

odd interactions in quantum magnets and liquids



Sasha Chernyshev

UCIrvine
[University of California, Irvine](#)

plan

- I. interactions of magnons
- II. triangular AF, $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$
- III. ^4He , roton
- IV. XY magnets, lifetime



Mike Zhitomirsky



UCIrvine
University of California, Irvine

Sasha Chernyshev

MZ and **SC**, PRL **82**, 4536 (1999);
SC and **MZ**, PRL **97**, 207202 (2006);
SC and **MZ**, PRB **79**, 144416 (2009);
M. Mourigal, **MZ**, and **SC**, PRB **82** 144402 (2010);
W. Fuhrman, M. Mourigal, **MZ**, and **SC**, PRB **88**, 184405 (2012);
MZ and **SC**, RMP **85**, 219 (2013);
M. Mourigal, W. Fuhrman, **SC**, and **MZ**, PRB **88**, 094407 (2013)

I. and II.

REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS, VOLUME 85, JANUARY–MARCH 2013

Colloquium: Spontaneous magnon decays

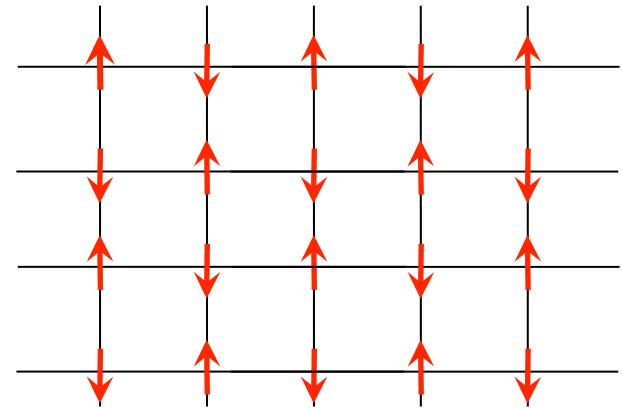
M. E. Zhitomirsky

Service de Physique Statistique, Magnétisme et Supraconductivité, UMR-E9001,

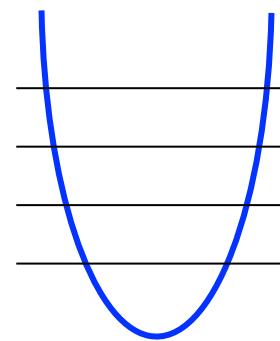
According to conventional wisdom a quasiparticle is presumed well defined until proven not to be. The textbook

magnons \approx bosons, why?

- spins commute on different sites
- effective Weiss field for each spin
- local raising (lowering) operators



$$\mathbf{s} \uparrow \quad \mathbf{H} \uparrow \quad \mathcal{H} = \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{S}$$

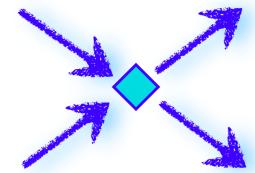
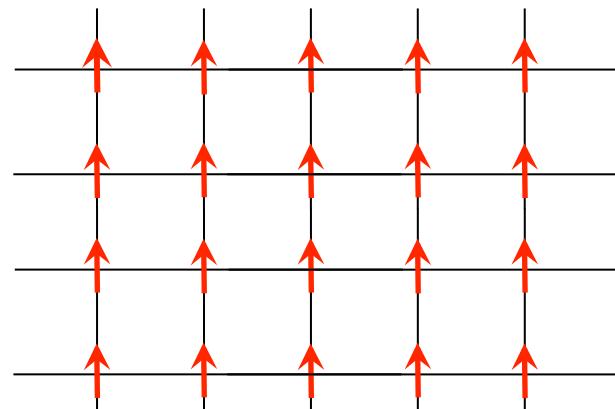


$$S^z = S - b^\dagger b,$$
$$S^+ \approx b, \quad S^- \approx b^\dagger$$

what would bosons do?

- Hamiltonian of the Bose gas
 - # of bosons preserved

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(1)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3} b_{\mathbf{k}_4}$$



- exactly the same for a ferromagnet
 - GS and excitations are e-states of S_{tot}^z
 - GS $S_{\text{tot}}^z |GS\rangle = SN |GS\rangle$
 - magnon $\Rightarrow \Delta S^z = -1$
 - magnon # preserved

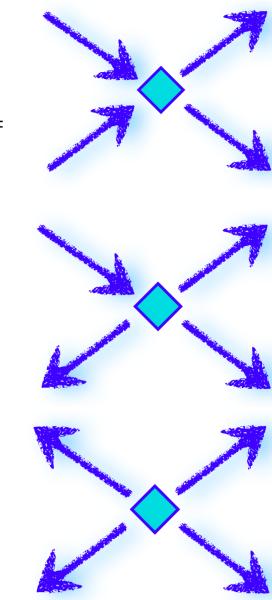
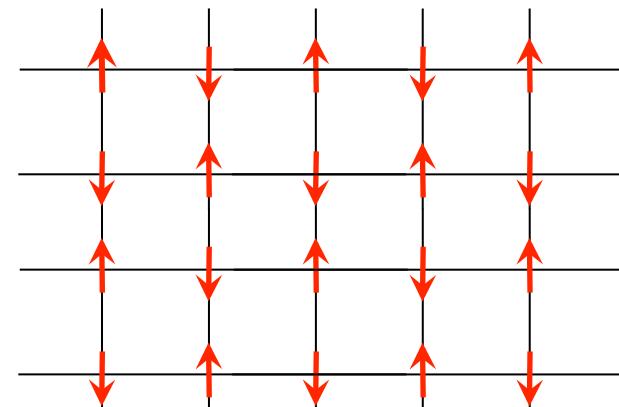
what would bosons do in an AF?

- in an antiferromagnet
 - GS is the superposition of states with different S_{tot} [PWA'82]
 - no definite spin for a magnon!
 - magnon # **not** preserved: $b \Rightarrow ub + vb^\dagger$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(1)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3} b_{\mathbf{k}_4}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(2)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_4} + \text{H.c.}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(3)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_4} + \text{H.c.}$$



formally ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3

1 FEBRUARY 1971

Dynamics of an Antiferromagnet at Low Temperatures: Spin-Wave Damping and Hydrodynamics*

A. B. Harris and D. Kumar

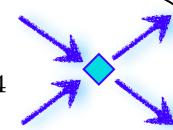
Department of Physics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

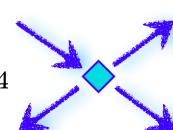
and

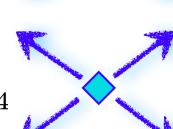
B. I. Halperin and P. C. Hohenberg

HKHH, 71

V. G. Bar'yakhtar, V. L. Sobolev, and A. G. Kvirkadze, ZhETP **65**, 790 (1973);
 S. M. Rezende and R. M. White, PRB **14**, 2939 (1976); **18**, 2346 (1978);
 Yu. A. Kosevich and A. V. Chubukov,
 Sov. Phys. JETP **64**, 654 (1986)];
 S. Tyc and B. I. Halperin, PRB **42**,
 2096 (1990);
 P. Kopietz, PRB **41**, 9228 (1990).

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(1)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3} b_{\mathbf{k}_4}$$


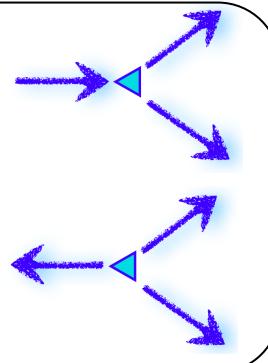
$$+ \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(2)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_4}$$


$$+ \frac{1}{4!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2; \mathbf{k}_3, \mathbf{k}_4}^{(3)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_4}^\dagger$$


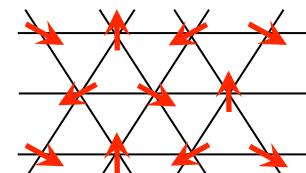
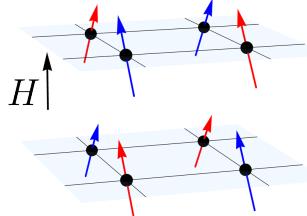
- are they valid?
- is this all?

what else would bosons do?

- condense! $\langle b_{\mathbf{k}=0} \rangle \neq 0$
 - # of bosons **not** preserved
 - Bogolyubov substitution
 - cubic anharmonicities

$$\mathcal{H} = \dots + \frac{1}{2!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3}^{(3,1)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3} + \text{H.c.}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{3!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3}^{(3,2)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3}^\dagger + \text{H.c.}$$

- corresponds to a **non-collinear** antiferromagnet
 - GS: spin rotational symmetry broken completely
 - AFs in a field
 - frustrated AFs

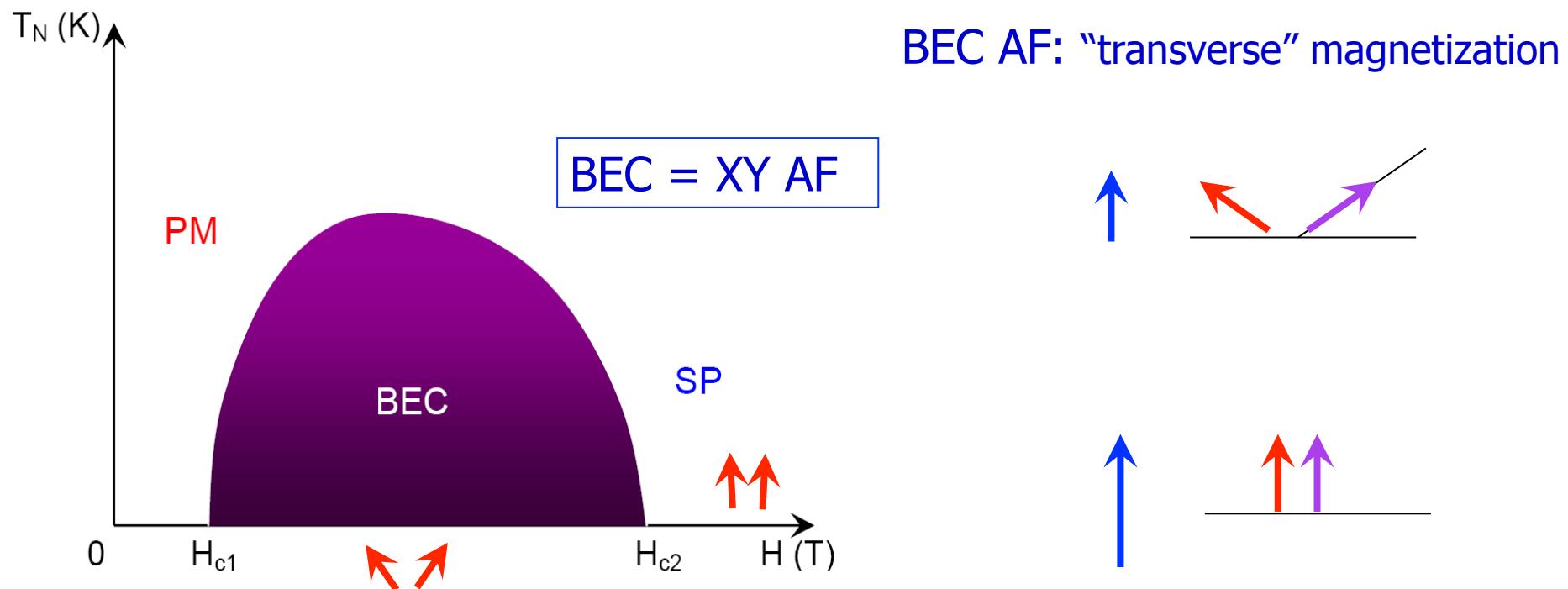


BEC antiferromagnets

T. Matsubara and H. Matsuda, Prog. Theor. Phys. **16**, 569 (1956);
E. G. Batyev and L. S. Braginskii, Sov. Phys. JETP **60**, 781 (1984).

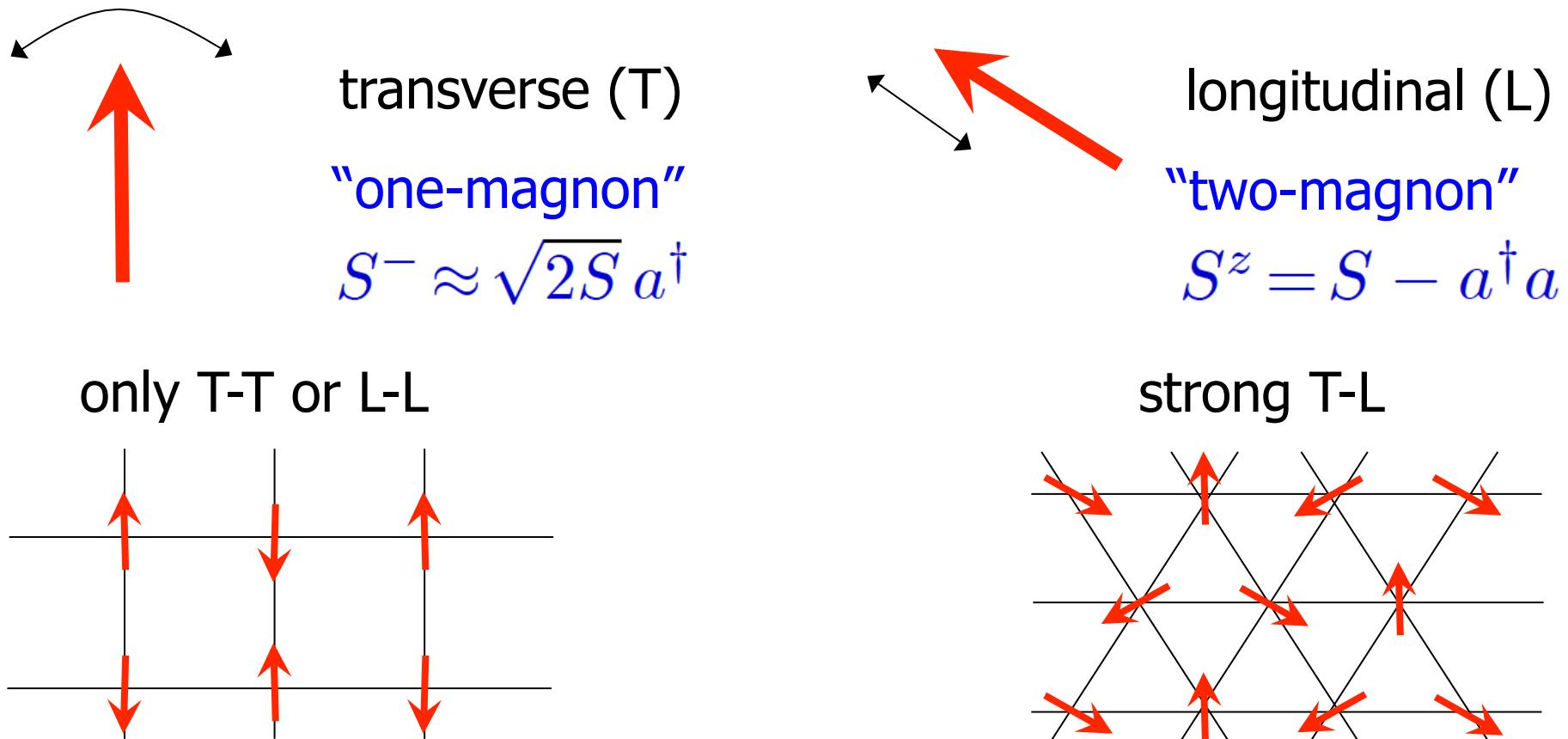
BEC: U(1) symmetry breaking,
order parameter

$$\Delta = |\Delta| e^{i\varphi}$$



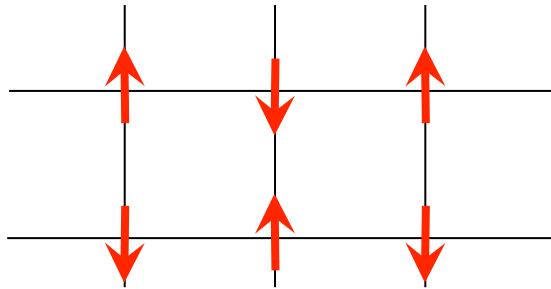
collinear vs non-collinear

frustration (competing interactions) → **non-collinearity**
→ **transverse-longitudinal coupling** → 3-boson terms



two classes of (quantum) [AF]magnets

collinear (quartic anharmonicity)



no coupling with 2-magnon continuum



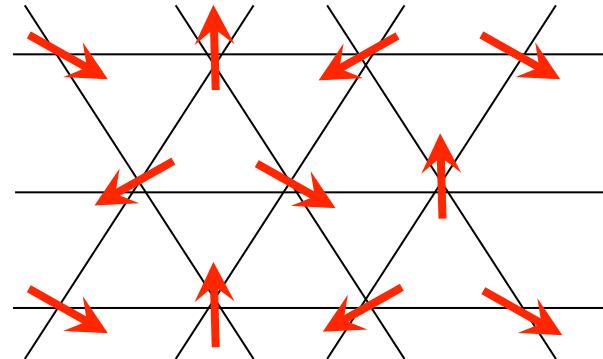
weakly-interacting excitations



small renormalizations even
in low D and $S=1/2$



non-collinear (cubic anharmonicity)



direct coupling 1-to-2-magnon states



strong(er)-interacting excitations



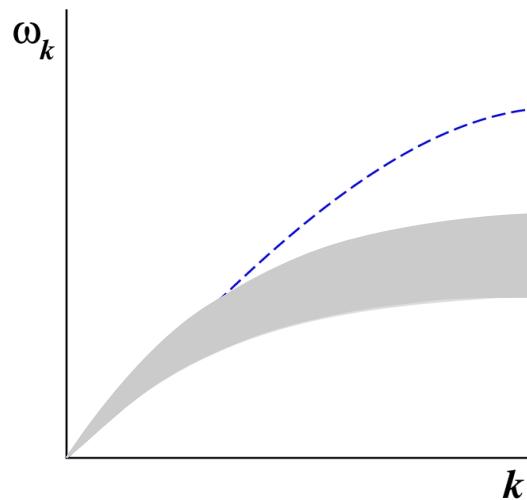
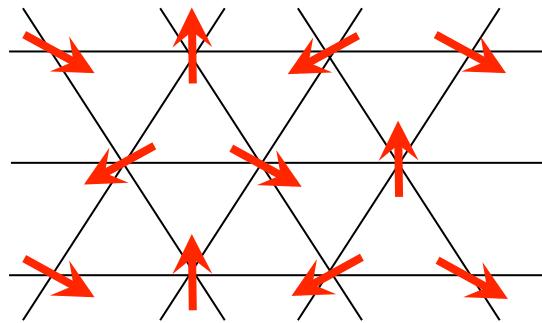
large spectrum renormalizations
in low D and $S=1/2$



most important qualitative difference

magnons in **non-collinear*** AFs:

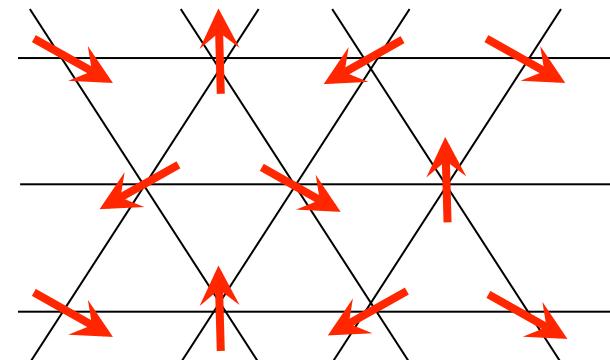
- often decay even at $T=0$ (yield broad peaks)



decays

frustration (competing interactions) → **non-collinearity**
→ transverse-longitudinal coupling → 3-boson terms → **decays**

$$\mathcal{H} = \dots + \frac{1}{2!} \sum_{\mathbf{k}_i} V_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2, \mathbf{k}_3}^{(3,1)} b_{\mathbf{k}_1}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_2}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}_3} + \text{diagram}$$



- three-boson terms are necessary for (1-in-2) decays
- “kinematic” conditions (E - and k - conservations) make it sufficient
- same conditions that favor cubic terms favor decay kinematics



in contrast to ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 3

1 FEBRUARY 1971

Dynamics of an Antiferromagnet at Low Temperatures: Spin-Wave Damping and Hydrodynamics*

A. B. Harris and D. Kumar

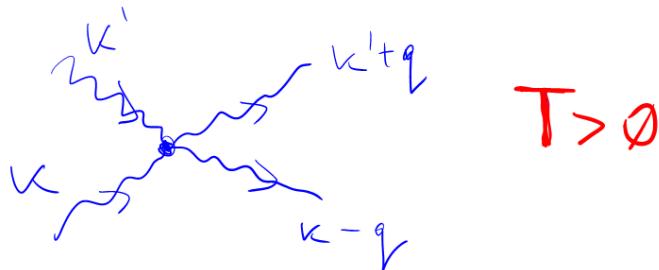
Department of Physics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

and

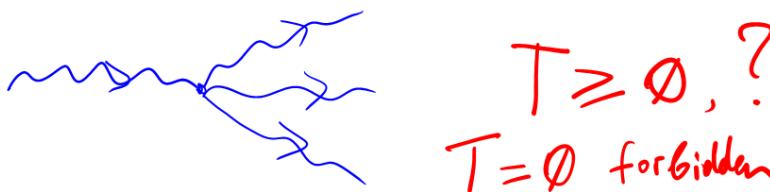
B. I. Halperin and P. C. Hohenberg

Bell Telephone Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

(Received 14 July 1970)



$T > 0$



$T \geq 0, ?$
 $T = 0$ forbidden



Regime A: $\epsilon_{\vec{k}} \ll \tau^3 \ll 1$,

$$\Gamma_{\vec{k}} = \hbar^{-1} \Sigma''(\vec{k}, \omega_E \epsilon_{\vec{k}}) \\ = (2\omega_E/S^2) \epsilon_{\vec{k}}^2 \tau^3 (2\pi)^{-3} (a |\ln \tau| + a'); \quad (9.1a)$$

Regime B: $\tau^3 \ll \epsilon_{\vec{k}} \ll \tau \ll 1$,

$$\Gamma_{\vec{k}} = (8\omega_E/3S^2) \epsilon_{\vec{k}}^2 \tau^3 (2\pi)^{-3} [b \ln(\tau/k) + b']; \quad (9.1b)$$

Regime C: $\tau \ll \epsilon_{\vec{k}} \ll \tau^{1/3} \ll 1$,

$$\Gamma_{\vec{k}} = (\pi \omega_E/108S^2) \epsilon_{\vec{k}} \tau^4; \quad (9.1c)$$

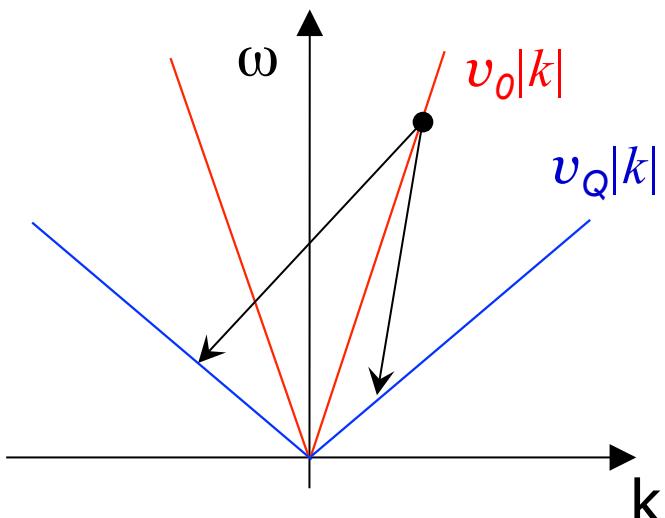
Regime D: $\tau^{1/3} \ll \epsilon_{\vec{k}} \ll 1$,

$$\Gamma_{\vec{k}} = (\omega_E/2S^2\pi^3) \tau^5 \zeta(5) [g(\hat{k}) \epsilon_{\vec{k}}^2]^{-1}. \quad (9.1d)$$

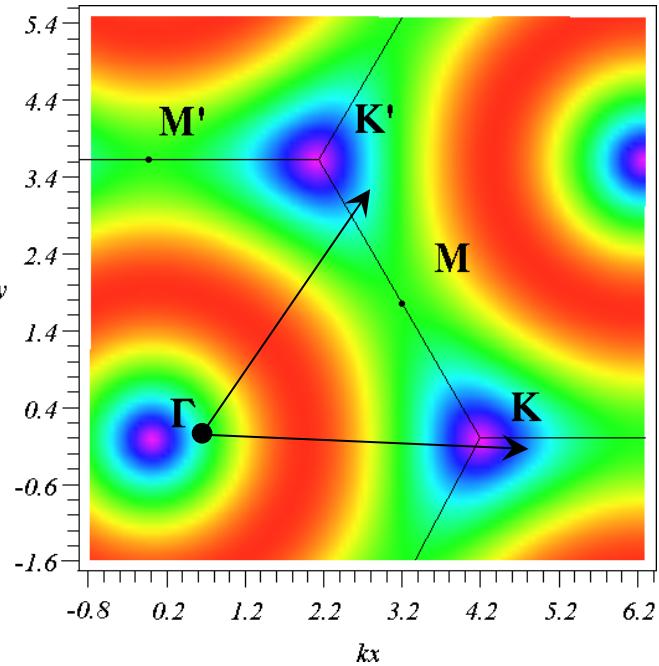
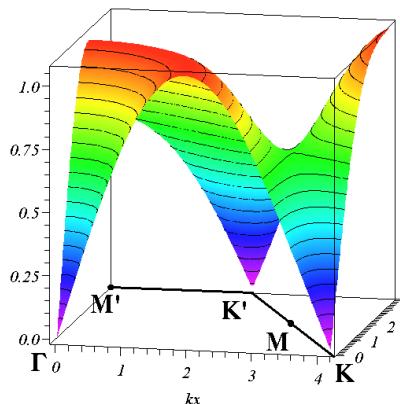
- in **collinear** AFs 1-to-3 decay conditions are uncommon
- even if --- their effect is weak



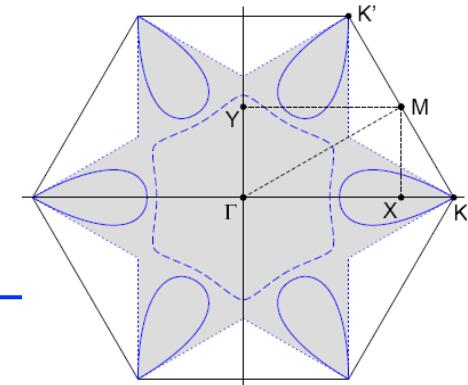
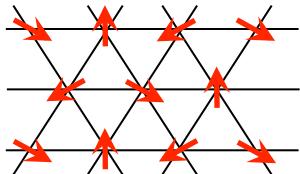
common?



$$\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \varepsilon_{\mathbf{q}} + \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}}$$



- for a **spiral-like state** (more than one type of Goldstone mode) decay conditions are **always** fulfilled for a (large) range of k



part II.





Martin Mourigal



Wesley Fuhrman



Mike Zhitomirsky



UCIrvine
[University of California, Irvine](#)

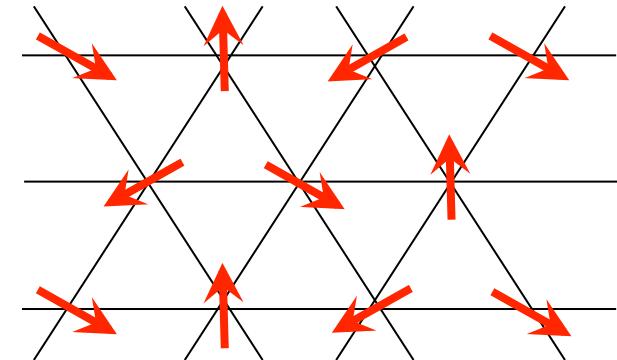
Sasha Chernyshev



$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$, triangular lattice AF

- why? previous attempts* not intuitive ...
... and contain too many terms ...
- show effects of decays in $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$

$$S^{\alpha_0\beta_0}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{2\pi} e^{i\omega t} \left\langle S_{\mathbf{q}}^{\alpha_0}(t) S_{-\mathbf{q}}^{\beta_0}(0) \right\rangle$$



$$S^{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \alpha S^{x_0x_0}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) + \beta S^{y_0y_0}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) + \gamma S^{z_0z_0}(\mathbf{q}, \omega).$$

$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= S^{\text{diag}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) + \cancel{S^{\text{mix}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega)}, \\ S^{\text{diag}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= S^{\perp}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) + S^L(\mathbf{q}, \omega), \\ S^{\perp}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= S_{\mathbf{q}, \omega}^{yy} + \frac{1}{2} \left(S_{\mathbf{q}_+, \omega}^{xx} + S_{\mathbf{q}_-, \omega}^{xx} \right), \\ S^L(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= \frac{1}{2} \left(S_{\mathbf{q}_+, \omega}^{zz} + S_{\mathbf{q}_-, \omega}^{zz} \right), \\ S^{\text{mix}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= \frac{i}{2} \left(S_{\mathbf{q}_-, \omega}^{xz} - S_{\mathbf{q}_+, \omega}^{xz} - S_{\mathbf{q}_-, \omega}^{zx} + S_{\mathbf{q}_+, \omega}^{zx} \right) \end{aligned}$$

- measure in laboratory
- think in local ref. frame

1-magnon part

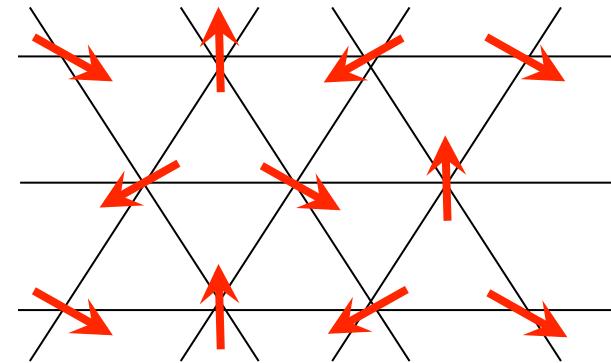
$$\begin{aligned} S^{\text{tot}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &\approx S^{\text{diag}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \\ \mathbf{q}_{\pm} &= \mathbf{q} \pm \mathbf{Q} \end{aligned}$$

* T. Ohyama and H. Shiba, JPSJ **62**, 3277 (1993).

$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$, II

- transverse (1-magnon) components

$$\begin{aligned} S^{xx}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= \frac{S}{2} \Lambda_+^2 (u_{\mathbf{q}} + v_{\mathbf{q}})^2 A_{11}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \\ S^{yy}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) &= \frac{S}{2} \Lambda_-^2 (u_{\mathbf{q}} - v_{\mathbf{q}})^2 A_{11}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \end{aligned}$$



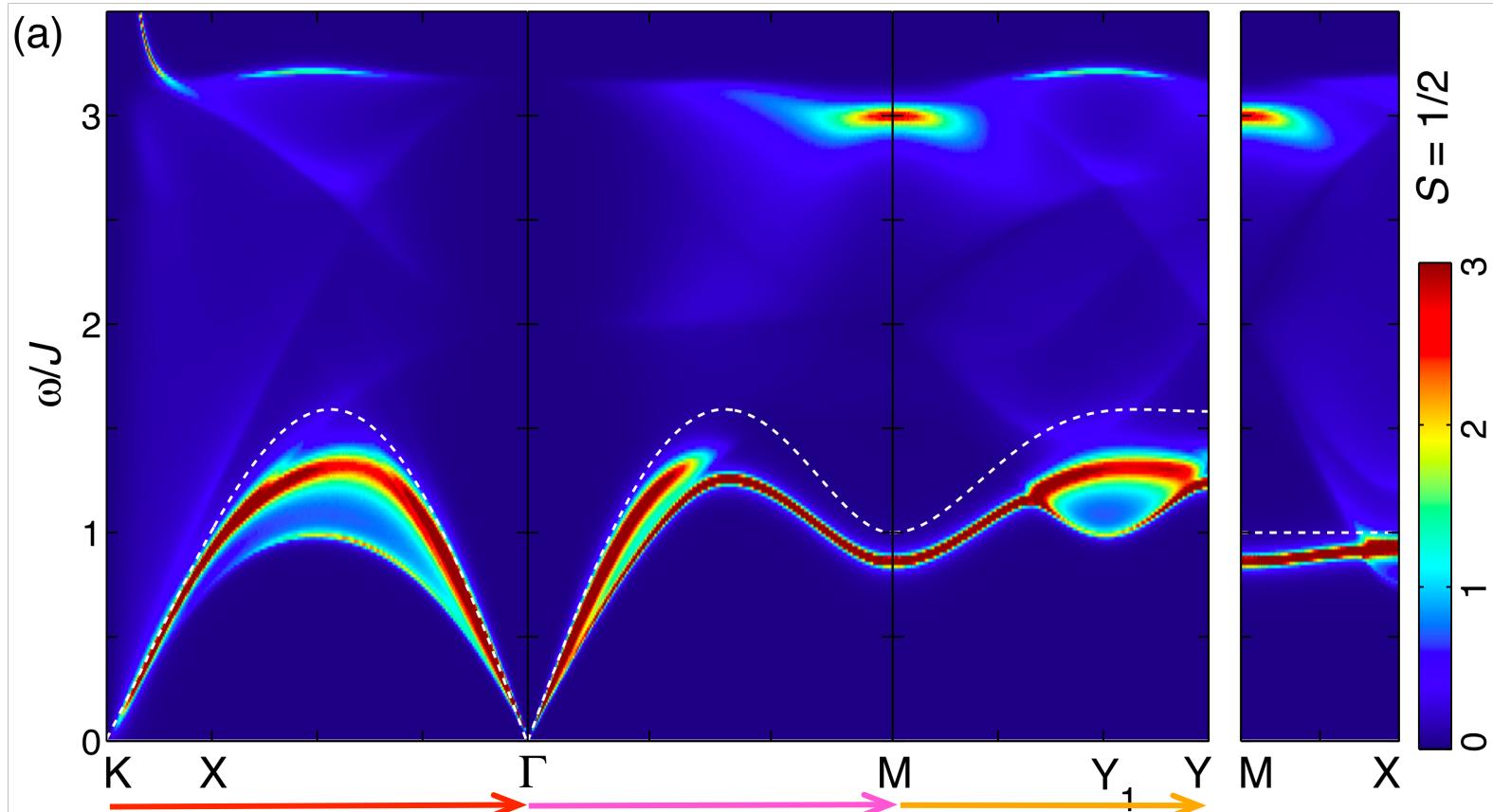
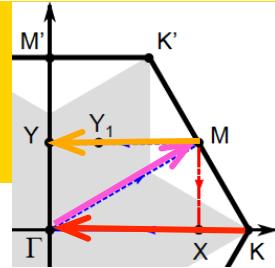
decays are here

- longitudinal (2-magnon) part (broad in ω)

$$S^{zz}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} (u_{\mathbf{k}} v_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}} + v_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}})^2 \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}})$$

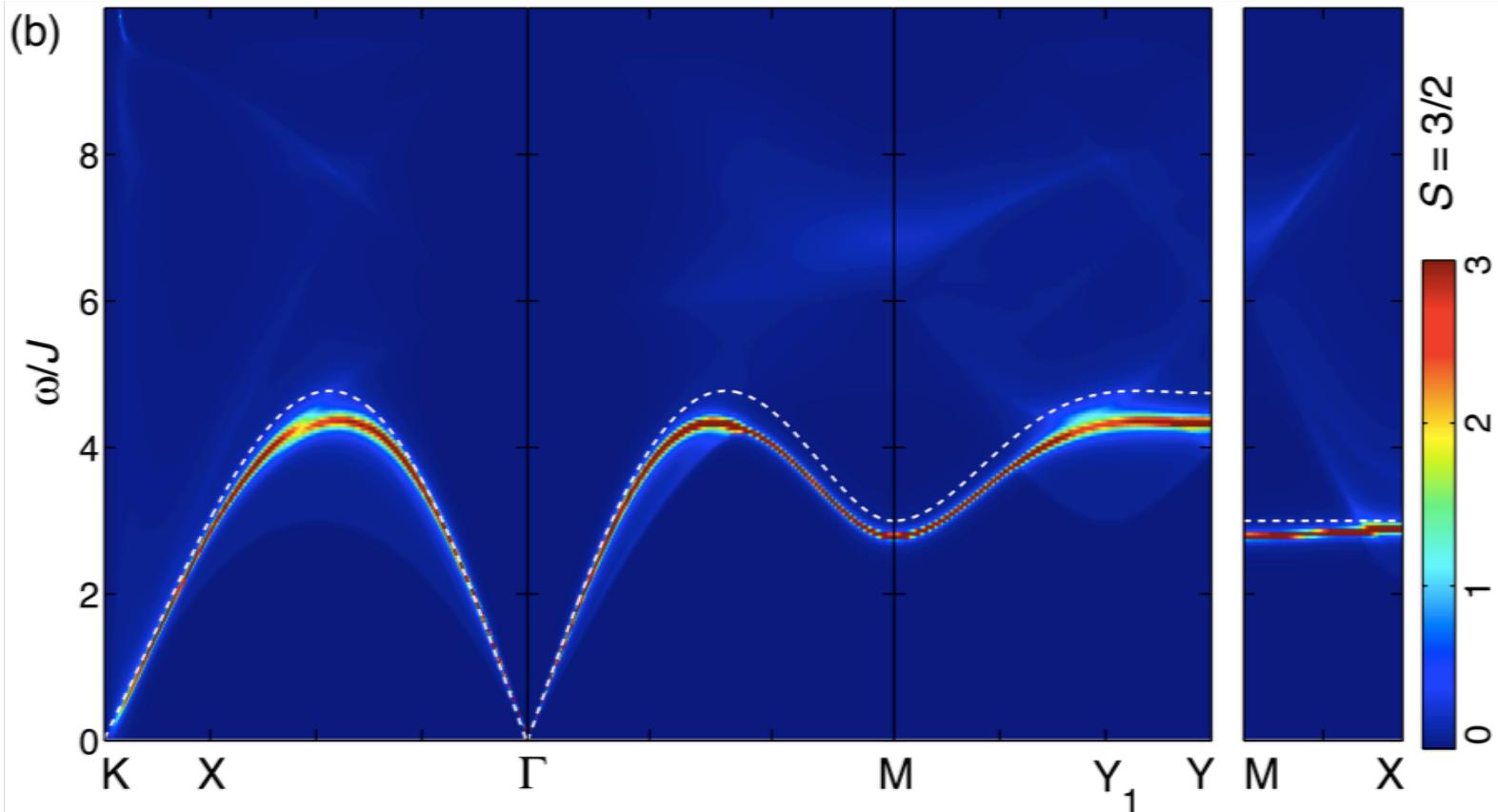
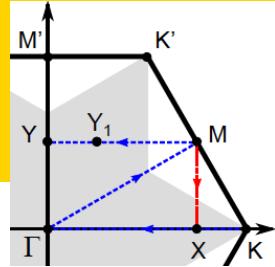


$A(\mathbf{q}, \omega), S=1/2$



- broad peaks + double-peak features + non-lorentzian
- “stable” regions, “unstable” regions

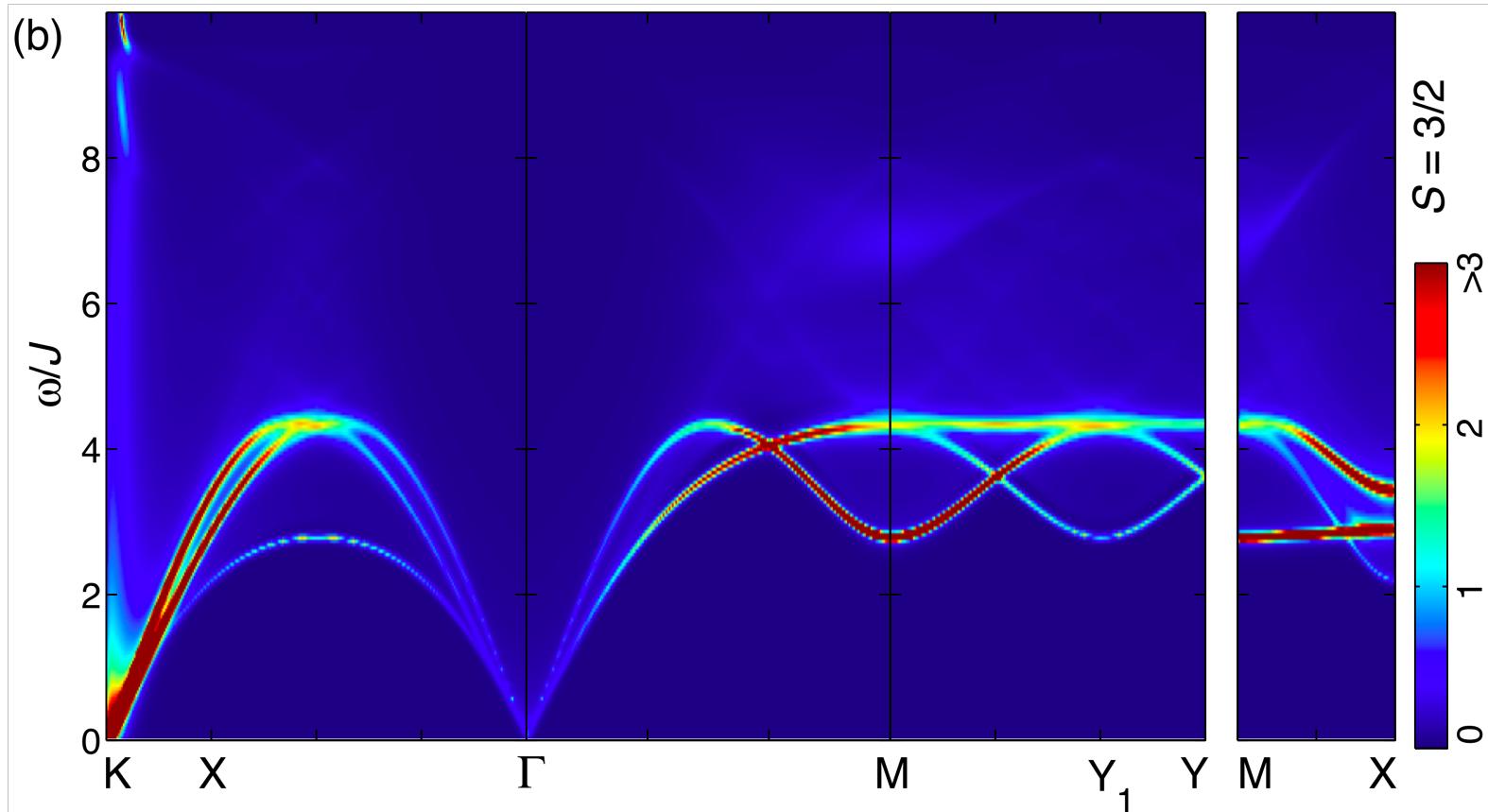
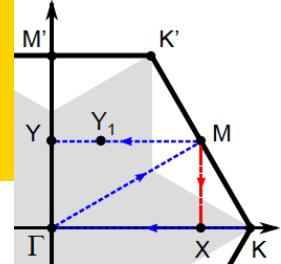
$A(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$, $S=3/2$



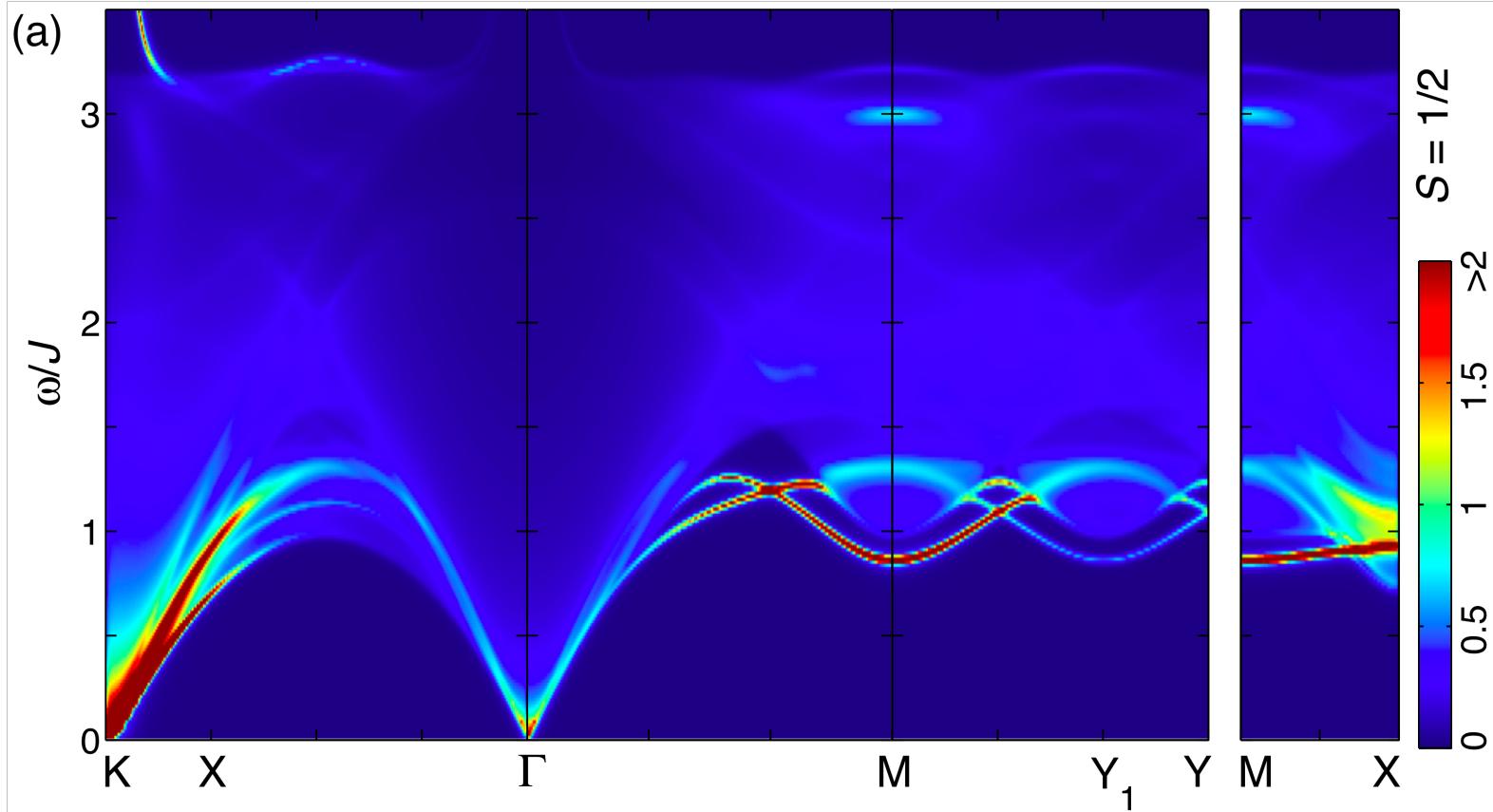
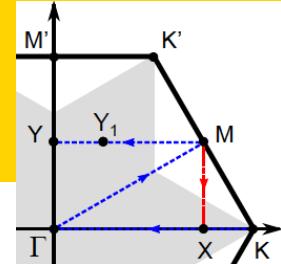
- broadening, two-magnon continuum
- to obtain $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$ need “folding” of $A(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$



$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega), S=3/2$

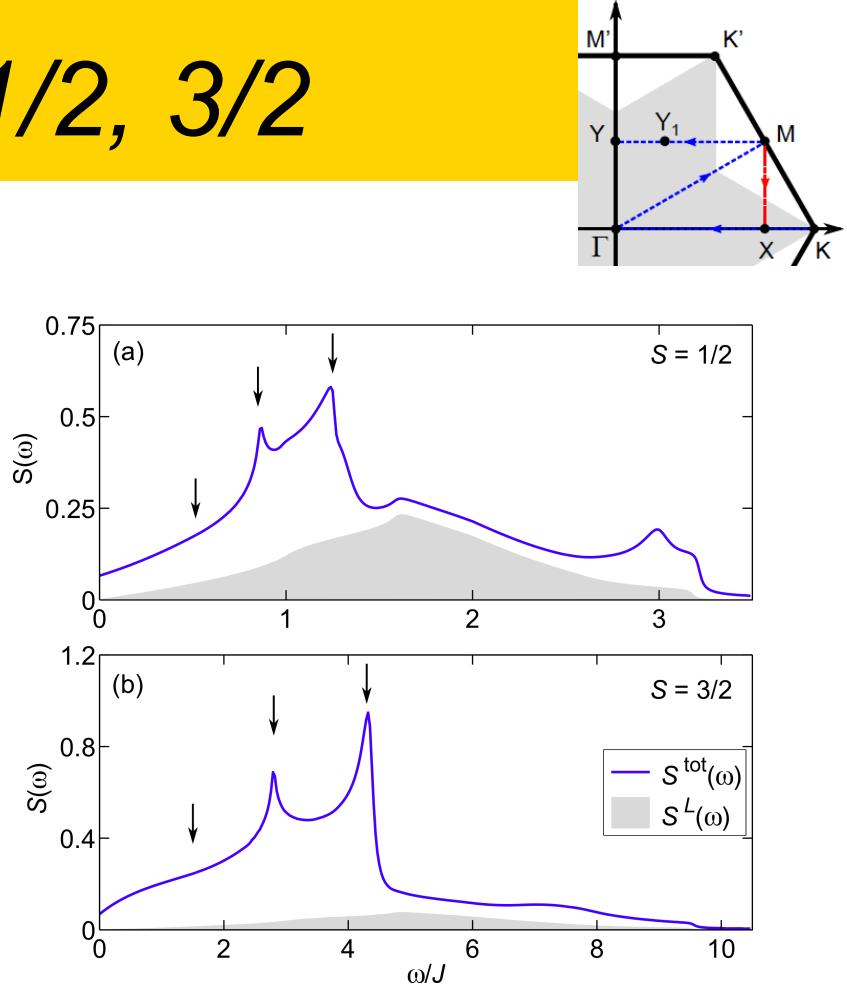
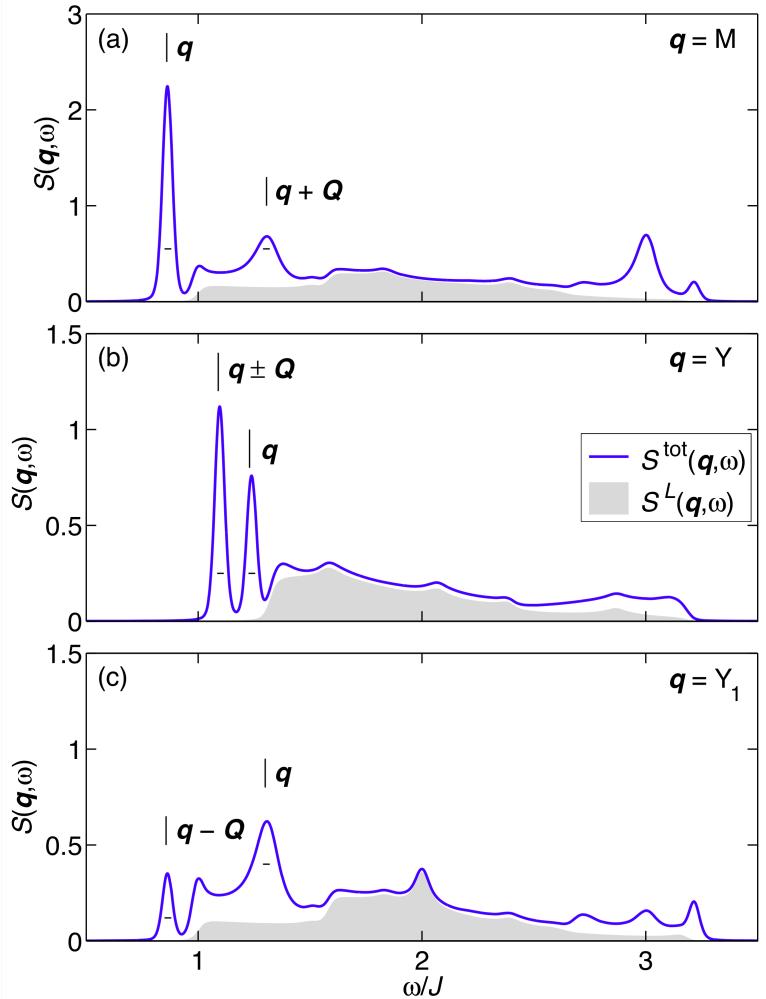


$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega), S=1/2$



- complicated features persist

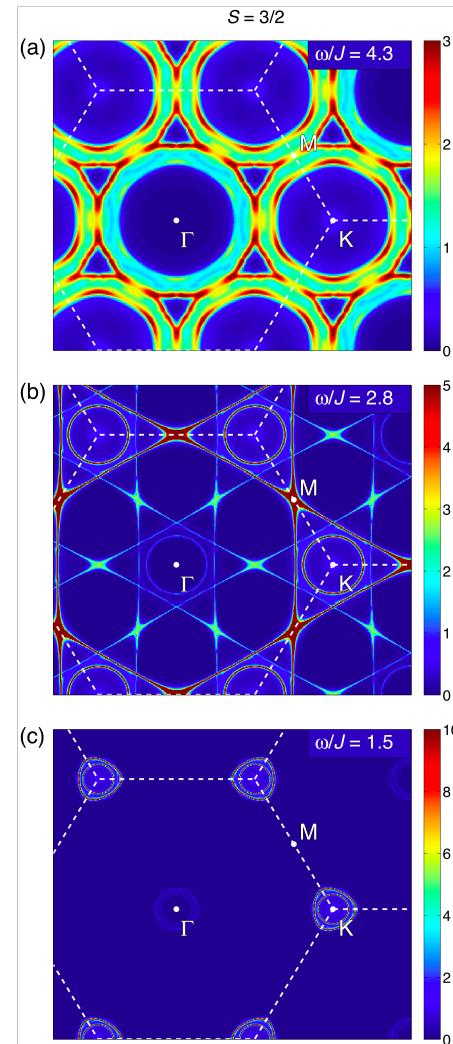
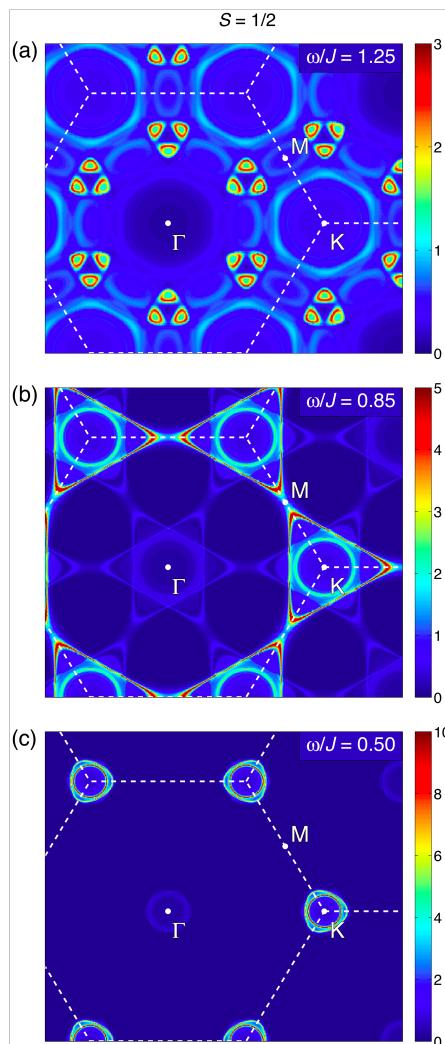
$S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$, $S=1/2$, $3/2$



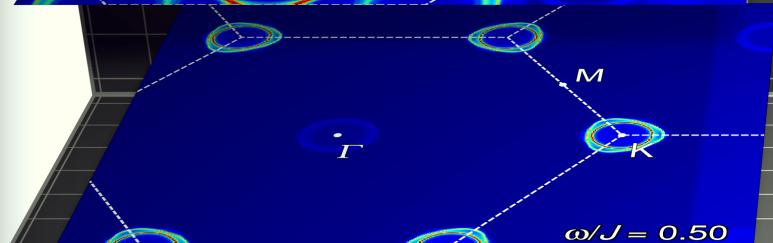
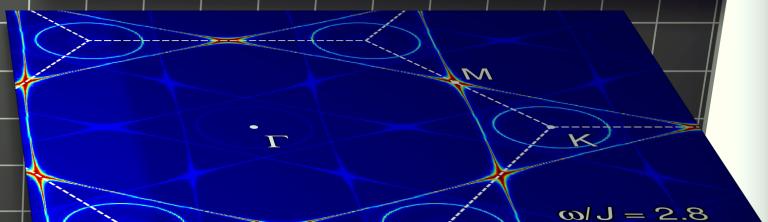
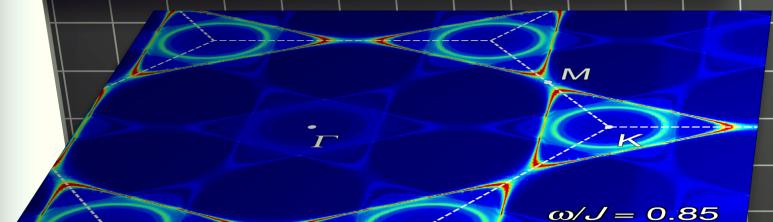
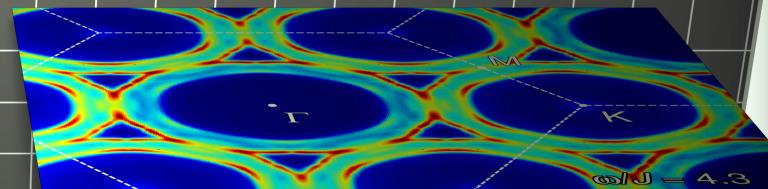
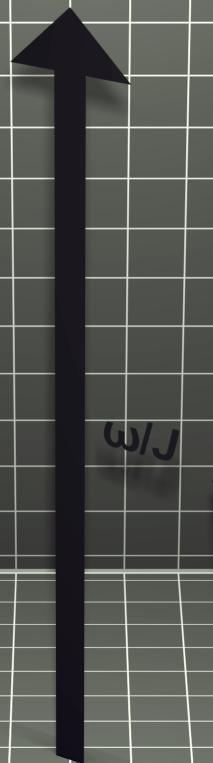
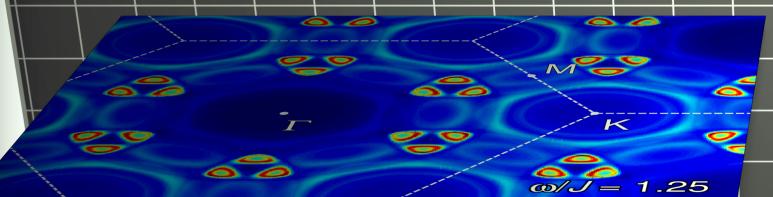
- integrated structure factor $S(\omega)$

- roles of transverse and longitudinal components

$S(q, \omega)$, constant energy scans



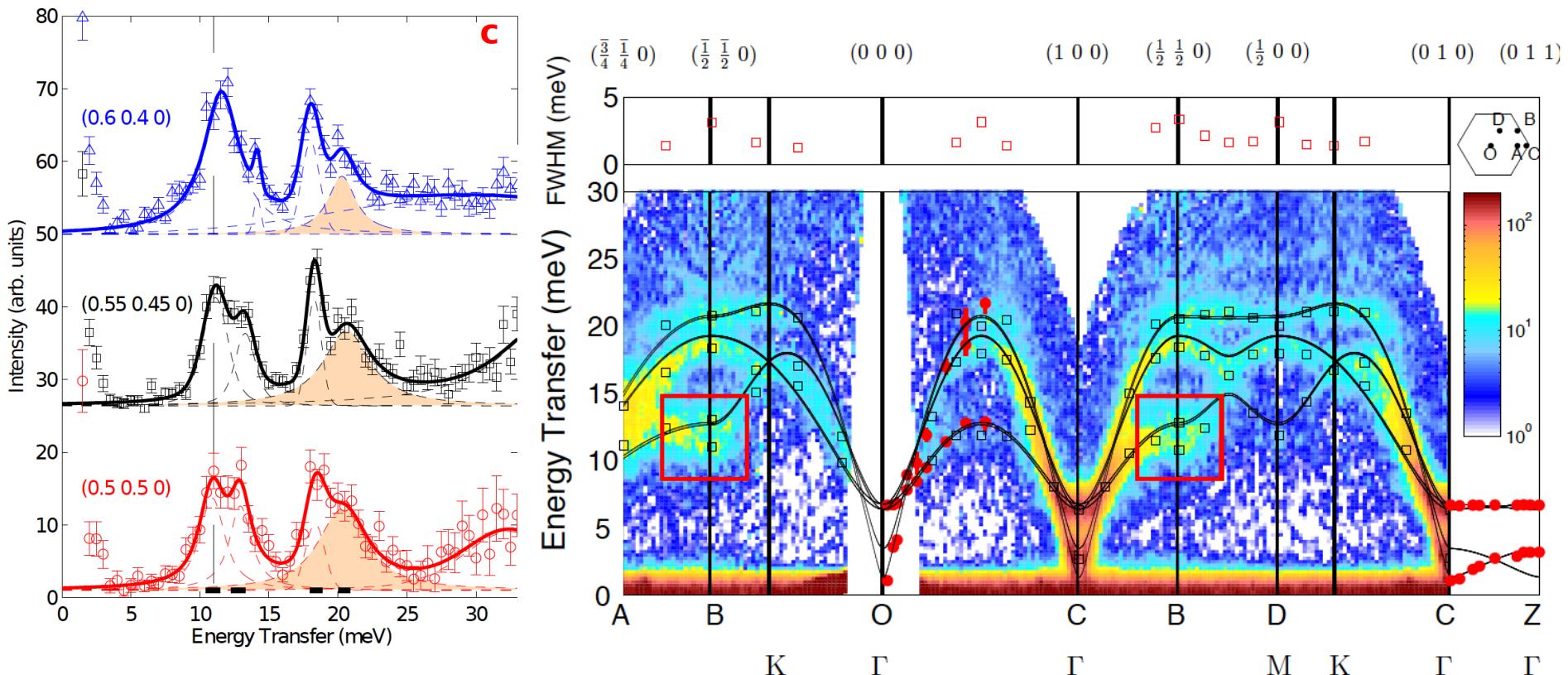
$S(q, \omega)$, constant energy scans



experiments

Magnon breakdown in a two dimensional triangular lattice Heisenberg antiferromagnet of multiferroic LuMnO₃

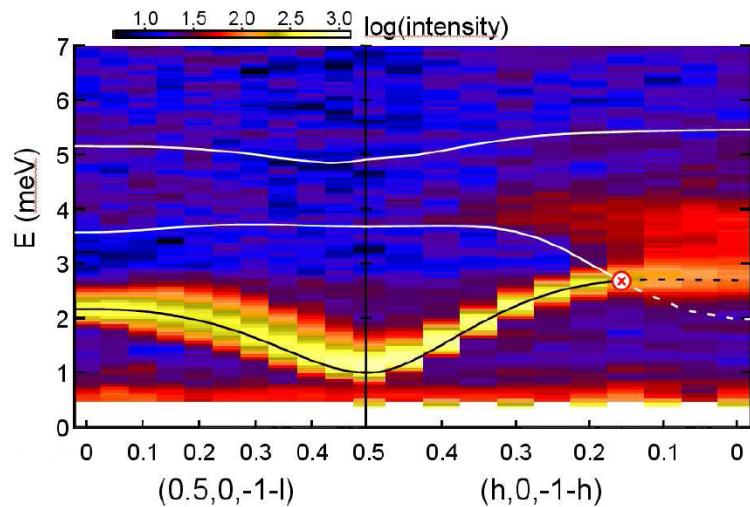
Joosung Oh,^{1,2} Manh Duc Le,^{1,2} Jaehong Jeong,^{1,2} Jung-hyun Lee,^{3,4} Hyunje Woo,^{5,6}
Wan-Young Song,^{3,4} T. G. Perring,⁵ W. J. L. Buyers,⁷ S-W. Cheong,⁸ and Je-Geun Park^{1,2,3,*}



spin-gap systems, triplet decays

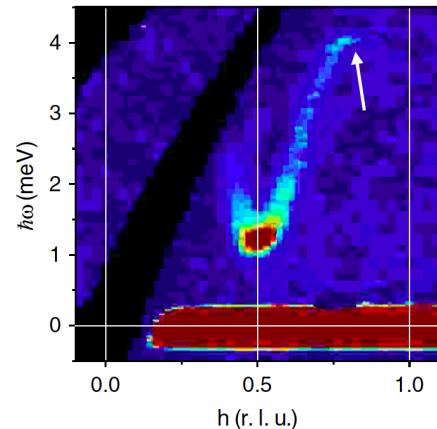
- order not necessary to have decays

M. Stone, *et al.*, Nature **440**, 187-190 (2006).



piperazinium hexachlorodicuprate (PHCC)

A. Kolezhuk and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 087203 (2006),
M. E. Zhitomirsky, Phys. Rev. B **73**, 100404 (2006)

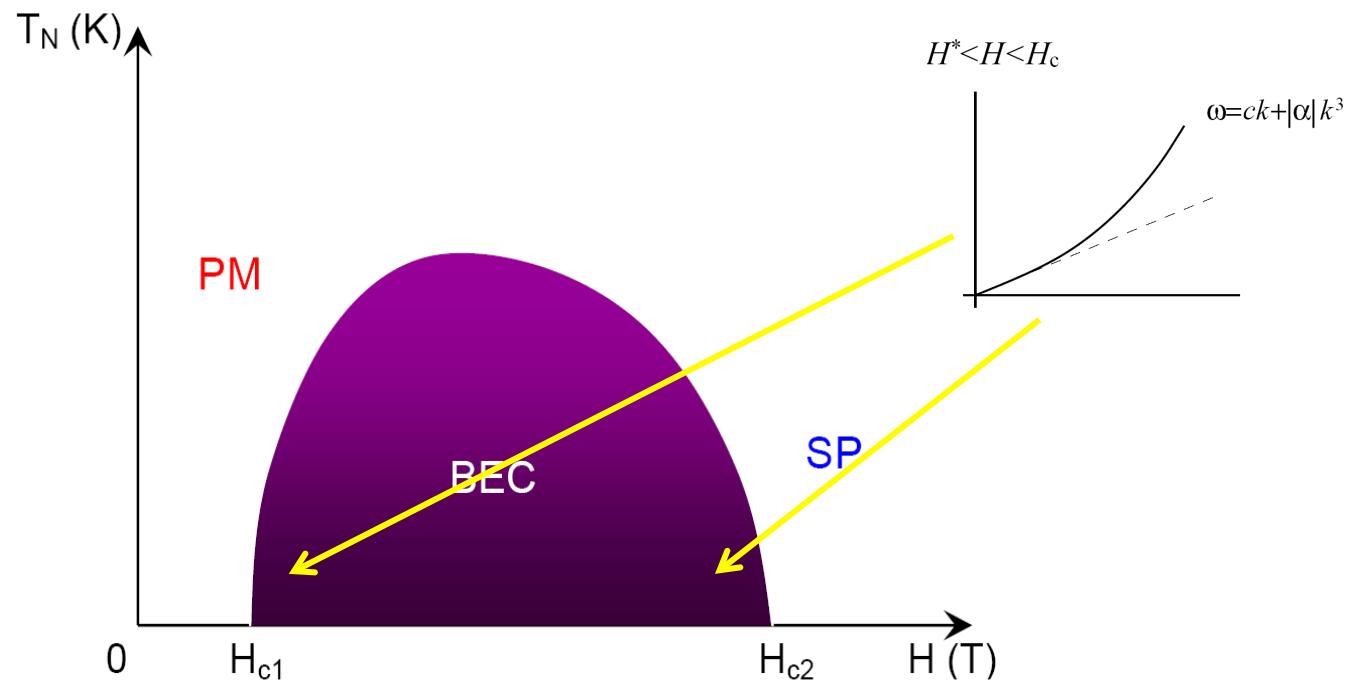


T. A. Masuda, *et al.*, PRL **96**, 047210 (2006)

IPA-CuCl₃



other systems/experiments: BEC



- BEC in a field = XY AF
- thermal conductivity

conclusions

- ☒ **decays** in magnon spectra of non-collinear magnets are generic
- ☒ enhanced by lower D and small spin
- ☒ non-Lorenzian features in $S(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$ and decay regions can be used for fingerprinting

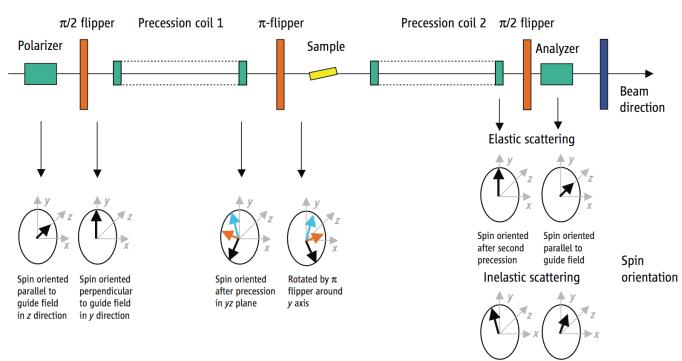
- ☒ finite- T ?
- ☒ more experiments ?



parts III. and IV.



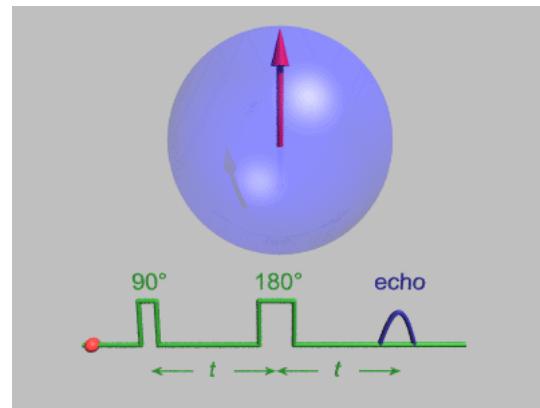
neutron-scattering spin-echo



APPLIED PHYSICS 1888 VOL 312 SCIENCE 2006

The Neutron Spin-Echo Technique at Full Strength

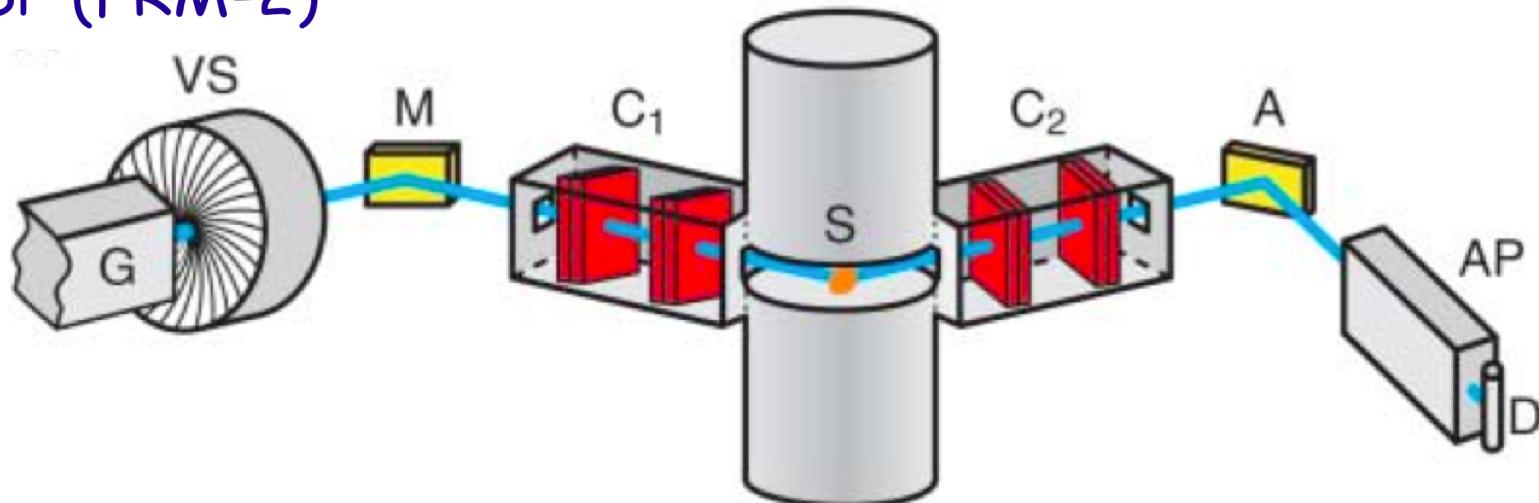
Joël Mesot



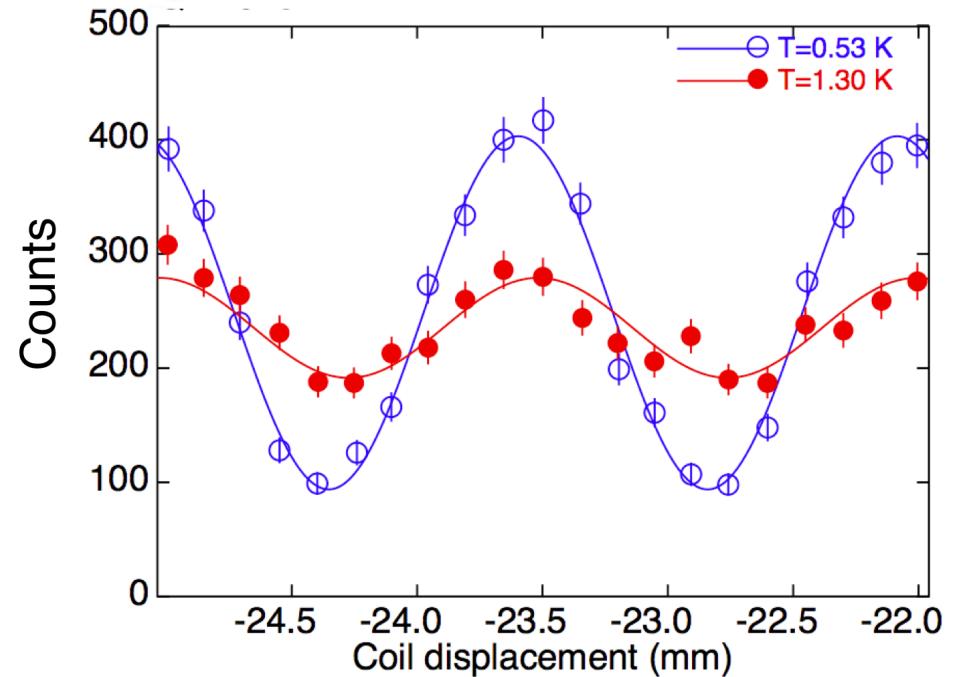
- resolution ~ $1\mu\text{eV}$ ($\approx 0.01\text{K}$) !

Neutron Resonant Spin Echo

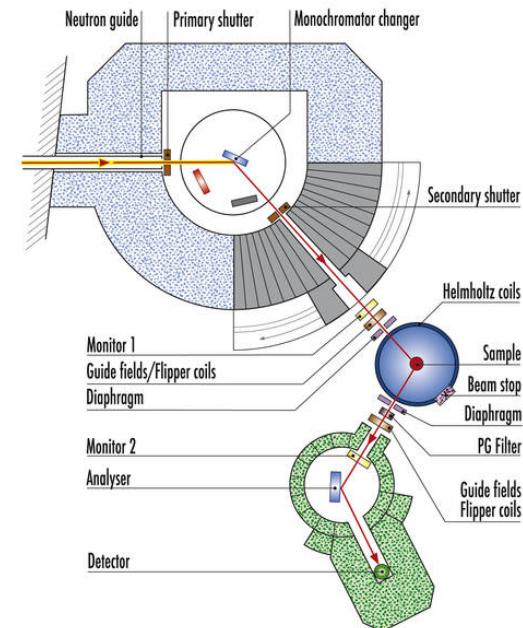
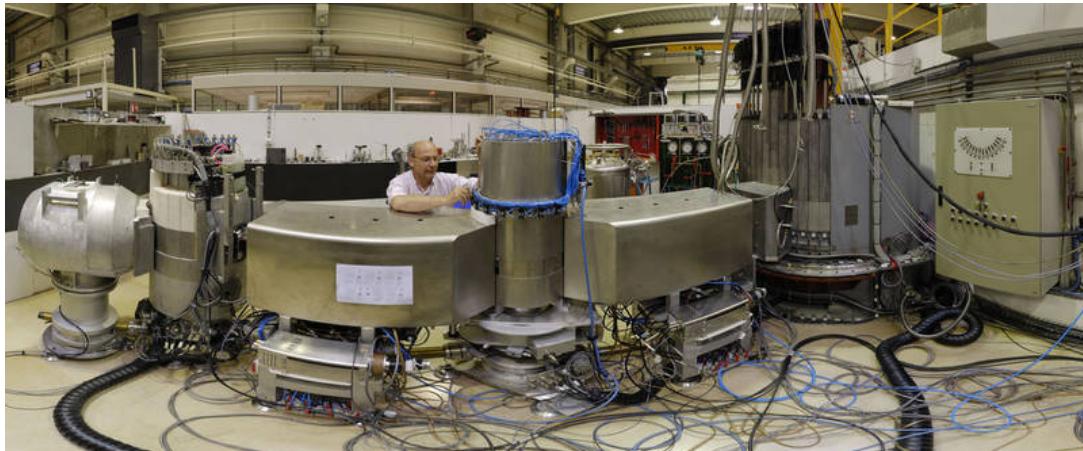
TRISP (FRM-2)



NRSE:
Line widths of dispersive modes
Energy shifts (phase stability)



ILL, IN22, and ZETA



Thermal neutron three-axis spectrometer with polarization analysis IN22

IN22 is a three-axis spectrometer (CRG) equipped for full polarization analysis. The option CRYOPAD and a 15 Tesla cryomagnet are optimised for inelastic scattering. The option ZETA provides neutron resonance spin echo (NRSE).



Institut Laue-Langevin

CRG three-axis spectrometer **IN22** with the **ZETA** resonant neutron spin-echo setup

III. odd interactions in superfluid ^4He



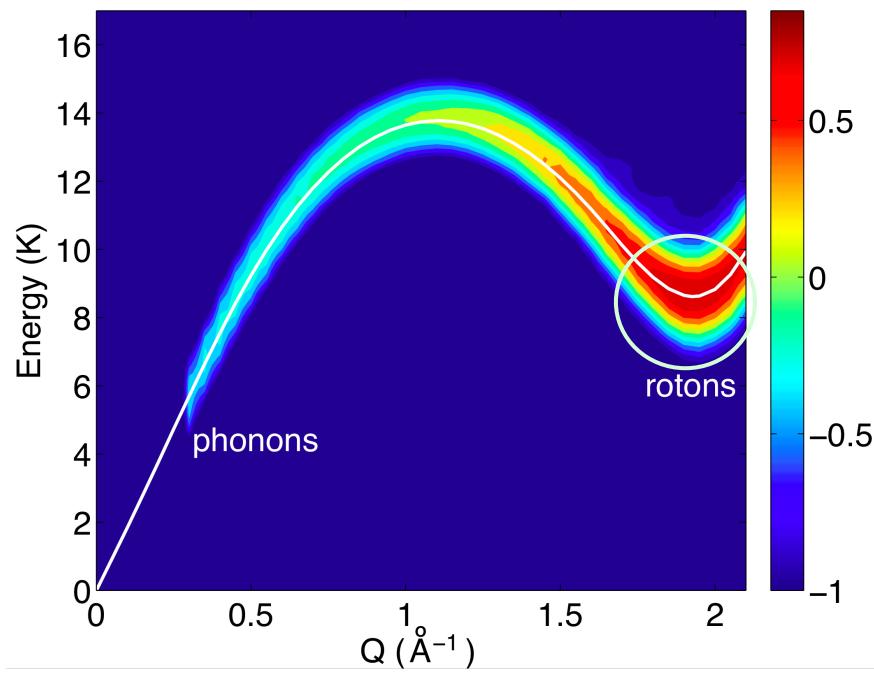
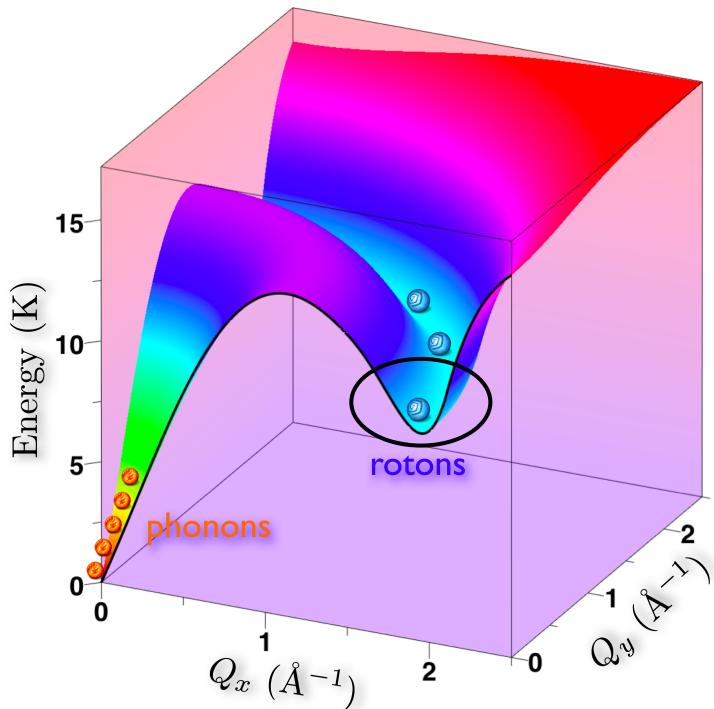
experiments: Björn Fåk (CEA, ILL)
Thomas Keller (Munich, Stuttgart)



UCIrvine
University of California, Irvine

theory: Mike Zhitomirsky (CEA)
Sasha Chernyshev (UC Irvine)

spectrum of ${}^4\text{He}$

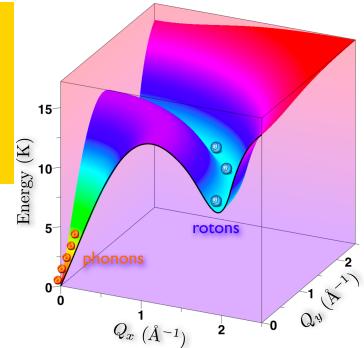


K. H. Andersen *et al.*, J. Phys. Cond. Mat. **6**, 821 (1994).

- T -dependence of roton's:
 - lifetime
 - energy

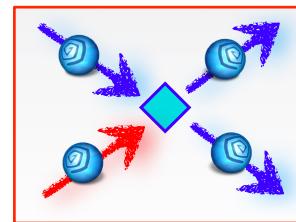


(long) history ...

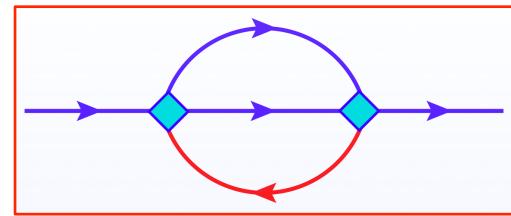


- L. D. Landau and I. M. Khalatnikov, *The theory of the viscosity of helium II: I. Collisions of elementary excitations in helium II*, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. **19**, 637- 650 (1949).
- roton lifetime (linewidth)

$$\Gamma(T) \propto N_r(T) \propto \sqrt{T} e^{-\frac{\Delta(T)}{T}}$$



- K. Bedell, D. Pines, and A. Zawadowskii, PRB **29**, 102 (1984).
- prefactors + energy shift



$$\delta(T) = \Delta(T) - \Delta_0 \propto N_r(T) \propto \sqrt{T} e^{-\frac{\Delta(T)}{T}}$$

* no three-boson interaction needed/directly involved
** Hartree-term gives the same for $\delta(T)$

neutron-scattering spin-echo, (>1.2K)

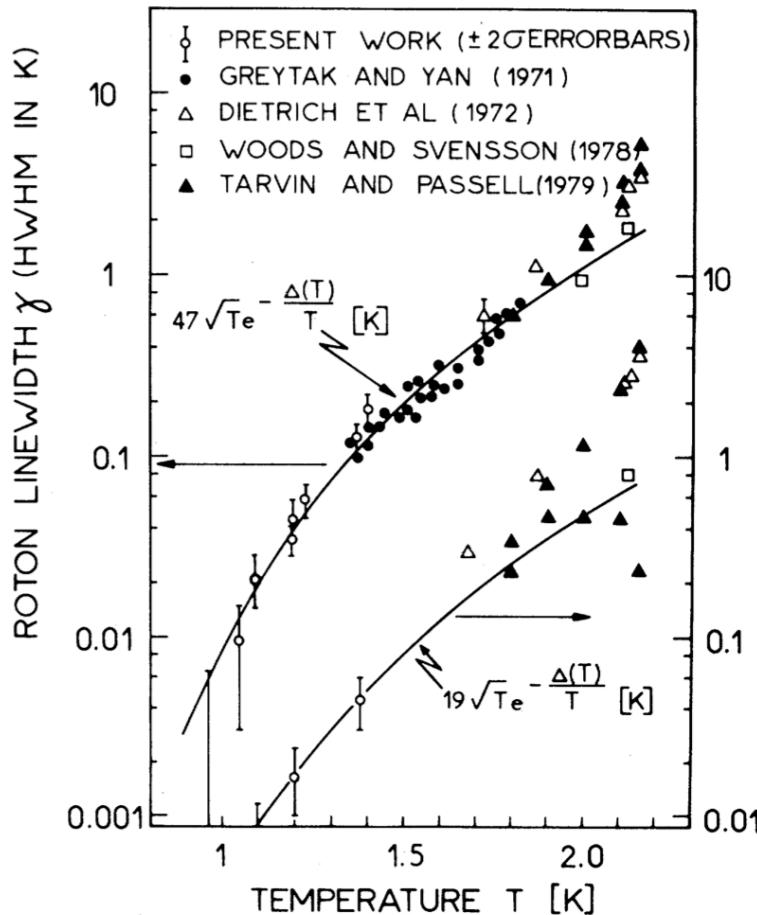
VOLUME 44, NUMBER 24

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

16 JUNE 1980

High-Resolution Study of Excitations in Superfluid ^4He by the Neutron Spin-Echo Technique

F. Mezei



- LK-theory fits:
 - quantitative



neutron-scattering spin-echo, (>0.88K)

VOLUME 77, NUMBER 19

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

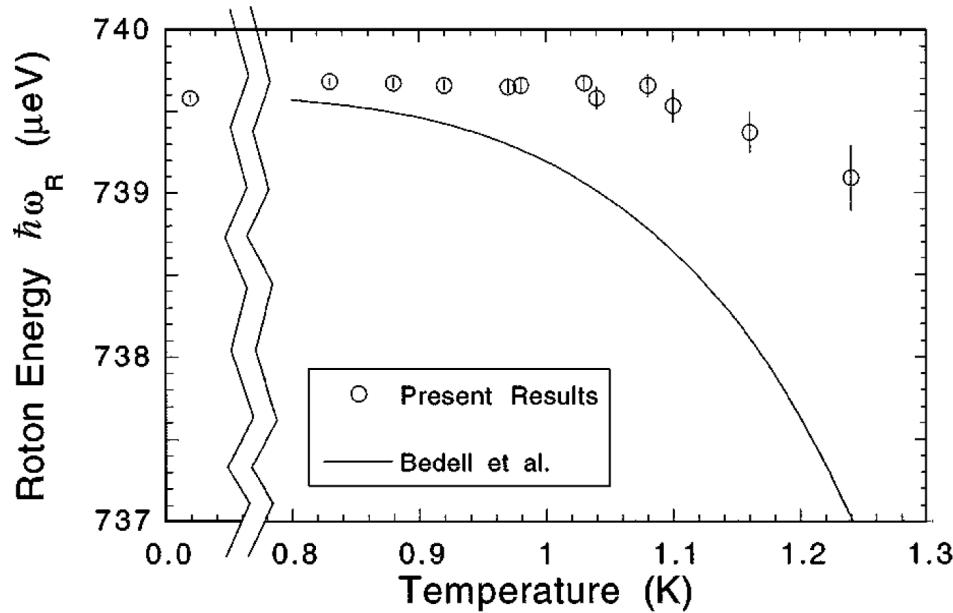
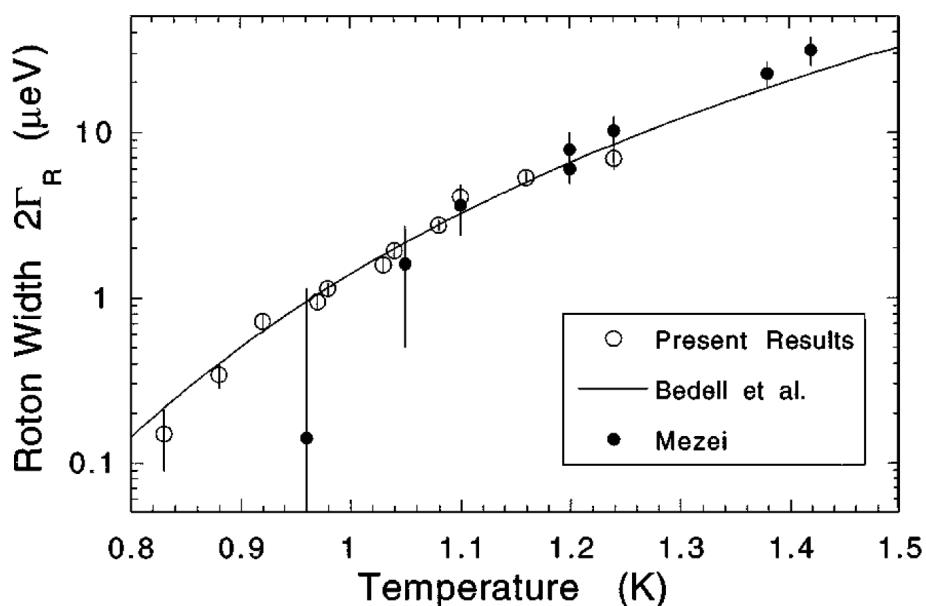
4 NOVEMBER 1996

High-Resolution Measurements of Rotons in ^4He

K. H. Andersen, J. Bossy, J. C. Cook, O. G. Randall, and J.-L. Ragazzoni

Institut Laue-Langevin, B.P. 156, 38042 Grenoble Cedex 9, France

(Received 22 March 1996)



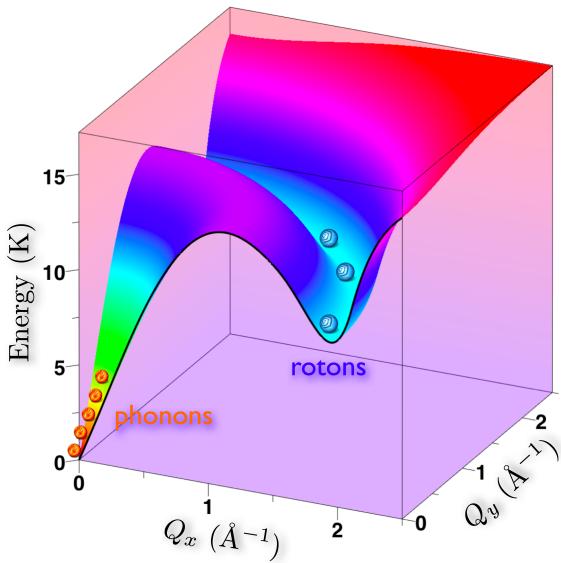
- linewidth:
LK-theory continues to work

$$\Gamma(T) \propto N_r(T) \propto \sqrt{T} e^{-\frac{\Delta(T)}{T}}$$

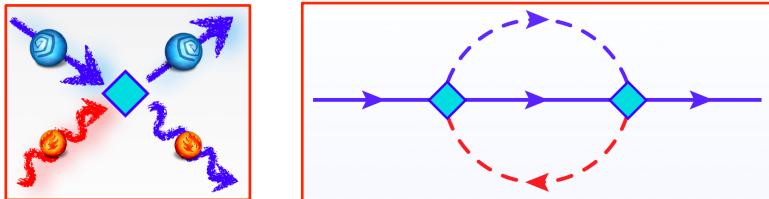
et al. and (2) that the temperature dependence of the roton energy cannot be described by the same theory in this temperature range. In fact, the rather good agreement between theory and experiment previously shown by the NSE technique [3], is now seen to break down below $T = 1.2$ K, while the theory is expected to work best in the $T \rightarrow 0$ limit.



phonons ?



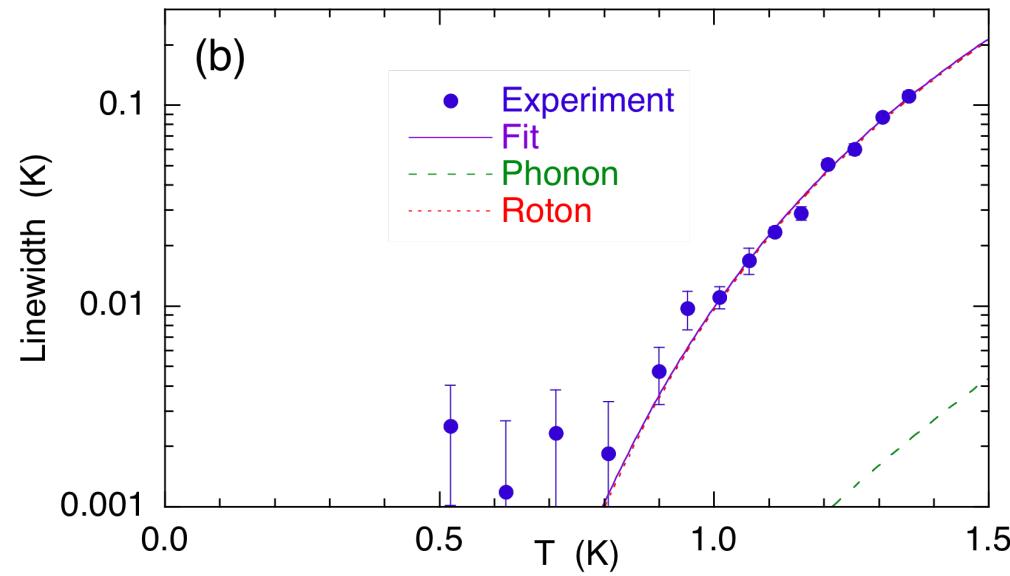
- where are the phonons ?
- roton-*phonon* scattering:



$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \Gamma(T) \\ \delta(T) \end{array} \right\} \propto T^3 \times T^4 = T^7 \left(= \tilde{A} \cdot \frac{T^7}{c^7} \right)$$

population \times Rayleigh scattering

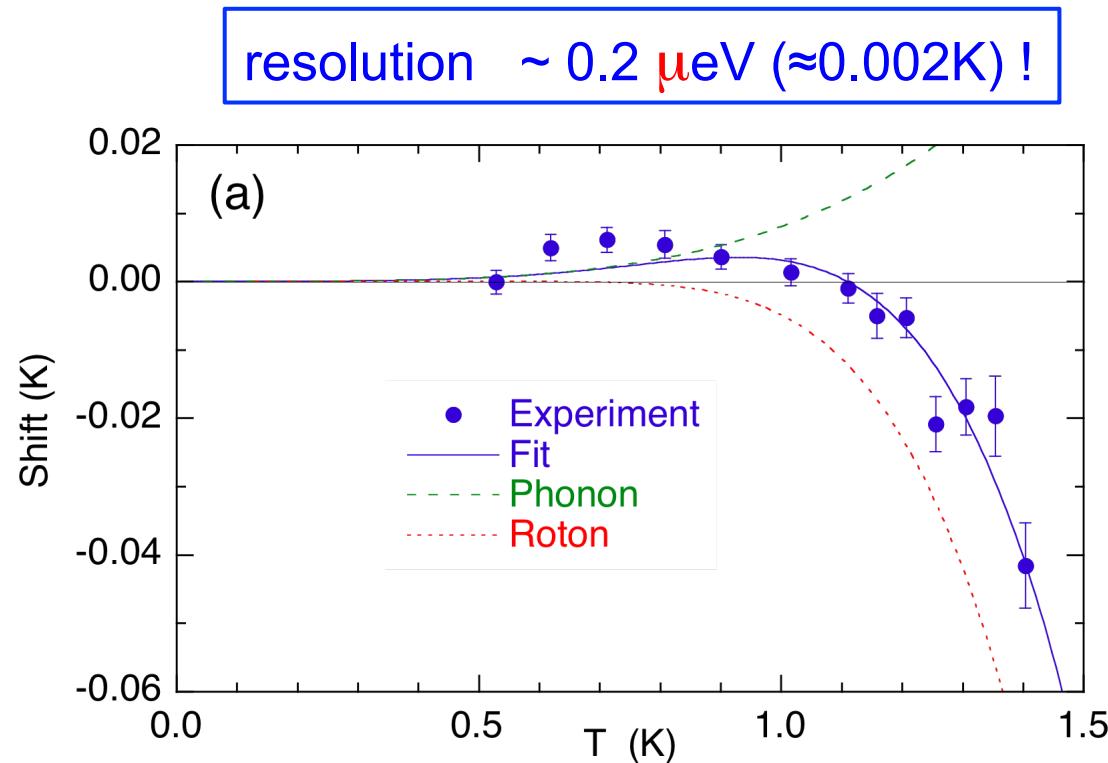
- using numbers: very small effect



- linewidth: LK-theory is fine !

$$\Gamma(T) \propto N_r(T) \propto \sqrt{T} e^{-\frac{\Delta(T)}{T}}$$

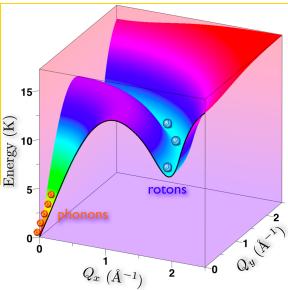
neutron-scattering spin-echo, (>0.5K)



- energy shift:
 - LK-theory fails
 - positive shift at low T

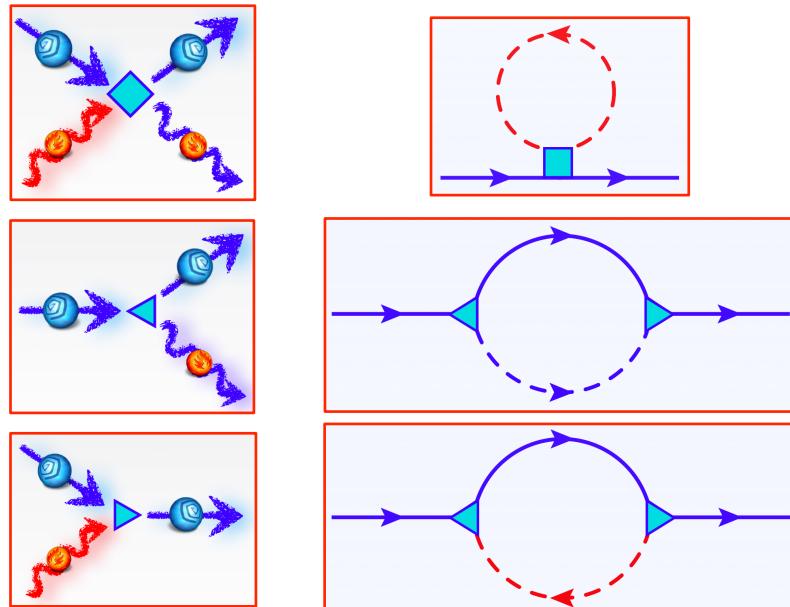
$$\delta(T) \propto \sqrt{T} e^{-\Delta(T)/T} + ???$$





phonons to the rescue

- more roton-*phonon* scatterings:

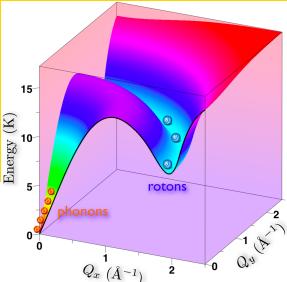


Hartree
decay
coalescence

$\Gamma \equiv 0$

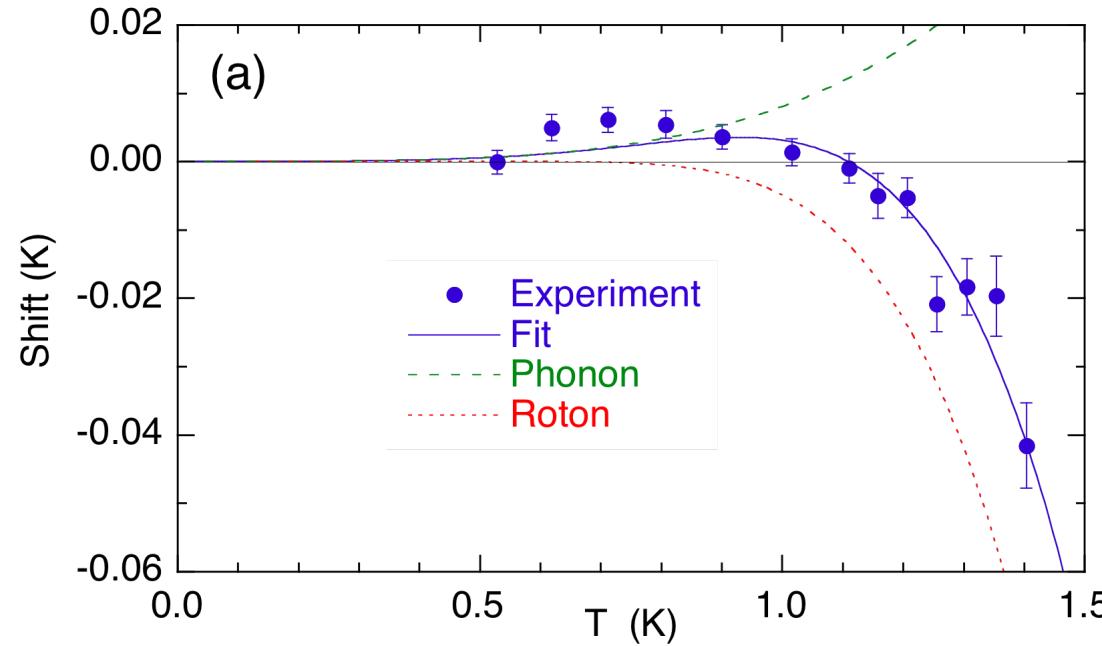
$\Rightarrow \delta(T) \propto T^4$

- three-particle (decay, coalescence) are necessarily positive



theory vs experiment

$$\delta(T) = -\delta_r \sqrt{T} \left(1 + \alpha \sqrt{T} \right) e^{-\Delta(T)/T} + \delta_{ph} T^4$$



- theory:
 - quantitatively (!) explains positive shift at low T
 - provides reasonable fit
 - three-particle interactions dominate the new effect



conclusions/outlook

- ✓ clear sign of the odd (3-particle) interactions in the roton energy shift
 - ✓ LK ++ [LK-ZC (?)] theory is formulated
 - ✓ neutron spin-echo allows to reach new regimes
-
- ⌚ even lower T?
 - ⌚ phonon-phonon scattering, pressure dependence, etc.



IV. **lifetime** of gapped excitations in (collinear) antiferromagnets

UCIrvine
University of California, Irvine



theory: Sasha Chernyshev (UC Irvine)
Mike Zhitomirsky (CEA)



experiments: Louis-Pierre Regnault,
Nicolas Martin (CEA, ILL)

material

L. P. REGNAULT AND J. ROSSAT-MIGNOD
**PHASE TRANSITIONS IN QUASI TWO-DIMENSIONAL
 PLANAR MAGNETS**

*L. J. De Jongh (Ed.), Magnetic Properties of Layered Transition Metal Compounds 271–321.
 © 1990 Kluwer Academic Publishers. Printed in the Netherlands.*

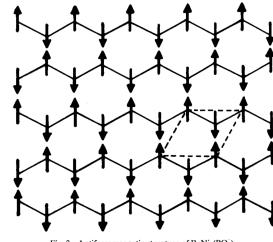
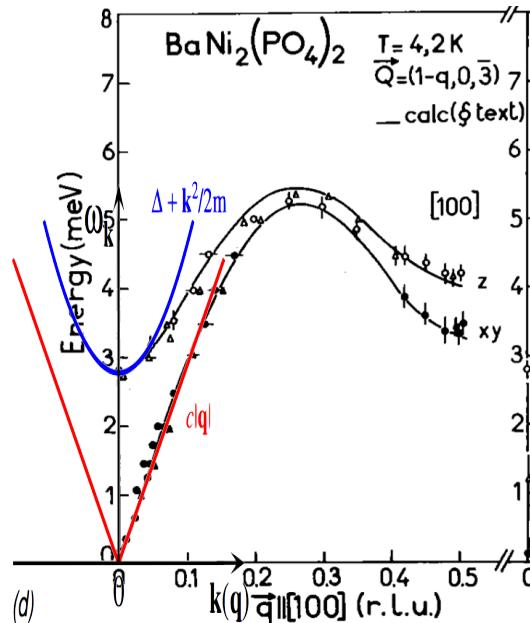
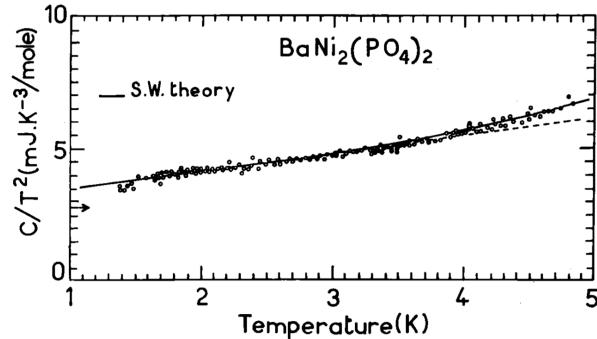
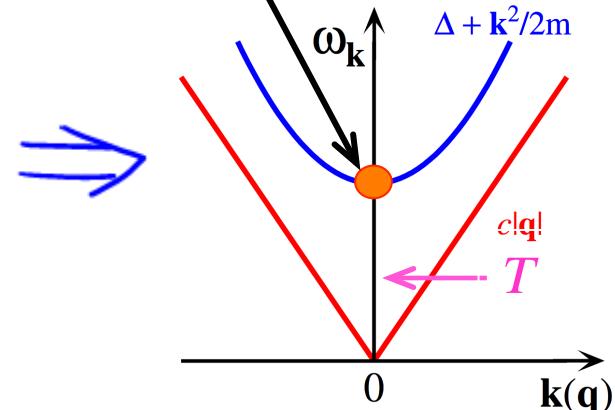


Fig. 3. Antiferromagnetic structure of $\text{BaNi}_2(\text{PO}_4)_2$.



$\text{BaNi}_2(\text{PO}_4)_2$

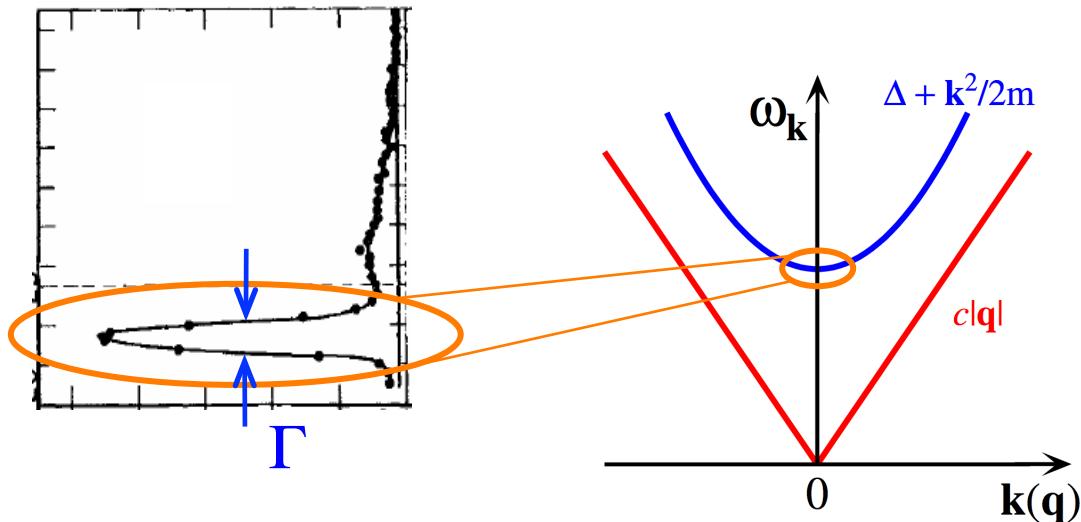
$\Gamma = ???$



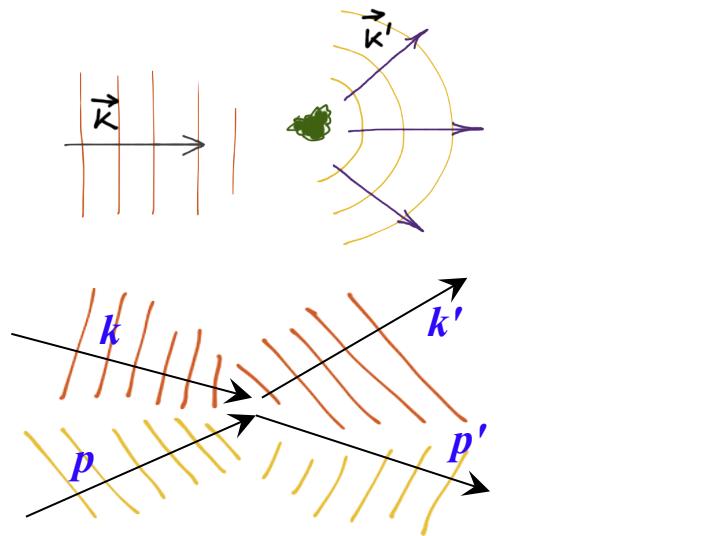
- $S=1$, 2D, planar (XY)
- has gapped
- and acoustic modes

$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + D \sum_i (S^z)^2$$

lifetime/linewidth/damping/decay rate



- lifetime⁻¹ = linewidth in “simple” AFs
- spin waves: scattering on?
 - impurities
 - themselves
 - combination of the two
(impurity-assisted)



where from?

- by the nature of spin-to-bosons mapping:

- \Rightarrow magnon-magnon scattering

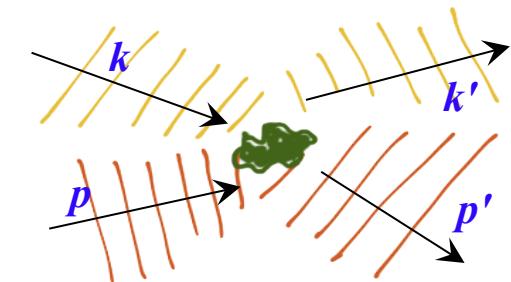
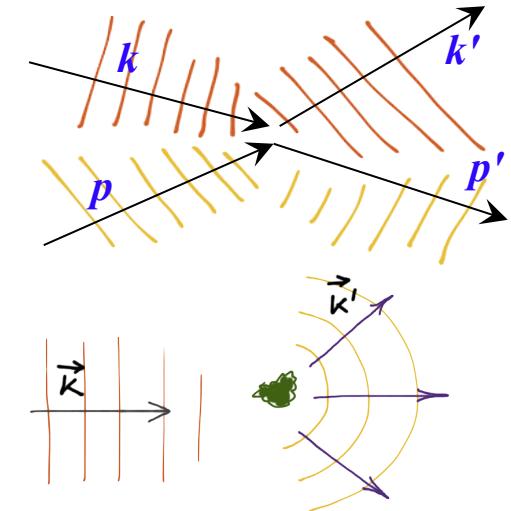
$$JS \cdot S, D (S^z)^2 \Rightarrow \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}} + V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{p}'}^{m-m} b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{p}'}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{p}'} b_{\mathbf{k}}$$

- \Rightarrow impurity [site/bond defect] scattering

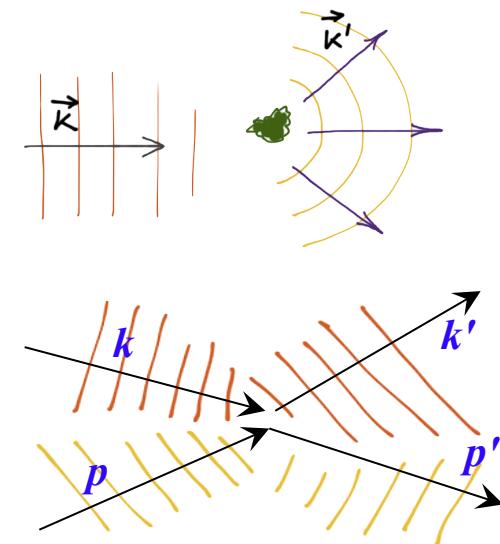
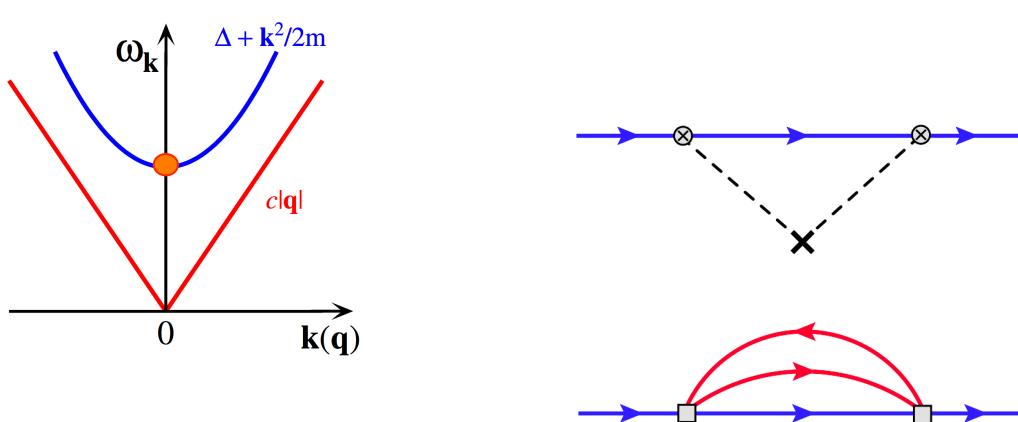
$$\delta J [\delta D] \Rightarrow \delta J [\delta D] b_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{k}}$$

- \Rightarrow **and** impurity-assisted magnon-magnon scattering

$$\delta J [\delta D] \Rightarrow V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{p}'}^{\text{imp}} b_{\mathbf{k}'}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{p}'}^\dagger b_{\mathbf{p}'} b_{\mathbf{k}}$$



damping, theory expectations, I



- local distortions $\rightarrow \delta D, \delta J \rightarrow$ conventional impurity scattering (2D):
- gapped on thermally excited gapless:
- (and on gapped):
- numbers for m-m scattering are known/derivable!

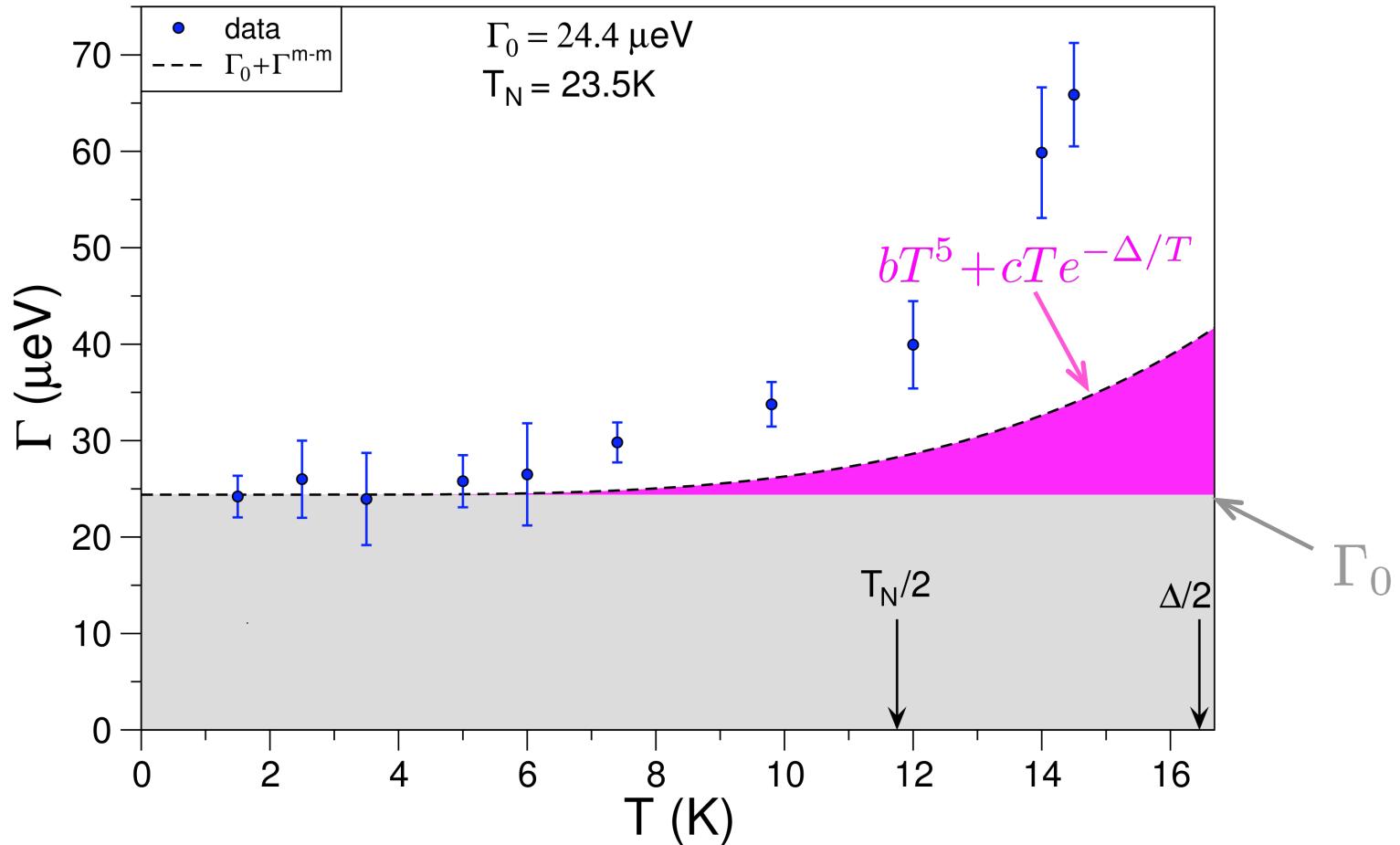
$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{k}}^{\text{imp}} \approx \Gamma_0 \propto n_{\text{imp}} \overline{\delta D}^2 \frac{m \omega_{\text{max}}^2}{\Delta^2}$$

$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0}^{\text{m-m}} \approx \frac{\pi^3}{15} \frac{\tilde{g}^2}{c} \left(\frac{T}{c} \right)^5$$

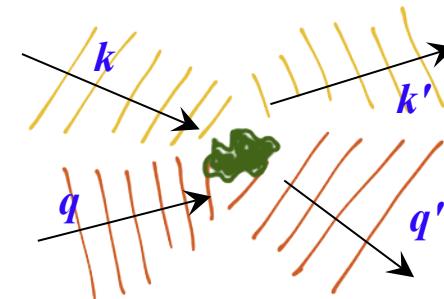
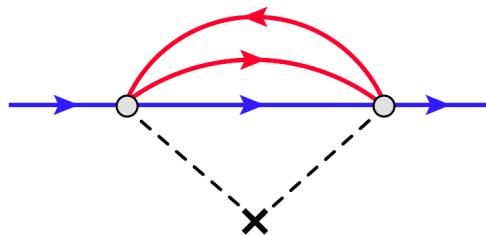
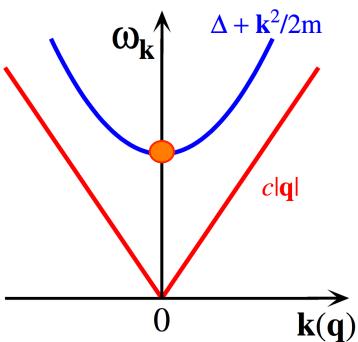
$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0}^{\beta\beta \rightarrow \beta\beta} \approx \frac{g_\beta^2 m^2 T}{4\pi} e^{-\Delta/T}$$

standard lore: $\varrho = \varrho_0^{\text{imp}} + \varrho^{ee}(T)$

$$\Gamma = \underbrace{\Gamma_0}_{\text{imp}} + \underbrace{bT^5 + cTe^{-\Delta/T}}_{\text{m-m}}$$



damping, theory expectations, II



- impurity facilitates stronger m-m scattering

$$V_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}; \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{q}'}^{\text{imp}} \approx \tilde{g}_{\text{imp}} / \sqrt{\tilde{q}\tilde{q}'} \quad \text{vs} \quad V_{\mathbf{k}\mathbf{q}; \mathbf{k}'\mathbf{q}'}^{\text{m-m}} \propto \sqrt{qq'}$$

- → lower power of T in Γ

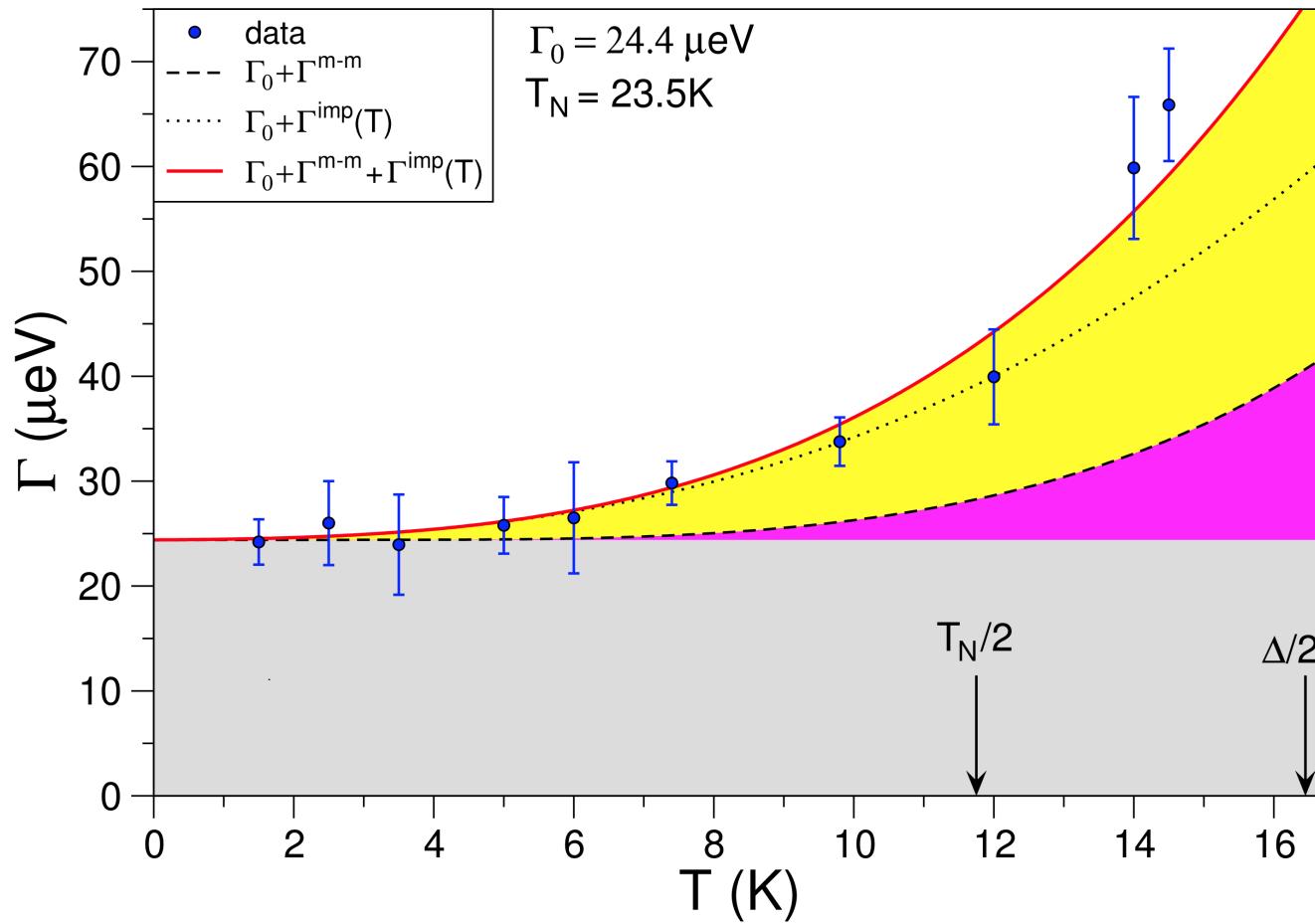
$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0}^{\text{imp}, T} \approx \tilde{A} \left(\frac{T}{c} \right)^2 \left[\left(\ln \frac{T}{\omega_0} \right)^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \right]}$$

$$\boxed{\tilde{A} \sim n_{\text{imp}} \overline{\delta D}^2 m}$$

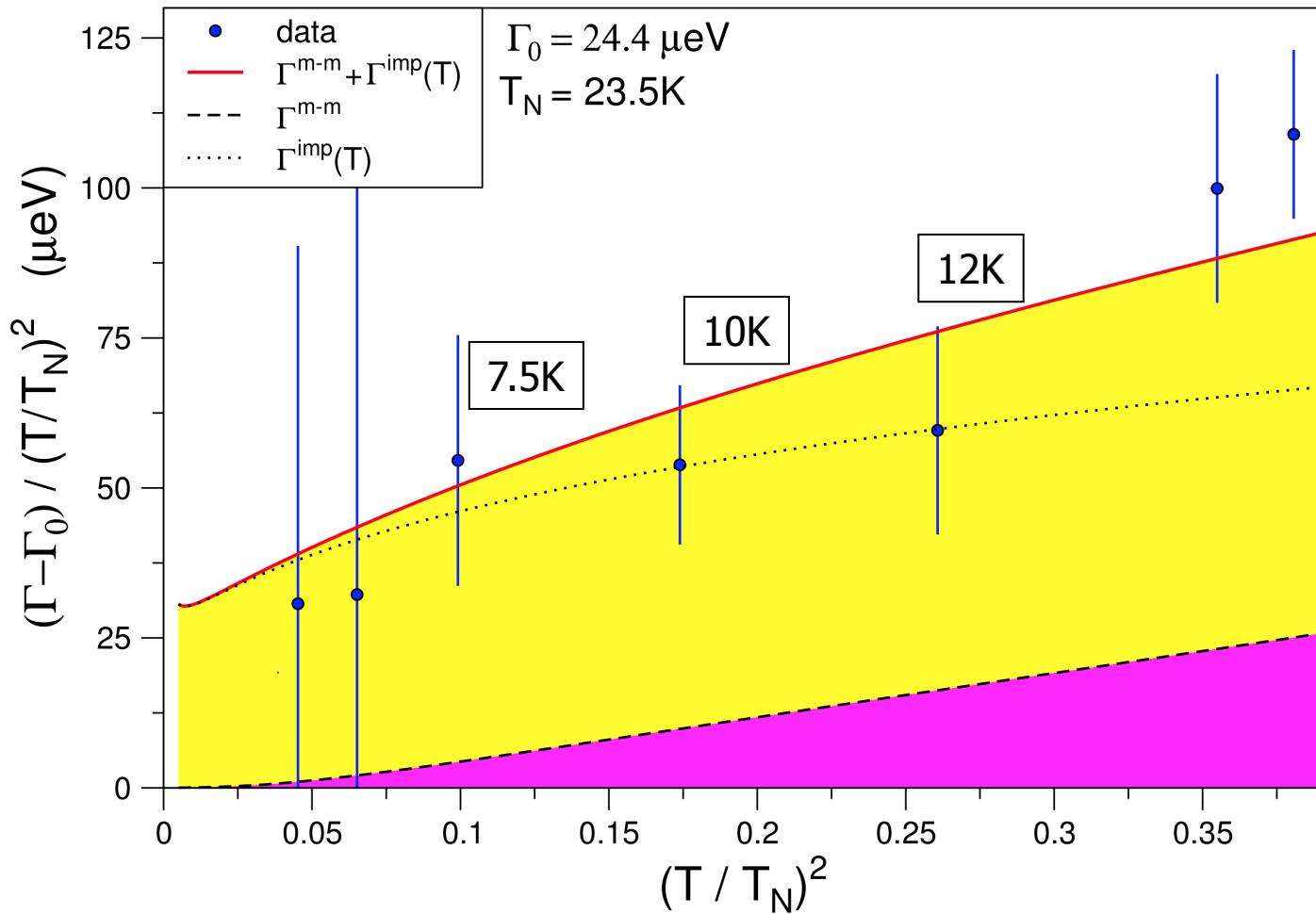
- reasons for “stronger” potential:
 - m-m interactions are singular but cancel out
 - impurities violate that cancellation
 - dynamically-induced “strong” disorder: optical spin-flip “sits” at impurity, scatters acoustic mode stronger ...

beyond the standard model ...

$$\Gamma = \underbrace{\Gamma_0}_{\text{imp}} + \underbrace{aT^2 \left[\left(\ln \frac{T}{\omega_0} \right)^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{3} \right]}_{\text{imp. finite-}T} + \underbrace{bT^5 + cTe^{-\Delta/T}}_{\text{m-m}}$$



better picture ...



cross-checks, predictions

$T=0$ and $T>0$ impurity terms must be related ($\Gamma_0 \sim \tilde{A} \sim n_{\text{imp}} \overline{\delta D}^2 m$)

true, in our fit: $\Gamma_0 \approx \tilde{A} \approx 25 \mu\text{eV}$

does disorder strength make sense?

estimate: $n_{\text{imp}} (\overline{\delta D}/D)^2 \approx \Gamma_0/\omega_{max} \approx 10^{-2}$

translates into a (very reasonable) statement that in $\text{BaNi}_2(\text{PO}_4)_2$, strong modulation of magnetic couplings of order 1 is spread over 1 in 100 unit cells

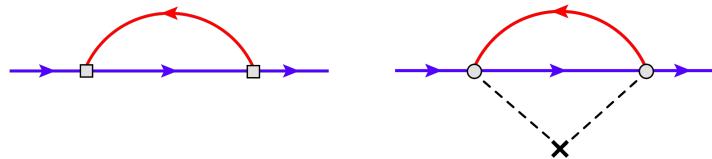
predictions:

⇒ 3D: $\Gamma_{3D}^{\text{imp}} \propto n_{\text{imp}} T^{9/2}$

⇒ AFs with non-collinear order → 3-magnon coupling

$\text{BaCo}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2$

new diagrams:



no change in m-m

lower power of T in impurity-induced:

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{\mathbf{k} \rightarrow 0}^{\text{imp}, T} \approx \tilde{A}_3 \left(\frac{T}{c} \right) \ln \frac{T}{\omega_0}}$$

$$\tilde{A}_3 \propto n_{\text{imp}} |\delta g_3|^2$$

conclusions

- ☒ general case: low- T lifetime of a magnetic excitation is completely dominated by the effects induced by a simple structural disorder
- ☒ support from experiments
- ☒ further predictions are made
- ☒ should be relevant to other systems