

RIXS for 5d oxides in “atomic limit” Mott insulators

From Atomic Lego Blocks to
Frustrated Magnets and Chern Insulators

Arun Paramakanti
(University of Toronto)

IXS 2019, Stonybrook, 24 June 2019



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO



NSERC
CRSNG

Collaborators

Toronto (Experiment)

Young-June Kim
Bo Yuan
Pat Clancy

Oakridge National Lab and Ohio State Univ

**Andy Christianson, J. Yan, A. Aczel, A. Taylor,
R. Fishman, P. Woodward, D. Morrow,
S. Calder, M. Lumsden, A. Kolesnikov, et al**

Missouri

David Singh (DFT)

India

**T. Saha-Dasgupta (DFT), A. Mukerjee,
S. Baidya, U. Waghmare, I. Dasgupta**

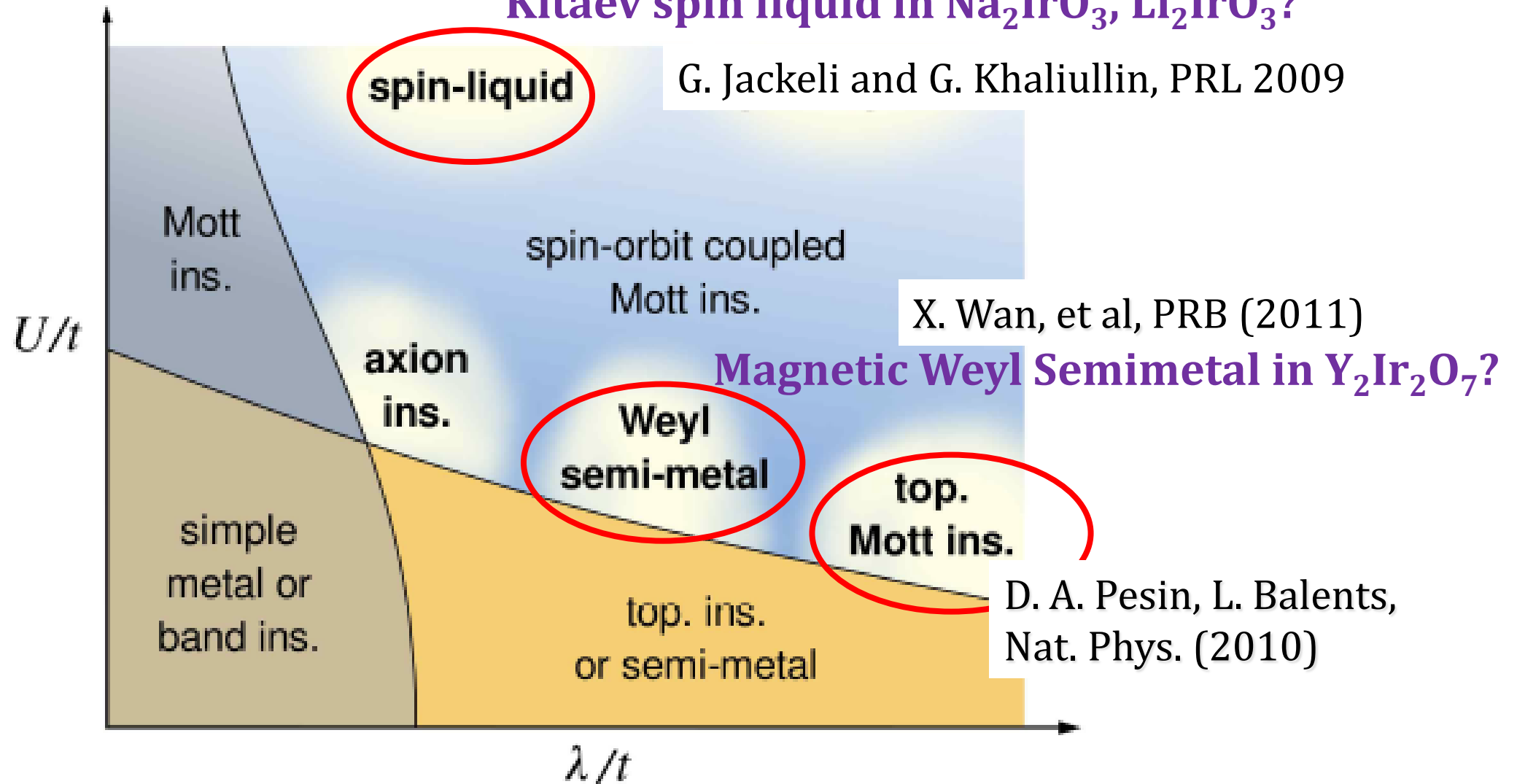
University of Cologne, IFW-Dresden, Stockholm

**M. Gruninger, S. Trebst, T. Lorenz, D. Kiese, F. Lasse-Buessen, S. Streltsov
J. Attig, D. Khomskii, M. Revelli, M. Hermanns, J. van den Brink, et al**

Interactions vs Spin-Orbit coupling

Kitaev spin liquid in Na_2IrO_3 , Li_2IrO_3 ?

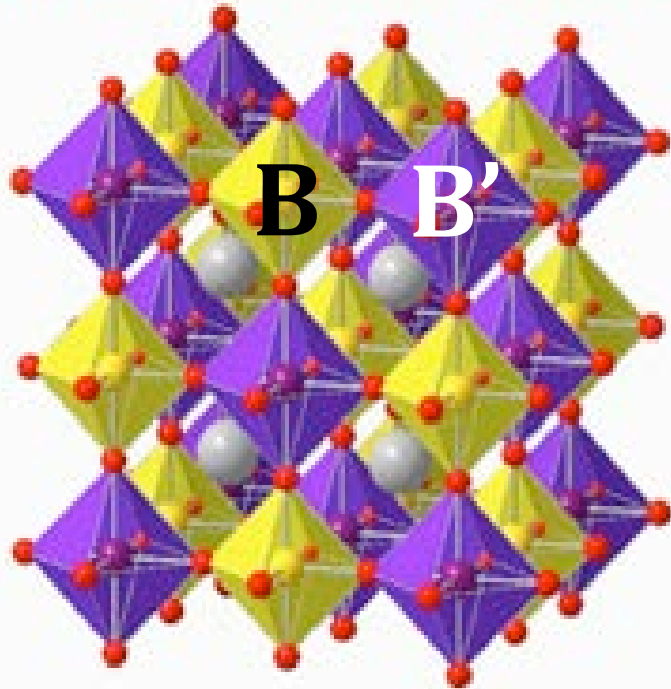
G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin, PRL 2009



W. Witczak-Krempa, G. Chen, Y.B. Kim, L. Balents, Ann. Rev. Cond. Mat. (2014)

Ordered Double Perovskites

Double perovskite lattice



Mott insulators: Frustrated FCC Magnets

$Ba_2Y\text{MoO}_6$, $Sr_2Y\text{ReO}_6$, $Ba_2Y\text{IrO}_6$, $Ba_2Y\text{RuO}_6$, ...

B sublattice: Inert closed shell atom

B' sublattice: Magnetic ion with SOC

T. Aharen et al, Phys. Rev. B 81, 224409 (2010)

J. P. Carlo, et al, Phys. Rev. B 88, 024418 (2013)

G. Cao, et al, Phys. Rev. B 87, 155136 (2013)

G. Cao, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 056402 (2014)

High Tc Ferromagnetic Metals

$Sr_2\text{FeMoO}_6$, $Ba_2\text{FeReO}_6$, $Pb_2\text{CrReO}_6$, ...

B sublattice: 3d ion with strong magnetism

B' sublattice: 4d/5d ion with strong SOC

K.-I. Kobayashi, et al, Nature (1998) – Tokura group

W. Prellier, et al, J. Phys. Cond Matter (2000) – R. Greene group

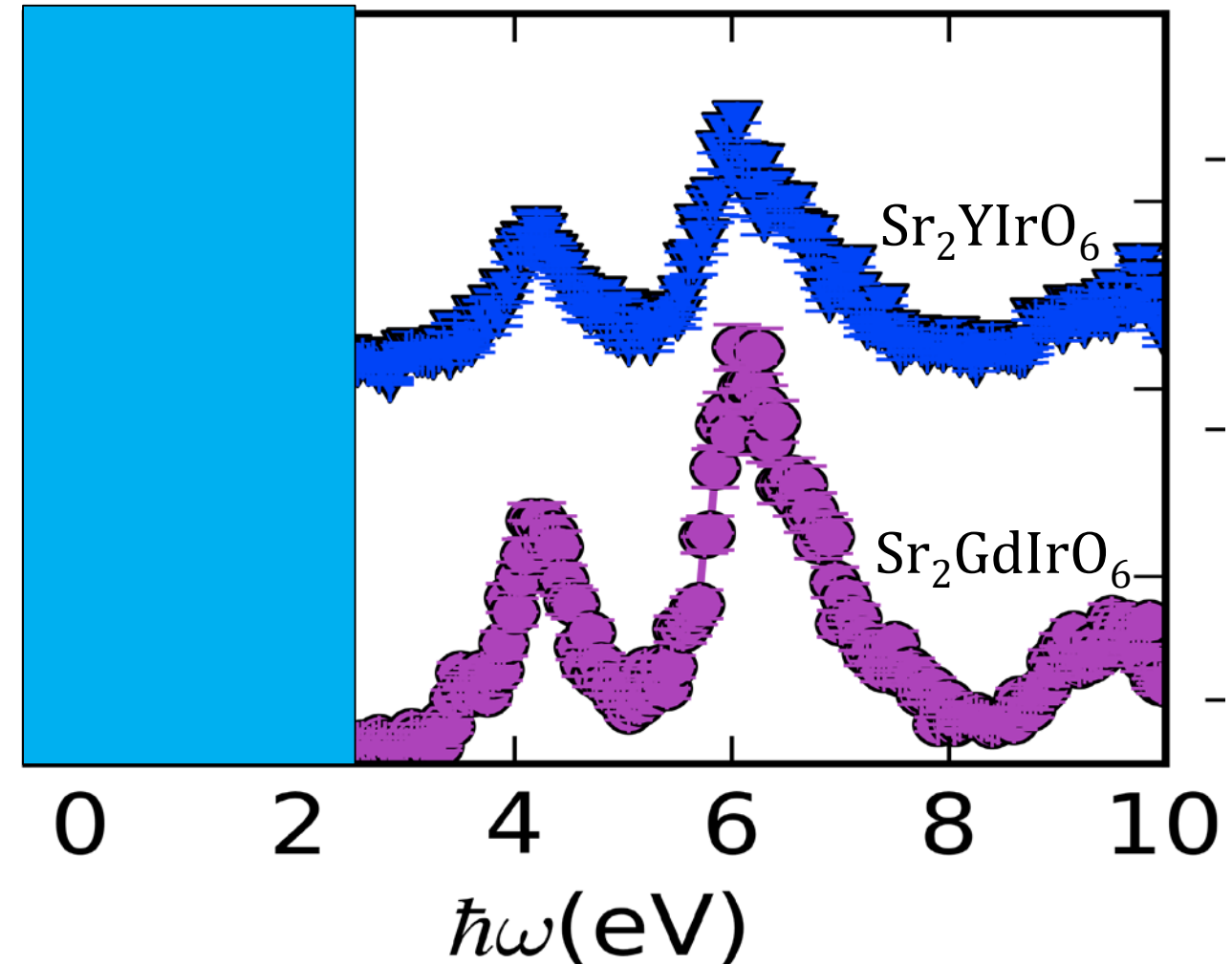
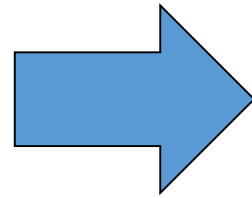
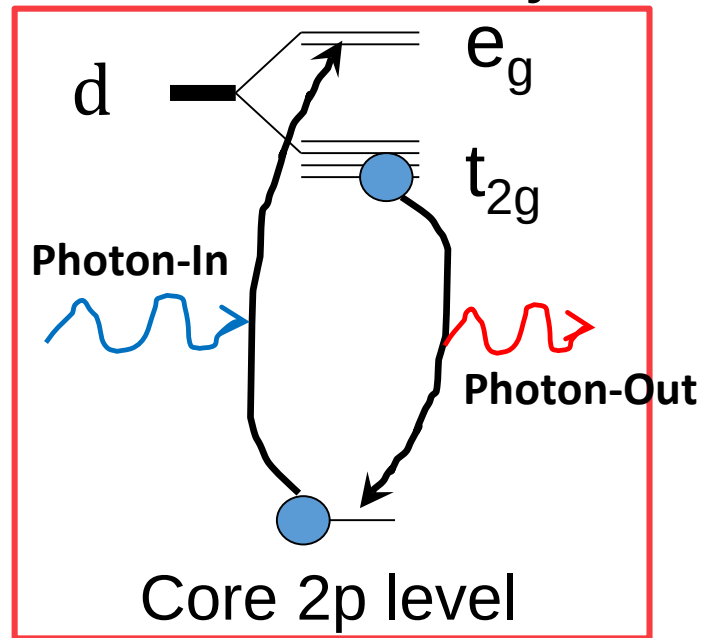
N. Trivedi, M. Randeria, P. Woodward groups - OSU

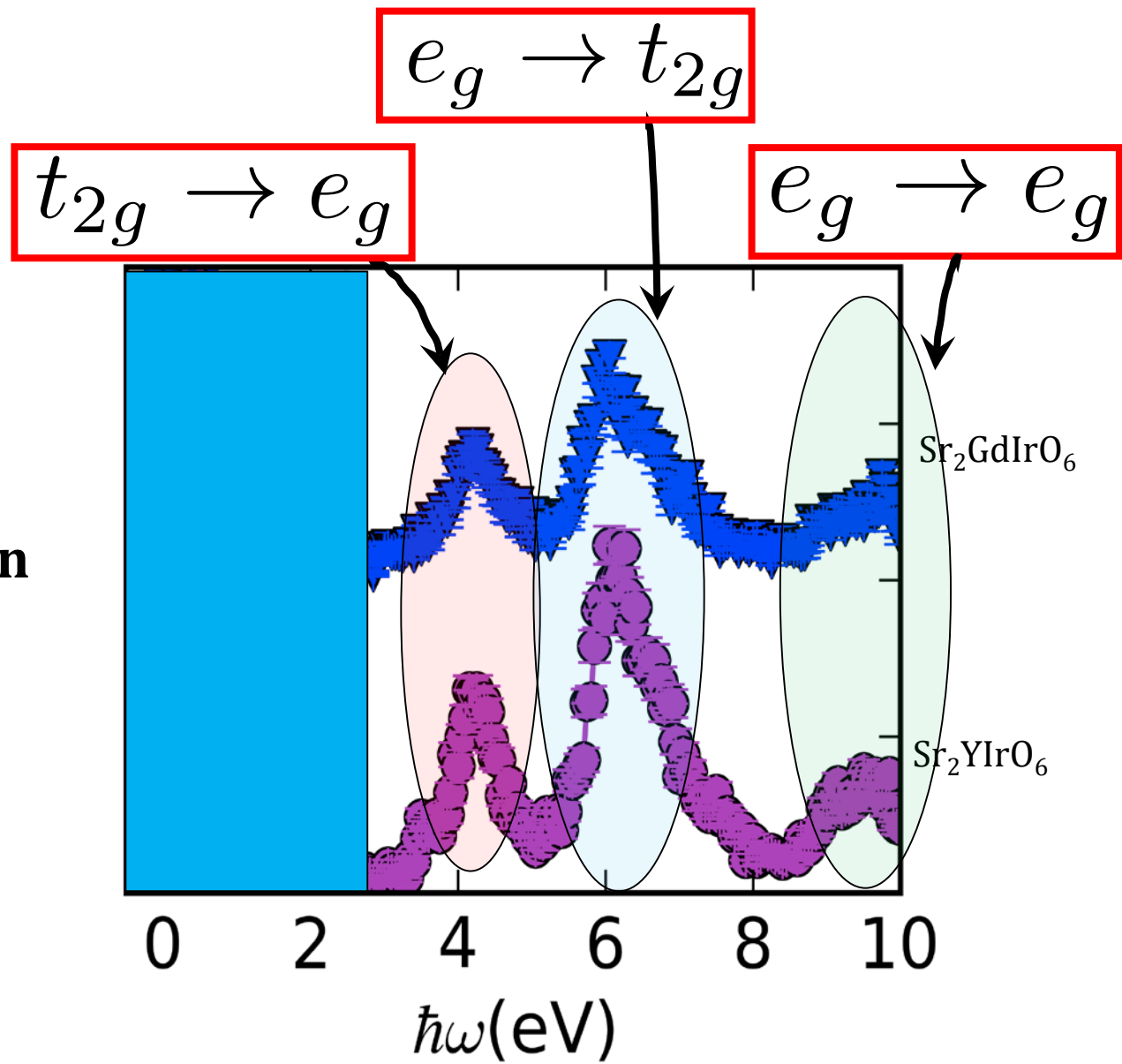
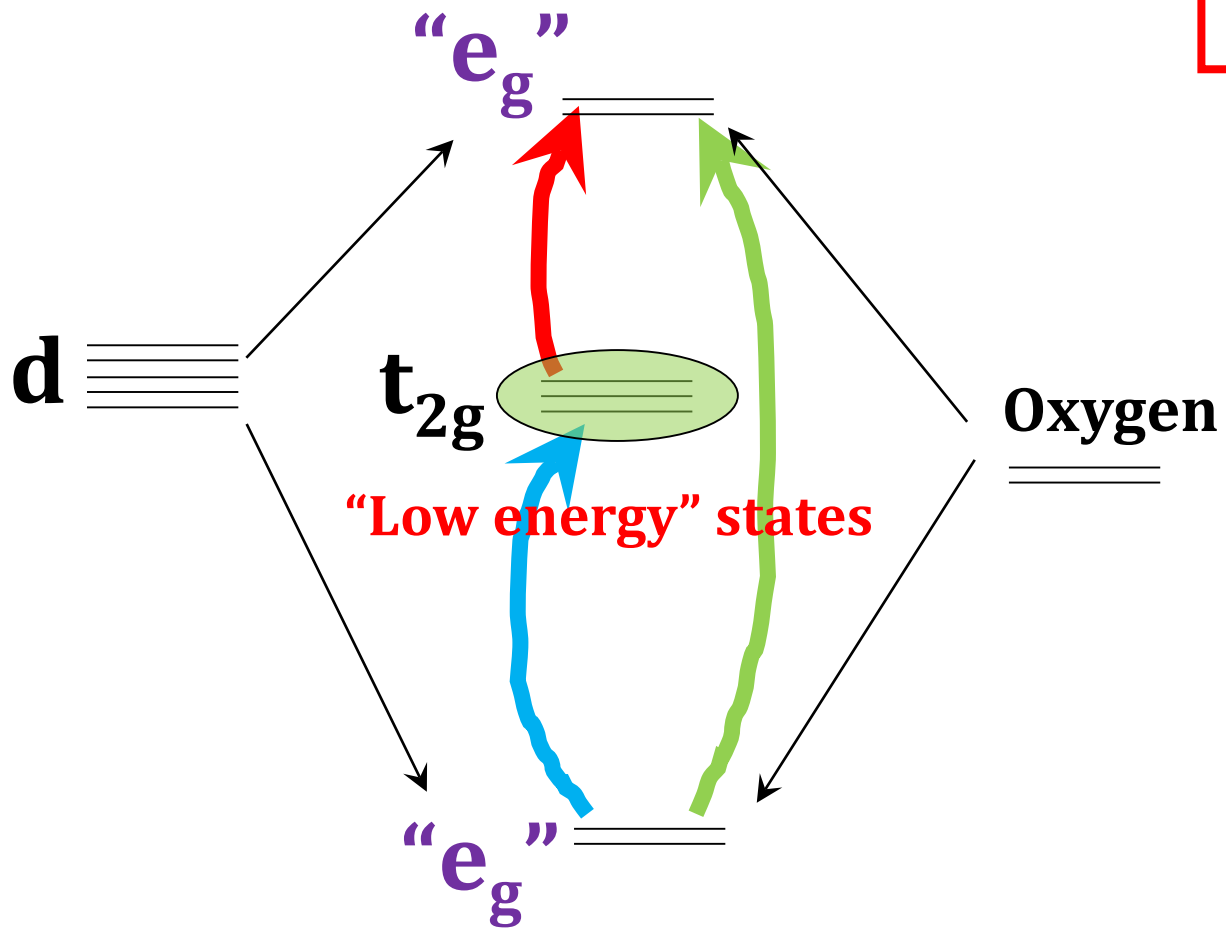
Outline

- **Lego Block: $B'O_6$ Octahedra**
- **Deconstructing the Lego Block: RIXS**
- **Lego Block Assembly I: Frustrated Mott Insulators**
- **Lego Block Assembly II: High Tc Chern Insulators**

“Lego Block”: Crystal Field Levels

Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering



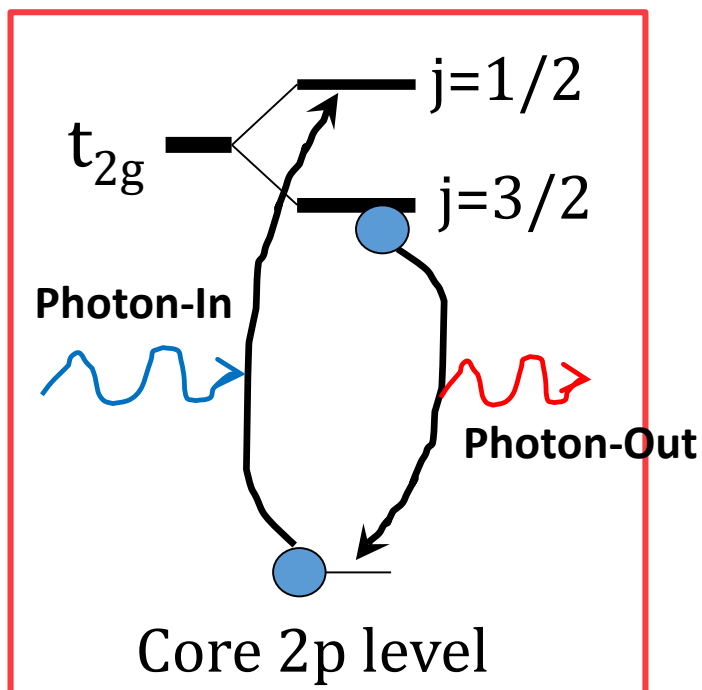


“Lego Block”: Spin-Orbit Coupling

Spin orbit coupling and interactions

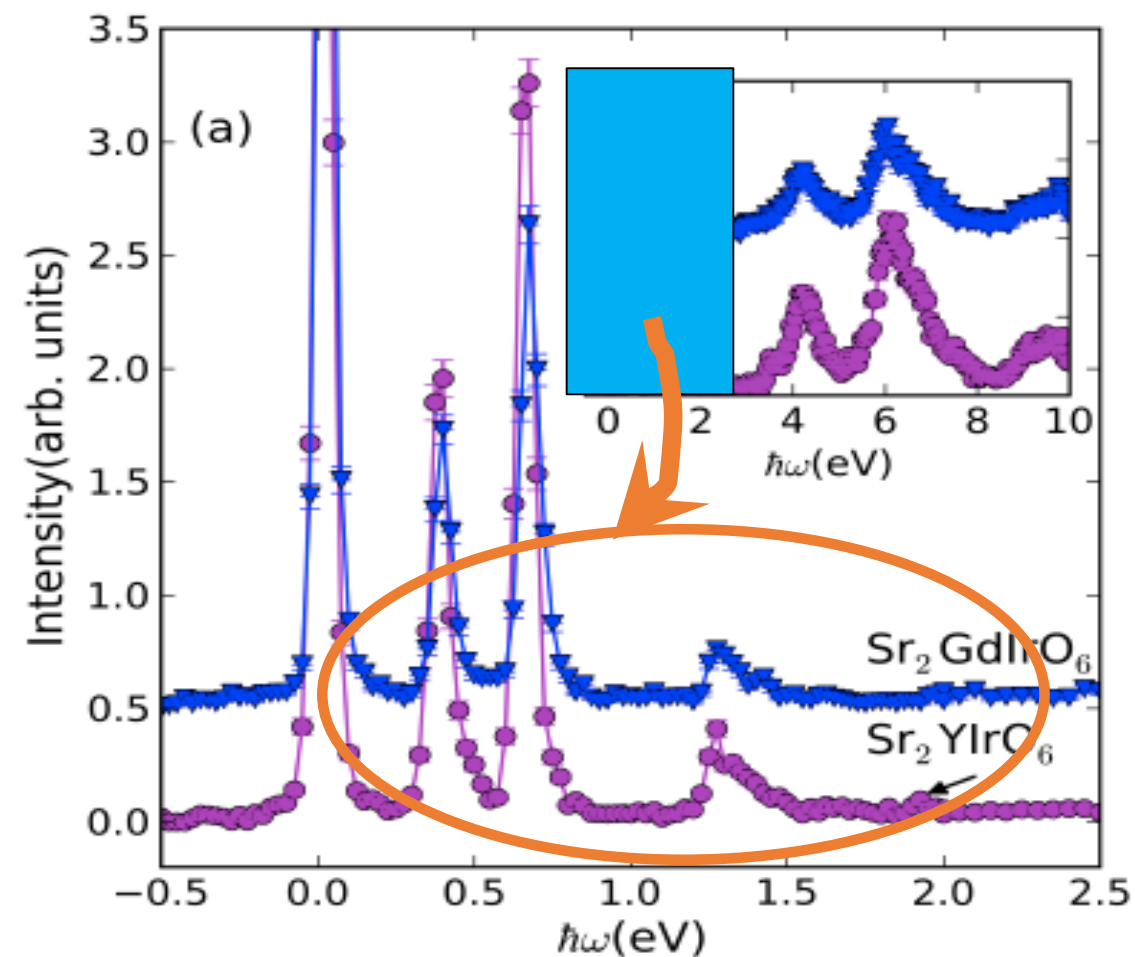
$$P_{t_{2g}} \vec{L} P_{t_{2g}} = -\vec{\ell} \quad (\ell = 1)$$

$$H_{\text{s.o.}} = -\lambda \vec{\ell} \cdot \vec{s}$$



Naive: Single peak at $E = 3\lambda/2$
Works perfectly for d⁵ iridates

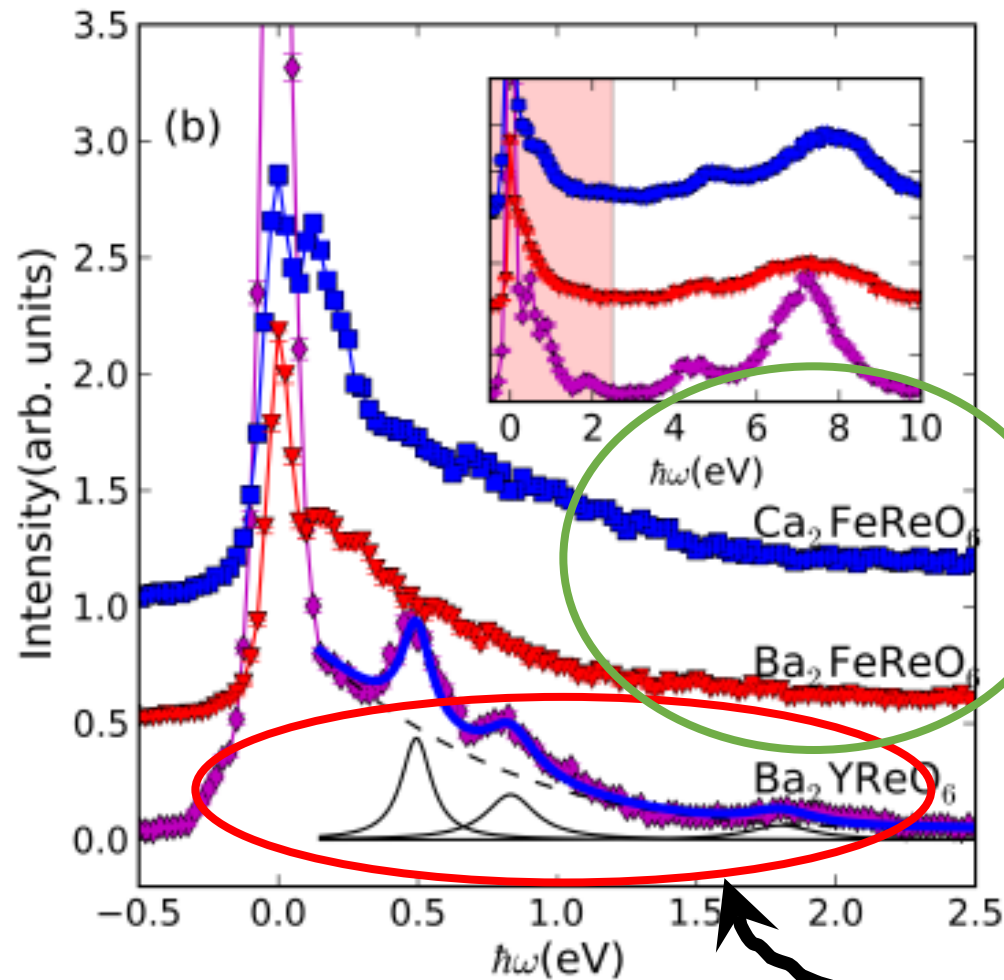
d⁴ Iridates: Much richer structure



B. Yuan, et al, **AP**, Y. J. Kim, PRB (2017)

d² Rhenates

Metal/Semimetal
Nothing much visible

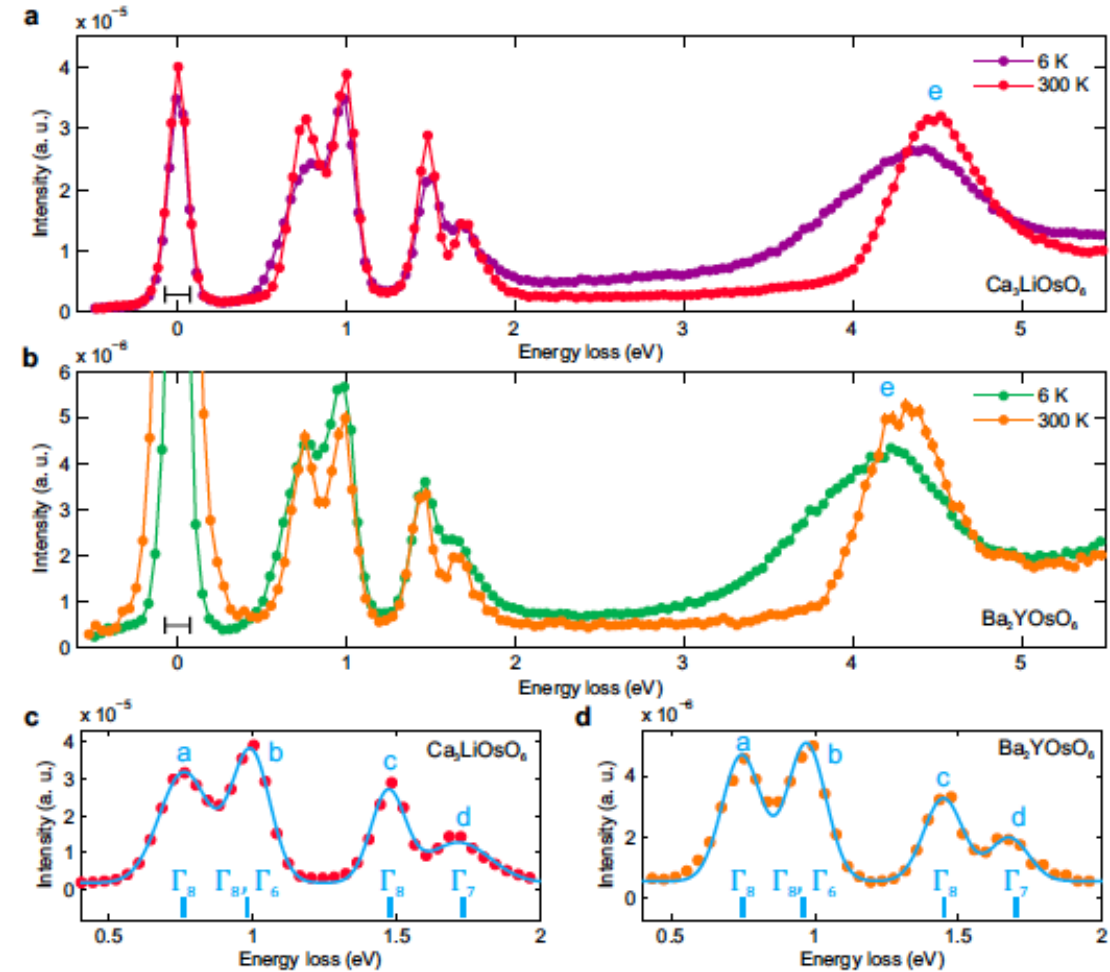


Bo Yuan, et al, PRB 2017

Insulators: Peaks

d³ Osmates

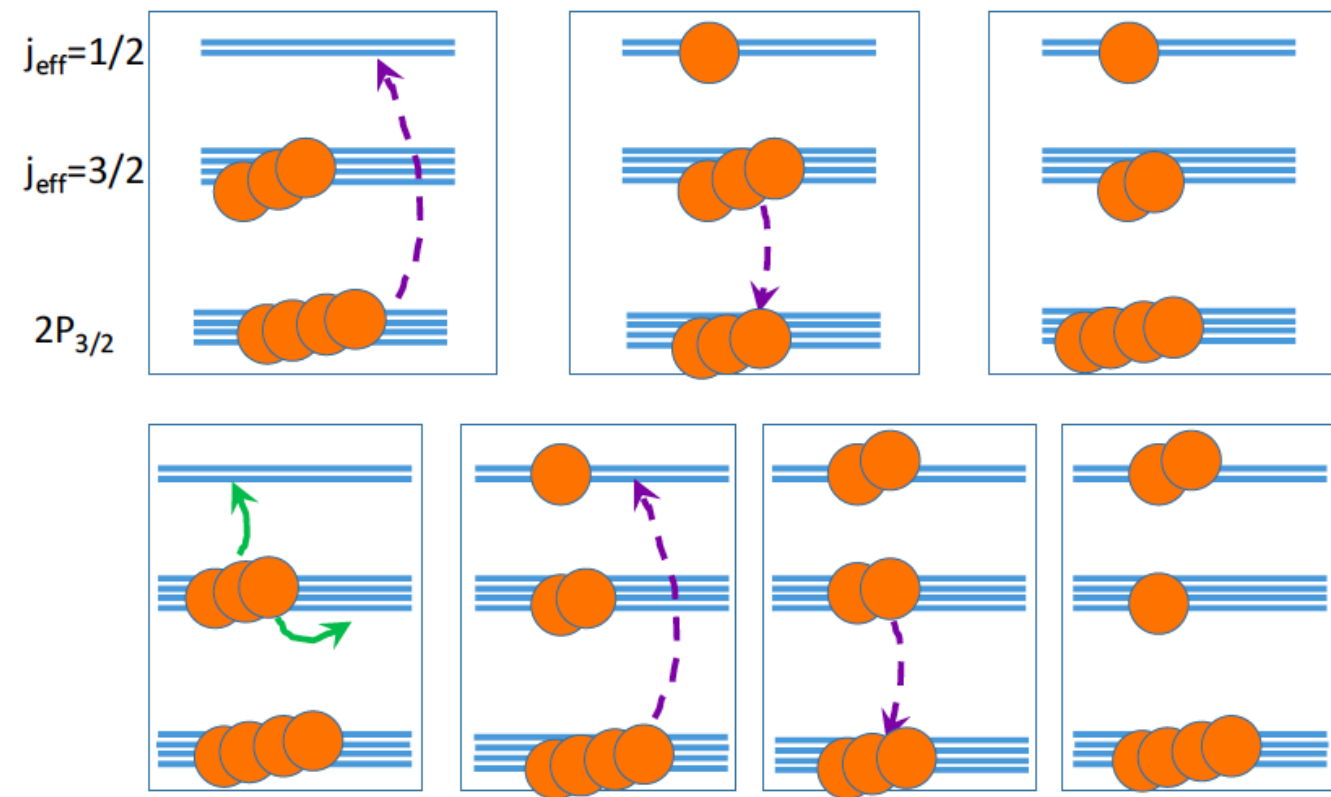
Poorer resolution: Peaks still visible



ORNL: A Taylor, et al, PRL 2017)

RIXS: Simple Picture

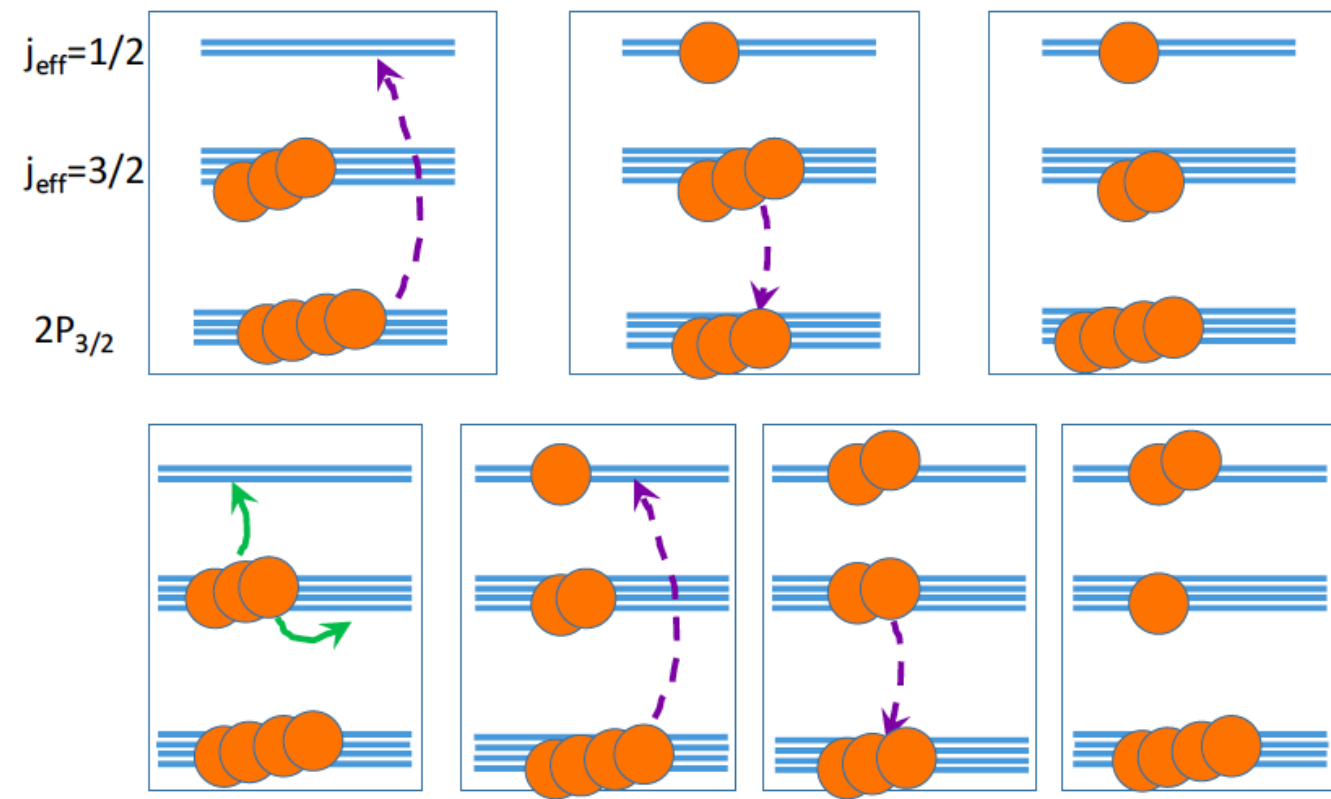
$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{U}{2} : \left(\sum_{\ell} n_{\ell} \right)^2 : - 5 \frac{J_H}{2} \sum_{\ell < \ell'} n_{\ell} n_{\ell'} \\ - 2J_H \sum_{\ell < \ell'} \vec{S}_{\ell} \cdot \vec{S}_{\ell'} + J_H \sum_{\ell \neq \ell'} d_{\ell\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell\downarrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell'\downarrow} d_{\ell'\uparrow}$$



RIXS: Simple Picture

$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{U}{2} : \left(\sum_{\ell} n_{\ell} \right)^2 : - 5 \frac{J_H}{2} \sum_{\ell < \ell'} n_{\ell} n_{\ell'}$$

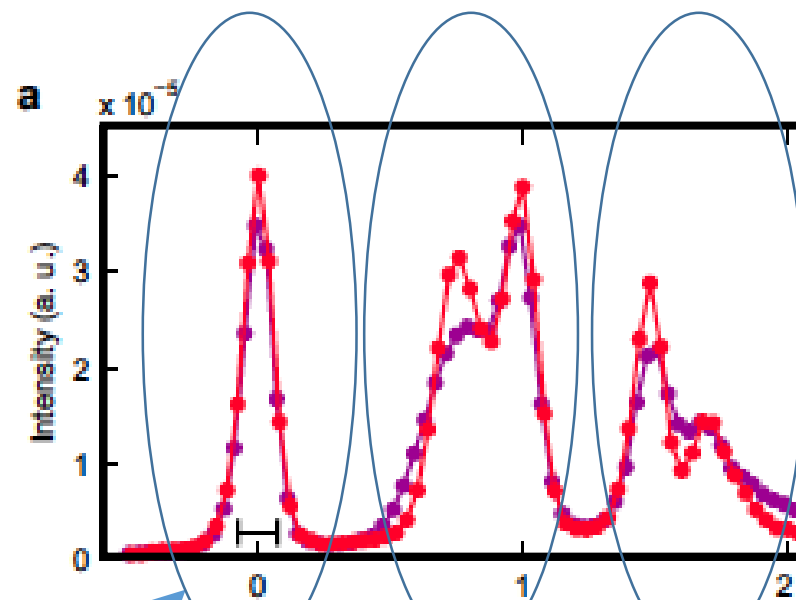
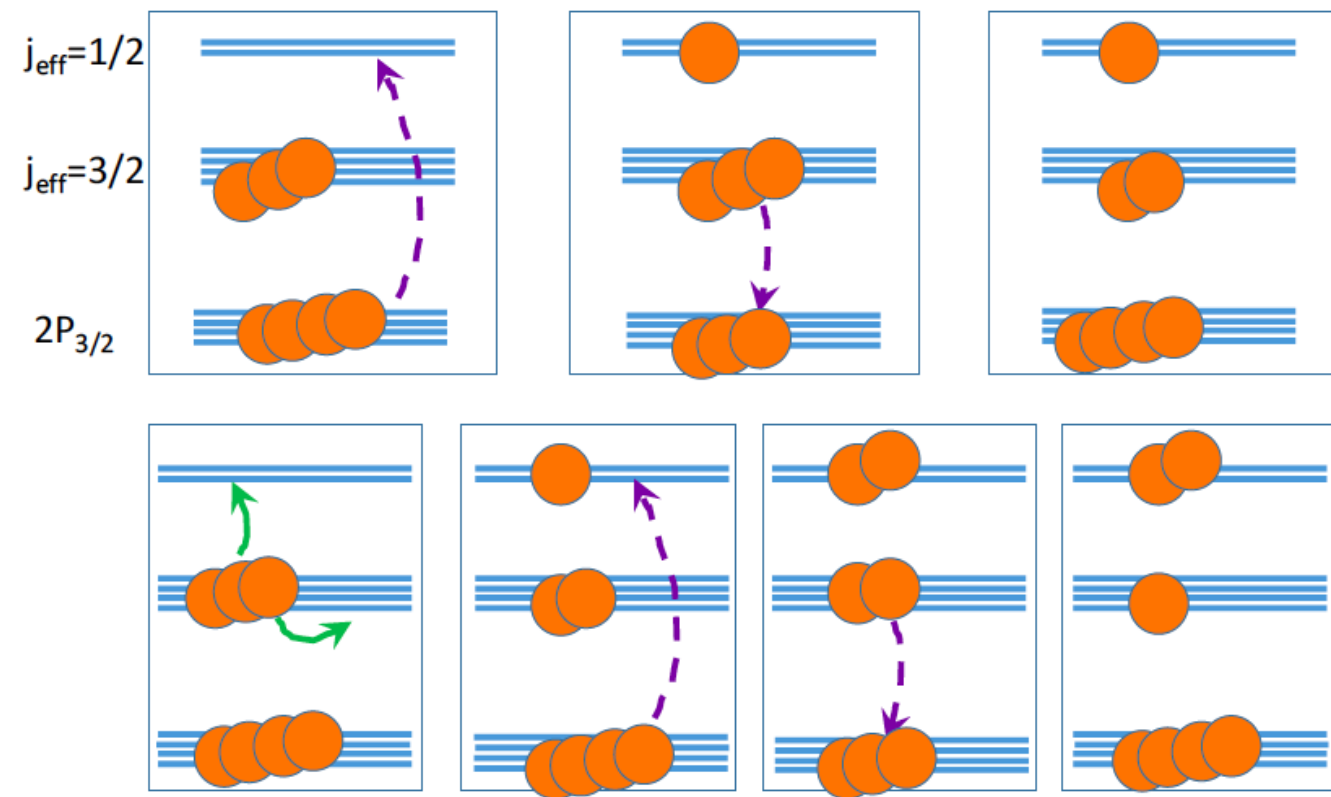
$$- 2J_H \sum_{\ell < \ell'} \vec{S}_{\ell} \cdot \vec{S}_{\ell'} + J_H \sum_{\ell \neq \ell'} d_{\ell\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell\downarrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell'\downarrow} d_{\ell'\uparrow}$$



RIXS: Simple Picture

$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{U}{2} : \left(\sum_{\ell} n_{\ell} \right)^2 : - 5 \frac{J_H}{2} \sum_{\ell < \ell'} n_{\ell} n_{\ell'}$$

$$- 2J_H \sum_{\ell < \ell'} \vec{S}_{\ell} \cdot \vec{S}_{\ell'} + J_H \sum_{\ell \neq \ell'} d_{\ell\uparrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell\downarrow}^{\dagger} d_{\ell'\downarrow} d_{\ell'\uparrow}$$



Elastic line

1-electron excitation

2-electron excitation

RIXS Theory: Simplifying Assumptions

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega dE_i} \approx \left| \frac{1}{E_g - \bar{E}_n + E_i + i\frac{\bar{\Gamma}_n}{2}} \right|^2 \sum_f \left| \sum_n \langle f|T^\dagger|n\rangle \langle n|T|g\rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_g - E_f + E_i - E_o)$$

Average out denominator;
short core-hole lifetime

Focus on matrix elements, energies
Ignore core hole interactions

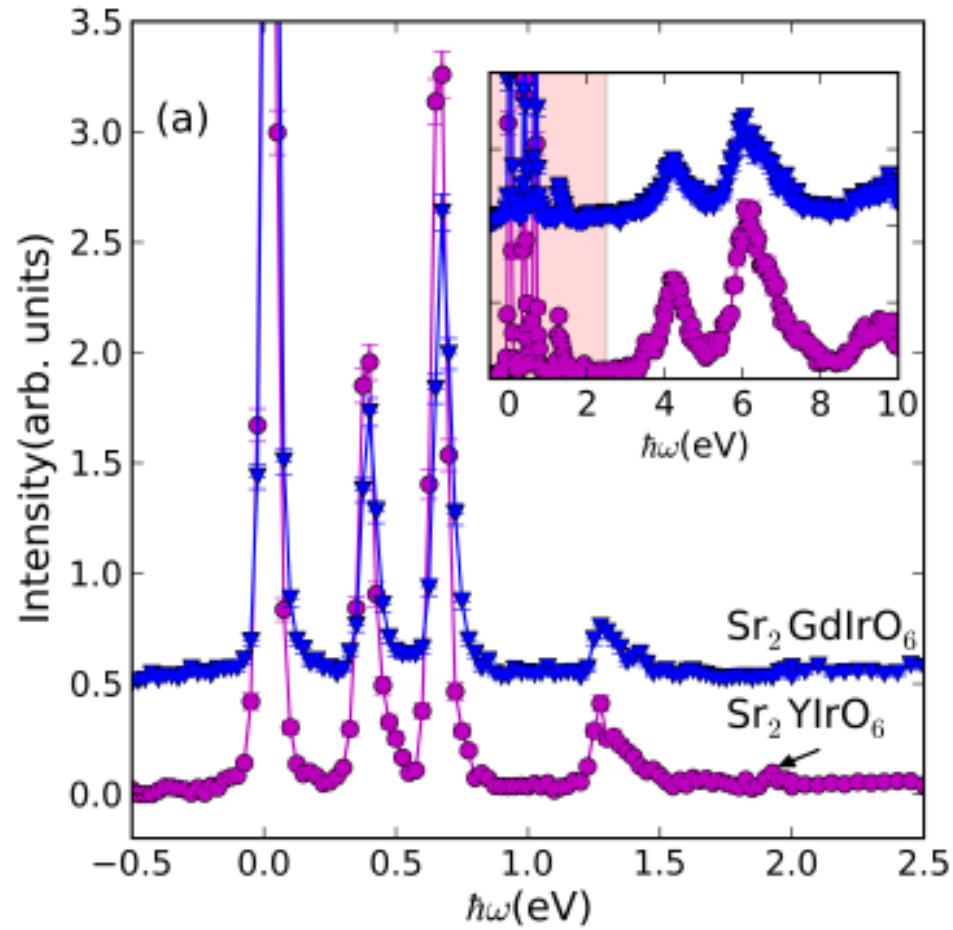
Dipole Approximation, Ignore Core-Hole interaction

$$\begin{aligned} \langle n|T|g\rangle &= \hat{\epsilon}_{\text{in}}^\alpha \langle n|p_{\beta\sigma}^\dagger d_{\alpha\beta\sigma}^\dagger|g\rangle \\ \langle f|T^\dagger|n\rangle &= \hat{\epsilon}_{\text{out}}^\mu \langle f|d_{\mu\nu\sigma'} p_{\nu\sigma'}|n\rangle \end{aligned}$$

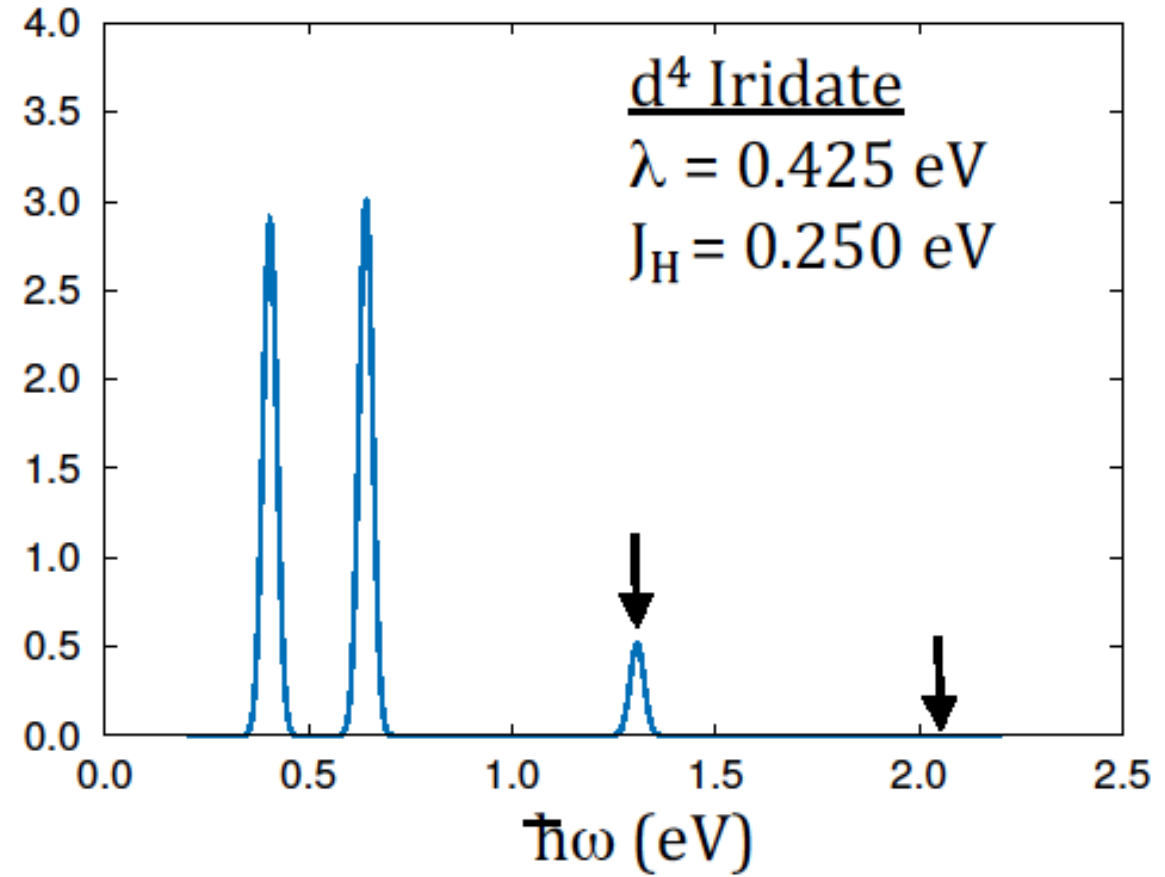
$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{int}} &= \frac{U}{2} : \left(\sum_{\ell} n_{\ell} \right)^2 : - 5 \frac{J_H}{2} \sum_{\ell < \ell'} n_{\ell} n_{\ell'} \\ &\quad - 2J_H \sum_{\ell < \ell'} \vec{S}_{\ell} \cdot \vec{S}_{\ell'} + J_H \sum_{\ell \neq \ell'} d_{\ell\uparrow}^\dagger d_{\ell\downarrow}^\dagger d_{\ell'\downarrow} d_{\ell'\uparrow} \end{aligned}$$

Exact diagonalization results

d^4 Iridates

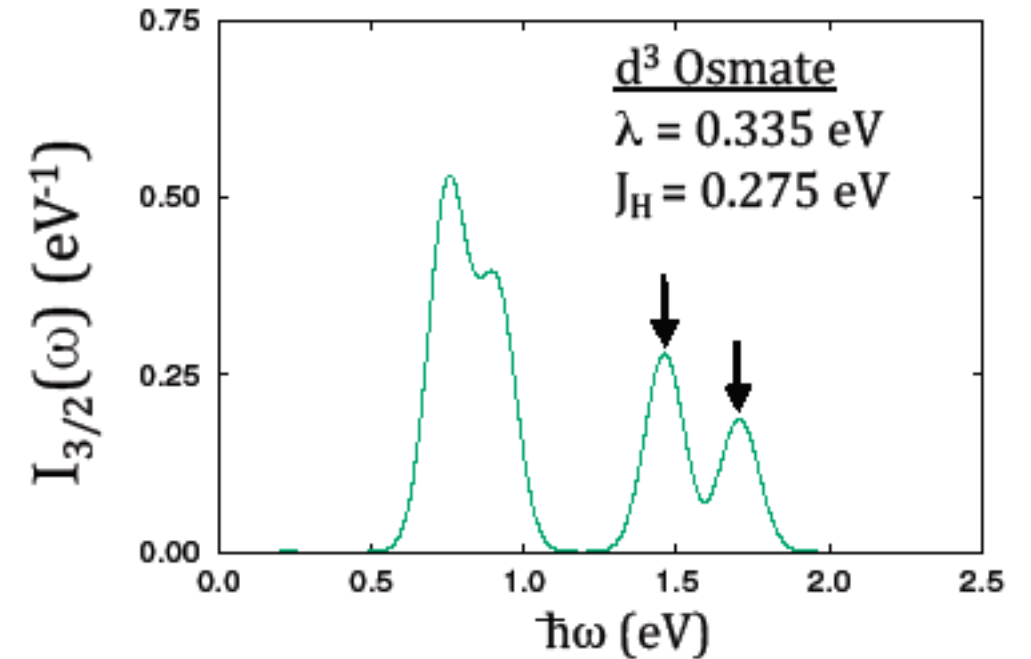
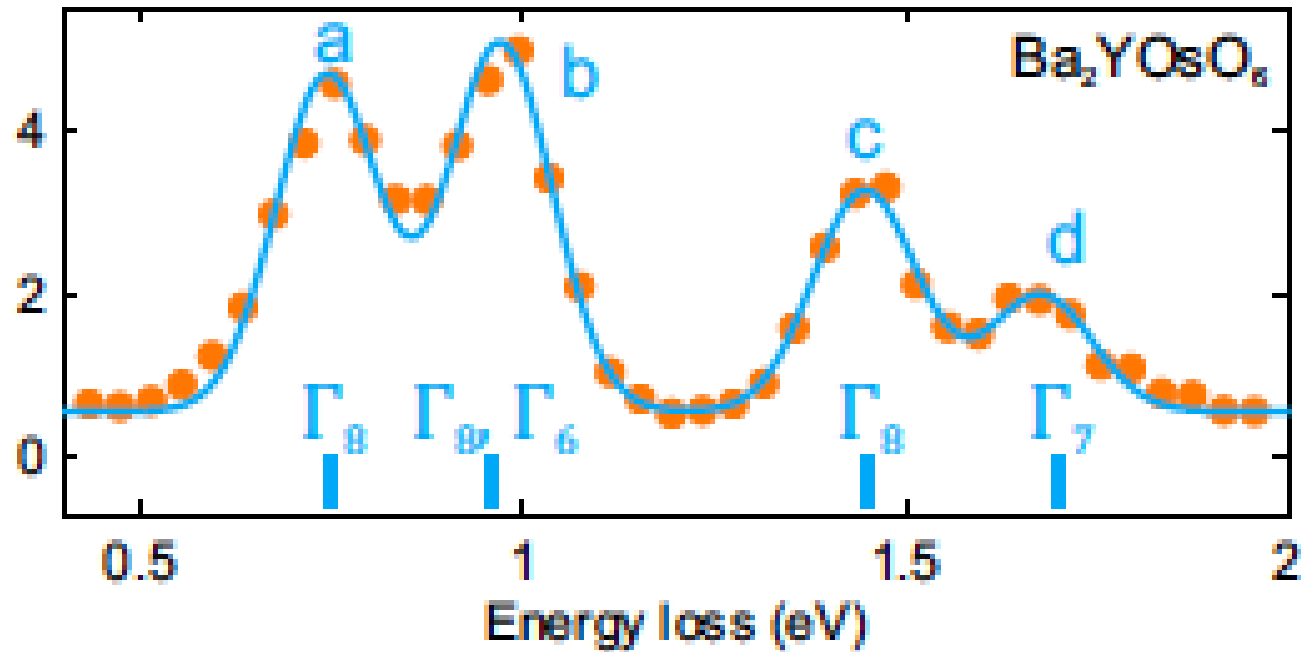


$I_{3/2}(\omega)$ (eV^{-1})



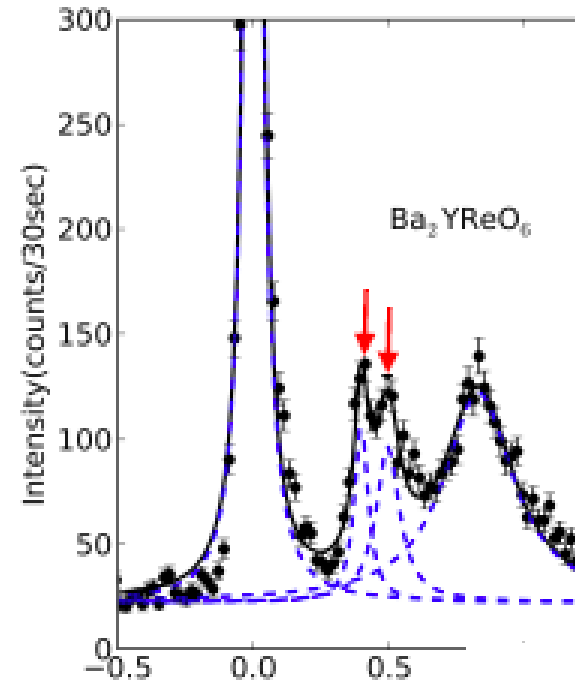
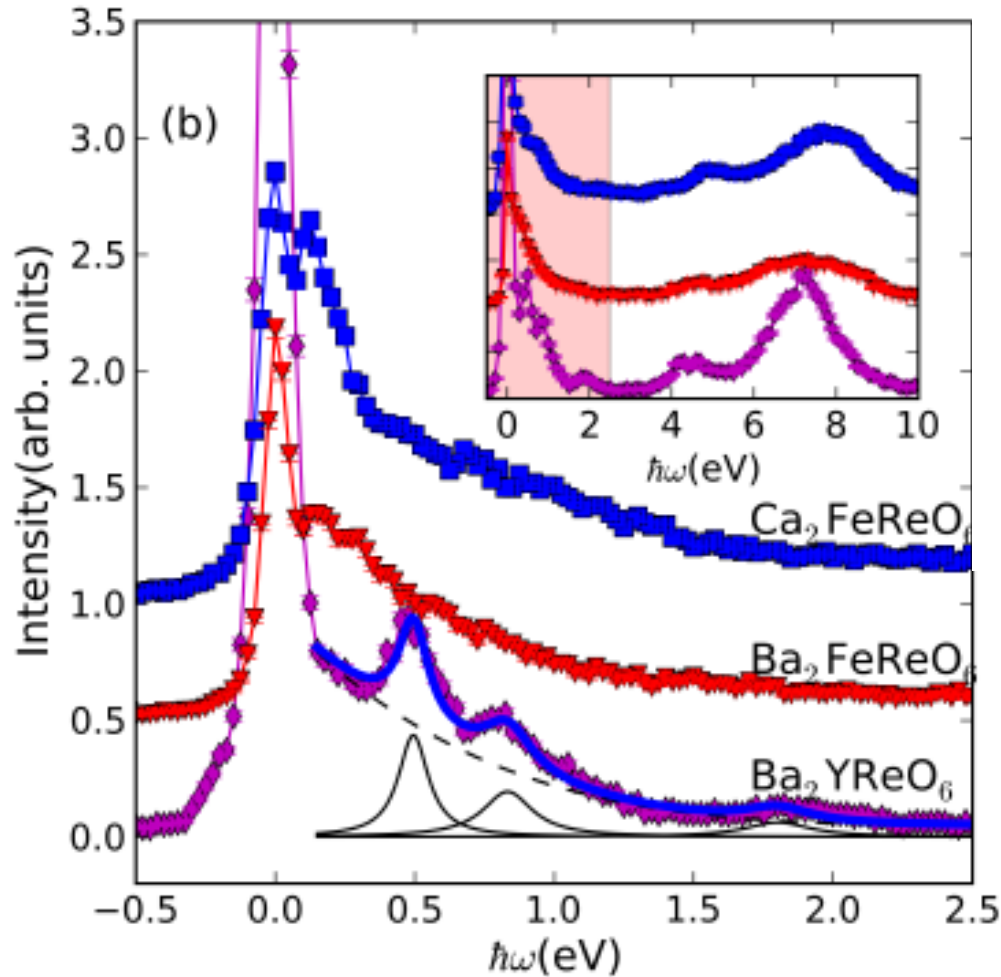
Exact diagonalization results

d^3 Osmates

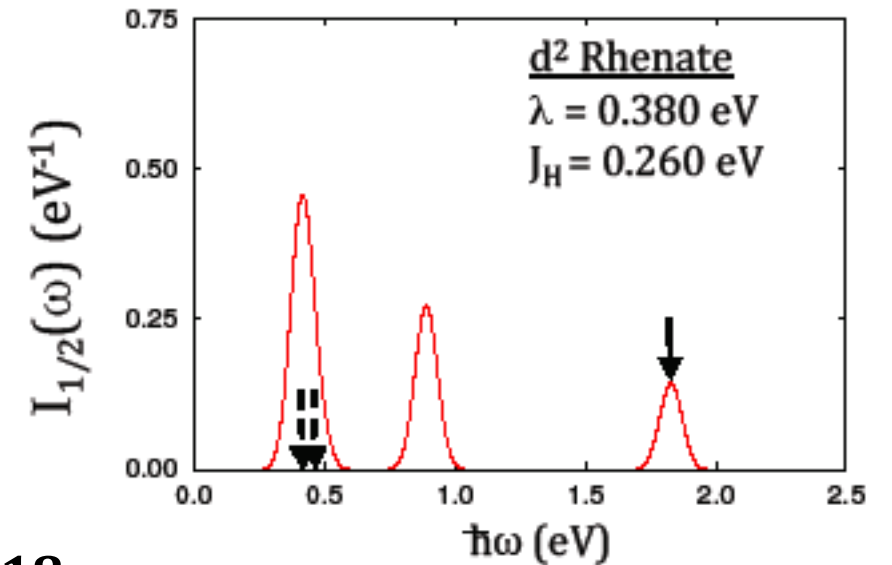


Exact diagonalization results

d^2 Rhenates

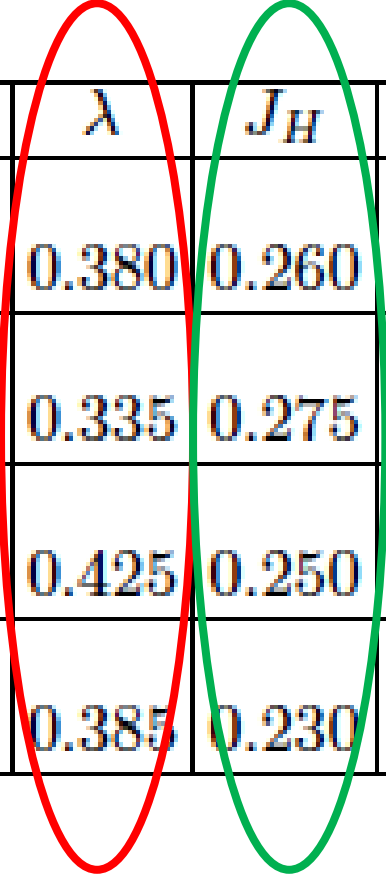


d^2 configuration has **only one** 2-electron excited state



“Lego Block” Hamiltonian

$$H = H_{\text{SOC}}[\lambda] + H_{\text{int}}$$



Material		λ	J_H	Peak 1	Peak 2	Peak 3	Peak 4
Ba ₂ YReO ₆ (ref.55,this)	Ex Th	0.380	0.260	[0.40] 0.41	[0.50] 0.47	0.83 0.89	1.85 1.83
Ba ₂ YOsO ₆ (ref.54)	Ex Th	0.335	0.275	0.745 0.75	0.971 0.91	1.447 1.46	1.68 1.71
Sr ₂ YIrO ₆ (ref.55)	Ex Th	0.425	0.250	0.39 0.41	0.66 0.64	1.30 1.31	~2 2.06
Ba ₂ YIrO ₆ (ref.56)	Ex Th	0.385	0.230	0.35 0.37	0.60 0.58	1.18 1.19	- 1.88

d³ (Osmates)

SOC still important!

d⁴ (Ba₂YIrO₆)

Magnetism?

Impurities?

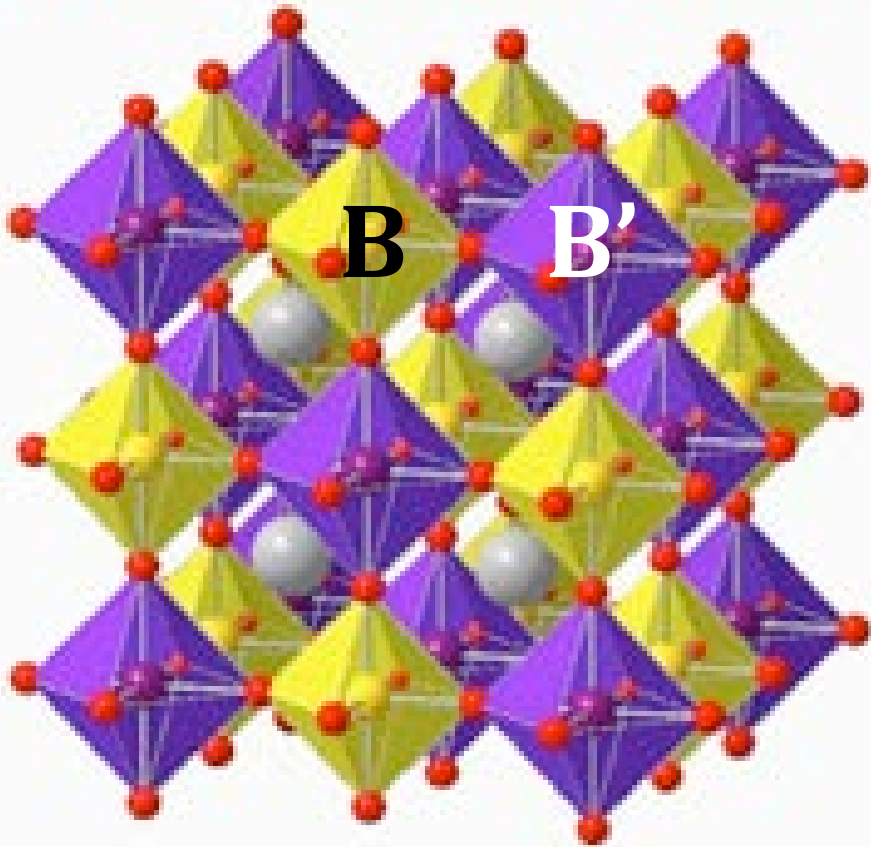
Cluster Excitons?

Material Variations

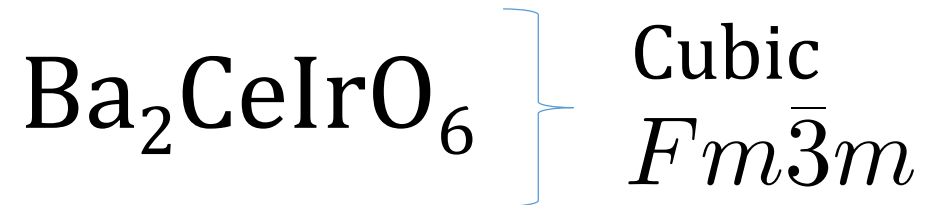
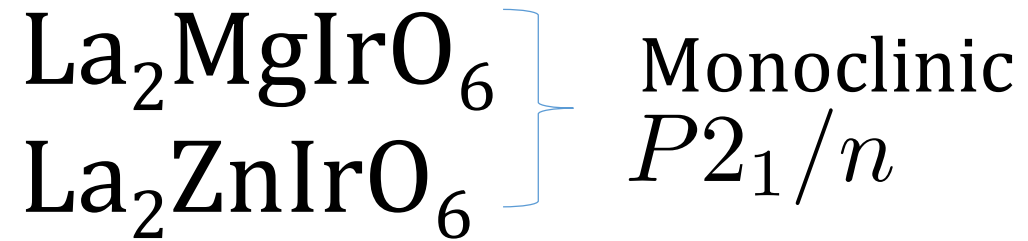
- Different Atomic Numbers
- Different Degrees of Oxygen Hybridization

Coupling the “Lego Blocks” Mott Insulators on the Frustrated FCC Lattice

Double perovskite lattice



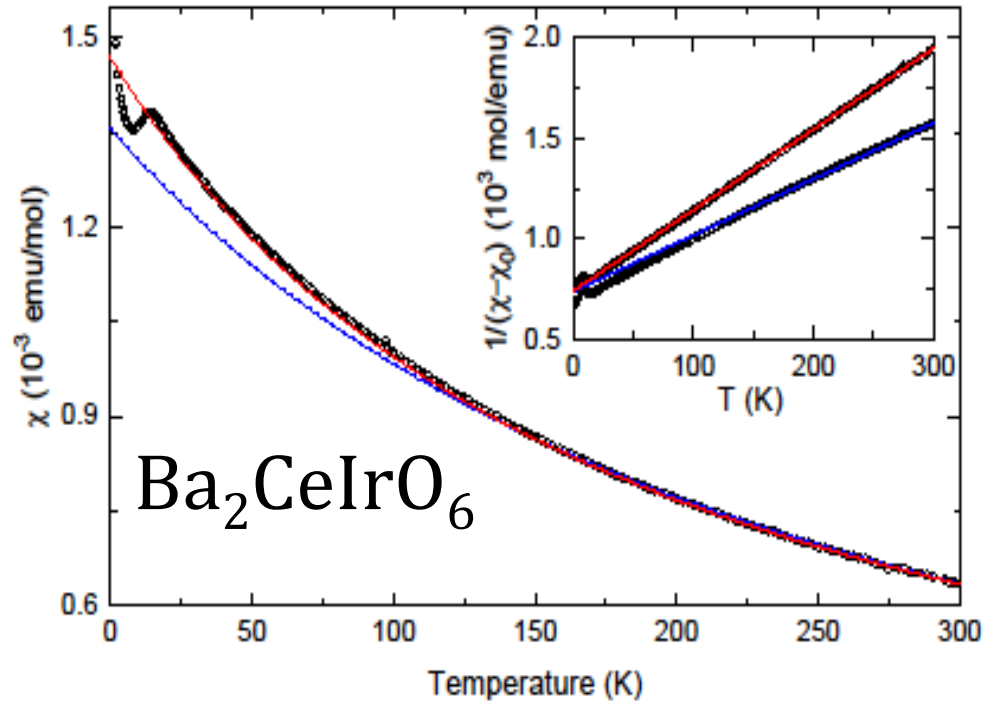
d^5 iridates



Other fillings:

Chen, Pereira, Balents (2010); Chen, Balents (2011);
Svoboda, Randeria, Trivedi (2017, 2018); AP et al (2018)

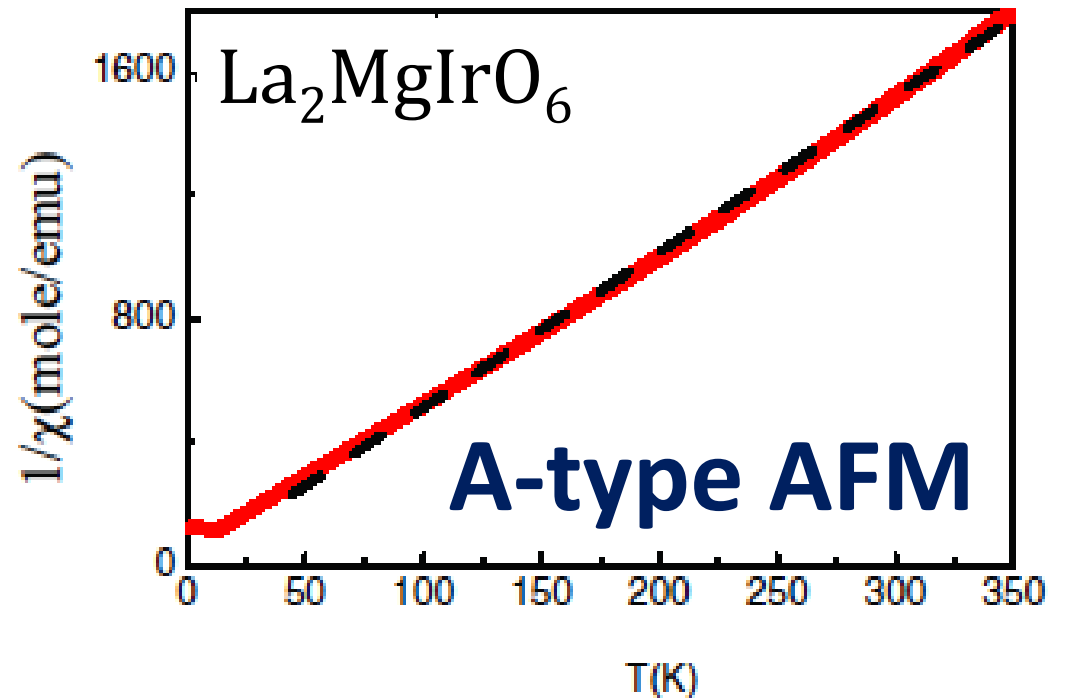
$j=1/2$ Mott Insulators on the FCC Lattice



$$\Theta_{\text{CW}} \approx -200\text{K} \quad T_N \approx 14\text{K}$$

A.Revelli, et al, [arXiv:1901.06215](#) (Cologne)

A.Aczel, et al, [arXiv:1901.08146](#) (ORNL/UTK); A-type AFM



$$\Theta_{\text{CW}} \approx -24\text{K} \quad T_N \approx 12\text{K}$$

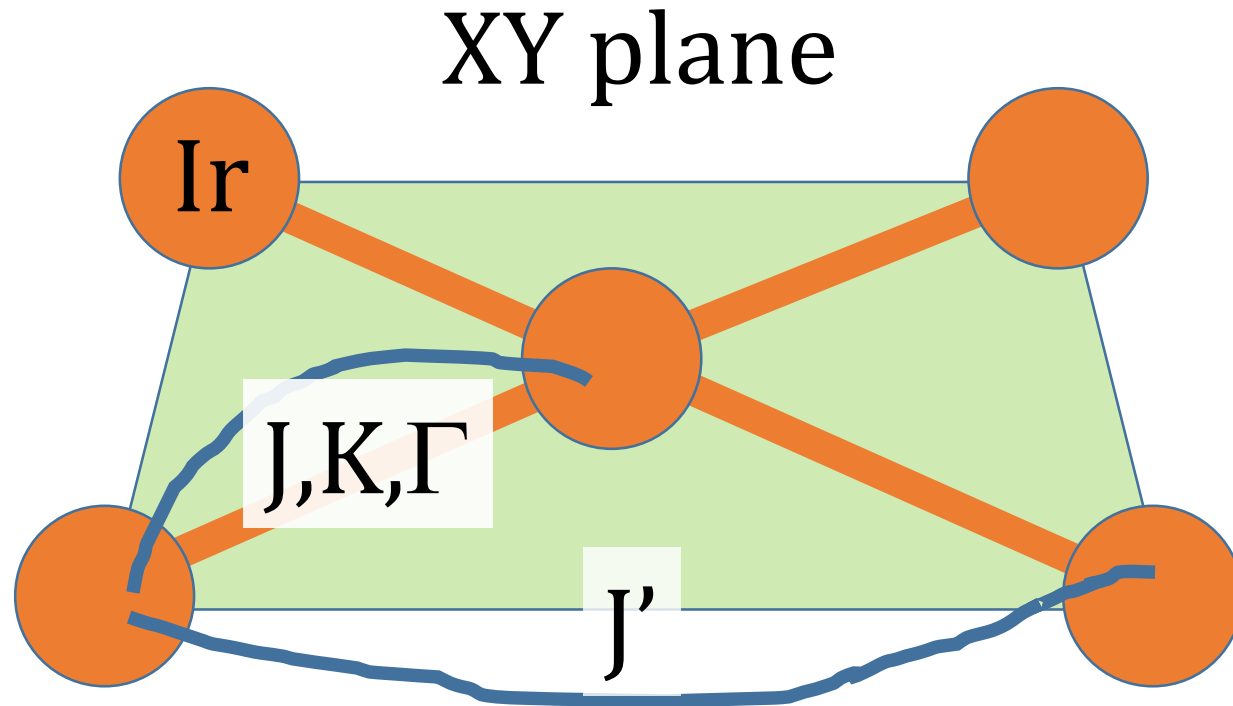
Guixin Cao, et al, PRB (2013) (ORNL/UTK)

A.Aczel, et al, PRB (2017); A.Cook, et al, PRB (2017)

- Strong Frustration for ideal FCC magnet
- Highly Tuned by Weak Distortion: Magnetoelastic

$j=1/2$ Mott Insulators on the Ideal FCC Lattice

Theory: Exchange Couplings



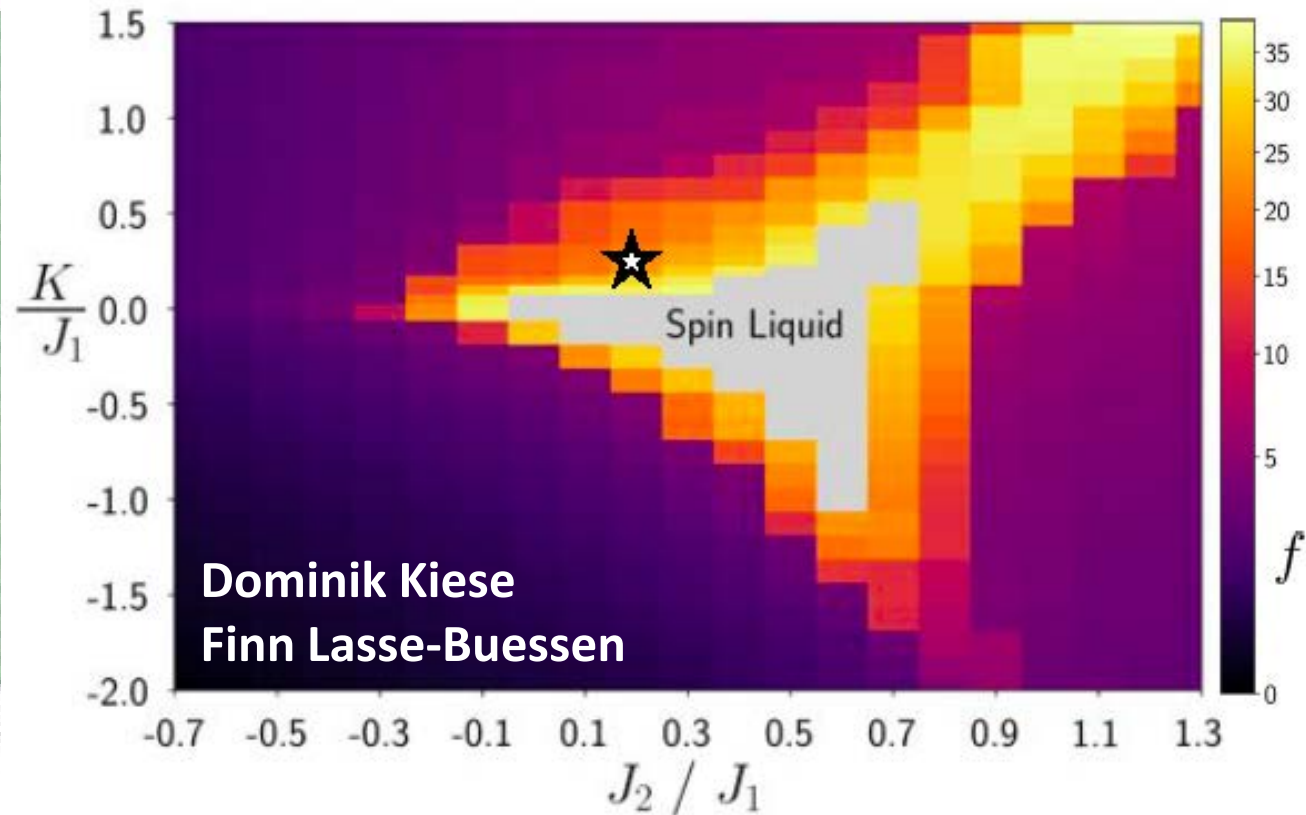
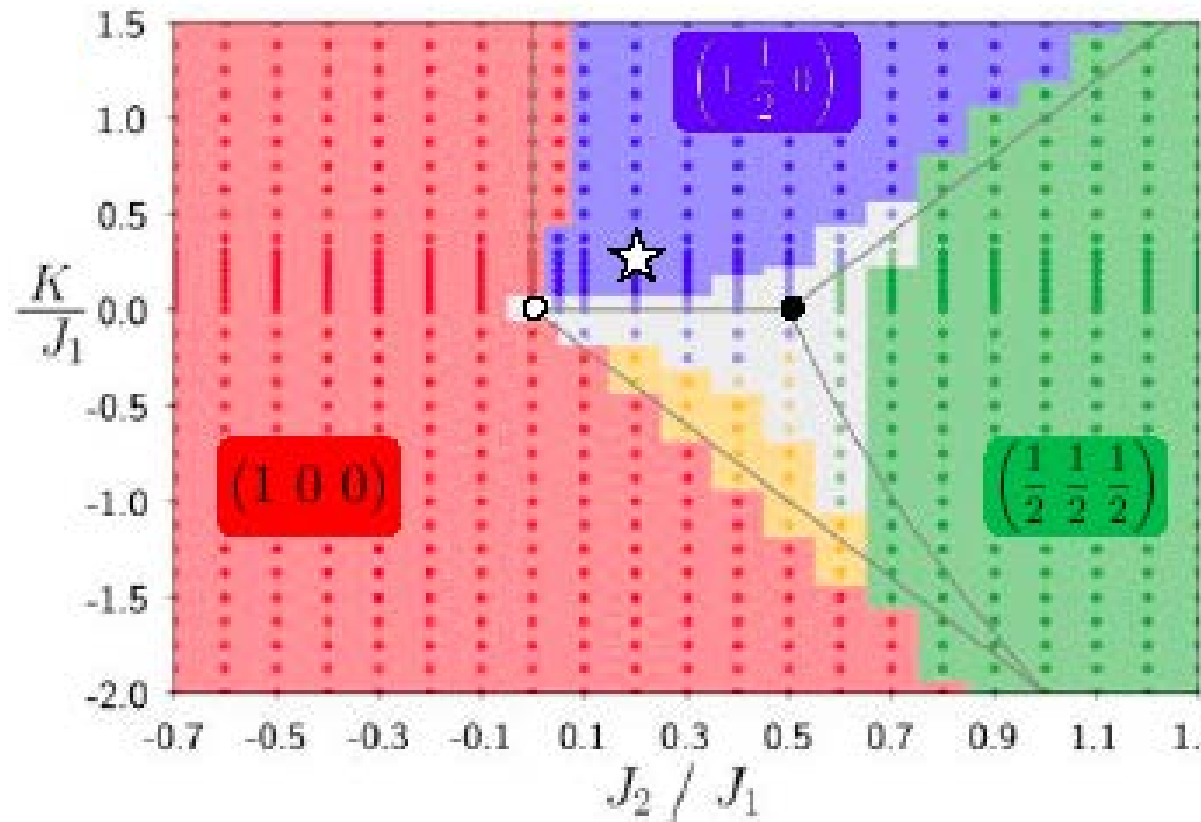
Perturbative + DFT

$$\begin{array}{ll} K/J \approx 0.2 & \text{AFM} \\ J'/J \approx 0.2 & \text{nnbr} \\ \Gamma/J \approx 0 \end{array}$$

$$H_{ij} = J \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + K S_i^z S_j^z + \Gamma (S_i^x S_j^y + S_i^y S_j^x)$$

$j=1/2$ Mott Insulators on the Ideal FCC Lattice

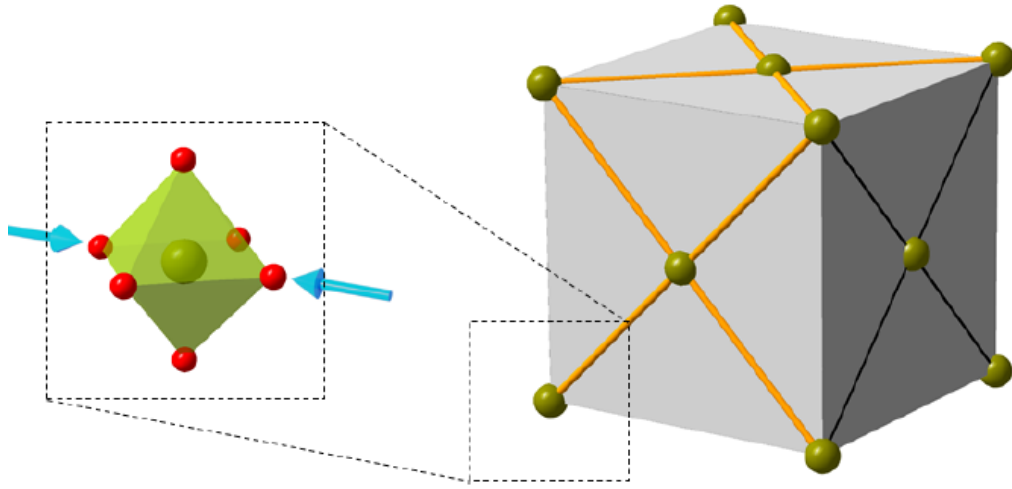
Theory: Spin Functional-RG



- Proximate to Quantum Spin Liquid (type of QSL unclear)
- Very large frustration parameter, $f \sim 30$ ($\gg$ **classical**)
- Kitaev interaction **suppresses** frustration

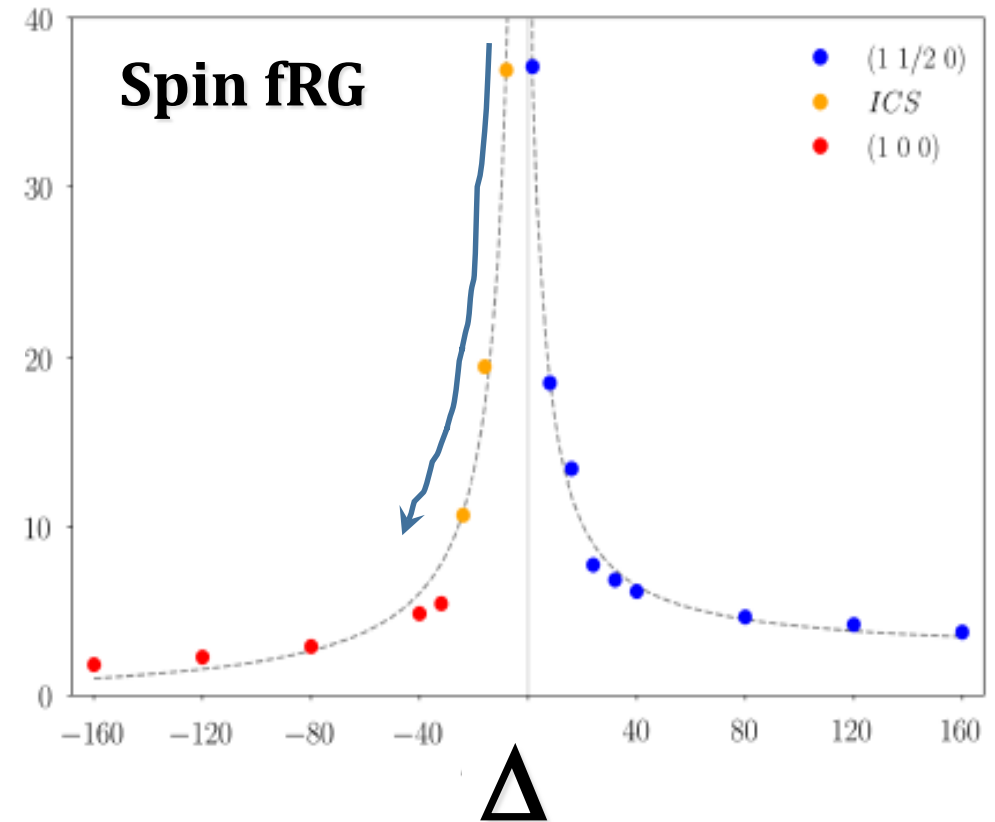
Mott Insulators on the FCC Lattice

Theory: Impact of Weak Distortion



- Z-compression ($\Delta > 0$) strongly enhances XY-plane Heisenberg exchange
- Z-stretch ($\Delta < 0$) strongly suppresses XY-plane Heisenberg exchange

f



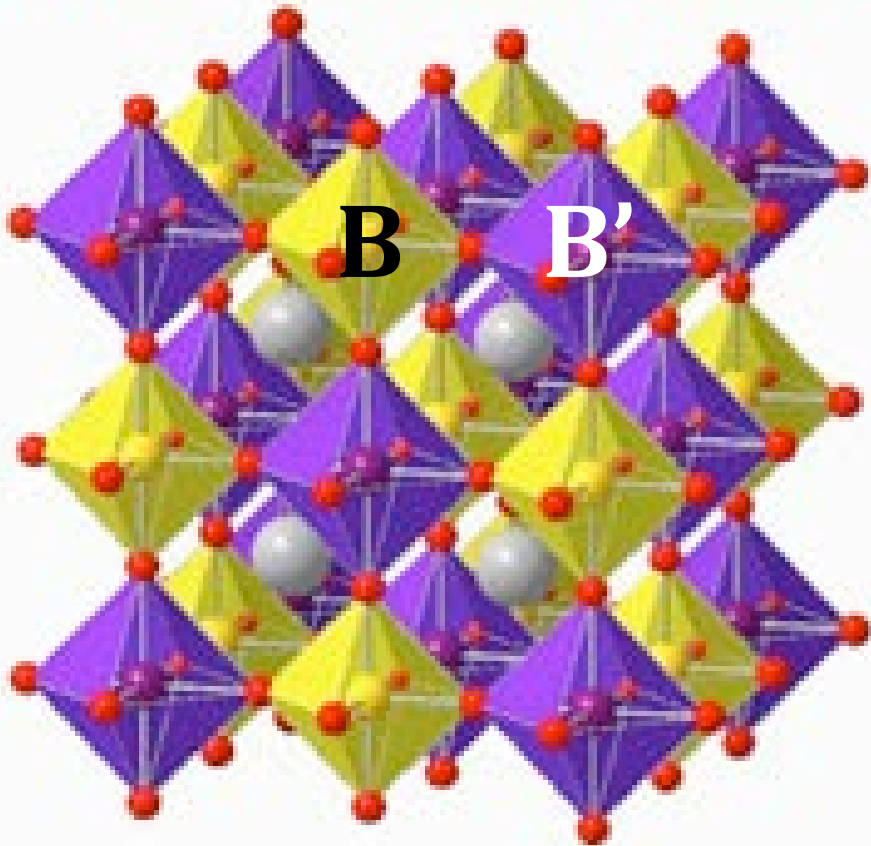
$\text{La}_2\text{MgIrO}_6$: **Global** distortion, $f \sim 2$
 $\text{Ba}_2\text{CeIrO}_6$: **Local** distortions, $f \sim 14$

Strong magneto-elastic effect

Coupling the “Lego Blocks”

High Tc Chern Insulators in Ultrathin Films

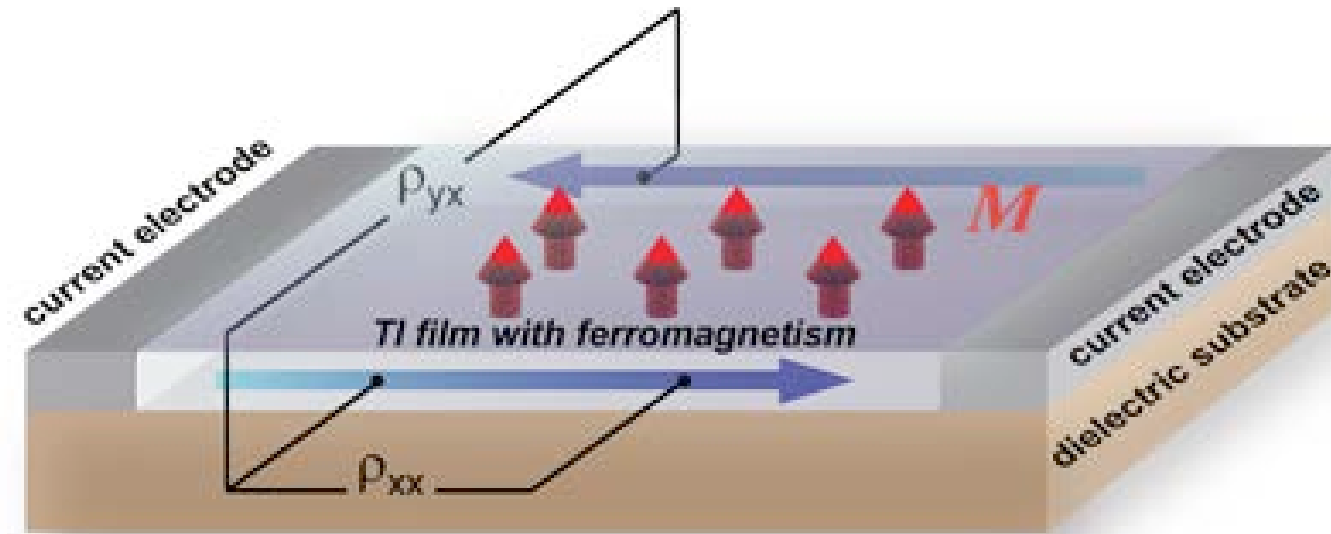
Double perovskite lattice



- Half-Metallic FMs
- Spin-Polarized
- High Bulk FM Tc

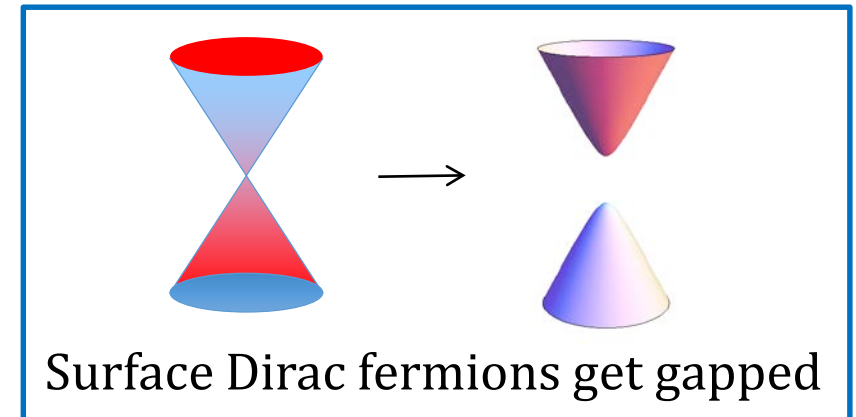
Quantum Anomalous Hall Effect

- Topological insulators: Surface Dirac Fermions
- Breaking time-reversal with dopant magnetization, no B-field!
- Spin orbit coupling is crucial: Gives a “**Lorentz force**”



R. Yu, et al (Science 2010)

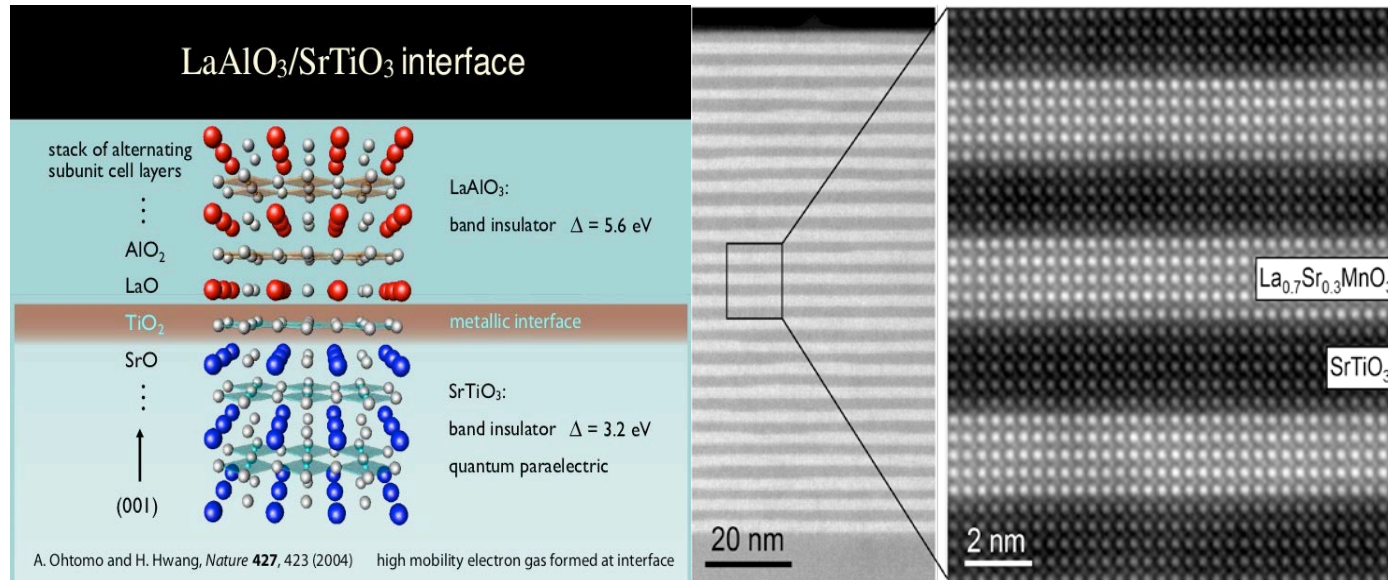
$(\text{Bi,Sb})_2\text{Te}_3$ film doped with Cr or V



Ferromagnetic $T_c \sim 10\text{K}$
Hall quantization: $T \sim 25\text{ mK}$

C.Z. Chang et al, Science 2013 (Xue group, Tsinghua)
C.Z. Chang et al, arXiv (M. Chan + J. Moodera groups)
A. J. Bestwick et al, arXiv (Goldhaber-Gordon group)
A. Kandala, et al, arXiv (N. Samarth group)

Oxide heterostructures



Boost temperature scale for Quantum Anomalous Hall effect?

A. Ohmoto, H. Hwang, *Nature* (2004)

Multicomponent Superlattices

nature
materials

LETTERS

PUBLISHED ONLINE 22 JANUARY 2012 | DOI: 10.1038/NMAT3224

Exchange bias in LaNiO₃-LaMnO₃ superlattices

Marta Gibert^{1*}, Pavlo Zubko¹, Raoul Scherwitzl¹, Jorge Íñiguez² and Jean-Marc Triscone¹

Triscone Group (Geneva)
M. Gibert (Zurich)



Local electronic and magnetic studies of an artificial La₂FeCrO₆ double perovskite

Benjamin Gray, Ho Nyung Lee, Jian Liu, J. Chakhalian, and J. W. Freeland

Citation: *Applied Physics Letters* **97**, 013105 (2010); doi: 10.1063/1.3455323

Jak Chakhalian group (Rutgers)

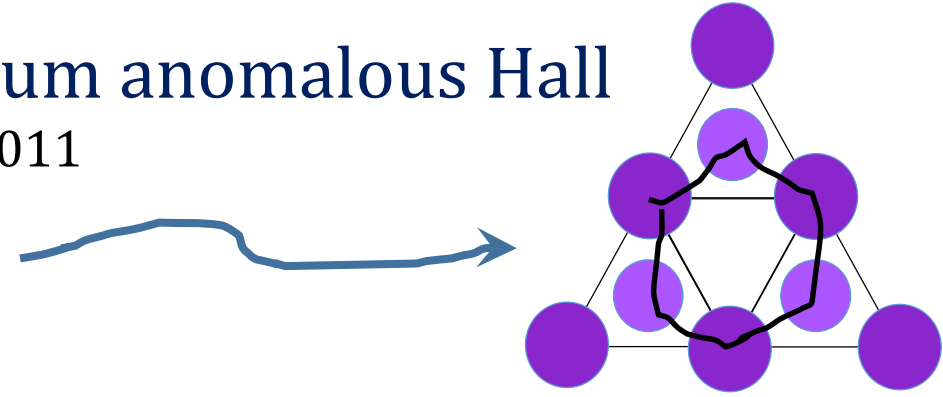
H. Takagi group (APL 2015)
SrIrO₃/SrTiO₃

ORNL/UTK/ANL (H.N. Lee)
SrIrO₃/SrMnO₃ – large AHE
Nat Comm. 2016

Topological Bands in (111) Heterostructures

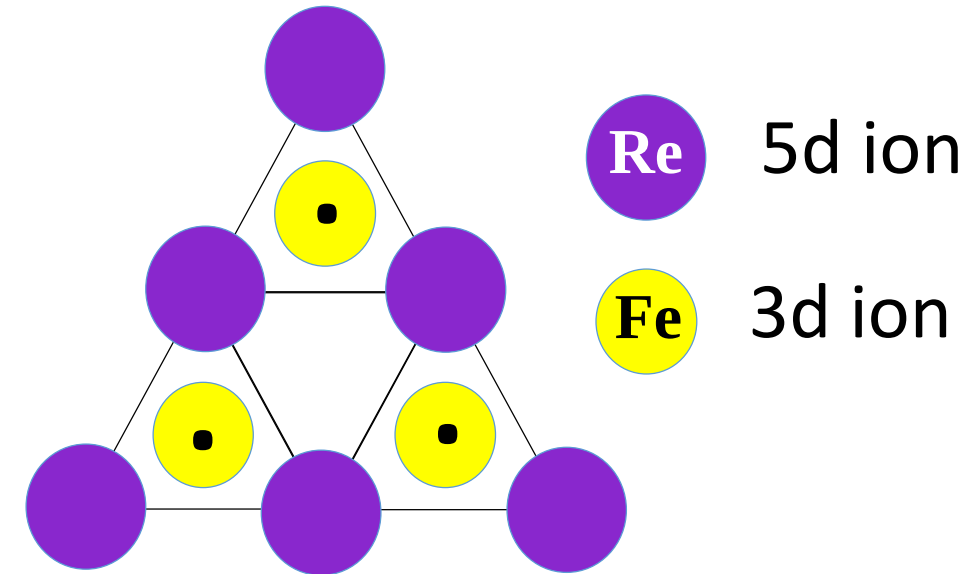
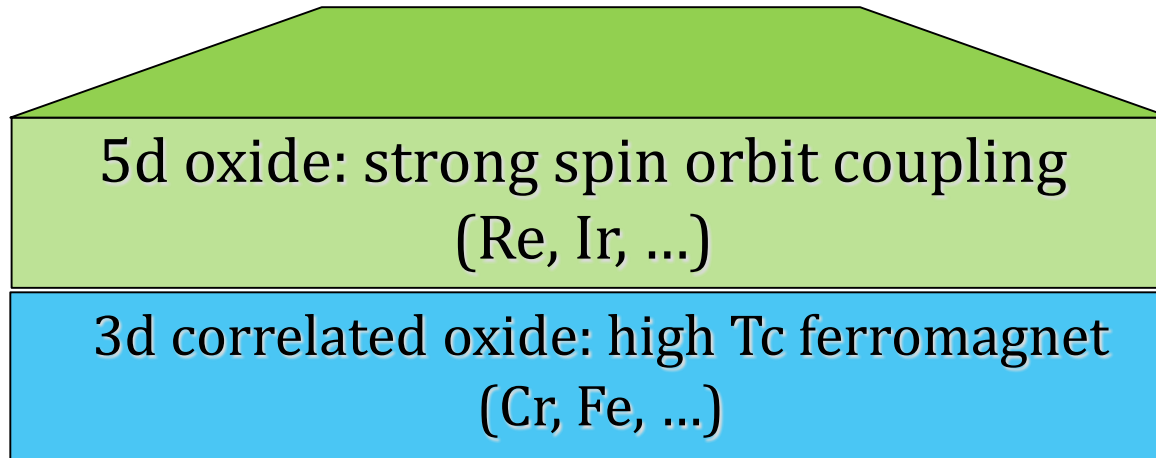
Transition metal oxide bilayers: Quantum anomalous Hall

- D. Xiao, Zhu, S. Okamoto, Y. Ran, Nagaosa, Nat Comm 2011
- G. Fiete group, PRB 2011, PRL 2013
- K. Held group, PRL 2017 (SrRuO₃ bilayers)



Multicomponent bilayers

Predict high T_c QAH effect

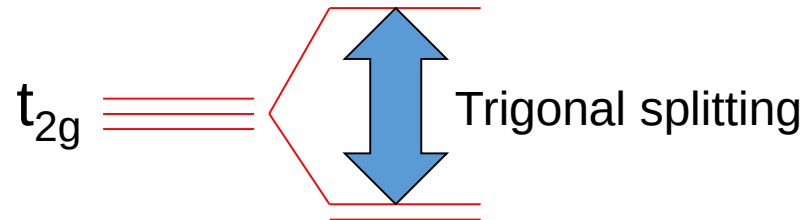


A.M. Cook, **AP** (PRL 2014); K. Garrity, D. Vanderbilt, PRB (2014);
S. Baidya, U.Waghmare, **AP**, T.Saha-Dasgupta (PRB 2015+16)

“Multicomponent” (111) bilayer

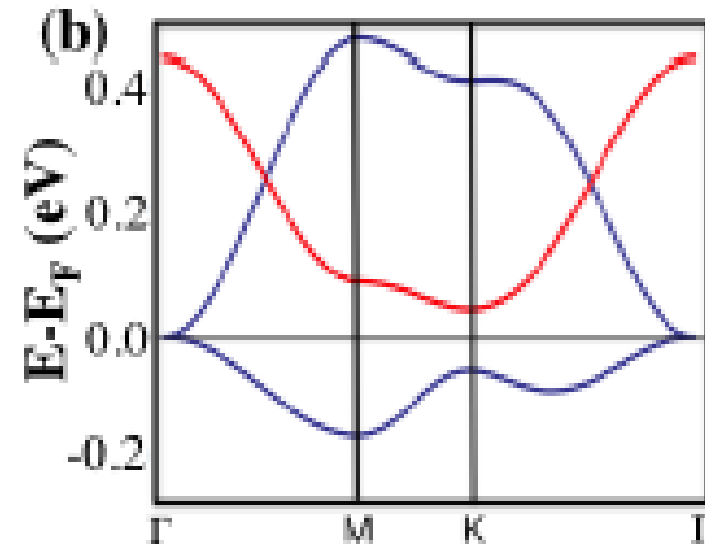
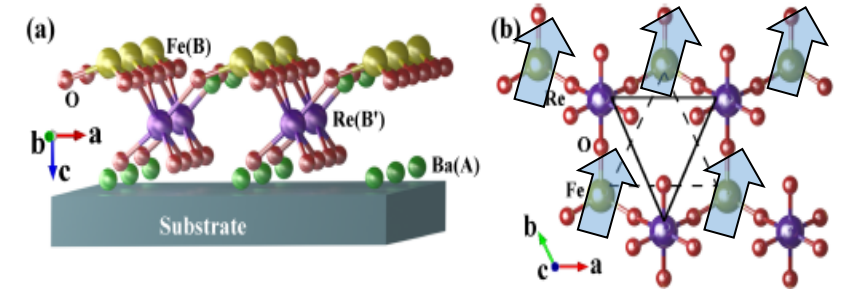
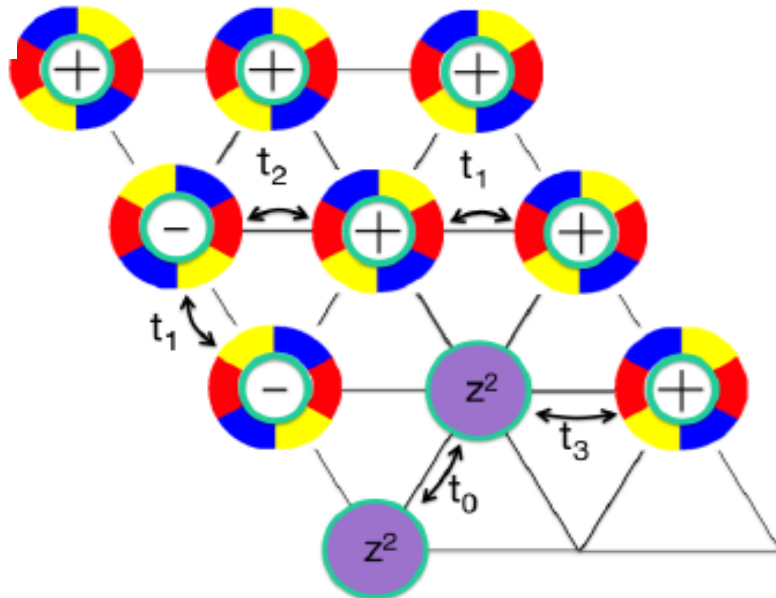
- Triangular half-metal

$$L_z = 0 : d_{3z^2-r^2}$$



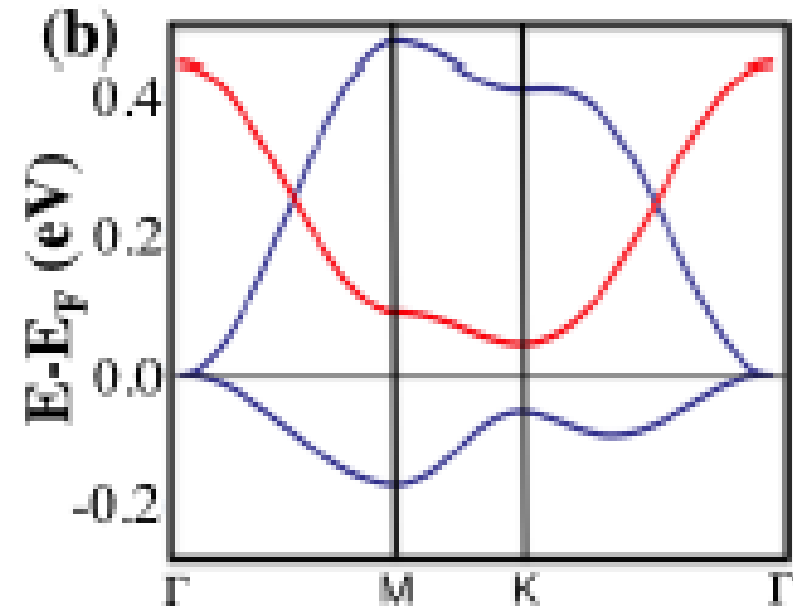
$$L_z = \pm 2 : d_{x^2-y^2} \pm id_{xy}$$

Non-Kramers doublet

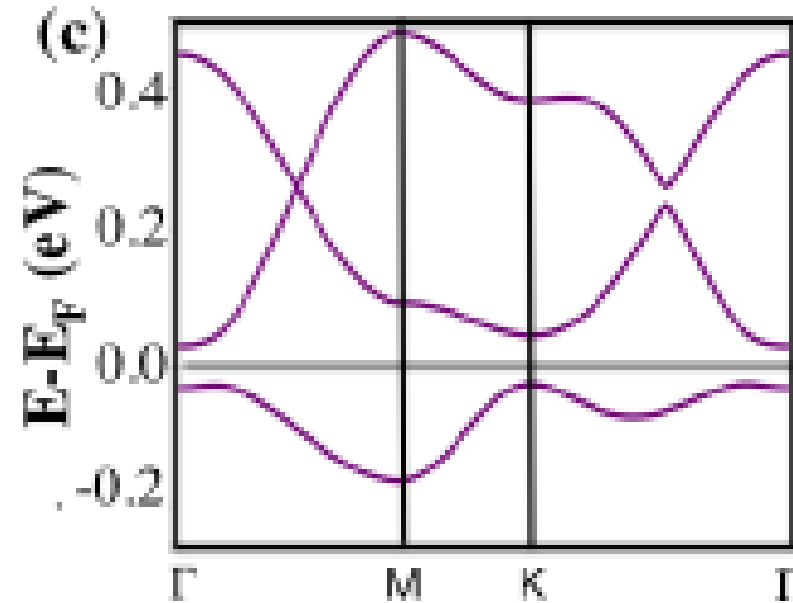


Quadratic band touching at Γ : C3 + “Time reversal”

Large gap Chern insulator

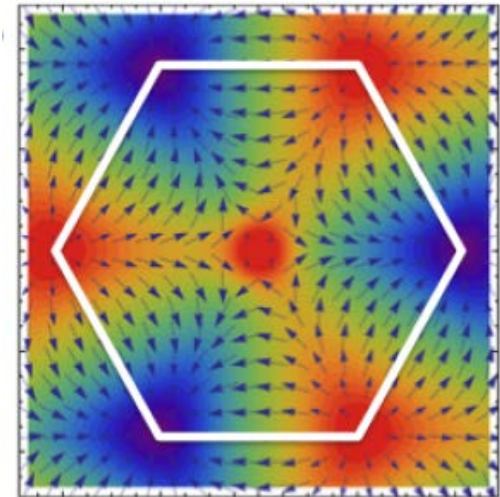


$$\text{SOC} \rightarrow \lambda L_z \langle S_z \rangle$$



DFT: QAH gap ~ 100 meV

Monte Carlo: Ferromagnetic $T_c \sim 250$ K



k-space skyrmion

Summary

- **Double Perovskites: Lego-Blocks with Strong SOC**
- **RIXS: Can be used to extract SOC and Hund's Coupling**
- **Iridates, Rhenates, Osmates: Hund's coupling < SOC**
- **Lego Assembly: FCC Mott Insulators [Strong Magnetoelastic Effect]**
- **Lego Assembly: Chern Insulators [High T_c QAH Effect]**