

# THz Magnetism of Antiferromagnets

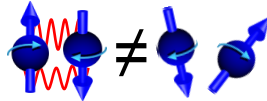
**Alexey V. Kimel**

*Ultrafast Spectroscopy of Correlated Materials,  
Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands*

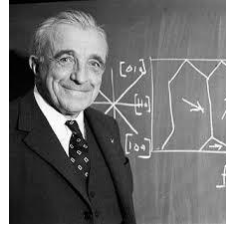
# Magnetism – the strongest quantum mechanical phenomenon



$$S_z = \pm \hbar/2$$



$$E_{ex} = -JS_i S_j$$



L. Néel

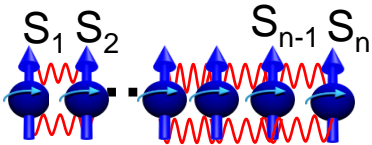
L. Néel:  
“Antiferromagnets –  
interesting, but useless.”

Spin  
(1922)

Exchange interaction  
(1926)

Antiferromagnetism  
(1930)

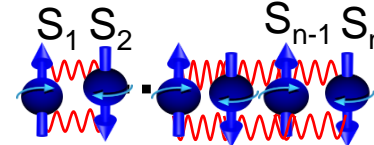
**Ferromagnet**  
( $J > 0$ )



**Macrospin approximation**

$$\mathbf{M} = -\gamma \frac{\sum S_i}{V} \neq 0 \quad \mathbf{MH} \neq 0$$

**Antiferromagnet**  
( $J < 0$ )



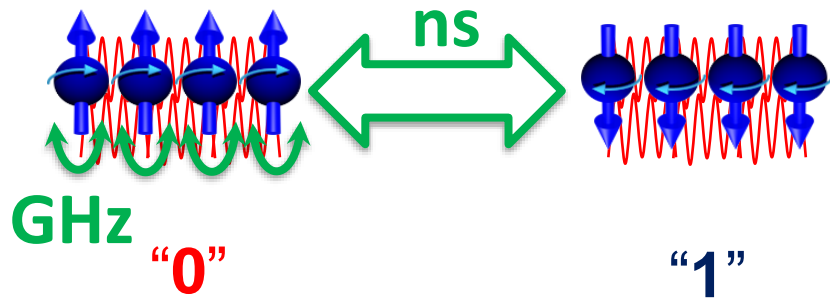
$$\mathbf{M} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{L} = -\gamma \frac{\sum (S_{2i-1} - S_{2i})}{V} \quad \mathbf{LH} = 0$$

# State-of-the-art

## Ferromagnets

*(well understood and used in data storage)*



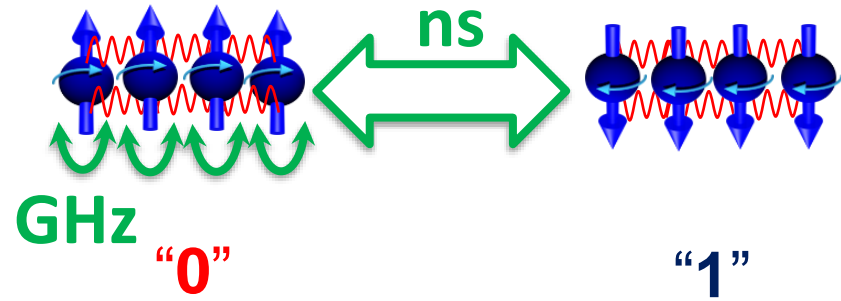
**Non-zero magnetization  $M \neq 0$**   
**Controlled by magnetic fields**



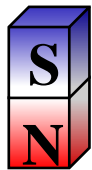
# State-of-the-art

## Ferromagnets

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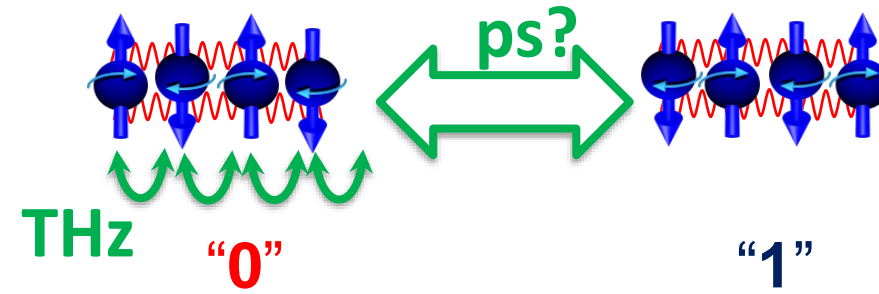


**Non-zero magnetization  $M \neq 0$**   
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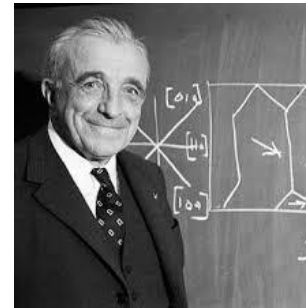


## Antiferromagnets

*(far less explored, 1000 times faster)*



**No net magnetization  $M = 0$**   
**Insensitive to magnetic fields**

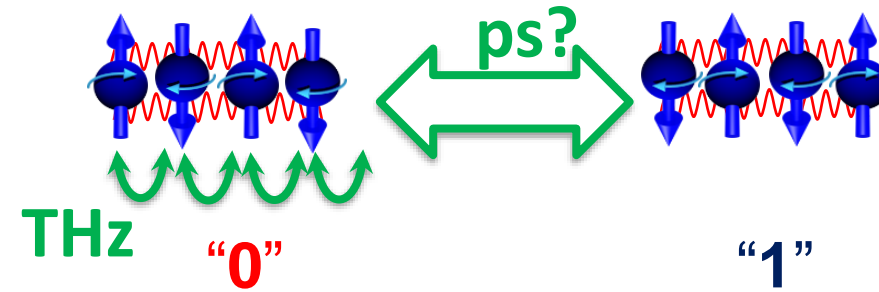


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# State-of-the-art

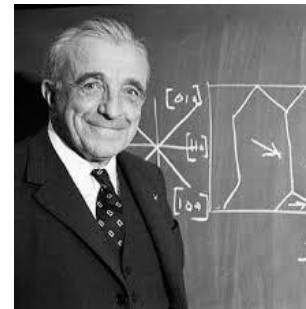
## Antiferromagnets

*(far less explored, 1000 times faster)*



No net magnetization  $M=0$   
Insensitive to magnetic fields

- How to detect?
- How to control?
- How to control ultrafast?



L. Néel:  
“Antiferromagnets –  
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# Symmetry in physics of antiferromagnets in thermodynamic equilibrium



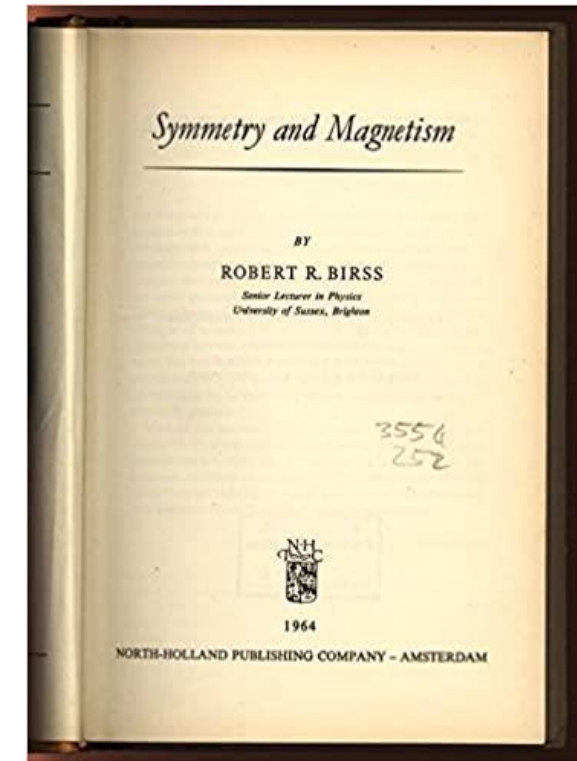
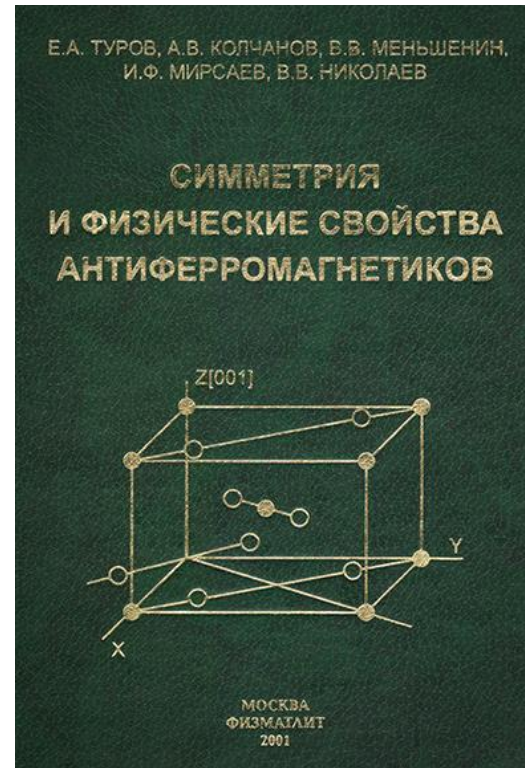
I. A. Dzyaloshinskii



A. S. Borovik-Romanov



E. A. Turov



# Symmetry in physics of antiferromagnets in thermodynamic equilibrium



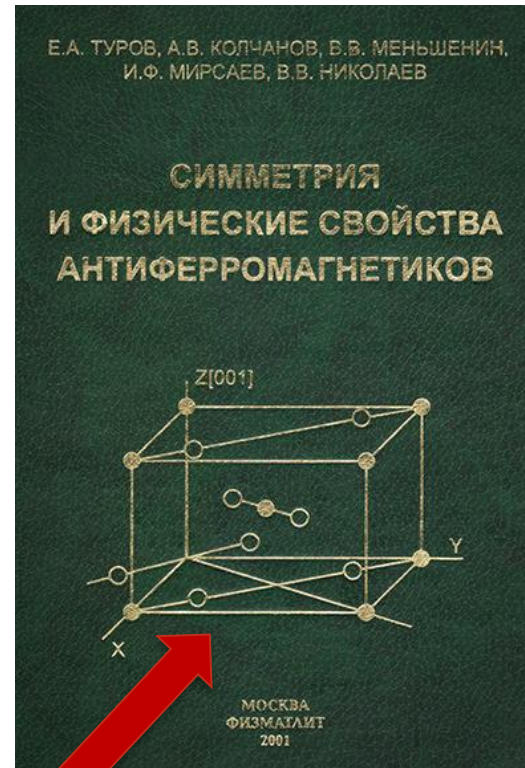
I. A. Dzyaloshinskii



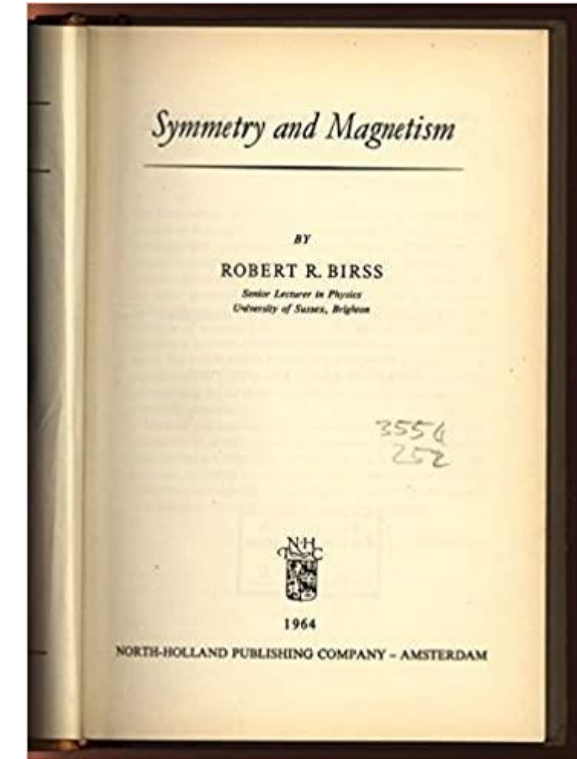
A. S. Borovik-Romanov



E. A. Turov



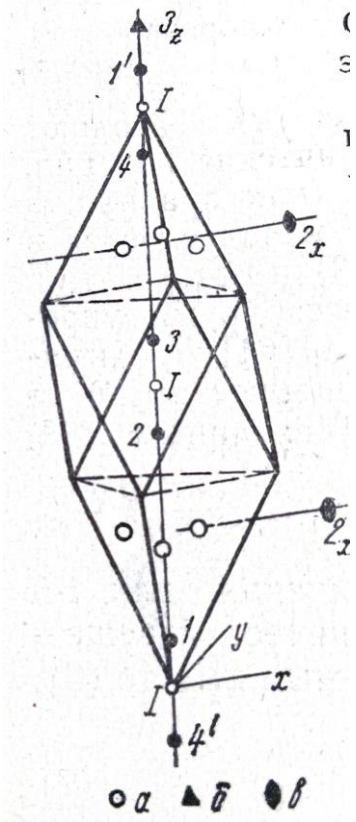
**altermagnet!**



### Thermodynamic Theory of "Weak" Ferromagnetism In Antiferromagnetic Substances

I. E. DZIALOSHINSKII

Physical Problems Institute, Academy of Sciences, U.S.S.R.



4

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}_1 + \mathbf{M}_2 + \mathbf{M}_3 + \mathbf{M}_4$$

$$M_x = DL_y$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}_1 - \mathbf{M}_2 - \mathbf{M}_3 + \mathbf{M}_4$$

$$M_y = -DL_x$$

$$M_z = 0$$

*D* shows the strength  
of the Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya  
interaction!

3

$$2_x M_x = M_x, 2_x L_x = -L_x$$

2

$$2_x M_y = -M_y, 2_x L_y = L_y$$

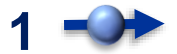
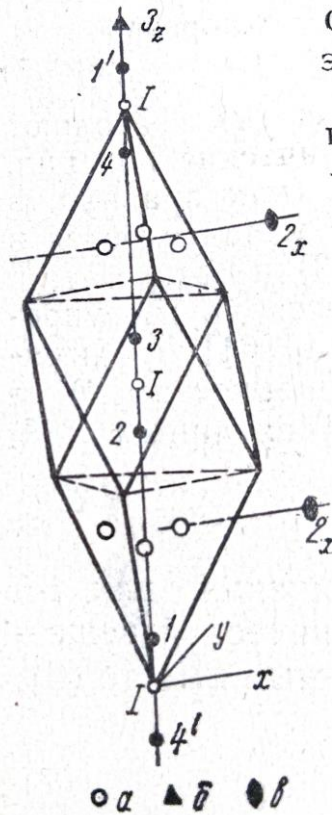
1

$L_x$  behaves as  $M_y$

$L_y$  behaves as  $M_x$



# Antiferromagnetic Hall effect in hematite $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$



$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}_1 + \mathbf{M}_2 + \mathbf{M}_3 + \mathbf{M}_4$$

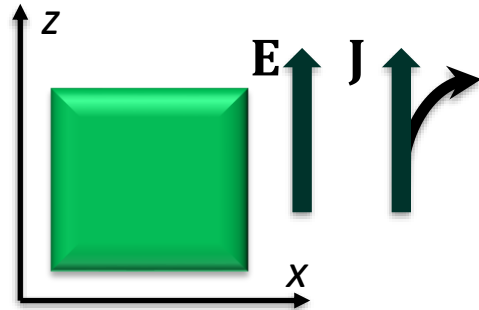
$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}_1 - \mathbf{M}_2 - \mathbf{M}_3 + \mathbf{M}_4$$

$$M_x = DL_y$$

$$M_y = -DL_x$$

$$M_z = 0$$

$$\sigma_{xz}^{(a)} = \chi^{(H)} H_y + \chi^{(M)} M_y - \chi^{(L)} L_x$$



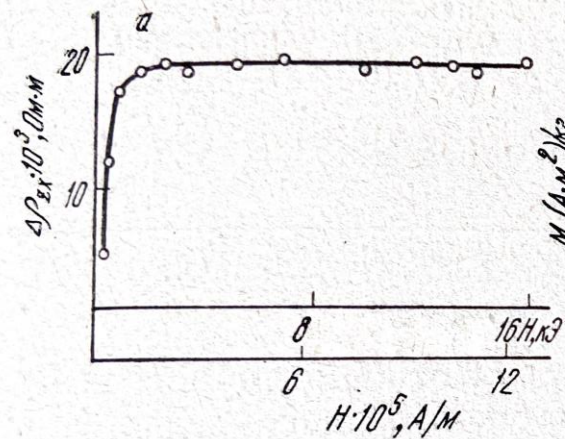
$$J_z = \sigma_{zz} E_z$$

$$J_x = \sigma_{xz} E_z$$

$$\sigma_{xz} = -\sigma_{zx} = \sigma_{xz}^{(a)}$$

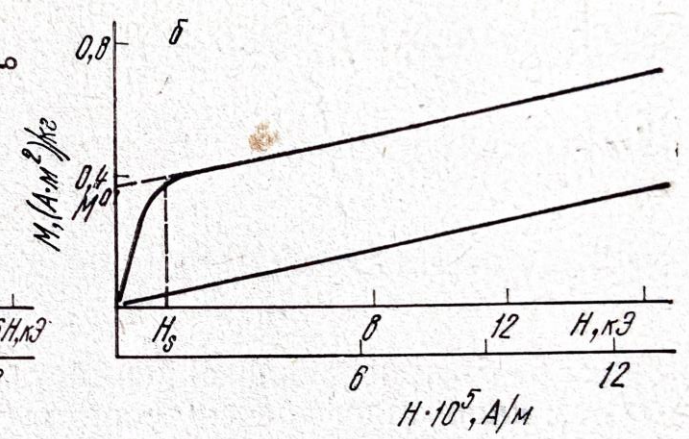
Measured

$$\chi^{(L)} L_x$$



Expected

$$\chi^{(H)} H_y + \chi^{(M)} M_y$$



K. B. Vlasov et al., *Sov. Phys. Solid State* **22**, 967 (1980).

K. B. Vlasov et al., *Физика металлов и металловедение* **42**, 513-517 (1976).

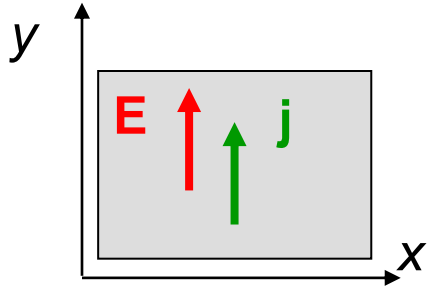
# Hall vs Faraday effect

$$j_k = \sigma_{kl} E_l$$

$j_k$  – current density

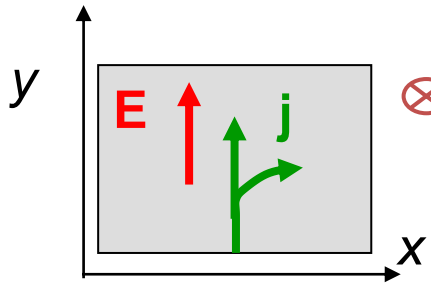
$E_l$  – electric field

$\sigma_{kl}$  – conductivity



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{M} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \otimes \mathbf{H} &\neq 0 \\ \mathbf{M} &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{kl}^{(a)} = -\sigma_{lk}^{(a)} \neq 0$$

$$\sigma_{kl}^{(a)} = \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(H)} H_m}_{\text{dia- and para-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(M)} M_m}_{\text{ferro-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(L)} L_m}_{\text{antiferro-}}$$

**dia- and para-  
magnetic  
(normal)**

**ferro-  
magnetic  
(anomalous)**

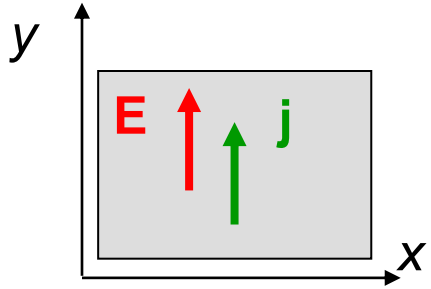
**antiferro-  
magnetic  
(alter)**

**Contributions  
to the Hall  
effect**

# Hall vs Faraday effect

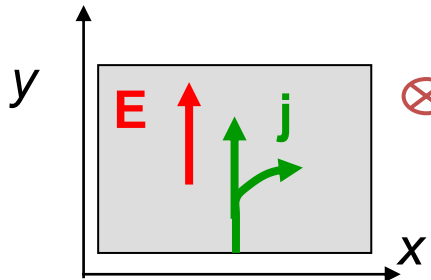
$$j_k = \sigma_{kl} E_l$$

$j_k$  – current density  
 $E_l$  – electric field  
 $\sigma_{kl}$  – conductivity



$H=0$   
 $M=0$

$$\sigma_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$



$\otimes H \neq 0$   
 $M \neq 0$

$$\sigma_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{yx} & \sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sigma_{kl}^{(a)} = -\sigma_{lk}^{(a)} \neq 0$$

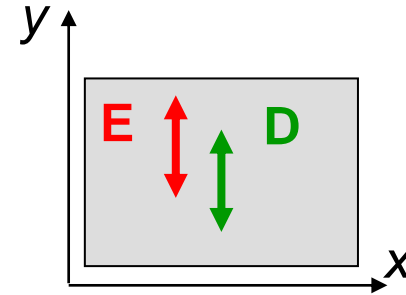
$$\sigma_{kl}^{(a)} = \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(H)} H_m}_{\text{dia- and para-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(M)} M_m}_{\text{ferro-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(L)} L_m}_{\text{antiferro-}}$$

**dia- and para-  
magnetic  
(normal)**     **ferro-  
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magnetic  
(alter)**

**Contributions  
to the Hall  
effect**

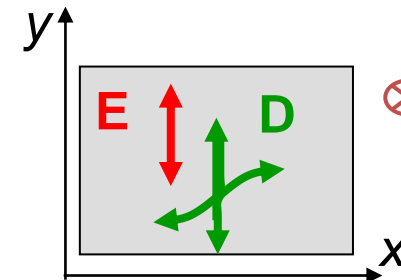
$$D_k = \varepsilon_{kl} E_l$$

$D_k$  – electric displacement  
 $E_l$  – electric field  
 $\varepsilon_{kl}$  – permittivity



$H=0$   
 $M=0$

$$\varepsilon_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$



$\otimes H \neq 0$   
 $M \neq 0$

$$\varepsilon_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} & \varepsilon_{xy} \\ \varepsilon_{yx} & \varepsilon_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

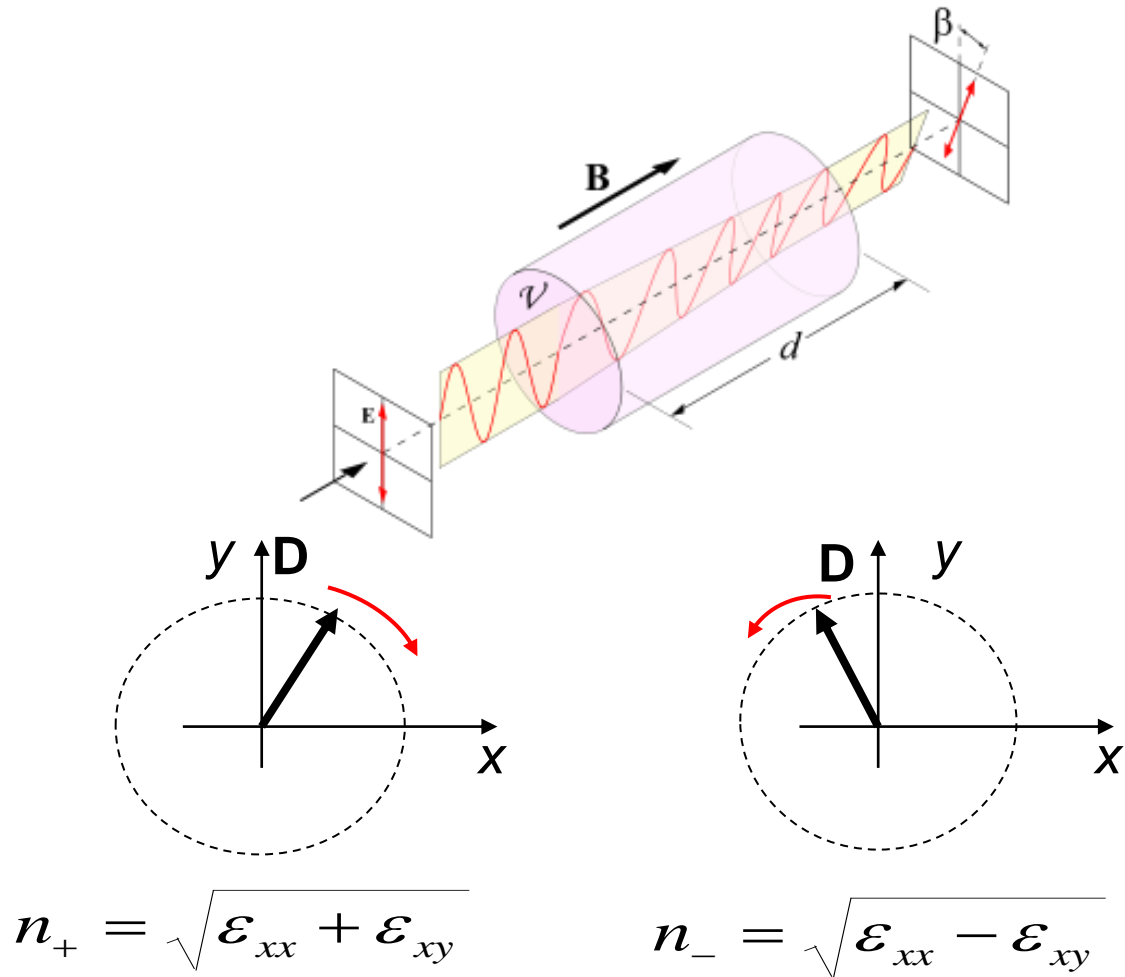
$$\varepsilon_{kl}^{(a)} = -\varepsilon_{lk}^{(a)} \neq 0$$

$$\varepsilon_{kl}^{(a)} = \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(H)} H_m}_{\text{dia- and para-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(M)} M_m}_{\text{ferro-}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(L)} L_m}_{\text{antiferro-}}$$

**dia- and para-  
magnetic**     **ferro-  
magnetic**     **antiferro-  
magnetic**

**Contributions  
to the Faraday  
effect**

# The magneto-optical Faraday effect



$D_k = \epsilon_{kl} E_l$

$D_k$  – electric displacement  
 $E_l$  – electric field  
 $\epsilon_{kl}$  – permittivity

$H=0$   
 $M=0$

$$\epsilon_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx} & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

$H \neq 0$   
 $M \neq 0$

$$\epsilon_{kl} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{xx} & i\epsilon_{xy} \\ i\epsilon_{yx} & \epsilon_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\epsilon_{kl}^{(a)} = -\epsilon_{lk}^{(a)} \neq 0$$

$$\epsilon_{kl}^{(a)} = \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(H)} H_m}_{\text{dia- and para-magnetic}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(M)} M_m}_{\text{ferro-magnetic}} + \underbrace{\chi_{klm}^{(L)} L_m}_{\text{antiferro-magnetic}}$$

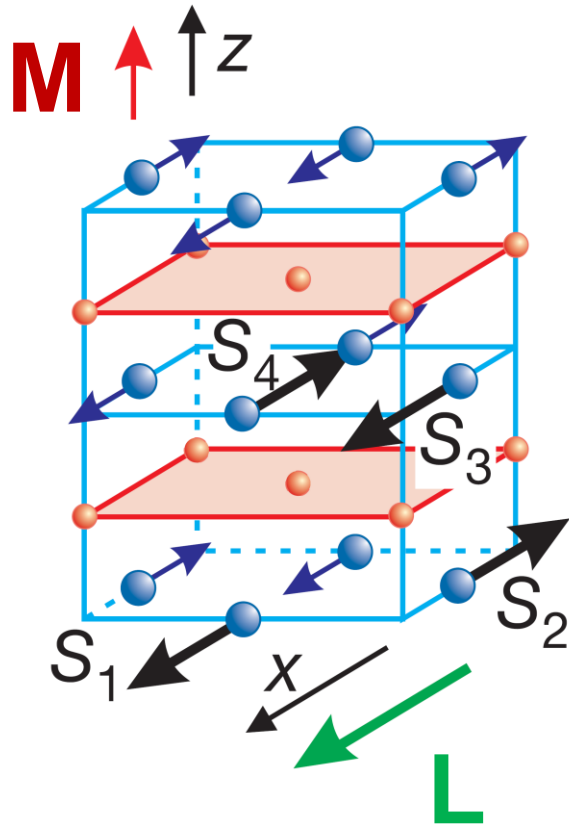
**Contributions to the Faraday effect**

# Antiferromagnetic and ferromagnetic Faraday effect in yttrium orthoferrite $\text{YFeO}_3$

B. B. Krichevtsov, K. M. Mukimov, R. V. Pisarev, and M. M. Ruvinshteĭn

(Submitted 25 August 1981)

Pis'ma Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. **34**, No. 7, 399–402 (5 October 1981)



## Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction and weak-ferromagnetism

$$M_z = DL_x$$

$$\varepsilon_{xy}^{(a)} = -\varepsilon_{yx}^{(a)} = \underbrace{\chi^{(H)} H_z}_{\text{dia- and para-magnetic}} + \underbrace{\chi^{(M)} M_z}_{\text{ferro-magnetic}} - \underbrace{\chi^{(L)} L_x}_{\text{antiferro-magnetic}}$$

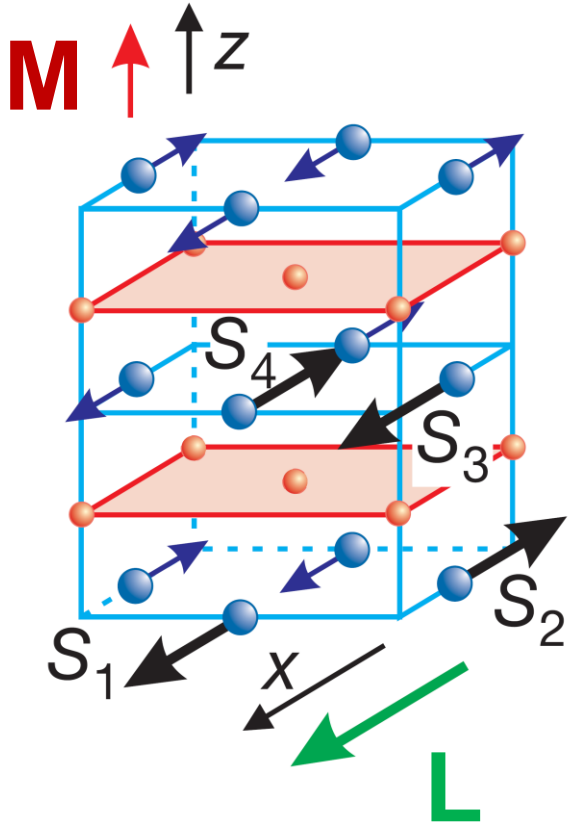
dia- and para-magnetic      ferro-magnetic      antiferro-magnetic

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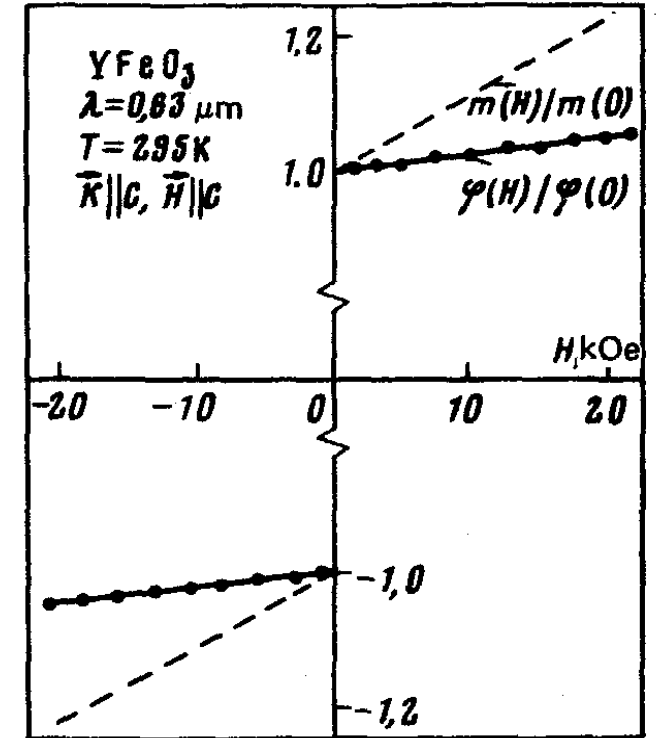


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dia- and para-  
magnetic      ferro-  
magnetic      antiferro-  
magnetic



The existence of antiferromagnetic Faraday effect, however, presupposes the existence of nonequivalent magnetic sublattices, since the antiferromagnetic component of the Faraday effect vanishes in the equivalent sublattices.

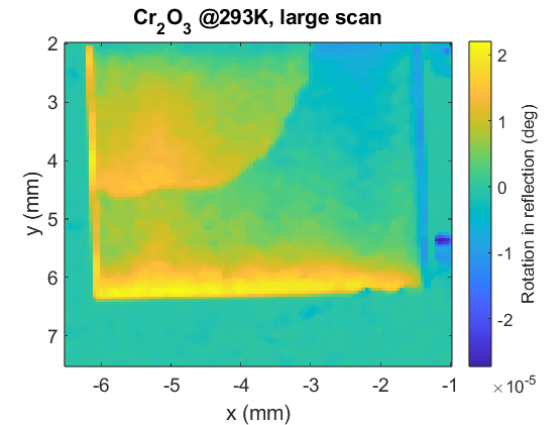
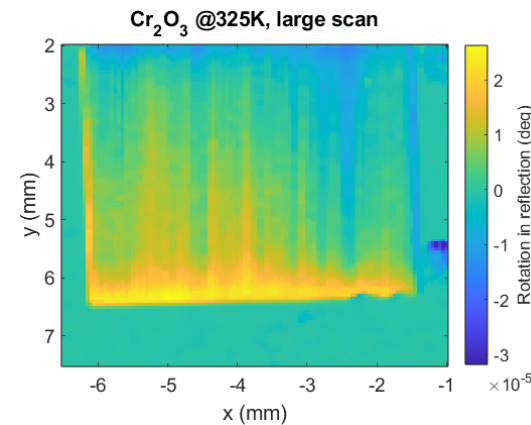
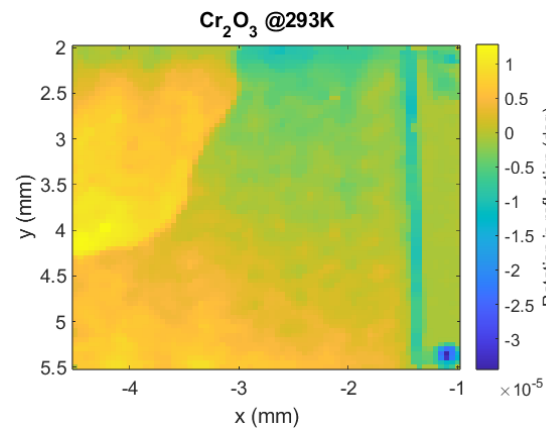
# Faraday effect in antiferromagnetic $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}_1 + \mathbf{M}_2 + \mathbf{M}_3 + \mathbf{M}_4$$

$$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{M}_1 - \mathbf{M}_2 + \mathbf{M}_3 - \mathbf{M}_4$$

$$\epsilon_{xy}^{(a)} = \chi^{(H)} H_z + \chi_{xyzz}^{LE} E_z L_z$$

Measurements are done by N. Khokhlov (Radboud University)



See also:

B B Krichevstov et al, *Spontaneous non-reciprocal reflection of light from antiferromagnetic  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$* , J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 5, 8233 (1993).

J. Wang, Ch. Binck, *Dispersion of Electric-Field-Induced Faraday Effect in Magnetolectric  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$* , Phys. Rev. Appl. 5, 031001 (2016).

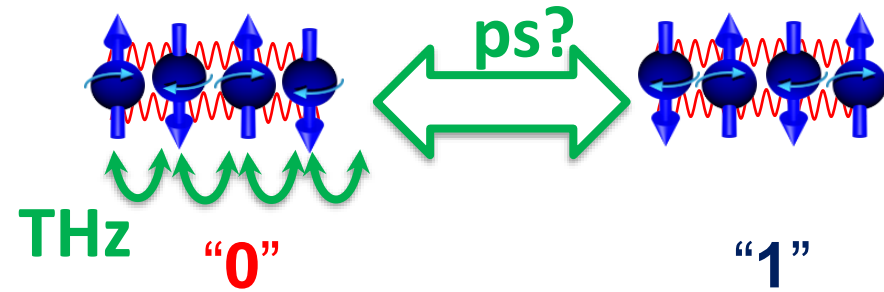
The talk of T. Jungwirth

# State-of-the-art

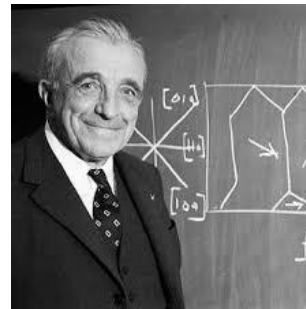
- How to detect?
- How to control?
- How to control ultrafast?

## Antiferromagnets

(far less explored, 1000 times faster)



No net magnetization  $M=0$   
Insensitive to magnetic fields

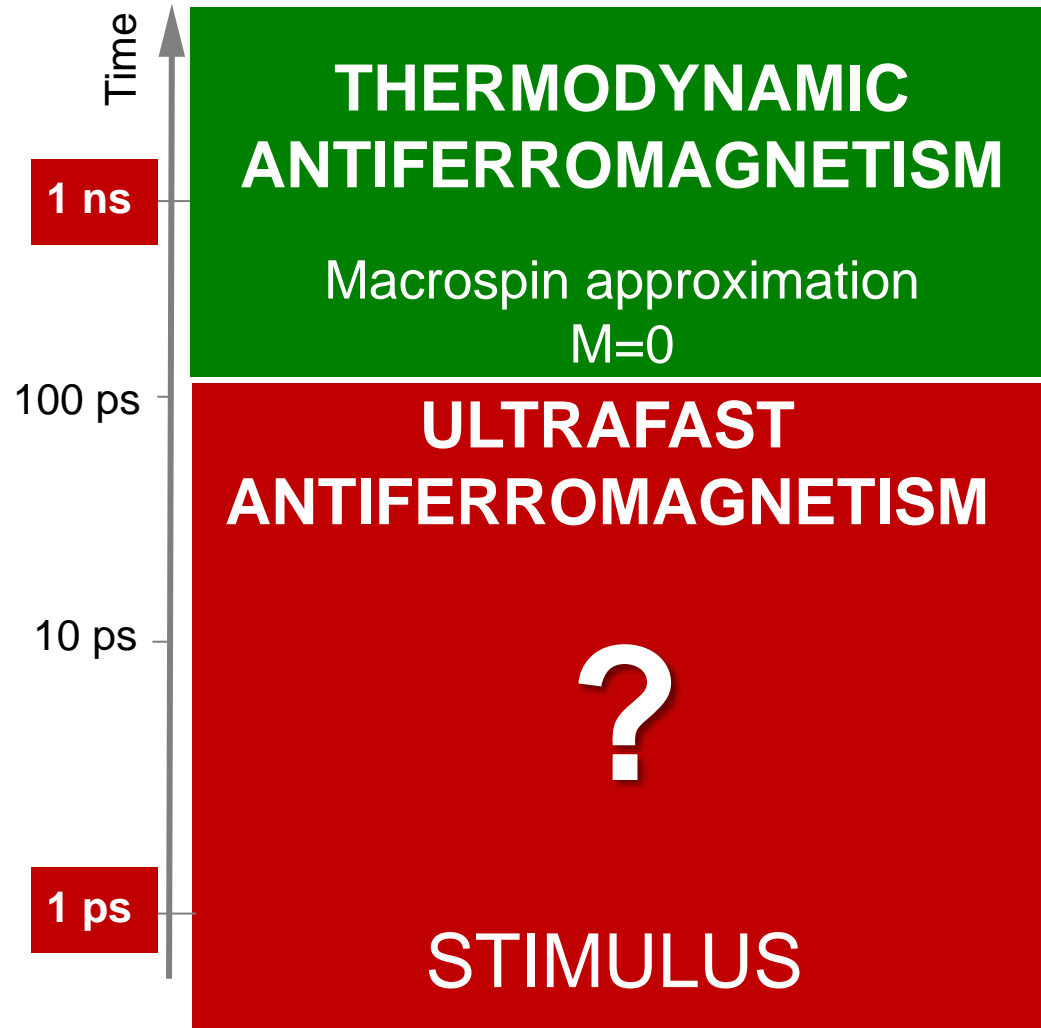


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# THz antiferromagnetism

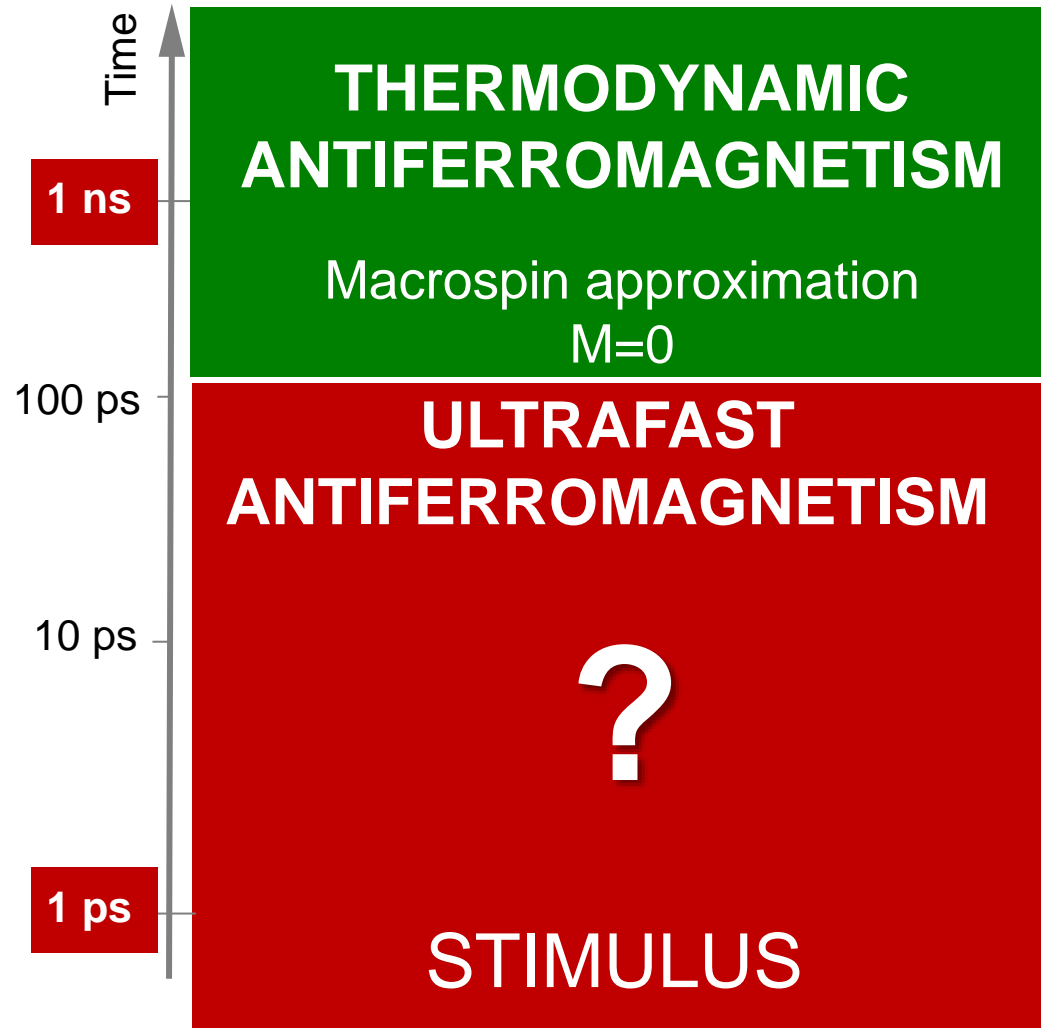
terra incognita of modern science



- $M \neq 0$
- **Nonlinear spin dynamics**  
( $1+1 > 2$ )
- **New channels of spin-lattice interaction**
- **Macrospin approximation fails**

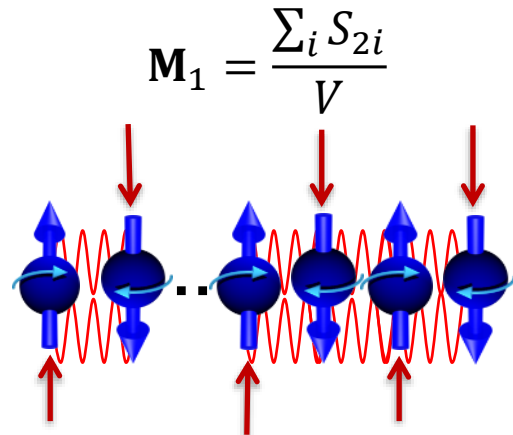
# THz antiferromagnetism

terra incognita of modern science



- $M \neq 0$
- Nonlinear spin dynamics  
( $1+1 > 2$ )
- New channels of spin-lattice interaction
- Macrospin approximation fails

# Magnetic field as a stimulus for spins in antiferromagnets



$$\mathbf{M}_1 = \frac{\sum_i S_{2i}}{V}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_1 = \frac{\sum_i S_{2i-1}}{V}$$

$$\mathbf{m}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{M}_1}{|\mathbf{M}_1|} \quad \mathbf{m}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{M}_2}{|\mathbf{M}_2|}$$

$$\mathbf{l} = \frac{\mathbf{m}_1 - \mathbf{m}_2}{2} \quad \mathbf{m} = \frac{\mathbf{m}_1 + \mathbf{m}_2}{2}$$

Even if  $\mathbf{H}(t)=0$ ,

$$\mathbf{m} = -\frac{1}{\gamma H_E} \frac{\partial \mathbf{l}}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{l}$$

If  $\mathbf{H}(t) \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{l}}{\partial t} \times \mathbf{l} \right] = \gamma \frac{\partial H(t)}{\partial t} + \gamma^2 H_E [\mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{H}(t)]$$

- While spins in antiferromagnets are not sensitive to magnetic field  $\mathbf{H}$ , they can be controlled by  $\frac{\partial H(t)}{\partial t}$ .
- Coherent spin oscillations in antiferromagnets induce  $\mathbf{m}$ .

Краткие сообщения по физике № 12 1981

НОВЫЕ НЕЛИНЕЙНЫЕ ДИНАМИЧЕСКИЕ  
ЭФФЕКТЫ В АНТИФЕРРОМАГНЕТИКАХ

А. К. Звездин, А. А. Мухин

УДК 538.27

Показано, что в легкоплоскостных антиферромагнетиках при быстром нарастании (спаде) внешнего поля, перпендикулярного легкой плоскости, происходит вращение вектора антиферромагнетизма в этой плоскости вокруг поля. Определены условия реализации данного явления.

A. K. Zvezdin, *JETP* **29**, 553 (1979).

A. F. Andreev, V. I. Marchenko, *Sov. Phys. Uspekhi* **23** 21 (1980).

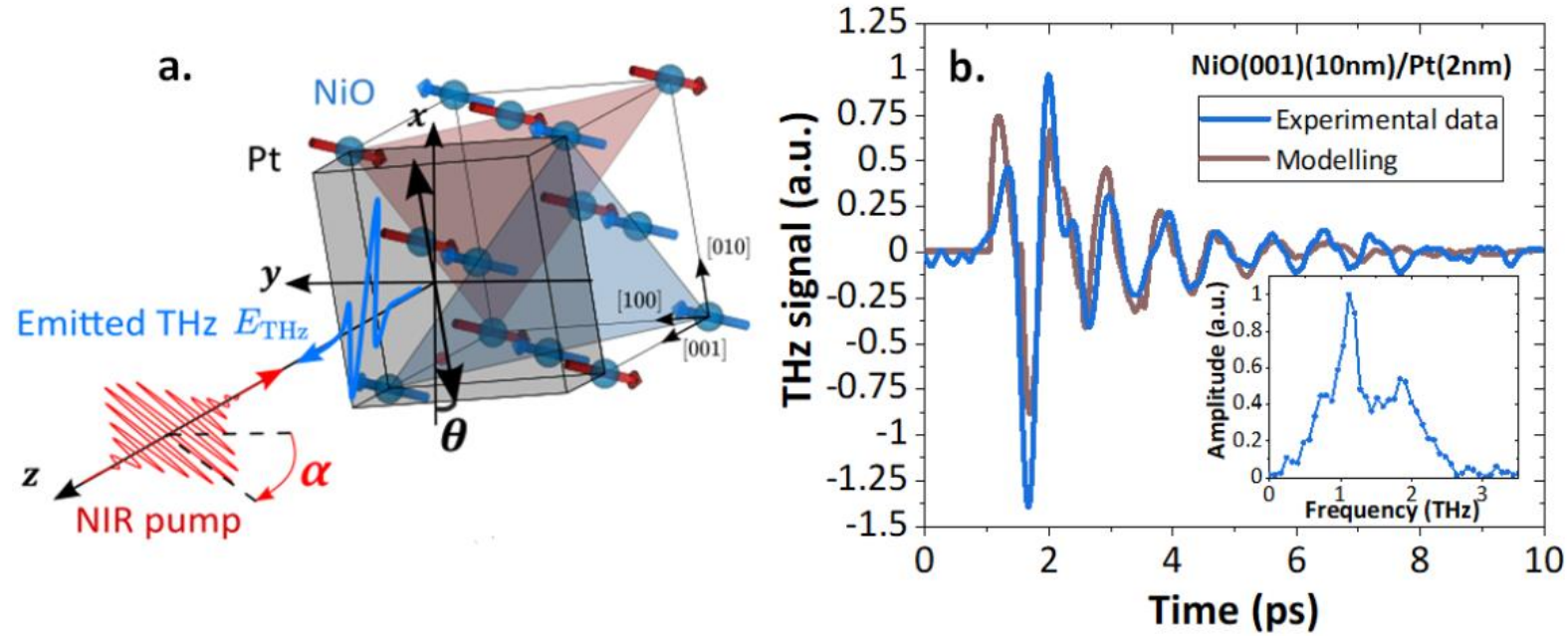
V.G. Baryakhtar, B. A. Ivanov, M. V. Chetkin, *Sov. Phys. Usp.* **28** 563 (1985).

T. Satoh et al, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **105**, 077402 (2010).

T. Kampfrath et al, *Nature Photonics* **5**, 31 (2011).

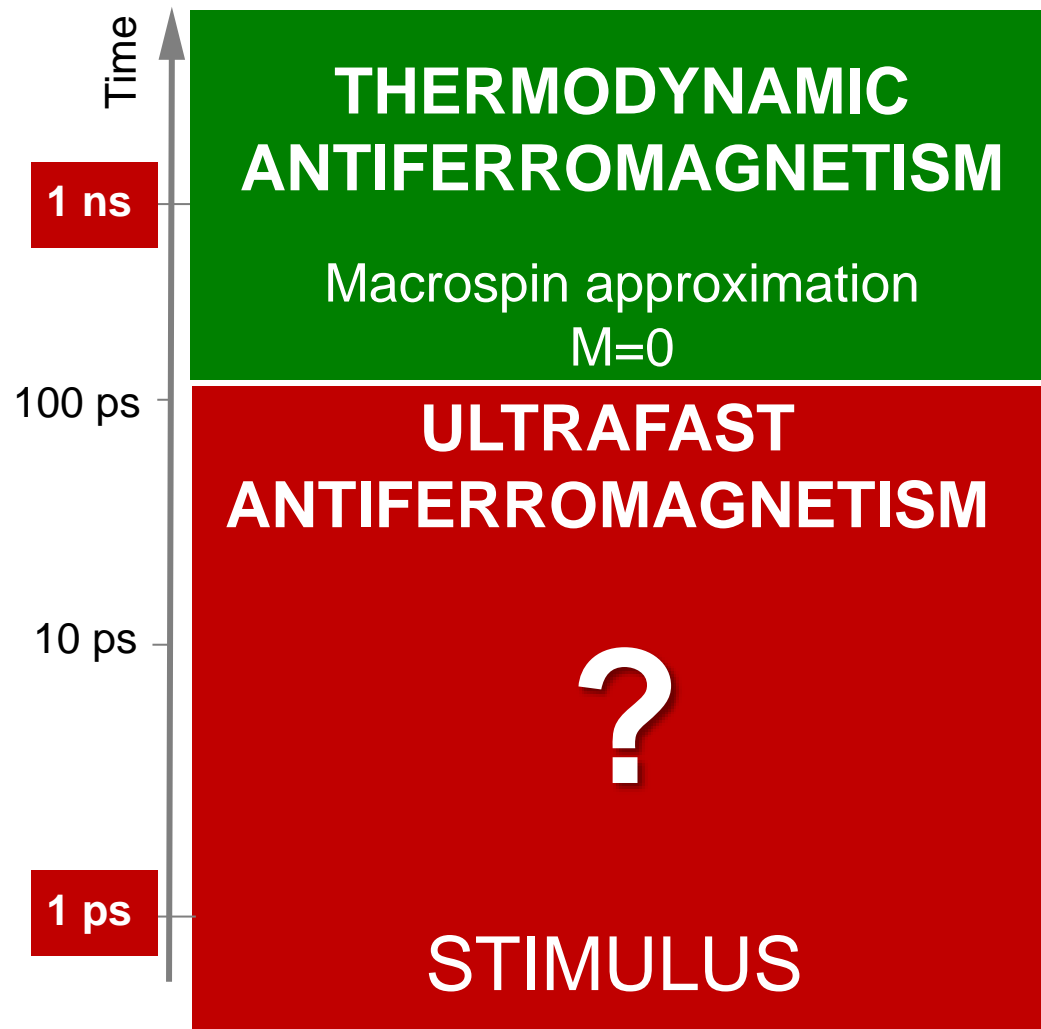
A. V. Kimel et al, *Physics Reports* **852**, 1 (2020).

See the talks of E. Rongione and J. Bakker



# THz antiferromagnetism

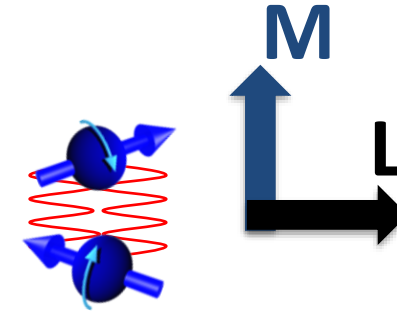
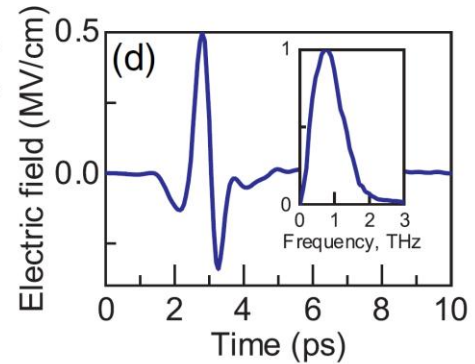
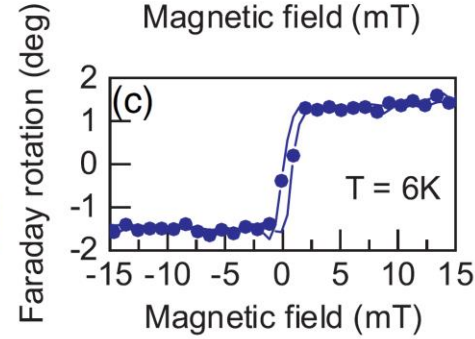
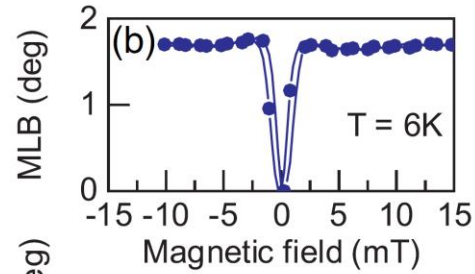
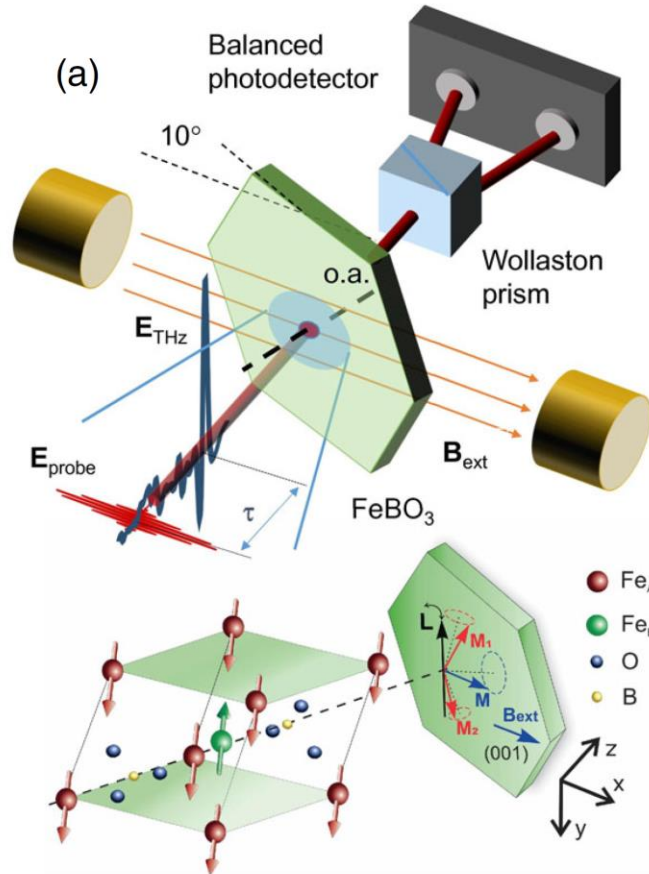
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- $M \neq 0$
- **Nonlinear spin dynamics**  
( $1+1 > 2$ )
- **New channels of spin-lattice interaction**
- **Macrospin approximation fails**

# Iron borate $\text{FeBO}_3$

- antiferromagnets with weak ferromagnetism



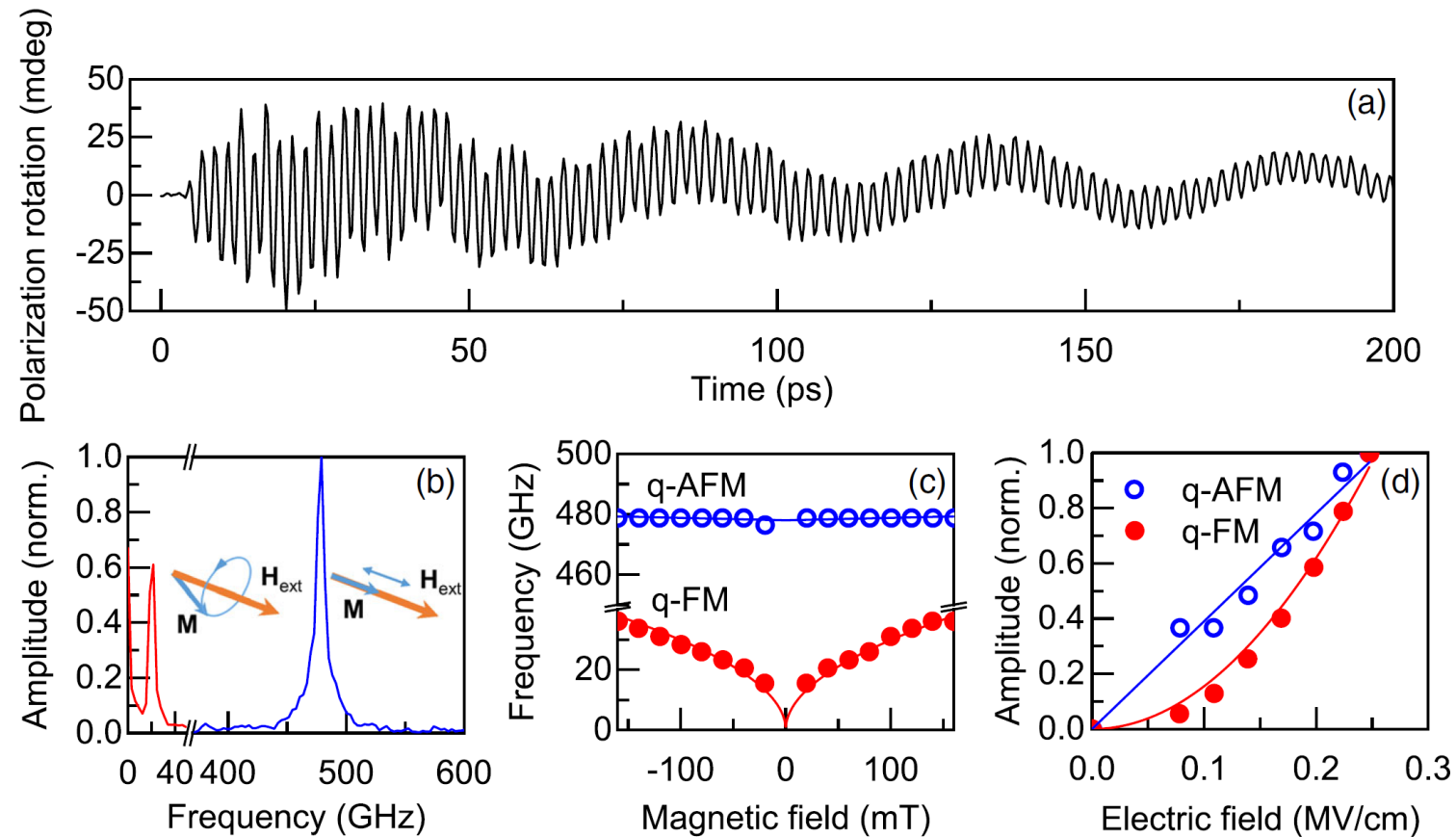
quasi-antiferromagnetic mode



quasi-ferromagnetic mode

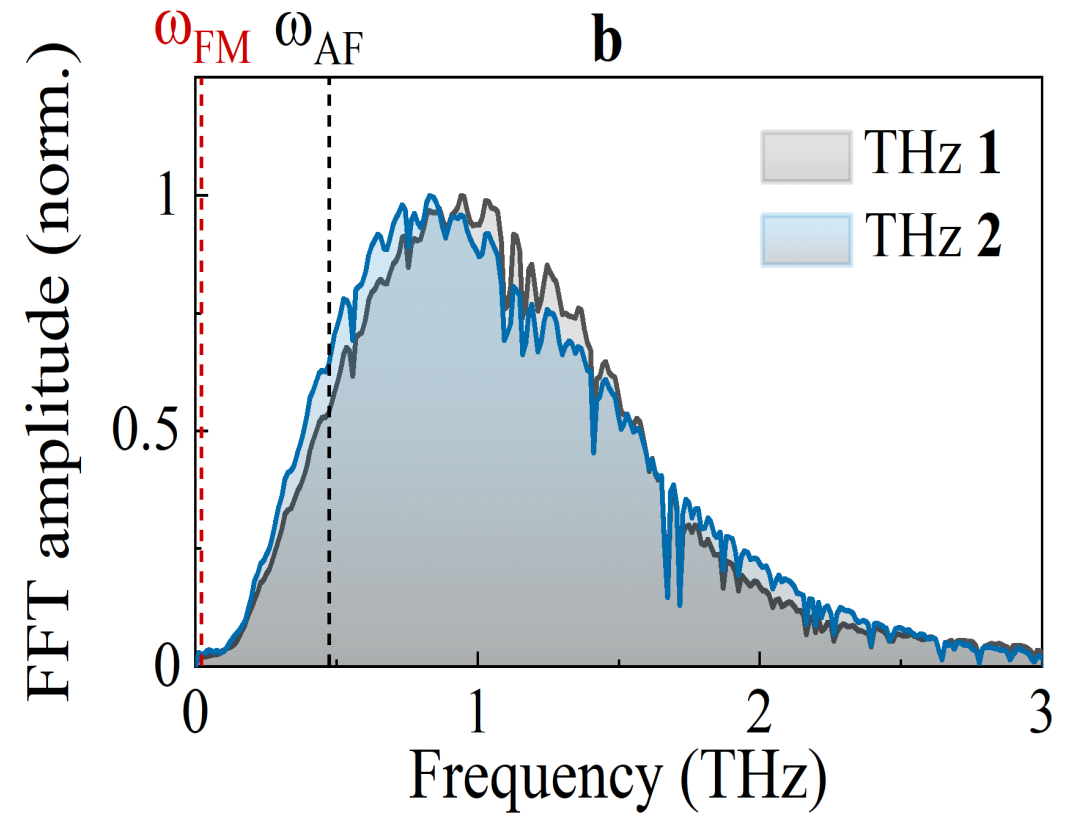
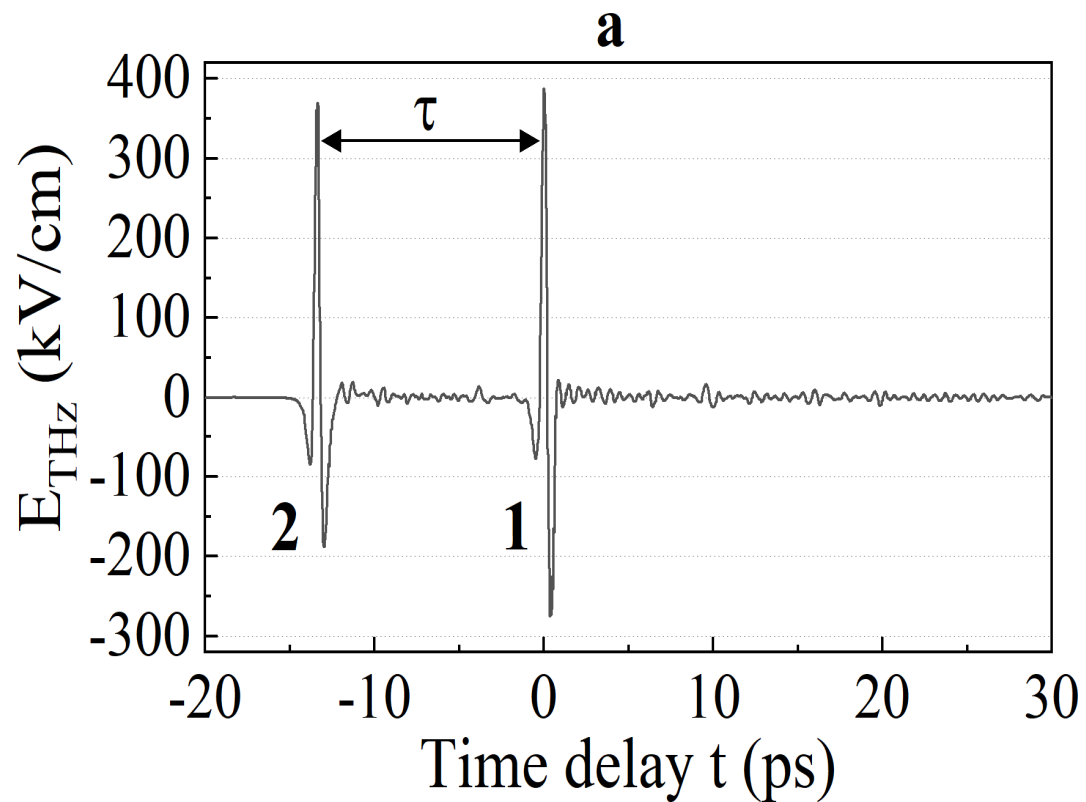
E. A. Mashkovich et al, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **123**, 157202 (2019).

# THz excitation of spin resonances in FeBO<sub>3</sub>



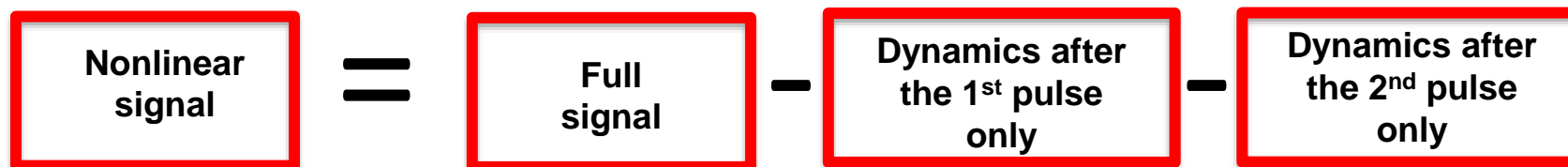
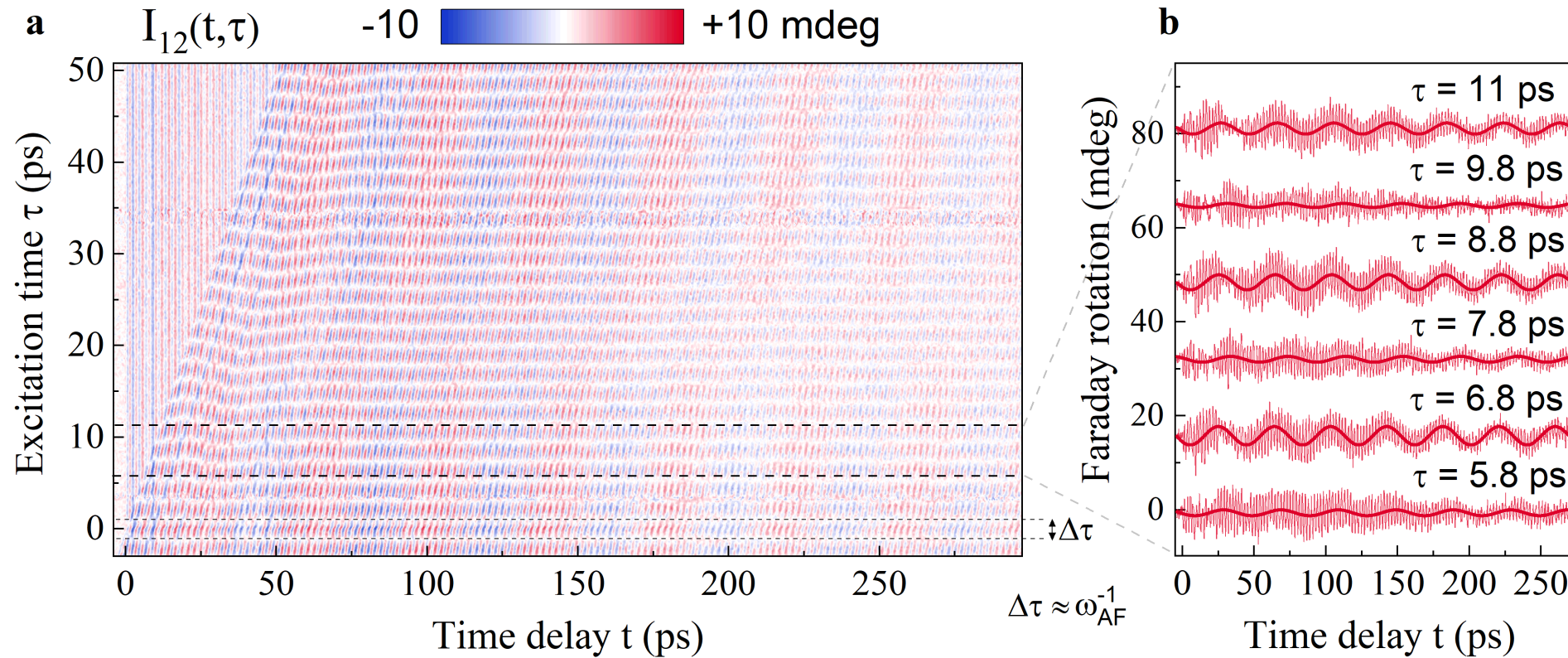
E. A. Mashkovich et al,  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **123**, 157202 (2019).

# Double pulse excitation of FeBO<sub>3</sub>



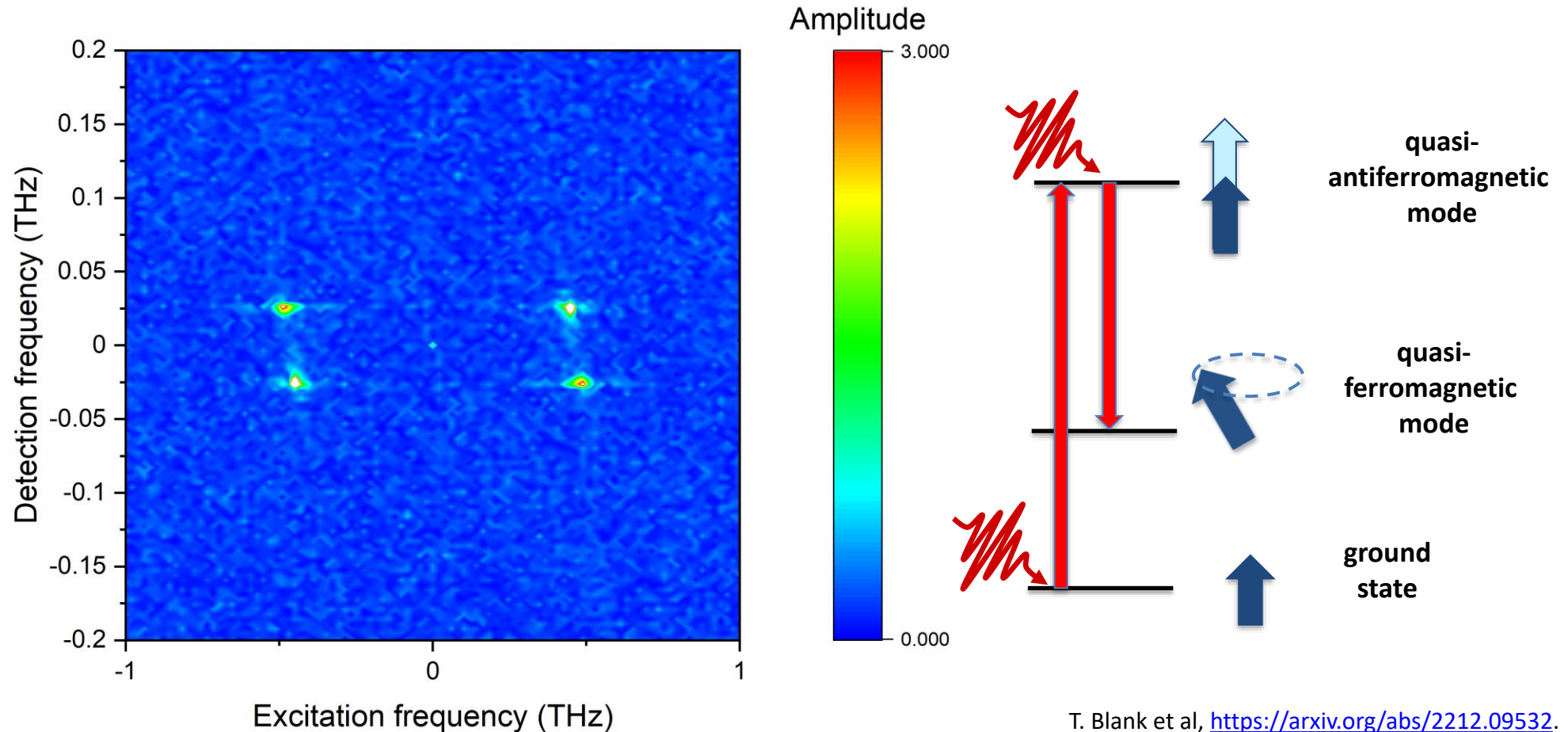


# Double pulse excitation of FeBO<sub>3</sub>



T. Blank et al  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.09532>.

# Nonlinear 2D THz spectroscopy of FeBO<sub>3</sub>

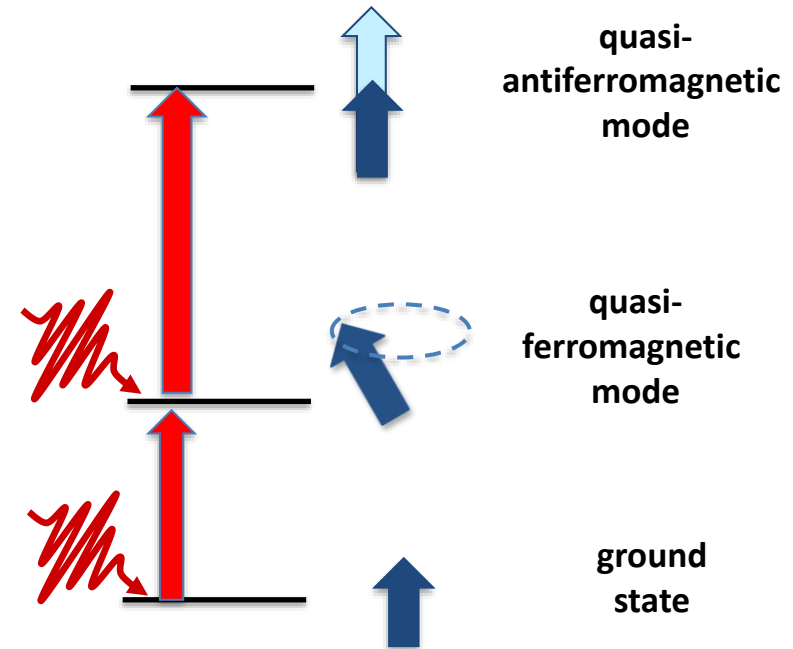
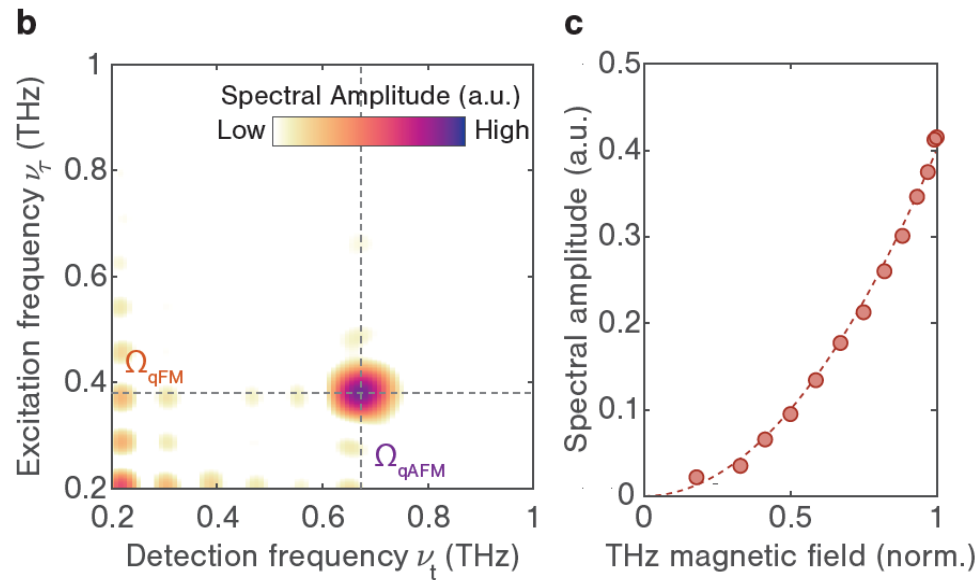


T. Blank et al, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2212.09532>.  
T. Blank et al, PRL 131, 096701 (2023).

# Terahertz field-driven magnon upconversion in an antiferromagnet

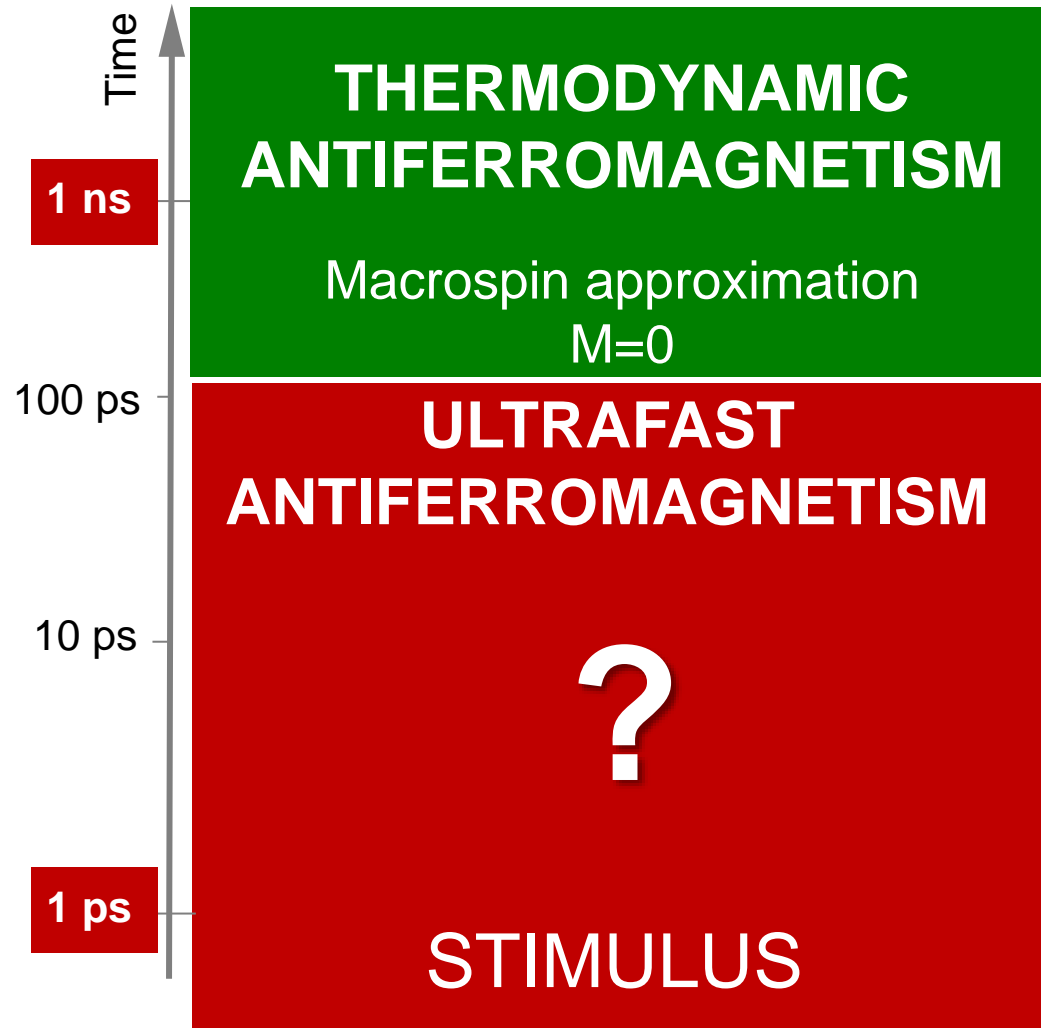
Zhuquan Zhang<sup>1†</sup>, Frank Y. Gao<sup>2†</sup>, Yu-Che Chien<sup>1</sup>, Zi-Jie Liu<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan B. Curtis<sup>3</sup>,  
Eric R. Sung<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoxuan Ma<sup>4</sup>, Wei Ren<sup>4</sup>, Shixun Cao<sup>4\*</sup>, Prineha Narang<sup>3</sup>, Alexander  
von Hoegen<sup>5</sup>, Edoardo Baldini<sup>2\*</sup>, and Keith A. Nelson<sup>1\*</sup>

arXiv:2207.07103



# THz antiferromagnetism

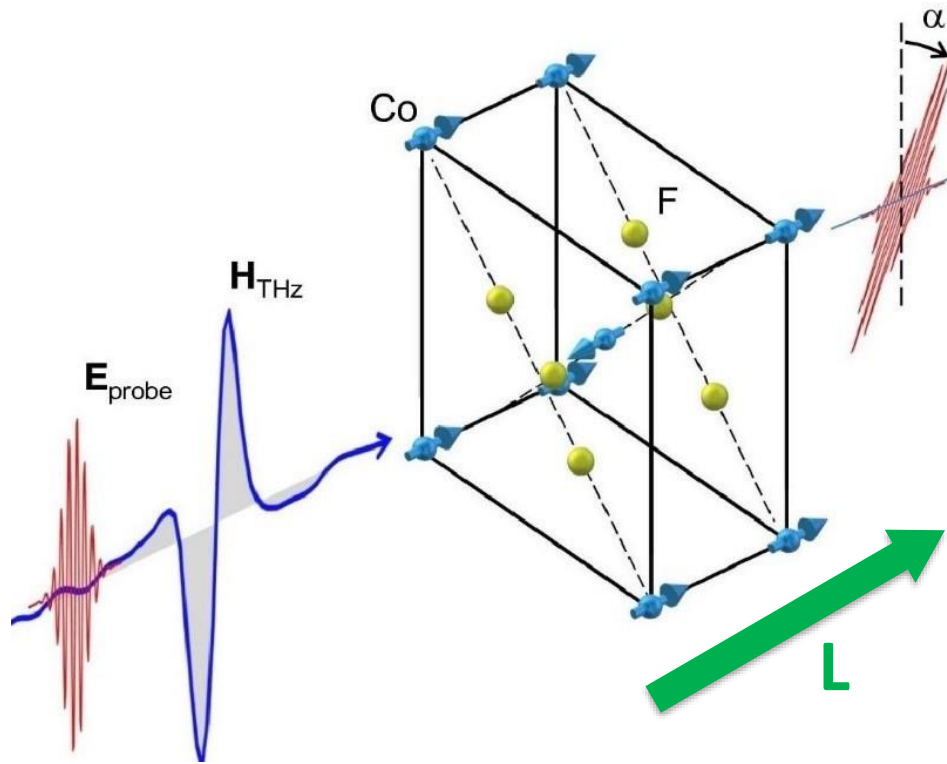
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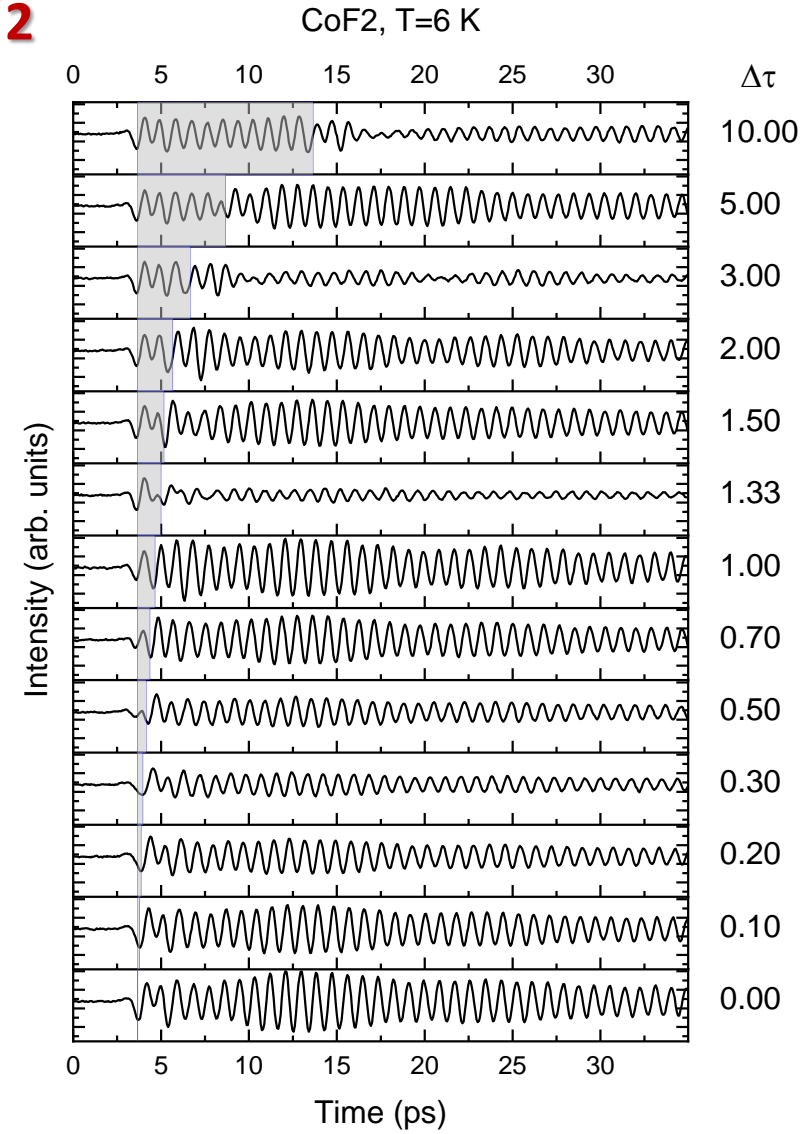
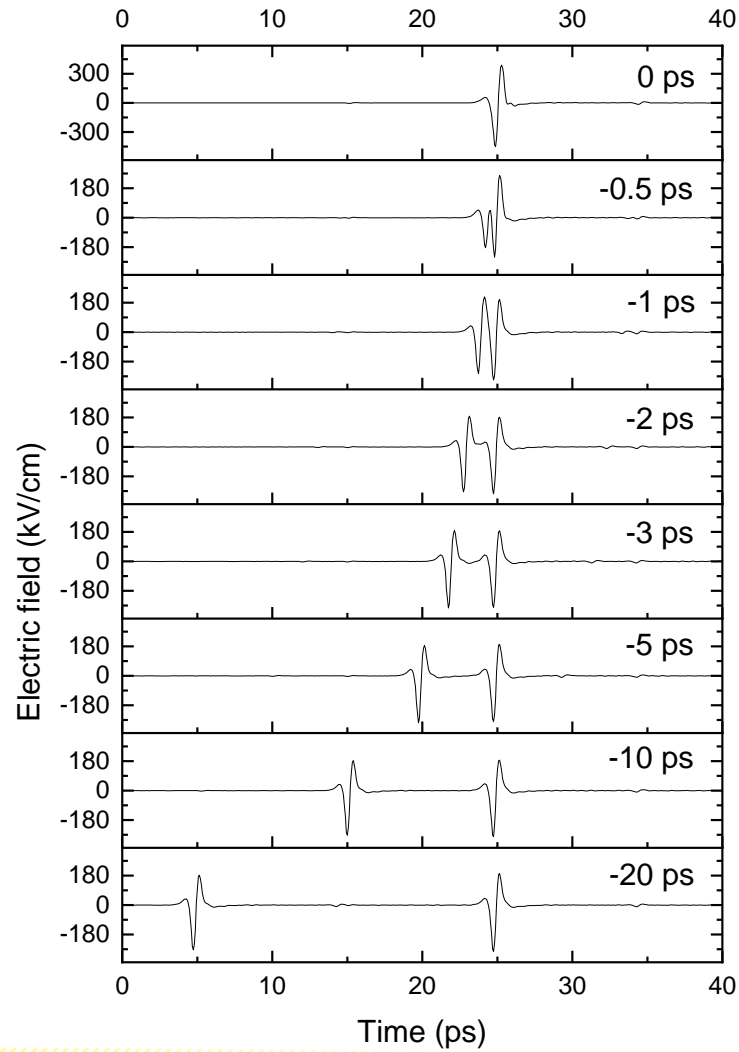
- $M \neq 0$
- Nonlinear spin dynamics  
( $1+1 > 2$ )
- **New channels of spin-lattice interaction**
- Macrospin approximation fails

# Response of antiferromagnetic spins in $\text{CoF}_2$ to THz magnetic fields

$\text{CoF}_2$   
 $T_N = 39 \text{ K}$



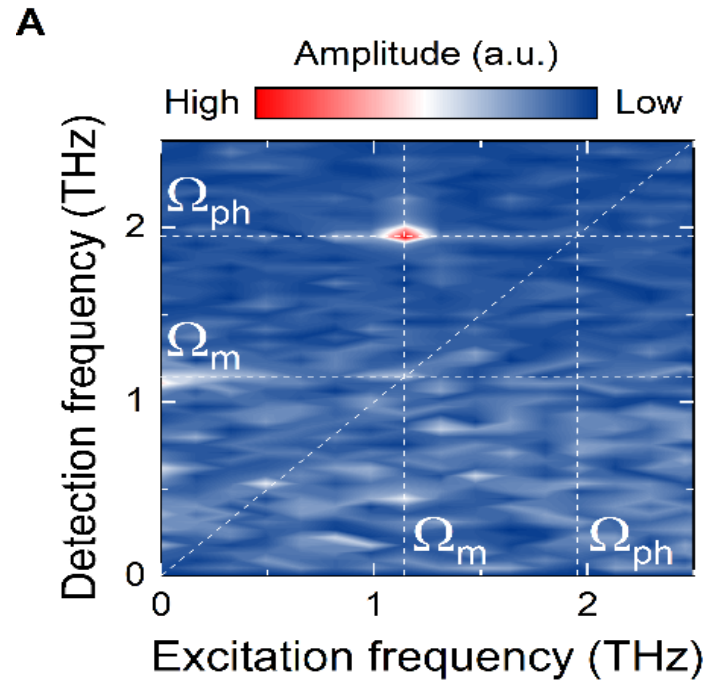
# Double-pulse THz excitation of CoF<sub>2</sub>



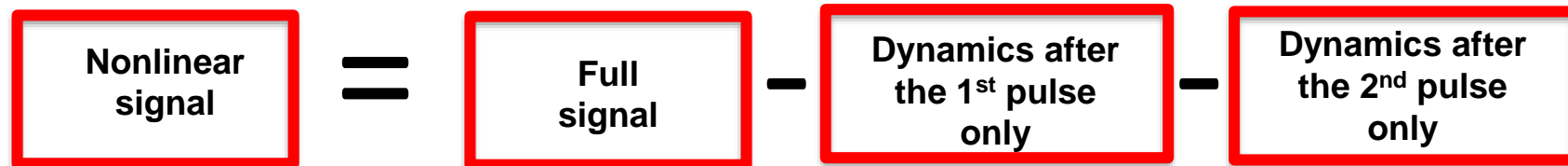
E. Mashkovich et al Science **374**,1608 (2021).



# 2D THz spectroscopy of CoF<sub>2</sub>



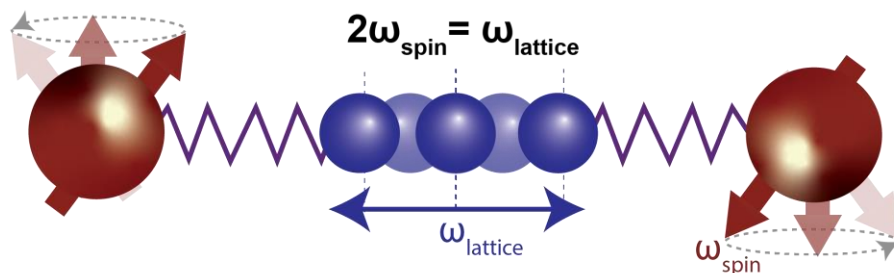
$$\alpha_{NL}(t_{pump1-probe}; t_{pump1-pump2}) = \alpha(t_{pump1-probe}; t_{pump1-pump2}) - \alpha_1(t_{pump1-probe}) - \alpha_2(t_{pump2-probe})$$



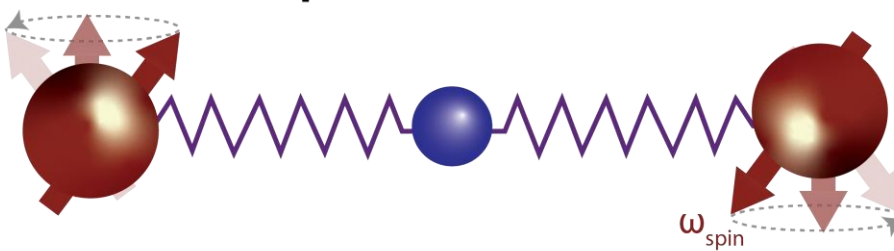
E. Mashkovich et al Science **374**,1608 (2021).

# Spin-lattice Fermi resonance in $\text{CoF}_2$

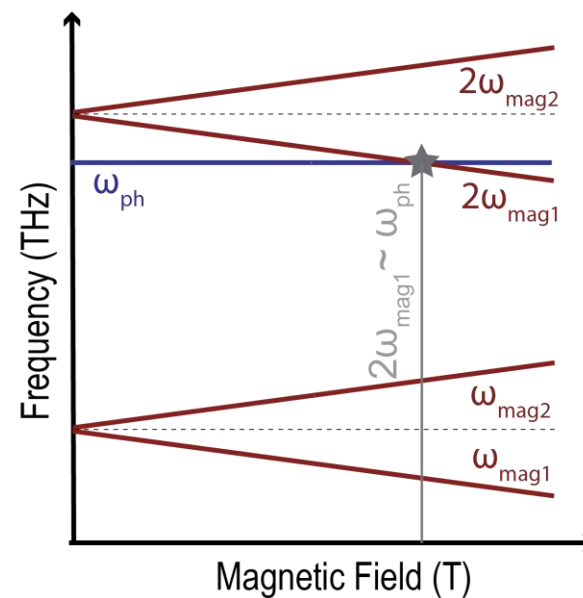
(a) Fermi spin-lattice resonance



(b) Spin resonance

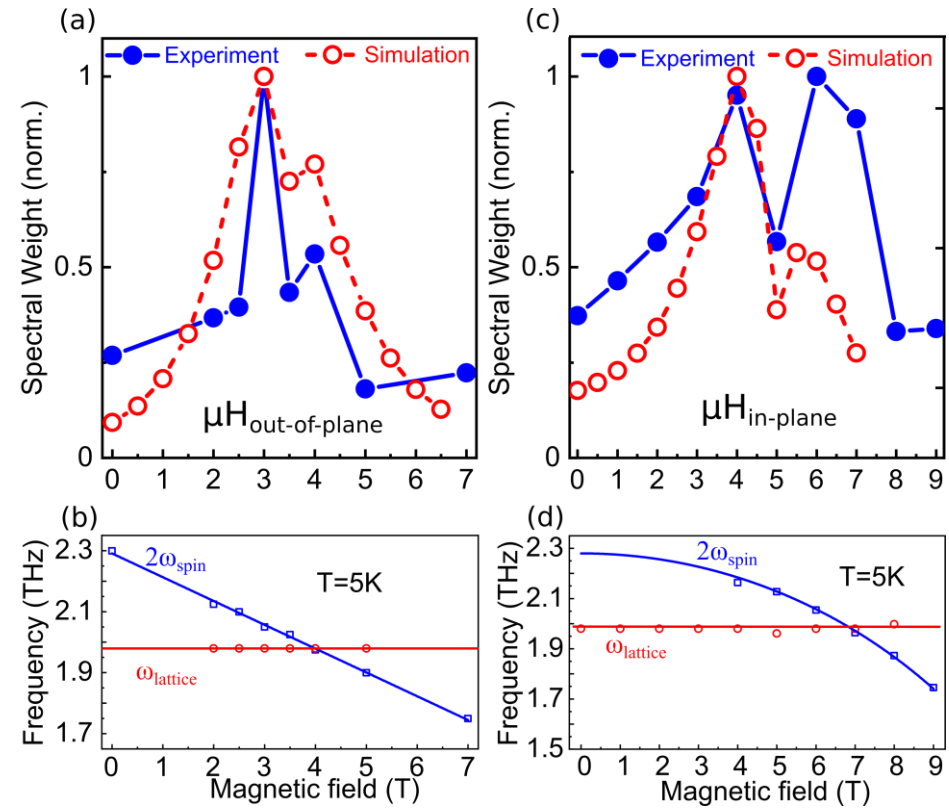
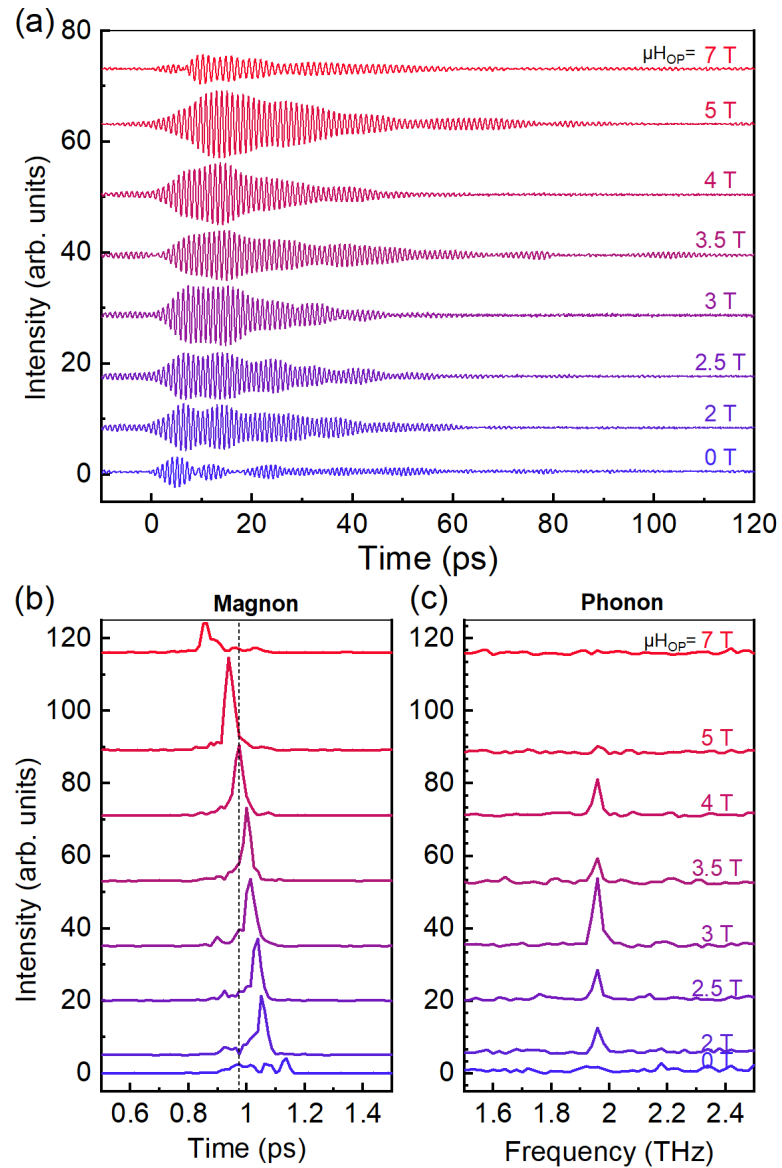


(c)



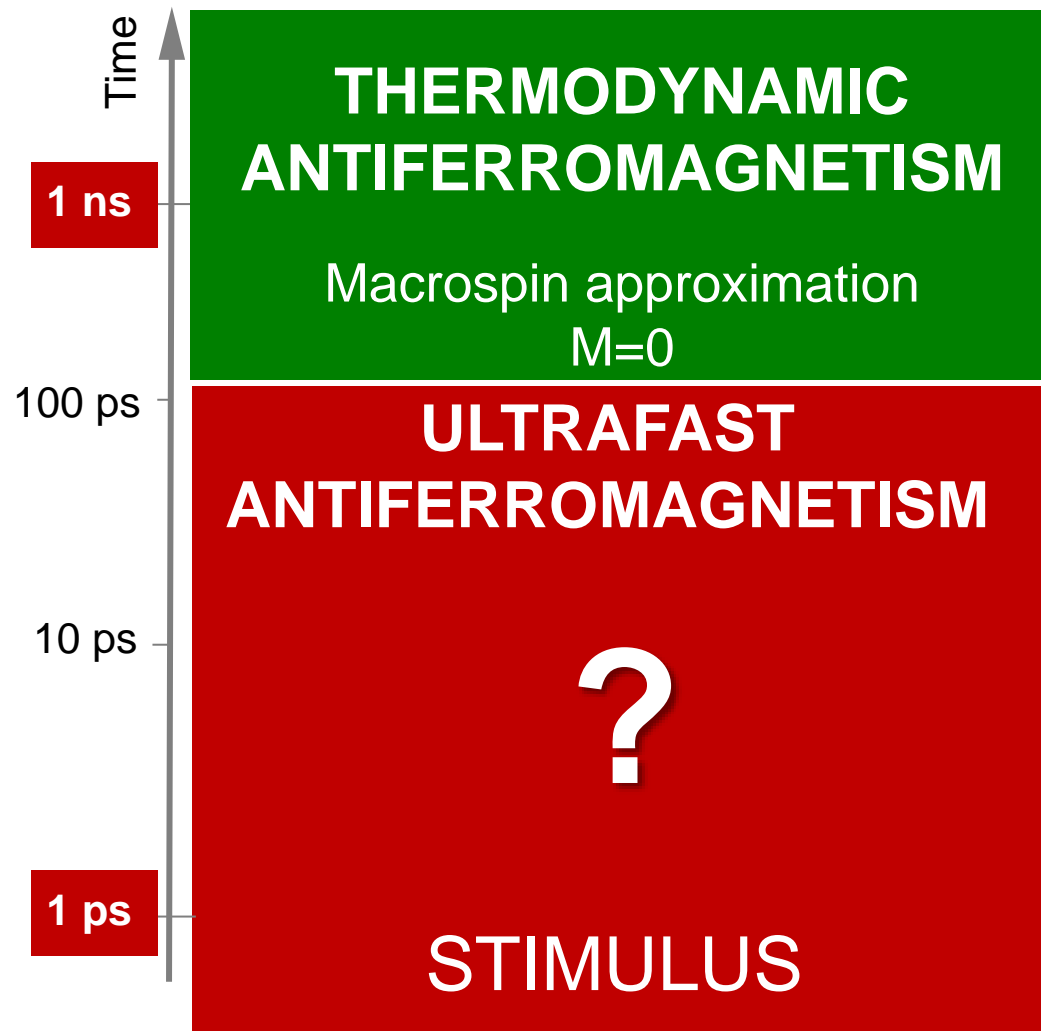


# Spin-lattice Fermi resonance in $\text{CoF}_2$



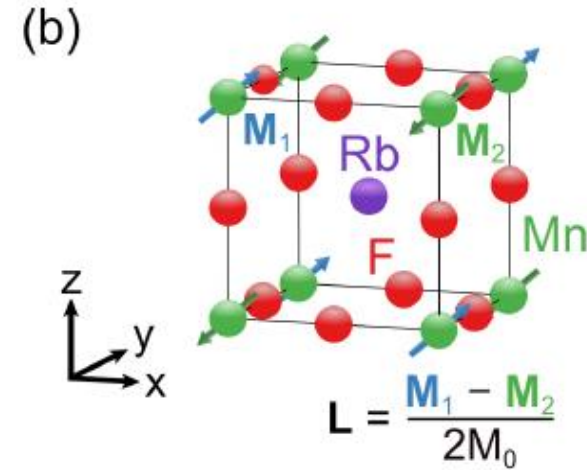
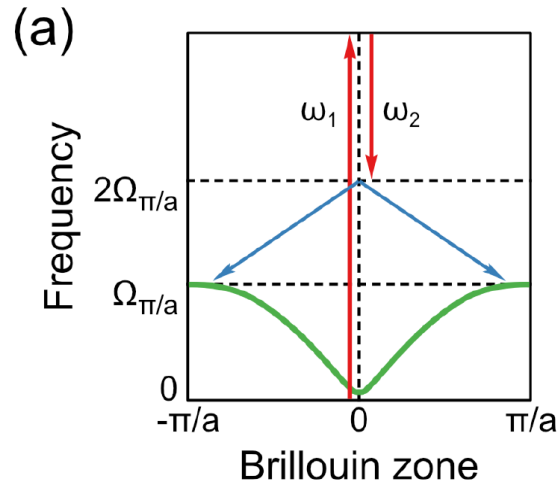
# THz antiferromagnetism

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- $M \neq 0$
- Nonlinear spin dynamics  
( $1+1 > 2$ )
- New channels of spin-lattice interaction
- **Macrospin approximation fails**

# Two-magnon excitation in antiferromagnet

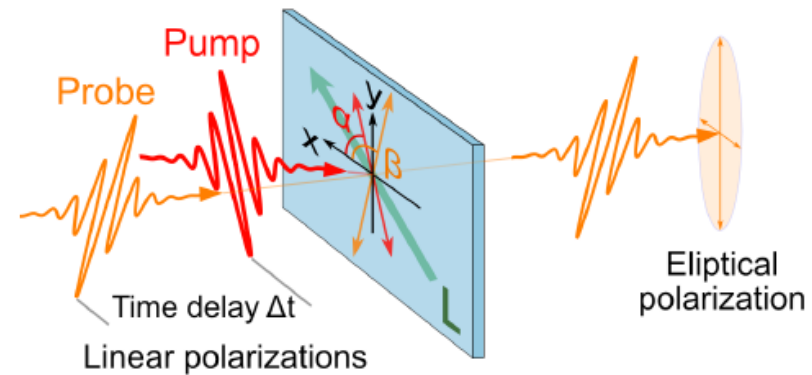


## Thermodynamic potential

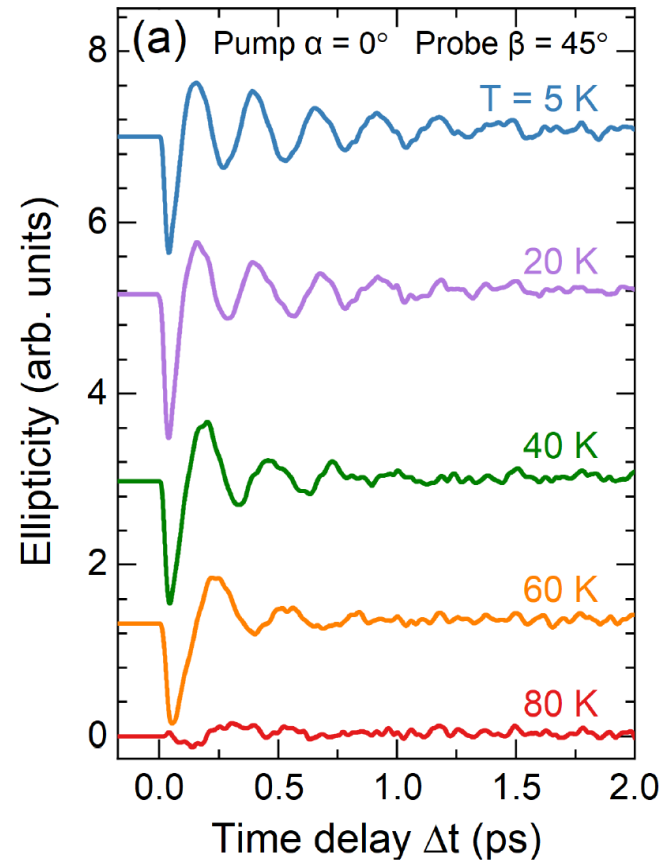
$$\Phi = \Phi_0 + \chi_{ijkl} E_i(\omega_1) E_j^*(\omega_2) L_k(\Omega; \mathbf{k}) L_l^*(\Omega; \mathbf{k})$$

## Probe

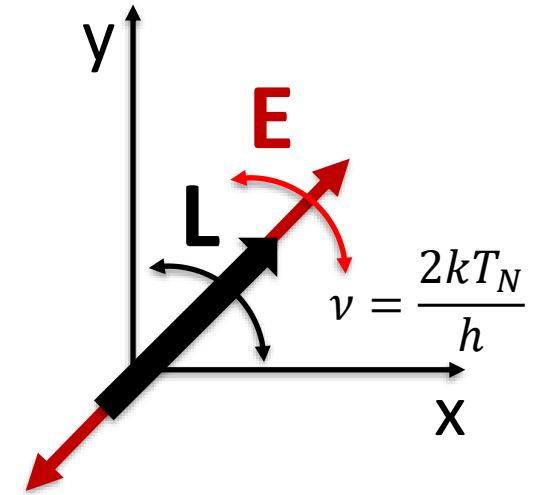
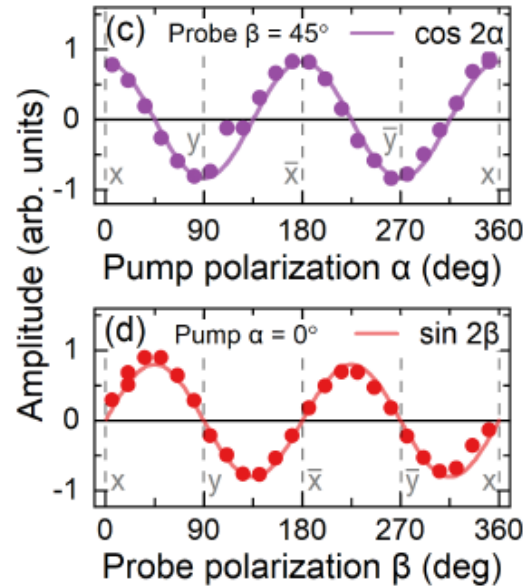
$$\varepsilon_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial E_i(\omega) \partial E_j^*(\omega)} = \chi_{ijkl} L_k(\Omega; \mathbf{k}) L_l^*(\Omega; \mathbf{k})$$



# Two-magnon excitation in antiferromagnetic RbMnF<sub>3</sub>



F. Formisano et al,  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.06996>.



Such fast oscillations of **L**  
 are impossible!

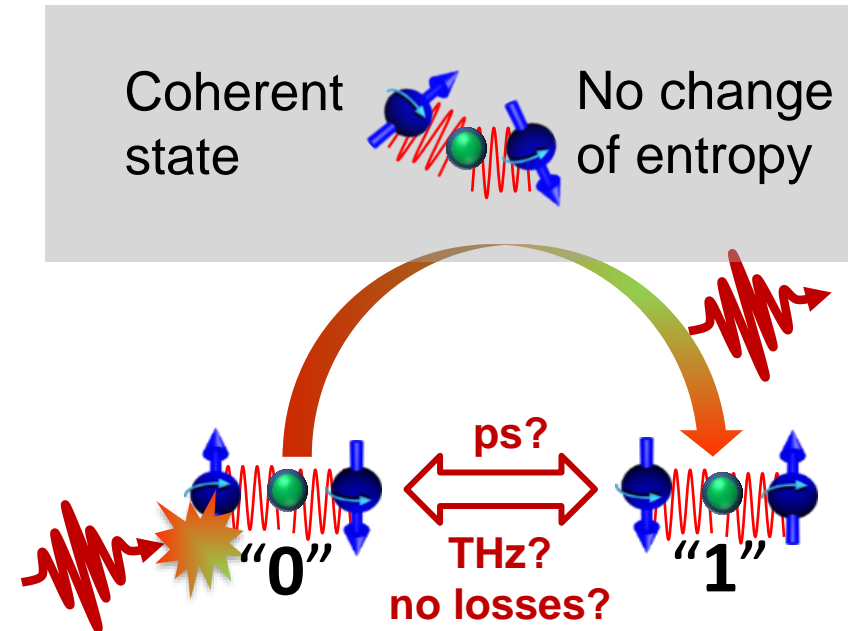
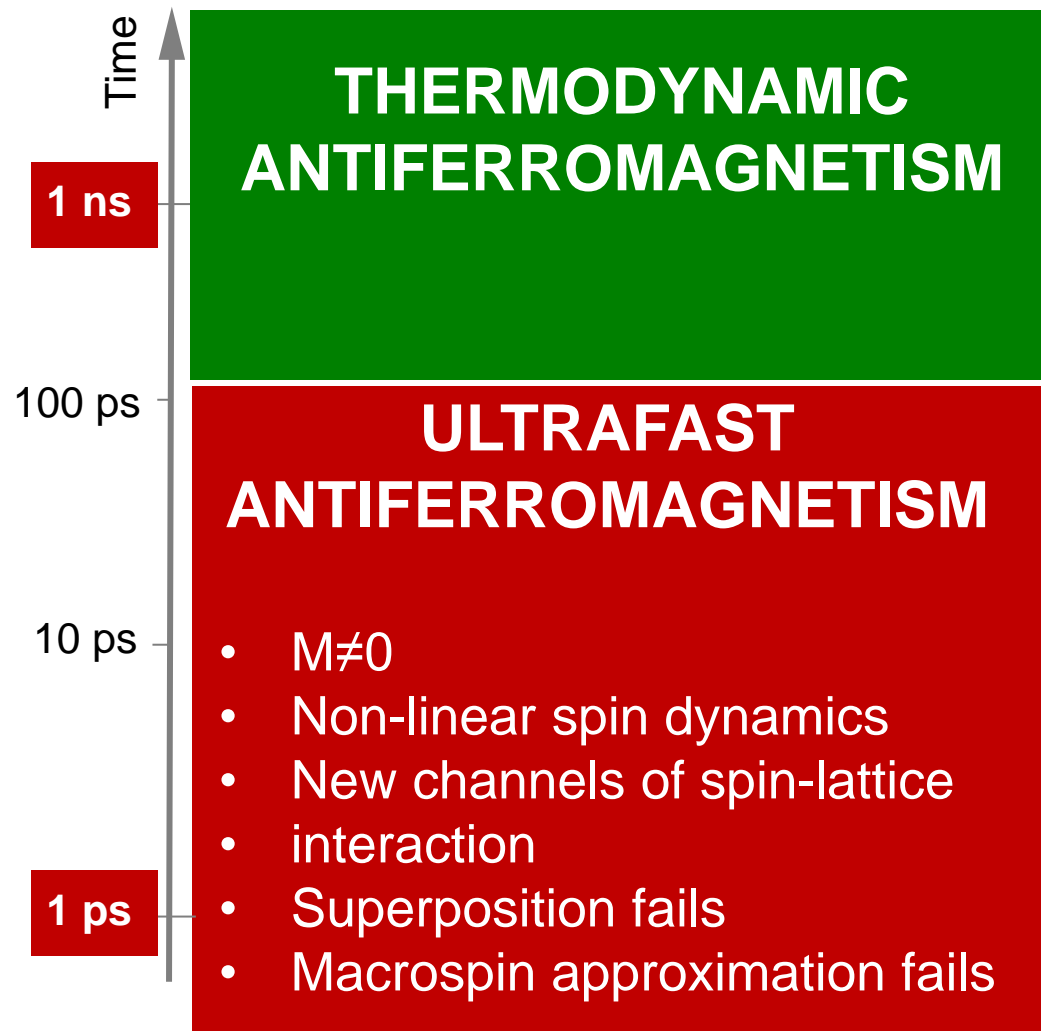
Use spin correlation function  $\sum_i \mathbf{S}(r_i)\mathbf{S}(r_i + \delta)$  instead of **L**.

$$\hat{\epsilon} \sim \sum_i \mathbf{S}(r_i)\mathbf{S}(r_i + \delta)$$

$$\sum_i \mathbf{S}(x_i)\mathbf{S}(x_i + \delta) \neq \sum_i \mathbf{S}(y_i)\mathbf{S}(y_i + \delta)$$

$$\epsilon_{xx} \neq \epsilon_{yy}$$

# Conclusions and Outlook



# Acknowledgements



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*B. A. Ivanov, M. I. Katsnelson*

*A. Fedyanin  
A. Kalashnikova*

*A. K. Zvezdin*

*S. Kovalev,  
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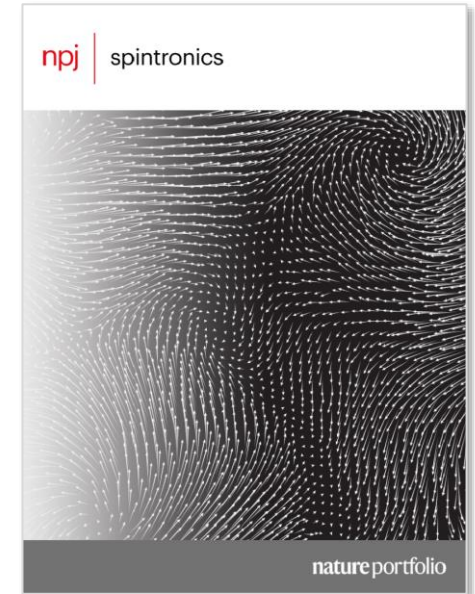
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