

# A-PHASE ORIGIN IN CUBIC HELMAGNETS (MnSi etc)

S.V.Maleyev

Petersburg Nuclear Physics  
Institute  
Russia

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# SPIN HELICES IN CUBIC NON-CENTROSYMMETRIC HELIMAGNETS(MnSi etc.)

Helical structure is a result of competition between

Ferromagnetic  
exchange



Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya  
interaction



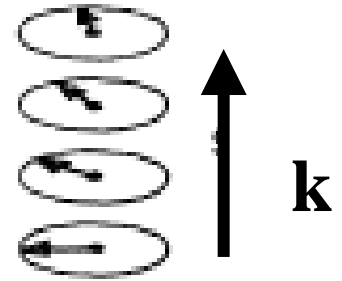
$$H = \sum \left\{ -J_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{q}} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{-\mathbf{q}})/2 + iD_{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{q} \cdot [\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{q}} \times \mathbf{S}_{-\mathbf{q}}]) \right\}$$

P.Bak M.Jensen (1980)

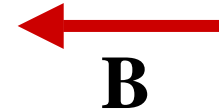
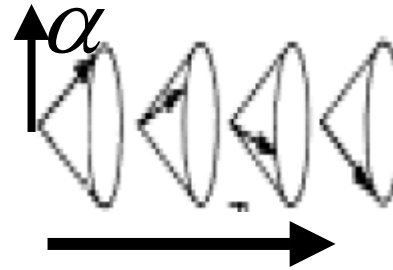
# MAGNETIC FIELD; MEAN FIELD

Zero field:  $\mathbf{B}=\mathbf{0}$ , Low T- Planar helix

Helix vector  $\mathbf{k}$  along the anisotropy axis (111).



$\mathbf{B}$  greater than anisotropy  $E_{An}$ :  
Conical helix,  $\mathbf{k}$  along the field



$$\underline{\sin \alpha = -B / B_C}$$

$B_C$  is the field for ferromagnetic transition.

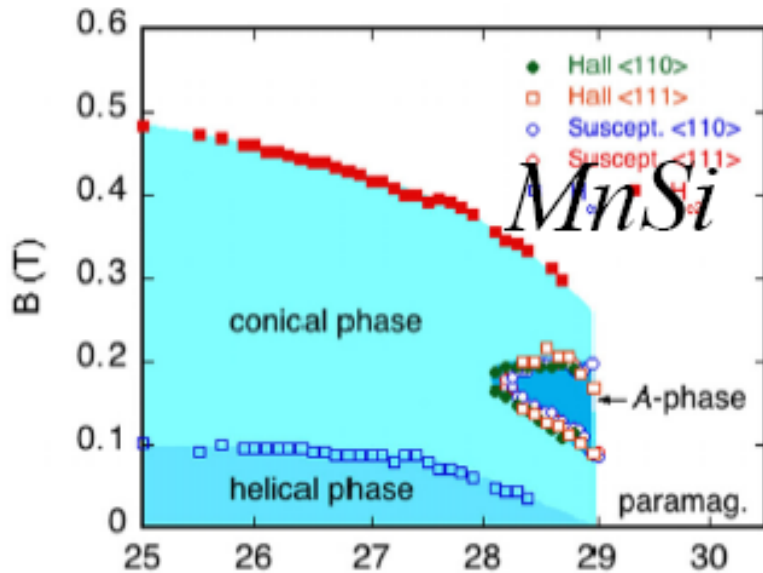
Mean-field energy:  $E_{MF} = -\frac{B_{\parallel}^2}{2B_C} - \frac{B_{\perp}^2}{4B_C}$

$\parallel$  ( $\perp$ )  $\mathbf{k}$  along (perpendicular to) the field.

$1/4 = \langle \cos^2 \varphi \rangle / 2$ ;  $\varphi$  is an angle between spin and  $\mathbf{B}$ .

Freely rotating  $\mathbf{k}$  ( $B > E_{An}$ ) always along the field!

# EXPERIMENT

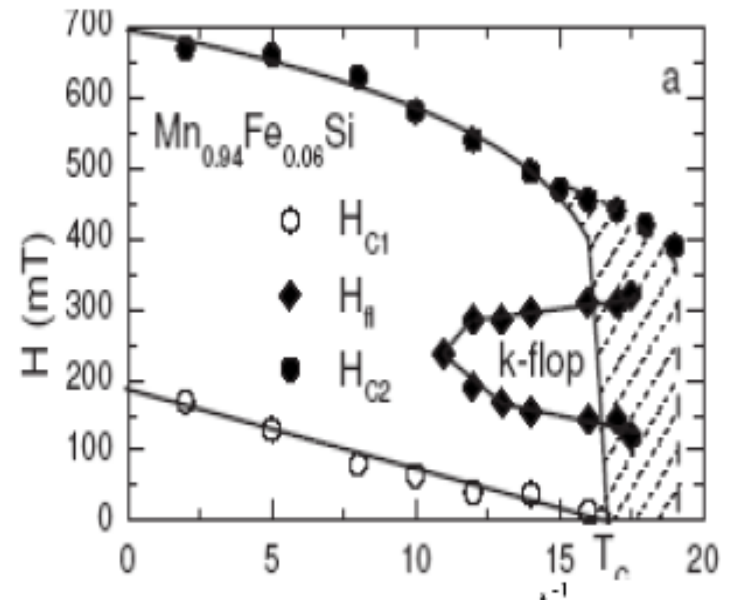


S. Mühlbauer  
et al. (2009)

Small pockets just below  $T_C$  where  $\mathbf{k} \perp \mathbf{B}$

A-phase discovered by B. Lebech (1993).

It was claimed that A-phase is a new Skyrmion lattice state S. Mühlbauer et al. (2009).



S. Grigoriev et al. (2009)

## Two striking features:

1. Narrow field region of the A-phase state

$$\underline{B_{A-} < B < B_{A+} < B_C}$$

2. Closeness to critical temperature:  $\tau = (T_C - T) / T_C \ll 1$ .

Critical fluctuations have to be important and contribute to magnetic energy

$$E_M = E_{MF} + \underline{E_{Fl}}.$$

## UPPER BOUND $B_{A+}$

This bound is a condition of the spin-wave stability  
at  $\mathbf{q}=0$ .

Square of the spin-wave energy in perpendicular field

$$\epsilon_{\mathbf{q}}^2 = \epsilon_{0,\mathbf{q}}^2 + \Delta^2 - 3B_{\perp}^2/8$$

In linear approximation:  $\epsilon_{0,\mathbf{q}} = \begin{cases} Ak \sqrt{q_{\parallel}^2 + 3q_{\perp}^4/8k^2}; & |\mathbf{q}| < k, \\ Aq^2; & |\mathbf{q}| \gg k. \end{cases}$

D.Belitz et al.; S.Maleyev (2006).

The gap  $\Delta$  appears due to spin-wave interaction in the Hartree-Fock approximation. Maleyev(2006).

Hartree-Fock loop   $\rightarrow \Delta$

Uniform ( $\mathbf{q}=0$ ) spin-waves are stable if

$$\underline{\Delta^2 - 3B_{\perp}^2 / 8 > 0.}$$

$$\underline{B_{A+} = \Delta \sqrt{8/3}.}$$

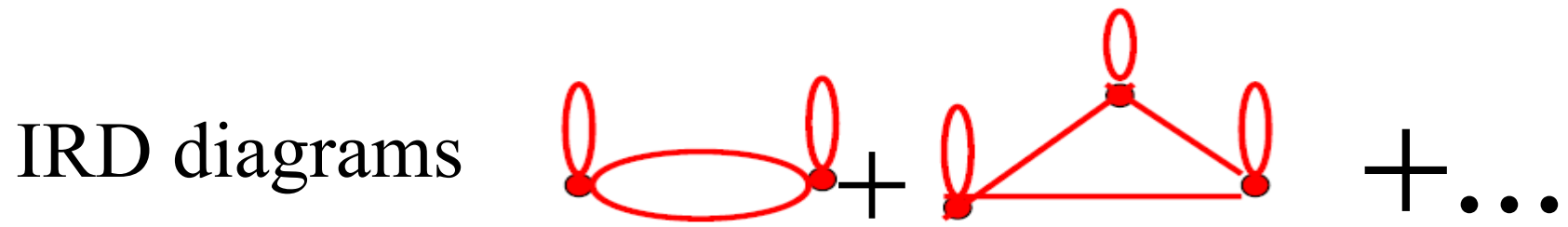
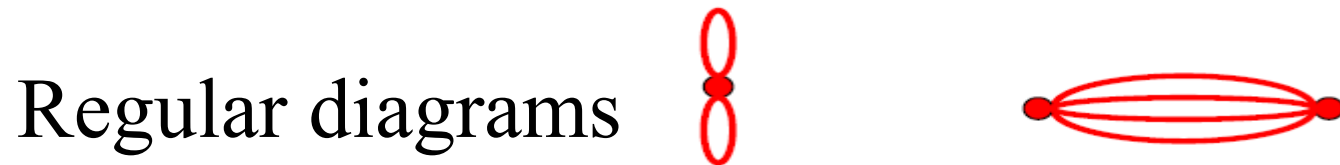
A-phase can not survive if  $B > B_{A+}$  !



# LOWER BOUND $B_{A-}$

appears due to INFRARED DIVERGENCES

at  $B_{\perp} \rightarrow B_{A+}$  in diagrams for magnetic energy.



## FINAL RESULT

$$E_M = -\frac{SB_{\parallel}^2}{2B_C} - \frac{SB_{\perp}^2}{4B_C} \left[ 1 + \Lambda \frac{B_{A+}^2}{B_{\perp}^2} \ln \frac{2B_{A+}^2 - B_{\perp}^2}{2(B_{A+}^2 - B_{\perp}^2)} \right]$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{(ka)^3 \sqrt{3/8} T B_C(\tau)}{4\pi [A(\tau)k^2]^2 S(\tau)}; \tau = (T_C - T)/T_C.$$

and  $a$  is the lattice spacing..

A-phase transition holds when  $[\dots]=2$ .

From rough experimental data [ S.Mühlbauer et al.(2009) ]

near  $T_C$  we have  $\Lambda_C \approx 1.7$ .

Using well known low T parameters for MnSi  
we get  $\Lambda_{C0} \approx 0.005!$

We need 340 times amplifying!

Near  $T_C$  we have  $S(\tau) = S_0 \tau^{0.22}$  where  $S_0 \sim 1$ .

R.Georgii et al.(2004), S.Grigoriev et al. (2005).

Comparison of data by Ishikawa et al. (1977)

and F.Semadeni et al.(1999) shows that

$A$  decreases strongly with  $T \rightarrow T_C$ .

Assuming dynamical scaling  $A = A_0 \tau^x$

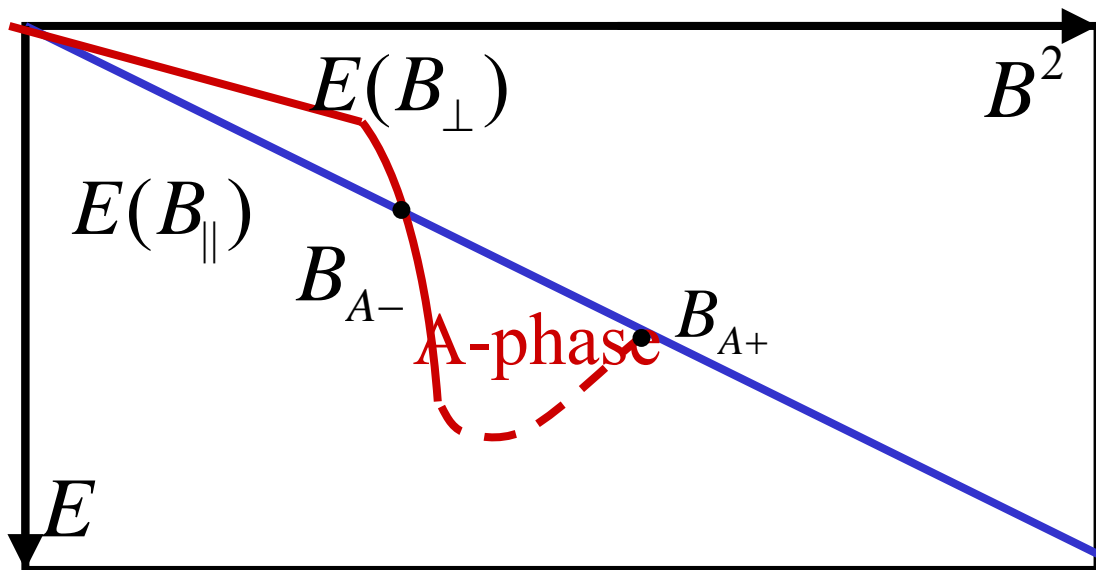
one can obtain corresponding amplifying at

$\tau = 1/30$  ( $T = T_C - 1K$ ) if  $x \sim 0.7$ .

More precise data are urgent to determine

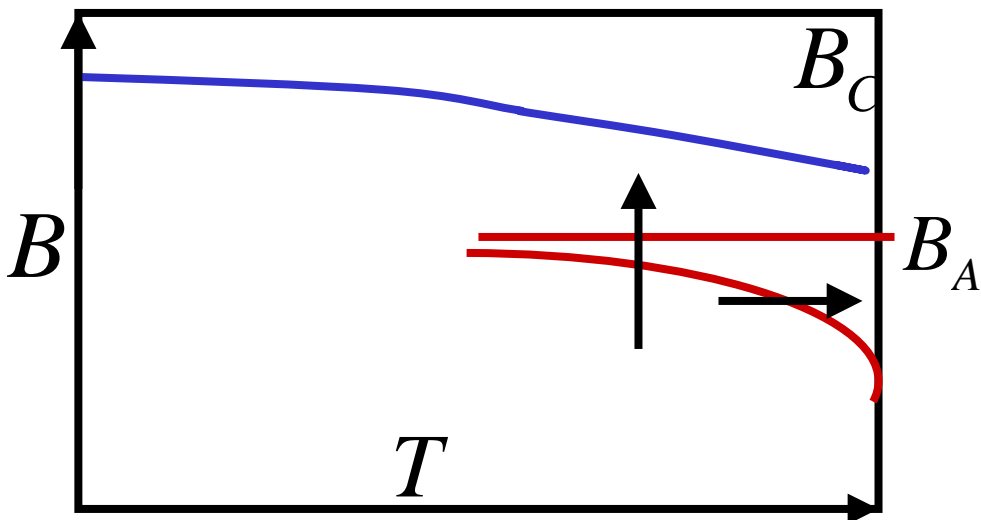
real  $x$  value and  $B_{A-}(\tau)$ .

## TWO FIRST ORDER TRANSITIONS



ENERGY AS  
FUNCTION OF B

## SPECIFIC HEAT JUMPS



$$\Delta C_{B_{\pm}}(T)?$$

$$\Delta C_T(B_{\pm})?$$

# SUMMARY

- ORIGIN OF THE A-PHASE BOUNDARIES IS EXPLAINED
- CRUCIAL ROLE OF THE CRITICAL FLUCTUATIONS IS DEMONSTRATED

THANK YOU FOR  
ATTENTION