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Incommensurate lattice modulations in Potassium Vanadate¹ BRYAN CHAKOUMAKOS, ARNAB BANERJEE, LUMSDEN MARK, HUIBO CAO, Quantum Condensed Matter Div., Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN - 37830, JONG-WOO KIM, Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, IL - 60439, CHRISTINA HOFFMAN, XIAOPING WANG, Chem. Mat. Sci. Div., Oak Ridge Nat. Lab. Oak Ridge, TN - 37830 — Potassium Vanadate $(K_2V_3O_8)$ is an S = 2D square lattice antiferromagnet that shows spin reorientation indicating a strong coupling between the magnetism and its dielectric properties with a promise of rich physics that promises multiferroicity. These tangible physical properties are strongly tied through a spin-lattice coupling to the underlying lattice and superlattice behavior. It has a superlattice (SL) onsetting below $T_c = 115$ K with an approximate $[3 \times 3 \times 2]$ modulation. Here we present our recent experiments at TOPAZ beamline at SNS which for the first time proves conclusively that the lattice modulations are incommensurate, with an in-plane Q of 0.315. We will also show our attempts to refine the data using JANA which requires a redefinition of the lattice, as well as the temperature and Q dependence of the superlattice modulation measured using neutrons at HFIR and synchrotron x-rays at APS. Our results are not only relevant for the ongoing search of multifunctional behavior in $K_2V_3O_8$ but also generally for the superlattice modulations observed in a large family of fresnoites.

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