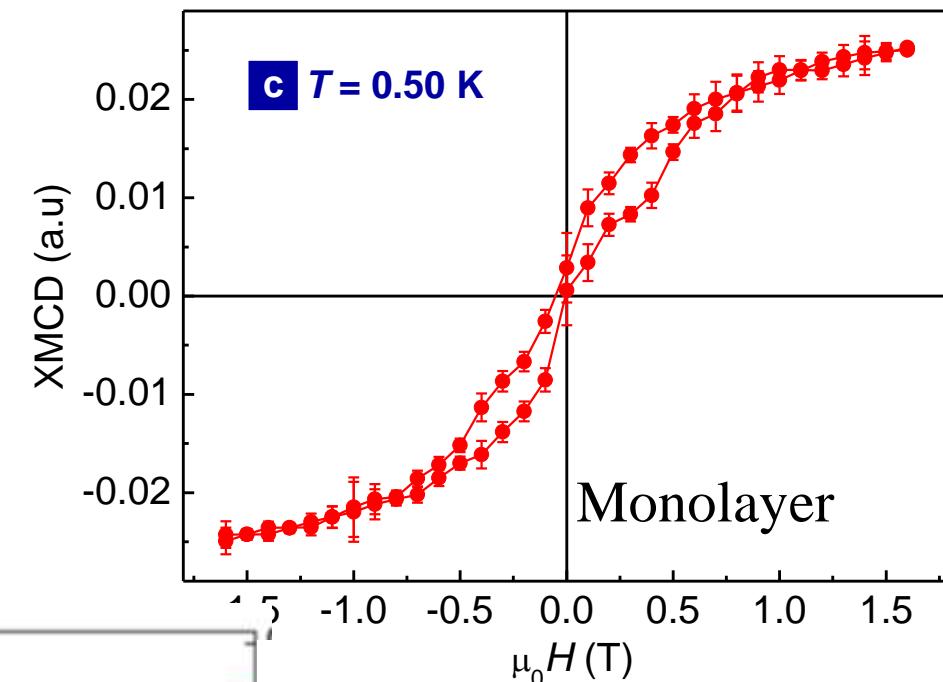
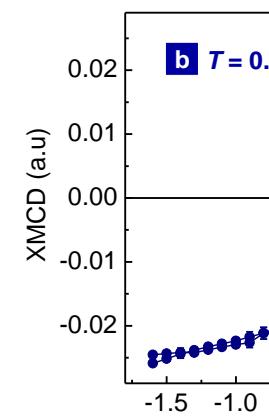
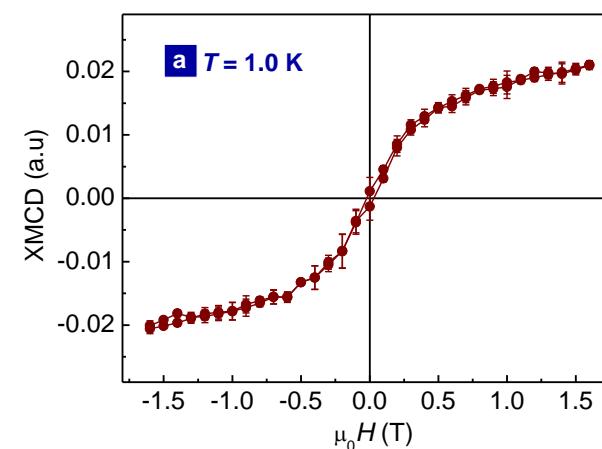
# X-ray Magnetic Circular Dichroism at low temperature



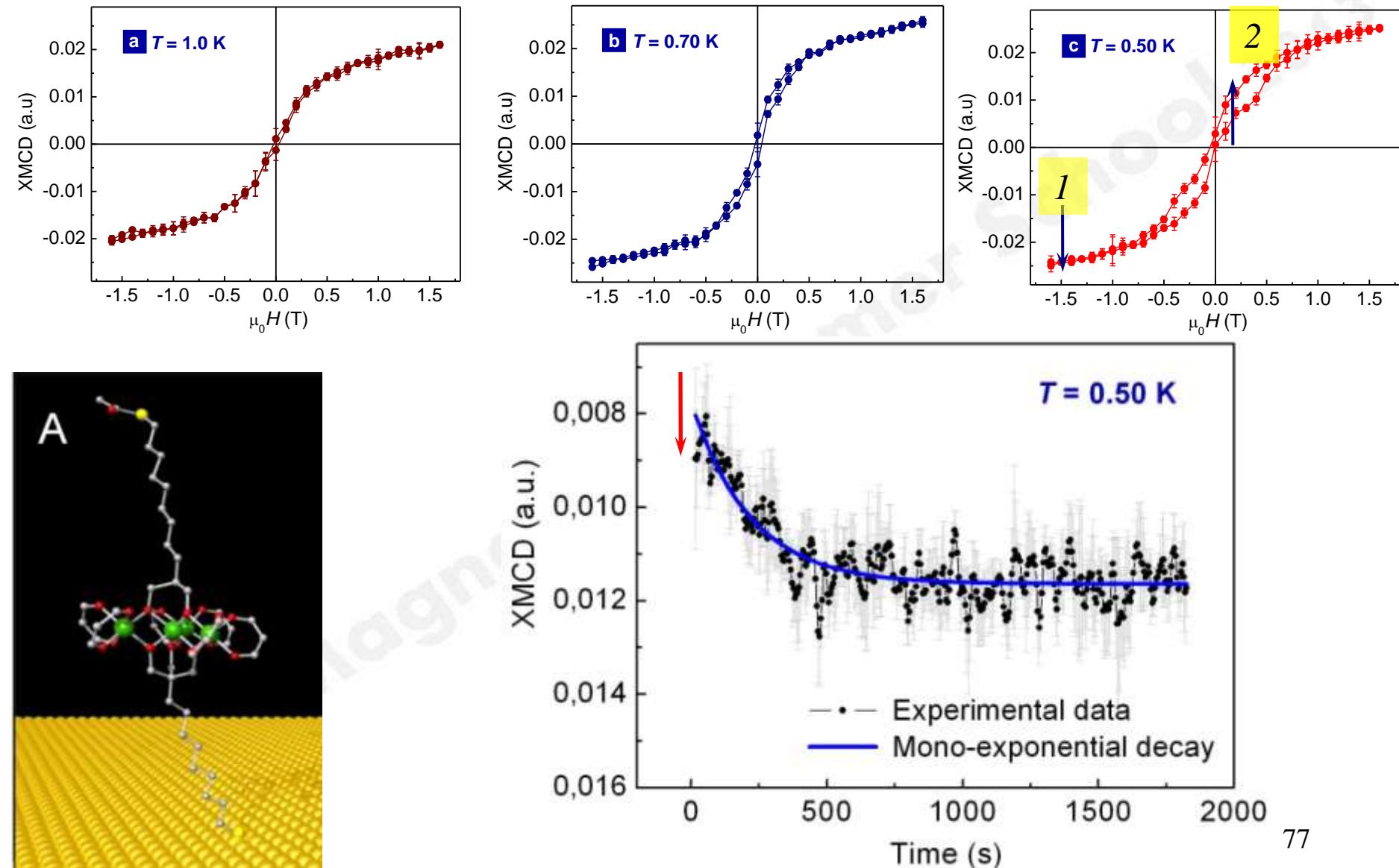
French End-Station (TBT)  
setup by  
J.-P. Kappler  
(IPCMS, Strasbourg)  
&  
Ph. Sainctavit  
(IMPMC, Paris)

- UHV, bakeable
- $^{3}\text{He}$ - $^{4}\text{He}$  dilution refrigerator:  
 $T \approx 500 \text{ mK}$
- Superconducting coil :  
 $-7 \text{ T} < B < +7 \text{ T}$

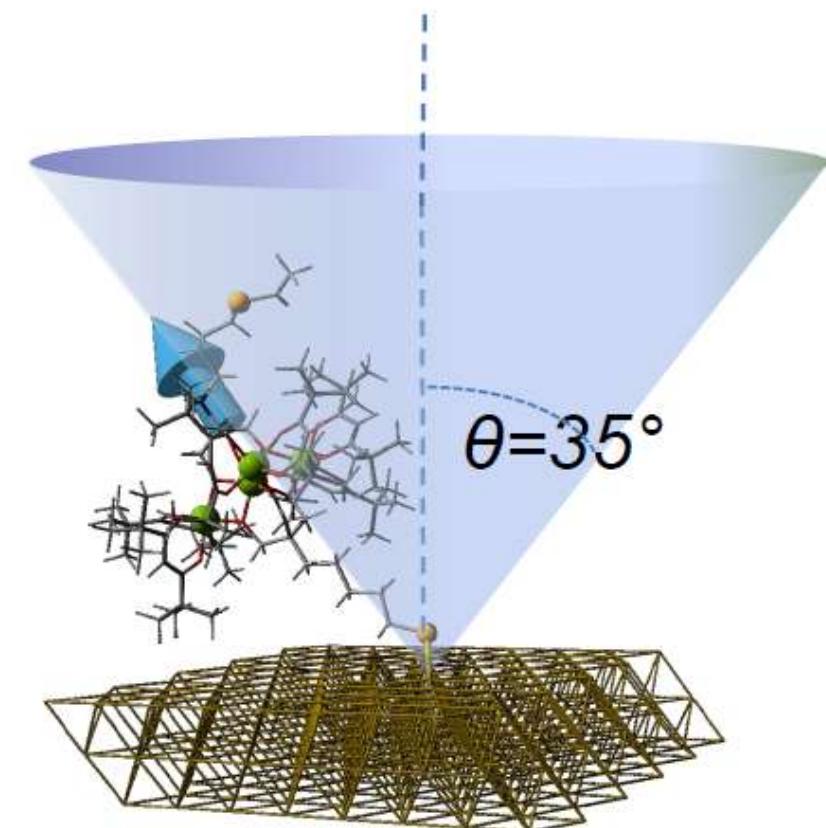
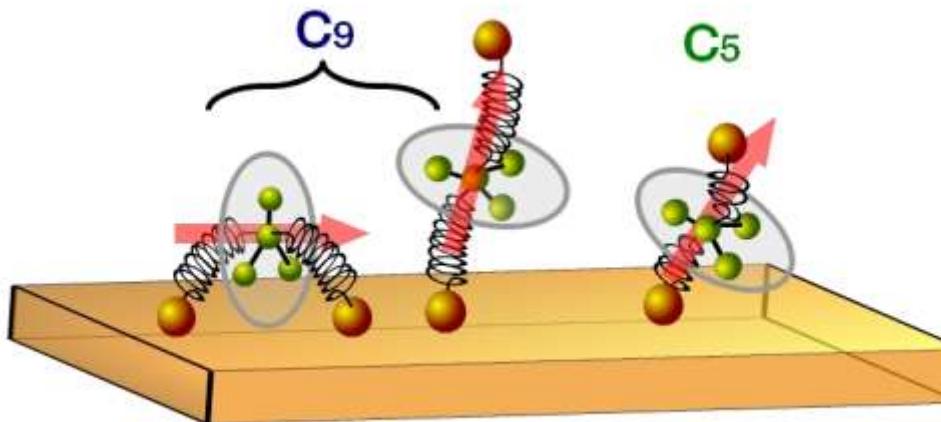
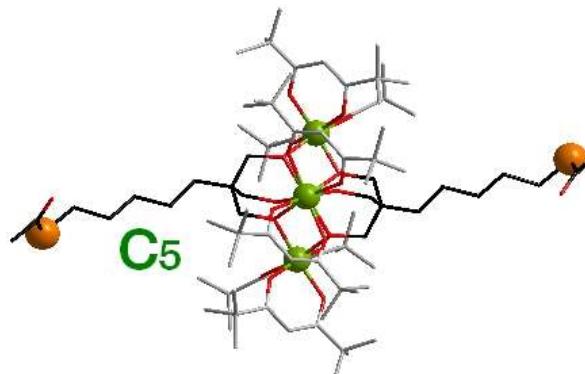
# Magnetic hysteresis of $\text{Fe}_4$ wired to a gold surface



# Magnetic hysteresis of $\text{Fe}_4$ wired to a gold surface

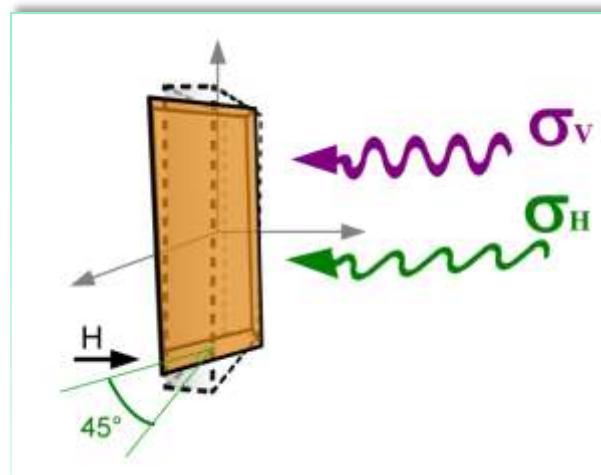


# Control of the orientation on the surface

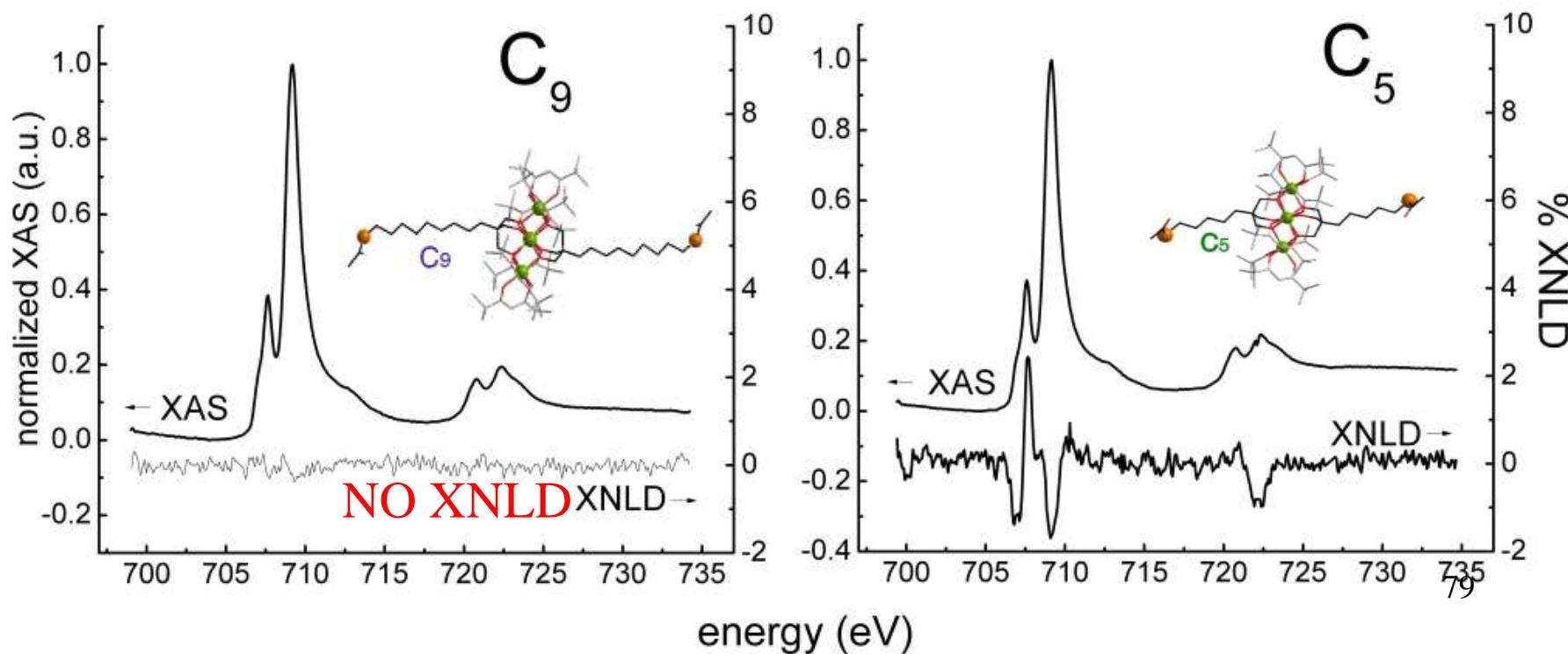


DFT calculations by  
Federico Totti

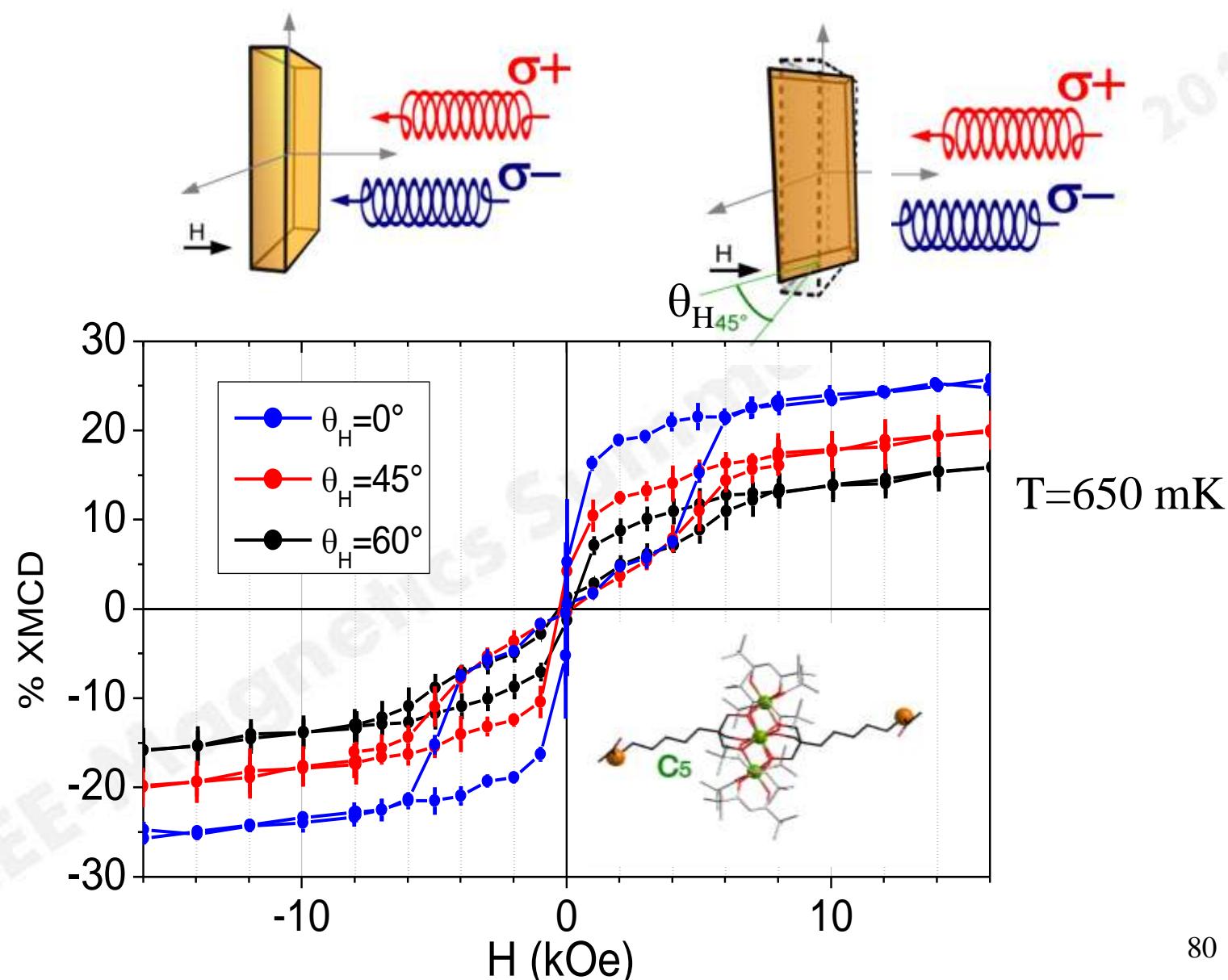
# Natural Linear Dichroism @ Fe – L edge



XNLD: An experimental technique sensitive to the orientation of molecules on the surface



## Angular Dependence of the Magnetic Hysteresis



# SMM: Quantum Master Matrix Approach

$$\frac{d\vec{N}}{dt} = \tilde{\Gamma}\vec{N}$$

$$\Gamma_q^m = \gamma_q^m - \delta_q^m \sum_{m'} \gamma_{m'}^m$$

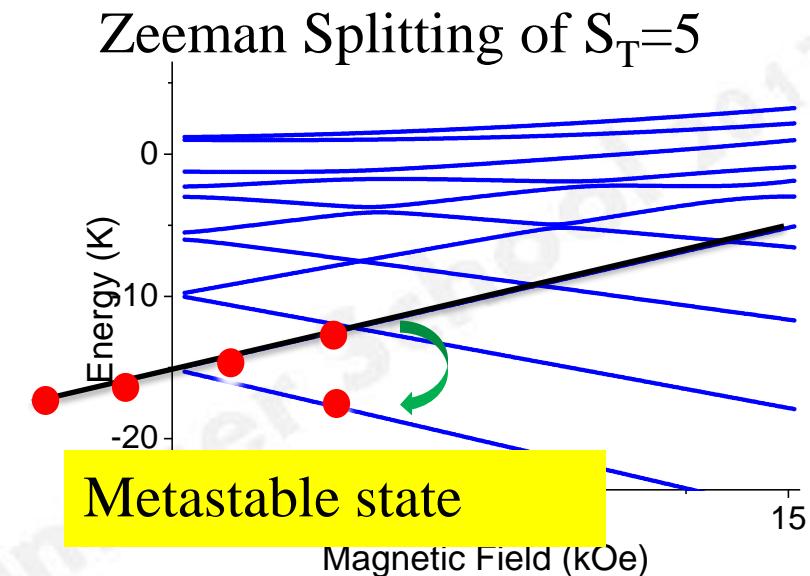
$$\tilde{\Gamma} = \begin{pmatrix} -\sum_{m' \neq 1} \gamma_1^{m'} & \gamma_2^1 & \cdot & \cdot & \gamma_{2s+1}^1 \\ \gamma_1^2 & -\sum_{m' \neq 2} \gamma_2^{m'} & \cdot & \cdot & \gamma_{2s+1}^2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \gamma_1^{2s+1} & \gamma_2^{2s+1} & \cdot & \cdot & -\sum_{m' \neq s} \gamma_{2s+1}^{m'} \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{N} = \begin{pmatrix} N_1 \\ N_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ N_{2s+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\gamma_q^p = \frac{3}{\pi \hbar^4 \rho c_s^5} \frac{(E_p - E_q)^3}{\left[ e^{(E_p - E_q)/k_B T} - 1 \right]} \left| \langle \varphi_p | \mathcal{H}_{S-Ph} | \varphi_q \rangle \right|^2$$

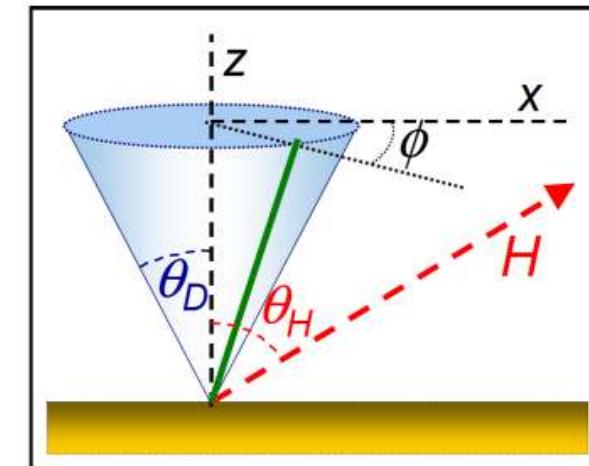
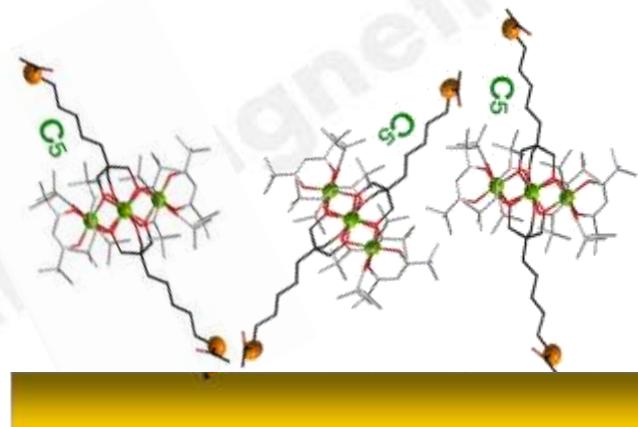
$$M(t) = \sum_m p_m(t) \frac{dE_m}{dH}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} p_m(t) = \sum_q \left[ \gamma_q^m p_q(t) - \gamma_m^q p_m(t) \right]$$

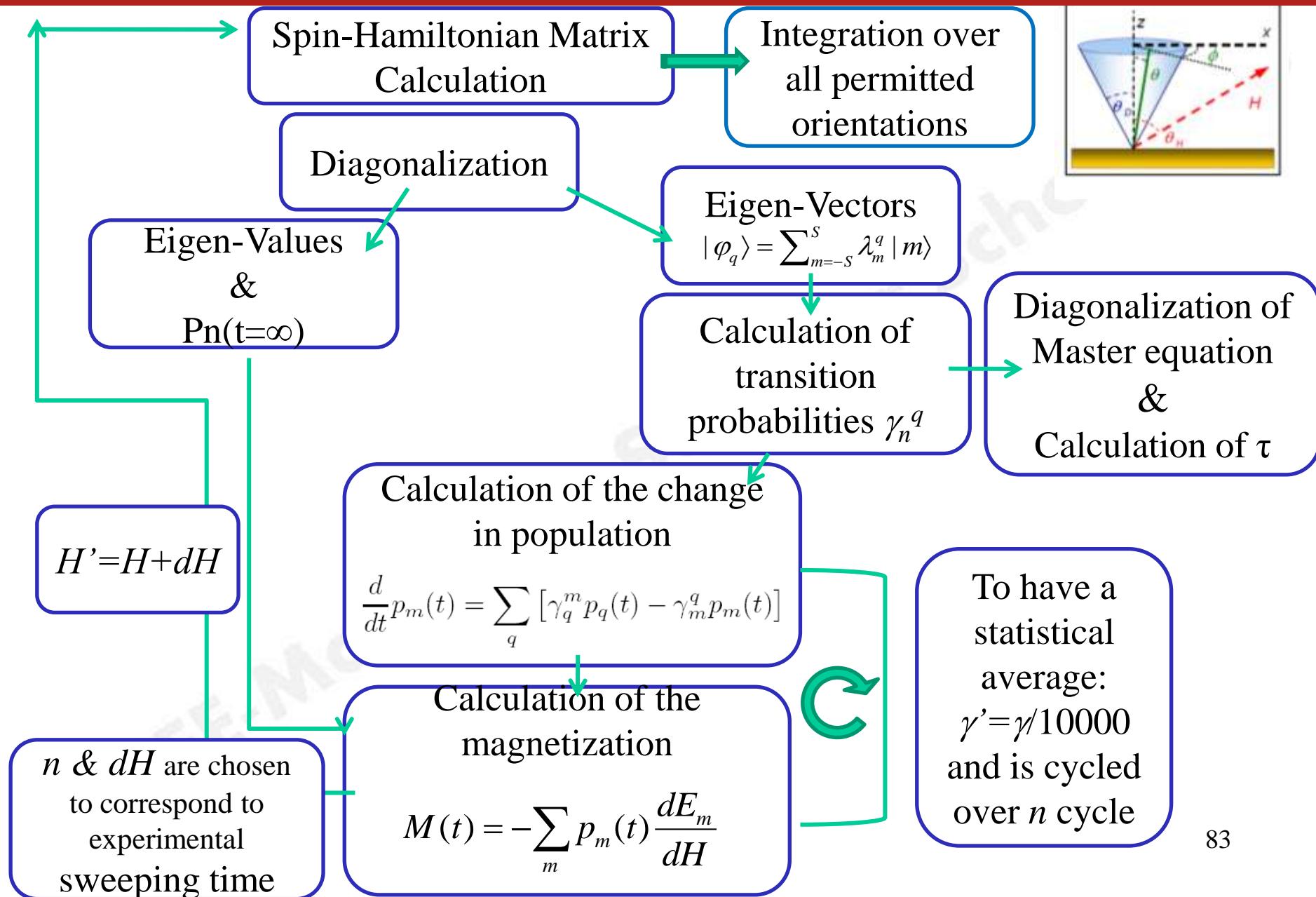
# Numerical Simulation of the Magnetic Hysteresis



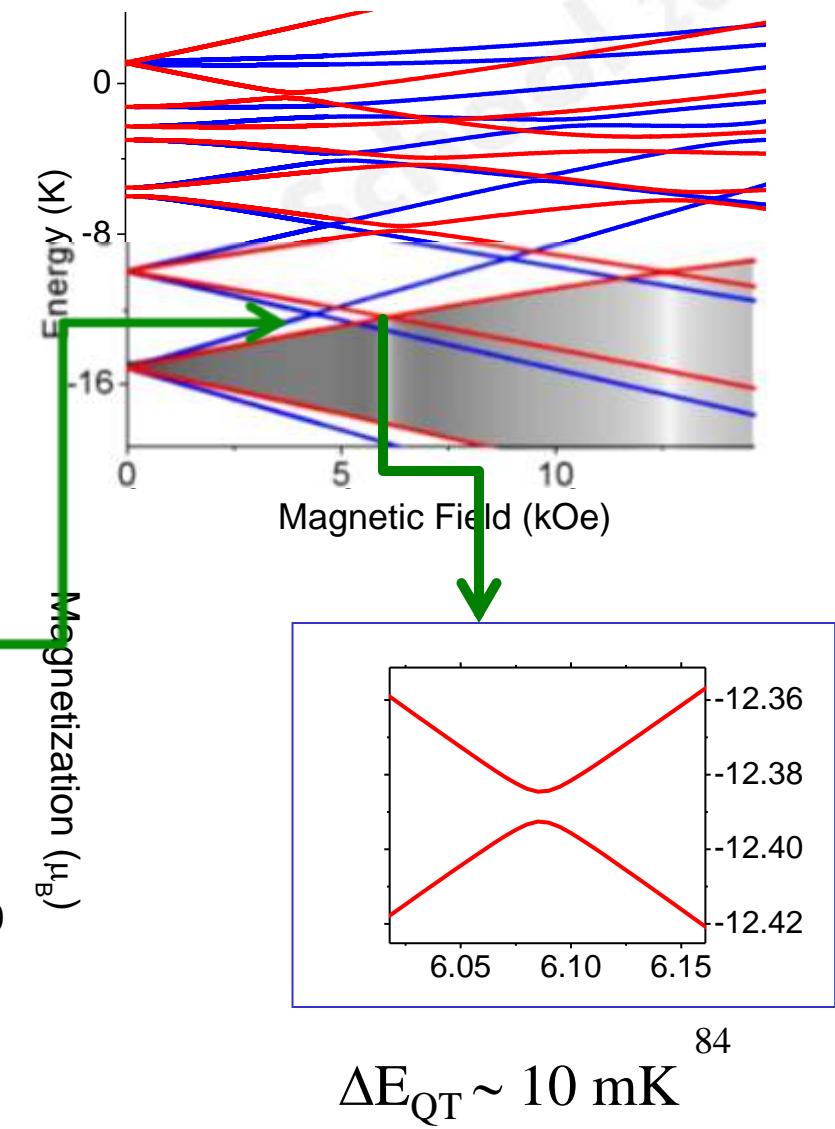
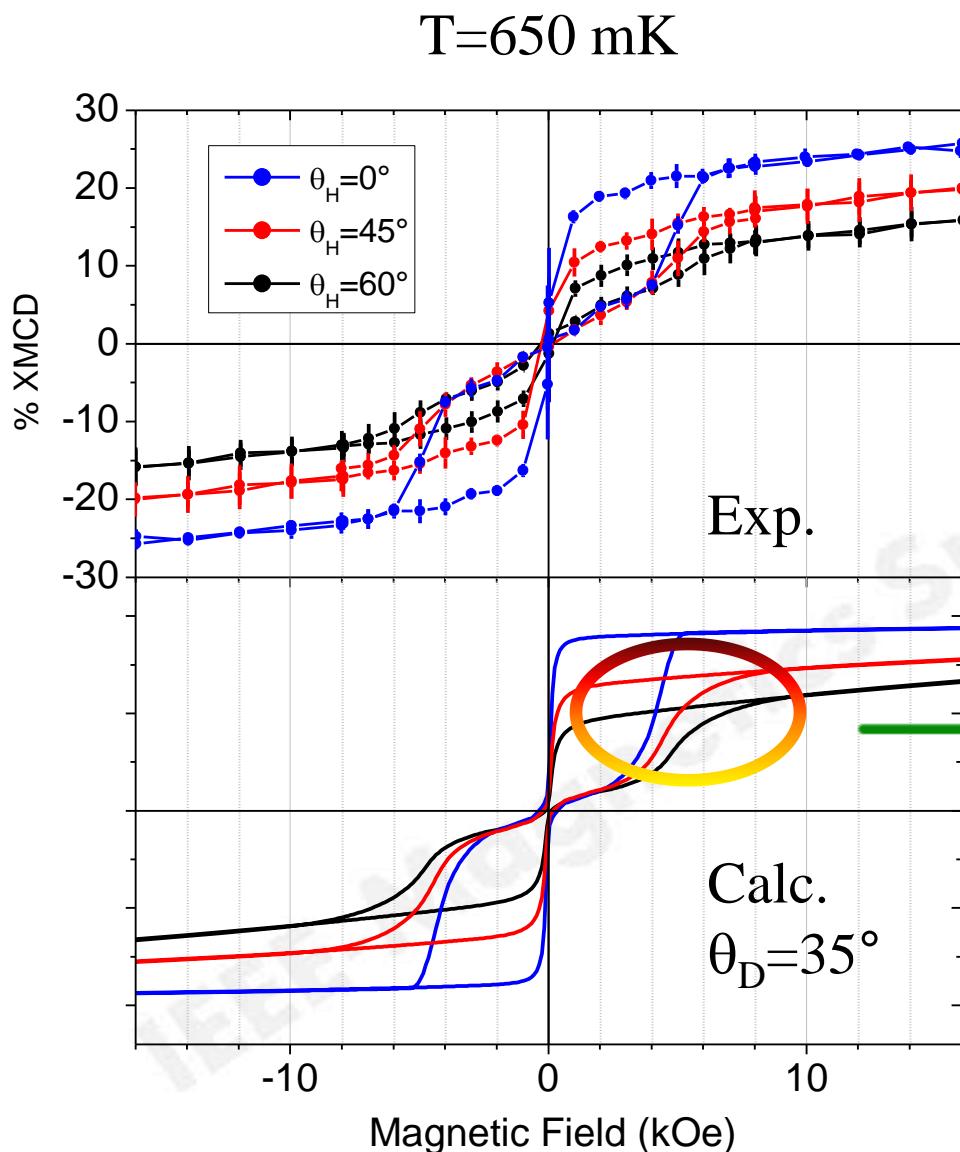
## Quantum Master Matrix



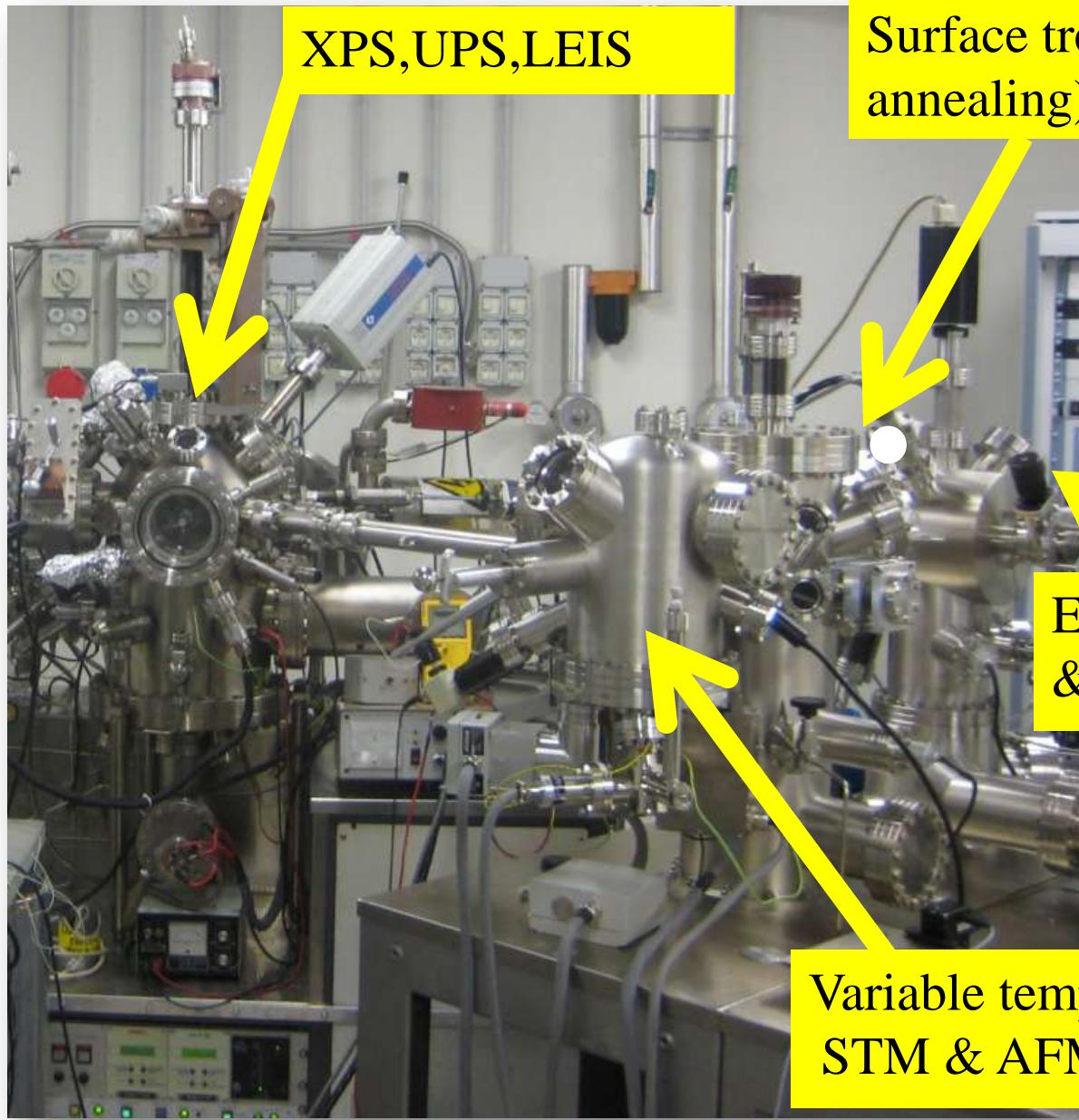
# Numerical Simulation of the Magnetic Hysteresis



# Numerical Simulation of the Magnetic Hysteresis



# UHV-Preparation & characterization facilities

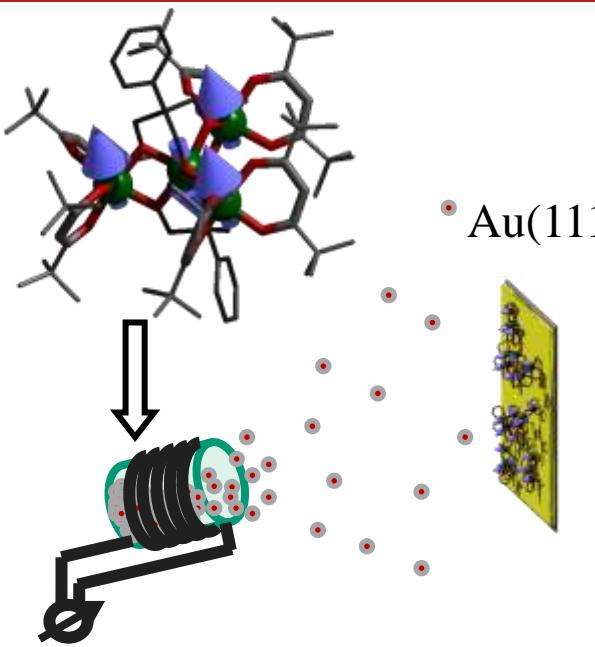


Surface treatment (sputterIng,  
annealing)

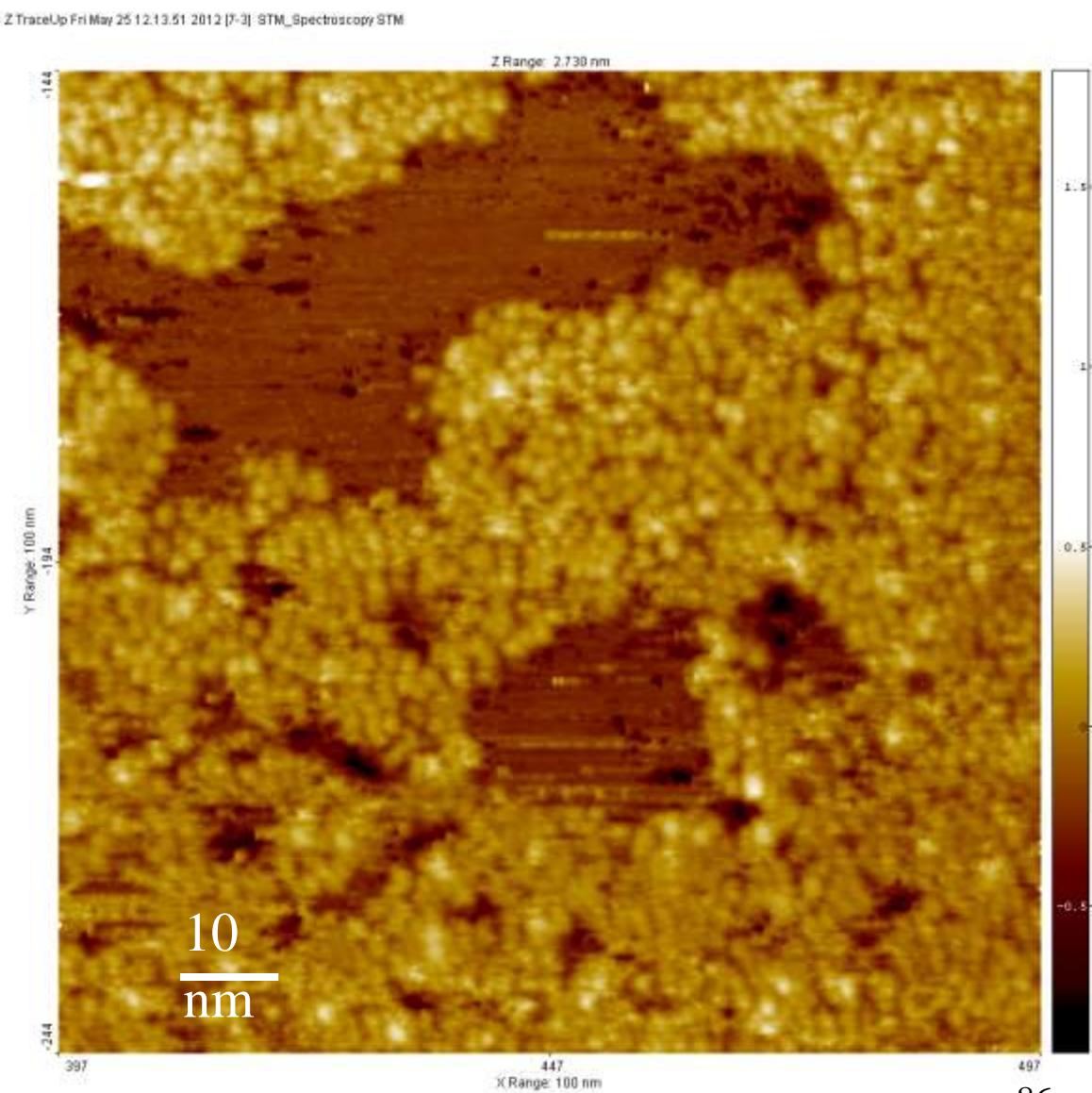
Evaporation of metal  
& molecules

Variable temperature (20 K)  
STM & AFM

# STM image of $\text{Fe}_4\text{Ph}$ evaporated on Au(111)

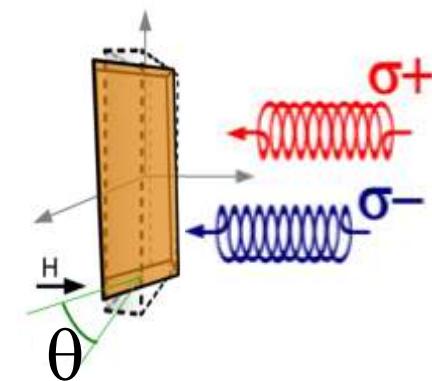
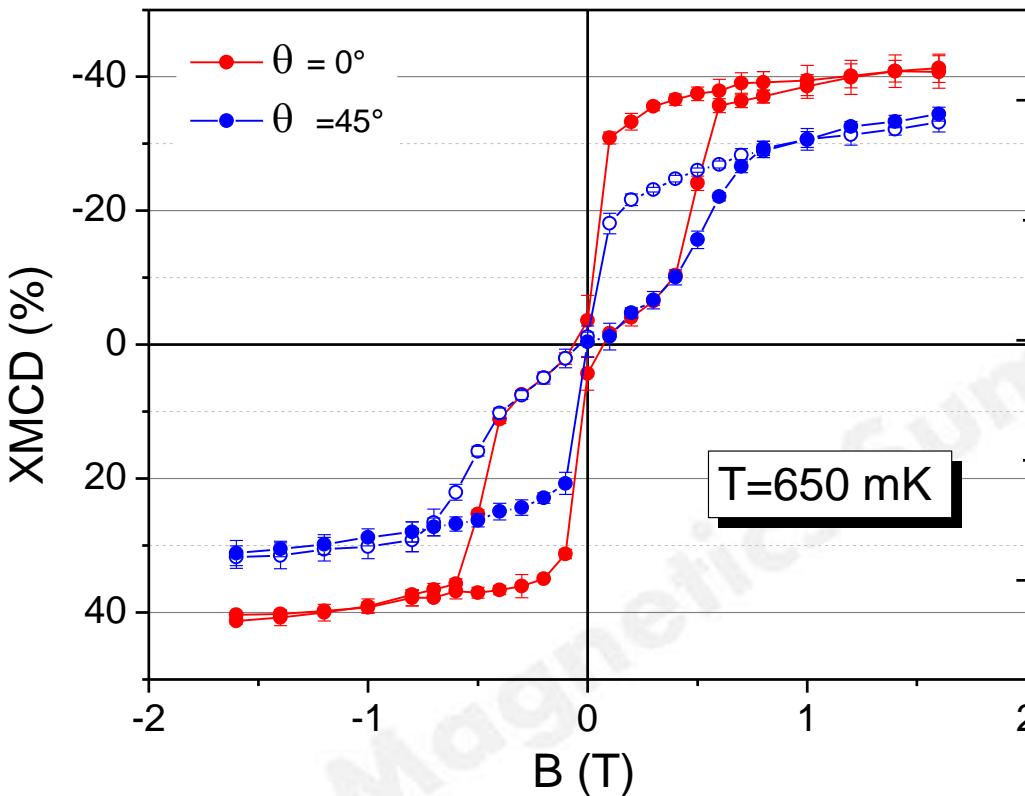


Fe<sub>4</sub>Ph is weakly bound to Au but does not form multilayer aggregates



# XMCD of Fe<sub>4</sub>Ph evaporated on Au(111)

Fe<sub>4</sub>@Au; Fe L<sub>2</sub>edge



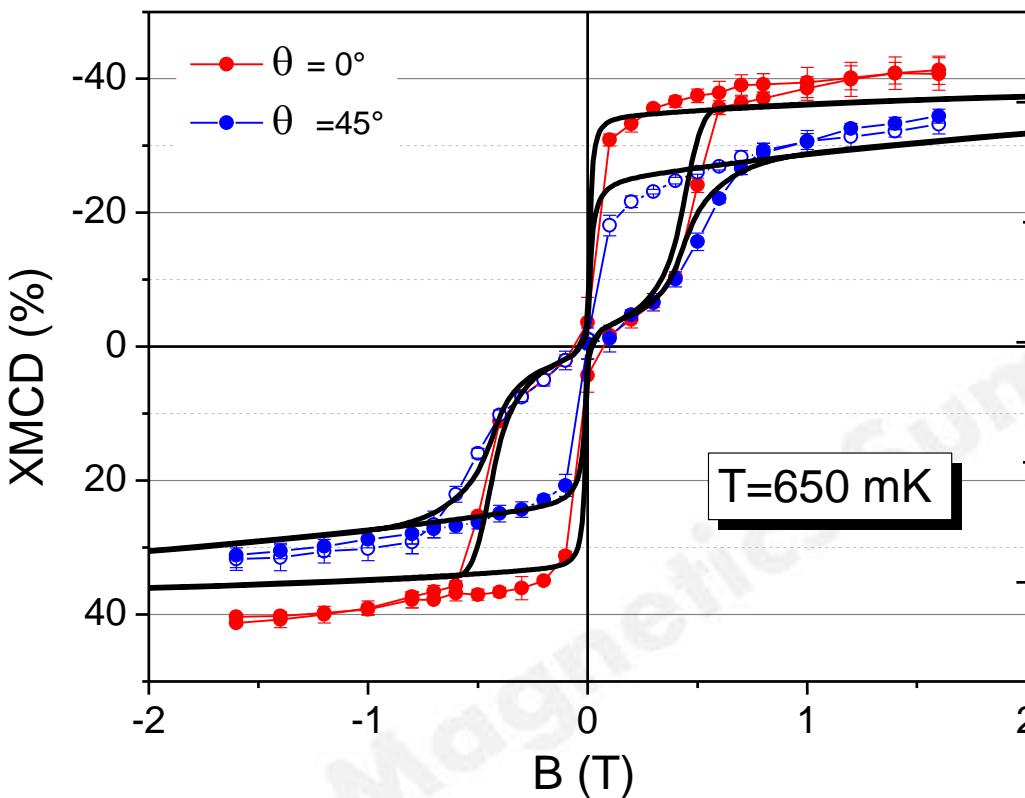
angular dependent hysteresis



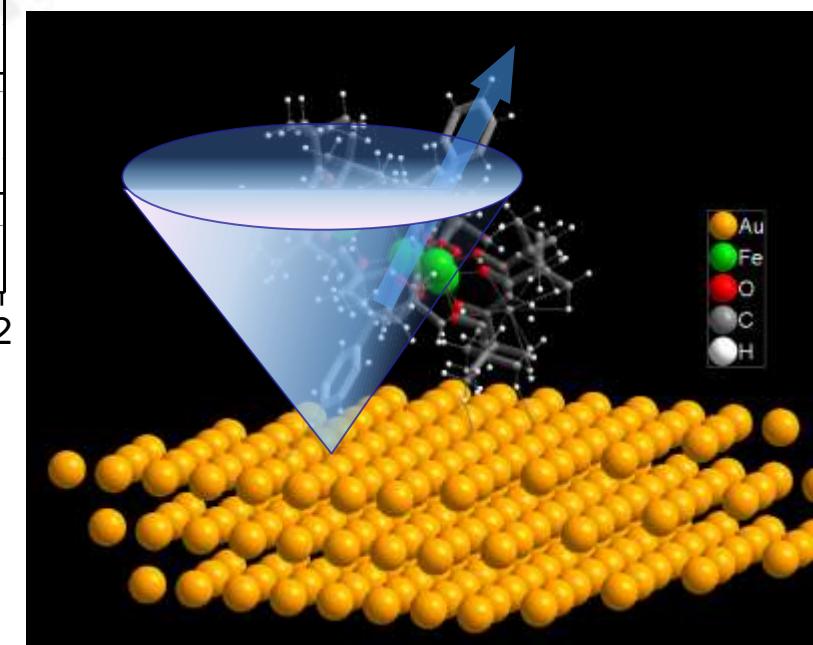
preferential orientation on the surface

# XMCD of Fe<sub>4</sub>Ph evaporated on Au(111)

Fe<sub>4</sub>@Au; Fe L<sub>2</sub>edge

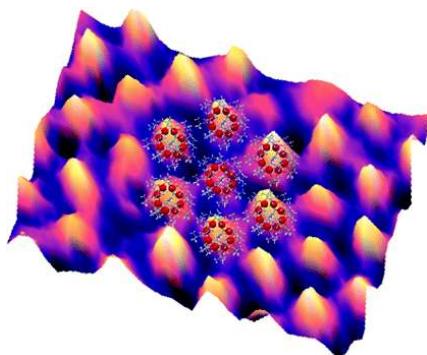


Simulated Hysteresis  
using a 45° cone



# Beyond SMM

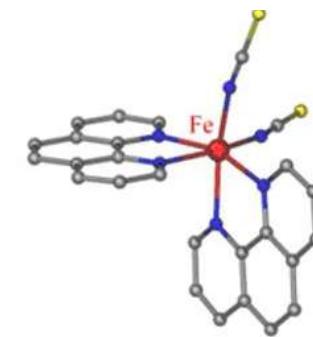
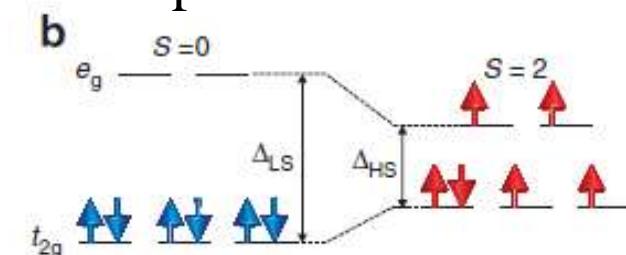
Molecular Q-bit



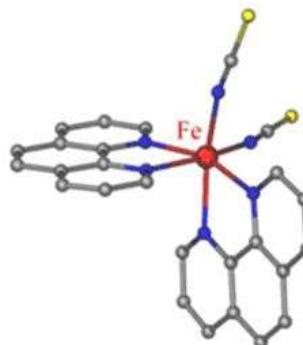
Winpenny, Affronte  
ACS Nano 2012



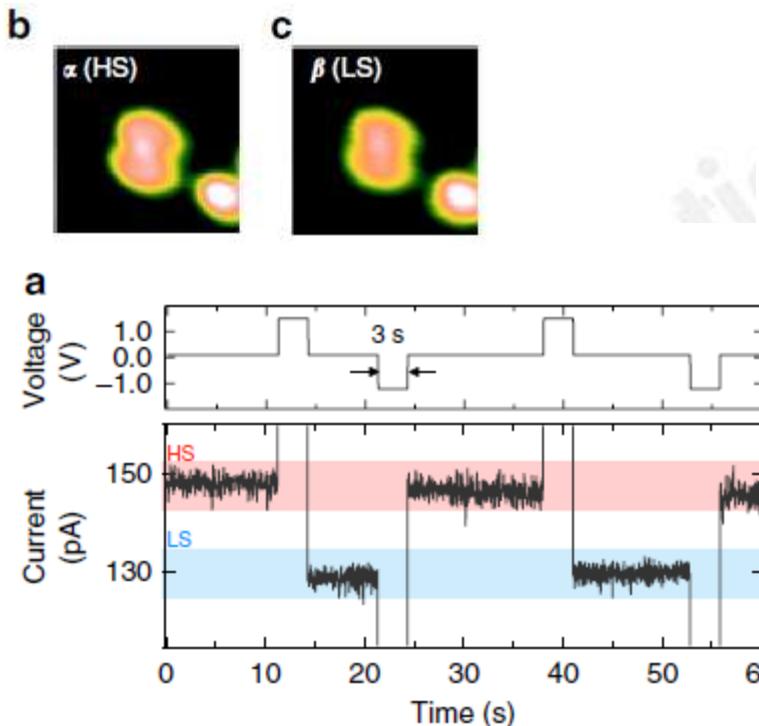
Spin cross-over



# Evergreen spin crossover compounds



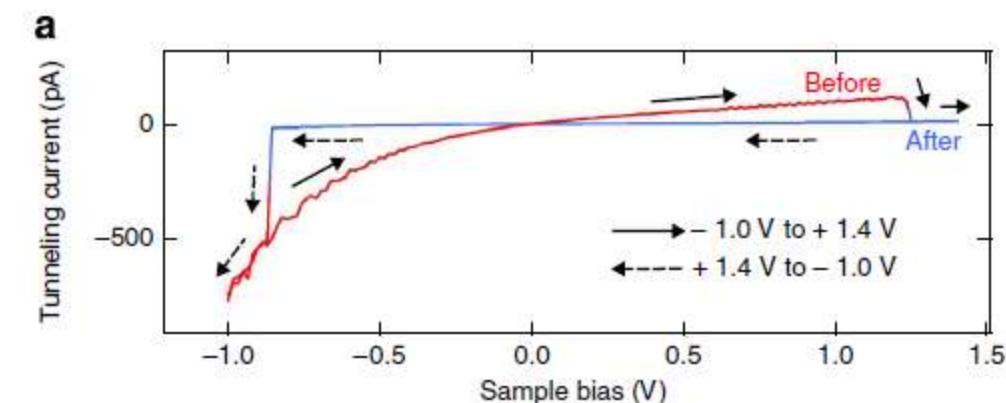
Evaporated @ CuN/Cu



DOI: 10.1038/ncomms1940

## Robust spin crossover and memristance across a single molecule

Toshio Miyamachi<sup>1,2</sup>, Manuel Gruber<sup>1,3</sup>, Vincent Davesne<sup>1,3</sup>, Martin Bowen<sup>3</sup>, Samy Boukari<sup>3</sup>, Loïc Joly<sup>3</sup>, Fabrice Scheurer<sup>3</sup>, Guillaume Rogez<sup>3</sup>, Toyo Kazu Yamada<sup>1,4</sup>, Philippe Ohresser<sup>5</sup>, Eric Beaurepaire<sup>3</sup> & Wulf Wulfhekel<sup>1,2</sup>



The bias applied with an STM tip can change the spin state in a reversible way

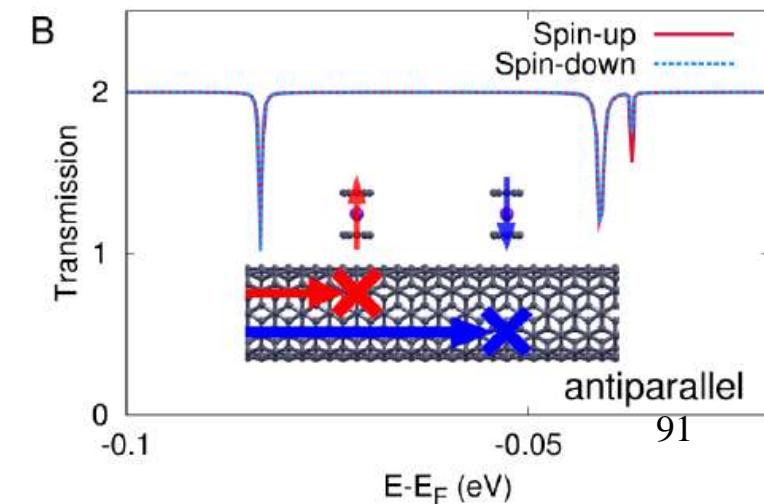
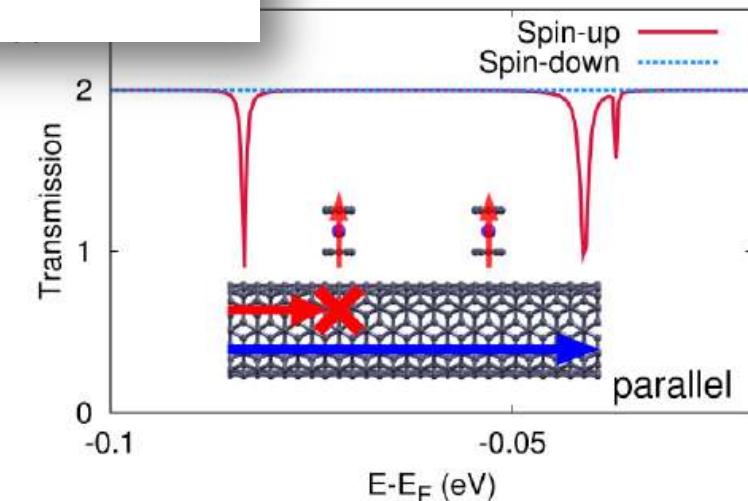
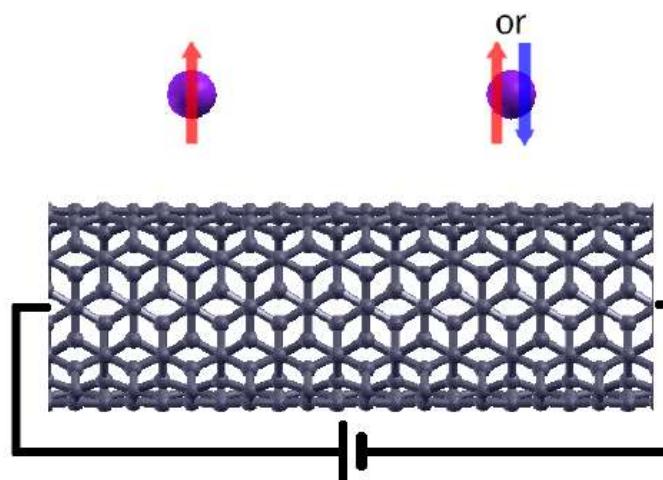
# Magnetoresistance without magnetic electrodes

Molecular Spintronics

DOI: 10.1002/anie.201208816

## Fano-Resonance-Driven Spin-Valve Effect Using Single-Molecule Magnets\*\*

Kwangwoo Hong and Woo Youn Kim\*

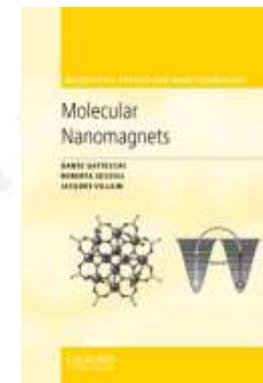




# Further reading

## SMM & Quantum Tunneling:

Molecular Nanomagnets  
D. Gatteschi, R. Sessoli, J. Villain  
Oxford University Press 2006



## SMM & surfaces

Struct Bond (2006) ■: 1-x  
DOI 10.1007/430\_029  
© Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg 2006  
Published online: ■■■ 2006

Vol 122

### Preparation of Novel Materials Using SMMs

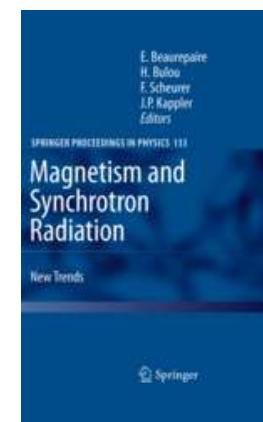
Andrea Cornia<sup>1</sup> (✉) · Antonio Fabretti Costantino<sup>1</sup> · Laura Zobbi<sup>1</sup> ·  
Andrea Caneschi<sup>2</sup> · Dante Gatteschi<sup>2</sup> · Matteo Mannini<sup>2</sup> · Roberta Sessoli<sup>2</sup>

## Magnetism & surfaces

## Single Chain Magnets

**Magnetism and Synchrotron Radiation,**  
Springer Proceeding in Physics

Coulon, C.; Miyasaka, H.; Clerac, R.  
*Structure and Bonding*; Springer:  
Berlin, 2006; Vol. 122, pp 163-206.



# Contributions

*University of Florence (Italy)*

- Surface Science

Dr. Matteo Mannini, Luigi Malavolti, Lorenzo Poggini,  
Valeria Lanzillotto, Brunetto Cortigiani

- Theory

Dr. Federico Totti, Dr. Javier Luzon (now in Zaragoza)

*University of Modena (Italy)*

Prof. Andrea Cornia & coworkers

*University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris (France)*

Prof. Philippe Sainctavit

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Julio C. Cezar & ESRF staff



Deimos Beamline @ Soleil, Paris (France)

Edwige Otero & Philippe Ohresser



...and for grants

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Italian MIUR (FIRB, FISR); Italian CNR



European Research Council  
Programme IDEAS - AdGrant



# POST-DOCTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE

In the frame of an ERC Advanced Grant awarded to the University of Florence, Department of Chemistry, for the research project

## Molecular Nanomagnets at Surfaces: Novel Phenomena for Spin Based Technologies



a **POST-DOCTORAL** position (one year, renewable) is available for a highly motivated and talented young researcher with experience in the area of **surface science and magnetism** and/or **scanning probe microscopies**. Experience on molecular materials and/or cryogenics would be particularly appreciated. The applicant will work in the stimulating ambience of the Laboratory of Molecular Magnetic Materials ([http://www.unifi.it/lamm/index\\_English.html](http://www.unifi.it/lamm/index_English.html)) on a new UHV thermal deposition set-up equipped with a variable temperature **Omicron VT-STM/AFM** and all main facilities for in-situ preparation and characterization. **A low temperature – 9T magnetic field AFM-MFM set-up** is also available.

Please send your CV (with names of senior coworkers we could contact for recommendation) or contact Prof. Roberta Sessoli [roberta.sessoli@unifi.it](mailto:roberta.sessoli@unifi.it) for more information.