

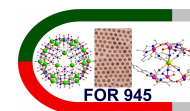
# Advanced quantum methods for the largest magnetic molecules

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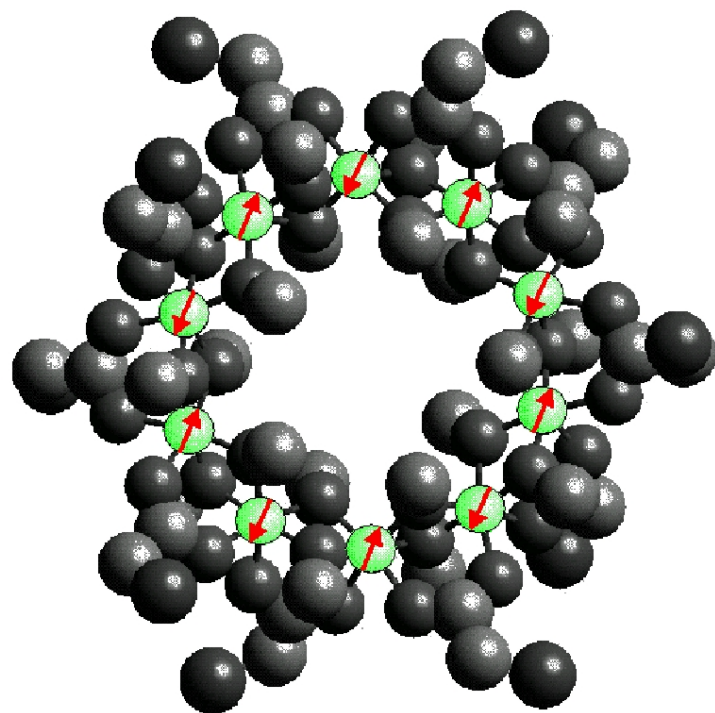
<http://obelix.physik.uni-bielefeld.de/~schnack/>

18th International School on Condensed Matter Physics  
Varna, Bulgaria, 1.-6. 9. 2014



# The problem

# You have got a molecule!

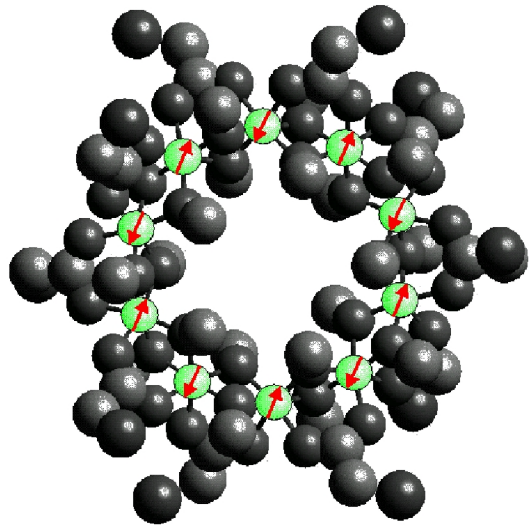


Congratulations!

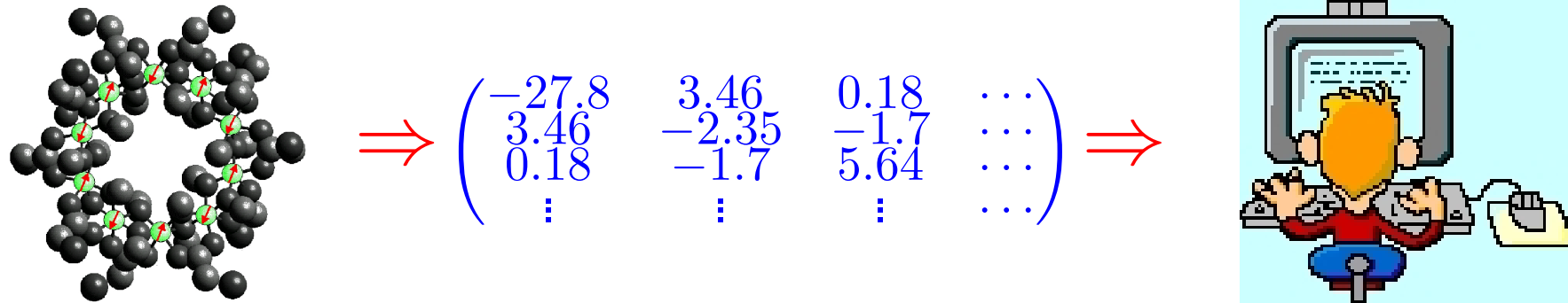
# You have got an idea about the modeling!

$$\tilde{H} = -2 \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \vec{s}(i) \cdot \vec{s}(j) + g \mu_B B \sum_i^N s_z(i)$$

Heisenberg
Zeeman



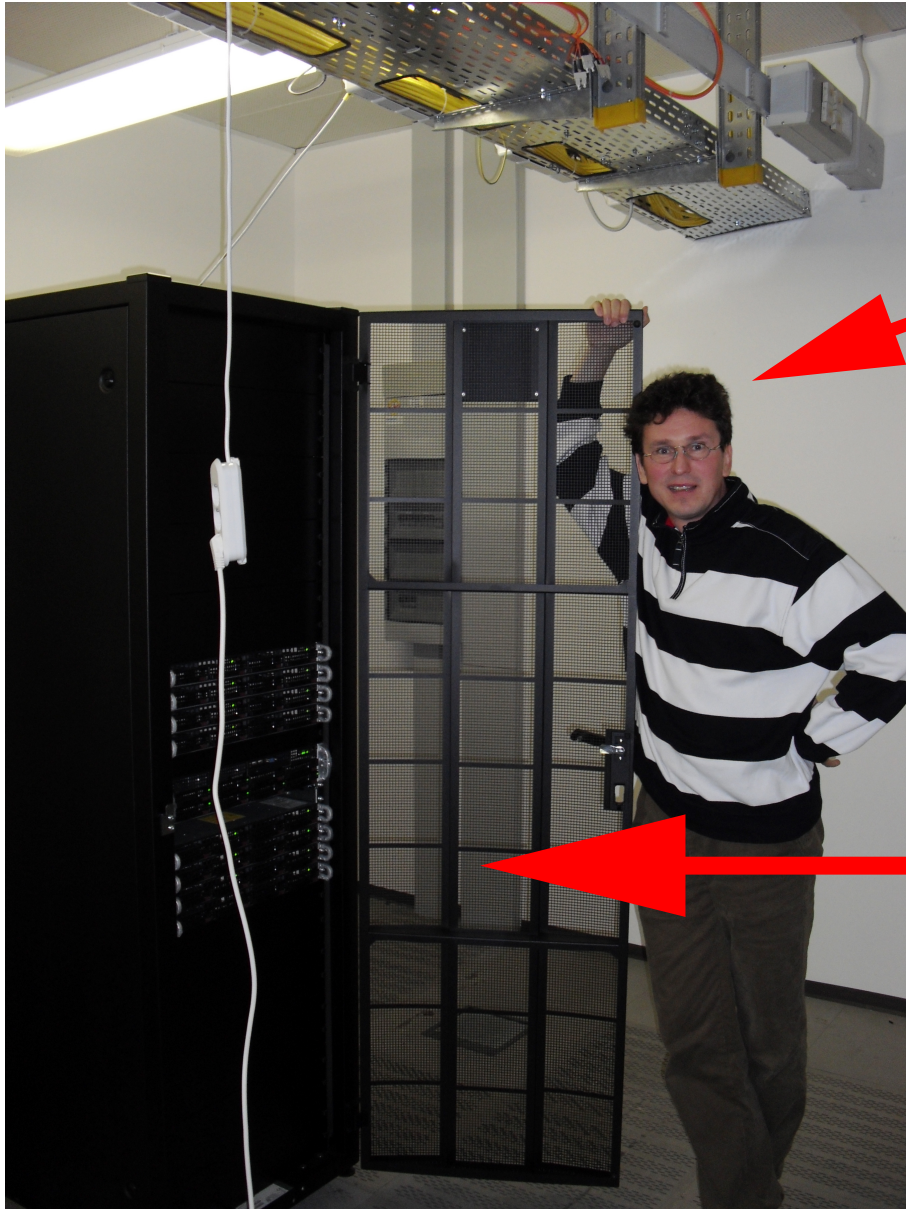
In the end it's always a big matrix!



$$\text{Fe}_{10}^{\text{III}}: N = 10, s = 5/2$$

Dimension=**60,466,176**. Maybe **too** big?

# Thank God, we have computers



“Espresso-doped multi-core”

128 cores, 384 GB RAM

... but that's not enough!

# Contents for you today

## Introduction to molecular magnetism

### Traditional approach

1. Complete diagonalization, easy
2. Complete diagonalization, SU(2) & point groups

### Approximate methods

1. Finite-temperature Lanczos
2. DMRG & DDMRG
3. QMC

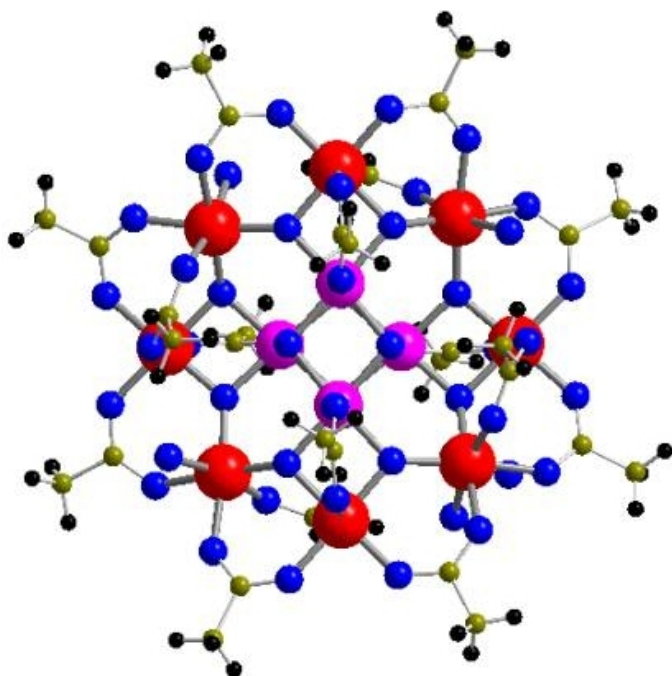
+ NRG

+ examples, examples, examples

# Beauty of Magnetic Molecules



# The beauty of magnetic molecules I

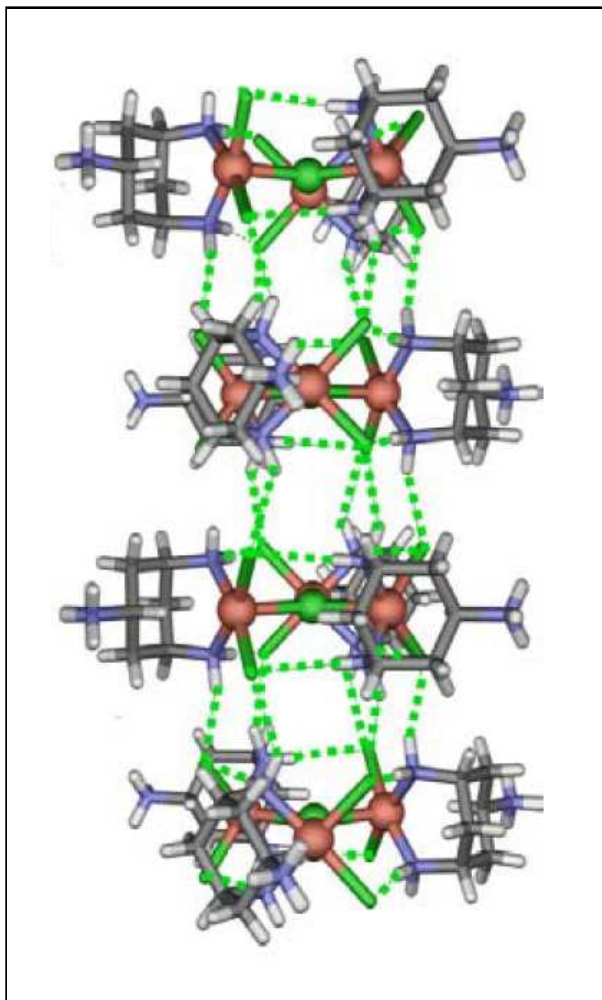


Mn<sub>12</sub>

- 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.

*Magnetism goes Nano*, Ed. Stefan Blügel, Thomas Brückel, and Claus M. Schneider, FZ Jülich, Institute of Solid State Research, Lecture Notes **36** Jülich 2005

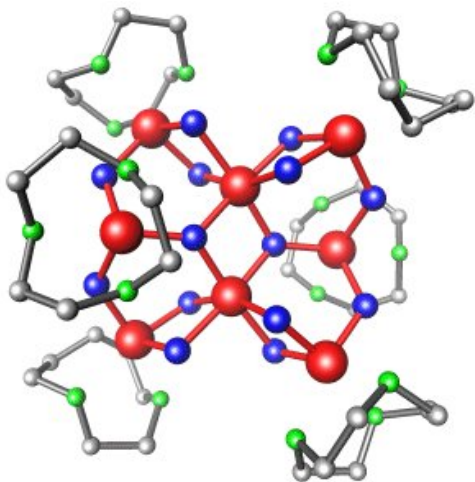
## The beauty of magnetic molecules II



- 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:

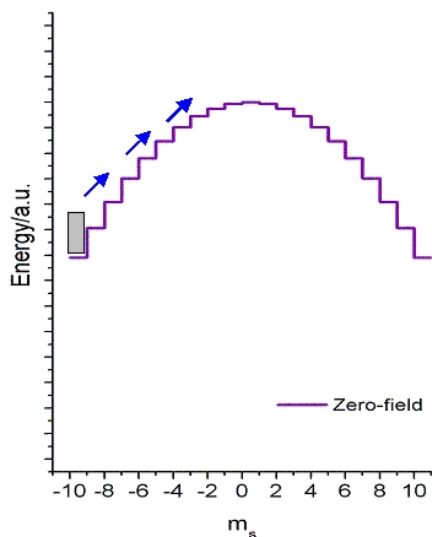
J. Schnack, H. Nojiri, P. Kögerler, G. J. T. Cooper, L. Cronin, Phys. Rev. B 70, 174420 (2004)

# The beauty of magnetic molecules III



- Single Molecule Magnets (SMM): magnetic molecules with large ground state moment;
- Example:  $S = 10$  for  $Mn_{12}$  or  $Fe_8$ ;
- Anisotropy dominates approximate single-spin Hamiltonian:

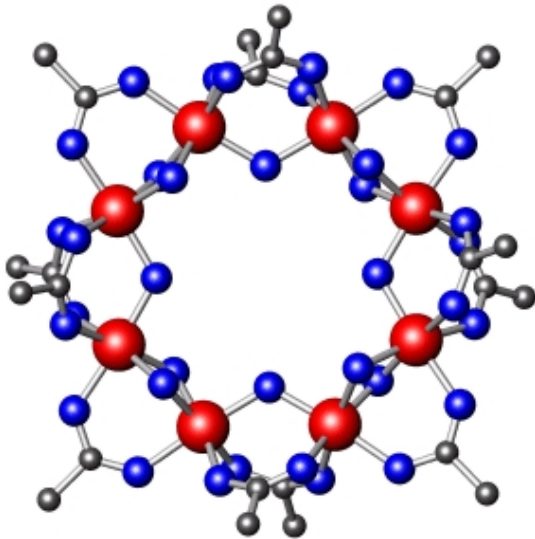
$$\underline{H} = -D\underline{S}_z^2 + \underline{H}', \quad [\underline{S}_z, \underline{H}'] \neq 0$$



- 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.

# The beauty of magnetic molecules IV

## Why magnetic molecules?



Cr<sub>8</sub>

- Interacting spin system largely decoupled from remaining degrees of freedom;
- Transition few-spin system  $\Rightarrow$  many-spin system, contribution to understanding of bulk magnetism;
- Transition quantum spin system ( $s = 1/2$ )  $\Rightarrow$  classical spin system ( $s_{\text{Fe}} = 5/2$ ,  $s_{\text{Gd}} = 7/2$ );
- Easy to produce, single crystals with  $> 10^{17}$  identical molecules can be synthesized and practically completely characterized;
- **Speculative applications: magnetic storage devices, magnets in biological systems, light-induced nano switches, displays, catalysts, qubits for quantum computers.**

# Complete diagonalization: The easy version

Most physicists do this!

## Model Hamiltonian – Heisenberg and more

$$\underline{H} = -2 \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \vec{\underline{s}}_i \cdot \vec{\underline{s}}_j + \sum_{i,j} \vec{\underline{s}}_i \cdot \mathbf{D}_{ij} \cdot \vec{\underline{s}}_j + \mu_B B \sum_i^N g_i \underline{s}_i^z$$

Heisenberg
Anisotropy, ...
Zeeman

The Heisenberg model including anisotropy, and dipol-dipol interaction if necessary, as well as a Zeeman term describes the magnetic spectrum of many molecules with high accuracy.

**Reason:** Ions of the iron group have quenched angular momentum  $\langle \underline{l} \rangle \approx 0$  due to chemical binding, remaining spin-orbit coupling treated perturbatively with the help of anisotropy terms. This is different for rare earth ions!

Since the dimension of Hilbert space equals  $(2s + 1)^N$  the Hamiltonian can be diagonalized completely for small molecules. For larger ones approximate methods are used.

## Product basis and symmetries

Product basis, total dimension:  $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = (2s + 1)^N$

$$\tilde{S}_u^z |m_1, \dots, m_u, \dots, m_N\rangle = m_u |m_1, \dots, m_u, \dots, m_N\rangle$$

These states span the Hilbert space and are used to construct symmetry-related basis states. Use  $a_u = s_u - m_u$  for computation (integer).

Symmetries of the Heisenberg model without anisotropy

$$\left[ \tilde{H}, \tilde{S}^2 \right] = 0 \quad , \quad \left[ \tilde{H}, \tilde{S}_z \right] = 0$$

Additional (point group) symmetries are possible, e.g. shifts on a ring molecule.

# Decomposition into mutually orthogonal subspaces

If  $[\underline{H}, \underline{S}_z] = 0$ , the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  can be decomposed into mutually orthogonal subspaces  $\mathcal{H}(M)$  ( $M$  is the quantum number belonging to  $\underline{S}_z$ )

$$[\underline{H}, \underline{S}_z] = 0 \quad : \quad \mathcal{H} = \bigoplus_{M=-S_{\max}}^{+S_{\max}} \mathcal{H}(M), \quad S_{\max} = Ns$$

$\mathcal{H}(M)$  contains all states  $|m_1, \dots, m_u, \dots, m_N\rangle$  with  $\sum_i m_i = M$ .

The Hamiltonian is diagonalized in all subspaces separately. The dimension of the largest subspace determines whether a Hamiltonian can be diagonalized completely. If further symmetries apply this dimension will be further reduced.

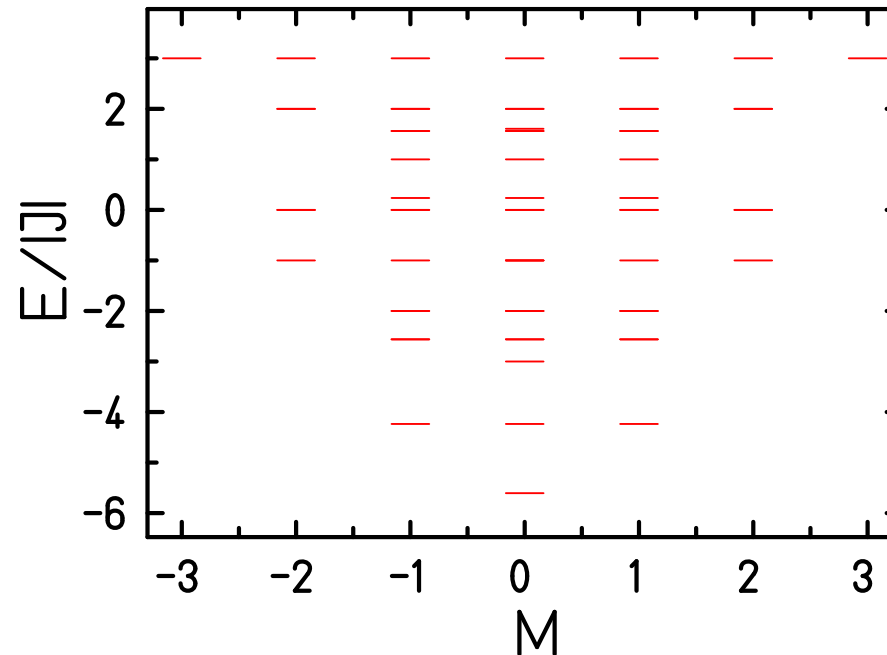
For practical purposes  $\vec{s}_i \cdot \vec{s}_j = s_i^z s_j^z + \frac{1}{2} [s_i^+ s_j^- + s_i^- s_j^+]$ .



## Example: spin ring with $N = 6, s = 1/2$

- Total dimension of  $\mathcal{H}$ :  $Dim(\mathcal{H}) = (2 \times 1/2 + 1)^6 = 64$ ;
- $M = 3$ :  $|\Omega\rangle = |+++++\rangle$ ;  $Dim(\mathcal{H}(M)) = 1$ ;
- $M = 2$ :  $| - + + + + \rangle$  and cyclic shifts;  $Dim(\mathcal{H}(M)) = 6$ ;
- $M = 1$ :  $| - - + + + \rangle, | - + - + + \rangle, | - + + - + \rangle$  and cyclic shifts;  
 $Dim(\mathcal{H}(M)) = 15$ ;
- $M = 0$ :  $| - - - + + \rangle, | - - + - + \rangle, | - + - - + \rangle, | - + - + - \rangle$   
and cyclic shifts;  $Dim(\mathcal{H}(M)) = 20$ ;
- Dimensional check:  $64 = 1 + 6 + 15 + 20 + 15 + 6 + 1 \checkmark$
- Inclusion of translational symmetry leads to orthogonal subspaces  $\mathcal{H}(M, k)$  with  $k = 0, \dots, 5$ . Then the largest dimension is 4.

# Exact diagonalization



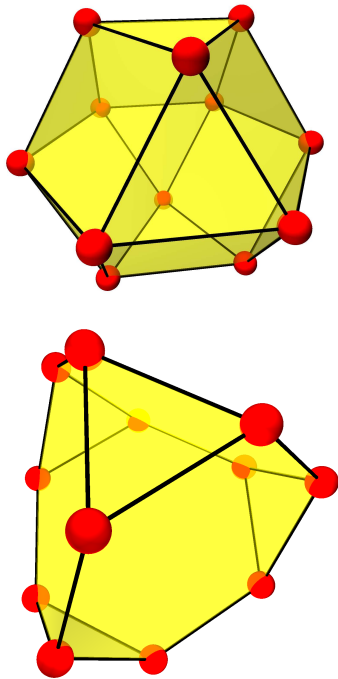
- Numerically exact diagonalization feasible up to RAM size;
- Example:  $10,000 \times 10,000$  complex\*16, 1.6 GB RAM needed;
- Not much we can do at this point, wait for more RAM 😊

# Complete diagonalization: SU(2) & point group symmetry

Quantum chemists need to be much smarter since they have smaller computers!

- (1) D. Gatteschi and L. Pardi, *Gazz. Chim. Ital.* **123**, 231 (1993).
- (2) J. J. Borrás-Almenar, J. M. Clemente-Juan, E. Coronado, and B. S. Tsukerblat, *Inorg. Chem.* **38**, 6081 (1999).
- (3) B. S. Tsukerblat, *Group theory in chemistry and spectroscopy: a simple guide to advanced usage*, 2nd ed. (Dover Publications, Mineola, New York, 2006).

# Irreducible Tensor Operator approach



## Spin rotational symmetry SU(2):

- $\underline{H} = -2 \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \underline{\tilde{S}}_i \cdot \underline{\tilde{S}}_j + g\mu_B \underline{\tilde{S}} \cdot \underline{\tilde{B}} ;$

- Physicists employ:  $[\underline{H}, \underline{S}_z] = 0;$

- Chemists employ:  $[\underline{H}, \underline{S}^2] = 0, [\underline{H}, \underline{S}_z] = 0;$

Irreducible Tensor Operator (ITO) approach;  
Free program MAGPACK (2) available.

(1) D. Gatteschi and L. Pardi, *Gazz. Chim. Ital.* **123**, 231 (1993).

(2) J. J. Borrás-Almenar, J. M. Clemente-Juan, E. Coronado, and B. S. Tsukerblat, *Inorg. Chem.* **38**, 6081 (1999).

(3) B. S. Tsukerblat, *Group theory in chemistry and spectroscopy: a simple guide to advanced usage*, 2nd ed. (Dover Publications, Mineola, New York, 2006).

# Point Group Symmetry

$$|\alpha' S M \Gamma\rangle = \mathcal{P}^{(\Gamma)} |\alpha S M\rangle = \left( \frac{l_{\Gamma}}{h} \sum_R \left( \chi^{(\Gamma)}(R) \right)^* \mathcal{G}(R) \right) |\alpha S M\rangle$$

## Method:

- Projection onto irreducible representations  $\Gamma$  of the point group (1,2);
- No free program, things are a bit complicated (3,4).

(1) M. Tinkham, *Group Theory and Quantum Mechanics*, Dover.

(2) D. Gatteschi and L. Pardi, *Gazz. Chim. Ital.* **123**, 231 (1993).

(3) O. Waldmann, *Phys. Rev. B* **61**, 6138 (2000).

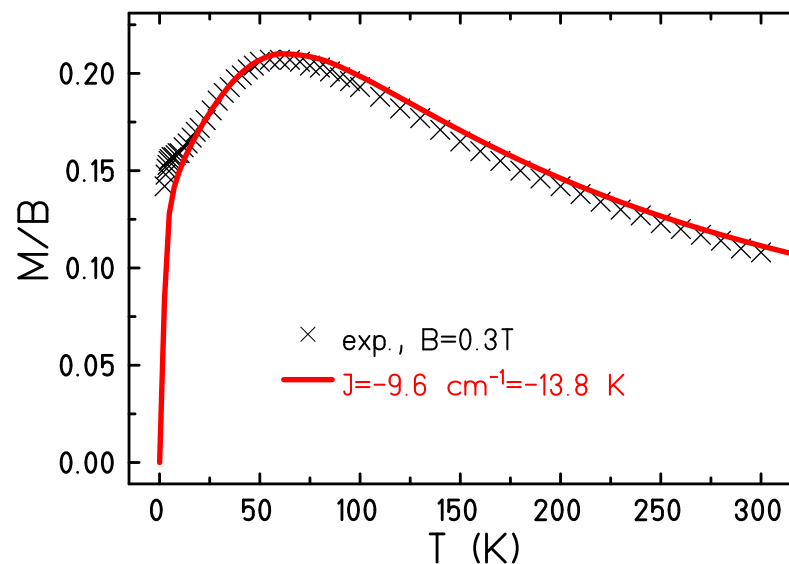
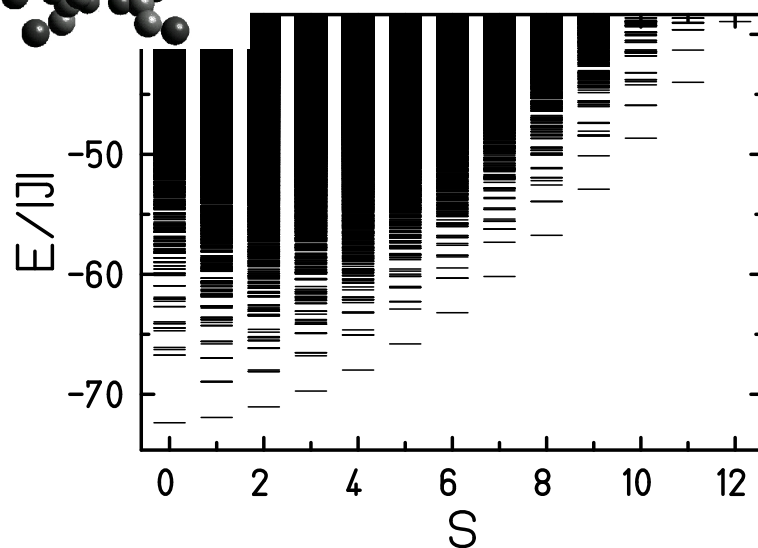
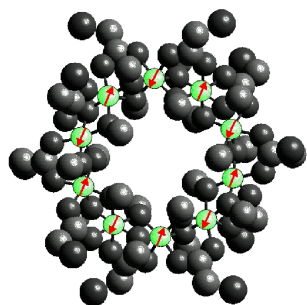
(4) R. Schnalle and J. Schnack, *Int. Rev. Phys. Chem.* **29**, 403-452 (2010)  $\Leftarrow$  contains EVERYTHING.

# Decomposition of Hamilton Matrix

$M_1$ $\Gamma_1$	0	0	0
0	$M_1$ $\Gamma_2$	0	0
0	0	$M_2$ $\Gamma_1$	0
0	0	0	$M_2$ $\Gamma_2$

Block diagonal due to symmetry-adapted basis.  
Only separate blocks need to be diagonalized.

# Example: Fe<sub>10</sub>



Spin ring,  $N = 10$ ,  $s = 5/2$ , Hilbert space dimension 60,466,176; symmetry  $D_2$  (1).

- (1) R. Schnalle and J. Schnack, *Int. Rev. Phys. Chem.* **29**, 403-452 (2010).
- (2) C. Delfs *et al.*, *Inorg. Chem.* **32**, 3099 (1993).

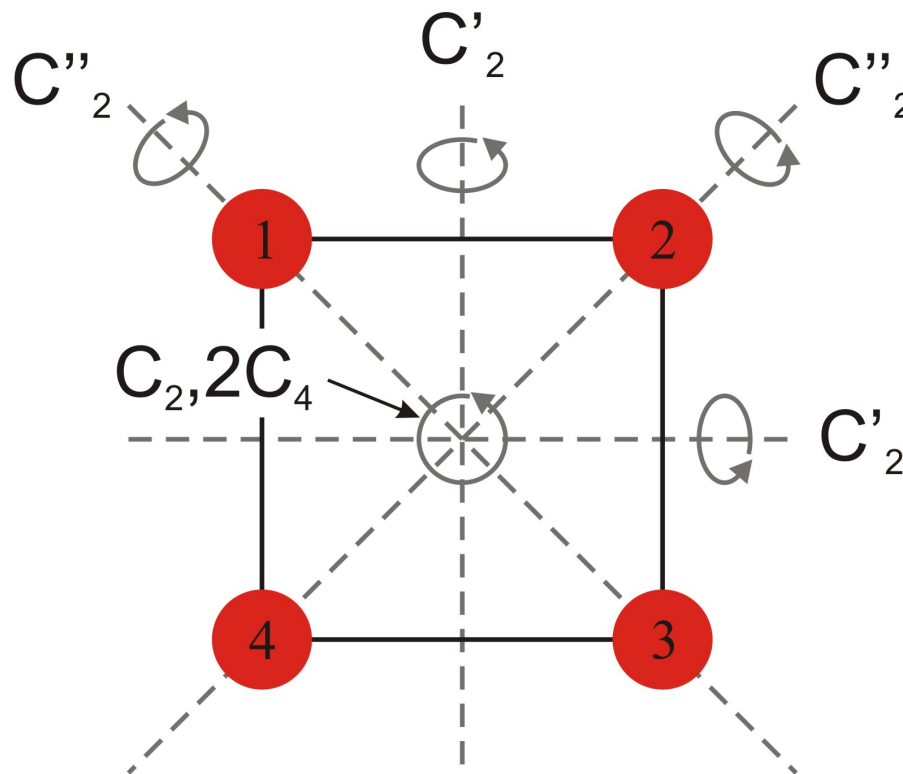
# Point Group Symmetry II

$$\tilde{G}(R) |\alpha S M\rangle_a = |\alpha S M\rangle_b = \sum_{\alpha'} |\alpha' S M\rangle_a {}_a\langle \alpha' S M | \alpha S M \rangle_b$$

- Serious problem: application of  $\tilde{G}(R)$ , i.e. permutation of spins, leads to different coupling schemes:  $a \Rightarrow b$ ;
- Solution: implementation of graph-theoretical results to evaluate recoupling coefficients  ${}_a\langle \alpha' S M | \alpha S M \rangle_b$ .

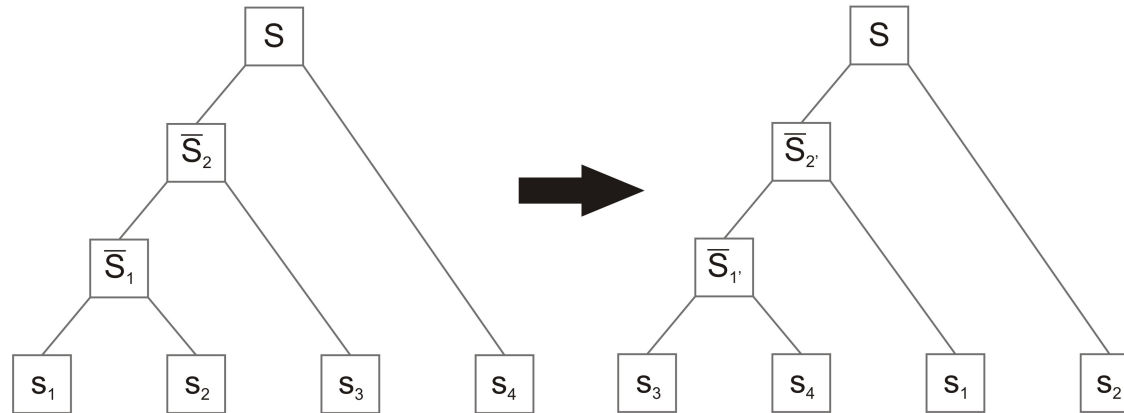


# Point Group Symmetry III – example square



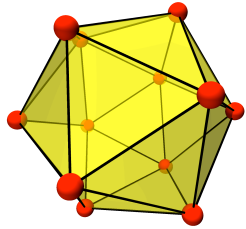
$$|s_1 s_2 \bar{s}_1 s_3 \bar{s}_2 s_4 SM\rangle \xrightarrow{\tilde{G}(3412)} |s_3 s_4 \bar{s}_1' s_1 \bar{s}_2' s_2 SM\rangle$$

# Point Group Symmetry IV – binary trees

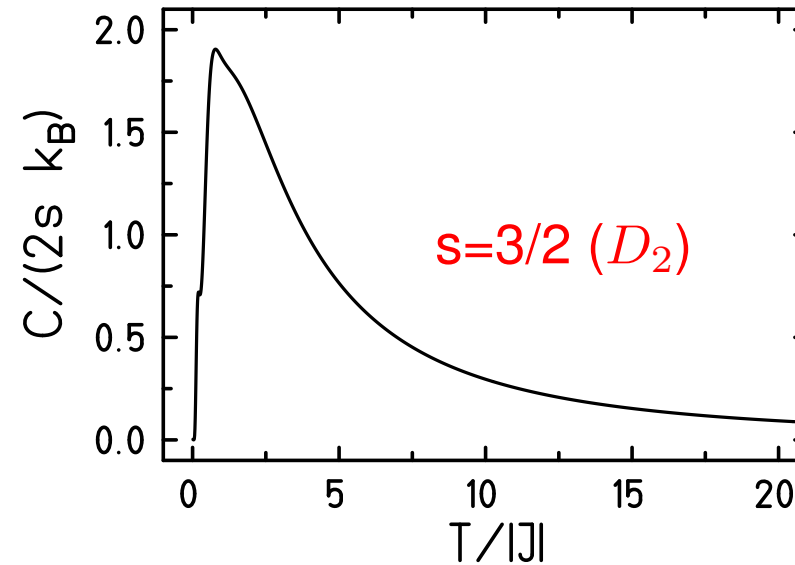
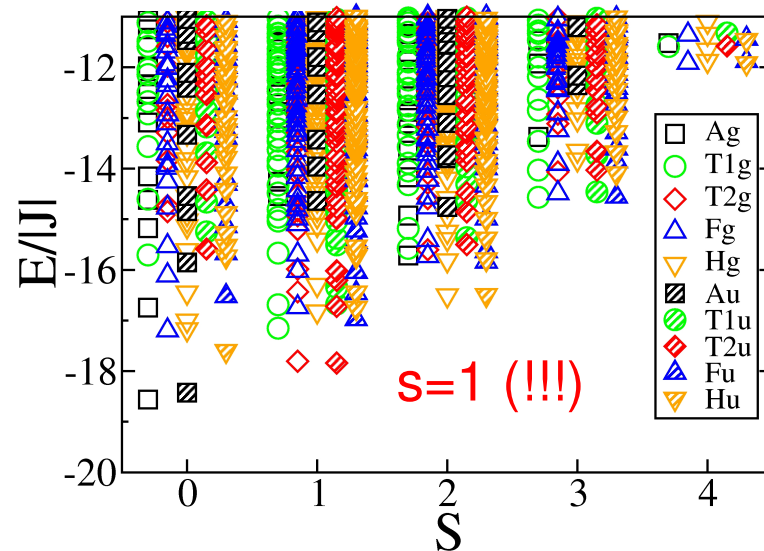


- Recoupling coefficient  $\langle s_1 s_2 \bar{S}_1 s_3 \bar{S}_2 s_4 S M | s_3 s_4 \bar{S}_{1'} s_1 \bar{S}_{2'} s_2 S M \rangle$  can be evaluated by a graphical transformation of one binary tree into the other (1,2).
- Exchange and flop operations generate a recoupling formula consisting of square roots, Wigner-6J symbols, and sums over intermediate spins.
- Open question: optimal coupling for a given symmetry? (3)

(1) V. Fack, S. N. Pitre, and J. van der Jeugt, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* **86**, 105 (1995).  
 (2) V. Fack, S. N. Pitre, and J. van der Jeugt, *Comp. Phys. Comm.* **101**, 155 (1997).  
 (3) M. Geisler, Bachelor Thesis, Bielefeld University (2010).



## Example: Icosahedron



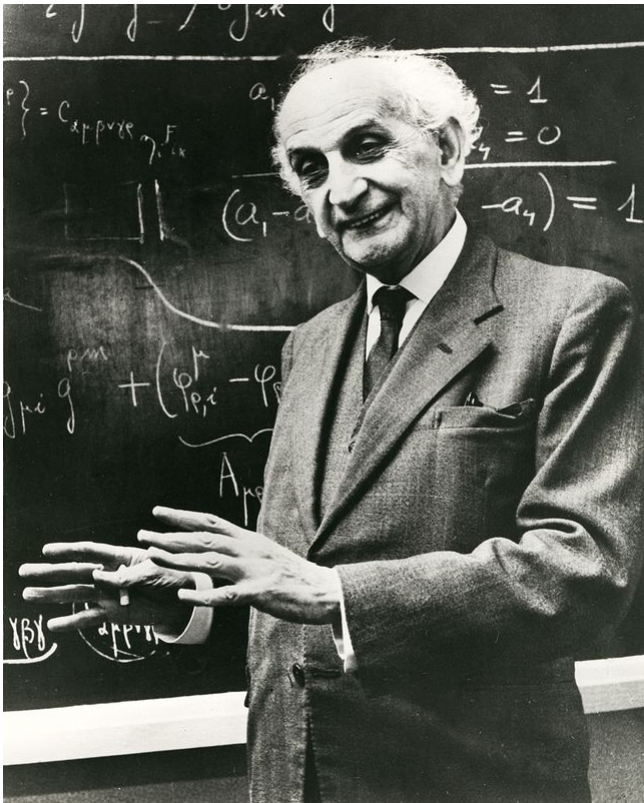
Icosahedron,  $s = 3/2$ , Hilbert space dimension 16,777,216; symmetry  $I_h$ ;  
 Evaluation of recoupling coefficients for  $s = 3/2$  in  $I_h$  **practically impossible** (1).

(1) R. Schnalle and J. Schnack, Int. Rev. Phys. Chem. **29**, 403-452 (2010).

# Finite-temperature Lanczos Method

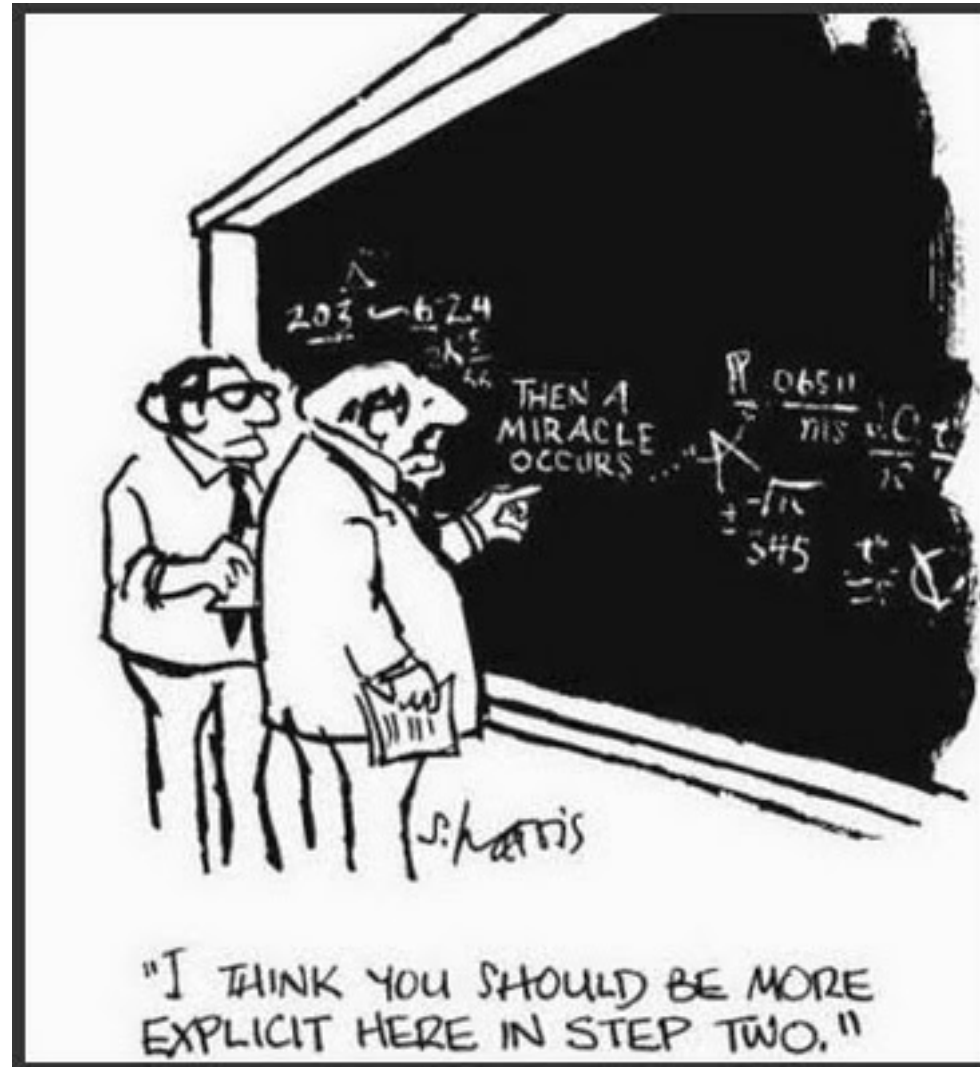
(Good for dimensions up to  $10^{10}$ .)

# Lanczos – a Krylov space method



- Idea: exact diagonalization in reduced basis sets.
- But which set to choose???
- Idea: generate the basis set with the operator you want to diagonalize:  
 $\{ |\phi\rangle, \tilde{H}|\phi\rangle, \tilde{H}^2|\phi\rangle, \tilde{H}^3|\phi\rangle, \dots \}$
- But which starting vector to choose???
- Idea: almost any will do!
- Cornelius Lanczos (Lánczos Kornél, 1893-1974)

(1) C. Lanczos, J. Res. Nat. Bur. Stand. **45**, 255 (1950).



# Finite-temperature Lanczos Method I

$$Z(T, B) = \sum_{\nu} \langle \nu | \exp \{ -\beta \tilde{H} \} | \nu \rangle$$

$$\langle \nu | \exp \{ -\beta \tilde{H} \} | \nu \rangle \approx \sum_n \langle \nu | n(\nu) \rangle \exp \{ -\beta \epsilon_n \} \langle n(\nu) | \nu \rangle \quad (\text{Step 2})$$

$$Z(T, B) \approx \frac{\dim(\mathcal{H})}{R} \sum_{\nu=1}^R \sum_{n=1}^{N_L} \exp \{ -\beta \epsilon_n \} |\langle n(\nu) | \nu \rangle|^2$$

- $|n(\nu)\rangle$  n-th Lanczos eigenvector starting from  $|\nu\rangle$
- Partition function replaced by a small sum:  $R = 1 \dots 10, N_L \approx 100$ .

J. Jaklic and P. Prelovsek, Phys. Rev. B **49**, 5065 (1994).

## Finite-temperature Lanczos Method II

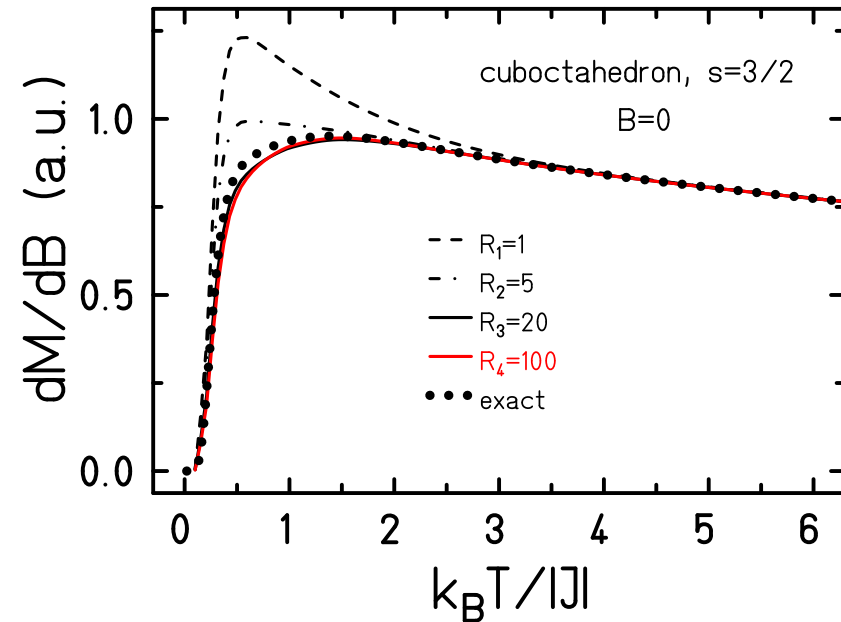
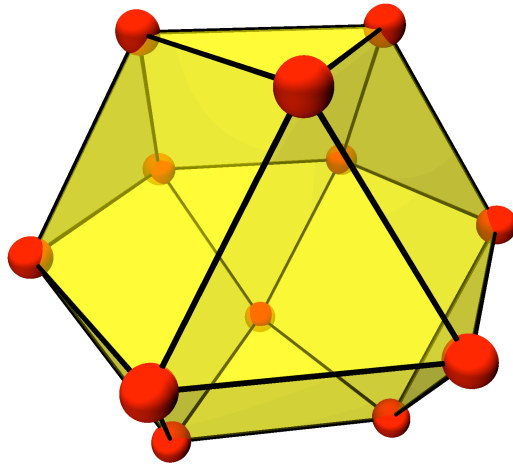
$$Z(T, B) \approx \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{\dim(\mathcal{H}(\Gamma))}{R_{\Gamma}} \sum_{\nu=1}^{R_{\Gamma}} \sum_{n=1}^{N_L} \exp\{-\beta\epsilon_n\} |\langle n(\nu, \Gamma) | \nu, \Gamma \rangle|^2$$

- Approximation better if symmetries taken into account.
- $\Gamma$  denotes the used irreducible representations.

J. Schnack and O. Wendland, Eur. Phys. J. B **78** (2010) 535-541



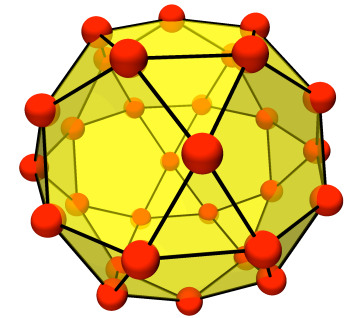
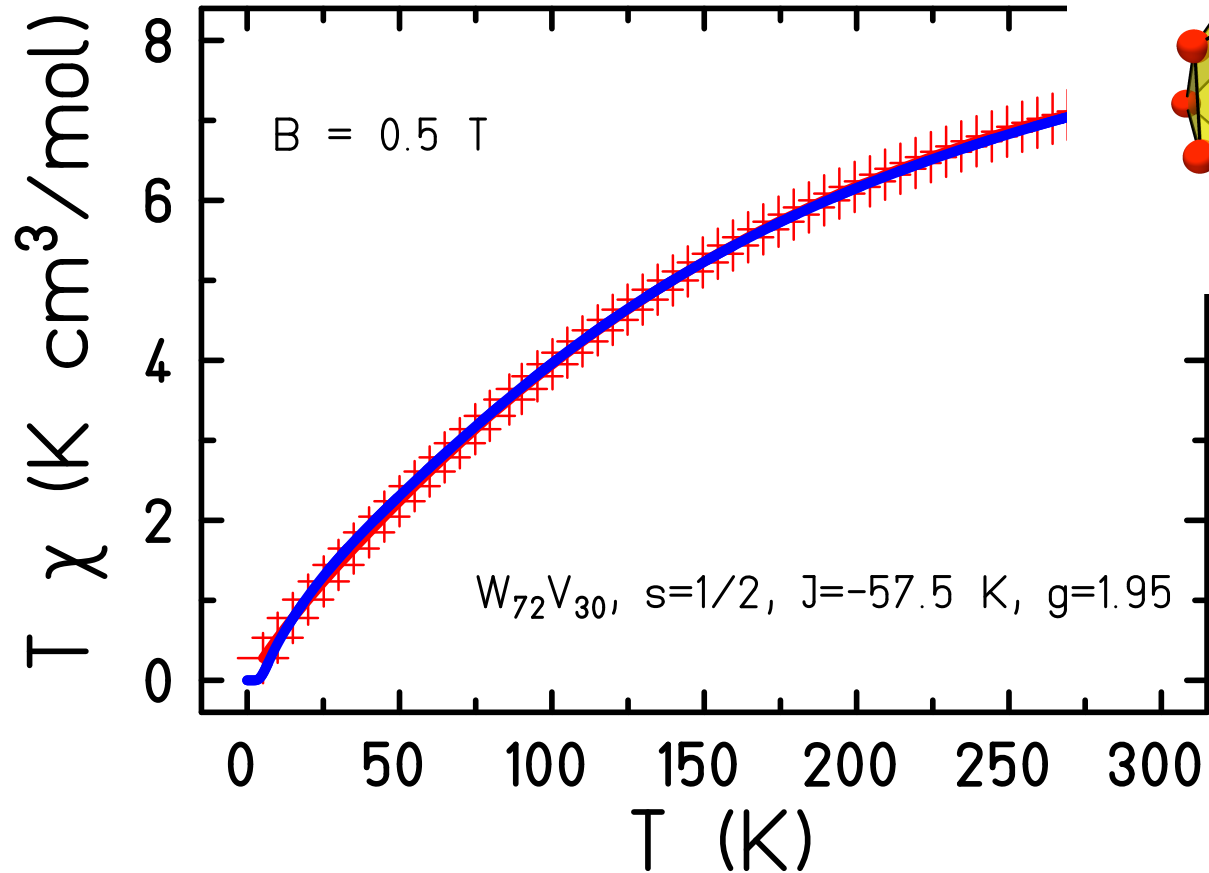
# How good is finite-temperature Lanczos?



- Works very well: compare frustrated cuboctahedron.
- $N = 12, s = 3/2$ : Considered  $< 100,000$  states instead of 16,777,216.

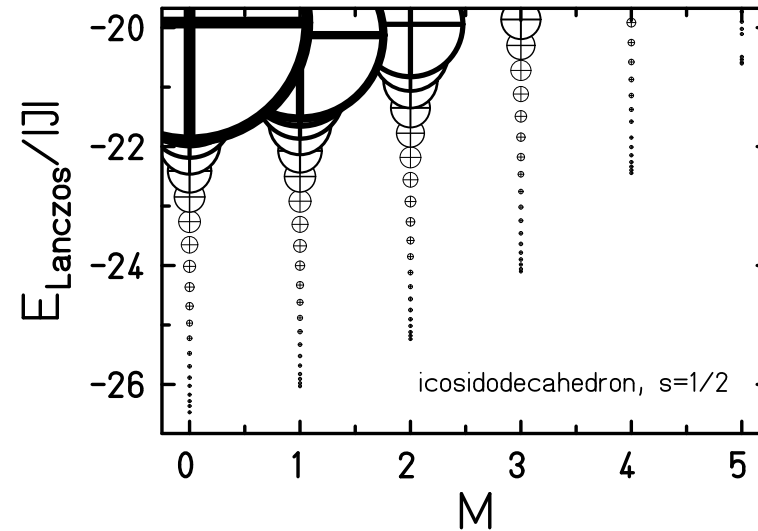
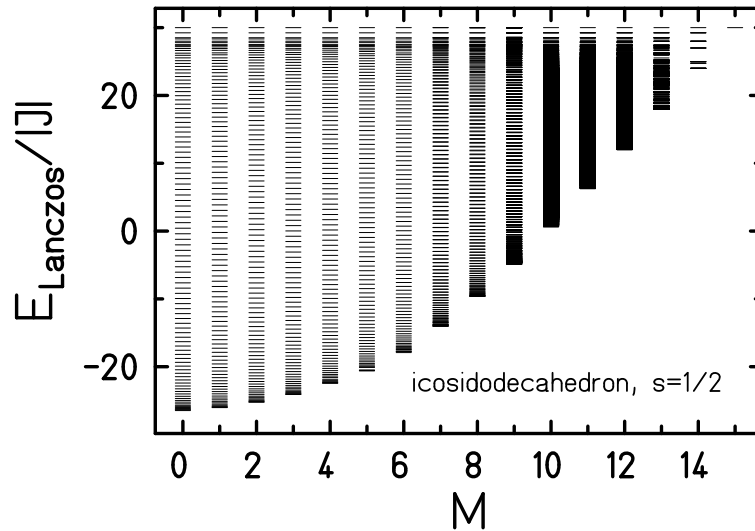
Exact results: R. Schnalle and J. Schnack, *Int. Rev. Phys. Chem.* **29**, 403-452 (2010).  
 FTLM: J. Schnack and O. Wendland, *Eur. Phys. J. B* **78**, 535-541 (2010).

# Icosidodecahedron $s = 1/2$



Exp. data: A. M. Todea, A. Merca, H. Bögge, T. Glaser, L. Engelhardt, R. Prozorov, M. Luban, A. Müller, Chem. Commun., 3351 (2009).

# Icosidodecahedron $s = 1/2$



- The true spectrum will be much denser. This is miraculously compensated for by the weights.

$$Z(T, B) \approx \frac{\dim(\mathcal{H})}{R} \sum_{\nu=1}^R \sum_{n=1}^{N_L} \exp \{ -\beta \epsilon_n \} |\langle n(\nu, \Gamma) | \nu, \Gamma \rangle|^2$$

# Finite-temperature Lanczos Method for anisotropic Hamiltonians

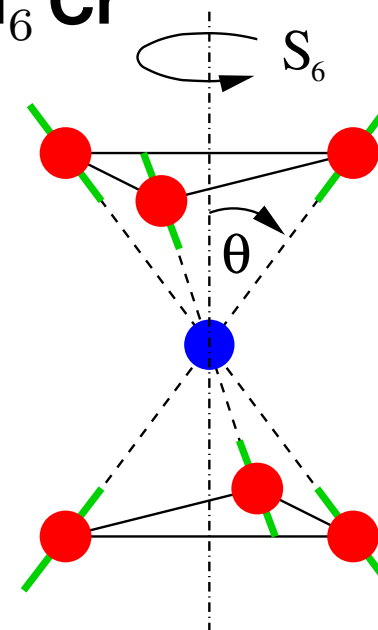
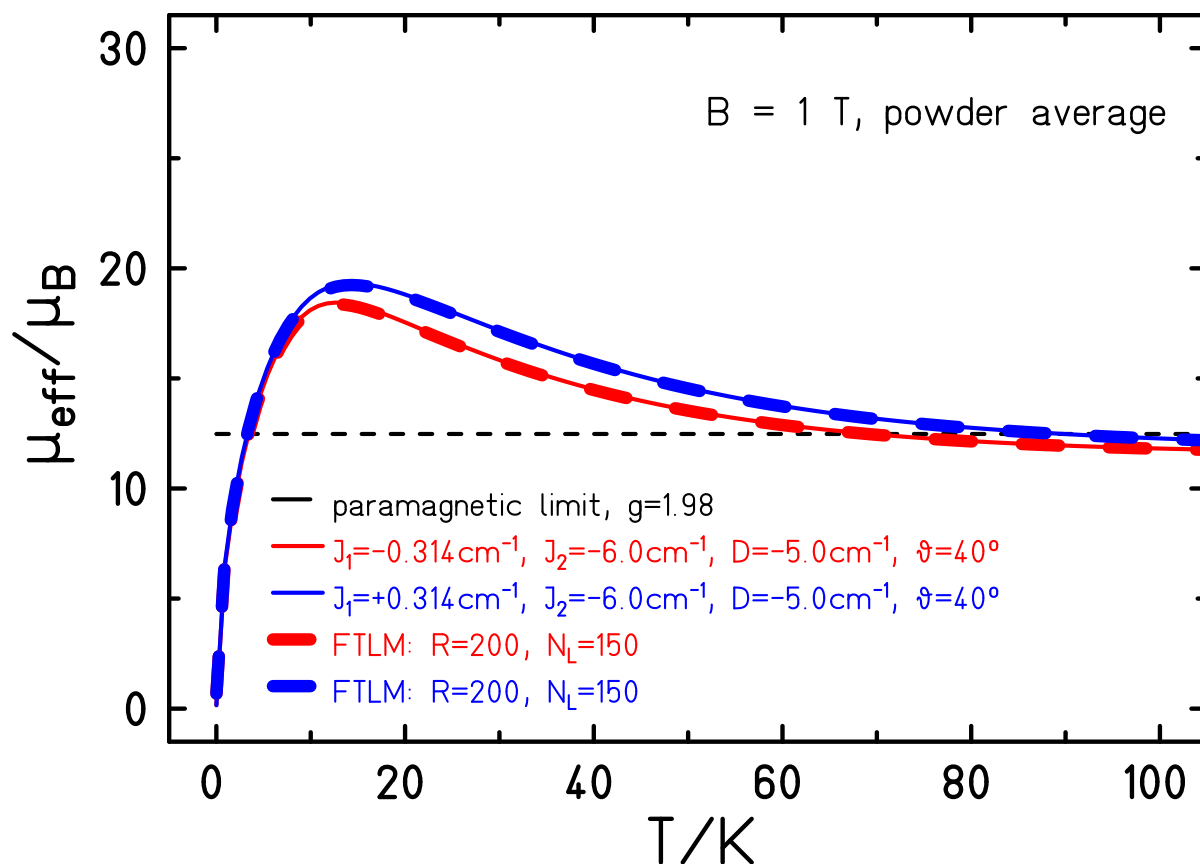
(Symmetries cannot be used.)

# Hamiltonian with single-ion anisotropy

$$\tilde{H}(\vec{B}) = -2 \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \vec{\tilde{S}}_i \cdot \vec{\tilde{S}}_j + \sum_i d_i (\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{\tilde{S}}_i)^2 + \mu_B \vec{B} \cdot \sum_i^N g_i \vec{\tilde{S}}_i$$

- $[\tilde{H}, \tilde{S}^2] \neq 0, [\tilde{H}, \tilde{S}_z] \neq 0; \Rightarrow$  **MAGPACK does not work!**
- You have to diagonalize  $\tilde{H}(\vec{B})$  for every field (direction and strength)!
- Orientational average for powder samples.

# Glaser-type molecules: $\text{Mn}_6\text{Cr}^{\text{III}}$

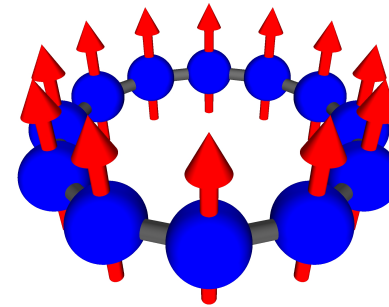
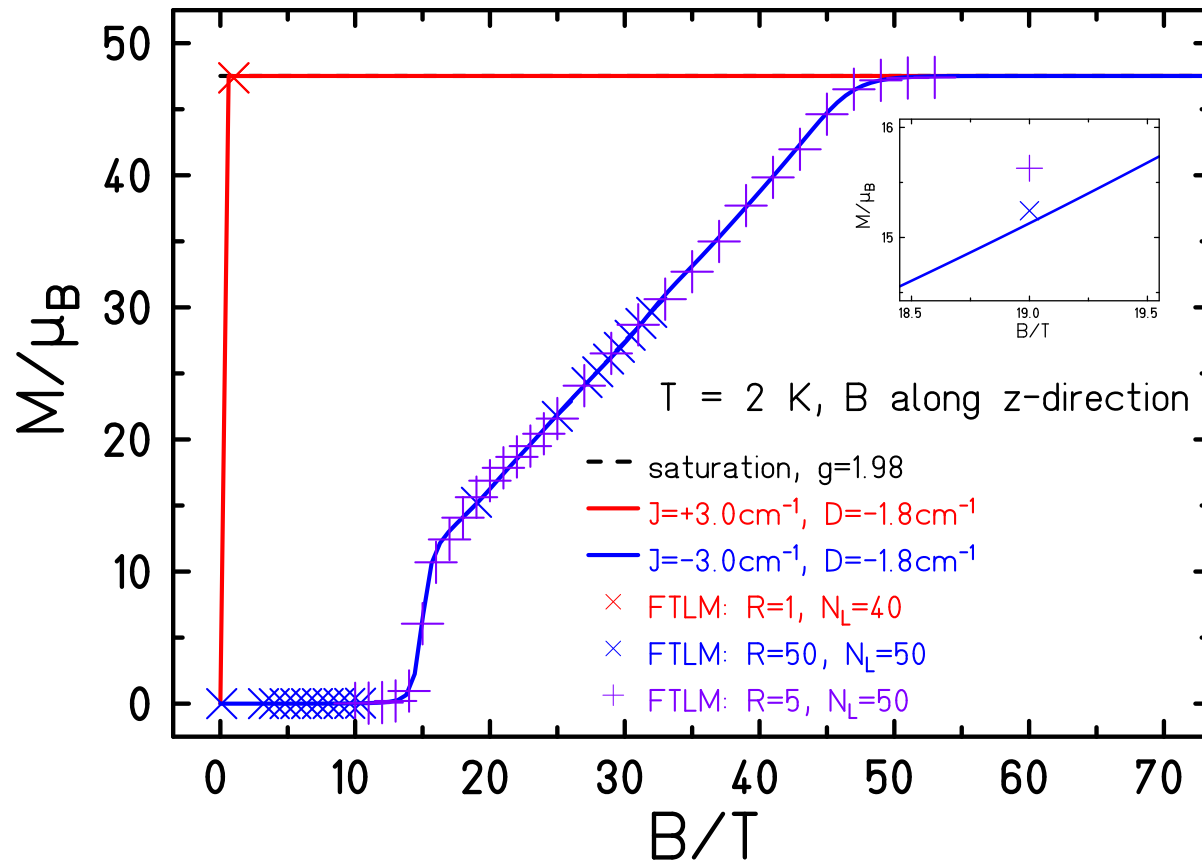


$s = 2$ ,  $s = 3/2$   
 $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 62,500$   
 non-collinear easy axes

Hours compared to days, notebook compared to supercomputer!

O. Hanebaum, J. Schnack, Eur. Phys. J B **87**, 194 (2014).

# A fictitious $\text{Mn}_{12}^{\text{III}}$ – $M_z$ vs $B_z$



$s = 2$

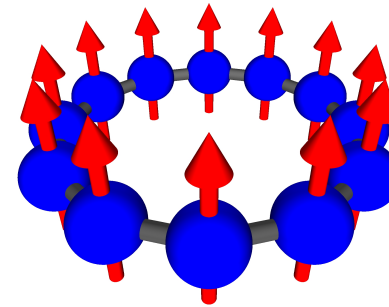
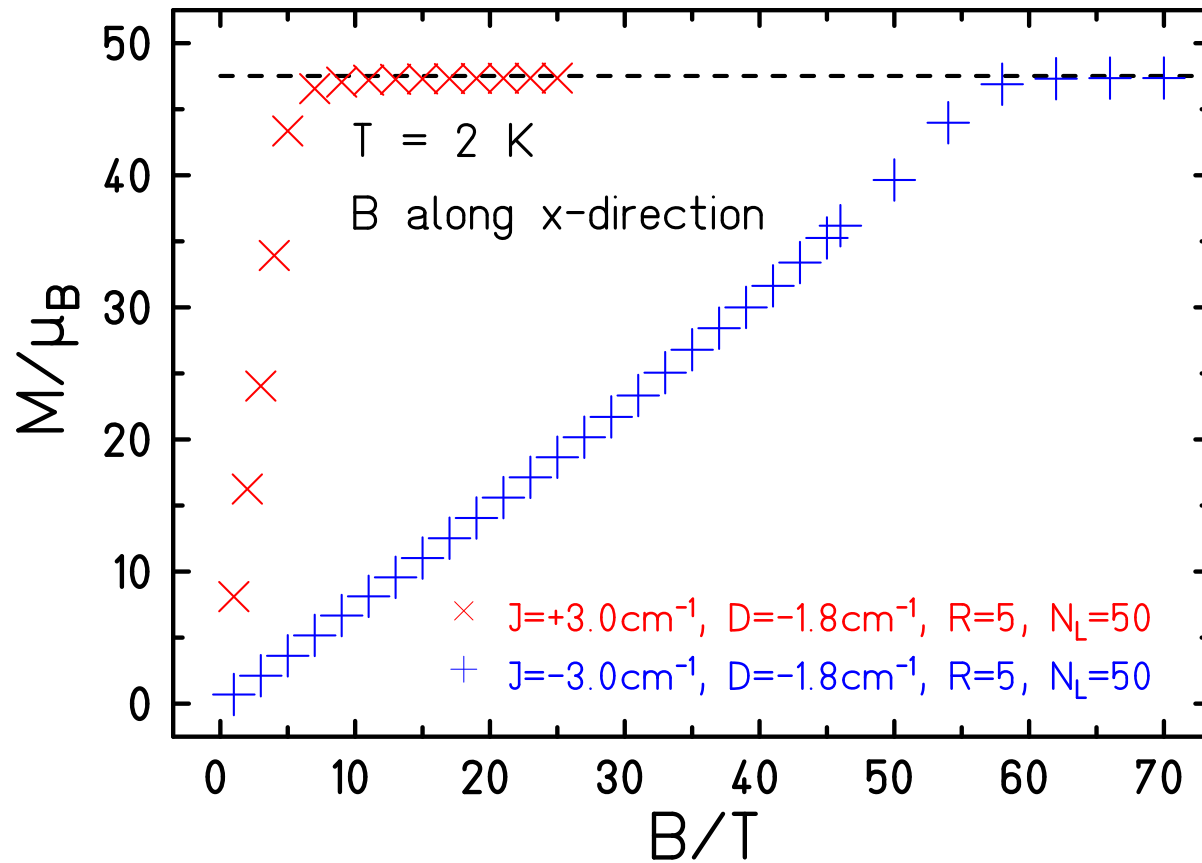
$\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 244, 140, 625$

collinear easy axes

A few days compared to *impossible!*

O. Hanebaum, J. Schnack, Eur. Phys. J B **87**, 194 (2014).

# A fictitious $\text{Mn}_{12}^{\text{III}}$ – $M_x$ vs $B_x$

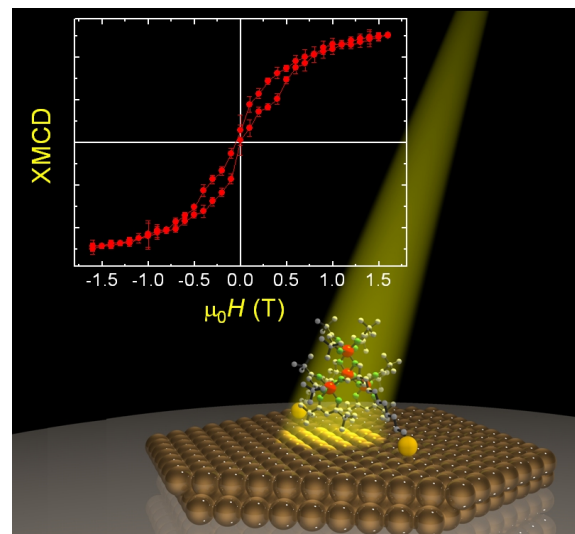
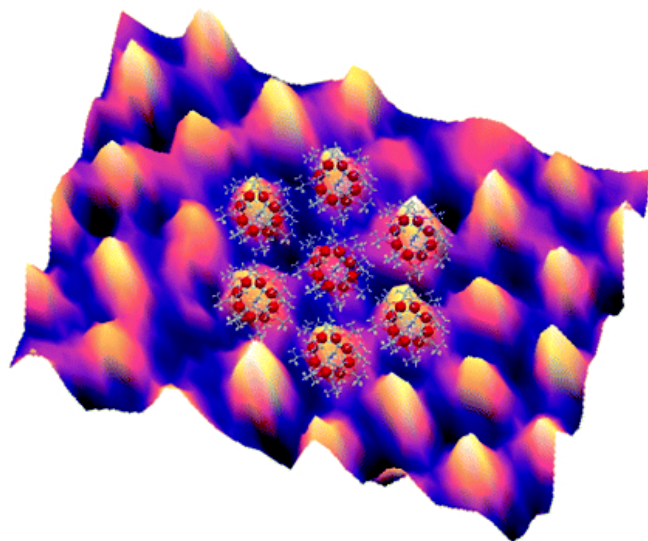
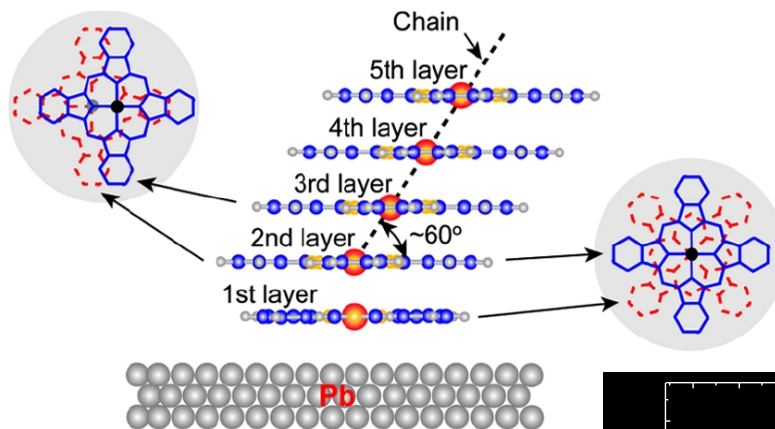
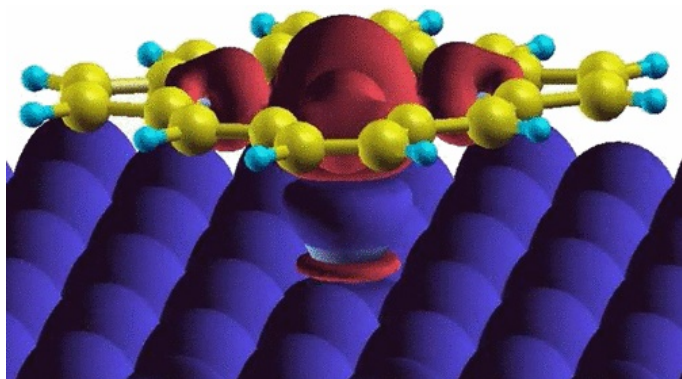


No other method can deliver these curves!

O. Hanebaum, J. Schnack, Eur. Phys. J B **87**, 194 (2014).

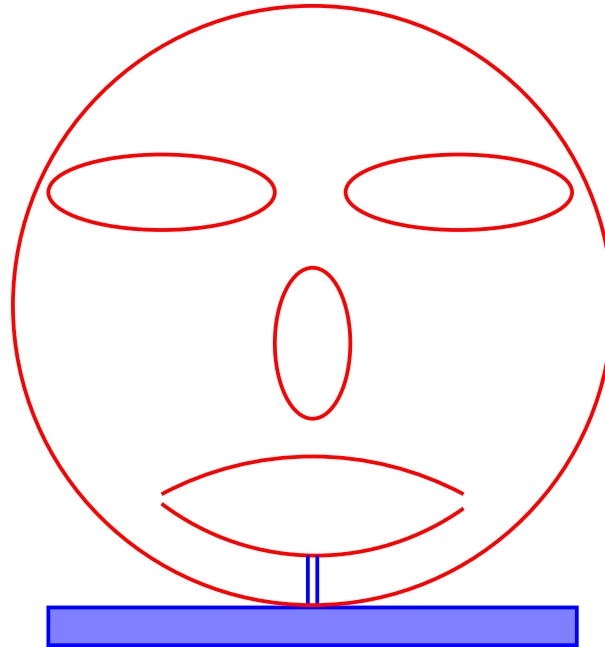


# You want to deposit a molecule



M. Bernien *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 047202 (2009); A. Ghirriet *et al.*, ACS Nano, **5**, 7090-7099 (2011); X. Chen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 197208 (2008); M. Mannini *et al.*, Nature Materials **8**, 194 - 197 (2009).

## From a bloody physicist's perspective ...



Molecule with nice properties deposited on non-magnetic metal substrate;  
**Exchange coupled to metal spins;**  
Kondo screening may ...

# Properties may change drastically

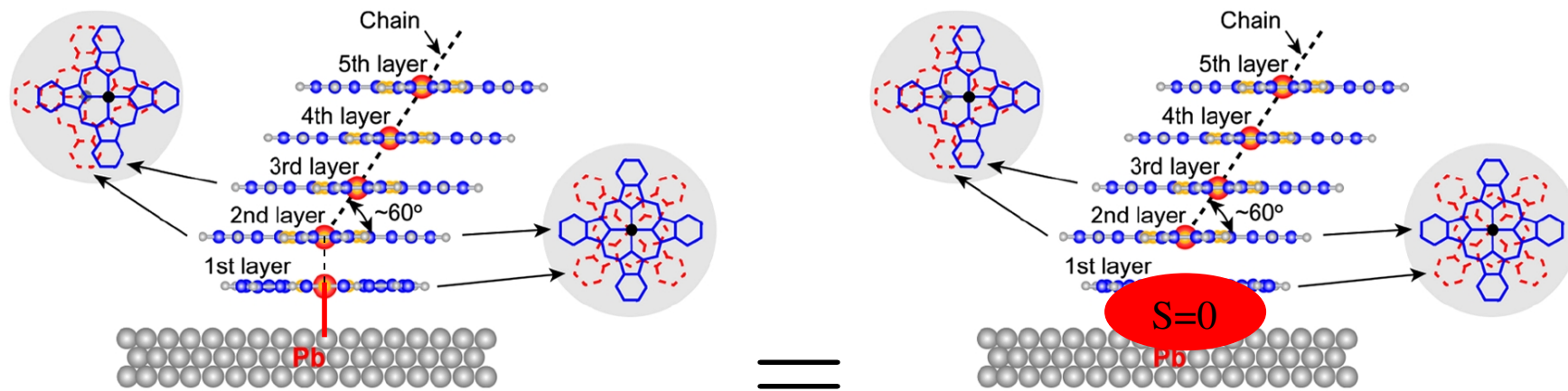


Kondo screening may improve or worsen the magnetic properties;

How does the exchange coupling to the metal influence the magnetic properties?

How to calculate such things?

# Physical example (ICMM 2010)



Stack of deposited Cobalt phthalocyanine (CoPc) molecules;  
 Co<sup>2+</sup> with spin  $s = 1/2$ .

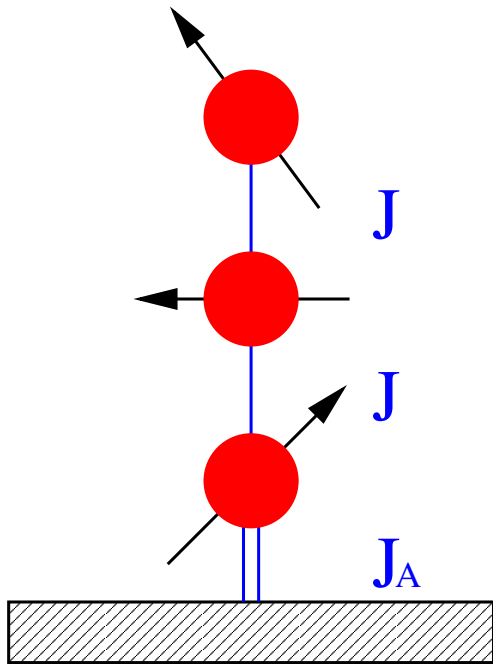
Under which circumstances is the picture of total screening correct?

X. Chen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 197208 (2008).

# Numerical Renormalization Group calculations

(Good for deposited molecules.)

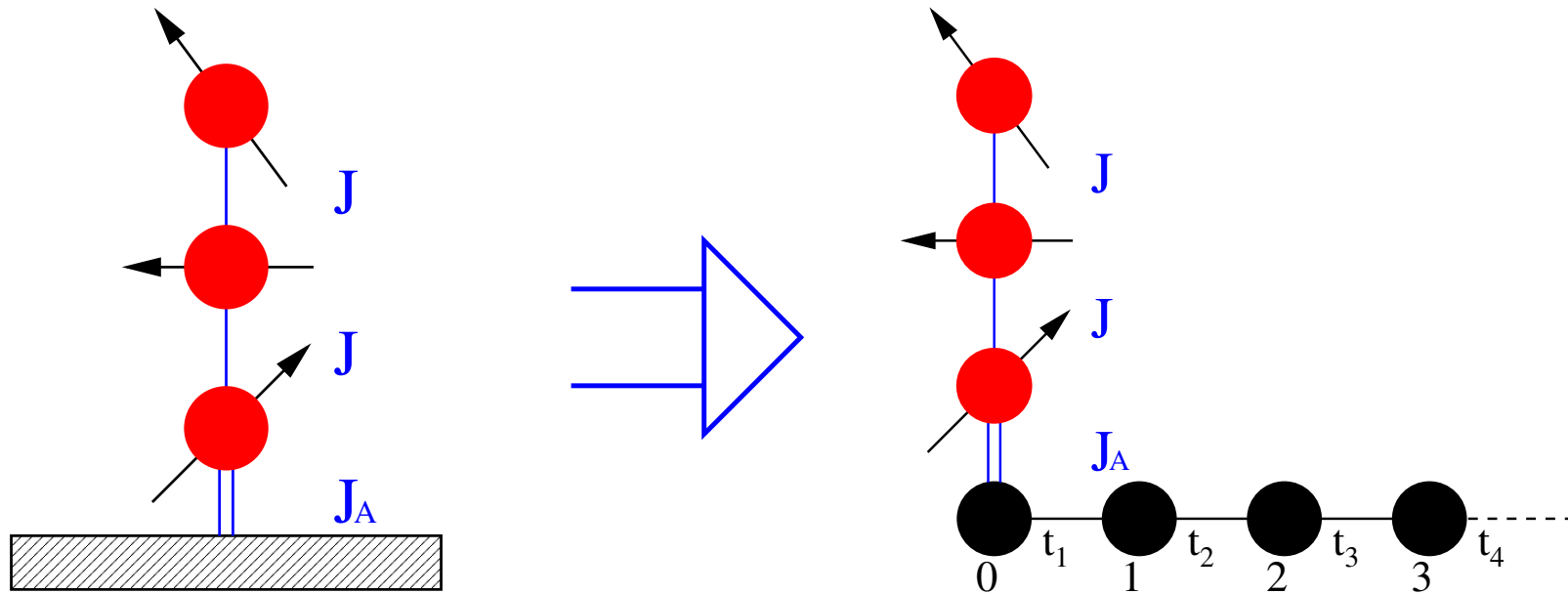
# NRG – minimal model (already an approximation!)



- $\underline{H} = \underline{H}_{\text{electrons}} + \underline{H}_{\text{coupling}} + \underline{H}_{\text{impurity}}$
- $\underline{H}_{\text{electrons}} = \sum_{i \neq j, \sigma} t_{ij} d_{i\sigma}^\dagger d_{j\sigma} + g_e \mu_B B \underline{S}^z$
- $\underline{H}_{\text{coupling}} = -2J_A \underline{S} \cdot \underline{s}_0$  ,  $\underline{s}_0$  – spin density at contact
- $\underline{H}_{\text{impurity}} =$  Hamiltonian of your molecule!
- NRG  $\equiv$  construction of a small (!) effective model in order to evaluate properties of the deposited cluster, the impurity (3).

(1) K. G. Wilson, Rev. Mod. Phys. **47**, 773 (1975)  
 (2) M. Höck, J. Schnack, Phys. Rev. B **87**, 184408 (2013)  
 (3) *Impurity* is a technical term in this context and not an insult to chemists.

# NRG in a cartoon



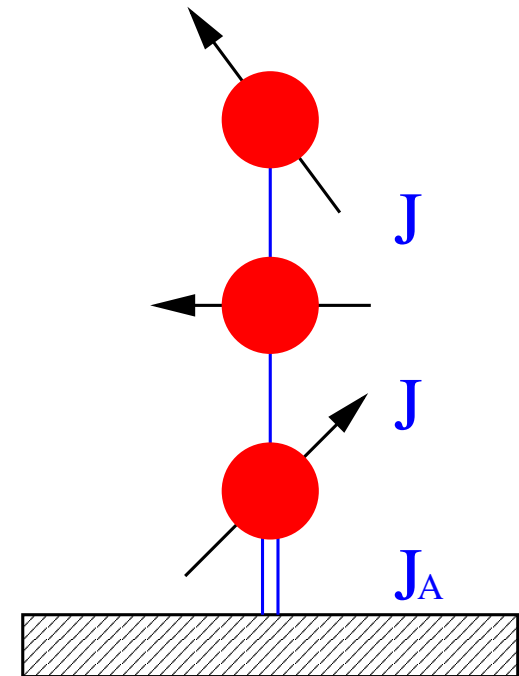
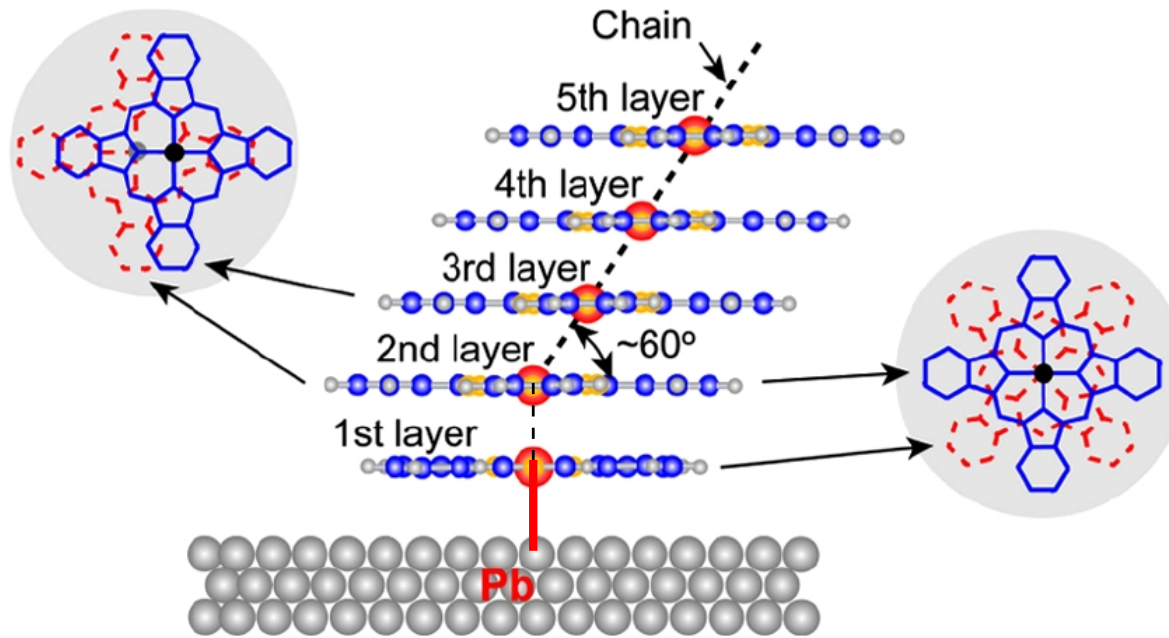
Metallic surface is replaced by semi-infinite Hubbard chain;

Parameters of the chain: hopping matrix elements and on-site energies;

Stepwise enlargement of the chain ( $t_1 > t_2 > t_3 \dots$ );

Truncation of basis set when matrices grow too big.

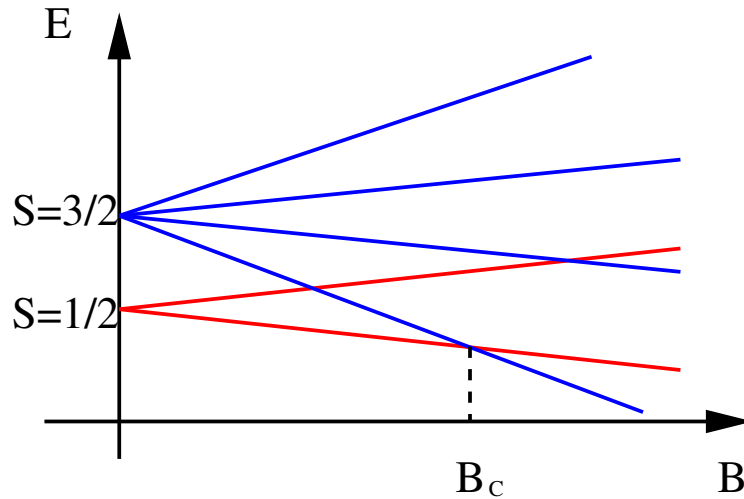
# Once more: deposited chain



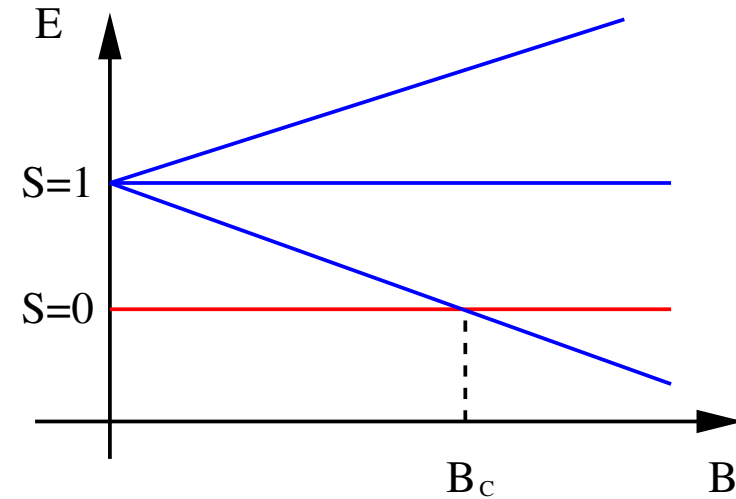
X. Chen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 197208 (2008).



# Energy levels of limiting cases for deposited trimer



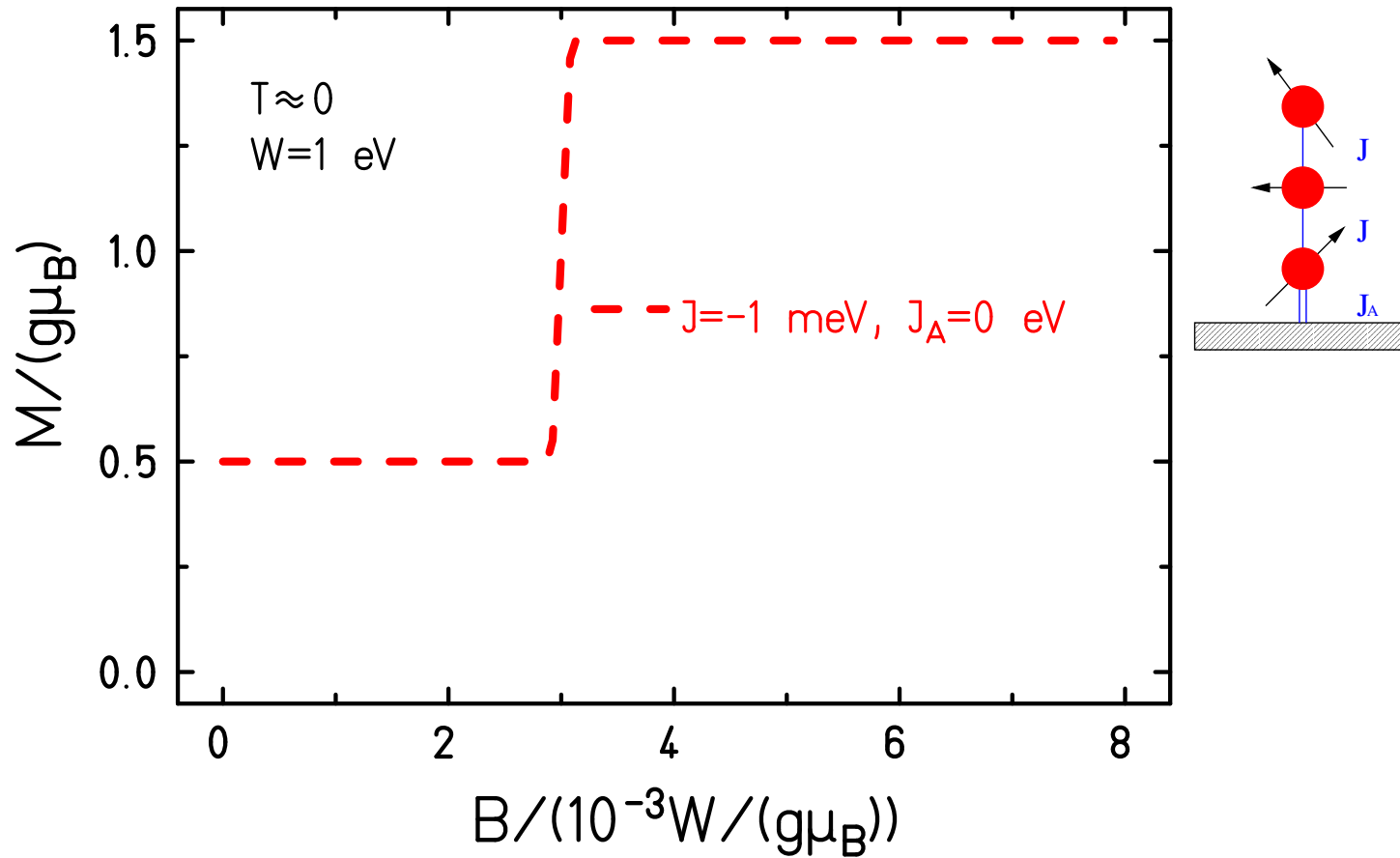
• energy levels of a trimer



• energy levels of a dimer

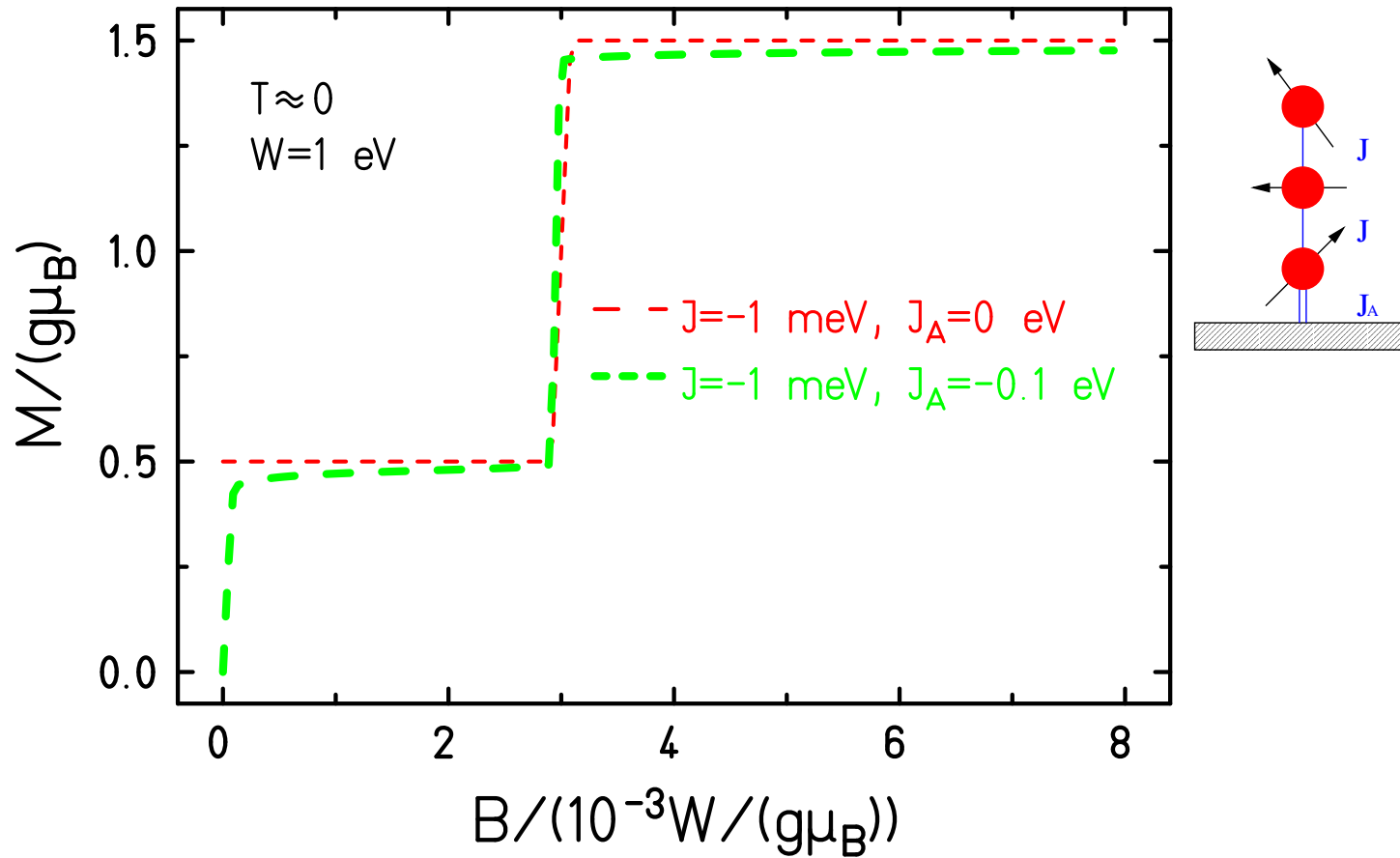
Magnetization curves different; could be seen in XMCD.  
 NRG calculates observables also between limiting cases  
 and can thus tell under which circumstances a limiting case applies.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



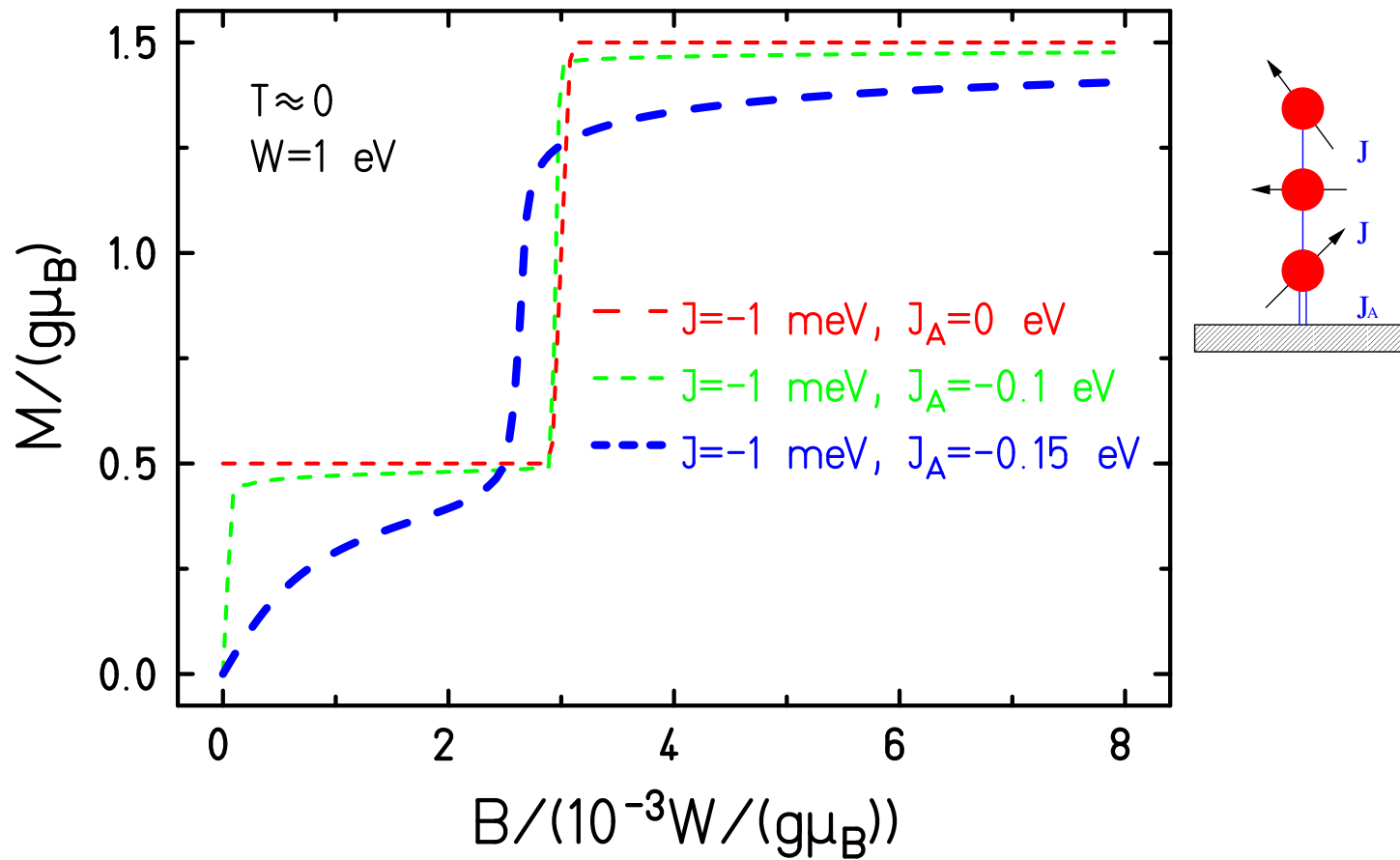
H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



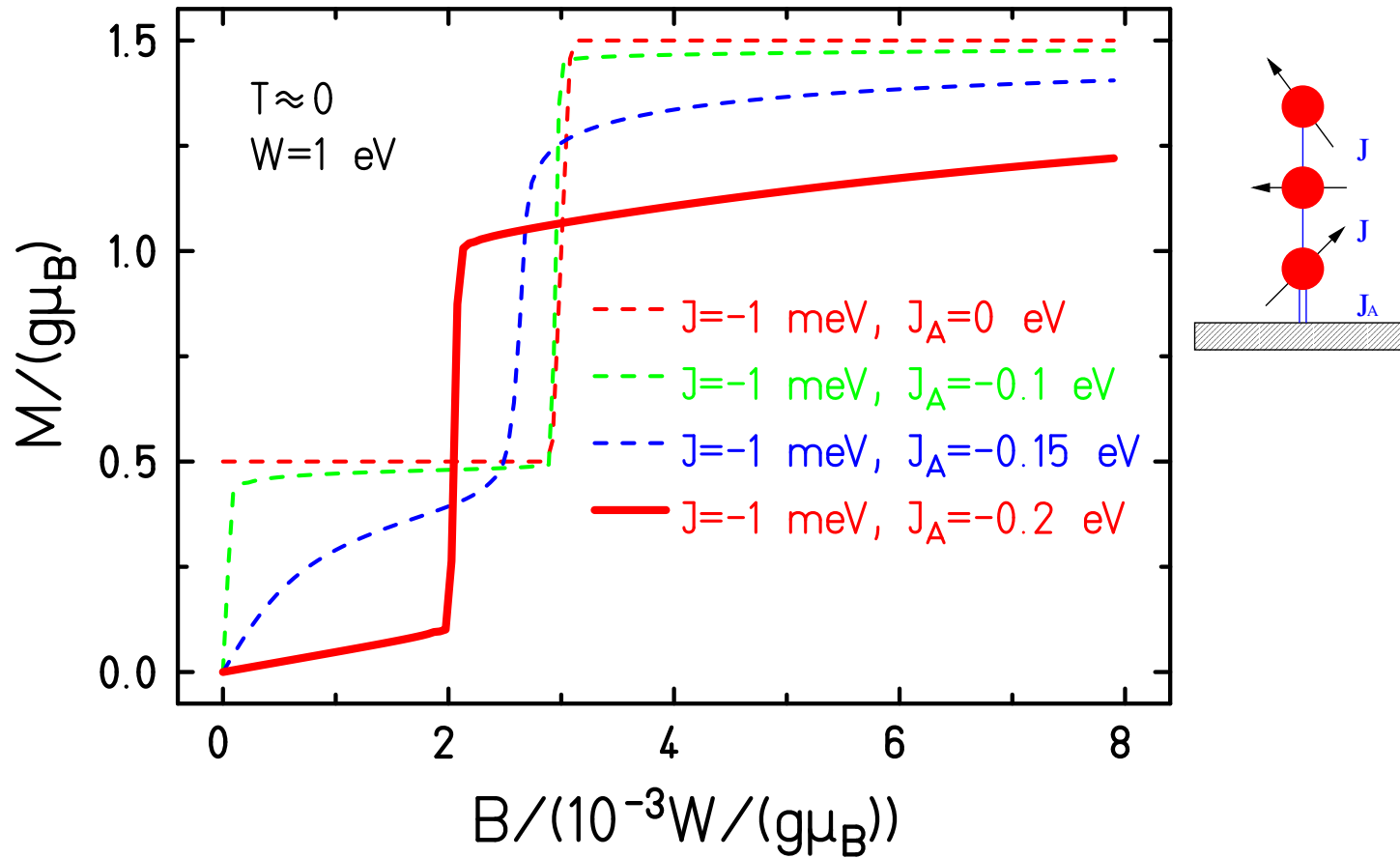
H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



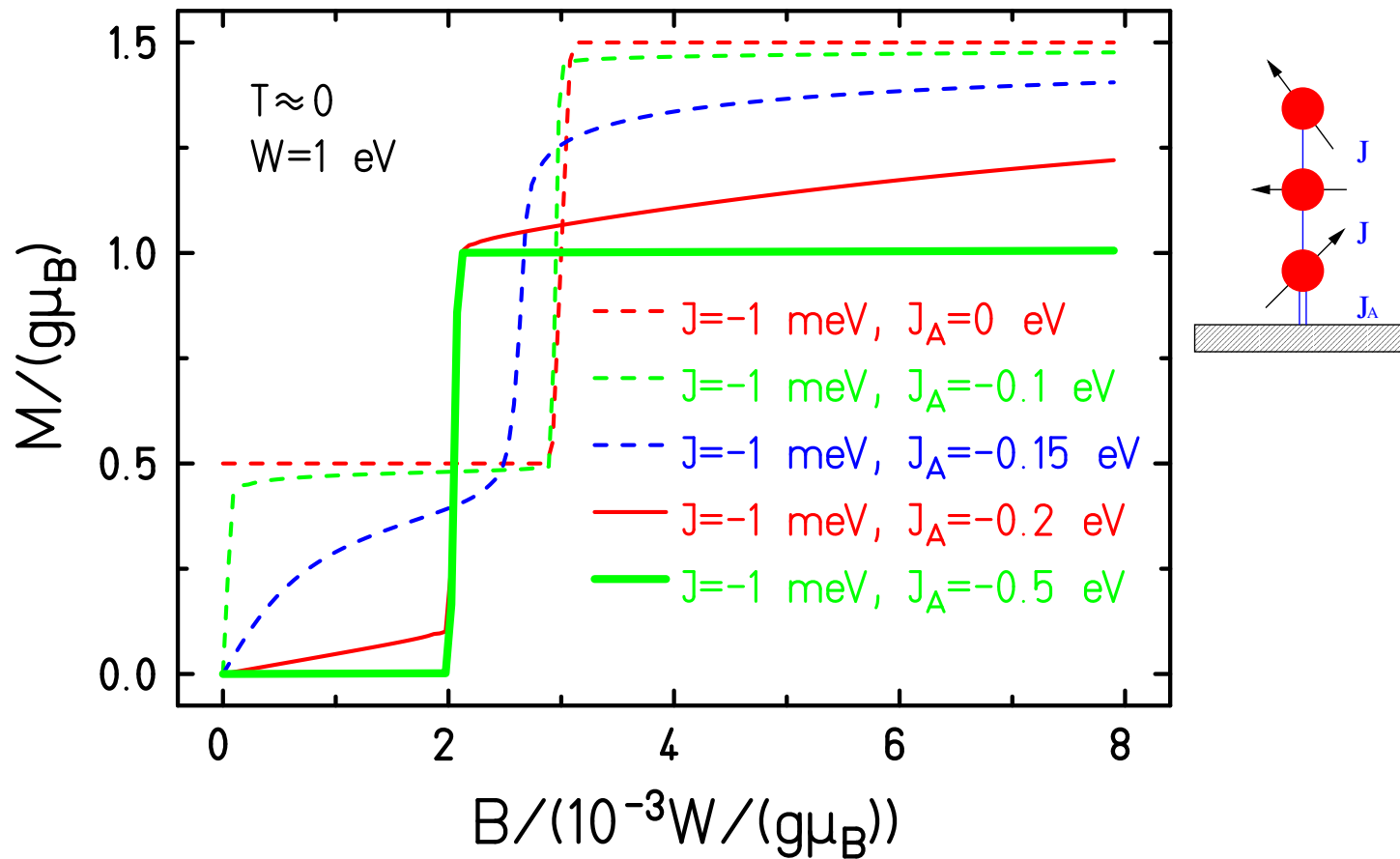
H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



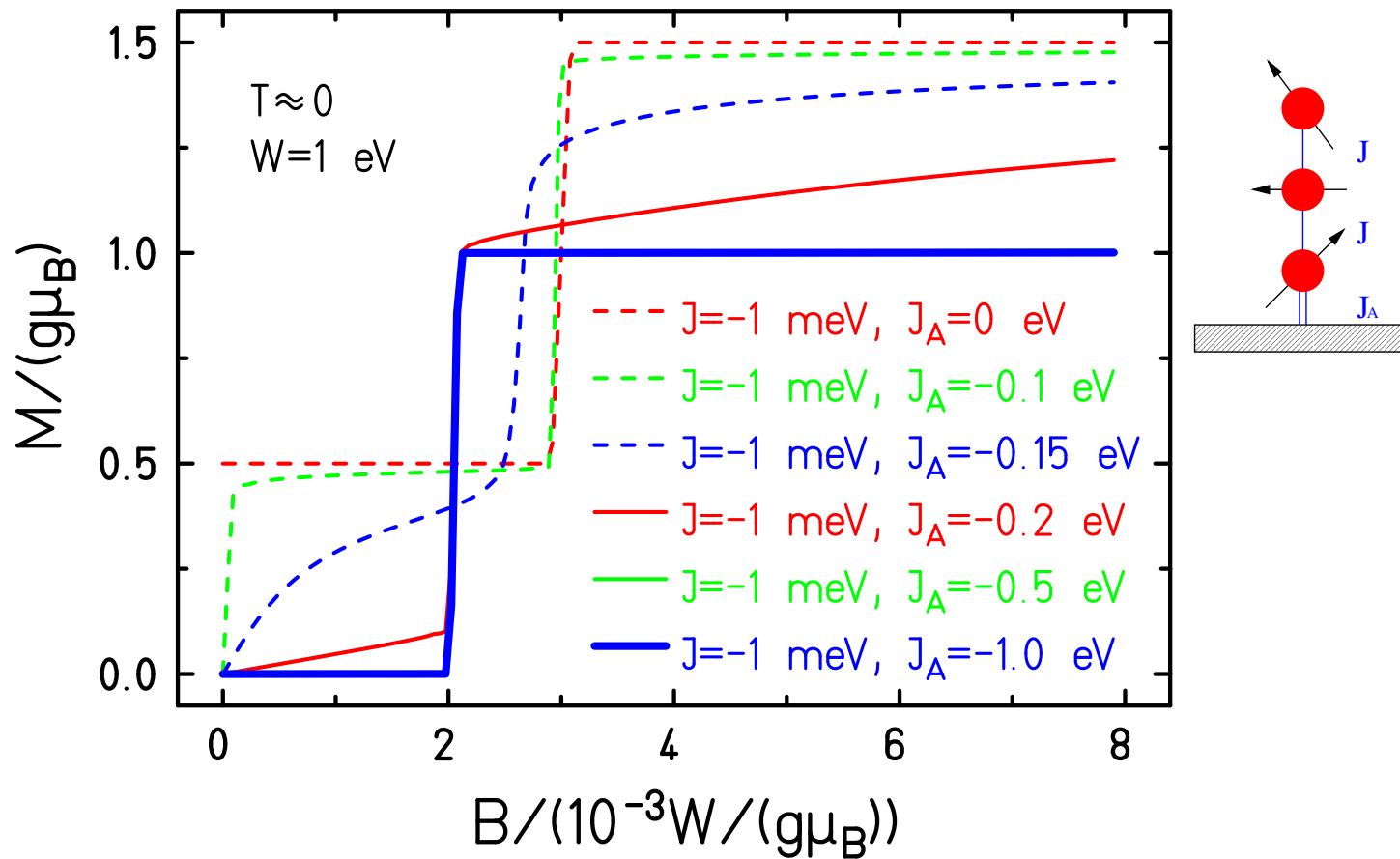
H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



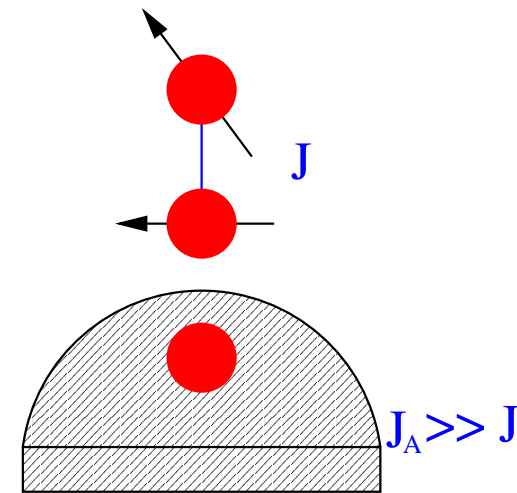
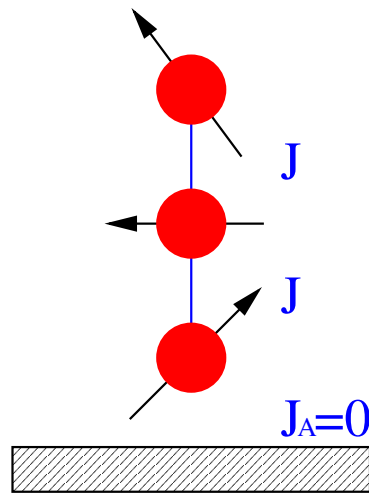
H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Increasing coupling to the substrate



H.-T. Langwald and J. Schnack, submitted; arXiv:1312.0864.

# Weak vs. strong coupling



- weak coupling limit:  
unperturbed molecule (trimer)

- $|J_A| \lesssim 0.1W$

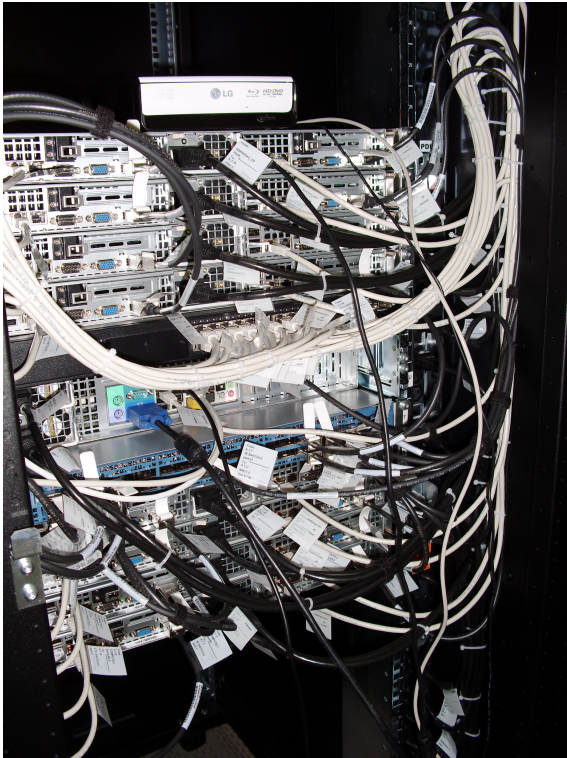
- strong coupling limit:  
effective remainder (dimer)

- $|J_A| \gtrsim 0.5W$

Inbetween: no simple characterization + further sequential screening possible



# Summary



- Exact diagonalization is great but limited. Finite-temperature Lanczos is a good approximate method for Hilbert space dimensions smaller than  $10^{10}$ .
- Magnetic molecules change their properties on metallic surfaces. NRG delivers local observables, such as magnetization, which can be compared with XMCD results. Screening can lead to interesting limiting cases, which might show different (worse/better) behavior compared to the free molecule.
- Magnetic molecules for storage, q-bits, MCE, and since they are nice.

(1) A. Albuquerque *et al.*, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. **310**, 1187 (2007).  
(2) <http://alps.comp-phys.org> (English, Japanese, Chinese)

## Many thanks to my collaborators worldwide

- M. Czopnik, T. Glaser, O. Hanebaum, Chr. Heesing, F. Kaiser, H.-T. Langwald, A. Müller, Chr. Schröder (Bielefeld)
- K. Bärwinkel, H.-J. Schmidt, M. Neumann (Osnabrück)
- M. Luban (Ames Lab, USA); P. Kögerler (Aachen, Jülich, Ames); R.E.P. Winpenny, E.J.L. McInnes (Man U, UK); L. Cronin, M. Murrie (Glasgow, UK); E. Brechin (Edinburgh, UK); N.B. Ivanov (Sofia); H. Nojiri (Sendai, Japan); A. Postnikov (Metz, France); M. Evangelisti (Zaragoza), A. Tennant (Oak Ridge, USA)
- J. Richter, J. Schulenburg (Magdeburg); A. Honecker (Göttingen); U. Kortz (Bremen); B. Lake (HMI Berlin); B. Büchner, V. Kataev, H.-H. Klauß (Dresden); A. Powell (Karlsruhe); J. Wosnitza (Dresden-Rossendorf); J. van Slageren (Stuttgart); R. Klingeler (Heidelberg); O. Waldmann (Freiburg)

Thank you very much for your  
attention.

The end.

Molecular Magnetism Web

[www.molmag.de](http://www.molmag.de)

Highlights. Tutorials. Who is who. Conferences.

# Magnetocalorics

# Magnetocaloric effect – Basics



- Heating or cooling in a varying magnetic field. Discovered in pure iron by Emil Warburg in 1881.
- Typical rates: 0.5 . . . 2 K/T.
- Giant magnetocaloric effect: 3 . . . 4 K/T e.g. in  $\text{Gd}_5(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_4$  alloys ( $x \leq 0.5$ ).
- Scientific goal I: room temperature applications.
- Scientific goal II: sub-Kelvin cooling.

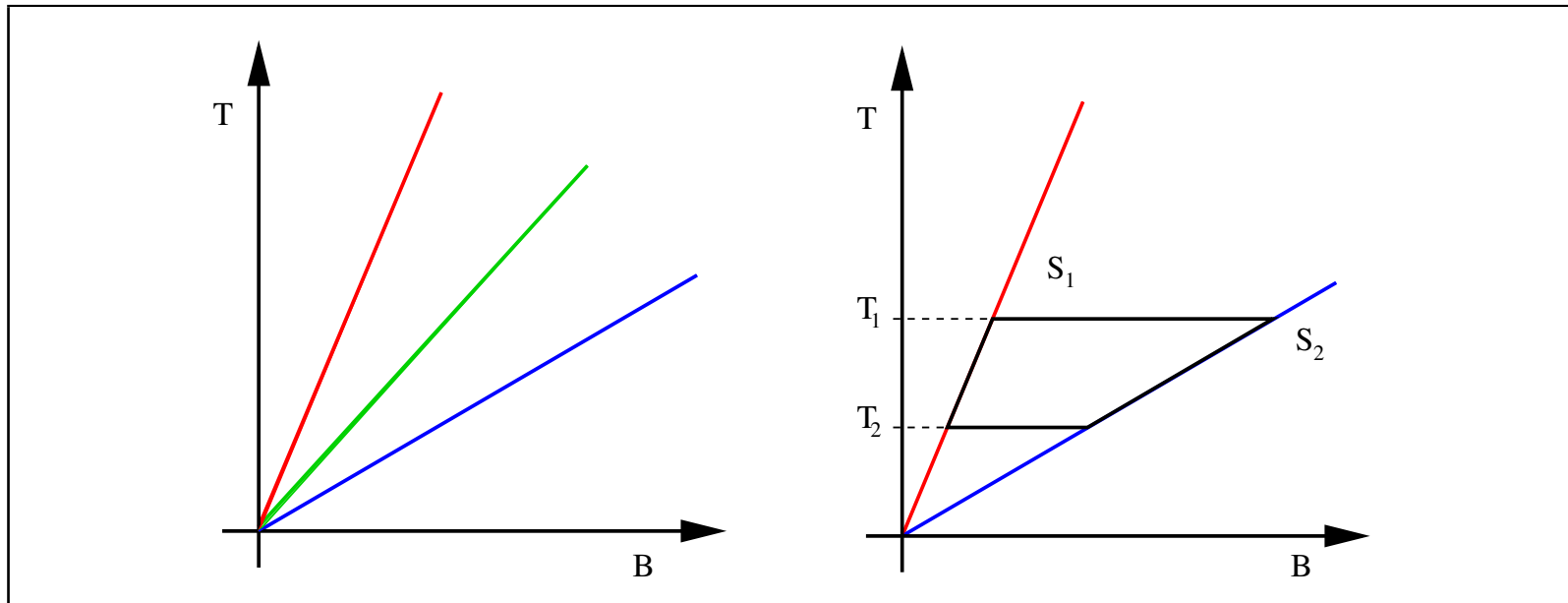
## Magnetocaloric effect – cooling rate

$$\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial B}\right)_S = -\frac{T}{C} \left(\frac{\partial S}{\partial B}\right)_T$$

MCE especially large at large isothermal entropy changes, i.e. at phase transitions (1), close to quantum critical points (2), or due to the condensation of independent magnons (3).

- (1) V.K. Pecharsky, K.A. Gschneidner, Jr., A. O. Pecharsky, and A. M. Tishin, Phys. Rev. B **64**, 144406 (2001)
- (2) Lijun Zhu, M. Garst, A. Rosch, and Qimiao Si, Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**, 066404 (2003)
- (3) M.E. Zhitomirsky, A. Honecker, J. Stat. Mech.: Theor. Exp. **2004**, P07012 (2004)

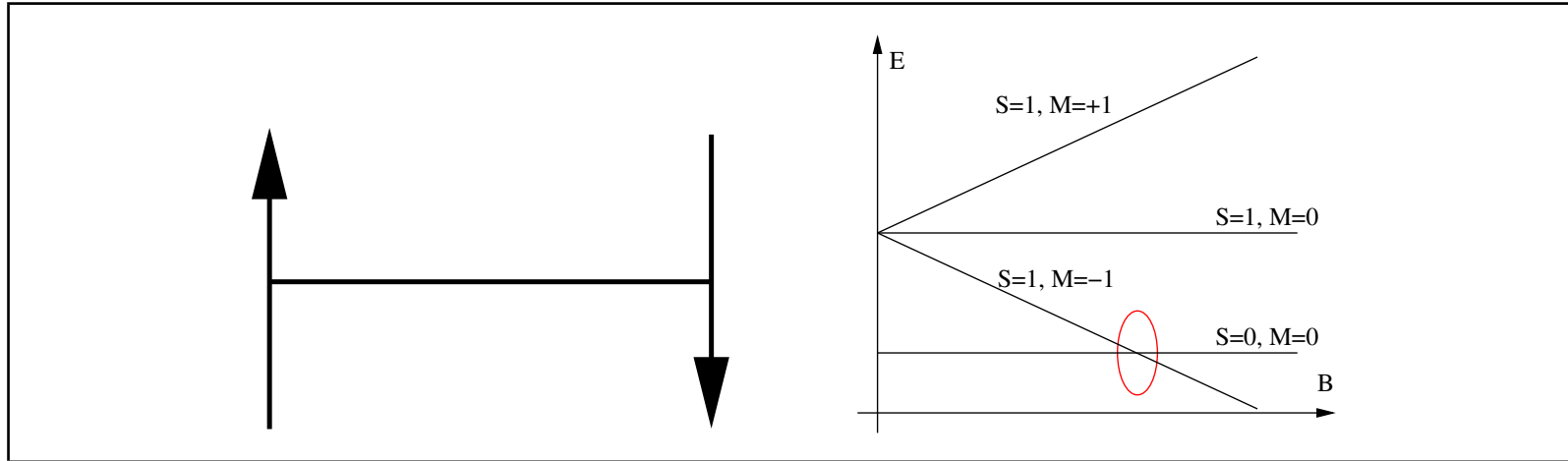
# Magnetocaloric effect – Paramagnets



- Ideal paramagnet:  $S(T, B) = f(B/T)$ , i.e.  $S = const \Rightarrow T \propto B$ .
- At low  $T$  pronounced effects of dipolar interaction prevent further effective cooling.

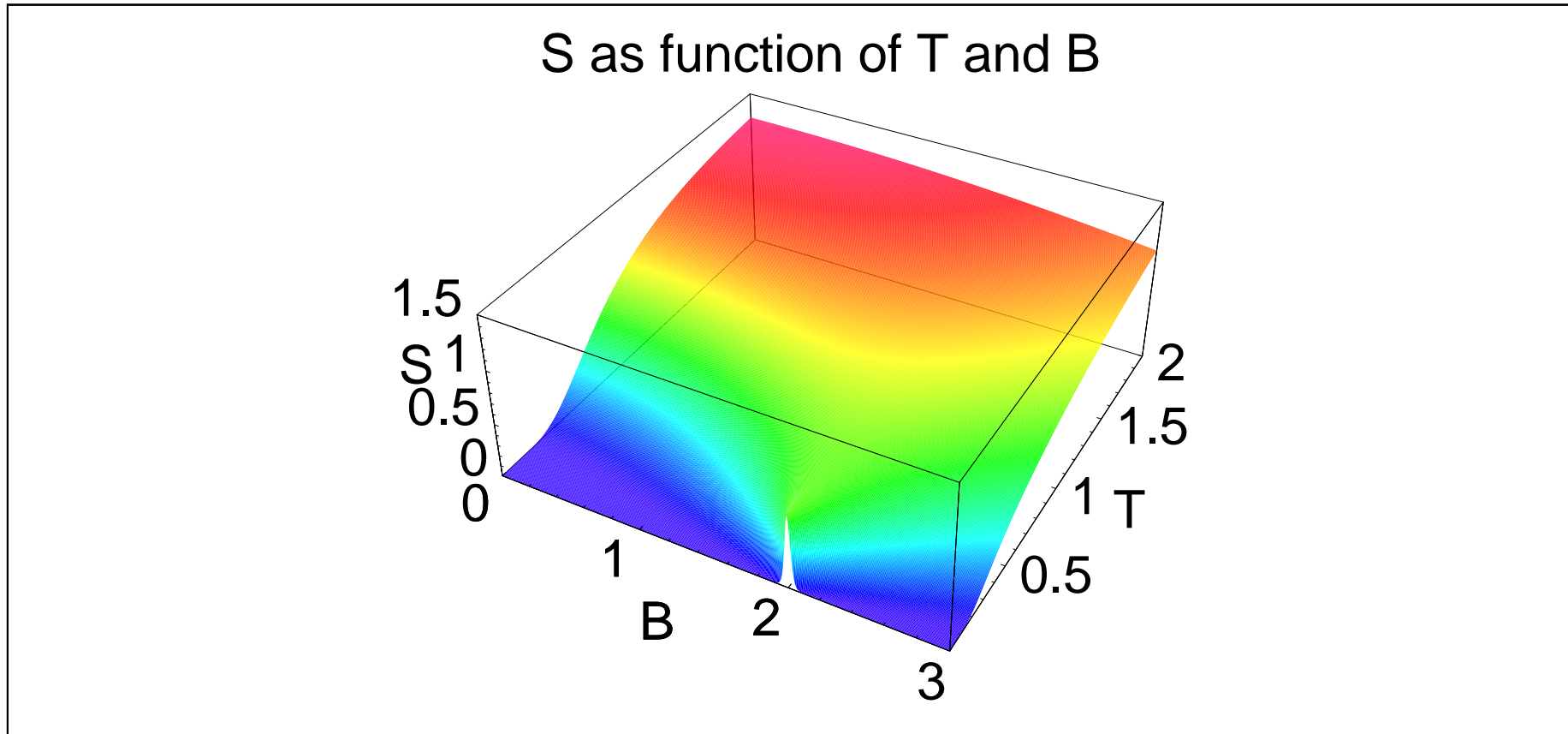


## Magnetocaloric effect – af $s = 1/2$ dimer



- Singlet-triplet level crossing causes a peak of  $S$  at  $T \approx 0$  as function of  $B$ .
- $M(T = 0, B)$  and  $S(T = 0, B)$  not analytic as function of  $B$ .
- $M(T = 0, B)$  jumps at  $B_c$ ;  $S(T = 0, B_c) = k_B \ln 2$ , otherwise zero.

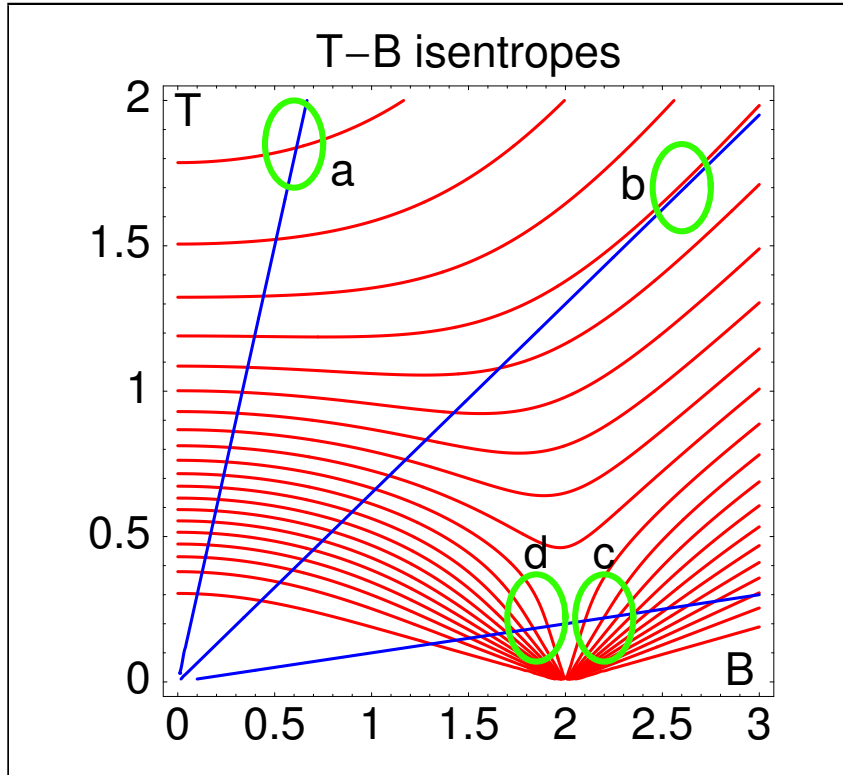
# Magnetocaloric effect – at $s = 1/2$ dimer



$S(T = 0, B) \neq 0$  at level crossing due to degeneracy

O. Derzhko, J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **70**, 104415 (2004)

# Magnetocaloric effect – af $s = 1/2$ dimer



blue lines: ideal paramagnet, red curves: af dimer

Magnetocaloric effect:

(a) reduced,

(b) the same,

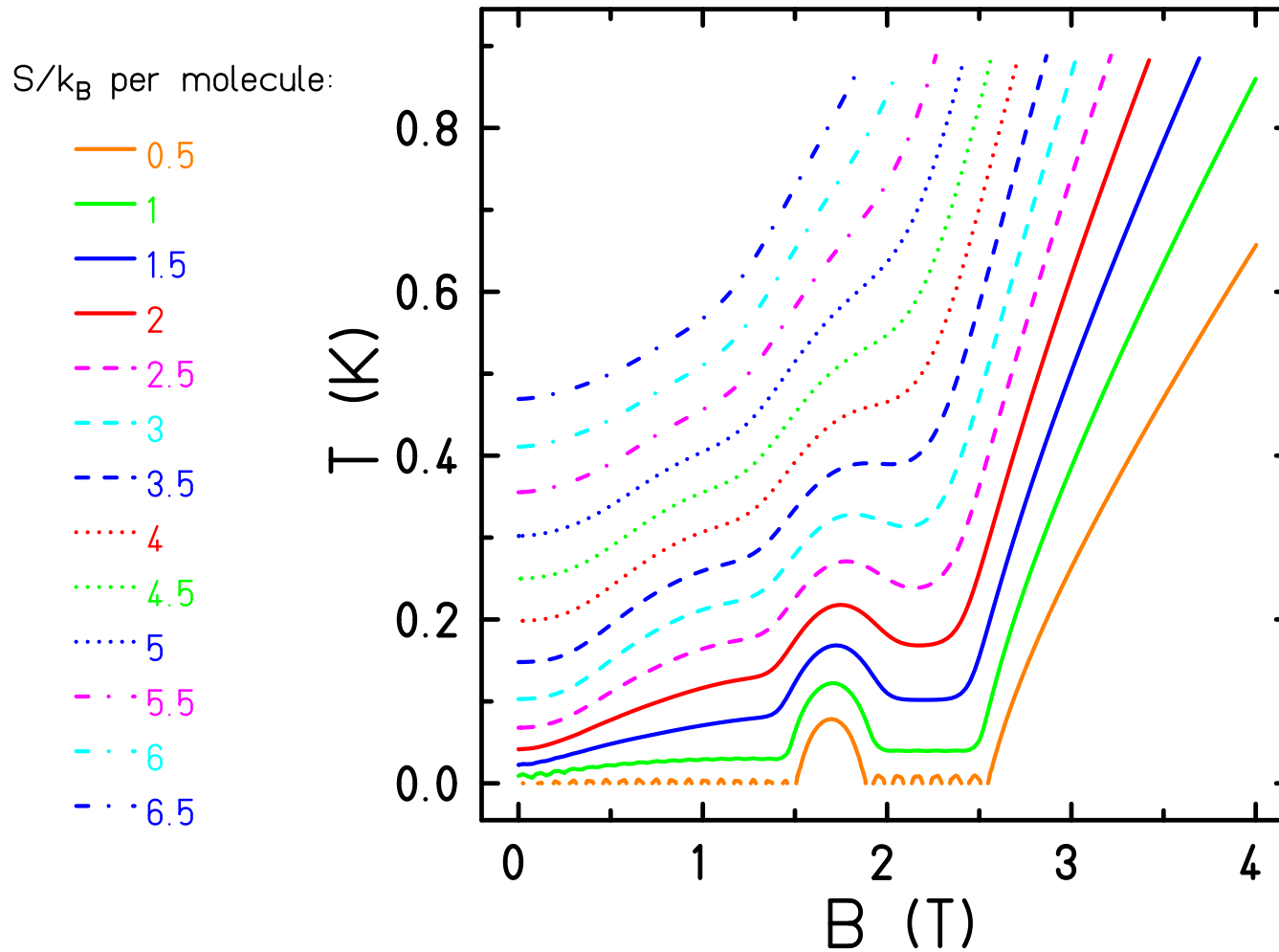
(c) enhanced,

(d) opposite

when compared to an ideal paramagnet.

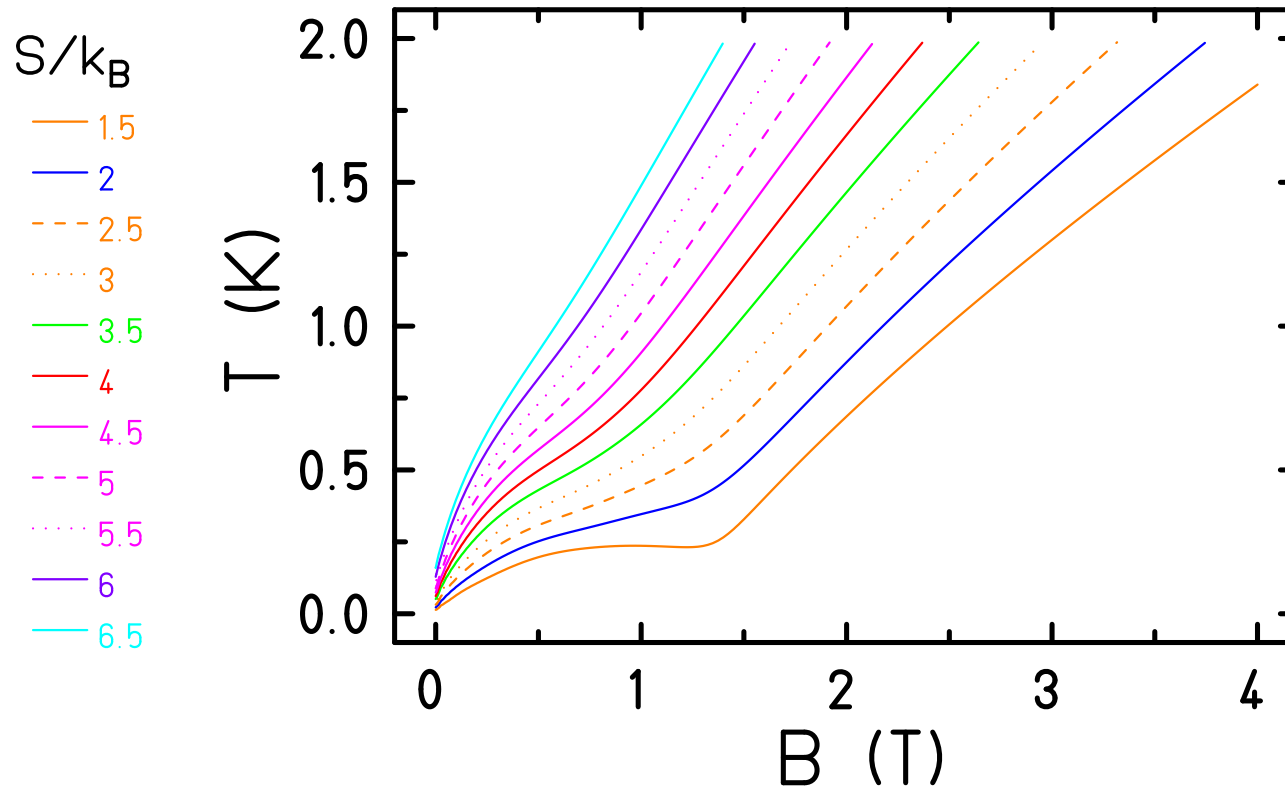
Case (d) does not occur for a paramagnet.

# Typical isentropes for af spin system



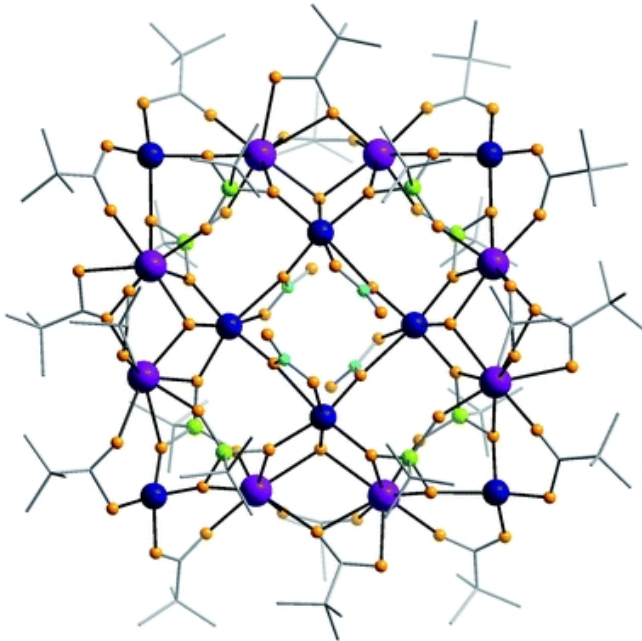
Level crossings signal antiferromagnetic interactions.

# Typical isentropes for high-spin system



Typical for high-spin ground state. Cooling rate depends on  $T$  and  $B$ .

# Magnetocaloric effect – Why Gd compounds?



- High spin of  $s = 7/2$ ;
- Weak exchange  $\Rightarrow$  high density of states;
- Can vary the entropy with moderate fields.
- But large Hilbert spaces!  
Exact modeling impossible.  
 $\Rightarrow$  Lanczos

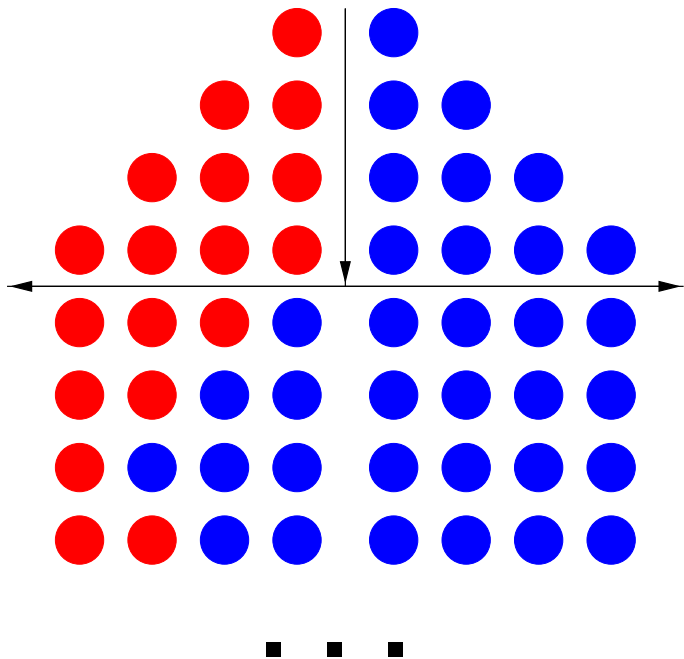
Yan-Zhen Zheng, Marco Evangelisti, Richard E. P. Winpenny, Chem. Sci. **2**, 99-102 (2011)

T. N. Hooper, J. Schnack, St. Piligkos, M. Evangelisti, E. K. Brechin, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **51** (2012) 4633-4636.

# Density Matrix Renormalization Group

(Best for one-dimensional systems, even for huge sizes.)

# Density Matrix Renormalization Group



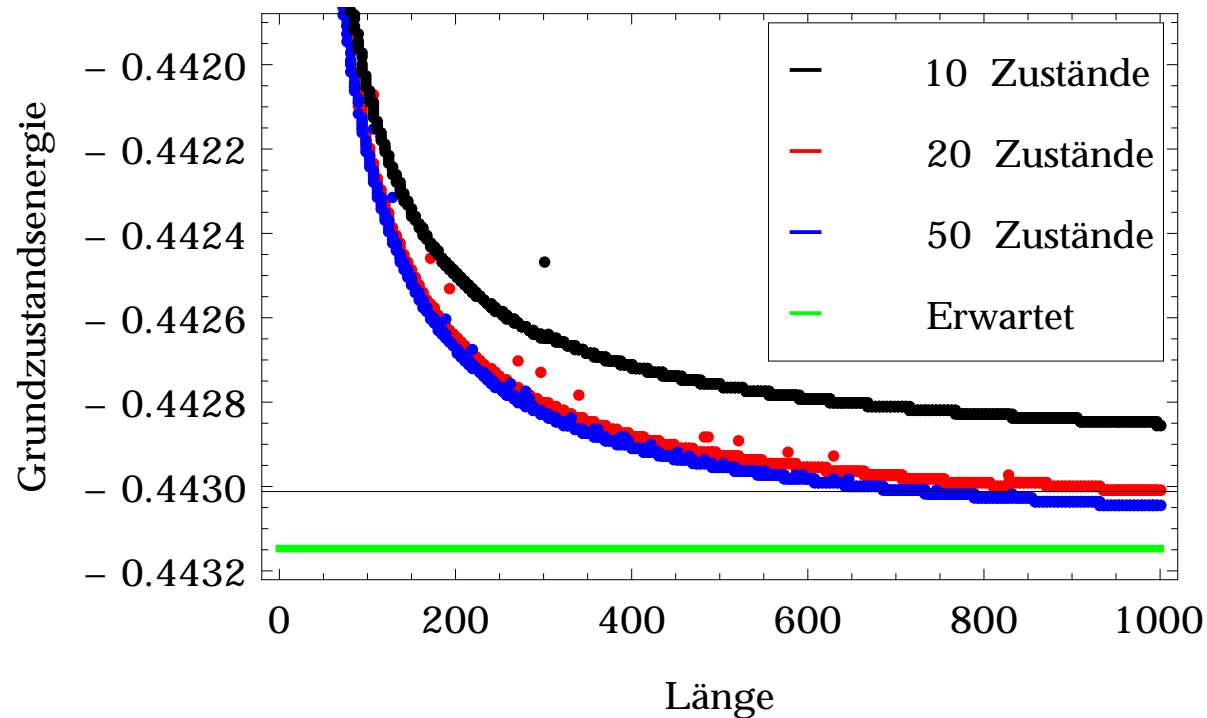
**Again: build your appropriate reduced basis set**

- Naive idea: start with small system, diagonalize  $\tilde{H}$ , keep only  $m$  lowest states, enlarge system, diagonalize  $\tilde{H}$ , keep only  $m$  lowest states, ...
- Better: similar idea, use low-lying eigenstates of density matrix of part of system (1,2,3).
- Technical procedure: growth of system & sweeps.

(1) S. R. White, Phys. Rev. Lett. **69**, 2863 (1992).  
 (2) S. R. White, Phys. Rev. B **48**, 10345 (1993).  
 (3) U. Schollwöck, Rev. Mod. Phys. **77**, 259 (2005).

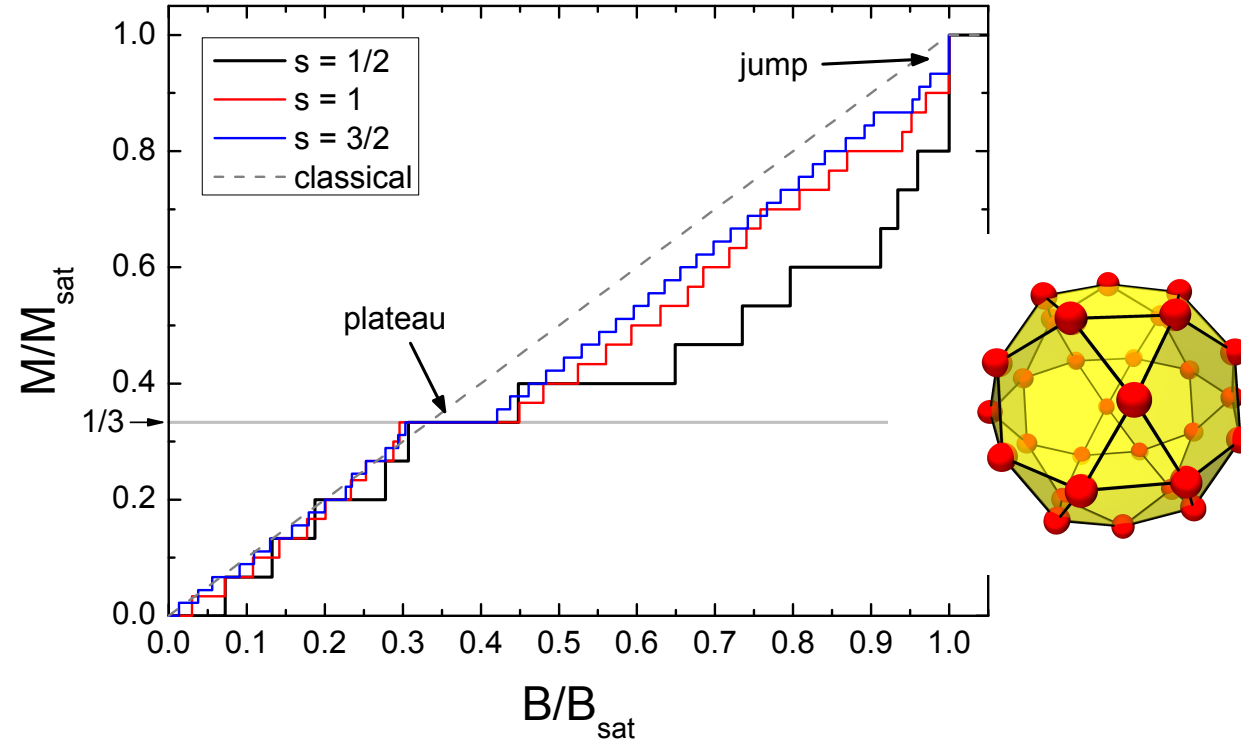


# DMRG spin chain $s = 1/2$



- Simple example: 1000 spins with  $s = 1/2$ ; Hilbert space dimension  $2^{1000} \approx 10^{301}$ .
- Approaches result known from Bethe ansatz with matrices as small as  $50 \times 50$ !

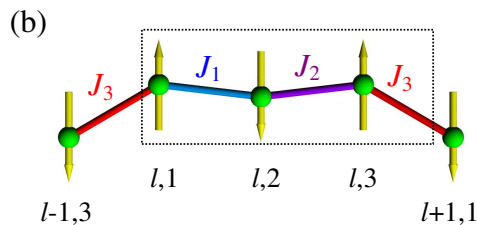
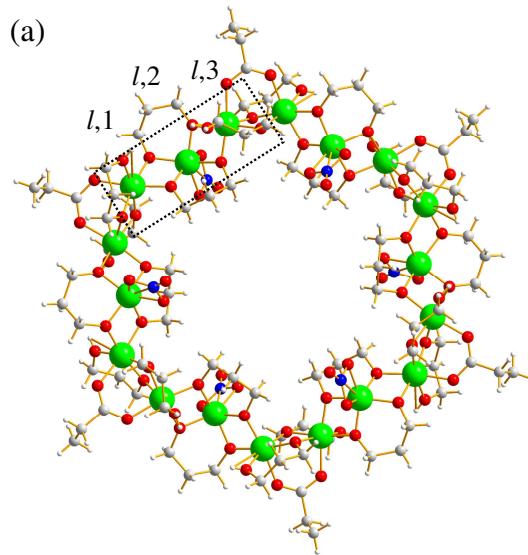
# Density Matrix Renormalization Group



- DMRG yields ground states + very few low-lying states in orthogonal subspaces.
- Magnetization curve for  $T = 0$ , resonance energies for spectroscopy.

(1) J. Ummethum, J. Schnack, and A. Laeuchli, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. **327** (2013) 103

# Dynamical Density Matrix Renormalization Group

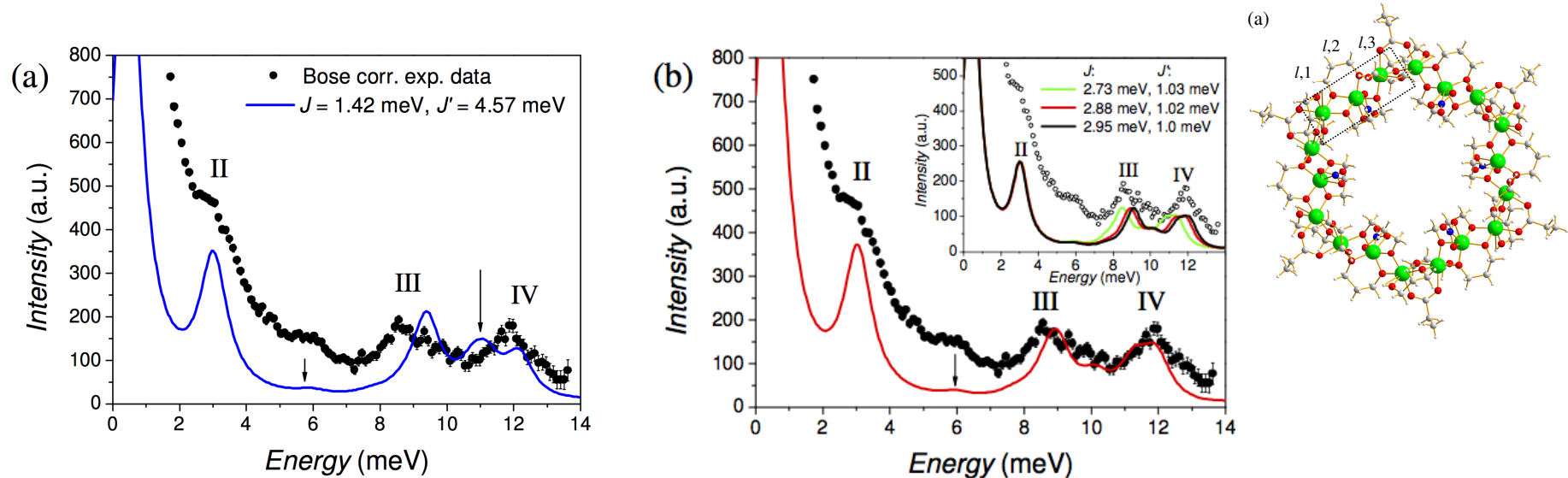


## Evaluation of correlation functions, e.g. for INS:

- $S_{jj'}^{zz}(\omega) \equiv \sum_n \langle 0 | \mathcal{S}_j^z | n \rangle \langle n | \mathcal{S}_{j'}^z | 0 \rangle \delta(\hbar\omega - E_n + E_0)$ ; transitions from the ground state;
- $S_{jj'}^{zz}(\omega) \approx \frac{1}{\pi} \langle 0 | \mathcal{S}_j^z \frac{\eta}{(E_0 + \hbar\omega - \tilde{H})^2 + \eta^2} \mathcal{S}_{j'}^z | 0 \rangle$ ;
- Use DMRG ground state and DMRG representation of  $\tilde{H}$  (1,2);  $\eta$  – finite broadening.

(1) T. D. Kühner and S. R. White, Phys. Rev. B **60**, 335 (1999).  
 (2) E. Jeckelmann, Phys. Rev. B **66**, 045114 (2002).  
 (3) P. King, T. C. Stamatatos, K. A. Abboud, and G. Christou, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **45**, 7379 (2006).  
 (4) O. Waldmann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **102**, 157202 (2009).

# Dynamical Density Matrix Renormalization Group



- Accurate description of low-lying excitations for the giant ferric wheel  $\text{Fe}_{18}$ . Hilbert space dimension  $10^{14}$ .
- Determination of model parameters.

(1) J. Ummethum, J. Nehr Korn, S. Mukherjee, N. B. Ivanov, S. Stuiber, Th. Strässle, P. L. W. Tregenna-Piggott, H. Mutka, G. Christou, O. Waldmann, J. Schnack, Phys. Rev. B **86**, 104403 (2012).

# Quantum Monte Carlo

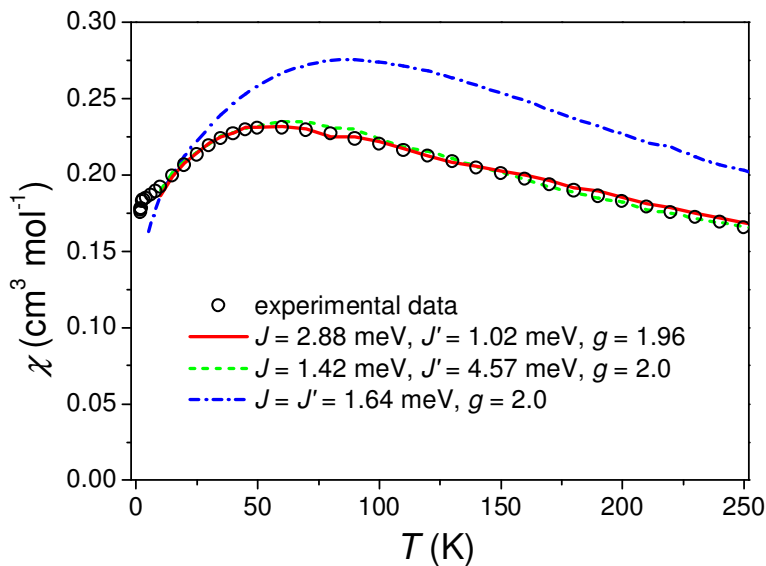
(Very good for non-frustrated systems, even for huge sizes.)

# Quantum Monte Carlo

## Chopped (sliced) partition function:

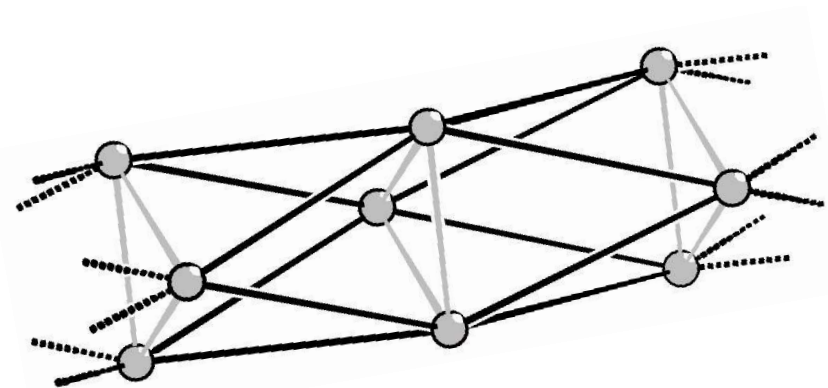
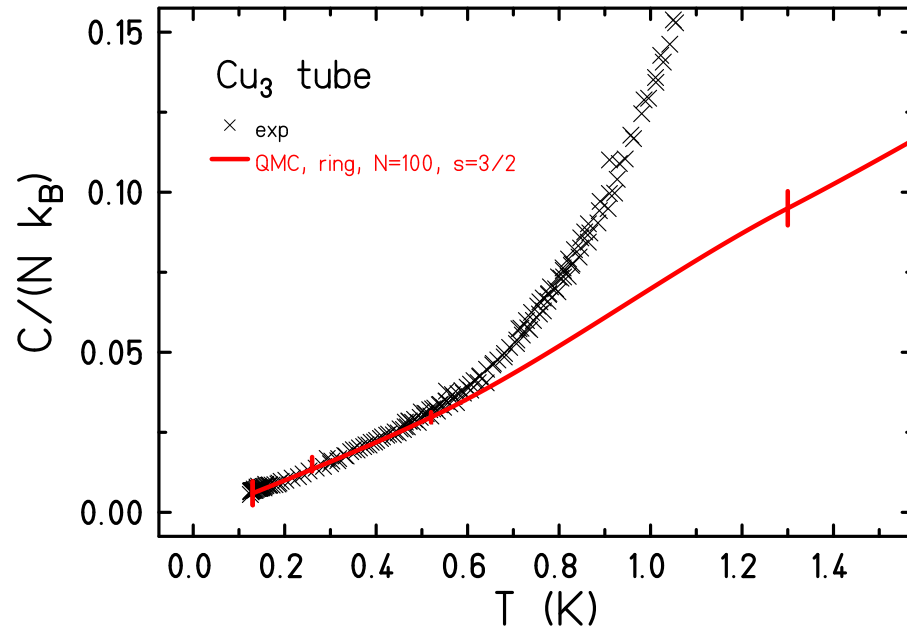
$$\begin{aligned}
 \bullet \quad Z(T, B) &= \sum_{\nu} \langle \nu | \exp \left\{ -\beta \tilde{H} \right\} | \nu \rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\nu} \langle \nu | \left[ \exp \left\{ -\beta \tilde{H} / m \right\} \right]^m | \nu \rangle \\
 &= \sum_{\nu, \alpha, \beta, \dots} \langle \nu | \exp \left\{ -\beta \tilde{H} / m \right\} | \alpha \rangle \langle \alpha | \dots \\
 &\approx \sum_{\nu, \alpha, \beta, \dots} \langle \nu | \left\{ 1 - \beta \tilde{H} / m \right\} | \alpha \rangle \langle \alpha | \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Bad/no convergence for frustrated systems (negative sign problem).**



- (1) A. W. Sandvik and J. Kurkijärvi, Phys. Rev. B **43**, 5950 (1991).
- (2) A. W. Sandvik, Phys. Rev. B **59**, R14157 (1999).
- (3) L. Engelhardt and M. Luban, Phys. Rev. B **73**, 054430 (2006); L. Engelhardt *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **79**, 014404 (2009).
- (4) J. Ummethum *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **86**, 104403 (2012).

# Quantum Monte Carlo



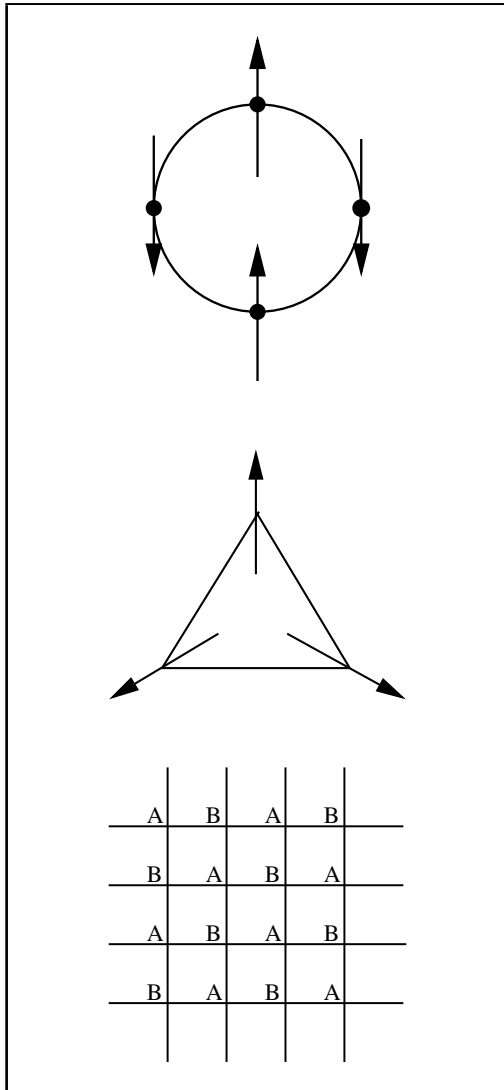
- $[(\text{CuCl}_2\text{tachH})_3\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ : spins on triangles effectively coupled to  $s = 3/2$ , treatment as chain  $\Rightarrow$  Luttinger liquid behavior, i.e.  $C \propto T$ .
- 100 spins  $s = 3/2$  are no problem for QMC.

(1) N. B. Ivanov, J. Schnack, R. Schnalle, J. Richter, P. Kögerler, G.N. Newton, L. Cronin, Y. Oshima, Hiroyuki Nojiri, Phys. Rev. Lett. **105**, 037206 (2010).

# Frustration effects



# Definition of frustration



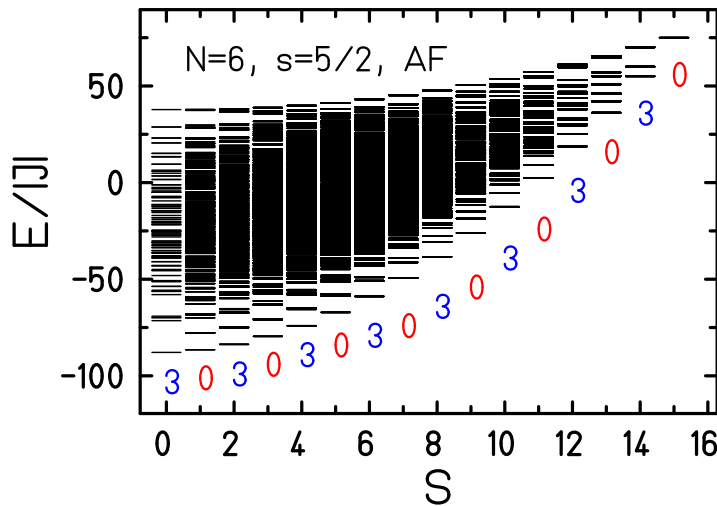
- Simple: A spin system is frustrated if in the ground state of the corresponding classical spin system not all interactions can be minimized simultaneously.

- Advanced: A non-bipartite antiferromagnet is frustrated. A bipartite spin system can be decomposed into two sublattices  $A$  and  $B$  such that for all exchange couplings:

$$J(x_A, y_B) \leq g^2, J(x_A, y_A) \geq g^2, J(x_B, y_B) \geq g^2, \text{cmp. (1,2).}$$

- (1) E.H. Lieb, T.D. Schultz, and D.C. Mattis, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) **16**, 407 (1961)
- (2) E.H. Lieb and D.C. Mattis, J. Math. Phys. **3**, 749 (1962)

# Marshall-Peierls sign rule for even rings



- Expanding the ground state in  $\mathcal{H}(M)$  in the product basis yields a sign rule for the coefficients

$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \sum_{\vec{m}} c(\vec{m}) |\vec{m}\rangle \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{i=1}^N m_i = M$$

$$c(\vec{m}) = (-1)^{\left(\frac{N_s}{2} - \sum_{i=1}^{N/2} m_{2i}\right)} a(\vec{m})$$

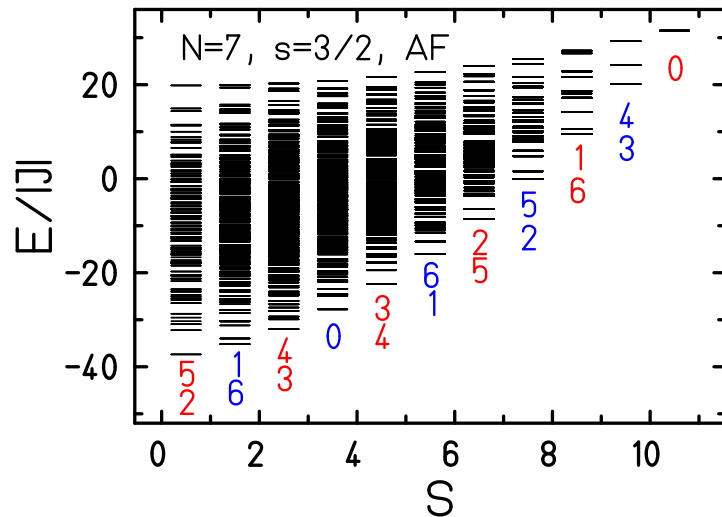
All  $a(\mathbf{m})$  are non-zero, real, and of equal sign.

- Yields eigenvalues for the shift operator  $\tilde{T}$ :

$$\exp\left\{-i\frac{2\pi k}{N}\right\} \quad \text{with} \quad k \equiv a\frac{N}{2} \pmod{N}, \quad a = N_s - M$$

(1) W. Marshall, Proc. Royal. Soc. A (London) **232**, 48 (1955)

# Numerical findings for odd rings



- For odd  $N$  and half integer  $s$ , i.e.  $s = 1/2, 3/2, 5/2, \dots$  we find that (1)
  - the ground state has total spin  $S = 1/2$ ;
  - the ground state energy is **fourfold** degenerate.

- Reason: In addition to the (trivial) degeneracy due to  $M = \pm 1/2$ , a degeneracy with respect to  $k$  appears (2):

$$k = \lfloor \frac{N+1}{4} \rfloor \text{ and } k = N - \lfloor \frac{N+1}{4} \rfloor$$

- For the first excited state similar rules could be numerically established (3).

(1) K. Bärwinkel, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Schnack, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. **220**, 227 (2000)

(2)  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  largest integer, smaller or equal

(3) J. Schnack, Phys. Rev. B **62**, 14855 (2000)

# k-rule for odd rings

- An extended k-rule can be inferred from our numerical investigations which yields the  $k$  quantum number for relative ground states of subspaces  $\mathcal{H}(M)$  for even as well as odd spin rings, i.e. **for all rings** (1)

$$k \equiv \pm a \left\lceil \frac{N}{2} \right\rceil \pmod{N}, \quad a = Ns - M$$

$k$  is independent of  $s$  for a given  $N$  and  $a$ . The degeneracy is minimal ( $N \neq 3$ ).

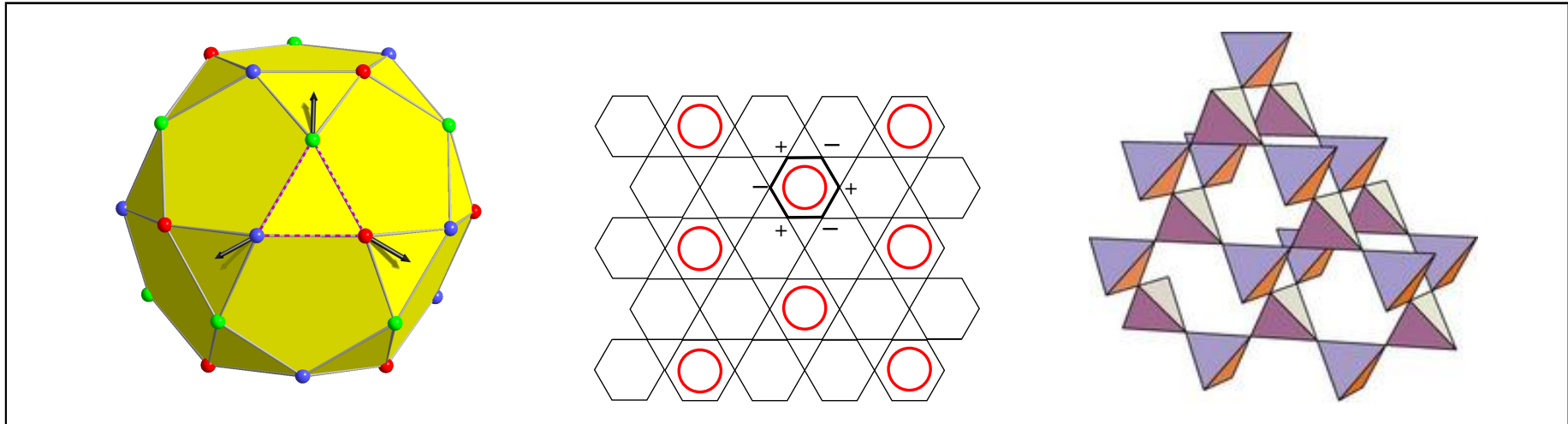
$N$	$s$	$a$									
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8	1/2	0	4	$8 \equiv 0$	$12 \equiv 4$	$16 \equiv 0$	-	-	-	-	-
9	1/2	0	$5 \equiv 4$	$10 \equiv 1$	$15 \equiv 3$	$20 \equiv 2$	-	-	-	-	-
9	1	0	$5 \equiv 4$	$10 \equiv 1$	$15 \equiv 3$	$20 \equiv 2$	$25 \equiv 2$	$30 \equiv 3$	$35 \equiv 1$	$40 \equiv 4$	$45 \equiv 0$

**No general, but partial proof yet.**

(1) K. Bärwinkel, P. Hage, H.-J. Schmidt, and J. Schnack, Phys. Rev. B **68**, 054422 (2003)

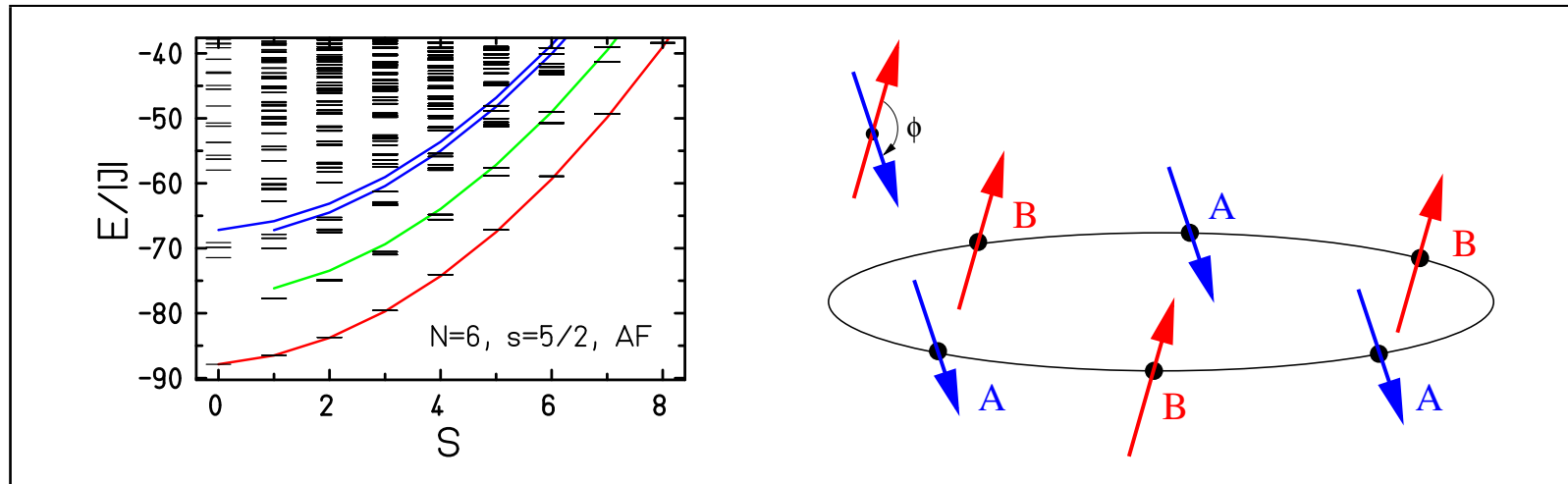
# Fe<sub>30</sub> and friends

## Corner sharing triangles and tetrahedra



- Several frustrated antiferromagnets show an unusual magnetization behavior, e.g. plateaus and jumps.
- Example systems: icosidodecahedron, kagome lattice, pyrochlore lattice.

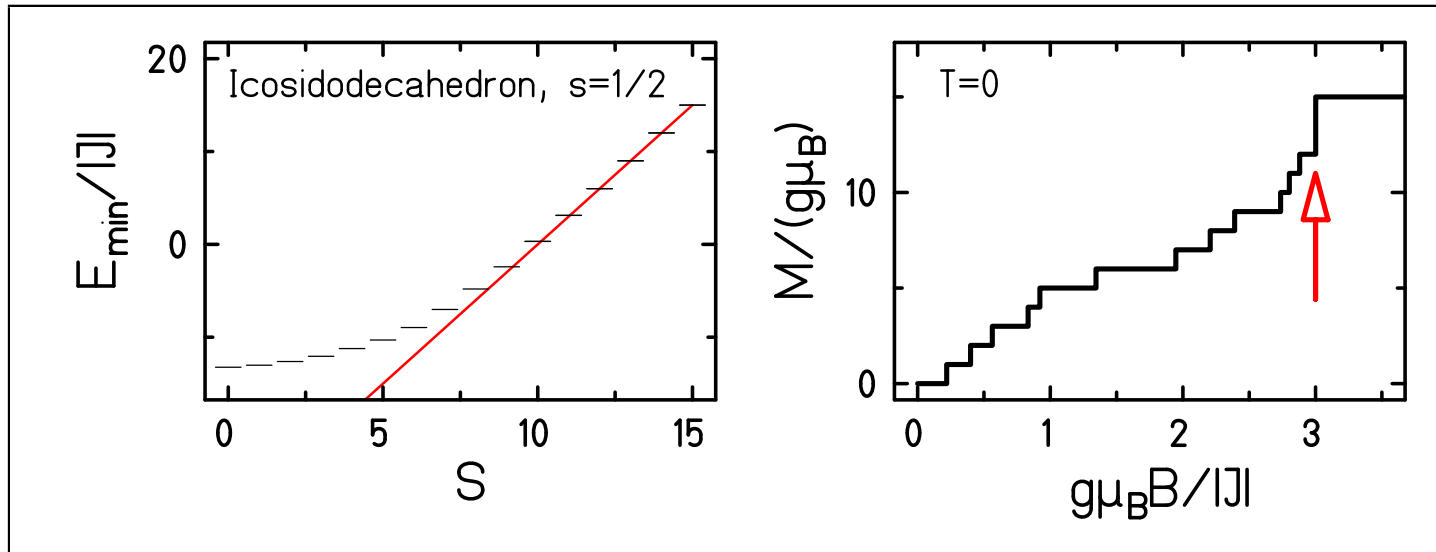
# Rotational bands in non-frustrated antiferromagnets



- Often minimal energies  $E_{min}(S)$  form a rotational band: Landé interval rule (1);
- For bipartite systems (2,3):  $\tilde{H}^{eff} = -2 J_{eff} \tilde{S}_A \cdot \tilde{S}_B$ ;
- Lowest band – rotation of Néel vector, second band – spin wave excitations (4).

(1) A. Caneschi *et al.*, Chem. Eur. J. **2**, 1379 (1996), G. L. Abbati *et al.*, Inorg. Chim. Acta **297**, 291 (2000)  
 (2) J. Schnack and M. Luban, Phys. Rev. B **63**, 014418 (2001)  
 (3) O. Waldmann, Phys. Rev. B **65**, 024424 (2002)  
 (4) P.W. Anderson, Phys. Rev. B **86**, 694 (1952), O. Waldmann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**, 237202 (2003).

# Giant magnetization jumps in frustrated antiferromagnets I the icosidodecahedron



- Close look:  $E_{\min}(S)$  linear in  $S$  for high  $S$  instead of being quadratic (1);
- Heisenberg model: property depends only on the structure but not on  $s$  (2);
- Alternative formulation: independent localized magnons (3);

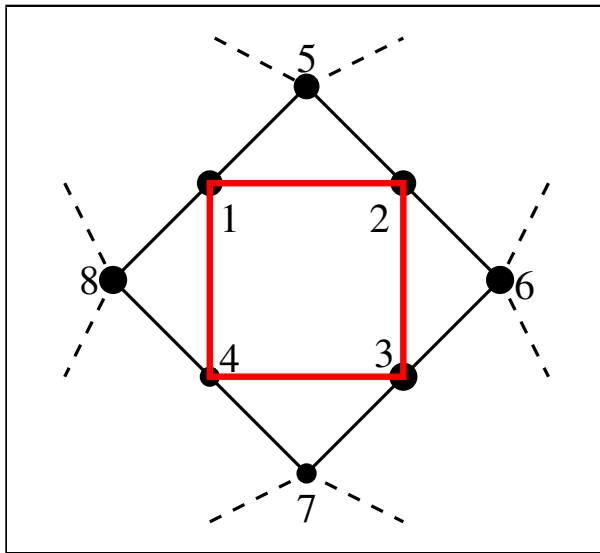
(1) J. Schnack, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, Eur. Phys. J. B **24**, 475 (2001)

(2) H.-J. Schmidt, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. **35**, 6545 (2002)

(3) J. Schulenburg, A. Honecker, J. Schnack, J. Richter, H.-J. Schmidt, Phys. Rev. Lett. **88**, 167207 (2002)

# Giant magnetization jumps in frustrated antiferromagnets II

## Localized Magnons



- $|\text{localized magnon}\rangle = \frac{1}{2} (|1\rangle - |2\rangle + |3\rangle - |4\rangle)$
- $|1\rangle = \tilde{s}^-(1) |\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow \dots\rangle$  etc.
- $\tilde{H} |\text{localized magnon}\rangle \propto |\text{localized magnon}\rangle$
- Localized magnon is state of lowest energy (1,2).

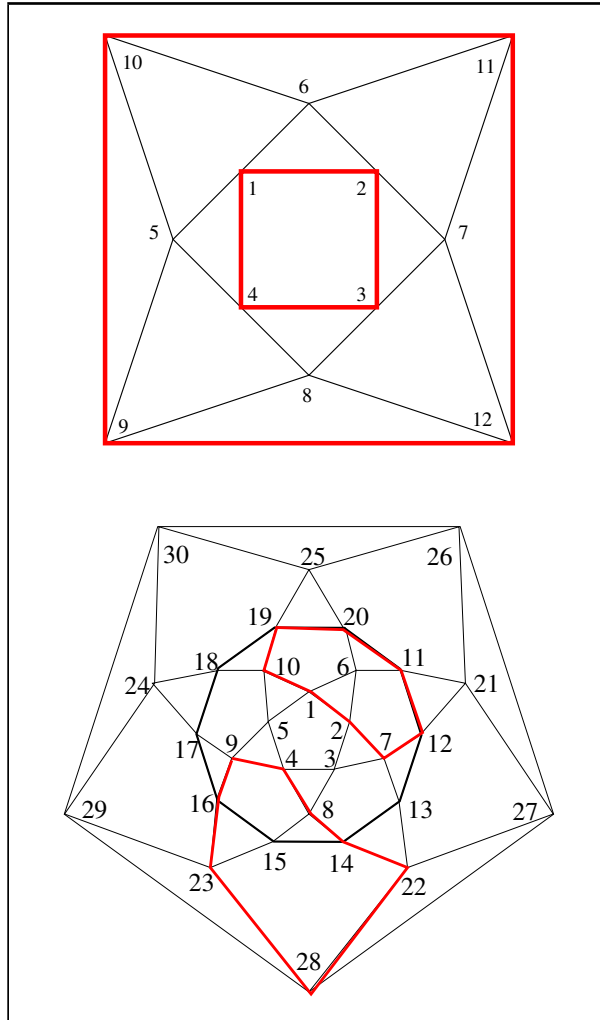
- Triangles trap the localized magnon, amplitudes cancel at outer vertices.

(1) J. Schnack, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, Eur. Phys. J. B **24**, 475 (2001)

(2) H.-J. Schmidt, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. **35**, 6545 (2002)



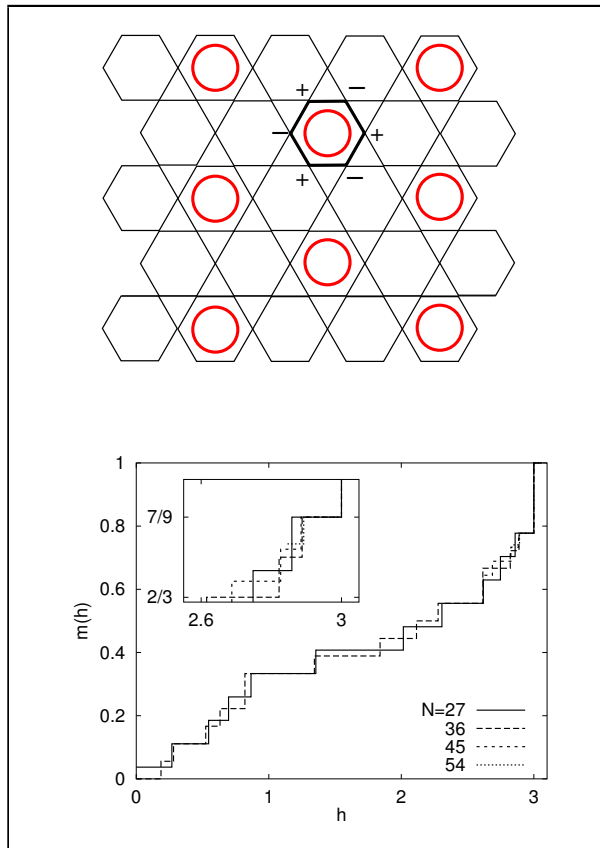
# Giant magnetization jumps in frustrated antiferromagnets III



- Non-interacting one-magnon states can be placed on various molecules, e. g. 2 on the cuboctahedron and 3 on the icosidodecahedron (3rd delocalized);
- Each state of  $n$  independent magnons is the ground state in the Hilbert subspace with  $M = N_s - n$ ;
- Linear dependence of  $E_{\min}$  on  $M$   
 $\Rightarrow (T = 0)$  magnetization jump;
- A rare example of analytically known many-body states!

J. Schnack, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, Eur. Phys. J. B **24**, 475 (2001)

# Giant magnetization jumps in frustrated antiferromagnets III Kagome Lattice

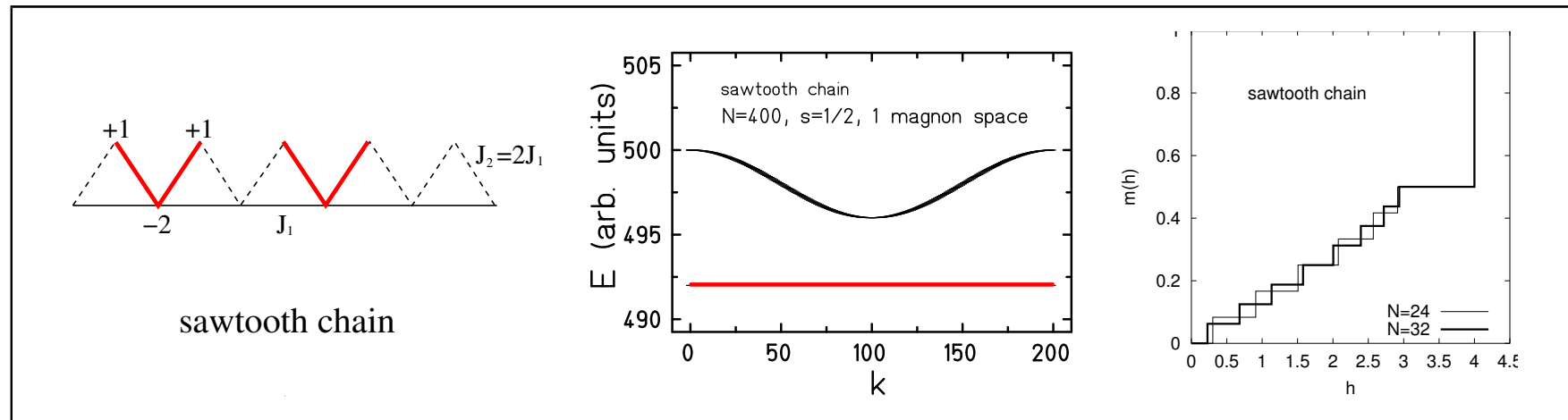


- Non-interacting one-magnon states can be placed on various lattices, e. g. kagome or pyrochlore;
- Each state of  $n$  independent magnons is the ground state in the Hilbert subspace with  $M = Ns - n$ ;  
Kagome: max. number of indep. magnons is  $N/9$ ;
- Linear dependence of  $E_{\min}$  on  $M$   
 $\Rightarrow$  ( $T = 0$ ) magnetization jump;
- Jump is a macroscopic quantum effect!
- A rare example of analytically known many-body states!

J. Schulenburg, A. Honecker, J. Schnack, J. Richter, H.-J. Schmidt, Phys. Rev. Lett. **88**, 167207 (2002)

J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, A. Honecker, J. Schnack, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter **16**, S779 (2004)

# Condensed matter physics point of view: Flat band



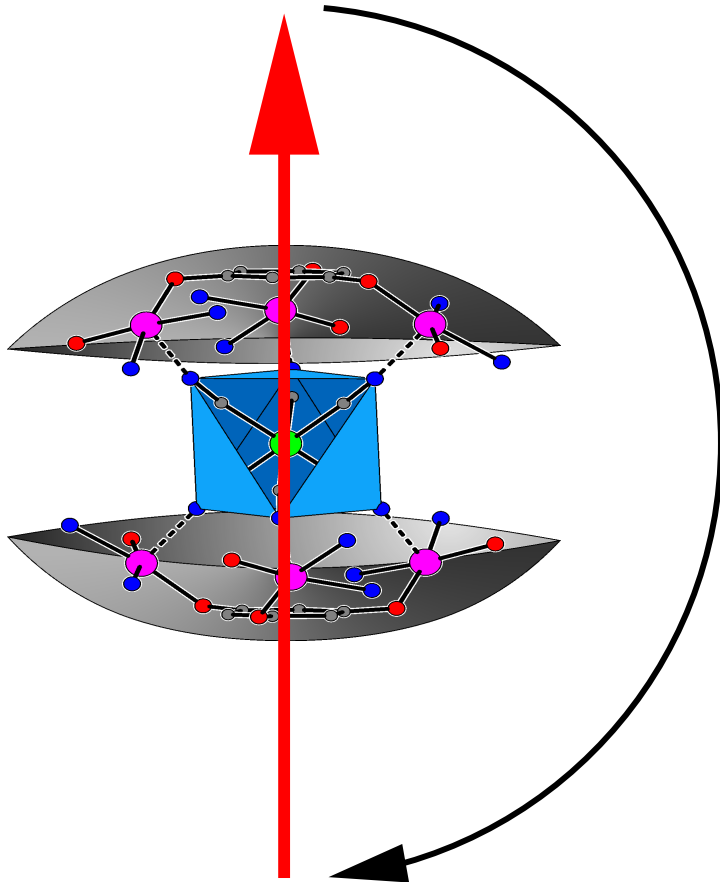
- Flat band of minimal energy in one-magnon space; localized magnons can be built from delocalized states in the flat band.
- Entropy can be evaluated using hard-object models (1); universal low-temperature behavior.
- Same behavior for Hubbard model; flat band ferromagnetism (Tasaki & Mielke), jump of  $N$  with  $\mu$  (2).

(1) H.-J. Schmidt, J. Richter, R. Moessner, J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. **39**, 10673 (2006)

(2) A. Honecker, J. Richter, Condens. Matter Phys. **8**, 813 (2005)

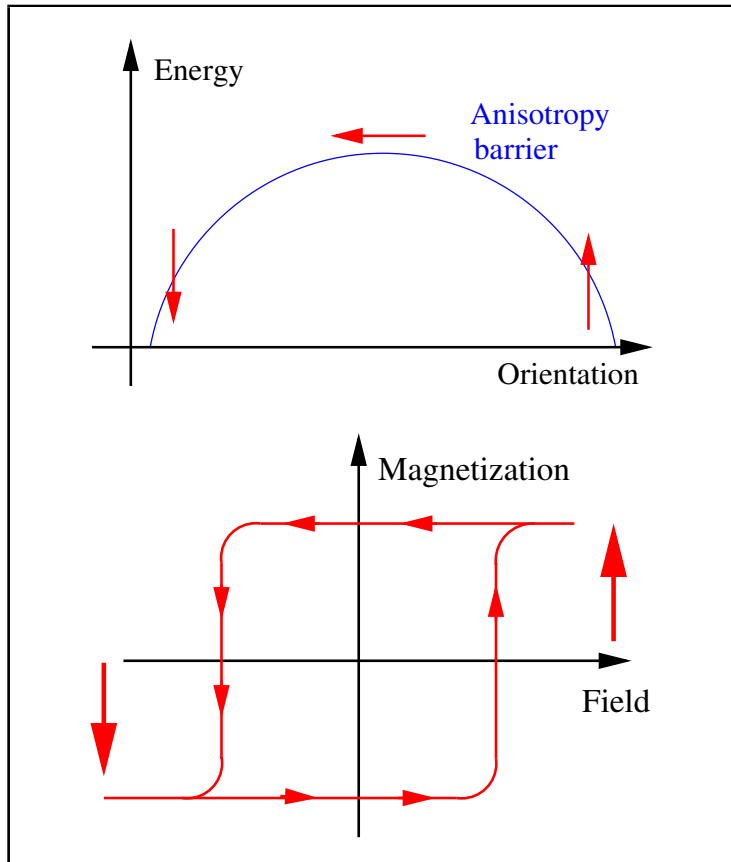
# Single Molecule Magnets

# Single Molecule Magnets I



- Magnetic Molecules may possess a large ground state spin, e.g.  $S = 10$  for Mn<sub>12</sub> or Fe<sub>8</sub>;
- Ground state spin can be stabilized by anisotropy (easy axis).

# Single Molecule Magnets II



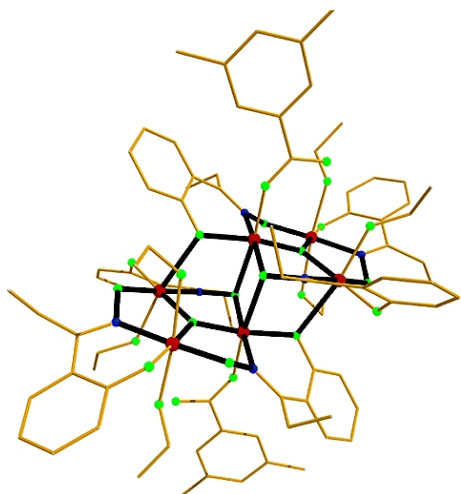
- Single Molecule Magnets (SMM): large ground state moment; anisotropy barrier dominates at low  $T$ .

$$\tilde{H} \approx DS_z^2$$

- Metastable magnetization and hysteresis;
- But also magnetization tunneling due to non-commuting terms, e.g.  $E$ ,  $B_x$ ,  $B_y$ .

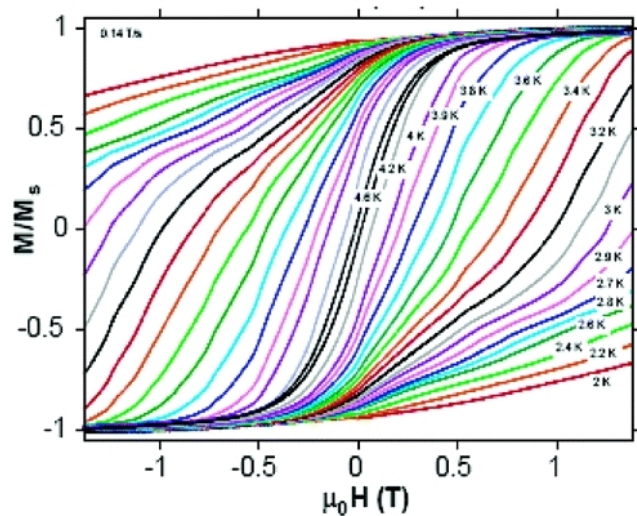
$$\tilde{H} \approx DS_z^2 + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$$

# Single Molecule Magnets III



**$[\text{Mn}_6^{\text{III}}\text{O}_2(\text{Et-sao})_6(\text{O}_2\text{CPh}(\text{Me}_2))_2(\text{EtOH})_6]$ :**

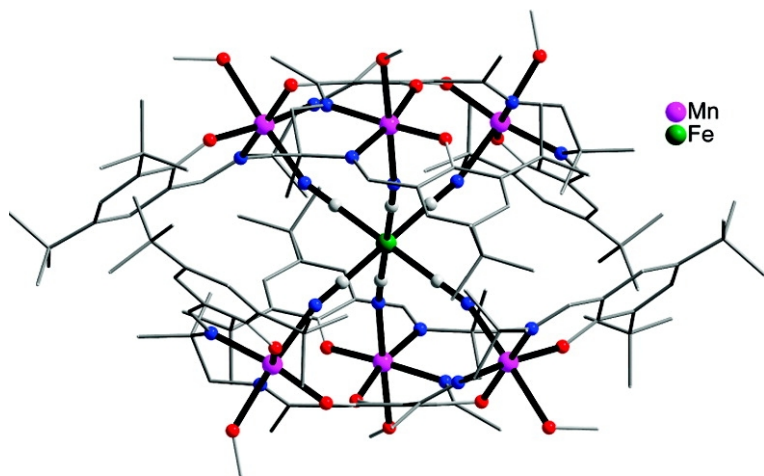
- $S = 12$  ground state with  $D = -0.43 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- $U_{\text{eff}} = 86.4 \text{ K}$  and a blocking temperature of about 4.5 K.
- A record molecule from the group of Euan Brechin (Edinburgh).



C. J. Milios *et al.*, J. Am. Chem. Soc. **129**, 2754 (2007)  
S. Carretta *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **100**, 157203 (2008)

# Single Molecule Magnets V

## Rational design of strict $C_3$ symmetry:



- Idea of Thorsten Glaser (Bielefeld):  $C_3$  symmetric alignment of local easy axes (easy axis  $\equiv$  Jahn-Teller axis);
- Various ions could be used so far, e.g.  $Mn_6Cr$  (1),  $Mn_6Fe$  (2), ...
- Advantage: no  $E$ -terms, i.e. no (less) tunneling;
- Problem: exchange interaction sometimes antiferromagnetic.

T. Glaser *et al.*, *Angew. Chem.-Int. Edit.* **45**, 6033 (2006).

T. Glaser *et al.*, *Inorg. Chem.* **48**, 607 (2009).



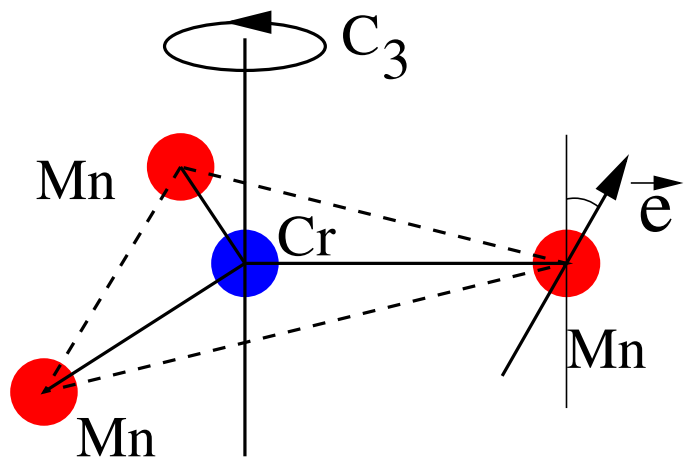
# Anisotropic magnetic molecules I – Theory

$$\tilde{H}(\vec{B}) = - \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \vec{\tilde{S}}(i) \cdot \vec{\tilde{S}}(j) + \sum_i d_i (\vec{e}_i \cdot \vec{\tilde{S}}(i))^2 + \mu_B \vec{B} \cdot \sum_i^N \mathbf{g}_i \cdot \vec{\tilde{S}}(i)$$

- $[\tilde{H}, \tilde{S}^2] \neq 0, [\tilde{H}, \tilde{S}_z] \neq 0;$
- You have to diagonalize  $\tilde{H}(\vec{B})$  for every field (direction and strength)!  
 $\Rightarrow$  Orientational average.
- If you are lucky, point group symmetries still exist. Use them!
- Easy:  $\dim(\mathcal{H}) < 30,000$ ; possible:  $30,000 < \dim(\mathcal{H}) < 140,000$

T. Glaser *et al.* *et* J. Schnack, *Inorg. Chem.* **48**, 607 (2009).

# Anisotropic magnetic molecules II – Example



## What can be achieved? Mn<sub>3</sub>Cr:

- Two couplings:  $J_1$  to central Cr,  $J_2$  between Mn; Mn:  $s=5/2$ ,  $g=2.0$ ; Cr:  $s=3/2$ ,  $g=1.95$
- Model Mn anisotropy by local axis  $\vec{e}(\vartheta, \phi)$ . Due to  $C_3$  symmetry  $\vartheta_{\text{Mn1}} = \vartheta_{\text{Mn2}} = \vartheta_{\text{Mn3}}$ . Only relative  $\phi = 120^\circ$  determined.
- Model Cr anisotropy by local axis  $\vec{e}(\vartheta, \phi)$ . Due to  $C_3$  symmetry  $\vartheta_{\text{Cr}} = 0$ ,  $\phi_{\text{Cr}} = 0$ .
- Result:  $J_1 = -0.29 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $J_2 = -0.08 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $d_{\text{Mn}} = -1.21 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\vartheta_{\text{Mn}} = 22^\circ$ ,  $d_{\text{Cr}} = +0.17 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .
- ab initio calculations needed.

