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**Anomalous Magnetic Properties near the Spin-Flop Bicritical Point in  $\text{Mn}_2\text{AS}_4$  ( $A = \text{Si}$  and  $\text{Ge}$ )** KENYA OHGUSHI, YUTAKA UEDA, ISSP, Univ. of Tokyo — The magnetic properties of the single crystalline  $\text{Mn}_2\text{AS}_4$  ( $A = \text{Si}$  and  $\text{Ge}$ ) with an olivine structure, which are the uniaxially anisotropic antiferromagnets (the  $b$ -axis as an easy axis), were investigated. Near the Néel temperature, both compounds exhibit the contrastive magnetic responses along the  $c$ -axis, namely, the spontaneous weak ferromagnetism in  $A = \text{Si}$  and the significant enhancement of the differential susceptibility ( $dM/dH$ ) under the small magnetic field in  $A = \text{Ge}$ . When  $A = \text{Ge}$ , we also observed the evolution of  $dM/dH$  along the  $a$ -axis at low temperatures. We discuss these phenomena on the basis of the magnetic field-temperature ( $H-T$ ) phase diagram with the spin-flop bicritical point ( $H_{BP}, T_{BP}$ ). The role of the thermal or quantum fluctuation was stressed. (Ref.) K. Ohgushi and Y. Ueda, Phys. Rev. Lett. **95**, 217202 (2005)

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