

**Closure structures around non-  
magnetic inclusions in an  
uniaxial magnetic thin film:**  
*MFM characterization and theoretical analysis*

---

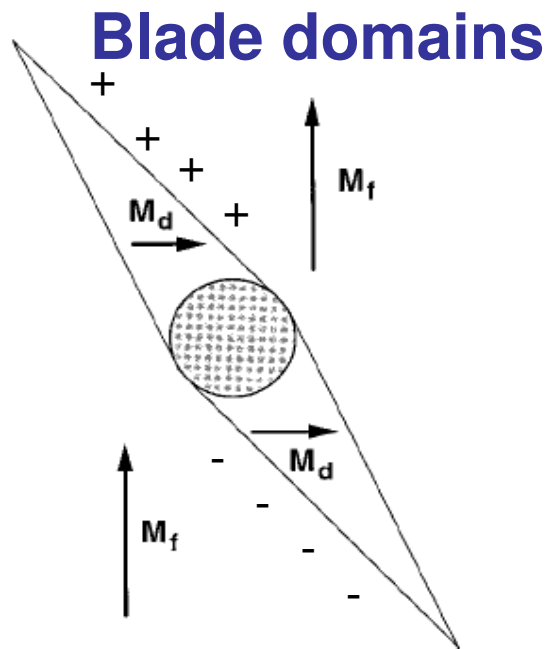
M. Vélez, G. Rodríguez-Rodríguez, H. Rubio, A. Pérez-  
Junquera, J. I. Martín and J. M. Alameda  
*Dpto. Física, U. Oviedo*

J. V. Anguita  
*IMM, CNM, CSIC*

Work supported by Spanish MEC

# Closure structures around a non magnetic hole: 3D vs. 2D

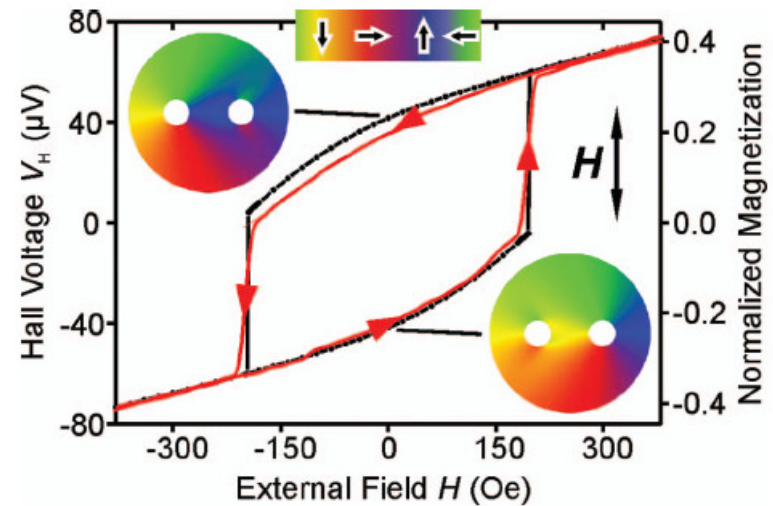
- 3D Bulk material



L. Neel, Cah.Phys. 25 (1944) 21

- 2D patterned films? structures

- Domain Wall pinning  
- Memory Elements



M. Rahm *et al* APL **87**, 182107 (2005)  
 P. J. Castano *et al*, PRB **69**, 144421 (2004)  
 Tchernyshyov *et al* PRL **95**, 197204 (2005)

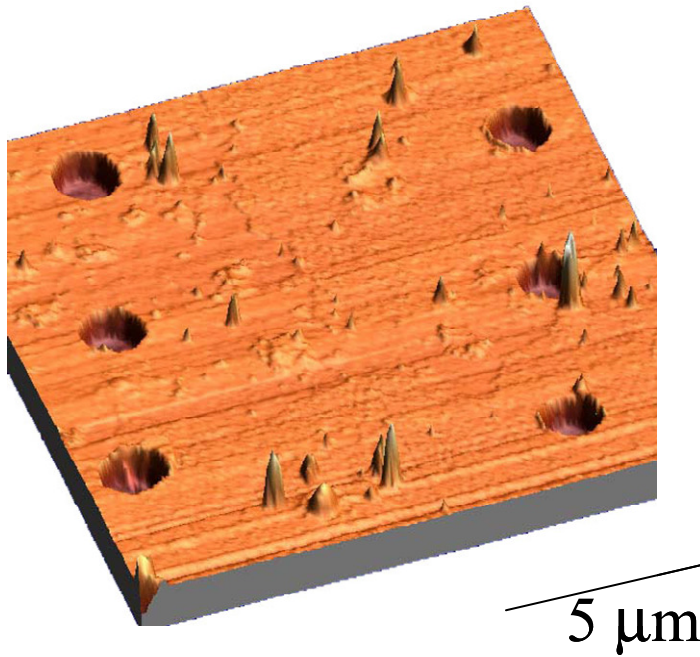
# Closure structure around a hole in an extended 2D thin film?

---

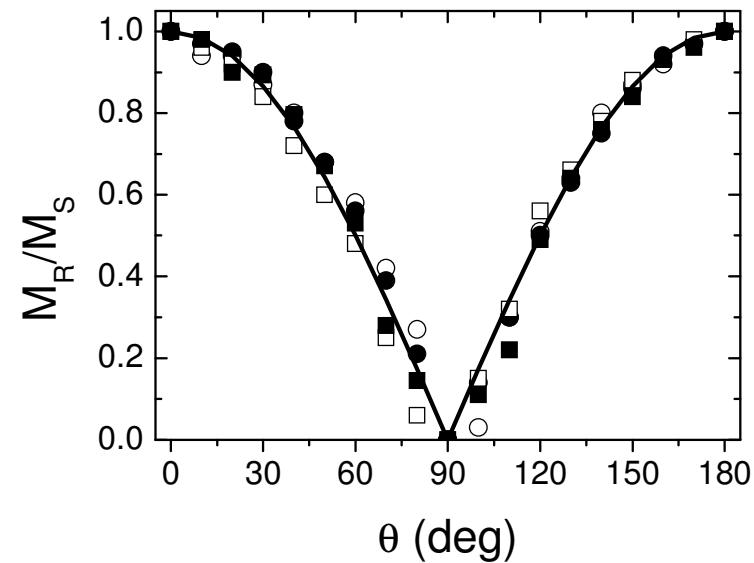
- Fabrication
- MFM characterization
- Micromagnetic simulations
- Analytical model
- Conclusions: ***Confinement distance***

# Fabrication of non magnetic holes in uniaxial amorphous Co-Zr films

e-beam lithography+etching



Hole size ~ 1 μm

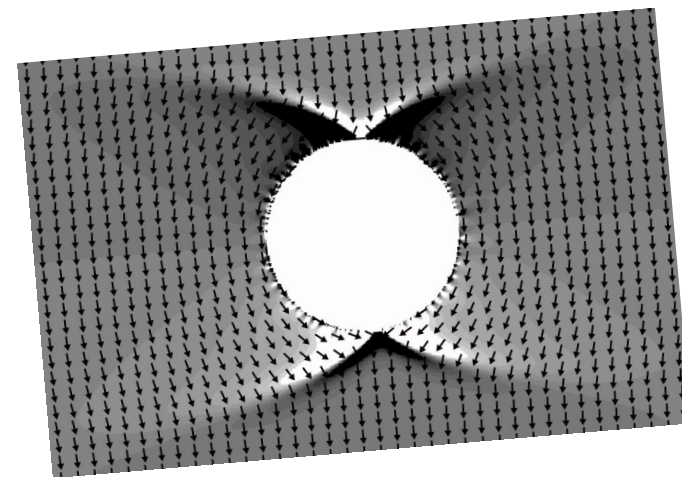
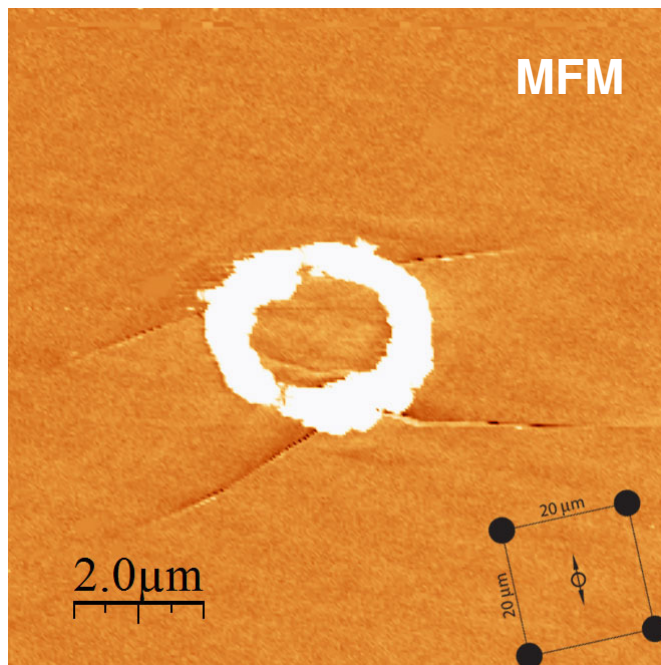


**Diluted antidot array:**

**Induced anisotropy  $\ll$  Film uniaxial anisotropy**

# Closure structures 2D

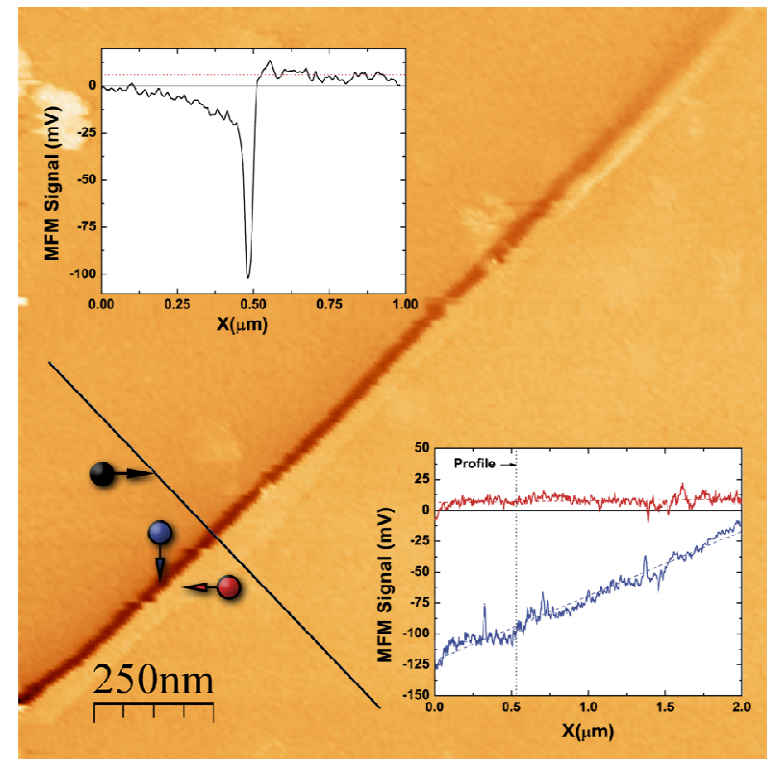
- 2D extended thin film: **Confined singularities**



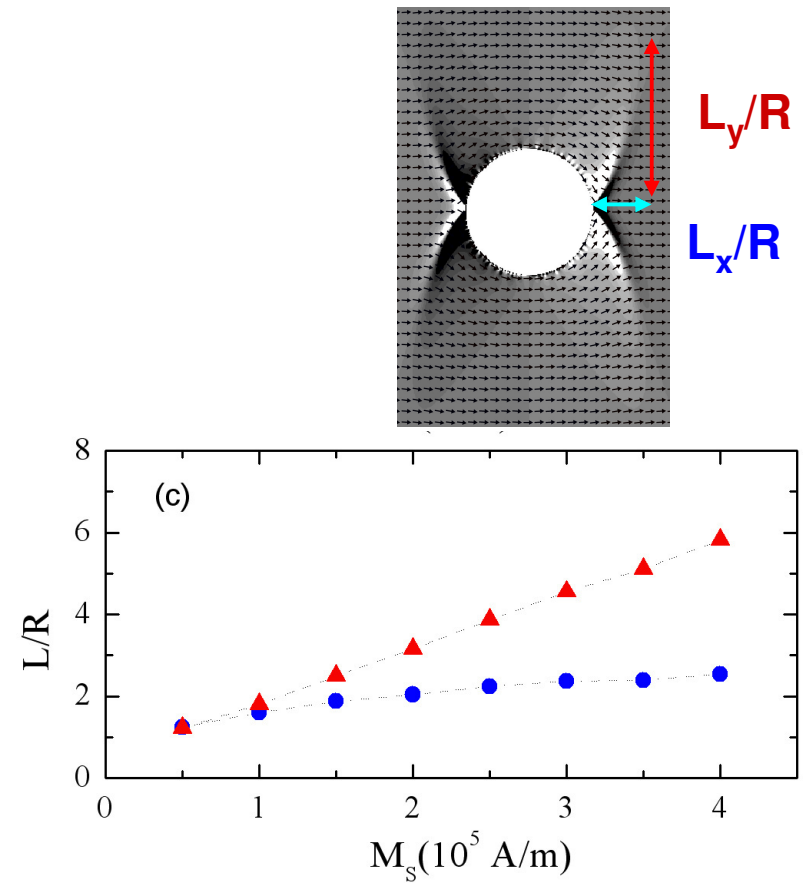
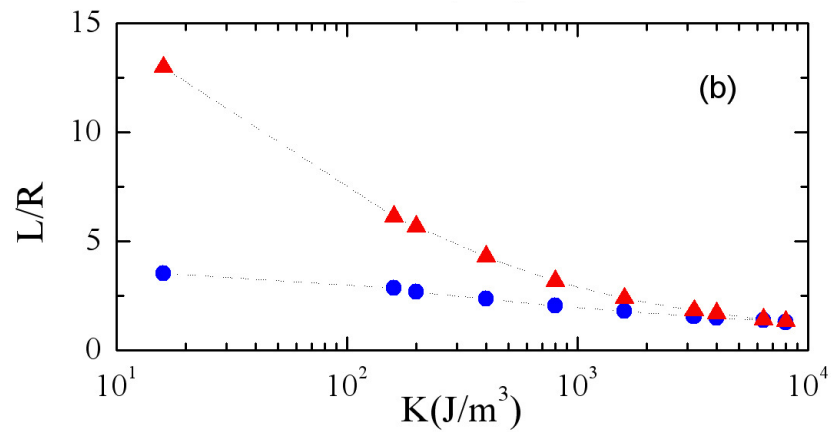
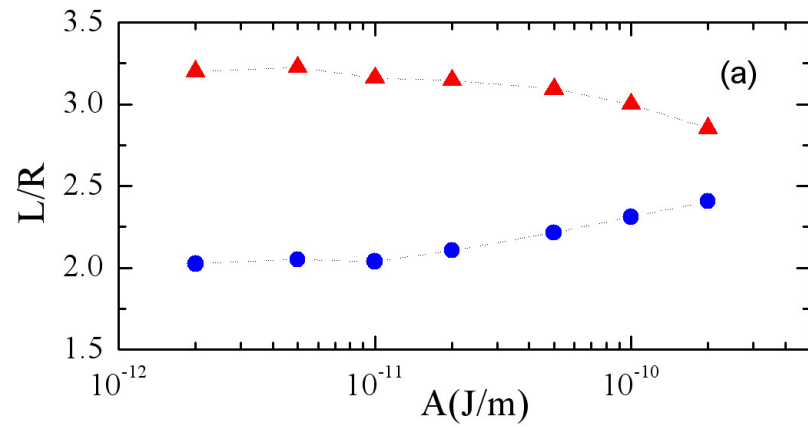
**OOMMF simulation**

# Charged Neel Walls

- *Fading contrast:* confinement of singularities in extended films within a distance  $L$



# OOMMF Simulations



# Analytical Model:

## *Magnetostatic and anisotropy energies*

### ■ *Pole avoidance in 2D*

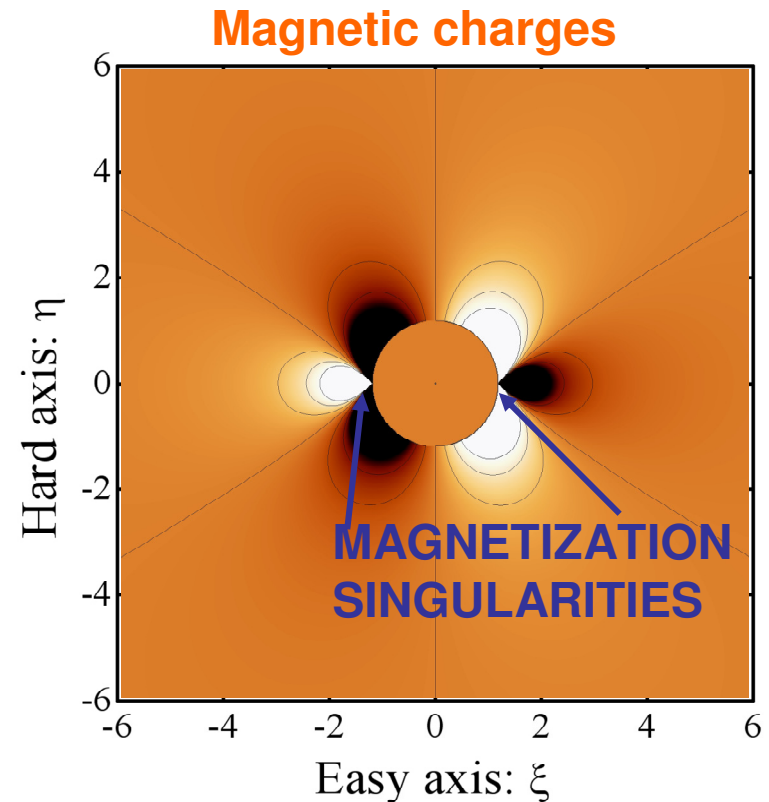
$$\mathbf{M} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{A} = (0, 0, \Psi)$$

$$\nabla^2 \Psi = 0$$

$$\Psi = M_S (\rho - 1/\rho) \sin \theta$$

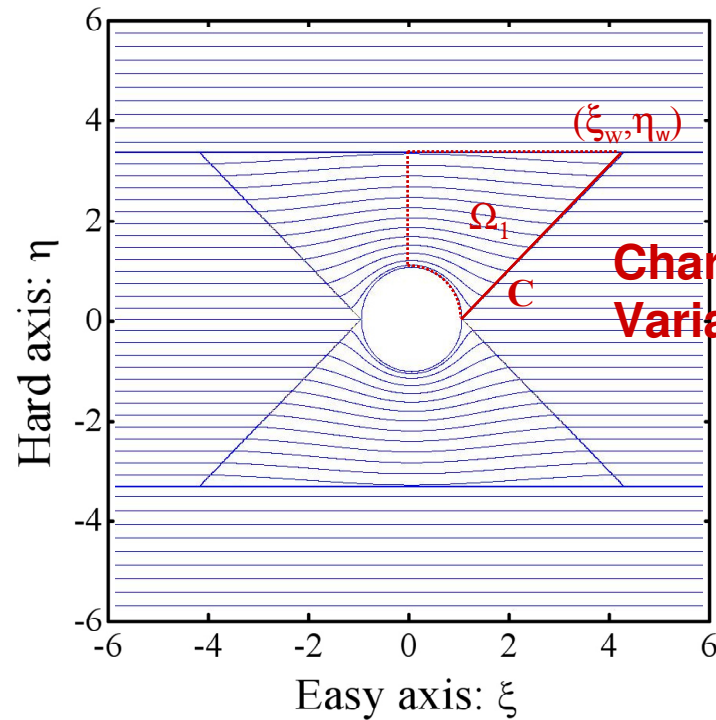
### ■ $|M| = M_S$

➡ magnetic charges  
around hole





# Confinement distance: *Gauss theorem*



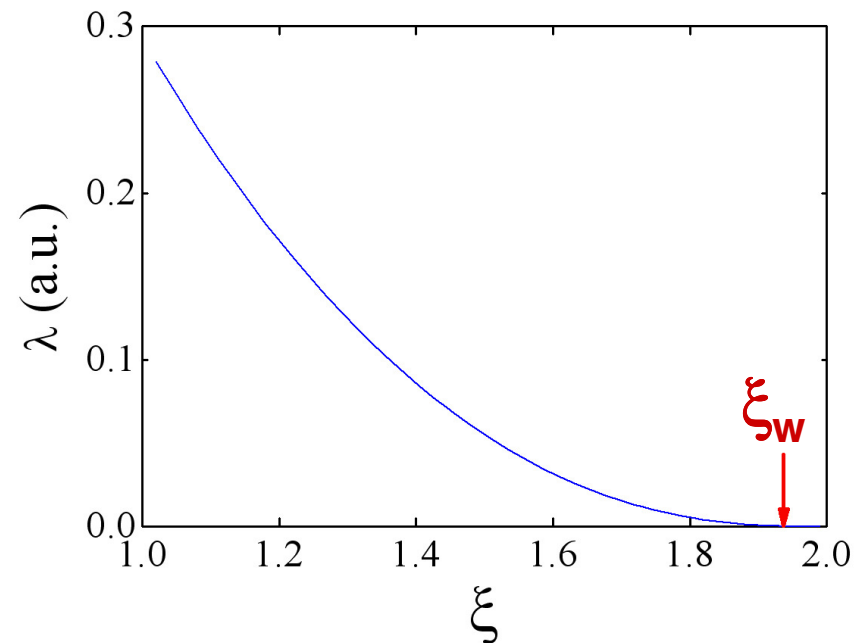
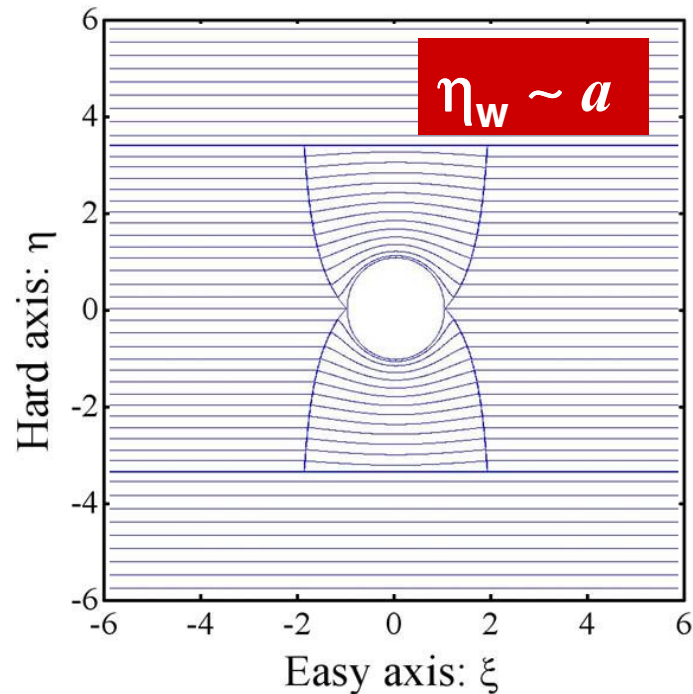
**Charged Neel wall  
Variable angle**

$$\int_{\Omega_1} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{M} d\rho + \int_C M_s (\mathbf{m}_1 - \mathbf{m}_2) \cdot \mathbf{n}_C dl = -M_s R$$

# Gauss theorem: *confinement distance*

- DW Trial function:

$$\eta^2 = (\xi - 1)^2 \left( \frac{a + \xi - 1}{a - \xi + 1} \right)$$



# Magnetostatic and anisotropy energies

## *Magnetostatic energy*

*Surface charges around non-magnetic hole*

$$E_s = -\frac{\mu_o M_s^2}{4\pi} \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} [\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\boldsymbol{\rho})] [\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\boldsymbol{\rho}')] \ln(|\boldsymbol{\rho} - \boldsymbol{\rho}'|) d^2\rho d^2\rho'$$

*Surface charges – charged Neel walls*

$$E_{is} = -\frac{\mu_o M_s^2}{2\pi} \int_{\Omega} \int_C [\nabla \cdot \mathbf{m}(\boldsymbol{\rho})] [(\mathbf{m}_1(\boldsymbol{\rho}') - \mathbf{m}_2(\boldsymbol{\rho}')) \cdot \mathbf{n}_C(\boldsymbol{\rho}')] \ln(|\boldsymbol{\rho} - \boldsymbol{\rho}'|) d^2\rho dl'$$

*Charged Neel walls*

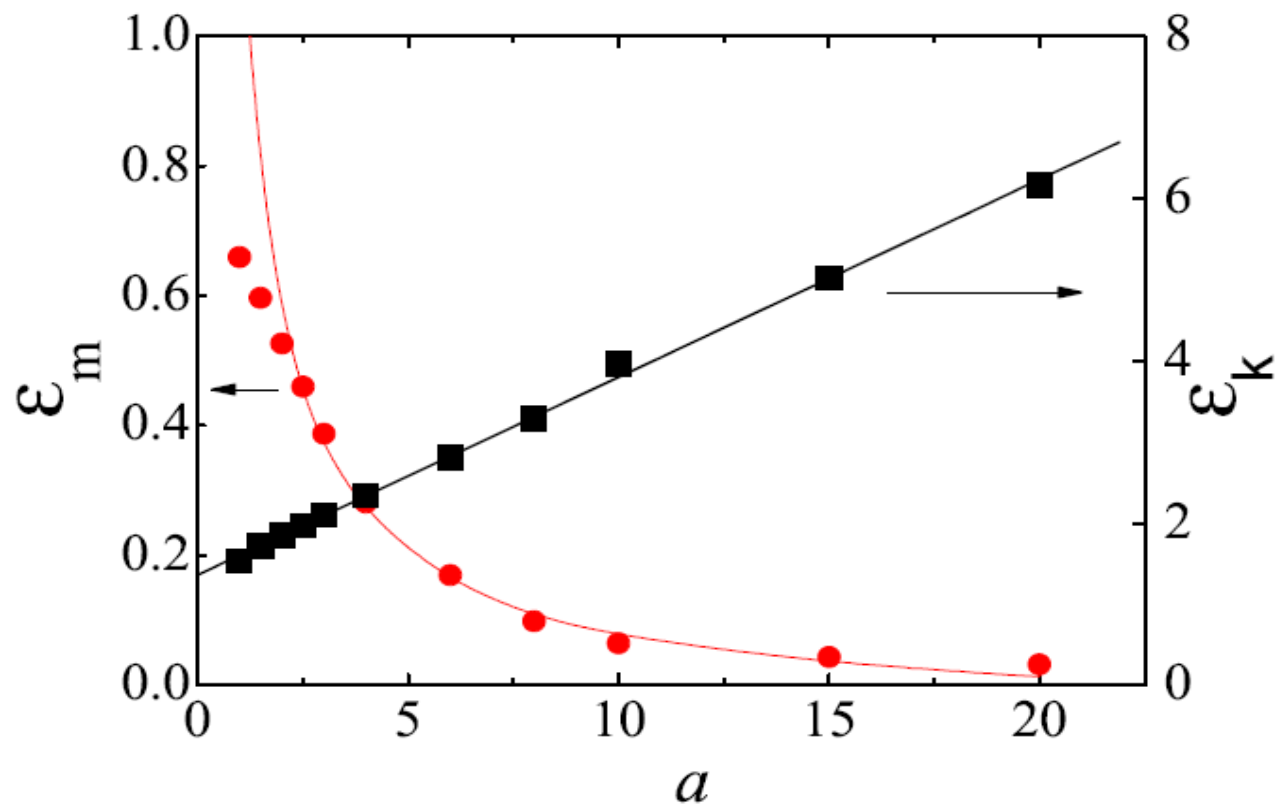
$$E_{ij} = -\frac{\mu_o M_s^2}{2\pi} \int_C \int_{C'} [(\mathbf{m}_1(\boldsymbol{\rho}) - \mathbf{m}_2(\boldsymbol{\rho})) \cdot \mathbf{n}_C(\boldsymbol{\rho})] \times \\ [(\mathbf{m}_1(\boldsymbol{\rho}') - \mathbf{m}_2(\boldsymbol{\rho}')) \cdot \mathbf{n}_{C'}(\boldsymbol{\rho}')] \ln(|\boldsymbol{\rho} - \boldsymbol{\rho}'|) dl dl'$$

## *Anisotropy Energy*

$$E_K = -K \int_{\Omega} [\mathbf{m}(\boldsymbol{\rho}) \cdot \mathbf{e}]^2 d^2\rho$$

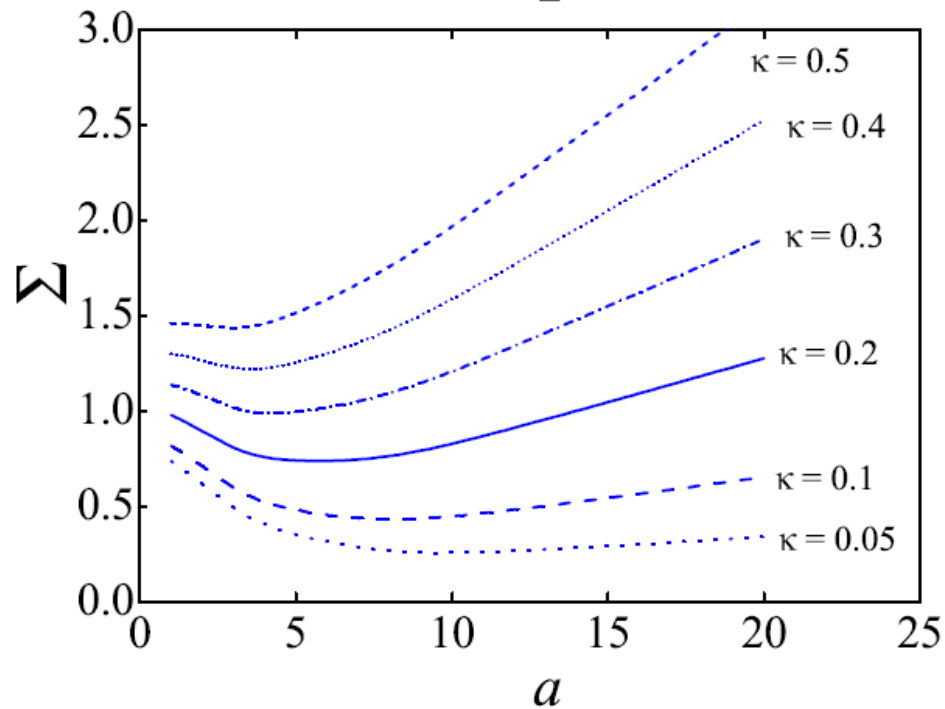
# Magnetostatic and anisotropy energies

---



# Total energy minimization

$$\Sigma \equiv \frac{2E}{\mu_0 M_s^2} = -\frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_s + \sum_i \varepsilon_{is} + \sum_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij} \right] - \kappa \varepsilon_k$$

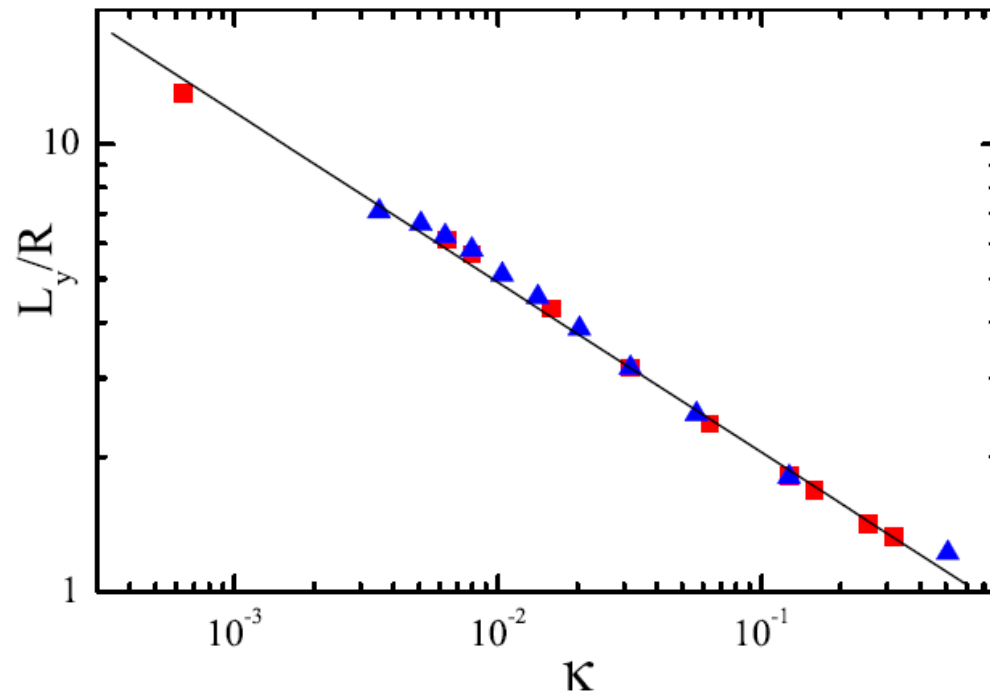


$$\kappa \equiv 2K / \mu_0 M_s^2$$

$$a \sim \kappa^{-0.5}$$

# Confinement distance

---



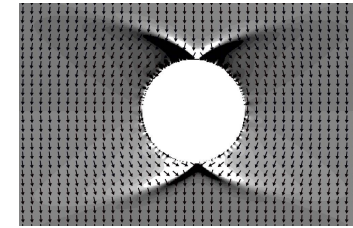
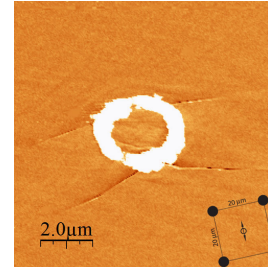
*Analytical model*

$$a \sim \kappa^{-0.5}$$

*OOMMF simulations*

$$L_y \sim \kappa^{-0.4}$$

# Conclusions



- Closure domain structures around holes in extended 2D film: **Confined -1/2 vortices**
- Confinement distance determined by magnetic **charge conservation** (Gauss theorem) and **energy minimization**
- Closure structure size scales as  **$L/R \sim \kappa^{-0.5}$**