

Effect of anisotropy on the field induced quantum critical properties of the three dimensional $s=1/2$ Heisenberg model

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The field induced quantum critical properties of the three dimensional spin-1/2 anisotropic antiferromagnetic Heisenberg model has been studied. We have investigated the quantum phase transition between the spiral order and field induced ferromagnetic order by means of Bose-Einstein condensation of magnons in terms of a bosonic representation. The effect of in-plane anisotropy on the critical properties has been studied via the bosonic model by Green's function approach. We have found an analytic expression for the gap exponent in addition to numerical results for the critical magnetic field in terms of anisotropy parameter. The in-plane anisotropy breaks the U(1) symmetry explicitly which changes the universal behavior by a drastic change on the gap exponent. Moreover, the critical magnetic field depends strongly on the in-plane anisotropies. The divergence of the transverse structure factor at the antiferromagnetic wave vector confirms the onset of the magnetic order which scales with the negative value of gap exponent as the magnetic field approaches the critical one. The transverse staggered magnetization as an order parameter vanishes with exponent $\beta = 0.5$ when the magnetic field reaches its critical value in low field region.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Quantum phase transition^{1,2} is an interesting topic for both theoretical and experimental condensed matter research activities. This phase transition is found at the zero temperature based on variation of non thermal control parameter such as magnetic field or hole doping. Quantum phase transition (QPT) occurs at the quantum critical point where quantum fluctuations destroys a long range order of the model at absolute zero temperature. One of the novel species of quantum phase transition is field-induced-magnetic phase transition that can be occurred in insulating antiferromagnetic systems³ like transition metal oxides and local spin systems. This kind of QPT has been observed in the copper halide Cs_2CuCl_4 which is an insulator and each Cu^{2+} carries a spin of 1/2.

Cs_2CuCl_4 can be described as a quasi-two-dimensional spin 1/2 antiferromagnet on a triangular lattices (bc plane) weakly coupled along the crystallographic a direction.⁴ The crystal field effects quench the orbital angular momentum; however, the anisotropic effect is still significant on the phase transition. The layered crystal structure confines the main superexchange routes to neighboring spins in the bc plane. According to the above facts the magnetic properties of this material can be described by the antiferromagnetic Heisenberg model. The magnetic field is applied perpendicular to the bc plane which adds a Zeeman term to the model. For magnetic fields (B) close to the critical field (B_c), Zeeman term competes with the spin exchange interaction and system enters a field induced ferromagnetic state^{5,6}. The field induced ferromagnetic phase ($B > B_c$) has gapped quasi-particles, gapped magnons. The field induced gap vanishes at B_c when the magnetic field is reduced and the magnetic ordering for transverse component of spins sets up. This latter state (for $B < B_c$) is named spiral long range order. In this work we have studied the mentioned quantum phase transition based on Bose-Einstein condensation of magnons via a bosonic gas model⁷. Bloch⁸ applied the Bose-Einstein quantum statistics to the excitations in solids which gives the basic notion to relate Bose-Einstein of magnons to the magnetic ordering in the original spin model^{6,9}.

The isotropic Heisenberg model with longitudinal applied magnetic field has been studied by theoretical and numerical methods. The isotropic model on cubic lattice has been investigated by numerical quantum Monte-Carlo method at finite temperature which gives the phase boundary between spiral order and induced ferromagnetic state¹⁰. A theoretical approach based on Bose condensation of magnons for the isotropic model on triangular lattice has been studied in Ref.[5]. Furthermore, the experimental data for specific heat indicate that the λ like anomaly peak appears in the behavior of specific heat versus temperature for $B < B_c(T = 0)$ ⁹.

In the general case, the spin model Hamiltonian can include spatial anisotropies in the exchange coupling between nearest neighbor spins. This property is related to the existence of easy axes magnetization due to crystalline electric field and spin-orbit coupling. Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya (DM) interaction with a DM vector in a specific direction establishes easy-plane spin anisotropy in the Cs_2CuCl_4 ¹¹. Anisotropy due to DM interaction violates SU(2) symmetry of the isotropic Hamiltonian although U(1) symmetry corresponding to spin rotation around DM vector is still present.

However, the spin-orbit coupling may induce the anisotropy in the bc easy-plane which reduces the $U(1)$ to $Z(2)$ symmetry. Therefore, Goldstone theorem¹² can not be applied in such cases, because it is applied for Hamiltonian with a continuous symmetry. In other words, the excitations of this model are not Goldstone modes.

In this paper, we intend to find the effect of in plane anisotropy on the critical point and the transverse spin structure factor close to the field induced QPT. We have considered the fully anisotropic spin 1/2 Heisenberg model in the presence of a longitudinal field on a cubic lattice. We anticipate that the general behavior for cubic lattice is also valid for the triangular one. Moreover, the study on cubic lattice reduces the complexity of calculations which will be the route to investigate the triangular case. In addition the results on cubic lattice can be applied to the field-induced magnetic phase transition of $TlCuCl_3$. We have implemented the hard core boson transformation for spin operators which gives the excitation spectrum in terms of many body calculations for bosonic gas¹³. We have used Brueckner approach¹⁴ to find the bosonic self energy to get the magnon dispersion relation. The quantum critical point is approached where the magnon spectrum becomes gapless. We have found an analytic expression for the gap exponent in terms of the anisotropy parameter. Our results show that a small amount of in-plane anisotropy changes the gap exponent drastically which is the witness for the change in universal behavior. We have also found the dependence of critical magnetic field on the anisotropy parameter which is also justified by the divergence of the transverse structure factor at the antiferromagnetic wave vector. The divergence of the in-plane magnetic susceptibility obeys an algebraic power law with an exponent equals to the negative of gap exponent as the magnetic field approaches the critical one. Moreover, the vanishing of the staggered magnetization is given by the exponent $\beta = 0.5$ in the mean field approximation.

II. ANISOTROPIC SPIN HAMILTONIAN

The most general effective Hamiltonian to describe magnetic insulating matter due to exchange interaction between the spin of localized electrons can be written by

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} J_{ij}^{\alpha} S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\alpha} - g\mu_B B \sum_i S_i^z, \quad (1)$$

where $g \simeq 2.2$, μ_B is the Bohr magneton and B is the magnetic field. The localized spins are located on the cubic lattice structure with nearest neighbor exchange interaction. The effect of spin orbit coupling is generally entered to the fully anisotropic exchange couplings J_{ij}^{α} . The exchange anisotropy is defined by parameter ν with the following relations

$$J^x = J(1 + \nu) \quad , \quad J^y = J(1 - \nu) \quad , \quad J^z = J, \quad (2)$$

where the scale of energy J is set to one. The above type of exchange interaction implies an anisotropy in both in plane and axial directions where the symmetry has been reduced to $Z(2)$.

III. HARD CORE REPRESENTATION OF SPIN HAMILTONIAN AND BOSONIC GREEN'S FUNCTIONS

As mentioned in the introduction we intend to describe the field induced QPT in terms of Bose-Einstein condensation of magnons. Our approach is similar to what we have implemented in Ref.15 to study the quantum critical properties of the Kondo-necklace model. In the first step the spin Hamiltonian is mapped to a bosonic model. This is done by the hard core boson representation given by: $S_i^+ \rightarrow a_i$, $S_i^- \rightarrow a_i^\dagger$ and $S_i^z = 1/2 - a_i^\dagger a_i$, where a_i and a_i^\dagger are boson annihilation and creation operators, respectively. The $SU(2)$ algebra of spin operators is retrieved from bosonic algebra of a_i and a_i^\dagger operators with the hard core constraint, i.e. only one boson can occupy a single site of lattice. The constraint is added to the Hamiltonian by an on-site infinite repulsion among bosonic particles. The resulting Hamiltonian in terms of bilinear (\mathcal{H}_{bil}) and interacting (\mathcal{H}_{int}) parts is given by

$$\mathcal{H}_{bil} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \{ J [a_i^\dagger a_j + \frac{1}{2} \nu (a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger + a_i a_j)] - J^z a_i^\dagger a_i \} + g\mu_B B \sum_i a_i^\dagger a_i, \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_{int} = \mathcal{U} \sum_i a_i^\dagger a_i^\dagger a_i a_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} J^z a_i^\dagger a_i a_j^\dagger a_j. \quad (4)$$

The bilinear Hamiltonian in the Fourier space representation is

$$\mathcal{H}_{bil} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left\{ A_{\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{\mathbf{k}} + \frac{B_{\mathbf{k}}}{2} (a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} a_{-\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} + a_{-\mathbf{k}} a_{\mathbf{k}}) \right\}, \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\mathbf{k}} &= [J_{\mathbf{k}} - J_0^z + g\mu_B B], \\ B_{\mathbf{k}} &= \nu J_{\mathbf{k}}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

It is defined $J_{\mathbf{k}} = J \sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} \cos(k_{\alpha})$ and $J_0^z = 3J$. The wave vectors k_{α} are considered in the first Brillouin zone. The effect of hard core repulsion part ($\mathcal{U} \rightarrow \infty$) of the interacting Hamiltonian in Eq.(4) is dominant compared with the second quartic term. Thus, it is sufficient to take into account the effect of hard core repulsion on the magnon spectrum and neglect the second quartic term. The interacting part of Hamiltonian in terms of Fourier transformation of bosonic operators is given by

$$\mathcal{H}_{int} = \mathcal{U} \sum_{k,k',q} a_{k+q}^{\dagger} a_{k'-q}^{\dagger} a_{k'} a_k. \quad (7)$$

The bilinear Hamiltonian is simply diagonalized by the unitary Bogoliubov transformation to the new bosonic quasi particle operators $\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}$ and $\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}$, [15], which is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_{bil} &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \omega_{\mathbf{k}} \left(\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}} + 1/2 \right), \\ \omega_{\mathbf{k}}^2 &= A_{\mathbf{k}}^2 - B_{\mathbf{k}}^2, \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

and the Bogoliubov coefficients are

$$u_{\mathbf{k}}^2 (v_{\mathbf{k}}^2) = (-) \frac{1}{2} + \frac{A_{\mathbf{k}}}{2\omega_{\mathbf{k}}}. \quad (9)$$

Although the bilinear part of Hamiltonian is diagonal in the new bosonic ($\alpha_{\mathbf{k}}, \alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger}$) representation, to avoid the complexity of the calculations for the hard core repulsion term the Green's functions will be calculated in the original boson operators (a_k, a_k^{\dagger}). In the original boson representation, \mathcal{H}_{bil} includes the pairing term between magnons which requires both anomalous and normal Green's functions to be considered. More explanations of the detailed calculations can be found in Ref.15. Finally, the self-energy is expanded in the low energy limit which gives the single particle part of Green's function (G_n^{sp}),

$$G_n^{sp}(k, \omega) = \frac{Z_k U_k^2}{\omega - \Omega_k + i\eta} - \frac{Z_k V_k^2}{\omega + \Omega_k - i\eta}, \quad (10)$$

where the renormalized triplet spectrum (Ω_k), the renormalized single particle weight constants (Z_k) and renormalized Bogoliubov coefficients (U_k, V_k) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_k &= Z_k \sqrt{[A_k + \Sigma_n(k, 0)]^2 - [B_k + \Sigma_a(k, 0)]^2}, \\ Z_k^{-1} &= 1 - \left(\frac{\partial \Sigma_n}{\partial \omega} \right)_{\omega=0}, \\ U_k^2 (V_k^2) &= (-) \frac{1}{2} + \frac{Z_k [A_k + \Sigma_n(k, 0)]}{2\Omega_k}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

The renormalized weight constant is the residue of the single particle pole in the Green's function. In the next step we will take into account the effect of hard core repulsion on the magnon spectrum.

IV. EFFECT OF HARD CORE REPULSION ON THE MAGNON SPECTRUM

The density of the magnons is obtained from the normal Green's functions

$$n_i = \langle a_i^{\dagger} a_i \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_k v_k^2, \quad (12)$$

where N is the number of the spins in the cubic lattice. In the vicinity of the critical field (B_c^0) and at the zero temperature the density of excited magnons is negligible⁶. Since the Hamiltonian \mathcal{H}_{int} in Eq.(7) is short ranged and \mathcal{U} is large, the Brueckner approach (ladder diagram summation)^{13,14} can be applied for the low density limit of magnons. The interacting normal Green's function is obtained by imposing the hard core boson repulsion, $\mathcal{U} \rightarrow \infty$. Firstly, the scattering amplitude (t-matrix) $\Gamma(k_1, k_2; k_3, k_4)$ of magnons is introduced where $k_i \equiv (\mathbf{k}, (k_0)_i)$. The basic approximation made in the derivation of $\Gamma(K)$ is that we neglect all anomalous scattering vertices, which are presented in the theory due to the existence of anomalous Green's functions. According to the Feynman rules¹⁴ in momentum space at zero temperature, the scattering amplitude is calculated (see Fig.1 of Ref.15). By replacing the noninteracting normal Green's function in the Bethe-Salpeter equation and taking the limit $\mathcal{U} \rightarrow \infty$ we obtain the scattering matrix in the form

$$\Gamma(\mathbf{K}, \omega) = - \left(\frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3Q \frac{u_{\mathbf{Q}}^2 u_{\mathbf{K}-\mathbf{Q}}^2}{\omega - \omega_{\mathbf{Q}} - \omega_{\mathbf{K}-\mathbf{Q}}} - \frac{v_{\mathbf{Q}}^2 v_{\mathbf{K}-\mathbf{Q}}^2}{\omega + \omega_{\mathbf{Q}} + \omega_{\mathbf{K}-\mathbf{Q}}} \right)^{-1}. \quad (13)$$

According to Fig.2 of Ref.15 and after some calculations the normal self-energy is obtained in the following form

$$\Sigma_n^{\mathcal{U}}(\mathbf{k}, \omega) = \frac{2}{N} \sum_p v_{\mathbf{p}}^2 \Gamma(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{k}, \omega - \omega_{\mathbf{p}}). \quad (14)$$

In the dilute gas approximation there are other diagrams which are formally at most linear in the density of magnons. However, the magnon densities are very small and the contributions of such terms are numerically smaller than Eq. (14). We should also consider the anomalous self-energy related to $H_{\mathcal{U}}$ which exists in the vertex function. The anomalous self-energy has a vanishing contribution.

V. THE GAP EXPONENT

Close to the quantum critical point, the excitation gap (Δ) in the field-induced ferromagnetic phase vanishes according to the following power law behavior

$$\Delta \sim |B - B_c|^\phi, \quad (15)$$

where B_c is the critical magnetic field and ϕ is the gap exponent which is related to universality class of the quantum critical point. The quantum critical point corresponds to the vanishing of magnon spectrum at the antiferromagnetic wave vector $Q_{AF} = (\pi, \pi, \pi)$. The magnon spectrum close to the antiferromagnetic wave vector (Q_{AF}) is approximated by

$$\omega_k = \sqrt{\Delta^2 + c^2(k - Q_{AF})^2}, \quad (16)$$

where c is the spin wave velocity. The spin wave velocity (c) is obtained numerically from the excitation spectrum.

In the first step, we calculate the variation of the self-energy related to $H_{\mathcal{U}}$ which is given by

$$\delta \Sigma^{\mathcal{U}}(Q_{AF}) = \frac{2}{N} \sum_k \delta v_k^2 \Gamma(k + Q_{AF}, -\omega_k) + \frac{2}{N} \sum_k v_k^2 \delta \Gamma(k + Q_{AF}, -\omega_k). \quad (17)$$

The main contribution to the first integral in Eq. (17) comes from the small momenta $q \sim \Delta/c \ll 1$ where $q \equiv k - Q_{AF}$ since

$$\delta v_k^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta A_k}{\omega_q} + A_k \delta \left[\frac{1}{\omega_k} \right] \right) \approx - \frac{A_{Q_{AF}}^c \Delta^2}{2(\Delta^2 + c^2 q^2)^{3/2}}. \quad (18)$$

Taking into account the first correction to the magnon density, the vertex function can be written for small q (see Ref.[17])

$$\Gamma(q, -\omega_q) \approx \Gamma_0^c \left[1 + \frac{\Gamma_0^c A_{k=0}^c}{4\pi c^2} \ln q \right], \quad (19)$$

where $\Gamma_0^c \equiv \Gamma^c(k=0)$ and the value of quantity X at the critical point is defined by X^c . The substitution of Eq.(19) in Eq.(17) and replacing $q \simeq \Delta/J$ in the first integral of Eq.(17), we find that

$$\delta \Sigma^{\mathcal{U}}(\pi, \pi) = - \frac{A_{Q_{AF}}^c \Delta^2}{8\pi^2 c^3} \Gamma_0^c \left[1 + \frac{\Gamma_0^c A_{k=0}^c}{4\pi c^2} \ln \frac{\Delta}{J} \right] + \Gamma' n_b \delta B, \quad (20)$$

where $\Gamma' = \frac{\delta\Gamma(q, -\omega_q)}{\delta B}$ and $n_b (= \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \langle a_i^\dagger a_i \rangle)$ is the density of magnons at the critical point. Let us define the following expressions

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &\equiv \frac{A_{Q_{AF}}^c \Gamma_0^c}{8\pi^2 c^3}, \\ \sigma &\equiv \Gamma' n_b.\end{aligned}\tag{21}$$

After some calculations we finally get the following relation

$$\Delta^2 = \frac{(g\mu_B + \sigma)\delta B}{\lambda} \left(1 - \frac{A_{Q_{AF}}^c \Gamma_0^c}{4\pi c^2} \ln \frac{\delta B}{J}\right).\tag{22}$$

The gap exponent ϕ is obtained upon replacing $\Delta = |\delta B|^\phi$ in the above equation which finally is equal to

$$\phi = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{A_{Q_{AF}}^c \Gamma_0^c}{8\pi c^2}.\tag{23}$$

We have presented the numerical results of gap exponent in terms of anisotropic parameters in section-VII.

VI. STAGGERED MAGNETIZATION FOR $B \lesssim B_c$

At the quantum critical point the magnons condensate at $q = Q_{AF}$ which is the onset of the long range antiferromagnetic (AF) order in the model. The system is represented by the AF ordered state as far as $B < B_c$. In the AF phase we have applied Hartree-Fock-Popov mean field approach^{6,16} by taking into account the condensation of magnons in the interacting Hamiltonian at wave vector Q_{AF} . The effective interparticle interaction is defined by the following Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H}_{eff} = \Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) \sum_{k, k', q} a_{k+q}^\dagger a_{k'-q}^\dagger a_{k'} a_k,\tag{24}$$

where, $\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})$ is the interaction parameter at the critical point ($B = B_c$). Below the critical point ($B < B_c$), the AF order parameter becomes nonzero and it can be interpreted by the nonzero mean field value of the creation operator of magnons at Q_{AF} . Let us define $\langle a_{Q_{AF}} \rangle = N_c = \langle a_{Q_{AF}}^\dagger \rangle$ for the condensate phase where N_c is the number of condensed magnons. The staggered magnetization in the x-y plane which represents the long range AF order is denoted by $m_\perp \equiv m_x + im_y = g\mu_B \sqrt{N n_c}$ where N is the total number of sites and n_c is the condensed magnon density. The effective Hamiltonian in Eq.(24) can be written in the following form where the contribution from the condensate phase has been denoted by $H_{\mathcal{U}}^0$,

$$\begin{aligned}H_{\mathcal{U}} &= H_{\mathcal{U}}^0 + H_{\mathcal{U}}^2 + H_{\mathcal{U}}^3 + H_{\mathcal{U}}^4, \\ H_{\mathcal{U}}^0 &= \frac{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) N_c^2}{2N}, \\ H_{\mathcal{U}}^2 &= \frac{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) N_c}{N} \sum_q' \left[\frac{1}{2} (a_q a_{-q} + a_q^\dagger a_{-q}^\dagger) + 2a_q^\dagger a_q \right], \\ H_{\mathcal{U}}^3 &= \frac{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) \sqrt{N_c}}{N} \sum_{k, q}' (a_k^\dagger a_{k+q} a_{-q} + h.c.), \\ H_{\mathcal{U}}^4 &= \frac{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})}{2N} \sum_{k, q, k'}' a_{k+q}^\dagger a_{k'-q}^\dagger a_{k'} a_k.\end{aligned}\tag{25}$$

In the above equations, \sum' implies that the terms with creation and annihilation operators at the antiferromagnetic wave vector (Q_{AF}) are excluded. In a mean field approximation the contribution from $H_{\mathcal{U}}^3$ is zero since it contains linear terms of boson operators. Taking into account the hard core repulsion which avoids the pairing of magnons and considering all other contractions the mean field representation of $H_{\mathcal{U}}^4$ is

$$H_{\mathcal{U}}^4 = 2(1 - n_c) \Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) \sum_k' a_k^\dagger a_k.\tag{26}$$

After adding the non-interacting part, Eq.(5), to the mean field (MF) interacting one the Hamiltonian is given by the following equation plus a constant term which has been omitted here,

$$H^{MF} = \sum_k (A_k + 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})) a_k^\dagger a_k + \sum_k \frac{\nu J_k + \Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) n_c}{2} (a_k a_{-k} + a_k^\dagger a_{-k}^\dagger). \quad (27)$$

The mean field Hamiltonian is diagonalized by the unitary Bogoliubov transformation,

$$\begin{aligned} H^{MF} &= \sum_k \Omega_k (\phi_k^\dagger \phi_k), \\ \Omega_k &= \sqrt{(A_k + 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}))^2 - (\nu J_k + \Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) n_c)^2}, \\ a_k &= d_k \phi_k - f_k \phi_{-k}^\dagger, \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

where Ω_k gives the excitation spectrum of the new bosonic quasi particles defined by the creation operator ϕ_k^\dagger and d_k , f_k are Bogoliubov coefficients

$$d_k = \sqrt{\frac{A_k + 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})}{2\Omega_k} + \frac{1}{2}}, \quad f_k = \sqrt{\frac{A_k + 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})}{2\Omega_k} - \frac{1}{2}}. \quad (29)$$

The condensation of magnons at the AF wave vector implies that excitation spectrum must be gapless at Q_{AF} which gives the following relation

$$J_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_{AF}} - J_0^z + g\mu_B B + 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) = -\nu J_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_{AF}} - \Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) n_c. \quad (30)$$

Therefore, the transverse order parameter for $B \leq B_c$ is given by

$$m_\perp = g\mu_B \sqrt{n_c} = g\mu_B \sqrt{\frac{-J_{\mathbf{k}=\mathbf{Q}_{AF}} + J_0^z - g\mu_B B - 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) - \nu J_{\mathbf{Q}_{AF}}}{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})}} \quad (31)$$

The critical field is touched where $n_c = 0$ in Eq.(30) which leads to the following expression,

$$B_c = \frac{J_0^z - J_{\mathbf{Q}_{AF}} - 2\Gamma^c(Q_{AF}) - \nu J_{\mathbf{Q}_{AF}}}{g\mu_B}. \quad (32)$$

Therefore the transverse staggered magnetization has the following expression in the mean field approximation

$$m_\perp = g\mu_B \sqrt{n_c} = g\mu_B \sqrt{\frac{g\mu_B (B_c - B)}{\Gamma^c(Q_{AF})}}. \quad (33)$$

The scaling behavior of transverse order parameter close to the critical field is characterized by the exponent β via $m_\perp \sim |B_c - B|^\beta$ which is $\beta = 0.5$, in the mean field approximation.

VII. SUMMARY, RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this article we have studied the effect of in-plane anisotropy on the quantum critical properties of the spin 1/2 Heisenberg model in the presence of a longitudinal field (B) on a cubic lattice. The in-plane anisotropy breaks the U(1) symmetry of the model (around the direction of the magnetic field) and changes the quantum critical properties of the model which is discussed in this section. Moreover, we have analyzed the field-induced phase transition in this model in terms of Bose-Einstein condensation of magnons.

The original spin model has been represented by a bosonic model in the presence of hard core repulsion to avoid double occupation of bosons at each lattice site which preserves the SU(2) algebra of the spin model. In the limit of $B/J \rightarrow \infty$, the ground state is a field induced ferromagnetic state and a finite energy gap exists to the lowest excited state which is called the magnon spectrum. The decrease of magnetic field lowers the excitation gap which eventually vanishes at the critical magnetic field (B_c). This point corresponds to the condensation of magnons which is the onset of long range antiferromagnetic order of the spin model. We have implemented the Green's function approach to obtain the effect of interaction on the diagonal part of the bosonic Hamiltonian using Brueckner formalism close

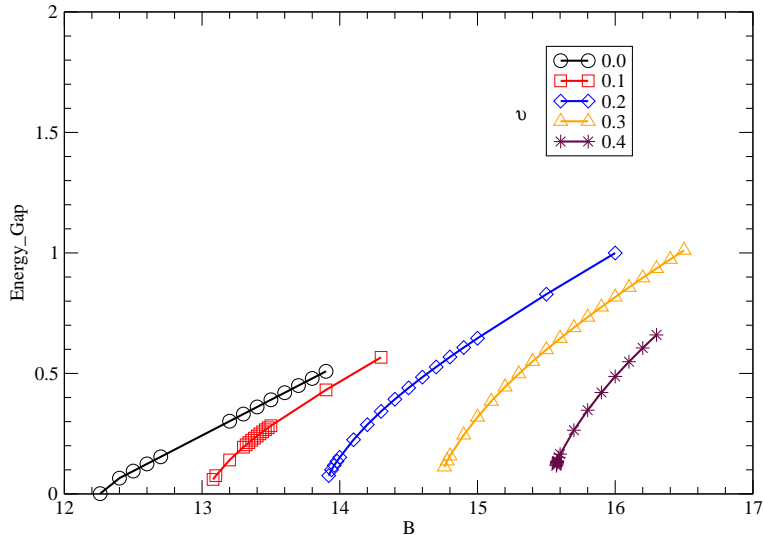


FIG. 1: (Color online) The energy gap versus the magnetic field for various anisotropy parameters. The change of the critical magnetic field (where the gap vanishes) for various anisotropies is remarkable.

to the quantum critical point where the magnon density is small. The magnon spectrum have been calculated from Eqs.(10, 11, 14) selfconsistently. The procedure is started with an initial guess for $Z_k, \Sigma_n(k, 0)$ and $\Sigma_a(k, 0)$, then using Eq.(11) we find the renormalized excitation energy and the renormalized Bogoliubov coefficients. The procedure is repeated until convergence is reached. Using the final values for energy gap, renormalization constants and Bogoliubov coefficients, we have obtained the quantum critical point for different anisotropy parameters in Table.I. Our data shows that a small amount of anisotropy has a considerable change on the critical magnetic field. We have also plotted the magnon gap versus the magnetic field in Fig.1 for different values of anisotropy. It is obvious from Fig.1 that the magnon gap vanishes as the magnetic field approaches the critical value for $B \gtrsim B_c$.

Moreover, the scaling behavior of gap close to B_c which is characterized by the gap exponent (ϕ) defined in Eq.(15) depends on the anisotropy parameter. We have presented the gap exponent (ϕ) for different anisotropies in Table.I. The dependence of ϕ on ν shows that the in-plane anisotropy changes the universal behavior of the model. A drastic change of ϕ from 0.40 for $\nu = 0$ to 0.2 for $\nu = 0.1$ manifests the change of universality class due to explicit breaking of symmetry by anisotropy. At $\nu = 0$ the model has U(1) symmetry while for $\nu \neq 0$ the symmetry breaks to Z2. Although the calculated gap exponent for different nonzero anisotropies may change slightly, the amount of changes are in the order of error bar which mainly comes from the error bar inherited in the value of $B_c(\nu)$, nonzero values of ν do not present different universal behavior.

TABLE I: The critical magnetic field (B_c) and gap exponent (ϕ) for different values of anisotropies. The error bar for all data is ± 0.05 .

ν	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4
B_c (critical field)	12.26	13.03	13.88	14.72	15.53
ϕ (gap exponent)	0.40	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

The long range ordering can be deduced from the behavior of spin susceptibility. The magnetic ordering occurs for transverse spin components; therefore, static spin structure factor for tranverse component diverges at the antiferromagnetic wave vector in the quantum critical point. The x-component static spin structure factor at momentum q is defined by

$$\chi^{xx}(q) = \langle s^x(q)s^x(-q) \rangle, \quad (34)$$

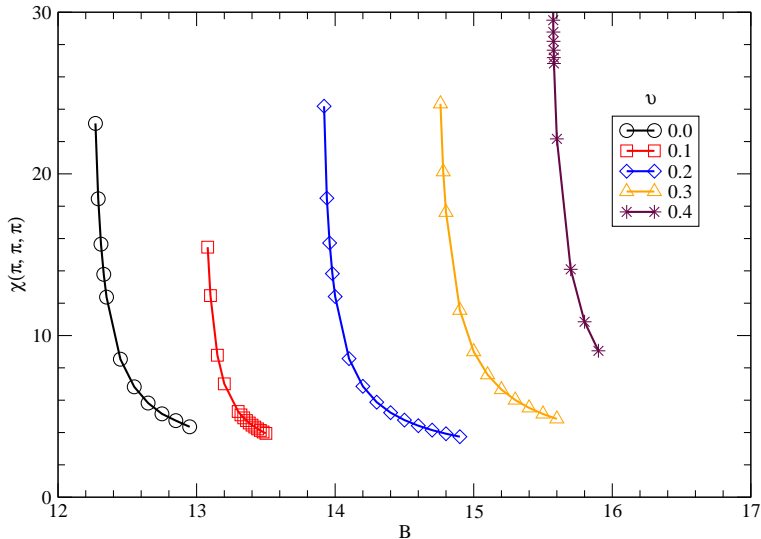


FIG. 2: (Color online) The (x-component) transverse structure factor at the antiferromagnetic wave vector versus the magnetic field for different anisotropies. The divergence at the critical magnetic field justifies the onset of magnetic order.

which is given by the following expression,

$$\chi^{xx}(q) = \frac{\pi}{2} \left[2\sqrt{\frac{A_q^2}{4\omega_q^2} - 1} + \frac{A_q}{\omega_q} \right]. \quad (35)$$

Close to the quantum critical point where the magnon spectrum vanishes the dominant contribution is obtained to be

$$\chi^{xx}(Q_{AF}) \approx \pi A_{Q_{AF}}^c |B - B_c|^{-\phi}, \quad (36)$$

which shows that the divergences of magnetic susceptibility follows a scaling relation with exponent, ϕ . The numerical results for $\chi^{xx}(Q_{AF})$ versus the magnetic field have been plotted in Fig.2. This plot confirms the presence of antiferromagnetic order at the critical magnetic field. The divergence of the static structure factor happens at the different critical fields for various anisotropies (ν) which justifies the previous results on energy gap.

Both results on the energy gap and transverse structure factor confirms that a small amount of in-plane anisotropy changes the critical magnetic field considerably. Moreover, the explicit breaking of symmetry due to in-plane anisotropy shows up in the gap exponent. Our results on the scaling behavior of magnetic order parameter (β) is limited to the mean field approximation which does not show its dependence on the anisotropy. However, we expect that the dependence of β on anisotropy (ν) should appear if the calculation goes beyond the mean field approach. As far as the model has two control parameters ν and B , the universal behavior should be fixed by two exponents ϕ and β . In other words, any other exponent for a scaling behavior close to critical field at zero temperature can be expressed in terms of the obtained exponents (ϕ, β).

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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