

# Inelastic Neutron Scattering

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# Outline

- ▶ Interaction neutron – matter
- ▶ Collective dynamics: Dispersion
- ▶ Collective dynamics: Intensities
- ▶ More than phonons and spin waves
- ▶ Even on powder

# Master equation for neutron scattering

- ▶ weak interaction → **single** scattering process
- ▶ **1st order perturbation - 1st Born approximation - Fermi's golden rule**
- ▶ incoming/scattered **neutron plane wave**
- ▶ energies far away from nuclear resonances

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_f} \Big|_{n_0, \sigma_i \rightarrow n_1, \sigma_f} = \frac{k_f}{k_i} \left( \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^2 \left| \langle \mathbf{k}_f \sigma_f n_1 | V | \mathbf{k}_i \sigma_i n_0 \rangle \right|^2 \cdot \delta(\epsilon_1 - \epsilon_0 - \underbrace{(E_i - E_f)}_{\hbar\omega})$$

# Interactions of neutrons with matter V

n – atomic nucleus

n – electronic magn. moment

n – electric field

strong interaction

dipole-dipole interaction

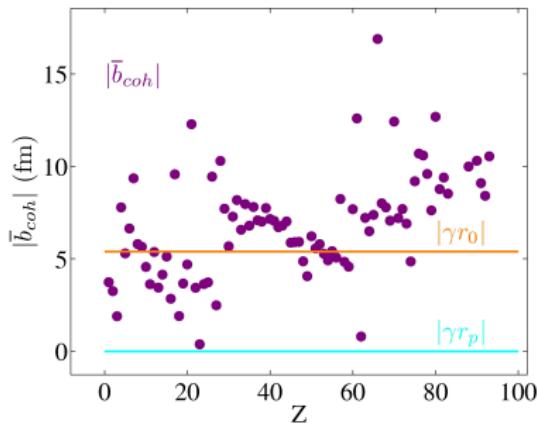
spin-orbit + Foldy interaction

average (absolute)  
scattering length

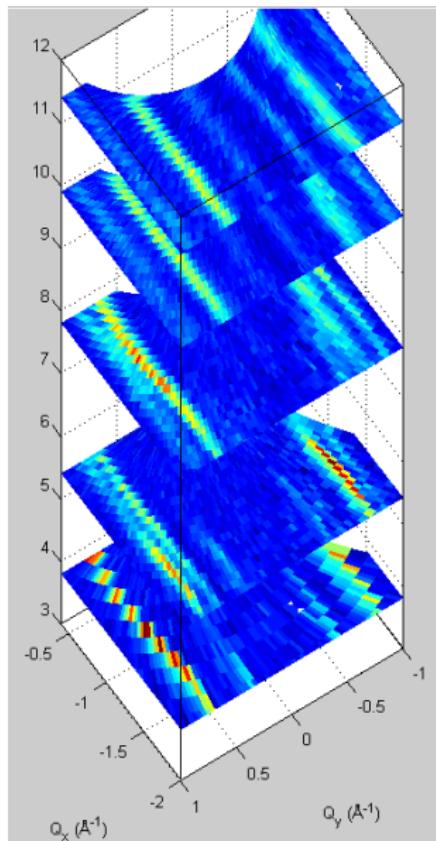
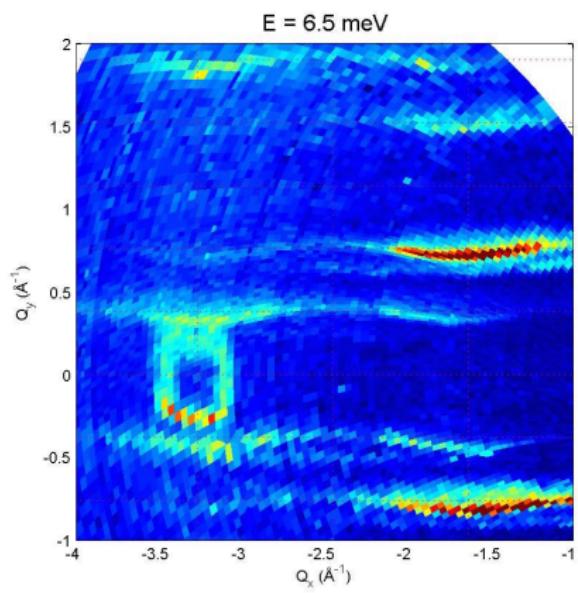
nucleus            +6.5 fm

el. magn. mom.    -5.4 fm    ( $\cdot S(J)$ )

electric field      +1.5 am



# Magnetic and lattice excitations: comparable intensity



# Nuclear interaction potential

Fermi pseudopotential  $V_N$  for neutron scattering from one nucleus

$$V_N(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m} \bar{b} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_j)$$

Coherent scattering length  $\bar{b}$ : average over nuclear spin states and isotopes of an element.

entire sample:  $V_N(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m} \sum_{j=1}^{10^{23}} \bar{b}_j \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_j) = \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m} N(\mathbf{r})$

# Magnetic interaction potential

magnetic potential  $V_M$  for neutron scattering from one electron

$$V_M(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \mathbf{B}_e$$

$$V_M(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

vector potential  $\mathbf{A}$

$$V_M(\mathbf{r}) = -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \nabla \times \left( \underbrace{\nabla \times \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}_e^S}{r}}_{\text{spin}} + \underbrace{\nabla \times \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}_e^L}{r}}_{\text{orbital current}} \right)$$

# Magnetic matrix element - Fourier transform

one electron

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathbf{k}_i \sigma_i n_0 | -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \nabla \times (\nabla \times \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}_e^{tot}}{r}) | \mathbf{k}_f \sigma_f n_1 \rangle \\ = & \langle \sigma_i n_0 | -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \underbrace{(\hat{\mathbf{Q}} \times (\hat{\mathbf{Q}} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_e^{tot}(\mathbf{Q})))}_{-\boldsymbol{\mu}_e^{tot}(\mathbf{Q})_{\perp}} | \sigma_f n_1 \rangle \\ = & \langle \sigma_i n_0 | -\boldsymbol{\mu}_n \cdot \boldsymbol{\mu}_e^{tot}(\mathbf{Q})_{\perp} | \sigma_f n_1 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

entire sample

$$\sum \tilde{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_e^{tot}(\mathbf{Q})_{\perp} = \mathbf{M}_{\perp}(\mathbf{Q})$$

# Coherent and incoherent scattering

## Coherent scattering

average scattering amplitude

equal objects periodically arranged

interference  
of different (identical) objects

Pair correlation

## Incoherent scattering

standard deviation of the amplitude

unequal objects (periodically arranged)  
– isotopes  
– nuclear spin directions  
– electronic spin directions

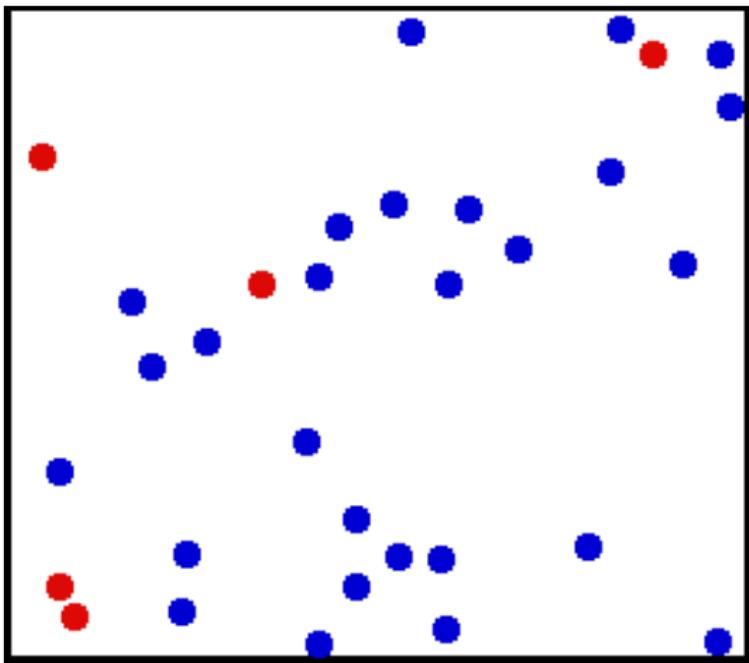
interference  
of 1 object with itself

Autocorrelation

# Diffuse (Brownian) motion

Disordered materials  
(non-periodic materials)

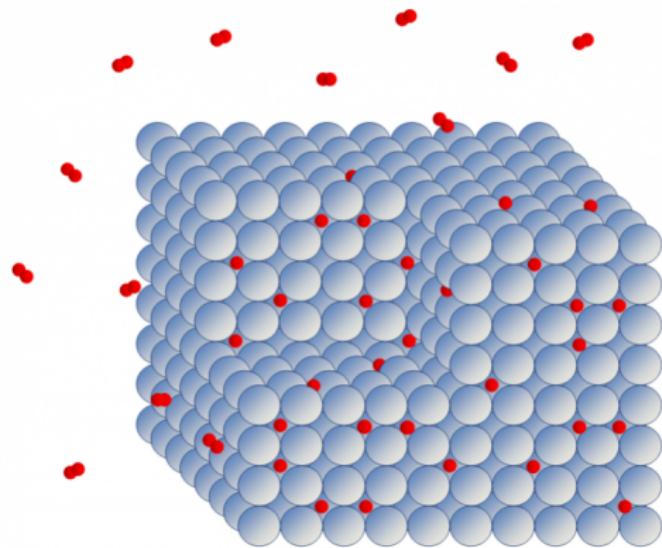
- ▶ polymers
- ▶ liquids
- ▶ macromolecules
- ▶ biological cells



# Diffuse motion in crystals

Disordered phenomena in crystals

- ▶ hydrogen diffusion
- ▶ spin diffusion, e.g. critical scattering near a phase transition



# Signature of diffuse motion: Quasielastic scattering

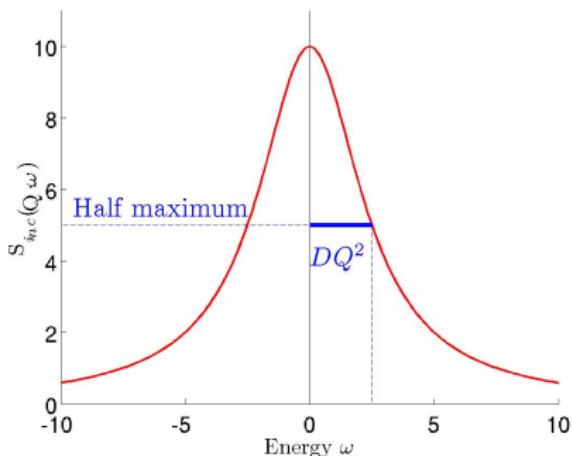
$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\omega d\Omega} \Big|_{\text{inc}} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{inc}}}{4\pi} \frac{k_f}{k_i} N S_{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$$

$$S_{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dt \, d\mathbf{r} \, e^{i(\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{r} - \omega t)} G_{\text{self}}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

$$G_{\text{self}}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \int d\mathbf{r}' \langle \delta(\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{R}_j(0)) \delta(\mathbf{r}' + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_j(t)) \rangle_T$$

Incoherent cross section  $\sim$   
autocorrelation

correlation of a particle/spin  
at  $\mathbf{r} = 0, t = 0$   
with the same particle/spin  
at  $\mathbf{r}, t$



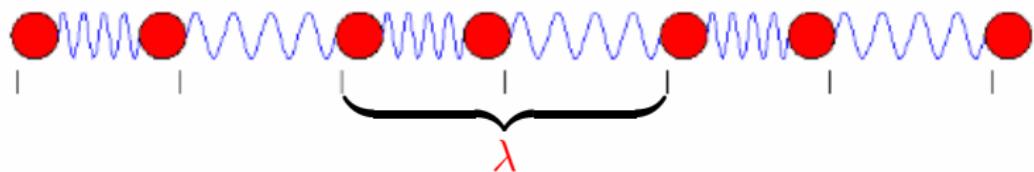
# Instruments for Quasielastic scattering

Slow dynamics  $\Rightarrow$  high energy resolution

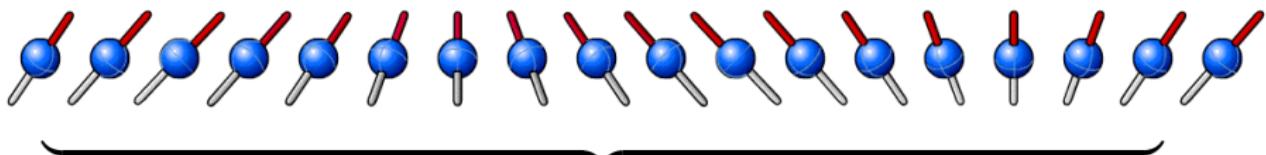
- ▶ cold Time Of Flight
- ▶ backscattering
- ▶ spin echo spectroscopy

## Collective motion – coherent dynamics – "ballet"

phonons



magnons



wavelength  $\lambda$

$$\text{wave vector } Q = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

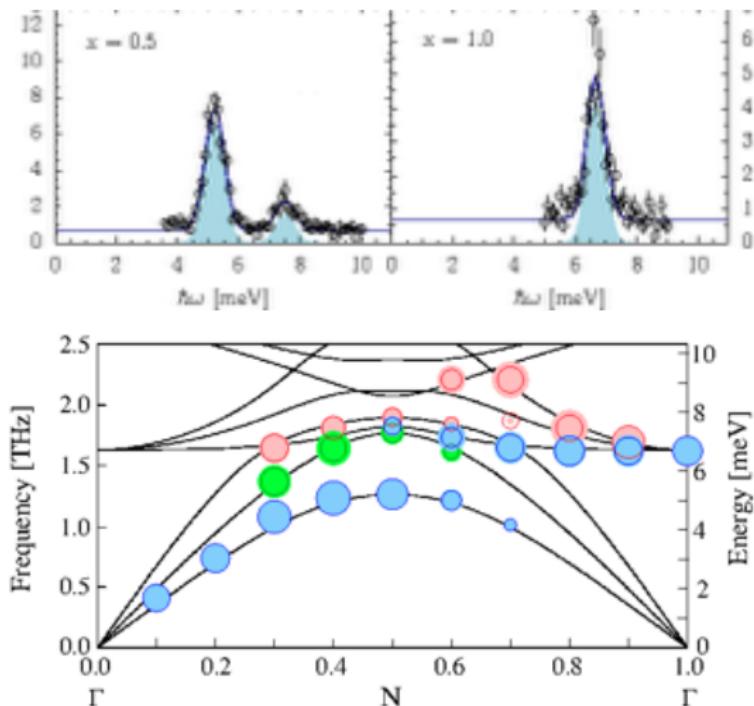
# Collective dynamics: Signature dispersion

phonons (IN8)

- ▶ in periodic arrays/crystals
- ▶ in liquids (sound wave)

Dispersion:

discrete  $\hbar\omega$  at each  $Q$



M.M. Koza *et al.* PRB **91** 014305 (2015)

# Collective motion – wave – interference pattern

## Coherent cross section

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_f} \Big|_{coh} &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} \left( \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^2 \sum_{n_0, n_1} p(n_0) |\langle n_1 | V(\mathbf{Q}) | n_0 \rangle|^2 \delta(\varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_0 - \hbar\omega) \\ &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} \underbrace{\left( \frac{m}{2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^2 \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | V^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) V(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle}_{\text{coherent dynamic scattering function}} \\ &= \frac{k_f}{k_i} S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) \quad \text{coherent dynamic scattering function} \end{aligned}$$

## Coherent dynamic scattering function

$$\begin{aligned} S_N(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) &= \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | N^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) N(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int d\mathbf{r} dt e^{i(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \langle N(\mathbf{0}, 0) N(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle_T \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_M(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) &= \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{(\gamma r_0)^2}{2\pi\hbar} \int dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | \mathbf{M}_\perp^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle \\ &= \frac{(\gamma r_0)^2}{2\pi\hbar} \int d\mathbf{r} dt e^{i(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \langle \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{0}, 0) \cdot \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle_T \end{aligned}$$

$S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$  is the space-time Fourier transform of the  
nuclear-positional magnetic density-density pair correlation function

# Coherent and incoherent scattering

Coherent cross section

~ pair correlation function:

→ dispersion relation

→ structural pattern

Incoherent cross section

~ 1-particle autocorrelation:

→ diffusion coefficient

no structural information

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Collective dynamics

atoms/magnetic moments

move "correlated" ("ballet")

Brownian motion

"random walk"

uncorrelated, diffuse motion

Snapshot:

periodic pattern – wave

disordered

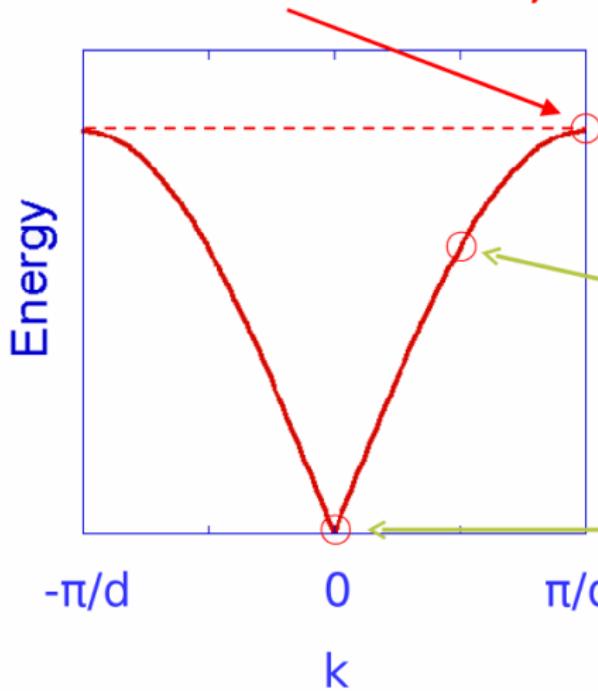
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Collective dynamics in the incoherent cross section:

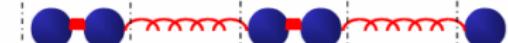
~ density of states  $Z(\omega)$  – loss of all structural information

# Collective excitations of the lattice: phonons

Function of interaction, M



$$k = 2\pi/2d$$



$$k = 2\pi/4d = \pi/2d$$



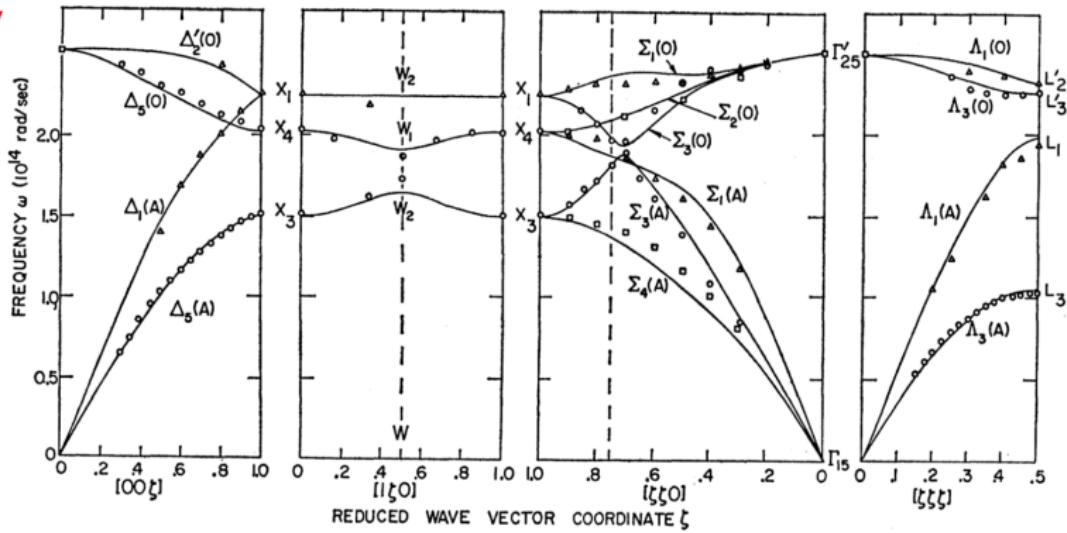
$$k = 0$$



# Phonons in diamond

diamond:  covalent bonds

1000 meV

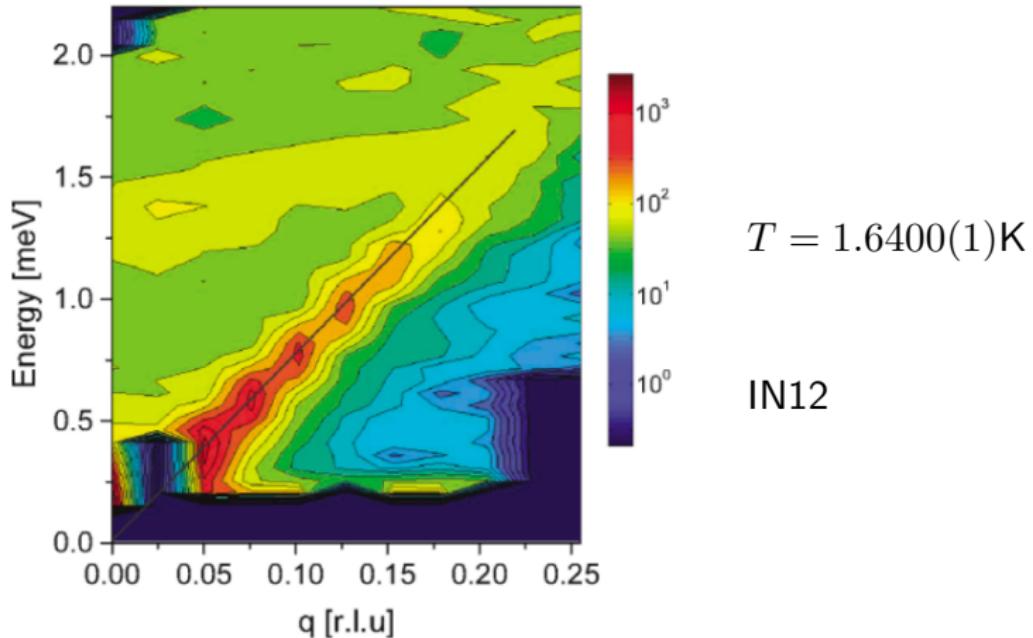


J.L. Warren *et al.* Phys.Rev. **158** 805 (1967)

# Phonons in bcc $^4\text{He}$

bcc  $^4\text{He}$   van der Waals (+quantum effects)

1 meV



M. Markovich *et al.* PRL **88** 195301 (2002)

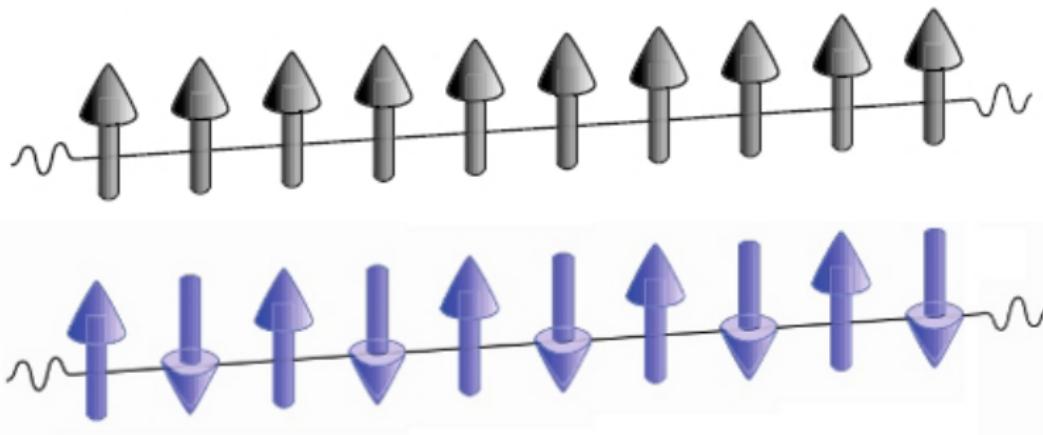
# "Magnetic springs" - mostly super-exchange

may favor

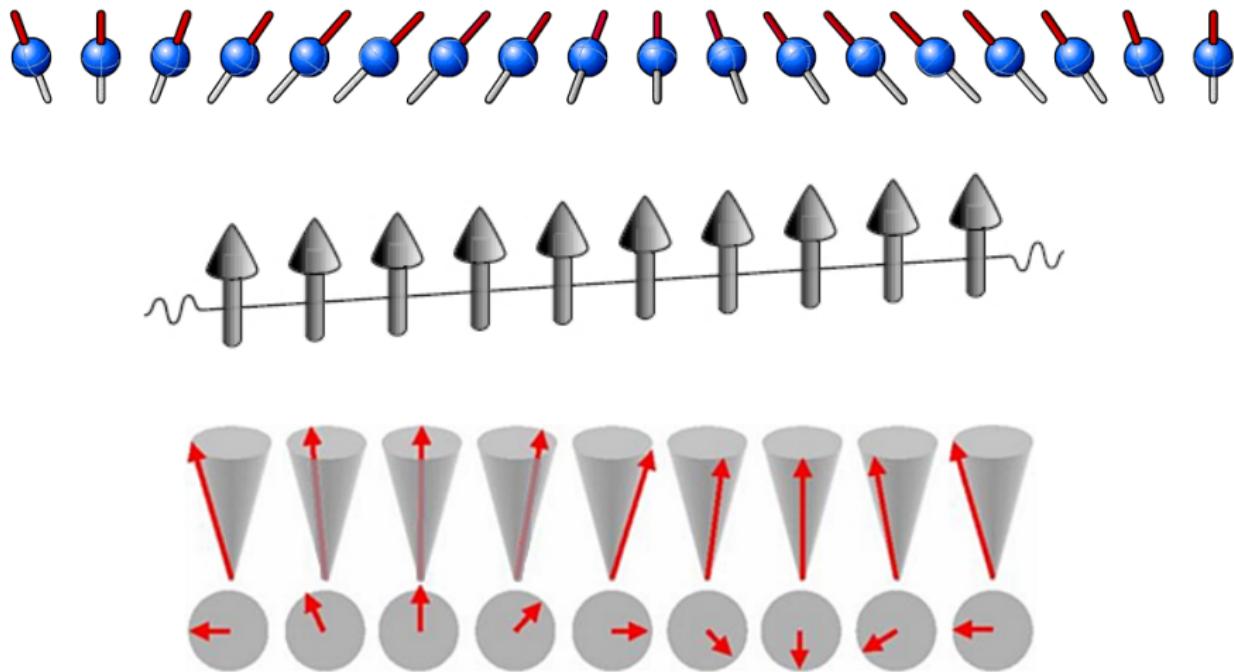
parallel  
antiparallel

magnetic moments:

Ferromagnet  
Antiferromagnet

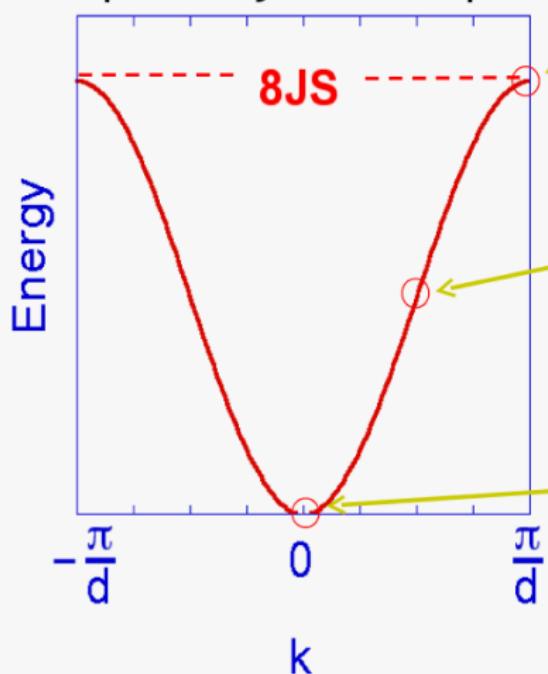


# Spin waves in a ferromagnet



# Collective excitations of the ferromagnet: magnons

$$\hbar\omega(q) = 4SJ [1 - \cos(qa)]$$



$$k = \pi/d$$



$$k = \pi/2d$$

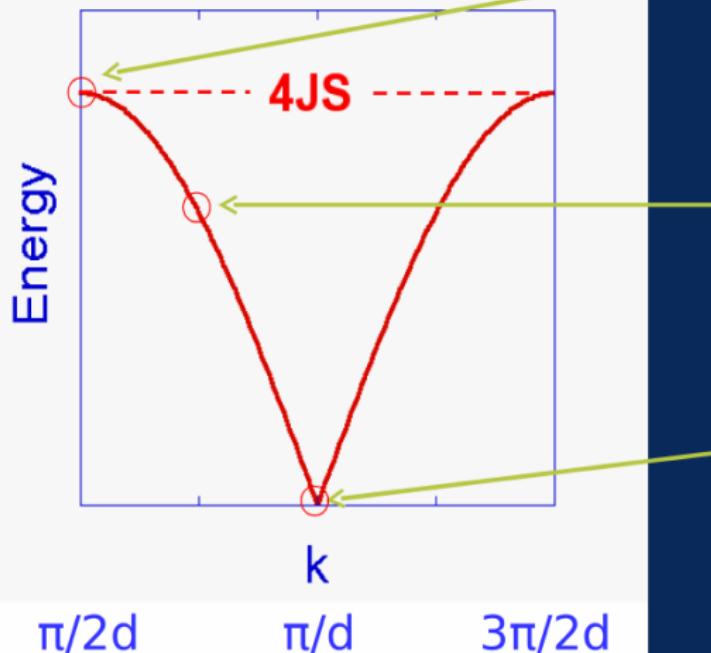


$$k = 0$$



# Magnons in the "classical" antiferromagnet

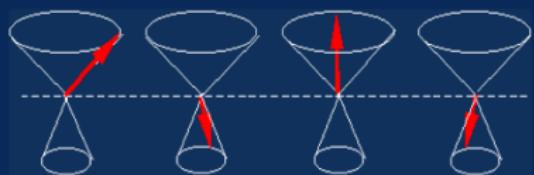
$$\hbar\omega(q) = 4S |J| |\sin(qa)|$$



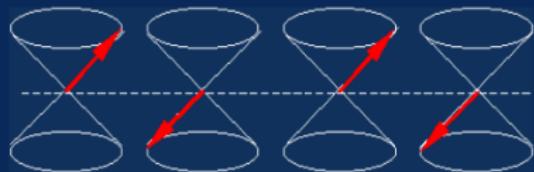
$$k = \pi/2d$$



$$k = 3\pi/4d$$

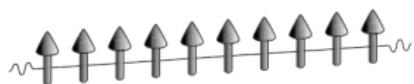


$$k = \pi/d$$

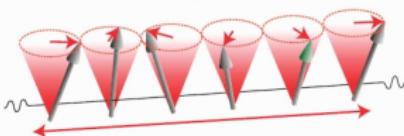


# Magnon dispersion reveals microscopic interactions

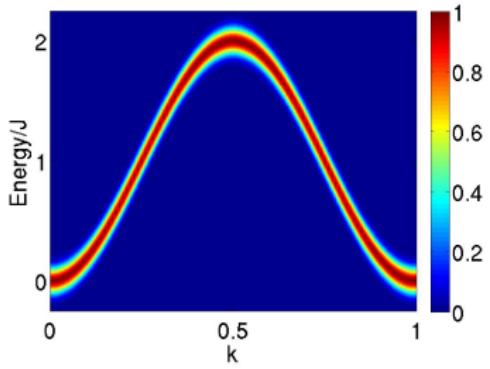
## Ferromagnet



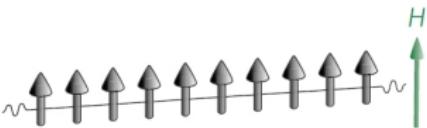
## Spin wave



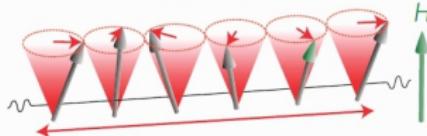
**ferromagnet**



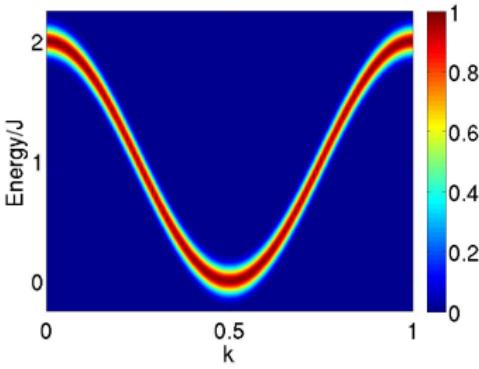
## Saturated antiferromagnet $H > H_{\text{sat}}$



## Spin wave

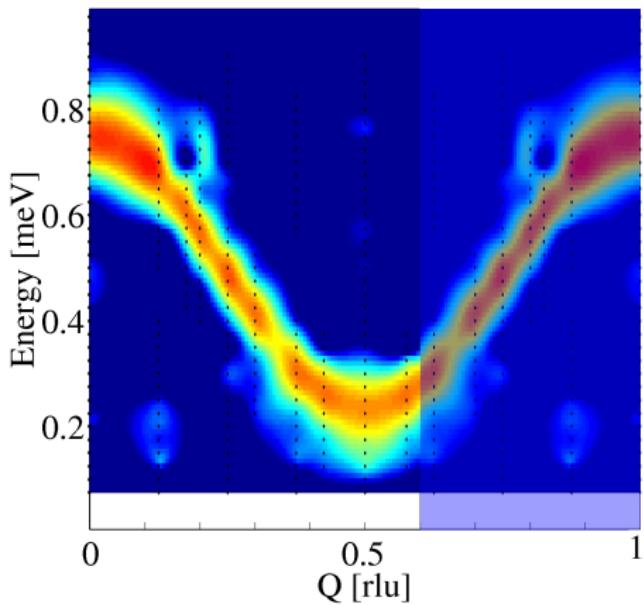


## fully polarized antiferromagnet



# Magnon dispersion reveals microscopic interactions

$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{D}_2\text{O}$

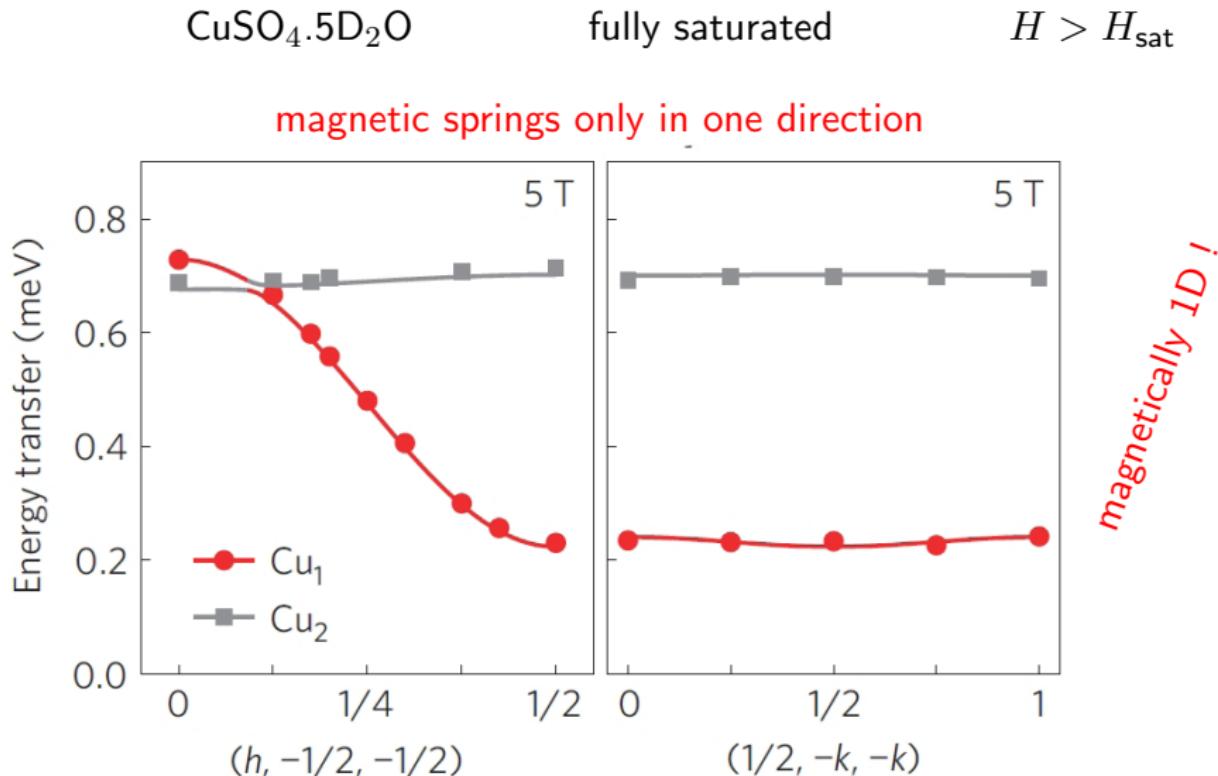


$$H > H_{\text{sat}}$$

no long range order  $> 0.1\text{K}$

↑  
antiferromagnetic exchange

# Magnon dispersion reveals microscopic interactions



M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat. Phys. **9** 435 (2013)

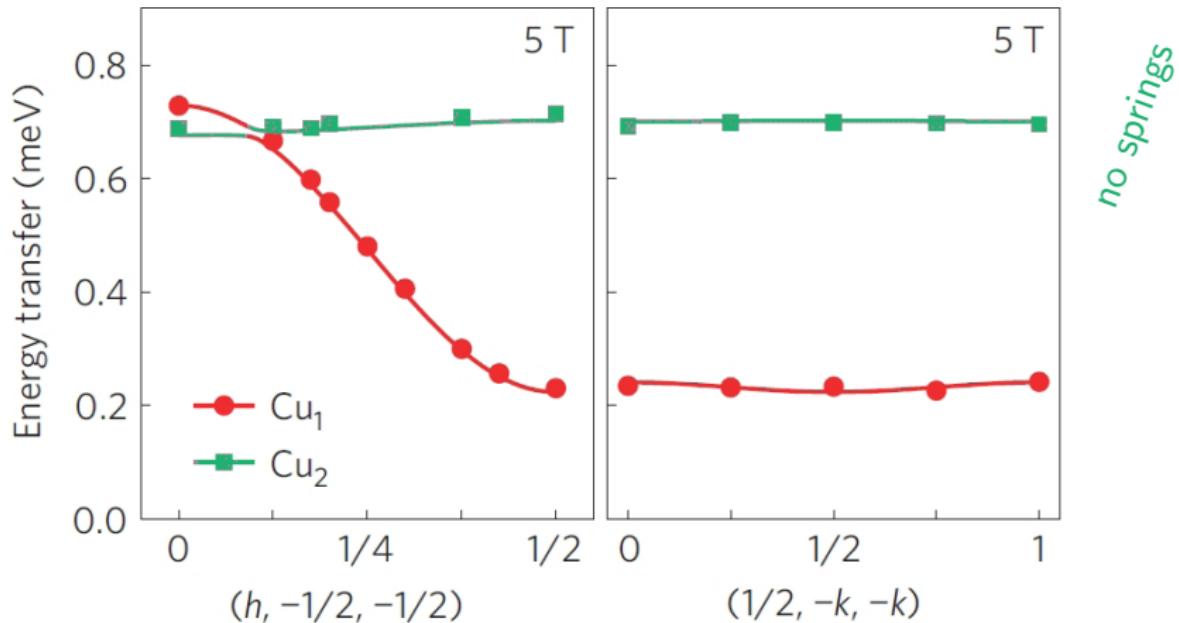
# Magnon dispersion reveals microscopic interactions

$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{D}_2\text{O}$

fully saturated

$H > H_{\text{sat}}$

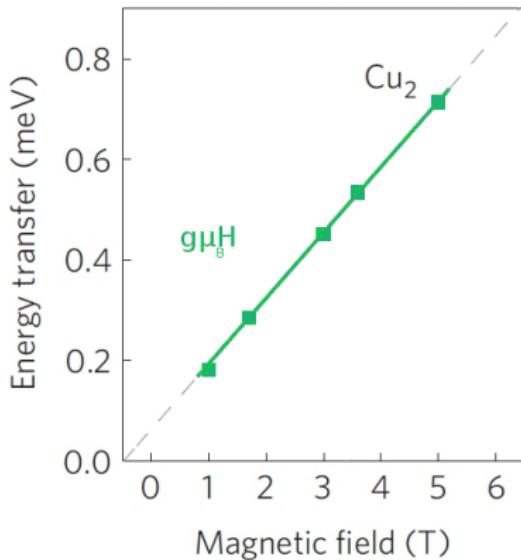
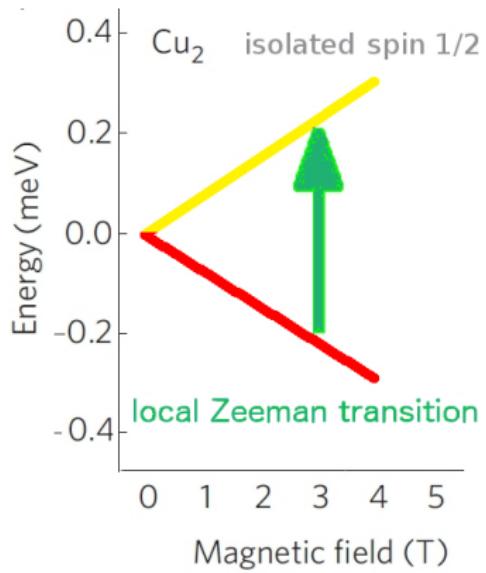
no springs/ no interaction: local transition



Energy independent of  $Q$  for all directions of  $Q$

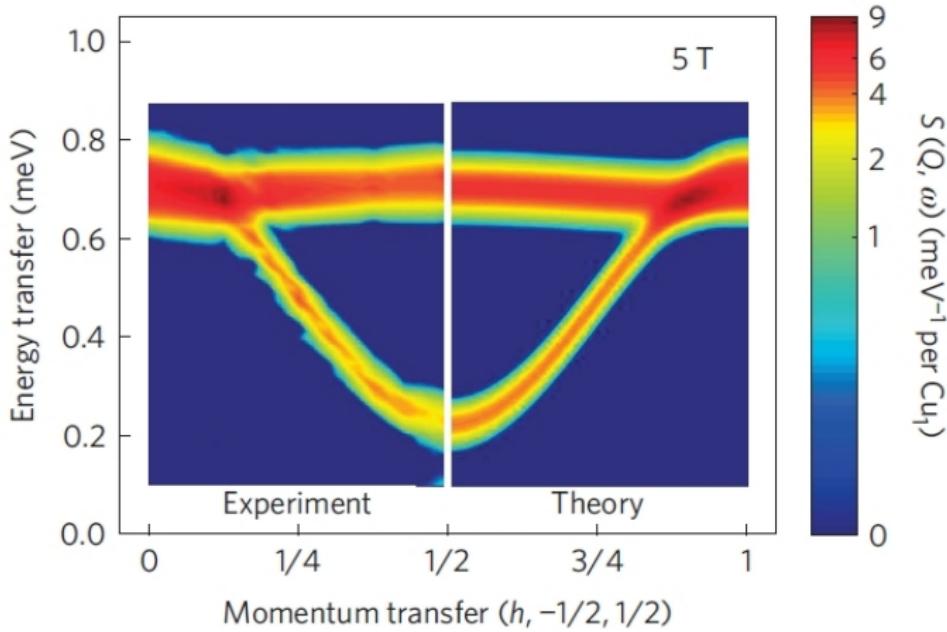
# Local spin flip between Zeeman-split states

$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{D}_2\text{O}$



M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat. Phys. **9** 435 (2013).

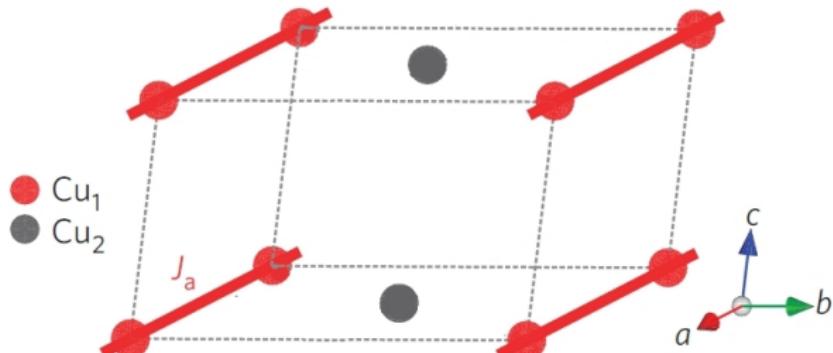
# Fully saturated CuSO<sub>4</sub>.5D<sub>2</sub>O



M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat. Phys. **9** 435 (2013).

# Spin waves in fully saturated CuSO<sub>4</sub>.5D<sub>2</sub>O

→ microscopic scheme of magnetic interactions



Cu<sub>1</sub>: one-dimensional arrays with antiferromagnetic interaction

Cu<sub>2</sub>: not coupled by any interaction

M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat. Phys. **9** 435 (2013).

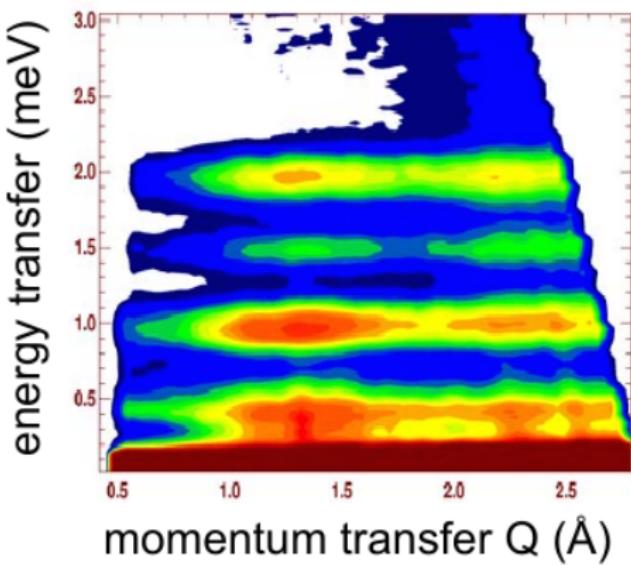
# Local excitations: infinitely weak "springs"

Signature: flat dispersion

CsFe<sub>8</sub>

IN5

- ▶ Molecular magnets
- ▶ Crystal field excitations  
(Rare Earth)



O. Waldmann, APS lecture 2006

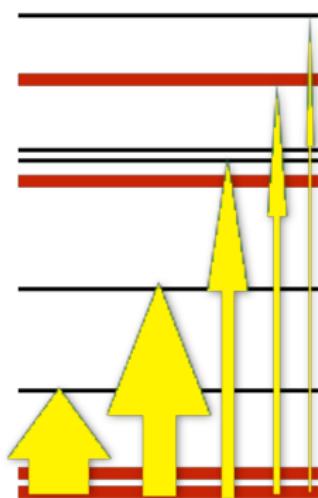
## Local transitions: Crystal Electric Field Splitting

Tb<sub>2</sub>Ti<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>

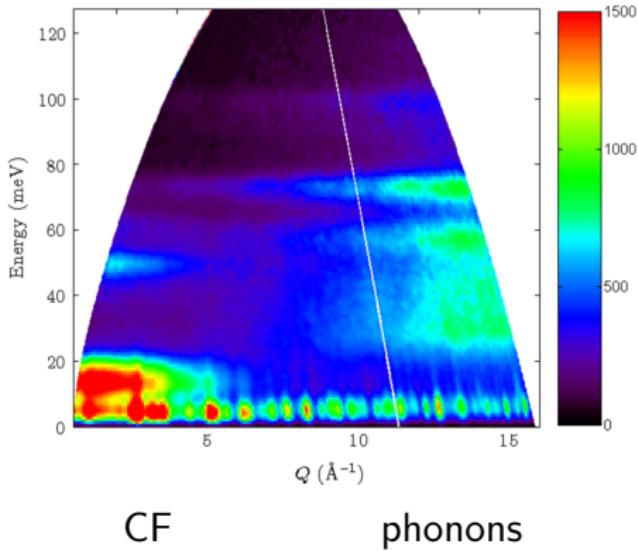
Tb<sup>3+</sup>:

$$^7F_6 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} S=3 \\ L=3 \end{array} \right\} J=6$$

Stark effect



Merlin  $E_i = 150\text{meV}$   
powder,  $T = 7\text{K}$



# Collective dynamics

atoms/magnetic moments move "correlated" ("ballet")

Snapshot: periodic pattern – wave

Positions of the nuclei

Direction/Length of the magnetic moment

Local:

vibrational scattering  
rattling modes

Local:

C(rystal)F(ield)-excitations  
transitions in molecular magnets

Propagating:

phonons

Propagating:

**spin waves (magnons)**

triplons

spinons

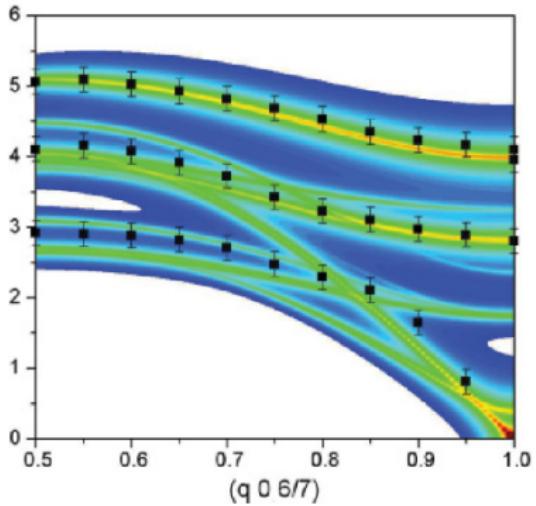
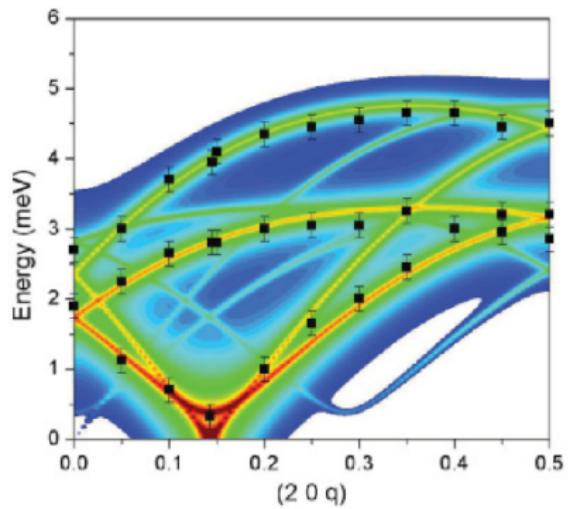
phasons

multi-magnon/-spinon states

[... and hybrid states ...]

# Reality is not always so simple . . .

J. Jensen (2011) PRB 84, 104405



# Quantitative info from intensities: Coherent dynamic scattering function

$$S_N(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int d\mathbf{r} dt e^{i(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \langle N(\mathbf{0}, 0)N(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle_T$$

$$S_M(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \frac{(\gamma r_0)^2}{2\pi\hbar} \int d\mathbf{r} dt e^{i(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{r} - \omega t)} \langle \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{0}, 0) \cdot \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{r}, t) \rangle_T$$

$S(\mathbf{Q}, \omega)$ : space-time Fourier transform of the  
nuclear-positional magnetic density-density pair correlation function

- ▶ quantitative info from intensity
- ▶ phonon and magnetic scattering (often) well separated

# Intensities - phonons

$$S_N(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | N^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) N(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle$$

$$S_N^{1ph}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \sum_{s=1}^{3r} |I_{N,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 [\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T \delta(\omega - \omega_s) + \langle n_s \rangle_T \delta(\omega + \omega_s)]$$

$$\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}$$

$$\langle n_s \rangle_T = \frac{e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}{1 - e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}$$

# Intensities - phonons

$$S_N(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | N^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) N(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle$$
$$S_N^{1ph}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \sum_{s=1}^{3r} |I_{N,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 [\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T \delta(\omega - \omega_s) + \langle n_s \rangle_T \delta(\omega + \omega_s)]$$
$$|I_{N,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 = \frac{1}{\omega_s} \left| \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^r \frac{\overline{b_j}}{\sqrt{M_j}} e^{-W_j} e^{i\mathbf{Q}\cdot\mathbf{d}_j}}_{\text{FT of points } \mathbf{d}_j} \underbrace{(\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{e}_{js})}_{\text{increases with } Q^2} \right|^2$$

Intensity periodic if  $\mathbf{d}_j$  special position

$\mathbf{e}_{js}$ : amplitude atom  $j$ , phonon  $s$

# Intensities - magnons, $T \ll T_N$

$$S_M(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = (\gamma r_0)^2 \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | \mathbf{M}_\perp^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) \mathbf{M}_\perp(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle$$

$$S_M^{1m}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) = \sum_{s=1}^r |I_{M,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 [\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T \delta(\omega - \omega_s) + \langle n_s \rangle_T \delta(\omega + \omega_s)]$$

$$\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}$$

$$\langle n_s \rangle_T = \frac{e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}{1 - e^{-\frac{\hbar\omega_s}{k_B T}}}$$

# Intensities - magnons, $T \ll T_N$

$$\begin{aligned} S_M(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) &= (\gamma r_0)^2 \sum_{n_0} p(n_0) \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle n_0 | \mathbf{M}_{\perp}^*(\mathbf{Q}, 0) \mathbf{M}_{\perp}(\mathbf{Q}, t) | n_0 \rangle \\ S_M^{1m}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) &= \sum_{s=1}^r |I_{M,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 [\langle n_s + 1 \rangle_T \delta(\omega - \omega_s) + \langle n_s \rangle_T \delta(\omega + \omega_s)] \\ |I_{M,s}(\mathbf{Q})|^2 &= (\gamma r_0)^2 \left| \sum_{j=1}^r \underbrace{f_j(\mathbf{Q})}_{\text{form factor}} \underbrace{e^{-W_j} e^{i\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{d}_j}}_{\text{mag. amp. ion } j, \text{ magnon } s} \right|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Intensity periodic if  $\mathbf{d}_j$  special position

# Magnon intensities

... often essential to assign a spin wave branch to a peak !

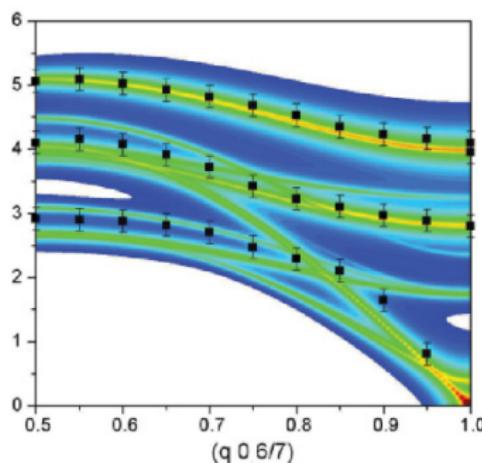
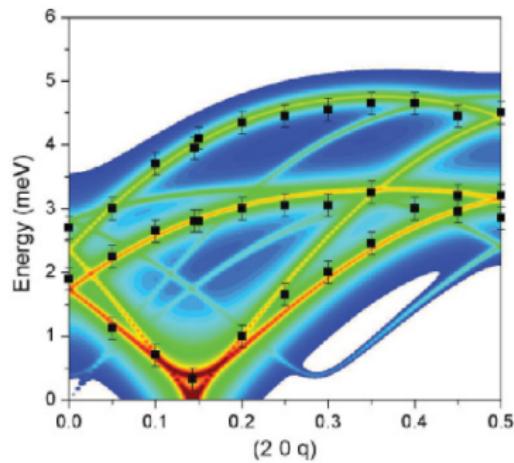
Long-range ordered structures

length of ordered moment identical at equivalent sites

transverse excitations

"Classical" Spin Wave Theory

J. Jensen (2011) PRB 84, 104405



# Magnetic excitations: more than spin waves

**So far:**

Ground state: periodically ordered atoms or magnetic moments

Collective excitations:

phonons	small oscillations around the	structural	order
spin waves		magnetic	

**Now:**

periodically ordered magnetic **sites** with a local magnetic moment

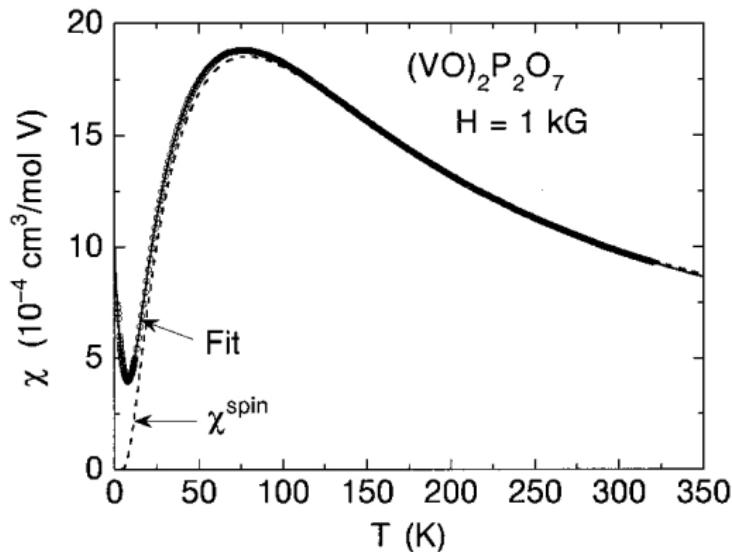
interaction between the spins (e.g. visible in  $\chi(T)$ )

**no long-range ordered** magnetic moment

Collective excitations ?

# Collective phenomena without magnetic long-range order

$\chi$  displays interactions – but no phase transition



# Two spins $\frac{1}{2}$ and an antiferromagnetic spring

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours  
no coupling between pairs



Dimer: Pair spin 0

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [ | \uparrow\downarrow \rangle - | \downarrow\uparrow \rangle ]$$

# Local singlet-triplet excitations

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours  
no coupling between pairs



Triplon: Pair spin 1

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [ | \uparrow\downarrow \rangle + | \downarrow\uparrow \rangle ] \\ | \downarrow\downarrow \rangle \end{array} \right.$$

# Triplons – Signature Zeeman splitting

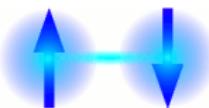
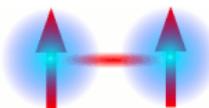
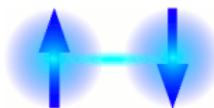
$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours

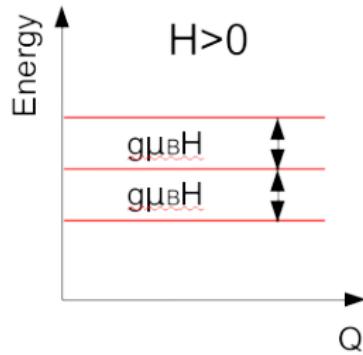
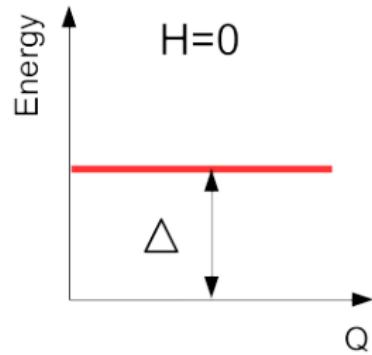
no

coupling between

pairs



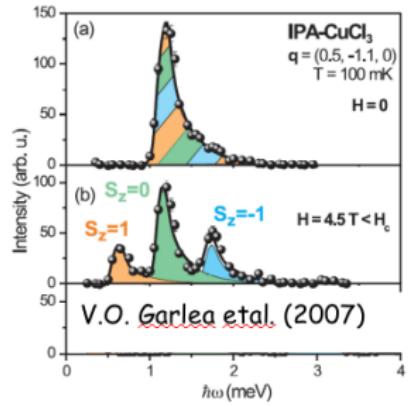
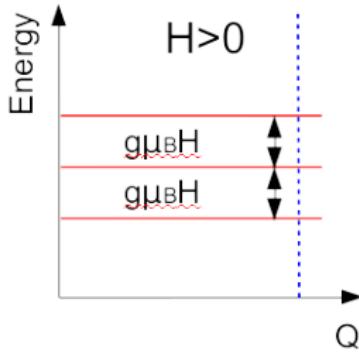
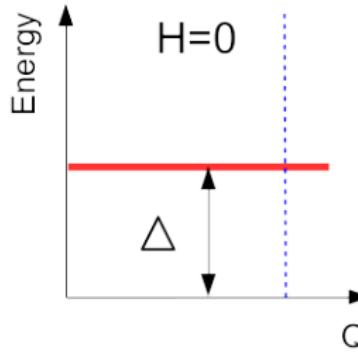
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle + |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right]$$



# Triplons – Signature Zeeman splitting

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

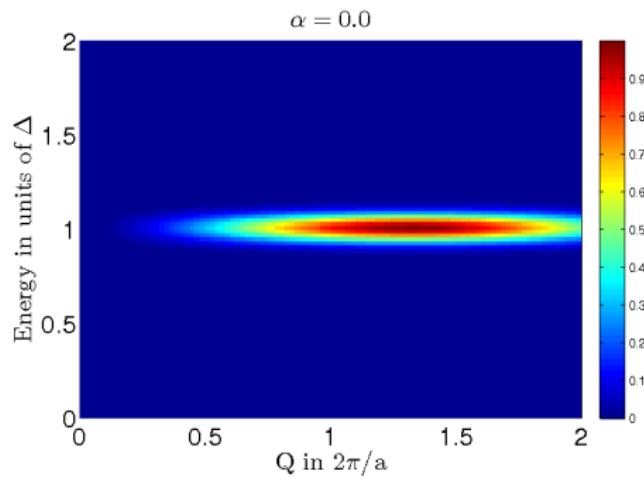
strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours  
no coupling between pairs



# Non-Interacting triplons – intensity signature

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

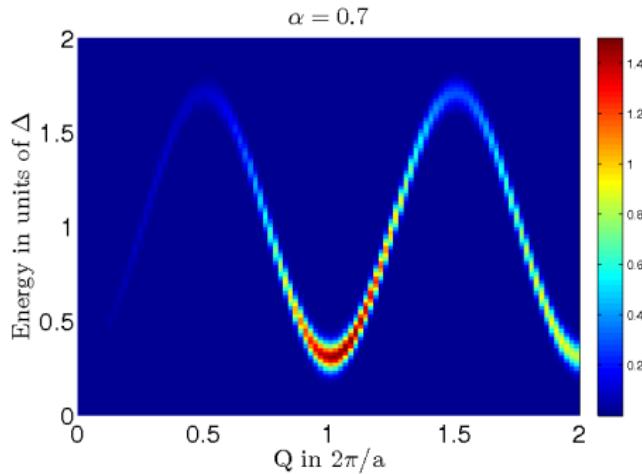
strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours  
no coupling between pairs



# Interacting triplons – propagation – dispersion

$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

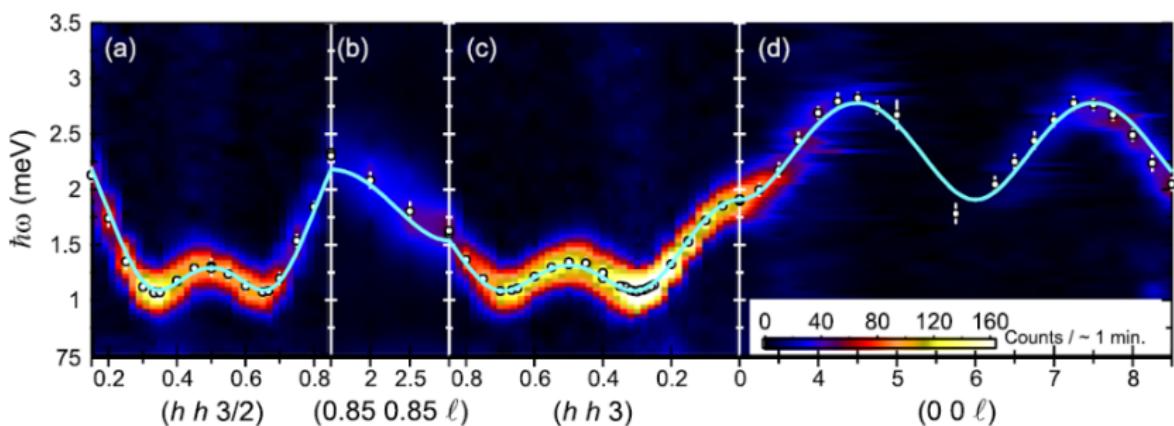
strong antiferromagnetic coupling between next-neighbours  
increasing coupling between pairs



# Interacting triplons – propagation – dispersion

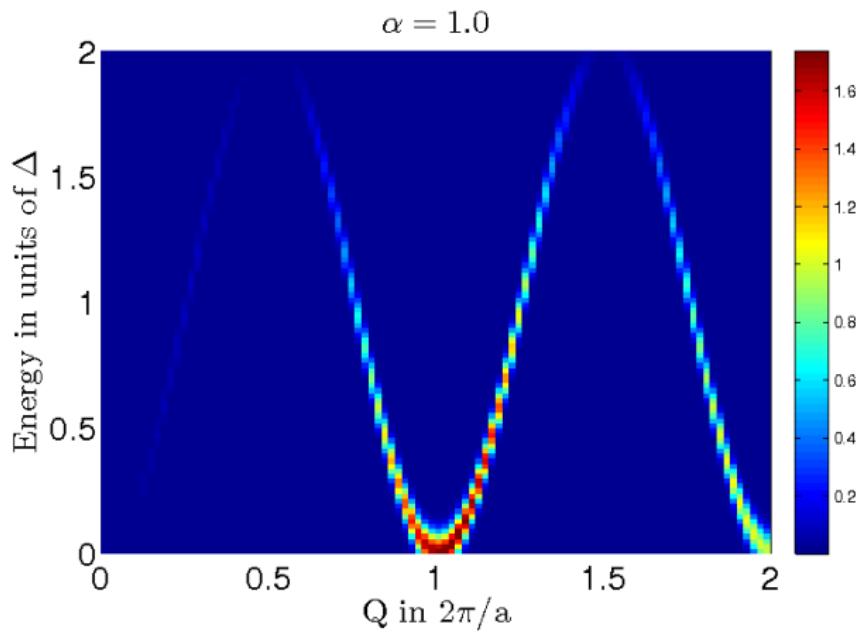
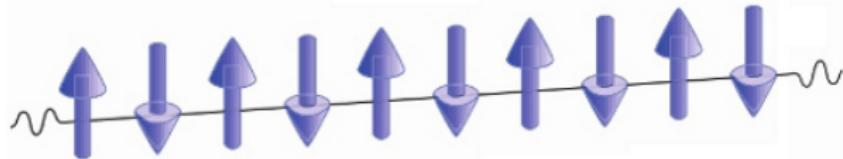
$S = \frac{1}{2}$  at each site

strong antiferromagnetic  
increasing coupling between next-neighbours  
coupling between pairs

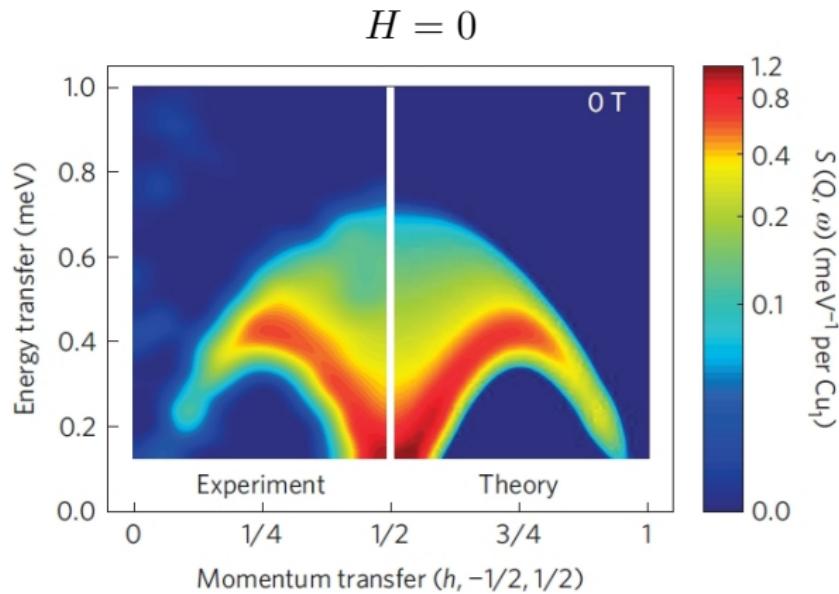


M.B. Stone *et al.* PRL 100 237201 (2008)

# 1D array – Limit of uniform coupling between $S = \frac{1}{2}$



# 1D array – Limit of uniform coupling between $S = \frac{1}{2}$



M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat.Phys. **9** 435 (2013)

# Weakly coupled dimer array

Ground state



Triplon



# Stronger coupled dimer array

Ground state



Triplon

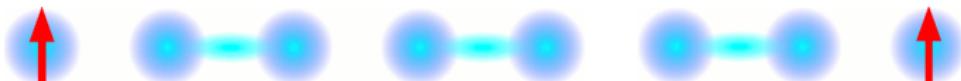


# Stronger coupled dimer array

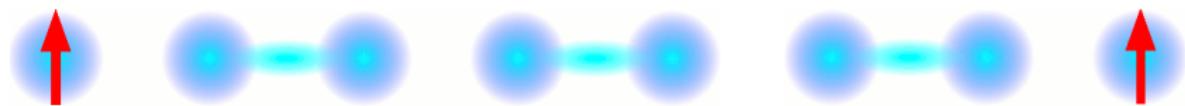
Ground state



Triplon



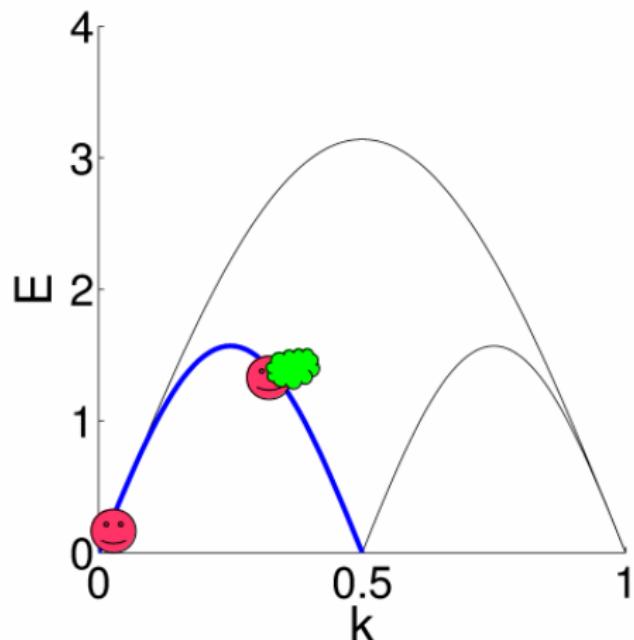
# 1D $S = \frac{1}{2}$ dimer array – Limit of uniform coupling



freely propagating spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles: **spinons**

# Two-particle excitation: Signature continuous scattering

Neutron excites **pairs** of freely propagating spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles



1-particle dispersion



$$E(k)$$

neutron excites pair

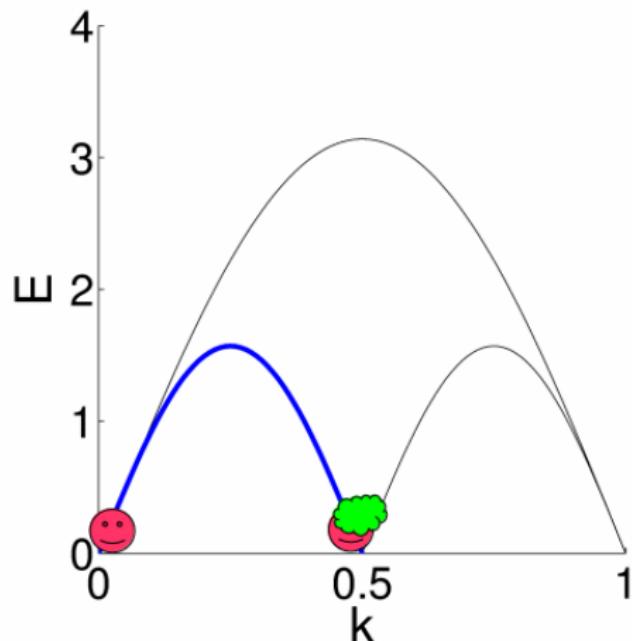
$$\text{cloud} = \text{smiley} + \text{smiley}$$

$$Q = k_1 + k_2$$

$$E = E(k_1) + E(k_2)$$

# Two-particle excitation: Signature continuous scattering

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1-particle dispersion



$$E(k)$$

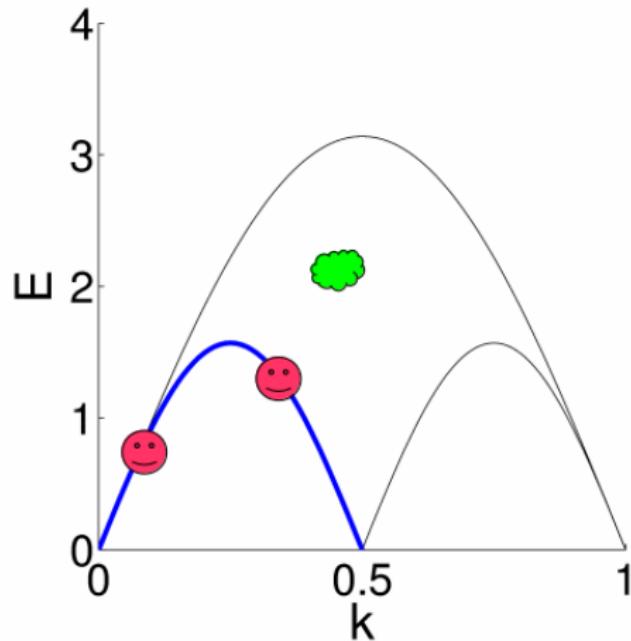
neutron excites pair

$$\text{cloud} = \text{smiley} + \text{smiley}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= k_1 + k_2 \\ E &= E(k_1) + E(k_2) \end{aligned}$$

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1-particle dispersion



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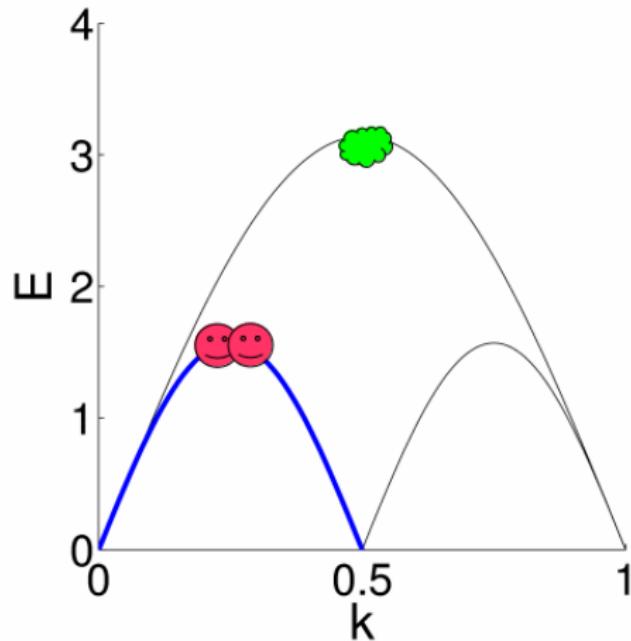
$$\text{green cloud} = \text{red smiley} + \text{red smiley}$$

$$Q = k_1 + k_2$$

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## Two-particle excitation: Signature continuous scattering

Neutron excites **pairs** of freely propagating spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  particles



1-particle dispersion  
  $E(k)$

neutron excites pair

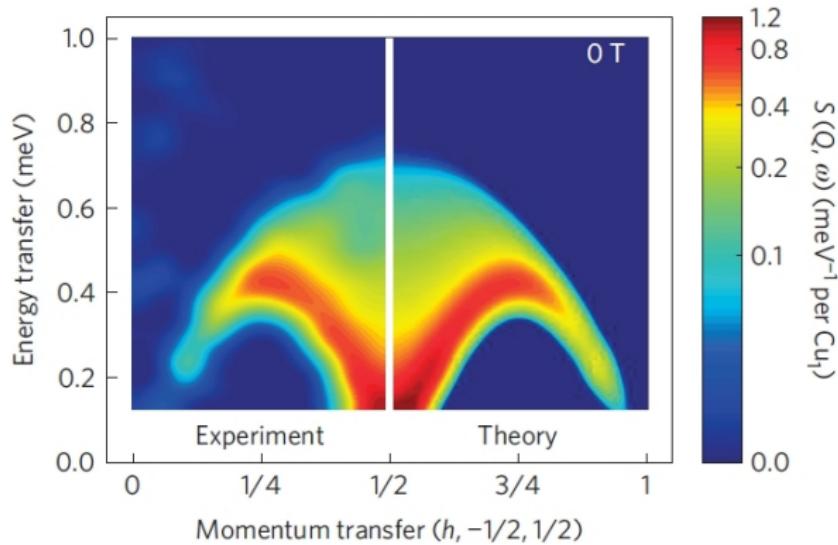
$$\text{green cloud} = \text{red smiley} + \text{red smiley}$$

$$Q = k_1 + k_2$$
$$E = E(k_1) + E(k_2)$$

# Spinon continuum in CuSO<sub>4</sub>.5D<sub>2</sub>O



$H = 0$

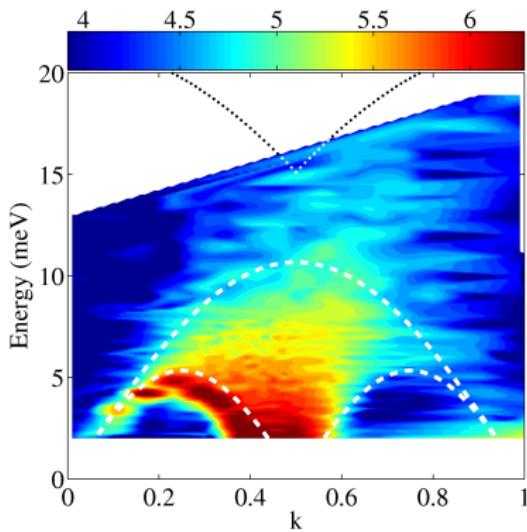


M. Mourigal, M.E. et al. Nat.Phys. **9** 435 (2013)

# New many-particle states and excitations

2 zig-zag coupled 1D spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  arrays

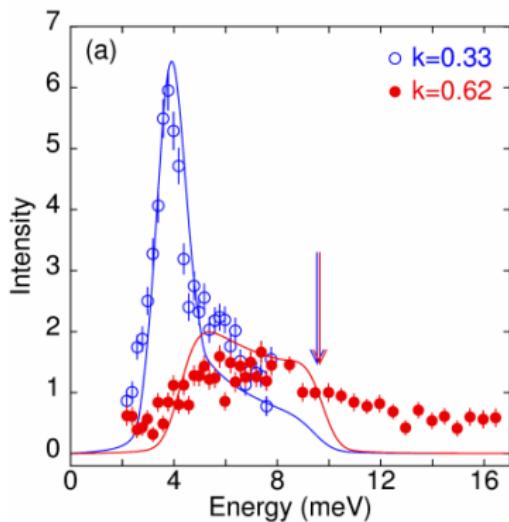
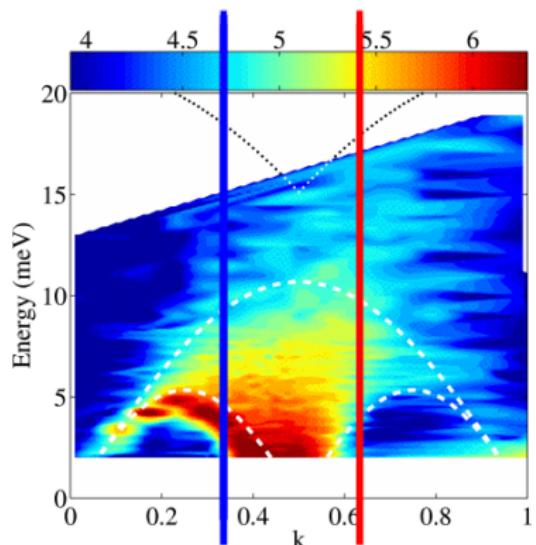
Continuum:  
pairs of free particles  
discrete branch:  
bound particle-pairs



M.E. et al. PRL **104** 237207 (2010)

# New many-particle states and excitations

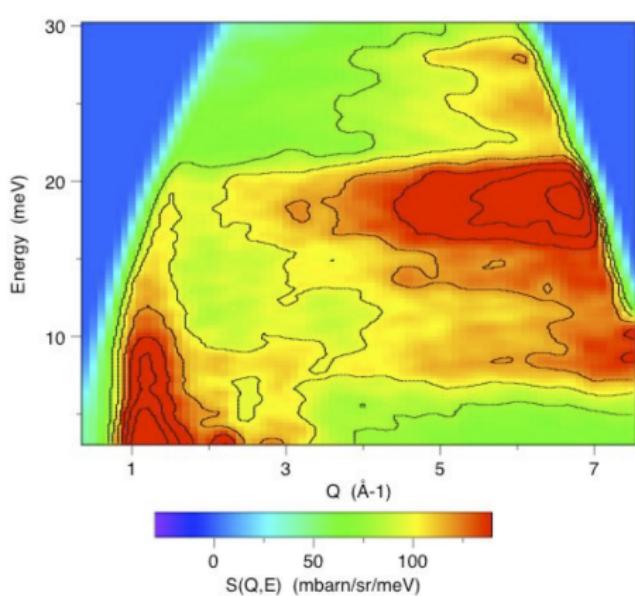
2 zig-zag coupled 1D spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  arrays



M.E. et al. PRL 104 237207 (2010)

# Collective excitations – powder samples

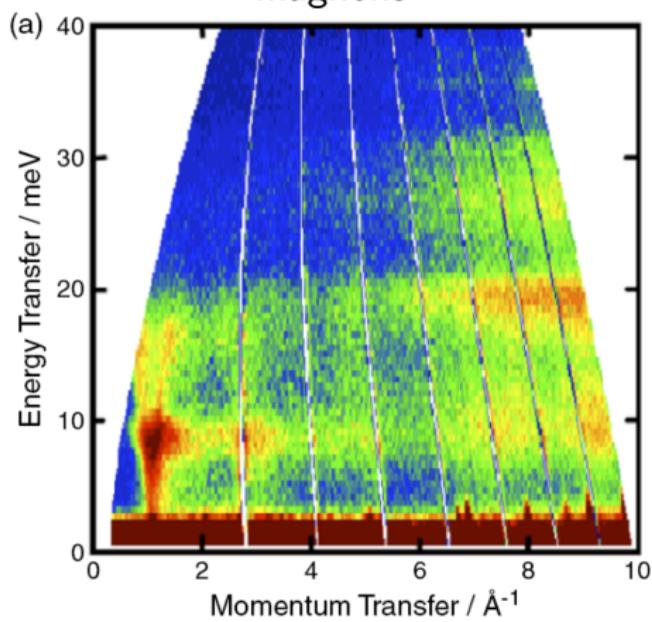
Continuum



B. Fåk *et al.* EPL **81** 17006 (2008)

Deuterium jarosite

magnons

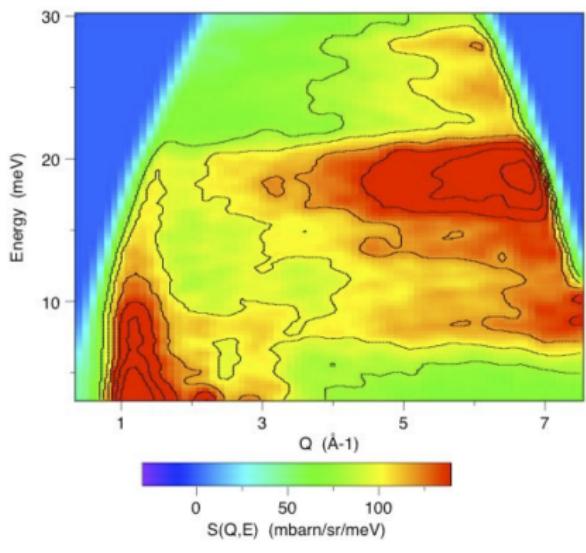


F. Coomer *et al.* JPCM **18** 8847 (2006)

K-jarosite

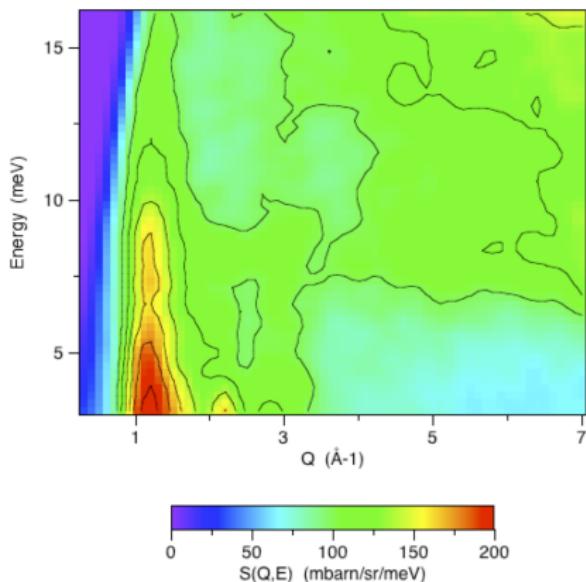
# Collective excitations – powder samples

IN5: deuterium jarosite powder



magnetic only

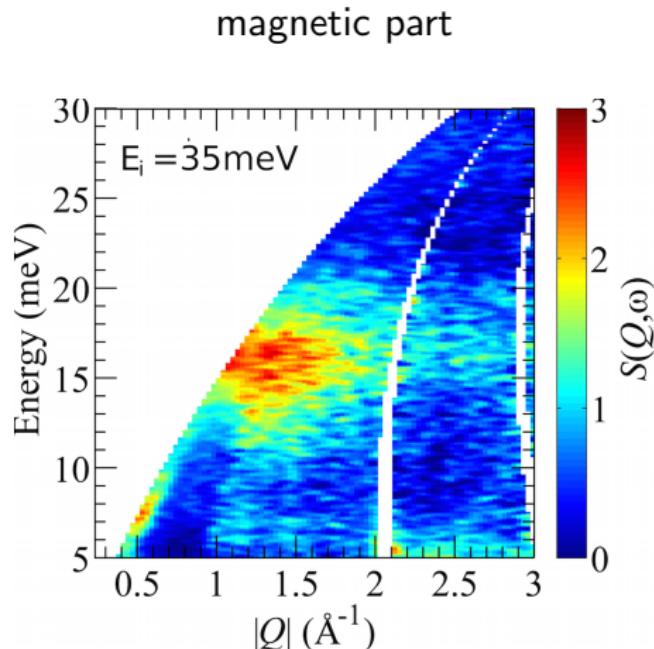
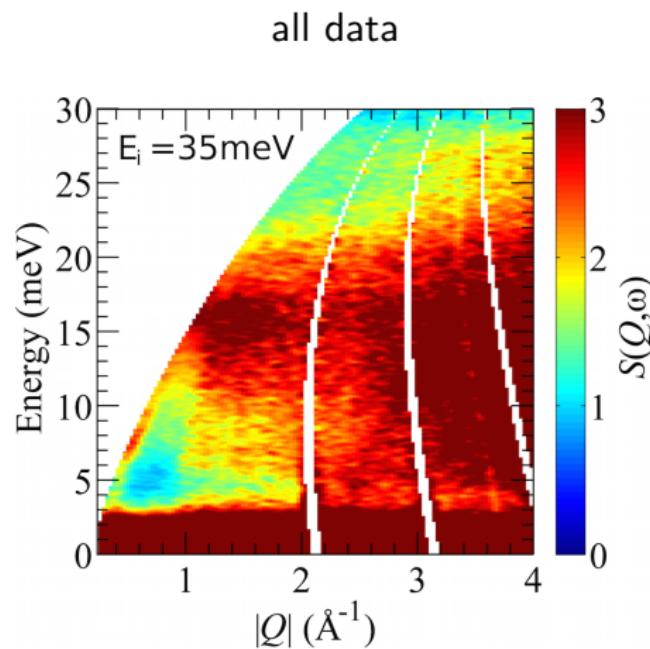
Hydronium iron jarosite, T=15 K



B. Fåk *et al.* EPL **81** 17006 (2008)

# Malachite Inelastic neutron scattering on deuterated powder

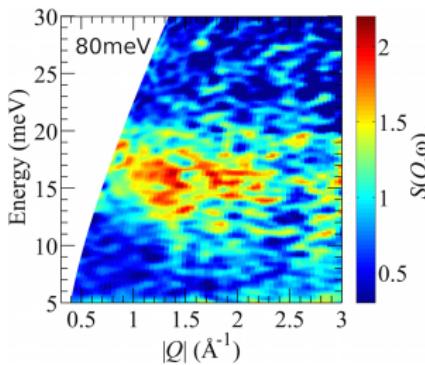
MARI/ISIS



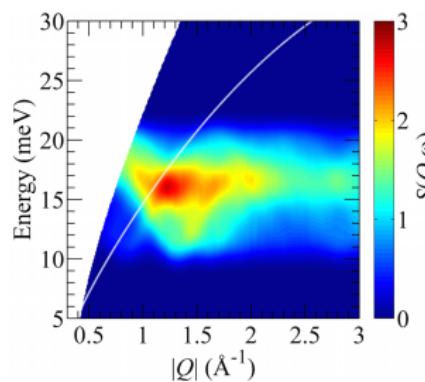
# Malachite Inelastic neutron scattering on D-powder

Extracting information from powder samples: Triplons

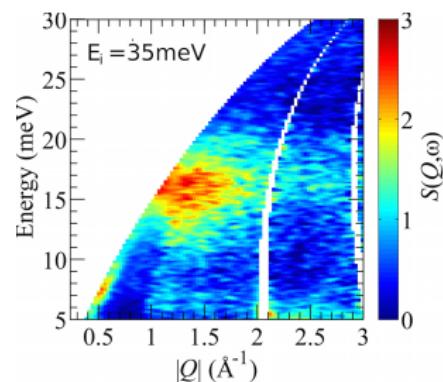
magnetic  $E_i = 35\text{meV}$



model

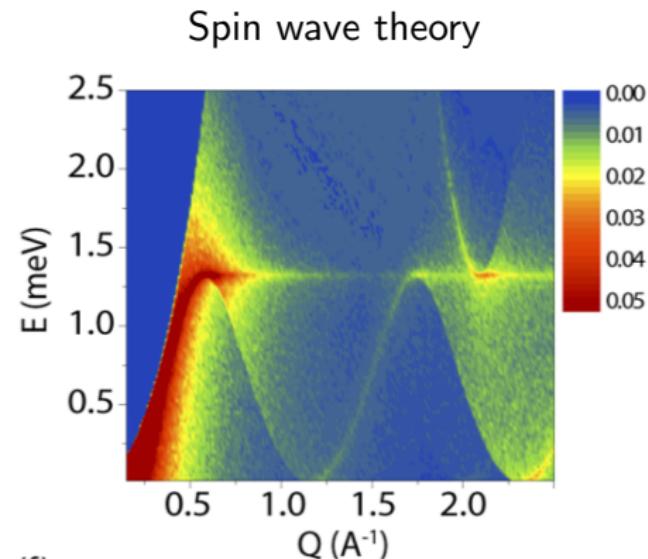
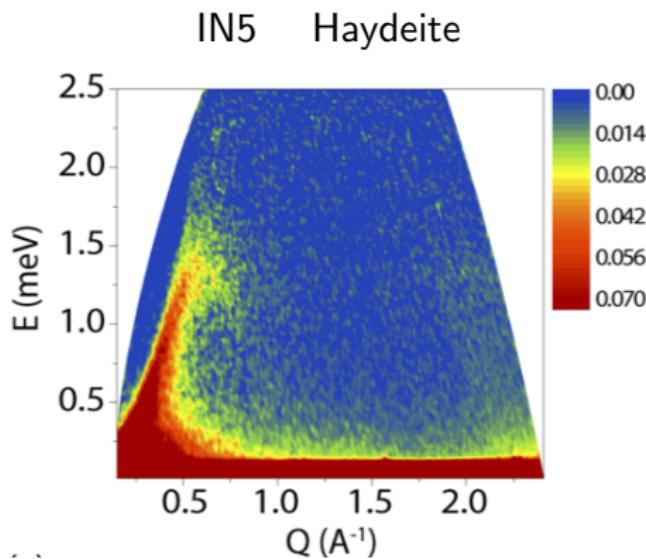


magnetic  $E_i = 80\text{meV}$



# Collective excitations – powder samples: magnons

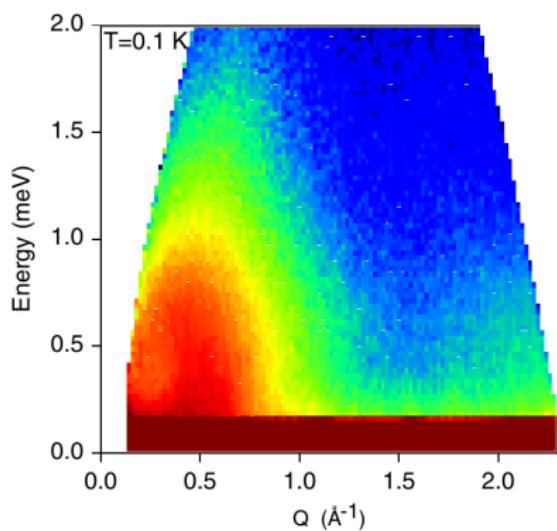
Extracting information from powder samples: Spinwaves/Magnons



D. Boldrin, B. Fåk, M.E., et al. PRB **91** 220408 (2015)

# Collective excitations – powder samples

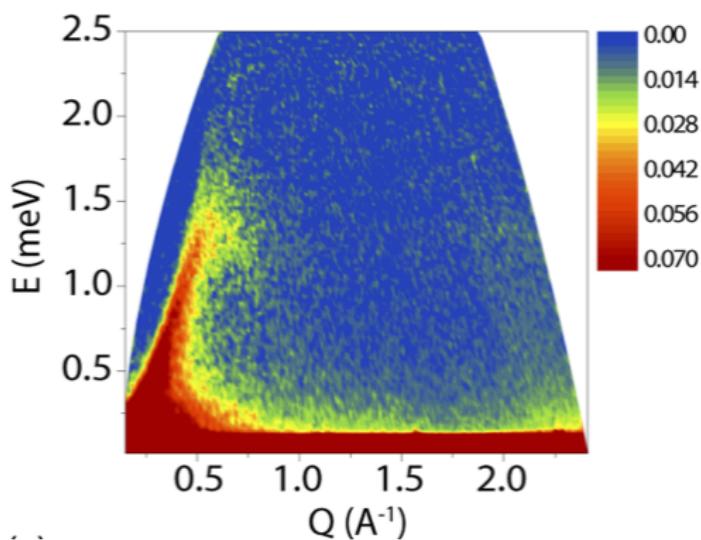
Continuum



B. Fåk *et al.*  
PRL **109** 037208 (2012)

IN5    Kapellasite

Magnons

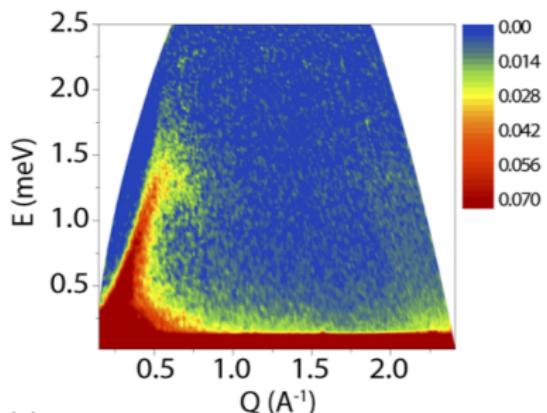


D. Boldrin, B. Fåk, M.E. *et al.*  
PRB **91** 220408 (2015)

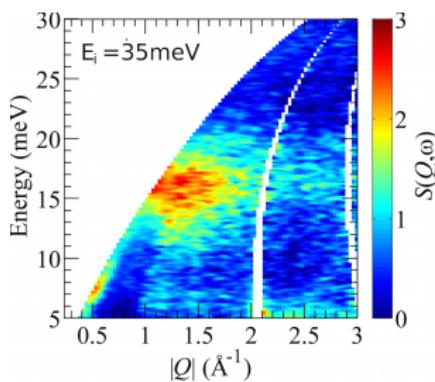
IN5    Haydeite

# Collective excitations – powder samples

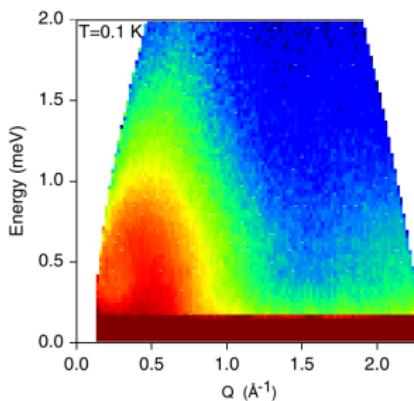
## Magnons



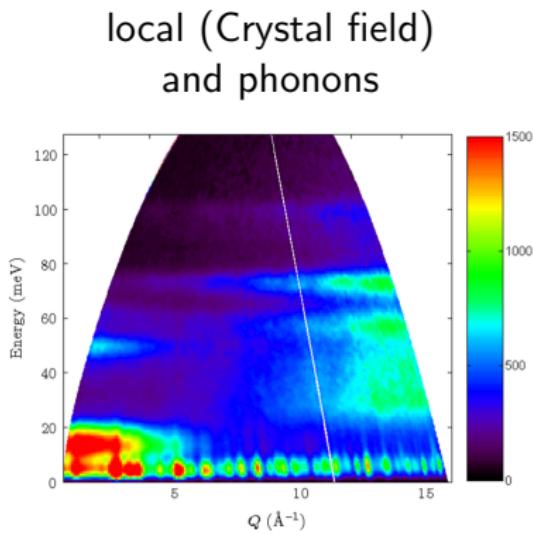
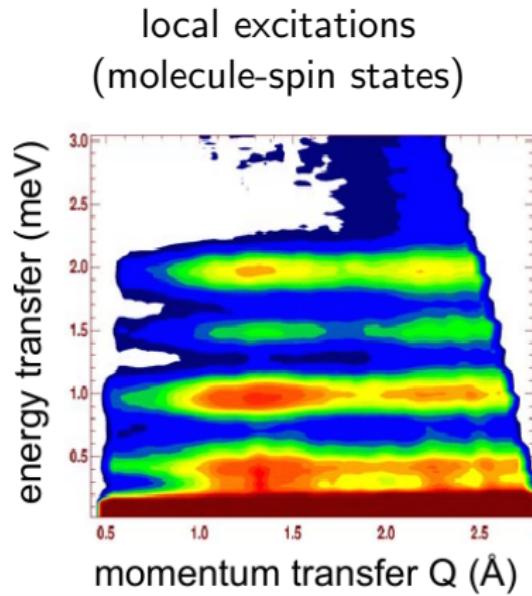
## Triplons



## Continuum



# Collective excitations – powder samples



# Correlated Excitations – How do we measure them ?

- ▶ powder on TOF – valuable info
- ▶ single crystal TOF – large overview of Q-E-space
- ▶ Questions at specific  $Q/H, p, T$ : TAS
- ▶ Small single crystal: TAS
- ▶ inelastic polarized: TAS (today !)