

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR09 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Phonon and magnetic excitations in the novel BaFe_{1.8}Co_{0.2}As₂ superconductor DAN PARSHALL, Univ of Tennessee, Dept of Physics, KONSTANTIN LOKSHIN, Univ of Tennessee, Dept of Materials Science, MATTHEW STONE, DOUGLAS ABERNATHY, MARK LUMSDEN, ANDREW CHRISTIANSON, DAVID MANDRUS, ATHENA SAFA-SEFAT, ORNL, TAKESHI EGAMI¹, ORNL; Univ of Tennessee, Depts of Physics and Materials Science — Phonon and magnetic excitations in the BaFe_{1.8}Co_{0.2}As₂ superconductor single crystal were studied by inelastic neutron scattering using the ARCS time-of-flight spectrometer at the Spallation Neutron Source. Most of the phonon branches show a good agreement with the density functional theory calculations. However, the As-Raman vibrations along the *c*-axis demonstrate strong softening contrary to the flat behavior expected from the LDA calculations. The softening is strongest along the (0.5, 0.5, L) direction, by up to 4 meV. At the same time a sharp magnetic response was found along the same (0.5, 0.5, L) direction over a wide range of L-values at energy transfer of 10-25 meV. This dynamic magnetic response indicates on a 2-D character of antiferromagnetic spin fluctuations in the superconducting phase, in strong contrast to the 3-D static antiferromagnetism in the undoped non-superconducting BaFe₂As₂. Thus, in Fe-As based superconductors magnetism shows strong sensitivity to the lattice, suggesting a possibility of spin-phonon coupling playing a role in superconductivity.

¹corresponding author

Dan Parshall
Univ of Tennessee, Dept of Physics

Date submitted: 21 Nov 2008

Electronic form version 1.4