

Спиновые флуктуации и магнетизм в системах с валентной нестабильностью

П.А. Алексеев

*Физика как секс: может не давать
практических результатов, но это
не повод ею не заниматься*

Р. Фейнман

*Все, что интересно, – не просто.
Следствие: когда начинаешь вникать,
то получаешь то, чего не ждал...*

Рабочее совещание по неупругому рассеянию нейтронов
СПЕКТРИНА - 2018

19 - 20 апреля 2018 г ., ПИЯФ НИЦ «КИ», г. Гатчина

Spin fluctuations and magnetism in systems with valence instability

P A Alekseev

Spin fluctuations and magnetism

Rare-earth based compounds with *f*-electron instability

Spin fluctuations are inherent to systems with unfilled and virtually unstable *f*- and *d*- electron shells .

Example – systems based on the *f*-elements from the beginning, middle, and end of rare earth series (Ce, Sm, Eu, Yb).

“Kondo effect, heavy fermions” *Scattering of electrons with spin reversal*

“Valence fluctuations” *Symbolic presentation* $f^n \rightleftharpoons f^{n-1} + e$ *From early 80th...*

Commonplace: spin (valence) fluctuations (τ_{sf}) – physical reason for the formation of the nonmagnetic ground state (no LRMO and static MM):

$(\tau_{sf})^{-1} > kT \Rightarrow$ effective suppression of the MM on $\downarrow T$ (HF-, MV-systems)

For selected nonmagnetic systems the formation of semiconducting state with gap $\sim 100K$ is specific!

Also spin-gap and singlet ground state are formed.

This is mixed valence semiconductor or “Kondo insulator” (KI)

Recently KI with magnetic ordering (LRMO) were discovered!

Spin fluctuations is the dynamical effect therefore magnetic neutron spectroscopy is the adequate experimental method

How it was started with neutrons?

from diffraction - to INS

Neutron magnetic form factor – is peculiar to any neutron scattering data

Physical origin of the form factor $F(Q)$

The result of interference of neutron wave scattered (with momentum transfer Q) by the electron shell (*in fact – on the magn. moment density, originated from 1) spin and 2) orbital moments of electrons*).

Furrier transform of magnetization density distribution

Forward scattering – no interference, $F(0) = 1$

Increase of scattering angle or/and neutron energy, (that means increase of the momentum transfer Q) results in $F(Q) \rightarrow 0$

Magnetic form factor basically is defined experimentally from:

- 1) Intensity of Bragg peaks in diffraction for ordered state ,*
- 2) In paramagnetic state, form induced moment in external magnetic field by polarized neutron diffraction*

In the most of real cases a dipole approximation (small Q) is used:

$$F(Q) = \langle j_0(Q) \rangle + [(2/g) - 1] \langle j_2(Q) \rangle, \quad g - \text{Lande factor}$$

Spin + orbital

Orbital

Spin fluctuations and magnetism

1. Magnetic form factor in intermediate valence state of Sm and Eu

1.1 The form-factor “puzzle” of intermediate valence Sm-ions

For a long time it was not clear, why there is **no evidence** of the presence of “**Sm³⁺** - like form-factor” in neutron measurements for intermediate valence **Sm**-based systems - **SmS** (“gold”) and **SmB₆**, - in spite of the fact that the **average valence** for **Sm** is close to **2.5**

Intramultiplet

($\Delta J=0$)

$$f(Q) = \langle j_0 \rangle + C_2 \langle j_2 \rangle$$

$$C_2 = (2 - g_J) / g_J$$

Intermultiplet

inelastic spin-orbital transitions

($\Delta J \neq 0$) $C_2 = -1$

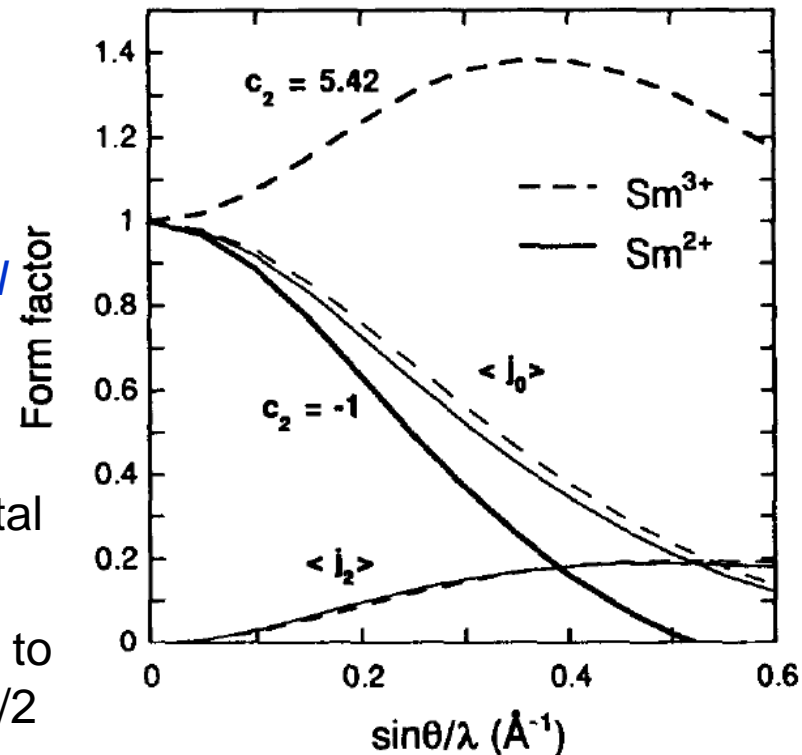
$$f(Q) = \langle j_0 \rangle - \langle j_2 \rangle$$

$\langle j_n \rangle$ - are integrals of the product of the 4f radial wave function and spherical Bessel functions of n-order

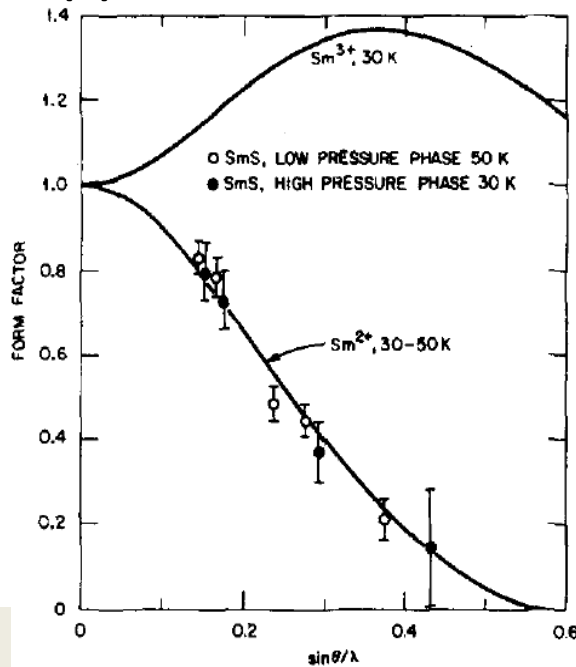
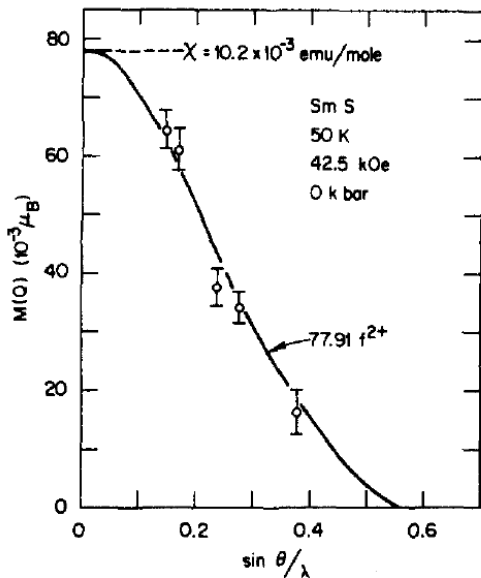
$\langle j_0 \rangle$ - associated with both spin and orbital moments,

$\langle j_2 \rangle$ - resulted from the orbital moment alone

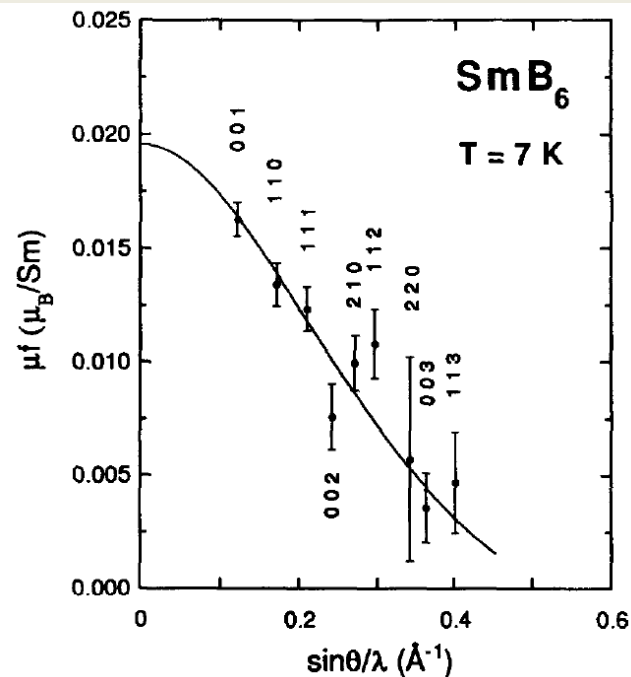
C_2 for Sm^{3+} is very high due to collision of $J=5/2$, $L=5$, $S=5/2$



SmS, Sm(Y)S

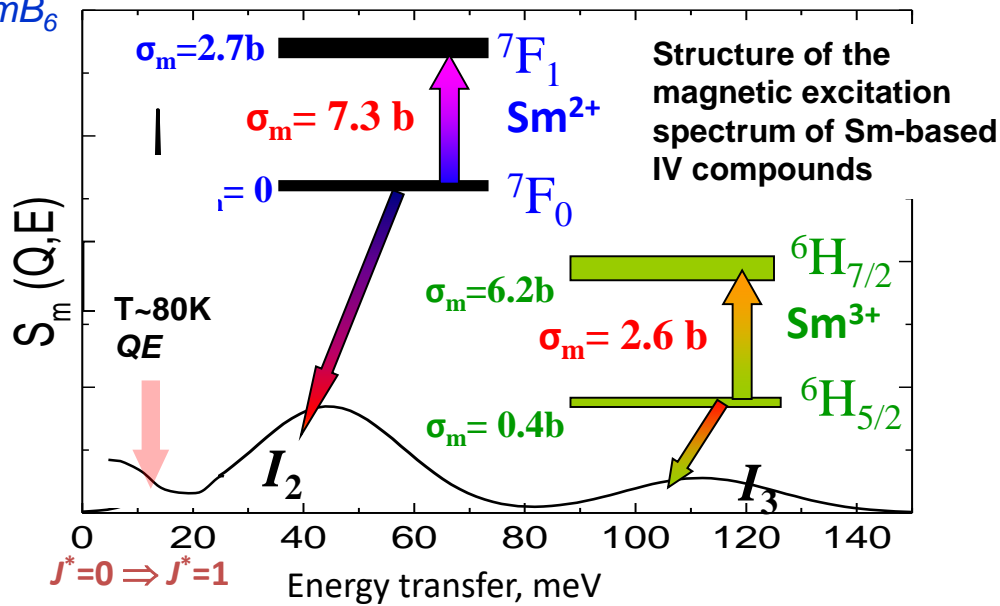
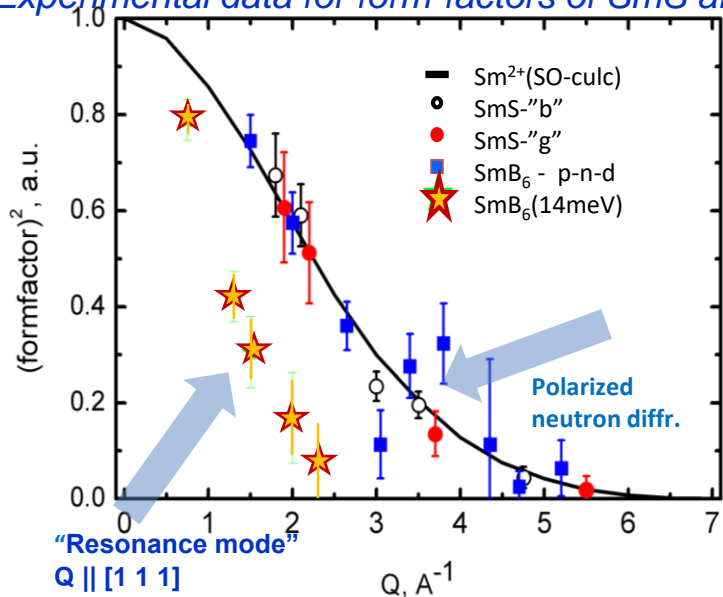


J.-X. Boucherle, P. A. Alekseev, B. Gillon, J.-M. Mignot, e.a., Physica B **206–207**, 374 (1994)



R. M. Moon, W. C. Koehler, D. B. McWhan, and F. Holtzberg, J. Appl. Phys. **49**, 2107 (1978)

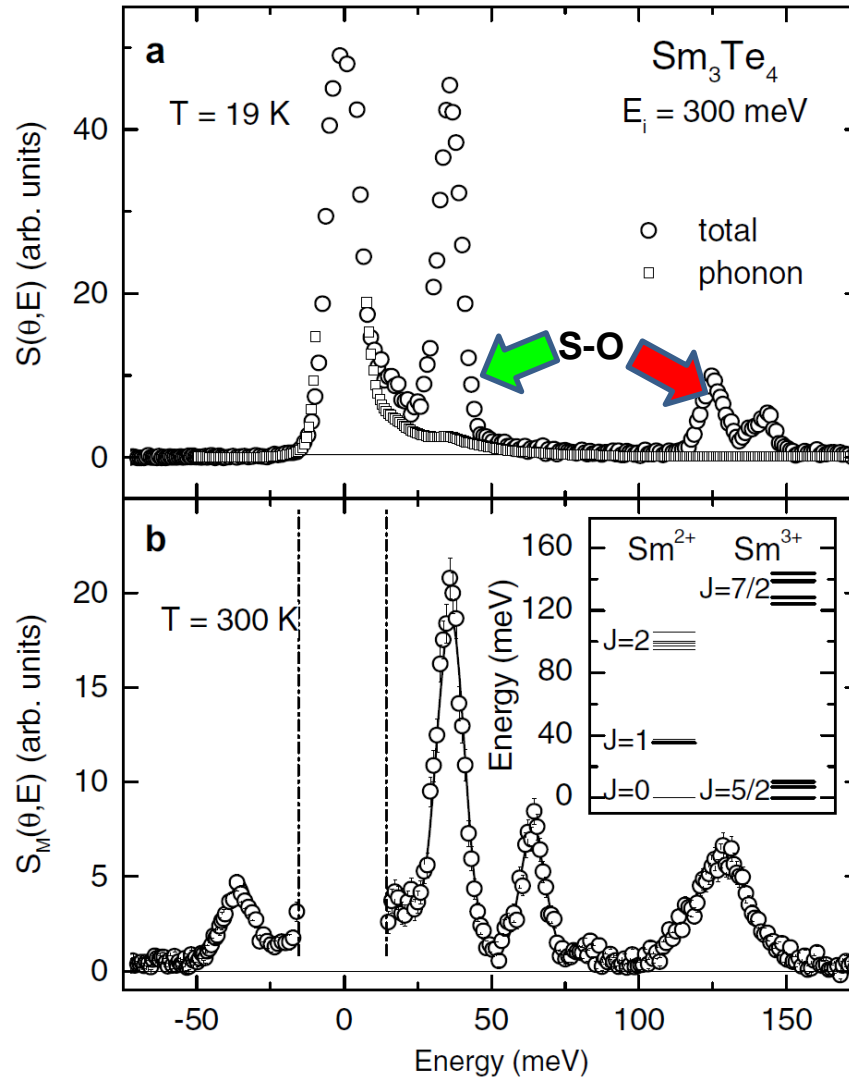
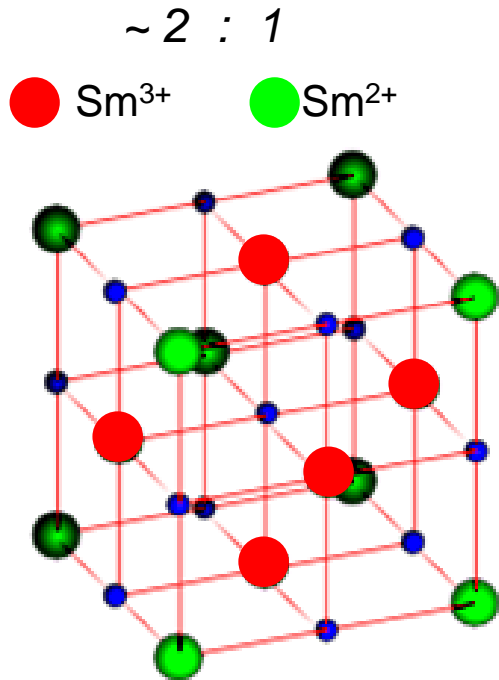
Experimental data for form-factors of SmS and SmB₆



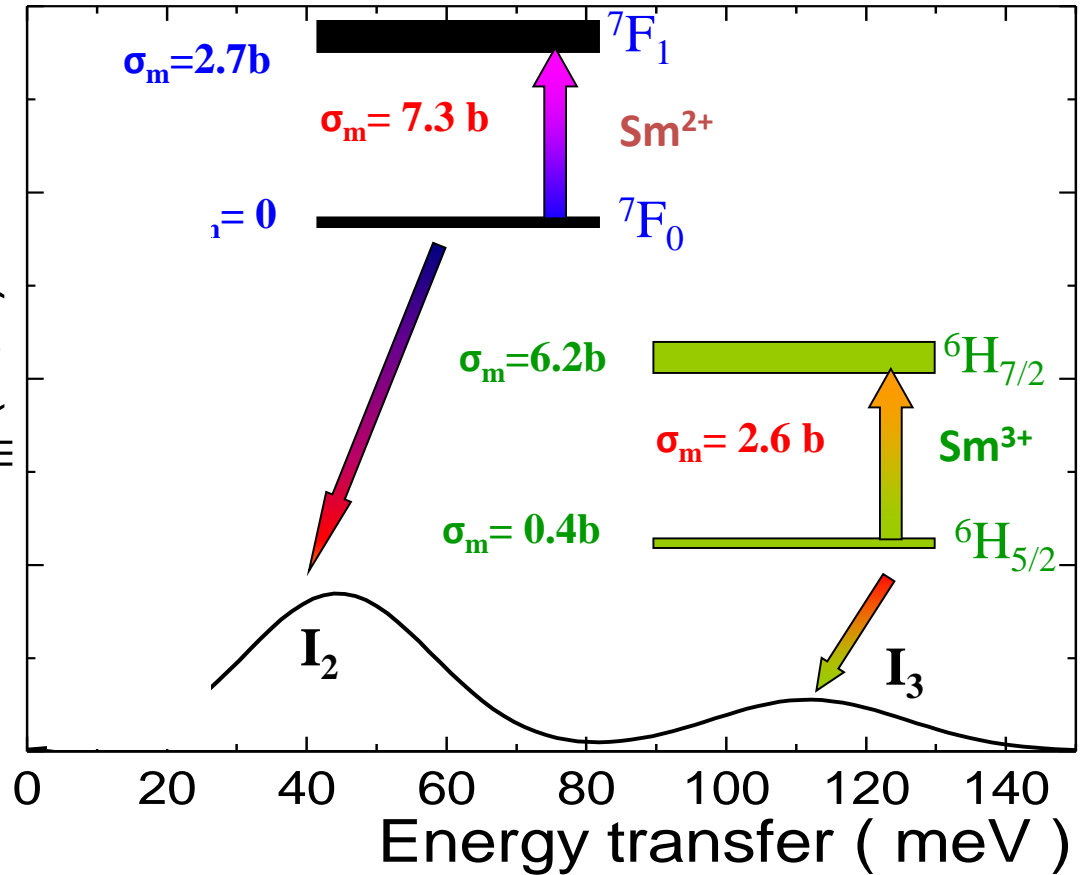
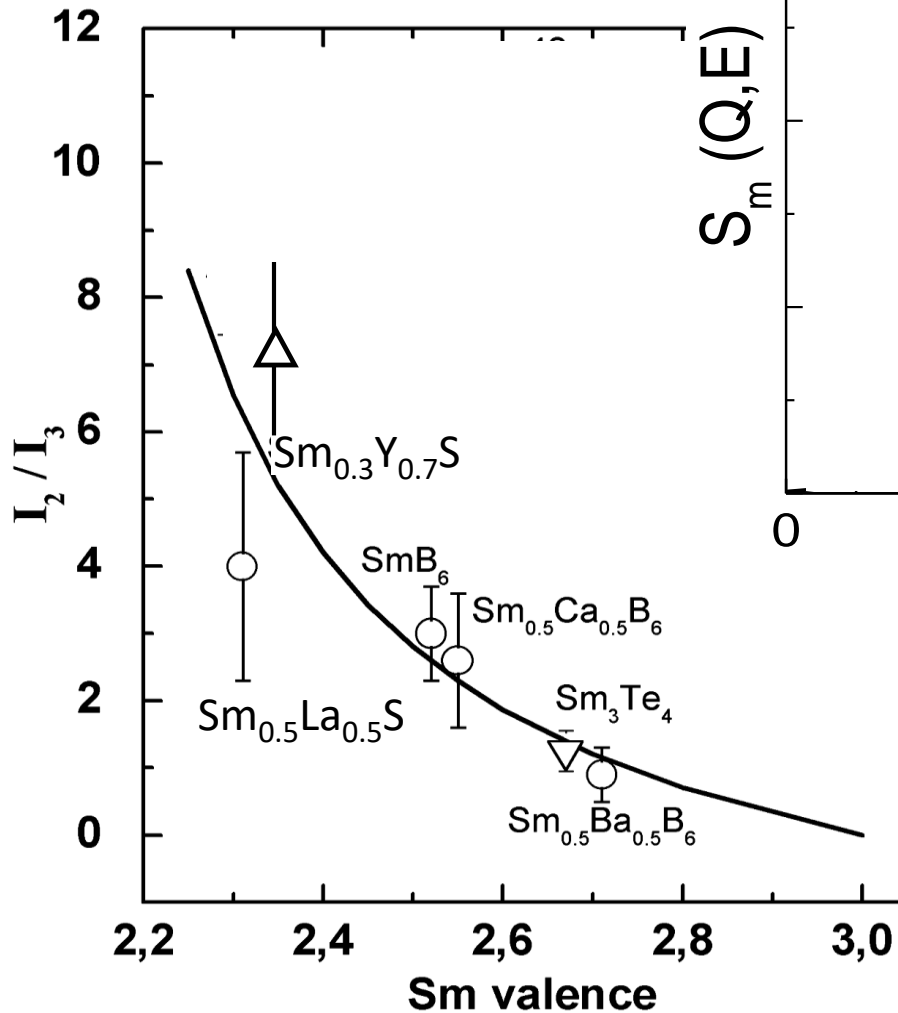
A little more details about INS results
for mixed valence systems

Inhomogeneous mixed valence system Sm_3Te_4 with spin-glass formation below $T_g=1.5\text{K}$

Inelastic neutron scattering spectra



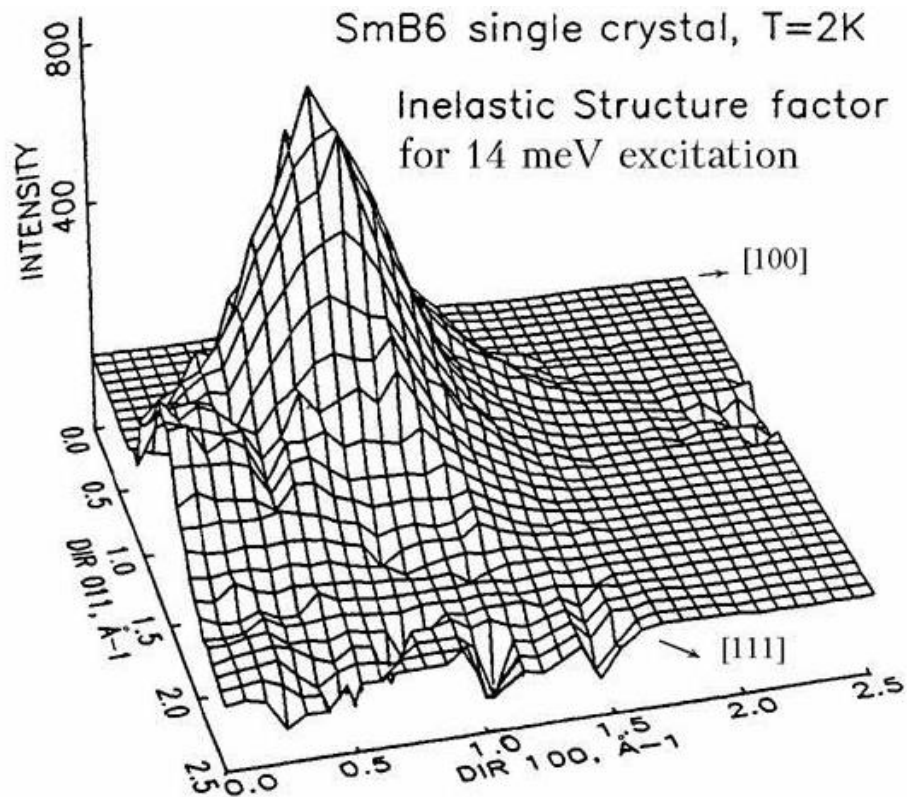
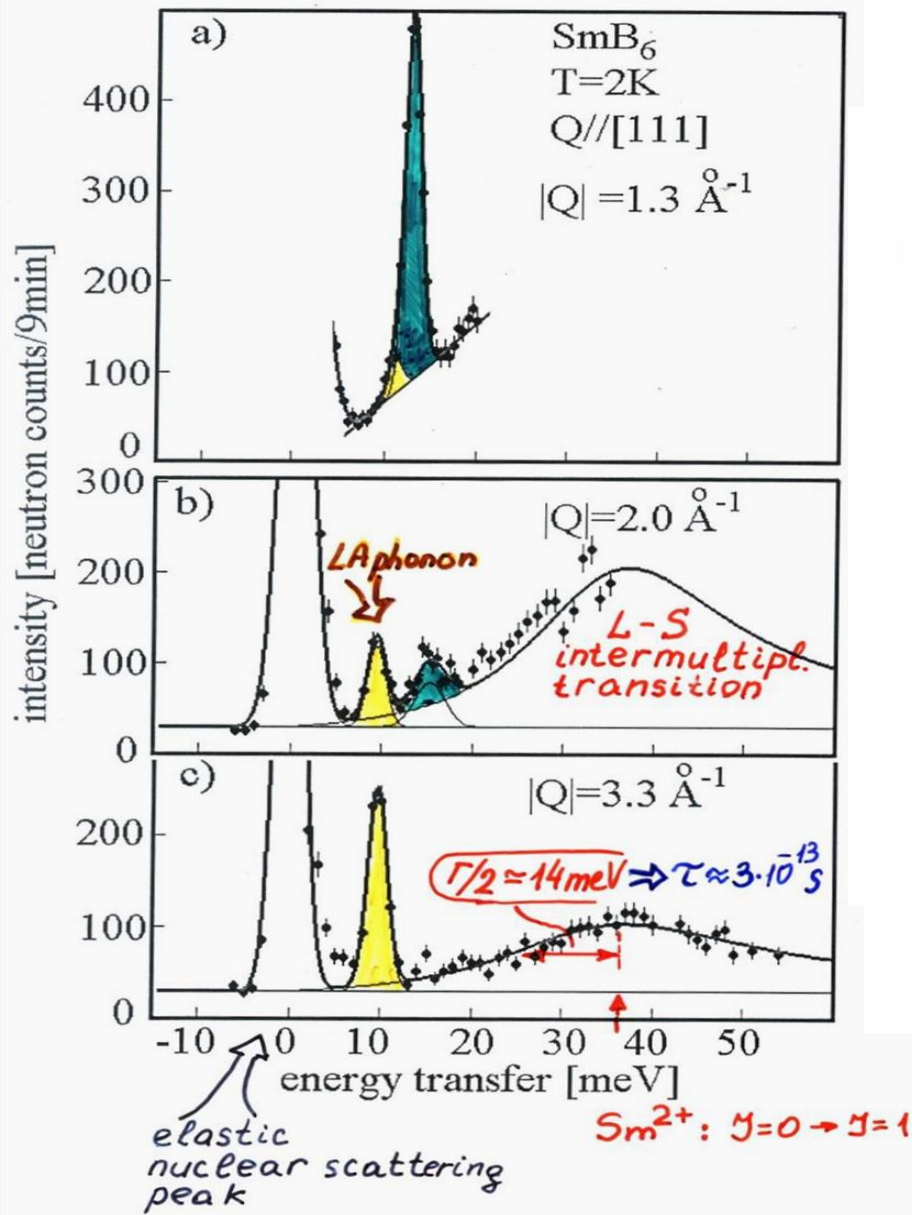
Intermultiplet (spin-orbit) excitations



This is not all the story!

Low energy ("resonant") mode in SmB6

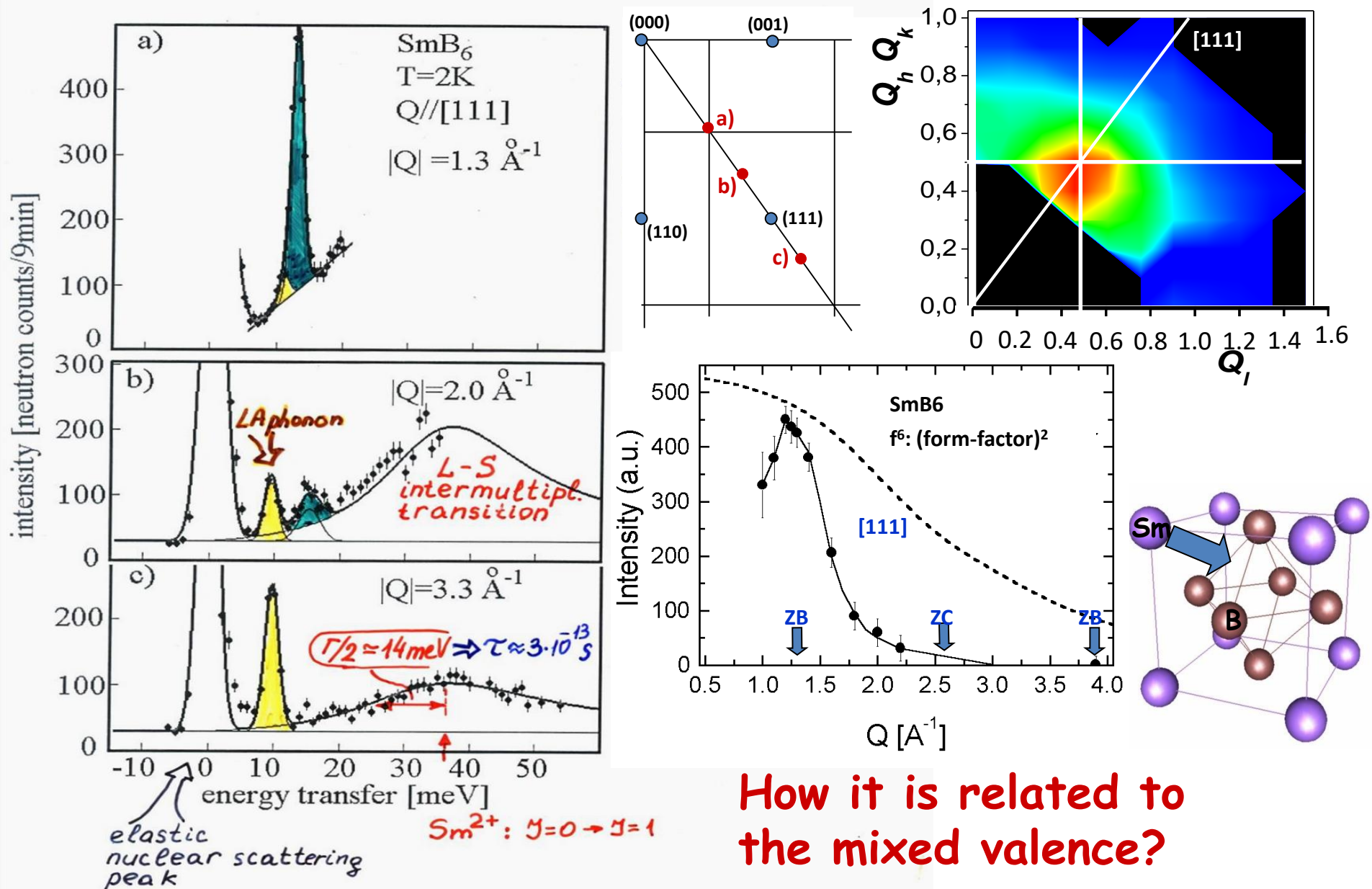
$^{154}\text{Sm B}_6$ single crystal



"Map" of inelastic scattering intensity

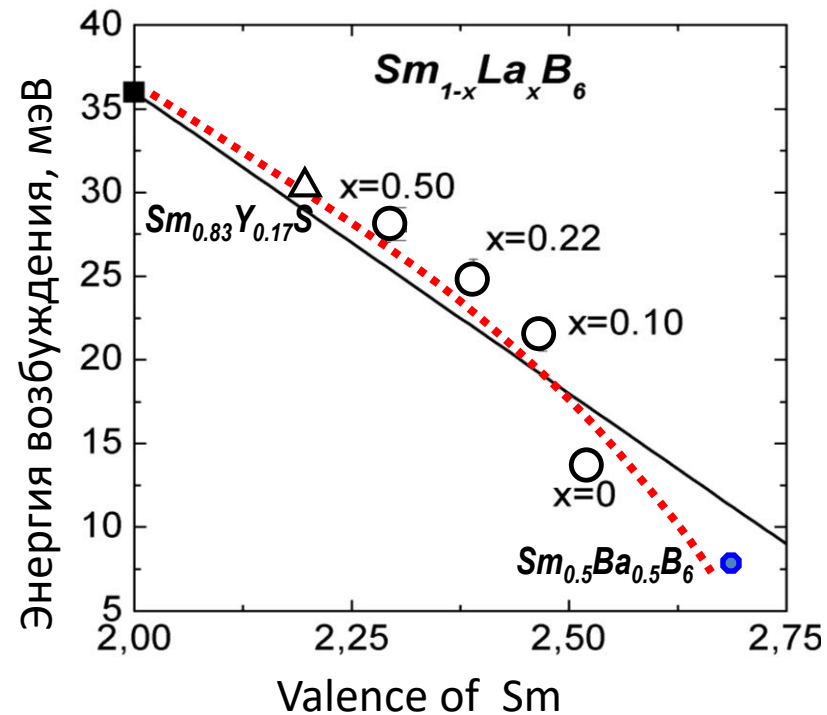
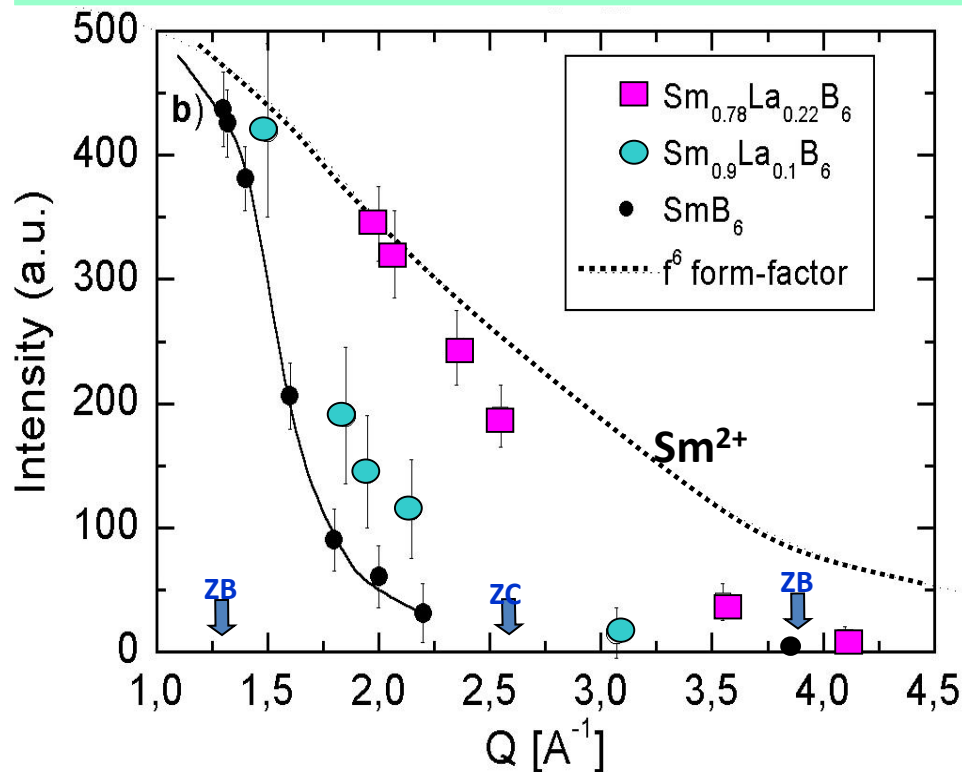
Low energy ("resonant") mode in SmB6

^{154}Sm B_6 single crystal



How it is related to the mixed valence?

Low energy ("resonant") mode in SmB6



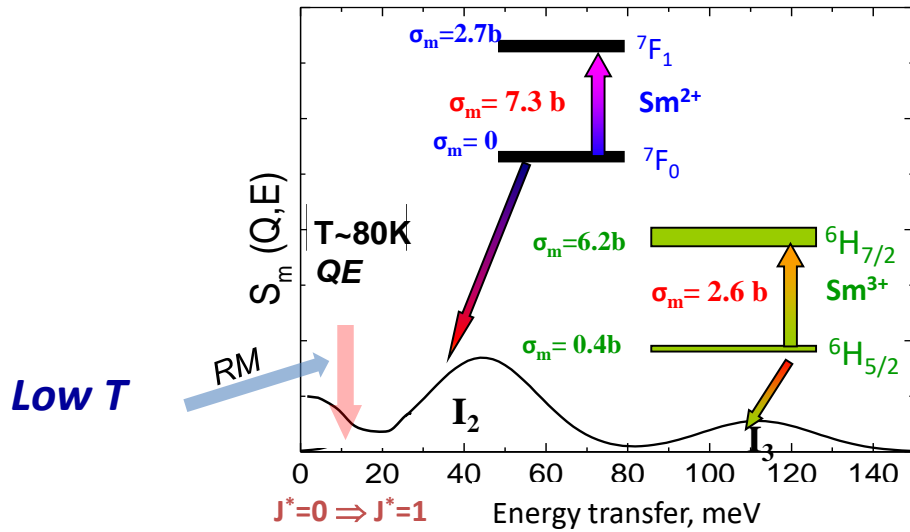
Q-dependence of form-factor with valence change (along [111] for single crystals)

Energy - valence correspondence

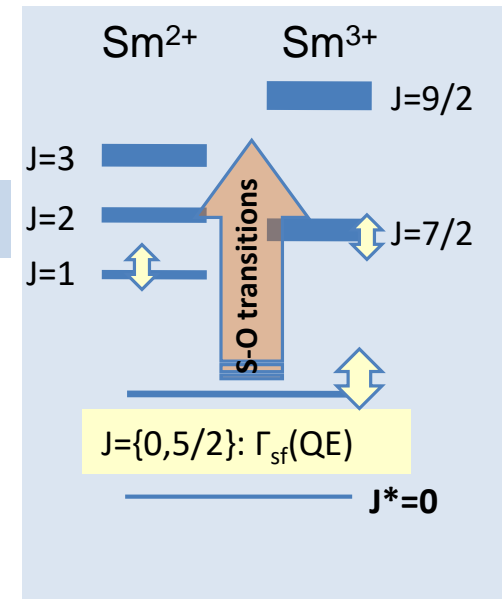
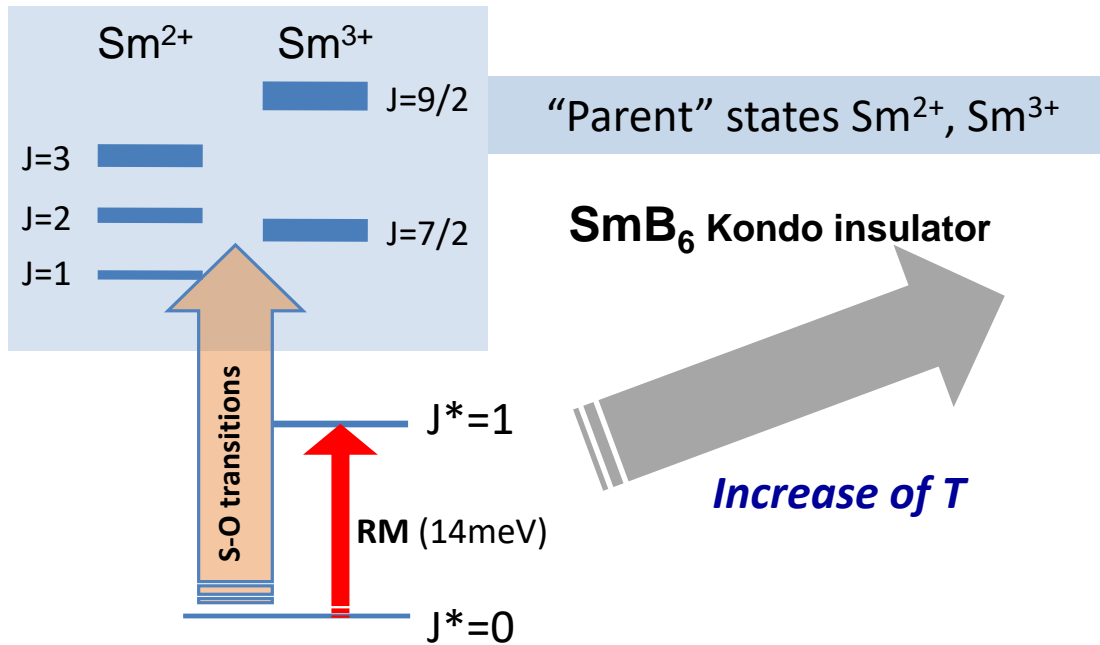
Does it mean that RM is a "double" of intermultiplet $J=0 \rightarrow J=1$ (f^6 :Sm²⁺) transition (singlet-triplet) for IV state of Sm !?

"Help" (important details) comes from SmS ...

Relation between spectral structure (with corresponding form-factors) and temperature for SmB_6 IV-state *)



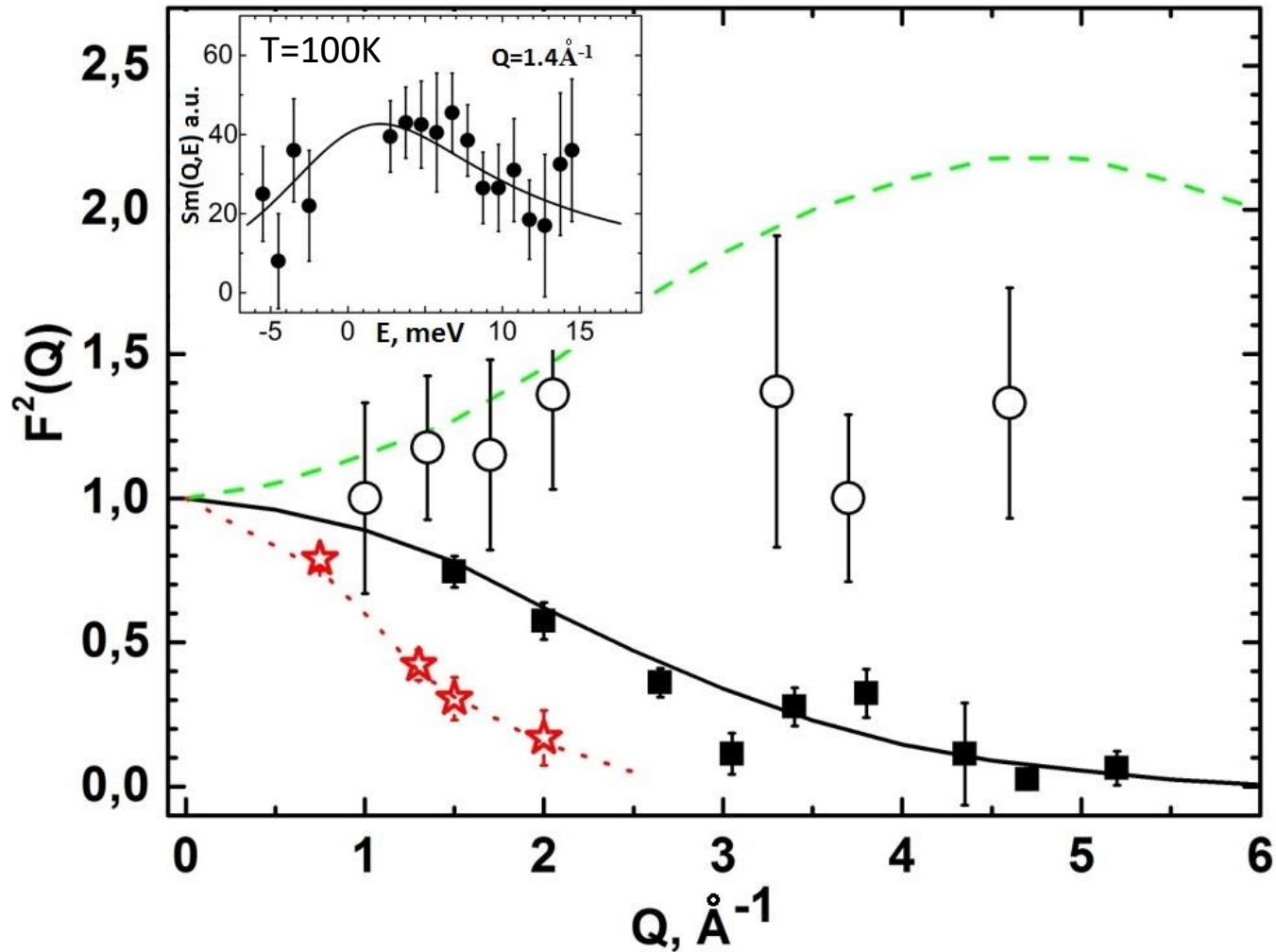
$Mm=0.8\mu_B$
 $High T (\sim 100K)$



Overdamped RM due to closing of the gap

*) P. A. Alekseev, J.-M. Mignot, P.S. Savchenkov, V.N. Lazukov JETP Letters 103 (10) 636 (2016)

Summary of low T experimental data for FF of SmB_6 including quasielastic signal at $T=100\text{K}$



Structure and properties of the ground state wave function of IV state are reflected by form-factor measurements

Form-factor measured depends from type of experiment and conditions of measurements

$$\chi_C^m(T) = (g_J \mu_B^2 / k_B T) \left| \langle m \hat{J}_z m \rangle \right|^2 \exp(-\beta E_m) / Z$$

$$\chi_{VV}^{nm}(T) = 2g_J \mu_B^2 \frac{\left| \langle n \hat{J}_z m \rangle \right|^2}{\Delta_{nm}} \exp(-\beta E_m) / Z$$

For neutron spectroscopy:

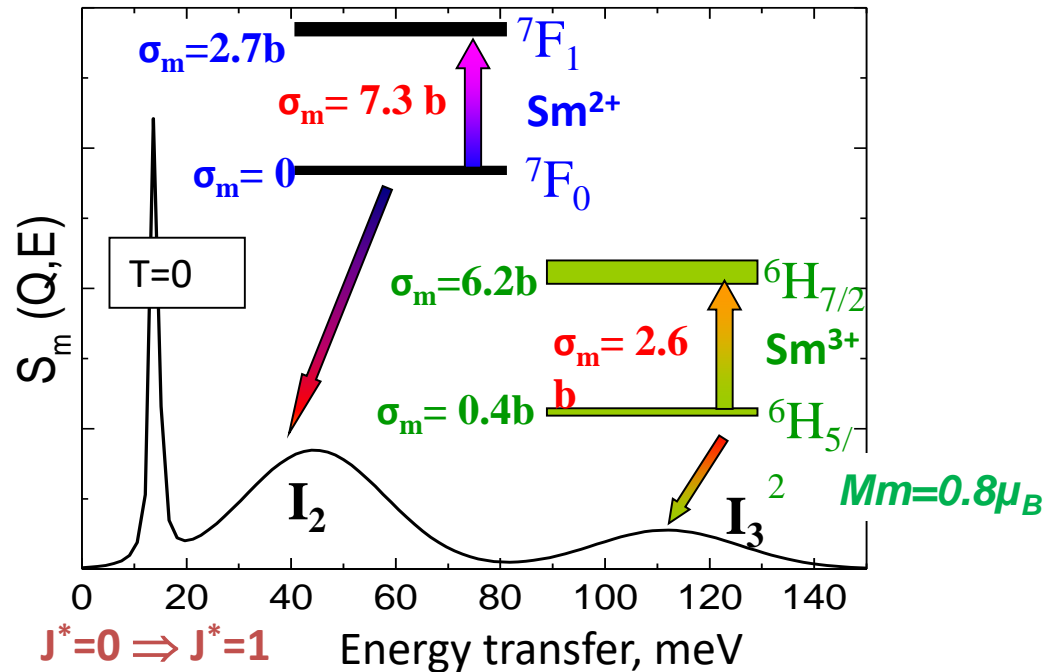


$$\chi''(\vec{Q}, \omega, T) = \pi \hbar \omega \left[\sum_m f_m^2(\vec{Q}, T) P_{mm}(\vec{Q}, \hbar \omega, T) \chi_C^m(T) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m \neq n} f_{mn}^2(\vec{Q}, T) P_{nm}(\vec{Q}, \hbar \omega - \Delta_{nm}, T) \chi_{VV}^{mn}(T) \right]$$

SmB₆ at low T: spin gap, - singlet ground state+excitation at 14meV(RM) + Spin-orbitals from Sm²⁺ and Sm³⁺ “parent”= **only Van-Vleck contribution**

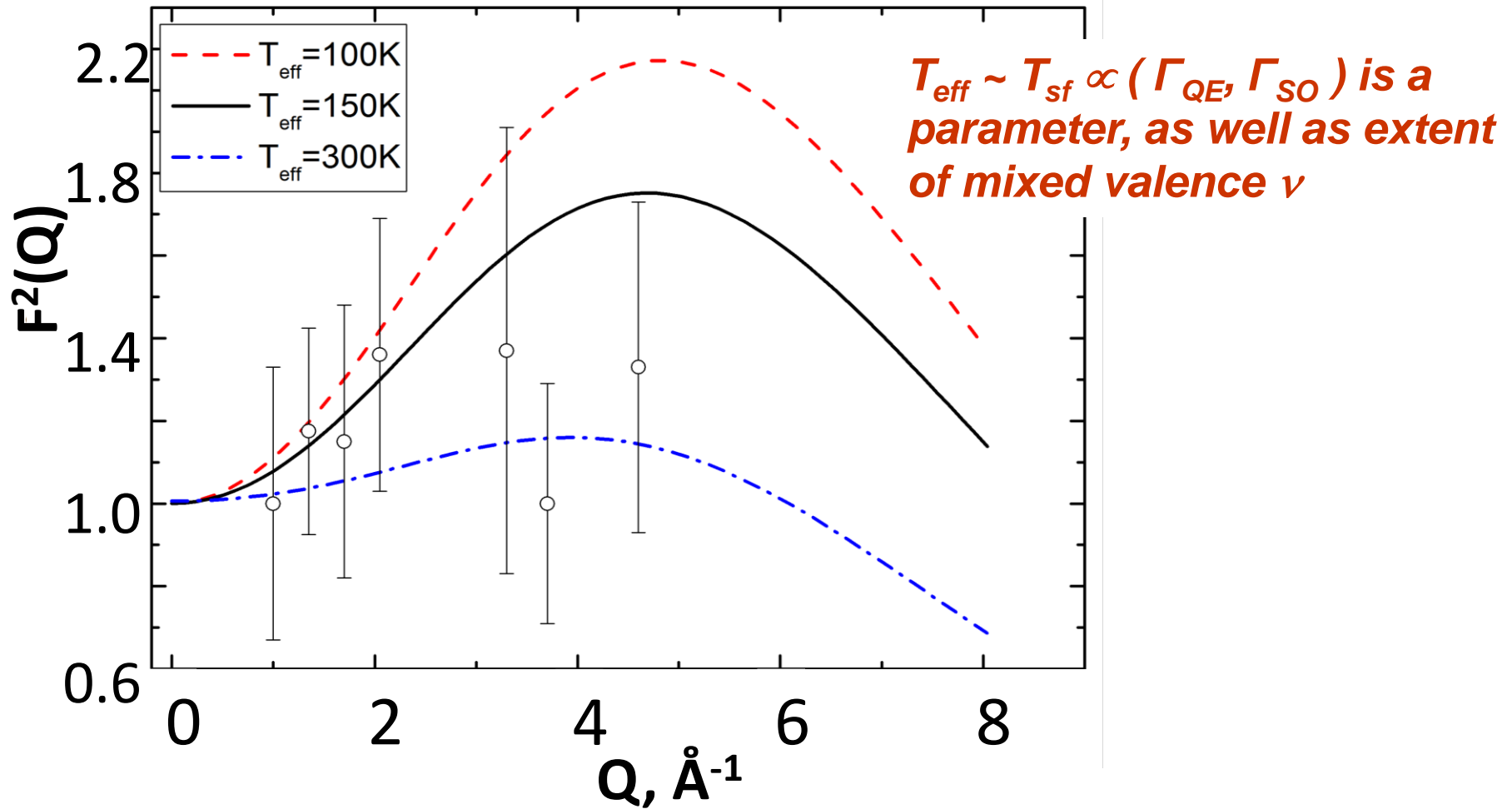
SmB₆ at high T: spin gap is closed, manifold of “parent” state is available = **quasilestic signal results from Curie contribution**: $T_{\text{eff}} \sim T_{\text{sf}} \propto (\Gamma_{\text{QE}}, \Gamma_{\text{SO}})$

$$f_{\text{QE}}^2(Q, T) = \sum_i v \sigma_{2,i} \rho_{2,i}(T, J) f_{2,i}^2(Q, T) + \sum_i (1-v) \sigma_{3,i} \rho_{3,i}(T, J) f_{3,i}^2(Q, T)$$



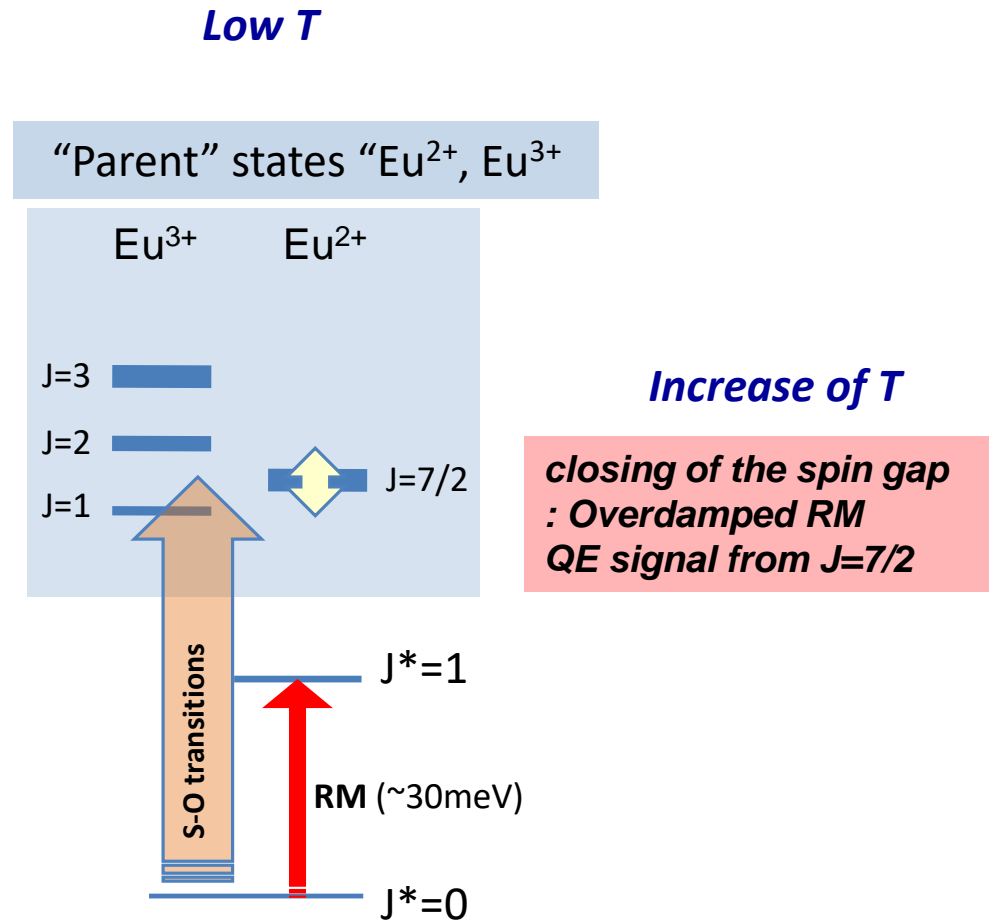
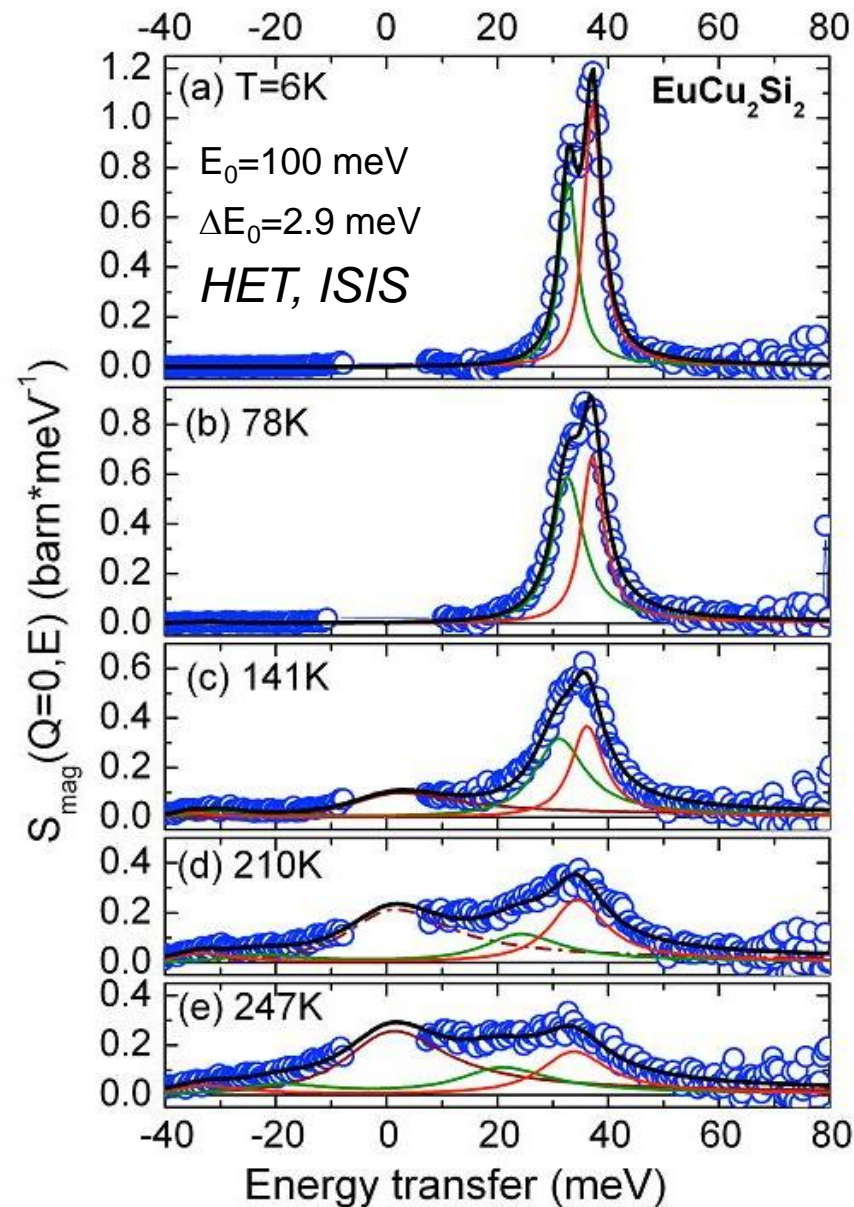
2, 3 - corresponds to Sm²⁺ and Sm³⁺, respect.

Form factor of QE-signal for SmB₆ (measured at 100K)



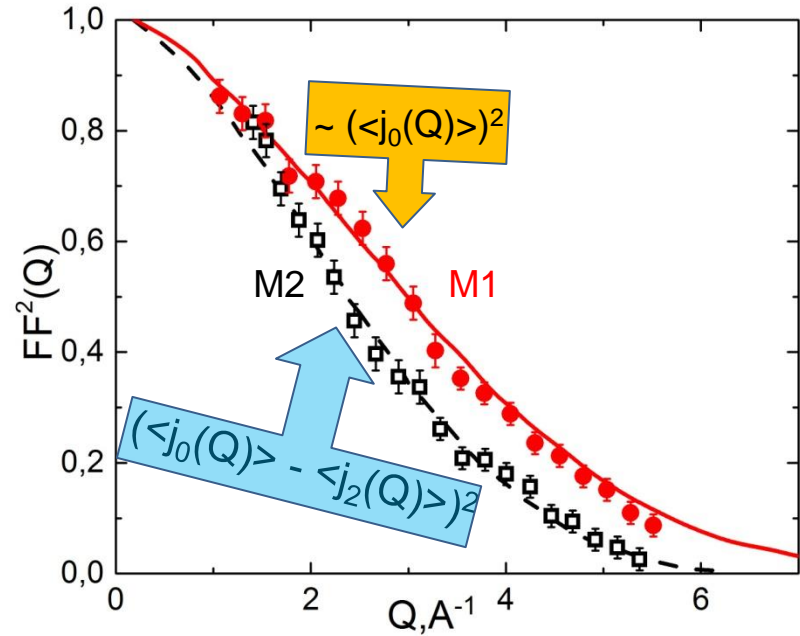
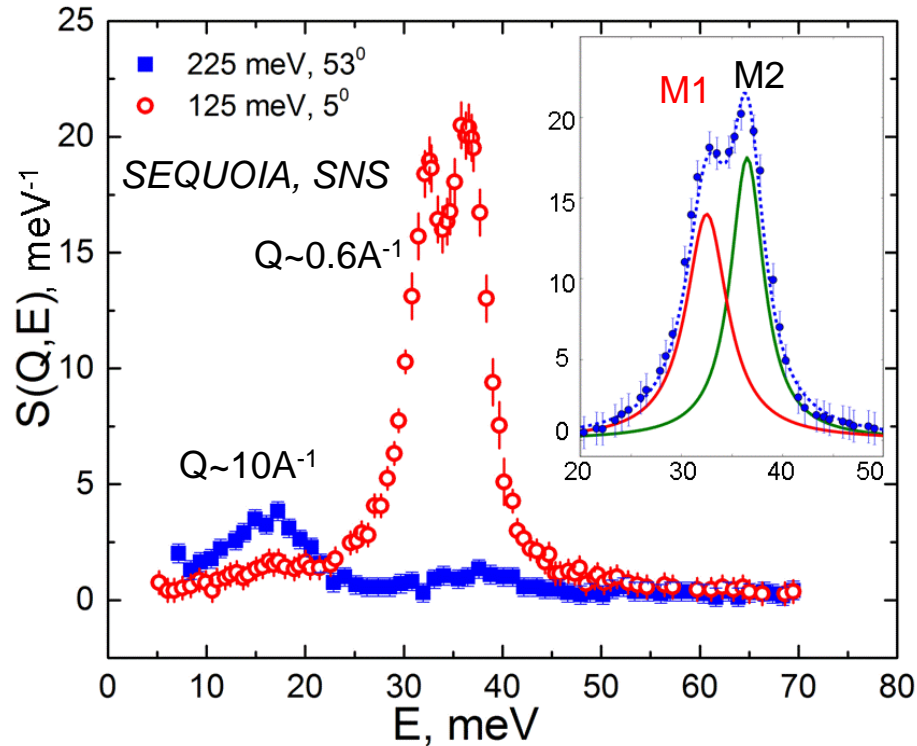
Summary: form-factor measurements in relation to the specific of corresponding spectral function can provide the hint to character of *f*-electron wave function for intermediate valence state

1.2 Form-factors for intermediate valence Eu -ions in $EuCu_2Si_2$ *)



*) P S Savchenkov, P A Alekseev, A Podlesnyak, A I Kolesnikov, K S Nemkovski, *Intermediate-valence state of the Sm and Eu in SmB6 and EuCu2Si2: neutron spectroscopy data and analysis* J. Phys.: Condens. Mater 30 (5, 7Febr) (2018) 055801

EuCu₂Si₂



for **M2** form factor $F_{M2}(Q) \sim \langle j_0(Q) \rangle - \langle j_2(Q) \rangle$, SO-excitation
but

for **M1** – form factor is $F_{M1}(Q) \sim \langle j_0(Q) \rangle$, J=S, L=0! : **f⁷**

Resonant mode (**M1**) carries evidence of the high spin state (f⁷) presence
at low temperatures for intermediate valence state of Eu

This could be the prerequisite for the development of the magnetism at
some point of phase diagram

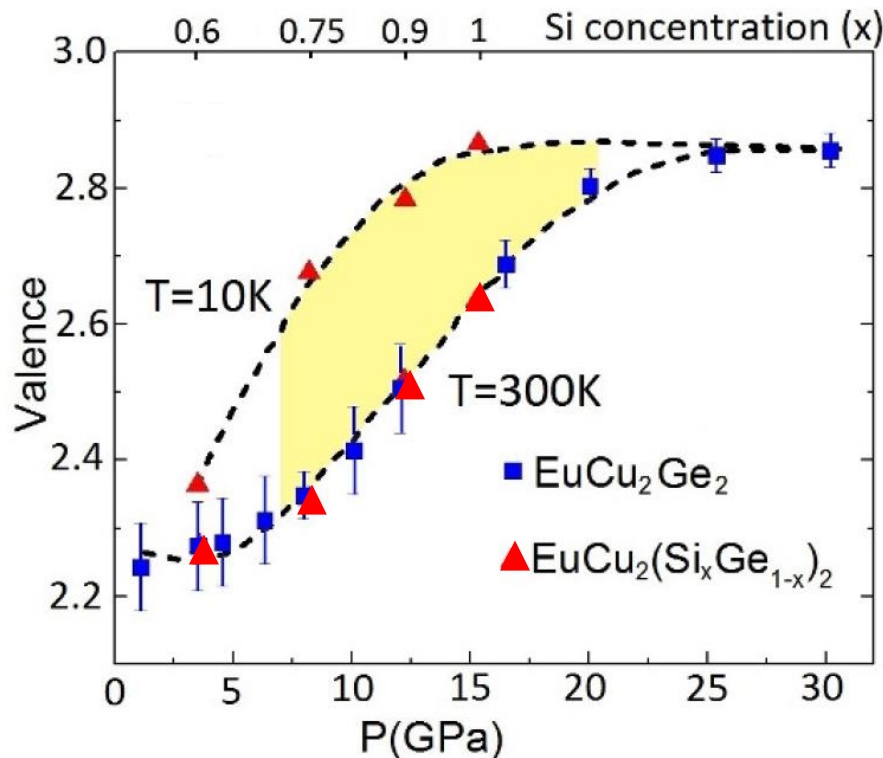
We will omit the quantum mechanics consideration of the ground state wave function of intermediate valence state and its generalization for the case of Sm and Eu as well
(special people exist for that!)

Also not going into very interesting physics for a family of 1-2-2 Eu - based systems...
Just stop at the **EuCu₂ (Si_{1-x}Ge_x)₂** , for some details of magnetism....

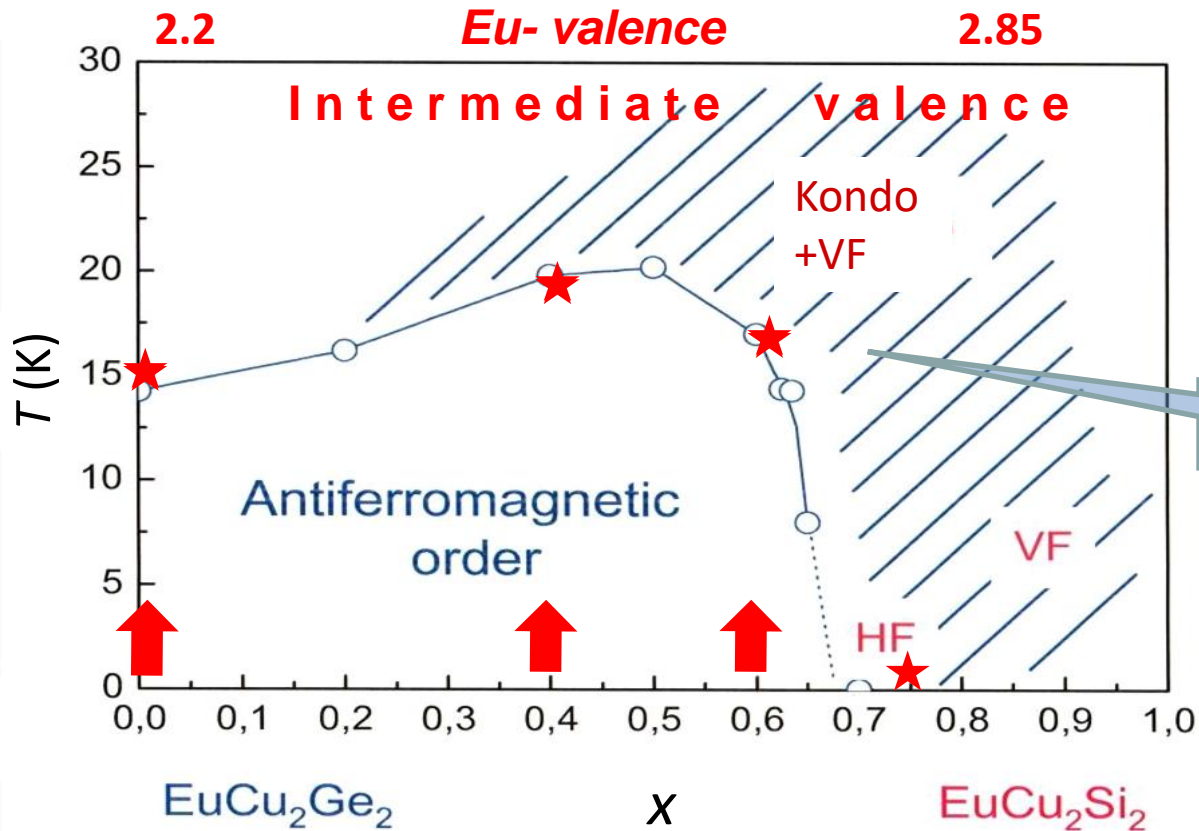
2. Spin fluctuations and long range magnetic order: the case of “strong” ($\nu \sim 2.5$) and flexible intermediate valence

How the magnetic correlation can survive under these conditions?!

Particular example: Valence is changing in wide range ($2^+ - 3^+$), staying homogeneous:
 $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$



$\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$: magnetic phase diagram



*Z. Hossain, C. Geibel, et.al.
PRB 69 (2004) 014422*

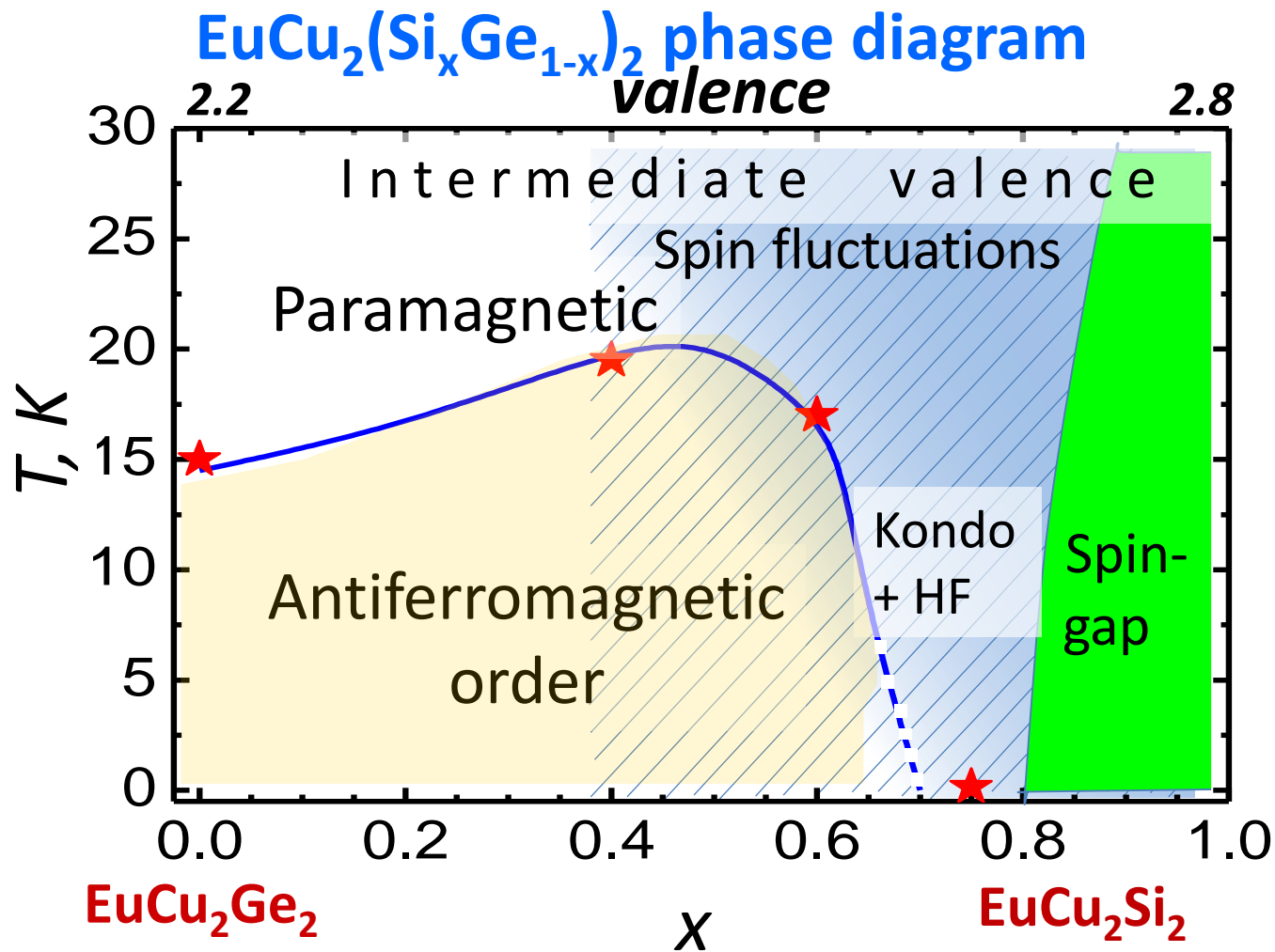
What is the origin of this phase diagram ?

Two “competing” states for intermediate valence Europium:

Eu^{3+} (f^6 , like Sm^{2+}) $J=0(!)$, ${}^7F_0 \rightarrow {}^7F_1$ SO-transition: $E=46\text{meV}$, $\sigma=7.34$ barn,

Eu^{2+} (f^7 , like Gd^{3+}) $J=S=7/2$, $\sigma=38.51$ barn (NO inelastic excitations)

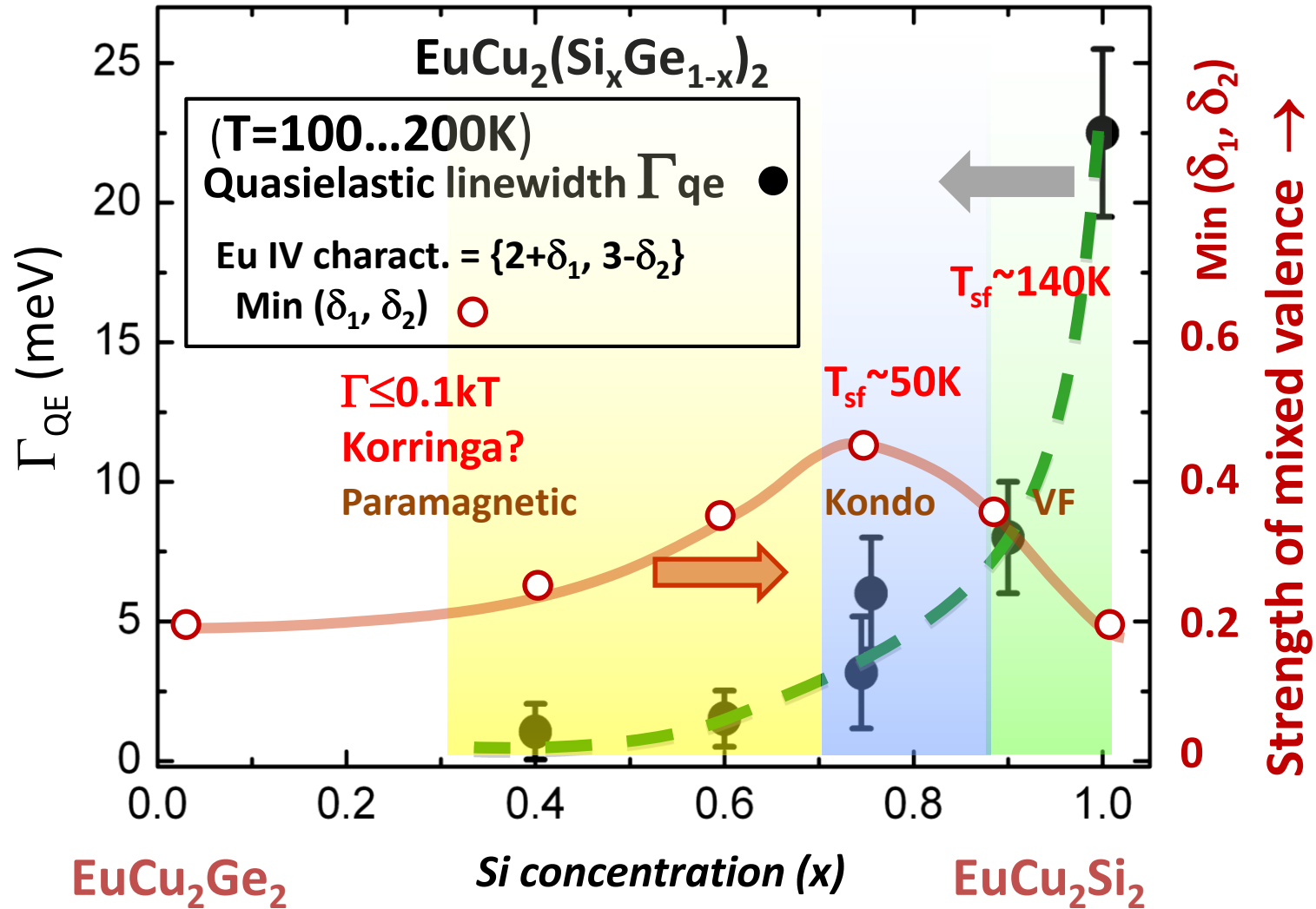
Then to neutron spectroscopy data: ISIS (HET, MARI) and ILL (IN-4C)



-Some region of x-concentrations appears where LRM0 ($k=1/3,0,0$) coexists with spin fluctuations peculiar to homogeneous IV observed for any x (but NO model !)

-This region verge on HF state similar by spectral characteristics to ones of generic HF systems based on Ce, Yb (BUT “strong” IV !)

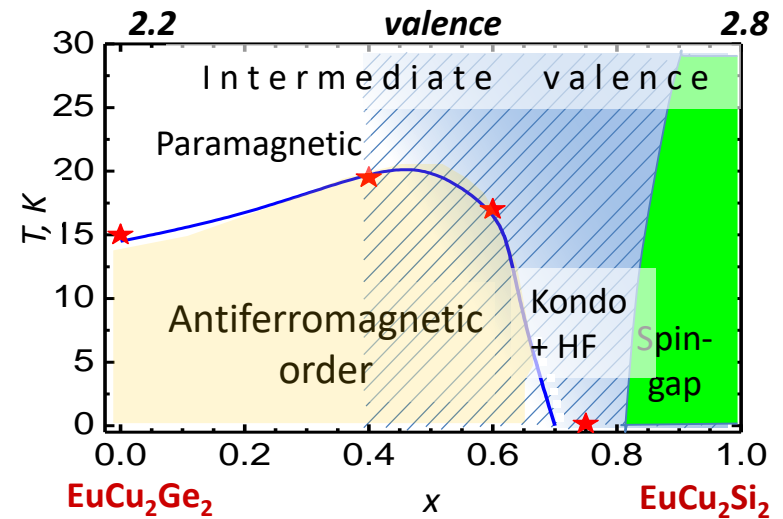
Quasielastic width ($T=100\text{...}200\text{K}$) and strength of mixed valence in $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$



Γ_{QE} steeply decrease with valence decreasing from 2.8 to 2.2 arriving to typical HF – energy range at Ge-concentration close to $x \sim 0.75$

2.1 *Summary* IV and LRMO: competition and coexistence

Formation of the magnetic ground state for IV *Eu* is provided by the rearrangement of the magnetic excitation spectrum of the system caused by the decrease of valence from $3-\delta$ down to $2+\delta$. Just this rearrangement, probably, is a *background of a sequence of phase transformations* for $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$:



- Moderate spin fluctuations (SF) assist to appearance of **heavy fermion (HF)** state
- Further slowing down of SF result in **LRMO** for reduced moments on *Eu*.
In some sense – analogy with Ce-based (LRMO-HF) systems, but!!!
The valence is very far from integer!
- The elaboration of the adequate physical model is indispensable for understanding of physics behind the coexistence of SF and LRMO.

3. Magnetic impurity effect in Kondo-insulator *)

SmB₆ with Gd³⁺ - impurity (J=S=7/2, concentration from 0.04% up to 5%)

specific heat and impurity magnetic moment screening scales systematically in SmB₆

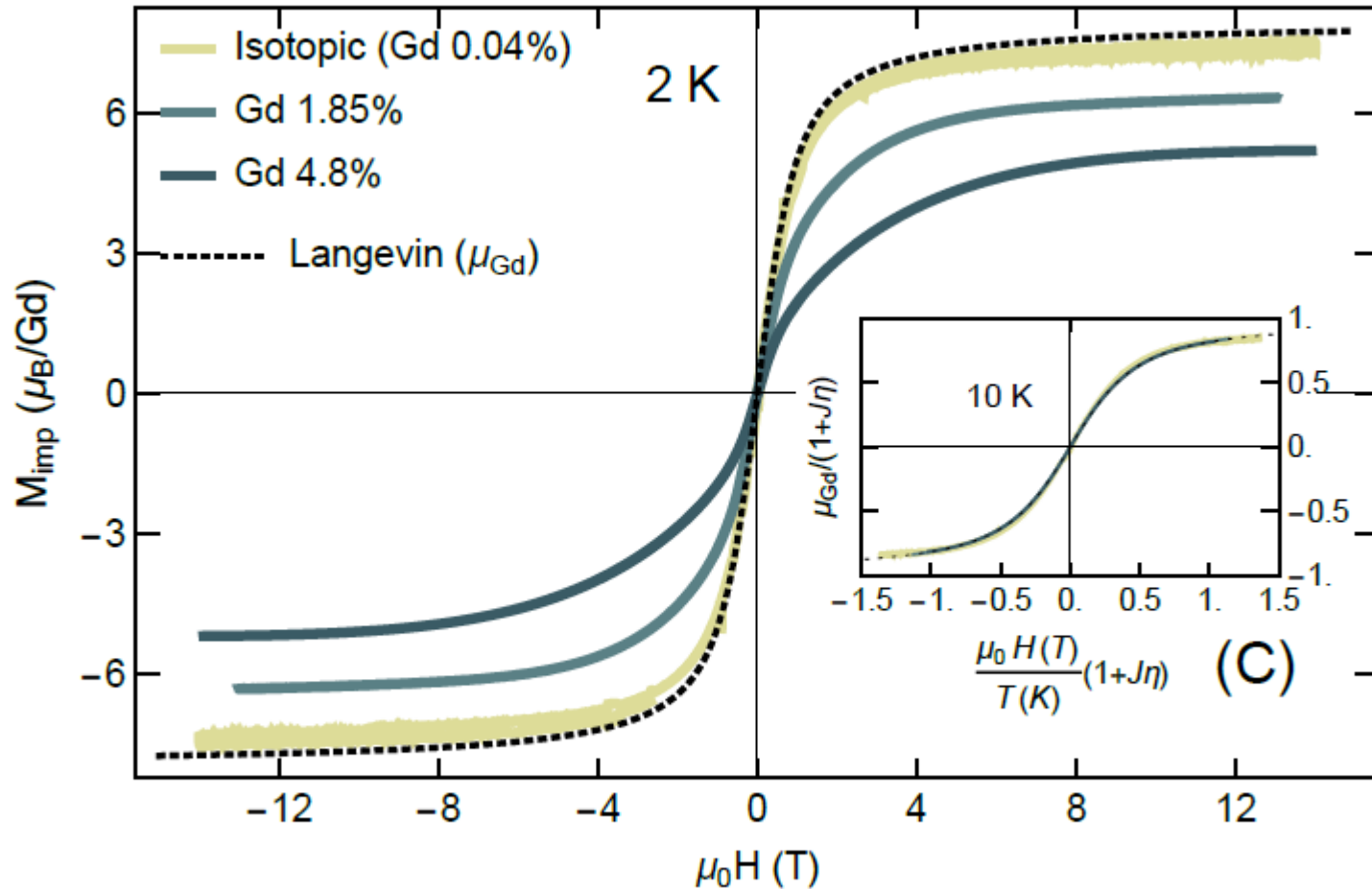
both depends from the exchange constant and electron density of states on E_F -(Jη) - which modifies with impurity concentration

Jη -parameter scaled collapse of *specific heat* ties the low temperature DOS to the reduced impurity moment.

This indicates the involvement of impurity magnetism in the low energy DOS of Gd doped samples

*) W. T. Fuhrman, J. R. Chamorro, P. Alekseev, J.-M. Mignot, et al *Screened moments and extrinsic in-gap states in samarium hexaboride* , preprint [arXiv:1707.03834](https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.03834), 2017. 2, 2017

Reduction of the Gd^{3+} effective magnetic moment M_{imp} (μ_B/Gd)
in magnetization of SmB_6 with Gd impurity

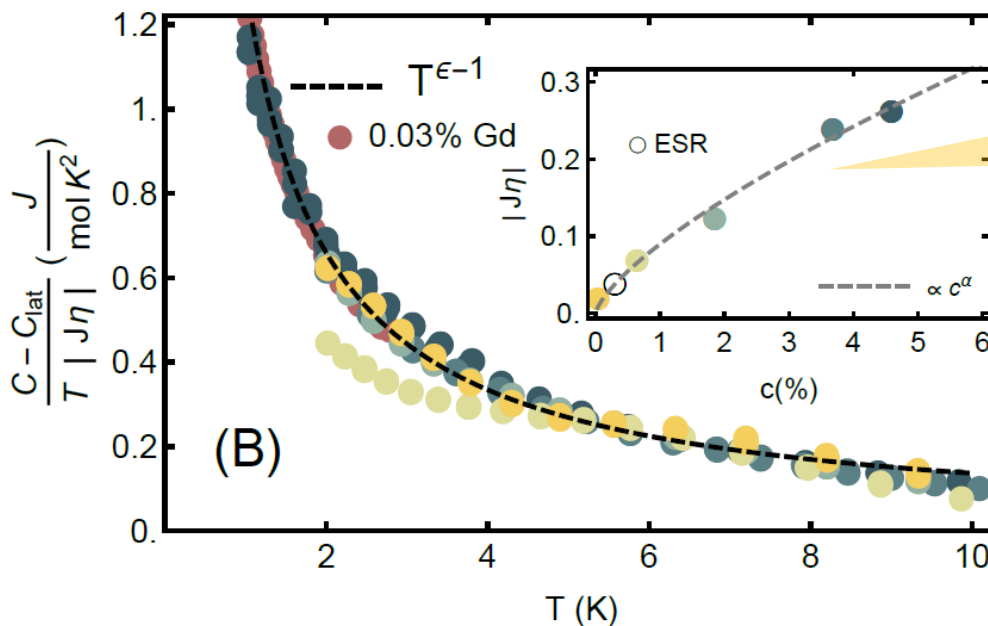
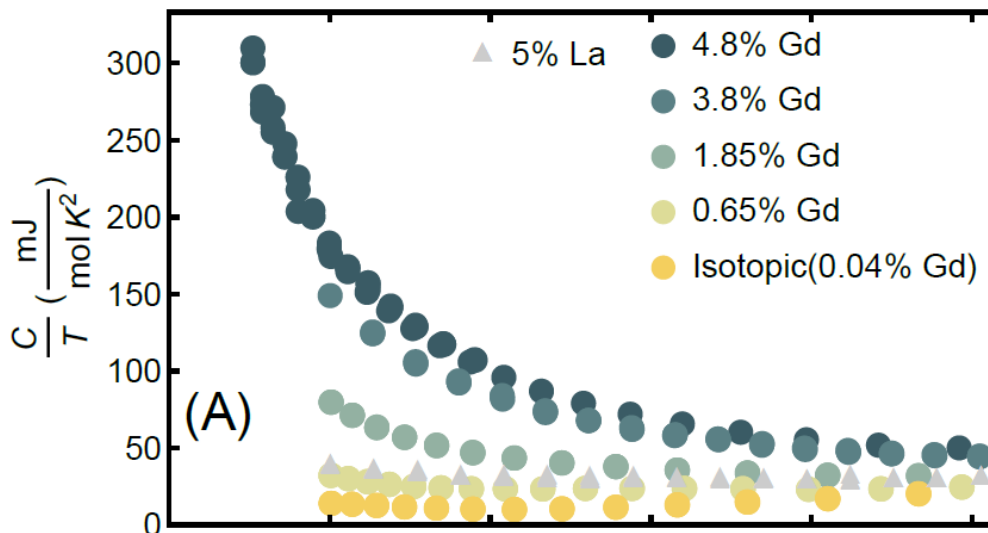


$M(Gd^{3+}) = 7.94\mu_B$

$M_{imp} = 7.74 \mu_B, 0.04\%Gd$
 $6.95\mu_B, 1.85\%Gd$
 $5.84\mu_B, 4.80\%Gd$

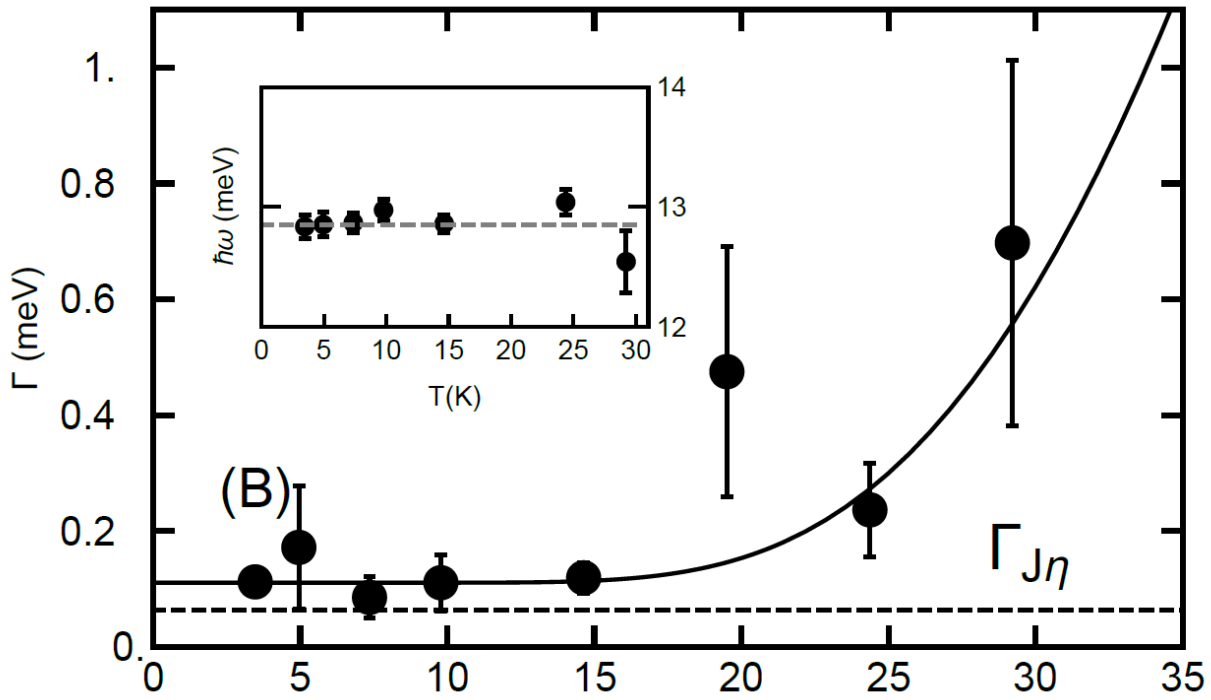
Kondo screening?!

Influence of the Gd impurity on the electronic heat capacity of SmB₆



Enhancement of the electronic DOS!?

Relaxation width of resonance mode as function of temperature in SmB6



*TRISP data :
Experimental
resolution ~ 10 μeV*

Activation law for spin-exciton width: $\Gamma = \Gamma_0 + A \exp(-\Delta/k_B T)$

$A \sim 0.7$ eV – band width $\mathbf{J}_\eta = -0.023$

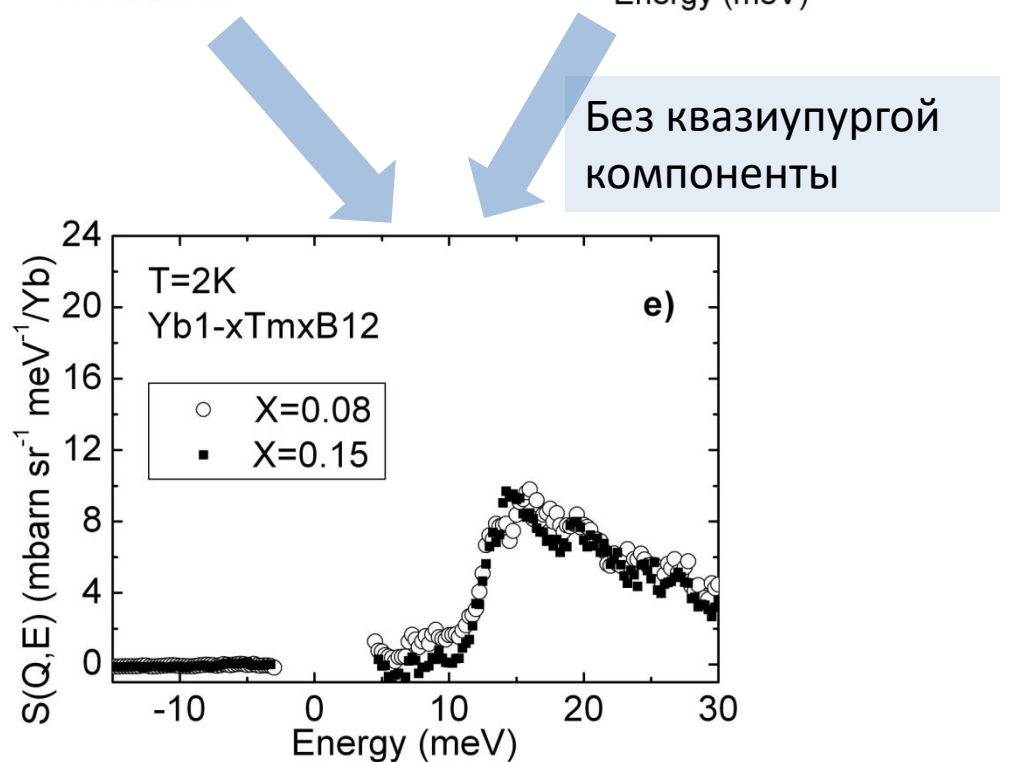
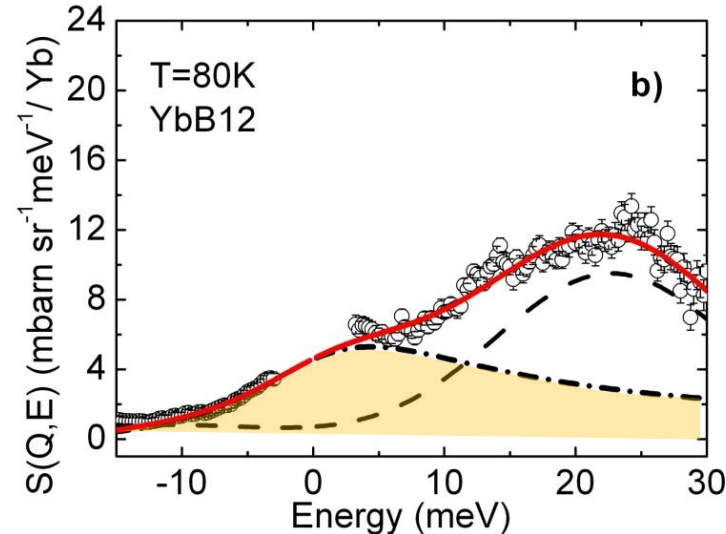
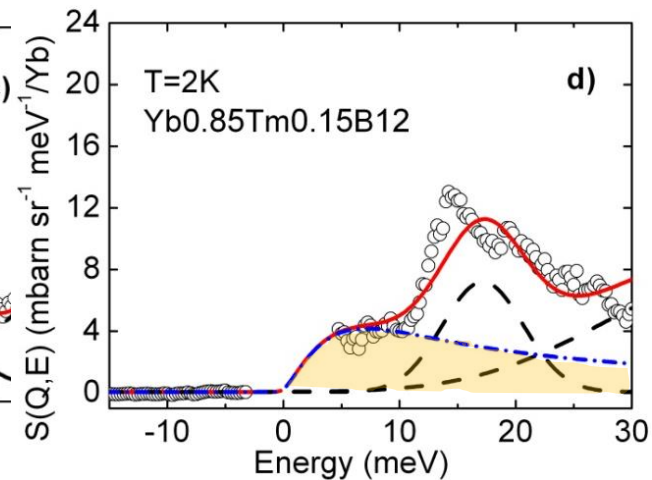
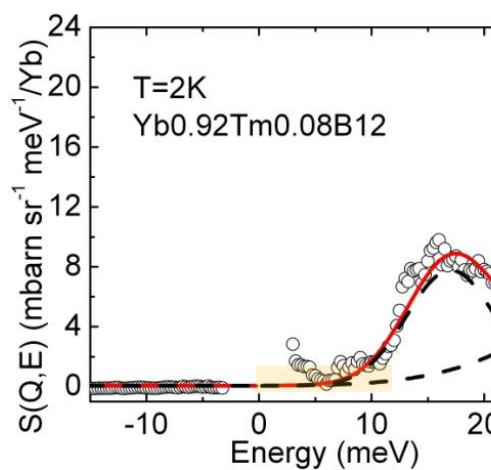
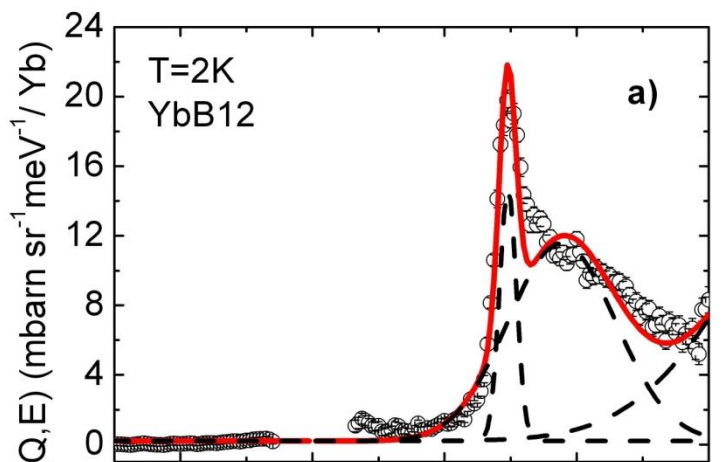
$\Omega \sim \Delta = 14$ meV – mode energy or spin-gap

$\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_{\mathbf{J}_\eta} = 4\pi(\mathbf{J}_\eta)^2 \Omega \sim 0.1$ meV for Gd: 0.04% (“isotopic pure sample”)

Intrinsic width Γ_0 dramatically depends from \mathbf{J}_η which characterizes impurity effect on the electronic system: just few % of Gd will increase relaxation $\sim 10^2$ times

Allow to explain the suppression of RM in YbB_{12} by Tm - impurity?!

Подавление резонансной моды и переход в режим «квазищели» по мере роста концентрации магнитных ионов Tm



Spin fluctuations and magnetism in systems with valence instability

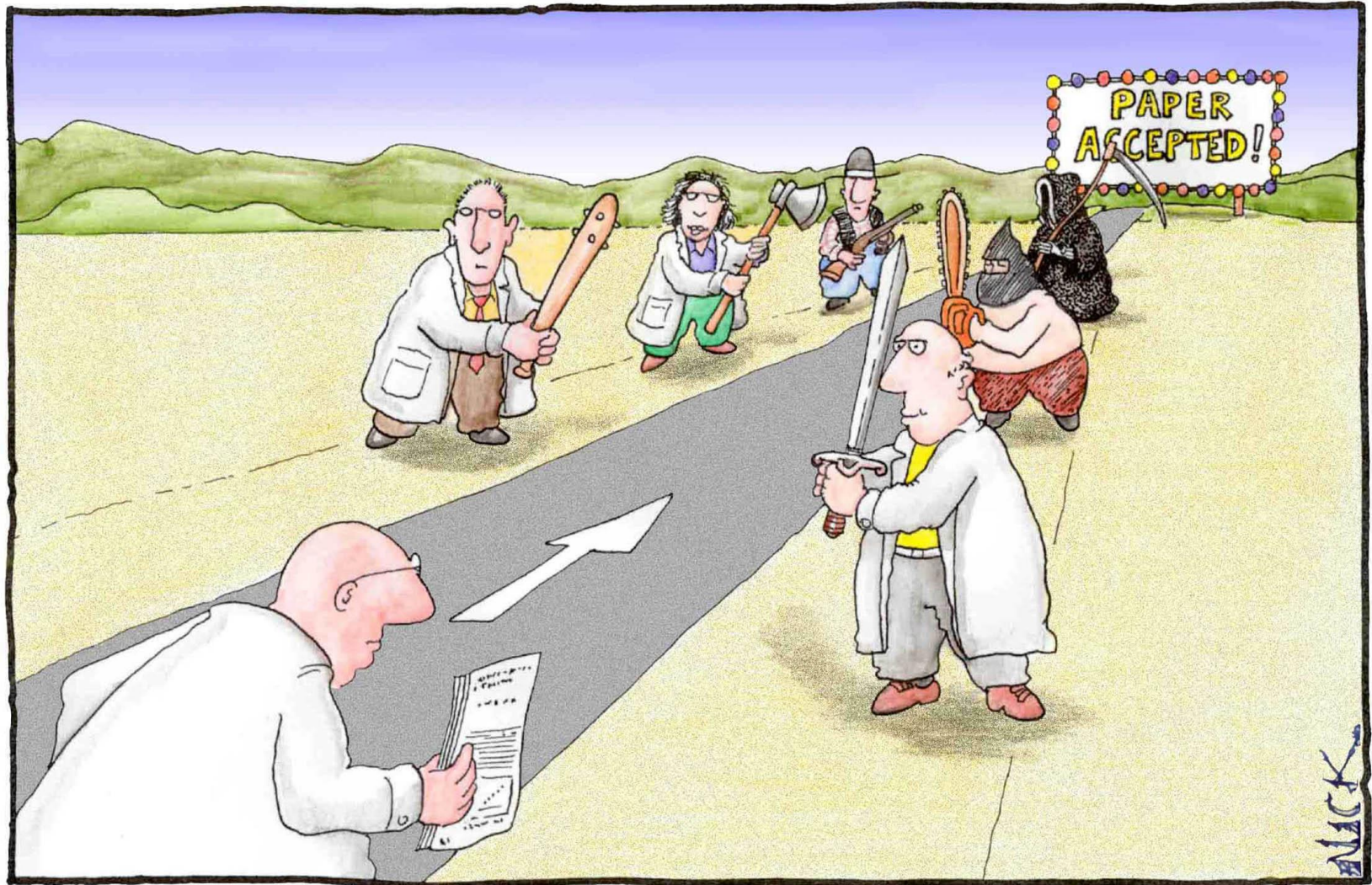
Conclusion

Exotic magnetic behaviour appears as a consequence of the coexistence and competition of different *f*-electron interactions in solids

Neutron spectroscopy – very effective instrument for clarifying the principal features of the exotic magnetic behaviour – that is the way to understanding exotic phenomena.....

Благодарю за внимание

Удачи на «Большой дороге» науки!

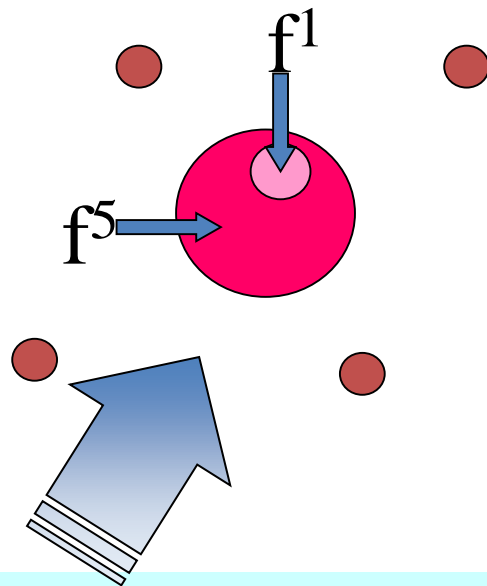


Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as 'quite an improvement.'

RM - low energy symmetry analogue for intermultiplet transition $J_0 \rightarrow J_1$ of $Sm(2+)$ or $Eu(3+)$ configuration

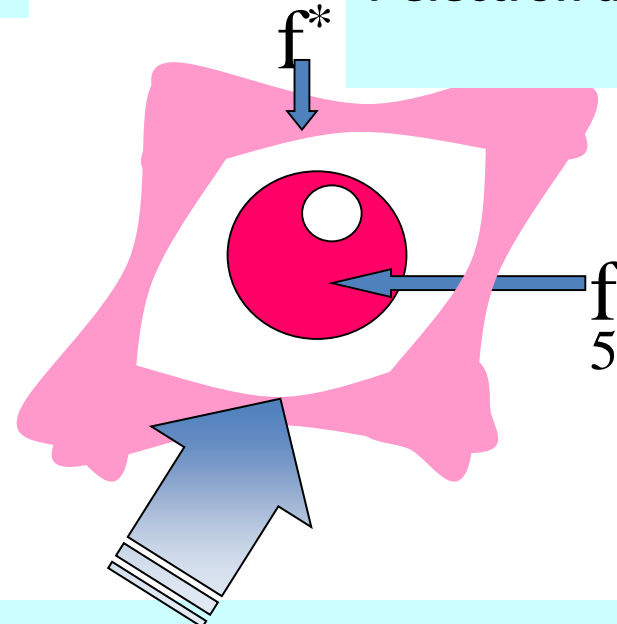
Variation of Sm-valence results in the variations of energy and Q-dependence of intensity for RM. Similar effects for Eu valence variation. Such behaviour may be understood on the base of model, which relates the delocalization extent of f-electron and RM energy with Sm-valence value (“excitonic model” of Michshenko & Kikoin)

Total localization of f-electron



+

Loosely bound state of f-electron and “hole”



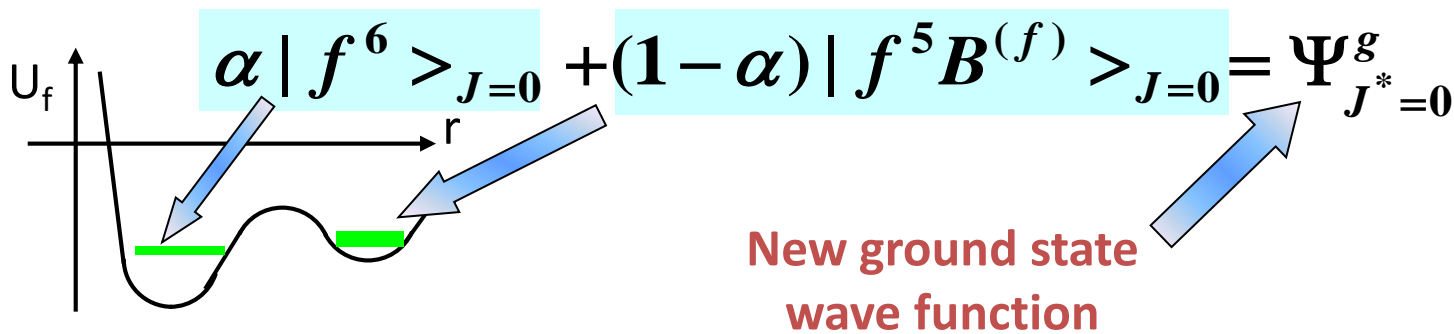
$$\alpha | f^6 \rangle_{J=0} + (1 - \alpha) | f^5 B^{(f)} \rangle_{J=0} = \Psi_{J^*=0}^g$$

homogeneous MV ground state of "excitonic model"

Loosely bound electron

$$\text{Sm: } |f^{6,7}F_0\rangle \longrightarrow |f^6_{J=0}\rangle + |f^5_{J=5/2} \cdot f^*_{j=5/2}\rangle = |\tilde{f}^{6,7}F_0\rangle$$

Transition to MV state



With two types of excitations from singlet ground state:

Charge transfer type

Spin reorientation type



Phonon anomalies:
resonance el-ph interaction



"resonant" magnetic mode

2.1 $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si},\text{Ge})_2$ –IV and LRMO: competition and coexistence

Системы ReTm_2X_2 («1-2-2»)

$\text{Re} = \text{Ba}, \dots, \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}, \text{Eu}, \text{Gd}, \dots$; $\text{Tm} = \text{Cu}, \text{Fe}, \text{Ni}, \text{Co}, \dots$; $\text{X} = \text{P}, \text{As}, \text{Se}, \text{Si}, \text{Ge}, \dots$

Wide class of isostructural compounds, including Cu-free intermetallic superconductors ($T_c \sim 30 \dots 50\text{K}$)

Physical properties: moderately anisotropic metals, for $\text{Re} = \text{Eu}$ the combinations are possible:

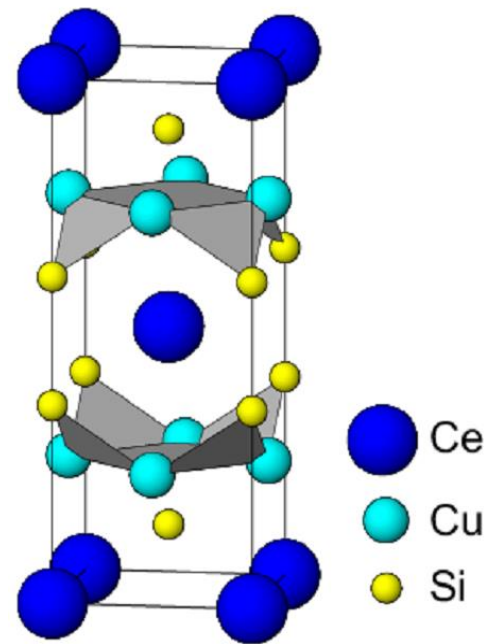
Long range magnetic order (LRMO)

Superconductivity ($T_c \sim T_N$) (SC)

Intermediate valence (IV)

$\text{EuNi}_2(\text{Si}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x)_2$ LRMO/IV; $\text{EuFe}_2(\text{As},\text{P})_2$, EuFe_2As_2 LRMO/SC/IV

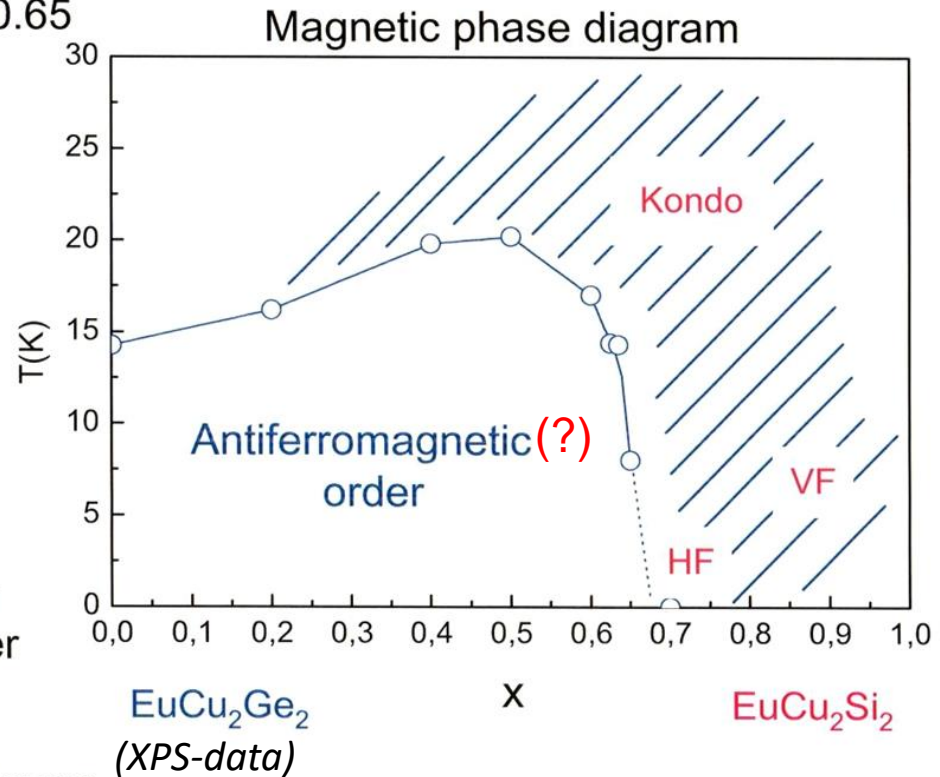
$\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si},\text{Ge})_2$ – distinguished from others Eu-based systems by the existence of the area of *heavy fermion* behaviour between LRMO and IV states on phase diagram



$\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$ phase diagram (from thermodynamics, transport and X-ray spectroscopy)

(Z. Hossain et.al. PRB 69 (2004) 014422)

- Sharp AF-transition until $x = 0.65$
 - * homogeneous AF state
 - * no inhomogeneity effect
- Heavy fermion behavior for $x \geq 0.65$ ($C(T), \chi(T)$)
 - * Fermi liquid
- First observation of *) heavy fermion behavior in an Eu-compound
- Pronounced Kondo-behavior in resistivity and thermopower for $0.5 < x < 0.9$
- Valence fluctuations present even in antiferromagnetic region

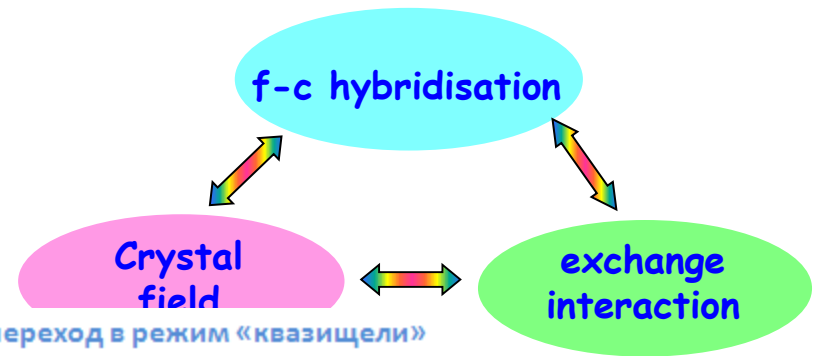


Neutron scattering and complementary spectroscopy studies (**)

*) The first indication of Kondo behaviour for $x > 0.7$ is in E.M. Levin, B.S. Kuzhel, O.I. Bodak, e.a. Phys. Stat. Solidi B 161, 783 (1990)

**) K. S. Nemkovski, D. P. Kozlenko, P. A. Alekseev, J.-M. Mignot, e.a., Phys. Rev. B 94 195101 (2016)

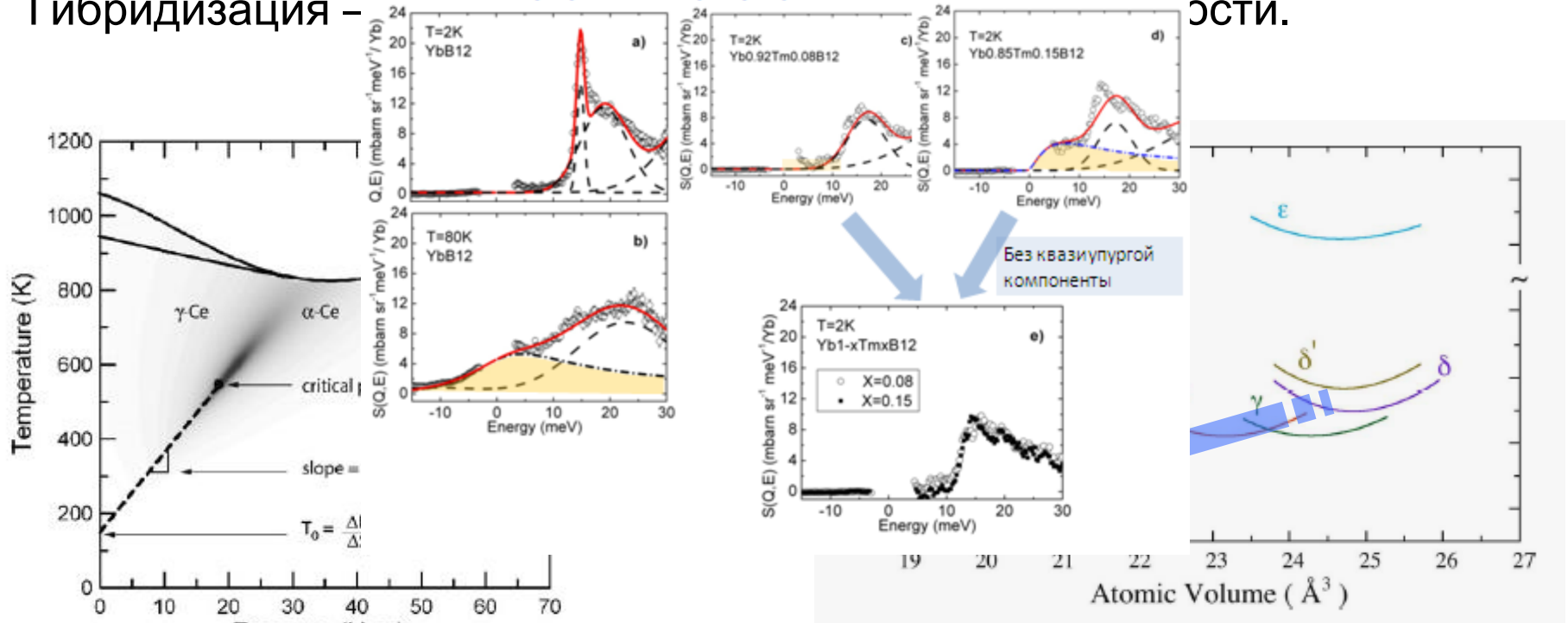
Источник многообразия свойств СКЭС – три взаимодействия.



Подавление резонансной моды и переход в режим «квазищели» по мере роста концентрации магнитных ионов Tm

Гибридизация –

ОСТИ.



Ce γ - α переход, (Bridgman, 1931^{*)}
 $\Delta V/V \sim 15\%$

Pu: δ - α , $P \sim 2$ кбар^{)}**
 $\Delta V/V \sim 25\%$

^{*)}P.W. Bridgman, The Physics of High Pressures, G. Bell and Sons, Ltd., London, 1931, p. 267.

^{**)}"Challenges in Plutonium Science", ed. N.G. Cooper, Los Alamos Science, Number 26, 2000

2.2. Novel insight into Kondo-insulators : the 1-2-10 family

Specific features:

- Magnetic ordering in Ce-based systems (Kondo-insulators) with charge (and spin) gap;
- Relatively *high* T_N for relatively *small magnetic moments*

"1 - 2 - 10 family"



Ce^{3+}

Mixed-valence

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII			IX	X
I	H ¹											He ²
II	Li ³	Be ⁴	B ⁵	C ⁶	N ⁷	O ⁸	F ⁹					Ne ¹⁰
III	Na ¹¹	Mg ¹²	Al ¹³	Si ¹⁴	P ¹⁵	S ¹⁶	Cl ¹⁷					Ar ¹⁸
IV	K ¹⁹	Ca ²⁰	Sc ²¹	Ti ²²	V ²³	Cr ²⁴	Mn ²⁵	Fe ²⁶	Co ²⁷	Ni ²⁸		
V	Rb ³⁷	Sr ³⁸	Y ³⁹	Zr ⁴⁰	Nb ⁴¹	Mo ⁴²	Tc ⁴³	Ru ⁴⁴	Rh ⁴⁵	Pd ⁴⁶		
VI	Cs ⁵⁵	Ba ⁵⁶	La ⁵⁷ *	Hf ⁷²	Ta ⁷³	W ⁷⁴	Re ⁷⁵	Os ⁷⁶	Ir ⁷⁷	Pt ⁷⁸		
VII	Fr ⁸⁷	Ra ⁸⁸	Ac ⁸⁹ **	(Ku) ¹⁰⁴	(Ns) ¹⁰⁵							Rn ⁸⁶

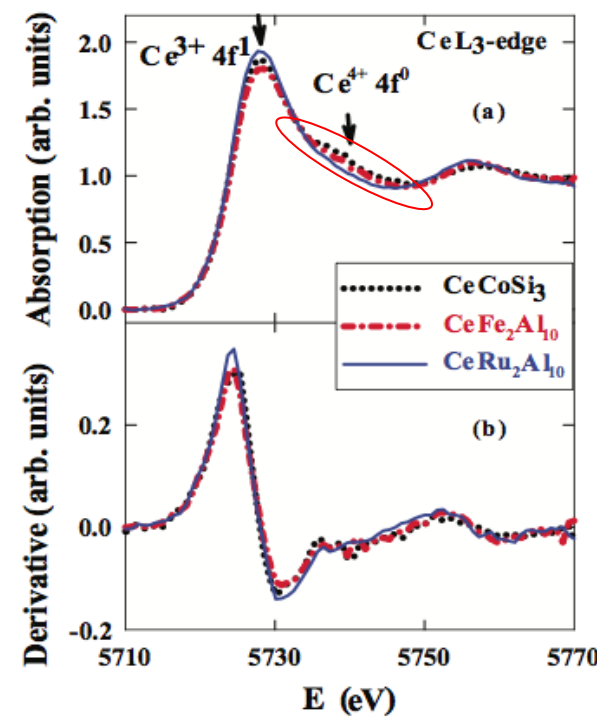
- - s - элементы
- - p - элементы
- - d - элементы
- - f - элементы

* лантаноиды

Ce ⁵⁸	Pr ⁵⁹	Nd ⁶⁰	Pm ⁶¹	Sm ⁶²	Eu ⁶³	Gd ⁶⁴	Tb ⁶⁵	Dy ⁶⁶	Ho ⁶⁷	Er ⁶⁸	Tm ⁶⁹	Yb ⁷⁰	Lu ⁷¹
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** актиноиды

Th ⁹⁰	Pa ⁹¹	U ⁹²	Np ⁹³	Pu ⁹⁴	Am ⁹⁵	Cm ⁹⁶	Bk ⁹⁷	Cf ⁹⁸	Es ⁹⁹	Fm ¹⁰⁰	Md ¹⁰¹	(No) ¹⁰²	(Lr) ¹⁰³
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Adroja, Phys Rev B **87**, 224415 (2013).

«Real» (generic) Kondo insulators

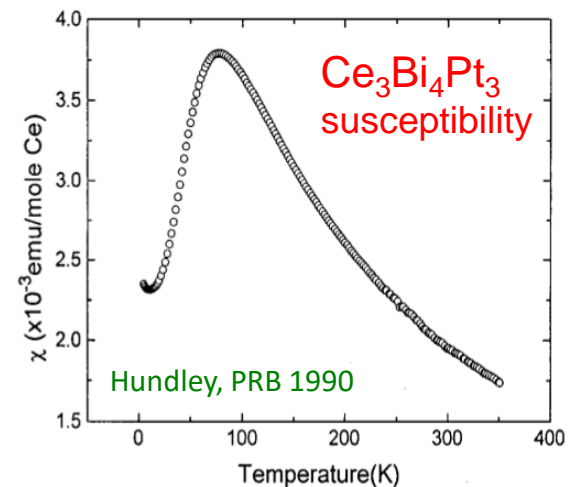
Generally nonmagnetic ground state

SmB₆, (Sm,Y)S, YbB₁₂

CeNiSn, CeRhSb, Ce₃Bi₄Pt₃

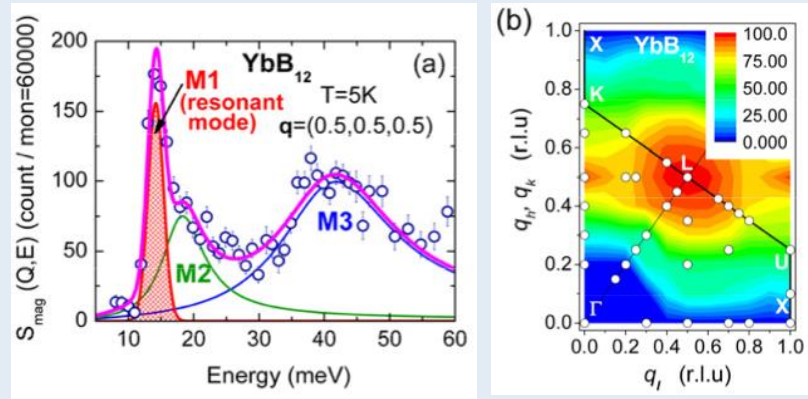
CeT₄Sb₁₂, UFe₄P₁₂, U₂Ru₂Sn ...

FeSi (?)



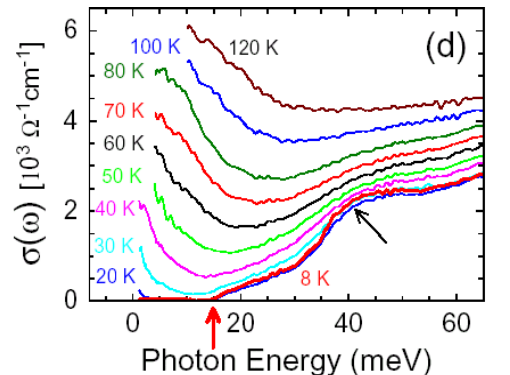
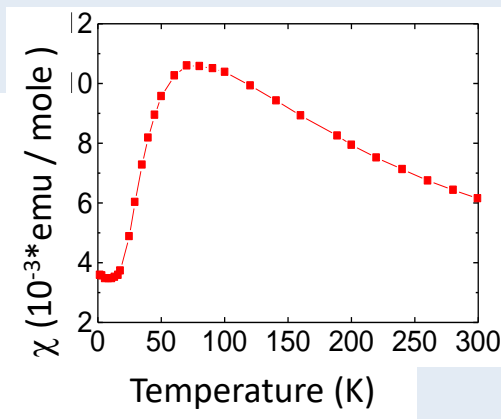
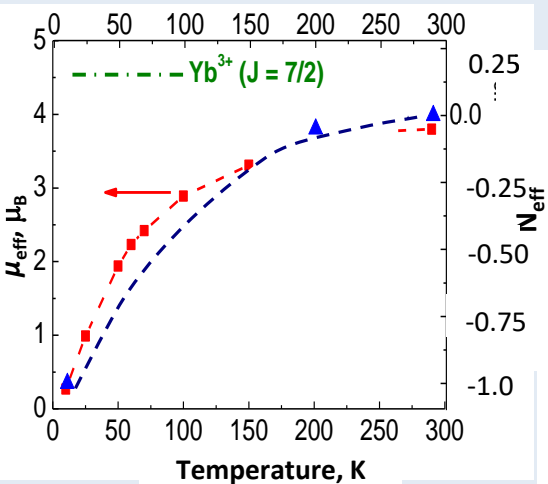
Dynamical AFM correlations → Resonance (“exciton”) mode

P. Riseborough, JMMM (2001)



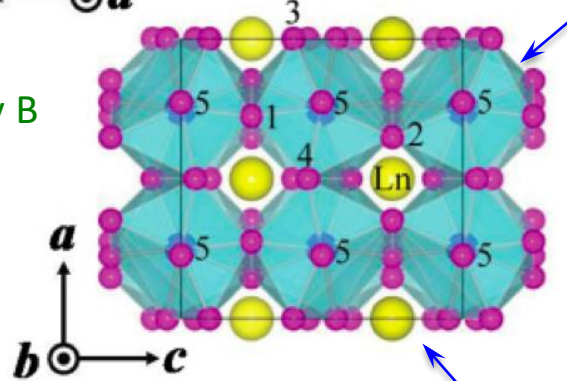
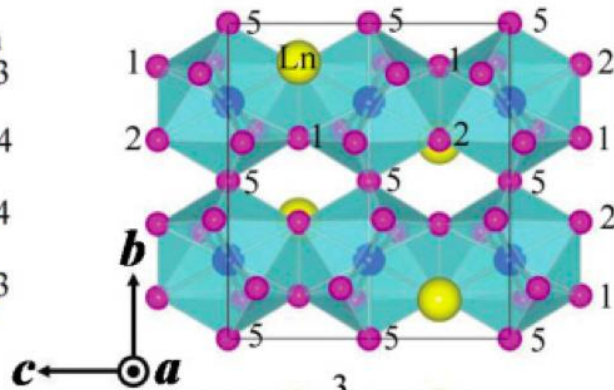
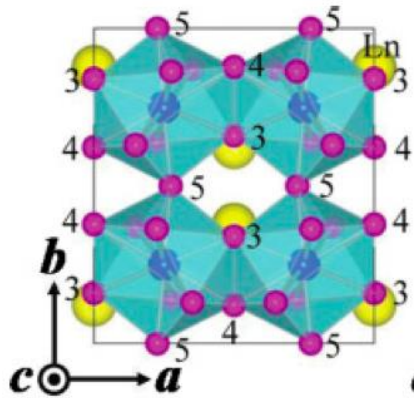
K.S. Nemkovski *et al.*, Physics Procedia **42**, 18 (2013).

YbB₁₂



Connection of spin and charge gaps ?!

LnM_2Al_{10} crystal structure



LnM_2Al_{10} ($M = Fe, Ru, Rh, Os,$)
Orthorhombic, Cmc

Thiede *et al.* (1998), Muro *et al.* (2009),
Nishioka *et al.* (2009)

H. Tanida *et al.*, Phys Rev B
84, 115128 (2011).

Ru- Al_{10} polyhedra
forming layer in (a,c) plane

Ln atoms
in Fe-Al “cage”

$d_{ce-ce} \approx 5.2 \text{ \AA}$

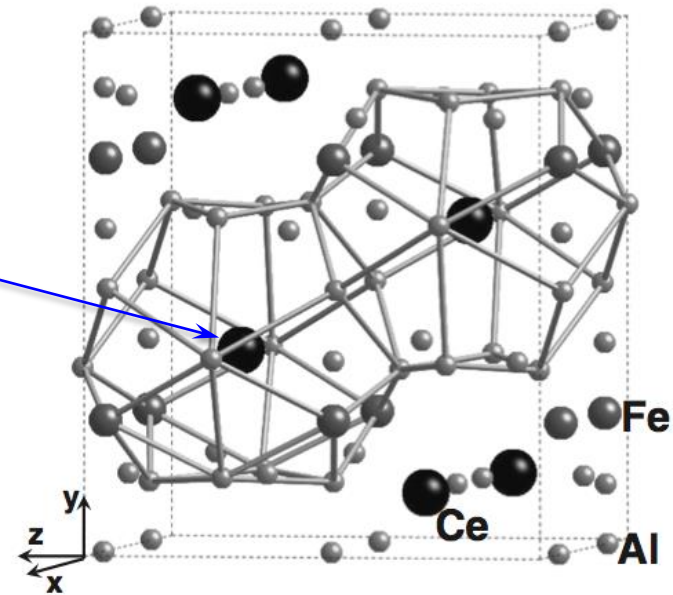
$CeFe_2Al_{10}$

$a = 9.016 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

$b = 10.24 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

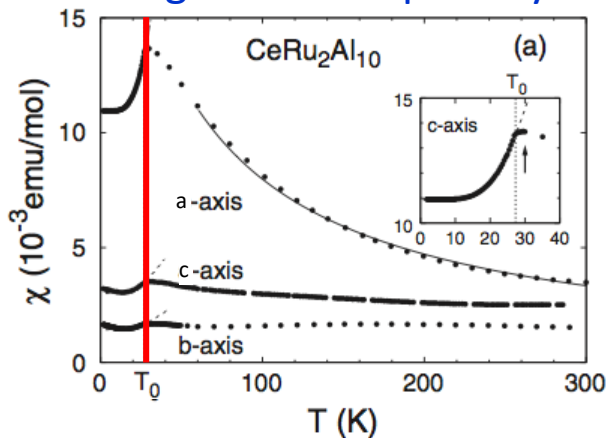
$c = 9.088 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

Y. Muro *et al.*, J Phys Soc Jpn **78**,
083707 (2009).

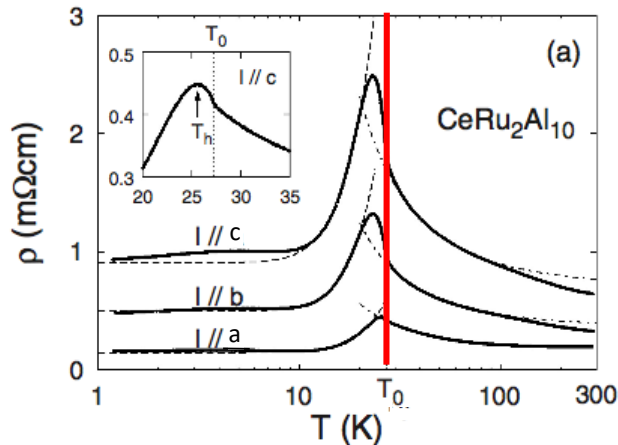


CeRu₂Al₁₀ - KI + low-*T* phase transition

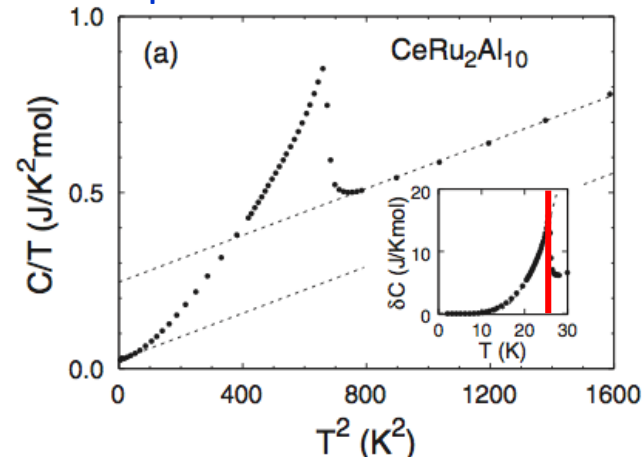
Magnetic susceptibility



Electrical resistivity



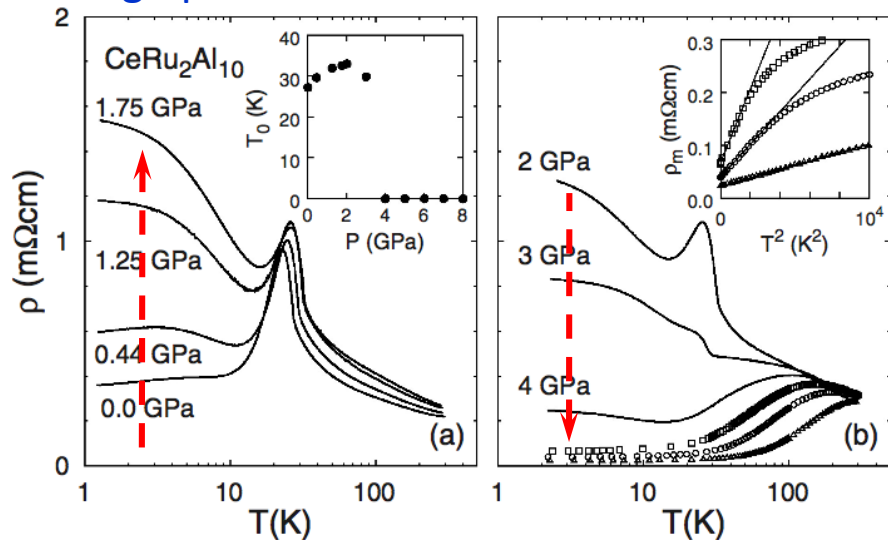
Specific heat



Phase transition at $T_0 = 27$ K

Strydom, Physica B (2009); Nishioka *et al.*, JPhys Soc Jpn(2009)

High pressure *Kondo insulator* → *metal*

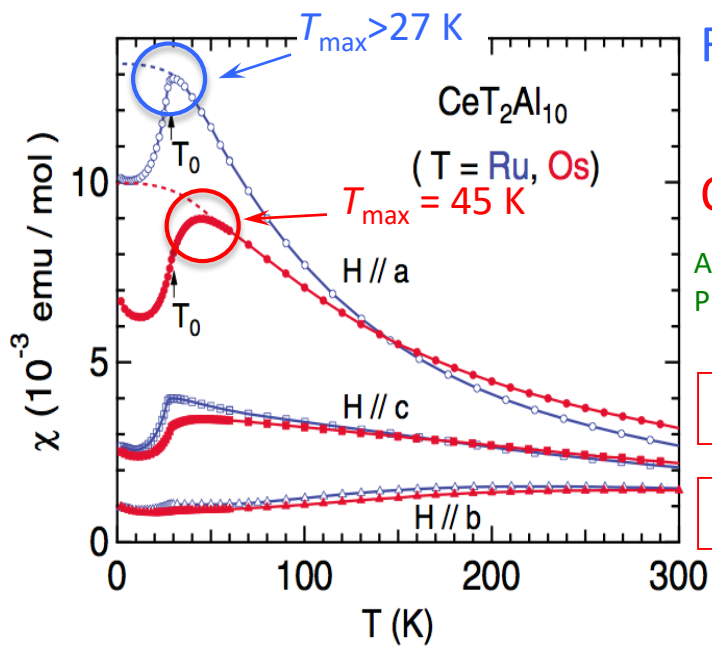


- Stronger anisotropy (*a* = easy axis)
- $\rho(T)$: negative slope, activation law

Ordered phase $T < T_0$

- Exponential dependences of χ and C_p : ($\Delta \sim 100$ K) partial gap opening at the Fermi surface
- Under P : insulating state first enhanced, then suppressed above 2 GPa.

Magnetic order is unconventional



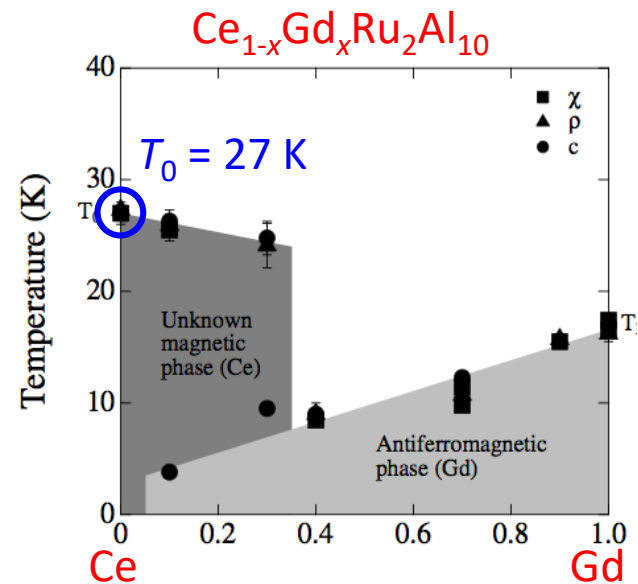
Ru

Os

A. Kondo *et al.*,
Phys Rev B **83**, 180415 (2011).

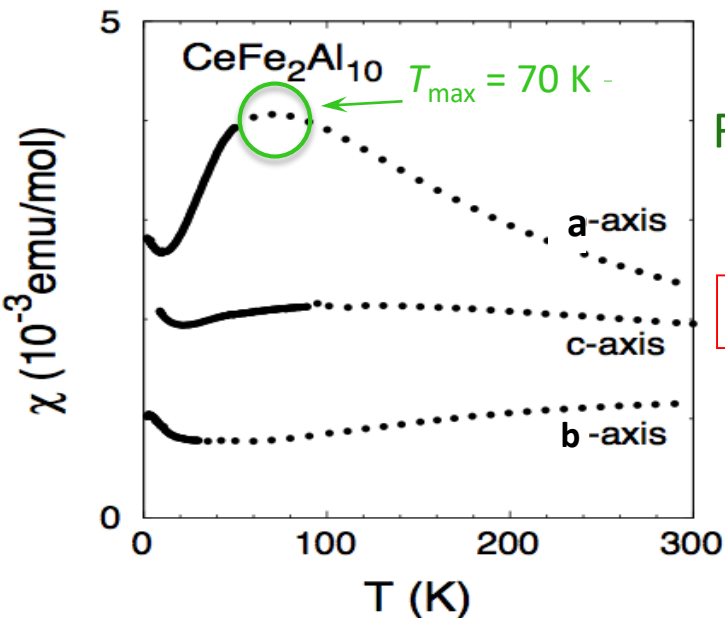
$\text{CeRu}_2\text{Al}_{10} - T_0 \approx 27$ K

$\text{CeOs}_2\text{Al}_{10} - T_0 \approx 29$ K



- Pathologically high ordering temperature, despite large Ce-Ce distances, $d_{\text{Ce-Ce}} > 5$ Å

R. Kobayashi *et al.*,
J Phys Soc Jpn Suppl **80SA**, SA044 (2011).



Fe

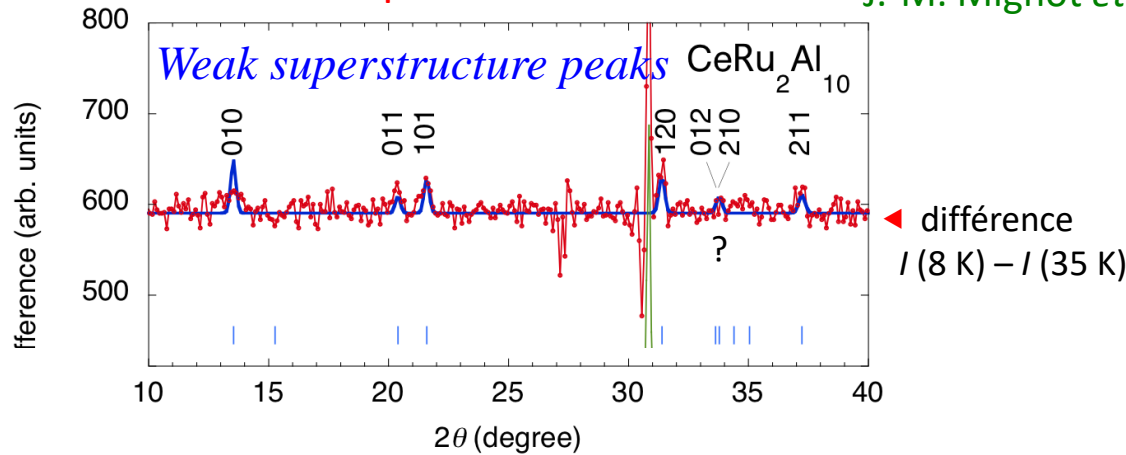
$\text{CeFe}_2\text{Al}_{10} - \text{no magnetic order}$

T. Takesaka *et al.*,
J. Phys: Conf Ser **200**, 012201 (2010).

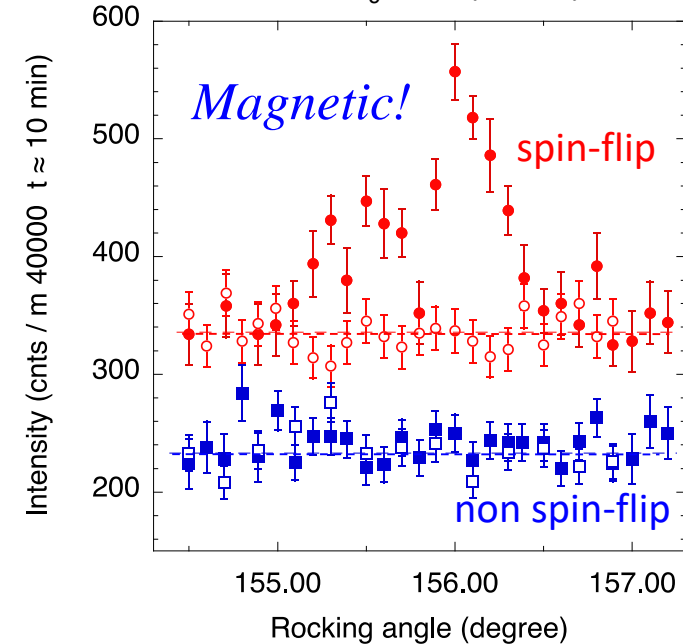
Antiferromagnetic order from neutron diffraction

- J. Robert *et al*, Phys Rev B **82**, 100404(R) (2010).
- J.-M. Mignot *et al.*, J Phys Soc Jpn Suppl **80SA**, 022 (2011)

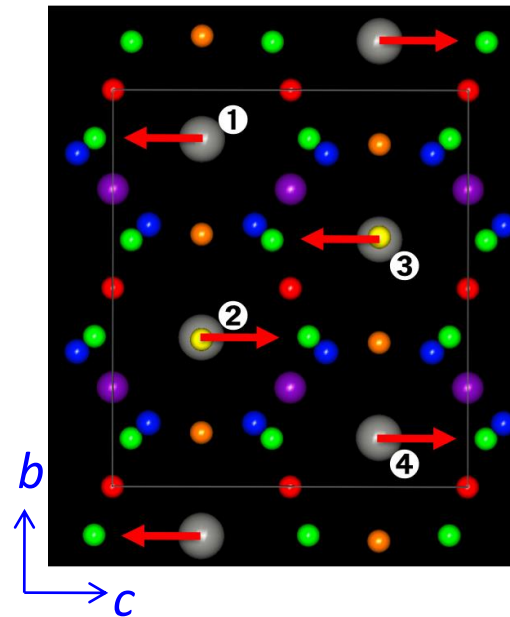
Neutron powder diffraction



S.-crystal polarized neutron diffraction $P_0 \parallel Q = (3, 0, 1)$



Single-crystal diffraction



AFM order
wavevector $k = (1, 0, 0)$

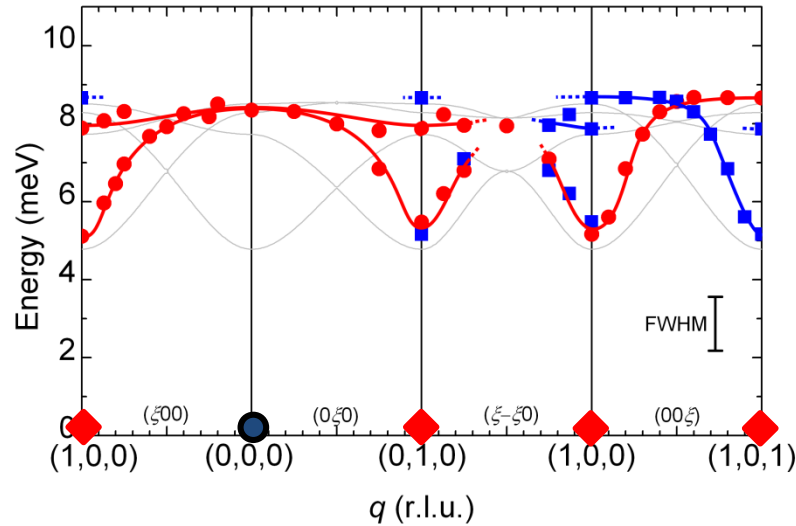
$$m_{\text{AF}} = 0.34 \mu_{\text{B}}$$

Ce moments $m_{\text{AF}} \parallel c$

D.D. Khalyavin *et al.* (2010); H. Kato *et al.* (2011).

Anisotropic magnon picture for CeRu₂Al₁₀

J. Robert *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **109**, 267208 (2012).



RPA calculation (code: Sylvain Petit)

Crystal field parameters Strigari, PRB (2012)

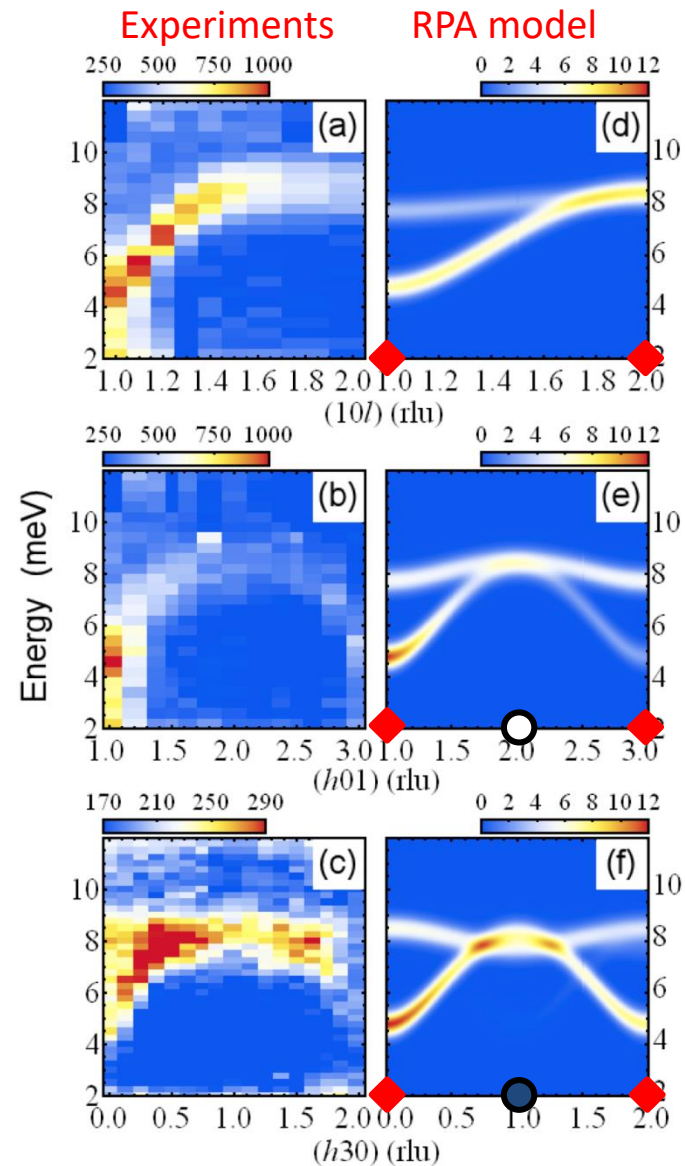
$$(B_2^0, B_2^2, B_4^0, B_4^2, B_4^4) = (-1.326, -29.236, +1.013, -1.747, -5.317) \text{ K}$$

Anisotropic exchange $\mathcal{H}_{i,j} = \sum_{\alpha} \mathcal{J}^{\alpha} S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\alpha}$

TABLE I. Anisotropic exchange parameters (in units of K) used in the RPA calculation. Atomic positions (x_i, y_i, z_i), $i = 1: (0, y, \frac{1}{4})$; $2: (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{4})$; $3: (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{3}{4})$; $4: (0, -y, \frac{3}{4})$, with $y = 1.1239(3)$ [23].

Ce pairs (i, j)	\mathcal{J}^a	\mathcal{J}^b	\mathcal{J}^c
(1,4); (2,3)	2.7	2.7	58
(1,3); (2,4)	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9
(1,2); (3,4)	1.1	1.1	1.1

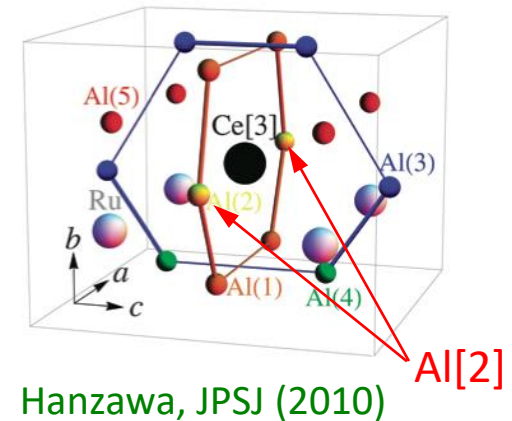
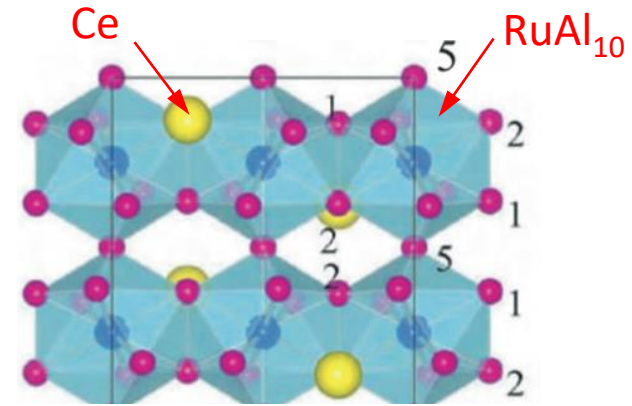
M.M. three times(!) higher than experimental



Direction-selective hybridization?

- “Simple” CF + anisotropic exchange model *not* sufficient.
- Role of (anisotropic) “*c-f*” hybridization with Ce ligands ? Sera, JPSJ (2013):
 - Structure: maximum deviation from lanthanide contraction occurs along ***a***, negligible along ***b***
 - NMR: strong transferred hyperfine field (1158 Oe) at **Al[2]** site, located along ***a*** direction with respect to Ce site.

Suggestion: hybridization occurs primarily along the *a* direction (Ce–Al[2])



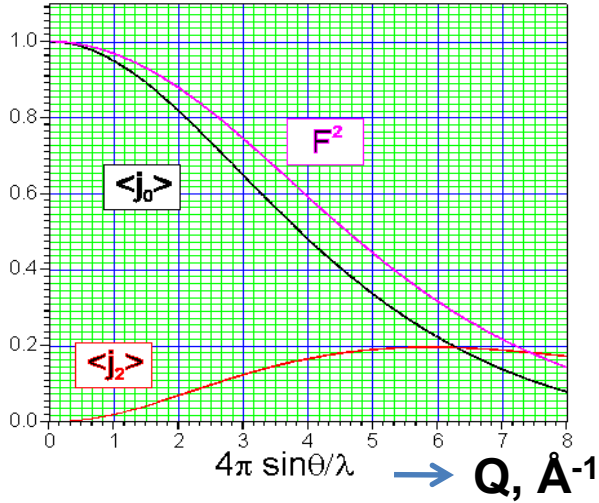
Обычно справедливо дипольное приближение, когда

$$F(Q) = \langle j_0 \rangle(Q) + [(2/g) - 1] \langle j_2 \rangle(Q)$$

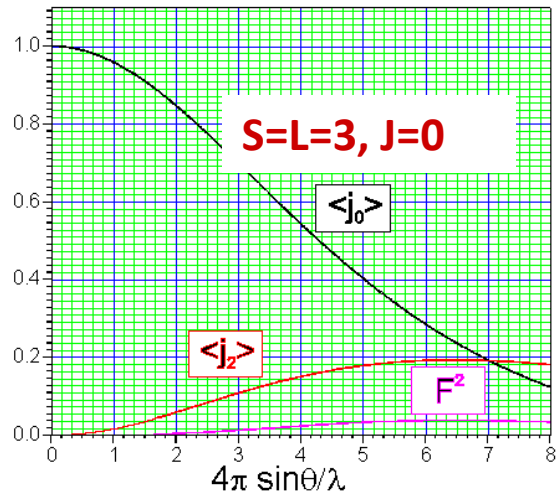
спин+орбита

орбита

Nd³⁺: 4f³5s²p⁶ 4I_{9/2}

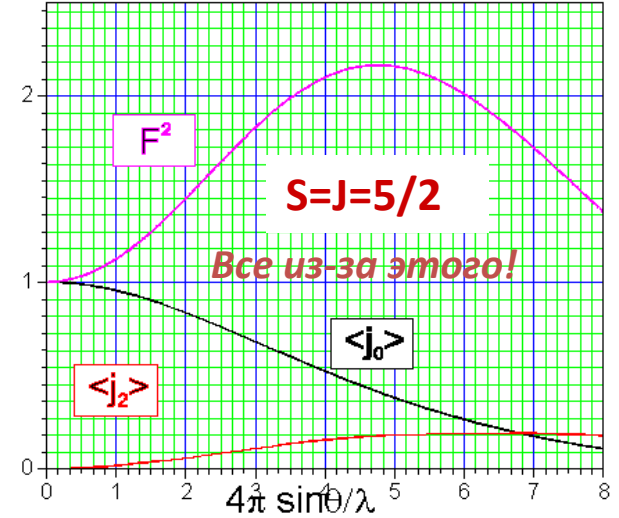


Eu³⁺: 4f⁶5s²p⁶ 7F₀ ≡ Sm²⁺



$\langle j_n(Q) \rangle$ are integrals of the product of the spherical Bessel function of order n and the radial distribution of the electron density, derived from a Dirac-Fock relativistic calculation.

Sm³⁺: 4f⁵5s²p⁶ 6H_{5/2}



(2-g)/g=6!

Для ПВ-состояния
Sm $\nu \cong 2.5$

Возможно «смешивание» Sm²⁺ и Sm³⁺ состояний из-за «флуктуаций» типа:
Sm²⁺ ↔ Sm³⁺ + e⁻

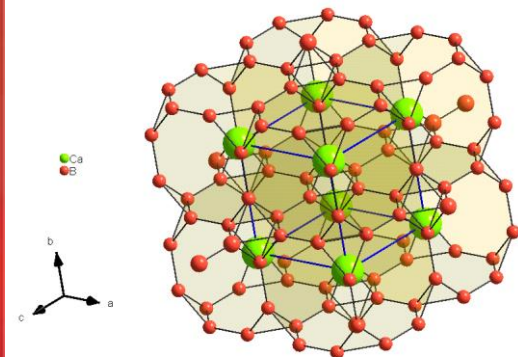
Combined form factor ?!

Магнитный момент равен 0!

Beginning of the story...late 80th

Composite crystal $^{154}\text{Sm}^{11}\text{B}_6$ $V \sim 0.8 \text{cm}^3$

KIAE, IPMS, ILL, LLB



BCC, $a=4.13\text{\AA}$

Short introduction:

What are Kondo-Insulators?

**What are valence unstable (intermediate / mixed)
valence systems?**

What is an interest with that?!

What are Kondo-insulators?

“Valence fluctuations” are inherent to systems with unfilled and virtually unstable f - and d - electron shells .

Example – systems based on the f -elements from the beginning, middle, and end of rare earth series.

Symbolic presentation $f^n \rightleftharpoons f^{n-1} + e$ *From the early 80th...*

“Commonplace”: valence fluctuations (τ_{sf}) – physical reason for the formation of the nonmagnetic ground state:

$(\tau_{sf})^{-1} > kT \Rightarrow$ suppression of the m.m. on $\downarrow T$ (like HF-, MV-systems...)

For selected nonmagnetic systems the formation of semiconducting state with gap $\sim 100K$ is specific!

This is mixed valence semiconductor or “Kondo insulator”

Recently KI with magnetic ordering (LRMO) were discovered!

What are Kondo-insulators!

CeNiSn, Ce₃Bi₄Pt₃, Ce₃Sb₄Pt₃, CeRhSb,...

SmB₆, SmS (P > 6 kbar)

YbB₁₂ !

U₃Sb₄Pt₃, U₂Ru₂Sn,...

FeSi (?)

“High temperature” limit:

poor metal with local magnetic moment and Kondo-effect

“Low temperature” limit (ground state) :

semiconductor (gap ~100 K) with zero magnetic moment

The most of the Kondo-insulators have fractional occupation of the f-shell (*homogenous mixed valence (MV) state*)

The strong correlations are important both for the spin- and for charge- subsystems.

Specific properties originated from f-electrons and are essentially dynamical effect:

therefore the neutron spectroscopy – is a powerful tool!

What are Kondo-insulators?!

This kind of SCES usually are considered as one “family”...

Perhaps, such treatment is too much simplified?

Indeed!

Neutron spectroscopy (inelastic magnetic neutron scattering) results in discovery of the “resonant mode” phenomenon for mixed valence systems like “Kondo-insulators” and some others...

The most bright examples – MV semiconductors, like:

-SmB₆ и SmS (strong MV), and

-YbB₁₂ (weak MV).

*The physical result: There are established two different in nature (but in both cases **singlet !**) types of the ground state.*

What was initially expected from neutron scattering experiments with MV systems?

Semiconductors with "strong" intermediate valence

Formal (average) valence is far from integer value

SmB_6 , SmS "classical" examples

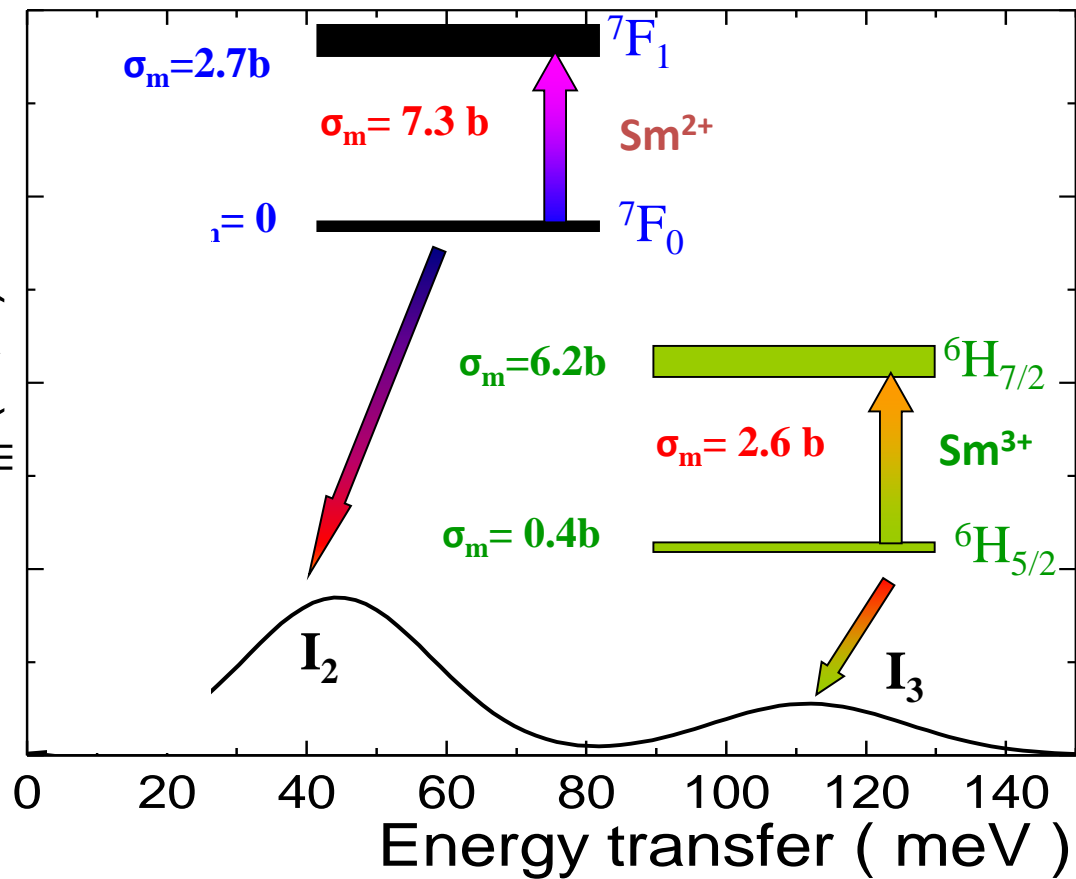
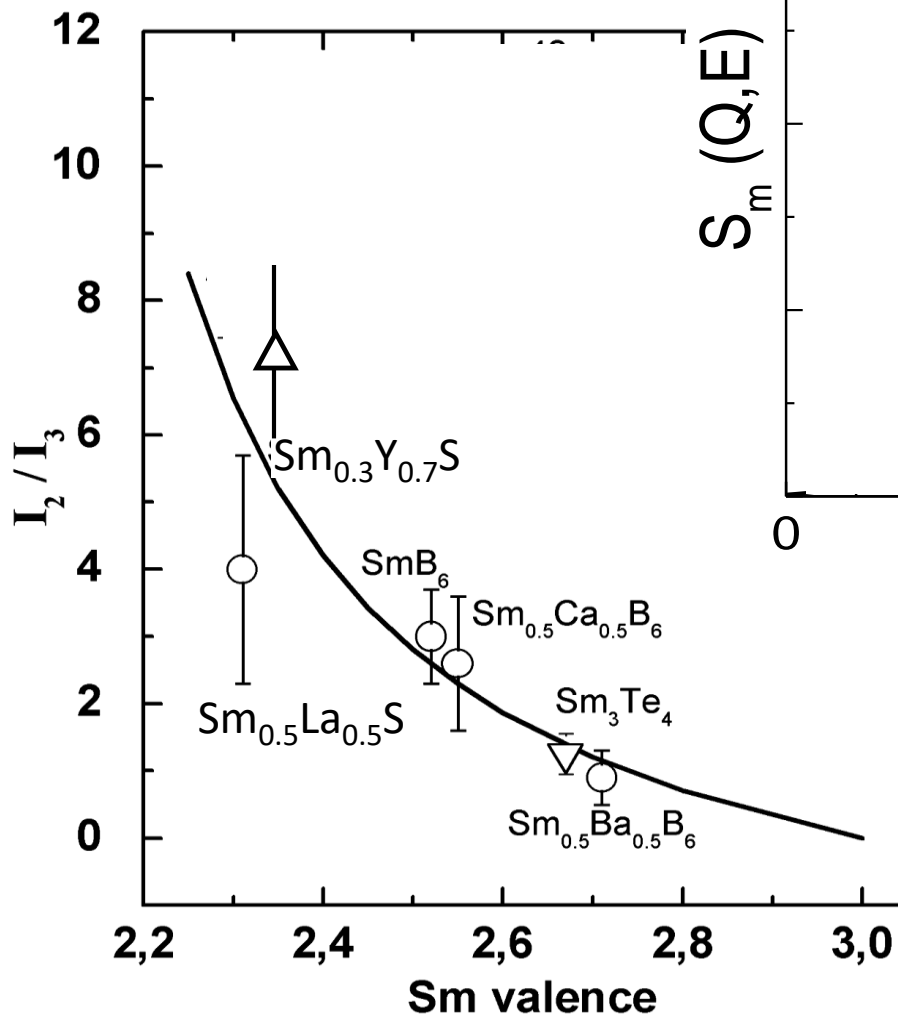


What is the structure of the magnetic excitation spectra and its response on the variation of temperature and valence?

One could expect spin-orbit multiplet structure of f^6 and f^5 configurations to appear...at least!

Important - NO CEF effects expected due to valence fluctuation!

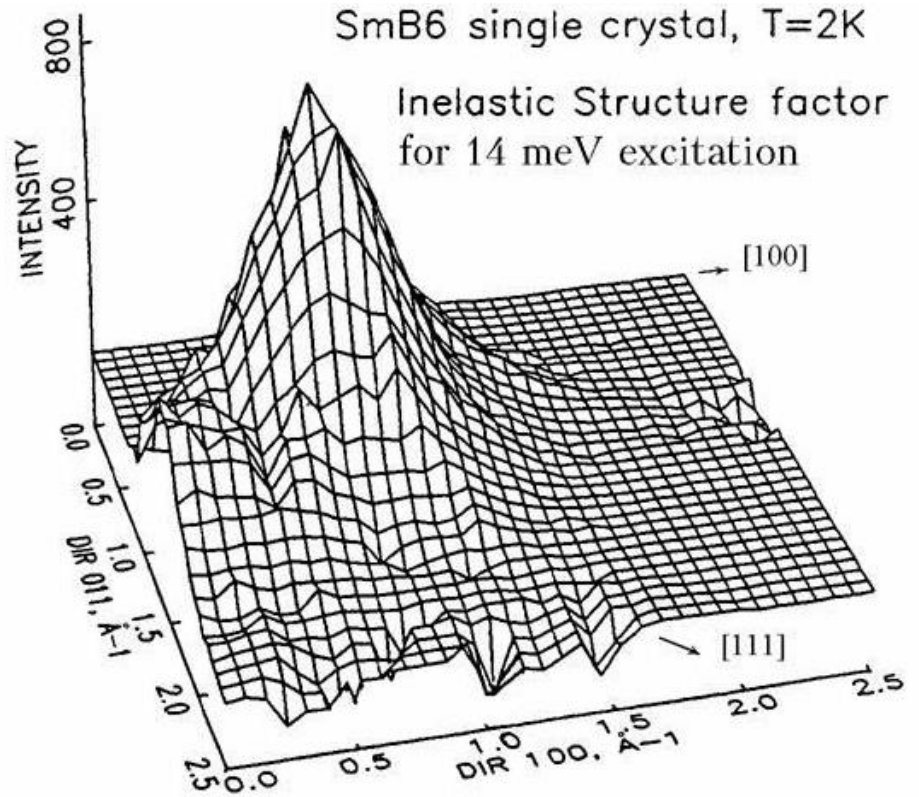
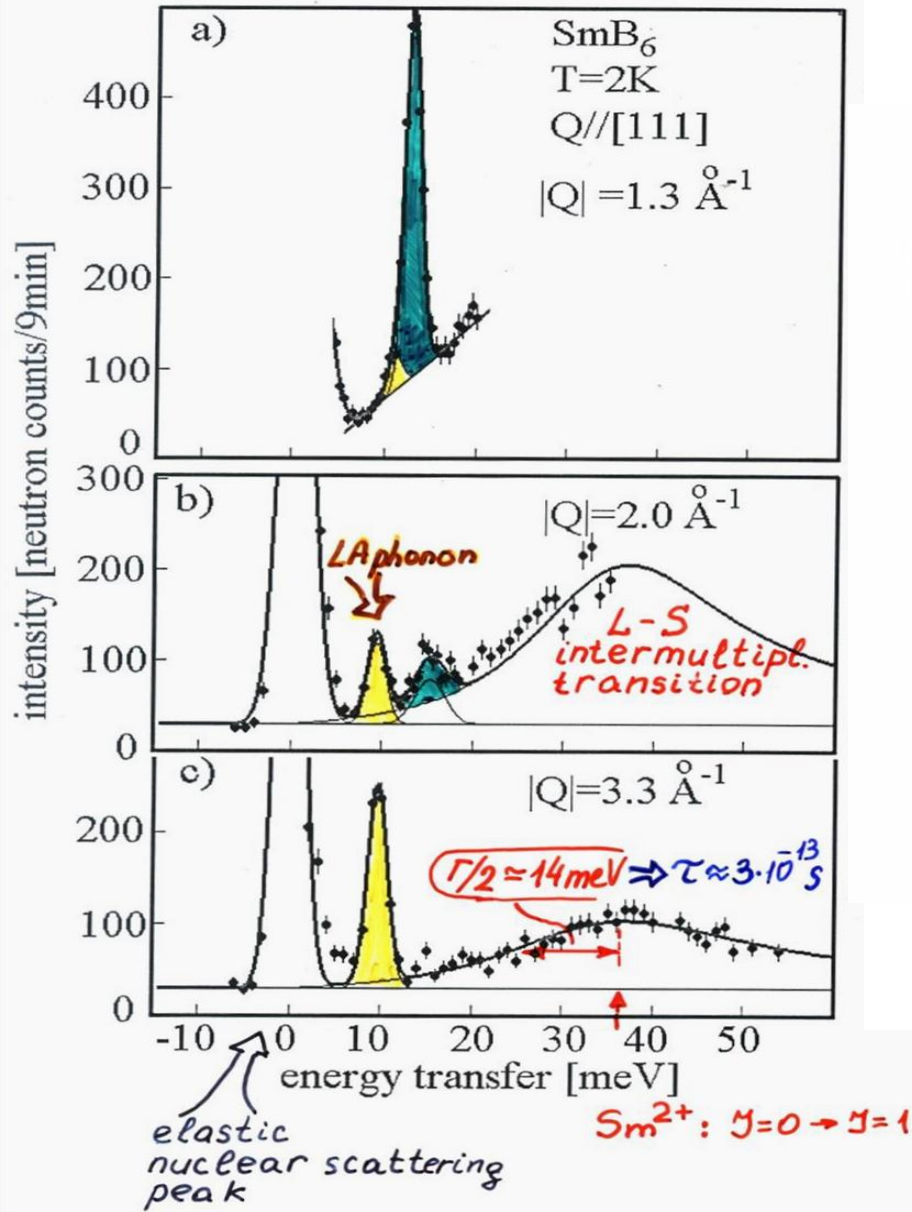
Intermultiplet (spin-orbit) excitations



This is not all the story!

Low energy ("resonant") mode in SmB6

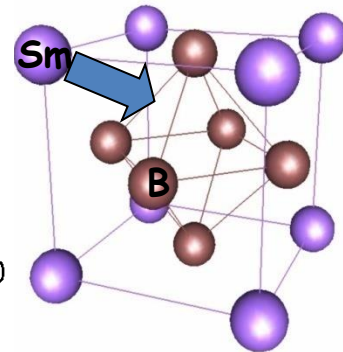
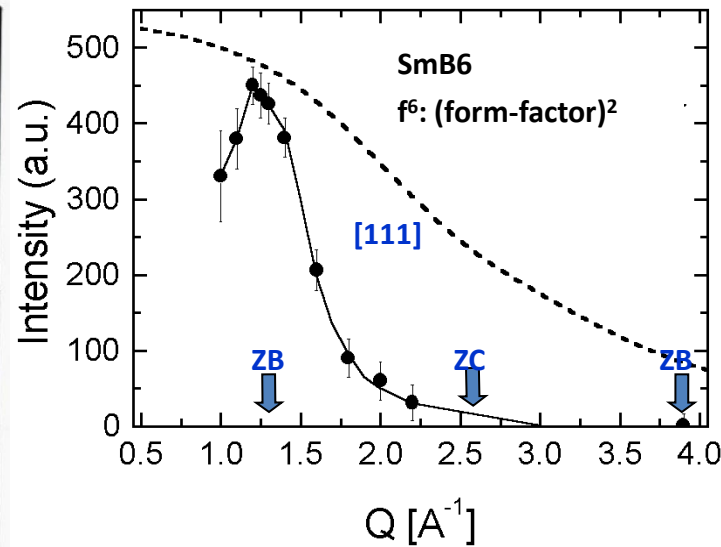
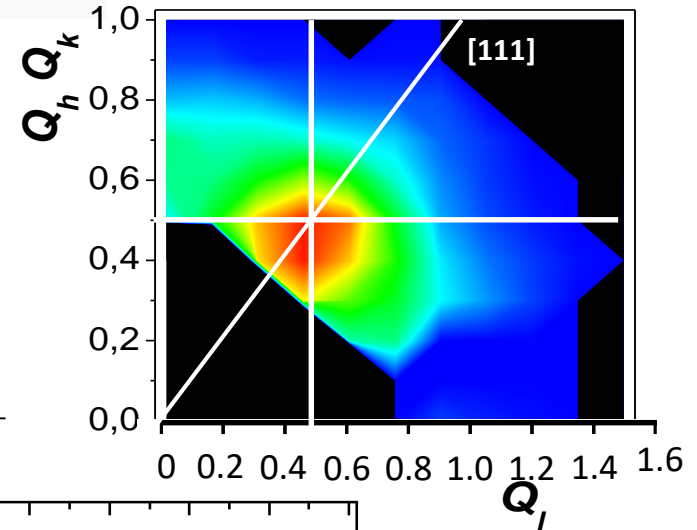
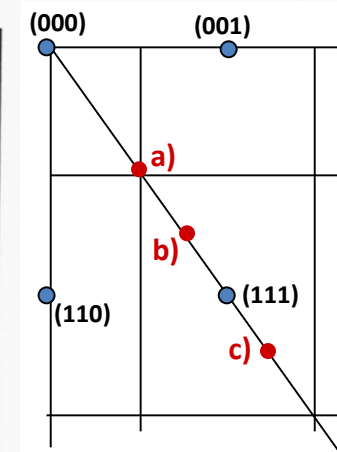
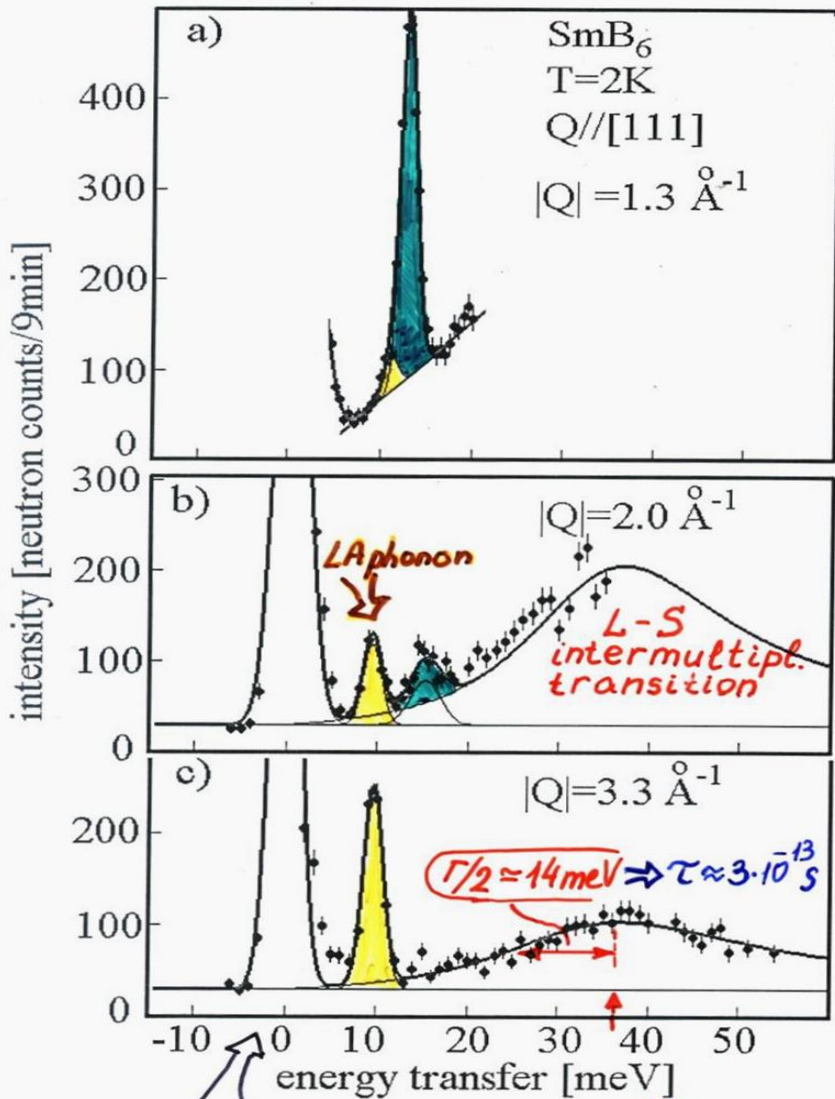
^{154}Sm B_6 single crystal



"Map" of inelastic scattering intensity

Low energy ("resonant") mode in SmB6

$^{154}\text{Sm } ^{11}\text{B}_6$ single crystal



elastic nuclear scattering peak

$\text{Sm}^{2+}: \psi=0 \rightarrow \psi=1$

How it is related to the mixed valence?

What about an interplay of intermediate valence and magnetism (spin fluctuation vs ordering?)

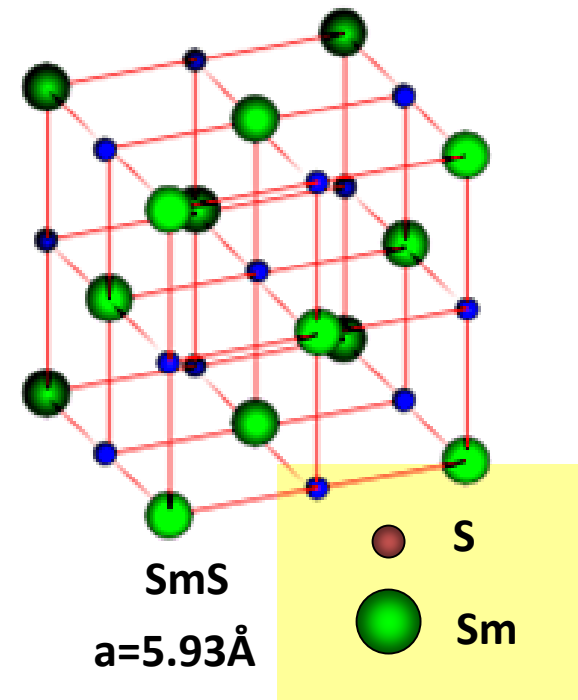
SmS in IV state is a good model system

In SmS dispersive magnetic excitation for intermultiplet transition $J_0 \rightarrow J_1$ is observed by neutron scattering due to *exchange interaction Sm-Sm*

SmS: $P = 6 \text{ кбар}$

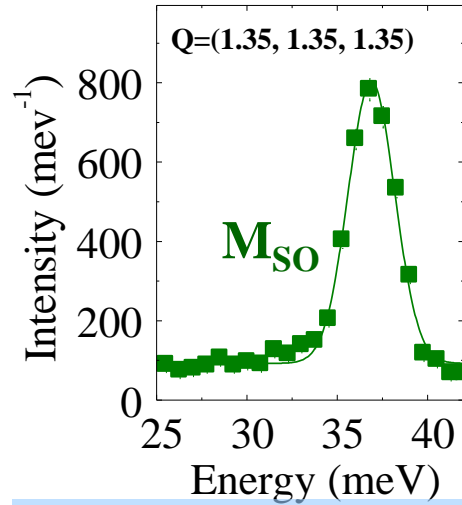
EPT to "golden" phase, valence ~ 2.7

Sm(Y)S: "chemical pressure"
with continuous EPT

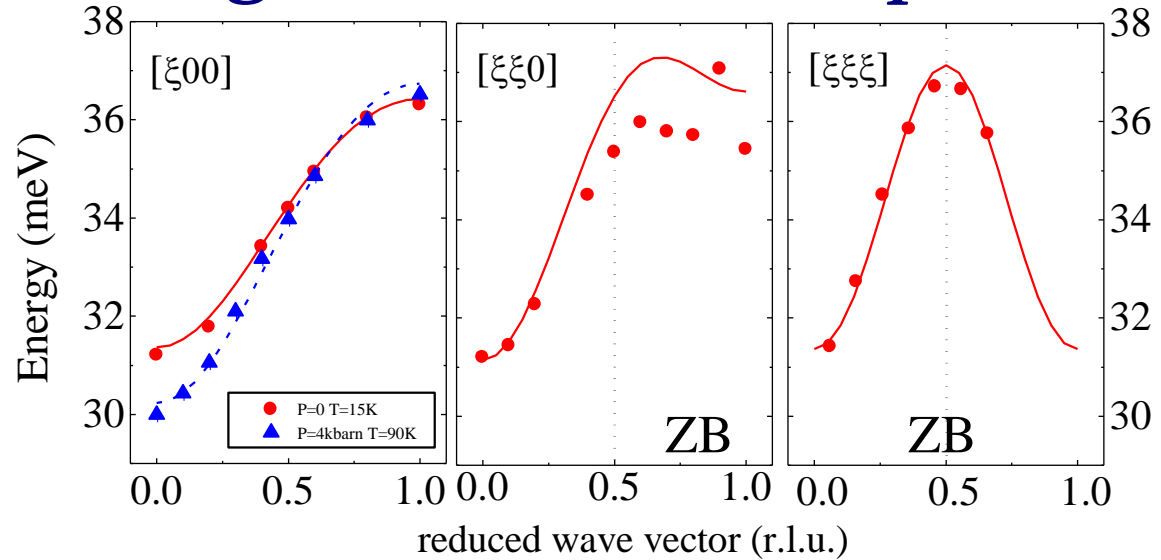


Excitations and Sm-Sm exchange in SmS

Spin-orbit (SO) transition
in neutron spectra of SmS

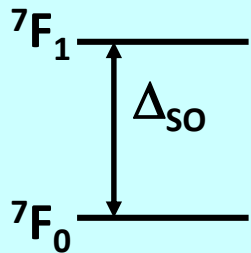


Magnetic excitation dispersion



Model description of a dispersion for SO transition (*S.M.Shapiro e.a., PRL, 1975*)
“induced magnetism”

$\text{Sm}^{2+} (4f^6)$



+

Sm-Sm exchange:

$$J(\vec{q}) = \sum_j J_{ij} \exp\left[i\vec{q}(\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j)\right]$$

=

$$\hbar\omega_{SO}(\vec{q}) = \Delta_{SO} (1 - 16R(T)J(\vec{q}) / \Delta_{SO})^{1/2}$$

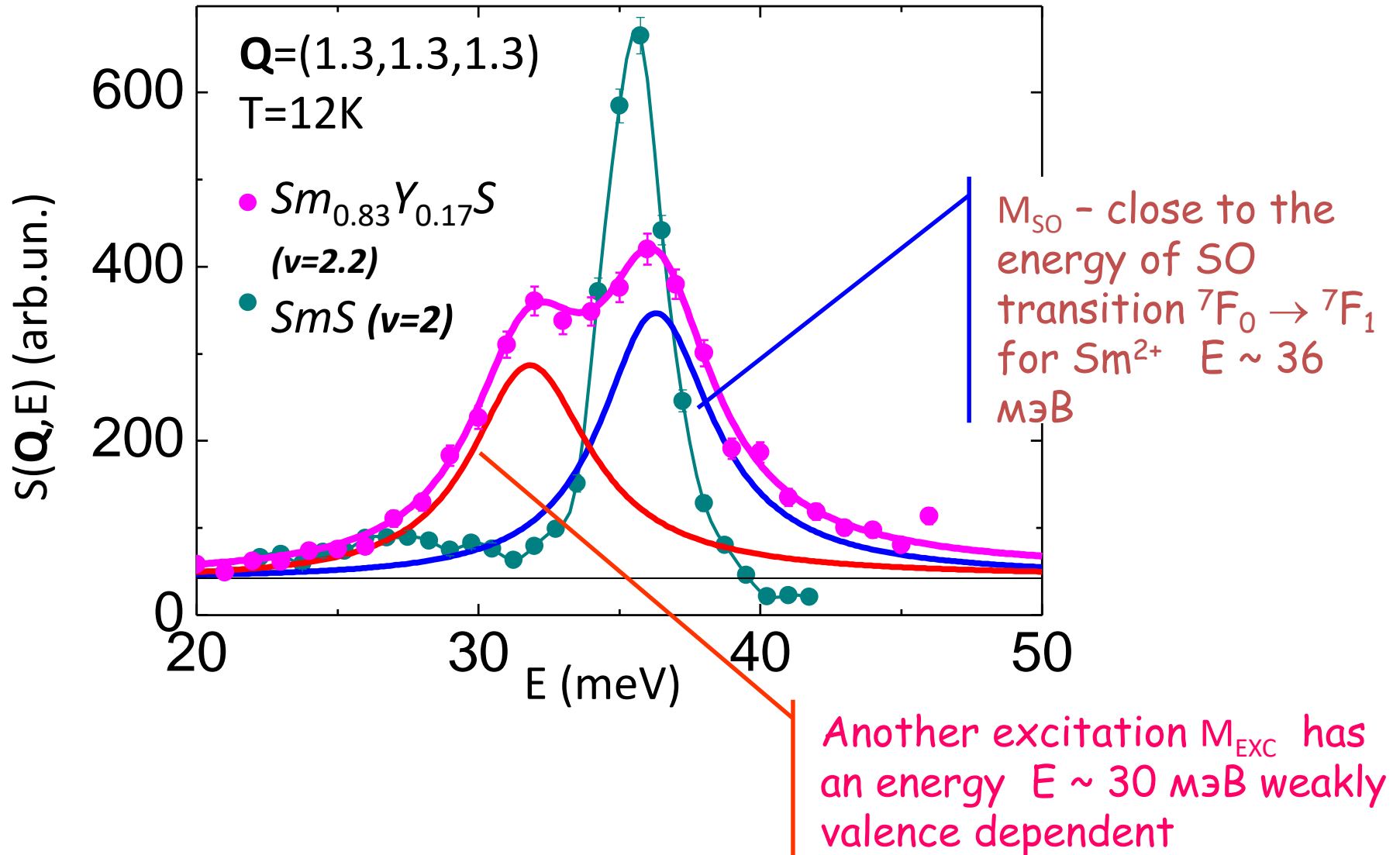
$$R(T) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\Delta/kT)}{1 + 3\exp(-\Delta/kT)}$$

temperature
factor

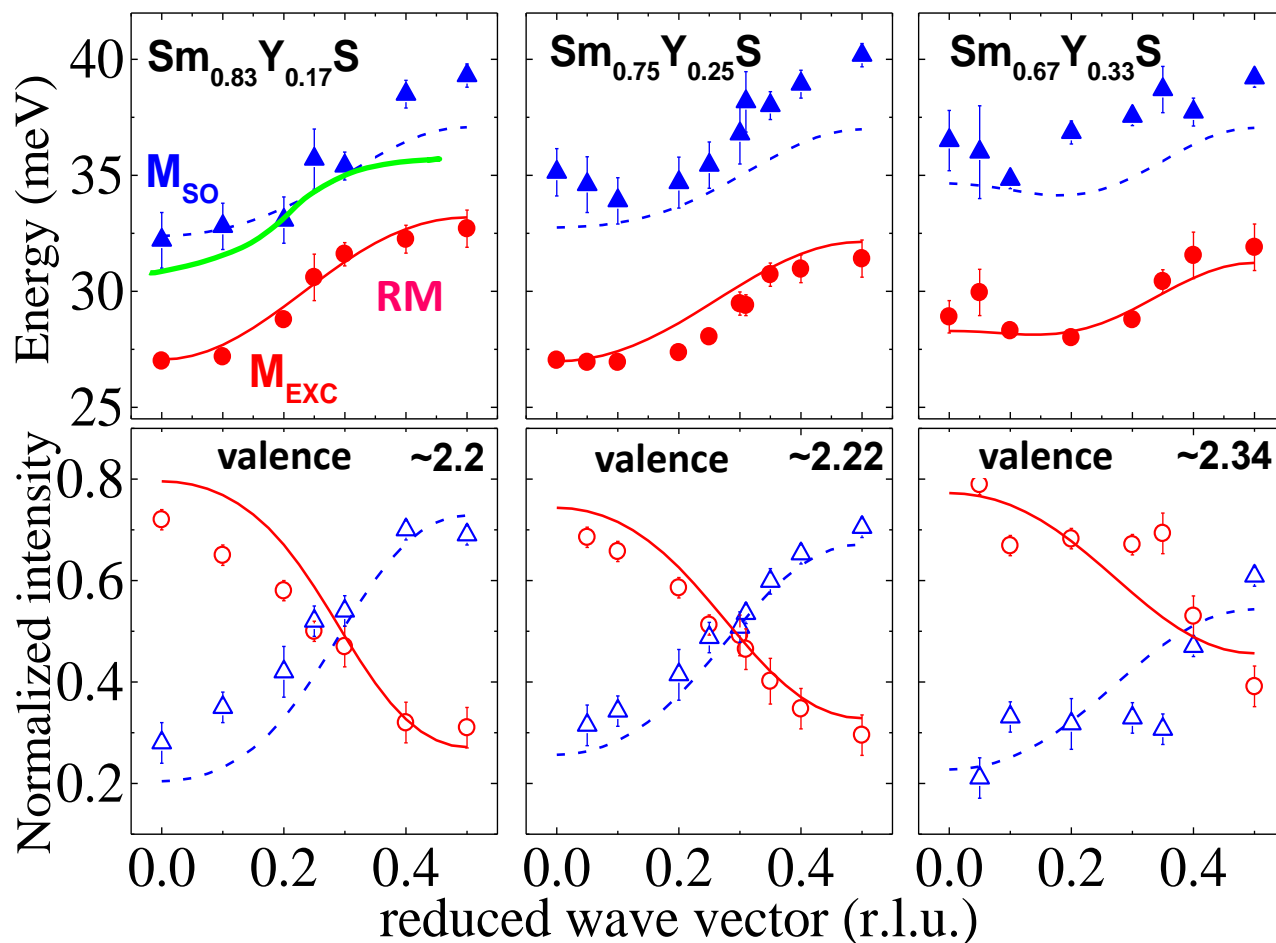
Exchange interaction parameters in SmS: $J_1=0.043$ $J_2=0.020$ $J_3= - 0.003$

Magnetic dynamics in $\text{Sm}(\text{Y})\text{S}$

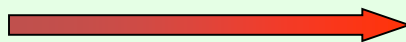
Fine structure of the magnetic excitation spectra in $\text{Sm}_{1-x}\text{Y}_x\text{S}$ single crystal



Dispersion of energies and relative intensities for magnetic peak MSO and Mexc



Sm^{2+} Sm^{3+}



➤ Dispersion reduced

➤ Energy minimum is shifted from Γ -point

➤ M_{EXC} mode becoming dominating in the most of Brillouin zone

$$I_{\text{SO}}(I_{\text{EXC}}) = \frac{I_{\text{SO}}(I_{\text{EXC}})}{I_{\text{SO}} + I_{\text{EXC}}}$$

Introduction of the interaction (hybridization) between M_{SO} and M_{EXC} allows to describe the experimentally observed $E(q)$ and $I(q)$

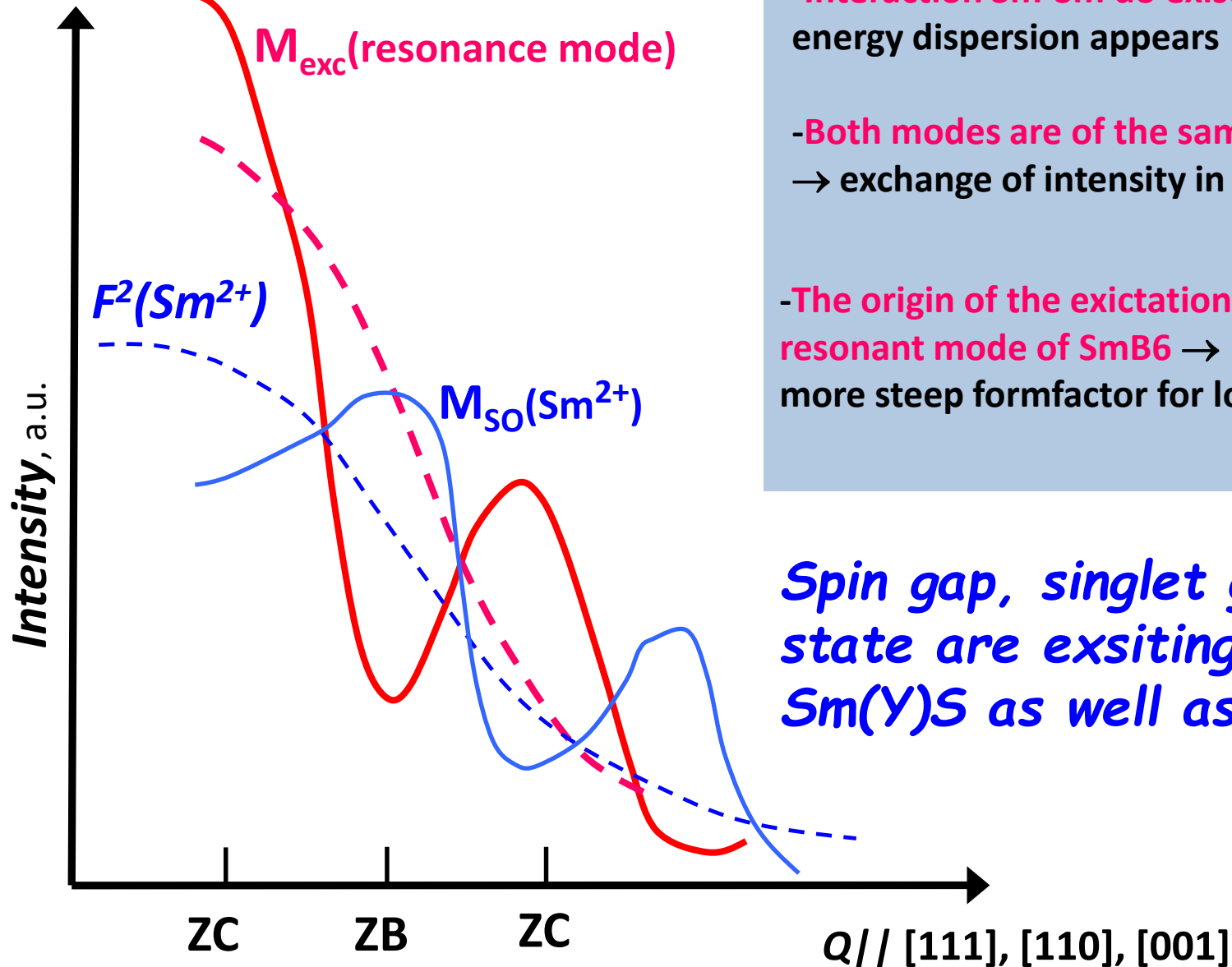
Intensities of two modes in Sm(Y)S as functions of momentum transfer Q

Valence of Sm ~ 2.35

M_{exc} (resonance mode)

$F^2(\text{Sm}^{2+})$

$M_{\text{SO}}(\text{Sm}^{2+})$

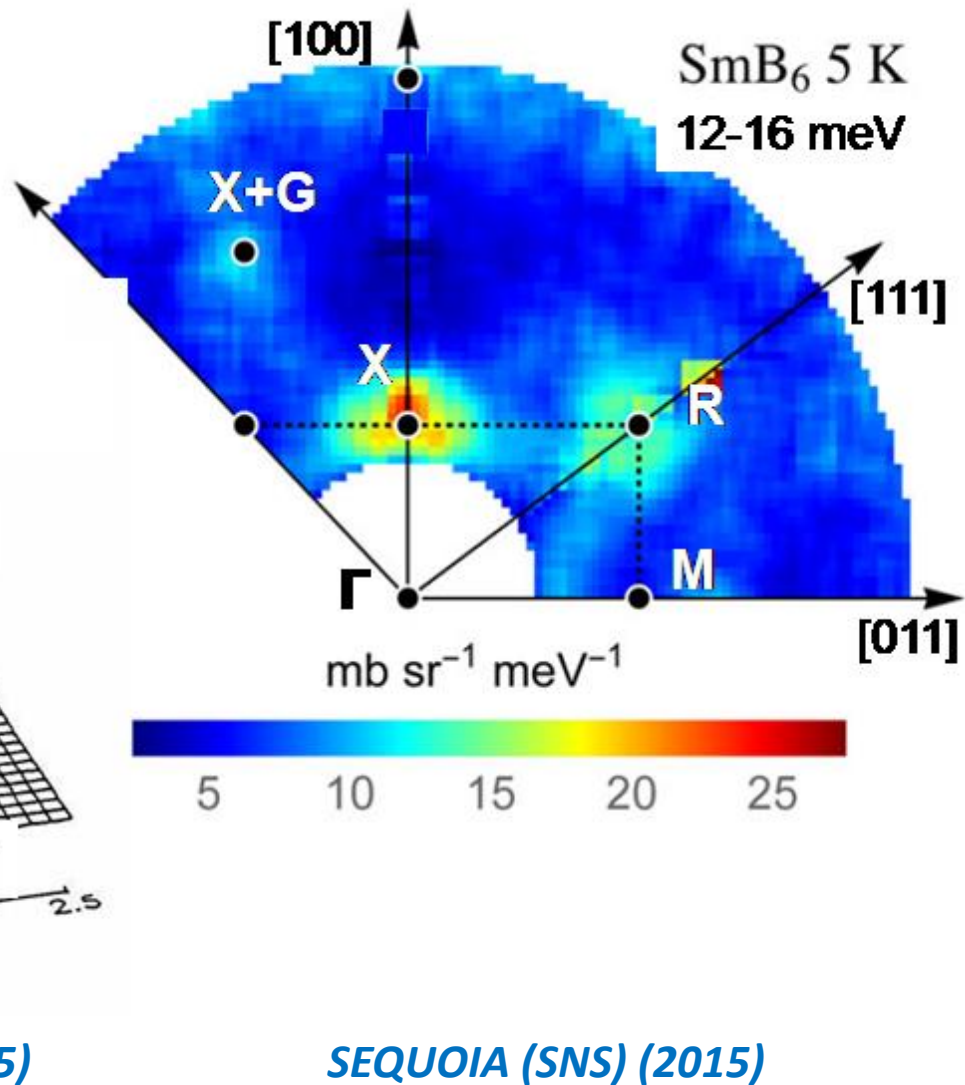
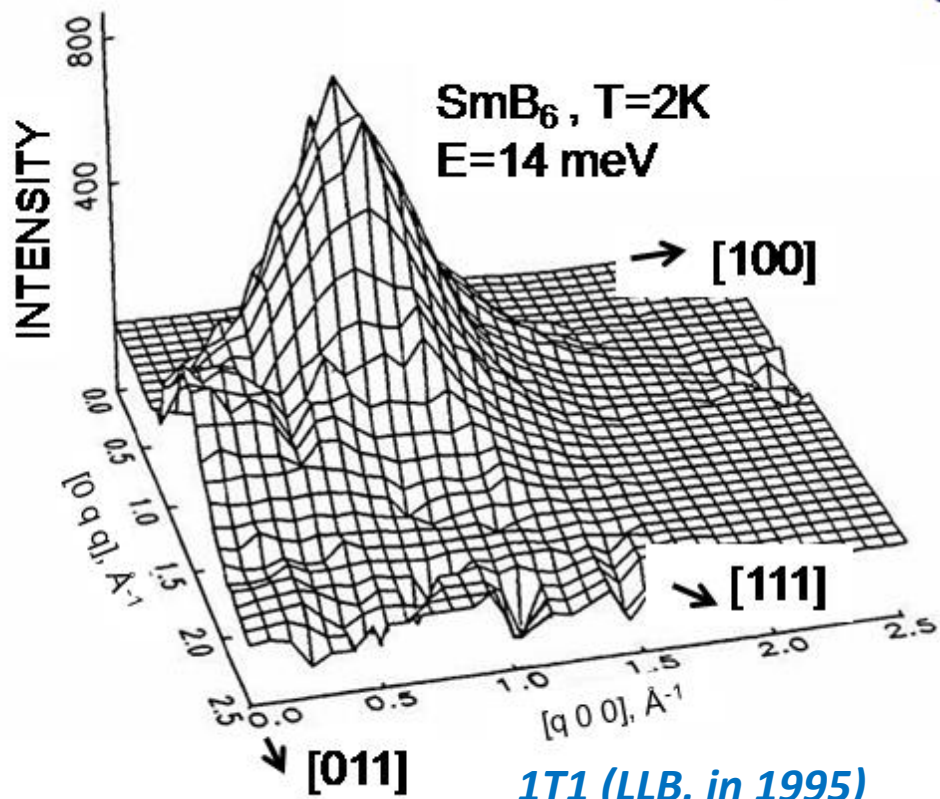


-Interaction Sm-Sm do exists \rightarrow strong energy dispersion appears

-Both modes are of the same symmetry \rightarrow exchange of intensity in BZ

-The origin of the excitation M_{exc} identical to resonant mode of SmB_6 \rightarrow more steep formfactor for low energy peak!

Spin gap, singlet ground state are existing in $\text{Sm}(\text{Y})\text{S}$ as well as in SmB_6



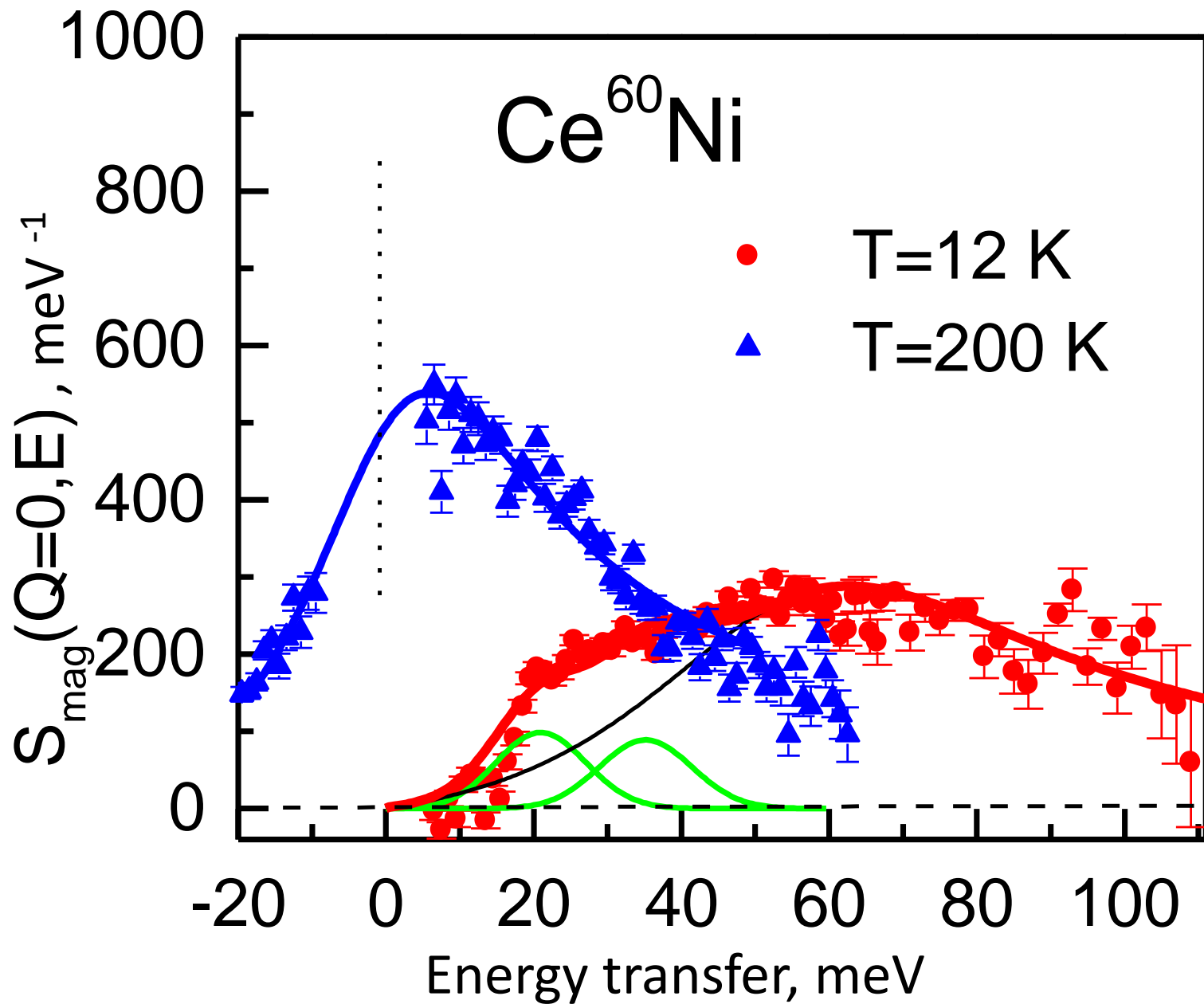
Ce-based IV system with spin-gap: CeNi

LaNi –diamagnetic

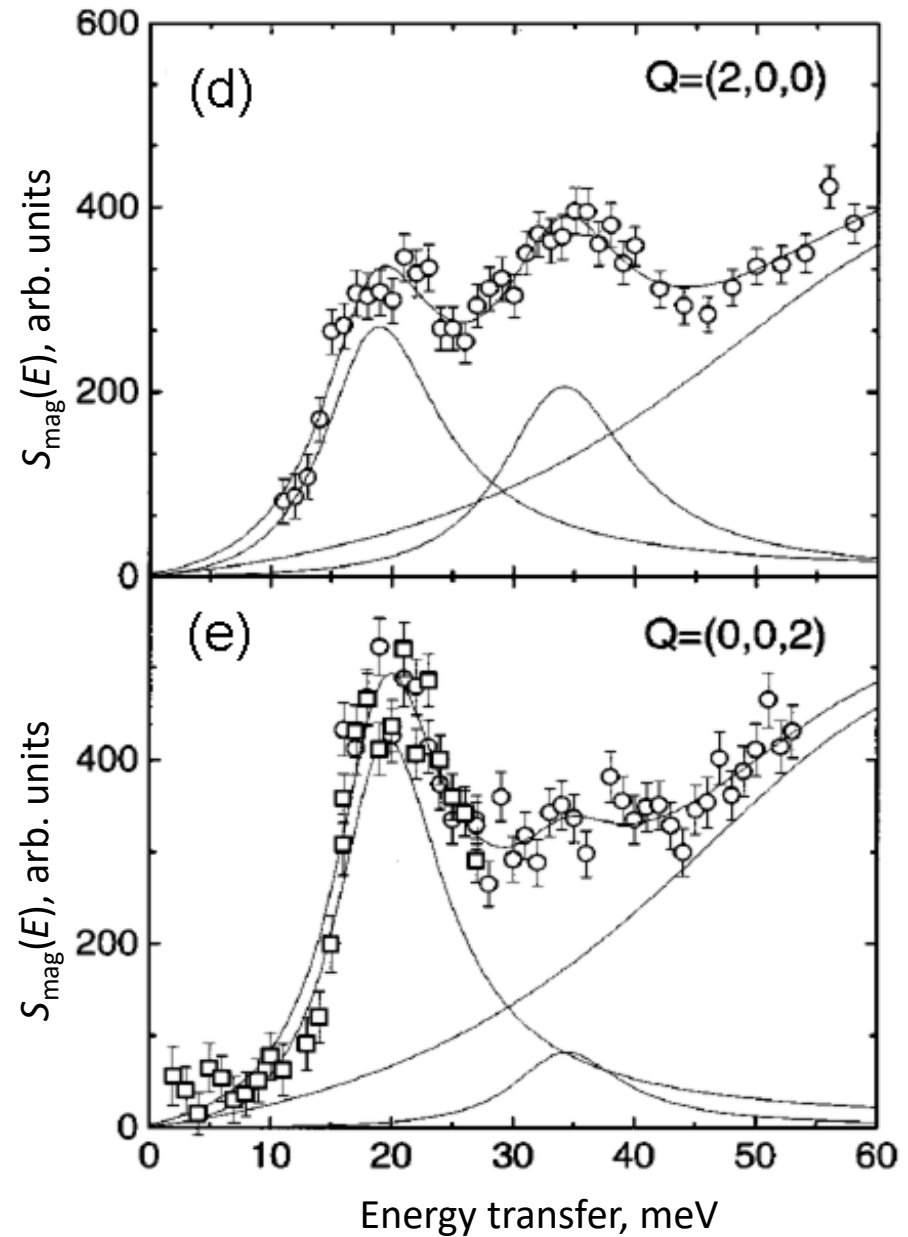
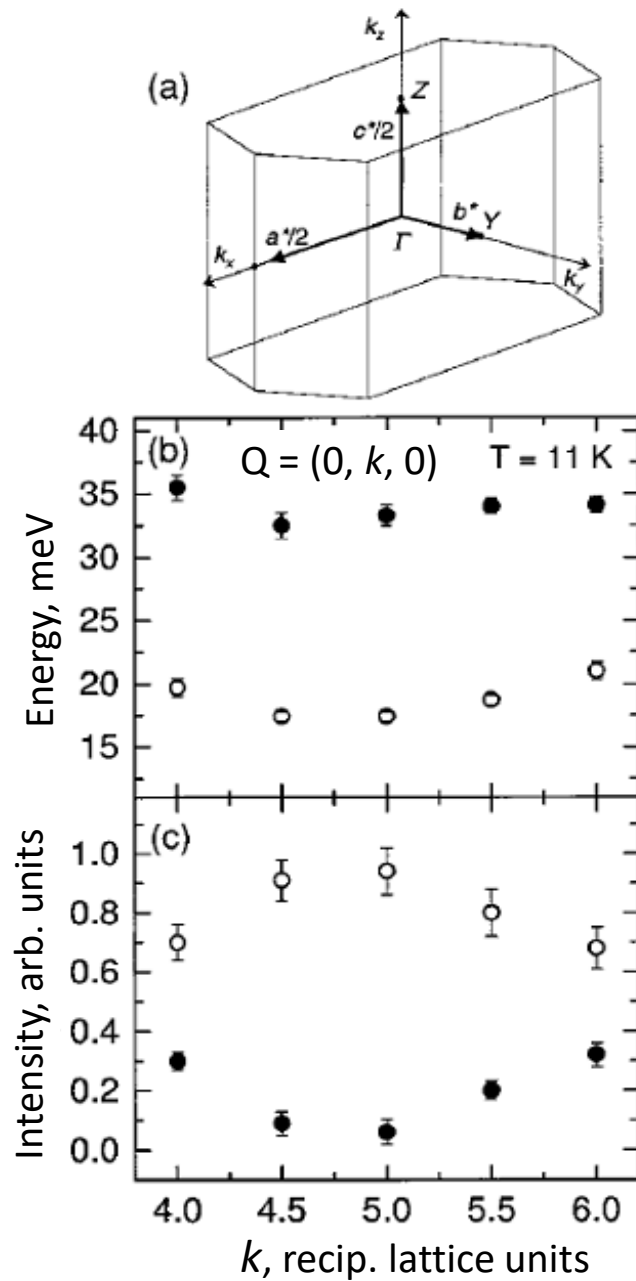
CeNi – param - Intermediate valence: $\nu(10\text{K})\sim 3.15$

PrNi – ferromag $T_C = 21\text{K}$ (“induced” magnetism)

NdNi –ferromag $T_C = 31\text{K}$



Magnetic excitation in spin-gap of CeNi spectrum



Spin fluctuations and magnetism

2. “Resonance” mode (RM) in Sm-based intermediate valence systems: single-site and cooperative behaviour

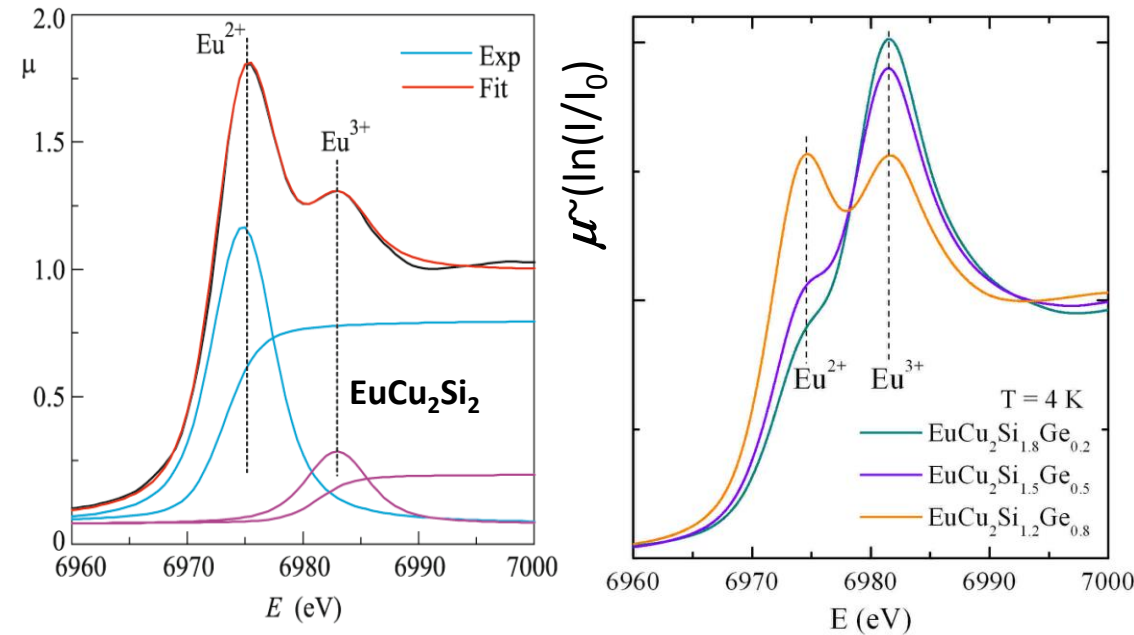
RM appears due to formation of a singlet ground state for intermediate valence compound

How the magnetic correlation can survive under these conditions?

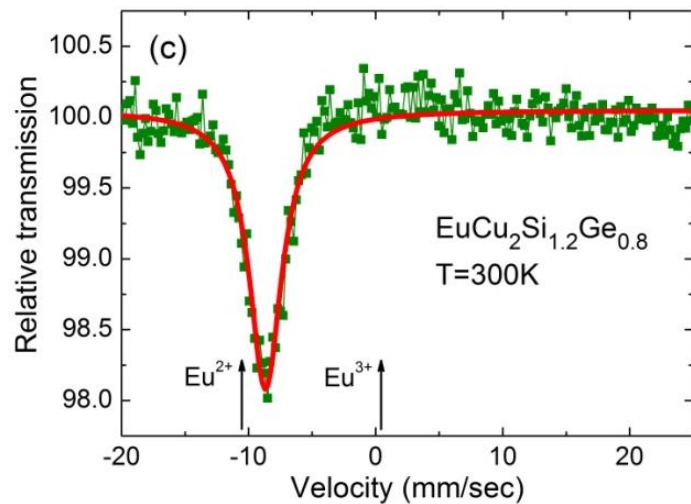
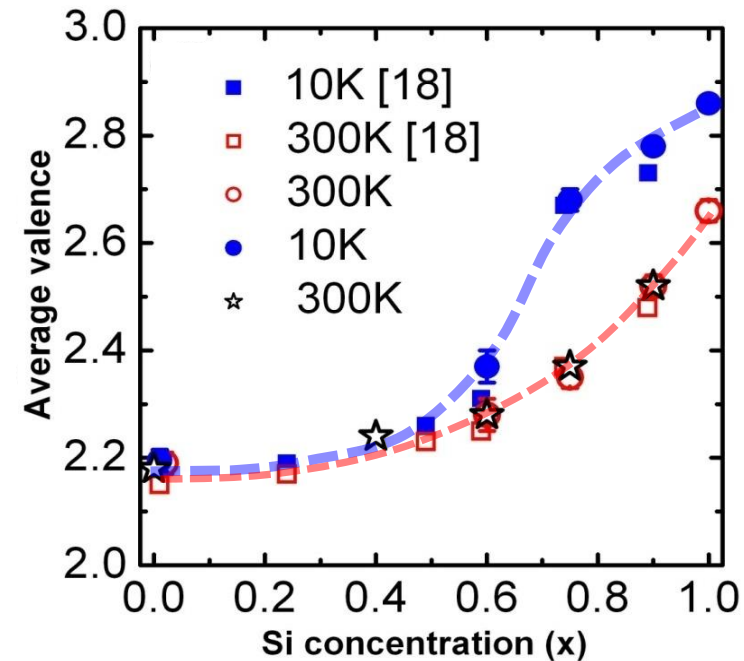
$\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$: definition and characterization of valence state

“Fast” and “slow” technique

L_3 -edge ($\tau \sim 10^{-15}\text{s}$): mixed “valence”



Concentration dependence of the “intermediate valence”

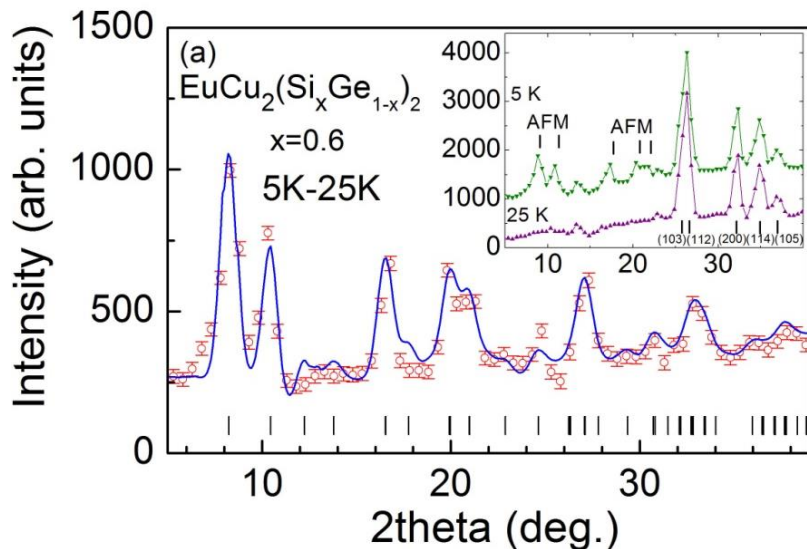


Mössbauer spectroscopy ($\tau \sim 10^{-8}\text{s}$):
isomer shift - “mixed valence” is
homogeneous

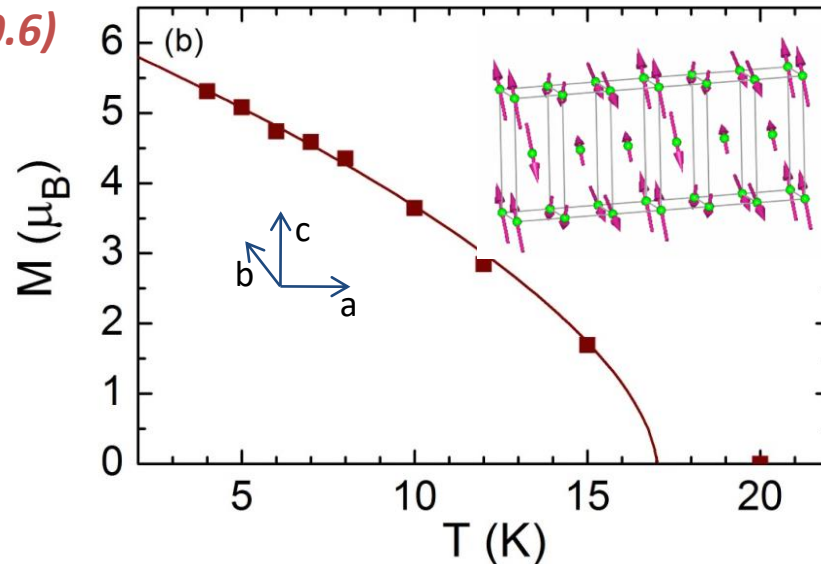
EuCu₂(Si_xGe_{1-x})₂ : determination of magnetic state

Neutron diffraction ($x=0.0, 0.4, 0.6$)

Diffractometer 7C2 (“hot” neutron source, LLB), $\lambda=1.121 \text{ \AA}$, $2\Theta=3^\circ - 40^\circ$, $m_s \sim 0.6g$



($x=0.6$)



propagation vector $\mathbf{k} = (1/3 \ 0 \ 0)$. The Eu magnetic moments located at positions $(0 \ 0 \ 0)$ and $(1/2 \ 1/2 \ 1/2)$ of the crystal structure have antiparallel orientation. They are located in the (bc) planes and oriented at the angles $\varphi = 33^\circ$ (147°) with respect to crystallographic c -axis

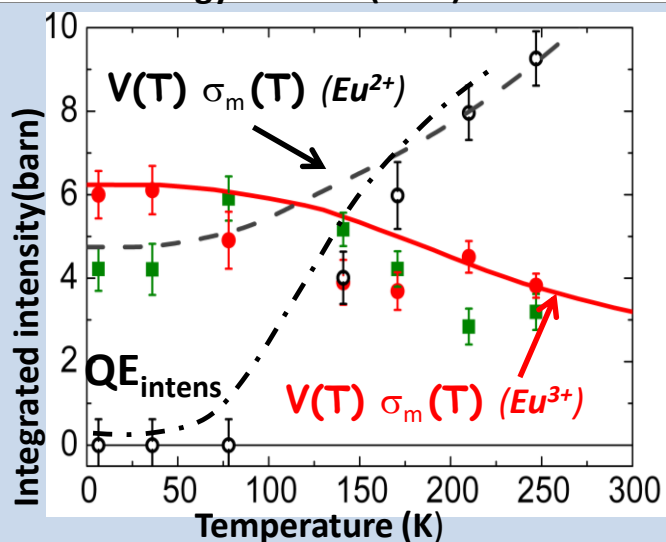
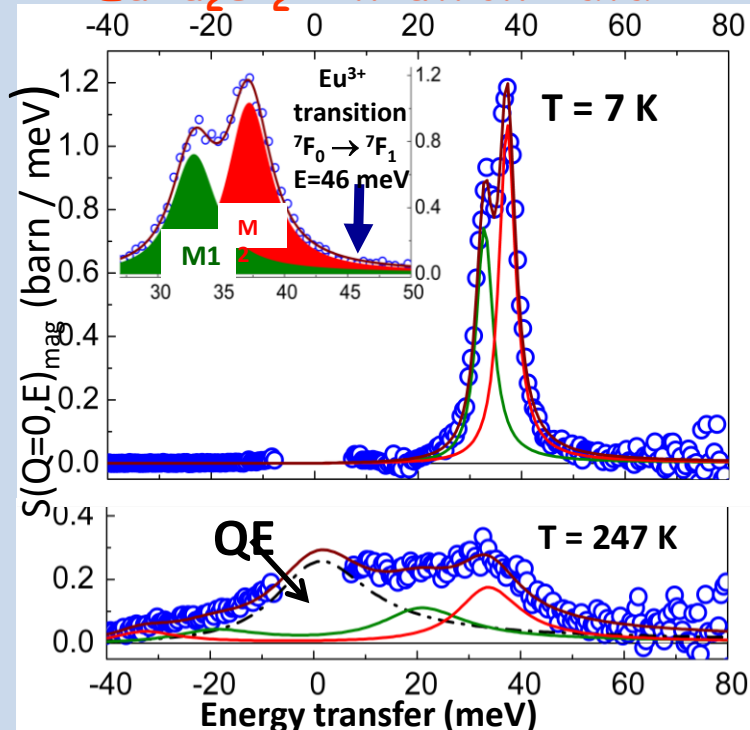
Eu-ion static magnetic moment from the diffraction data at the temperature $T=5K$.

X (EuCu ₂ (Si _x Ge _{1-x}) ₂)	M_x, μ_B	M_y, μ_B	M_z, μ_B	M_{tot}, μ_B	R-factors	T_N, K
0.0: EuCu ₂ Ge ₂	3.1	6.0		6.7(1)	Rp = 0.07, Rwp = 0.09	15
0.4: EuCu ₂ Si _{0.8} Ge _{1.2}	3.3	4.1		5.3(1)	Rp = 0.09, Rwp = 0.12	19
0.6: EuCu ₂ Si _{1.2} Ge _{0.8}	2.6		4.6	5.3(1)	Rp = 0.05, Rwp = 0.07	17

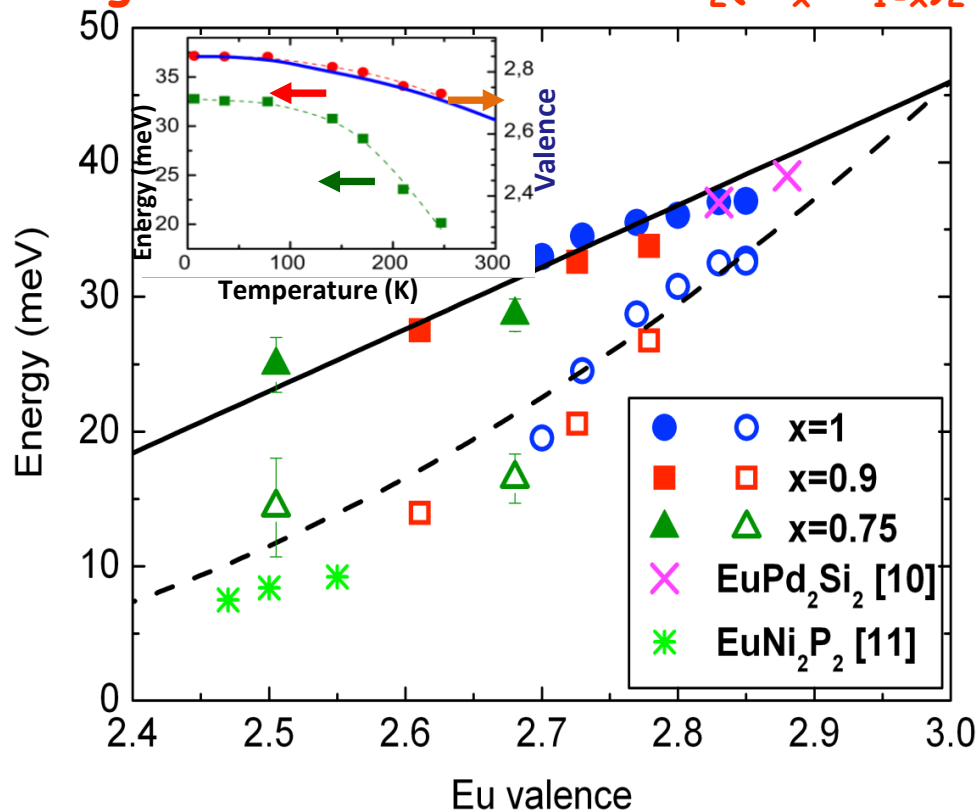
$$MM(\text{Eu}^{2+}) = 7.94\mu_B$$

EuCu₂(Si_xGe_{1-x})₂ : inelastic magnetic neutron scattering

EuCu₂Si₂ - neutron data



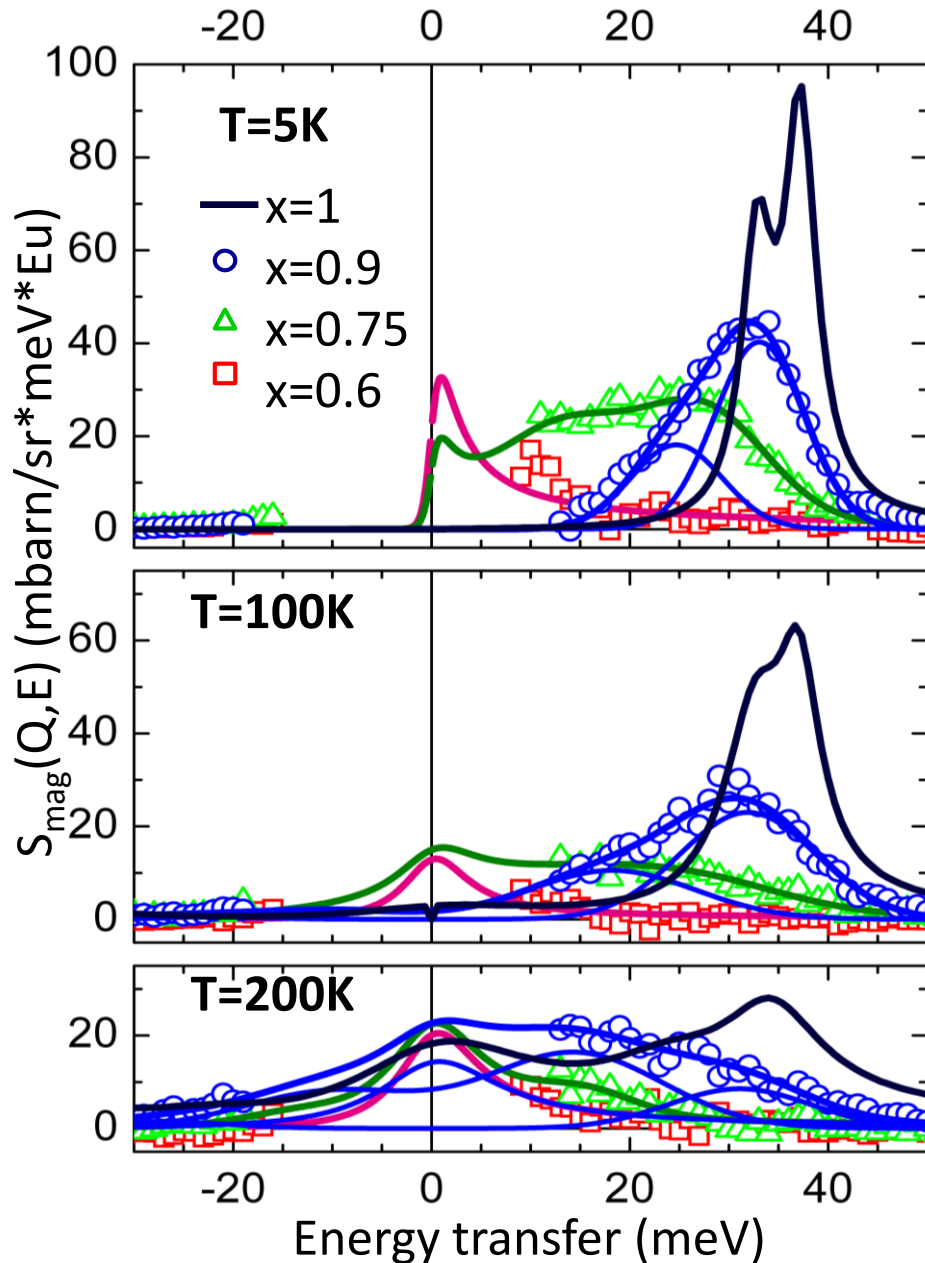
Magnetic excitations in EuCu₂(Si_xGe_{1-x})₂



Decrease of the excitation energy and closing of spin-gap result in **formation of magnetic ground state for IV Eu** at x decreasing to ~ 0.75

*Eu-Eu interaction is mediated by conduction electrons **not like** in TmSe*

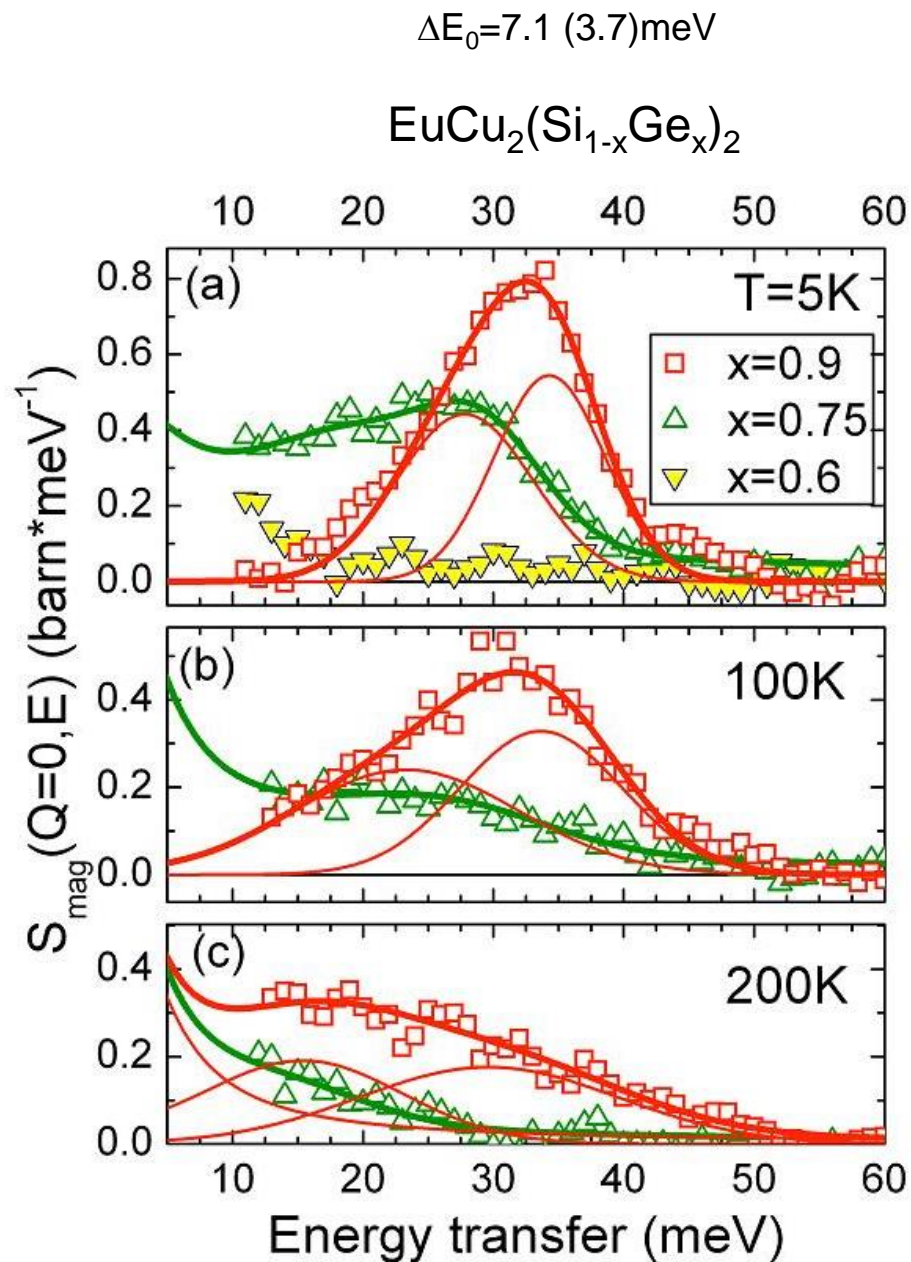
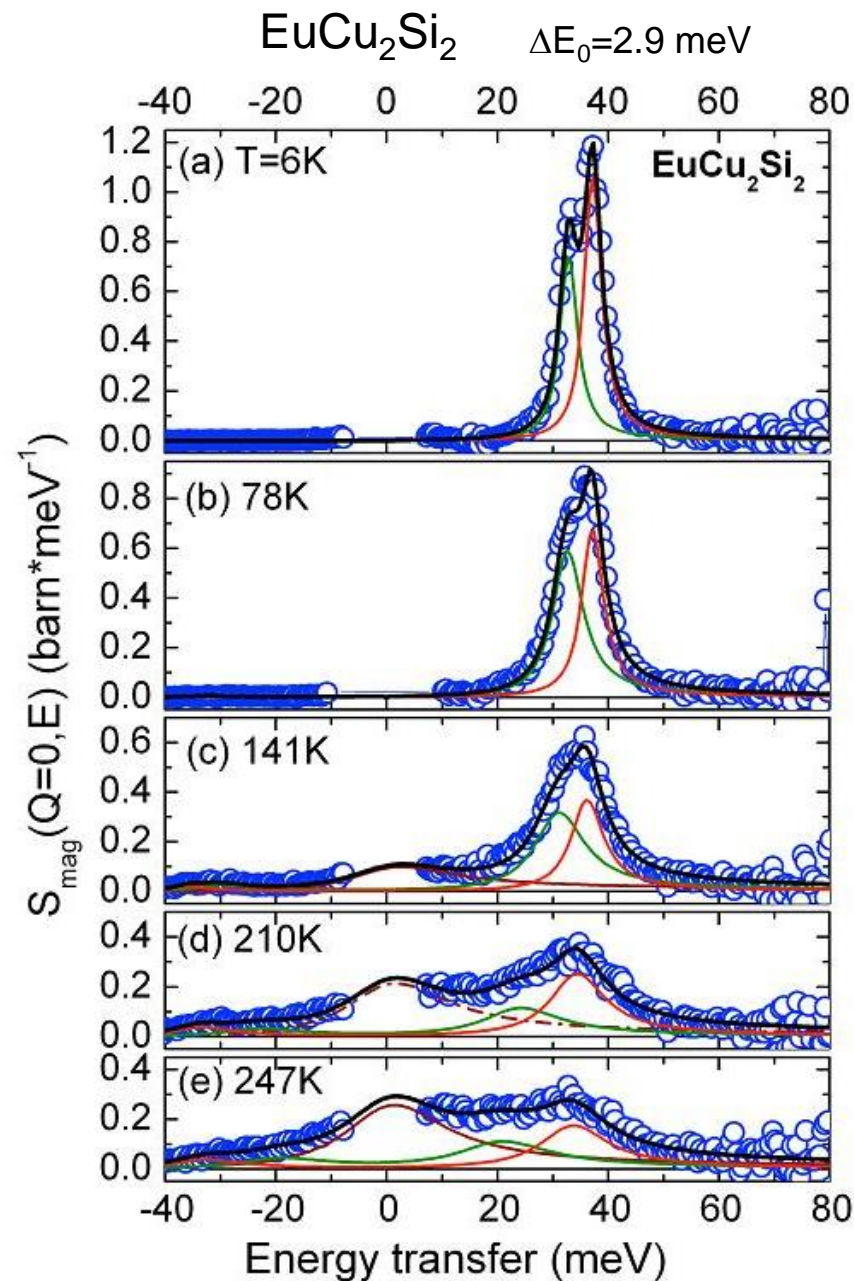
Magnetic excitations in $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_2$

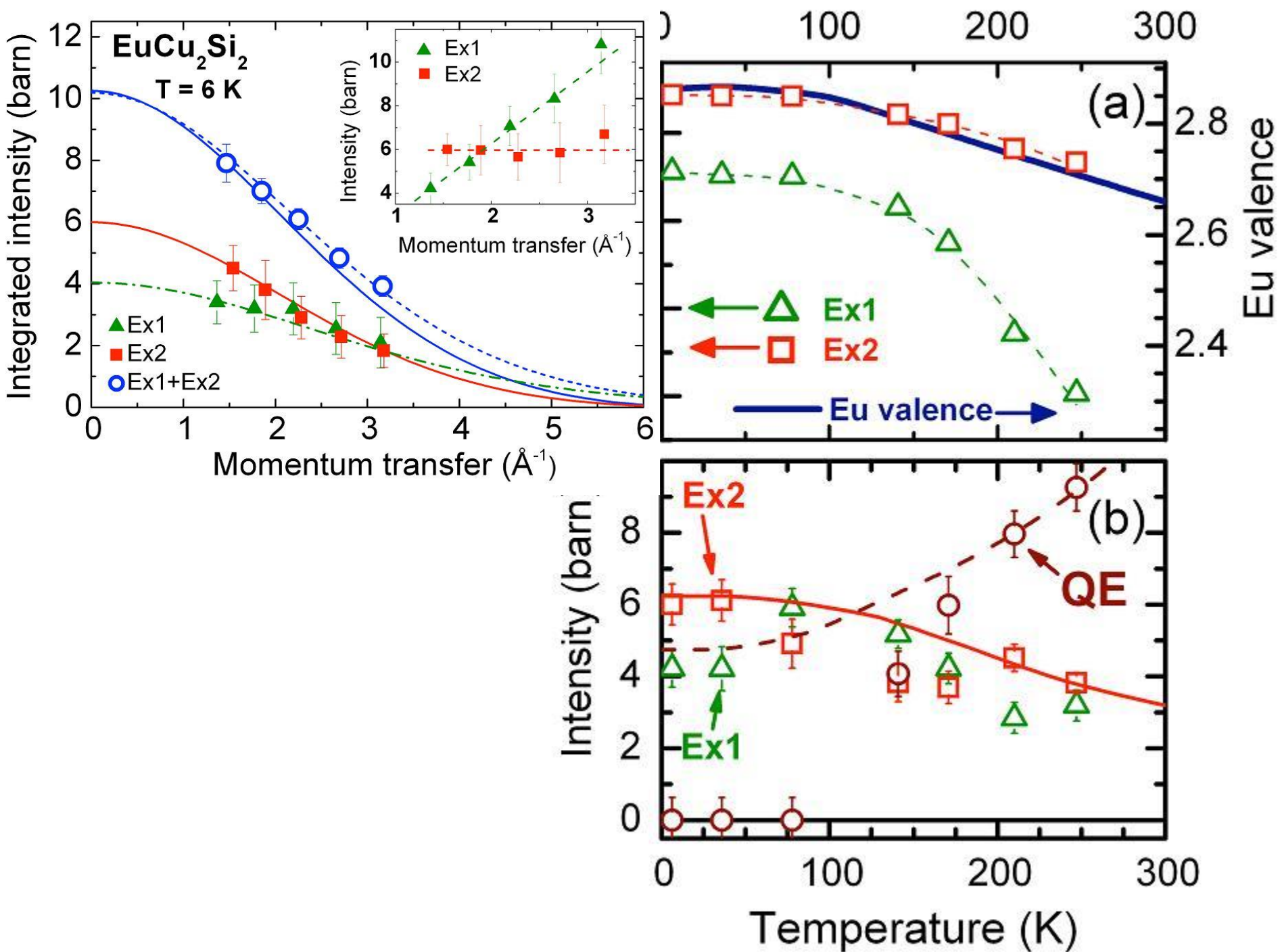


effect of Ge for Si substitution:

- suppression and broadening of both M1 and M2
- further shifting of both M1 and M2 towards low energies;
- appearance of quasielastic scattering signal already at low temperature (at least for $x=0.75$)
- at $x=0.6$: inelastic peaks are shifted below 10 meV or suppressed; QE-signal is narrow and exists starting from the low temperature

Experimental data for $\text{EuCu}_2(\text{Si}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x)_2$, TOF spectrometers (HET, MARI) $E_0=100\text{meV}$





3.2 Intermediate valence (IV) and magnetism: TmSe

*How the LRO state is formed under the condition of IV state of Tm?
Coherent state appears obviously, but which way it is realized?*

The key question is the *origin of “resonance mode” (inelastic excitation) in the spectra of LRO state of TmSe*

In theoretical approaches to the description of IV state for Tm the existence of two magnetic configurations is supposed simultaneously for f-electrons under the conditions:

- spacial [1,2] or
- time [3] coherence for spin fluctuations between two magnetic configurations

By studying the effect of substitution for *Tm* by other ions [4] it was shown – the origin of “resonance mode” is single site - this corresponds to the *time coherence* [3] as a source of LRO.

1. A.J. Fedro, S.K. Sinha, in: *Valence Fluctuations in Solids*, eds. L.M. Falikov, W. Hanke and M.B. Maple (North-Holland, New Yourk, 1981) p. 329
2. M. loewenhaupt, E. Holland-Moritz, *J. Appl. Phys.* 50(11)7456 (1979)
3. J. Mazzaferro, C.A. Balsiero, B. Alascio, *PRL* 47 (1981) 274
4. E. Holland-Moritz, *JMMM*, 38 (1983) 253-263

3. 2 Transition from heavy fermion to magnetically ordered state on temperature decrease

Spin dynamics CeX_2Si_2
($\text{X}=\text{Au}, \text{Pd}, \text{Rh}, \text{Ru}$)

Weak hybridization: $J_{\text{sf}} \sim V_{\text{sf}}^2 / (E_{\text{F}} - E_{4\text{f}})$

$T_{\text{K}} \sim \exp\{-N_{\text{EF}}(1 / |J_{\text{sf}}|)\}$

$T_{\text{RKKY}} \sim J_{\text{sf}}^2$

*Doniach's diagram, from
N. B. Brand and V. V. Moshchahkov, Adv.
Phys. (1984)*

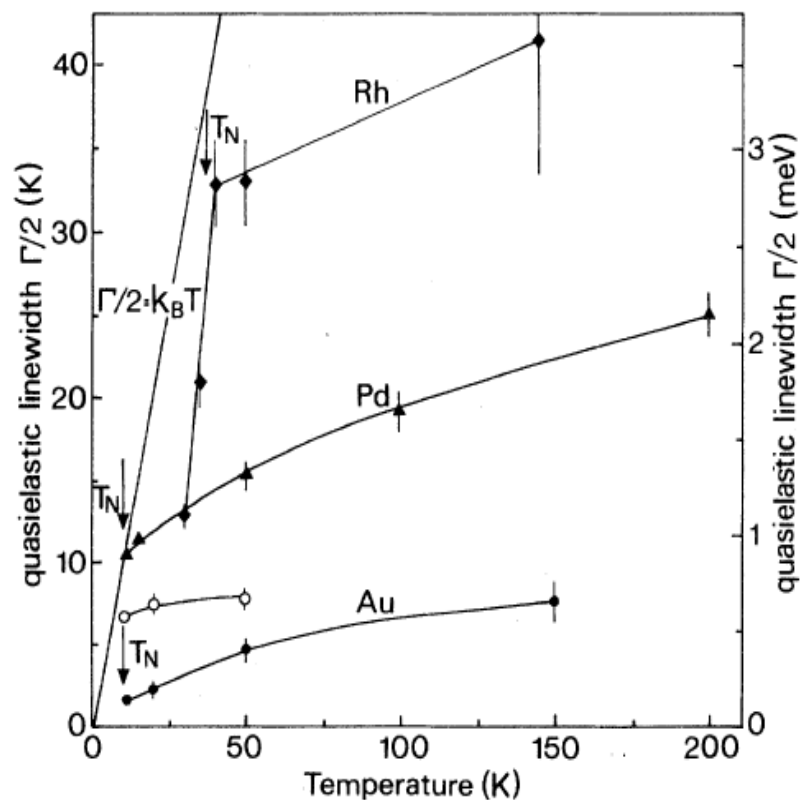
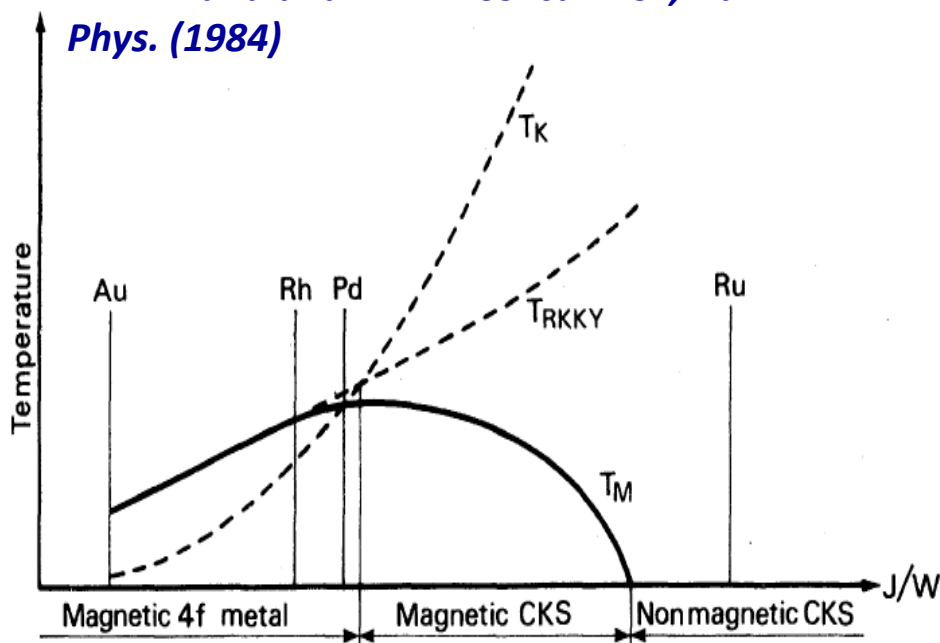


FIG. 5. Quasielastic linewidths vs temperature for CeAu_2Si_2 (● Lorentzian, ○ Gaussian), CePd_2Si_2 (▲) and CeRh_2Si_2 (◆). The arrows indicate the Néel temperatures. The solid lines are guides to the eye.

QE-signal exists at some T below T_{N} !

***A. Severing, E. Holland-Moritz, B. Frick, PRB
39 (7) 4164 (1989) etc***

3.2 Intermediate valence and magnetism: TmSe

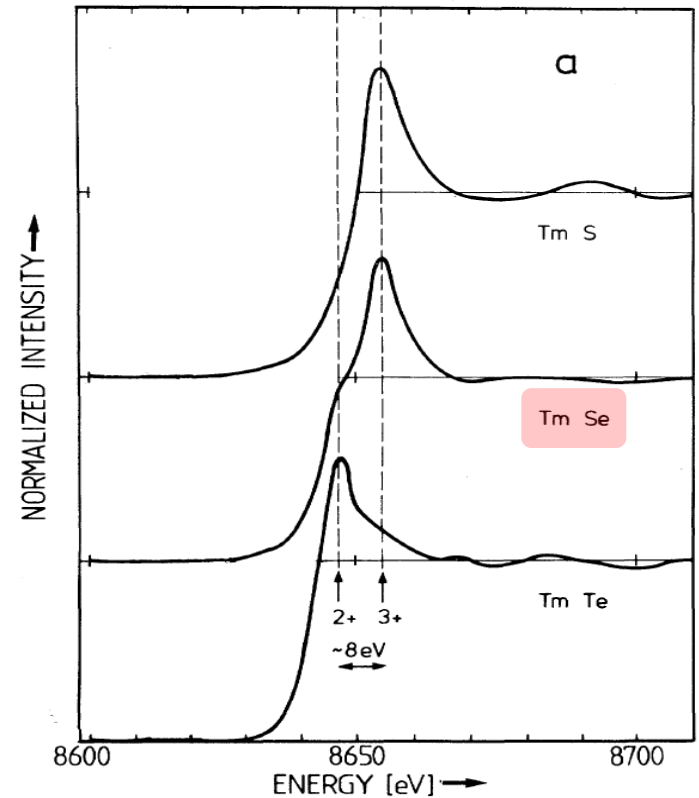
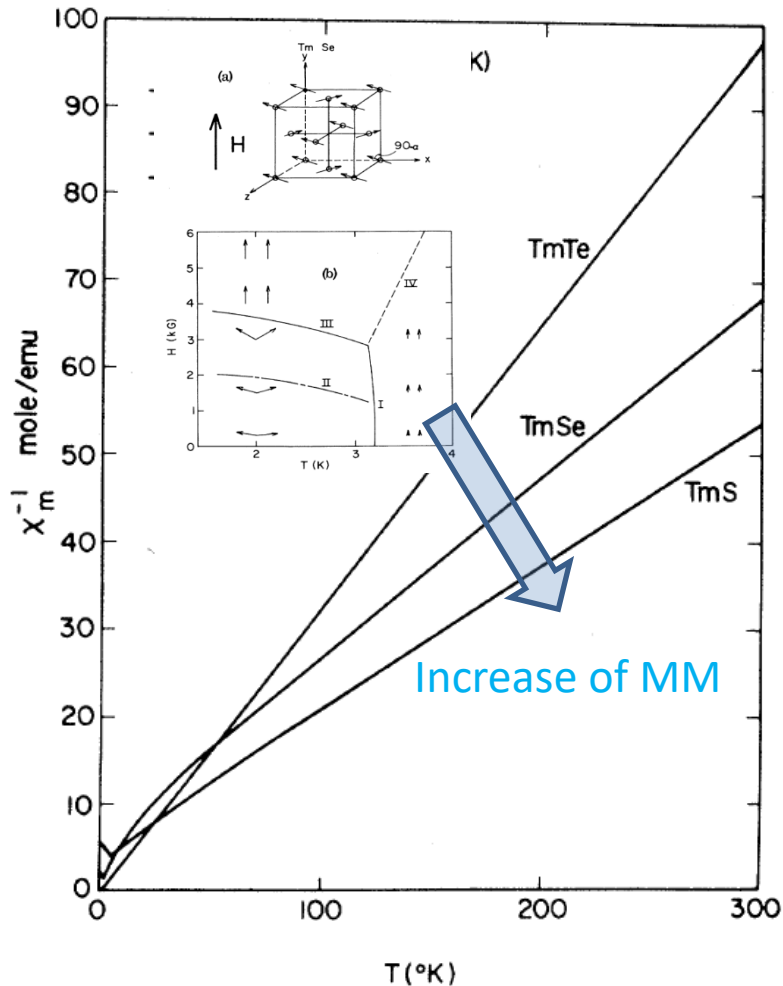


TmSe (NaCl-type of structure),

valence $\nu=2.58$, T-independent (XANES, L_3 -edge)

$T_N=3.5\text{K}$, AFM I-type, O.M.= $1.7\mu_B$ ($Tm^{2+}: J=7/2$ ($4.5\mu_B$), $Tm^{3+}: J=6$ ($7.5\mu_B$))

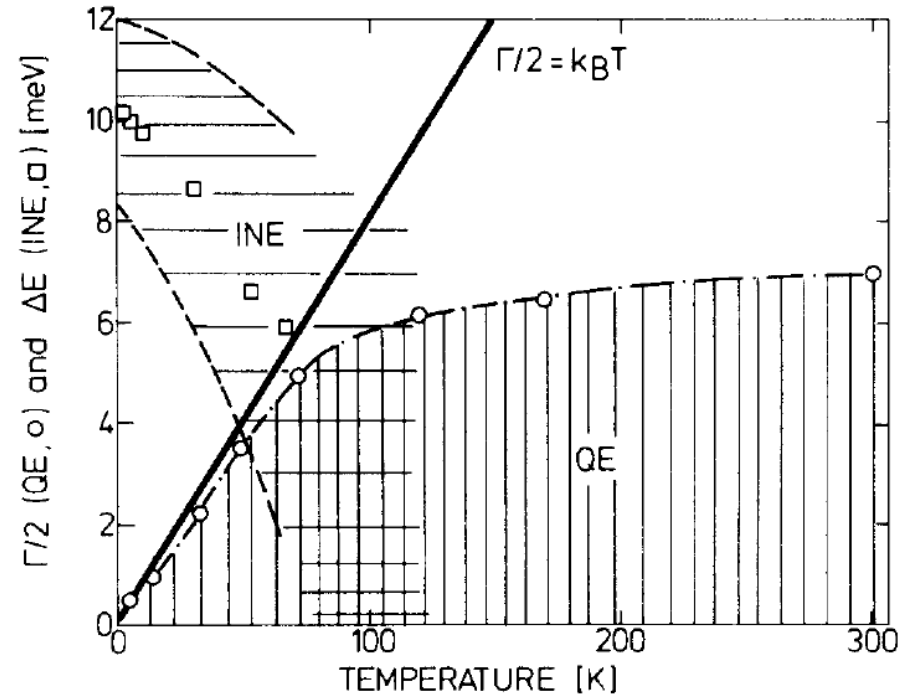
L3-edge characterization: TmS (3+); TmSe (IV); TmTe (2+).



E. Bucher, e.a. PRB 11 (1) 500 (1975) – magnet susceptibility
 H. Bjerrum-Moller, S.M. Shapiro, R.J. Birgeneau, PRL 39 (16) 1021 (1977) magnetic structure
 H. Launois, M. Rawiso, E.Holland-Moritz, R.Pott, D. Wolleben PRL 44 (19) 1271 (1980) L3-edge

3.2 Intermediate valence and magnetism: TmSe

Neutron spectroscopy (IMNS) for TmSe



**Quaselastic signal disappear at $T < T_N = 3.5\text{K}$,
Inelastic peak at 10 meV survive !**

M. Loewenhaupt, E. Holland-Moritz, J.
Appl. Phys.50 (11) 7456 (1979)

B.H. Grier, S.M. Shapiro, in: *Valence Fluctuations in Solids*, eds. L.M. Falikov, W. Hanke, M.V. Maple (North-Holland, Amsterdam, (1981) p.325

J-M. Mignot, P.A. Alekseev,
Physica B 215 (1995) 99-109

“resonance mode” for TmSe:
general and specific features

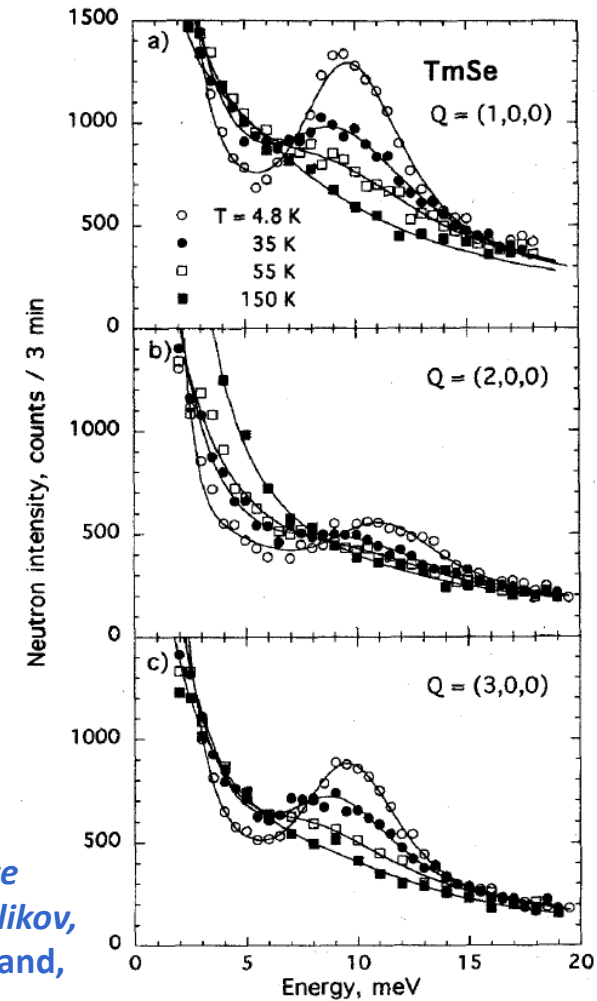


Fig. 7. Neutron scattering spectra of single-crystal TmSe measured in the constant- k_r mode ($E_r = 30.5$ meV) at fixed scattering vectors $\mathbf{Q} = (q, 0, 0)$; (a) $q = 1$, (b) $q = 2$, (c) $q = 3$.

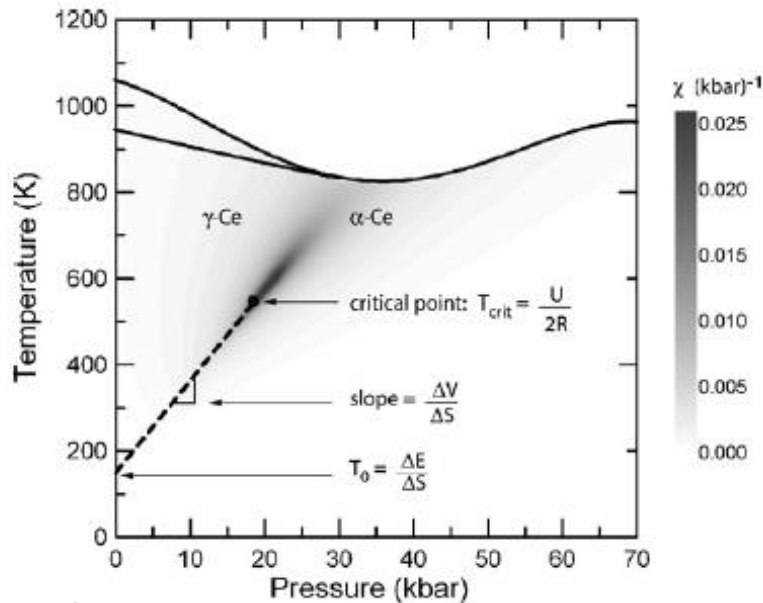
CeFe₂Al₁₀

- **Conventional Kondo insulator.**
- **Resonance-like magnetic exciton mode (SmB₆, YbB₁₂)**

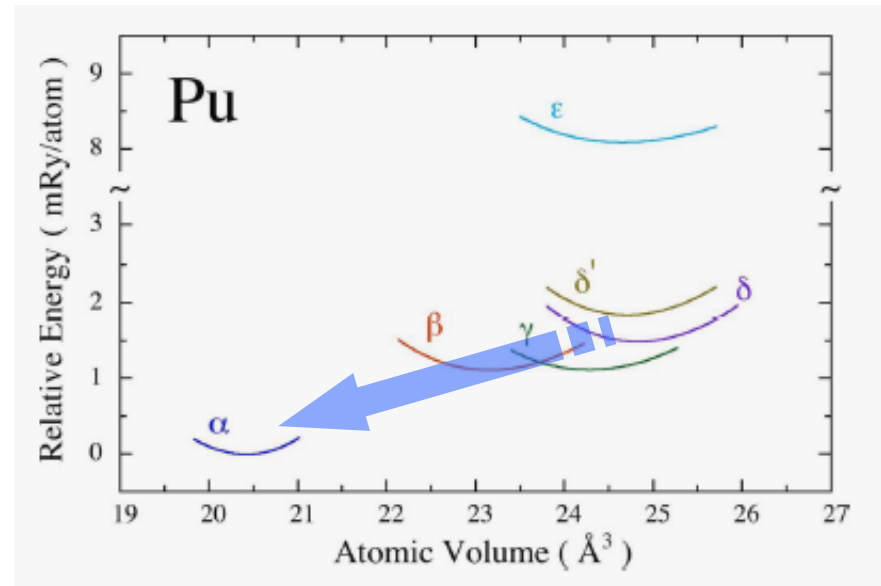
CeRu₂Al₁₀

- **Kondo “insulator” (semimetal) + unconventional magnetic order.**
- **Existence of clear dispersive magnon-like modes (consistent with RPA calculations).**
- **Pronounced anisotropy of spin correlations, observed by polarization analysis.**
- **Ordered phase cannot be reduced to the usual competition CEF + RKKY.**
- ↳ **Direction dependent hybridization?**
- ↳ **Localized vs. itinerant approach?**

Высокие давления и СКЭС



Ce γ - α переход, (Bridgman, 1931^{*)})
 $\Delta V/V \sim 15\%$



Pu: δ - α , $P \sim 2$ кбар^{})**
 $\Delta V/V \sim 25\%$

Некоторые проблемы физики конденсированных сред, связанные сильными корреляциями электронов:

- описание электронов, балансирующих между делокализацией и локализацией
- учет сильных корреляций, тяжелые квазичастицы
- квантовые критические точки
- необычная (нефононная) сверхпроводимость (текущий рекорд $T_c \sim 20$ К в PuCoGa_5)

^{*)}P.W. Bridgman, The Physics of High Pressures, G. Bell and Sons, Ltd., London, 1931, p. 267.

^{**)}"Challenges in Plutonium Science", ed. N.G. Cooper, Los Alamos Science, Number 26, 2000

Spin fluctuations and magnetism
in rare-earth based compounds with *f*-electron instability

Contents

1. Magnetic form factor in intermediate valence state of Sm and Eu
2. Resonance mode in intermediate valence systems: single-site and cooperative behaviour
3. Spin fluctuations and long range magnetic order:
 - a case of “strong” intermediate valence
 - heavy fermion and Kondo-insulating states