

Detection of Magnetic Anisotropy Using a Wide Field Area Produced by Ferrite Magnets

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Polarization data in the visible and infrared region caused by partial dust alignment is commonly used to determine the direction of magnetic field in various galactic areas [1]. Observational studies have concluded that partially aligned silicate-grains can be the cause of the polarization. However, the physical mechanism of the aforementioned alignment in the dense region (i.e., the surrounding areas of the proto-planetary discs) leaves room for discussion, because dust and gas are in a thermo-dynamically equilibrium condition. In this study, it was assumed that partial alignment in the dense region was caused by anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility $\Delta \chi$ that was assigned to the dust material [2]. In this case, the field-induced anisotropy energy induced in the dust should be larger than the Brownian energy (Uyeda et al., 1991, 2004a). Using a conventional torque method, value of $\Delta \chi$ per unit mass was generally difficult to measure when its mass m was below several milligrams [3], because m measurement of sample was difficult; note that the obtainable size of a single crystal is below sub-millimeter in diameter in many materials, and reliable $\Delta \chi$ values are difficult to obtain in these materials. Therefore a new method that was proposed and practicalized in which $\Delta \chi$ was determined from period of harmonic oscillation τ of stable axis of crystal with respect to magnetic field B ; here oscillation was induced by a field-induced anisotropy energy $\frac{1}{2} \Delta \chi m B^2$, and τ followed an equation

$$\tau = 2\pi (I/m\Delta\chi)^{1/2} B^{-1}. \quad (1)$$

where I denote moment of inertia of the crystal. It is seen that τ is independent to m in the above equation, and $\Delta \chi$ is determined from τ , I/m and B no matter how small crystal may be, in condition that the oscillation is observable [3].

Here we introduced a pair of ferrite magnetic plate (10cm x 5cm x 1cm) was used to generate B to increase the volume of homogeneous field area with respect to previous researches [3]. Accordingly, the mm-size sample released in μg area was allowed to translate in a wide spherical area of ~ 3 cm in diameter during the observation of field-induced oscillation. The diameter of homogeneous area in the previous setup was less than ~ 1.5 cm, and the sample frequently moved away from the homogeneous field area; success rate of τ measurement was less than 20% due to this disturbance. In the present experiment, $\Delta \chi$ values were obtained in millimeter size crystals of a paramagnetic chromite and a diamagnetic graphite following the aforementioned procedure. It is generally considered that dynamic motions are not induced in diamagnetic and paramagnetic materials by a low field intensity produced by a ferrite magnet. The crystals used in the experiment were separated from bulk samples using a wire saw and a titanium knife. The sample was placed on a sample stage that was located at the field center of two magnetic plates. A short microgravity condition (duration < 0.5s) was applied to the setup by conducting a free fall [3][4]. Shortly after the beginning of the free fall, the sample stage slowly lifted from its initial position, which was effective to release the small sample in a diffuse area. The rotational-oscillation of the samples were observed by a high-speed camera (ZWO ASI290MC) that was newly adopted in the experiment; the camera was capable to observe and preserve the motion of the sample with a time resolution of 0.033 fps and a spatial resolution of 0.004 cm.

[1] *for example*, R. Spitzer Jr., *Physical Processes in the Interstellar Medium* (1978). [2] C. Uyeda, et. al., *A & Ap* (2001). [3] C. Uyeda et. al., (2010)*J. Phys. Soc. Jpn.*32, 164079. [4] Yokoi et al., *Planet., Space Sci.*, 28, 094103.

[A1]Alternatively,

"in the sub-milligram range".

Keywords: Interstellar Medium, Magnetic Anisotropy