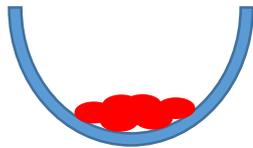
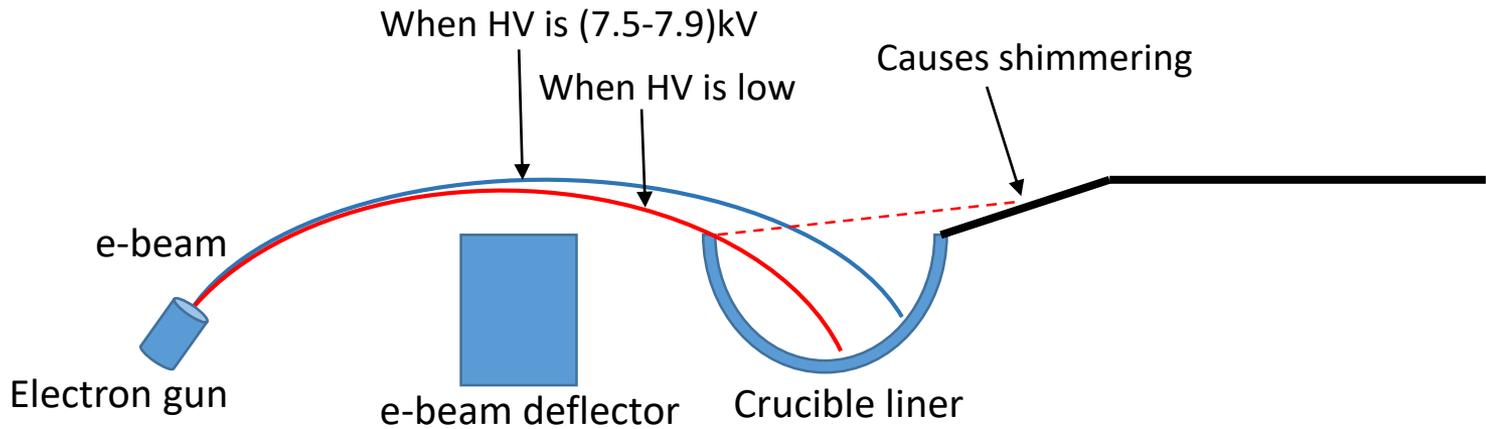


EvoVac: Using e-beam apparatus



Not the best way to place the source material in the crucible liner.



Placing the source material this allows for maximum exposure of the material to e-beam.

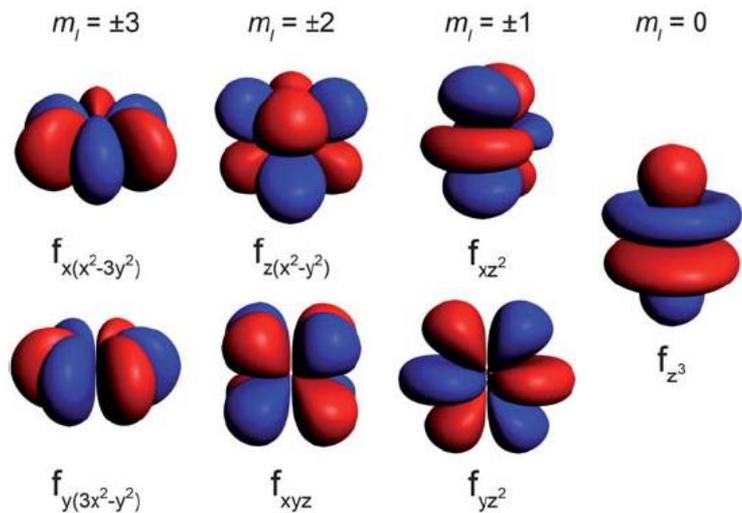
Single-ion anisotropy in rare-earth metals (*4f* Lanthanides)

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Electron distribution in 4f lanthanides



Representations of the 4f orbitals

Highest magnitude m_j - most oblate shape
 Lowest magnitude m_j - most prolate shape

High $m_j \rightarrow$ high net magnetic moment along z-axis

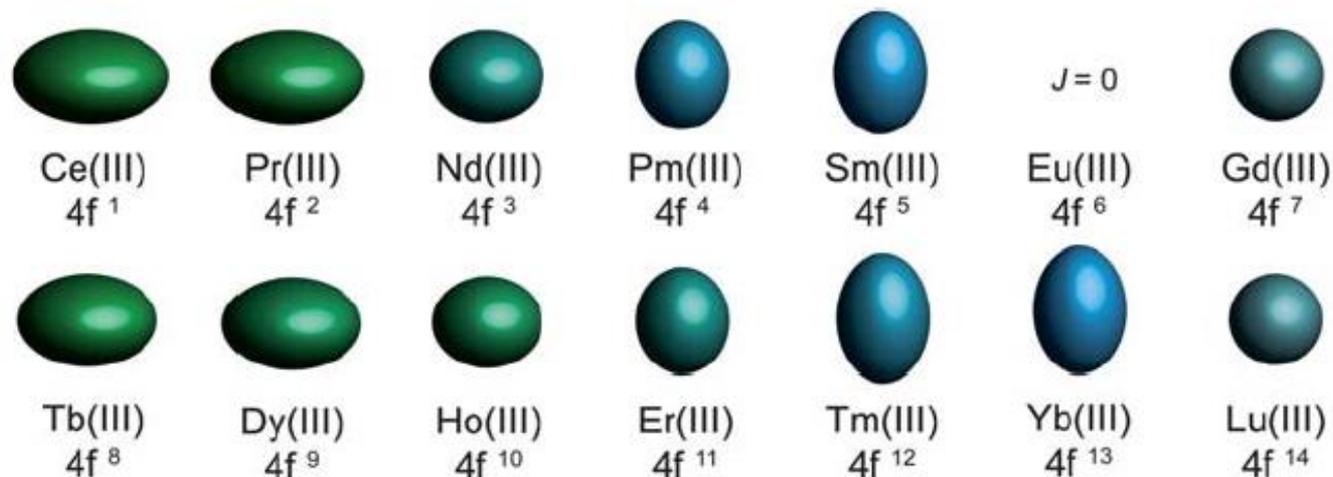
Rare-earths metals exhibit strong spin-orbit (LS) coupling as opposed to their 3d transition metal counterparts.

Consequently, the “good” quantum number is j (total angular momentum) and not s .

This leads to weaker coupling between electronic distribution in rare-earth ions and the crystal field due to ligands.

\rightarrow Crystal field is treated as a perturbation on LS coupling term in the Hamiltonian.
 (This is in stark contrast with the way transition metal ions behave.)

Electron distribution in $4f$ lanthanides

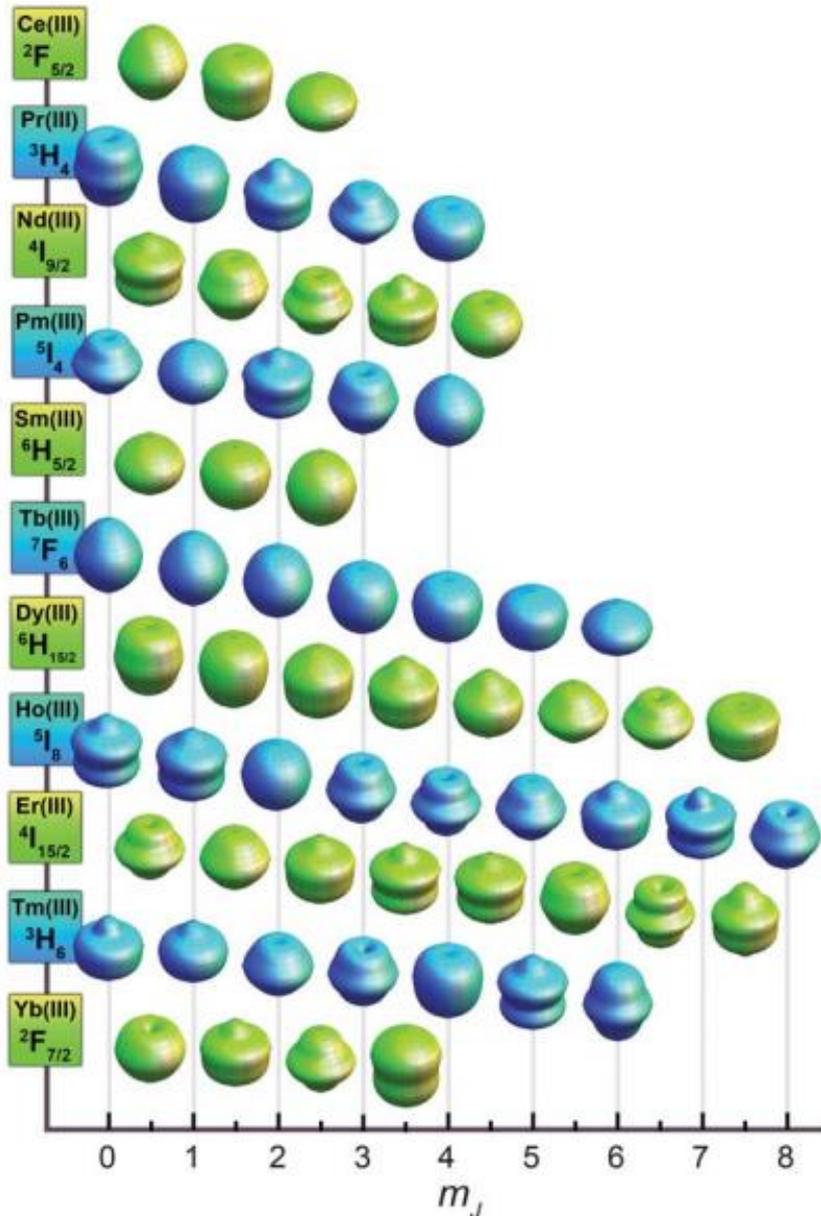


Quadrupole approximations of the $4f$ -shell electron distribution for the tripositive lanthanides.

Values are calculated using the total angular momentum quantum number (J), the Stevens coefficient of second order (α) and the radius of the $4f$ shell squared $\langle r^2 \rangle$.

Europium is not depicted as a $J = 0$ ground state.

4f Electron distribution vs. m_j

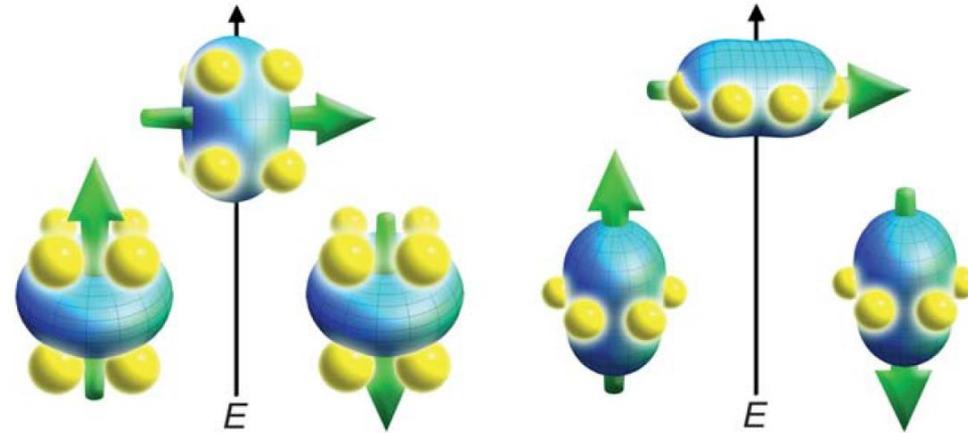


In the absence of crystal field, all m_j states are degenerate.

Applications in magnetic materials would require crystal fields that minimize the energy of highest m_j states.

This would lead to doubly-degenerate ground state with high m_j states.
→ Augment anisotropy.

Low and High energy configurations



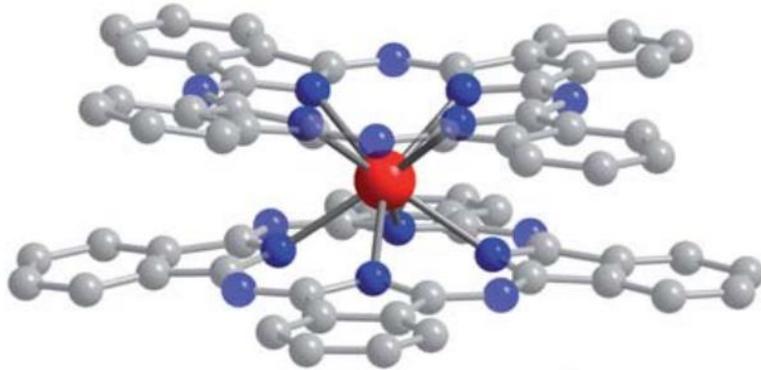
4*f* ion with oblate electron density

4*f* ion with prolate electron density

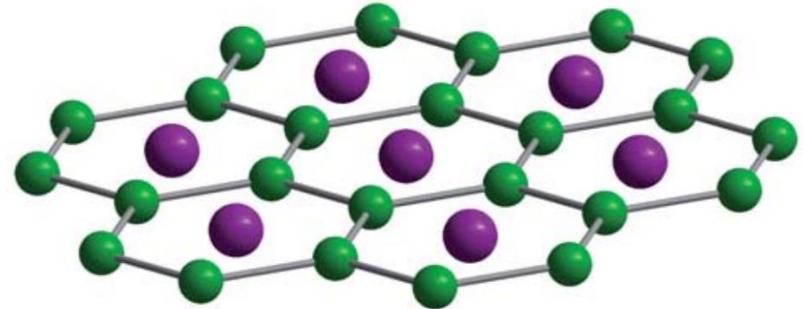
Depictions of low- and high-energy configurations of the *f*-orbital electron density with respect to the crystal field environment for an oblate and a prolate electron density.

- The green arrow represents the orientation of the spin angular momentum coupled to the orbital moment.
- For the **oblate electron density**, an **axial** “sandwich”- type crystal field minimizes the energy of the $m_j = J$ (high moment) state.
- For the **prolate electron density**, an **equatorial** “sandwich”- type crystal field minimizes the energy of the $m_j = J$ (high moment) state.

Materials using strong single-ion anisotropy



$[\text{TbPc}_2]^-$



SmCo_5

- Pc_2^- = phthalocyanine
Red-Terbium; blue-nitrogen; gray-carbon
- **Tb** here is an **oblate ion**.
- Axial ligands reduce the energy of the highest m_j .
- Hence, stabilizing the maximum moment state.
- The structure has high and stable out-of-plane magnetic moment.

- **Sm** here is a **prolate ion**.
- Equatorial ligands reduce the energy of the highest m_j .
- Hence, stabilizing the maximum moment state.
- The structure has high and stable out-of-plane magnetic moment.

Thank you!