





# Enhancement of the thermopower signal in ferrofluid based thermocells

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# Introduction

- Currently, the liquid thermo-electrochemical cells receive increasing attention as an inexpensive alternative to conventional solid-state thermo-electrics for application in low-grade, waste heat harvesting.
- Enhanced Seebeck effect has been reported \* by using ionically stabilized magnetic nanoparticles dispersed in electrolytes, opening in this way new perspectives to the design of a liquid-based thermoelectric device with relatively high efficiency and cost effectiveness.

\*B.T. Huang, M. Roger, M. Bonetti, T.J. Salez, C. Wiertel-Gasquet, E. Dubois, R. Cabreira Gomes, G. Demouchy, G. Mériguet, V. Peyre, M. Kouyaté, C.L. Filomeno, J. Depeyrot, F.A. Tourinho, R. Perzynski, S. Nakamae, Thermoelectricity and thermodiffusion in charged colloids, J. Chem. Phys. 143 (2015).

T.J. Salez, B.T. Huang, M. Rietjens, M. Bonetti, C. Wiertel-Gasquet, M. Roger, C.L. Filomeno, E. Dubois, R. Perzynski, S. Nakamae, Can charged colloidal particles increase the thermoelectric energy conversion efficiency?, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 19 (2017) 9409–9416.

T. Salez, S. Nakamae, R. Perzynski, G. Mériguet, A. Cebers, M. Roger, Thermoelectricity and Thermodiffusion in Magnetic Nanofluids: Entropic Analysis, Entropy. 20 (2018) 405.

# Seebeck effect

- Under a temperature gradient the charged species (ions/particles) migrate acting as charge carriers, analogous to electrons in solids.
- An internal electric field is induced proportional to the temperature gradient , known as Seebeck effect
- The resulting thermoelectric effect is a contribution from both electrolytes and charged colloidal particles



#### What about magnetic particle Seebeck coefficient? Aim of our work

• Total Seebeck coefficient of the complex fluid with nanoparticles consists of the liquid background and interacting nanoparticle system's contributions

$$S_{\text{tot}}(T, N_{\text{np}}) = S_{\text{background}}(T) + S_{\text{np}}(T, N_{\text{np}})$$
charged environment

What about the magnetic particle contribution?



Study the role of the magnetic nanoparticles characteristics, the inter-particle interactions, applied magnetic field and particle charge in the formation of the enhanced thermoelectric signal based on the thermodynamic approach and Kelvin formula.

# Outline of the talk

- Theoretical calculation of the Magnetic Particle Seebeck coefficient
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Total Seebeck coefficient of the system that consists of all the subsystems of the carriers (electrolytes, interacting magnetic nanoparticles, electrodes) is

$$S_{tot} = \beta_{tot} / \sigma_{tot}$$

thermoelectric coefficient and the conductivity

$$\beta_{tot} = \sum_{\ell} \beta_{\ell} \qquad \qquad \sigma_{tot} = \sum_{\ell} \sigma_{\ell} = \sum_{\ell} \eta_{\ell} N_{\ell} Q_{\ell}$$

 $\eta_{\ell}$ , mobility,  $Q_{\ell}$  the charge and the  $N_{\ell}$  number of particles of the  $\ell^{th}$  subsystem

In the case of a broken external circuit (no current, the voltmeter of infinite resistance) the  $S_{tot}$  is related to the temperature derivative of the chemical potential by the Kelvin relation <sup>4</sup> for constant particle number  $N_{\ell}$  and charge  $Q_{\ell}$  of each  $\ell^{th}$  subsystem as :

$$S_{tot} = \sum_{\ell} S_{\ell} = \sum_{\ell} \frac{1}{Q_{\ell}} \left(\frac{d\mu}{dT}\right)_{N_{\ell}}$$

Varlamov, A. A., Kavokin, A. V., Prediction of thermomagnetic and thermoelectric properties for novel materials and systems. *EPL* **103**, 47005 (2013) Peterson, M. R. & Shastry, B. S. Kelvin formula for thermopower. *Phys. Rev. B* **82**, 195105(5) (2010)

Thus, combining previous equations, the thermoelectric conductivity reads:

$$\beta_{tot} = -\sum_{\ell} S_{\ell} \sigma_{\ell} = -\sum_{\ell} \eta_{\ell} N_{\ell} \left( \frac{d\mu_{\ell}}{dT} \right)_{N_{\ell}}$$

Thus we can rewrite eq. for the total Seebeck coefficient as:

$$S_{tot} = \frac{\beta_{tot}}{\sigma_{tot}} = \frac{\sum_{\ell} \eta_{\ell} N_{\ell} \left(\frac{d\mu_{\ell}}{dT}\right)_{N_{\ell}}}{\sum_{\ell} \eta_{\ell} N_{\ell} Q_{\ell}}$$

Focus on the new term included in  $S_{tot}$  namely the contribution to Seebeck coefficient  $S_{np}$  coming from the subsystem of interacting magnetic nanoparticles ( $\ell = np$ ) added to the ionic liquid. This term for a given total conductivity and number of magnetic nanoparticles  $N_{np}$  is determined by the expression

$$S_{np} = -\frac{\beta_{np}}{\sigma_{tot}} = \frac{\eta_{np} N_{np} \left(\frac{d\mu_{np}}{dT}\right)}{\sum_{\ell} \eta_{\ell} N_{\ell} Q_{\ell}}$$

Temperature

derivative of

chemical potential





Chemical potential is defined as the energy which is in average necessary to pay to add one particle to the system,  $\mu_{np} = <\bar{E}_i >$  thus for given  $n_{np} N_{np}$  and  $\sigma_{tot}$ 

$$S_{np} \sim \frac{d\mu_{np}}{dT} = \frac{d < E_i >}{dT}$$

temperature is calculated by means of the Monte Carlo simulation technique with the implementation of Metropolis algorithm  $< E_i >= \frac{\sum_p E_p \exp(-\frac{E_p}{T})}{\sum_p \exp(-\frac{E_p}{T})}$ Statistical average of the energy per particle over the



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Surf. Sci. Rep. 56 (2005) 189 Phys. Rev. B 58 (1998) 12169

#### Mesoscopic Scale Modelling of random assemblies of Nanoparticles

$$E = g_{np} \sum_{i>j}^{N_{np}} \frac{(\hat{s}_i \cdot \hat{s}_j) - 3(\hat{s}_i \cdot \hat{r}_{ij}) \cdot (\hat{s}_j \cdot \hat{r}_{ij})}{\hat{r}_{ij}^3} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{np}} K_{np} \left(\hat{s}_i \cdot \hat{e}_i\right)^2$$

- > Dipolar strength  $g_{np} = \mu_0 (M_s V)^2 / 4\pi d^3$
- > Effective Anisotropy constant  $K_{np} = K_{eff}V$

*K<sub>eff</sub>: effective anisotropy constant including the surface, magneto-crystalline, shape anisotropy Uniaxial anisotropy for nanoparticles* 

Gazeau et al., JMMM 186 (1998) 175 Moumen et al., J.Phys.Chem. 100 (1996) 14410



#### Temperature dependent model parameters

- γ-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nanoparticles (9 nm size)
- Saturation magnetization M<sub>s</sub>(T)=M<sub>s</sub>(5K) b<sub>1</sub>\*T<sup>2.3</sup>
   b<sub>1</sub> is such that M<sub>s</sub>(300K)/M<sub>s</sub>(5K)=85%
   (modified Bloch law (Hendriksen et al. PRB 48 1993), Ms(T)experimental results Safronov et al, 2013\* γ-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanofluid with electrostatic stabilizer)
- > Dipolar strength  $g_{np} = \mu_0 (M_s V)^2 / 4\pi d^3 \sim g_{np} (T) = g_{np} (5K) b_2 * T^{2.3}$  $(g_{np} (300K) / g_{np} (5K) = 85\%)$
- $\succ Effective Anisotropy constant K_{np} = \mu_0 H_a M_s / 2 \sim K_{np}(T) = K_{np}(5K) b_3^* T^{2.3}$   $(K_{np}(300K) / K_{np}(5K) = 85\%)$

\*A.P. Safronov, I. V. Beketov, S. V. Komogortsev, G. V. Kurlyandskaya, A.I. Medvedev, D. V. Leiman, A. Larrañaga, S.M. Bhagat, Spherical magnetic nanoparticles fabricated by laser target evaporation, AIP Adv. 3 (2013).

### Reduced Dimensionless parameters used in Monte Carlo simulations

- ➤ In our calculations the energy parameters are normalised to the thermal energy  $5k_B$  so they are dimensionless. The reduced temperature is defined as t = T(K) / 5K, the reduced dipolar strength as g and the reduced magnetic anisotropy k
- >  $S_{np}$  is divided with the factor  $\sigma_{tot} / \eta_{np} k_B$  so we calculate the reduced Seebeck coefficient at average temperature *t*

- $M_s = 249 \text{ kA/m}$  at 5K
- → typical value for a range of sizes of these nanoparticles used in stable ionic ferrofluids C.
   Filomeno et al., J. Phys. Chem. C, 2017, Priyananda et al, Langmuir, 2018, Nourafkan et al.,
   J. Ind. Eng. Chem. 2017, D. Cao et al, Sc.Rep.,2016)
- Effective anisotropy values  $K_{eff} > K_{bulk eff}$
- $K_{bulk eff}$ : bulk value of effective magnetocrystalline anisotropy  $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ( $K_{bulk eff} = K_{cub bulk}/12$ )= 0.04 10<sup>4</sup>J/m<sup>3</sup>

γ-Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	M <sub>s</sub> (5K) kA/m	M <sub>s</sub> (300K) kA/m	$\frac{K_{eff}}{(\cdot 10^5 J/m^3)}$	$g(t)=g_{np}(t)/5k_B$	$\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{K}_{\mathrm{eff}}  \mathbf{V} /  5 \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{B}}$
1	249	215	0.06	$17-0.00019 \cdot t^{2.3}$	33.7-0,00038·t <sup>2.3</sup>
2			0.12	17-0.00019·t <sup>2.3</sup>	67.4-0.00076·t <sup>2.3</sup>
3			0.3	$17-0.00019 \cdot t^{2.3}$	168.5-0.0019·t <sup>2.3</sup>
4			1.2	$17-0.00019 \cdot t^{2.3}$	673.8-0.0076·t <sup>2.3</sup>

K<sub>eff</sub> corresponds to

- 1. D = 7 nm dispersed in a polymer matrix (Figueroa et al., Physics Procedia, 75 (2015) 1050–7)
- 2. D =7 nm colloidal attributed to the surface effects (Gazeau et al., J.M.M.M.186 (1998) 175)
- 3. D= 9 nm attributed to surface effects (Fiorani et al., Physica B 320 (2002) 122)
- 4. D= 9 nm produced by laser target evaporation technique (Safronov et al., *AIP Adv.* 3 (2013) 052135)

## Calculation of the S<sub>np</sub> for NPs

- Monte Carlo calculations of <E> are performed for various frozen ferrofluids configurations at different temperatures (e.g.T<sub>1</sub>,T<sub>2</sub>,T<sub>3</sub>...)
- Constant temperature step  $\Delta T=10K$  that is commonly used in experiments for measuring Seebeck coefficient.
- ➤ Calculation of the d<E>/dT ~  $S_{np}$  at average temperature  $T_i$  ( $T_{i-1} < T_i < T_{i+1}$ ) as the average of the slopes between the energy at  $T_i$  and at  $T_{i-1}$ ,  $T_{i+1}$  respectively

$$\frac{d < E(T_i) >}{dT} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{< E(T_{i+1}) > - < E(T_i) >}{T_{i+1} - T_i} + \frac{< E(T_i) > - < E(T_{i-1}) >}{T_i - T_{i-1}} \right)$$

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# Theoretical calculation of $S_{np}$ for nanoparticles with k=0

Analytical approach for an assembly of dipoles without anisotropy gives



$$S_{np} \sim \frac{d\mu_{np}}{dT} \sim (\frac{g}{T})^{\alpha}$$

✓ Monotonic T dependence of the Seebeck coefficient for given g





# Monte Carlo calculation of $S_{np}$ for nanoparticles with k=0



✓ Monotonic T dependence of the Seebeck coefficient

# Monte Carlo calculation of $S_{np}$ for nanoparticles with k=0





- Monotonic t dependence of Snp
- Power law coefficient α~-1.25 for c=0.5% and t<20 and α~-0.33 on average for all concentrations at t>20

#### Monte Carlo calculation of $S_{np}$ for nanoparticles with k=0 Reduced Seebeck coefficient (x10<sup>2</sup>) Fit y = -37 + 78 c 3.5 Fit $y=25 c^{1.55}$ Fit $y = 10 c^{1.75}$ 3.0 - Fit $y = 6 c^{1.80}$ $= 12^{-1}$ 2.5 Fit $y = 4 c^{1.82}$ = 16— Fit $y=3 c^{1.82}$ 2.0 $= 20^{-1}$ 1.5 1.0 0.5

0.0

0

✓ Linear dependence of the Seebeck coefficient on the nanoparticle concentration exists only at very low temperatures (t<4), for higher temperatures, this dependence follows a power law

Concentration of nanoparticles (c%)

2

3

5



S<sub>np</sub>(t) curve departs from the monotonic t dependence of the k=0 case
 Effect of the additional anisotropy energy barrier on the calculated Seebeck coefficient versus temperature



- Effect of the Interplay between interparticle interactions and effective magnetic anisotropy on the calculated Seebeck coefficient versus temperature
- S<sub>np</sub>(t) curve shows a maximum for both concentrations c=1% and 4.7% at t=6
- S<sub>np</sub>(t) increase with the increase of the particle concentration



Strong particle magnetic anisotropy enhances Seebeck coefficient

Shifting of the maximum S<sub>np</sub> towards higher temperatures as the magnetic anisotropy increases

# Monte Carlo calculation of the S<sub>np</sub> for CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> NPs

#### **Temperature dependent Model Parameters**

CoFerrite	M <sub>s</sub> (5K) kA/m	M <sub>s</sub> (300K) kA/m	$\frac{K_{eff}}{(\cdot 10^5 J/m^3)}$	g(t)	k(t)
OA	432	333	7.4	9.3-0.00017 $\cdot$ t <sup>2.3</sup>	700-0.01300·t <sup>2.3</sup>
DEG	624	572	4.8	$19.4-0.00012 \cdot t^{2.3}$	455-0.00300·t <sup>2.3</sup>
Uncoated	381	305	8.8	$7.2-0.00012 \cdot t^{2.3}$	832-0.00130·t <sup>2.3</sup>
				$\smile$	$\smile$

• Calculations were made for D = 5 nm taking into account  $M_s$  and  $K_{eff}$  values reported in Vasilakaki, M. et al. Nanoscale 10, 21244–21253 (2018) Ntallis, N., Vasilakaki, M., Peddis, D. & Trohidou, K. N.(submitted) Torres, T. E. et al. J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 200, 72101 (2010)

- Assume the same power low T dependence but different ratios  $M_{s,g,k}$
- OA M<sub>S</sub>(300K)/M<sub>S</sub>(5K)=77%
- DEG M<sub>S</sub>(300K)/M<sub>S</sub>(5K)=92%
- Uncoated M<sub>S</sub>(300K)/M<sub>S</sub>(5K)=80%

# Monte Carlo calculation of the $S_{np}$ for $CoFe_2O_4$ NPs



 $<sup>\</sup>succ$  Similar behaviour of S<sub>np</sub>(T)

# Monte Carlo calculation of the S<sub>np</sub> for CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> NPs



Broader maximum of the S<sub>np</sub>(t) curve in the case of diethylene glycol coating comparing to the other cases

#### Monte Carlo calculation of the S<sub>np</sub> for CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> NPs



 it is advantageous for thermoelectric applications to have MNPs with high magnetic anisotropy with weak temperature dependence of their anisotropy, in order to obtain maximum values of Seebeck coefficient for a broad temperature range, especially at temperatures above 300K.

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Field effect on the  $S_{np}$  for  $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NPs (c=1%)



Applied magnetic field shifts the maximum Seebeck coefficient towards higher T

### Field effect on the $S_{np}$ for $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> NPs (c=1%)



➤ Field effect depends on temperature and magnetic particle anisotropy

#### Field effect on the $S_{np}$ for $CoFe_2O_4$ NPs (c=1%)



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# $S_{np}$ versus particle concentration



There are differences between experiment and simulations results attributed to the additional charge effect of the MNPs

# S<sub>np</sub> versus applied magnetic field



There is a qualitative agreement between experimental and MC results probably because the Zeeman energy dominates over the other energies

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## Effect of electrostatic energy term of charged $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

$$E_{\text{tot}} = E_{\text{dip}} - E_{k} + E_{\text{ele}}$$
$$E_{\text{ele}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{Q_{i}}{4\pi\epsilon_{r}\epsilon_{0}d} \sum_{j=1, i\neq j} \frac{Q_{j}}{r_{ij}} = \int_{\text{ele}} \sum_{j=1, i\neq j} \frac{Q_{i}Q_{j}}{r_{ij}}$$

Experiments show that the nanoparticles possess the charge Q, which is due to the polaron effect of ions in the electrolyte.

 $J_{ele}$ : Electrostatic strength between two particles with effective charge  $Q = \sigma A$ where  $\sigma = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \zeta / \lambda$  :surf charge density and A: surface area ζ: zeta potential,  $\lambda$ :Debye length(~1/T), r: pair distance taken from MC particle configurations  $J_{ele} = \frac{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r A^2 \zeta^2}{4\pi d^2 2} \sim \frac{1}{k_p T^2}$ 

J<sub>ele</sub> depends on charge value & temperature

#### Effect of electrostatic energy term of charged $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> for g=17, k=168.5 (t=1) (c=1%)



# **Concluding Remarks**

- We study for the first time the role of the magnetic particle anisotropy in the formation of the enhanced thermoelectric signal based on a thermodynamic approach and Kelvin formula and Monte Carlo simulations.
- Our results show that Seebeck coefficient (through dE/dT) is enhanced with the increase in the magnetic particle anisotropy following a non-monotonic temperature dependence.
- Optimum values of Snp can be achieved with MNPs of high magnetic anisotropy with weak temperature dependence of their anisotropy for a broad temperature range, especially at temperatures above 300K.
- Seebeck coefficient value increases with the particle concentration, the magnetic applied field, the magnetic particle charge distribution
- Next steps : Introducing DFT charge parametersInclusion of Van der Waals interactions



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# THANK YOU