Dynamically dominant excitations of string solutions in the S=1/2 antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chain in a magnetic field

Masanori Kohno

International Center for Materials Nanoarchitectonics, National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS)

M.K., Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 037203 (2009).

Spin-1/2 antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chain

The spin-1/2 antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chain in a magnetic field

$$\mathcal{H} = J \sum_{x} S_{x} \cdot S_{x+1} - HS^{z}.$$

It exhibits interesting *quantum many-body effects*:

Fractionalization, spin liquid, quantum criticality, ...

which have inspired modern concepts for strongly correlated systems.

This system is an excellent platform to make precise comparisons between

• quasi-1D antiferromagnets

• Exact solutions using the Bethe ansatz [1].

Very long history! But, properties have not been fully understood ...

 $S(k,\omega)$ in a magnetic field

Experiment

Theory

[1] H. Bethe, Z. Phys. 71, 205 (1931).

The Bethe ansatz

Be the wavefunction :
$$\Phi(x_1, \cdots x_M) = \sum_P \exp\left\{ i \left(\sum_j k_{Pj} x_j + \sum_{\substack{j < l \\ Pj > Pl}} \phi_{PjPl} \right) \right\},$$

where k and ϕ are determined so that this wavefunction becomes an eigenstate of the Hamiltonian under periodic boundary conditions.

Bethe equation :

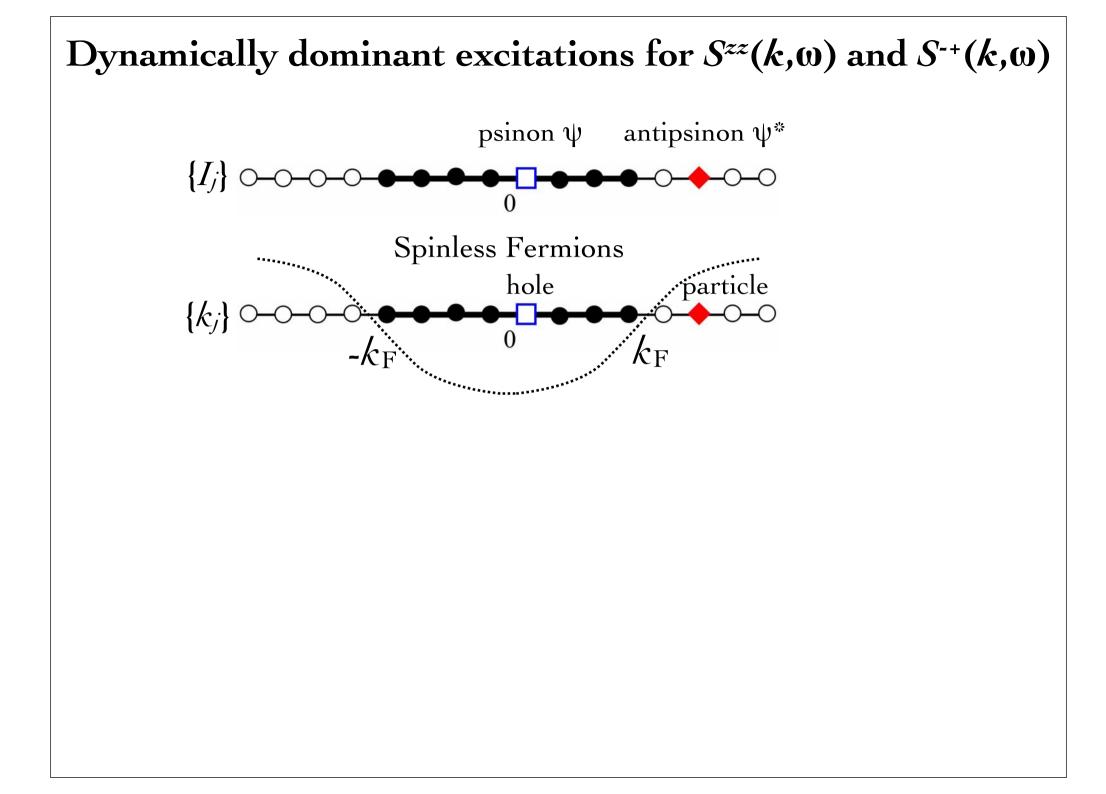
$$L\theta(\Lambda_j) = 2\pi I_j + \sum_{l \neq j} \theta\left(\frac{\Lambda_j - \Lambda_l}{2}\right), \quad j = 1, \cdots, M,$$

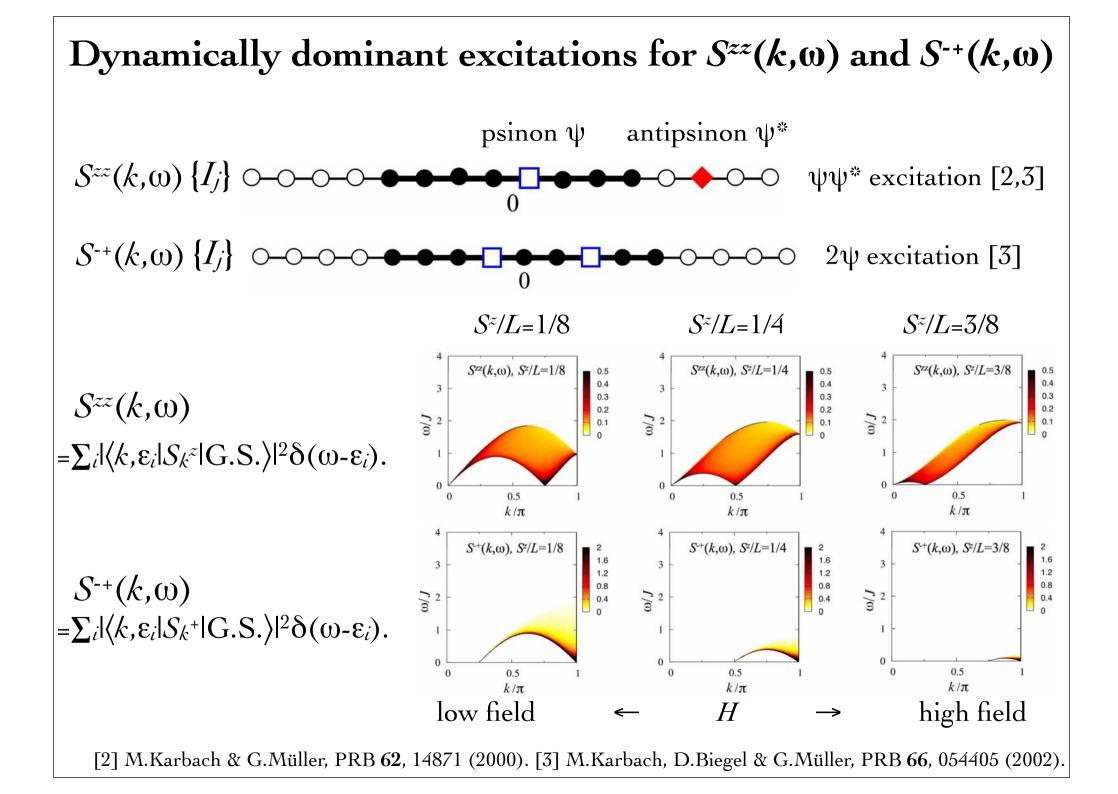
$$\theta(x) \equiv 2\arctan(x), \Lambda_j \equiv \cot\left(\frac{k_j}{2}\right), \quad 2\cot\left(\frac{\phi_{j,l}}{2}\right) = \cot\left(\frac{k_j}{2}\right) - \cot\left(\frac{k_l}{2}\right).$$

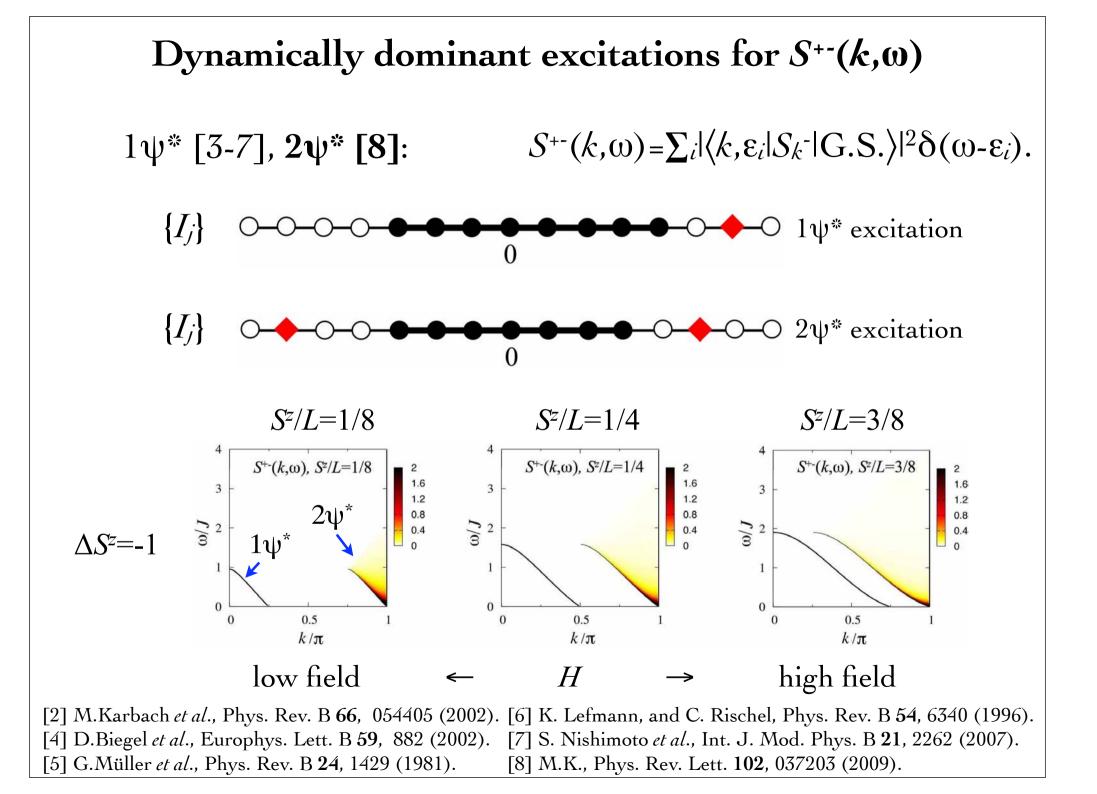
$$I_j = \begin{cases} \text{integer} \\ \text{half-odd integer} \end{cases}, \quad \text{if } L - M \text{ is odd} \\ \text{, if } L - M \text{ is even} \end{cases}, \quad |I_j| \leq \frac{L - M - 1}{2}.$$

Once a set of $\{I_j\}$ is given, an eigenstate is obtained.

[1] H. Bethe, Z. Phys. 71, 205 (1931).

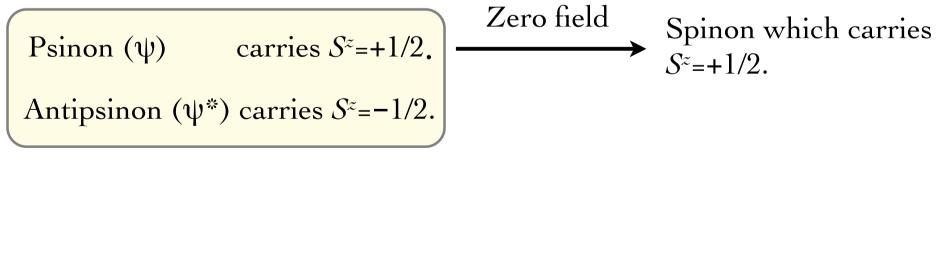




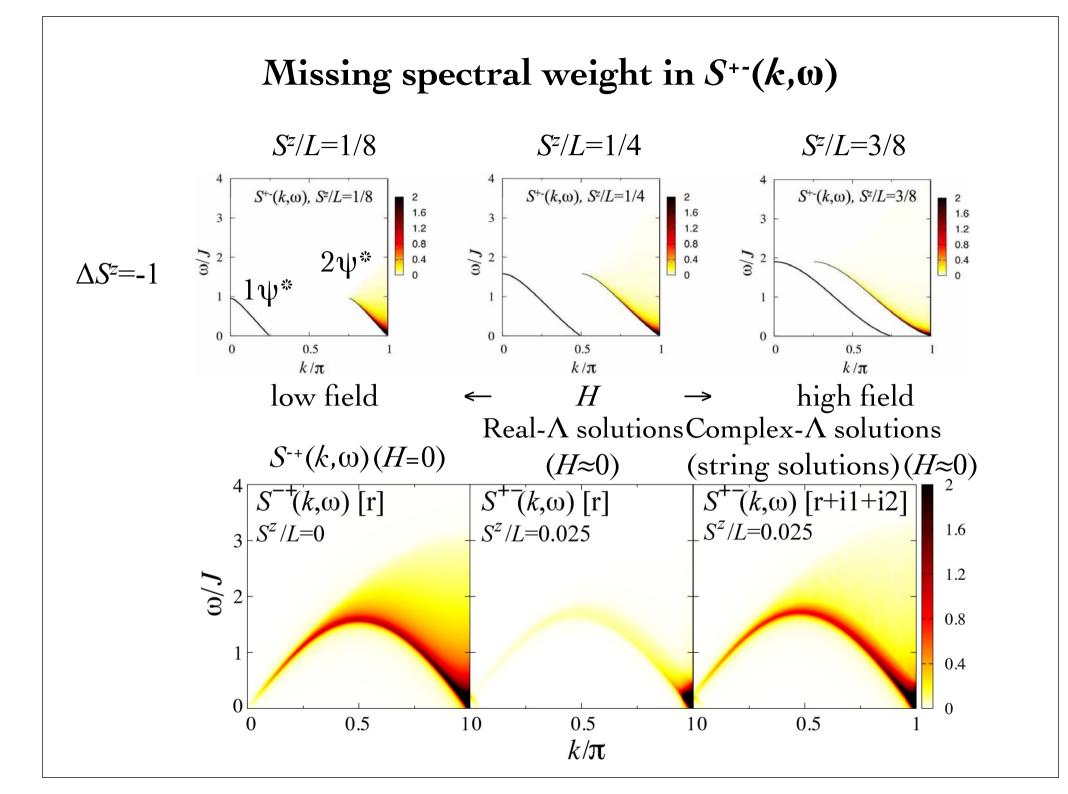


S^z of ψ and ψ^*

$$\begin{array}{l} \left\langle S^{-+}(k,\omega) \sim \left| \left\langle \text{Exc.}(S^{z}+1) | S^{+}| \text{G.S.}(S^{z}) \right\rangle \right|^{2} \\ \vdots & \Delta S^{z} = +1 \\ \dots & 2\psi \text{ excitations} \end{array} \right. \\ \left\langle S^{zz}(k,\omega) \sim \left| \left\langle \text{Exc.}(S^{z}) | S^{z}| \text{G.S.}(S^{z}) \right\rangle \right|^{2} \\ \vdots & \Delta S^{z} = 0 \\ \dots & \psi \psi^{*} \text{ excitations} \end{array} \right. \\ \left\langle S^{+-}(k,\omega) \sim \left| \left\langle \text{Exc.}(S^{z}-1) | S^{-}| \text{G.S.}(S^{z}) \right\rangle \right|^{2} \\ \vdots & \Delta S^{z} = -1 \\ \dots & 2\psi^{*} \text{ excitations} \end{array}$$

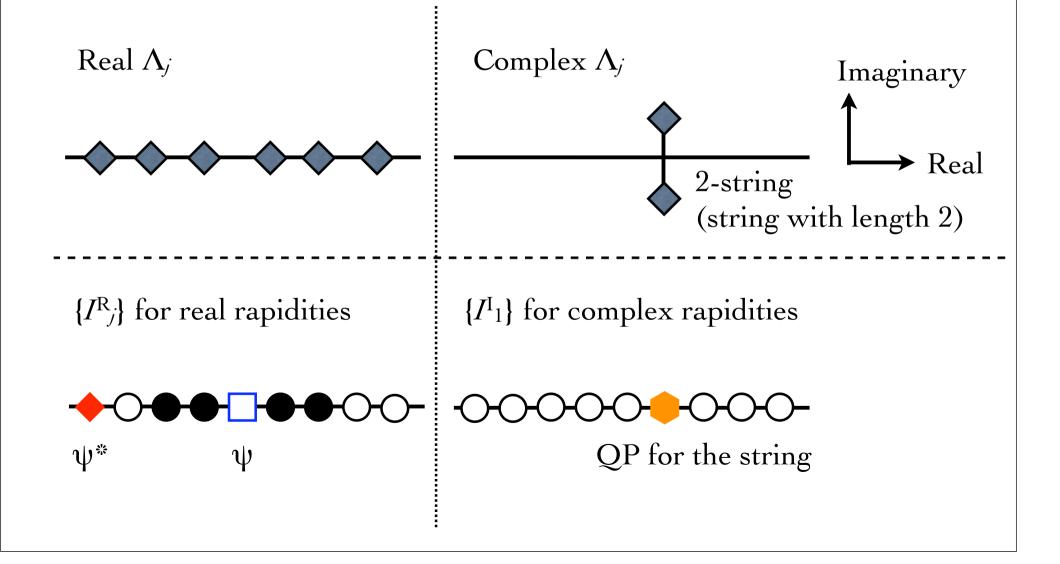


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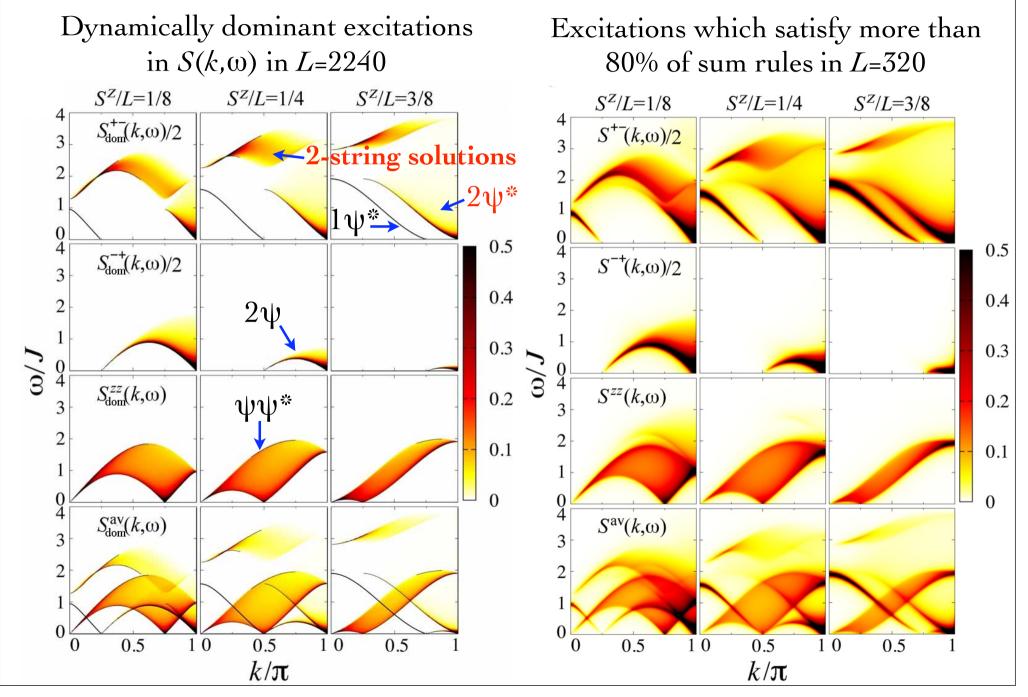


Solutions with a string

String solutions with one string are specified by two sets of $\{I_j\}$: $\{I_j^R\}$ for real rapidities and $\{I_j^I\}(j=1)$ for complex rapidities.

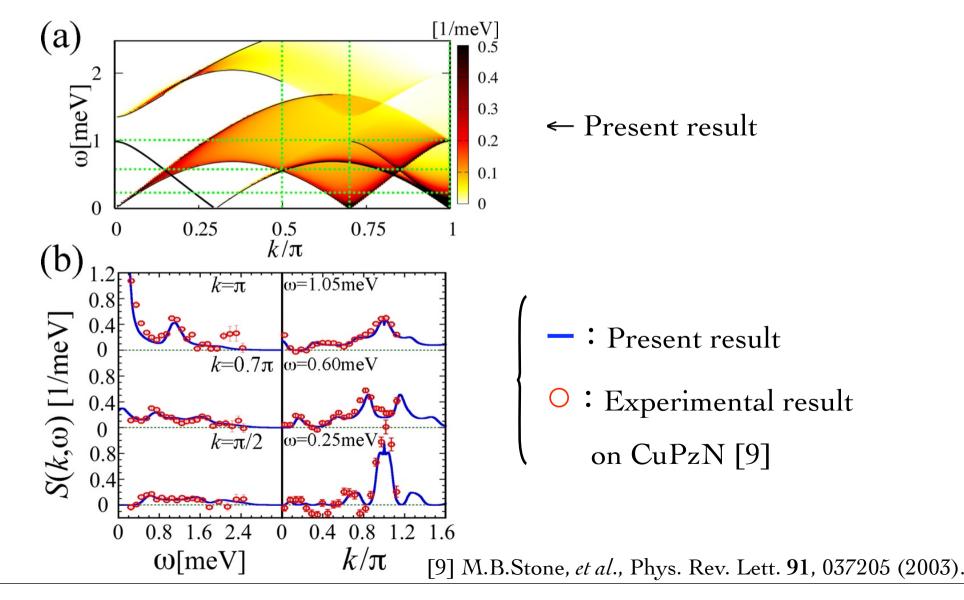


$S(k,\omega)$ in a magnetic field in 1D

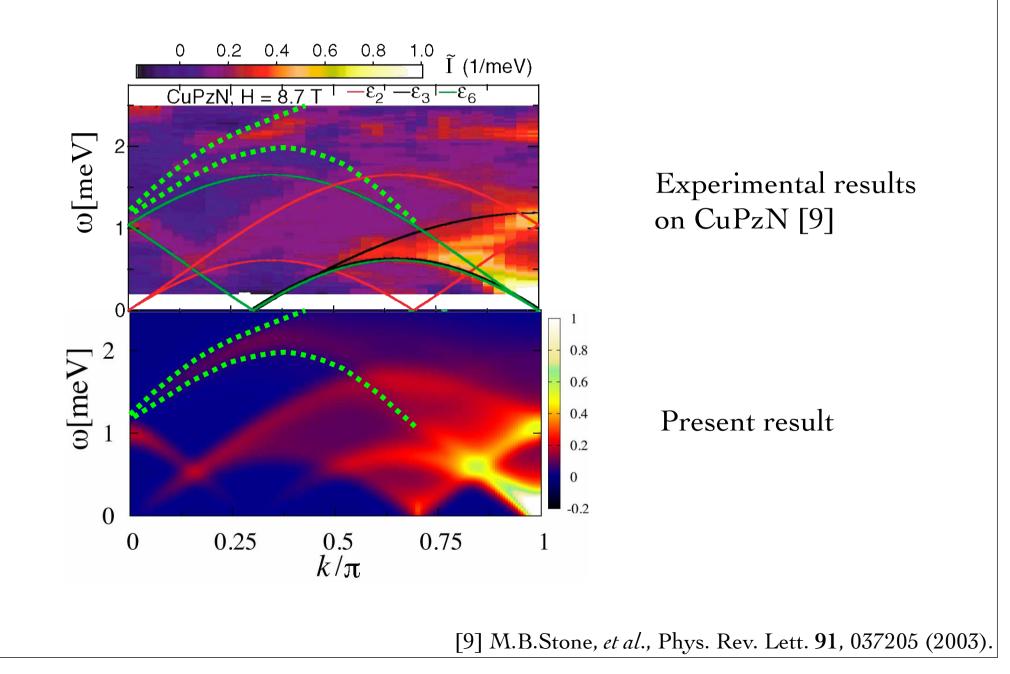


Comparison with experimental results on CuPzN

Experimental results observed in the quasi-one-dimensional antiferromagnet $Cu(C_4H_4N_2)(NO_3)_2$ (CuPzN) in a magnetic field [9] were well explained.

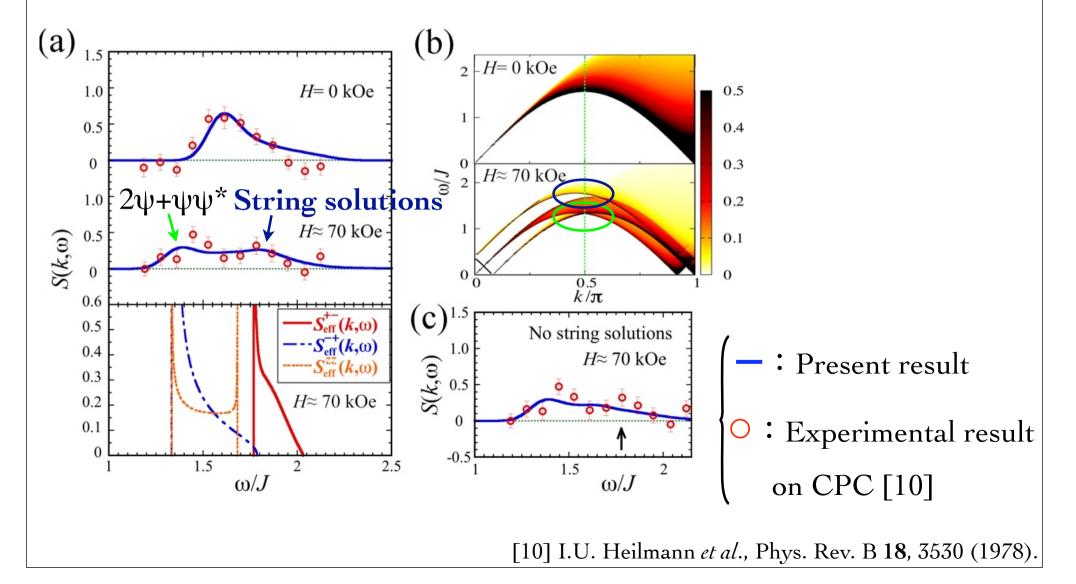


Comparison with experimental results on CuPzN



Comparison with experimental results on CPC

Experimental results observed in the quasi-one-dimensional antiferromagnet $CuCl_2 \cdot 2N(C_5D_5)$ (CPC) in a magnetic field [10] were also well explained.



Summary

Behaviors of dynamical structure factors $S^{+-}(k,\omega)$, $S^{zz}(k,\omega)$, and $S^{++}(k,\omega)$ of the S=1/2 antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chain in a magnetic field have been investigated using exact Bethe-ansatz solutions.

- ◆ **2-string solutions** form a well-defined continuum in $S^{+-}(k, ω)$.
- This continuum reduces to the des Cloizeaux-Pearson mode in the zero-field limit and the bound states of overturned spins near the saturation field.
- Psinon (ψ) and antipsinon (ψ^*) can be naturally interpreted as quasiparticles (QPs) in *H* carrying $S^z = +1/2$ and $S^z = -1/2$, respectively.
- Experimental results on quasi-1D antiferromagnets (CuPzN and CPC) in a magnetic field were reasonably explained.

Not only ψ ($S^z = +1/2$) and ψ^* ($S^z = -1/2$) but also QP for a 2-string ($S^z = -1$) plays an important role for dynamical properties in a magnetic field.