John Hasbrouk Van Vleck

Magnetic Gases and Garnets



John H. and Abigail Van Vleck ~ 1954

ON DIELECTRIC CONSTANTS AND MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITIES IN THE NEW QUANTUM MECHANICS PART III- APPLICATION TO DIA- AND PARAMAGNETISM BY J.H. VAN VLECK PHYSICAL REVIEW VOL.31, p.587, APRIL 1928

THE THEORY OF ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITIES BY J.H.VAN VLECK PROFESSOR OF THEORETICAL PHYSICS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1932

Chapter X #66. The Oxygen Molecule #67. The Nitric Oxide Molecule **Oxygen O**₂: "The only known paramagnetic molecule with an even number of electrons, whereas paramagnetism is the usual rule for molecules with an odd number of electrons"

Assumptions: Lowest energy states are 3 closely spaced ${}^{3}S$ levels. Structure splitting << $k_{\rm B}T$

Curie's law for S = 1:

 $\chi = N\beta^2 4S(S+1)/3k_BT$

Prediction confirmed by experiments down to 136 K (Boiling point : 90 K)

In liquid and solid state, $\chi(O_2 \text{ diluted in } N_2)$ obeys Curie's law (Perrier & Kamerlingh Onnes)

But what happens below 60 K when $k_B T \sim {}^3S$ structure splitting ??

Prediction for free O¹⁶O¹⁶ gas : $\chi \rightarrow$ Const. , as T \rightarrow 0 (A.H. Cooke and W.P. Wolf , Proc. Roy. Soc.**225A**,112,[1954])

Nitric Oxide NO : ${}^{2}\Pi$ doublet



 $\Lambda = 1$ orbital angular momentum



Experimental results from several labs above 120 K



Fig. 1. Structure of a β -quinol clathrate cage containing a trapped diatomic molecule (shaded). The heavy black lines represent indirect bonds formed by hydrogen atoms between neighboring oxygens (unshaded spheres), not direct bonds. The hexagons represent benzene rings.

Experiments on susceptibility of O_2 (A.H. Cooke et al. Proc. Roy. Soc.**225A**,112,[1954]) **Symbols** : Data . **Dashed line** : Predictions for the free O_2 gas



Molecules trapped in β -quinol clathrates



Nov 20, 1956

217 Pierce Hall Harvard University Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dr. H. Meyer Clarendon Laboratory Oxford, England

Dear Dr. Meyer:

I was delighted to learn from Miss O'Brien that you are making new measurements on the oxygen clathrate compounds. I would appreciate it if you would send me the results as soon as you obtain them. Miss O'Brien predicted that you would have the measurements by Christmas, and I am therefore taking the chance of giving a talk at the New York meeting of the American Physical Society at the end of January. If your measurements confirm our theory, that of course makes a better paper. If they do not, it is evidence that there is something very strange, as any reasonable model will not work. What would be really unsatisfactory would be to have your results available just a few days after I present the paper, so that the emphasis would be wrong. Incidentally, if you are able to run NO down to half a degree, that would be wonderful, but it is only the oxygen data I am interested in as regards the immediate future.

> Sincerely, J. H. Van Vleck J. H. Van Vleck

Nov. 20, 1956

I was delighted to learn from Miss O'Brien that you are making measurements on the oxygen clathrate compounds. I would appreciate it if you would send me the results as soon as you obtain them..... I am therefore taking the chance of giving a 10 minute talk at the N.Y. meeting of the APS at the end of January. If your measurements confirm our theory, that of course makes a better paper.....

Incidentally if you are able to run NO down to half a degree, that would be wonderful, but it is the oxygen data I am interested in as regards the immediate future.

Sincerely

J.H. Van Vleck

O'Brien and Van Vleck theory :

 O_2 molecules are not free to rotate, but are subject to a hindering potential $V_0^2/k_B = 32K$, as derived from the Oxford 1954 χ experiments.

H.Meyer, M. O'Brien and J.H. Van Vleck (Proc Roy Soc. 243A, 414 (1957)

Solid curve: Theory with hindered rotation (O'Brien, Van Vleck) Dashed curve : Theory for free gas ¹⁶O¹⁶O Symbols (Open circles): New data



FIGURE 4. Comparison of the present theory with the experimental values of the susceptibility (in e.m.u./mole) down to 0.25° K. •, Cooke et al. (1954); O, new results. Full line, calculated with $D/k = 4.15^{\circ}$ K; broken line, calculated susceptibility of free ¹⁴O¹⁴O.

$$V_o/k_B = 32 \text{ K} \dots \rightarrow \text{ hindered rotation frequency } \nu = 0.49 \text{ x}10^{12} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

Pierce Hall, Harvard University Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

May 17, 1957

Dr. Horst Meyer 2 Church Walk Oxford, ENGLAND

Dear Meyer:

This letter will acknowledge receipt of your message regarding the lag in receiving your immigration visa.

I am consulting some of my friends in the Office of Naval Research in Washington as to what is the most diplomatic way to proceed for accelerating action abroad. It may be that simply writing to the U.S. Embassy in London, as you suggest, is sufficient, but before doing so I wanted to check a little further, as I did not want to do anything that would be considered improper intervention and would prejudice your case.

Since I am leaving Cambridge September 6, to be gone a year on my sabbatical, it would be particularly nice to have you arrive here in August.



May 17, 1957

This letter will acknowledge receipt of your message regarding the lag in receiving the immigration visa.

I am consulting some of my friends at the Office of Naval Research in Washington as to what is the most diplomatic way to proceed for accelerating action abroad.....I wanted to check a little further, as I did not want to do anything that would be considered improper intervention and would prejudice your case

.....it would be particularly nice to have you arrive here in August

JHVV:rls

J. Phys. Chem. Solids Pergamon Press 1961. Vol. 20, Nos. 3/4, pp. 241-254. Printed in Great Britain.

THEORY OF THE MAGNETIC SUSCEPTIBILITY OF THE NITRIC OXIDE CLATHRATE

J. H. VAN VLECK

Lyman Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (Received 20 March 1961)

- a) Crystalline Potential of trigonal symmetry
 corresponding to that of the clathrate
- b) Estimated hindering potential V/ $k_B = 45$ K , in-between that of N₂ (75 K) and O₂ (33 K)

Success in fitting the experimental data with this potential, However: the predicted 1/T term, which should be 6% of main term at 1 K, was not observed.

Search for ESR resonance measurements on single NO clathrate crystals to detect the weak paramagnetic term, predicted by Van Vleck, unsuccessful in detecting a signal over estimated range.(E.R.Hunt and H. Meyer, 1964)





FIG. 1. The paramagnetic susceptibility of NO in randomly oriented clathrate crystals ● present results; + results by COOKE and DUFFUS. The susceptibility measured by these authors at 10°K is 23 × 10⁻⁵ e.m.u./g NO.

O_2

Confirmation of the O'Brien and Van Vleck theory by paramagnetic resonance experiments of O₂ in clathrates :
(S. Foner, H.Meyer and W.H. Kleiner , J. Phys. Chem. Solids, 18, 273, [1961])

Hindered potential $\rightarrow V_o/k_B = 34 \text{ K}.$ (O'B,VV : $V_o/k_B = 32 \text{ K}$)

Fine structure of resonance observed: Interaction with molecules in neighboring cages

NO

Infrared spectra measurements (J.C.Burgiel, H.Meyer and P.L. Richards, J. Chem. Phys.43, 4291 [1965])

→ Hindering potential energy V/k_B =47 K . Van Vleck's estimate : V/k_B = 45 K

Rare- Earth Iron Garnets

Trivalent Fe³⁺ has spin S = 5/2. The **a** and **d** sublattices have antiparallel spin alignment \rightarrow Ferrimagnet.

RE spins (on c sublattice) interact mostly with the d sublattice and align antiparallel.

Van Vleck was principally interested in Europium Iron Garnet. The reason for this:

Ground State J = 0, First excited state of the J=1 triplet : $E/k_B = 458$ K Second-order Zeeman effect important because of the proximity of triplet state. Hence Eu⁺³ has a magnetic moment and a sublattice magnetization.

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Opening Session

I. S. JACOBS, Chairman

Magnetic Case History of the Eu³⁺ Ion

J. H. VAN VLECK

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts



THE MEDICAL Construction of the

Schieber tells me the values of M_d we used were from Geller. I think that the work of Pearson et al. is a big improvement over our cubic field. They claim they fit the susceptibility O.K. Your paper on EulG just received. Many thanks. Will write about it later.

Van



Here is the latest letter re the AVC which may interest you. Don't return.

I do not think this is a picture of you and Rosemary on the card, despite the location



John H. Van Vleck, at Harvard, 1975



Van Vleck's last lecture at the University of Wisconsin, (May 1st, 1979)



Graves of Abigail and John H. Van Vleck, Madison, Wisconsin (Photo credit: C.C. Lin)

Vive la Suisse!

as

Separatum HELVETICA PHYSICA ACTA Vol. 41, Fasc. 6/7, p. 1234-1235 (1968)

My Swiss Visits of 1906, 1926, and 1930

by

J. H. Van Vleck

Vive Van Vleck !!