

Dimensional Crossover in Critical Behavior of Thin XY-films: Equilibrium and Non-equilibrium Properties

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The study of non-equilibrium critical behavior causes considerable fundamental and applied scientific interest. In recent years, particular interest is the study of quasi-two-dimensional systems [1], in particular, the question of the dimensional crossover in the transition from two-dimensional systems to three-dimensional [2]. In the two-dimensional XY model, the long-range order is destroyed by transverse fluctuations of the spin density at all nonzero temperatures [3]. However, this system has a topological Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless transition at $T = T_{\text{BKT}}$ and there is Berezinskii low-temperature phase $T < T_{\text{BKT}}$, where all temperatures T are critical points. There is a continuous set of fixed points of the renormalization-group transformation for the two-dimensional case and quasi-long-range order (QLRO) is presented in system. On the other hand, the critical behavior of the three-dimensional XY-model in vicinity of T_C is described by the fixed point of «ferromagnetic-paramagnetic» phase transition and classical long-range order (LRO) is presented at $T < T_C$ [4].

The present paper presents a studying of the Kosterlitz–Thouless transition in thin films, and we gives an answer of how disappear phenomena which associated with the topological phase when films thickness N is increased. We determined the dependence of the phase transition temperature $T_{\text{BKT}}(p)$ as a function of the N . We obtained that in limit $N \rightarrow \infty$ the temperature T_{BKT} tends to T_C of three-dimensional XY-model. The obtained dimensional dependencies are in good agreement with the previous theoretical results [4].

We shown that, the spin stiffness $\rho_S(T)$ gradually decreases at the T_{BKT} from the value $\rho_S(T_{\text{BKT}}) = 2T_{\text{BKT}}/\pi$ ($N = 1$) to the value $\rho_S(T_{\text{BKT}}) = 0$ for $N \rightarrow \infty$. We revealed that a quantity $\rho_S(T_{\text{BKT}})/T_{\text{BKT}}$ has a power dependence $N^{-\sigma}$, where $\sigma = 0.875(24)$.

It was investigated the dynamical dependencies of magnetization $m(t)$ and its dispersion $D_m(t)$, second and fourth order cumulants $U_2(t)$ и $U_4(t)$ of magnetization for non-equilibrium relaxation of the system from the high-temperature and low-temperature initial states. We show dimensional crossover from the dynamic scaling dependencies of the two-dimensional XY-model to the classical dependencies of the three-dimensional system.

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