

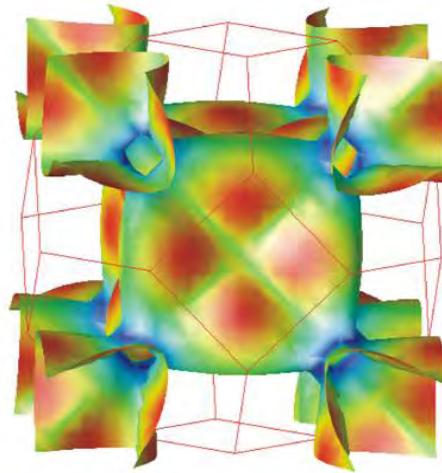
# MOMENT

Materials for Optical, Magnetic, and Energy Technologies

JOHANNES  
**GUTENBERG**  
UNIVERSITÄT  
MAINZ



## Semiconducting and half metallic Heusler compounds for multifunctional applications



Claudia Felser

# Heusler Compounds as Multifunctional Materials

1905  
1983

- Magnetic material:  $\text{Cu}_2\text{MnAl}$
- Halfmetallic ferromagnet:  $\text{NiMnSb}$
- Magneto-optical:  $\text{PtMnSb}$
- Magneto-mechanic:  $\text{Ni}_2\text{MnGa}$
- Superconductor:  $\text{Pd}_2\text{YSn}$
- Semiconductors:  $\text{CoTiSb}$
- Heavy fermion:  $\text{Fe}_2\text{VAI}$
- Li-conductor:  $\text{LiMnSb}$
- Magneto-electronic:  $\text{Co}_2\text{FeSi}$
- Thermo-electric:  $\text{TiNiSn}$
- Magneto-caloric:  $\text{CoMnSb:Nb}$



2001



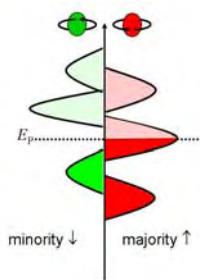
- Concept
- Semiconducting Half Heusler
  - Thermoelectric materials
  - Diluted Semiconductors
- Half metallic Heusler compounds
  - High Curie temperatures
  - Ferrimagnets
- High energy photoemission for Devices
- Summary

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# Rational Design

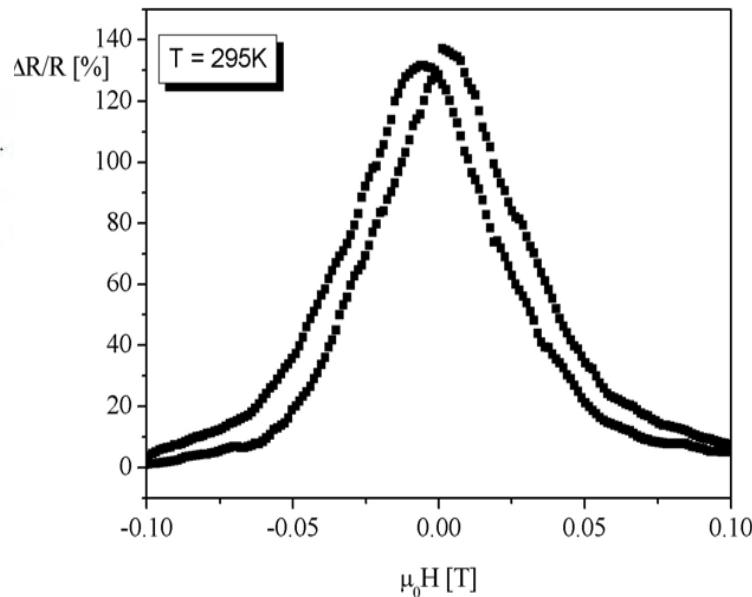
Half metallicity

High density of states at  $E_F$



Large MR at room temperature

Intermag 2002:  $\text{Co}_2\text{Cr}_{0.4}\text{Fe}_{0.6}\text{Al}$   
CCFA

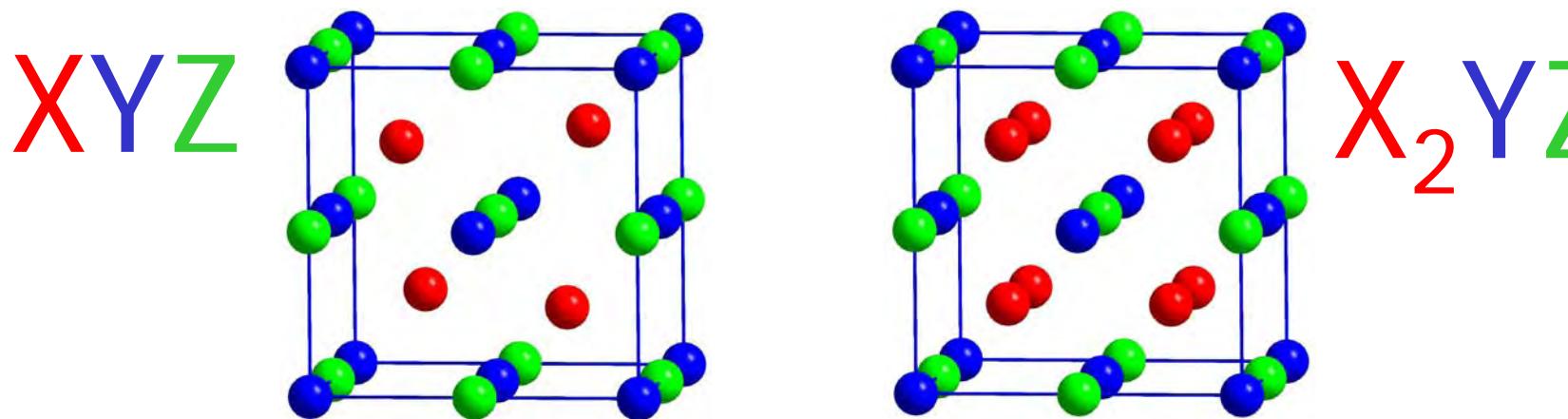


- First TMR device (Inomata et al.) 19% at RT
- TMR-device with MgO (Marukame et al. APL 90 (2007) 012508)  
109% TMR at RT  $\Rightarrow$  88 % spin polarisation at 4K
- Point contact 80% MR (Coey et al.)

Patent (Felser, Block, DE 101 08 760, H01 L43/08 )

Block, Felser, et al. J. Solid State Chem. 176, 646 (2003)

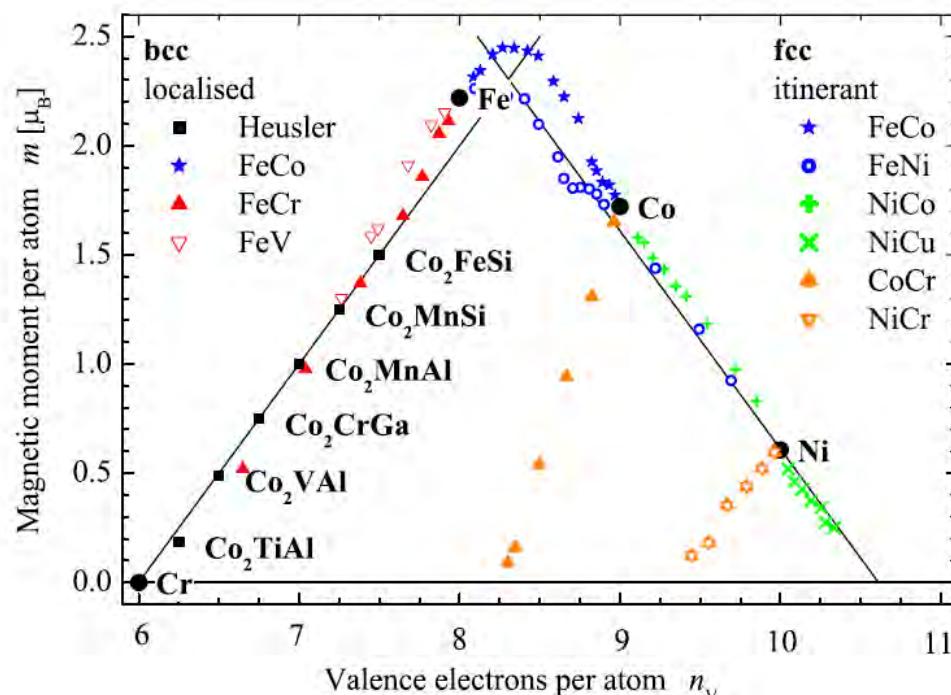
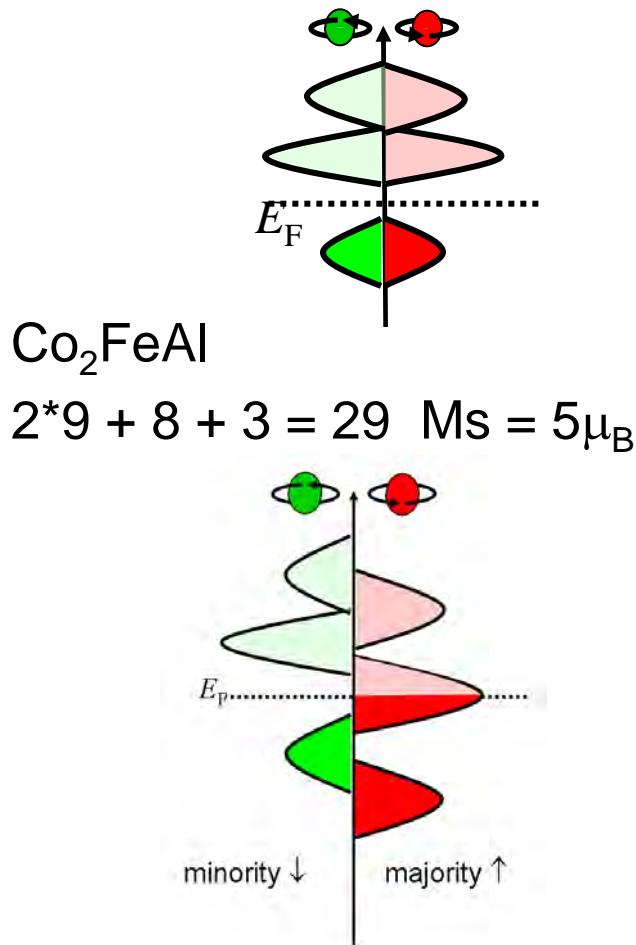
# Semiconducting Heuslers – Stuffed ZnS



# Slater-Pauling Rule

Magic valence electron number  $X_2YZ$  24

Valence electrons = $^A24$  + sat. magnetization



Kübler 1983

Galanakis et al., PRB **66**, 012406 (2002)

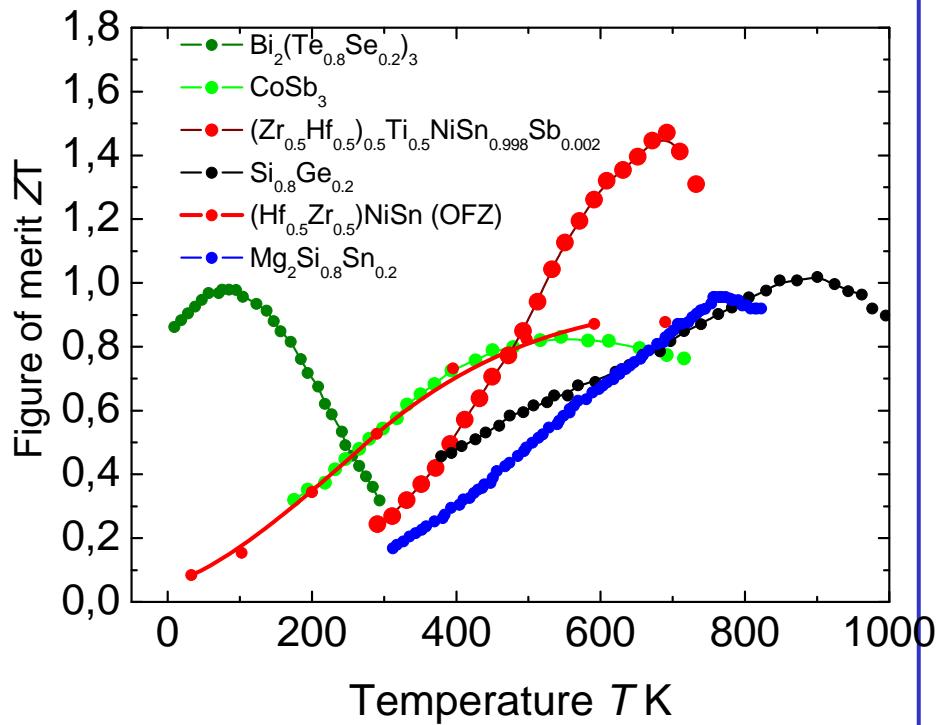
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# Half Heusler: 18 valence-electrons



Typ	Material	Price in \$/kg (metals)
V-VI	$\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$	140
IV-VI	PbTe	99
$\text{Zn}_4\text{Sb}_3$	$\text{Zn}_4\text{Sb}_3$	4
Silicides	p-MnSi 1.73	24
	n-Mg <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>0.4</sub> Sn <sub>0.6</sub>	18
	Si <sub>0.80</sub> Ge <sub>0.20</sub>	660
	Si <sub>0.94</sub> Ge <sub>0.06</sub>	270
Skutterutides	CoSb <sub>3</sub>	11
Half-Heusler	TiNiSn	55
n/p-Clathrate	Ba <sub>8</sub> Ga <sub>16</sub> Ge <sub>30</sub>	1000 without Ba
Oxides	p-NaCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ,	17 without Na, O
Zintl Phasen	p-Yb <sub>14</sub> MnSb <sub>11</sub>	92
Th <sub>3</sub> P <sub>4</sub>	La <sub>3-x</sub> Te <sub>4</sub>	160

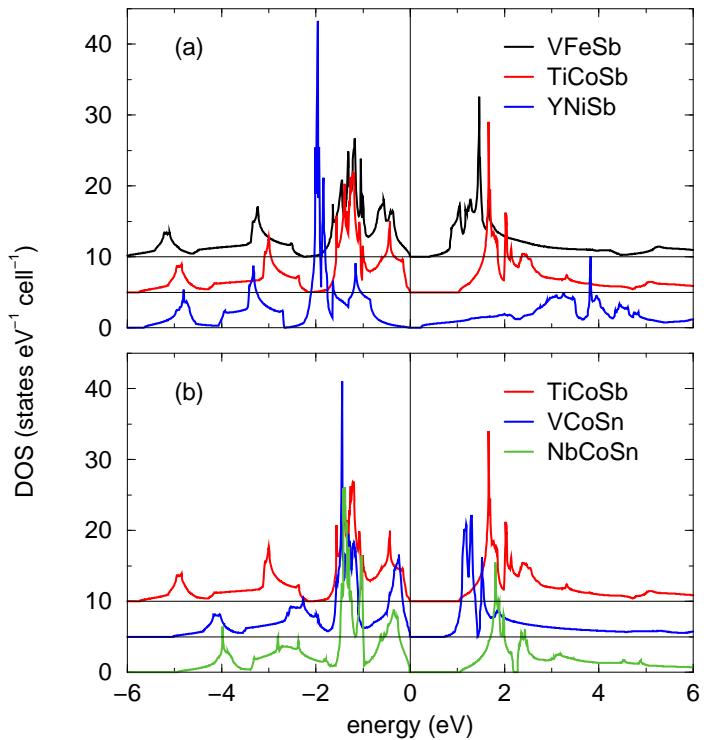
## Thermoelectrica



Information H. Böttcher

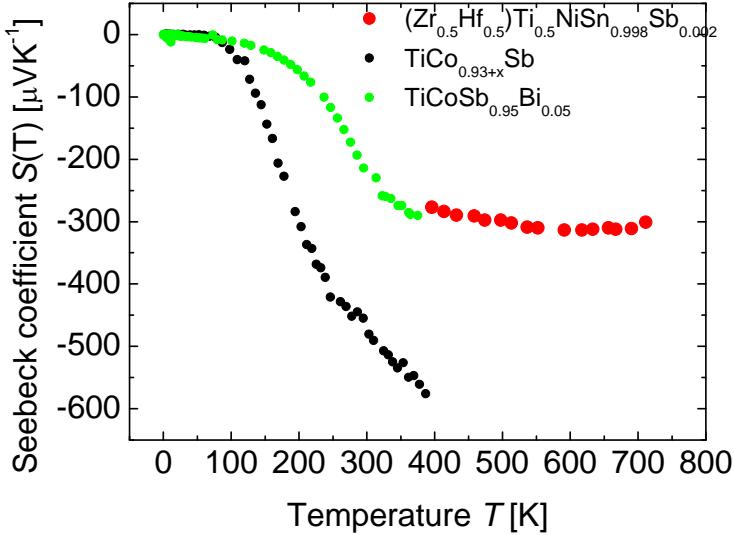
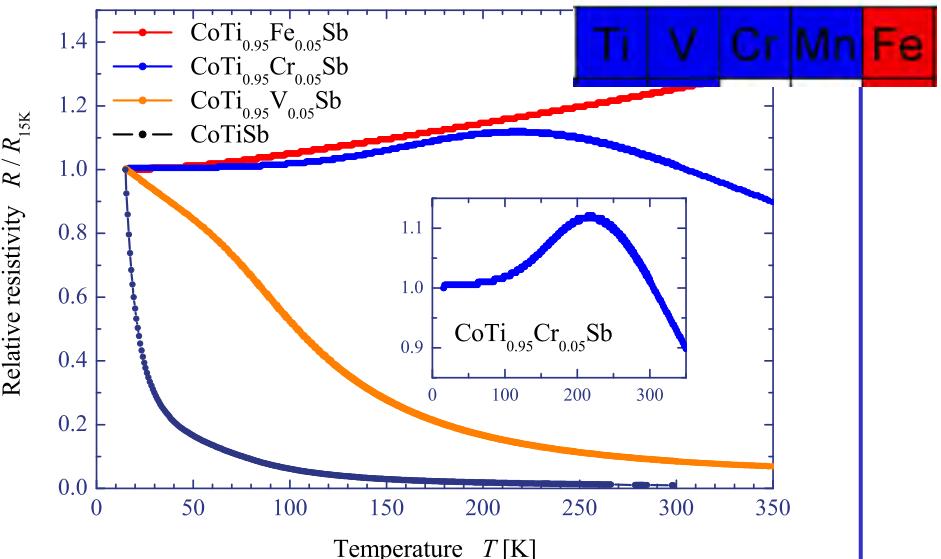


# Half Heusler for Thermoelectrics

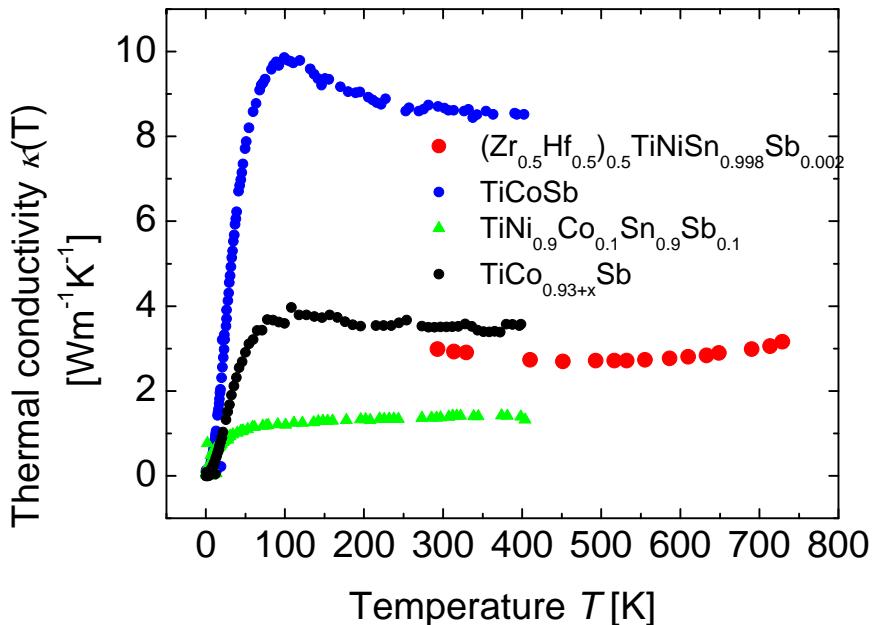
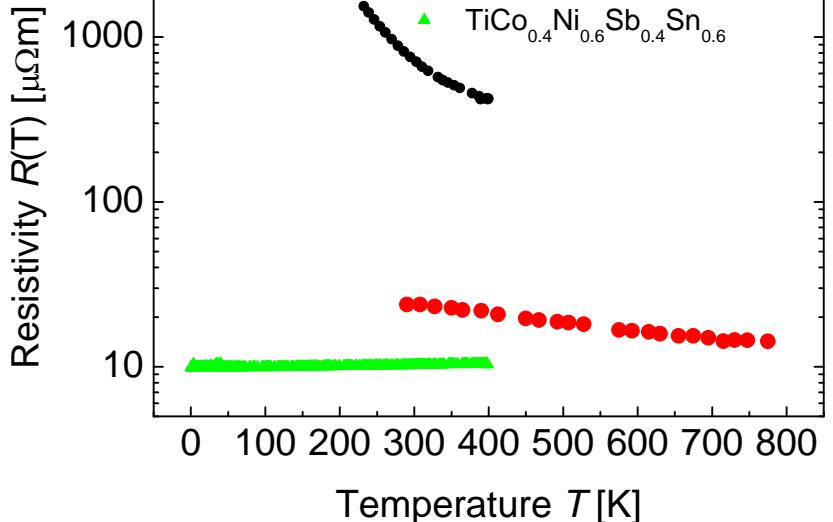


$$ZT = \frac{\alpha^2 \sigma}{\lambda} T$$

$\alpha$ : Seebeck coefficient  
 $\sigma$ : Electrical conductivity  
 $\lambda$ : Thermo conductivity  
T: Temperatur (K)



# Thermoelectrica



Improvement of the thermal conductivity

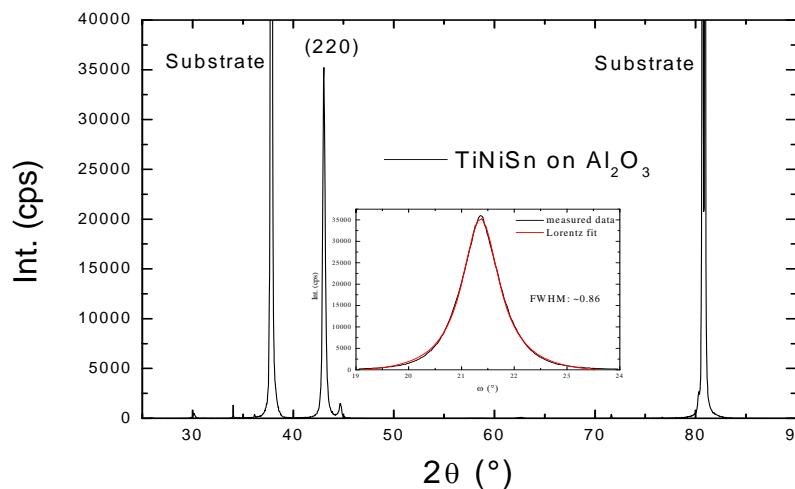
Melt Spinning

Ball milling – Spark Plasma

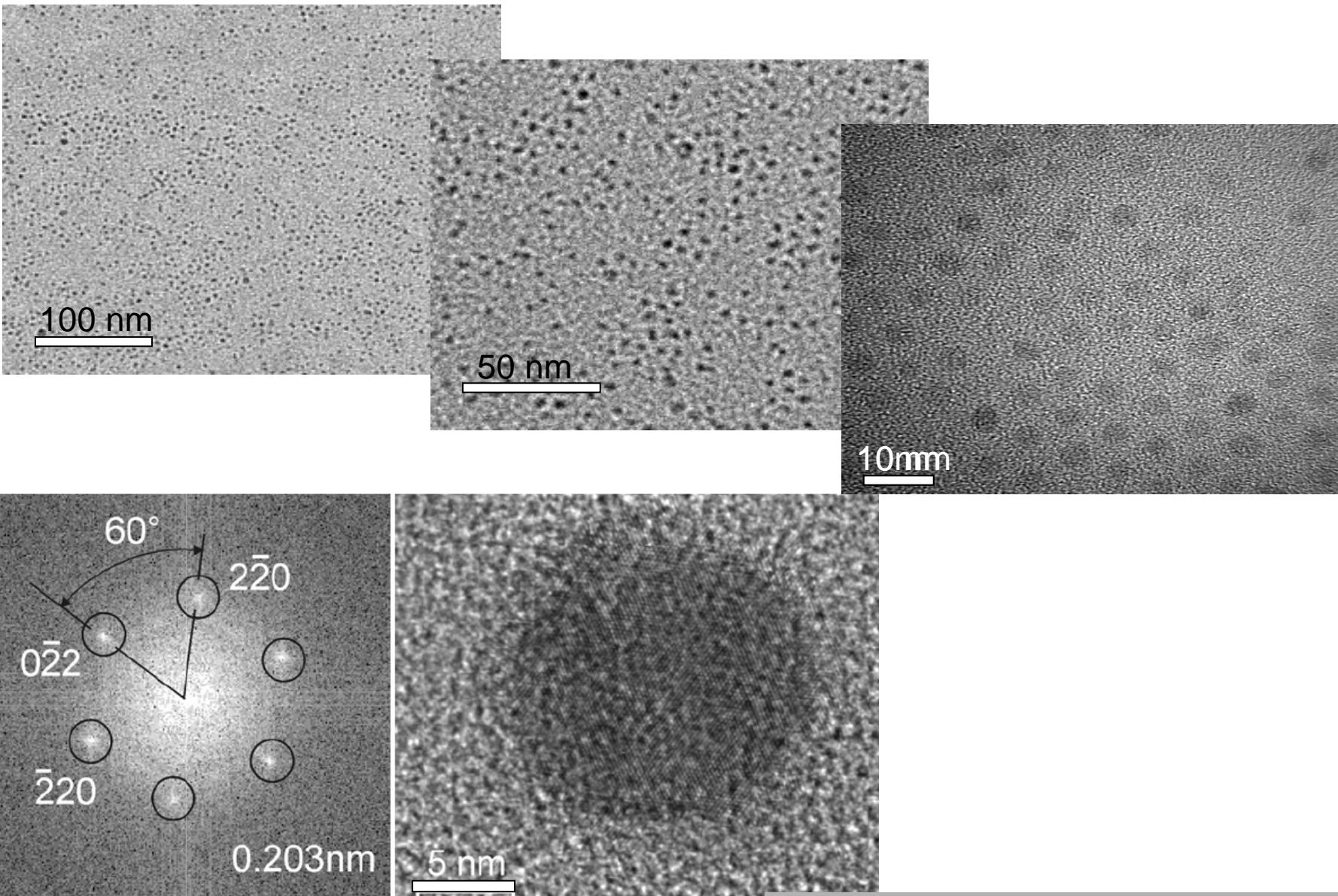
Multilayer

Nanoparticles

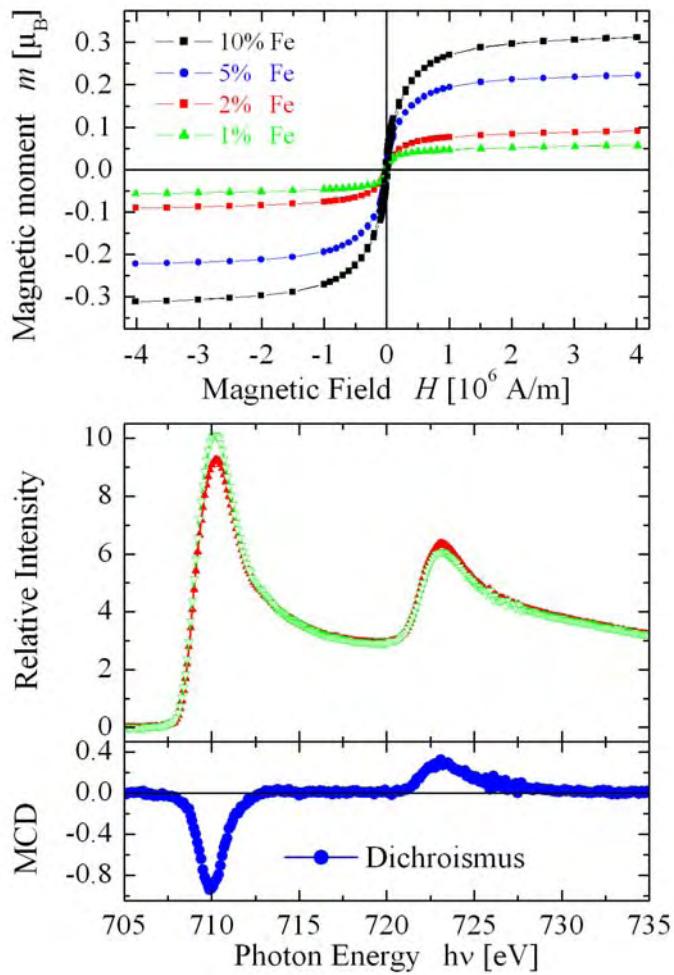
Rattlers such as Lithium-Ions



# First Heusler Nanoparticles: Co<sub>2</sub>FeGa



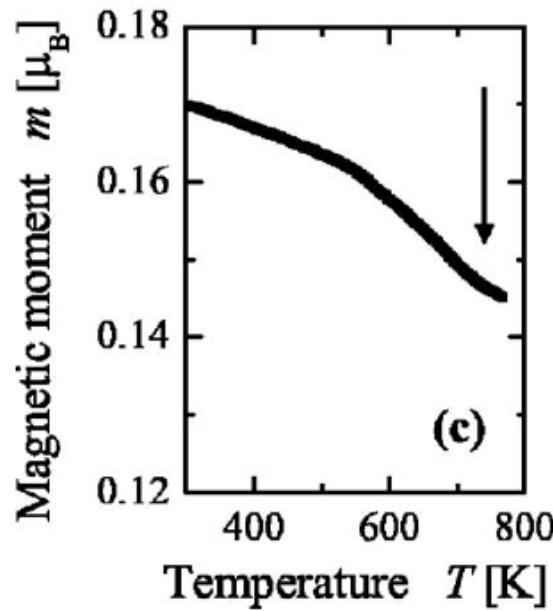
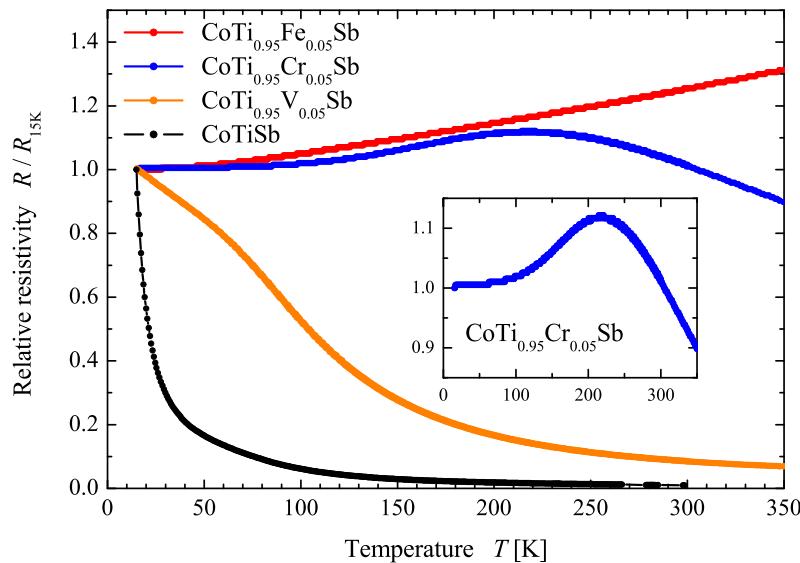
# For Spin Injection



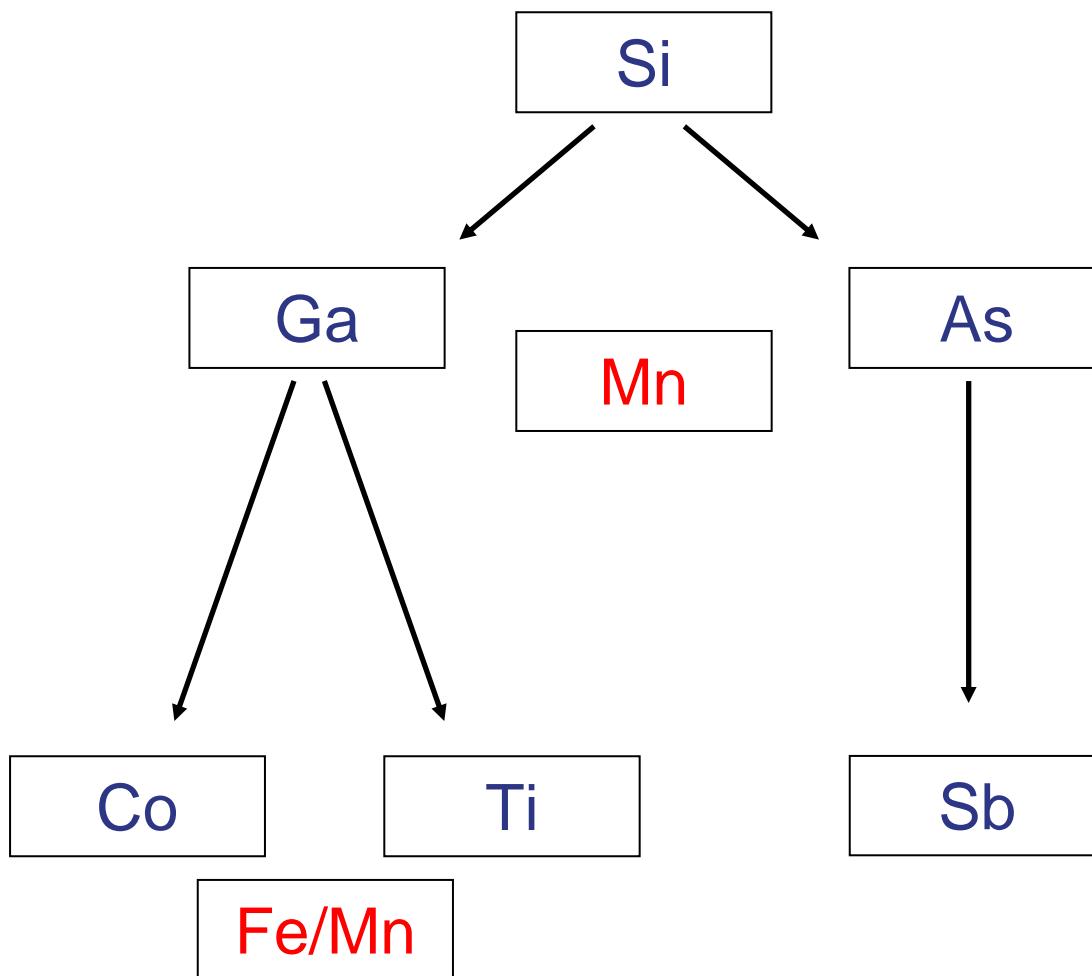
XMCD-Investigation on Fe

Kroth et al. APL 89 202509 (2006)

Balke et al. PRB 77, 045209 (2008)

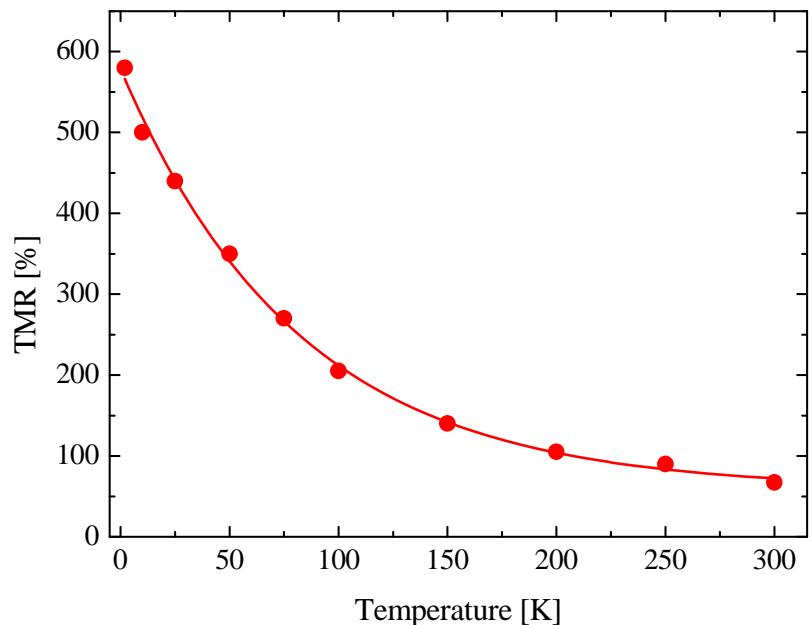
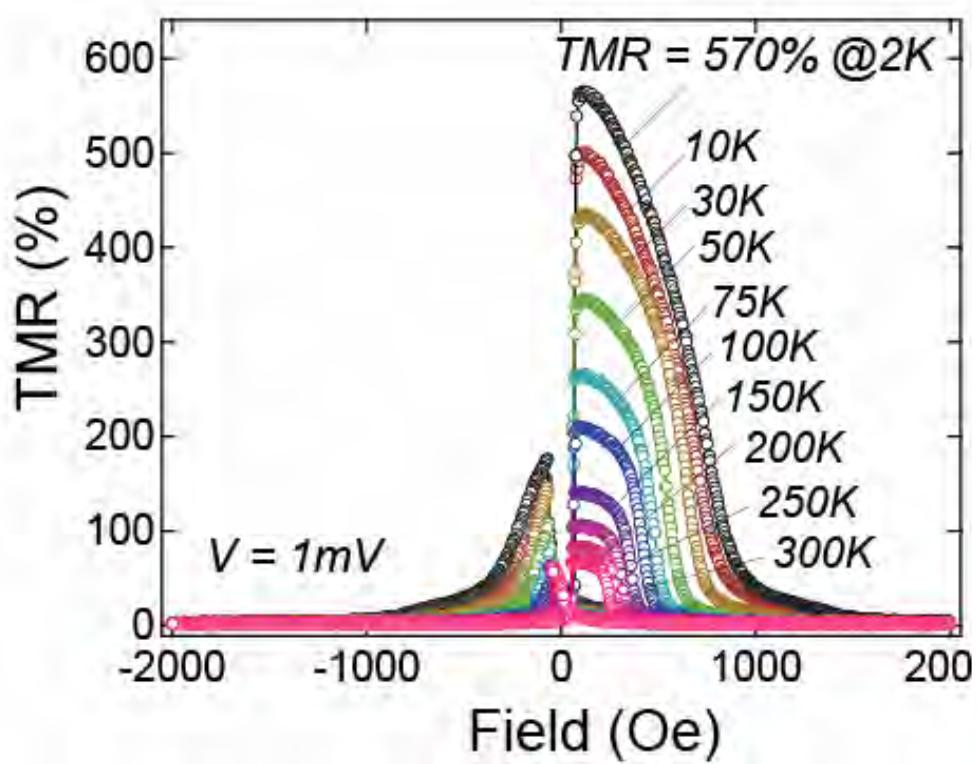


# Design of Diluted Semiconductors



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# Tunneljunction



TMR ratio = 67%@ RT, 580%@ 2K



Large temperature dependence of TMR ratio should be solved.

Sakuraba et al. APL **89** (2006) 052508

Sakuraba et al. APL **88** (2006) 192508

## Half metallic ferromagnets

- for Tunnel magnetoresistance TMR
- for CPP GMR

What do we need?

High Curie Temperature

Ordered  $L2_1$  structure

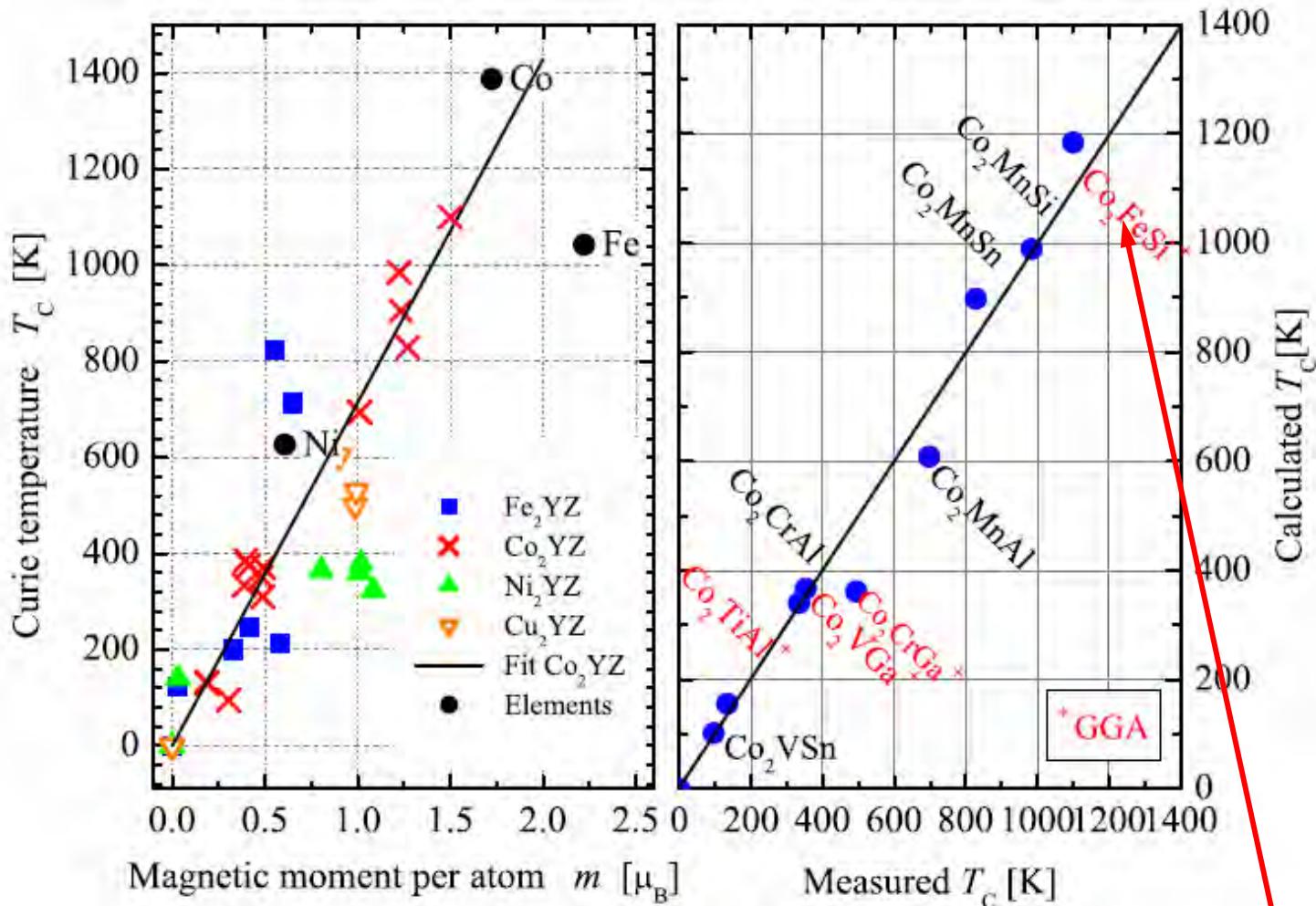
Good interfaces

Adjusted  $E_F$ : middle of the gap

no magnons

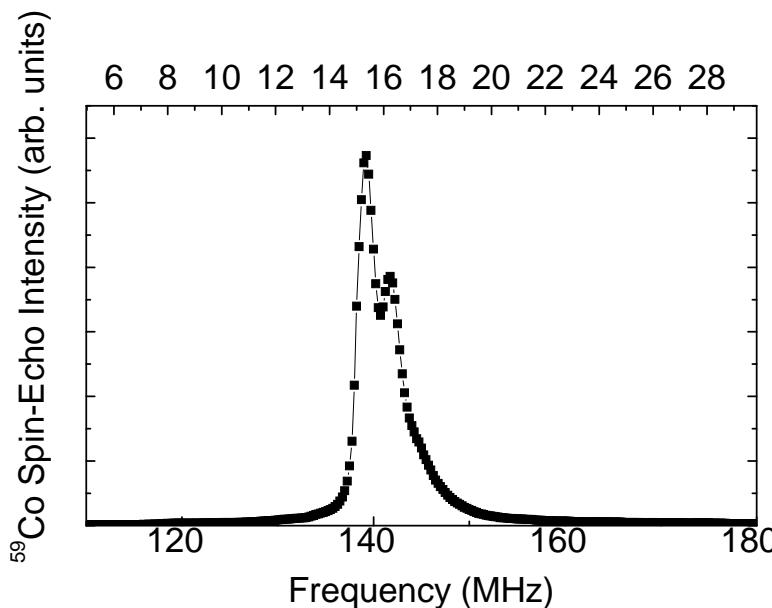
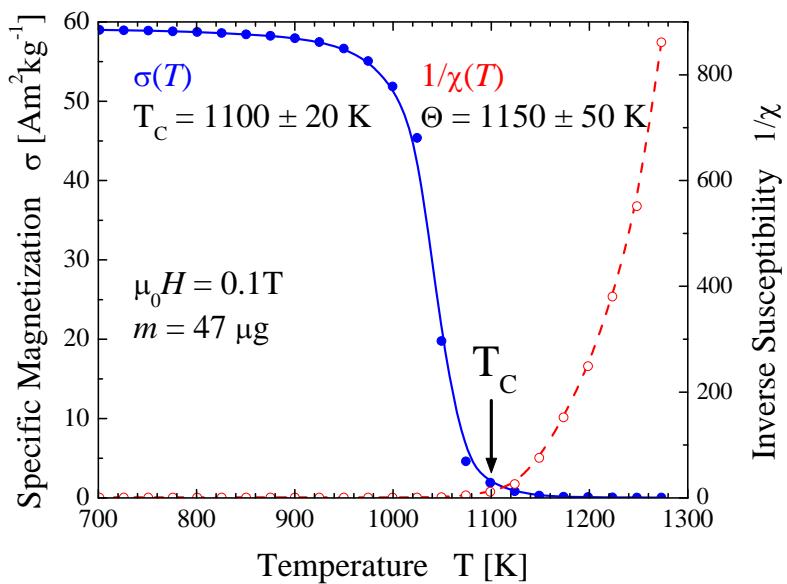
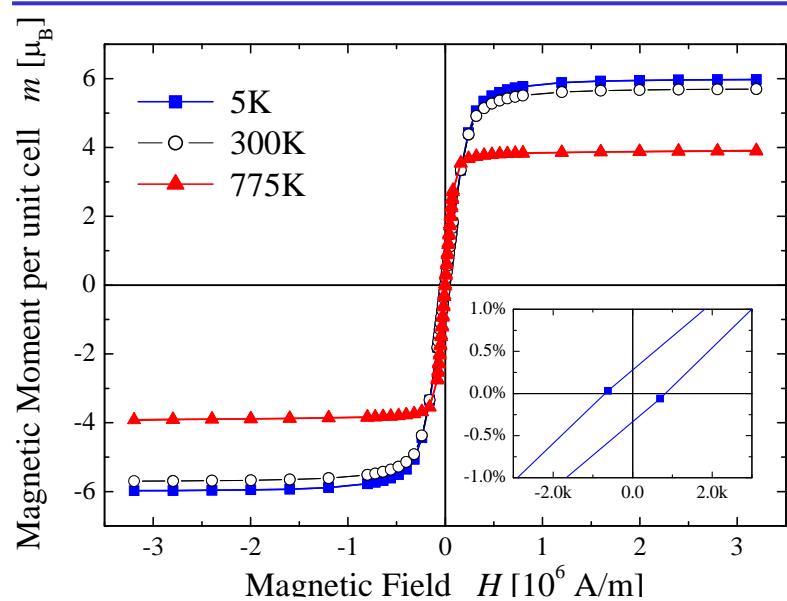
Designed electronic structure

# High Curie Temperatures



Expected Curie temperature for  $\text{Co}_2\text{FeSi}$  : > 1000K

# Co<sub>2</sub>FeSi



Magnetic moment in saturation:  
 $5.97 \mu_B \pm 0.1 \mu_B$  at 5K

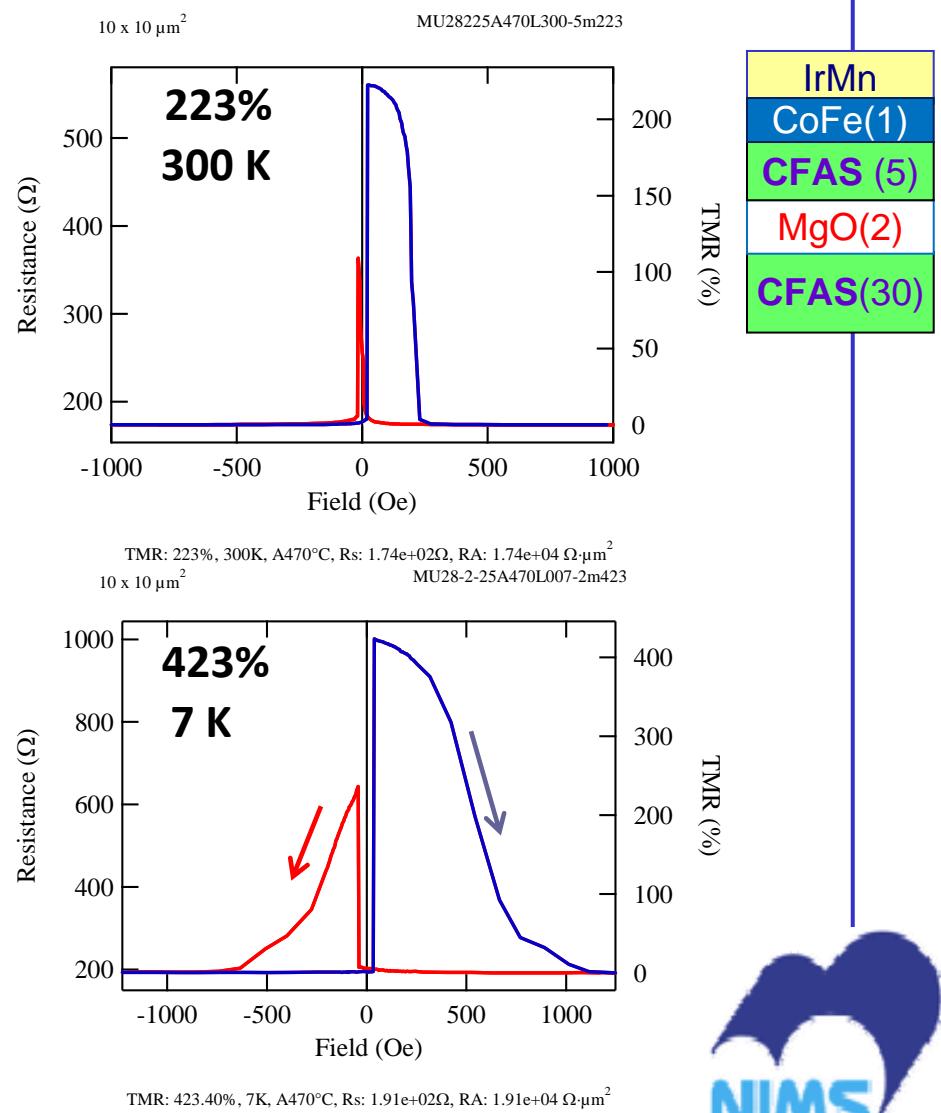
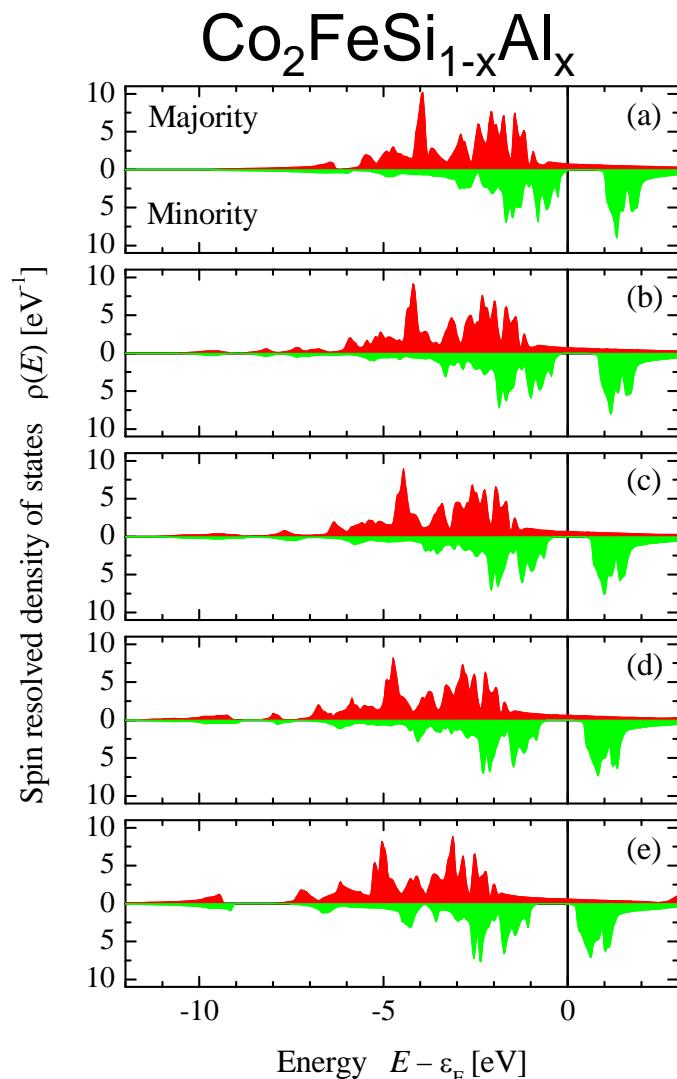
Extrapolation to 0K :Slater-Pauling  
rule:  $6 \mu_B$

Curie Temperature 1120 K

Wurmehl, et al ., APL 88 (2006) 032502.

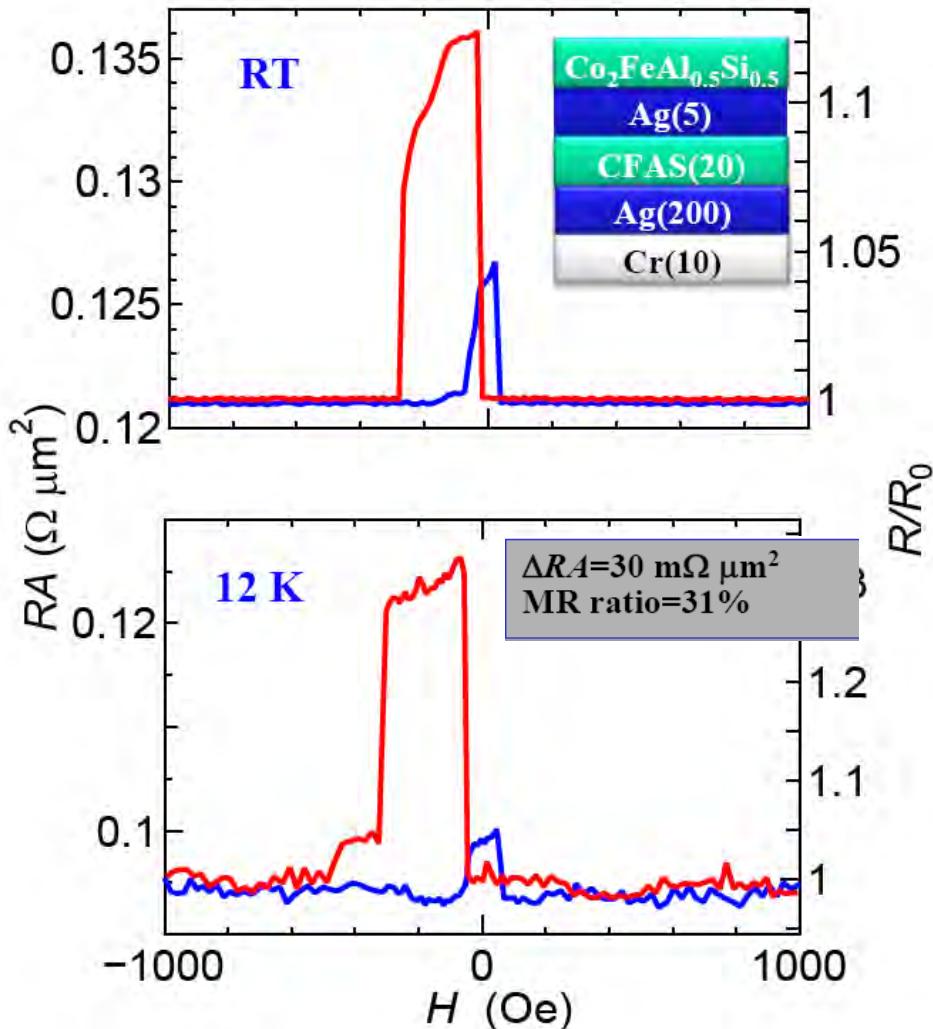
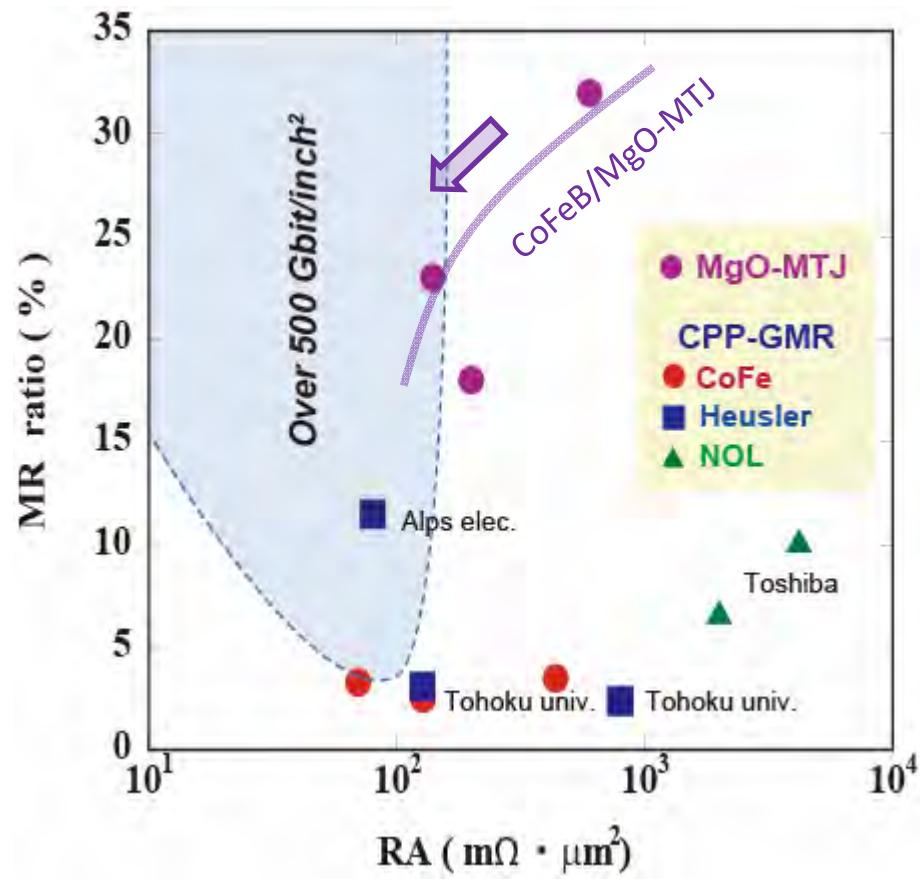
Wurmehl, et al ., Phys. Rev. B 72 (2005) 184434

# Heusler in Spintronic Devices: TMR



# Heusler in Spintronic Devices: CPP-GMR

Courtesy of Koki Takanashi, Sendai



Challenge: fitting spacer

Interlayer exchange coupling!

Inomata et al. to be published

# Ferri magnets

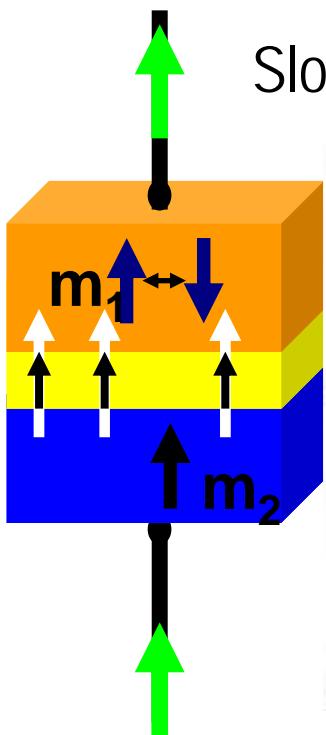
Application: Spin torque

Compensated ferri magnet?

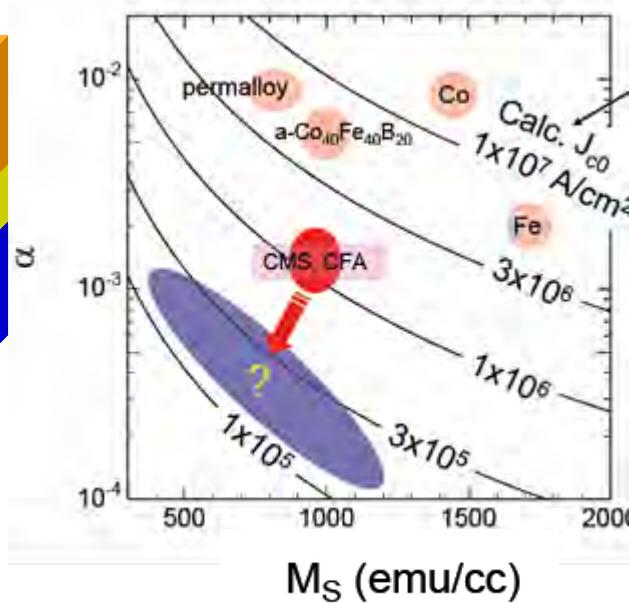
no net magnetization  
two magnetic sublattices  
with compensating moments

Warren E. Pickett Phys. Rev. B 57 (1998)  
10613.

# Spin transfer switching



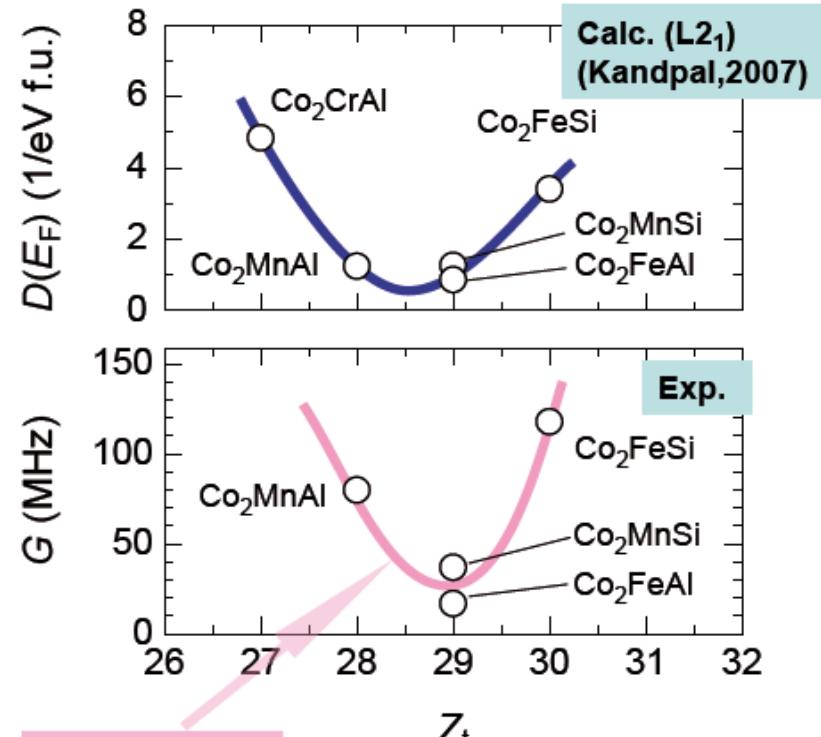
Sloczewski 1996



$$J \approx 1 - 100 \text{ MA/cm}^2$$

$$J \approx \frac{e}{\hbar g} \alpha M_s H_U d$$

reduction of  $\alpha$  &  $M_s$



$$G = \gamma \alpha M_s \propto D_{\uparrow} + D_{\downarrow}$$

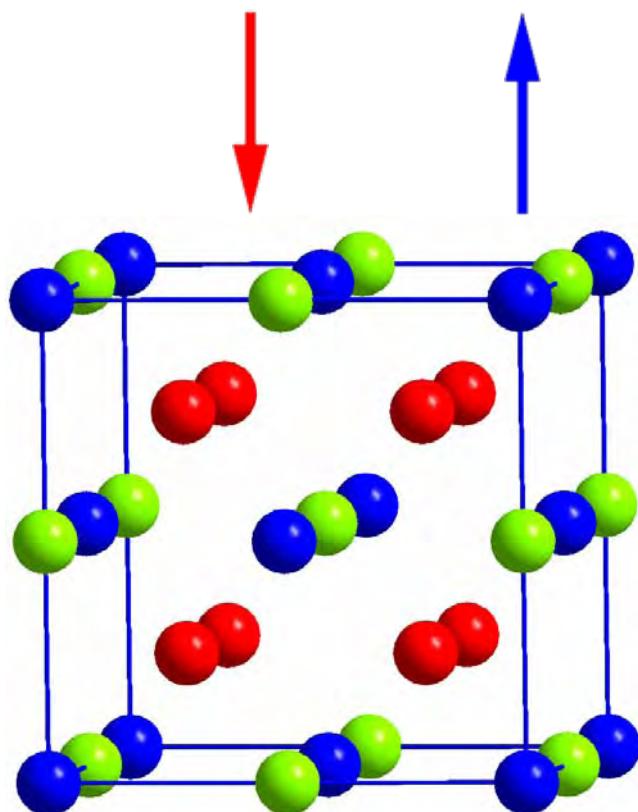
Heinrich et al. (JAP2004)

Yilgin et al. (IEEE2005)

Yilgin et al. (JJAP2007)

Oogane et al. (JAP2007)

# Halfmetallic Ferrimagnet



Kübler's Rule  
Slater Pauling Rule

$\text{Mn}_2\text{MnGa}$

Two magnetic sublattice

- 24 Valence electrons – 0  $\mu_{\text{B}}$
- $\text{Mn}^{3+}$  at octahedral site – 4  $\mu_{\text{B}}$
- Mn compensates

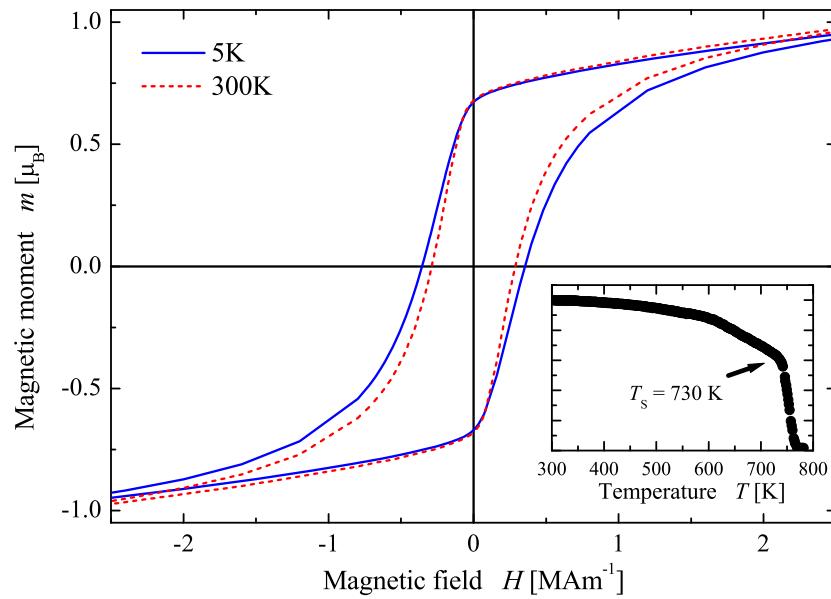
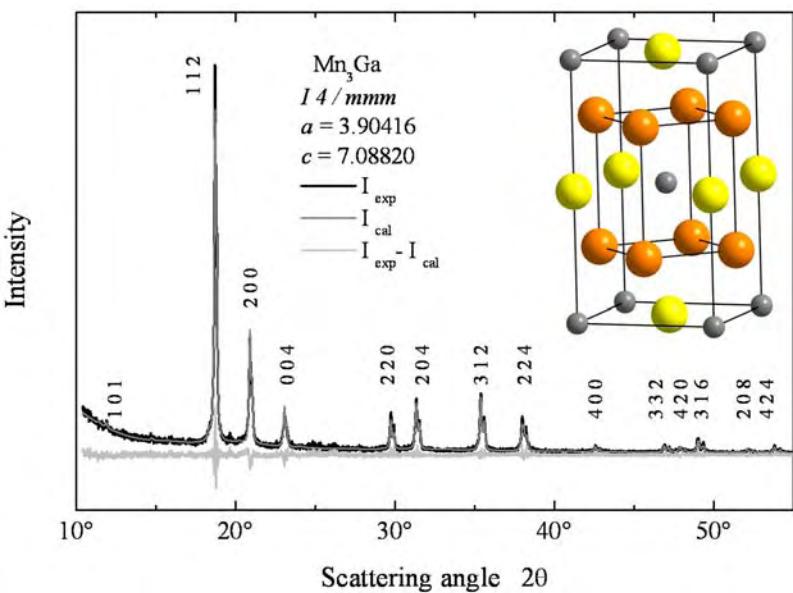
⇒ Compensated ferrimagnet

# Compensated Ferrimagnet: Heusler



Low Moment – High Curie Temperature: low current for spinswitch

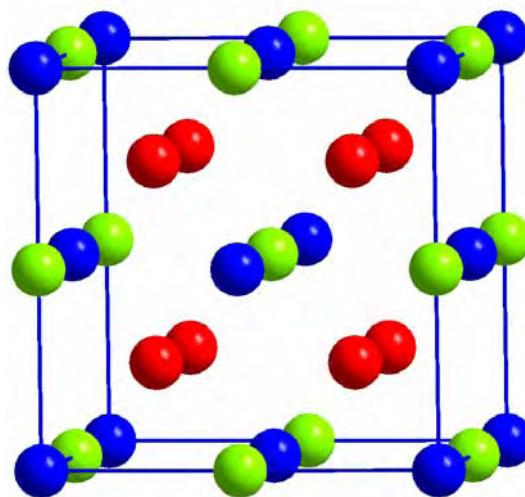
Tetragonal distorted Heusler:  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$  Jahn Teller Ion



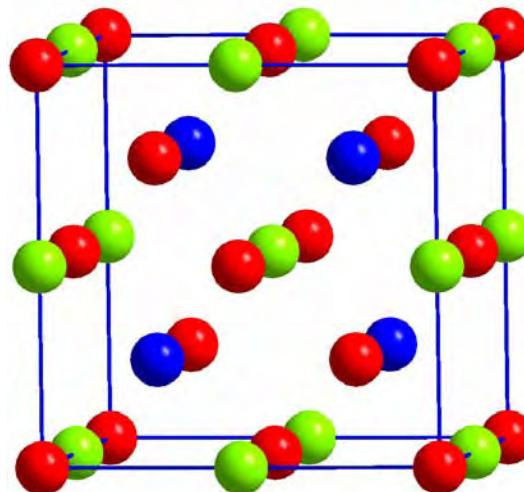
Compensated ferrimagnet:  $1 \mu_B$   
 Theoretical Spinpolarisation: 88%  
 Curie temperature: 730 K

# Heusler and relates Structures

$X_2MnZ$

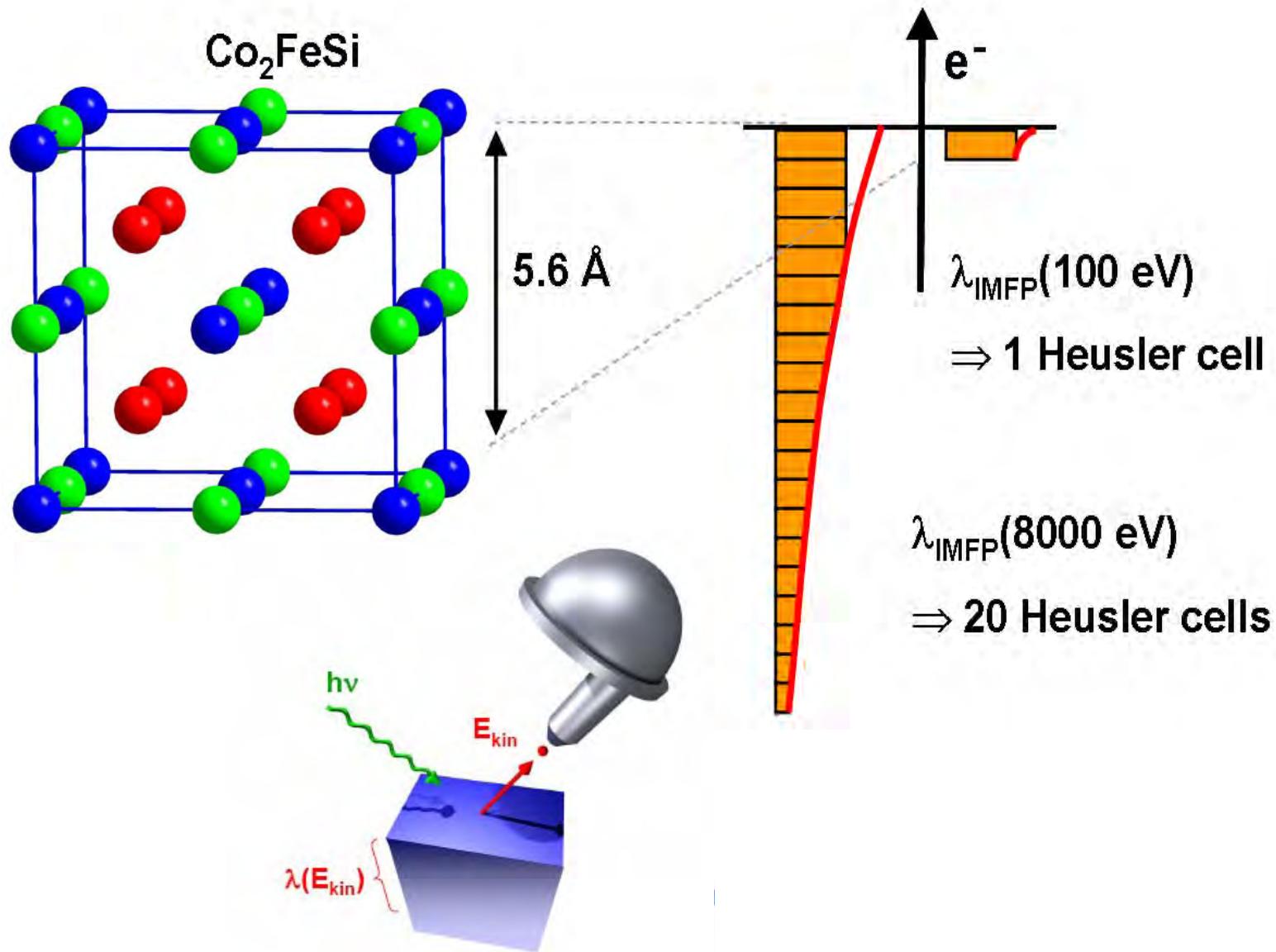


$XMnMnZ$   
 $XCrCrZ$

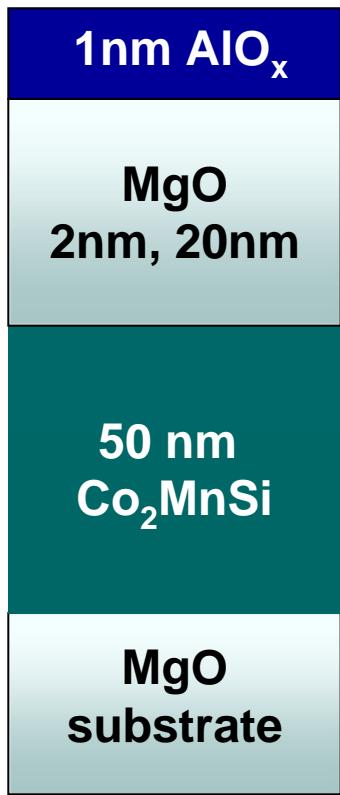


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# High Energy Photoemission



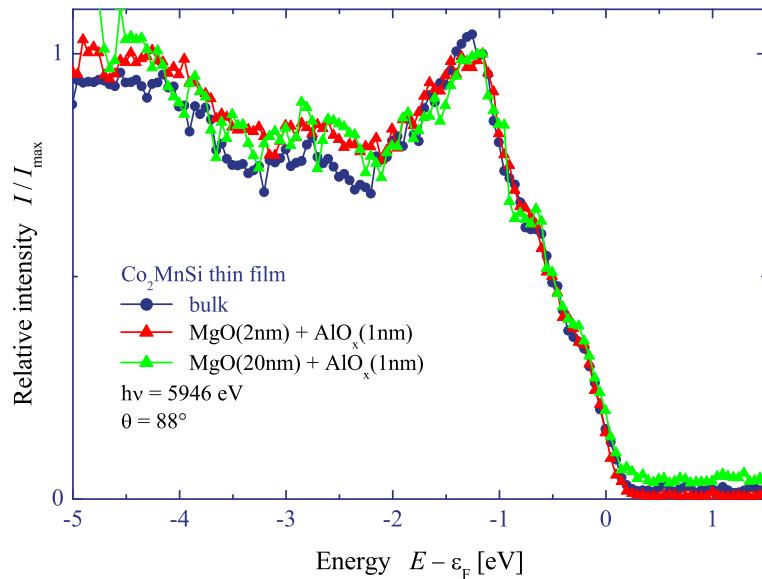
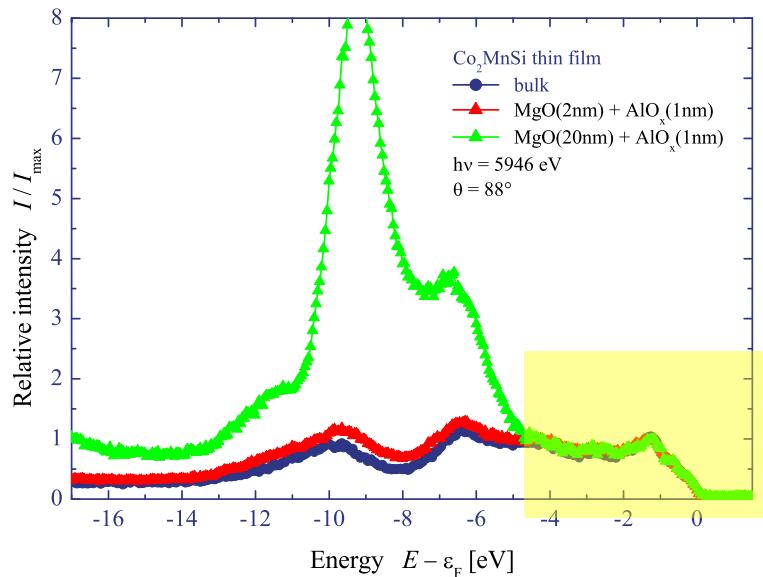
# High Energy Photoemission: buried films



$h\nu = 7.94 \text{ keV}$

Films Yamamoto Sapporo  
 Measurements SPring8

Fecher et al. APL **92** 195313 (2008)

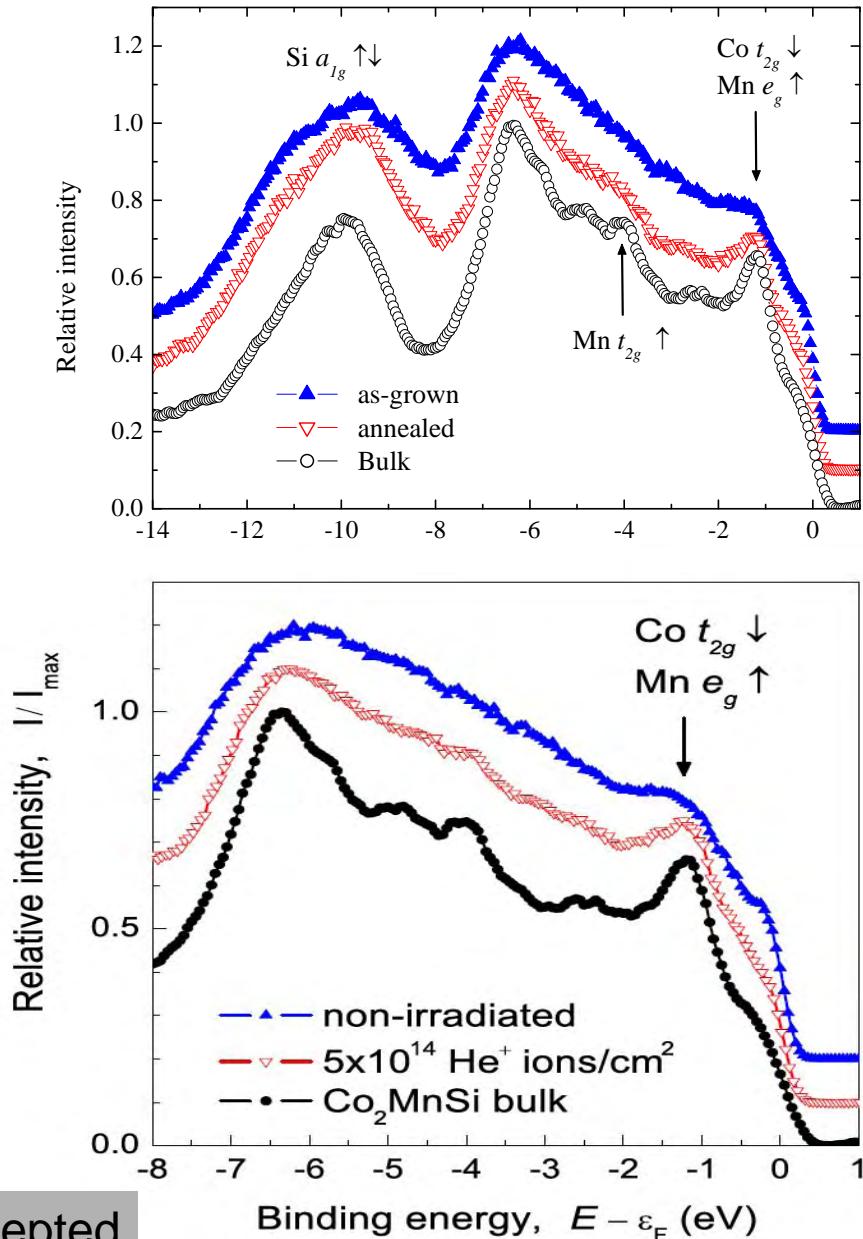


# Film quality studied by High Energy PES



$$h\nu = 7.94 \text{ keV}$$

Annealing and Irradiation improves the film quality



# Summary

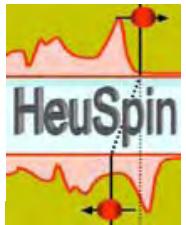
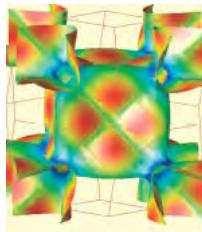
- Half Heusler compounds (Stuffed ZnS) are candidates for thermoelectric applications and for diluted semiconductors
- Nanostructured Heuslers are need for low thermoconductivity
- Heusler compounds are half metals with high Curie temperatures  
 $\text{Co}_2\text{YZ}$
- Compensated ferrimagnetic Heuslers  $\text{Mn}_2\text{YZ}$  with 24 Valenceelectrons
- Halfmetallic ferrimagnets for spin torque application  $\text{Mn}_2\text{CoZ}$
- High energy photoemission is an excellent tool to study devices
- SPINHAXPES is needed

# Co-workers



## JST-DFG Project:

- NIMS, Tohoku: K. Inomata
- Saporro: M. Yamamoto
- SPring8: K. Kobayashi



Dresden: S. Wurmehl

Augsburg: A. Reller

FG 559: G. Jakob, B. Hillebrands, J. Kübler, Y. Ando (Tohoku)

DFG-FG559, FE633, SP1166, BMBF: HEUSPIN, MULTIMAG



Bundesministerium  
für Umwelt, Naturschutz  
und Reaktorsicherheit

MATERIALS  
IN  
MAINZ SCIENCE