

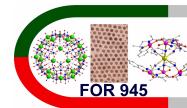
# **High Spin Cycles: Topping the Spin Record for a Single Molecule verging on Quantum Criticality**

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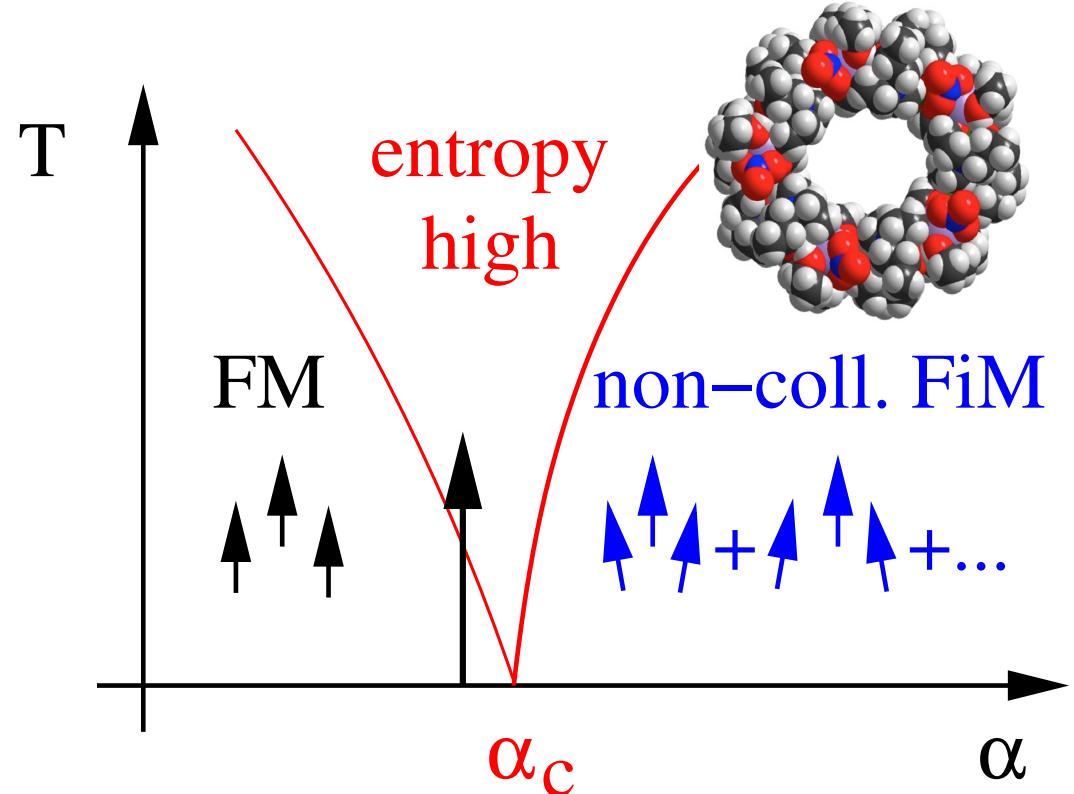
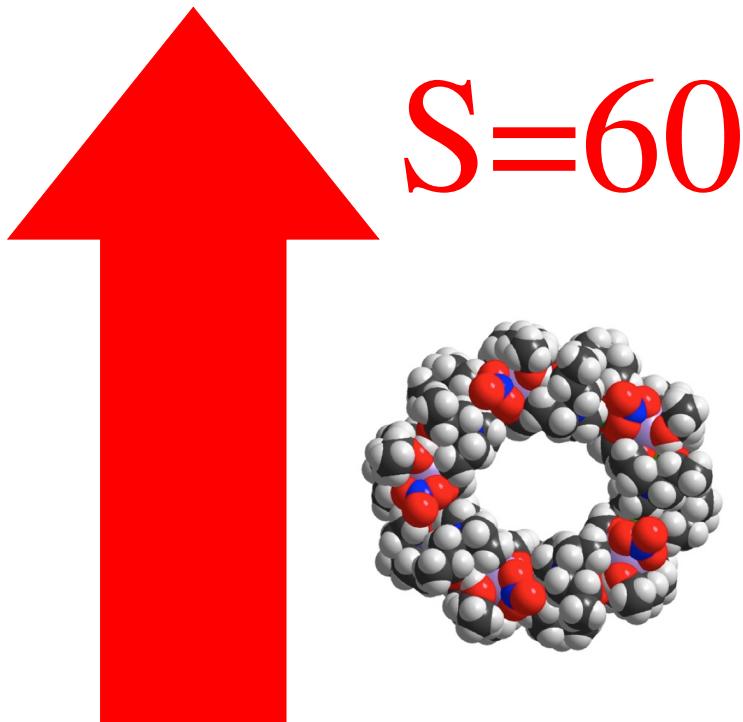
<http://obelix.physik.uni-bielefeld.de/~schnack/>

17th Czech and Slovak Conference on Magnetism  
Kosice, Slovakia, 3-7 June 2019



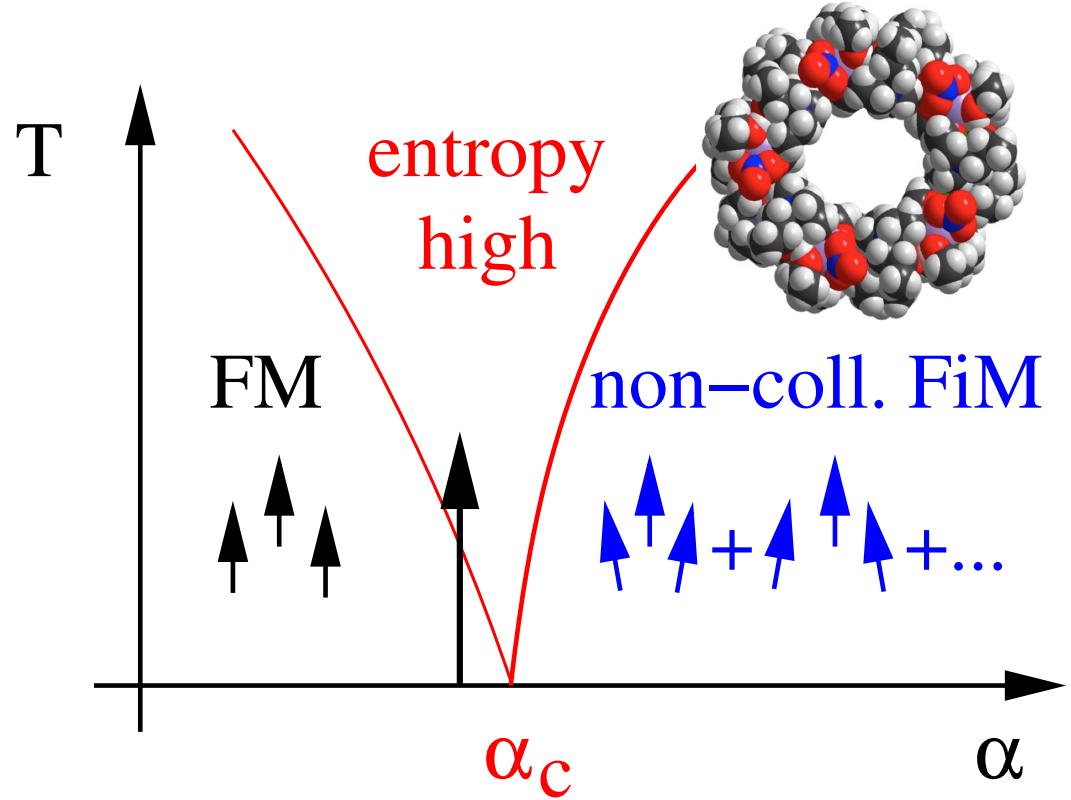
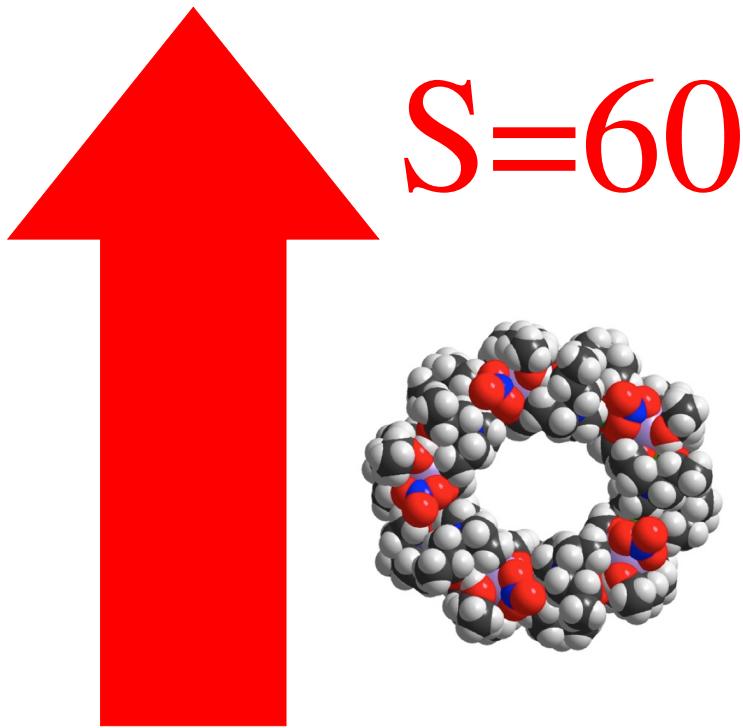


## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – summary



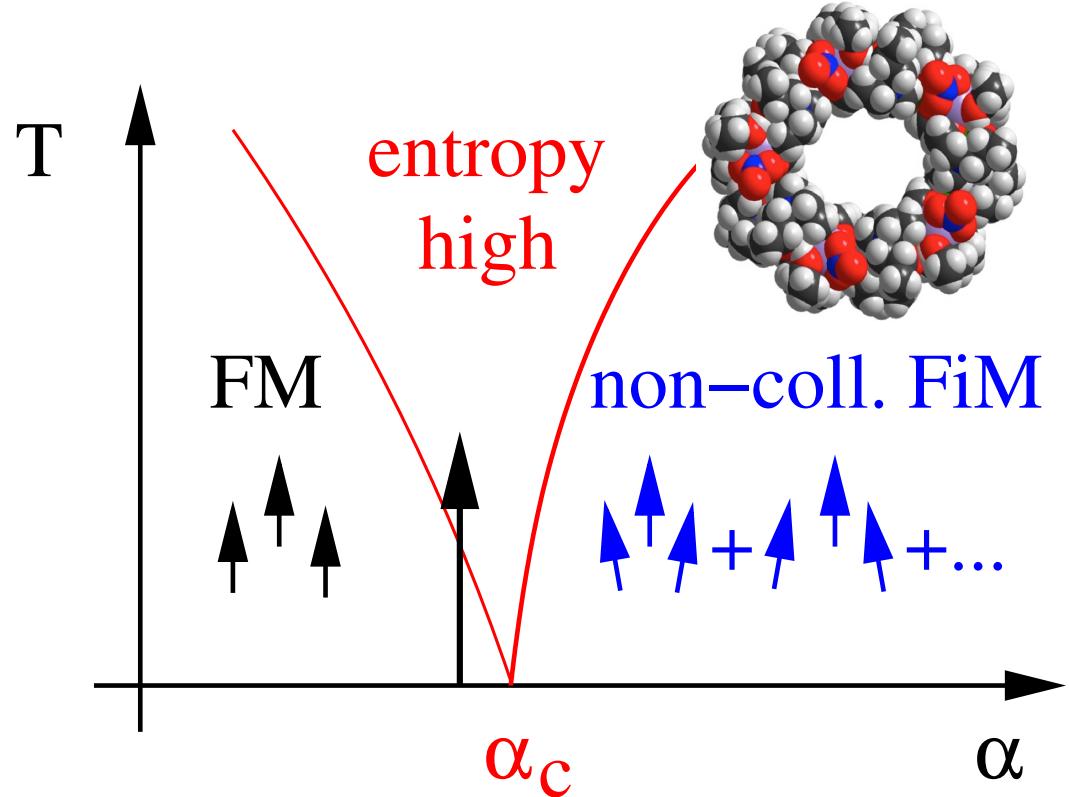
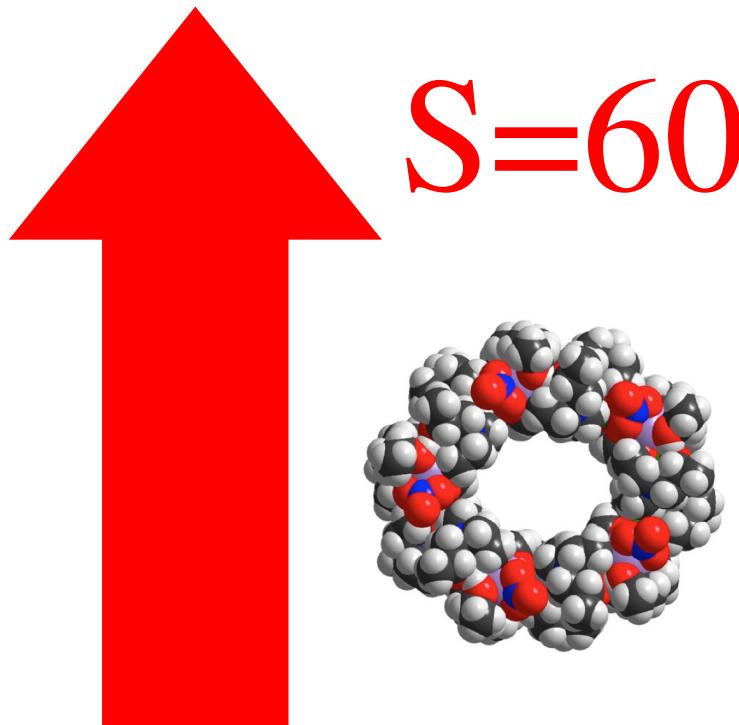
A. Baniodeh, N. Magnani, Y. Lan, G. Buth, C.E. Anson, J. Richter, M. Affronte, J. Schnack, A.K. Powell,  
High Spin Cycles: Topping the Spin Record for a Single Molecule verging on Quantum Criticality,  
npj Quantum Materials **3**, 10 (2018)

## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – summary



# How do we know?

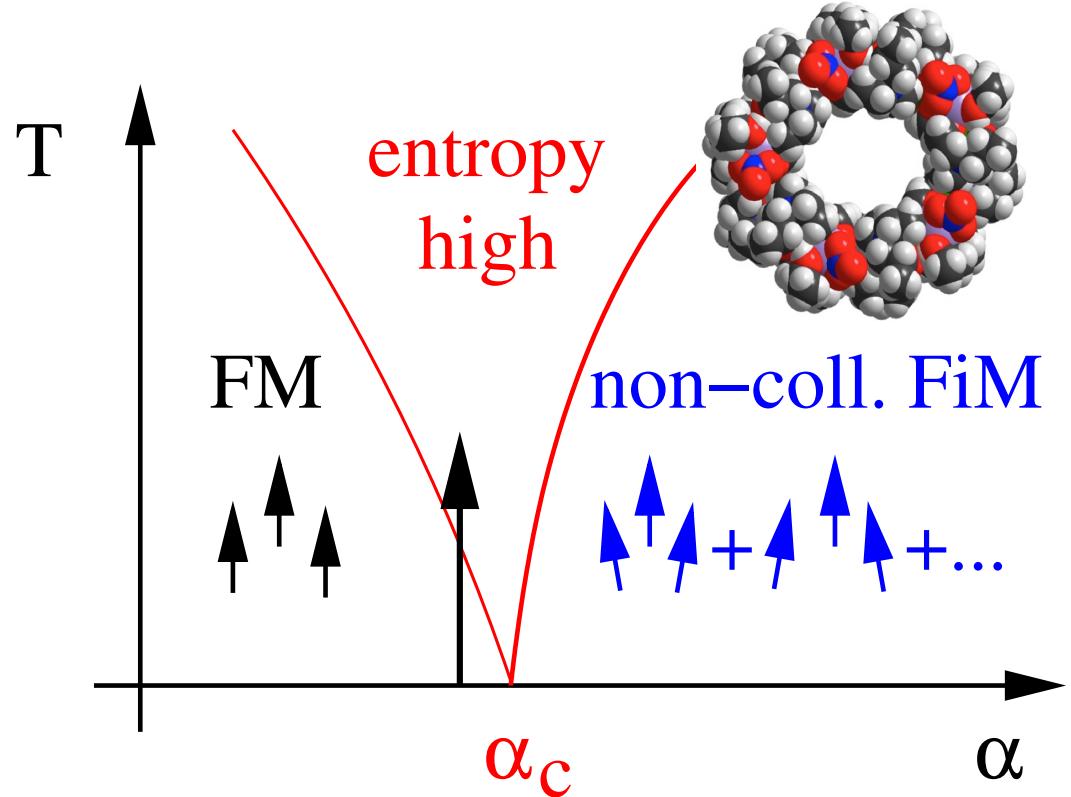
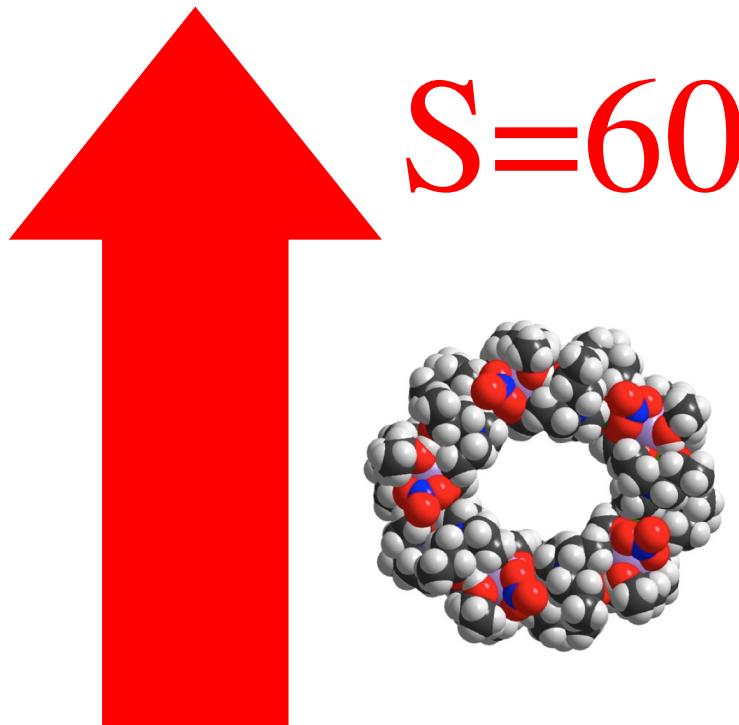
## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – summary



How do we know?

What is a QPT?

## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – summary

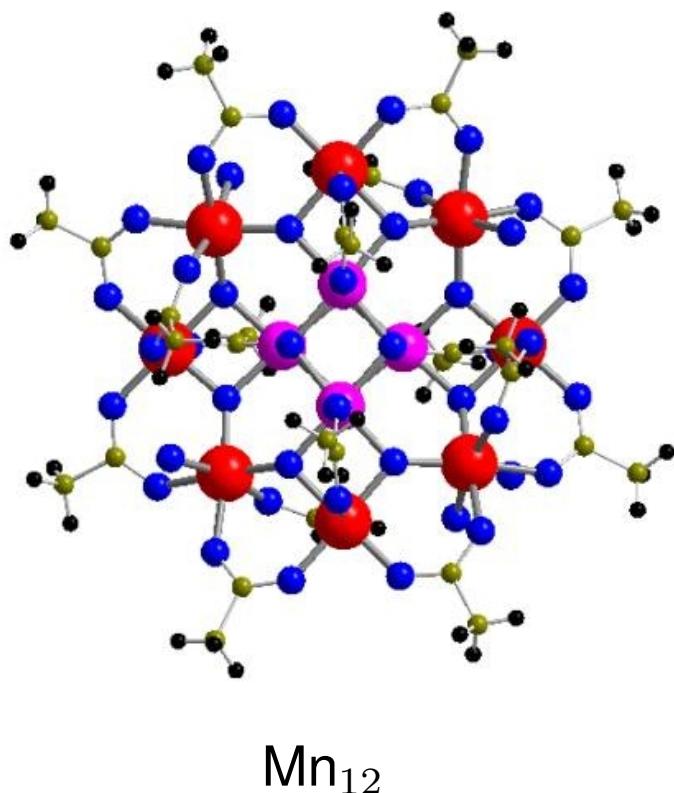


How do we know?

What is a QPT?  
In  $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ ?

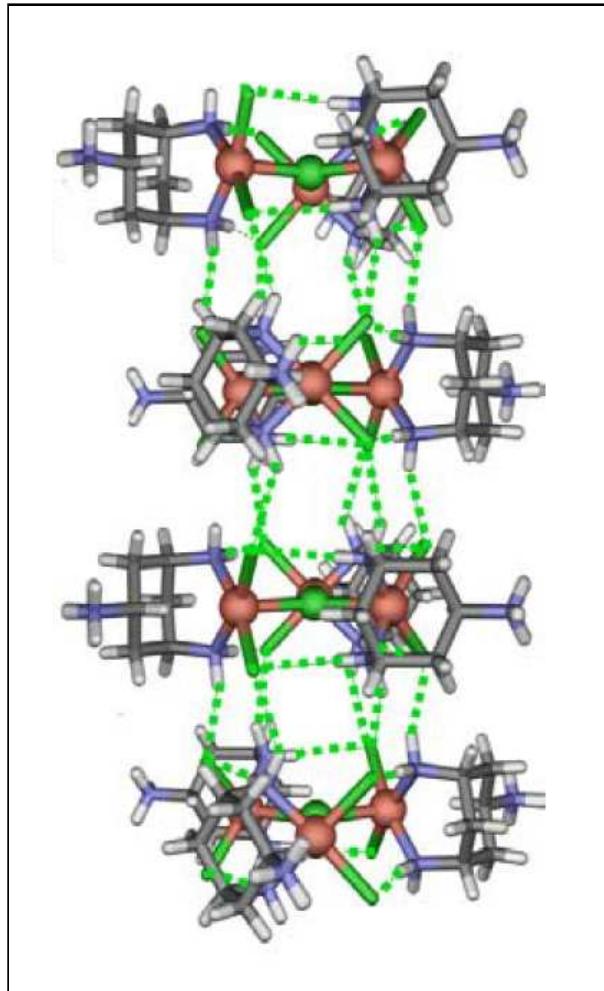
# Short Introduction: Beauty of Magnetic Molecules

# The beauty of magnetic molecules I



- Inorganic or organic macro molecules, e.g. polyoxometalates, where paramagnetic ions such as Iron (Fe), Chromium (Cr), Copper (Cu), Nickel (Ni), Vanadium (V), Manganese (Mn), or rare earth ions are embedded in a host matrix;
- Pure organic magnetic molecules: magnetic coupling between high spin units (e.g. free radicals);
- Single spin quantum number  $1/2 \leq s \leq 7/2$ ;
- Intermolecular interaction relatively small, therefore measurements reflect the thermal behaviour of a single molecule.

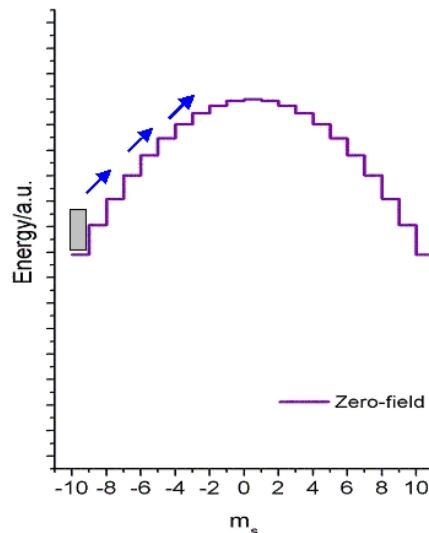
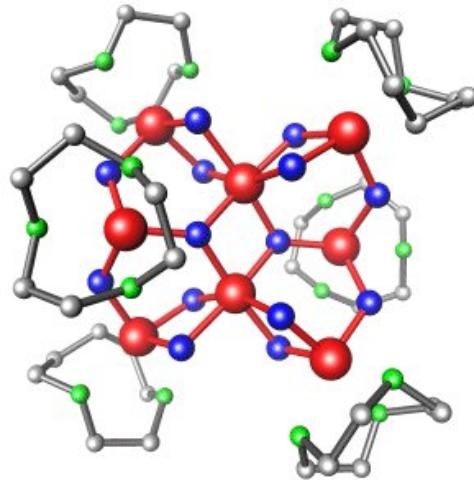
# The beauty of magnetic molecules II



- Dimers ( $\text{Fe}_2$ ), tetrahedra ( $\text{Cr}_4$ ), cubes ( $\text{Cr}_8$ );
- Rings, especially iron rings ( $\text{Fe}_6$ ,  $\text{Fe}_8$ ,  $\text{Fe}_{10}$ , ...);
- Complex structures ( $\text{Mn}_{12}$ ) – drosophila of molecular magnetism;
- “Soccer balls”, more precisely icosidodecahedra ( $\text{Fe}_{30}$ ) and other macro molecules;
- Chain like and planar structures of interlinked magnetic molecules, e.g. triangular Cu chain:

J. Schnack, H. Nojiri, P. Kögerler, G. J. T. Cooper, L. Cronin, Phys. Rev. B 70, 174420 (2004)

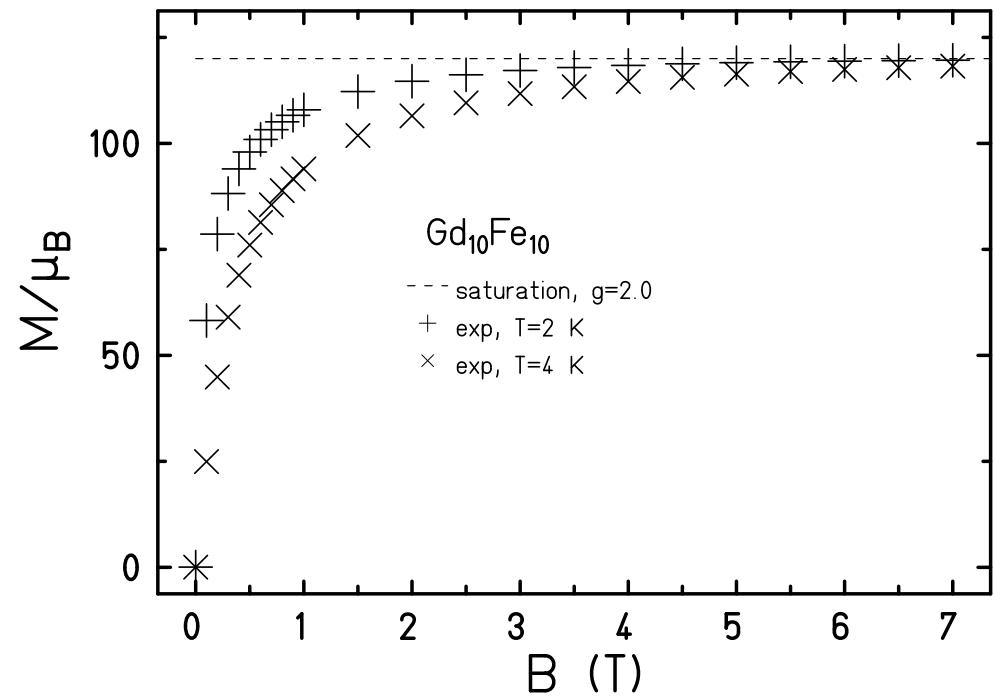
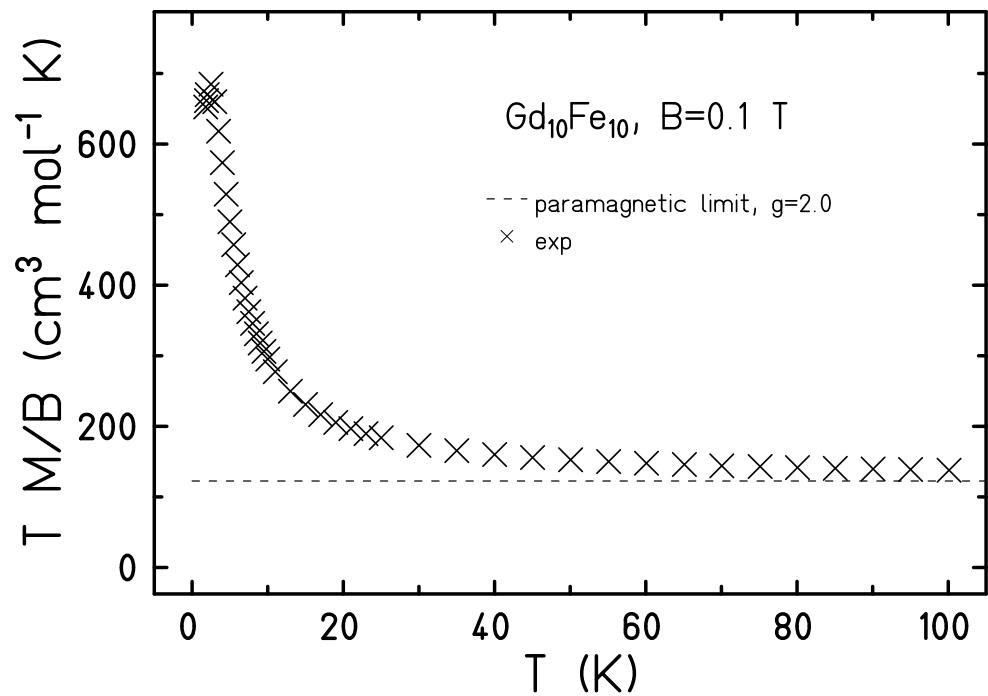
# The beauty of magnetic molecules III



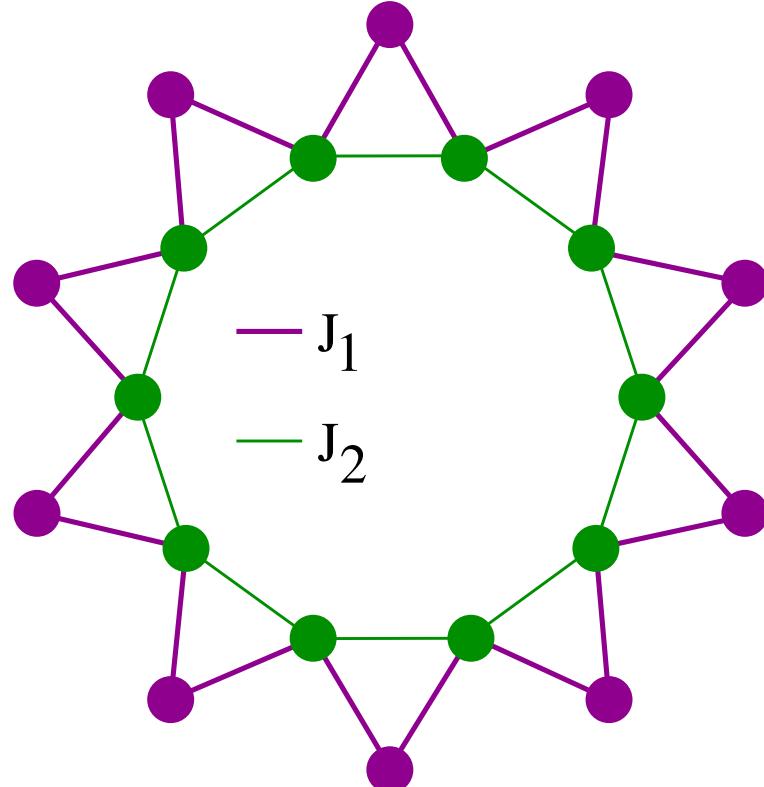
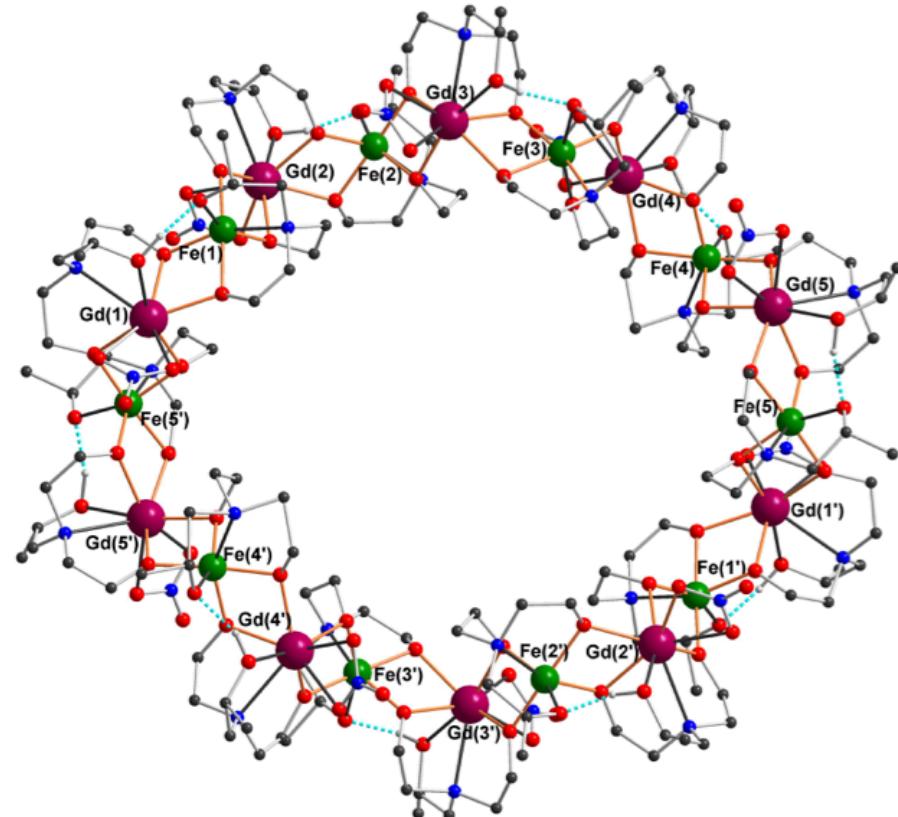
- Single Molecule Magnets (SMM): magnetic molecules with large ground state moment;
- Example:  $S = 10$  for  $\text{Mn}_{12}$  or  $\text{Fe}_8$ ;
- Anisotropy dominates approximate single-spin Hamiltonian:
$$\tilde{H} = -D\tilde{S}_z^2 + \tilde{H}', \quad [\tilde{S}_z, \tilde{H}'] \neq 0$$
- Single molecule shows: metastable magnetization, hysteresis, ground state magnetization tunneling, thermally and phonon assisted tunneling.
- Today's major efforts: improve stability of magnetization; investigate on surfaces.

# Start: experimental data

# $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – How to rationalize the experimental data?



# $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – structure = delta chain



green:  $\text{Fe} (s = 5/2)$ , purple:  $\text{Gd} (s = 7/2)$

A. Baniodeh *et al.*, *npj Quantum Materials* **3**, 10 (2018)

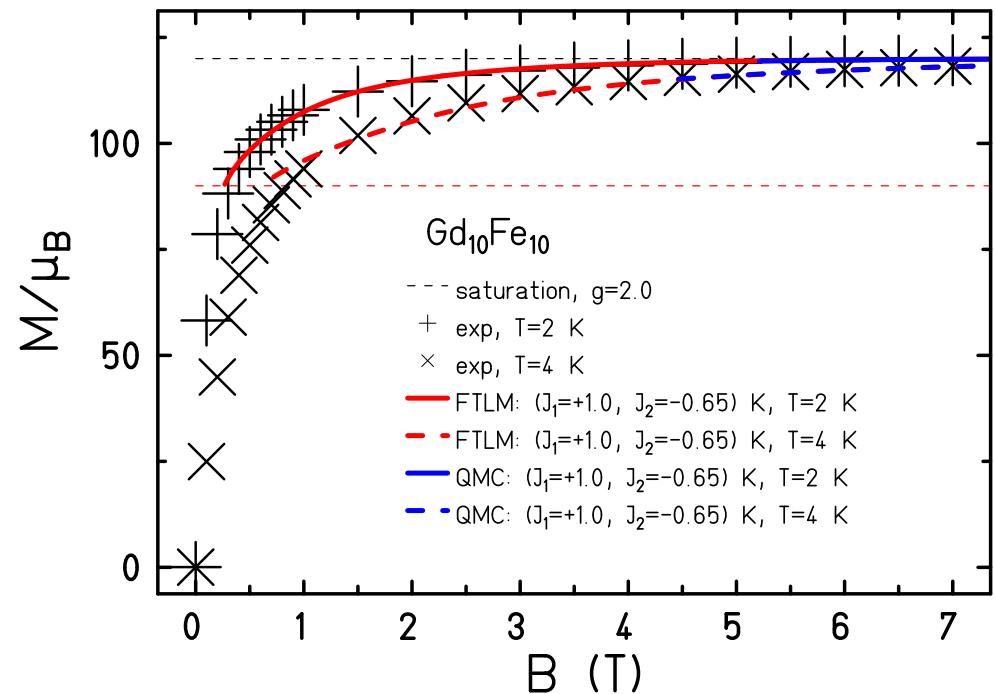
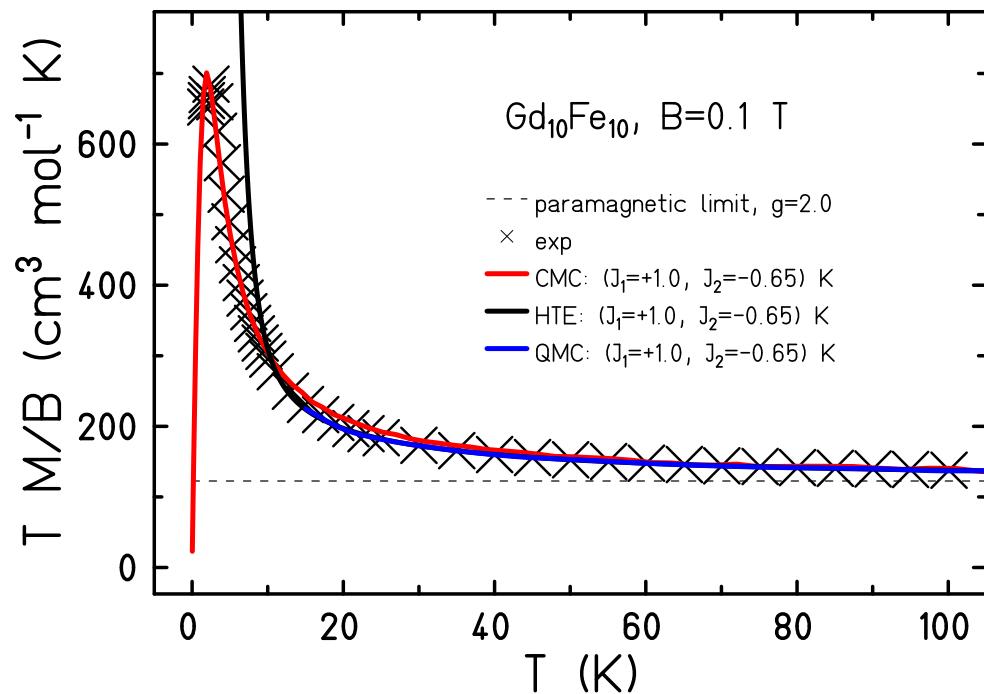
# Model Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{H} = & -2J_1 \sum_i \vec{s}_{\text{Gd},i} \cdot \left( \vec{s}_{\text{Fe},i} + \vec{s}_{\text{Fe},i+1} \right) \\ & -2J_2 \sum_i \vec{s}_{\text{Fe},i} \cdot \vec{s}_{\text{Fe},i+1} + g \mu_B B \sum_i \left( s_{\text{Gd},i}^z + s_{\text{Fe},i}^z \right) \end{aligned}$$

Dimension of Hilbert space  
 $(2s_{\text{Gd}} + 1)^{10}(2s_{\text{Fe}} + 1)^{10} \approx 6.5 \cdot 10^{16}$

What would you do?

## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – Methods



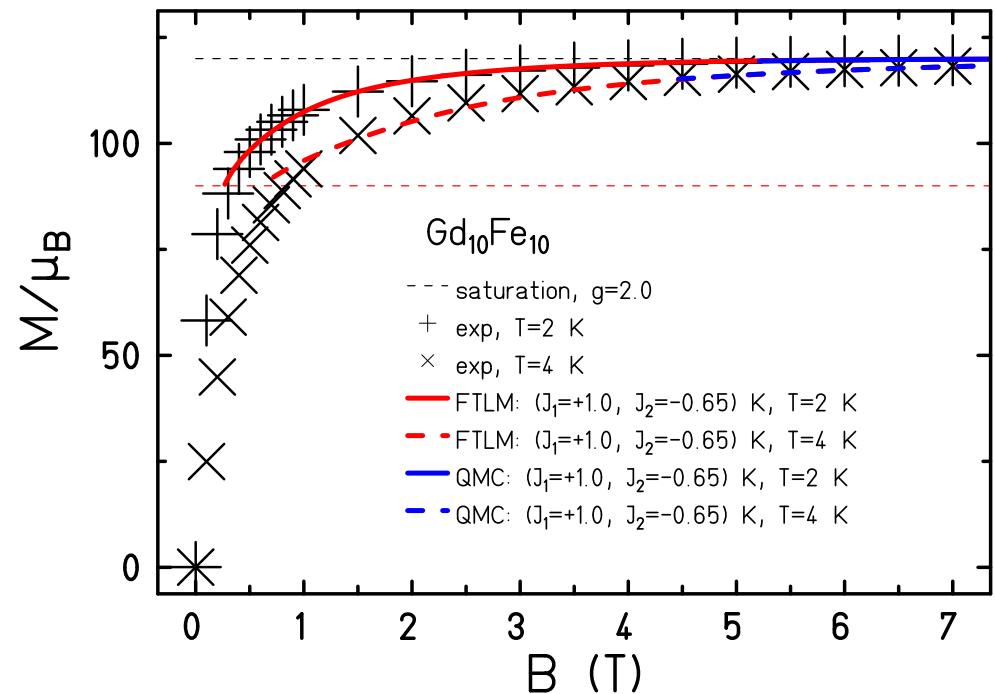
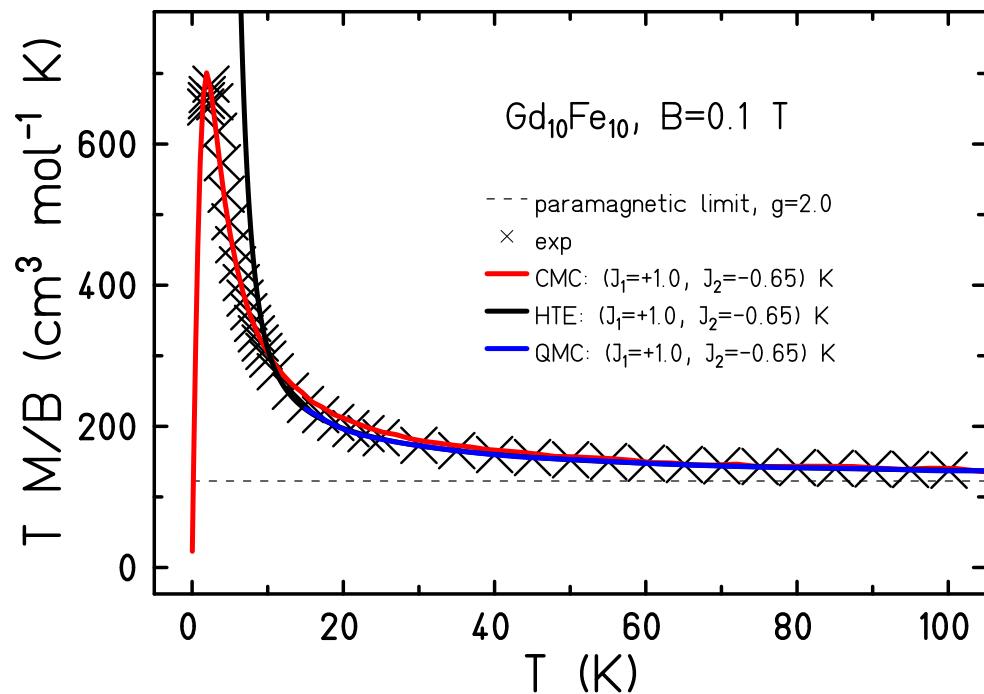
Methods: HTE, QMC, CMC, FTLM  $\Rightarrow J_1 = 1.0 \text{ K}, J_2 = -0.65 \text{ K}$

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## Summary: theory methods

- **Complete diagonalization:** exact; spectra, transitions, observables, time-evolution; Dimension of largest Hilbert space  $< 10^5$ .
- **Finite Temperature Lanczos Method (FTLM):** pseudo-spectrum, low-lying levels good, transitions, observables, time-evolution; DoH  $< 10^{10}$ .
- **Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC):** observables; bad/no convergence for competing interactions (frustration) due to negative sign problem; otherwise HUGE systems possible.
- **Density Matrix Renormalization Group (DMRG):** low-lying target states, correlation functions, short time evolution, maybe thermodynamics; best for 1-d; HUGE systems possible.
- **Numerical Renormalization Group (NRG):** Kondo or Anderson impurity problems; logarithmic discretization of density of states of conduction electrons; observables as function of  $T$  and  $B$ .

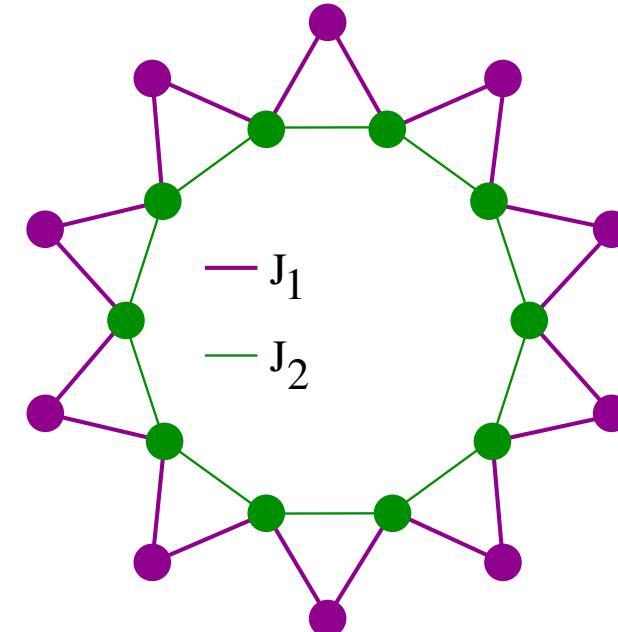
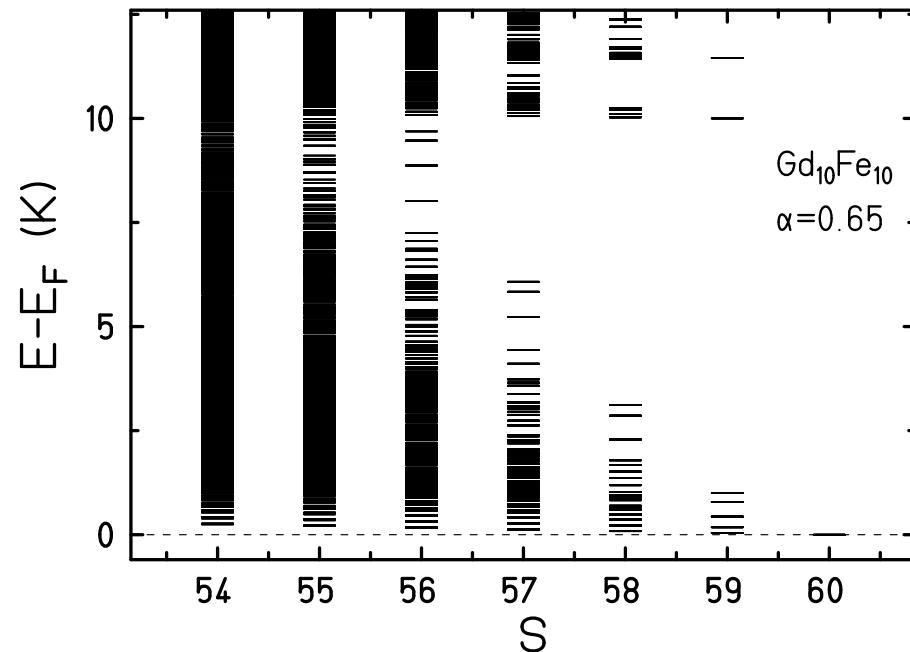
# $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – Methods



Methods: HTE, QMC, CMC, FTLM  $\Rightarrow J_1 = 1.0 \text{ K}, J_2 = -0.65 \text{ K}$

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## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10} - S = 60$

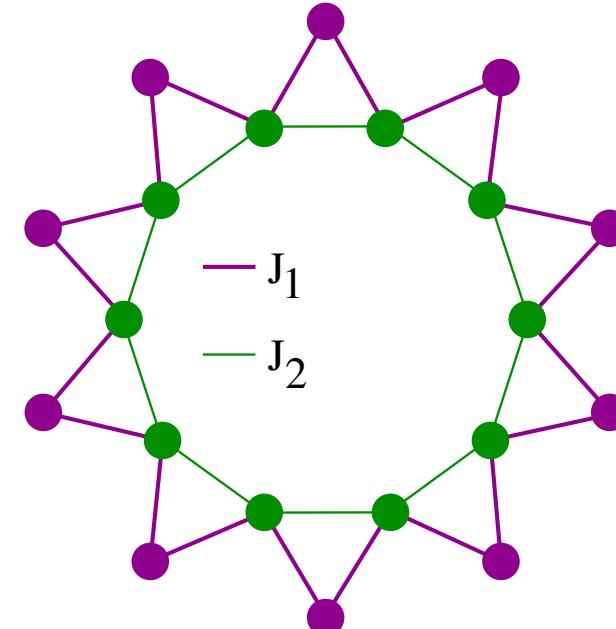
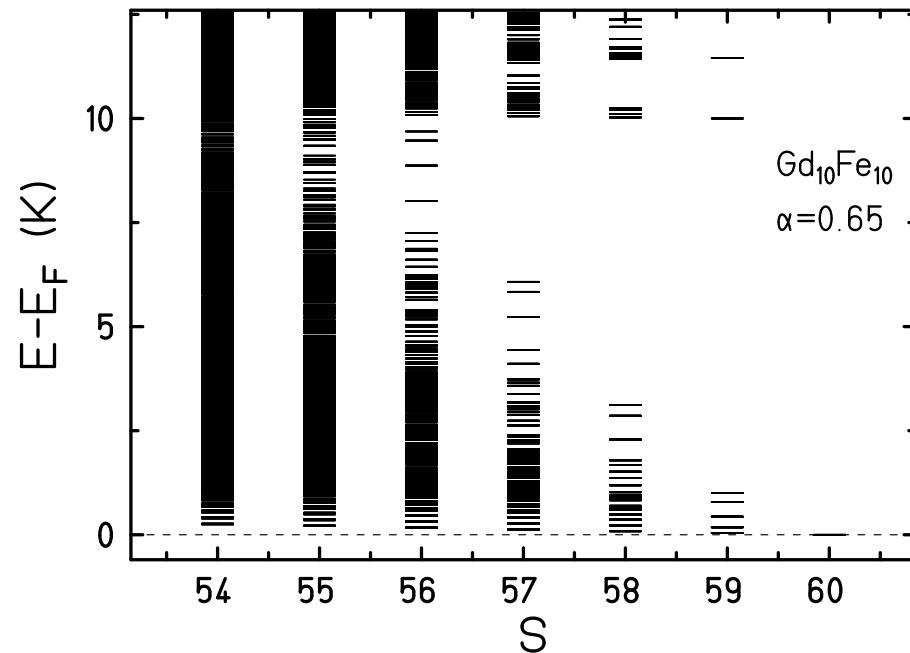


⇒  $S = 60$ , largest ground state spin of a molecule to date

⇒  $\alpha_{\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}} = |J_2|/J_1 = 0.65$  What if  $J_2$  stronger?

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## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10} - S = 60$

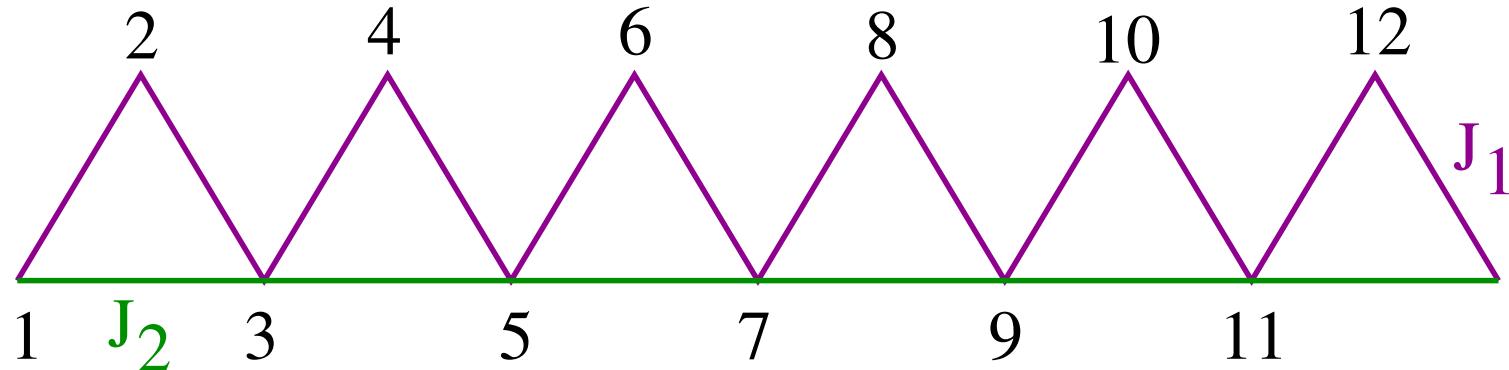


⇒  $S = 60$ , largest ground state spin of a molecule to date for about one month 😊

⇒  $\alpha_{\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}} = |J_2|/J_1 = 0.65$  What if  $J_2$  stronger?

😊 Wei-Peng Chen, Jared Singleton, Lei Qin, Agustin Camon, Larry Engelhardt, Fernando Luis, Richard E. P. Winpenny, Yan-Zhen Zheng, Quantum Monte Carlo simulations of a giant  $\{\text{Ni}_{21}\text{Gd}_{20}\}$  cage with a  $S = 91$  spin ground state, Nature Communications **9**, 2107 (2018)

## Excusus: sawtooth (delta) chain



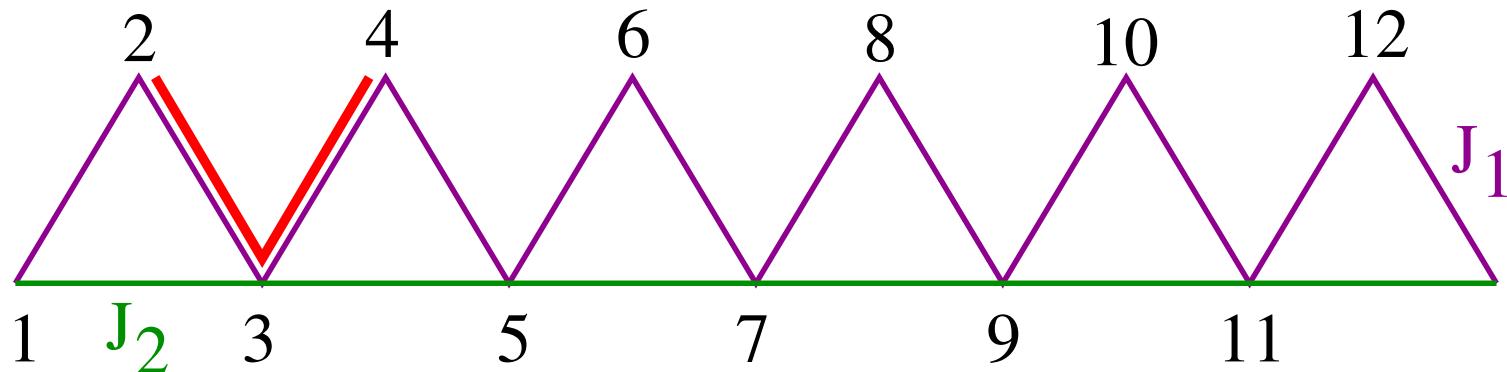
⇒ special properties for  $J_1 > 0$  (ferro) and  $J_2 < 0$  (af) at certain  $\alpha_c$

e.g.  $\alpha_c = |J_2|/J_1 = 0.5$  if  $s_i = 1/2 \forall i$

⇒ flat band of (multi-) magnon states; huge ground state degeneracy (1,2)

- (1) V. Y. Krivnov, D. V. Dmitriev, S. Nishimoto, S.-L. Drechsler, and J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **90**, 014441 (2014).  
(2) D. V. Dmitriev and V. Y. Krivnov, Phys. Rev. B **92**, 184422 (2015).

## Excusus: sawtooth (delta) chain



$\Rightarrow |F\rangle = |S = S_{\max}, M = S_{\max}\rangle$  fully polarized ferromagnetic state

$\Rightarrow |1 \text{ localized magnon at } (2,3,4)\rangle = (\tilde{s}_2^- + \tilde{s}_4^- + 2\tilde{s}_3^-)|F\rangle;$

$E = E_F, M = S_{\max} - 1$

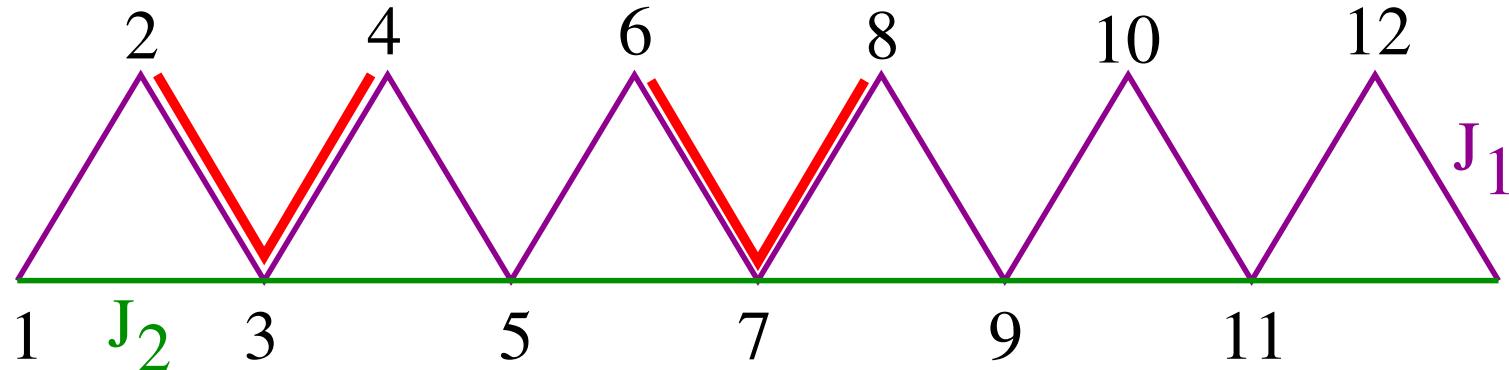
$\Rightarrow$  Can be everywhere. Flat band in one-magnon space. Degenerate with  $|F\rangle$ .

(1) V. Y. Krivnov, D. V. Dmitriev, S. Nishimoto, S.-L. Drechsler, and J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **90**, 014441 (2014).

(2) D. V. Dmitriev and V. Y. Krivnov, Phys. Rev. B **92**, 184422 (2015).

(3) J. Schnack, Contemporary Physics (2019), doi:10.1080/00107514.2019.1615716

## Excusus: sawtooth (delta) chain



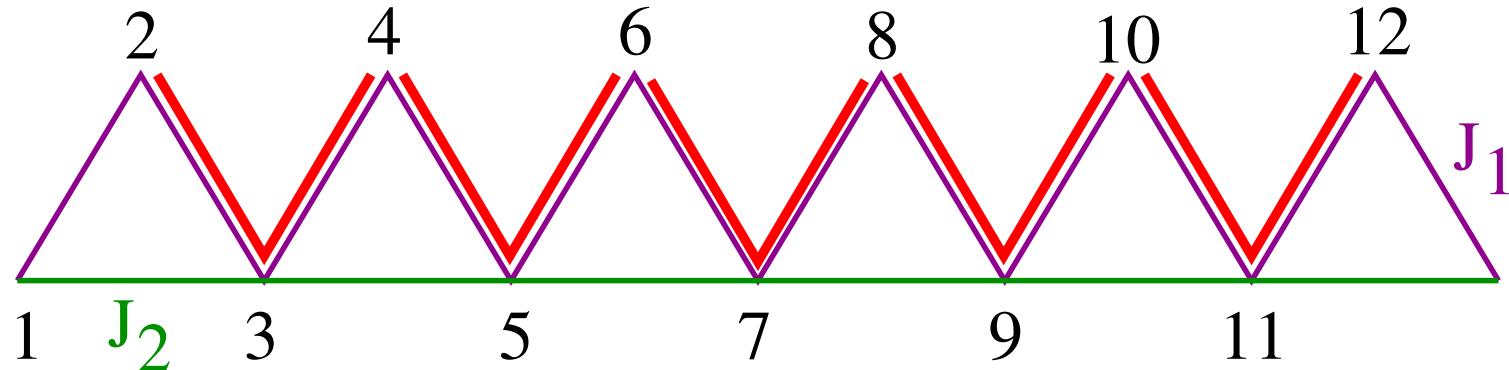
⇒ | 2 localized magnons  $\rangle$ ;  $E = E_F, M = S_{\max} - 2$

⇒ Can be everywhere. Flat band in two-magnon space. Degenerate with  $| F \rangle$ .

(1) V. Y. Krivnov, D. V. Dmitriev, S. Nishimoto, S.-L. Drechsler, and J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **90**, 014441 (2014).

(2) D. V. Dmitriev and V. Y. Krivnov, Phys. Rev. B **92**, 184422 (2015).

## Excusus: sawtooth (delta) chain



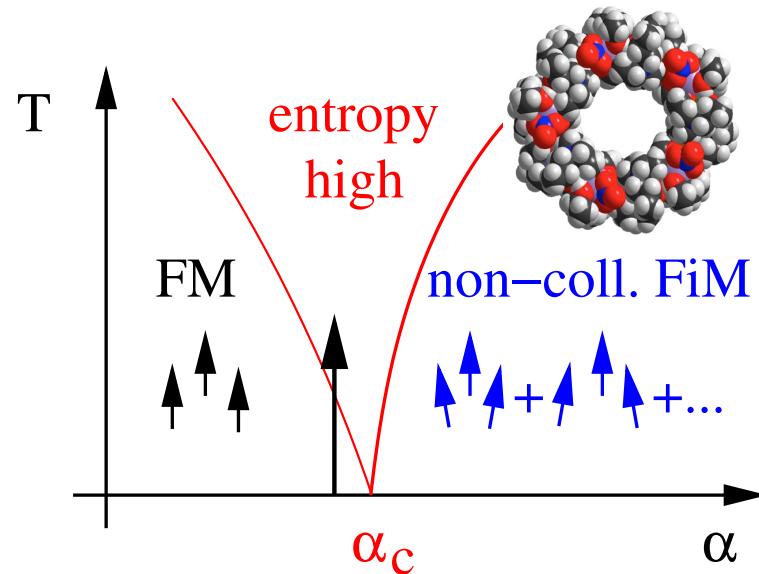
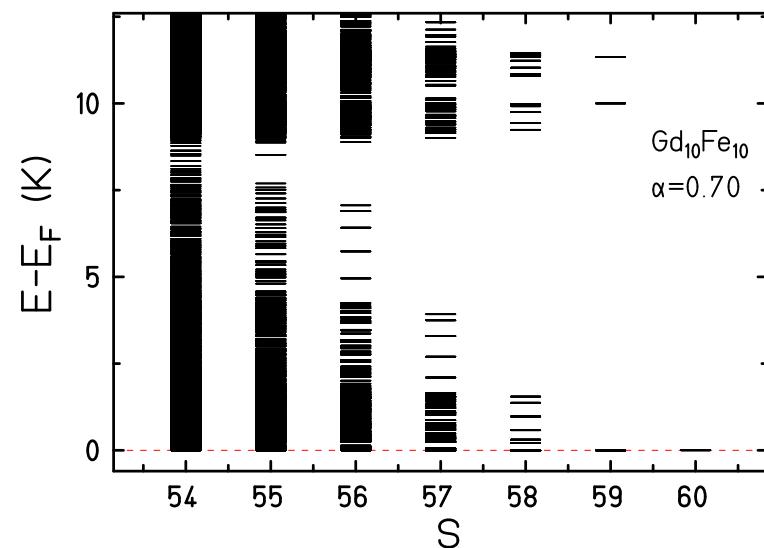
⇒ | max. number of localized magnons  $\rangle$ ;  $E = E_F, M = S_{\max} - N/2$

⇒ Macroscopic number of localized magnons. Degenerate with  $| F \rangle$ .

⇒ Extensive entropy.

- (1) V. Y. Krivnov, D. V. Dmitriev, S. Nishimoto, S.-L. Drechsler, and J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **90**, 014441 (2014).  
(2) D. V. Dmitriev and V. Y. Krivnov, Phys. Rev. B **92**, 184422 (2015).

## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10} - \text{QCP}$



⇒ for  $s_1 = 5/2$  and  $s_2 = 7/2$ :  $\alpha_c = 0.70$

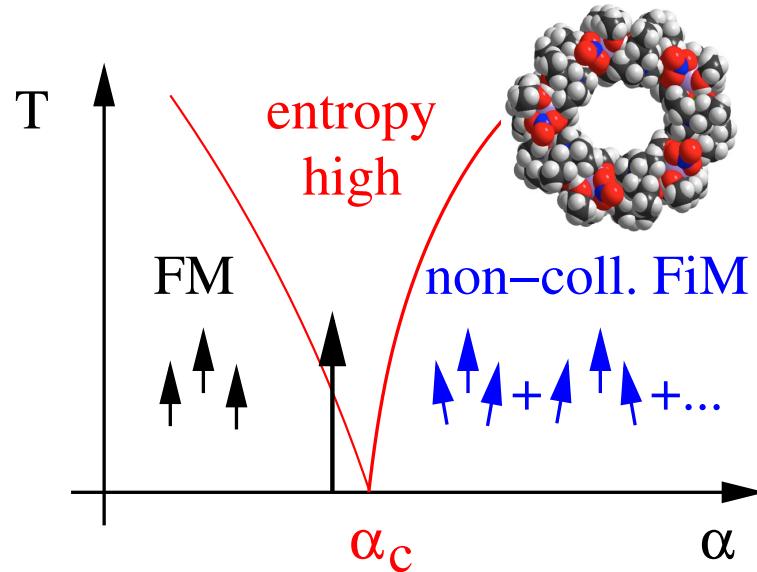
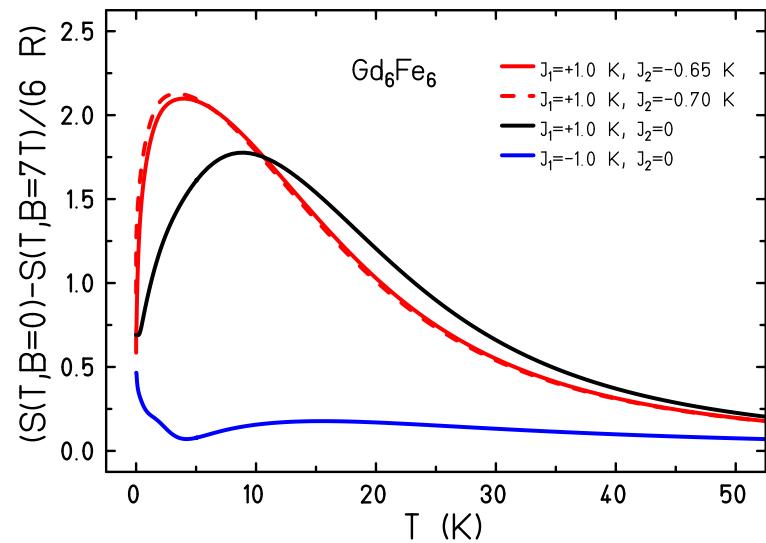
⇒ as function of  $\alpha$  Quantum Phase Transition at  $\alpha_c$   
from  $S = 60$  ground state to ground state with  $S = 54$ .  
( $\Delta S = N/4 + 1$  in general)

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# Quantum Phase Transition

Non-analytic behavior of thermodynamic functions at  $T = 0$  for variation of another external parameter, e.g. field, pressure; here  $\alpha$  – maybe varied by pressure.

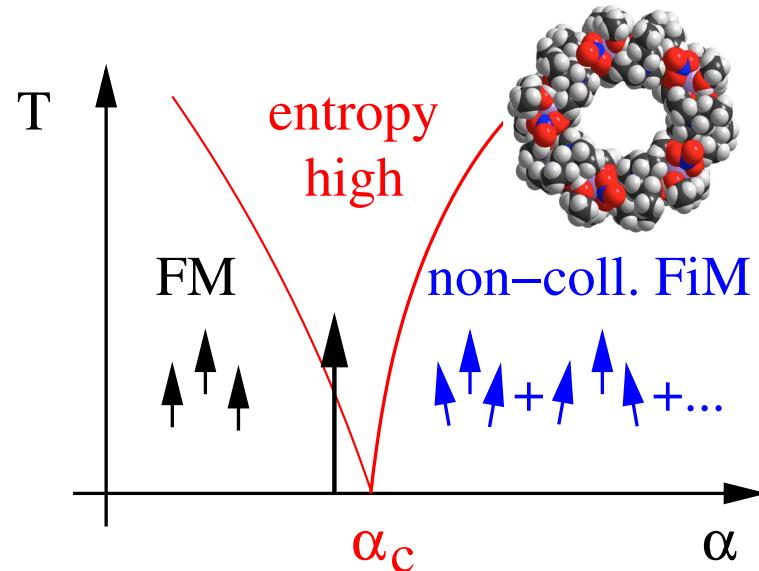
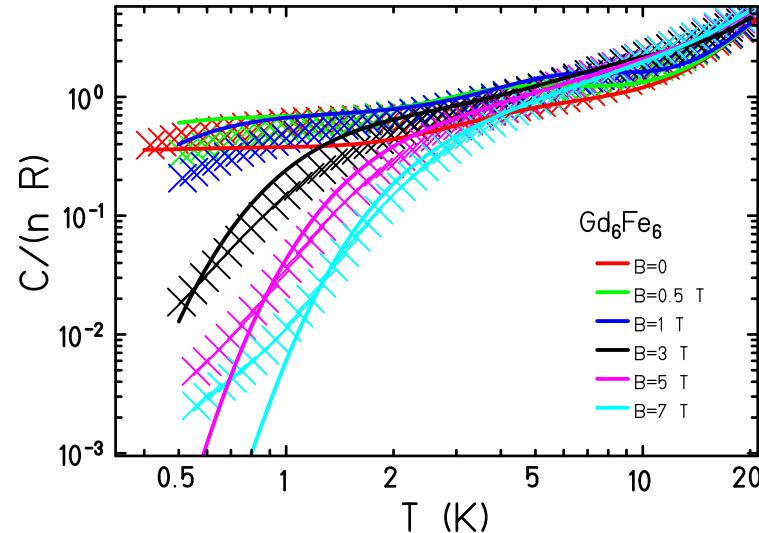
## Gd<sub>10</sub>Fe<sub>10</sub> – $T > 0$



- ⇒ although QPT and QCP at  $T = 0$ ,  
noticeable at elevated temperatures (arrow);
- ⇒ example isothermal entropy change:  
little difference between  $\alpha = 0.70$  and  $\alpha = 0.65$ .

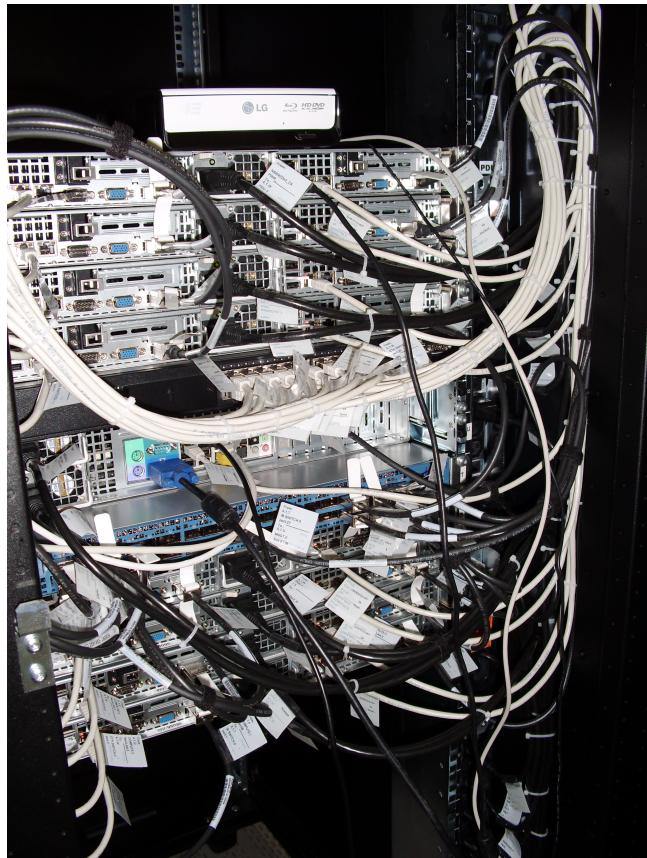
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## $\text{Gd}_{10}\text{Fe}_{10}$ – heat capacity



- ⇒ heat capacity assumes very large values even down to lowest temperatures;
- ⇒ evaluated by means of FTLM for a smaller (hypothetical) system  $\text{Gd}_6\text{Fe}_6$ ;
- ⇒ magnetic field separates  $S = 60$  ground state,  $C$  drops.

# Gd<sub>10</sub>Fe<sub>10</sub> – Summary



- Sawtooth chain has a rich phase diagram: magnetization plateaux, magnetization jumps, flat bands, quantum phase transitions.
- Gd<sub>10</sub>Fe<sub>10</sub> is a lucky punch.
- Largest ground state spin of a single molecule to date:  $S = 60$ .
- Quantum Phase Transition observable in a molecule with structure of a sawtooth chain.  
⇐ And yes, we use big computers.

A. Baniodeh, N. Magnani, Y. Lan, G. Buth, C.E. Anson, J. Richter, M. Affronte, J. Schnack, A.K. Powell, High Spin Cycles: Topping the Spin Record for a Single Molecule verging on Quantum Criticality, npj Quantum Materials **3**, 10 (2018)

# Many thanks to my collaborators



- C. Beckmann, M. Czopnik, T. Glaser, O. Hanebaum, Chr. Heesing, M. Höck, N.B. Ivanov, H.-T. Langwald, A. Müller, R. Schnalle, Chr. Schröder, J. Ummethum (Bielefeld)
- **K. Bärwinkel, H.-J. Schmidt, M. Neumann (Osnabrück)**
- M. Luban (Ames Lab); P. Kögerler (Aachen, Jülich, Ames); D. Collison, R.E.P. Winpenny, E.J.L. McInnes, F. Tuna (Man U); L. Cronin, M. Murrie (Glasgow); E. Brechin (Edinburgh); H. Nojiri (Sendai, Japan); A. Postnikov (Metz); M. Evangelisti (Zaragoza); A. Honecker (U de Cergy-Pontoise); E. Garlatti, S. Carretta, G. Amoretti, P. Santini (Parma); A. Tenant (ORNL); Gopalan Rajaraman (Mumbai); **M. Affronte (Modena)**
- **J. Richter**, J. Schulenburg (Magdeburg); B. Lake (HMI Berlin); B. Büchner, V. Kataev, H.-H. Klauß (Dresden); **A. Powell**, W. Wernsdorfer (Karlsruhe); E. Rentschler (Mainz); J. Wosnitza (Dresden-Rossendorf); J. van Slageren (Stuttgart); R. Klingeler (Heidelberg); O. Waldmann (Freiburg)

Thank you very much for your  
attention.

The end.

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