4

Magnetic hysteresis – contd
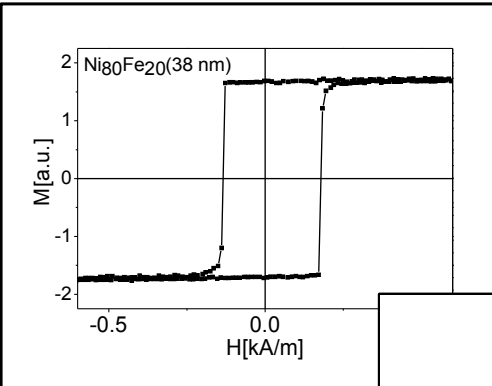
Magnetization reversal in thin films and some relevant experimental methods

Today's plan

- General properties of magnetic hysteresis

- Rate-dependent hysteresis

- Preisach model

M(H) hystereses of thin films
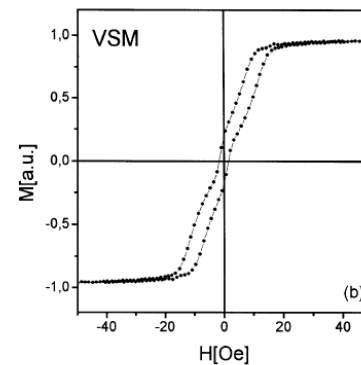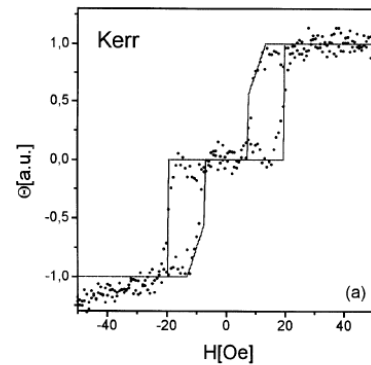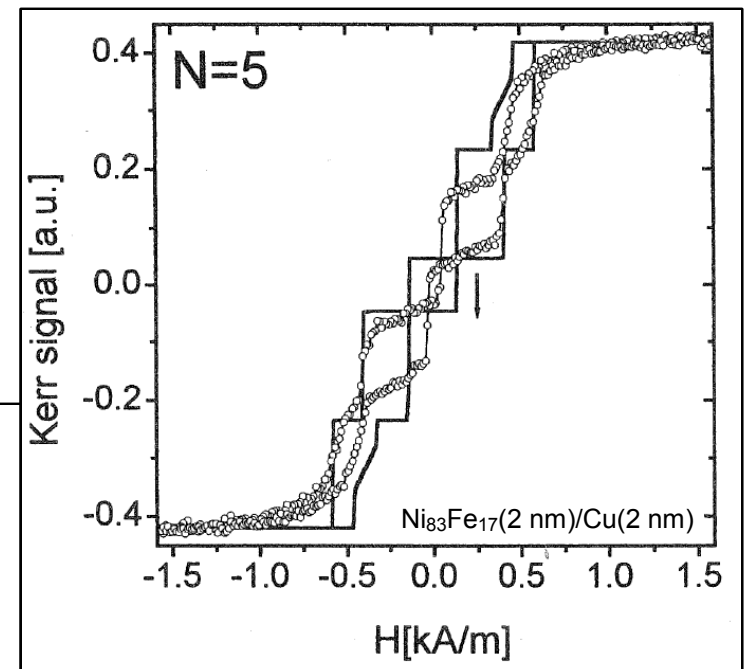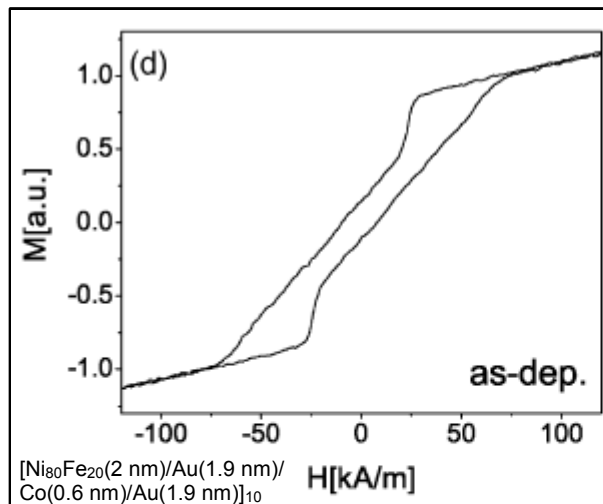

J. Magn. Magn. Mater. **190**, 187 (1998)

Fig. 2. The field dependence of (a) the Kerr rotation $\Theta_K(H)$ (line shows a fit according to the model of Dieny (see text)) and (b) magnetisation $M(H)$ of Py(2 nm)/Cu(2 nm) multilayer with 101 magnetic sublayers.

N=5

$Ni_{83}Fe_{17}(2\ nm)/Cu(2\ nm)$

$[Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(2\ nm)/Au(1.9\ nm)/Co(0.6\ nm)/Au(1.9\ nm)]_{10}$

as-dep.

773 K

523 K
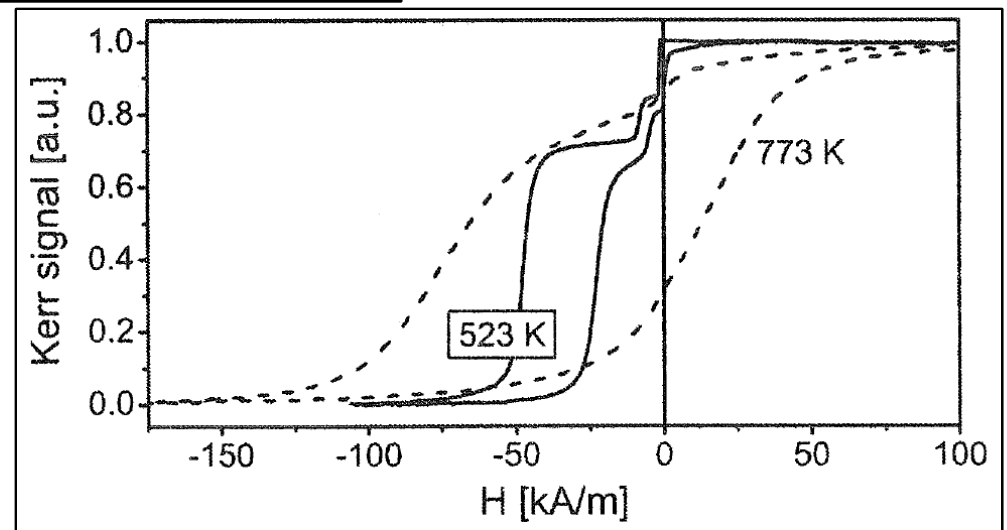
$Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(4\ nm)/Mn_{83}Ir_{17}(15\ nm)/Co_{70}Fe_{30}(3\ nm)/Al(1.4nm)+Ox/Ni_{80}Fe_{20}(4\ nm)/Ta(3\ nm)$
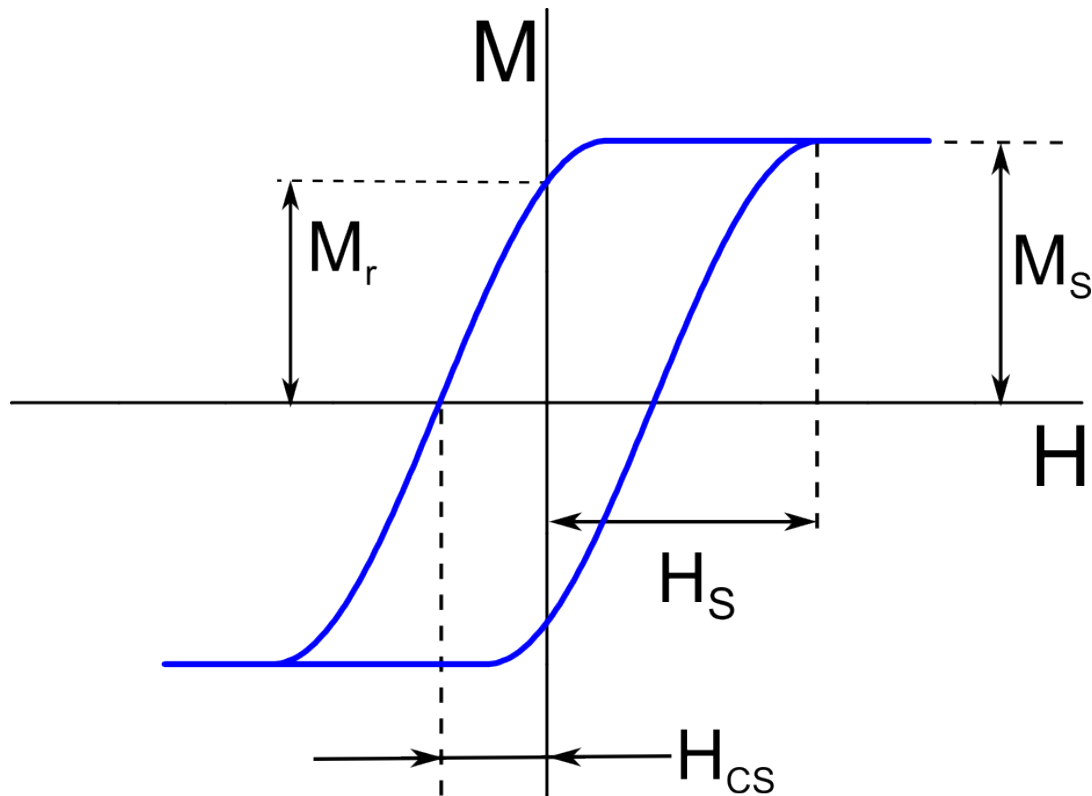
M(H) hysteresis

- A hysteresis loop can be expressed in terms of $B(H)$ or $M(H)$ curves.

- In soft magnetic materials (small H_s) both descriptions differ negligibly [1].

- In hard magnetic materials both descriptions differ significantly leading to two possible definitions of coercive field (and coercivity- see L3).

- $M(H)$ curve better reflects the intrinsic properties of magnetic materials.
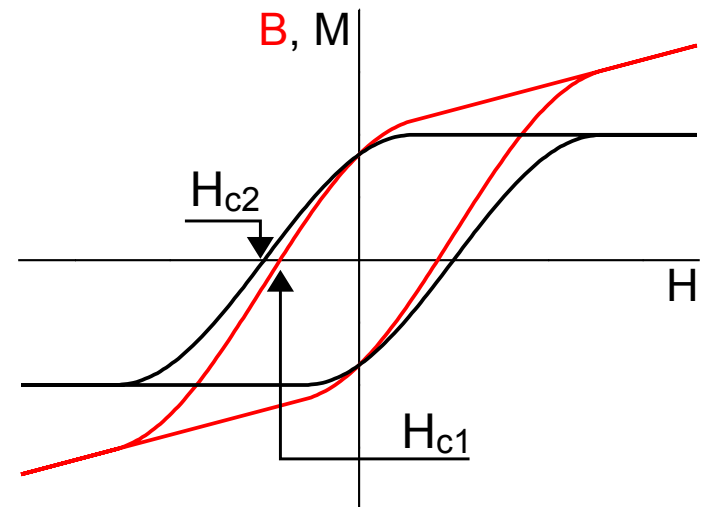
M(H) hysteresis – vector picture

Because field **H** and magnetization **M** are vector quantities the full description of hysteresis should include information about the magnetization component perpendicular to the applied field – it gives more information than the scalar measurement.
Vector Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VVSM):

Rev. Sci. Instrum., Vol. 69, No. 9, September 1998
E.O. Samwel, T. Bolhuis, J.C. Lodder

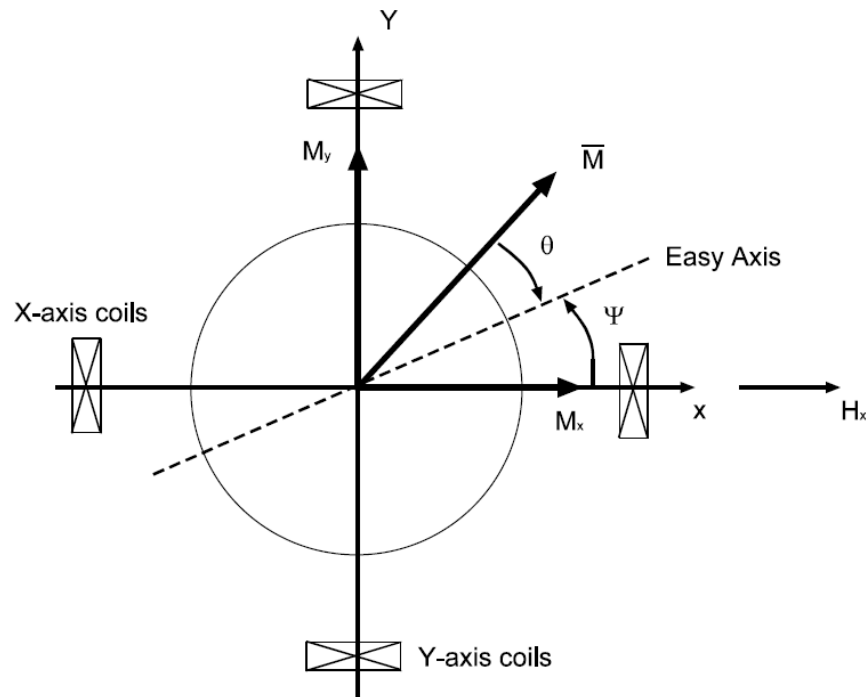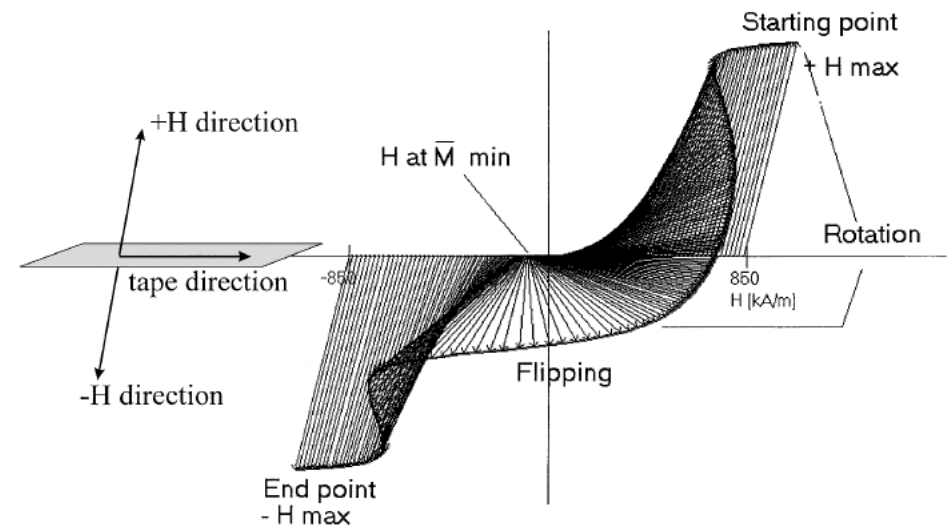FIG. 1. Reversal process in a γ-Fe$_2$O$_3$ audio tape at 80°. The arrows indicate the magnetization vector. The downward half of a hysteresis loop is shown. The horizontal direction represents the sample plane, the vertical direction the normal to the tape.

M(H) hysteresis – vector picture

Vector Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VVSM):
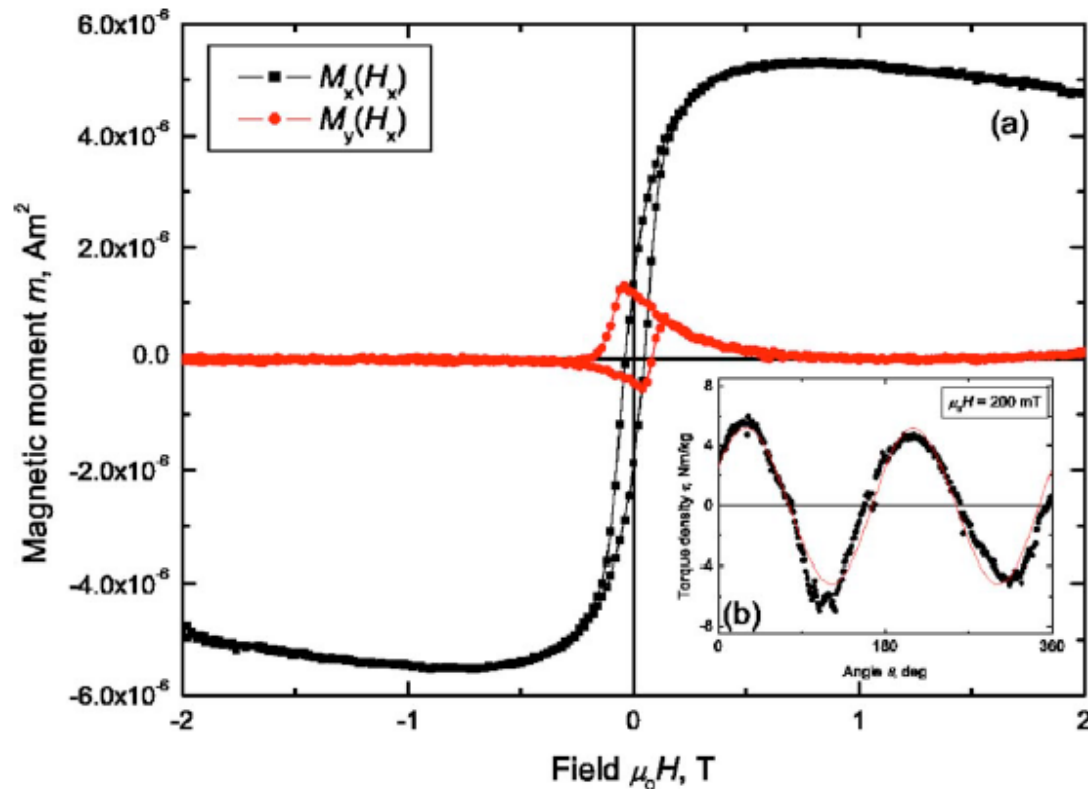
FIG. 2. (Color online) Magnetization curve of CrO_2 magnetic recording tape with the field applied perpendicular to the plane (a), 1 s per point. Torque curve for the same sample recorded at 200 mT, 100 ms per data point.

- VVSM magnetometer with two compact Halbach cylinders

- The vector measurement principle can be used with MOKE magnetometers too:

Fig. 3. Hysteresis loops of the x and the y components measured by using the MOKE for α=45°.

M(H) hysteresis – shape of the specimen

Shape of the sample influences the measured hysteresis not only through the scaling of **H**-axis. The demagnetizing field can influence the character of the **M**(**H**) dependence:
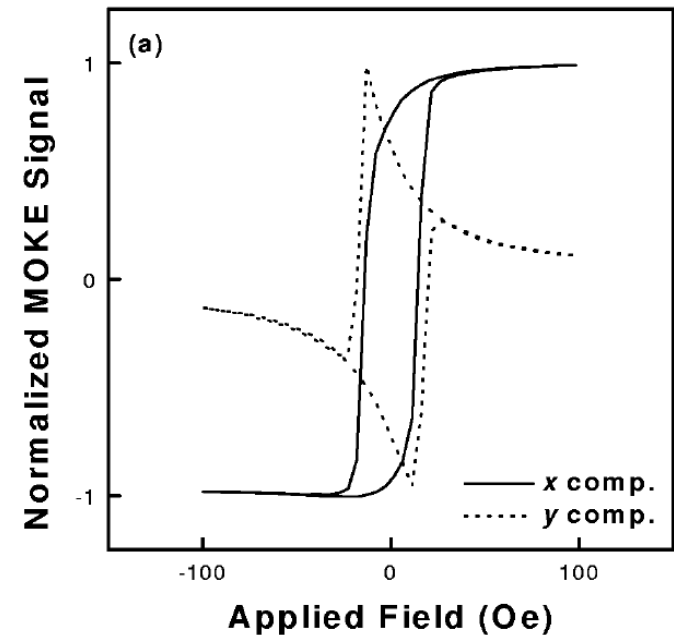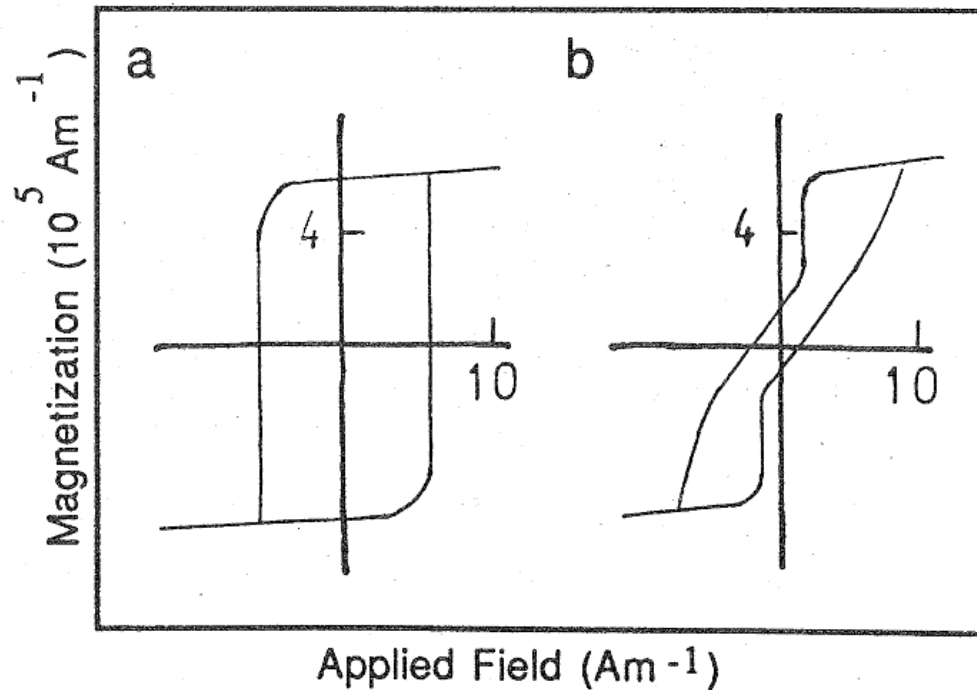

Fig. 1.- Hysteresis loops of two Fe-rich wires ($Fe_{77.5}Si_{7.5}B_{15}$) with different length: 13.1 cm(a) and 5.2 cm (b).

- The long wire made of a magnetically soft amorphous material shows a typical bistable behavior.
- Closure domains extend up to about 3cm from ends into the wire.
- In short wires (less than 7cm) the collapse of closure domains suppresses bistable behavior.

To associate a experimental curve with a given material one has to state [1]:

- the experimental conditions

- geometry of the experiment

- spatial scale of the experiment (*i.e. what is the size of the volume/area we get signal from*)

'There exists nothing that we can straightforwardly call the "hysteresis loop of iron".' - Bertotti [1]

M. Vázquez, C. Gómez-Polo, D.-X. Chen, A. Hernando, IEEE Trans. Magn. **30,** 907 (1994)

M(H) hysteresis – cont'd

- *Technical saturation* -state reached under field such that further increase of field does not change hysteresis properties
- Each point at the interior of the saturation loop can be reached in a infinite number of ways
- *First order return branch* – start at saturation and reversal at some point of saturation loop
- Second, third... order return branch- two, three... reversal fields
- *Ac-demagnetization* – sequence of large number of finely spaced reversals with decreasing values of reversal fields leads to **demagnetized state** (zero remanent magnetization)
- *Anhysteretic curve* – ac-demagnetizing field superimposed on constant field
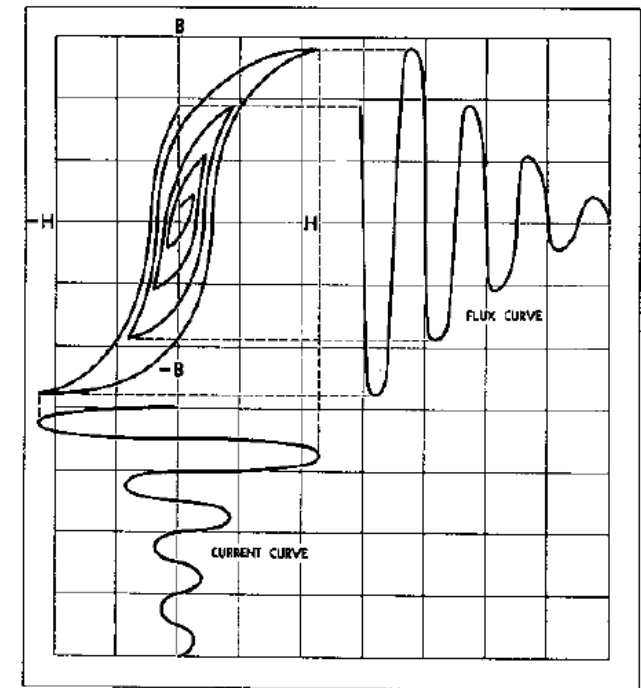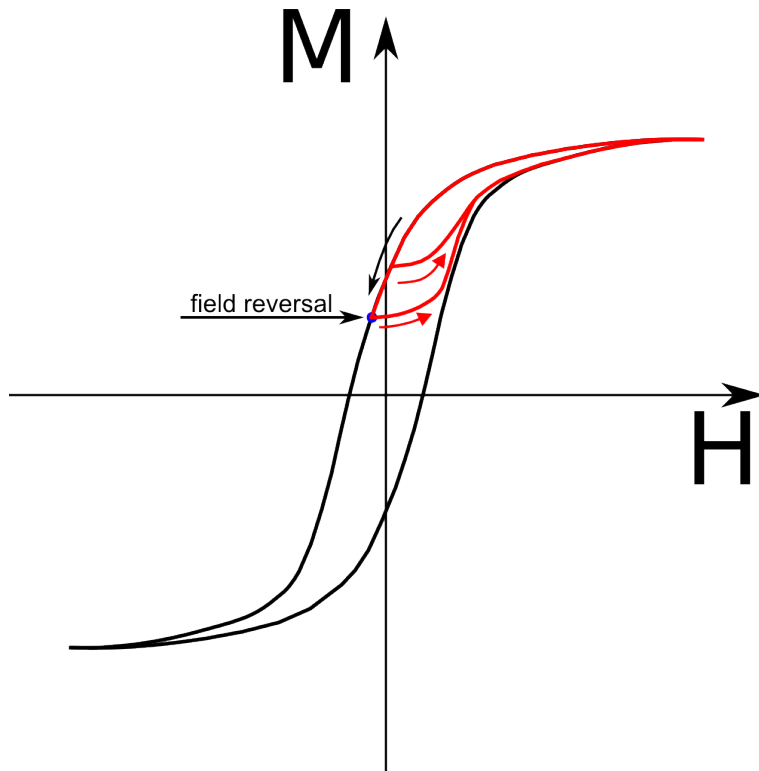
Figure 7.27: Demagnetization flux curve projected from hysteresis curve.

M(H) hysteresis – cont'd

• *Normal magnetization curve* – start from demagnetized state and cycle field with increasing amplitude; the line connecting the tips of the curve (places where the field sweep changes direction) [1]*.
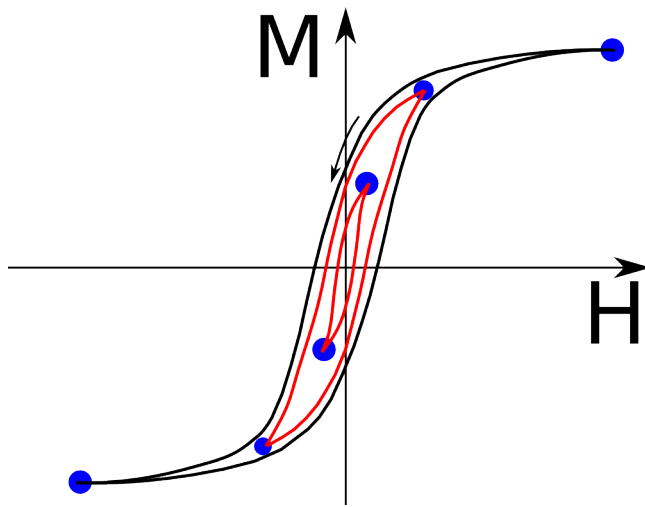
Schematic drawing of normal curve – line connecting blue dots. *Note*: in real measurement all points are on the same **M(H)** curve obtained with field increasing somewhat like that:

$$H(t) = Const\ t\ \cos(\omega t),$$

where $\omega \gg Const$

FIG. 1. Anhysteretic magnetization curve (continuous line) and hysteresis loop (dot line) of the magnetic materials.

Normal curve is similar but not equal to initial magnetization curve

*The normal curve can denote the **B(H)** dependence too.

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Barkhausen effect

- The magnetic moments of the magnetized body have different local surroundings (grains in polycrystals, dislocations, deformations, inclusions, interface/surface roughness etc.)
- These sources of disorder are coupled to the magnetization through exchange, anisotropy, magnetoelastic and magnetostatic interactions [1]
- As a result energy landscape of the system exhibits numerous local minima.
- At normal temperatures the heights of the energy barriers separating local minima is enough to keep the system in initial state.
- Applied field destroys that equilibrium; if it changes with time the system jumps abruptly to consecutive minima – this leads to a noncontinuous change of magnetic moment/magnetization with time
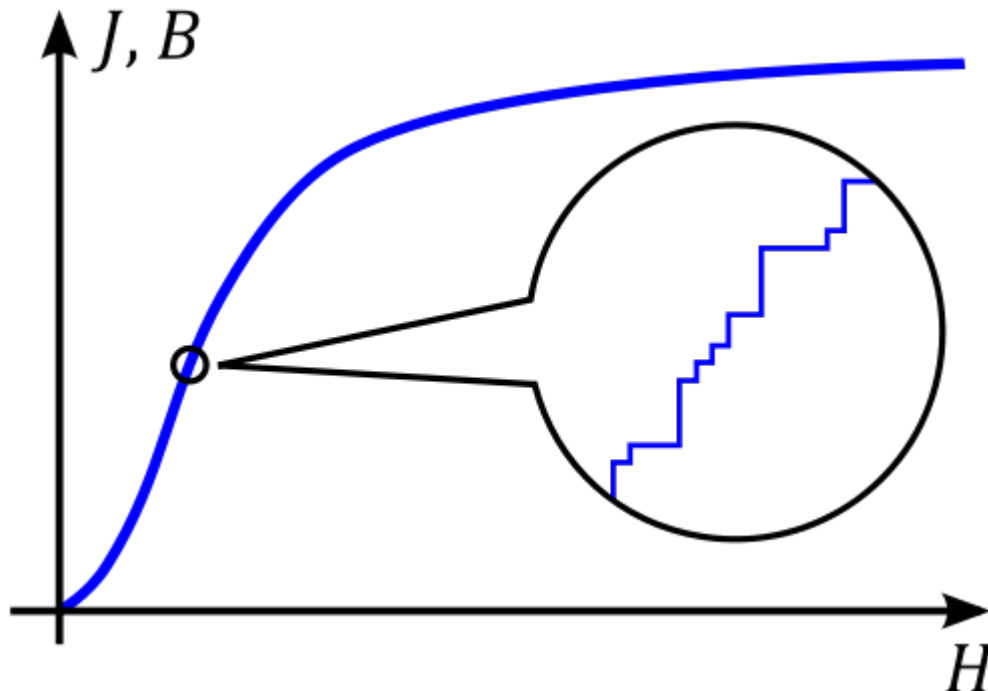
- Barkhausen effect is closely related to the presence of magnetic domains

Image source: Wikimedia Commons; author: User:Stannered

Barkhausen effect

Fig. 16. Retouched oscillographic records of Barkhausen effect. Upper trace, record for sample 2 mm in diameter containing 78 percent Ni and 22 percent Fe. Middle trace, record for sample 1 mm in diameter containing 81 percent Ni and 19 percent Fe. Lower trace, timing line of frequency 1000 cycles per second.
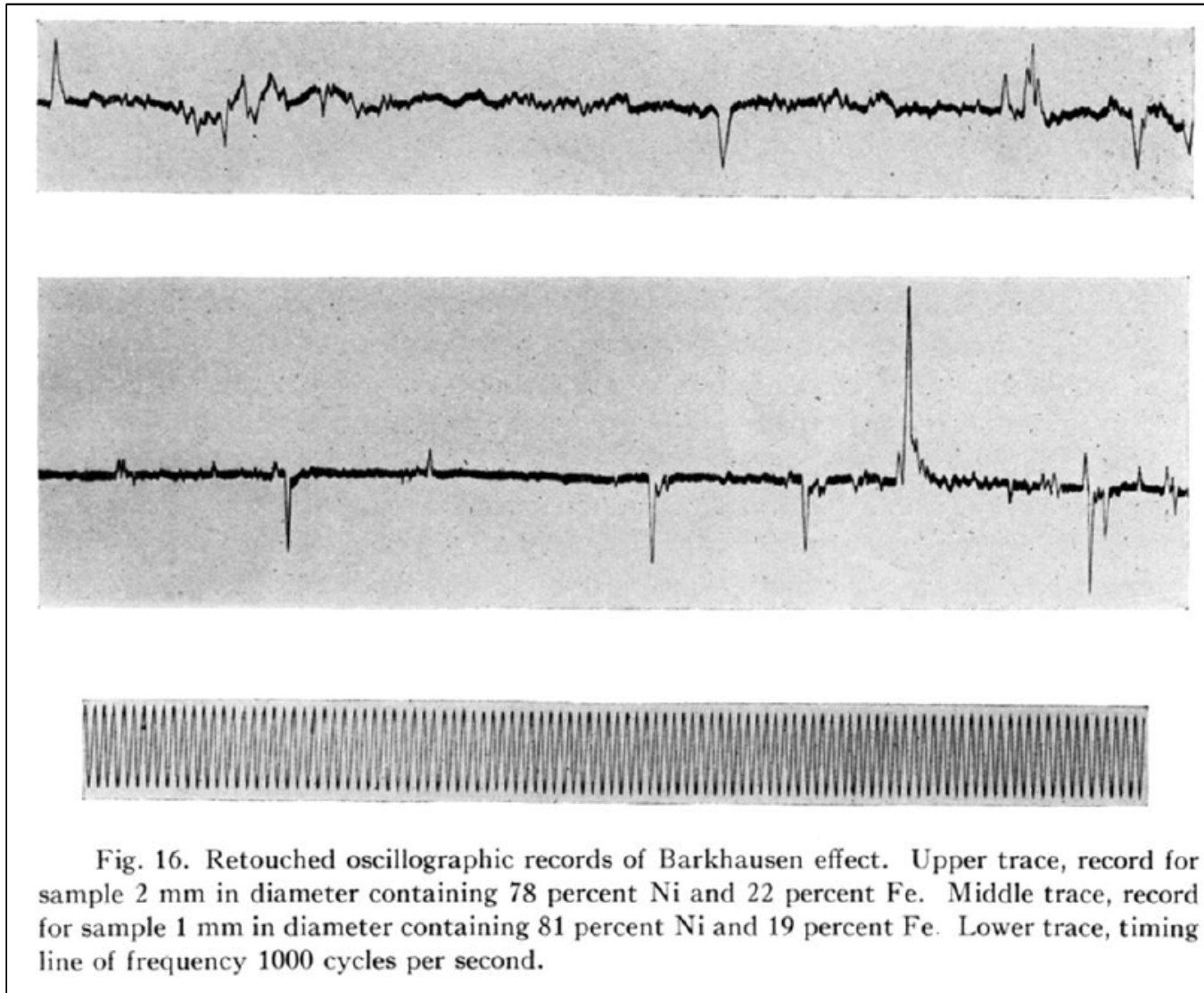
R. M. Bozorth, Phys. Rev. **34**, 792 (1929)

Dynamic effects – eddy current losses

•The shape of the M(H) loop depends on field sweep rate:
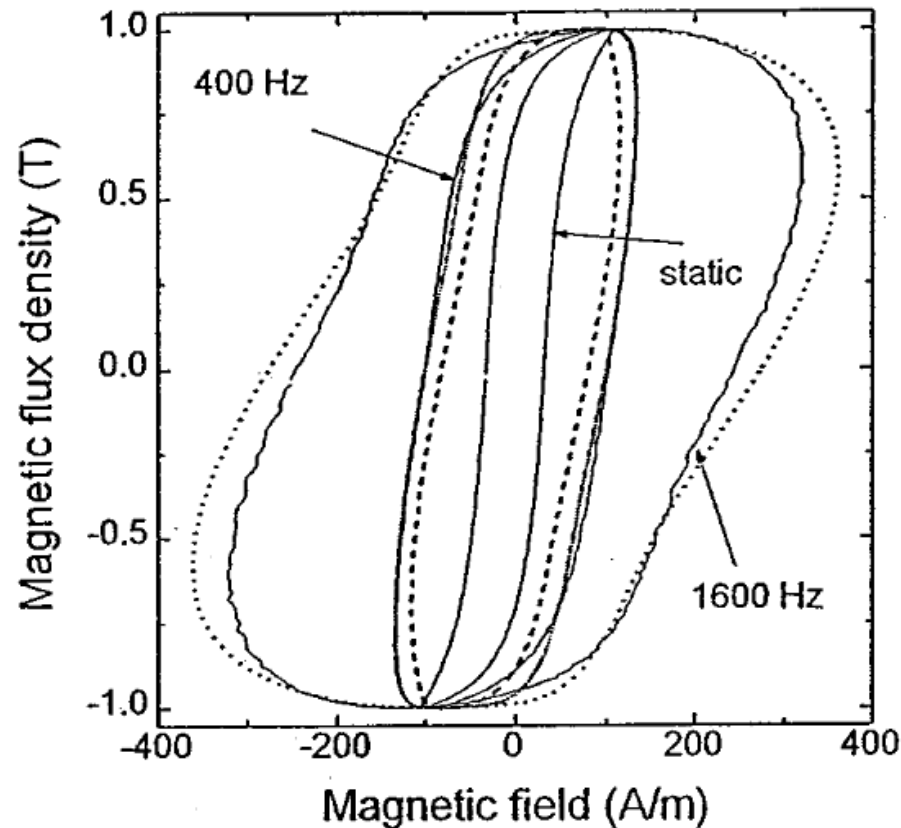
FIG. 3. Dynamic hysteresis loops at 1 T, for 0, 400, 1600 Hz. Continuous lines measurements. Dotted lines FEM prediction based on dynamic PM. Broken line. FEM prediction based on conventional PM.

•Measurement on commercial (AST 27/35) nonoriented Fe–Si alloys (2.9 wt. % Si, 0.4 wt. % Al), with average grain size of 75 µm. The lamination thickness was 0.334 mm.

•With increasing frequency f the are of the saturation loop increases – this means that the amount of energy irreversibly turned into heat increases with f.
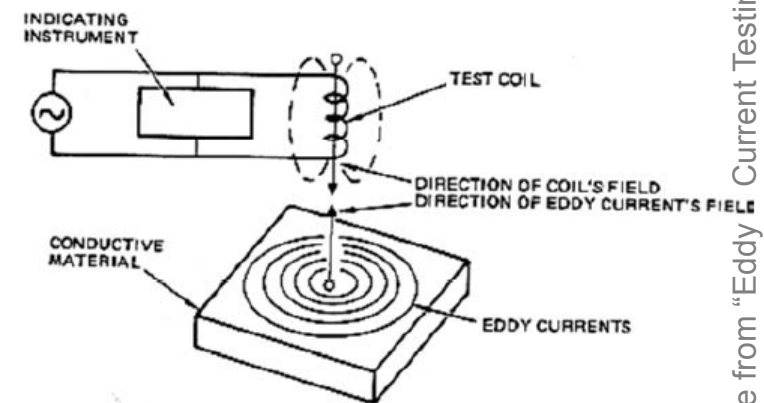
FIG. 2.17. Basic eddy current testing equipment.

Dynamic effects – eddy current losses

• The energy transformed into heat in one cycle is [1]:

$$\frac{P}{f} = \oint_{loop} H_{applied} \, dB , \text{ where } P \text{ is a power loss and } \frac{P}{f} \text{ is a loss per cycle}$$

• The losses can be formally expressed as (Joule's law):

$$\frac{P}{f} = \frac{1}{V} \int_V d^3 r \int_0^{1/f} |j(\vec{r}, t)|^2 \rho(\vec{r})$$

• In real systems the eddy current distribution is not known. It can be though expressed phenomenologically as [1]:

$$\frac{P}{f} = C_0 + C_1 f + C_2 f^{-1/2}$$

The coefficients may be functions of magnetization

• The above equation can be applied to the broad variety of magnetic materials with different domain structure.

Dynamic effects – loss separation

- It turns out that the constants in the $P/f = C_0 + C_1 f + C_2 f^{-1/2}$ equation can be attributed to different processes influencing the hysteresis [1]:

-*hysteresis loss* – scale of Barkhausen effect – eddy currents induced by the small jumps of domain walls fragments - C_0

-*classical loss* – related to specimen geometry – calculated from Maxwell's equations assuming homogeneous, conducting material with no domain structure - C_1

-*excess loss* – caused by eddy currents accompanying steady motion of domain walls under the influence of external field

$$p/f = 0.04 + 0.00002f + 0.00031\sqrt{f}$$

$$p/f = 0.04 + 0.000004f + 0.00019\sqrt{f}$$
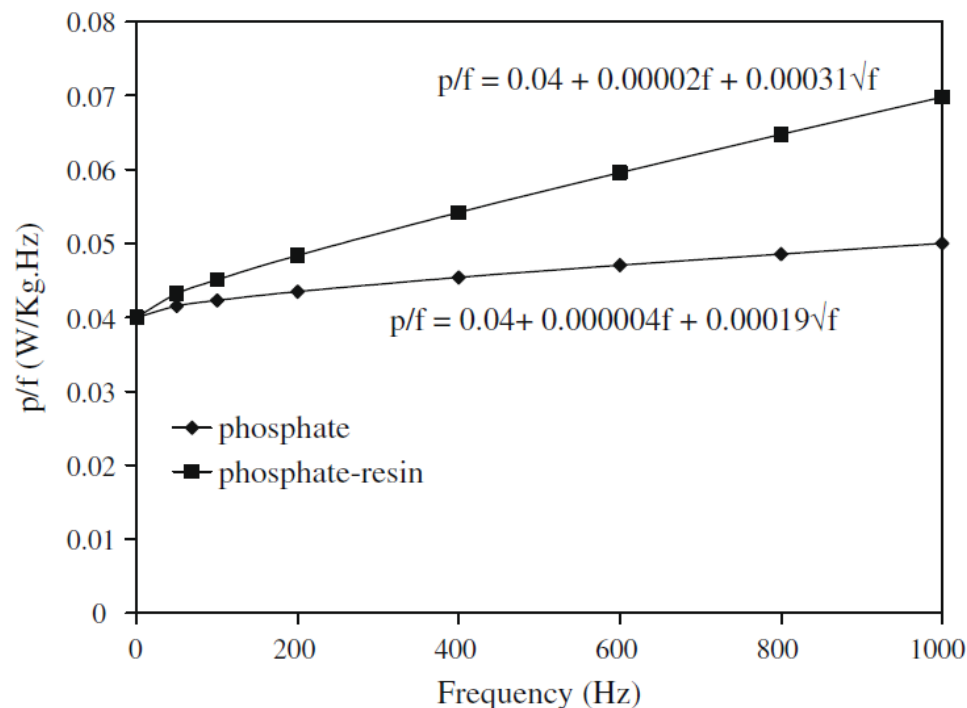
Fig. 10. Behavior of the loss per cycle for phosphated and phosphate–resin insulated samples.

A.H. Taghvaei, H. Shokrollahi, K. Janghorban, H. Abiri, Materials and Design 30 (2009) 3989–3995

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Hysteresis lag

- The word hysteresis coined by Scotsman James Alfred Ewing from ancient Greek ὑστέρησις (hysterēsis, "shortcoming") denotes in general that the output is lagging the input [1].
- As en example consider a system:

$$H(t) = H_0 \cos(\omega t) \qquad X(t) = X_0 \cos(\omega t - \varphi)$$

- In general the response to sinusoidal excitation is not sinusoidal.

- Undistorted response is characteristic for *linear systems* where the *superposition principle* holds.

$$\varphi = \frac{1}{2}\pi$$
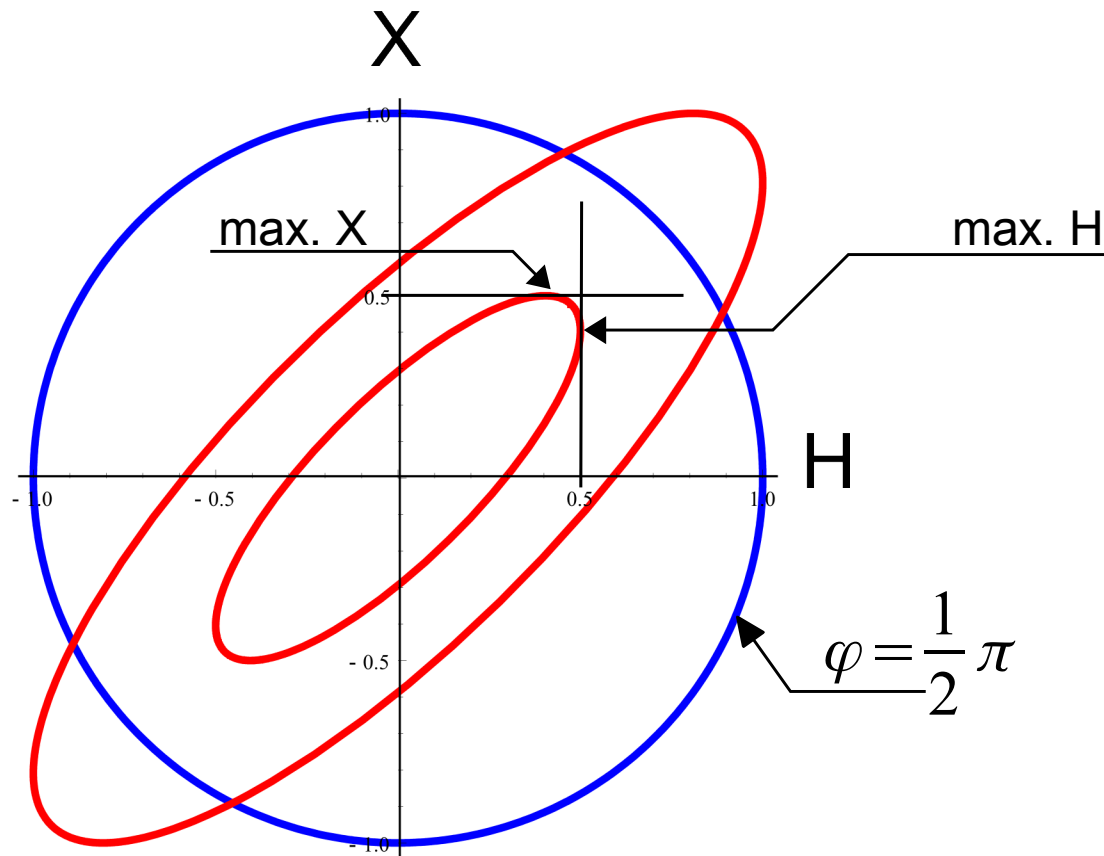
Hysteresis lag

• We have time-invariant system which responses at time t to an input impulse δ(t-t$_0$) that occurred at t$_0$. The response can be often written as [1]:

$$\Phi(t) = \chi_i \delta(t) + \Phi_d(t)\Theta(t)$$

Heaviside step function - response follows excitation

• The terms represent the instantaneous and delayed response. It is assumed that:

$$\Phi_d(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad as \quad t \rightarrow \infty$$ which means that after long enough time after excitation the system is at X=0.

• Using a superposition principle the response to a arbitrary input is:

$$X(t) = \chi_i H(t) + \int_{-\infty}^{t} \Phi_d(t-t')H(t')dt' \tag{1}$$

• In frequency domain it can be rewritten to give [1]:

$$X_\omega = \chi(\omega)H_\omega \quad with \quad \chi(\omega) = \chi_i + \int_0^\infty \Phi_d(t)e^{-i\omega t}dt$$

• The generalized susceptibility is a complex number: $\chi(\omega) = \chi'(\omega) + \chi''(\omega)$

• From Euler's formula* and the fact that the response Φ is a real function it follows that:

$$\chi'(-\omega) = \chi'(\omega) \qquad \chi''(-\omega) = -\chi''(\omega)$$

$$*e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i\sin(x)$$

Hysteresis lag

- Further, from $\chi''(-\omega)=-\chi''(\omega)$ we have: $\boxed{\chi''(0)=0}$

out of phase relative to excitation

- The response of the system is:

$$X=R.e(\chi H)=R.e[(\chi'+i\chi'')H_0 e^{-i\omega t}]=H_0(\chi'\cos(\omega t)+\chi''\sin(\omega t))$$

$$X=\chi' H_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

In quasi-static limit where the excitation varies arbitrarily slow there is no lag of response relative to input and there is **no hysteresis**

- Thermal fluctuations in the limit of very slowly varying excitation lead the system to the absolute energy minimum

Hysteresis dissipation

- We consider the case when H and X are conjugate variables; HdX represents the work done on the system by external forces [1].
- The first law of thermodynamics may be written as:

$$dU = H \, dX + \delta Q$$

- If the system undergoes cyclic changes its internal energy is not changed (T=const) and the work done on the system is dissipated as heat:

$$\oint_{cycle} H \, dX = - \oint_{cycle} \delta Q$$

- In any hysteretic system the work dissipated in each cycle is given by the area of the loop described by **X(H)**. For the case of linear system (see back 4 slides) we get [1]:
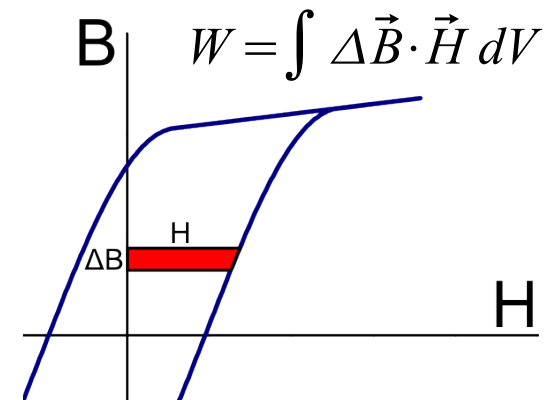
$$W = \oint_{cycle} H \, dX = \pi H_0 X_0 \sin(\varphi) \qquad (2)$$

- Using the identity $\cos(\alpha - \beta) = \cos(\alpha)\cos(\beta) + \sin(\alpha)\sin(\beta)$ and remembering that:

$$X = X_0 \cos(\omega t - \varphi) = R.e(\chi H) = H_0(\chi' \cos(\omega t) + \chi'' \sin(\omega t))$$

we get, comparing coefficients of cos(ωt) and sin(ωt):

$$X_0 \cos(\varphi) = H_0 \chi' \qquad\qquad X_0 \sin(\varphi) = H_0 \chi''$$

B $\quad W = \int \Delta \vec{B} \cdot \vec{H} \, dV$

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis dissipation – cont'd

- Substituting the second of the above identities into Eq.2 we get [1]:

$$W = \pi H_0^2 \chi''(\omega)$$

- Dissipation in linear systems is controlled by the imaginary part of susceptibility.

- Expressing losses in terms of loss angle is not limited to linear systems.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis - memory

•In a system exhibiting hysteresis future evolution depends on past history [1].
•In systems with memory the output at time t depends not only on the input at time t but also on previous inputs $H(t')$ at times t'.
•Nonpersistent memory
- input H varies for $t < t_0$ and remains constant for $t > t_0$; from Eq.1 we have:

$$X(t) = \chi_i H_0 + \int_{-\infty}^{t_0} \Phi_d(t-t') H(t') dt' + H_0 \int_0^{t-t_0} \Phi_d(t') dt'$$

As t increases beyond t_0:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{t_0} \Phi_d(t-t') H(t') dt' \to 0$$

- because $\Phi_d(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$ the output reaches the limit:

$$X(t) = \left(\chi_i + \int_0^{\infty} \Phi_d(t') dt' \right) H_0 = \chi'(0) H_0$$

$$\chi(\omega) = \chi_i + \int_0^{\infty} \Phi_d(t) e^{-i\omega t} dt$$

expression in parentheses equals Re[χ(ω)] for ω=0.

- in the limit the memory of input for $t < t_0$ is lost

•Persistent memory – state of the system under constant input keeps on depending on the past history of the inputs even after all transients have died out [1]

For a given input H the system can occupy different states.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – memory – cont'd

•Branching – branch is generated when input **H** stops increasing and starts decreasing:
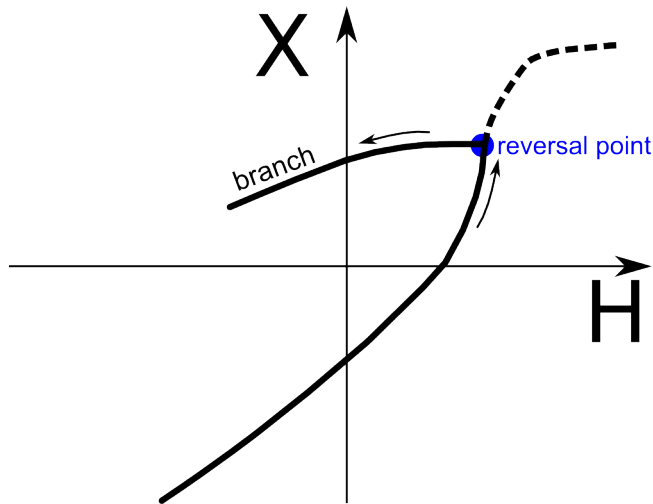
•Branching is an indication that the system is not in thermodynamic equilibrium
•Local memory – the values of **H** and **X** are enough to identify the state
•Nonlocal memory – different curves **X(H)** can start from every (**H, X**) point; this is observed in many magnetic materials
•When thermodynamic equilibrium is reached any memory of the previous states is lost.

•In **many magnetic systems** there is a input-rate interval where the rate dependence of hysteresis can be neglected [1]:
-rate must be slow enough not to introduce frequency dependents effects (like eddy currents in conducting magnets)
-rate must be high enough for thermal relaxation not to play a role

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998
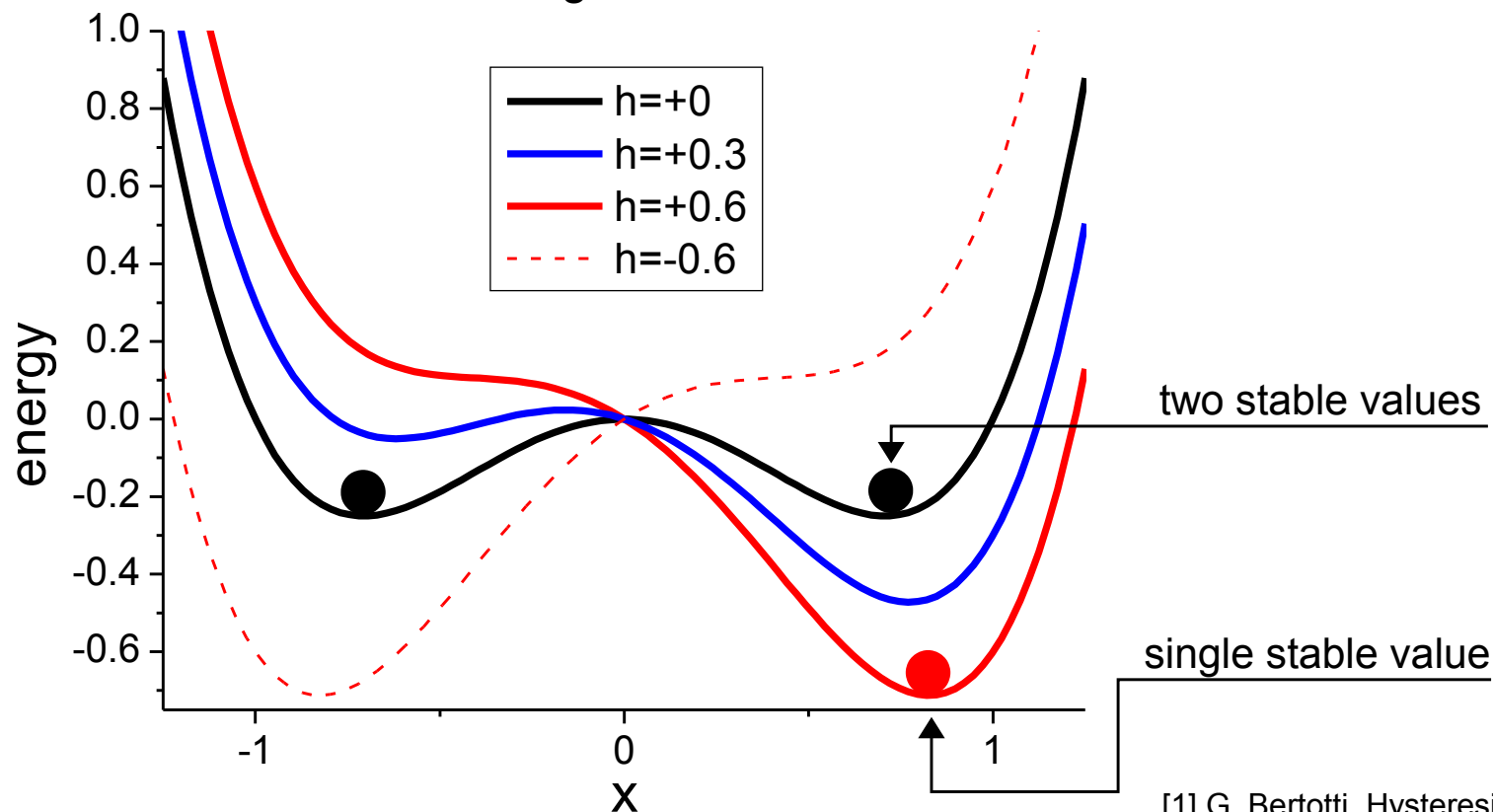
Hysteresis – bistable systems

- Let us consider the system with local memory and energy given by [1]:

$$f(x) = x^2 - 2a\,x^2$$

- Introducing the input we can write (energy depends now on the input – for example magnetic field h):

$$g(x) = x^2 - 2a\,x^2 - hx$$

- Exemplary energy profiles show two local minima (metastable states) for small h values and one minimum for higher values:
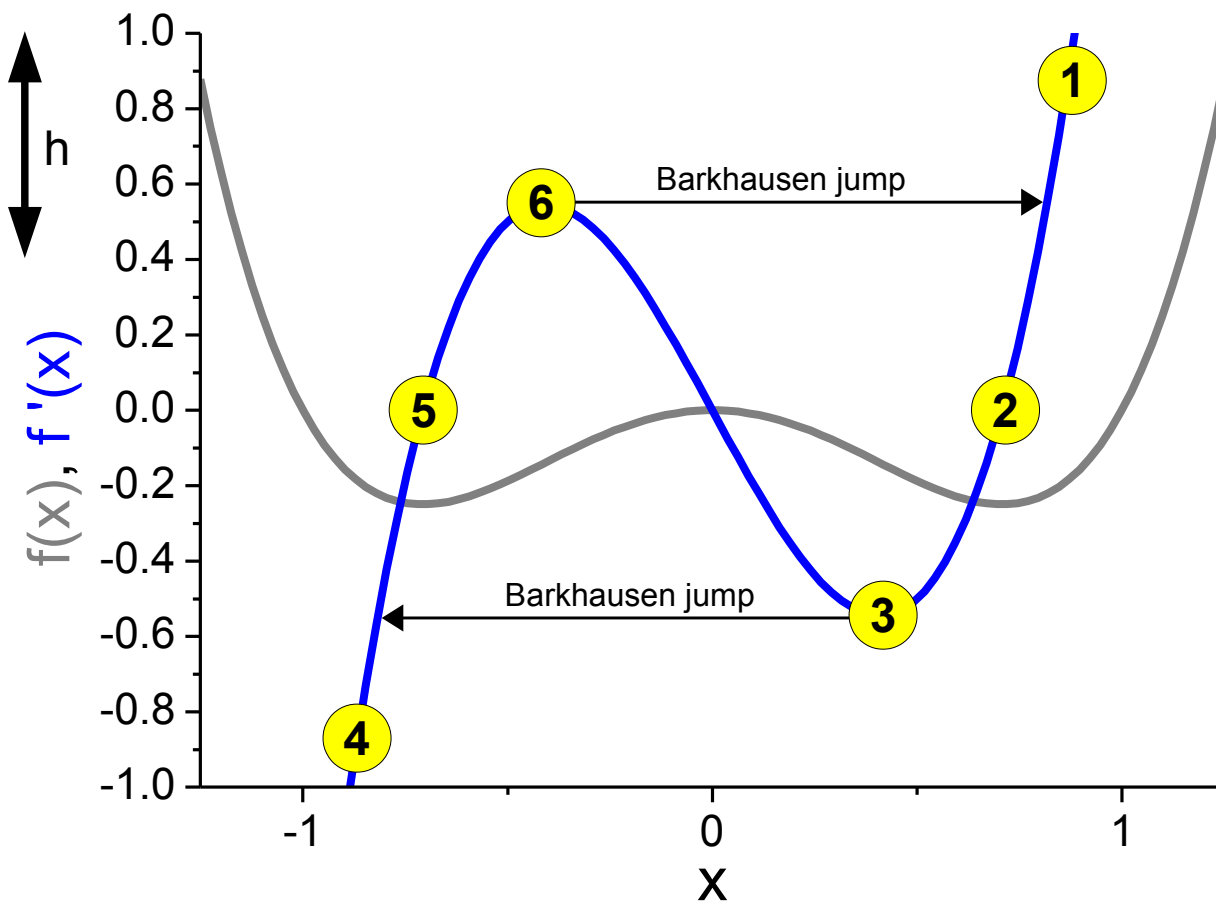

two stable values

single stable value

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – bistable systems – cont'd

• From the condition for extreme of $g(x)$ we have:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x) - h = 0 \quad \leftarrow \quad g(x) = f(x) - hx$$

• Using $\partial/\partial x[f(x)] = h$ we can graphically trace hysteresis:

(1) start at positive h (field)
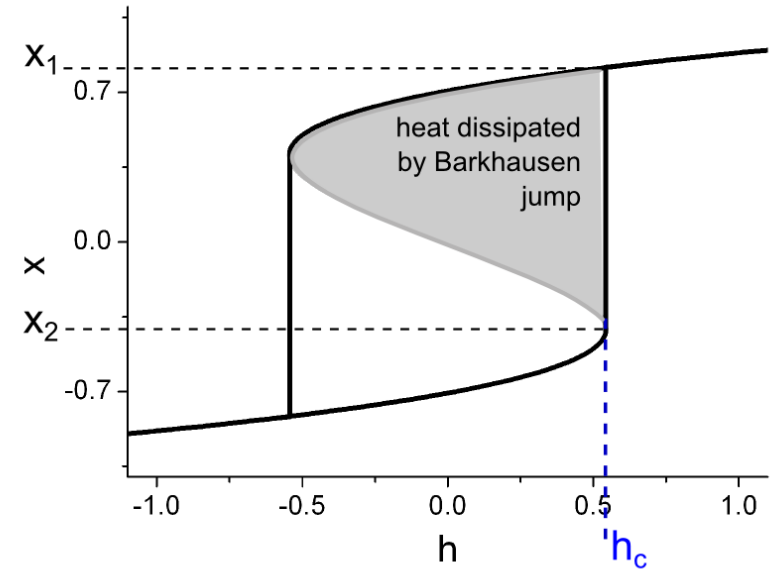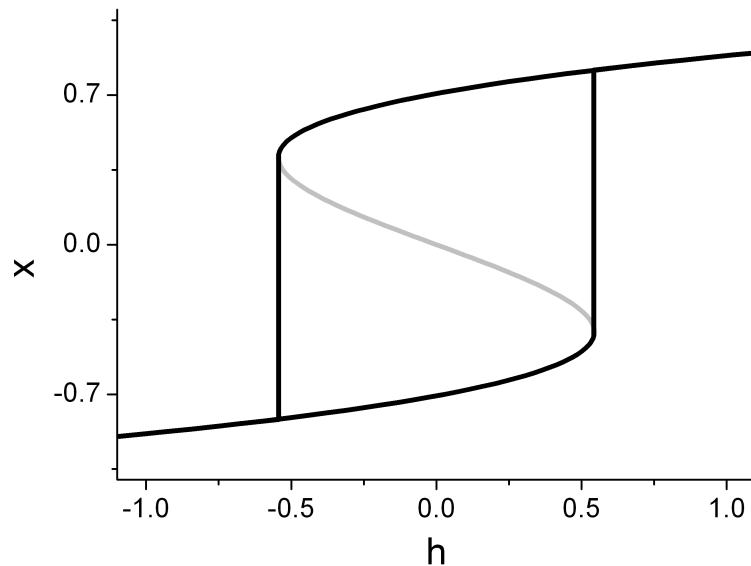
(2) At h=0 there are three extrema (two metastable)

(3) At h=h_c there is only one minimum – Barkhausen jump

(4) Field is increasing shifting the position of the single minimum

(5) **(6)** Field sweep direction is reversed

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – bistable systems – cont'd

•Exchanging axes we obtain a traditional form of hystersis:

•We want to know the area of the shaded region of the top right hysteresis (it should be half the work dissipated in hysteresis). The work can be expressed as (see previous slide) [1]:

$$\Delta W = \int_{x1}^{x2}\left[h_c - \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right]dx = -\int_{x1}^{x2}\left[\frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\right]_{h=h_c}dx = g(x1, h_c) - g(x_f, h_c) \qquad \leftarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x}g(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}f(x) - h = 0$$

> The work is exactly the energy decrease when the system makes Barkhausen jump

The above description is rate-independent: it was assumed that system is always in one of energy minima independently of the input rate of change.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – rate dependence

- Rate independent hysteresis holds when Barkhausen jumps take much less to complete than the time scale relevant to field rate of change.
- In metallic ferromagnets due to eddy currents the fast changes of magnetization are damped leading to rate dependence.
- The condition for equilibrium is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x) - h = 0$$

- When the gradient of f differs from h there is a net force; state variable x will change with time.
- If the system is close to equilibrium dx/dt may be expanded into powers of $\partial g(x)/\partial x$. To simplify analysis the expansion can be truncated after the first-order term [1]:

$$\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \qquad\qquad \gamma \text{ - friction constant}$$

- In this form the equation gives no oscillations of magnetization.

Rate independent hysteresis is only possible when the system has multiple metastable states

$$\gamma \frac{dx}{dt} = h - h_F \qquad\qquad\qquad h_F := \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x)$$

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

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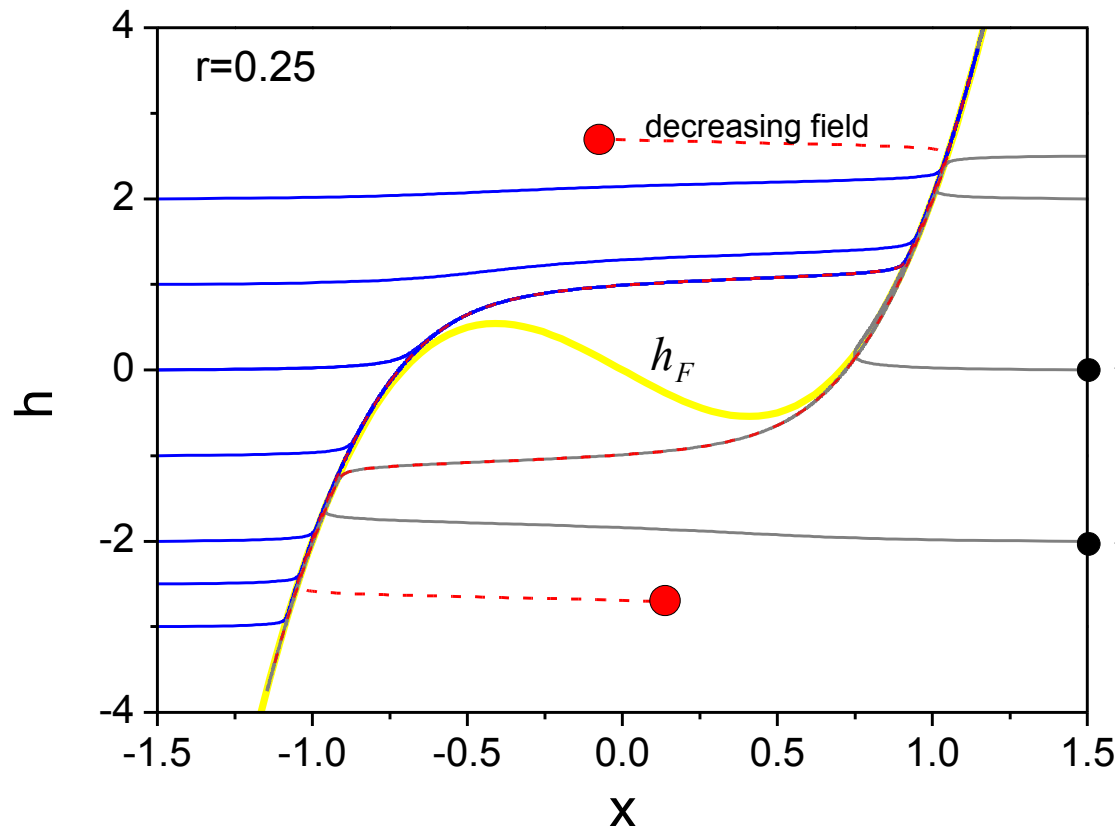
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Hysteresis – rate dependence

- Assuming that the input (field) changes with time we can write (putting $\gamma=1$):

$$\frac{dx}{dt}=h-h_F$$

$$h_F:=\frac{\partial}{\partial x}f(x)$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt}=r(t)$$ - time varying field (e g field of VSM electromagnet)

- Exemplary phase portrait of above equation for $f=x^4-x^2$ and $r=0.25$ (and $r=-0.25$ – decreasing field).

r=0.25

decreasing field

h_F

starting points: x=-1.5 and 1.5 (plus two red dots)

- Trajectories for different starting values (and the same r) do not intersect [1].

some starting points of x(h) trajectories

Phase portrait of equation- sets of points (x(t),h(t)) on xh-plane for different starting values $x(t_0)$ and $h(t_0)$.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998
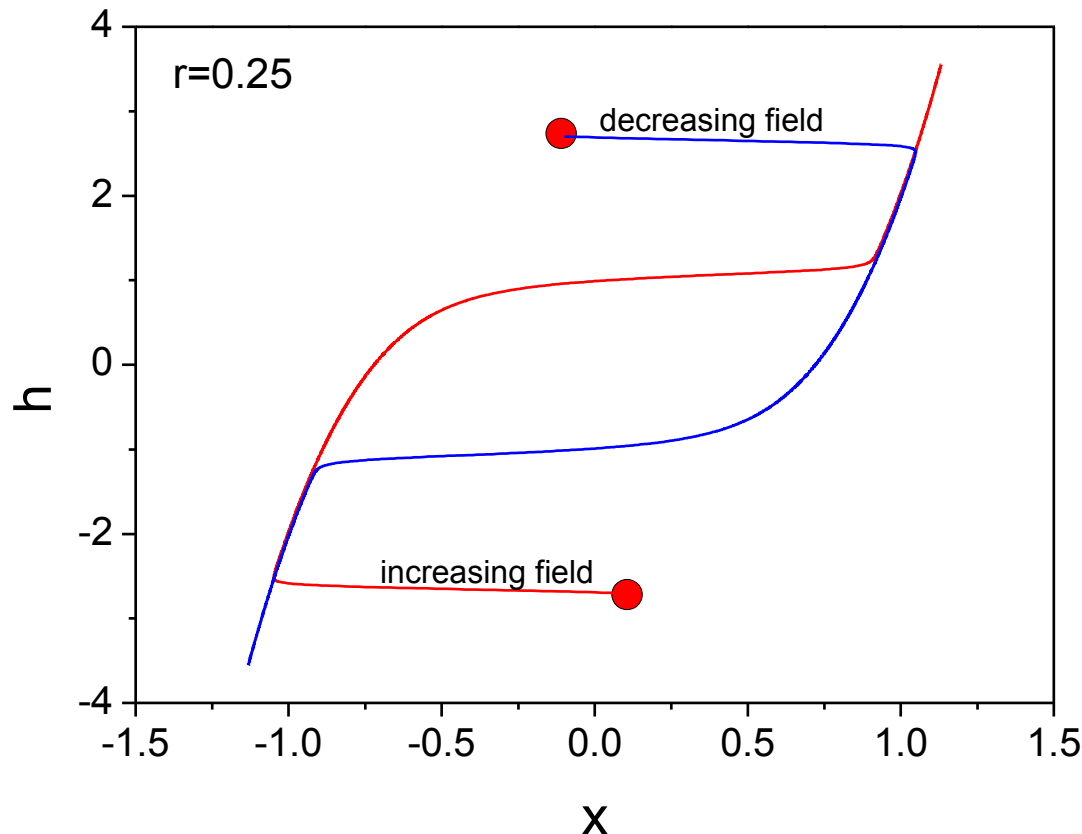
Hysteresis – rate dependence

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- Exemplary phase portrait of above equation for $f=x^4-x^2$ and $r=0.25$ (and $r=-0.25$ – decreasing field).

starting points: x=-1.5 and 1.5 (plus two red dots)

To obtain a hysteresis corresponding to given r one identifies trajectories for opposite r that intersect at desired peak input values of h.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – rate dependence
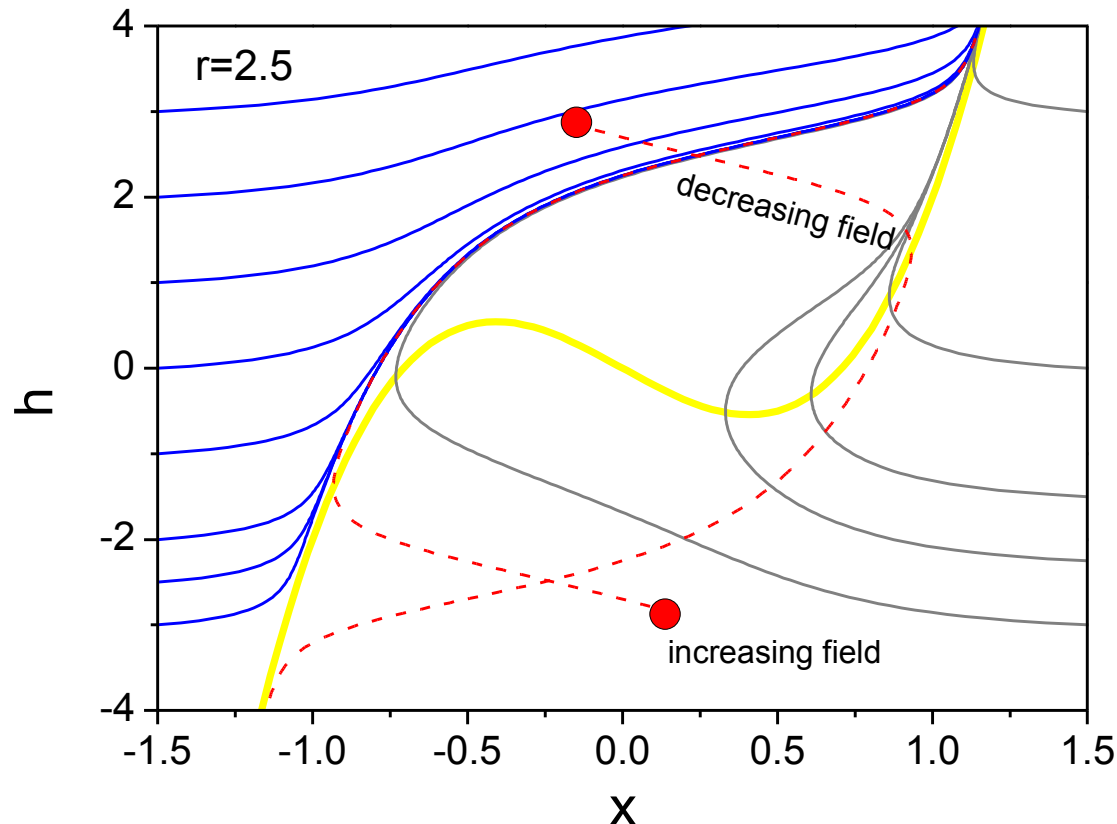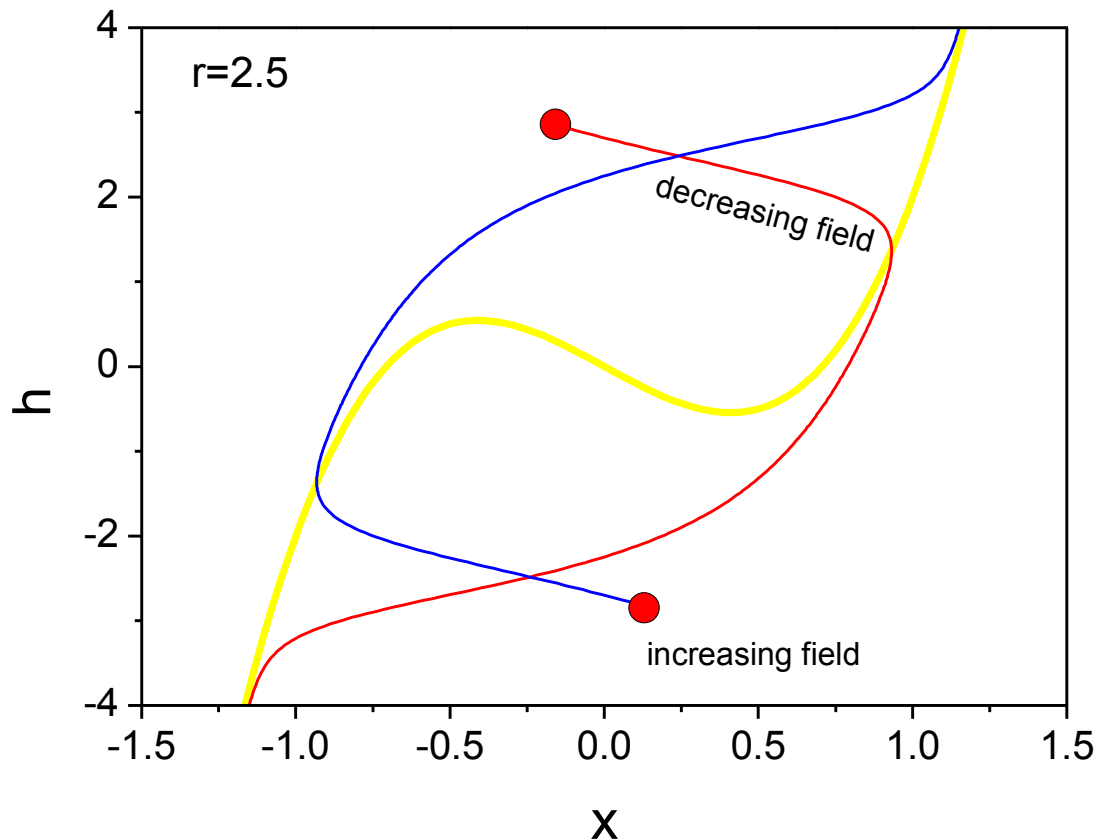
- Assuming that the input(field) changes with time we can write (putting $\gamma=1$):

$$\frac{dx}{dt}=h-h_F$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt}=r(t)$$

Phase portrait of equation- sets of points (x(t),h(t)) on xh-plane for different starting values $x(t_0)$ and $h(t_0)$.

- Exemplary phase portrait of above equation for $f=x^4-x^2$ and $r=2.5$ (and $r=-2.5$ – decreasing field).

starting points: x=-1.5 and 1.5 (plus two red dots)

To obtain a hysteresis corresponding to given r one identifies trajectories for opposite r that intersect at desired peak input values of h.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

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[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – rate dependence

•Exemplary loops obtained for two input rates of change (see previous slides):
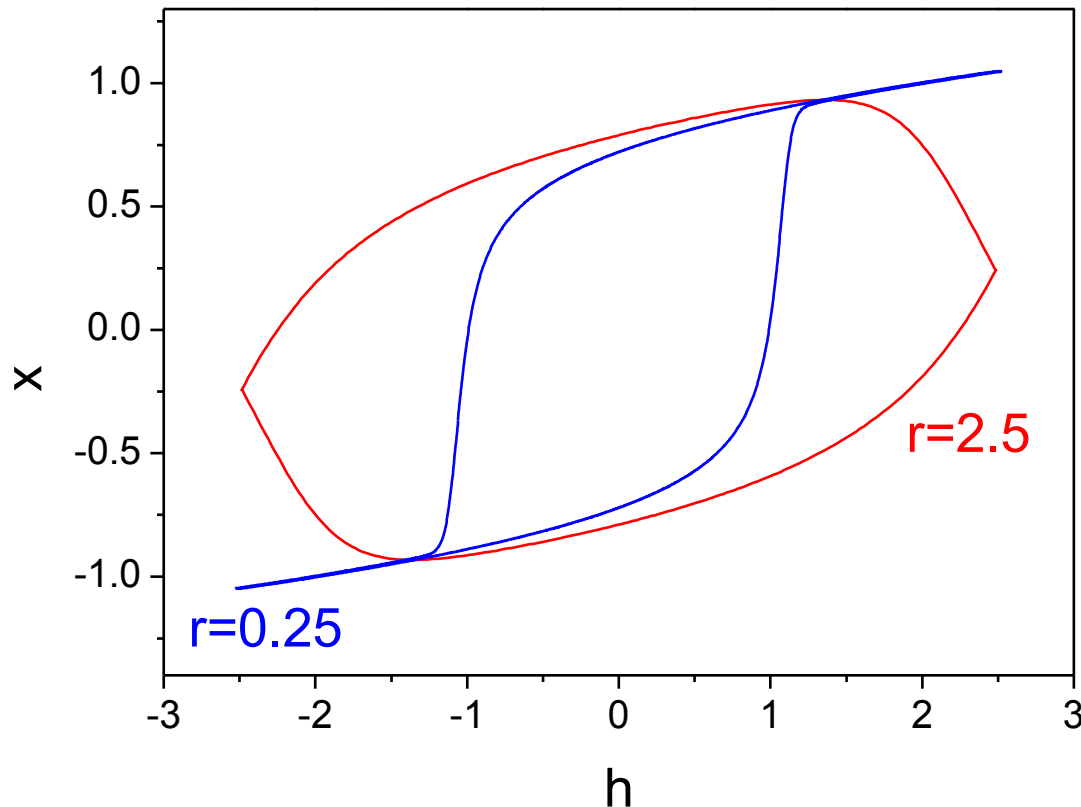
both curves obtained for the same field amplitude (h≈2.5)

•The shape of loop depends on the rate of change of input (*magnetic field*)

•With increasing frequency *f* **the are of the saturation loop increases** – this means that the amount of energy irreversibly turned into heat increases with *f*.

•The shape of loop depends not only on the frequency of the input and its peak values (h_{min} and h_{max}) but also on the waveform applied, i.e., the $x(h)$ dependence is different for sinusoidally varying h from the one obtained for triangular excitations.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – rate dependence

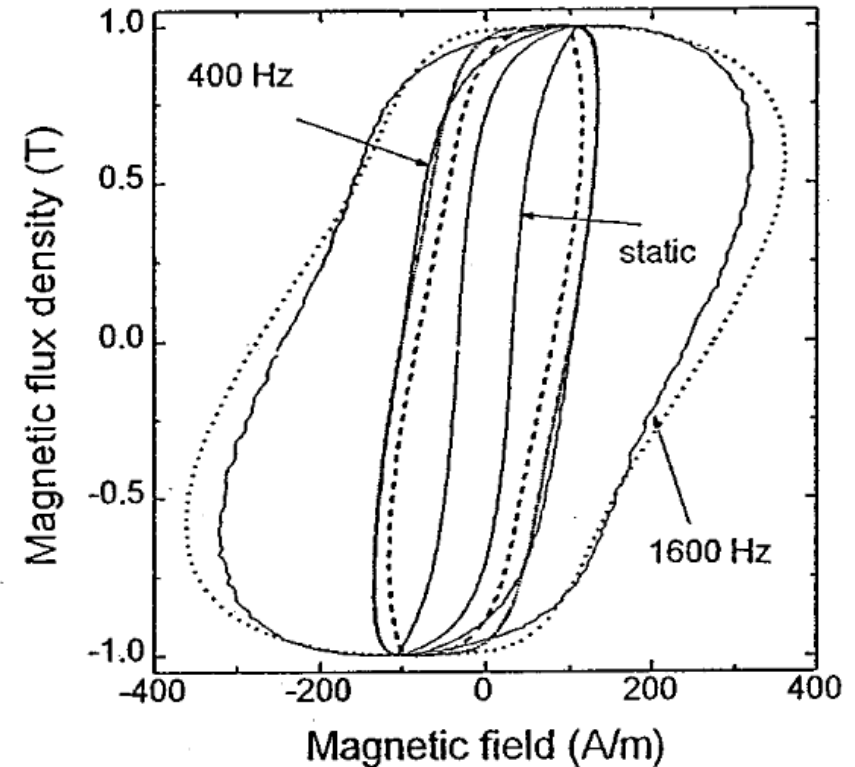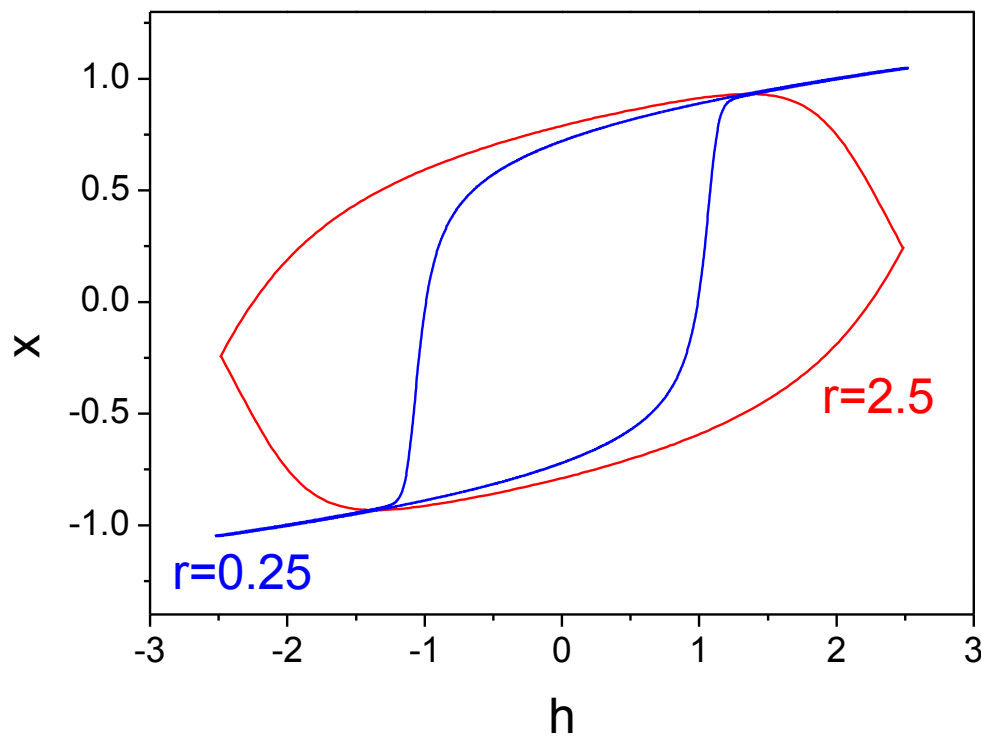• There is a qualitative match with experimental dependencies:

FIG. 3. Dynamic hysteresis loops at 1 T, for 0, 400, 1600 Hz. Continuous lines measurements. Dotted lines FEM prediction based on dynamic PM. Broken line. FEM prediction based on conventional PM.

V. Basso, G. Bertotti, O. Bottauscio, F. Fiorillo, M. Pasquale, M. Chiampi and M. Repetto, J. Appl. Phys. **81**, 5606 (1997)

Hysteresis – Preisach model

• In many magnetic materials the hysteresis is a sequence of Barkhausen jumps
• The jump is associated with the system leaving metastable state in favor of state with lower energy
• Preisach proposed [2] to treat magnetic material as a set of units characterized by elementary rectangular hystereses with randomly distributed values of coercive field and shift field:
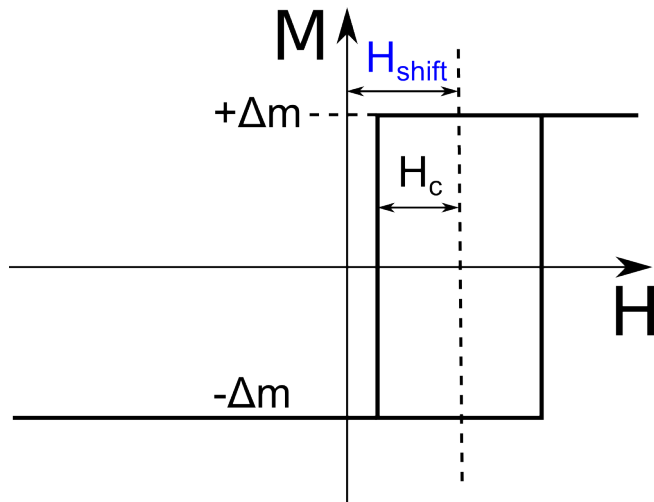

• In the analysis both *H* and *M* are usually treated as scalar quantities [1].
• It is assumed that rate dependent dissipation phenomena play no role in the magnetization reversal.
• It assumed too that thermal relaxation is absent.
• The above assumptions mean that the hysteresis is rate-independent and corresponds to zero temperature.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

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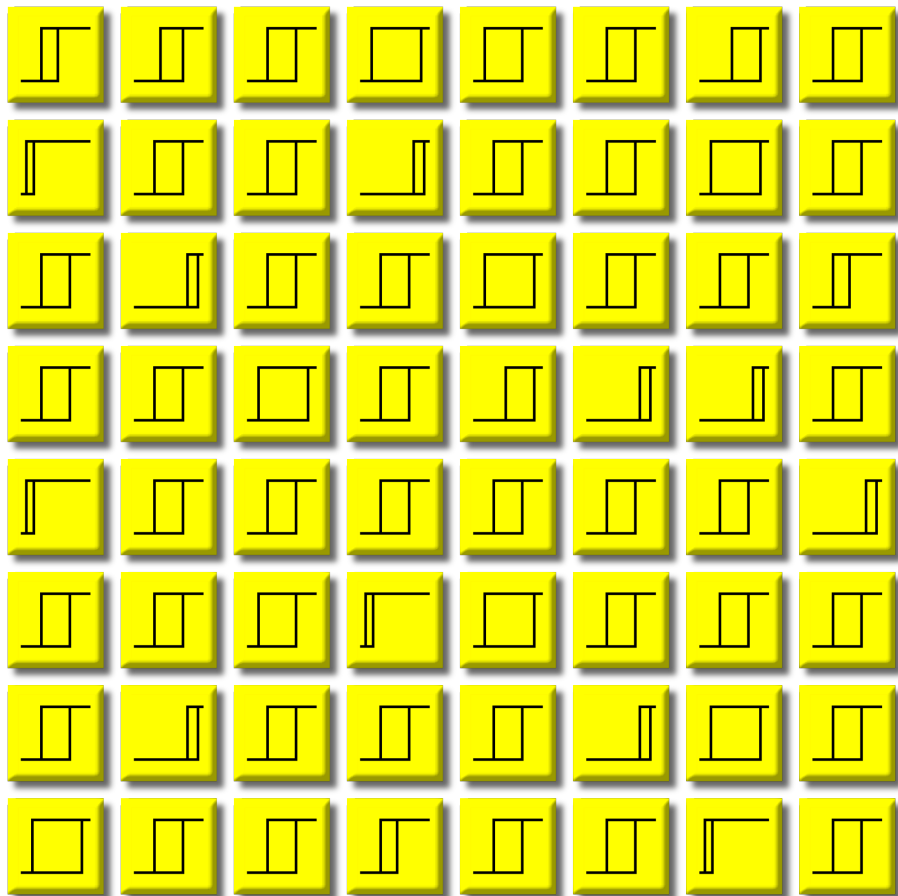
[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – Preisach model

- Each Preisach unit can be characterized by different associated magnetic moment (Δm)
- *Preisach distribution* $p(h_c,h_u)$– is a function describing relative abundance of Preisach units with given coercivity and shift field h_u.
- Preisach approach is expected to give approximate description of certain systems.
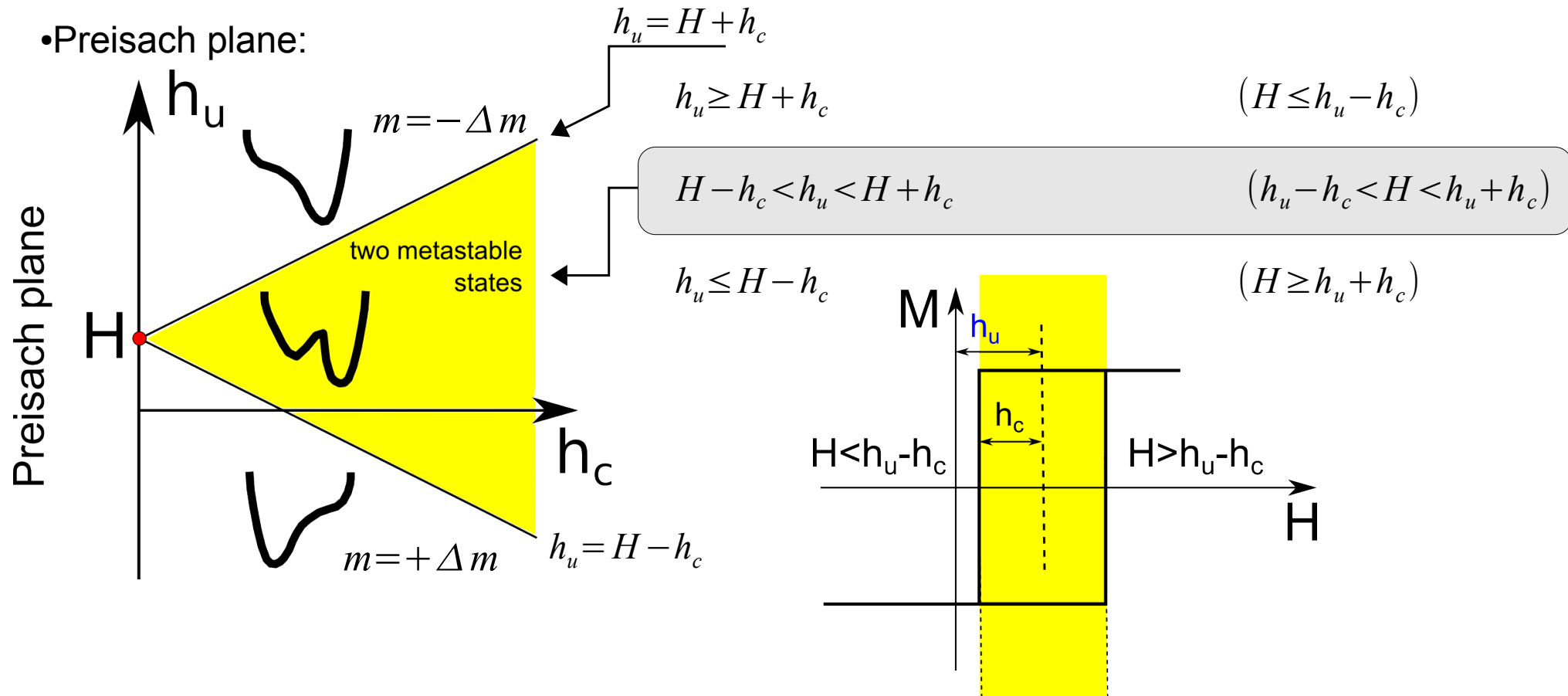- Once Preisach distribution is known the magnetization reversal can be calculated.
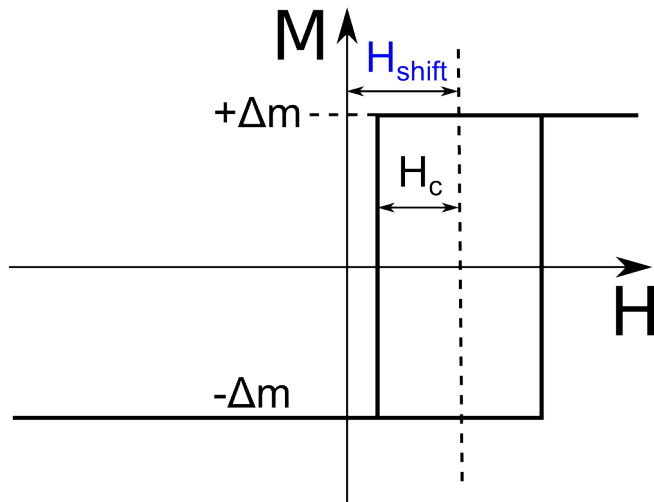
- In ferromagnetic materials usually a input-output history $\{H(t),M(t)\}$ implies that $\{-H(t),-M(t)\}$ is also a admissible history for the system* [1]. It follows that:

$$p(h_c, h_u) = p(h_c, -h_u)$$ in ferromagnetic materials

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998   *It is not the case in systems with exchange anisotropy.
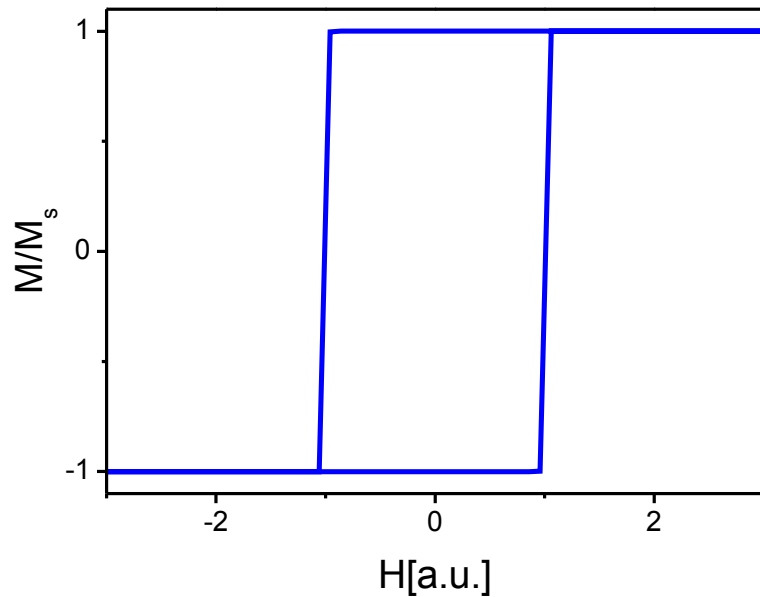
Hysteresis – Preisach model
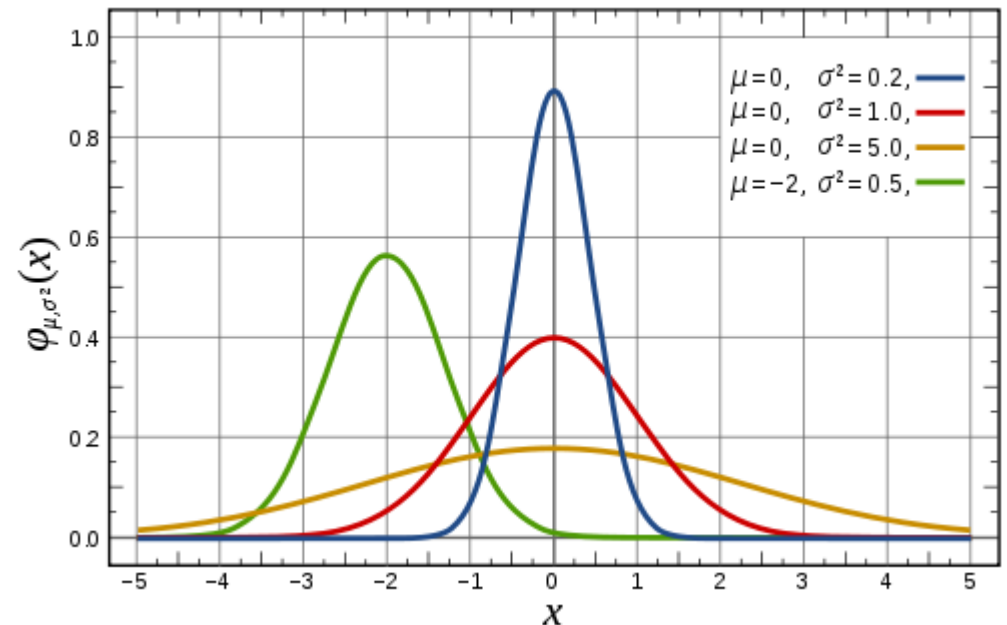
•Preisach plane:

$$h_u = H + h_c$$

$$m = -\Delta m$$

$$h_u \geq H + h_c \qquad (H \leq h_u - h_c)$$

$$H - h_c < h_u < H + h_c \qquad (h_u - h_c < H < h_u + h_c)$$

$$h_u \leq H - h_c \qquad (H \geq h_u + h_c)$$

two metastable states

$$m = +\Delta m \qquad h_u = H - h_c$$

•The boundary of the cone (yellow region) is the set of points where the Barkhausen jumps can take place.
•The different points on the Preisach plane correspond to elementary loops of different H_c and shift.
•The total number of metastable states is 2^N, where N is the number of Preisach units in yellow region.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – Preisach model

• Exemplary hystereses from Preisach model

-1000 Preisach units, h_c – Gaussian distribution with average $\mu=1$ and $\sigma^2=0.01$;
 h_u – Gaussian distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=0.01$:

Gaussian distribution

• For narrow distribution of Preisach units on Preisach plane we essentially recover the elementary square loop of a single element.

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

image source: Wikimedia Commons; author: Inductiveload

Hysteresis – Preisach model

- Exemplary hystereses from Preisach model
- 1000 Preisach units, h_c – Gaussian distribution with average $\mu=1$ and $\sigma^2=0.5$; h_u – Gaussian distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=0.01$:
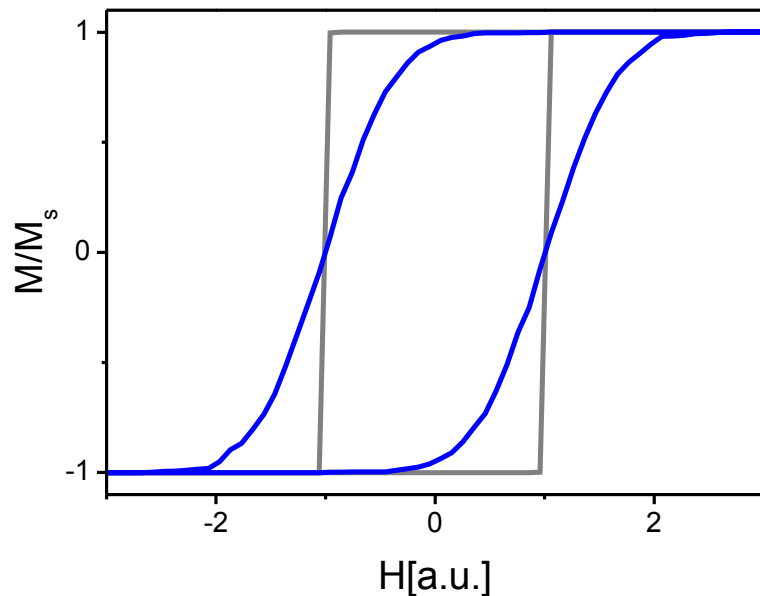

Gaussian distribution
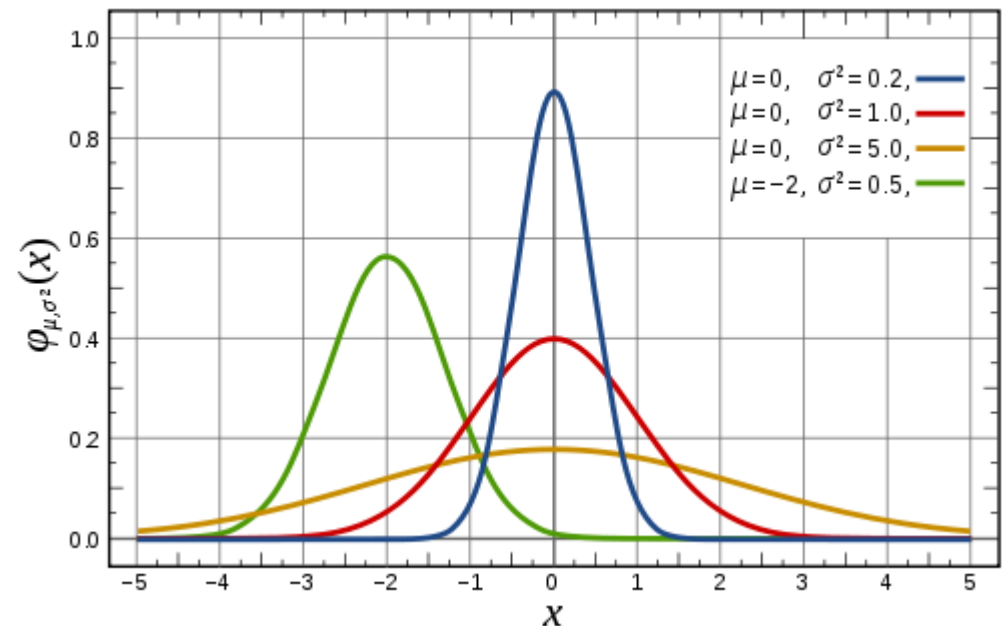
- The shapes of the hysteresis depend mainly (assuming zero average shift h_u) on the width of the distribution
- In systems composed of individual physical entities (grains etc.) one often uses factorization (Preisach distribution which is a product of distributions for h_c and h_u):

$$p\left(h_c, h_u\right) = f\left(h_c\right) g\left(h_u\right)$$

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Hysteresis – Preisach model

- Evolution of hysteresis with increasing spread of coercive fields
- 2000 Preisach units, h_c – Gaussian distribution with average μ=1 and changing σ^2 *;
  h_u – Gaussian distribution with μ=0 and σ^2=0.01:
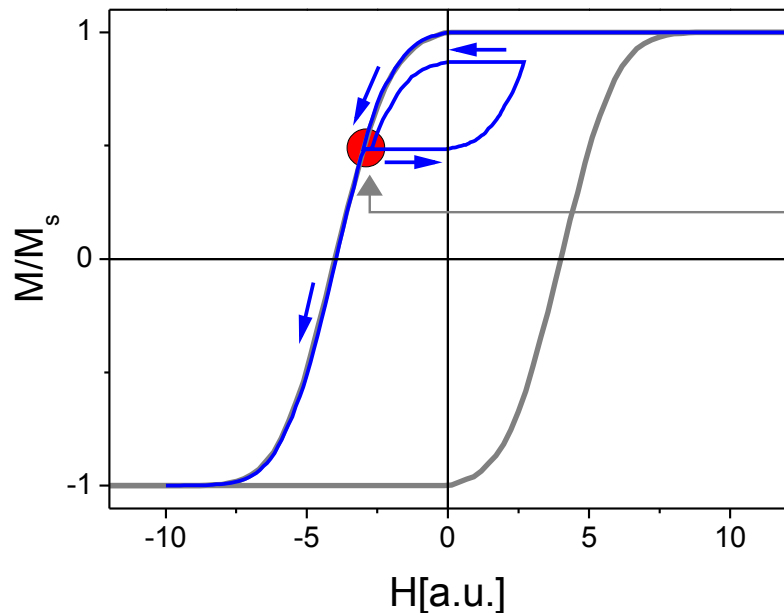

$$\sigma^2 = 0.01$$
$$0.2$$
$$0.5$$
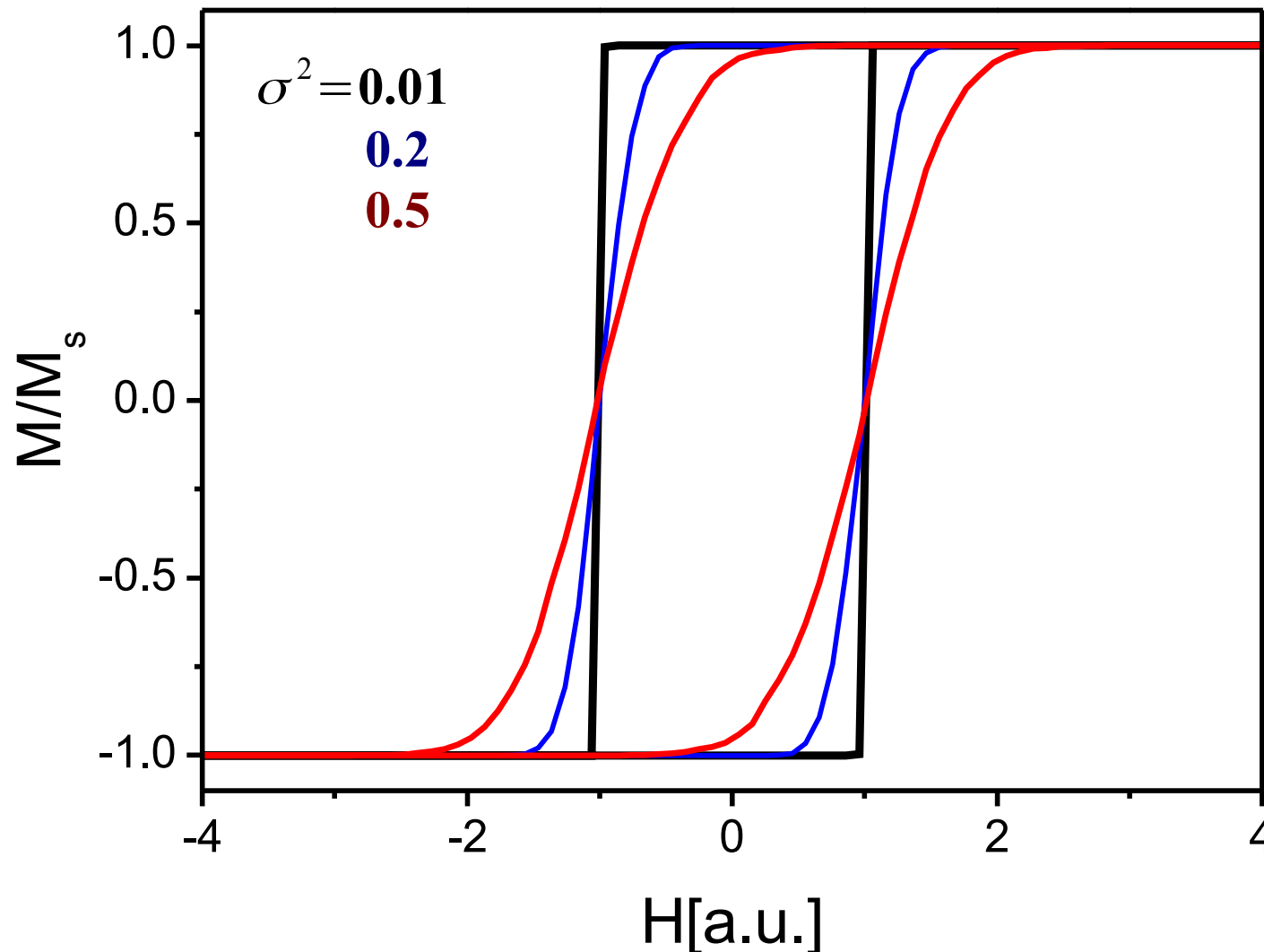
- In systems with structural imperfections one often observes a spread of coercivities.

*care must be take not to have negative coercivities in the distribution

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Preisach model – minor loops

•Exemplary major and corresponding **minor hystereses**
-5000 Preisach units, h_c – absolute values from Gaussian distribution with average $\mu=4$ and $\sigma^2 =1.5$; h_u – Gaussian distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=0.01$:
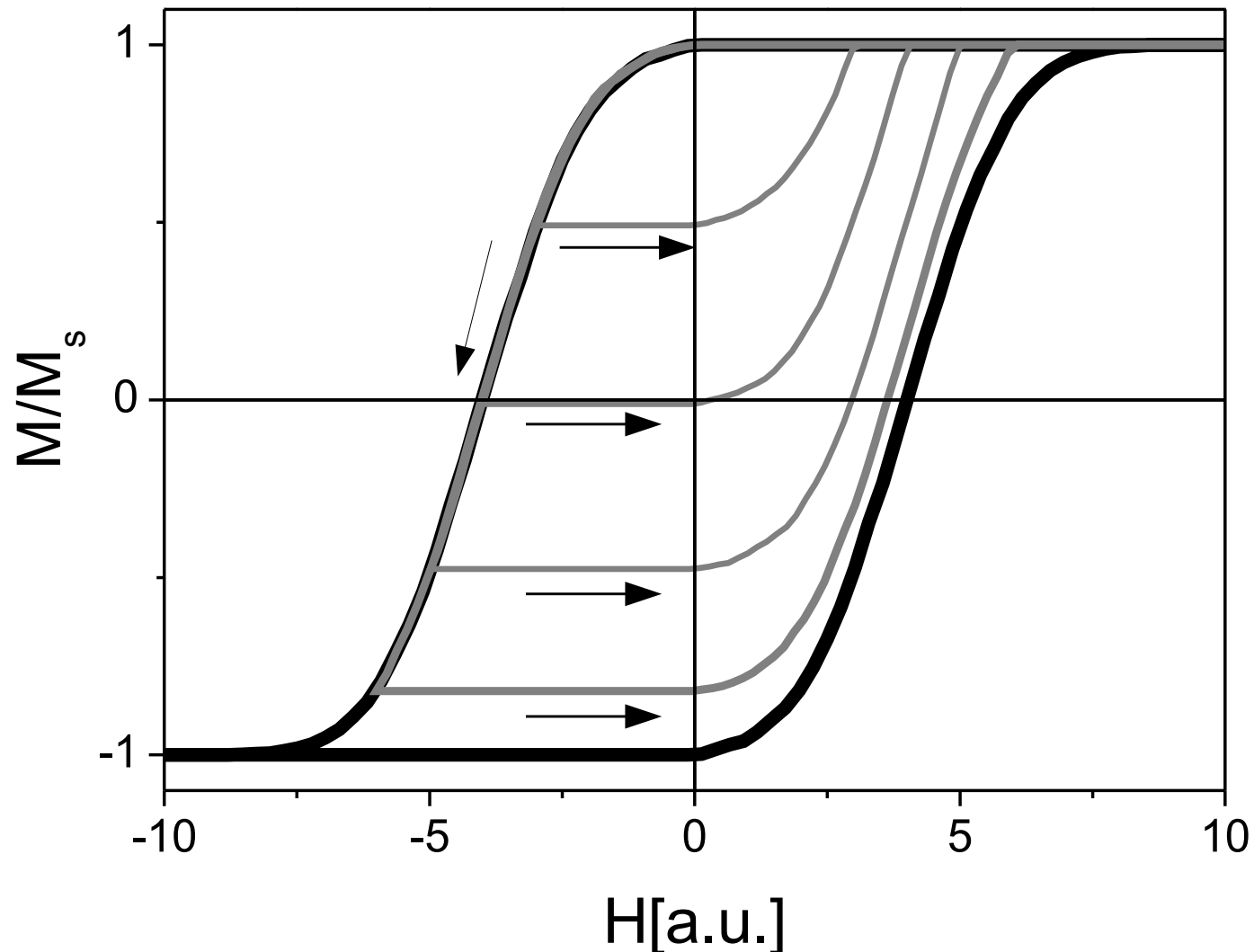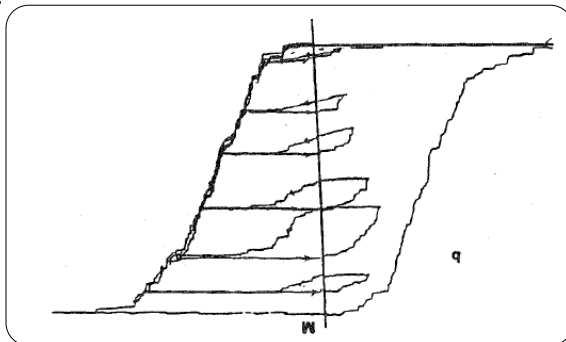

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Preisach model – applicability

- A necessary condition for the Preisach model to be applicable is that the system exhibits **return-point memory** [1]

When the field returns back to $H=H_1$ the system returns back to the exactly same state it occupied when the point $H=H_1$ was reached for the first time.
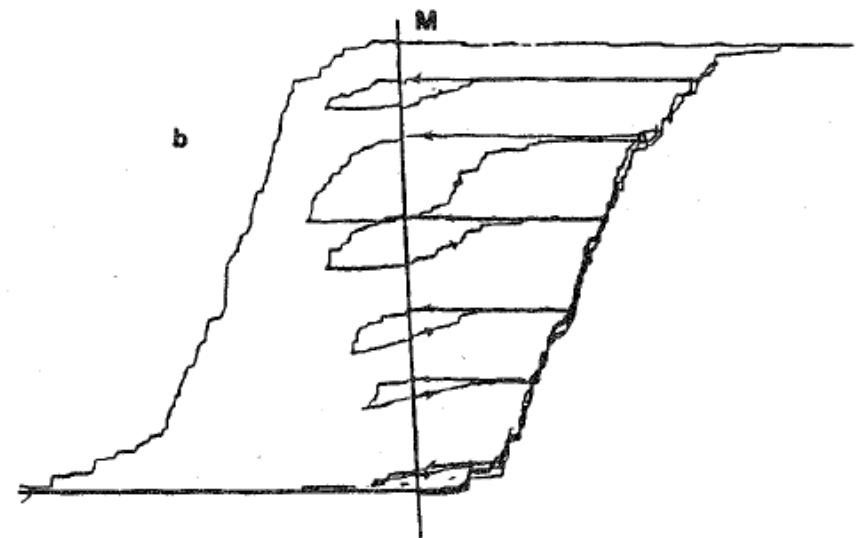
5000 Preisach units, h_c – absolute values from Gaussian distribution with average $\mu=4$ and $\sigma^2 =1.5$; h_u – Gaussian distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=0.01$.

Fig.2. Wiping-out property for 81 pixels of the 2D array of garnet particles, switching by rotation of the magnetization. **a** - field reverses before switching starts; **b** - number of pixels switched depends on the reverse field.
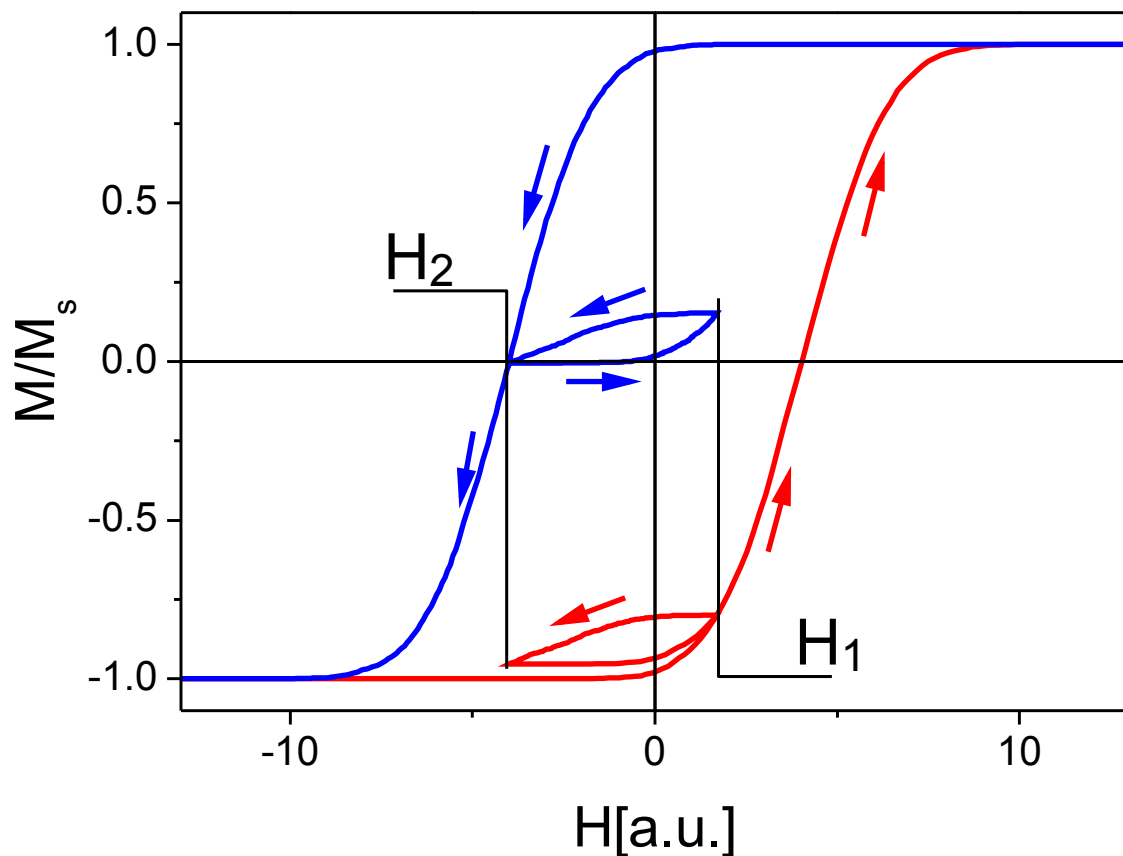
image source: M. Pardavi-Horvath and G. Vertesy, IEEE Trans. Magn. 33 3975 (1997)

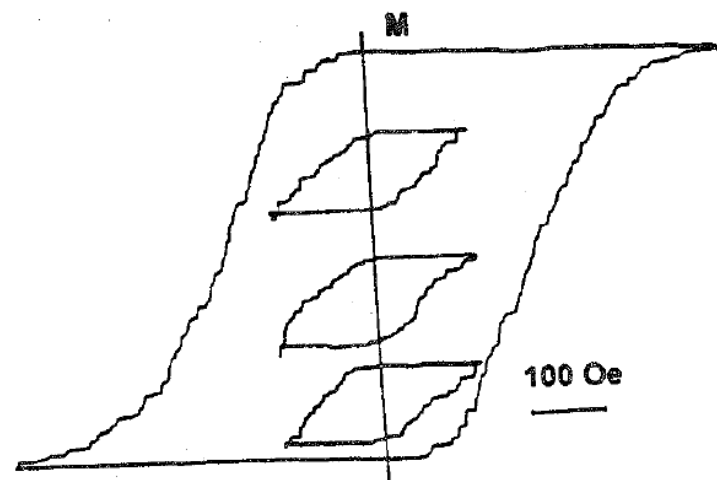[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Preisach model – applicability

• A necessary condition for the Preisach model to be applicable is that the system exhibits **congruency** [1]

5000 Preisach units, h_c – absolute values from Gaussian distribution with average $\mu=4$ and $\sigma^2 =1.5$; h_u – Gaussian distribution with $\mu=0$ and $\sigma^2=1$.

Field cycling between field values H_1 and H_2 produces the minor hysteresis loop of the same geometrical shape (**congruent**).


Fig.3. Congruency property for the same 81 pixels, upon cycling the field around H=0.

image source: M. Pardavi-Horvath and G. Vertesy, IEEE Trans. Magn. 33 3975 (1997)

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

Nucleation and pinning-type magnets

• In nucleation-type magnets, the virgin curve (obtained after *thermal demagnetization of the sample*) is steep and saturation is reached in fields small compared to coercive field of the the saturation loop:

- domain walls are present in virgin state
- the formation of reverse domains is difficult and the demagnetization curve (second quadrant) is characterized by high coercivity

• In pinning-type magnets domain wall pinning is substantial also in the virgin state

[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998
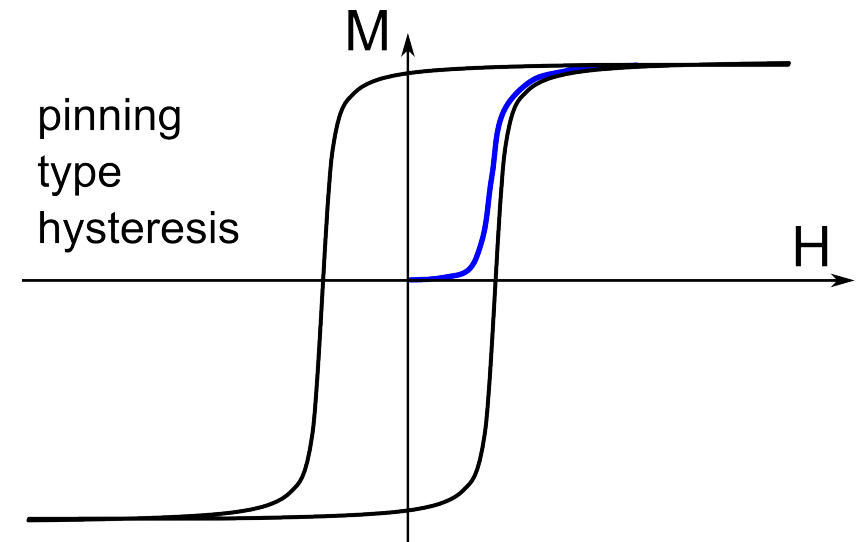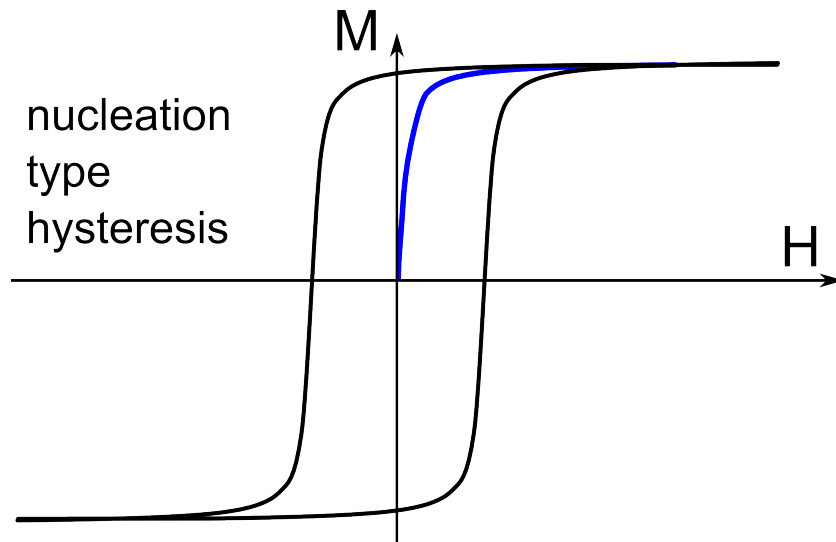
Reentrant hysteresis

- The nucleation of walls often requires much higher fields than those required to sustain the domain wall motion.
- If one measures the hystersis keeping the rate of change of magnetization very slow the so called *reentrant loop* can be obtained [1,3].
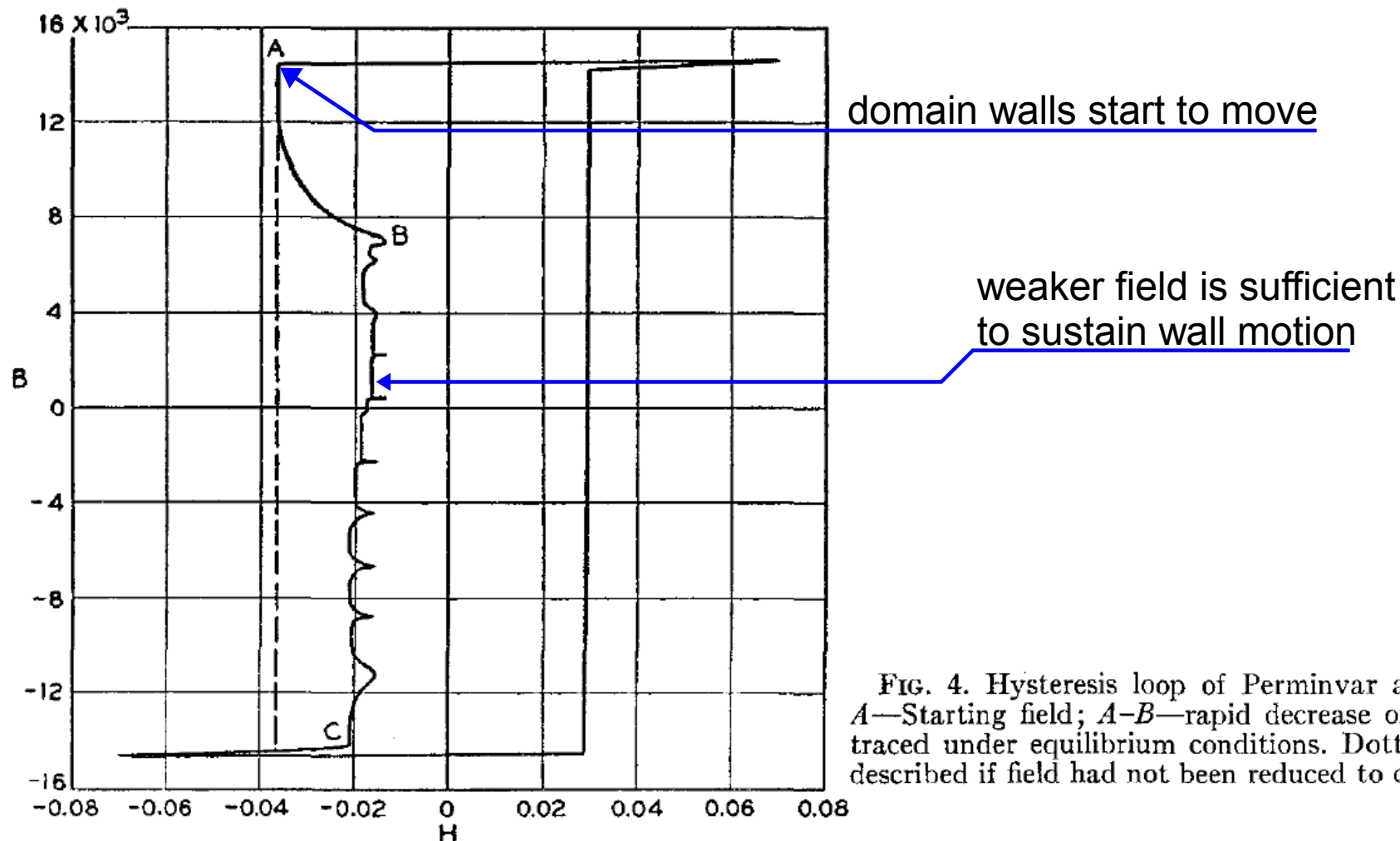

domain walls start to move

weaker field is sufficient to sustain wall motion

FIG. 4. Hysteresis loop of Perminvar after magnetic anneal. A—Starting field; A–B—rapid decrease of applied field; B–C—traced under equilibrium conditions. Dotted line indicates path described if field had not been reduced to critical field.

H. J. Williams and Matilda Goertz, J. Appl. Phys. 23, 316 (1952)

Field induced spin-flop phase transition

- The spin-flop transition can be induced in an uniaxial antiferromagnet with low anisotropy by the field applied parallelly to anisotropy axis:

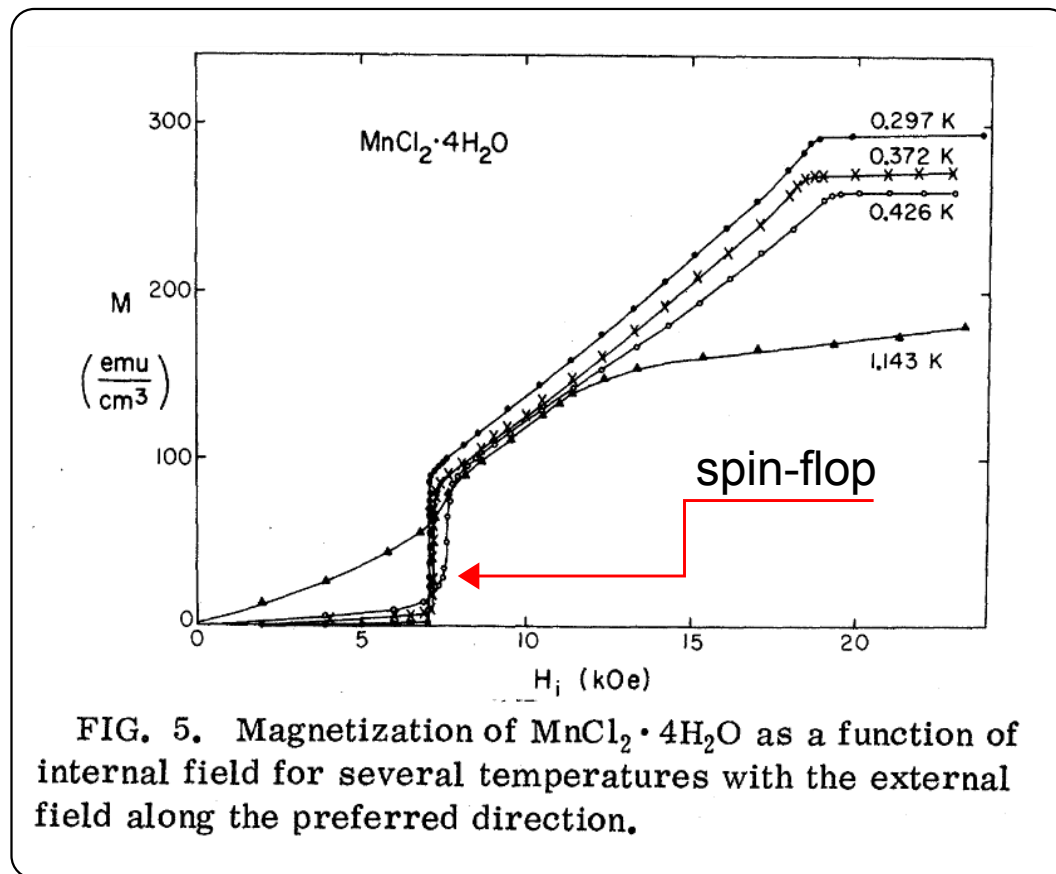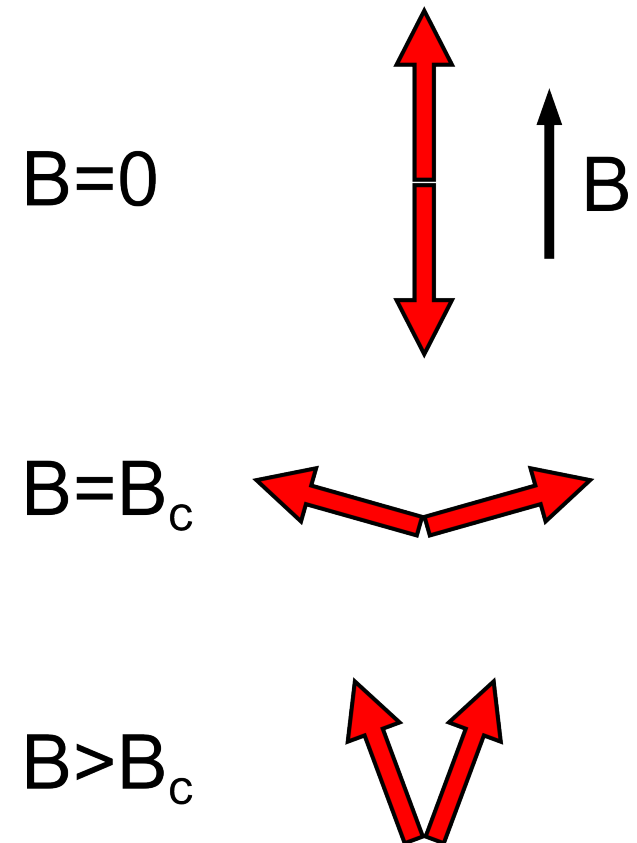### Spin-flop in bulk antiferromagnet

FIG. 5. Magnetization of $MnCl_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ as a function of internal field for several temperatures with the external field along the preferred direction.
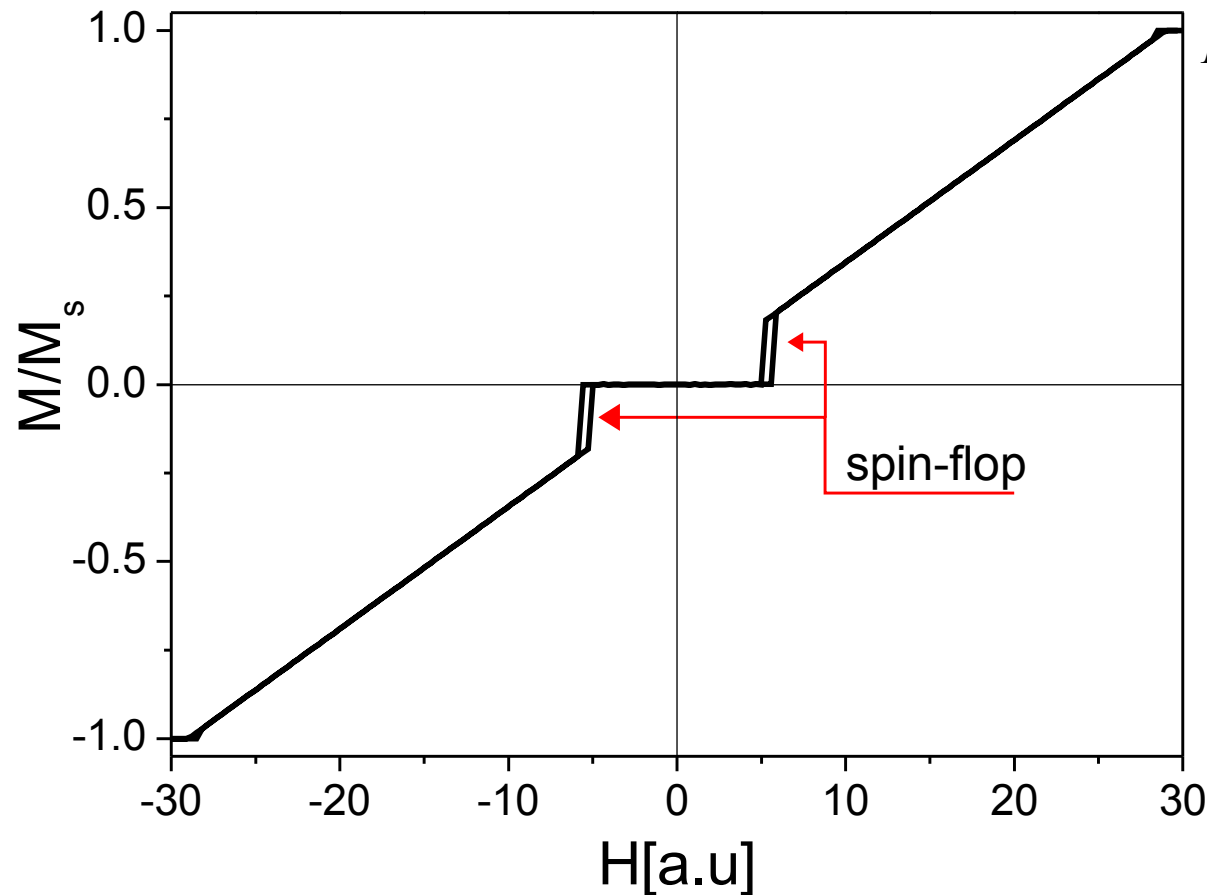
$B=0$ B

$B=B_c$

$B>B_c$

J. E. Rives and V. Benedict, Phys. Rev. B 12, 1908 (1975)

IFM PAN

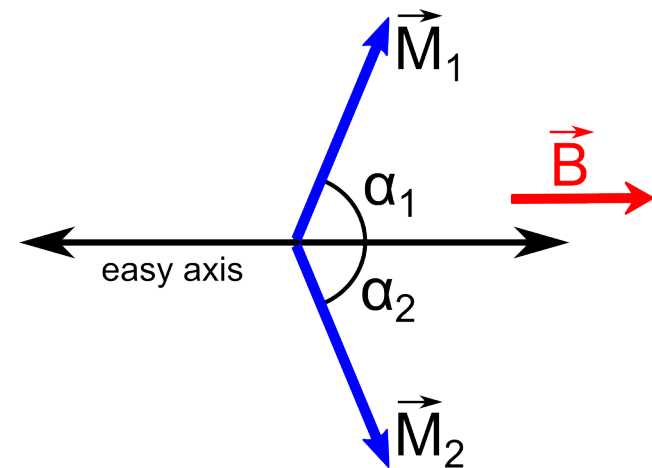# Field induced spin-flop phase transition

•The spin-flop transition can be induced in an uniaxial antiferromagnet with low anisotropy by the field applied parallelly to anisotropy axis:

Spin-flop in bulk antiferromagnet

Stoner-Wohlfarth like model:

$$E = -B\,M_1\cos(\alpha_1) - B\,M_2\cos(\alpha_2)$$
$$- K_a\cos^2(\alpha_1) - K_a\cos^2(\alpha_2) -$$
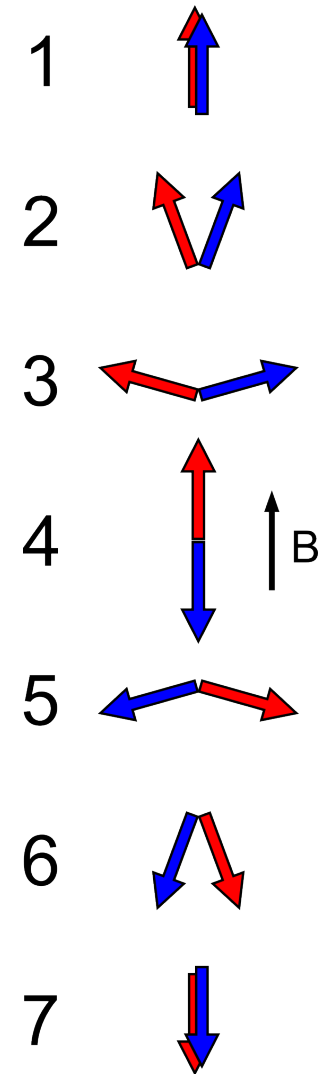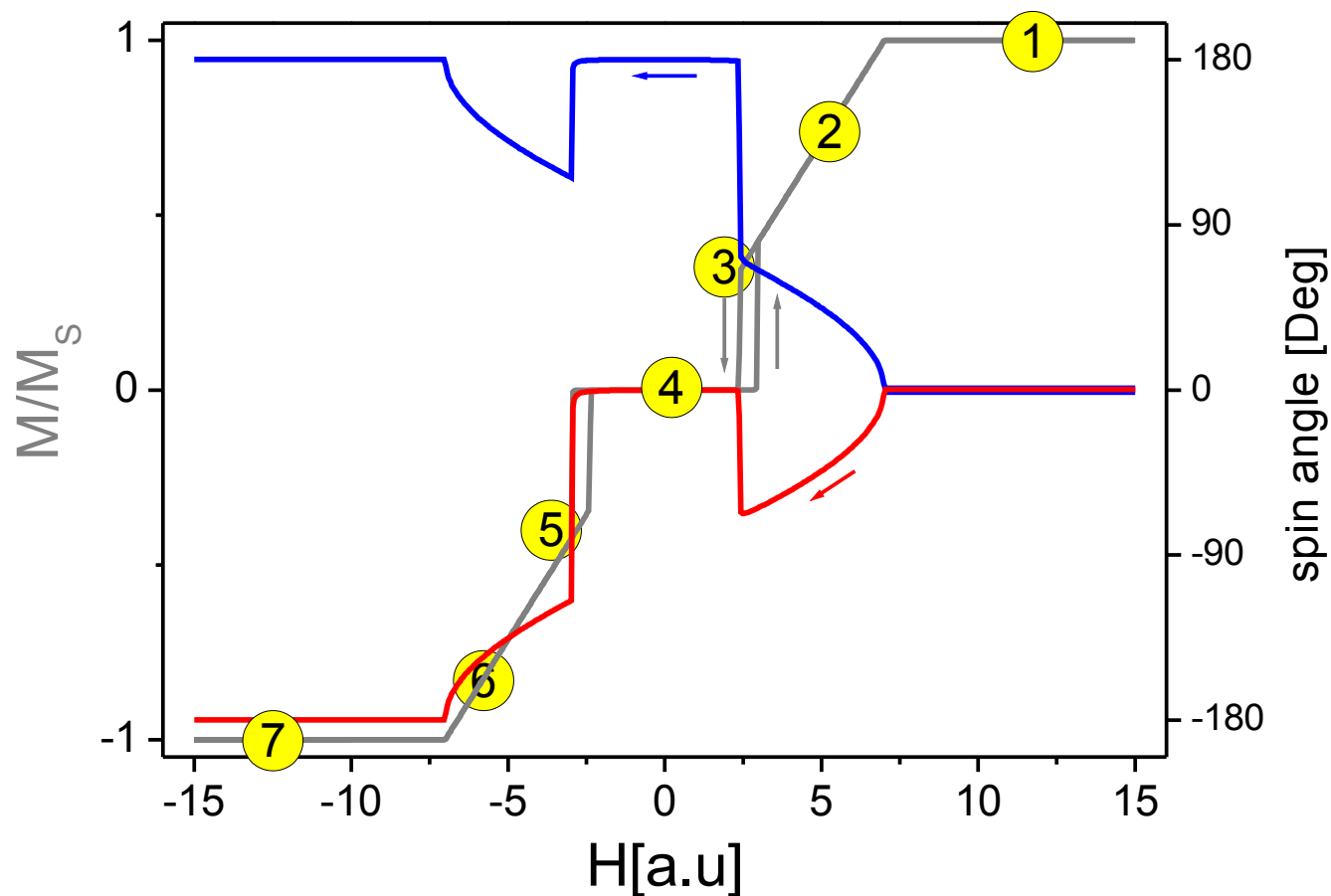$$J_{coupling}\cos[\alpha_1 - \alpha_2]$$

M(H) dependence is obtained by minimizing the above energy expression with respect to α-s for consecutive values of **H**.

IFM PAN

Field induced spin-flop phase transition

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Field induced spin-flop phase transition

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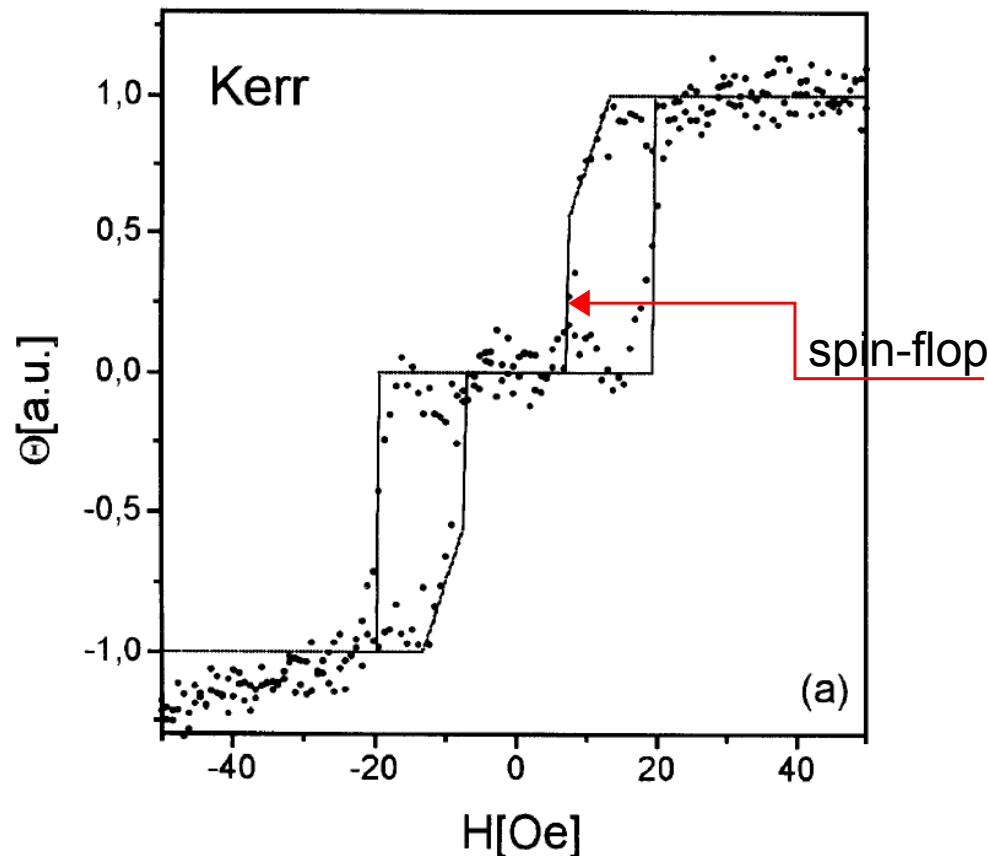
Spin-flop in [NiFe/Cu]$_N$ thin film

(a)

Stoner-Wohlfarth like model:

$$E = -B M_1 \cos(\alpha_1) - B M_2 \cos(\alpha_2) - K_a \cos^2(\alpha_1) - K_a \cos^2(\alpha_2) - J_{coupling} \cos[\alpha_1 - \alpha_2]$$

- In [NiFe/Cu]$_N$ multilayer each NiFe layer can be treated as a macrospin

- The NiFe sublayers are coupled by RKKY-like coupling

Field induced spin-flop phase transition

- The spin-flop transition is classified as first order field induced phase transition because of discontinuous change of magnetization of the sample*.
- When the angle between the external field and the easy axis of ferromagnet (α) exceeds some critical value the phase transition is suppressed and the magnetization changes continuously
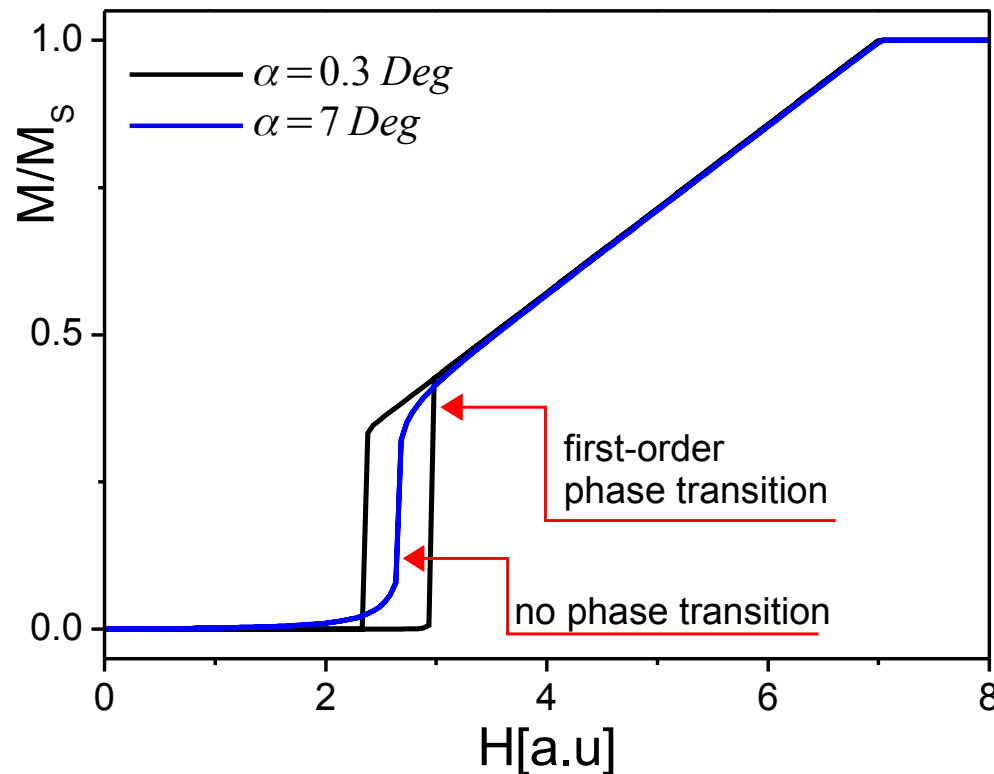
- The critical angle is very sensitive to demagnetizing fields: "the critical angle of a cylinder is nearly three times that of a disk"*.

*K.W. Blazey, H. Rohrer and R. Webster, Phys.Rev. B **4**, 2287 (1971)

Bibliography:
[1] G. Bertotti, Hysteresis in Magnetism, Academic Press, 1998

[2] F. Preisach, Zeitschrift für Physik **94**, 277 (1935)

[3] B. D. Cullity, Introduction to magnetic materials, Addison-Wesley, Reading, Massachusetts 1972