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Theory of electromagnons in CuO KUN CAO, FELICIANO GIUSTINO, Department of Materials, University of Oxford, PAOLO RADAELLI, Clarendon Laboratory, Department of Physics, University of Oxford — Recently, an electromagnon excitation was found in the multiferroic phase of CuO for electric field parallel to the [101] direction, with excitation energy ~ 3 meV. We performed symmetry analysis to show that the experimentally measured electromagnon cannot be explained by the exchange-striction mechanism. We then studied the CuO electromagnons using ab-initio calculations and effective model simulations. The experimentally measured electromagnon was found to originate from the Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction, with the magnon part corresponding to a phason mode. We further predict that a new high-energy electromagnon with selection rule E || [010] should also exist in the multiferroic phase of CuO, due to the exchange-striction mechanism.

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