

Summaries of Papers for FELIX Internship 2026

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I. KIRILYUK 2010 ULTRAFAST OPTICAL MANIPULATION OF MAGNETIC ORDER

[1]

II. GIDDING 2023 DYNAMIC SELF-ORGANISATION AND PATTERN FORMATION BY MAGNON-POLARONS

In this article [2], it is shown that some peculiar patterns arise when a sample is hit by a pump pulse to change its magnetic order.

Really precise switching of magnetic order(spins) is important for low energy cost data storage. The abstract states that it is a known fact that when a sample is hit by a ultra short pump pulse the resulting magnetization is chaotic. This would be due to internal instabilities in the sample. However it turns out that the behavior of the magnetic region is not necessarily chaotic at all, some patterns will arise in these cases. It is also well understood that a spatially-localised perturbation creates propagating waves with wave vectors determined by the profile of the excitation.

I now wonder what could be the cause of these peculiar patterns and how they might be used in the future. I also still don't know what magnon-polarons are.

III. KWAAITAAL 2024 EPSILON-NEAR-ZERO REGIME ENABLES PERMANENT ULTRAFAST ALL-OPTICAL REVERSAL OF FERROELECTRIC POLARIZATION

In this article [3], it is shown that ultrafast excitation under epsilon-near-zero (ENZ) conditions can permanently reverse ferroelectric polarization between stable states.

ENZ materials have a dielectric constant $\epsilon \approx 0$ which enhances light-matter interactions. This article shows that in ENZ conditions it is possible to achieve permanent all optical switching of an order parameter. This means that only light is used to achieve a switching of an order parameter, the order parameter in this article is the ferroelectric polarization. After switching from one order to the other the polarization remains stable and thus permanent.

IV. DAVIES 2024 PHONONIC SWITCHING OF MAGNETIZATION BY THE ULTRAFAST BARNETT EFFECT

In this article [4], It is shown that spontaneous magnetization can be achieved using the ultrafast Barnett effect.

This is done through the resonant excitation of circularly polarized optical phonons in a paramagnetic substrate. The Barnett effect describes how an inertial body with zero net magnetic momentum can acquire magnetization when mechanically spinning. When the substrate is circularly polarized it generates a magnetic field that can permanently and selectively change the magnetization of the upper layer. This effect only happens when the laser frequency is in resonance with the phonon modes of the substrate.

V. STUPAKIEWICZ 2021 ULTRAFAST PHONONIC SWITCHING OF MAGNETIZATION

[5]

[1] A. Kirilyuk, A. V. Kimel, and T. Rasing, *Physics Reports* **488**, 117 (2010).

[2] M. Gidding, T. Janssen, C. S. Davies, *et al.*, *Nature Communications* **14**, 2208 (2023).

[3] M. Kwaaitaal, D. G. Lourens, C. S. Davies, *et al.*, *Nature Photonics* **18**, 569 (2024).

[4] C. S. Davies, F. Fennema, A. Tsukamoto, *et al.*, *Nature* **628**, 540 (2024).

- [5] A. Stupakiewicz, C. S. Davies, K. Szerenos, *et al.*, Nature Physics **17**, 489 (2021).