Emergent monopoles and photons in rare earth pyrochlore magnets

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"... it is not certain that nobody has ever seen one. What seems certain is that nobody has ever seen two." Preskill, Ann. Rev. Nuc. Part. Sci. (1984); Cabrera, Phys. Rev. Lett. (1982); Rajantie, Cont. Phys. (2012);

"Their low-energy physics exhibits an emergent gauge field and their excitations are magnetic monopoles that arise from the fractionalization of the microscopic magnetic spin degrees of freedom." Castelnovo et al., Ann. Rev. Cond. Matt. (2012)

+ Frustrated magnetism and rare earth pyrochlores

- + Spin ice:
 - Coulomb phase
 - Monopoles
- + Quantum spin ice:
 - "Maxwell phase"
 - Candidate materials
- $+ Tb_2Ti_2O_7:$
 - $\mathsf{Tb}_2\mathsf{Ti}_2\mathsf{O}_7$ as a QSI
 - Power-law correlations
 - Magnetoelastic excitations

Spin liquids: frustration/competing interactions \rightarrow degeneracy

- + Balents, Nature (2010)
- + Normand, Contemporary Physics (2009)
- + Gardner, Gingras, Greedan, Rev. Mod. Phys. (2010)
- + Henley, Ann. Rev. Cond. Matt. (2009)
- + Castelnovo, Moessner, Sondhi, Ann. Rev. Cond. Matt. (2012)



Rare earth pyrochlores: $Ho_2Ti_2O_7$ and $Dy_2Ti_2O_7$



Subramanian et al Prog. Sol. St. Chem. 15, 55 (1983); Gardner et al. Rev. Mod. Phys. 82, 53 (2010)

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Spin ice: Hamiltonians



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Spin ice: "Classical spin liquid" \rightarrow Coulomb phase/monopoles

- + Ice rule: 2-in-2-out
- + Local degrees of freedom map to non-divergent field



Isakov et al. PRL (2004, 2005); Henley, Ann. Rev. Cond. Matt. (2010); Castelnovo et al. Nature (2008); see also Rhyzkin JETP (2005)

Spin ice: Coulomb phase \rightarrow pinch points



Isakov et al. PRL (2004, 2005); TF et al. Science (2009); Henley, Ann. Rev. Cond. Matt. (2010)

 $+ \nabla \cdot M(\mathbf{r}) = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{k} \cdot M(\mathbf{k}) = 0$

+ Correlations have spatial dependence of dipolar interaction: *pinch points*



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Spin ice: strongly correlated magnetic Coulomb liquid in Dy2Ge2O7



Debye-Hückel theory for weak electrolyte, e.g. $2H_2O = [H_3O^+OH^-] = H_3O^+ + OH^$ monopole charge $= \pm \mu/(\sqrt{3/2}a)$, $a_{DTO} \sim 10.1$ Å, $a_{DGO} \sim 9.9$ Å $J_{eff,DTO} = 1.1$ K, $\nu = 4.25$ K; $J_{eff,DGO} = 0.6$ K, $\nu = 3.35$ K

Bramwell *et. al.* Nature (2009); Onsager J. Chem. Phys. (1934); Zhou *et al.*, Nat. Comm. (2011); Morris *et al.*, Science (2009); Castelnovo *et al.* PRB (2011)

- + Deconfined fractional quasiparticles (in 3d)
- + Emergent monopole character (and Coulomb phase)
- + "Magnetolyte"/electrolyte duality
- $+\,$ Effective theory transforms questions \rightarrow new ideas possible, care required in investigations

Quantum spin ice: "Maxwell phase" \rightarrow magnetic photons





Quantum spin ice: candidate materials



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- + Quantum generalization of spin ice
- $+\,$ Spinons and photons but no photons yet observed
- + General purpose Hamiltonian for rare earth pyrochlores where dipolar interaction not too large

$Tb_2Ti_2O_7$: the original quantum spin ice



Gardner, RMP (2010); Cao, PRL (2009); Molavian et al., PRL (2007)

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Tb₂Ti₂O₇: Coulomb phase correlations



Henley, PRB (2005); TF, PRL (2012)

Tb₂Ti₂O₇: magnetoelastic excitations



IN5, TASP + MuPAD

TF et al., PRL (2014)

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- + Power-law correlations type of Coulomb phase
- $\ + \$ Hybridization of spin and lattice excitations
- + Source of fluctuations to melt expected order?
- $+\,$ Neutrons for the study of spin correlations and excitations on the meV energy scale and mK temperature scale

Spin ice: magnetic Coulomb liquid \rightarrow susceptibility and relaxation at low temperature



Jaubert, Nat. Phys. (2009); Morris, Tennant, Castelnovo, Moessner et al., Science (2009); CMS, PRB (2011)

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Spin ice: magnetic Coulomb liquid \rightarrow electrolyte/magnetolyte duality



Gibilli et: ul: 1440 1 lijb. (2011)

Table 1 | Estimated parameters at T = 0.36 K.

| Description | Symbol | Measured | Expected |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Dissociation rate constant | k _D | 1.3(1) × 10 ⁻⁴ s ⁻¹ | |
| Recombination rate constant | k _R | $1.04 \times 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ | |
| Pair-orientation rate constant | k _{Or} | $9.9(9) \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ | |
| Mean monopole hop rate | $\sim ck_P(a/I_T)$: $c \approx 7.7$ | $1.8 \times 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ | $\sim 10^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (refs 10.24) |
| Mean monopole lifetime | $\sim (2k_R n_f)^{-1}$ | ~150 s | |
| Dissociation equilibrium constant | $K = k_D / k_B = n_f^2 / n_b$ | 1.25×10^{-7} | |
| Bound-pair density per Dy | $n_{\rm b} = {\rm e}^{-T_{\rm b}/T}$ | $1.0(1) \times 10^{-4}$ | $\sim 10^{-6}$ (this work) |
| Free-charge density per Dy | $n_{\rm f} = {\rm e}^{-T_{\rm f}/T}$ | $4(1) \times 10^{-6}$ | 2×10 ⁻⁶ (ref. 10) |

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