

# Orbitals and Polarons in Fe – based Superconductors

- **Electron correlations in Fe based SC: “Lower Hubbard bands”**
- **Nematic order, orbitals, and spin fluctuations in Fe based SC**
- **Temperature dependent electronic structure: “red/blue shift”**

Bernd Büchner  
IFW Dresden  
TU Dresden



# Thanks to

## ARPES



**S. Borisenko**

S. Fedorov, Y. Kushnirenko,  
J. Maletz, S. Thirupathiah, Z. Liu  
Danil Evtushinsky  
Timur Kim  
Alexander Kordyuk

IFW Dresden

IFW Dresden & HZB  
Diamond Light Source  
IMP-Kiev

## NMR/NQR



**H. Grafe**



**S.H. Baek**

G. Lang, E. Brüning, P. Lepucki  
E. Brüning F. Hammerath

IFW Dresden

## Synthesis



**S. Aswartham**

S. Wurmehl, R. Kappenberger  
I. Morozov et al.  
T. Wolf  
J. M. Ok, J. S. Kim

IFW Dresden  
Moscow (MSU)  
Karlsruhe (KIT)  
U Pohang

## Transport Magnetisation



**C. Hess**

C. Hess, F. Caglieris, X. Hong, C. Wuttke  
A. Wolter-Giraud

IFW Dresden

Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
**DFG**



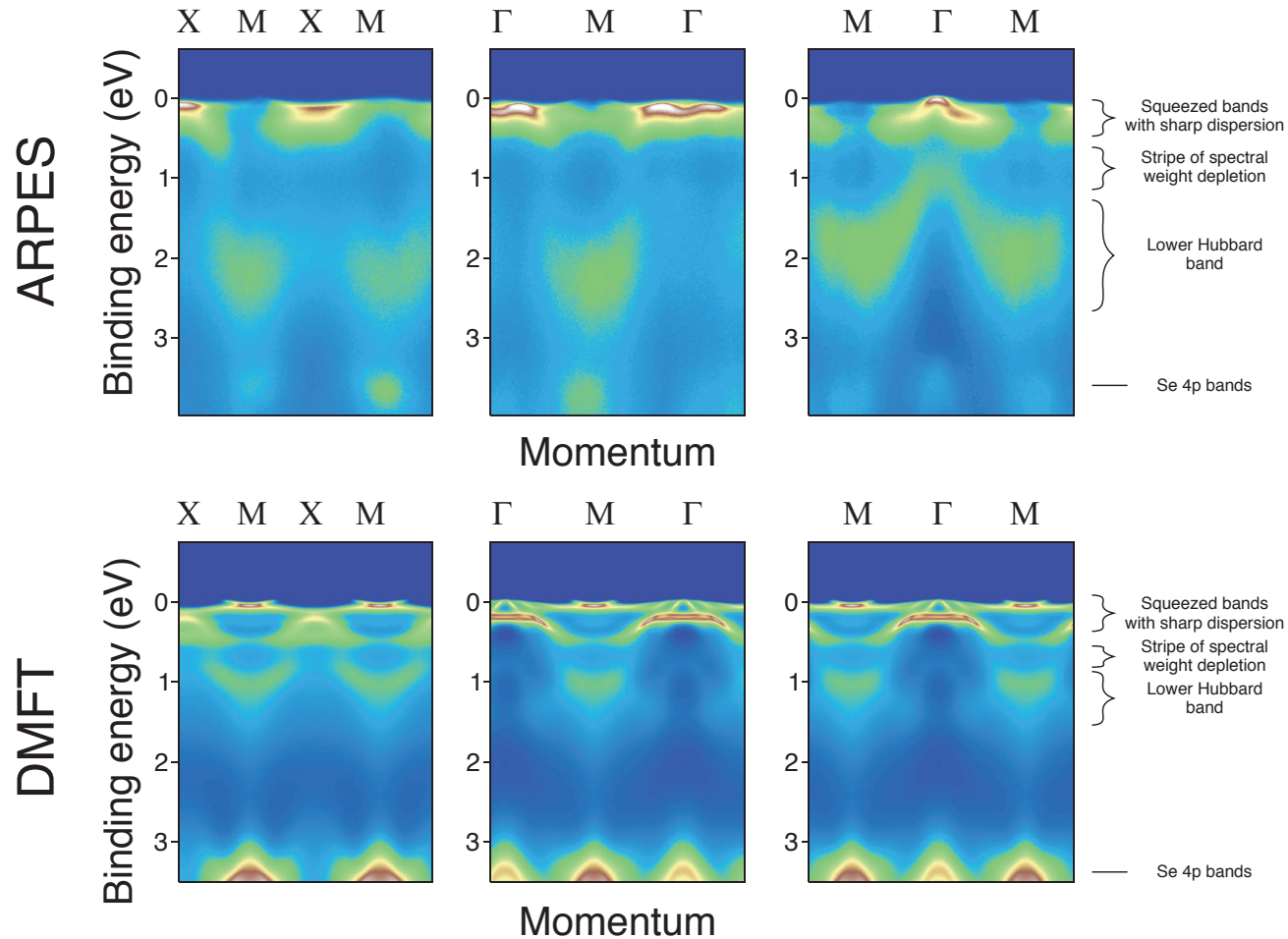
## Theory

J. van den Brink, D. Efremov  
A. Yaresko  
S. Biermann  
M. Aichhorn, Y. Sassa

IFW Dresden

MPI-FKF Stuttgart  
CNRS Palaiseau  
U Graz, ETH Zürich

# Electronic correlations: “Lower Hubbard bands”



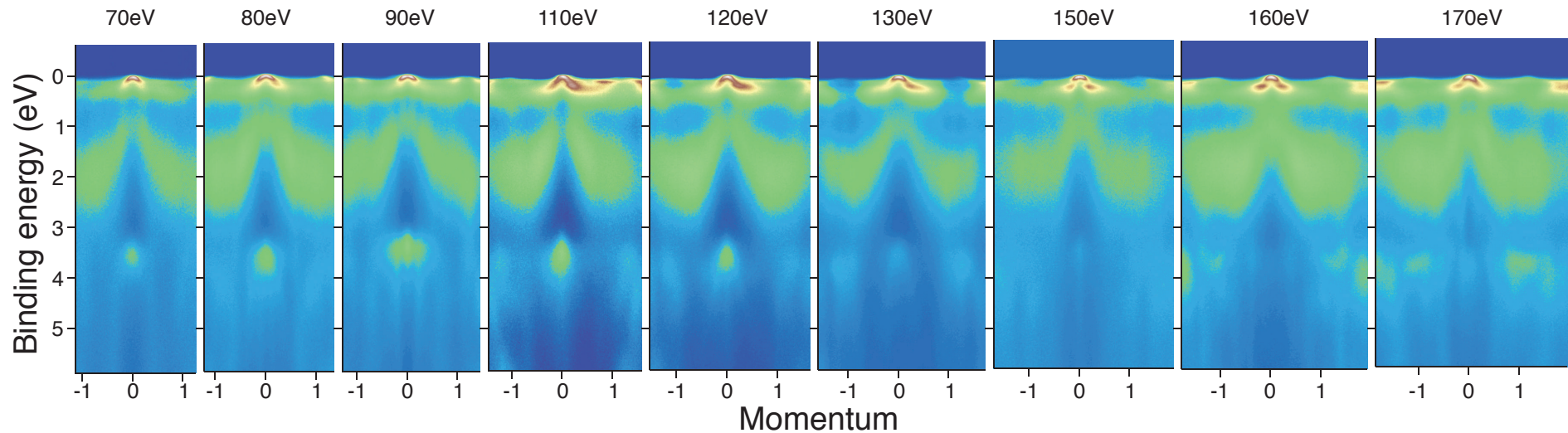
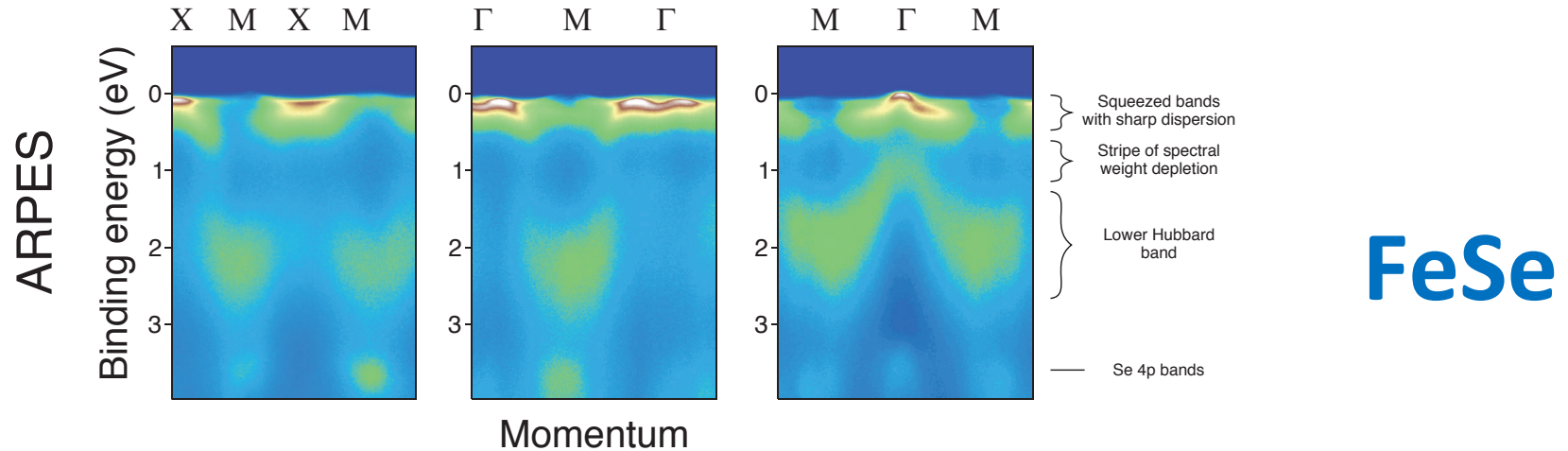
## FeSe

Direct observation of dispersive lower Hubbard band  
in iron-based superconductor FeSe

D. V. Evtushinsky,<sup>1,\*</sup> M. Aichhorn,<sup>2</sup> Y. Sassa,<sup>3,4</sup> Z.-H. Liu,<sup>1</sup> J. Maletz,<sup>1</sup>  
T. Wolf,<sup>5</sup> A. N. Yaresko,<sup>6</sup> S. Biermann,<sup>7</sup> S. V. Borisenko,<sup>1</sup> and B. Büchner<sup>1,8</sup>

See also M. Watson, R. Valenti et al.

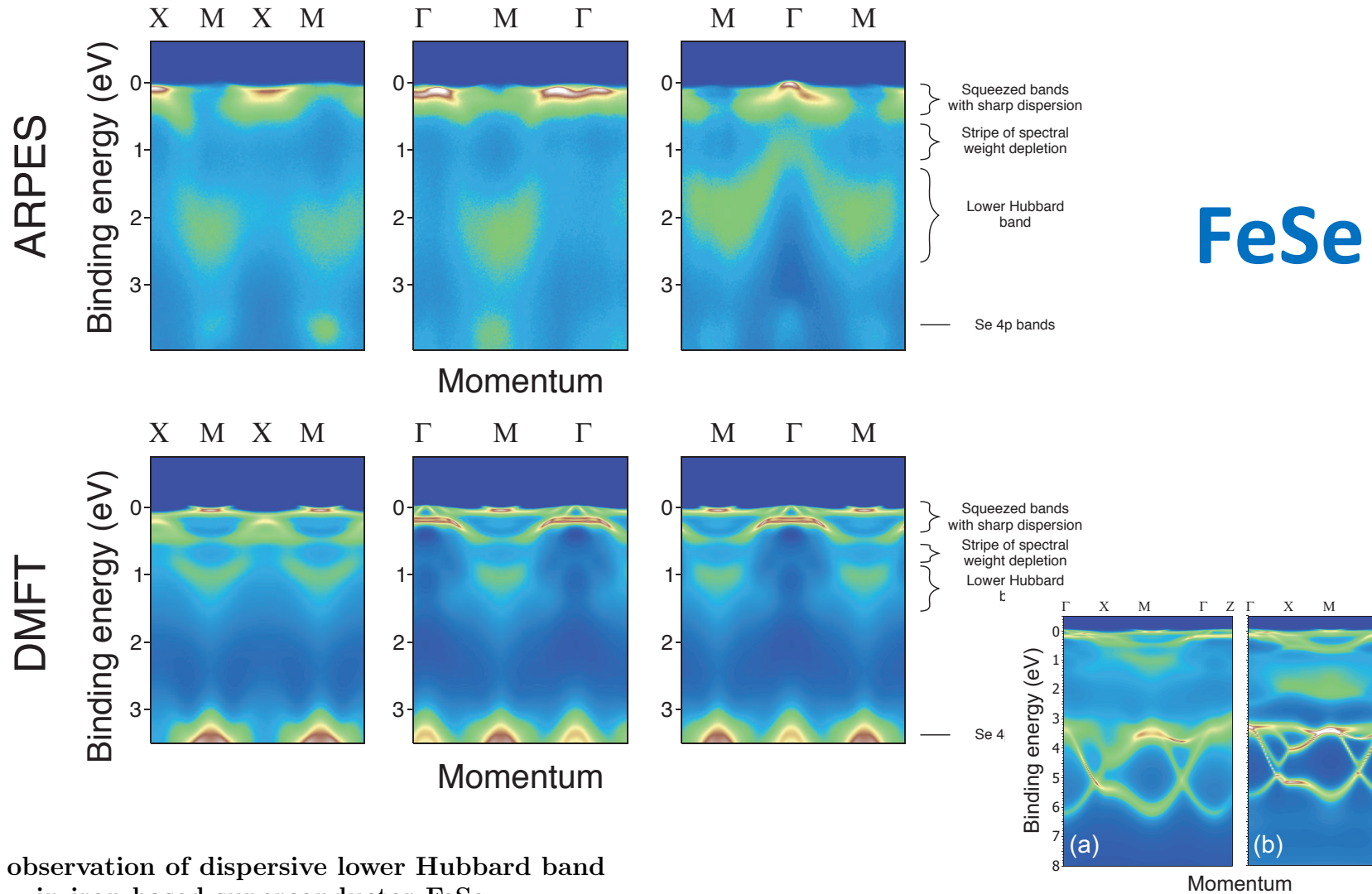
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T. Wolf,<sup>5</sup> A. N. Yaresko,<sup>6</sup> S. Biermann,<sup>7</sup> S. V. Borisenko,<sup>1</sup> and B. Büchner<sup>1,8</sup>

# Electronic correlations: “Lower Hubbard bands”

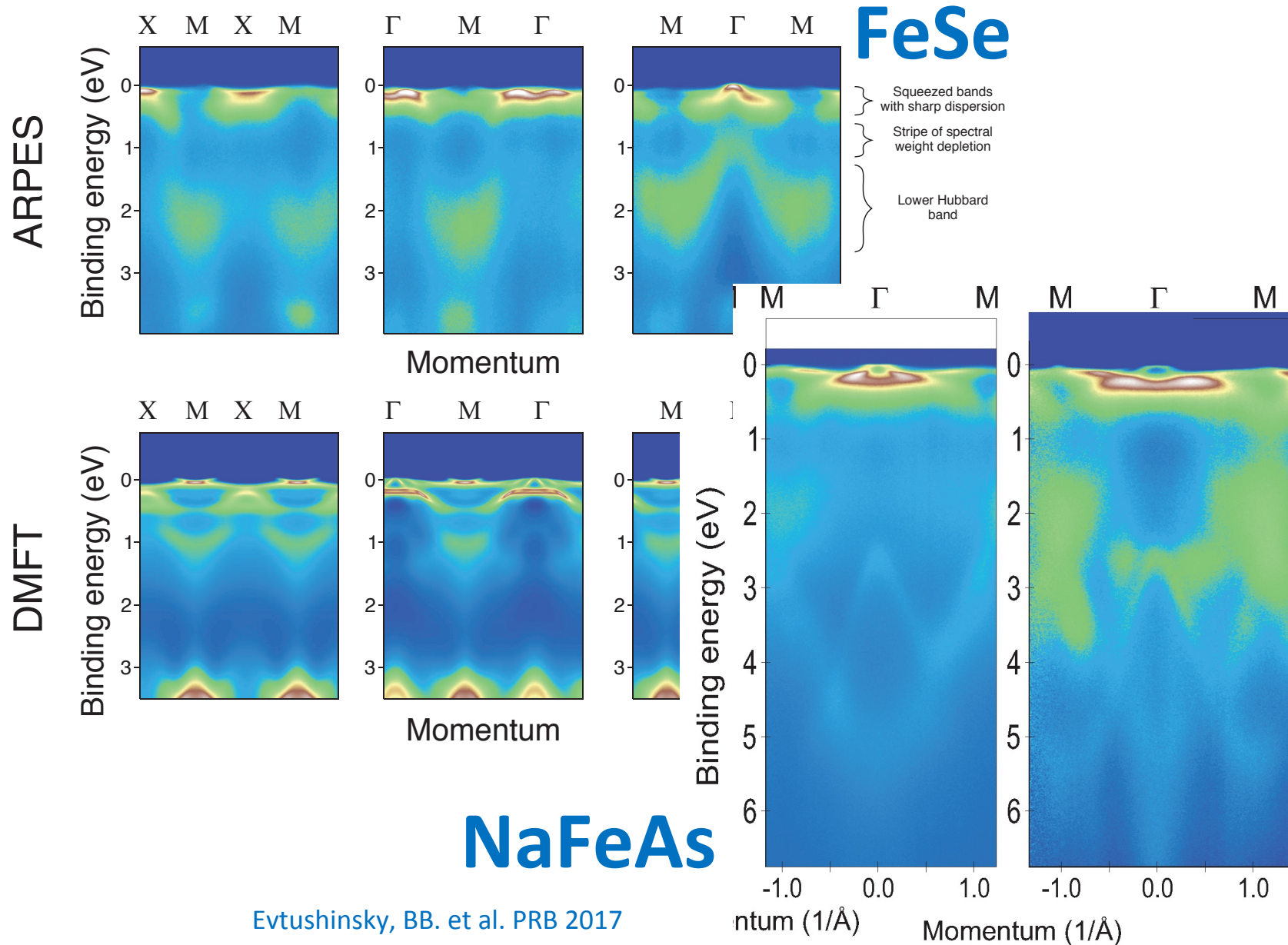


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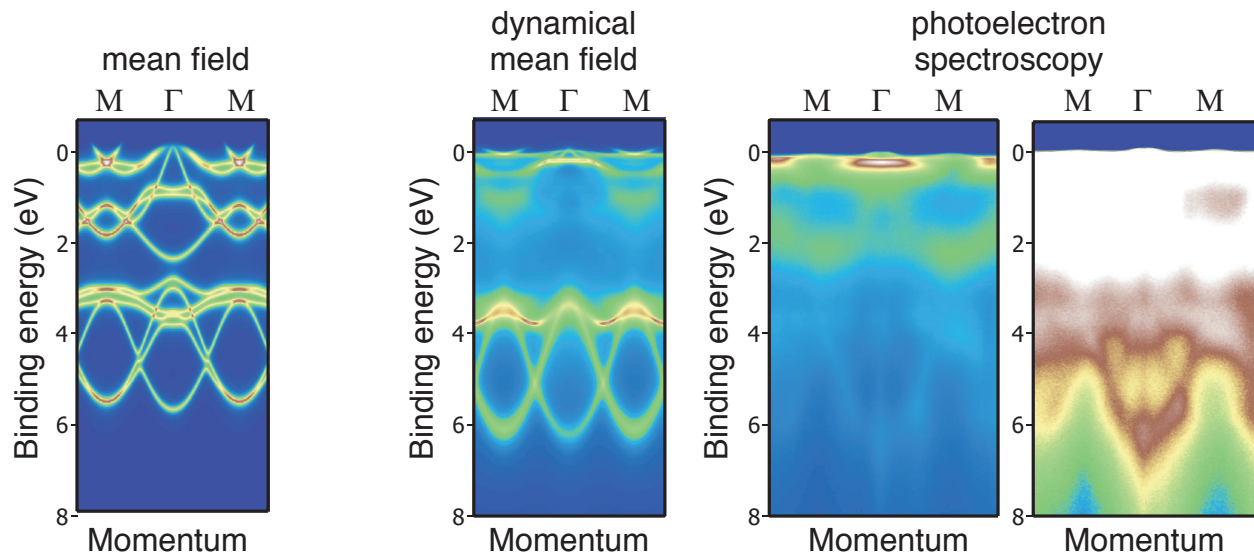
D. V. Evtushinsky,<sup>1,\*</sup> M. Aichhorn,<sup>2</sup> Y. Sassa,<sup>3,4</sup> Z.-H. Liu,<sup>1</sup> J. Maletz,<sup>1</sup> T. Wolf,<sup>5</sup> A. N. Yaresko,<sup>6</sup> S. Biermann,<sup>7</sup> S. V. Borisenko,<sup>1</sup> and B. Büchner<sup>1,8</sup>

Fig. S 4: Calculated spectral function using two different variants of the analytic continuation method for the self energy. Left (a) using an artificial Greens function, right (b) using a rescaling of the self energy.

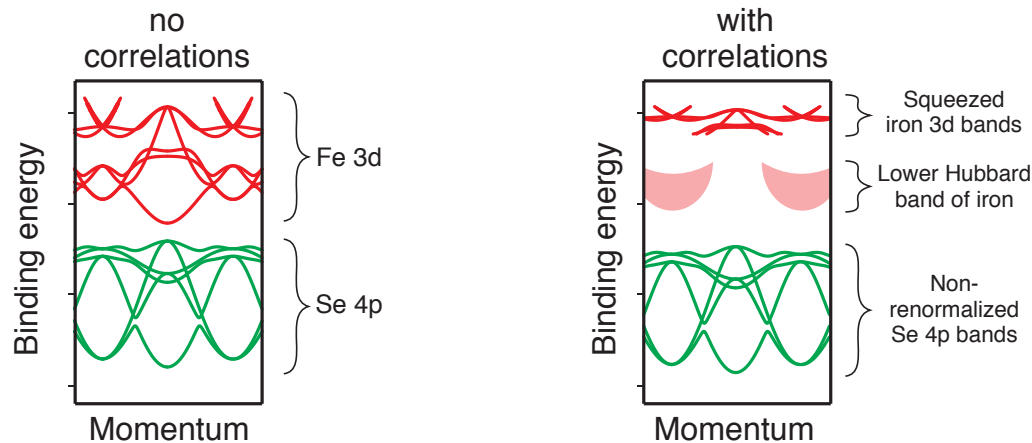
# Electronic correlations: “Lower Hubbard bands”



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**FeSe**



Direct observation of dispersive lower Hubbard band in iron-based superconductor FeSe

## Conclusions

Sizeable electronic correlations in Fe-based SC

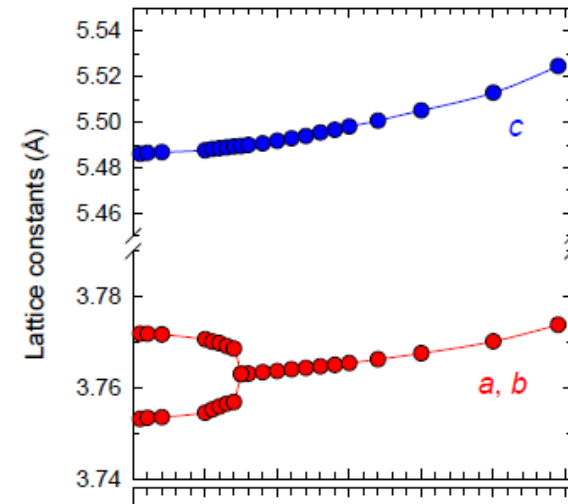
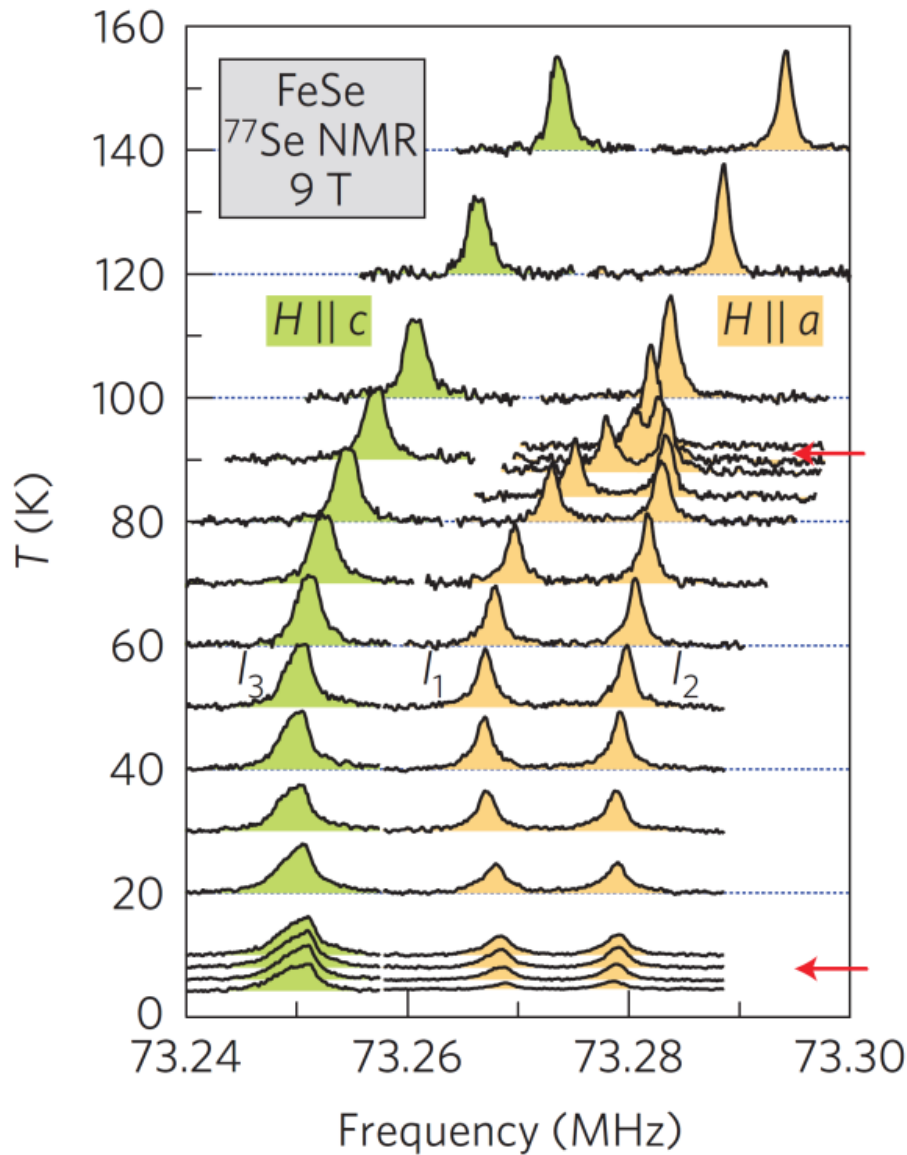
“dispersive” lower Hubbard bands with contributions from all 5 orbitals

ARPES on Fe based SC shows both “itinerant e<sup>-</sup>” with orbital character and

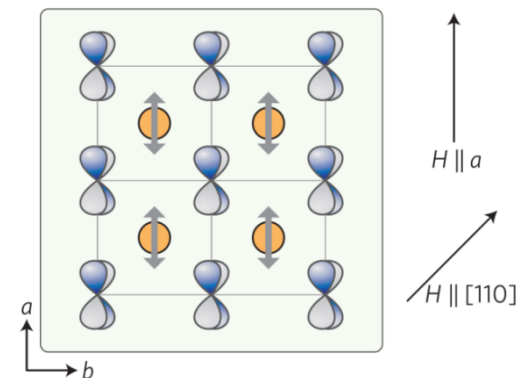
“local physics” of Fe 3d orbitals

D. V. Evtushinsky,<sup>1, \*</sup> M. Aichorn,<sup>2</sup> Y. Sassa,<sup>3, 4</sup> Z.-H. Liu,<sup>1</sup> J. Maletz,<sup>1</sup> T. Wolf,<sup>5</sup> A. N. Yaresko,<sup>6</sup> S. Biermann,<sup>7</sup> S. V. Borisenko,<sup>1</sup> and B. Büchner<sup>1, 8</sup>

# Nematic order, orbitals, and spin fluctuations

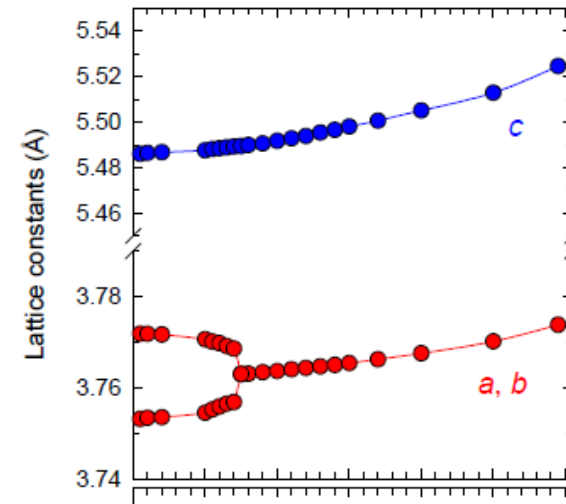
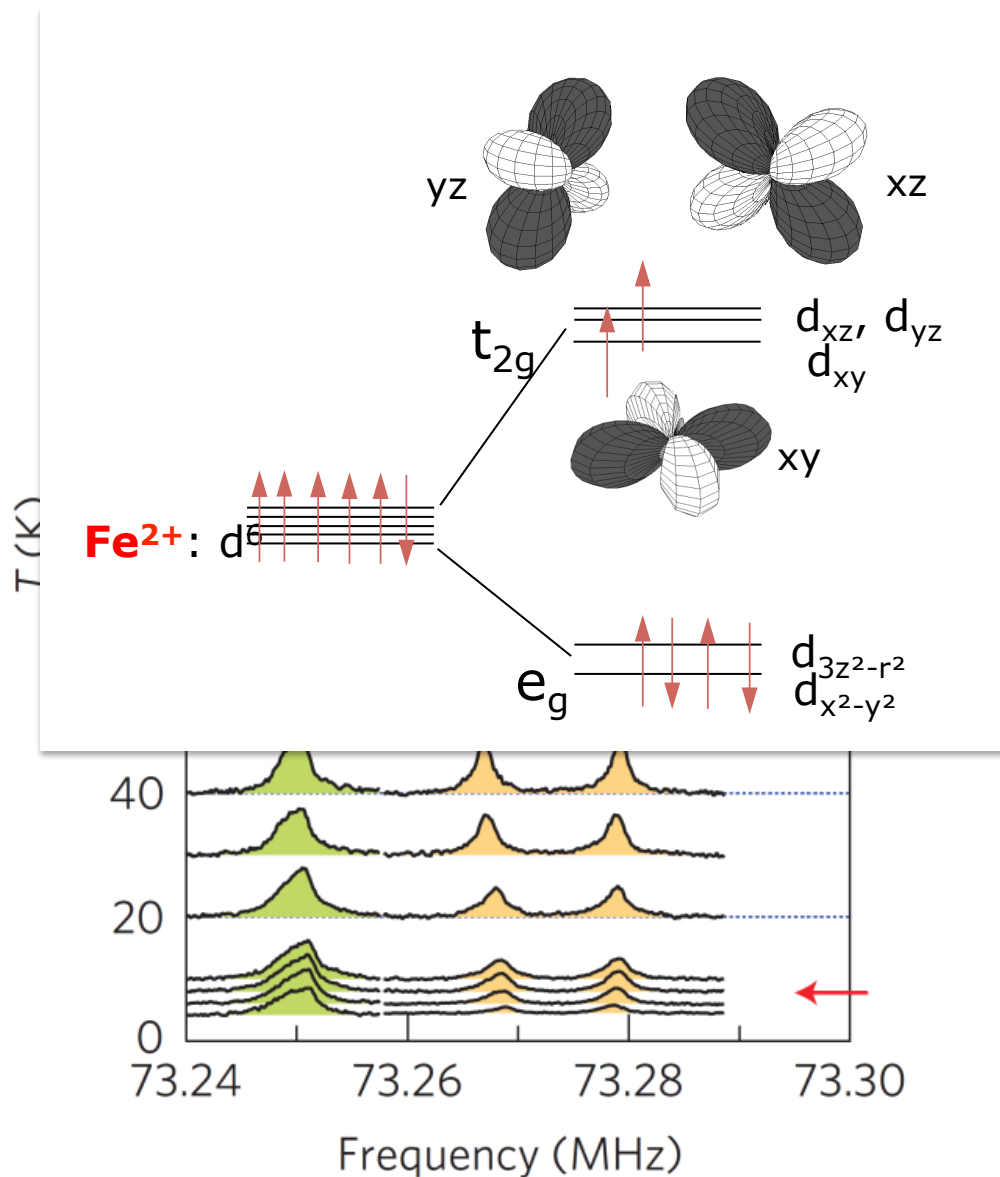


- Tiny structural distortion
- In-plane anisotropy of  $\kappa$  comparable of to  $\kappa_c - \kappa_{a,b}$

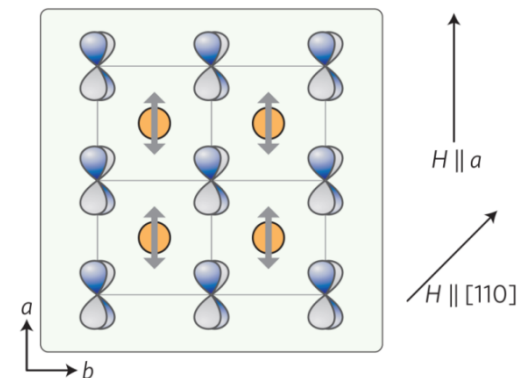




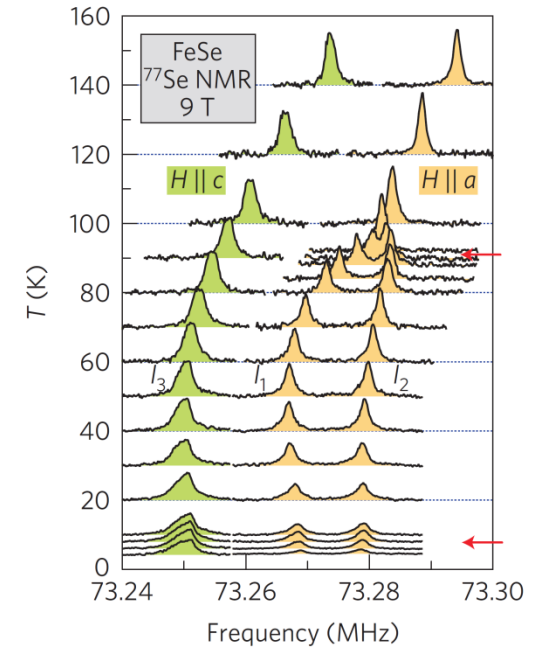
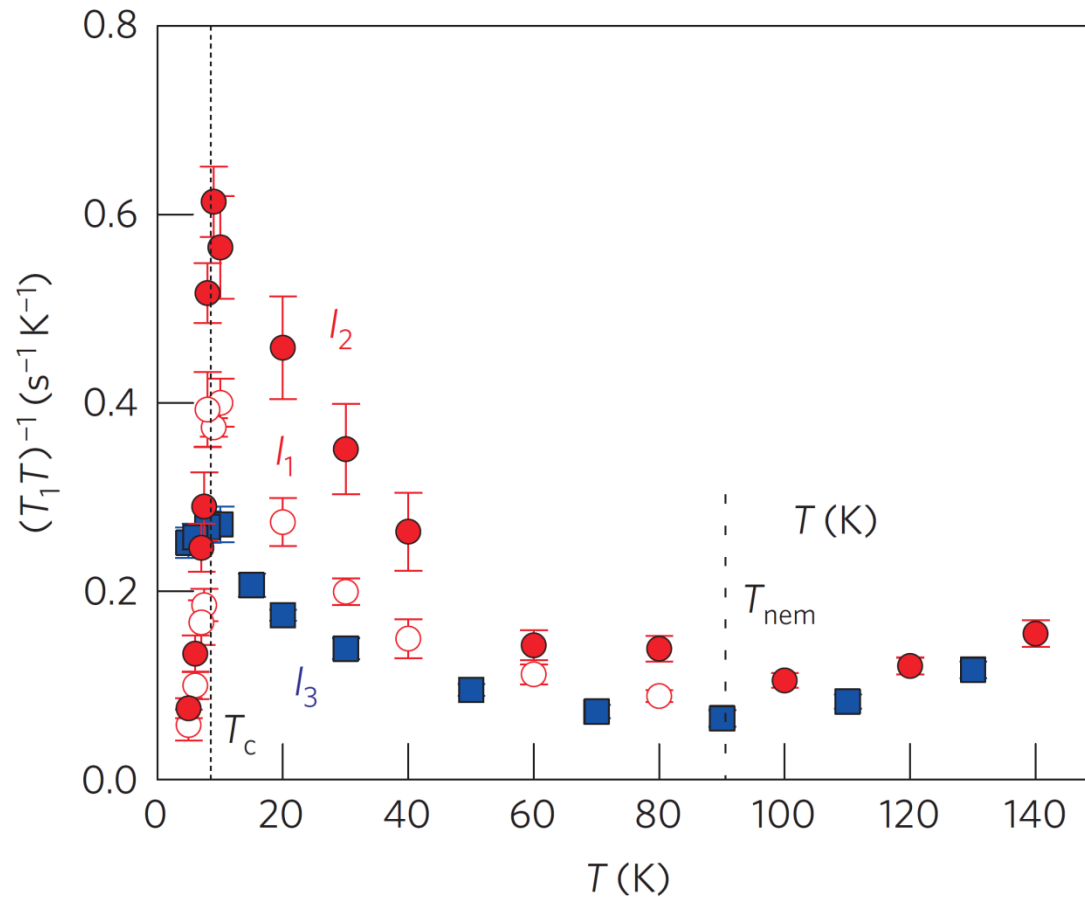
# Nematic order, orbitals, and spin fluctuations



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# FeSe: nematic order but no slow (NMR) spin fluctuations

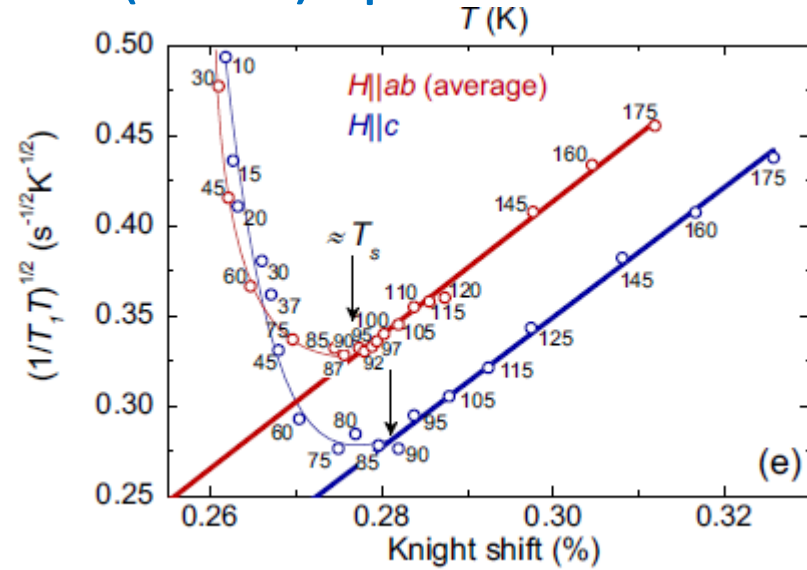
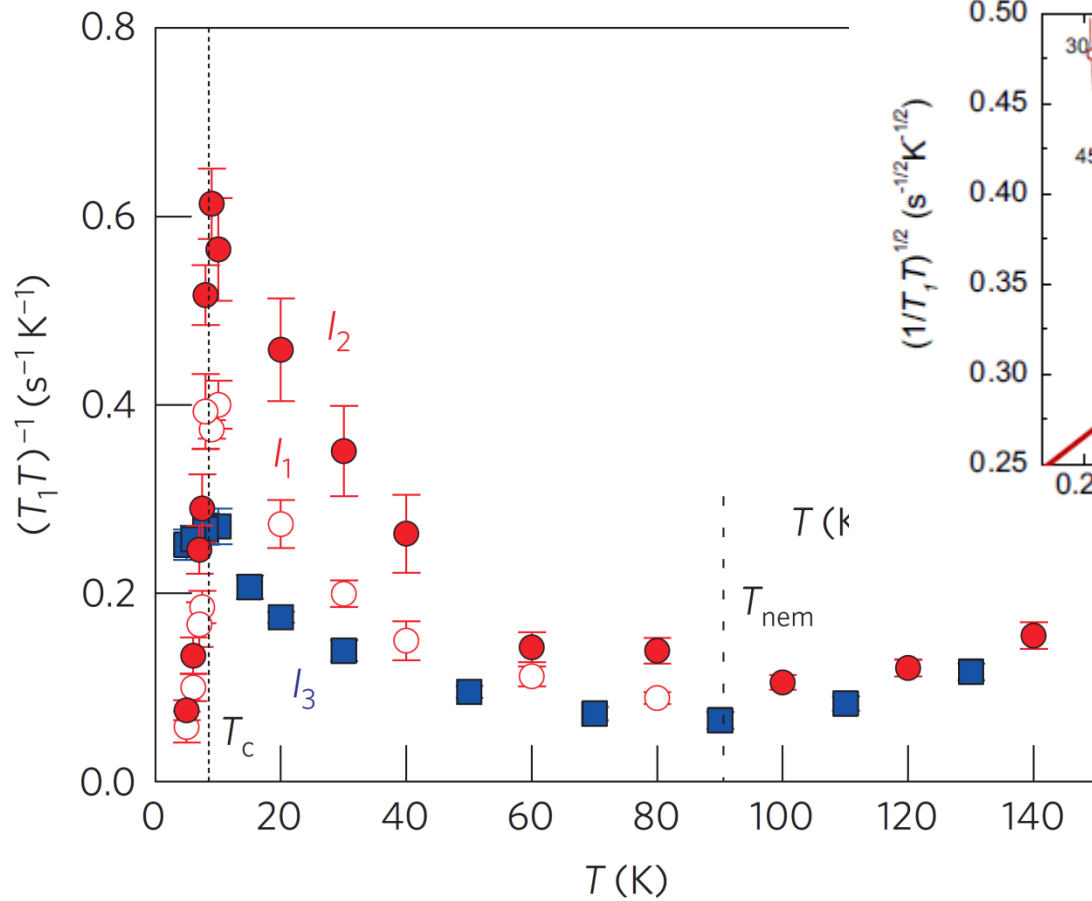


Above  $T_{nem}$ : typical  $T_1$  for Fe based sc far away from  $T_N$ ,  $(T_1 T)^{-1} \propto K_{spin}^2$

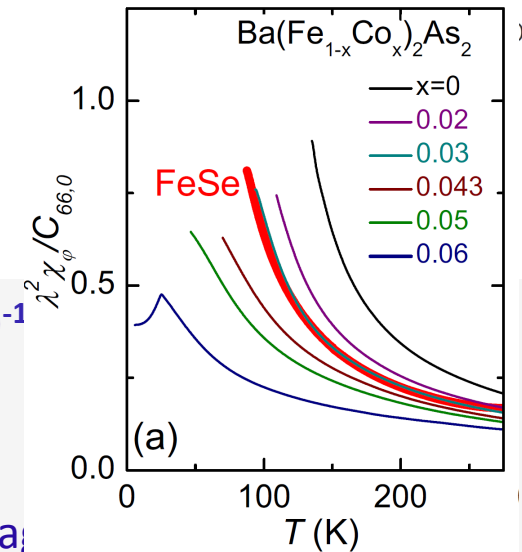
At  $T_{nem}$ : No drastic change of  $T_1$

Well below  $T_{nem}$ : Increase of  $1/(T_1 T)$  signaling the proximity of a magnetic instability

# FeSe: nematic order but no slow (NMR) spin fluctuations



A.E. Böhrer et al., PRL 2015



Above  $T_{nem}$ : typical  $T_1$  for Fe based sc far away from  $T_N$ ,  $(T_1 T)^{-1}$

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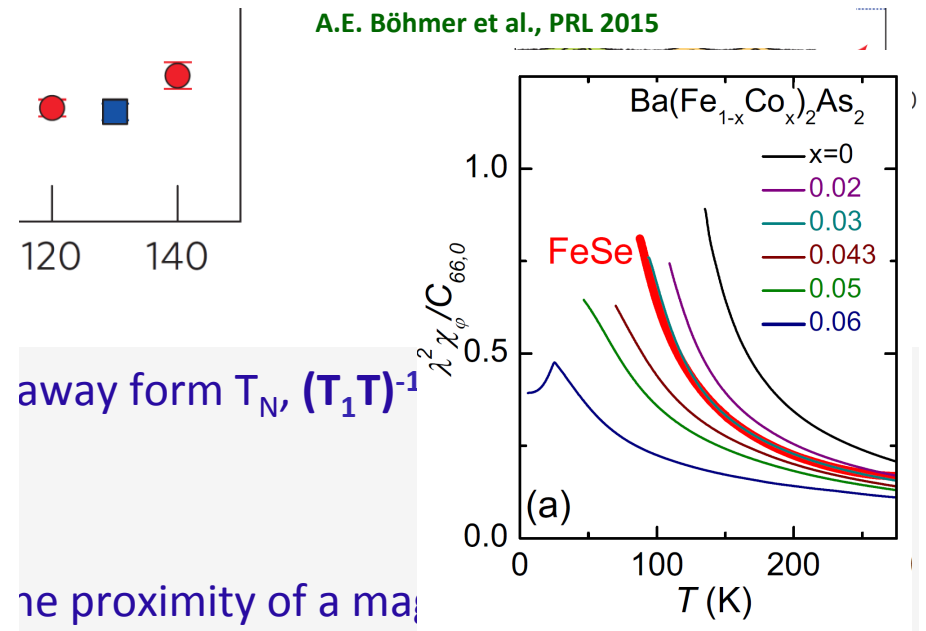
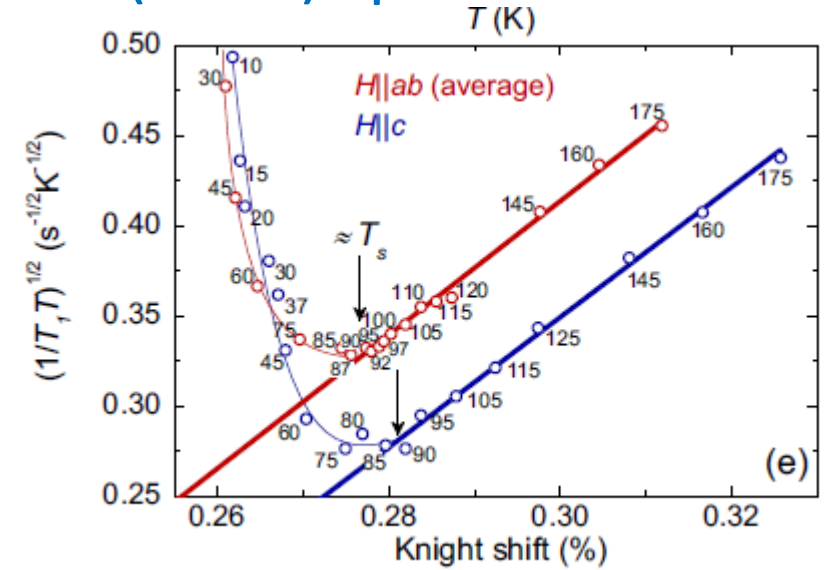
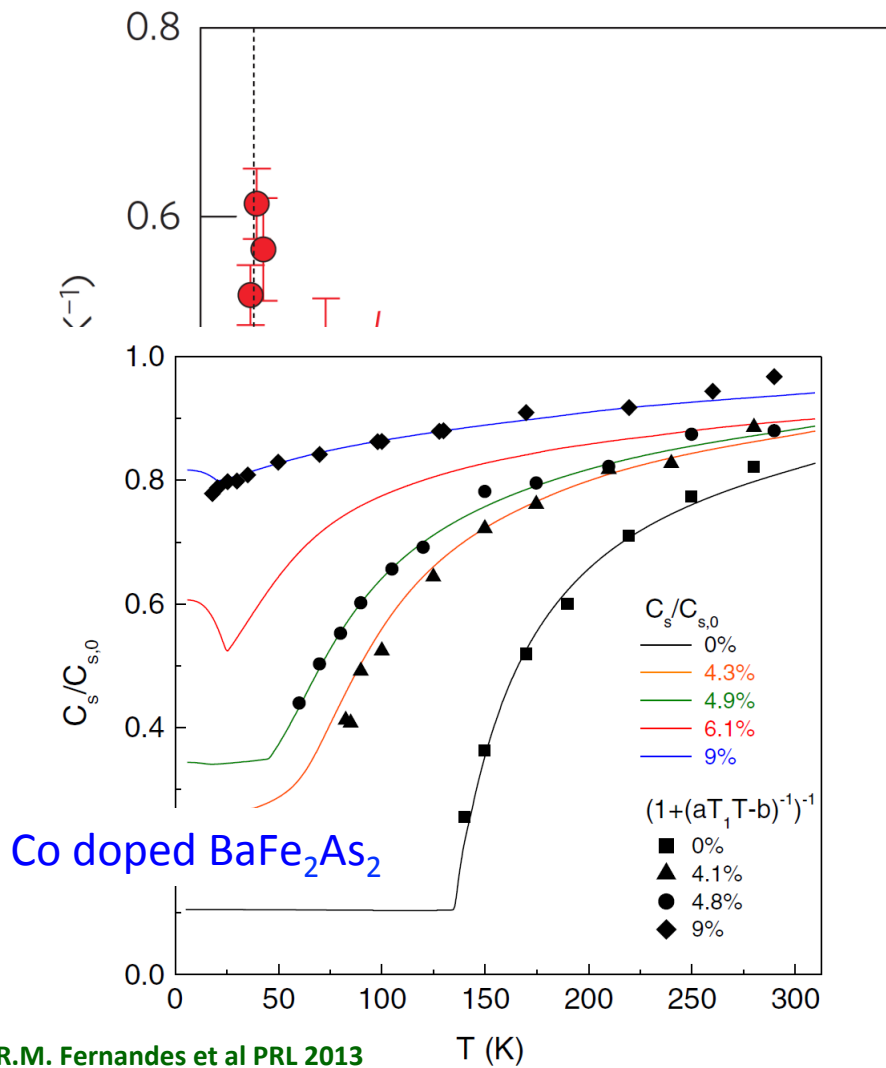


FIG. 2 (color online). Comparison between the relative shear modulus  $C_s/C_{s,0}$  (continuous lines, from Ref. [8]) and the rescaled NMR  $1/T_1 T$  (closed symbols, from Ref. [3]) for different “effective” Co concentrations in  $\text{Ba}(\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{Co}_x)_2\text{As}_2$ . The

# NMR on FeSe: Conclusions

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experimental signatures for lattice/electrons similar to findings in 122 ...  
but long range magnetic order and slow spin fluctuations are missing...  
**→ data with striking difference to findings in Ba122**  
**-> from NMR no evidence for “conventional spin-driven” nematicity!**

S. Baek, BB et al., Nat. Mat. 2015

**Many scenarios for a “magnetic origin” of nematic order in FeSe  
which are consistent with the NMR data!**

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## Effect of magnetic frustration on nematicity and superconductivity in iron chalcogenides

J. K. Glasbrenner<sup>1\*</sup>, I. I. Mazin<sup>2</sup>, Harald O. Jeschke<sup>3</sup>, P. J. Hirschfeld<sup>4</sup>, R. M. Fernandes<sup>5</sup>  
and Roser Valentí<sup>3</sup>

understanding the more exotic derivatives of the FeSe system. The FeSe phase diagram is distinct from the pnictides: the orthorhombic distortion, which is likely to be of a ‘spin-nematic’ nature in numerous pnictides, is not accompanied by magnetic order in FeSe, and the superconducting transition temperature  $T_c$  rises significantly with pressure before decreasing. Here we show that the magnetic interactions in FeSe, as opposed to most pnictides, demonstrate an unusual and unanticipated frustration, which suppresses magnetic (but not nematic) order, triggers ferro-orbital order in the nematic phase and can

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## Nematicity and quantum paramagnetism in FeSe

Fa Wang<sup>1,2</sup>, Steven A. Kivelson<sup>3</sup> and Dung-Hai Lee<sup>4,5\*</sup>

In common with other iron-based high-temperature superconductors, FeSe exhibits a transition to a ‘nematic’ phase below 90 K in which the crystal rotation symmetry is spontaneously broken. However, the absence of strong low-frequency magnetic fluctuations near or above the transition has been interpreted as implying the primacy of orbital ordering. In contrast, we establish that quantum fluctuations of spin-1 local moments with strongly frustrated exchange interactions can lead to a nematic quantum paramagnetic phase consistent with the observations in FeSe. We show that this phase is a fundamental expression of the existence of a Berry’s phase associated with the topological defects of a Néel antiferromagnet, in a manner analogous to that which gives rise to valence bond crystal order for spin-1/2 systems. We present an exactly solvable model realizing the nematic quantum paramagnetic phase, discuss its relation with the spin-1  $J_1$ - $J_2$  model, and construct a field theory

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In common with other iron-based PRL 115, 116401 (2015)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
11 SEPTEMBER 2015

90 K in which the crystal rotational  
fluctuations near or above the  
establish that quantum fluctuations  
nematic quantum paramagnetism  
expression of the existence of a  
analogous to that which gives rise  
realizing the nematic quantum p

**Antiferroquadrupolar and Ising-Nematic Orders of a Frustrated Bilinear-Biquadratic  
Heisenberg Model and Implications for the Magnetism of FeSe**

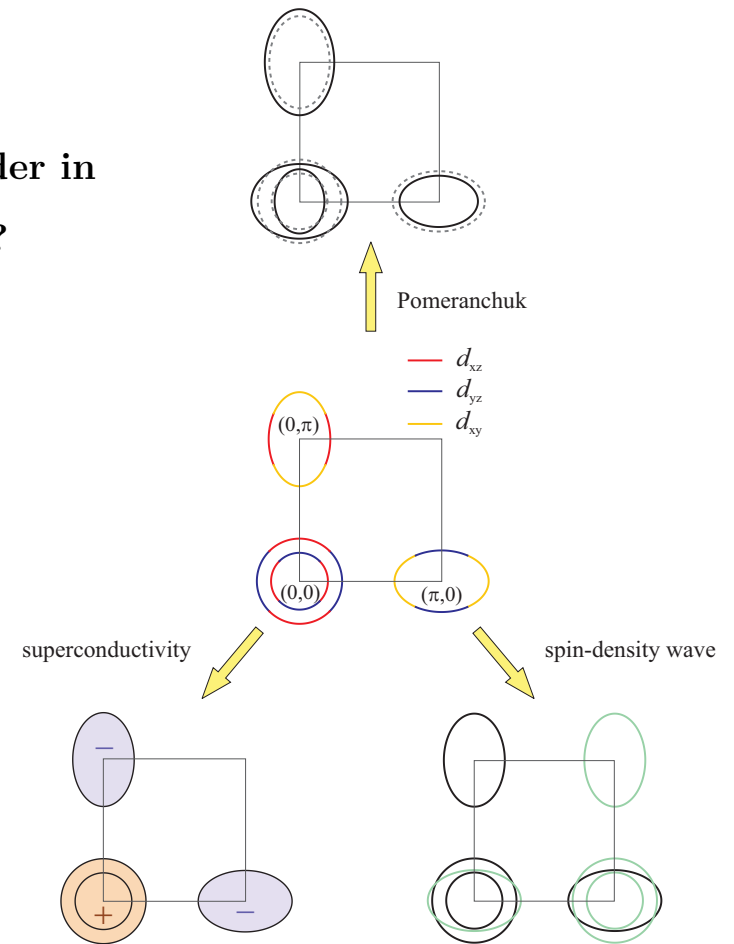
Rong Yu<sup>1,2</sup> and Qimiao Si<sup>3</sup>



# Another scenario: Pomeranchuk versus SDW instability

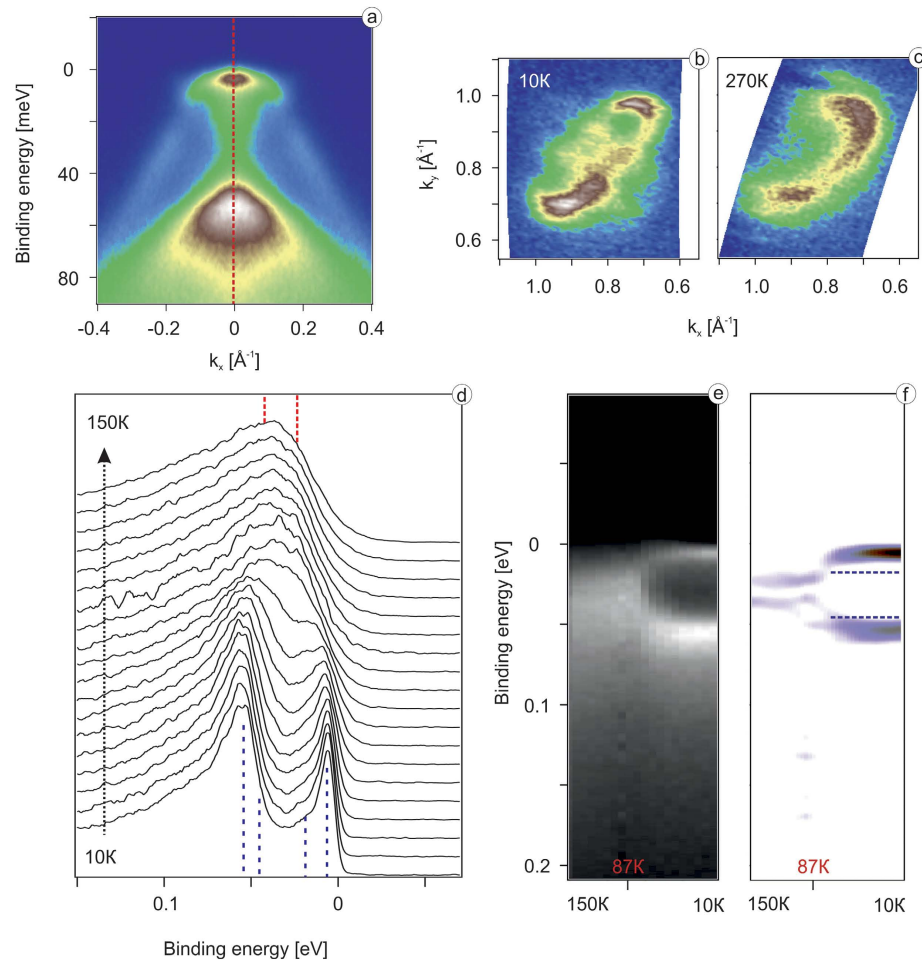
Magnetism, superconductivity, and spontaneous orbital order in iron-based superconductors: who comes first and why?

Andrey V. Chubukov<sup>1</sup>, M. Khodas<sup>2,3</sup>, and Rafael M. Fernandes<sup>1</sup>



in systems with large Fermi energies, such as  $\text{BaFe}_2\text{As}_2$ ,  $\text{LaFeAsO}$ , and  $\text{NaFeAs}$ , orbital order is induced by stripe magnetism. However, in systems with small Fermi energies, such as  $\text{FeSe}$ , the system develops a spontaneous orbital order, while magnetic order does not develop. Our results provide a unifying description of different iron-based materials.

# ARPES on FeSe: Band splitting due to nematic order



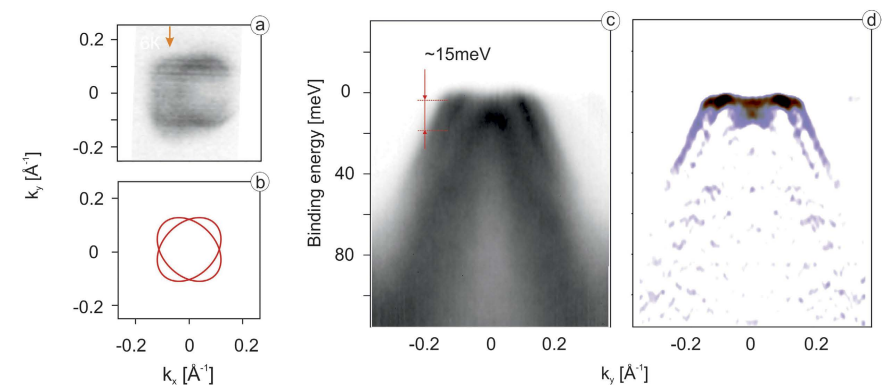
**Figure 3.** (a) High resolution ARPES data along the shortest A-A direction in vicinity of the A point; (b) high resolution ARPES derived Fermi surface in vicinity of A point measured with  $h\nu = 28$  eV and  $T = 10$  K; (c) ARPES derived Fermi surface in vicinity of A point measured with  $h\nu = 28$  eV and  $T = 270$  K; (d) EDC curves taken at the A point measured at temperatures from 10 K to 150 K; (e, f) color plot representation of data from panel (d) and its second derivative, respectively.

## Effect of nematic ordering on electronic structure of FeSe

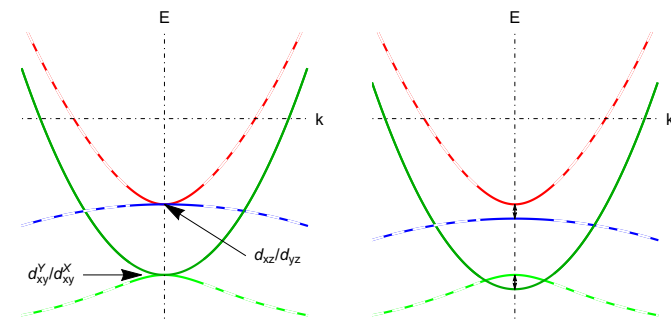
A. Fedorov<sup>1,2,3</sup>, A. Yaresko<sup>4</sup>, T. K. Kim<sup>5</sup>, Y. Kushnirenko<sup>1</sup>, E. Haubold<sup>1</sup>, T. Wolf<sup>6</sup>, M. Hoesch<sup>5</sup>, A. Grüneis<sup>2</sup>, B. Büchner<sup>1</sup> & S. V. Borisenko<sup>1</sup>

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS | Published: 10 November 2016

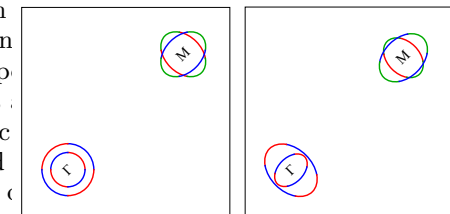
Similar data  
M. Watson, A. Coldea et al.  
PRB 2016



**Figure 4.** (a) High resolution ARPES derived Fermi surface in vicinity of Z point measured with  $h\nu = 23$  eV; (b) cartoon of the two domain Fermi surface in vicinity of Z point; (c, d) high resolution energy cut along the shortest Z-Z direction at  $k_y = 0.05 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  and its second derivative respectively.



**FIG. 16:** The splittings in point in the 2Fe BZ for in fixed trajectory. The M p coordinates and the cut is panel – above the nematic nematic phase. Solid and with near-pure and mixed c



Competing instabilities, orbital ordering and splitting of band degeneracies from a parquet renormalization group analysis of a 4-pocket model for iron-based superconductors: application to FeSe

Rui-Qi Xing<sup>1</sup>, Laura Classen<sup>2</sup>, Maxim Khodas<sup>3</sup>, and Andrey V. Chubukov<sup>1</sup>

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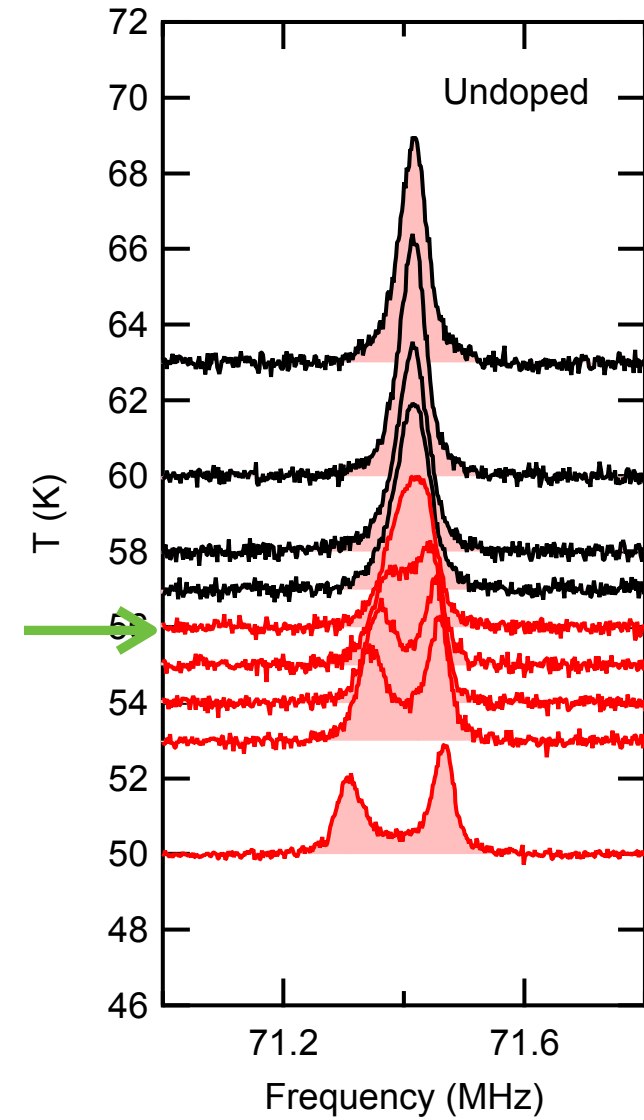
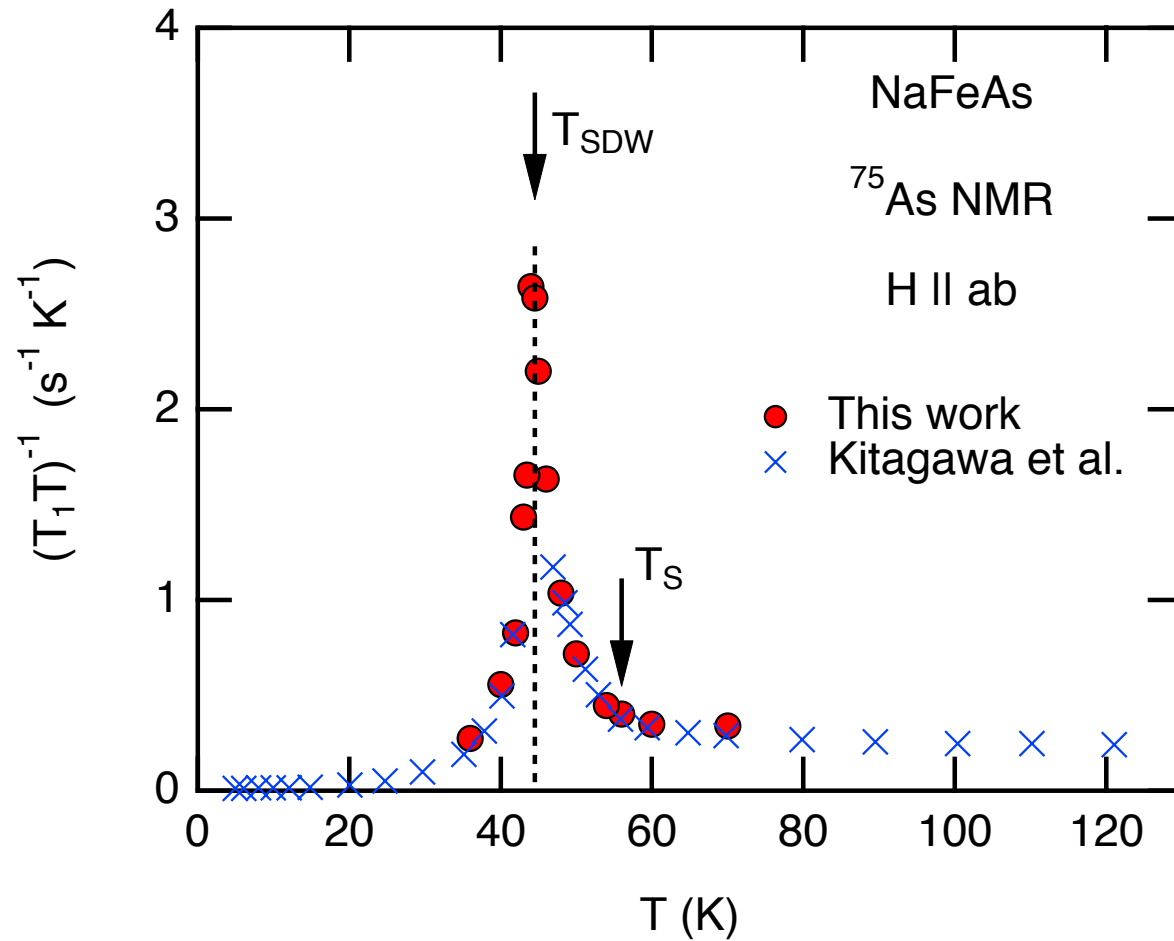
S. Baek, BB et al., Nat. Mat. 2015

Many scenarios for a “magnetic origin” of nematic order in FeSe as well as  
spontaneous orbital order are consistent with the NMR data!

Spin fluctuations and nematic order as seen by NMR: Striking differences  
between FeSe and  $\text{BaFe}_2\text{As}_2$  !

What about other systems?

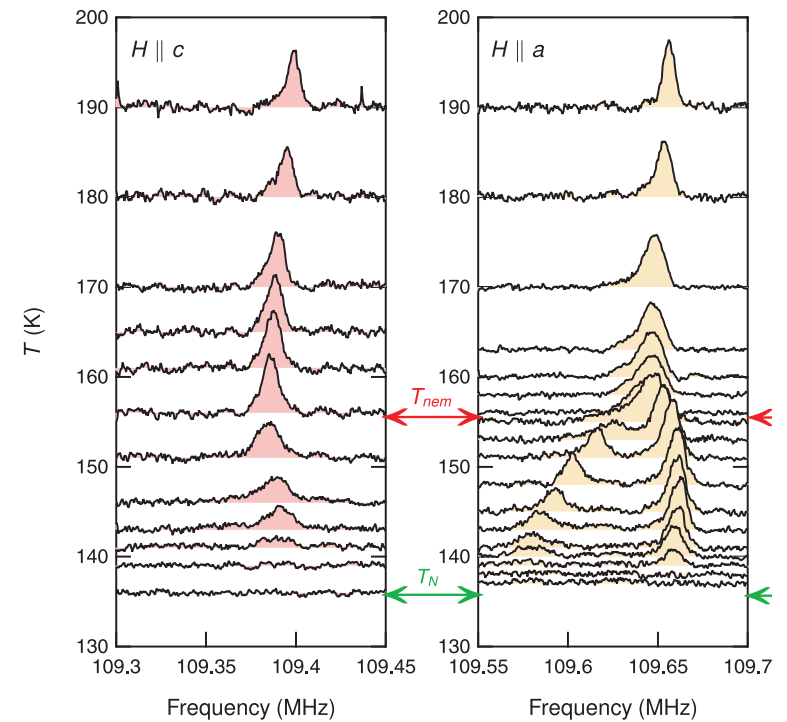
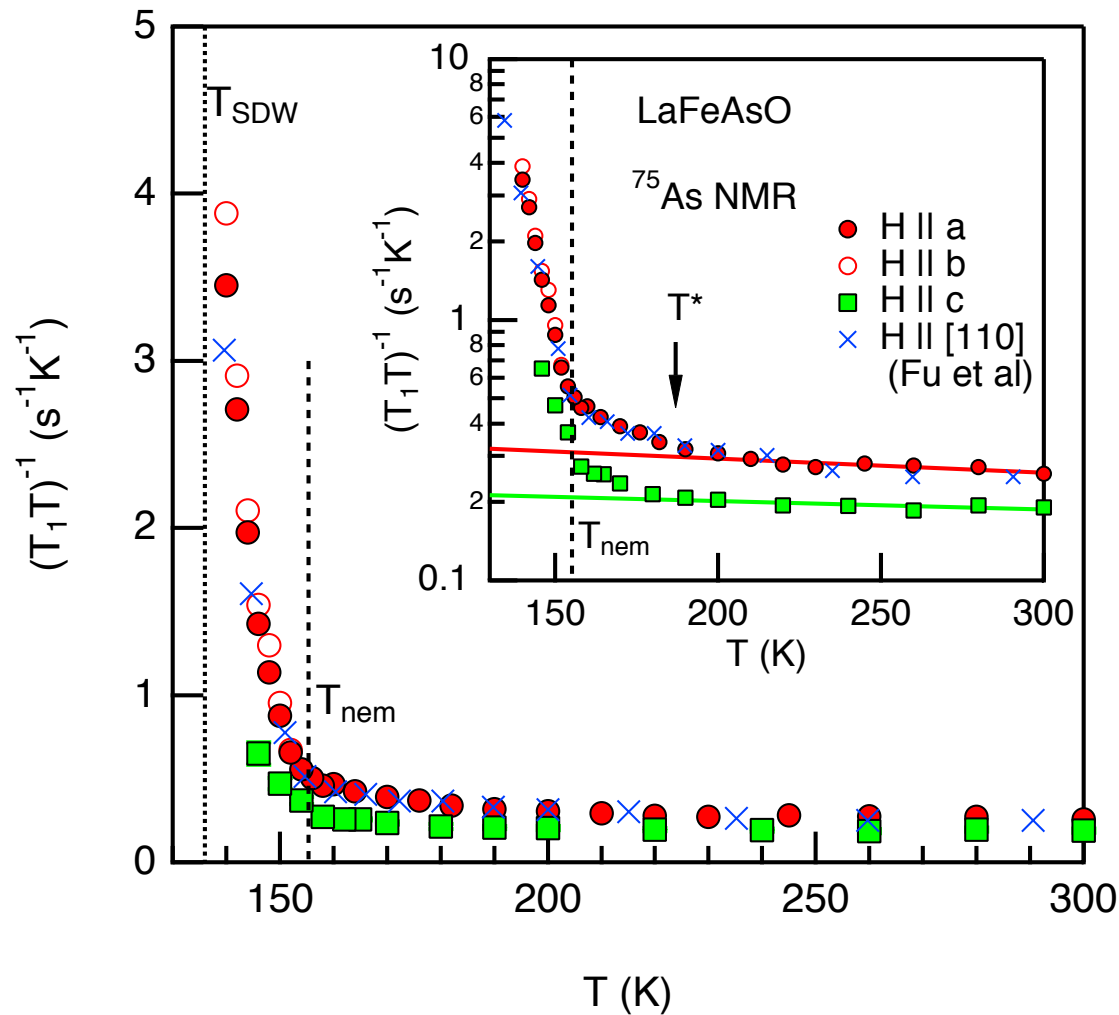
# NMR on NaFeAs



No clear evidence for magnetic instability above  $T_{nem}$

Strong ( $\gg$  FeSe) enhancement of slow spin fluctuations at  $T_{nem}$

# NMR on LaOFeAs (1111)



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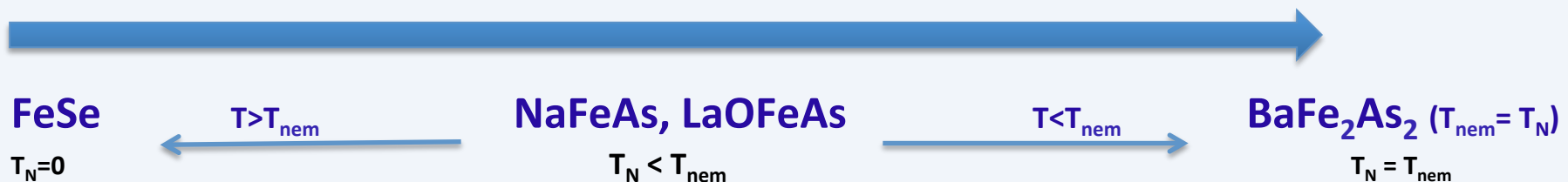
Many scenarios for a “magnetic origin” of nematic order in FeSe as well as spontaneous orbital order are consistent with the NMR data!

Spin fluctuations and nematic order as seen by NMR: FeSe vs BaFe<sub>2</sub>As<sub>2</sub>

Scaling between lattice softening and spin fluctuations (BaFe<sub>2</sub>As<sub>2</sub>) not generic!

Weak influence of nematic order on (slow) spin fluctuations (FeSe) is an exception!

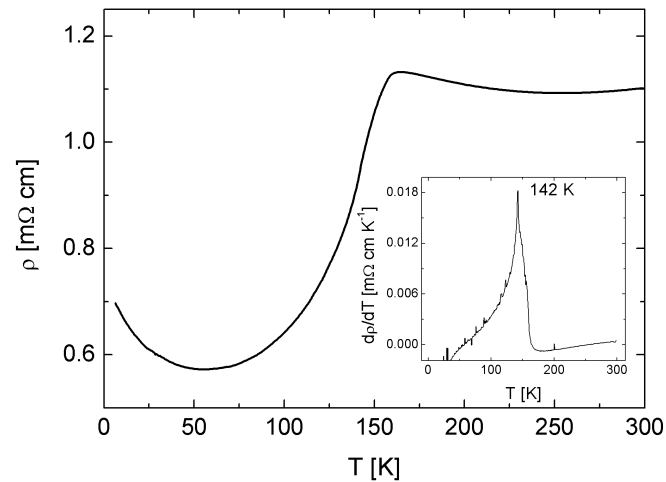
coupling between orbitals/lattice and (slow) spin fluctuations from NMR



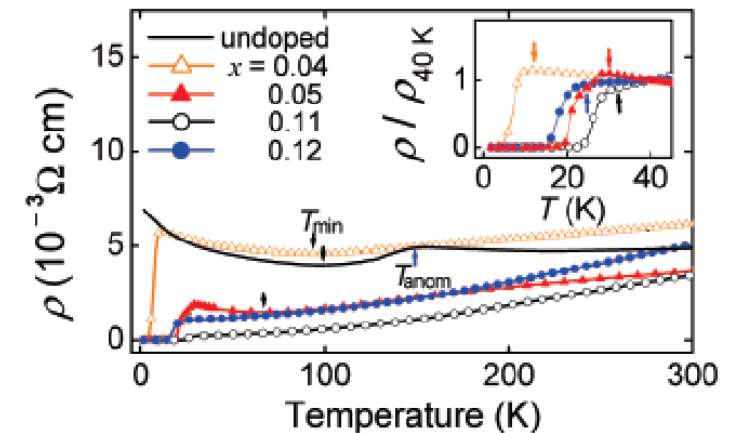
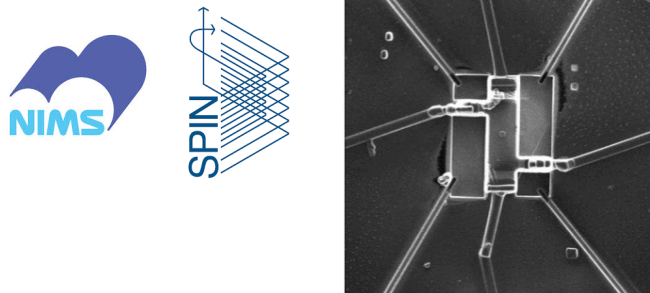
# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?

Most Fe based superconductors are “good metals”

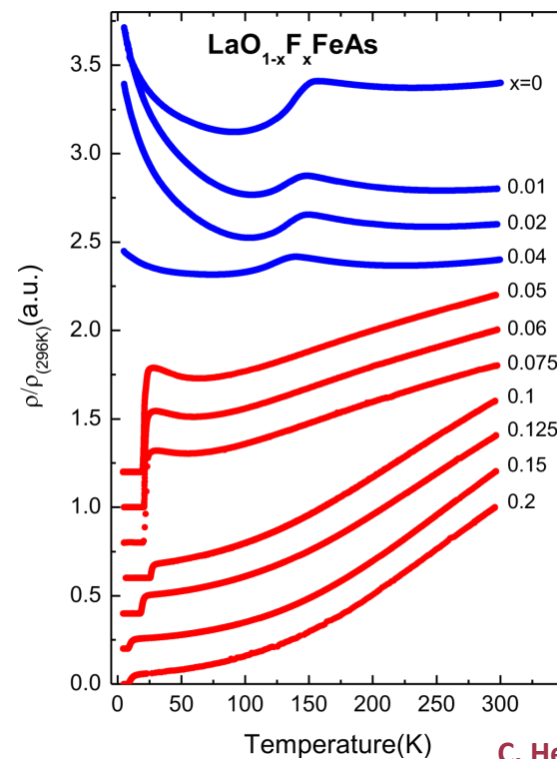
Exception: 1111 (in particular doped LaOFeAs)



F. Caglieris, M. Fujioka et al.



Y. Kamihara et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008

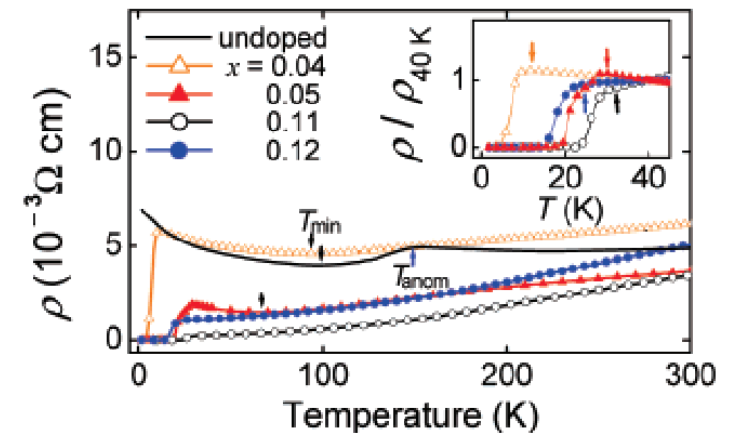
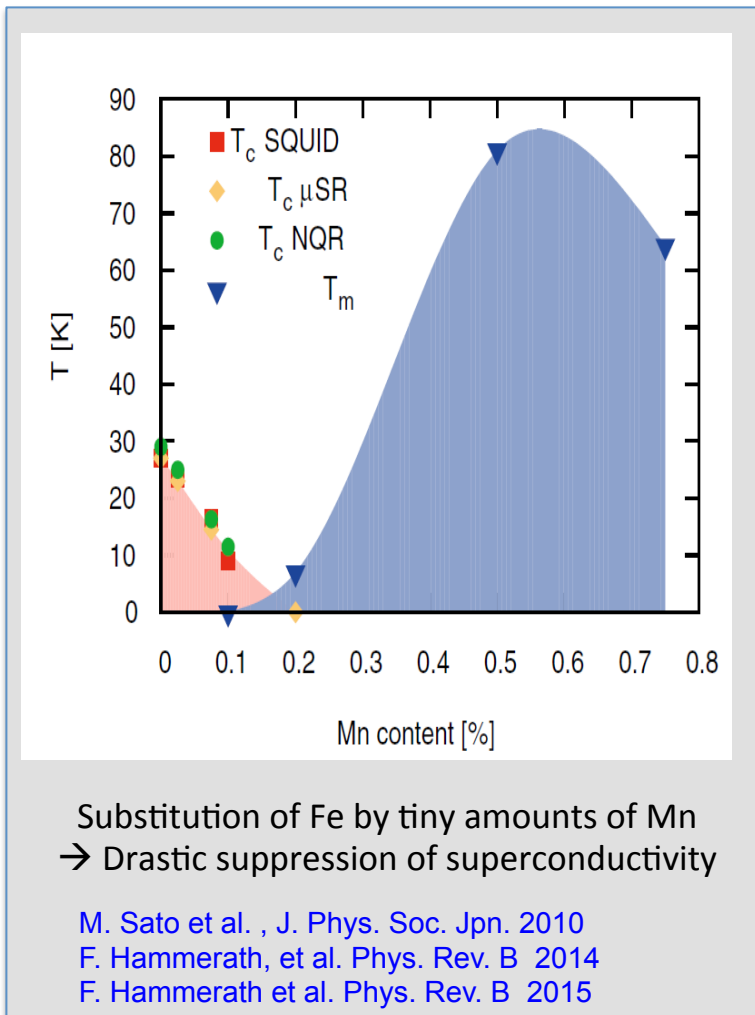


C. Hess, BB et al., EPL 2009

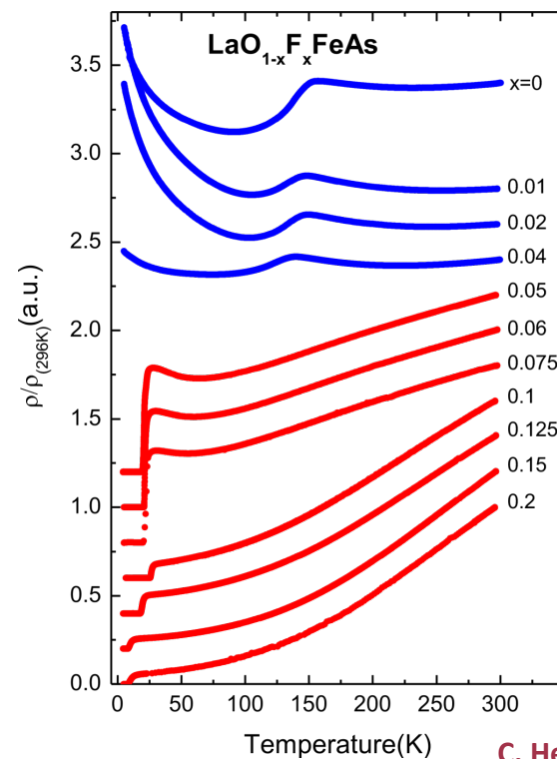
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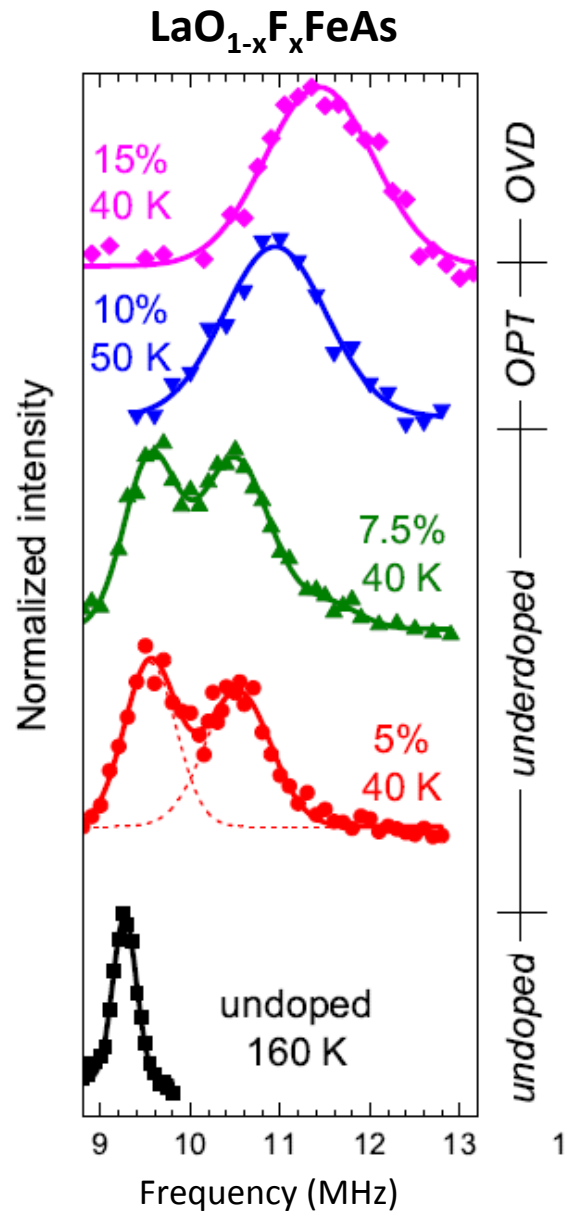
Y. Kamihara et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008



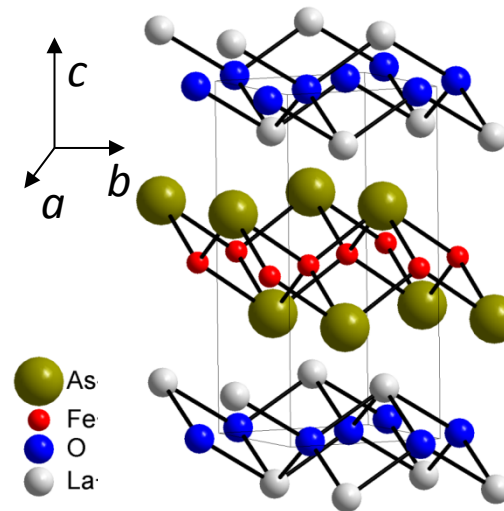
C. Hess, BB et al., EPL 2009



# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?



NQR spectrum =  
histogram of the electric  
field gradient (at the As sites)



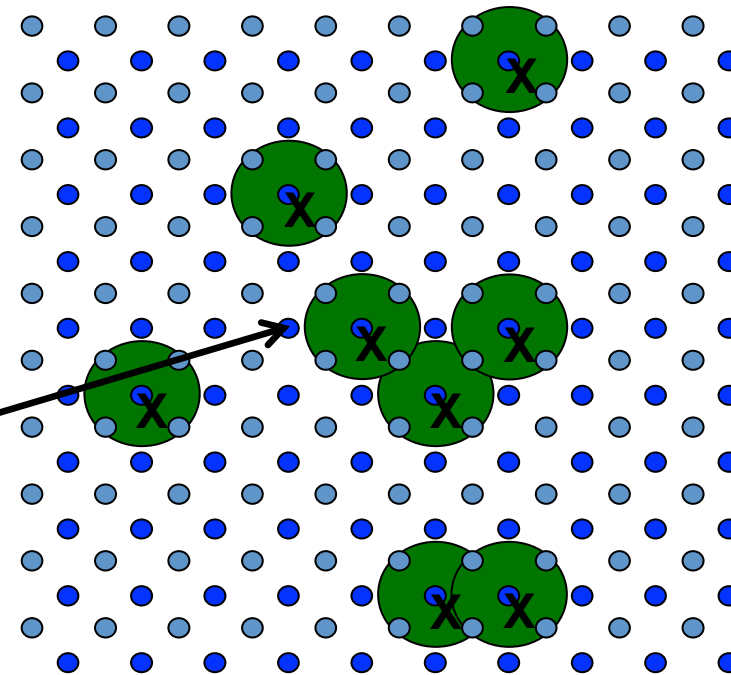
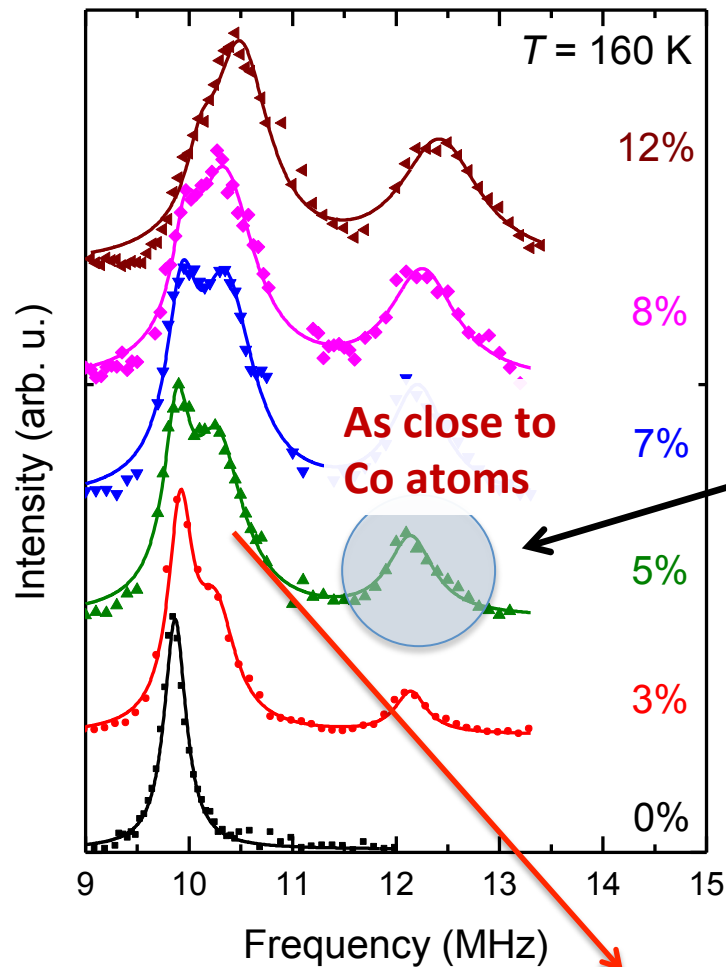
**MESSAGE:**

One doped electron creates „cluster“ of about 9 As sites with different charge/structure

**Distortion due to F atoms?**

# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?

$^{75}\text{As}$  NQR spectra of  $\text{CeFe}_{1-x}\text{Co}_x\text{AsO}$

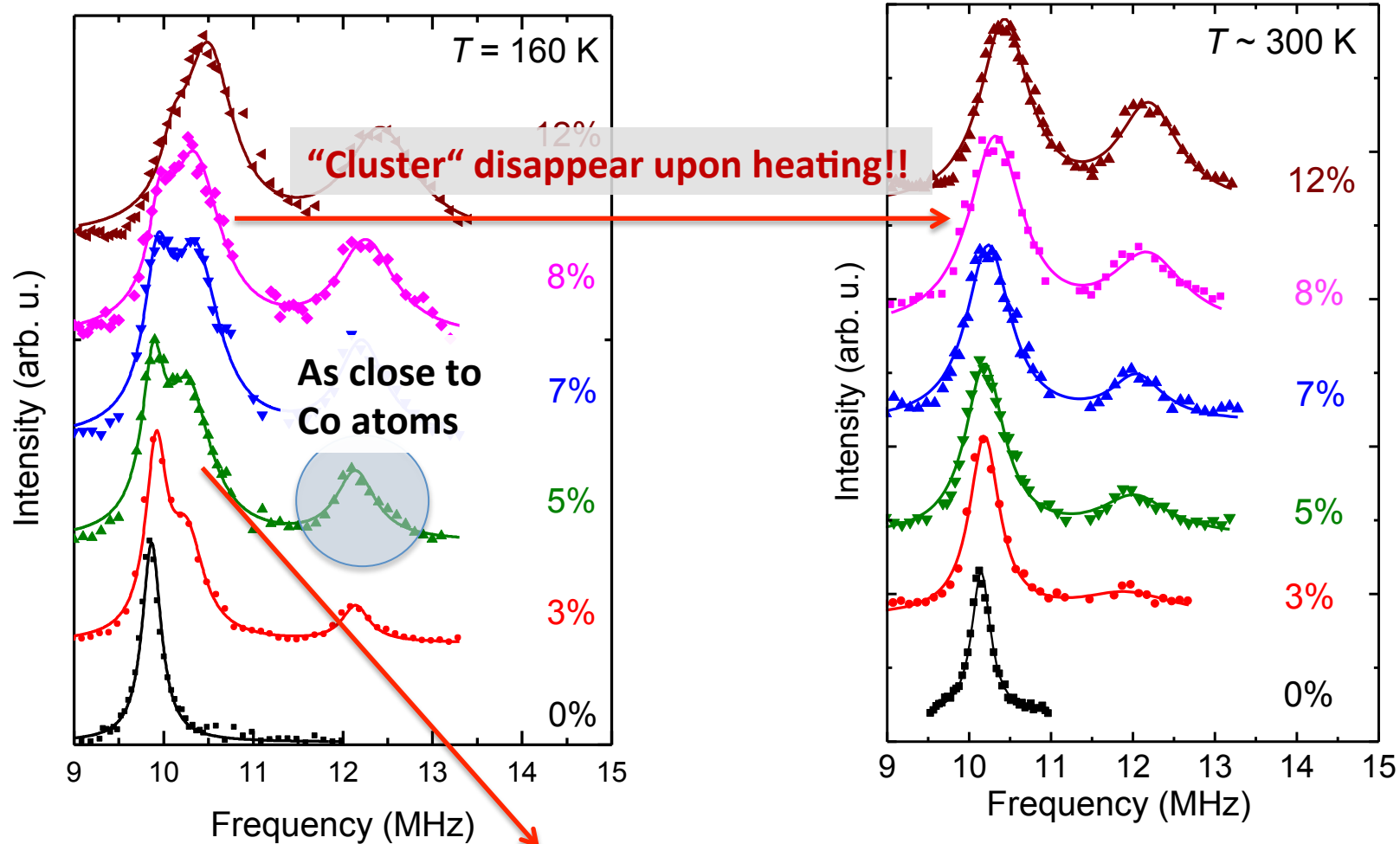


**MESSAGE:**

One doped electron creates „cluster“ of about 9 As sites with different charge/structure

# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?

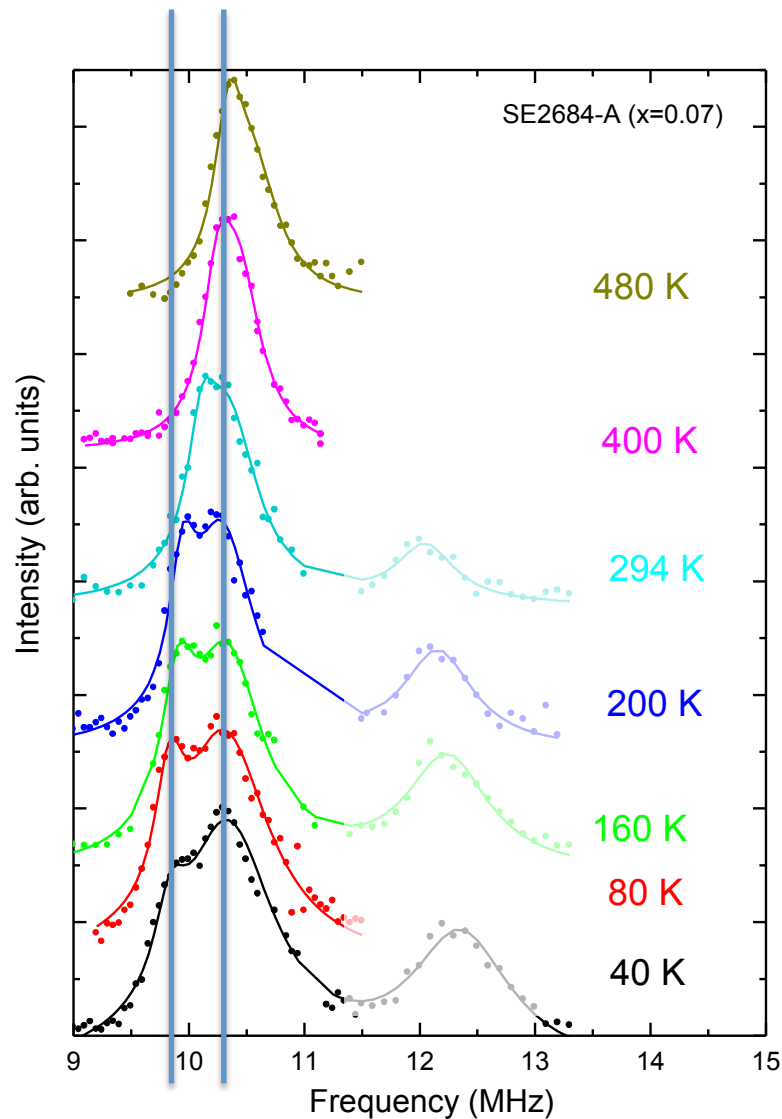
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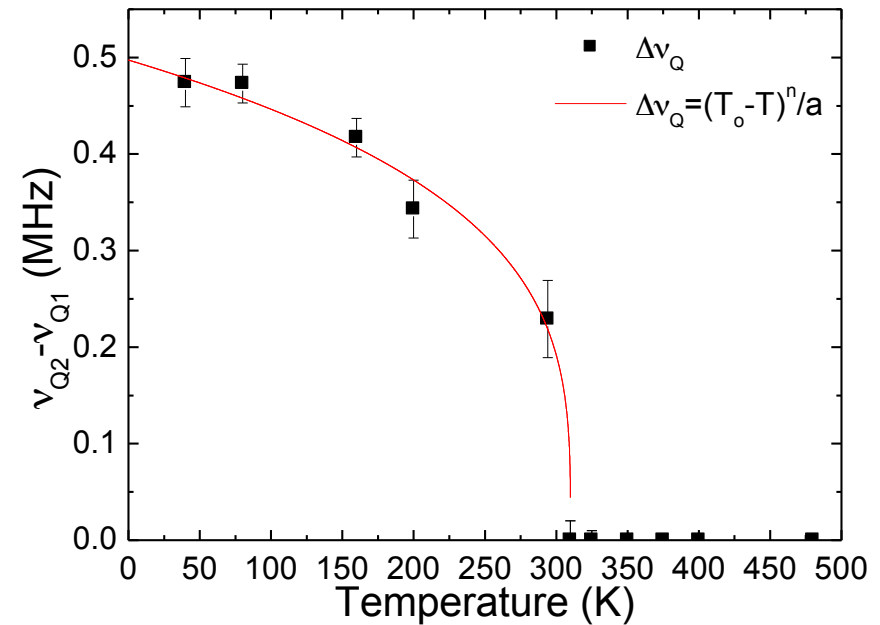
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# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?



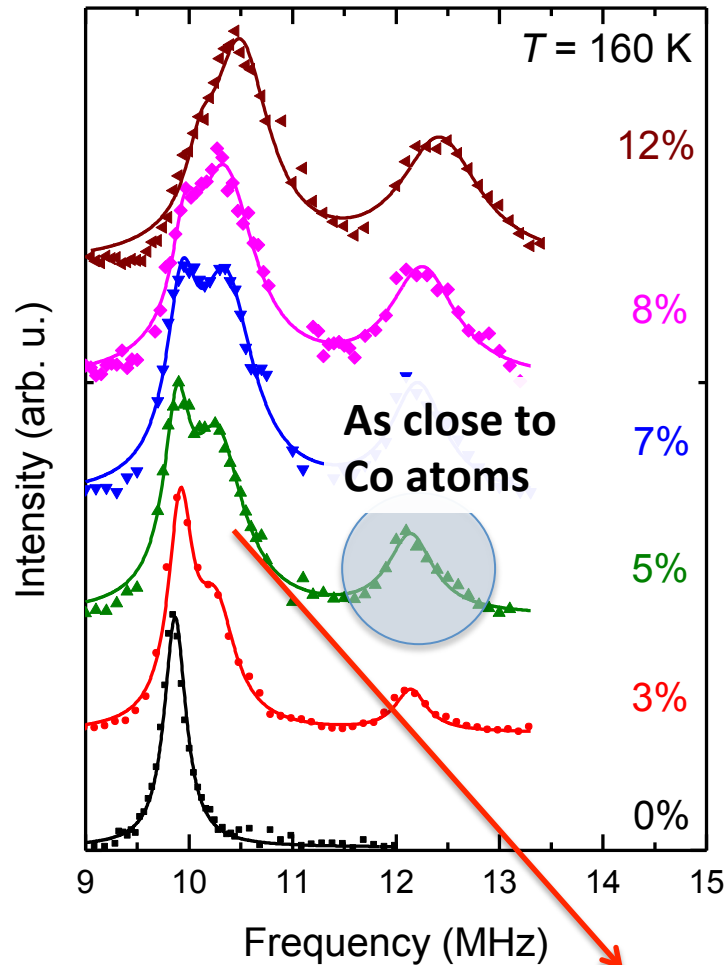
**T dependence of the NQR frequency  
for 7% Co doped Ce1111**



**Splitting of the NQR lines appears below  $T \sim 310$  K!**  
**T dependence of the splitting:  $\sim$  order parameter of a “phase transition”!**

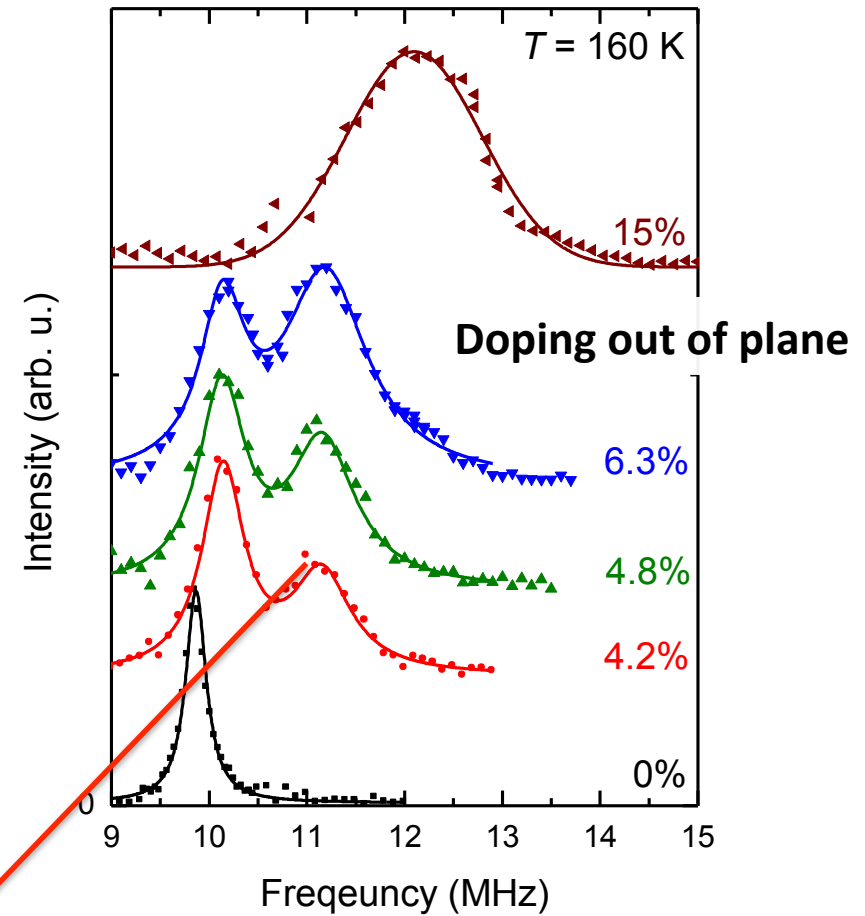
# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?

$^{75}\text{As}$  NQR spectra of  $\text{CeFe}_{1-x}\text{Co}_x\text{AsO}$



“Cluster” disappear upon heating!!

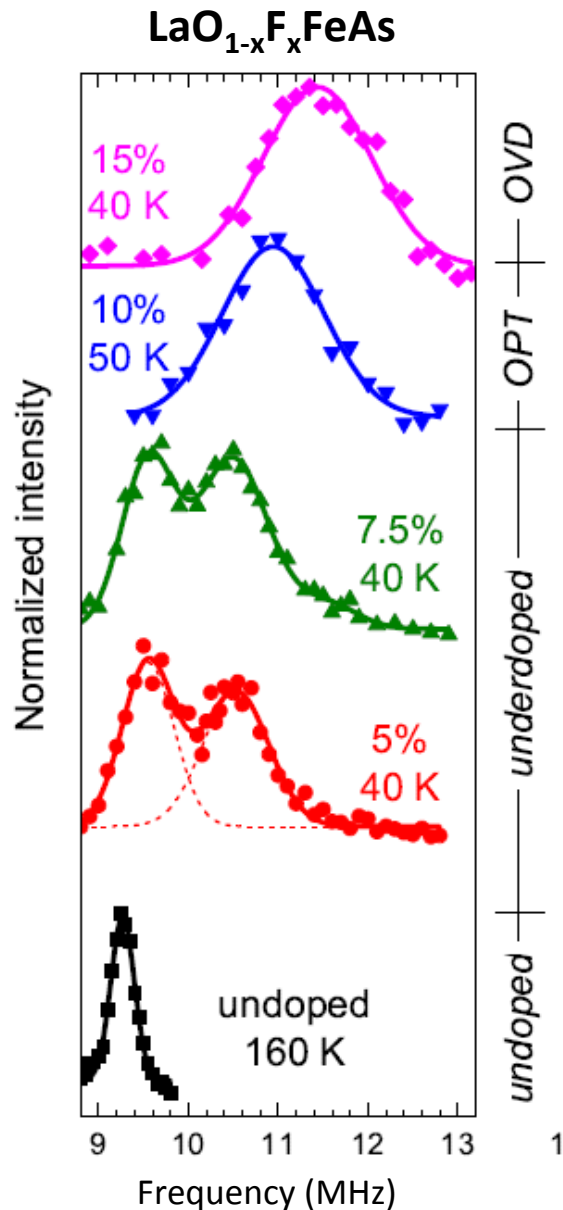
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# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?



## MESSAGE:

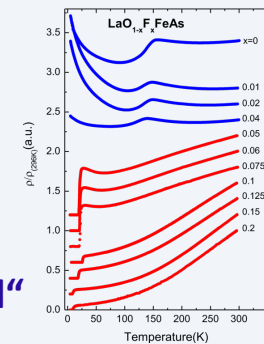
One doped electron creates „cluster“ of about 9 As sites with different charge/structure

Distortion NOT due to F or Co atoms!!

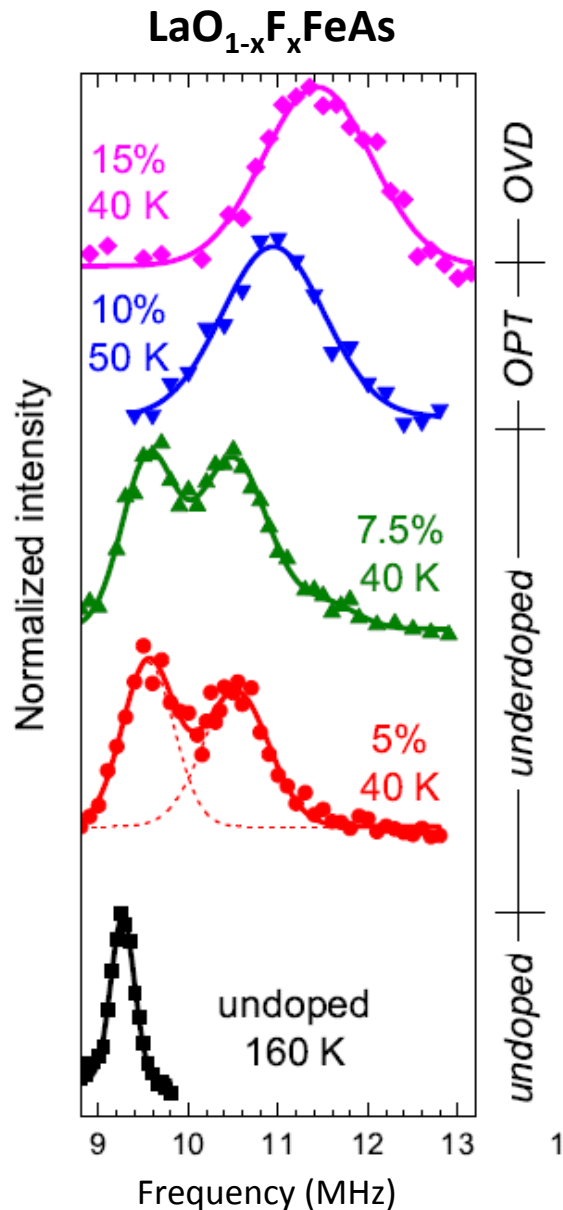
“Cluster“ merge at about 10 % doping

single broad line, i.e. single As site transition “from very bad metal to metal“

Overdoped: shift of broad line with increasing x



# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?



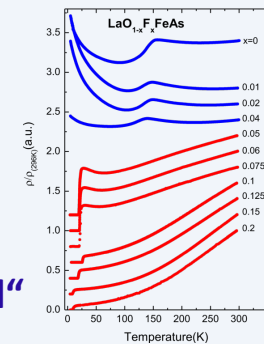
## MESSAGE:

One doped electron creates „cluster“ of about 9 As sites with different charge/structure

Distortion NOT due to F or Co atoms!!

“Cluster“ merge at about 10 % doping  
single broad line, i.e. single As site  
transition “from very bad metal to metal“

Overdoped: shift of broad line with increasing x



Similar behavior in manganites, cobaltates etc.

Attributed to “Orbital Polarons“

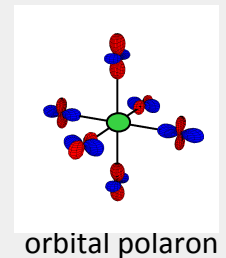
Charge polarizes local orbital structure

inhomogeneous charge, structure

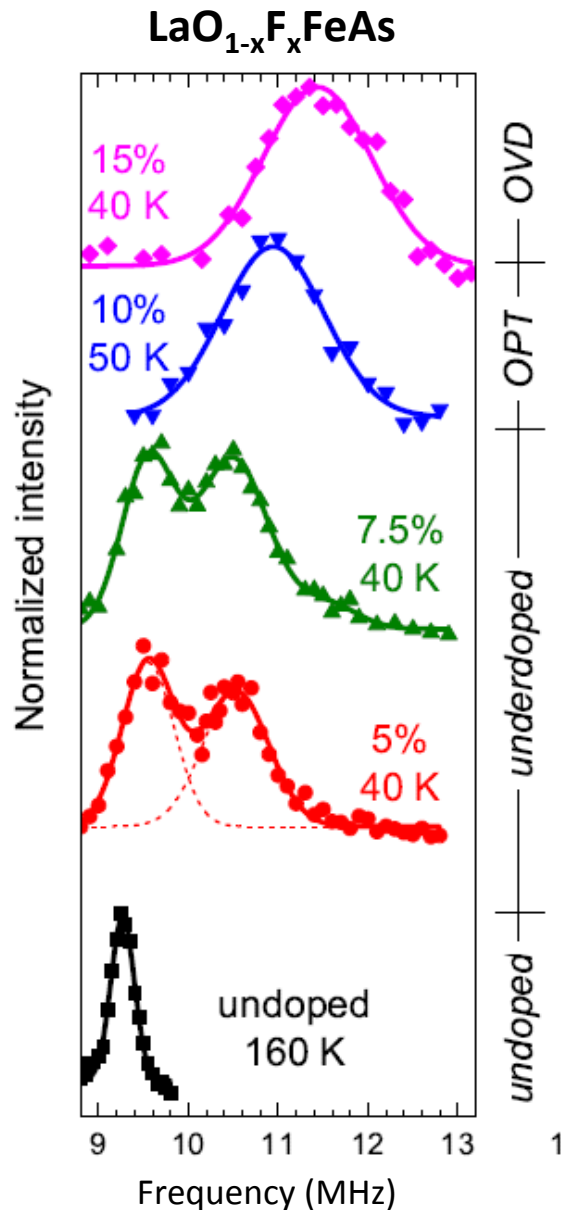
inhomogeneous magnetism

metal insulator transition when polarons merge

...



# Doping “orbital-ordered systems”: orbital polarons?



## MESSAGE:

One doped electron creates “cluster” of about 9 As sites with different charge/structure

## QUESTIONS:

Are 1111-type Fe-based SC (more or less) itinerant systems with “orbital physics” (charge  $\leftrightarrow$  spin  $\leftrightarrow$  lattice) ?

Are the interactions/dynamics leading to “clusters” in 1111 also important for properties of other Fe-based SC?

Is there any connection to SC?

( $T_c$  up to 58K in inhomogeneous 1111-type systems)

## CHALLENGES & work in progress:

Improving size and quality of crystals !!

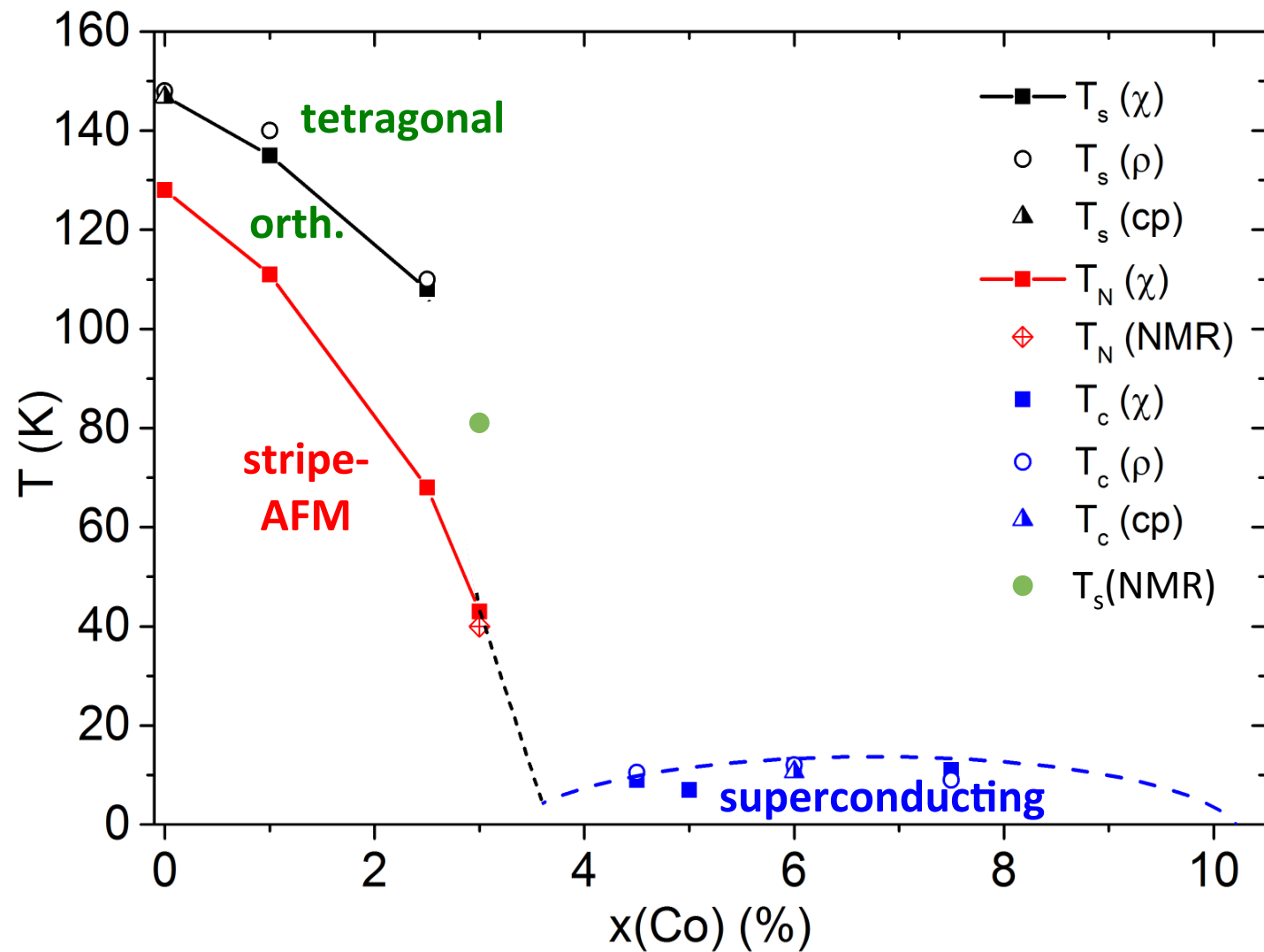
→ sophisticated experiments to study “clusters” (STM etc.)

→ better knowledge & understanding of local structure



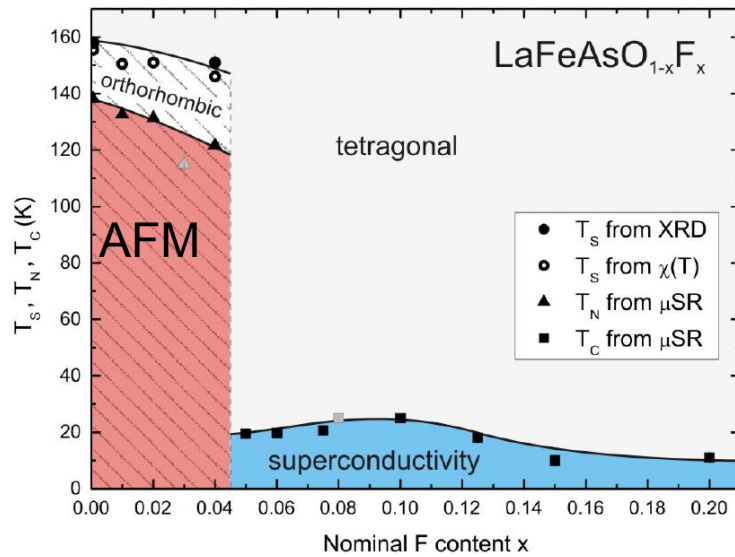


# Phase diagram of Co-doped La 1111 revisited ...

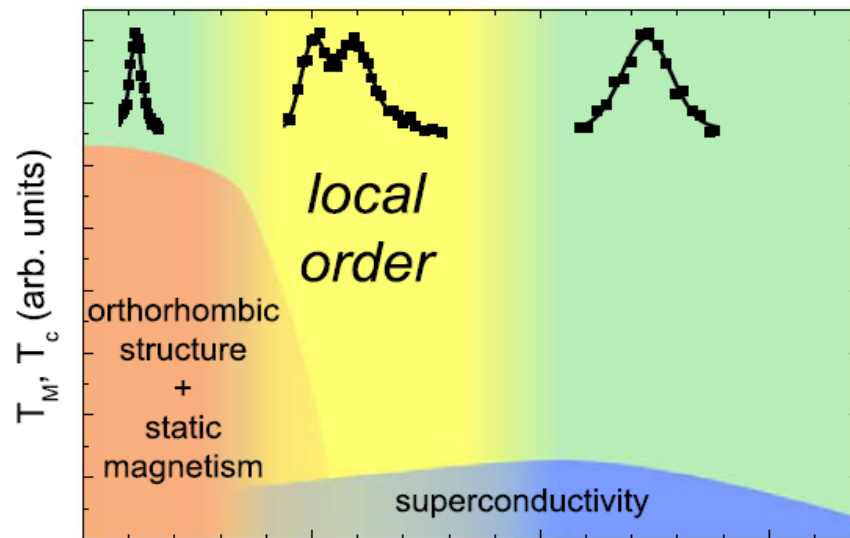


# Different phase diagrams: Consequences of charge/orbital polarons

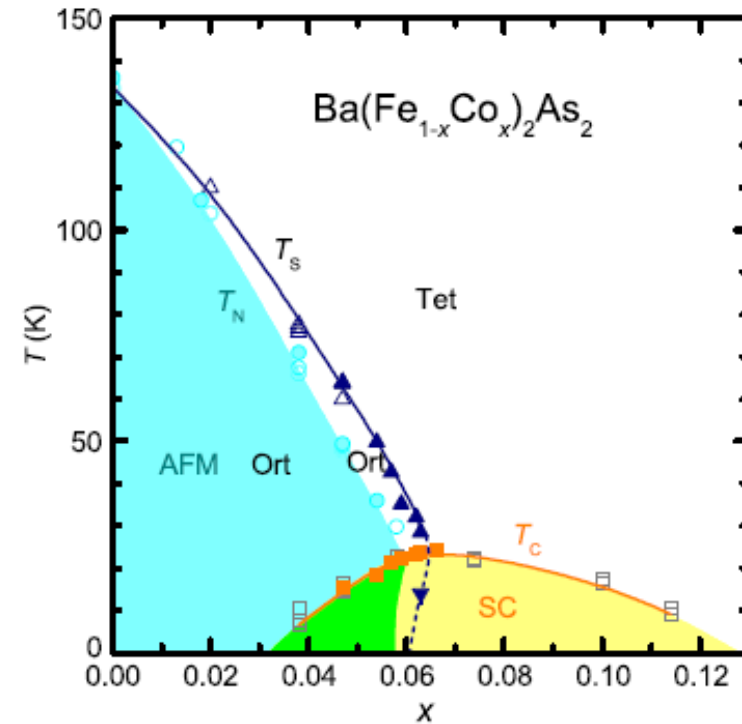
## Apparent difference of phase diagrams of 1111 and 122 system



Luetkens, BB et al., Nature Materials 8, 305 (2009)

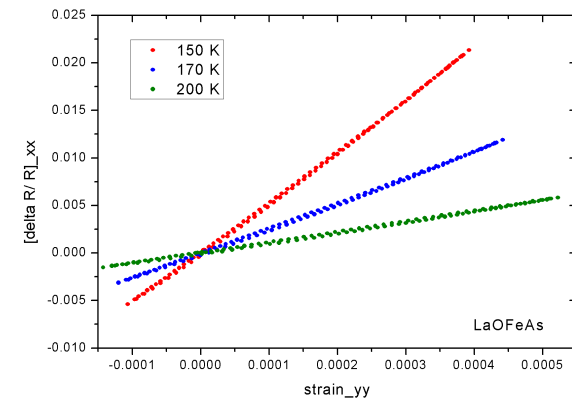
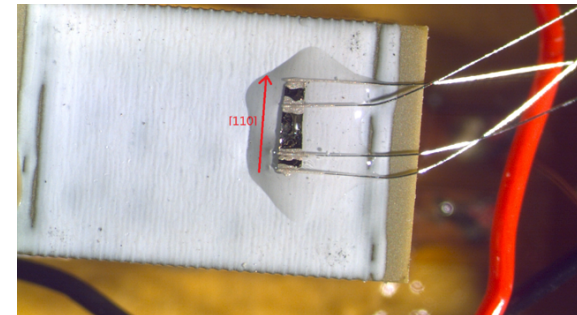
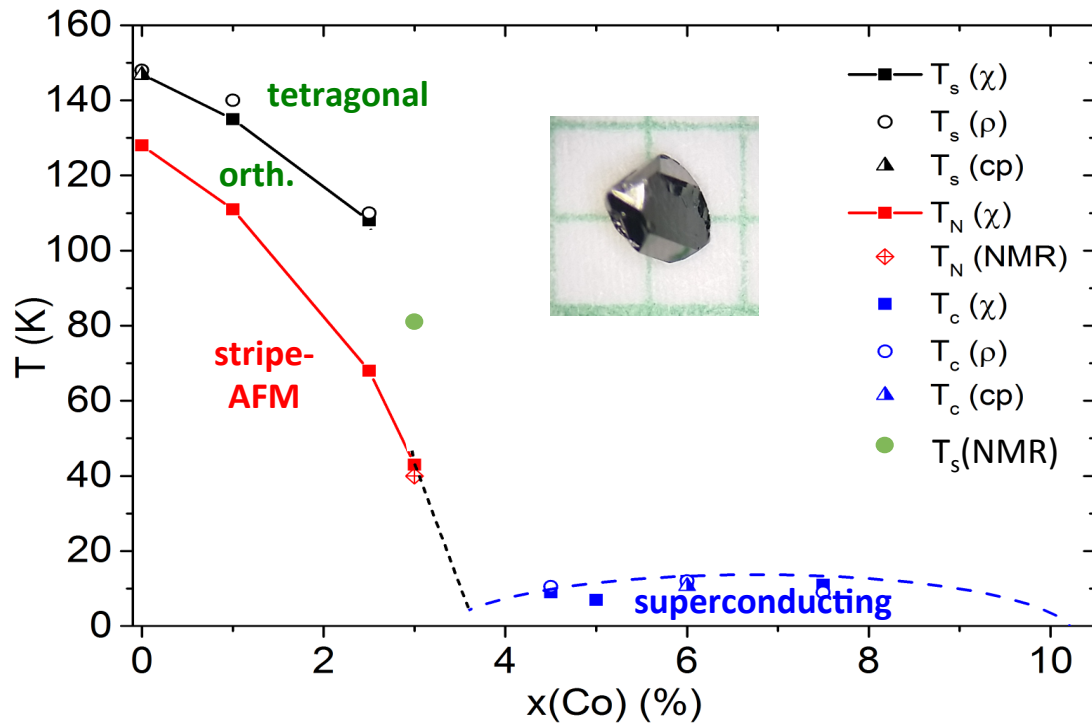


G. Lang, BB et al., PRL 2010 Doping (arb. units)

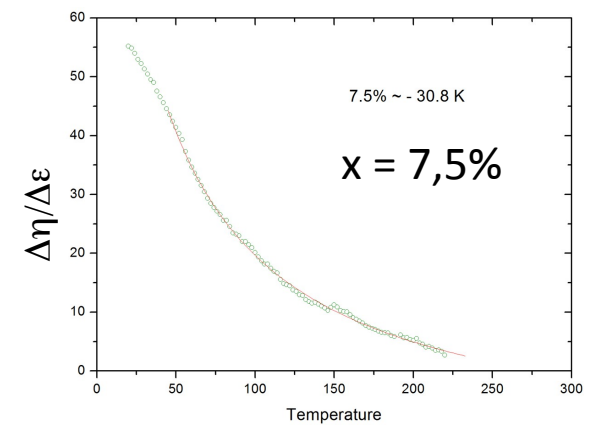
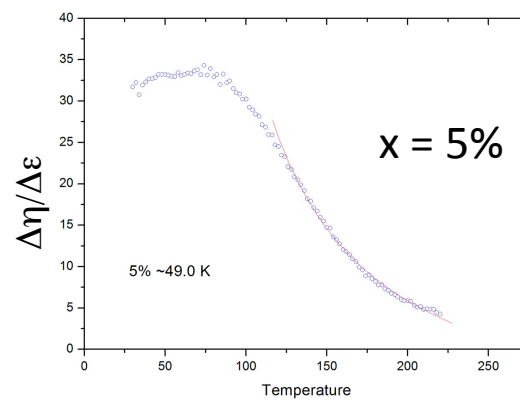
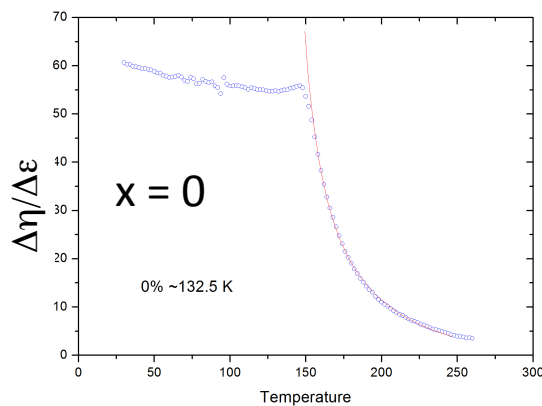


e.g. Nandi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2010)

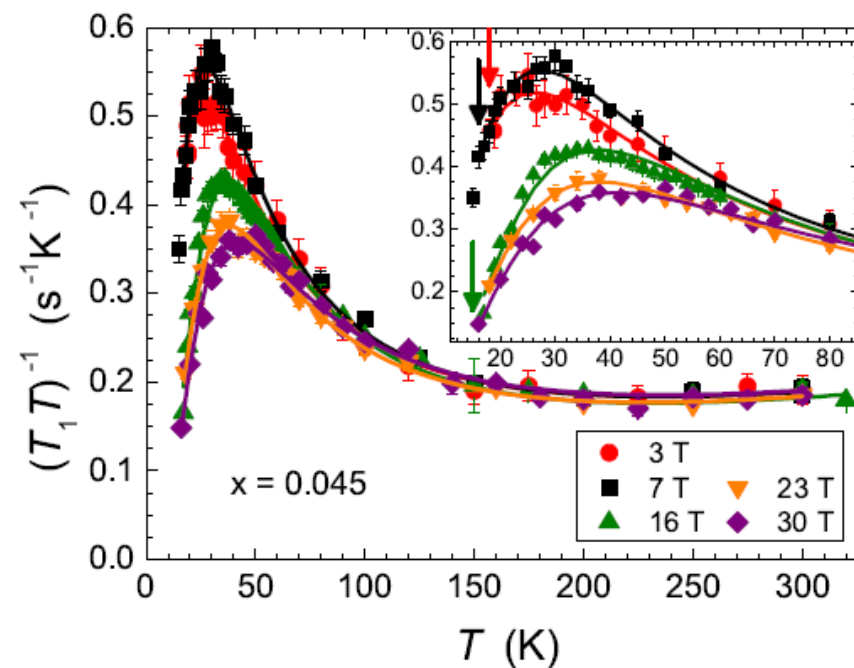
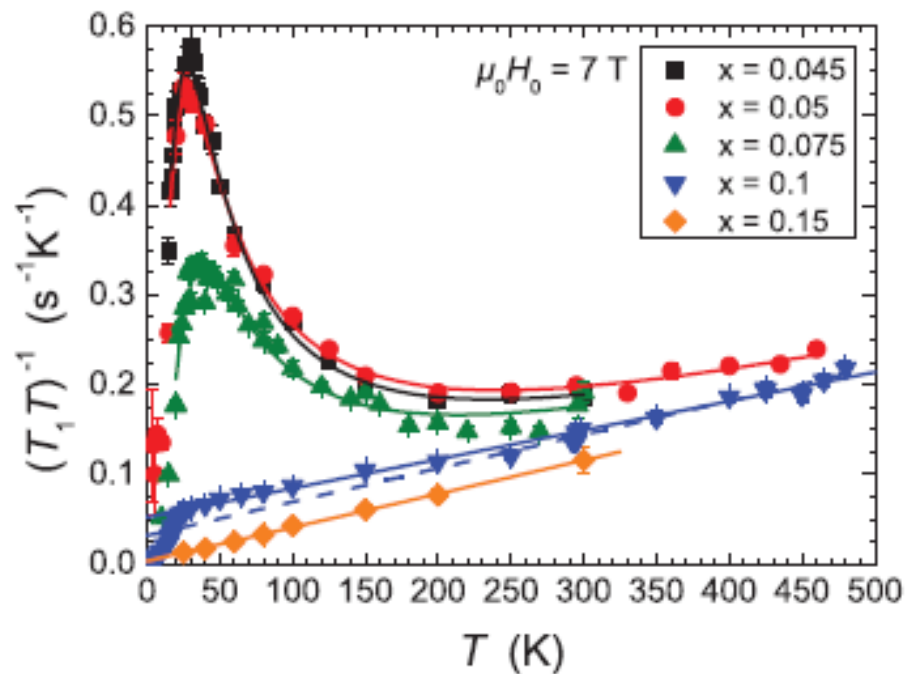
# “Electronic nematicity in Co-doped La 1111 ...”



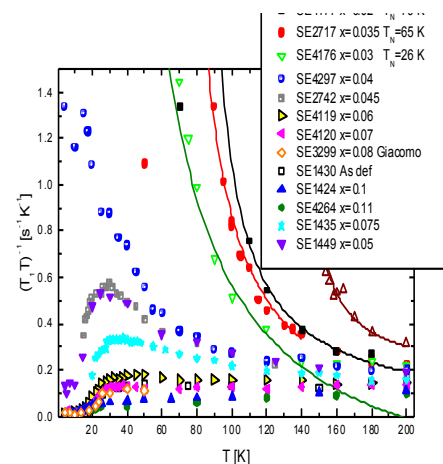
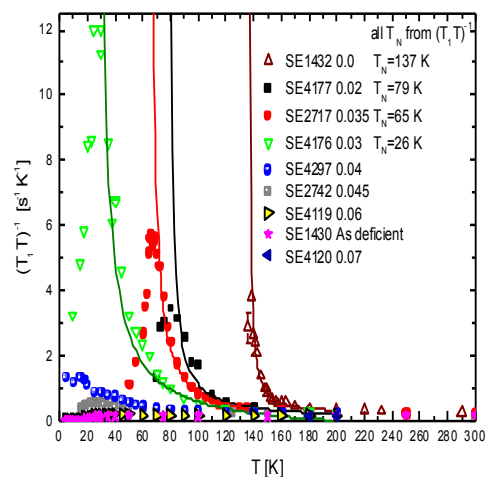
## Strain dependence of the resistance of Co doped La-1111: nematic susceptibility



# Slowing down of spin fluctuations in F doped La 1111

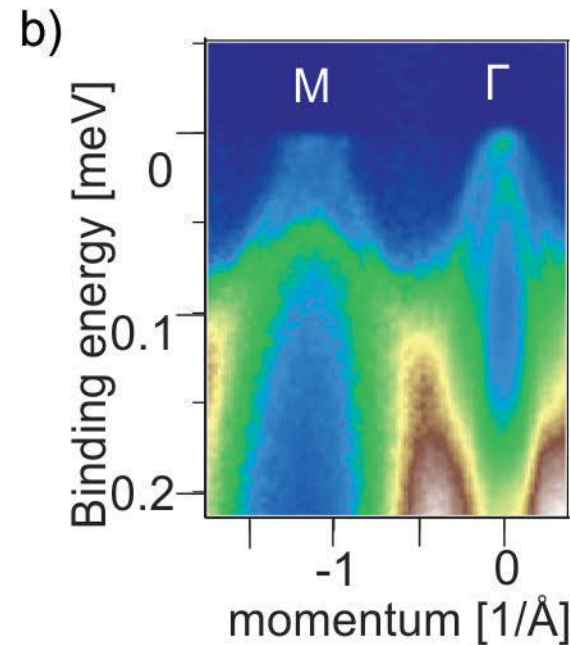
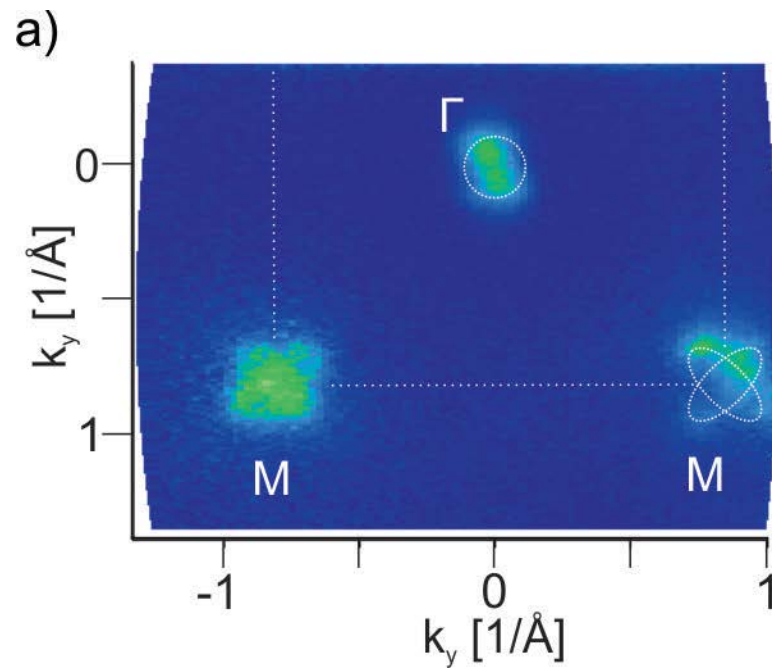


F. Hammerath, P. Caretta, BB et al., PRB 2013



work in progress

# T dependent electronic structure: “red/blue shift”



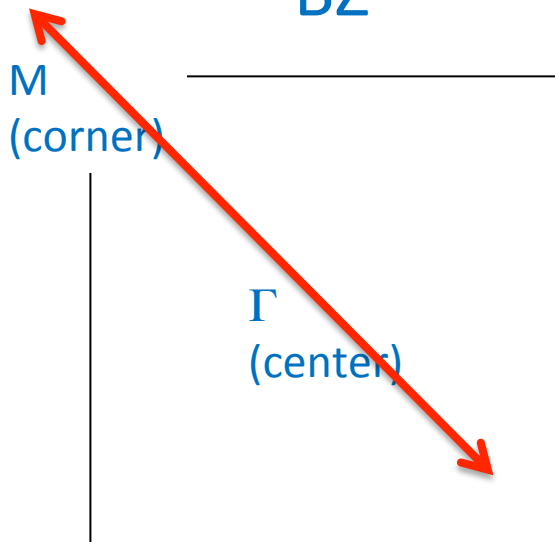
**FeSe**

**Well established: very small hole and electron pockets in FeSe  
strong deviation from DFT**

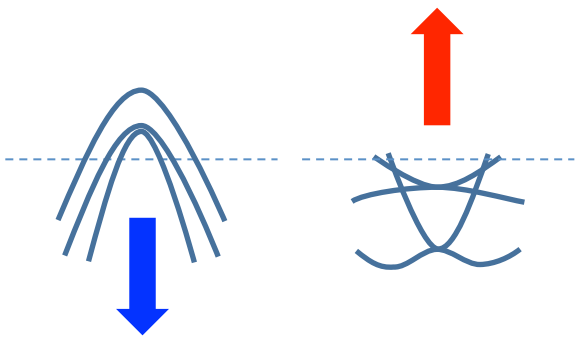
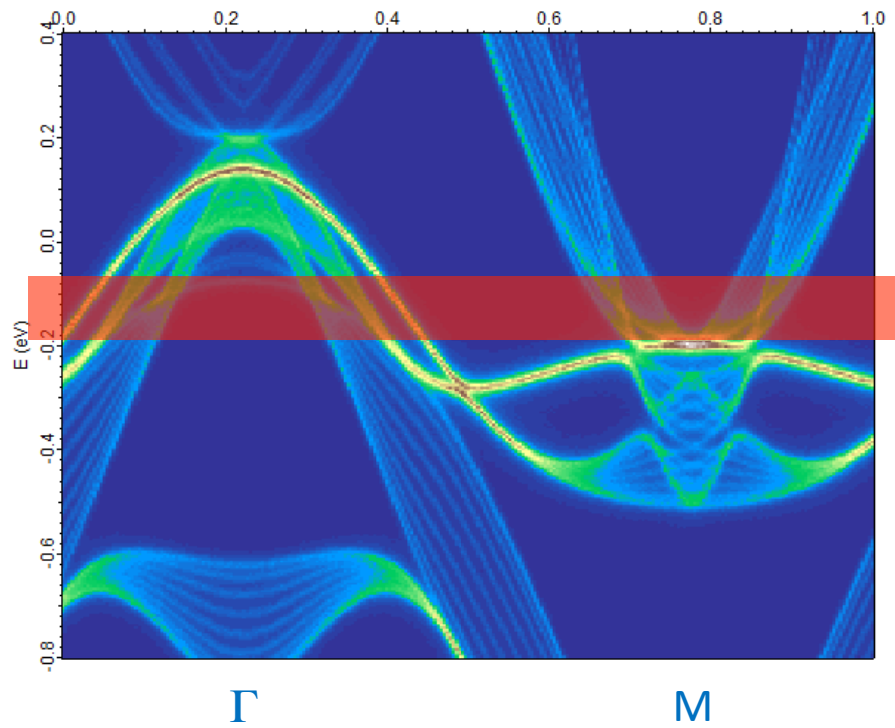
**Anomalous temperature evolution of the electronic structure of FeSe**

Y. Kushnirenko<sup>1</sup>, A. A. Kordyuk<sup>2,3</sup>, A. Fedorov<sup>1,4</sup>, E. Haubold<sup>1</sup>, T. Wolf<sup>5</sup>, B. Büchner<sup>1</sup> and S. V. Borisenko<sup>1</sup>

BZ



From DFT to ARPES

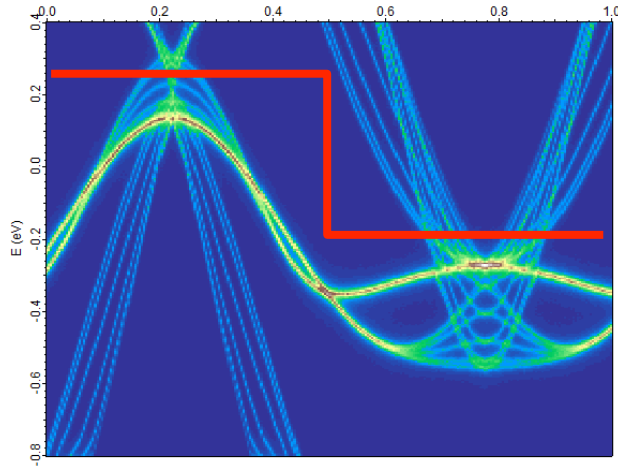


red/blue shift in Fe based SC

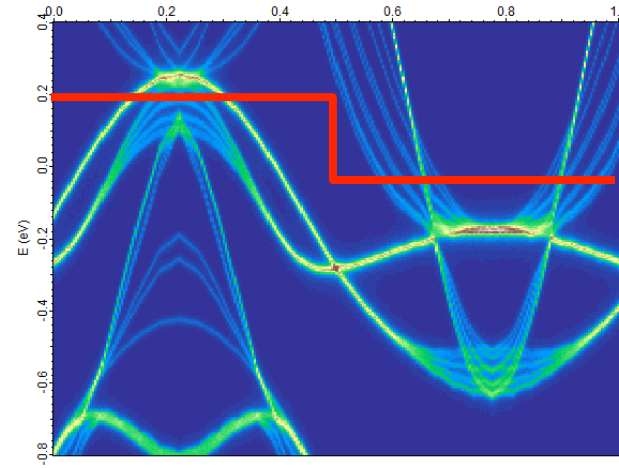
Courtesy of S. Borisenko

# red/blue shift in Fe based SC

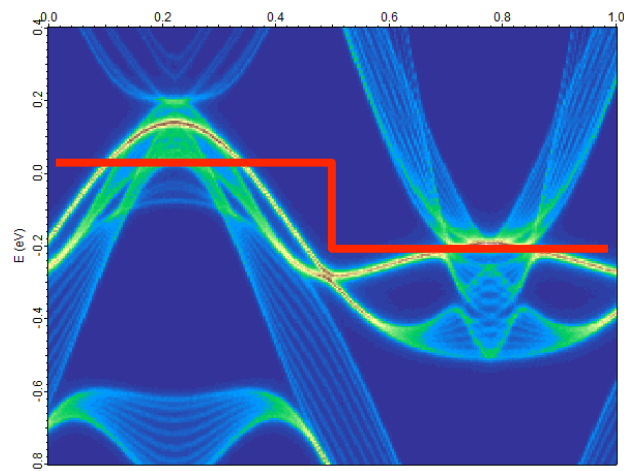
11



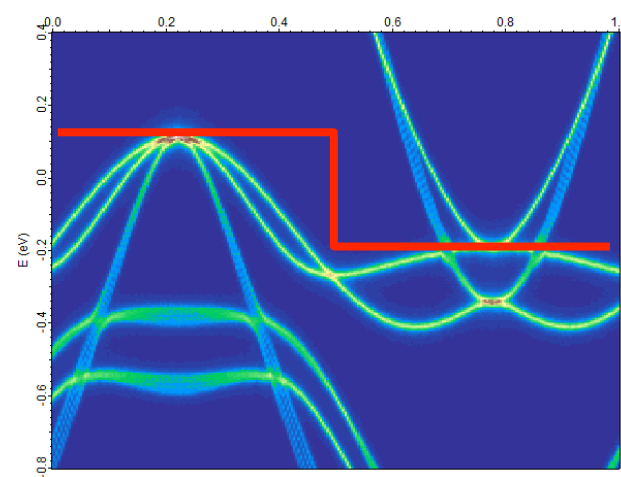
111



122

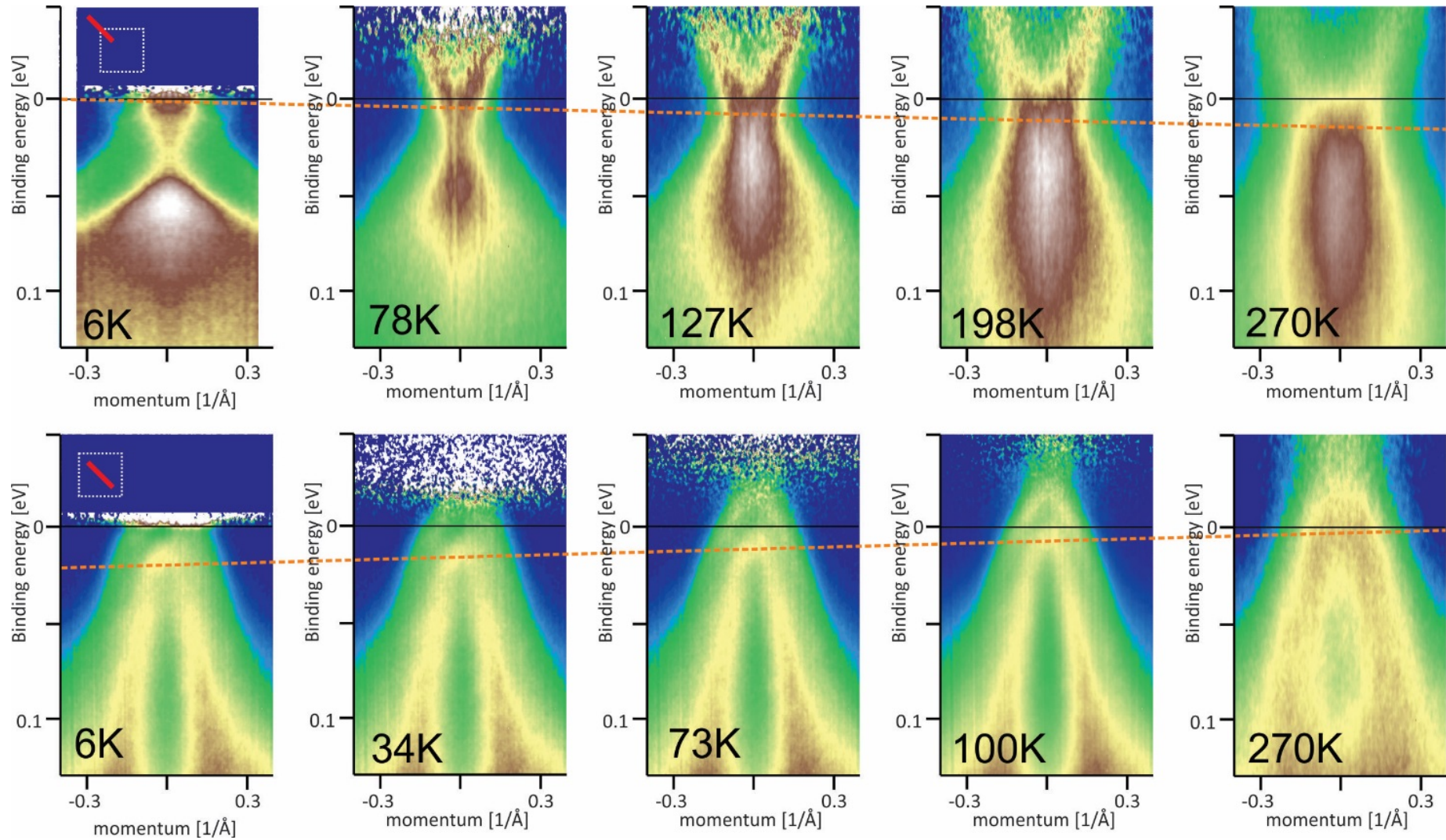


1111



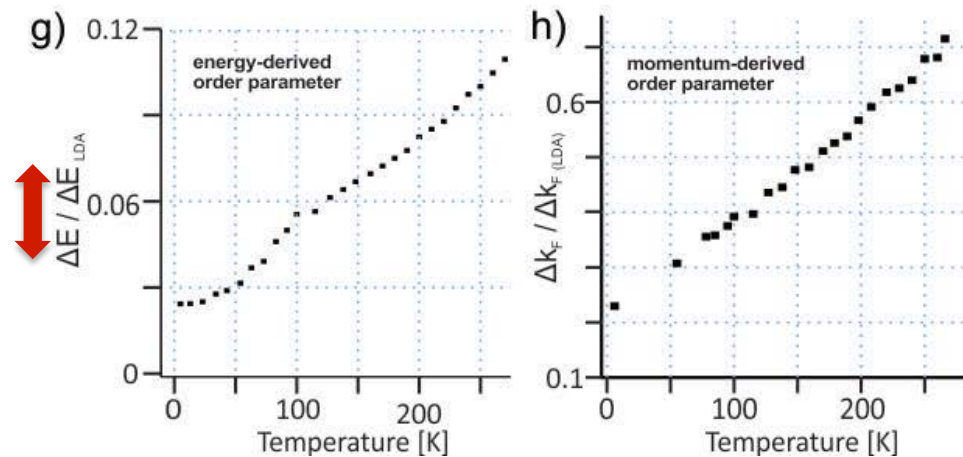
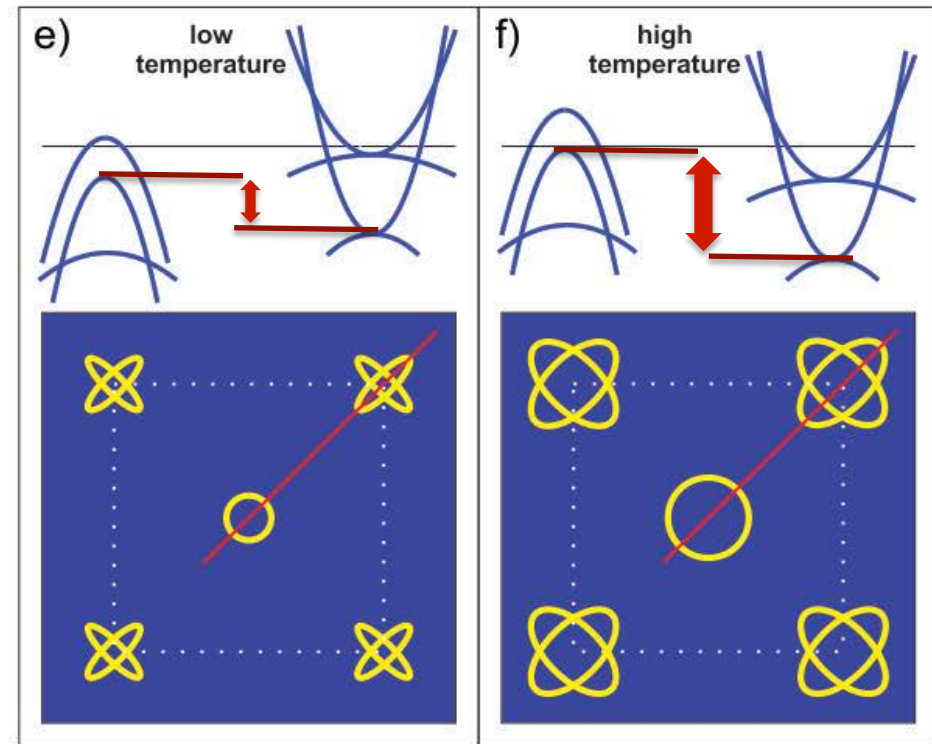
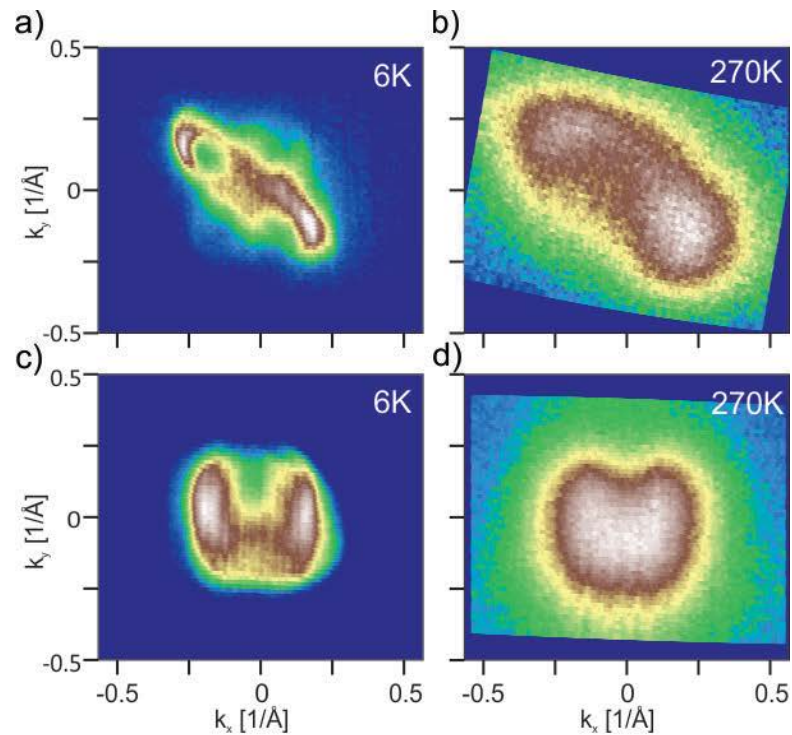
Courtesy of S. Borisenko

# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT





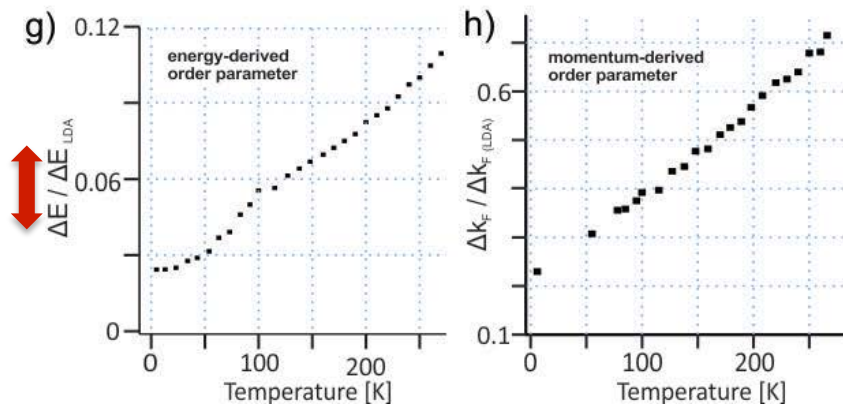
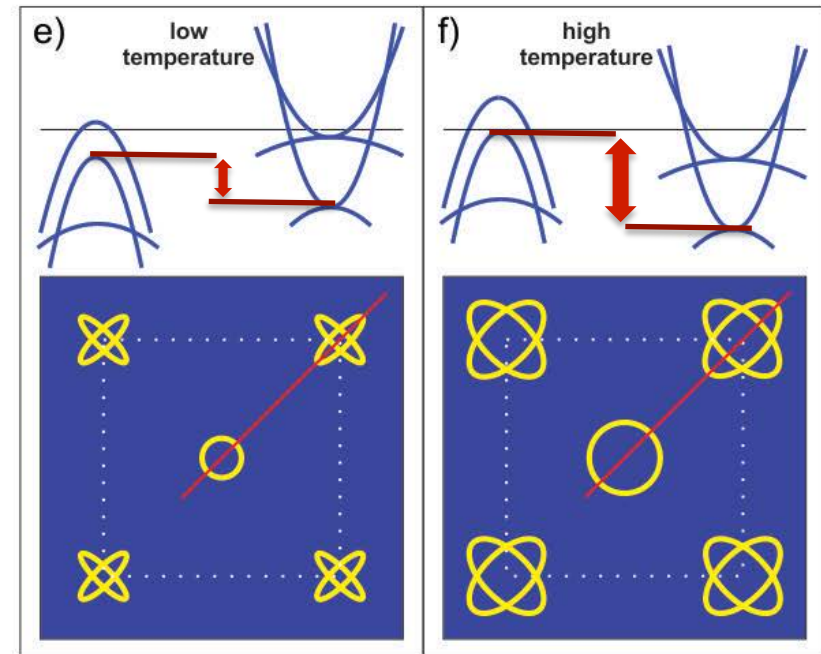
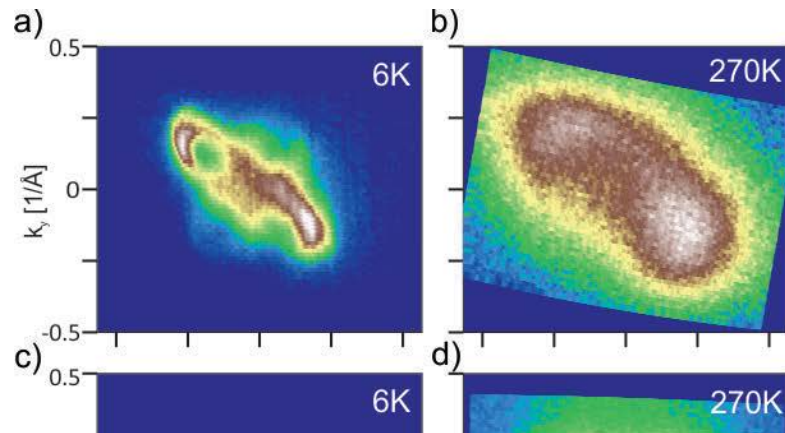
# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT



Anomalous temperature evolution of the electronic structure of FeSe

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# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT



## Questions & Challenges

### Theory, discriminate between scenario(s)?

- s+- Pomeranchuk (Lee et al, Chubukov et al.)
- interpocket spin fluctuations (Benfatto et al.)
- nematic fluctuations (Mazin et al.)
- etc.

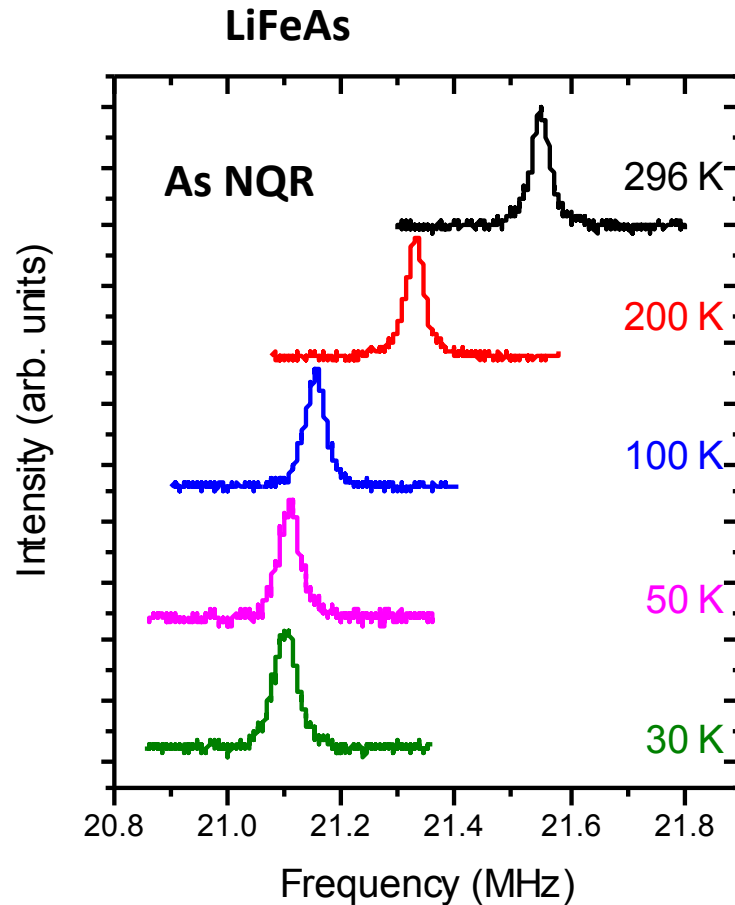
### FeSe or generic for Fe- based SC?

work in progress ...

### Relationship to other physical properties?

# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT

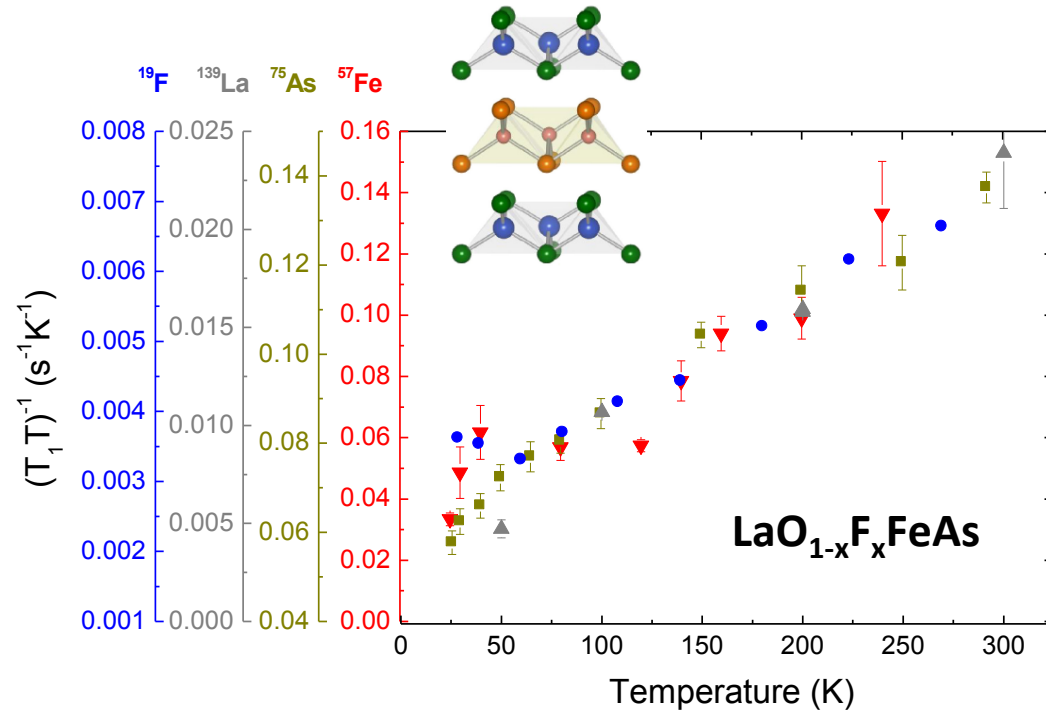
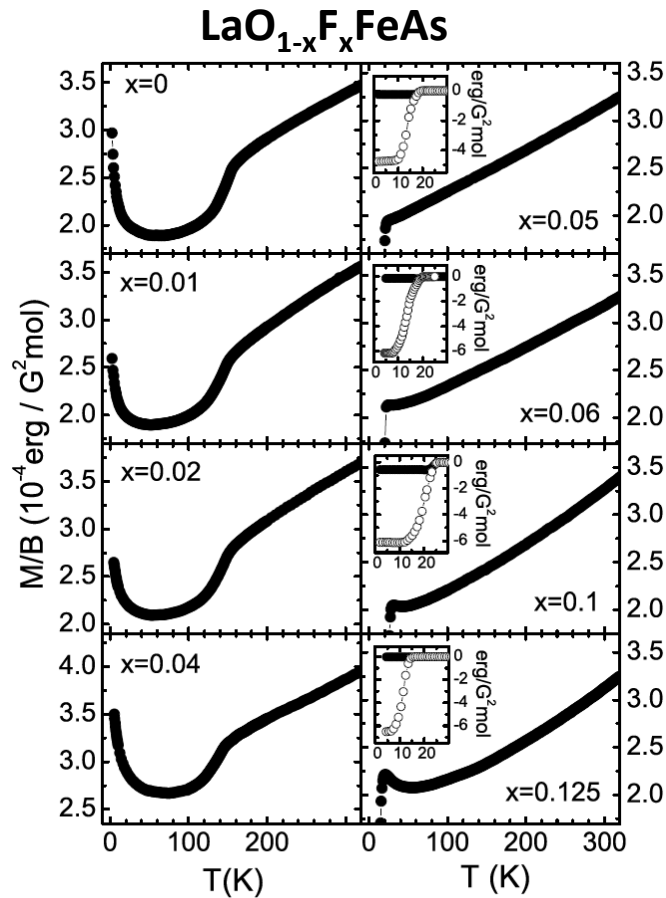
## Relationship to anomalous change of local structure?



Large T dependent changes of As NQR frequency seen in many Fe-based SC (1111, 122, 111...)  
NQR frequency: electrical field gradient at the As nucleus  
Signature of changes in mean Fe orbitals?

# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT

## Relationship to increase of magn. susceptibility $\chi$ ?



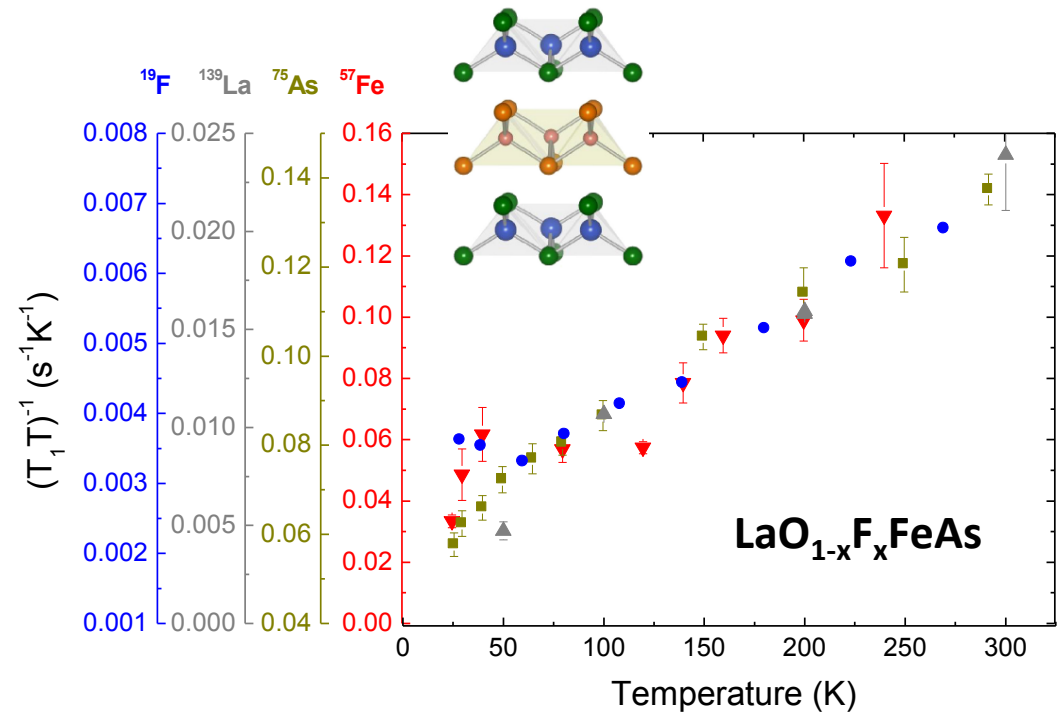
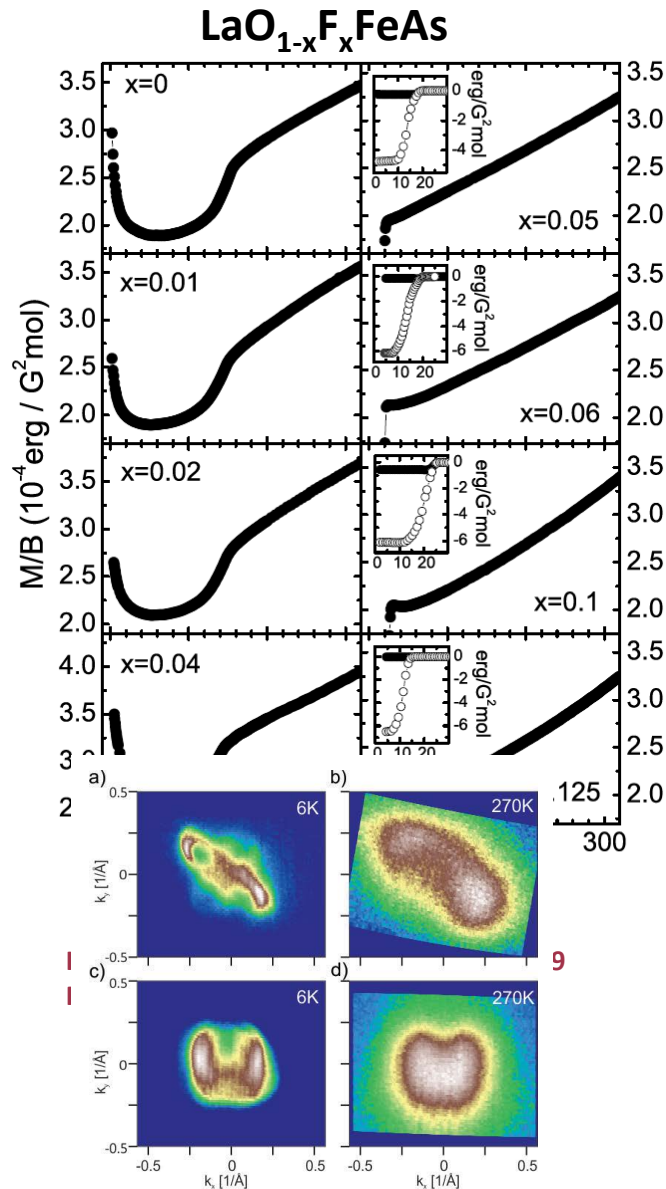
**Anomalous increase of magnetic susceptibility with T**

H.-J. Grafe, BB. et al., PRL 2008, NJP 2009  
 R. Klingeler, BB et al., PRB 2010

visible in  $\chi$ , Knight shift, relaxation rate  
 “local effect”, i.e. not q dependent spin interaction  
 present for all doping contents, parent, overdoped ...  
 seen in all Fe based SC, 1111, FeSe, LiFeAs, 122, ...

# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT

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# T dependent electronic structure: Back to DFT

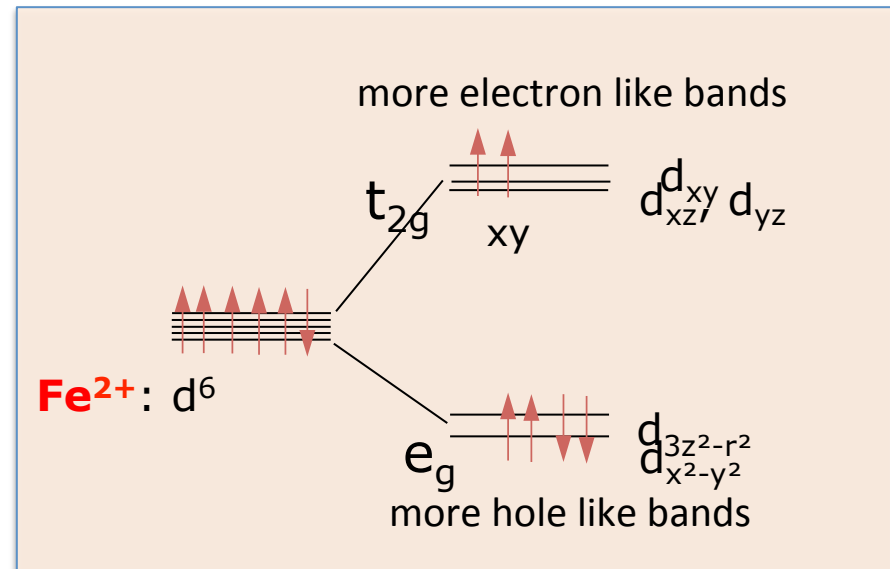
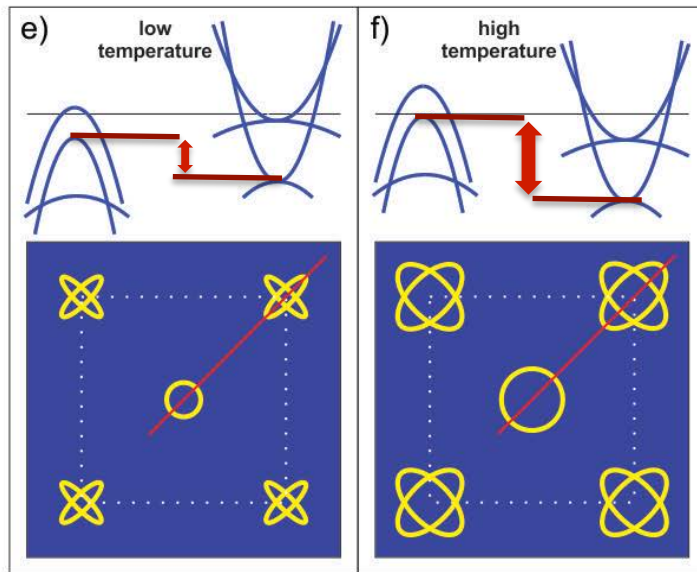
## Qualitative picture

Both parts of FS expand, total charge constant

Number of electrons increases with T

Number of holes increases with T

“Orbital character” of electrons at the FS changes!!



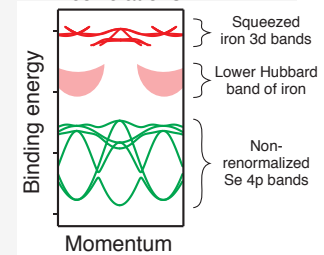
# Conclusions and Questions

- **Electron correlations in Fe based SC: “Lower Hubbard bands”**

ARPES + DMFT: “dispersive” lower Hubbard bands

Sizeable electron correlations in Fe-based SC

Relevance of local physics? Role of correlations for SC?



- **Nematic order, orbitals, and spin fluctuations in Fe based SC**

Spin fluctuations and nematic order as seen by NMR: FeSe vs BaFe<sub>2</sub>As<sub>2</sub>

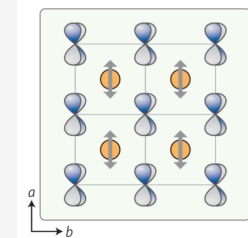
Scaling between lattice softening and spin fluctuations (BaFe<sub>2</sub>As<sub>2</sub>) not generic!

Weak influence of nematic order on spin fluctuations (FeSe) is an exception!

Discrimination between different theoretical scenarios?

As NQR on 1111 type systems: “evidence for (orbital) polarons”

Are 1111-type Fe-based SC (nearly) itinerant systems with „orbital physics“?



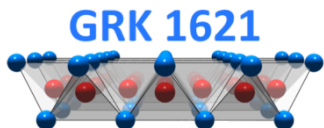
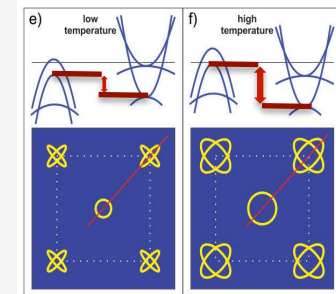
- **Temperature dependent electronic structure: “red/blue shift”**

ARPES on FeSe: Back to DFT with increasing T

Discrimination between different theoretical models?

Generic for all Fe-based SC?

Relationship to other properties?



# Thank you very much!!

Priority Program SPP1458 (2010 – 2017):

“Iron Pnictides Superconductors: Materials and Mechanisms”



