

# Magnetic nanoparticles: synthesis, properties and biomedical applications

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#### ► To cite this version:

Olivier Sandre. Magnetic nanoparticles: synthesis, properties and biomedical applications: Part 1: Synthesis and physical properties. Master. Física Aplicada, Universidad de Granada, Spain. 2017, pp.62. cel-02105959

### HAL Id: cel-02105959 https://cel.hal.science/cel-02105959

Submitted on 22 Apr 2019  $\,$ 

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### MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES: SYNTHESIS, PROPERTIES AND BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS

Olivier Sandre, senior CNRS researcher at Univ. Bordeaux, France

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### Magnetic nanoparticles (MNPs) Part 1: Synthesis and physical properties

• Part 1A: Chemistry of iron oxides and oxo-hydroxides:

Diversity of methods to prepare colloidal nanoparticles, either in non aqueous solvents: hydrothermal synthesis, polyol synthesis, thermal decomposition... or in water: alkaline co-precipitation of iron salts (also in EG, DEG...)

• Part 1B: Magnetic behavior (ferro- /ferri- /antiferro- /superpara- magnetism...) and optical properties of MNPs (UV-vis absorption, magnetic birefringence)

• Part 1C: MNPs as contrast agents in Magnetic Resonance Imaging Universal law for relaxometry  $(T_1/T_2 \text{ of water H spins near MNPs})$ 

All properties are highly sensitive on MNP's size and shape (poly)dispersity!

- Part 2A Magnetic Hyperthermia ('Tumor catabolism')
- Part 2B Nanomedicines Magnetic carrier Magnetic Guiding ('Tumor homing')

• Part 2C Drug Delivery Systems (DDS) based on Magnetic Core@Polymer Shells, Magnetic Polymer Shells, Magnetic Micelles, or Vesicles ('Polymersomes')



# Diversity of iron oxides and oxo-hydroxides

### The Iron Oxides (Rochelle M. Cornell, Udo Schwertmann)





### From solution of Fe<sup>2+</sup> et Fe<sup>3+</sup> salts towards solid phase





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# Very narrow pH stability of $Fe^{3+}(H_2O)_6$ soluble ion





Jean-Pierre Jolivet

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Chem. Commun., 2004, 481-487

Bordeaux INI



### Antiferromagnetic clays made of iron<sup>+III</sup> oxo-hydroxides

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Goethite nanolaths  $\gamma$ –FeOOH (rod-like)



Accicular Haematite  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (spindle-like)



# Synthesis of antiferromagnetic goethite nanorods

### 1/ ferrihydrite alkaline precipitation NaOH 2/ Slow dissolution X days at pH>11 3/ Washings H<sub>2</sub>O 1M $\rightarrow$ goethite formation (ochre) goethite 0.1M Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> $\alpha - FeOOH$ Ni (NO<sub>3</sub>)\_ou Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> Dispersion in HNO<sub>3</sub> at pH=3

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 PhD thesis J. Hernandez (UPMC 1998): 10 days ageing at T=25C & pH13

 $_{\circ}$  S. Krehula et al. (Mat. Lett. 2002): hydrophobic base (TMAOH) Ageing during 1 – 21 days + "forced hydrolysis" (T=60 – 160C)

 D. Thies-Weesie et al. (Chem. Mater. 2007) Size-sorting by centrifugation steps

 Thermal decomposition Fe<sup>III</sup>-oleate Taekyung Yu et al. (JACS 2007)



### Doping of goethite nanorods with M<sup>n+</sup> cations

U. Schwertmann & R.M. Cornell, <u>Iron Oxides in the Laboratory</u> (1991) B. Sing et al., Clay Minerals 2002  $\rightarrow$  Cr<sup>3+</sup>, Mn<sup>3+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup> M. Mohapatra et al., Hydromelallurgy 2002  $\rightarrow$  Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Mat. Chem. Phys. 2005 –

#### Ageing conditions: 24h in oven at 70° C-pH=11-12

Sample	$\mathrm{pH}_{\mathrm{ageing}}$	Ni/Fe	Φv/v	D <sub>hyd</sub> nm		Sample	$\mathrm{pH}_{\mathrm{ageing}}$	Co/Fe	Φ v/v	D <sub>hyd</sub> nm
T	11.1	0	0.21%	205	N.	T	11.1	0	0.21%	205
1Ni	11	0.6%	0.19%	198		1Co	12	1.0%	0.25%	284
5Ni	11.9	2.4%	0.17%	142		5Co	12.2	2.6%	0.15%	169
10Ni	12	2.8%	0.10%	168		10Co	12.2	9.6%	0.02%	238
Res and a second					OH) 	<ul> <li>-T1 goethite téme</li> <li>5 Ni1 goethite d</li> <li>Goethite orthorh</li> </ul>	ON SUITACE pin non dopée opée Ni à 2,4% ombique (tables l	ogiciel)		
	OH: ortho	0,4 0,2 0 15	25 35	45 Å b=3.01	55 2 théta	65 7 4 62Å	5 85	95	7	-11



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# Goethite nanorods doped with Co<sup>2+</sup>







### Antiferromagnetic nanorods of even smaller sizes





### Magneto-orientational behavior of a suspension of anti-ferromagnetic nanoparticles (NAF)

J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 20 (2008) 204120 Yu L Raikher, V. I. Stepanov (Perm, Russia) :





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# Magnetic behavior of antiferromagnetic nanorods

6:30

SQUID magnetometry at ambient temperature\*



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\*measurement at INSP lab. (UPMC)



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### Magnetite: Crystalline Structure





<u>Data</u>: one unit cell is cubic and contains 8 Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> molecules  $v = 45 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ Mass density  $\rho = 5.18 \times 10^3$  kg·m<sup>-3</sup>, Molar mass M=231.535 g·mol<sup>-1</sup> 1 Bohr magneton  $\mu_{\rm B}$ =9.274×10<sup>-24</sup> A·m<sup>2</sup> a=8.396 Å

2/calculate the specific magnetization  $M_S$  of bulk  $Fe_3O_4$  in A·m<sup>-1</sup>  $M_{s} = 5 \times 10^{5} \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ 

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Curie-Weiss

domains

# Magnetic domains and Bloch boundaries (walls)

Macroscopic magnets (bulk materials) are multi-domains

Size of mono-domain: ~ 30-50 nm for iron oxides

Rosensweig 1965, Néel 1955, Kittel 1946, Elmore 1938

One ~10 nm nanoparticle is a magnetic single domain

Bloch walls



1: calculate magnetic moment (in nb of  $\mu_B$ /MNP) for diameters: d=4 / 8 / 16 nm

- 2: calculate total nb of Fe ions per MNP for all d's
- 3: calculate nb of Fe ions on surface per MNP for all d's Data:

1 Bohr magneton  $\mu_B = 9.274 \times 10^{-24} \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^2$ 

For nano-crystalline  $Fe_3O_4$ ,  $M_s = 4 \times 10^5 \text{ A} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$ 

Answer:

1: 1500 / 11000 / 90000 2: 1400 / 10700 / 87000

3: 290 (20%) / 1100 (10%) / 4500 (5%)



Shape anisotropy contribution to birefringence "Rock-like" particles: S1C fraction, coated with PAA<sub>2k</sub>





## Birefringence measurement under H field





## Starting materials : "True" ferrofluid

Ferrofluid = colloidal suspension of magnetic nanoparticles which remains <u>stable whatever the intensity of applied magnetic field</u>

- no attraction of nanoparticles under B field gradient nor chaining by dipolar interaction
  - but progressive orientation of dipoles according to Langevin's laws:





### Improved properties of the larger magnetic NPs



# Lieberatore de Chimie High Frequency Magnetic Susceptometry / Hyperthermia

Astalan, A.; Ahrentorp, F.; Jonasson, C.; Blomgren, J.; Yan, M.; Courtois, J.; Berret, J.-F.; Fresnais, J.; Sandre, O.; Müller, R.; Dutz, S.; Johansson, C., AIP Conf. Proc. Series 2010



High frequency AC susceptometer built at the IMEGO company (Sweden) AC signal source (A), current amplifier (B), coil system and mechanics (C), lock-in amplifier (D) and user interface software (E)





Role of the sizes' (mono) dispersity on the SHP effect

G. Glöckl, R. Hergt, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 18 (2006) S2935–S2949: resonance effect





Astalan, A.; Ahrentorp, F.; Jonasson, C.; Blomgren, J.; Yan, M.; Courtois, J.; Berret, J.-F.; Fresnais, J.; Sandre, O.; Müller, R.; Dutz, S.; Johansson, C., AIP Conf. Proc. Series 2010





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### Role of MNP shape on the magnetic anisotropy $K_{a}$

Astalan, A.; Ahrentorp, F.; Jonasson, C.; Blomgren, J.; Yan, M.; Courtois, J.; Berret, J.-F.; Fresnais, J.; Sandre, O.; Müller, R.; Dutz, S.; Johansson, C., AIP Conf. Proc. Series 2010





### Improved properties of the larger magnetic NPs





# Ionic Ferrofluids: the coprecipitation synthesis

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Massart's process:
 Alkaline coprecipitation of FeCl<sub>2</sub> & FeCl<sub>3</sub>
 → magnetite Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles

 $\begin{array}{r} {Fe^{2+}}_{(aq)} + \ 2Fe^{3+}{}_{(aq)} + \ 8OH^{-}{}_{(aq)} \\ \rightarrow Fe_{3}O_{4(s)} + \ 4H_{2}O_{(I)} \end{array}$ 

R. Massart IEEE Trans. Magn. 17 1247 (1981)

Oxidation by  $Fe(NO_3)_3$   $\rightarrow$  maghemite  $\gamma$ -**Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** nanoparticles in acidic medium (HNO3): stabilized by electrostatic surface charges (PZC $\approx$ 7)

A. Abou-Hassan, O. Sandre, and V. Cabuil, *Chapter 9: Microfluidics for the synthesis of iron oxide nanoparticles*, in <u>Microfluidic Devices in Nanotechnology: Applications</u>, C.S.S.R. Kumar, Editor. **2010**, John Wiley & Sons, Inc: Hoboken, NJ, USA. p. 323-360





# Microfluidics as a tool to get an insight of the kinetics of the coprecipitation reaction





# Microfluidics as a tool to get an insight of the mechanism of goethite formation



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"2-lines ferrihydrite" nanodots  $\emptyset$  = 4±1 nm

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A. Abou-Hassan, O. Sandre, S. Neveu, V. Cabuil, Angew. Ch. 48 1-5 (2009)



Z max

Axis

of symmetry

r<sub>in</sub> r<sub>w</sub>

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FEM lab simulations

Microfluidics as a tool to get an insight of the mechanism of goethite formation



 $\mathbf{j}_i = -D_i \operatorname{\mathbf{grad}} C_i + \frac{D_i}{k_{\pi}T} C_i Z_i e \mathbf{E}$ 

(Nernst-Planck)





pH = f( $\alpha$ ) with  $\alpha$  = Q<sub>OH-</sub> / Q<sub>H+</sub>

A. Abou-Hassan, J-F. Dufrêche, O. Sandre, G. Mériguet, O. Bernard, V. Cabuil, J. Chem. Phys. C 2009

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r max





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# Microfluidics as a tool to get an insight of the mechanism of goethite formation

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### Detection of first seeds using SAXS in microfluidics





### Detection of first seeds using SAXS in microfluidics





### Preliminary SAXS results: intensity curves along z

 $\alpha$  = 400/10=40 R<sub>jet</sub> = 88  $\mu$ m 1,E+00 z = 8 mm X R z = 6,5 mm z = 7 mm1,E-01 z = 5,5 mm2H z = 4 mmz = 3,5 mm z = 3 mm (1,E-02 E) z = 2 mm💊 1,E-03 1,E-04 Ζ space (z)  $\approx$  time equivalency? X-rays 1,E-05 0,001 0,01 0,1 q (Å<sup>-1</sup>) CINIS université BORDEAUX



### Preliminary SAXS results: fits as disk form factor





### Preliminary SAXS results: fits as disk form factor





Coatings of iron oxide and oxo-hydroxide NPs for their dispersion in various media

# Different coatings to insure colloidal stability :

 surfactants (oleic acid, phosporic diester ,...) for organic solvents (alkanes, chlorinated,...)



 sodium citrate in aqueous neutral medium (pH=7.2) or sodium polyacrylate (2000 or 5000 g/moL)





J. A. Galicia, O. Sandre, F. Cousin, D. Guemghar, C. Ménager, V. Cabuil, J. Phys.-Cond. Mat. 2003. <u>15</u> S1379.

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# Ionic Ferrofluids: demixtion & size sorting

Size Polydispersity: P(d, nm)



R. Massart, E. Dubois, V. Cabuil, E. Hasmonay, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 149 1 (1995)







### Size-sorted "ionic ferrofluid" as elementary bricks

	USPIO fraction	Given name in this work	D <sub>H</sub> of bare MNPs in HNO <sub>3</sub> nm / PDI	Average diameters by TEM	Average diameters by VSM	Saturation magnetization emu/g A/m	r₂ (4.7T) s⁻¹mM⁻¹ <sub>Fe</sub>	SLP at f=800 kHz, H <sub>0</sub> =11 kA/m W/g
	515253	6-7 nm	11 / 0.12	d <sub>n</sub> =4.9 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =6.9 nm (N=600)	d <sub>n</sub> =6.5 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =7.5 nm	55±1 2.8×10 <sup>5</sup>	70	2±1
14.4								
				74 <b>5</b> - 17 - 19 - 19 - 19 - 19 - 19 - 19 - 19				
1 - E		•			1 0.9 0.8			
0.3 0.25 0.2				/Msat	0.7			·
0.15 0.1			5	M	0.4		······································	
0.05 0 50 mm	5 10	15 20 M diameter (nm)	25 30	5.1	0 20	H H DOO 4000 Applied magnetic	6000 800 6ield (Oe)	0 10000
				*BORDEAUX		000000000000000000000000000000000000000	BG	scep



### Size-sorted "ionic ferrofluid" as elementary bricks

			-		_	-	_	-	
		USPIO fraction	Given name in this work	D <sub>H</sub> of bare MNPs in HNO <sub>3</sub> nm / PDI	Average diameters by TEM	Average diameters by VSM	Saturation magnetization emu/g A/m	r <sub>2</sub> (4.7T) s <sup>-1</sup> mM <sup>-1</sup> Fe	SLP at f=800 kHz, H <sub>o</sub> =11 kA/m W/g
		515253	6-7 nm	11 / 0.12	d <sub>n</sub> =4.9 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =6.9 nm ( <i>N</i> =600)	d <sub>n</sub> =6.5 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =7.5 nm	55±1 2.8×10 <sup>5</sup>	70	2±1
5	23	S1C2	8-10 nm	23 / 0.16	d <sub>n</sub> =8.5 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =11.6 nm ( <i>N</i> =3800)	d <sub>n</sub> =8.2 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =10.0 nm	60 3.0×10 <sup>5</sup>	104	9±1
	0.18 0.16 0.14 0.12 0.1 0.08 0.06 0.04 0.02 0 0		15 EM diameter (nn	20 25 30 n)	M/Msat	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0.9 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.7 \\ 0.6 \\ 0.5 \\ 0.4 \\ 0.3 \\ 0.2 \\ 0.1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0$		6000 800 field (Oe)	0 10000
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### Size-sorted "ionic ferrofluid" as elementary bricks

USPIO fraction	Given name in this work	D <sub>H</sub> of bare MNPs in HNO <sub>3</sub> nm / PDI	Average diameters by TEM	Average diameters by VSM	Saturation magnetization emu/g A/m	r₂ (4.7T) s⁻¹mM⁻¹ <sub>Fe</sub>	SLP at f=800 kHz, H <sub>o</sub> =11 kA/m W/g
S1S2S3	6-7 nm	11 / 0.12	d <sub>n</sub> =4.9 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =6.9 nm ( <i>N</i> =600)	d <sub>n</sub> =6.5 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =7.5 nm	55±1 2.8×10⁵	70	2±1
S1C2	8-10 nm	23 / 0.16	d <sub>n</sub> =8.5 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =11.6 nm ( <i>N</i> =3800)	d <sub>n</sub> =8.2 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =10.0 nm	60 3.0×10⁵	104	9±1
 C1C25354	10-15 nm	38 / 0.26	d <sub>n</sub> =13.8 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =20 nm ( <i>N</i> =1140)	d <sub>n</sub> =10.4 nm, d <sub>w</sub> =14.8 nm	70±1 3.5×10 <sup>5</sup>	293	80±5







### Magnetization curves along the size-grading process







### Magnetic/magneto-optical properties of size-sorted MNPs nèr<mark>es O</mark>rganiques





# Synthesis & properties of multi-core "nanoflowers"

L. Lartigue, P. Hugounenq, D. Alloyeau, S. P. Clarke, M. Lévy, J-C. Bacri, R. Bazzi, D. F. Brougham, C. Wilhelm, F. Gazeau, ACS Nano 6, 10935–10949 (2012)

umèr<mark>es O</mark>rganiques



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NSCBP



# Nanoflower synthesis: the New Orleans method







- 1) D. Caruntu, G. Caruntu, Y. Chen, C. J. O'Connor, G. Goloverda, V. L. Kolesnichenko, *Chem. Mater.* **2004**, *16*, 5527-5534;
- 2) S. Sun and H. Zeng et al, J. A. C. S., 2002, 124, 8204-8205 and 2004, 126, 273-279

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3) F.A. Tourinho, R. Franck, R. Massart, J. Materials Science 1990, 25, 3249-3254



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# Large library of sample batches

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Batch name	Nomenclature
15ff	DN1000 <sub>HU</sub> -5h
17ff	D5000 <sub>HI</sub> -20m
25ff	DN500 <sub>HU</sub> -4h
30ff	DN1000 <sub>HU</sub> -5h
31ff	DN500 <sub>HU</sub> -1h
32ff	DN500 <sub>HU</sub> -5h
34ff	DN100 <sub>HU</sub> -5h*
35ff	DN100 <sub>HU</sub> -5h
36ff	DN100 <sub>HU</sub> -5h

Vary  $\mu L$  water in 120 g polyol mixture:

EG: Ethylene Glycol	D=pure DEG			
DEG: Diethylene Glycol	DN=DEG/NMDEA (1:1)			
TEG: Triethylene Glycol	DD=DEG/DEA (1:1)			
DEA: Diethanolamine	TD=TEG/DEA (1:1)			
NMDEA: N-methyldiethanolamine				
TEA: Triethanolamine	HU=heating up			
DIA: N-ethyl Diisopropylar	nine HI=hot injection			
	* no stirring			

Batch name	Nomenclature
28AA	DN100 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
29AA	DN200 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
02MA	DN300 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
09MA	DN400 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
10MA	DN500 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
11MA	DN50 <sub>HU</sub> -220-5h-Cl
27MA	DN0-220-5h-Acac
12MA	DN100-220-5h-Acac
17MA	DN200-220-5h-Acac
18MA	DN300-220-5h-Acac
19MA	DN400-220-5h-Acac
20MA	DN500-220-5h-Acac
15JA	DD100-250-5h-Cl
10JA	TD100-250-5h-Cl

Cl=2 mmol FeCl<sub>2</sub>, 4 mmolFeCl<sub>3</sub>,16 mmol NaOH Acac=6 mmol Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub>,16 mmol NaOH





# Study of polyol route: fate of solvent molecules





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# Study of polyol route: fate of solvent molecules

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# Study of polyol route: fate of solvent molecules



- Can be oxidized in boiling  $Fe(NO_3)_3$ :  $Fe_3O_4 \rightarrow \gamma Fe_2O_3$
- Washed and stabilized in water at pH~7 with citrate ligand or PEG-phosphonate

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# Hydrodynamic size by DLS



	Figure	Batch	D <sub>h</sub> (nm)	PDI		
	а	5ff	36	0.22		
	b	7ff	32	0.14		
	С	12ff	44	0.18		
	d	15ff	46	0.23		
	е	17ff	24	0.32		
	f	19ff	22	0.18		
	g	20ff	16	0.21		
	h	21ff	27	0.14		
	i	22ff	43	0.14		
	j	25ff	55	0.26		
	k	26ff	36	0.10		
	I	27ff	50	0.11		
	m	29ff	37	0.16		
	n	31ff	33	0.08		
	0	32ff	21	0.13		
	р	33ff	45	0.12		
	q	34ff	30	0.19		
	r	35ff	36	0.13		
) 16 12 8 4 0	Time ( $\mu$ s) 0.1 10 1000 10 <sup>5</sup> 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10					

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### Variety of $Fe_3O_4$ NP batches synthesized in DEG:NMDEA $\langle d \rangle = d_0 e^{\sigma^2/2}$ $var(d) = d_0^2 (e^{\sigma^2/2} - 1)$





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# Example of ultra-small nanosphere sample: 17FF



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# Example of medium size nanosphere sample: 25FF

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# Example of very large size nanosphere sample: 34FF



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# Example of nanoflower sample: 15FF







Necessity to measure precisely iron oxide concentration

Experimental measurement of all properties ( $m_S$ ,  $\Delta n_S$ , SHP, P(q),  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ...) require the total iron concentration.

Available methods are:

• Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (or ICP): sensitive (10<sup>-5</sup>M) but ±5%

• Redox titration (Charlot) by K<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>/SnCl<sub>2</sub>: precise (±1%) but not sensitive (10<sup>-1</sup>M)

• Whole UV-Vis curve: precise (±1%) and sensitive (10<sup>-4</sup>M)



• "Ferrozine assay": highly sensitive (10<sup>-7</sup>M) from OD<sub>562nm</sub> according to Small 5 (2009) 256

UV-Vis extinction is independent on MNP size distribution es Organiques



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Conclusion on Part 1 (Synthesis & Properties of MNPs)

- Since 30 years, the aqueous route (alkaline coprecipitation) leads to a quantitative production (~100g dry γ–Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) of magnetic nanoparticles that can be further functionalized (organic solvent, polymer matrix, biological coatings...). Today the up-scalable method is <u>polyol route</u>.
- Samples have inherent size / shape polydispersity, which can be a drawback for long-range ordering (*e.g.* colloidal or liquid crystals) but, according to Curie's principle, this is a great advantage to get large physical properties!
- The outlooks for biological applications (MRI contrast agents and magnetic hyperthermia) might be to play on the anisotropy constant *K*<sub>a</sub> (shape anisotropy or other "irregularity") rather than on the size only, because of the difficulty to stabilize large MNPs (*e.g.* Ø>20nm) in biological media (ionic strength and flocculent proteins).