

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR11 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

An Anomalously Elastic, Intermediate Phase in Randomly Layered Planar Magnets, Superfluids, and Superconductors THOMAS VOJTA, Missouri University of Science and Technology, PAUL GOLDBART, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, PRIYANKA MOHAN, RAJESH NARAYANAN, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, JOHN TONER, University of Oregon — We show that layered quenched randomness in planar magnets leads to an unusual intermediate phase between the conventional ferromagnetic low-temperature and paramagnetic high-temperature phases. In this intermediate phase, which is part of the Griffiths region, the spin-wave stiffness perpendicular to the random layers displays anomalous scaling behavior, with a continuously variable anomalous exponent, while the magnetization and the stiffness parallel to the layers both remain finite. Analogous results hold for superfluids and superconductors. We study the two phase transitions into the anomalous elastic phase, and we discuss the universality of these results, and implications of finite sample size as well as possible experiments.

Thomas Vojta
Missouri University of Science and Technology

Date submitted: 04 Nov 2010

Electronic form version 1.4