Magnetic Structure of Iron Oxide Nanoparticles Using PSANS



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Background

Iron Oxide Magnetic Nanoparticles (IOMNPs) can be heated via alternating magnetic field in an induction coil.



- Heat applied to cancer cells can have a substantial therapeutic effect.
- Heat may sensitize cancer to radiation therapy and/or chemotherapeutic agents.

Background

- Heat Generation is measured for various nanoparticles as the SAR (specific absorption rate) measured in W/g(Fe).
- For clinical application high heat output is desirable.
- Particle heat output curves vary depending on the particle properties and magnetic field strength.

What particle properties influence the heat generation?



Iron Oxide Nanoparticle



- Iron Oxide Core
- Physisorbed Dextran Shell,(MW = 40,000) shell, (branched polysaccharide)
- Aqueous solution
 - Polydispersity (DLS) of ~30%

Motivation

Use SANS to look at nm shell structures

Good contrast between H_2O and Fe_3O_4 (-0.52e -6 vs.6.91e -6 A⁻²)

 D_2O is a good contrast match to core—lets us see the shell (6.32e -6 vs.6.91e -6 A⁻²)

Contrast matching the core yielded a different structure at high Q.

Nuclear scattering was reduced by contrast matching.

To determine if the scattering is from the magnetic core or the dextran, PSANS measurements are necessary.



Experimental Design

Super mirror cavity

Things to consider

- Decay of ³He
- Polarization corrections

Measurements

Background corrections

- •Open Beam
- •Empty Sample Holder
- •Blocked beam

Polarization Efficiencies

- •Open beam with/without ³He
- •Polarized beam, no sample, $\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow, \downarrow\downarrow\downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow\downarrow, \uparrow\downarrow\downarrow$

³He

Detector

Н

•Polarized beam with beam block

Flipper

Scattering of Sample

 $\bullet\Uparrow\Uparrow,\Downarrow\Downarrow,\Uparrow\Downarrow,\Uparrow\Downarrow,\Downarrow$

Polarization Efficiencies P_{3He} =0.974, at start time P_{SM} =0.865

P_F=0.910

PSANS 2D Intensity Data

 N^2

 $N^2 + M_Y^2 - 2NM_Y$

 $M_X^2 + M_Z^2$







Isotropic Magnetic Scattering



l(q)

Comparison of Polarized and Unpolarized Beams



Sphere Fit







q (A⁻¹)



Conclusions

- There is magnetic scattering from the core
- PSANS allows us to separate the nuclear scattering from the magnetic scattering
- The magnetization is isotropic
- There is some magnetic structure (~10 nm) smaller than the core (~50 nm)

Group F



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