# Magnetic ordering



All ordered magnetic states have excitations called magnons



# Ferrimagnets

Magnetite  $Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>$ (Magnetstein)

Ferrites  $MOFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>$ 

 $M = Fe$ , Zn, Cd, Ni, Cu, Co, Mg

 $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow$ 



Two sublattices A and B.

Spinel crystal structure  $XY_2O_4$ 8 tetrahedral sites A (surrounded by 4 O)  $5\mu_B$   $\uparrow$ 16 octahedral sites B (surrounded by 6 O)  $9\mu_B \downarrow$ per unit cell

# Ferrimagnets

Magnetite Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

Ferrites  $MO\cdot Fe_2O_3$ 

 $M = Fe$ , Zn, Cd, Ni, Cu, Co, Mg

 $\uparrow \ \downarrow \ \uparrow \ \downarrow \ \uparrow \ \downarrow \ \uparrow \ \downarrow$ 



Exchange integrals  $J_{AA}$ ,  $J_{AB}$ , and  $J_{BB}$ are all negative (antiparallel preferred)

 $|J_{AB}| > |J_{AA}|, |J_{BB}|$ 

Heisenberg Hamiltonian

$$
H = -\sum_{i,j} J_{i,j} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j - g \mu_B B \sum_i \vec{S}_i
$$
  
Exchange energy

Mean field approximation

$$
\vec{B}_{MF,A}=\frac{1}{g\,\mu_{B}}\sum_{\delta}\,J_{i,AB}\,\left<\vec{S}_{B}\right>+\frac{1}{g\,\mu_{B}}\sum_{\delta}\,J_{i,AA}\,\left<\vec{S}_{A}\right>
$$

$$
\vec{B}_{MF,B} = \frac{1}{g \mu_B} \sum_{\delta} J_{i,AB} \left\langle \vec{S}_A \right\rangle + \frac{1}{g \mu_B} \sum_{\delta} J_{i,BB} \left\langle \vec{S}_B \right\rangle
$$

$$
\vec{M}_A = g \mu_B \frac{N}{V} \langle \vec{S}_A \rangle \qquad \qquad \vec{M}_B = g \mu_B \frac{N}{V} \langle \vec{S}_B \rangle
$$

The spins can take on two energies. These energies are different on the A sites and B because the A spins see a different environment as the B spins.

$$
E_A = \pm \frac{1}{2} g \mu_B (B_{MF,A} + B_a) \qquad E_B = \pm \frac{1}{2} g \mu_B (B_{MF,B} + B_a)
$$

Calculate the average magnetization with Boltzmann factors:

$$
M_A = N \mu \tanh\left(\frac{\mu \left(B_{MF,A} + B_a\right)}{k_B T}\right) \qquad M_B = N \mu \tanh\left(\frac{\mu \left(B_{MF,B} + B_a\right)}{k_B T}\right)
$$

$$
M_{A} = M_{s,A} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_{0} \mu_{AB} M_{B} + \mu_{0} \mu_{AA} M_{A} + \mu B_{a}}{k_{B}T}\right)
$$

$$
M_{B} = M_{s,B} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_{0} \mu_{AB} M_{A} + \mu_{0} \mu_{BB} M_{B} + \mu B_{a}}{k_{B}T}\right)
$$

# $\uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow$  Ferrimagnetism gauss = 10-4 T

# oersted =  $10^{-4}/4\pi x 10^{-7}$  A/m



#### Table 33.3 SELECTED FERRIMAGNETS, WITH CRITICAL TEMPERATURES T. AND SATURATION MAGNETIZATION  $M_0$



<sup>*a*</sup> At  $T = 0(K)$ .

Source: F. Keffer, Handbuch der Physik, vol. 18, pt. 2, Springer, New York, 1966.

#### Kittel

D. Gignoux, magnetic properties of Metallic systems

#### Magnetization of a Magnetite Single Crystal Near the Curie Point\*

D. O. SMITHT

Laboratory for Insulation Research, Massachusetts, Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts (Received January 20, 1956)



FIG. 9.  $M_{\rm g}/M_{\rm 0}$  vs T in the [111] direction near the Curie point for single-crystal magnetite.

# Antiferromagnetism

Negative exchange energy  $J_{AB} < 0$ .

### $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow$

At low temperatures, below the Neel temperature  $T_N$ , the spins are aligned antiparallel and the macroscopic magnetization is zero.

Spin ordering can be observed by neutron scattering.

At high temperature antiferromagnets become paramagnetic. The macroscopic magnetization is zero and the spins are disordered in zero field.

$$
\chi \approx = \frac{C}{T + \Theta}
$$

Curie-Weiss temperature

# Antiferromagnetism tuttutu

Average spontaneous magnetization is zero at all temperatures.





#### Table 2 Antiferromagnetic crystals  $\uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow \uparrow$



Magnons are excitations of the ordered ferromagnetic state

 $\mathcal{P} \cap \mathcal{P} \cap \mathcal{P}$ ٦.

Energy of the Heisenberg term involving spin *p*

$$
-2J\vec{S}_p \cdot (\vec{S}_{p+1} + \vec{S}_{p-1})
$$

The magnetic moment of spin *p* is

 $\vec{\mu}_p = -g \, \mu_B \vec{S}_p$ 

$$
-\vec{\mu}_{_p}\cdot\Bigg(\frac{-2\,J}{8\,\mu_{_B}}\Bigg)\Big(\vec{S}_{_{p+1}}+\vec{S}_{_{p-1}}\Big)
$$

This has the form  $-\mu_p B_p$  where  $B_p$  is

$$
\vec{B}_p = \left(\frac{-2J}{g\,\mu_B}\right) \left(\vec{S}_{p+1} + \vec{S}_{p-1}\right)
$$

$$
\vec{\mu}_p = -g \mu_B \vec{S}_p \qquad \qquad \vec{B}_p = \left(\frac{-2J}{g \mu_B}\right) (\vec{S}_{p+1} + \vec{S}_{p-1})
$$

The rate of change of angular momentum is the torque

$$
\hbar\frac{d\vec{S}_{_{p}}}{dt}=\vec{\mu}_{_{p}}\times\vec{B}_{_{p}}=2J\left(\vec{S}_{_{p}}\times\vec{S}_{_{p+1}}+\vec{S}_{_{p}}\times\vec{S}_{_{p-1}}\right)
$$

If the amplitude of the deviations from perfect alignment along the *z*-axis are small:

$$
\hbar \frac{dS_p^x}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^y - 2S_p^y + S_{p-1}^y \right)
$$
  

$$
\hbar \frac{dS_p^y}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^x - 2S_p^x + S_{p-1}^x \right)
$$
  

$$
\hbar \frac{d\vec{S_p^z}}{dt} = 0
$$

$$
\hbar \frac{dS_p^x}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^y - 2S_p^y + S_{p-1}^y \right)
$$
  
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_p^y}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^x - 2S_p^x + S_{p-1}^x \right)
$$
  
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_p^z}{dt} = 0
$$

These are coupled linear differential equations. The solutions have the form:

$$
\begin{pmatrix} S_p^x \\ S_p^y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_k^x \\ u_k^y \end{pmatrix} \exp \begin{bmatrix} i(kpa - \omega t) \end{bmatrix}
$$

$$
-i\hbar \omega u_k^x e^{ikpa} = 2J |S| \left( -e^{ik(p+1)a} + 2e^{ikpa} - e^{-ik(p-1)a} \right) u_k^y
$$
  
-i\hbar \omega u\_k^y e^{ikpa} = -2J |S| \left( -e^{ik(p+1)a} + 2e^{ikpa} - e^{-ik(p-1)a} \right) u\_k^x

Cancel a factor of *eikpa*.

$$
-i\hbar \omega u_k^x = 2J |S| \left(-e^{ika} + 2 - e^{-ika}\right) u_k^y
$$

$$
-i\hbar \omega u_k^y = -2J |S| \left(-e^{ika} + 2 - e^{-ika}\right) u_k^x
$$

These equations will have solutions when,

$$
\begin{vmatrix} i\hbar\omega & 4J|S|(1-\cos(ka)) \\ -4J|S|(1-\cos(ka)) & i\hbar\omega \end{vmatrix} = 0
$$

The dispersion relation is:

$$
\hbar \omega = 4J |S| (1 - \cos(ka))
$$
\n
$$
\overrightarrow{A} \overrightarrow{A} \overrightarrow{A} \overrightarrow{A} \overrightarrow{A} \overrightarrow{B} \overrightarrow{C} \overrightarrow{C
$$

### Magnon dispersion relation



#### Magnon density of states

 $\hbar \omega = 4JS(1 - \cos(ka))$ 

Mathematically this is the same problem as the tight binding model for electrons on a one-dimensional chain.



| □ lamp.tu-graz.ac.at/~hadley/ss1/phonons/table/dos2cv.html  $\uparrow$   $\vee$   $\sigma$   $\upharpoonright$   $\blacksquare$  + Google  $\leftarrow$  $\Rightarrow$  $\sim$  1 **P** Most Visited **D** Getting Started **A** Latest Headlines **C** English to German

Density of states  $\rightarrow$  Specific heat

The specific heat is the derivative of the internal energy with respect to the temperature.

$$
c_v = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial T}\right)_{V,N}
$$

This can be expressed in terms of an integral over the frequency  $\infty$ .

$$
c_v=\frac{\partial}{\partial T}\int u(\omega)d\omega=\frac{\partial}{\partial T}\int\hbar\omega D(\omega)\frac{1}{e^{\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_BT}}-1}d\omega
$$

The Leibniz integral rule can be used to bring the differentiation inside the integral. If the phonon density of states  $D(\omega)$  is temperature independent, the result is,

$$
c_v=\int \hbar\omega D(\omega)\frac{\partial}{\partial T}\left(\frac{1}{e^{\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_BT}}-1}\right)d\omega
$$

Since only the Bose-Einstein factor depends on temperature, the differentiation can be performed analytically and the expression for the specific heat is,

$$
c_v=\int \left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{T}\right)^2\ \frac{D(\omega)e^{\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_BT}}}{k_B\cdot\left(e^{\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_BT}}-1\right)^2}\ d\omega
$$

The form below uses this formuula to calculate the temperature dependence of the specific heat from tabulated data for the density of states. The density of states data is input as two columns in the textbox at the lower left. The first column is the angular-frequency  $\omega$  in rad/s. The second column is the density of states. The units of the density of states depends on the dimensionality: s/m for 1d, s/m<sup>2</sup> for 2d, and s/m<sup>3</sup> for 3d.

After the 'DoS  $\rightarrow$  cv(T)' button is pressed, the density of states is plotted on the left and  $c_v(T)$  is plotted from temperature  $T_{min}$  to temperature  $T_{max}$  on the right. The data for the  $c_v(T)$  plot also appear in tabular form in the lower right textbox. The first column is the temperature in Kelvin and the second column is the specific heat in units of J K<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-1</sup>, J K<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-3</sup>, or J K<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-3</sup> depending on the dimensionality.



#### Ferromagnetic magnons - simple cubic

The dispersion relation in one dimension:

$$
\hbar\omega = 4J\left|S\right|\left(1-\cos(ka)\right)
$$

The dispersion relation for a cubic lattice in three dimensions:

$$
\hbar \omega = 2J |S| \left( z - \sum_{\vec{\delta}} \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\delta}) \right)
$$

The magnon contribution to thermodynamic properties can be calculated similar to the phonon contribution to the thermodynamic properties.

simple cubic 3-D

$$
\hbar \omega = 2J |S| \left( z - \sum_{\vec{\delta}} \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{\delta}) \right)
$$

Dispersion relation is mathematically equivalent to tight binding model for electrons.



### Long wavelength / low temperature limit

Dispersion relation:  $\hbar\omega\thickapprox2J S k^{2}a$ 

The density of states:

 $D(\omega )\varpropto \surd\omega$ 

Magnons are bosons:

$$
n_{k} = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\hbar \omega_{k}}{k_{B}T}\right) - 1}
$$

$$
u = \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\hbar \omega D(\omega) d\omega}{\exp\left(\frac{\hbar \omega_k}{k_B T}\right) - 1} \propto T^{5/2}
$$

3/2  $c_{_{{\color{black}{v}}} } \propto T$ 



Fig. 1. Constant-E scan TAS-measured spin wave dispersion relation for various directions in a single crystal of Fe at 295 K. The dashed line corresponds to the Heisenberg<br>model with  $D = 281$  meV Å<sup>2</sup> and  $\beta = 1.0$  Å<sup>2</sup> [68 S 3], see also [73 M 1].



Fig. 6b. Room-temperature spin wave dispersion curve<br>for the [111] direction of <sup>60</sup>Ni. ZB shows the position of the zone boundary [85M1]. The solid curve is from calculations [85C 1, 83C 1].

### Neutron magnetic scattering

Neutrons can scatter inelastically from magnetic material and create or annihilate magnons

$$
\vec{k}_n = \vec{k}_n' + \vec{k}_{magnon} + \vec{G}
$$





$$
\frac{\hbar^2 k'^2}{2m_n} \pm \hbar \omega_{magnon} = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m_n} + \frac{\hbar^2 \mathcal{G}^2}{2m_{crystal}}
$$

#### Antiferromagnet magnons

# $\rightarrow$  *a*  $\leftarrow$

$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Ax}}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( -S_{p}^{By} - 2S_{p}^{Ay} - S_{p-1}^{By} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Ax}}{dt} = -2J |S| \left( -S_{p}^{Bx} - 2S_{p}^{Ax} - S_{p-1}^{Bx} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Bx}}{dt} = 2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^{Ay} + 2S_{p}^{By} + S_{p}^{Ay} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{By}}{dt} = -2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^{Ax} + 2S_{p}^{Bx} + S_{p}^{Ay} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{By}}{dt} = -2J |S| \left( S_{p+1}^{Ax} + 2S_{p}^{Bx} + S_{p}^{Ax} \right)
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Bz}}{dt} = 0
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Bz}}{dt} = 0
$$
\n
$$
\hbar \frac{dS_{p}^{Bz}}{dt} = 0
$$

#### Antiferromagnet magnons



Brillouin zone boundary is at  $k = \pi/2a$ 

# Antiferromagnet magnons

 $\hbar\omega = 4|J|S|\sin(ka)|$ 

Mathematically equivalent to phonons in 1-d





Fig. 5.7 Schematic magnon and phonon dispersion curves. The magnon curve has been compressed by a factor of order 10 for illustrative purposes.



From: *Solid State Theory*, Harrison

# Student project

#### Make a table of magnon properties like the table of phonon properties

