Supersolid Phases of Frustrated Quantum Magnets

F. Mila
Institute of Theoretical Physics
Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
Switzerland

Supersolid Phases of a Frustrated Quantum Magnets?

Magnetization process of $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$

Collaborators

Theorists

S. Miyahara (Lausanne → Tokyo)
F. Becca (Lausanne → Trieste)
K. Schmidt, J. Dorier, N. Laflorencie (Lausanne)
A. Läuchli, J.-B. Fouet (Lausanne)
S. Manmana (Lausanne), R. Noack (Marburg)
O. Tchernyshyov, D. Clarke (Baltimore)
K. Penc (Budapest)

Experimentalists

M. Takigawa, S. Matsubara, K. Kodama (ISSP)
C. Berthier, M. Horvatic (Grenoble)

Scope

- Supersolid phases in lattice bosonic models
- From quantum magnets in a field to bosons
- Magnetization plateaux in $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$

  → Boson Mott insulator
- Broken translation above 1/8 plateau

  → Supersolid?
- Conclusions/Perspectives

Hubbard boson models

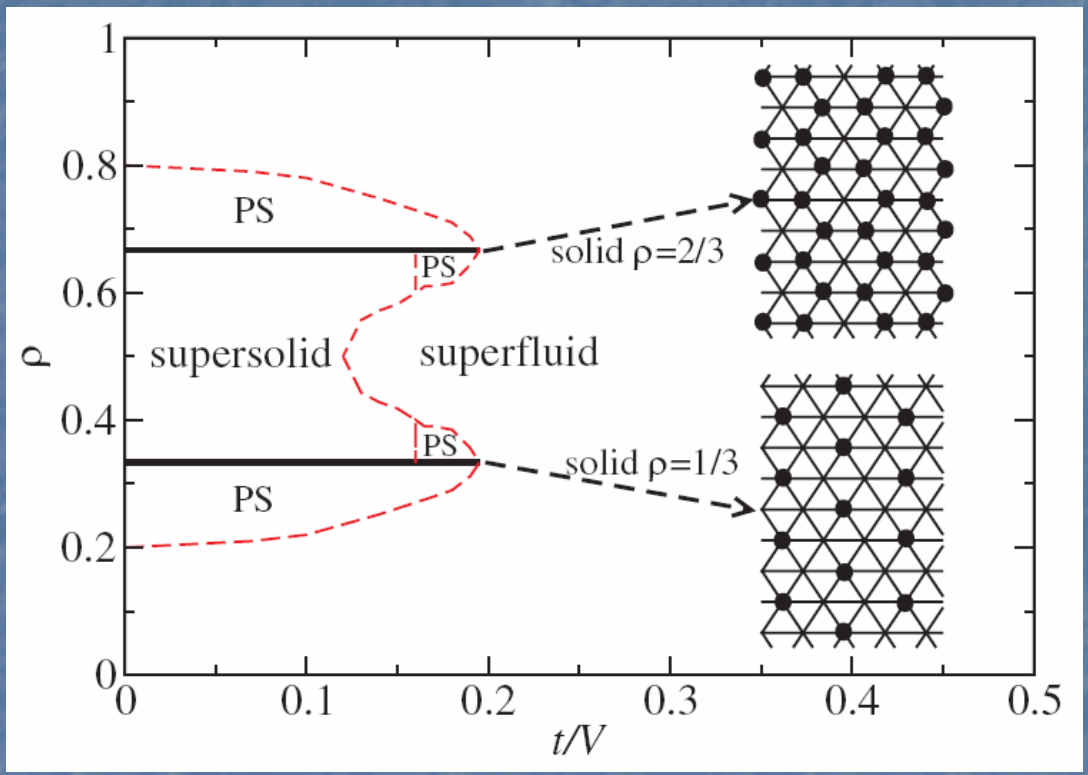
Hard-core bosons

$$H = -t\sum_{\langle i,j\rangle}(a_i^\dagger a_j + a_j^\dagger a_i) - \mu\sum_i n_i + V\sum_{\langle i,j\rangle} n_i n_j$$

Soft-core bosons

$$H \to H + \frac{U}{2}\sum_i n_i(n_i - 1)$$

Insulating and supersolid phases



Hard-core bosons on triangular lattice

Wessel and Troyer, ’05
Heidarian et al, ’05
Melko et al, ‘05

NB: Not really generic!
No supersolid for same model on square or kagome

From quantum magnets to hard-core bosons

$$\mathcal{H} = J\vec{S}_1 \cdot \vec{S}_2 - g\mu_B H(S_1^z + S_2^z)$$

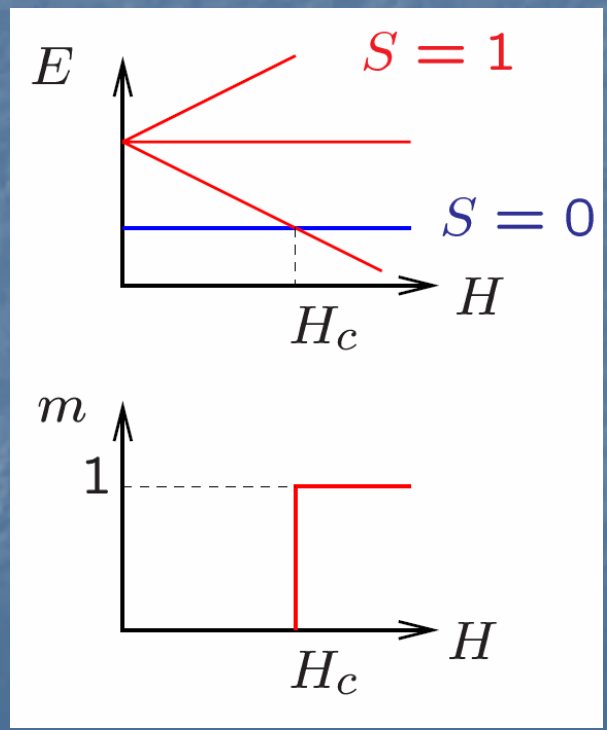
$$|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$$

$$(|\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}\rangle$$

$$|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$$

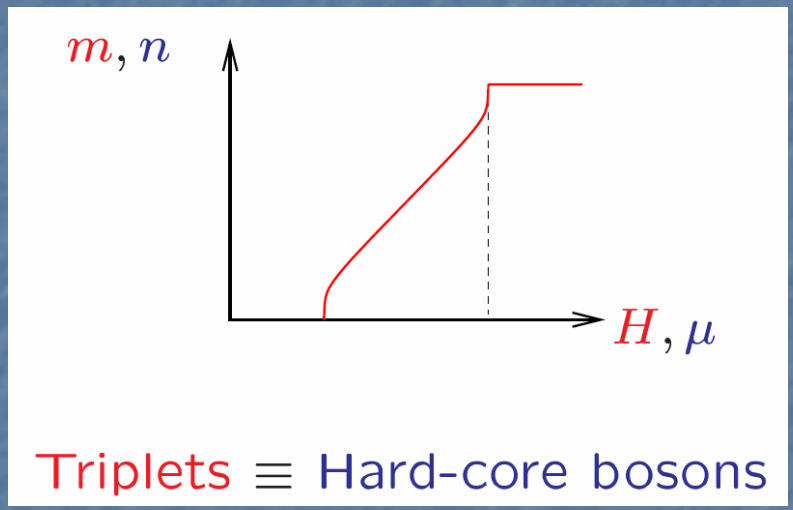
$$(|\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}\rangle$$

Isolated dimer



From quantum dimers to hard-core bosons

Coupled dimers



Modulation of S_z <-> CDW

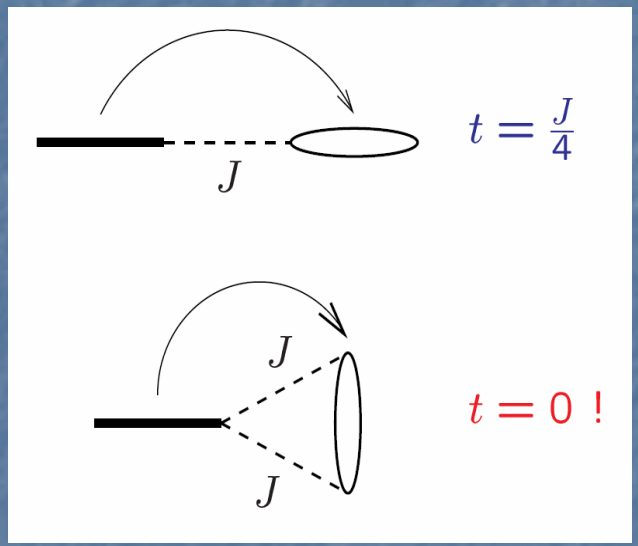
Ordering of $S_{x,y}$ <-> BEC

Program

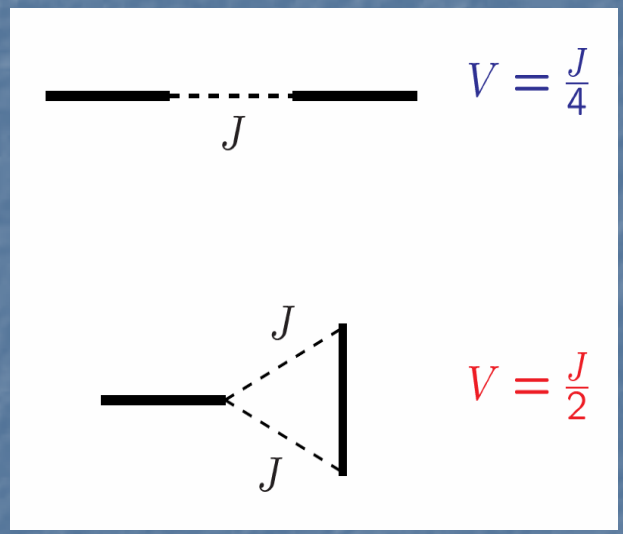
- How to reduce kinetic energy (t/V<0.2)?
  → Frustration
- Supersolid with square geometry?
  → Correlated hopping (second order)
- Experimental signature?
  → 2 phase transitions
- Experimental realization?
  → $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$
  → Actual story slightly more complicated

Frustrated Coupled Dimers

Triplet Hopping

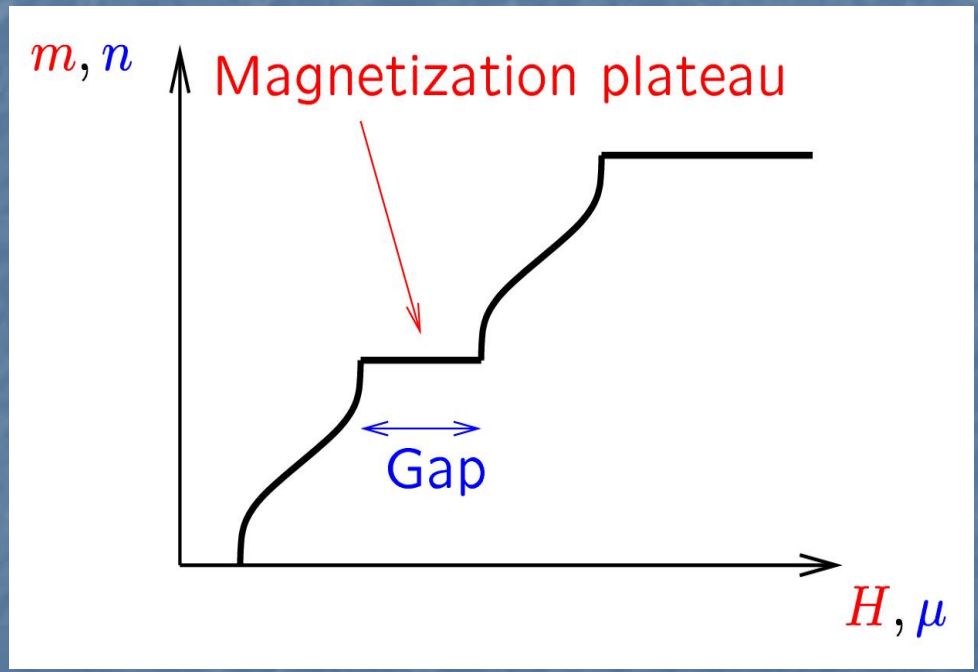


Triplet Repulsion



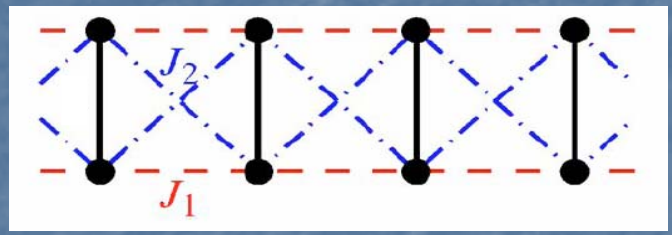
Frustration → Kinetic energy ↘ / Repulsion ↗ → **Metal-insulator transition** → **Magnetization plateau**

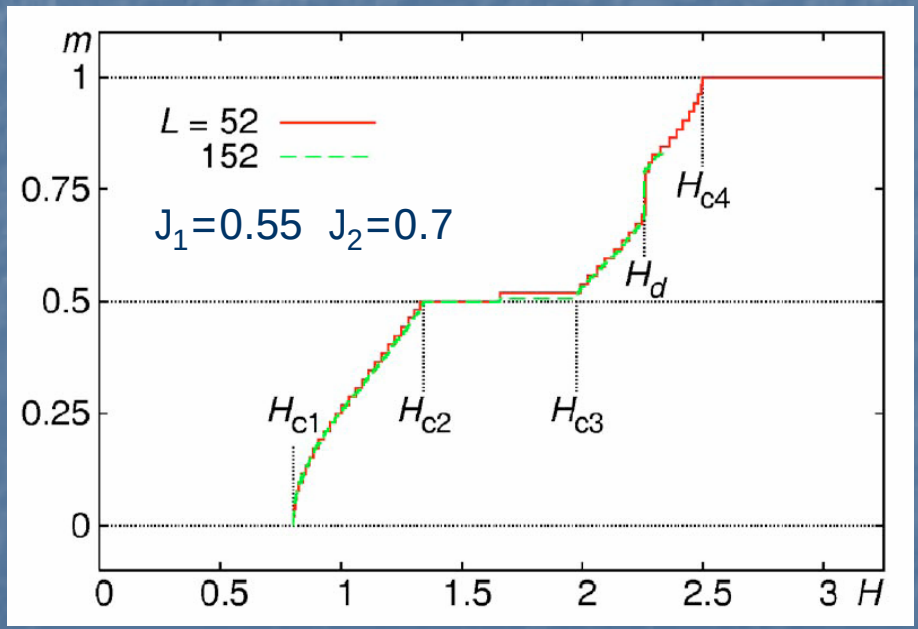
Frustration → plateaux



D. Cabra et al, PRL ’97
K. Totsuka, PRB ’98
T. Tonegawa et al, PRB ‘99
F. Mila, EPJB ‘98

Frustrated ladder



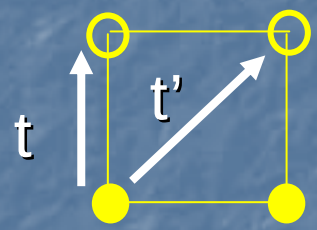


Translation symmetry NOT broken outside plateau but can be broken by DM interaction (Penc, Fouet, Miyahara, Tchernyshyov, Mila, PRL'07)

DMRG results: Fouet, Mila, Clarke, Youk, Tchenyshyov, Fendley, Noack, PRB '05

Supersolid from correlated hopping

$$H = -t \sum_i \sum_{\delta=\pm x,\pm y} b^\dagger_{i+\delta} b_i - \mu \sum_i n_i$$
$$-t' \sum_i \sum_{\delta=\pm x;\delta'=\pm y} n_i \left[b^\dagger_{i+\delta} b_{i+\delta'} + h.c. \right]$$
$$+V \sum_i \sum_{\delta=+x,+y} n_{i+\delta} n_i$$



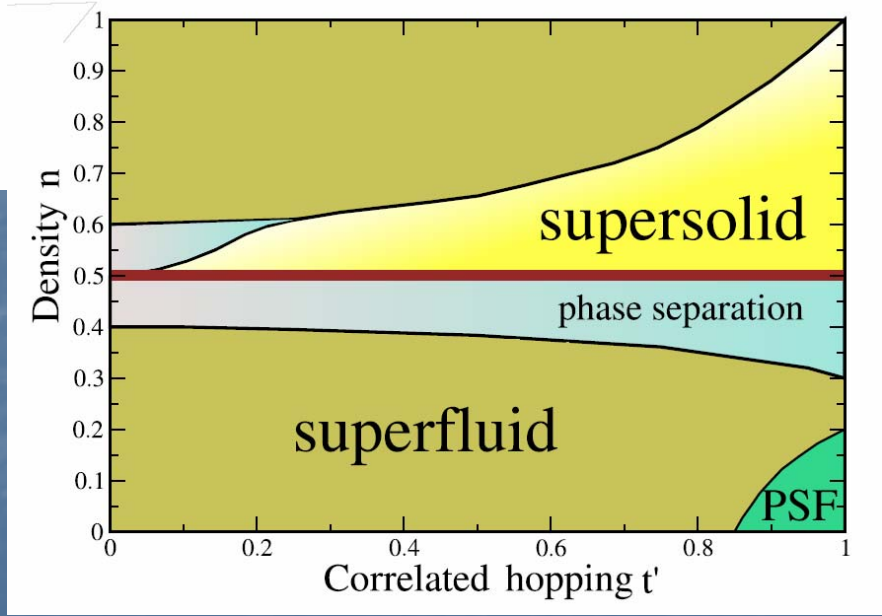
$SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$

$t / J^6/J_?^5$

$t'/ J^2/J_?$

Square lattice

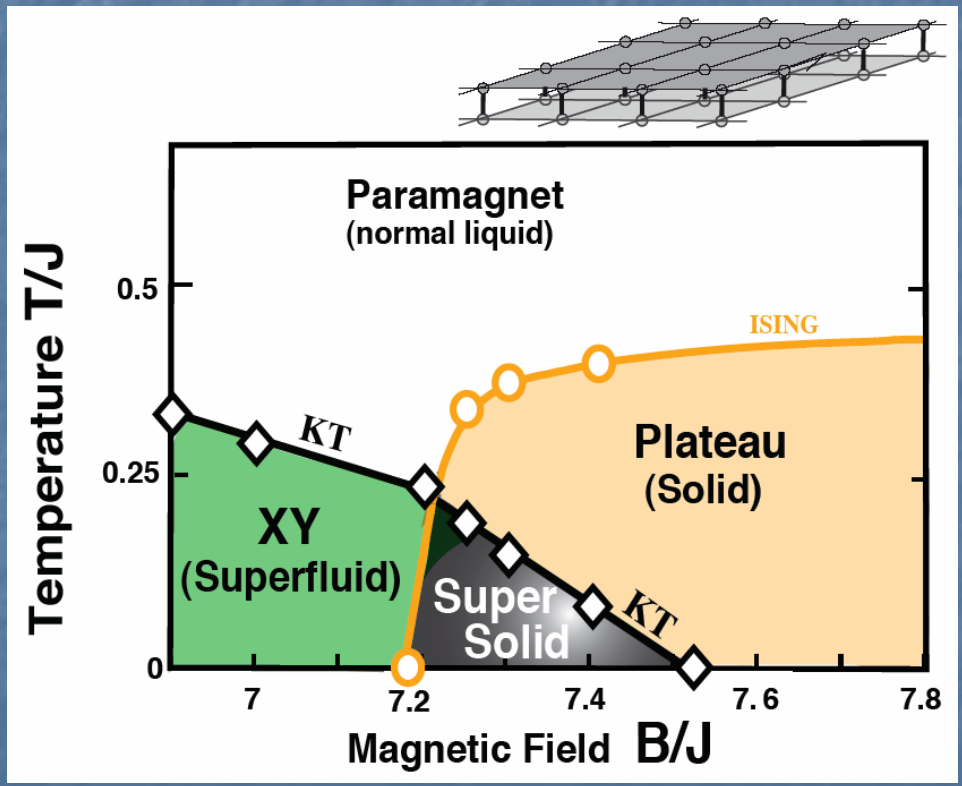
K. Schmidt, A. Läuchli, F. Mila, unpublished



Alternative: n.n.n. hopping, see Chen, Melko, Wessel, Kao, preprint

Experimental signature

2 phase transitions



N. Laflorencie, F. Mila, PRL 2007

Inter-dimer coupling

$J_z \grave{A} J_{xy}$

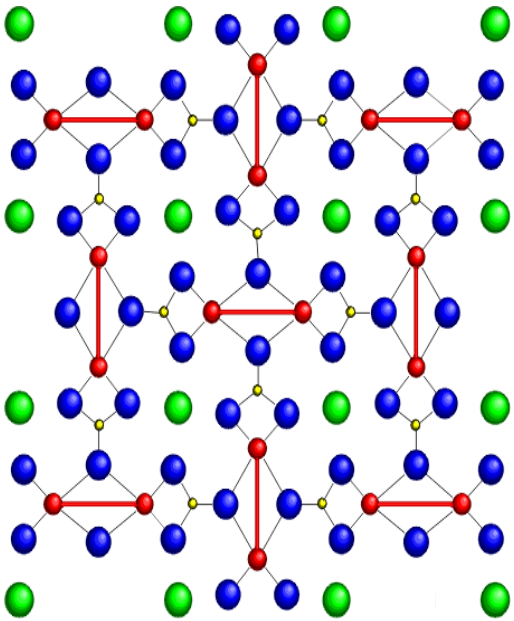
Reduced kinetic energy

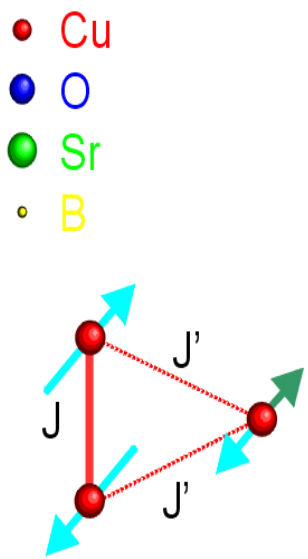
Supersolid at T=0

Ng and Lee, PRL 2006

$SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$

Kageyama et al, PRL ‘99



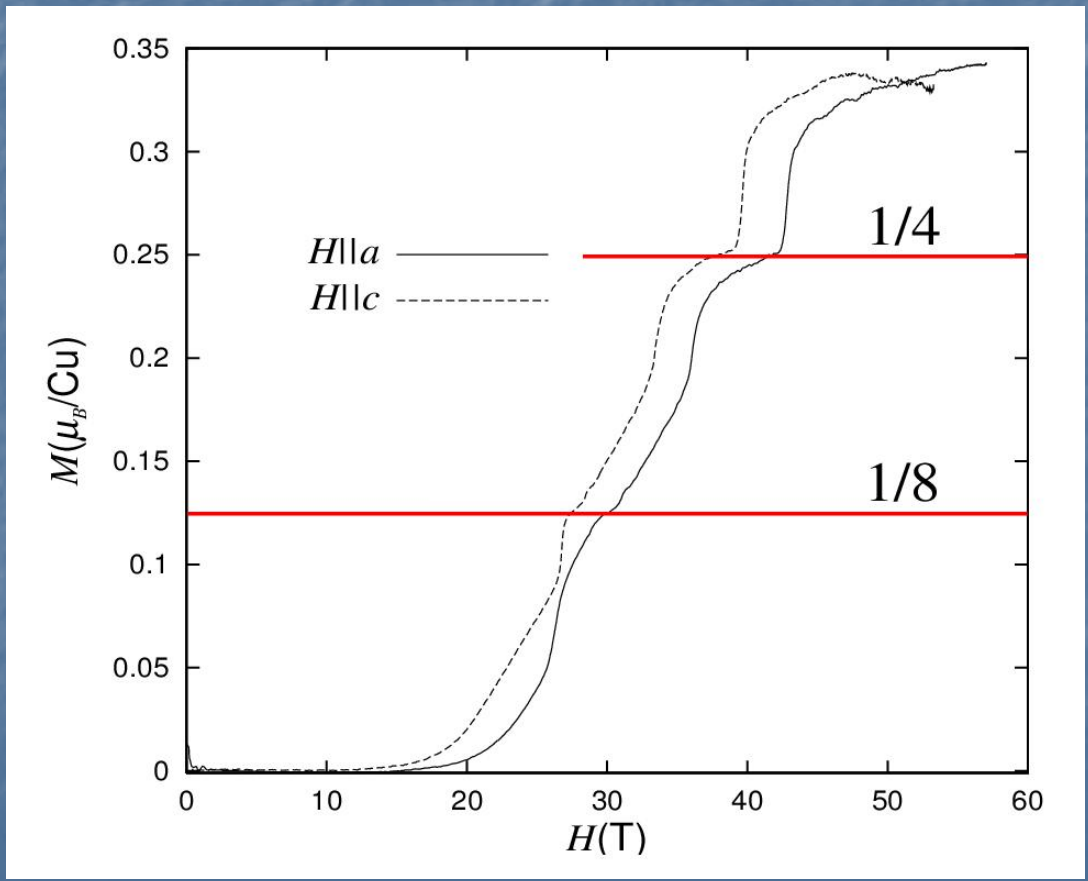


Cu^{2+} -> Spin 1/2

J ' 85 K

J’/J ' 0.63

Magnetization of $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$

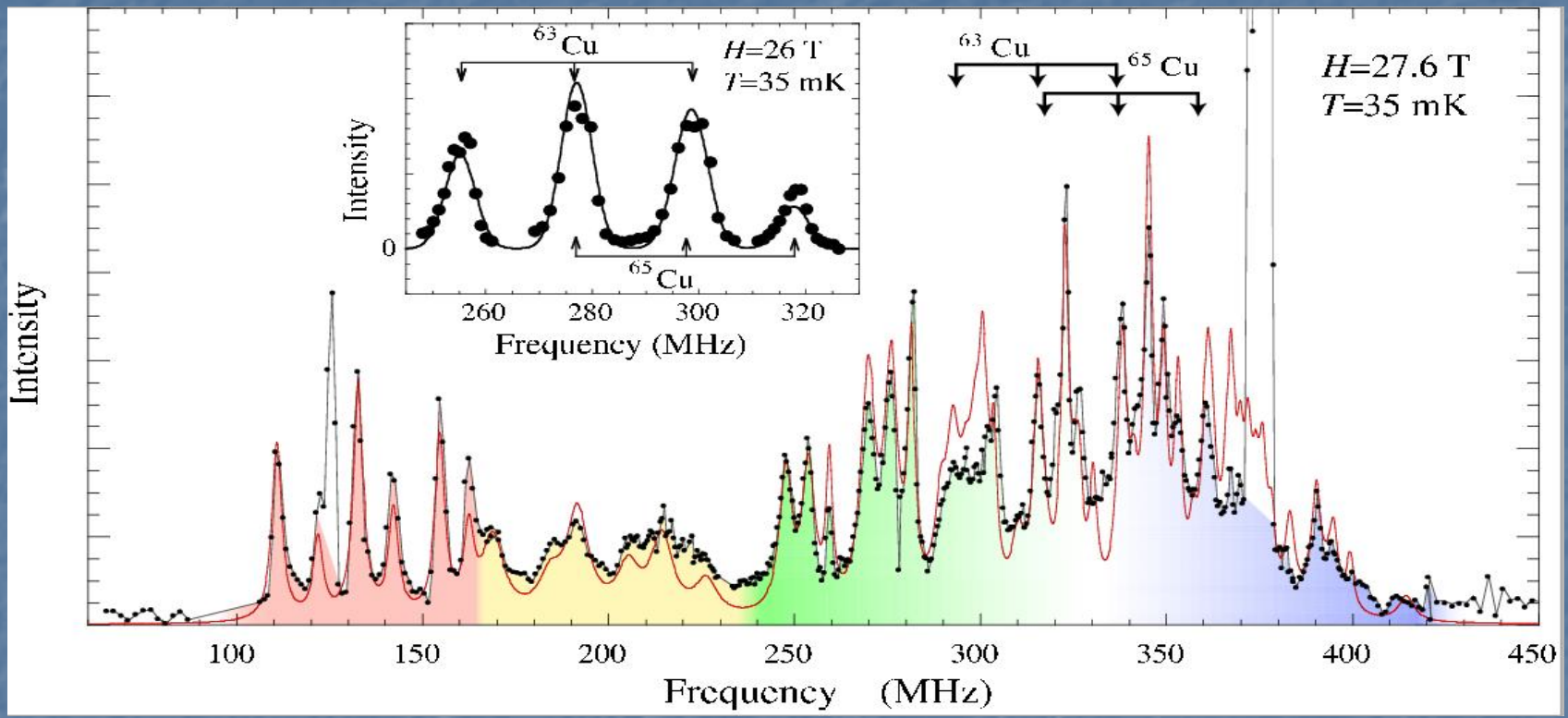


Kageyama et al PRL '99

Plateaux

- M=0
- M=1/8
- M=1/4
- M=1/3

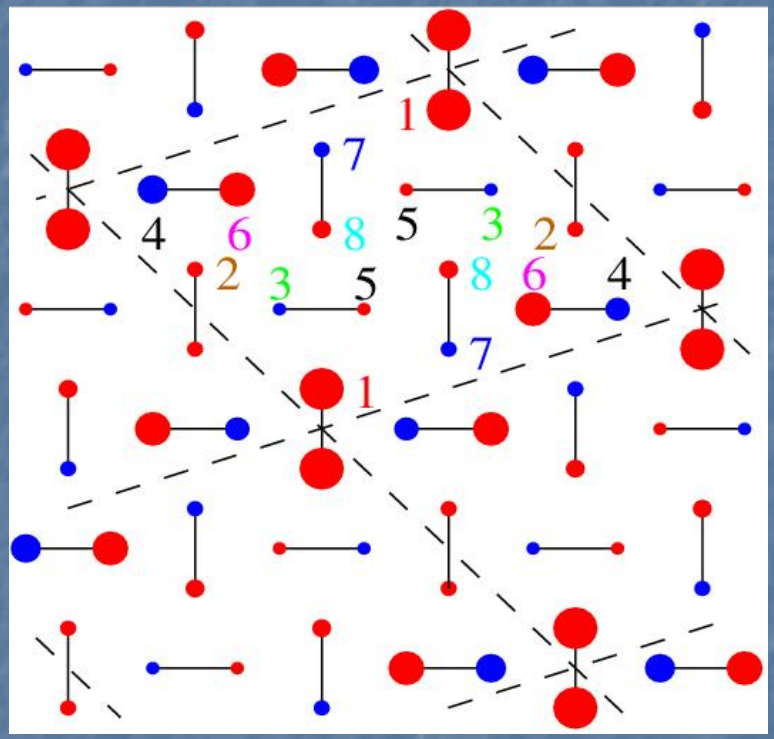
NMR at 1/8-plateau



At least 11 different sites!

K. Kodama, M. Takigawa, M. Horvatic, C. Berthier, H. Kageyama, Y. Ueda, S. Miyahara, F. Becca, F. Mila, Science ‘02

Magnetization profile at 1/8



Magnetization opposite to field

Magnetization in field direction

Symmetry breaking

16 sites/unit cell

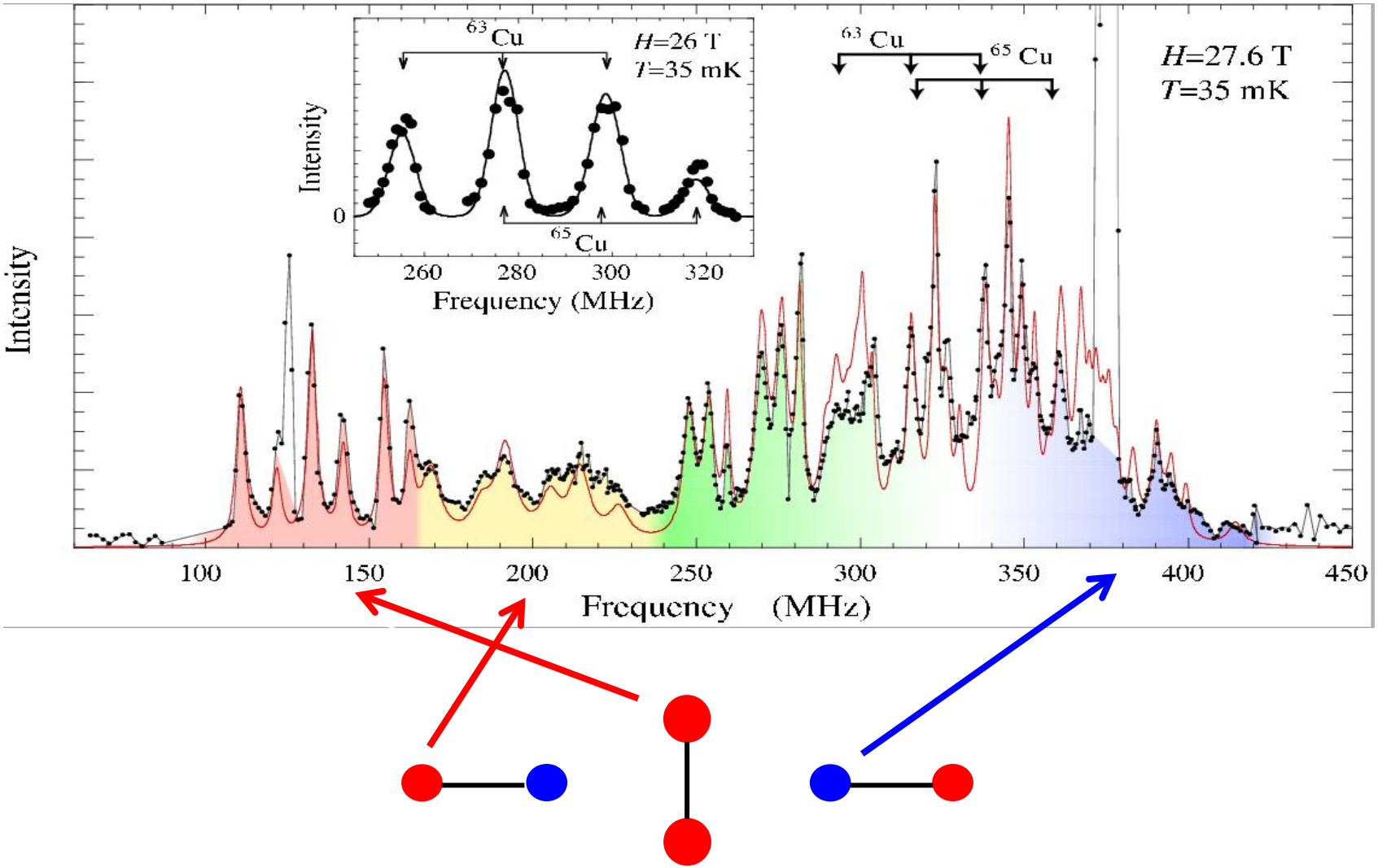
8-fold degenerate GS

Lattice distortion

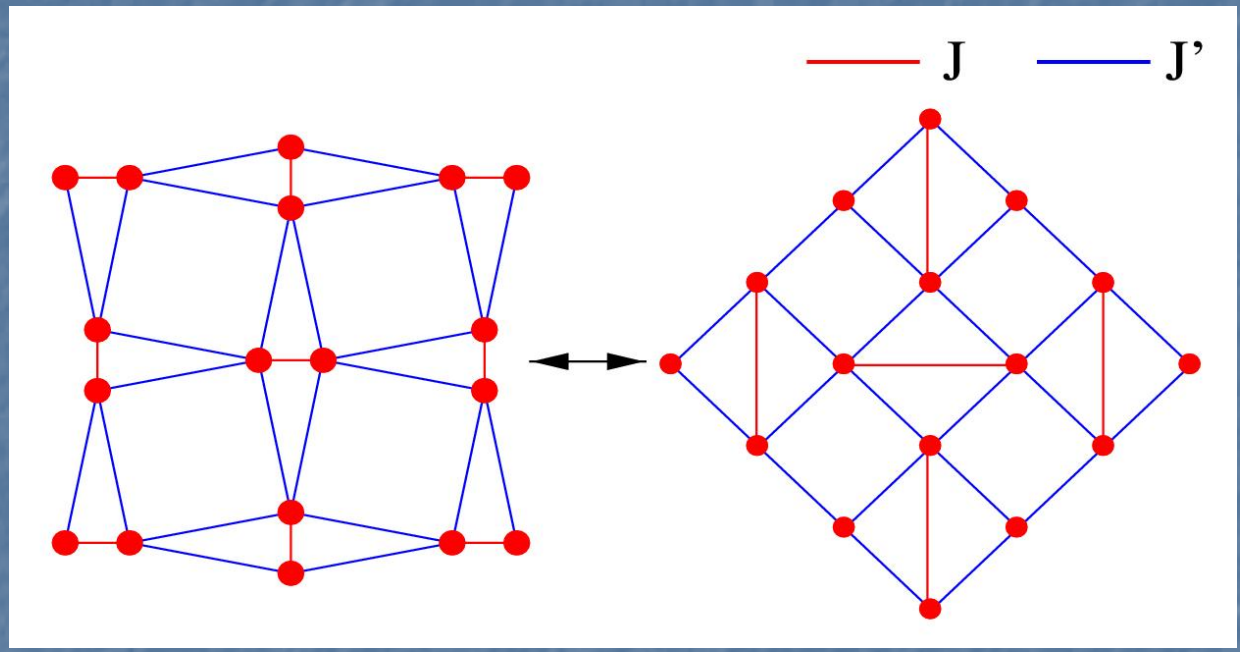
Sound-velocity
(Wolf et al, PRL '01)

Selection of one GS
with Friedel-like oscillations

Interpretation



Shastry-Sutherland model



J'/J ' .63

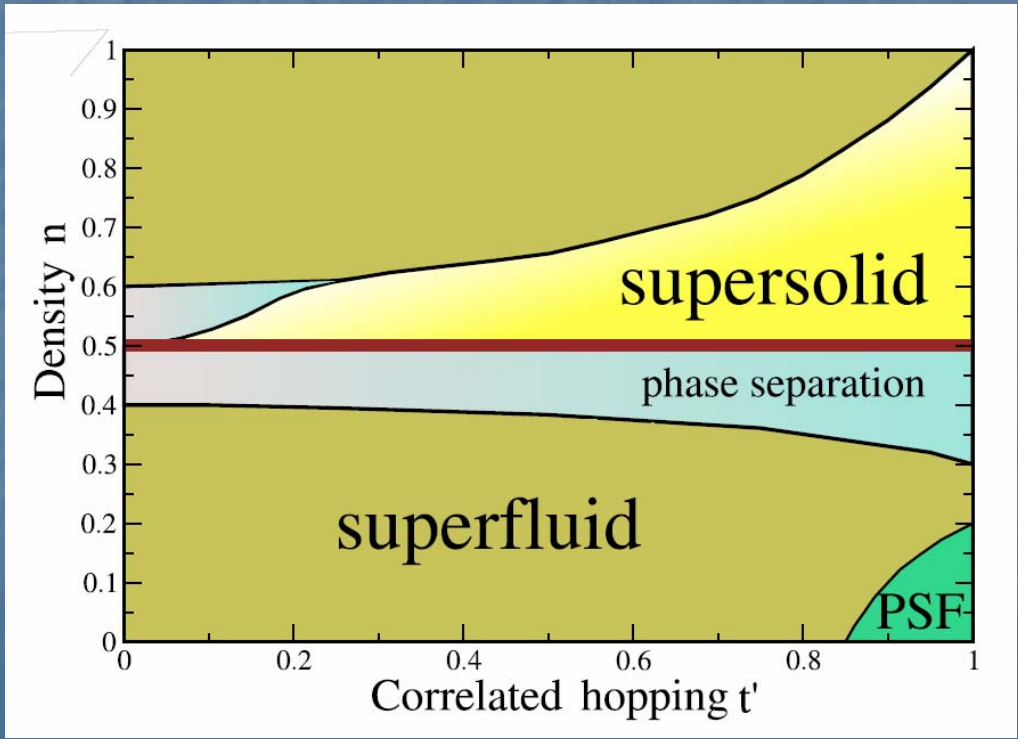
Ground-state Product of singlets on J-bonds (Shastry, Sutherland, '81)

Triplets Almost immobile and repulsive (Miyahara et al, '99)

→ Plateaux (Miyahara et al, '00)

Solid → Superfluid transition

Landau theory: two possibilities



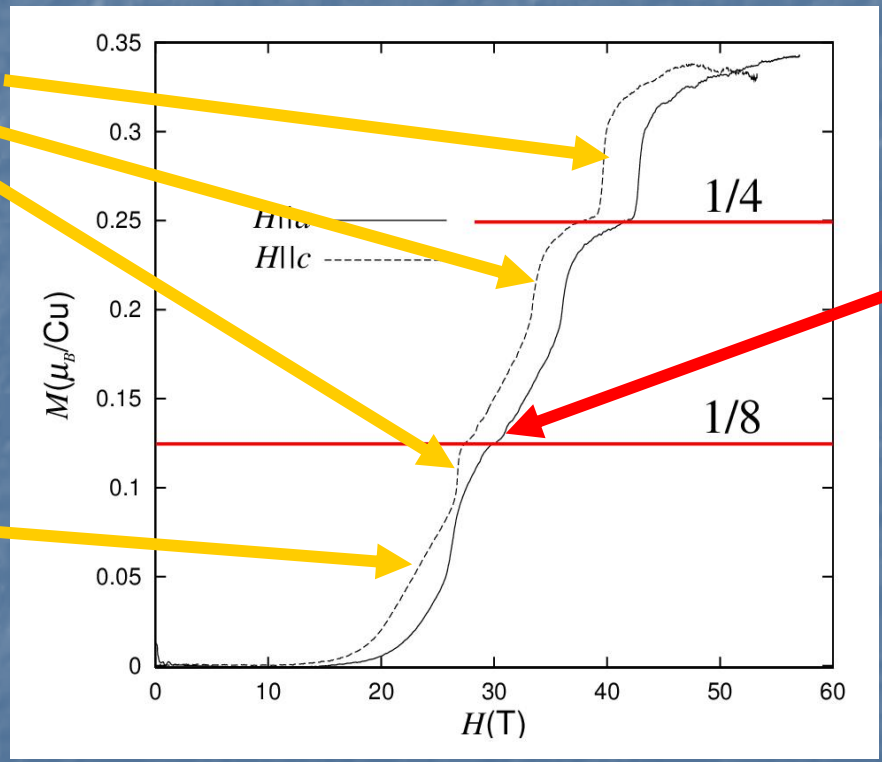
Through a supersolid

First order

Between the plateaux

Magnetization jumps

Uniform state (NMR)

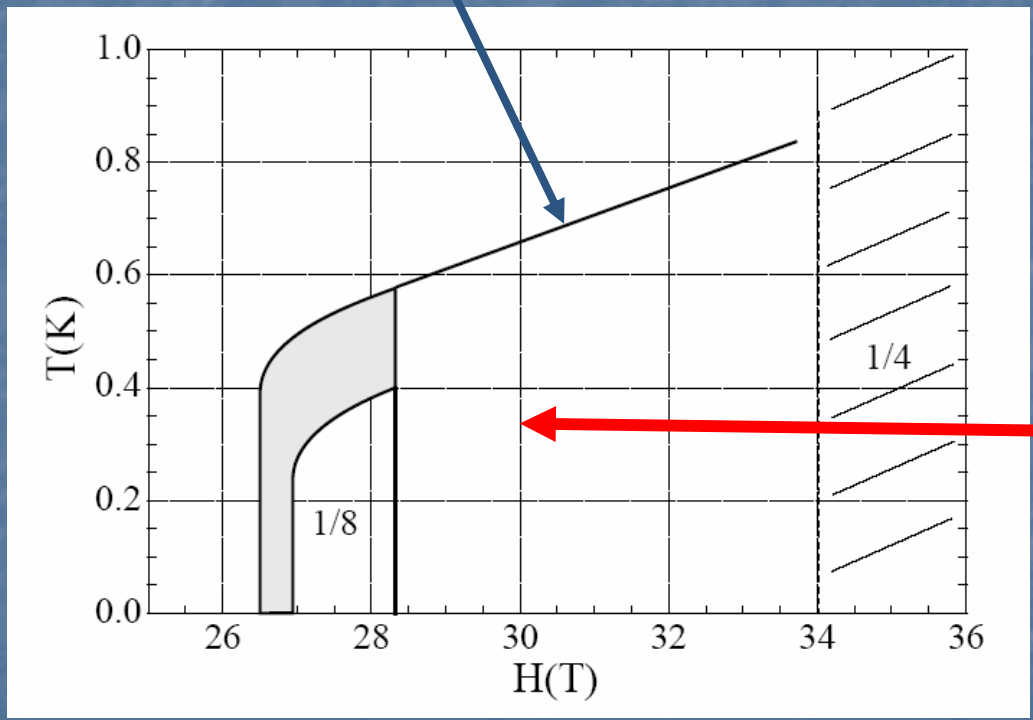


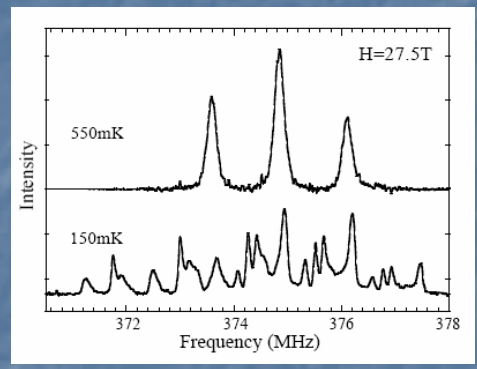
No jump

Broken translational symmetry above 1/8?

Above 1/8 plateau

Specific heat: Tsujii et al, ‘03





Translation symmetry still fully broken

Supersolid?

NMR: Takigawa et al, 2006

Open issues

- Only one phase transition

  → Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction
- Magnetization profile above 1/8 plateau?

  → Interpretation of NMR under way
- Quantitative theory of $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$? (plateaux at 1/8, 1/4, 1/3, supersolid,...)

  → High order effective bosonic model