

# Excitations in Quantum Spin Systems in Low Dimensional Systems

**Sriram Shastry**

**UC Santa Cruz**

Topics:

a) Non linear excitations in magnetic systems:

1) From phonons to solitons in non linear classical lattices

2) Analogous transition from magnons to solitons :

The case of dimerized Heisenberg spins chain.

3) Spinons in 1-d Heisenberg antiferromagnet: Analogy with particle hole excitations in metals

b) Spin one Haldane systems, ground states and excitations, edge states.

c) Two dimensional solvable Heisenberg  $s=1/2$  system,  $\text{Sr Cu} (\text{BO}_3)_2$  and its triplet excitations, and bi-triplet excitonic excitations

# Lattices: Non linear kinds: vs Magnetic systems

Phonons

|  
|  
|

Magnons

Solitons

\*Non Topological  
(Non linearity based)

\*Topological

|

SPINONS

# LATTICES (NON LINEAR)

FERMI PASTA ULAM, HENON HEILES, TODA

$$H = \sum \frac{p_n^2}{2M} + \frac{k}{2} \sum_n (u_{n+1} - u_n)^2 - \delta \sum (u_{n+1} - u_n)^3 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(FPU)} \\ \text{HH} \end{matrix}$$

or

$$= \sum \frac{p_r^2}{2m} + k \sum_r e^{-(x_{n+1} - x_n)} \quad \text{(TODA)}$$

## \* PHONONS

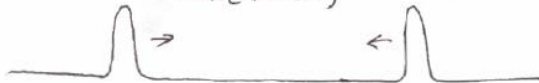
- QUADRATIC P.E. SMALL OSCILLATIONS

$$u_n = u_0 e^{\pm i(kn - \omega t)}$$

- $u_0$  independent of  $k$  (velocity)
- SUPERPOSITION GOOD

## \* SOLITONS

$$u_n = \frac{A_k}{\cosh(kn - \omega t)}$$



- $A_k$  depends on  $k$
- STABLE (only long lived)
- NO SUPERPOSITION.
- BUT SCATTER OFF EACH OTHER

These solitons are built on nonlinearity.

# TOPOLOGICAL SOLITONS

\* MORE PROTECTION FROM TOPOLOGY - LESS FROM DYNAMICAL CONSERVATION LAWS

\* EXAMPLE: POLY ACETYLENE SU-SCHRIEFFER-HEEGER (1980)

ELECTRONS ON AN ELASTIC LATTICE

$$H = -t \sum_n \left\{ (1 + \alpha (U_{n+1} - U_n)) c_{n+1}^\dagger c_n + h.c. \right\} + \frac{1}{2m} \sum_n p_n^2 + \frac{k}{2} \sum_n (U_{n+1} - U_n)^2$$



$c$ 's are FERMIONS - HALF FILLED

GROUND STATE HAS 2 FOLD DEGENERACY

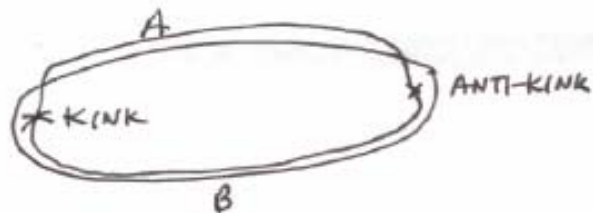
$$U_n = \Phi_0 e^{i n \pi}$$

$$u_0 = \pm |\Delta| - \text{PEIERLS DIMERIZATION}$$

$$\begin{aligned} +\Delta &\rightarrow A \\ -\Delta &\rightarrow B \end{aligned} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{PHASE} \\ \text{PHASE} \end{array} \right\}$$



A PHASE



ANTI-KINK

\* KINKS LOCALIZE  
FRACTIONAL CHARGE ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

\* THEY PROPAGATE - LIKE PARTICLES.

Magnons: Isotropic spin interactions

$$H = J \sum S_i \cdot S_j$$

Safeland: 3 dimensions Ferromagnet or Antiferromagnets

Small excitations of the magnetic moments. Live off magnetic Long Ranged Order

Imagine small precession of cones of moments.

Unsafeland : 1 and 2 dimensions, If classical fluctuations don't get you, then quantum fluctuations must!

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,

If Hohenberg don't get you,

Then Heisenberg must!

•  $T=0$  Long Ranged Order at only for  $d \geq 2$  for any spin

•  $T>0$  Long Ranged Order only for  $d \geq 3$

• Hence huge range (  $T$  small compared to  $J$ ,  $d < 3$ ) where both quantum and classical fluctuations rule the roost. Many experimental systems, and in response many beautiful theoretical ideas have been proposed.

• 1-d :  $s=1/2$

• 1-d  $s=1$

• 2-d  $s=1/2$

# HEISENBERG AFM

HANS BETHE (1932)

$$H = J \sum_{n=1}^N \vec{S}_n \cdot \vec{S}_{n+1} \quad |S_n| = \frac{1}{2}$$

$n+N=n \rightarrow$  PERIODIC BC'S



• No LRO in G.S.

• SPIN LIQUID GROUND STATE

$$\langle S_n^x S_{n+2}^x \rangle = \langle S_n^y S_{n+2}^y \rangle = \langle S_n^z S_{n+2}^z \rangle = \frac{(-1)^n}{|r|} \left\{ \log |r| \right\}^{1/2}$$

• BETHE'S ANSATZ - CELEBRATED SOLUTION - "QUANTUM SOLITONS".

• INFINITE # CONSERVATION LAWS  $I_1, I_2, \dots, I_N$

$$I_2 = \sum_n \vec{S}_n \times \vec{S}_{n+1} \cdot \vec{S}_{n+2} \quad (\text{e.g.}) \quad [I_i, I_j] = 0$$

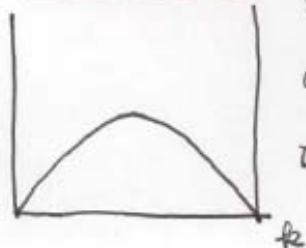
• Excitation spectrum: (1980) - spinon - Takhtajan & Faddeev.

OLD VIEW :

SHARP mode:  
gapless:

$$\omega_k = \pi J |\sin k|$$

Des Cloizeaux  
Pearson

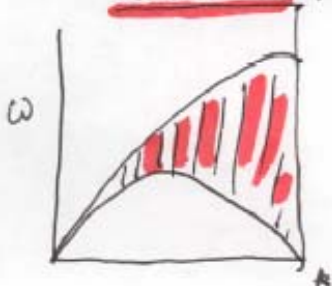


Current view: COMPOSITE 2-PARTICLE SPECTRUM.

~ 1-d PARTICLE HOLE SPECTRUM IN METAL

$$S_k^z \sim \sum C_{k+p}^+ C_p \sigma_p$$

$$C_p \sim \text{spinon} \quad \omega_n = \omega_{k+p}^{\text{sp}} + \omega_k^{\text{sp}} \\ \sim \text{Fermionic.} \quad \omega_p^{\text{sp}} = \pi J/2 \sin k / \text{Lattice}$$



## Unbound Spinons in the $S = 1/2$ Antiferromagnetic Chain $\text{KCuF}_3$

D. A. Tennant, T. G. Perring,<sup>(a)</sup> and R. A. Cowley

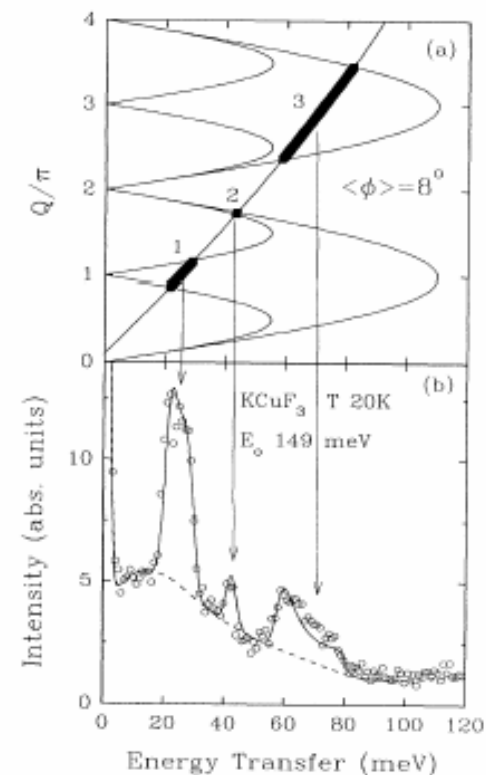
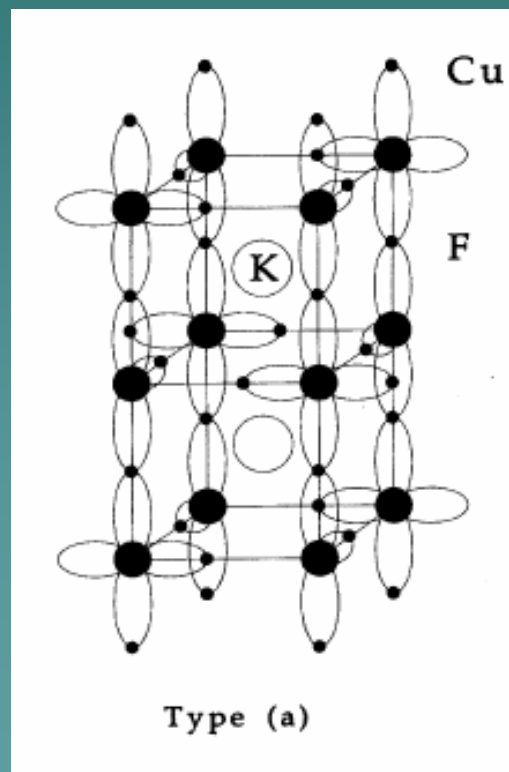
*Department of Physics, Clarendon Laboratory, University of Oxford, Parks Road, Oxford, United Kingdom*

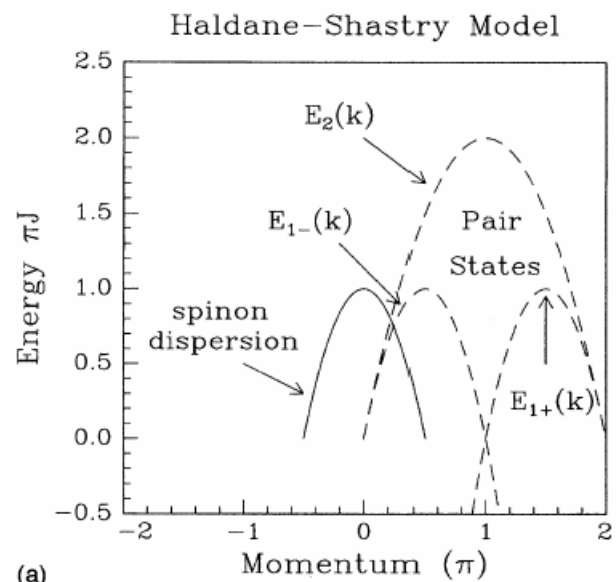
S. E. Nagler

*Department of Physics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32605*

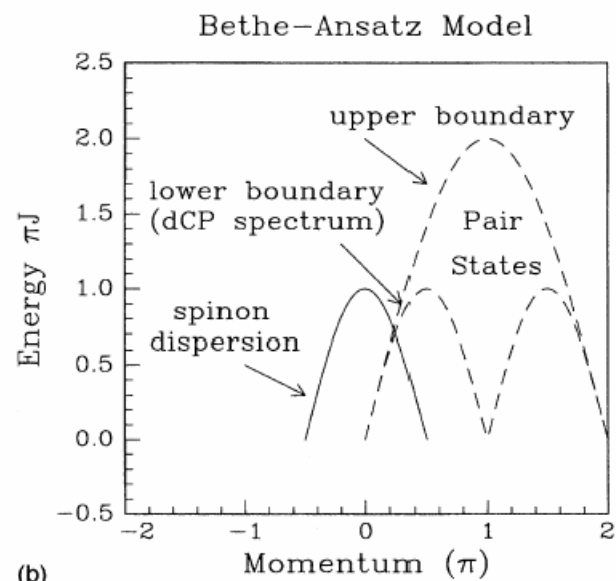
(Received 8 February 1993)

Inelastic neutron scattering has been used to study the temperature dependence of the magnetic response in the one-dimensional  $S=1/2$  Heisenberg antiferromagnet  $\text{KCuF}_3$ . The scattering is consistent with that expected for unbound spinon pair excitations.





(a)



(b)

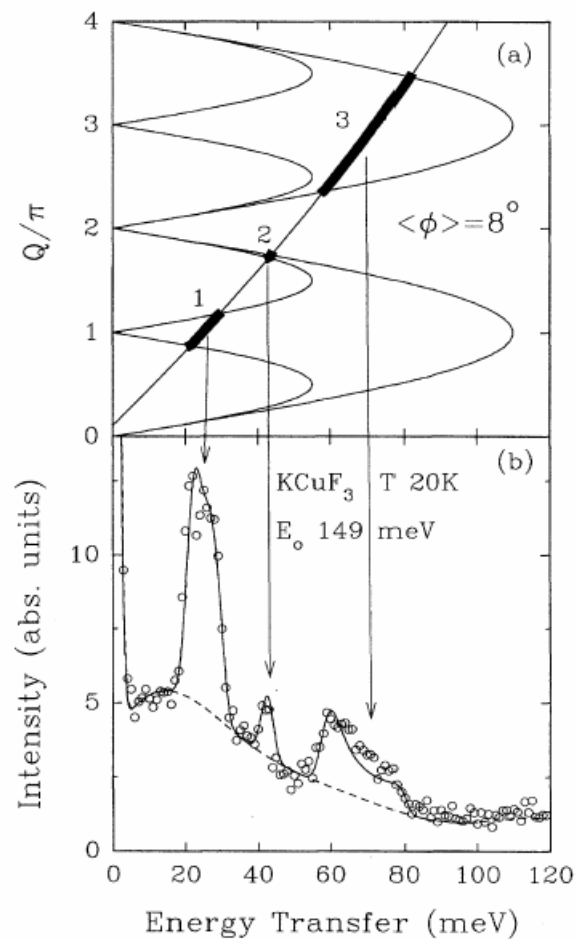


FIG. 1. (a) The spinon dispersion for the Haldane-Shastry model. The two spinon excitations form a continuum. (b) The excitation spectrum for the nearest-neighbor Heisenberg model as proposed by Müller.

Excitation Spectrum of a Dimerized Next-Neighbor Antiferromagnetic Chain

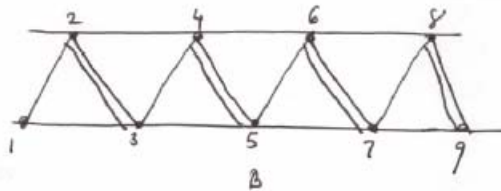
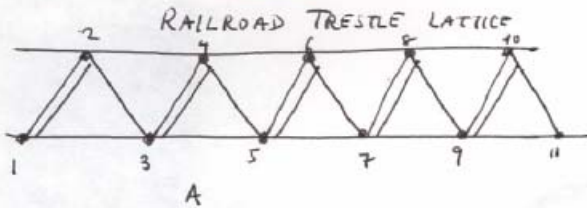
B. Sriram Shastry<sup>(a)</sup> and Bill Sutherland

TOPOLOGICAL SPINONS

$$H = J \sum \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_{i+1} + \frac{J}{2} \sum \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_{i+2}$$

MAJUMDAR 1970

\* REMARKABLE MODEL - SIMPLE GROUND STATE



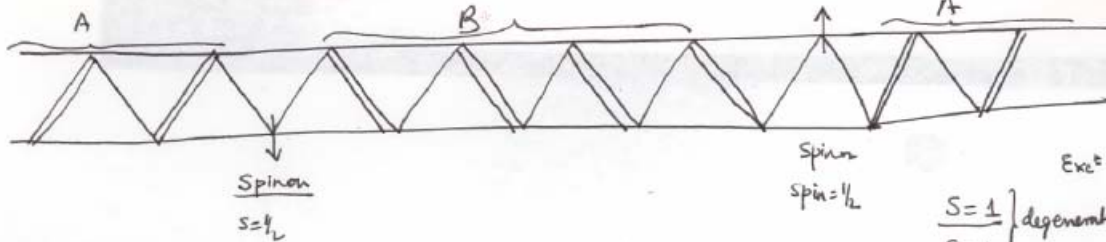
$$\psi_1 = [1,2] [3,4] [5,6] \dots [N-1, N]$$

$$\psi_2 = [N,1] [2,3] [4,5] \dots [N-2, N-1]$$

$$[i,j] = \text{singlet } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\alpha_i \beta_j - \beta_i \alpha_j)$$

\* SOLITONIC EXCITATIONS: CARICATURE

SHASTRY & SUTHERLAND  
(81)



$$Exc = Sp \otimes Sp$$

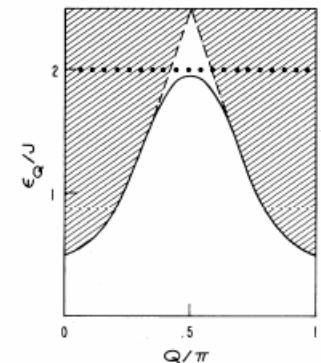
$$\left. \begin{matrix} S=1 \\ S=0 \end{matrix} \right\} \text{degenerate}$$

Cu Ge O<sub>3</sub> almost a realization of this J<sub>1</sub>-J<sub>2</sub> chain.

Fractionalized gapped spin excitations

4fold degeneracy

S=1, S=0



Spin 1 Haldane chain:

Heisenberg model with  $S=1$

Haldane showed it has a gap in the excitation spectrum, no LRO. This is another kind of spin liquid- a gapped spin liquid analogous to the Quantum Hall state of Laughlin. Topological term in action.

$$W(k) = J (\cos[k] + 1 + \Delta), \text{ where } \Delta > 0$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

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**$\text{Y}_2\text{BaNiO}_5$ : A nearly ideal realization of the  $S=1$  Heisenberg chain  
with antiferromagnetic interactions**

Guangyong Xu

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218*

J. F. DiTusa

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803*

T. Ito and K. Oka

*Electrotechnical Laboratory, Tsukuba 305, Japan*

H. Takagi

*The Institute for Solid State Physics, University of Tokyo, Roppongi, Tokyo 106, Japan*

C. Broholm

*Department of Physics and Astronomy, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218  
and National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899*

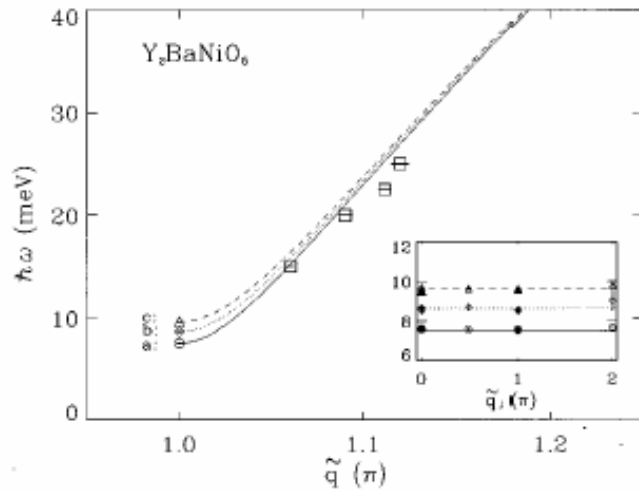
G. Aeppli

*NEC Research Institute, 4 Independence Way, Princeton, New Jersey 08540*

(Received 4 June 1996)

$$S^{aa}(\vec{q}, \omega) = \frac{2}{3} (-\langle \mathcal{H} \rangle / L) \frac{1 - \cos \vec{q}}{\hbar \omega_a(\vec{q})} \delta[\hbar \omega - \hbar \omega_a(\vec{q})]. \quad (2)$$

$$\hbar \omega_a(\vec{q}) = \sqrt{\Delta_a^2 + v^2 \sin^2 \vec{q} + A \cos^2 \frac{\vec{q}}{2}}$$



ESR gap is at  $k=0$

Neutrons measure gap at all  $k$ ,  
smallest gap at  $k= \pi$

One Finds

ESR gap = 2 ( gap @  $k= \pi$  )

Understanding is in terms of two spin 1 particles combining to give spin 2, 1, 0 and if there is no bound state then above formula is true.

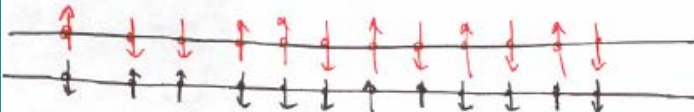
# Edge states and understanding the Haldane state via AKLT model.

## Affleck Kennedy Lieb Tasaki AKLT

$S=1$  model

$S=1$  = symmetrization of two  $S=1/2$  objects

: Take two spin chains & "fuse" them!



Symmetrize to get  $S=1$

$$S_z = S_{z1} + S_{z2}$$

e.g:  $\alpha \alpha \rightarrow 1$

$\alpha \beta \rightarrow 0$

$\beta \alpha \rightarrow 0$

$\beta \beta \rightarrow -1$



→ Gapped state with  $\langle S_0^z S_1^z \rangle \sim e^{-r/\xi}$   $\xi \approx 6$

G.S. for  $\mathcal{H} = \sum \left( \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{3} (\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_{i+1})^2 \right)$  } Projector on cross bonds singlet!

### Edge states



Edge states seen in ESR of

truncated  $S=1$  chains! NENP

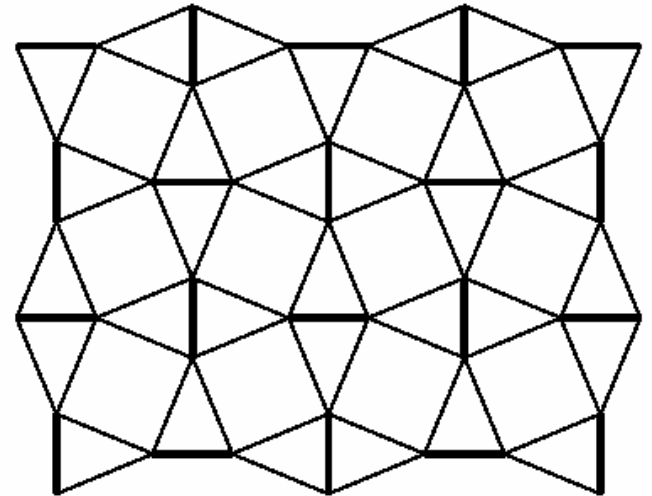
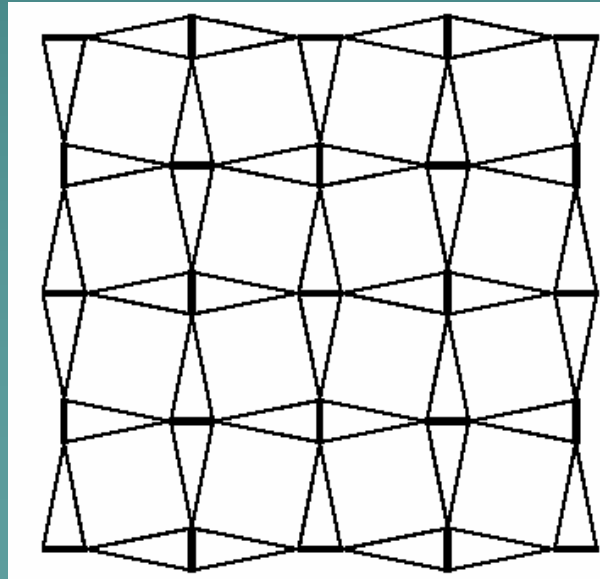
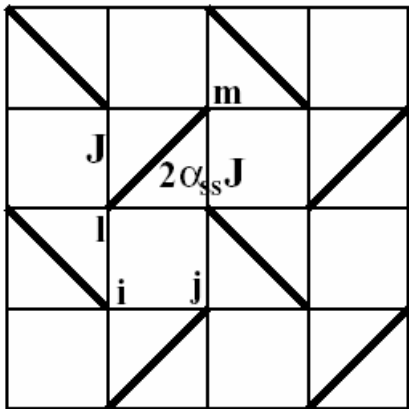
Affleck-Haldane  
(90)

**Two dimensions and Sr Cu<sub>2</sub> (BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>:** Realizing a solvable 2d spin 1/2 model. ( only QS model in 2-d)

Remarkable trick of nature:topological equivalence bewteen

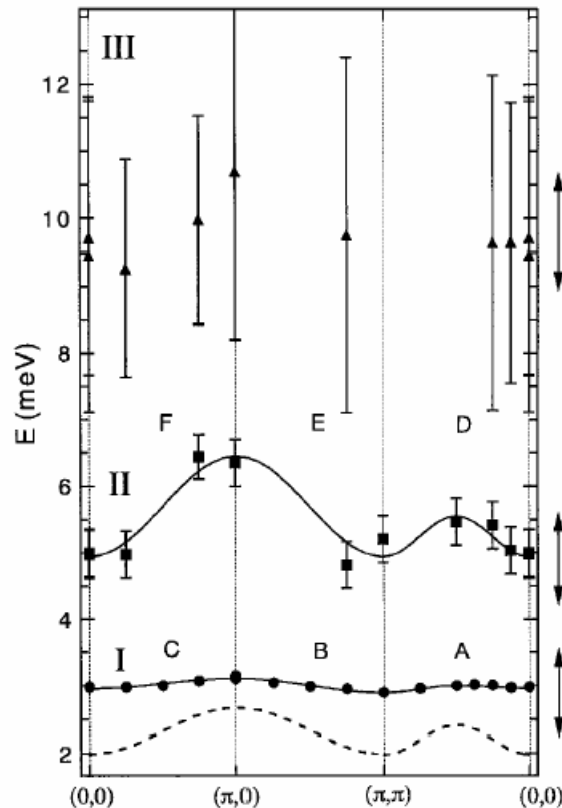
Lattice of Shastry-Sutherland ( 1981) and Sr Cu<sub>2</sub> (BO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

$$H = J \sum_t H_t = J \left( \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + 2\alpha_{SS} \sum_{\langle l,m \rangle} \vec{S}_l \cdot \vec{S}_m \right)$$



## Direct Evidence for the Localized Single-Triplet Excitations and the Dispersive Multitriplet Excitations in $\text{SrCu}_2(\text{BO}_3)_2$

H. Kageyama,<sup>1,\*</sup> M. Nishi,<sup>2</sup> N. Aso,<sup>2</sup> K. Onizuka,<sup>1</sup> T. Yoshizawa,<sup>2</sup> K. Nukui,<sup>2</sup> K. Kodama,<sup>3</sup> K. Kakurai,<sup>2</sup> and Y. Ueda<sup>1</sup>



Single exciton is localized by lattice frustration.

Bi Exciton is mobile..

Magnetization plateaus:  
analogy with QHE problem:

**Excitations are still exciting** we have gone past magnons

Beyond magnons, there are a few unifying themes:

Excitations are signatures of parent states: variety is huge

- Topological solitons ( degenerate gs's)
- Solitons ( xy type models)
- Solitons: constituents of particle hole type two parameter excitations
- Excitons (broken singlets)
- Multi excitons