

# Ultrashort Lifetime Expansion for Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering

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In collaboration with  
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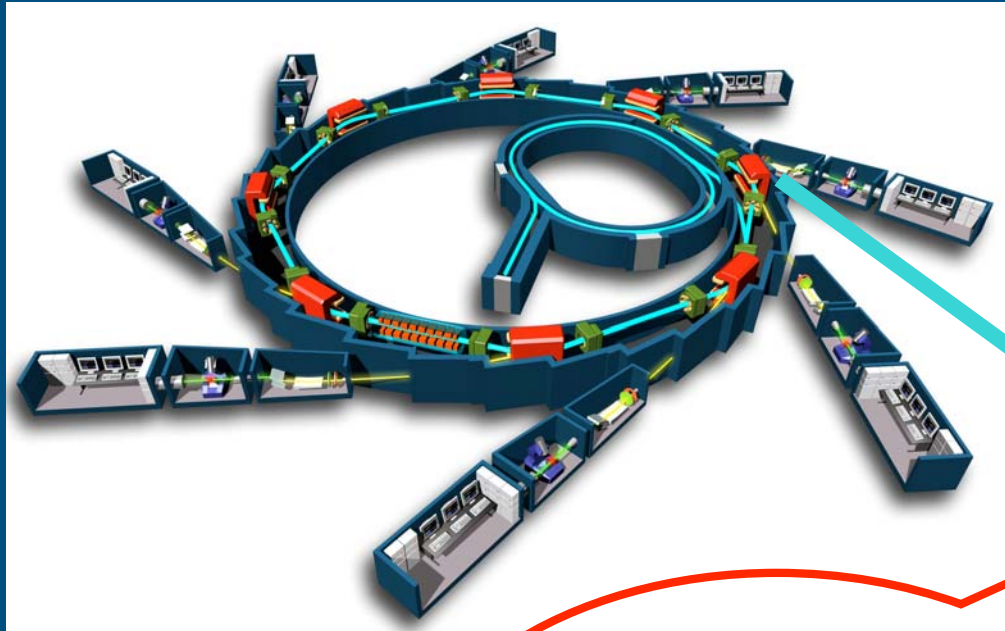
Universiteit Leiden



**Instituut-Lorentz  
for theoretical physics**

# What is RIXS?

## Resonant Inelastic X-ray Scattering

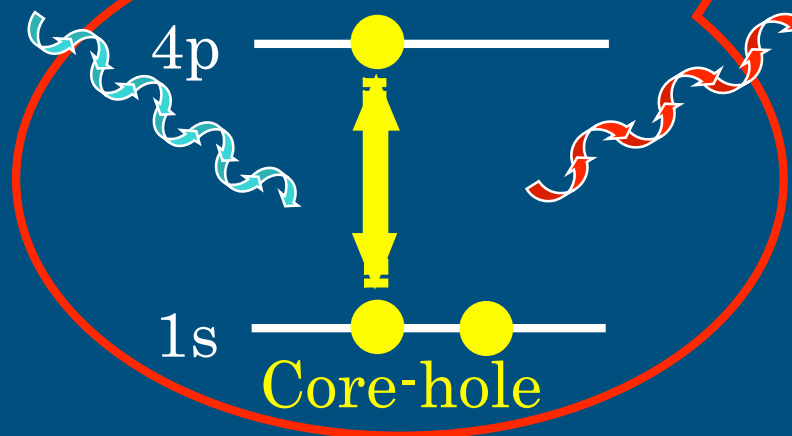


Synchrotron radiation

Interesting sample

Momentum transfer  $q$

Energy loss  $\omega$



$\omega_{\text{res}}$  (5-10 keV)

# Why RIXS?

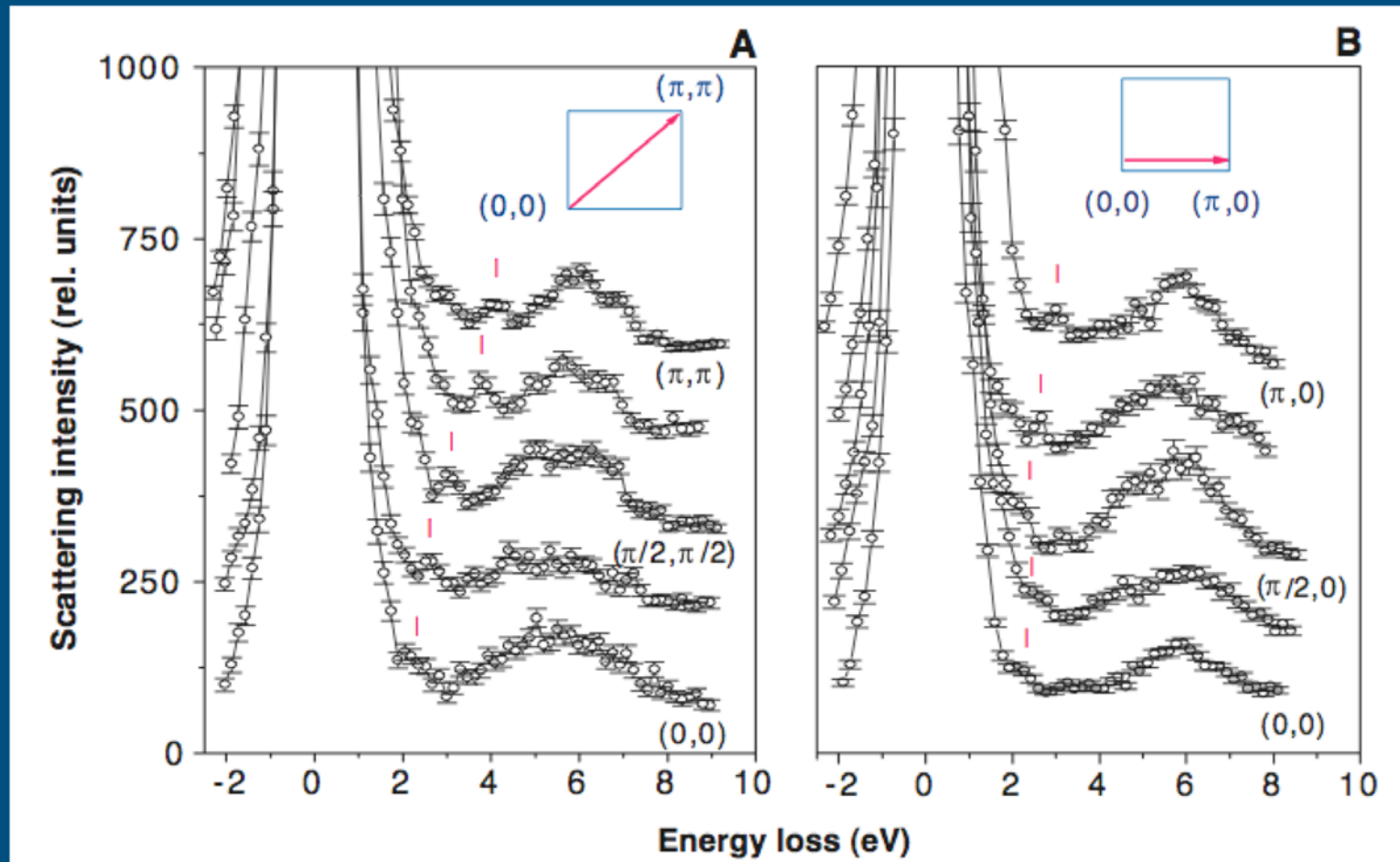
Complementary to Raman and neutrons

- Momentum dependence
- Tune X-rays to different resonances
- Small samples
- Why not?

# Outline

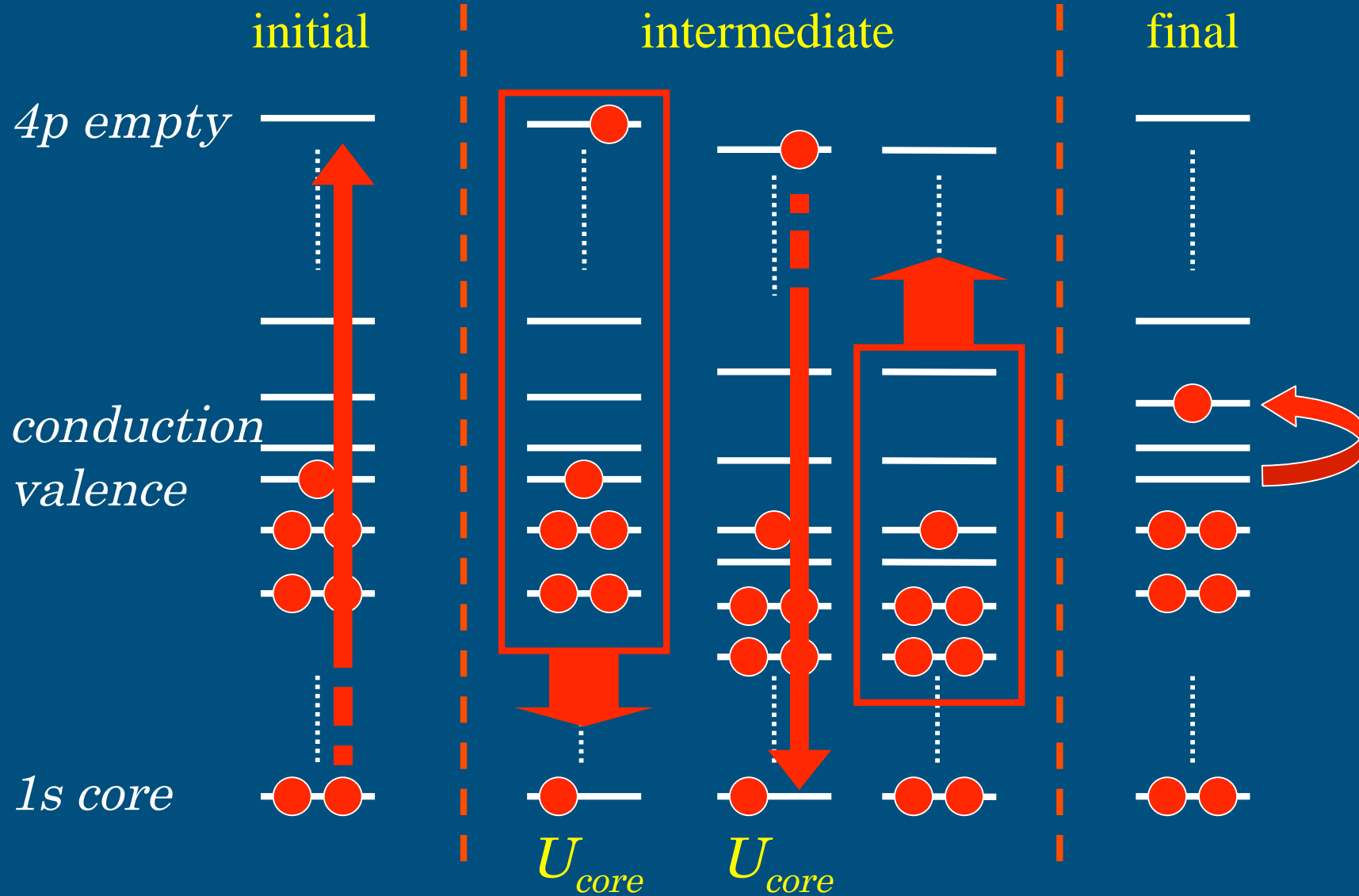
1. Framework: the UCL expansion  
**What can one measure?**
2. Charge excitations
3. Magnetic RIXS on  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$   
Coupling of core-hole to spins
  - Cu *K*-edge: indirect RIXS
  - Cu *L*-edge: direct RIXS
4. Orbital RIXS on  $\text{LaMnO}_3$

# Typical RIXS spectra

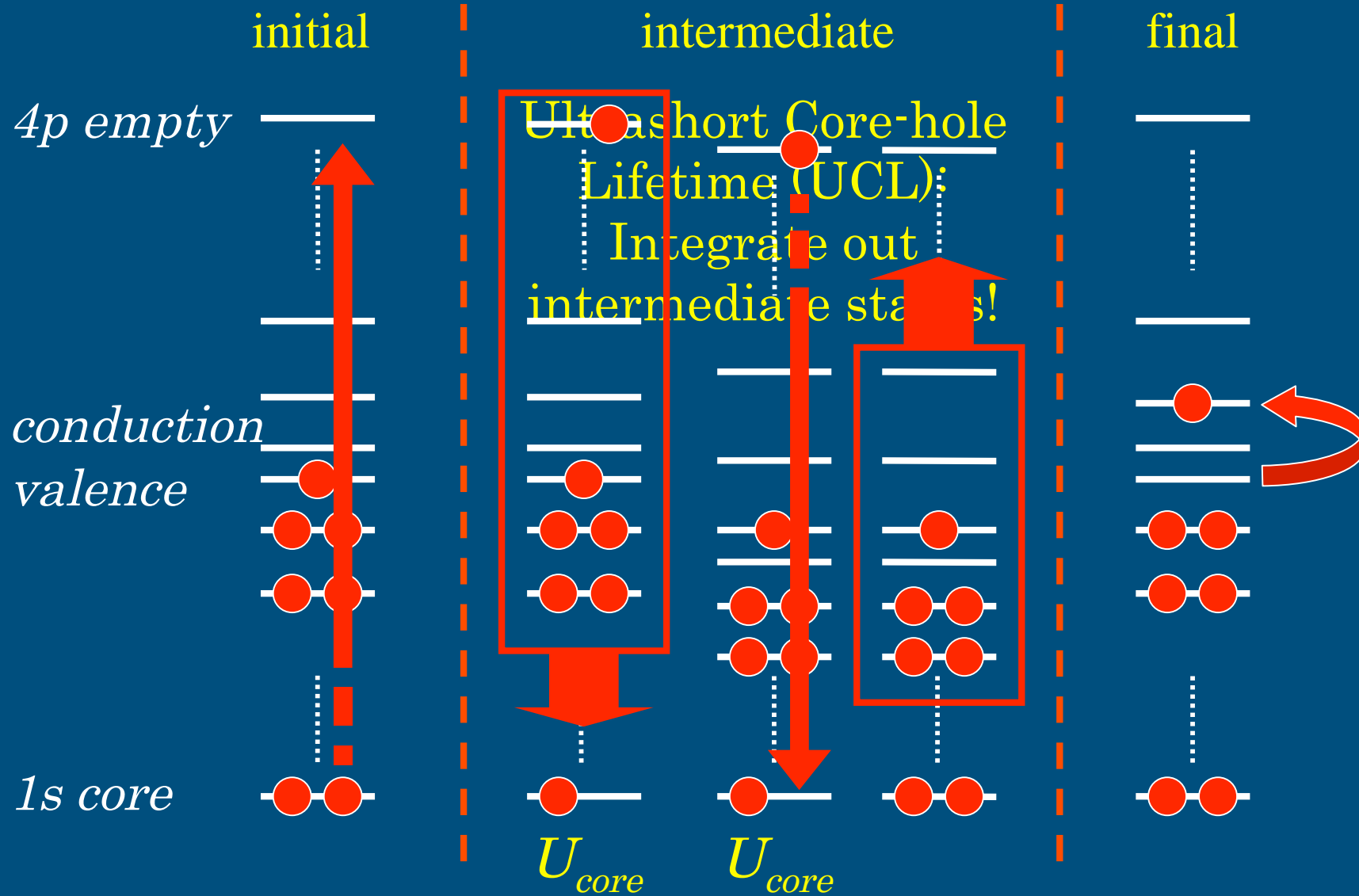


M.Z. Hasan *et al.* Science 288, 1811 (2000)

# What happens in detail



# What happens in detail



# Theory

- Kramers-Heisenberg relation

$$\left. \frac{d^2\sigma}{d\Omega d\omega} \right|_{\text{res}}(\mathbf{q}, \omega) \propto \left\langle \sum_f |A_{fi}|^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_{fi}) \right\rangle_T$$

with

$$A_{fi} = \omega_{\text{res}} \sum_n \frac{\langle f | \hat{O} | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{O} | i \rangle}{\omega_{\text{det}} - E_n - i\Gamma}$$

Detuning from resonance  
Intermediate states  
Inverse core-hole lifetime

$$\Gamma \approx 0.25 - 3 \text{ eV}$$



# Theory - UCL expansion

Scattering amplitude

$$A_{fi} = \omega_{\text{res}} \sum_n \frac{\langle f | \hat{O} | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{O} | i \rangle}{\omega_{\text{det}} - E_n - i\Gamma}$$

$$\Delta := \omega_{\text{det}} - i\Gamma$$


Using the Ultrashort Core-hole Lifetime gives

$$\begin{aligned} &= \omega_{\text{res}} \sum_n \langle f | \hat{O} | n \rangle \langle n | \hat{O} | i \rangle \frac{1}{\Delta - E_n} \\ &= \frac{\omega_{\text{res}}}{\Delta} \sum_n \sum_l \langle f | \hat{O} | n \rangle (E_n/\Delta)^l \langle n | \hat{O} | i \rangle \\ &= \frac{\omega_{\text{res}}}{\Delta} \sum_l \frac{1}{\Delta^l} \langle f | \hat{O} H_{\text{int}}^l \hat{O} | i \rangle \end{aligned}$$

# What does RIXS measure?

We obtain 
$$A_{fi} = \frac{\omega_{\text{res}}}{\Delta} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\Delta^l} \langle f | \hat{O} H_{\text{int}}^l \hat{O} | i \rangle$$

$$H_{\text{int}} = H_0 + H'$$

Valence  
electrons



Arbitrary range hopping & Coulomb interactions

Interaction of  
valence electrons  
with core-hole



Assume immobile core-hole,  
and local core-hole potential

Intermediate state  
Hamiltonian

At  $T = 0$ , approximate  $H_{\text{int}}^l$  for both strong and weak potentials

J. van den Brink & M. van Veenendaal, EPL 73, 121 (2006)  
L. Ament, F. Forte & J. van den Brink, PRB 75, 115118 (2007)

# What does RIXS measure?

Spinless fermions:  $A_{fi} = P(\omega) \langle f | \rho_{\mathbf{q}} | 0 \rangle$  Charge density

with  $P(\omega) = \frac{\omega_{\text{res}} U_c}{(\Delta - U_c)(\Delta - \omega)}$  Resonant prefactor

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{d\omega d\Omega} \propto |P(\omega)|^2 S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$$

Fermions with spin:

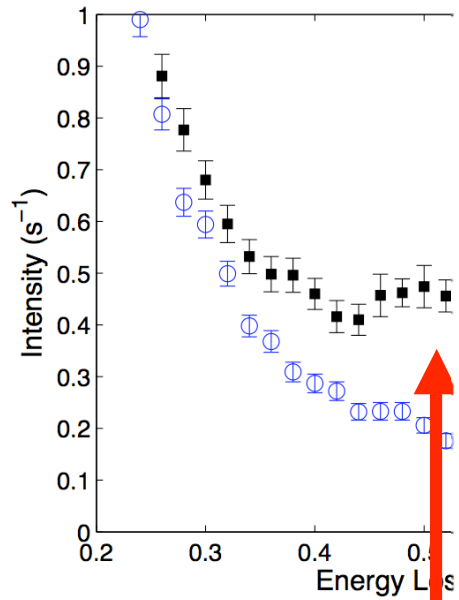
$$A_{fi} = P_1(\omega) \langle f | \rho_{\mathbf{q}} | i \rangle + P_2(\omega) \langle f | \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{q}}^2 | i \rangle$$

Charge density

Longitudinal spin density

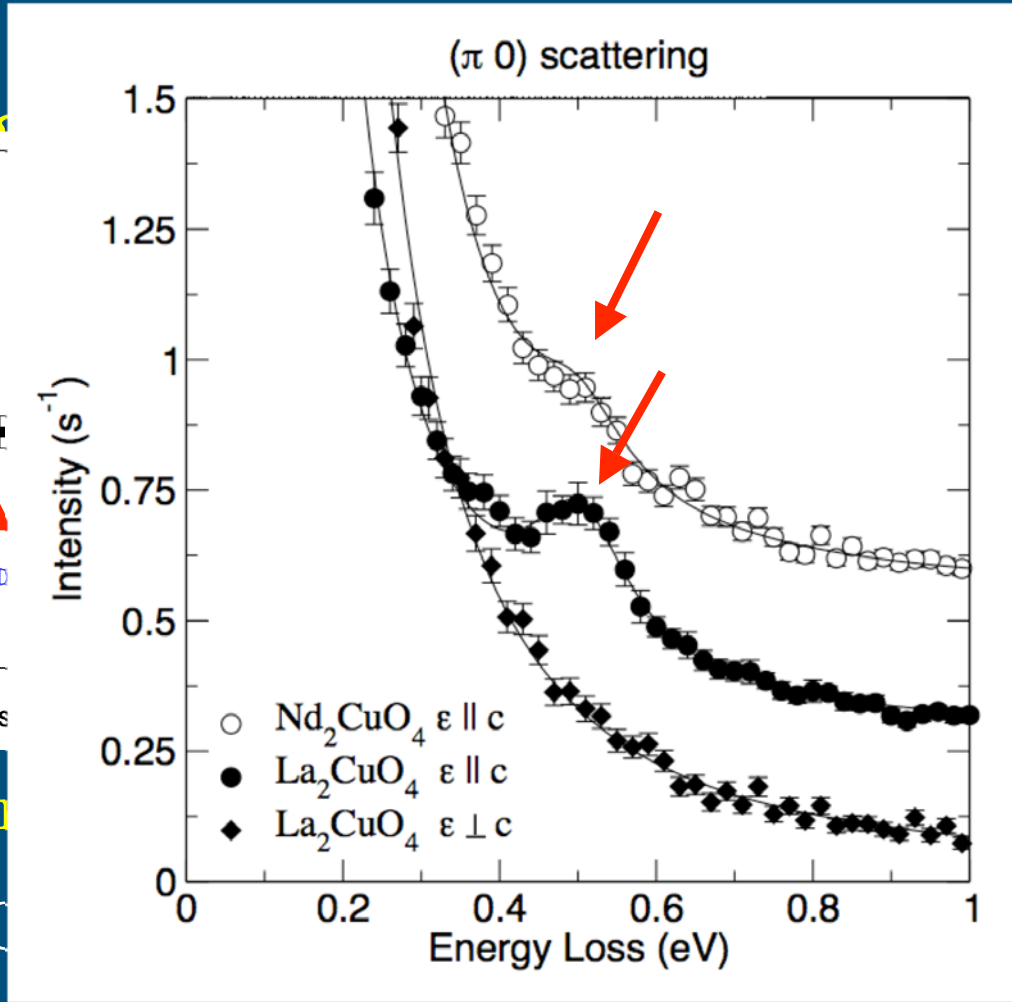
J. van den Brink & M. van Veenendaal, EPL 73, 121 (2006)  
L. Ament, F. Forte & J. van den Brink, PRB 75, 115118 (2007)

Why

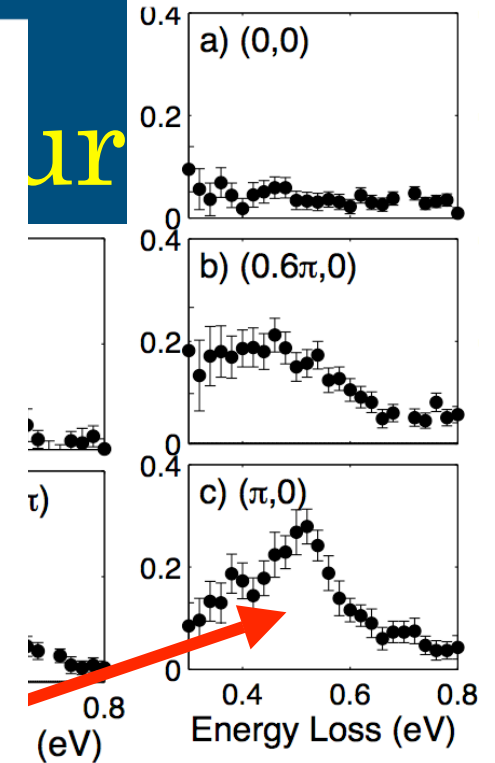


Can we p

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ones?

gap (~ 2 eV)

500 meV peak! Phonons?

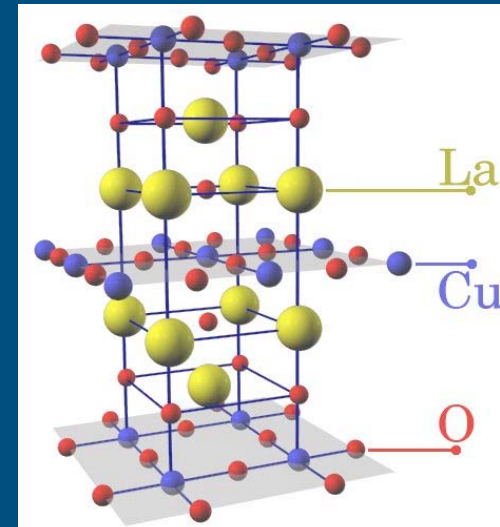
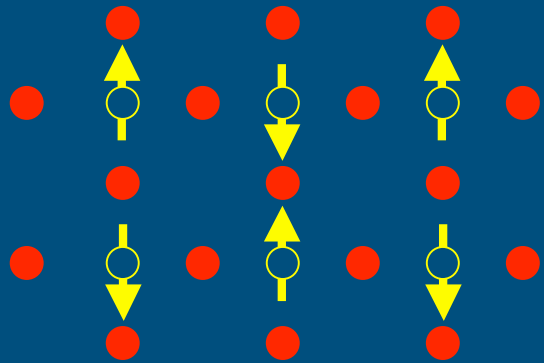
d-d excitation?  $Nd_2CuO_4$ : no shift

Magnons?

J. van den Brink & M. van Veenendaal, EPL 73, 121 (2006)  
 L. Ament, F. Forte & J. van den Brink, PRL 75, 115118 (2007)

# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

Perovskite layers of  $\text{CuO}_2$ :



Cu 3d  $e_g$  holes at low energy:

Single band Hubbard model  $\rightarrow H_0 = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$

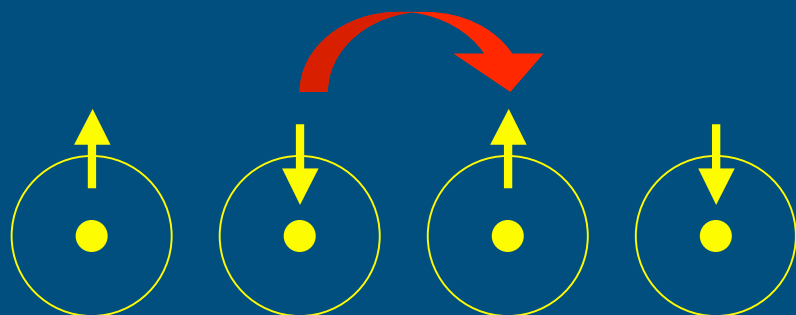
Ground state is antiferromagnetically ordered

Collective excitations: magnons

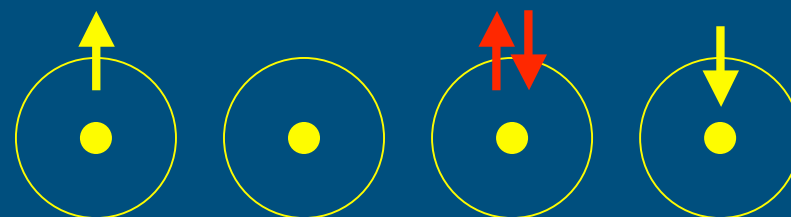
# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

How does the core-hole couple to the spins?

Go back to Hubbard model!



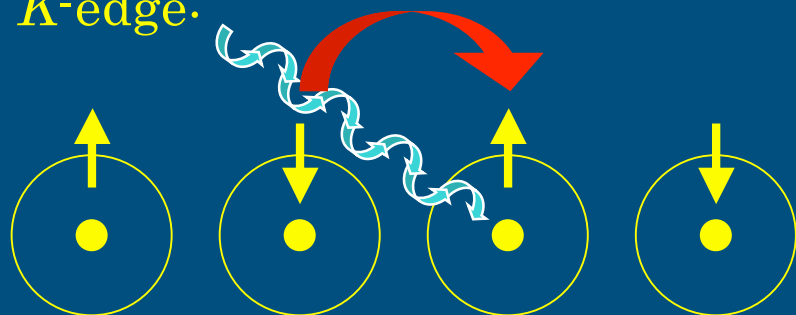
Hopping amplitude  $t$



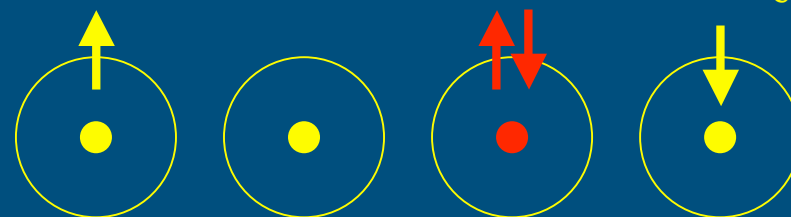
Coulomb repulsion  $U$

Core-hole locally modifies superexchange!

*K*-edge:



Coulomb repulsion  $U - U_c$



# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

How does the core-hole couple to the spins?

Indirect RIXS **locally modifies superexchange!**

To first order in UCL:

$$A_{fi} = \frac{\omega_{\text{res}}}{\Delta^2} \eta \langle f | \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q}} J_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{-\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} | i \rangle$$
$$\frac{d^2 \sigma}{d\omega d\Omega} \propto |A_{fi}|^2 \Rightarrow$$

4-spin correlation function

At  $T = 0$ , **2-magnon excitations** are probed:

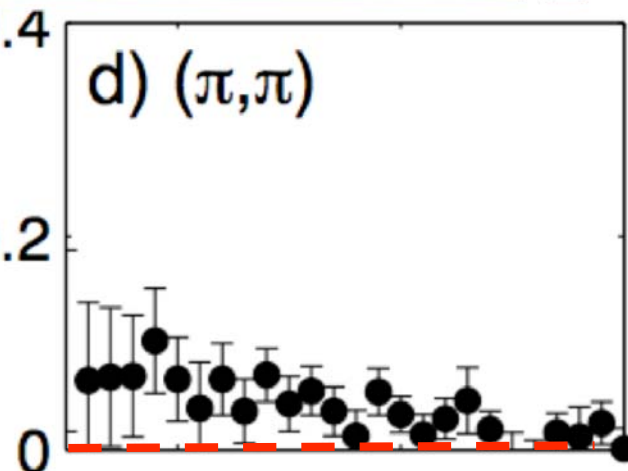
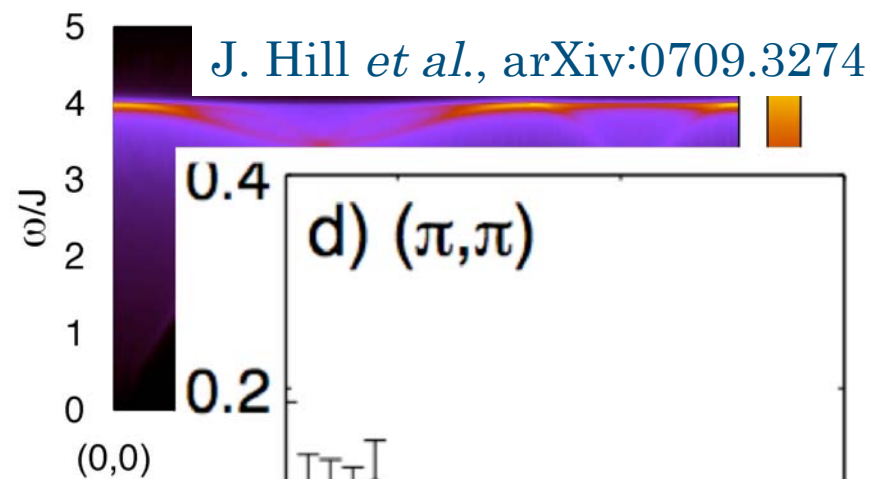
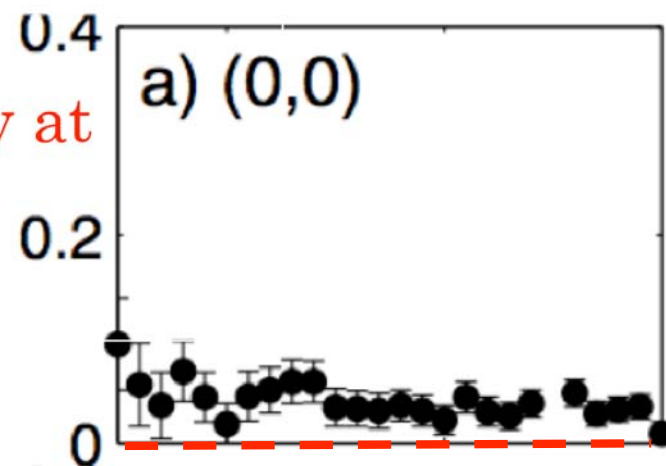
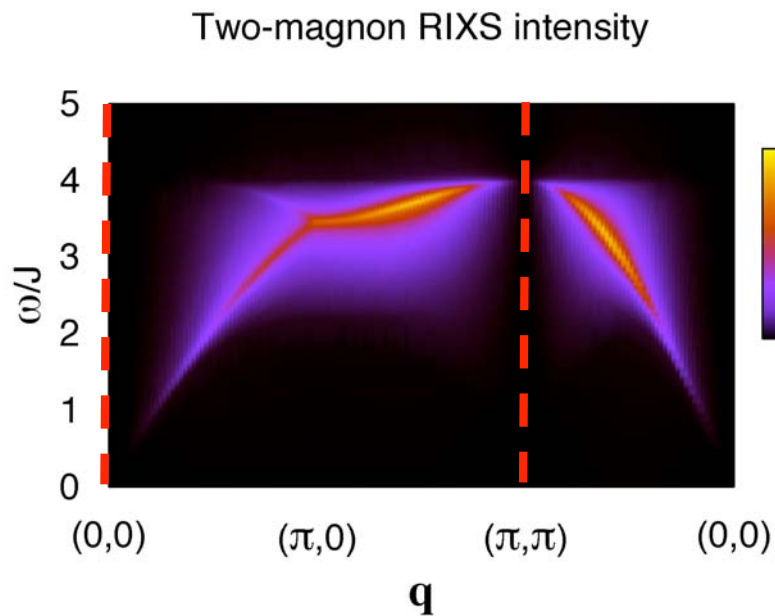
$$\propto \eta J \langle f | \sum_{\mathbf{k}} f(\mathbf{k}) \alpha_{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger \alpha_{-\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{q}}^\dagger | 0 \rangle$$

J. van den Brink, cond-mat/0510140

F. Forte, L. Ament & J. van den Brink, arXiv:0705.0263

# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

Selection rule: vanishing intensity at  $\mathbf{q} = (0,0)$  and  $\mathbf{q} = (\pi,\pi)$

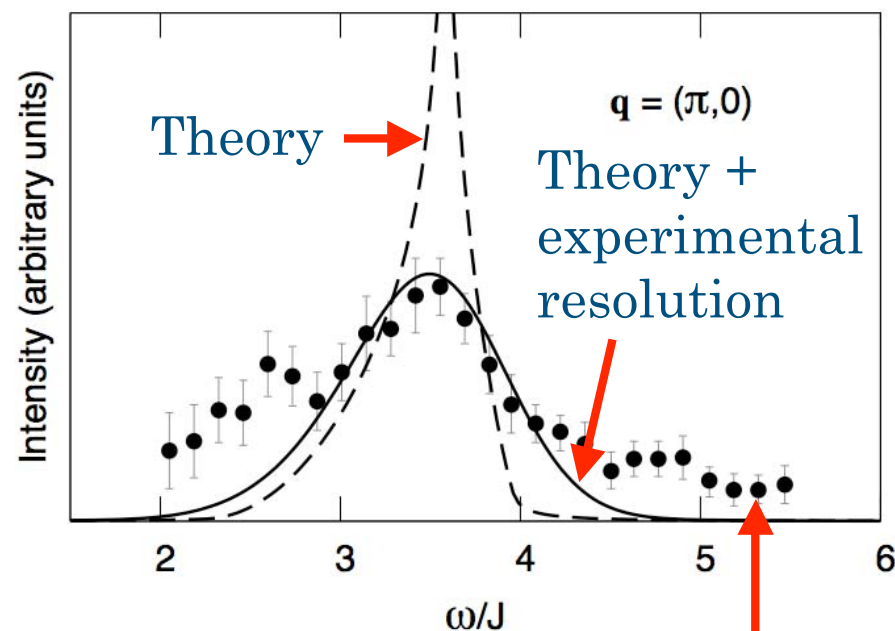




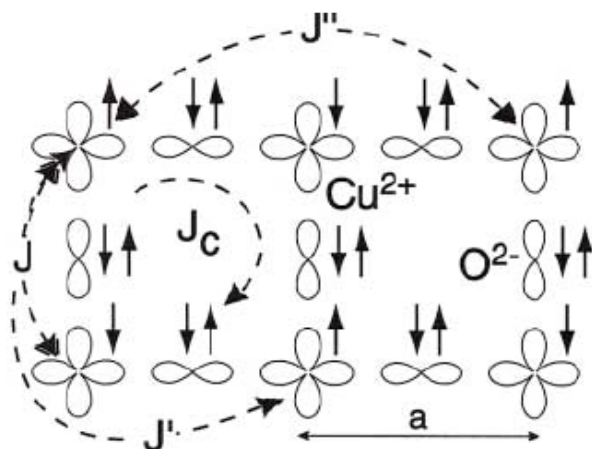
# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

F. Forte, L. Ament & J. van den Brink, arXiv:0705.0263

Improve theory with longer range interactions:



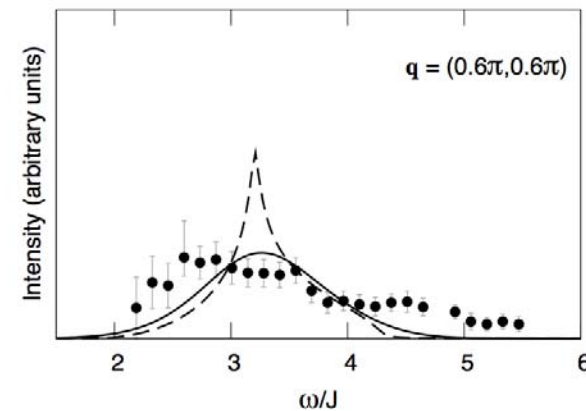
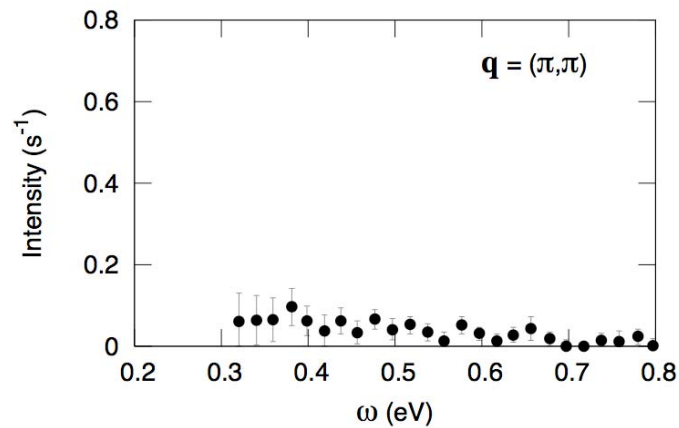
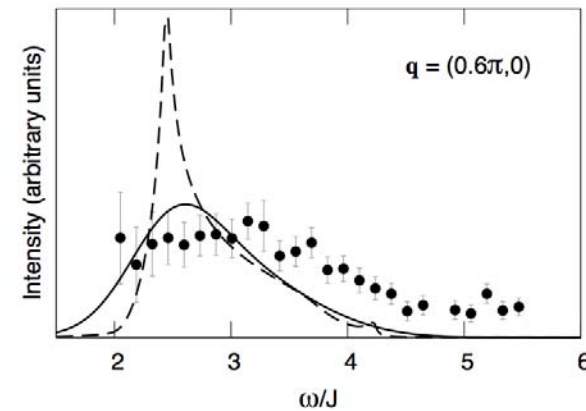
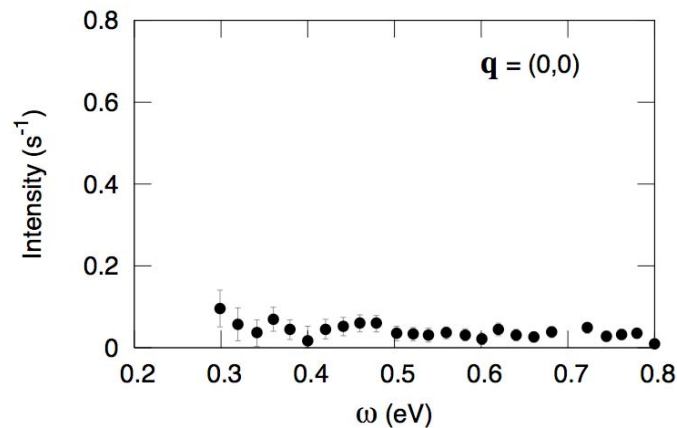
J. Hill *et al.*, arXiv:0709.3274



$J = 146.3$  meV,  $J' = J'' = 2$  meV, and  $J_c = 61$  meV

Values from neutron scattering.  
Coldea *et al.*, PRL 86, 5377 (2001)

# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$



F. Forte, L. Ament & J. van den Brink, arXiv:0705.0263  
J. Hill *et al.*, arXiv:0709.3274

# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

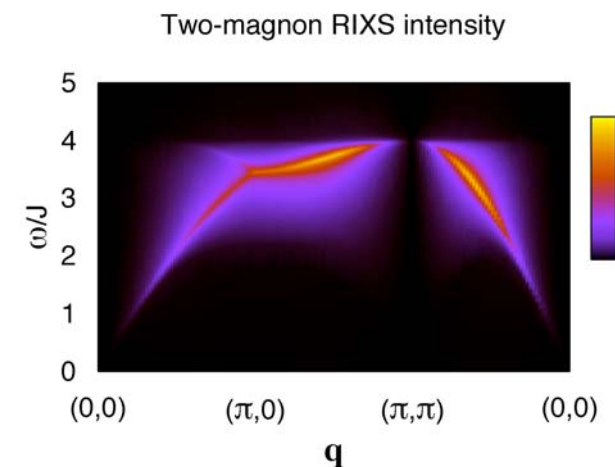
*L*-edge: direct RIXS - photoexcited electron in 3d-shell.

G. Ghiringhelli *et al.* are measuring this right now!

Sneak preview:

1. Dispersive feature similar to *K*-edge RIXS, becoming elastic in the low- $q$  limit.
2. Another feature appearing at
3. This feature disappears off-re

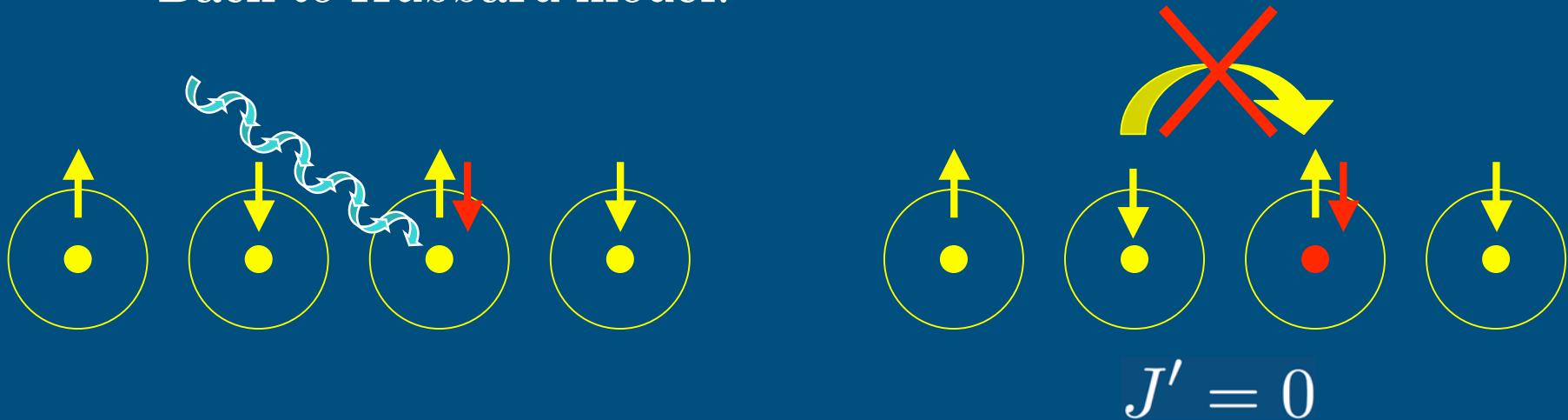
What about the th



# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

*L*-edge: direct RIXS - core-electron ends up in 3d-state

Back to Hubbard model!



The extra 3d-electron **locally blocks superexchange**

The UCL results for the K-edge and L-edge are the same!

# Magnetic RIXS on $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$

$L$ -edge has more intensity

Can we go beyond the UCL

$$A_{fi}^{(1)} \propto \frac{\omega_{\text{res}} J}{\Delta^2} \langle f | \sum_{i,j} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j | i \rangle$$

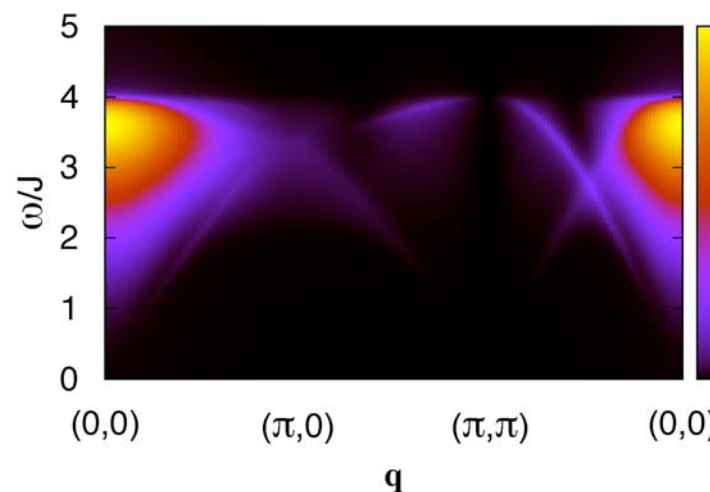
Reminder

$$\Delta := \omega_{\text{in}} - i\Gamma$$

Off-resonance

$A_{fi}^{(1)}$  be

$$A_{fi}^{(2)} \propto \frac{\omega_{\text{res}} J^2}{\Delta^3} \langle f | \sum_{i,j,k} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}_i} (\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j) (\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_k) | i \rangle$$

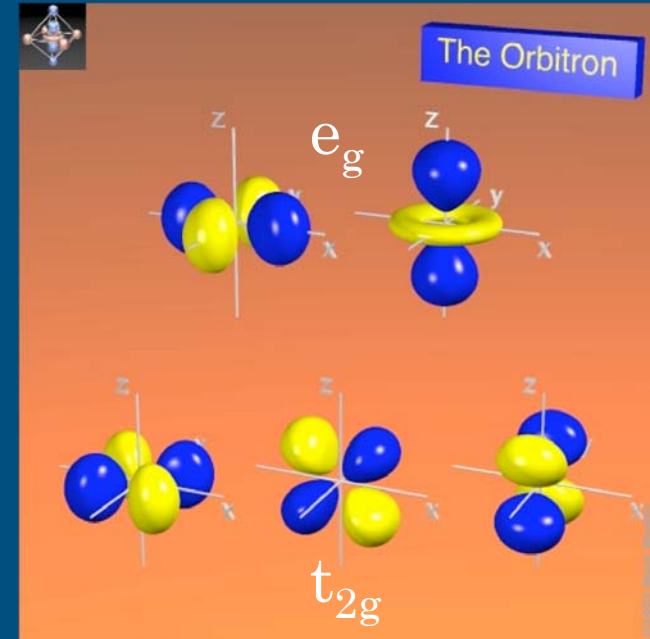
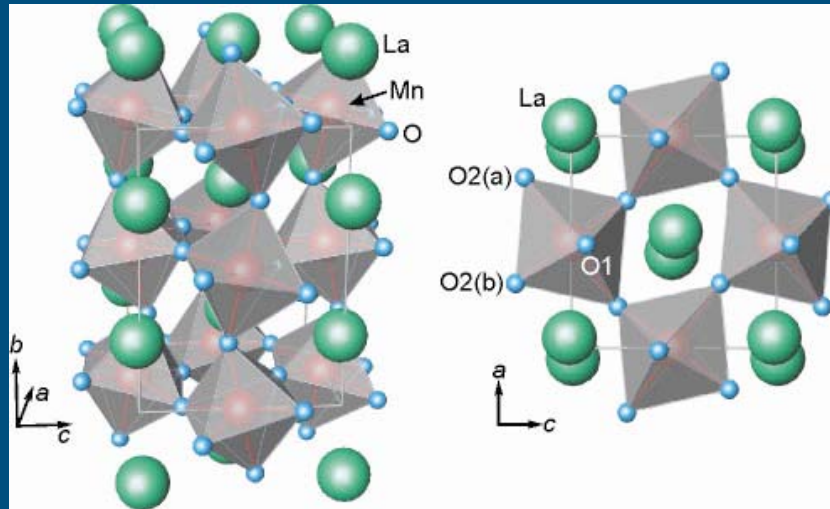


Currently,  $\mathbf{q} = 0$  is being measured by G. Ghiringhelli *et al.*

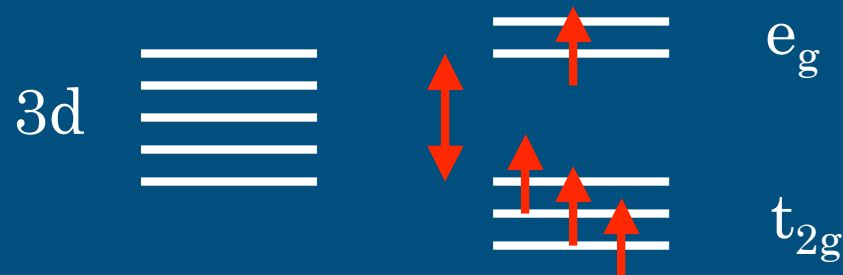
To be continued!

# Outlook - Orbital RIXS

- $\text{LaMnO}_3$  has a cubic structure:



- $\text{MnO}_6$  octahedron induces crystal field:



$\text{LaMnO}_3$ : A-type AFM order:  
spins align FM in each layer.

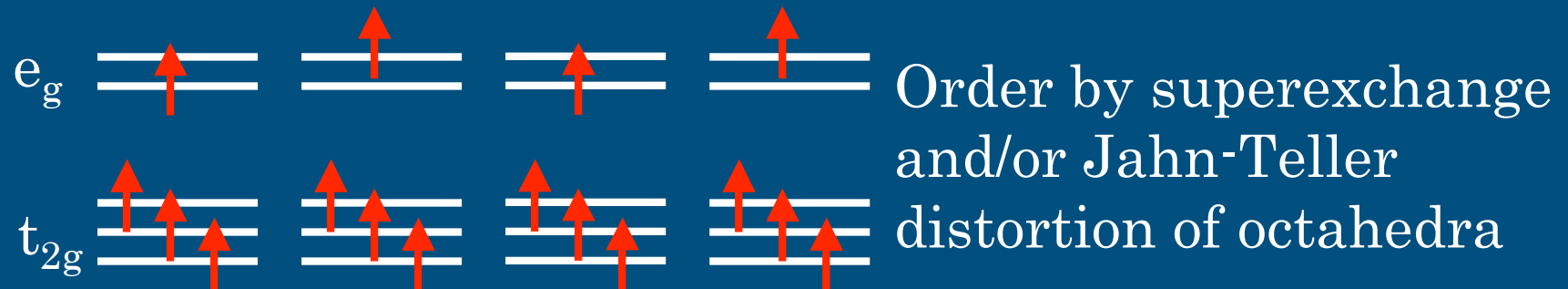
# Orbital RIXS

Kugel-Khomskii model without Hund's rule coupling:

$$H \propto \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \left( \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \frac{1}{4} \right) H_{\text{orb}}^{ij}$$

To first order, orbitals of different layers decouple!

- $e_g$  orbitals order 'antiferro-orbitally':



- Excitations:  $e_g$  orbital waves (analogous to spin waves)

# Orbital RIXS



$$H_{\text{orb}} \sim S_i^+ S_j^z$$

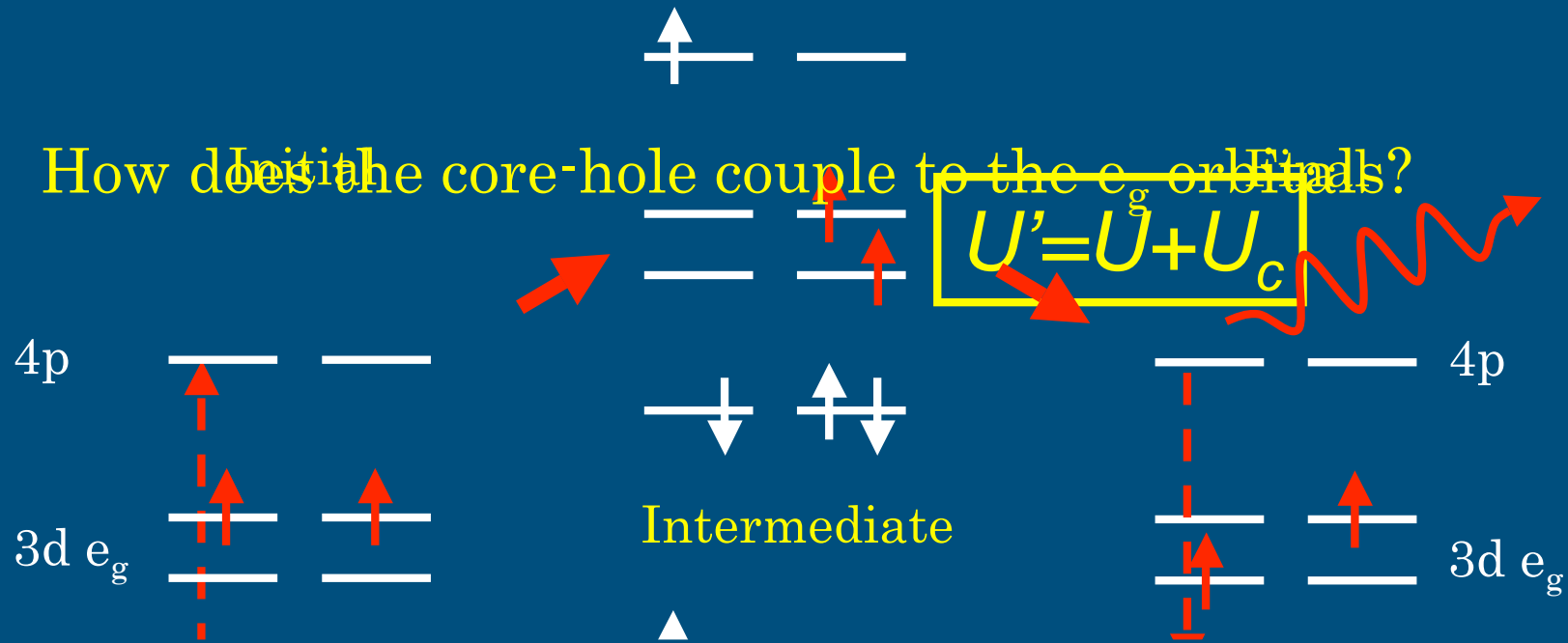
Looks like Heisenberg, but no conservation of pseudo- $S^z$ . This leads to **single orbiton excitations**.

S. Ishihara & S. Maekawa, PRB 62, 2338 (2000)

J. van den Brink, P. Horsch, F. Mack & A. M. Oles, PRB 59, 6795 (1999)



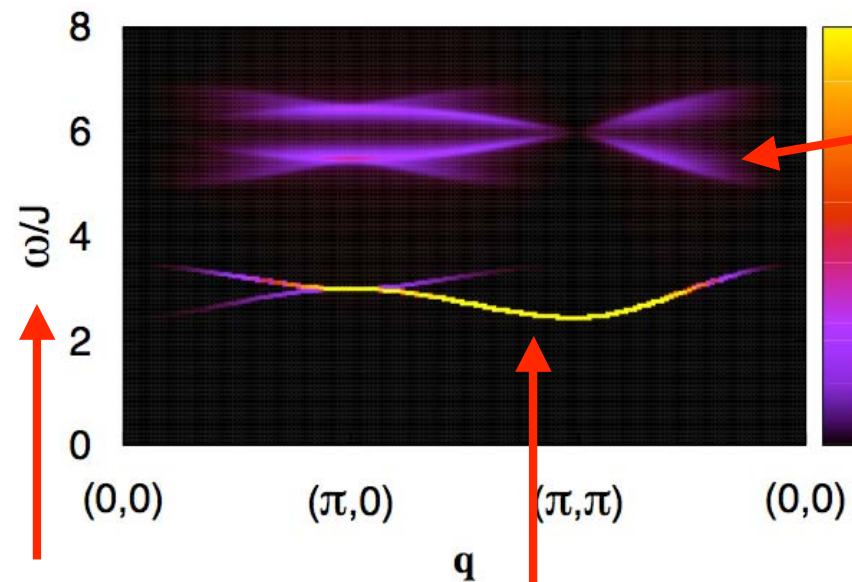
# Orbital RIXS



Again, core-hole locally  
modifies superexchange!

# Orbital RIXS

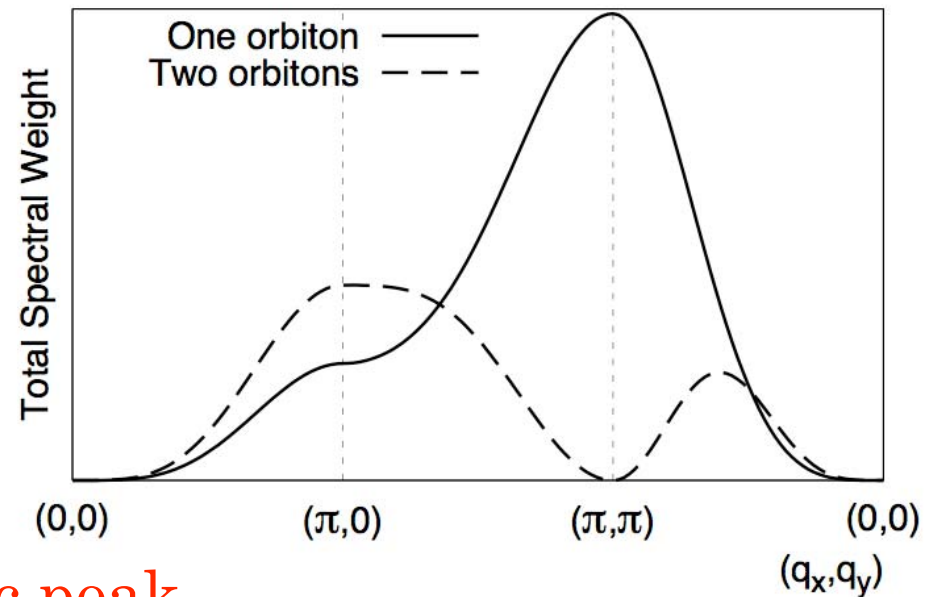
Orbital RIXS spectrum for  $\text{LaMnO}_3$



$J = 25 \text{ meV}$

One-orbiton peak

Two-orbiton continuum



Experimental limitations:  
Resolution = 100 meV, inelastic peak

# Conclusions

- Experimental progress is enormous
- Theoretical spectra can be easily obtained with the UCL expansion using e.g. a model Hamiltonian
- We now know which charge correlation functions we measure in indirect RIXS
- Both direct and indirect RIXS are a new probe for magnons ( $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$ )
- We can possibly detect orbitons in the manganites!