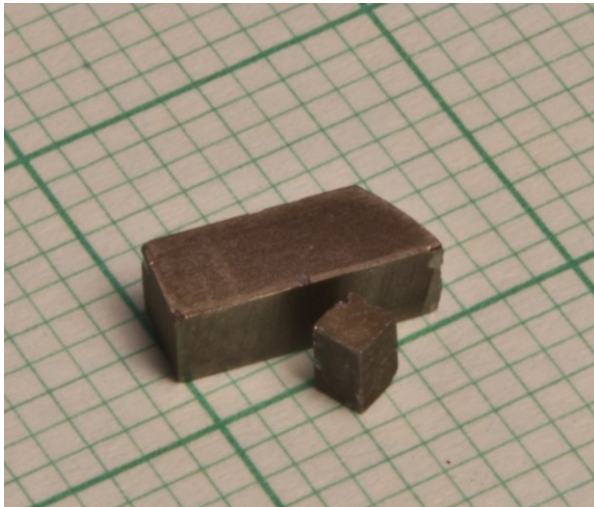


MnFe₄Si₃

A prototype material of a *second-order* phase transition with magnetocaloric effect

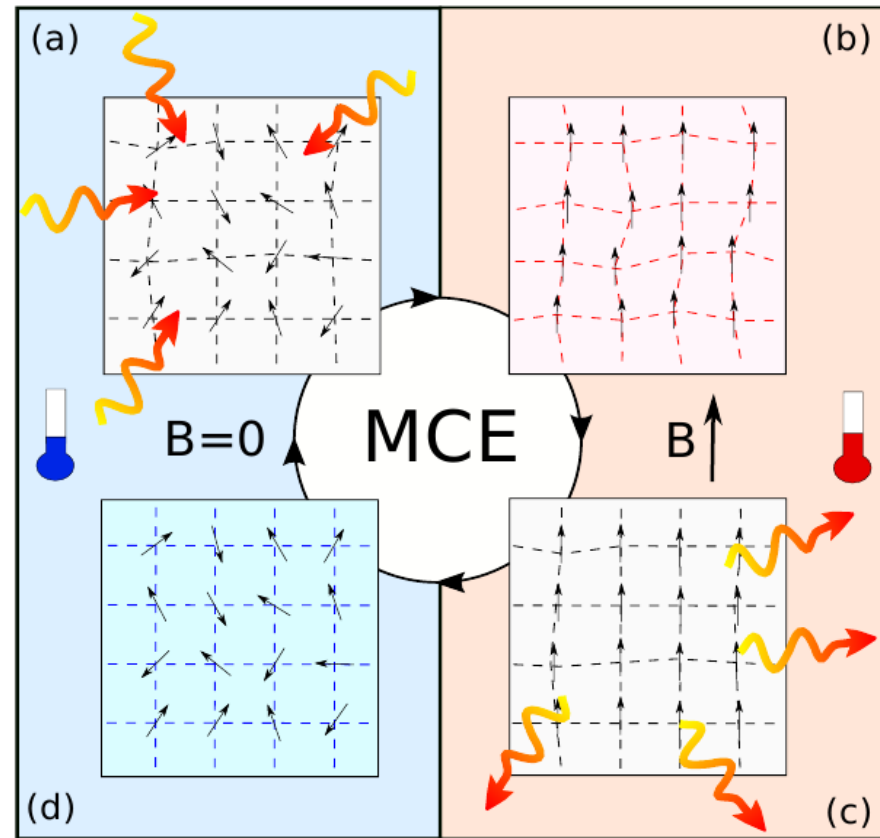


M. Herlitschke, P. Hering, I. Sergueev, B. Klobes, J. Perßon, and R. Hermann

*FS-PE, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron
Jülich Centre for Neutron Science JCNS, JARA-FIT,
Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
Faculté des Sciences, Université de Liège
Materials Science and Technology Division,
Oak Ridge National Laboratory*

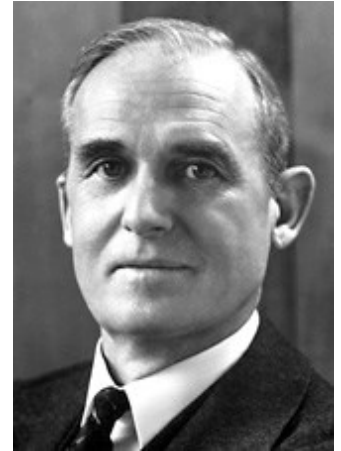
Magnetocaloric Effect (MCE)

- Magnetocaloric effect (MCE) is a reversible temperature change upon application or removal of an external magnetic field
- Room-temperature refrigeration
 - Up to 30% potential energy saving[1]
 - Environmental friendly
 - No moving parts



Magnetocaloric Effect (MCE)

- 80 years ago : used for achieving ultra low temperatures (W. F. Giauque, Nobel price winner - 1949).



http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/1949/



Source: Haier - magnetocaloric wine cooler

- Room-temperature refrigeration
 - Since 1997, after discovery of the giant MCE in $\text{Gd}_5(\text{Ge}_2\text{Si}_2)$
 - Patent by BASF and E. Brueck *et. al.* „Method for generating giant magnetocaloric materials”



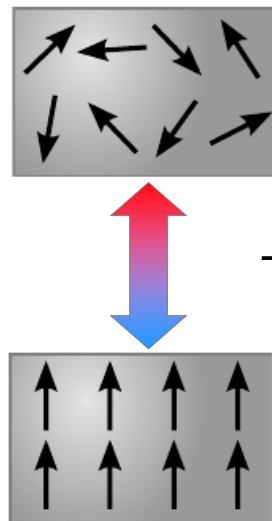
MCE & Entropy

Entropy : $S(T, B, p) = S_l(T, B, p) + S_e(T, B, p) + S_m(T, B, p),$

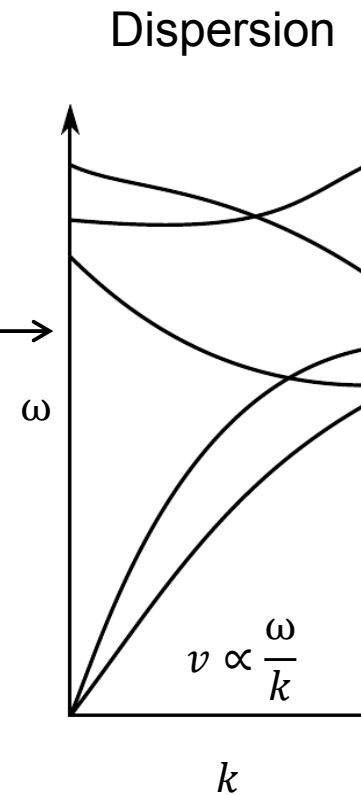
Lattice Entropy

Entropy of
conduction-electrons

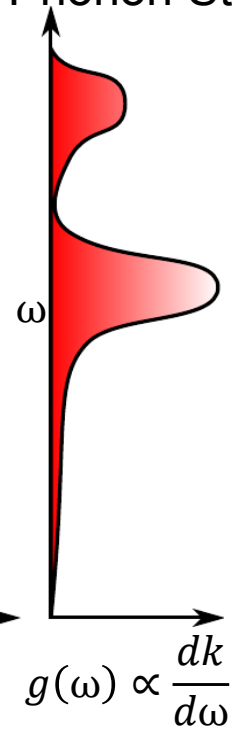
Magnetic entropy



— ? —→

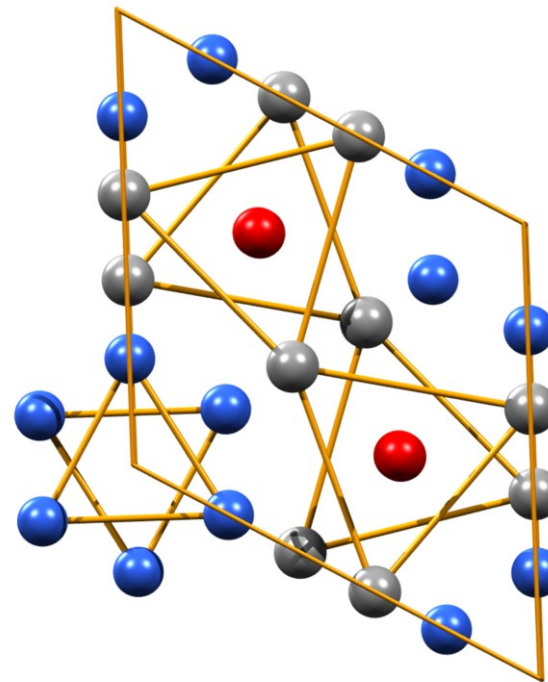
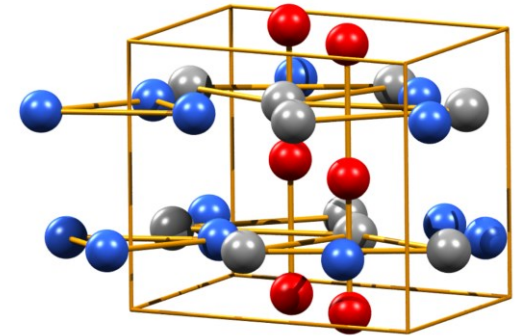
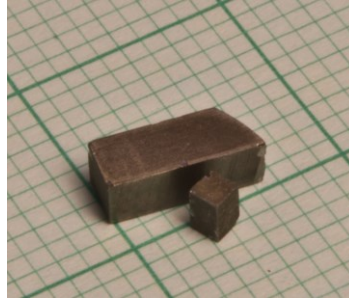


Density of
Phonon States

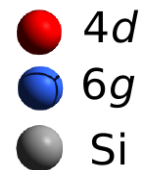


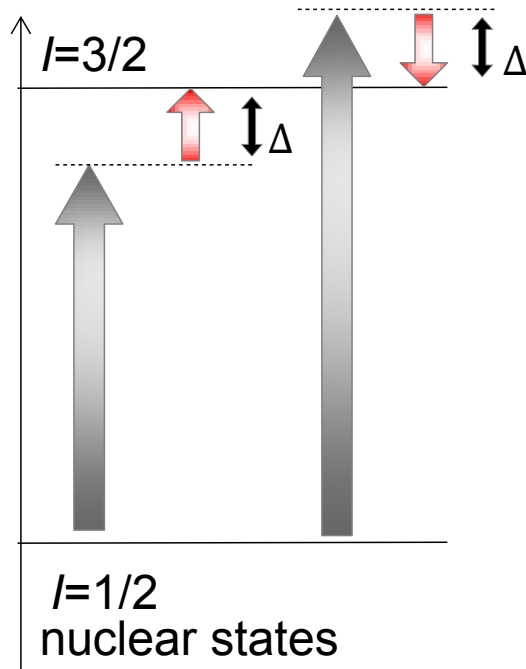
MnFe₄Si₃



- Prototype material
- Single crystal of Mn_{5-x}Fe_xSi₃ with $0 < x < 4$
- $x = 4$ exhibits moderate MCE at ~300 K
- Non-rare earth based
- Solid solution: Mn and Fe on 4d and 6g



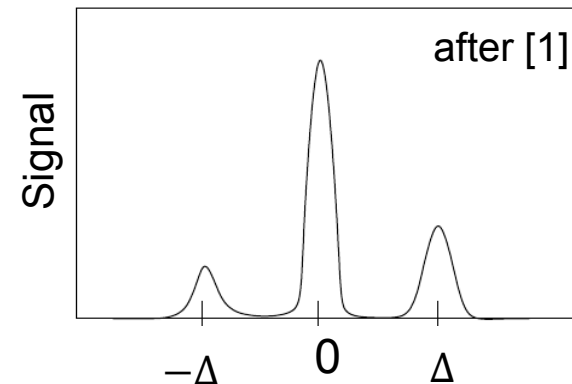
▪ $P6_3/mcm$





 ... incoming radiation
 ... phonon

- Phonon assisted nuclear absorption
- Direct measurement of density of phonon states

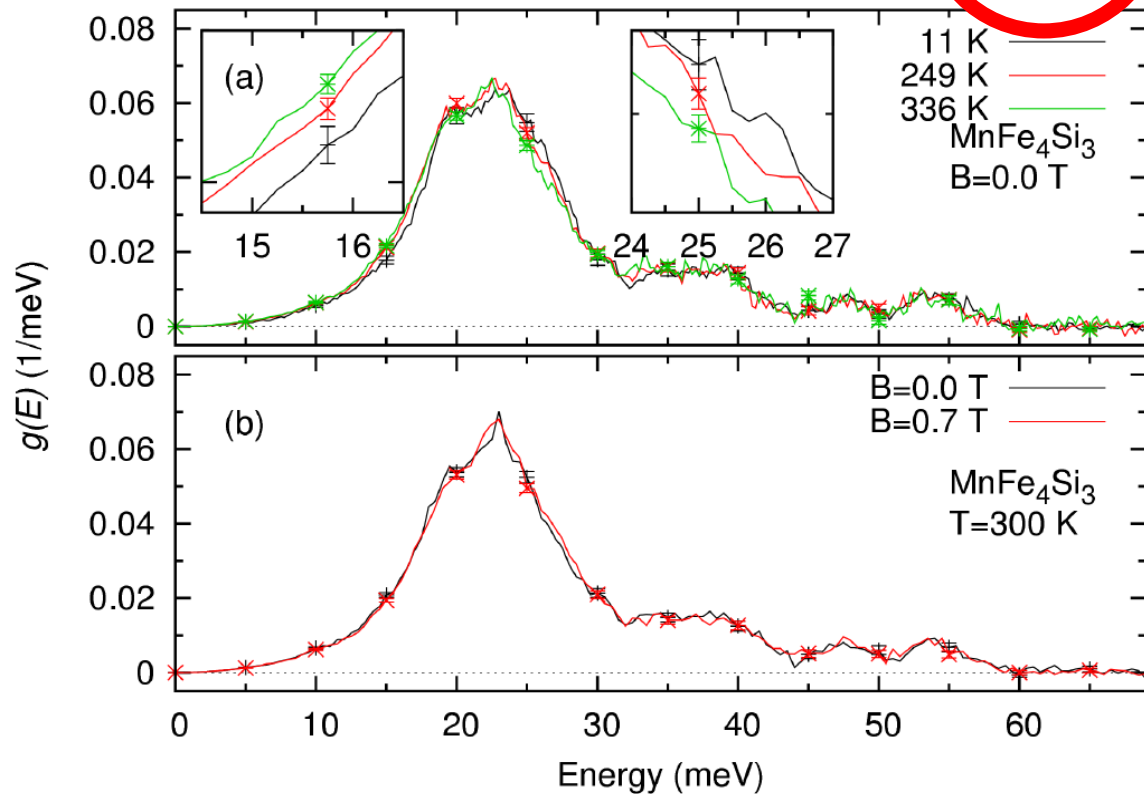
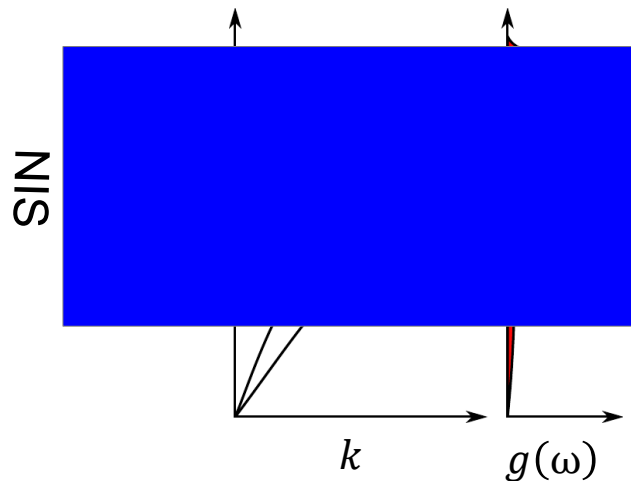


- Detection: measurement of radioactive decay or internal conversion
- about 1 meV resolution



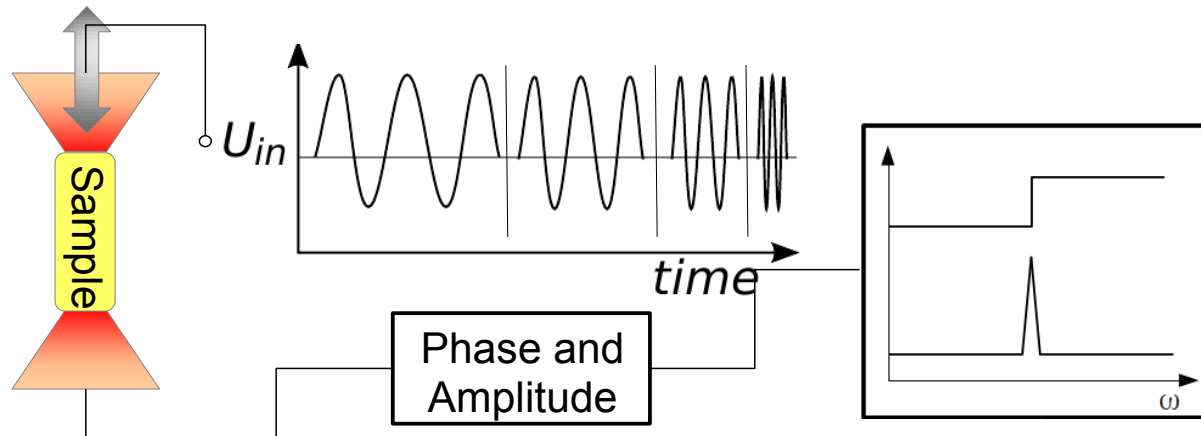
MnFe₄Si₃ - Density of phonon states

- NIS results at different temperatures and with applied magnetic field
- No significant change in DPS
- Obtained data >3 meV
- Entropy ~300 J/kg/K

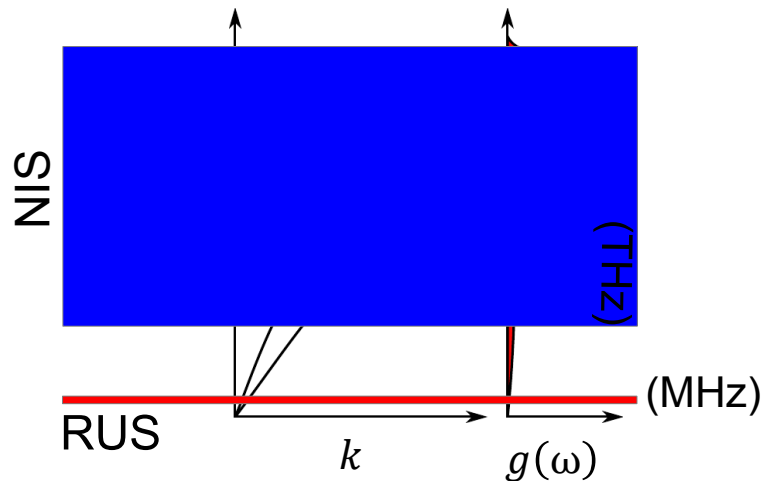
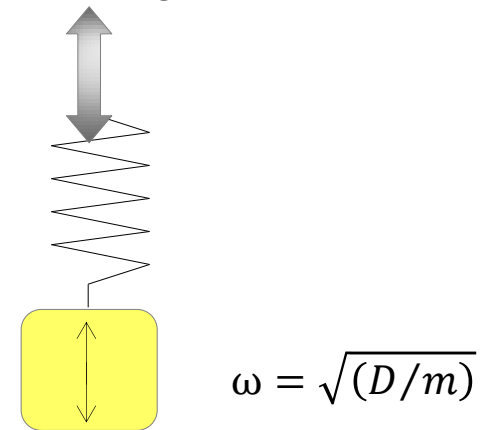


Resonant Ultrasound Spectroscopy (RUS)

Resonant Ultrasound Spectroscopy (RUS)



Analogy:
Spring pendulum



Access to elastic properties

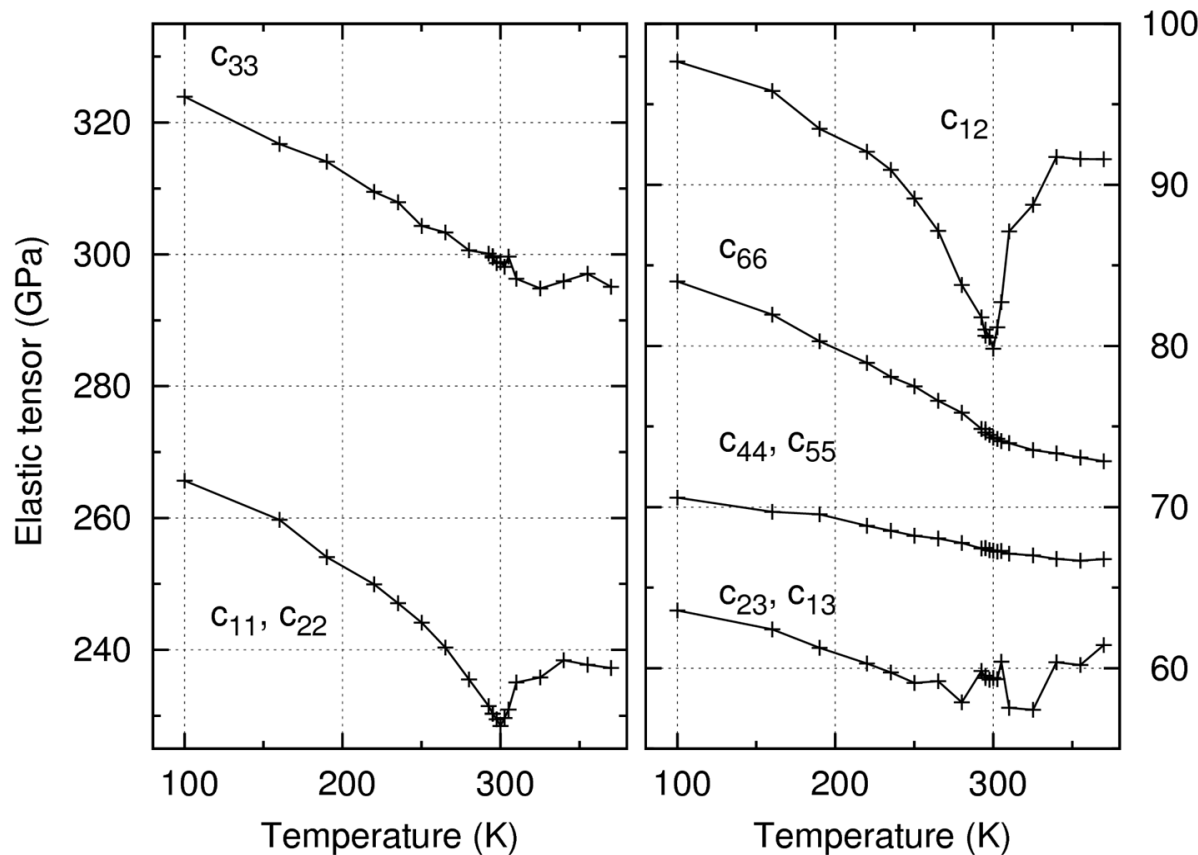
$$\sigma_{ij} = \sum_{kl} c_{ijkl} \epsilon_{kl}$$

$\sigma \dots$ stress
 $\epsilon \dots$ strain

hexagonal

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & c_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{12} & c_{11} & c_{13} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ c_{13} & c_{13} & c_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_{44} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & c_{44} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{c_{11}-c_{12}}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

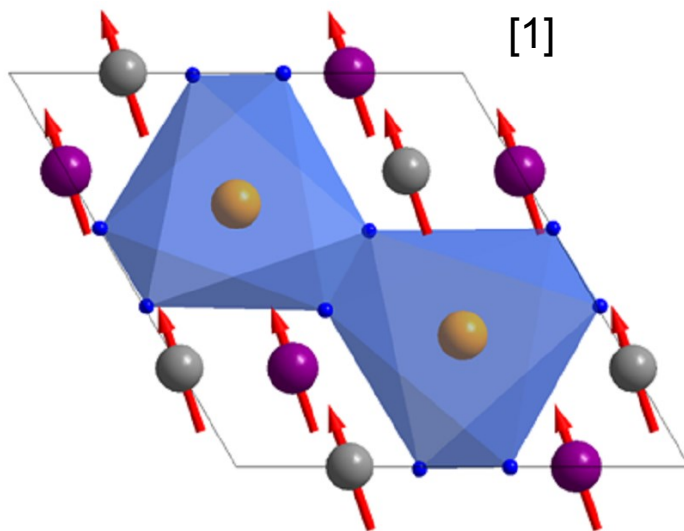
- RUS results at different temperatures



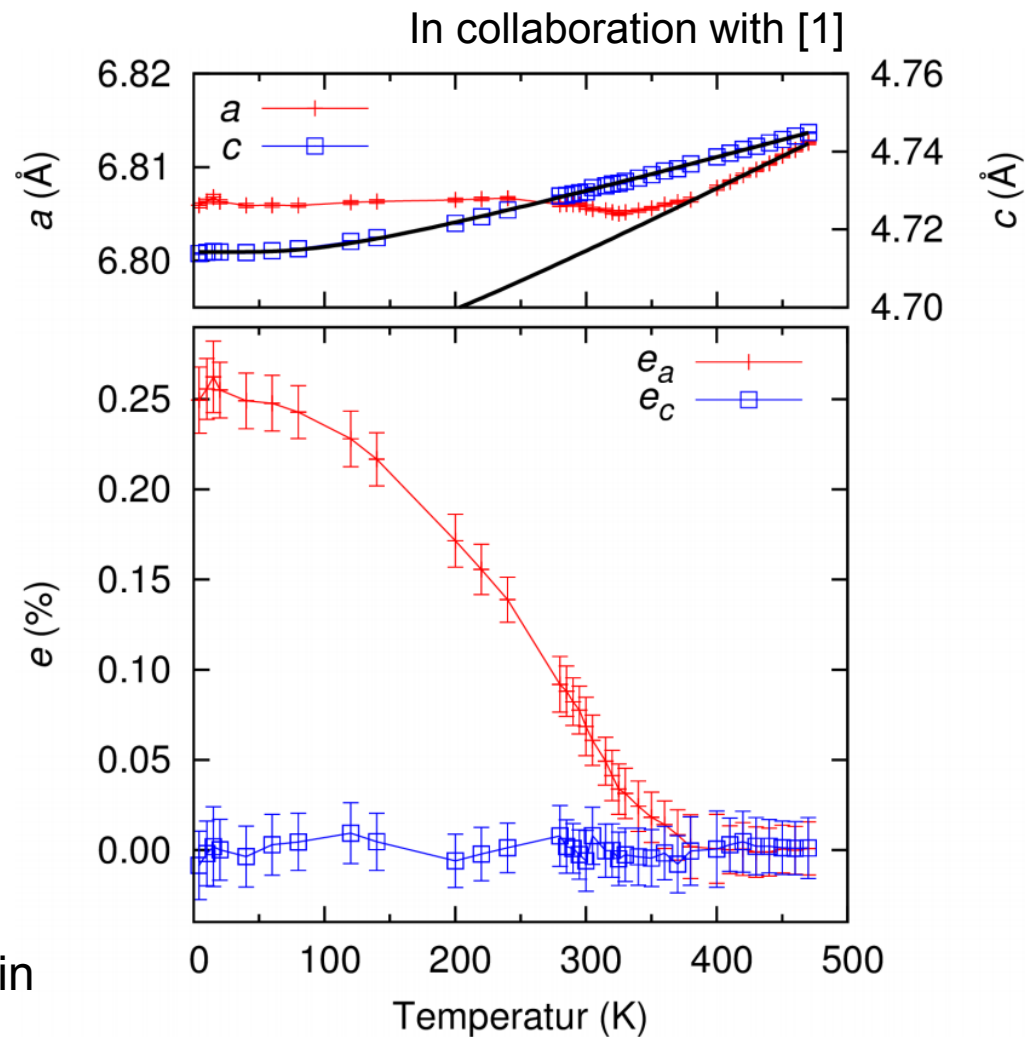
- Soft mode behaviour at 300 K
- Only in a,b plane components
- No discontinuity
- absolute errors: ~5%
- relative errors: $\ll 1\%$

Neutron diffraction

- neutron diffraction (SPODI, MLZ)
- refinement of magnetic structure:
 $P\bar{6} \gg Pm'$

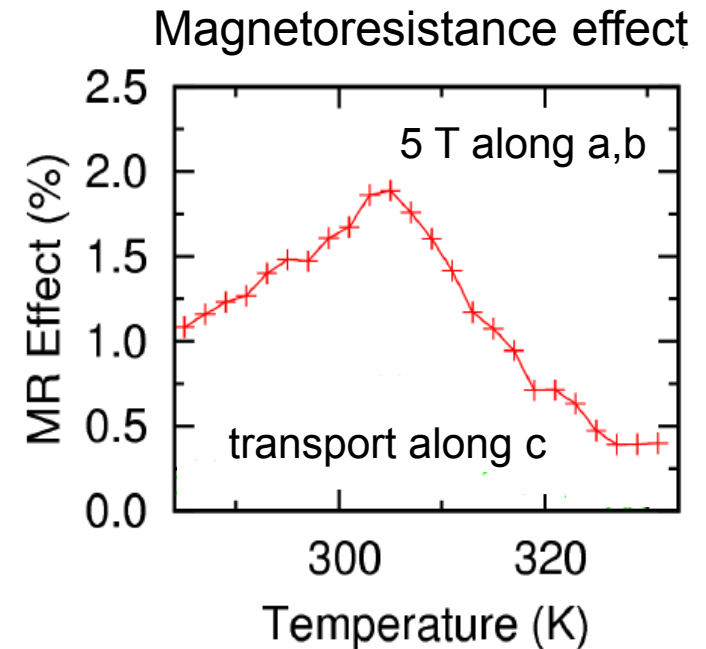
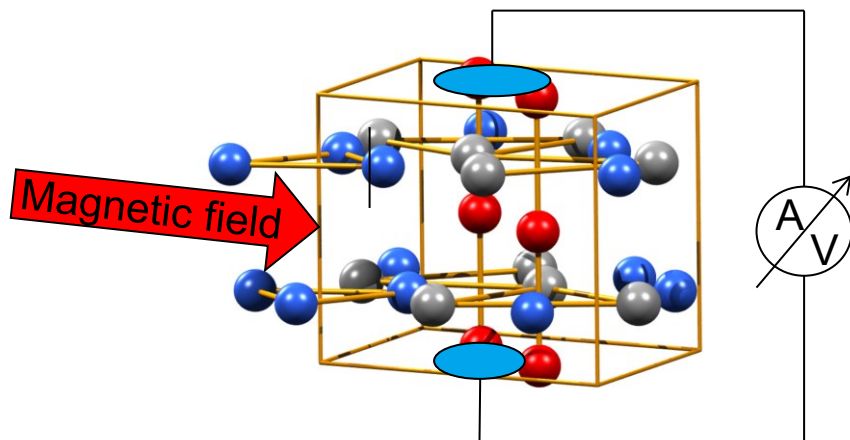


- again: sensitive to transition solely in a,b plane



Resistivity

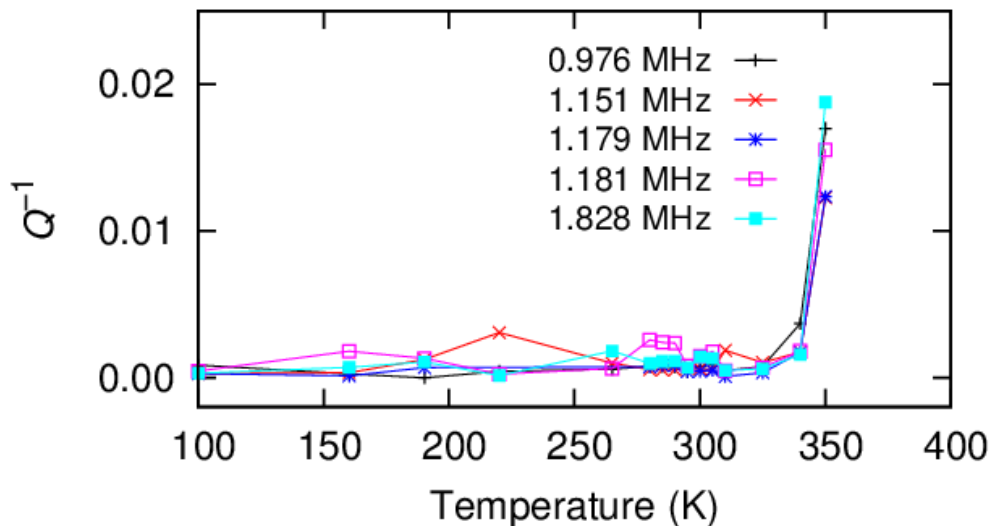
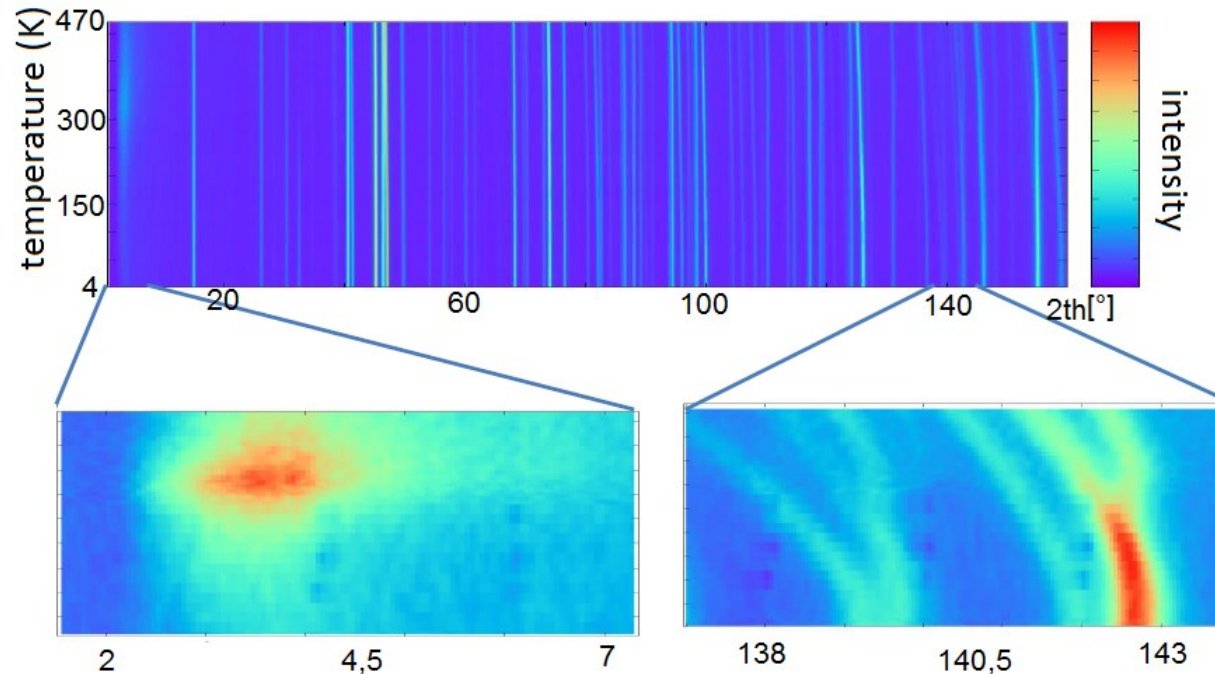
- temperature dependent resistivity sensitive for transition
- but magneto resistance (MR) effect only with field in a,b and transport along c
- up to 2% MR not large for GMR materials but for anisotropic resistance



- might be ordering of spins in a,b plane

Small-Angle Scattering and anelastic Process

- unexpected SAXS signal in neutron diffraction data
- large increase in inverse quality factor of the RUS peaks



- inverse quality factor:

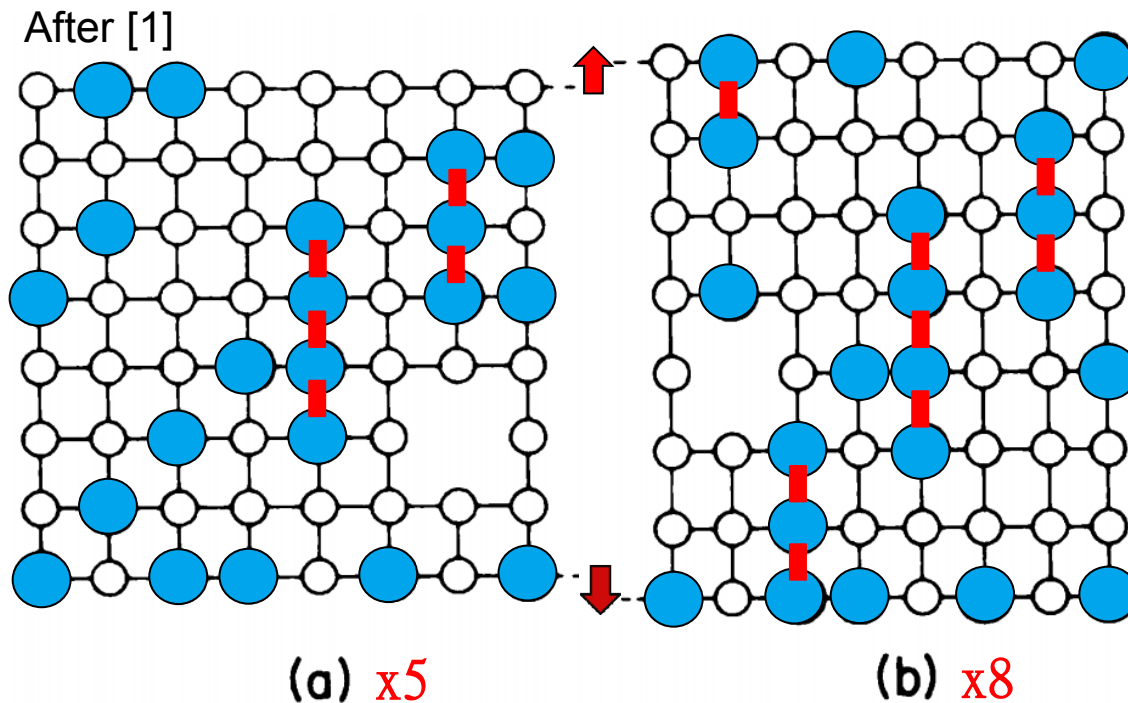
$$Q^{-1} = f / \Delta f$$

- relates to dissipation of energy

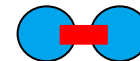


Small-Angle Scattering and anelastic Process

- maybe an anelastic process (**Zener**, Gorsky, Snoek ...):
 - Re-arrangement of atomic order / occupation
 - Known to be prominent in alloys / solid solution
 - Verification ???

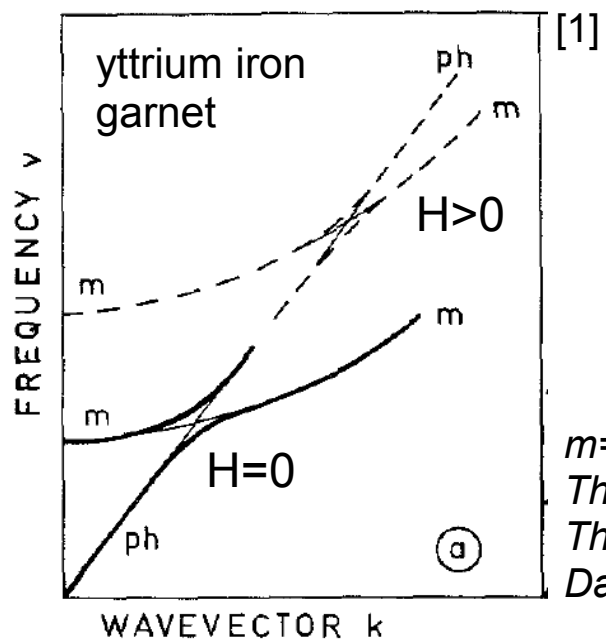


Assumption:
The blue-blue bond is longer
than the other bonds

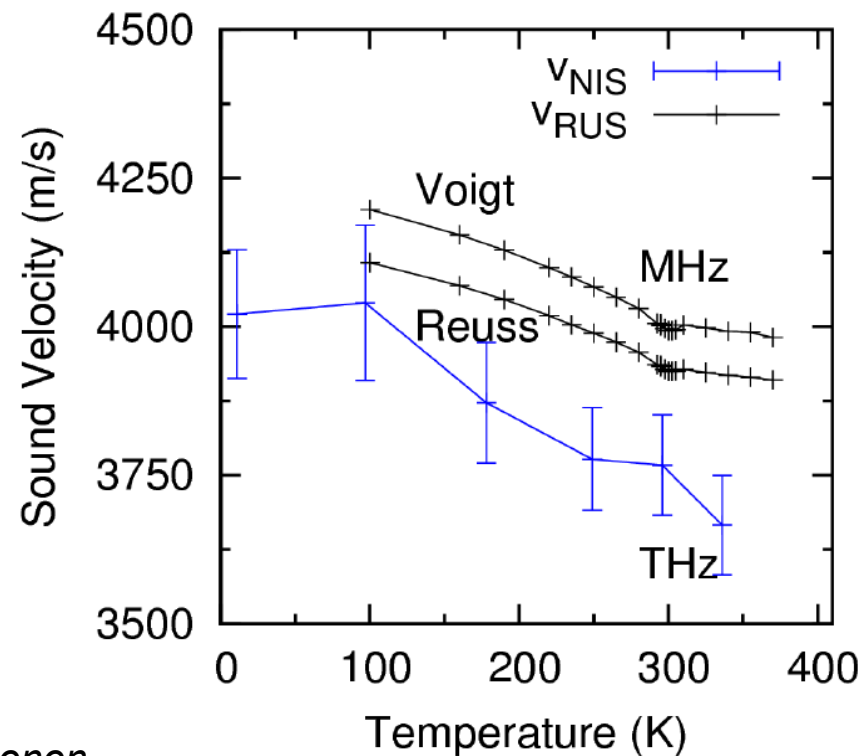


RUS & NIS – Comparison

- Extracted sound velocities do not match
- Magnon-phonon interaction or systematic deviation of methods

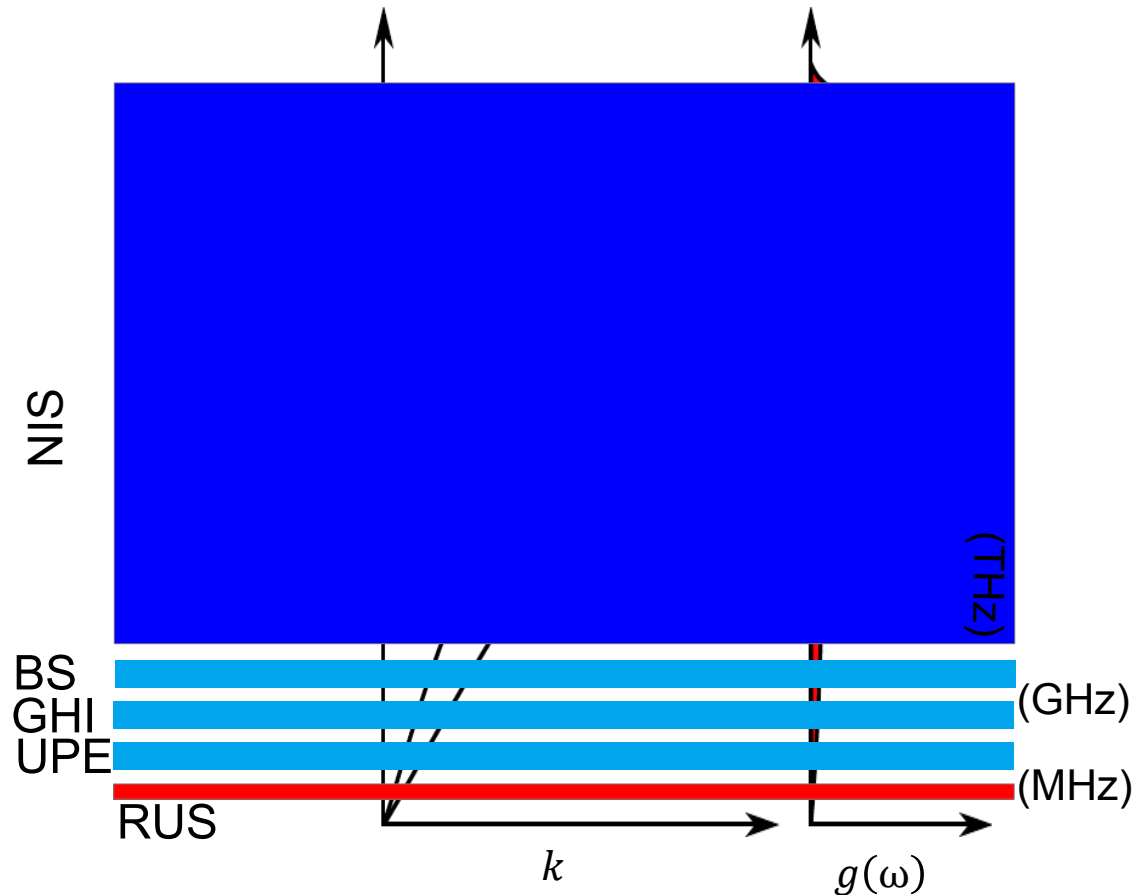
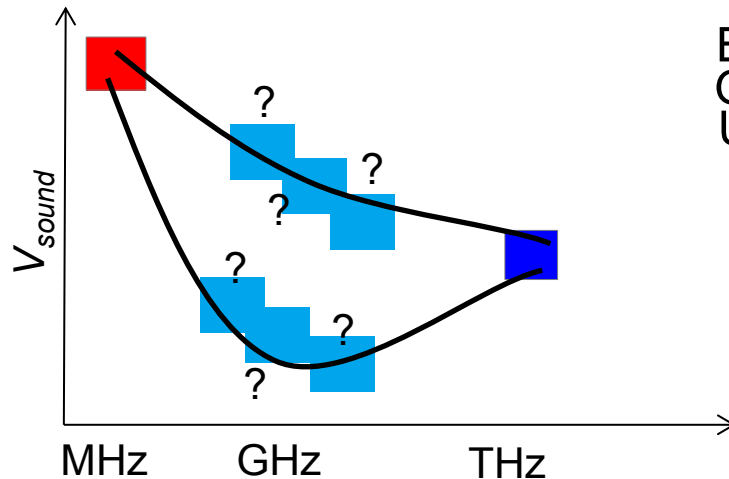


m =magnon, ph =phonon
Thin lines = without coupling
Thick lines = with coupling
Dashed = coupling at higher fields



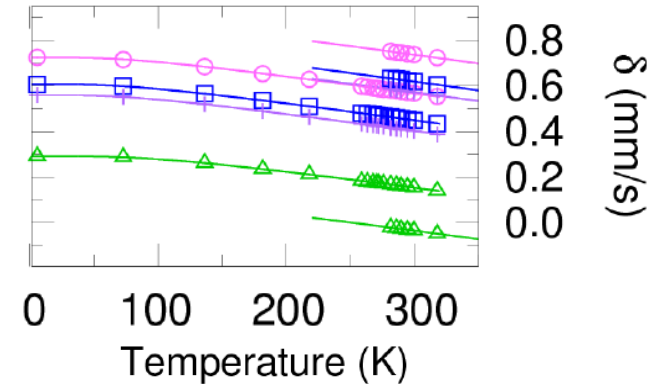
Outlook

- Ultrasound Pulse Echo (UPE) - MHz to GHz
- Giga-Hertz Interferometry (GHI) - low GHz
- Brillouin Scattering (BS) - GHz



Conclusion

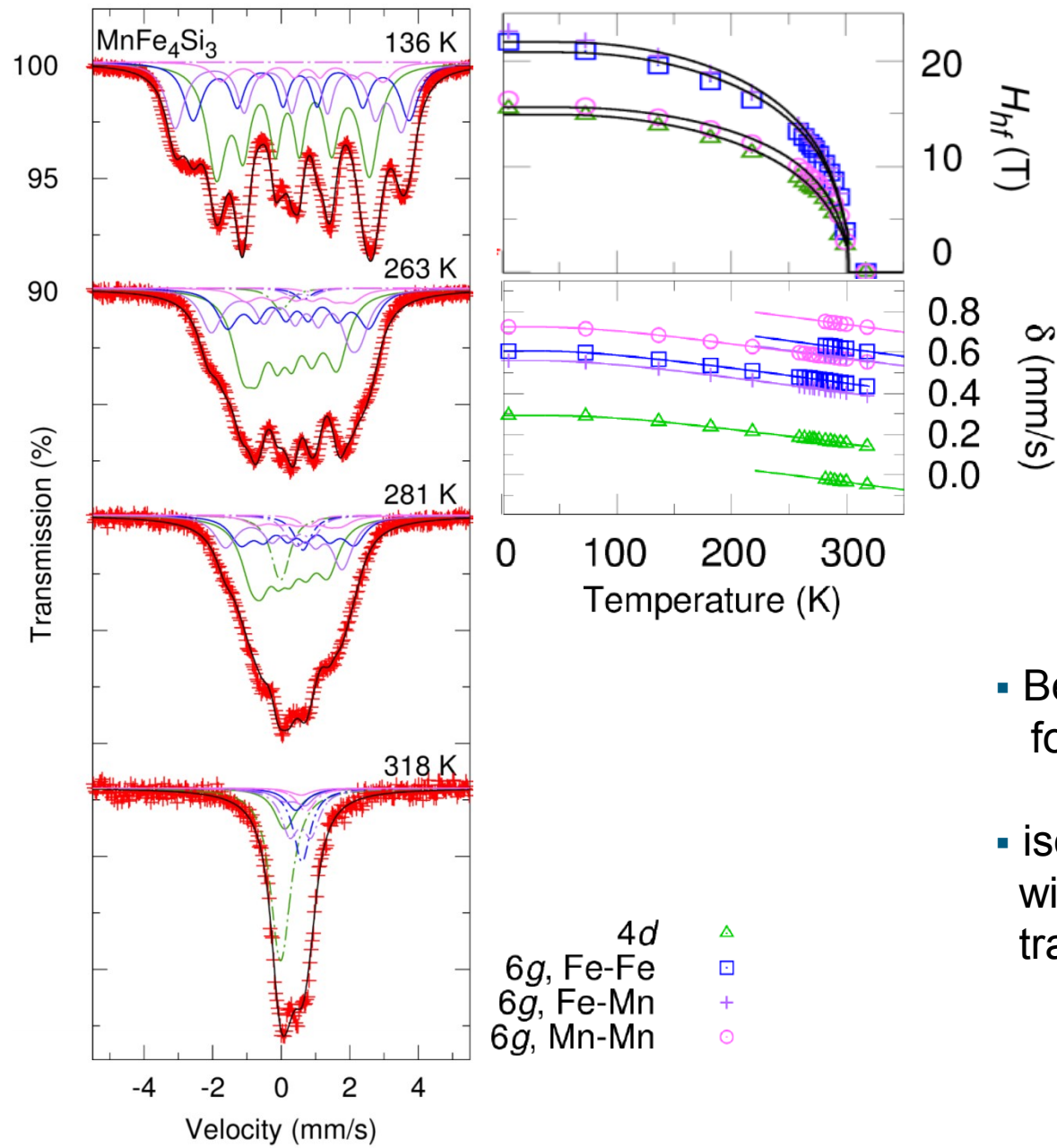
- No influence on iron specific DPS (above 3 meV), entropy estimation reveals: possible change only ~1 %
- Low energy elasticity (MHz) influenced by the magnetic transition, not magnetostriction due to diffraction results and isomer shift
- Difference in the extracted sound velocities possibilities: systematic, spin-phonon interaction
- Transition not second order, more likely tricritical point or complex interplay
 - first order: RUS, heat capacity (lattice)
 - second order: VSM, Mössbauer (magnetism)
- Remark: Conduction electrons influenced by magnetic transition
 - efficiency of MCE could be influenced



Backup MnFe_4Si_3



Mössbauer Spectroscopy

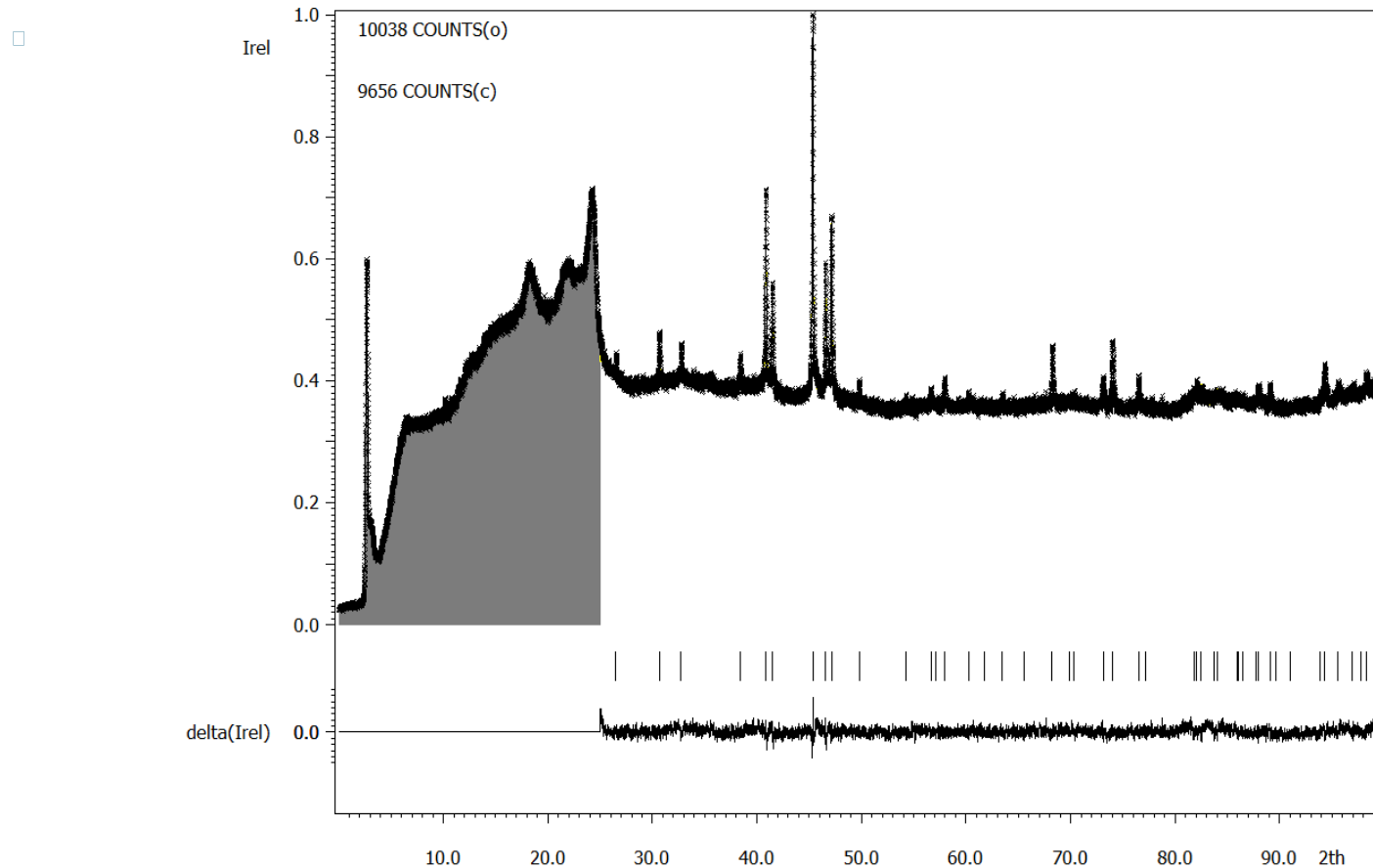


- 4 component MB fit (binomial distribution due to occupation)

- Bean and Rodbell fit indicative for second order transition
- isomere shift changes with opposite sign at the transition

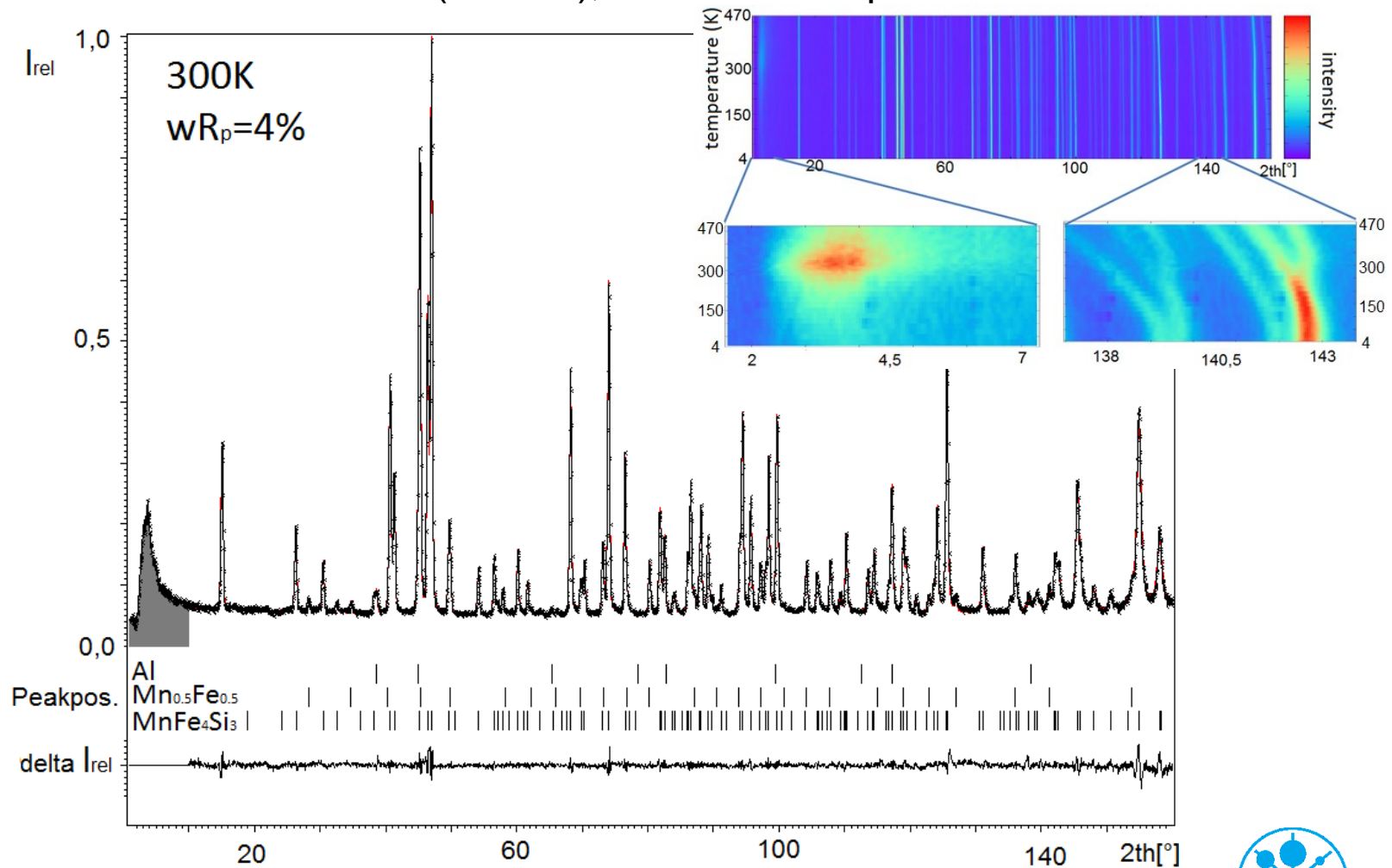
Characterization

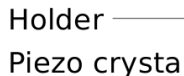
- Paul Hering:
- in-house XRD - $x=4$, 300K, $wR=1.7$ (enriched powder)

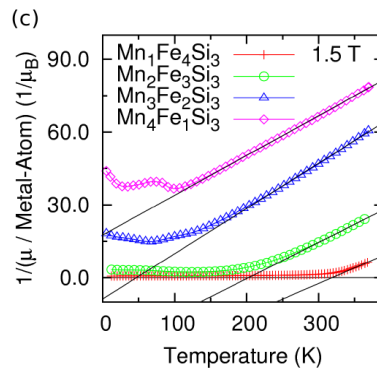
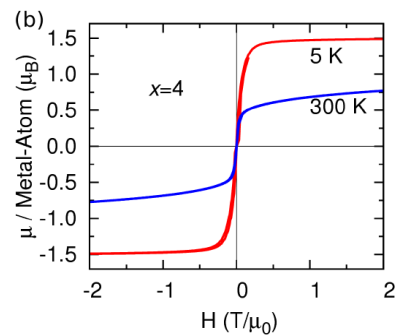
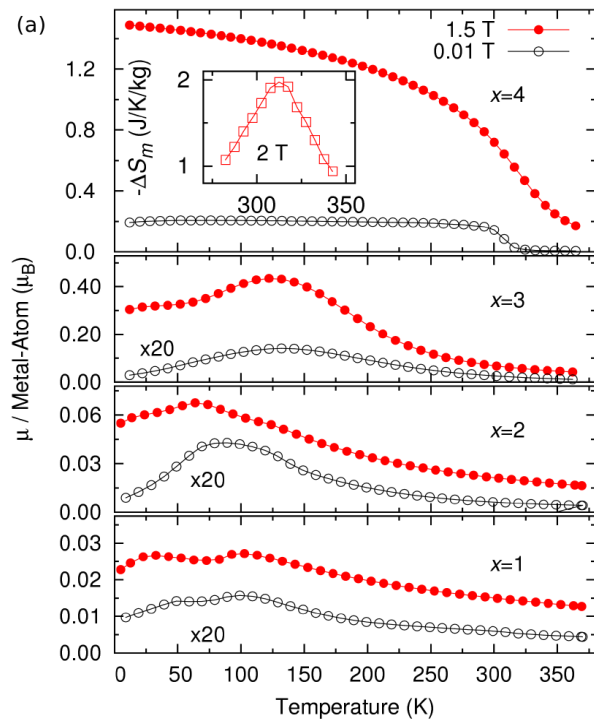


Characterization

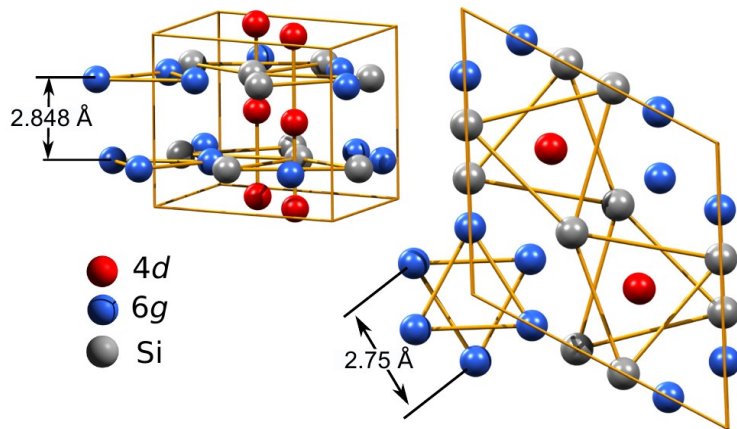
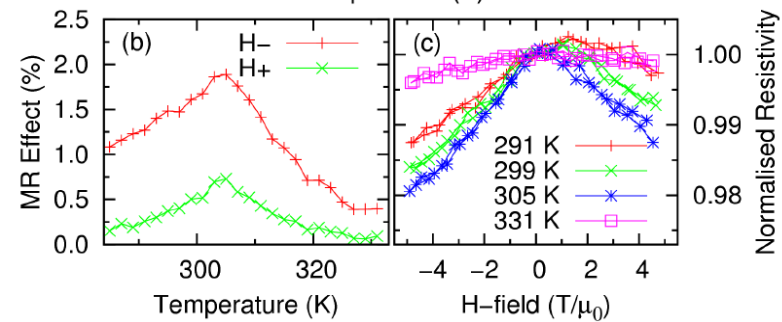
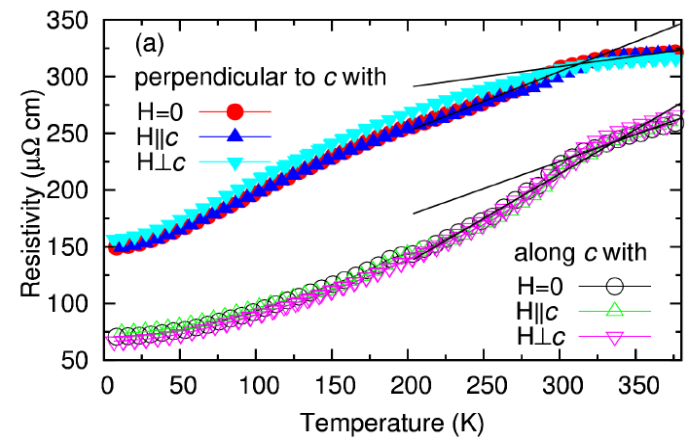
- Paul Hering:
- Neutron Powder diffraction (SPODI), non-enriched powder $x=4$

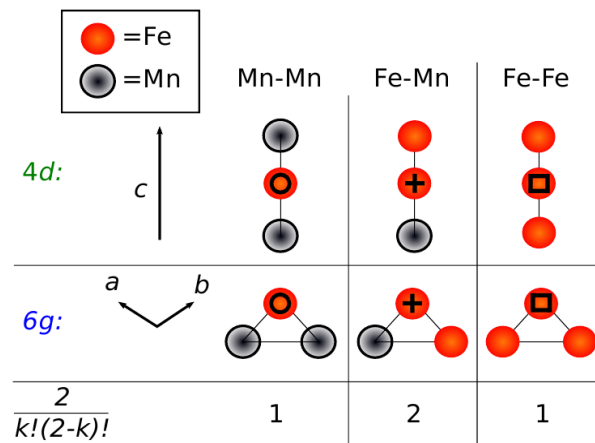
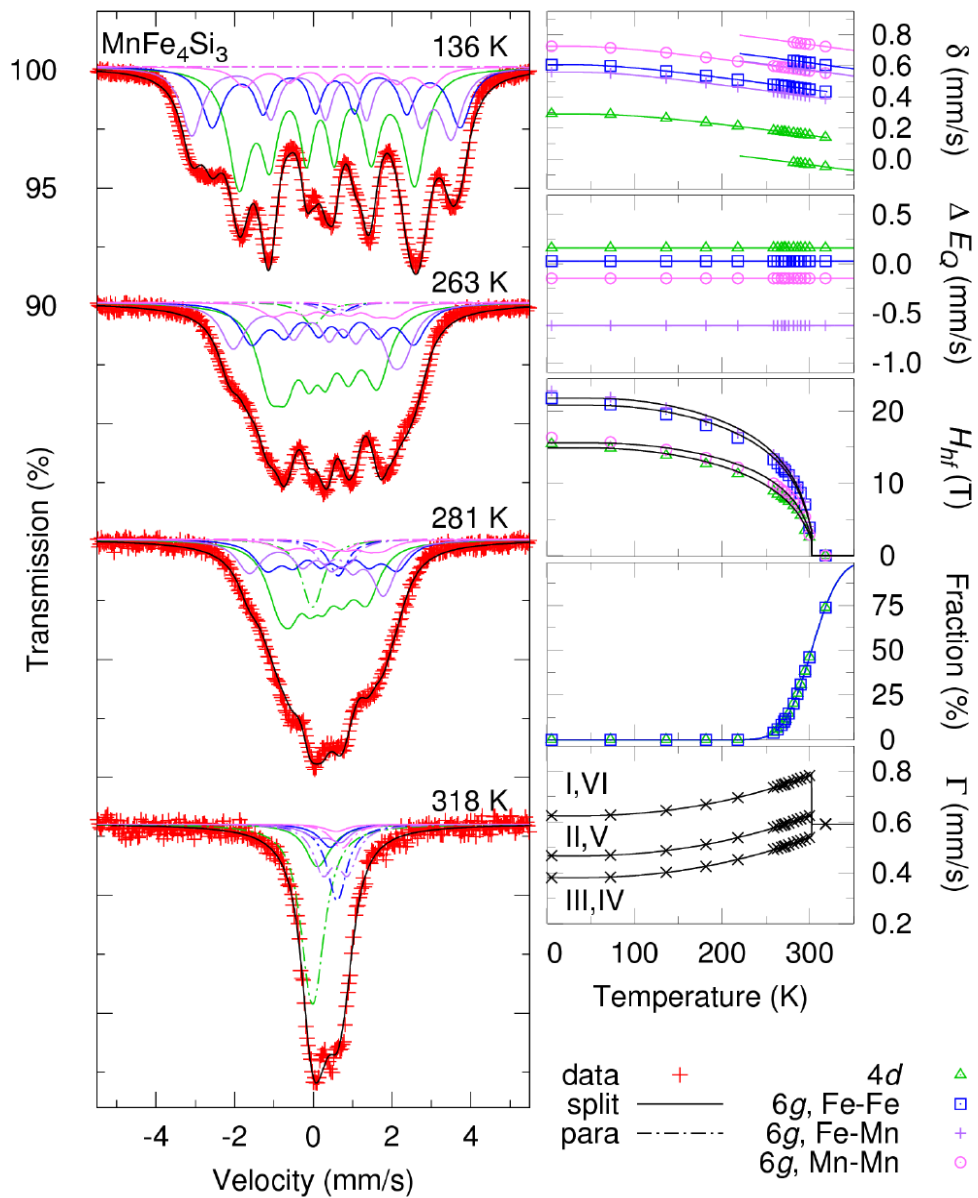



$$\begin{aligned}\rho\omega^2 &= c_{11}k_x^2 \\ \rho\omega^2 &= c_{44}k_x^2\end{aligned}$$

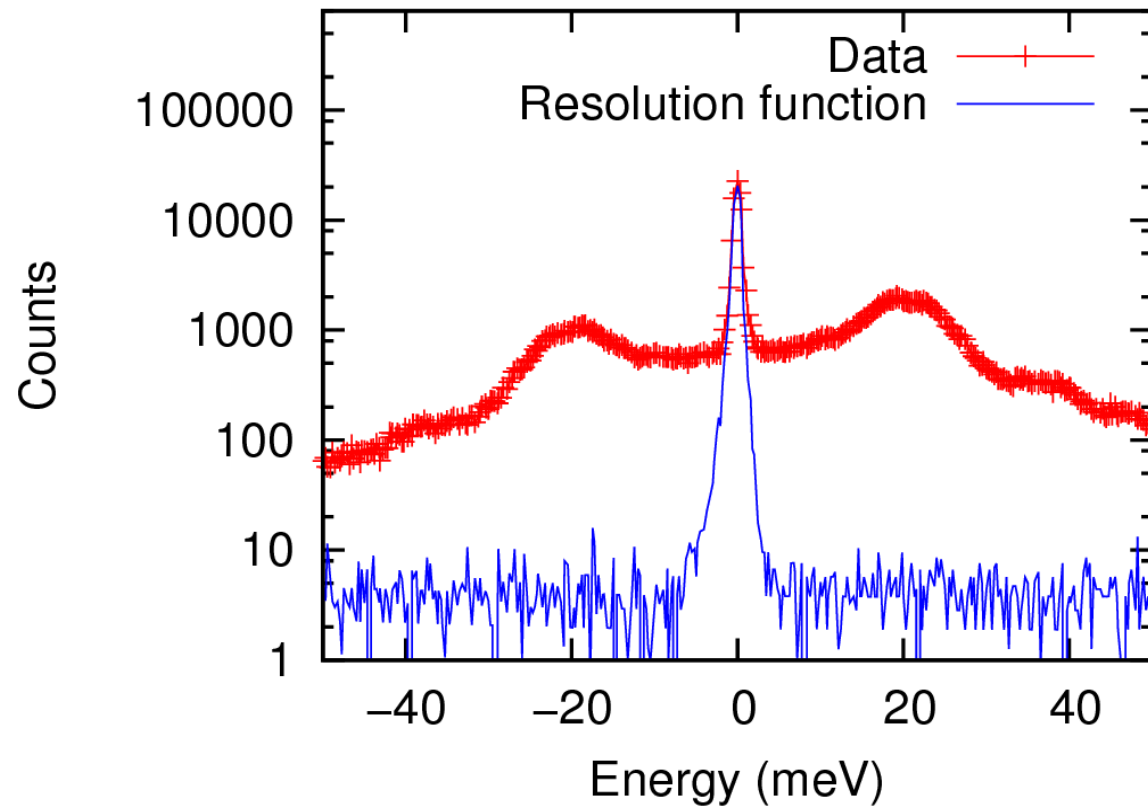
x	θ (K)	μ_{eff} (μ_B)
1	-107(2)	4.3(1)
2	47(2)	4.0(2)
3	203(3)	4.5(2)
4	320(20)	4.8(8)



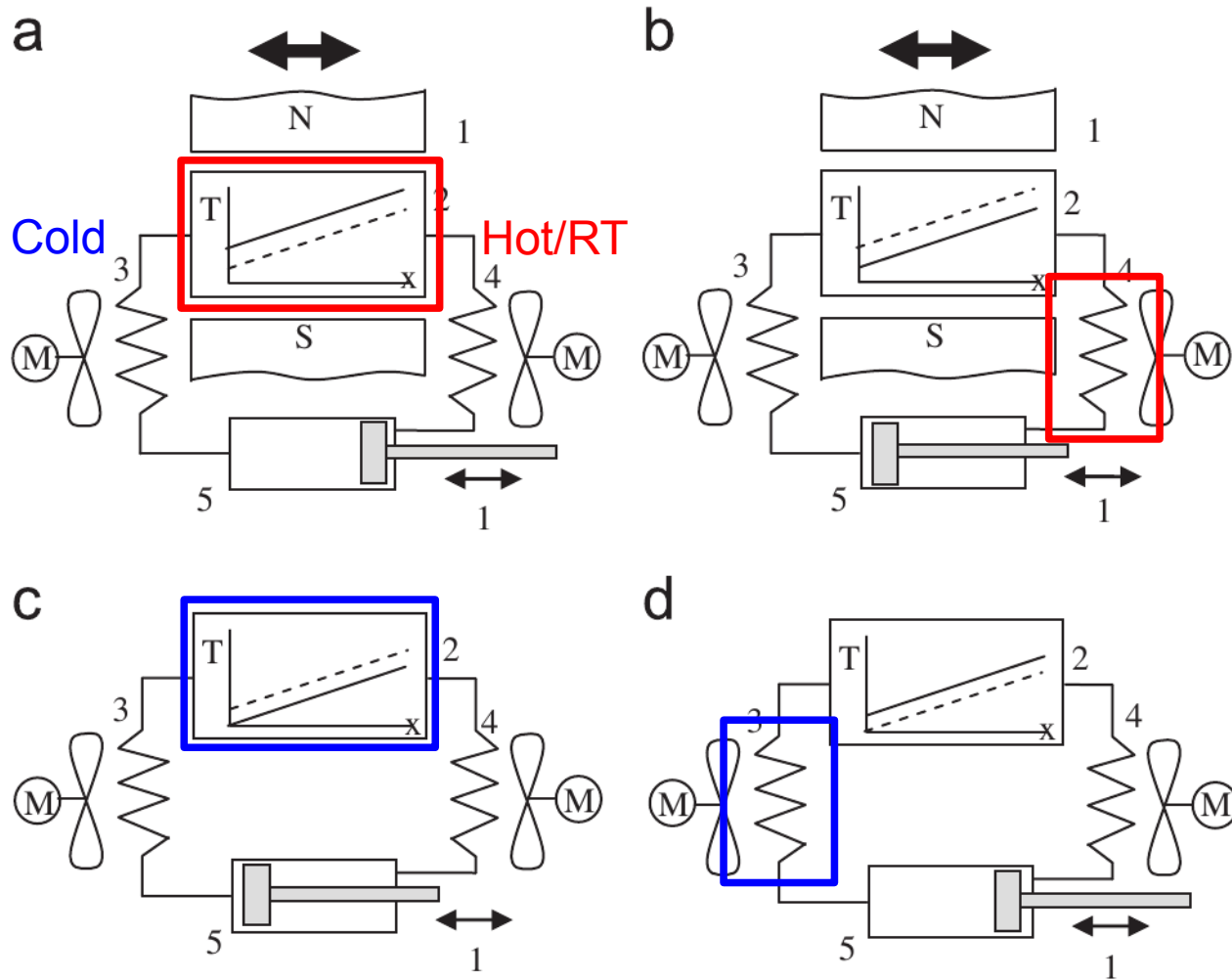


NIS

- Subtraction of elastic line



MCE- Refrigeration - Example



a) exchange-liquid heated by MCE
c) exchange-liquid cooled by MCE

b) transporting warm liquid to hot side
d) transporting cold liquid to cold side