

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale Advances.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Time-dependent AC magnetometry and chain formation in magnetite: the influence of particle size, initial temperature and the shortening of the relaxation time by the applied field.

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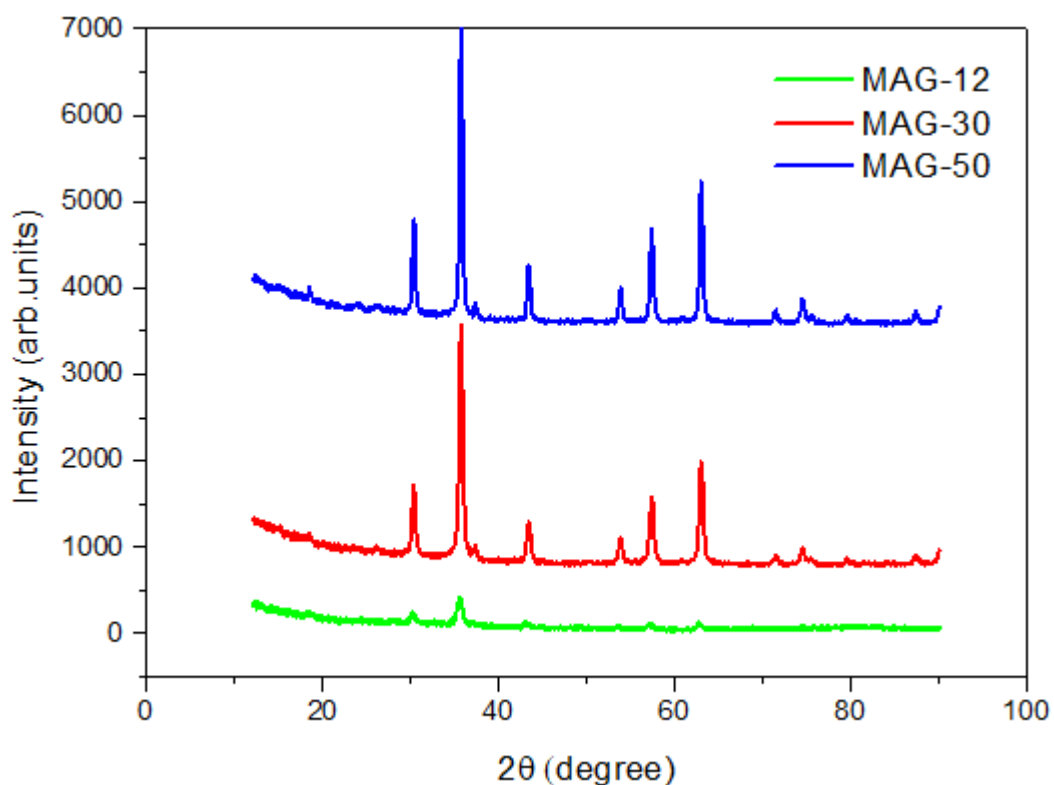


Fig. S1. XRD patterns of samples MAG-12, MAG-30 and MAG-50.

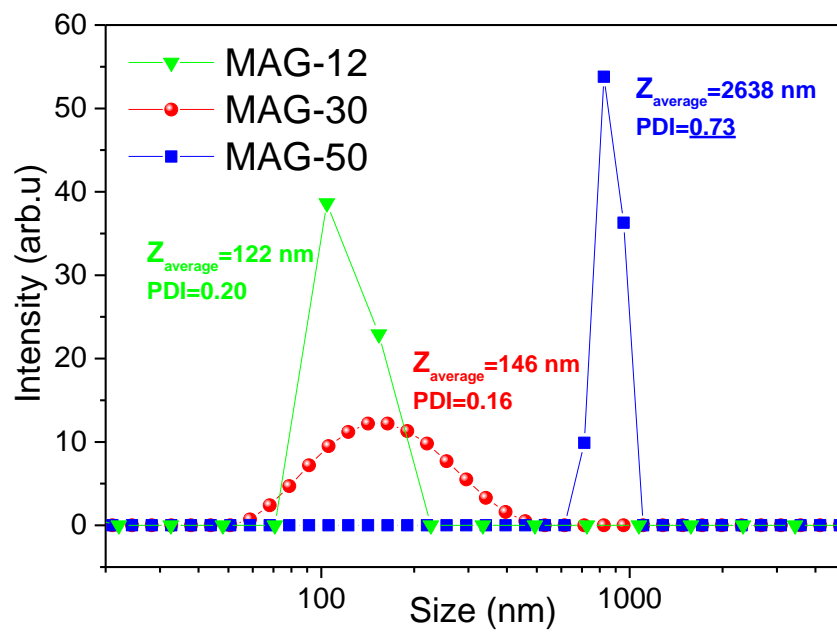


Fig.S2. DLS Intensity measurements.

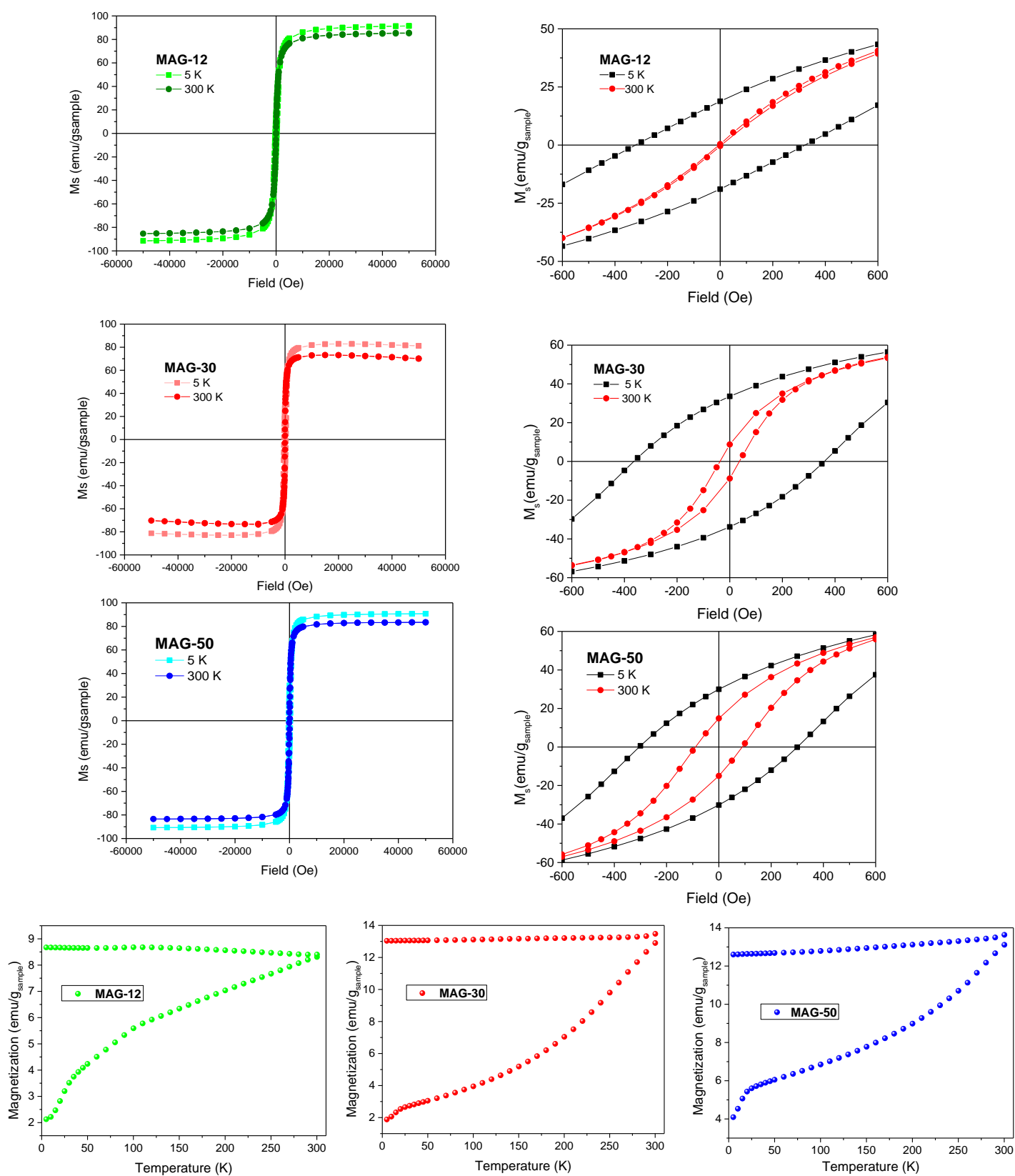


Fig.S3. SQUID measurements (HC and ZFCFC at 100 Oe) of the samples in powder.

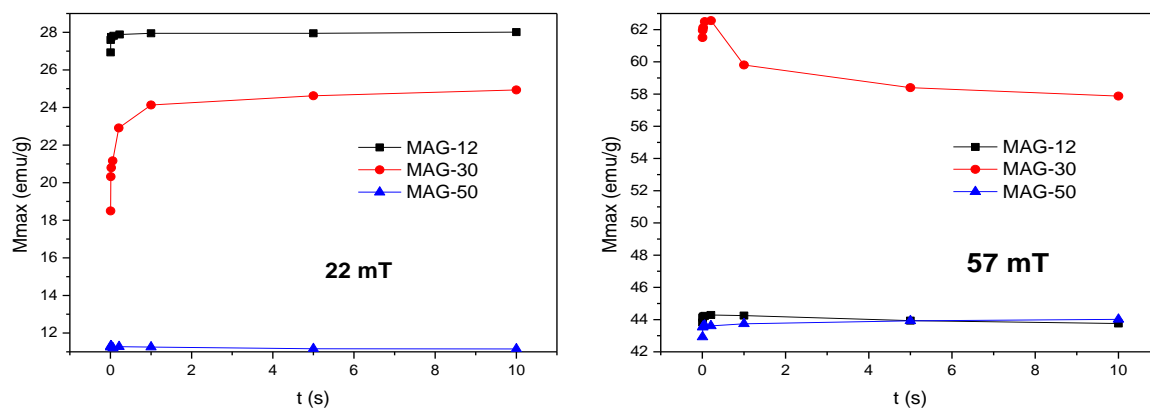


Fig. S4. Evolution of the maximum magnetization as a function of the measurement time for applied fields of 22 mT and 57 mT.

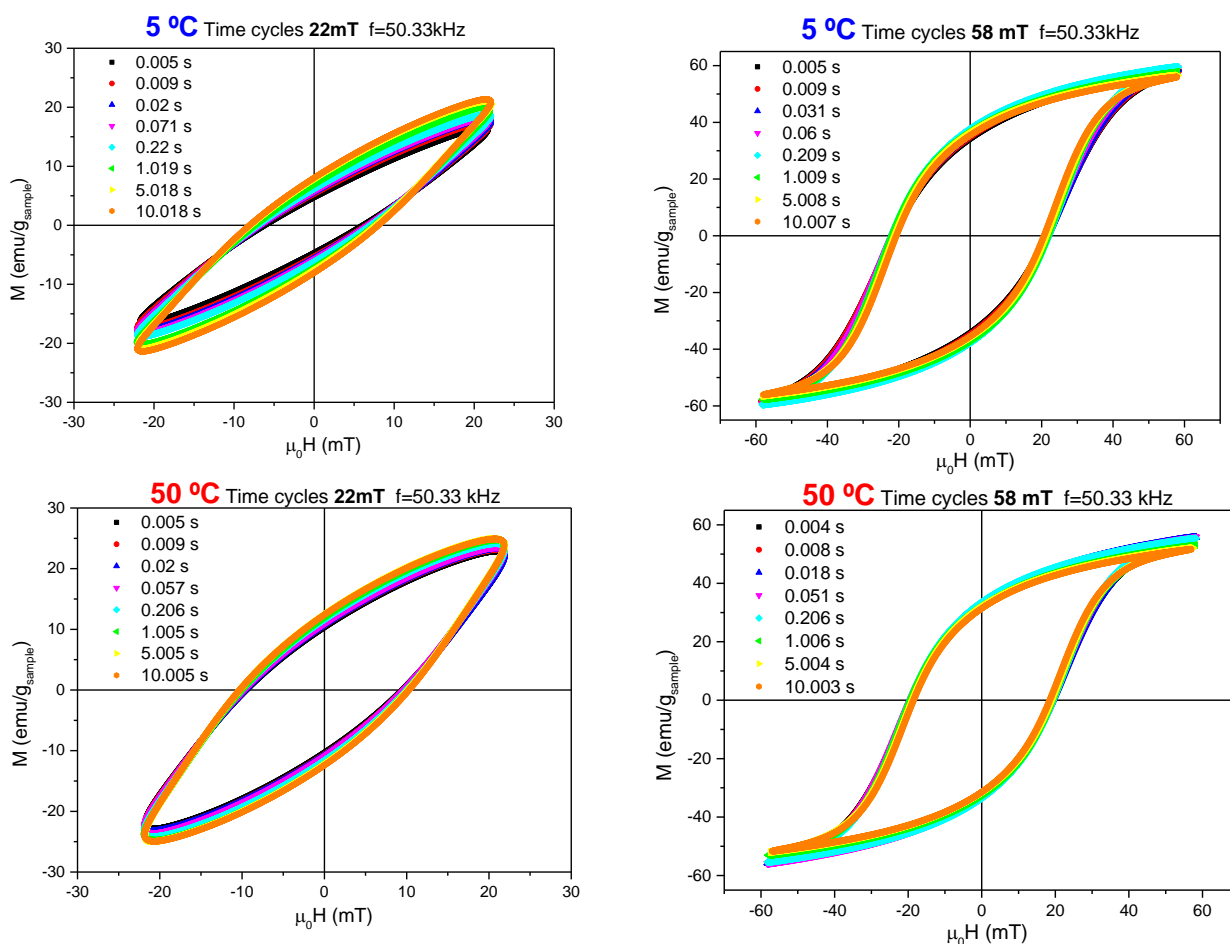


Fig. S5. Evolution of the hysteresis cycles as a function of the measurement time for sample MAG-30 at two different initial temperatures at 22 mT and 58 mT.

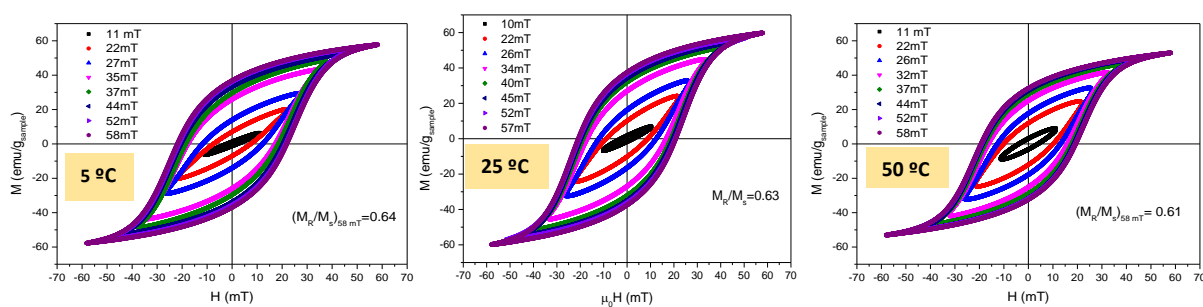


Figure S6. Evolution of MAG-30 high frequency hysteresis loops as a function of the field for different initial temperatures (5, 25 and 50 °C).  $t_{\text{meas}}=1$  s. Frequency: 50.33 kHz.

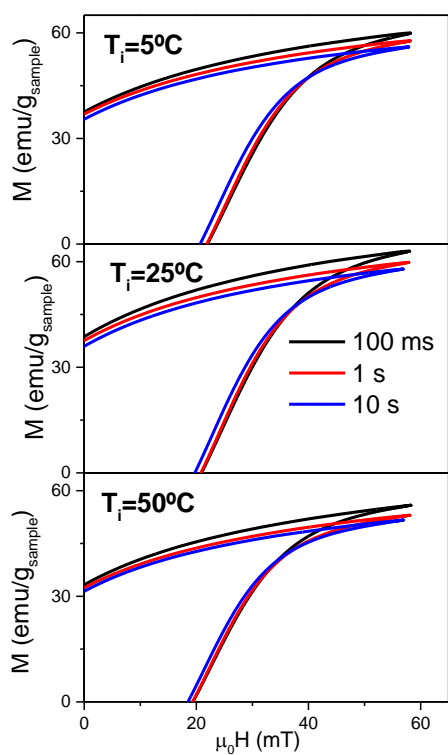


Fig. S7. Hysteresis cycles at 57 mT at three different initial temperatures and measured at different measurement times.

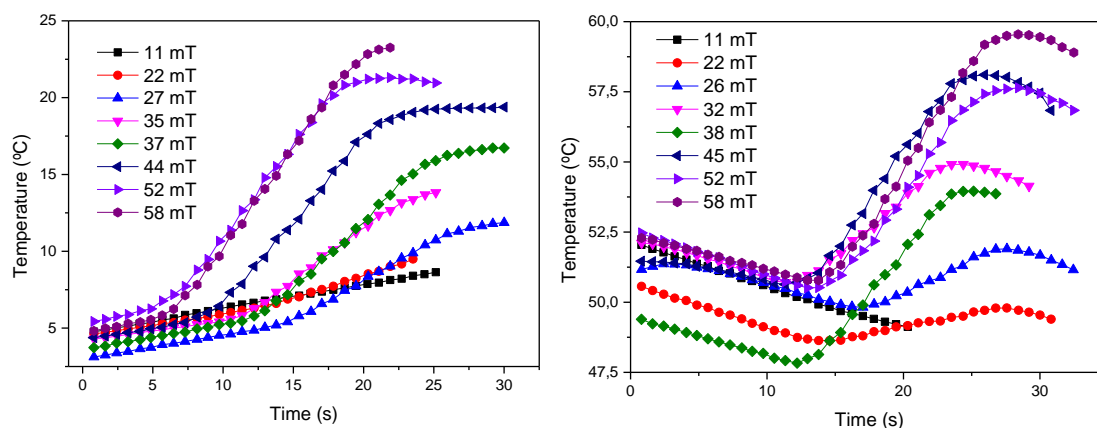


Fig. S8. Temperature curves recorded simultaneously with the AC loops for sample MAG-30 starting from different initial temperatures when applying fields ranging from 10 to 60 mT and a frequency of 50.33 kHz.

Table S1. Neel and Brown relaxation times at zero field assuming  $K=10^4\text{J/m}^3$ . The values in parentheses correspond to the peak values.

SAMPLE	$R_{\text{TEM}}$ (nm)	$V_{\text{TEM}}$ ( $\text{m}^3$ )	$\tau_{\text{N}}$ (s)	$R_{\text{DLS}}$ (nm)	$\tau_{\text{B}}$ (s)
MAG-12	3-10 (6)	$10^{-25}$ - $4.2 \cdot 10^{-24}$ ( $9 \cdot 10^{-25}$ )	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-9}$ - $2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ ( $2.6 \cdot 10^{-8}$ )	60	$7 \cdot 10^{-4}$
MAG-30	10-25 (16)	$4 \cdot 10^{-24}$ - $6 \cdot 10^{-23}$ ( $2 \cdot 10^{-23}$ )	$2 \cdot 10^{-5}$ - $8 \cdot 10^{53}$ ( $6.7 \cdot 10^8$ )	73	$10^{-3}$
MAG-50	17-35 (26)	$2 \cdot 10^{-23}$ - $2 \cdot 10^{-22}$ ( $7.4 \cdot 10^{-23}$ )	$9.3 \cdot 10^{11}$ - $5 \cdot 10^{200}$ ( $3.9 \cdot 10^{68}$ )	1300	<b>10</b>