From the atom to magnetic nanoparticles



Edgar Bonet

Laboratoire Louis Néel CNRS – Grenoble

Brasov, september 2003



 $S = 10^2$ to 10^6

Magnetic scales



giant spin quantum tunneling, quantization quantum interference *single - domain* uniform rotation curling

multi - domain nucleation, propagation and annihilation of domain walls



Giant spin molecules Mn_{12} (**S** = 10) $V_{15} (S = \frac{1}{2})$ Ni_{12} (S = 12) $Fe_8 (S = 10)$

- Single crystals
- high intra-molecular couplings
- low inter-molecular couplings

Collection of identical quantum systems

Giant spin model $\mathcal{H} = -DS_z^2 + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2) + g\mu_B\mu_0 \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{H}$



Giant spin model $\mathcal{H} = -DS_z^2 + E(S_x^2 - S_y^2) + g\mu_B\mu_0 \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{H}$



Landau-Zener tunneling



- Oscillation time $\tau_{\Delta} = \hbar/\Delta$
- crossing time $\tau_{H} = \frac{\delta H}{dH/dt}$ |S, m'> $\frac{\tau_{H}}{\tau_{\Delta}} = \frac{\Delta^{2}}{\hbar g \mu_{B} \mu_{0} |m - m'| dH/dt}$
 - $\tau_H \ll \tau_\Delta$ keeps the same state
 - $\tau_H \gg \tau_\Delta$ follows energy level

Landau-Zener tunneling



$$P = 1 - \exp\left(-c\frac{\Delta^2}{\mathrm{d}H/\mathrm{d}t}\right)$$
$$c = \frac{\pi}{2\hbar g\mu_B\mu_0|m - m'|}$$

- general result for a single level crossing $\mathcal{H} = \begin{pmatrix} A + g\mu_B\mu_0 mH & \Delta/2 \\ \Delta/2 & B + g\mu_B\mu_0 m'H \end{pmatrix}$
 - solution of the Schroedinger equation $\mathcal{H}|\psi\rangle=i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\psi\rangle$

L. Landau, *Phys. Z. Sowjetunion* **2**, 46 (1932); C. Zener, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Ser. A* **137**, 696, (1932); E.C.G. Stückelberg, *Helv. Phys. Acta* **5**, 369 (1932); S. Miyashita, *J. Phys. Soc. Jpn.* **64**, 3207 (1995); V.V. Dobrovitski and A.K. Zvezdin, *Euro. Phys. Lett.* **38**, 377 (1997); L. Gunther, *Euro. Phys. Lett.* **39**, 1 (1997); G.Rose and P.C.E. Stamp, Low Temp. Phys. 113, 1153 (1999); M. Leuenberger and D. Loss, Phys. Rev. B 61, 12200 (2000); M. Thorwart, M. Grifoni, and P. Hänggi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 860 (2000); ...



Spin-parity dependent quantum tunneling

Kramers theorem: No matter how unsymmetric the crystal field, a system possessing an odd number of electrons must have a ground state that is at least doubly degenerate, even in the presence of crystal fields and spin-orbit interactions H. A. Kramers, Proc. Acad. Sci. Amsterdam 33, 959 (1930)

Mesoscopic systems:

M. Enz and R. Schilling R., J. Phys. C, 19 (1986) L711

J.L. Van Hemmen and S. Süto, Europhys. Lett. 1, 481 (1986)

D. Loss, D.P. DiVincenzo, and G. Grinstein, Phys. Rev. Lett., 69, 3232 (1992)

J. von Delft and C. L. Hendev, Phys. Rev. Lett., 69, 3236 (1992)





Environnemental effects

- hyperfine interaction (nuclear spins)
- dipolar interaction between molecules
- exchange interaction between molecules

Phys. Rev. B 65, 180403 (2002)

phase interference (Berry phase) in single-molecule magnets



phase)

in single-molecule magnets W. Wernsdorfer and R. Sessoli, *Science* 284, 133 (1999)

Theory: A. Garg, Europhys. Lett. 22, 205 (1993)



Quantum phase interference (Berry phase) in single-molecule magnets

W. Wernsdorfer and R. Sessoli, *Science* 284, 133 (1999) Theory: A. Garg, Europhys. Lett. 22, 205 (1993)



Parity of level crossings



W. Wernsdorfer and R. Sessoli, Science 284, 133 (1999)

Intermolecular interactions (dipolar and exchange)



Molecular dimers



R. Tiron, W. Wernsdorfer, C. Thirion, R. Giraud, E. Bonet, B. Barbara (LLN, CNRS, Grenoble, France), A. Benoit (CRTBT, CNRS, Grenoble, France), D. Mailly (LPN, CNRS, Marcoussis, France), N. Aliaga, S. Bhaduri, C. Boskovic, C. Canada, M. Soler, G. Christou (Dept. of Chemistry, Uni. of Florida, USA), E. Yang,
E. M. Rumberger, D. N. Hendrickson (Dept. of Chemistry, Uni. of California at San Diego, USA)

Single molecule vs. Dimer

$$\mathbf{H}_{i} = -D S_{i,z}^{2} + \mathbf{H}_{i}^{trans} + g\mu_{B}\mu_{0} \dot{S}_{i} \dot{H}$$

 $(2S_i + 1)$ energie states $S_i = 9/2 : 10$ levels $m_i = -S_i, -S_i+1, ..., S_i$

$$(2S_1 + 1)(2S_2 + 1)$$
 energie state
 $S_i = 9/2 : 100$ levels
 $m_1 = -S_1, -S_1+1, ..., S_1$
 $m_2 = -S_2, -S_2+1, ..., S_2$

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



Zeeman Diagram for the S = 9/2 dimer $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_1 + \mathbf{H}_2 + J \dot{S}_1 \dot{S}_2$ $\mathbf{H}_i = -D S_{i,z}^2 + \mathbf{H}_i^{trans} + g\mu_B \mu_0 \dot{S}_i \dot{H}$ 100 energy states ($\mathbf{m}_1, \mathbf{m}_2$)



Exchange bias



Anisotropy & intermolecular coupling $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_1 + \mathcal{H}_2 + J\mathbf{S}_1 \cdot \mathbf{S}_2$ $\mathcal{H}_i = -DS_{iz}^2 + E(S_{ix}^2 - S_{iy}^2) + g\mu_B\mu_0\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{H}$



 $D = g * \mu_B / k_B * X_1 = 2 * 0.928 / 1.38 * 0.58 = 0.75 \text{ K}$ $J_{tot} = g * \mu_B / k_B * X_2 / S = 2 * 0.928 / 1.38 * 0.34 / 4.5 = 0.10 \text{ K}$ $D = \text{anisotropy constant; } J_{tot} = \text{coupling constant}$

Tunneling in the dimer

Transitons

(1) (-9/2,-9/2)? (-9/2, 9/2);
(2) (-9/2,-9/2)? (-9/2, 7/2) relaxes? (-9/2, 9/2);
(3) (-9/2, 9/2)? (9/2, 9/2);
(4) (-9/2,-9/2)? (-9/2, 5/2) relaxes? (-9/2, 9/2);
(5) (-9/2, 9/2)? (7/2, 9/2) relaxes? (9/2, 9/2).

(1) and (3) are symmetric relative to the origin;





Inter-molecular coupling is stronger in NA11 than in NA3; Easier to resolve resonances (2) from (3) and (4) from (5)

3

0.5

0.5

4

5

0.560 T/s

0.140 T/s

0.035 T/s

0.008 T/s

1



Absorption of microwaves

 $V_{15} \ S = 1/2$



absorption of microwaves in





Reducing intermolecular couplings

 Fe_6 wheels: S = 0

Doping with Ga $Fe_5Ga: S = 5/2$



Reducing intermolecular couplings

 Fe_6 wheels: S = 0

Doping with Ga $Fe_5Ga: S = 5/2$

Photon assisted tunneling Absorption of circular polarized microwaves



microwaves (115 GHz)



microwaves (115 GHz)



microwaves (95 GHz)

