

(some) materials are magnetic below their Curie temperatures

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Domains are collections of aligned spins (on electrons). They can in turn be aligned (or magnetized) or misaligned (demagnetized)



aligned domains (magnetized)



Domains also explain hysteresis, and the notion of magnetic memory:





diameter, d

 $H_{C,i}$: intrinsic coercivity

Cullity, Inroduction to Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, Addison Wesley, 1972.

Materials 265

Size dependence of the magnetic coercivity H_c



Cullity, Inroduction to Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, Addison Wesley, 1972.

Superparamagnetism

As a consequence of the small barrier for spin reversal in small magnetic paticles, the time taken for reversal is strongly temperature dependent and activated.

$$1/\tau = f_0 \exp(-\frac{KV}{k_B T})$$

Where τ is the relaxation time of the magnetization f_0 is the frequency pre-factor, V the volume, and K the magnetocrystaline anisotropy.

Below a BLOCKING TEMPERATURE, $T_{B'}$ the sample develops magnetic coercivity:

$$T_B = \frac{KV}{25k_B}$$

Cullity, Inroduction to Magnetism and Magnetic Materials, Addison Wesley, 1972.



FIG. 1. Hysteresis loops at 77° K of oxide-coated cobalt particles. Solid line curve results from cooling the material in a 10 000 oersted field. The dashed line curve shows the loop when cooled in zero field.

New Magnetic Anisotropy, W. H. Meiklejohn and C. P. Bean, Phys. Rev. 105 (1957) 904.



Figure 1. TEM bright field image of 16-nm Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles deposited from their dodecane dispersion on amorphous carbon surface and dried at 60 °C for 30 min: (A) a monolayer assembly, (B) a multilayer assembly, (C) HRTEM image of a single Fe_3O_4 nanoparticle. The images were acquired from a Philips EM 430 at 300 KV. Fe(acac)3 + ROH + RNH2 + RCOOH -> products The solvent is dibenzyl or diphenyl ether at reflux.

Contrast hydrolytic routes with thermolytic routes.

Size-Controlled Synthesis of Magnetite Nanoparticles, S. Sun and H. Zeng, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **124** (2002) 8204

Magnetic materials (FePt has a very large K)

Fig. 1. (A) TEM micrograph of a 3D assembly of 6-nm as-synthesized Fe50Pt50 particles deposited from a hexane/octane (v/v 1/1) dispersion onto a SiO-coated copper grid. (B) TEM micrograph of a 3D assembly of 6-nm Fe_{so}Pt_{so} sample after replacing oleic acid/oleyl amine with hexanoic acid/hexylamine. (C) HRSEM image of ~180-nm-thick, 4-nm a Fe52Pt48 nanocrystal assembly annealed at 560°C for 30 min under 1 atm of N₂ gas. (D) High-resolution TEM image of 4-nm Fe₅₂Pt₄₈ nano-crystals annealed at 560°C for 30 min on a SiO-coated copper grid.



Monodisperse FePt Nanoparticles and Ferromagnetic FePt Nanocrystal Superlattices, S. Sun, C. B. Murray, D. Weller, L. Folks, A. Moser, *Science*, **287** (2000) 1989.

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Magnetic materials (FePt has a very large K)



The magnetic superlattice can be used for data storage.

Fig. 4. (A) Magneto-resistive (MR) read-back signals from written bit transitions in a 120-nm-thick assembly of 4-nm-diameter $Fe_{48}Pt_{52}$ nanocrystals. The individual line scans reveal magnetization reversal transitions at linear densities of (a) 500, (b) 1040, (c) 2140, and (d)

Monodisperse FePt Nanoparticles and Ferromagnetic FePt Nanocrystal Superlattices, S. Sun, C. B. Murray, D. Weller, L. Folks, A. Moser, *Science*, **287** (2000) 1989.

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Magnetite nanoparticles are used to enhance MRI contrast in imaging a mouse tumor (the two pictures below were taken with the magnetite contrast agent.

Fig. 6. T_2 -weighted MRI images of a mouse with a CEA-producing tumor on its back, before (upper two images) and after administration of 300 μ g magnetite-PEKY-AB_{CEA}-GPB particles (lower two images). Two neighboring slices are shown from left to right.

In vivo evaluation of magnetite nanoparticles for use as a tumor contrast agent in MRI, Tiefenauer, Schirky, Kuhne, and Andres, *Magn. Resonance Imaging*, **14** (1996) 391.

Materials 265