



# Observation of chiral fluctuating state in $\text{Mn}_{1-x}\text{Fe}_x\text{Si}$ above $T_c$

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Sergey Grigoriev

Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute (PNPI)  
188300 Gatchina, St-Petersburg, Russia

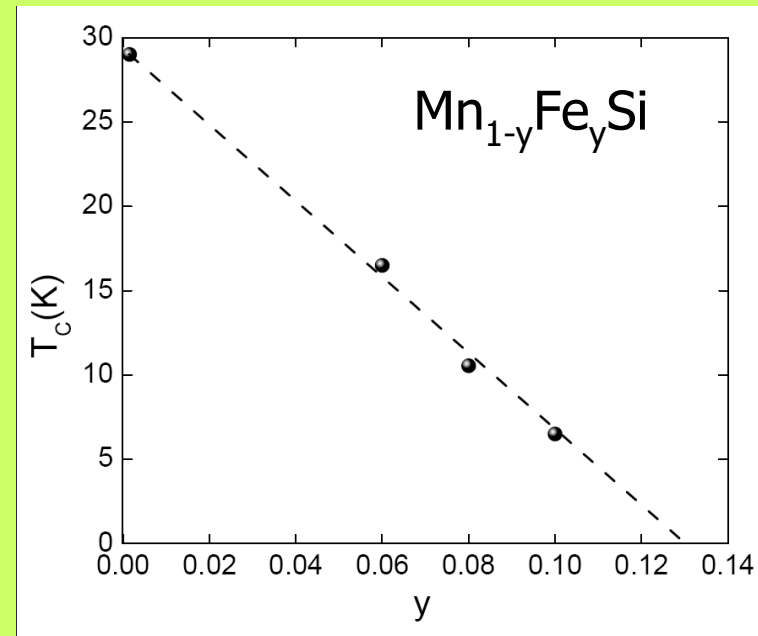
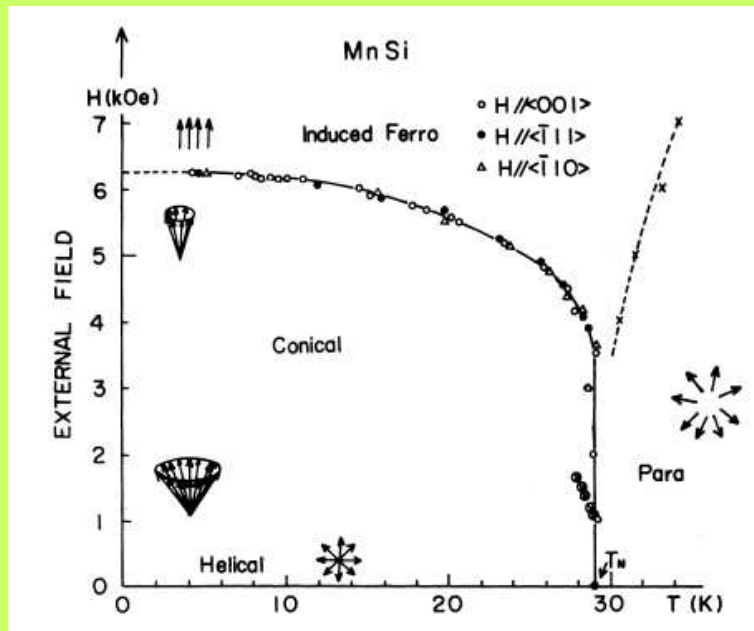


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- 1) H-T phase diagram in  $\text{Mn}_{1-y}\text{Fe}_y\text{Si}$
- 2) Complex nature of the thermal phase transition
- 3) Interpretations: spiral versus skyrmion fluctuations.
- 4) Conclusion.

# Magnetic order in $\text{Mn}_{1-y}\text{Fe}_y\text{Si}$

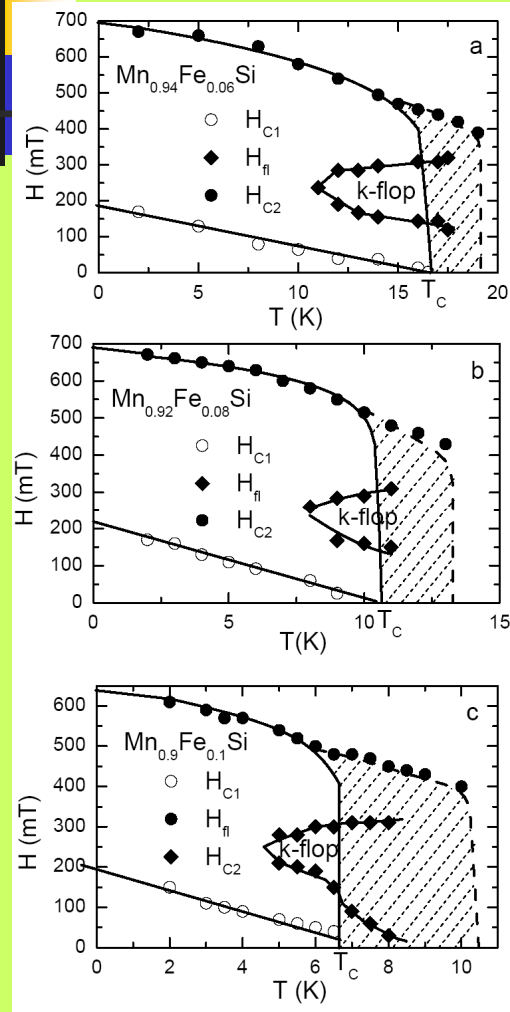


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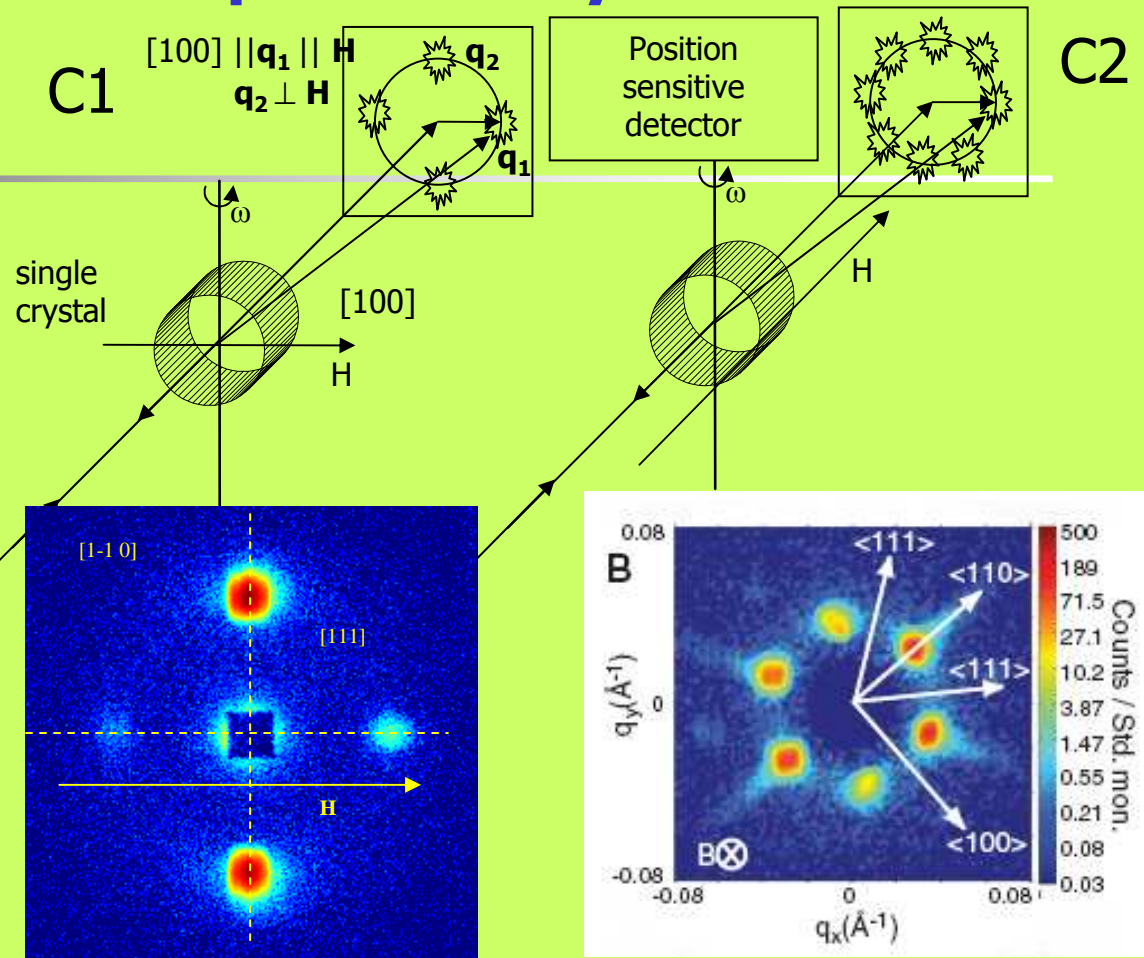
1) period 18 - 10 nm for  $\text{Mn}_{1-y}\text{Fe}_y\text{Si}$ .

2)  $\mu_S$  (Me)  $\approx$  0.25 - 0.40  $\mu_B$   
for  $\text{Mn}_{1-y}\text{Fe}_y\text{Si}$

## 2. H-T phase diagram, appearance of A-phase: spirals or skyrmions ?



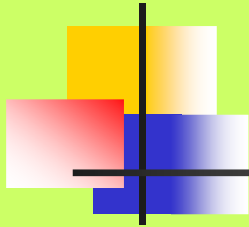
S. V. Grigoriev, V. A. Dyadkin, E. V. Moskvina, D. Lamago, Th. Wolf, H. Eckerlebe, and S. V. Maleyev, Phys.Rev. B **79** (2009) 144417



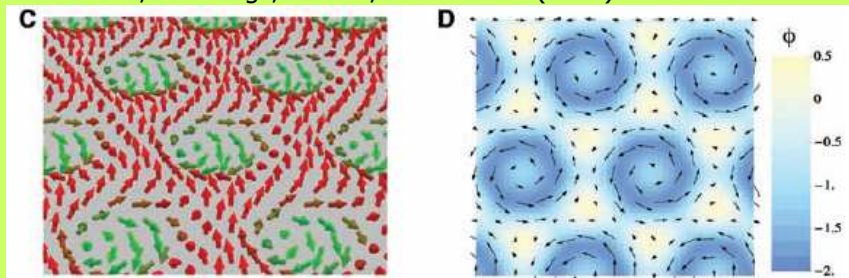
S.V. Grigoriev, S.V. Maleyev, A.I. Okorokov, Yu.O. Chetverikov, H. Eckerlebe, Phys.Rev.B **73** (2006) 224440; B. Lebech in "Recent Advances in Magnetism of Transition Metal Compounds" p. 167-178 ed. A.Kotani, N Suzuki (1993)

S. Mühlbauer, B. Binz, F. Jonietz, C. Pfleiderer, A. Rosch, A. Neubauer, R. Georgii, P. Böni, Science 323 (2009) 915.

# Skyrmion lattice



S. Mühlbauer, B. Binz, F. Jonietz, C. Pfleiderer, A. Rosch, A. Neubauer, R. Georgii, P. Böni, *Science* 323 (2009) 915.



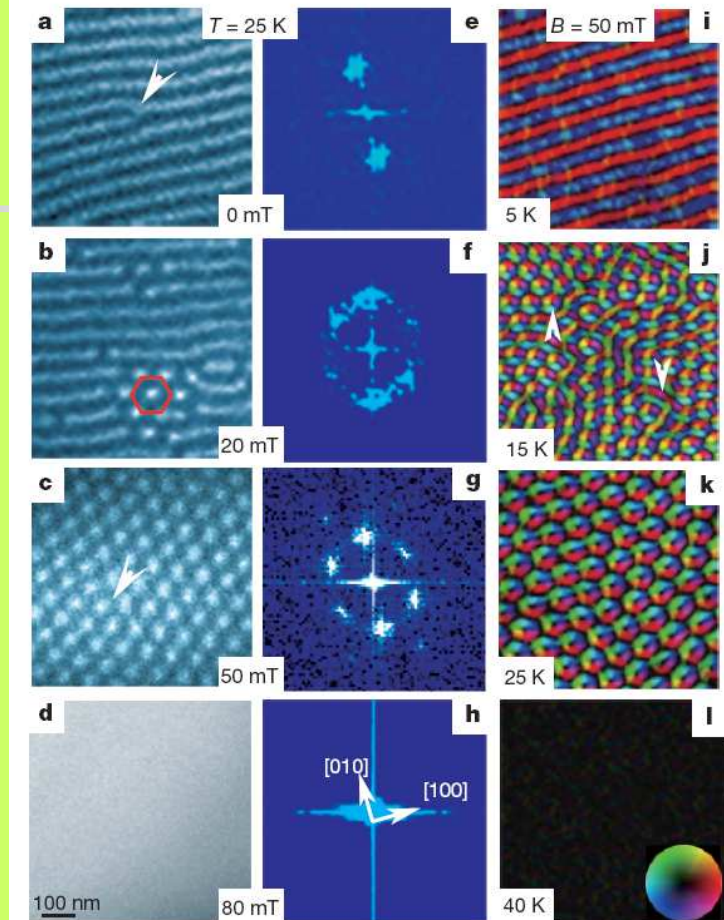
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[2] Bogdanov, A. New localized solutions of the nonlinear field-equations. *JETP Lett.* 62, 247–251 (1995).

[3] Bogdanov, A. N., Rossler, U. K., Pfleiderer, C. Modulated and localized structures in cubic helimagnets. *Physica B* 359–361, 1162–1164 (2005).

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**[n] U. K. Roßler, A. N. Bogdanov, C. Pfleiderer, Spontaneous skyrmion ground states in magnetic metals. *Nature* 442 (2006) 797.**  
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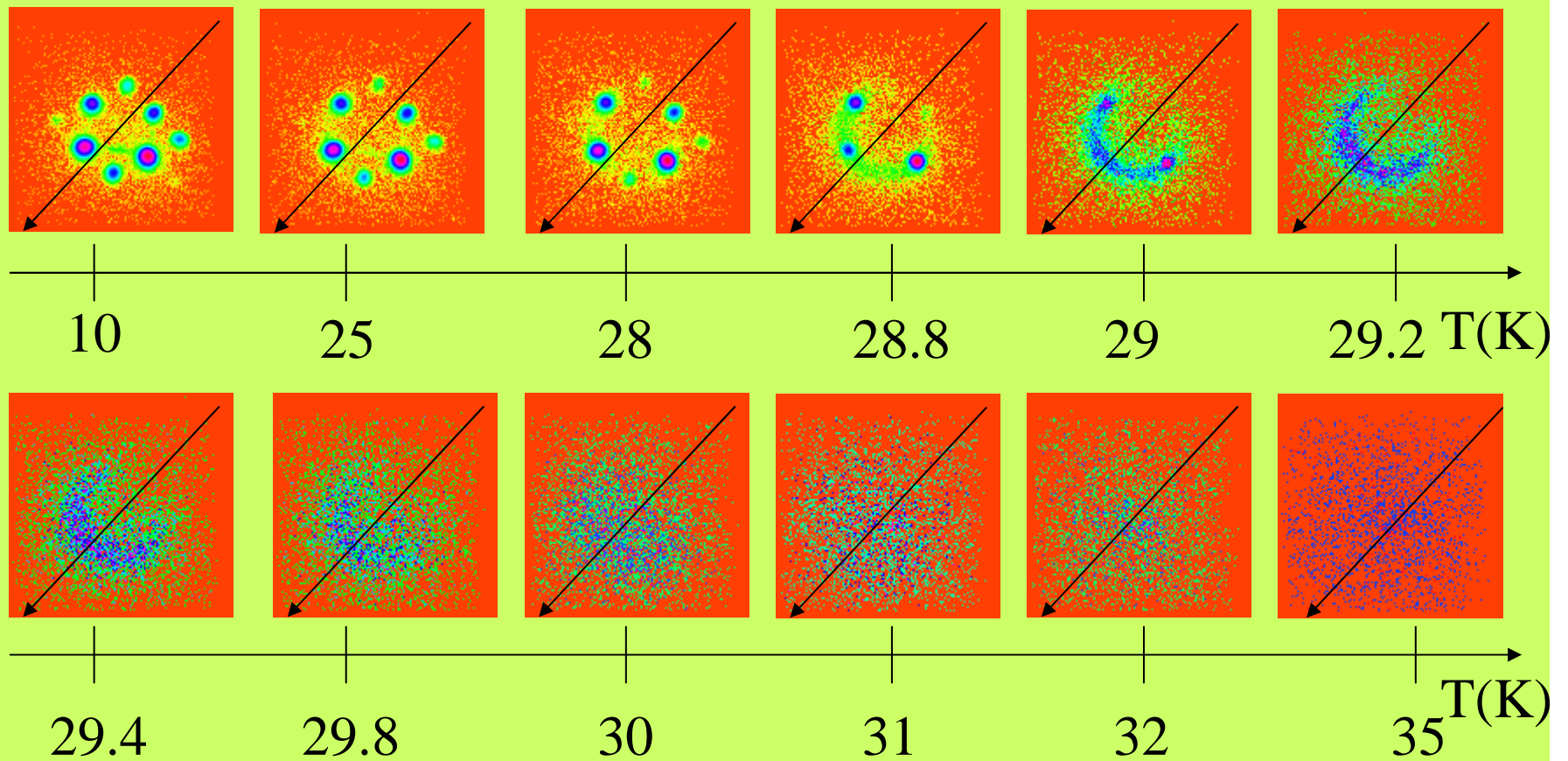
Real-space observation of a two-dimensional skyrmion crystal  
 X. Z. Yu, Y. Onose, N. Kanazawa, J. H. Park, J. H. Han, Y. Matsui, N. Nagaosa, Y. Tokura  
*Nature* 465 (2010) 901.



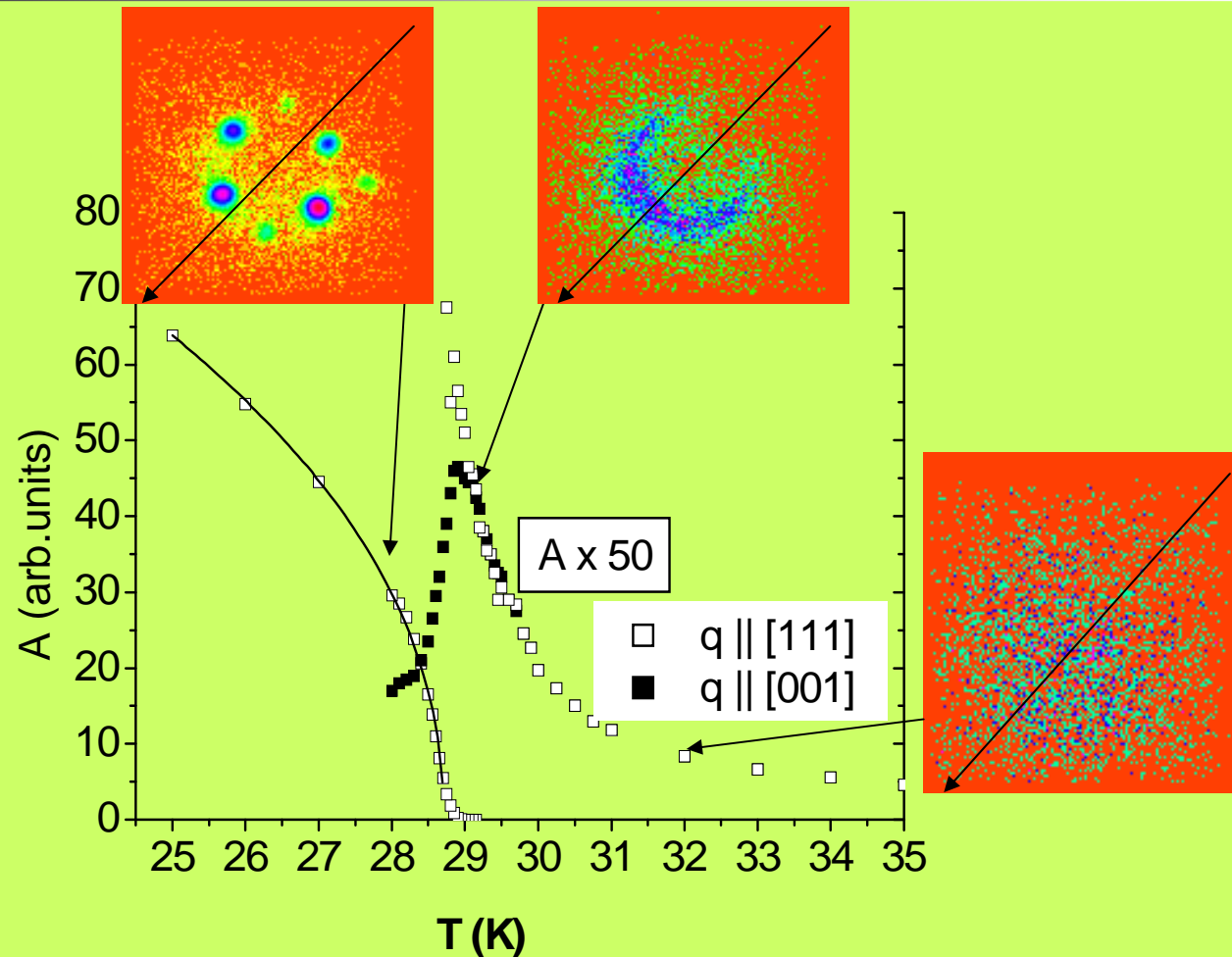
**Figure 2 | Variations of spin texture with magnetic field and temperature in  $\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{Co}_{0.5}\text{Si}$ .** a–d, Magnetic-field dependence of the spin texture, in real-space Lorentz TEM (overfocus) images. e–h, FFT patterns corresponding to a–d. i–l, Temperature profiles of the distribution map of the lateral magnetization for a magnetic field of 50 mT. Magnetic fields were applied normal to the (001) thin film. The colour wheel represents the magnetization direction at every point.



# Thermal phase transition in MnSi



# Complex nature of the thermal phase transition in MnSi



# The neutron cross-section at $T > T_C$

Bak-Jensen model and bilinear part of the free energy density

$$W(\mathbf{Q}) = \left[ \frac{B}{2} (Q^2 + \kappa_0^2) \delta_{\alpha\beta} + iD\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} Q_\gamma \right] S_{\mathbf{Q}}^\alpha S_{-\mathbf{Q}}^\beta + \frac{F}{2} (Q_x^2 |S_{\mathbf{Q}}^x|^2 + Q_y^2 |S_{\mathbf{Q}}^y|^2 + Q_z^2 |S_{\mathbf{Q}}^z|^2),$$

Neglecting DMI and anisotropic exchange

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}^F(\mathbf{Q}) = \frac{T}{B(Q^2 + \kappa_0^2)} \delta_{\alpha\beta},$$

In real space

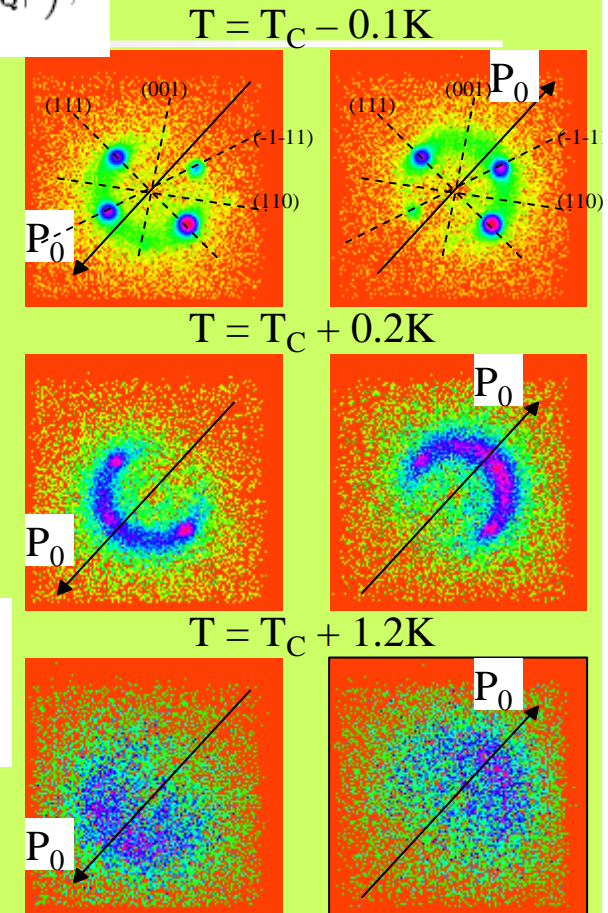
$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}^F(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int \chi_{\alpha\beta}^F(\mathbf{Q}) e^{-i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r}} d^3\mathbf{Q} = \frac{T}{4\pi B} \frac{e^{-\kappa_0 r}}{r} \delta_{\alpha\beta}.$$

Accounting for DMI and anisotropic exchange

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{Q}) = \frac{T [(Q^2 + k^2 + \kappa_1^2) \delta_{\alpha\beta} - 2ik(D/|D|)\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} Q_\gamma - 4k^2 Q_\alpha Q_\beta / (Q^2 + k^2 + \kappa_1^2)]}{B \left\{ [(Q+k)^2 + \kappa_1^2] [(Q-k)^2 + \kappa_1^2] - 4(F/B)k^2 Q^4 \left\{ \hat{Q}^4 \right\} / (Q^2 + k^2 + \kappa_1^2) \right\}},$$

with the corresponding neutron cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{2r^2 T}{B} \frac{Q^2 + k^2 + \kappa_1^2 + 2k(D/|D|)(\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{P}_0)}{[(Q+k)^2 + \kappa_1^2][(Q-k)^2 + \kappa_1^2] + k^2 \kappa_A^2(\mathbf{Q})}$$





## In real space

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}^I(r) = \frac{T}{4\pi B} \frac{e^{-\kappa_1 r}}{r} \left( \cos kr + \frac{k}{\kappa_1} \sin kr \right) \delta_{\alpha\beta},$$

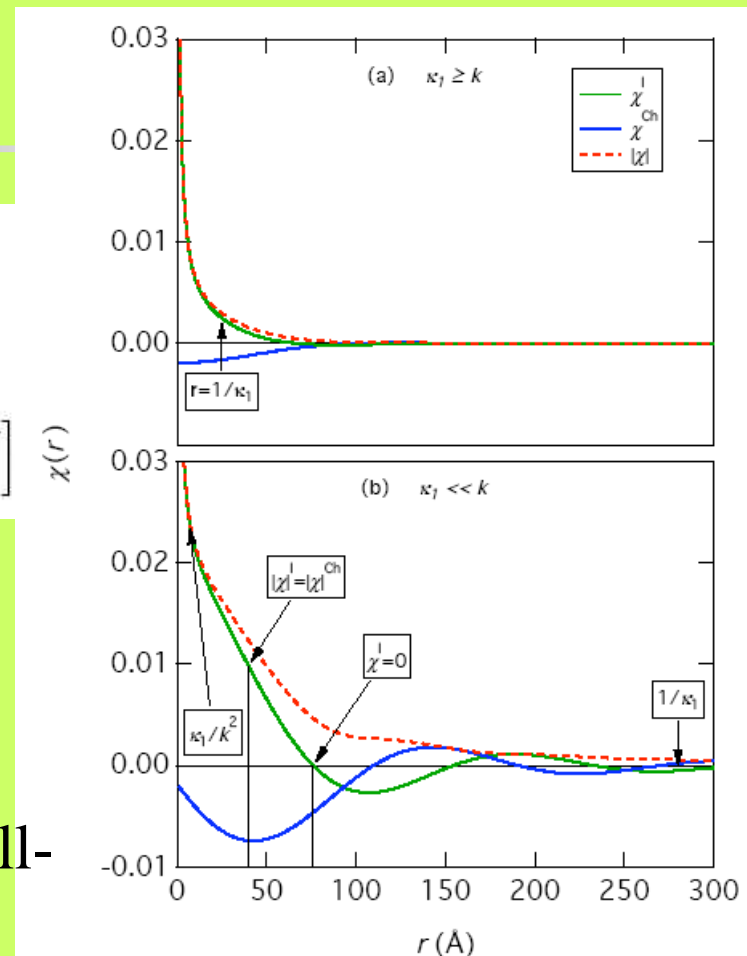
$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}^{Ch}(r) = \frac{T}{4\pi B} (D/|D|) \frac{e^{-\kappa_1 r}}{r} \left[ \sin kr + \frac{k}{\kappa_1} \left( \frac{\sin kr}{kr} - \cos kr \right) \right] \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \hat{r}_\gamma,$$

$$\chi_{\alpha\beta}^L(r) = \frac{T}{4\pi B(k^2 + \kappa_1^2)} \nabla_\alpha \nabla_\beta \frac{1}{r} \left[ e^{-\kappa_1 r} \left( \frac{k}{\kappa_1} \sin kr - \cos kr \right) + e^{-r\sqrt{k^2 + \kappa_1^2}} \right]$$

$k = 0$ , then ferromagnetic fluctuations

$k < \kappa_1$ , then ferromagnetic type diffuse fluctuations (a certain chirality but  $k$  is ill-determined)

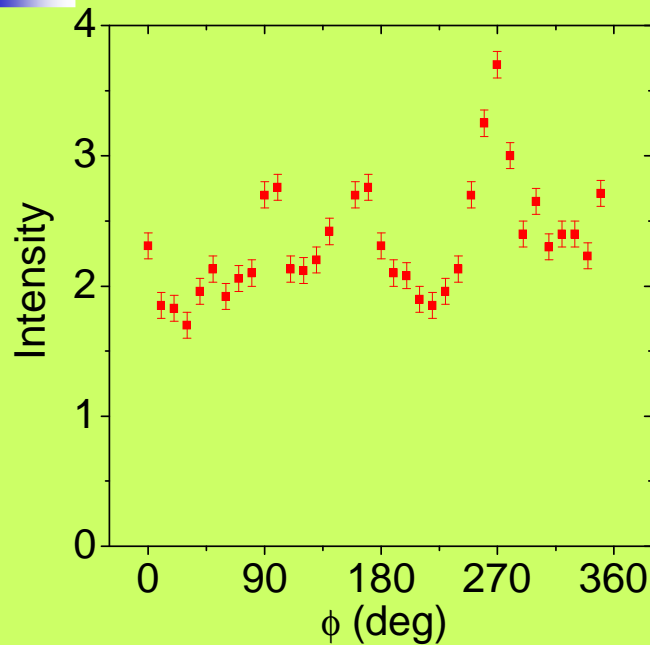
$k > \kappa_1$ , then helical fluctuations with a certain chirality and a well defined  $k$ .



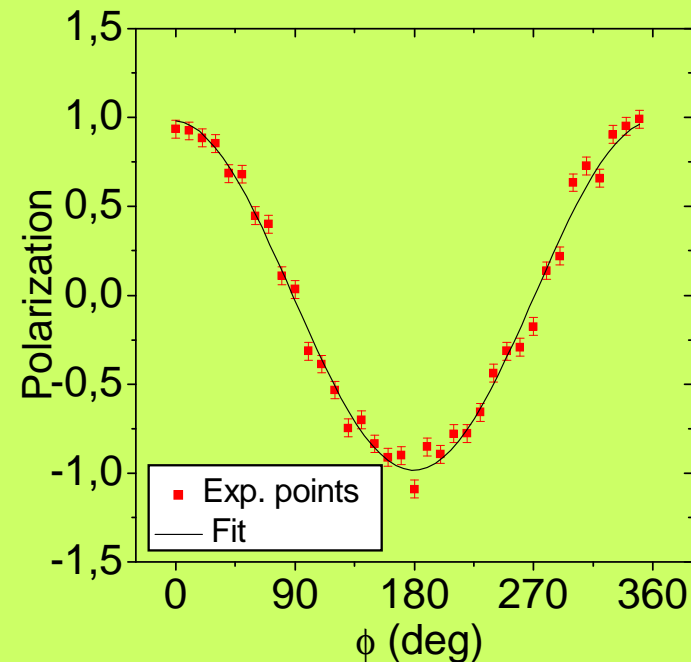
# Data analysis: angle dependence

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{[rF(\mathbf{q})]^2 T}{[B(q+k)^2 + \kappa^2] [(q-k)^2 + \kappa^2 + (|U|k^2/2)(\hat{q}^4 - 1/3)]} \frac{k^2 + q^2 + \kappa^2 - 2kq\mathbf{P}_0}{}$$

$$P_s = \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{P}_0) - \sigma(-\mathbf{P}_0)}{\sigma(\mathbf{P}_0) + \sigma(-\mathbf{P}_0)} = -\frac{2kqP_0 \cos \varphi}{q^2 + k^2 + \kappa^2}$$



Intensity of the scattering at  $|\mathbf{q}| = k$   
 $I = (I(\mathbf{P}_0) + I(-\mathbf{P}_0))$  at  $T = T_C + 0.3$  K.

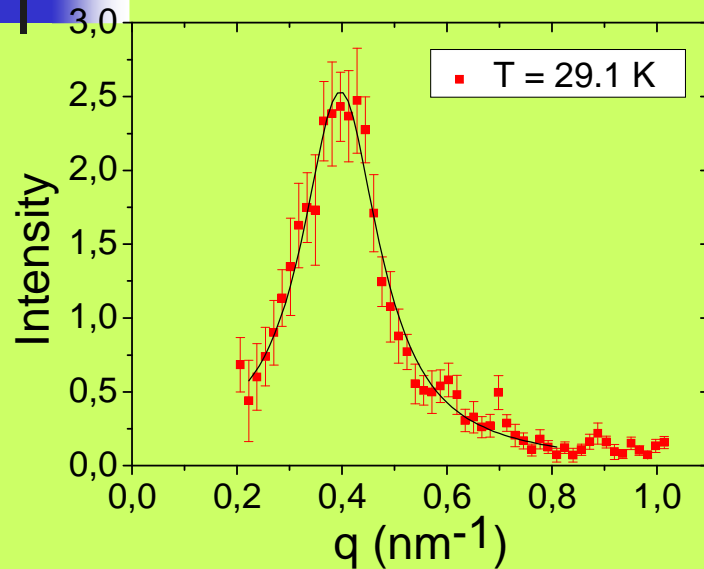


Polarization of the scattering at  $|\mathbf{q}| = k$   
 at  $T = T_C + 0.3$  K.

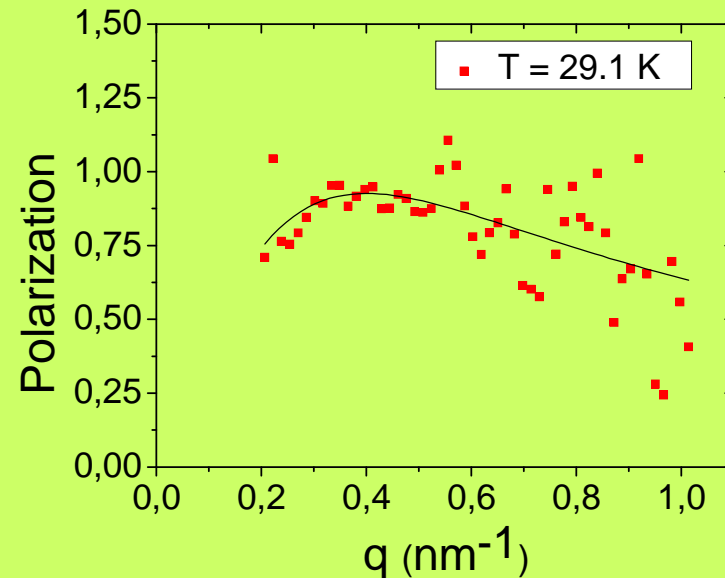
# Data analysis: q-dependence

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{[rF(\mathbf{q})]^2 T}{[B(q+k)^2 + \kappa^2]} \frac{k^2 + q^2 + \kappa^2 - 2kq\mathbf{P}_0}{[(q-k)^2 + \kappa^2 + (|U|k^2/2)(\hat{q}^4 - 1/3)]}$$

$$P_s = \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{P}_0) - \sigma(-\mathbf{P}_0)}{\sigma(\mathbf{P}_0) + \sigma(-\mathbf{P}_0)} = -\frac{2kqP_0 \cos \varphi}{q^2 + k^2 + \kappa^2}$$

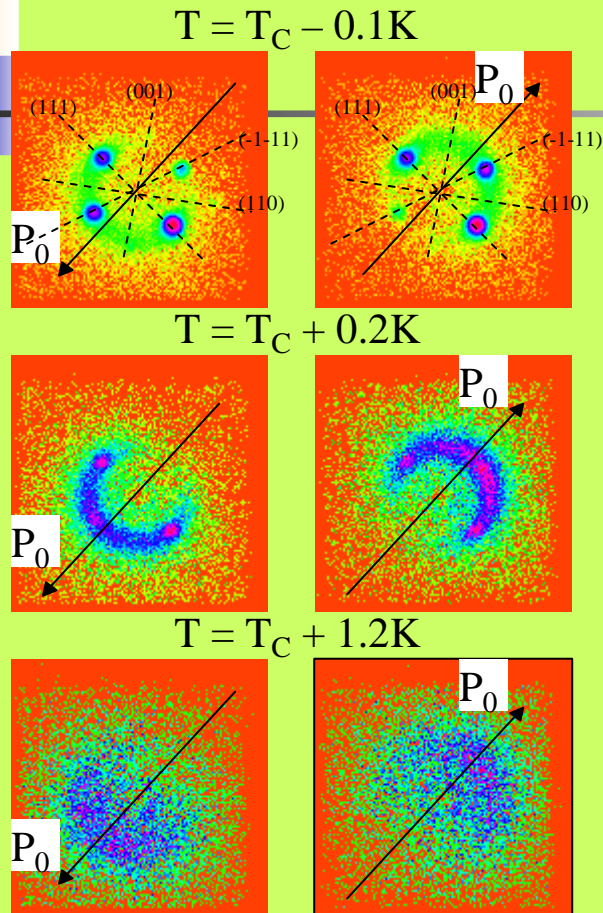


Intensity of the scattering at  $\mathbf{q} \parallel \mathbf{P}_0$   
 $I(q) = (I(q, \mathbf{P}_0) + I(q, -\mathbf{P}_0))$

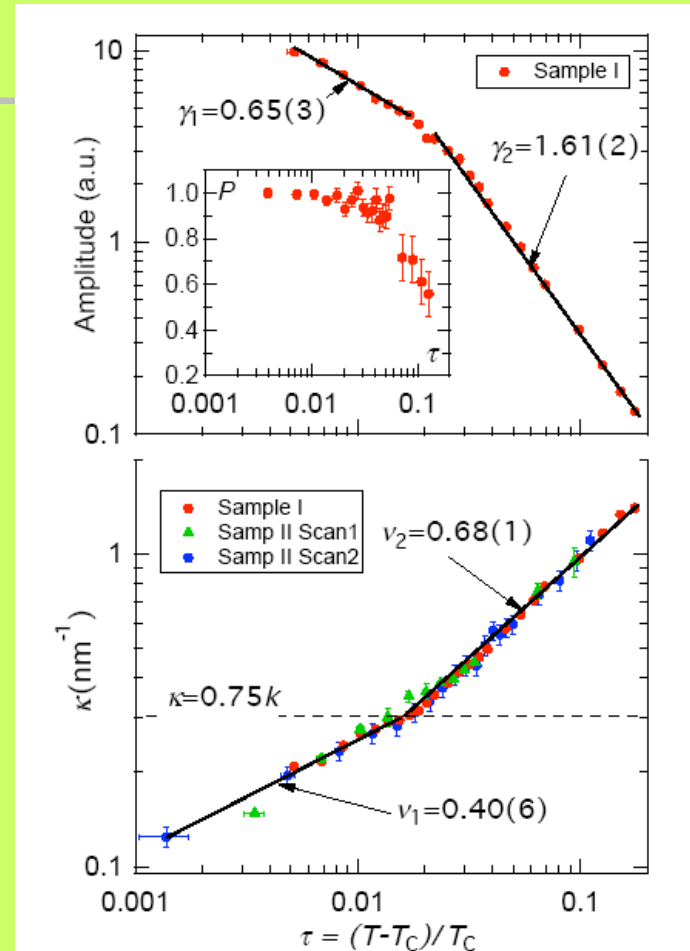


Polarization of the scattering at  $\mathbf{q} \parallel \mathbf{P}_0$   
 at  $T = T_C + 0.3$  K.

# Data analysis temperature dependence

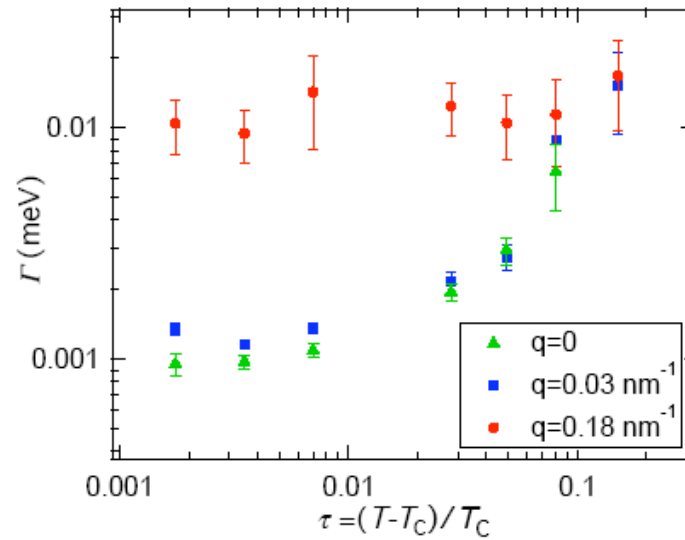
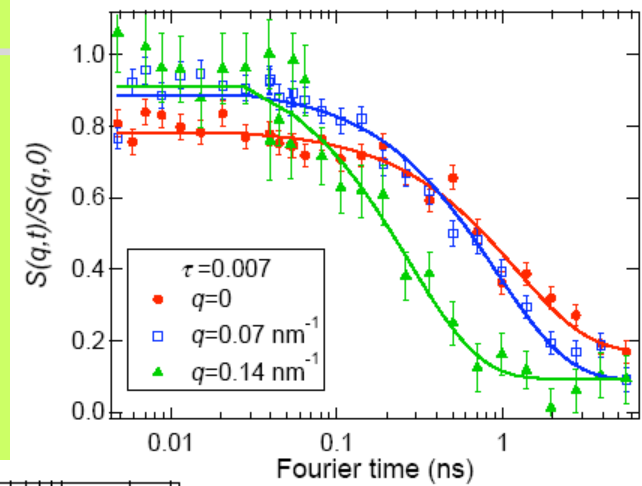
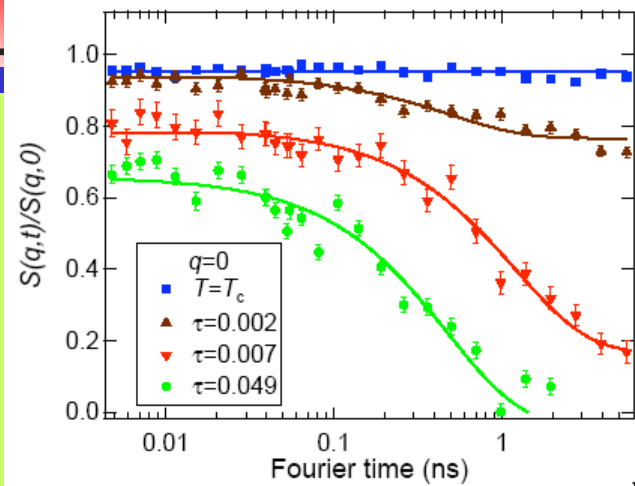


Polarized SANS maps



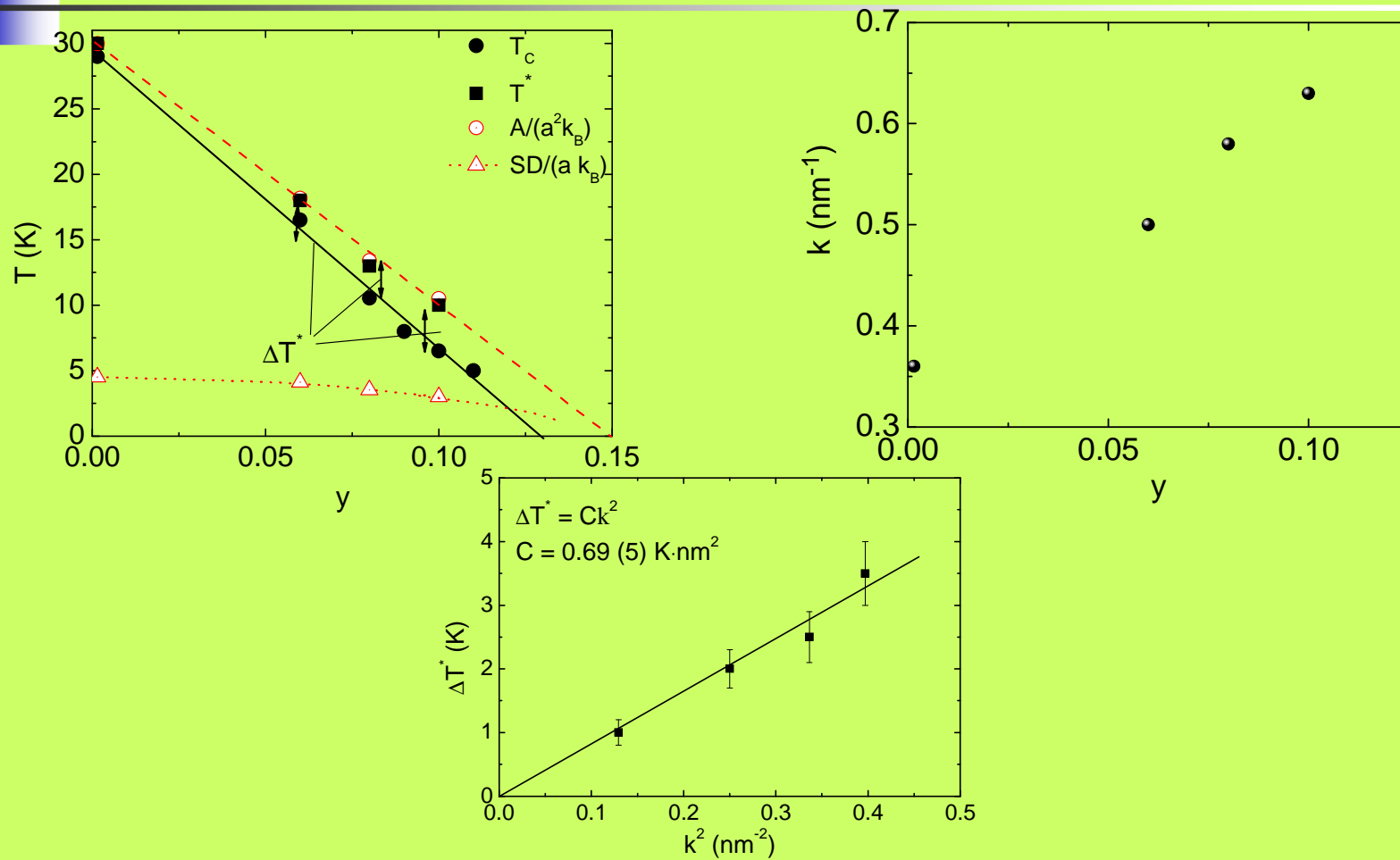
$\tau$ - dependence of (a) amplitude of scattering and (b) inverse correlation length.

# Spin echo measurements of critical fluctuations in MnSi





# Chiral fluctuating state in $\text{Mn}_{1-y}\text{Fe}_y\text{Si}$ above $T_C$





# Conclusion

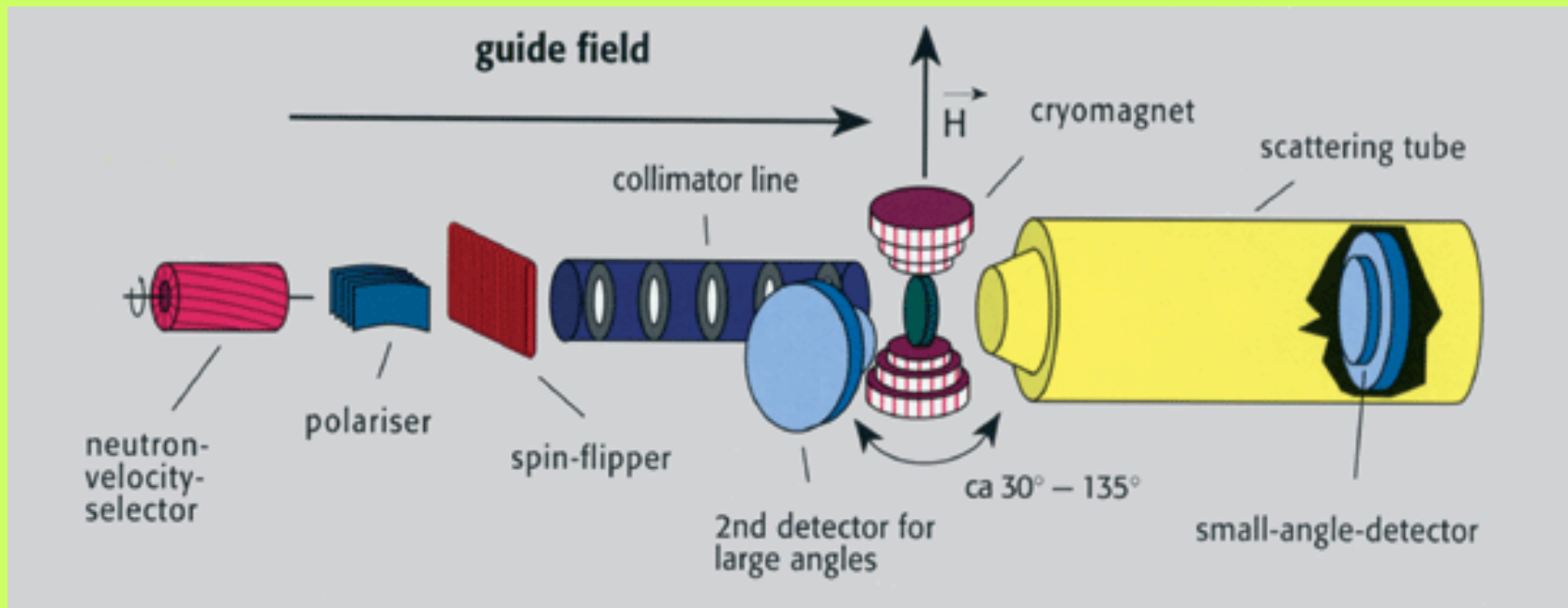
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Complex nature of the thermal phase transition has been explained on the basis of MF theory.

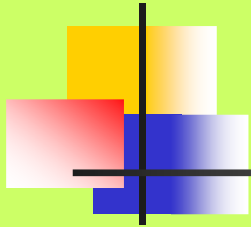
The obtained susceptibility and neutron cross section describes the existing set of the experimental data for MnSi.

# Acknowledgements

The SANS2 at GKSS in Geesthacht  
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$$P_0=0.95,$$
$$\lambda=0.58 \text{ nm}$$
$$(\Delta\lambda/\lambda=0.1)$$



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A.I. Okorokov, Yu.O. Chetverikov, E.V. Moskvina  
PNPI, Gatchina, St-Petersburg 188300, Russia

D. Menzel, J. Schoenes  
Technische Universität Braunschweig, D-38106  
Braunschweig, Germany

D. Lamago, Th. Wolf  
FZ Karlsruhe, D-76021 Karlsruhe, Germany

P. Fouquet  
ILL, F-38042 Grenoble, France

K. Pappas  
TU Delft, Delft, The Netherlands

H. Eckerlebe  
GKSS Forschungszentrum, 21502 Geesthacht, Germany