



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



SMR.1664 - 3

**Conference on Single Molecule Magnets
and Hybrid Magnetic Nanostructures**

27 June - 1 July 2005

**Application of High-Frequency Electron Paramagnetic
Resonance to Studies of Single-Molecule Magnets**

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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants



Application of high-frequency electron paramagnetic resonance to studies of single-molecule magnets



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PART I - Introduction

- Single-molecule magnets
 - Emphasis on quantum magnetization dynamics

PART II - Experimental

- Overview of the high-frequency EPR technique
- The National High Magnetic Field Laboratory

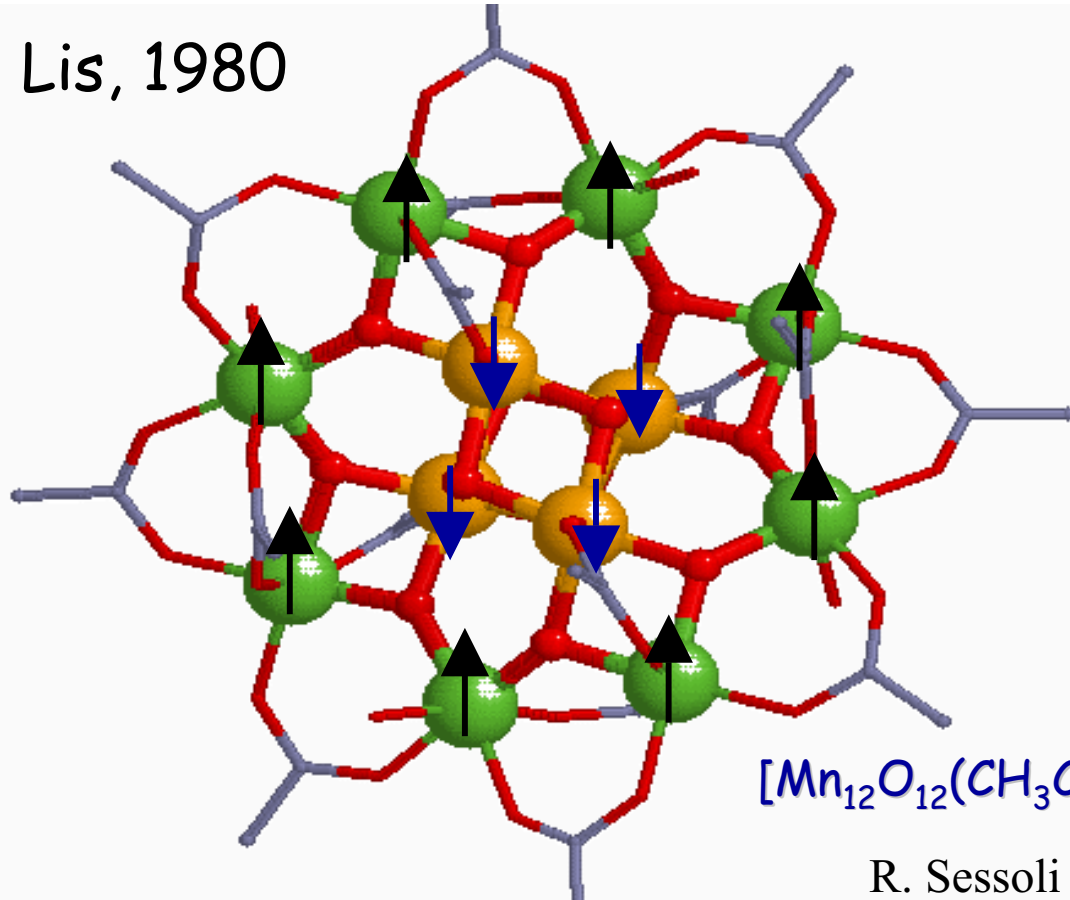
PART III - Examples

- Symmetry of quantum tunneling in various Mn_{12} complexes
- Origin of fast quantum relaxation in Ni_4 complexes
- Quantum entanglement in $[Mn_4]_2$ dimers

Supported by: NSF, Research Corporation, NHMFL, & University of Florida

The first single molecule magnet: Mn_{12} -acetate

Lis, 1980

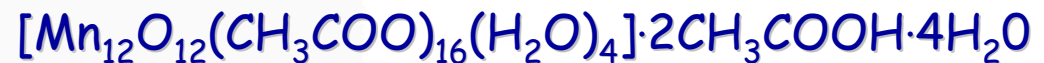


Mn(III) ● $S = 2$ ↑

Mn(IV) ● $S = 3/2$ ↓

Oxygen ●

Carbon ●



R. Sessoli et al. JACS 115, 1804 (1993)

Well defined giant spin ($S = 10$) at low temperatures ($T < 35$ K)

- Easy-axis anisotropy due to Jahn-Teller distortion on Mn(III)
- Crystallizes into a tetragonal structure with S_4 site symmetry
- Organic ligands isolate the molecules

Quantum effects at the nanoscale ($S = 10$)

Simplest case: cylindrical (axial) z.f.s. interaction

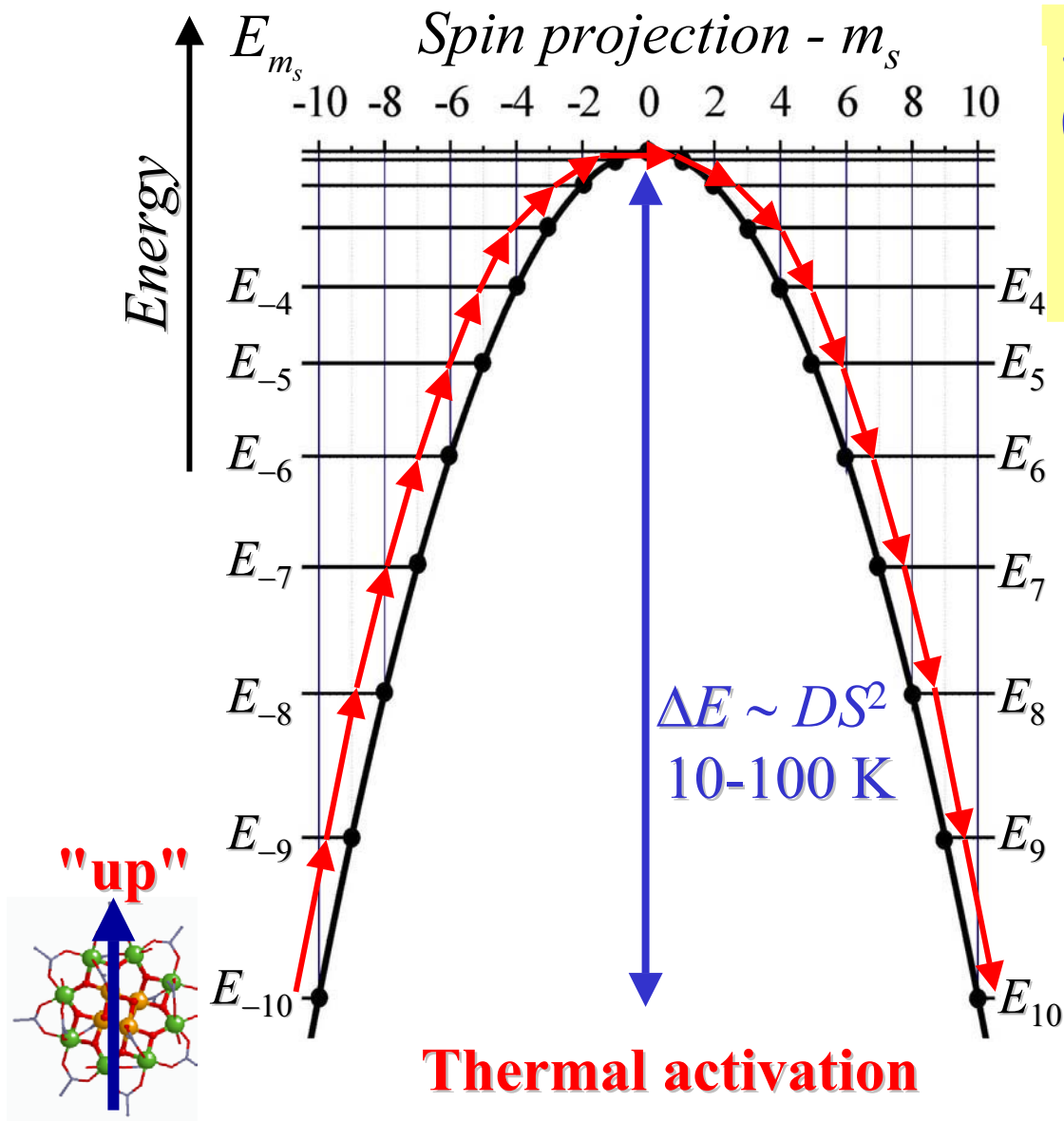
$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = D\hat{S}_z^2 \quad (D < 0)$$

Eigenvalues given by:

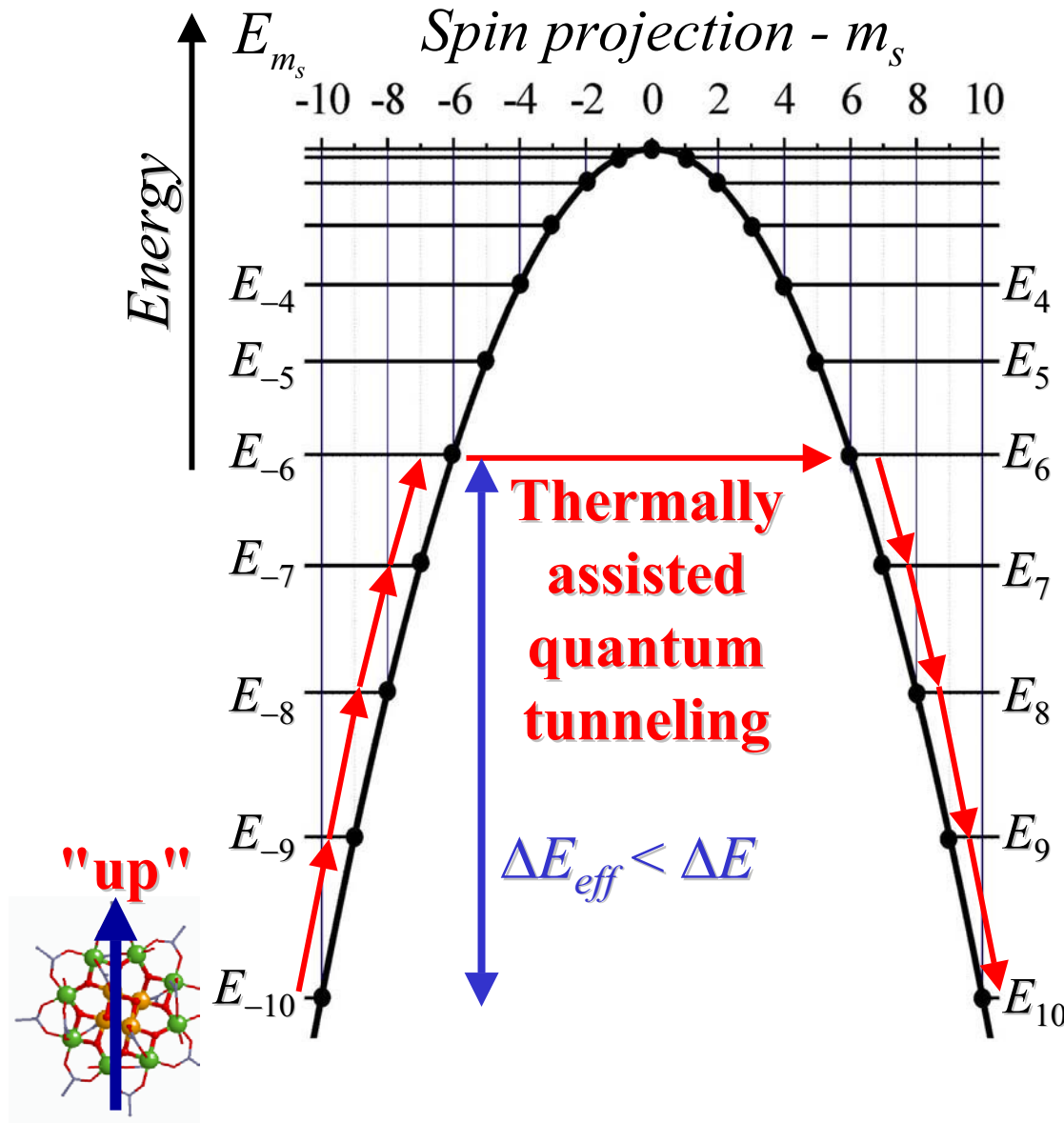
$$\mathcal{E}(m_s) = -|D|m_s^2$$

- Small barrier - DS^2
- Superparamagnet at ordinary temperatures

$|D| \sim 0.1 - 1$ K
for a typical
single molecule
magnet



Quantum effects at the nanoscale ($S = 10$)



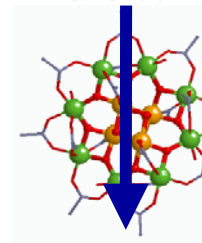
Break axial symmetry:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_T$$

$\mathcal{H}_T \Rightarrow$ interactions which do not commute with \hat{S}_z

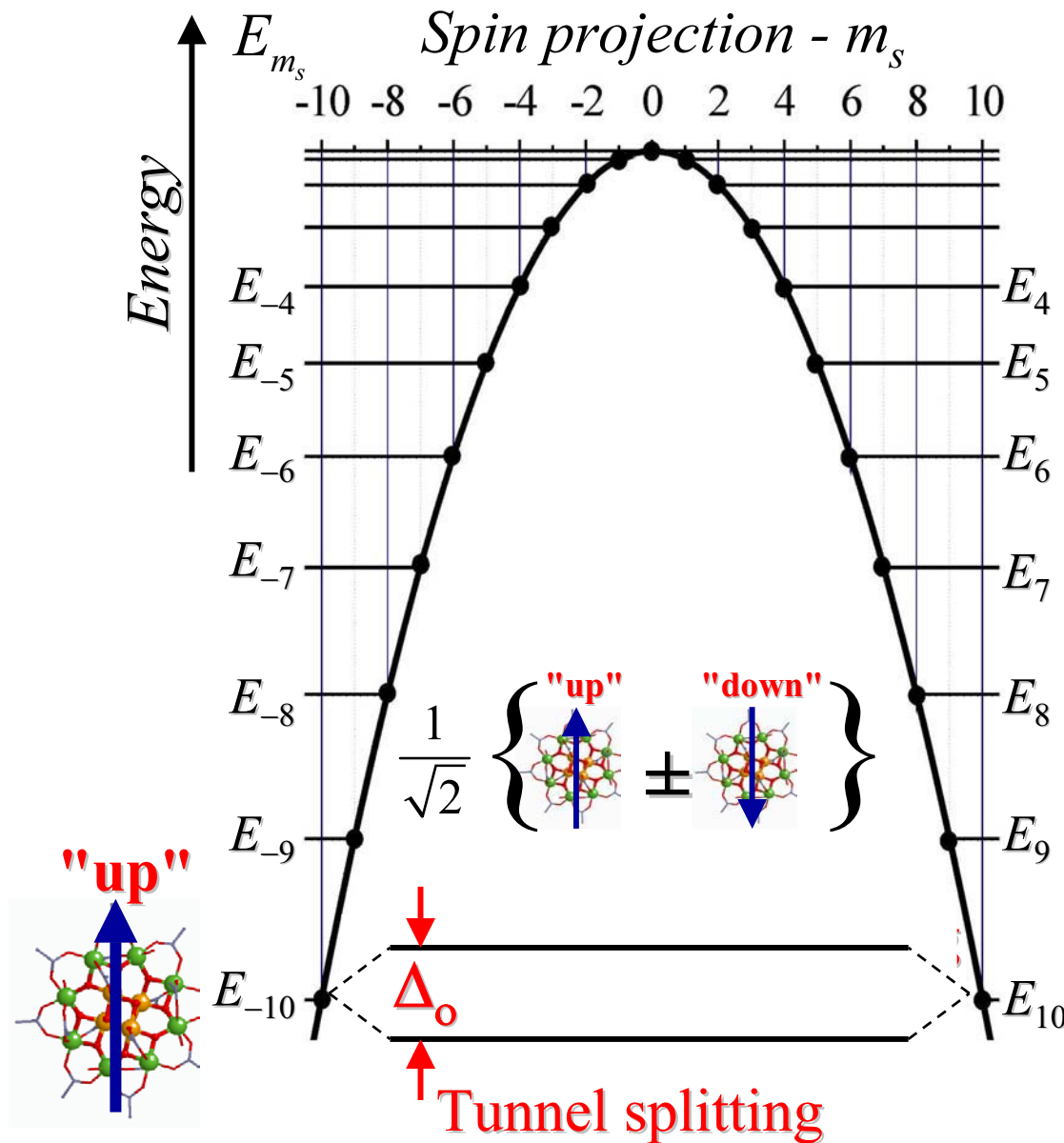
- m_s not good quantum #
- Mixing of m_s states
 \Rightarrow resonant tunneling (of m_s) through barrier
- Lower effective barrier

"down"



Quantum effects at the nanoscale ($S = 10$)

letters to nature

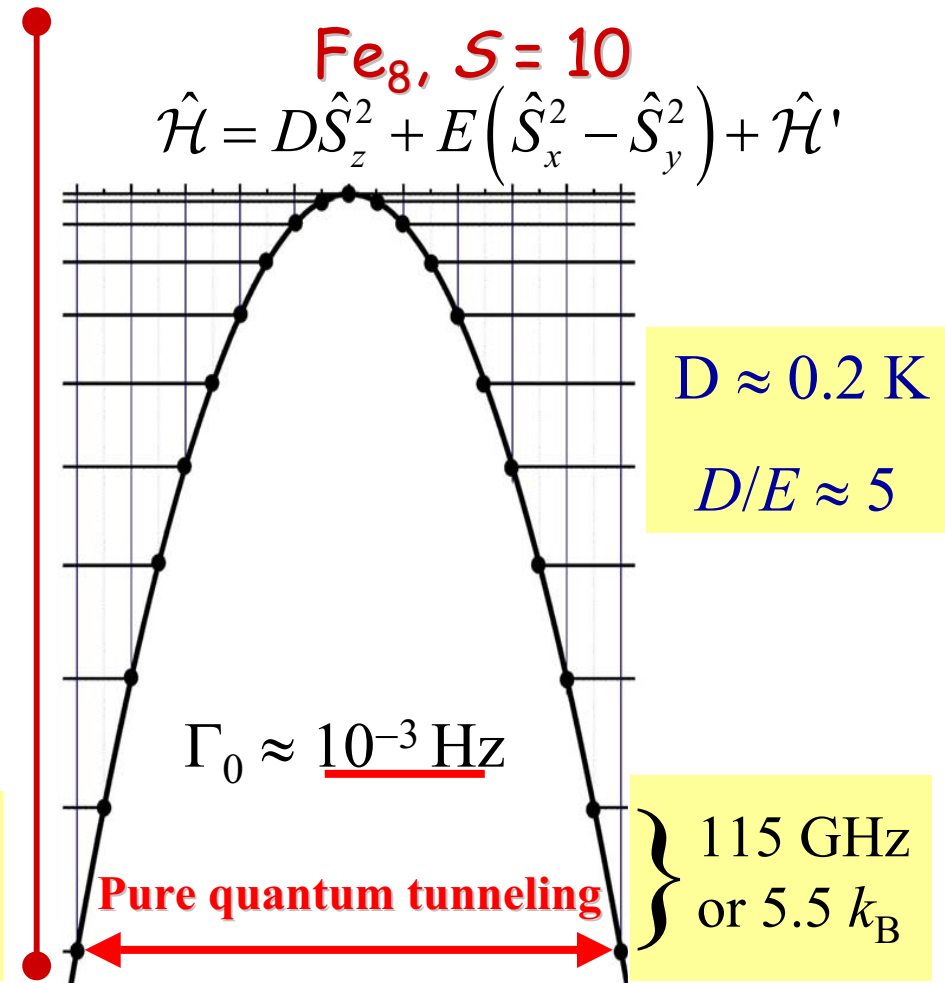
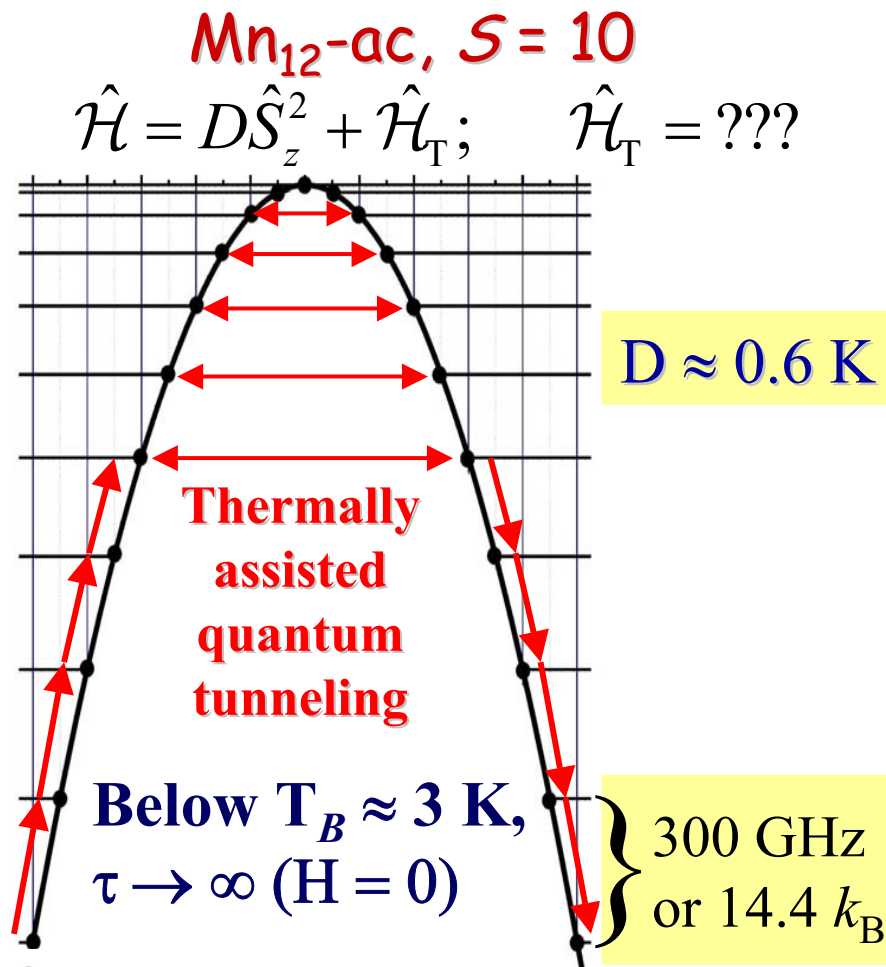


Quantum computing in molecular magnets

Michael N. Leuenberger & Daniel Loss

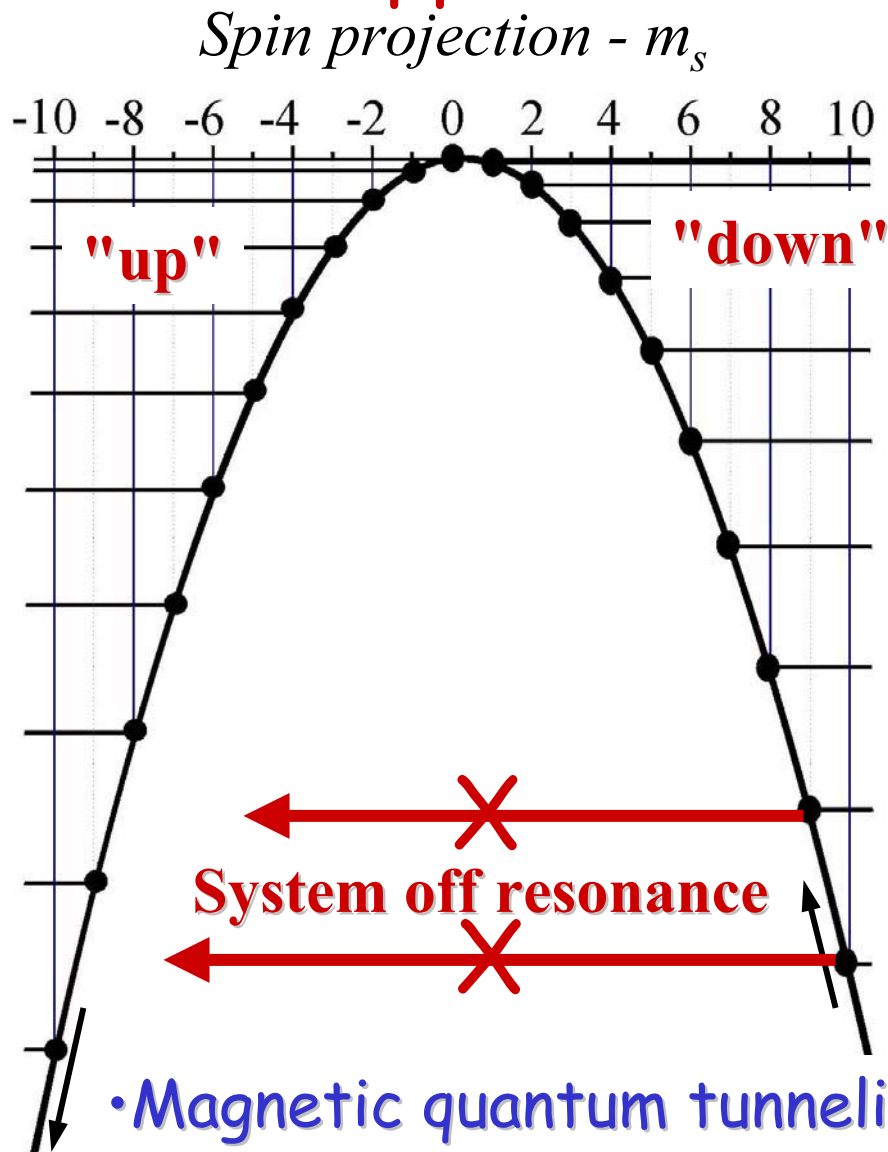
Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Basel, Klingelbergstrasse 82, 4056 Basel, Switzerland

Shor and Grover demonstrated that a quantum computer can outperform any classical computer in factoring numbers¹ and in searching a database² by exploiting the parallelism of quantum mechanics. Whereas Shor's algorithm requires both superposition and entanglement of a many-particle system³, the superposition of single-particle quantum states is sufficient for Grover's algorithm⁴. Recently, the latter has been successfully implemented⁵ using Rydberg atoms. Here we propose an implementation of Grover's algorithm that uses molecular magnets⁶⁻¹⁰, which are solid-state systems with a large spin; their spin eigenstates make them natural candidates for single-particle systems. We show theoretically that molecular magnets can be used to build dense and efficient memory devices based on the Grover algorithm. In particular, one single crystal can serve as a storage unit of a dynamic random access memory device. Fast electron spin resonance pulses can be used to decode and read out stored numbers of up to 10^5 , with access times as short as 10^{-10} seconds. We show that our proposal should be feasible using the molecular magnets Fe_8 and Mn_{12} .



- Many potential sources of transverse anisotropy for Mn₁₂-ac:
 - Internal dipolar, exchange and hyperfine fields;
 - Higher order zero-field-splitting interactions;
 - Disorder, lattice defects, etc..
- However, after 10 years, the symmetry is poorly understood.

Application of a magnetic field



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_T + g\mu_B\vec{B}\cdot\hat{S}$$

$$\vec{B}\cdot\hat{S} \equiv B_x\hat{S}_x + B_y\hat{S}_y + B_z\hat{S}_z$$

Several important points to note:

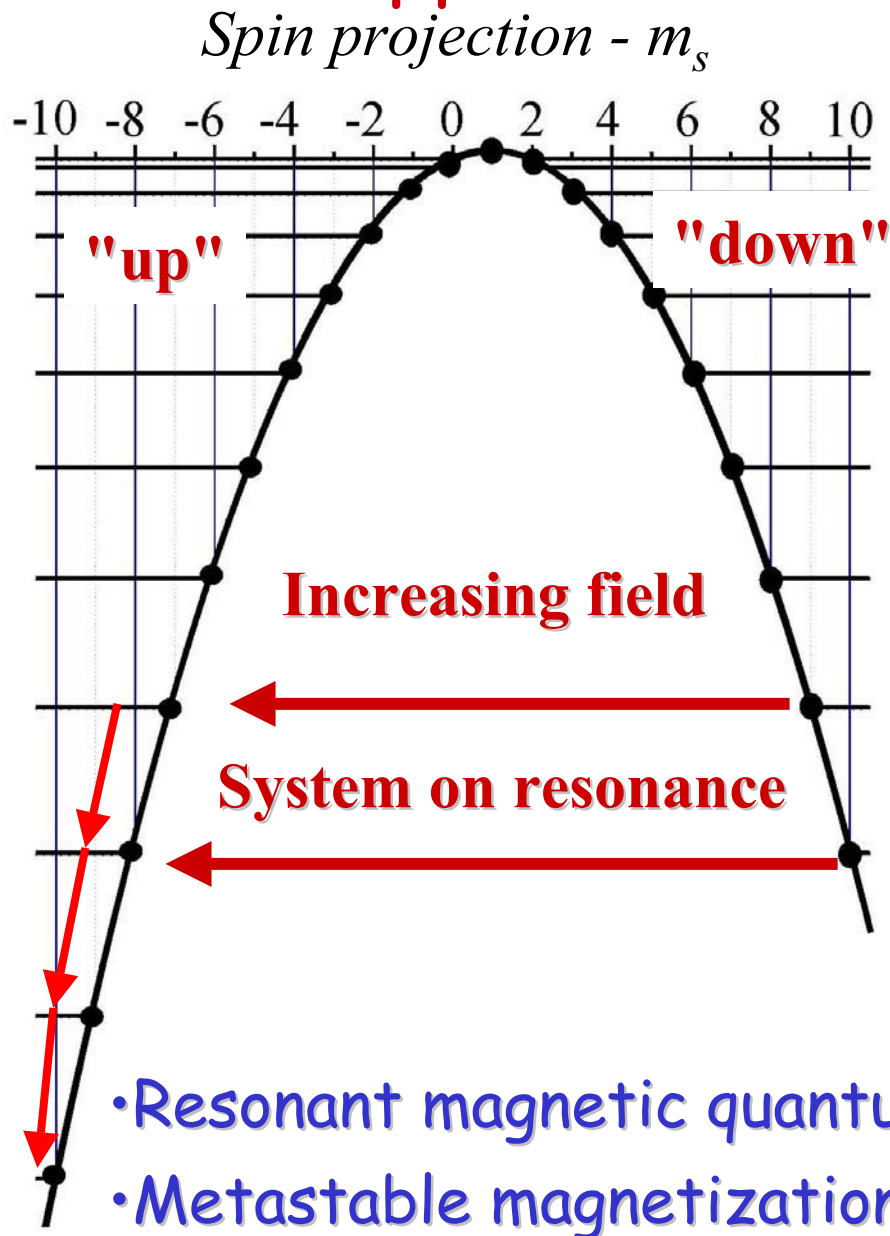
- Applied field represents another source of transverse anisotropy
- Zeeman interaction contains odd powers of \hat{S}_x and \hat{S}_y

For now, consider only $B//z$:
(also neglect transverse interactions)

$$\mathcal{E}(m_s) = -|D|m_s^2 + g\mu_B Bm_s$$

- Magnetic quantum tunneling is suppressed
- Metastable magnetization is blocked ("down" spins)

Application of a magnetic field



$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_T + g\mu_B\vec{B}\cdot\hat{S}$$

$$\vec{B}\cdot\hat{S} \equiv B_x\hat{S}_x + B_y\hat{S}_y + B_z\hat{S}_z$$

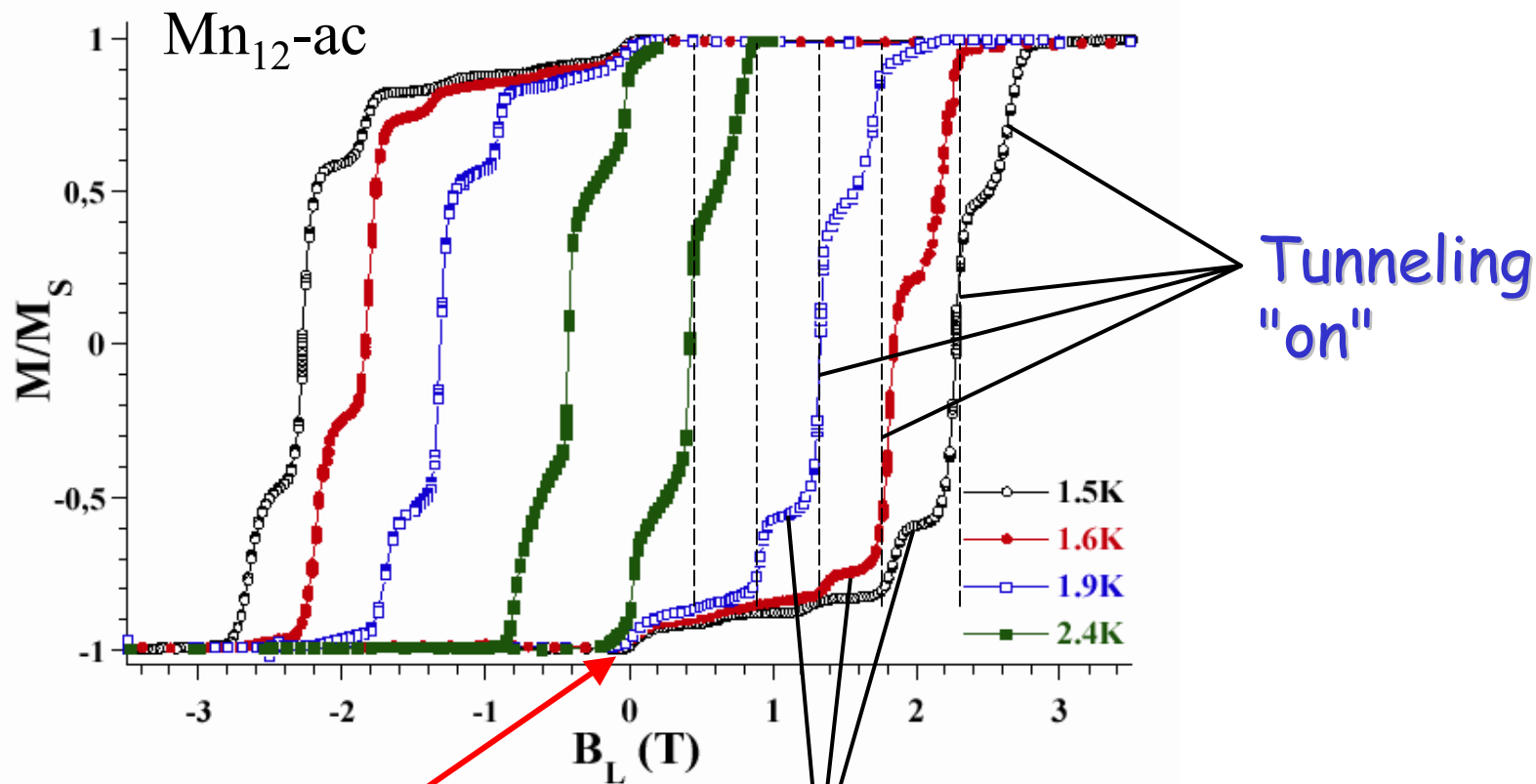
Several important points to note:

- Applied field represents another source of transverse anisotropy.
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For now, consider only $B//z$:
(also neglect transverse interactions)

$$\mathcal{E}(m_s) = -|D|m_s^2 + g\mu_B B m_s$$

Hysteresis and magnetization steps



Low temperature $H=0$
step is an artifact

Tunneling "off"

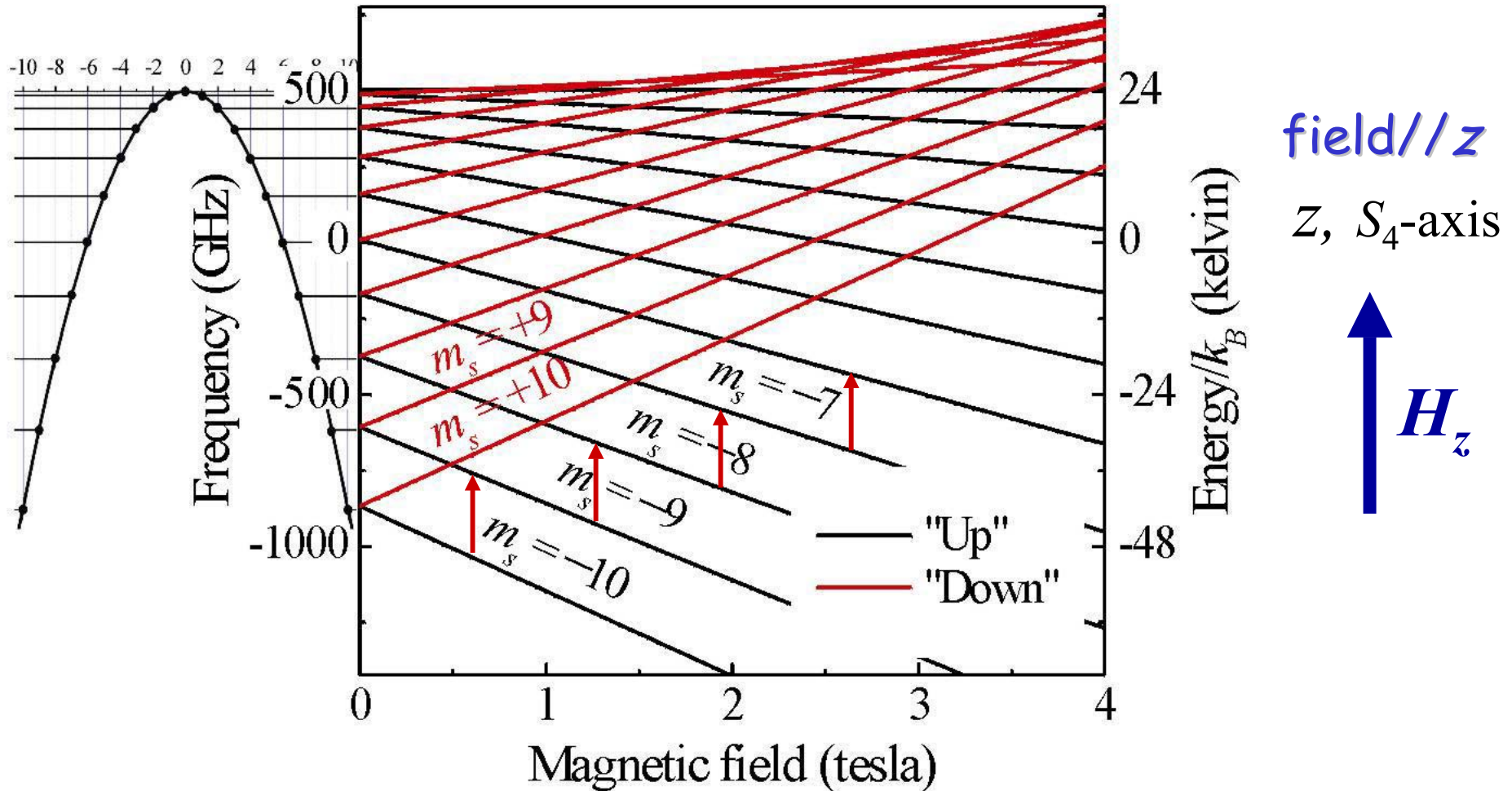
Tunneling
"on"

This loop represents an ensemble
average of the response of many
molecules

- Friedman, Sarachik, Tejada, Ziolo, PRL (1996)
- Thomas, Lioni, Ballou, Gatteschi, Sessoli, Barbara, Nature (1996)

Single-crystal, high-field/frequency EPR

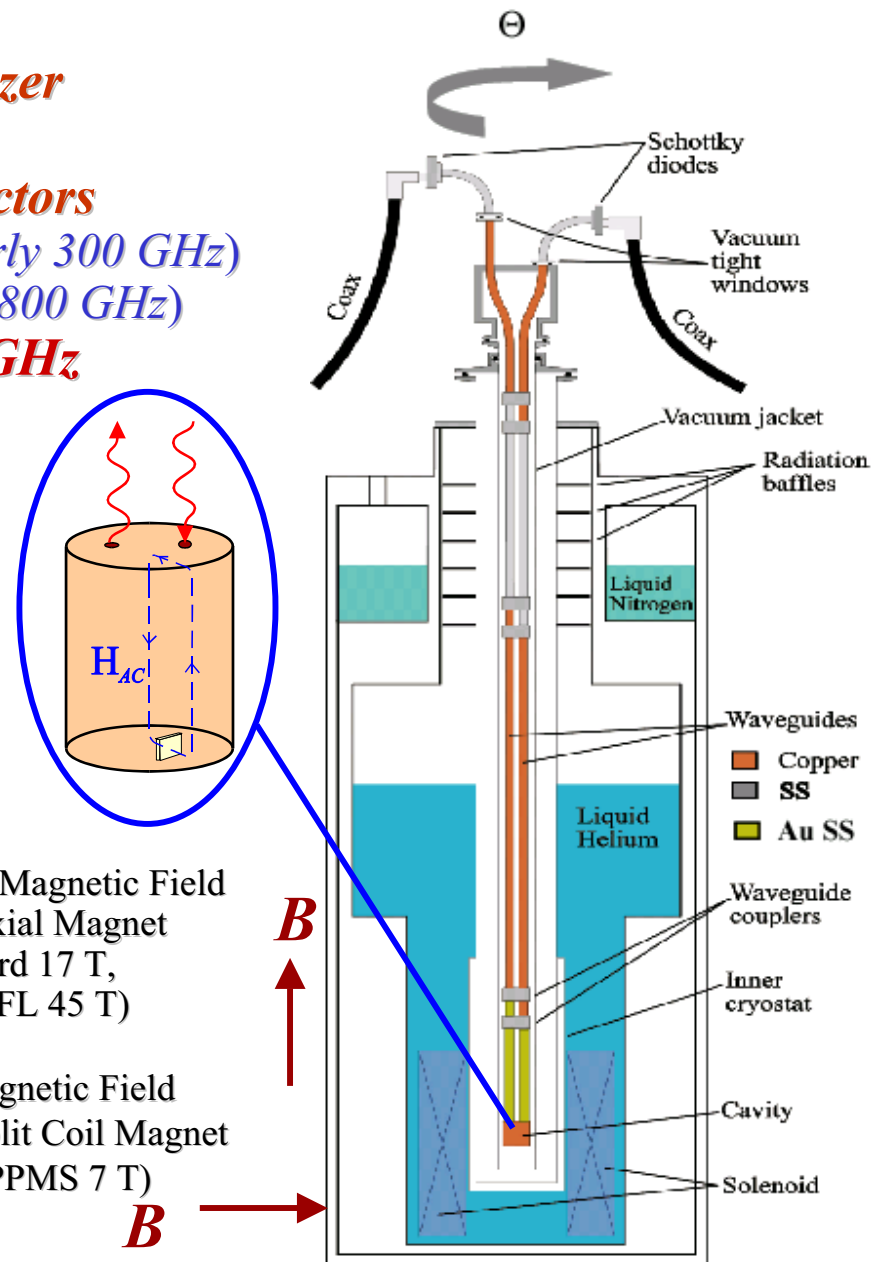
$$\mathcal{E}(m_s) = -|D|m_s^2 + g\mu_B B m_s$$



- Magnetic dipole transitions ($\Delta m_s = \pm 1$) - note frequency scale!

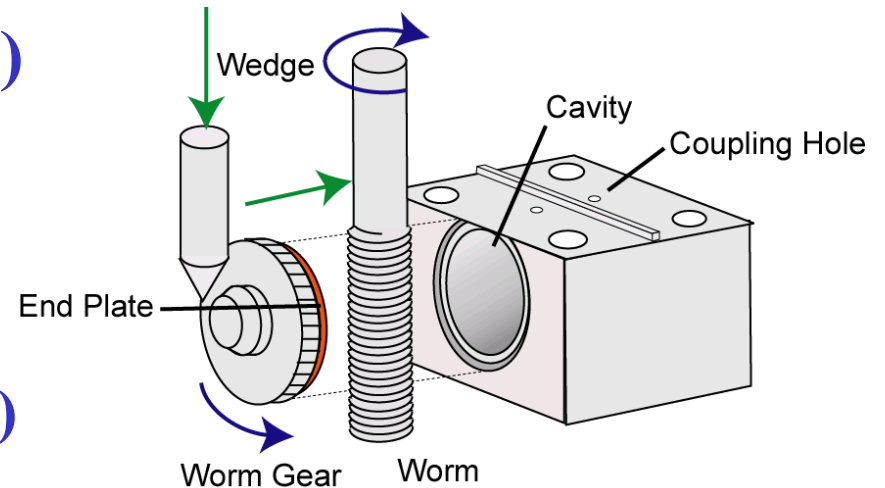
Experimental Technique

- **Frequency Range:** 8-800 GHz
 - Millimeter-wave vector network analyzer
 - Superheterodyne detection
 - Association with various sources/detectors
 - YIG (8-18 GHz) + Schottky (up to nearly 300 GHz)
 - Gunn (70-102 GHz) + Schottky (up to 800 GHz)
 - Cavity perturbation up to nearly 400 GHz
- **Cryogenics system:**
 - ^4He variable flow (1.3 to 400 K)
 - ^3He single shot (down to 0.5 K)
 - $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ planned (down to 0.05 K)
- **Magnet Systems:**
 - Axial Magnets
 - Oxford Instruments (17 tesla)
 - NHMFL (45 tesla)
 - Transverse Magnet
 - QD PPMS (7 tesla)
- **Angle Control:**
 - Transverse Magnet.
 - Rotating Cavity



Rotating Cavity

- TE011 = 52 GHz (up to 400 GHz)
(Diameter \times Height = 0.3" \times 0.3")
- $Q \sim 25,000$ (TE011, 4.2 K)
- 45-320 GHz
- Resolution $< \pm 0.2^\circ$ ($< \pm 0.1^\circ$ PPMS)

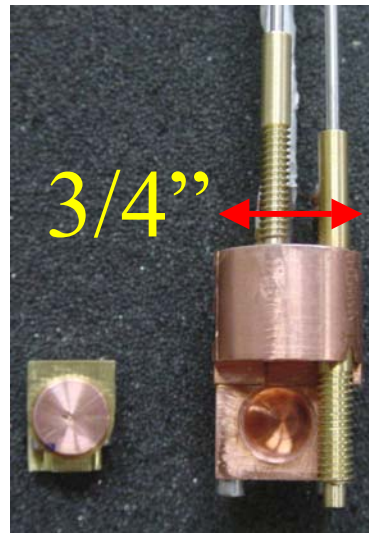
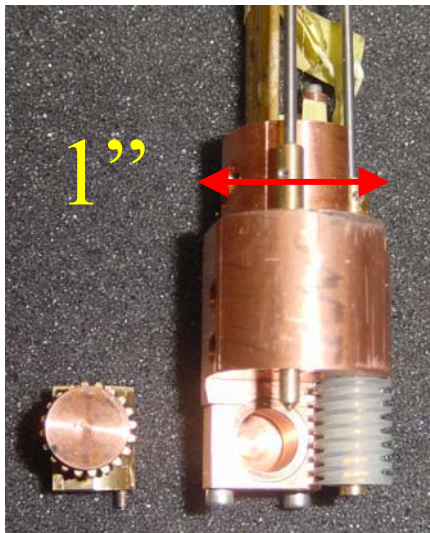


1st Generation:

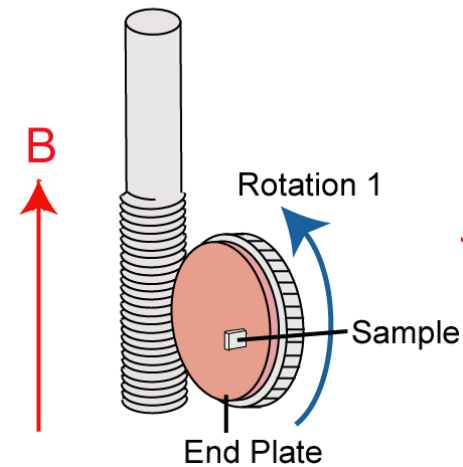
25 tesla, ⁴He system

2nd Generation:

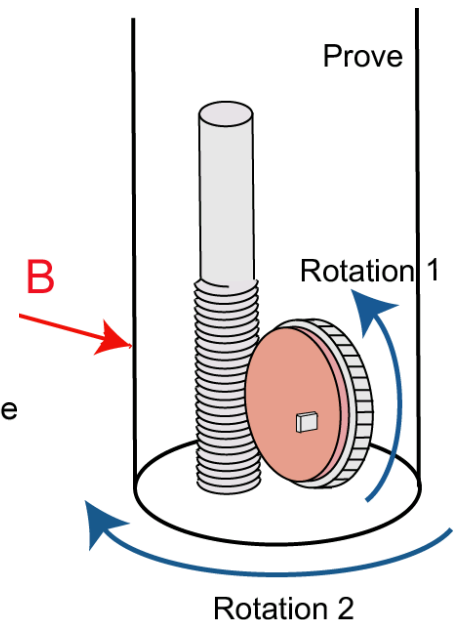
45 tesla, ³He system



1 Axis Rotation



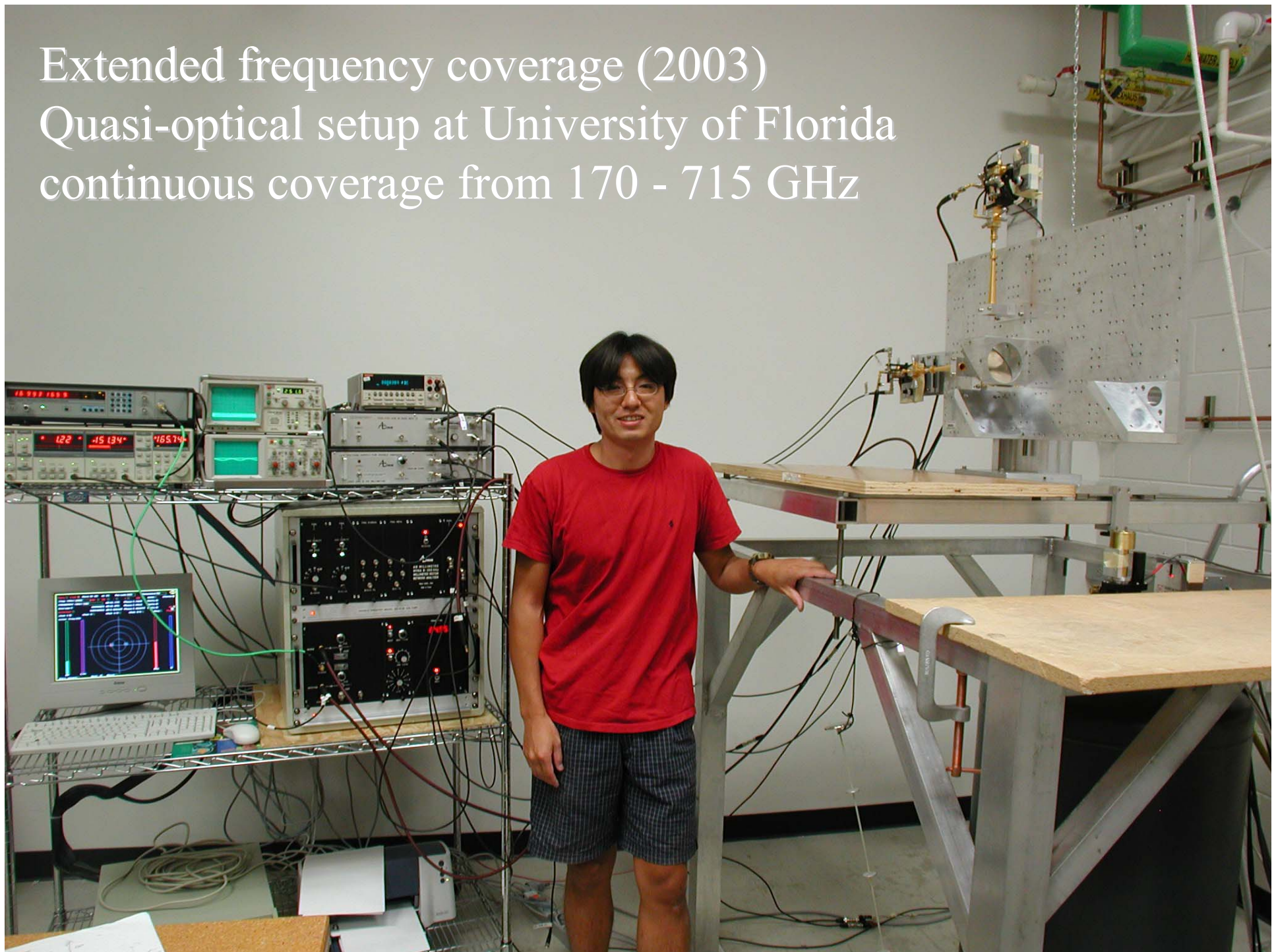
2 Axis Rotation



M. Mola *et al.*, Rev. Sci. Inst. **71**, 186 (2000).

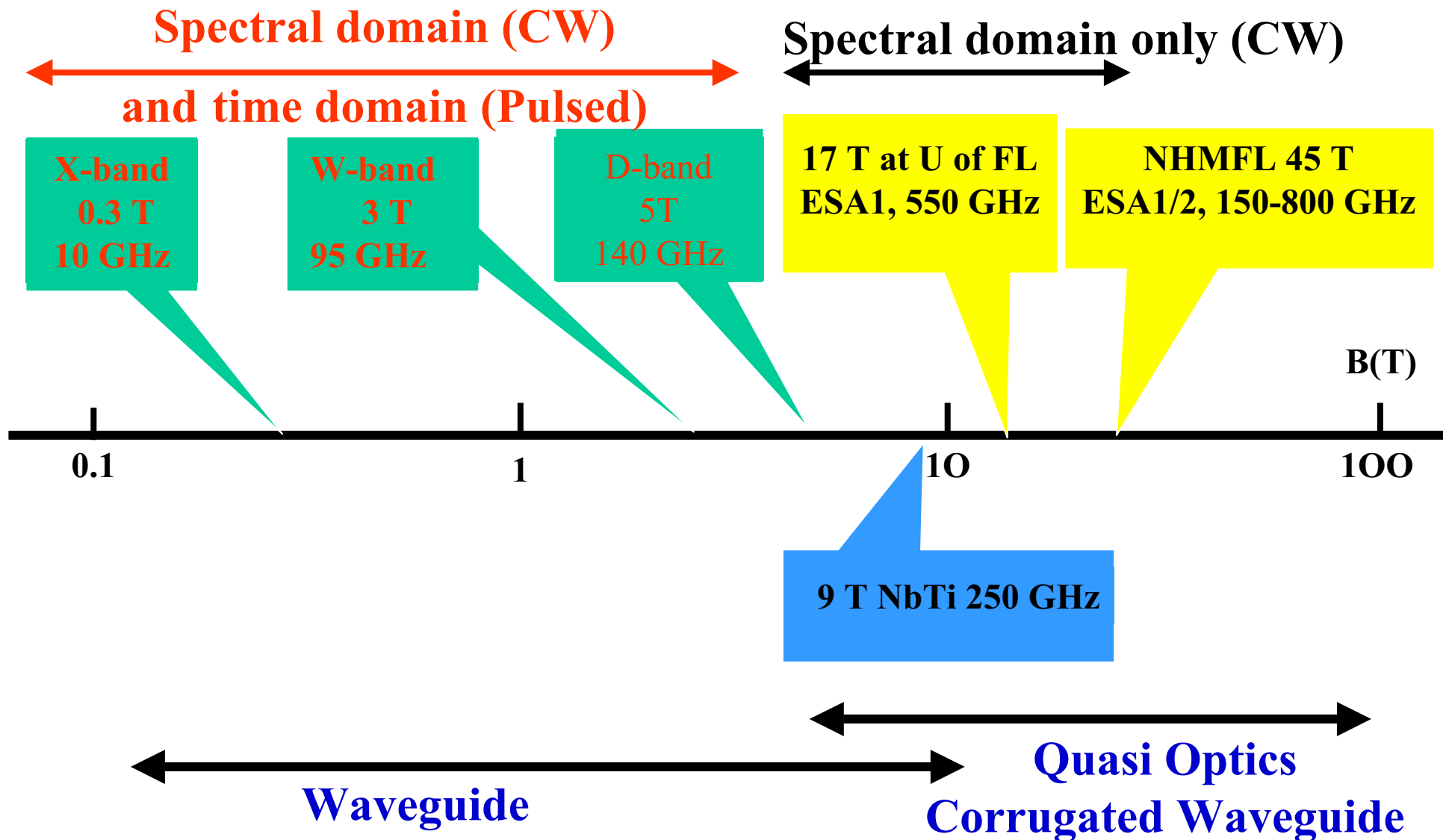
S. Takahashi *et al.*, Rev. Sci. Inst. **76**, 023114 (2005).

Extended frequency coverage (2003)
Quasi-optical setup at University of Florida
continuous coverage from 170 - 715 GHz

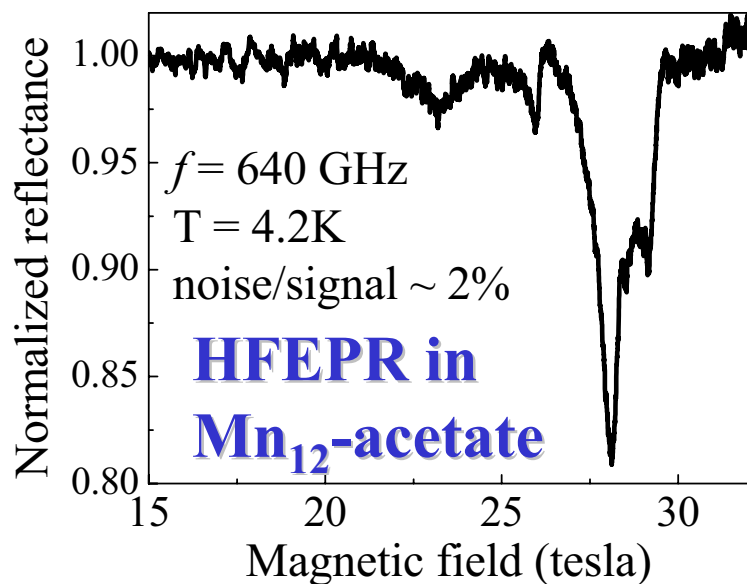


Variety in instrumentation and methodology

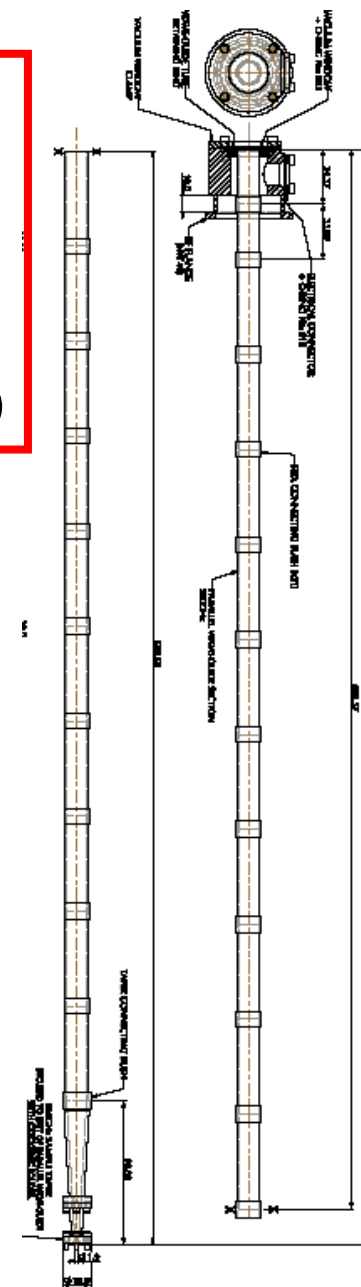
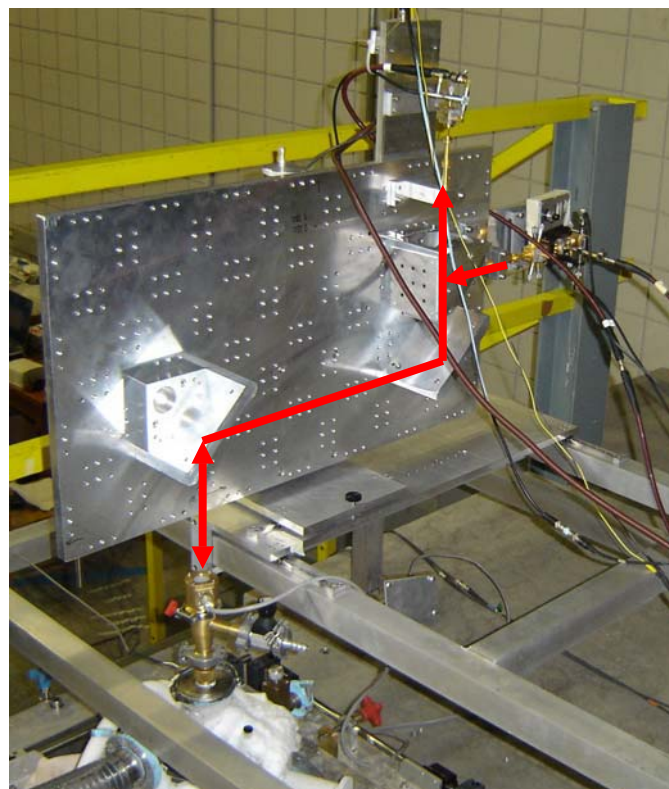
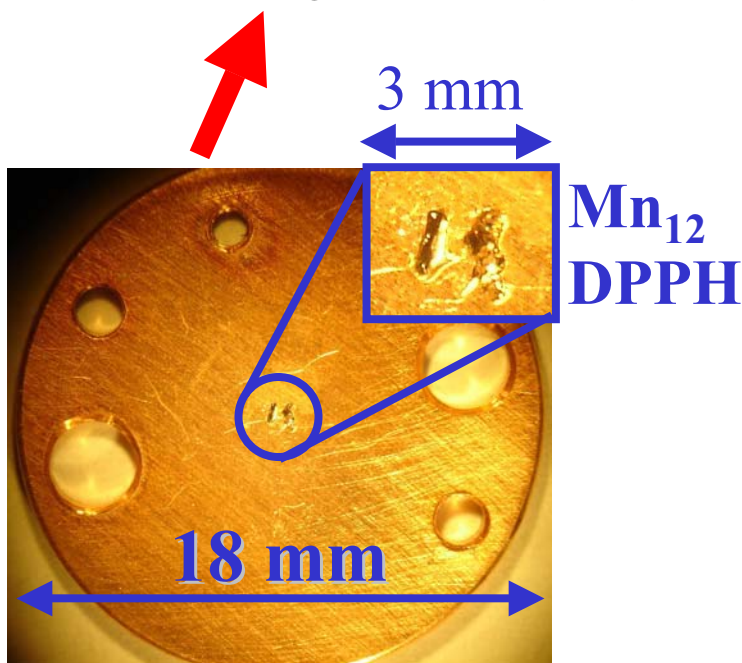
EPR in DC magnetic fields



High-field sub-millimeter-wave spectroscopy at NHMFL



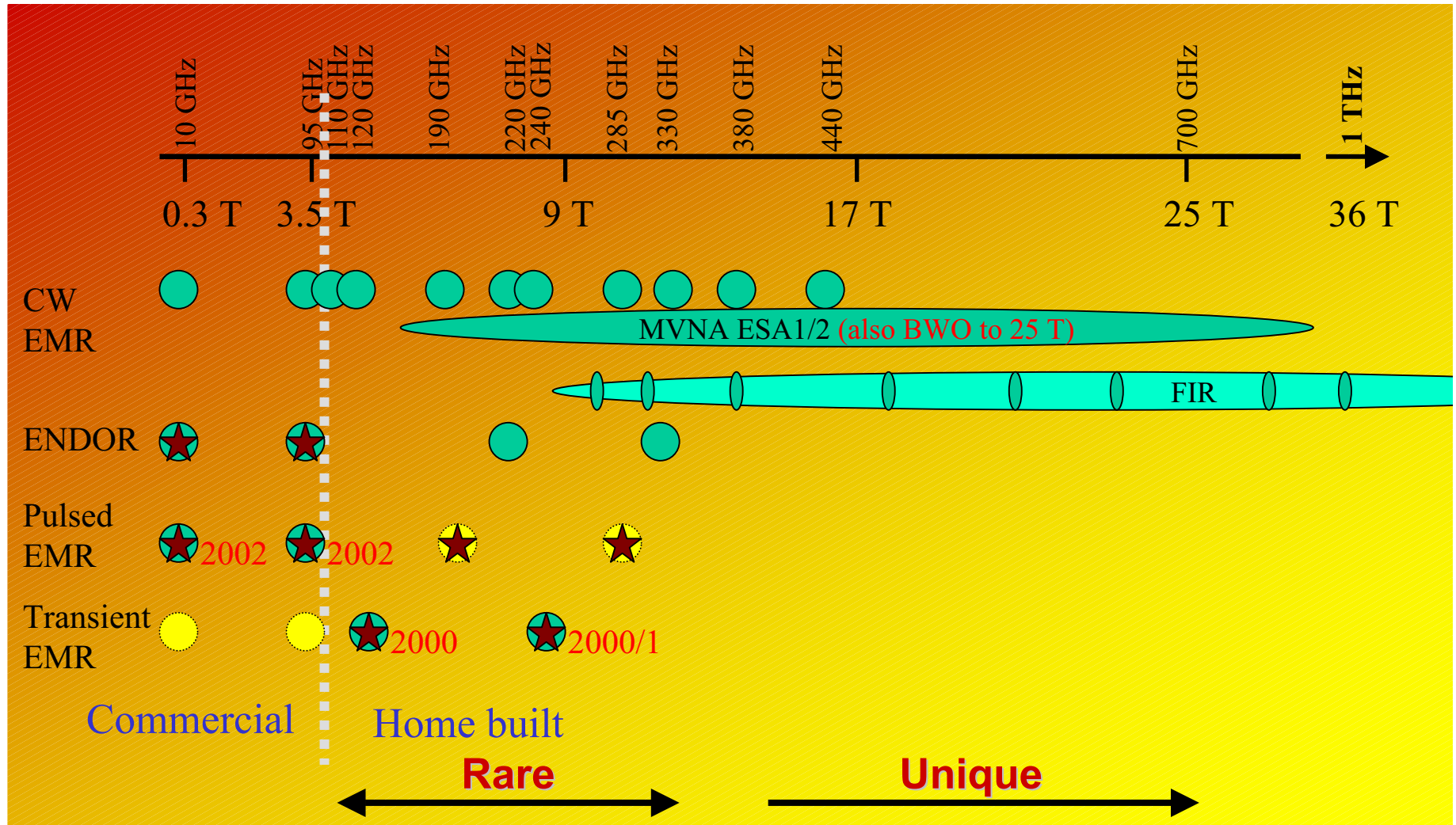
Low-loss quasi-optics
Corrugated waveguide
Solid-state electronics
 $f = 50 - 800$ GHz (in 45 T)
Sample rotation (50-200 GHz)





NHMFL (Gainesville & Tallahassee) EPR

A Unique Multi-Frequency and High-Field Facility



● Available at NHMFL for users
 ★ Financed by NSF MRI grants

● Future plans/extensions

Specifications...



NHMFL

- Two 20 MW supplies
 $V_m = 500 \text{ V}; I_m = 20 \text{ kA}$
- Ripple < 10ppm
- 33/30 T, 32mm bore
- 25 T, 52mm
- 20 T, 200mm
- $T \approx 35\text{mK}$ to >RT
- Optics, magnetometry, transport, *etc.*

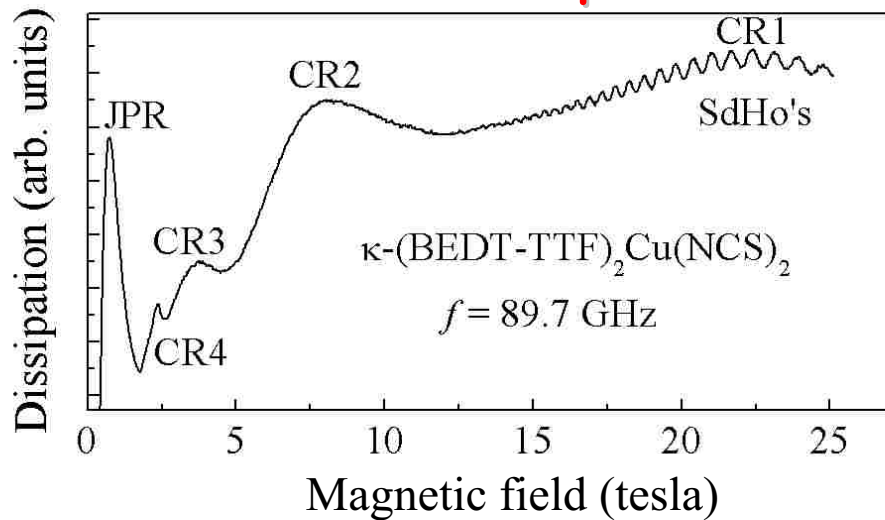
Max resistive field: 33.1 T

- World record magnet
 - 33.1 tesla @ 38 kA
 - 19 MW!!
 - Water - 140 Lit/s
 $\Delta T = 35^\circ\text{C}$ ($\approx 19 \text{ MW}$)

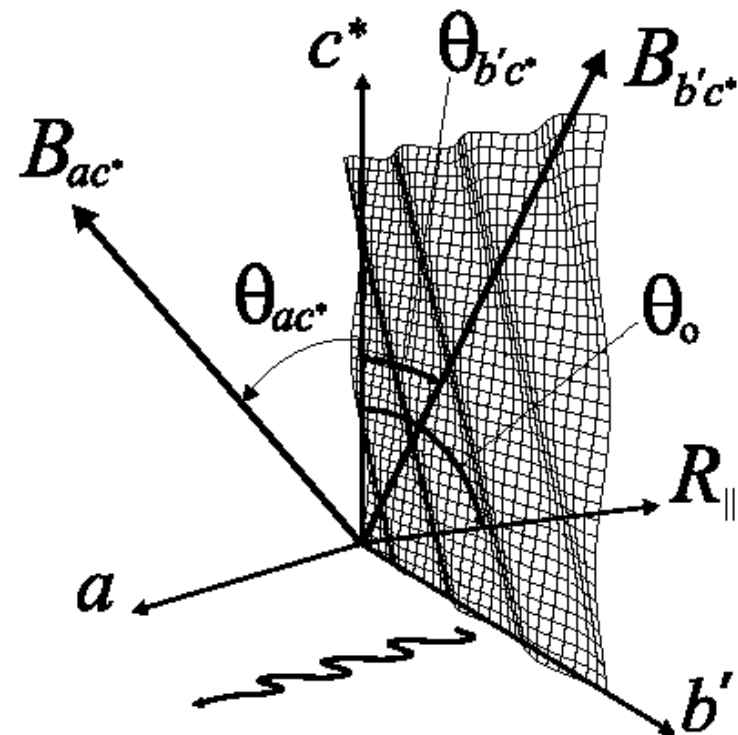
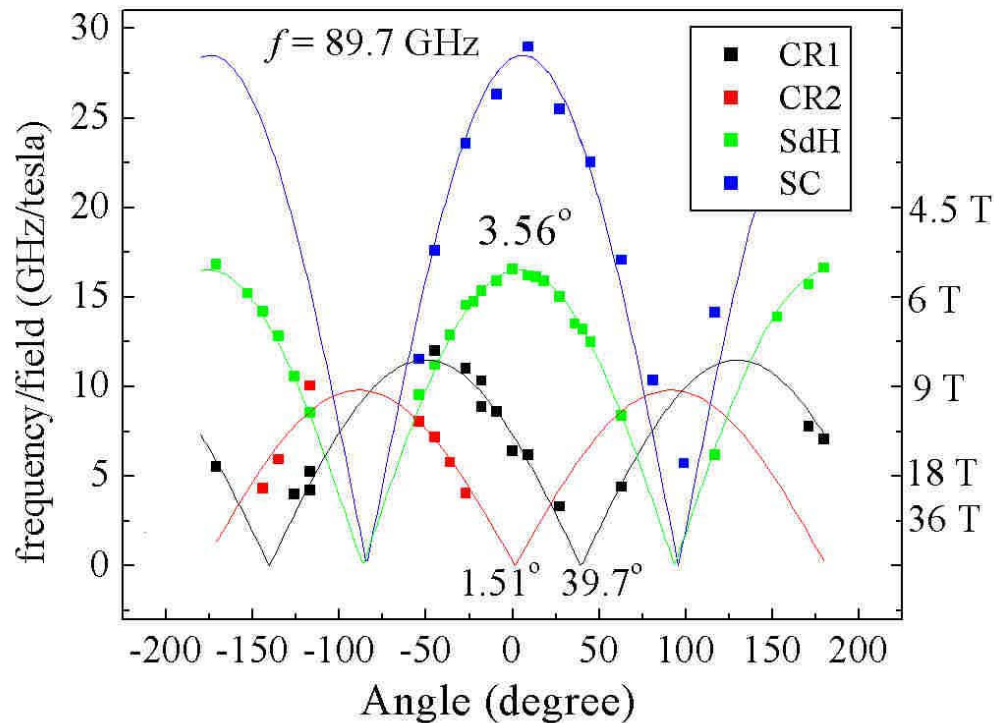


Max field: 45 T (superconducting hybrid)

Original driving force behind these techniques: Fermi surface spectroscopy of low-D superconductors

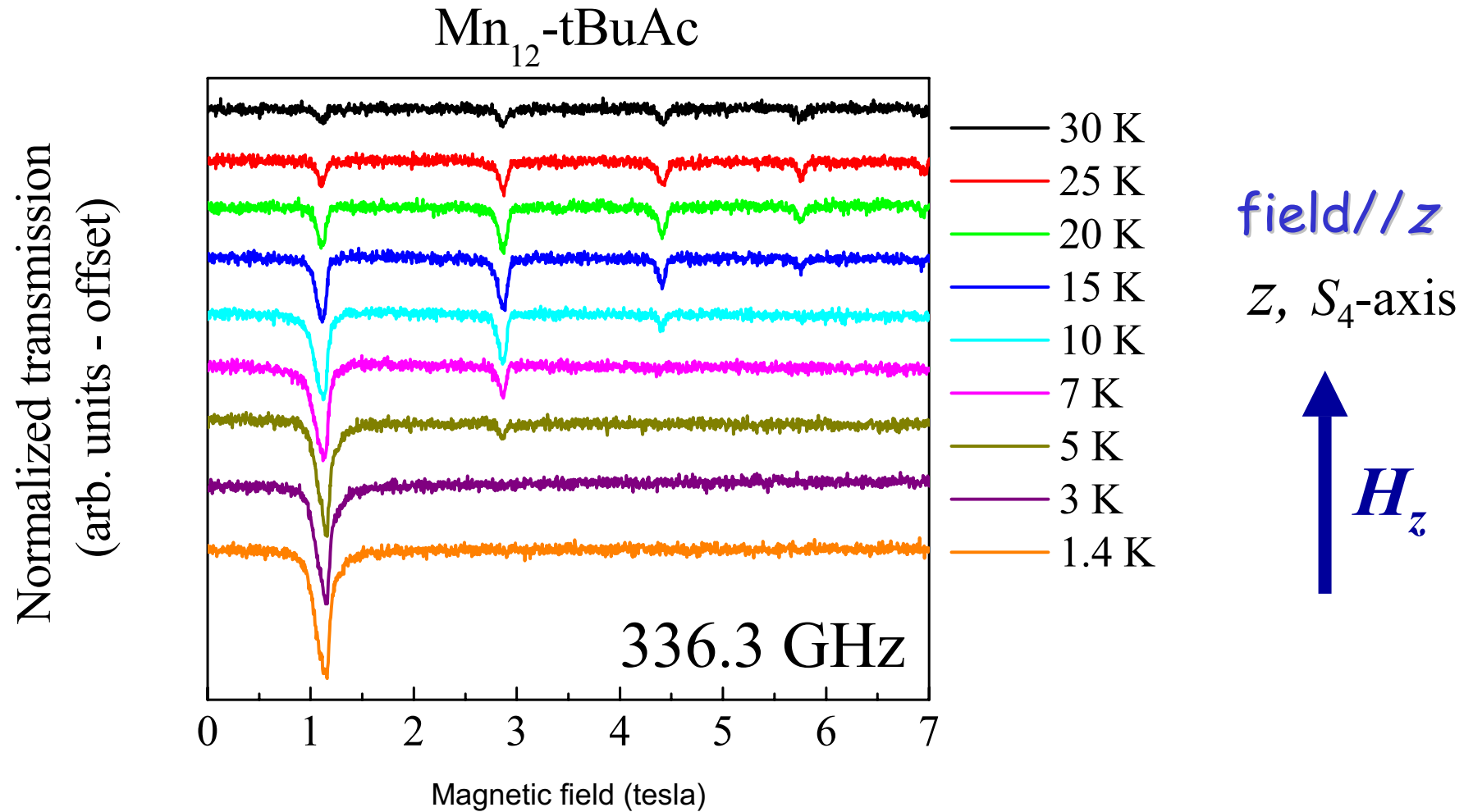


- S. Hill, PRB **55**, 4931 (1997)
- S. Hill et al., PRL **84**, 3374 (2000)
- S. Hill et al., PRL **86**, 2130 (2001)
- S. Hill et al., PRL **86**, 3451 (2001)
- Kovalev et al., PRB **66**, 134513 (2002)
- Kovalev et al., PRL **91**, 216402 (2003)



Symmetry of quantum tunneling in various Mn_{12} complexes

Single-crystal, high-field/frequency EPR



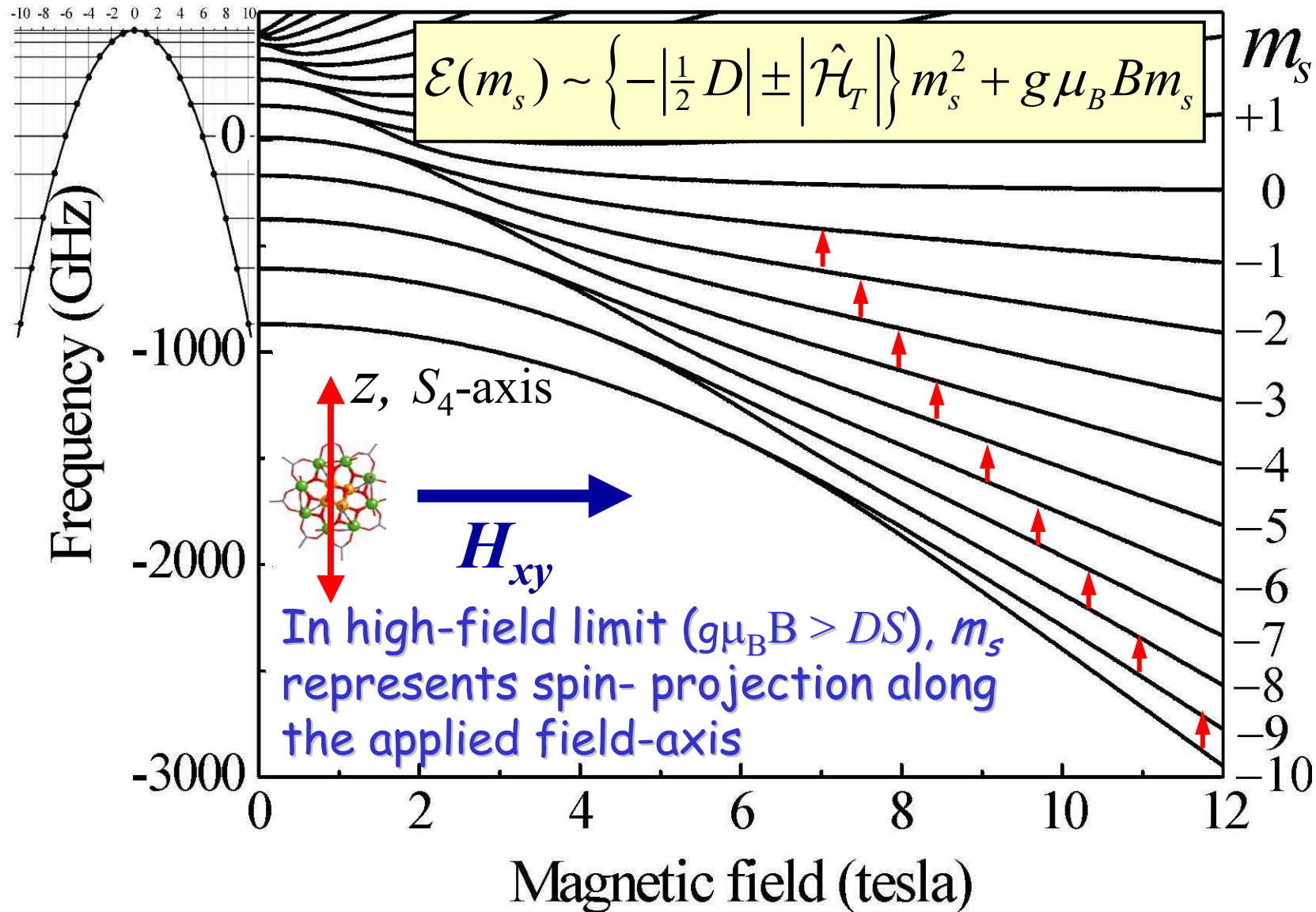
• First of all, these terms are not so small:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \left(\frac{D'}{S^2} \right) \hat{S}_z^2 + \left(\frac{B'}{S^4} \right) \hat{S}_z^4 + \left(\frac{C'}{S^4} \right) \hat{O}_4$$

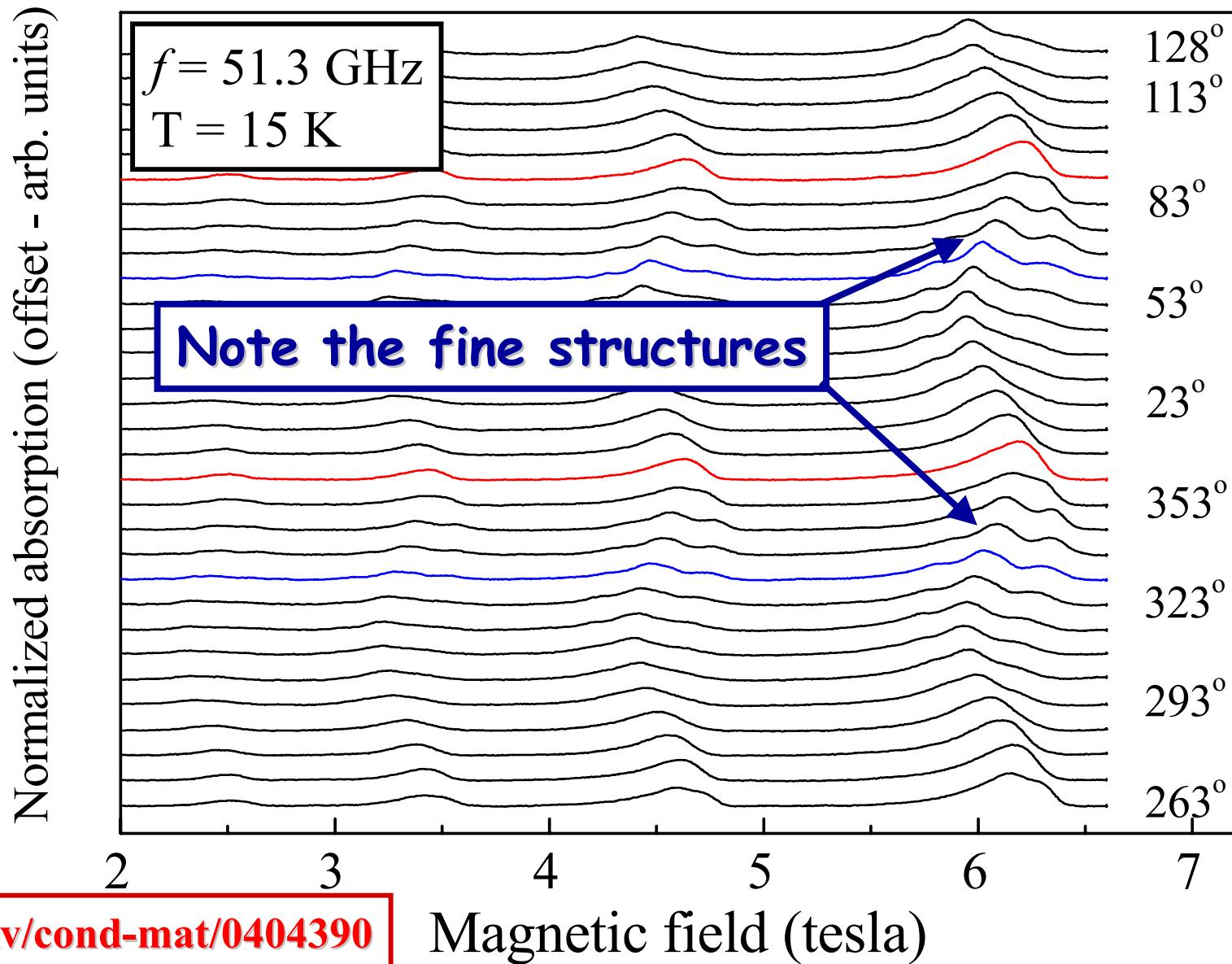
$$D' = 55 \text{ K}; \quad B' = 13 \text{ K}; \quad C' = 0.3 \text{ K}$$

Single-crystal, high-field/frequency EPR

Rotate field in xy -plane and look for symmetry effects



Hard-plane rotations for d - Mn_{12} -acetate



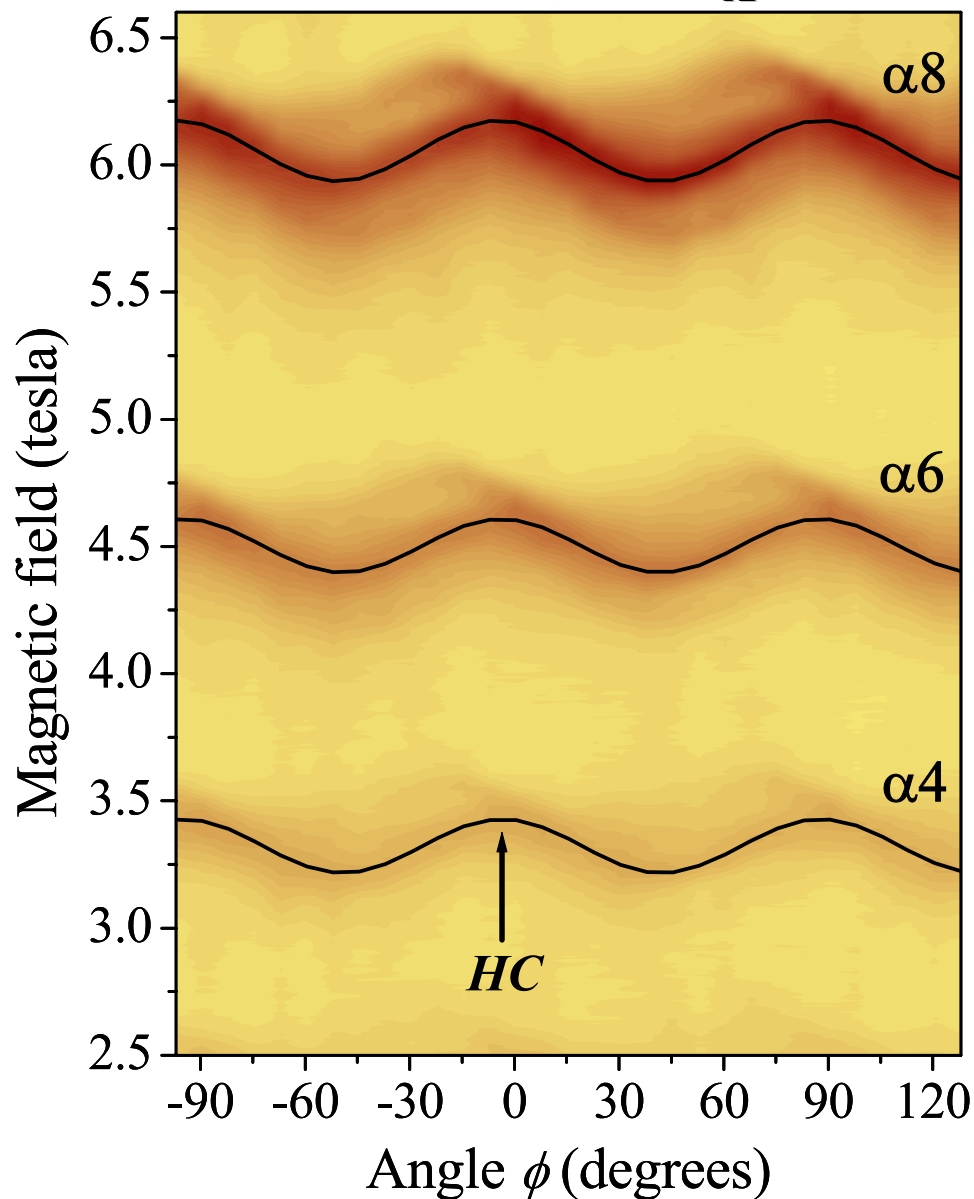
[arXiv/cond-mat/0404390](https://arxiv.org/abs/cond-mat/0404390)

Magnetic field (tesla)

Data for h - Mn_{12} -acetate in: S. Hill et al., PRL **90**, 217204 (2003)

Determination of transverse crystal-field interactions in d-Mn₁₂-Ac

Identical to h-Mn₁₂-Ac



Hard-plane (xy -plane) rotations

- Four-fold line shifts due to a quartic transverse interaction in \mathcal{H}_T

- Previously inferred from neutron studies

Mirebeau et al., PRL **83**, 628 (1999)

- B_4^4 is the only free parameter in our fit

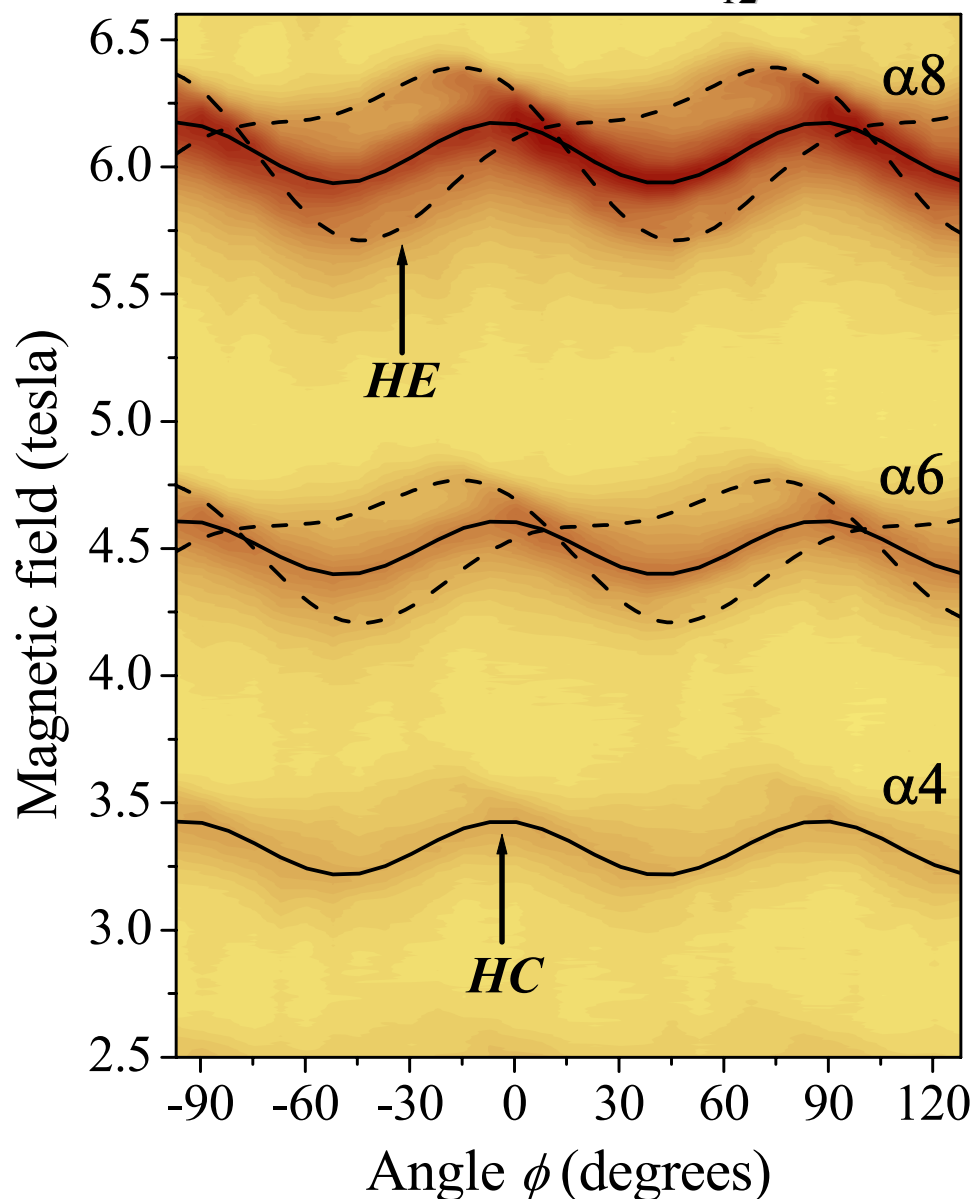
S. Hill et al., PRL **90**, 217204 (2003)

$$\frac{1}{2} B_4^4 \left(\hat{S}_+^4 + \hat{S}_-^4 \right)$$

$$B_4^4 = 46(1) \mu\text{K}$$

Determination of transverse crystal-field interactions in d-Mn₁₂-Ac

Identical to h-Mn₁₂-Ac



• Two-fold line shifts associated with the high- and low-field shoulders due to a quadratic transverse interaction in \mathcal{H}_T

del Barco et al., arXiv/cond-mat/0404390

$$E \left(\hat{S}_x^2 - \hat{S}_y^2 \right)$$

$$E \approx 20 \text{ mK}$$

Incompatible with the crystallographic symmetry!

HC and HE incommensurate!

Disorder lowers the symmetry of the molecules

$$\mathcal{H} = -DS_z^2 - BS_z^4 - g\mu_B H S_z \cos\theta + \mathcal{H}_T + \mathcal{H}_A + \mathcal{H}'$$

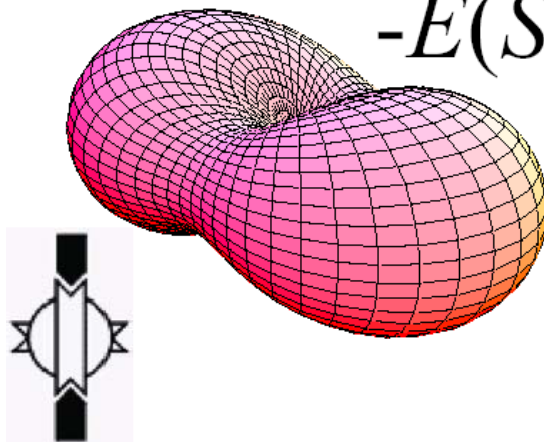
$$\mathcal{H}_T = -g\mu_B H_T (S_x \cos\phi + S_y \sin\phi)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_A = E(e_1(S_x^2 - S_y^2) + e_2(S_x \cdot S_y + S_y \cdot S_x)) + C(S_+^4 + S_-^4)$$

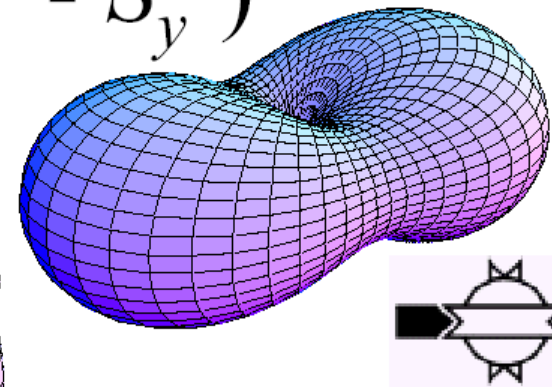
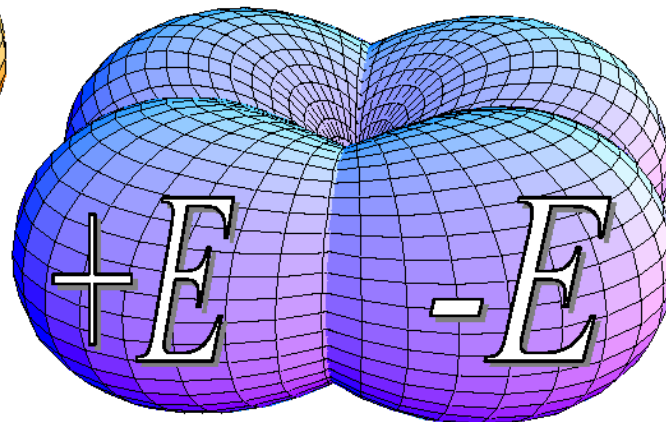
$$e_1 = (\cos^2\beta - \sin^2\beta) \quad e_2 = 2\cos\beta\sin\beta$$

del Barco et al., arXiv/cond-mat/0404390

$$-E(S_x^2 - S_y^2) + +E(S_x^2 - S_y^2)$$



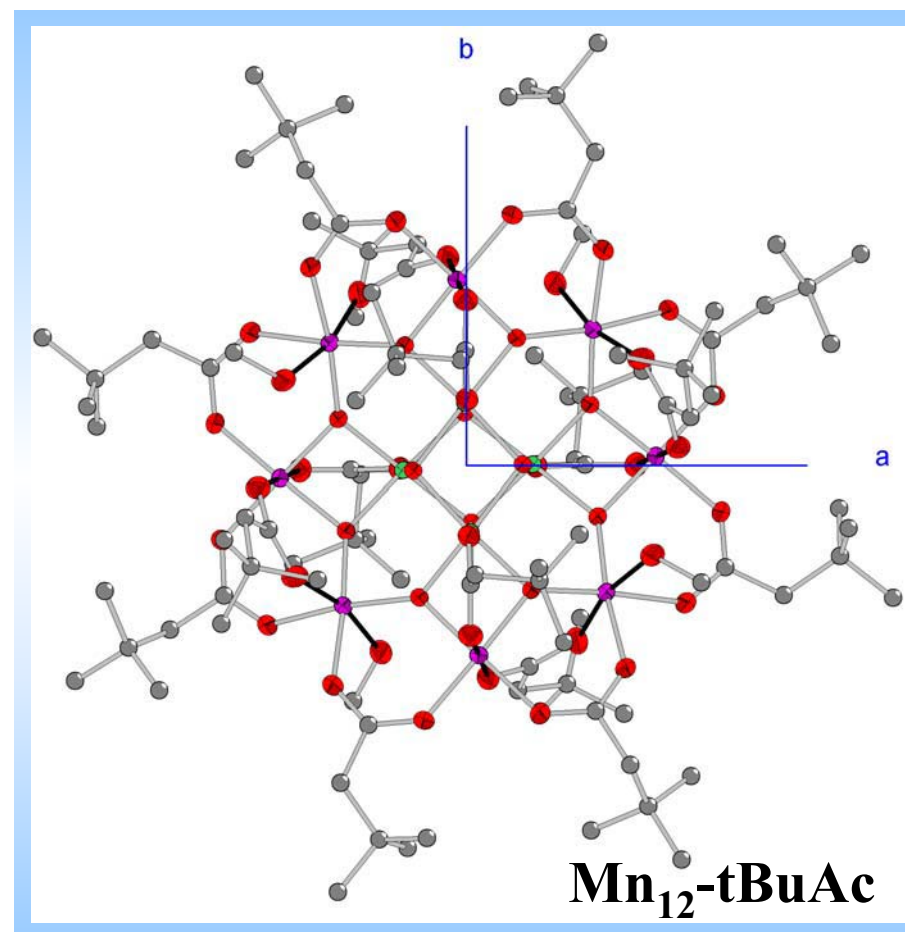
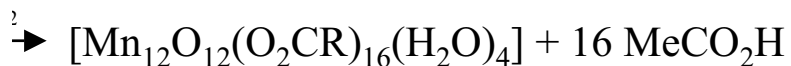
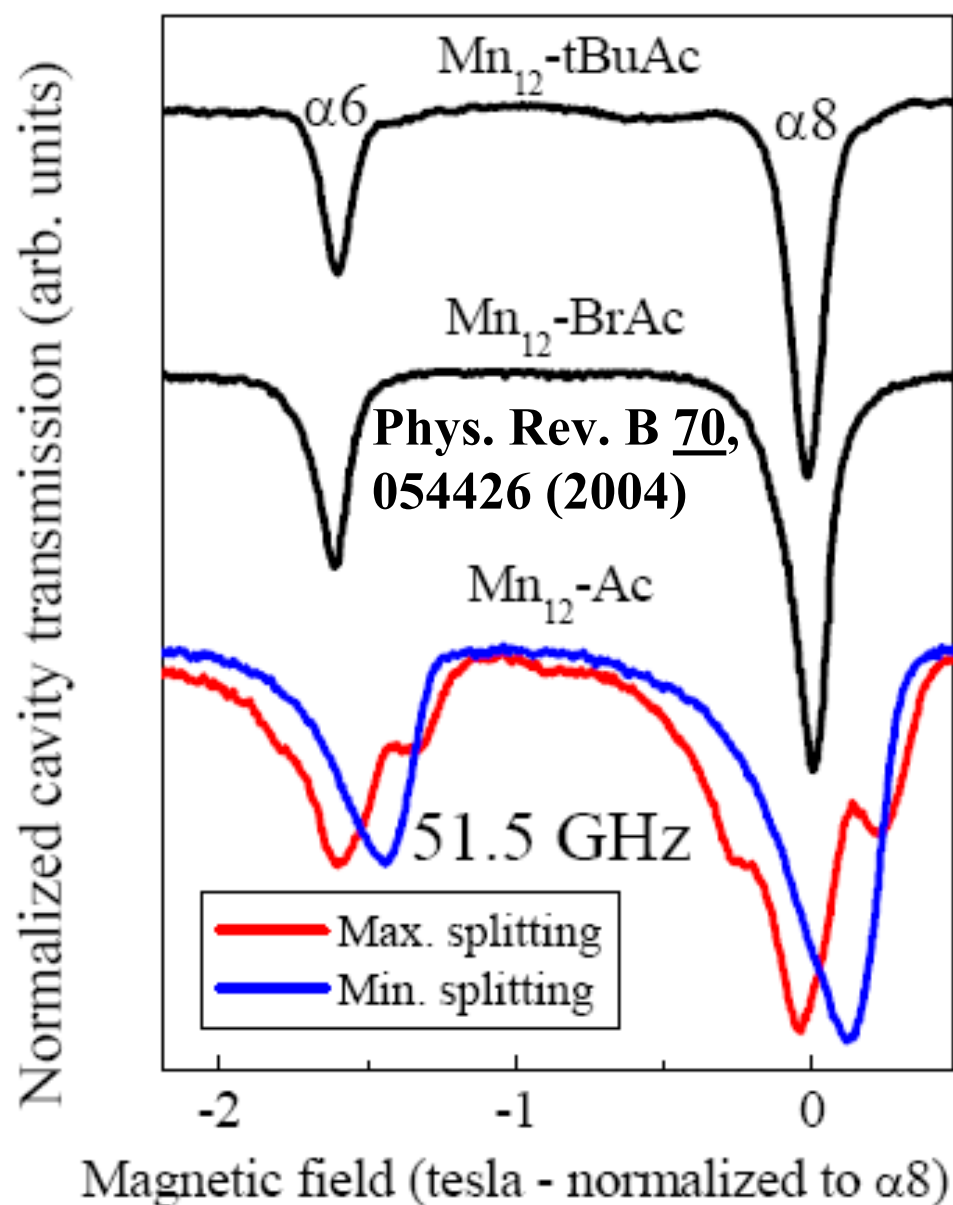
**E. del Barco et al.,
PRL **91**, 047203 (2003)**



S. Hill et al., PRL **90,
217204 (2003)**

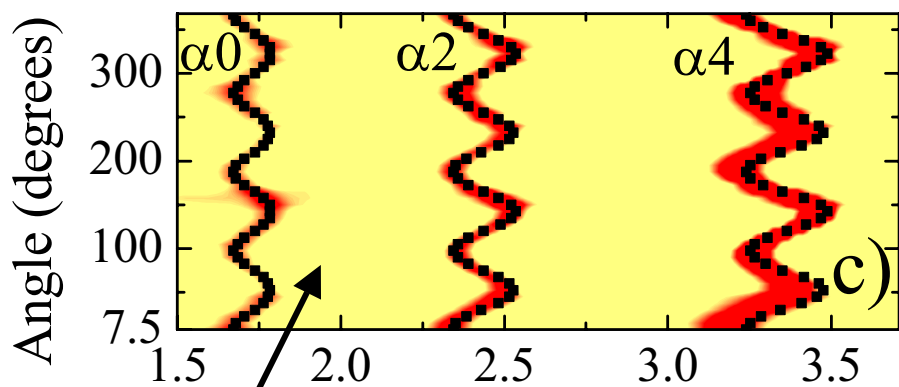
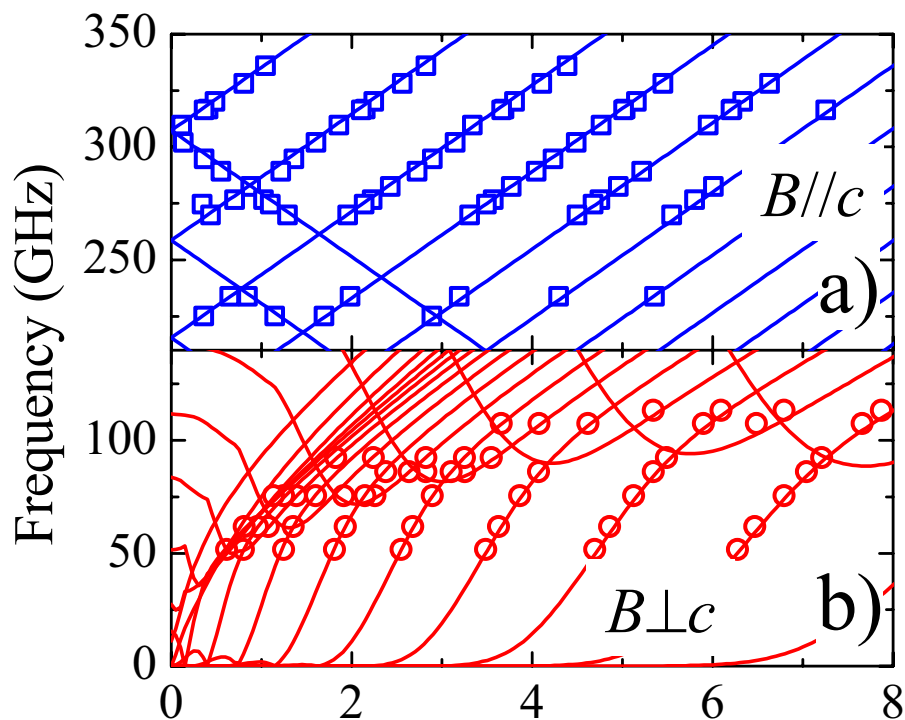


Experimental spectra



- Less solvent of crystallization
- Bulky R group: well separated molecules
- Well aligned

Spin Hamiltonian parameters for Mn₁₂-tBuAc



Hard plane rotations

Magnetic Field (tesla)

(unpublished)

Spectroscopists Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + B_4^0\hat{O}_4^0 + B_4^4\hat{O}_4^4$$

	(cm ⁻¹)	(kelvin)
D	-0.462(2)	0.665(3)
B_4^0	$-2.5(2)\times 10^{-5}$	$-3.6(3)\times 10^{-5}$
B_4^4	$\pm 4.3(2)\times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 6.2(3)\times 10^{-5}$

Physicists Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H} = D'\hat{S}_z^2 + B\hat{S}_z^4 + C(\hat{S}_+^4 + \hat{S}_-^4)$$

	(cm ⁻¹)	(kelvin)
D'	-0.380(2)	0.547(3)
B	$-9.0(7)\times 10^{-4}$	$-1.3(1)\times 10^{-3}$
C	$\pm 2.1(1)\times 10^{-5}$	$\pm 3.0(1)\times 10^{-5}$

$$g_{//} = 2; g_{\perp} = 1.94$$

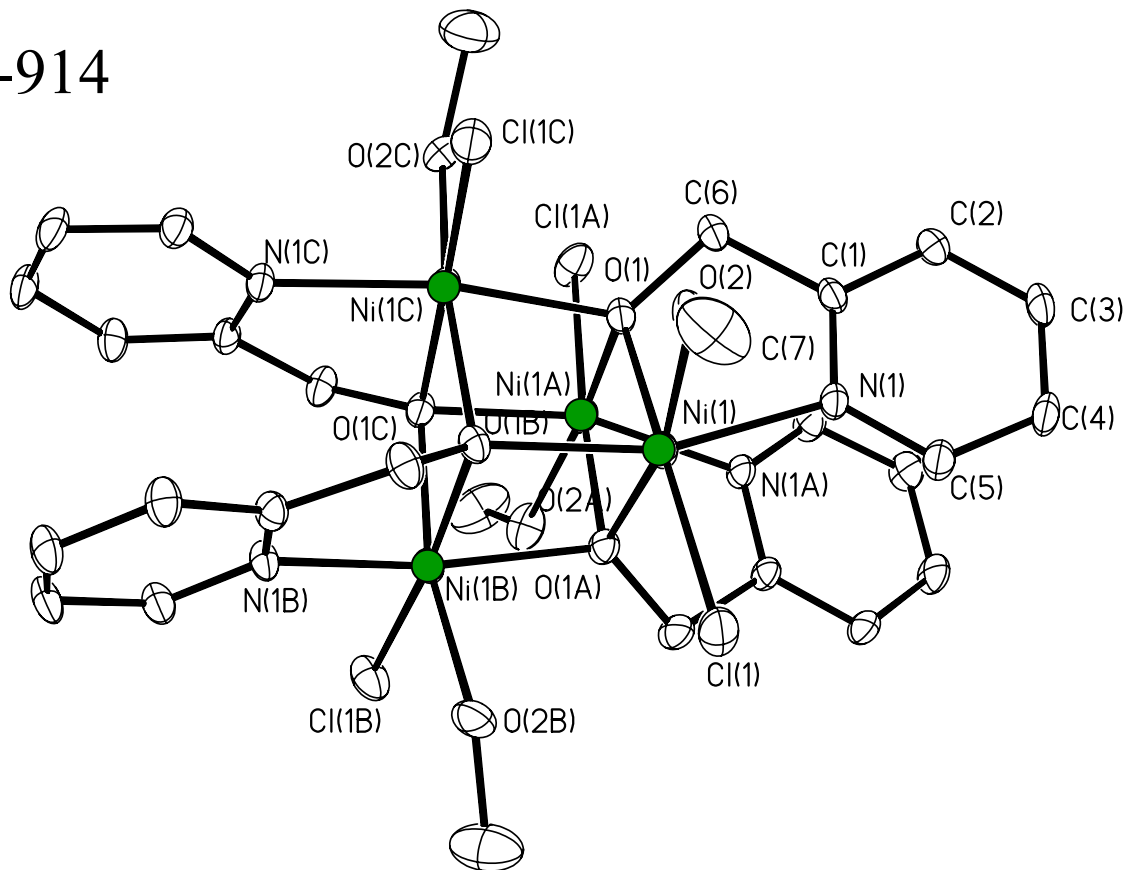
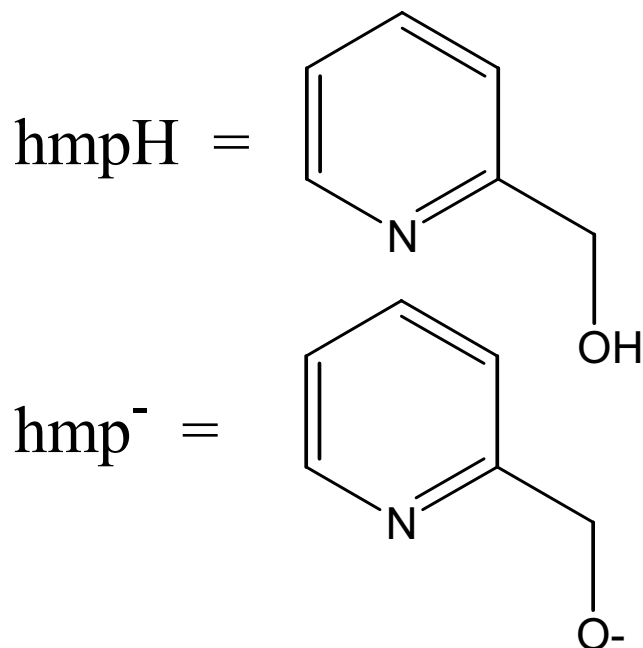
- $D, B_4^0, g_{//}$ from easy axis data
- B_4^4 from hard plane rotations
- g_{\perp} from perpendicular data

**Origin of Fast Magnetization
Tunneling in Tetranuclear Nickel
Single-Molecule Magnets**

Synthesis of $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{MeOH})\text{Cl}]_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$



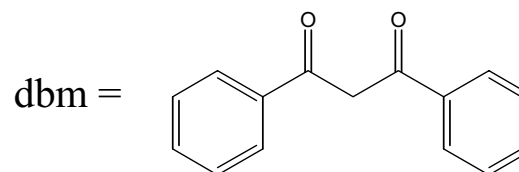
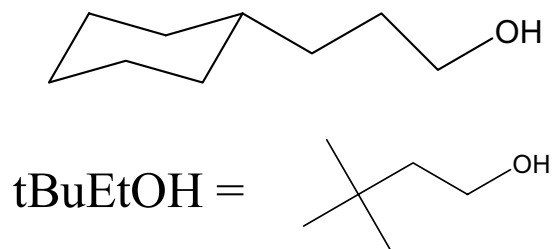
Polyhedron, **1999**, *18*, 909-914



- The 4 O^s in the hmp ligands bridge 4 $S = 1$ Ni ions to form a cube
- The Ni ions couple ferromagnetically to give total spin $S = 4$
- All complexes have high (S_4) crystallographic symmetry

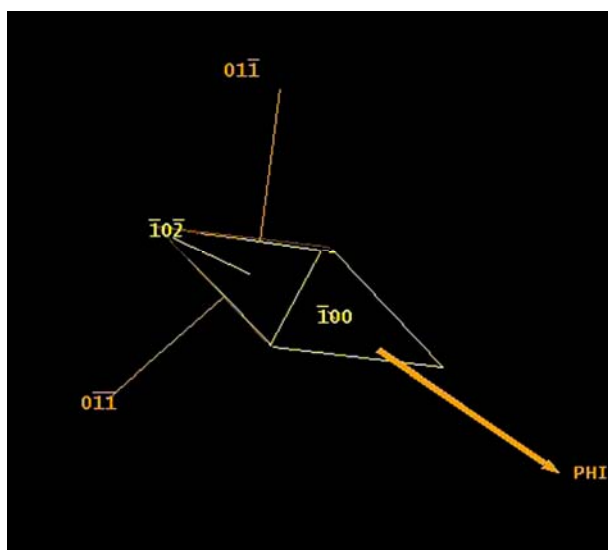
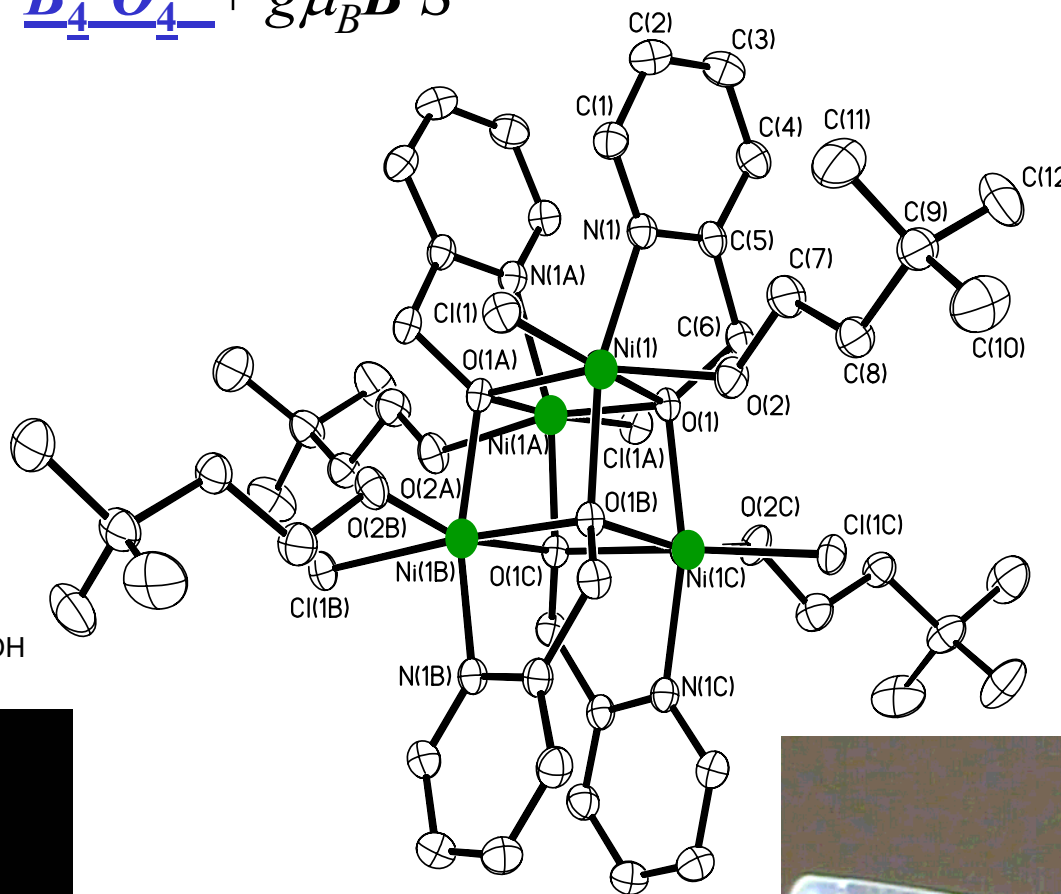
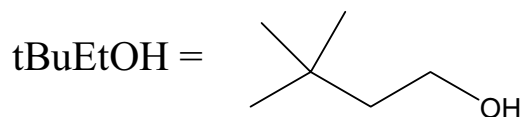
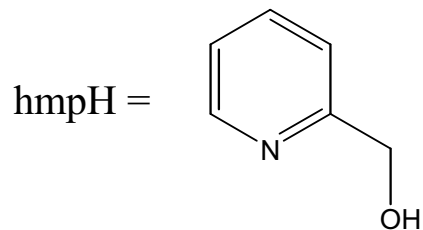
List of Ni₄ Cubane Samples

- [Ni(hmp)(MeOH)Cl]₄-----EPR, Hysteresis
- [Ni(hmp)(EtOH)Cl]₄-----EPR, Hysteresis
- [Ni(hmp)(tBuEtOH)Cl]₄-----**EPR, Hysteresis**
- [Ni(hmp)(MeOH)Br]₄----- EPR, Hysteresis
- [Ni(dbm)(MeO)(MeOH)]₄----- EPR, Hysteresis
- [Ni_{0.1}Zn_{0.9}(hmp)(MeOH)Cl]₄----- _____
- [Ni_{0.02}Zn_{0.98}(hmp)(tBuEtOH)Cl]₄----- **EPR**
- [Ni(hmp)(tBuEtOH)Br]₄----- EPR
- [Ni(hmp)(CyhexPrOH)Cl]₄----- _____, Hysteresis

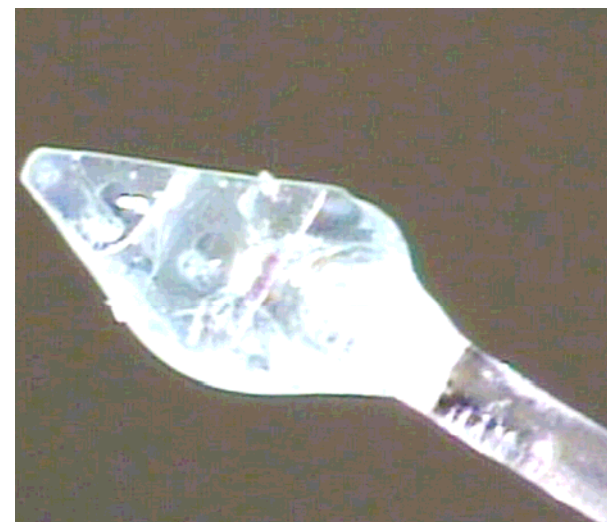


Structure of $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{t-BuEtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$

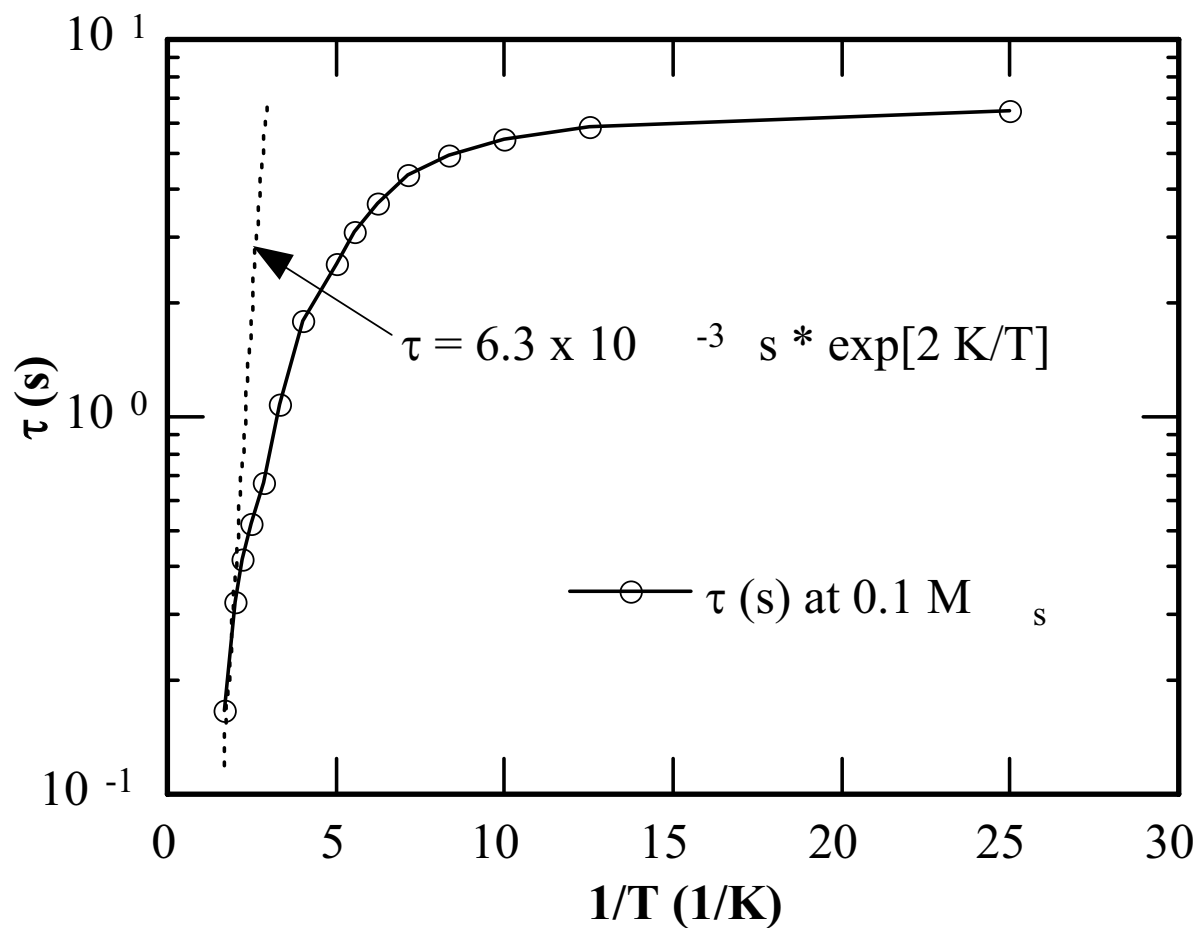
$$\hat{H} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + B_4^0\hat{O}_4^0 + \underline{B_4^4\hat{O}_4^4} + g\mu_B\mathbf{B}\cdot\hat{\mathbf{S}}$$



**No solvent in
the structure!**



[Ni(hmp)(t-BuEtOH)Cl]₄ Single Crystal

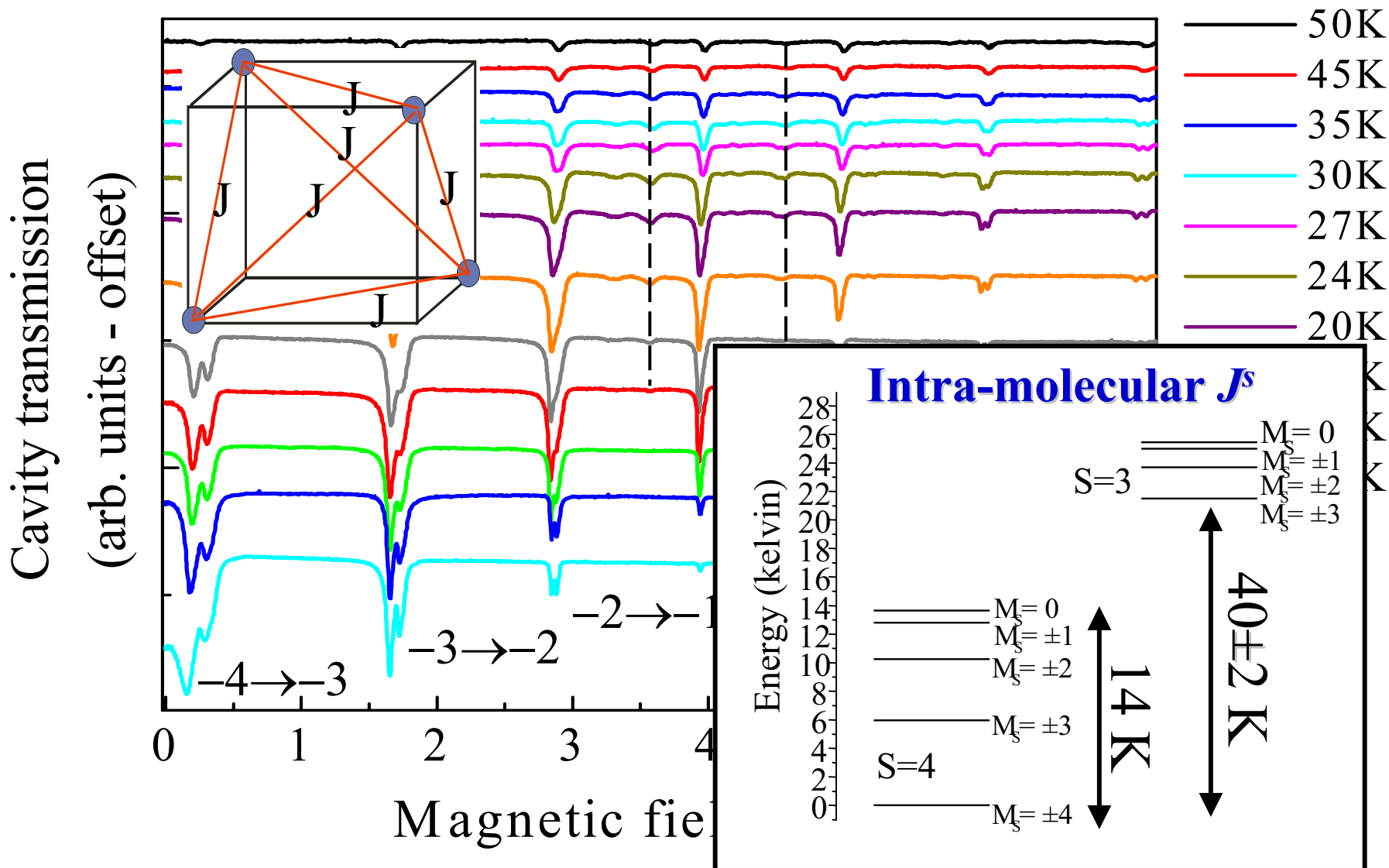


FAST!

- Temperature-independent magnetization relaxation at low temperature indicative of quantum tunneling

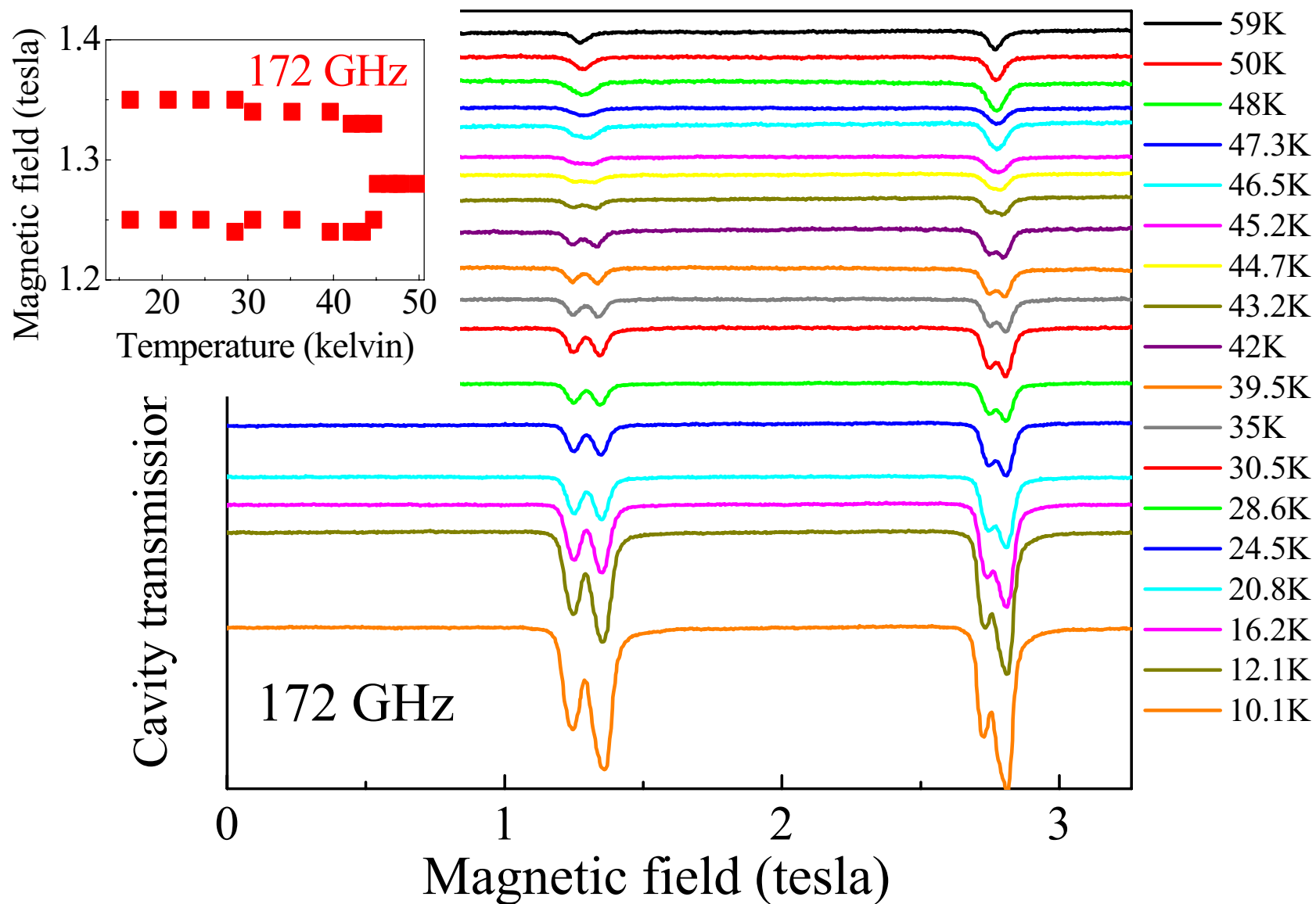
Single-crystal easy-axis spectra for $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{tBuEtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$

- Typical for a SMM with negative magnetocrystalline anisotropy
- Note also the splittings and additional peaks at high-T



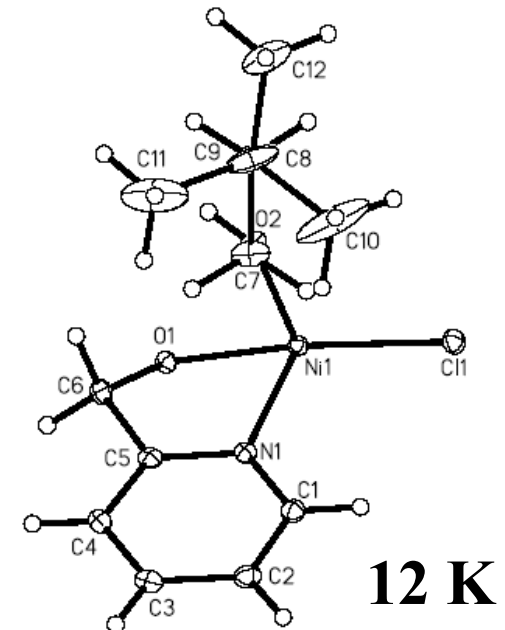
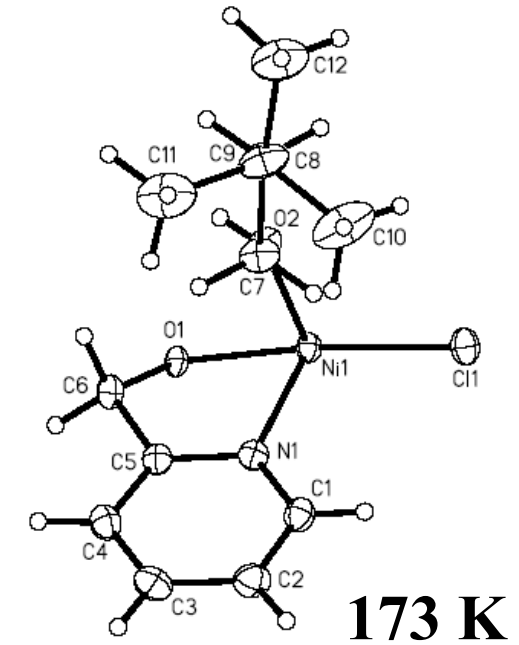
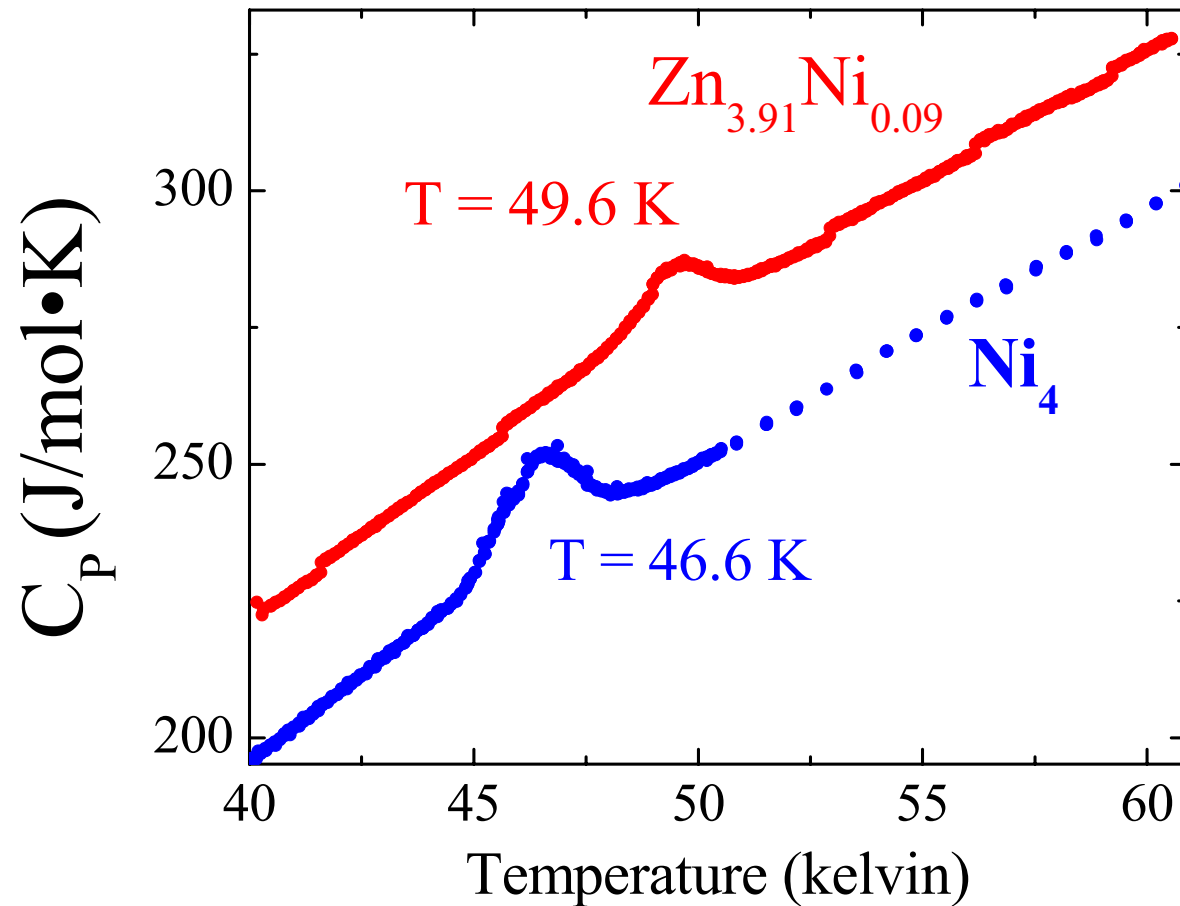
Closer look at the EPR splitting in $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{tBuEtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$

• Evidence for a structural transition at ~45 K



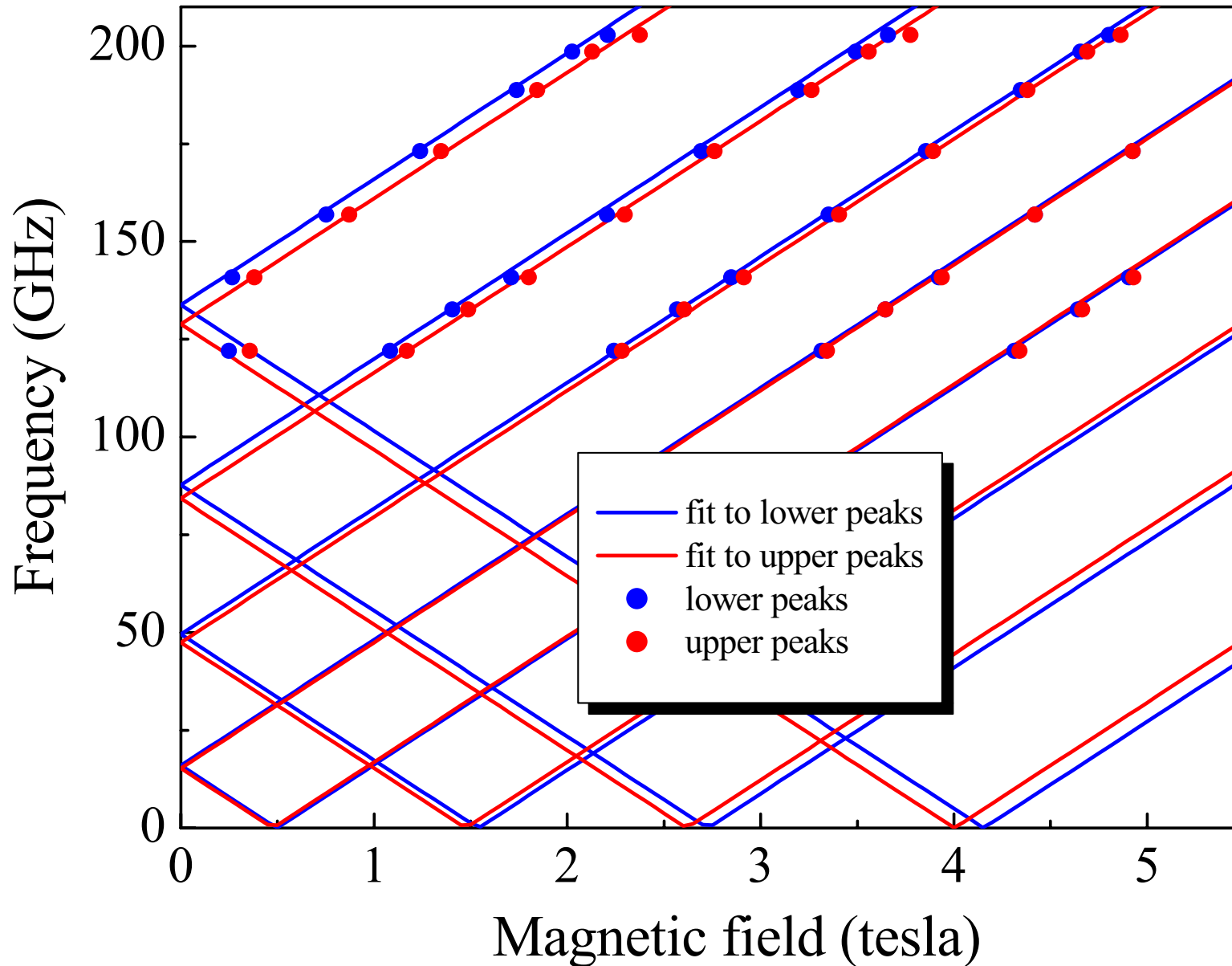
Confirmed by heat capacity and X-ray studies

- Order-disorder associated with t-Bu group



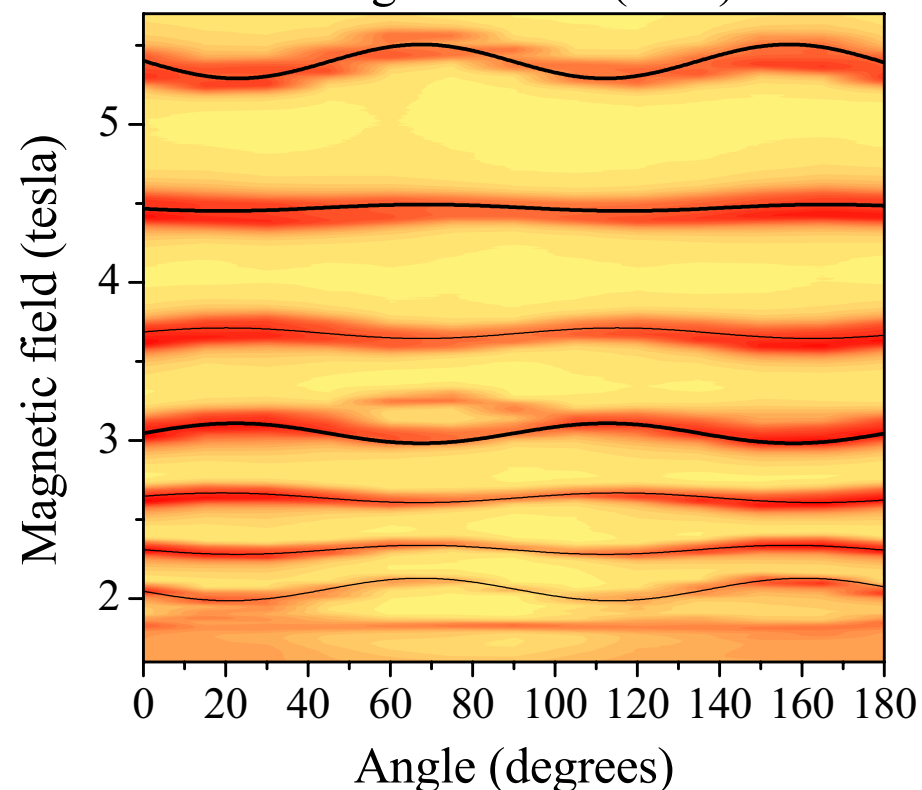
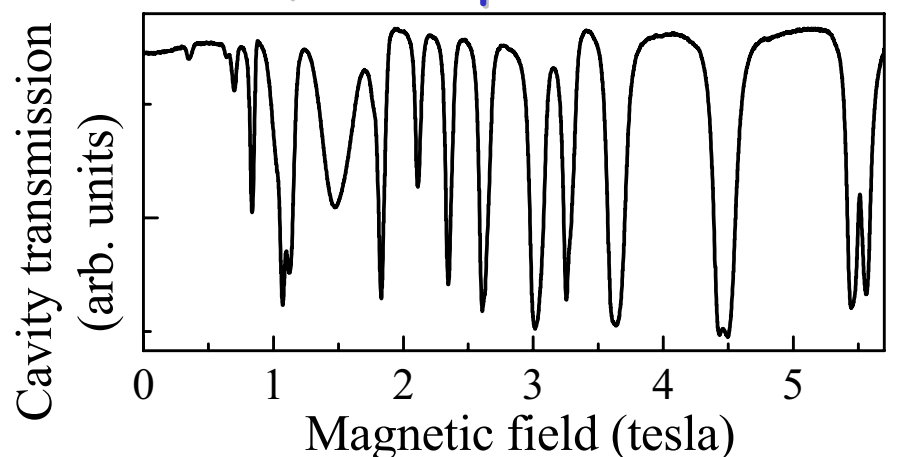
Frequency dependence of the easy axis spectra

- Enables determination of diagonal spin-Hamiltonian parameters



Fit to hard axis data for $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{tBuEtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$

101 GHz, hard plane rotation



• Four-fold line shifts due to a quartic transverse interaction in \mathcal{H}_T

• B_4^4 is the only free parameter in the fit

S. Hill et al., PRL **90**, 217204 (2003)

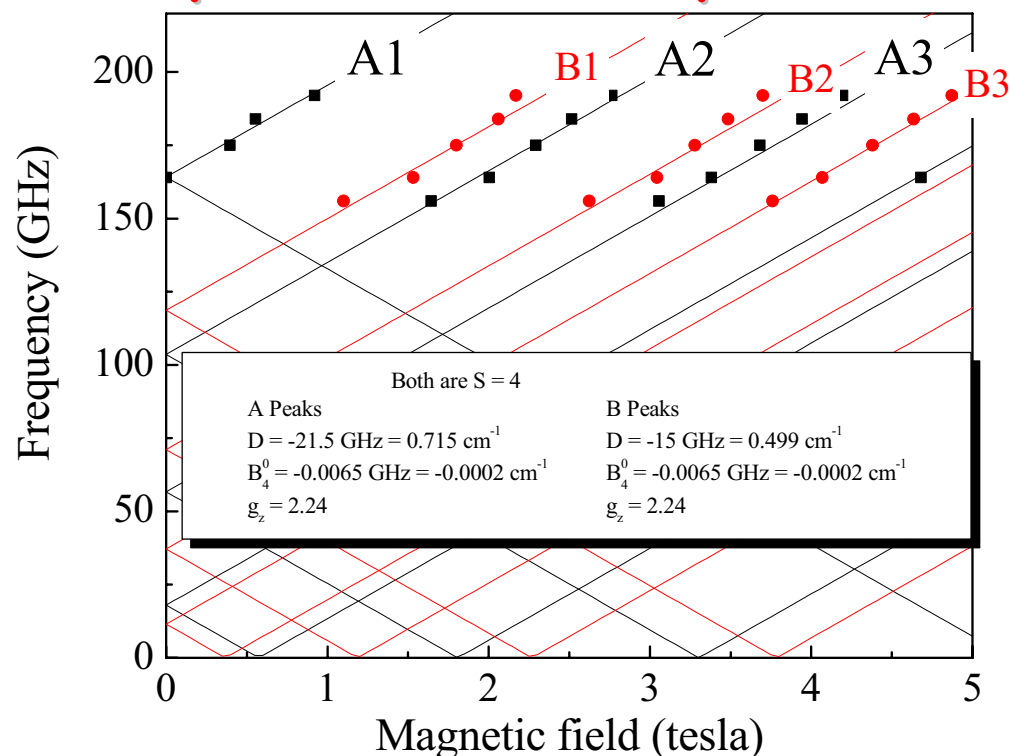
$$\frac{1}{2} B_4^4 \left(\hat{S}_+^4 + \hat{S}_-^4 \right)$$
$$B_4^4 = 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

• Very effective at mixing $M_s = \pm 4$ ground states.

• 2nd order perturbation.

• 12 MHz tunnel splitting!

Spin-Hamiltonian parameters for $[\text{Ni}(\text{hmp})(\text{ROH})\text{Cl}]_4$



- The ability to deconvolute all of the various contributions to these spectra would not have been possible via powder EPR
- Also, the broad lines observed for the strongly exchanging complexes are best observed via direct absorption measurements

J. Appl. Phys. 93, 7807 (2003)

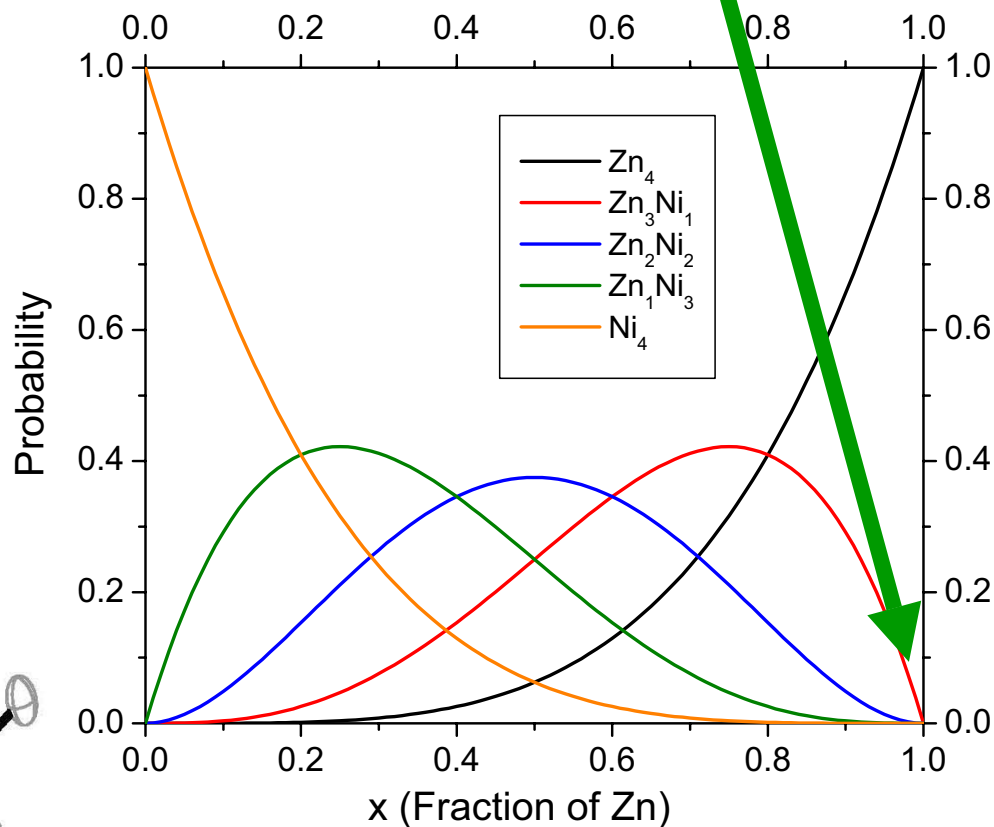
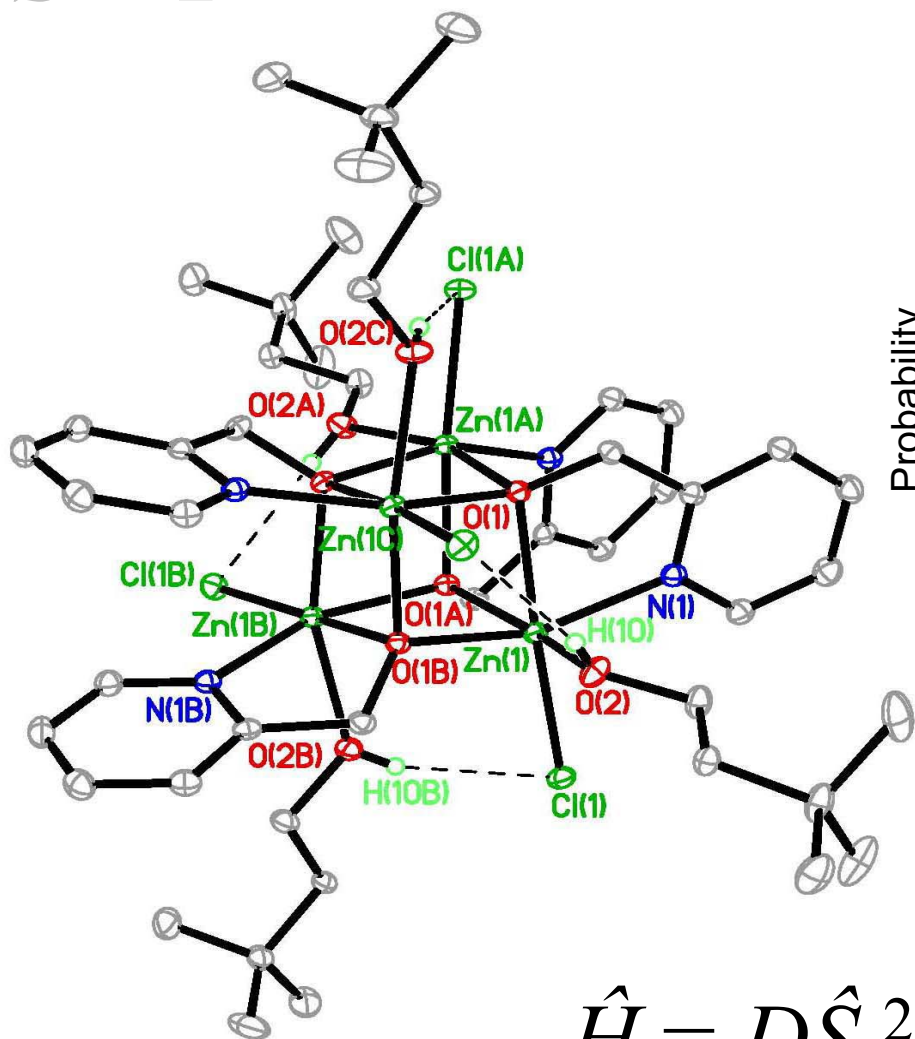
		$D \text{ (cm}^{-1}\text{)}$	$B_4^0 \text{ (cm}^{-1}\text{)}$	g_z	$B_4^4 \text{ (cm}^{-1}\text{)}$
$[\text{Ni}(\text{t-BuEtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$	lower peaks	-0.600	-0.00012	2.3	± 0.0004
	upper peaks	-0.577	-0.00012	2.3	± 0.0004
$[\text{Ni}(\text{EtOH})\text{Cl}]_4$	lower peaks	-0.673	-0.00012	2.2	
	upper peaks	-0.609	-0.00012	2.2	
$[\text{Ni}(\text{MeOH})\text{Cl}]_4$	lower peaks	-0.715	-0.0002	2.2	
	upper peaks	-0.499	-0.0002	2.2	

Evaluation of the Ni^{II} single-ion spin Hamiltonian

$S = 1$



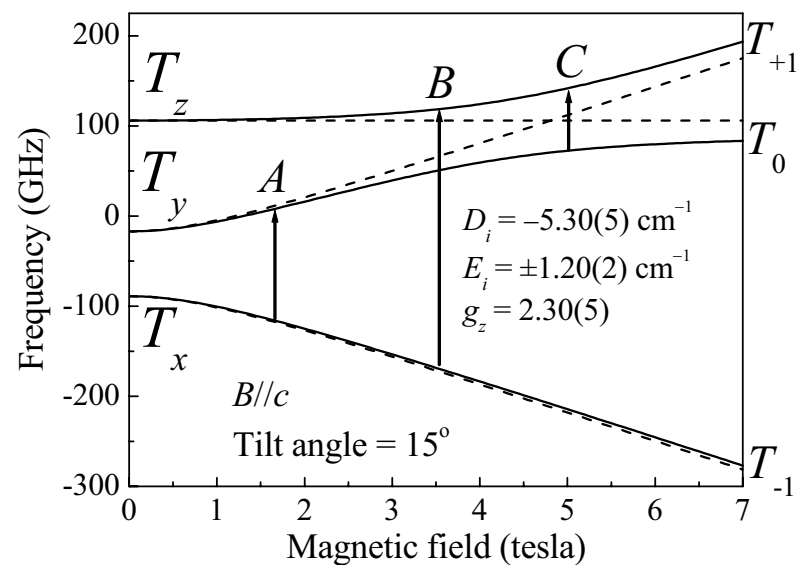
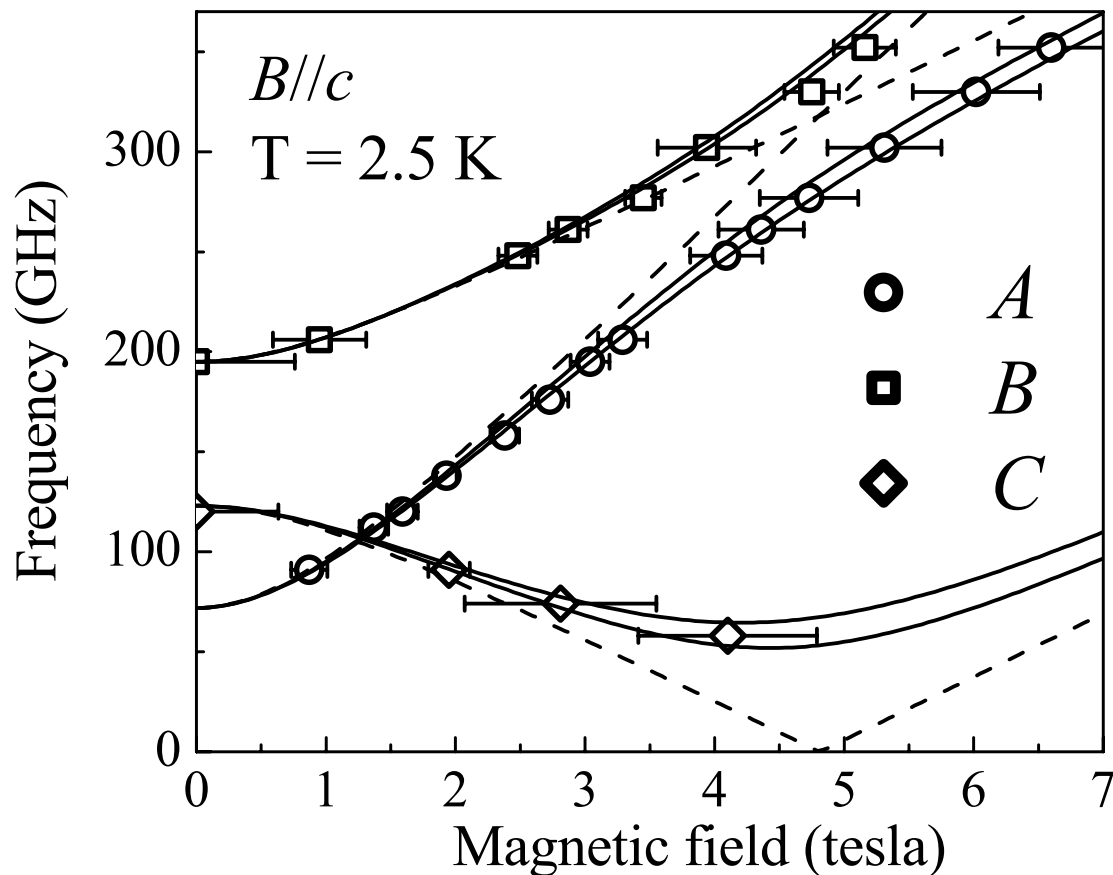
NiZn₃



$$\hat{H} = D\hat{S}_z^2 + E(\hat{S}_x^2 - \hat{S}_y^2) + g\mu_B\mathbf{B}\cdot\hat{S}$$

Frequency-dependence

- Single-ion tensors are not collinear \Rightarrow multiple EPR fine structures



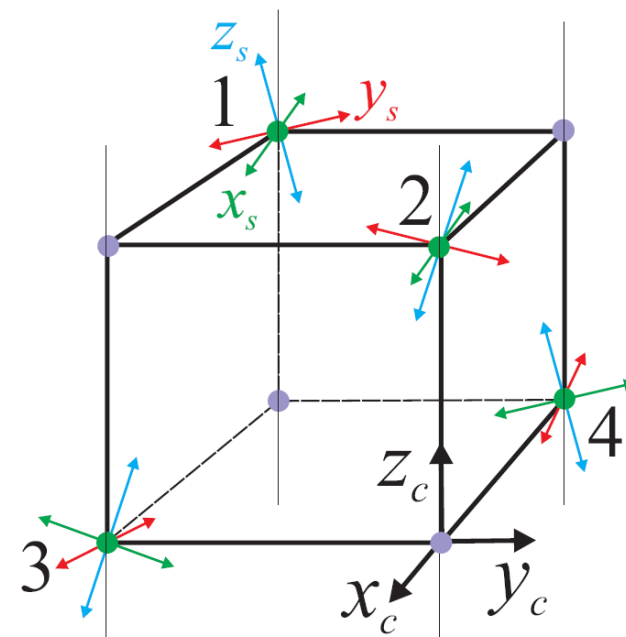
Initialize D and E parameters from \Rightarrow Frequency dep.

$$D = -5.30(5) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

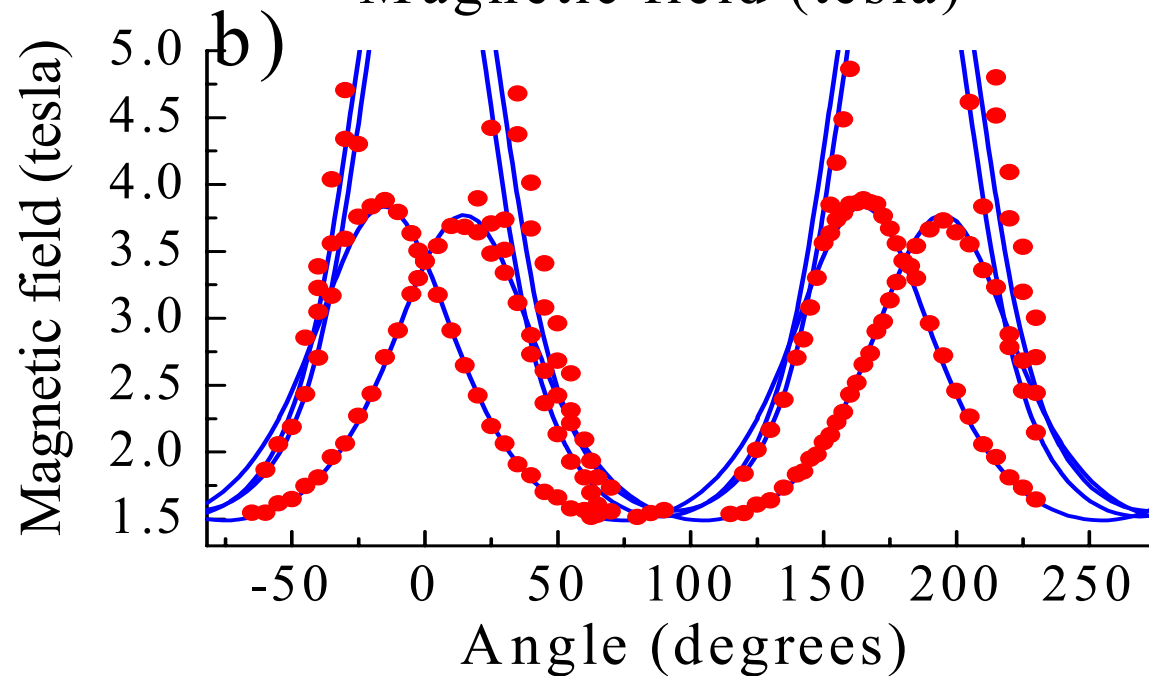
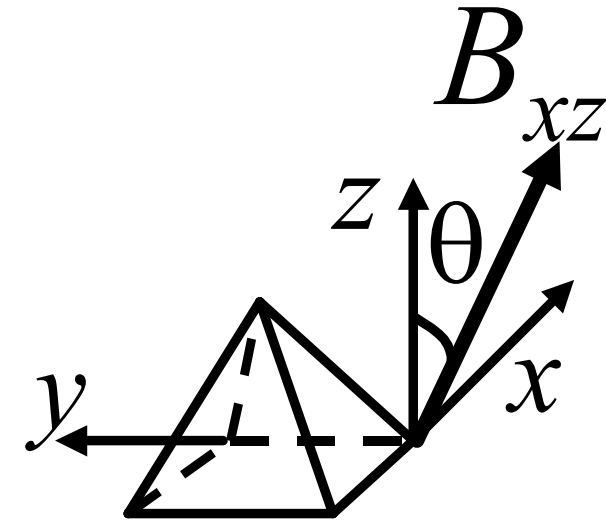
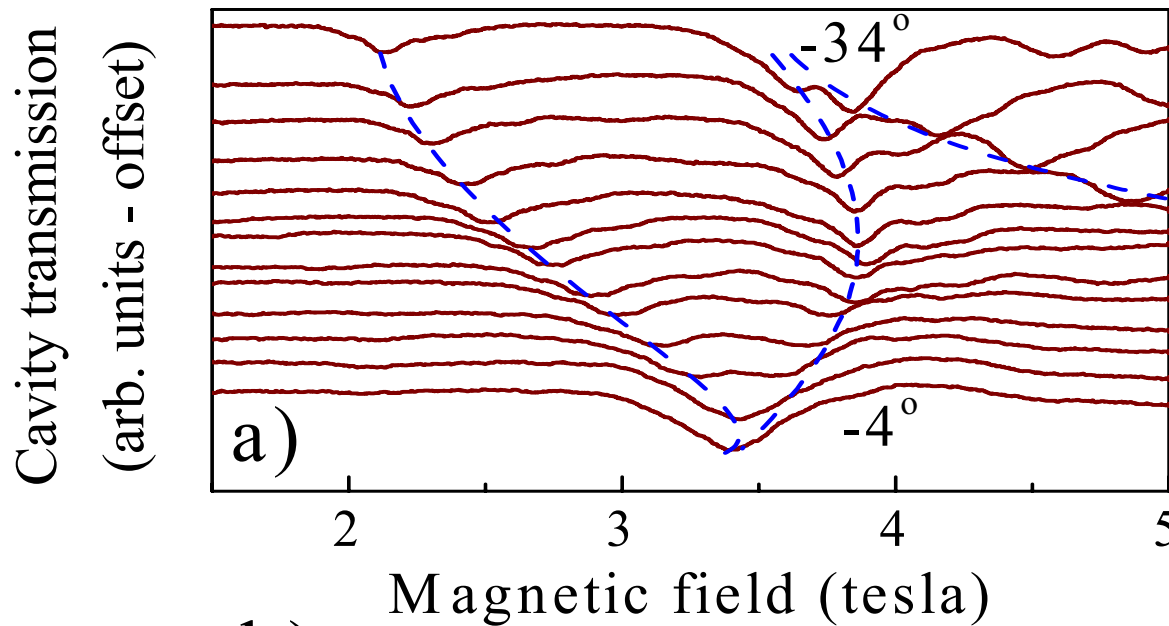
$$E = \pm 1.20(1) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$g_{//} = 2.30(5)$$

$$\text{tilt} = 15^\circ$$

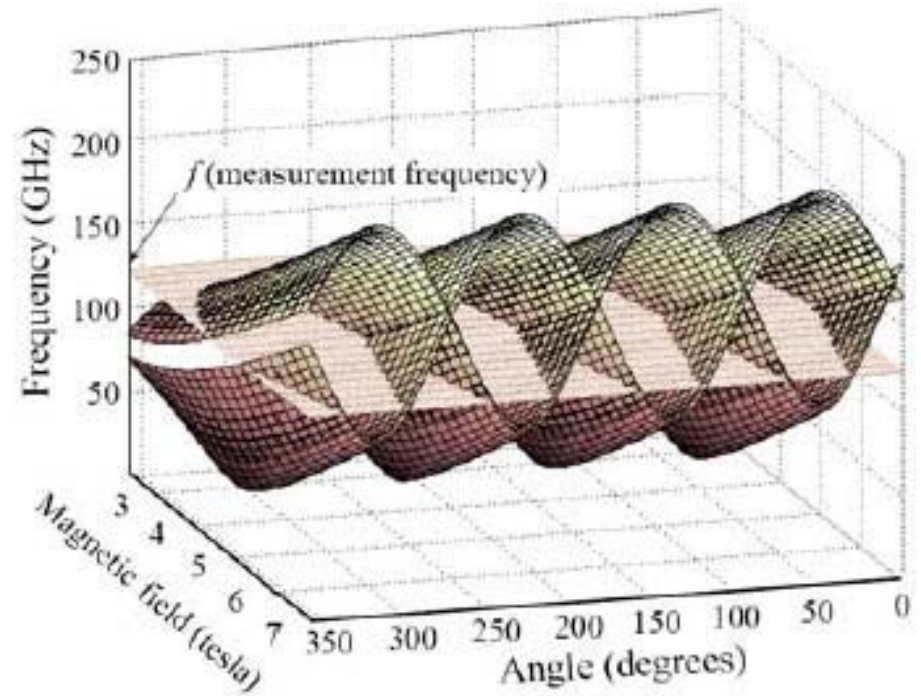
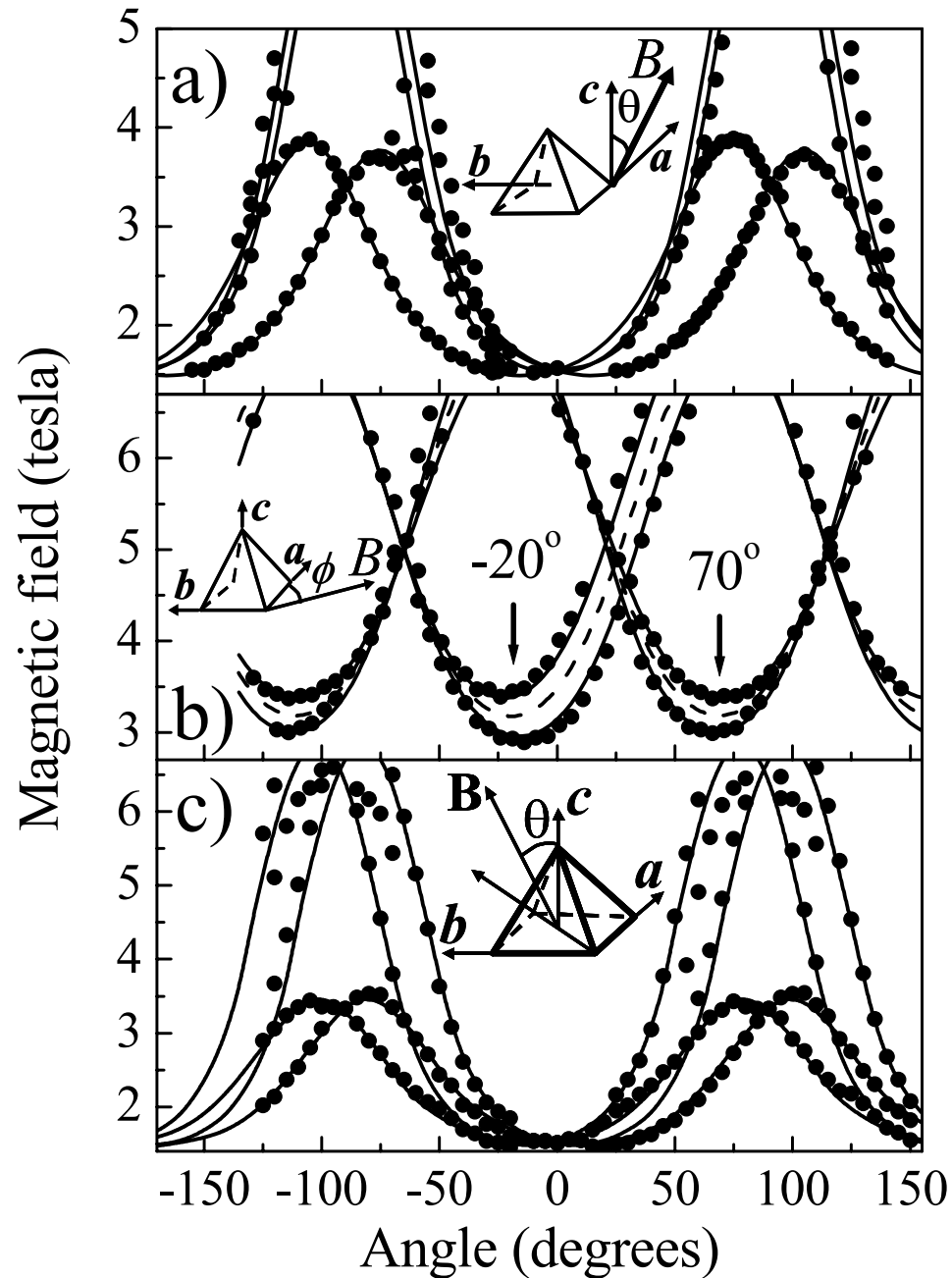


Angle-dependence to find orientation of zfs interaction



3 planes of rotation. One single fit to all of the data.

Angle-dependence to find orientation of zfs interaction



E.-C. Yang et al., published
in Inorg. Chem. (last week)

Relation between Ni^{II} and Ni₄ spin parameters

$$\overline{\overline{D}}_{local} = \begin{bmatrix} -D/3 + E & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -D/3 - E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2D/3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \overline{\overline{D}}_{crystal} = \overline{\overline{A}}^{-1} \overline{\overline{D}}_{local} \overline{\overline{A}}$$

$\overline{\overline{A}}$ is Euler matrix

$$\overline{\overline{D}}_{total} = d_1 \overline{\overline{D}}_1 + d_2 \overline{\overline{D}}_2 + d_3 \overline{\overline{D}}_3 + d_4 \overline{\overline{D}}_4 + d_{12} \overline{\overline{D}}_{12} + d_{13} \overline{\overline{D}}_{13} + d_{14} \overline{\overline{D}}_{14} + d_{23} \overline{\overline{D}}_{23} + d_{24} \overline{\overline{D}}_{24} + d_{34} \overline{\overline{D}}_{34}$$

$D_i \equiv$ single-ion zfs tensors (5 cm^{-1}); $D_{ij} \equiv$ dipolar couplings (0.1 cm^{-1})

$$\overline{\overline{D}}_{total} = \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_1 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_2 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_3 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_4 + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{12} + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{13} + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{14} + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{23} + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{24} + \frac{2}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_{34}$$

$$\overline{\overline{D}}_{total} \approx \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_1 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_2 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_3 + \frac{1}{28} \overline{\overline{D}}_4$$

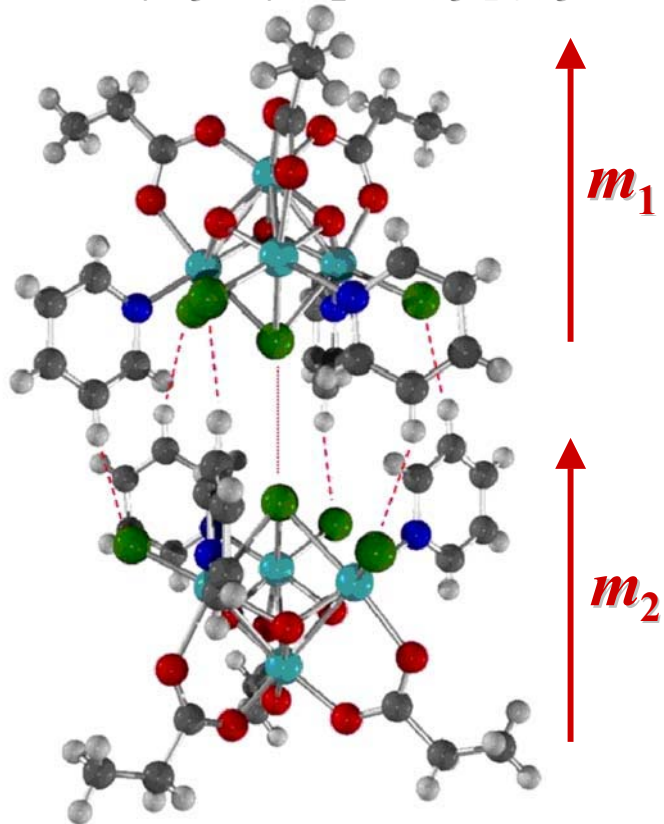
$$\overline{\overline{D}}_{total} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.229 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.229 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.459 \end{bmatrix} \text{cm}^{-1}$$

Traceless, i.e. $E = 0$
 $D_{total} = -0.69 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $D_{actual} = -0.60 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

Need to relate the Ni^{II} Hamiltonian to the 4th order Ni₄ Hamiltonian

Quantum entanglement in [Mn₄]₂ dimers

Antiferromagnetic exchange in a dimer of Mn₄ SMMs

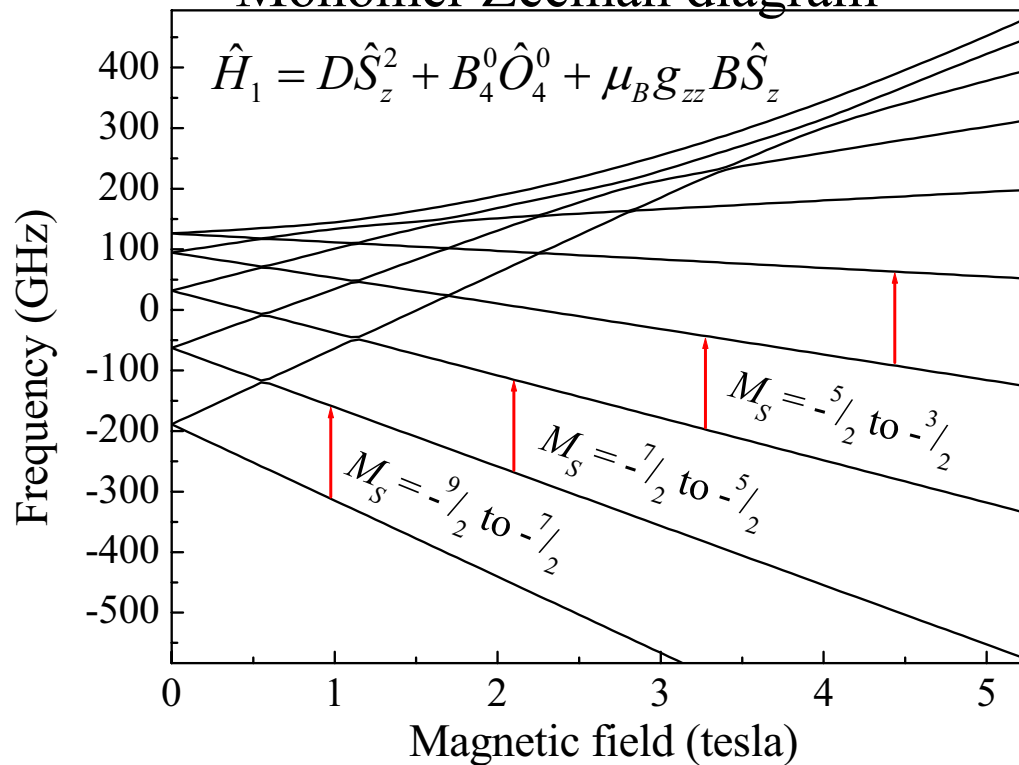


$$D = -0.75(1) \text{ K}$$

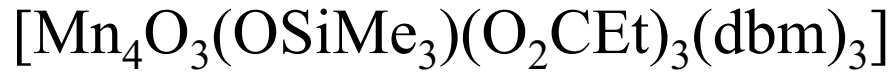
$$B_0^4 = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ K}$$

$$J \approx 0.12(1) \text{ K}$$

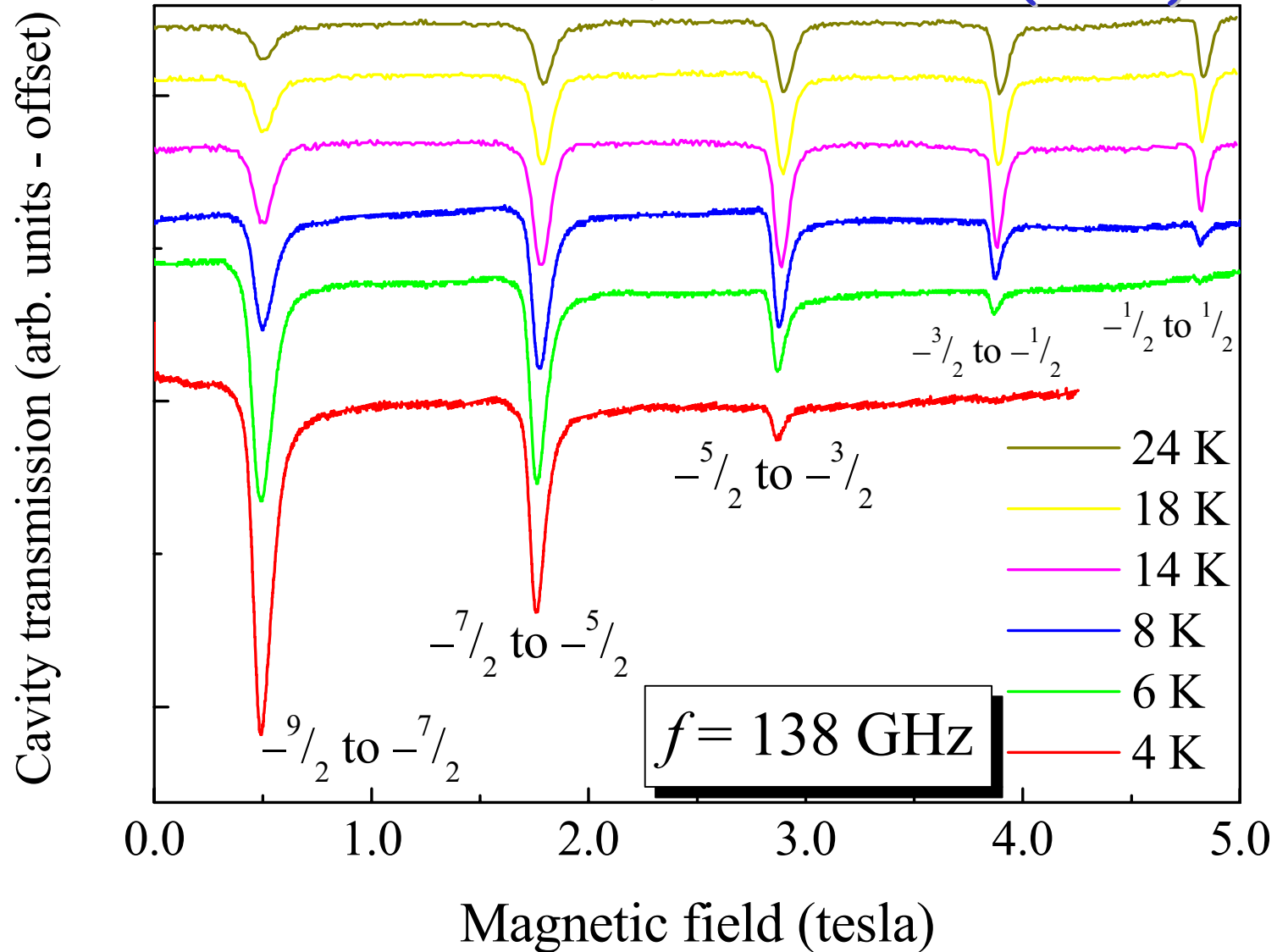
Monomer Zeeman diagram



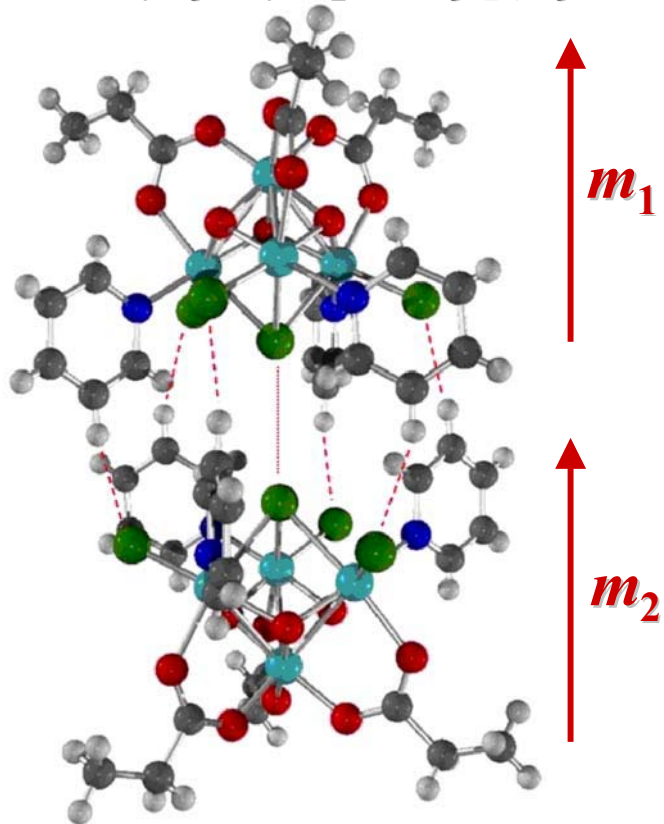
HFEPR for high symmetry (C_{3v}) Mn_4 monomer



Field // z-axis of the molecule ($\pm 0.5^\circ$)



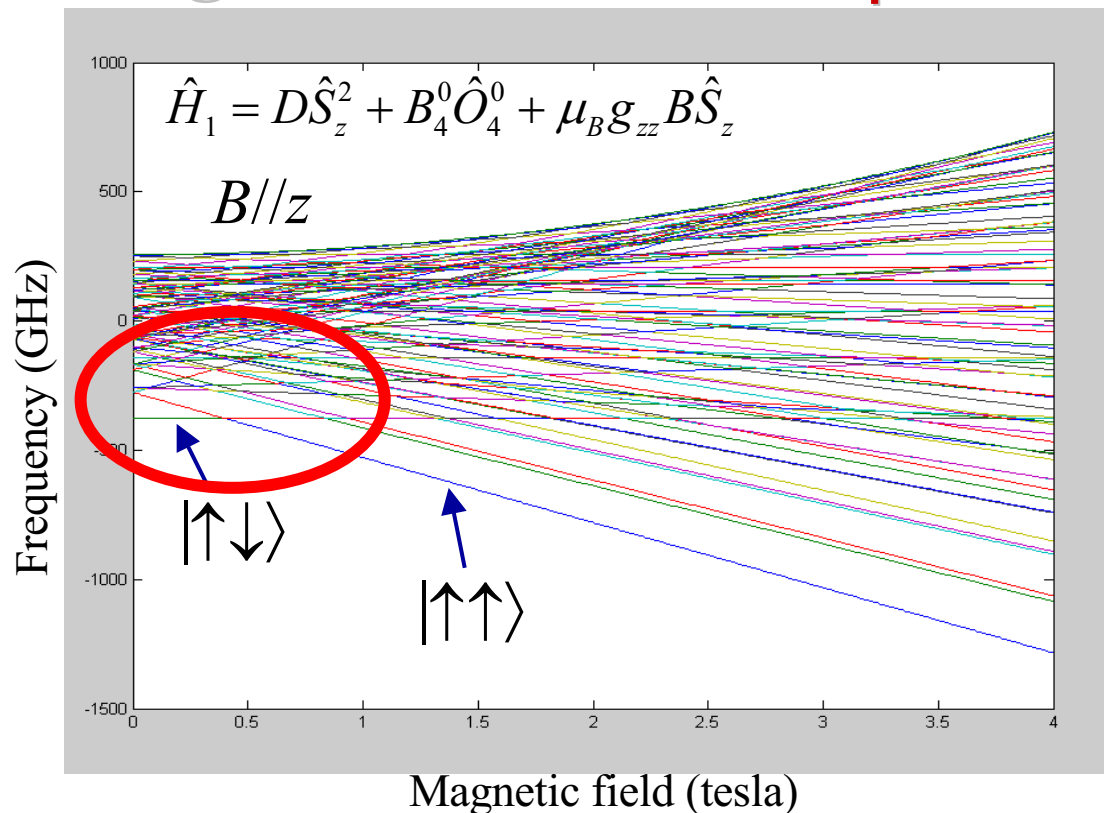
Antiferromagnetic exchange in a dimer of Mn₄ SMMs



$$D = -0.75(1) \text{ K}$$

$$B_0^4 = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ K}$$

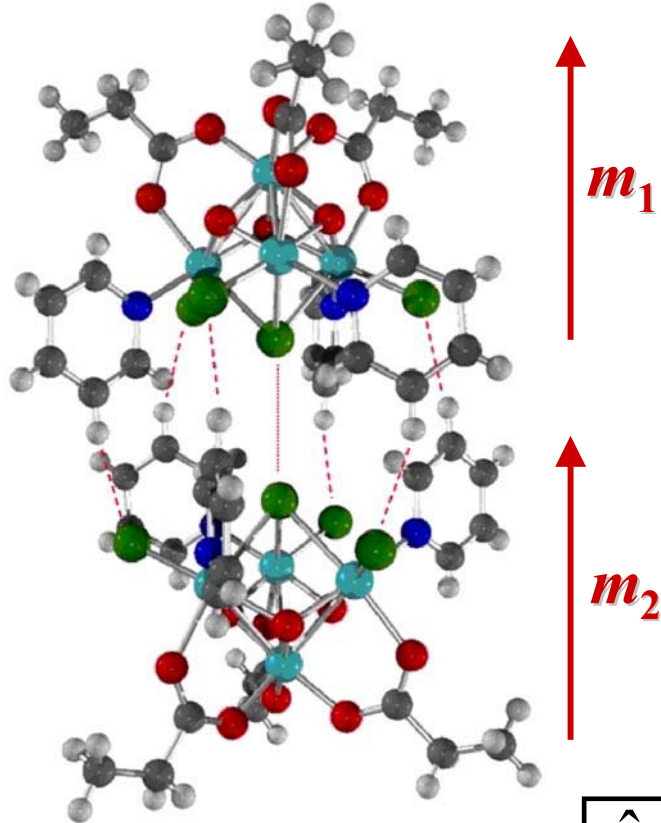
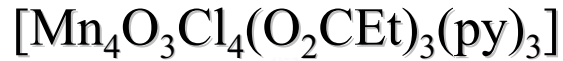
$$J \approx 0.12(1) \text{ K}$$



$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + J\hat{S}_1 \cdot \hat{S}_2$$

Multiplicity increases from $(2S + 1)$ to $(2S + 1)^2$

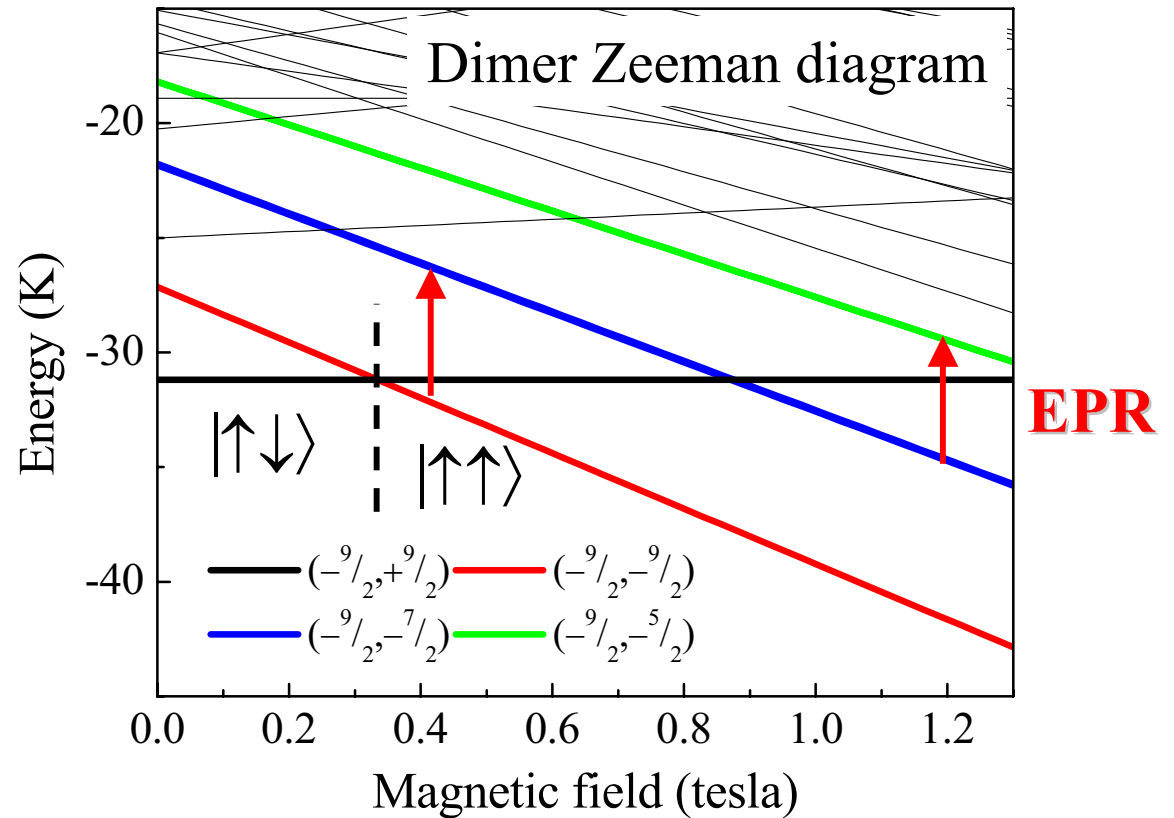
Antiferromagnetic exchange in a dimer of Mn₄ SMMs



$$D = -0.75(1) \text{ K}$$

$$B_0^4 = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ K}$$

$$J \approx 0.12(1) \text{ K}$$



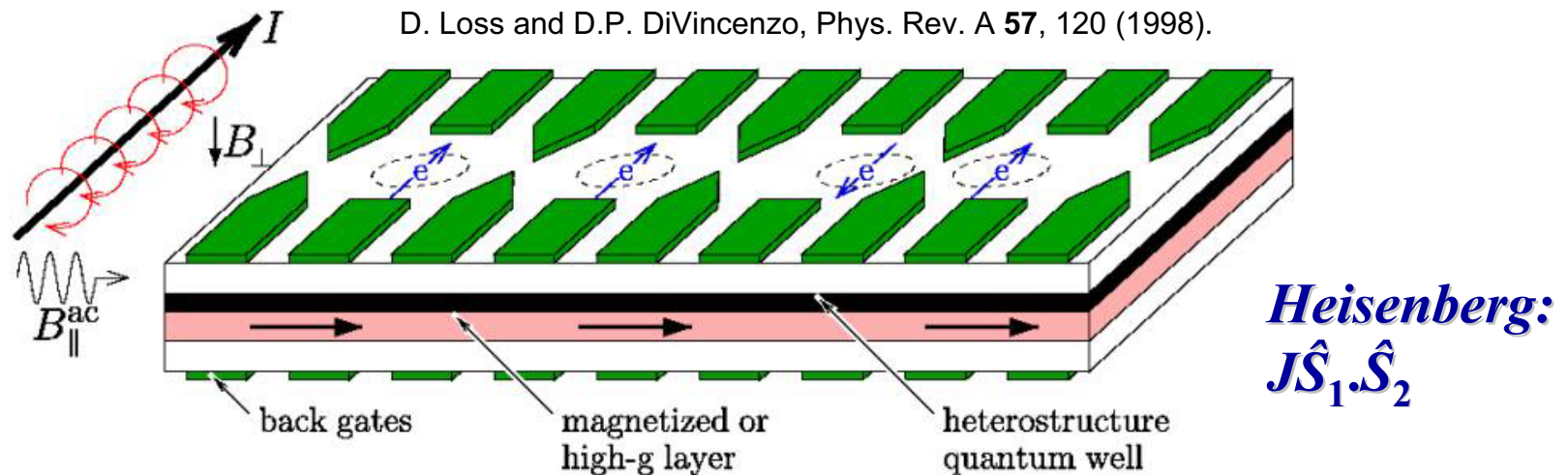
$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + J\hat{S}_1 \cdot \hat{S}_2 \approx \hat{H}_1 + \hat{H}_2 + J\hat{S}_{z1}\hat{S}_{z2}$$

$$E \approx D(m_1^2 + m_2^2) + g\mu_B B(m_1 + m_2) + Jm_1m_2$$

• Bias should shift the single spin (monomer) EPR transitions.

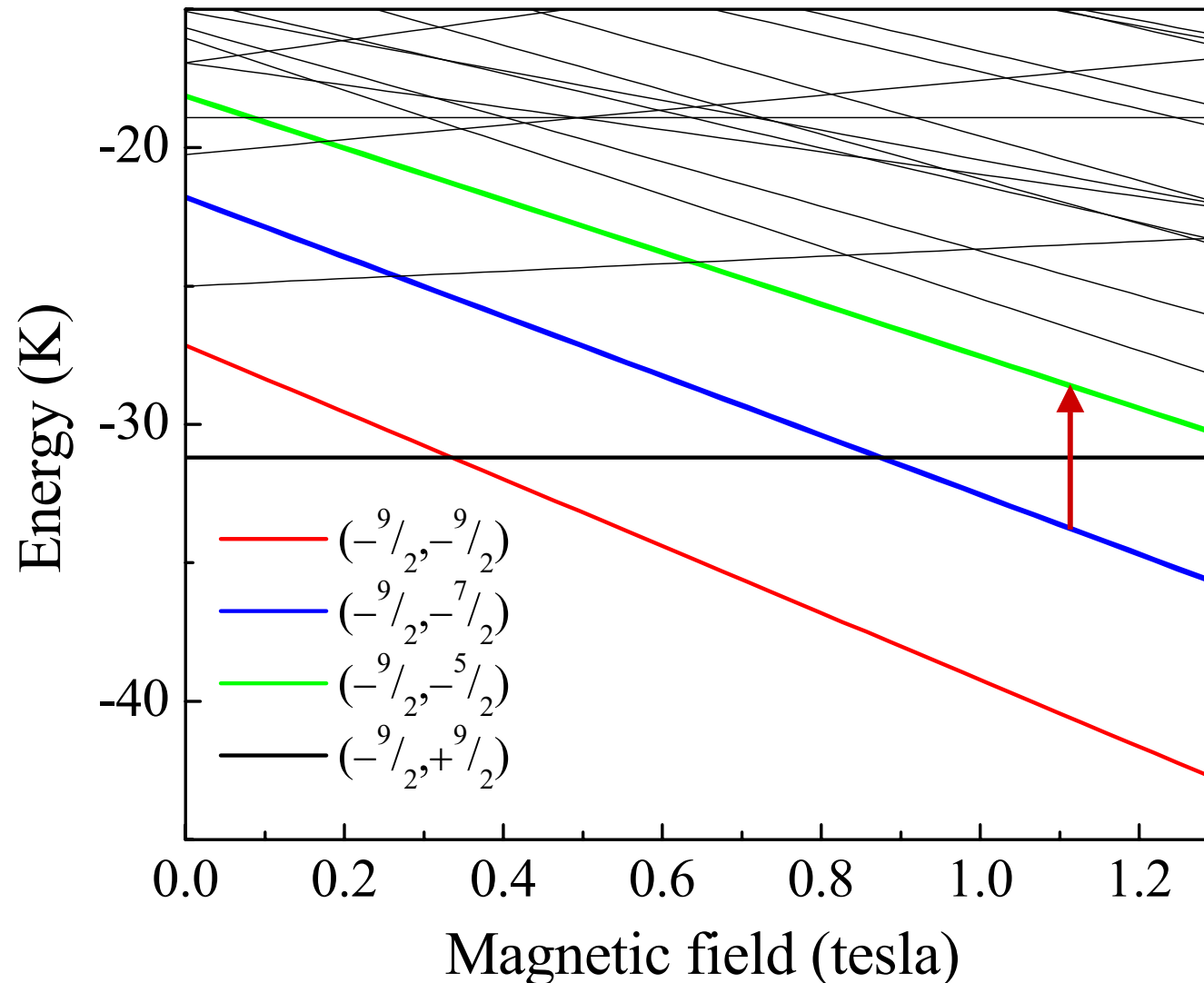
Systematic control of coupling between SMMs - Entanglement

This scheme in the same spirit as proposals for multi-qubit devices based on quantum dots



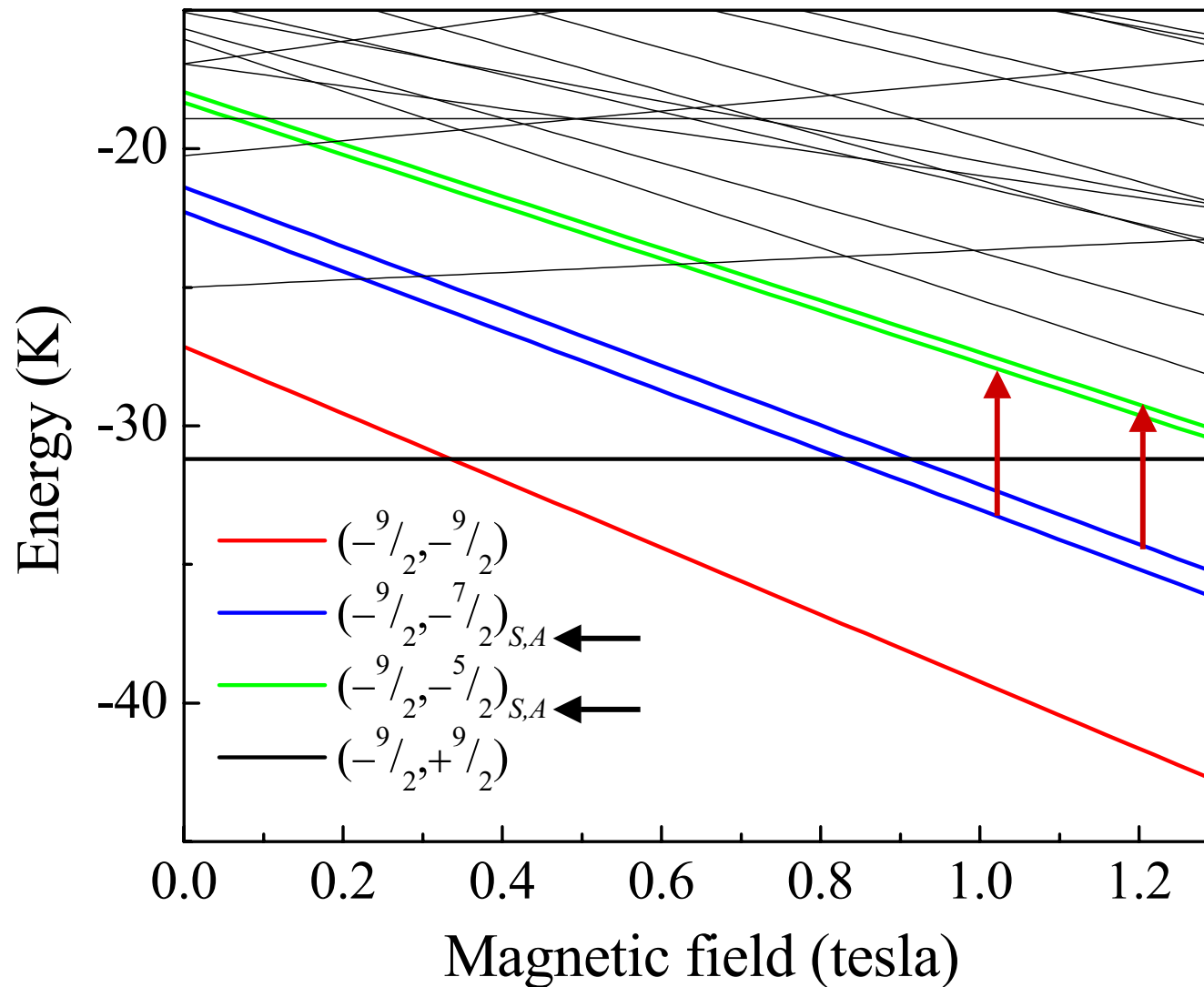
- Quantum mechanical coupling caused by the transverse (off-diagonal) parts of the exchange interaction $J_{xy}(\hat{S}_{x1}\hat{S}_{x2} + \hat{S}_{y1}\hat{S}_{y2})$.
- This term causes the entanglement, *i.e.* it truly mixes $|m_{z1}, m_{z2}\rangle$ basis states, resulting in co-tunneling and EPR transitions involving two-spin rotations.
- CAN WE OBSERVE THIS?

$S_1 = S_2 = 9/2$; multiplicity of levels = $(2S_1 + 1)(2S_2 + 1) = 100$



Look for additional splitting (multiplicity) and symmetry effects (selection rules) in EPR.

$S_1 = S_2 = 9/2$; multiplicity of levels = $(2S_1 + 1)(2S_2 + 1) = 100$



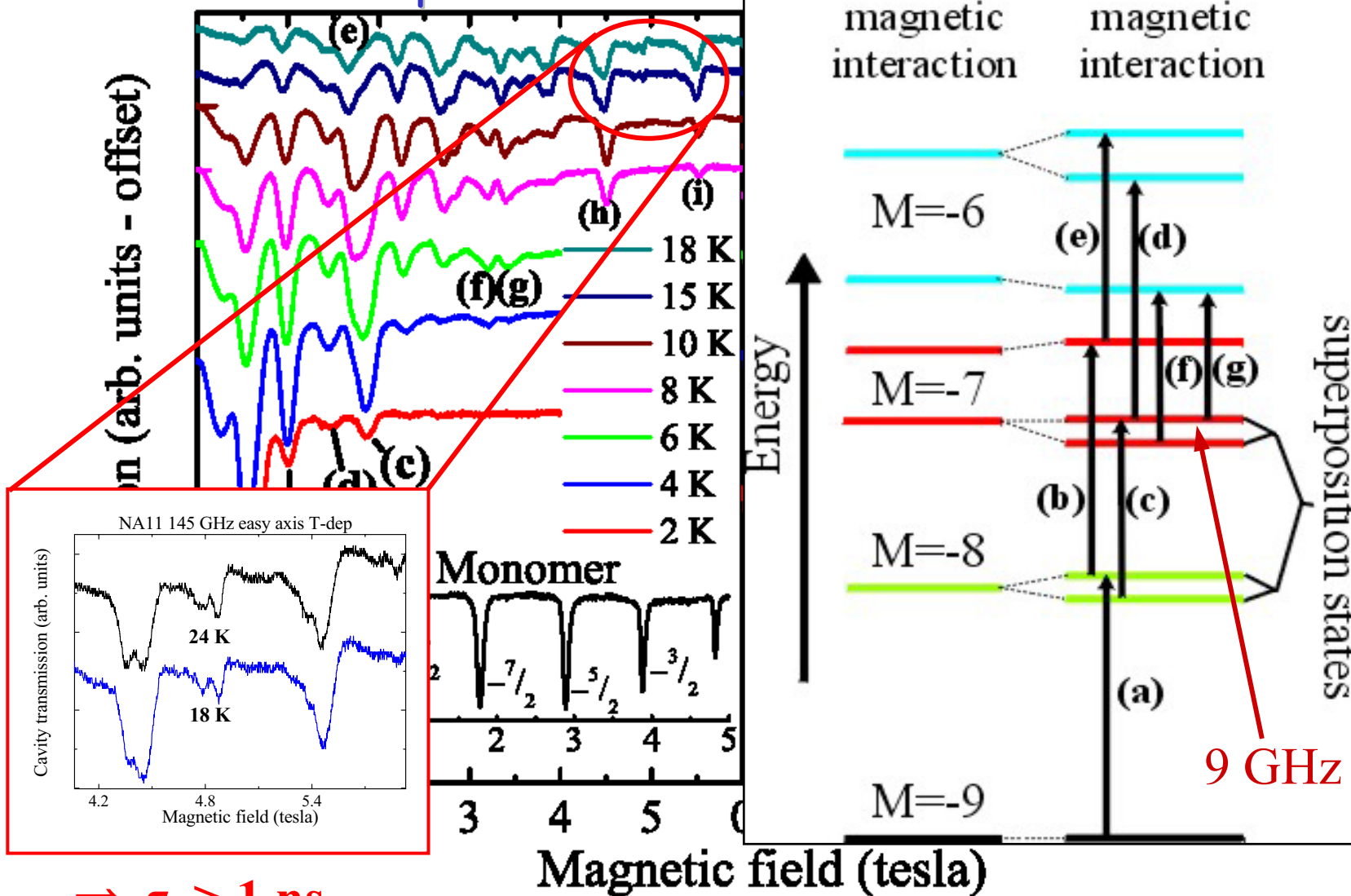
Look for additional splitting (multiplicity) and symmetry effects (selection rules) in EPR.

Clear evidence for coherent transitions involving both molecules

$$\hat{H}_D = \left[\hat{H}_{S1} + \hat{H}_{S2} + J\hat{S}_{z1}\hat{S}_{z2} \right] + \frac{1}{2}J \left(\hat{S}_1^+ \hat{S}_2^- + \hat{S}_1^- \hat{S}_2^+ \right)$$

$f = 145$ GHz

Experiment



$\Rightarrow \tau_\phi > 1$ ns

S. Hill *et al.*, *Science* **302**, 1015 (2003)

Summary and conclusions

- Very powerful combination of experimental capabilities for studies of polynuclear transition-metal complexes:
 - tunable high-frequency millimeter and sub-millimeter-wave sources;
 - cavity perturbation and broad-band quasioptics;
 - high magnetic fields;
 - oriented single-crystal capabilities;
 - and variable temperatures.
- Improved understanding of various Mn_{12} complexes
- Thorough characterization of Ni_4 SMM
- Demonstration of entanglement between two Mn_4 SMMs

Useful references:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Mn_{12} -Ac review: | del Barco et al., arXiv/cond-mat/0404390 (JLTP, 2005) |
| More on Mn_{12} : | Petukhov et al., Phys. Rev. B 70 , 054426 (2004) |
| | Takahashi et al., Phys. Rev. B 70 , 094429 (2004) |
| | Hill et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 90 , 217204 (2003) |
| Ni_4 systems: | Yang et al., Inorg. Chem., May 2005 (cond-mat/0502564) |
| Mn_4 Dimer: | Hill et al., Science 302 , 1015 (2003) |

Many collaborators

...illustrates the interdisciplinary nature of this work

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