

# Magnetic Properties and Spin Structures of Ising Spin System with Two-Spin and Four-Spin Interaction

by

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(Received : September 12, 2008, Accepted : February 6, 2009)

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## Abstract

The magnetic properties of the spin  $S$  ( $=3/2$  and  $2$ ) Ising systems with the bilinear exchange interaction  $J_1 S_{iz} S_{jz}$  and the four-site four-spin interaction  $J_4 S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz}$  are discussed by making use of the Monte Carlo (MC) simulation for the magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$  and spin structures. The ferromagnetic spin arrangement ordered by the positive interaction  $J_1$  is destroyed and changed into lots of complicated spin structures with low energy by introducing negative four-spin interaction  $J_4$ . Near the phase transitions of  $J_4/J_1 = -2/9$  and  $-1/8$  for  $S=3/2$  and  $2$ , respectively, the thermal averages  $\langle S_z \rangle$ ,  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  and the specific heat  $C_M$  show characteristic temperature dependences in the low temperature region. The change of spin structures of the system with the variation of the values of  $J_1$  and  $J_4$  are also investigated by using the result of the MC simulation and by the comparison of energies of the possible ground state spin structures.

**Keywords:** Ising model; Four-site four-spin interaction; Monte Carlo simulation

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## 1. Introduction

In Heisenberg and Ising ferromagnets, the existence and the importance of such higher-order exchange interactions as  $J_2 (S_i \cdot S_j)^2$ ,  $J_3 (S_i \cdot S_j)(S_j \cdot S_k)$ ,  $J_4 (S_i \cdot S_j)(S_k \cdot S_l)$  are discussed extensively by many investigators [1-2]. Theoretical explanations of the origin of these interactions have been given in the theory of the super exchange interaction, the magnetoelastic effect, the perturbation expansion and the spin-phonon coupling [3].

In solid helium and some other materials showing such phenomena as quadrupolar ordering of molecules

(solid hydrogen, liquid crystal) or the cooperative Jahn Teller phase transitions, the higher-order exchange interactions turned out to be the main ones [4]. In a spin system with a bilinear exchange interaction  $J_1(S_i \cdot S_j)$  and a four-site four-spin interaction  $J_4(S_i \cdot S_j)(S_j \cdot S_k)$ , the interaction  $J_4$  is expected to have significant effects on magnetic properties in the low-temperature region for the case of  $J_4$  not negligible compared to  $J_1/S^2$ [5,6]. Furthermore, there exist many complicated spin structures with zero and non-zero magnetizations as the ground state (GS) in the Ising spin system only with negative interaction  $J_4$ .

In the previous studies, the magnetic properties of spin systems with  $S=1/2$  and  $1$  with both interactions  $J_1$

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and  $J_4$  were investigated [5,6]. We cannot, however, discuss sufficiently the changes of magnetic properties and spin structures. Therefore, we have developed this calculation to the spin systems with  $S=3/2$  and 2 and investigated more precisely the dependences on the temperature  $T$  and interaction parameter  $J_4 / J_1$  of the magnetic properties and spin structures.

In the present study, the effects of the four-site four-spin interaction  $J_4 S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz}$  on the magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$  and the thermal average  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  of Ising spin systems of  $S=3/2$  and 2 on a two-dimensional square lattice are investigated by making use of the Monte Carlo (MC) simulation. The temperature dependence of spin structures is also studied for various values of interaction parameter ( $J_4/J_1$ ). The obtained characteristic behaviors of  $\langle S_z \rangle$ ,  $C_M$  and  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  are discussed in conjunction with the ground state (GS) spin structures determined by energy evaluations.

## 2. Ground State Spin Structure and Methods of MC Simulation

The spin Hamiltonian for the present Ising spin system can be written as follows:

$$H = -J_1 \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} S_{iz} S_{jz} - 2J_4 \sum_{\langle ijkl \rangle} S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \quad (1)$$

Here,  $\langle ijkl \rangle$  denotes the sum on the square spin sites. The coefficient 2 of the second term in this Hamiltonian is obtained by considering the sum of two terms ( $S_{iz} \cdot S_{jz}$ )( $S_{kz} \cdot S_{lz}$ ), and ( $S_{iz} \cdot S_{lz}$ )( $S_{jz} \cdot S_{kz}$ ).

The GS spin structures are determined by comparing the energies of various spin structures with each other (see e.g. [7]). Some GS spin structures with  $S_z = S$  and  $S_z = -S$  ( $S=3/2, 2$ ) for the spin system only with positive  $J_4$  and only with negative  $J_4$  are shown by (a) and (b)~(f) in Fig.1, respectively. Non-zero magnetization

( $\langle S_z \rangle \neq 0$ ) and zero magnetization ( $\langle S_z \rangle = 0$ ) are obtained for the spin structures (a)~(d) and (e), (f), respectively.

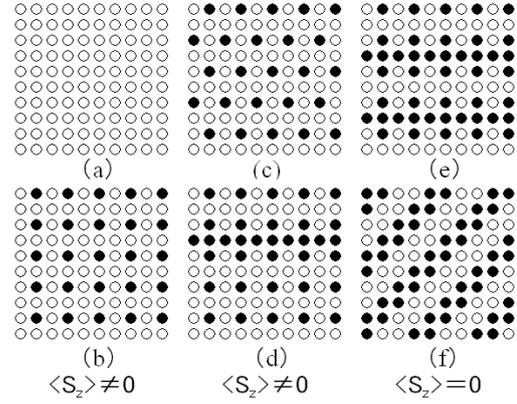


Fig. 1. The GS spin structures with  $\langle S_z \rangle \neq 0$  and  $\langle S_z \rangle = 0$ . Open and closed circles denote  $S_z = S$  and  $S_z = -S$  ( $S=3/2, 2$ ), respectively.

For spin system with  $S=3/2$ , the energies per one spin are given as  $E_a(3/2) = -9/2J_1 - 81/8J_4$  and  $E_b(3/2) \sim E_f(3/2) = 81/8J_4$ . Therefore, by comparing these energy, phase change turns out to occur at the condition of  $J_4/J_1 = -2/9$ . Furthermore, the spin structures (b)~(f) may be the GS spin structure in the range of  $J_4/J_1 < -2/9$ .

On the other hand, the energies per one spin are given as  $E_a(2) = -8J_1 - 32J_4$  and  $E_b(2) \sim E_f(2) = 32J_4$  for spin system with  $S=2$ . Therefore, phase change turns out to occur at the condition of  $J_4/J_1 = -1/8$ . For the interaction  $J_4$  in the range of  $J_4/J_1 < -1/8$ , the spin structures (b)~(f) may be the GS spin structure.

MC simulations based on the Metropolis method are carried out assuming a periodic boundary condition for a two-dimensional square lattice with linear lattice size  $L=240$ . For fixed values of  $J_4/J_1$ , we start the simulation at high temperatures adopting random initial configurations, and advance gradually this simulation to lower temperature. We use the last spin configuration as an input for the calculation at the next point. Thermal averages of  $\langle S_z \rangle$  are calculated using  $2 \times 10^5$  MC steps per spin (MCS/s) after discarding the first  $3 \times 10^5$  MCS/s. The values of  $\langle S_z \rangle$ ,  $C_M$  and  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  and spin structures are calculated for the spin system both

with fixed positive interaction  $J_1$  and various negative interaction  $J_4$ .

### 3. Results of Calculation and Discussions

#### (A) Effect of the Negative Interaction $J_4$ on the Spin System with Positive Interaction $J_1$

The temperature dependence of  $\langle S_z \rangle$  have been calculated for the spin system both with interactions  $J_1$  and  $J_4$  ( $J_1 > 0$ ,  $J_4 < 0$ ), and the results of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  for the spin systems of  $S=3/2$  and 2 are shown by (a) and (b) in Fig.2, respectively. Judging from the behaviors at low temperatures, the phase transitions are pointed out to occur at the conditions of  $J_4 / J_1 = -2/9$  for  $S= 3/2$  and  $J_4 / J_1 = -1/8$  for  $S=2$ . These conditions agree quite well with those obtained by above mentioned energy comparisons.

Under the conditions of phase transition, the values of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  at low temperature are approximately 0.77 for both spin systems with  $S=3/2$  and 2. The spin arrangement at various temperatures is shown in Fig.3 for spin system with  $S=2$ . At the condition of phase transition, the spin structures like the ones (b) and (c) may appear mainly at low temperatures because these spin structures can change easily from ferromagnet-like order shown by (d) in this figure right after the appearance of non-zero magnetization with decreasing temperature.

Let us consider many spin structures in which closed circle in the spin structure (b) or (c) of Fig.1 represent the spin with  $S_z = \pm 3/2$ ,  $\pm 1/2$  for  $S=3/2$  and with  $S_z = \pm 2$ ,  $\pm 1$ , 0 for  $S=2$ . The spin structures with  $S_z = \pm 1/2$  for spin system of  $S=3/2$  are shown by (g) and (h) in Fig.4, respectively, and the energies per one spin are given as  $E_g(3/2) = -3J_1 - 27J_4/8$  and  $E_h(3/2) = -3J_1/2 + 27J_4/8$ . The  $J_4 / J_1$  -dependence of these energies are compared with  $E_a(3/2)$  and  $E_b(3/2) \sim E_f(3/2)$  in Fig.5. As can be seen from this figure, all these spin structures (a) ~ (h) have the same energies at the condition of phase transition ( $J_4 / J_1 = -2/9$ ).

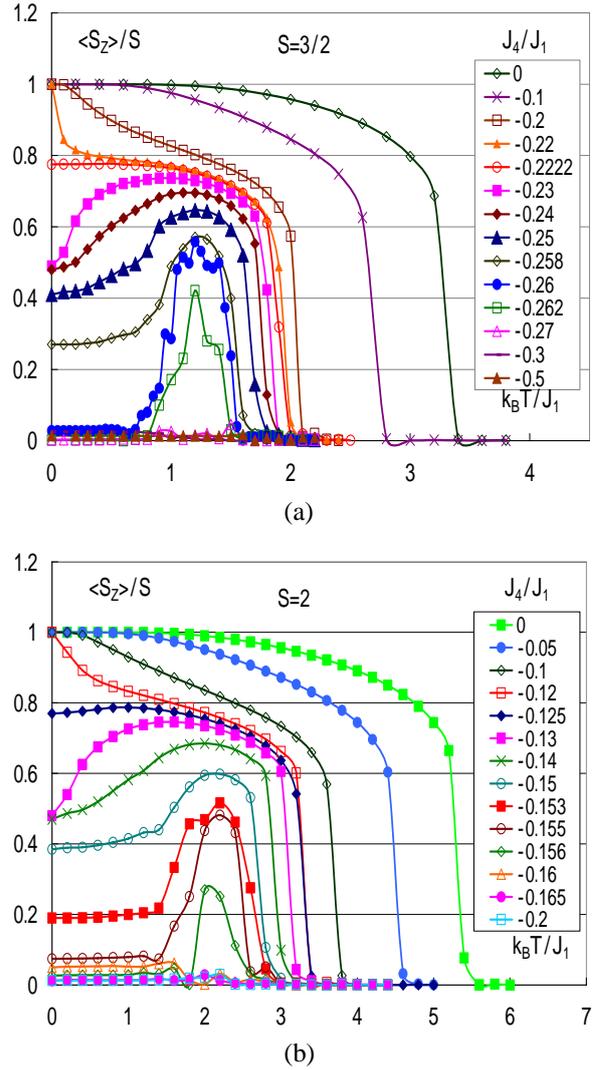
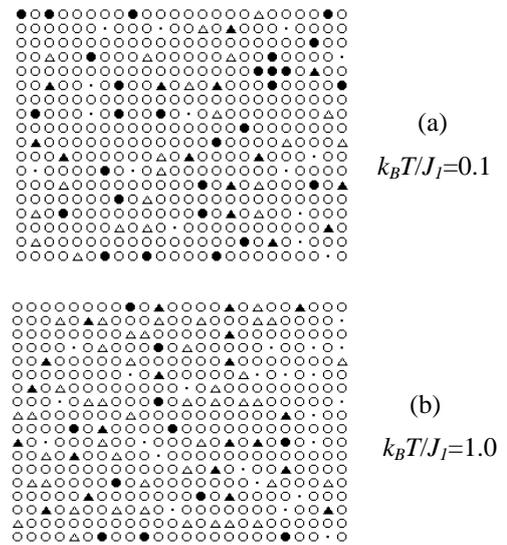


Fig. 2. Temperature dependence of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  for spin systems of (a)  $S=3/2$  and (b)  $S=2$  with both interactions of fixed positive  $J_1$  and various negative values of  $J_4$ .



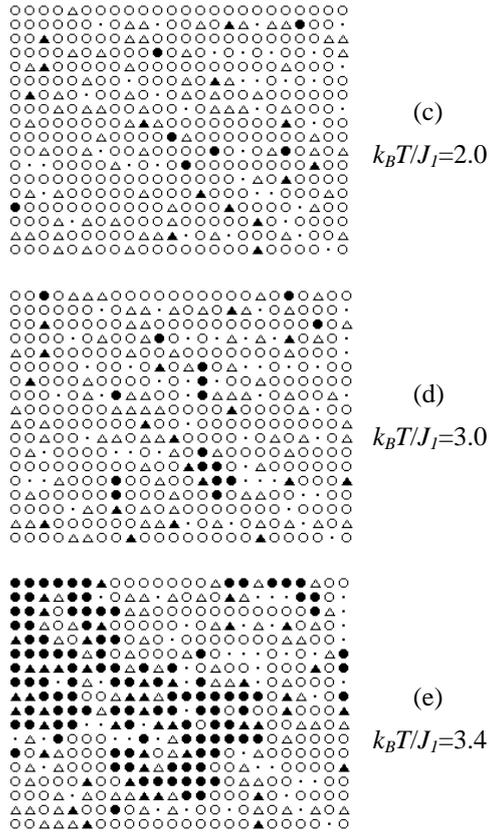


Fig. 3. The spin arrangement at the temperature of (a)  $k_B T/J_1=0.1$ , (b)  $k_B T/J_1=1$ , (c)  $k_B T/J_1=2$ , (d)  $k_B T/J_1=3$ , (e)  $k_B T/J_1=3.4$  for the spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_4/J_1=-1/8$ . Open and closed circles denote  $S_z = 2$  and  $S_z = -2$ , respectively. Open and closed triangles, and dot denote  $S_z = 1$  and  $S_z = -1$ , and  $S_z = 0$ , respectively.

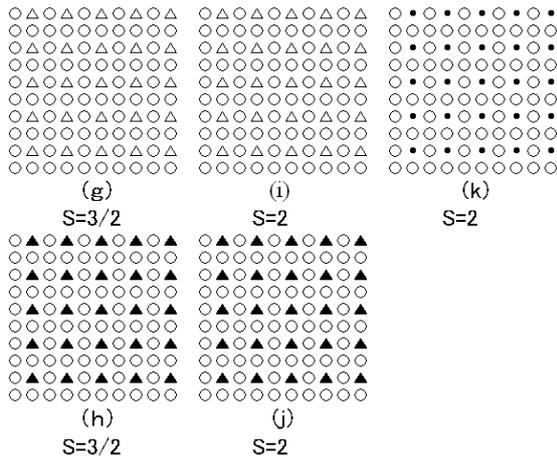


Fig. 4. The GS spin structures with at  $J_4/J_1=-2/9, -1/8$  for the spin system of  $S=3/2, 2$ , respectively. Open and closed circles, and open and closed triangles denote  $S_z = 3/2, -3/2, 1/2, -1/2$  for  $S=3/2$  and  $S_z = 2, -2, 1, -1$  for  $S=2$ , respectively. Dot denotes  $S_z = 0$  for  $S=2$ .

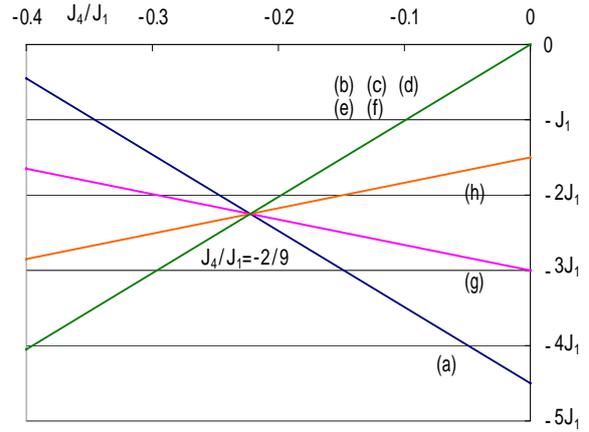


Fig. 5. The temperature dependence of energies per one spin for various spin structures of  $S=3/2$  with low energy.

On the other hand, the spin structures with  $S_z = \pm 1$  and 0 for spin system of  $S=2$  are shown by (i), (j) and (k) in Fig.4, respectively, and the energies per one spin are given as  $E_i(2)=-6J_1-16J_4$ ,  $E_j(2)=-2J_1+16J_4$  and  $E_k(2)=-4J_1/2$ . The  $J_4/J_1$ -dependence of these energies are compared with  $E_a(2)$  and  $E_b(2) \sim E_f(2)$  in Fig.6. We can confirm that all these spin structures (a)  $\sim$  (f) and (i)  $\sim$  (k) have the same energies at the condition of phase transition ( $J_4/J_1 = -1/8$ ).

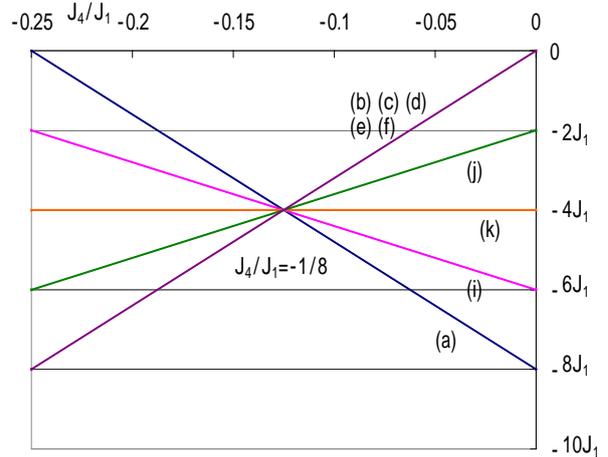


Fig. 6. The temperature dependence of energies per one spin for various spin structures of  $S=2$  with low energy.

The values of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  are estimated as 1.0, 0.5, 0.833, 0.667 for spin structures (a), (b), (g), (h) in the spin system with  $S=3/2$ , respectively. On the other hand, in the spin system with  $S=2$ , the values of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  are obtained as 1.0, 0.5, 0.875, 0.625, 0.75 for spin

structures (a), (b), (i), (j), (k), respectively. We assume that all these spin structures (a),(b),(g)  $\sim$  (k) appear at the same probability for each spin system. Then, the average value of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  becomes 0.75 for both spin systems with  $S=3/2$  and with  $S=2$ . This estimation may agree roughly with the one (0.77) obtained for the spin arrangement in Fig.3.

The temperature dependence of the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$  were also calculated for the spin system with fixed positive interaction  $J_1$  and various negative interaction  $J_4$ , and the results for  $S=2$  are shown in Fig. 7. As can be seen from this figure, specific heat curves shows complicated behaviors in the interaction range of  $-0.16 < J_4 / J_1 < -0.125$ . These behaviors suggest the large

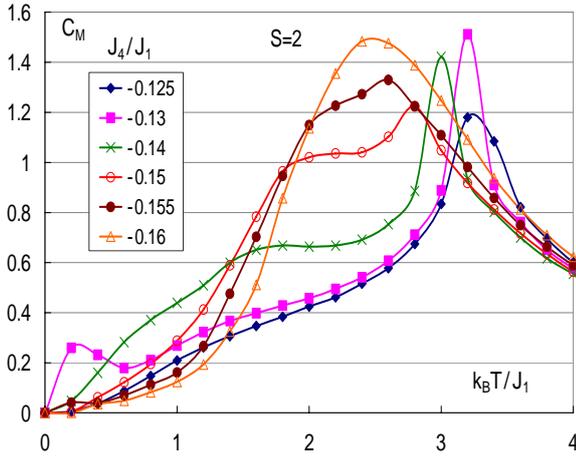


Fig. 7. The temperature dependence of  $C_M$  of spin system with  $S=2$  for both interactions of fixed positive  $J_1$  and various negative values of  $J_4$ .

change of spin arrangement in this interaction range. The behaviors of temperature dependence of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  for spin system with  $S=2$  shown by (b) in Fig.2 consistent well with above suggestion obtained from  $C_M$  curve.

It is quite remarkable that in the interaction ranges of  $-0.155 < J_4 / J_1 < -1/8$  for  $S=2$  and  $-0.26 < J_4 / J_1 < -2/9$  for  $S=3/2$ , the values of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  decrease with decreasing temperature, and take finite values at low temperature, even at  $T=0$ . The temperature dependence of spin arrangements for spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_4 / J_1 = -0.13$  is shown in Fig.5. At high temperature like  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.6$ ,

the numbers of spins with  $S_z = \pm 1, 0$  are considerably large. These numbers, however, decrease with decreasing temperature, and in inverse, the spin  $S_z = -2$  increases and begins to make the spin arrangement like the one shown by (b) or (c) in Fig.1. By the speculation from the spin arrangement at  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.2$ , the spin structure mixed with the ones (b) and (c) in Fig.1 may appear as the GS spin structure at  $T=0$ . Therefore, these changes of spin structure lead the decrease of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  with decreasing temperature.

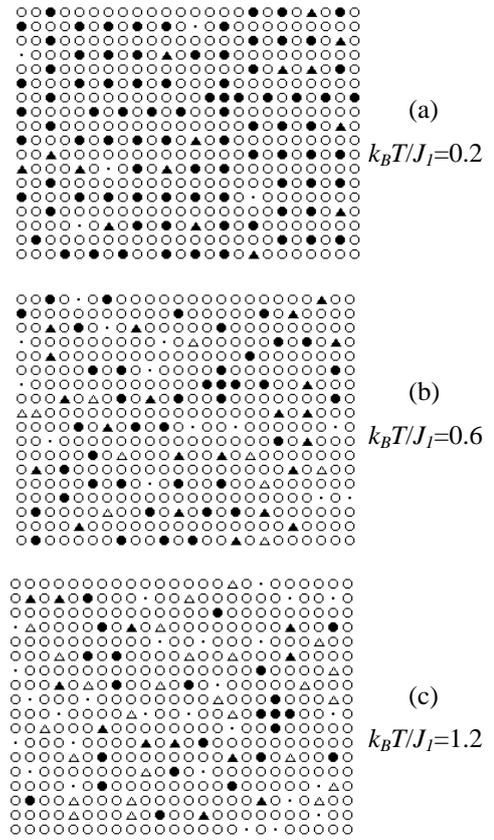


Fig. 8. The spin arrangements at (a)  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.2$  and (b)  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.6$  for the spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_4 / J_1 = -0.13$ .

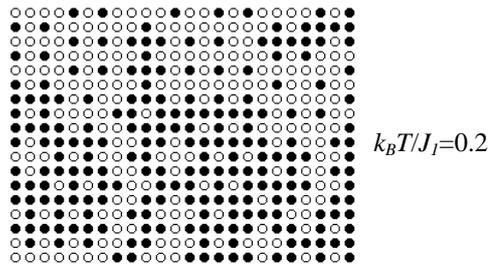


Fig. 9. The spin arrangement at  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.2$  for the spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_4 / J_1 = -0.155$ .

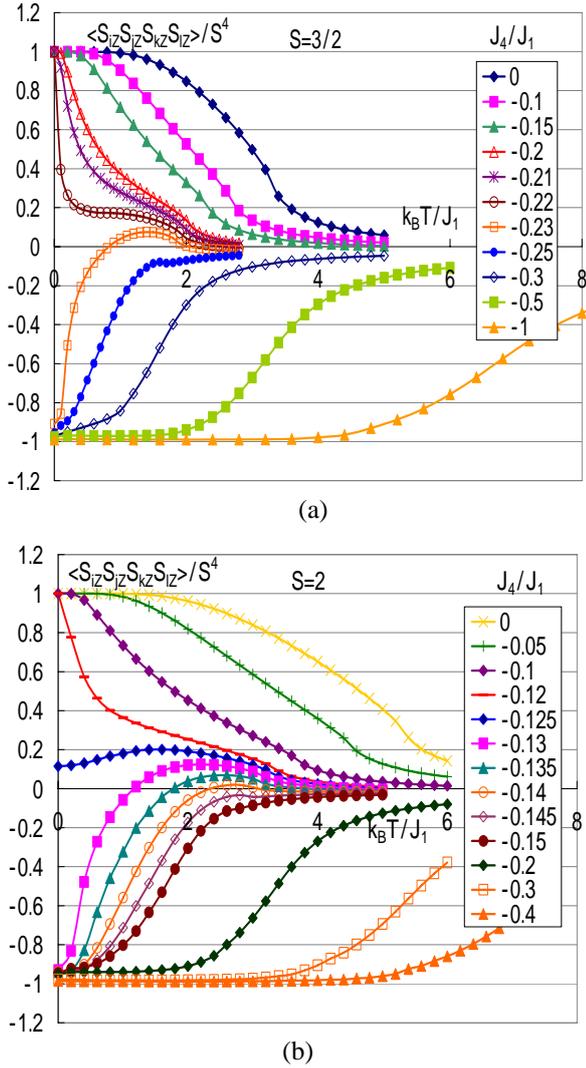


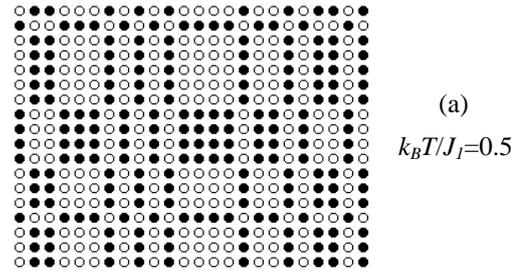
Fig. 10. Temperature dependence of  $\langle S_{iz}S_{jz}S_{kz}S_{lz} \rangle / S^4$  for spin systems with (a)  $S=3/2$  and (b)  $S=2$  with both interactions of fixed positive  $J_1$  and various negative values of  $J_4$ .

It is worth noting that in the interaction ranges of  $-0.16 < J_4 / J_1 \leq -0.155$  for  $S=2$  and  $-0.264 < J_4 / J_1 \leq -0.26$  for  $S=3/2$ , the values of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  take finite values only at finite temperature and become almost zero at  $T=0$ . For spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_4 / J_1 = -0.155$ , the spin arrangement at  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.2$  are shown in Fig. 6. As can be seen from this figure, the spin structure at  $k_B T / J_1 = 0.2$  is the one mixed with spin structures (a)~(d) with non-zero magnetization ( $\langle S_z \rangle \neq 0$ ), and with the ones with reversed spin of  $S_z = \pm 2$  in these spin structures (a)~(d), and with the spin structures (e), (f) with zero magnetization ( $\langle S_z \rangle = 0$ ). Therefore, the total magnetization becomes almost zero at low temperatures.

The temperature dependence of the thermal average  $\langle S_{iz}S_{jz}S_{kz}S_{lz} \rangle$  has also been calculated for the spin system with fixed positive interaction  $J_1$  and various negative interactions  $J_4$ , and the results for  $S=3/2$  and 2 are shown by (a) and (b) in Fig.7. As can be seen from these figures, abrupt increases of  $\langle S_{iz}S_{jz}S_{kz}S_{lz} \rangle$  are observed just after the appearance of non-zero magnetization with lowering temperature in the range of  $-2/9 < J_4 / J_1 < 0$  for  $S=3/2$  and  $-1/8 < J_4 / J_1 < 0$  for  $S=2$ . Moreover, these abrupt increases appear in the small range of  $J_4 / J_1$  even right after these phase transition. These facts may support the appearance of non-zero magnetization for  $J_4 / J_1$  right after these phase transition. The value of  $\langle S_{iz}S_{jz}S_{kz}S_{lz} \rangle / S$  at  $T=0$  can become almost -1 only in the range of  $J_4 / J_1 < -0.5$  for  $S=3/2$  and  $J_4 / J_1 < -0.3$  for  $S=2$ . These facts may suggest that the complete GS spin arrangement by negative interaction  $J_4$  can be realized at low temperature only by starting the construction of GS spin structure at sufficient high temperature.

### (B) Effect of the Positive Interaction $J_1$ on the Spin System with Positive Interaction $J_4$

Let us investigate the temperature dependence of spin structure of the spin system only with positive four-site four-spin interaction  $J_4$  and obtain the ground state (GS) spin structure, and moreover determine the temperature range in which this GS spin structure is fixed. For the spin system of  $S=2$  only with positive  $J_4$ , the dependence of spin structures on the temperature is shown in Fig.11 in the range of  $0.5 \leq k_B T / J_4 \leq 19.0$ .



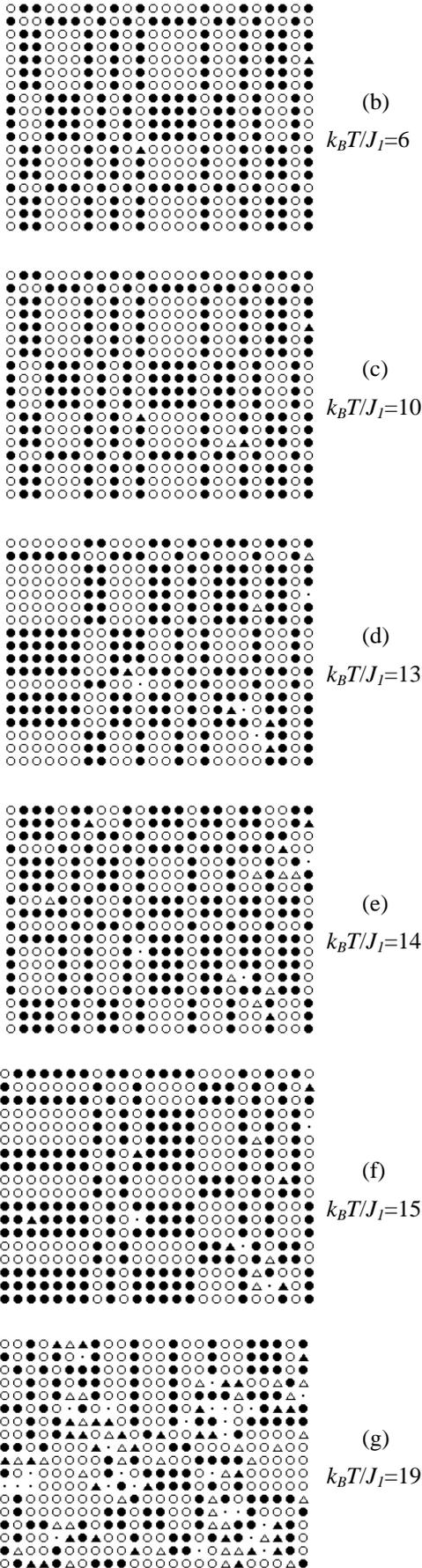


Fig. 11. The spin arrangement at (a)  $k_B T/J_4=0.5$ , (b)  $k_B T/J_4=6$ , (c)  $k_B T/J_4=10$ , (d)  $k_B T/J_4=13$ , (e)  $k_B T/J_4=14$ , (f)  $k_B T/J_4=15$ , (g)  $k_B T/J_4=19$  for the spin system of  $S=2$  only with positive  $J_4$ . Open and closed circles denote  $S_z = 2$  and  $S_z = -2$ , respectively. Open and closed triangles, and dot denote  $S_z = 1$  and  $S_z = -1$ , and  $S_z = 0$ , respectively.

Thermal averages  $\langle S_z \rangle$  and  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  have also been calculated for this spin system of  $S=2$ . Judging from the behavior of  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , non-zero magnetization can not appear for this spin system in all temperature range. The four-spin thermal average  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle / S^4$  is pointed out to be just one and spin arrangement is completely fixed in the temperature range of  $k_B T/J_4 \leq 4.5$ . For the temperature in the range of  $4.5 < k_B T/J_4 < 6.0$ , the spin structure is constructed only by spins of  $S_z = \pm 2$ , but the value of  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle / S^4$  cannot be one. Furthermore, the spin structure in the temperature range of  $6.0 \leq k_B T/J_4 < 13.0$  is constructed by spins of  $S_z = \pm 2$  and  $\pm 1$ , and in the temperature range of  $13.0 \leq k_B T/J_4$ , the spin structure is constructed by spins  $S_z = \pm 2$ ,  $\pm 1$ , and 0, and change largely with increasing temperature.

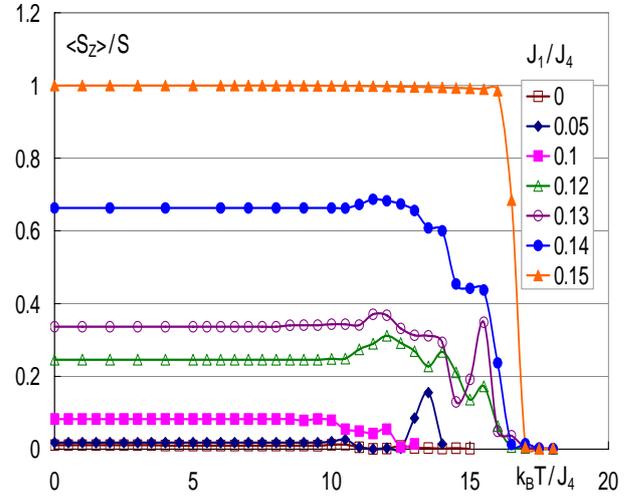


Fig. 12. Temperature dependence of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  for spin system of  $S=2$  with both interactions of fixed positive  $J_4$  and various positive values of  $J_1$ .

Let us investigate the effects of the bilinear exchange interaction  $J_1$  on the magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$ , the Curie temperature  $T_c$ , and the GS spin structures of the Ising spin system constructed with

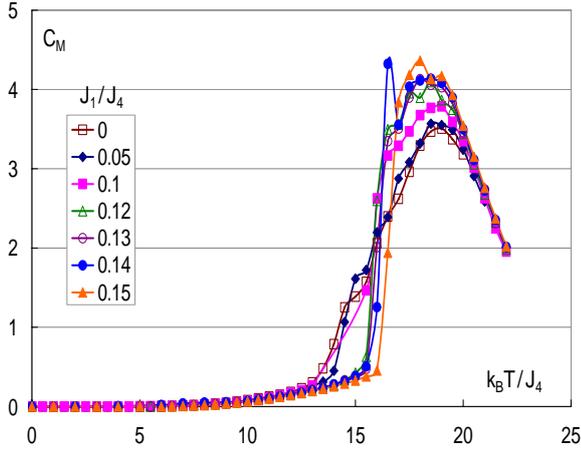


Fig. 13. The temperature dependence of  $C_M$  for spin system of  $S=2$  for both interactions of fixed positive  $J_4$  and various positive values of  $J_1$ .

positive four-site four-spin interaction  $J_4$  by making use of the MC simulation. In the spin system of  $S=2$  with positive interaction  $J_1$  in the range of  $0 \leq J_1 / J_4 \leq 0.15$ , the results of MC simulation for magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  and magnetic specific heat  $C_M$  are shown in Fig.12 and Fig.13, respectively.

As can be seen from Fig.12, the ferromagnetic order appears by a small positive interaction  $J_1$ . It is worth noting that for the interaction  $J_1$  in the range of  $0.10 \leq J_1 / J_4 \leq 0.14$ , the magnetizations  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  at  $T=0$  become the values in the range of  $0 < \langle S_z \rangle / S < 1$  and an imperfect ferromagnetic orders appear. Furthermore, it turns out that the value of  $\langle S_z \rangle / S$  is constant at broad low temperature range for the interaction  $J_1$  in the range of  $0.10 \leq J_1 / J_4$ . These facts are consistent with those that the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$  is almost zero at low temperatures for various values of  $J_1$ .

The temperature dependence of spin structures has been calculated for the spin system with both interactions  $J_1$  and  $J_4$ , and the results for interaction of  $J_1 / J_4 = 0.10$  are shown in Fig.14. Large ferromagnetic spin groups exist in the temperature range of  $k_B T / J_4 \leq 16$  and these spin groups are fixed at low temperatures in the range of  $k_B T / J_4 \leq 5.5$ .

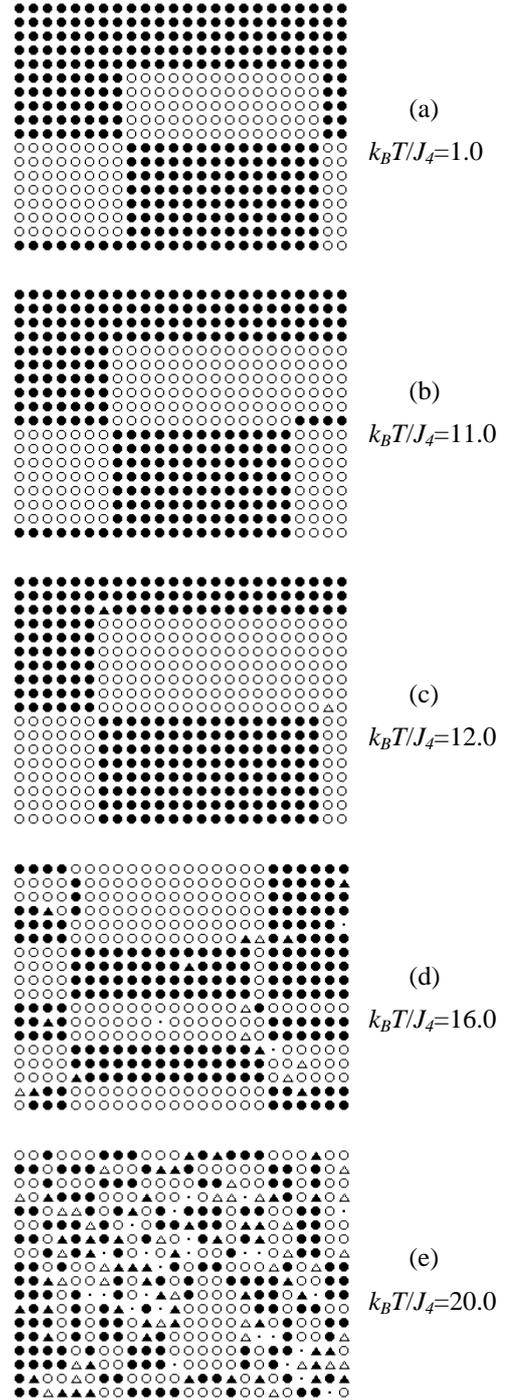


Fig. 14. The spin arrangement at (a)  $k_B T / J_4 = 0.5$ , (b)  $k_B T / J_4 = 6$ , (c)  $k_B T / J_4 = 10$ , (d)  $k_B T / J_4 = 13$ , (e)  $k_B T / J_4 = 14$ , (f)  $k_B T / J_4 = 15$  for the spin system of  $S=2$  with  $J_1 / J_4 = 0.1$ . Open and closed circles denote  $S_z = 2$  and  $S_z = -2$ , respectively. Open and closed triangles, and dot denote  $S_z = 1$  and  $S_z = -1$ , and  $S_z = 0$ , respectively.

#### 4. Concluding Remarks

In the previous section, for the Ising spin systems of  $S=3/2$  and 2 on the two-dimensional square lattice with two-spin and interactions  $J_I$  and  $J_4$ , the magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , the magnetic specific heat  $C_M$ , the four-spin thermal average  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  and the GS spin structures have been calculated by making use of the MC simulation. The conditions of phase transition are determined and the temperature dependences of spin structures have also been investigated for the Ising spin system with both interactions  $J_4$  and  $J_I$ , and with only interaction  $J_4$ .

Summarizing the present results for the Ising spin systems on the two-dimensional square lattice, we may conclude as follows:

- (1) The conditions of phase transition obtained by the temperature dependence of magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle$  agree well with the ones ( $J_4/J_I = -2/9$  for  $S=3/2$  and  $J_4/J_I = -1/8$  for  $S=2$ ) calculated by comparison of energy levels of many spin structures.
- (2) The decreases of temperature dependence curves of  $\langle S_z \rangle$  with decreasing temperature are caused by the existence of two kinds of GS spin structures with zero and non-zero magnetizations.
- (3) Abrupt increases of  $\langle S_{iz} S_{jz} S_{kz} S_{lz} \rangle$  are observed just after the appearance of non-zero magnetization with lowering temperature. These facts may support the appearance of non-zero magnetization for  $J_4/J_I$  right after these phase transition.
- (4) By introducing interaction  $J_I$  in the range of  $0.15 \leq J_I/J_4$ , the complete ferromagnetic order appears on the Ising spin system with only interaction  $J_4$ . On the other hand, the magnetization  $\langle S_z \rangle/S$  becomes the value in the range of  $0 < \langle S_z \rangle/S < 1$  for the interaction of  $0.10 \leq J_I/J_4 < 0.15$  and an imperfect ferromagnetic spin arrangement appears in this region. Furthermore, these magnetizations turn out to be almost constant at low temperatures for the interaction in the range of  $0.10 \leq J_I/J_4$ .

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