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## COMMENTS AND ADDENDA

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## Composite Ising Lattices with Unequal Spins\*

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The phase-transition problem of two-component composite Ising lattices with unequal spins in zero magnetic field is solved within the Bragg-Williams approximation.

We shall generalize our previous treatment of composite Ising lattices<sup>1</sup> to the case where spins of different components of the composite may have different magnitudes. We shall restrict ourselves to the two-component case with zero external field, although the method can easily be generalized to three or more components cases. Unless other-

wise specified, we shall follow the notations of I.

Consider a two-component lattice with interaction constants  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \epsilon_3$ ; structure parameters  $u_1, u_2, u_3, v_1, v_2$ ; and spin magnitudes  $s_1, s_2$ . With zero external field, the partition function of this lattice is equal to the partition function of a lattice with same structure, but different interaction

constants  $\epsilon'_1$ ,  $\epsilon'_2$ ,  $\epsilon'_3$  and spin magnitudes  $s'_1 = s'_2 = 1$ , and

$$\epsilon'_1 = \epsilon_1 s_1^2, \quad \epsilon'_2 = \epsilon_2 s_2^2, \quad \epsilon'_3 = \epsilon_3 s_1 s_2. \quad (1)$$

So with this transformation and the results of I, we can easily write down the equations for composite Ising lattices with unequal spins. The magnetization per site is given by

$$M/N = 2v_1 s_1 L_1 + 2v_2 s_2 L_2, \quad (2)$$

$$\text{with } 2L_1 = \tanh \left[ 4\beta\gamma\epsilon'_1 L_1 \left( \frac{u_1}{v_1} \right) + 2\beta\gamma\epsilon'_3 L_2 \left( \frac{u_3}{v_1} \right) \right], \quad (3)$$

$$2L_2 = \tanh \left[ 4\beta\gamma\epsilon'_2 L_2 \left( \frac{u_2}{v_2} \right) + 2\beta\gamma\epsilon'_3 L_1 \left( \frac{u_3}{v_2} \right) \right].$$

A concrete example is given in Fig. 1, with  $v_1 = v_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $u_1 = u_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $u_3 = \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $k_B T_{c1} = \gamma\epsilon_1$ ; the solid line represents the solution of Eq. (2) for  $s_1 = 1$ ,  $s_2 = 2$ ,  $\epsilon_2 = \frac{1}{8}\epsilon_1$ , and  $\epsilon_3 = (\epsilon_1\epsilon_2)^{1/2}$ . The dashed lines represent magnetization curves of corresponding single-component systems. As conjectured in I, we see that the composite system has a higher value of  $M/N$  in the temperature range  $0.42 < T/T_{c1} < 0.63$ .

On the experimental side, there is no evidence of definite correlation between coupling strength and spin magnitude in ferromagnetic insulators,<sup>2</sup> hence the above phenomena are not entirely unrealistic, although this is by no means an easy experiment.<sup>3</sup>

For two-component systems, one can easily establish that  $2u_1 + u_3 = v_1$  (or equivalently  $2u_2 + u_3 = v_2$ ). As a special case, this implies that if  $v_1 = v_2$ , then  $u_1 = u_2$  and vice versa. This is, in general, not true for lattices with more than two components. As a counter example, consider a unit cell of three components  $A B B C A C$ . Here  $v_1 = v_2 = v_3$ , but  $u$ 's are not identical.

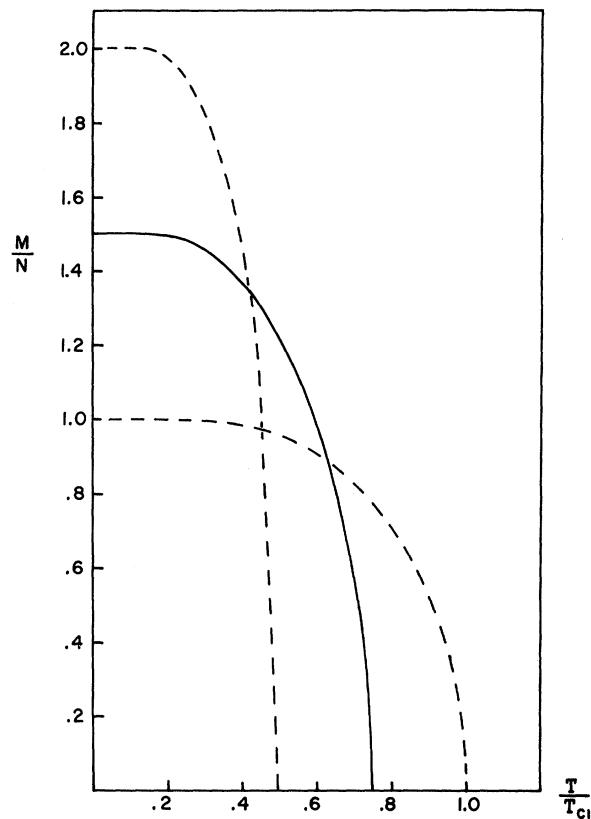


FIG. 1. Magnetization curves of composite Ising lattice with unequal spins.  $v_1 = v_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $u_1 = u_2 = \frac{1}{2}u_3 = \frac{1}{8}$ ,  $k_B T_{c1} = \gamma\epsilon_1$ . Solid line represents the case of  $s_1 = 1$ ,  $s_2 = 2$ ,  $\epsilon_2 = \frac{1}{8}\epsilon_1$ , and  $\epsilon_3 = (\epsilon_1\epsilon_2)^{1/2}$ . The dashed lines represent magnetization curves of corresponding single-component systems.

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<sup>1</sup>R. H. T. Yeh, Phys. Rev. B 1, 1180 (1970). We shall refer to this paper as I.

<sup>2</sup>For example,  $\text{CrO}_2$  has  $T_c = 400^\circ\text{K}$  and  $2\mu_B$  (Bohr mag-

neton) per  $\text{Cr}^{4+}$  ion for saturation magnetization.  $\text{CrBr}_3$  has  $T_c = 37^\circ\text{K}$  and  $3\mu_B$  per  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  ion for saturation magnetization. For a summary of experimental results, see *Magnetism III*, edited by G. T. Rado and H. Suhl (Academic, New York, 1963), Chap. 2.

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