

# Dimension-Dependent Critical Scaling Analysis and Emergent Interaction Scales in a 2D Van der Waals magnets

Satyajit Banerjee

Department of Physics, IIT Kanpur

<https://sites.google.com/view/molabiitk>

## Acknowledgements :

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Sourav Mal, HRI Allahabad

P. C. Mahato et al. **Phys. Rev. B 109, 165405 (2024)**  
Suprotim Saha et al (submitted 2024)

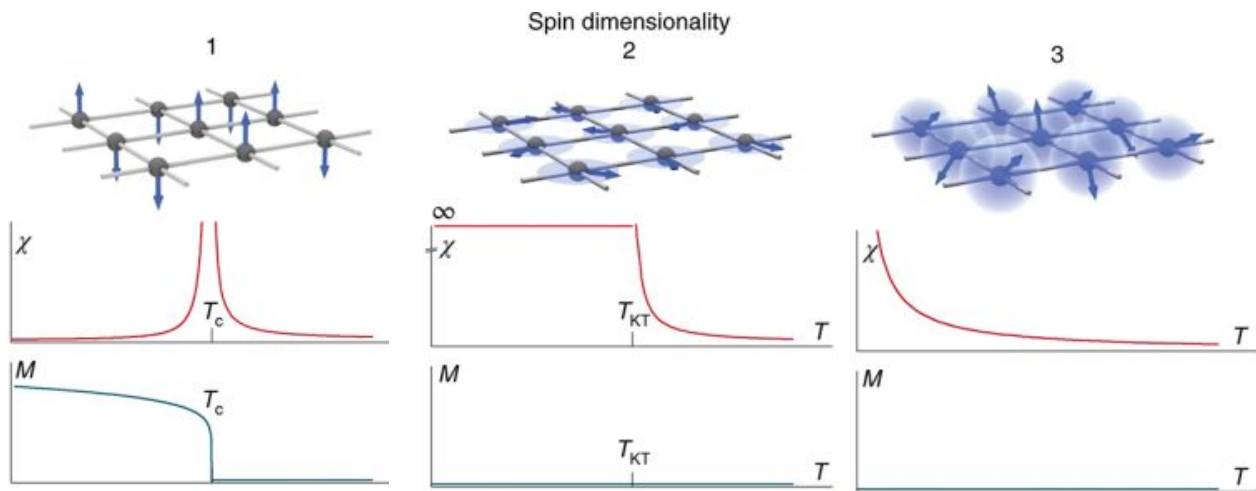
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# Magnetism at low Dimensions



Xu et al. *Microstructures* 2022;2:2022011

**A**

Exchange interaction

**B**

Magnetic anisotropy

Through SOC,  
Shape Anisotropy  
Stress Anisotropy

**2D**

Exchange vs Anisotropy: Spin wave excitation  
In 2D and 3D, role of anisotropy

**3D**

Monolayer + Isotropy

Gapless Magnon Excitation (no Anisotropy) Expected in monolayer

Stiffening with Anisotropy

**Gapped**

• **Gapless excitation of long λ spin waves destroys Long magnetic order**

• Magnetic anisotropy creates a Gap in the magnon DOS, which Prevents thermal excitation of Spin waves and Long-range order Can be preserved even in 2D

• Magnetic order can emerge even in 2D systems with magnetic anisotropy

Gong and Zhang, *Science* 363, eaav4450 (2019)  
*Nature* volume 546, 265–269 (2017)

2D-Ising model n=1

$$H(\sigma) = - \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j$$

PM → Magnetically ordered state transition, with diverging Susceptibility, Specific heat, divergence spin – spin Correlation lengths

n=2, 2D- xy model

$$H(\mathbf{s}) = - \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \mathbf{s}_j$$

unit-length vector  $\mathbf{s}_j = (\cos \theta_j, \sin \theta_j)$

In 2D BKT transition, with quasi long range magnetic order, power law decay Of spin – spin correlation

$\vec{s}_i \in \mathbb{R}^3, |\vec{s}_i| = 1$

$$\mathcal{H} = - \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \vec{s}_i \cdot \vec{s}_j$$

**2D - Heisenberg Model**  
Cannot sustain Long range Magnetic order  
Mermin Wagner theorem

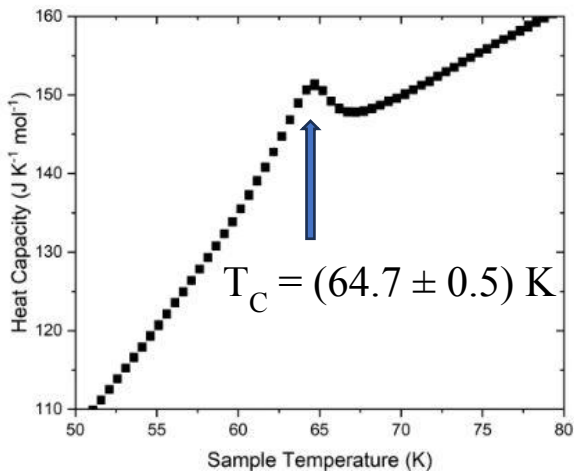
For engineering devices : 1. Material choice

Why we choose to work with a 2D vdw material  $\text{Cr}_2\text{Ge}_2\text{Te}_6$

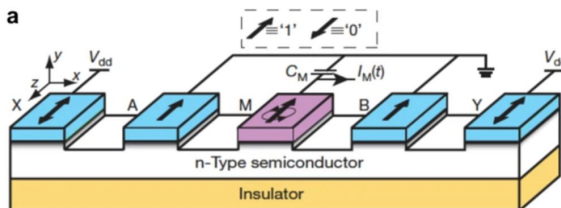
# Cr<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>6</sub> (CGT) : FM semiconductor and vdW material

(Bulk properties)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 100, 134437 (2019)



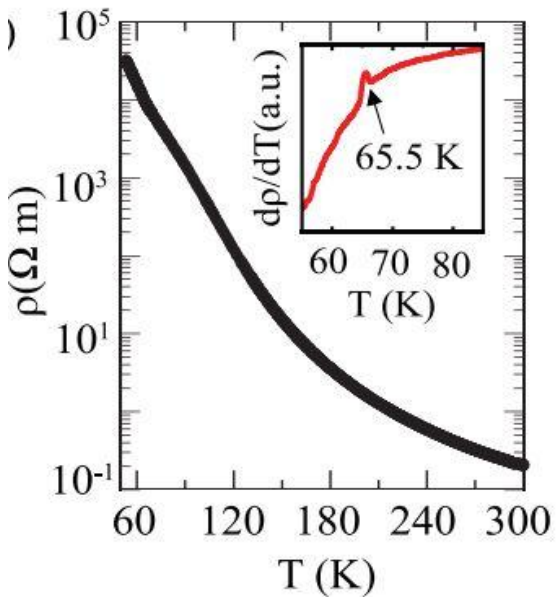
One possibly can make  
2D spintronic devices



<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41928-019-0273-7>

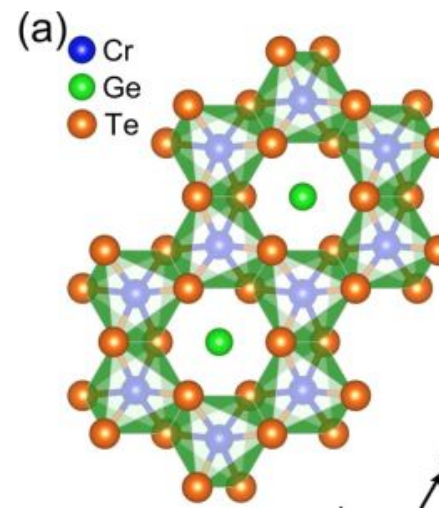
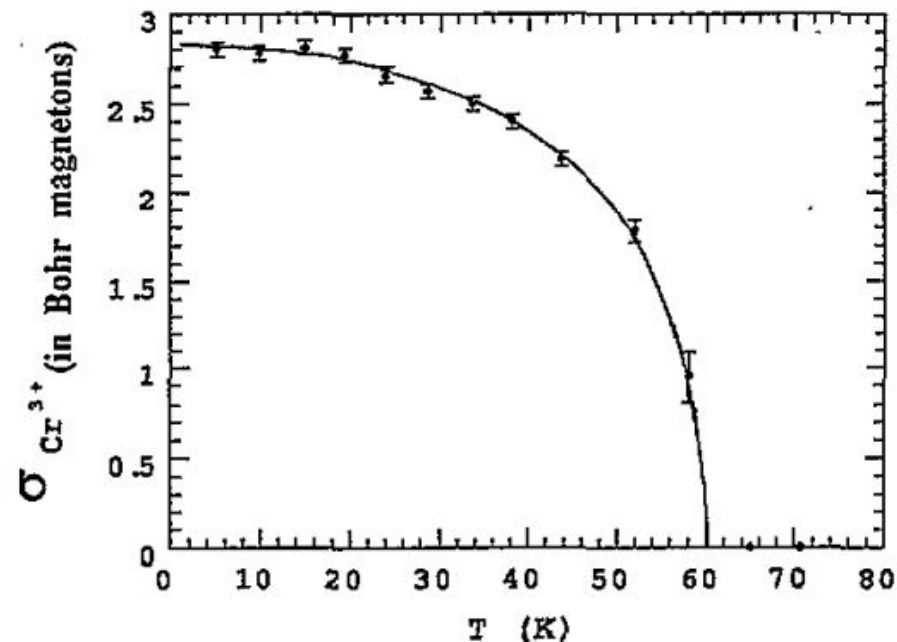
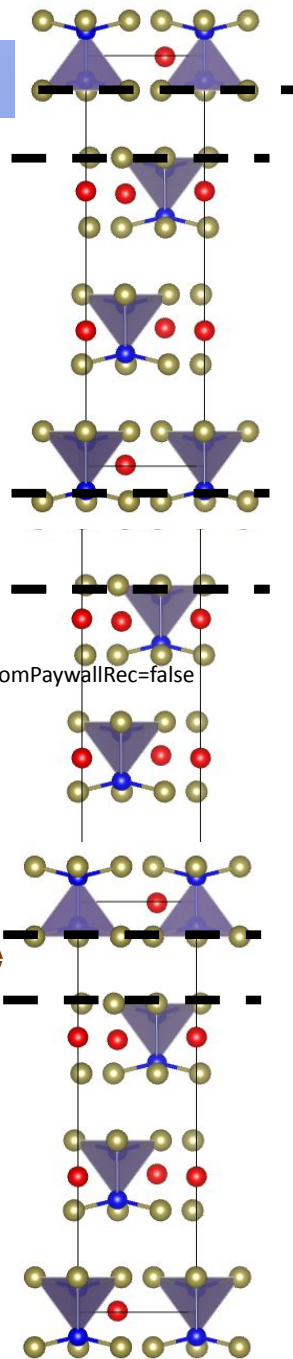
[www.nature.com/articles/s41699-020-0152-0](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41699-020-0152-0)

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s44306-024-00023-6?fromPaywallRec=false>



VDW material with very  
Weak interlayer  
coupling

$$\rho = \rho_0 \exp\left(\frac{E_{\text{eg}}}{2k_B T}\right)$$



V. Carreau et al.  
JPCM 7, 69–87 (1995)

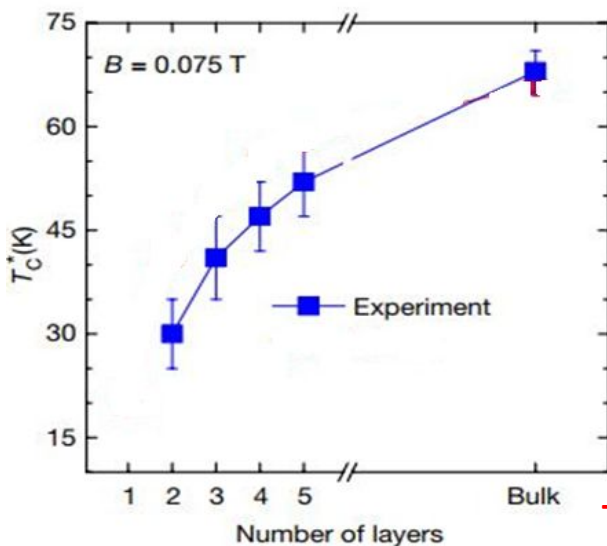
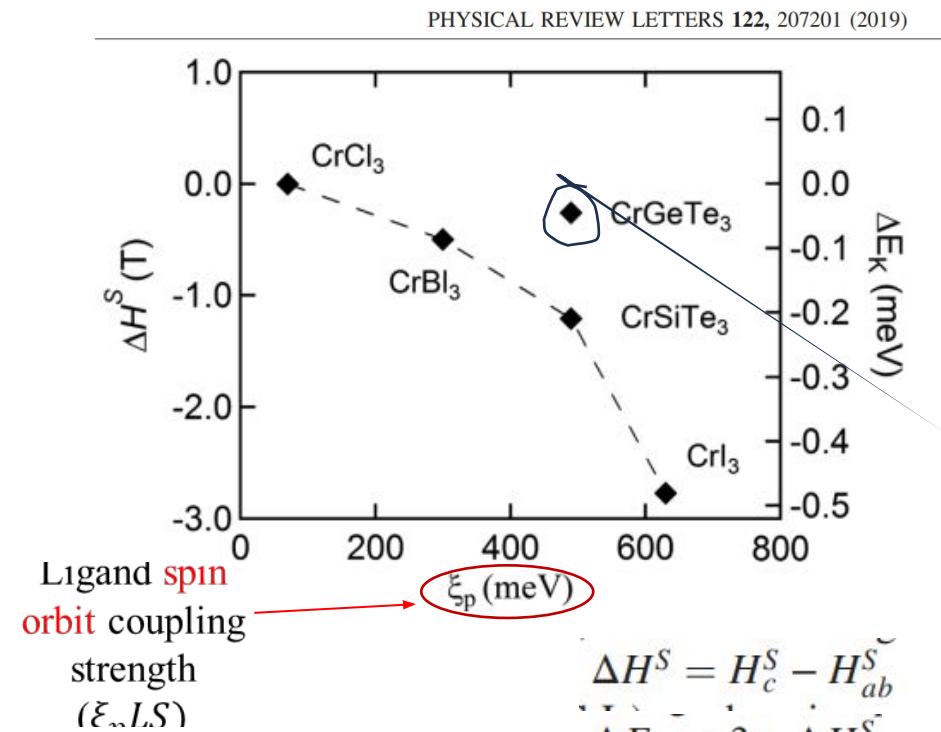
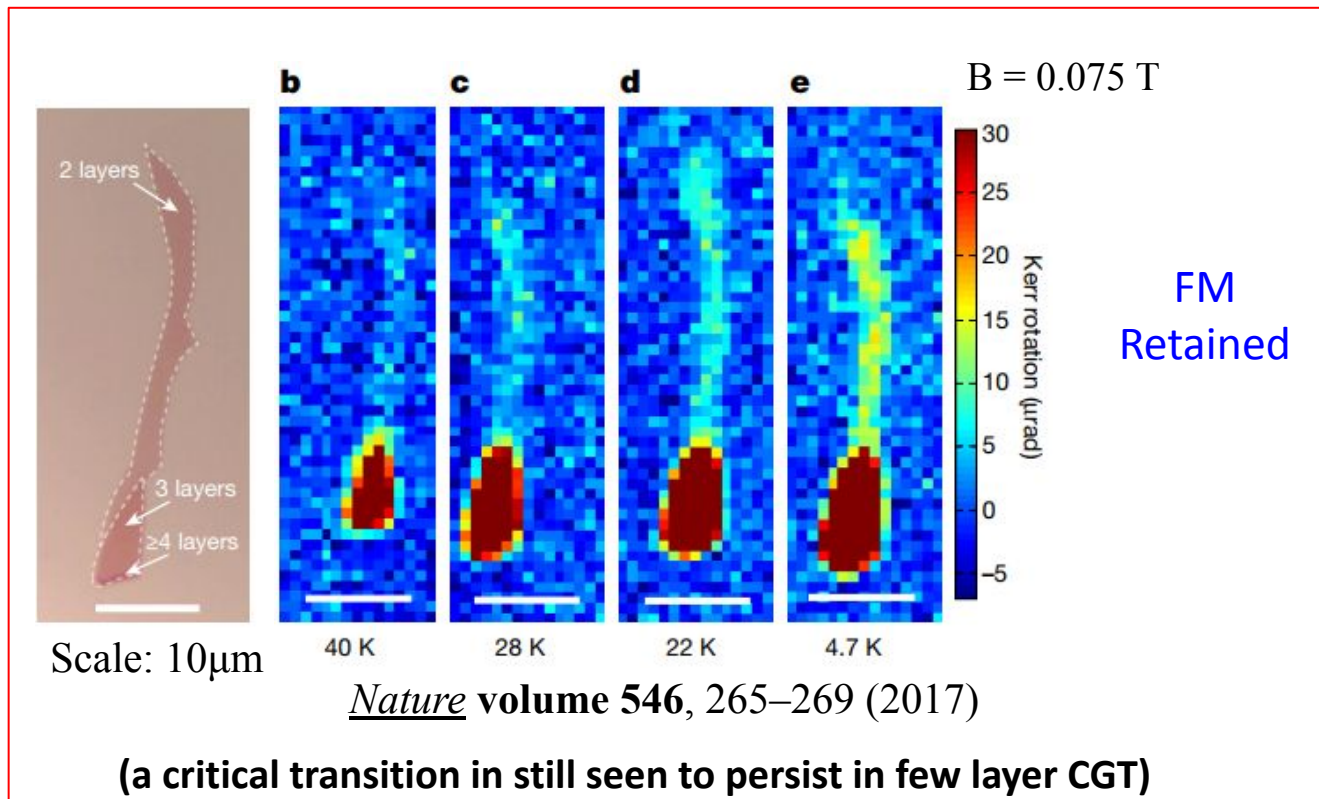
*Adv. Mater.* **2021**, 33, 2008586

**ACS Appl. Electron. Mater.** 2021, 1, 3278-3302

Bandgap  $\sim 0.4$  to  $0.7$  eV indirect, and  $1.2$  eV direct (PRB 98 (12), 125127 (2018))

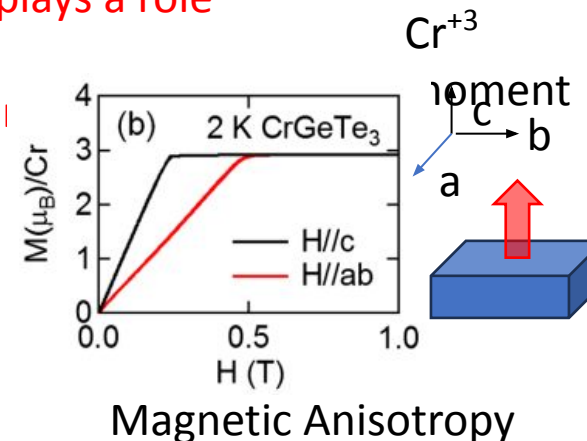


# What happens if you thin down the system to few layers



**Tc seems to drop**

Ligand p-Spin orbit coupling controls Anisotropy associated something else also plays a role in CGT for reduced anisotropy fields and energy ii

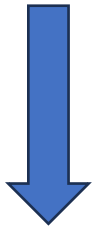


# For engineering devices : One peels the system down to 2D layers

**How do you quantitatively evaluate that things remain/do not remain the same as you go down to 2D layers**

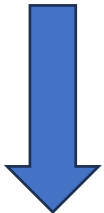
Magnetism

Thickness reduction from 3D



In 2D

Significant enhancement in the effects  
Of thermal fluctuations



Complex magnetic phenomena at low D  
Dependent on the Dimensionality of spins (n)



They were pages in book form  
Should remain as pages when torn out?

# Critical exponents around a 2<sup>nd</sup> Order phase transition point

Reduced Temp :  $t = (T - T_c)/T_c$

Specific heat exponent :  $C \sim t^{-\alpha}$

Order Parameter exponent  $\langle |\phi| \rangle \sim t^\beta$

Correlation length exponent:  $\xi \sim t^{-\nu}$

Susceptibility exponent:  $\chi \sim t^{-\gamma}$

Can be used to quantify which properties remain Unchanged as you thin down the sample.

## Universality Classes

Table 5.4.2. Some critical exponents from theory and experiment.

Exponent	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\nu$	$\eta$
Property	specific heat	order parameter	susceptibility	coherence length	correlation function
Definition	$C \sim t^{-\alpha}$	$\langle \phi \rangle \sim t^\beta$	$\chi \sim t^{-\gamma}$	$\xi \sim t^{-\nu}$	$G(q) \sim q^{-2+\eta}$
Mean-field	0	0.5	1	0.5	0
3D theory					
$n = 0$ (SAW)	0.24	0.30	1.16	0.59	
$n = 1$ (Ising)	0.11	0.32	1.24	0.63	0.04
$n = 2$ (xy)	-0.01	0.35	1.32	0.67	0.04
$n = 3$ (Heisenberg)	-0.12	0.36	1.39	0.71	0.04
Experiment					
3D $n = 1$	$0.11^{+01}_{-03}$	$0.32^{+16}_{-04}$	$1.24^{16}_{-04}$	$0.63^{+04}_{-04}$	0.03 - 0.06
3D $n = 3$	$0.1^{+05}_{-04}$	$0.34^{+04}_{-04}$	$1.4^{+07}_{-07}$	$0.7^{+03}_{-03}$	
2D $n = 1$	$0.0^{+01}_{-003}$	$0.3^{+04}_{-04}$	$1.82^{+0.7}_{-0.7}$	$1.02^{+0.7}_{-0.7}$	

Experiments on 3D  $n = 1$  compiled from liquid-gas, binary fluid, ferromagnetic, and antiferromagnetic transitions.

Experiments on 3D  $n = 3$  transitions compiled from some ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic transitions.

Experiments on 2D  $n = 1$  compiled from some antiferromagnetic transitions.

From P. Chaikin and T Lubensky "Principles of Condensed Matter Physics"

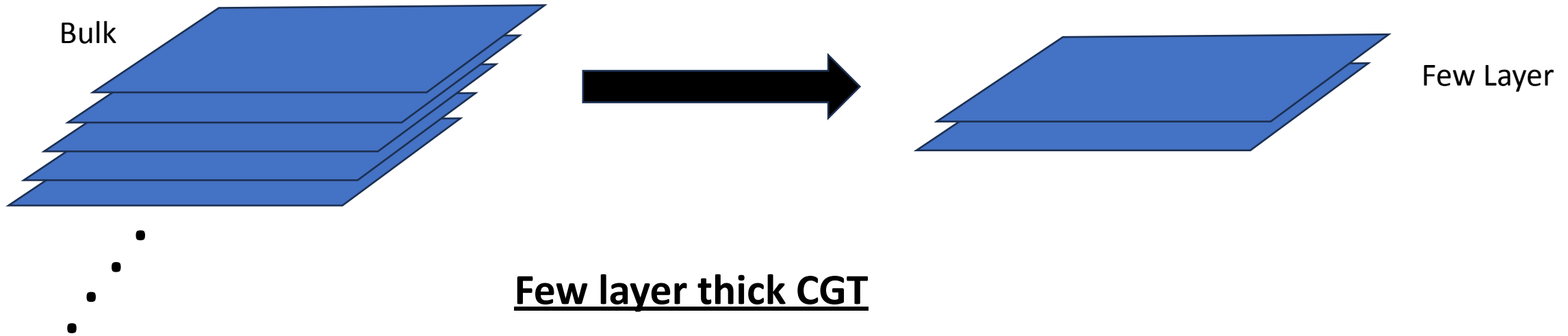
Theory suggests that the class (i.e. set of exponents) depends on spatial dimensionality, symmetry of the order parameter and interaction (and range of the latter as well) but not on the detailed form or strength of the interactions

# Questions

## Bulk

In CGT (2D layered bulk), is the experimentally identified  $T_c$  associated with critical phenomena?

If so what is the universality class for bulk CGT magnetic system (Ising like, or XY, ...)?



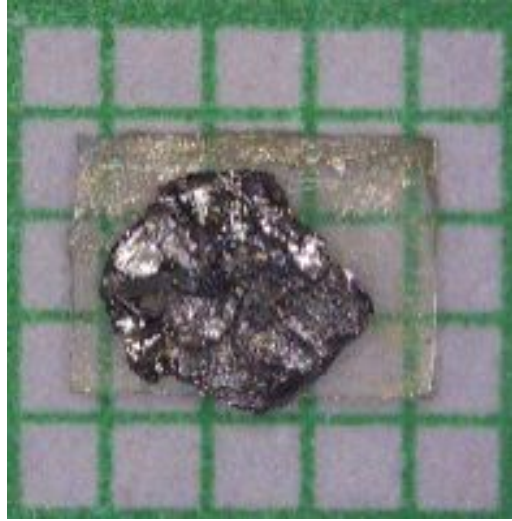
What happens to  $T_c$  as one lowers thickness ?

Lowering the thickness of the vdW material, **naively**, we expected to preserve this Universality class, since the bulk system is anyway weakly coupled, does one observe this ?

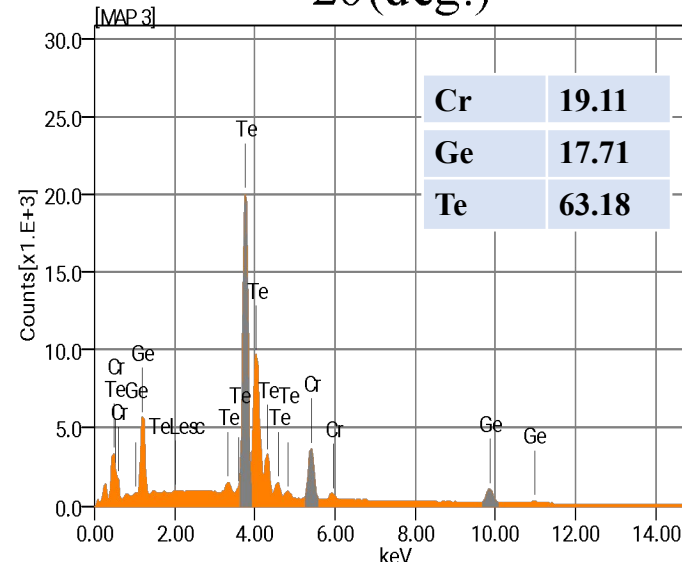
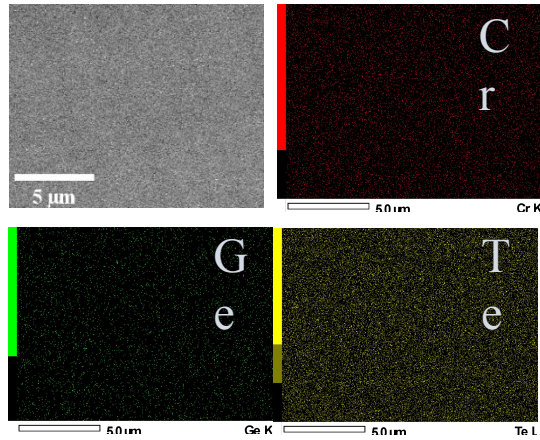
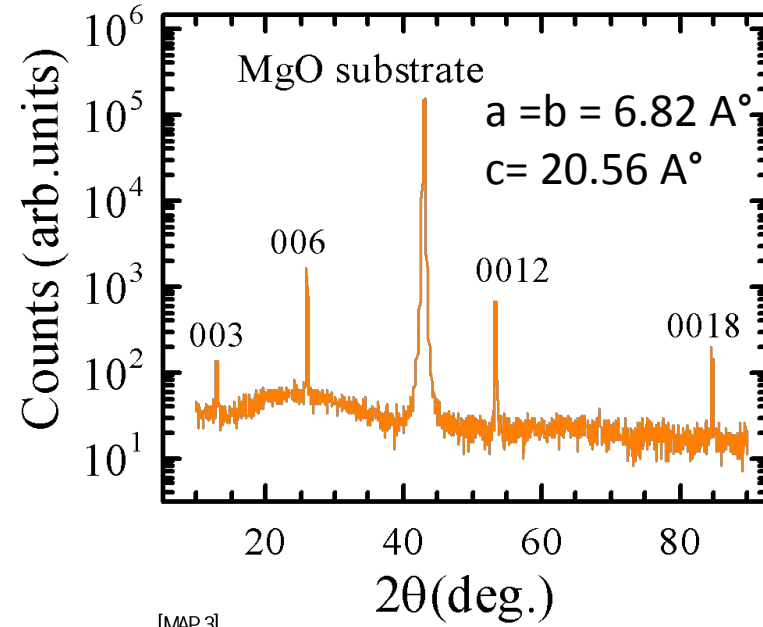
What happens to magnetic anisotropy ?

Magnetic configuration ?

# Bulk $\text{Cr}_2\text{Ge}_2\text{Te}_6$ (CGT)

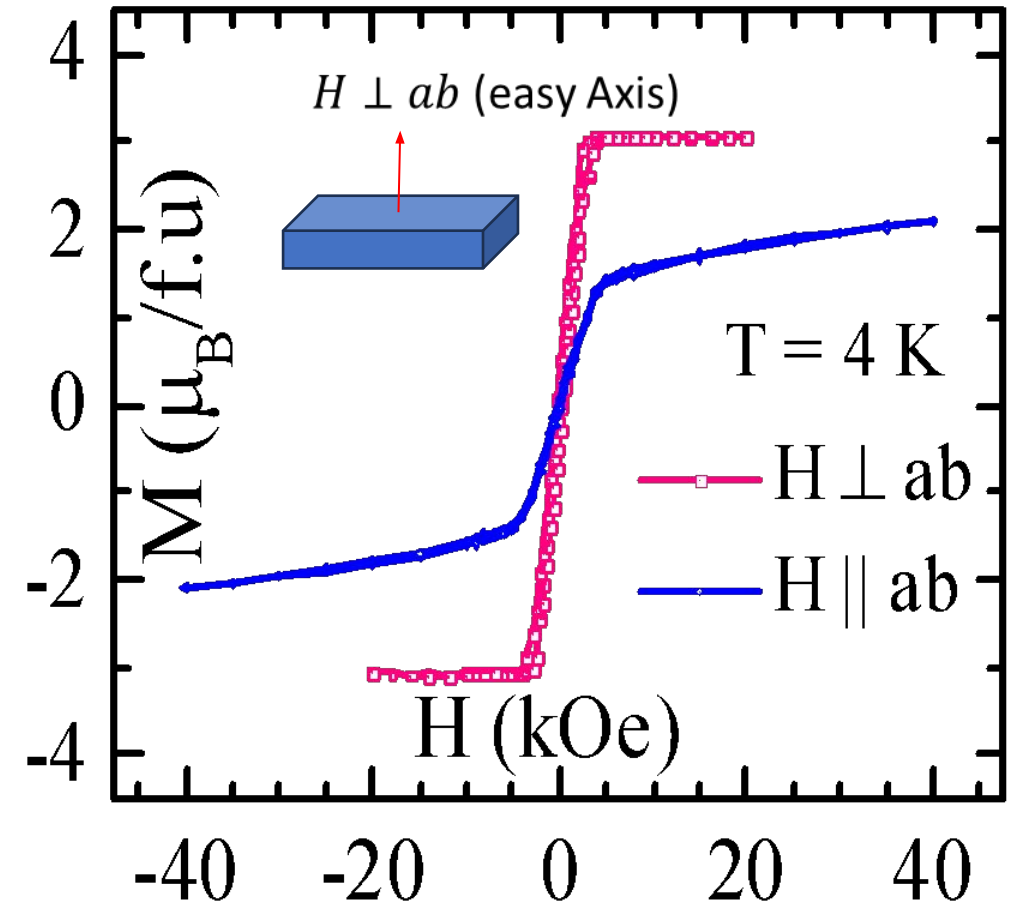
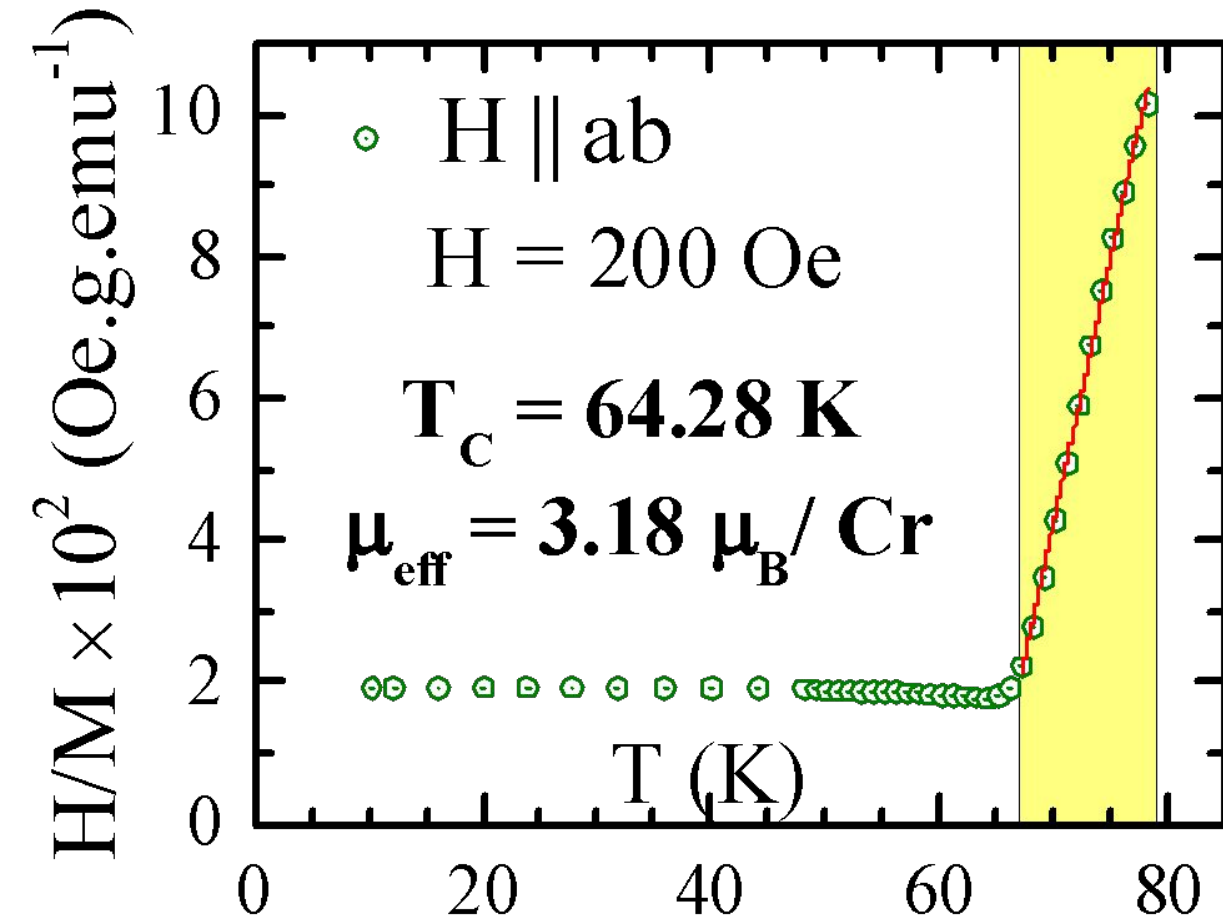


2.5 mm x 2.3 mm x 0.24 mm





# Magnetic properties of **bulk CGT**



# Critical Scaling of M(H) for bulk CGT with 2D-Ising like spins

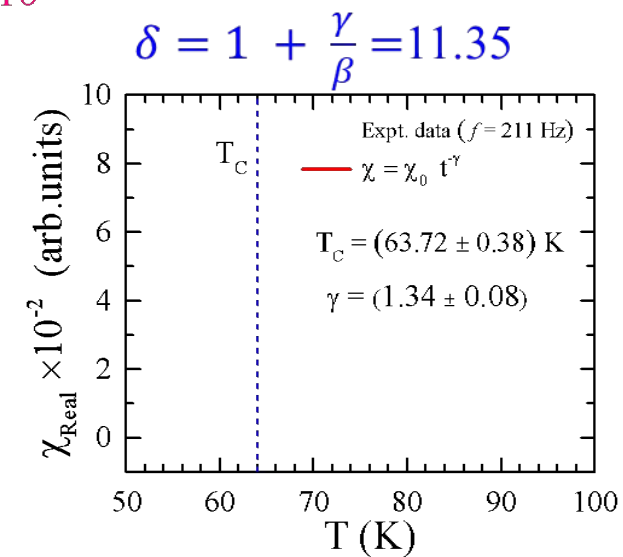
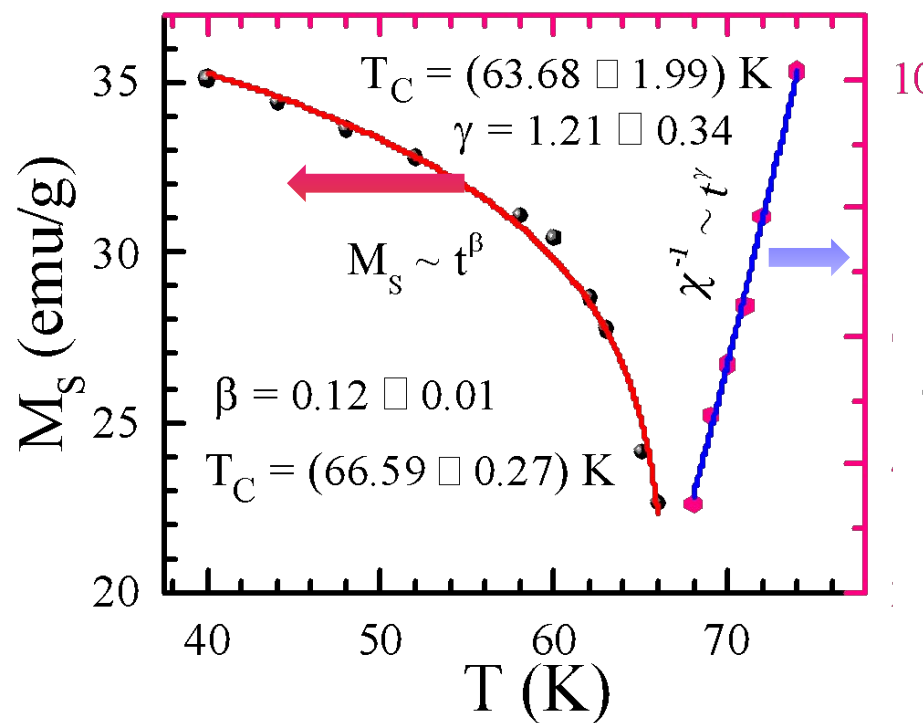
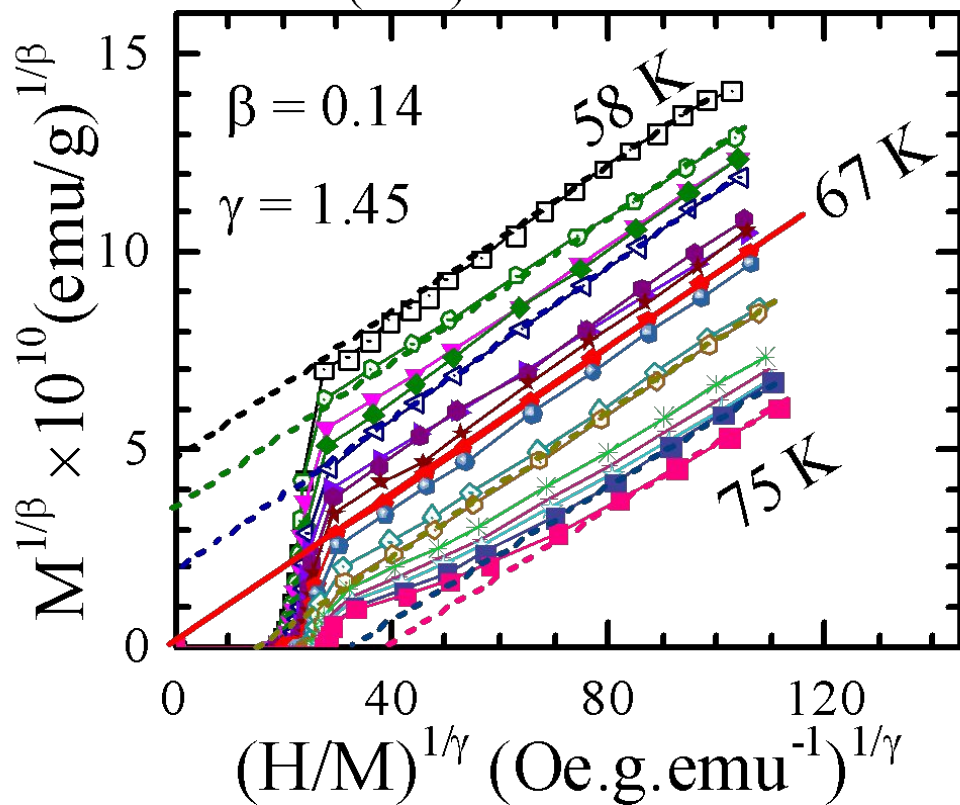
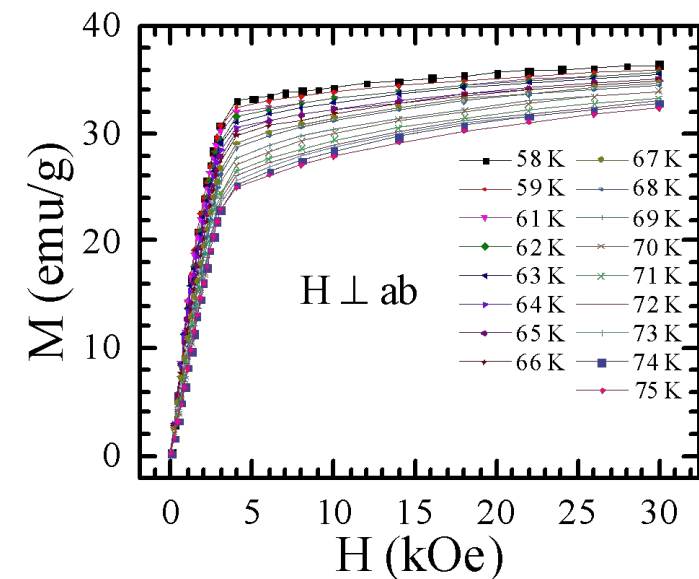
$$\varepsilon = (T - T_C)/T_C$$

$$M_S(T) = M_0(-\varepsilon)^\beta, \quad \varepsilon < 0, T < T_C$$

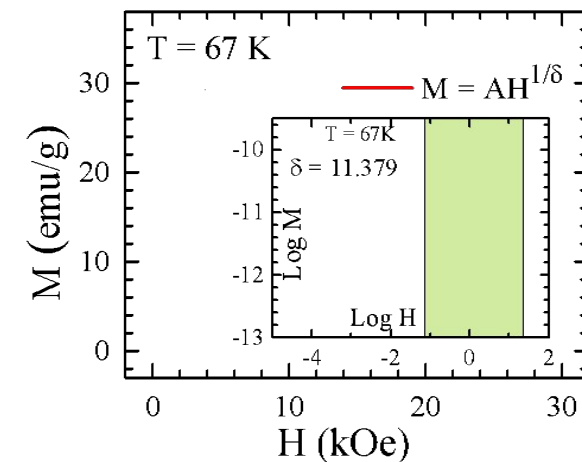
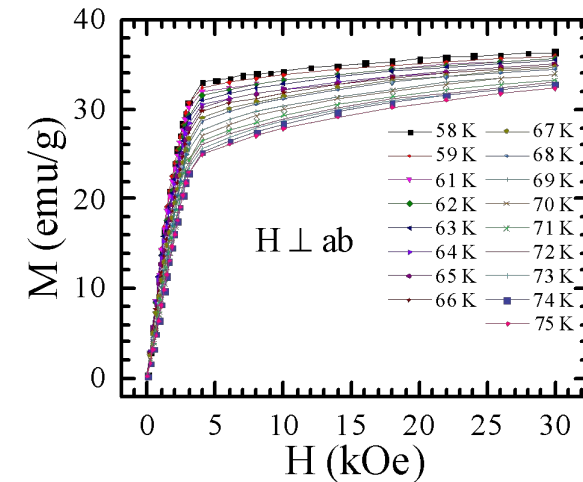
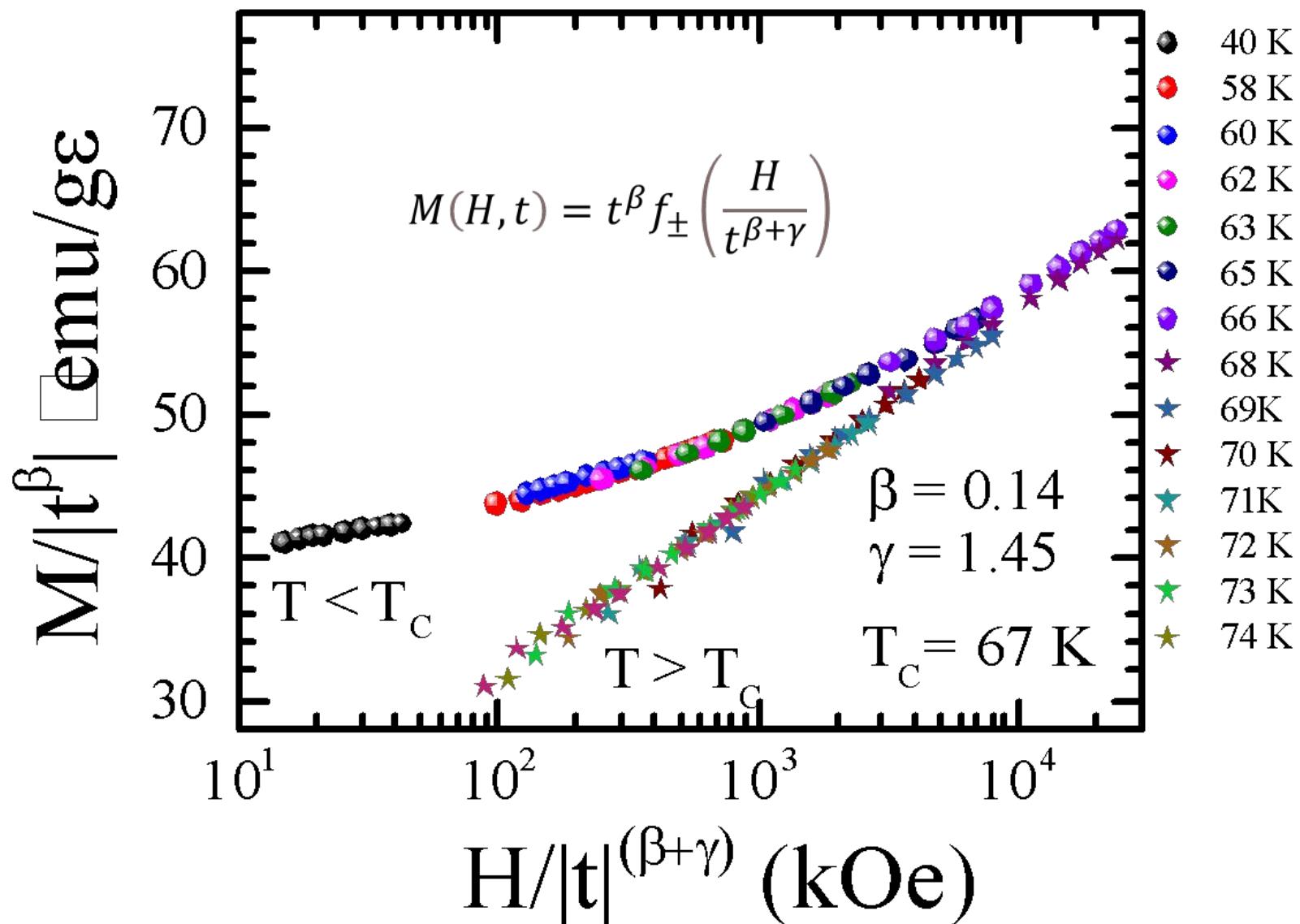
$$\chi_0^{-1}(T) = (h_0/M_0)\varepsilon^\gamma, \quad \varepsilon > 0, T > T_C$$

$$M = DH^{1/\delta}, \quad \varepsilon = 0, T = T_C$$

Equation of State  
Modified Arrotts plot

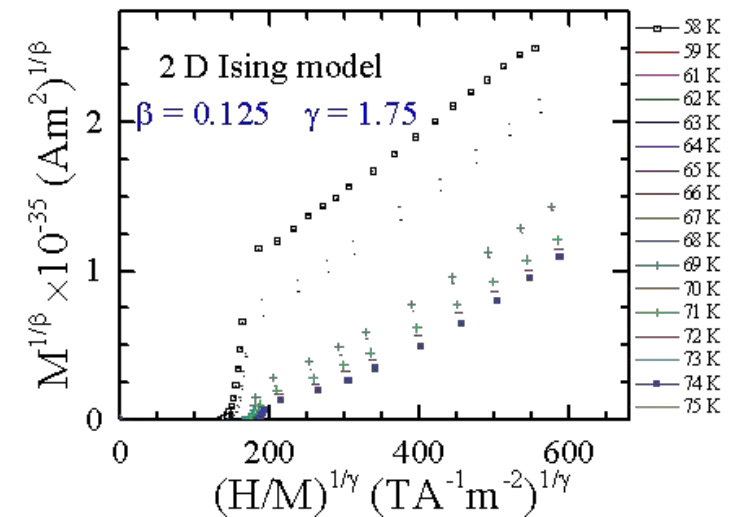
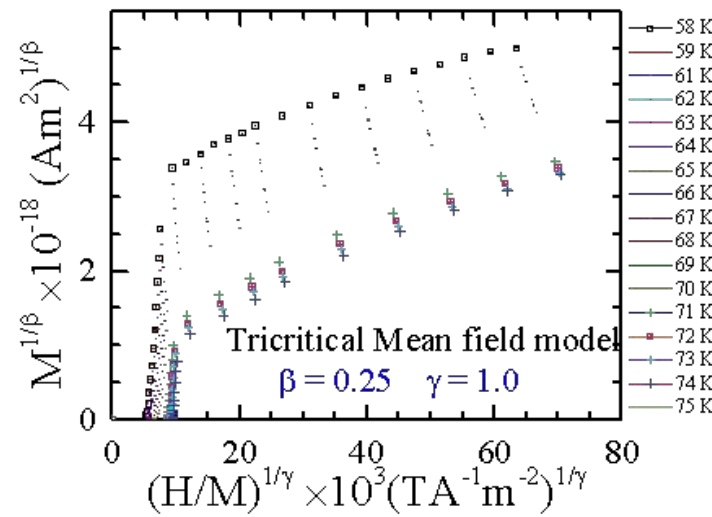
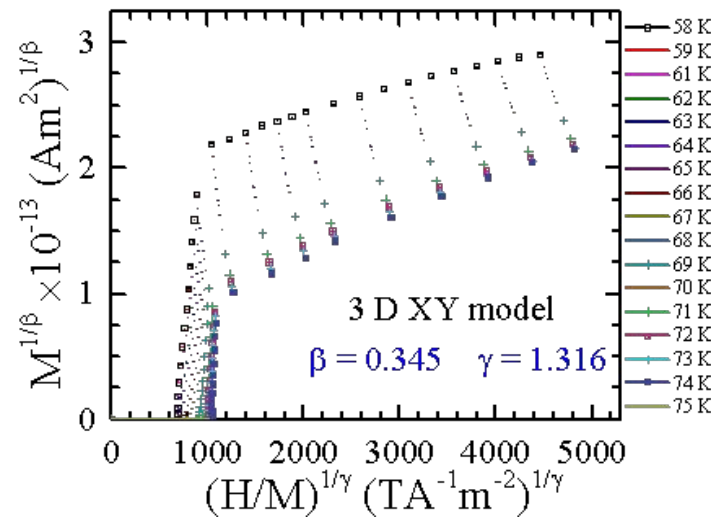
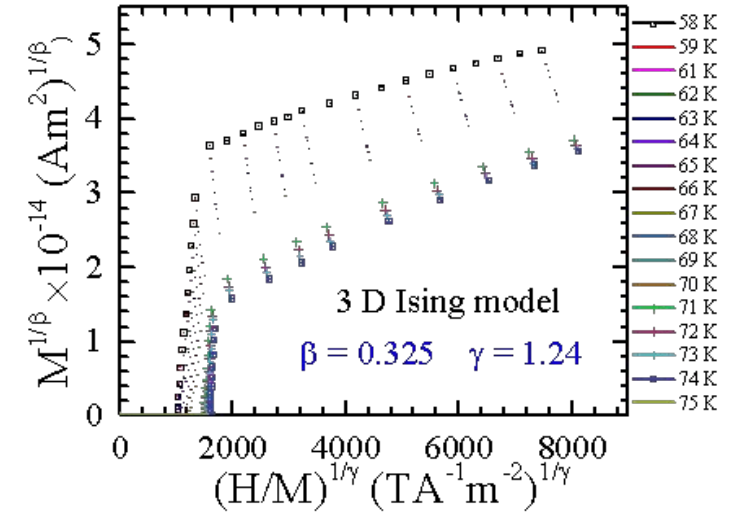
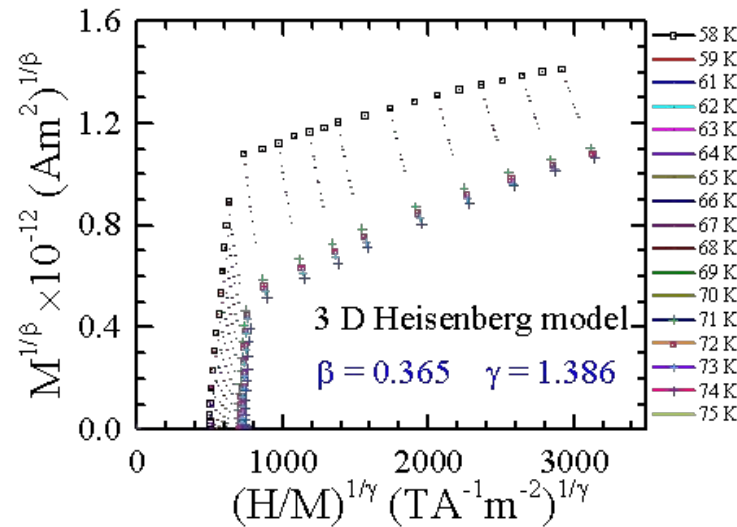
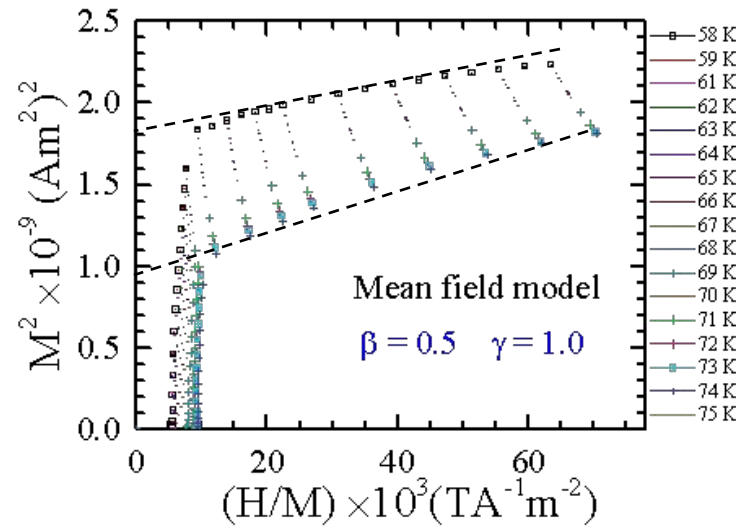


# Bifurcation into two scaled curves above and below $T_c$



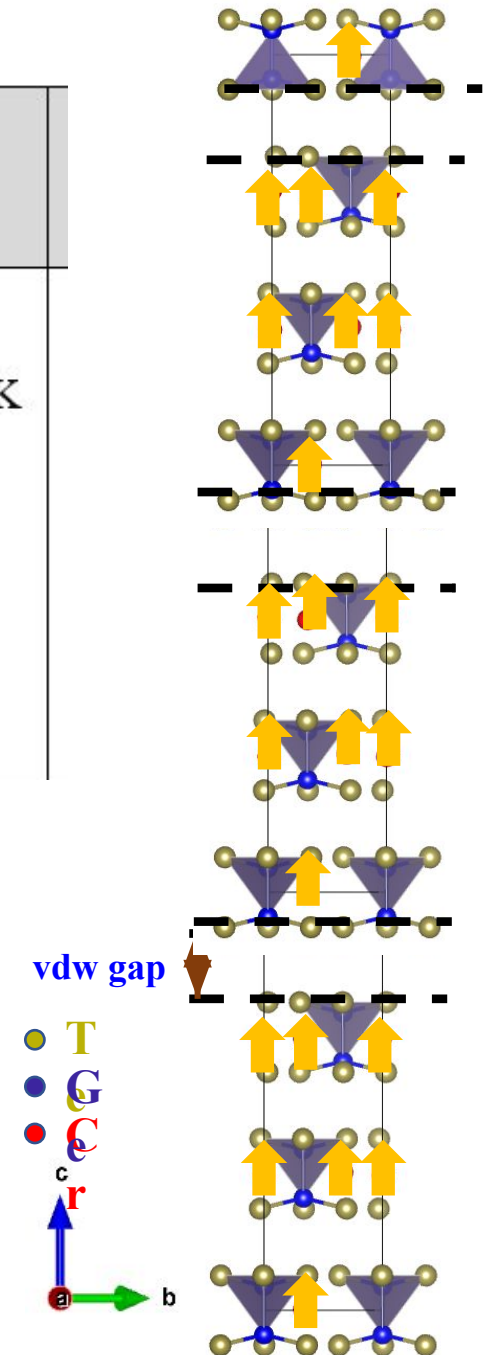
$$\delta = 1 + \frac{\gamma}{\beta} = 11.35$$

## Validity of the scaling



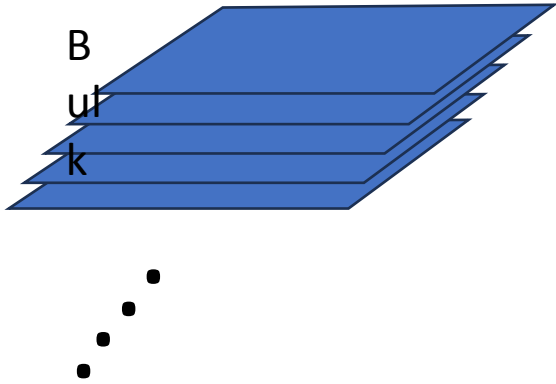
# Universality Class for bulk CGT

Sample	$\mu_{eff}$	$\beta$	$\beta$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$\gamma$	$\gamma$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$\delta$	$\delta$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$T_c$
CGT bulk crystal	$3.18\mu_B$ per Cr	0.14		1.45		11.37		64.28K (Fig.2(a))
		(Fig.2(b))	<b>2d-Ising</b>	(Fig.2(b))	<b>2d-Ising</b>	(Fig. S7(a))	<b>2d-Ising</b>	63.68K - 66.59 K
		0.12	0.17 to 0.2	1.21	1.75 to 1.28	11.35	10.87 to 7.96	(Fig.2(d)) 67 K (Fig.2(b), (c))
		(Fig.2(d))		(Fig.2(d))		(Widom)		

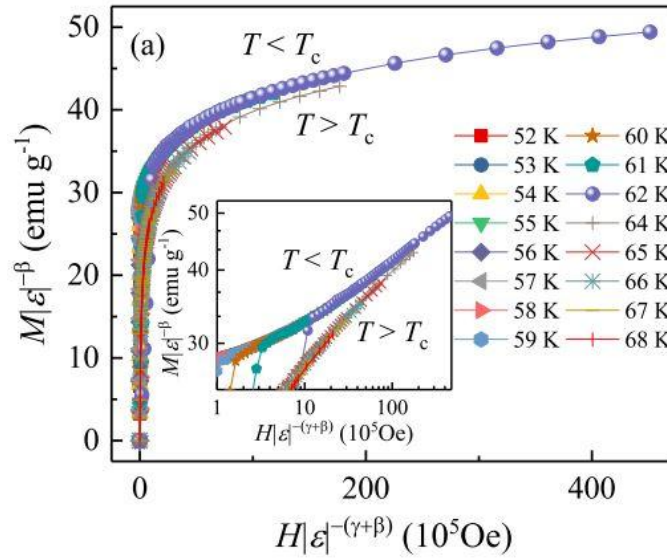




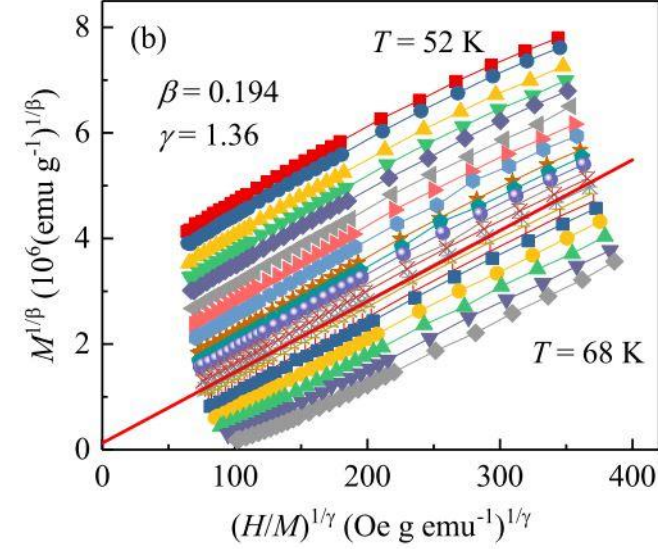
**Our Analysis confirms  
2D Ising universality class  
For bulk CGT**



Past Critical scaling study in bulk CGT



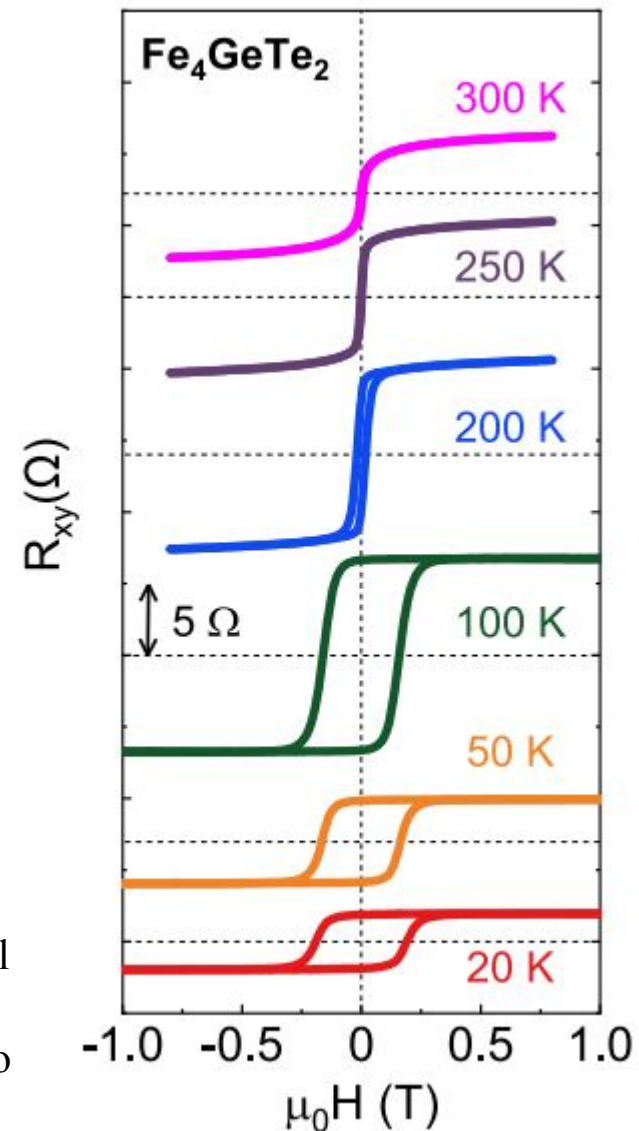
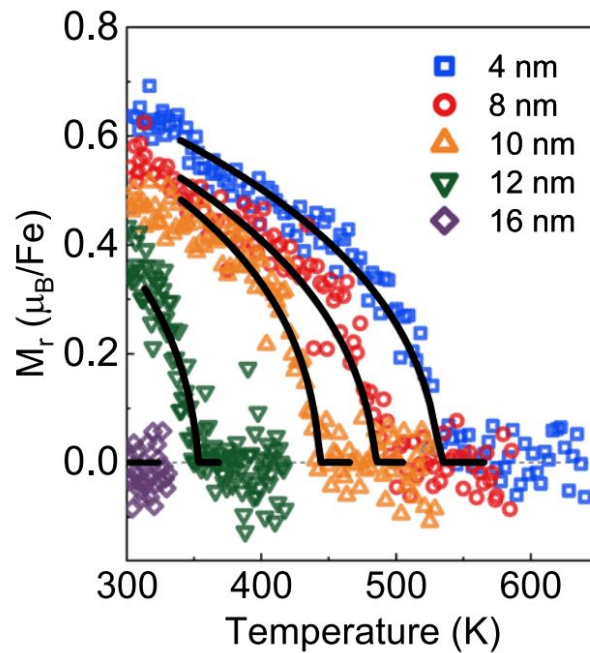
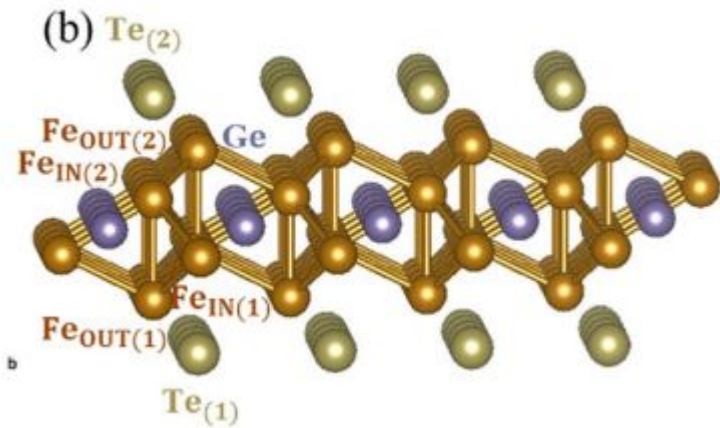
PHYSICAL REVIEW B **96**, 054406 (2017)



Scaling analysis for bulk CGT  
2D Ising universality class

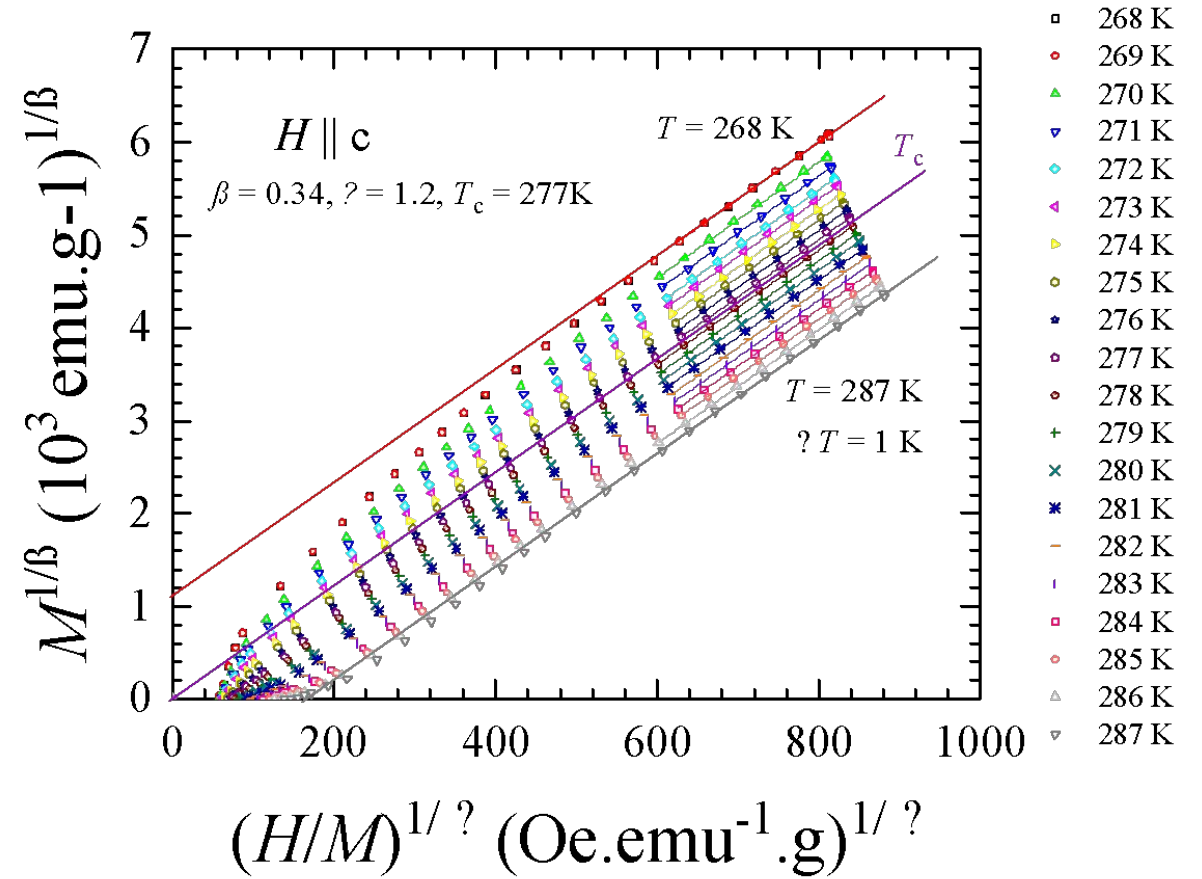
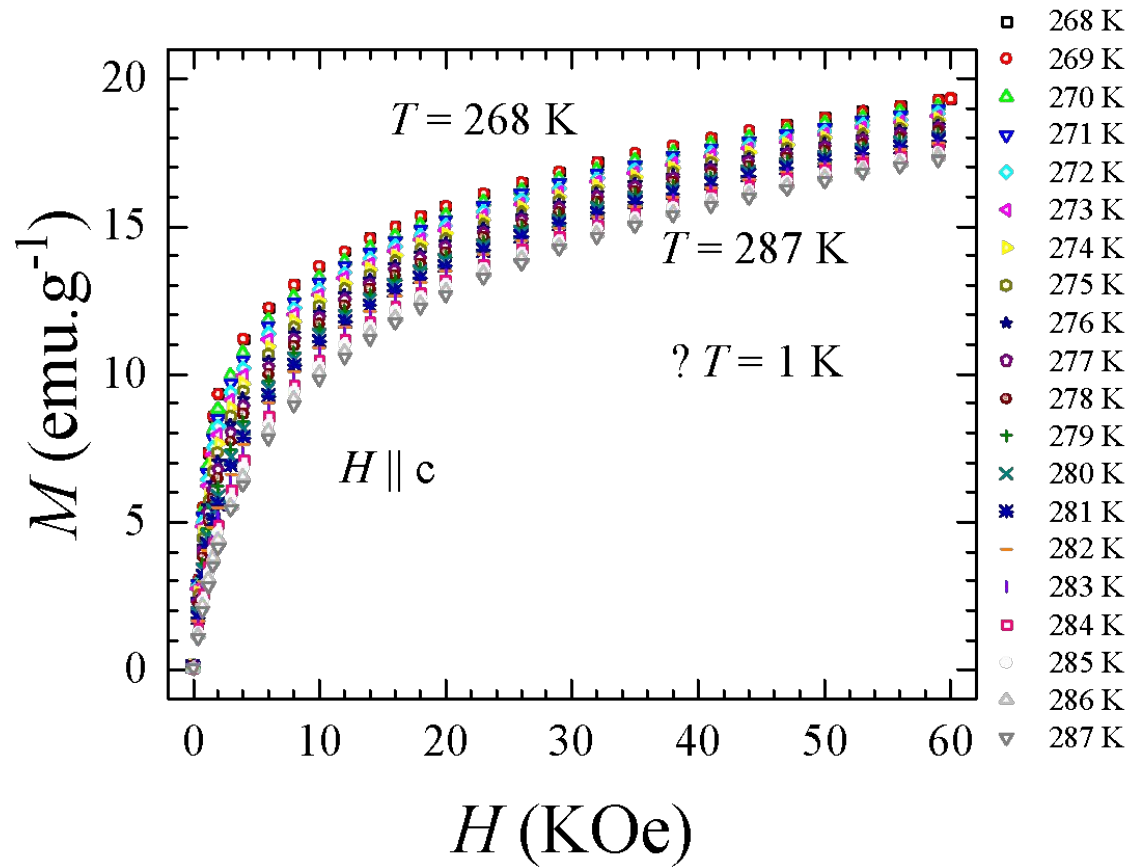
Is this uniform across other bulk 2D systems

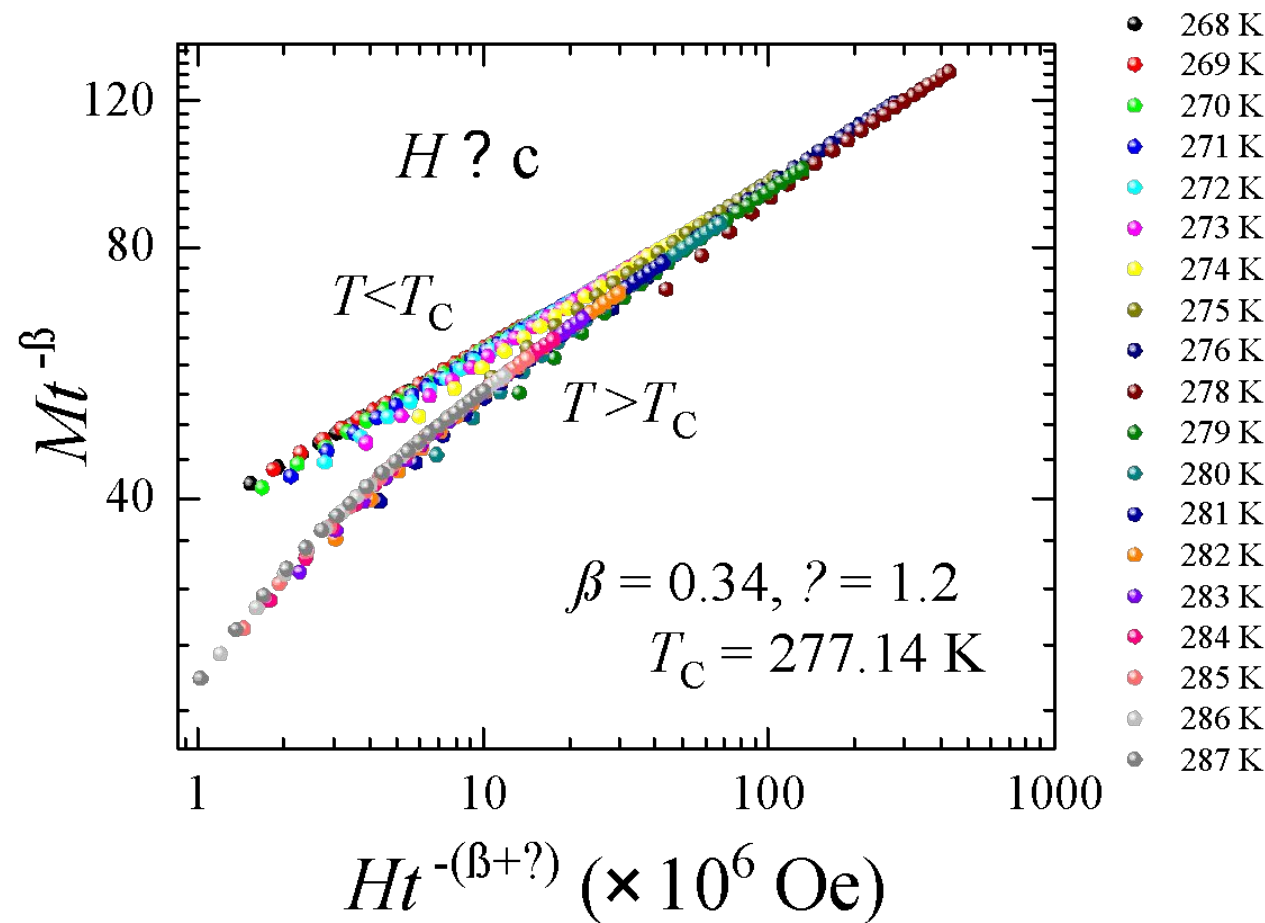
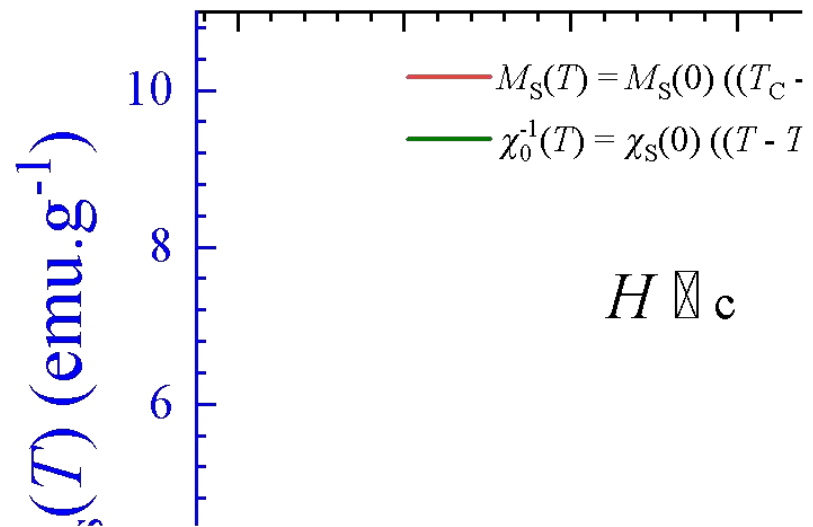
## Brief Introduction to $\text{Fe}_4\text{GeTe}_2$ (F4GT)



- F4GT is a metallic vdW ferromagnet with a rhombohedral structure
- Has a nearly room temperature transition from para to ferromagnet

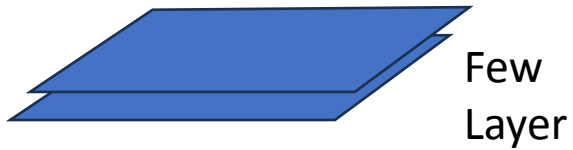
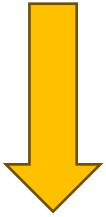
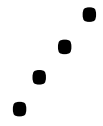
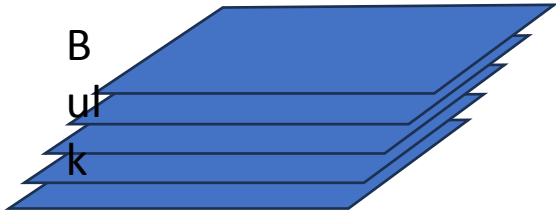
# Scaling Analyses on bulk $\text{Fe}_4\text{GeTe}_2$





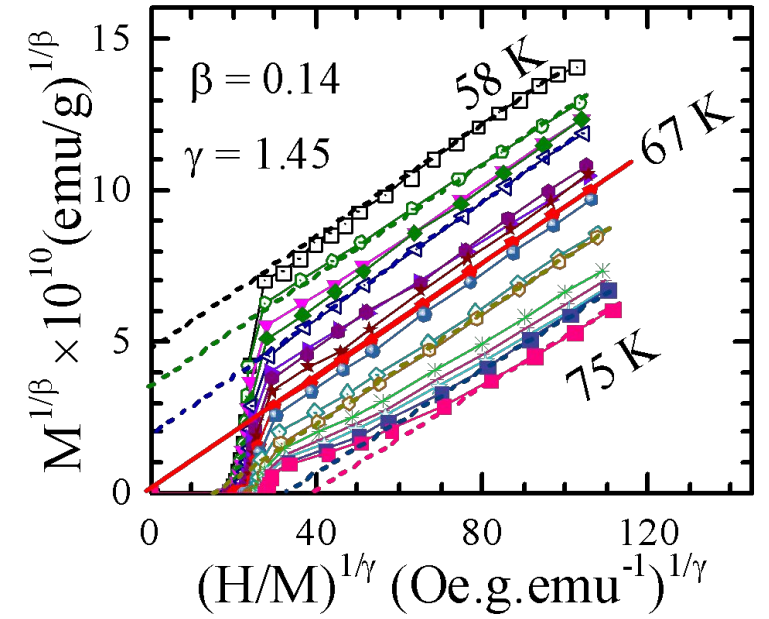
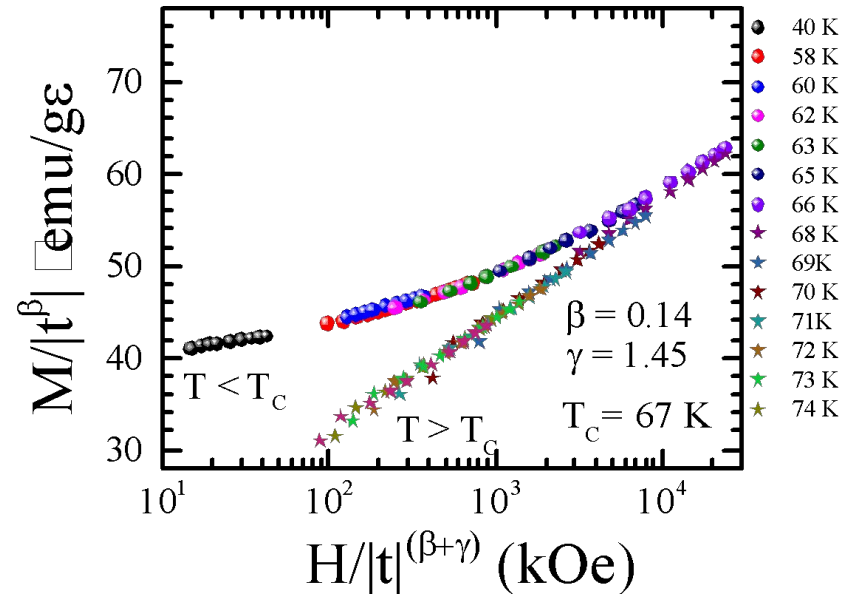
3D Heisenberg system

**Our Analysis confirms  
2D Ising universality class  
For bulk CGT**

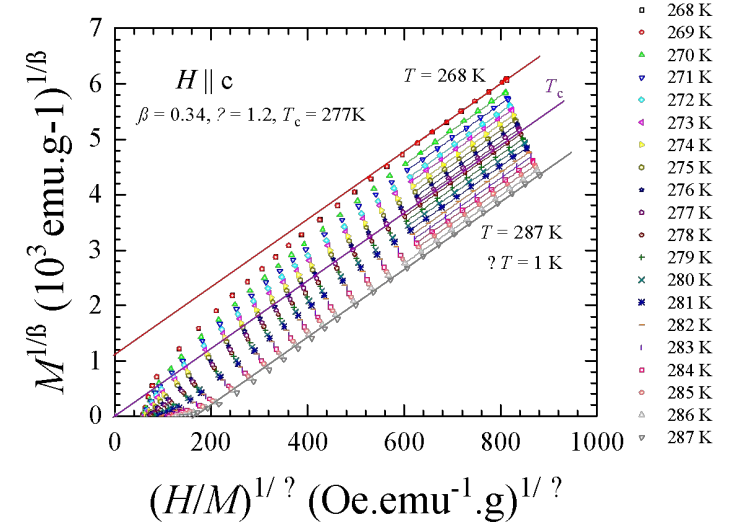
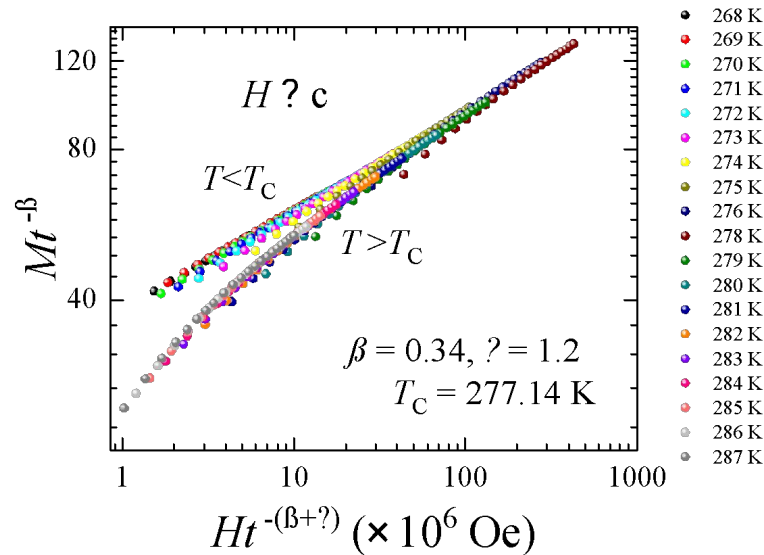


**No critical scaling  
Studies on low dimensional  
CGT**

**Critical scaling study in bulk CGT: 2D Ising Universality Class**

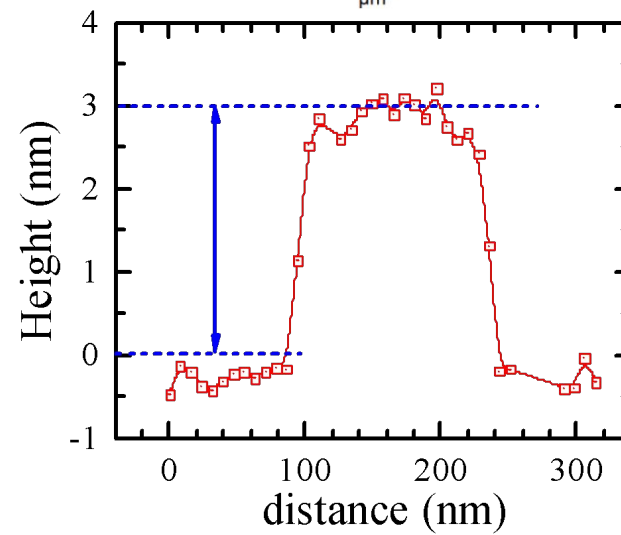
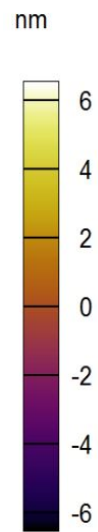
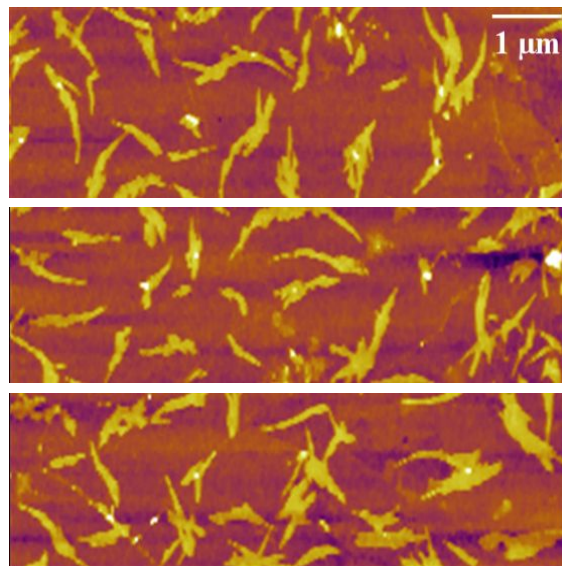
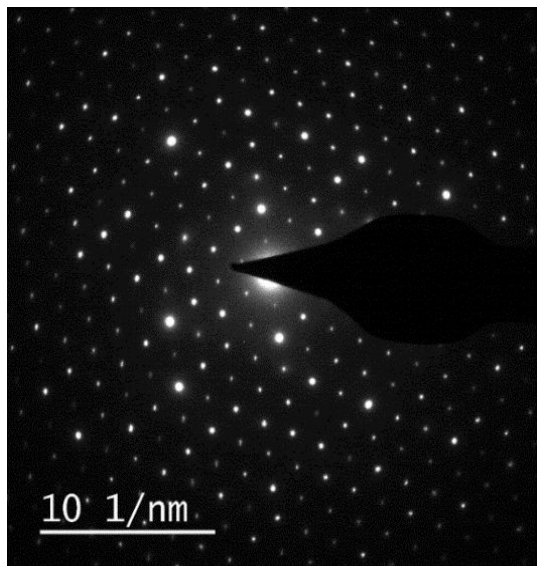
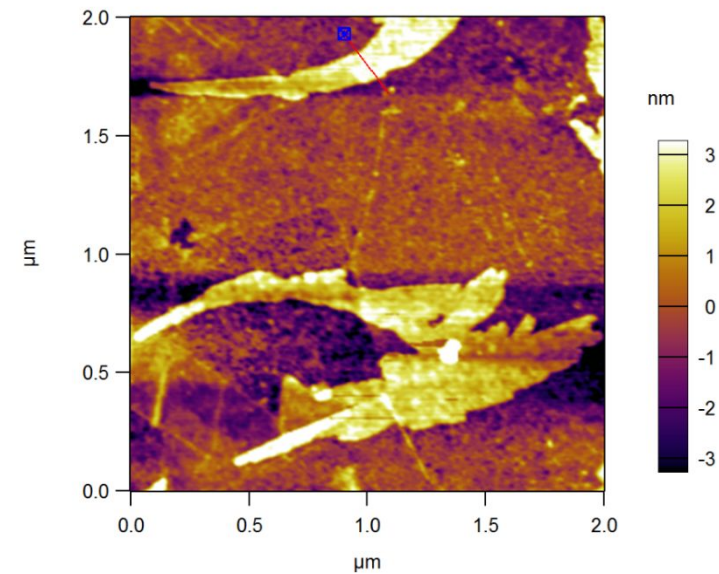
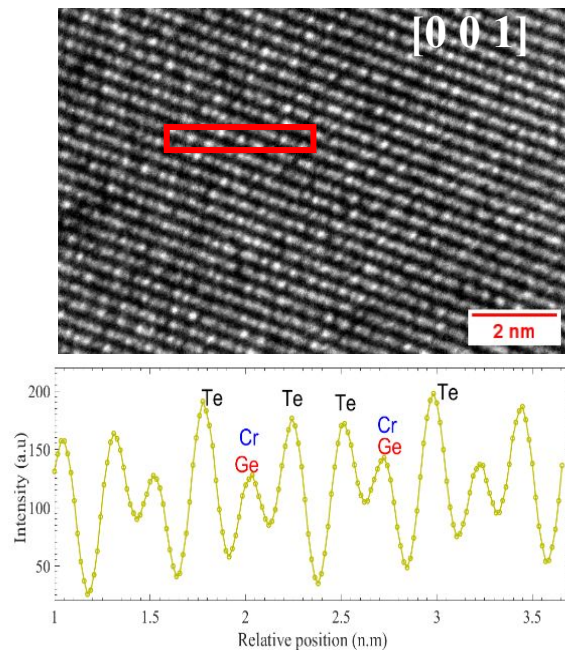
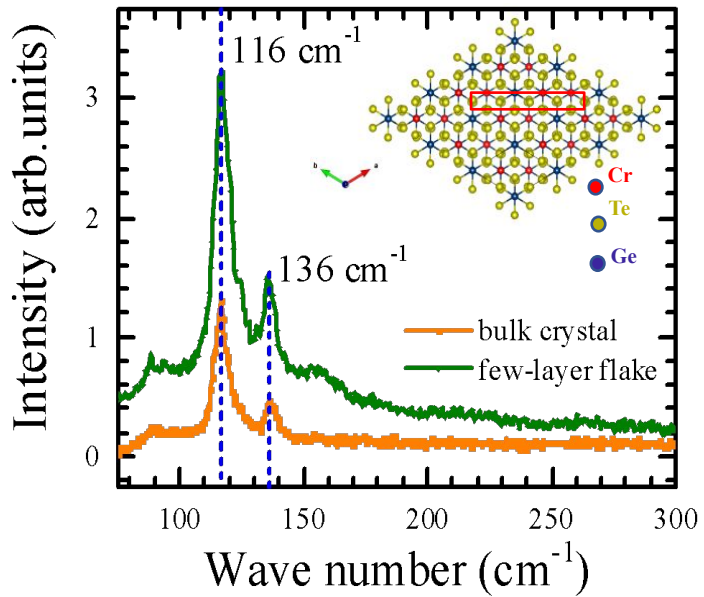


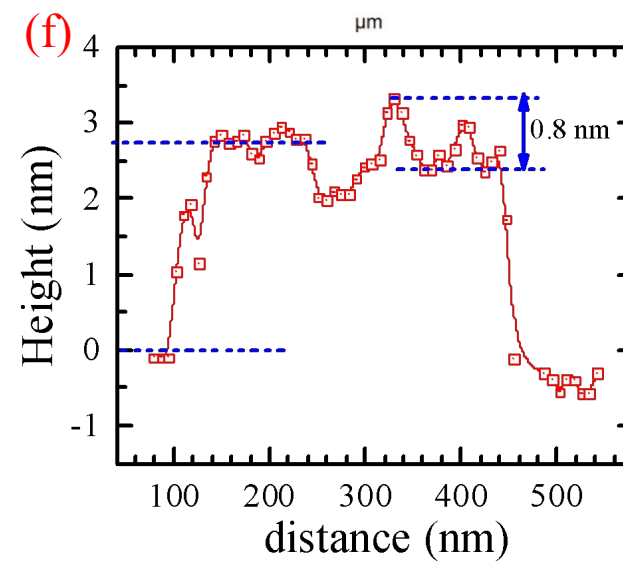
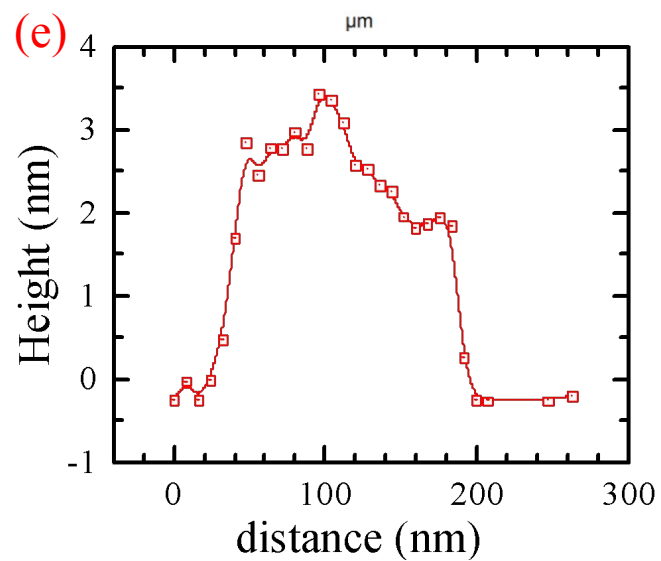
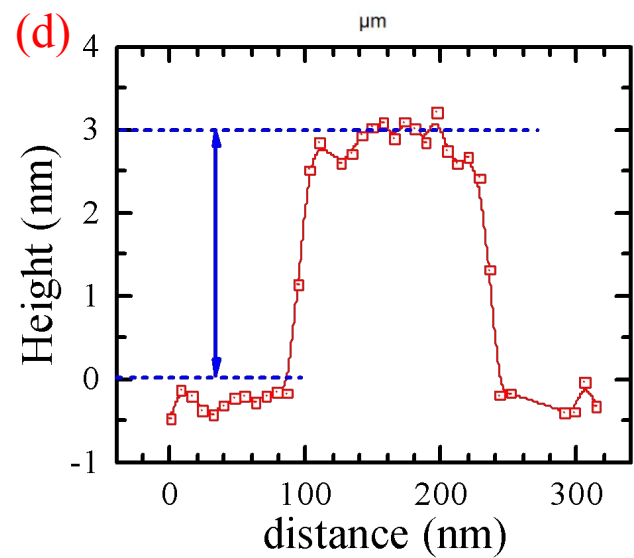
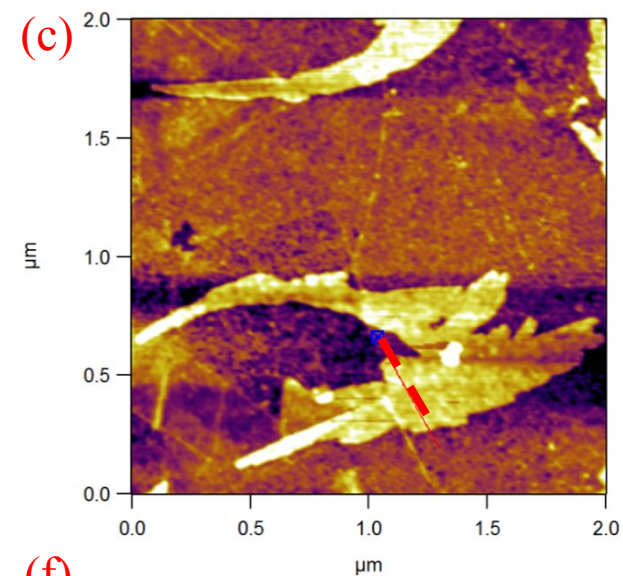
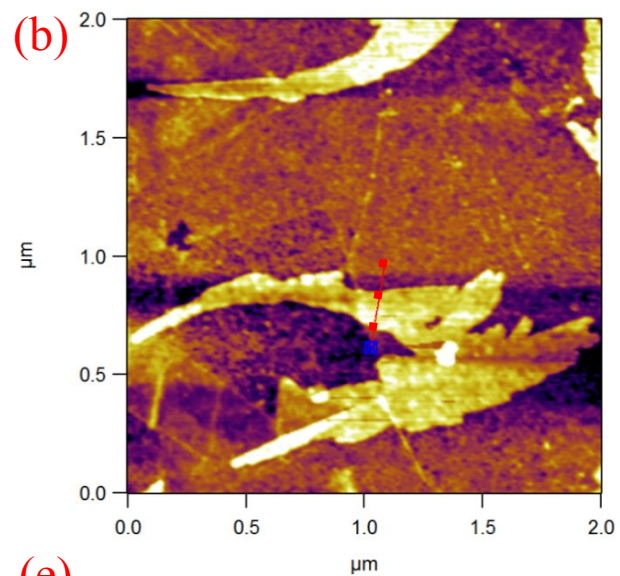
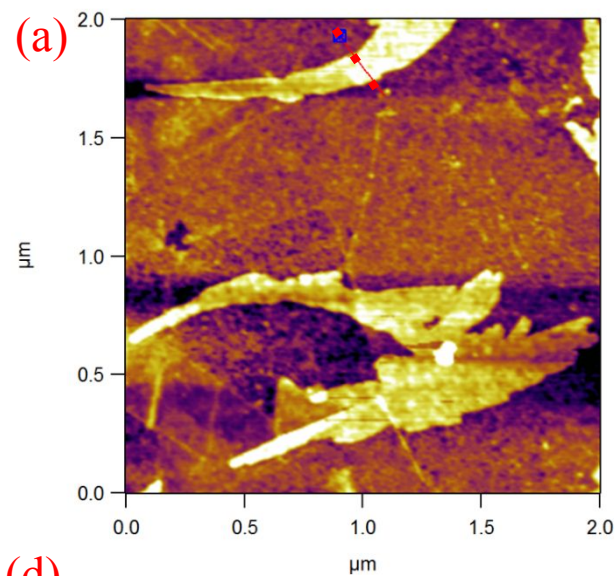
**Critical scaling study in bulk F4GT: 3D Heisenberg Universality**



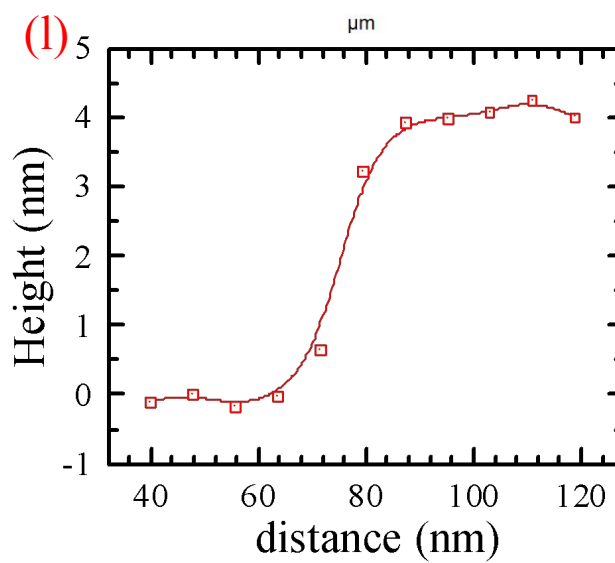
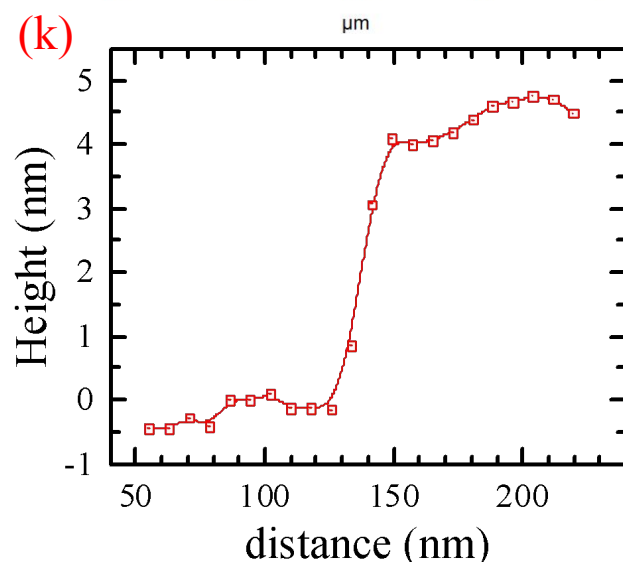
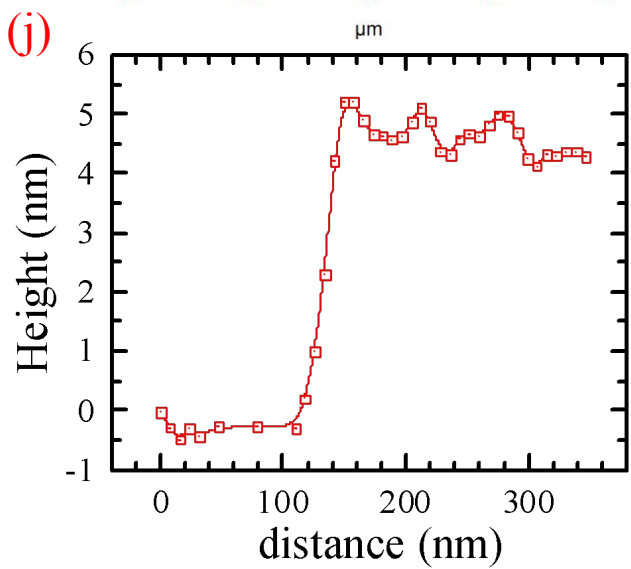
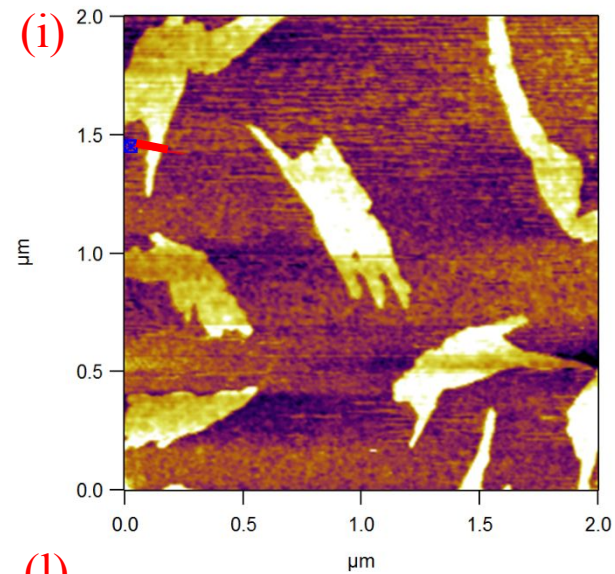
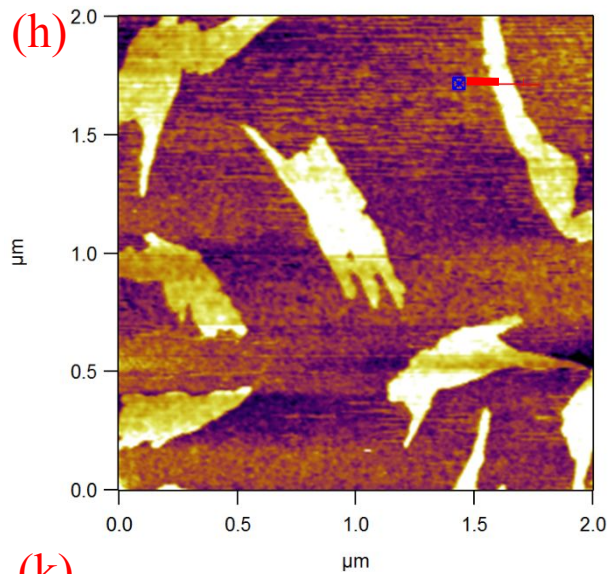
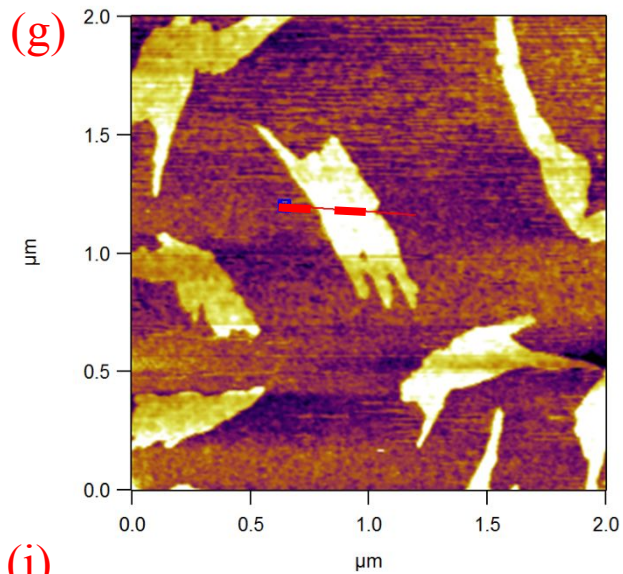


# Few layer thick CGT on HBN

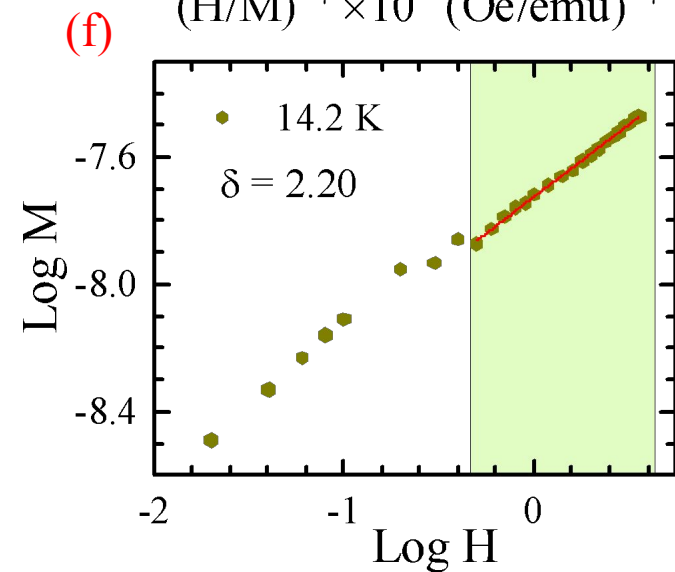
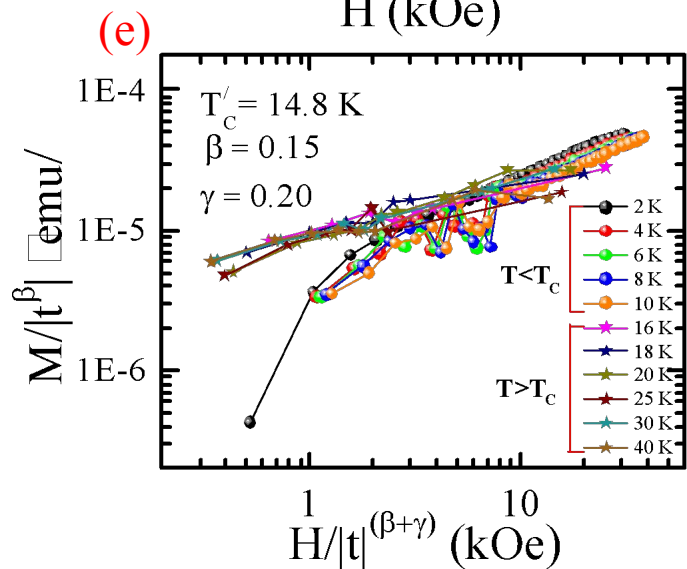
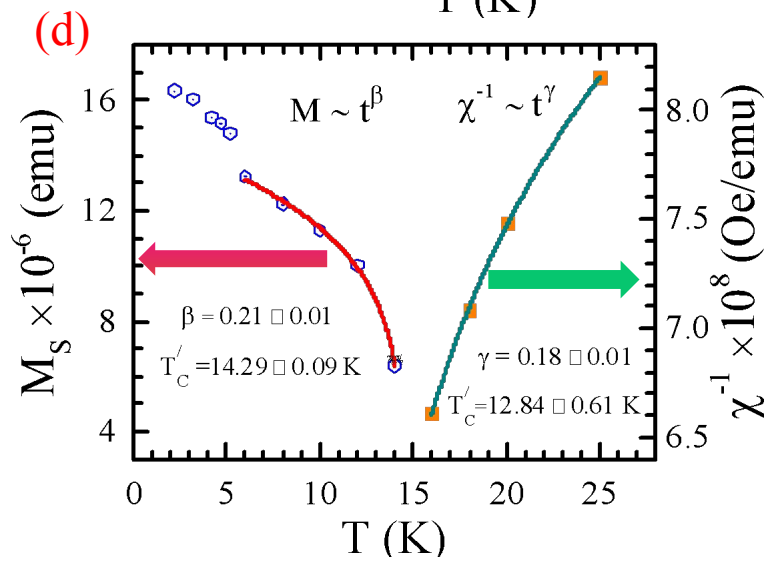
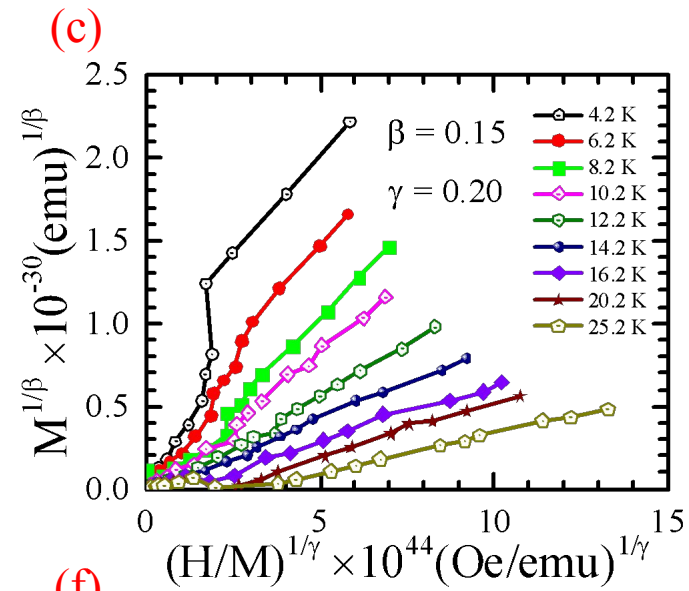
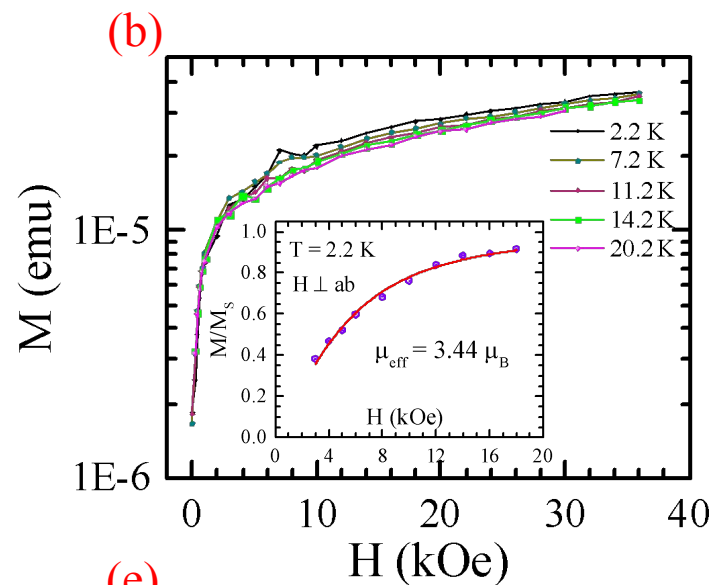
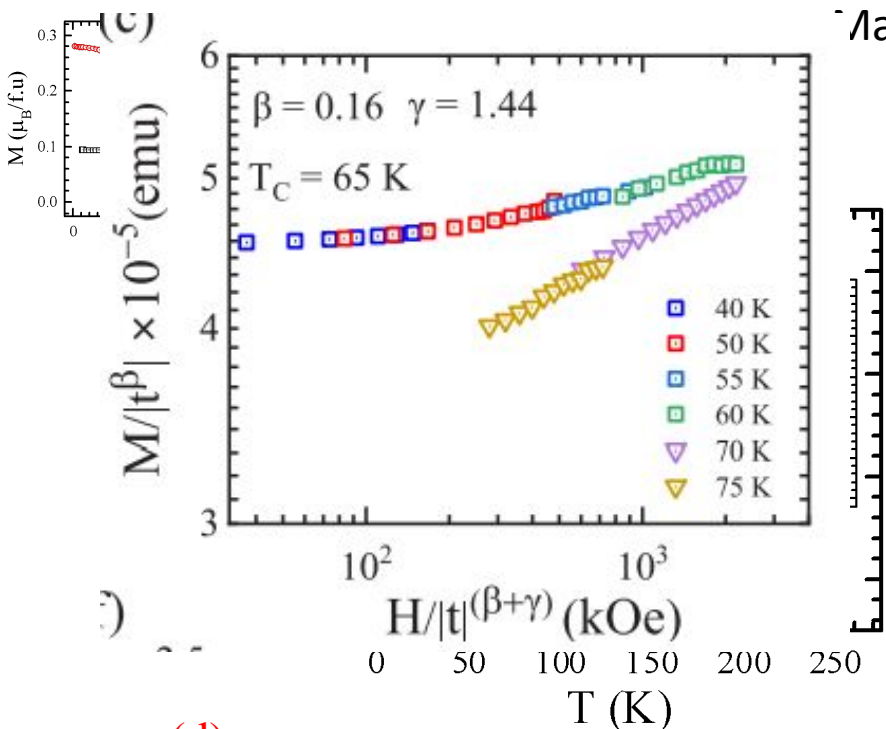








# Magnetization Scaling in 2 – 3 nm thick flakes of CGT



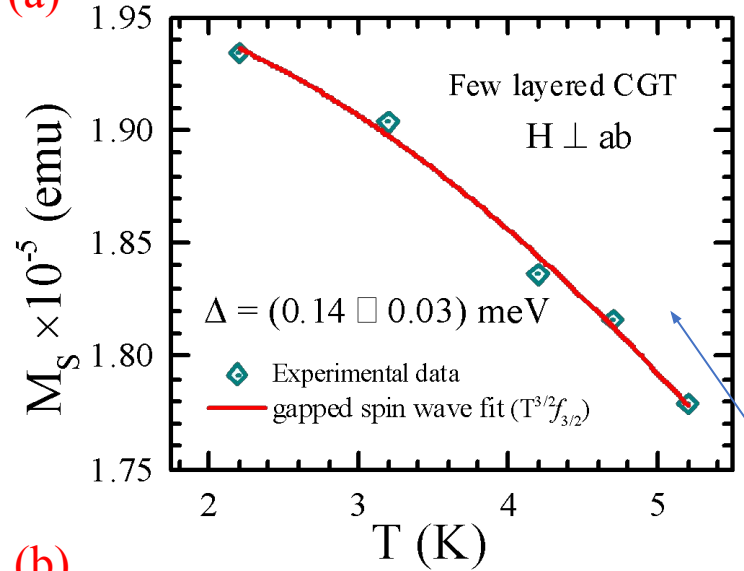
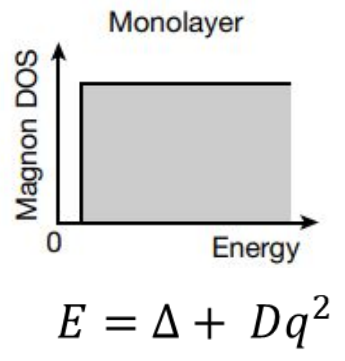
# Universality Class for bulk and few layer CGT

Sample	$\mu_{eff}$	$\beta$	$\beta$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$\gamma$	$\gamma$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$\delta$	$\delta$ (refs. <sup>33, 34</sup> )	$T_c$	$T'_c$
<b>CGT bulk crystal</b>	$3.18\mu_B$ per Cr	0.14 (Fig.2(b)) 0.12 (Fig.2(d))	<b>2d-Ising</b> 0.17 to 0.2	1.45 (Fig.2(b)) 1.21 (Fig.2(d))	<b>2d-Ising</b> 1.75 to 1.28	11.37 (Fig. S7(a)) 11.35 (Widom)	<b>2d-Ising</b> 10.87 to 7.96	64.28K (Fig.2(a)) 63.68K - 66.59 K (Fig.2(d)) 67 K (Fig.2(b), (c))	--
<b>CGT flake ensemble</b>	$3.44\mu_B$ per Cr	0.15 (Fig.3(c)) 0.21 (Fig.3(d))	--	0.20 (Fig.3(c)) 0.18 (Fig.3(d))	--	2.20 (Fig.3(f)) 2.33 (Widom)	--	66.42 K (Fig.3(a))	14.29 K - 12.84 K (Fig.3(d)) 14.80 K (Fig.3(e))



$E = Dq^2$ : Gapless Magnon excitation

(a)

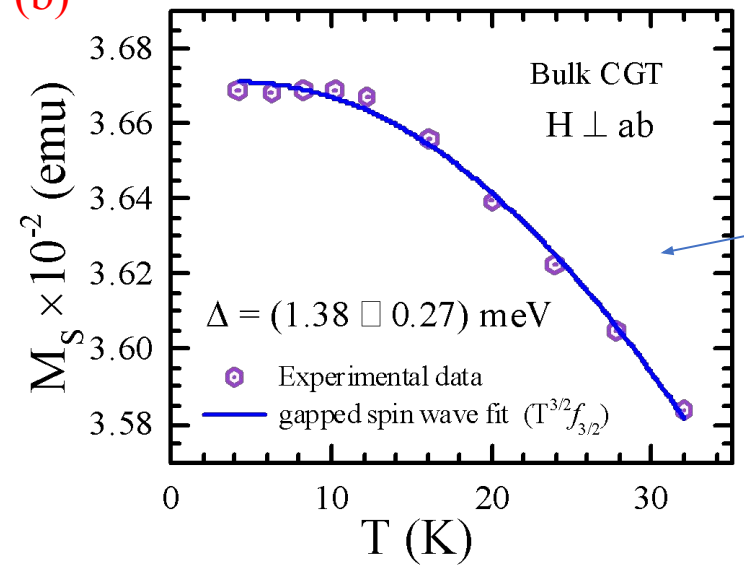
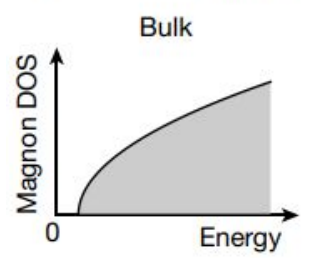


$$M(T, H) = M(0, H) - g\mu_B \left(\frac{k_B T}{4\pi D}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} f_{\frac{3}{2}}\left(\frac{\Delta'}{k_B T}\right)$$

$f_{\frac{3}{2}}(y)$  is the Bose-Einstein integral function

$\Delta' = (0.14 \pm 0.03)$  meV for **few-layered flake ensemble**

(b)



$\Delta = (1.38 \pm 0.27)$  meV for **bulk CGT**

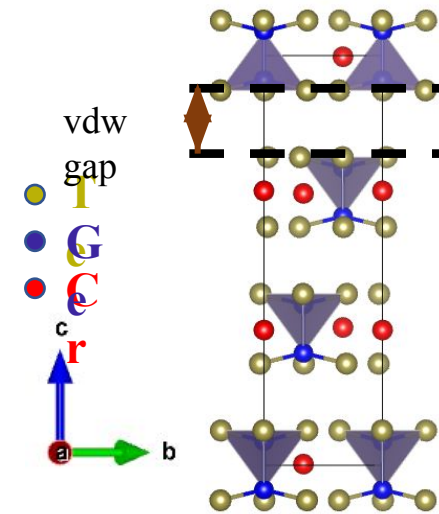
Clearly there is a change in anisotropy with lowering of Dimensionality of CGT.

# DFT Calculations

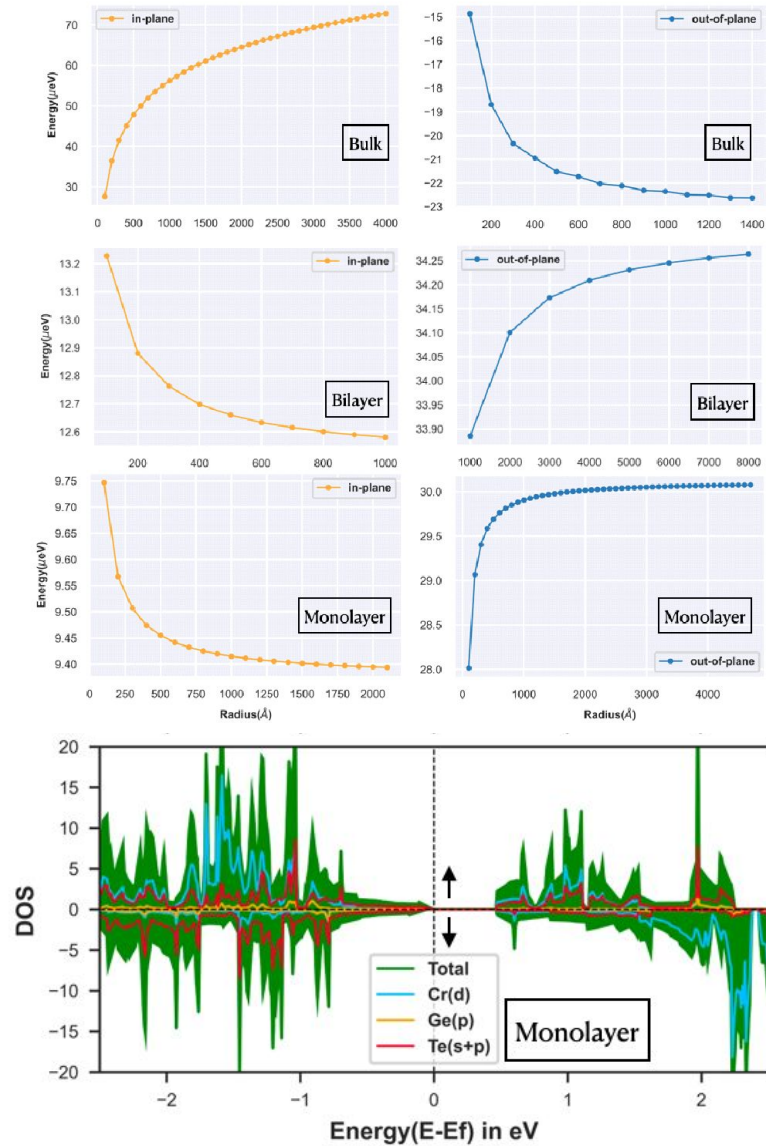
Prasenjit Sen  
(HRI, IISER Tirupati)  
& Sourav Mal)

## Structural Distortions with reducing Dimensionality

System	a(Å)	b(Å)	Cr-Cr(Å)	Cr-Te(Å)	Te-Te(Å)	$\angle$ Cr-Te-Cr
Bulk	6.892	6.892	3.98	2.78	3.765 $\pm 0.035$	91.29°
Bilayer	6.882	6.882	3.97	2.78	3.755 $\pm$ 0.015	90.96° $\pm 0.12^\circ$
Monolayer	6.875 0.02A	6.875	3.97	2.79	3.75	90.72°



System	MAE (meV/f.u.)	DAE (meV/f.u.)	$\epsilon_{ani}$ (meV/f.u.)
Bulk	0.3	0.095	0.395
Bilayer	0.143	-0.022	0.121
Monolayer	0.066	-0.021	0.045



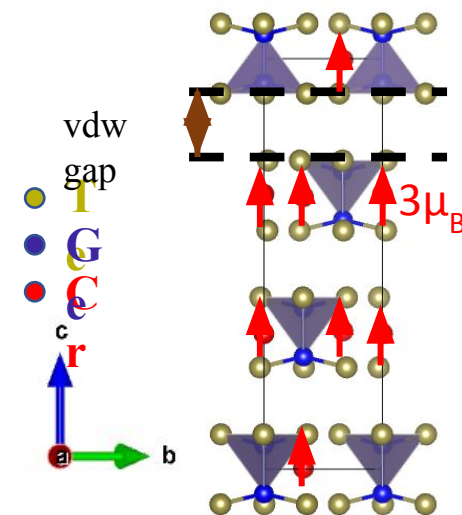
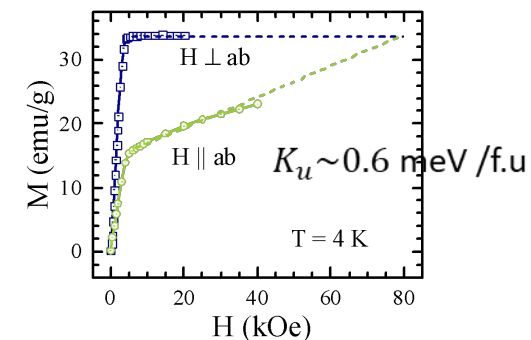
$$U = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r^3} [\vec{m}_1 \cdot \vec{m}_2 - 3(\vec{m}_1 \cdot \hat{r})(\vec{m}_2 \cdot \hat{r})]$$

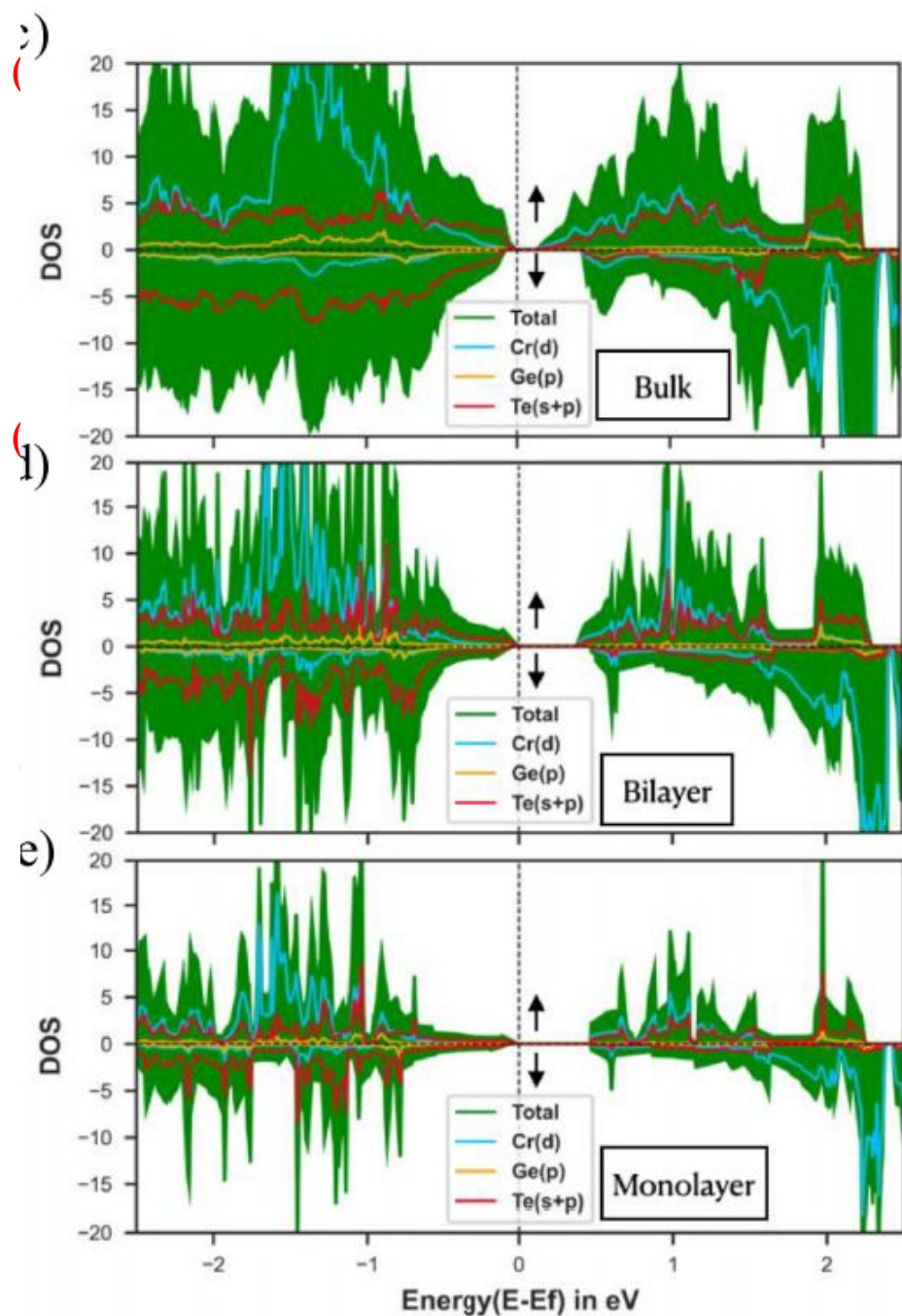
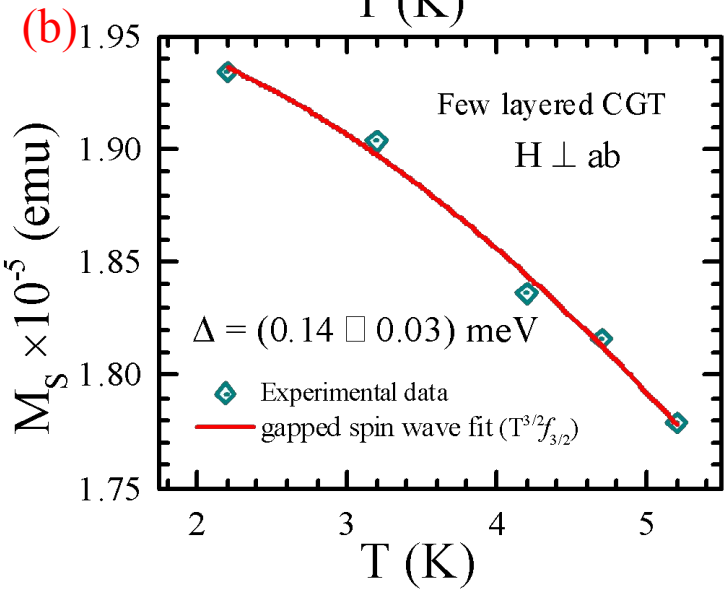
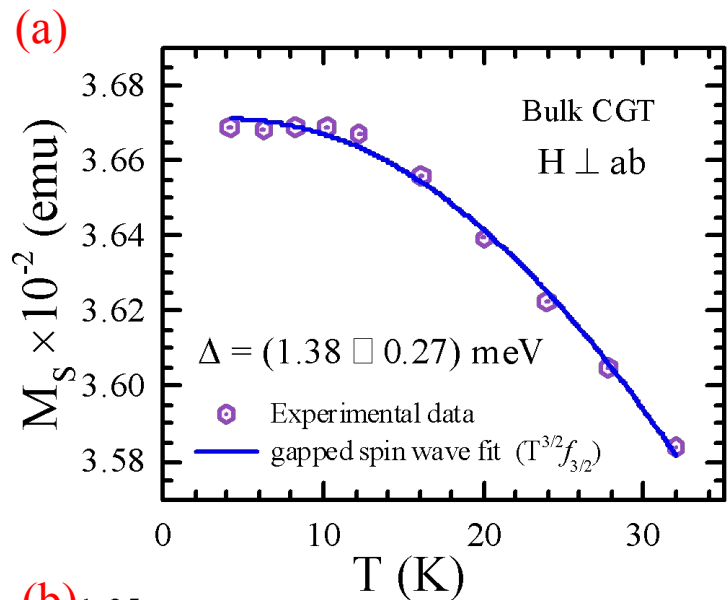
$$\text{MAE} = [(E_{n_2, \text{up}} + E_{n_2, \text{dn}}) - (E_{n_1, \text{up}} + E_{n_1, \text{dn}})]$$

Where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are the easy and hard direction of magnetization.

Incorporates SOC

$$\text{DAE} = (\text{OOP, U}) - (\text{IP, U})$$

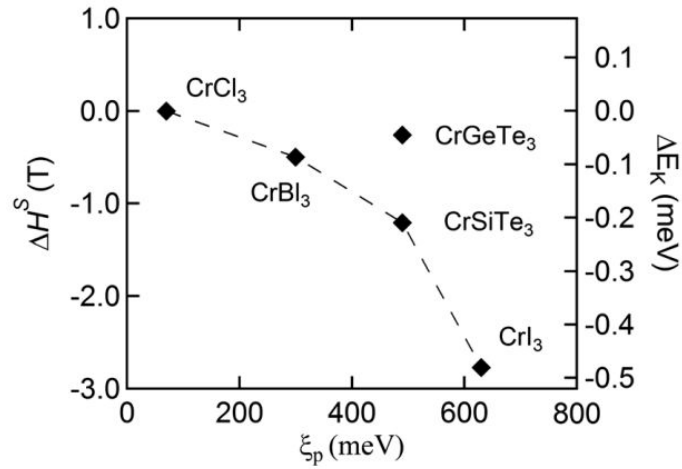
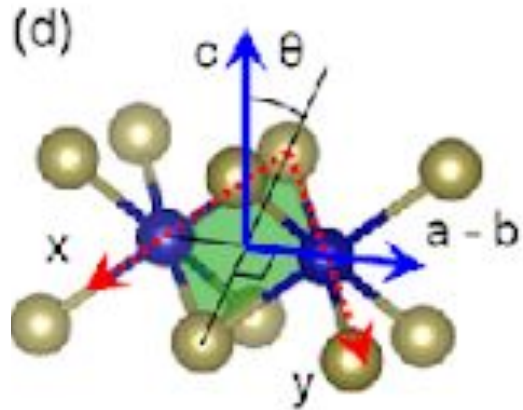
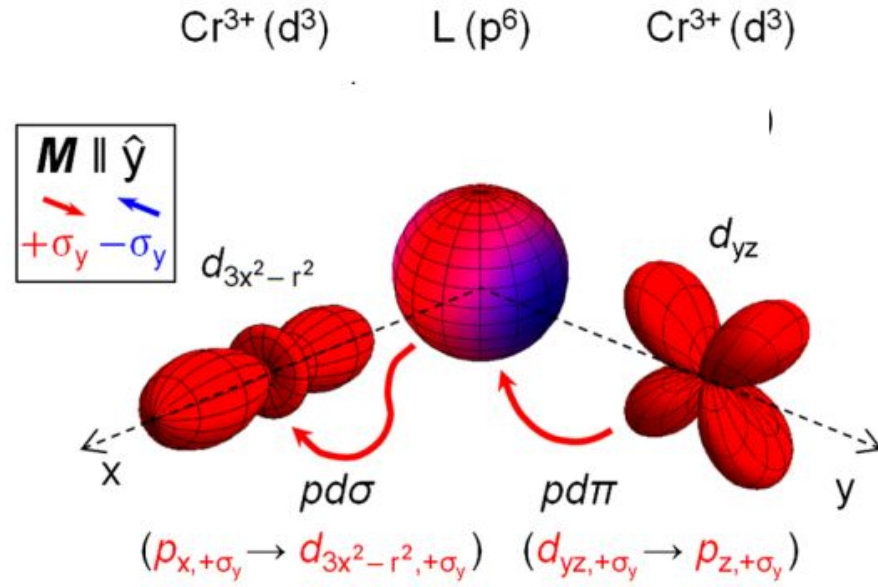




A drop in contribution of Te  
To the DOS at  $E_f$ ,  
Results in drop in Anisotropy Gap



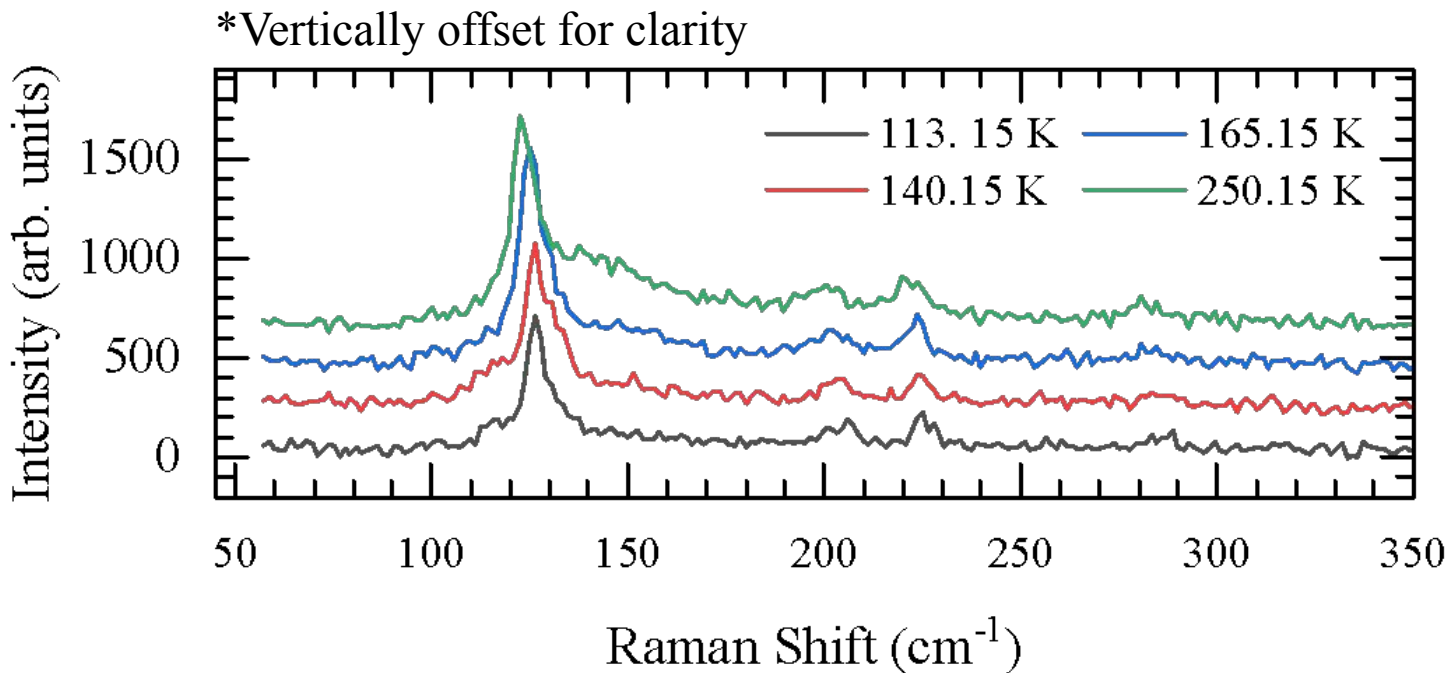
Another competing effect  
 Is the structural distortions  
 Affect the Hopping in  
 Xy plane and  
 Thereby affect anisotropy  
 Even further.



System	a(Å)	b(Å)	Cr-Cr(Å)	Cr-Te(Å)	Te-Te(Å)	∠Cr-Te-Cr
Bulk	6.892	6.892	3.98	2.78	3.765 ± 0.035	91.29°
Bilayer	6.882	6.882	3.97	2.78	3.755 ± 0.015	90.96° ± 0.12°
Monolayer	6.875	6.875	3.97	2.79	3.75	90.72°

0.0  
 2A

# Studying magnetoelastic coupling from T-dependent Raman spectroscopy in surface of CGT



The peaks show blue-shift with decreasing T.

The peak position (cm<sup>-1</sup>) vs T (K) were fit with Boltzman sigmoidal model which describes the anharmonic dependence of phonon frequency

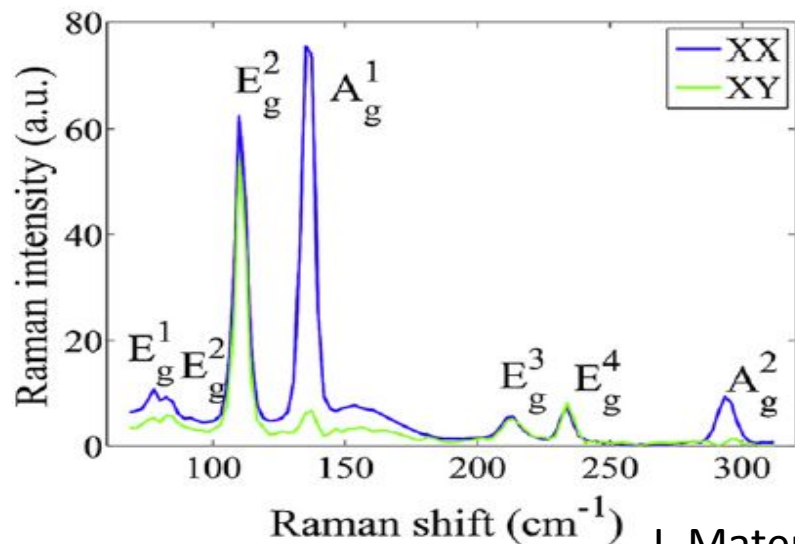
$$\omega(T) = \omega_1 + \frac{\omega_0 - \omega_1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{T - T_0}{\Delta T}\right)}$$

$\omega_0$  = top (i.e. lowest T) freq.

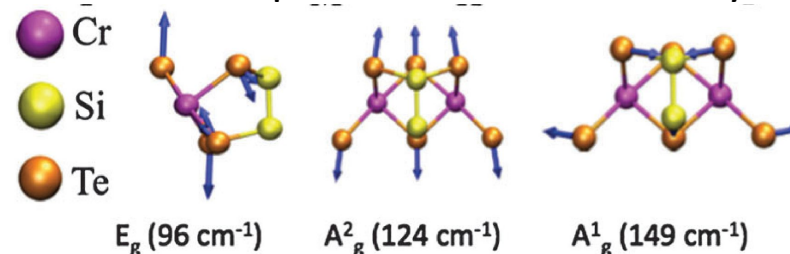
$\omega_1$  = bottom (i.e. highest T) freq.

$T_0$  = central temperature

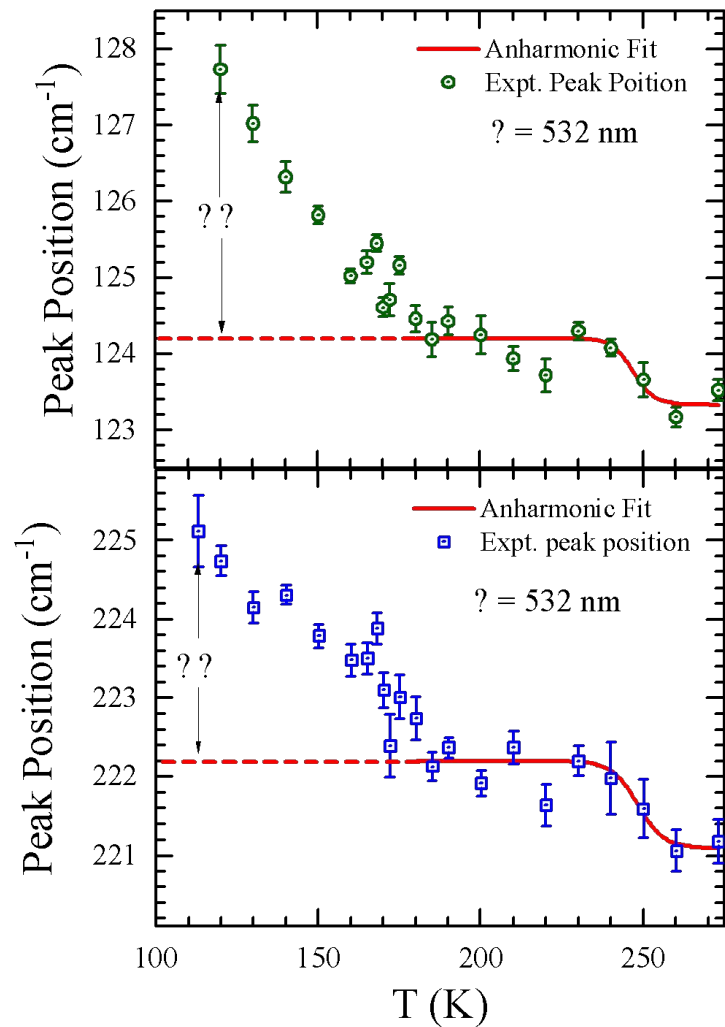
$\Delta T$  = width of the curve



P C Mahato et al. (MS under preparation)  
Approximate comparison with a related system Cr<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>6</sub>







The spin-phonon coupling strength  $\lambda$  represents how strongly the magnetic ordering influences the atomic vibrations of the non-magnetic sublattice via the superexchange pathway.

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial u^2}$$

$\mu$  is the reduced mass  
 $u$  = atomic displacement  
 $J$  = N.N exchange energy

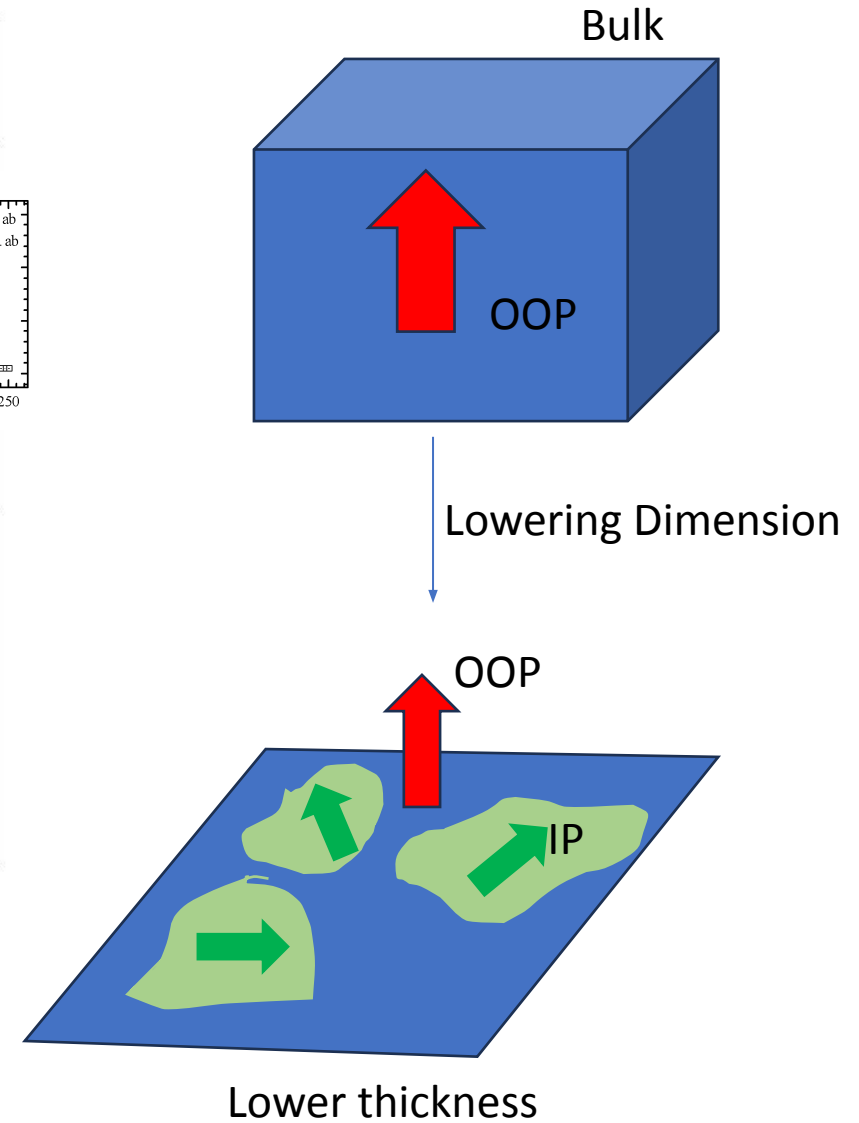
To extract the spin-phonon coupling parameter ( $\lambda$ ) we use,  $\omega \approx \omega_0 + \lambda' \langle \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j \rangle$

$$\lambda' = \frac{\Delta\omega}{\langle \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j \rangle} \quad (\Delta\omega \text{ is the shift in wave number from the sigmoidal model (at the lowest T)})$$

$\lambda' = 1.09$  and  $1.28$  (assuming  $S = 3/2$ ) for the peak centered at  $122.8 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $221 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively

# Competing Inplane and Out of Plane Anisotropy

Sample	$\mu_{eff}$	$\beta$	$\beta$ (refs. <sup>33,34</sup> )	$\gamma$	$\gamma$ (refs. <sup>33,34</sup> )	$\delta$	$\delta$ (refs. <sup>33,34</sup> )	$T_c$	$T'_c$
CGT bulk crystal	$3.18\mu_B$ per Cr	0.14 (Fig.2(b))	<b>2d-Ising</b> 0.17 to 0.2	1.45 (Fig.2(b))	<b>2d-Ising</b> 1.75 to 1.28	11.37 (Fig. S7(a))	<b>2d-Ising</b> 10.87 to 7.96	64.28K (Fig.2(a)) 63.68K - 66.59 K (Fig.2(d)) 67 K (Fig.2(b), (c))	
		0.12 (Fig.2(d))		11.35 (Widom)		67 K (Fig.2(b), (c))			
CGT flake ensemble	$3.44\mu_B$ per Cr	0.15 (Fig.3(c))	--	0.20 (Fig.3(c))	--	2.20 (Fig.3(f))	2.33 (Widom)	14.29 K - 12.84 K (Fig.3(d)) 14.80 K (Fig.3(e))	
		0.21 (Fig.3(d))		14.80 K (Fig.3(e))					



$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{int,z} + \mathcal{H}'_{xy}$$

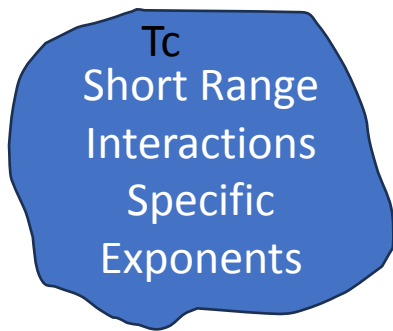
$$\mathcal{H}_{int,z} = -J_z \sum s_z^i s_z^j + K \rightarrow$$

Dominates in bulk, Critical Fluctuations along the z - direction  
Promotes OOP Anisotropy  
2d Ising Universality Class

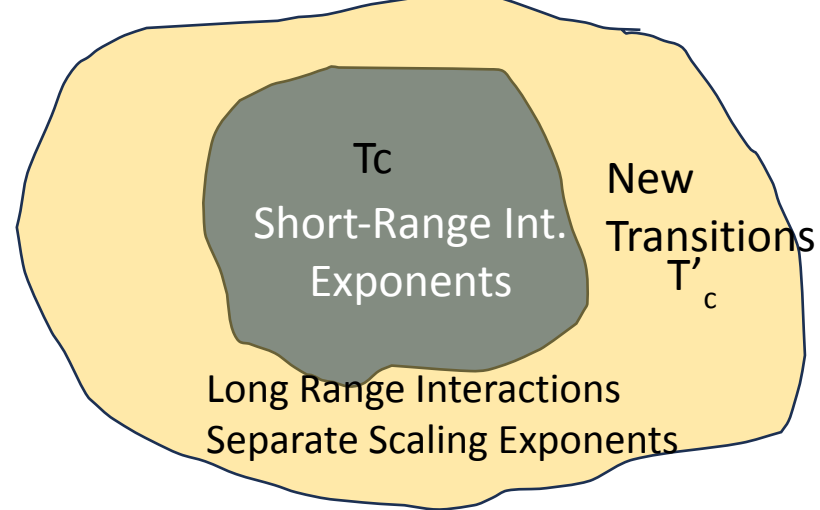
$$H'_{xy} = -J'_d \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \left[ s_x^i s_x^j + s_y^i s_y^j \right] + H_{dip}$$

Lowering thickness,  $J'_d$  (Hopping) w.r.t  $J_z \downarrow$ , critical fluctuations released along xy  
SOC + MAE decreases  
Inplane DAE becomes active Competition

# Critical Crossovers



Bulk (3d)



Lower Dimensionality

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 84, 054433 (2011)

## Crossover between a short-range and a long-range Ising model

Short range interaction between neighbouring Ising spins on a square lattice

$$\mathcal{H}_{IS} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i \sigma_j \rightarrow T_c \sim 2.267\dots$$

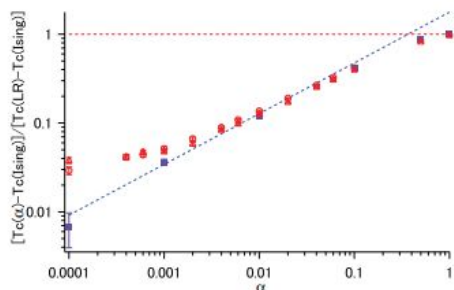
Long range interaction between any Ising spins

$$\mathcal{H}_{HT} = -\frac{4J_0}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_i \sigma_j \rightarrow T_c \sim 4J$$

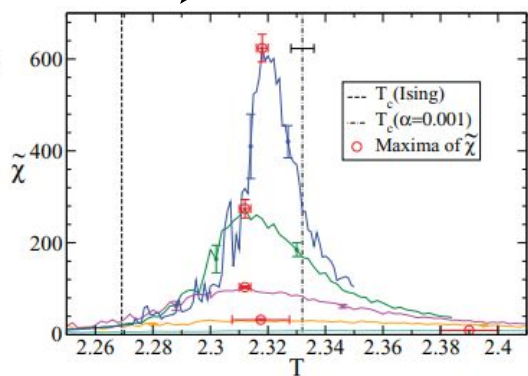
$$\mathcal{H} = (1 - \alpha)\mathcal{H}_{IS} + \alpha\mathcal{H}_{HT}, \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1. \quad (5)$$

Here,  $\alpha$  controls the relative strength of the long-range interaction.

The  $T_c$  shifts

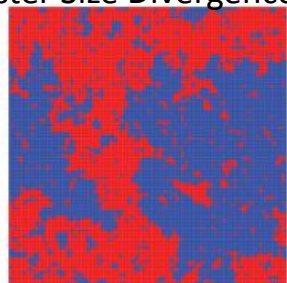


Susceptibility  
Still Diverges



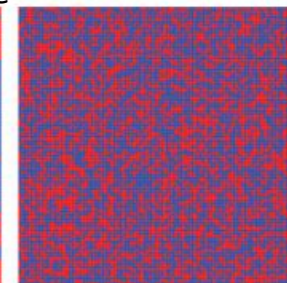
$$\frac{1}{N} (\langle M^2 \rangle - \langle M \rangle^2)$$

Pure shortrange:  
Cluster Size Divergence



(a)

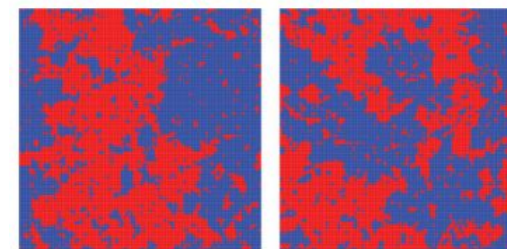
Pure Longrange:  
No cluster size Divergence



(b)

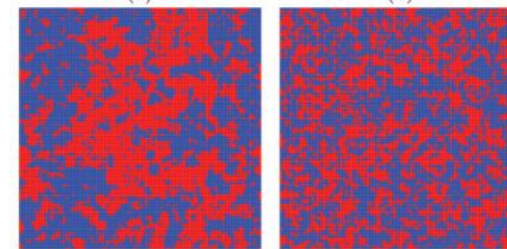
FIG. 5. (Color online) (a) Spin configurations for Ising model at  $T_c^{IS} = 2.269J$ ,  $L = 100$ ; (b) Husimi-Temperley model at  $T_c^{HT} = 4J_0$ .

Mixed Model



(a)

(b)



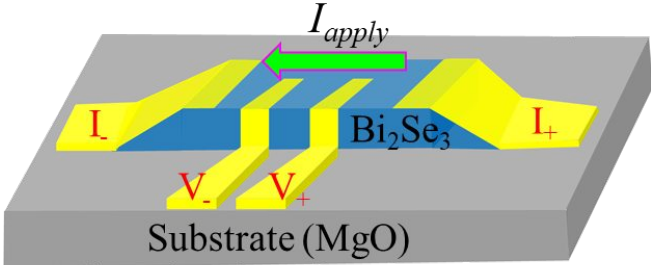
(c)

(d)

FIG. 7. (Color online) Typical configurations of the hybrid model at the critical temperature  $T_c(\alpha)$  for (a)  $\alpha = 0.0001$ , (b)  $\alpha = 0.001$ , (c)  $\alpha = 0.01$ , and (d)  $\alpha = 0.1$ .

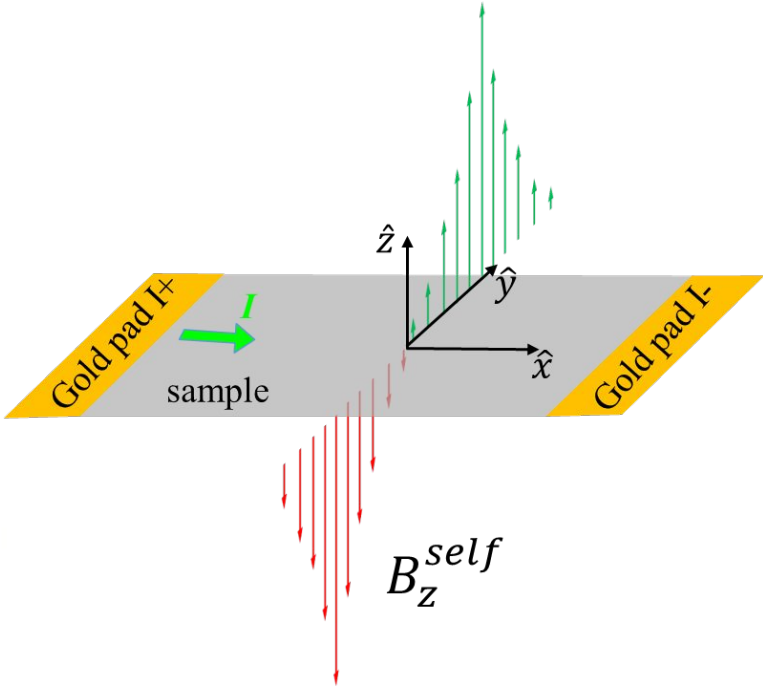
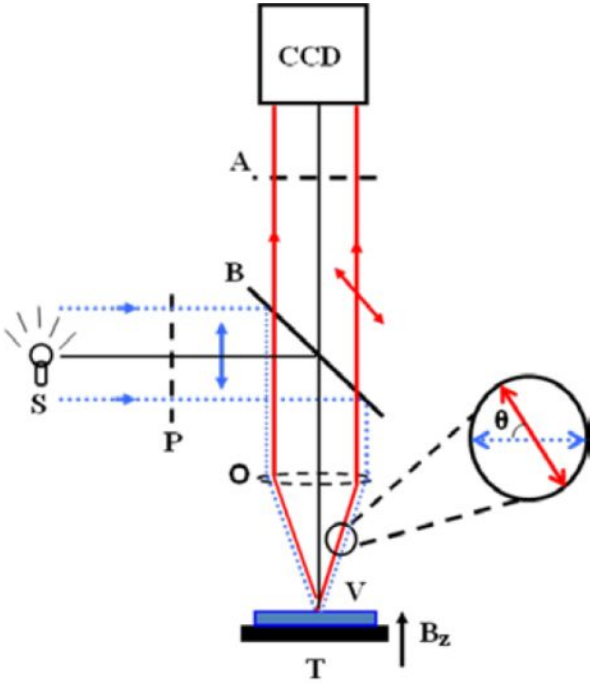
# Current imaging technique – A modified magneto-optical imaging technique

Self field imaging



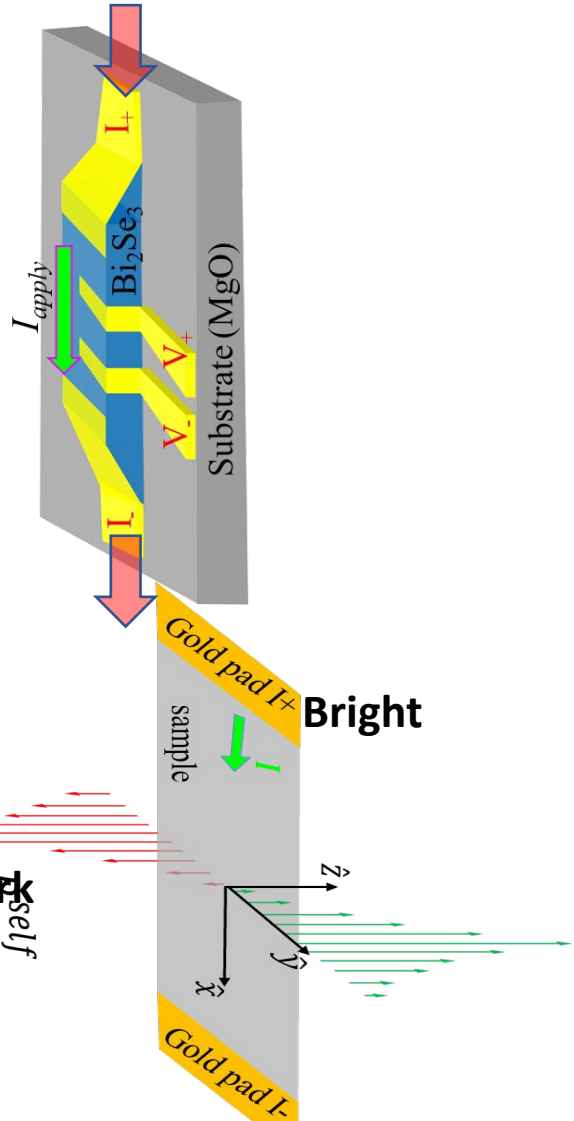
$$\text{Differential MOI} = I(+i) - I(-i)$$

Normal Faraday rotation

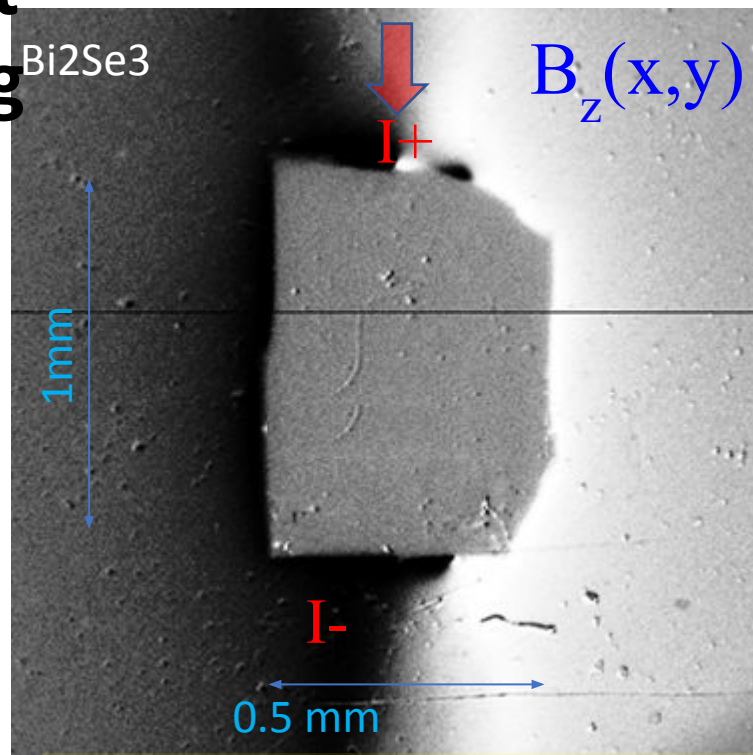




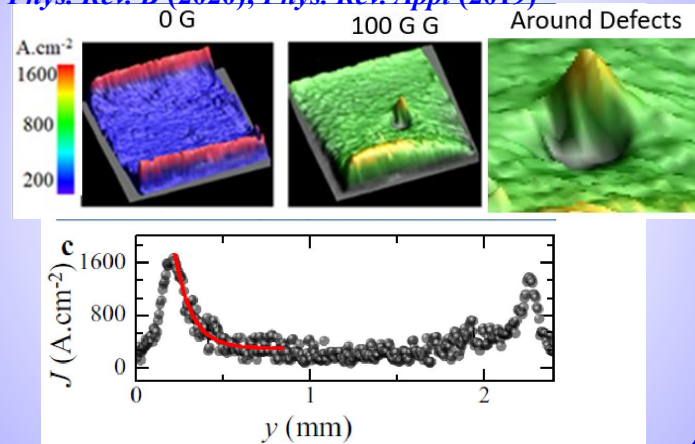
# Developed a Current distribution Imaging technique



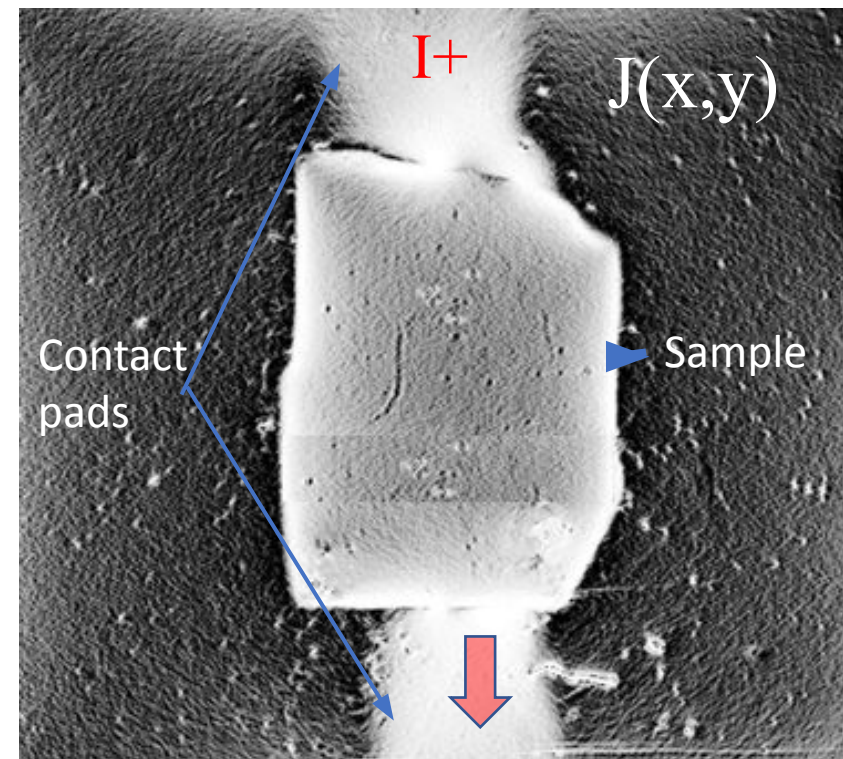
Field distribution image



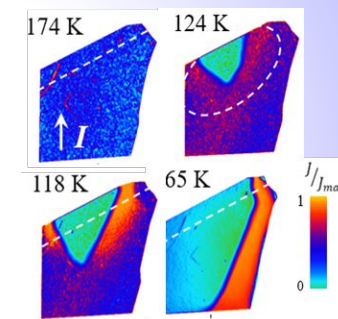
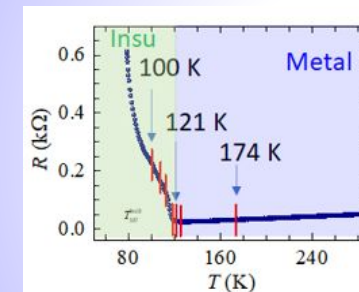
Imaging current distribution in a topological insulator  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Se}_3$ : A. Jash et. al. Sci. Rep. (2021) Phys. Rev. B (2020); Phys. Rev. Appl. (2019)



Current distribution image

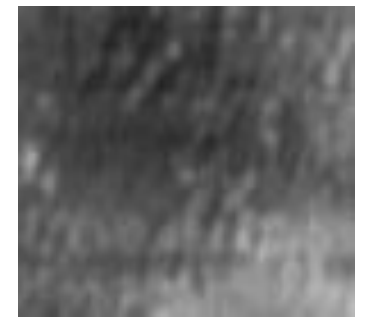
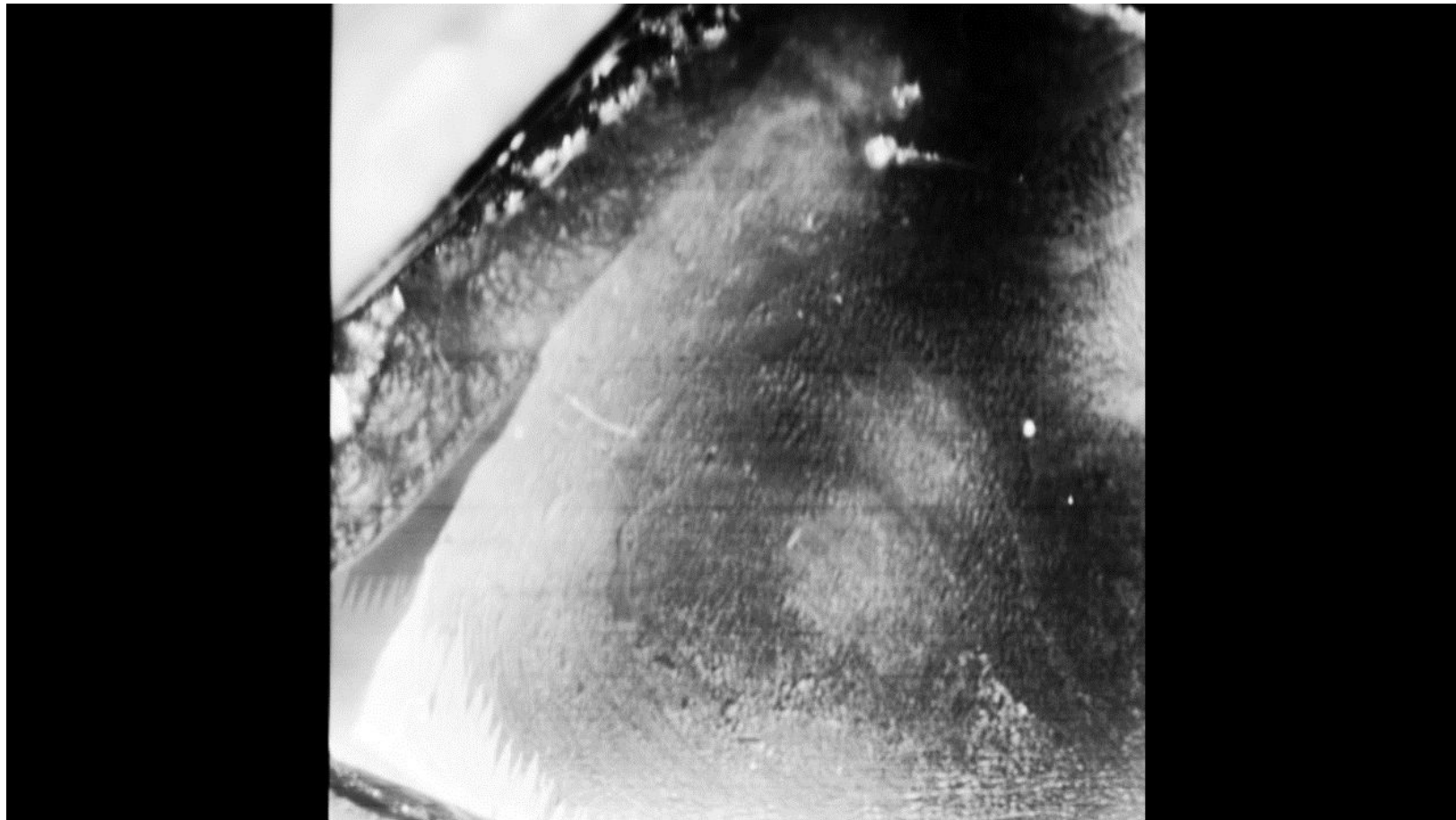


Imaging electric current across MIT in  $\text{NdNiO}_3$  films: N. Roy et. al. Phys. Rev. B (2022)



# Magneto-optical imaging in CGT

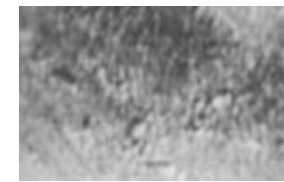
Fine graining at lower T



100 K



Visible  
> 62.8 K



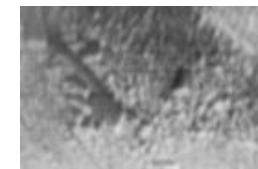
>55.85K



>57.84K



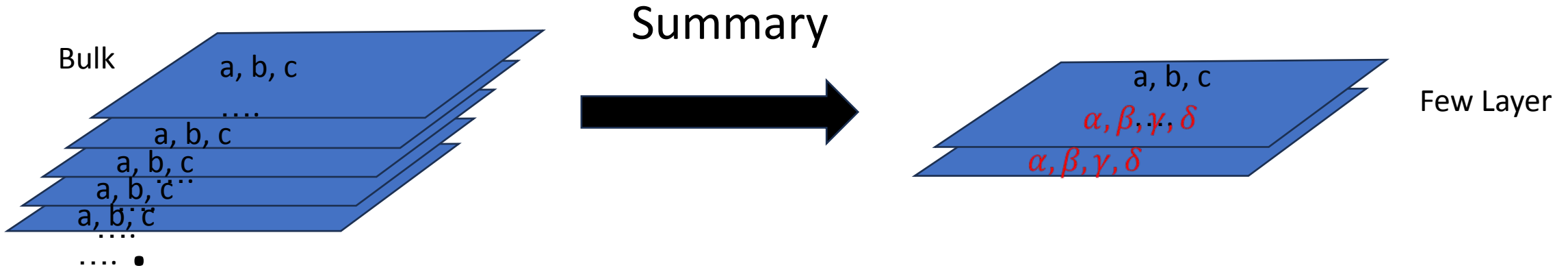
>58.84K



>59.84 K

PC Mahato (MS under  
Preparation, 2024)



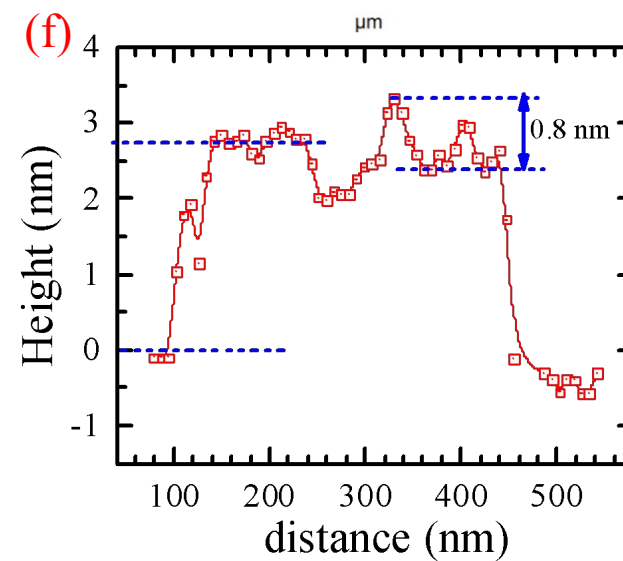
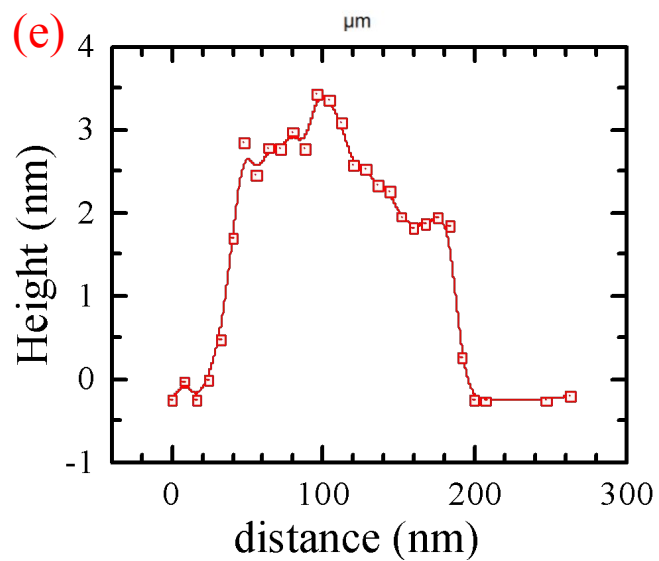
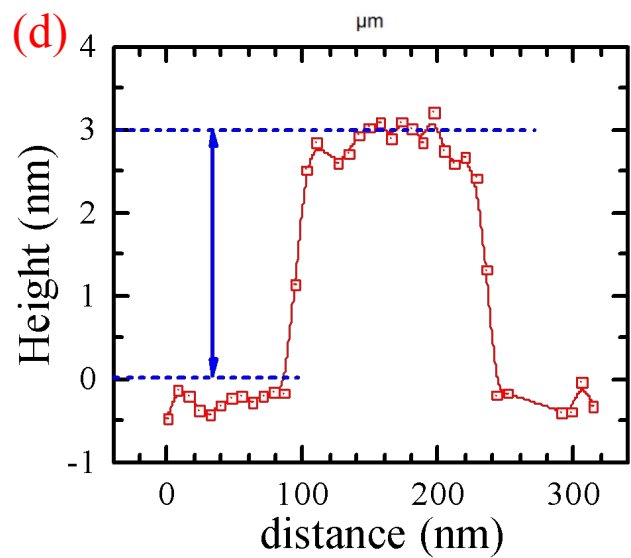
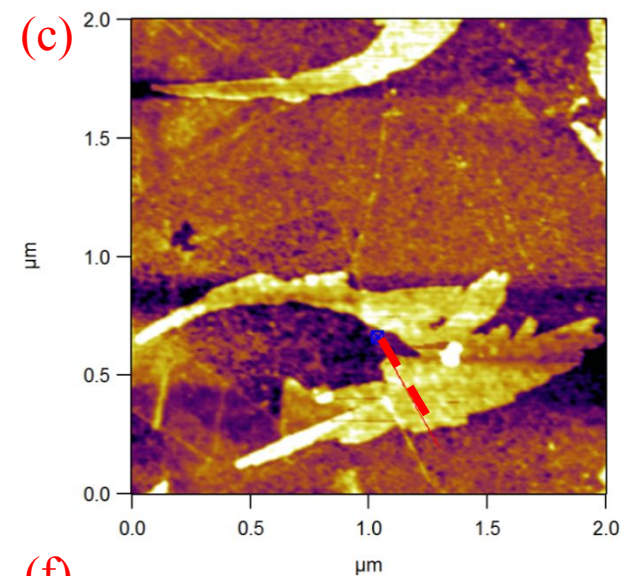
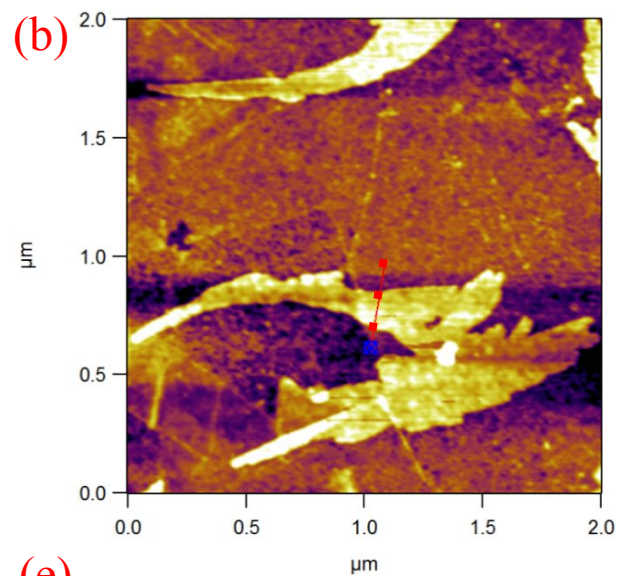
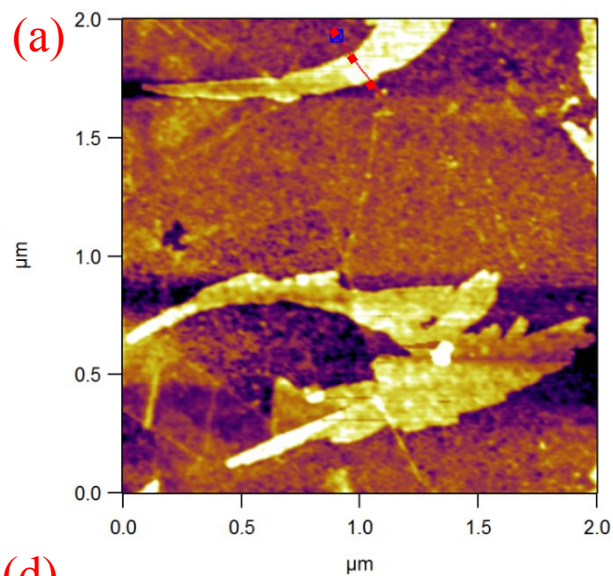


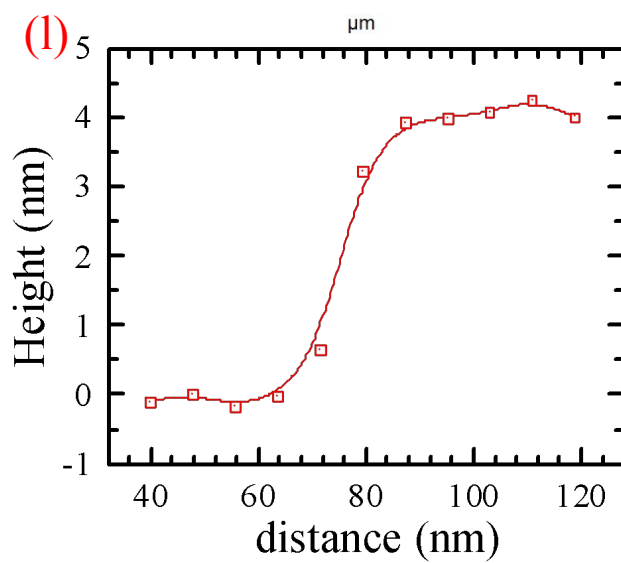
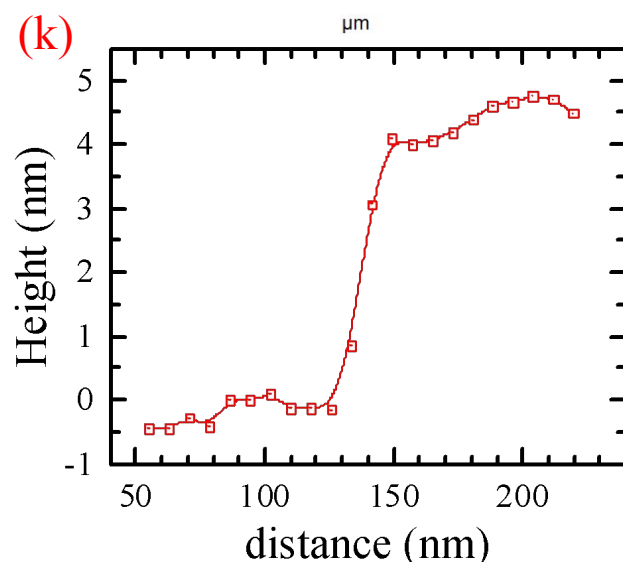
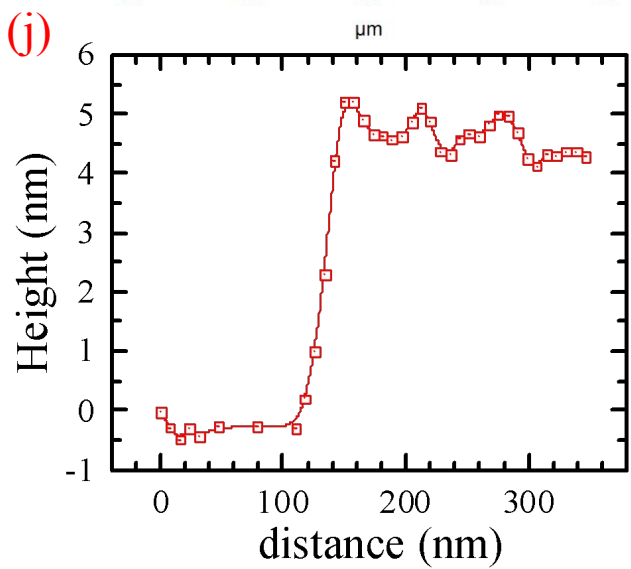
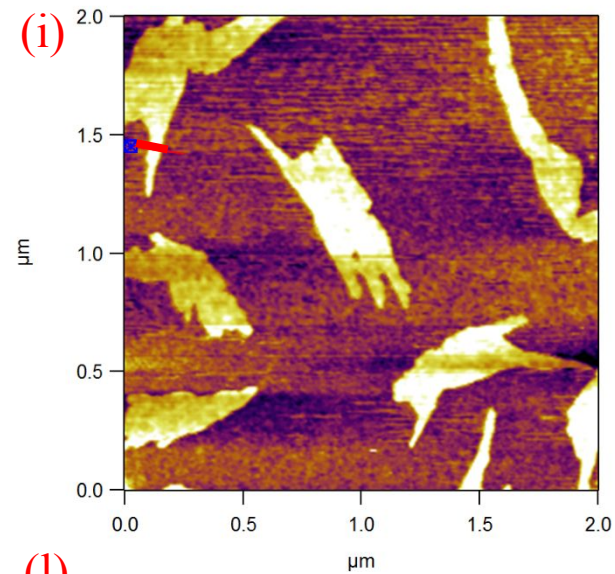
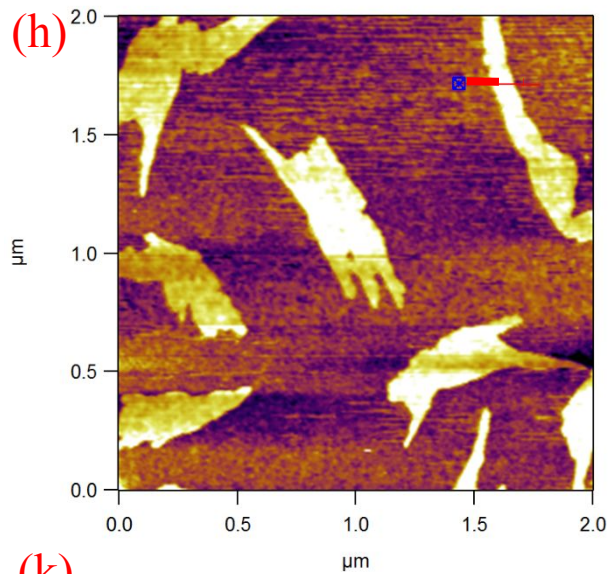
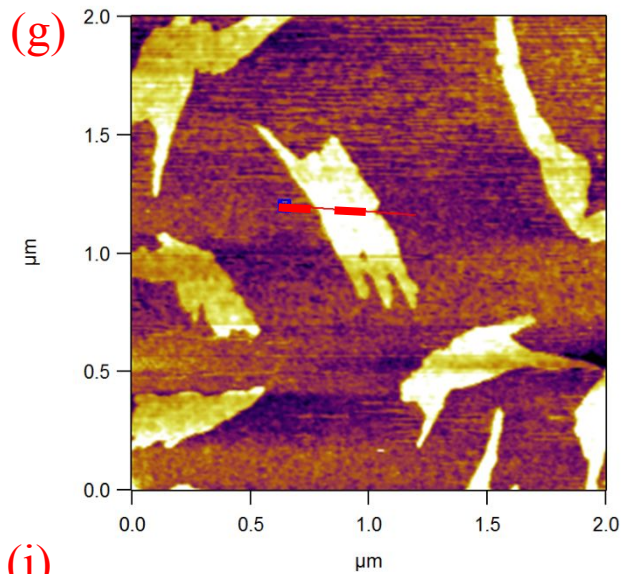
- Lowering of dimensionality in CGT is not simply cleaving the vdW layers
- The universality class is not preserved.
- Subtle changes in structure seem to trigger changes in SOC
- This leads to a competition between Magneto –crystalline anisotropy and Dipolar Anisotropy energy
- Effective magnetic anisotropy is weakened with lowering dimensionality of the vdW, a lower  $T_c$  emerges
- Lowered dimensionality there is a complex competition between shortrange interactions (exchange) and long range dipolar interaction
- Role of local fluctuations affecting magnetic order at longer length scales may become quite important
- Some of the Above maybe quite general features of magnetic vdW material

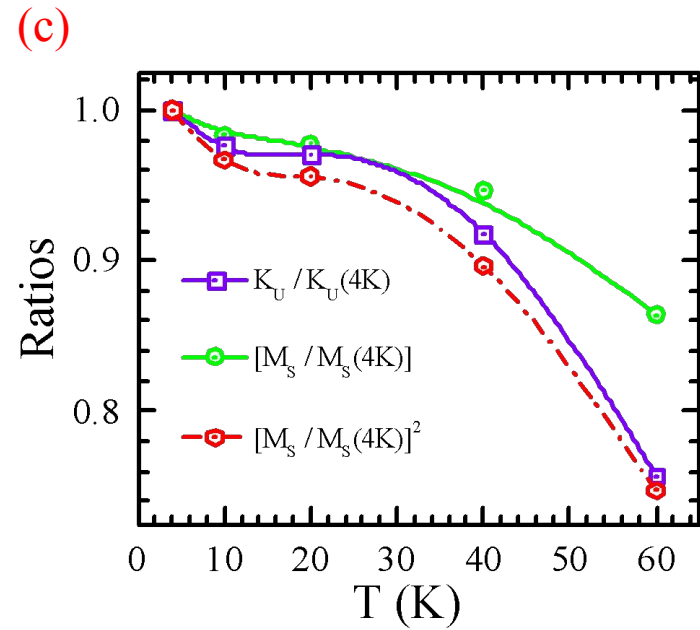
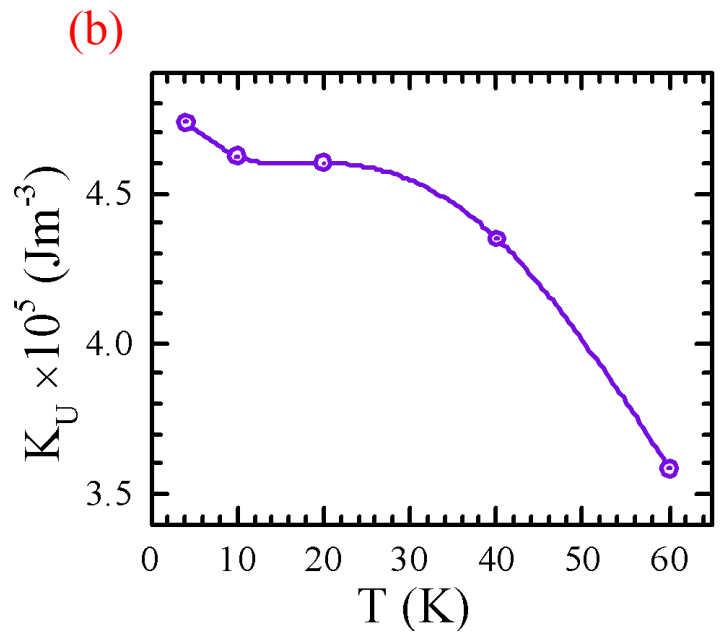
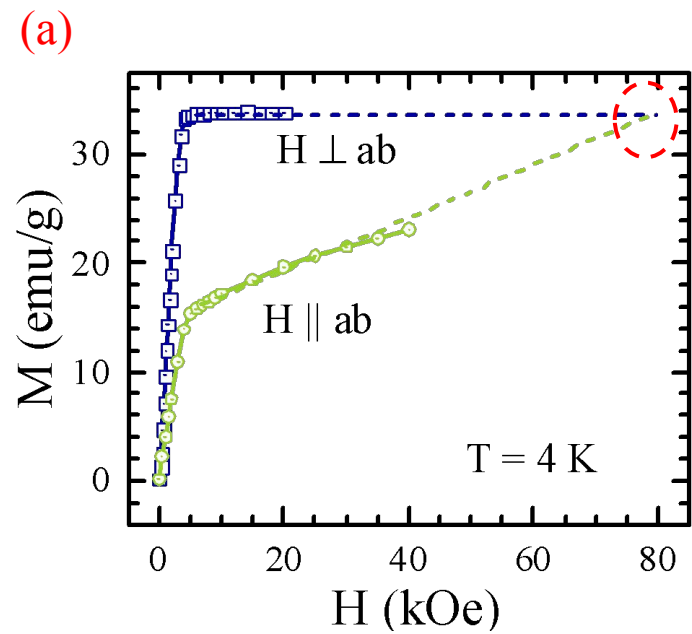
Thankyou

**EXTRA SLIDES**

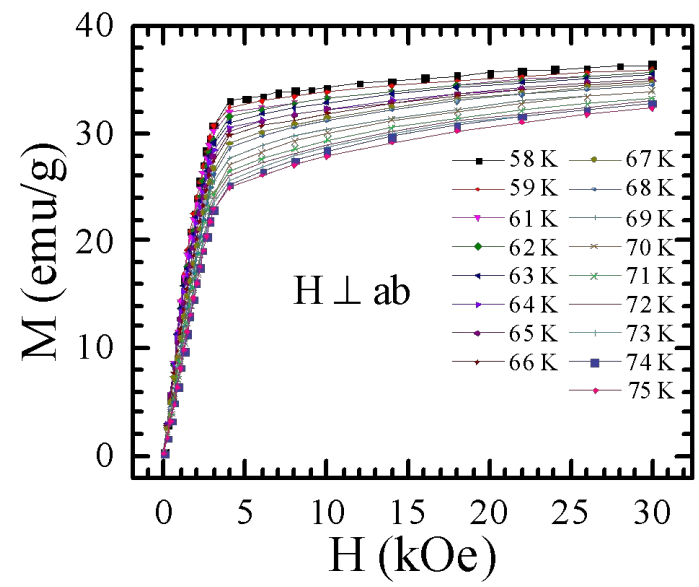
First principles DFT calculations were performed using the Vienna ab initio simulation package (VASP)<sup>19, 20</sup>. Electronic wave functions were expressed in terms of a plane wave basis set with an energy cutoff of 500 eV. Projector augmented wave (PAW)<sup>21</sup> potentials were used to represent the interaction between the valence electrons and the ion cores. The generalised gradient approximation (GGA) as proposed by Perdew, Burke and Ernzerhof (PBE)<sup>22</sup> was used to treat the exchange-correlation energy. The GGA+U<sup>23</sup> method was used to treat the strong correlations of Cr 3d electrons. It was previously reported<sup>9</sup> that the appropriate range of U should be within  $0.2 < U < 1.7$  eV in order to reproduce the correct experimental magnetic ground state. Hence  $U = 1$  eV was taken in our calculation. DFT-D3 method of Grimme<sup>24</sup> was used to treat the van der Waals interactions between the CGT layers. The structures were optimized by changing both the ionic positions and lattice parameters of the simulation cell until the energy and force on each atom converged to less than  $10^{-7}$  eV and  $10^{-6}$  eV/Å, respectively.



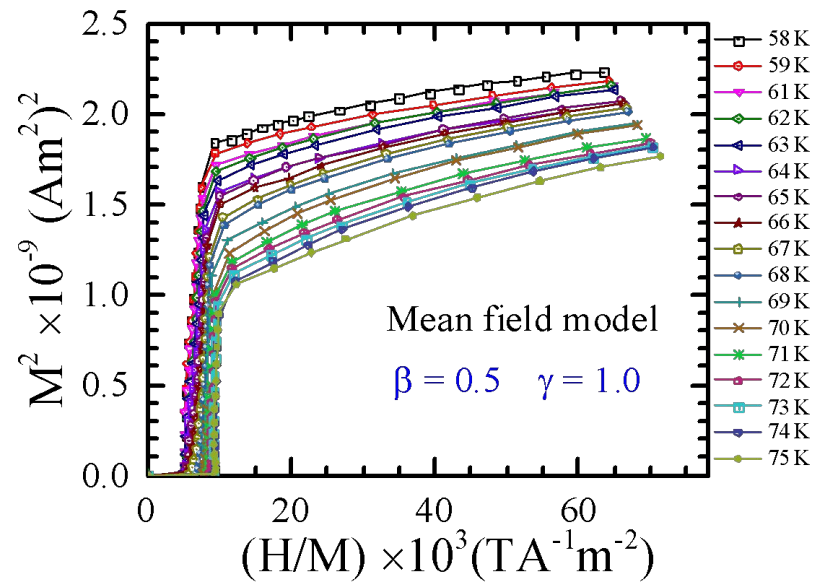




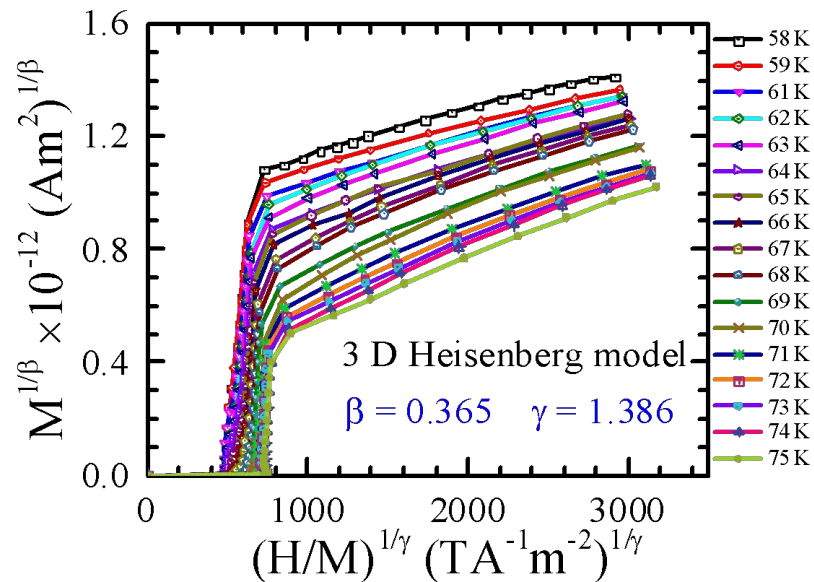




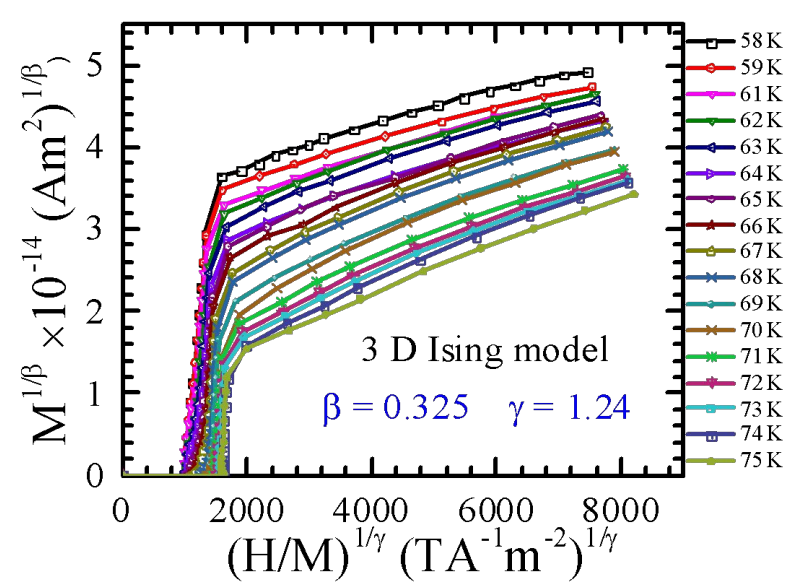
(a)



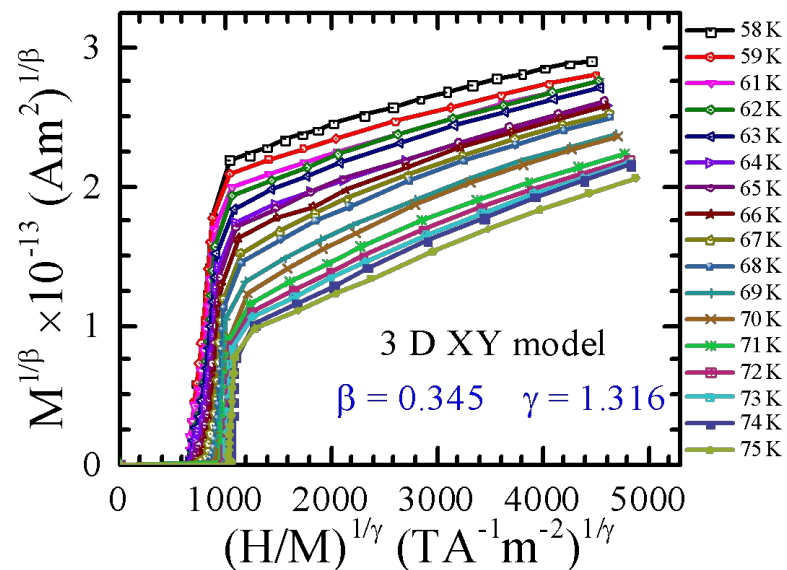
(b)



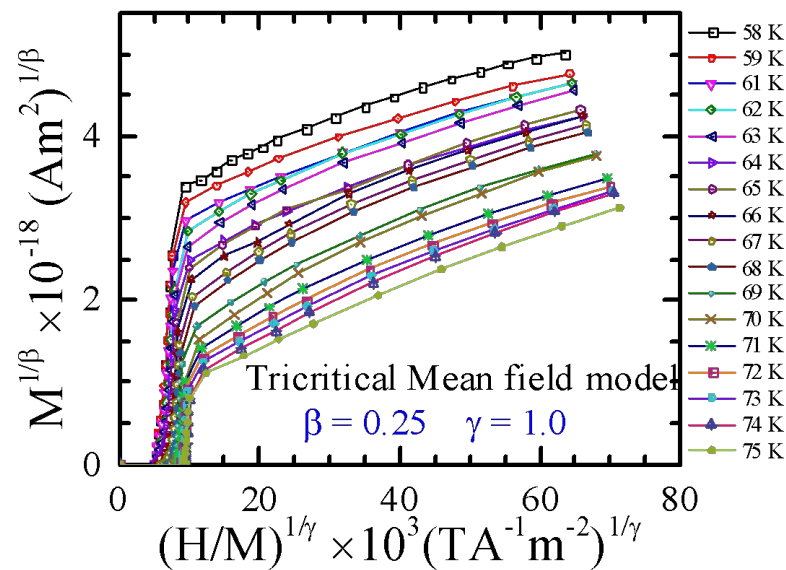
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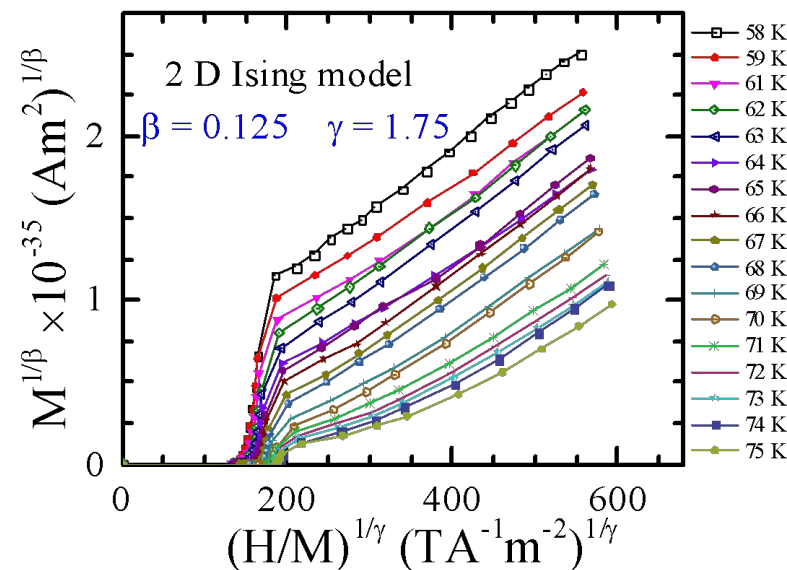
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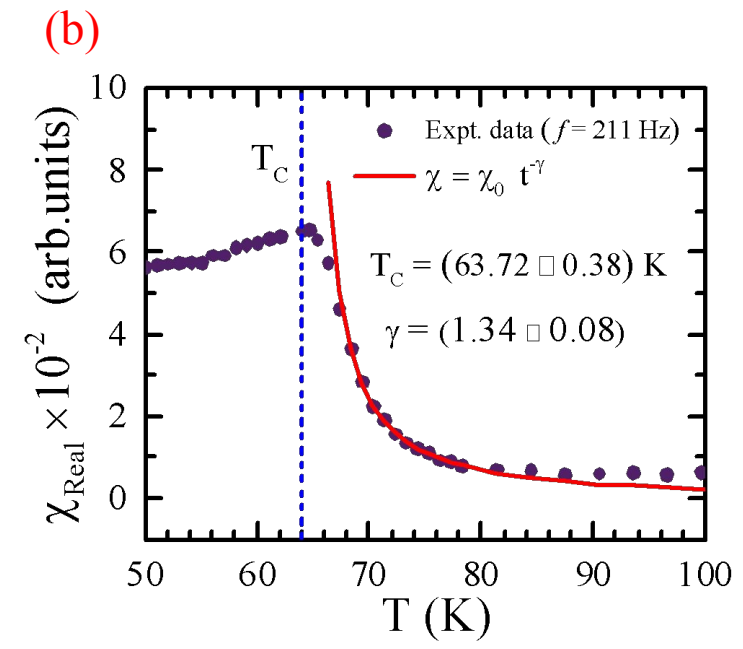
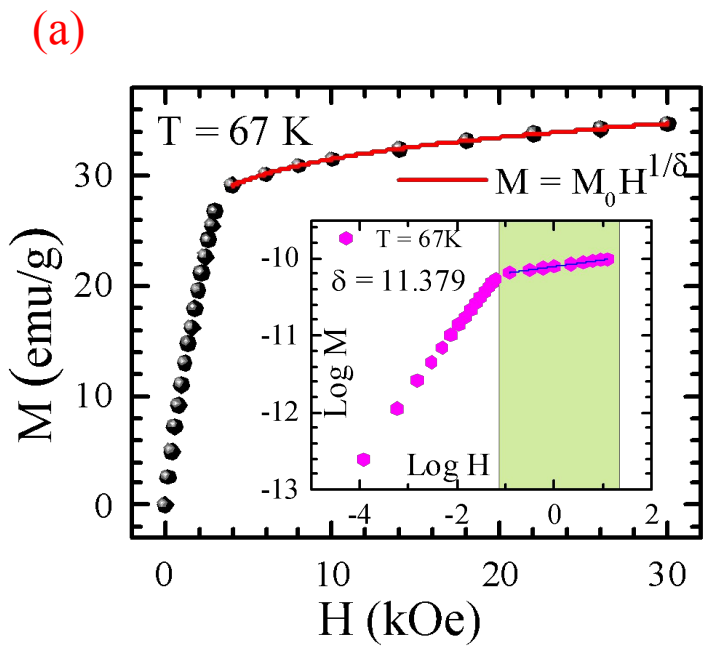


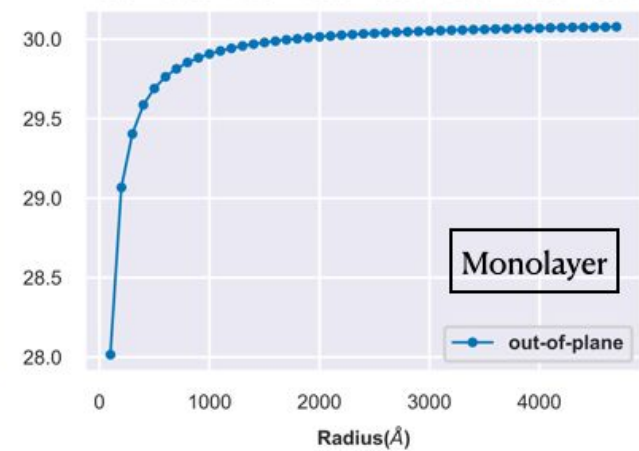
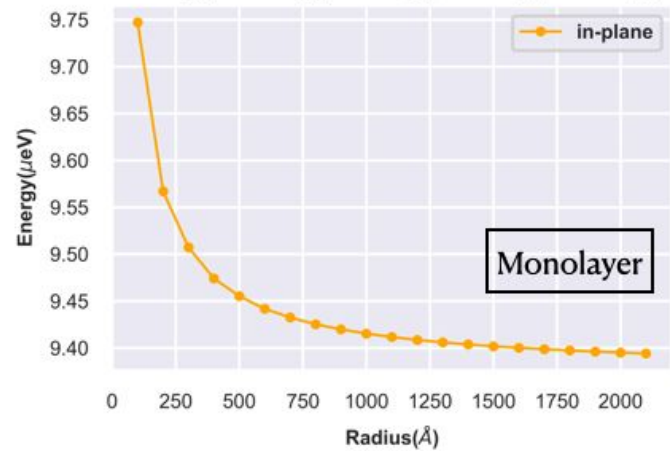
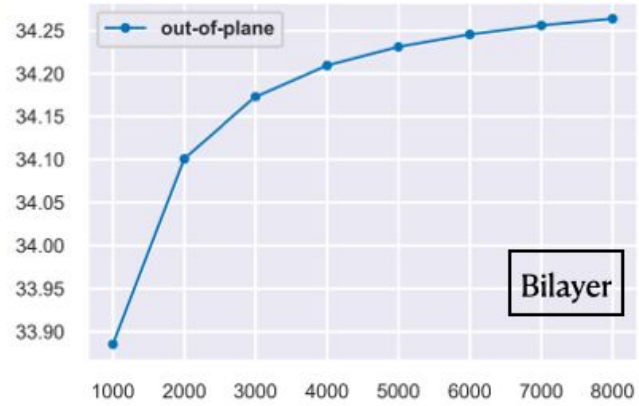
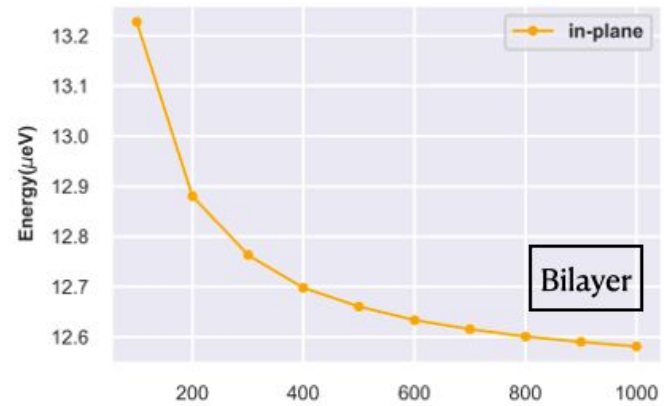
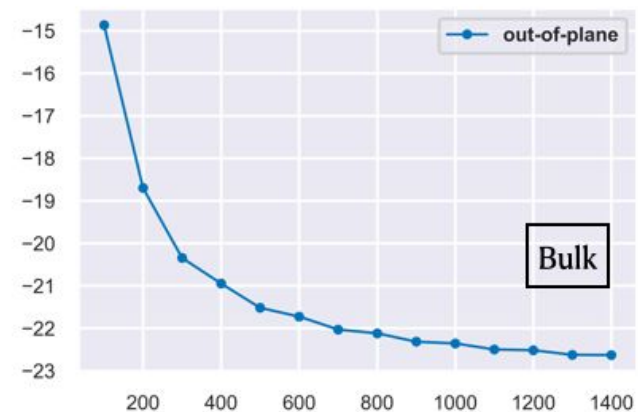
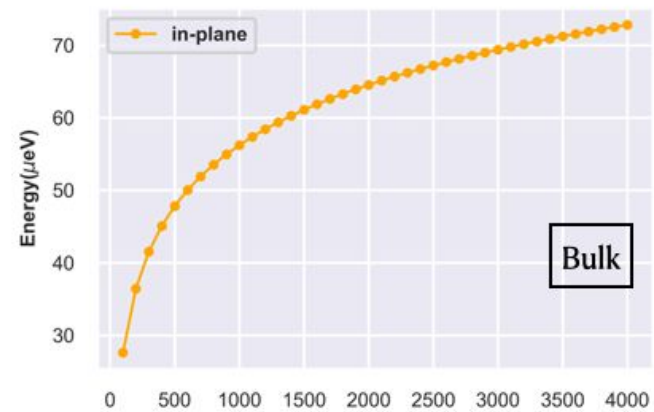
(e)

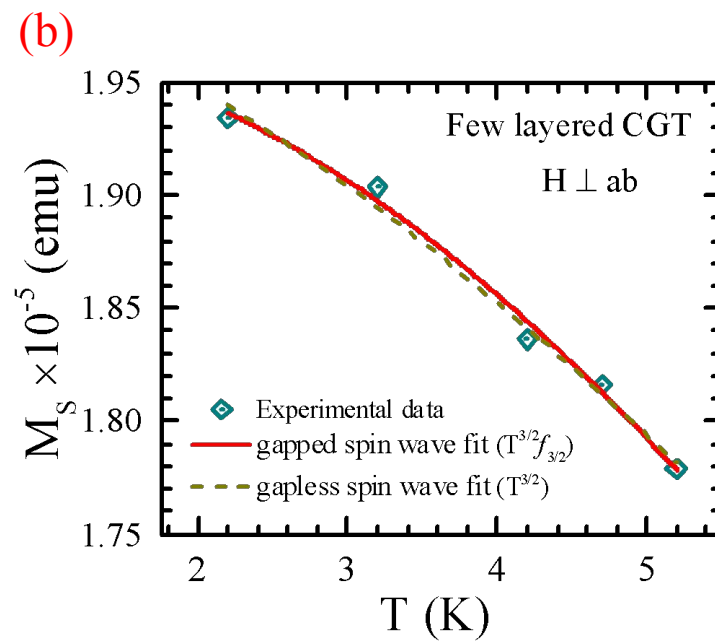
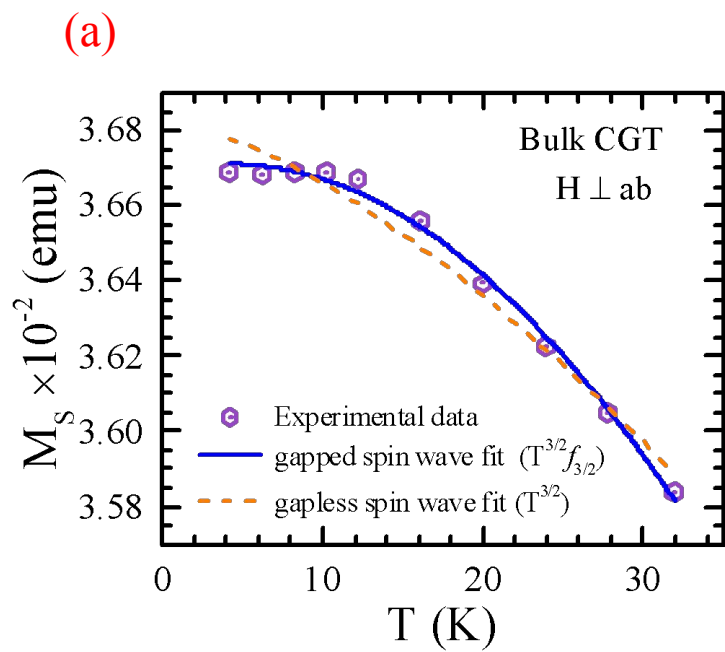


(f)



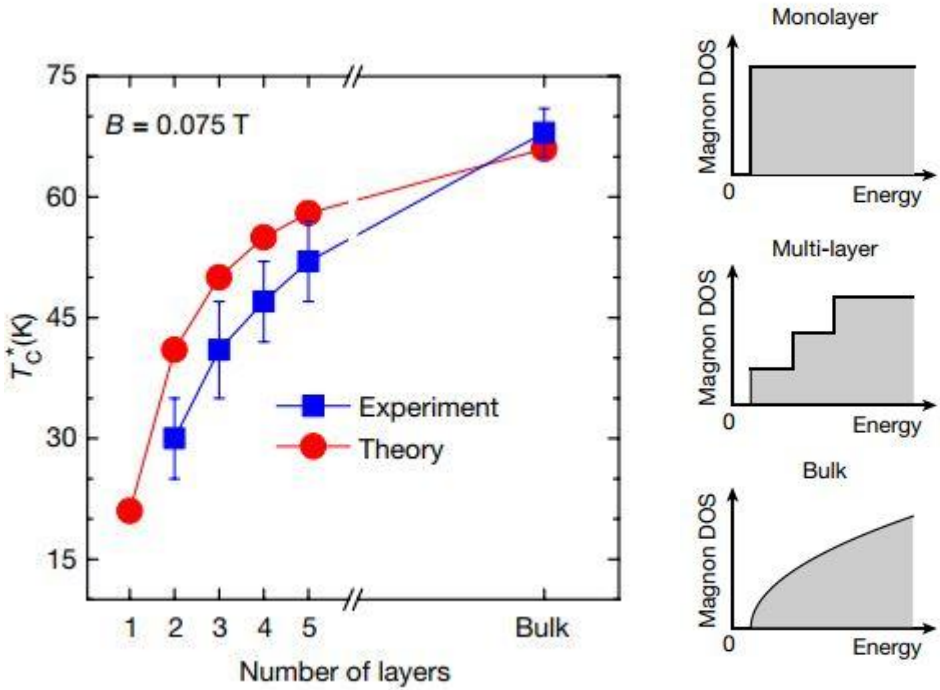








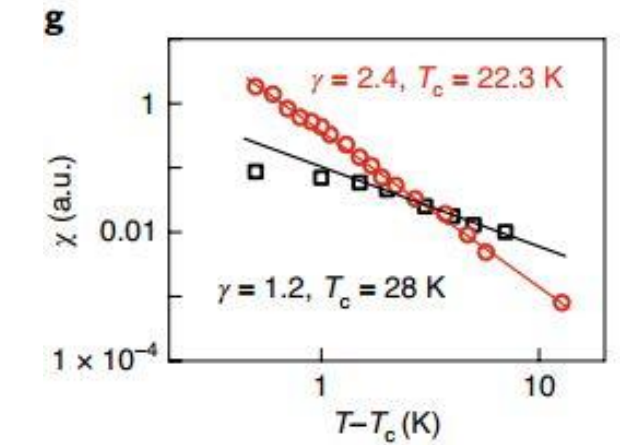
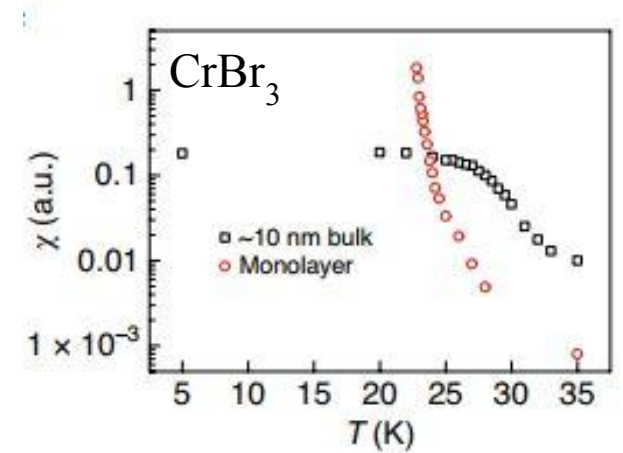
Effect of dimensionality on critical exponents or, nature of interactions



Strong dimensionality (or layer) dependence of  $T_c$

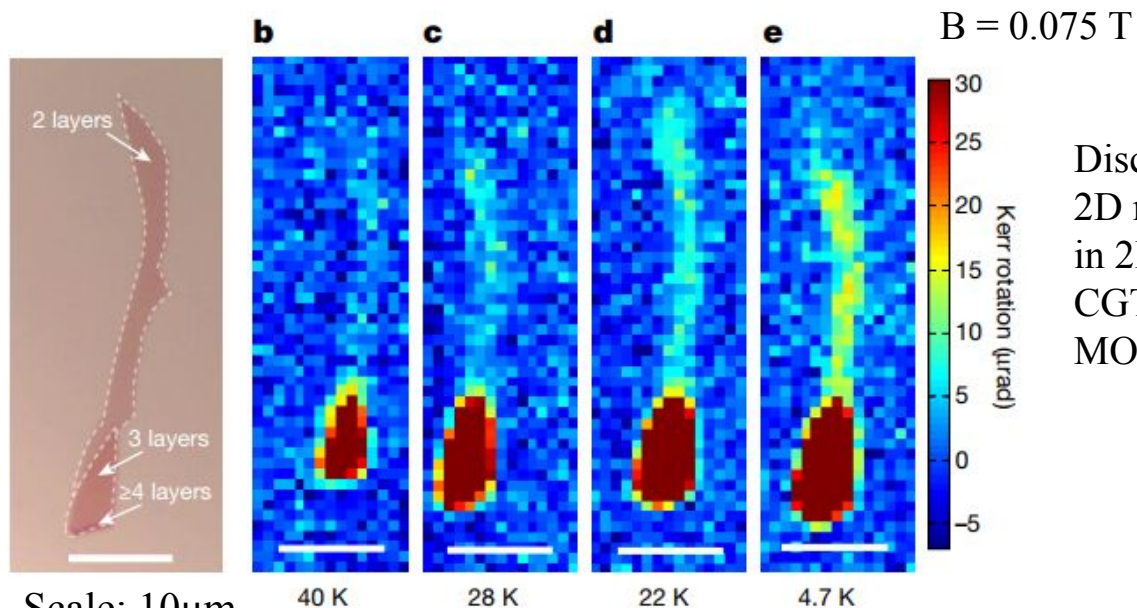
*Nature* volume 546, 265–269 (2017)

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \sum_i A(S_i^z)^2 - g\mu_B \sum_i B S_i^z$$



Dimensional reduction causes a crossover from Mean field like behavior to a 2D Ising like scenario.

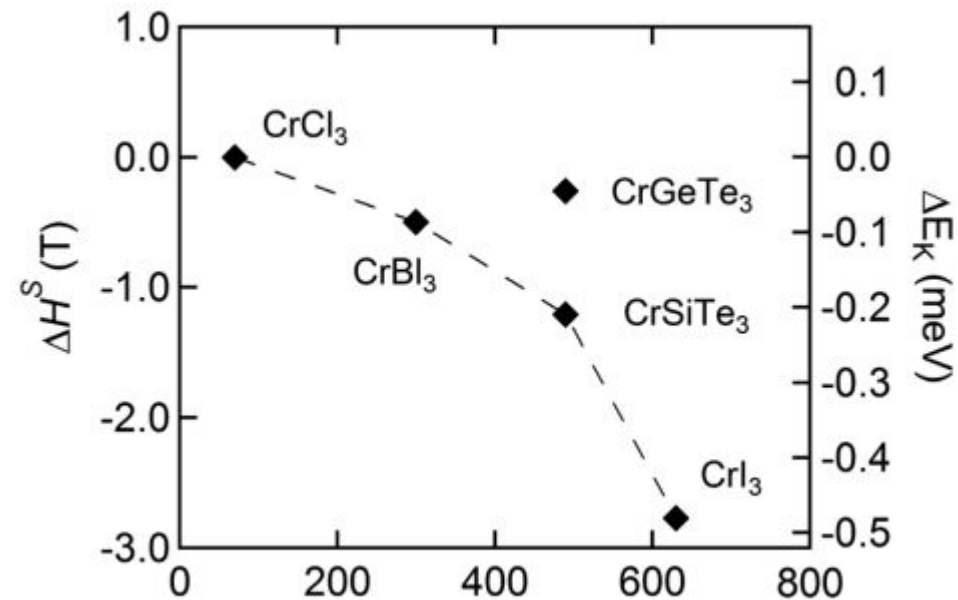
*Nature Materials* volume 19, 1290–1294 (2020)



Discovery of  
2D magnetism  
in 2L  
CGT from  
MOKE study

Scale: 10μm

*Nature* volume 546, 265–269 (2017)



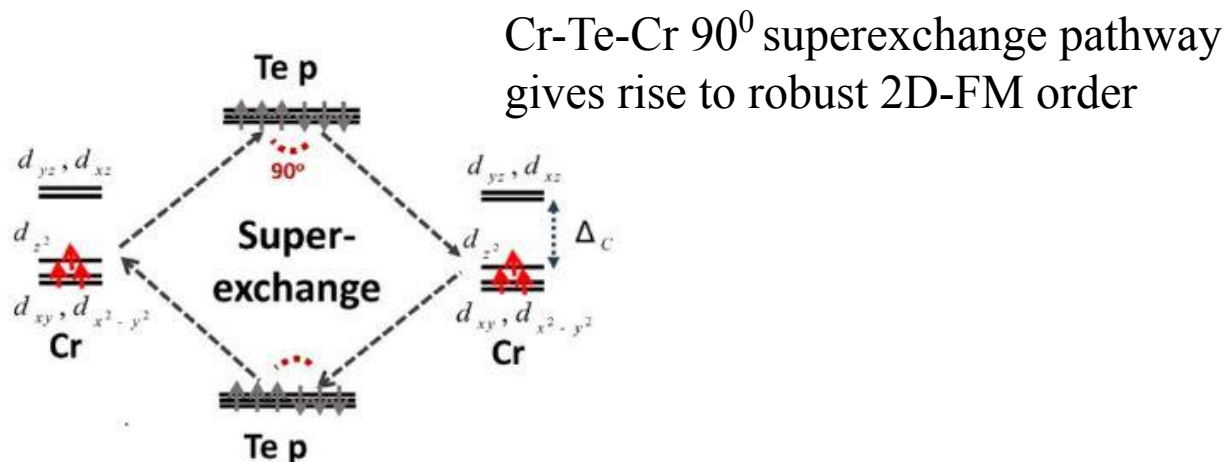
Ligand p spin  
orbit coupling  
strength

$\xi_{sp}$  (meV)

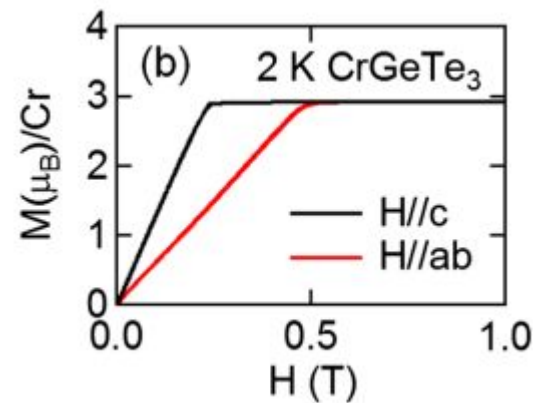
$$\Delta H^S = H_c^S - H_{ab}^S$$

$$\Delta E_K = 3\mu_B \Delta H^S$$

Cr<sup>3+</sup> moment



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2019, 141, 17166-17173



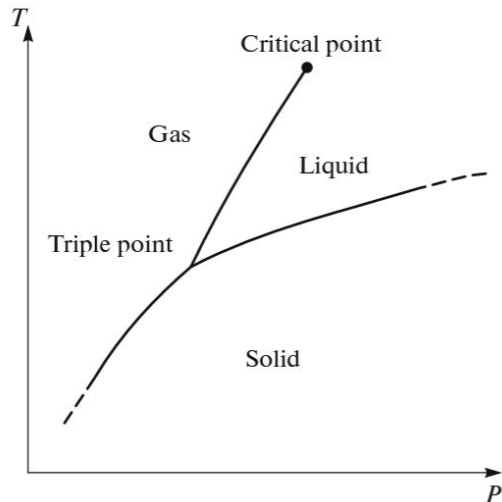
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 122, 207201 (2019)

# Critical Exponents

Table 5.4.1. Definition of critical exponents and amplitudes.

Susceptibility	$\chi = \Gamma t^{-\gamma}$	$t > 0$
	$\chi = \Gamma' (-t)^{-\gamma'}$	$t < 0$
Specific heat	$C = \frac{A}{t} t^{-\alpha}$	$t > 0$
	$C = \frac{A'}{t} (-t)^{-\alpha'}$	$t < 0$
Correlation length	$\xi = \xi_0 t^{-\nu}$	$t > 0$
	$\xi = \xi'_0 (-t)^{-\nu'}$	$t < 0$
Order parameter	$\langle \phi \rangle = B (-t)^\beta$	$t < 0$
	$\langle \phi \rangle = D_c^{-1} h  h ^{(1-\beta)/\delta}$	$t = 0$
Correlation function	$G(q) = D_\infty q^{-(2-\eta)}$	$t = 0$

From P. Chaikin and T Lubensky  
"Principles of Condensed Matter Physics"



$$\text{Reduced Temp : } t = (T - T_c)/T_c$$

$$\text{Specific heat exponent : } C \sim t^{-\alpha}$$

$$\text{Order Parameter exponent } \langle |\phi| \rangle \sim t^\beta$$

# Universality Class

Table 5.4.2. Some critical exponents from theory and experiment.

Exponent	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\nu$	$\eta$
Property	specific heat	order parameter	susceptibility	coherence length	correlation function
Definition	$C \sim t^{-\alpha}$	$\langle \phi \rangle \sim t^\beta$	$\chi \sim t^{-\gamma}$	$\xi \sim t^{-\nu}$	$G(q) \sim q^{-2+\eta}$
Mean-field	0	0.5	1	0.5	0
3D theory					
$n = 0$ (SAW)	0.24	0.30	1.16	0.59	
$n = 1$ (Ising)	0.11	0.32	1.24	0.63	0.04
$n = 2$ (xy)	-0.01	0.35	1.32	0.67	0.04
$n = 3$ (Heisenberg)	-0.12	0.36	1.39	0.71	0.04
Experiment					
3D $n = 1$	$0.11^{+0.01}_{-0.03}$	$0.32^{+0.06}_{-0.04}$	$1.24^{+0.06}_{-0.04}$	$0.63^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	0.03 - 0.06
3D $n = 3$	$0.1^{+0.05}_{-0.04}$	$0.34^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$1.4^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	$0.7^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$	
2D $n = 1$	$0.0^{+0.01}_{-0.003}$	$0.3^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$	$1.82^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	$1.02^{+0.07}_{-0.07}$	

Experiments on 3D  $n = 1$  compiled from liquid-gas, binary fluid, ferromagnetic, and antiferromagnetic transitions.

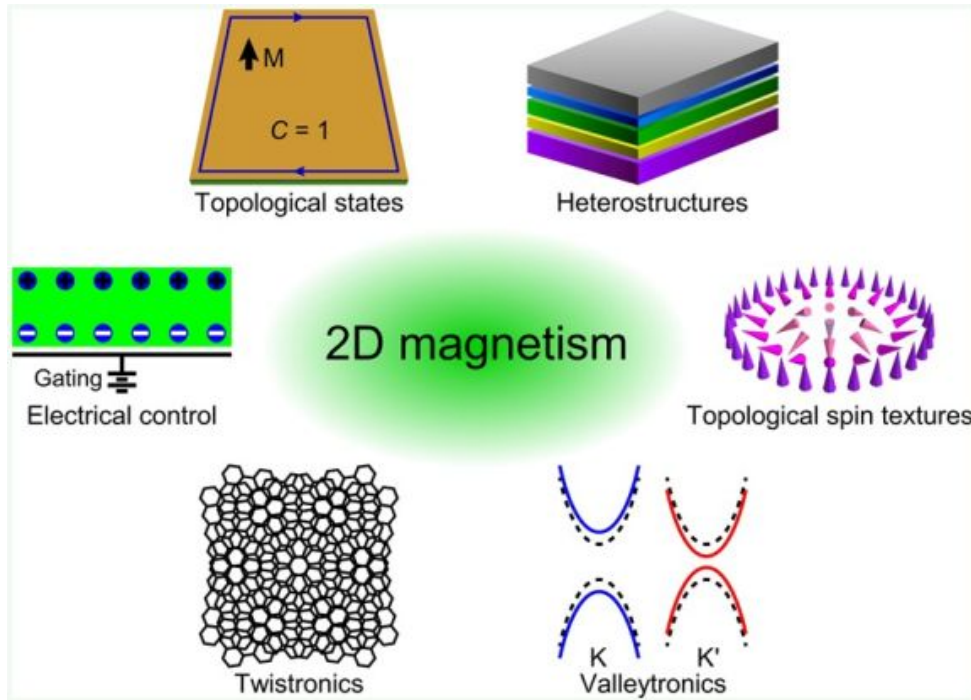
Experiments on 3D  $n = 3$  transitions compiled from some ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic transitions.

Experiments on 2D  $n = 1$  compiled from some antiferromagnetic transitions.

From P. Chaikin and T Lubensky "Principles of Condensed Matter Physics"

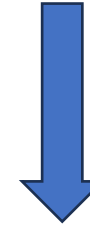
Theory suggests that the class (i.e. set of exponents) depends on spatial dimensionality, symmetry of the order parameter and interaction (and range of the latter as well) but not on the detailed form or strength of the interactions

# Emergent rich phenomena in 2D system



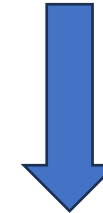
## Magnetism

Dimensional reduction from 3D



In 2D

Significant enhancement in the effects  
Of thermal fluctuations



Complex magnetic phenomena at low D  
Dependent on the Dimensionality of spins ( $n$ )

# Plan

- A brief discussion about relevant features of 2D magnetism for our work
- Why we choose the materials
- What are we interested in exploring
- Magnetic Features in the bulk system
- Features as you lower dimensionality
- Some understanding of our results and its consequences
- Ongoing work
- Summary