ULTRAFAST SPIN, CHARGE AND NUCLEAR DYNAMICS

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Ultrafast spin, charge and nuclear dynamics

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Evolution of multi-core processors



Femto-magnetism



Ultrafast manipulation of spins with light

- Efficient devices based in spin currents
- Fast (femtoseconds) operational times

Laser-induced demagnetization

Expt: Beaurepair et al. PRL 76 4250 (1996)

Leading order terms in expansion of QED H

$$\begin{split} H &= \sum_{i} \frac{1}{2m} \mathbf{p}_{i}^{2} - eV_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{e^{2}}{r_{ij}} + \frac{1}{c} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{m} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{c} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{m} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) + \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{2m^{2}} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [\mathbf{E}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \mathbf{p}_{i}] \\ &+ \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{e^{2}}{2m} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}^{2}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) - \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{1}{8m^{3}} \mathbf{p}_{i}^{4} + \frac{ie}{4m^{2}c^{2}} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{2m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \left[\frac{(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})}{r_{ij}^{3}} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right] \cdot \mathbf{p}_{j} \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot \left[\frac{3(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})}{r_{ij}^{5}} - \frac{1}{r_{ij}^{3}} \right] \cdot \mathbf{s}_{j} \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}^{3}} \left(\mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [(\mathbf{r}_{j} - \mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \mathbf{p}_{j}] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j}) \times \mathbf{p}_{i}] \right) \\ &+ \dots \end{split}$$

Still only an approximation to QED...

Models to explain this demagnetisation

1. Elliott-Yafet mechanism: **electron-phonon or electron-impurity** mediated spin-flip causing a global demagnetization

B. Koopmans, Nature Mater. 6, 715 (2007)

- Spin-lattice relaxation causing global demagnetization
 W. Hübner and K. H. Bennemann, PRB 53, 3422 (1996)
- 3. Super-diffusive model: **Electron and spin current** flows causing a local demagnetization

M. Battiato, K. Carva, and P. M. Oppeneer, PRL 105, 027203 (2010)

4. Electron -electron and -phonon scattering causing global demagnetization

B. Y. Mueller et al., PRL 111, 167204 (2013)

Method: Ab-initio theory

Our aim is to make quantitative predictions with a computer code knowing only the atomic species and crystal structure

No adjustable parameters

Theory: fully ab-initio approach

$$i\frac{\partial\psi_{j}(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t} = \left[\frac{1}{2}\left(i\nabla + \frac{1}{c}\mathbf{A}_{ext}(t)\right)^{2} + v_{s}(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{1}{2c}\overrightarrow{\sigma}\cdot\mathbf{B}_{s}(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{1}{4c^{2}}\overrightarrow{\sigma}\cdot\left(\nabla v_{s}(\mathbf{r},t)\times i\nabla\right)\right]\psi_{j}(\mathbf{r},t)$$

$$(1)$$

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(1)

Effective potentials:

$$\mathbf{B}_{s}[\rho, \mathbf{m}] = \mathbf{B}_{\text{ext}} + \mathbf{B}_{\text{xc}}[\rho, \mathbf{m}], \quad v_{s}[\rho, \mathbf{m}] = v_{\text{cl}} + v_{\text{xc}}[\rho, \mathbf{m}] \quad (2)$$

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Density:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_{j} \psi_{j}^{*}(\mathbf{r},t)\psi_{j}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
(3)

Magnetization density(unconstrained vector field):

$$\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r},t) = \sum_{j} \psi_{j}^{*}(\mathbf{r},t) \overrightarrow{\sigma} \psi_{j}^{*}(\mathbf{r},t)$$
(4)

E. Runge and E. K. U. Gross, Phys. Rev. Lett. 52, 997 (1984)

Demagnetisation in supercell of fcc Ni



 Inter-site non-collinearity and magnons do not contribute in early times

•
$$\frac{1}{4c^2} \overrightarrow{\sigma} \cdot (\nabla v_s(\mathbf{r}, t) \times i \nabla)$$

 The physics is dominated by spin-orbit induced spin-flips

Krieger et al. JCTC 11, 4870 (2015),
Elliott et al. New J. Phys. 18, 013014 (2016),
Dewhurst et al. Computer Phys. Comm. 209, 92 (2016)

How fast?-exchange and spin-orbit times in femto-seconds

Metal	Exchange	Spin-orbit
Fe	52	50
Co	80	52
Ni	380	48

Table: Exchange time is Heisenberg exchange parameter converted to time. SO time is the time at which SO coupling causes spin flips in Fe/Mn, Co/Mn and Ni/Mn interfaces.

Faster than spin-orbit

1. A new ultrafast phenomena called OISTR.

- $1.1\,$ Spin manipulation faster than spin-orbit.
- $1.2\,$ Spin manipulation at sub-exchange time scales.
- $1.3\,$ Sub-exchange, sub-spin-orbit switching the magnetic order.
- 1.4 Spin manipulation times coherently controlled by laser pulse.
- 2. Experimental demonstration of OISTR
- 3. What is missing and how we can try to change that

Ferri-magnetic layers: Mn2/Co4/Cu(001)



Magnetization dynamics in Mn2/Co4/Cu(001)



- ► Ground-state is Ferri-magnetic
- \triangleright ~ 29fs one of the Mn layers switches the direction of spin
- Stays in transient FM state at least till 150fs

Dewhurst, Elliott, Shallcross, Gross and Sharma, Nano Lett. 18, 1842, (2018)

Spin-flips, spin current, charge current

$$\hat{H}_{s} = \frac{1}{2} \left(i \nabla + \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}(t) \right)^{2} + v_{s}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \frac{1}{2c} \overrightarrow{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$
(5)
+ $\frac{1}{4c^{2}} \overrightarrow{\sigma} (\nabla v_{s}(\mathbf{r}, t) \times i \nabla)$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r},t) = i\langle [\hat{H}_s, \hat{\sigma}\hat{n}(\mathbf{r},t)] \rangle \tag{6}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r},t) = - \nabla \cdot \overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{J}}(\mathbf{r},t) + \frac{1}{c} [\mathbf{B}_{\mathrm{xc}}(\mathbf{r},t) \times \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r},t)] \\ + \frac{1}{4c^2} [\nabla n(\mathbf{r},t) \times \nabla v_s(\mathbf{r},t)] \\ + \frac{1}{2c^2} [\overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{J}}^T(\mathbf{r},t) - Tr\{\overleftrightarrow{\mathbf{J}}(\mathbf{r},t)\}] \cdot \nabla v_s(\mathbf{r},t) (7)$$

Krieger et al. JPCM **29** , 224001 (2017), Dewhurst et al. Computer Phys. Comm. **209**, 92 (2016)

Magnetization dynamics in Mn2/Co4/Cu(001) without SO



Spin flips play no role in switching of magnetic order.
 Dewhurst et al. Nano Lett. 18, 1842, (2018)

Optical inter-site spin transfer (OISTR)



$$m = n_{\rm up} - n_{\rm dn}$$

Transient state density

$$DOS(\omega, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \int_{BZ} \delta(\omega - \varepsilon_{i\mathbf{k}}) g_{i\mathbf{k}}(t), \qquad (8)$$

with

$$g_{i\mathbf{k}}(t) = \sum_{j} n_{j\mathbf{k}} \left| O_{ij}^{\mathbf{k}}(t) \right|^2, \qquad (9)$$

where $n_{j\mathbf{k}}$ is the occupation number of the j^{th} time-evolving orbital and

$$O_{ij}^{\mathbf{k}}(t) = \int d^3 r \phi_{i\mathbf{k}}^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{j\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}, t).$$
(10)

Here ϕ_i are the ground-state Kohn-Sham orbitals. In absence of any time-dependent perturbation $\psi_{j\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}, t = 0) = \phi_{j\mathbf{k}}^*(\mathbf{r})$

Elliott et al. Sci. Rep. 6, 38911 (2016)

Transient occupied states



- Optical inter-site spin transfer (OISTR) is responsible for switching
- Availability of states enforces OISTR

Outlook for OISTR: Ultrafast GMR



Laser induced transient OCMR device



Resistance change of 385% in CuCoMn multilayers from Boltzmann simulations (Ingrid Mertig)

Experimental confirmation of OISTR



2, 023199 (2020)

11, 1 (2020)

Siegrist *et al*. Nature **571**, 240 (2019)

Quantitative but indirect agreement with experiemnts



Laser-induced local **increase** in moment

Hofherr et al. Science Advs. 6, eaay8717

(2019)



Attosecond dynamics via OISTR

Siegrist et al. Nature 571, 240 (2019)

Linear response TDDFT

Interacting response function:

$$\varepsilon^{-1}(\mathbf{q},\omega) = 1 + \chi_0(\mathbf{q},\omega) \left[1 - (v_{\rm cl} + f_{\rm xc}(\mathbf{q},\omega))\chi_0(\mathbf{q},\omega)\right]^{-1} \quad (11)$$

Non-interacting response function:

$$\chi_0(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', \omega) = \sum_{lmk} (n_{lk} - n_{mk}) \frac{\phi_{lk}^*(\mathbf{r}) \phi_{mk}^*(\mathbf{r}') \phi_{lk}(\mathbf{r}') \phi_{mk}(\mathbf{r})}{\omega - \epsilon_{lk} + \epsilon_{mk} + i\eta} \quad (12)$$

Linear response TDDFT

$$\varepsilon^{-1}(\mathbf{q},\omega) = 1 + \chi_0(\mathbf{q},\omega) \left[1 - (v_{\rm cl} + f_{\rm xc}(\mathbf{q},\omega))\chi_0(\mathbf{q},\omega)\right]^{-1} \quad (13)$$

All quantities are treated as matrices in reciprocal space vectors **G**,**G**' to account for LFE.

Local field effects(LFE)– charge density rearrangement caused by the external perturbation leads to creation of local microscopic fields.

Light of the form $e^{i({\bf G}+{\bf q}).{\bf r}}$ produces a response also of the form $e^{i({\bf G}'+{\bf q}).{\bf r}}$

Simplest approximations: $f_{\rm xc} = 0$ (RPA, i.e. no excitons) and $\mathbf{G}=\mathbf{G'}=0$ (no LFE)

CoPt: experimental response vs theoretical disaster



Disagreemet believed to be due to (a) Missing many-body corrections and (b) missing excitonic physics (i.e. $f_{xc} \neq 0$).

Theory guiding experiments



Dewhurst et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 077203, (2020), Willems et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 217202, (2019),

Willems et al. Nat. Comm. 11, 1-7, (2020)

Agreement requires:

- Many-body correction via GW
- Excitonic physics included via bootstrap approximation
- Local field effects by solving matrix equation.

Transient response function in CoPt



Dewhurst et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 077203, (2020)

Where does the angular momentum go? L+S+N is conserved



What is missing from the theory?

Even the exact functional will not yield full predictiveness!



Leading order terms in expansion of QED H

$$\begin{split} H &= \sum_{i} \frac{1}{2m} \mathbf{p}_{i}^{2} - eV_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{e^{2}}{r_{ij}} + \frac{1}{c} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{m} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{c} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{m} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) + \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{e}{2m^{2}} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [\mathbf{E}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \mathbf{p}_{i}] \\ &+ \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{e^{2}}{2m} \mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}^{2}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) - \frac{1}{c^{2}} \sum_{i} \frac{1}{8m^{3}} \mathbf{p}_{i}^{4} + \frac{ie}{4m^{2}c^{2}} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{2m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{p}_{i} \cdot \left[\frac{(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})}{r_{ij}^{3}} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right] \cdot \mathbf{p}_{j} \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot \left[\frac{3(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j})}{r_{ij}^{5}} - \frac{1}{r_{ij}^{3}} \right] \cdot \mathbf{s}_{j} \\ &- \frac{1}{c^{2}} \frac{e^{2}}{m^{2}} \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}^{3}} \left(\mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [(\mathbf{r}_{j} - \mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \mathbf{p}_{j}] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{s}_{i} \cdot [(\mathbf{r}_{i} - \mathbf{r}_{j}) \times \mathbf{p}_{i}] \right) \\ &+ \dots \end{split}$$

Still only an approximation to QED...



DFT of magnetic dipolar interactions

$$H_{\rm dip} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{e^2}{m^2} \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{s}_i \cdot \left[\frac{3(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)}{r_{ij}^5} - \frac{1}{r_{ij}^3} \right] \cdot \mathbf{s}_j$$

C. Pellegrini, T. Müller, JKD, S. Sharma, A. Sanna, E. K. U. Gross *Phys. Rev. B* **101**, 144401 (2020)

Direct and exchange dipole-dipole energy of the homogeneous electron gas is zero

Therefore no dipole LDA for exchange!

Instead we construct a functional from the response of the electron gas to a magnetic field:

$$E_x^{\rm dip} = \frac{\mu_B^2}{2} \int \frac{d^3q}{(2\pi)^3} K_x^{ij}(\mathbf{q}) \delta m_i(\mathbf{q}) \delta m_j(-\mathbf{q})$$





Long length scale physics

Spin-spiral ansatz

$$\Phi_{n}^{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{pmatrix} u_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\uparrow}(\mathbf{r}) e^{i(\mathbf{q}/\mathbf{2})\cdot(\mathbf{r})} \\ u_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\downarrow}(\mathbf{r}) e^{i(-\mathbf{q}/\mathbf{2})\cdot(\mathbf{r})} \end{pmatrix} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$
(14)

Ultra long-range anstaz

$$\Phi_{\alpha}^{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{R}) = \sum_{n\boldsymbol{\kappa}} c_{n\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa}}^{\alpha} \begin{pmatrix} u_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\uparrow}(\mathbf{r}) \\ u_{n\mathbf{k}}^{\downarrow}(\mathbf{r}) \end{pmatrix} e^{i(\mathbf{k}+\boldsymbol{\kappa})\cdot(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{R})}$$
(15)



Self-consistent density for a 3456 atom cell of LiF



Müller, Sharma, Gross and Dewhurst, Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 256402 (2020)

Skyrmion in iron on iridium substrate



Plot of the surface magnetization density averaged in each unit cell in the Fe plane. Each triangle represents a unit cell and the ultracell vectors were scaled by 0.8, 0.9, 1.0 and 1.1.





Nuclear degrees of freedom

Treat nuclei as classical point particles: Ehrenfest dynamics

Quantum nuclei required for superconductivity!

Coupled spin nuclear dynamics in FePt





Change in the band gap

This work	-365 meV						
S. Poncé et al.,							
Comp. Mat. Sci. 83, 341 (2014)	$-409~{\rm meV}$						



Phys. Lett. A **25**, 452 (1967) 2.32 meV



 $\label{eq:long-range} \mbox{long-range} + \mbox{Maxwell's equations} + \mbox{TDDFT} \implies \begin{cases} \mbox{light propagation} \\ \mbox{density wave propagation} \end{cases}$

long-range + Maxwell's equations + TDDFT \implies $\begin{cases} \text{light propagation} \\ \text{density wave propagation} \end{cases}$

 $long-range + spin-orbit + spin-TDDFT \implies skyrmion dynamics$

 $\label{eq:long-range} \mbox{long-range} + \mbox{Maxwell's equations} + \mbox{TDDFT} \implies \begin{cases} \mbox{light propagation} \\ \mbox{density wave propagation} \end{cases}$

 $long-range + spin-orbit + spin-TDDFT \implies skyrmion dynamics$

 $long-range + dipole-dipole interaction + spin-DFT \implies magnetic domains$

 $long-range + Maxwell's equations + TDDFT \implies \begin{cases} light propagation \\ density wave propagation \end{cases}$

 $long-range + spin-orbit + spin-TDDFT \implies skyrmion dynamics$

 $long-range + dipole-dipole interaction + spin-DFT \implies magnetic domains$

long-range + superconductivity + $\frac{1}{c}\sum_{i}\frac{e}{m}\mathbf{p}_{i}\cdot\mathbf{A}_{ext}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \implies$ Abrikosov vortices

New physics can be found at competing energy scales!

Elk code: full potential LAPW method

Science 351, 6280		(20)	16)					
		Elk	exciting	FHI-aims/tier2	A I	FPLO/T+F+s	RSPt	WIEN2k/acc	average <∆>
AE	Elk		0.3	0.3	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.3	0.6
	exciting	0.3		0.1	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.5
	FHI-aims/tier2	0.3	0.1		0.5	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.5
	FLEUR	0.6	0.5	0.5		0.8	0.6	0.4	0.6
	FPLO/T+F+s	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8		0.9	0.9	0.9
	RSPt	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.9		0.8	0.8
	WIEN2k/acc	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.9	0.8		0.5
PAW	GBRV12/ABINIT	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.9
	GPAW09/ABINIT	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.4
	GPAW09/GPAW	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.6
	JTH02/ABINIT	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.6
	PSlib100/QE	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.9
	VASPGW2015/VASP	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6

Gold standard for electronic structure of solids. Features include:

- Ground state
- Most single particle observables
- Structural optimization
- Many-body methods: GW and beyond, RDMFT, BSE ...
- Response functions: magnons, phonons, plasmons, excitons ...
- Wannier90 interface
- Tensor moments
- Non-equilibrium spin dynamics
- Superconductivity: calculation of Tc, Eliashberg

J. K. Dewhurst, S. Sharma, L. Nordström and E. K. U. Gross



http://elk.sourceforge.net/