



ENGINEERING PHYSICS

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ENGINEERING PHYSICS

Unit 5 : Quantum mechanical treatment of Magnetic materials and Dielectrics



Class #51

- Ferromagnetic materials
- B-H curve-hysteresis
 - Soft ferromagnetic materials
 - Hard ferromagnetic materials
- Antiferromagnetic materials
- Ferrimagnetic materials
- Graph – χ v/s T

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Unit 5 : Quantum mechanical treatment of Magnetic materials and Dielectrics



➤ *Suggested Reading*

1. *Quantum Physics of Atoms Nuclei and Molecules, Robert Eisberg, Robert Resnick, Wiley, 2nd edition, Ch 14, 2006.*
2. *Learning material prepared by the Department of Physics*

➤ *Reference Videos*

1. <https://nptel.ac.in/courses/115/105/115105099/>

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Ferromagnetic materials

- *Large magnetic susceptibilities*
- *Presence of unpaired spins in the 3d shells*
- *Local molecular field result in a high ordering of spins*
- *Exhibit spontaneous magnetization and can be easily magnetized.*

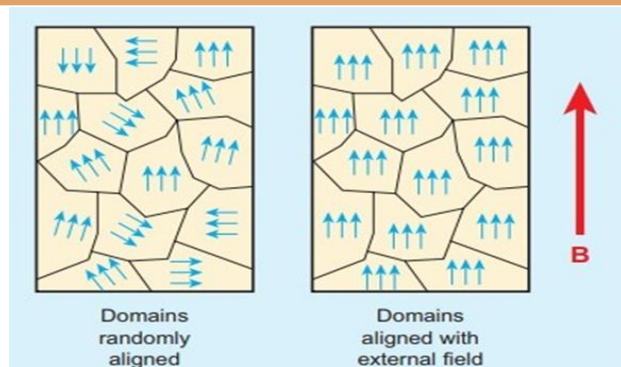


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Ferromagnetic materials

- *Magnetic domains giving rise to spontaneous magnetization.*
- *Favorable domains grow in size and the rest shrink in size in presence of external field*
- *Magnetic moments of the domains tend to align in the direction of the applied field*
- *Total field is given by*

$$H_T = H + H_m = H + \gamma M$$



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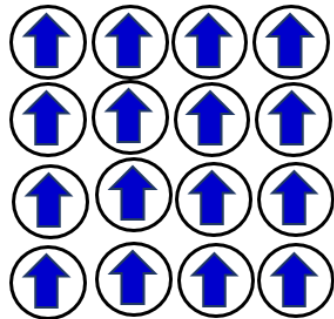
Effect of Temperature

- *As temperature increases, the magnetization decreases*
- *Phase change from ferromagnetic to paramagnetic behaviour above critical temperature T_c called Curie's temperature*

$$\chi = \frac{C}{T - T_c}$$

- *Curie temperature of these materials are very high*

Example: Cobalt - $T_c > 1000K$, Fe - $T_c > 750K$ and Ni - $T_c > 350K$



$$T < T_c \quad H = 0, M \neq 0$$

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Hysteresis

- *Magnetic flux density (B) v/s applied field H forms a hysteresis loop*
- *Saturation magnetization – dipole alignment in the direction of applied field*
- *Retentivity : $B \neq 0$ when $H = 0$*
- *Coercivity : $B = 0, H \neq 0$*
- *Flipping of magnetisation in opposite directions*

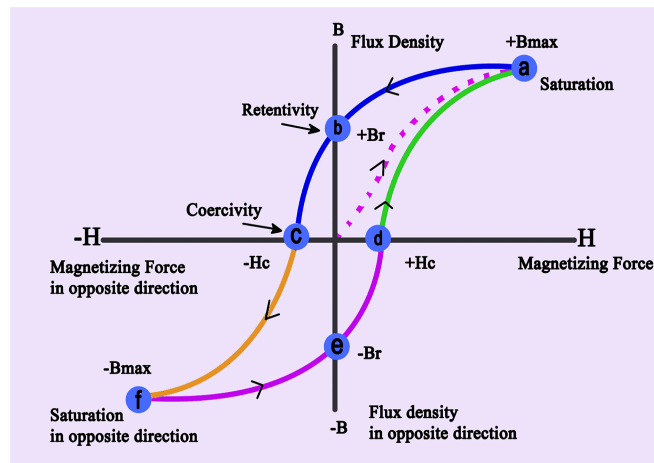
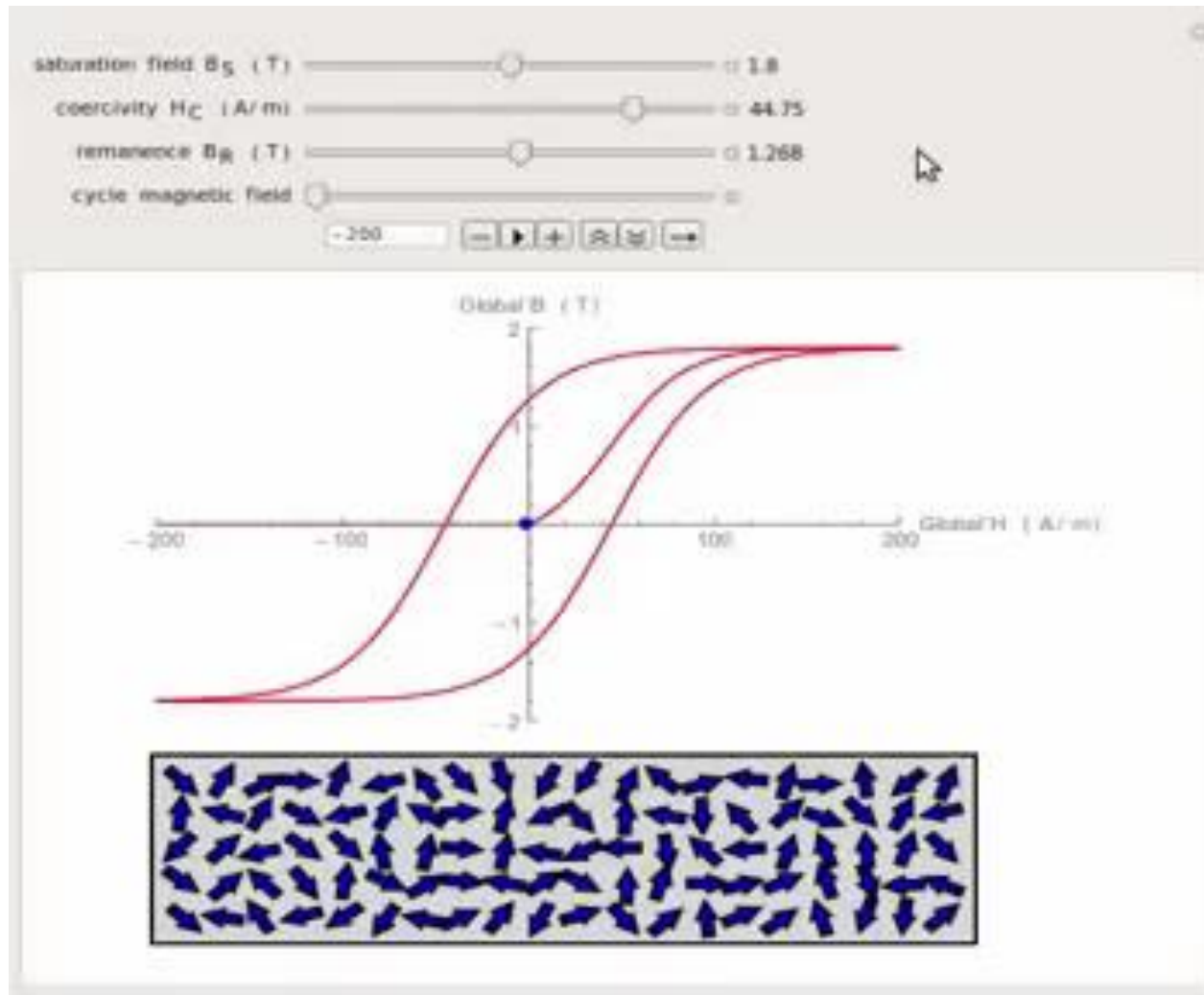


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Hysteresis



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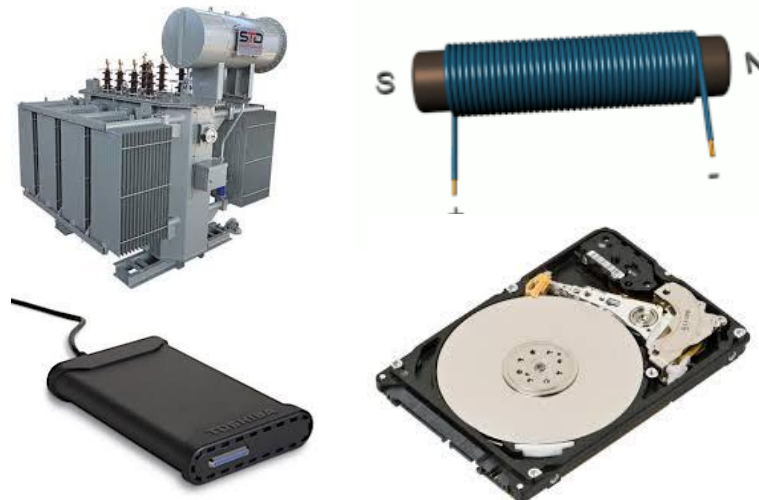
Examples & Applications

- *Curie temperature, Permeability, Coercive field and Remnant Magnetization.*
- *Hysteresis is always related to memory*
- *Memory is the previous experience of external fields and hence can be used as memory materials.*

➤ Examples

- *iron, nickel, cobalt*
- *Cobalt alloys with rare earth elements - gadolinium, dysprosium, samarium and neodymium*

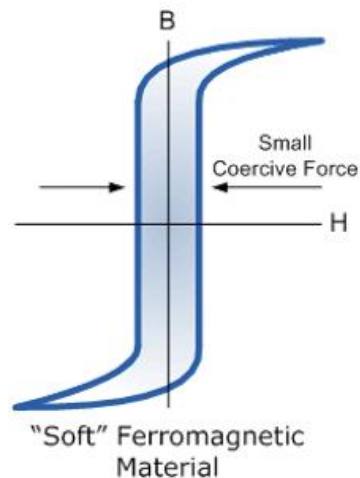
➤ Some applications



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Soft Ferromagnetic materials

- *Easily magnetisable and demagnetisable*
- *Large saturation magnetisation*
- *Low coercive field (Coercivity is small)*
- *Hysteresis loop is narrow and has low losses*
- *Examples: Iron and Iron alloys*
- *Applications: Transformers, motors or inductors.*

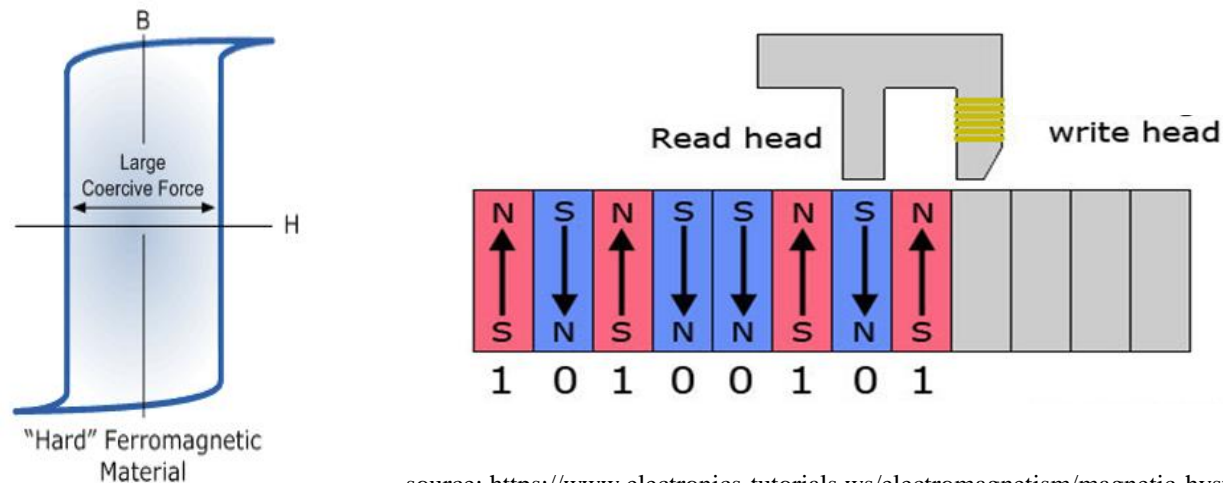


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Hard Ferromagnetic materials

- *Difficult to demagnetise*
- *Exhibit very high retentivity and large coercivity.*
- *Low permeability*
- *Area under the hysteresis curve is large indicating the large amount of energy loss.*
- *Hard, brittle and difficult to shape*

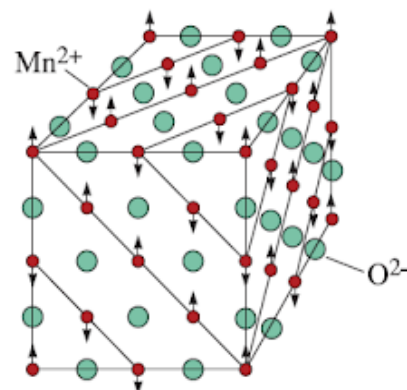
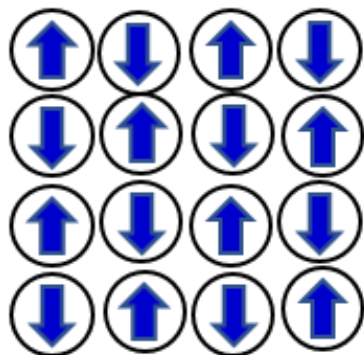
Applications : permanent magnets, Memory devices



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Antiferromagnetic materials

- *Exchange interaction is negative*
- *Equal dipole moments and antiparallel to one another*
- *Magnetization on each sub lattice will add to zero net Magnetization*
- *Net magnetisation is zero below a certain temperature called as the Neel temperature T_N .*
- *Above T_N the materials behave as paramagnetic.*

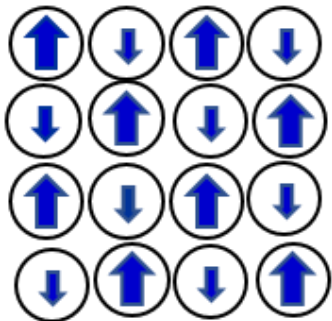


Magnetic Ion		T_N (K)
Mn ²⁺	↑	116
NiO	↓	523
Mn ²⁺	↑	

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Ferrimagnetic materials

- *Different magnetic moments-unequal & antiparallel*
- *Cations of two or more types*
- *Net magnetisation $\neq 0$*
- *Exhibit spontaneous magnetisation*
- *Exhibit hysteresis when external field is applied.*
- *Temperature dependent - Above T_c the materials display paramagnetic behaviour.*



$$T < T_c$$
$$H = 0, M \neq 0$$

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Ferrimagnetic materials

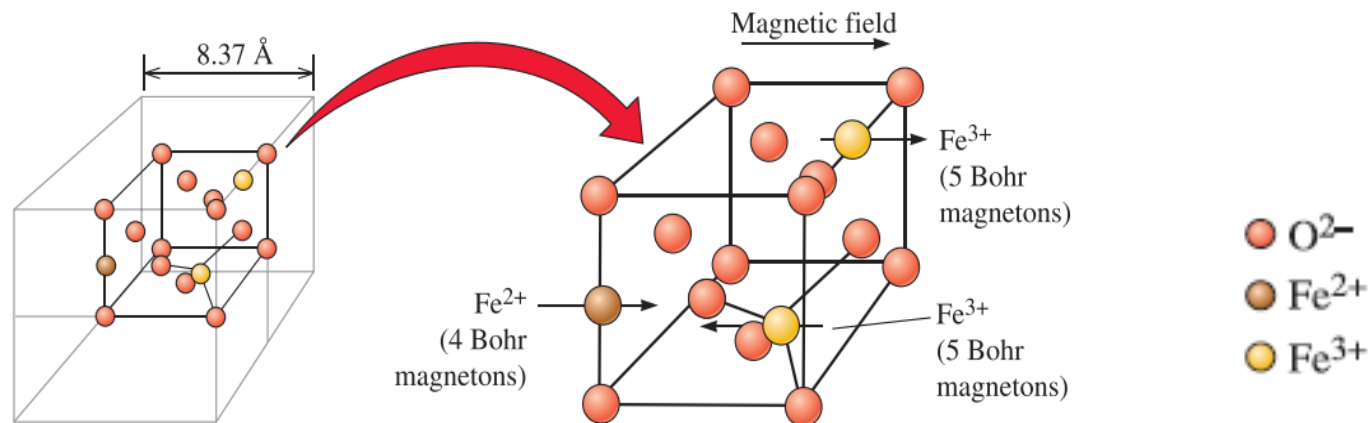
Example:

Fe_3O_4 - two different iron ions, Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} & O^{2-}

In each sub cell, $\mu=4\mu_B$ obtained from the Fe^{2+} ions

(magnetic moments from the two Fe^{3+} ions located at tetrahedral and octahedral sites are canceled by each other)

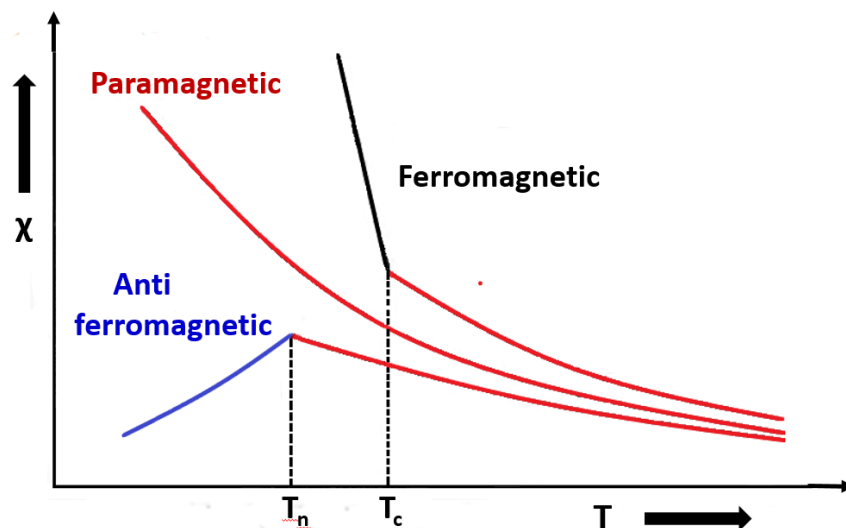
Other Examples are $NiFe_2O_4$, $CoFe_3O_4$ and $BaFe_{12}O_{19}$ etc.



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Magnetic susceptibility v/s Temperature

- *Paramagnetic materials - Curies law.*
- *Ferromagnetic materials - Curie Weiss law and exhibit a paramagnetic behaviour above the Curie temperature*
- *Anti-ferromagnetic materials – above T_N the material behaves as a paramagnetic material.*



The concepts which are correct are....

- 1. Above Curie's temperature, ferromagnetic material becomes paramagnetic**
- 2. Net magnetization is zero in ferrimagnetic materials**
- 3. Due to applied magnetic field, magnetic moments experience torque**
- 4. Retentivity is the property of antiferromagnetic materials**
- 5. The dipoles in ferrimagnetic materials are equal and parallel**
- 6. Low coercive field is required to demagnetize the hard ferromagnetic material**



THANK YOU

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