

Electronic structure of rare-earth compounds TmGa₃, ErGa₃, and CeIn₃ studied by positrons¹

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The isostructural systems TmGa₃, ErGa₃, and CeIn₃ constitute an interesting subject for their magnetic properties and, in the case of CeIn₃, for the fascinating interplay of antiferromagnetism, heavy-fermion behaviour and superconductivity under application of pressure³. The electronic structure of these compounds has recently been investigated by measurements of the two-dimensional angular correlations of positron annihilation radiation (2D ACAR), providing line projections of the electron-positron momentum density $\rho(\mathbf{p})$ ⁴. Whereas for all systems the *f*-electrons are mostly localized in the paramagnetic phase, the exact shape of their Fermi surfaces (FS) is slightly different. Indeed, TmGa₃ and ErGa₃ show a FS *nesting*, consistent with the observed magnetic structure, which does not occur in CeIn₃ having a different magnetic structure. Since the FS geometry is decisive to draw these conclusions, we present how various tomographic methods can influence 3D momentum densities and FS of the compounds⁵.

13.4 cm

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³F.M. Grosche et al., J. Phys.: CM **13**, 2845 (2001), and references therein.

⁴M. Biasini et al., PRL **86**, 4616 (2001); PRB **66**, 075126 (2002); **68**, 094513 (2003).

⁵G. Kontrym-Sznajd et al., PRB **70**, 125103 (2004), and references therein.

9.7 cm