



### Neutron Scattering studies of the Crystal and Magnetic Structures of Molecular Magnets

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## Molecular Magnets

### Molecular Quantum Magnets

- Molecules that exhibit magnetic behavior at low temperatures
  - Antiferromagnetism
- $\hat{H} = \sum D(\hat{S}_i^{z^2}) + \sum J_{ij}\hat{S}_i \cdot \hat{S}_j$ 
  - D-> Single Ion Anisotropy
  - J-> Magnetic Exchange Interaction
- Quantum Theory
- Information Storage
- Quantum Computing



## Neutrons

D



"Dynamics and Neutron Scattering" by John R.D. Copley



## Neutron Scattering

### Diffraction



BT-1 High Resolution Powder Diffractometer

### Inelastic



Disk Chopper Time of Flight Spectrometer



Structure from Ki Min Nam, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2012, 134 (20), pp 8392-8395

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Unpublished Data

Fit by Qingzhen Huang

## Inelastic Scattering





### NiCl<sub>2</sub>(pyz)<sub>2</sub>

► S=I

Tetragonal



### NiBr<sub>2</sub>(pyz)<sub>2</sub>

- ► S=I
- Tetragonal



# $NiX_2(pyz)_2$





### NiCl<sub>2</sub>(pyz)<sub>2</sub>

► S=I

Tetragonal



### NiBr<sub>2</sub>(pyz)<sub>2</sub>

- ► S=I
- Tetragonal









# $NiBr_2pyz_2$

S=I
≻ Tetragonal
≻ T<sub>N</sub>=1.9 K







## A Need















# Thank You

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## Non-NIST Experimental Partners

- The University of Warwick
- Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory
- National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory
- Swiss Muon Source, Paul Scherrer Institut
- ISIS Pulsed Neutron and Muon Source

## Software Used for Data Analysis

### Neutron Diffraction

- CMPR
- ► GSAS
- Inelastic Neutron Scattering
  - DAVE
  - SpinW
- Visualization
  - VESTA







**Fig. 1** Heat capacity (plotted as  $C_p/T$ ) vs. temperature for  $Co_2Cl_2(pyz-d_4)_2$  (JLM4-088). A Peak at 0.85(1) K indicates a transition to long range order. The solid line is a fit to a model of one Debye plus two Einstein modes in the range  $10 \le T \le 300$  K. Inset: Subtracting the lattice contribution from the data, the entropy change to 20 K is determined to be consistent with  $R \ln 2 = 5.8$  J K<sup>-1</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>, indicating the sample behaves as an effective spin 1/2 system at low temperatures.



Fig. 3 Field dependence of  $C_p/T$  vs. *T*. The  $\lambda$ -peak moves to lower temperatures as the field is increased, indicative of a transition to an AFM ordered ground state.  $T_N$  is too low to be experimentally accessible for applied fields  $\mu_0 H \ge 1.5$  T. At higher fields a broad feature emerges which moves monotonically to higher temperatures with applied field.



**Fig. 4** Magnetic heat capacity ( $C_{mag}$ ) vs. *T*, following subtraction of the lattice fit. The broad feature (for  $\mu_0 H \ge 3$  T) has a constant amplitude, and a peak position which increases linearly with field. This is highly indicative of a Schottky anomaly due to the field-induced splitting of the doublet ground state in Co<sup>2+</sup>. Inset: phase boundary separating the paramagnetic state (with easy-plane anisotropy) with the AFM ordered state. Faded points are most easily seen in  $C_p/T$  vs. *T* (Fig. 3).



**Fig. 2** Heat capacity vs. temperature, showing the lattice fit to the data. The fit only has a small dependence on the lower bound used for the fit, giving rise to the small error in the calculated entropy change (Fig. 1 Inset).

**Fig. 5** Simulated molar heat capacity ( $C_{mag}$ ) vs. *T*, for a two level system in an applied field. The result is a Schottky anomaly, with the equation given in the figure. The *g*-factor was taken to be the powder average *g*-factor, assuming the published<sup>[1]</sup> values for the fully hydrogenated phase of  $g_{xy}$  = 5.98 and  $g_z$  = 1.97. This model is a good representation of the measured data (Fig. 4), having the approximately the correct amplitude and field dependence for the maxima.

[1] R. L. Carlin et al., PRB 32, 7476 (1985).



CoCl<sub>2</sub>(pyz-d<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (Bacth #: JLM4-088) 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015

















Fig. 3



**(b)** 

a = b = 7.09 Å c = 11.3 Å I4/mmm (tetragonal) T = 298 K





