

Unconventional superconducting characteristics of heavy fermion actinide superconductors

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Collaborators

Np samples :

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Pu samples :

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TRU measurements / characterization :

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H. Chudo, Y. Tokunaga, S. Kambe, H. Yasuoka (JAEA-Tokai)

Rare earth samples :

F. Honda, R. Settai, Y. Onuki (Osaka Univ.)

Discussions :

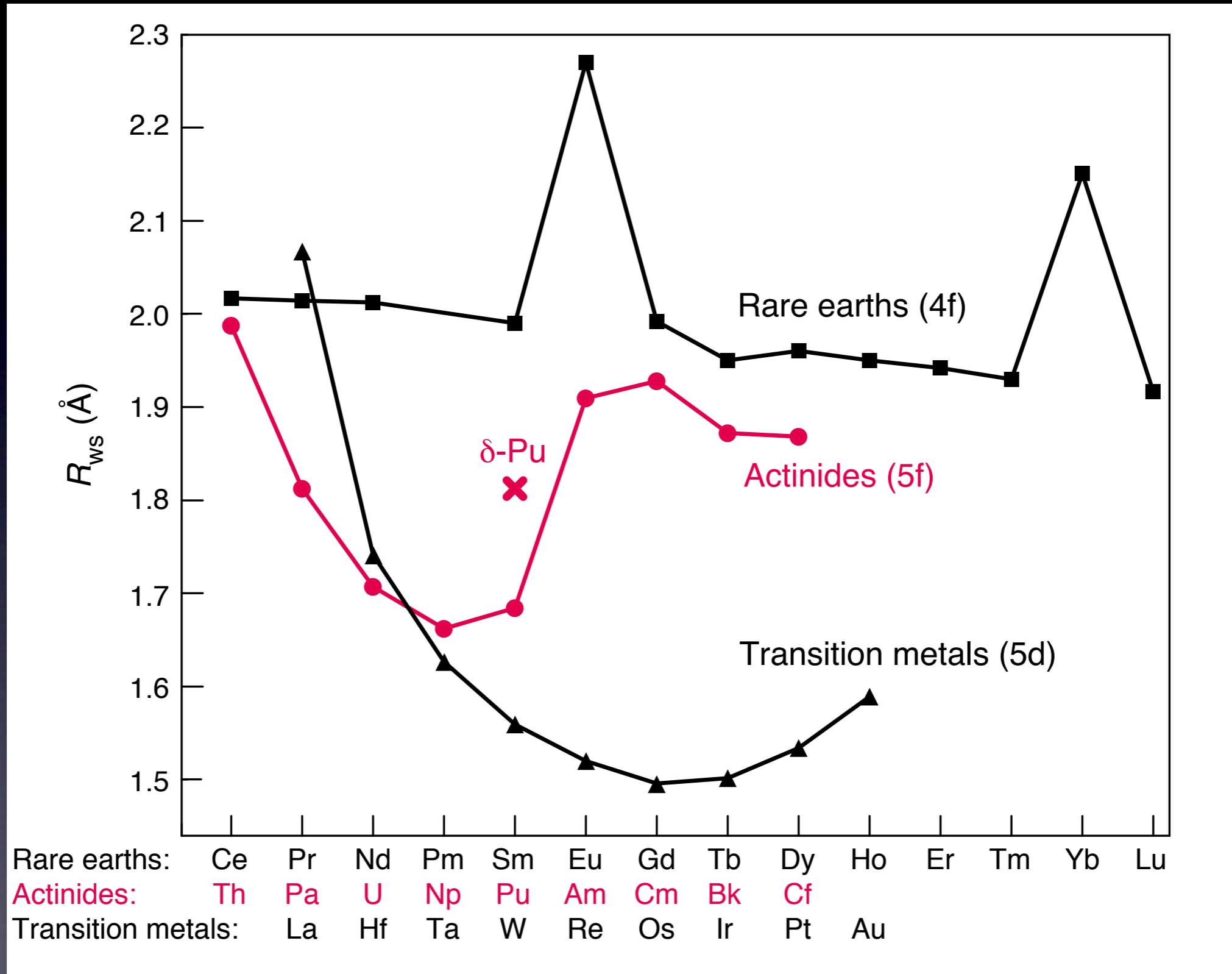
K. Gofryk (LANL), J.-C. Griveau, E. Colineau, R. Caciuffo (ITU)

Z. Fisk

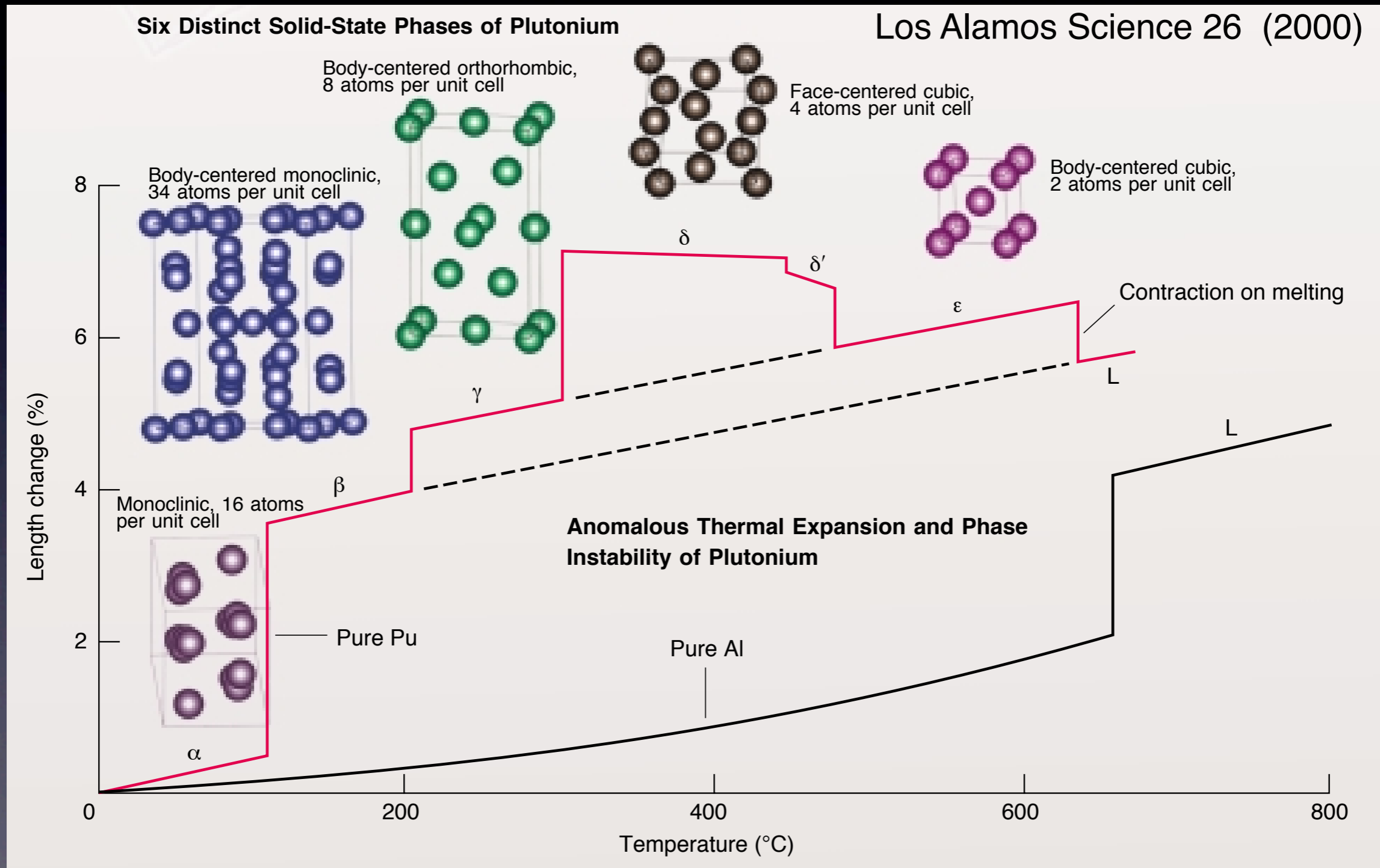
Outline

1. Introduction to actinide material
2. Crystal growth facility
3. Bulk magnetization anomaly in the superconducting state

Wigner-Seitz radius



4f : La Ce Pr Nd Pm Sm ...
 5f : Ac Th Pa U Np Pu ...



Structural Transition in Pu metal

f-electron Heavy Fermion superconductors

Jan 8, 2012 Beijing
1991 Hg

	compound	T _c (K)	C _e / T (mJ/K ² mol)	T _m (K)		
1979	CeCu ₂ Si ₂	0.6	~ 1000		1961 Nb ₃ Sn	
	UPt ₃	0.45, 0.55	500	5 (fluctuating)		
	UBe ₁₃	0.9	1000			
	U ₂ PtC ₂	1.5	75			
1990	URu ₂ Si ₂	1.4	60	17.5	1986 cuprate	
	UPd ₂ Al ₃	2.0	145	14.3		
	UNi ₂ Al ₃	1.0	300	4		
2001	CeIn ₃ , CePd ₂ Si ₂ , CeRh ₂ Si ₂ : pressure-induced					2001 MgB ₂
	CeCoIn ₅	2.3	500			
	CeRhIn ₅ : pressure-induced					
2002	CeIrIn ₅	0.4	500			2004 diamond
	PuCoGa ₅	18.5	70			
	PuRhGa ₅	8.5	70			
	URhGe	0.15	150	10 (ferro)		
	CePt ₃ Si	0.5	300	2.3		
2006	PrOs ₄ Sb ₁₂	1.5	~ 500		2008 Fe-As	
	CeT ₃ Si ₃ (T = Rh, Ir), CeCoGe ₃ , UIr : pressure-induced					
2007	NpPd ₅ Al ₂	4.9	200		2008 Fe-As	
	UCoGe	0.8	150	3 (ferro)		

Sample Preparation

Starting material (available amount)

Th (kg), U (kg), NpO₂ (10 g), ²³⁹Pu (10 g), ²⁴²PuO₂ (1 g)

Purification of starting material

Th, U : solid state electrotransport

Np : amalgamation process

Pu : coupled-reduction technique

Crystal growth technique

Czochralski pulling: Th & U

Flux growth : all elements

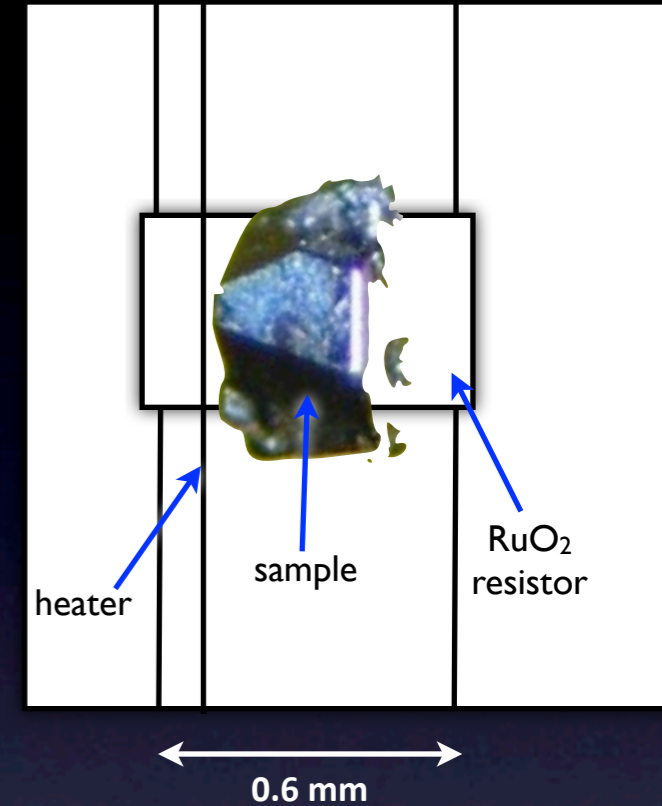
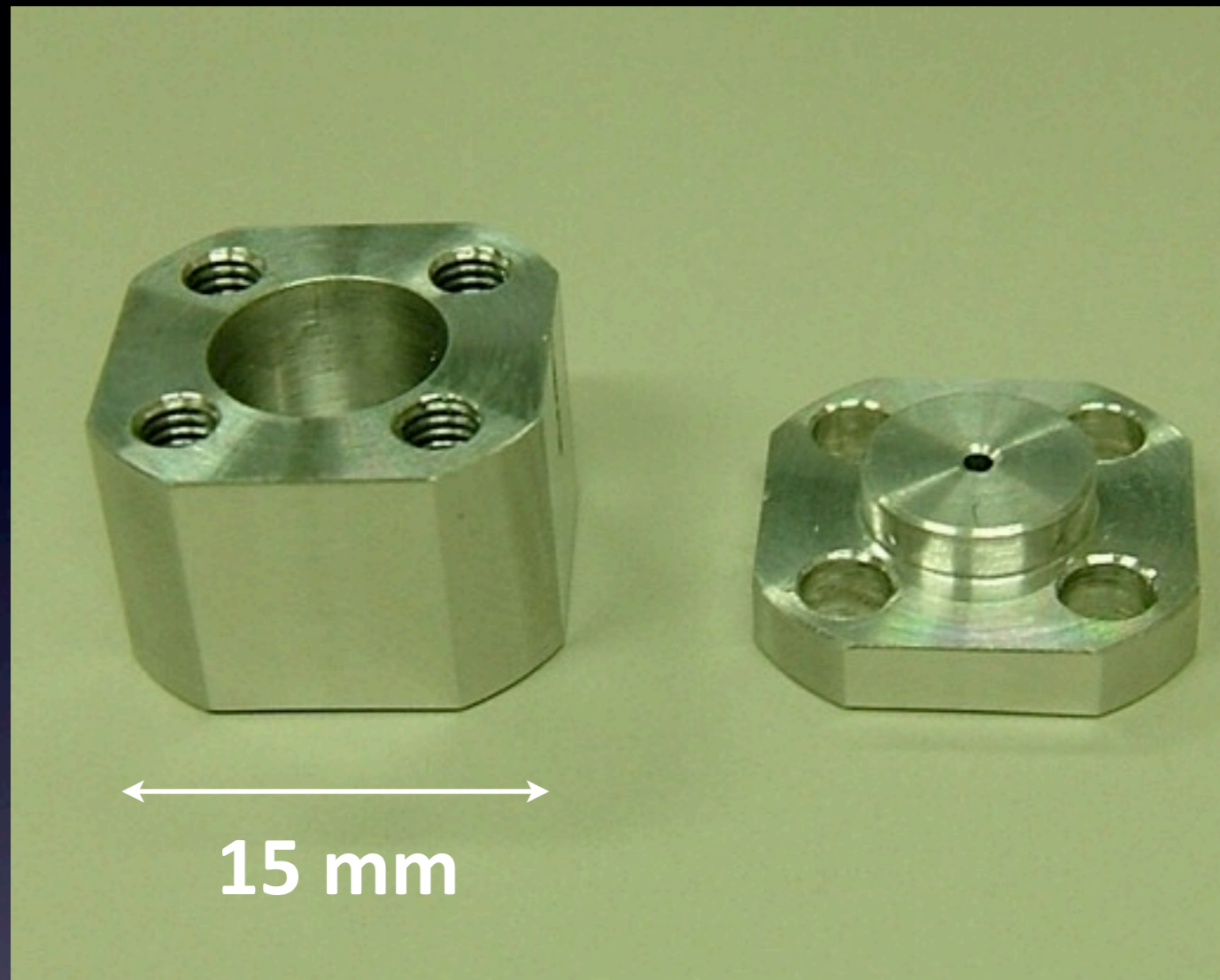
Bridgman growth : all elements

Vapor transport : Th, U, Np

Characterization

XRD (powder / single crystal), EPMA

mini vacuum chamber for Transuranium measurement



specific heat setup
semi quantitative ac-method

metallic container (Al or Bs) (15 x 15 x 15 mm³)
indium-sealed (no superleak)
electrical feed through
fits in DR and 15 T magnet with rotator

JAEA Tokai

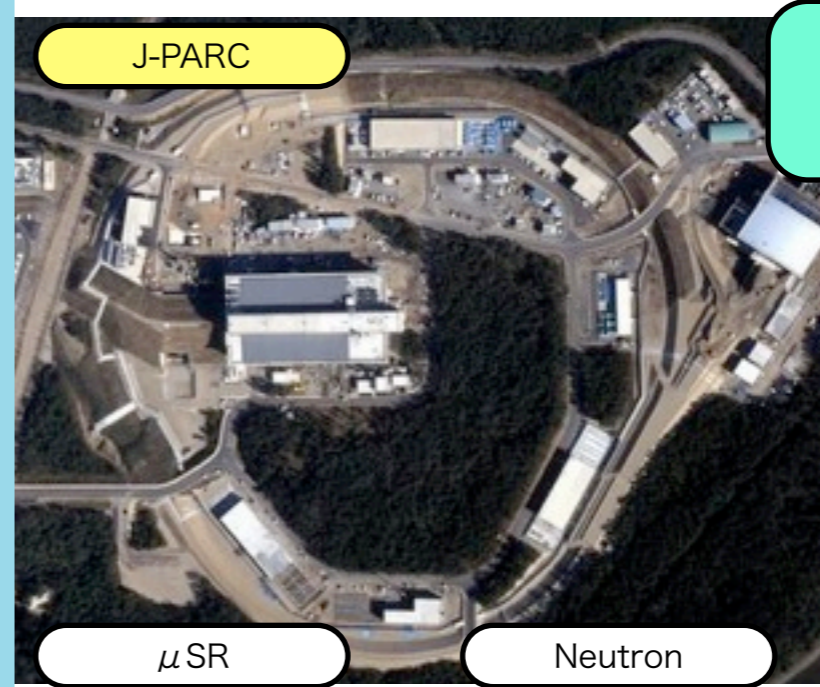
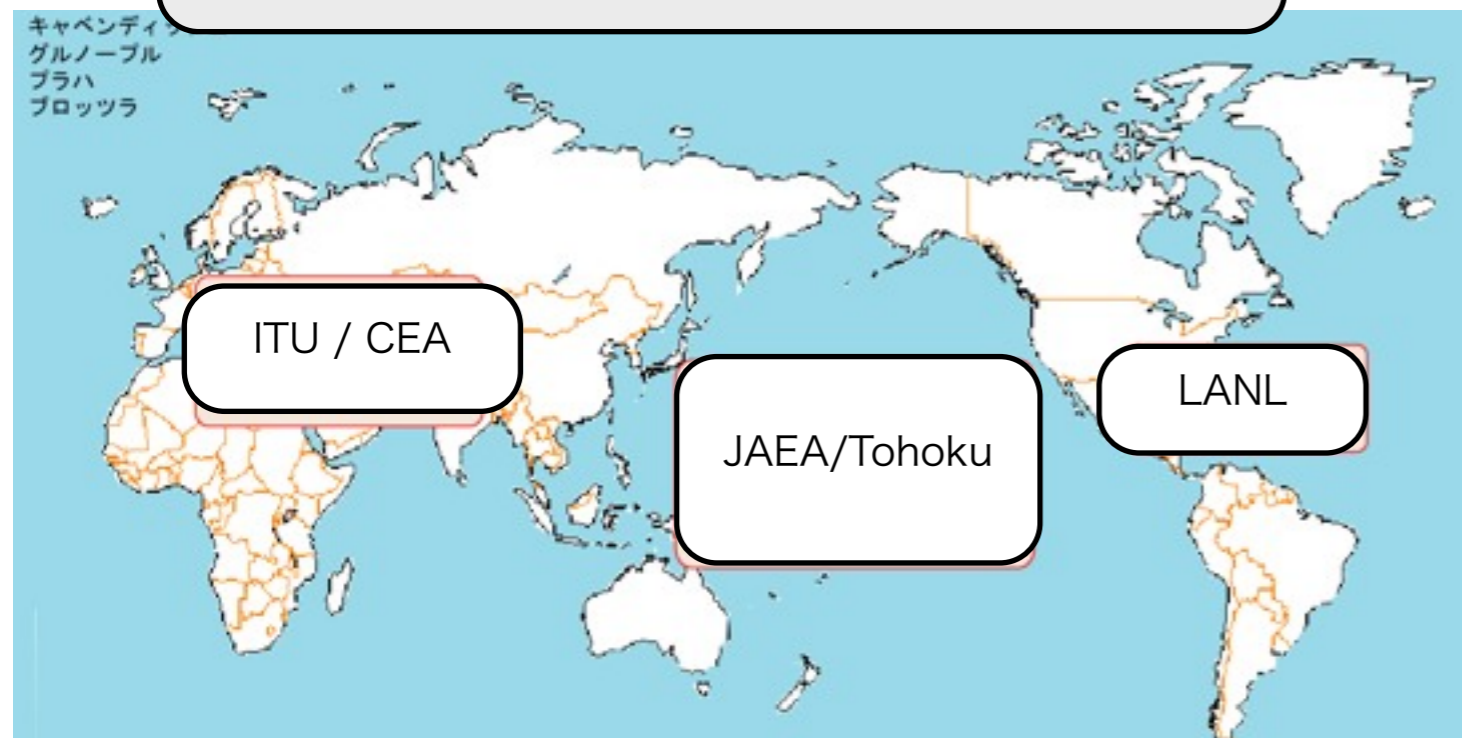
Th, U compounds

Bulk properties
Characterization
Neutron reactor : JRR-3
Neutron/Muon : J-PARC
High pressure

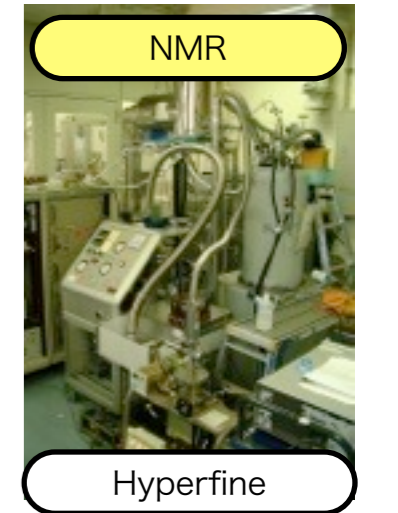
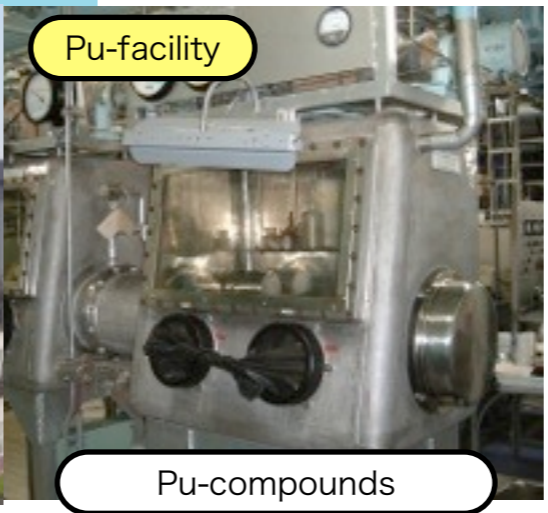
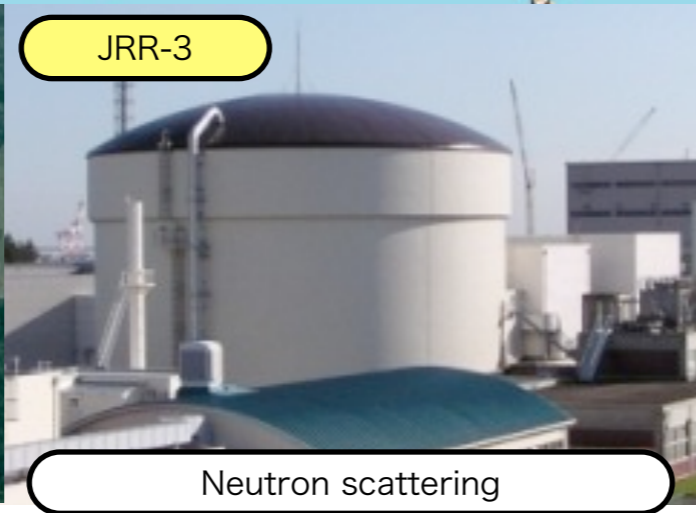
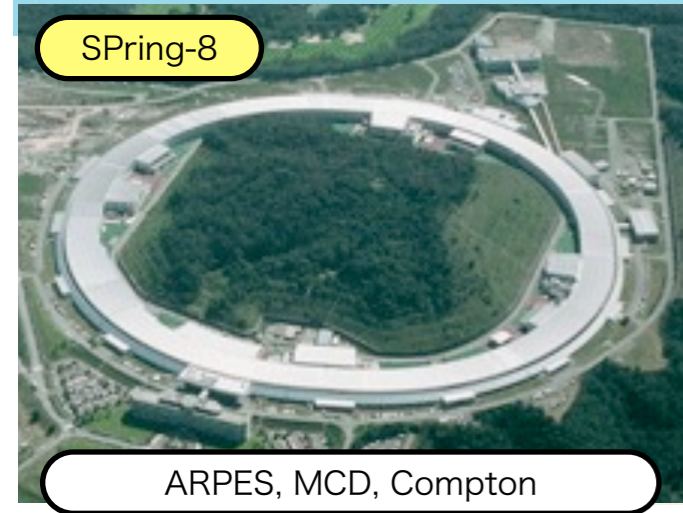
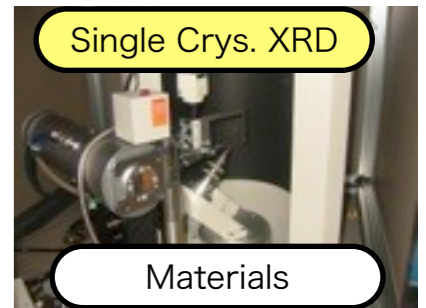
JAEA Oarai / Tohoku Univ.

Np, Pu compound

dHvA
NMR/NQR
Mossbauer

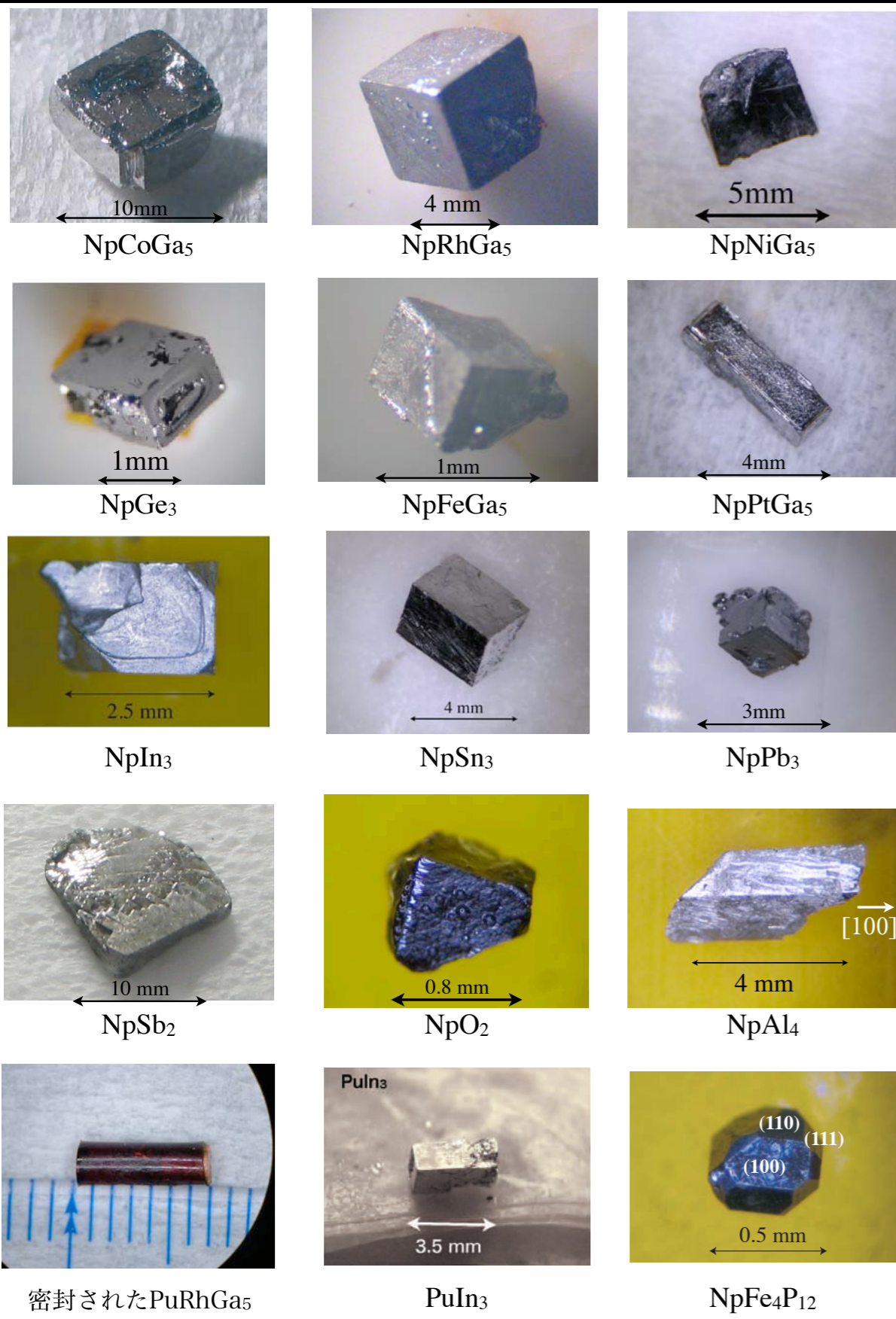


Osaka Univ.
Kyoto Univ.
ISSP Tokyo, etc

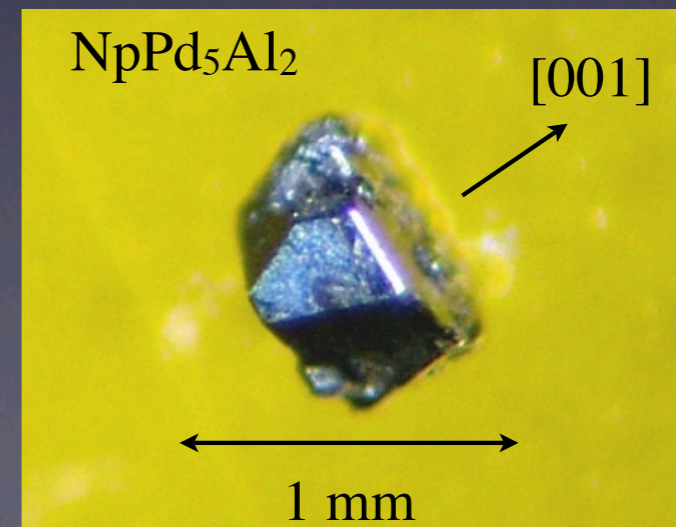
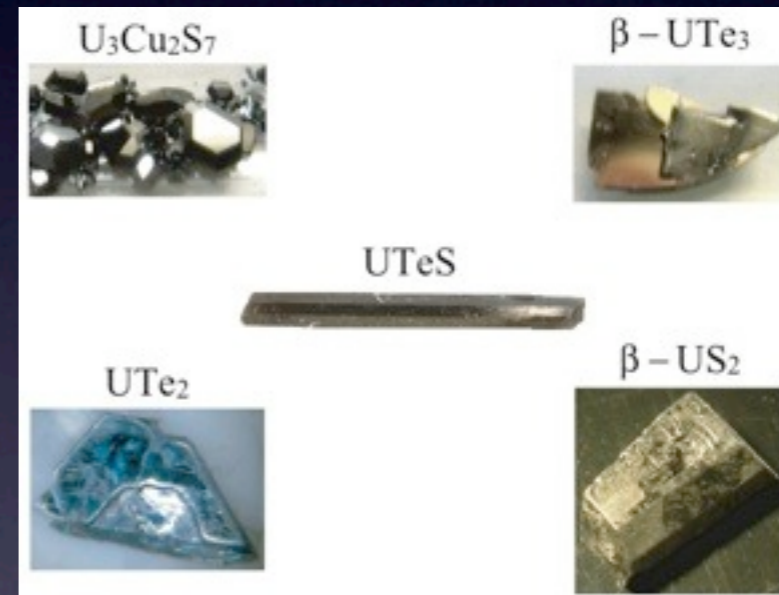
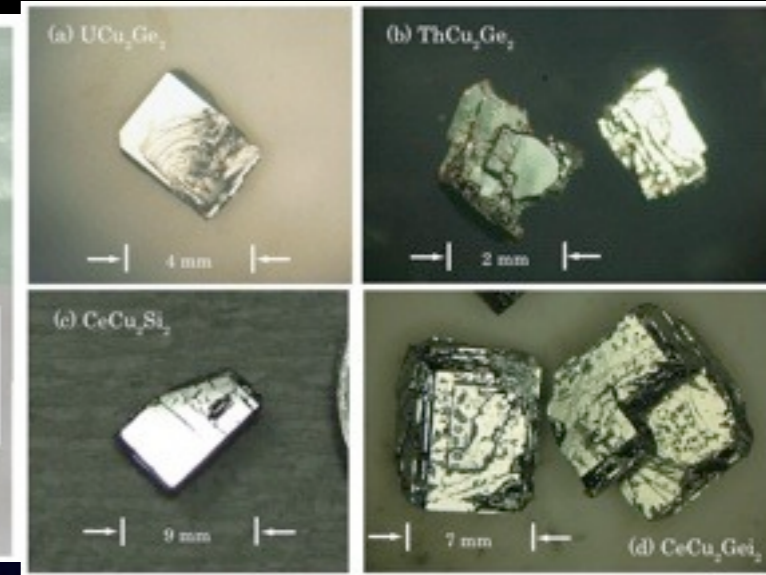
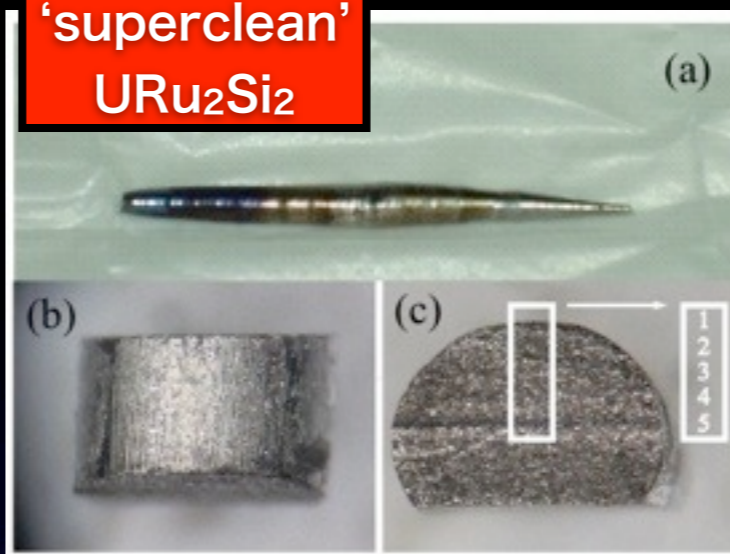


Actinide single crystals

Aoki, Homma, Matsuda, Ikeda, Haga et al. 2003-2011



'superclean'
 URu_2Si_2



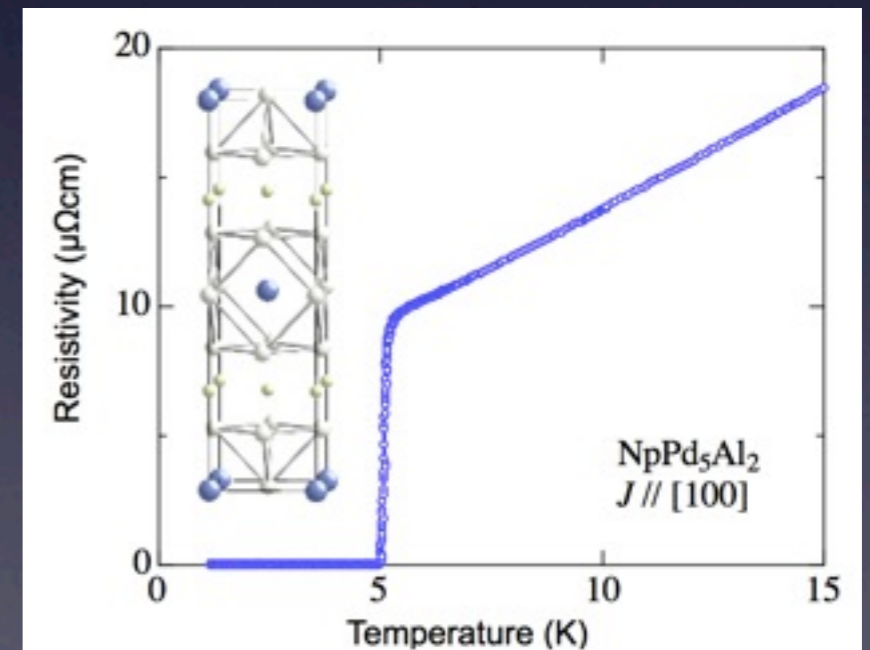
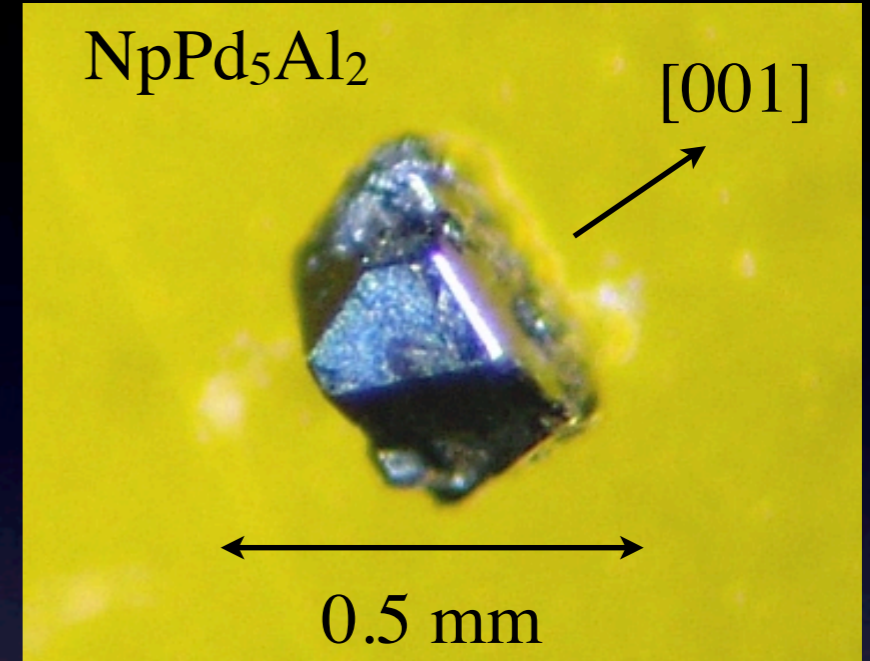
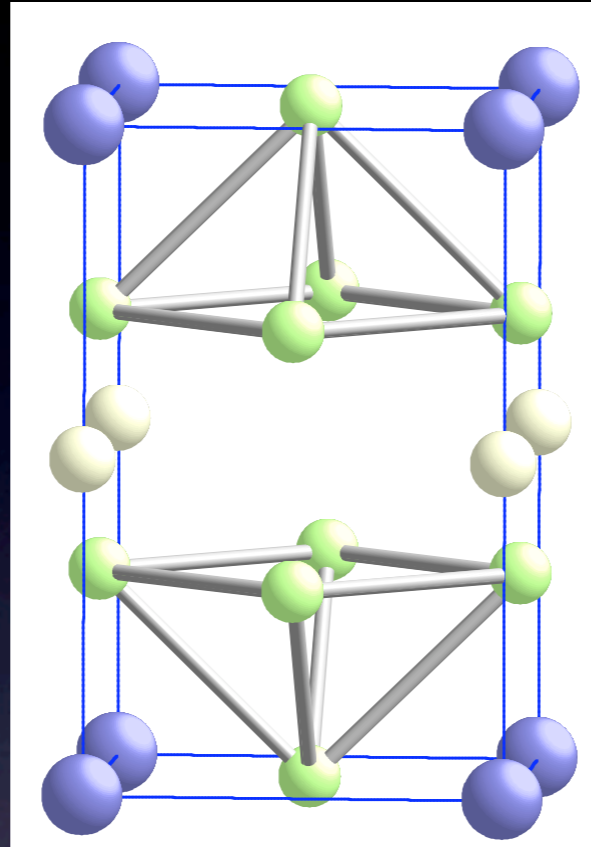
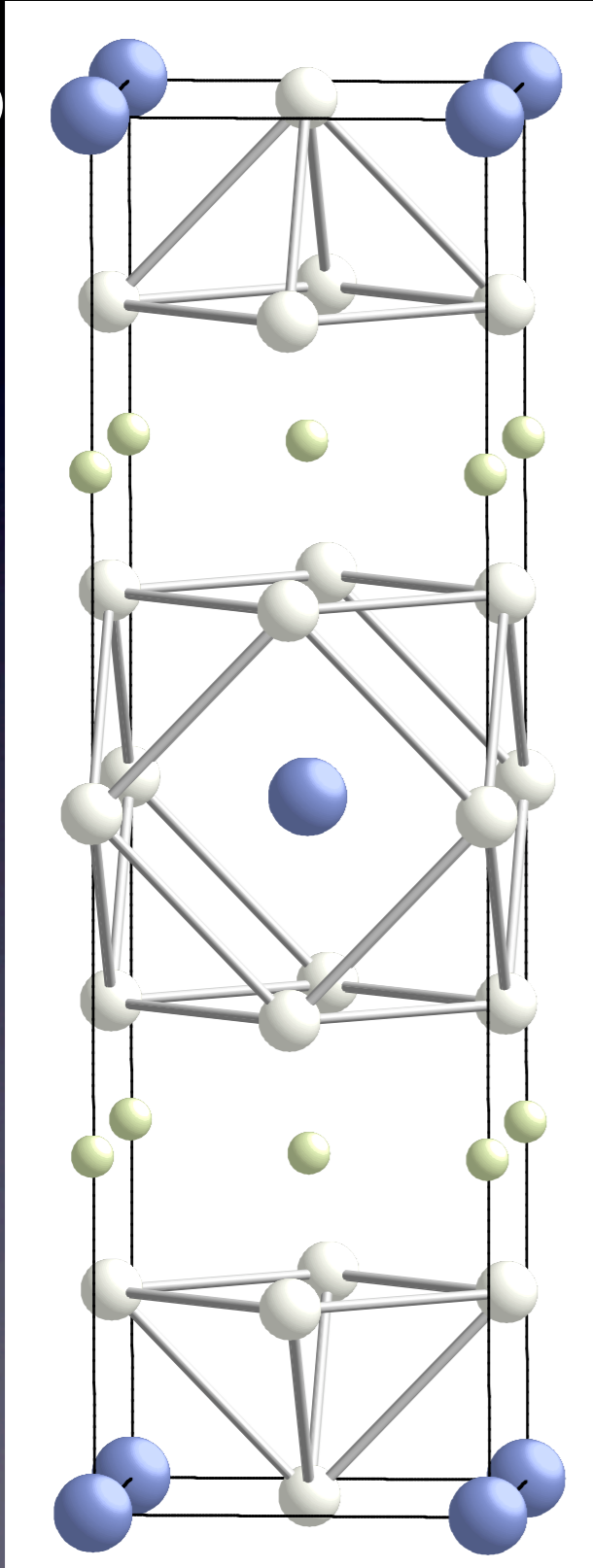
NpPd₅Al₂

NpPd₅Al₂

PuRhGa₅

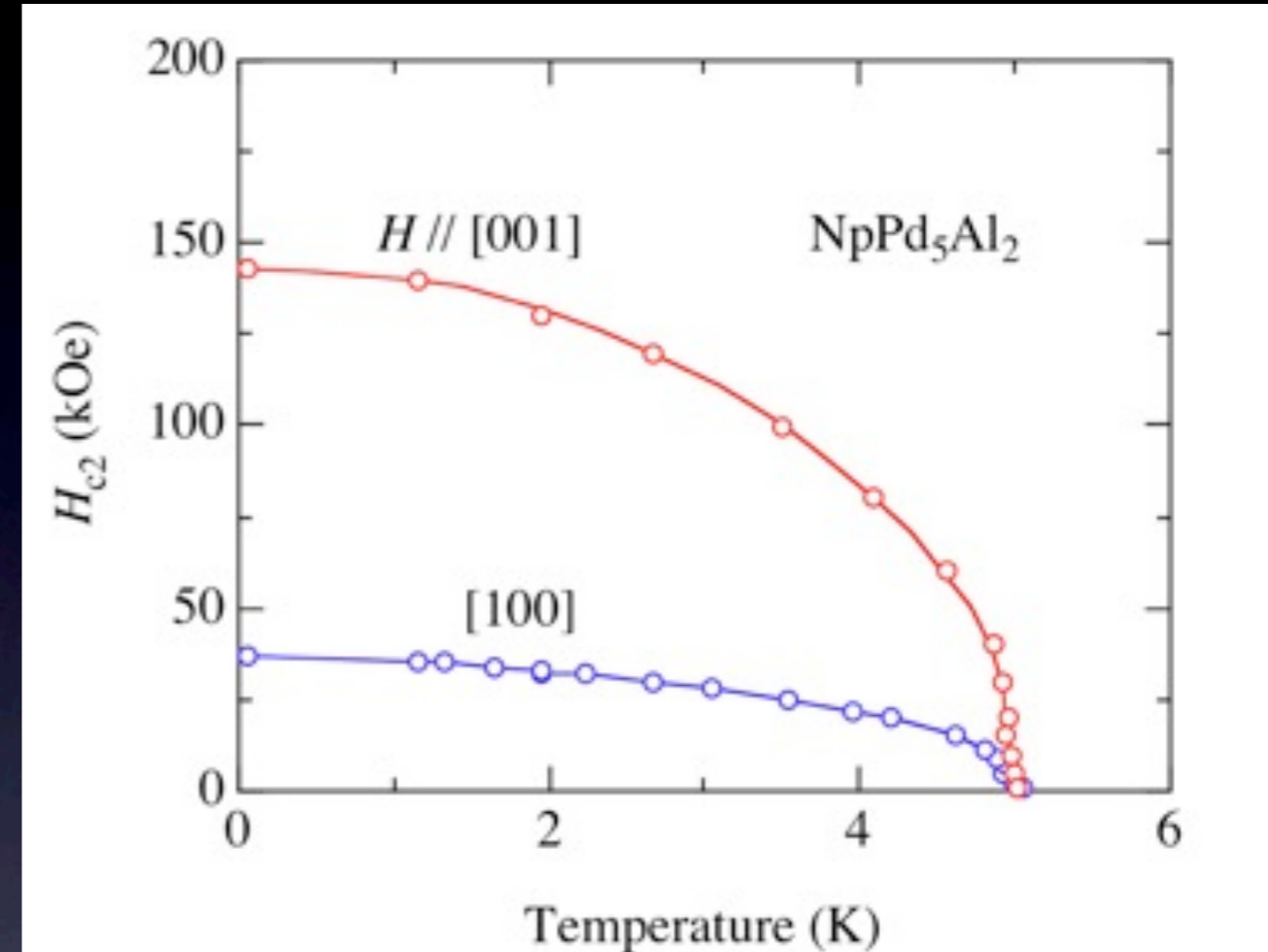
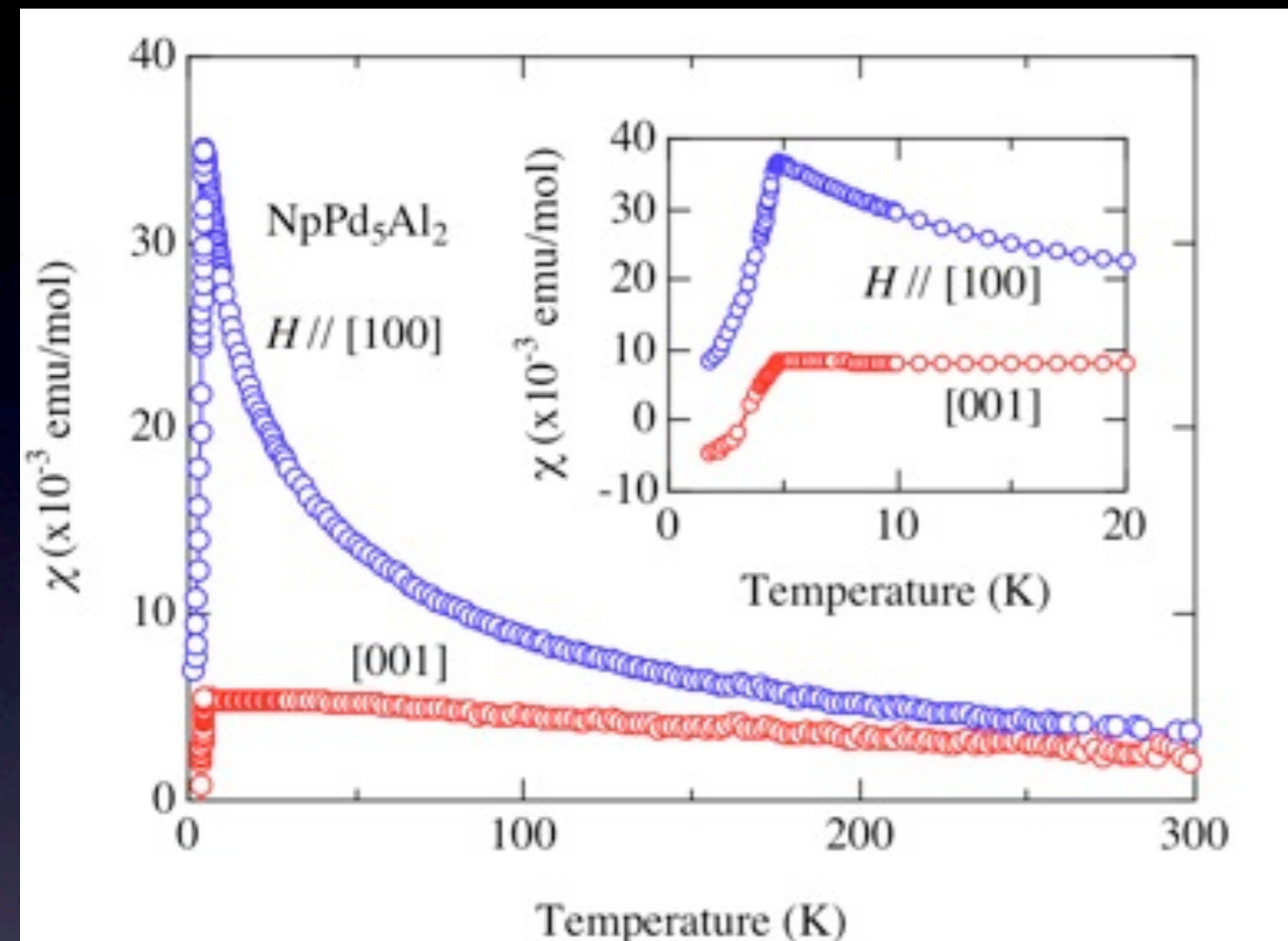
Np
Pd
Al

Pu
Ga
Rh



- first Np-HFSC
- structural similarity with Pu-115 structure

Anisotropy in Magnetism and Superconductivity

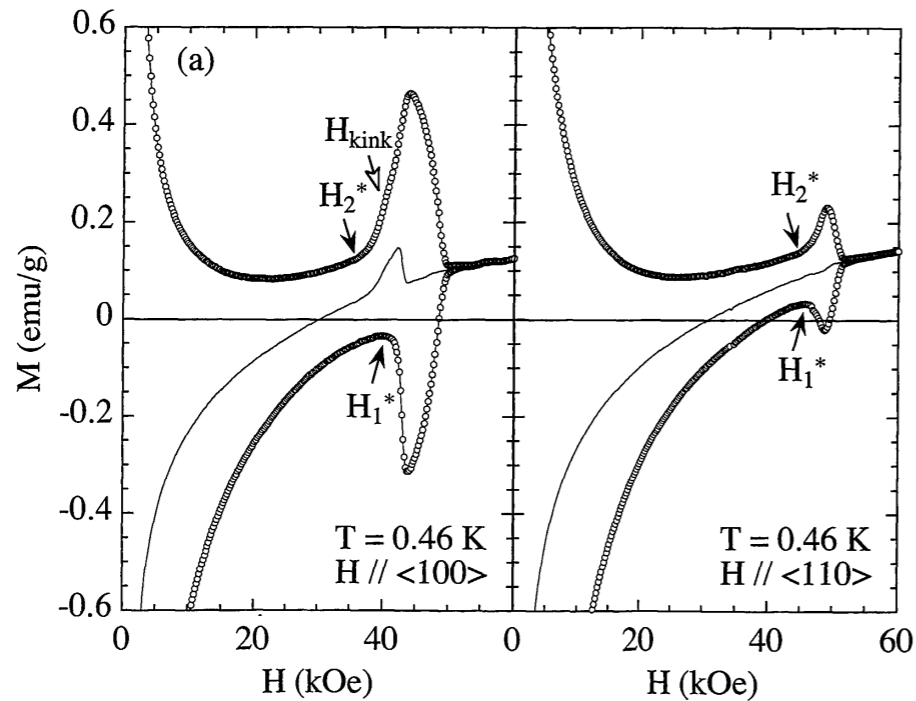


XY-type anisotropy
 $3.22 \mu_B/\text{Np}$ for $[100]$
 ($3.62 \mu_B/\text{Np}$ for Np^{4+} , 2.68 for Np^{3+})

H_{c2} suppressed for magnetic easy axis
 Pauli-limiting --- singlet pairing suggested

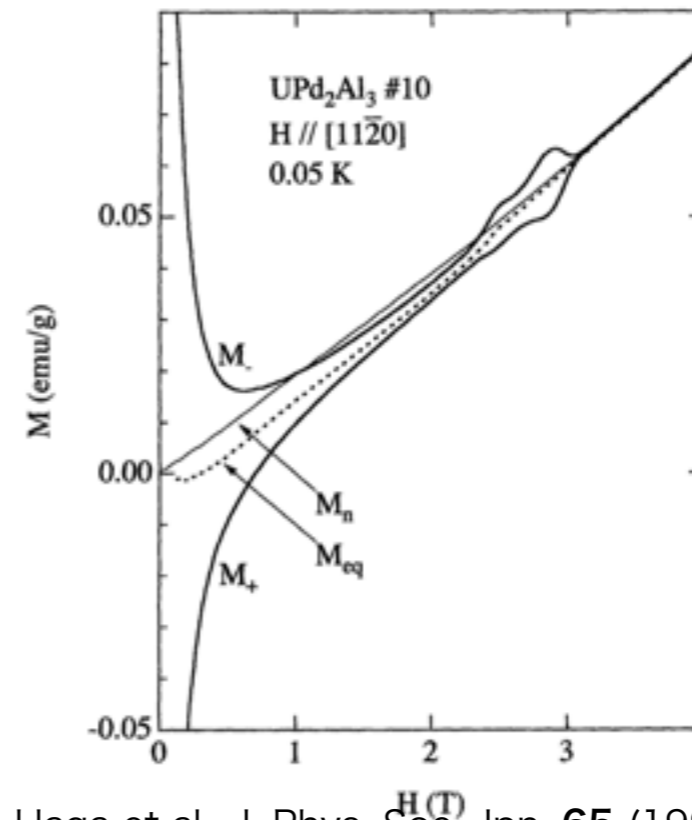
HFSC without 1st order transition at H_{c2} : $CeRu_2$, UPd_2Al_3 , UPt_3 , UBe_{13}

CeRu₂ : s-wave



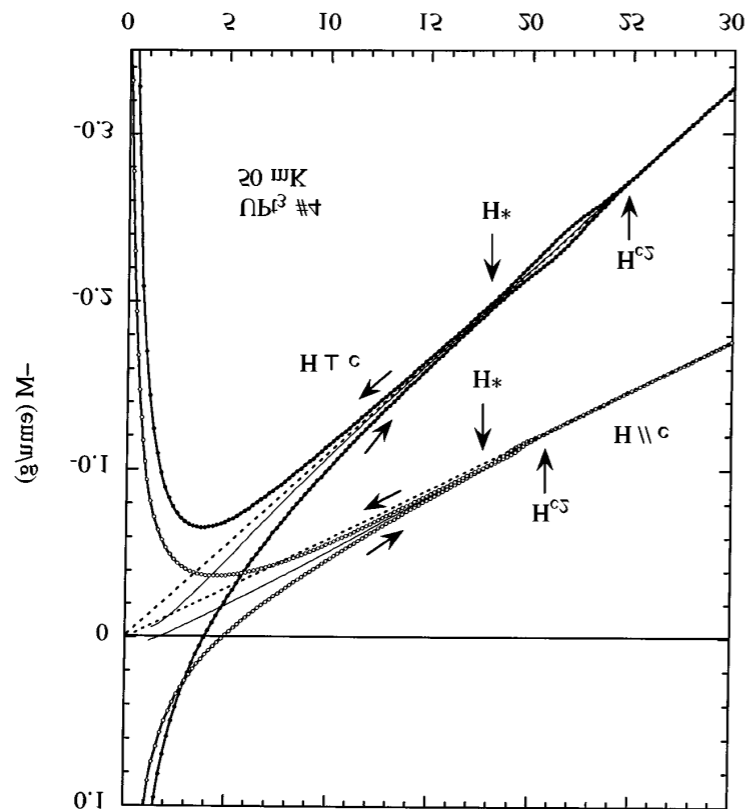
K. Tenya et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **68** (1999) 224.

UPd₂Al₃ : d-wave

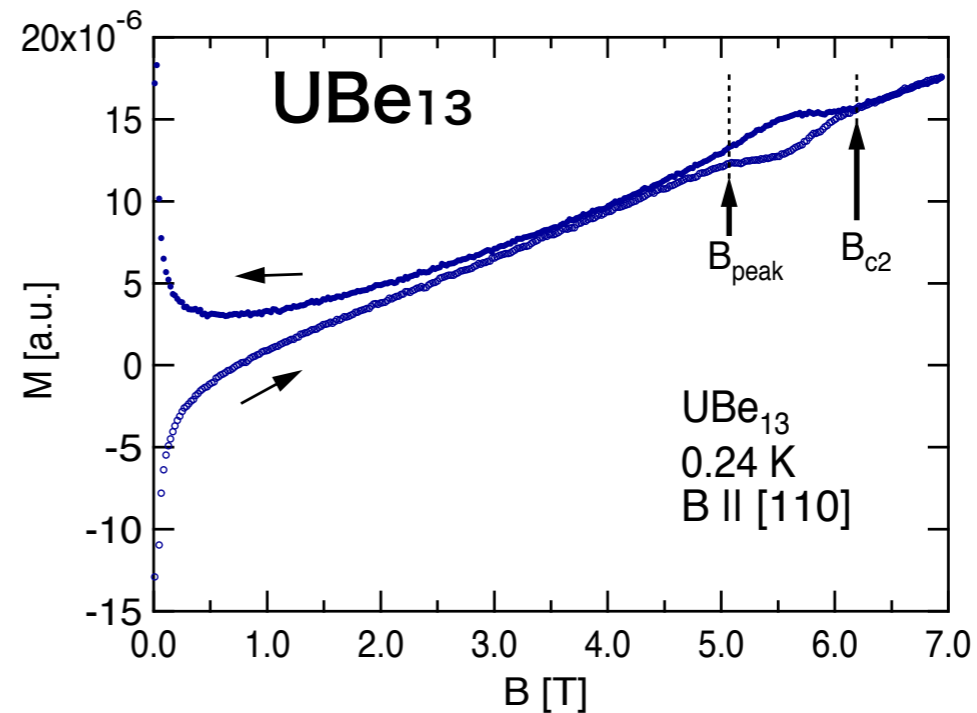


Y. Haga et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **65** (1996) 3646.

UPt₃ : odd parity

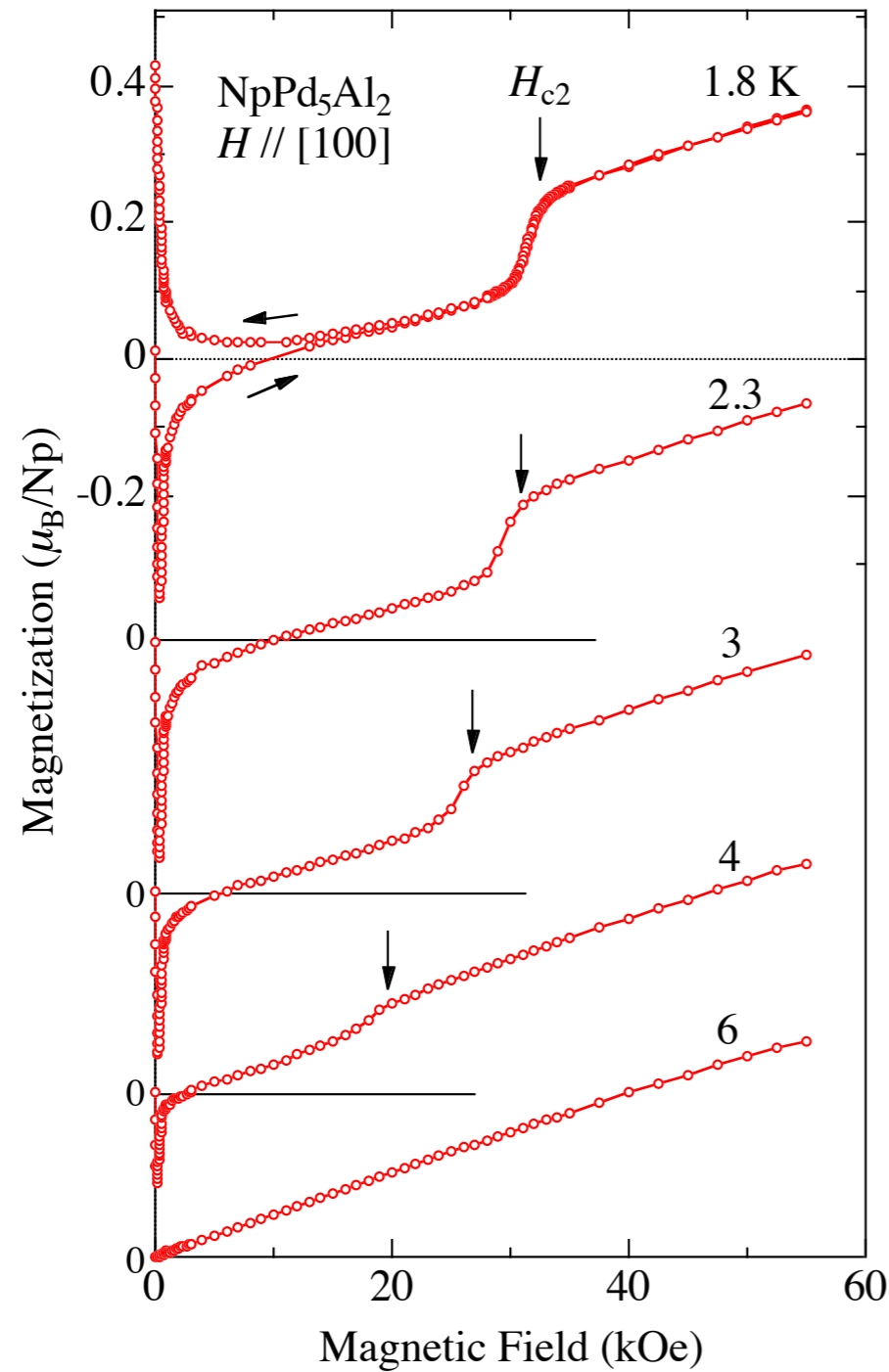


K. Tenya et al., PRL **77**, 3193 (1996)

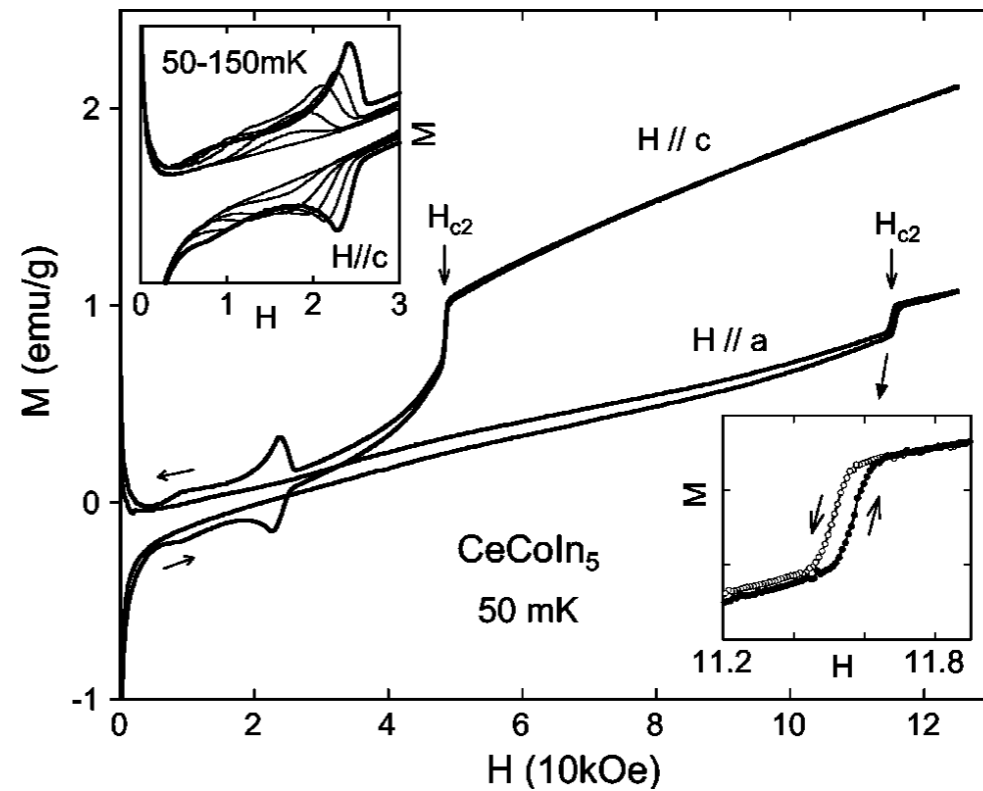


Y. Shimizu et al., J. Phys. Conf. Ser. **273** (2011) 012084

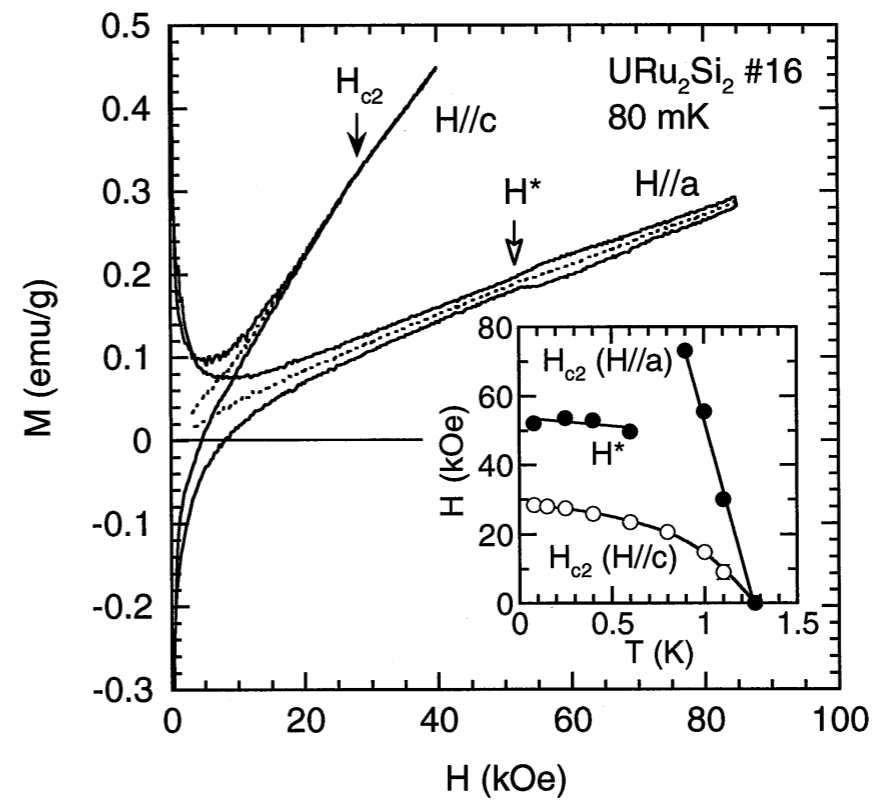
HFSC with 1st order transition at H_{c2} : NpPd_5Al_2 , CeCoIn_5 , URu_2Si_2



D. Aoki et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **76** (2007) 063701.

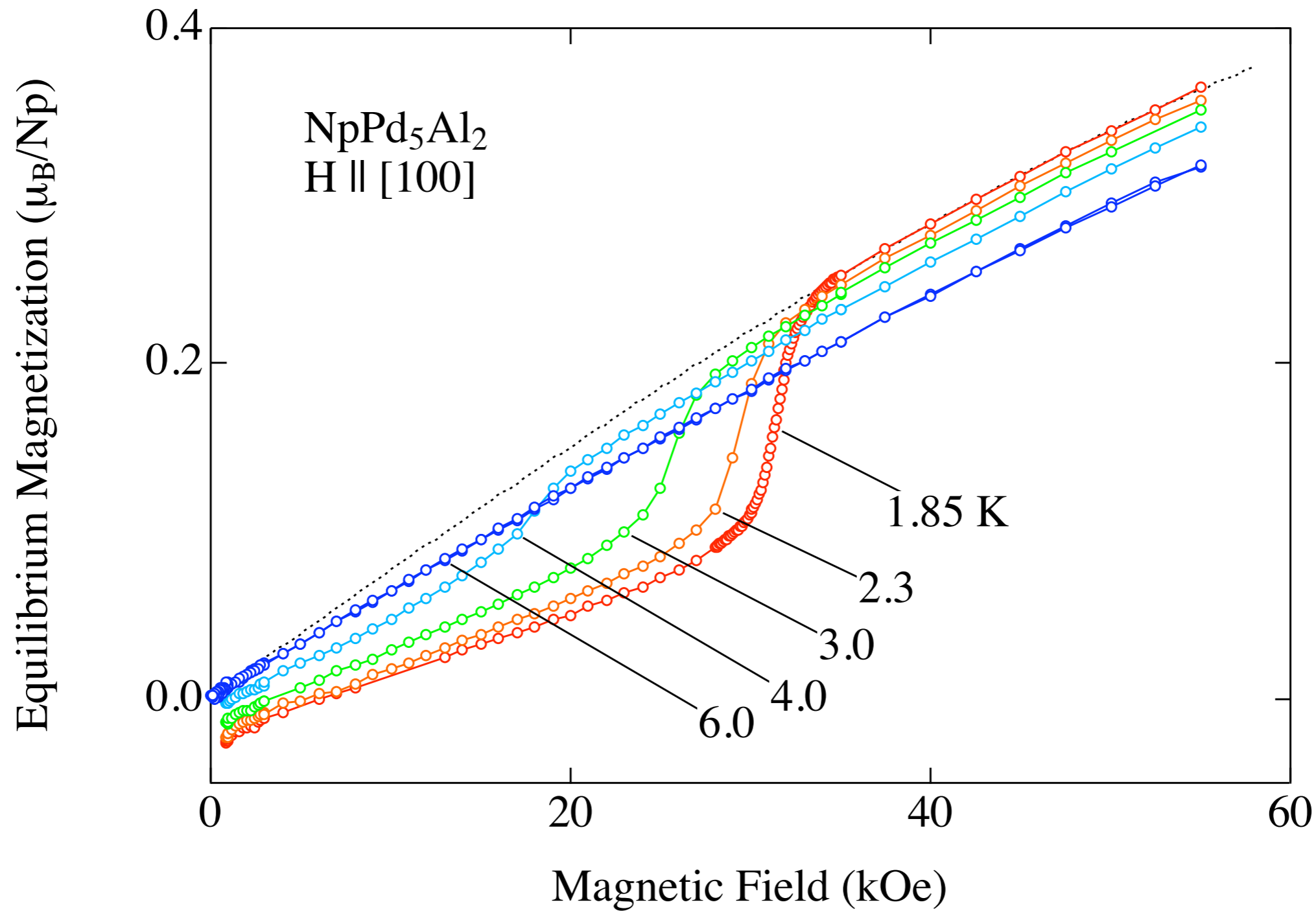


T. Tayama et al., RPB **65**, 180504R (2002)



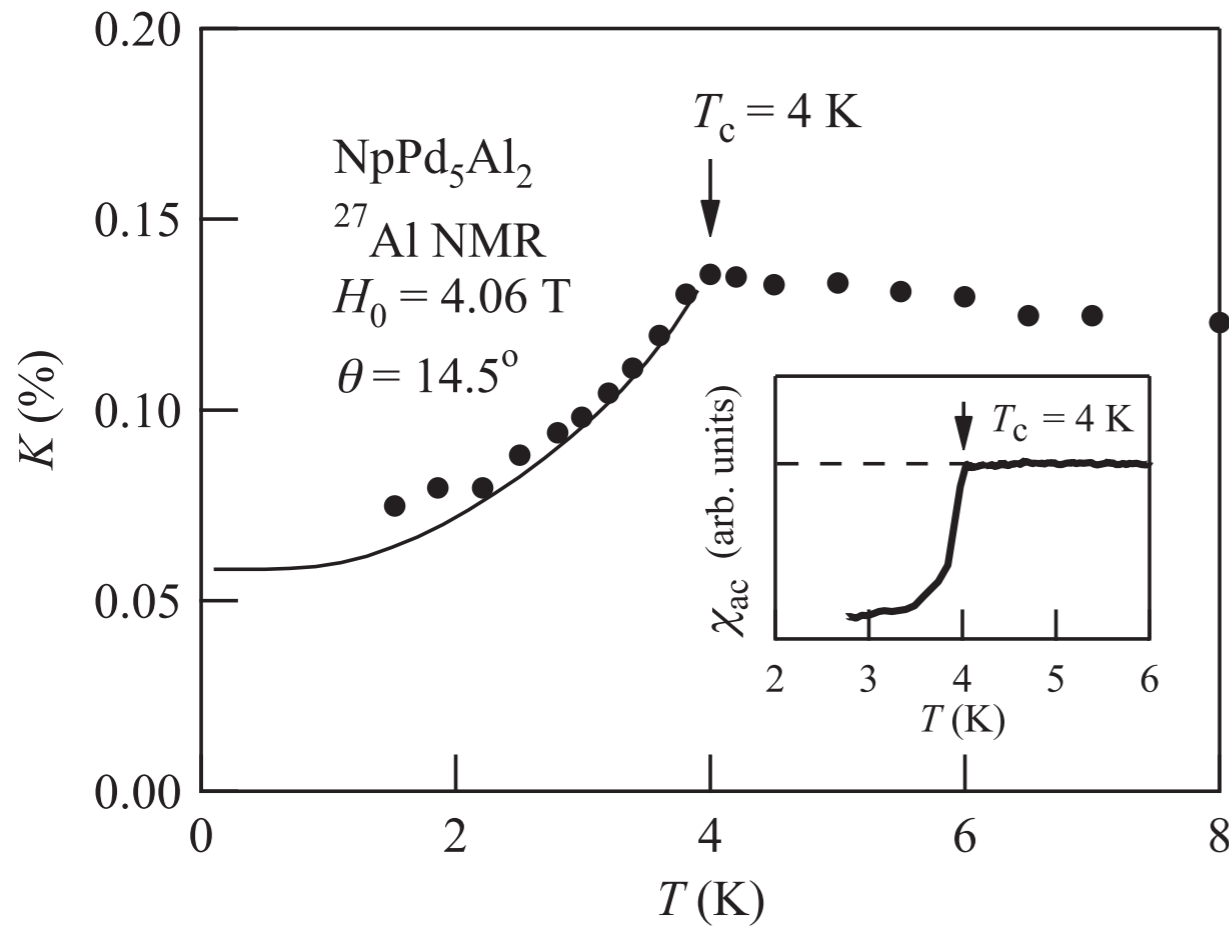
K. Tenya et al., Physica B **281&282** (2000) 991

Equilibrium magnetization :1st order transition at H_{c2}

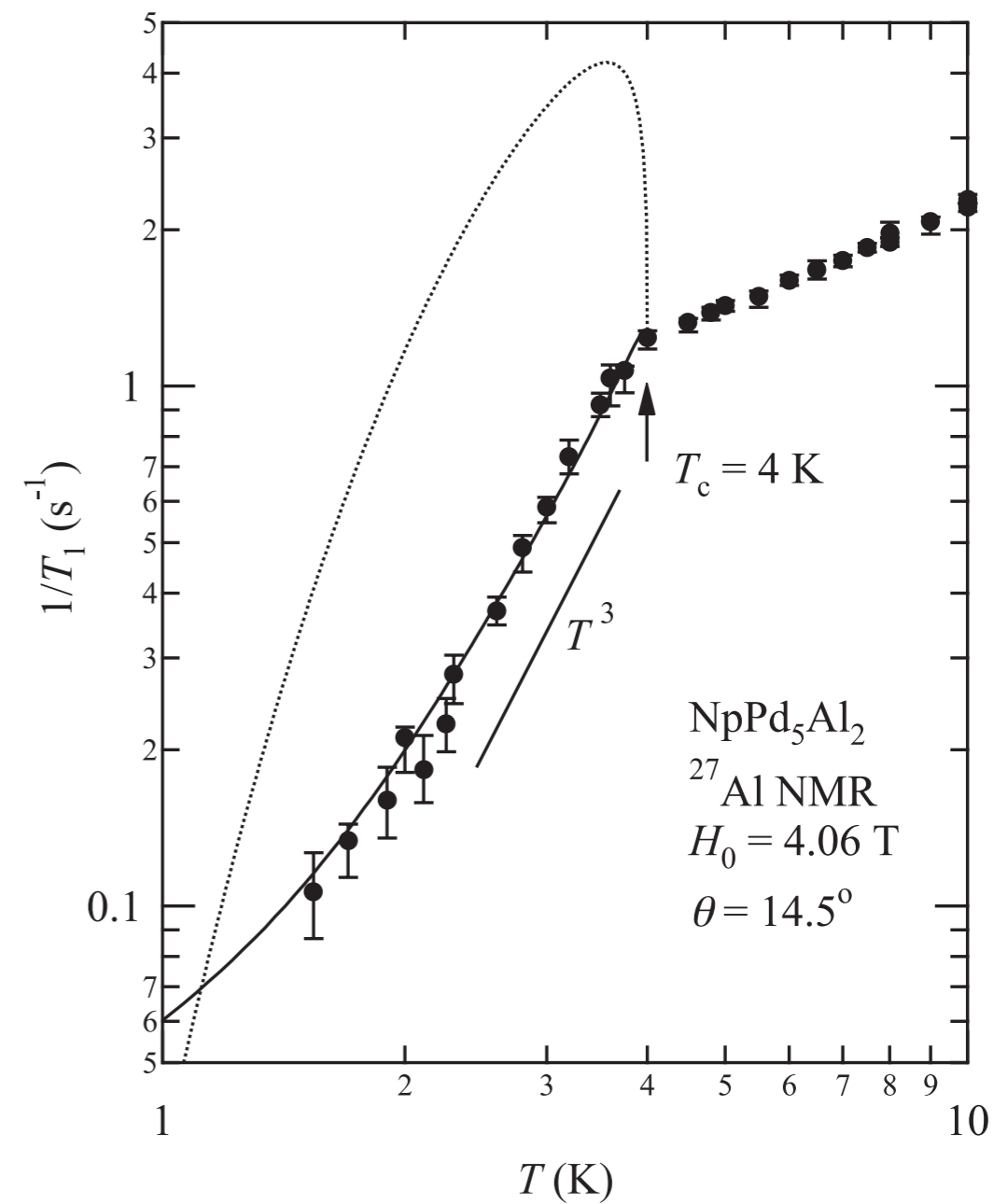


$$M_{\text{eq}} = (M_+ + M_-) / 2$$

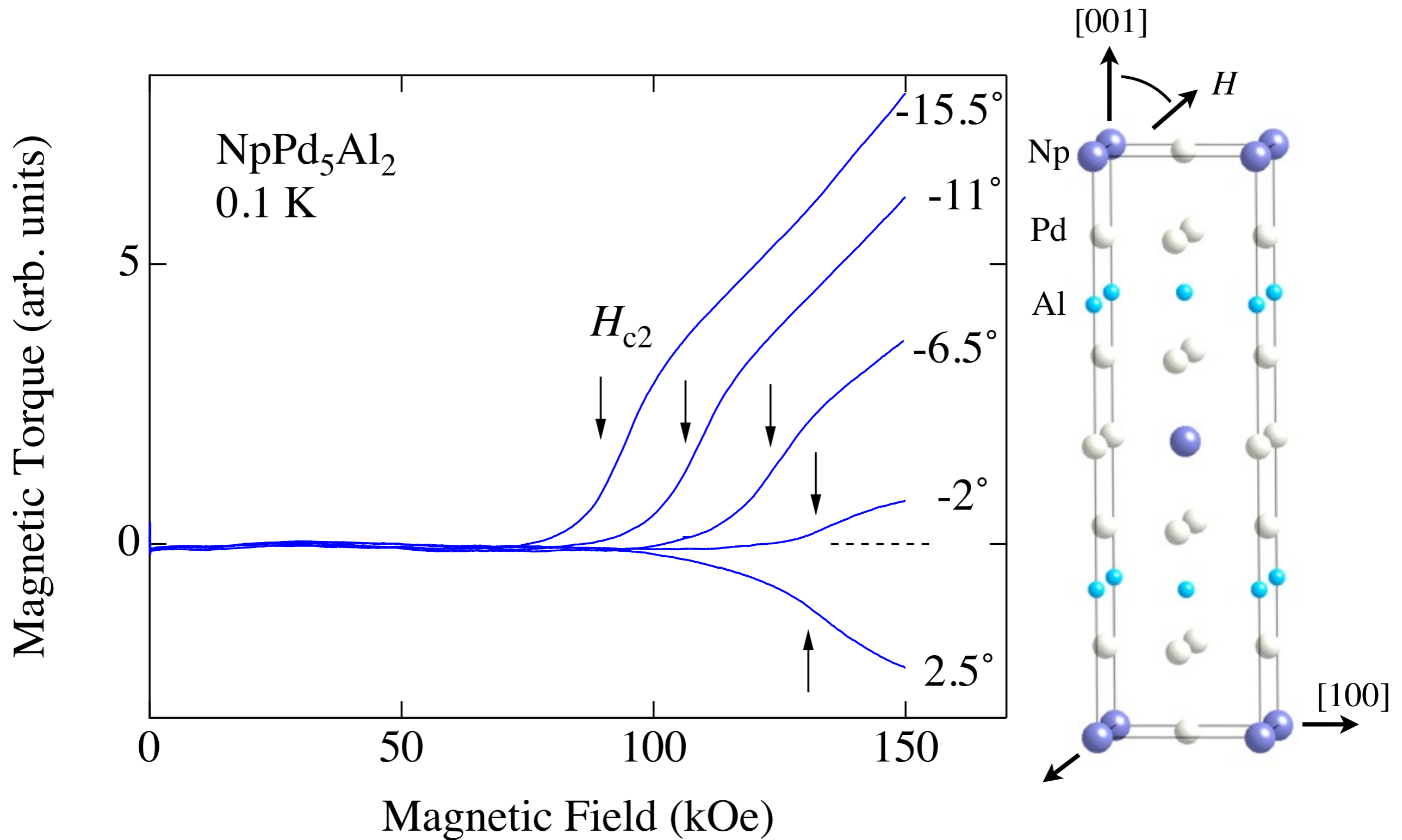
$$M_{\text{norm}} = \chi_1 H + \chi_3 H^3$$



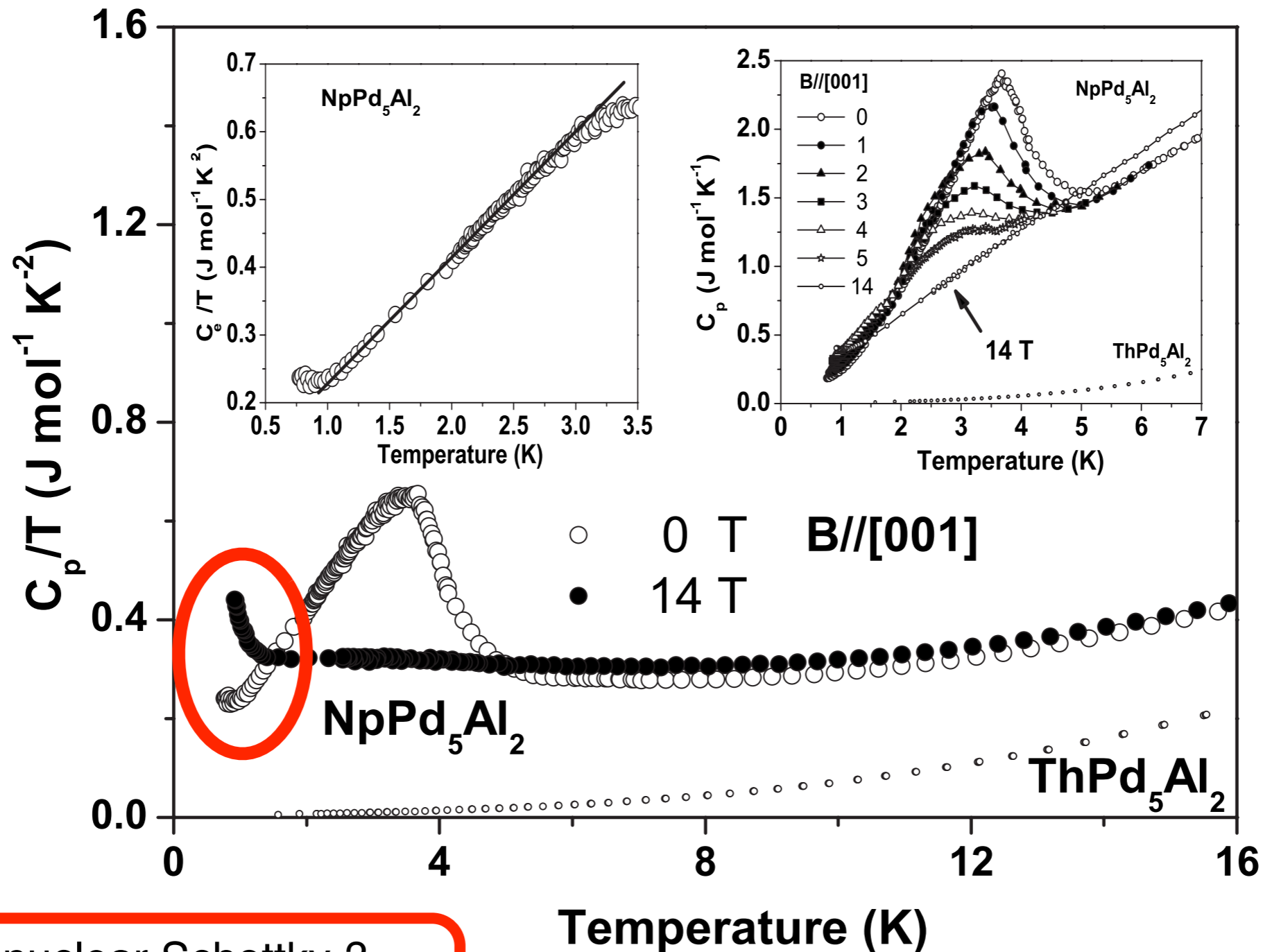
Singlet pairing & nodes on superconducting gap



Magnetic Torque around [001] axis



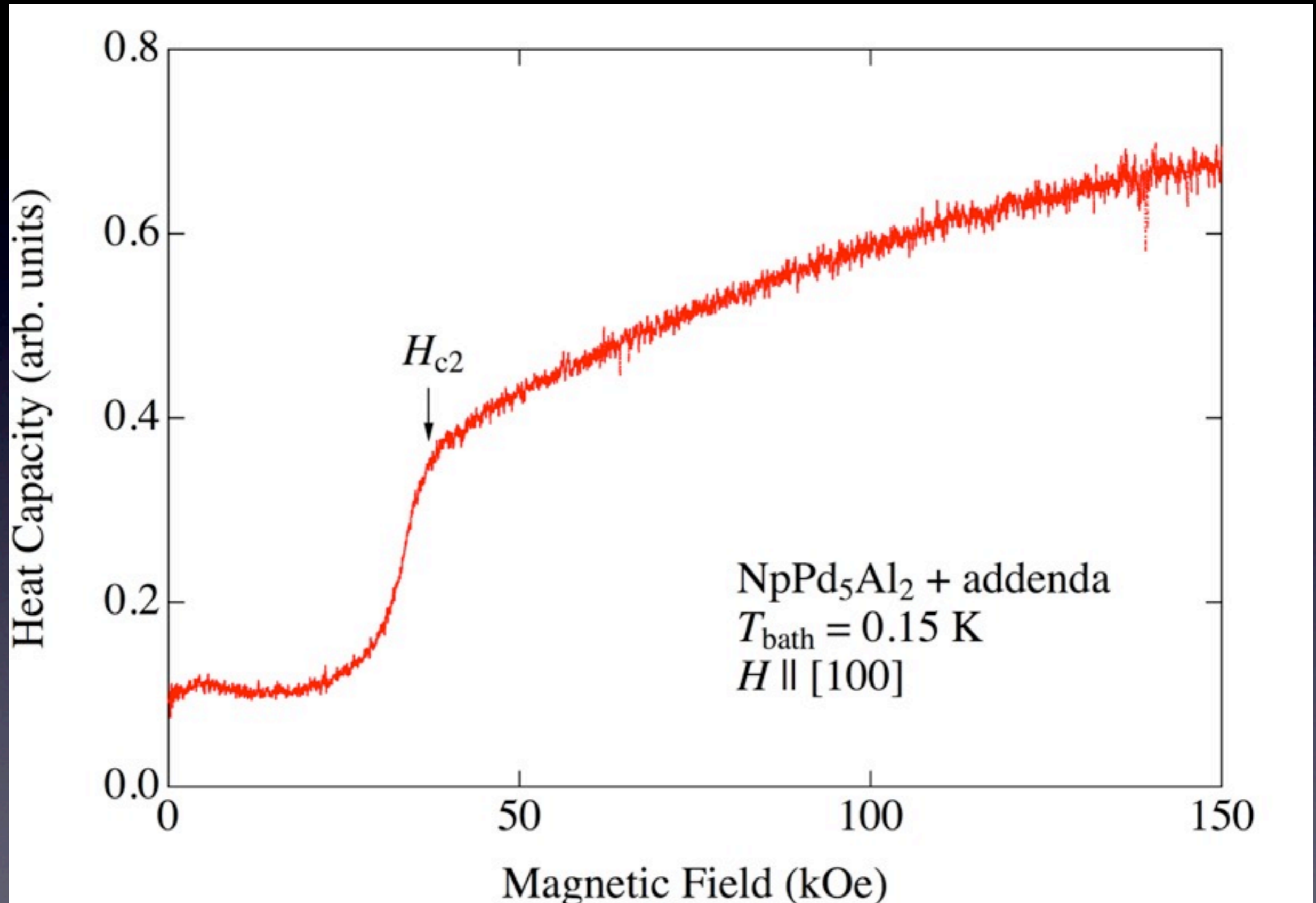
$$1/2\chi_a H_{c2}(a)^2 \approx 1/2\chi_c H_{c2}(c)^2$$

low-T $C_p(T)$ anomaly

^{237}Np nuclear Schottky ?
 \rightarrow 200-300T internal field !

Griveau et al., PRB 77 (2008) 212502.

sudden recovery of Heavy Fermion above H_{c2}



NpPd₅Al₂ : Heavy Fermion superconductor

tetragonal ZrNi₂Al₅-type

$$T_c = 4.9 \text{ K}$$

$$C(T_c)/T = 200 \text{ mJ/K}^2\text{mol}, \Delta C/\gamma T_c = 2.23$$

Pauli-limited critical field

1st order transition at H_{c2}

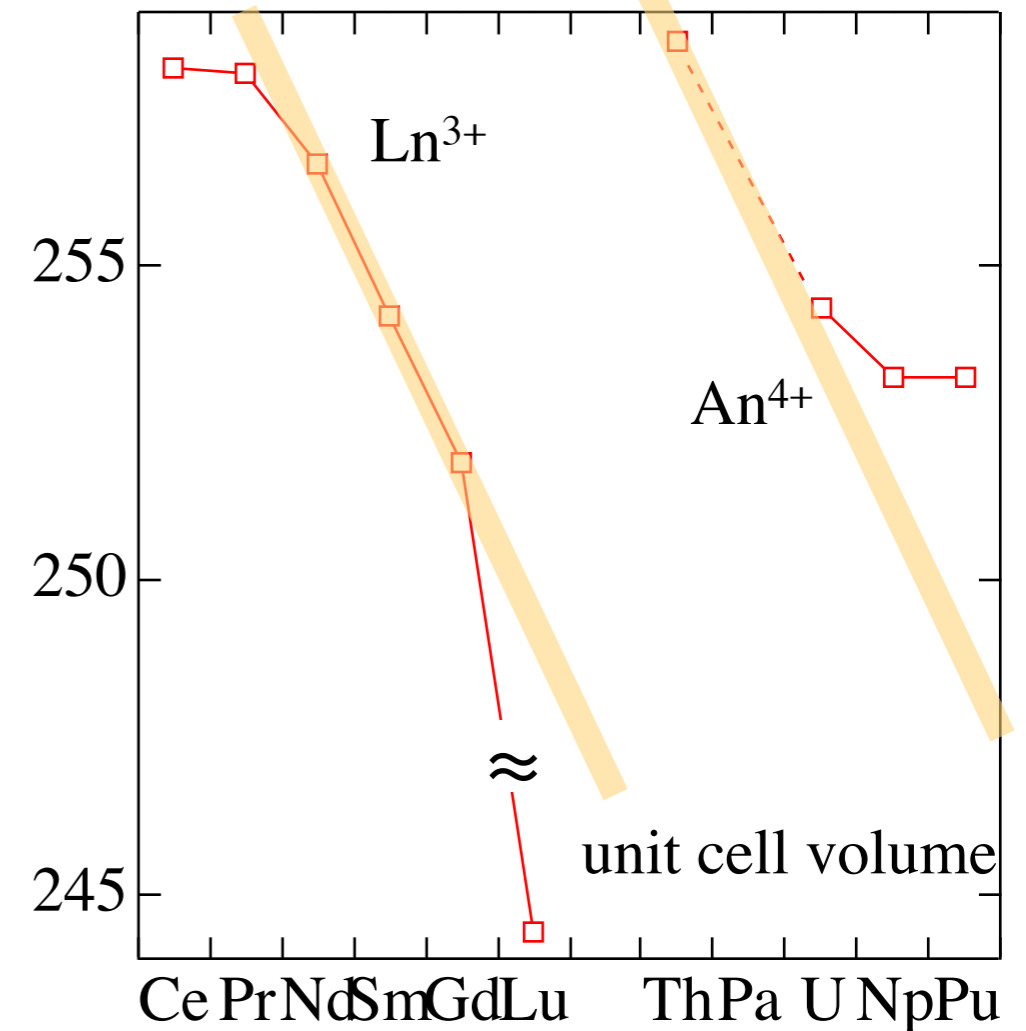
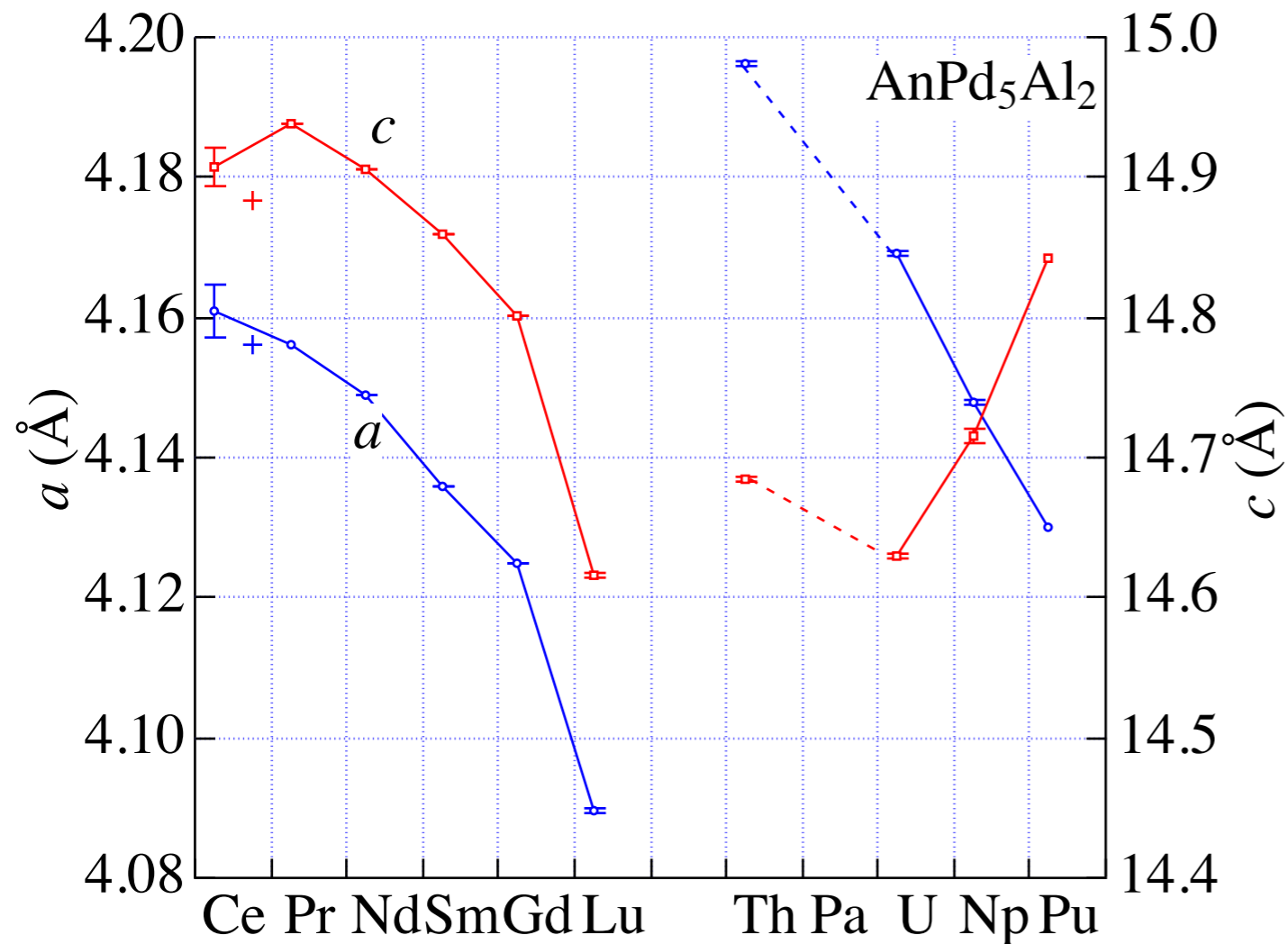
Curie-Weiss law in normal state Np³⁺ or Np⁴⁺

- vanishes in the superconducting state ...
- huge heavy fermion spin susceptibility (> 80 % of bulk χ)

How about other heavy Fermion superconductors

- UPd₂Al₃ \sim 10 % of bulk χ contribute to SC : NMR, μ SR
- CeCoIn₅ \sim 60 %
- UPt₃ small ? (odd parity)
- URu₂Si₂ small ?
- UBe₁₃ small ?
- CeCu₂Si₂ \sim 100 % ? from NMR
- Pu superconductors ?
- High- T_c cuprates ?
- pnictides ?
- related to spin-resonance ?

unit cell volume : localized ? itinerant ?

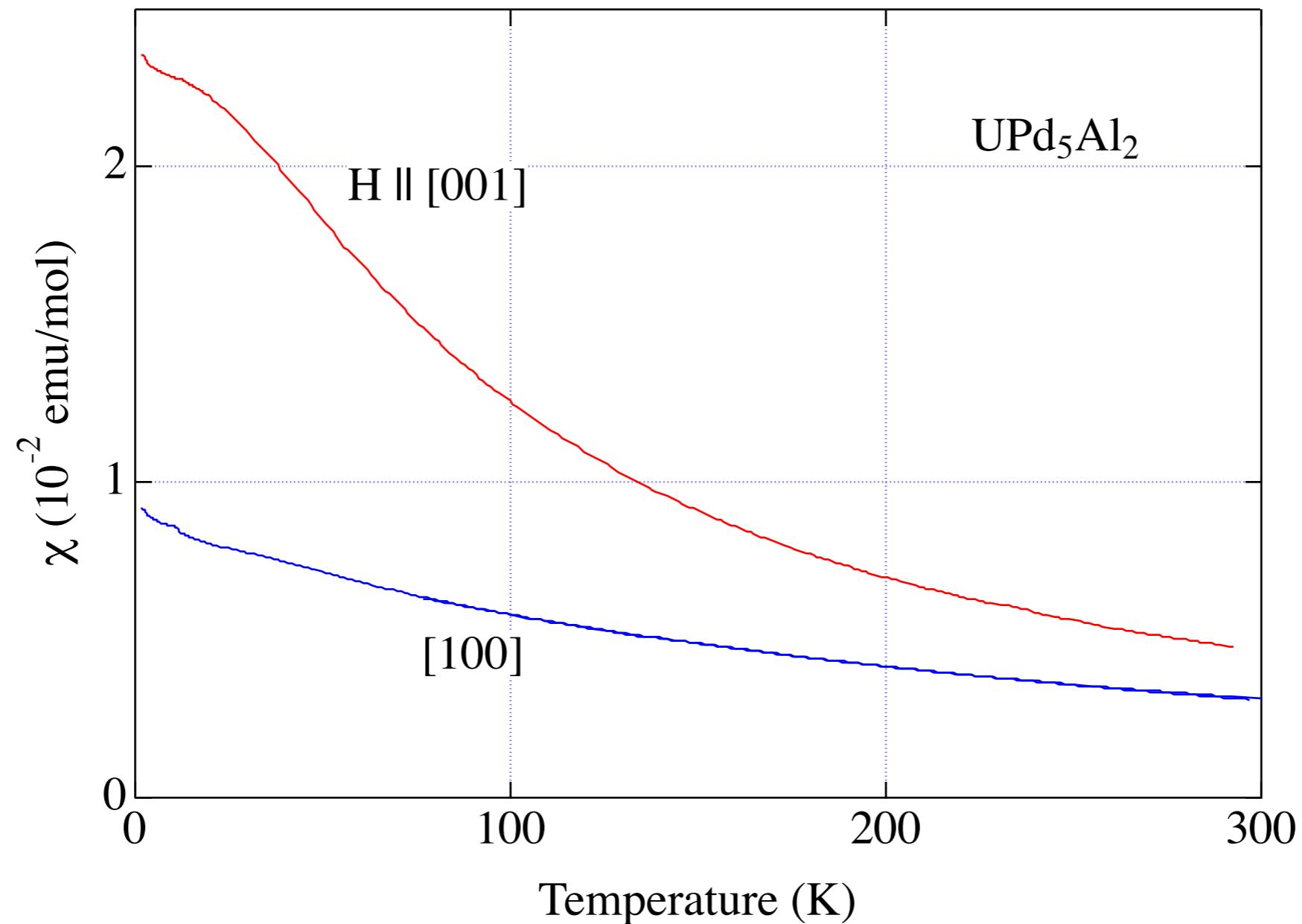


$LnPd_5Al_2$ follow the Ln^{3+} line except for Ce

$AnPd_5Al_2$: An^{4+} for Th, U. Np-Pu- approach to trivalent : consistent with $\chi(T)$

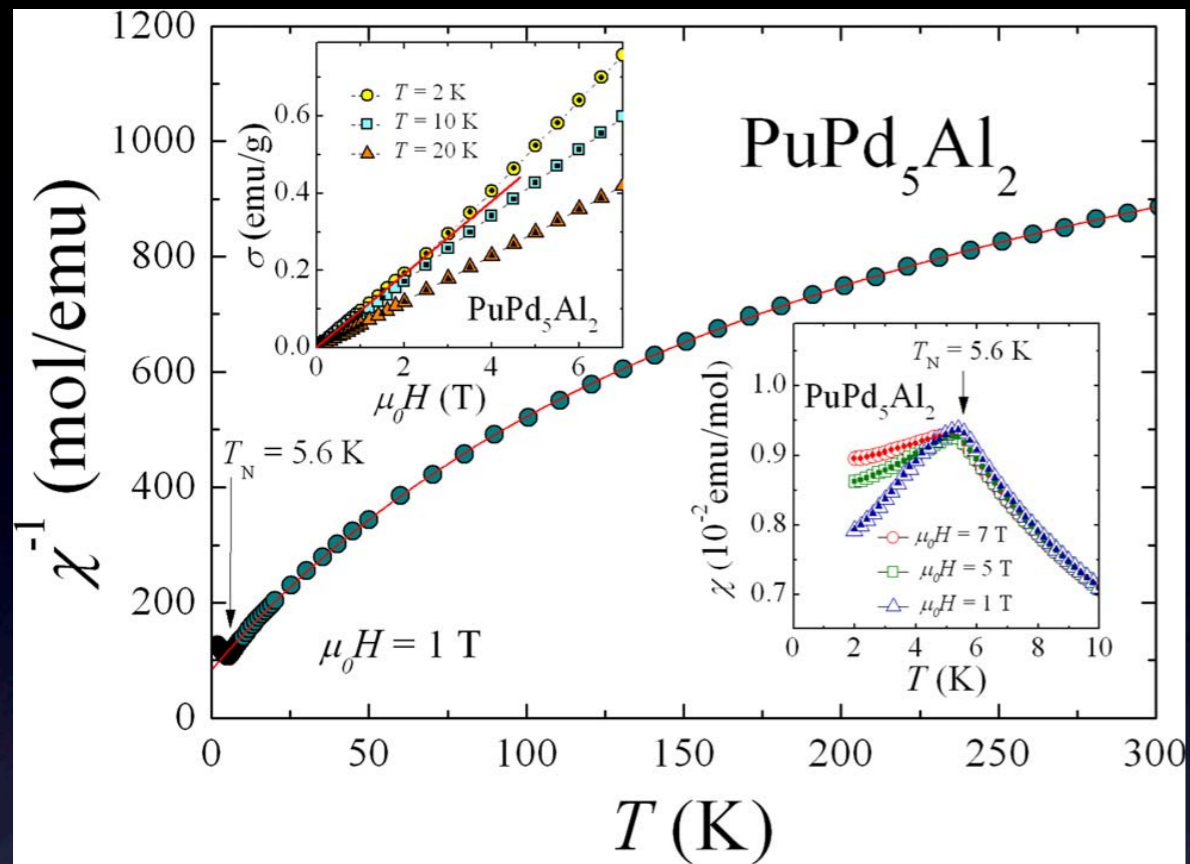
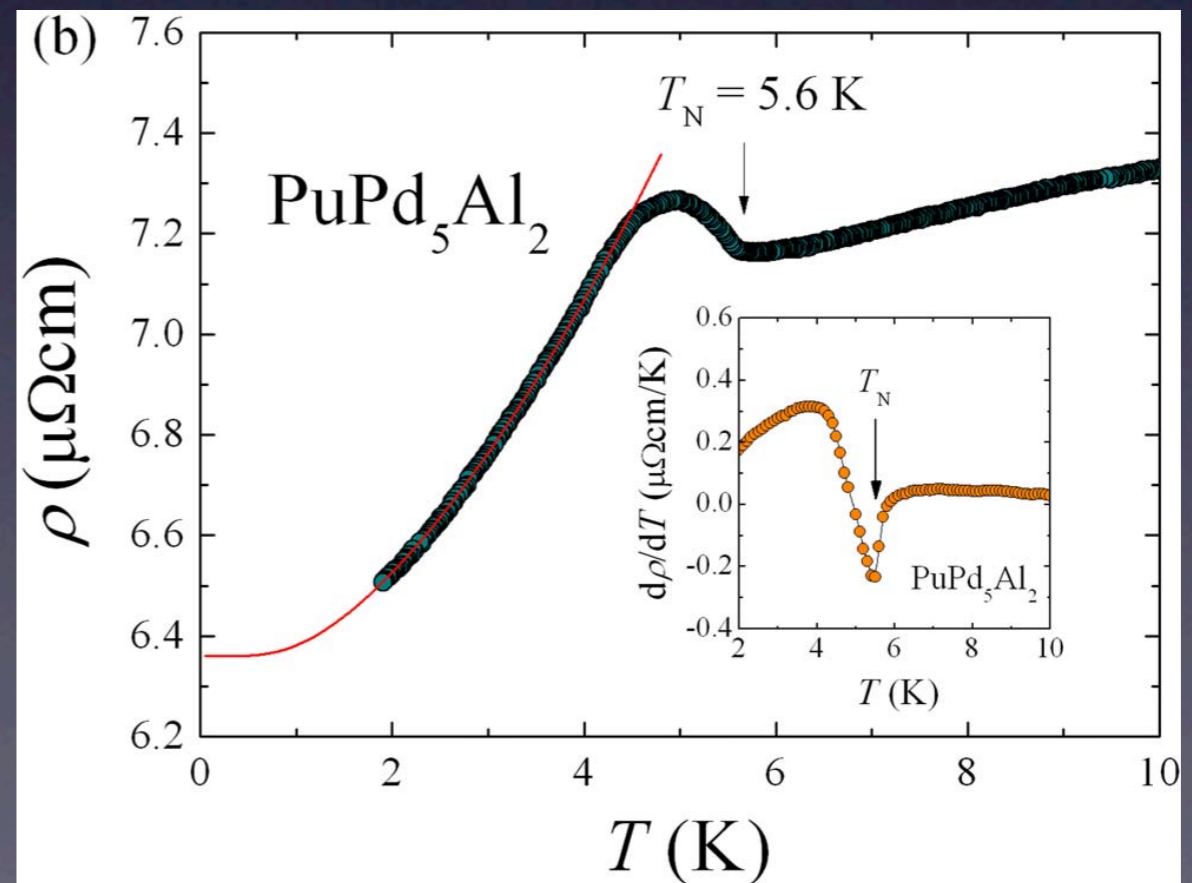
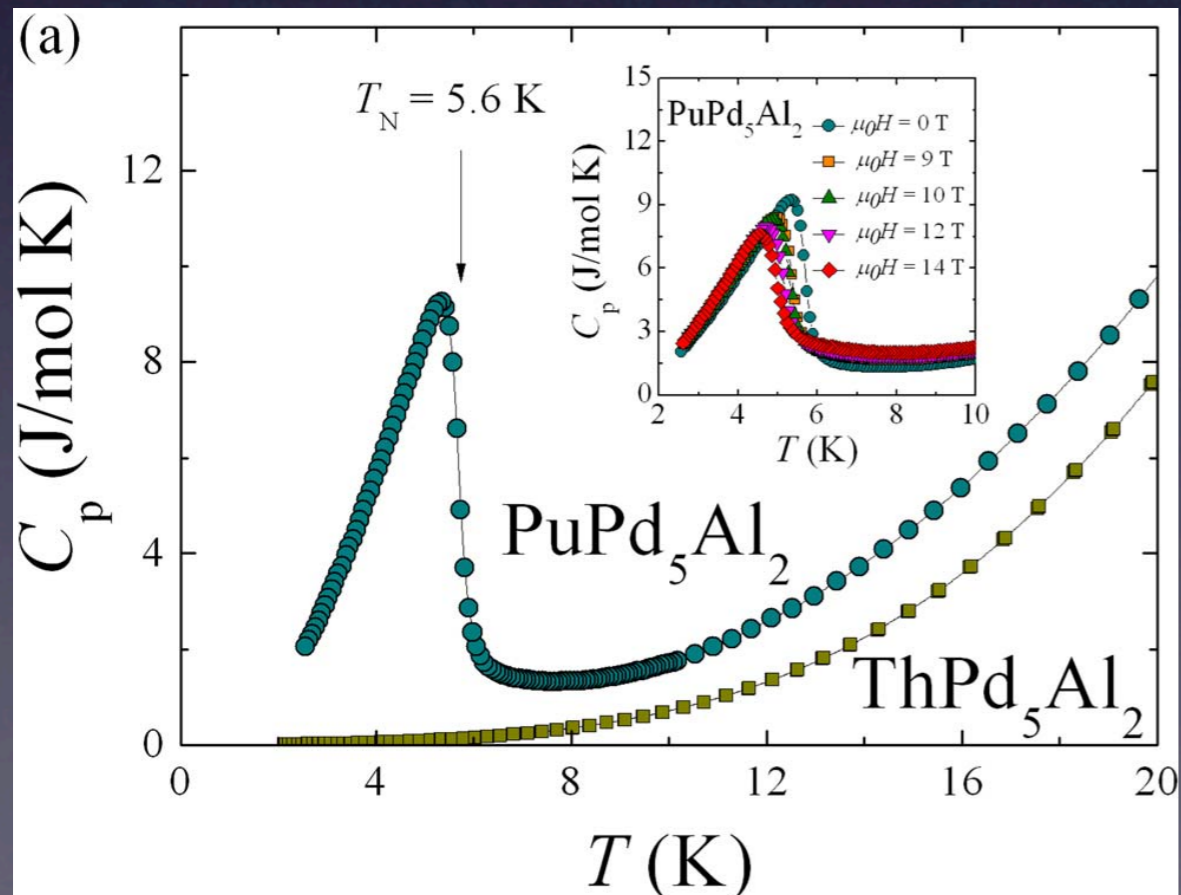
Y. Haga et al. (2008), J-C. Griveau et al., (2008), R.A. Ribeiro et al., (2009)

UPd₅Al₂ : Uniaxial magnetic anisotropy NpPd₅Al₂ : XY-type
C-W law above 50 K, CEF-singlet ? (5f²) as in PrPd₅Al₂ (4f²)



PuPd₅Al₂ : Antiferromagnetic at 5 K

Gofryk (2008)

consistent with Pu³⁺

Summary

NpPd_5Al_2 : first-order transition at H_{c2}

magnetic susceptibility and electronic specific heat
suppressed below H_{c2}

large electronic entropy remains at low
temperatures. ^{237}Np nuclear contribution ?

UPd_5Al_2 : CEF-singlet ground state : U^{4+} suggested

magnetic anisotropy in AnPd_5Al_2

Ce, Pr, U - uniaxial

Np - XY type

Ce under pressure ?? Pu ??