## One-Dimensional Short-Range Ordering of Bond-Alternating Antiferromagnetic Chains in $F_5PNN$

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Pentafulorophenyl nitronyl nitroxide (F<sub>5</sub>PNN) is a pure organic magnet with S = 1/2 bond-alternating Heisenberg antiferromagnetic chains. The field-induced 3D magnetic ordering between 3 and 6.5 Tesla intermediated by small interchain interaction has been confirmed by heat capacity studies<sup>1</sup>.

In this study, we have measured the ac magnetic susceptibility  $\chi_{AC}$  of F<sub>5</sub>PNN single crystals in magnetic fields, in order to examine the short-range ordering in 1D chains, which should occur at higher temperatures prior to the 3D long-range order about 0.2 K. Below  $H_{c1} = 3$  T, exponential decreases of  $\chi_{AC}$  are observed, which indicate spin gaps due to dimer formation. The gap energy decreases with increasing field until  $H_{c1}$ . Between  $H_{c1}$  and  $H_{c2}$ , a maximum of  $\chi_{AC}$  is observed at higher temperatures than the 3D ordering temperatures  $T_c^{3D}$ . The heights of  $\chi_{AC}$  maxima diverge in the vicinity of the critical fields with the critical index of 1/2, which agrees with short-range ordering expected for the 1D XY model. At  $T_c^{3D}$ ,  $\chi_{AC}$  has no clear anomaly, which suggests that the 3D ordering occurs in spin components transverse to the field. Around critical fields, the boundary of 1D short-range ordered region defined by the maxima of  $\chi_{AC}$  depends almost linearly on applied fields, which agrees with Tomonaga-Luttinger liquid picture. <sup>1</sup>Y. Yoshida et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 037203 (2005).