

## 2014 UNM Research Experience for Teachers Program

THE UNIVERSITY *of*  
NEW MEXICO

# SYNTHESIS OF COBALT AND IRON OXIDE NANOPARTICLES & WHAT'S IN OUR WATER AND WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

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### Supporting Program

Energizing Engineering Education (E3): An RET site at the University of New Mexico investigating energy research and engineering practice,  
The University of New Mexico, School of Engineering & College of Education.

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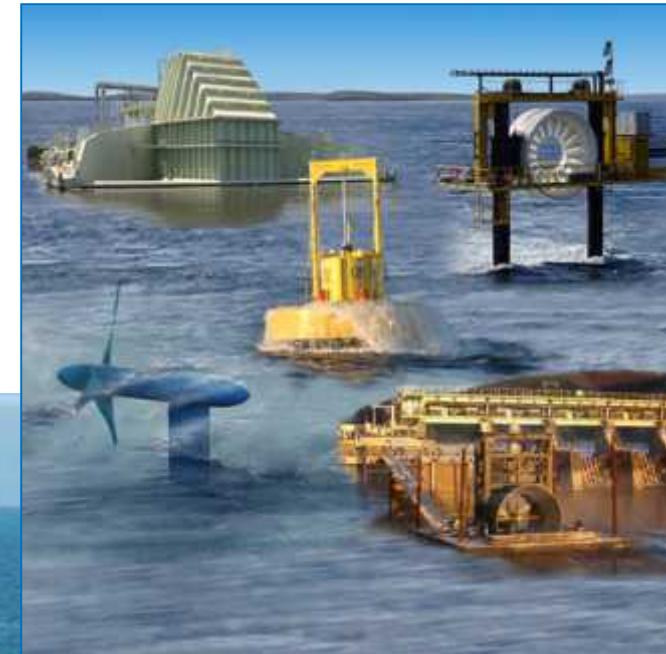


School of Engineering, University of New Mexico  
Advanced Materials Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories

# Laboratory Research

# Marine Hydrokinetic Technology (MHK) Project

- Converts the energy of waves, tides, and river and ocean currents into electricity
- Some equipment also desalinates ocean water (Wave2O™ by Resolute Marine Energy, Inc.)



# Structural Health Monitoring of MHK Composite Materials

- Remote detection of flaws/damage done to underwater strctr
- Saves time and \$\$!
- Examples

Computer

Fiberoptic  
FBG Sensing  
Interrogator

- Large storm ocean wave weakens structure
- Boat runs into device
- Operation monitoring
- Detect cracks, resin failures, debonding

ORPC Project Site in Cobscook Bay, ME

Fiberoptic Cable

Off-shore (and underwater) Equipment

Fiberoptic  
Rotary Joint

Fiber Bragg Grating  
(FBG) Sensors  
(only three are shown)

ORPC Power System



# Developing Novel Fiber Composite Sensors for Structural Health Monitoring

Current Strain Gauge Sensors  
Based on fiber optics



Micron Optics, Inc.  
os1100 uncoated/recoated  
~150µm diameter



Figure 2 – Section of an ORPC-supplied foil, from which coupon substrates were cut.



Figure 3 – Cross-section of the ORPC-supplied foil showing the laminate layup.

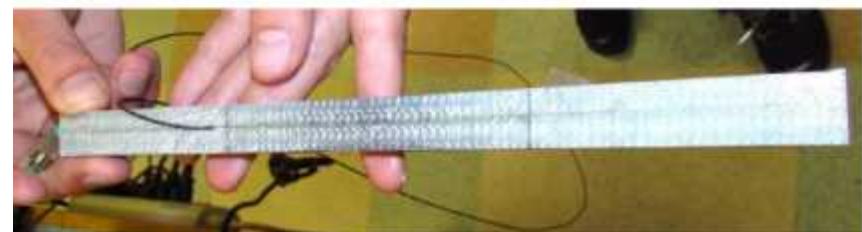


Figure 4 – Test specimen with a mounted MOI bare FBG sensor.



Problems with these sensors:

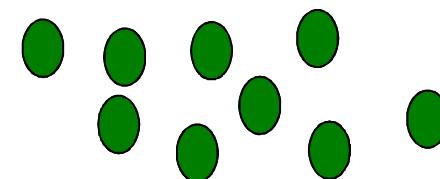
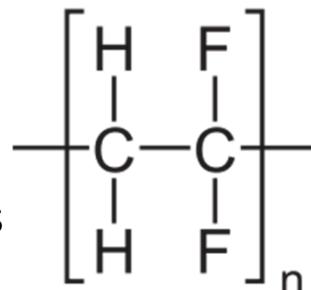
- Large fibers
- One time use
- Can act as a defect site

# Project Goal: To develop novel structural health sensors

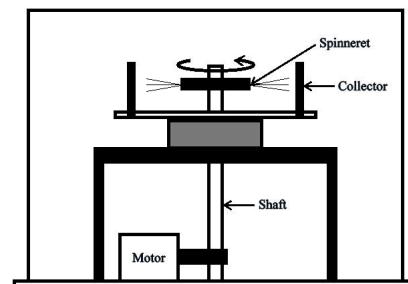
PVDF= Polyvinylidene fluoride

Piezoelectric polymer

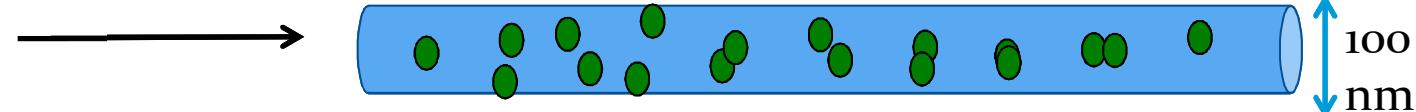
Produces charge with mechanical stress



Magnetic Nanoparticles  
 $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  or  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  (5-10 nm)



Force Spun Fiber Sensor



Combined polymer & Nanoparticles will be force spun into fibers that can be embedded into composite layup

# My Research Goals:

To develop **cobalt oxide** and **iron oxide** nanoparticles to be used in non-destructive health monitoring of MHK technology

Periodic Table of the Elements



Periodic Table of the Elements																			
1 IA		2 IIA		18 VIII A															
1 H	2 Be	3 Li	4 Mg	5 Na	6 V	7 Cr	8 Mn	9 Fe	10 Co	11 Ni	12 Cu	13 Zn	14 Ga	15 Ge	16 As	17 Se	18 O	19 F	20 Ne
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr		
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe		
55 Cs	56 Ba	57-71 Hf	72 Ta	73 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn			
87 Fr	88 Ra	89-103 Rf	104 Db	105 Sg	106 Bh	107 Hs	108 Mt	109 Ds	110 Rg	111 Cn	112 Uut	114 Fl	115 Uup	116 Lv	117 Uus	118 Uuo			
6	57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu	6			
7	89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr	7			

Legend:

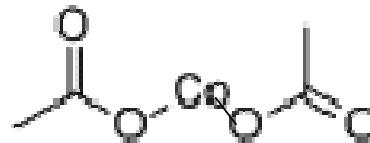
- Alkali Metals
- Alkali Earth Metals
- Transition Metals
- Other Metals
- Metalloids
- Other Non Metals
- Halogens
- Noble Gases
- Lanthanides & Actinides

# Precursors and Solvents

## Precursors:

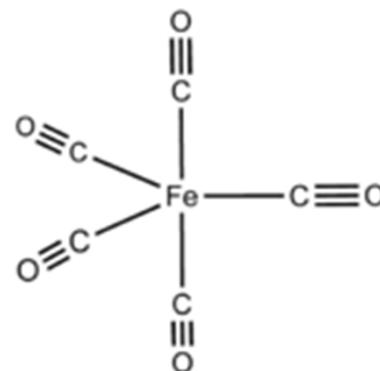
Reactions 1 & 2:

Cobalt acetate  
 $\text{Co}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2$



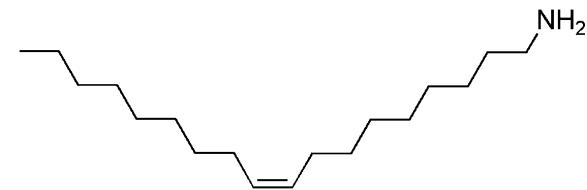
Reaction 3:

Iron pentacarbonyl  
 $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$

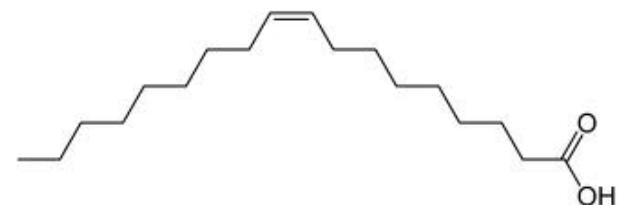


## Solvents:

Oleylamine (Oly)



Oleic Acid (OA)



Diethyl ether (DOE)

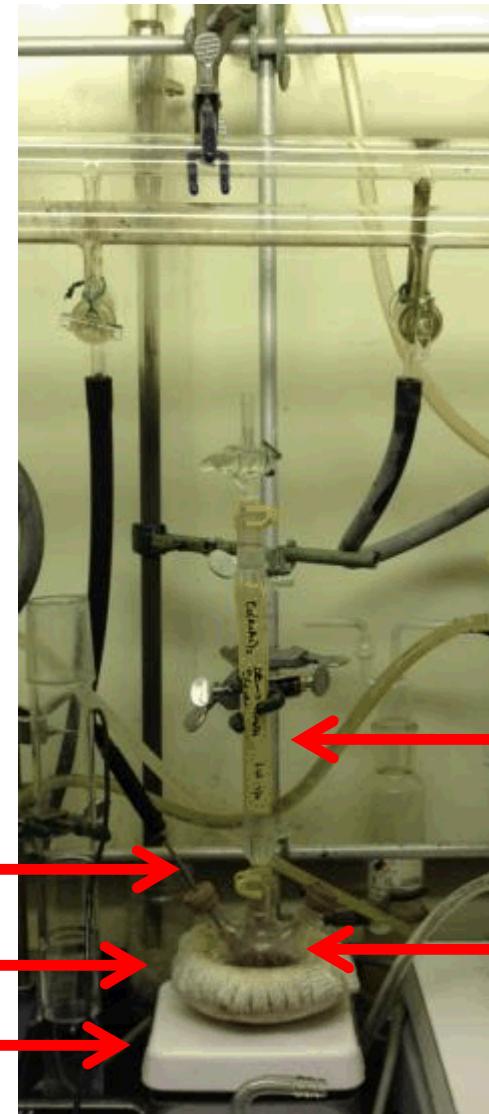


# Materials and Procedures Used

## Solution Precipitation

### Reaction Experimental Setup

- Precursors and solvents heated, decomposition of precursor occurs
- Used to synthesize nanoparticles

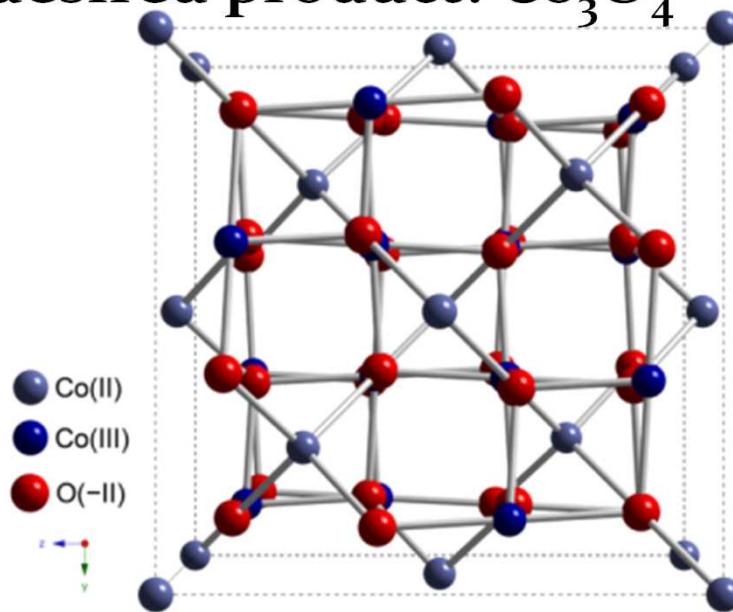


- Thermocouple
- Heating mantle
- Magnetic stir plate
- Schlenk line
- condenser
- 3-neck round bottom flask (containing precursor and solvents)

# X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

- Used to characterize (identify) product

Crystal structure of desired product:  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$

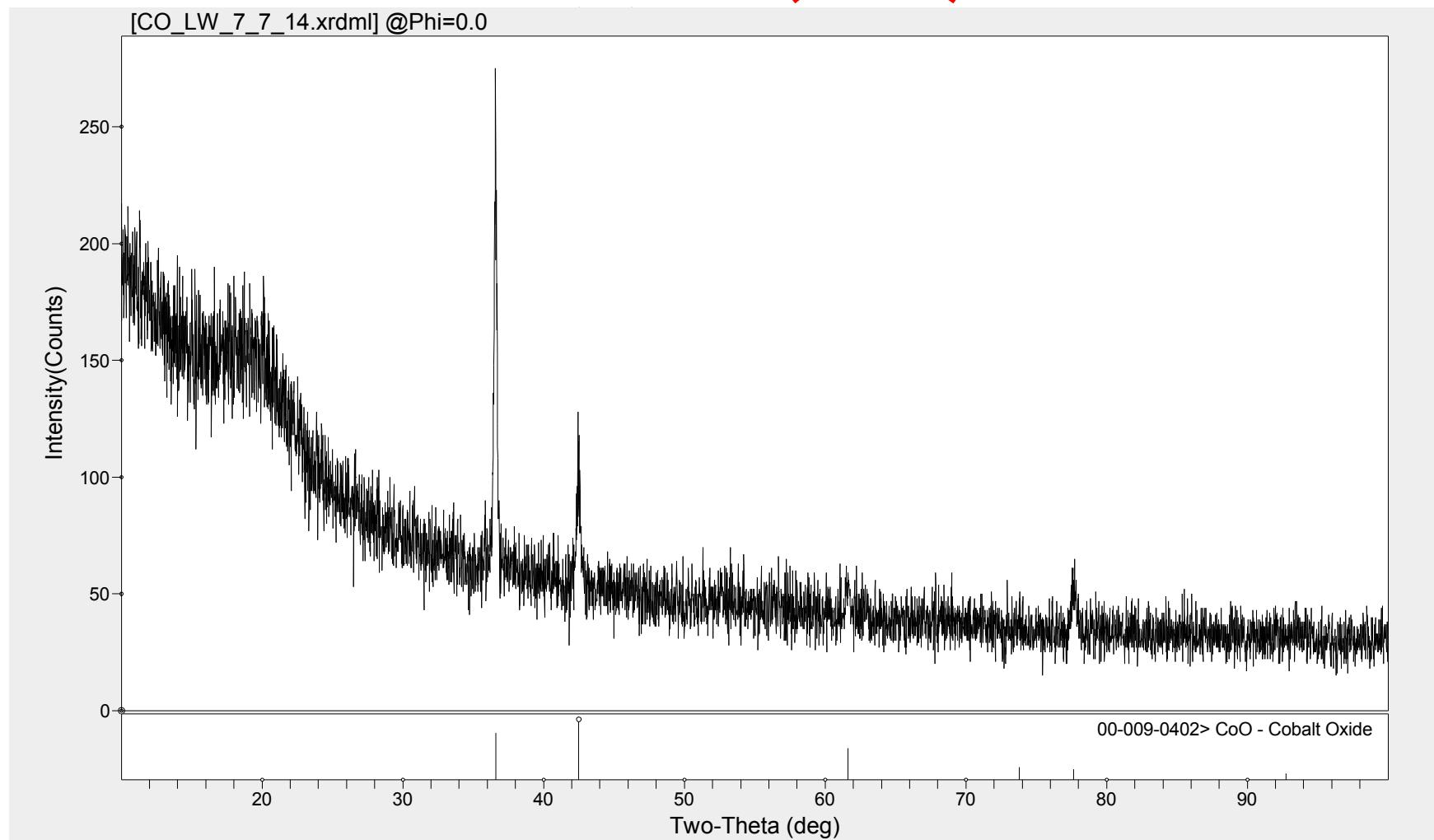
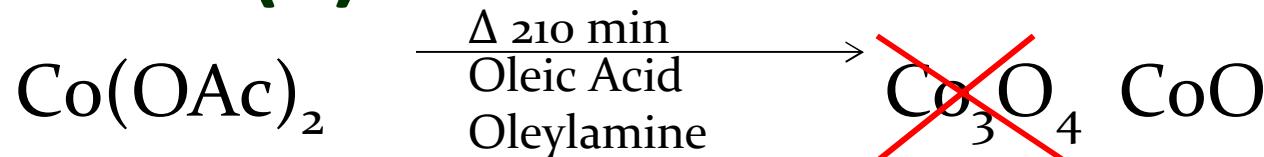


# Summary: Cobalt and Iron Oxides Nanoparticle Synthesis

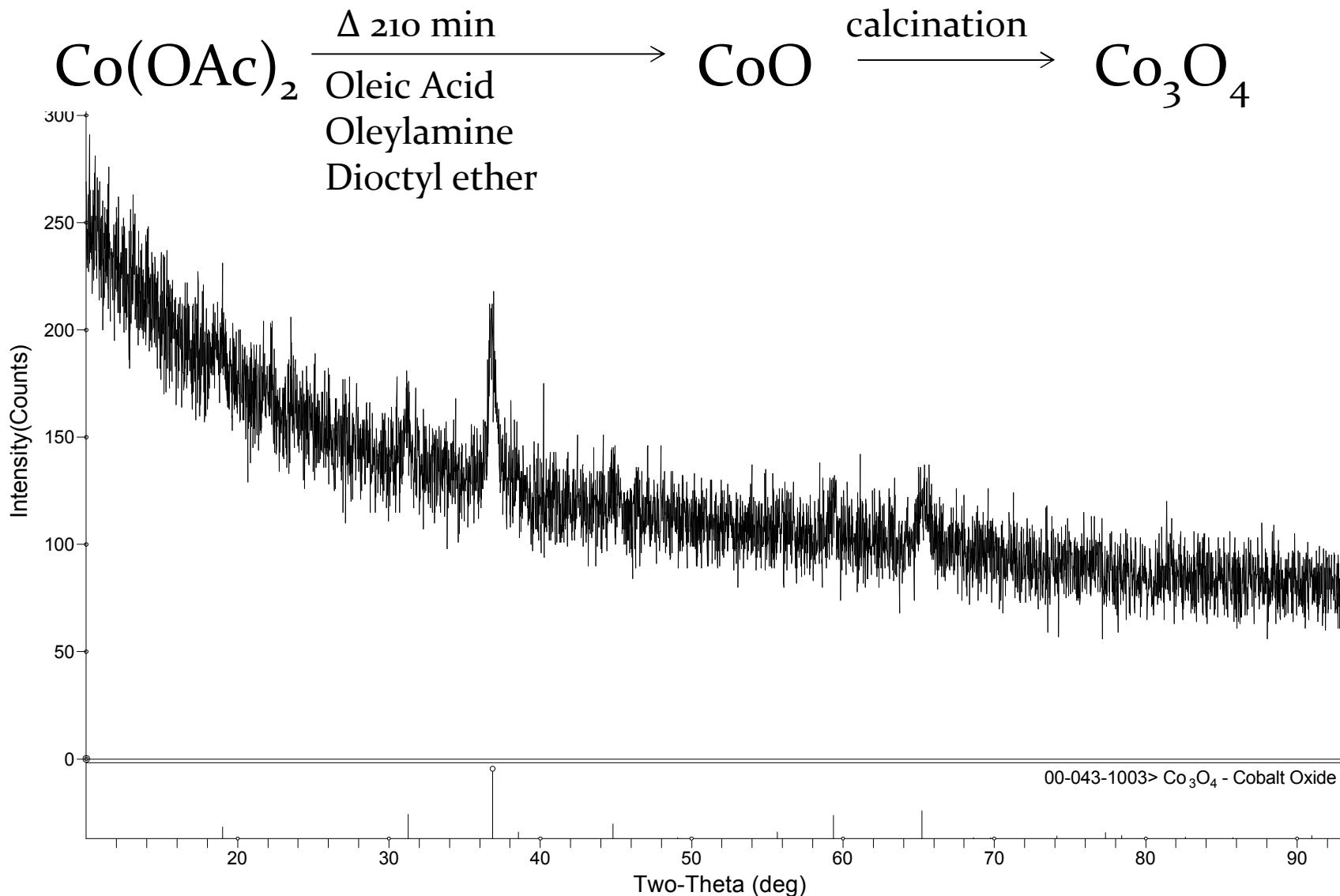
*via Solution Precipitation Reaction*

Reaction	Precursor	Solvents	Heat	Product
1	$\text{Co}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2$	OA, Oly, DOE	210 min @ $\sim 290^\circ\text{C}$	$\text{CoO}$
2	$\text{Co}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2$	OA, Oly, DOE	210 min @ $\sim 290^\circ\text{C}$ , 60 min @ $100^\circ\text{C}$ 60 min @ $\sim 282^\circ\text{C}$ Calcinated	$\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$
3	$\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$	OA, Oly, DOE	120 min @ $\sim 300^\circ\text{C}$	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$

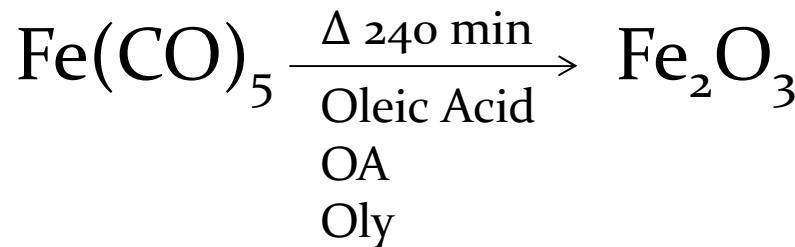
# REACTION 1: COBALT (II) OXIDE NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS



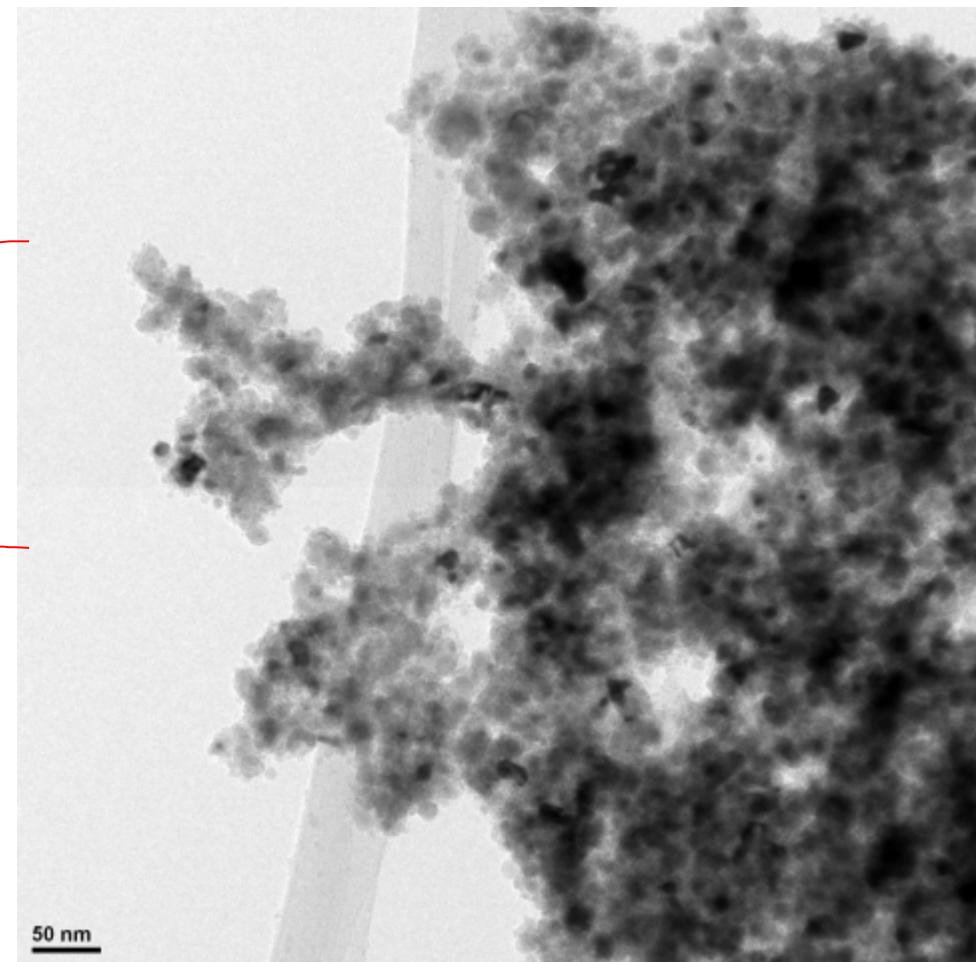
# REACTION 2: COBALT (II, III) OXIDE NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS



# REACTION 3: IRON (III) OXIDE NANOPARTICLE SYNTHESIS



TEM image:  
Aggregated iron  
oxide nanoparticles  
(5-10 nm)





Taking it to nex+Gen Academy:

**What's in our water, and  
where did it come from?**

# What's in our water?



Students will sample and analyze water from our local river and irrigation ditches



Students will participate in the BEMP Stormwater Science program

- goal of this program is to help students understand that the health of the Rio Grande is directly tied to the health of the surrounding watershed and arroyos



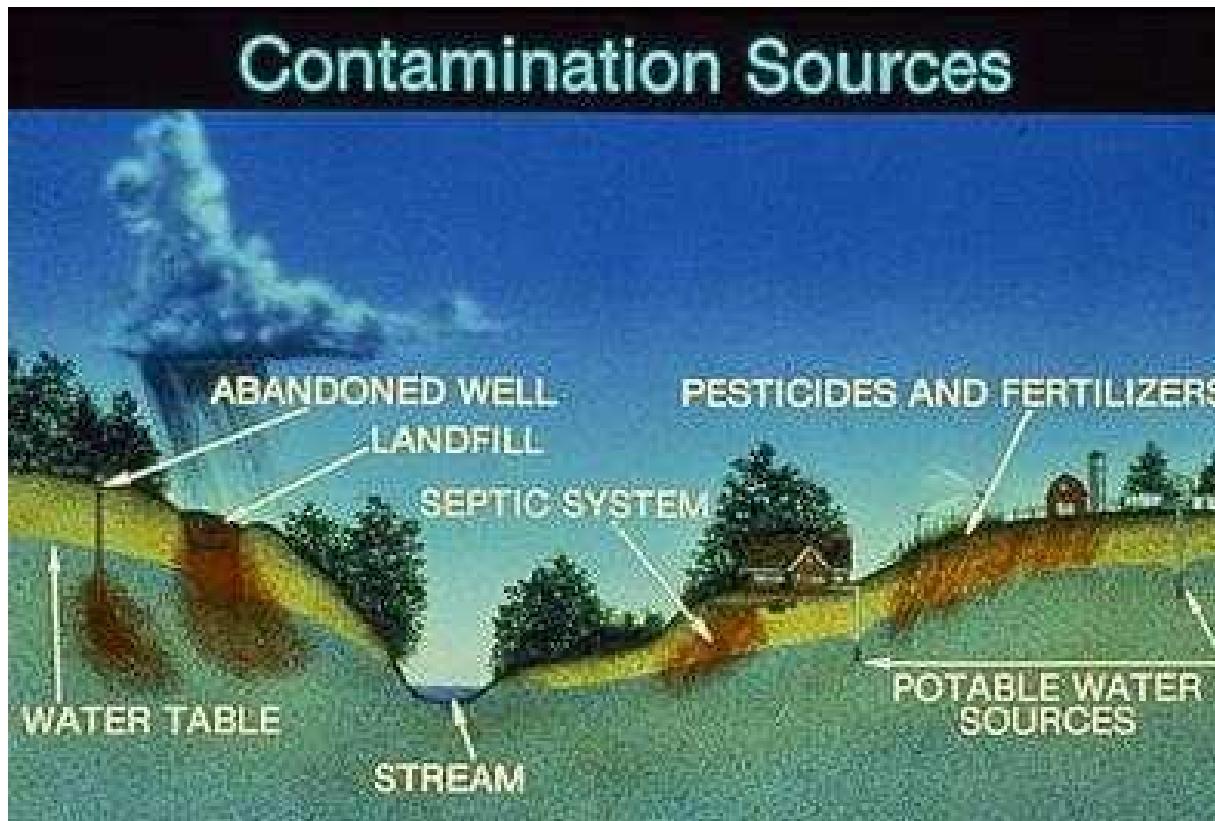
# The Global Water Sampling Project

An Investigation of Water Quality

- Data will be collected, analyzed and shared with the **Global Water Sampling Project**
- International collaborative project sponsored by CIESE, The Center for Innovation in Engineering & Science Education at Stevens Institute of Technology.

# ...and where did it come from?

Then, students conduct research to find out the sources of and regulations on water contaminants.



➤ Deliverable:  
Lab Report

*Image source:  
Environmental Protection  
Agency*

# Skills & Chemistry Concepts Students Will Learn

- Process Skills:
  - Conduct experiment
  - Analyze and interpret results
  - Convey results of investigations
- Concepts:
  - Physical and chemical properties of water
    - High melting & boiling points, high specific heat
    - Polarity, adhesion, cohesion
  - Hydrophilic / hydrophobic / superhydrophobic

# PROJECT TWIST: Zombie apocalypse

Students develop a water purification system



- Water treatment plant is no longer functioning
- How can we produce clean water without the use of electricity?
- Deliverable: Lab report, presentation of prototype

# Skills & Chemistry Concepts Students Will Learn

- Process skills:
  - Design and conduct experiment
  - Analyze and interpret results
  - Convey results of investigations
- Concepts:
  - Physical & chemical separation of mixtures
  - Types of chemical reactions

# Questions?

