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Magnetic structure and spin excitations in BaMn_2Bi_2 ¹ M.D. LUMSDEN, S. CALDER, Quantum Condensed Matter Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, B. SAPAROV, Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, H.B. CAO, Quantum Condensed Matter Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, J.L. NIEDZIELA, Instrument and Source Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, A.S. SEFAT, Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, A.D. CHRISTIANSON, Quantum Condensed Matter Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory — The magnetic structure and associated spin wave excitations of the recently synthesized BaMn_2Bi_2 have been studied using neutron scattering. BaMn_2Bi_2 exhibits the same ThCr_2Si_2 crystal structure as the 122 iron superconductors (AFe_2As_2). Single crystal neutron diffraction reveals that the ordered state below $T_N \sim 390$ K is consistent with G-type antiferromagnetic order and suggests the presence of a structural phase transition at 100 K. Inelastic neutron scattering reveals anisotropic spin waves characterized by a gap of 16 meV, in-plane excitations with a maximum energy of 55 meV and a c-axis dispersion extending to about 35 meV. The observed magnetic excitations are well described by a J_1 - J_2 - J_c Heisenberg Hamiltonian and the relevant exchange interactions are extracted. The results will be compared to other related materials such as BaFe_2As_2 and BaMn_2As_2 .

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