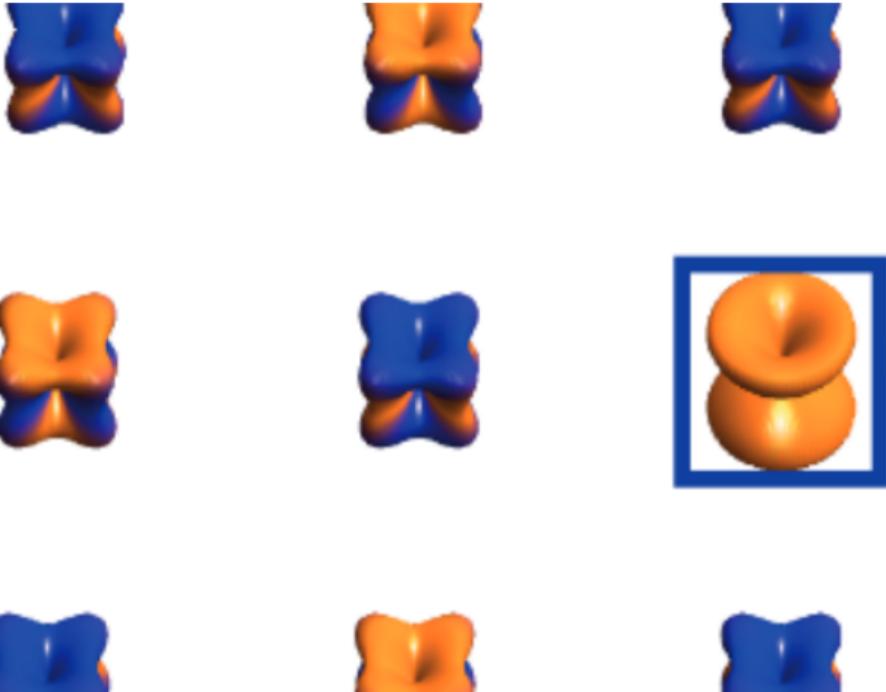




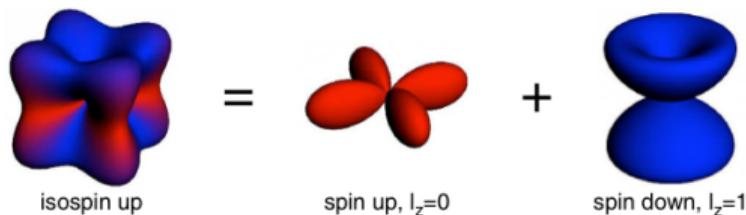
Universität Stuttgart



Maria
Daghofer

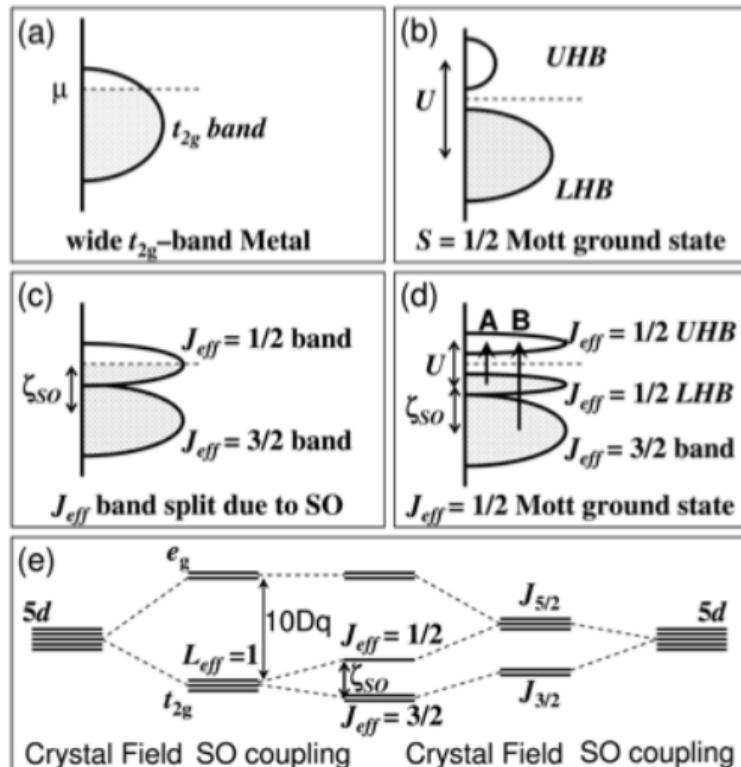
Excitonic magnetism in t_{2g}^4 systems

Spin-orbit coupling + correlations in iridates: 1 hole



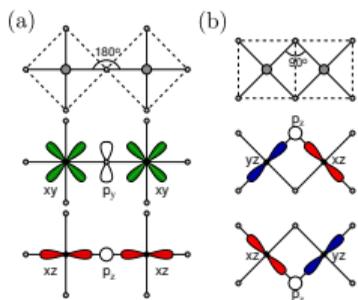
G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin, PRL **102**, 017205 (2009)

- Three t_{2g} orbitals, two spins
- Spin-orbit coupling: $j = \frac{1}{2}$ and $j = \frac{3}{2}$ quartet
- Doublet has one hole

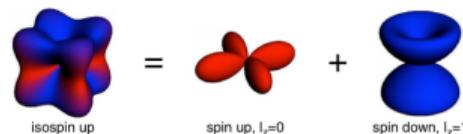


B. Kim *et al.*, PRL **101**, 076402 (2008)

Spin-orbital Kitaev model

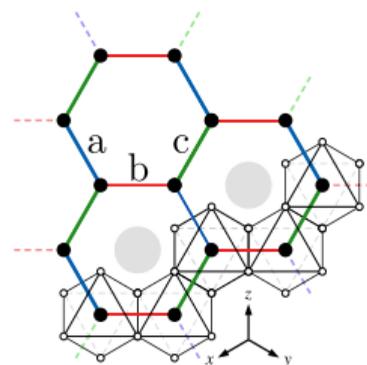


- 90° bond angle: Anisotropic couplings crucial
- honeycomb \Rightarrow spin liquid
- variations thereon ...
- such bonds in $A_2\text{IrO}_3$, $\alpha\text{-RuCl}_3$, $\text{H}_3\text{LiIr}_2\text{O}_6$



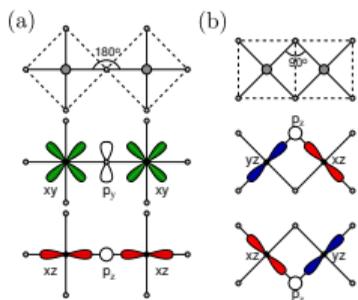
$$\mathcal{H} = J_K \sum_{\gamma} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \gamma} S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + J_H \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_j + \Gamma \sum_{\gamma} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \gamma} (S_i^\alpha S_j^\beta + S_i^\beta S_j^\alpha) + \dots$$

G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin, PRL **102**, 017205 (2009); J. Chaloupka, G. Jackeli, and G. Khaliullin, PRL **105**, 027204 (2010)

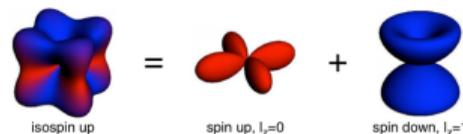


J.G. Rau *et al.*, PRL **112**, 077204 (2014)

Spin-orbital Kitaev model

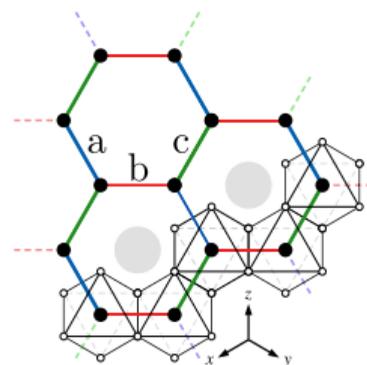


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$$\mathcal{H} = J_K \sum_{\gamma} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \gamma} S_i^{\gamma} S_j^{\gamma} + J_H \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_j + \Gamma \sum_{\gamma} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \gamma} (S_i^{\alpha} S_j^{\beta} + S_i^{\beta} S_j^{\alpha}) + \dots$$

G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin, PRL **102**, 017205 (2009); J. Chaloupka, G. Jackeli, and G. Khaliullin, PRL **105**, 027204 (2010)



J.G. Rau *et al.*, PRL **112**, 077204 (2014)

$j = \frac{1}{2}$ on many 3D and 2D lattices: well understood and robust for square-lattice Sr_2IrO_4

Two holes with SOC

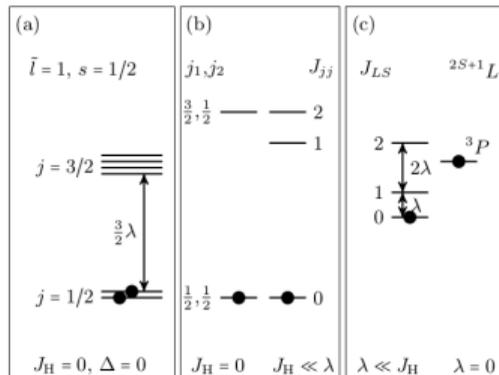
$\lambda \gg J_H$: j - j coupling

- two holes in $j = \frac{1}{2}$,
 $j = \frac{3}{2}$ filled
- band insulator
- J_H affects $j = \frac{3}{2}$

Two holes with SOC: jj vs. LS

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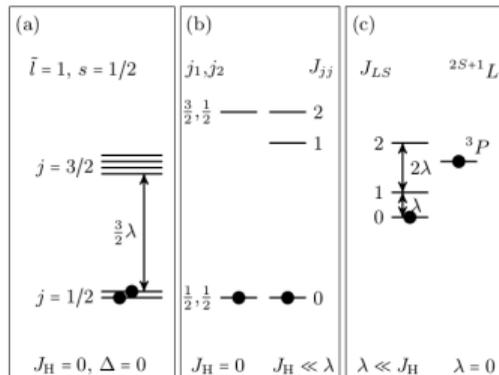
$J_H \gg \lambda$: L - S coupling

- two holes have $S_{\text{tot}} = 1$ and $L_{\text{tot}} = 1$
- λ acts on degenerate 3P
- λ prefers $J = 0$

Two holes with SOC: jj vs. LS

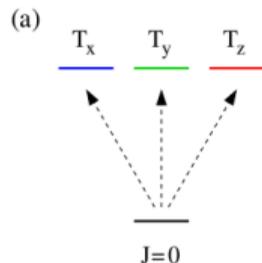
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$J_{LS} = 0$ scenario

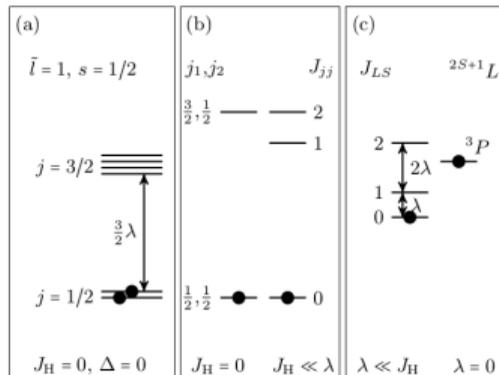
- ionic ground state $J_{LS} = 0$
- superexchange can
 - induce triplet on both ions
 - let triplet and singlet exchange places
 - triplet $\hat{=}$ three flavors of hard-core bosons
- a bit like coupled singlet dimers

G. Khaliullin, PRL
 111, 197201 (2013)

Two holes with SOC: jj vs. LS

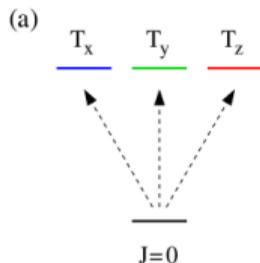
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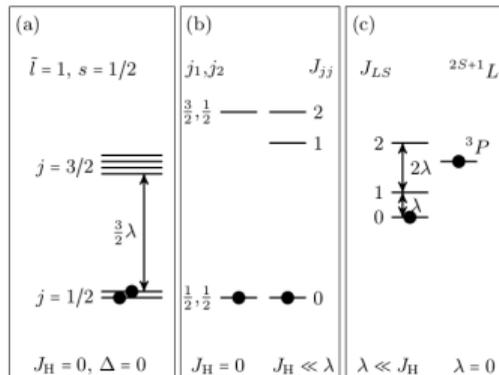
Why would we want this?

G. Khaliullin, PRL
111, 197201 (2013)

Two holes with SOC: jj vs. LS

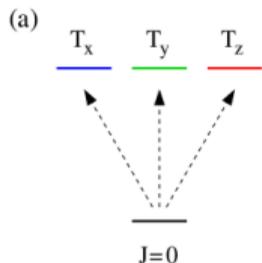
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Why would we want this?

Where might this be relevant?

G. Khaliullin, PRL
111, 197201 (2013)

Boson Kitaev-Heisenberg model

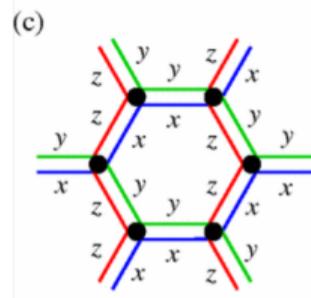
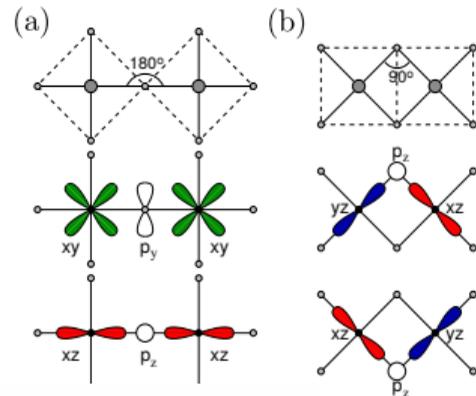
Two-triplon terms:

$$c_J, c_K, c_\Gamma \approx 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 H = & \lambda \sum_{i,\alpha} n_{i,\alpha} + J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left(\vec{T}_i^\dagger \vec{T}_j - c_J \vec{T}_i^\dagger \vec{T}_j^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right) \\
 & + K \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \alpha} \left(T_{i,\alpha}^\dagger T_{j,\alpha} - c_K T_{i,\alpha}^\dagger T_{j,\alpha}^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right) \\
 & + \Gamma \sum_{\substack{\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \\ \alpha \neq \gamma}} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \alpha} \left(T_{i,\beta}^\dagger T_{j,\gamma} - c_\Gamma T_{i,\beta}^\dagger T_{j,\gamma}^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

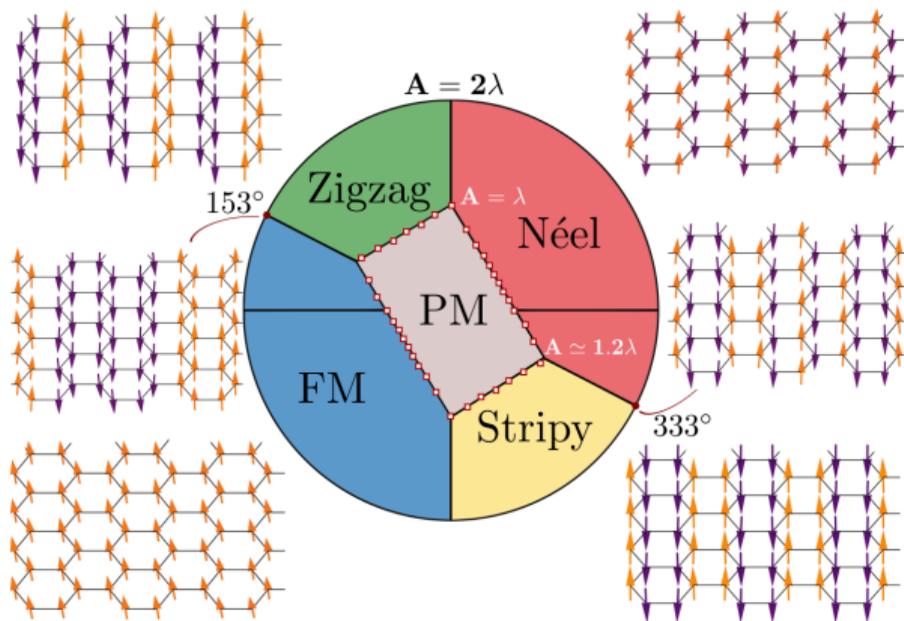
- Three- and four-triplon terms present
- Perturbation theory for $J_{\text{Hund}} = 0$:
 - only t via oxygen: $0 < J = -K, \Gamma = 0$
 - only direct t' : $0 < J \ll K, \Gamma = 0$
 - $\Gamma \propto tt'$
- J_{Hund} promotes FM coupling $J < 0$

C. Svoboda, M. Randeria, N. Trivedi, PRB **95**, 014409 (2017)



G. Khaliullin, PRL **111**, 197201 (2013)

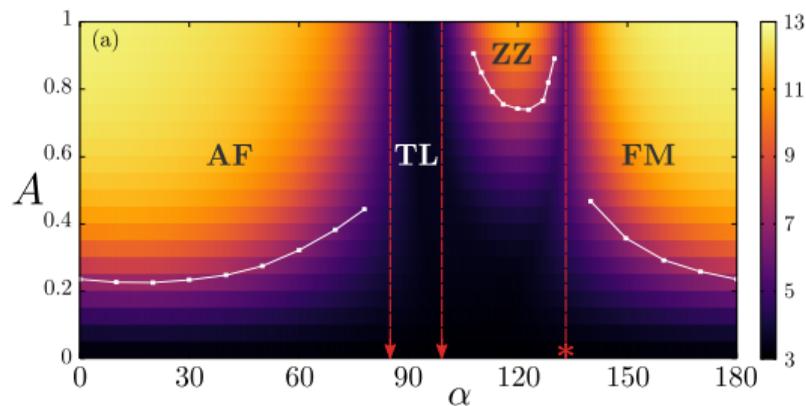
Classical Phase diagram on honeycomb



- center: large SOC suppresses triplons
- rim: strong superexchange overcomes SOC
- $J = A \cos \alpha$
- $K = 2A \sin \alpha$
- $\Gamma = 0$

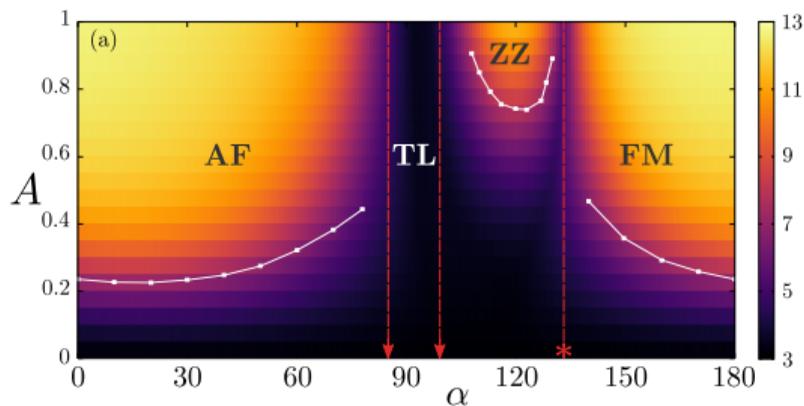
- Ordered phases are those of classical Kitaev-Heisenberg(- Γ) model.
- Non-magnetic region for dominant λ
- Transition driven by $T^\dagger T^\dagger$ terms

Quantum Phase diagram from ED



- $J = A \cos \alpha$, $K = 2A \sin \alpha$
- Large $A \gg \lambda$: more classical than $j = \frac{1}{2}$ model
D. Gotfryd *et al.*, PRB **95**, 024426 (2017)
- Keeps perfect symmetry $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha + 180$
- 1st-order phase transitions at $K = -J$

Quantum Phase diagram from ED

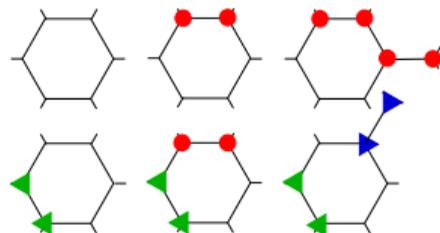


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Regime without magnetic order at $J \approx 0$:

- magnetic correlations strictly short range at Kitaev point
- no other order found
- gapped: lower energy than dimer coverings $E < -K/2$
- non degenerate: order by disorder

P. S. Anisimov, F. Aust, G. Khaliullin, M. Daghofer, PRL **122**, 177201 (2019); J. Chaloupka and G. Khaliullin, arXiv:1910.00074



Excitations of the $J = 0$ regime

$$\begin{aligned} H = & \lambda \sum_{i,\alpha} n_{i,\alpha} + J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left(\vec{T}_i^\dagger \vec{T}_j - c_J \vec{T}_i^\dagger \vec{T}_j^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right) \\ & + K \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \alpha} \left(T_{i,\alpha}^\dagger T_{j,\alpha} - c_K T_{i,\alpha}^\dagger T_{j,\alpha}^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right) \\ & + \Gamma \sum_{\substack{\alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \\ \alpha \neq \gamma}} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel \alpha} \left(T_{i,\beta}^\dagger T_{j,\gamma} - c_\Gamma T_{i,\beta}^\dagger T_{j,\gamma}^\dagger + \text{H. c.} \right), \end{aligned}$$

stick to $\lambda \gg J, K, \Gamma \Rightarrow$ no magnetic order

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stick to $\lambda \gg J, K, \Gamma \Rightarrow$ no magnetic order

band structure for triplons:

- once a triplon has been created, it can hop
- bands are here topologically trivial
- non-trivial intersite-dimer triplons known

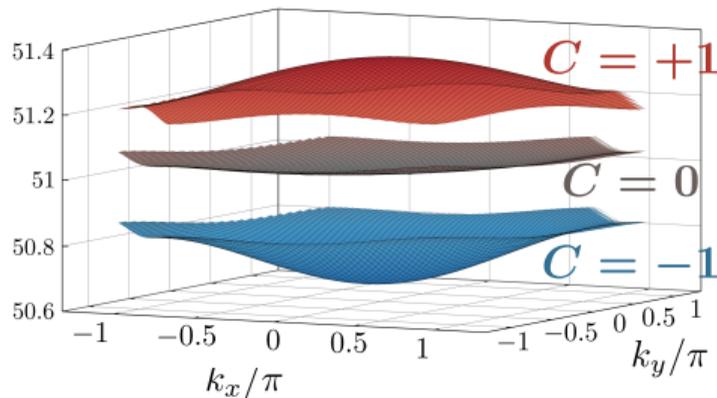
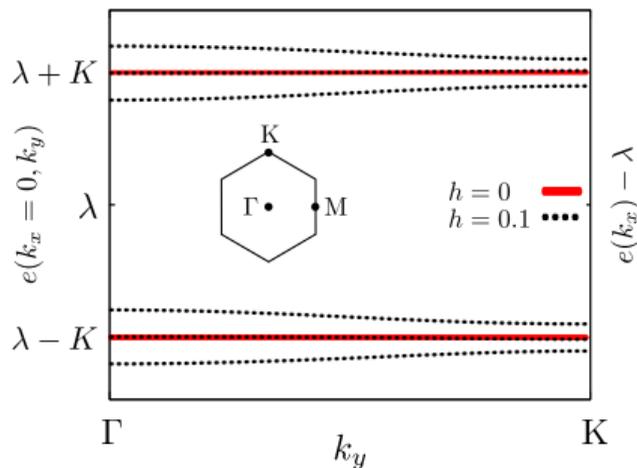
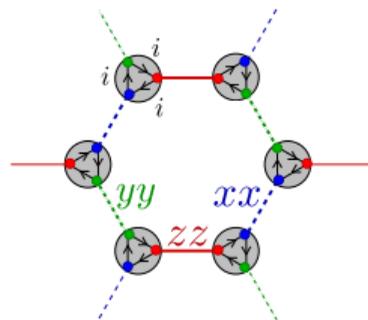
J. Romhányi *et al.*, Nat. Commun. **6**, 6805 (2015); P. A. McClarty *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **13**, 736 (2017);

D.G. Joshi and A.P.Schnyder, PRB **96**, 220405 (2017); **100**, 020407 (2019)

Triplons non-trivial in magnetic field

$$M_{j,x} = -i\sqrt{6} (T_{j,x} - T_{j,x}^\dagger) + ig_J (T_{j,y}^\dagger T_{j,z} - T_{j,z}^\dagger T_{j,y})$$

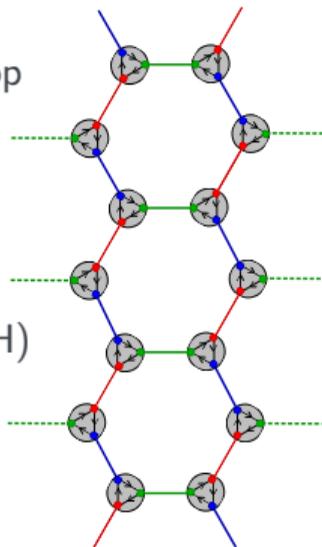
$$\approx ig_J (T_{j,y}^\dagger T_{j,z} - T_{j,z}^\dagger T_{j,y})$$



Two kinds of Edge States

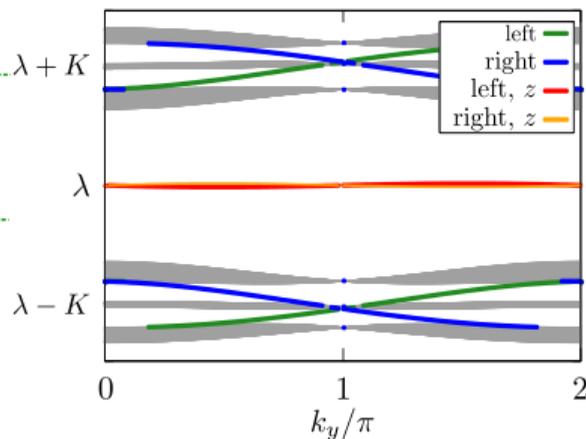
states at λ

- on edge sites, green flavor can't hop
- topological of a different sort
G. van Miert *et al.*, 2D Mat. **4**, 015023 (2017); D. G. Joshi and A. P. Schnyder, PRB **100**, 020407 (2019)
- related to Su-Shrieffer-Heeger (SSH) chain; $\text{Ba}_2\text{CuSi}_2\text{O}_6\text{Cl}_2$?
K. Nawa *et al.*, Nat. Comm., **10**, 2096 (2019)
- does not cross gap
- shifted with onsite energy

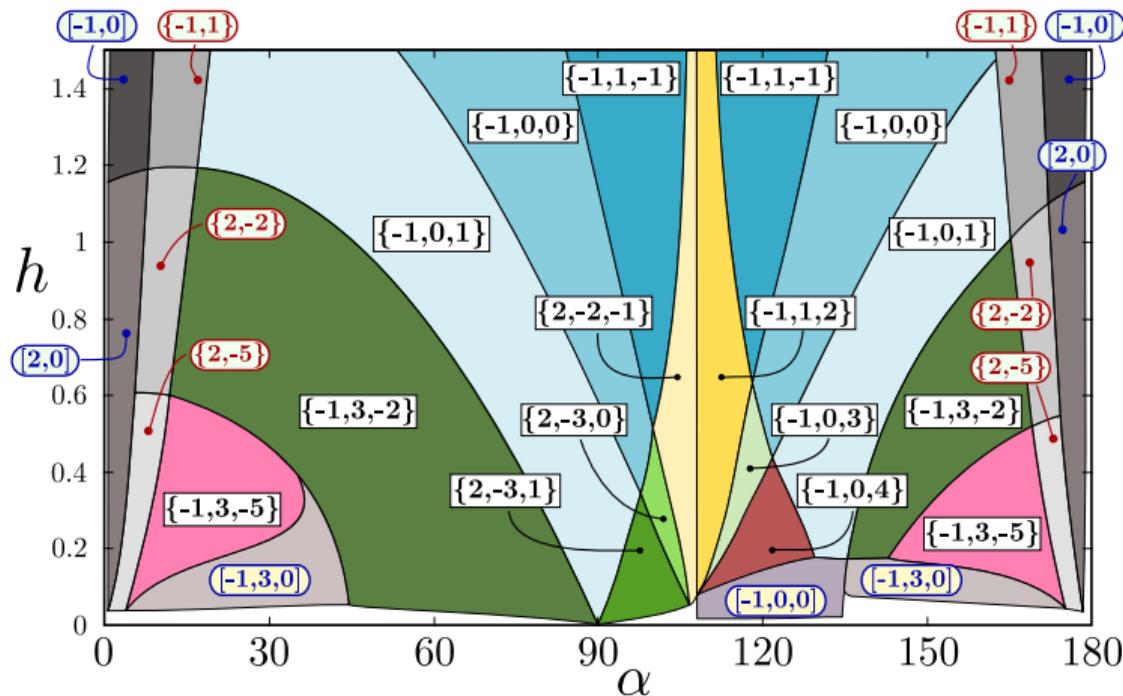


states at $\lambda \pm K$

- due to Chern number of bands
- crosses nontrivial band gap
- dissipationless transport?



Nontrivial triplon topology very robust



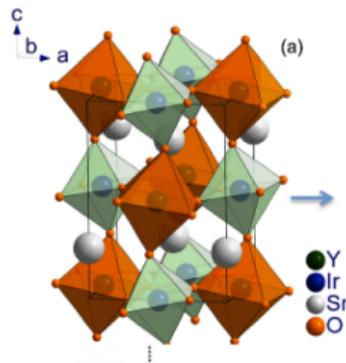
- $J = \cos \alpha$
- $K = \sin \alpha$
- $\vec{h} = (1, 1, 1) \cdot h$

P. S. Anisimov, F. Aust, G. Khaliullin, M. Daghofer, PRL 122, 177201 (2019)

$$\{-1,3,-2\} \rightarrow \{-1,3,-2,2,-3,1\}, \quad \{2,-5\} \rightarrow C_{1+2} = 2, \quad C_3 = -5, \quad C_4 = 5, \quad C_{5+6} = -2$$

$$[2,0] \rightarrow C_{1+2} = 2, \quad C_{3+4} = 0, \quad [1,-1,0] \rightarrow C_1 = 1, \quad C_2 = -1, \quad C_{3+4} = 0$$

Where might $J = 0$ / $J = 1$ be relevant?



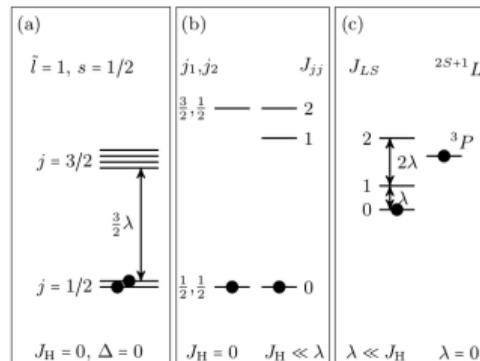
from G. Cau *et al.*, PRL **112**, 056402 (2014)

Ir based double perovskites

- spin-orbit coupling (SOC) large for Ir
- Ir far apart
- likely nonmagnetic

K. Pajskr *et al.*, PRB **93**, 035129 (2016), S. Fuchs *et al.*, PRL **120**, 237204 (2018)

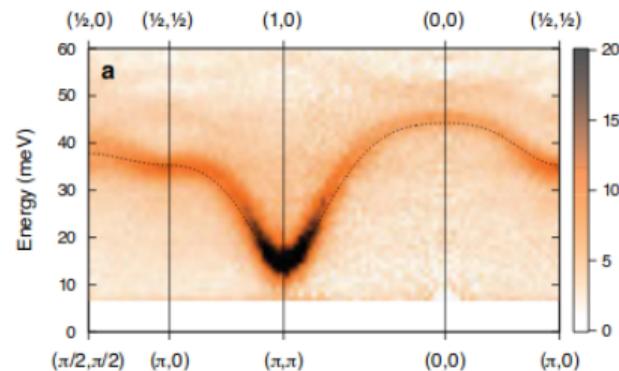
- very strong onsite singlet
- superexchange too weak to mix in triplet
- Picture applicable, but maybe a bit too robust



Where might this be relevant?

Ca_2RuO_4

- AFM order
- excitations well explained with $J = 0/J = 1$ scenario
- Esp. **maximum** at $(0,0)$ rather than minimum



from A. Jain *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **13**, 633 (2017)

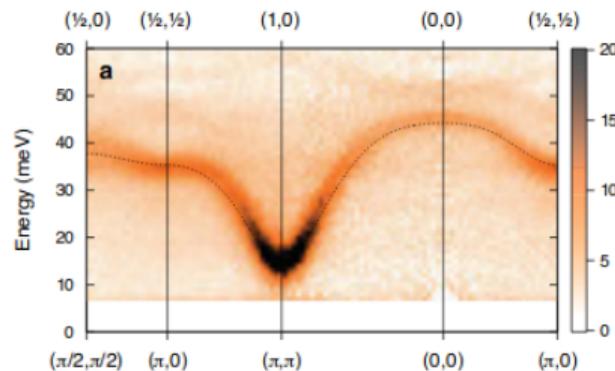
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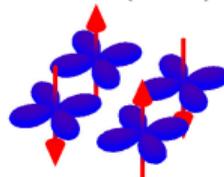
Spin-and-Orbital vs. Spinorbital

- OTOH: spin and orbital also decent description
T. Mizokawa *et al.*, PRL **87**, 077202 (2001); M. Cuoco *et al.*, PRB **74**, 195124 (2006)
- *ab-initio* treatment: strong orbital polarization → spin $S = 1$ good description
G. Zhang and E. Pavarini PRB **95**, 075145 (2017); D. Sutter *et al.*, Nat. Comm. **8**, 15176 (2017)



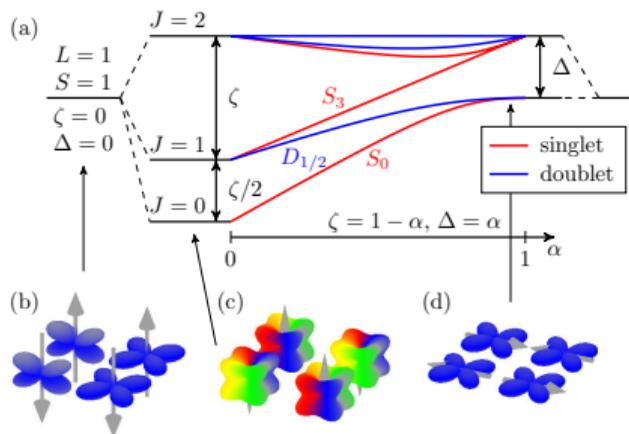
from A. Jain *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **13**, 633 (2017)

- correlations enhance SOC → shows up in superexchange
G. Zhang and E. Pavarini PRB **95**, 075145 (2017)



Strongly correlated t_{2g} model with SOC

- Model studies: investigation of excitonic vs. 'normal spin' magnetism
 - Variational cluster approach applied to model for electrons
 - Exact-diagonalization spectra of Kugel-Khomskii-type model for spins and orbitals
- Ca_2RuO_4 :
 - parameters from DFT (hopping, crystal field) and experiment (interactions, SOC)
 - one-particle spectra do not really show SOC, magnetic spectra do
 - excitonic despite orbital polarization



t_{2g} model on 2D square lattice

- Hopping (nearest neighbors or DFT derived)

$$H_{\text{kin}} = -t \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle, \sigma} c_{i,xy,\sigma}^\dagger c_{j,xy,\sigma} - t \left(\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel x, \sigma} c_{i,xz,\sigma}^\dagger c_{j,xz,\sigma} + \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle \parallel y, \sigma} c_{i,yz,\sigma}^\dagger c_{j,yz,\sigma} \right),$$

- tetragonal crystal field
- spin-orbit coupling

$$H_{\Delta} = -\Delta \sum_{i,\sigma} n_{i,xy,\sigma}$$

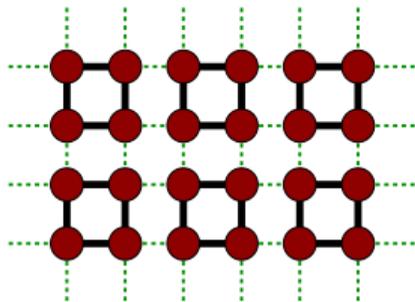
$$H_{\text{SOC}} = \zeta \sum_i \vec{l}_i \cdot \vec{s}_i = \frac{i\zeta}{2} \sum_i \sum_{\substack{\alpha,\beta,\gamma \\ \sigma,\sigma'}} \varepsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \tau_{\sigma\sigma'}^\alpha c_{i,\beta,\sigma}^\dagger c_{i,\gamma,\sigma'}$$

- onsite Coulomb and Hund's coupling

$$H_{\text{int}} = U \sum_{i,\alpha} n_{i\alpha\uparrow} n_{i\alpha\downarrow} + \frac{U'}{2} \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} n_{i\alpha\sigma} n_{i\beta\bar{\sigma}} \\ + (U' - J_H) \sum_{i,\sigma} \sum_{\alpha > \beta} n_{i\alpha\sigma} n_{i\beta\sigma} - J_H \sum_{i,\alpha \neq \beta} (c_{i\alpha\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\alpha\downarrow} c_{i,\beta\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\beta\uparrow} - c_{i\alpha\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\alpha\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\beta\downarrow} c_{i\beta\uparrow})$$

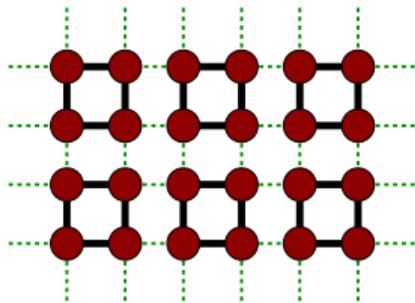
Variational Cluster Approximation

- Get free energy and one-particle Green function (GF) for small cluster \rightarrow self energy Σ
- Plug Σ into GF of big system \rightarrow GF and grand potential of big system
- Find optimal cluster self-energy ('self-energy approach')



Variational Cluster Approximation

- Get free energy and one-particle Green function (GF) for small cluster \rightarrow self energy Σ
- Plug Σ into GF of big system \rightarrow GF and grand potential of big system
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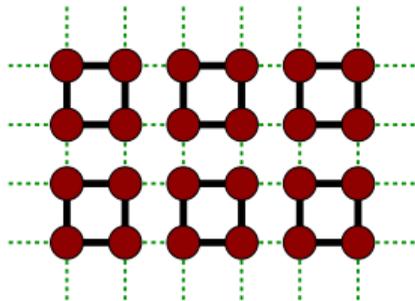


Symmetry-breaking field: $h' \sum_i \Lambda_i e^{i\vec{Q}\vec{R}_i}$

- one-particle operator Λ_i , e.g. S_i^z , L_i^x , $n_{i,xy}$
- $\vec{Q} = (0, 0), (\pi, \pi), (\pi, 0), (0, \pi)$ strongly restricted by cluster

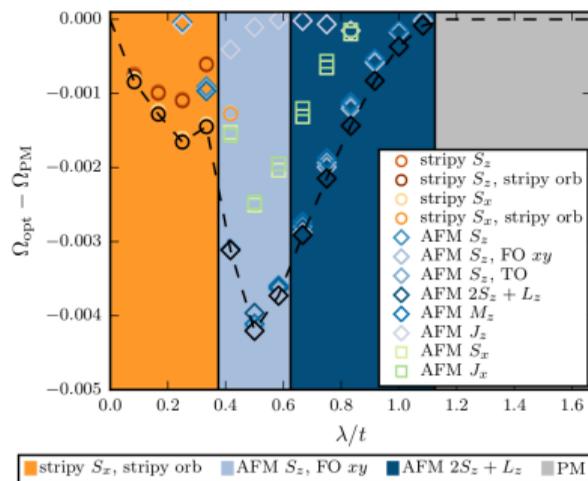
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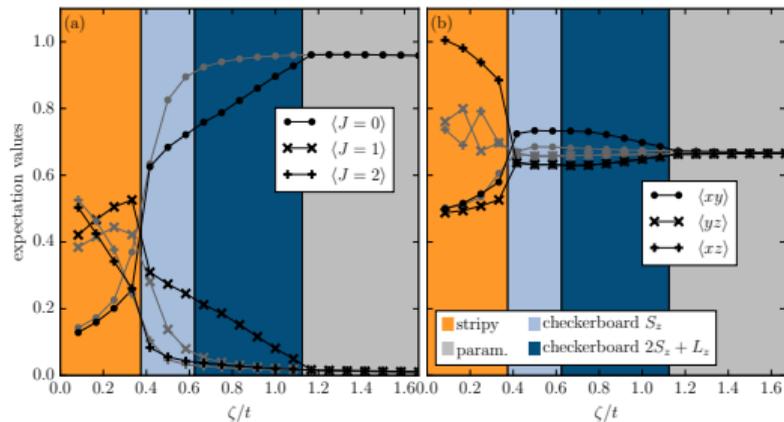
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- important: \vec{Q} and in-plane (x) vs. out-of-plane (z)
- less important: α in $S_i^{x/z} + \alpha L_i^{x/z}$

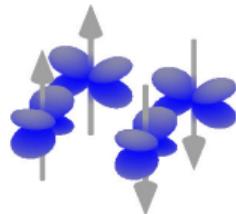
SOC ζ reduces onsite degeneracy: $J_{LS} = 0$ / $J_{LS} = 1$ order



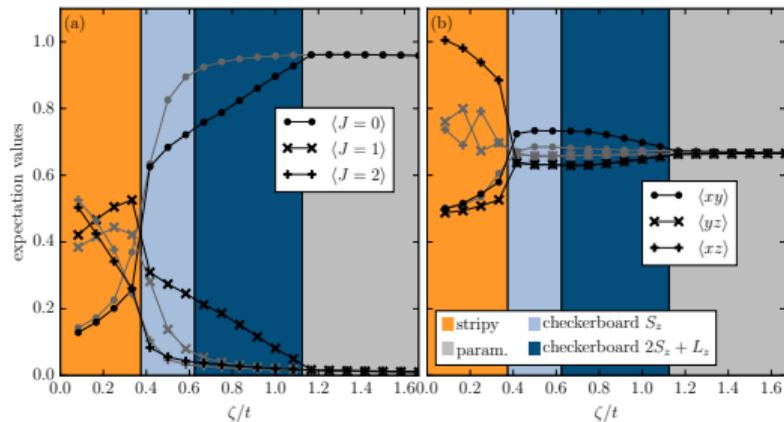
complex stripy pattern:

out of nine-fold $L = 1$, $S = 1$
degeneracy

fits M. Cuoco *et al.*, PRB **74**, 195124
(2006)



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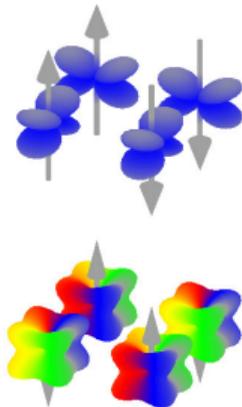


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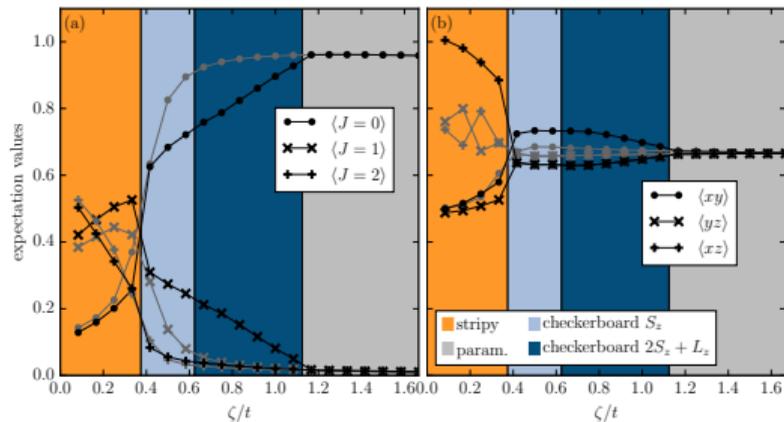
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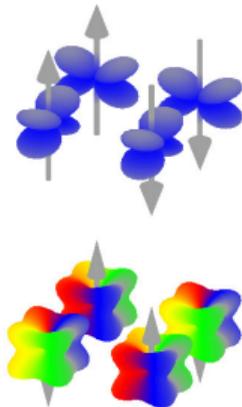


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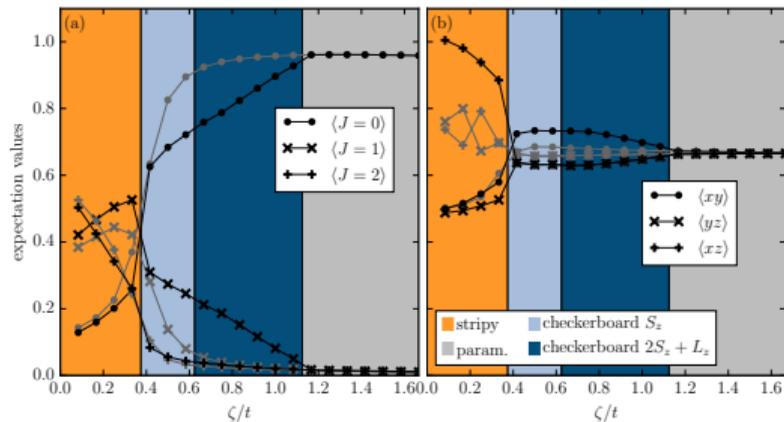
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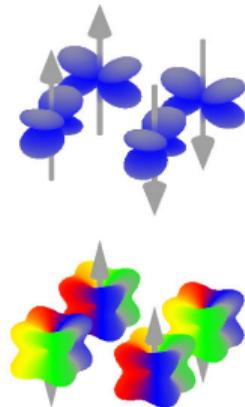


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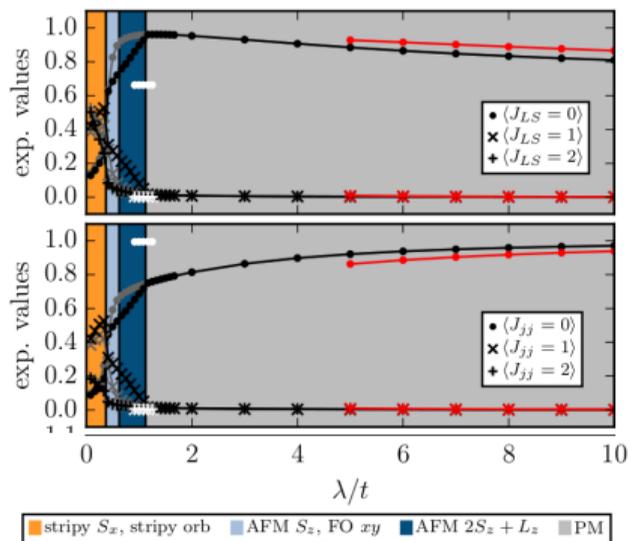
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PM: ζ wins, $J = 0$ state

- grey symbols: no symmetry breaking
 $J = 0$ stabilized by ζ , soon dominates
- black symbols: optimized order
weight shifted into $J = 1$
- $J = 2$ unimportant

L - S to j - j : correlated to uncorrelated

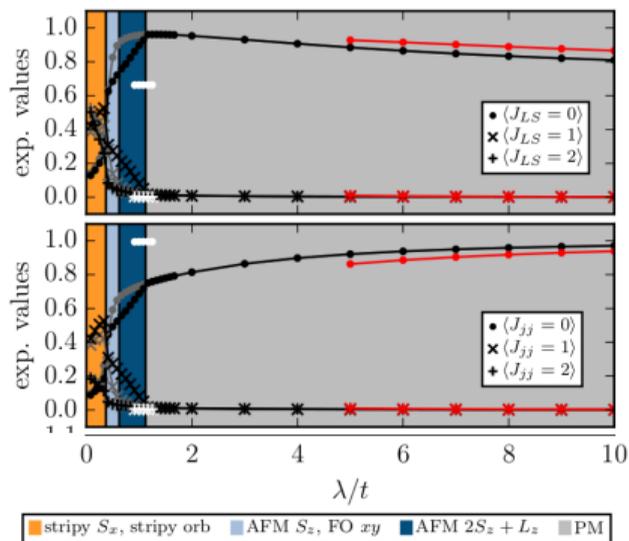


SOC $\lambda \gg J_H$ Hund coupling: j - j

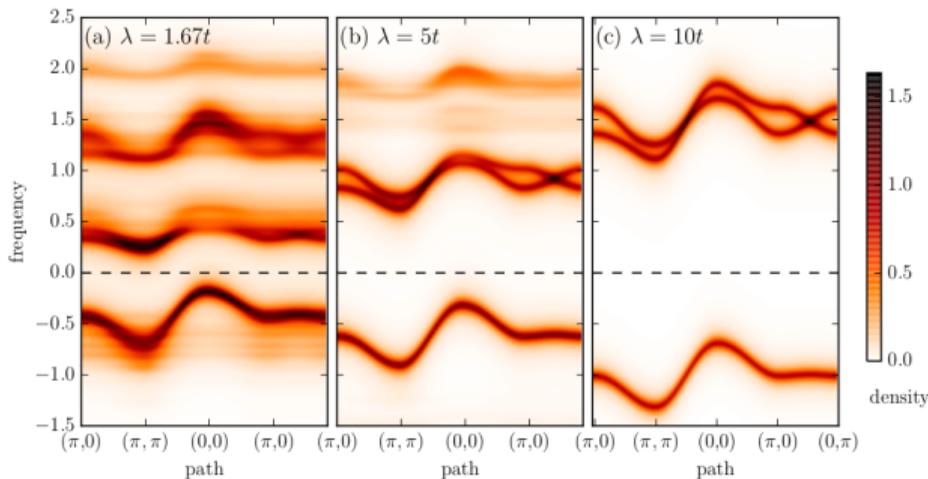
better

white: $J_H = 0$, red: $J_H = U/3$

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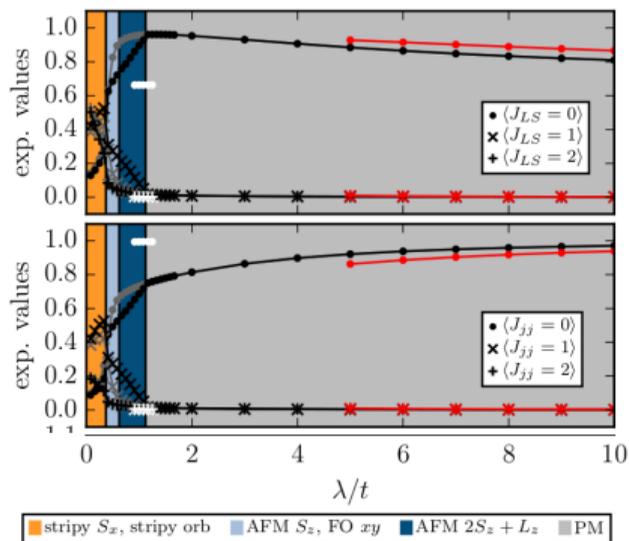


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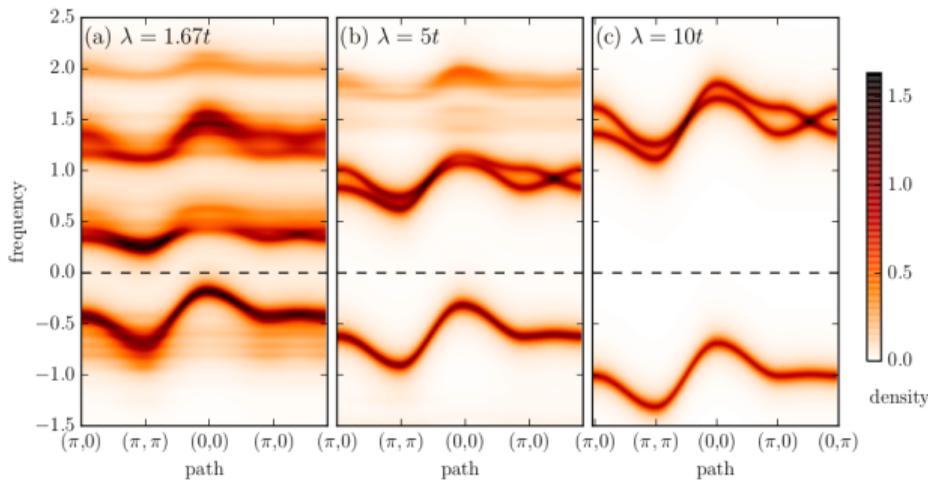


correlated bands split by J_H
 j - j : like non-interacting bands; both holes in $j = \frac{1}{2}$

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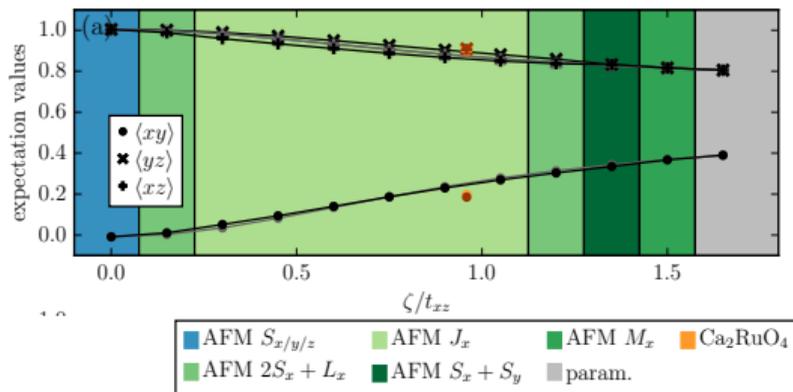
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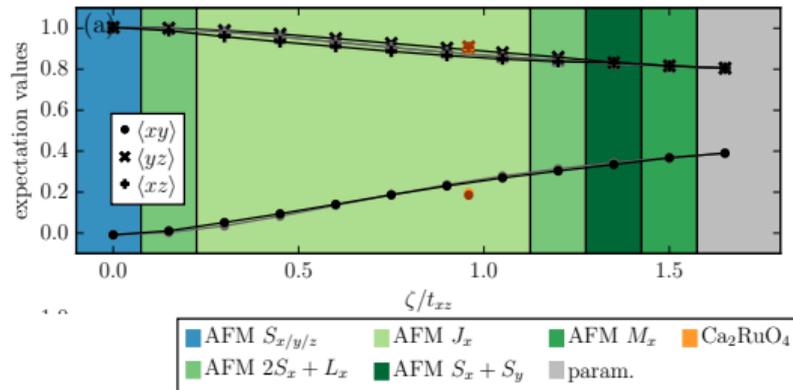
Sticking to correlated L - S regime here.

SOC in the presence of a Strong Crystal Field



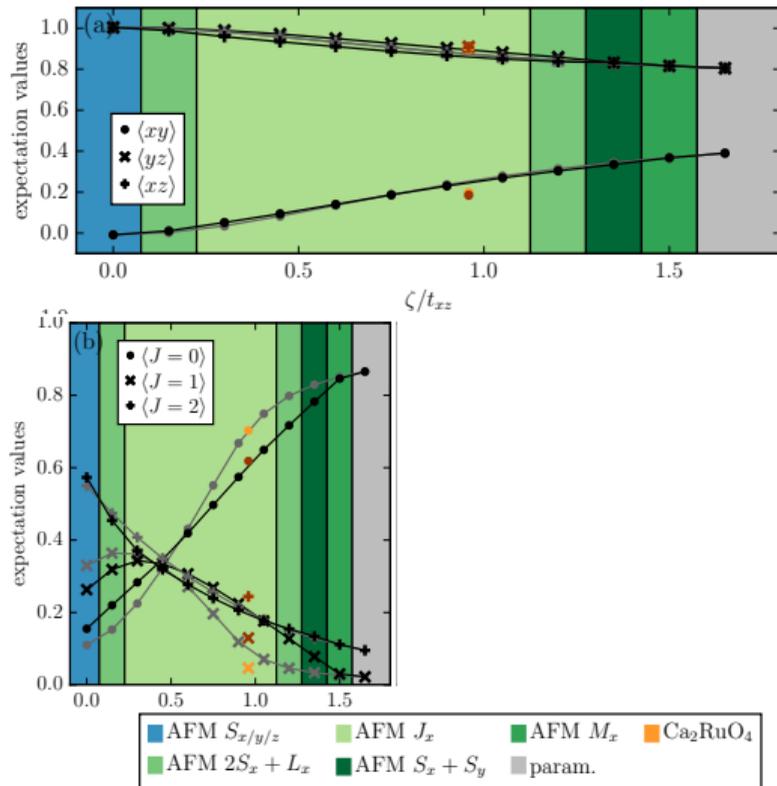
- SOC $\zeta = 0$: one hole on xz , one in $yz \Rightarrow$ polarized $S = 1$ with $n_{xy}^h = 0$, $n_{xz/yz}^h = 1$
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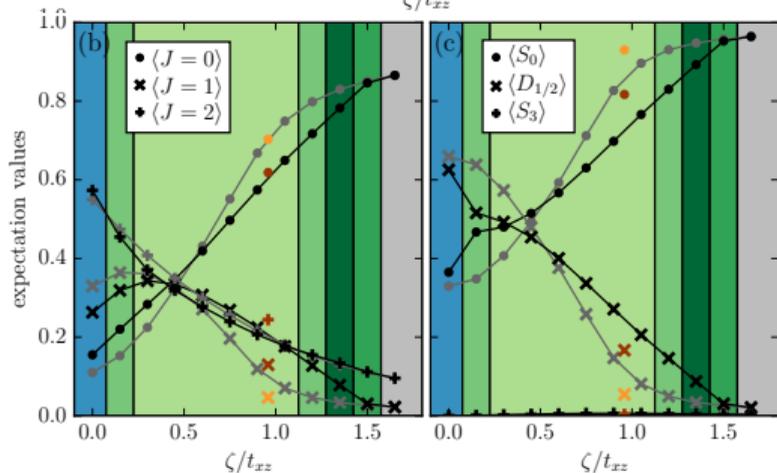
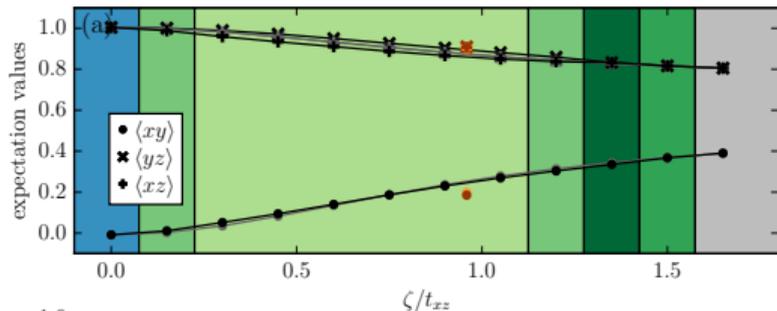
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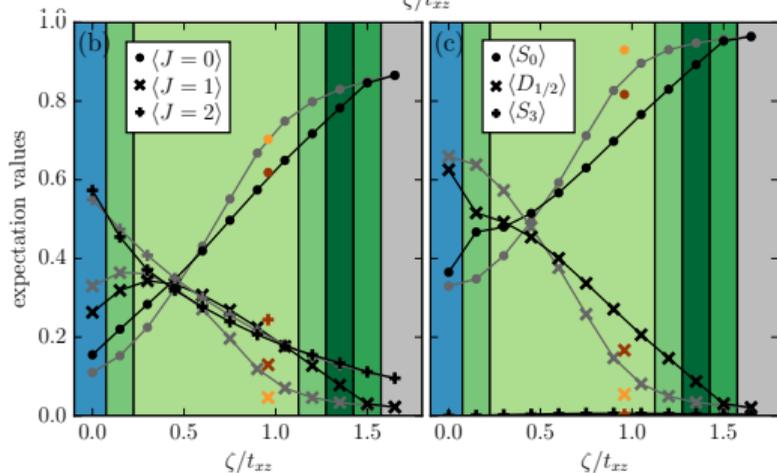
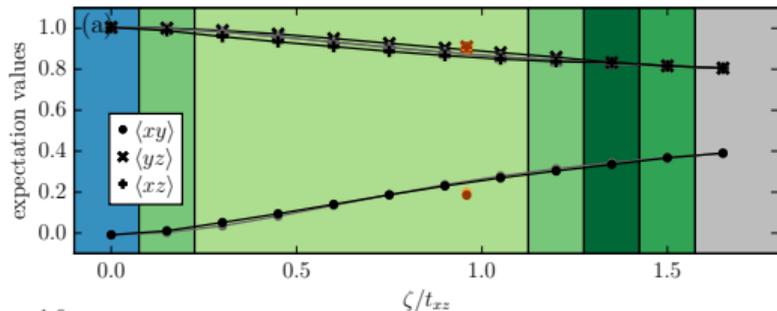
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- only lowest three states relevant
- PM \rightarrow AFM: **weight from S_0 to $D_{1/2}$**

SOC in the presence of a Strong Crystal Field

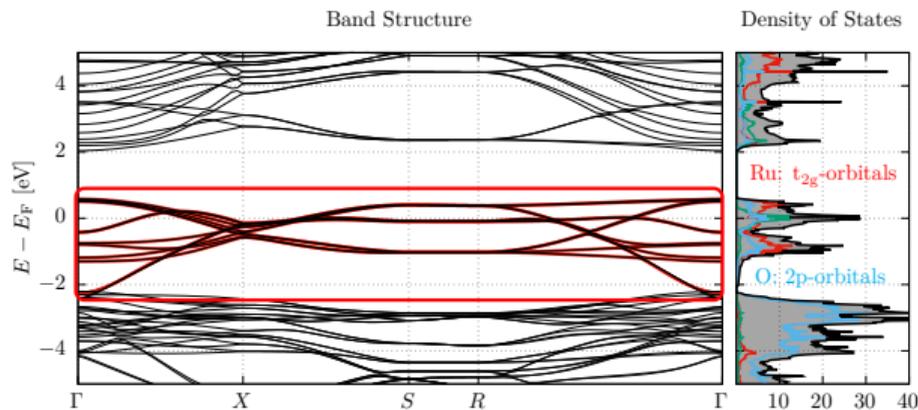


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One-particle parameters for Ca_2RuO_4



- Wannier projection \Rightarrow get t 's and Δ
suppl. mat. to J. Bertinshaw *et al.*, PRL **123**, 137204 (2019)
- get SOC $\zeta \approx 0.13$ eV, $U \approx 2$ eV and $J_H \approx 0.34$ eV from H. Gretarsson *et al.*, PRB **100**, 045123 (2019)
- plug into VCA \Rightarrow red/orange symbols

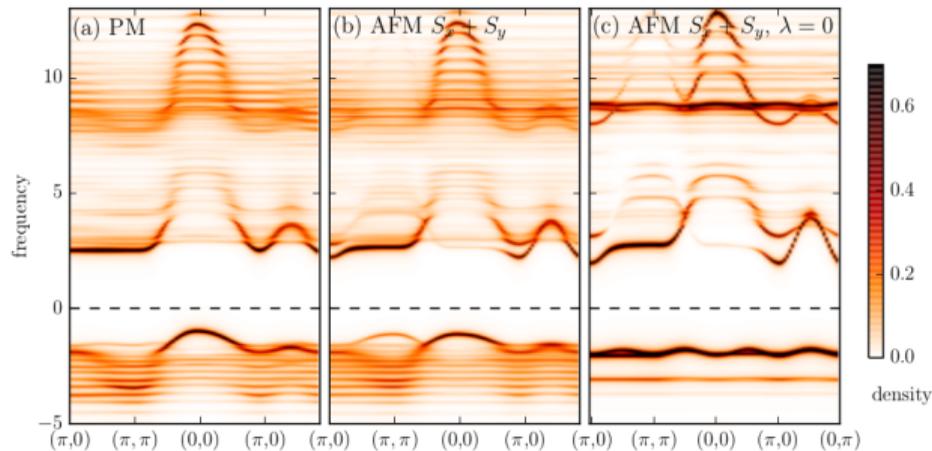
$$\epsilon_{xy,xy}(\vec{k}) = -2t_{xy}^{\text{NN}}(\cos k_x + \cos k_y) - 4t_{xy}^{\text{NNN}} \cos k_x \cos k_y - \Delta,$$

$$\epsilon_{xz,xz}(\vec{k}) = -2t_{xz}^{\text{NN}} \cos k_x, \quad \epsilon_{yz,yz}(\vec{k}) = -2t_{yz}^{\text{NN}} \cos k_y,$$

$$\text{and } \epsilon_{xz,xy}(\vec{k}) = -2t^o \cos k_x.$$

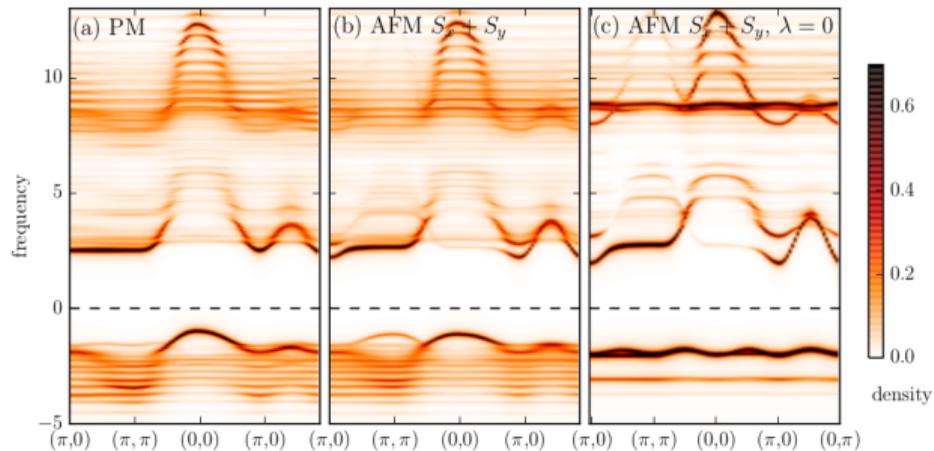
with $t_{xy}^{\text{NN}} \approx 0.2$ eV, $t_{xz}^{\text{NN}} = t_{yz}^{\text{NN}} \approx 0.14$ eV, $t_{xy}^{\text{NNN}} \approx 0.09$ eV, $t^o \approx 0.09$ eV

SOC small correction to $n_{xy/yz/yz}$ and ARPES



- VCA: some changes due to ζ
 - ARPES discussed without much reference to SOC
- D. Sutter *et al.*, Nat. Comm. **8**, 15176 (2017); A. Kłosiński *et al.*, arXiv:1910.01605

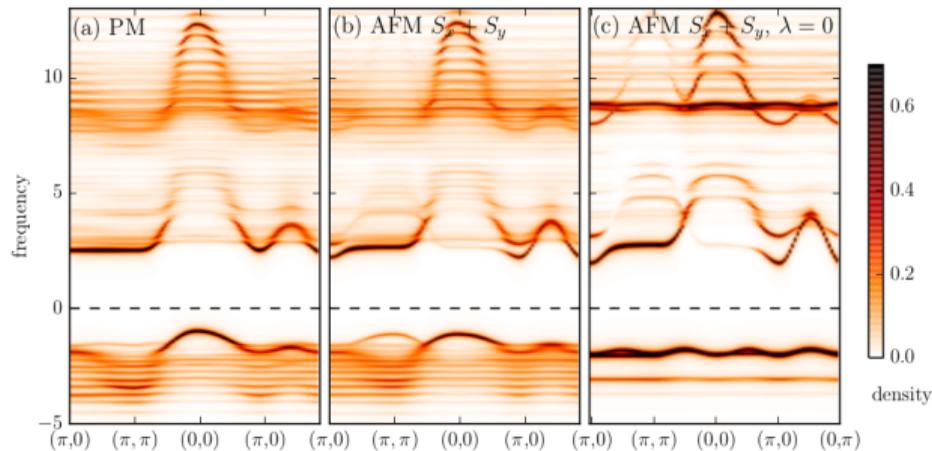
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What about magnetism?

Magnetic Hamiltonian

- VCA: $\vec{L} = 1$, $\vec{S} = 1$ valid description (9 states/site)
- 2nd order perturbation theory \Rightarrow Kugel-Khomskii-type model $H_{i,j} = H_{\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j} + H_p + H_{\vec{T}_i \vec{T}_j}$

$$H_{\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j} = J_{i,j} \left(\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j - 1 \right) \otimes |T_i; T_j\rangle \langle T_i; T_j| , \quad J_{i,j} = \begin{cases} (t_\alpha^2 + t_\beta^2) \frac{U+J_H}{U(U+2J_H)} & \text{for } T_i = T_j = \gamma \\ \frac{t_\gamma^2(U+J_H)}{U(U+2J_H)} - \frac{J_H(t_\alpha^2+t_\beta^2)}{U(U-3J_H)} & \text{for } T_i = \alpha \neq T_j = \beta \text{ and } \alpha, \beta \neq \gamma \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$H_p = \left(\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j - 1 \right) \left[\sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \frac{-t_\alpha t_\beta J_H}{U(U+2J_H)} |\alpha; \alpha\rangle \langle \beta; \beta| \right] . \quad (2)$$

$$H_{\vec{T}_i \vec{T}_j} = - \sum_{\beta \neq \gamma} \frac{t_\beta^2 + t_\gamma^2}{U-3J_H} |\beta; \gamma\rangle \langle \beta; \gamma| + \sum_{\beta \neq \gamma} \frac{t_\beta t_\gamma}{U(U-3J_H)} [2J_H + (U-J_H)(\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + 1)] \otimes |\beta; \gamma\rangle \langle \gamma; \beta| . \quad (3)$$

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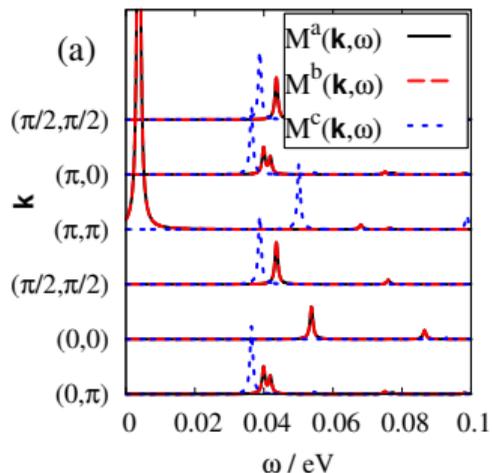
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- onsite part: $H_{\text{ion}} = \frac{\zeta}{2} \vec{S} \vec{L} + \Delta(L^z)^2$

Magnetic excitations spectra

$$M^\alpha(\vec{k}, \omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \langle \phi_0 | M^\alpha(-\vec{k}) \frac{1}{\omega - H + \beta 0^+} M^\alpha(\vec{k}) | \phi_0 \rangle, \quad (4)$$

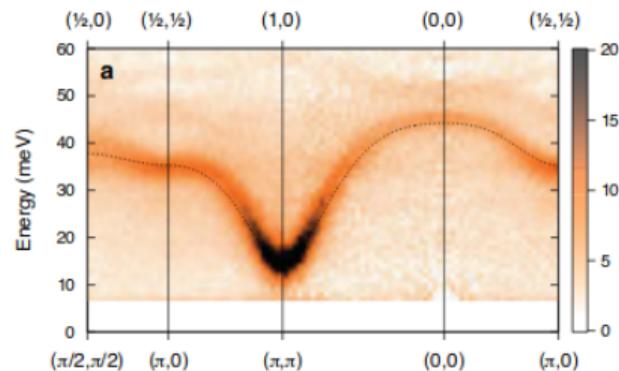
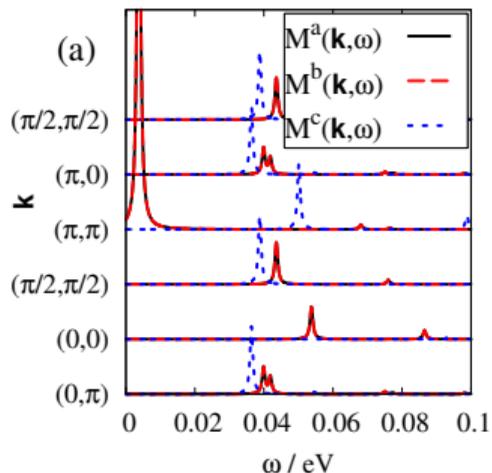
from ED for 8-site cluster, tetragonal '*ab-initio*' parameters ($t^o = 0$)



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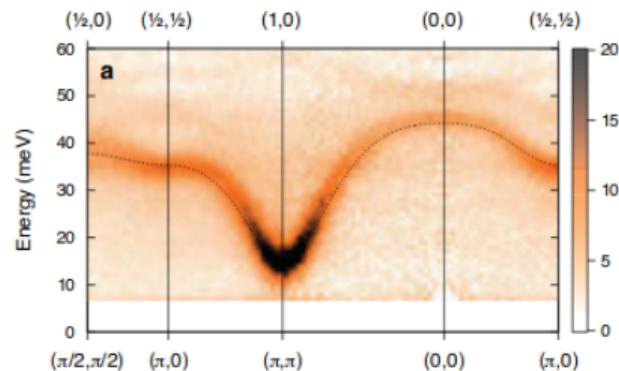
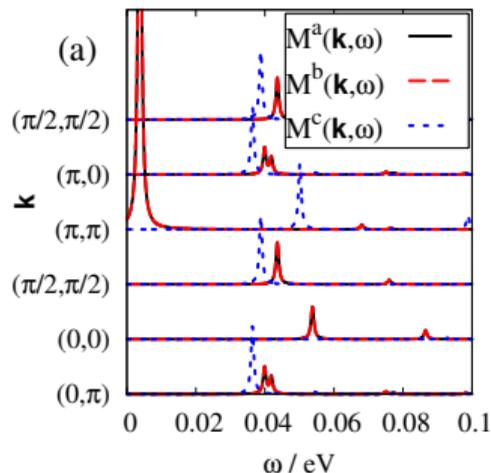


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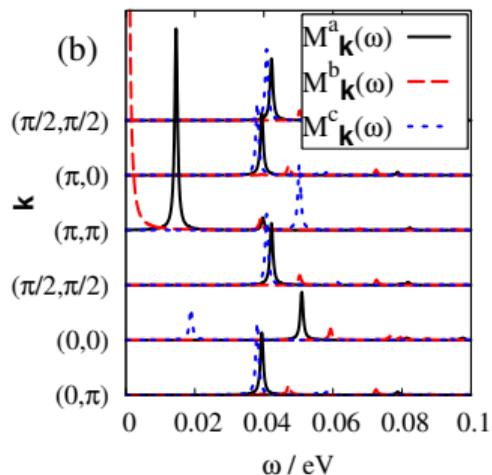
good agreement, especially max at $(0, 0)$, no fitting parameters

Magnetic excitations spectra with in-plane anisotropy

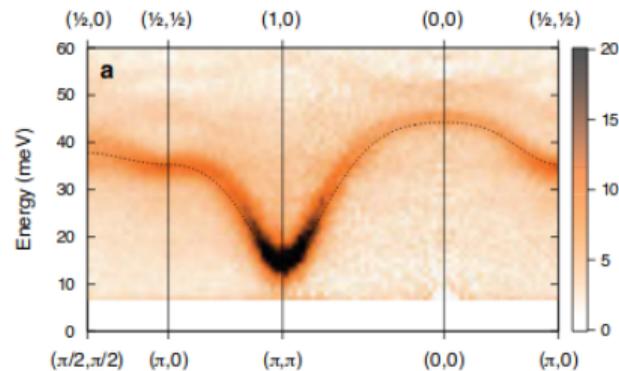
- before: $t_{xy}^{\text{NN}} \approx 0.2$ eV, $t_{xz}^{\text{NN}} = t_{yz}^{\text{NN}} \approx 0.14$ eV, $t_{xy}^{\text{NNN}} \approx 0.09$ eV, $\Delta \approx 0.25$ eV, $t^o = 0$; finite $t^o = 0.09$ made spin prefer $b = (x - y)$ direction
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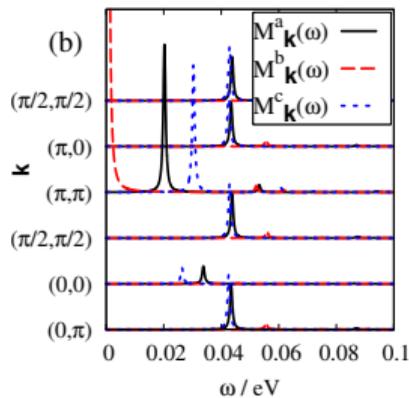
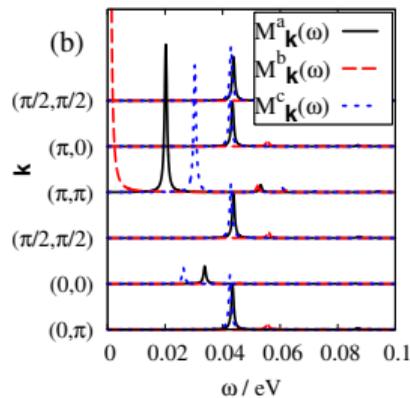
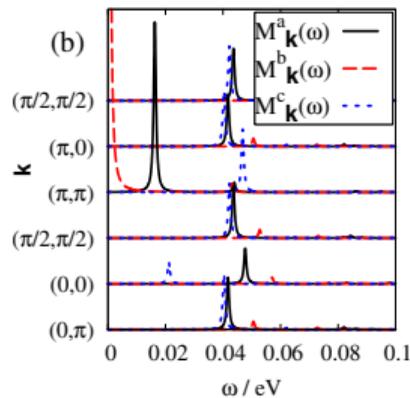
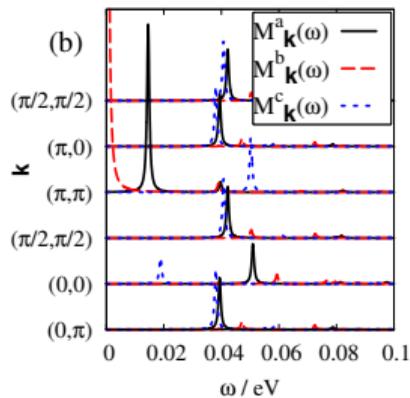


transverse modes + amplitude mode M^b



from A. Jain *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **13**, 633 (2017)

Max at (0,0) needs some (small) n_{xy}^h



- strong orbital polarization ($n_{xz,yz}^h \approx 0.88$ vs. $n_{xy}^h \approx 0.25$)
- quite sensitive to n_{xy}^h
- Second-order superexchange model + SOC + Δ works rather well

Thanks

- Pavel Anisimov, Friedemann Aust
- Teresa Feldmaier, Pascal Strobel
- Michael Schmid, Philipp Hansmann
- (many) discussions with Giniyat Khaliullin, George Jackeli, Hide Takagi

