# Instability in domain wall dynamics in almost-compensated ferrimagnets

R. V. Ovcharov , <sup>1</sup> B. A. Ivanov , <sup>2,3</sup> E. G. Galkina, <sup>4</sup> J. Åkerman , <sup>1,5,6</sup> and R. S. Khymyn <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of Gothenburg, 41296 Gothenburg, Sweden

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Magnetism of NASU and MESU, 03142 Kyiv, Ukraine

<sup>3</sup>William H. Miller III Department of Physics and Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21218, USA

<sup>4</sup>Institute of Physics, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 03028 Kyiv, Ukraine

<sup>5</sup>Center for Science and Innovation in Spintronics, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan

<sup>6</sup>Research Institute of Electrical Communication, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan



(Received 5 February 2025; revised 4 June 2025; accepted 17 June 2025; published 7 July 2025)

Nanoscale self-localized topological spin textures, such as domain walls and skyrmions, are of interest for the fundamental physics of magnets and spintronics applications. Ferrimagnets (FiMs), in the region close to the angular momentum compensation point, are promising materials because of their ultrafast spin dynamics at nonzero magnetization. In this work, we study specific features of the FiM domain wall (DW) dynamics, which are absent in both ferromagnets (FM) and antiferromagnets (AFM). In low-damping FMs and AFMs ( $\alpha \ll 1$ ), the nonstationary forced motion of DWs is characterized by slow ( $t_{\rm diss} \propto 1/\alpha$ ) changes of the DW's velocity and internal structure for all accepted values of the DW energy E and its linear momentum P—a consequence of the stability of DWs for any value of P. In contrast, the dispersion law of FiM DWs has specific points,  $P = P_{\rm cr}$  and  $E_{\rm cr} = E(P_{\rm cr})$ , such that stable DWs are only present for  $P < P_{\rm cr}$ , i.e.,  $P_{\rm cr}$  and  $E_{\rm cr}$  act as endpoints in the E(P) dependence. We show that when a field-like torque driven DW reaches this endpoint, it falls into a highly-nonequilibrium state with the excitation of fast ( $t \ll t_{\rm diss}$ ) and highly-nonlinear intrawall magnetization dynamics, covering a wide frequency range up until the frequencies of propagating spin waves. The domain wall finally throws off an "excessive" energy by a short "burst" of the propagating spin waves and returns to the stationary state; the full picture of the forced motion is a periodic repetition of such "explosive" events.

### DOI: 10.1103/m5zv-lbgl

# I. INTRODUCTION

Domain walls (DWs) in magnetically ordered materials are transition regions of nanometer width that connect wide domains with different orientations of spins. They possess a number of interesting features, such as topological stability and the possibility of controlled manipulation, including implementing high-speed motion. DWs are of great interest for the fundamental physics of magnets, as well as for various applications, such as high-density information storage [1,2] and logic [3,4] devices. For these applications, the forced motion of a DW under the action of a relatively weak driving force (applied magnetic field [5] or spin torque [6]) is of the main interest. From the viewpoint of fundamental physics of magnetism, these spin textures can be treated as magnetic solitons, important objects in the context of highly nonlinear spin dynamics. Solitonic characteristics of the DW moving with the velocity v, in particular, its structure and the maximum value of its velocity  $v_c$ , are usually treated for dissipation-free limit [7]. Here, the important characteristics are the dependencies of the DW integrals of motion, its energy E, and its linear momentum P, on the DW velocity.

Published by the American Physical Society under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license. Further distribution of this work must maintain attribution to the author(s) and the published article's title, journal citation, and DOI. Funded by Bibsam.

The results obtained in the dissipation-free limit, allow the construction of a simple and universal description of the forced motion of the DW for the case of interest, weak dissipation, when the dissipative constant  $\alpha \ll 1$  is small (usually  $\alpha < 10^{-2}$ ), and, accordingly, nonsmall velocity of the DW till  $v_c$  can be reached at the small value of the driving force, proportional to  $\alpha$ . This approximate description is based on the perturbation theory for solitons using the collective variables approach [8–13].

Within this approach, for nonstationary motion of the DW, the rate of change of its parameters (energy, velocity, etc.) is again of the order of  $\alpha$ . If these conditions are met, the change in momentum is described by the following equation,

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = F_{fr} + F,\tag{1}$$

where  $F_{fr}$  and F are the viscous friction and driving forces, respectively. Usually, the friction force is proportional to  $\alpha v E(v)$ . For nonstationary motion, the DW's momentum changes according to the Eq. (1), and all DW's parameters, the energy and the velocity v = dE(P)/dP, follow the dependence E(P) (the DW's dispersion law) found in the dissipation-free limit.

The velocity of the stationary motion  $d_t P = 0$  can be found from the balance of forces,  $F_{\rm fr} + F = 0$ . However, for many magnets, the energy of the DW moving with any possible DW velocity  $v \leqslant v_c$ , and, consequently, the frictional force, is limited from above. If the driving force exceeds this maximal

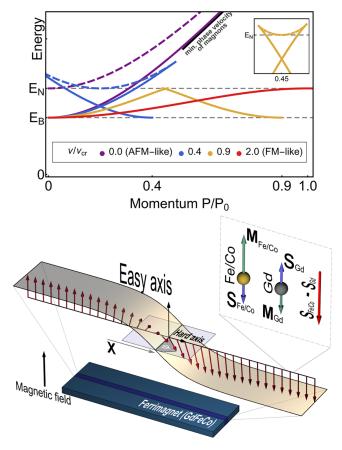


FIG. 1. Different DW dispersion laws depending on the spin imbalance parameter of a FiM. Solid and dashed lines represent stable and unstable branches, respectively. Below, the illustration of a GdFeCo FiM sample is depicted, where a scaled strip shows the Néel vectors' orientation (red arrows) forming a DW. The external magnetic field is applied along the easy axis of the FiM, creating a driving force for the DW. X and  $\phi$  show DW collective coordinates, the position of its center, and the rotational plane angle inside, respectively. The inset shows the magnetic configuration of the GdFeCo cell at the AMCP.

value of frictional force, the DW momentum increases without limit, and the driven DW motion manifests nontrivial features determined exclusively by its dispersion relation, which is extremely different for different magnets.

In antiferromagnets (AFMs), DW dynamics is governed by a "Lorentz-invariant" dispersion relation, which implies the absence of a maximal frictional force. In contrast, ferromagnetic (FM) DWs exhibit a periodic dispersion with the function E(P) limited from above, resulting in nonmonotonic yet stable dynamics at  $F > F_{\text{max}}$ , a phenomenon known as "Walker breakdown". Ferrimagnets (FiMs) can realize both the FM and AFM limits and, uniquely, exhibit a terminal dispersion characterized by an endpoint at a critical momentum  $P_{\rm cr}$  and corresponding energy  $E_{\rm cr} = E(P_{\rm cr})$ . Beyond this point, stable DWs no longer exist - stability is maintained only for  $P < P_{cr}$ , see Fig. 1, where all possible types of dispersion laws for FiM DW are shown. The latter scenario is the central focus of this paper, as it reveals a fundamentally distinct dynamical regime arising in FiM. However, let us first discuss each of these cases in more detail.

## II. DW DYNAMICS IN MAGNETIC MATERIALS

In FMs, the spin dynamics is described by the famous Landau-Lifshitz equation [14] for magnetization  $\mathbf{M}$  or, equivalently, the spin density  $\mathbf{S}$ , which are related as  $\mathbf{M} = -g\mu_B\mathbf{S}$ ,  $|\mathbf{M}| = M_0$ , where g is the Landé factor (g-factor), and  $\mu_B$  is the Bohr magneton. This equation is determined by the Lagrangian that contains a nonanalytic term  $\mathbf{A}\partial\mathbf{S}/\partial t$  with the singular vector function, vector-potential of the Dirac monopole field  $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{S})$  (see, e.g., the monograph [15]). As a consequence, the dependence E(P) is periodic [16,17],  $E_{\rm FM}(P+2P_{0,\rm FM})=E_{\rm FM}(P)$  with the universal period  $2P_{0,\rm FM}=2M_0/\gamma=2\pi\hbar S$  per one atomic chain, perpendicular to the DW plane, where  $\hbar$  is Planck's constant, and  $\gamma=g\mu_B/\hbar$  is the gyromagnetic ratio.

The limit velocity of free motion of an FM DW,  $v_{c,\mathrm{FM}}$ , is proportional to some relativistic constants, the magnetic in-plane anisotropy, or the magnetic dipole interaction;  $v_{c,\mathrm{FM}}$  vanishes in the exchange approximation. The DW energy and the value of the friction force are limited from above,  $F_{\mathrm{fr}} \leqslant F_{c}$ . If the driving force for the FM DW exceeds this maximal value, a nontrivial effect appears: a nonmonotonic motion in response to a constant driving field, the so-called "Walker breakdown", which has been well known for decades [18]. This effect is a direct consequence of the E(P) periodicity, which is formally common to that for Bloch electrons, and, despite the different physical origins of the periodicity, the effect on DWs can be treated as an analogy of Bloch oscillations for electrons moving in a crystal under an action of a strong electric field.

For AFMs, the character of spin dynamics is entirely different. For a two-sublattice AFM the spin dynamics can be described by a closed equation, the so-called  $\sigma$ -model equation, for the single dynamical variable, the normalized Néel vector  $\mathbf{l} = (\mathbf{S}_1 - \mathbf{S}_2)/2S$ , where S is the spin density of one of the sublattices. Here, the singularities present in the equations for  $S_{1,2}$  cancel each other, and the  $\sigma$ -model equation possesses formal "Lorentz" invariance with the chosen speed c, which equals the minimal phase velocity of magnons and is determined by exchange interaction only, see, e.g., [7,19]. This value has a sense of the limiting velocity of moving DWs. The dependencies of the freely moving DW on its velocity or momentum are the same as for the usual particle in relativistic mechanics,  $E_{AFM}(v) = E_0/\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}$ or  $E_{AFM}(P) = \sqrt{E_0^2 + c^2 P^2}$ , where  $E_0$  is the "rest energy" of a DW. Thus, for AFM DW, the energy and, consequently, the friction force grow infinitely as  $v \to c$ . For this reason, the velocity of the steady-state motion of the AFM DW driven by a constant force monotonously increases with the increasing force, approaching the limit value c, that was demonstrated experimentally for many AFMs, e.g., orthoferrites [19]. The value of c is quite large, typically tens of km/s (20 km/s for orthoferrites), making AFM DWs suitable for high-speed spintronic applications [20–23].

A more common class of magnetic materials includes ferrimagnets (FiMs), which have magnetic sublattices with AFM exchange coupling and antiparallel orientation of the sublattice spins in the ground state. Contrary to AFMs, the sublattices are not equivalent, in particular, they can have nonequal spin densities  $S_1 \neq S_2$ ,  $(S_{1,2} = |\mathbf{S}_{1,2}|)$ , different

g-factors, etc., see, e.g., Ref. [24] . For a significant difference of sublattice spins, the spin dynamics in FiMs is the same as for standard FMs; otherwise, for the case of the exact balance of sublattice spins,  $S_1 = S_2$  FiMs resemble AFMs. As has been mentioned above, the nontrivial feature—the presence of an endpoint in the dispersion law of the DW—is unique for FiMs and has no analogs for FMs or AFMs [25].

Let us compare the properties of FiMs and AFMs in more detail. The principal difference between FiMs and AFMs is that magnetic sublattices of a FiM consist of nonequivalent magnetic ions (or identical ions but in different crystallographic positions); as a consequence, they generally have nonequal spin densities  $S_1 \neq S_2$  ( $S_i = |S_i|$ ) and can have distinct g-factors. The temperature dependencies of  $S_1$ ,  $S_2$  can also be different, allowing two compensation points in the ground state: the magnetization compensation point, where the net magnetization is zero,  $\mathbf{M}_1 + \mathbf{M}_2 = 0$ , and the angular momentum compensation point (AMCP), characterized by a zero net spin density  $S_1 + S_2 = 0$ . At the AMCP, where the spin densities of sublattices coincide, the spin dynamics of FiMs is, in fact, antiferromagnetic, and all AFM features, including the aforementioned exchange enhancement of the DW limiting velocity and Lorentz-invariance of the DW dynamics, are manifested [24]. Thus, by adjusting the spin compensation of two sublattices either by the temperature [26,27] or the material composition [28,29], the limiting velocity of DWs can be substantially increased [30-40]. FiM thin films are also more easily fabricated than crystalline AFMs; even amorphous alloys like the famous  $Gd_x(FeCo)_{1-x}$  can have FiM ordering with the AMCP about x = 0.25. In addition, due to the aforementioned difference in g-factors, FiMs can have a nonzero magnetization at the AMCP, simplifying the control of DWs by a magnetic field. It is, therefore, not surprising that much attention has been paid to these materials in recent years. Far from the AMCP, the spin dynamics is practically the same as those of FMs. However, it turns out that in the most interesting region of close vicinity to the AMCP, where  $S_1 \neq S_2$ , but  $\nu = (S_1 - S_2)/(S_1 + S_2) \ll 1$ , the dynamic properties of the DWs are much more intriguing than for both limit cases, FMs or AFMs. The analysis of the DW dispersion law for a simple model demonstrates the presence of quite a nontrivial element, the so-called endpoint at some finite value of the momentum [25]. Such behavior should manifest itself in the unique characteristics of the forced motion of the DWs in nearly-compensated FiMs, which is absent for both FMs and AFMs. In particular, as we demonstrate below, FiM DW develops "explosive" instability once reaching the endpoint, resulting in a sudden release of accumulated energy in the form of propagating spin-wave bursts.

# III. ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

The nonlinear spin dynamics of a two-sublattices FiM not far from AMCP can be described in the way, common to AFMs, in terms of the AFM Néel vector **l** and normalized net angular momentum vector  $\mathbf{s} = (\mathbf{S}_1 + \mathbf{S}_2)/S_{\text{tot}}$ . The vectors **l** and **s** satisfy the relations  $\mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{l} = \nu$  and  $\mathbf{s}^2 + \mathbf{l}^2 = 1 + \nu^2$ , where  $\nu = (S_1 - S_2)/(S_1 + S_2)$  defines the value of spin imbalance. In close proximity to the AMCP  $\nu \ll 1$ , the quantities  $\nu$  and  $s = |\mathbf{s}|$  are small, and the vector **l** can be

treated as unit. Within this approach, **s** plays the role of a slave variable; it can be expressed through **l** and  $\partial \mathbf{l}/\partial t$ . Finally, the ferrimagnetic spin dynamics can be described by an equation that contains only the Néel vector **l**, the so-called generalized  $\sigma$ -model equation [24]. Since  $|\mathbf{l}| = 1$ , it is convenient to write down the Néel vector in angular variables  $\mathbf{l} = \{\sin \theta \cos \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \theta\}$ .

This generalized sigma-model equation can be written by variation of the Lagrangian  $L = \int d\mathbf{r} \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{l}]$  and dissipation function Q. For the dissipation function, we will choose the simplest Gilbert form  $Q = \alpha \hbar S_{\text{tot}}/2 \int (\partial \mathbf{l}/\partial t)^2 d\mathbf{r}$ .

The Lagrangian density may be decomposed as  $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{l}] = T + G - W$ . The kinetic part has the same form as for "pure" AFMs,  $T = (A/2c^2)(\partial_t \mathbf{l})^2$ , where  $c = \sqrt{A\omega_{ex}/\hbar S_{\text{tot}}}$  is the characteristic speed, which coincides with the minimal phase velocity of spin waves at the AMCP  $\nu = 0$ ,  $\omega_{ex} = \gamma H_{ex}$  is the frequency defined by the exchange field  $H_{ex}$ , and A is the constant of nonuniform exchange [24].

The gyroscopic term  $G[\mathbf{l}]$ , linear over first time derivative of the vector  $\mathbf{l}$ , has the same structure as the dynamical term for the Landau-Lifshitz equation,  $G = -\hbar(S_1 - S_2)\mathbf{A}\partial_t\mathbf{l}$ , where  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{l})$  is singular vector function, vector-potential of the Dirac monopole field with a unit magnetic charge, rot<sub>1</sub> $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{l}$ ; it differs from that for FM by replacing  $S \to S_1 - S_2$  [24].

Finally,  $W[\mathbf{l}] = (A/2)(\nabla \mathbf{l})^2 + w_a(\mathbf{l})$  is the static energy density of the FiM, written through the vector  $\mathbf{l}$  only and including the nonuniform exchange energy with the constant A and anisotropy energy  $w_a$ .

The knowledge of the Lagrangian allows us to write down the expressions for the energy and linear momentum of the DW

$$E = \int d\mathbf{r}(T+W), \tag{2a}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \int d\mathbf{r} [\hbar (S_1 - S_2) \mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{l} - (A/c^2)(\partial_t \mathbf{l}) \nabla \mathbf{l}]. \quad (2b)$$

A qualitative analysis of the DW dispersion law can be done using a general traveling wave ansatz  $\mathbf{l} = \mathbf{l}(\xi)$ ,  $\xi = x - vt$ . The analysis for a FiM with nonzero spin imbalance, in this case, can be carried out on the basis of the known FM solution by substituting  $\xi \to \xi/\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}$  and reassigning the coefficients of the gyroscopic term, which is valid for an arbitrary form of anisotropy energy, see Ref. [41] for more details. In the following, however, we consider the peculiarities arising for the FiM, limiting ourselves to the simplest form of the biaxial anisotropy energy, which in the angular variables reads

$$w_a = \frac{1}{2}K\sin^2\theta(1+\rho\sin^2\phi),\tag{3}$$

where K > 0 is the constant of the easy-axis anisotropy (expressed below through characteristic frequency  $\hbar \omega_a = K/S_{\rm tot}$ ) and the parameter  $\rho$  determines the anisotropy in the basal plane  $K_b = \rho K$ . Here, the axis z is chosen to be the easy axis of the FiM so that the ground state corresponds to  $\theta = 0, \pi$ .

For this model, an exact analytical solution for an FM DW, in the form of  $\phi = \text{const}$  and  $\theta = \theta(\xi)$ , was constructed by Walker [42]. The corresponding generalization to the FiM case—suitable for describing DW dynamics near the AMCP—is obtained by the aforementioned relativistic

rescaling of the DW coordinate  $\xi$  and replacing the FM gyrotropic prefactor. This generalized Walker solution then reads [43]

$$\cos \theta = \tanh \left[ \frac{\xi}{l_0(v)} \right],$$

$$l_0(v) = \sqrt{\frac{A}{K}} \sqrt{\frac{1 - v^2/c^2}{1 + \rho \sin^2 \phi}},$$
(4a)

$$\frac{v}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}} = \frac{\rho}{v} \frac{\sqrt{AK}}{\hbar S_{\text{tot}}} \frac{\sin \phi \cos \phi}{\sqrt{1 + \rho \sin^2 \phi}}.$$
 (4b)

Here,  $l_0$  has the meaning of the DW width, and the v-dependence of  $\phi$  is determined by Eq. (4b). For the DW in the rest v=0, the values of  $\phi$  are 0,  $\pi/2$ ,  $\pi$ , etc., and the characteristic scale  $l_0$  is determined by the interplay between constants of nonuniform exchange A and anisotropy K. If the vector  $\mathbf{l}$  inside the wall turns in the energetically favorable plane zx, i.e.,  $\phi_B=0$ ,  $\pi$ , such a DW is referred to as a Bloch wall. Otherwise, for nonfavorable plane zy (the angle  $\phi_N=\pi/2$  or  $3\pi/2$ ), the DW is called a Néel wall. The singularity in Eq. (4b) at v=0 indicates that velocity v and angle  $\phi$  are decoupled exactly at the AMCP, where  $\phi=\phi_B$  or  $\phi_N$  for any velocity v<c.

The expressions for energy and momentum of the moving FiM DW with the use of Eqs. (2) were obtained in Ref. [25]:

$$E(v,\phi) = E_0 \frac{\sqrt{1 + \rho \sin^2 \phi}}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}},$$
 (5a)

$$P(v,\phi) = 2v\hbar S_{\text{tot}}\phi + \frac{v}{c^2}E(v,\phi). \tag{5b}$$

Dependencies E(P) constructed using Eq. (4b) are shown above in Fig. 1 for different values of spin imbalance. DW momentum P is the sum of two terms, which are characteristic of the FM and relativistic AFM contributions, respectively. Considering only the first term, the energy is a periodic function of the momentum, which is typical for FMs. This property is based on Walker's result, which states that spatial rotation of the parameter order within the DW occurs as a planar rotation (i.e., within a plane defined by  $\phi = \text{const}$ ) at all velocities. In fact, even for more general models where this is not the case and  $\phi = \phi(\xi)$ , the periodicity holds for angles corresponding to the minimum and maximum of anisotropy energy with respect to  $\phi$ . In the biaxial case, these angles are  $\phi = 0, \pi/2, \pi$ , and so on. Since 0 and  $\pi$  are equivalent, this result remains valid for arbitrary biaxial anisotropy energy; for more details, see Ref. [41].

Considering both terms in the DW momentum, which is a feature of FiMs, makes the analysis more complicated. It turns out that while the formal periodicity of E(P) is preserved, at a small but finite imbalance  $v = v_{\rm cr} = \sqrt{\rho \omega_a/\omega_{ex}}$ , the form of dispersion law changes qualitatively. The change in momentum is nonmonotonic when  $v < v_{\rm cr}$ , and a separate branch in the dispersion law is formed, which has been shown to be unstable [25]; therefore, the spectrum of stable DW motion has an endpoint. This endpoint can be reached when the DW is forced to move in a nonstationary regime. Indeed, the friction force derived from the given dissipation function can be written using the energy of the moving DW, as well as

its velocity [44]:

$$F_{fr}(v) = -\alpha \frac{\hbar S_{\text{tot}}}{A} v E(v). \tag{6}$$

For any nonzero spin imbalance, the wall energy is limited from above since Eq. (4b) implies a maximum velocity  $v_c$  that is less than c. As a result, the friction force is also limited  $F_{\rm max} = \alpha \rho K/\nu$ . When the driving force exceeds the maximum value of the friction force, the wall momentum should increase monotonically according to Eq. (1), and following the characteristic dispersion law, the wall should "fly off" from it. When dissipation is small  $\alpha \ll 1$ , the maximum friction force  $F_{\rm max}$  is also small. However, once the DW reaches the endpoint, a sudden change in dynamic parameters is expected, violating the approximation of the soliton perturbation theory approach [8].

## IV. RESULTS OF MICROMAGNETIC SIMULATIONS

To examine the DW dynamics when it reaches the regions of instability, we resort to micromagnetic simulations using the *MuMax3* program [45] (see Supplemental Material [46]). The selected FiM corresponds to a Gd<sub>25</sub>(FeCo)<sub>75</sub> alloy with  $c = 5.4 \,\mathrm{km/s}, \ \omega_{ex}/2\pi = 5 \,\mathrm{THz}, \ K = 100 \,\mathrm{kJ/m^3} \ (\omega_a/2\pi =$ 2.8 GHz),  $\rho = 1/2$ , and  $\alpha = 10^{-3}$ . The cases of the AMCP and imbalances of 0.4, 0.9, and 2.0 relative to the critical value  $v_{cr}$  are inspected. With the help of micromagnetic simulations, it is also informative to visually inspect the changes, or lack thereof, that occur when a DW moves. For a better understanding, we provide supplementary videos [46] showing the spatiotemporal evolution of the Néel vector during the DW motion. The cases of stationary motion and nonstationary regime for the FM-like scenario are shown in Supplemental Material S1-3 and described in the Supplemental Material [46].

The cases of interest are considered for the spin imbalances of  $0.9\nu_{\rm cr}$  and  $0.4\nu_{\rm cr}$ , chosen based on the characteristic placement of stable branch endpoints. At  $\nu=0.9\nu_{\rm cr}$ , the momentum value at which the DW enters the instability region  $P_{\rm cr}$  remains smaller than the period  $P_0$ ,  $P_{\rm cr} < P_0$ . In Supplemental Material S4 [46], the result of simulations with an applied force of  $2F_{\rm max}$  is presented. Initially, the wall

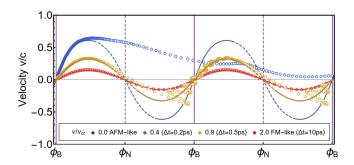


FIG. 2. Results of micromagnetic simulations. DW velocity vs. angle  $\phi$  over time. Circles show the results of micromagnetic simulations, while lines are built according to analytical dependence (4b), where dashed segments indicate unstable regions found from the analysis of the dispersion laws. The applied force equals  $2F_{\rm max}$  for a given imbalance value, and therefore, the results are absent for the AFM-like case in which the nonstationary motion is not realized.

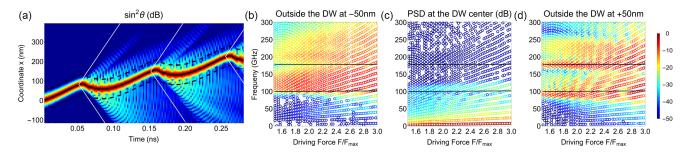


FIG. 3. Spin waves emission after the DW "explosion". (a) Shows the spatiotemporal evolution of the magnetization along the film. The white lines show the propagation with the maximum speed c drawn from the points at which the angle  $\phi$  inside the wall reaches the critical value. The solid black line follows the trajectory of the DW center, while the dashed black lines are  $\pm 50$  nm away. Dependencies on the driving force of the power spectral density calculated for the Néel vector following these trajectories are shown in (b), (c), and (d). The dots show the peaks of the spectra above the background. Horizontal black lines indicate resonance frequencies.

appears stable, resembling a ferromagnetic case, and the connection  $v(\phi)$  given by Eq. (4b) is maintained, see Fig. 2. However, when the endpoint is reached, the angle inside the wall increases rapidly. Although the wall experiences negative velocities for some time, the motion is described by fast oscillations around the analytical dependence  $v(\phi)$  that eventually dampen. The wall manages to return to a stable configuration before the next critical point, after which the process repeats. The rapid passage of the instability region leads to high-frequency excitations that change the structure of the wall and can spread beyond its boundaries, see Fig. 3(a). To analyze them, we computed the fast Fourier transform of the Néel vector at different places in a frame of reference moving along with the wall. Figures 3(b)-3(d) show that the spectrum at the DW center resembles a frequency comb in a wide frequency range. Those excitations below the resonance frequencies quickly decay in evanescent modes, but those with higher frequencies propagate as spin waves far away from the DW center.

It is important to emphasize that, despite the presence of a gapped "wall-torsion" mode due to basal-plane anisotropy, the observed high-frequency emission is not a direct excitation of this mode alone. Rather, it results from the pronounced dynamic restructuring of the entire DW configuration. Thus, the "explosive" events drive even higher-frequency spin-wave modes, characterized by shorter wavelengths and greater group velocities, allowing them to escape from the DW region faster.

Moreover, there is a notable asymmetry in the excitations on opposite sides of the moving DW. At -50 nm behind the DW center, the spectral peaks occur at frequencies above the bulk spin-wave threshold, indicative of genuine propagating spin waves. The detailed spatial profile of these propagating waves, shown in Fig. 4, reveals wavelengths approximately in the range of 30–80 nm. Conversely, at +50 nm ahead of the DW, the maxima in the power spectral density appear predominantly at frequencies below the resonance. Thus, in this forward region, the primary contribution arises from evanescent modes manifesting as gradually decaying "tails" of the DW profile, whereas the amplitudes of propagating spin waves are substantially reduced.

As the imbalance further decreases, the energy and momentum of the DW inside the instability region are much higher, e.g., the value of  $P_{cr}$  can even overcome the period  $P_0$ ;

see respective dispersion law in Fig. 1. The simulations with  $\nu=0.4\nu_{\rm cr}$  show that the wall initially behaves similarly to the previous case, but after the "jump", the wall is not captured by the first stable region. The features of the wall movement are stochastic; the dynamics of the angle  $\phi$  may not be attracted to the stable part of  $v(\phi)$  at all, see Fig. 2. In Supplemental Material S5 [46], it is evident that the wall only experiences a slowdown during the "explosions"; the moments when it moves back are barely noticeable.

### V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we have demonstrated that the forced motion of the DW in FiM near the AMCP exhibits a unique behavior that is absent for FMs or AFMs. In particular, the nonstationary DW motion is accompanied by a "splash of excess energy" when it reaches the endpoints of its dispersion law. Such periodic "explosions" are described by the excitation of fast intrawall dynamics leading to the emission of propagating spin waves. This emission relaxes the DW back to the stable branch if the period between falling into the highly nonequilibrium state is long enough. Unlike the three-dimensional Bloch-point "jet propulsion" mechanism reported by Tejo *et al.* [47], this instability arises solely from the soliton dispersion endpoint and involves no topological singularities. To our knowledge, this specific scenario has not been studied before.

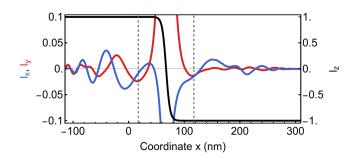


FIG. 4. Spatial profile of the DW and emitted spin waves. The components of the Néel vector at a snapshot taken at t=0.1 ns, see Fig. 3(a), after the wall reaches the dispersion endpoint ( $\nu=0.9\nu_{\rm cr}$ ,  $F=2F_{\rm max}$ ). Dashed lines mark  $\pm 50$  nm from the wall center—the two positions used for the FFT analysis in the comoving frame in Figs. 3(b) and 3(d).

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project is partly funded by the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Grant TOPSPIN No. 835068) and the Swedish Research Council Grant No. 2016-05980.

### DATA AVAILABILITY

The data that support the findings of this article are not publicly available upon publication because it is not technically feasible and/or the cost of preparing, depositing, and hosting the data would be prohibitive within the terms of this research project. The data are available from the authors upon reasonable request.

- [1] C. Chappert, A. Fert, and F. N. Van Dau, The emergence of spin electronics in data storage, Nat. Mater. 6, 813 (2007).
- [2] S. S. P. Parkin, M. Hayashi, and L. Thomas, Magnetic domainwall racetrack memory, Science 320, 190 (2008).
- [3] D. A. Allwood, G. Xiong, C. C. Faulkner, D. Atkinson, D. Petit, and R. P. Cowburn, Magnetic domain-wall logic, Science 309, 1688 (2005).
- [4] Z. Luo, A. Hrabec, T. P. Dao, G. Sala, S. Finizio, J. Feng, S. Mayr, J. Raabe, P. Gambardella, and L. J. Heyderman, Current-driven magnetic domain-wall logic, Nature (London) 579, 214 (2020).
- [5] K. Y. Jing, X. Gong, and X. R. Wang, Field-driven domain wall motion in ferrimagnetic nanowires, Phys. Rev. B 106, 174429 (2022).
- [6] K. Y. Jing, Z.-Z. Sun, and X. R. Wang, Current-driven domain wall motion in ferrimagnetic nanowires, Phys. Rev. B 110, 054414 (2024).
- [7] A. M. Kosevich, B. A. Ivanov, and A. S. Kovalev, Magnetic solitons, Phys. Rep. 194, 117 (1990).
- [8] Y. S. Kivshar and B. A. Malomed, Dynamics of solitons in nearly integrable systems, Rev. Mod. Phys. 61, 763 (1989).
- [9] O. A. Tretiakov, D. Clarke, G.-W. Chern, Y. B. Bazaliy, and O. Tchernyshyov, Dynamics of domain walls in magnetic nanostrips, Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 127204 (2008).
- [10] S. K. Kim, Y. Tserkovnyak, and O. Tchernyshyov, Propulsion of a domain wall in an antiferromagnet by magnons, Phys. Rev. B 90, 104406 (2014).
- [11] R. V. Ovcharov, E. G. Galkina, B. A. Ivanov, and R. S. Khymyn, Spin Hall nano-oscillator based on an antiferromagnetic domain wall, Phys. Rev. Appl. 18, 024047 (2022).
- [12] R. V. Ovcharov, B. A. Ivanov, J. Åkerman, and R. S. Khymyn, Antiferromagnetic Bloch line driven by spin current as roomtemperature analogue of a fluxon in a long Josephson junction, Phys. Rev. Appl. 20, 034060 (2023).
- [13] S. K. Kim and O. Tchernyshyov, Mechanics of a ferromagnetic domain wall, J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 35, 134002 (2023).
- [14] L. Landau and E. Lifshitz, 3 On the theory of the dispersion of magnetic permeability in ferromagnetic bodies, Reprinted from Physikalische Zeitschrift der Sowjetunion 8, Part 2, 153, 1935, in *Perspectives in Theoretical Physics*, edited by L. P. Pitaevski (Pergamon, Amsterdam, 1992), pp. 51–65.
- [15] E. Fradkin, *Field Theories of Condensed Matter Physics*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2013).
- [16] E. G. Galkina and B. A. Ivanov, Dispersion relation for kinktype solitons in one-dimensional ferromagnets, JETP Lett. 71, 259 (2000).
- [17] O. Tchernyshyov, Conserved momenta of a ferromagnetic soliton, Ann. Phys. **363**, 98 (2015).

- [18] N. L. Schryer and L. R. Walker, The motion of 180° domain walls in uniform dc magnetic fields, J. Appl. Phys. 45, 5406 (1974).
- [19] V. G. Bar'yakhtar, B. A. Ivanov, and M. V. Chetkin, Dynamics of domain walls in weak ferromagnets, Uspekhi Fizicheskikh Nauk 146, 417 (1985).
- [20] O. Gomonay, T. Jungwirth, and J. Sinova, High antiferromagnetic domain wall velocity induced by Néel spin-orbit torques, Phys. Rev. Lett. **117**, 017202 (2016).
- [21] S.-H. Yang, K.-S. Ryu, and S. Parkin, Domain-wall velocities of up to 750 m s<sup>-1</sup> driven by exchange-coupling torque in synthetic antiferromagnets, Nat. Nanotechnol. **10**, 221 (2015).
- [22] T. Shiino, S.-H. Oh, P. M. Haney, S.-W. Lee, G. Go, B.-G. Park, and K.-J. Lee, Antiferromagnetic domain wall motion driven by spin-orbit torques, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 087203 (2016).
- [23] R. V. Ovcharov, B. A. Ivanov, J. Åkerman, and R. S. Khymyn, Emission of fast-propagating spin waves by an antiferromagnetic domain wall driven by spin current, Phys. Rev. B 109, L140406 (2024).
- [24] B. A. Ivanov, Ultrafast spin dynamics and spintronics for ferrimagnets close to the spin compensation point (Review), Low Temp. Phys. 45, 935 (2019).
- [25] E. G. Galkina, C. E. Zaspel, B. A. Ivanov, N. E. Kulagin, and L. M. Lerman, Limiting velocity and dispersion law of domain walls in ferrimagnets close to the spin compensation point, JETP Lett. 110, 481 (2019).
- [26] C. D. Stanciu, A. V. Kimel, F. Hansteen, A. Tsukamoto, A. Itoh, A. Kirilyuk, and T. Rasing, Ultrafast spin dynamics across compensation points in ferrimagnetic GdFeCo: The role of angular momentum compensation, Phys. Rev. B 73, 220402(R) (2006).
- [27] T. A. Ostler, R. F. L. Evans, R. W. Chantrell, U. Atxitia, O. Chubykalo-Fesenko, I. Radu, R. Abrudan, F. Radu, A. Tsukamoto, A. Itoh, A. Kirilyuk, T. Rasing, and A. Kimel, Crystallographically amorphous ferrimagnetic alloys: Comparing a localized atomistic spin model with experiments, Phys. Rev. B 84, 024407 (2011).
- [28] T. Kato, K. Nakazawa, R. Komiya, N. Nishizawa, S. Tsunashima, and S. Iwata, Compositional dependence of g-factor and damping constant of GdFeCo amorphous alloy films, IEEE Trans. Magn. 44, 3380 (2008).
- [29] L. Bainsla, A. Kumar, A. A. Awad, C. Wang, M. Zahedinejad, N. Behera, H. Fulara, R. Khymyn, A. Houshang, J. Weissenrieder, and J. Åkerman, Ultrathin ferrimagnetic GdFeCo films with low damping, Adv. Funct. Mater. 32, 2111693 (2022).
- [30] K.-J. Kim, S. K. Kim, Y. Hirata, S.-H. Oh, T. Tono, D.-H. Kim, T. Okuno, W. S. Ham, S. Kim, G. Go, Y. Tserkovnyak, A. Tsukamoto, T. Moriyama, K.-J. Lee, and T. Ono, Fast domain

- wall motion in the vicinity of the angular momentum compensation temperature of ferrimagnets, Nat. Mater. 16, 1187 (2017).
- [31] R. Bläsing, T. Ma, S.-H. Yang, C. Garg, F. K. Dejene, A. T. N'Diaye, G. Chen, K. Liu, and S. S. P. Parkin, Exchange coupling torque in ferrimagnetic Co/Gd bilayer maximized near angular momentum compensation temperature, Nat. Commun. 9, 4984 (2018).
- [32] K. Cai, Z. Zhu, J. M. Lee, R. Mishra, L. Ren, S. D. Pollard, P. He, G. Liang, K. L. Teo, and H. Yang, Ultrafast and energy-efficient spin—orbit torque switching in compensated ferrimagnets, Nat. Electron. 3, 37 (2020).
- [33] S. A. Siddiqui, J. Han, J. T. Finley, C. A. Ross, and L. Liu, Current-induced domain wall motion in a compensated ferrimagnet, Phys. Rev. Lett. 121, 057701 (2018).
- [34] L. Caretta, M. Mann, F. Büttner, K. Ueda, B. Pfau, C. M. Günther, P. Hessing, A. Churikova, C. Klose, M. Schneider, D. Engel, C. Marcus, D. Bono, K. Bagschik, S. Eisebitt, and G. S. D. Beach, Fast current-driven domain walls and small skyrmions in a compensated ferrimagnet, Nat. Nanotechnol. 13, 1154 (2018).
- [35] S. Ghosh, T. Komori, A. Hallal, J. Peña Garcia, T. Gushi, T. Hirose, H. Mitarai, H. Okuno, J. Vogel, M. Chshiev, J.-P. Attané, L. Vila, T. Suemasu, and S. Pizzini, Current-driven domain wall dynamics in ferrimagnetic nickel-doped Mn<sub>4</sub>N films: Very large domain wall velocities and reversal of motion direction across the magnetic compensation point, Nano Lett. 21, 2580 (2021).
- [36] T. Okuno, Spin-transfer torques for domain wall motion in antiferromagnetically-coupled ferrimagnets, in *Magnetic Dynamics in Antiferromagnetically-Coupled Ferrimagnets: The Role of Angular Momentum*, Springer Theses, edited by T. Okuno (Springer, Singapore, 2020), pp. 25–48.
- [37] A. K. Zvezdin, Z. V. Gareeva, and K. A. Zvezdin, Anomalies in the dynamics of ferrimagnets near the angular momentum compensation point, J. Magn. Magn. Mater. 509, 166876 (2020).
- [38] M. V. Logunov, S. S. Safonov, A. S. Fedorov, A. A. Danilova, N. V. Moiseev, A. R. Safin, S. A. Nikitov, and A. Kirilyuk,

- Domain wall motion across magnetic and spin compensation points in magnetic garnets, Phys. Rev. Appl. **15**, 064024 (2021).
- [39] L. Caretta, S.-H. Oh, T. Fakhrul, D.-K. Lee, B. H. Lee, S. K. Kim, C. A. Ross, K.-J. Lee, and G. S. Beach, Relativistic kinematics of a magnetic soliton, Science 370, 1438 (2020).
- [40] H.-A. Zhou, Y. Dong, T. Xu, K. Xu, L. Sánchez-Tejerina, L. Zhao, Y. Ba, P. Gargiani, M. Valvidares, Y. Zhao *et al.*, Compensated magnetic insulators for extremely fast spin-orbitronics, arXiv:1912.01775.
- [41] E. G. Galkina, V. E. Kireev, and B. A. Ivanov, Solitons in low-dimensional magnets: Elementary excitations with a nontrivial dispersion law, Low Temp. Phys. 48, 896 (2022).
- [42] J. F. Dillon, 9 Domains and domain walls, in *Spin Arrange-ments and Crystal Structure, Domains, and Micromagnetics*, edited by G. T. Rado and H. Suhl (Academic Press, New York, 1963), pp. 415–464.
- [43] B. A. Ivanov and A. L. Sukstanskii, Nonlinear magnetization waves in ferrites, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 84, 370 (1983).
- [44] B. A. Ivanov, E. G. Galkina, V. E. Kireev, N. E. Kulagin, R. V. Ovcharov, and R. S. Khymyn, Nonstationary forced motion of domain walls in ferrimagnets near the spin compensation point, Low Temp. Phys. 46, 841 (2020).
- [45] A. Vansteenkiste, J. Leliaert, M. Dvornik, M. Helsen, F. Garcia-Sanchez, and B. Van Waeyenberge, The design and verification of MuMax3, AIP Adv. 4, 107133 (2014).
- [46] See Supplemental Material at http://link.aps.org/supplemental/ 10.1103/m5zv-lbgl for details of the micromagnetic simulation framework, analytical derivations of domain wall dynamics, and additional figures illustrating stationary and ferromagneticlike nonstationary motion in ferrimagnetic systems.
- [47] F. Tejo, J. A. Fernandez-Roldan, K. Y. Guslienko, R. M. Otxoa, and O. Chubykalo-Fesenko, Giant supermagnonic Bloch point velocities in cylindrical ferromagnetic nanowires, Nanoscale 16, 10737 (2024).