

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR11 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Interplay between Lattice Distortion and Spin-Orbit Coupling in Double Perovskites TYLER DODDS, University of Toronto, TING-PONG CHOY, Universiteit Leiden, YONG BAEK KIM, University of Toronto — We develop anisotropic pseudo-spin nearest-neighbour antiferromagnetic Heisenberg models for monoclinically distorted double perovskites. We focus on these $A_2BB'O_6$ materials that have magnetic moments on the $4d$ or $5d$ transition metal B' ions, which form a face-centred cubic lattice. In these models, we consider tetragonal distortion of B' -O octahedra, affecting relative occupancy of t_{2g} orbitals, along with geometric effects of the distortion and spin-orbit coupling. The resulting pseudo-spin-1/2 models are solved in the saddle-point limit of the $Sp(N)$ generalization of the Heisenberg model. The spin S in the $SU(2)$ case generalizes as a parameter κ controlling quantum fluctuation in the $Sp(N)$ case. We consider two different models that may be appropriate for these systems. In particular, using Heisenberg exchange parameters for La_2LiMoO_6 from a spin-dimer calculation [T. Aharen *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **81**, 224409 (2010)], we conclude that this $S = 1/2$ system may order, but must be very close to a disordered spin liquid state.

Tyler Dodds
University of Toronto

Date submitted: 18 Nov 2010

Electronic form version 1.4