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## What does diffuse scattering measure?

• Correlated disorder, e.g. ice rules





Water ice

#### Spin ice

Pauling, J. Am. Chem. Soc. **57**, 2680 (1935) Bramwell & Harris, PRL **79**, 2554 (1997) **Images**: Keen & Goodwin, Nature **521**, 303 (2015)



## What does diffuse neutron scattering measure?

- Neutron has magnetic moment  $\rightarrow$  correlated **magnetic** disorder





Bramwell & Harris, PRL **79**, 2554 (1997) Left data: Fennell et al., Science **326**, 415 (2009)



### Diffuse scattering analysis – an overview



Sectional Laboratory

Left data: Fennell et al., Science 326, 415 (2009) Right image: Castelnovo, Moessner & Sondhi, Nature 451, 42 (2008)

#### Diffuse scattering analysis – an overview





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## Plan for today

- Overview
- Experiment & Theory
- Magnetic structure refinement: Spinvert
- Magnetic interaction modelling: Spinteract



### Neutron scattering



- Consider scattering intensity integrated over energy transfer  $I(\mathbf{Q}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} I(\mathbf{Q}, E) dE$
- This measures instantaneous correlations
- Quasistatic approximation:

$$\int \mathrm{d}E \approx \int \mathrm{d}E_{\mathrm{f}} \quad \text{if } E << E_{\mathrm{i}}$$

diffraction ( $E_{\rm f}$  not analyzed)

 $Q = |\mathbf{Q}| = \frac{4\pi \sin \theta}{\lambda}$ 



Single crystals vs polycrystals (powders)

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## Experiment design

Measure wide range of Q (for crystals)
 – e.g. Corelli @ ORNL, SXD @ ISIS...

Measure and subtract background
 Or polarisation to isolate magnetic signal

• Ensure quasistatic approximation is valid – Choose  $E_i > |\theta_{CW}|$  (interaction strength)





Centre data: Clark et al., PRL 113, 117201 (2014); Lower data: courtesy J. R. Stewart

#### Nuclear intensity

Single crystal  $\succ$ 

$$\left\langle b^2 \right\rangle + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j \neq i} \left\langle b_i b_j \right\rangle \exp\left[\mathrm{i}\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i)\right]$$

> Powder

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$$\left\langle b^2 \right\rangle + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j \neq i} \left\langle b_i b_j \right\rangle \frac{\sin(Qr_{ij})}{Qr_{ij}}$$

#### Debye formula

 $r_{ij}$  = radial distance  $b_i$  = coherent scattering length

#### Magnetic intensity

> Single crystal

$$C[gf(Q)]^{2} \left\{ \frac{2}{3}S(S+1) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j \neq i} \left\langle \mathbf{S}_{i}^{\perp} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}^{\perp} \right\rangle \exp\left[i\mathbf{Q} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_{j} - \mathbf{r}_{i})\right] \right\}$$
$$C = \left(\frac{\mu_{0}}{4\pi} \frac{\gamma_{n} e^{2}}{2m_{e}}\right)^{2}$$
$$= 0.07265 \text{ barn}$$
$$S^{\perp} = \mathbf{S} - \mathbf{QS} \cdot \mathbf{Q}/Q^{2}$$
$$f(\mathbf{Q}) = \text{magnetic form factor}$$

> Powder  

$$C[gf(Q)]^{2} \left\{ \frac{2}{3}S(S+1) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i,j \neq i} A_{ij} \left[ \frac{\sin Qr_{ij}}{Qr_{ij}} + B_{ij} \left( \frac{\sin Qr_{ij}}{(Qr_{ij})^{3}} - \frac{\cos Qr_{ij}}{(Qr_{ij})^{2}} \right) \right] \right\}$$

$$A_{ij} = \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j} - (\mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}) (\mathbf{S}_{j} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij})$$

$$B_{ij} = 3 \left( \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij} \right) (\mathbf{S}_{j} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}) - \mathbf{S}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{j}$$

Debye, Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 351, 809 (1915) Blech & Averbach, Physics 1, 31 (1964)

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### Reverse Monte Carlo method





McGreevy, JPCM **13**, R877 (2001) Tucker et al., JPCM **19**, 335218 (2007)

## RMC: Proof of principle

• e.g. fit to virtual "data" for spin ice





# RMC: Proof of principle

• e.g. fit to virtual "data" for spin ice







## RMC: Proof of principle







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## Spinvert program

IOP PUBLISHING	JOURNAL OF PHYSICS: CONDENSED MATTER	
SPINVERT: a program for	refinement of	
paramagnetic diffuse scattering data		

Joseph A M Paddison<sup>1,2</sup>, J Ross Stewart<sup>2</sup> and Andrew L Goodwin<sup>1</sup>

- Refine "big box" model to magnetic diffuse scattering data
- Structure refinement method no spin Hamiltonian used
- **Download:** joepaddison.com/software

**CAK RIDGE** National Laborator Andrew GoodwinRoss StewartUniversity of OxfordISIS Neutron Source

## Spinvert program

#### joe.paddison.com/software







## Spinvert example 1: Kagome Dy<sub>3</sub>Mg<sub>2</sub>Sb<sub>3</sub>O<sub>14</sub>



Kagome Dy<sub>3</sub>Mg<sub>2</sub>Sb<sub>3</sub>O<sub>14</sub>



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Sanders et al., J. Mater. Chem. C 4, 541–550 (2016)

# Spinvert example 1: Kagome Dy<sub>3</sub>Mg<sub>2</sub>Sb<sub>3</sub>O<sub>14</sub>



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Paddison et al., Nature Commun. 7, 13842 (2016)

## Spinvert example 2: Manganese oxide, MnO

• Single-crystal magnetic reverse Monte Carlo





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### Diffuse scattering analysis – an overview



23 **CAK RIDGE** National Laboratory Left data: Fennell et al., Science 326, 415 (2009) Right image: Castelnovo, Moessner & Sondhi, Nature 451, 42 (2008) Magnetic interaction modelling has a long history

• e.g. paramagnetic MnO;  $H = J_1 \sum \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + J_2 \sum \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$ 

 $\langle i,j \rangle$ 





 $\langle \langle i,j \rangle \rangle$ 

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## Spinteract program



Paddison, arXiv:2210.09016 (2022) Brout & Thomas, Physics Physique Fizika **3**, 317 (1967) James & Roos, Comp. Phys. Commun. **10**, 343 (1975)

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## Spinteract example 1: MnO

• Same data as previously shown (SXD @ ISIS)

Data T = 160 K(a) 3 2 -2  $-2_{-1}$ .

MnO_config.txt — Edited			
TITLE MnO			
CELL 4.4344 4.4344 4.4344 90 90 90			
PATTERSON_GROUP Fm-3m			
SITE 0.0 0.0 0.0			
SPIN_DIMENSION 3 SPIN_LENGTH_SQUARED 8.75 FORM_FACTOR_J0 0.4220 17.6840 0.5948 6.0050 0.0043 -0.6090 -0.0219			
XTAL_SCALE refine XTAL_FLAT_BACKGROUND refine XTAL_TEMPERATURE 160.0			
BZ_POINTS 32 32 32			
ORIGIN -3.0 -3.0 -3.0 X_AXIS 6.0 0.0 0.0 151 Y_AXIS 0.0 6.0 0.0 151 Z_AXIS 0.0 0.0 6.0 151			

Paddison, arXiv:2210.09016 (2022) Data: Paddison, Gutmann, Stewart et al., PRB 97, 014429 (2018)



## Spinteract example 1: MnO

• Same data as previously shown (SXD @ ISIS)



Paddison, arXiv:2210.09016 (2022) Data: Paddison, Gutmann, Stewart *et al.*, *PRB* **97**, 014429 (2018)



## **Spinteract example 2**: Skyrmion crystal Gd<sub>2</sub>PdSi<sub>3</sub>

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• **Below**  $T_N$ : "Giant" topological Hall effect in applied field



## **Spinteract example 2**: Gd<sub>2</sub>PdSi<sub>3</sub>

• Above  $T_N$ : Good fit with 5 interaction parameters –  $J_c$  is inter-layer coupling



Ferromagnetic values are +ve Uncertainties  $3\sigma$ 

Paddison et al., PRL 129, 137202 (2022)



### **Spinteract example 2**: Gd<sub>2</sub>PdSi<sub>3</sub>

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$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + g\mu_{\mathrm{B}} B \sum_i S_i^z + D \sum_{i>j} \frac{\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j - 3\left(\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}\right) \left(\mathbf{S}_j \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}\right)}{\left(r_{ij}/r_1\right)^3}$$



## Spinteract example 3: KYbSe<sub>2</sub>

• Triangular lattice of Yb<sup>3+</sup> with effective spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ 



Allen Scheie Ornl/Lanl

Alan Tennant ORNL/UTK



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Scheie, Ghioldi, Xing, Paddison *et al.*, arXiv 2109.11527 (2021) Scheie *et al.*, arXiv 2207.14785 (2022)

## Spinteract example 3: KYbSe<sub>2</sub>

• Fits show <3% deviation from Heisenberg model



Theoretical technique	$J_1 \text{ (meV)}$	$J_2/J_1$
Onsager reaction field	NA	$0.047 \pm 0.007$
Nonlinear spin waves	$0.456 \pm 0.013$	$0.043 \pm 0.010$
Heat capacity	$0.429 \pm 0.010$	$0.037 \pm 0.013$
Weighted mean:	$0.438 \pm 0.008$	$0.044 \pm 0.005$

Scheie, Ghioldi, Xing, Paddison et al., arXiv 2109.11527 (2021) Scheie et al., arXiv 2207.14785 (2022)



#### Conclusions

- Magnetic diffuse scattering is a rich source of information
  - Spin correlations (mPDF): Reverse Monte Carlo (Spinvert, RMCProfile, RMCDiscord)
  - Magnetic interactions: Spinteract
- Powder data often more informative than we might expect!
- I'll distribute tutorial files at the tutorial sessions

joepaddison.com/software



## Thanks for listening!

Gd<sub>2</sub>PdSi<sub>3</sub>: Andy Christianson, ORNL, USA Matt Stone, ORNL, USA Stuart Calder, ORNL, USA Drew May, ORNL, USA Binod Rai, SRNL, USA

#### MnO:

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#### Programs: joepaddison.com/software

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