

Time, momentum and energy-resolved measurements of transient magnetism in quantum materials

*Mark P. M. Dean / Ian Robinson
Brookhaven National Laboratory, NY, USA*

*Workshop on Quantum Materials & Nanotechnology
University of Southampton, November 2019*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science

Collaborators

Brookhaven National Laboratory

Y. Cao, D. Mazzone, D. Meyers, I. Robinson, J. P. Hill,

Shanghai Tech/XFEL

X. Liu, J. Lin

Max Planck, Hamburg

M. Först, R. Mankowsky

Institute of Photonic Sciences, Barcelona

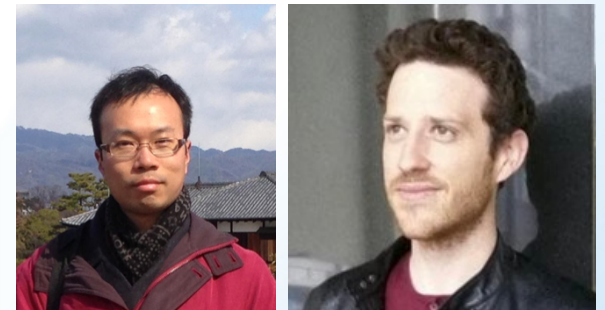
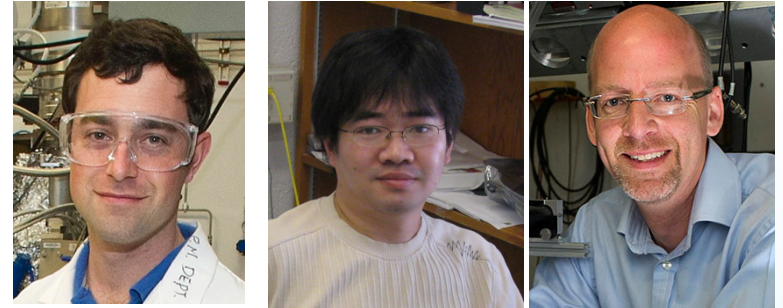
S. Wall

University College London

J. Vale, D.F. McMorrow, I. Robinson

U Tennessee

J. Liu



LCLS

D. Zhu

SACLA

S. Owada et al.

Advanced Photon Source

D. Casa, J.-H. Kim, M. Upton

And a few others still...

Outline

Why tr-RIXS?

Ultra-fast RIXS measurements of magnetic correlations in Sr_2IrO_4

Extension to $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$

Measuring magnetism in transient states

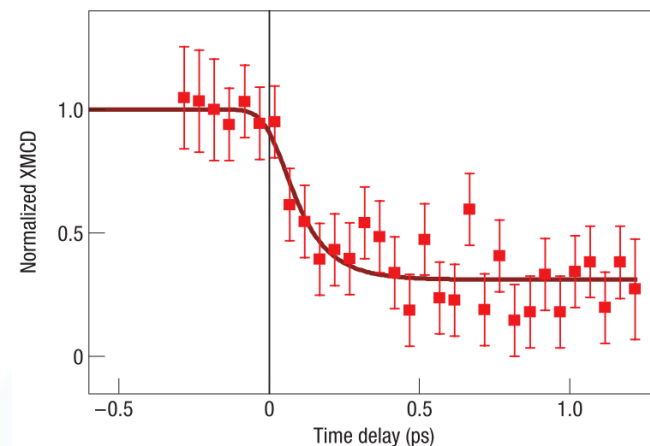
Spin degree of freedom is often crucial

Possible to measure net magnetic moment:

- XMCD/ MOKE / Faraday effect
Etc.

How can one go beyond this?
Energy/momentum space

XMCD Ni

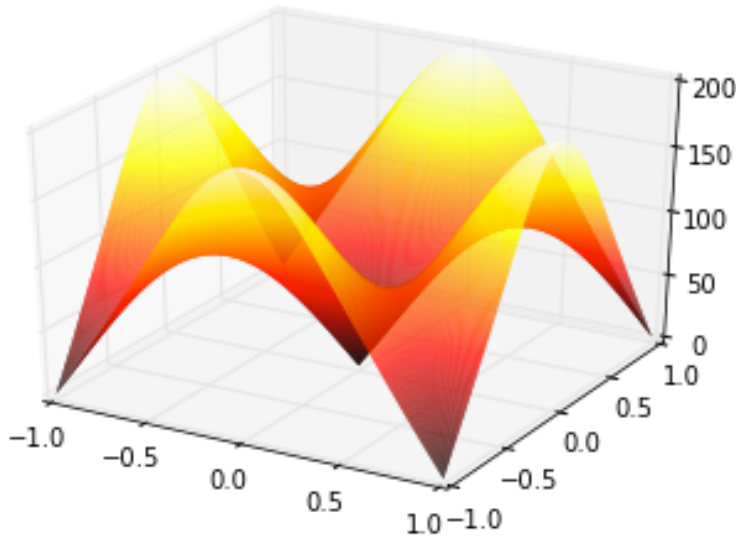


Stamm et al. Nat. Mat. (2007)

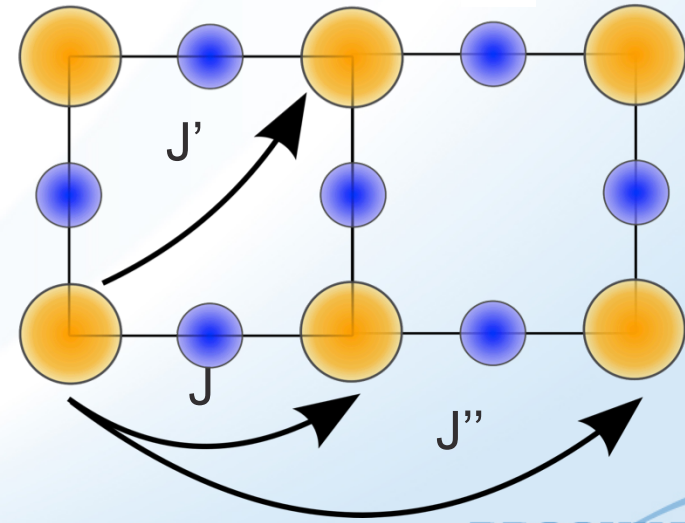
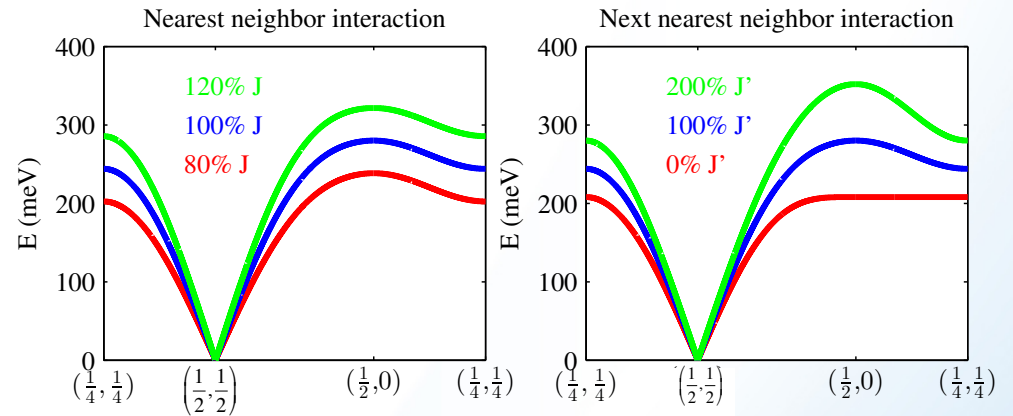
Magnetic excitation spectrum

Inelastic neutron scattering
(not time resolved)

Resonant inelastic x-ray
scattering



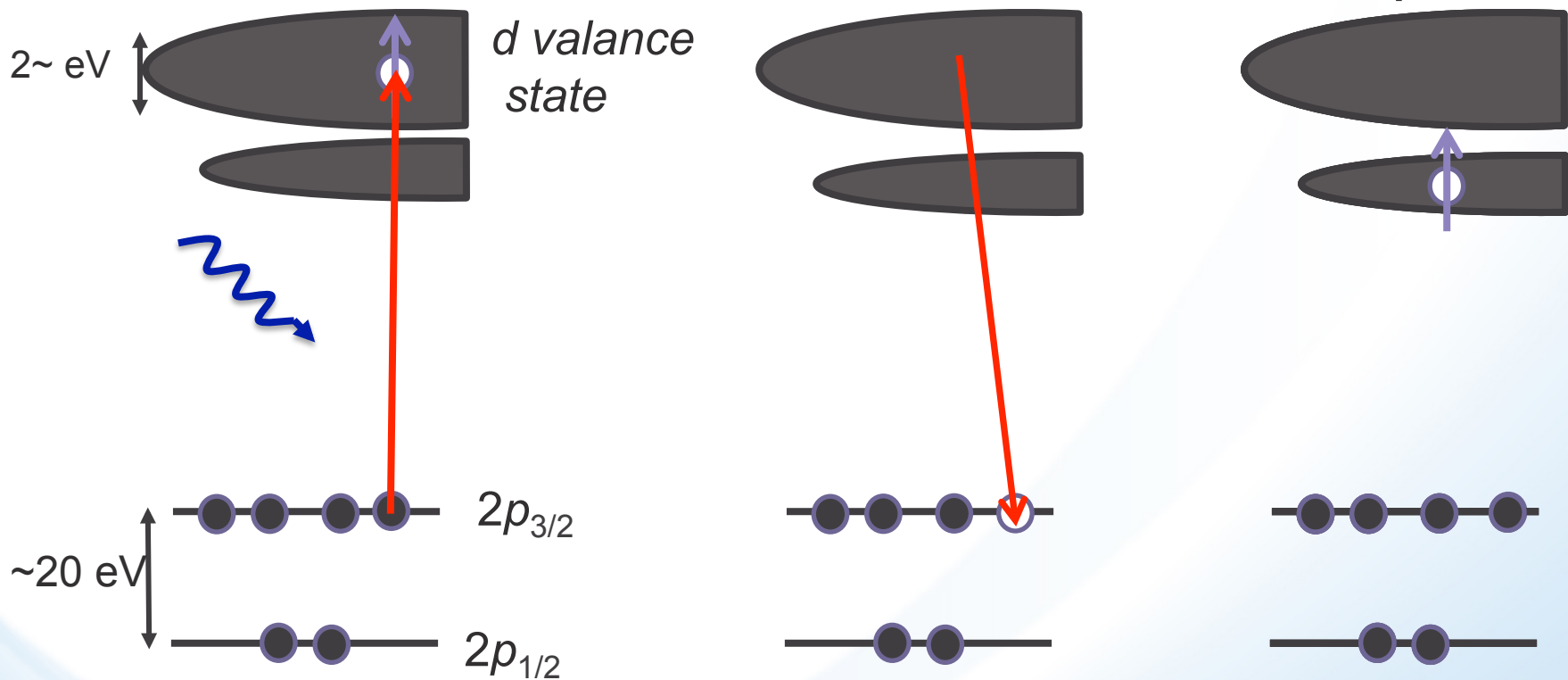
2D AF Heisenberg model



Jungho Kim et al., PRL (2012)

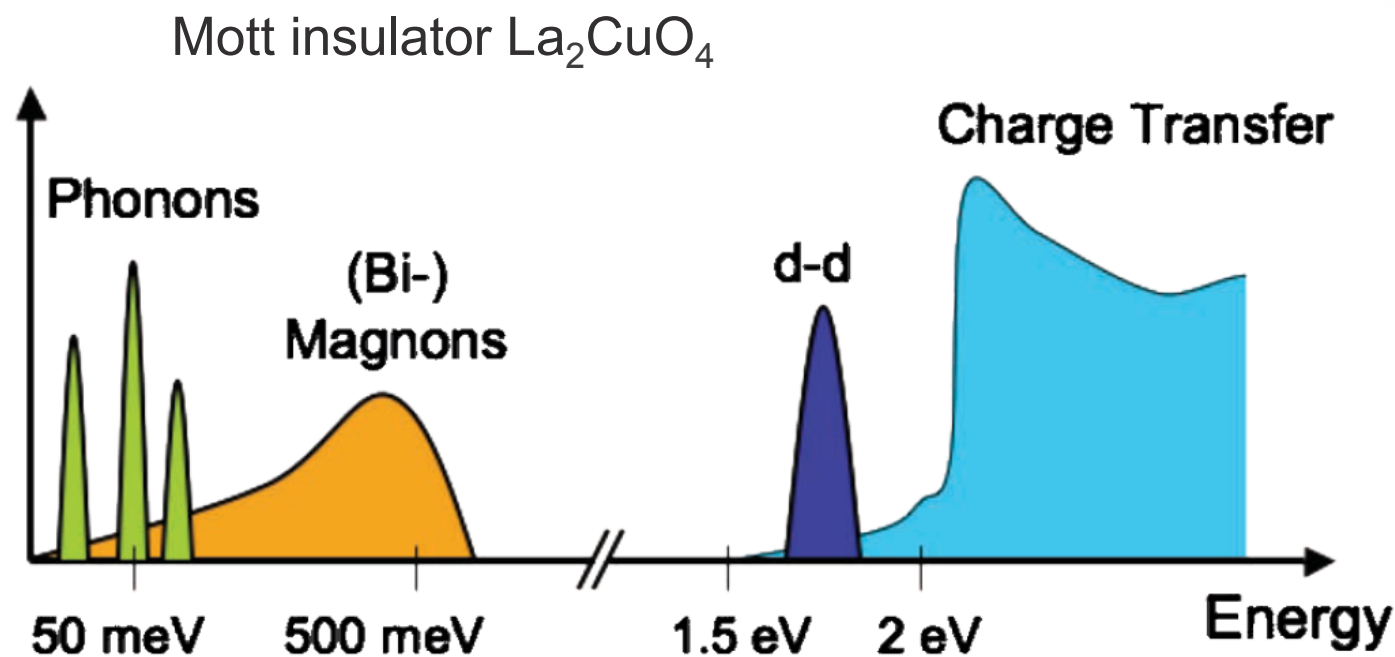
Resonant enhancement of sensitivity to valence electrons

L-edge RIXS



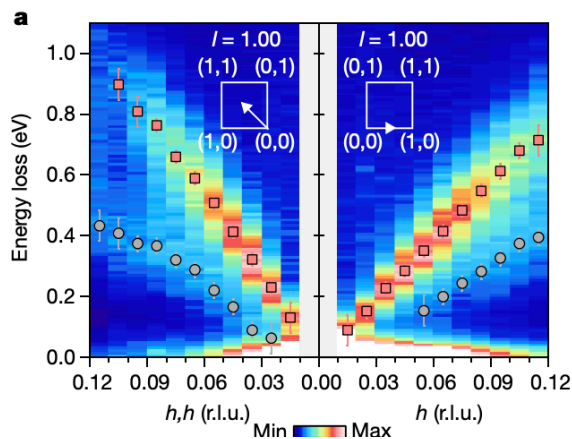
SO coupling

Excitation spectrum of a strongly correlated electron material



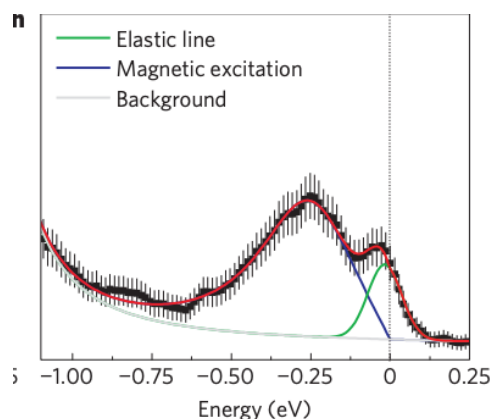
X-rays can access all these excitations providing very stringent tests for model Hamiltonians related to all these degrees of freedom.

Plasmons



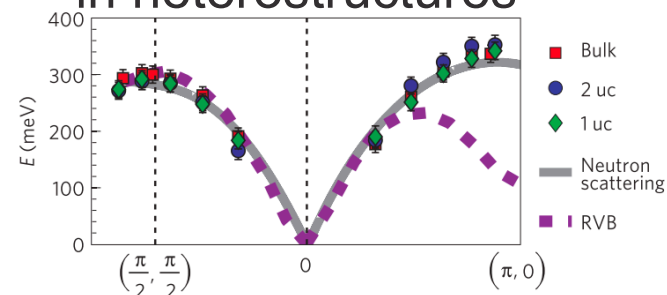
Hepting et al., Nature. (2018)

Paramagnons



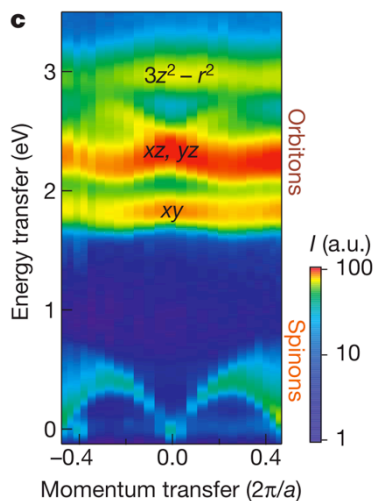
Le Tacon et al. Nat. Phys. (2011)
Dean et al., Nat. Mat. (2013)

Magnon dispersion in heterostructures



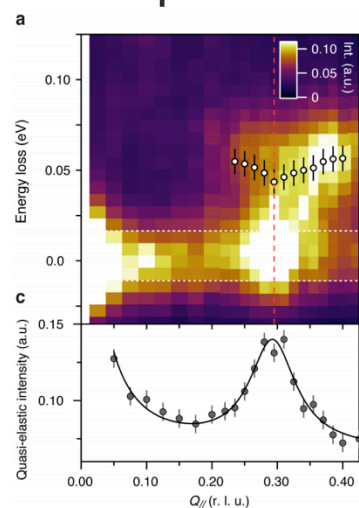
Dean et al., Nat. Mat. (2012)

Orbitons



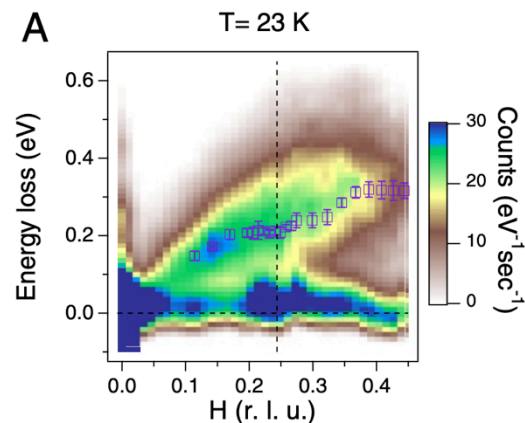
Schlappa et al., Nature (2012)
Kim et al., Nat. Comm. (2014)

Phonon coupled to a CDW



Chaix et al.,
Nat. Phys. (2017)

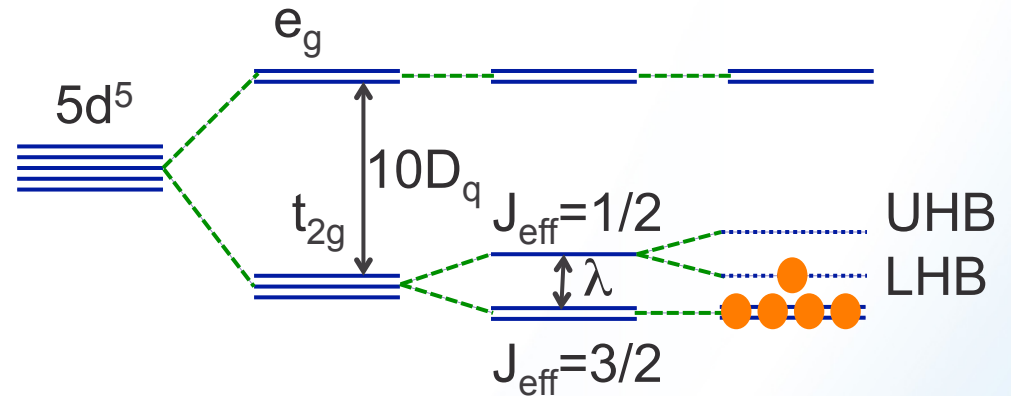
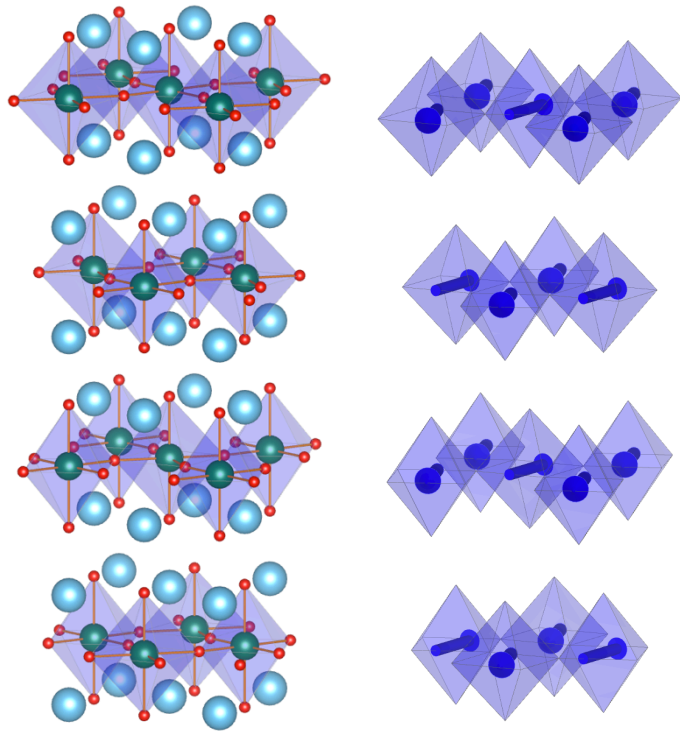
CDW modifying a magnon



Miao et al., PNAS (2017)

Model system Sr_2IrO_4

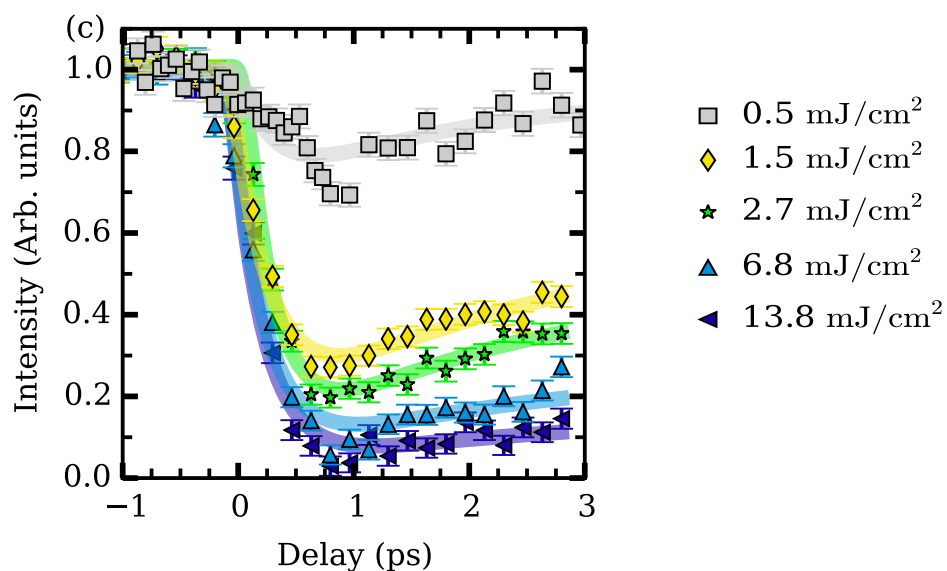
$T_N = 240 \text{ K}$
All data 110 K



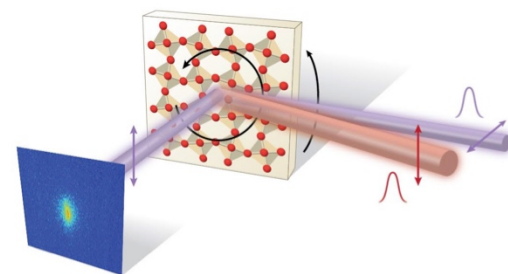
Forms a novel spin-orbit
Mott insulator

Close analogue of cuprate
high temperature
superconductors

Destruction of long range magnetic order



Experiment at SACLA

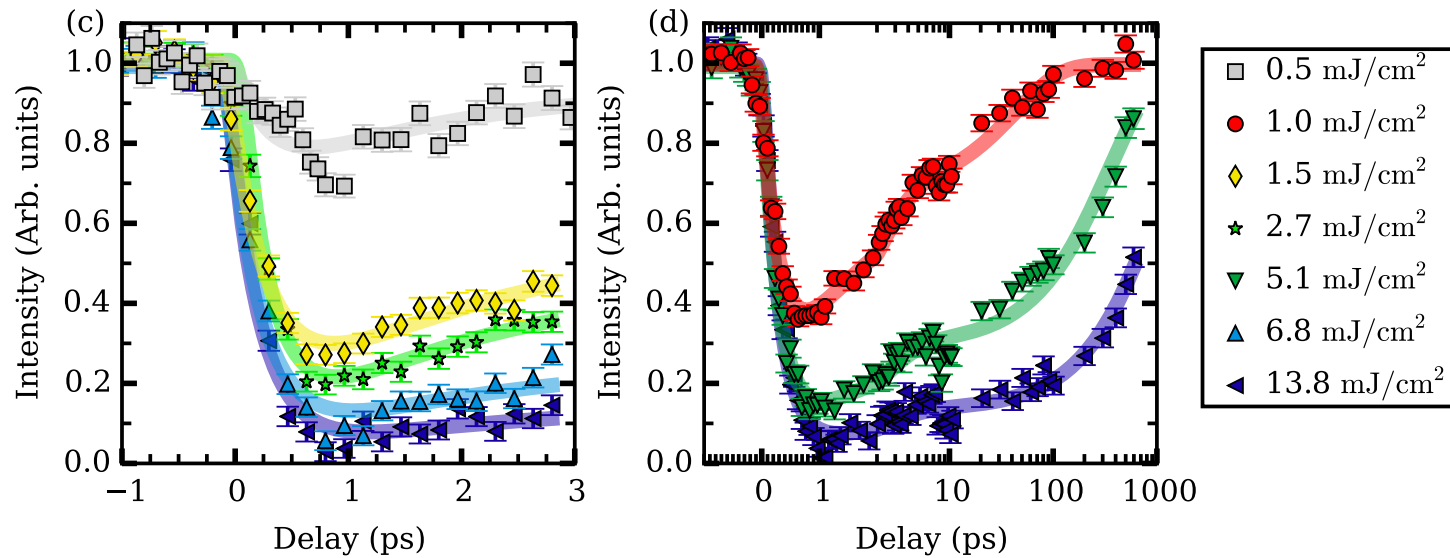


3D long-range magnetic destroyed in < 300 fs
If fluence > 5 mJ/cm²

Similar to La_{0.5}Sr_{1.5}MnO₄ and La_{1.75}Sr_{0.25}NiO₄

Magnetic recovery dynamics

M. P. M. Dean, et al. Nature Materials 15 601–605 (2016)



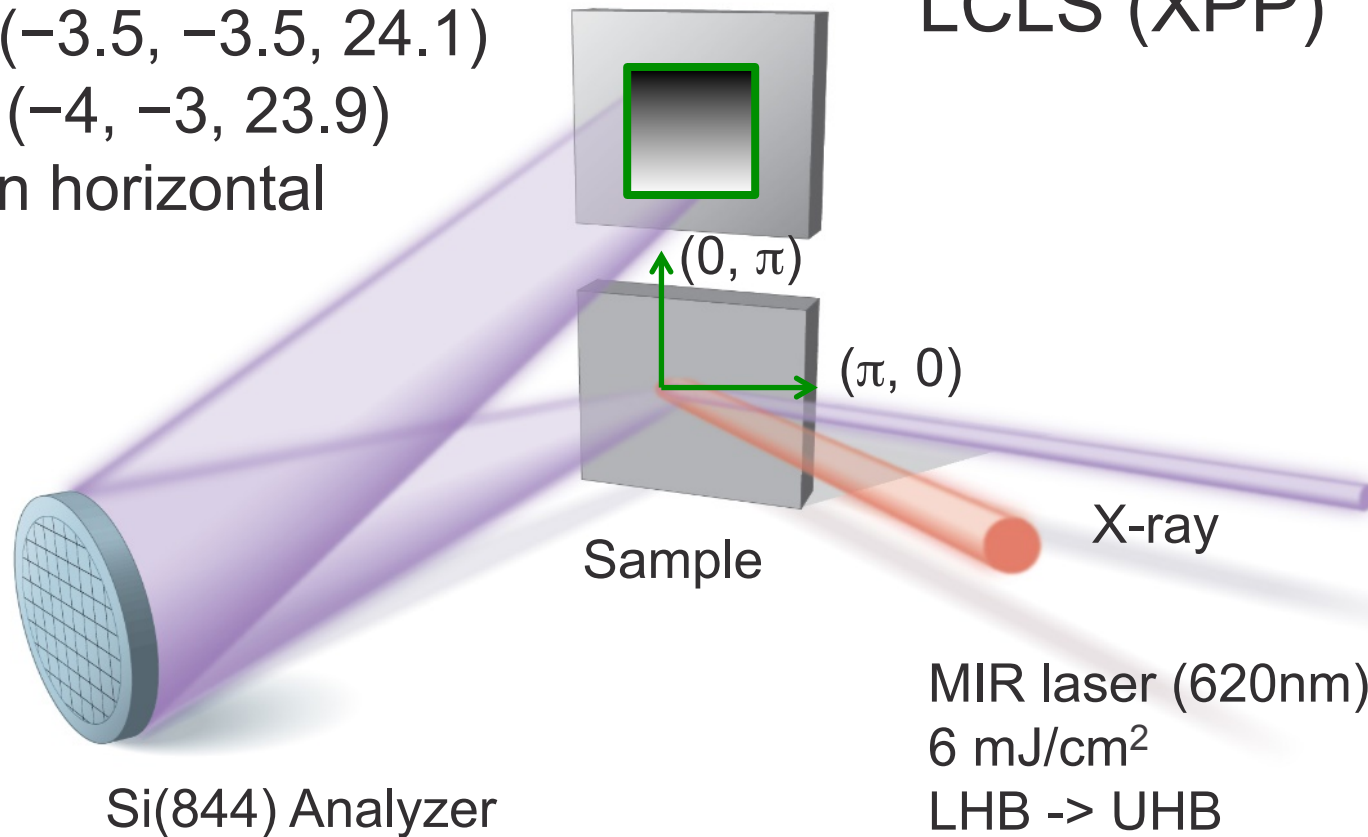
$$I(t) = I_0 \left(\exp(-t/\tau_{\text{decay}}) + C [1 - \exp(-t/\tau_{2D})] + (1 - C) [1 - \exp(-t/\tau_{3D})] \right),$$

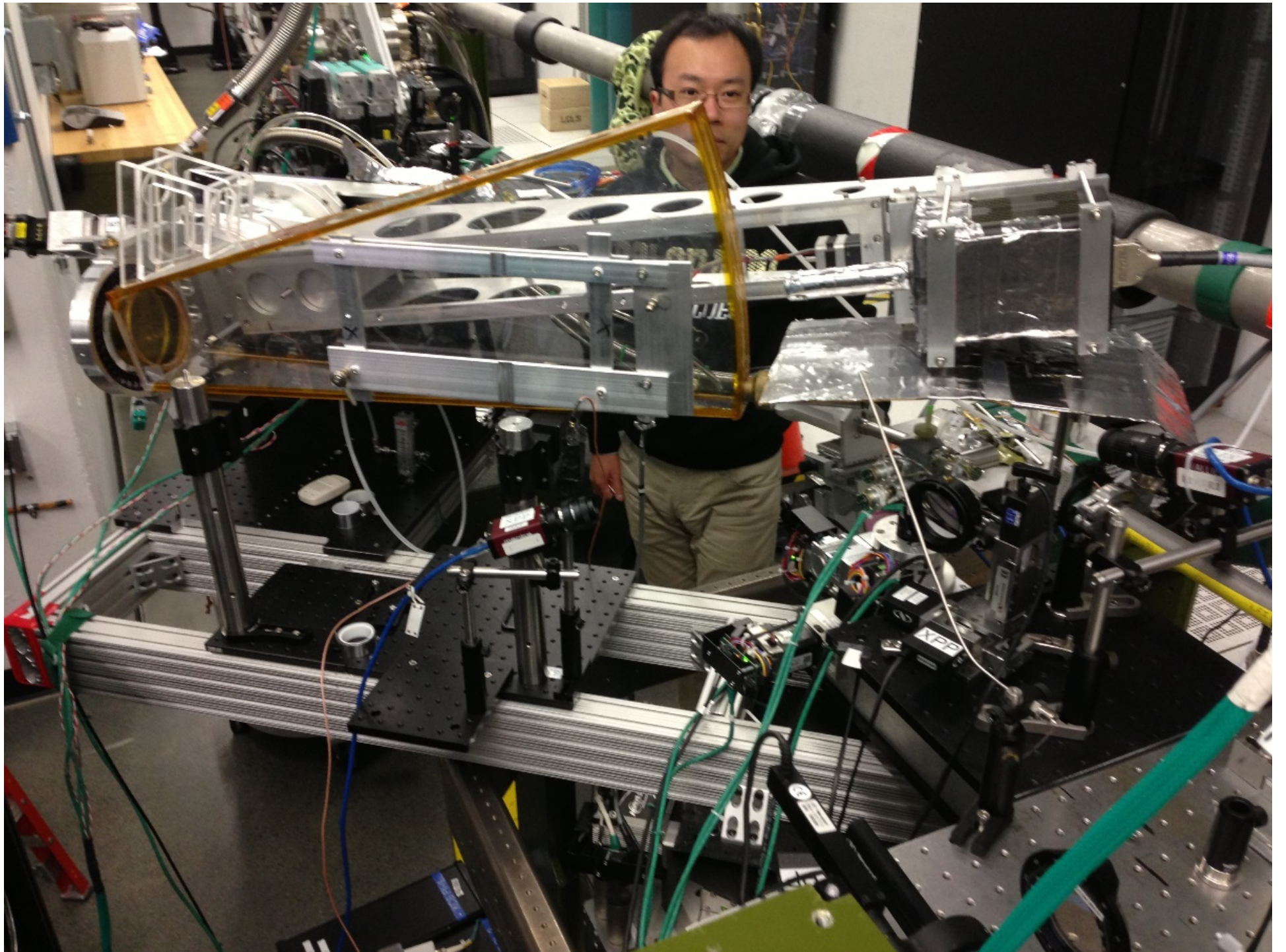
RIXS: Experimental schematic

$E=11.215$ keV (Ir L_3)
 $(\pi, 0)$ at $(-3.5, -3.5, 24.1)$
 (π, π) at $(-4, -3, 23.9)$
 $2\theta = 90$ in horizontal

Princeton
CCD camera

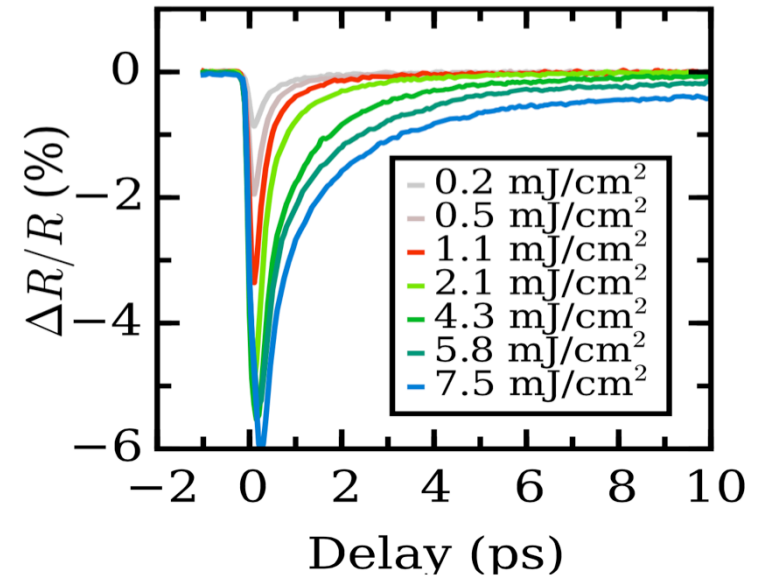
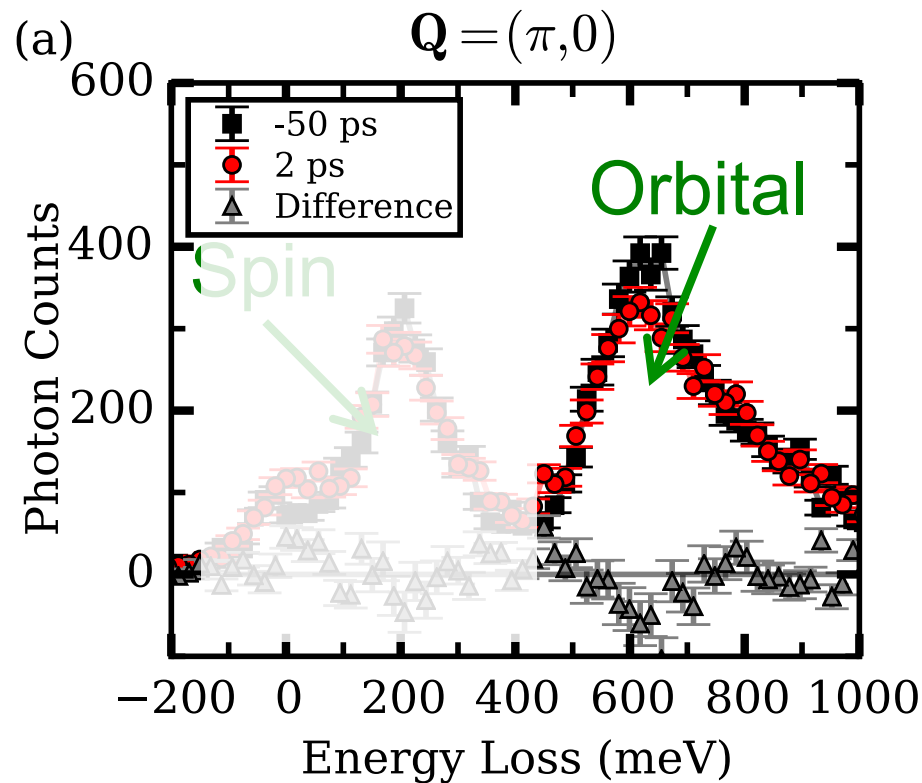
Experiment at
LCLS (XPP)





RIXS: Orbital transition

Optical reflectivity



Orbital excitation
recovers in <2 ps

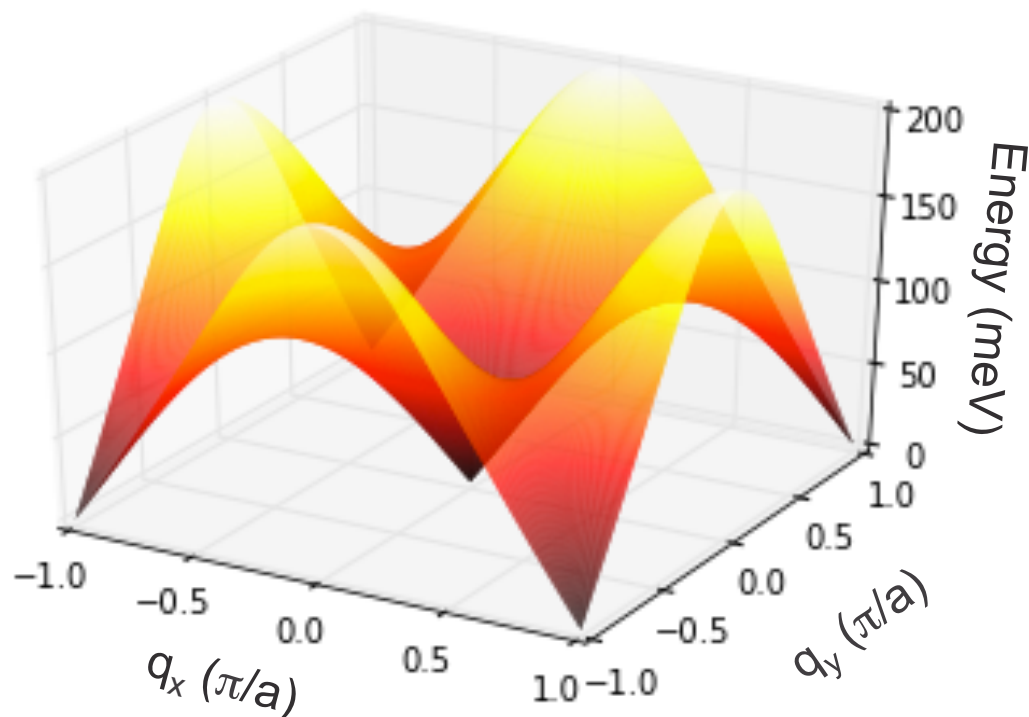
Charges have decayed
out of the UHB at 2 ps

Equilibrium magnetic excitation spectrum

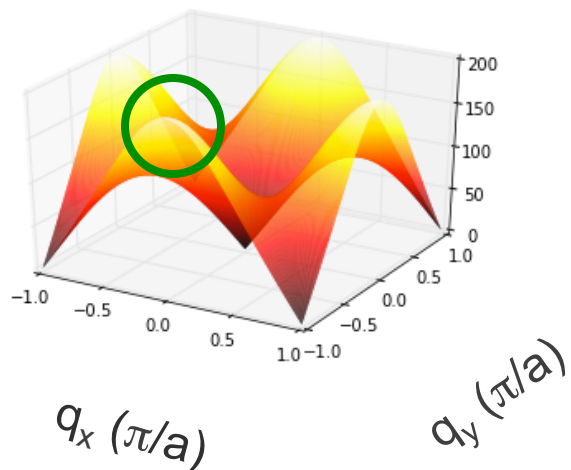
$$\langle S(r=0, t=0) S^+(r, t) \rangle$$

For Sr_2IrO_4

- Spin wave spectrum
- 2D excitations independent of q_z

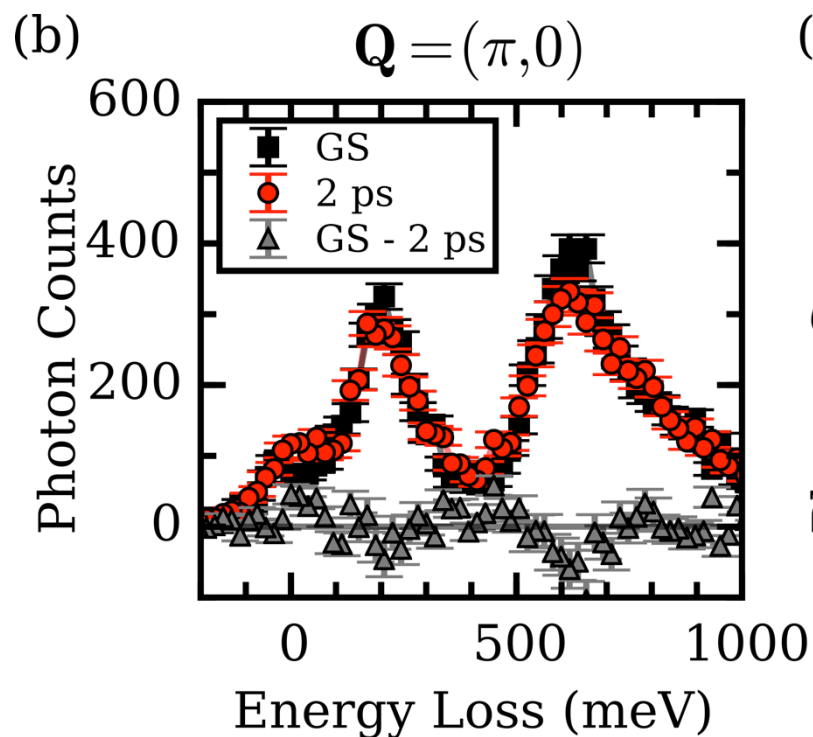


RIXS: Magnetic correlations at $(\pi,0)$

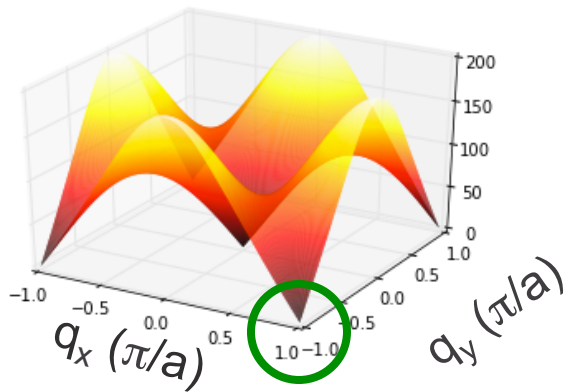


Proof of 2D correlations in melted state

$(\pi,0)$ – nearest neighbour correlations recovered < 2 ps

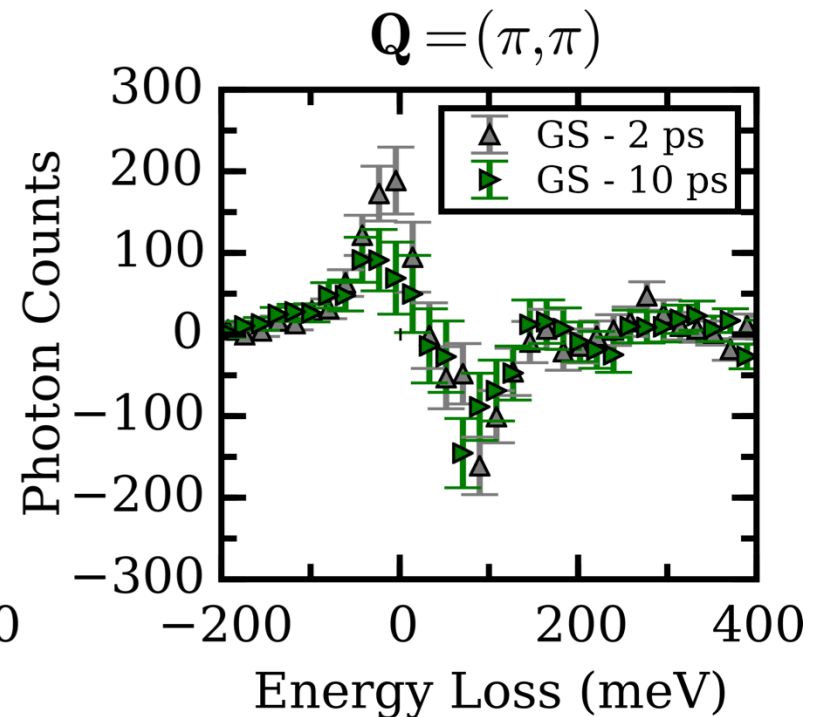
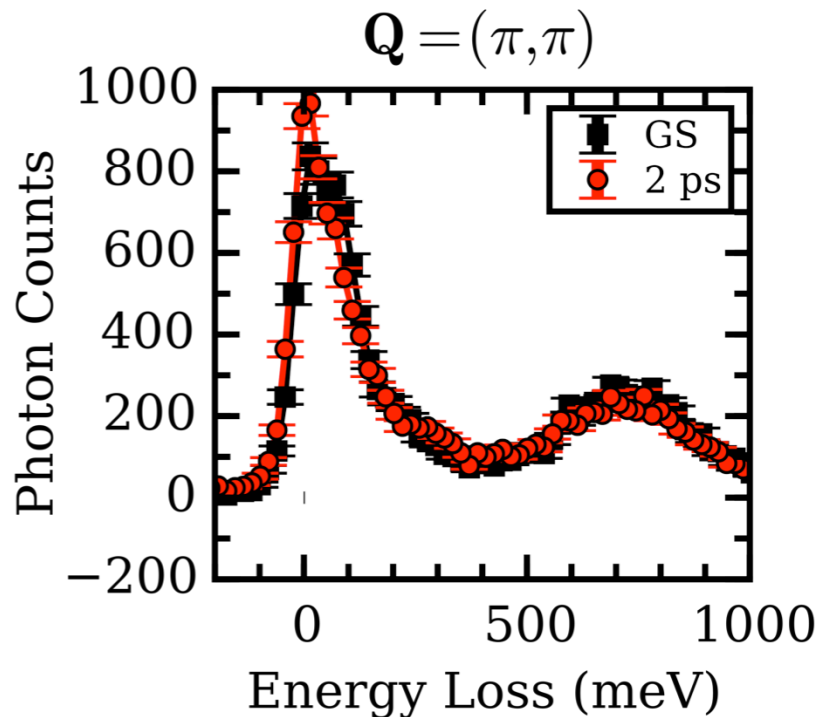


RIXS: Magnetic correlations at (π, π)



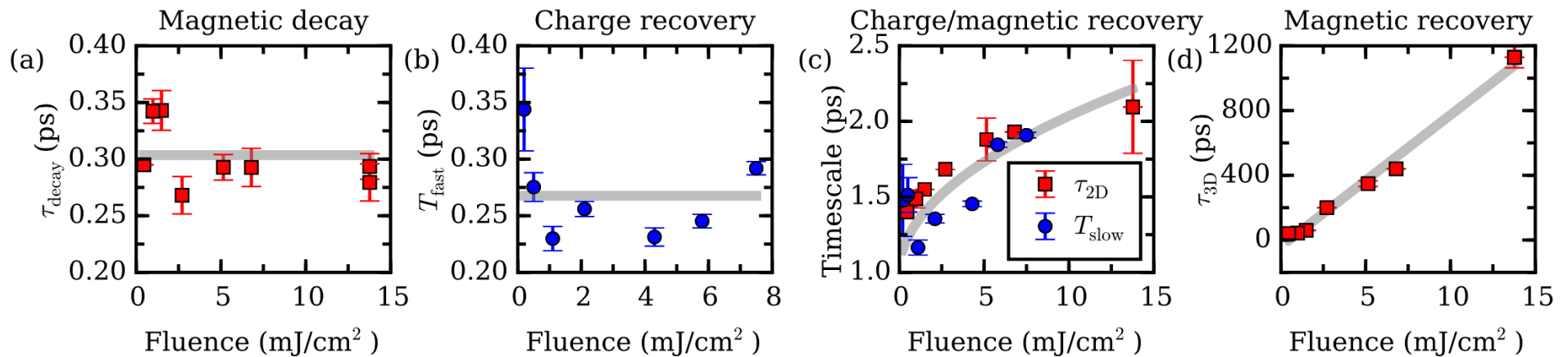
20% change in magnetic spectral weight (π, π)

Not trivial thermal broadening



Magnetic versus charge evolution

M. P. M. Dean, et al. Nature Materials 15 601–605 (2016)



Spin channel

$\tau_{\text{decay}} < 0.3$ ps \rightarrow $\tau_{2D} \sim 2$ ps \rightarrow $\tau_{3D} \sim 100\text{--}1000$ ps

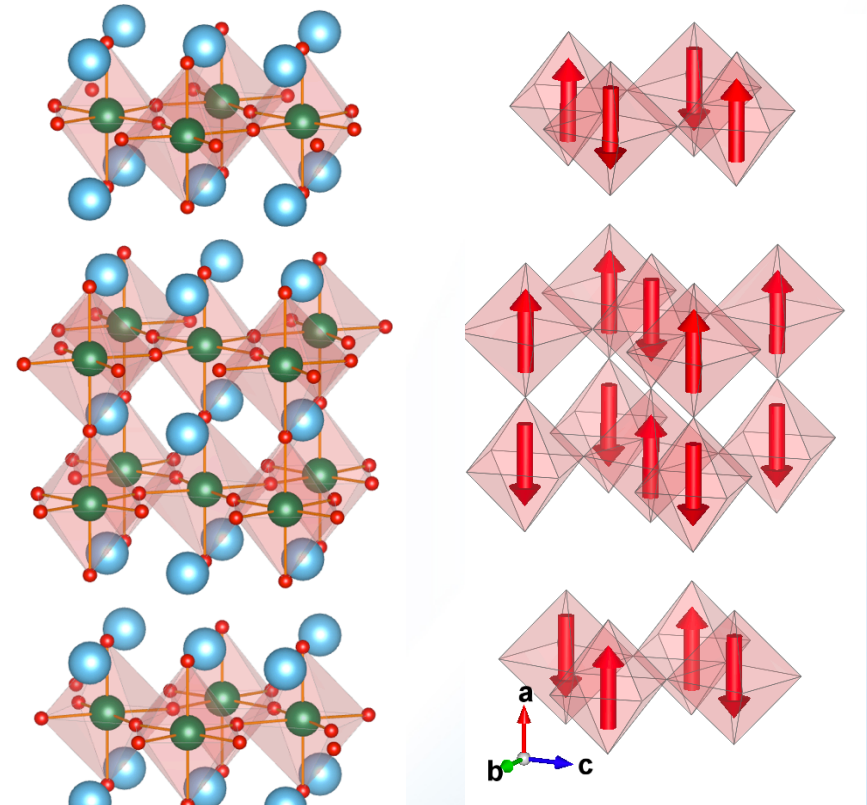
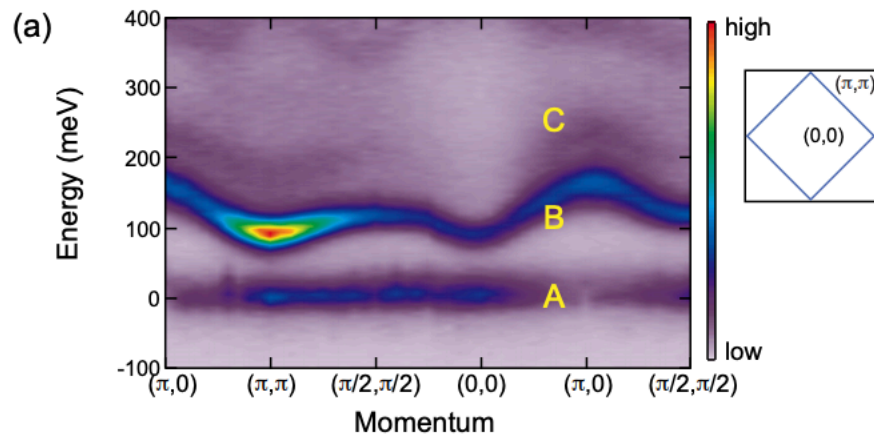
Charge channel: T_{fast} and T_{slow} from optical reflectivity

$\text{Sr}_3\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$

Bilayer AFM

Close to M-I transition

Big spin gap



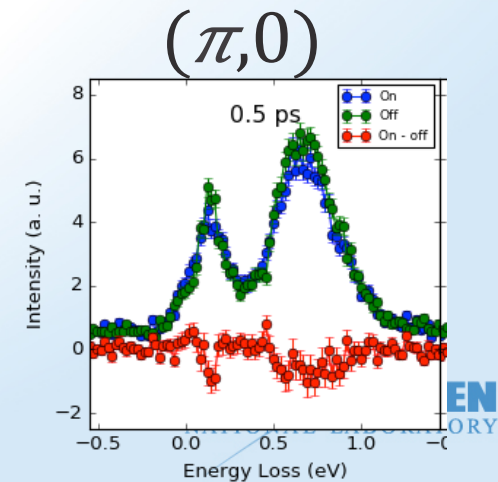
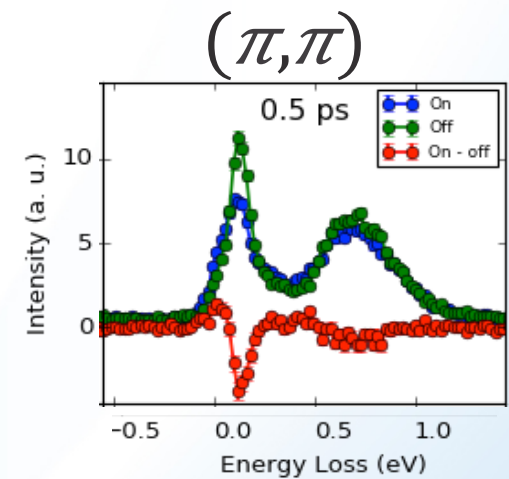
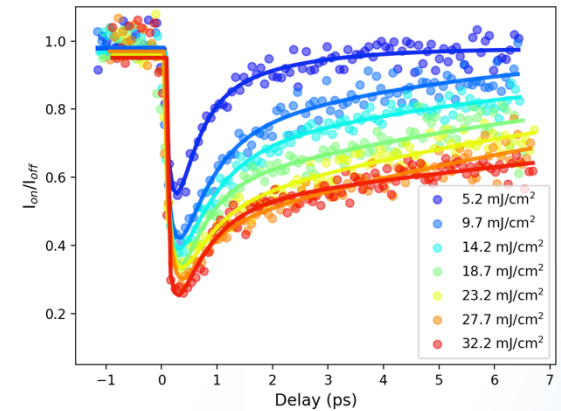
Jungho Kim et al., PRL (2012)

Data from $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$

Persistent magnon in transient state at 500 fs persisting for several ps

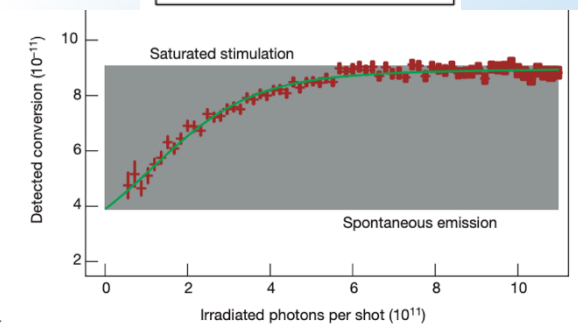
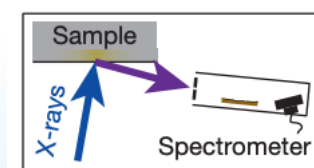
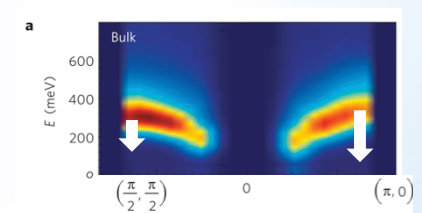
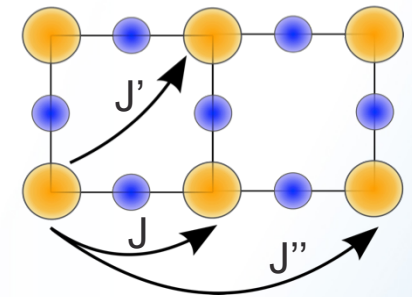
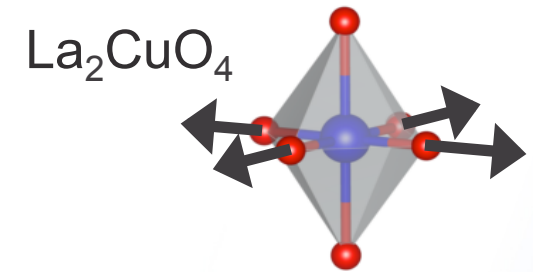
Dynamics at 500 fs at both symmetry points persisting for several ps.

Spin-gap bottleneck



Going forwards

- New instruments
 - NEH 2.2 LCLS-II
 - hRIXS at XFEL
 - SwissFEL
 - UK XFEL
- New ideas
 - Photo-control of magnetic exchange
 - Quasi-correlated states
 - Anti-Stokes processes
 - Stimulated RIXS



Conclusions

- First glimpse of transient magnetic correlations in photodoped Sr_2IrO_4 , $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$ & their recovery
- Opportunities in for deeper understanding of magnetism in quantum materials out of equilibrium

M. P. M. Dean, et al. *Nature Materials* **15** 601–605 (2016)

Y. Cao et al., *Phil. Trans.* **377** 20170480 (2019)

D. Meyers et al., *Sci Reports* **9** 4263 (2019)

D. G. Mazzone et al., “Trapped Transient Magnons in the Gapped Antiferromagnet $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ir}_2\text{O}_7$ ”, submitted (2019)