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# The coupling phase in cavity magnonics

Alan Gardin<sup>1,2</sup>, Jeremy Bourhill<sup>2,3</sup>, Vincent Vlaminck<sup>2</sup>, Christian Person<sup>2</sup>, Christophe Fumeaux<sup>1</sup>, Vincent Castel<sup>2</sup> & Giuseppe Tettamanzi<sup>1</sup>



## Abstract

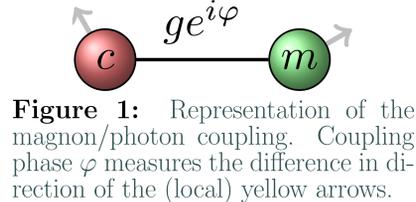
- Cavity magnonics relevant for quantum transducers, quantum memories (using dark mode physics), non-reciprocal devices [1]: such applications justify studying cavity magnonics in multimode systems.
- Microwave photon/magnon coupling due to Zeeman coupling involves a *coupling phase* factor which is usually rightfully neglected.  
⇒ unless the system is “loop-coupled” (see next section for definition and examples), coupling phases are unobservables.
- (Experimentally) Simplest system in which the coupling phases manifest: two magnon modes coupling simultaneously to two cavity modes.  
The various coupling phases accumulate in a single quantity  $\theta$ : *the physical phase*. Physical phase found to influence the presence of dark modes, and the strength of the cavity-mediated coupling.

## Relevance of the coupling phase

- Origin of the coupling phase  $\varphi$ : Zeeman coupling between macrospin  $\mathbf{S} = S_x\hat{x} + S_y\hat{y} + S_z\hat{z}$  and the cavity mode’s RF magnetic field  $\mathbf{h} = h_x\hat{x} + h_y\hat{y}$  ( $\mathbf{h} \perp H_0\hat{z}$  static applied magnetic field)
- Interaction Hamiltonian using the rotating wave approximation [2]:

$$H_I = \int_{V_m} d^3r \mathbf{S} \cdot \mu_0 \mathbf{h} \quad (1)$$

$$= \hbar g \left( e^{i\varphi} c m^\dagger + e^{-i\varphi} c^\dagger m \right) \quad (2)$$

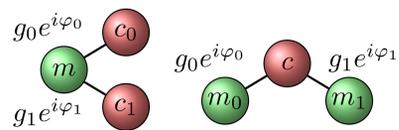


**Figure 1:** Representation of the magnon/photon coupling. Coupling phase  $\varphi$  measures the difference in direction of the (local) yellow arrows.

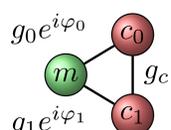
with coupling strength  $g/2\pi \propto \eta\sqrt{\omega_c}$  and

$$\eta = \sqrt{\frac{\left(\int_{V_m} d^3r h_x\right)^2 + \left(\int_{V_m} d^3r h_y\right)^2}{V_m \int_{V_c} d^3r |\mathbf{h}|^2}}, \quad \varphi = \arg \left\{ \int_{V_m} d^3r h_x + i \int_{V_m} d^3r h_y \right\} \quad (3)$$

- A unitary transformation can gauge the phase away by rotating one of the modes  $\Rightarrow$  if  $\varphi$  can be eliminated, it cannot have physical consequences
- Coupling phase can be “rotated away” when the system is not “loop-coupled”, i.e. we have  $n$  modes but  $k < n$  couplings between modes: we have  $n$  degrees of freedom but only  $k < n$  constraints



**Figure 2:** Non loop-coupled systems ( $k < n$ )

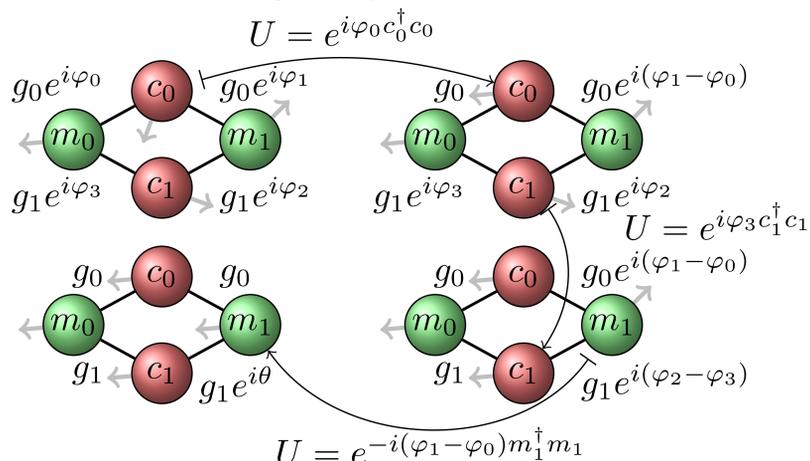


**Figure 3:** Loop-coupled systems ( $k \geq n$ )

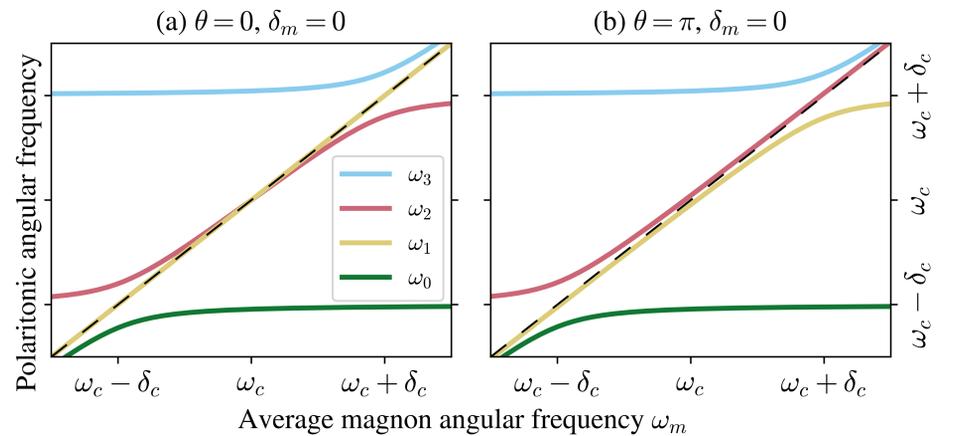
## An example with a physical phase

### System definition

- System under study: two magnon modes (annihilation operators  $m_0$  and  $m_1$ , angular frequencies  $\omega_m - \delta_m$  and  $\omega_m + \delta_m$ ) coupling to two cavity modes ( $c_0$  and  $c_1$ , angular frequencies  $\omega_c - \delta_c$  and  $\omega_c + \delta_c$ ), with coupling strength  $g_0/2\pi$  to  $c_0$  and  $g_1/2\pi$  to  $c_1$ .
- Loop-coupled system: the various coupling phases combine to form a *physical phase*  $\theta$  characterising the physics:

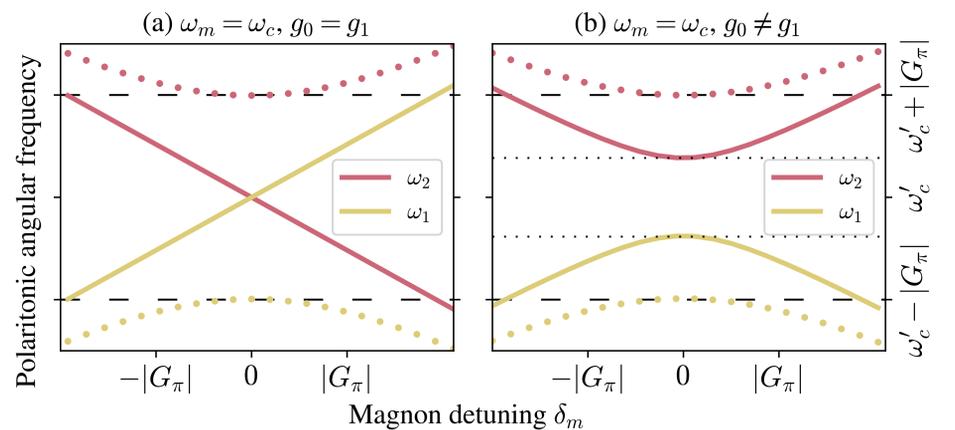


**Figure 4:** Reduction of the coupling phases to a single physical phase  $\theta$  through unitary transformations.



**Figure 5:** Spectra for  $g_0 = g_1 = 0.03\omega_c$ ,  $\omega_c/2\pi = 5$  GHz and  $\delta_c/2\pi = 1$  GHz. The black dashed line is  $\omega_m$ . Polaritons  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  cross for  $\theta = 0$  and anti-cross for  $\theta = \pi$ .

## Indirect magnon/magnon coupling at $\omega_m = \omega_c$

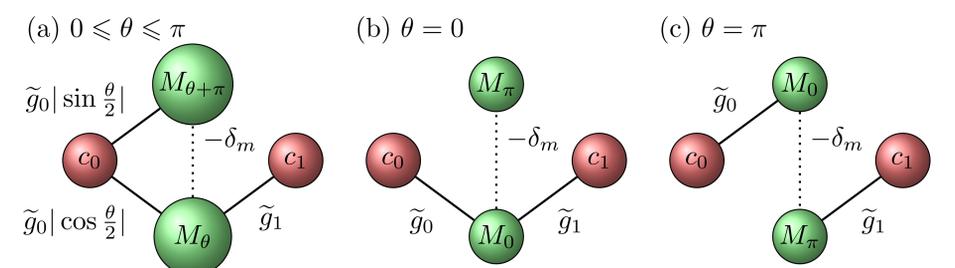


**Figure 6:** Spectra for  $\theta = 0$  in solid lines and  $\theta = \pi$  in dots. Other parameters same as in Fig 5.  $G_\theta$  is given by equation (4) below.

with  $\theta$ -dependent indirect magnon/magnon coupling strength  $G_\theta/2\pi$ :

$$G_\theta = \frac{\delta_c}{\delta_c^2 - \delta_m^2} \left( g_0^2 - e^{i\theta} g_1^2 \right). \quad (4)$$

## Dark mode physics



**Figure 7:** Illustration of the different couplings in the system.

where

$$M_\theta = \frac{m_0 + e^{-i\theta} m_1}{\sqrt{2}}, \quad \tilde{g}_i = \sqrt{2} g_i. \quad (5)$$

- Dark mode: eigenmode that does not couple to the readout mechanism
- Cavity magnonics readout: cavity photons
- For  $\delta_m = 0$  and  $\theta = 0$ ,  $M_\pi$  does not couple: dark mode

## Outlook

- Coupling phase can have physical consequences in loop-coupled multimode systems
- Resulting discrete gauge-invariant phase  $\theta$  akin to a synthetic gauge field, which can break time-reversal symmetry for specific values [3]
- Synthetic gauge field+dissipation engineering  $\Rightarrow$  non-reciprocal behaviour [4]  
However, the physical phase is fixed by the cavity geometry...

## References

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- [3] Jens Koch, Andrew A. Houck, Karyn Le Hur, and S. M. Girvin. Time-reversal-symmetry breaking in circuit-QED-based photon lattices. *Physical Review A*, 82(4):043811, oct 2010.
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Link to paper:

