

Magnetic heterostructures as seen by x-rays and neutrons

Hartmut Zabel

Experimentalphysik/Festkörperphysik
Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

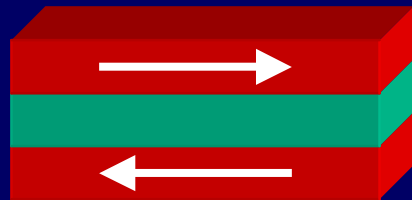
MMSPN, 7-9 December, 2001, Budapest, Hungary



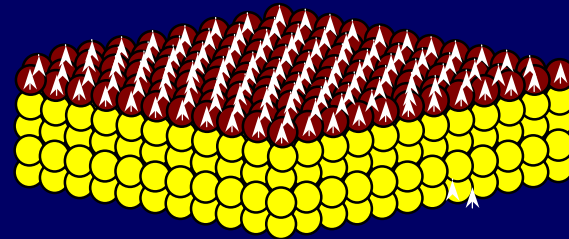
Thin films

for magnetism, electronics, spintronics, superconductivity, optics, corrosion protection...

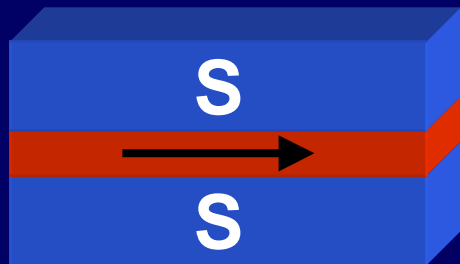
GMR heterostructures



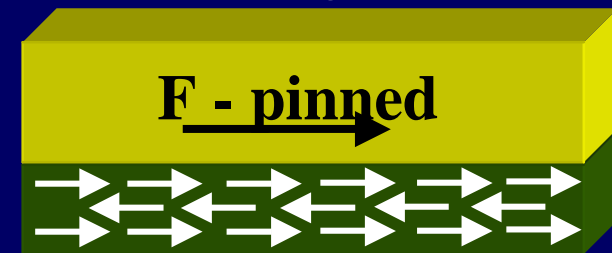
Magnetic films



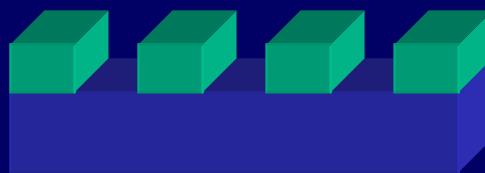
Proximity effects and tunneling



Exchange bias



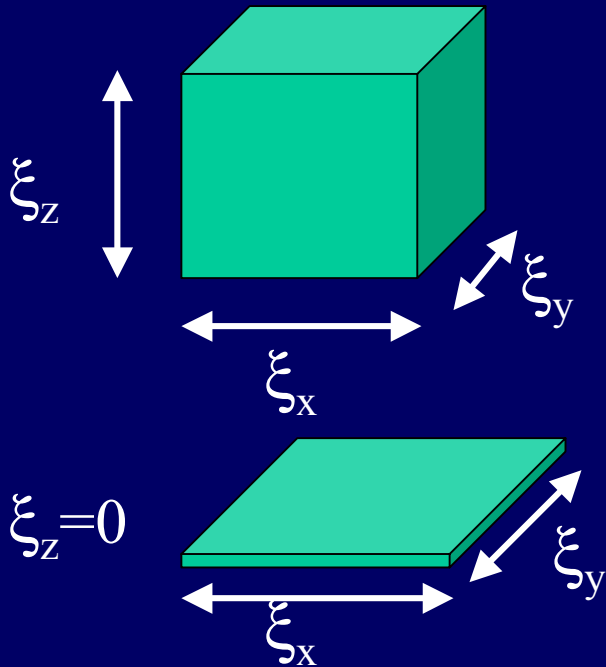
Lateral structures



Topics:

- Dimensional scaling of Ho/Y
- Exchange bias of Co/CoO
- Enhancement of interface sensitivity

Scaling behavior of the critical temperature with thickness:

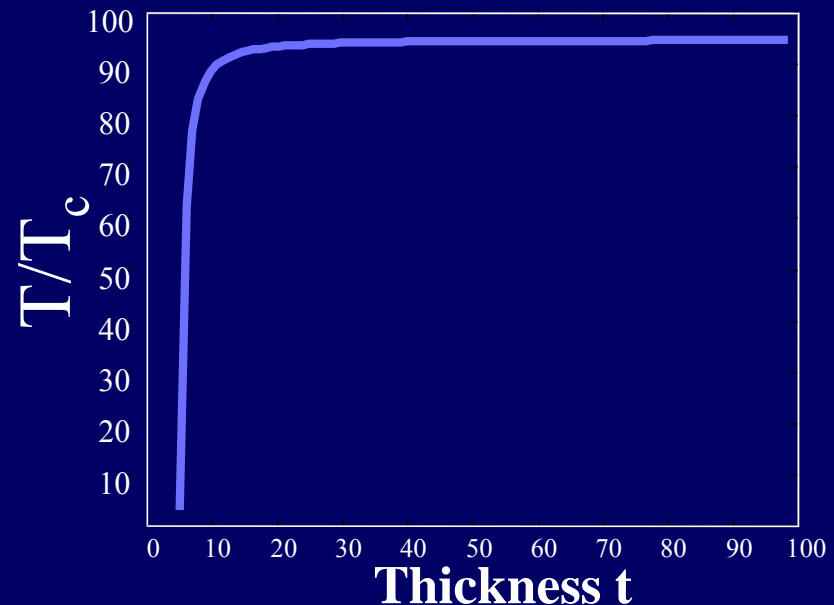


Connection between correlation length
and susceptibility:

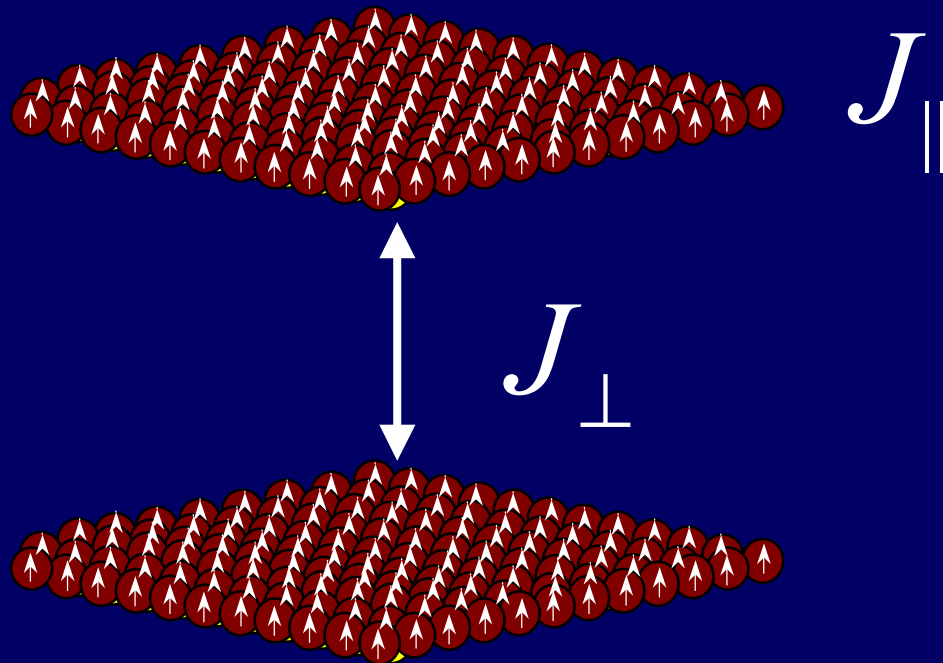
$$\chi_q = \frac{\chi(\pm)}{1 + q^2 \xi_{\pm}^2}, \quad \xi = \xi_0 |\varepsilon|^{-\nu}, \quad \varepsilon = \frac{T - T_C}{T_C}$$

$$\frac{T_C(\infty) - T_C(t)}{T_C(\infty)} = b \cdot \left(\frac{t}{t_0} \right)^{-\lambda}$$

$$\lambda = 1/\nu$$



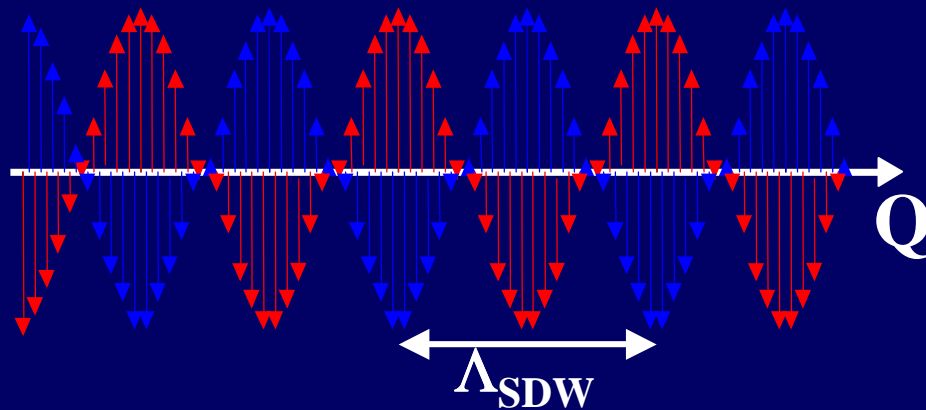
How does coupling affect the critical temperature?



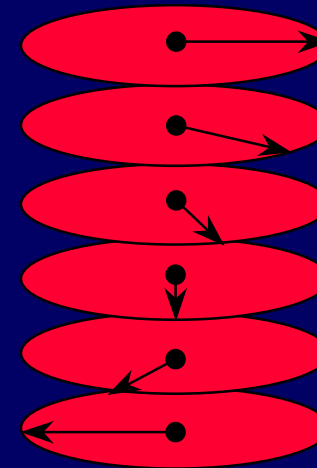
$$k_B T_c = \frac{1}{4} J$$

Scaling behavior of complex spin structures

SDW magnetism in Cr



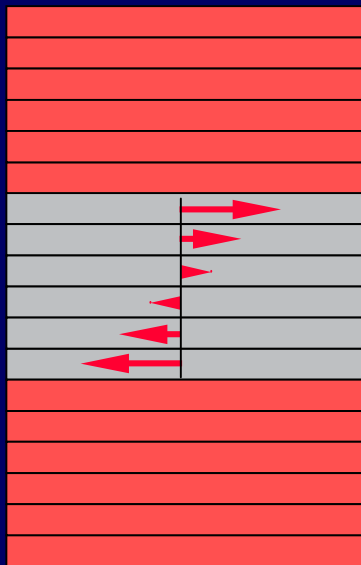
Spin helix in Ho



How does the Ho spin structure and the Néel temperature depend on interlayer coupling?

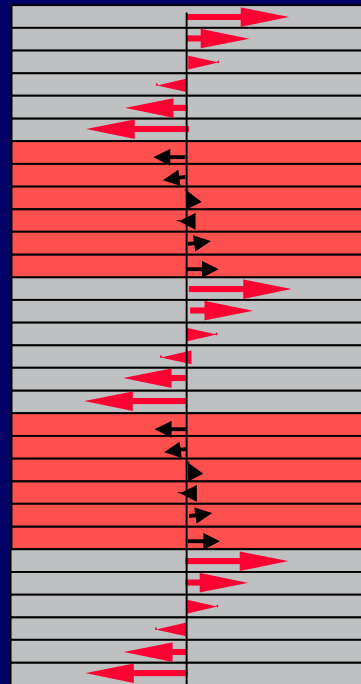
Single film

Ho



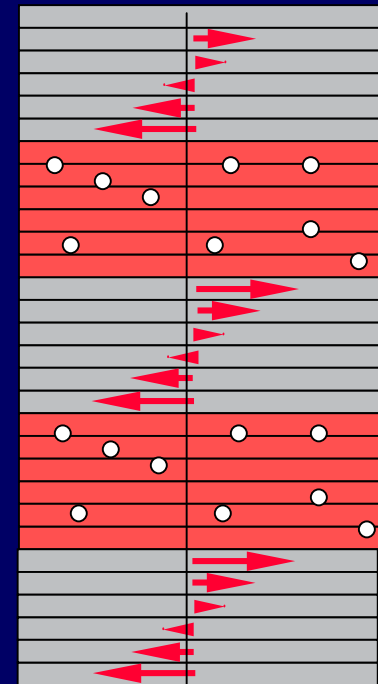
Coupled
superlattice

Ho
Y
Ho
Y
Ho



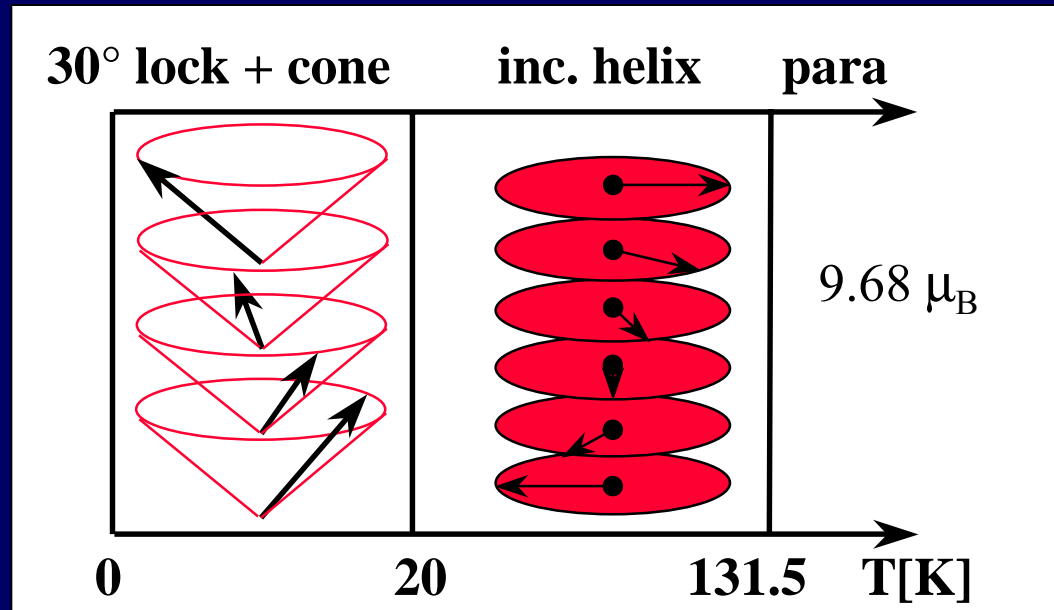
Breaking the
coupling with
hydrogen

Ho
 YH_x
Ho
 YH_x
Ho



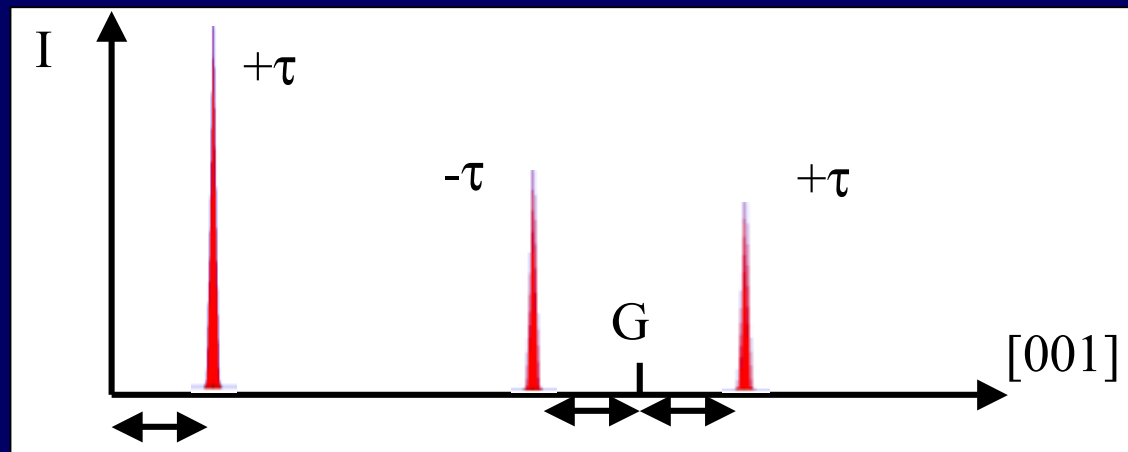
V. Leiner, D. Laberge, H. Zabel

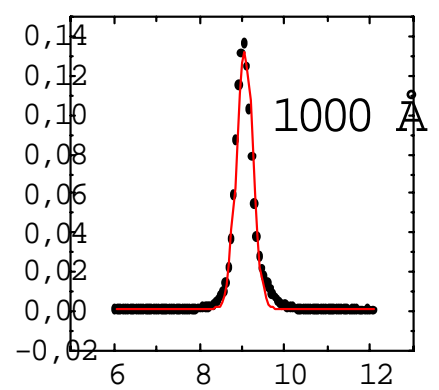
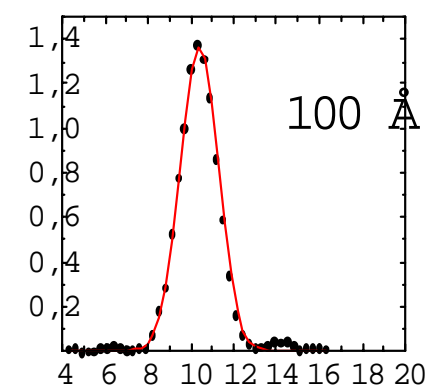
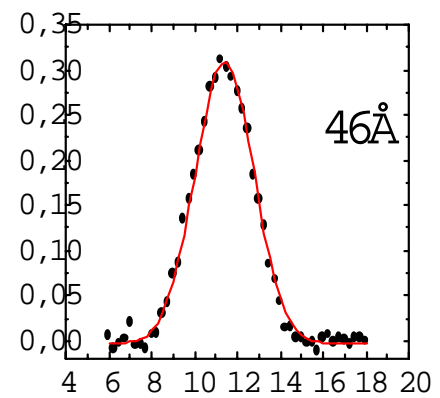
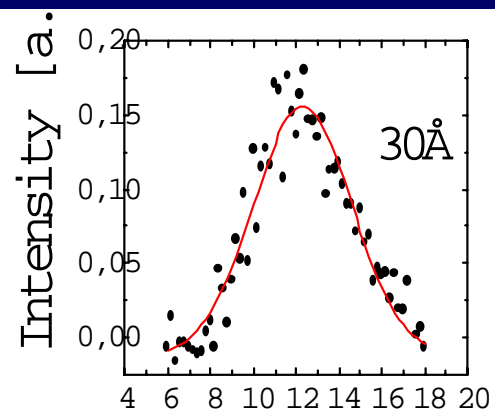
Bulk Holmium Phase Diagram



W.C. Koehler et al.
 PR 151 (1966) 414
 G.P. Felcher et al.
 PRB 13 (1976) 3034
 M.J. Pechan and C. Stassis,
 JAP 55 (1984) 1900

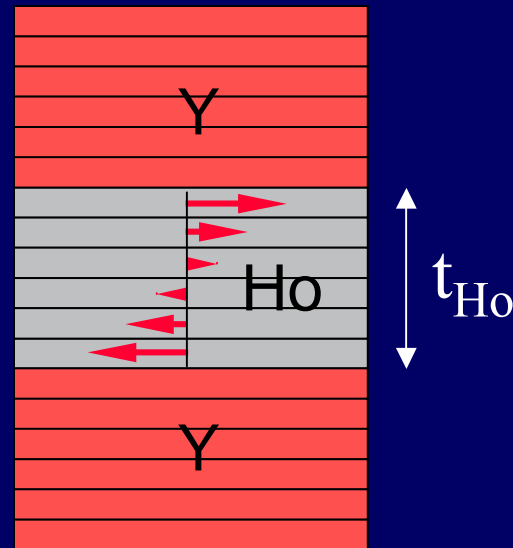
Magnetic peaks from a spin helix are expected at: $\vec{K} = \vec{G} \pm \vec{\tau}$



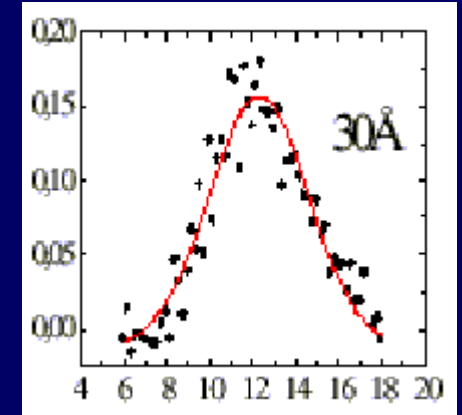
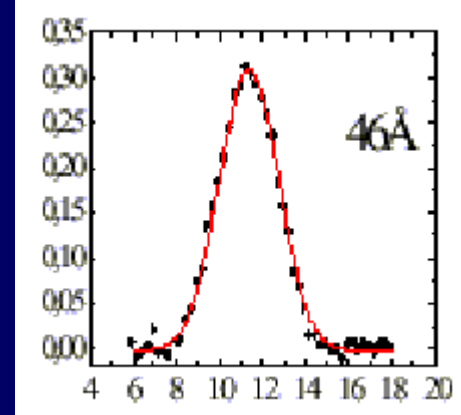
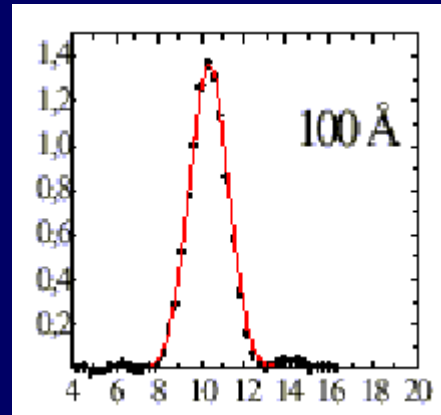
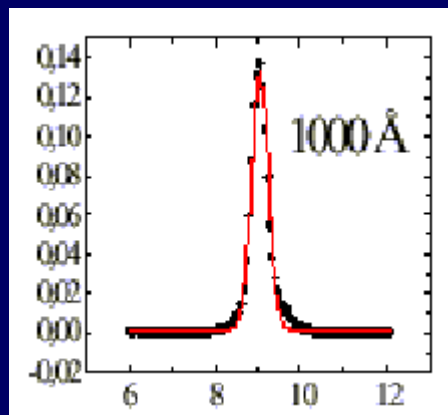


2θ [deg]

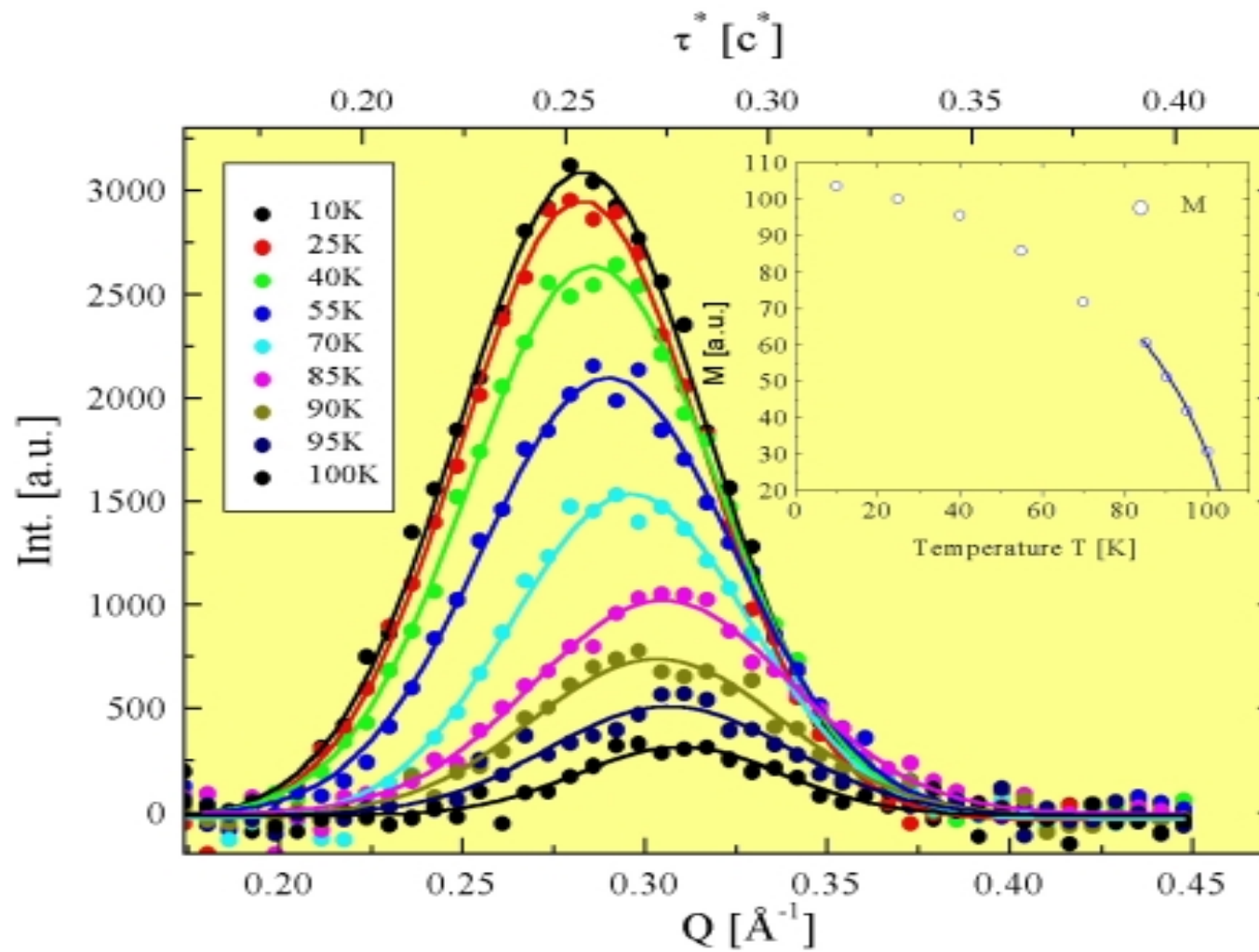
Magnetic signal from single Ho films



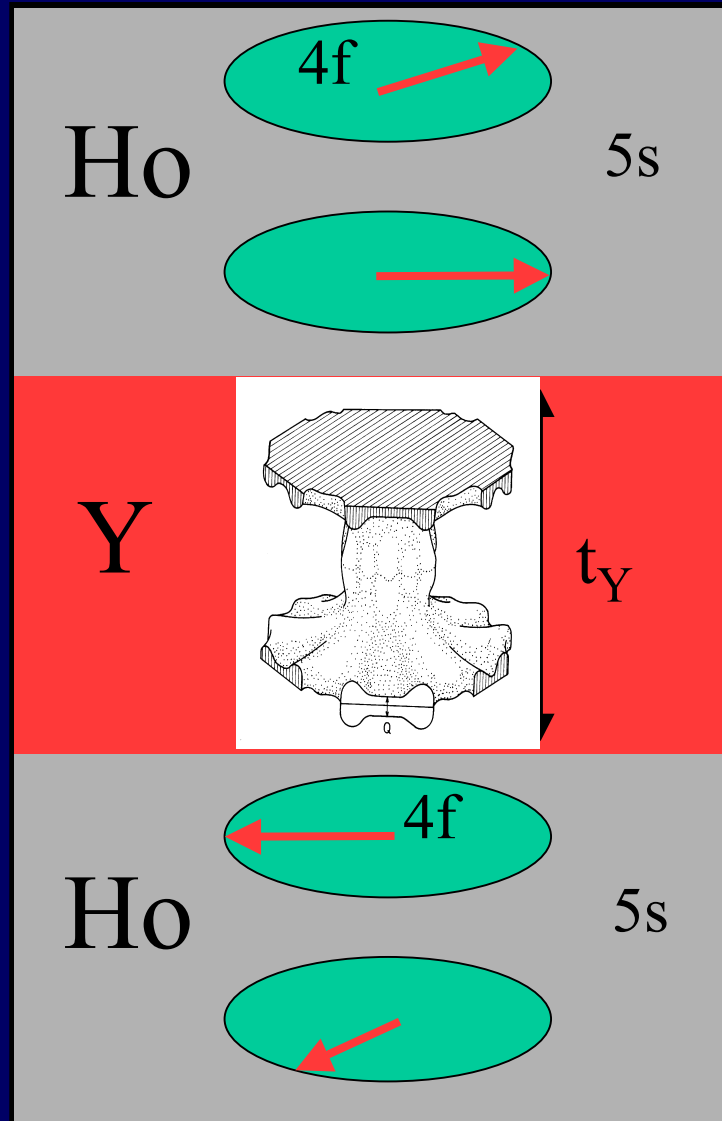
$(00.\tau)$ as a function of the Ho thickness t_{Ho}



Order parameter for a single 4.6 nm thick Ho-film



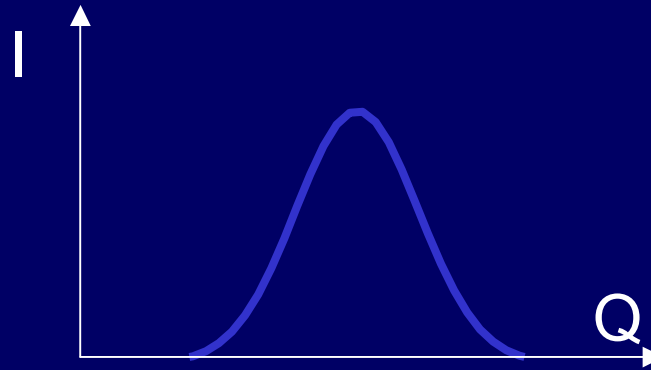
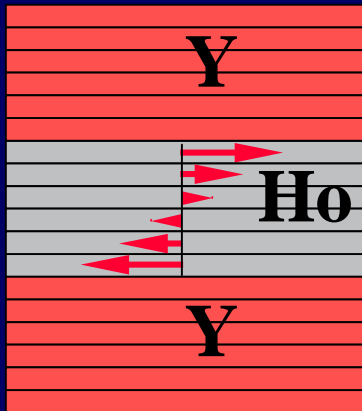
RKKY-type Interactions in Ho/Y Superlattices



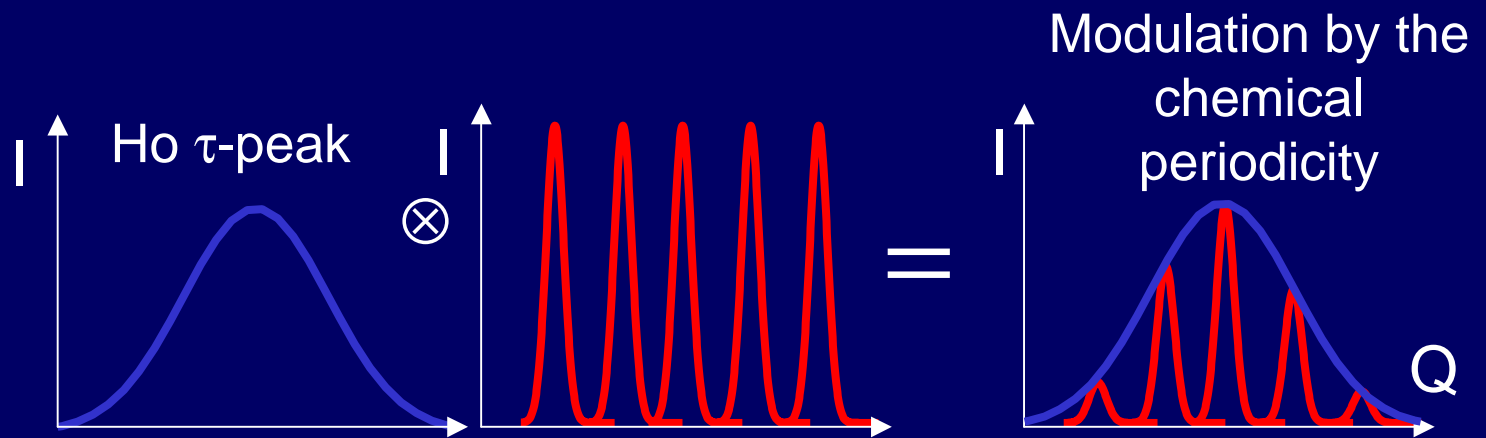
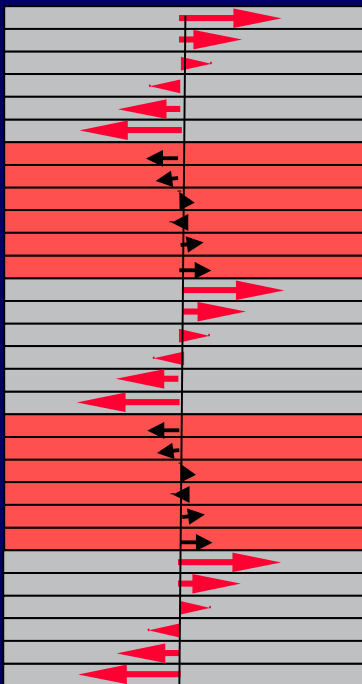
RKKY **coupling** between localised Ho 4f - moments

RKKY-type **interlayer coupling** mediated by Y **conduction electrons**

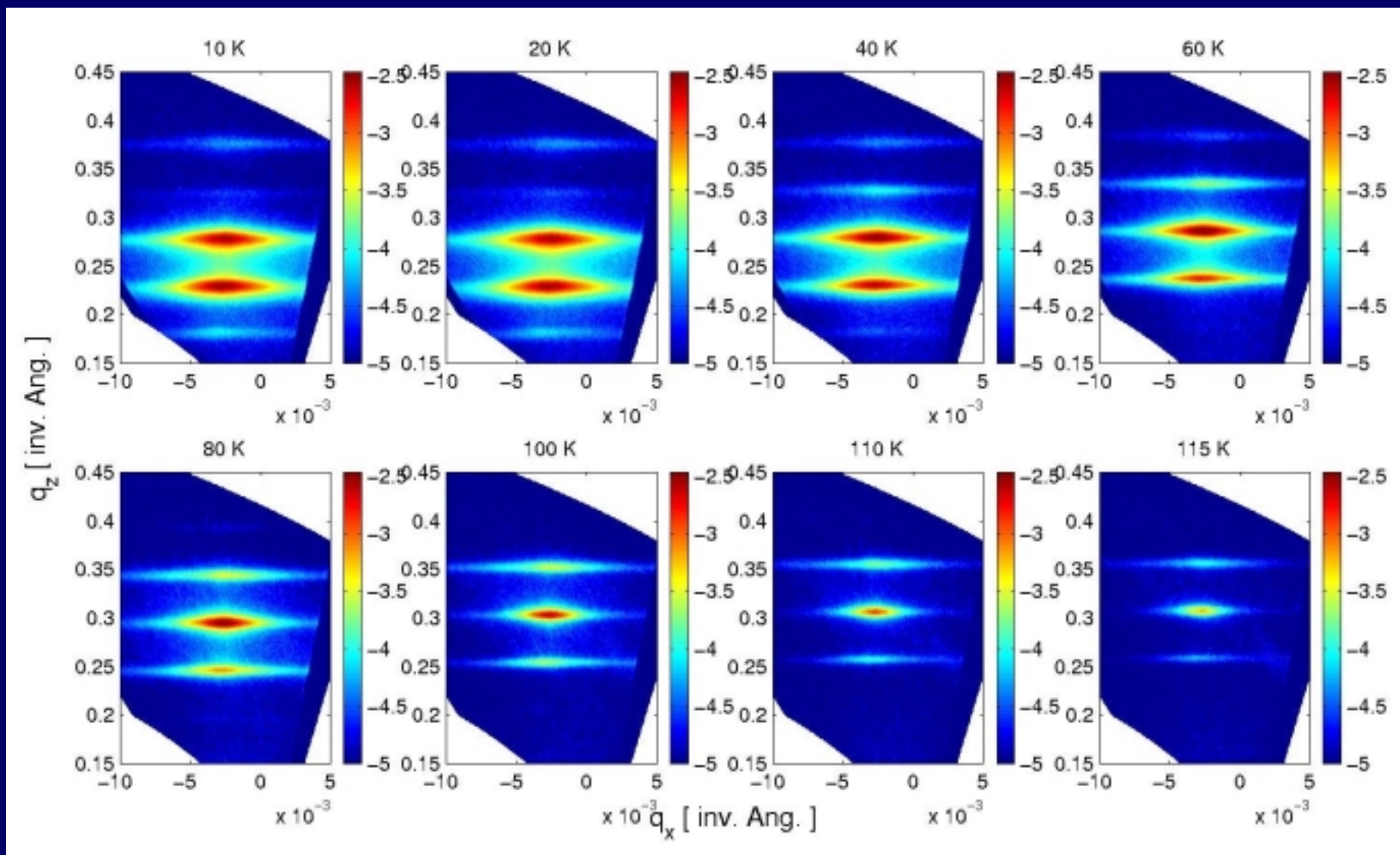
Magnetic τ -peak for a single thin Ho film:



Magnetic τ -peak for a coupled Ho/Y superlattice:

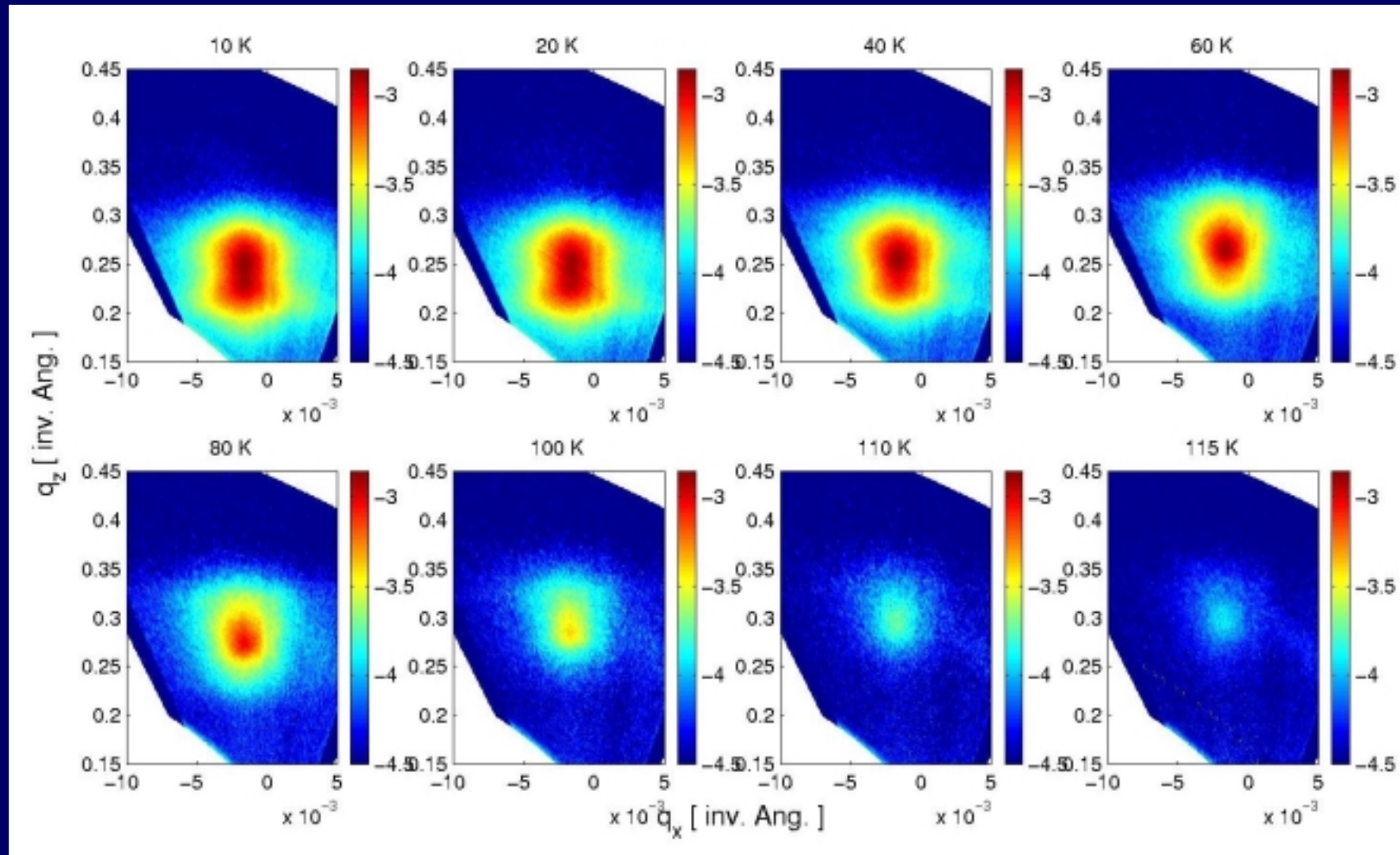


Magnetic Signal from 30 x [77Å Ho/52Å Y]

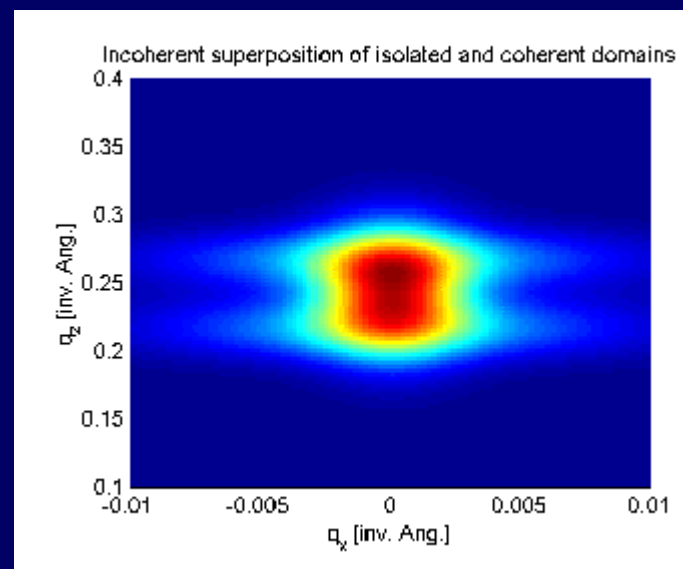
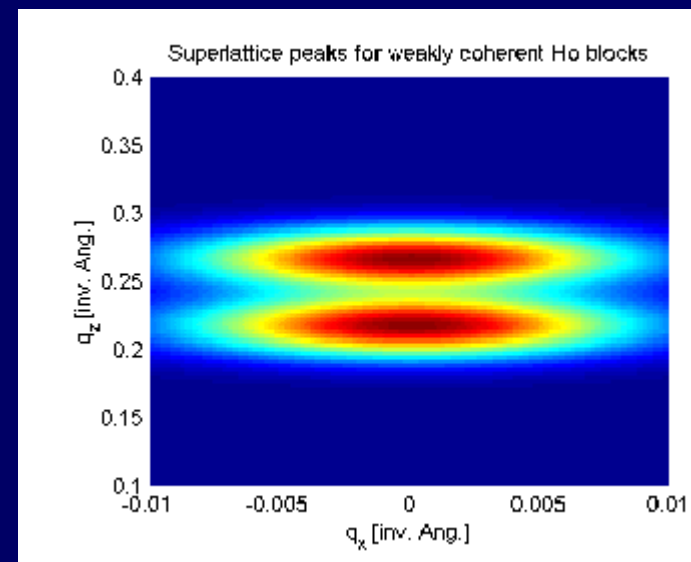
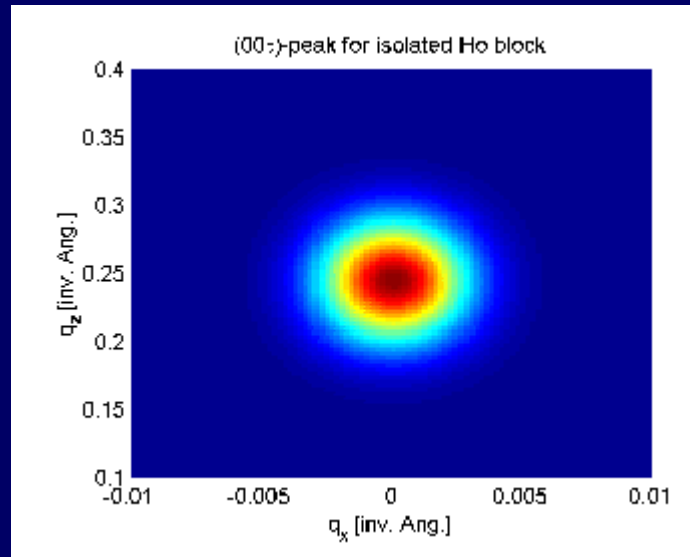


V. Leiner, D. Laberge, M. Ay, H. Zabel, 2001

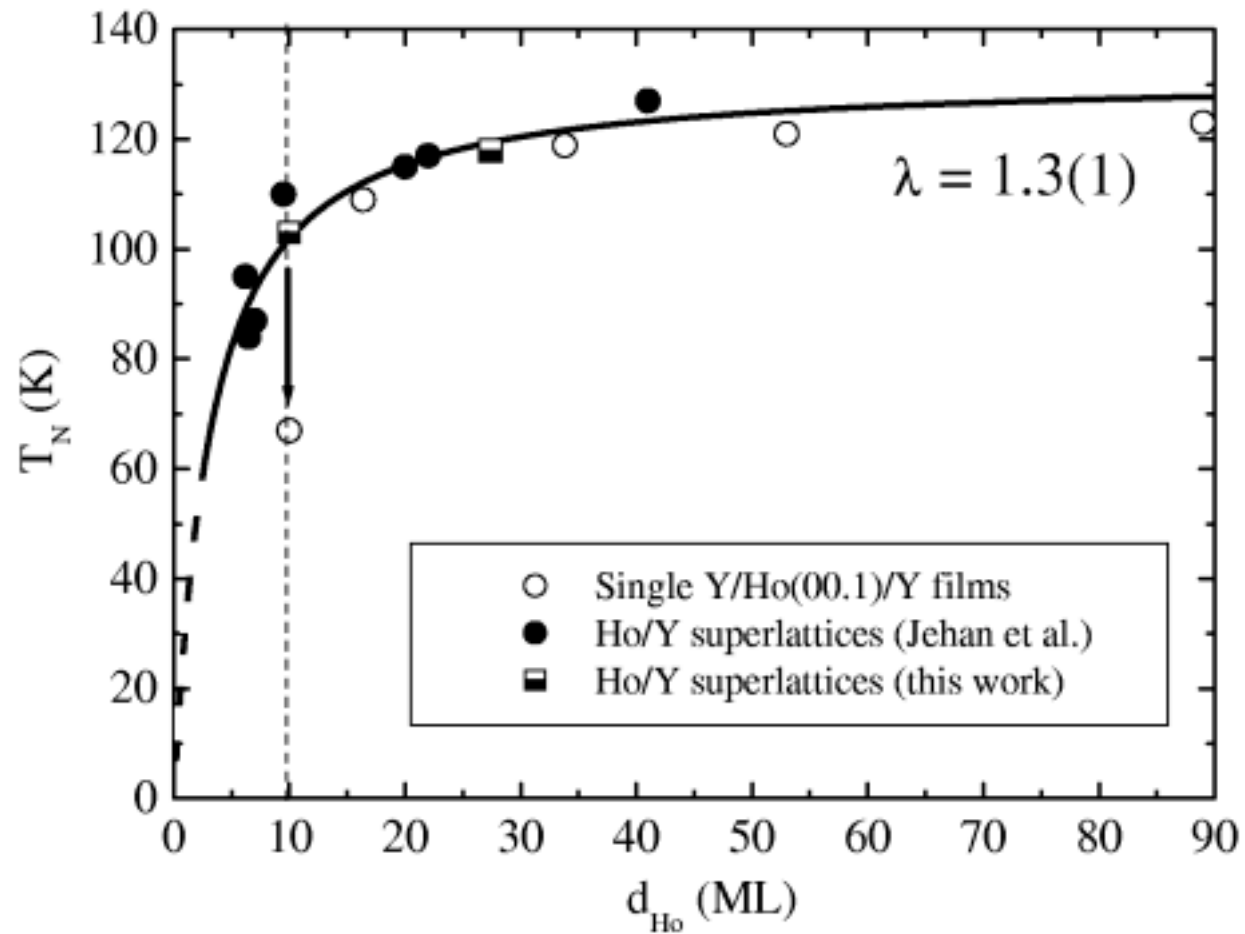
Temperature dependence of the Ho/Y(00.0+ τ) peak after hydrogen loading of the Y-spacer



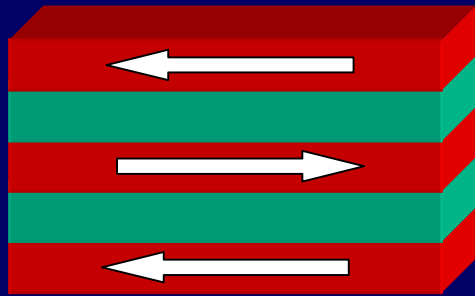
Simulation of τ -peak for uncoupled and weakly coupled Ho-blocks



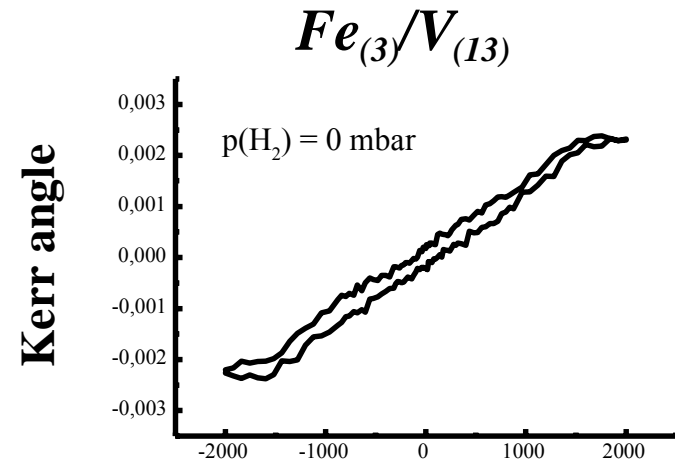
Scaling of the Néel – Temperature



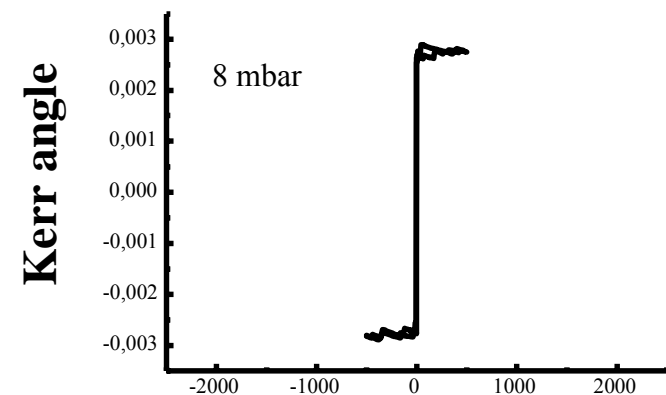
Tunability of the exchange coupling in Fe/V superlattices with hydrogen



before
H-loading

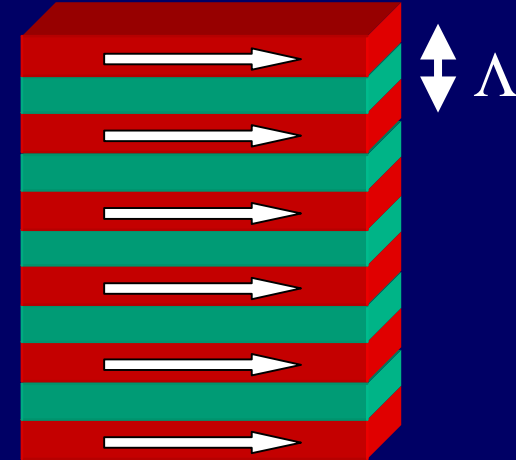
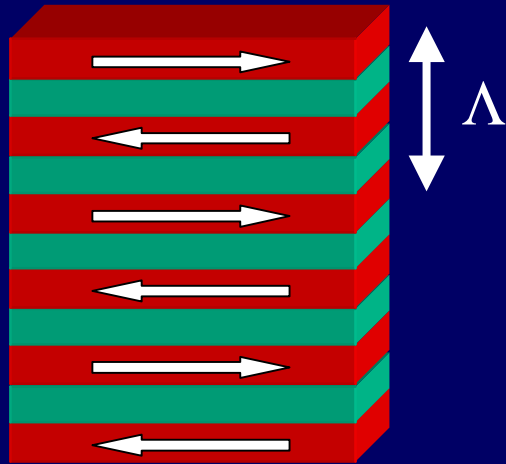


after
H-loading
< 10 mbar

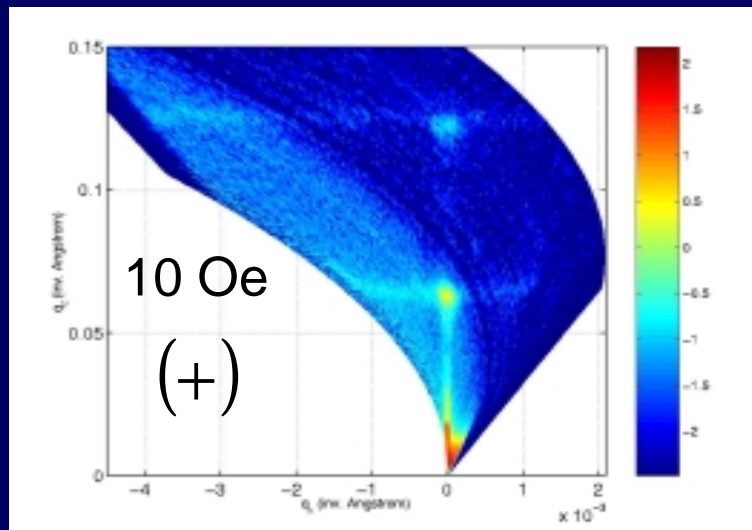


V. Leiner, K. Westerholt, B. Hjörvarsson, H. Zabel, to be published

Exchange Coupling in Fe/Cr Superlattices

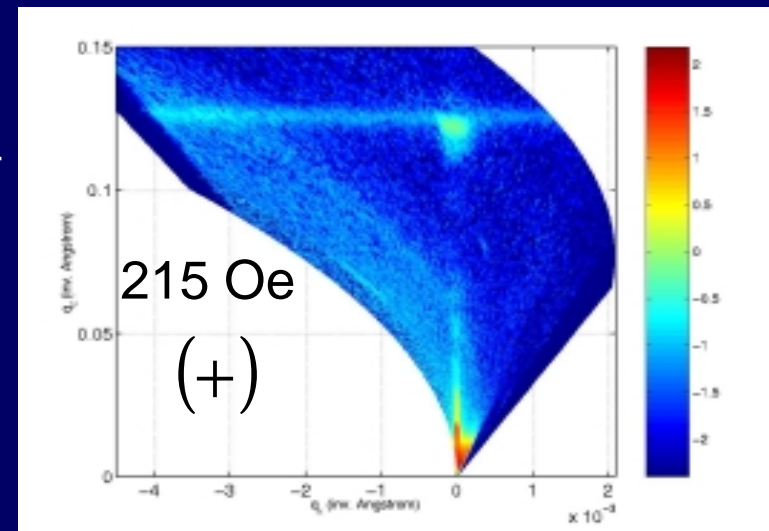


Q_{\perp}



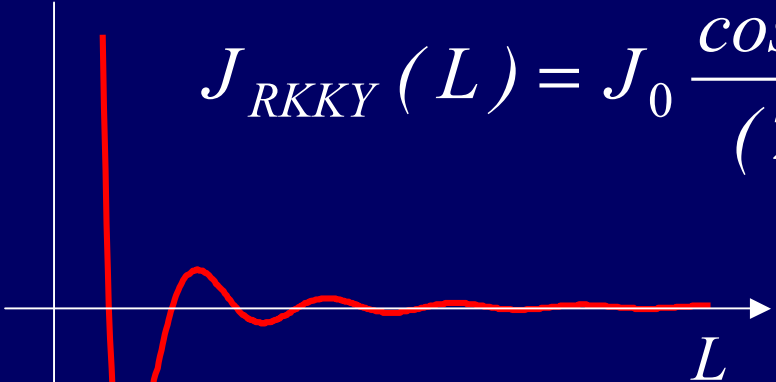
Q_{\parallel}

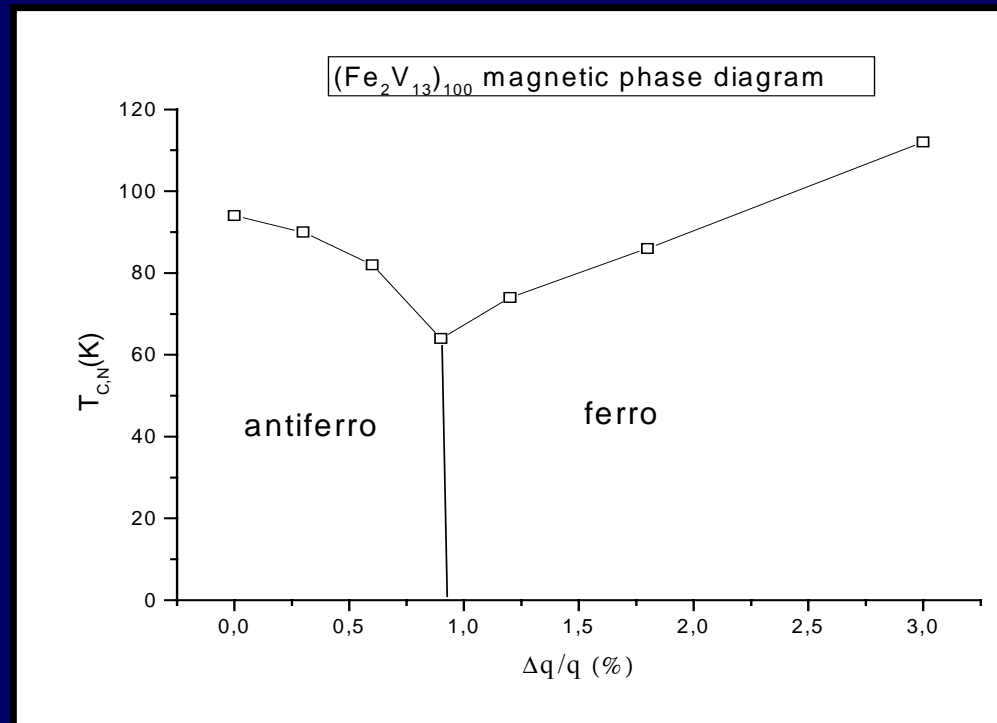
Q_{\perp}



Q_{\parallel}

Critical temperature as a function of interlayer exchange coupling for Fe 2 ML/VH_x 12 ML

$$J_{RKKY}(L) = J_0 \frac{\cos(2k_F L)}{(2k_F L)^2} \propto \frac{1}{L^2}$$


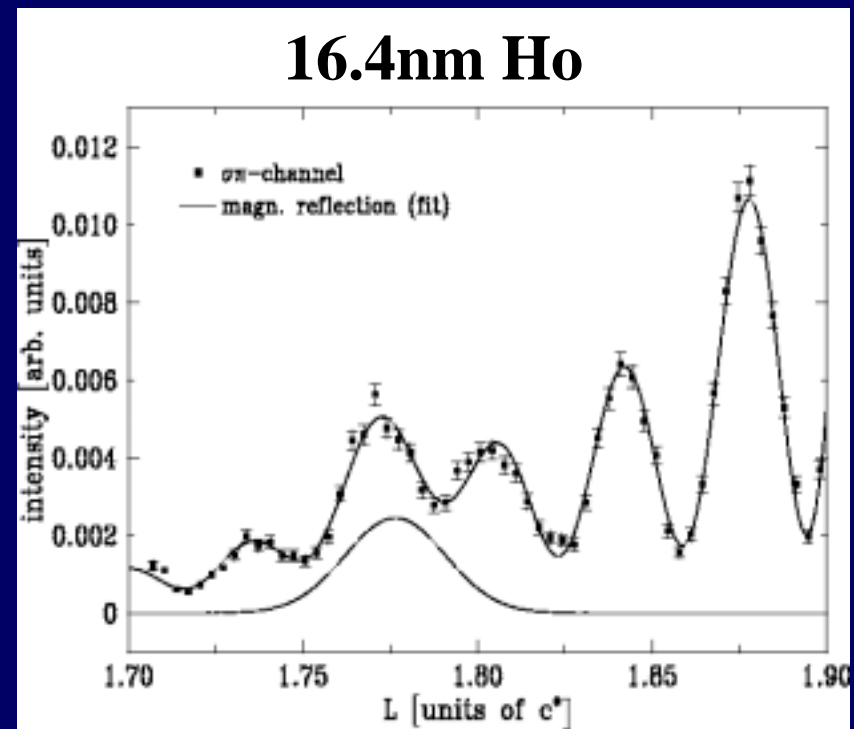
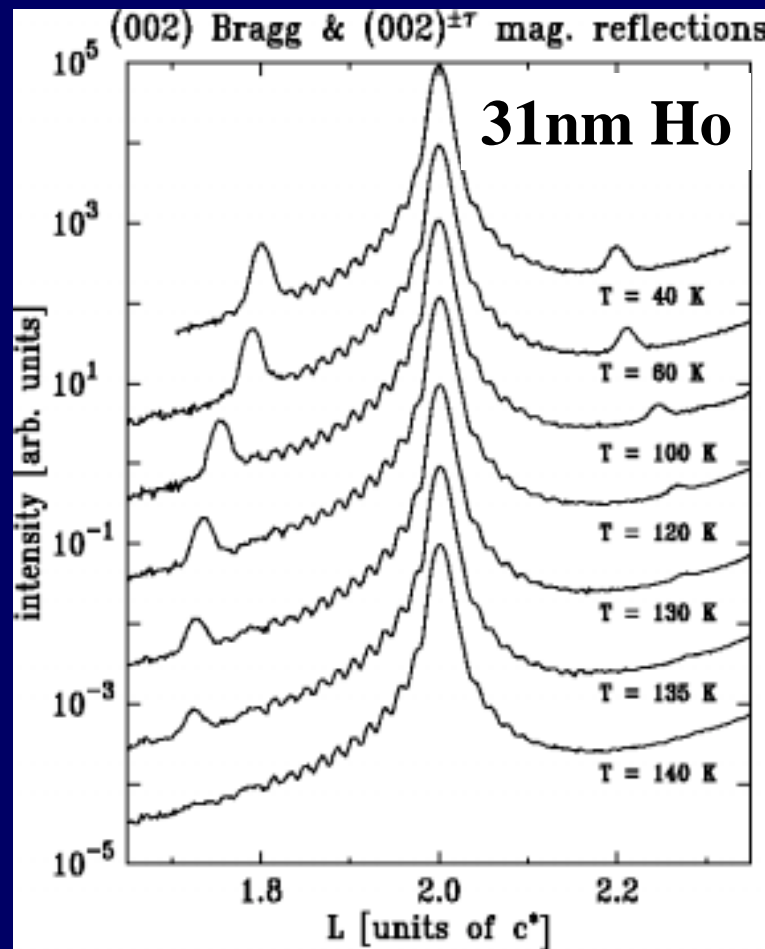


The ADAM Reflectometer at ILL



<http://www.ill.fr/YellowBook/ADAM/>

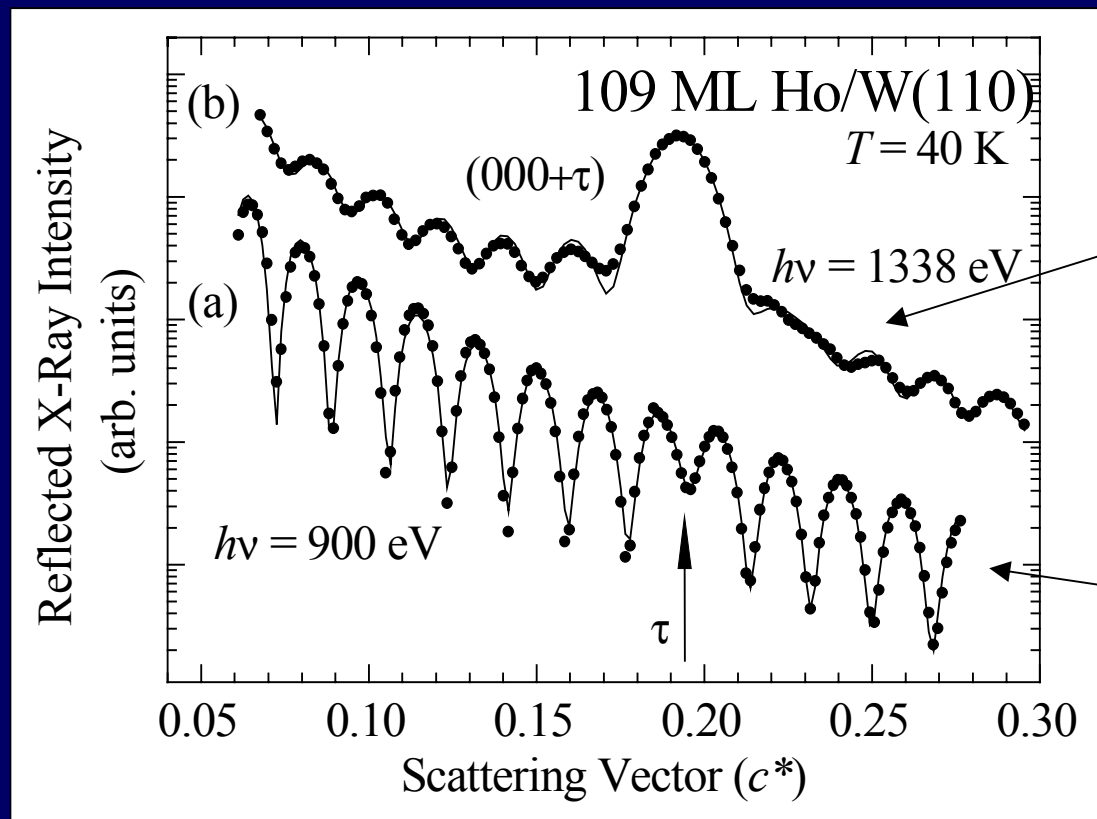
Magnetic resonance x-ray scattering of Ho at the L_{III} - absorption edge (8074 eV), sp-channel Troika beam line, ESRF



C. Sutter, E. Weschke, R. Meier, C. Schüßler-Langeheine, G. Grübel, D. Abernathy

Resonant enhancement of the magnetic superstructure satellite at the Ho M_V edge

Reflectivity of a 109-ML-thick Ho film (a) well below and (b) in the vicinity of the Ho M_V edge

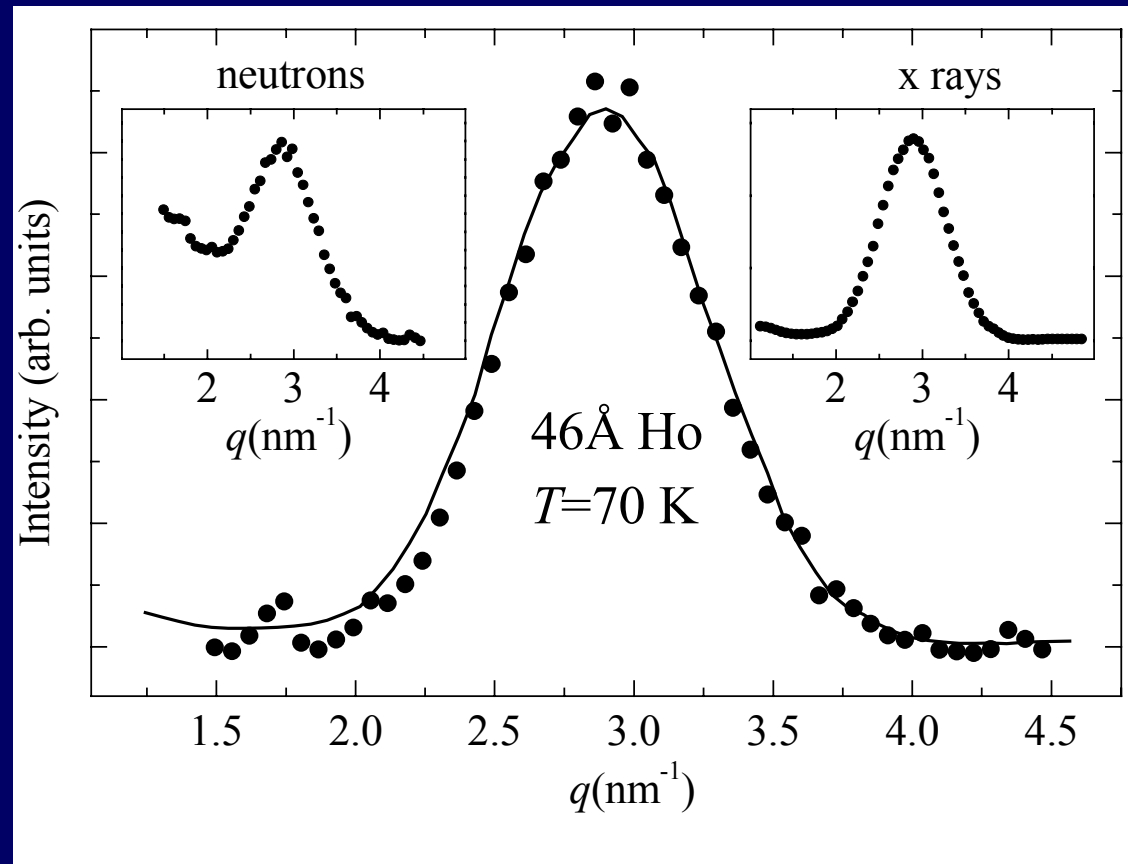


at resonance

below
resonance

Resonant enhancement of the magnetic superstructure satellite at the Ho M_V edge, BESSY

(00.0 $+\tau$) peak of a single 4.6 nm thick Ho(00.1) film

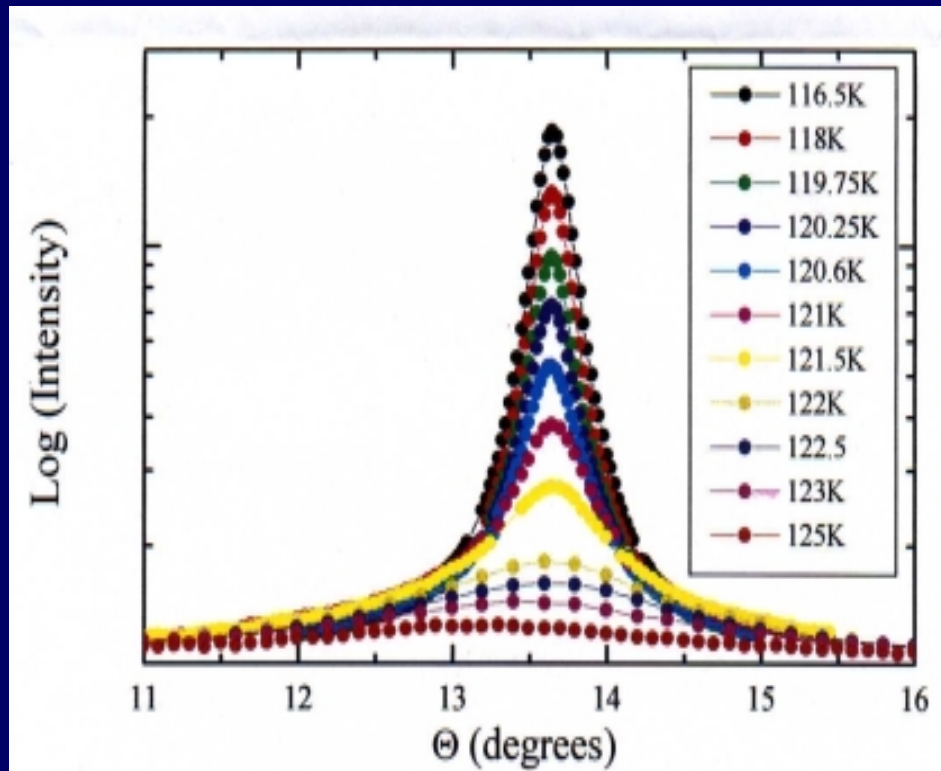


E. Weschke, C. Schüßler-Langeheine, A. Yu. Grigoriev, H. Ott, G. Kaindl, V. Leiner and H. Zabel, to be published

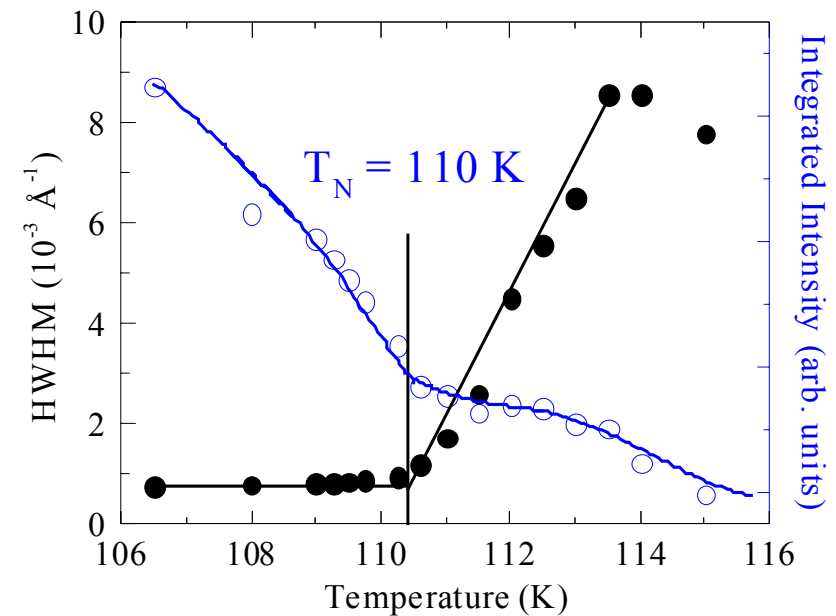
Critical scattering from a 4.6 nm thick Ho film

XRMD results, BESSY

Short range order diffuse scattering

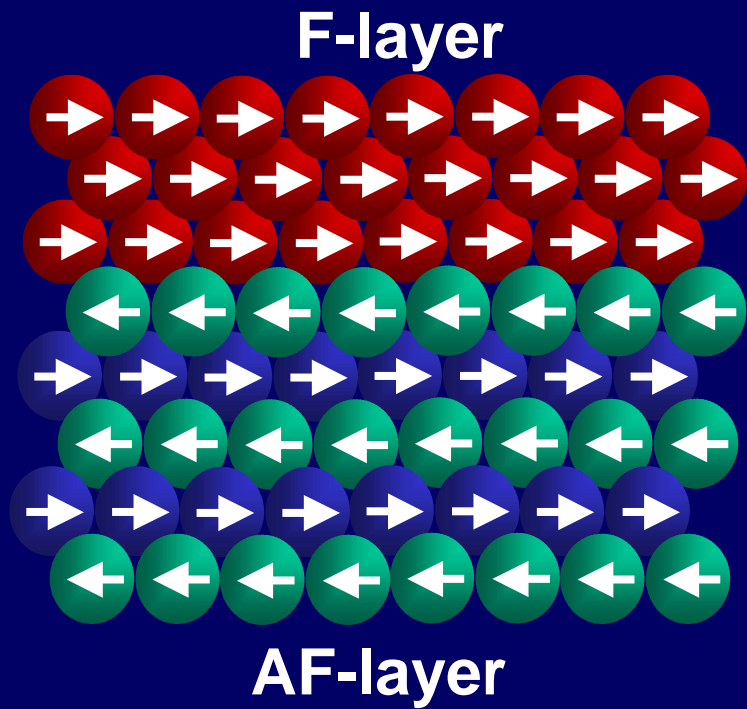


Order parameter and inverse correlation length

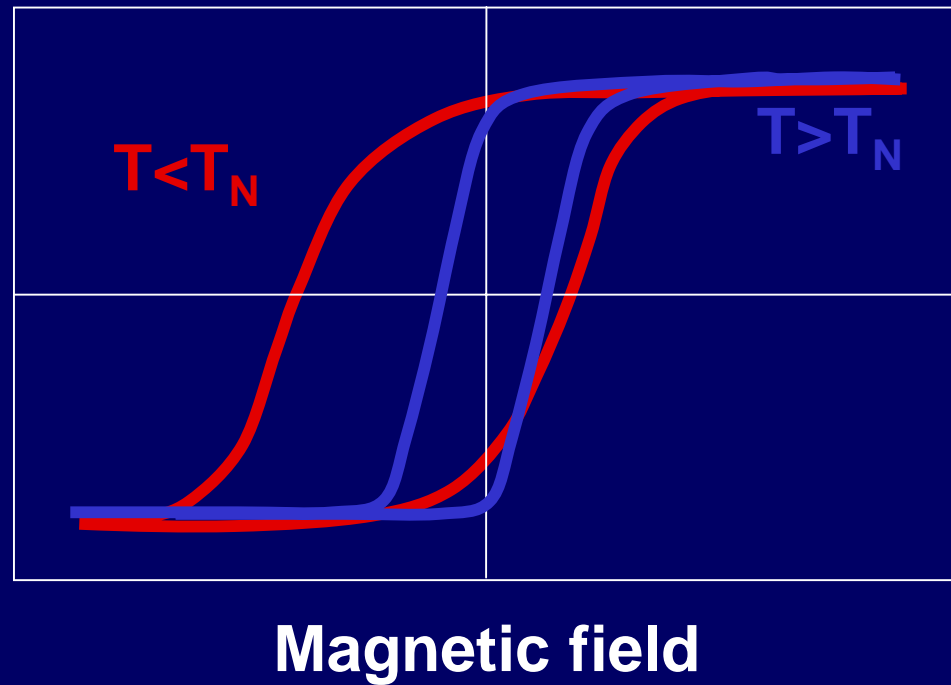


E. Weschke, C. Schüßler-Langeheine, A. Yu. Grigoriev, H. Ott, G. Kaindl, V. Leiner and H. Zabel, to be published

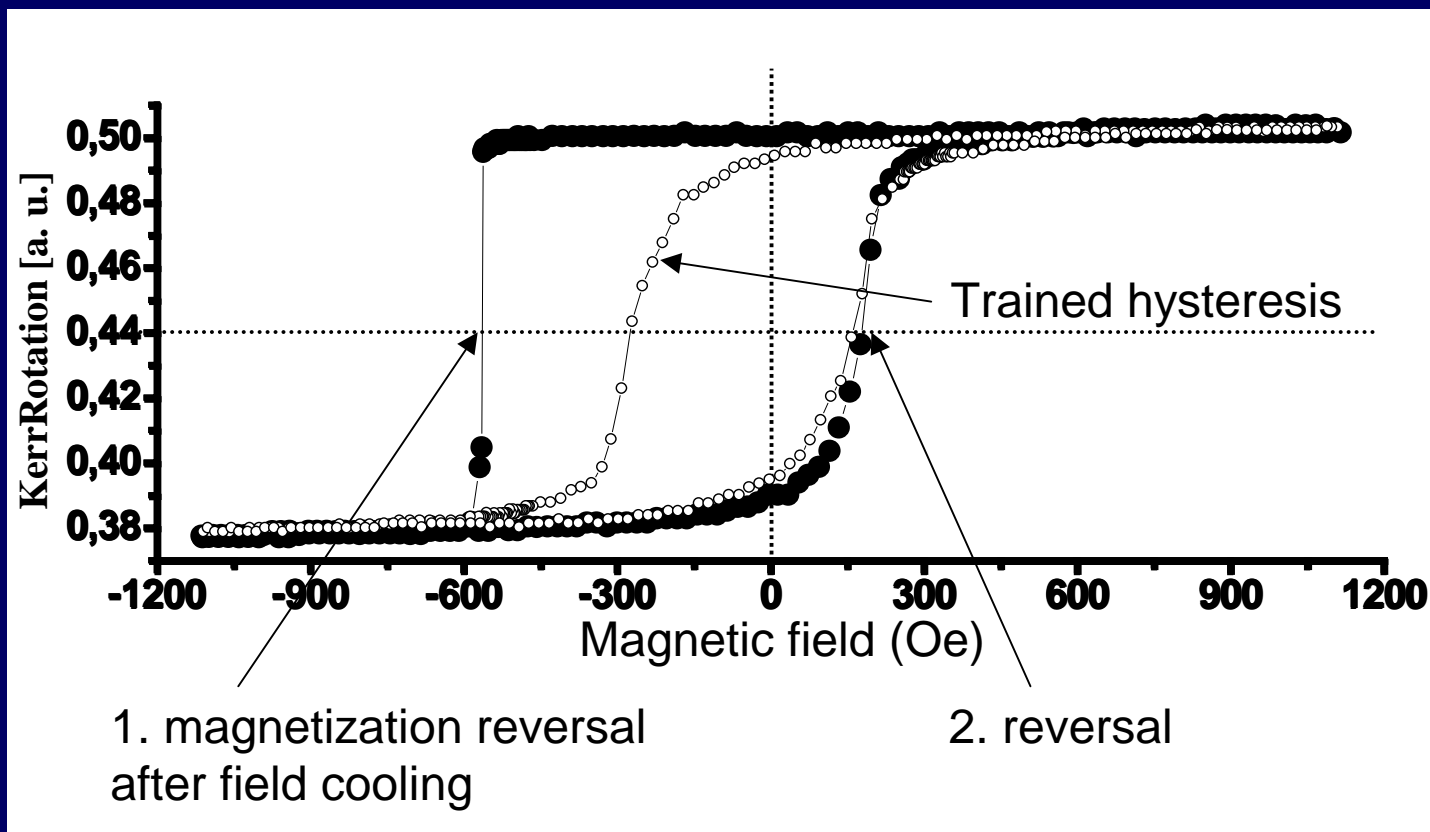
Exchange bias



Magnetization



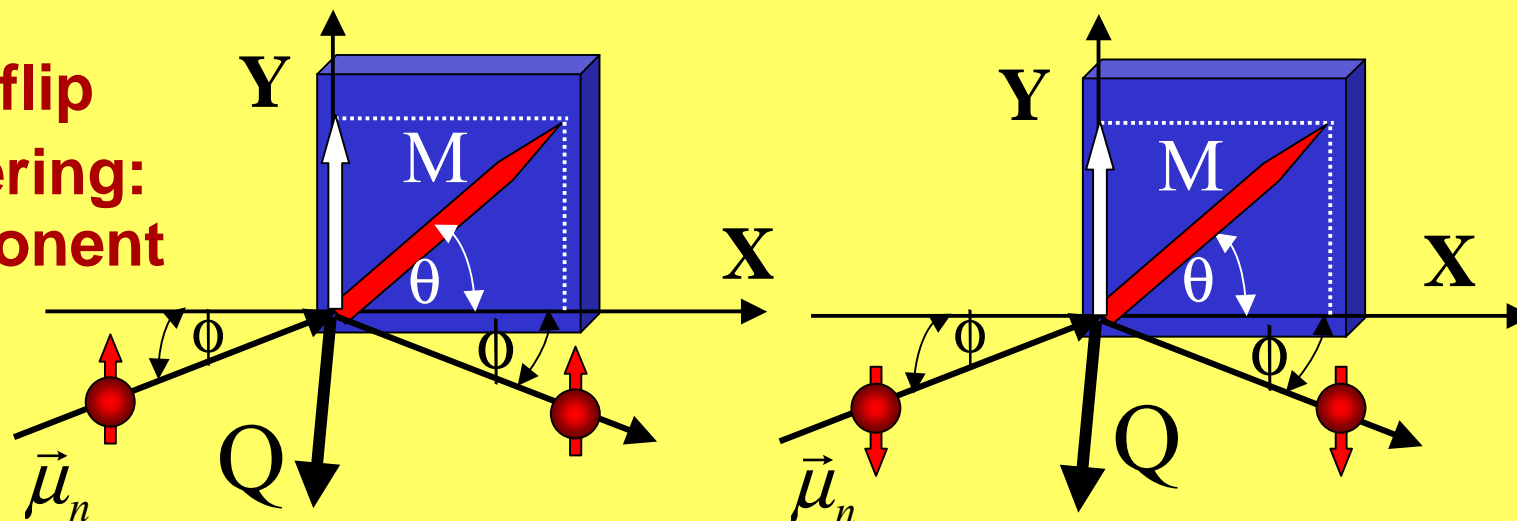
MOKE measurements of a CoO/Co bilayer



F. Radu, M. Etzkorn, T. Schmitte, R. Siebrecht, V. Leiner, K. Westerholt, H. Zabel

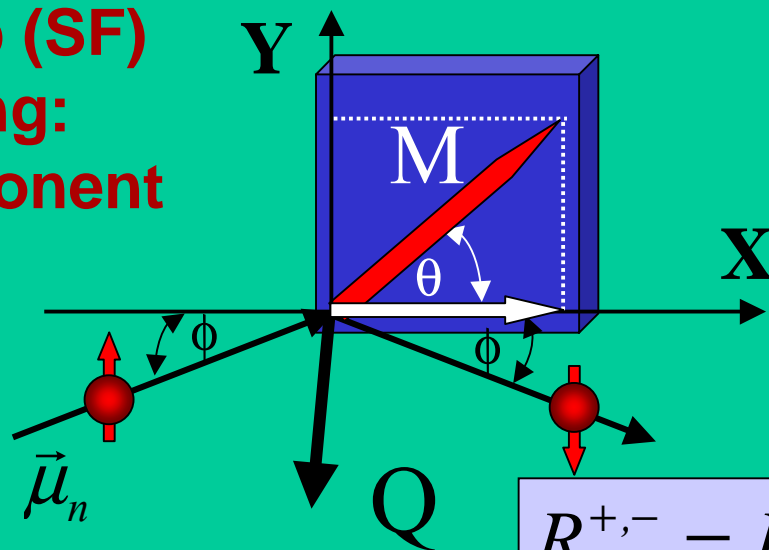
Polarized neutron reflectivity

1. Non-spin flip (NSF) scattering: the Y-component

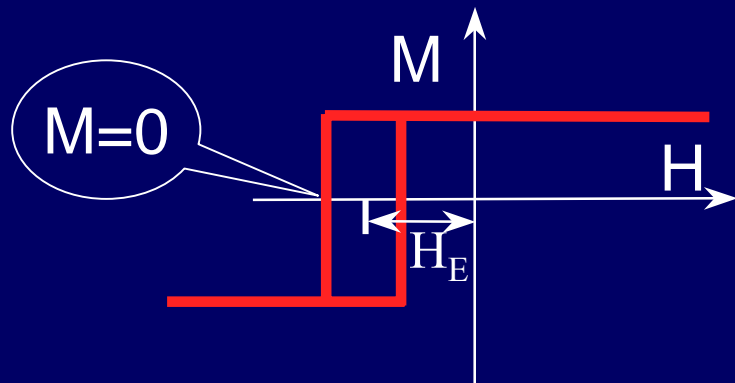


$$R^{+,+} - R^{-,-} = 2p_m \sin(\theta) \propto 2M_Y$$

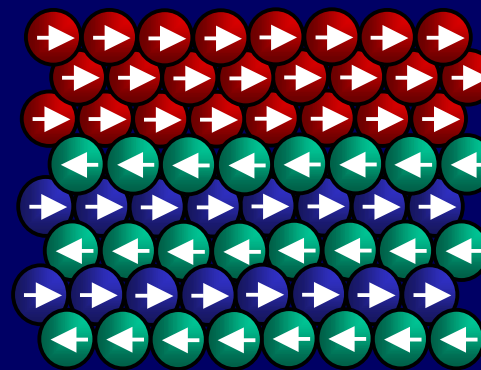
2. Spin-Flip (SF) Scattering: the X-component



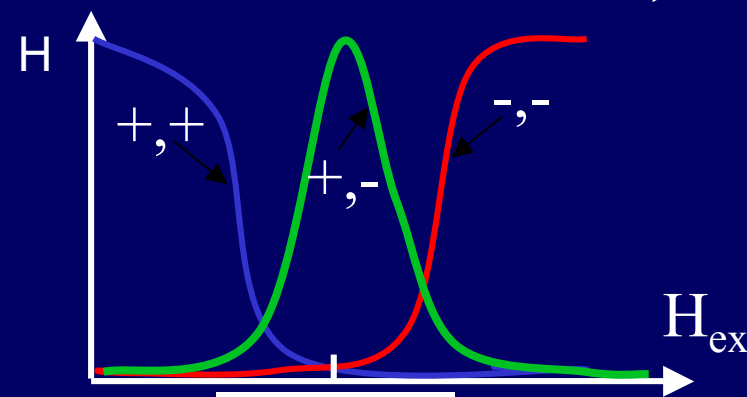
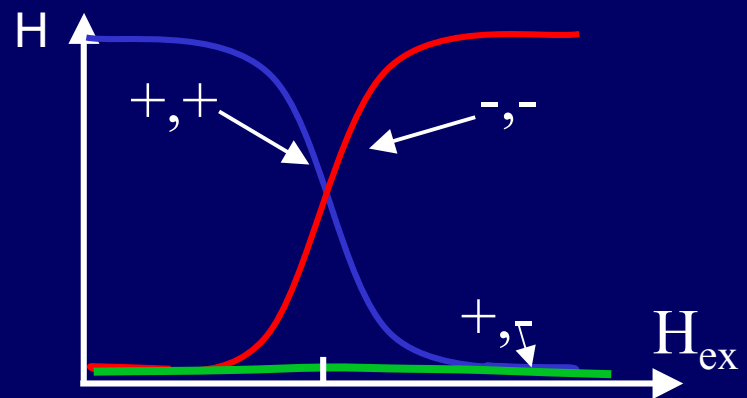
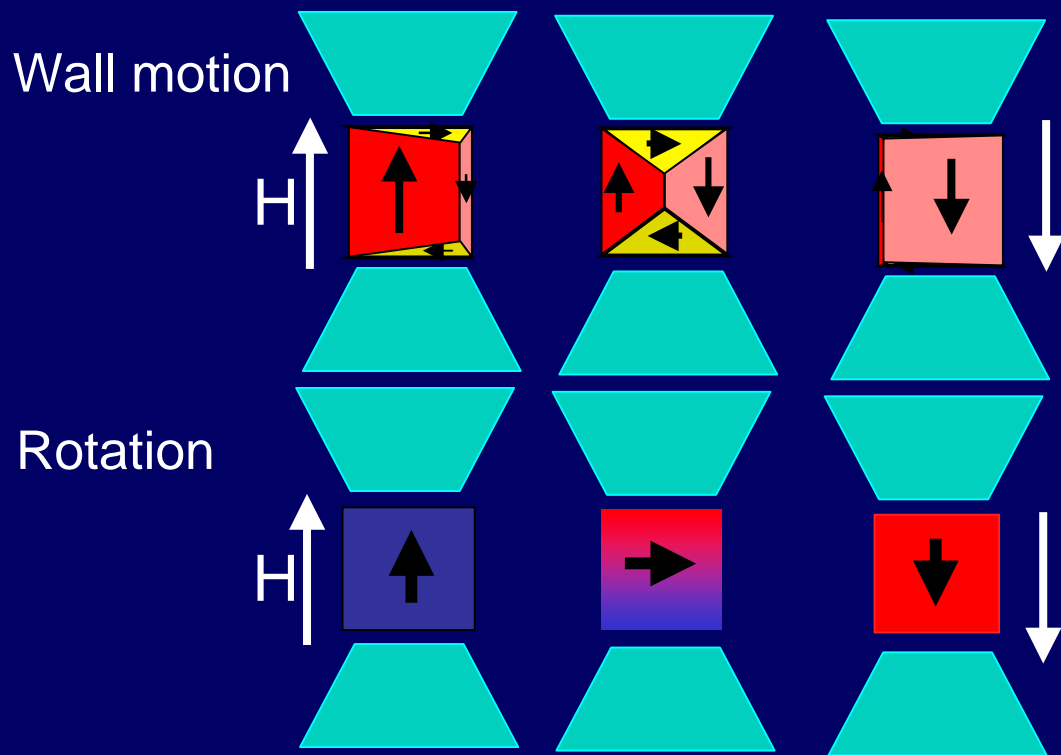
$$R^{+,-} = R^{-,+} = p_m \cos(\theta) \propto M_x$$



Magnetometry:

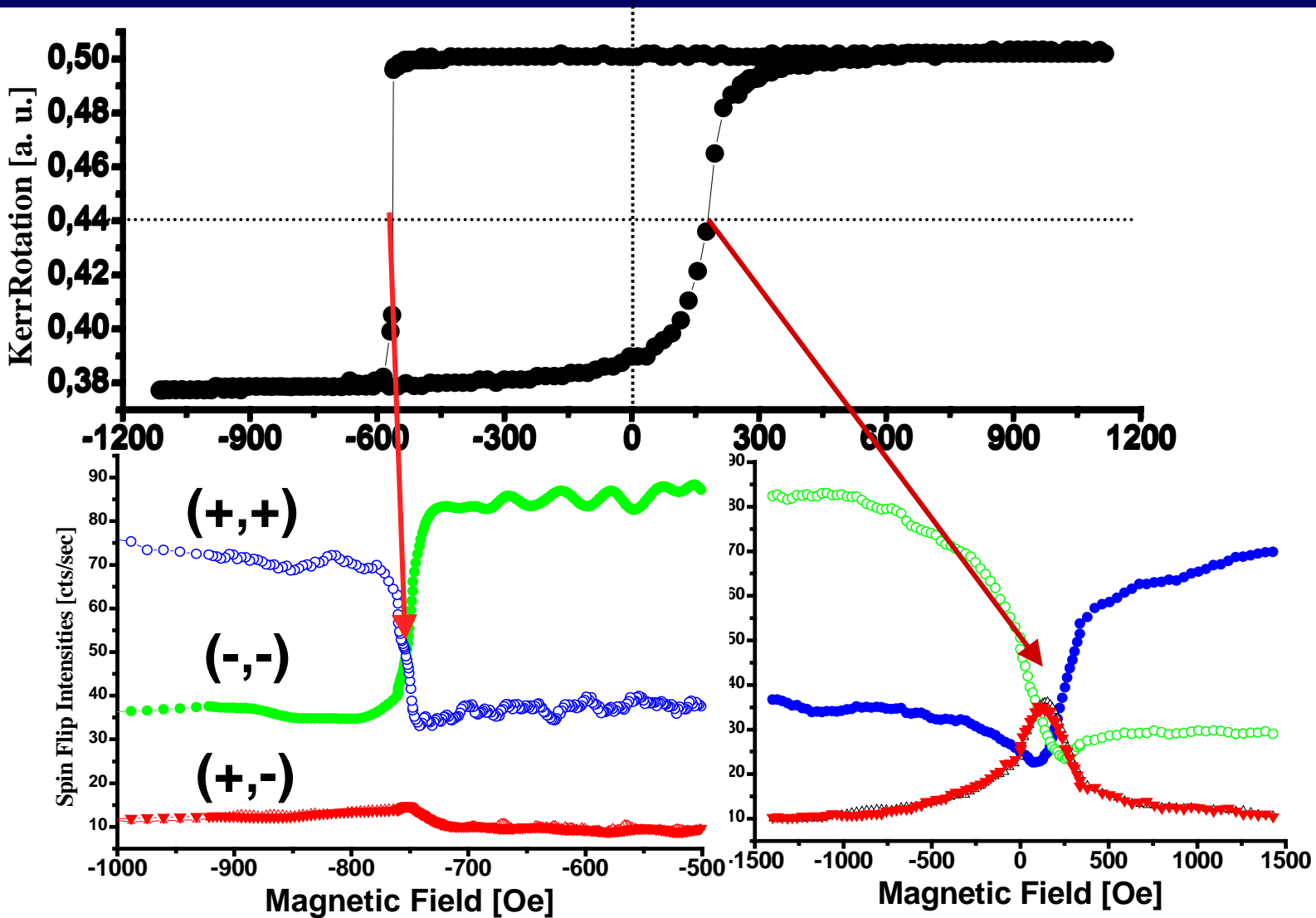
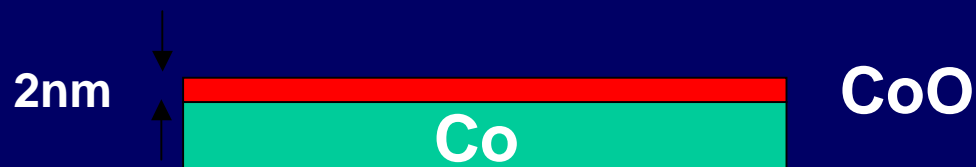


Neutron Scattering:

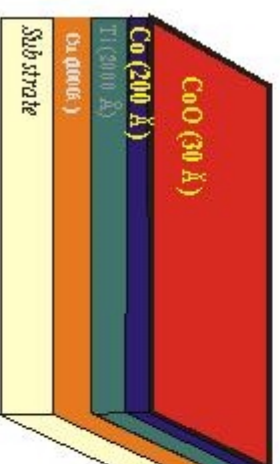
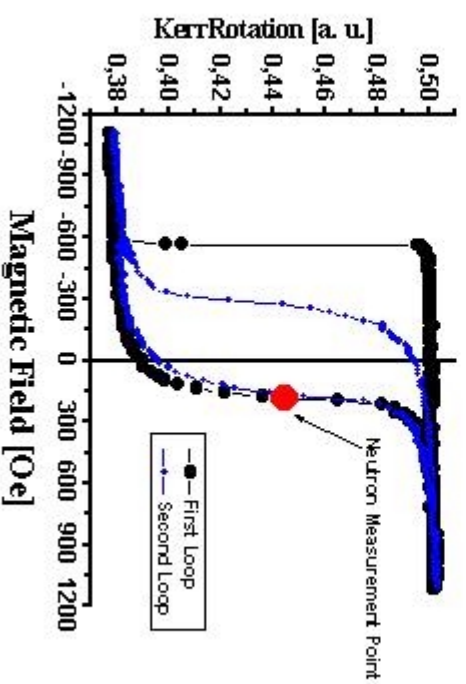
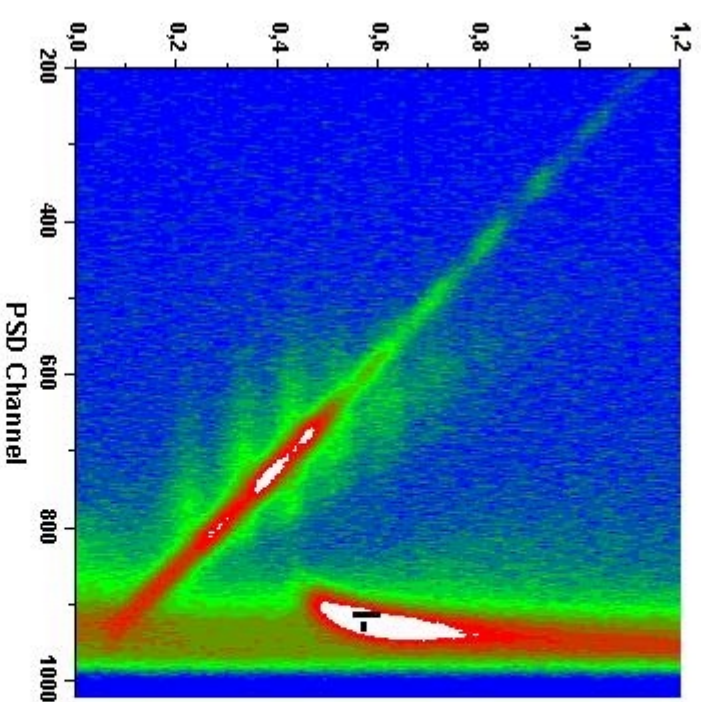
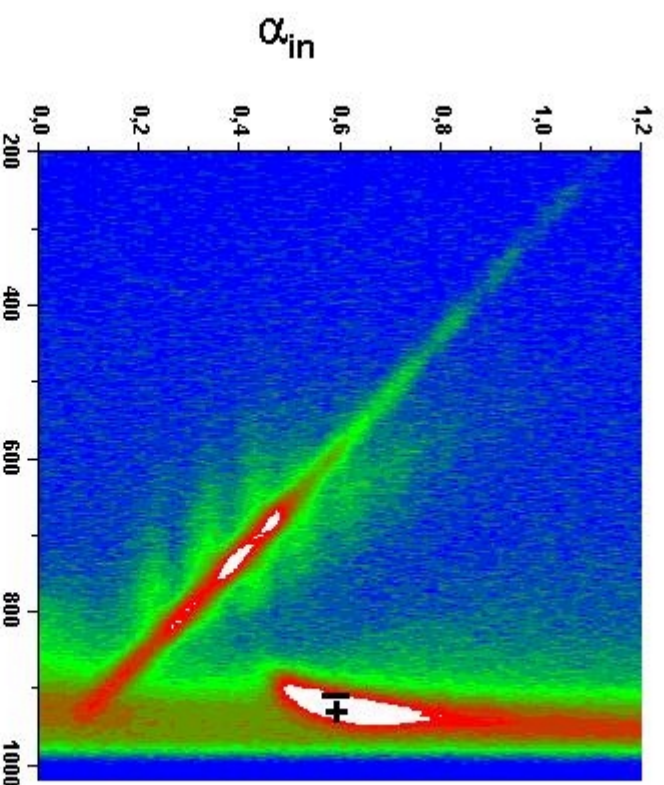


$$H_c \pm H_B$$

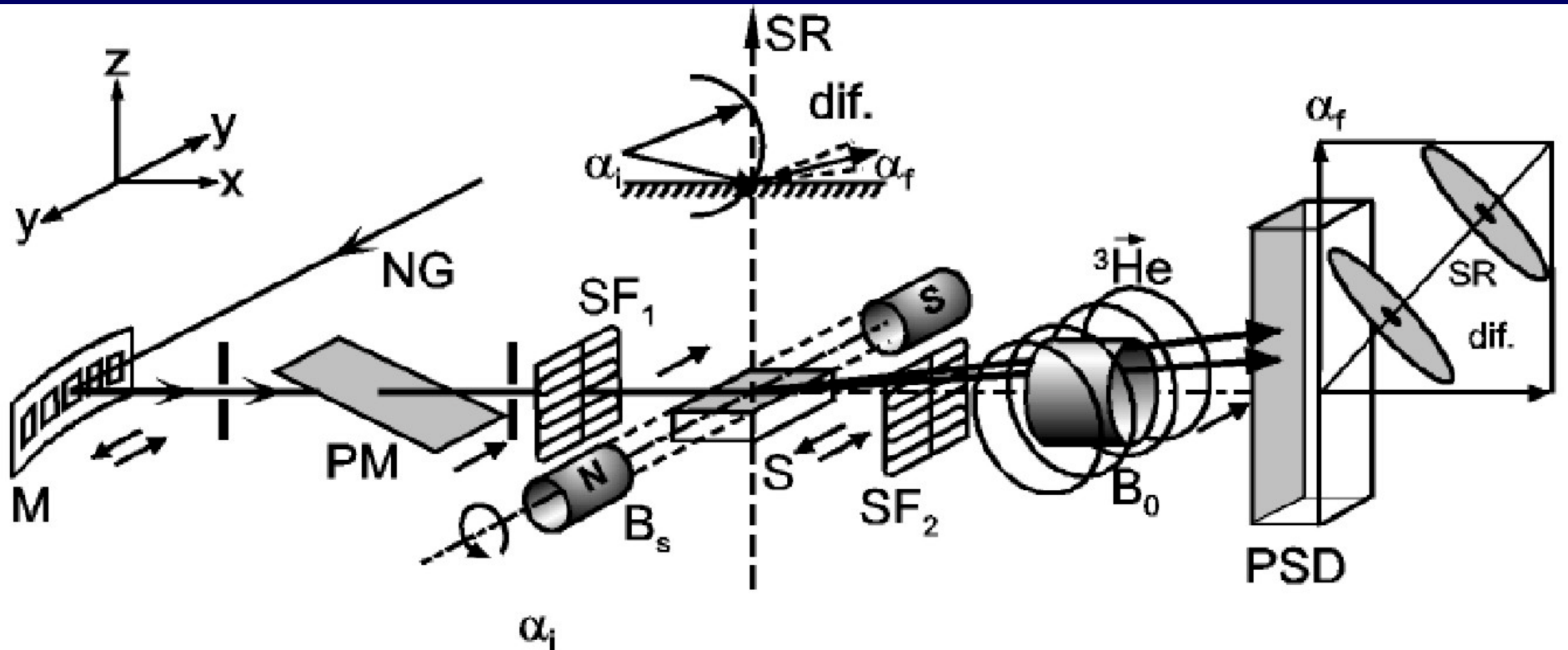
PNR results from a CoO/Co bilayer



Off-specular scattering from magnetic domains in Co/CoO exchange bias system



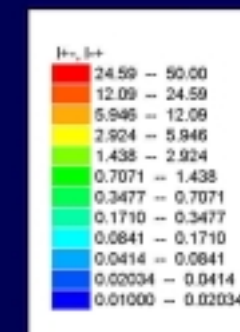
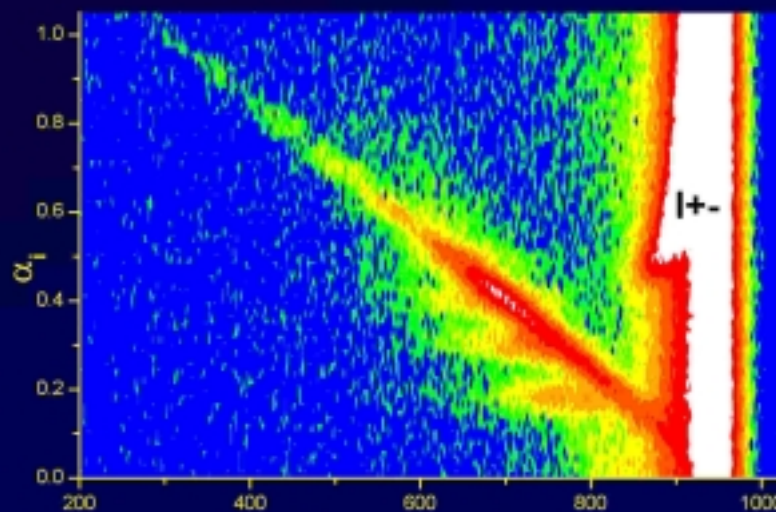
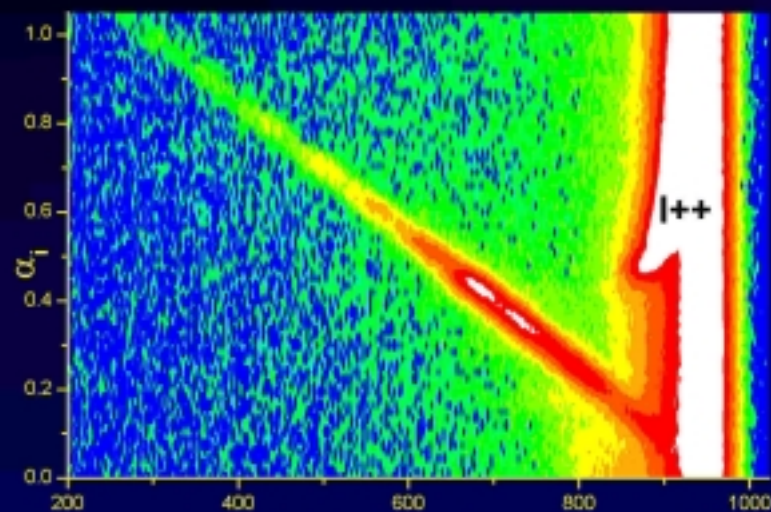
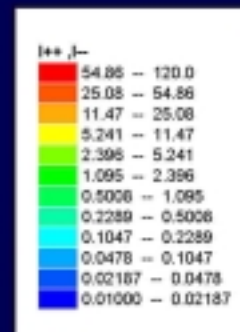
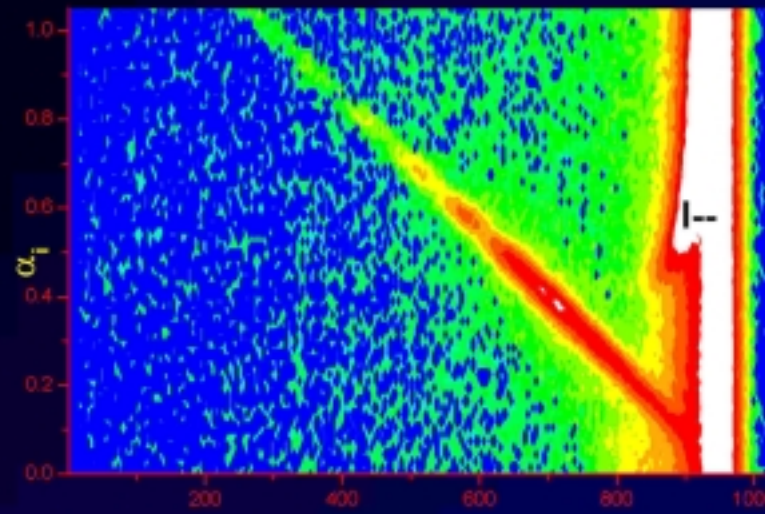
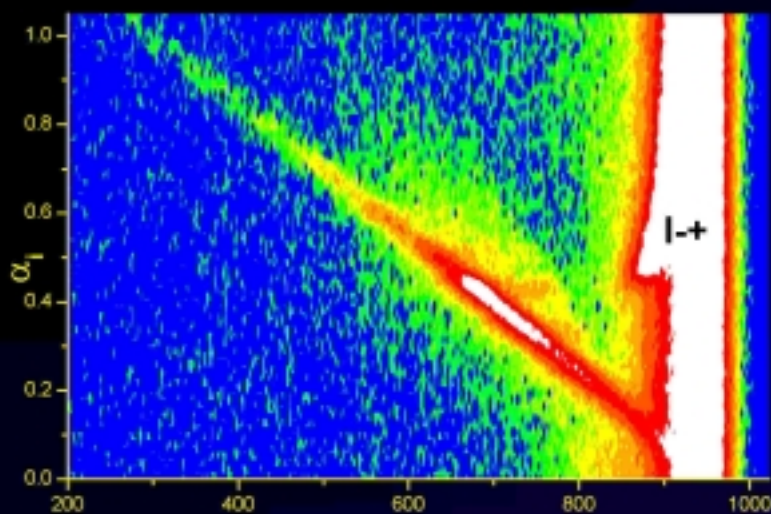
EVA-Neutron Reflectometer at the ILL with a ^3He polarisation analyser:



B. Nickel A. Rühm, W. Donner, J. Major, H. Dosch, A. Schreyer, H. Zabel, and H. Humblot, Rev. Sci. Instr. **72**, 163 (2001)

Diffuse scattering from Co/CoO bilayer

EVA, ^3He , Neutron Resonator, $T=10\text{ K}$, $\sim H_{c2}=370\text{ Oe}$



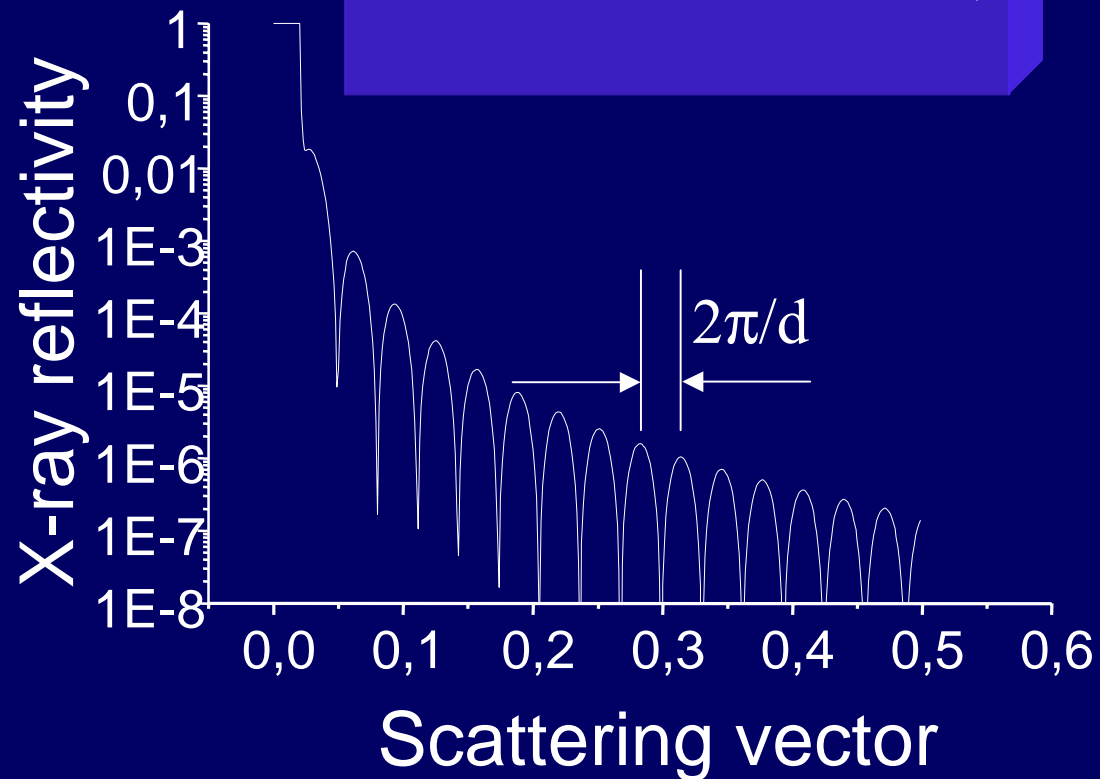
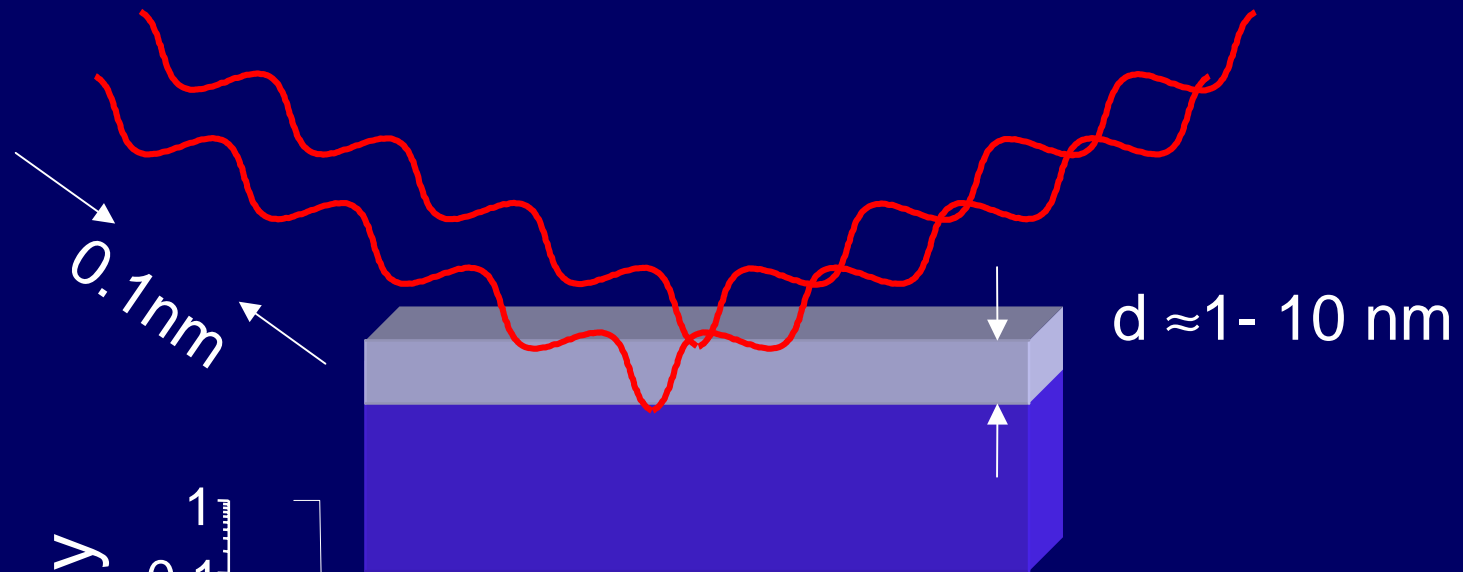
Detector Channel

18-10-2001

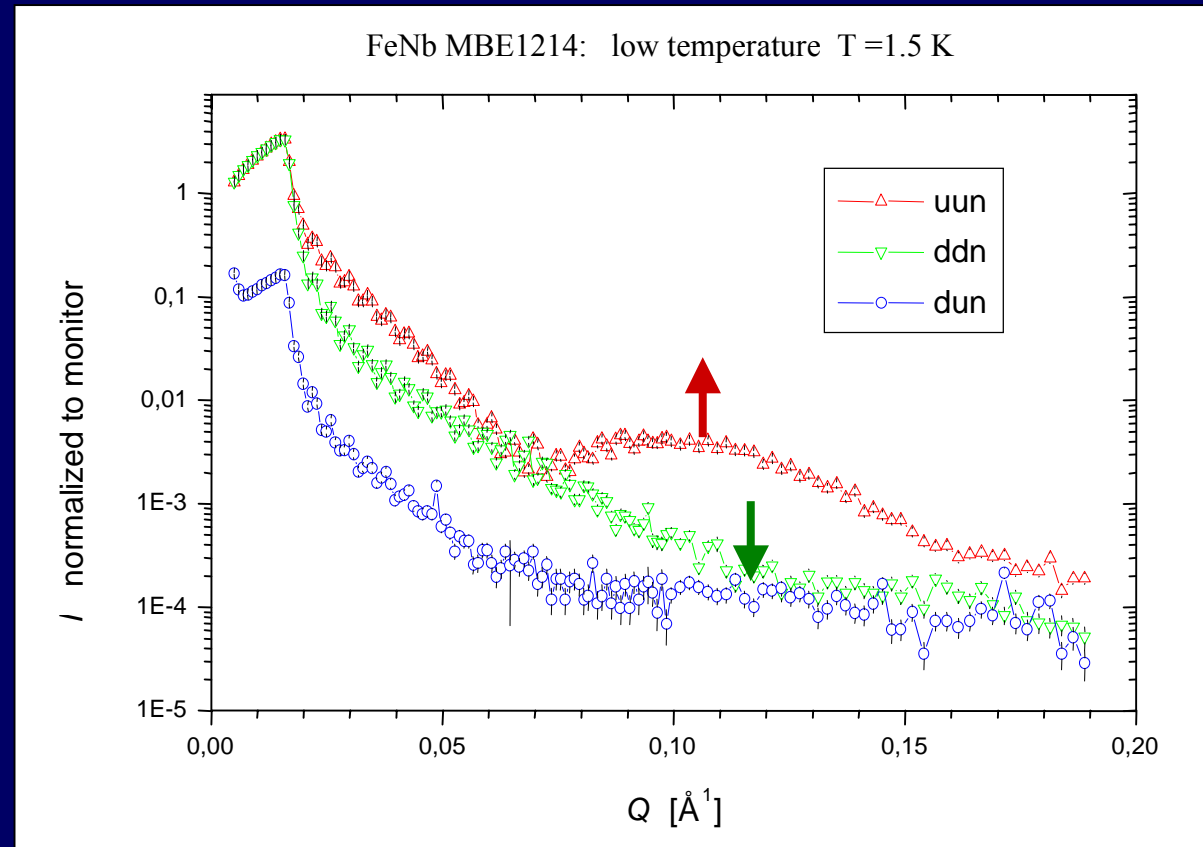
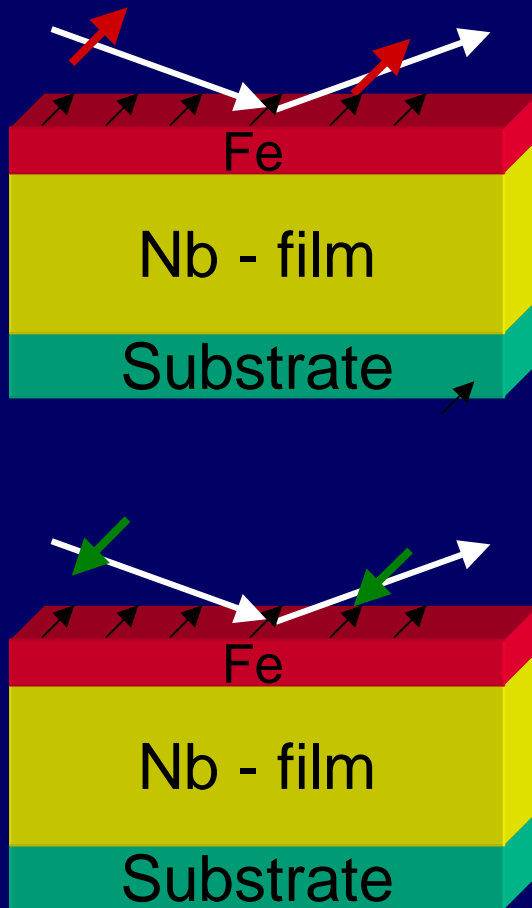
Detector Channel

F. Radu, A. Vorobiev, J. Major, H. Humblot, K. Westerholt, H. Zabel

Enhancement of interface sensitivity

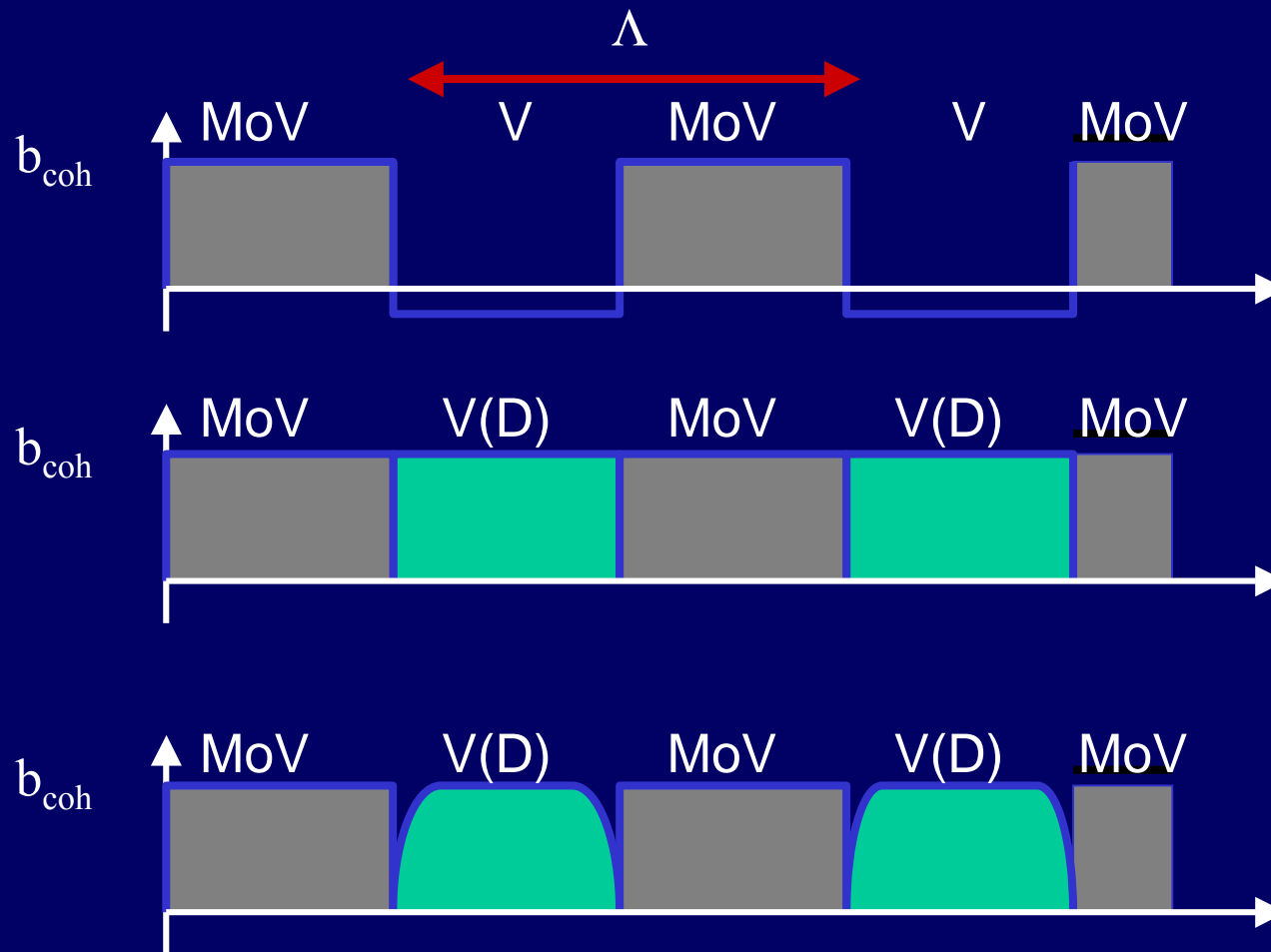


PNR of 2 nm Fe/ 150 nm Nb on sapphire ADAM neutron reflectometer, ILL



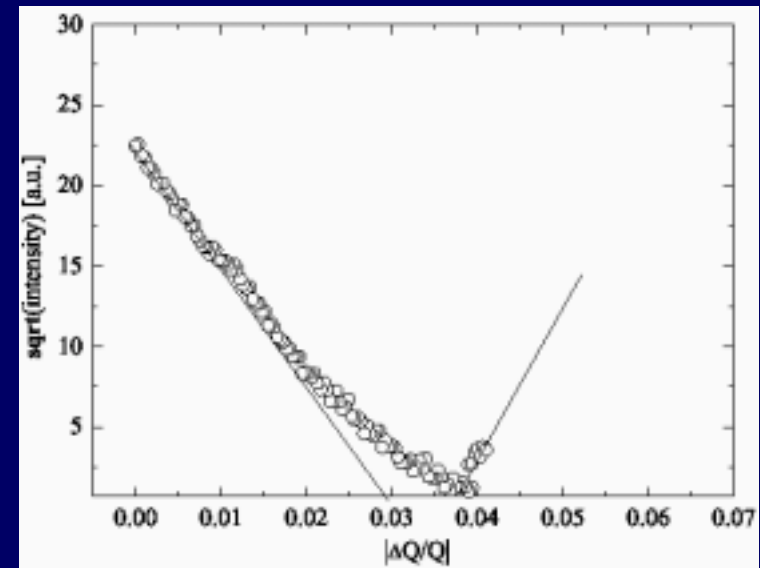
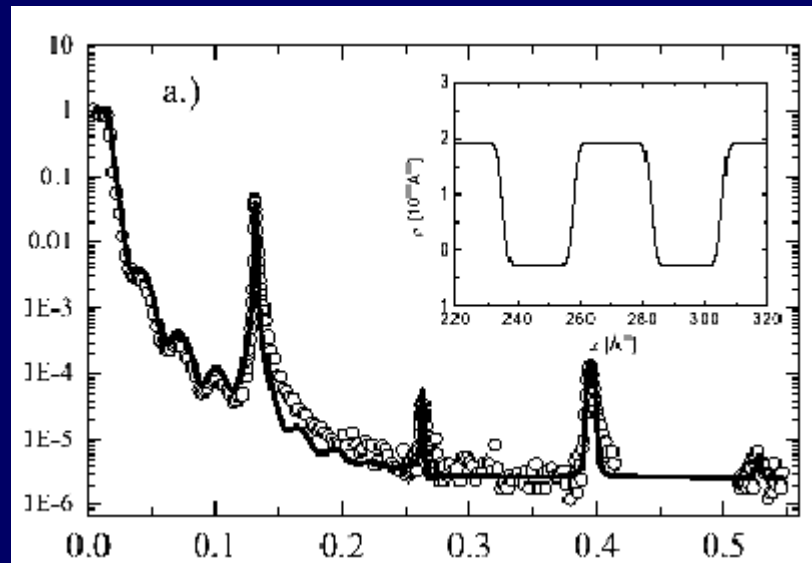
K. Theis-Bröhl, R. Siebrecht, H. Zabel, 2001

Contrast matching for enhancing interface sensitivity

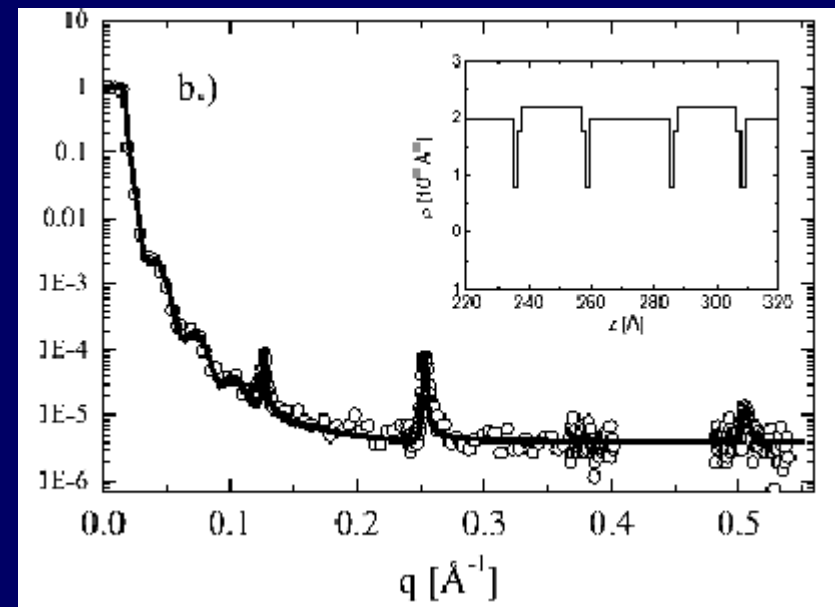


V. Leiner, B. Hjörvarsson, J. Birch, H. Zabel, submitted

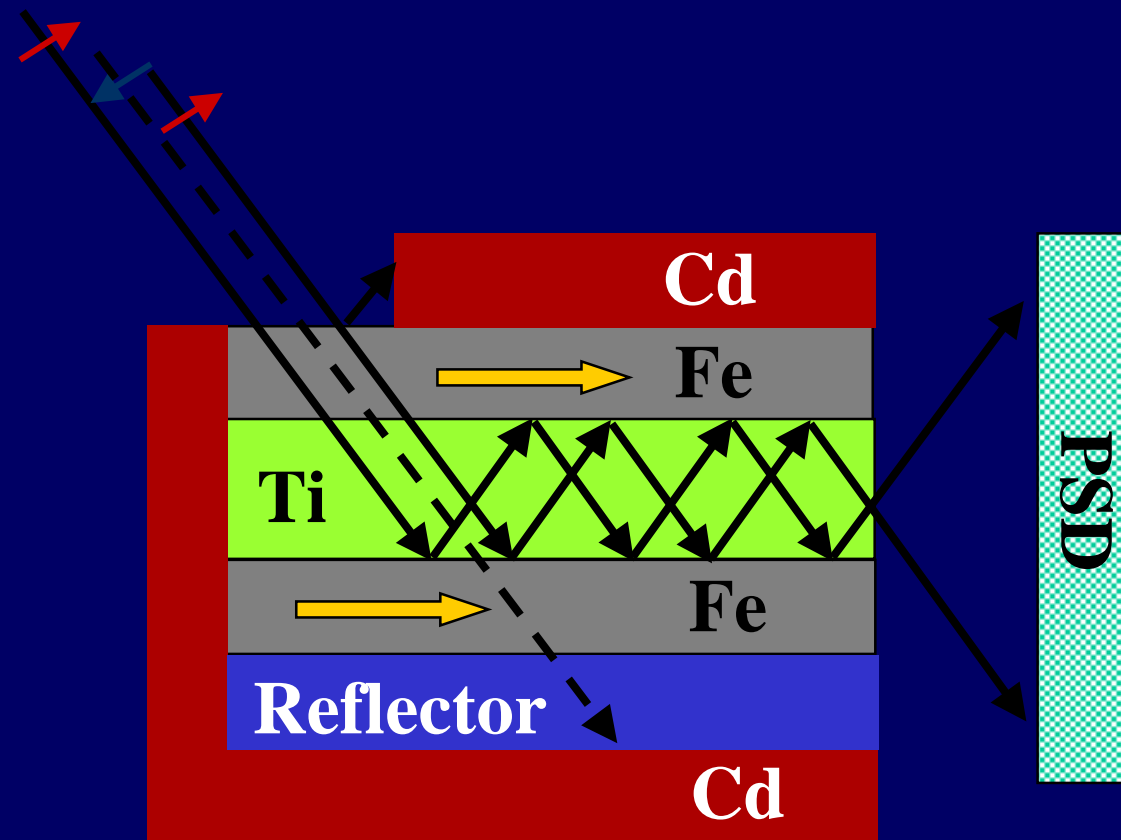
Vanishing of 1. order peak by D- loading of V- layers:



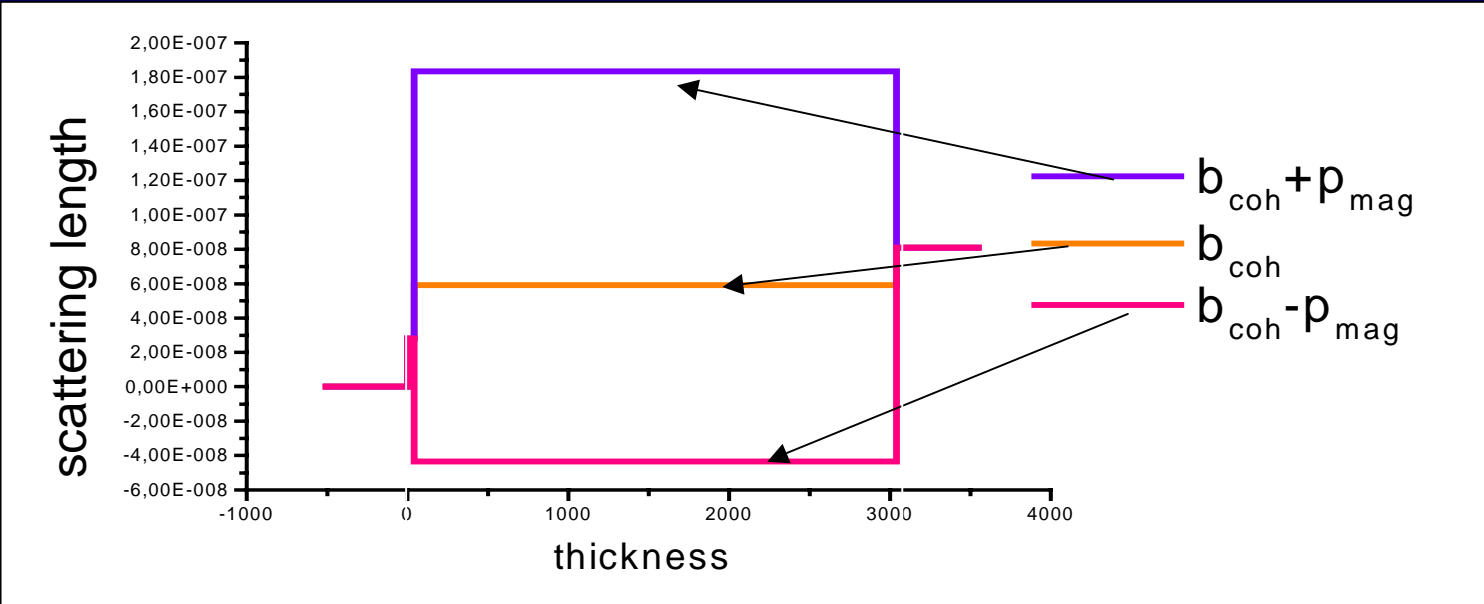
After deuterium loading



Neutron wave guide (resonator) with polarized neutrons

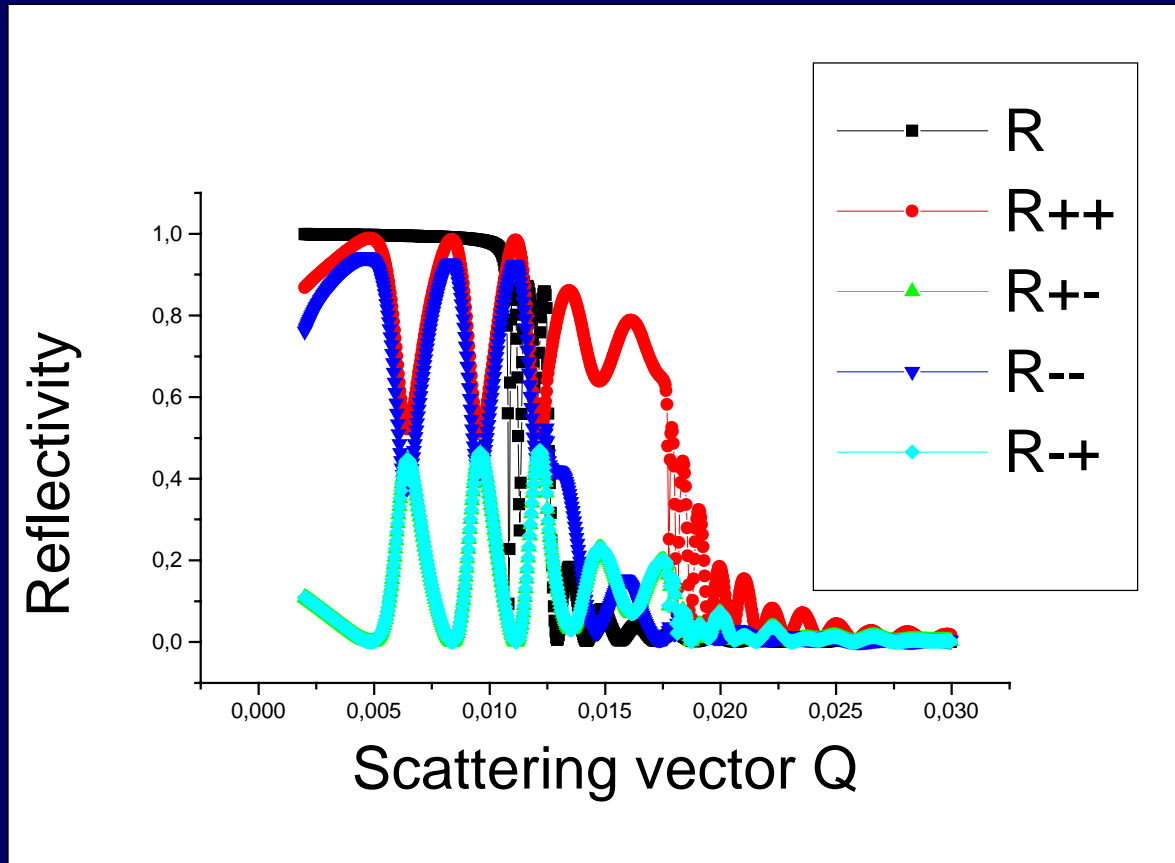


V.K. Ignatovich, F. Radu, V.L. Aksenov, Yu.V. Nikitenko,
Yu. M. Gledenov, P.V. Sedyshev
Frank Laboratory, Dubna

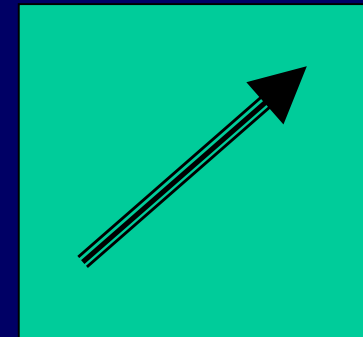


Florin Radu

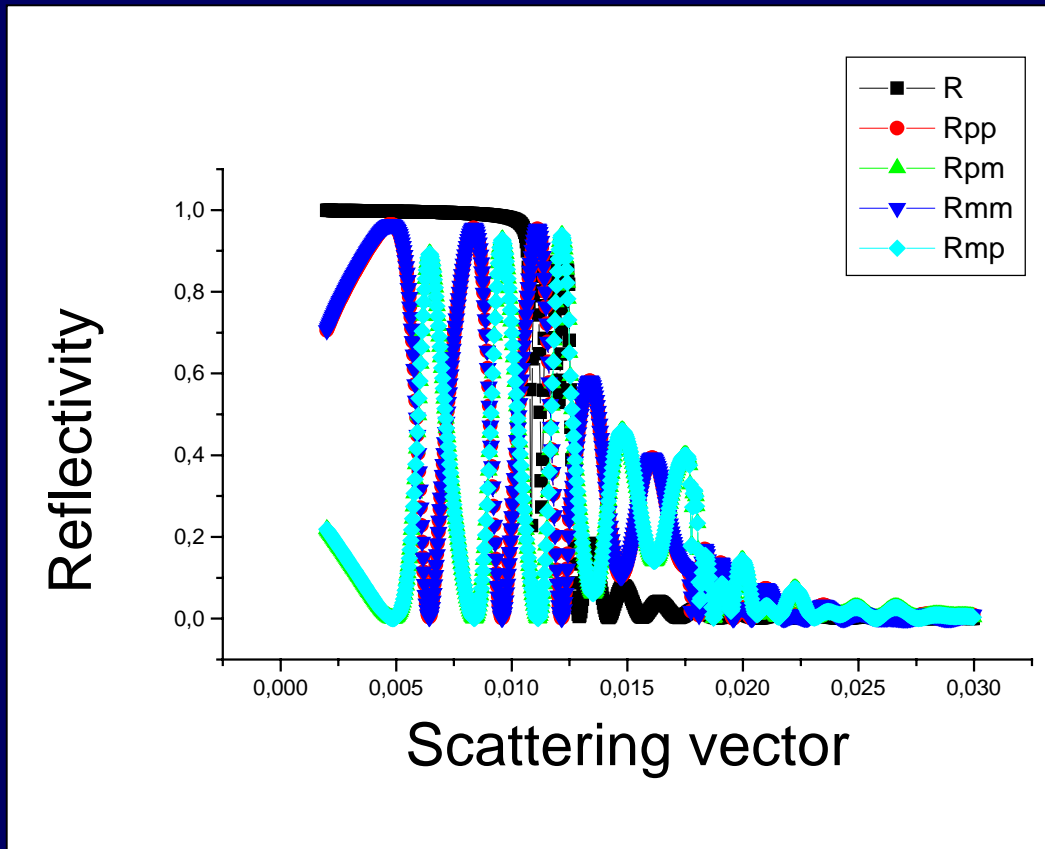
Resonances below the critical edge of total reflection



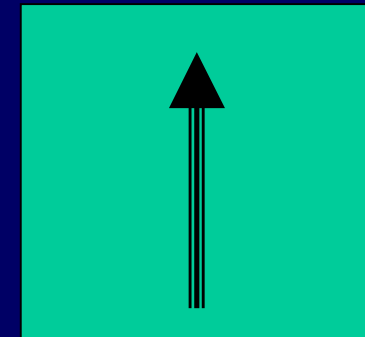
Magnetization vector 45°



Resonances below the critical edge of total reflection



Magnetization vector 0°



Summary

- ❖ Neutrons reveal the spin structure and exchange coupling in magnetic superlattices
- ❖ Neutrons can distinguish between wall motion and rotation during magnetization reversal
- ❖ Resonant magnetic x-ray scattering provides element selective information on magnetic hysteresis and spin structures
- ❖ Interface sensitivity can be enhanced by resonant techniques and/or clever design of the sample

Thanks to:

F. Radu

T. Schmitte

M. Etzkorn

K. Theis –Bröhl

K. Westerholt

V. Leiner

R. Siebrecht

B. Hjärvarsson, Uppsala

J. Birch, Linköping

E. Weschke, FU Berlin

Funding through DFG-SFB 491, BMBF