Update on Cu₂OSeO₃: Skyrmions in the 19th century, update on linear optical phenomena, and the cluster



Rolf B. Versteeg Group meeting 27-06-18







S. Seki, Science 336, 2012

Synthetic electromagnetic knot in a three-dimensional skyrmion W. Lee et al., Sci. Adv. 2018;4: eaao3820

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Classical electromagnetism and quantum mechanics are both central to the modern understanding of the physical world and its ongoing technological development. Quantum simulations of electromagnetic forces have the potential to provide information about materials and systems that do not have conveniently solvable theoretical descriptions, such as those related to quantum Hall physics, or that have not been physically observed, such as magnetic monopoles. However, quantum simulations that simultaneously implement all of the principal features of classical electromagnetism have thus far proved elusive. We experimentally realize a simulation in which a charged quantum particle interacts with the knotted electromagnetic fields peculiar to a topological model of ball lightning. These phenomena are induced by precise spatiotemporal control of the spin field of an atomic Bose-Einstein condensate, simultaneously creating a Shankar skyrmion—a topological excitation that was theoretically predicted four decades ago but never before observed experimentally. Our results reveal the versatile capabilities of synthetic electromagnetism and provide the first experimental images of topological three-dimensional skyrmions in a quantum system.

- Rubidium gas in magneto-optical trap
- Combination of normal magnetic fields, and quadrupole magnetic field (all a few Gauss)
- Create electromagnetic Skyrmion





MagnetoChiral Dichroism in Cu₂OSeO₃



The dielectric permittivity tensor for a chiral magnetized material thus takes the form $\epsilon(\omega, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{M})$. [9] The effects of spatial dispersion and magnetization, can be taken into account by expanding ϵ in first and second order terms [4,8,9] of \mathbf{k} and \mathbf{M} . This is most easily done in the Einstein summation notation:

$$\epsilon_{ij} = \epsilon_{ij}^0 + i\gamma_{ijl}k_l + \alpha_{ijlm}k_lk_m + f_{ijn}M_n + g_{ijnp}M_nM_p + \eta_{ijln}k_lM_n \tag{27}$$

Faraday, Natural Optical Activity observed: $\theta_{\rm T} + i\eta_{\rm T} = \frac{\omega d}{2c} \frac{i\epsilon_{xy}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_{xx}}}$

Table 1: Overview of optical anisotropies in a chiral magnet: An anisotropy can be observed when the indicated operations for inversion i, time-reversal t, and the combined operation $i \cdot t$ aren't (-) a symmetry of the material anymore. The operation indicated with (+) may still be a valid symmetry operation to observe the respective optical phenomenon. The last column indicates from which dielectric tensor expansion term the optical effect originates.

	crystal optics phenomenon	i	t	i and t	$i \cdot t$	expansion term			
	linear birefringence and dichroism	+	+	+	+	ϵ^0_{ij}			
?	natural circular birefringence and dichroism	_	+	_		$i\gamma_{ijl}k_l$			
	second-order spatial birefringence and dichroism	+	+	+	+	$\alpha_{ijlm}k_lk_m$			
?	magnetic circular birefringence and dichroism	+	_	_	_	$f_{ijn}M_n$			
	magnetic linear birefringence and dichroism	+	_	_	_	$g_{ijnp}M_nM_p$			
	gyrotropic birefringence and dichroism	_	—	—	+	$i\gamma_{ijl}k_l$			
	magnetochiral birefringence and dichroism	_	_	_	_	$\eta_{ijln}k_lM_n$			
	optical magnetoelectric birefringence and dichroism	—	—	—	—	$\phi_{ijlnq}k_lM_nP_q$			

The magnetic chiral structure allows for an additional higher-order optical effect, namely, nonreciprocal directional dichroism [13,14]. In Cu₂OSeO₃ this effect has been observed for microwave resonance modes [55]. We have investigated this effect in the optical range (around 2.3 eV) for the various magnetic phases at 15 K, but have not been able to make a conclusive observation. Given the sensitivity of our setup, this limits a possible nonreciprocal directional dichroism to well below 1%.

Optically probed paper, PRB94 (2016)

A fun-fact from this literature search:

• Materials such as Silicon and CaF_2 are in fact optically anistropic! $\sim k^2$ higher order natural optical activity.

Nonreciprocal dichroism

- Difference between +k and –k direction: revert time
- Q: What does reverting time do?
 - $+k \rightarrow -k$
 - Magnetic field reverses: +B→ -B
 - Photon helicity stays the same (in photon reference frame)
- Q: Is Natural Optical Activity "nonreciprocal"?:
- A: **NO**: in time-inverted experiment the L-handed crystal still sees same helicity of photon.

- Q: Is Magnetic Circular Dichroism/Faraday/Kerr "nonreciprocal"?
- YES: in time-inverted experiment the circularly polarized light sees another crystal. "not physical: crystal stays the same"



 Conclusion: Faraday effect (broken T-symmetry) distinguishes between propagation direction for circularly polarized light!: Nonreciprocal dichroism for circular light!! The dielectric permittivity tensor for a chiral magnetized material thus takes the form $\epsilon(\omega, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{M})$. [9] The effects of spatial dispersion and magnetization, can be taken into account by expanding ϵ in first and second order terms [4,8,9] of \mathbf{k} and \mathbf{M} . This is most easily done in the Einstein summation notation:

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k·M term on diagonal: different absorption for ± **k** direction! (also on diagonal): **nonreciprocal**



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	gyrotropic birefringence and dichroism	_	_	_	+	$i\gamma_{ijl}k_l$
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	optical magnetoelectric birefringence and dichroism	_	—	—	_	$\phi_{ijlnq}k_lM_nP_q$

Cu₄ spin cluster understanding





 $\mathcal{H}_0 = J_s^{AF} \mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_{234} + J_s^{FM} (\mathbf{S}_2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_3 + \mathbf{S}_3 \cdot \mathbf{S}_4 + \mathbf{S}_4 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2)$ $=\frac{J_s^{\rm AF}}{2}\mathbf{S}^2 + \frac{J_s^{\rm FM} - J_s^{\rm AF}}{2}\mathbf{S}_{234}^2 - \frac{3}{8}(J_s^{\rm AF} + 3J_s^{\rm FM})$

Table 1: Isolated single cluster states and eigenenergies. In total there are 16 states for the isolated cluster. The states are indicated in the full notation $|S_{23}, S_{234}, S, S^z\rangle_{\rm R}$, the shortened notation $|S, S^z\rangle_{\rm R}$ and indicated are the degeneracies D. E_n gives the energy of the degenerate states. ΔE_n gives the energy measured with respect to the ground state energy E_0 . The last two columns give the calculated transition energies in wavenumbers cm^{-1} and temperature K.

n	$ S_{23},S_{234},S,S^z angle_{ m R}$	$ S,S^z\rangle_{ m R}$	D	\mathbf{E}_n	$\Delta \mathbf{E}_n = \mathbf{E}_n - E_0$	$\Delta E_n(\mathrm{cm}^{-1})$	$\Delta E_n(K)$
0	$ 1, \frac{3}{2}, 1, S^z\rangle_{\mathbf{A}_1}$	$ 1, S^z\rangle_{\mathbf{A}_1}$	3	$\frac{1}{4}(-5J_{\rm AF,s}+3J_{\rm FM,s})$	0	0	0
1	$ 1, \tfrac{1}{2}, 0, S^z\rangle_{\mathrm{E}_1}$	$ 0, S^z\rangle_{E_1}$	1	$-\frac{3}{4}(J_{\rm AF,s}+J_{\rm FM,s})$	$\frac{1}{2}(J_{\rm AF,s} - 3J_{\rm FM,s})$	191	275
	$ 0, \frac{1}{2}, 0, S^z angle_{\mathrm{E}_2}$	$ 0,S^{z}\rangle_{\mathrm{E}_{2}}$	1				
2	$ 1, \frac{3}{2}, 2, S^z\rangle_{\mathbf{A}_1}$	$ 2, S^z\rangle_{A_1}$	5	$\frac{3}{4}(J_{\rm AF,s} + J_{\rm FM,s})$	$2J_{\rm AF,s}$	236	340
3	$ 1, \tfrac{1}{2}, 1, S^z\rangle_{\mathrm{E}_1}$	$ 1, S^z\rangle_{\rm E_1}$	3	$\frac{1}{4}(J_{\rm AF,s} - 3J_{\rm FM,s})$	$\frac{3}{2}(J_{\rm AF,s}-J_{\rm FM,s})$	309	445
	$ 0,\frac{1}{2},1,S^z\rangle_{\mathrm{E}_2}$	$ 1, S^z\rangle_{E_2}$	3				



The expectation values for the angular momentum operators are:

$$\mathbf{S}^{2}|S_{23}, S_{234}, S, S^{z}\rangle = S(S+1)|S_{23}, S_{234}, S, S^{z}\rangle$$

and

$$S_{234}^2 | S_{23}, S_{234}, S, S^z \rangle = S_{234} (S_{234} + 1) | S_{23}, S_{234}, S, S^z \rangle$$

J. Romhanyi et al. PRB 90 (2014)

Isolated Cu4 cluster spectrum

J. Romhanyi et al. PRB 90 (2014) J. Romhanyi et al. PRB 90 (2014) 600 🗄 (a) 600 $\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & E & (2) \\ \hline 1 & E & (2) \\ 1 & -1 & E & (2) \\ \end{array}$ (b) 500 500 $\frac{\begin{array}{ccc} -2 & A_1 & (1) \\ \hline -1 & A_1 & (1) \\ \hline 0 & A_1 & (1) \\ \hline 1 & A_1 & (1) \\ \hline \end{array} }_{7}^{9}$ 1 E (6) 400 400 $\frac{0 \quad E \quad (2)}{2 \quad A_1 (1)}^{5,6}$ AE (K) ¥ 3 300 2 A1(5) 300 0 E (2) $\frac{-1 \quad A_1(1)}{3}$ 200 200 $\frac{0 \quad A_1(1)}{2}$ 100 100 $S=1 R=A_1(3)$ 0 $M = 1 \quad A_1(1) \\ n=1$ 0 H_0 Х М Г R Х H_{TMF} J. Romhanyi et al. PRB 90 (2014) $\sum_{n} a_{n,\nu}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{R}) a_{n,\nu}(\mathbf{R}) = 1.$ $\mathcal{H}_{\rm TMF} = \mathcal{H}_0 + J_{\rm AF,s} (\delta S_1^z + \Delta S_{234}^z)$ AF,OO

Cu4 cluster in mean-field

 $\delta = 3\langle S_1^z \rangle (J_{\rm AF,w} + J_{\rm AF,OO}) / J_{\rm AF,s} > 0$ $\Delta = \left[\langle S_1^z \rangle (J_{\rm AF,w} + J_{\rm AF,OO}) + 2\langle S_2^z \rangle J_{\rm F,w} \right] / J_{\rm AF,s} < 0$

Cu4 cluster in mean-field + 2nd quantization

\overline{n}	λ	М	$(E_0 - E_{GS})/J_s^{AF}$	$(E_{TMF} - E_{GS})/J_s^{AF}$
1	A_1	1		$1 + \Delta - [1 + \frac{\delta - \Delta}{2} + (\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2})^2]^{1/2} \simeq \frac{-\delta + 5\Delta}{4}$
2	A_1	0	0	$1 - [1 + (\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2})^2]^{1/2} \simeq 0$
3	A_1	-1		$1 - \Delta - \left[1 + \frac{\delta - \Delta}{2} + \left(\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2}\right)^2\right]^{1/2} \simeq -\frac{\delta + 3\Delta}{4}$
4 5	E	0	$\frac{1}{2}(1-3j_f)$	$1 - \frac{3}{2}j_f - \frac{1}{2}[1 + (\delta - \Delta)^2]^{1/2} \simeq \frac{1 - 3j_f}{2}$
6	A_1	$^{-2}$		$2 - \frac{\delta + 3\Delta}{2}$
7	A_1	$^{-1}$		$1 - \Delta + \left[1 + \frac{\delta - \Delta}{2} + \left(\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2}\right)^2\right]^{1/2} \simeq 2 + \frac{\delta - 5\Delta}{4}$
8	A_1	0	2	$1 + [1 + (\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2})^2]^{1/2} \simeq 2$
9	A_1	1		$1 + \Delta + \left[1 + \frac{\delta - \Delta}{2} + \left(\frac{\delta - \Delta}{2}\right)^2\right]^{1/2} \simeq 2 + \frac{\delta + 3\Delta}{4}$
10	A_1	2		$2 + \frac{\delta + 3\Delta}{2}$
11 12	E	-1		$\frac{3}{2}(1-j_f) - \frac{\delta + \Delta}{2}$
13 14	Е	0	$rac{3}{2}(1-j_f)$	$1 - \frac{3}{2}j_f + \frac{\sqrt{1 + (\delta - \Delta)^2}}{2} \simeq \frac{3}{2}(1 - j_f)$
$\frac{15}{16}$	E	1		$\frac{3}{2}(1-j_f) + \frac{\delta+\Delta}{2}$

TABLE I. The eigenspectrum of $\mathcal{H}_0^{(t)}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{\mathsf{TMF}}^{(t)}$, classified in terms of the total spin projection M along the quantization axis and the symmetry sectors λ of the point group C_{3v} , see text. The symbol j_f stands for the ratio $j_f = J_s^{\mathsf{FM}}/J_s^{\mathsf{AF}}$.

Cu4 cluster in mean field: Γ-point excitations with electron spin resonance (ESR)



Figure 3: a) Figure adapted from Ref. [2]

Cu4 cluster in mean-field + 2nd quantization

Cu₄ cluster including k-dependence: inelastic neutron spectrum



PY Portnichenko et al. Nat. Comm 7 (2016)

• Helimagnon bands in MnSi observed up to n=6 with inelastic neutron (M. Kugler et al. PRL115, 2015)



- Helimagnon bands in Cu₂OSeO₃ only up to n=3 observed by GHz-spectroscopy (M. Weiler et al. PRL119, 2017)
- Interesting task for Brillouin Scattering in magnetic field?