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Supporting information for article:

First spin-resolved electron distributions in crystals from combined polarized neutron and X-ray diffraction experiments

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The detailed classical treatment of the orbital contribution may be found in [Gillon & Becker, 2012], page 287.

In the independent atom model, the magnetic structure factor of scattering vector \mathbf{Q} is written as a sum over the atoms i in the cell:

$$F_M(\vec{Q}) = \sum_i^{\text{atoms}} m_i f_m^i(\vec{Q}) e^{i\vec{Q}\vec{R}_i} e^{-W_i}$$

where $f_m^i(\vec{Q})$ is the magnetic form factor of atom i which carries a magnetic moment m_i . In the case of weak spin-orbit coupling, like for a transition metal atom i , the form factor may be written as the sum of a pure spin form factor $f_m^{iS}(\vec{Q})$ and a form factor $f_m^{iL}(\vec{Q})$ due to the orbital contribution. The magnetic structure factor is then the sum of a pure spin magnetic structure factor $F_M^S(\vec{Q})$ and an orbital structure factor $F_M^L(\vec{Q})$:

$$F_M(\vec{Q}) = F_M^S(\vec{Q}) + F_M^L(\vec{Q})$$

The term $F_M^L(\vec{Q})$ may be treated as a correction and is taken into account in the theoretical expression of the flipping ratio in the program MOLLYNX.

As described in reference [Squires, 1978] the usual dipole approximation consists in writing the above form factor as:

$$f_m^{iL}(\vec{Q}) = m_s^i \frac{(g_i - 2)}{g_i} (\langle j_0^i \rangle + \langle j_2^i \rangle)$$

where m_s^i is the magnetic moment of atom i associated with spin, g_i is the Landé splitting factor of atom i and $\langle j_\ell^i(Q) \rangle$ are the radial integrals for atom i :

$$\langle j_\ell^i(Q) \rangle = \int_0^\infty r^2 \left(\mathcal{M}_i^{N-1} e^{-\xi_L^i r} \right)^2 j_\ell^i(Qr) dr$$

where $\left(\mathcal{M}_i^{N-1} e^{-\xi_L^i r} \right)$ is a Slater type radial function with exponent ξ_L^i for the unpaired electron orbital belonging to the atomic shell with quantum numbers N and L and $j_\ell^i(Qr)$ are the spherical Bessel functions of order $\ell = 0, 2$ which are tabulated for the 3d elements in [Brown, 1992].

The orbital magnetic structure factors $F_M^L(\vec{Q})$ were calculated using the magnetic form factor $(\langle j_0 \rangle + \langle j_2 \rangle)$ for Cu^{2+} and a coefficient:

$$m_s^{\text{Cu}} \frac{(g_{\text{Cu}} - 2)}{g_{\text{Cu}}} = 0.07 \mu_B$$

with $m_S^{\text{Cu}} = 0.7\mu_B$ and $g_{\text{Cu}} = 2.175$ [Aronica, 2007]. This estimation was confirmed by refinement of the valence population associated with the orbital form factor introduced in the PND-only refinement.

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