

MA 53: Skyrmions IV

Time: Friday 9:30–10:45

Location: EB 301

MA 53.1 Fri 9:30 EB 301

Putative formation of an antiferromagnetic Skyrmion lattice in J_2 -frustrated spinel compounds $MnSc_2X_4$ ($X=S, Se$) —

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Spinel is a superposition of a pyrochlore and a diamond substructure. In the case of $MnSc_2X_4$ the magnetic Mn^{3+} -ions form the diamond substructure with a dominant second nearest neighbour-exchange ($J_2 > J_1$), which leads to magnetic frustration. New magnetic phase diagrams could be deduced by magnetoelastic measurements for both compounds. For $MnSc_2S_4$ in $H \parallel [111]$ an antiferromagnetic skyrmion-lattice could be found in a broad region between 5T and 8T, up to 2K, confirming former INS-measurements and simulations. Furthermore, the skyrmionic phase could be reproduced by a new simulation based on thermodynamics, connected to the experiments. Otherwise, measurements of $MnSc_2Se_4$ as well as the resulting phase diagram clearly show no hints for a skyrmionic phase.

A comparison of dilatometry measurements and resulting phase diagrams with special consideration of the skyrmion-lattice will be the main message of the talk.

MA 53.2 Fri 9:45 EB 301

Skyrmion Ordering in Geometric Confinements —

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Magnetic skyrmions are chiral, quasi-particle spin textures that are considered as promising candidates for data storage, logic and non-conventional computing devices [1]. Furthermore, dense arrangements of skyrmions in thin films allow us to observe 2D phase behavior [2], which significantly differs from 3D systems. In confined geometries, we identify how the patterned structures significantly impact the ordering behavior of the skyrmions. We analyze the characteristic lattice behavior in our system and show how random diffusion and the pinning landscape [3] contribute to the features and capabilities of our system in the context of phase observations and the design of nanodevices.

[1] Zázvorka et al., Nat. Nanotechnol. 14, 658-661 (2019) [2] Zázvorka et al., Adv. Funct. Mater. 30, 2004037 (2020). [3] Gruber et al., Nat. Commun. 13, 3144 (2022).

MA 53.3 Fri 10:00 EB 301

Helical to conical order in $M1/3 NbS_2$ ($M=Cr, Mn$), detected by Cr, Mn NMR —

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Recently, the materials $Cr1/3NbS_2$ have piqued the interest of researchers as rare examples of 2D materials with helical magnetic ordering, thought to occur due to competition between exchange and DMI. When a magnetic field is applied perpendicular to the c -axis, the helical ground state transforms into the chiral soliton lattice (CSL). A chiral conical phase (CCP) emerges when the magnetic field is ap-

plied along the c -axis. Both phases are well established in $Cr3/NbS_2$. However, the other member of the family, $Mn1/3NbS_2$ has a similar crystal structure but complex magnetic behavior. Cr single-crystal NMR measurements demonstrate the first-order nature of the helical-to-paramagnetic phase transition and determine the exact boundaries of the conical phase. Similarities with Mn single crystal NMR results are discussed.

MA 53.4 Fri 10:15 EB 301

Current induced nucleation of spin textures in aperiodic multilayers —

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Magnetic cocoons are ellipsoid-shaped 3D structures, that have been recently observed in aperiodic multilayers where magnetic interactions are varied along the thickness. Here we report the feasibility of the production of these cocoons using nanosecond current pulses in Pt/Co/Al aperiodic multilayer system. The images obtained using Scanning Transmission X-ray Microscopy also show other complex spin textures when stronger pulses are applied. Simulations show that these current pulses heat up the system. It also creates an Oersted field in addition to the applied magnetic field. The magnetic field-temperature phase diagram can be thus obtained from such images. The measurements lead to the conclusion that the magnetic field and temperature aid the system to a fluctuation state where the cocoons are nucleated.

MA 53.5 Fri 10:30 EB 301

Topological spin textures in nominally centrosymmetric van der Waals magnet —

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Current spintronics research explores magnetic materials with adjacent non-collinear magnetic moments, giving rise to intricate topological spin textures, notably skyrmions. These nano-objects feature chiral magnetic boundaries and circular shapes, traditionally requiring non-centrosymmetric crystal structures and Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya exchange interactions for their formation. Recently skyrmions have been observed in several centrosymmetric materials [1]. Here we show evidence for skyrmions in $CrTe_2$, a member of the van der Waals (vdW) materials family, which is nominally centrosymmetric. The presence of Cr self-intercalation into vdW gaps, coupled with the development of a three-dimensional long-range ordered superstructure, alters the space group symmetry from centrosymmetric to the acentric. This transformation results from the uneven occupancy of Cr atoms in the two vdW gaps per unit cell, creating an asymmetric environment. Notably, Néel-type skyrmions are directly observed using in-situ Lorentz transmission electron microscopy across a broad temperature range and magnetic fields [2]. This study highlights that self-intercalation in vdW materials offers a novel avenue for generating synthetic skyrmions.

References [1] A. Chakraborty, et al., Adv. Mater. 34 (2022) 2108637. [2] R. Saha, et al., Nat. Commun. 13 (2022) 3965.