

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University



# Magnon-Mediated Interlayer Coupling and Spin-Transfer Torques

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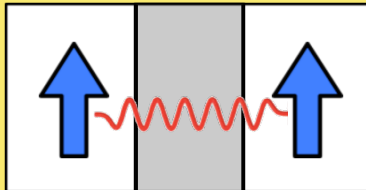
Moving to: ECE, University of California – Riverside

# Roadmap

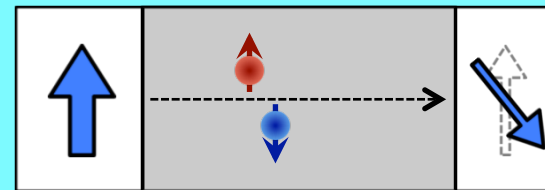
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- Magnons
- Antiferromagnets

## Interlayer Coupling



## STT and Switching

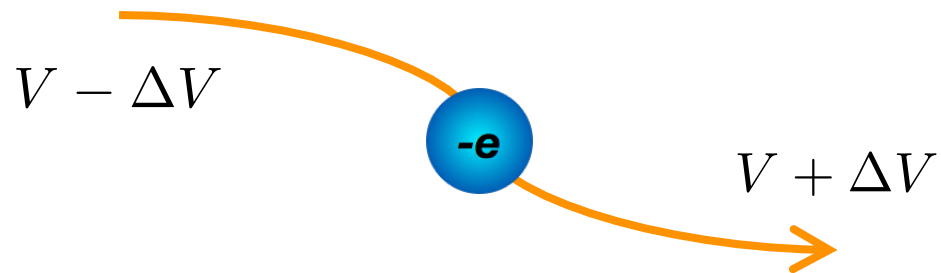


- Spin Nernst Effect
- Data Modulation
- Outlook

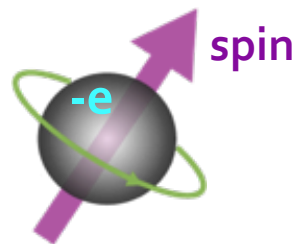
# Challenge

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- ✓ Soaring power consumption
- ✓ Waste heat

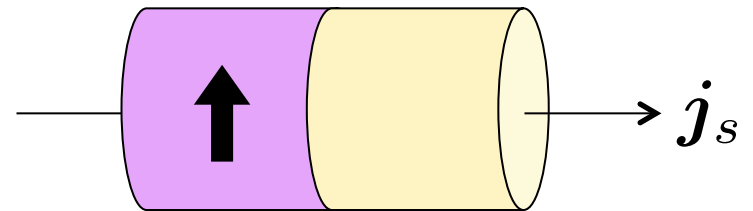
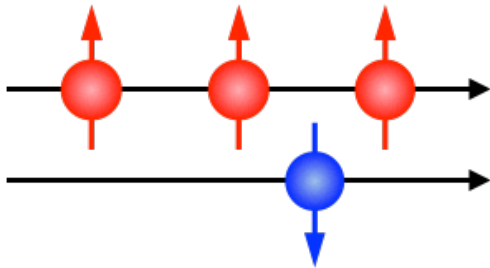


- ✓ Spin logic

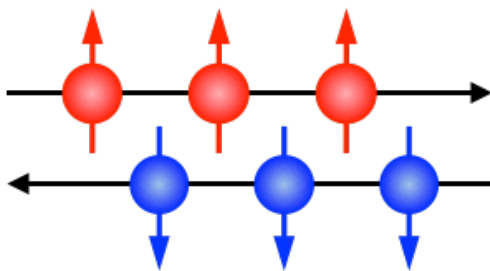


# Challenge

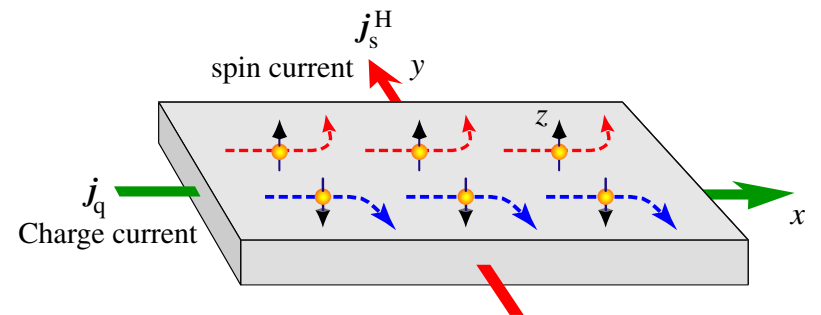
- ✓ Spin-polarized current



- ✓ Pure spin current



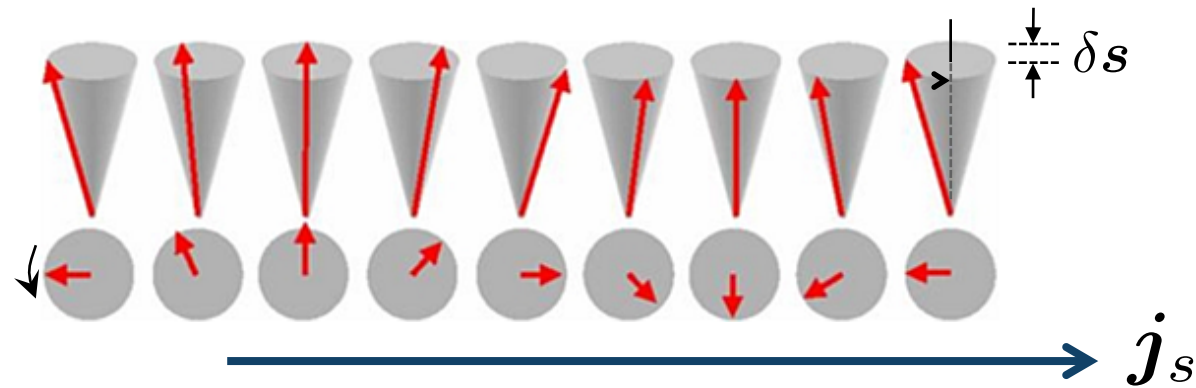
$$j_c = 0$$



Spin Hall Effect

# Magnonics

- ✓ Spin-wave (magnon) spin current

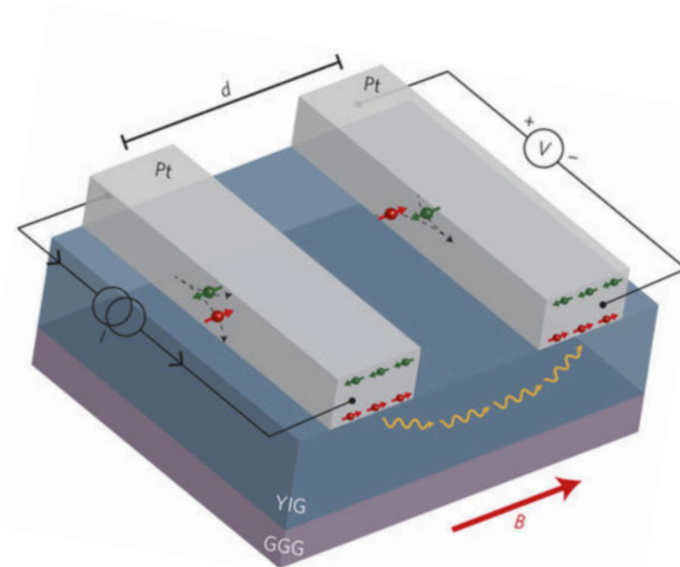


- ✓ Thermal transport

$$\mathbf{j}_s = \sigma_m \nabla \mu + L \nabla T$$

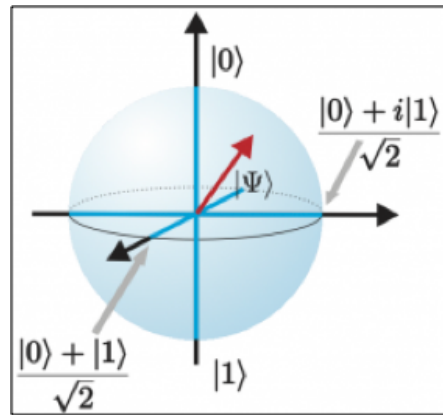
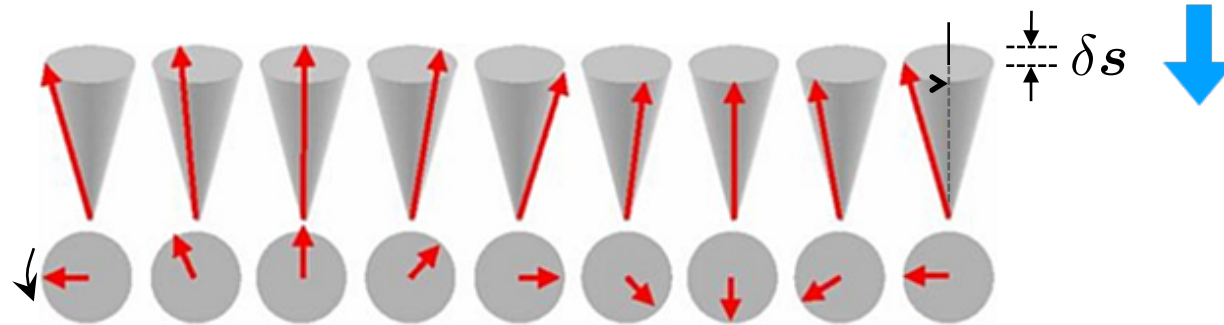
$$\mathbf{j}_Q = LT \nabla \mu + \kappa \nabla T$$

Cornelissen, Liu, Duine, BenYoussef & van Wees, Nat. Phys. **11**, 1022 (2015)



# Magnonics

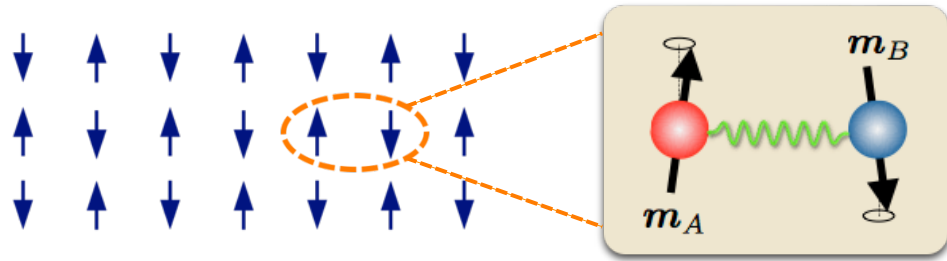
## ◆ Caveat!



Intrinsic degree of freedom?



# Antiferromagnet

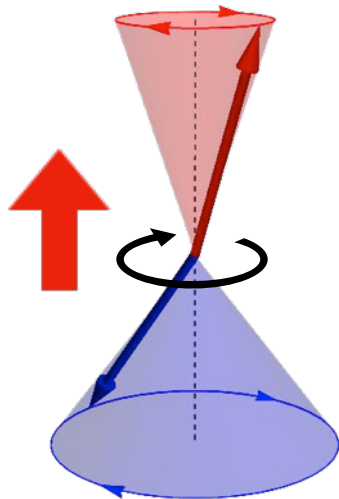


$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{m}_A}{\partial t} = \mathbf{m}_A \times (-\omega_J \mathbf{m}_B + \omega_K \hat{z})$$

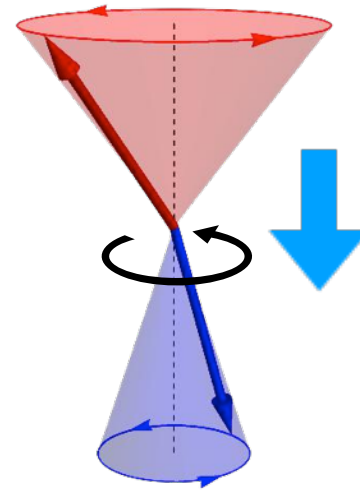
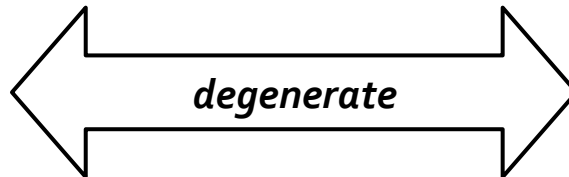
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{m}_B}{\partial t} = \mathbf{m}_B \times (-\omega_J \mathbf{m}_A - \omega_K \hat{z})$$



$$\omega = \pm \sqrt{2\omega_J \omega_K}$$



Left-handed



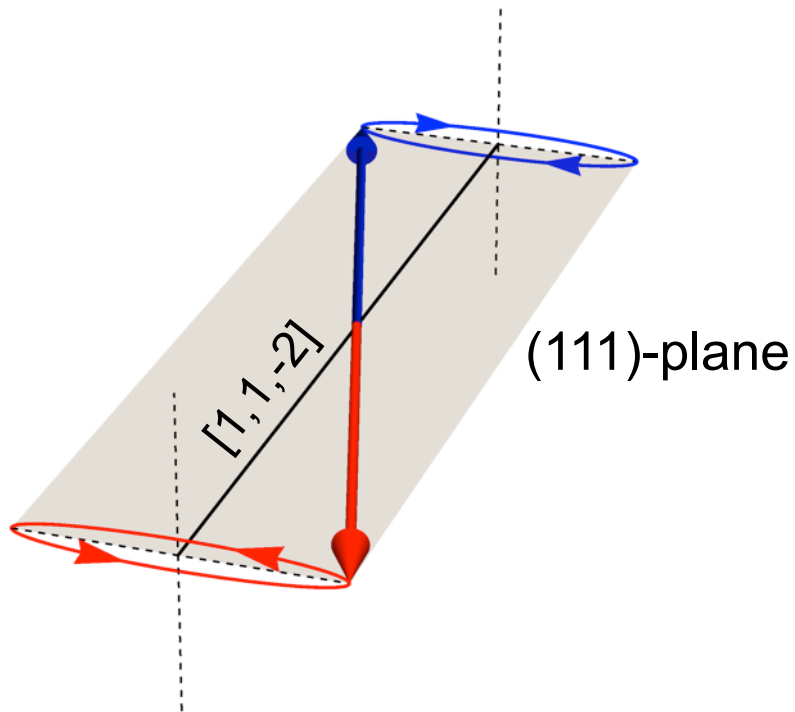
Right-handed



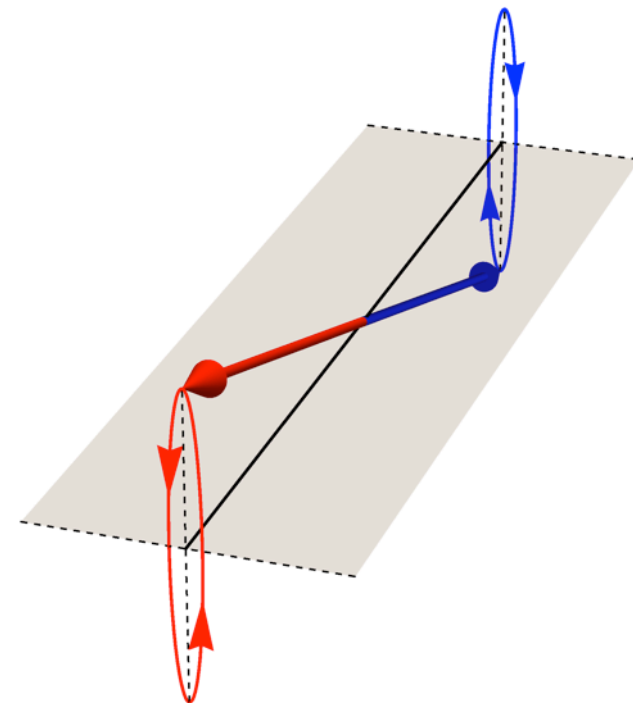
MnF<sub>2</sub>, FeF<sub>2</sub>, Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

# Antiferromagnet

- ✓ Hard-axis & Easy-axis (NiO, MnO)



Acoustic (0.14 THz)



Optical (1.1 THz)



# Magnon Spin Current

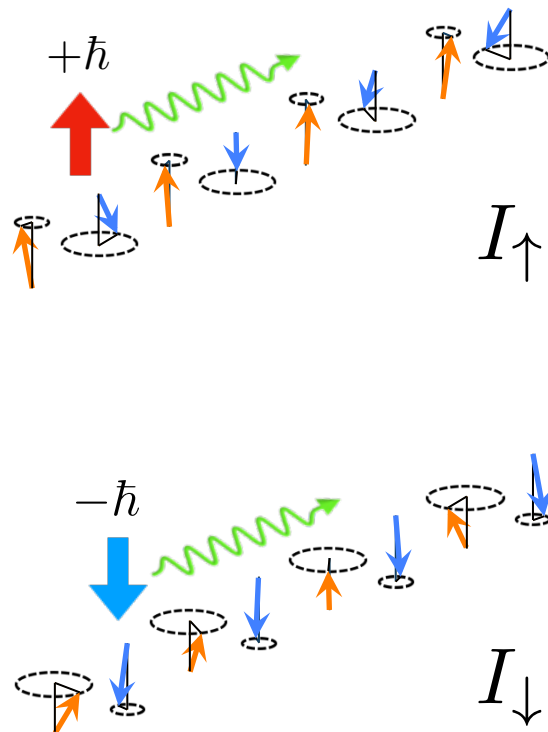
✓ Spin conductor



Spin



Charge

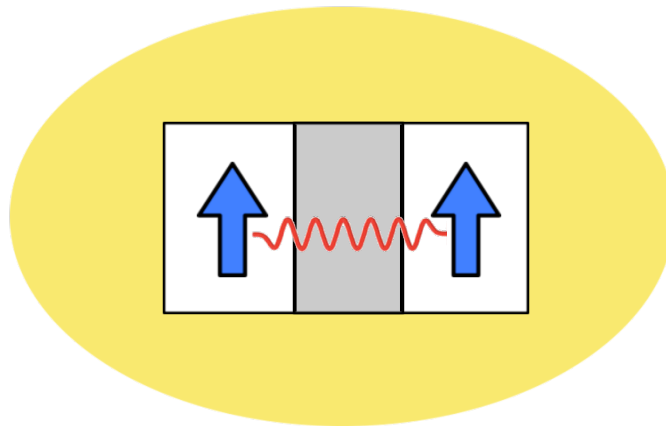


System	Magnon current
<b>Antiferromagnet</b> 	$I_Q = I_{\uparrow} + I_{\downarrow}$ $I_s = I_{\uparrow} - I_{\downarrow}$
<b>Ferrimagnet</b> 	$I_{\downarrow} > I_{\uparrow}$
<b>Ferromagnet</b> 	$I_{\uparrow} = 0$

# Roadmap

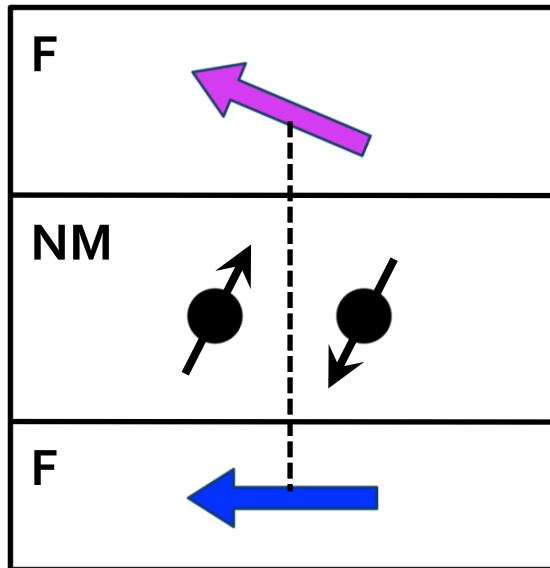
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## Interlayer Coupling



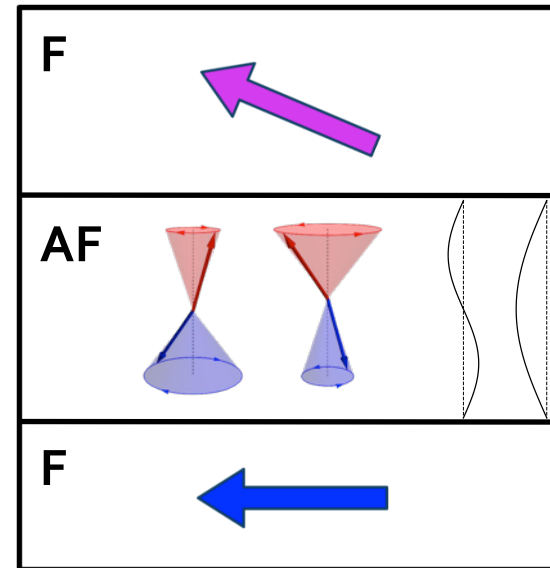
# Interlayer Coupling

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**Interlayer RKKY**

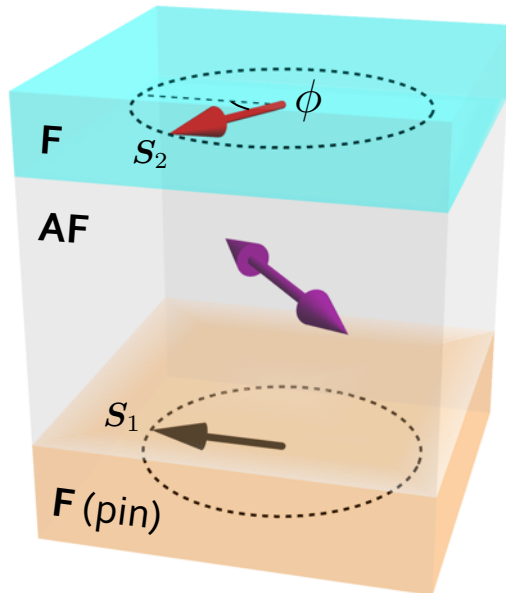
Review:  
P. Bruno, Phys. Rev. B **52**, 411 (1995)



**A similar effect?**

➤ Bose-Einstein Statistics

# Interlayer Coupling

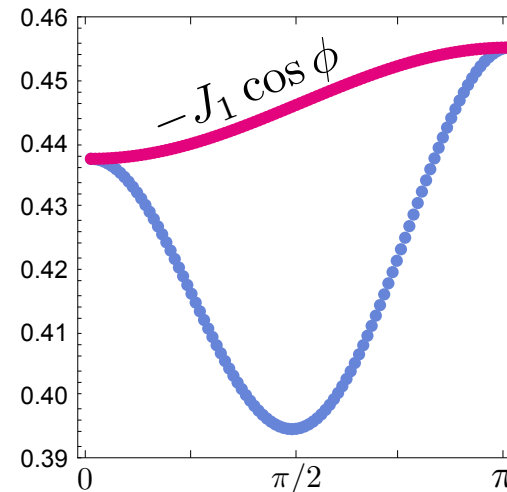


## Magnon Thermal Energy

$$U(\phi) = \sum_i \int d^2 \mathbf{k}_{\parallel} \frac{\varepsilon_i(\phi, \mathbf{k}_{\parallel})}{\exp[\varepsilon_i(\phi, \mathbf{k}_{\parallel})/k_B T] - 1}$$

Polycrystal  
Averaged

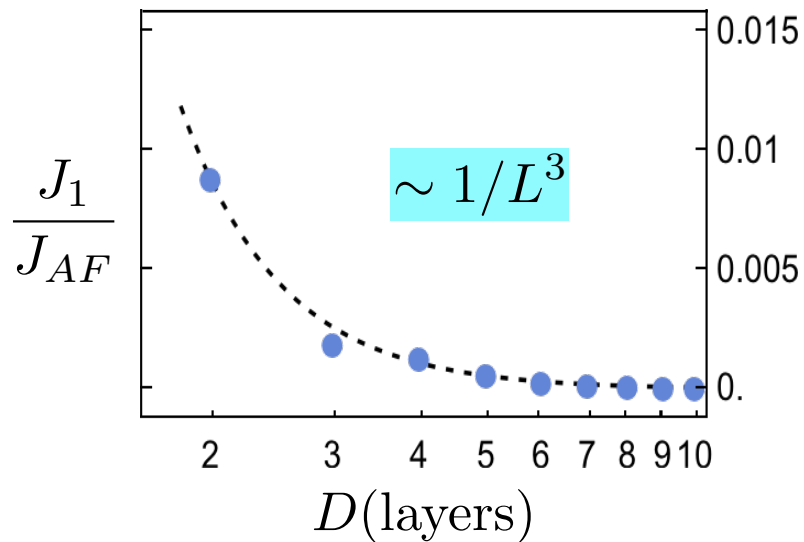
$$U = -J_1 \cos \phi - \cancel{J_2 \cos 2\phi}$$



RC, D. Xiao & J. Zhu, arXiv:1802.07867

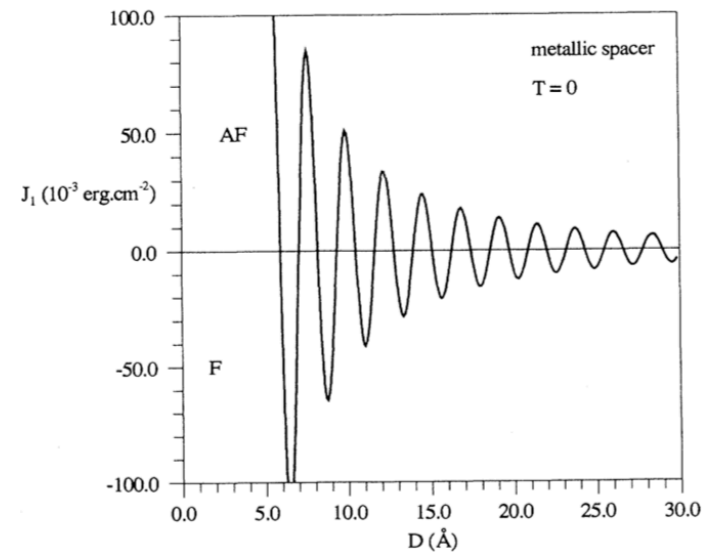
# Interlayer Coupling

- ✓ Dependence on AF thickness



$$k_B T = 0.6 J_{AF}$$

## Electron-mediated

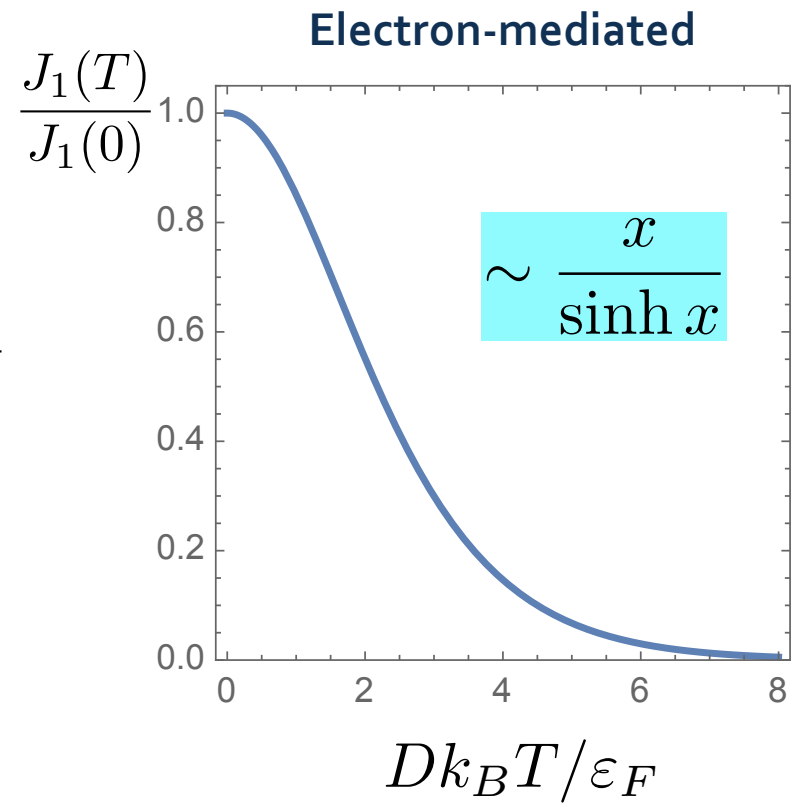
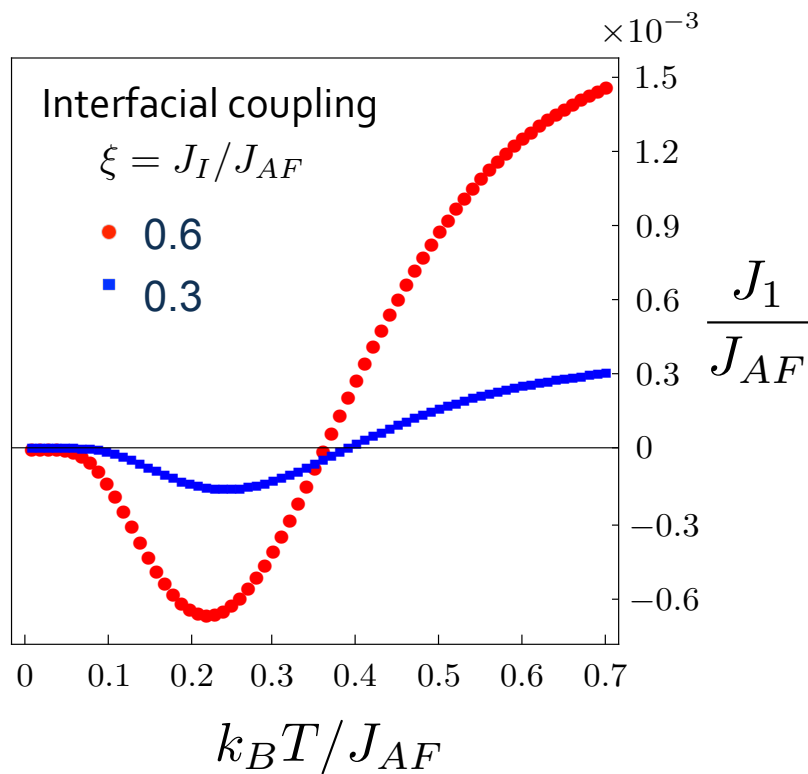


$$k_B T = 0$$

P. Bruno, Phys. Rev. B **52**, 411 (1995)

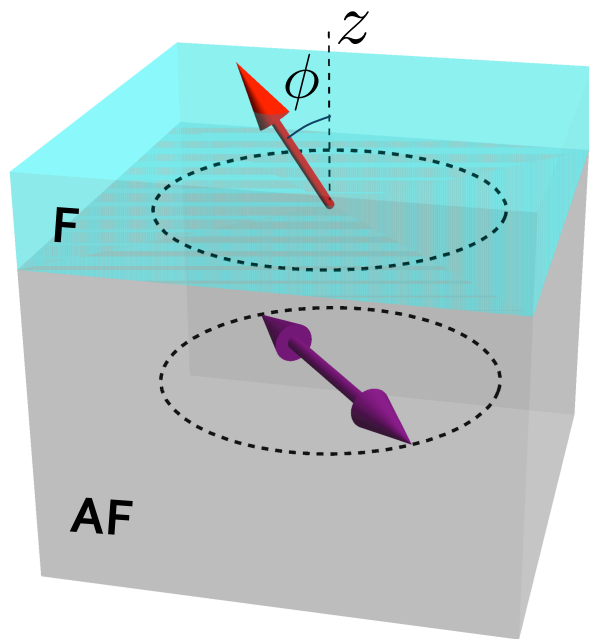
# Interlayer Coupling

- ✓ Dependence on temperature



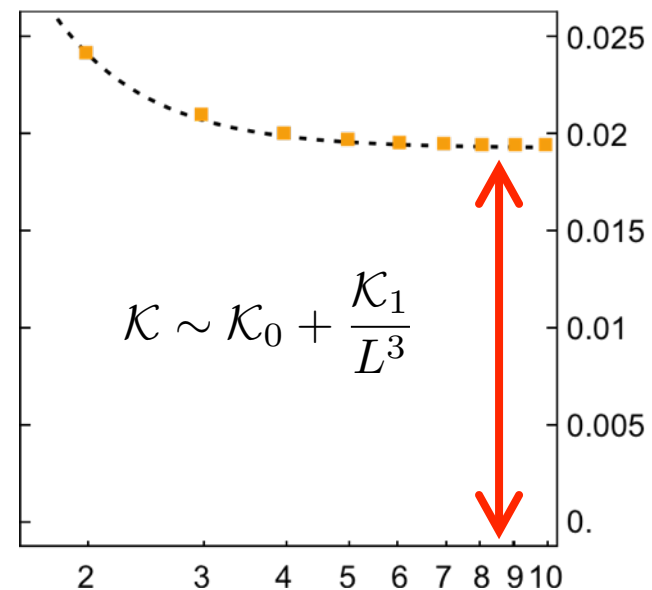
# Bilayer Effect

- ✓ Magnon-induced anisotropy



**Polycrystal AF**  
(random in-plane Néel vectors)

$$U = -\mathcal{K} \cos 2\phi$$

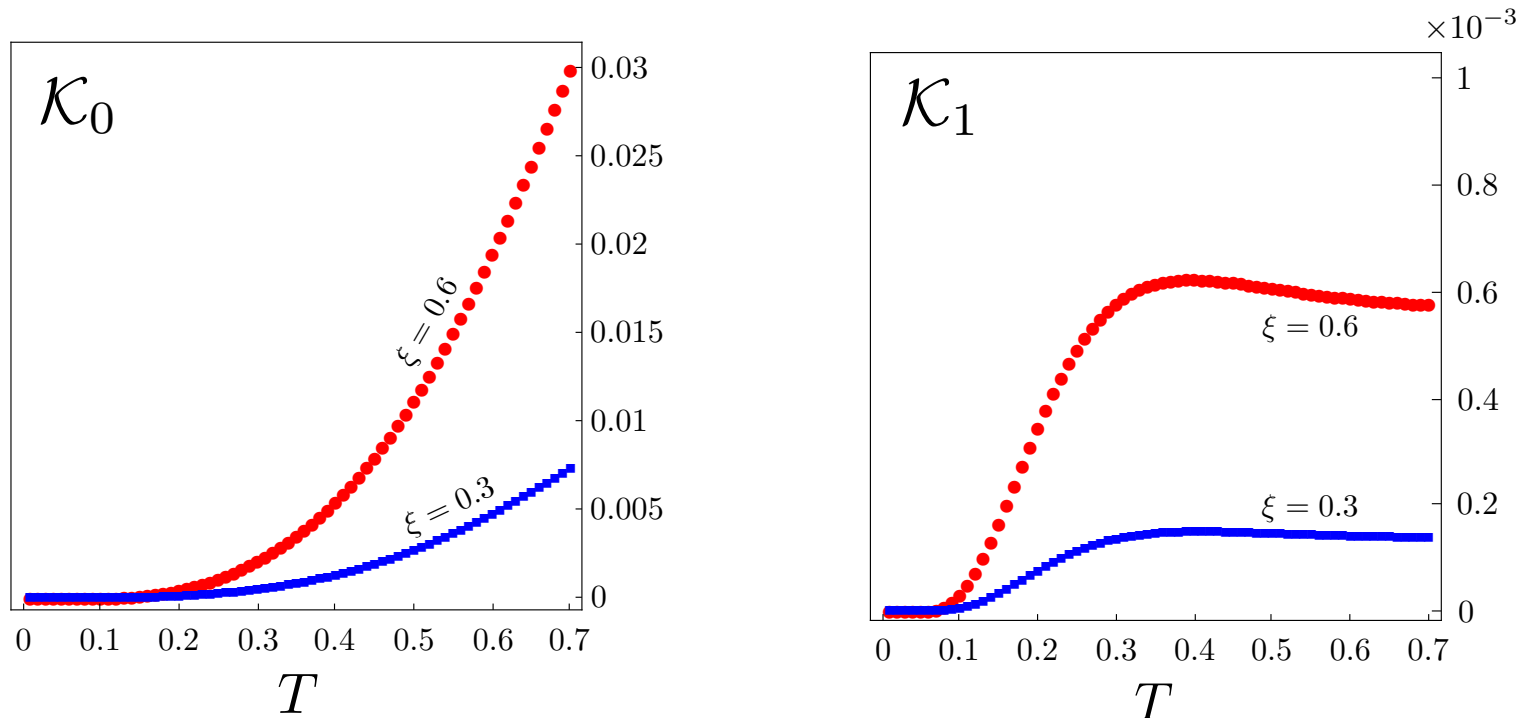


$\mathcal{K}_0$  **Surface** magnons (bilayer effect)

$\mathcal{K}_1$  **Bulk** magnons (trilayer effect)

# Bilayer Effect

$$\mathcal{K} \sim \mathcal{K}_0 + \frac{\mathcal{K}_1}{L^3}$$

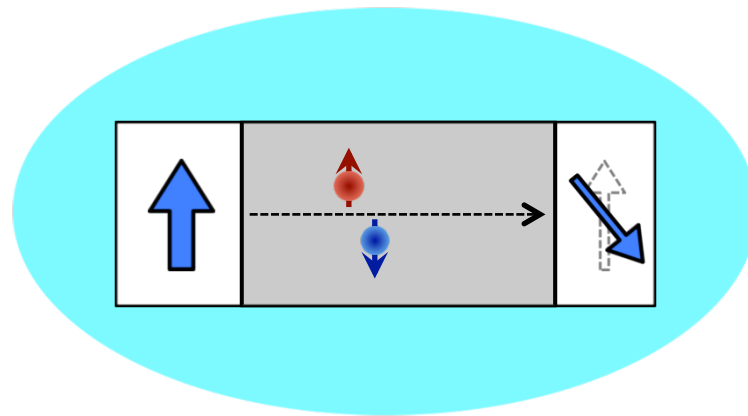




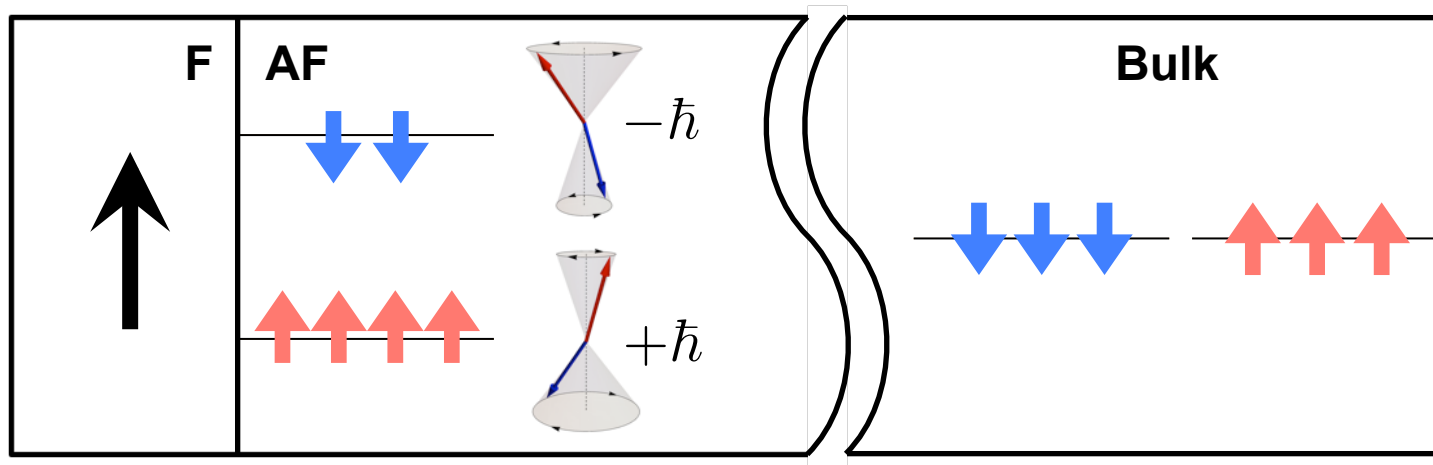
# Roadmap

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## STT Switching



# Magnonic Spin-Transfer Torque



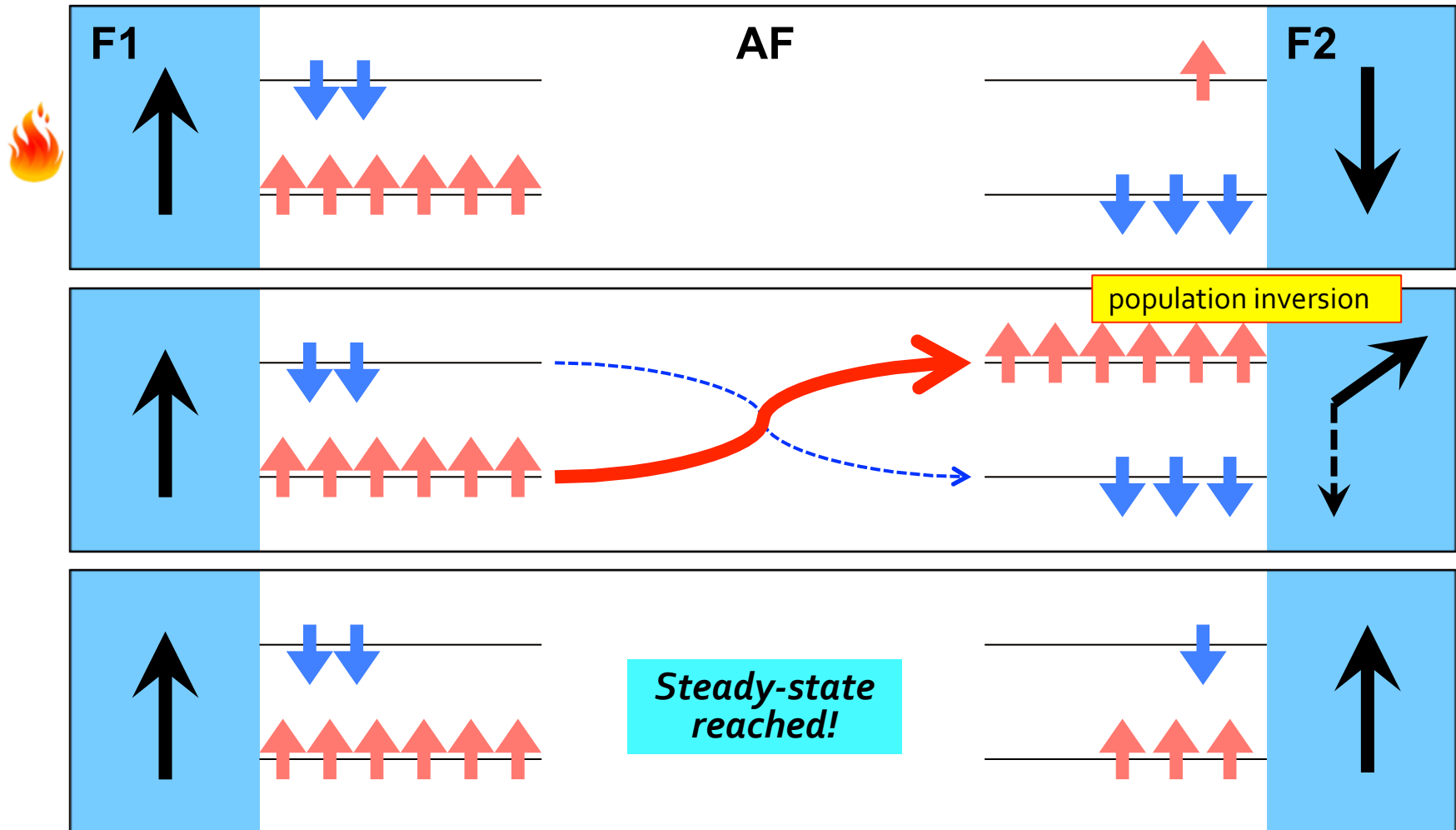
$$n(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\varepsilon \pm J}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$

**Exchange Split**

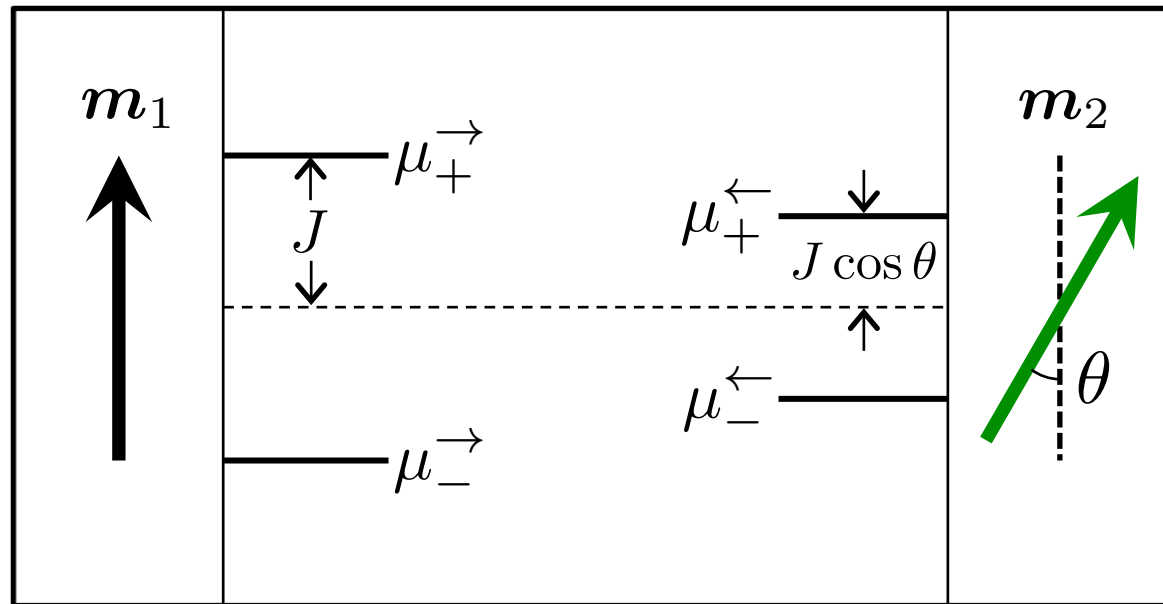
$$n(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\varepsilon}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$

**Degenerate**

# All-Magnonic Switching



# Theoretical Model



$$\mathbf{j}_s = \hbar \int_{v_x > 0} dk v_x [f_+^{\rightarrow} - f_-^{\rightarrow}] + \hbar \int_{v_x < 0} dk v_x [f_+^{\leftarrow} - f_-^{\leftarrow}]$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial t} = \gamma \mathbf{H}_{eff} \times \mathbf{m} + \alpha \mathbf{m} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{j}_s$$

# Theoretical Model

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$$\frac{\partial \delta f_{\sigma}^v}{\partial x} + \frac{\delta f_{\sigma}^v}{v_x \tau_m} = (\varepsilon - \mu_{\sigma}^v) \frac{\partial \bar{f}_{\sigma}^v}{\partial \varepsilon} \frac{\partial_x T}{T} + \frac{f_0 - \bar{f}_{\sigma}^v}{v_x \tau_{th}}$$

$\tau_m$

momentum relaxation  
(conserve magnon #)



$$\bar{f}_{\sigma}^v = \frac{1}{e^{(\varepsilon - \mu_{\sigma}^v)/k_B T} - 1}$$

Local equilibrium



$\tau_{th}$

thermal relaxation  
(kills magnons)



$$f_0 = \frac{1}{e^{\varepsilon/k_B T} - 1}$$

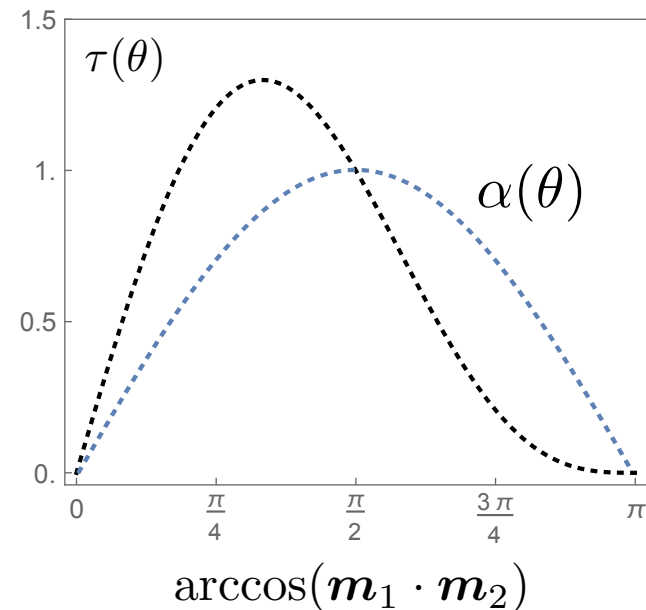
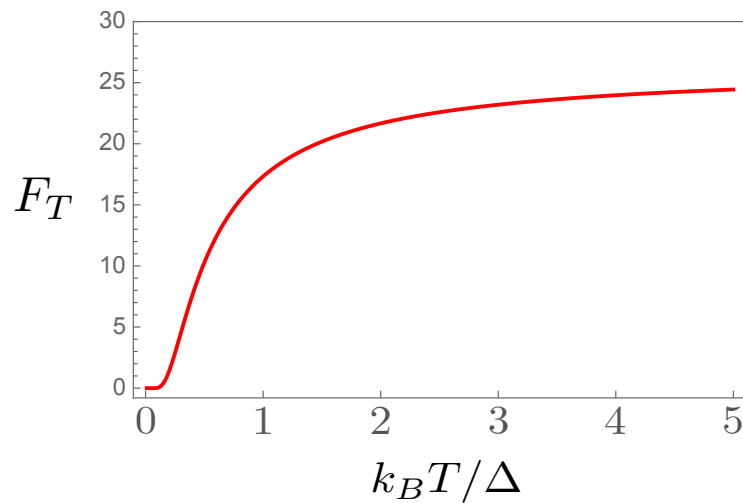
Global equilibrium

Zhang & Zhang, PRL **109**, 096603 (2012)

# Central Results

- ✓ Damping-like torque

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \frac{-\lambda \partial_x T}{T} \frac{2\pi J (k_B T)^2}{3\hbar^2 v_s^2} F\left(\frac{k_B T}{\Delta}\right) g(\theta) \mathbf{m}_2 \times (\mathbf{m}_1 \times \mathbf{m}_2)$$

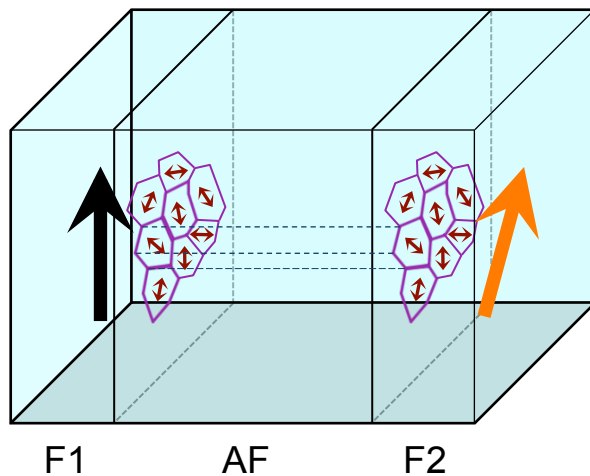


$\Delta$ : AFMR frequency

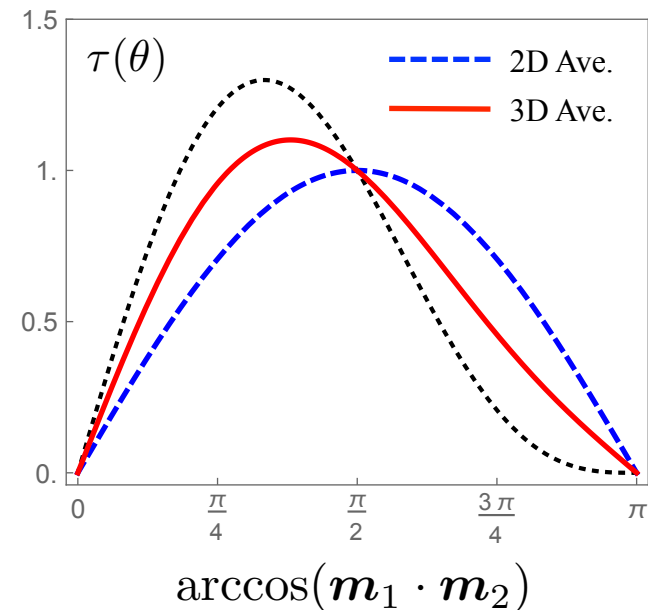
# Central Results

- ✓ Damping-like torque

$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = \frac{-\lambda \partial_x T}{T} \frac{2\pi J (k_B T)^2}{3\hbar^2 v_s^2} F \left( \frac{k_B T}{\Delta} \right) g(\theta) \mathbf{m}_2 \times (\mathbf{m}_1 \times \mathbf{m}_2)$$



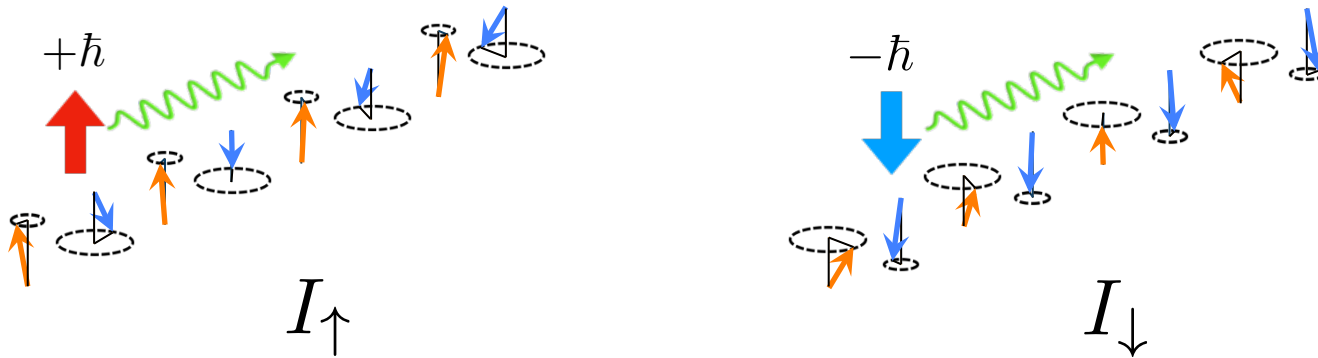
**Threshold:**  $\nabla T \sim 1K/nm$



# Roadmap

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- Spin Nernst Effect
- Data Modulation
- Outlook

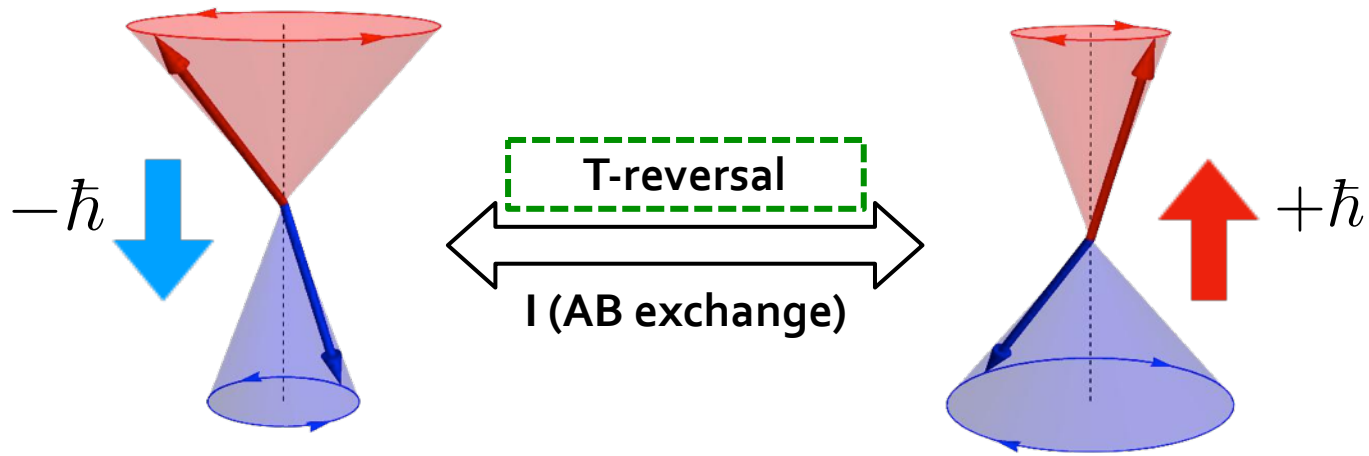


$$I_Q = I_{\uparrow} + I_{\downarrow}$$

$$I_s = I_{\uparrow} - I_{\downarrow}$$

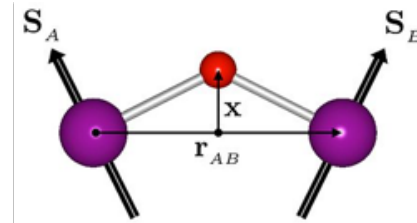


# Symmetry



$$\mathcal{D}_{AB} \cdot \mathbf{S}_A \times \mathbf{S}_B$$

Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya Interaction (DMI)

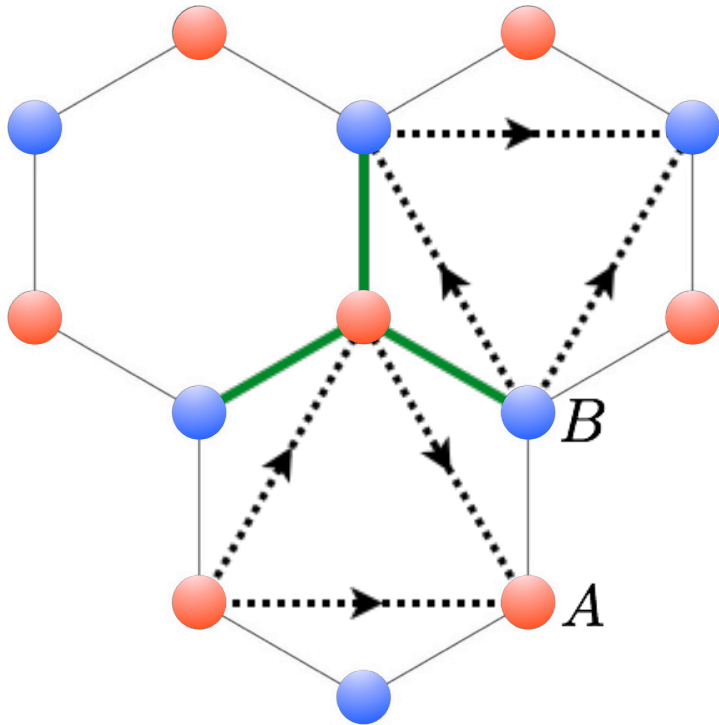


$$\left. \begin{aligned} \delta \mathbf{S}_A &= \mathbf{S}_A - \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ \delta \mathbf{S}_B &= \mathbf{S}_B + \hat{\mathbf{z}} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Spin-Orbit Coupling

# Spin Nernst Effect

$$H = J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + D_2 \sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j + \mathcal{K} \sum_i S_{iz}^2$$



Exchange

DMI

$J_1$

×

$J_2$

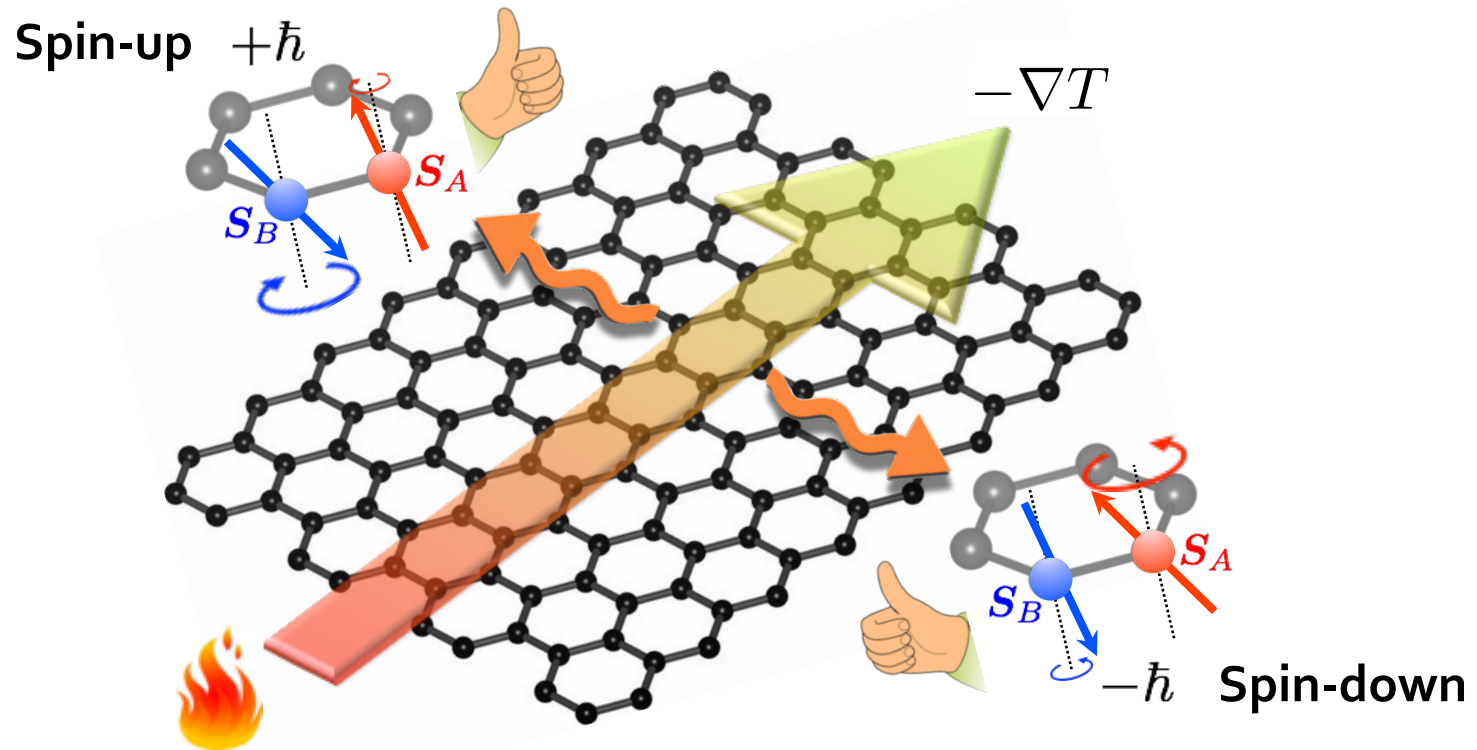
$D_2$

$J_3$

×

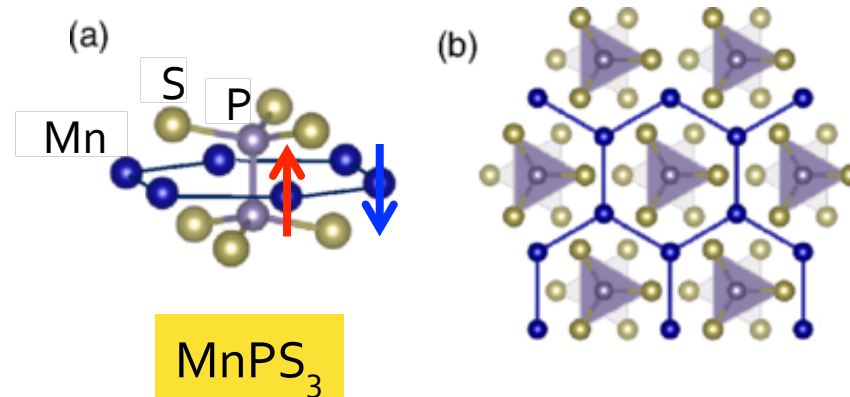
# Spin Nernst Effect

$$H = J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + D_2 \sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j + \mathcal{K} \sum_i S_{iz}^2$$



RC, Okamoto & Xiao, PRL **117**, 217202 (2016)

# Spin Nernst Effect

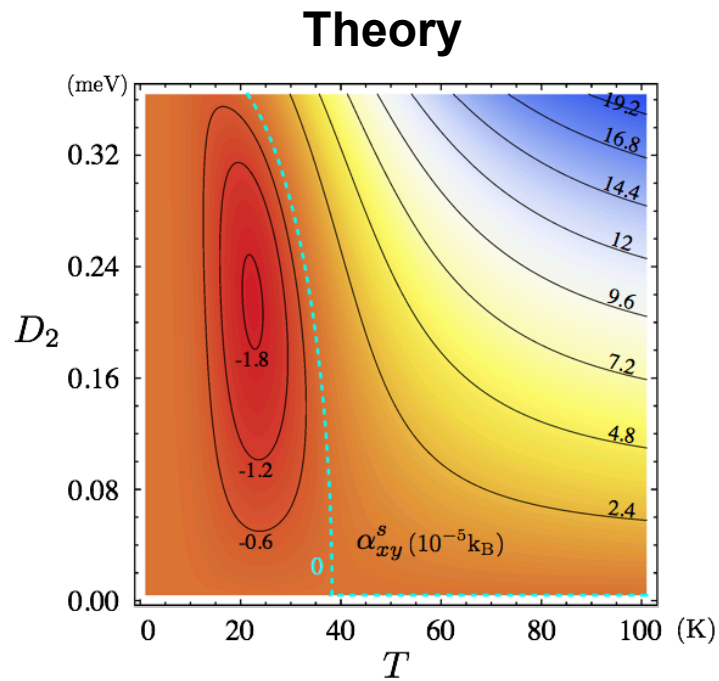


$S$	$J_1$ (meV)	$J_2$ (meV)	$J_3$ (meV)	$J'$ (meV)	$g\mu_B H_A$ (meV)
2.5	-0.77 $\pm 0.09$	-0.07 $\pm 0.03$	-0.18 $\pm 0.01$	0.0019 $\pm 0.0002$	0.0086 $\pm 0.0009$

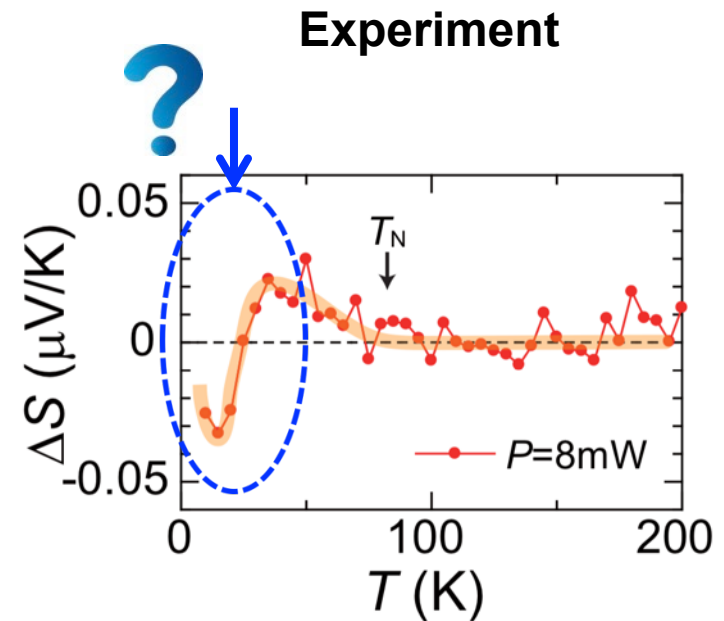
Neutron Scattering: Wildes, Roessli, Lebecq & Godfrey, JCM 1998  
DFT: Sivadas, Daniels, Swendsen, Okamoto & Xiao, PRB 2015

# Spin Nernst Effect

$$\mathbf{j}_{\text{SN}} = \hbar(\mathbf{j}_{\uparrow} - \mathbf{j}_{\downarrow}) \equiv \alpha_{xy}^s \hat{\mathbf{z}} \times \nabla T$$

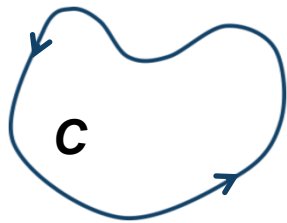


RC, Okamoto & Xiao,  
PRL **117**, 217202 (2016)



Shiomi, Takashima & Saitoh  
PRB **96**, 134425 (2017)

# Berry Phase Effect

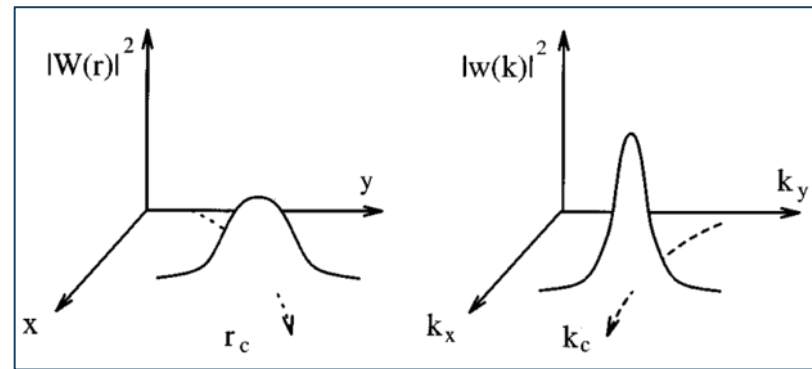


$$\gamma(C) = \iint ds \cdot \mathcal{B}$$



M. V. Berry 1984

$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_c = \nabla \omega(\mathbf{k}_c) - \dot{\mathbf{k}}_c \times \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{k}_c)$$



Sundaram & Niu, 1999; Xiao, Chang & Niu 2010



D. J. Thouless F.D.M. Haldane J. M. Kosterlitz

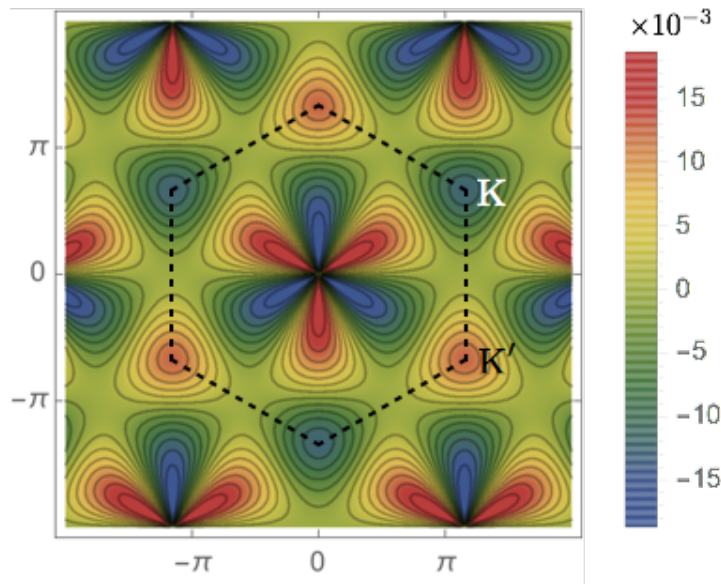


Nobel Prize in  
Physics, 2016

# Berry Phase Effect

Effective 'Lorentz' Force

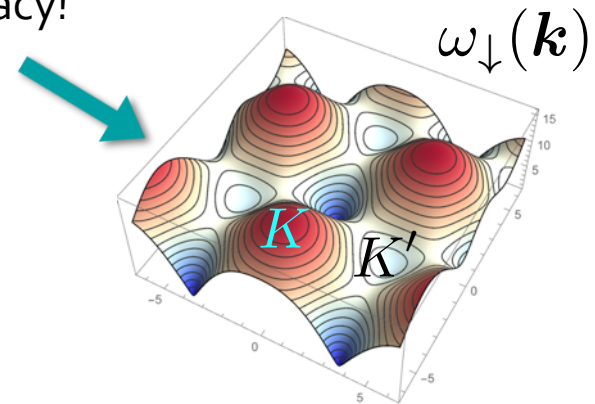
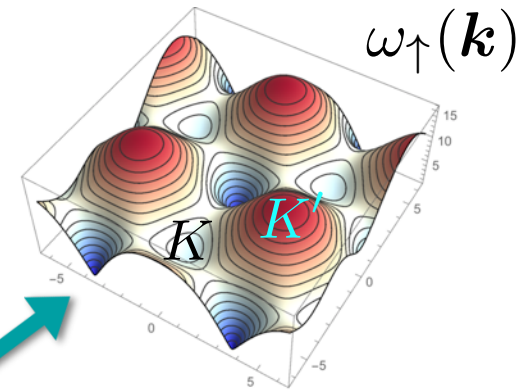
$$\dot{\mathbf{r}}_c = \nabla \omega(\mathbf{k}_c) - \dot{\mathbf{k}}_c \times \mathcal{B}(\mathbf{k}_c)$$



$$\mathcal{B}_\uparrow(\mathbf{k}) = \mathcal{B}_\downarrow(\mathbf{k})$$

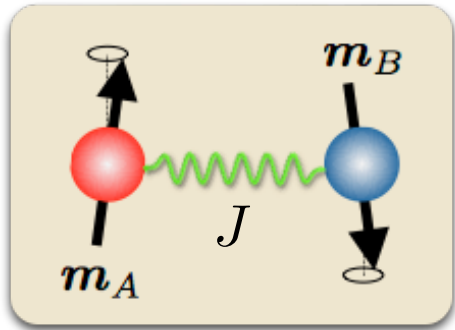
$$\mathcal{B}_\sigma(\mathbf{k}) = -\mathcal{B}_\sigma(-\mathbf{k})$$

DMI  
breaks  
degeneracy!



# Terahertz Spin Dynamics

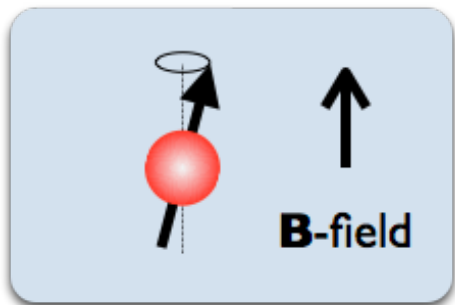
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$$\omega(\mathbf{k}) = \pm \sqrt{2\omega_J\omega_K + c^2\mathbf{k}^2}$$

$$\omega_J \gg \omega_K$$

**Terahertz**



ferromagnet

$$\omega(\mathbf{k}) = \omega_A + c\mathbf{k}^2$$

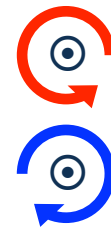
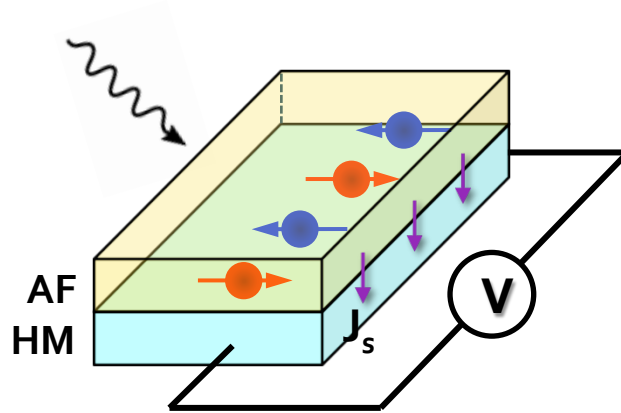
Anisotropy / Zeeman / Demagnetization

**at most 100 GHz**



# Terahertz Spin Dynamics

✓ Spin pumping

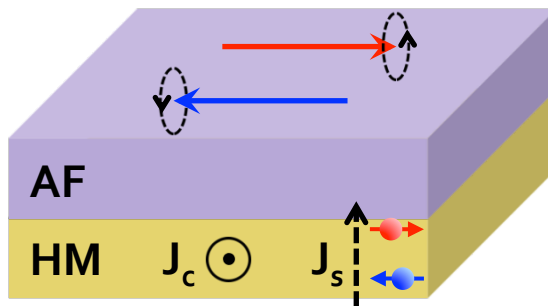


right-handed photon:  $\mathbf{V} > \mathbf{o}$

left-handed photon:  $\mathbf{V} < \mathbf{o}$

RC, Xiao, Niu & Brataas, PRL **113**, 057601 (2014)

✓ Spin-transfer torques



$J_c > 0$  : excite right-handed mode

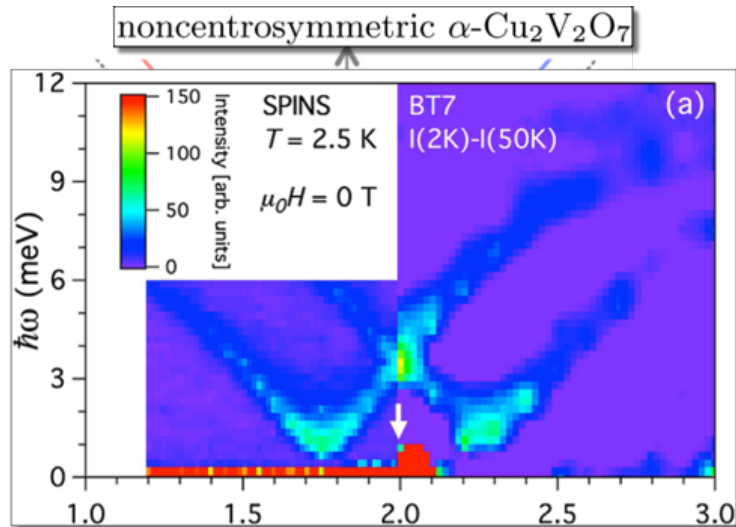
$J_c < 0$  : excite left-handed mode

RC, Xiao & Brataas, PRL **116**, 207603 (2016)

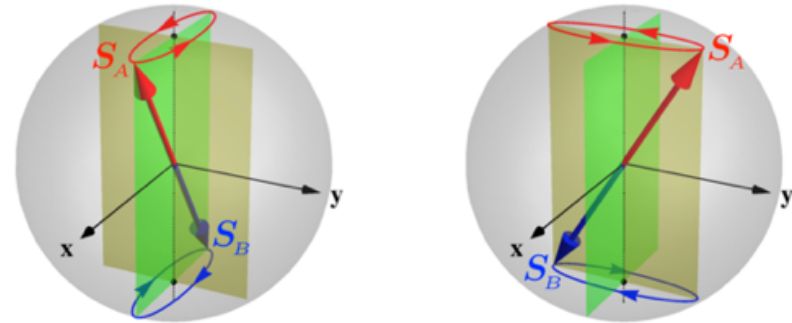
RC, Zhu & Xiao, PRL **117**, 097202 (2016)

# One-Dimensional AF Chain

$$H = \sum_i [J \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + K(\hat{z} \cdot \mathbf{S}_i)^2] + \sum_{ij} D_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j$$



G. Ghatge et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 047201 (2017)



$$|L\rangle + i|R\rangle$$

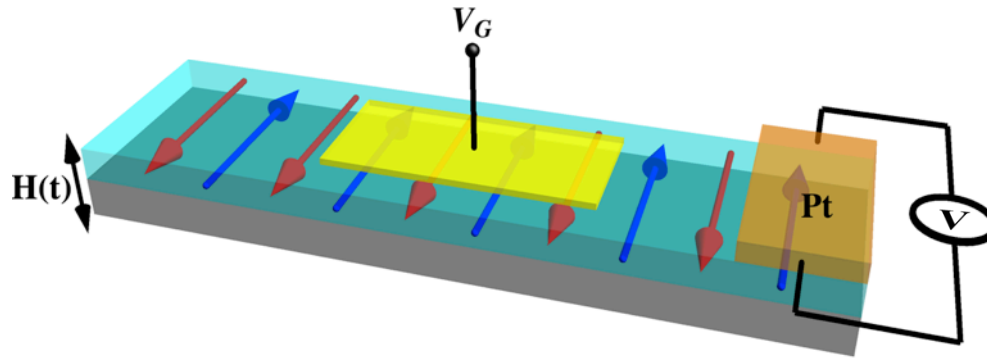
$$|L\rangle - i|R\rangle$$



**Faraday Rotation**

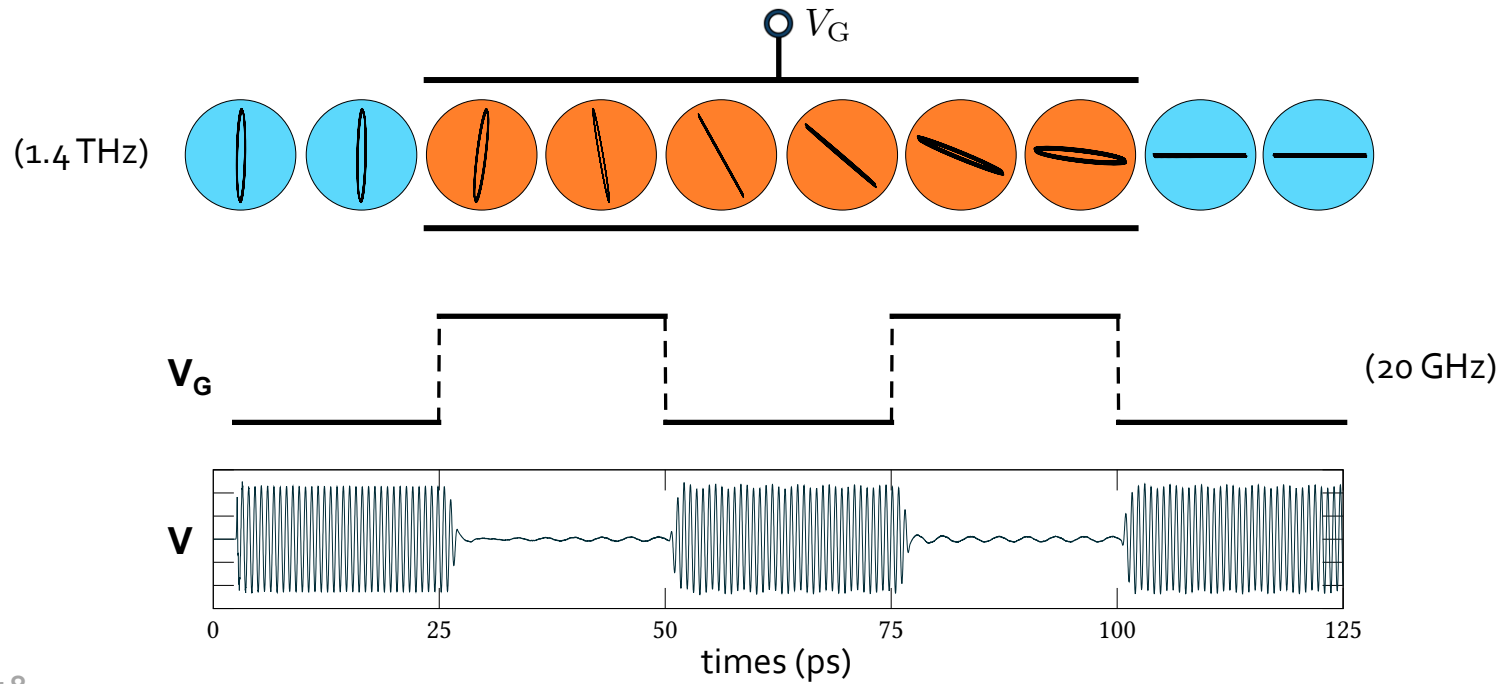
RC, Daniels, Zhu & Xiao, Sci. Rep. **6**, 24223 (2016)





# Data Modulation



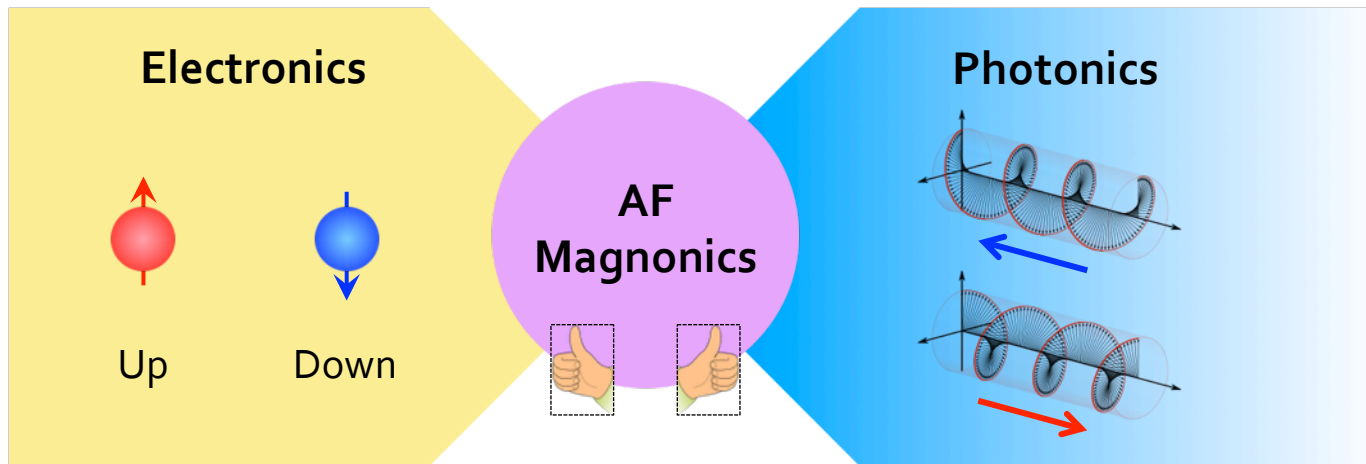
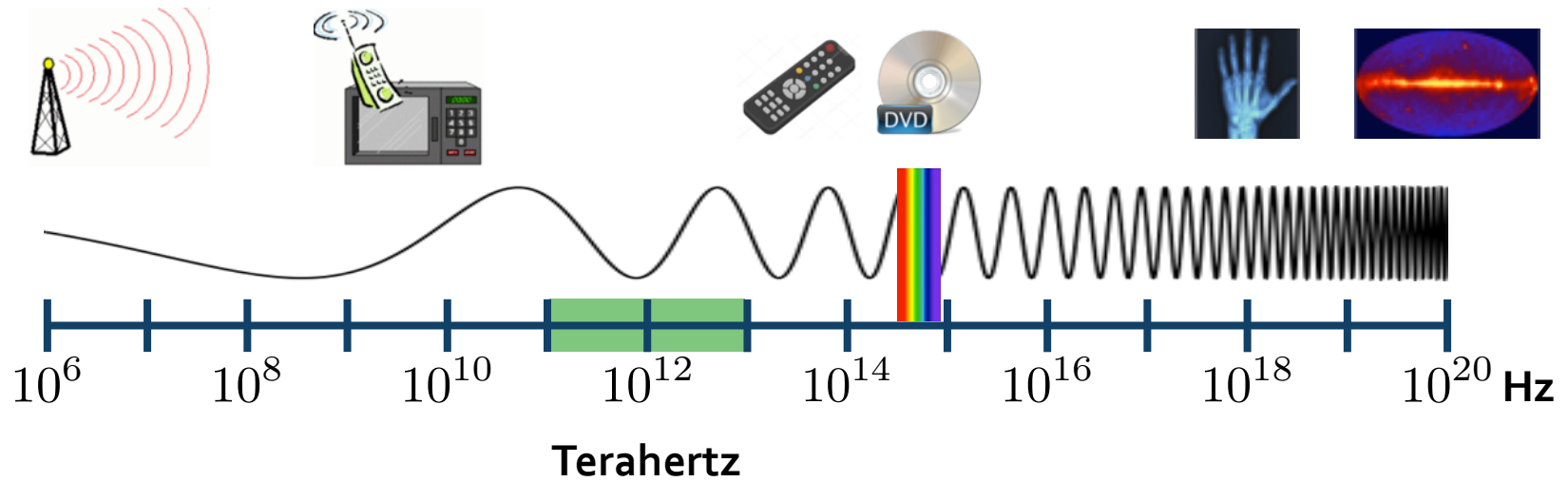
RC, Daniels, Zhu & Xiao,  
Sci. Rep. **6**, 24223 (2016);

Daniels, RC, Yu, Xiao & Xiao,  
arXiv:1801.06535



Electron (fermion)	Magnon (Boson)
$i\partial_t\psi = H\psi$	$\partial_t\mathbf{S} = \gamma\mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{S}$
Spin  	Chirality  
SOC: $\nabla V \cdot (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \times \mathbf{p})$	DMI: $D_{ij} \cdot (\mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j)$
Spin-FET	Magnon spin-FET
Spin Hall effect	Spin Nernst effect
Oscillatory RKKY	Non-oscillatory RKKY
Spin-transfer torque	Magnon-transfer torque

# Antiferromagnetics

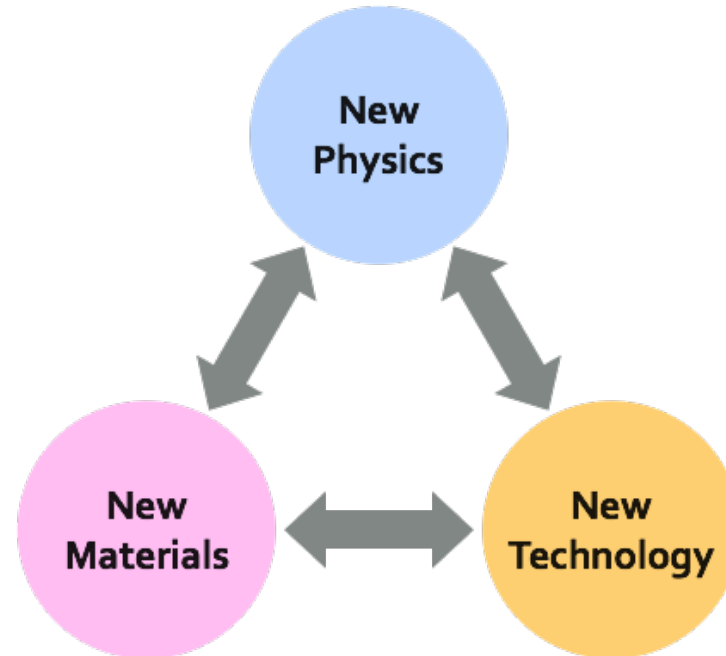


## Starting in September at UC-Riverside

- ✓ Physics beyond Néel order
- ✓ Information beyond binary
- ✓ Magnetoelastic Spintronics

### Opening:

- 1 Postdoc
- 1 Student (Physics or ECE)



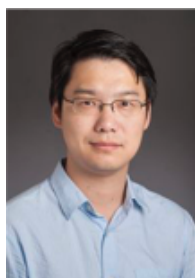
- ✓ 2-D magnets ( $\text{Cr}_2\text{Ge}_2\text{Te}_6$ ,  $\text{CrI}_3$ ,  $\text{MnPS}_3$ )
- ✓ Metals ( $\text{Mn}_2\text{Au}$ ,  $\text{CuMnAs}$ )
- ✓ Insulators ( $\text{MnF}_2$ ,  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ )
- ✓ Heterostructures (AF/TI, AF/WSM)

- ✓ Ultrafast data processing
- ✓ Low-dissipation memory
- ✓ M-bit (vs. Q-bit)

# Acknowledgements

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## ➤ Carnegie Mellon University



Prof. Di Xiao  
Physics, CMU



Prof. Jimmy Zhu  
ECE, CMU



Dr. Matthew Daniels  
(Postdoc @ NIST)



Mr. Xiaochuan Wu  
(PhD @ UCSB)



Mr. Abir Shadman  
(PhD, ECE, CMU)

## ➤ International



Prof. Qian Niu  
Physics, UT-Austin



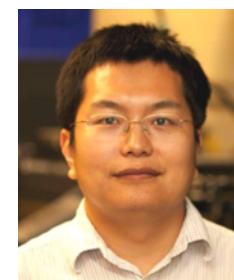
Prof. Arne Brataas  
Physics, NTNU



Dr. Satoshi Okamoto  
Oak Ridge N. L.



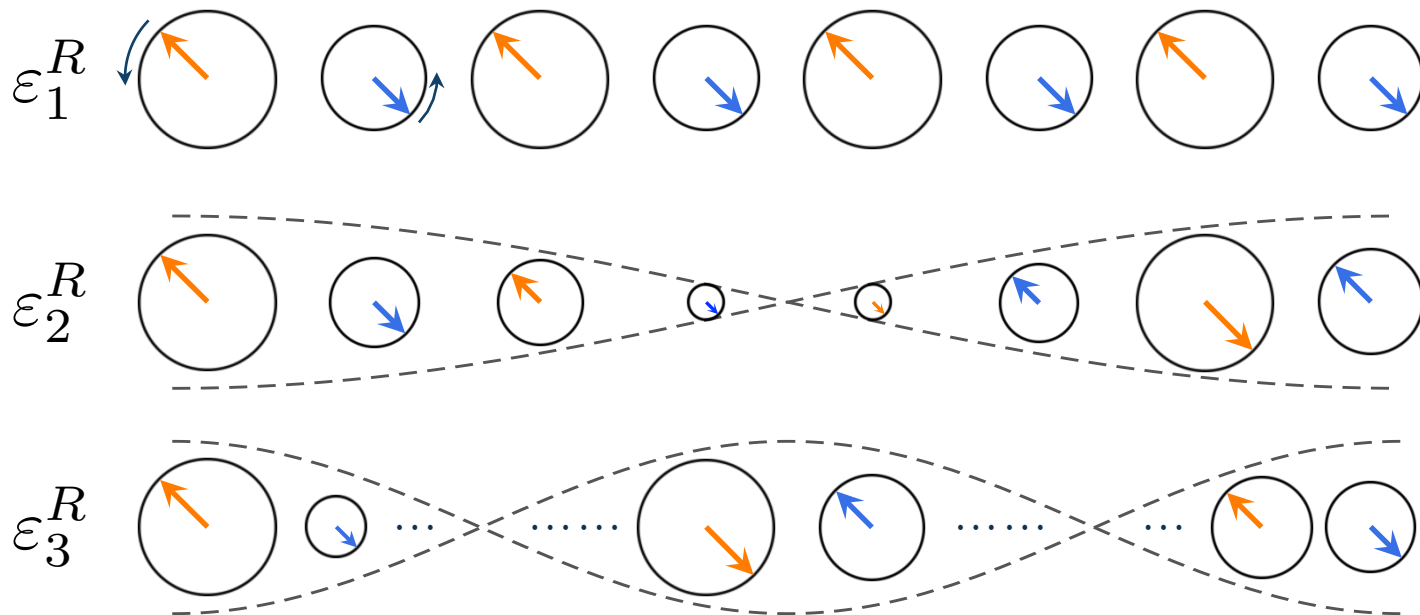
Prof. Jiang Xiao  
Physics, Fudan



Prof. Xiaodong Xu  
Physics, UW-Seattle

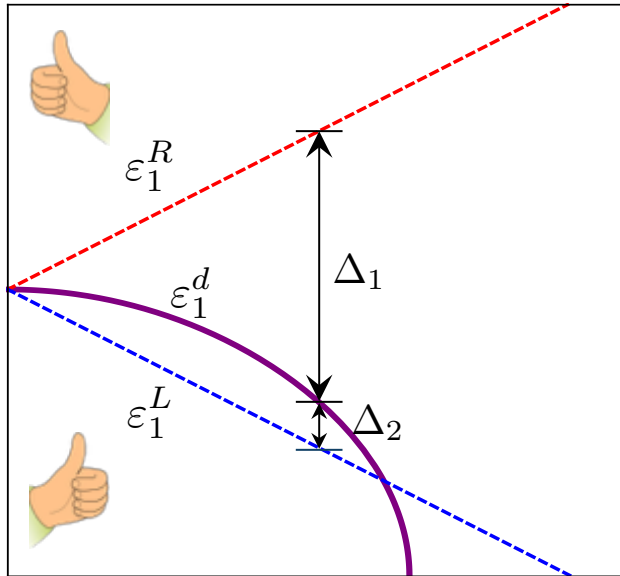
# Low-lying modes

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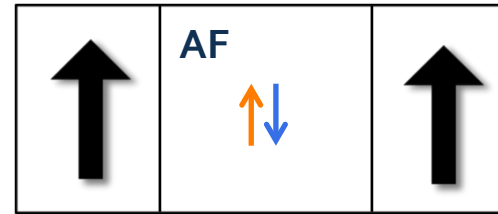
(Right-handed components)




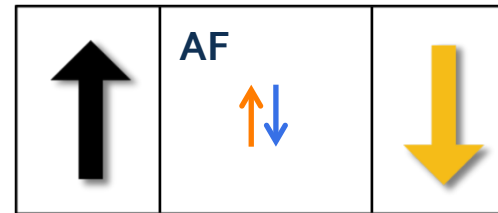


F/AF coupling

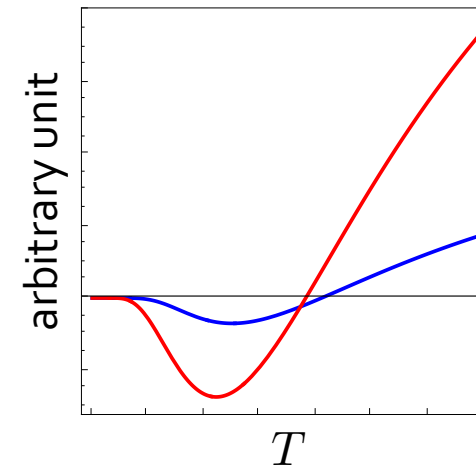

  

  
 $\epsilon_1^R > \epsilon_1^L$



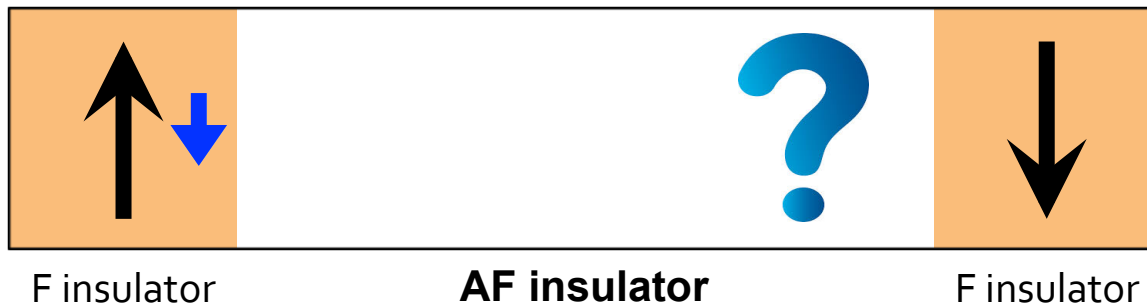
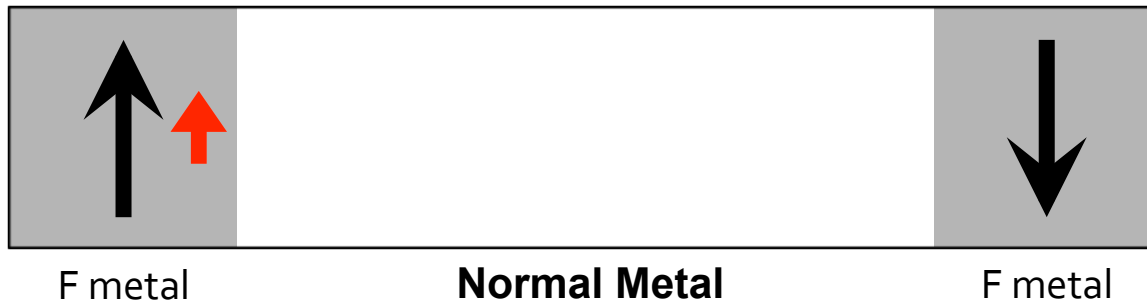

  
 $\epsilon_1^d$ 
  
 degenerate



$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta U &= U_{\uparrow\downarrow} - U_{\uparrow\uparrow} \\
 &= \frac{2\epsilon_1^d}{\exp(\epsilon_1^d/k_B T) - 1} - \frac{\epsilon_1^d + \Delta_1}{\exp[(\epsilon_1^R + \Delta_1)/k_B T] - 1} \\
 &\quad - \frac{\epsilon_1^d - \Delta_2}{\exp[(\epsilon_1^R - \Delta_2)/k_B T] - 1}.
 \end{aligned}$$



# Magnonic Spin-Transfer Torque



Cheng, Chen & Zhang, Appl. Phys. Lett. **112**, 052405 (2018)



RC, D. Xiao & J. Zhu, arXiv:1802.07709

# Spin Nernst Effect

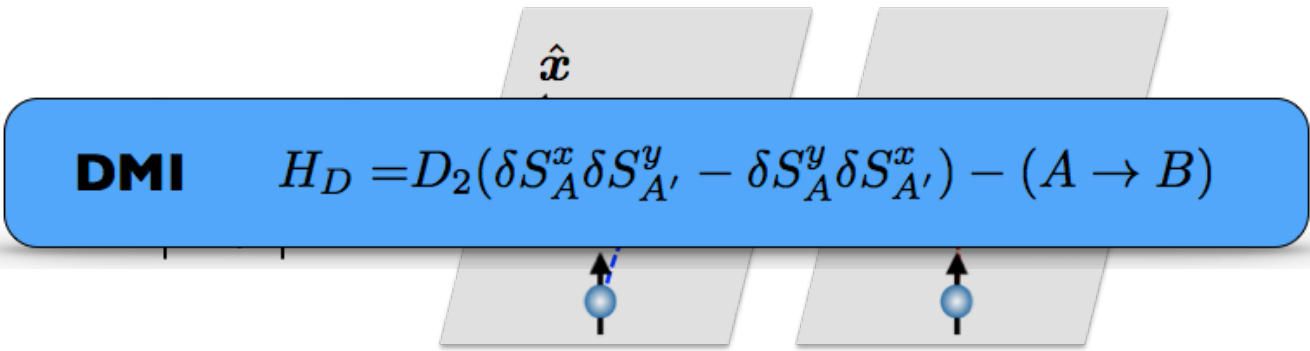
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Expand the spin Hamiltonian up to quadratic order in:

$$\delta \mathbf{S}_A = \mathbf{S}_A - \hat{\mathbf{z}} \quad \text{and} \quad \delta \mathbf{S}_B = \mathbf{S}_B + \hat{\mathbf{z}}$$

**Exchange**  $H_J = J_1(1 - \delta S_A^z + \delta S_B^z + \delta \mathbf{S}_A \cdot \delta \mathbf{S}_B)$

T: **No!**    I (AB exchange): **No!**    T-I combined: **Yes!**



**DMI**  $H_D = D_2(\delta S_A^x \delta S_{A'}^y - \delta S_A^y \delta S_{A'}^x) - (A \rightarrow B)$