

# Spin-orbit control of antiferromagnetic domains without a Zeeman coupling

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## Article

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# Spin-orbit control of antiferromagnetic domains without a Zeeman coupling

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Encoding information in antiferromagnetic (AFM) domains is a promising solution for the ever growing demand in magnetic storage capacity. What fundamentally enables ultrahigh density AFM-based spintronics is the absence of unintentional crosstalk between different domain states due to vanishing stray fields<sup>1</sup>. However, the absence of macroscopic magnetization is detrimental to the manipulation and detection of AFM domains. Disentangling the merits and disadvantages of small stray fields seemed so far unattainable. In this work, we report evidence for a new AFM domain selection mechanism based on the anisotropy in the susceptibility not induced by Zeeman energy terms, but by the relative orientation of the external magnetic field to the two perpendicularly oriented k-domains only. As a result, the charge transport response is controlled by the rotation of the magnetic field. In particular, a pronounced new anisotropic magnetoresistance effect is found in the AFM phase of bulk materials  $\text{Nd}_{1-x}\text{Ce}_x\text{CoIn}_5$ , due to differences in transport scattering rates for currents applied parallel and perpendicular to the spin-density wave modulation. Our results and the domain switching theory<sup>2</sup> indicate that this constitutes a new universal effect across multiband materials and thus provide a novel mechanism to control and detect AFM domains opening new perspectives for AFM spintronics.

36 Antiferromagnetism is preponderant among magnetically ordered materials. This type of  
37 ordering, defined by an antiparallel alignment of elementary magnetic moments, assumes a  
38 multitude of variations<sup>3,4</sup>, including collinear and non-collinear antiferromagnets, modulated  
39 structures such as spin-density waves (SDW) and antiferromagnetic spin glasses<sup>4</sup>. Yet, despite  
40 the fact that we explore antiferromagnetic ordering for almost a century, the fundamental mech-  
41 anisms for controlling antiferromagnetic states among different types of domains and orders  
42 remain challenging<sup>5,6</sup>. Establishing control and detection of antiferromagnetic domains open  
43 new windows of opportunity for both fundamental research and applications<sup>1,7</sup>.

44 In the era of information and data science, spintronics has become a topic of intense research,  
45 since it offers the possibility of obtaining non-volatility, reduced power consumption, increased  
46 data processing speed, and high density magnetic memories<sup>8</sup>. In this field, antiferromagnets have  
47 several advantages over ferromagnetic materials, as they possess ultrafast spin dynamics<sup>1,9-13</sup>  
48 and small or non-existent stray fields<sup>1,7,12</sup>. The terahertz control of the spin degree of freedom  
49 enables high speed data processing<sup>12,13</sup>. The absence of stray fields makes these materials ro-  
50 bust against magnetic perturbations<sup>1</sup>, offering the possibility of obtaining even higher density  
51 information storage when antiferromagnets are utilized in active components of spintronic de-  
52 vices. However, higher robustness has also meant that it has been more difficult to manipulate  
53 different binary states and detect them. The efficient manipulation<sup>6</sup> and detection<sup>1,7</sup> of AFM  
54 domains are among the most pressing problems to be solved.

55 Direct manipulation of AFM domains through the application of a strong magnetic field of-  
56 ten relies on the Zeeman coupling term ( $\mathbf{H} \cdot \boldsymbol{\mu}$ , where  $\boldsymbol{\mu}$  indicates the direction of the ordered  
57 moments) and therefore on the relative orientation between the applied field and the spin ori-  
58 entation. An example is found in elemental chromium, where a single magnetic domain (single  
59 k-domain) state in a transverse SDW can be obtained through the application of a sufficiently  
60 large field<sup>14,15</sup>. On the detection side, beyond utilizing optical and scattering techniques<sup>16</sup>,  
61 probing domain states in the charge channel is essential for applications<sup>7</sup>. Charge-detection  
62 of different antiferromagnetic states in bulk materials, i.e. the AFM-based anisotropic magne-  
63 toresistance (AMR), often relies on electronic scattering on domain walls<sup>17</sup> or a change in the  
64 density of states near the Fermi level due to the opening of a gap-type antiferromagnetism (as in  
65 chromium<sup>18,19</sup>) or relativistic spin-orbit coupling<sup>20,21</sup>. In the latter, distinctive resistive states  
66 arise due to the anisotropy of the electronic structure when the AFM moments are aligned along  
67 different crystallographic directions<sup>20</sup>. In fact, most of the explored effects involve the spin ori-  
68 entation either in the manipulation or the detection of AFM states. However, in most cases,

69 the outcome from each of the effects above trigger small readout signals that are incompatible  
70 with the scalability of devices<sup>1,7,22</sup>. Thus, new conceptual and experimental advancements on  
71 how to manipulate and detect AFM domains are required. Finding ways to decouple the spin  
72 orientation from magnetoelectronic phenomena could offer easier ways to manipulate and detect  
73 AFM domains.

74 In this context, we focus on a recent theoretically proposed mechanism suggested to occur in  
75 centrosymmetric multiband metals with large spin-orbit coupling (SOC)<sup>2</sup>. A spin susceptibility  
76 anisotropy was predicted to arise from interband spin-orbit coupling<sup>2</sup> in a similar manner to what  
77 is observed in non-centrosymmetric materials<sup>23</sup>. In the latter, Rashba-type interactions are of  
78 key importance for spintronics applications<sup>7,24</sup>, because it introduces a non-trivial SOC which  
79 results in an anomalous anisotropic spin susceptibility<sup>25</sup>. Instead, in centrosymmetric materials,  
80 it is the multiband nature of the electronic structure which is responsible for such anisotropy,  
81 providing a mutual coupling between the AFM ordering vector and the field direction<sup>2</sup>. The  
82 theoretical model anticipates that, for a magnetic structure where several k-domains are allowed  
83 by the crystal structure, interband SOC gives rise to a static susceptibility  $\chi(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{H})$  that is largest  
84 either at  $\mathbf{k} \parallel \mathbf{H}$  or  $\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{H}$ , for fields applied transversely to the moment direction<sup>2</sup>. Therefore,  
85 a rotation of the magnetic field direction in the plane perpendicular to the moments becomes  
86 a way to manipulate the AFM domains (see Fig.1(a) and (b)). The proposed mechanism is  
87 an intrinsic electronic effect present in antiferromagnetic materials that does not depend on a  
88 Zeeman term and has not been fully experimentally validated or explored yet.

89 Very recently, the emergence of itinerant antiferromagnetism has been observed in the large  
90 spin-orbit coupled multiband compounds  $\text{Nd}_x\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{CoIn}_5$  with  $x \leq 0.25$ <sup>26–28</sup>. These compounds  
91 crystallize in the centrosymmetric tetragonal structure with space group  $P4/mmm$ <sup>26</sup>. The de-  
92 generacy of the tetragonal structure allows for two k-domains in the SDW phase, which are  
93 indeed confirmed<sup>27</sup>. The magnetic moments point along the tetragonal c-axis with an ampli-  
94 tude that is modulated along two orthogonal directions in the *ab-plane* (see Fig.1(a)). The  
95 superconducting state of the parent compound,  $\text{CeCoIn}_5$ , hosts a SDW with the same mag-  
96 netic symmetry<sup>29</sup>. There, the population of k-domains completely switches upon rotation of the  
97 magnetic field within only  $\sim 0.1^\circ$ <sup>29</sup>. However, since the AFM phase in the pure compound is  
98 exclusively present in the zero-resistive state, magnetoresistive effects cannot be investigated.  
99 In addition, the origin of this phenomena is indistinguishable from scenarios where a coupling  
100 between magnetism and superconductivity<sup>29,30</sup> is essential. Antiferromagnetism detaching from  
101 the superconducting state under Nd substitution<sup>27,31</sup> allows us to fully explore the aforemen-

tioned proposed phenomenon.

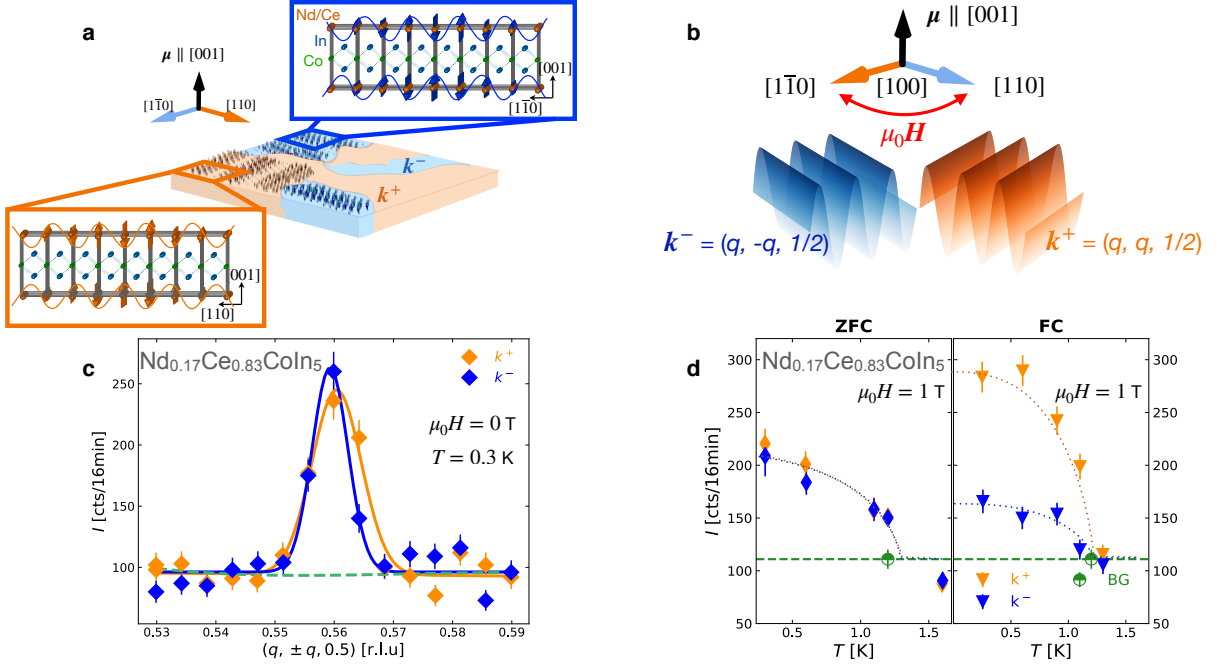


FIG. 1: **SDW domain switching:** (a) schematic diagram of the  $k$ -domains in the sample along with their amplitude modulated magnetic structures. The orange and blue arrows indicate the direction of the static magnetic moments ( $\mu$ ) pointing along the  $[001]$  direction and modulated with two orthogonal ordering vectors  $k^+$  and  $k^-$ . The static moments are located on the rare earth site, indicated by the orange balls. Blue and green balls indicate the In and Co ions. (b) shows the  $k^+$  and  $k^-$  domains. As the field is rotated in the  $ab$ -plane across the  $[100]$  crystallographic direction, the SDW domains switch, favoring the domain whose modulation is most perpendicular to the field direction. (c) The scans display the diffracted neutron intensity in counts per 16 minutes along  $(q, \pm q, 0.5)$  in (r.l.u.). (d) Temperature dependences of the magnetic Bragg peak intensities of the two magnetic domains measured at  $\mu_0 H = 1$  T in zero field cooled (ZFC) and field cooled (FC) conditions.

103 The magnetic structures of  $\text{Nd}_x\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{CoIn}_5$  spontaneously form two equally populated  $k$ -  
 104 domains at zero magnetic field. The real space representation of the two  $k$ -domains is depicted  
 105 in Fig.1(b). In reciprocal space, these two domains are described by two subsets of  $k$ -vectors  
 106 forming an eightfold star (see Supplementary Information I). By mirror and translational sym-  
 107 metry operations, the eight vectors are attributed to either  $k^+$  or the  $k^-$  domains of form  
 108  $(q, q, 0.5)$  and  $(q, -q, 0.5)$ , respectively. Fig.1(c) shows neutron diffraction data for wavevectors  
 109 along the  $(q, \pm q, 0.5)$  direction at low temperature and zero magnetic field for  $\text{Nd}_{0.17}\text{Ce}_{0.83}\text{CoIn}_5$ .  
 110 Fig.1(d) displays the temperature dependence of the magnetic Bragg peak intensity at  $\mu_0 H = 1$   
 111 T along the  $[1\bar{1}0]$  direction in zero field (ZFC) and field cooled (FC) conditions. After zero field  
 112 cooling, both domains reveal equal intensity below the Néel transition temperature  $T_N$ . Field  
 113 cooling influences the domain formation, enhancing the intensity of the domain oriented most  
 114 perpendicularly to the field direction, i.e.  $k^+$  for  $\mathbf{H} \parallel [1\bar{1}0]$ . Thus, the domain population can

115 be controlled upon magnetic field without a Zeeman coupling.

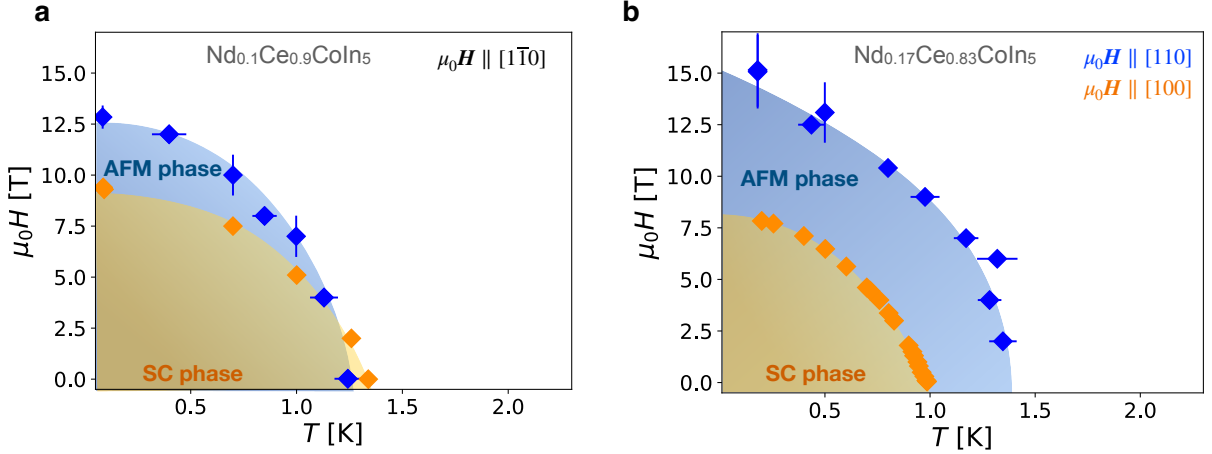


FIG. 2: **Magnetic order exceeds the superconducting phase.** HT-phase diagram of (a)  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$  and (b)  $\text{Nd}_{0.17}\text{Ce}_{0.83}\text{CoIn}_5$ . The magnetic phase boundaries were obtained from temperature and field scans of the Bragg reflection intensities. The superconducting phase boundaries were measured by electrical resistivity measurements.

116 Fig.2 displays the HT-phase diagrams of  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$  and  $\text{Nd}_{0.17}\text{Ce}_{0.83}\text{CoIn}_5$ . In  
 117  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$ , magnetic order develops below a Néel temperature that is lower than the su-  
 118 perconducting transition temperature  $T_c$ , but exists up to fields higher than the superconducting  
 119 upper critical field  $H_{c2}$ . Upon further increasing the Nd content to 17%, superconductivity is  
 120 completely enclosed by the magnetic phase. Thus,  $\text{Nd}_x\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{CoIn}_5$  with  $0.25 \geq x \geq 0.1$  is a  
 121 regime where magnetic order is developed in the absence of superconductivity (see Supplemen-  
 122 tary Information II for  $x = 0.25$  and also field dependences shown in Fig.3), providing an ideal  
 123 test ground for theories assessing the SDW domain repopulation in the absence of a Zeeman  
 124 coupling. This also allows us to clarify the role of superconductivity in this process.

125 For this purpose, we studied the evolution of the k-domain population as a function of  
 126 magnetic field along the  $[1\bar{1}0]$  direction. Fig.3 displays the field dependences of magnetic Bragg  
 127 peak intensities associated with the two domain states  $\mathbf{k}^+$  and  $\mathbf{k}^-$  for the 10%, 17% and 25% Nd  
 128 substituted compounds. We find a field-induced domain imbalance of the k-domains, i.e. above  
 129 a certain field, the intensity of the unfavored  $\mathbf{k}^-$ -domain drops to zero while the intensity of the  
 130  $\mathbf{k}^+$  domain is increased. Remarkably, this happens in the absence of superconductivity (Fig.3(c)  
 131 and (d)), and is indistinguishable from the domain selection in the superconducting state. Thus,  
 132 our results establish that superconductivity is not necessary for the domain repopulation. The  
 133 domain selection is not reversible with the removal of the magnetic field (see Supplementary  
 134 information III). We note that the unfavored  $\mathbf{k}^-$ -domain is only formed when the system is  
 135 reinitialized through zero field cooling or by in-situ rotation of the magnetic field direction. This

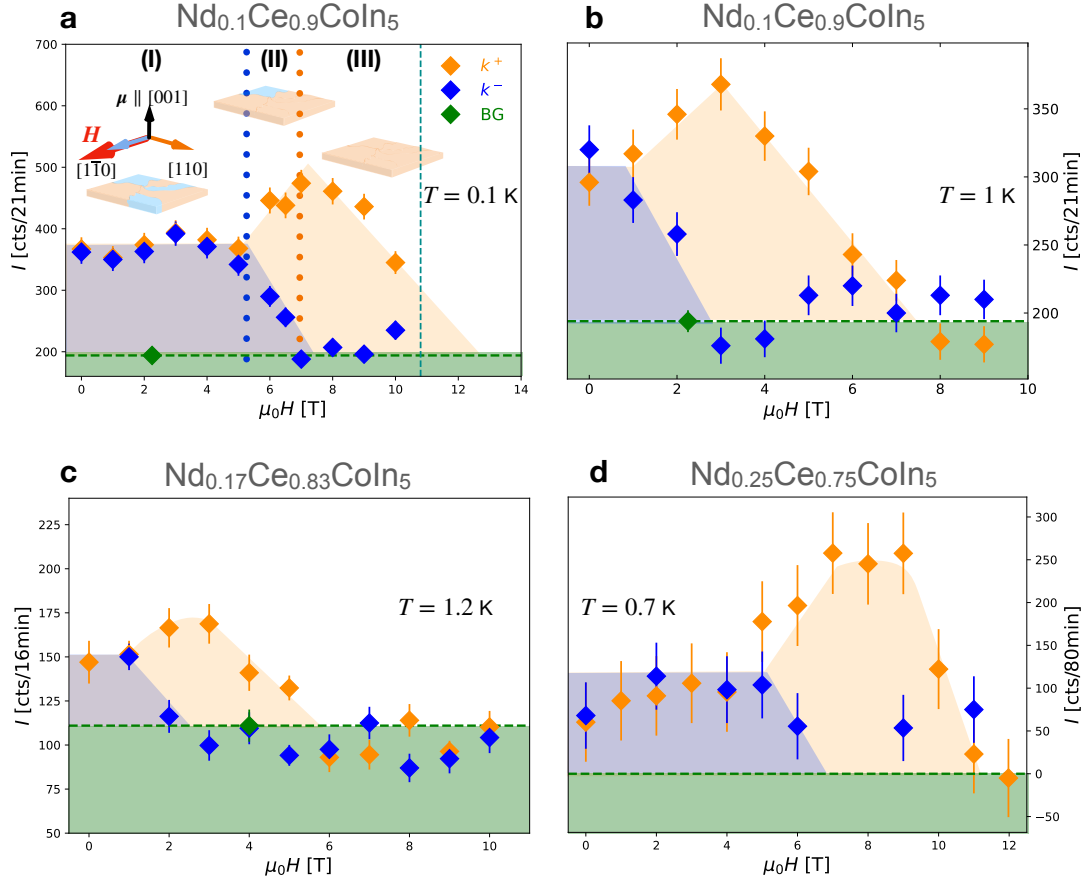


FIG. 3: **AFM domain selection in the superconducting and normal states:** magnetic Bragg peak intensity as a function of field along the  $[1\bar{1}0]$  direction at different temperatures for  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$  ((a) and (b)), in the normal conducting state of  $\text{Nd}_{0.17}\text{Ce}_{0.83}\text{CoIn}_5$  (c) and for the correlated metal  $\text{Nd}_{0.25}\text{Ce}_{0.75}\text{CoIn}_5$  (d). BG indicates the background, measured in the paramagnetic states of  $\text{Nd}_x\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{CoIn}_5$ . The rectangles displayed in (a) are a schematic view of the sample showing the evolution of the domain population. At low fields (regime I), both  $k^+$  and  $k^-$  domains are present with equal population. In regime II, a domain repopulation takes place, favoring the domain which is mostly perpendicular to the field direction, ie.  $k^+$ . In regime III, a single  $k^+$  domain state is obtained. The vertical green line in (a) indicates the field where we have performed complementary electrical resistivity measurements (see Figs.4 and 5).

136 demonstrates that the AFM phase has a non-volatile memory effect. Note that non-volatility  
 137 is a key asset for magnetic recording and it has been seldom reported in the literature for  
 138 antiferromagnets<sup>32</sup>, and antiferromagnetic metals in particular.

139 If the mutual dependence of the magnetic wavevector on the field direction indeed originates  
 140 from an interband spin-orbit interaction, as suggested by theory, the effect should also be ob-  
 141 servable in transport properties. Therefore, we carried out experiments on the charge-detection  
 142 of the SDW switching. Notably, we explored the magnetotransport effect of  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$ ,  
 143 for which a relatively large area of the SDW phase is observed in absence of superconductivity.  
 144 Resistivity measurements were performed under a configuration where the electrical current was



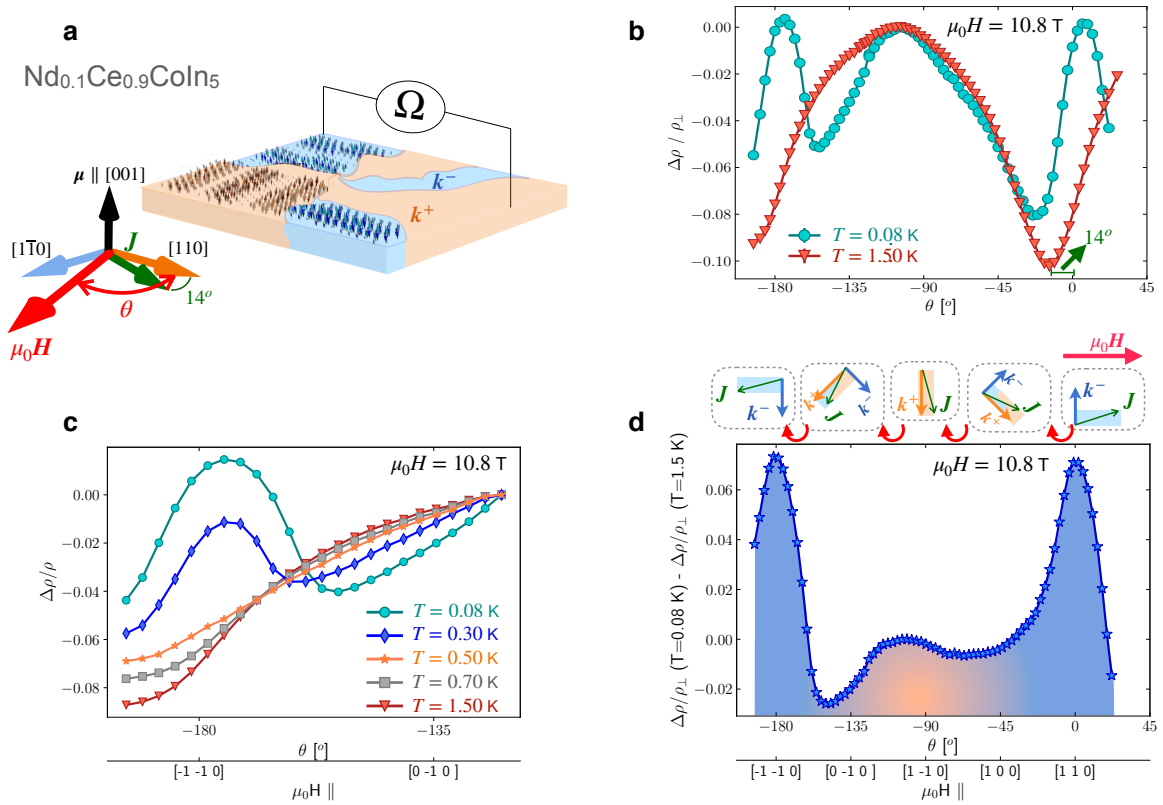


FIG. 4: **Anisotropic magnetoresistance in the AFM phase of  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$ :** (a) The electrical resistivity was measured along the  $\mathbf{J} \parallel [110]$  direction with a misalignment of  $14^\circ$  in the  $ab$  – plane. As the field is rotated across the  $[100]$  crystallographic direction, the SDW domains switch, thus changing the relative orientation between the current direction and the SDW modulation. (b) Angular dependence of resistivity normalized by the transverse resistivity for  $T < T_N$  (green) and  $T > T_N$  (red) at  $\mu_0 H = 10.8$  T. The high temperature curve resembles the cyclotron effect observed up to temperatures higher than 20 K (Supplementary Information V). At low temperatures, an increased resistivity is found for  $\mathbf{H} \parallel [110]$ , i.e. when the current is perpendicular to the  $\mathbf{k}^+$  or  $\mathbf{k}^-$  domain. (c) Angular dependence of the electrical resistivity normalized by the value at  $\theta \approx -120^\circ$  and  $\mu_0 H = 10.8$  T for different temperatures. We observe a resistivity enhancement below the antiferromagnetic transition. (d) Angular dependence of the AFM AMR where the paramagnetic contribution has been subtracted. In the schematic diagram,  $\mathbf{k}$  represents the  $ab$ -plane components of the two-domains.

145 intentionally misaligned  $14^\circ$  to the  $[110]$  direction in the  $ab$  – plane. This allowed us to distin-  
 146 guish scenarios where the magnetoelectronic effect is purely related to the magnetic structure  
 147 or to the relative orientation between the electrical current and the field. As the magnetic field  
 148 is rotated, the SDW modulation alternates from being mostly perpendicular to being mostly  
 149 parallel to the current direction (see Fig.4(a)). In Fig.4 (b), we depict the angular dependence  
 150 of the magnetoresistance ratio defined as  $\Delta\rho/\rho_\perp = [\rho(\theta) - \rho_\perp]/\rho_\perp$ , where  $\rho_\perp$  is the transverse  
 151 magnetoresistance, i.e. the resistivity value when the current is applied perpendicularly to the  
 152 magnetic field direction. The angular scans were obtained in zero field cooling conditions and  
 153 the field was applied first close to the symmetrically equivalent  $[0\bar{1}0]$  direction. Note that the  
 154 two domains are degenerate for fields applied along  $[010]$  and  $[100]$ , because  $\mathbf{k}^+$  and  $\mathbf{k}^-$  have

155 equal components parallel to the field direction (see Supplementary Information I). Hence, these  
156 directions do not favor any domain and are called symmetrically equivalent.  $\Delta\rho/\rho_{\perp}$  at  $T = 1.5$   
157  $\text{K} > T_N$  displays a two-fold symmetry with a resistance minimum for  $\mathbf{J} \parallel \mathbf{H}$  and a large mag-  
158 netoresistance for  $\mathbf{J} \perp \mathbf{H}$ . This is due to the cyclotron effect and is expected for metals<sup>33,34</sup>.  
159 Under the application of a magnetic field, the charge carriers are subjected to a Lorentz force  
160 that modifies the electronic trajectories. When the current is applied perpendicularly to the  
161 field direction, the Lorentz force is maximal and a longer electronic path results in an increased  
162 resistance (see also Supplementary Information V). The similarity of the low and high tempera-  
163 ture magnetoresistance anisotropy at field directions close to  $\theta = -90^\circ$  indicate that the Lorentz  
164 force dominates the scattering process in this angular range. The low temperature anisotropic  
165 magnetoresistance (AMR) measured below  $T_N$  at  $T \approx 80$  mK is superimposed on the high tem-  
166 perature data. We found an additional contribution to the resistivity for fields applied along  
167 the  $[\pm 1 \pm 1 0]$  crystallographic directions. These peaks are present at temperatures below the  
168 AFM transition (see Fig.4(c)) and are directly related to the emergence of antiferromagnetism  
169 in  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$  (see Fig.5).

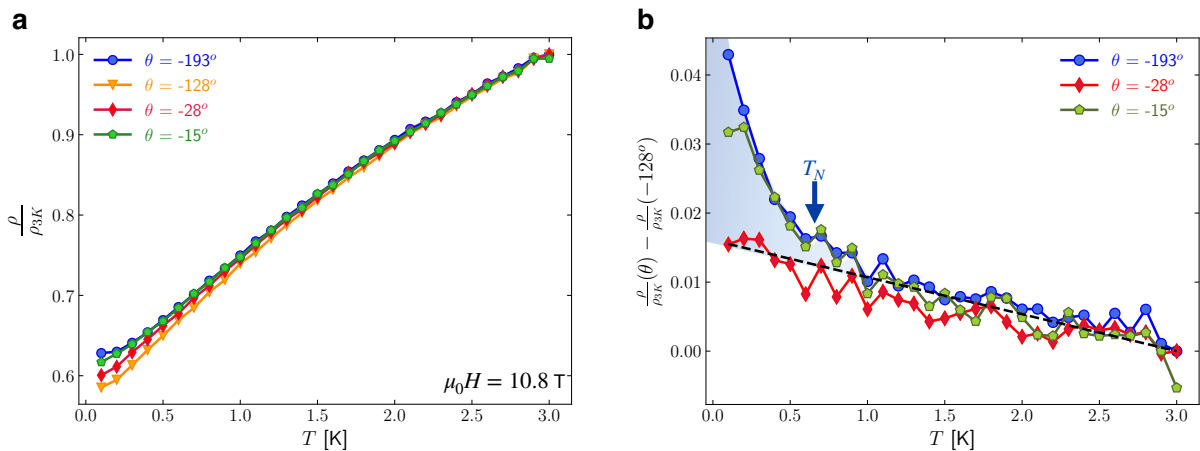


FIG. 5: **Transport in the AFM phase of  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$ :** (a) Temperature dependence of electrical resistivity inside the antiferromagnetic phase for different magnetic field orientations. (b) The difference of the normalized resistivities at various field orientations with respect to the normalized resistivity at  $\theta = -128^\circ$  shows that additional anisotropic magnetoresistance develops only inside the antiferromagnetic phase. The background level is obtained via linear regression of all three resistivity curves at temperatures larger than 0.7 K and extrapolated to low temperatures.

170 Fig.5(a) displays the normalized resistivity as a function of temperature, where the nor-  
171 malization at  $T = 3$  K integrates out the paramagnetic cyclotron effect. Fig.5(b) shows the  
172 difference between the normalized resistivities plotted in Fig.5(a) and the normalized resistivity  
173 at  $\theta = -128^\circ$ . Their subtraction  $\rho(\theta) - \rho(\theta = -128^\circ)$  reveals the origin of the resistivity en-

174 hancement attributed to the peaks shown in Fig.4(b) and (c). Fig.5(b) provides evidence for a  
 175 dramatic resistivity increase below the antiferromagnetic transition, conclusively connecting the  
 176 exotic AMR with the emergence of AFM.

177 The emergence of this resistivity enhancement is a signature of the antiferromagnetic state,  
 178 but it also correlates with the domain switching effect. Fig.4(d) shows the two-fold AMR signal  
 179 that arises inside the AFM phase. Here, the paramagnetic contribution has been subtracted. We  
 180 observe a higher resistivity when the current is oriented perpendicular to the modulation of one  
 181 k-domain, i.e. where  $\mathbf{k}^-$  is energetically favorable. A more conductive state is found when  $\mathbf{k}^+$ ,  
 182 which has modulation roughly parallel to  $\mathbf{J}$ , is favored by the field orientation. This is intrinsic  
 183 AMR is ruled by the angle between the electric current direction and the ordering vector, rather  
 184 than the orientation between the current and the magnetic field direction. In the latter case, one  
 185 would expect the maximum in AMR at a slightly different angle due to the small misalignment  
 186 between the current direction and the [110] crystallographic orientation. In fact, the peak in  
 187 the AMR. for the ordered state would coincide with the minimum of the paramagnetic AMR,  
 188 which is not what we observe. We can also exclude an enhanced scattering due to domain walls  
 189 because the largest number of domains is expected for fields around the symmetrically equivalent  
 190  $[0\bar{1}0]$  and the  $[100]$  directions, i.e. for  $\theta$  around  $45^\circ$  and  $-135^\circ$ . Instead, we observe an increased  
 191 magnetoresistance around  $\theta = 0^\circ$  and  $-180^\circ$ . The increase of magnetoresistance along the  $[\pm 1$   
 192  $\pm 1 0]$  field direction is also not consistent with a change in the density of states mostly along  
 193 the current direction<sup>18</sup>. The spin-density wave is expected to gap quasiparticles of the Fermi  
 194 surface along the SDW ordering vector direction  $\mathbf{k}$ , which is always out of the plane normal  
 195 to the rotation axis (see Supplementary Information I). Despite the ordering vector component  
 196 along the  $[001]$  direction, an increase of the resistivity where  $\mathbf{J}$  is almost parallel to  $\mathbf{k}$  would  
 197 be expected from the gapped Fermi surface along the same direction. Instead, the resistivity  
 198 enhancement we observe here is maximal when  $\mathbf{J}$  is mostly perpendicular to  $\mathbf{k}$ .

199 Therefore, the AFM AMR detected may arise from differences in the transport scattering  
 200 rates for  $\mathbf{J} \parallel \mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{J} \perp \mathbf{k}$ . Notably, a more resistive state is observed for electrons traveling within  
 201 the stripes along the effective ferromagnetic direction (see Fig.4(a)) and the resistance is lower  
 202 when the current is along the modulation direction. An enhanced conductivity along the AFM  
 203 direction also observed in iron arsenides was attributed to a nematic susceptibility<sup>35,36</sup>. In these  
 204 compounds however, the resistivity anisotropy persists in the non-magnetic regime, while in our  
 205 case the enhancement is connected to the AFM phase. Multiband scattering rates associated  
 206 with a large interband spin-orbit coupling in  $\text{Nd}_x\text{Ce}_{1-x}\text{CoIn}_5$  give rise to this extraordinary

207 anisotropic magnetoresistance effect, leading to an increased resistivity along the AFM direction.  
208 We show that an anisotropic magnetoresistance signal of  $\sim 8\%$  related to in-situ switching AFM  
209 domains is found in a simple antiferromagnetic resistor without any supplementary layer.

210 In summary, we demonstrate a general approach for manipulating antiferromagnetic domains  
211 without relying on the Zeeman coupling or a coupling of the AFM order with any additional  
212 order parameter. We discovered a new AMR effect that is directly related to switching anti-  
213 ferromagnetic k-domains. Notably, we probed sizable differences in transport scattering rates  
214 determined by the relative orientation between the electrical current and the antiferromagnetic  
215 ordering vector. At a very fundamental level, our results provide a qualitative new route for  
216 manipulating and detecting AFM domains without involving the moment orientation at any  
217 stage. This route is promising because it provides means for manipulating and detecting AFM  
218 states without compromising the robustness offered by antiferromagnets. Moreover, this newly  
219 reported phenomenon calls for further theoretical and experimental exploration to gain addi-  
220 tional insights into the magnitude of the AFM magnetoresistance signal. Primary candidates  
221 for the occurrence of such phenomena are rare-earth multiband materials, where the spin-orbit  
222 interaction is known to be enhanced and often of the order of the Fermi energy<sup>2</sup>. In view of the  
223 ongoing efforts to unravel novel antiferromagnetic structures, we expect to have broader scope  
224 for finding similar effects on other compounds where AFM k-domains form in materials with  
225 large spin-orbit coupling.

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311 **Samples.** Single crystals of Nd doped CeCoIn<sub>5</sub> were grown in an In self-flux as described  
312 elsewhere<sup>27,37</sup>.

313 **Resistivity measurements.** Electrical properties of Nd<sub>0.1</sub>Ce<sub>0.9</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> were investigated by  
314 resistivity measurements conducted in an 11T horizontal magnet from Oxford instruments. In  
315 a horizontal magnet, a rotation of the dilution stick is a rotation of the sample orientation with  
316 respect to the magnetic field. The single-crystal was mounted in a way such that the magnetic  
317 field was rotated about the c-axis. The sample was aligned by Laue X-ray diffraction and cut  
318 in a thin piece of dimensions 1.2 mm × 0.4 mm × 0.1 mm. The electrical current of magnitude  
319 10<sup>3</sup> Ampere per square meter was applied almost parallel to the crystallographic [110] direction.  
320 To apply current to the sample, we equipped the dilution unit with superconducting NbTi in  
321 CuNi-matrix wires order to reduce the heat load. Between the mixing chamber and the sample  
322 we use NbTi in a Cu-matrix. The sample was attached to a copper holder on a copper cold finger  
323 to position the sample in the center of the magnet. The Cu-matrix ensured good thermalization  
324 to the mixing chamber. In fact, sample cooling is mainly provided by the current leads as the  
325 main thermal path. The sample was mounted in a conventional four-wire configuration with  
326 current contacts soldered onto the crystal edges. This reduced the contact resistance to  $\approx 1 \Omega$   
327 and minimized the Joule heating. The voltage contacts were glued onto the sample with silver  
328 epoxy.

329 The superconducting phase diagram of Nd<sub>0.17</sub>Ce<sub>0.83</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> and the absence of superconduc-  
330 tivity in Nd<sub>0.25</sub>Ce<sub>0.75</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> was obtained from resistivity measurements performed in a similar  
331 fashion to what was done for Nd<sub>0.1</sub>Ce<sub>0.9</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub>, but with electrical currents applied along the  
332 [100] and fields applied along the [010] direction. For these measurements, we used a vertical  
333 15T cryomagnet from Oxford Instruments.

334 **High field neutron diffraction experiments.** Experiments on Nd<sub>0.1</sub>Ce<sub>0.9</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> and  
335 Nd<sub>0.17</sub>Ce<sub>0.83</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> were carried out on Rita-II triple-axis spectrometer and Zebra diffractometer  
336 at the Paul Scherrer Institut, Villigen, Switzerland. Experiments on Nd<sub>0.25</sub>Ce<sub>0.75</sub>CoIn<sub>5</sub> were  
337 performed on D23 diffractometer at the Institut Laue-Langevin, in Grenoble, France. Low  
338 temperatures below 50 mK and high magnetic fields up to  $\mu_0 H = 15$  T were reached using a  
339 dilution insert inside the cryomagnets. The single-crystals were aligned in the [h, h, l] plane  
340 in reciprocal space and exposed to  $\lambda = 1.28 \text{ \AA}$  for Zebra and D23, and  $4.217 \text{ \AA}$  for Rita-II. The  
341 analyzer unit of Rita-II lowers the background, providing an advantage for our experiments

342 where we deal with small ordered moments. However, high magnetic field experiments limit  
 343 the access of diffraction peaks to a particular reciprocal lattice plane, as tilting the cryomagnet  
 344 cannot be done. In order to perform measurements out of the horizontal scattering plane, the  
 345 diffractometers Zebra and D23 have lifting arm detectors, thus enabling measurements of the  
 346 two magnetic domains  $\mathbf{k}^{+,-}$  in a single experiment. For these measurements, we used 10 T  
 347 vertical magnet. This was due to the fact that the 15 T has a small vertical opening of  $\pm 2^\circ$ ,  
 348 making it impossible to measure the magnetic domain  $\mathbf{k}^-$  which is out of scattering plane for  
 349 samples aligned in the [h,h,l] horizontal scattering plane.

350 The magnetic phase diagrams shown in Fig.2 were obtained from field and temperature  
 351 dependences from position-optimized counts on top of the magnetic peaks  $(q, \pm q, 0.5)$ . For  
 352  $\text{Nd}_{0.1}\text{Ce}_{0.9}\text{CoIn}_5$ , the phase boundaries were obtained from field scans at  $T = 0.08, 0.7$  and 1K  
 353 and temperature scans at  $\mu_0 H = 0, 4, 8, 12\text{T}$ . For  $\text{Nd}_{0.17}\text{Ce}_{0.83}\text{CoIn}_5$ , the mapping of the HT-  
 354 phase diagram was performed with field scans at  $T = 0.18, 0.5$  and 0.8K and temperature scans  
 355 at  $\mu_0 H = 2, 4, 6, 7, 9$  and 12.5T.

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 361 2639).

## 362 III. AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

363 D.T.M., M.B., and M.K. planned and led the study. The samples were grown by D.T.M., J.S.,  
 364 R.Y., N.G., D.G.M, D.J.G., E.P. and G.L.. Neutron diffraction experiments were performed by  
 365 D.T.M., N.G., J.S., D.G.M., R.Y., J.L.G., M.B., M.K., with C.N., R.S., S.R., E.R. as instrument  
 366 scientists. Sample preparation for the neutron diffraction and resistivity measurements was  
 367 realized by D.T.M.. Resistivity measurements were carried out by D.T.M., with the assistance  
 368 from M.Z., M.B. and M.K.. D.T.M. analyzed the data. D.T.M., N.G., D.G.M., S.R., M.B. and  
 369 M.K. discussed the interpretation of the results. The manuscript was written by D.T.M. in close  
 370 collaboration with M.B. and M.K. and with feedback from all coauthors.



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#### IV. COMPETING INTERESTS

372 The authors declare no competing interests.

373

#### V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

374 **Supplementary Information** is available for this paper.

375 **Correspondence and requests for materials** should be addressed to D.T.M..

## Supplementary Files

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