

Topological spin liquids in honeycomb iridates and RuCl_3 ?

Jeroen van den Brink

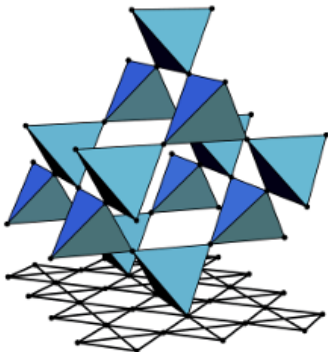


Leibniz Institute
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Materials Research
Dresden



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Ravi Yadav
Mohamed Eldeeb
Raajyavardhan Ray
Satoshi Nishimoto
Liviu Hozoi



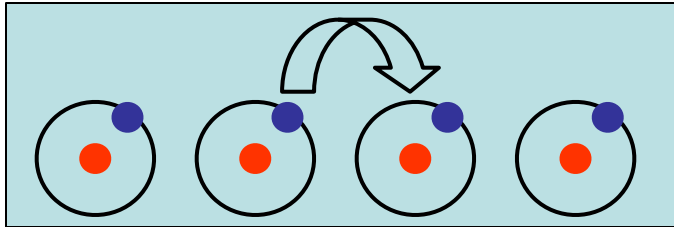
SFB 1143



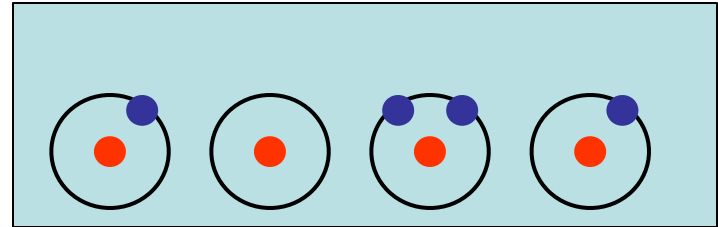
CENTER FOR TOPOLOGICAL QUANTUM MATTER RESEARCH

Topoquant19
KITP
Santa Barbara
28.08.2019

Chain of hydrogen atoms



Hopping amplitude: t



Coulomb interaction: U

$$U = 0$$

Bands: Metallic behaviour

$$U \gg t$$

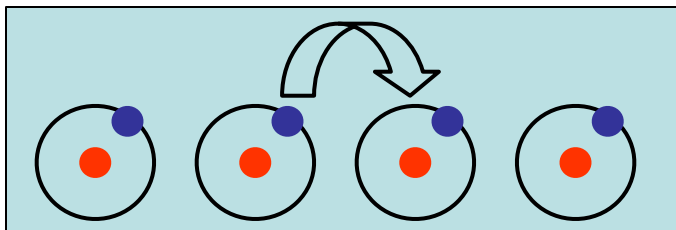
Mott-Hubbard Insulator



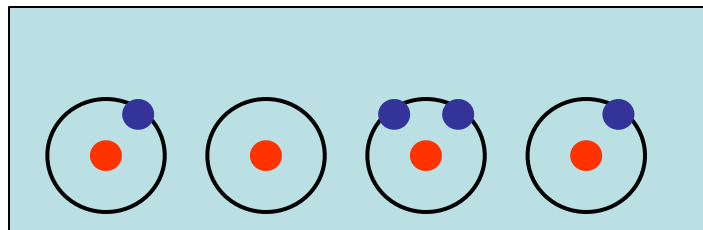
Antiferromagnetism

Hubbard Hamiltonian

$$H_{Hub} = t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \sigma} (c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + h.c.) + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$



Hopping amplitude: t



Coulomb interaction: U

$U = 0$

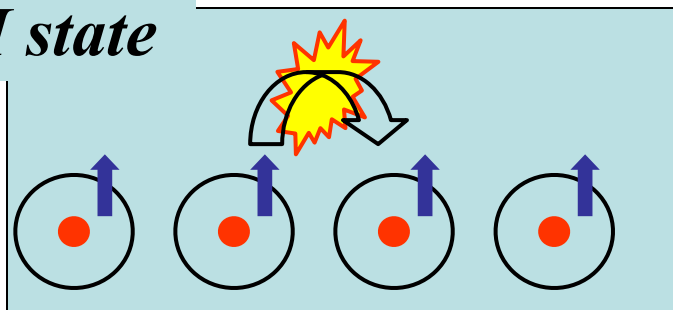
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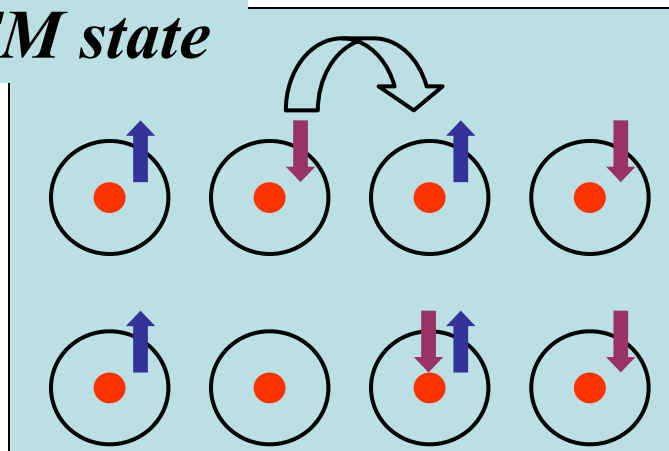
Antiferromagnetism

FM state



$E = 0$

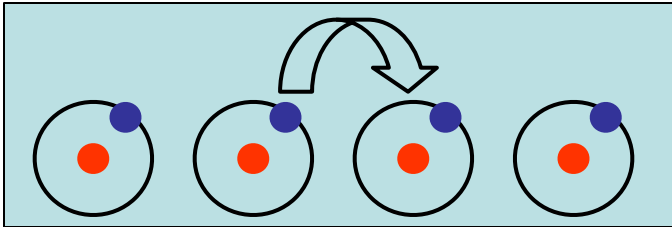
AFM state



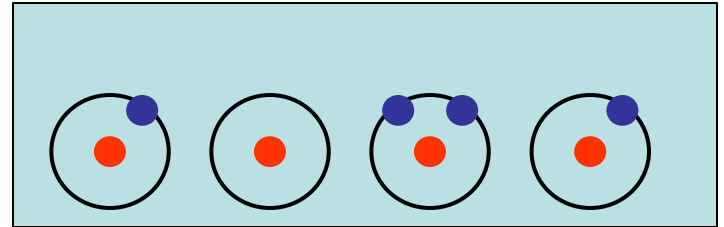
$E = -t^2/U$

Hubbard Hamiltonian

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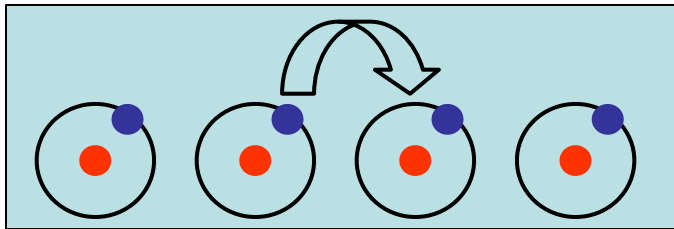
Antiferromagnetism

Heisenberg Hamiltonian

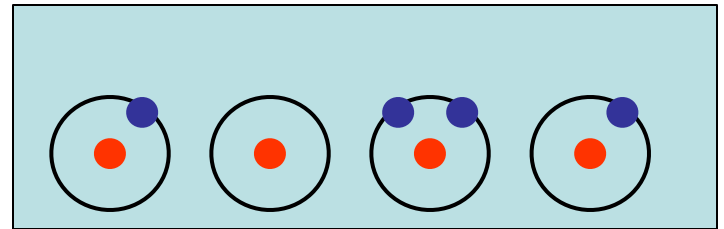
$$H_{Heis} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j \quad [S^x, S^y] = iS^z$$

Hubbard Hamiltonian

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Mott-Hubbard Insulator



Antiferromagnetism

Heisenberg Hamiltonian

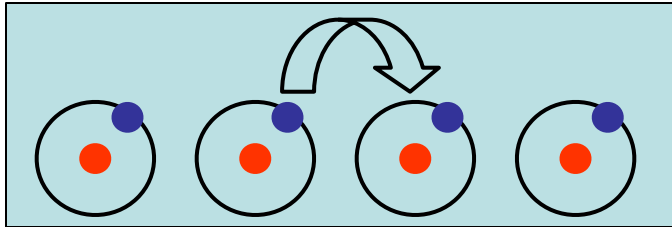
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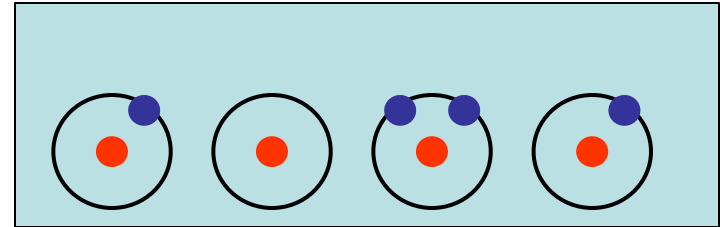
Rotational invariant

Hubbard Hamiltonian

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Mott-Hubbard Insulator



Antiferromagnetism

Heisenberg Hamiltonian

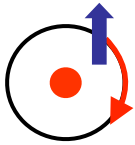
$$H_{Heis} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j \quad [S^x, S^y] = iS^z$$



Rotational invariant

In real materials: (easy axis) exchange anisotropy

Magnetic anisotropy

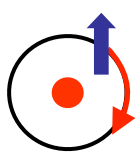


$$\vec{B} = \frac{\vec{v} \times \vec{E}}{c^2}, \quad \vec{E} = -\nabla V$$

$$\text{Zeeman : } \vec{B} \cdot \vec{S} \sim \vec{L} \cdot \vec{S}$$

spin-orbit coupling

Magnetic anisotropy



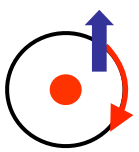
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spin-orbit coupling

1. When $c \rightarrow \infty$ anisotropy $\rightarrow 0$

Magnetic anisotropy



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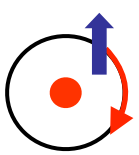
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spin-orbit coupling

1. When $c \rightarrow \infty$ anisotropy $\rightarrow 0$

2. Total angular momentum $\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$

Magnetic anisotropy



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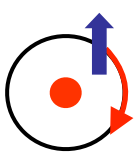
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Magnetic anisotropy



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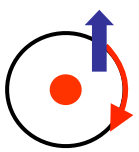
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Ru, Mo

Ir, Os

Magnetic anisotropy



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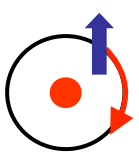
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4. \vec{J} has direction & breaks rotational invariance of H

Ru, Mo

Ir, Os

Magnetic anisotropy



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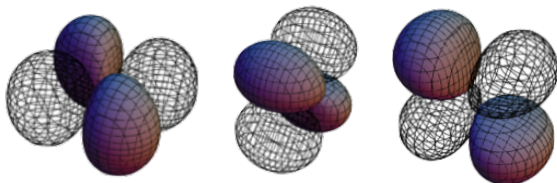
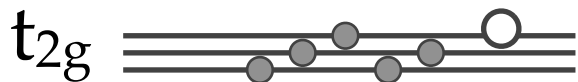
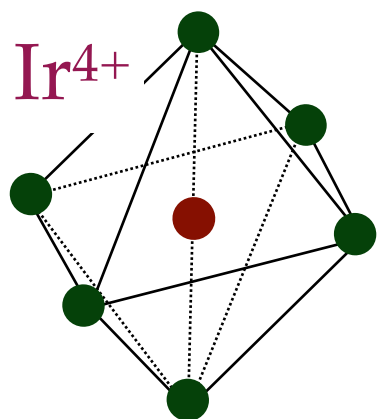
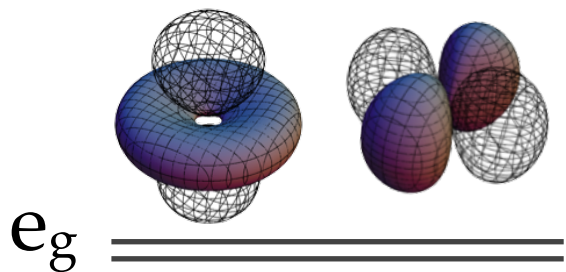
Ru, Mo

Ir, Os

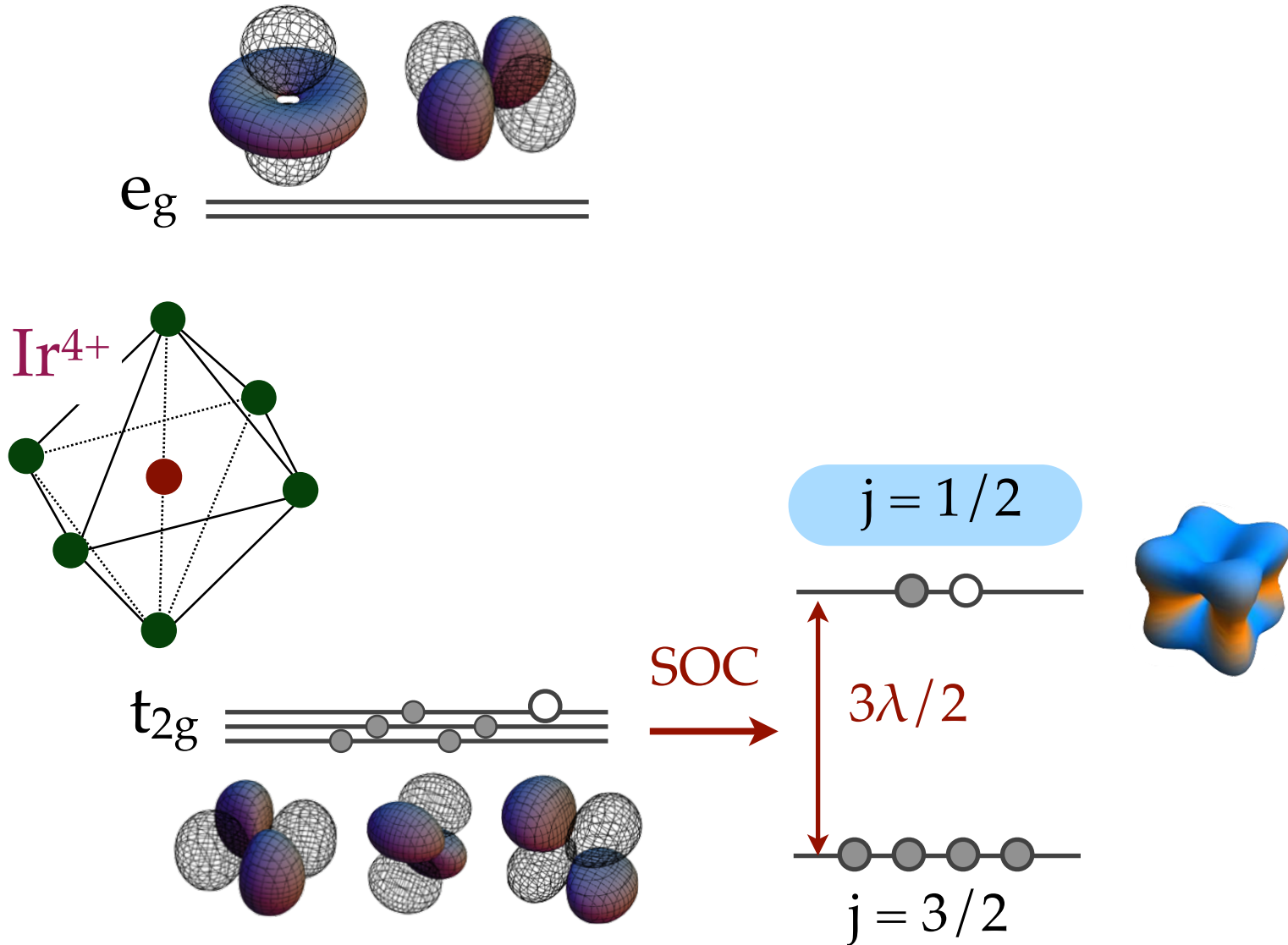
$S_i^z S_j^z$ instead of $\vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$

(for $S = 1/2$ we have $(S_i^z)^2 = 1/4$)

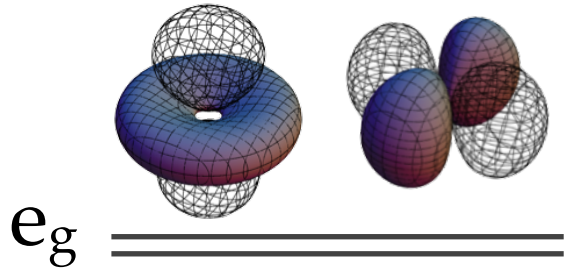
Magnetic Iridium Oxides: Ir^{4+}



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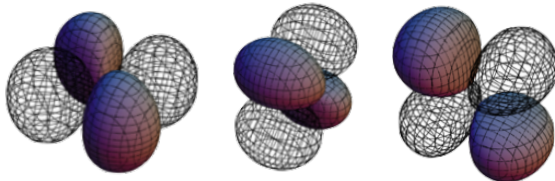
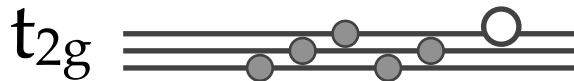
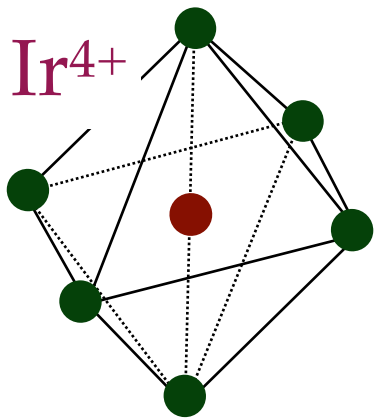


Magnetic Iridium Oxides: Ir⁴⁺



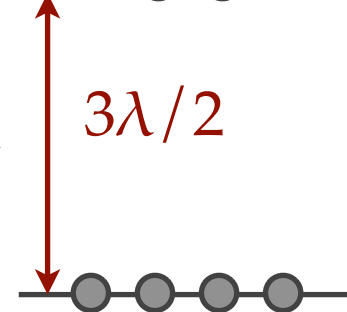
$$|j^z = +\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \frac{|yz \uparrow\rangle - i|zx \uparrow\rangle - |xy \downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$|j^z = -\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \frac{|yz \downarrow\rangle + i|zx \downarrow\rangle - |xy \uparrow\rangle}{\sqrt{3}}$$

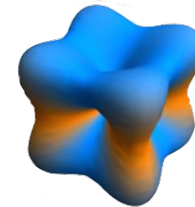


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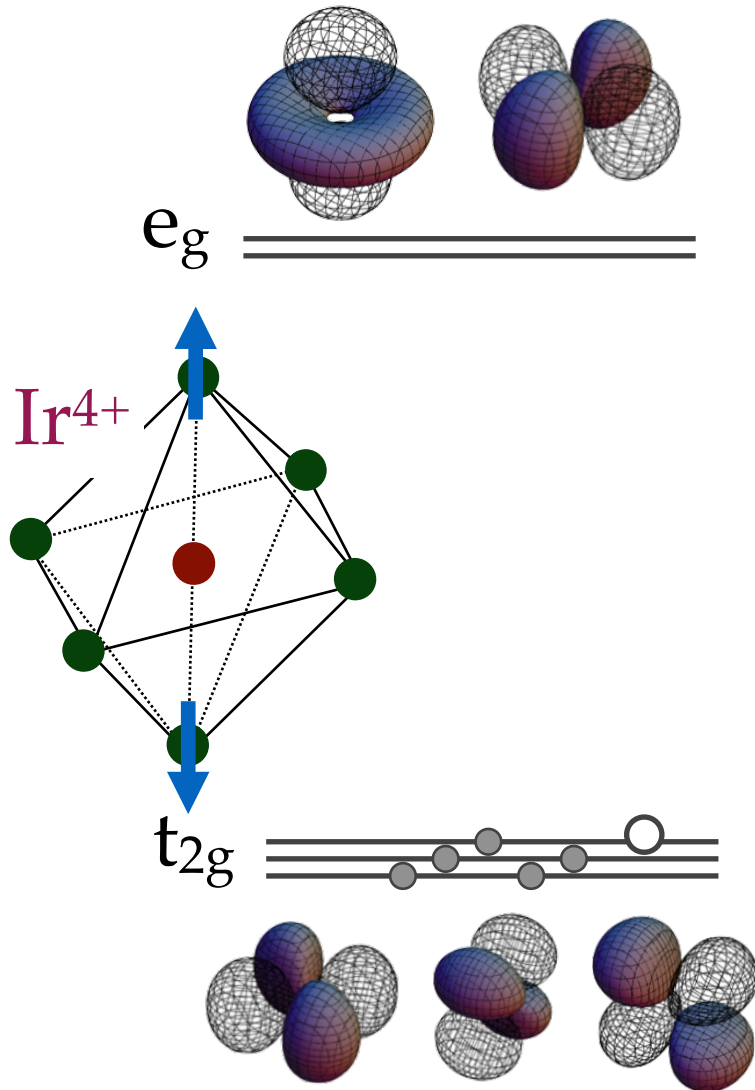
$j = 1/2$



$j = 3/2$

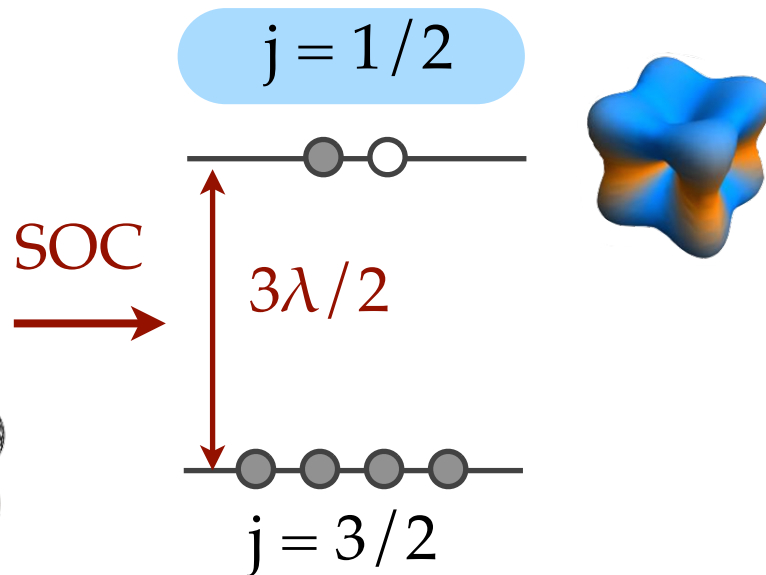


Magnetic Iridium Oxides: Ir⁴⁺

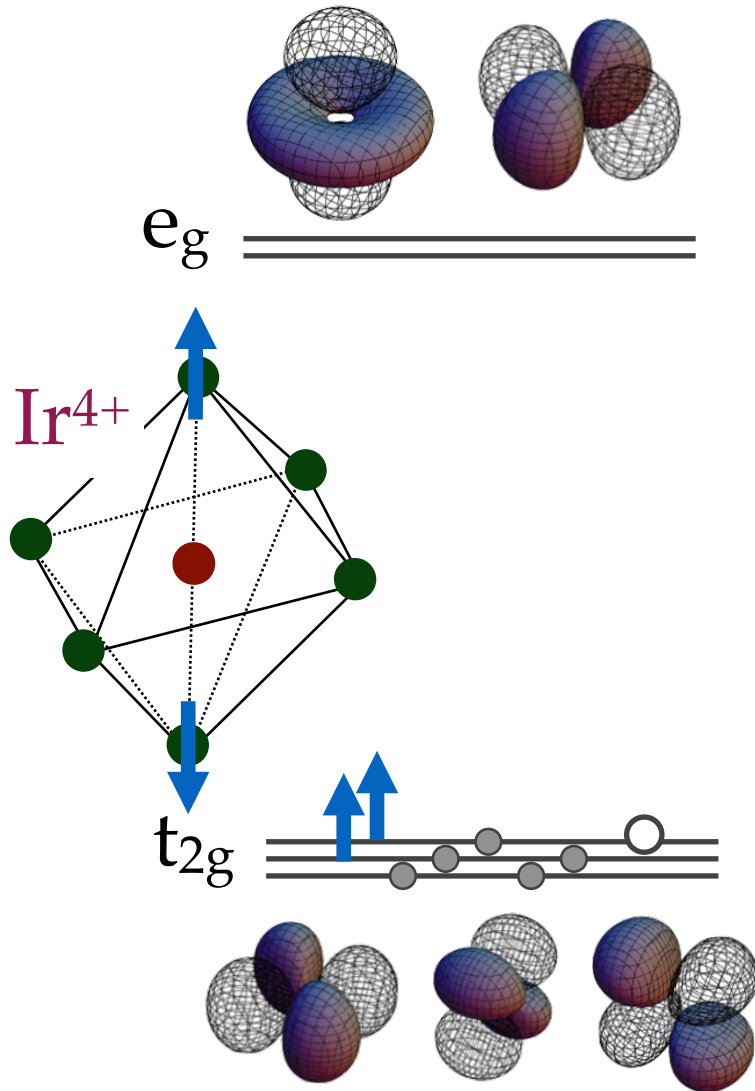


$$|j^z = +\frac{1}{2}\rangle = \frac{|yz \uparrow\rangle - i|zx \uparrow\rangle - |xy \downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{3}}$$

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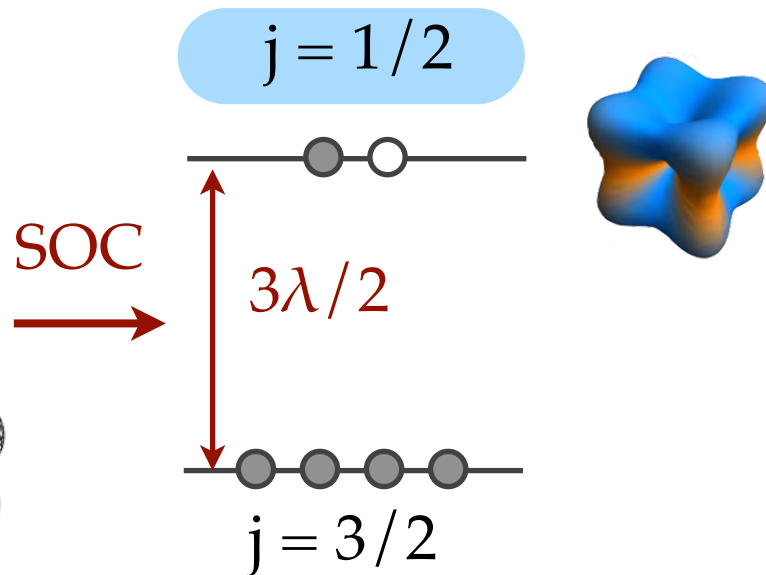


Magnetic Iridium Oxides: Ir⁴⁺

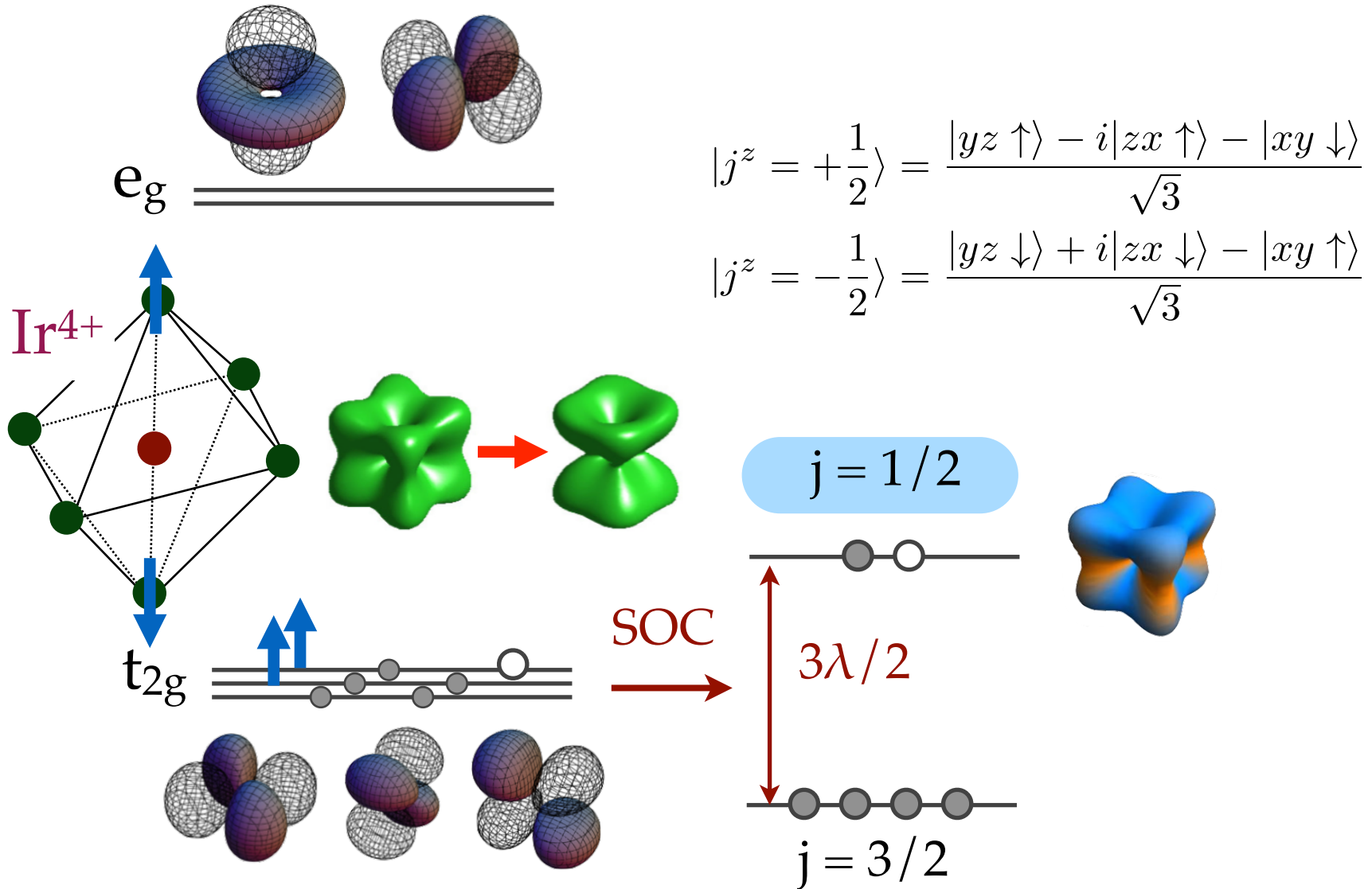


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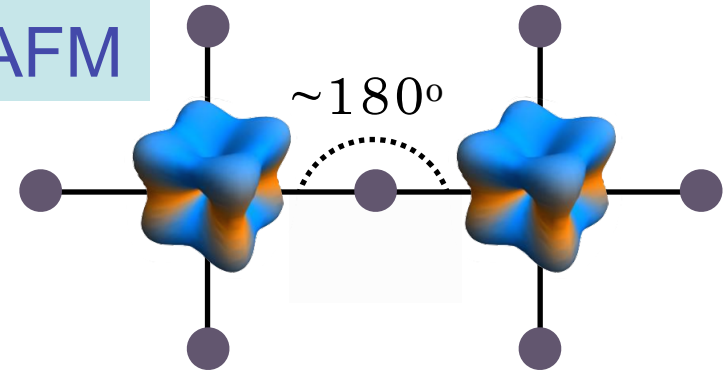
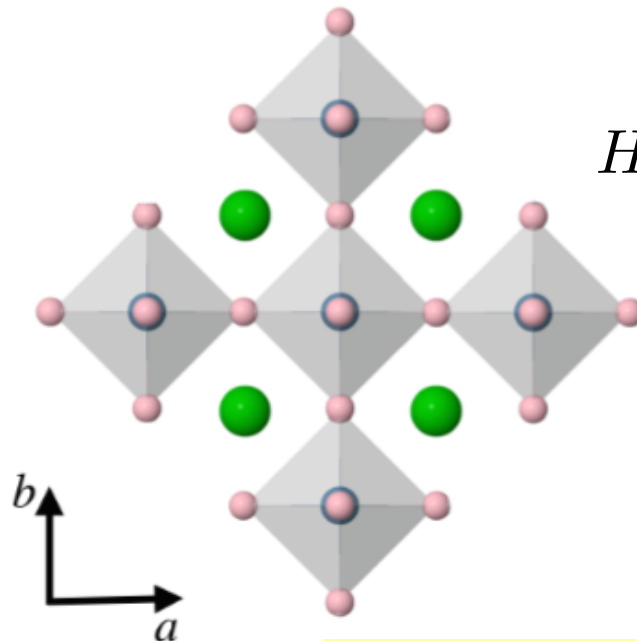
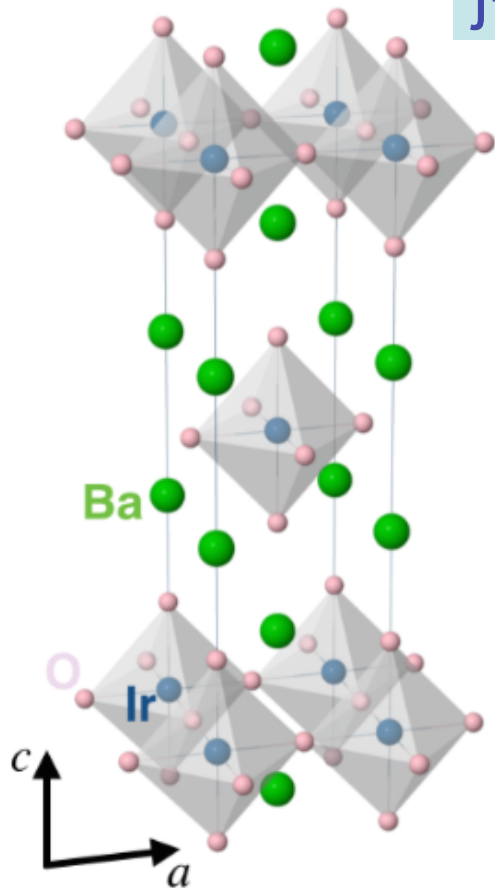
Magnetic Iridium Oxides: Ir⁴⁺



214 Magnetic Iridium Oxides

Sr_2IrO_4 : equivalent of cuprate La_2CuO_4

$j=1/2$ square lattice AFM



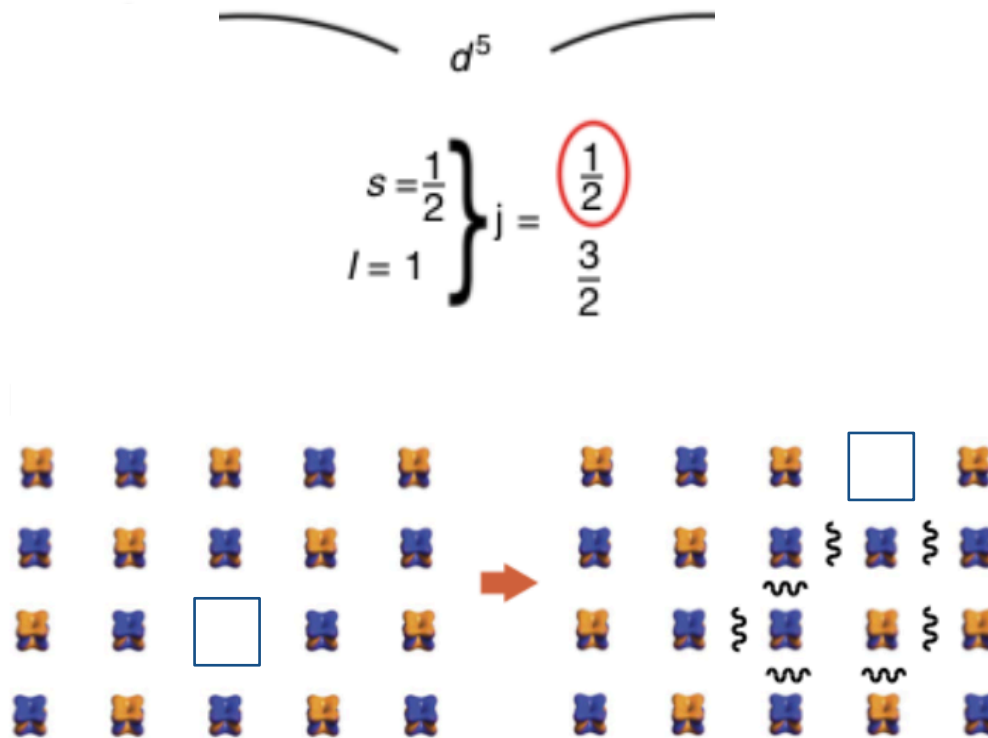
$$H_{Heis} = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

between $j=1/2$ moments

Jackeli & Khaliullin, PRL 102, 017205 (2009)

Electron/hole propagation in Sr_2IrO_4

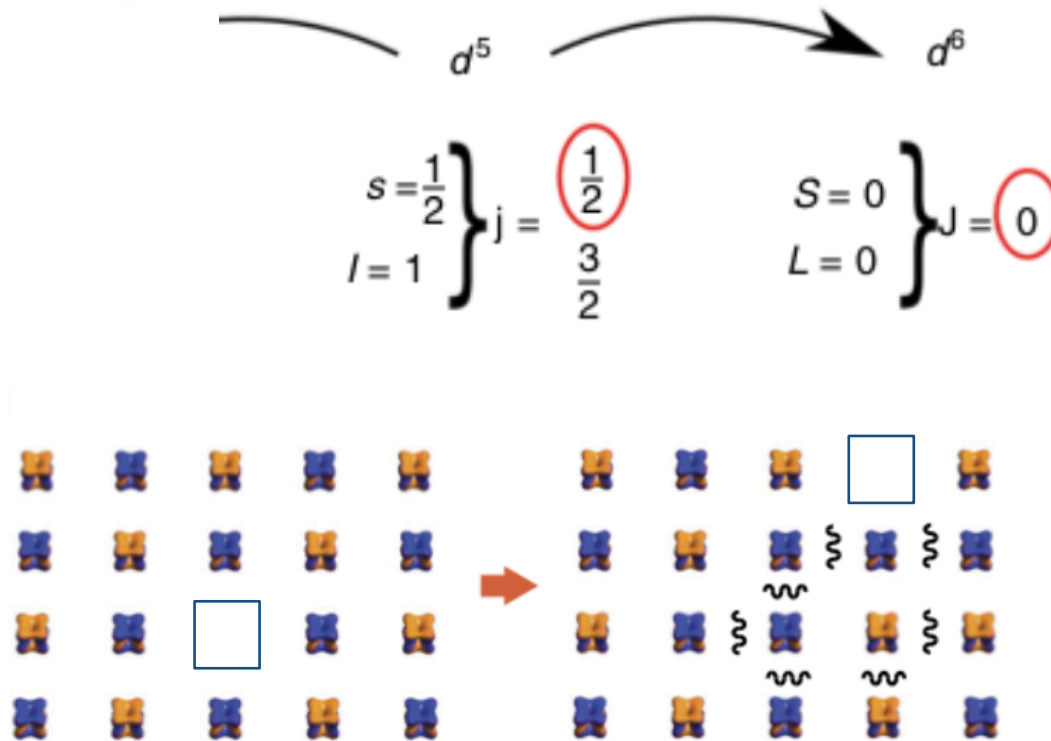
hole hopping in $s=1/2$ AFM creates string of spin flips



Pärschke, Wohlfeld, Foyevtsova & JvdB,
Nature Comm. 8, 686 (2017)

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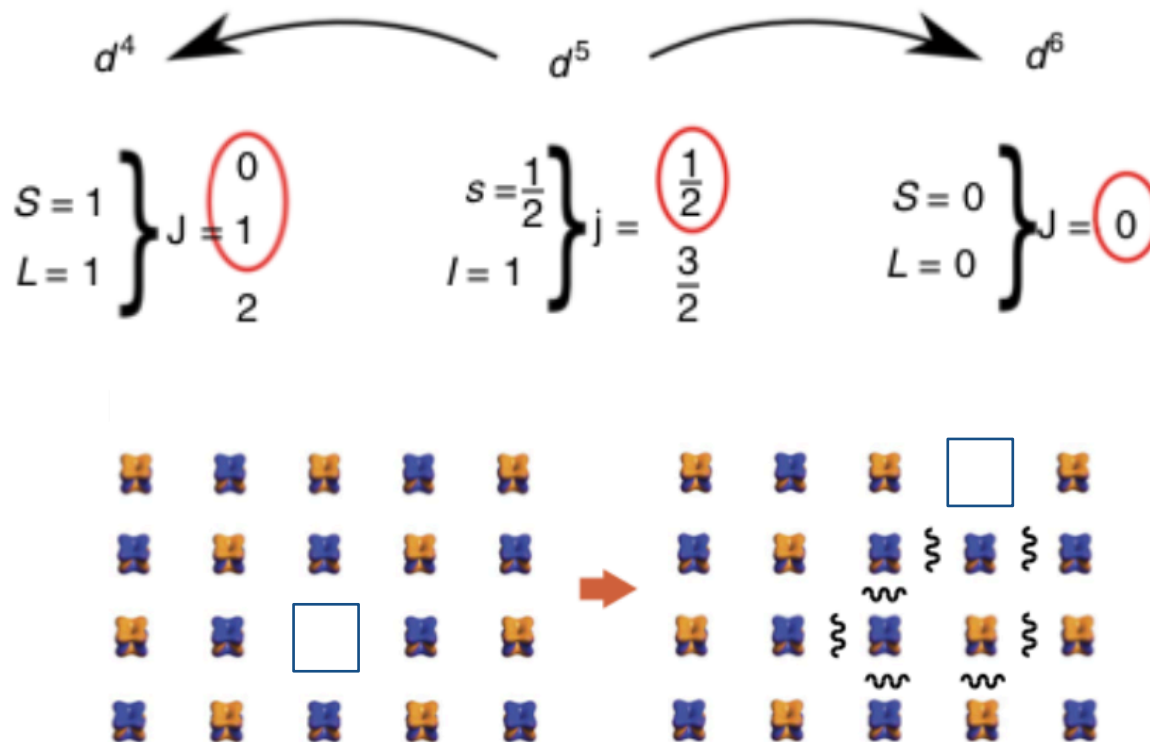
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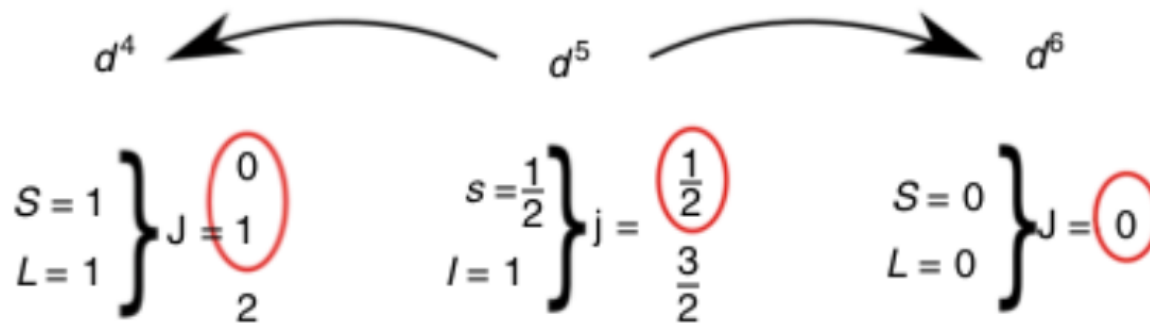
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$$\mathcal{H}_t^d = \sum_k V_k^0 (d_{kA}^\dagger d_{kA} + d_{kB}^\dagger d_{kB})$$

$$+ \sum_{k,q} V_{k,q} (d_{k-qB}^\dagger d_{kA} \alpha_q^\dagger + d_{k-qA}^\dagger d_{kB} \beta_q^\dagger + h.c.)$$

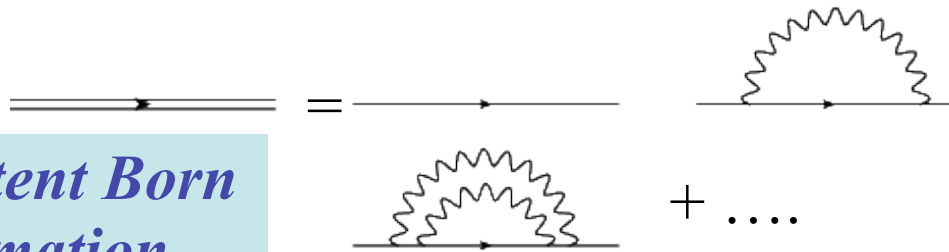
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Electron/hole propagation in Sr_2IrO_4

hole hopping in $s=1/2$ AFM creates string of spin flips

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 d^4 & \xleftarrow{\quad} & d^5 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & d^6 \\
 \left. \begin{array}{l} S=1 \\ L=1 \end{array} \right\} J = \textcircled{0} & & \left. \begin{array}{l} s=1/2 \\ l=1 \end{array} \right\} j = \textcircled{\frac{1}{2}} & & \left. \begin{array}{l} S=0 \\ L=0 \end{array} \right\} J = \textcircled{0}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{H}_t^d &= \sum_k V_k^0 (d_{kA}^\dagger d_{kA} + d_{kB}^\dagger d_{kB}) \\
 &+ \sum_{k,q} V_{k,q} (d_{k-qB}^\dagger d_{kA} \alpha_q^\dagger + d_{k-qA}^\dagger d_{kB} \beta_q^\dagger + h.c.)
 \end{aligned}$$

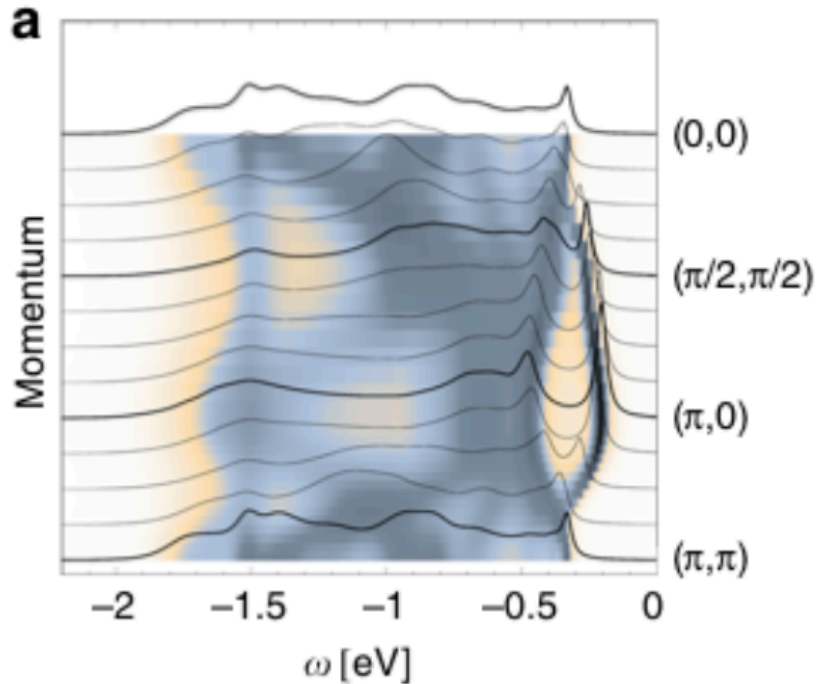


self-consistent Born approximation

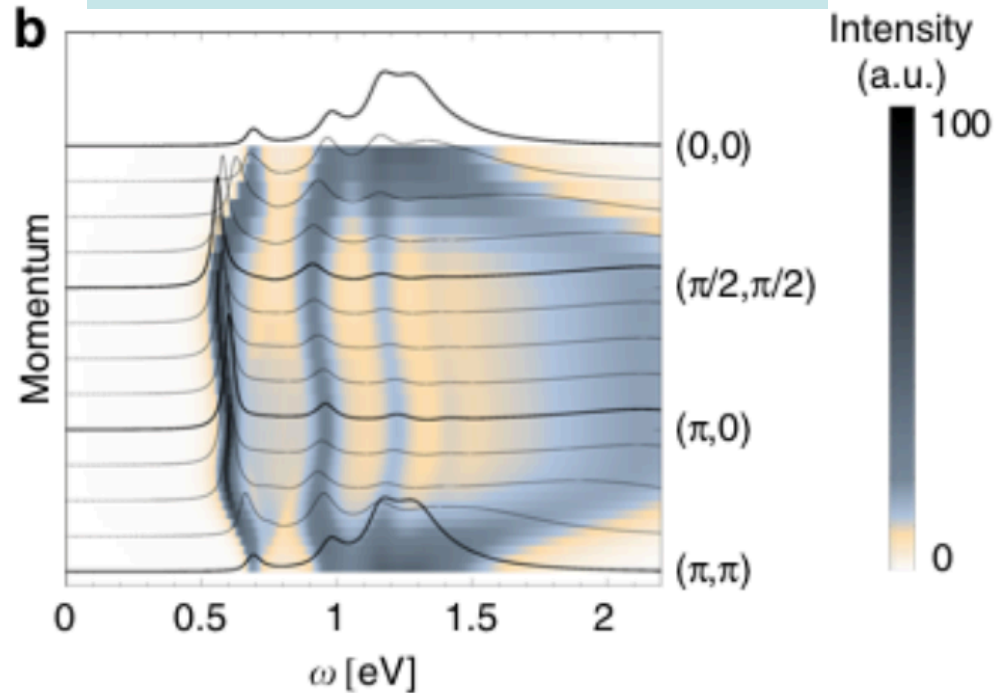
Pärschke, Wohlfeld, Foyevtsova & JvdB,
Nature Comm. 8, 686 (2017)

Electron/hole propagation in Sr_2IrO_4

photoemission



inverse photoemission

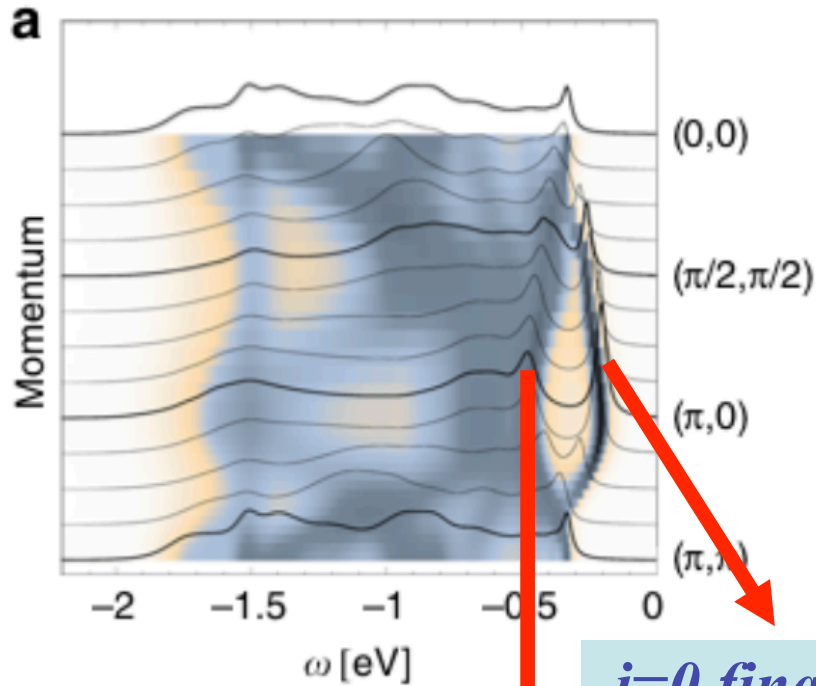


Strong electron-hole asymmetry

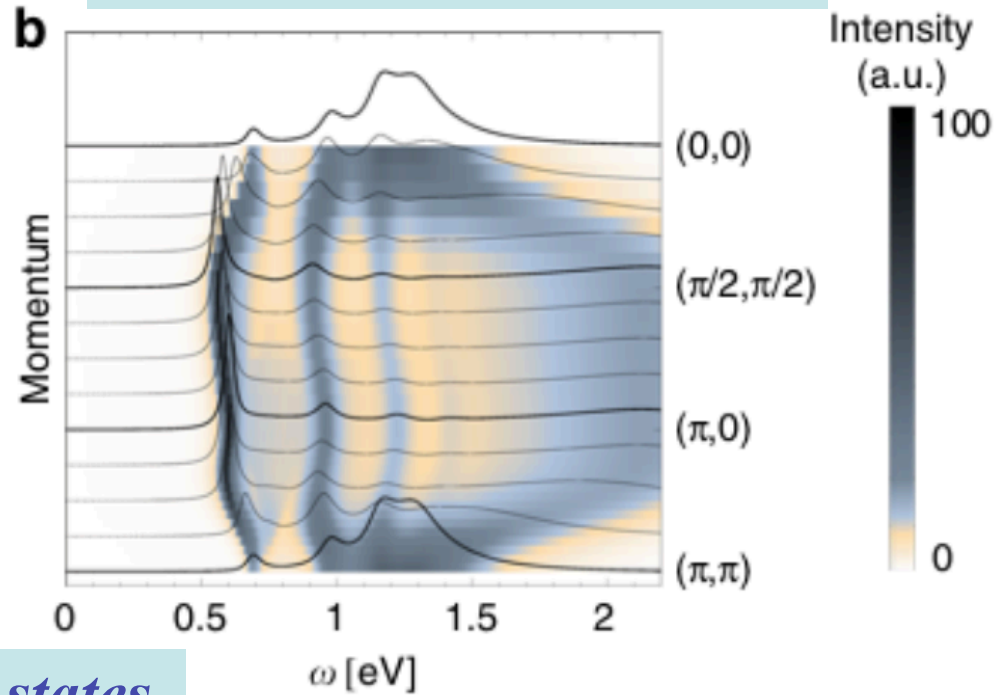
Pärschke, Wohlfeld, Foyevtsova & JvdB,
Nature Comm. 8, 686 (2017)
see also PRB 99, 121114(R)

Electron/hole propagation in Sr_2IrO_4

photoemission



inverse photoemission



$j=0$ final states

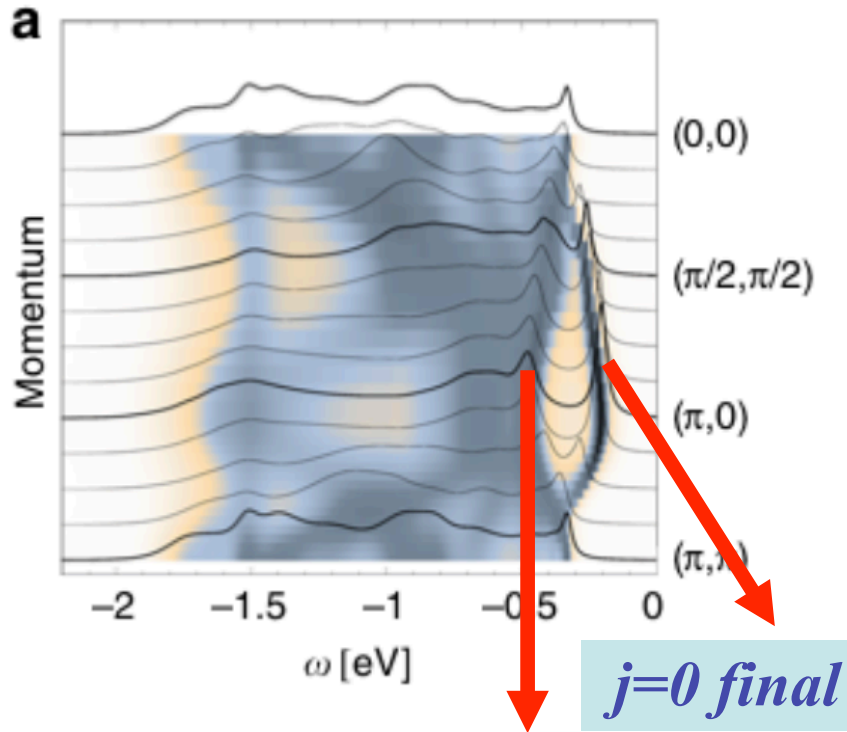
$j=1$ final states

Strong electron-hole asymmetry

Pärschke, Wohlfeld, Foyevtsova & JvdB,
Nature Comm. 8, 686 (2017)
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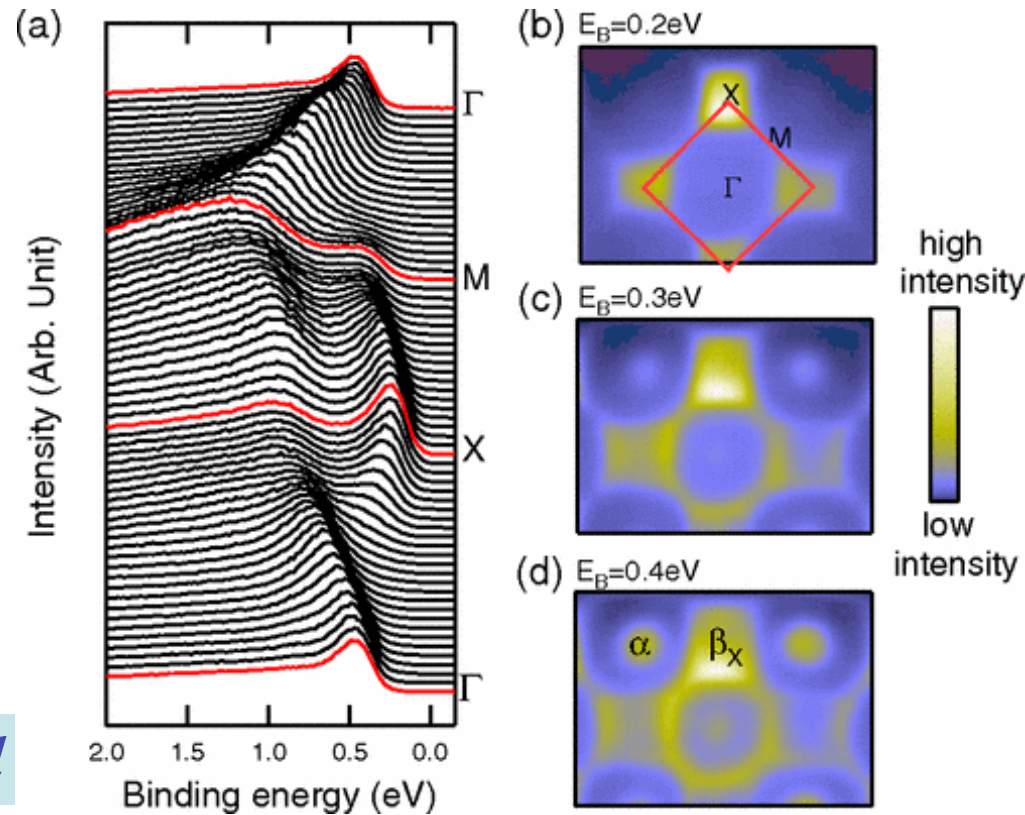
Electron/hole propagation in Sr_2IrO_4

photoemission



$j=1$ final states

Strong electron-hole asymmetry

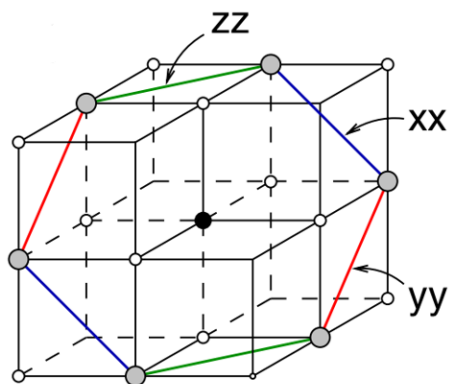
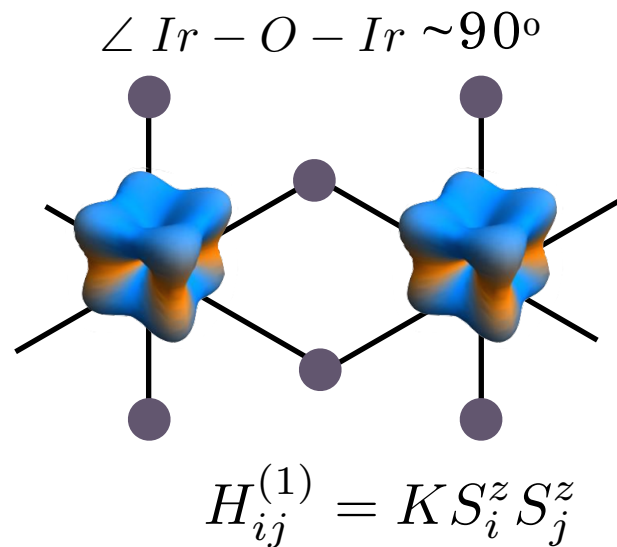
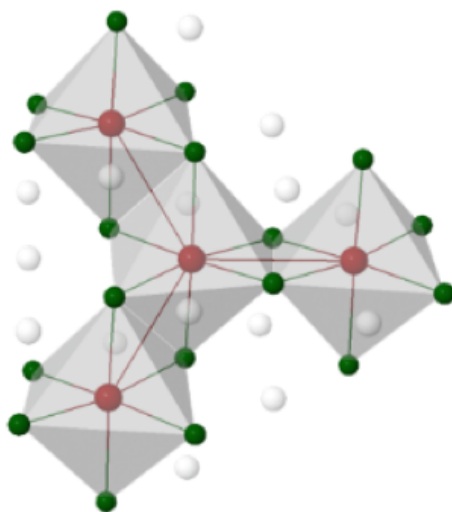
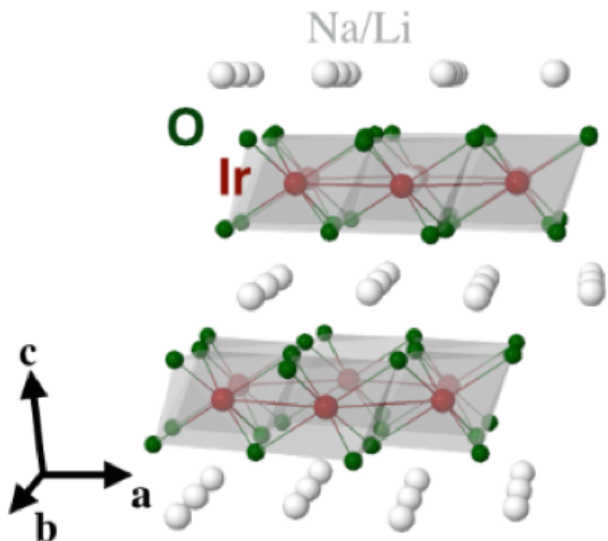


B. J. Kim et al., PRL 101, 076402 (2008)

Pärschke, Wohlfeld, Foyevtsova & JvdB,
Nature Comm. 8, 686 (2017)
see also PRB 99, 121114(R)

Exchange between edge-sharing $j=1/2$ moments

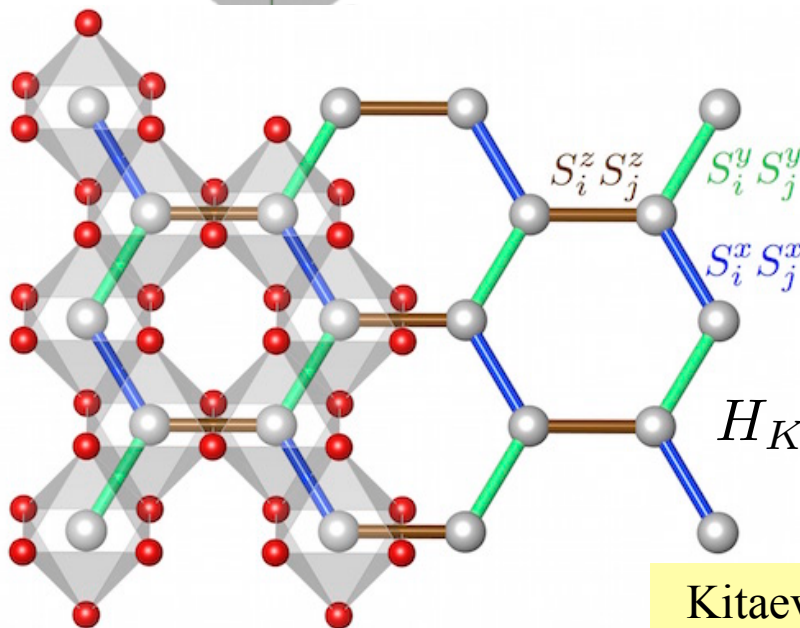
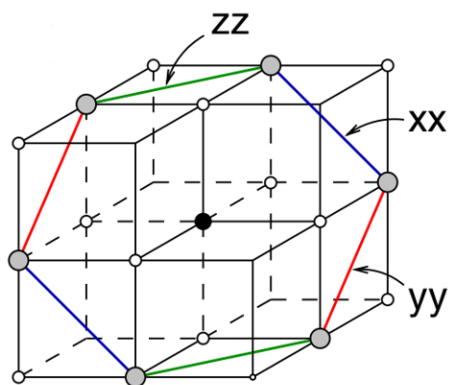
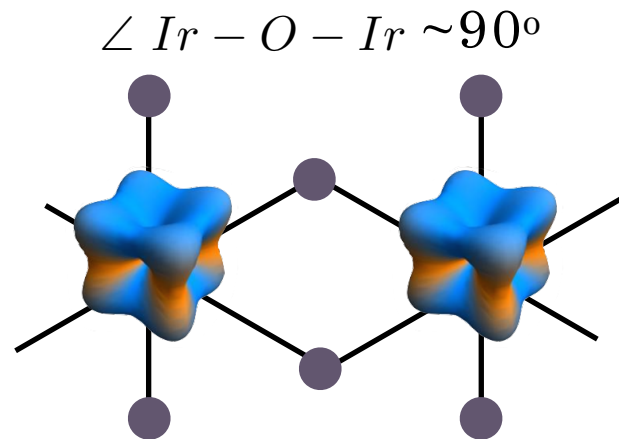
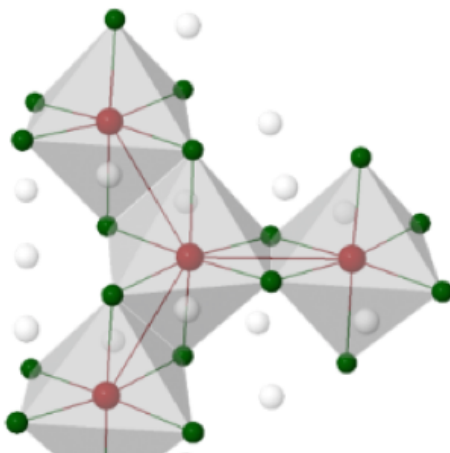
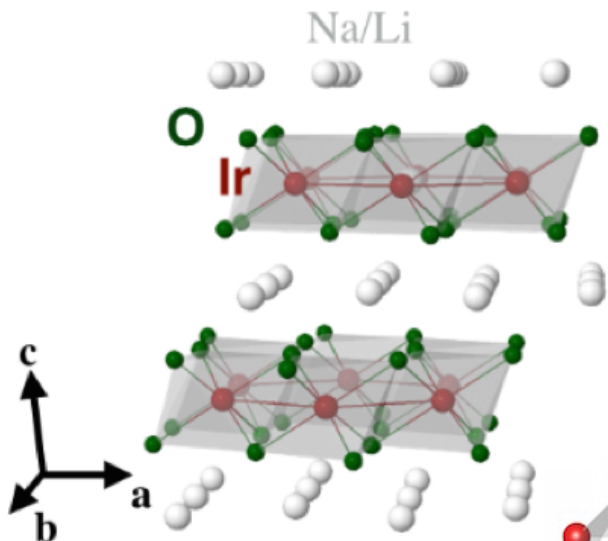
Na_2IrO_3 : honeycomb structure



Jackeli & Khaliullin,
PRL 102, 017205 (2009)

Exchange between edge-sharing $j=1/2$ moments

Na_2IrO_3 : honeycomb structure



$$H_{ij}^{(1)} = K S_i^z S_j^z$$

$$H_{ij}^{(2)} = K S_i^y S_j^y$$

$$H_{ij}^{(3)} = K S_i^x S_j^x$$

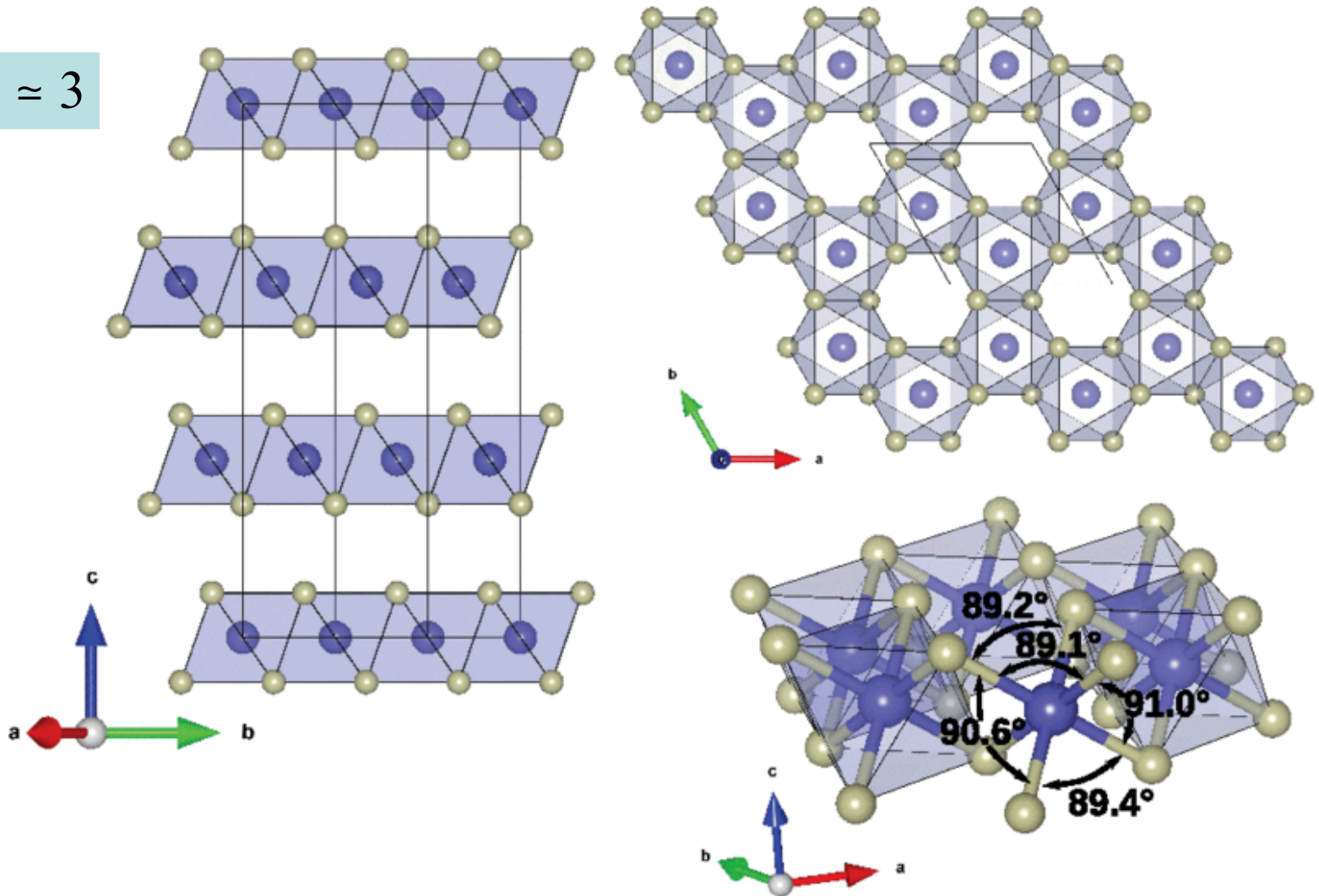
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Jackeli & Khaliullin,
PRL 102, 017205 (2009)

Kitaev, Ann. Phys. 321, 2 (2006)

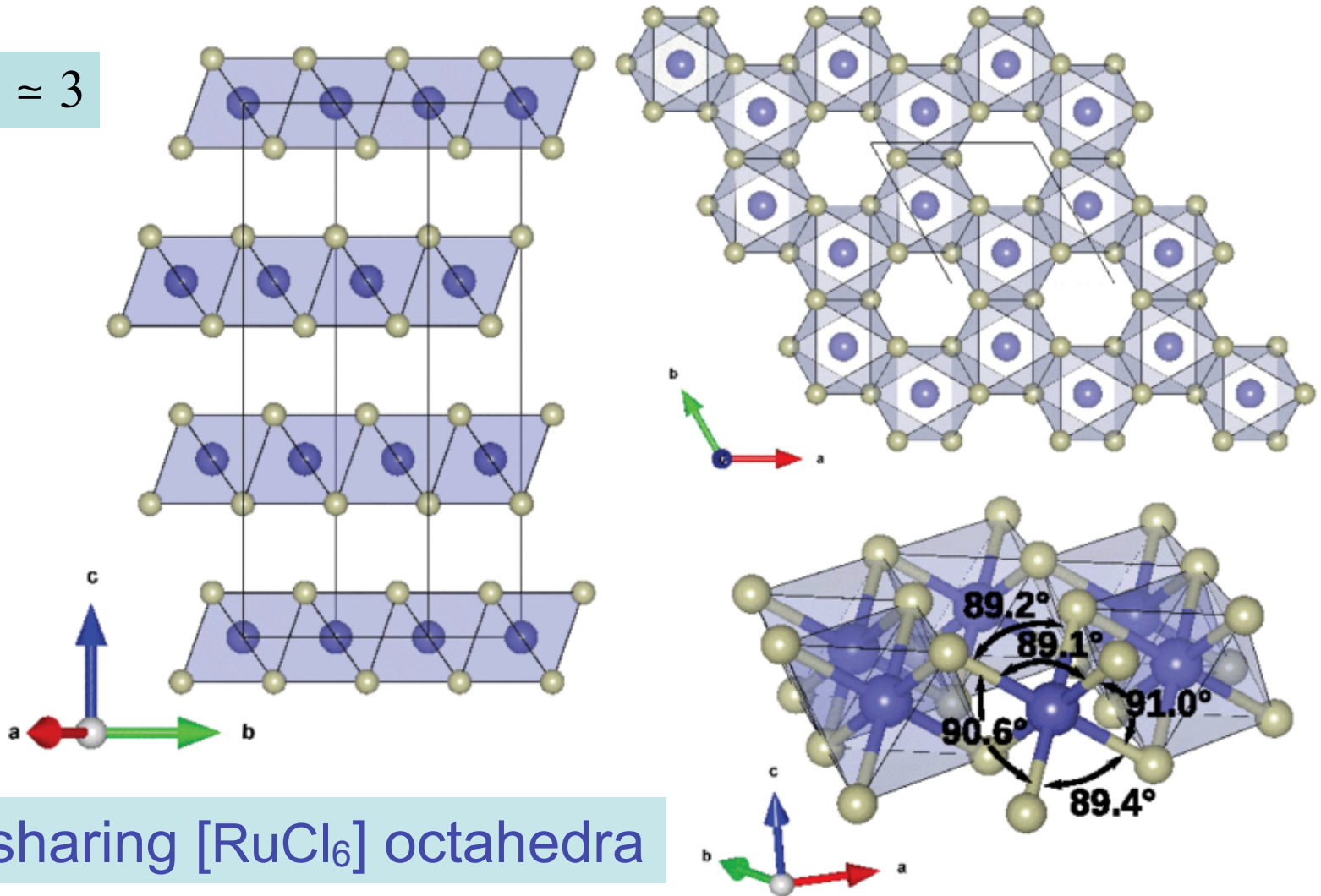
Honeycomb α - RuCl_3

$$\lambda_{\text{Ir}}/\lambda_{\text{Ru}} \approx 3$$



Honeycomb α - RuCl_3

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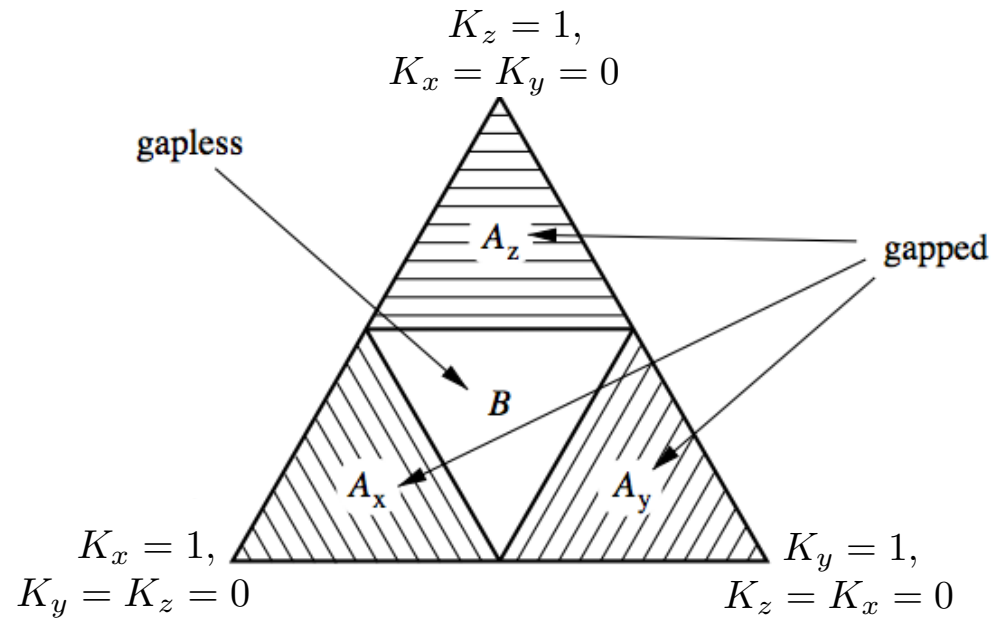


edge sharing $[\text{RuCl}_6]$ octahedra

Honeycomb Kitaev model

$$H_{\text{Kitaev}} = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_\gamma} K_\gamma S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma$$

- phase diagram

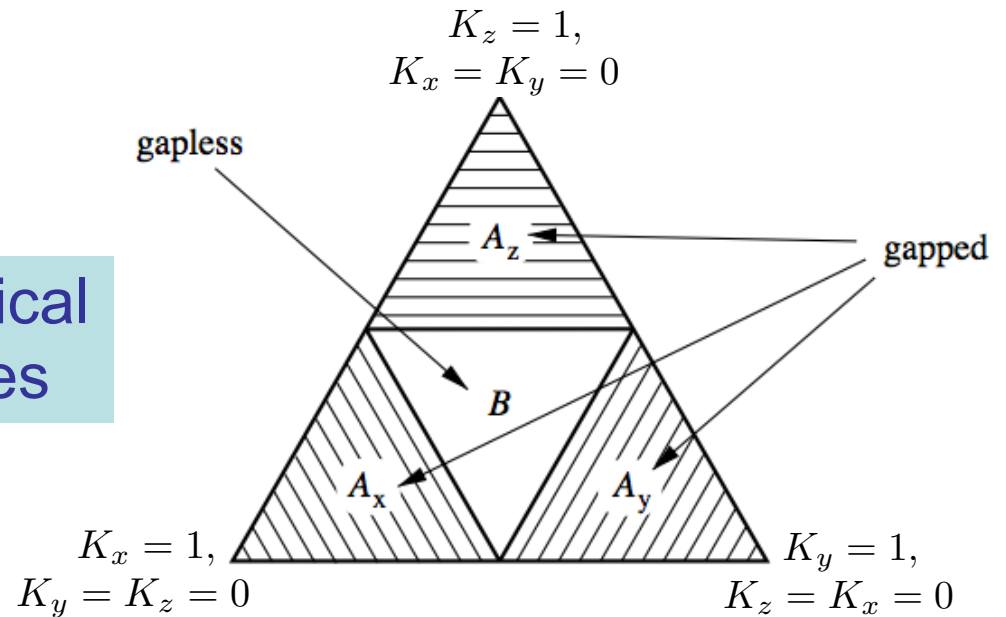


Honeycomb Kitaev model

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- phase diagram

Abelian topological
spin-liquid phases

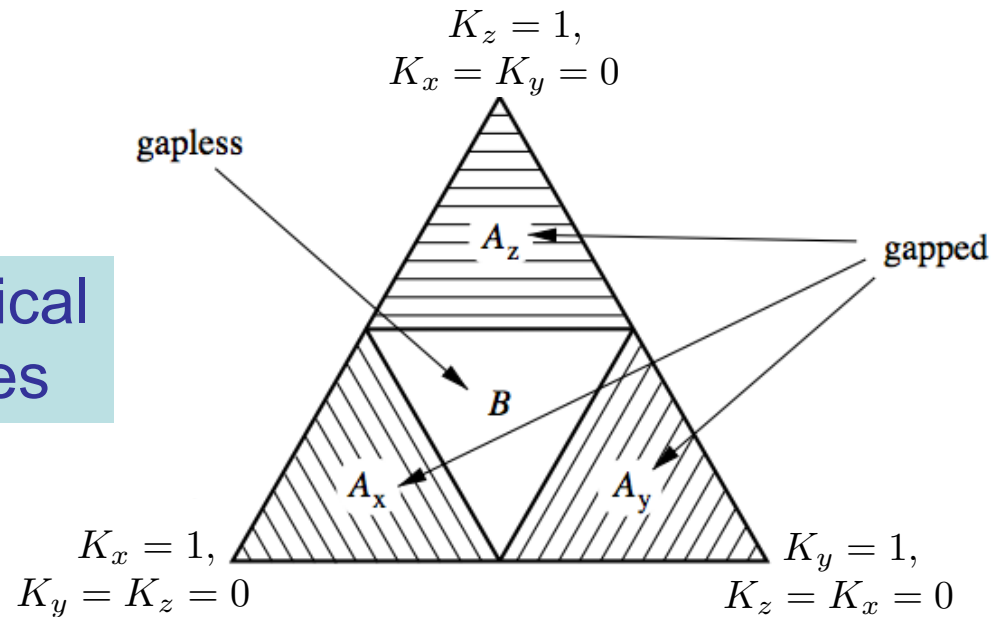


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- in magnetic field

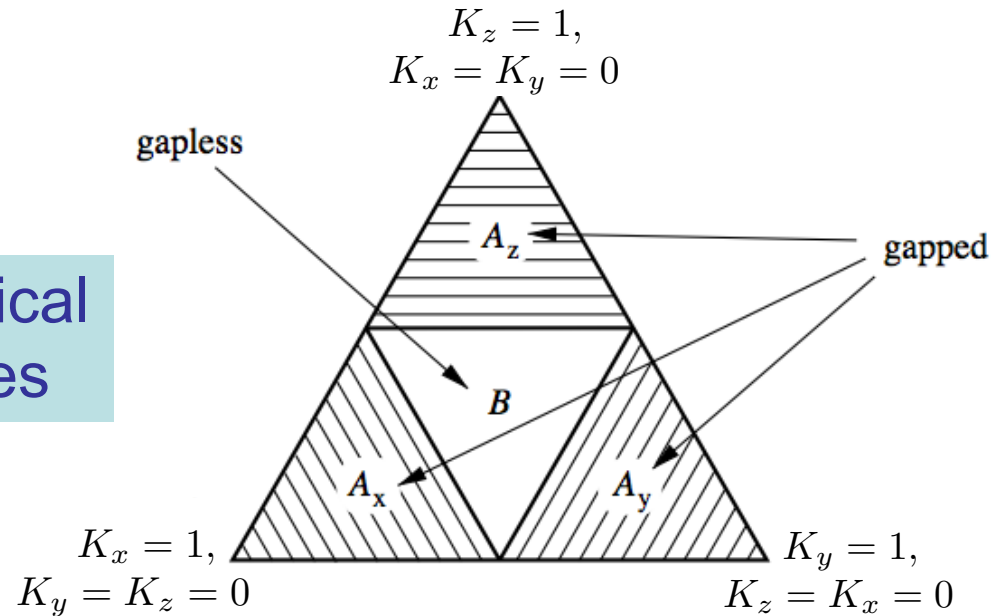
$$H_{K-B} = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_\gamma} S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + B \sum_{i\gamma} S_i^\gamma$$

Honeycomb Kitaev model

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$$H_{K-B} = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_\gamma} S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + B \sum_{i\gamma} S_i^\gamma$$

gapped non-Abelian topological spin-liquid phase

(perturbative in B/K)

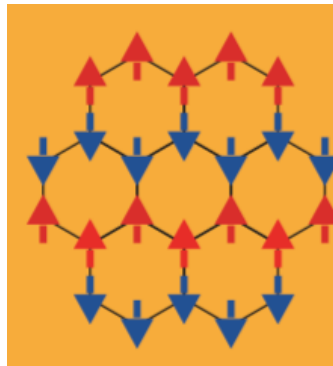
magnetic interactions in 213 iridates and α -RuCl₃

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magnetic interactions in 213 iridates and α -RuCl₃

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Experimentally: zig-zag order at low T

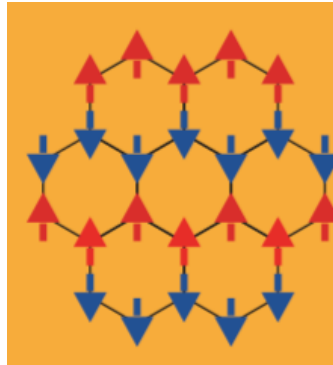


magnetic interactions in 213 iridates and α -RuCl₃

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$$H = K \sum_{\langle ij \rangle_\gamma} S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + \dots$$

Experimentally: zig-zag order at low T



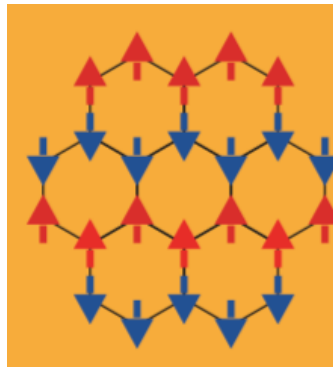
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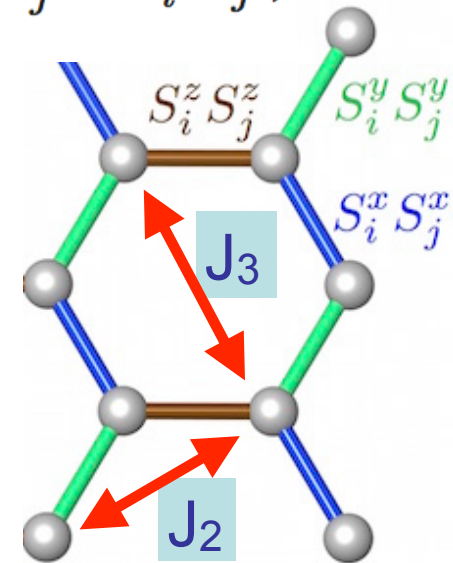
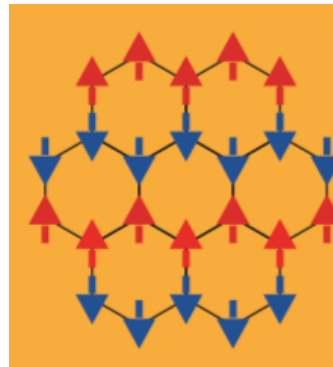
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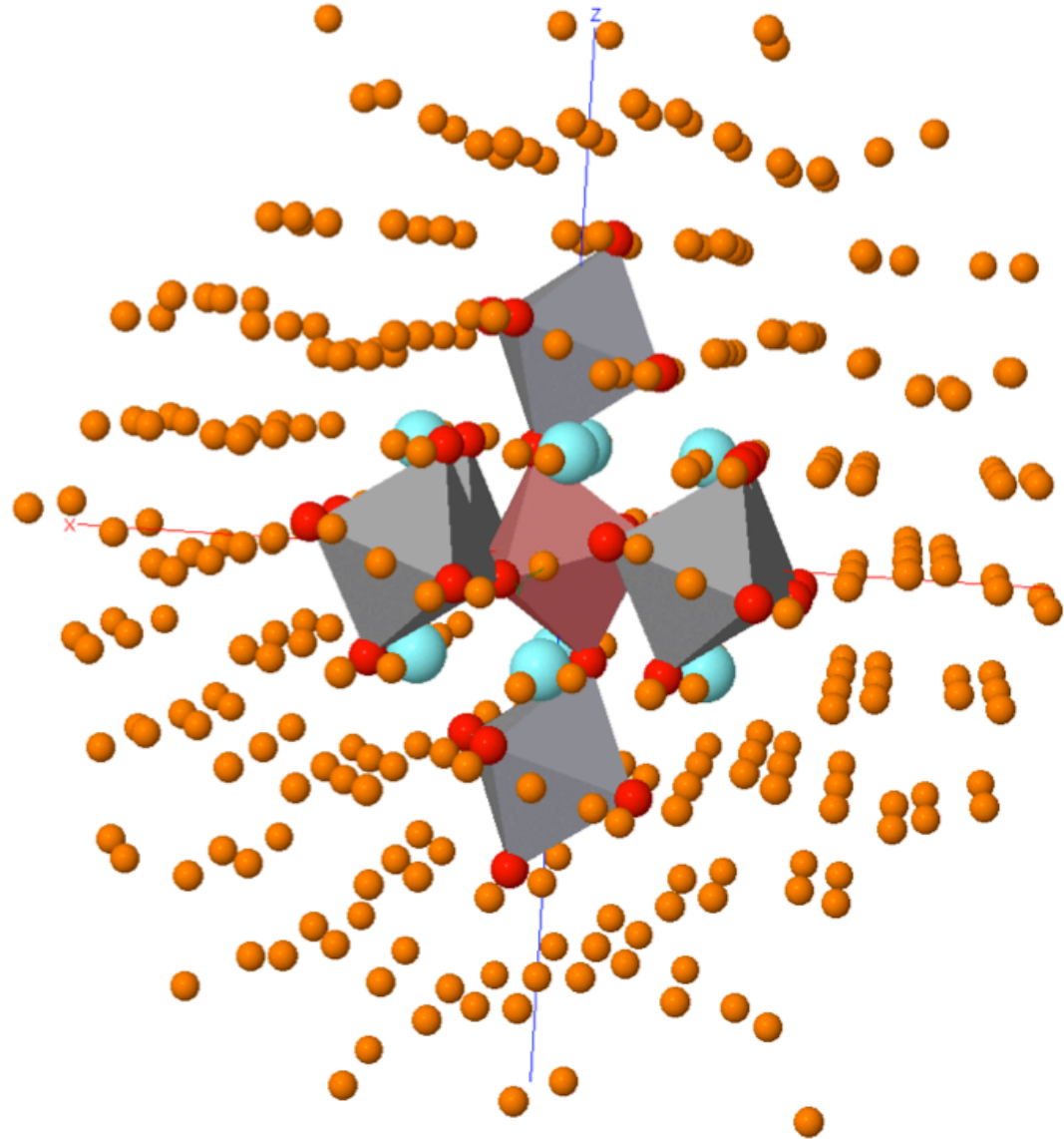
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Experimentally: zig-zag order at low T



QC: *wavefunction-based correlation methods*

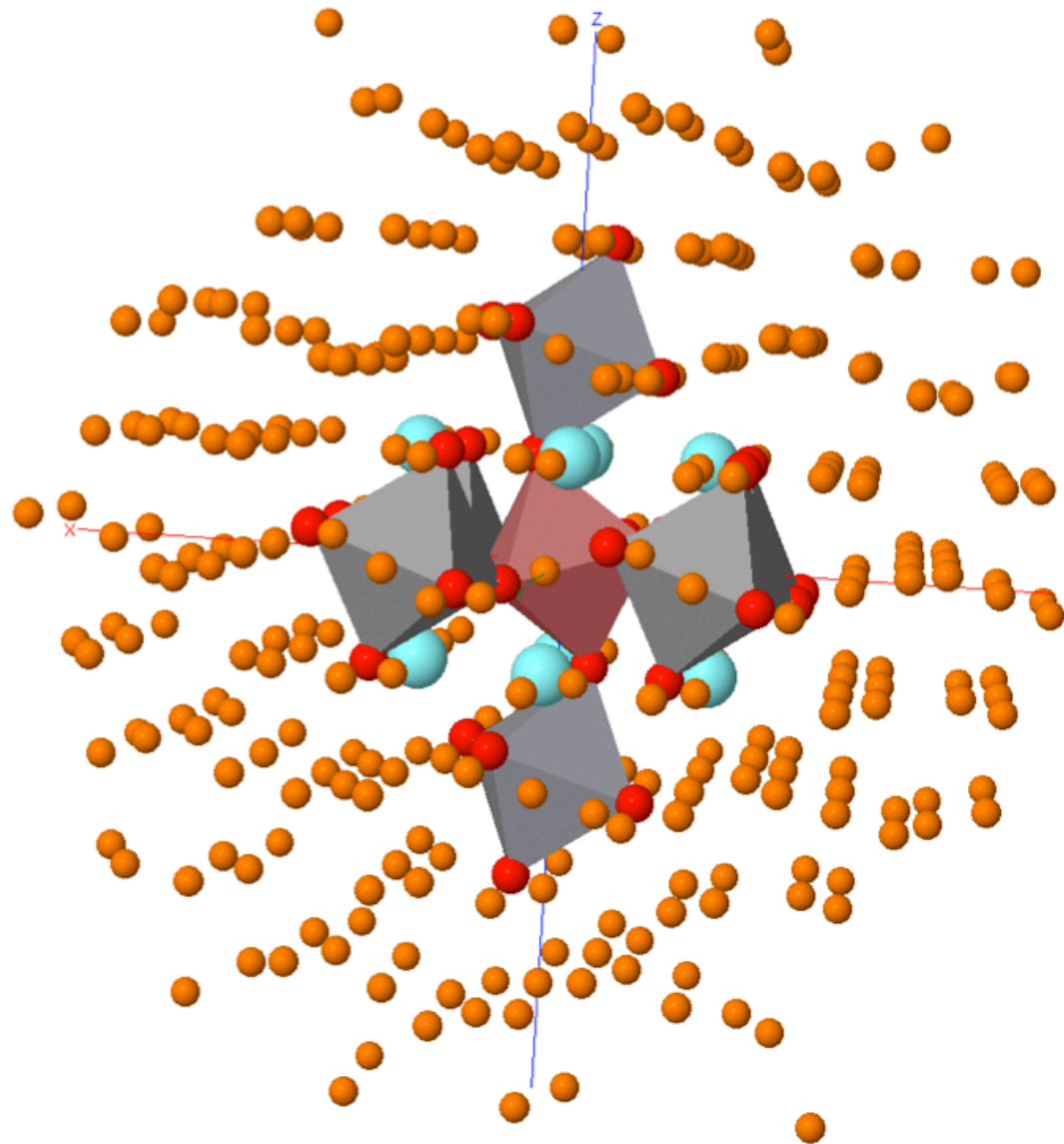
Finite embedded clusters



QC: wavefunction-based correlation methods

*Fully ab initio for ground
and excited states*

Finite embedded clusters

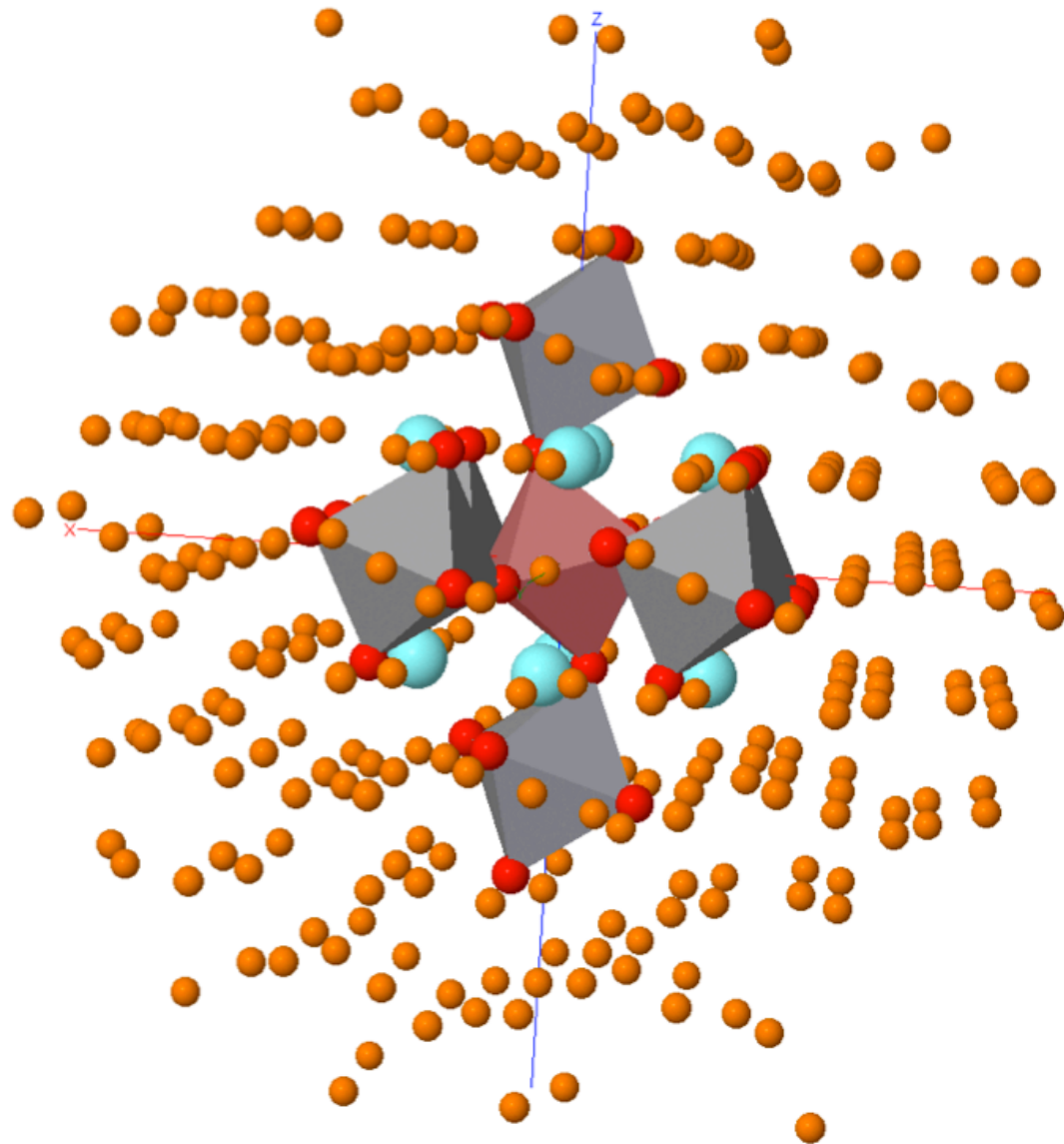


QC: wavefunction-based correlation methods

*Fully ab initio for ground
and excited states*

*Fully correlated:
multi-configuration
wave-functions*

Finite embedded clusters



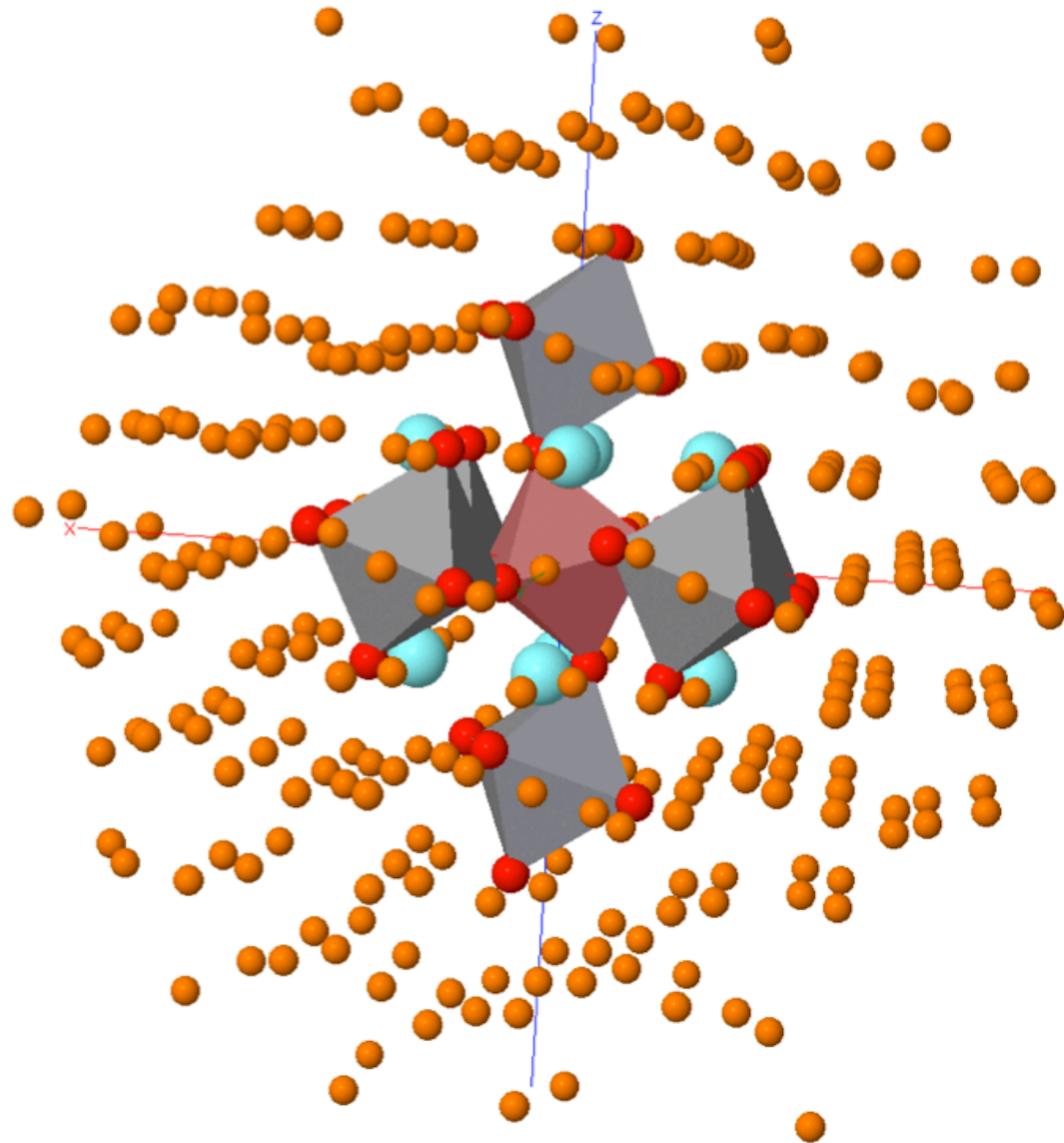
QC: wavefunction-based correlation methods

Fully ab initio for ground and excited states

Fully correlated: multi-configuration wave-functions

Heavy machinery

Finite embedded clusters



QC: wavefunction-based correlation methods

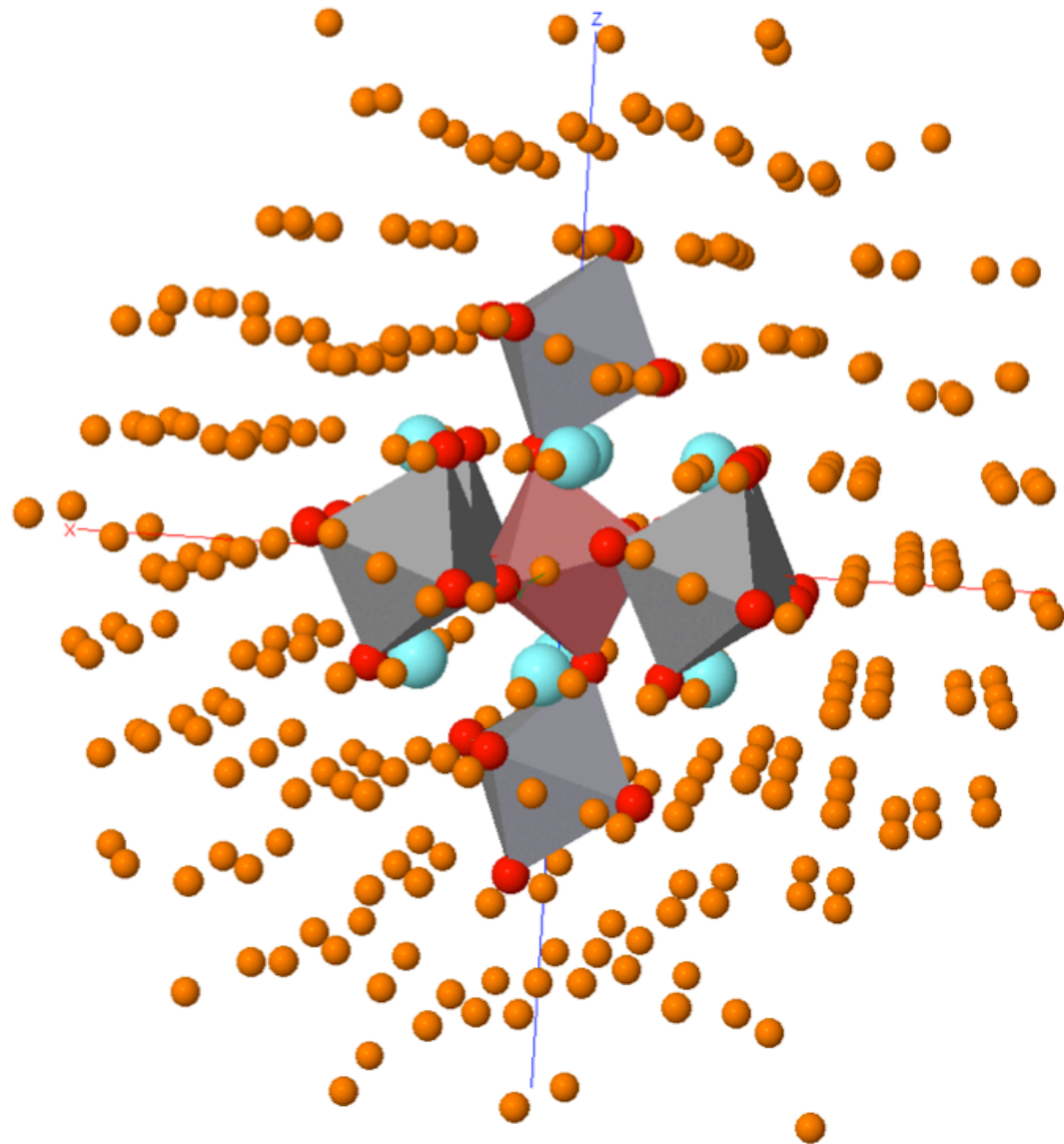
Fully ab initio for ground and excited states

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Heavy machinery

Excellent for systems with localized electrons

Finite embedded clusters



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Fully ab initio for ground and excited states

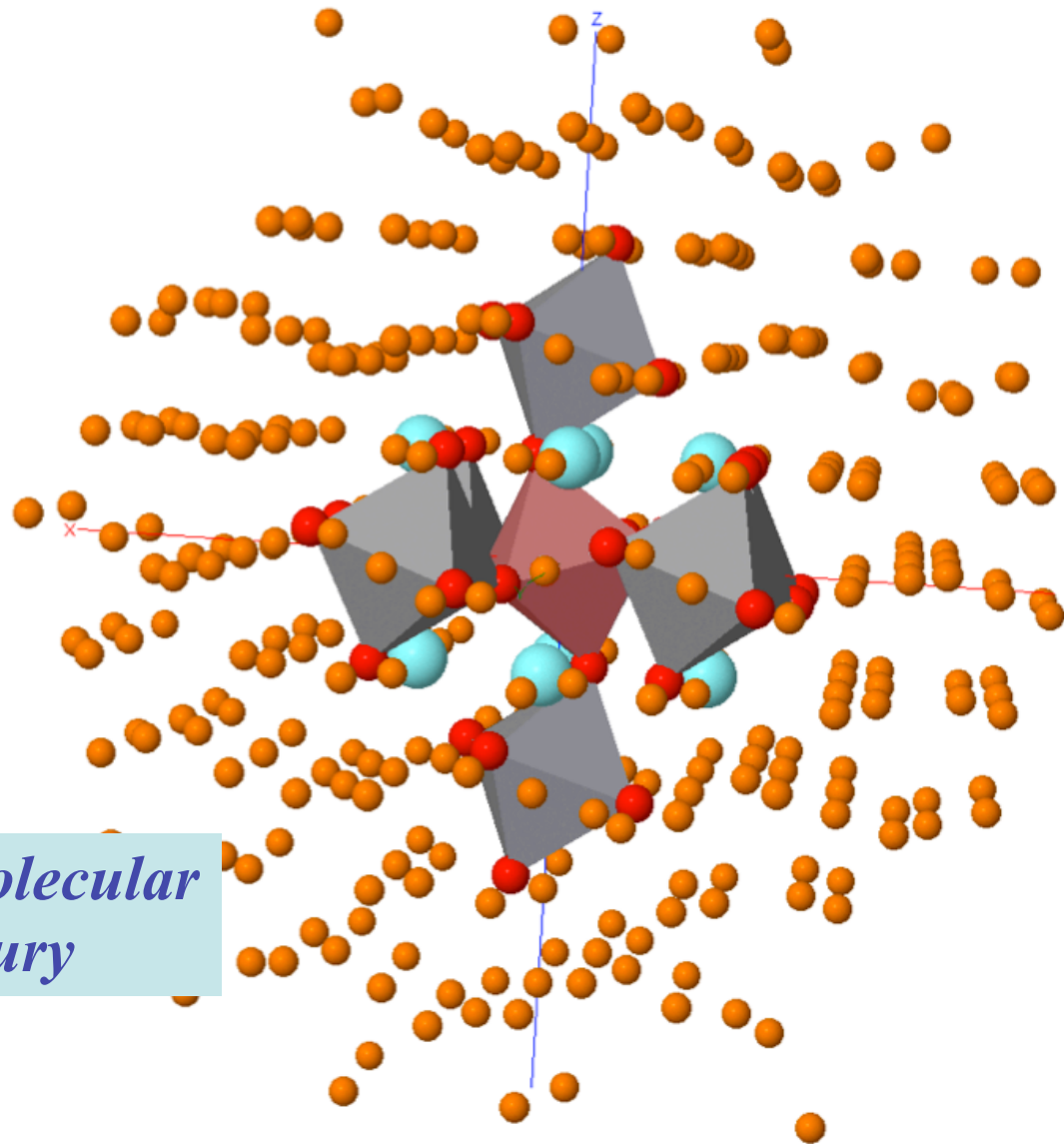
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Heavy machinery

Excellent for systems with localized electrons

Approximations tested in molecular systems since half century

Finite embedded clusters



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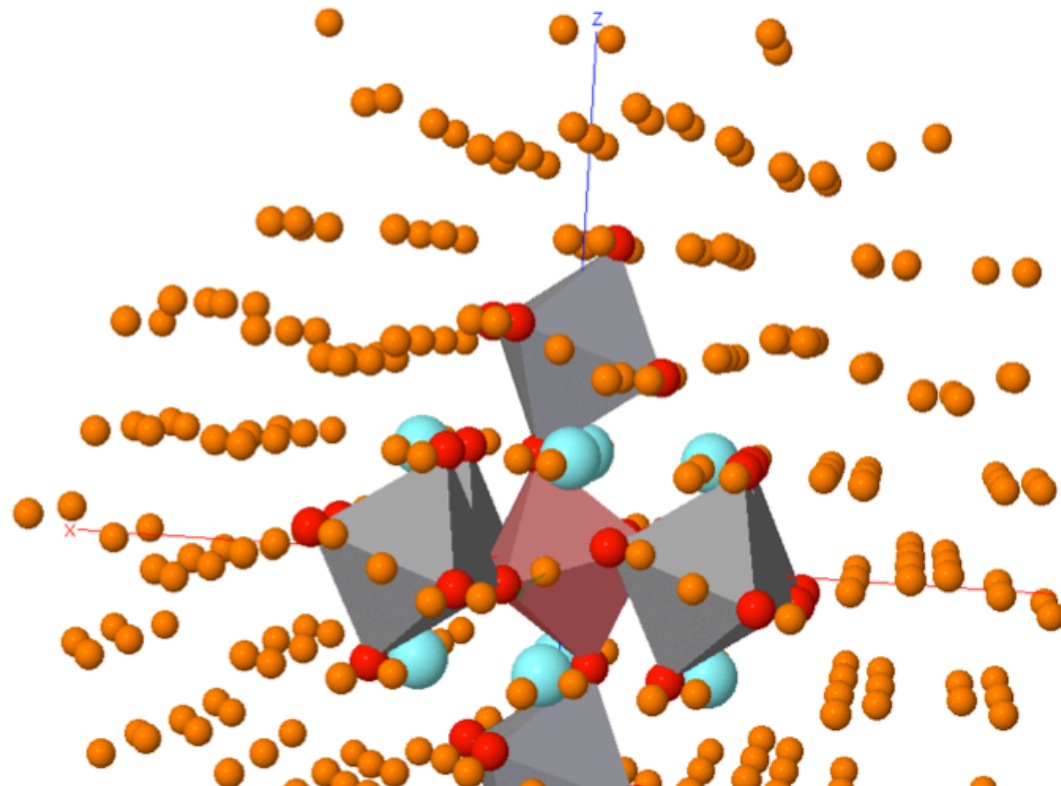
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Heavy machinery

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Finite embedded clusters



Our scheme: direct-space multireference CI, finite embedded clusters

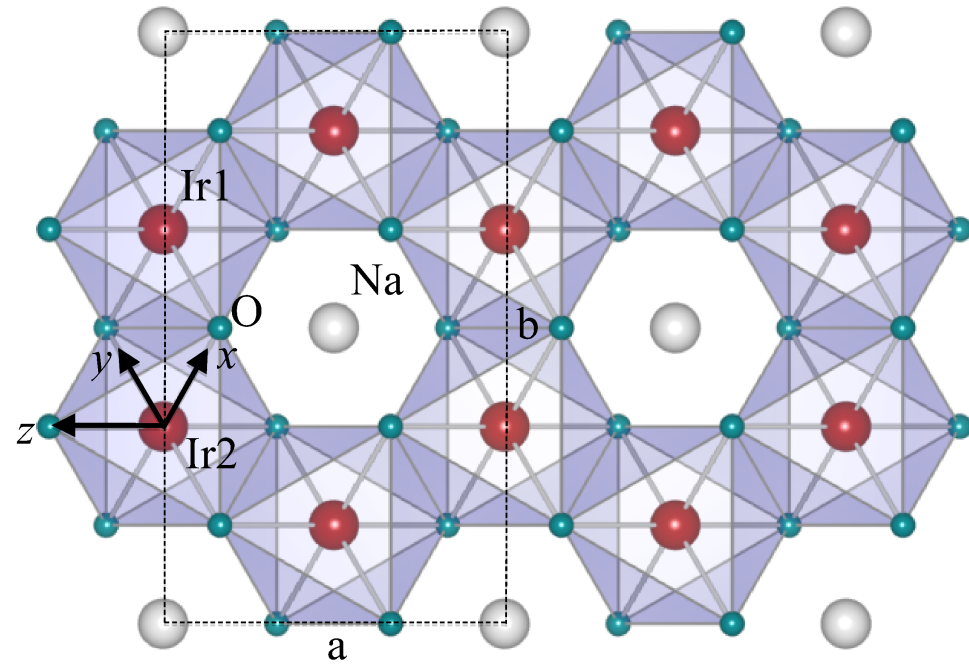
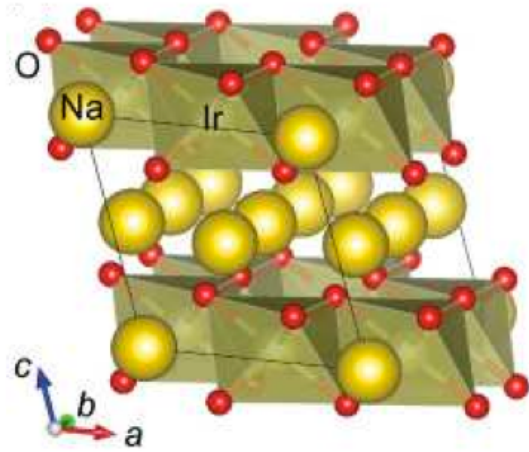
The infinite solid-state environment: one-electron embedding potential

- simplest: point-charge array
- more advanced: based on prior periodic Hartree-Fock

honeycomb Kitaev materials to consider



honeycomb Na_2IrO_3



$$\mathcal{H}_{ij}^{\text{D}_{2h}} = J \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_j + K \tilde{S}_i^z \tilde{S}_j^z + J_{xy} \left(\tilde{S}_i^x \tilde{S}_j^y + \tilde{S}_i^y \tilde{S}_j^x \right)$$

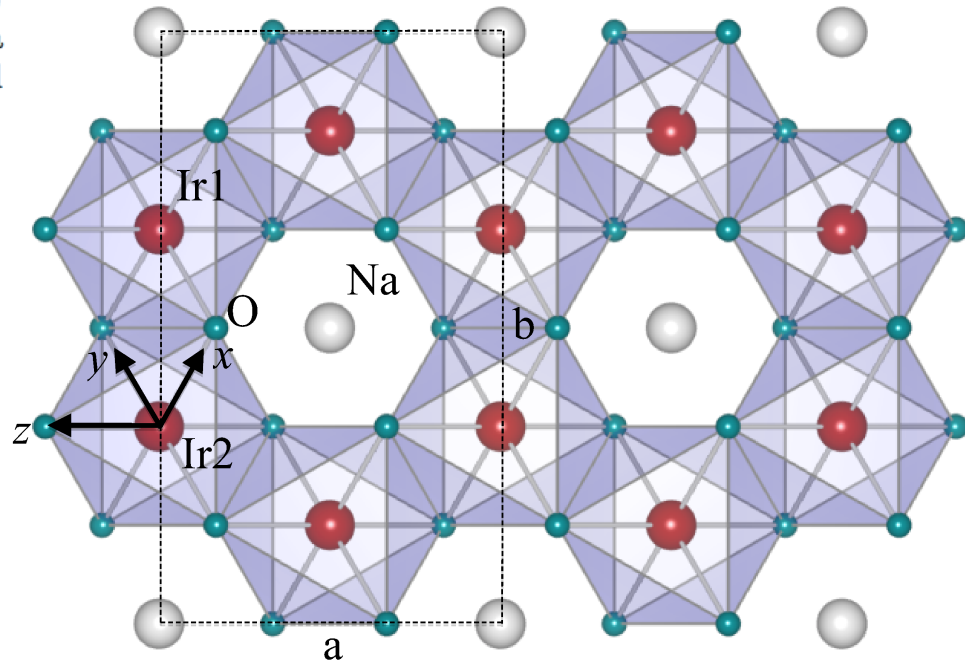
Katakuri, Nishimoto, Yushankhai, Stoyanova, Kandpal, Choi, Coldea, Rouschatzakis, Hozoi & JvdB, NJP 16, 013056 (2014)

TABLE II. Energy splittings and effective parameters (meV) for the four lowest magnetic states of two NN IrO₆ octahedra in the C2/m structure of 4. The weight of $(\uparrow\downarrow + \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}$ and $(\uparrow\uparrow + \downarrow\downarrow)/\sqrt{2}$ in Ψ'_1 and Ψ'_2 , respectively, is $\approx 98\%$, see text.

Method	CAS+SOC	MRCI+SOC
$\angle(\text{Ir-O-Ir})=99.45^\circ$, $d(\text{Ir}_1\text{-Ir}_2)=3.138 \text{ \AA}$ ($\times 1$) ^a :		
Ψ'_2	0.0	0.0
$\Psi_3 = (\uparrow\uparrow - \downarrow\downarrow)/\sqrt{2}$	0.2	0.5
$\Psi_S = (\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}$	4.4	5.5
Ψ'_1	6.3	10.5
(J, K, J_{xy})	(1.9, -12.4, 0.2)	(5.0, -20.5, 0.5)
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Ψ'_1	5.8	8.2
(J, K, J_{xy})	(1.2, -11.3, 0.3)	(1.5, -15.2, 1.2)

^a $d(\text{Ir-O}_{1,2})=2.056 \text{ \AA}$.

^b $d(\text{Ir-O}_1)=2.065 \text{ \AA}$, $d(\text{Ir-O}_2)=2.083 \text{ \AA}$.



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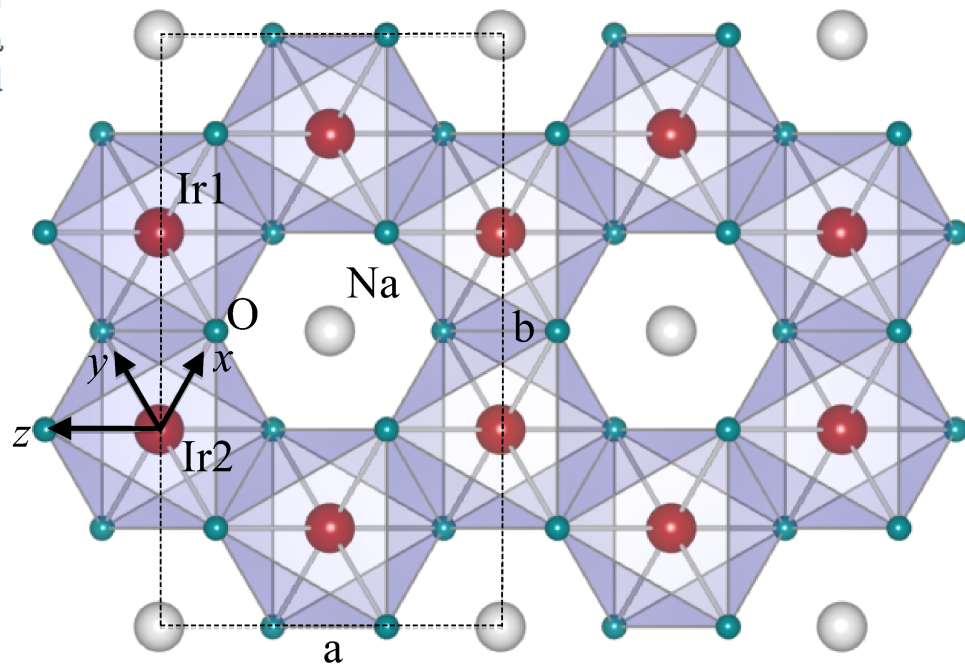
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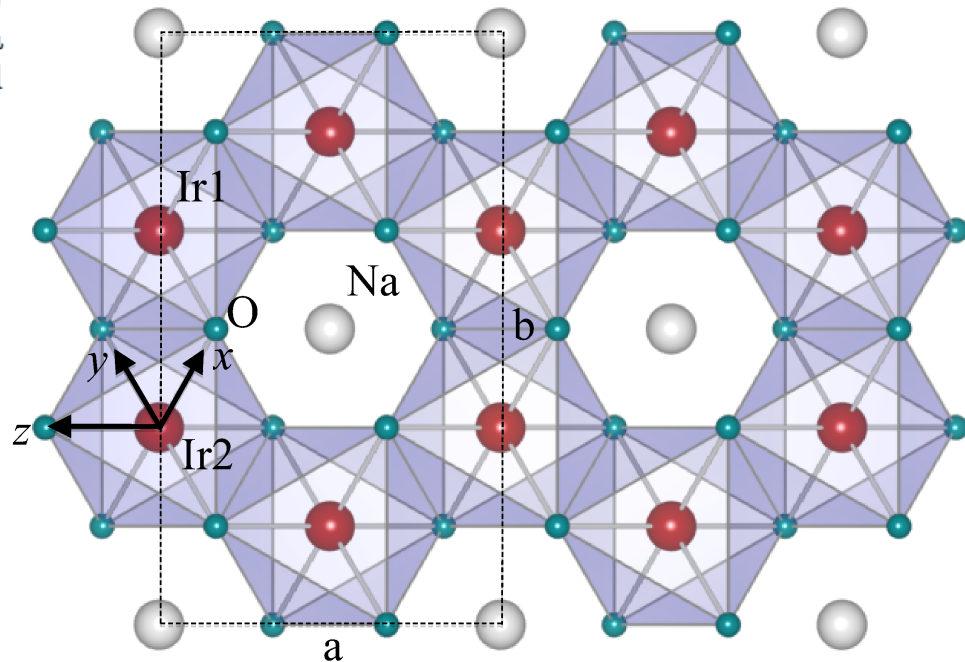
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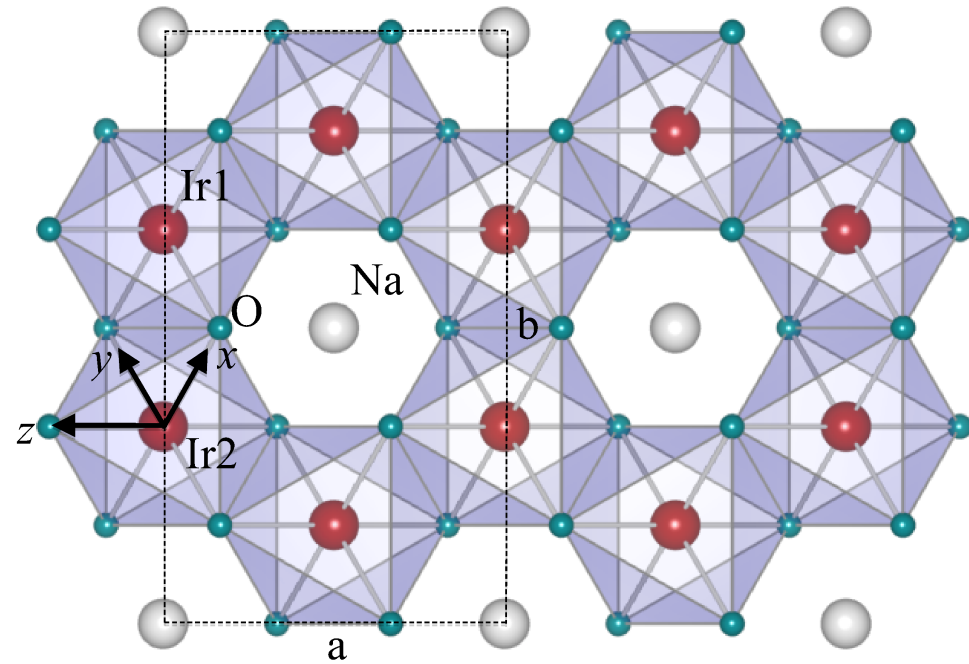
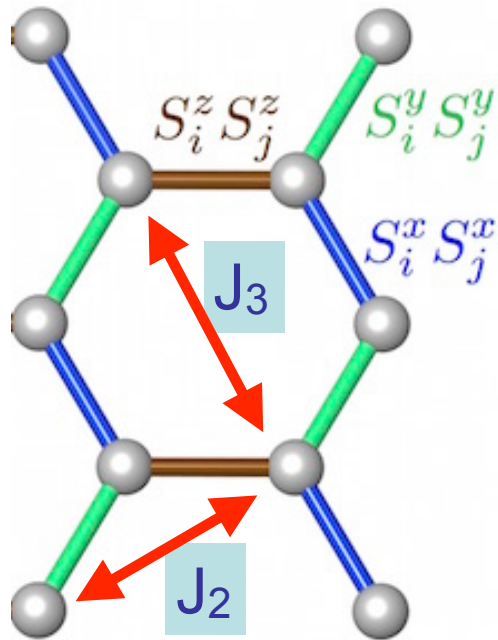
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K large and FM, *J* small and AFM substantial anisotropy between links

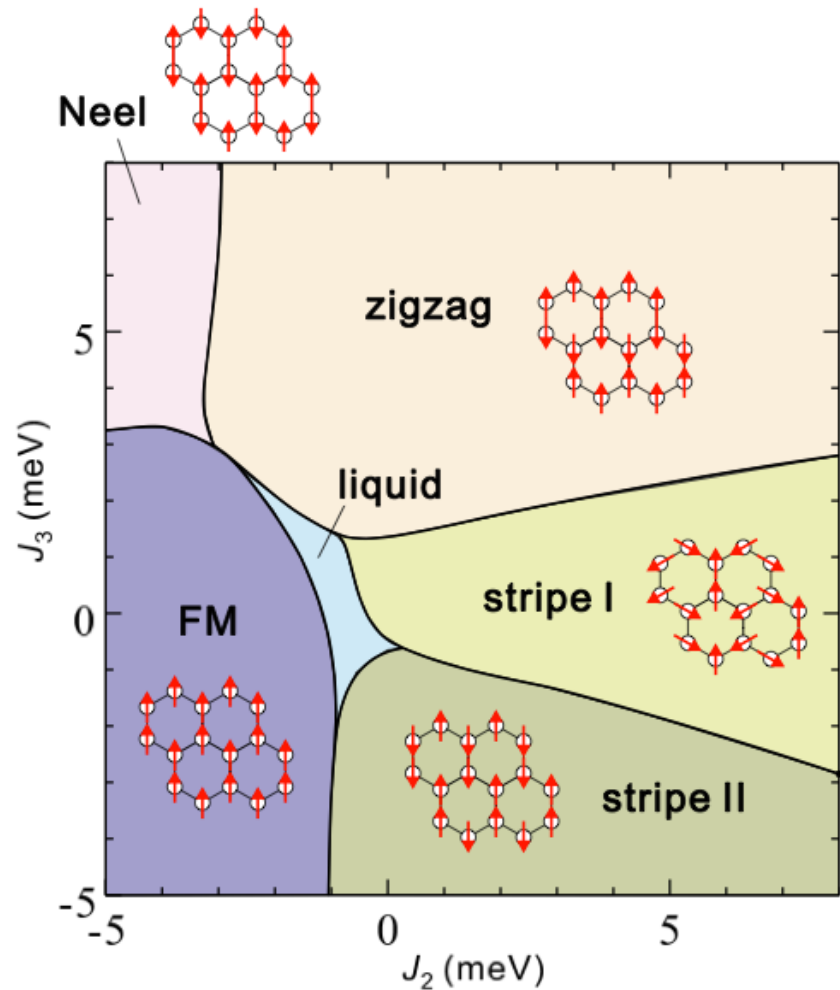
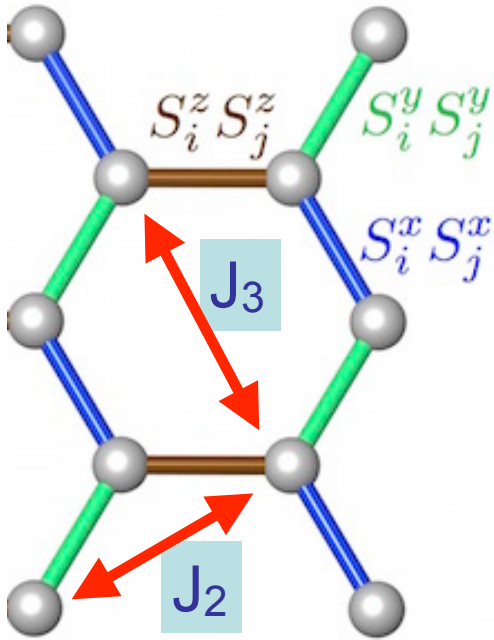
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+ longer range Heisenberg J_2 and J_3

Katakuri, Nishimoto, Yushankhai, Stoyanova, Kandpal, Choi, Coldea, Rouschatzakis, Hozoi & JvdB, NJP 16, 013056 (2014)

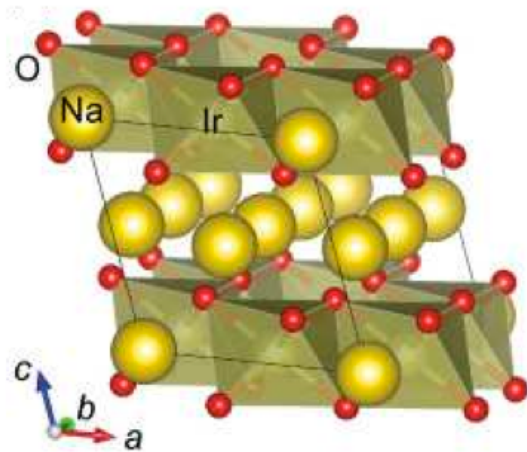


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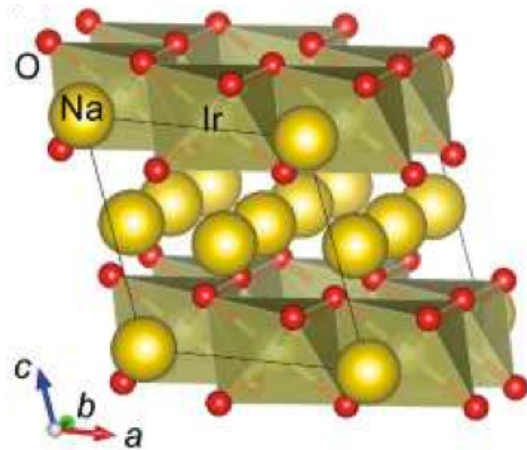
honeycomb Li_2IrO_3



Method	CASSCF+SOC	MRCI+SOC
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Ψ_1	5.4	7.7
$\Psi_S = \Phi_S = (\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}$	25.5	24.8
$(J, K, \Gamma_{xy}, \Gamma_{zx} = -\Gamma_{yz})$ ^b		(-19.2, -6.0, -1.1, -4.8)
<i>B2</i> , $\angle(\text{Ir-O-Ir})=94.7^\circ$, $d(\text{Ir-Ir})=2.98 \text{ \AA}$ ($\times 2$) ^c :		
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Nishimoto, Katukuri, Yushankhai, Stoll, Rößler, Rousochatzakis, Hozoi & JvdB, Nat. Comm. 7, 10273 (2016)

honeycomb Li_2IrO_3

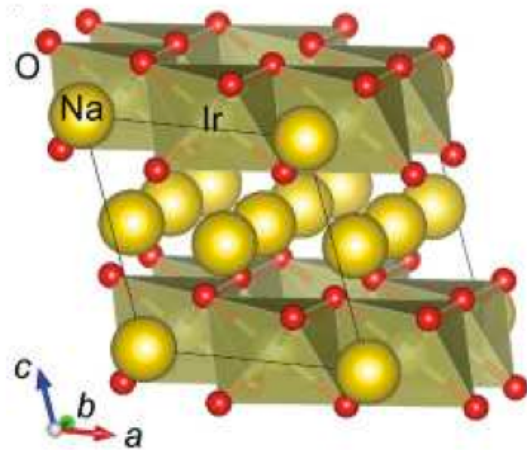


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- bond with large FM J

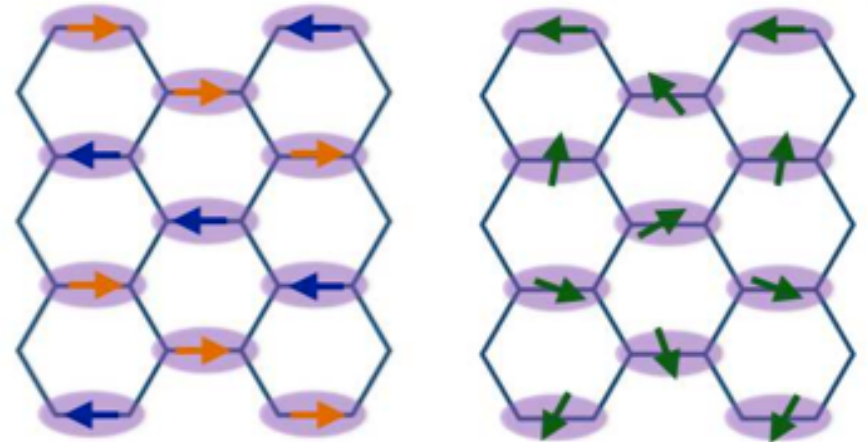
- bond with substantial FM K

honeycomb Li_2IrO_3



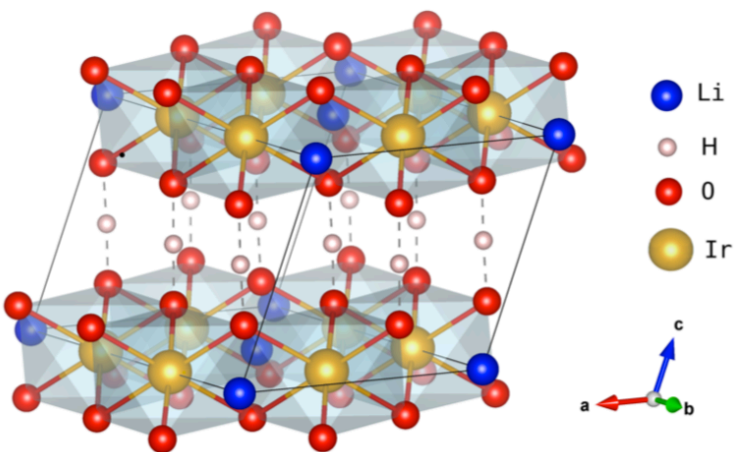
Method	CASSCF+SOC	MRCI+SOC
$B1, \angle(\text{Ir-O-Ir})=95.3^\circ, d(\text{Ir-Ir})=2.98 \text{ \AA} (\times 1)^a:$		
Ψ_2	0.0	0.0
$\Psi_3 = \Phi_3 = (\uparrow\uparrow - \downarrow\downarrow)/\sqrt{2}$	1.6	3.2
Ψ_1	5.4	7.7
$\Psi_S = \Phi_S = (\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}$	25.5	24.8
$(J, K, \Gamma_{xy}, \Gamma_{zx} = -\Gamma_{yz})^b$		(-19.2, -6.0, -1.1, -4.8)
$B2, \angle(\text{Ir-O-Ir})=94.7^\circ, d(\text{Ir-Ir})=2.98 \text{ \AA} (\times 2)^c:$		
$\Psi_3 = \Phi_3 = (\uparrow\uparrow - \downarrow\downarrow)/\sqrt{2}$	0.0	0.0
Ψ_2	2.8	3.7
$\Psi_S = \Phi_S = (\uparrow\downarrow - \downarrow\uparrow)/\sqrt{2}$	5.9	7.1
Ψ_1	5.7	8.4
$(J, K, \Gamma_{xy}, \Gamma_{zx} = -\Gamma_{yz})^d$		(0.8, -11.6, 4.2, -2.0)

- bond with large FM J
- bond with substantial FM K
- triplet dimer formation!



Nishimoto, Katukuri, Yushankhai, Stoll, Rößler, Rousochatzakis, Hozoi & JvdB, Nat. Comm. 7, 10273 (2016)

honeycomb $H_3LiIr_2O_6$



nature
International journal of science

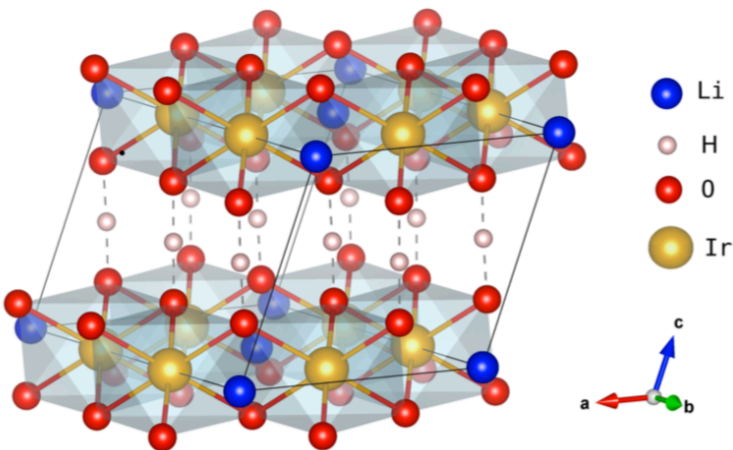
A spin-orbital-entangled quantum liquid on a honeycomb lattice

K. Kitagawa, T. Takayama, Y. Matsumoto, A. Kato, R. Takano, Y. Kishimoto, S. Bette, R. Dinnebier, G. Jackeli & H. Takagi 

Nature **554**, 341–345 (15 February 2018)

Received: 18 July 2017

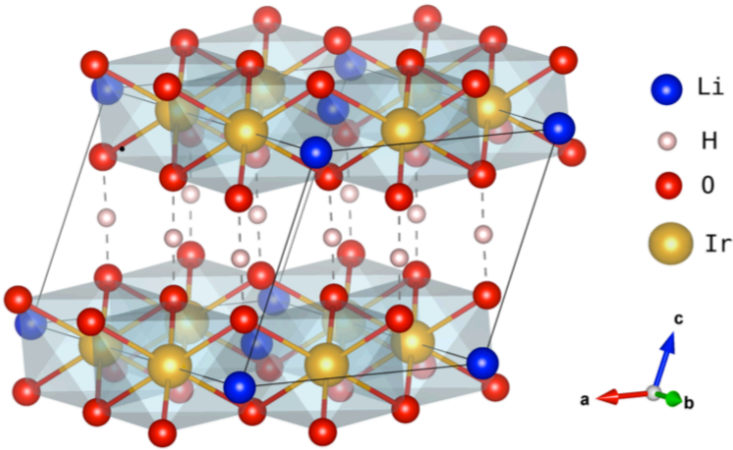
honeycomb $H_3LiIr_2O_6$



Experimental crystal structure					
Bond	$\angle \text{Ir-O-Ir}$	K	J	Γ_{xy}	$\Gamma_{yz} = -\Gamma_{zx}$
B2 (3.10Å)	99.8°	-12.0	1.8	-0.2	-3.2
B1 (3.05Å)	99.0°	-12.6	1.5	-1.8	-0.65

Yadav, Ray, Eldeeb, Nishimoto, Hozoi & JvdB, PRL 121, 197203 (2018)

honeycomb $H_3LiIr_2O_6$

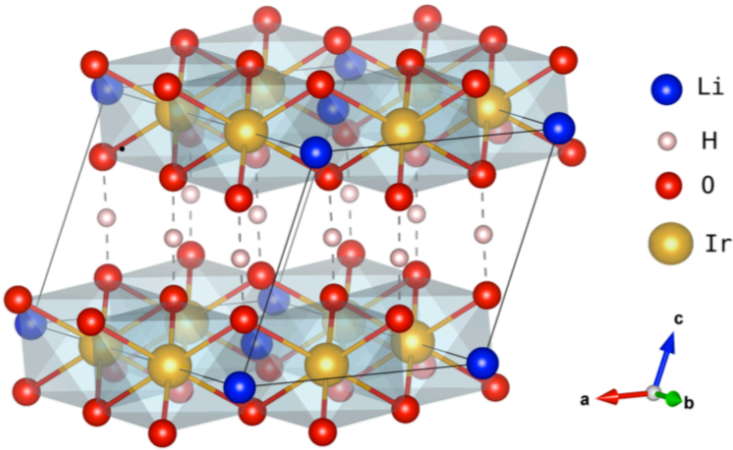


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- *FM K, weak AFM J, large K/J*

- *weak bond anisotropy*

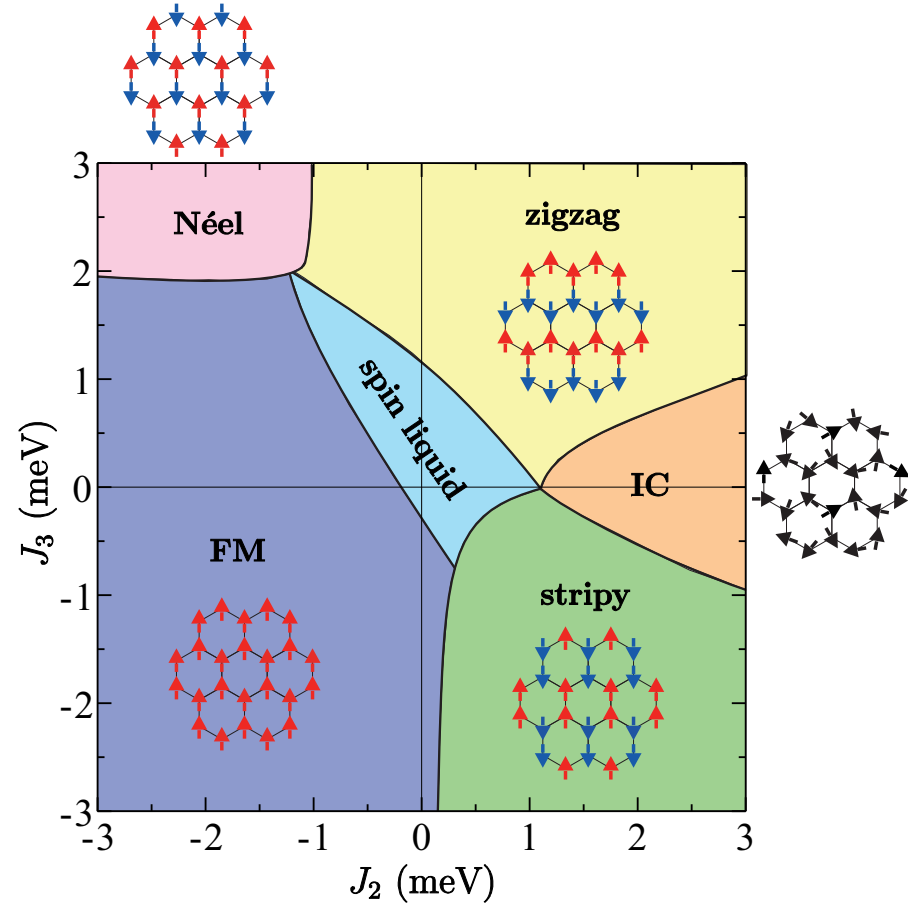
honeycomb $H_3LiIr_2O_6$



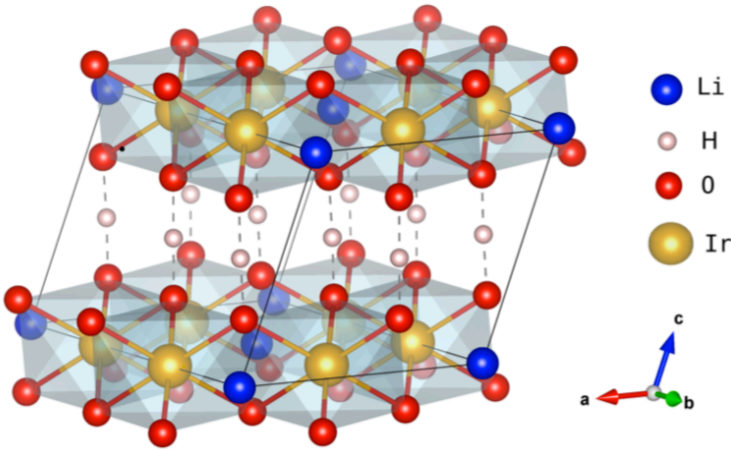
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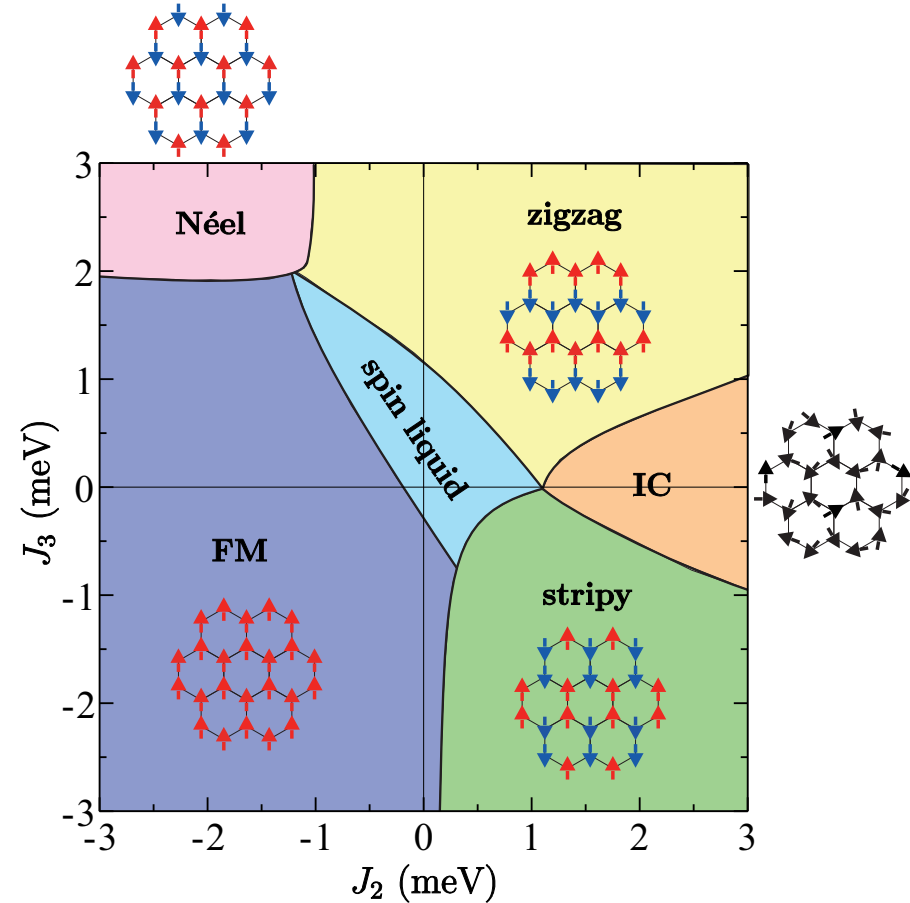
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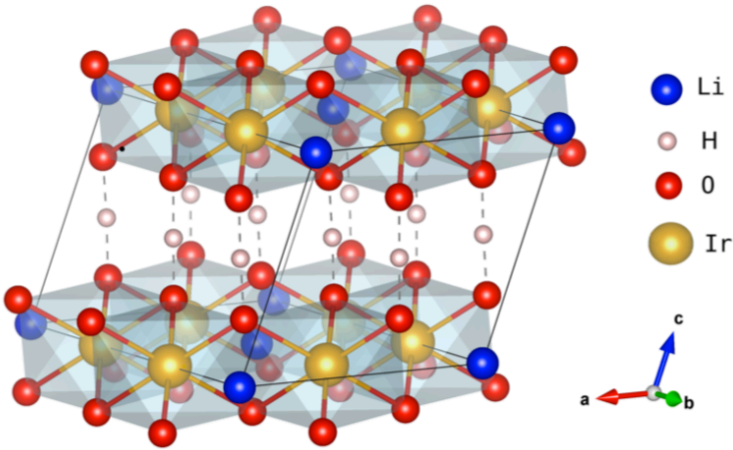
- weak bond anisotropy

- why no LRO by J_2 and J_3 ?

- why K smaller than Na_2IrO_3 ?



honeycomb $H_3LiIr_2O_6$



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Remove H from Ir-O-Ir links

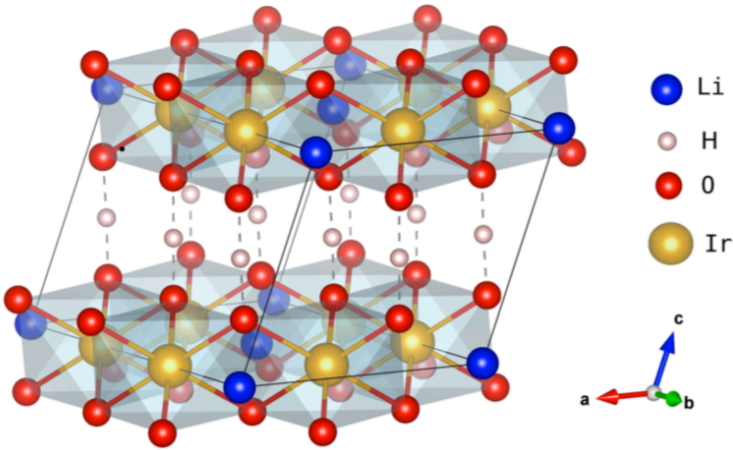
& smear out the + charge

Bond	K	J	Γ_{xy}	$\Gamma_{yz} = -\Gamma_{zx}$
B2 (3.10Å)	-38.1	5.9	5.0	-11.1
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Yadav, Ray, Eldeeb, Nishimoto, Hozoi & JvdB, PRL 121, 197203 (2018)

Yadav, Eldeeb, Ray, Aswartham, Sturza, Nishimoto, JvdB & Hozoi, Chemical Science 10,1866 (2019)

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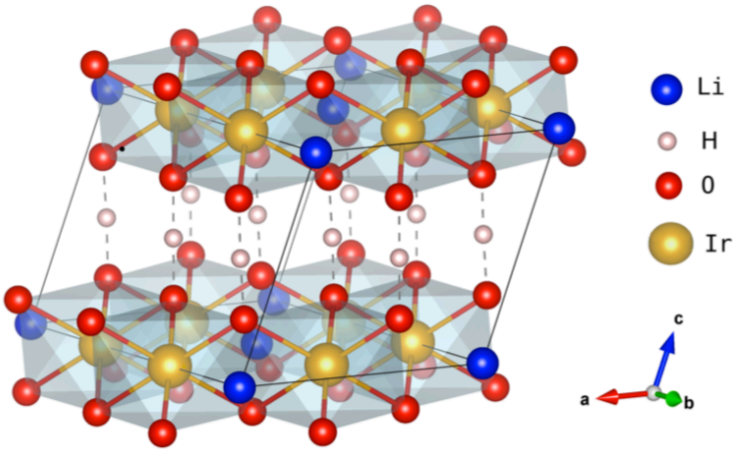
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- H polarizes oxygen orbital relevant for superexchange*

- very strong effect of hydrogen disorder - affects QSL?*

Yadav, Ray, Eldeeb, Nishimoto, Hozoi & JvdB, PRL 121, 197203 (2018)

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honeycomb K_2IrO_3

- C_3 symmetry
- Defect structure $K_xIr_yO_2$
- Magnetic disorder above 2K

Johnson, Broeders, Mehlawat, Li, Singh, Valenti, Coldea arXiv:1908.04584 (2019)

Mehlawat & Singh, arXiv:1908.08475 (2019)

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- *MRCI: large off-diagonal magnetic interactions $\rightarrow C_3$*

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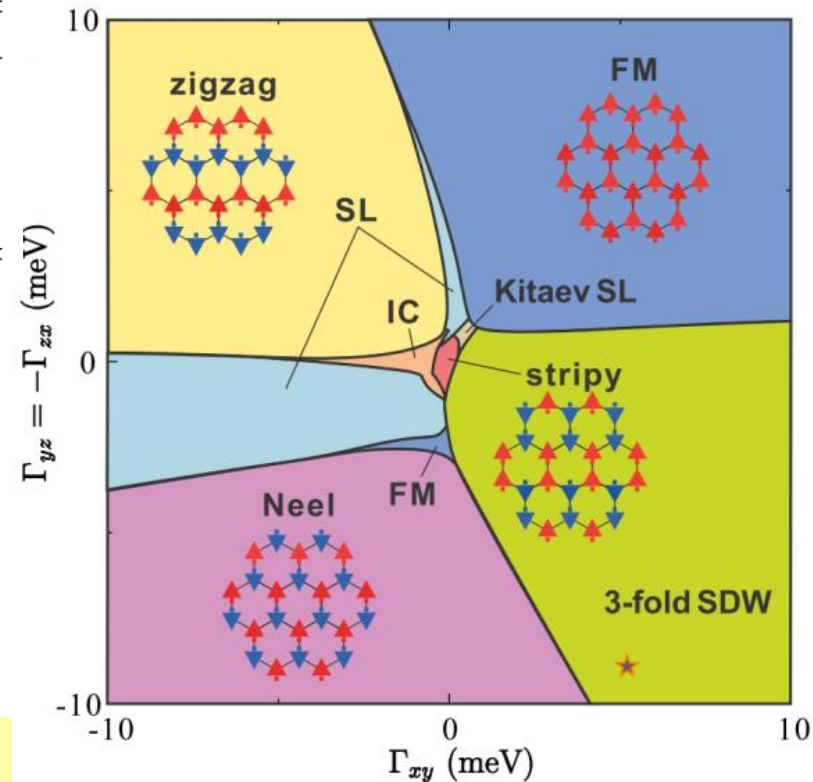
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- MRCI: large off-diagonal magnetic interactions $\rightarrow C_3$

- Alternative route to stabilize (Kitaev) QSL



Yadav, Nishimoto, Richter Jvdb, Ray, preprint (2019)

Electronic & magnetic structure of α -RuCl₃

Honeycomb $RuCl_3$

Quantum
chemistry
calculations

$$\mathcal{H}_{i,j} = J \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_j + K \tilde{S}_i^z \tilde{S}_j^z + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta} (\tilde{S}_i^\alpha \tilde{S}_j^\beta + \tilde{S}_i^\beta \tilde{S}_j^\alpha)$$

Structure	\angle Ru-Cl-Ru	K	J	Γ_{xy}	$\Gamma_{zx} = -\Gamma_{yz}$
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Sears, Songvilay, Plumb, Clancy, Qiu, Zhao, Parshall & Y-J Kim, PRB 91, 144420 (2015)

Yadav, Bogdanov, Katukuri, Nishimoto, JvdB & Hozoi, Sci. Rep. 6, 37508 (2016)

Honeycomb RuCl₃

Quantum
chemistry
calculations

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K large FM, J small AFM

$$|K/J| \sim 5$$

Winter, Tsirlin, Daghofer, JvdB, Singh, Gegenwart & Valenti, JPCM 29, 493002 (2017)

Sears, Songvilay, Plumb, Clancy, Qiu, Zhao, Parshall & Y-J Kim, PRB 91, 144420 (2015)

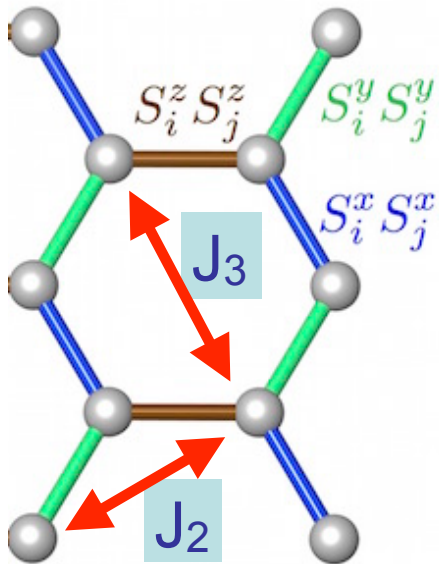
Yadav, Bogdanov, Katukuri, Nishimoto, JvdB & Hozoi, Sci. Rep. 6, 37508 (2016)

Honeycomb $RuCl_3$

Exact
diagonalization
calculations

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+ longer range Heisenberg J_2 and J_3

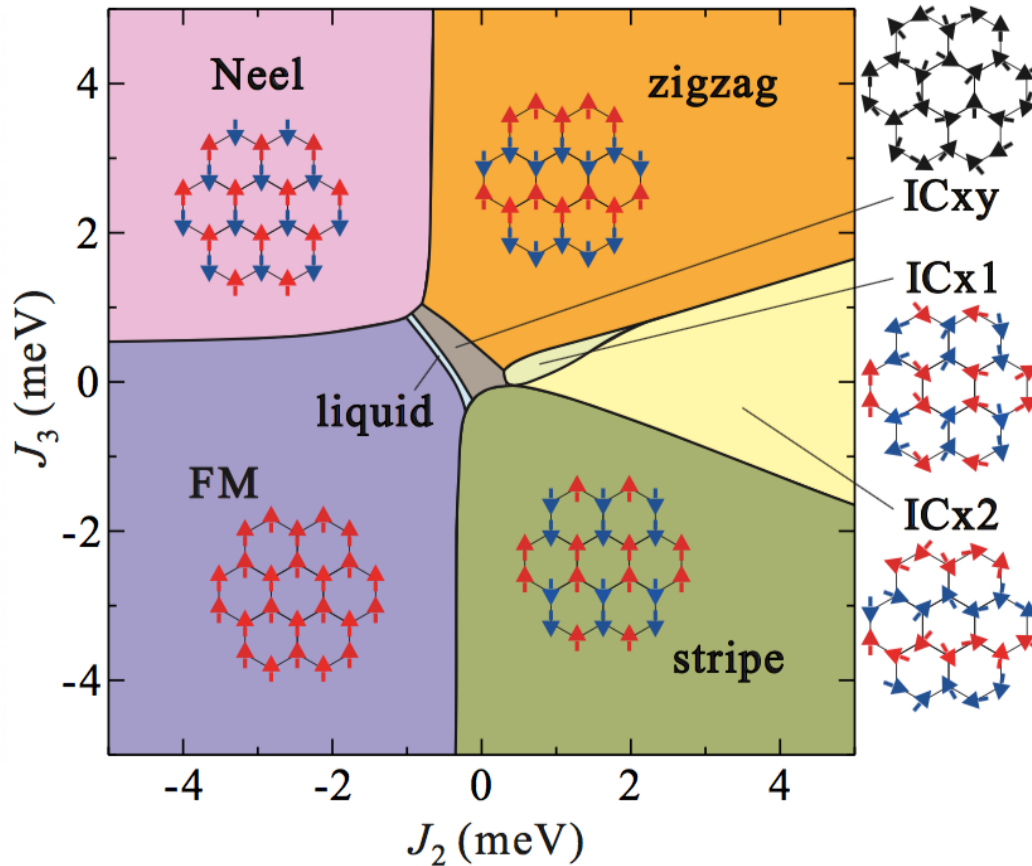
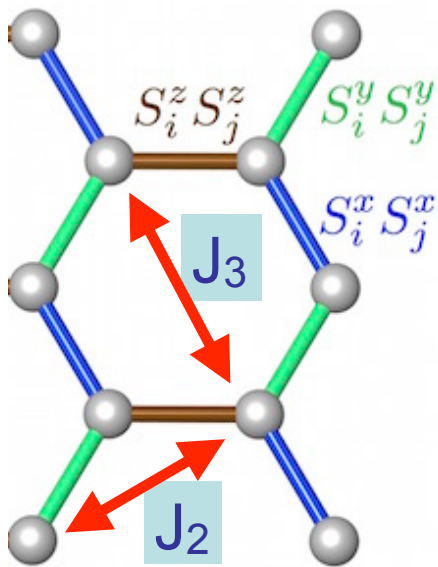


Honeycomb $RuCl_3$

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+ longer range Heisenberg J_2 and J_3



zig-zag order driven by J_2 & J_3

Local electronic structure of α -RuCl₃

Quantum
chemistry
calculations

Ru ³⁺ 4d ⁵ splittings	CASSCF	CASSCF +SOC	MRCI	MRCI +SOC
² T ₂ (t _{2g} ⁵)	0	0	0	0
	0.066	0.193	0.067	0.195
	0.069	0.232	0.071	0.234
⁴ T ₁ (t _{2g} ⁴ e _g ¹)	1.08	1.25	1.28	1.33
	1.12		1.30	
	1.13	1.37	1.31	1.48
⁴ T ₂ (t _{2g} ⁴ e _g ¹)	1.76	1.90	1.97	2.09
	1.81		2.01	
	1.83	1.98	2.03	2.17
⁶ A ₁ (t _{2g} ³ e _g ²)	1.01	1.09 (×6)	1.51	1.74 (×6)

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${}^6A_1 (t_{2g}^3 e_g^2)$	1.01	1.09 ($\times 6$)	1.51	1.74 ($\times 6$)

~ 0.2 eV splitting $j=1/2$ to $j=3/2$

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Magnetic nearest neighbor interactions in α -RuCl₃

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chemistry
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However INS: K AFM

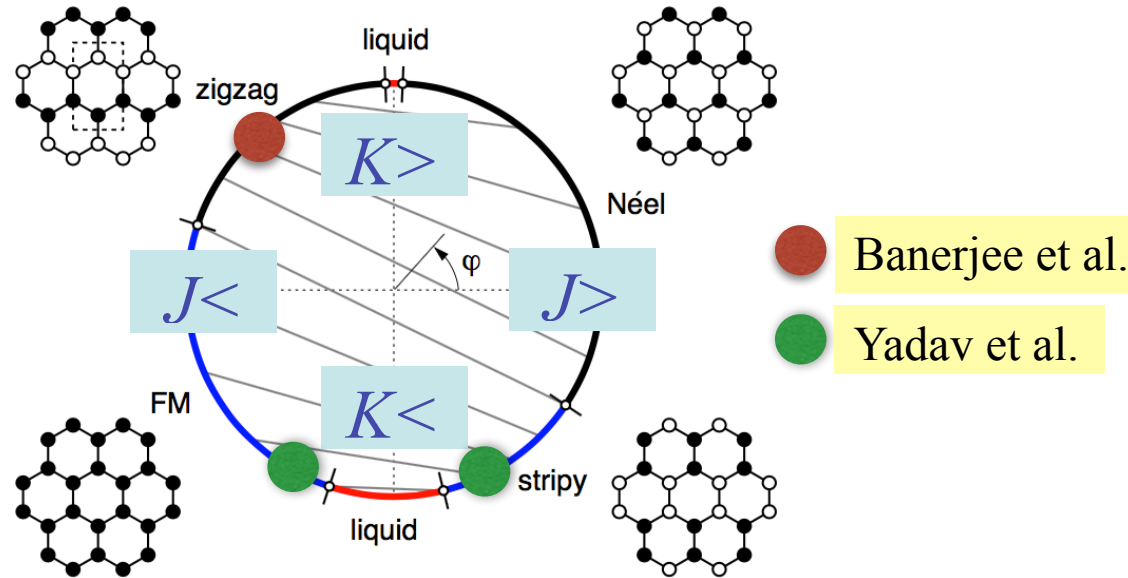
Winter, Tsirlin, Daghofer, JvdB, Singh,
Gegenwart & Valenti, JPCM (2018)

Banerjee et al., Nat. Mater. 4604 (2016)

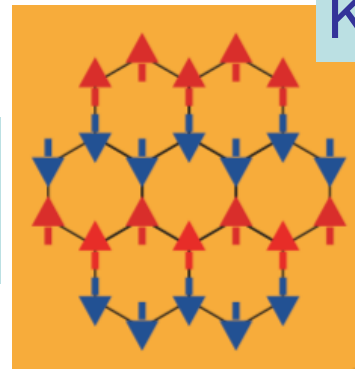
Sears, Songvilay, Plumb, Clancy, Qiu, Zhao, Parshall & Y-J Kim, PRB 91, 144420 (2015)

Yadav, Bogdanov, Katukuri, Nishimoto, JvdB & Hozoi, Sci. Rep. 6, 37508 (2016)

Magnetic nearest neighbor interactions in α - RuCl_3



Experimentally: zigzag order below $\sim 8\text{K}$



K large FM, J small AFM

$$|K/J| \sim 5$$

However INS: K AFM

Banerjee et al., Nat. Mater. 4604 (2016)

Sears, Songvilay, Plumb, Clancy, Qiu, Zhao, Parshall & Y-J Kim, PRB 91, 144420 (2015)

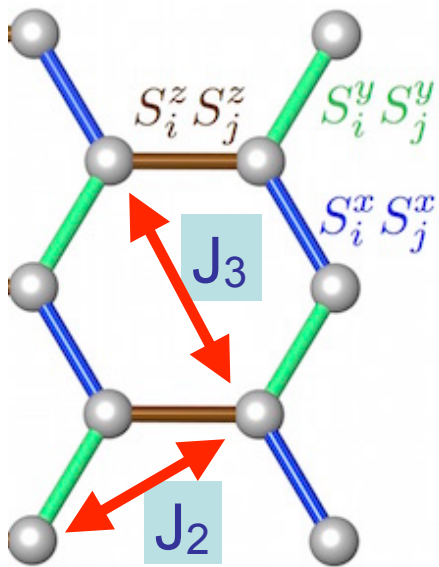
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Exact
diagonalization
calculations

$$\mathcal{H}_{i,j} = J \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_j + K \tilde{S}_i^z \tilde{S}_j^z + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta} (\tilde{S}_i^\alpha \tilde{S}_j^\beta + \tilde{S}_i^\beta \tilde{S}_j^\alpha)$$

+ longer range Heisenberg J_2 and J_3

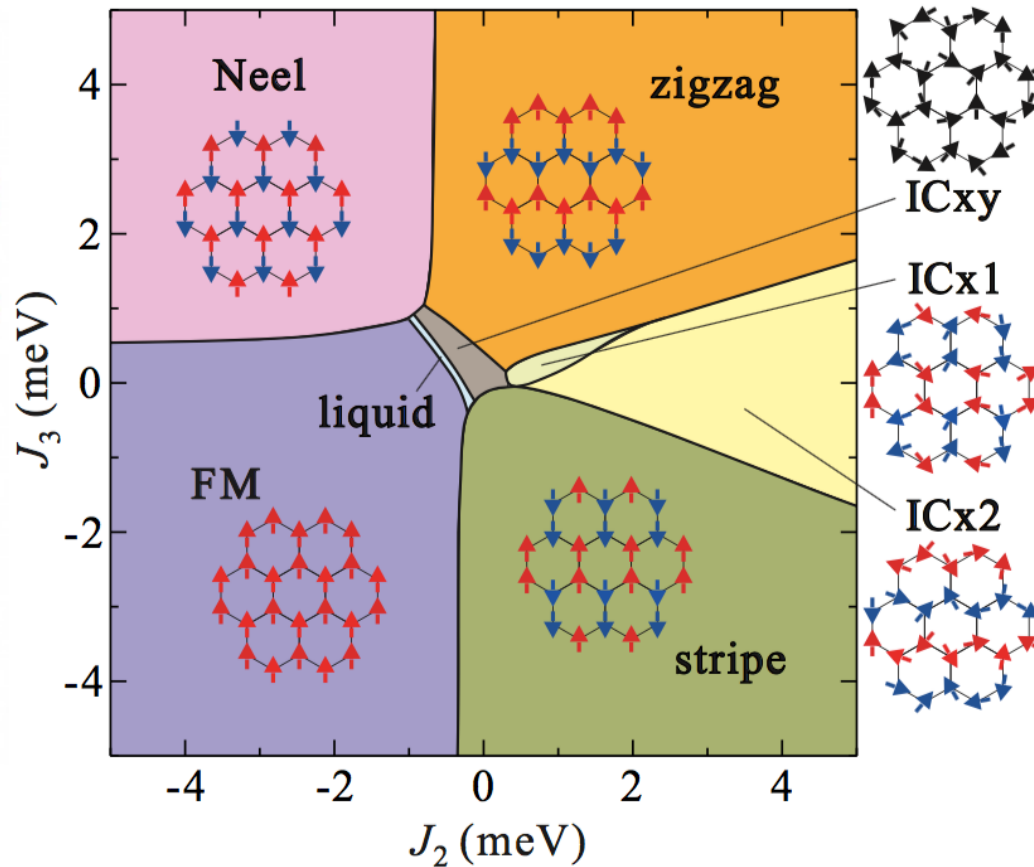
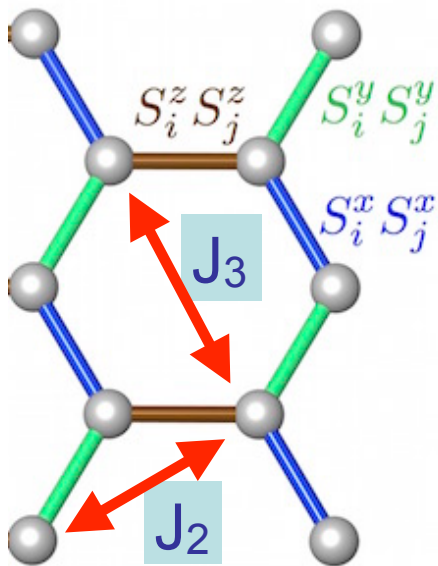


Magnetic nearest neighbor interactions in α -RuCl₃

Exact diagonalization calculations

$$\mathcal{H}_{i,j} = J \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_i \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{S}}_j + K \tilde{S}_i^z \tilde{S}_j^z + \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta} \Gamma_{\alpha\beta} (\tilde{S}_i^\alpha \tilde{S}_j^\beta + \tilde{S}_i^\beta \tilde{S}_j^\alpha)$$

+ longer range Heisenberg J₂ and J₃



zig-zag order driven by J_2 & J_3

Magnetic nearest neighbor interactions in α -RuCl₃

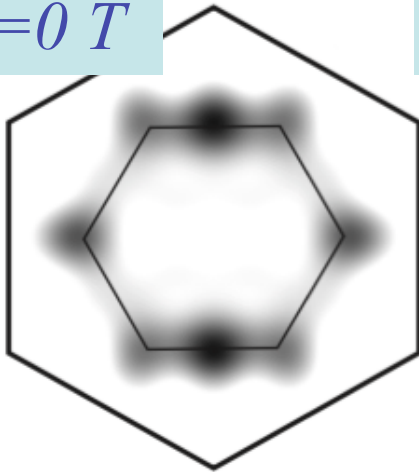
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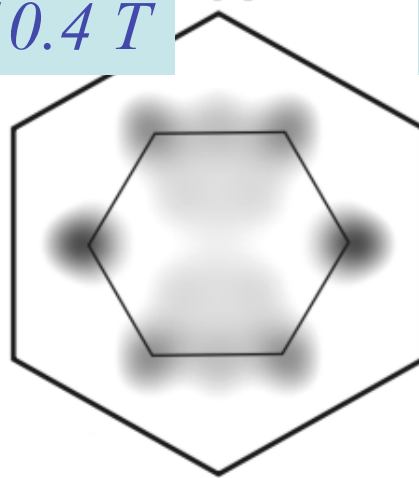
+ longer range Heisenberg J₂ and J₃

Static spin structure factor $S(Q)$ from ED

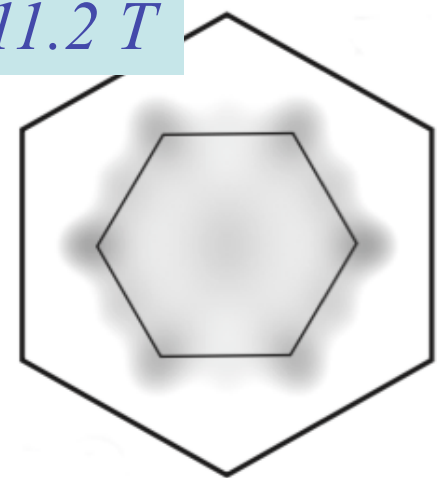
$B=0 T$



$B=10.4 T$



$B=11.2 T$



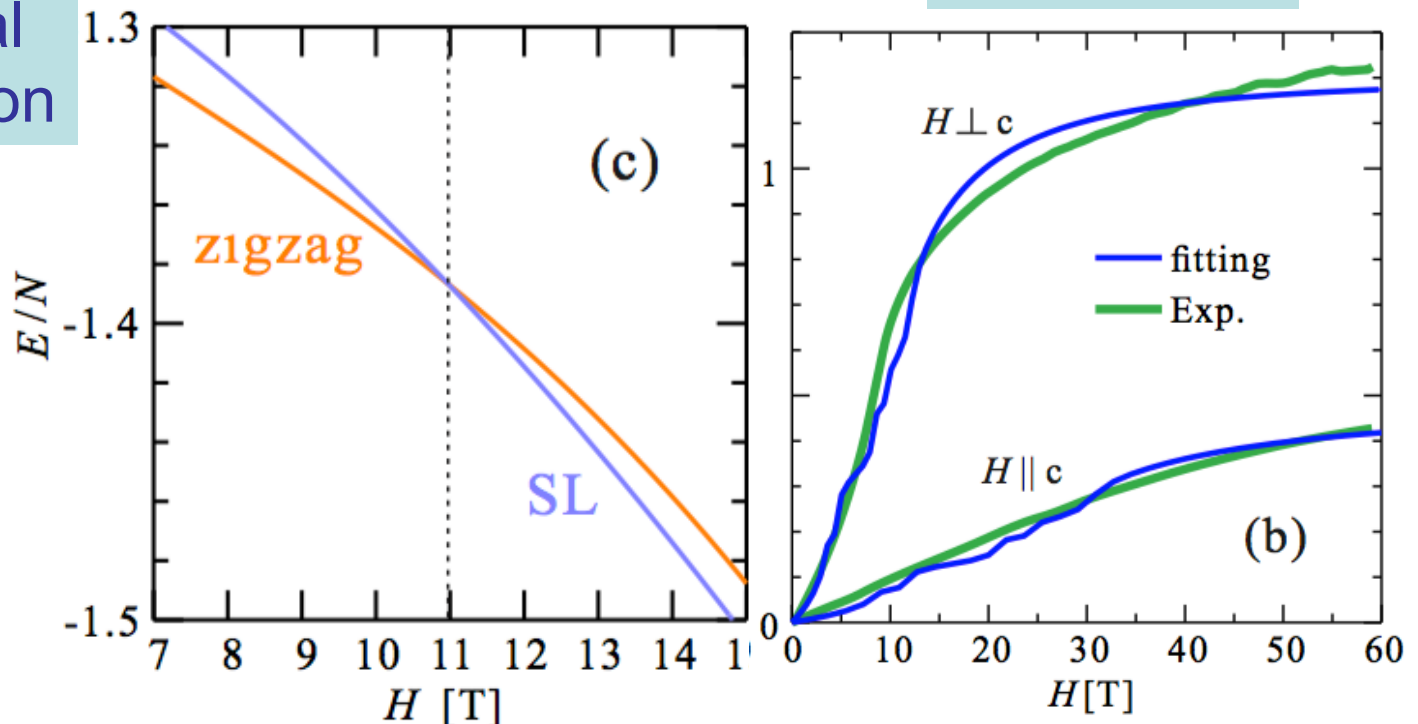
Magnetic nearest neighbor interactions in α -RuCl₃

Exact diagonalization calculations

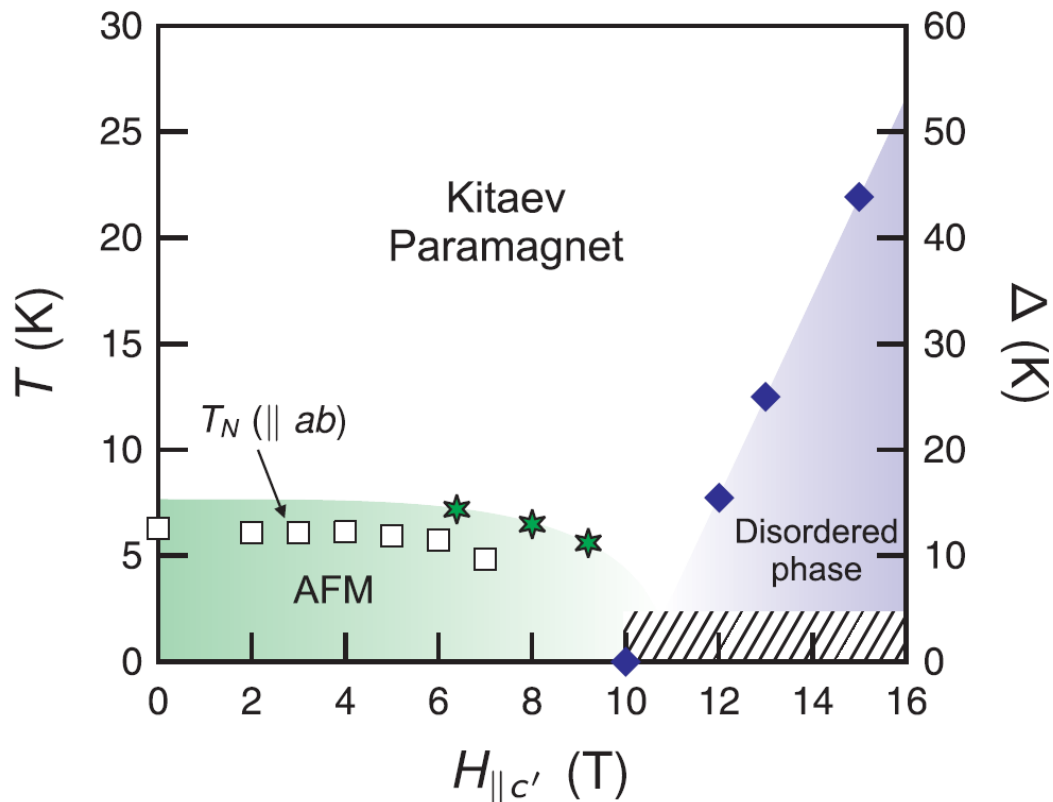
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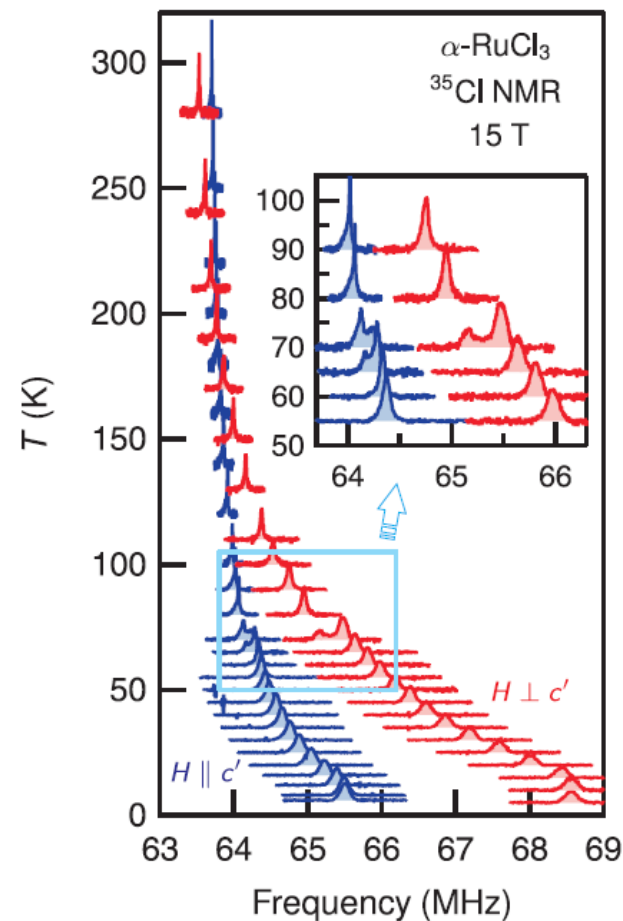
Compare to experimental magnetization



Observation of *B*-induced spin liquid in RuCl_3

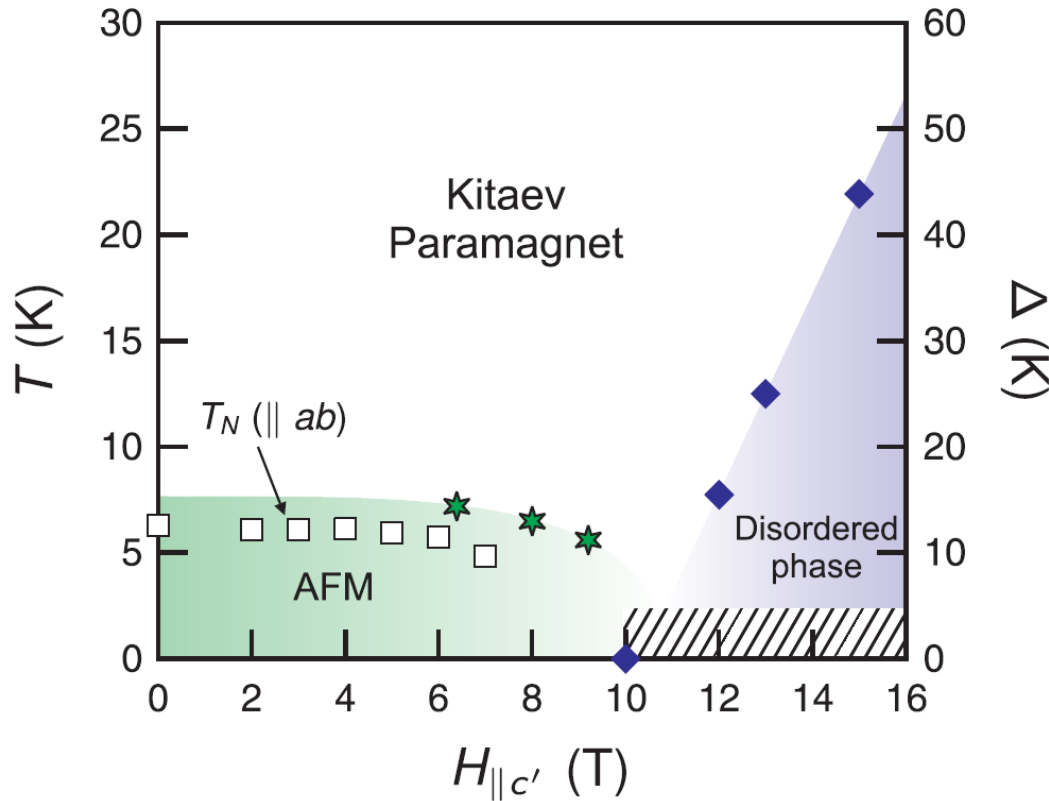


gapped spin liquid

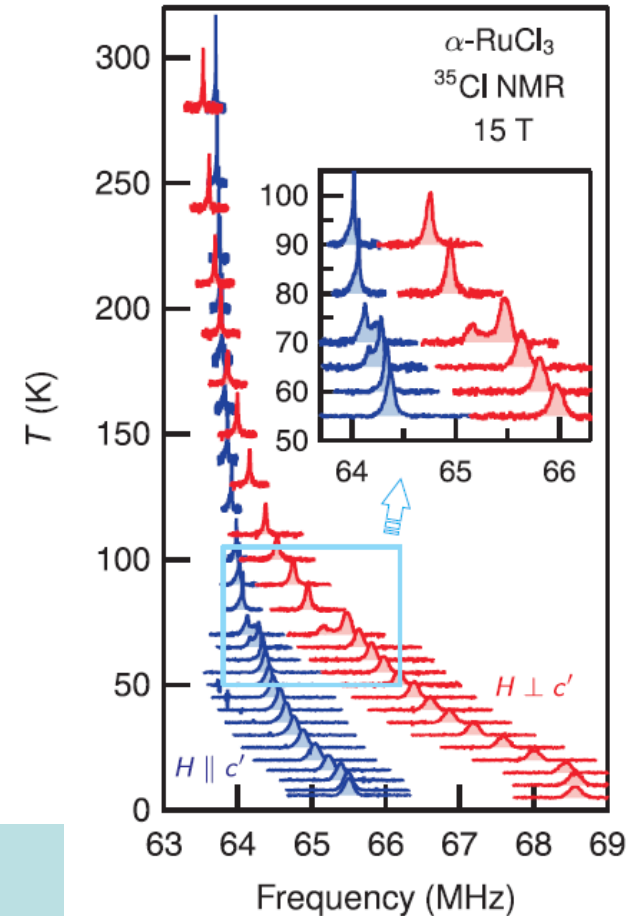


Baek, Do, Choi, Kwon, Wolter, Nishimoto, JvdB & Büchner, PRL 119, 037201 (2017)

Observation of *B*-induced spin liquid in RuCl_3



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now also reported by neutron scattering

Banerjee et al., Quantum Mat. 3, 8 (2018)

Baek, Do, Choi, Kwon, Wolter, Nishimoto, JvdB & Büchner, PRL 119, 037201 (2017)

Conclusions

Based on quantum chemistry & cluster ED:

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213 honeycomb iridates: $K \sim -15 \text{ meV}$ (ballpark)

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ruthenium trichloride: $K \sim -5 \text{ meV}$, $|K/J| \sim 5$

residual interactions weak, anisotropy weak

in-plane field above $B \approx 8 \text{ T}$: gapped spin liquid