## **Supporting Information**

for

## Magnetic ground state of nanosized $\beta$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and its remarkable electronic features

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## **Supporting Figures**



**Figure S1.** a) Temperature behavior of the hyperfine magnetic field ( $B_{hf}$ ) for both sites and b) temperature evolution of the quadrupole splitting ( $\Delta E_Q$ ) for both sites below the Néel temperature.

## **Supporting Tables**

**Table S1.** Values of the Mössbauer hyperfine parameters derived from the zero-field and in-field Mössbauer spectra of the prepared  $\beta$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> phase recorded at various temperatures where *T* is the temperature of the measurement,  $B_{\text{ext}}$  is the external magnetic field,  $\delta$  is the isomer shift,  $\Delta E_Q$  is the quadrupole splitting,  $B_{\text{hf}}$  is hyperfine magnetic field,  $B_{\text{eff}}$  is the effective hyperfine magnetic field (i.e.,  $B_{\text{eff}}$  is vector sum of the external magnetic field  $B_{\text{ext}}$  and the hyperfine field  $B_{\text{hf}}$ ), and RA is relative spectra area of each component.

Т	<b>B</b> <sub>ext</sub>	Component	δ	$\Delta E_Q$	$B_{ m hf}$	<b>B</b> <sub>eff</sub>	RA	Assignment
			± 0.01	± 0.01	± 0.3	± 0.3	±1	
(K)	(T)		(mm/s)	(mm/s)	<b>(T)</b>	(T)	(%)	
20	0	Sextet 1	0.50	0.23	47.9	-	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.49	0.80	50.6	-	25	b-sites
40	0	Sextet 1	0.50	0.24	46.6	-	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.50	0.85	49.8	-	25	b-sites
60	0	Sextet 1	0.50	0.22	43.1	-	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.51	0.92	47.4	-	25	b-sites
80	0	Sextet 1	0.48	0.21	37.3	-	45	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.47	0.92	43.1	-	15	b-sites
		Singlet	0.48	-	-	-	40	relaxation c.
100	0	Sextet 1	0.49	0.21	26.8	-	21	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.48	1.04	32.1	-	7	b-sites
		Singlet	0.48	-	-	-	72	relaxation c.
110	0	Doublet	0.47	0.75	-	-	17	
		Sextet	0.52	0.11	12.1	-	83	
120	0	Doublet 1	0.47	0.68	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.47	1.05	-	-	25	b-sites
140	0	Doublet 1	0.47	0.68	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.46	1.07	-	-	25	b-sites

160	0	Doublet 1	0.46	0.68	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.45	1.05	-	-	25	b-sites
180	0	Doublet 1	0.45	0.69	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.44	1.07	-	-	25	b-sites
200	0	Doublet 1	0.45	0.73	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.43	0.92	-	-	25	b-sites
220	0	Doublet 1	0.42	0.70	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.41	1.13	-	-	25	b-sites
240	0	Doublet 1	0.41	0.68	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.40	1.06	-	-	25	b-sites
260	0	Doublet 1	0.39	0.73	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.40	0.94	-	-	25	b-sites
280	0	Doublet 1	0.39	0.69	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.39	1.02	-	-	25	b-sites
300	0	Doublet 1	0.37	0.68	-	-	75	d-sites
		Doublet 2	0.37	1.07	-	-	25	b-sites
5	0	Sextet 1	0.50	0.25	48.7	-	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.47	0.84	50.9	-	25	b-sites
	1	Sextet 1	0.52	0.25	-	48.7	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.46	0.84	-	50.9	25	b-sites
	2	Sextet 1	0.52	0.24	-	48.1	75	d-sites
		Sextet 2	0.44	0.77	-	50.5	25	b-sites
	3.5	Sextet 1	0.48	0.29	-	50.0	48	A-sublattice
		Sextet 2	0.51	0.25	-	46.4	52	B-subblatice
	5	Sextet 1	0.47	0.32	-	59.2	50	A-sublattice
		Sextet 2	0.48	0.20	-	44.8	50	B-subblatice
	8	Sextet 1	0.47	0.27	-	49.4	45	A-sublattice
		Sextet 2	0.49	0.25	-	44.9	27	B-sublattice
		Sextet 3	0.48	0.13	-	41.1	28	B-sublattice

**Table S2.** Values of the physical parameters derived from the Mössbauer spectra of the prepared  $\beta$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> sample above the Néel temperature, where  $\delta$  corresponds to the isomer shift, A(T) is the resonant area under the Mössbauer spectrum at a temperature T,  $M_{\text{eff}}$  refers to an effective mass of the Mössbauer probed atom, and  $\Theta_{\text{D}}$  is the Debye temperature of the solid.

	obtained parameters for the d-position	obtained parameters for the b- position
$d\delta/dT$ (mm/s K <sup>-1</sup> )	$-5.75 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.27 \times 10^{-4}$
$M_{\rm eff}$ (amu)	72	79
$dln[A(T)/A(120 \text{ K})]/dT (\text{K}^{-1})$	- 3.50 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	$-3.52 \times 10^{-3}$
$\Theta_{\mathrm{D}}\left(\mathrm{K} ight)$	175	167