

# **Modern aspects in magnetic structure and dynamics**

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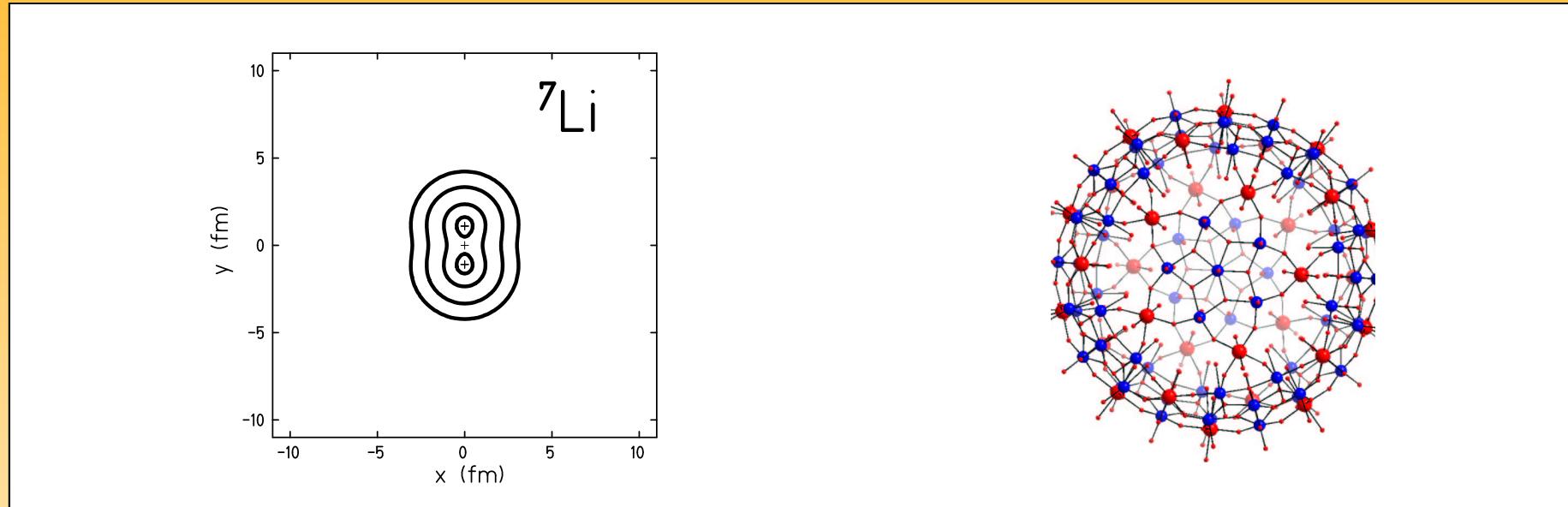
<http://obelix.physik.uni-bielefeld.de/~schnack/>

Modern Aspects in Nuclear Structure and Reactions  
Hirschgägg, January 16, 2008



From today's perspective:  
nuclei and magnetic molecules  
share many interesting  
properties

# Today's perspective I – finite quantum systems

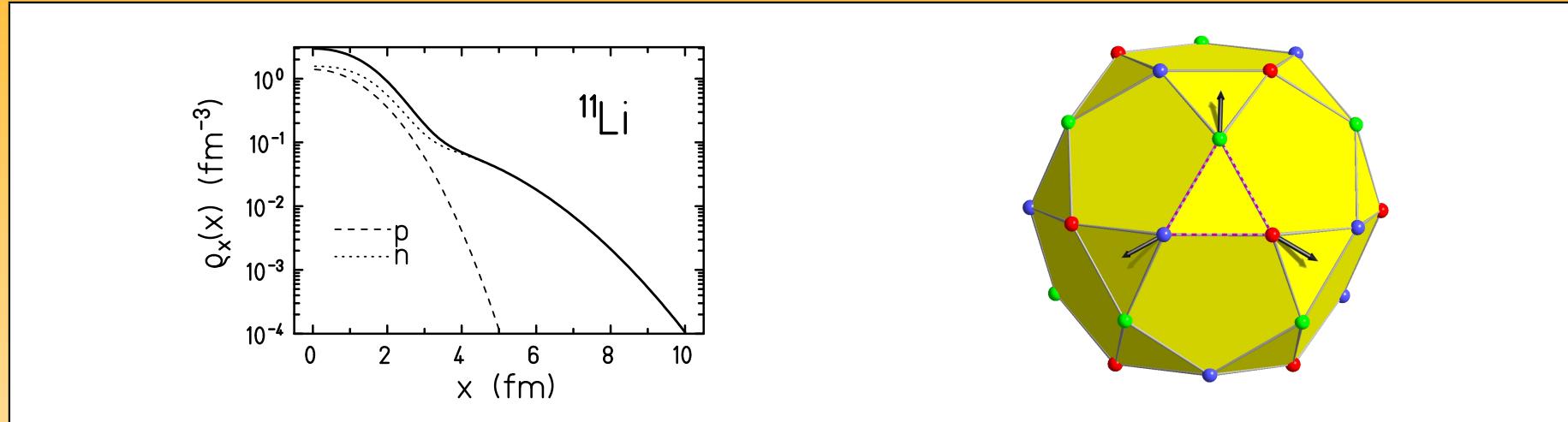


- nuclei built of nucleons
- coordinates, spins, isospins
- magnetic molecules containing paramagnetic ions
- spins, phonons

H. Feldmeier, J. Schnack, Rev. Mod. Phys. **72**, 655 (2000)

J. Schnack, in Lecture Notes in Physics **645**, 155 (2004)

## Today's perspective II – correlated eigenstates

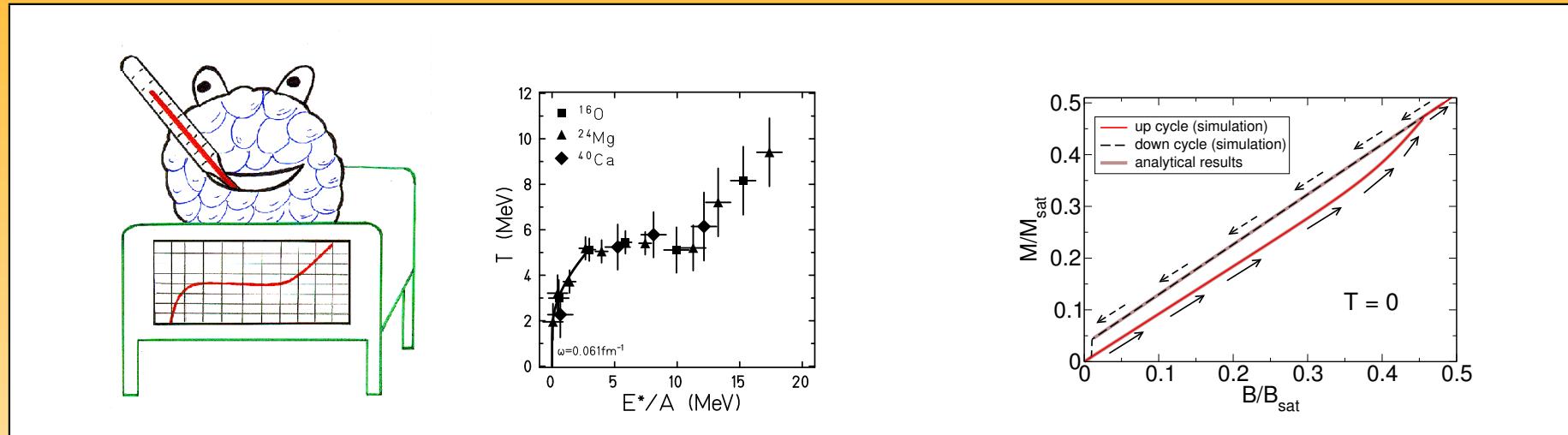


- many-body effects
- short-range correlations
- many-body effects
- geometric frustration

H. Feldmeier, T. Neff, R. Roth, J. Schnack,  
Nucl. Phys. A **632**, 61 (1998)

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

# Today's perspective III – phase transitions



- nuclear caloric curve
- first order phase transition (boiling)

J. Schnack, H. Feldmeier, Phys. Lett. B **409**, 6 (1997)

- metamagnetic ( $T = 0$ ) phase transition
- first order, hysteresis

C. Schröder, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Schnack, M. Luban, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 207203 (2005)

But at the beginning:  
the start was a bit problematic

# Problematic start I – Trabant against Mercedes



- At the very day of my arrival in September 1991: annual works outing (Betriebsausflug) to Kloster Lorsch; did not know the way, could not follow on the Autobahn!

...

## Problematic start II – attraction won

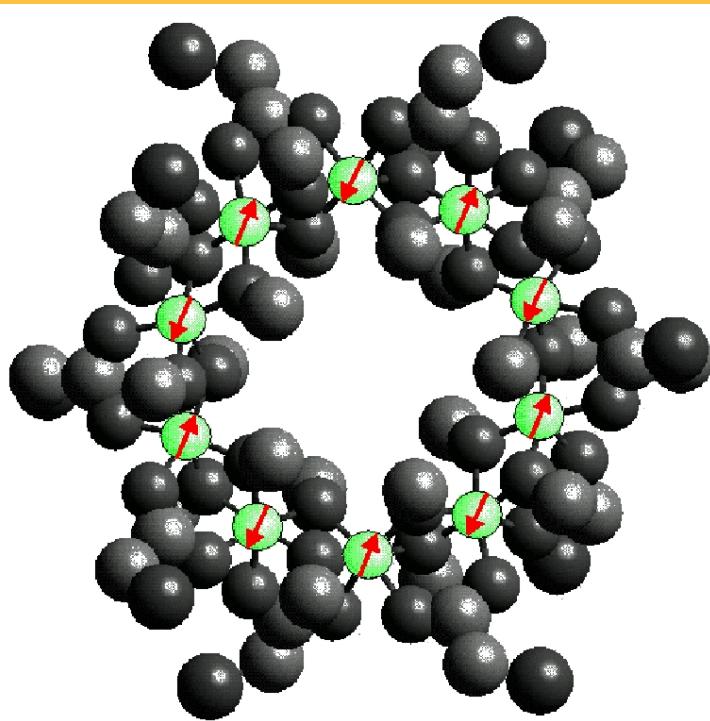


- Crashed a chair in the restaurant! Got drunk at the wine tasting! Drove back through dark night, crossing the Rhine with a ferry, ...
- Had to redo my exams in Theoretical and Experimental Physics!<sup>1</sup>
- It all proves the attraction of Hans Feldmeier's group!

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<sup>1</sup> Has nothing to do with the points above!

# Contents for you today

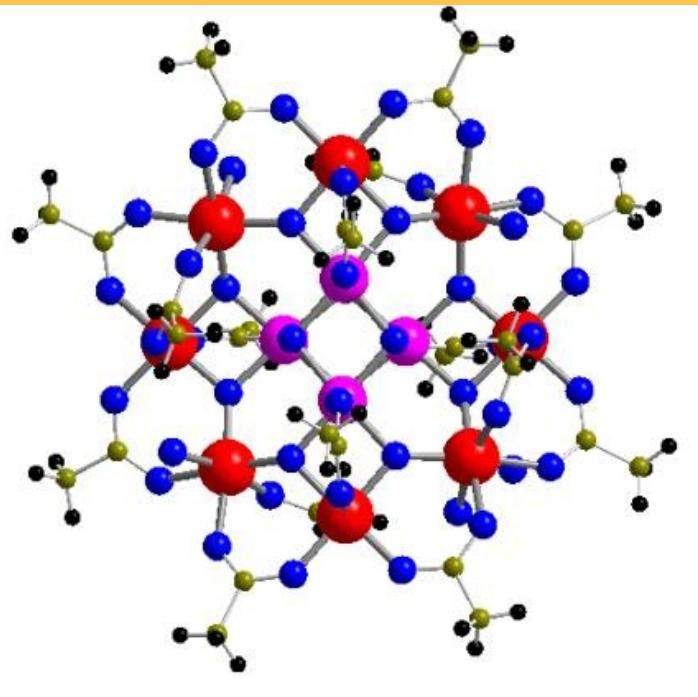


$\text{Fe}_{10}$

1. The suspects: magnetic molecules
2. Independent magnons on frustrated antiferromagnets
3. Metamagnetic phase transitions

# Magnetic Molecules

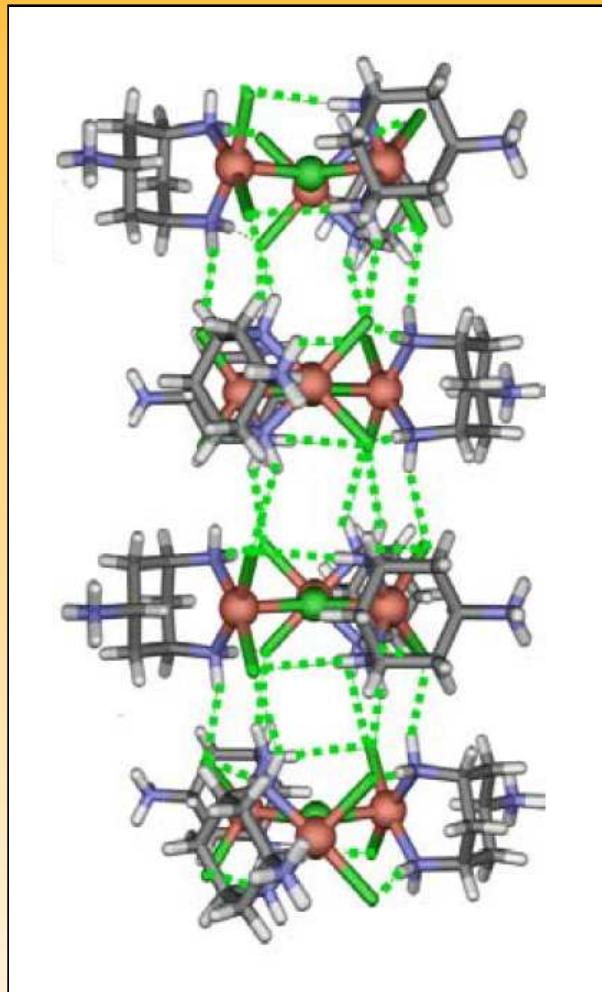
# The beauty of magnetic molecules I



$\text{Mn}_{12}$

- Inorganic or organic macro molecules, 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);
- Speculative applications: **magnetic storage devices, magnets in biological systems, light-induced nano switches, displays, catalysts, transparent magnets, qubits for quantum computers.**

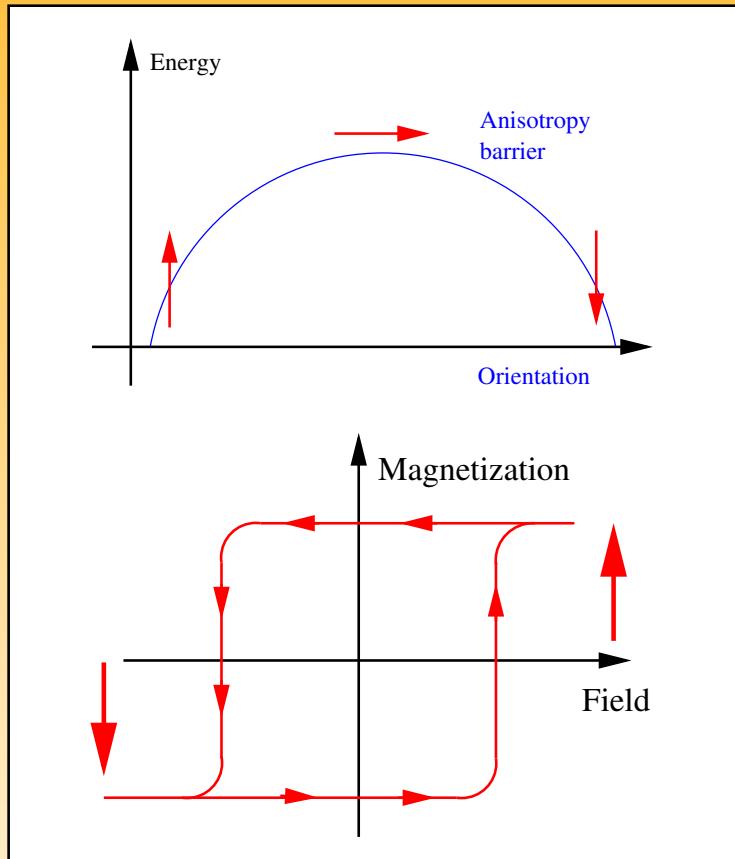
# The beauty of magnetic molecules II



- Dimers ( $\text{Fe}_2$ ), tetrahedra ( $\text{Cr}_4$ ), cubes ( $\text{Cr}_8$ );
- Rings, especially iron and chromium rings
- 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); Sato, Sakai, Läuchli, Mila, ...

# The beauty of magnetic molecules III



- Single Molecule Magnets (SMM): magnetic molecules with large ground state moment; e.g.  $S = 10$  for  $\text{Mn}_{12}$  or  $\text{Fe}_8$
- Anisotropy barrier dominates behavior (as in your hard drive);
- Single molecule is a magnet and shows metastable magnetization and hysteresis; but also magnetization tunneling.
- Today's major efforts: improve stability of magnetization; investigate on surfaces.

# Model Hamiltonian – Heisenberg-Model

$$\tilde{H} = \sum_{i,j} \vec{s}(i) \cdot \mathbf{J}_{ij} \cdot \vec{s}(j) + \sum_{i,j} \vec{D}_{ij} \cdot [\vec{s}(i) \times \vec{s}(j)] + \mu_B B \sum_i^N g_i \tilde{s}_z(i)$$

Exchange/Anisotropy      Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya      Zeeman

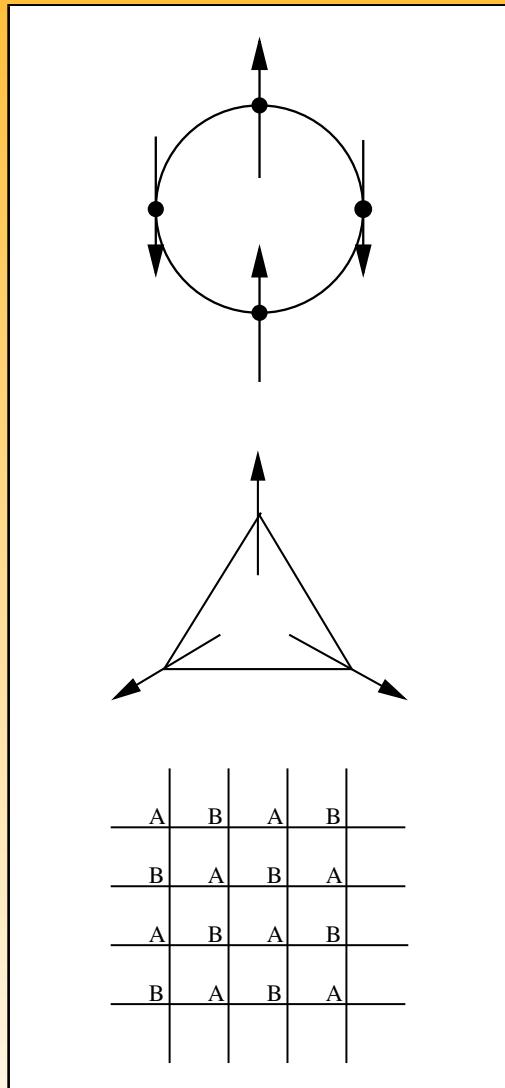
Very often anisotropic terms are utterly negligible, then . . .

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

Heisenberg      Zeeman

The Heisenberg Hamilton operator together with a Zeeman term are used for the following considerations;  $J < 0$ : antiferromagnetic coupling.

# Definition of frustration



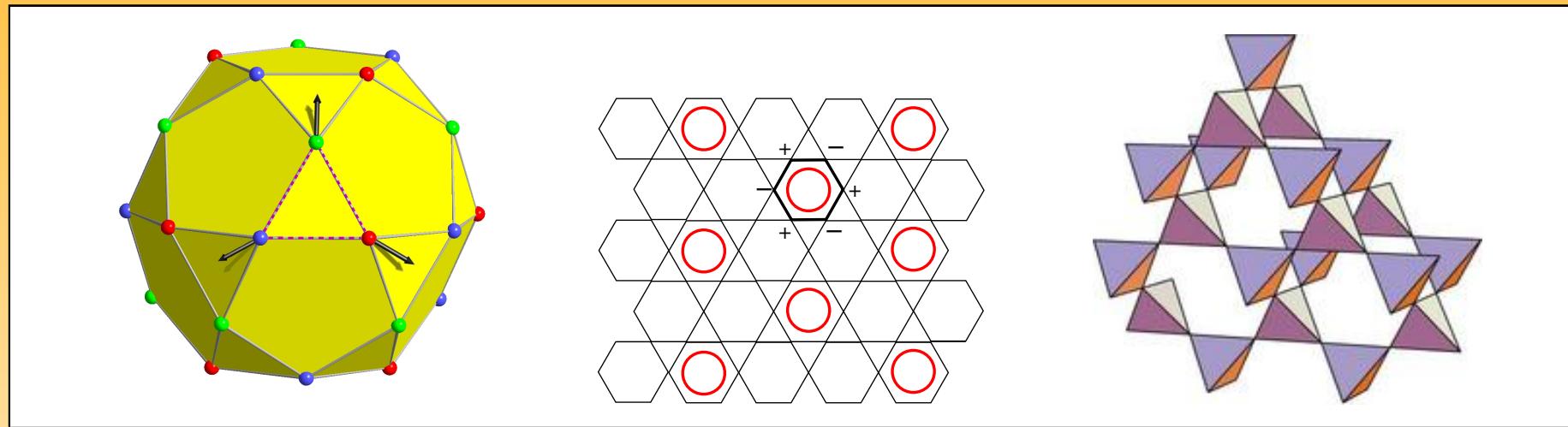
- Simple: An antiferromagnet is frustrated if in the ground state of the corresponding classical spin system not all interactions can be minimized simultaneously.
- Advanced: A non-bipartite antiferromagnet is frustrated. A bipartite spin system can be decomposed into two sublattices  $A$  and  $B$  such that for all exchange couplings:  
$$J(x_A, y_B) \leq g^2, J(x_A, y_A) \geq g^2, J(x_B, y_B) \geq g^2,$$
 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)

# Independent magnons on frustrated antiferromagnets

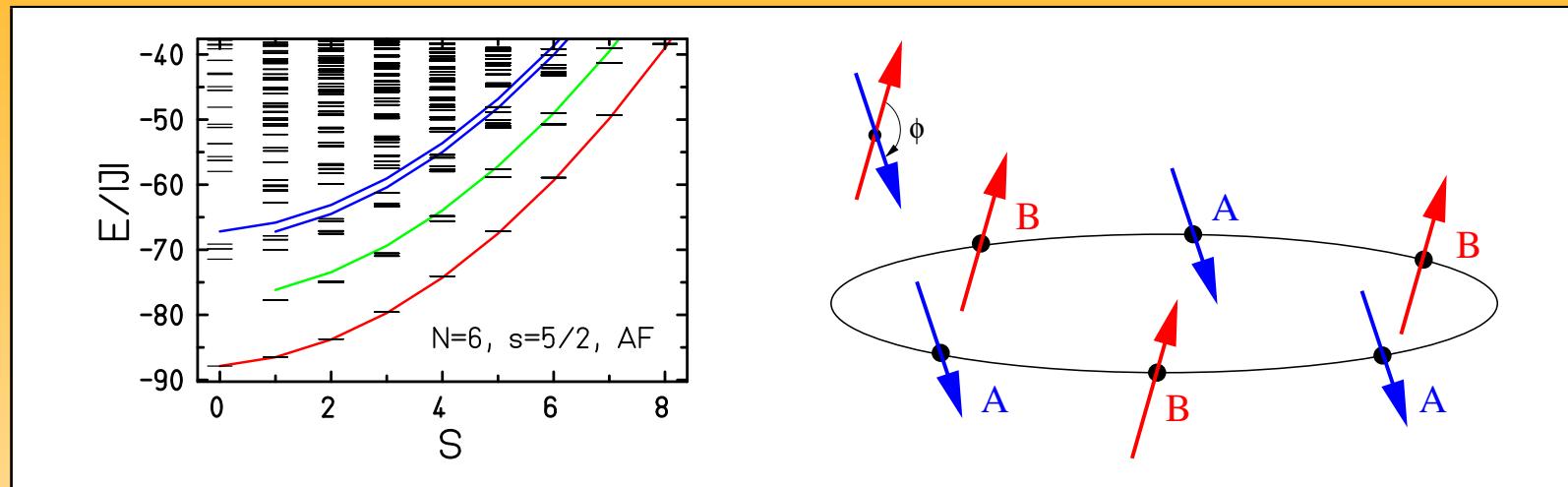
# Fe<sub>30</sub> and friends

## 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.

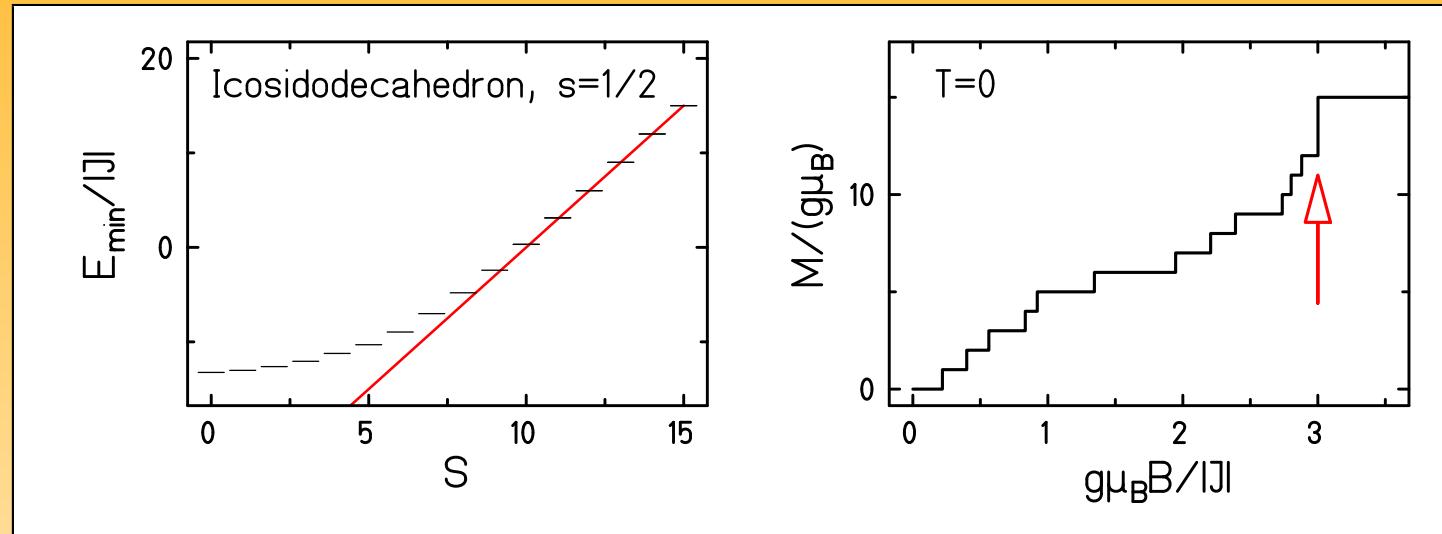
# Rotational bands in non-frustrated antiferromagnets



- Often minimal energies  $E_{min}(S)$  form a rotational band: Landé interval rule (1);
- For bipartite systems (2,3):  $\tilde{H}^{\text{eff}} = -2 J_{\text{eff}} \tilde{\vec{S}}_A \cdot \tilde{\vec{S}}_B$ ;
- 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 $\{\text{Mo}_{72}\text{Fe}_{30}\}$



- 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);

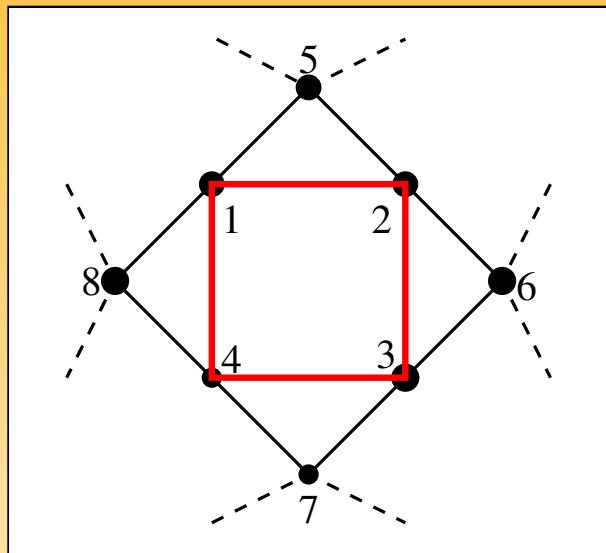
(1) J. Schnack, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, Eur. Phys. J. B **24**, 475 (2001)

(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

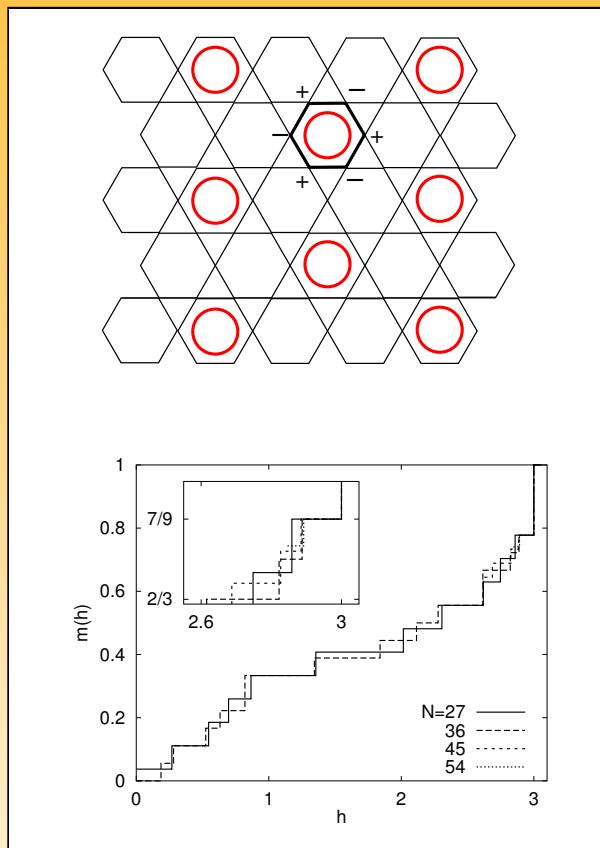
## Localized Magnons



- $|\text{localized magnon}\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(|1\rangle - |2\rangle + |3\rangle - |4\rangle)$
  - $|1\rangle = \tilde{s}^-(1)|\uparrow\uparrow\uparrow\dots\rangle$  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 Kagome Lattice

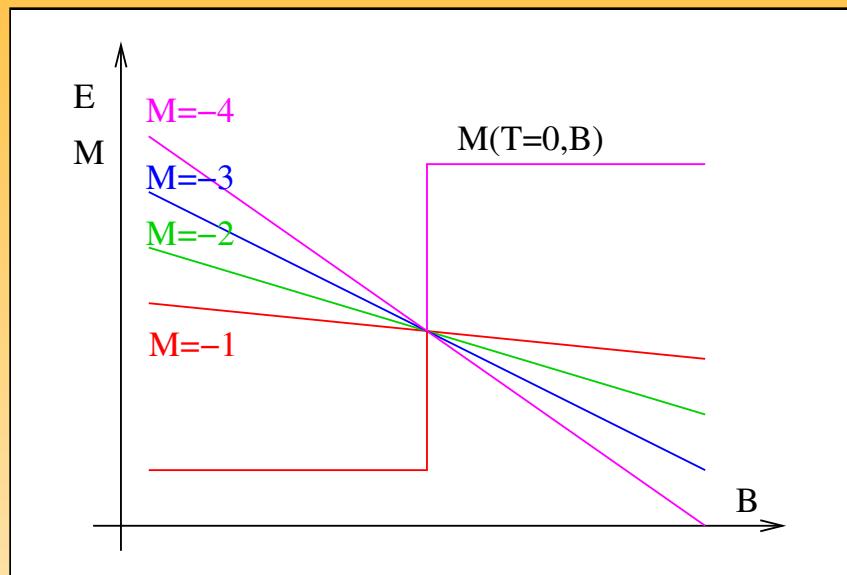


- Non-interacting one-magnon states can be placed on various lattices, e. g. kagome or pyrochlore;
- Each state of  $n$  independent magnons is the ground state in the Hilbert subspace with  $M = Ns - n$ ; Kagome: max. number of indep. magnons is  $N/9$ ;
- Linear dependence of  $E_{\min}$  on  $M$   
 $\Rightarrow$  ( $T = 0$ ) 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)

# Magnetocaloric effect I

## Giant jumps to saturation



- Many Zeeman levels cross at one and the same magnetic field.
- High degeneracy of ground state levels  
⇒ large residual entropy at  $T = 0$ .
- 

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

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

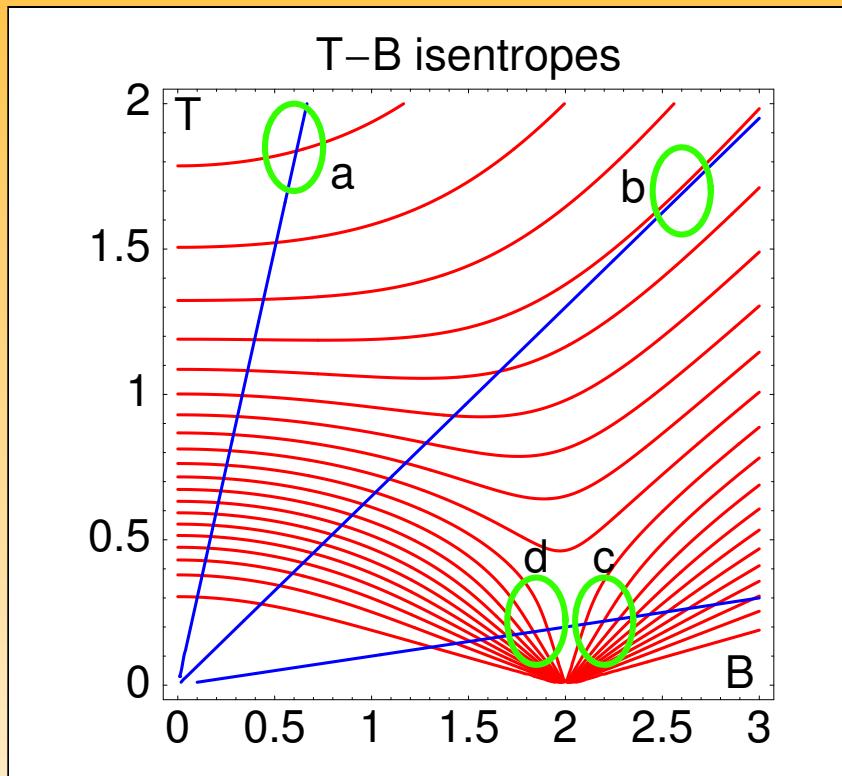
A. Honecker, J. Richter, Condensed Matter Physics **8**, 813 (2005)

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

O. Derzhko, J. Richter, A. Honecker, H.-J. Schmidt, Low Temp. Phys. **33**, 745 (2007)

# Magnetocaloric effect II

## Isentrops of af $s = 1/2$ dimer



blue lines: ideal paramagnet, red curves: af dimer

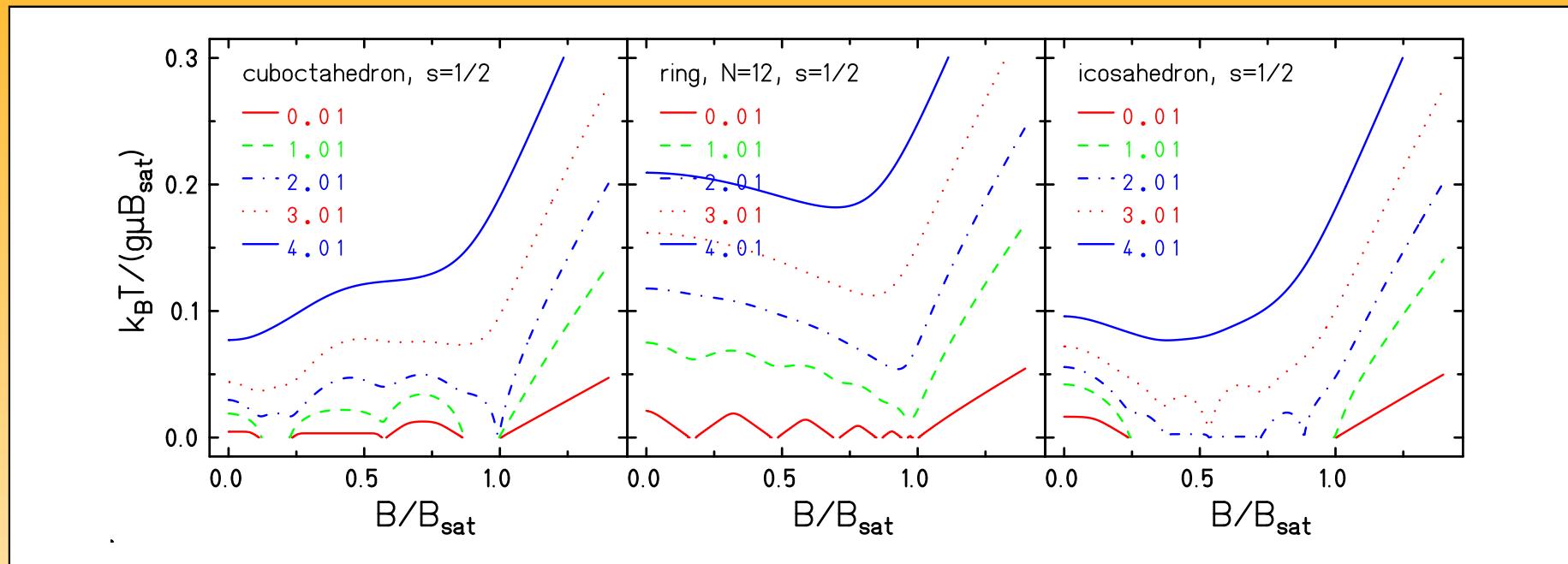
Magnetocaloric effect:

- (a) reduced,
- (b) the same,
- (c) enhanced,
- (d) opposite

when compared to an ideal paramagnet.

Case (d) does not occur for a paramagnet.

## Magnetocaloric effect III – Molecular systems

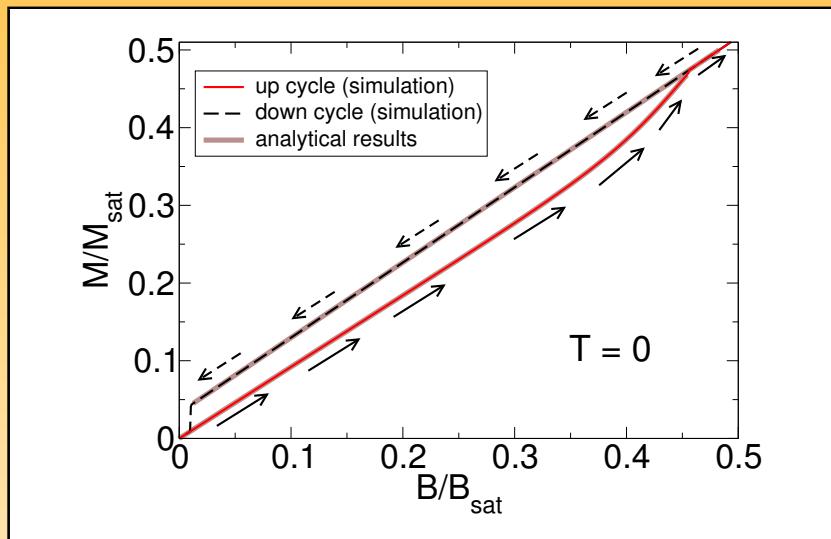


- Cuboctahedron: high cooling rate due to independent magnons;
- Ring: normal level crossing, normal jump;
- Icosahedron: unusual behavior due to edge-sharing triangles, high degeneracies all over the spectrum; high cooling rate.

J. Schnack, R. Schmidt, J. Richter, Phys. Rev. B **76**, 054413 (2007)

# Metamagnetic phase transitions

# Metamagnetic phase transition I Hysteresis without anisotropy

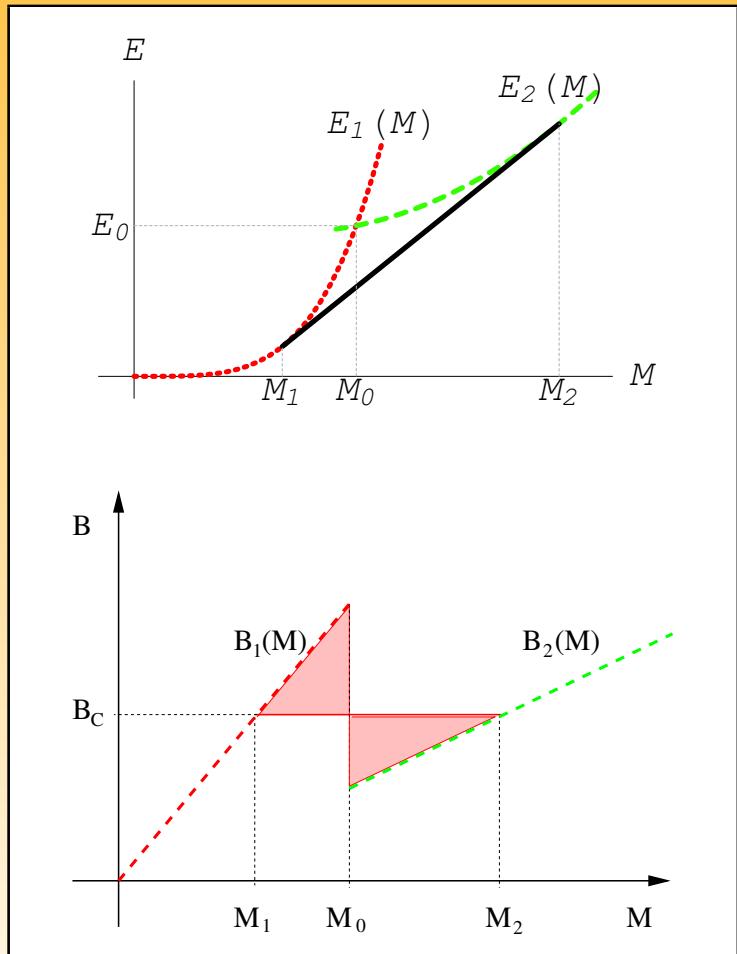


- Heisenberg model with isotropic nearest neighbor exchange
- Hysteresis behavior of the classical icosahedron in an applied magnetic field.
- Classical spin dynamics simulations (thick lines).
- Analytical stability analysis (grey lines).

C. Schröder, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Schnack, M. Luban, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 207203 (2005)

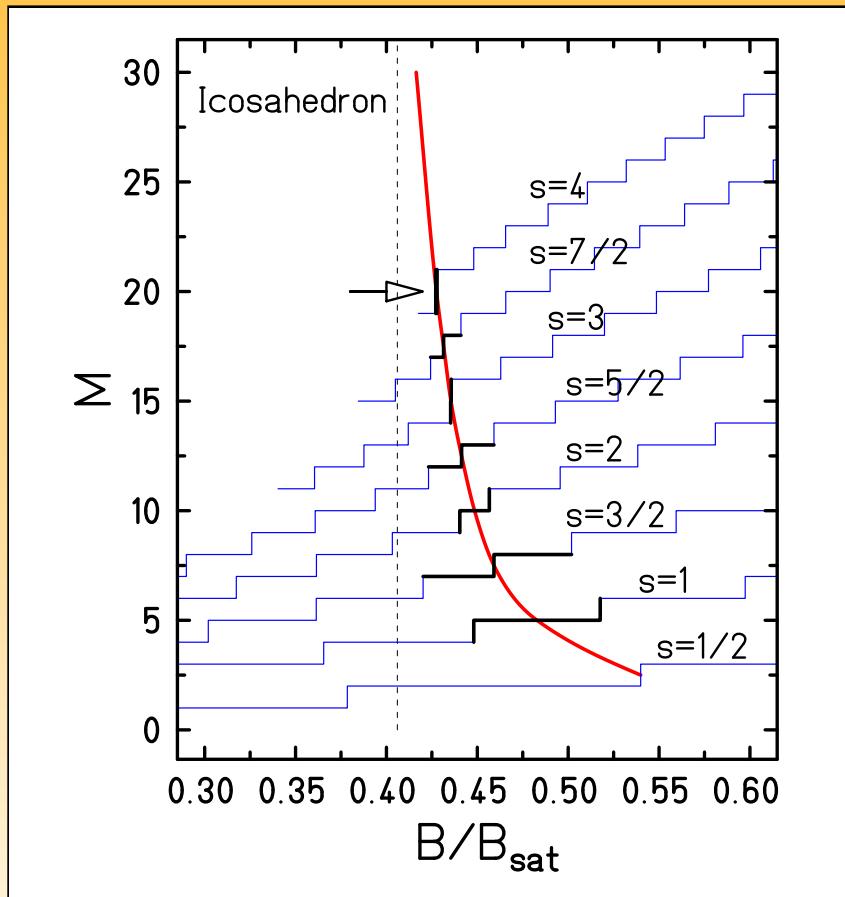
# Metamagnetic phase transition II

## Non-convex minimal energy



- Minimal energies realized by two families of spin configurations (1):  $E_1(M)$  – “4-θ-family”,  $E_2(M)$  – “decagon family”
  - Overall minimal energy curve is not convex.
  - Maxwell construction yields ( $T = 0$ ) 1st order phase transition at  $B_c$  (1,2,3)
  - ( $T = 0$ )–magnetization dynamics extends into metastable region.
- (1) C. Schröder, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Schnack, M. Luban, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 207203 (2005)  
 (2) D. Coffey and S.A. Trugman, Phys. Rev. Lett. **69**, 176 (1992)  
 (3) C. Lhuillier and G. Misguich, in *High Magnetic Fields*, Eds. C. Berthier, L. Levy, and G. Martinez, Springer (2002) 161-190

# Metamagnetic phase transition III Quantum icosahedron



- Quantum analog:  
Non-convex minimal energy levels  
 $\Rightarrow$  magnetization jump of  $\Delta M > 1$ .
- Lanczos diagonalization for various  $s$   
**Theory achievement: work with vectors with  $10^9$  entries.**
- True jump of  $\Delta M = 2$  for  $s = 4$ .
- Polynomial fit in  $1/s$  yields the classically observed transition field.

C. Schröder, H.-J. Schmidt, J. Schnack, M. Luban,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 207203 (2005)

If it comes to numerics:  
we don't know any fear!

# Numerics I – IBM 3090 at GSI



- One day in the early 90s Prof. Nörenberg came and showed a kind of bill where computer time on the IBM 3090 was listed. A guy (TP38 – Guess who it was?) had used 1/3 of GSI's annual computer time!

## Numerics II – today I am using 100 %



- BULL NovaScale Server 3045:
- Future: wide open  
8 ITANIUM TUKWILA (a 4 cores),  
512 GB RAM  
(an amazing computer power)
- Now:  
4 ITANIUM MONTECITO (a 2 cores),  
64 GB RAM  
(already an amazing computer power,  
but one can get used to it ;-))

## Many thanks to my collaborators worldwide

- T. Englisch, T. Glaser, S. Leiding, A. Müller, Chr. Schröder (Bielefeld)
- K. Bärwinkel, H.-J. Schmidt, M. Allalen, M. Brüger, D. Mentrup, D. Müter, M. Exler, P. Hage, F. Hesmer, K. Jahns, F. Ouchni, R. Schnalle, P. Shchelokovskyy, S. Torbrügge & M. Neumann, K. Küpper, M. Prinz (Osnabrück);
- M. Luban, D. Vaknin (Ames Lab, USA); P. Kögerler (RWTH, Jülich, Ames) J. Musfeld (U. of Tennessee, USA); N. Dalal (Florida State, USA); R.E.P. Winpenny (Man U, UK); L. Cronin (U. of Glasgow, UK); H. Nojiri (Tohoku University, Japan); A. Postnikov (U. Metz)
- J. Richter, J. Schulenburg, R. Schmidt (U. Magdeburg); S. Blügel (FZ Jülich); A. Honecker (U. Göttingen); E. Rentschler (U. Mainz); U. Kortz (IUB); A. Tennant, B. Lake (HMI Berlin); B. Büchner, V. Kataev, R. Klingeler, H.-H. Klauß (Dresden)

# It all started at GSI with ...



- Hans Feldmeier
- Konrad Bieler, Jörg Lindner, Thomas Neff, Robert Roth, J.S.
- L. Mornas, L. Razumov, G. Papp, ...
- J. Knoll, B. Friman, P. Henning, W. Nörenberg, Chr. Sauermann, W. Weinhold, J. Randrup, ...

# It was a good time I



- I learned physics during my Ph.D.!

# Many-body physics in action



spectator

two-body correlation

German Molecular Magnetism Web

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

Highlights. Tutorials. Who is who. DFG SPP 1137