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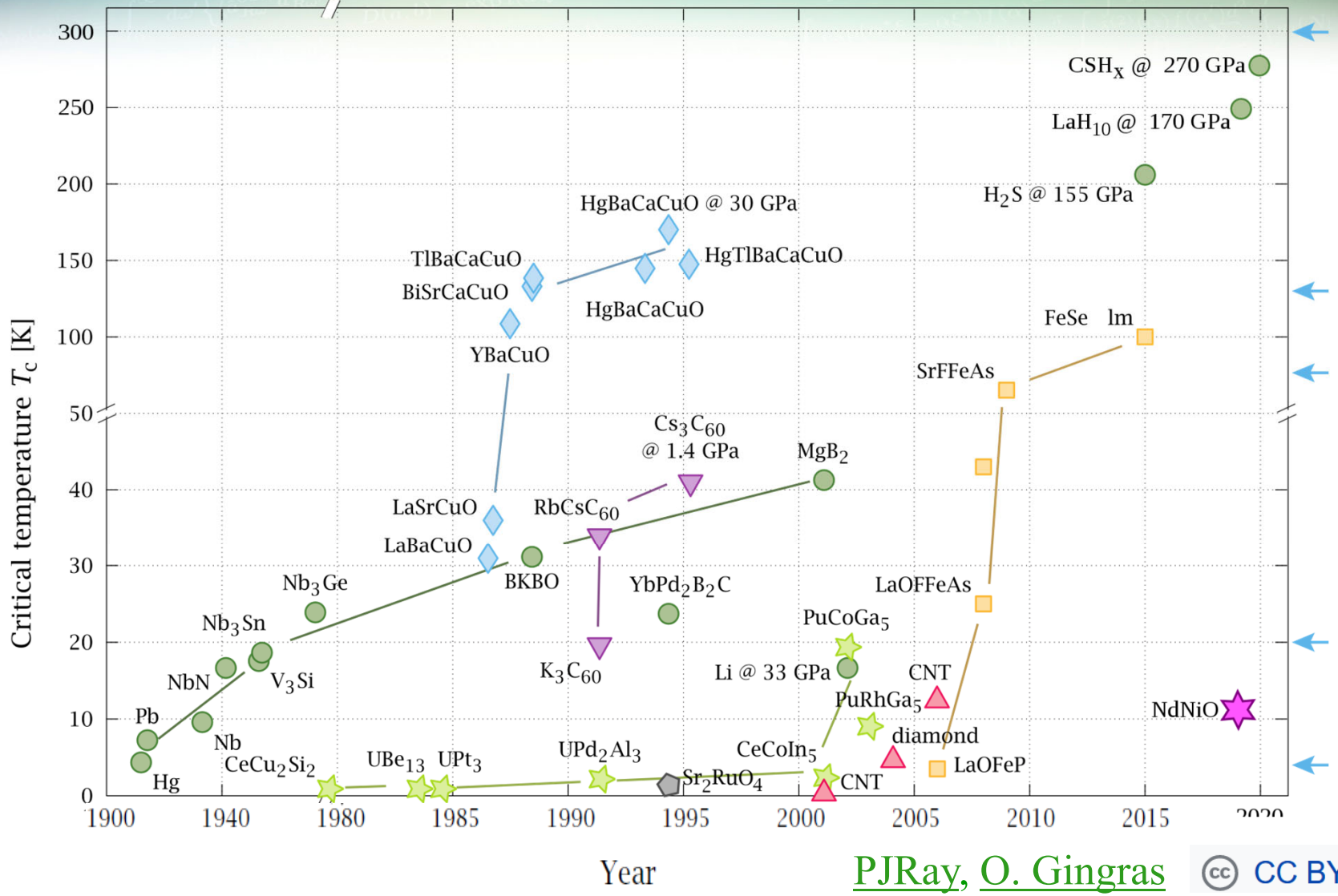
# Mechanism of Superconductivity in Cuprates : oxygen as a witness

**André-Marie Tremblay**  
**Université de Sherbrooke**  
**Institut quantique**

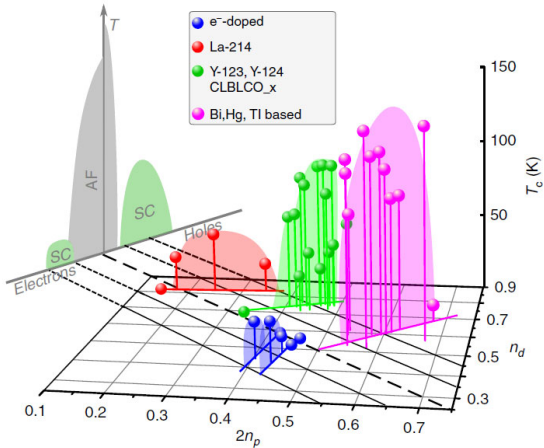
Paris, May – June 2023



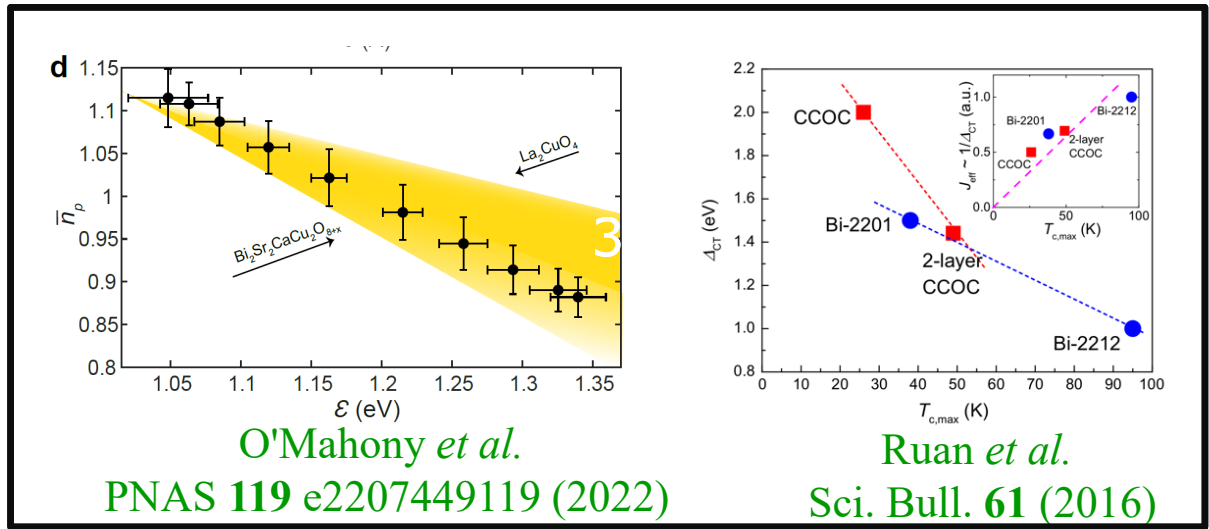
**Institut quantique**



# Three experimental observations on optimizing $T_c$

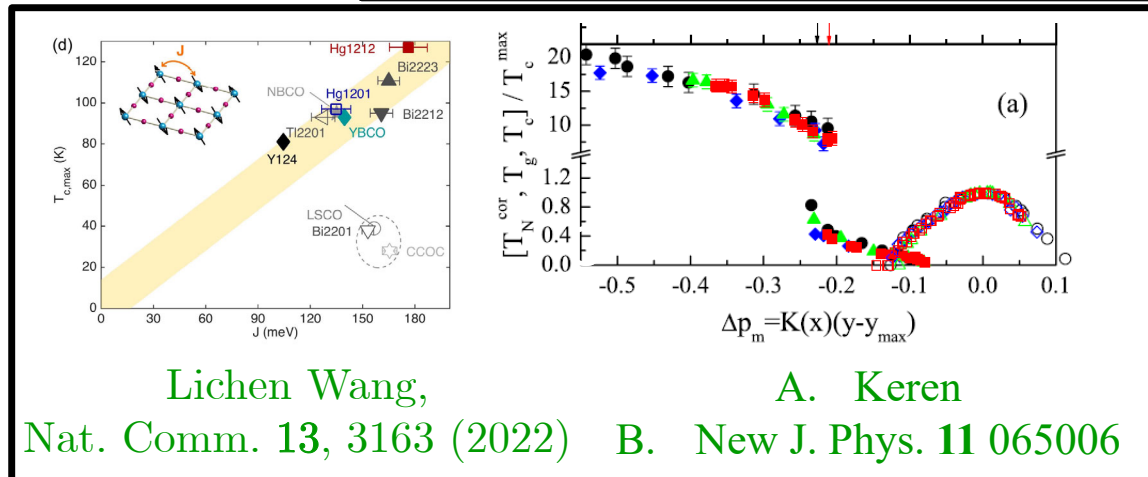


Rybicki, ... Haase,  
Nat. Comm. 7, 11413  
(2016)



O'Mahony *et al.*  
PNAS 119 e2207449119 (2022)

Ruan *et al.*  
Sci. Bull. 61 (2016)



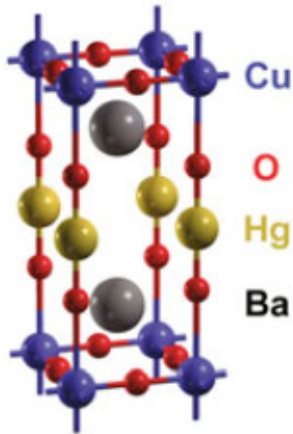
Lichen Wang,  
Nat. Comm. 13, 3163 (2022)

A. Keren  
B. New J. Phys. 11 065006

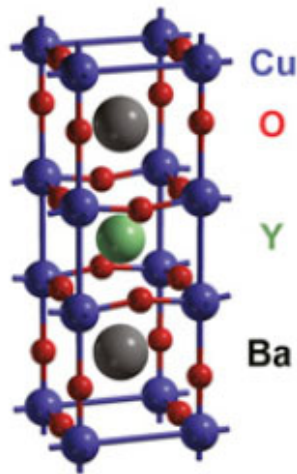
# There are different kinds of cuprates : All with $\text{CuO}_2$ planes

A

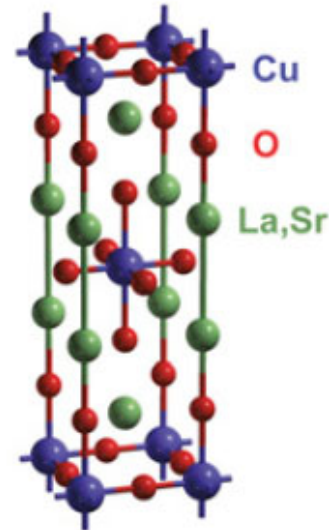
$\text{HgBa}_2\text{CuO}_{4+\delta}$   
(Hg1201)



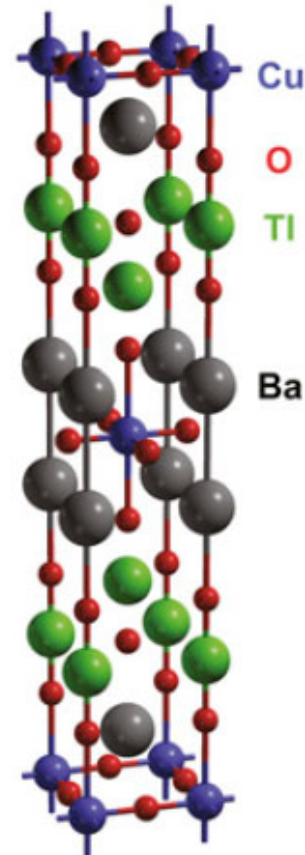
$\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6+\delta}$   
(YBCO)



$\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{CuO}_4$   
(LSCO)

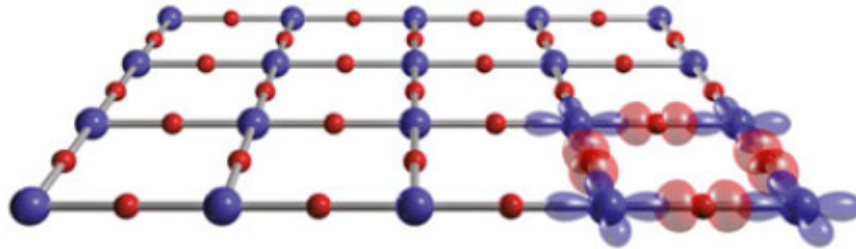


$\text{Tl}_2\text{Ba}_2\text{CuO}_{6+\delta}$   
(Tl2201)



© Barisic *et al.* PNAS **110**, 12235 (2013)

B





# Three-band (Emery VSA) Hubbard model



Sidhartha Dash



Nicolas Kowalski



Patrick Sémon



David Sénéchal

V. J. Emery, Phys. Rev. Lett. **58**, 2794 (1987)

C. M. Varma, S. Schmitt-Rink, and E. Abrahams, Solid State Communications **62**, 681–685 (1987), ISSN 0038-1098,

PNAS **118** (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# Outline



- Method for Hubbard-like models
- 3-band model
- Superconductivity
  - 3-band Model (Two classes)
  - Three experiments that tell us how to optimize  $T_c$ .
    - Pairing mechanism
    - Bonus
- Conclusion

# Method

## Solving the models

Metzner, Vollhardt PRL **62**, 324 (1989)

Georges, Kotliar, PRB **45**, 6479 (1992)

Jarrell PRL **69**, 168 (1992)

Review: Georges, Kotliar, Krauth, Rozenberg, RMP **68**, 13 (1996)

### Dynamical Mean-Field Theory : DMFT



# Method

## Cluster generalization of Dynamical Mean-Field Theory : DMFT

### REVIEWS

Maier, Jarrell et al., RMP. (2005)

Kotliar *et al.* RMP (2006)

AMST *et al.* LTP (2006)

Lichtenstein *et al.*, PRB 2000

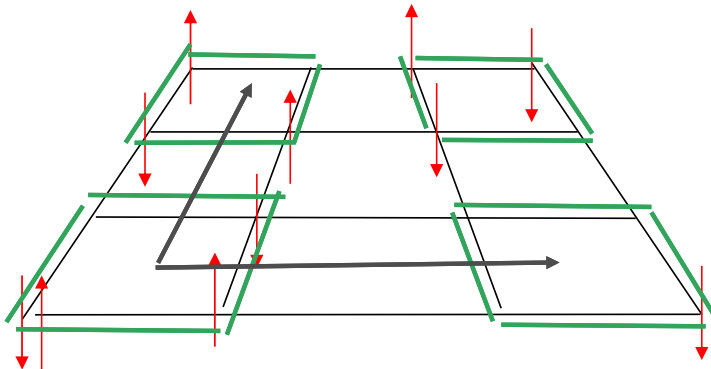
Kotliar *et al.*, PRB 2000

M. Potthoff, EJP 2003

# Localized and delocalized pictures **C-DMFT**

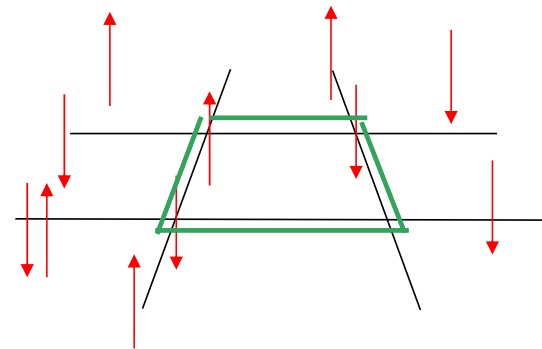


## Delocalized



$$\mathbf{R} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{k}}$$

## Localized



$$G_{ij} = \int \frac{d^d \tilde{\mathbf{k}}}{(2\pi)^d} \left( \frac{1}{(i\omega_n + \mu)I - \varepsilon(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}) - \Gamma_O(i\omega_n) - \Sigma(i\omega_n)} \right)_{ij} \quad (G^{-1})_{ij} = (G_0^{-1})_{ij} - \Sigma_{ij}$$

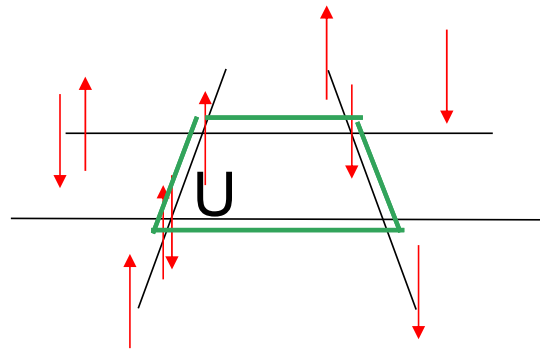
### REVIEWS

- Maier, Jarrell et al., RMP. (2005)
- Kotliar *et al.* RMP (2006)
- AMST *et al.* LTP (2006)

- Lichtenstein *et al.*, PRB 2000
- Kotliar *et al.*, PRB 2000
- M. Potthoff, EJP 2003

# Impurity solvers

# Impurity solver (Exact diagonalisation)



Caffarel, Krauth, PRL **72** 1545 (1994)

QCM David Sénéchal  
ArXiv: 2305.18643 (and Bitbucket)

# Some groups using these methods for cuprates

- Europe:
  - Georges, Parcollet, Ferrero, Civelli, Fratino (Paris)
  - Sordi (London), Lichtenstein, Potthoff, (Hamburg) Aichhorn (Graz), Liebsch (Jülich) de Medici (Grenoble) Capone (Italy)
- USA:
  - Gull (Michigan) Millis (Columbia)
  - Kotliar, Haule (Rutgers)
  - Jarrell (Louisiana)
  - Maier, Okamoto (Oakridge)
- Japan
  - Imada (Tokyo) Sakai, Tsunetsugu, Motome
- China
  - Wei Wu ...

# Critique of the method: advantages and limitations



## + and -

- Long range order:
  - No mean-field factorization on the cluster
  - Symmetry breaking allowed in the bath
  - Pairing dynamically through the bath
- Included exactly:
  - Short-range dynamical and spatial correlations
- Missing:
  - Long wavelength p-h and p-p fluctuations
  - Hence good when the corresponding correlation lengths are small
  - Exact as cluster size increases

# Three-band (Emery VSA) Hubbard model



Sidhartha Dash



Nicolas Kowalski



Patrick Sémon



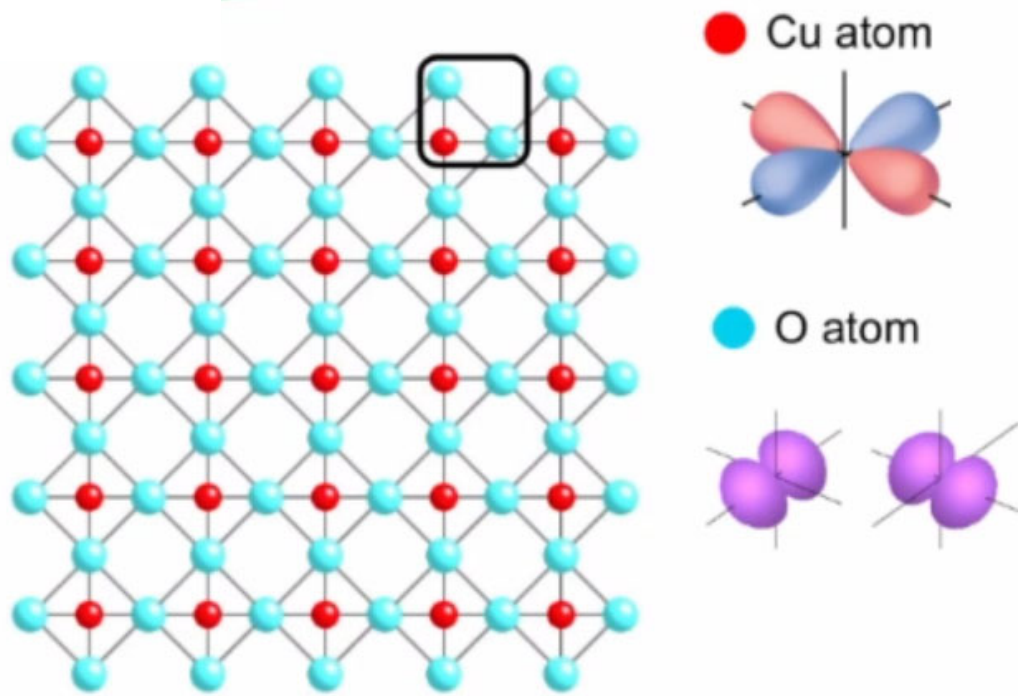
David Sénéchal

V. J. Emery, Phys. Rev. Lett. **58**, 2794 (1987)

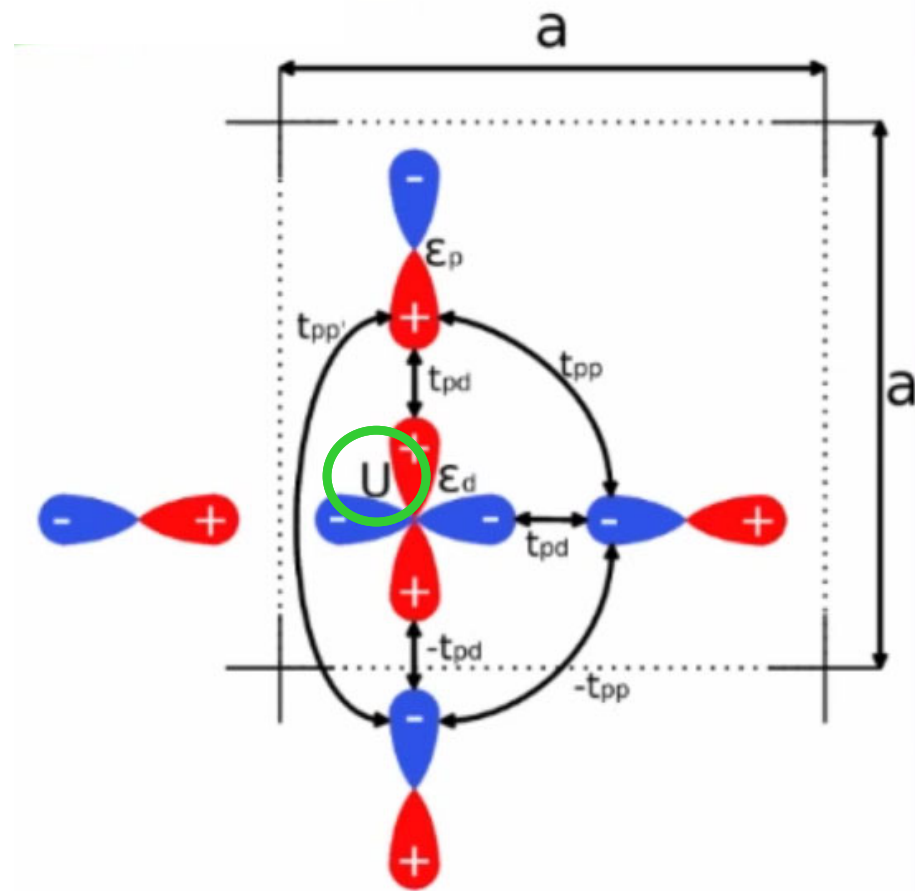
C. M. Varma, S. Schmitt-Rink, and E. Abrahams, Solid State Communications **62**, 681–685 (1987), ISSN 0038-1098,

PNAS **118** (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# Copper and oxygen planes



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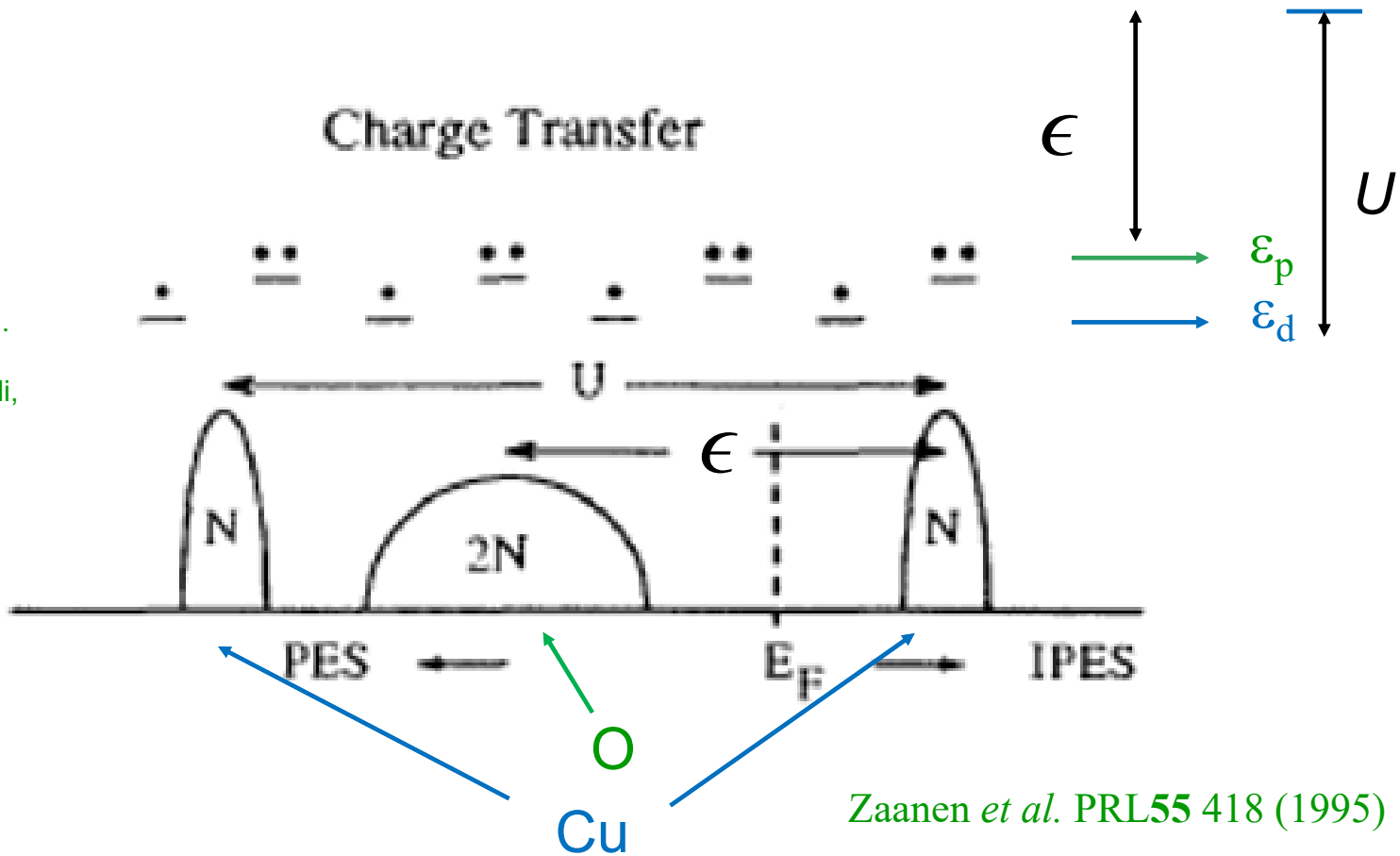


© Nicolas Kowalski

# Cartoon of the charge transfer insulator



## Charge Transfer

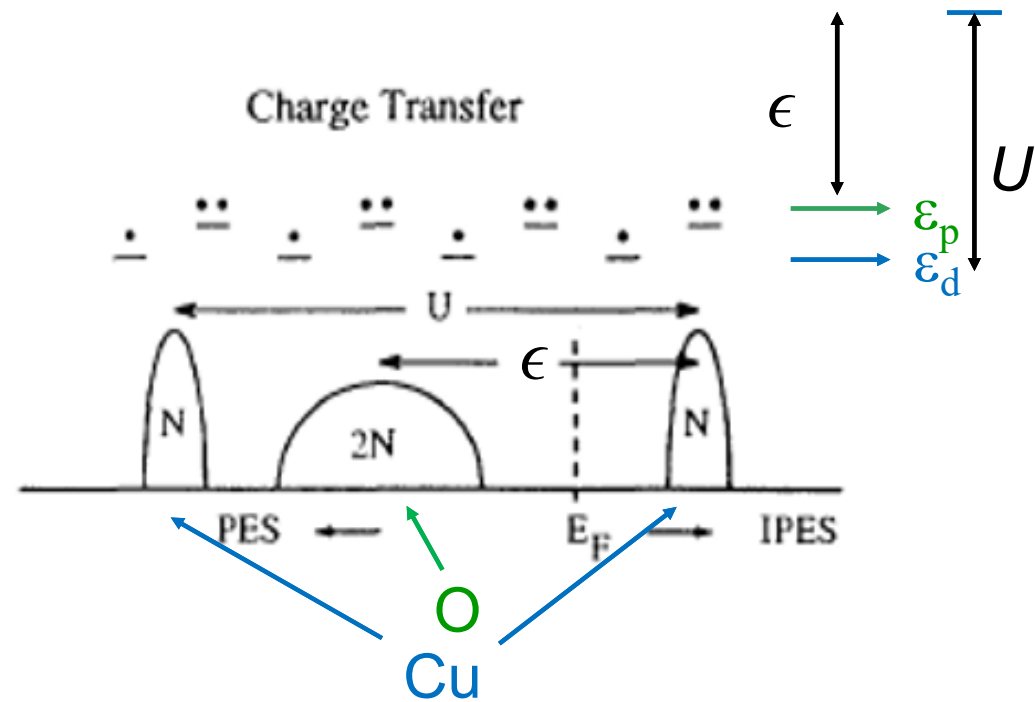
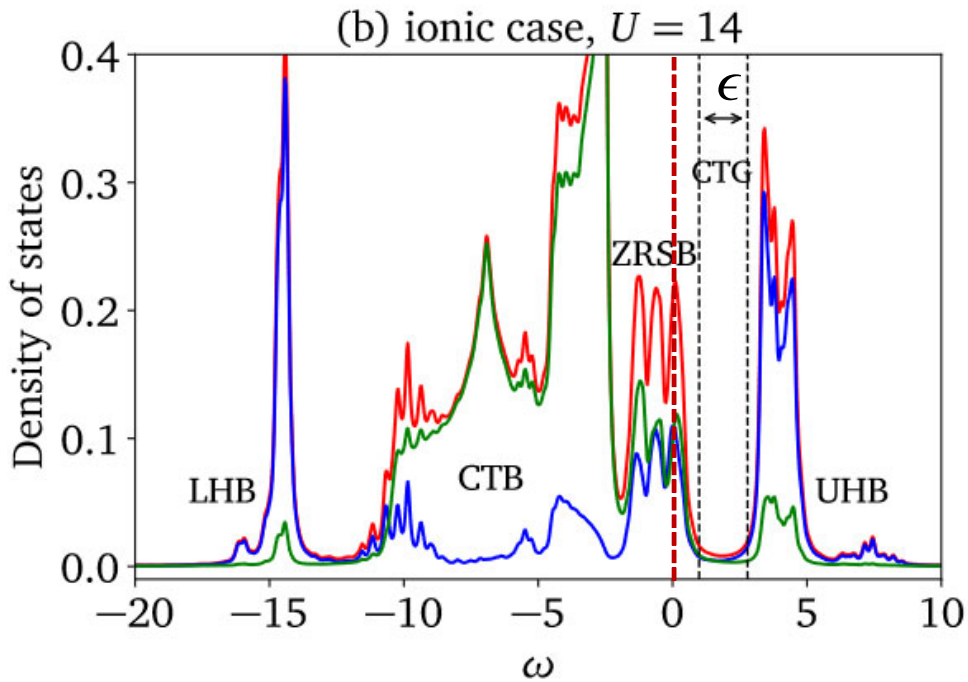


Zaanen *et al.* PRL55 418 (1995)

From Meinders *et al.* PRB 48, 3916 (1993)

C. Weber, T. Giamarchi, C. M. Varma, PRL **112**, 117001  
 L. Fratino, P. Sémon, G. Sordi, A.-M. S. T. PRB **93**, 245147 (2016)  
 Z.-H. Cui PRR **2**, 043259  
 M. Zegrodnik, *et al.* J. Phys. Cond Mat **33**, 415601  
 P. Mai, *et al.* NPJ Quantum Mater. **6**, 1–5  
 P. Mai *et al.*, PRB **103**, 144514 (2021).

# "Ionic" limiting case



Meinders *et al.* PRB **48**, 3916 (1993)

Zaanen *et al.* PRL **55** 418 (1995) 53

# The strategy



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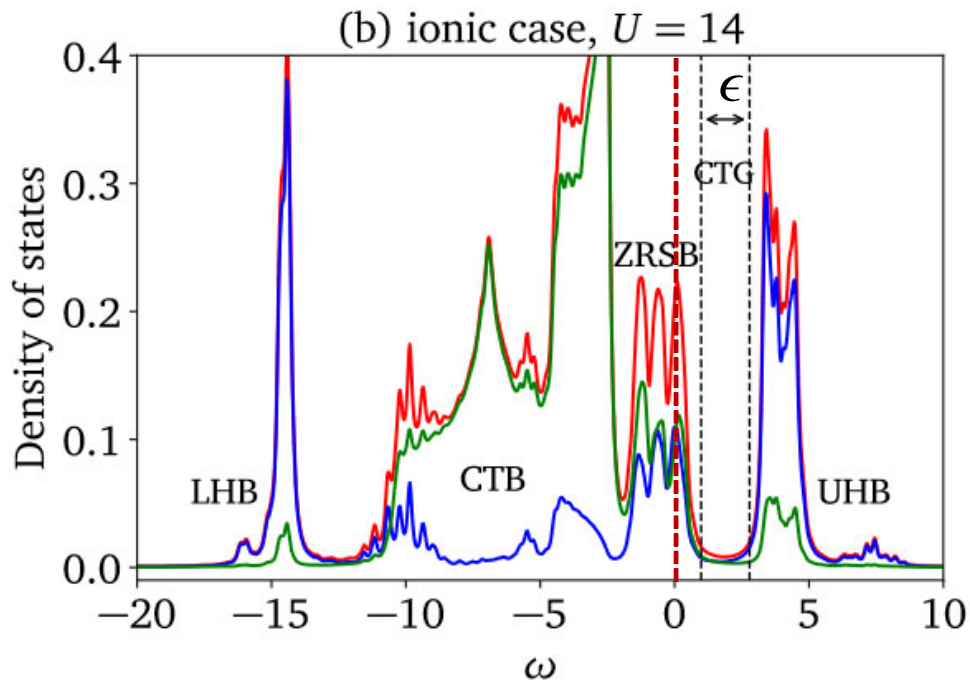
# The strategy

- Variations in microscopic parameters in Hamiltonian
  - "Ionic" class of models
    - Large value of  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d$
  - "Covalent" class of models
    - Smaller and more realistic value of  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d$

# Ionic limiting case



# "Ionic" limiting cases



- $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 7.0$ ,  $t_{pd} = 1.5$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 1.0$

Also, Fratino, Sémon, Sordi, AMT, PRB **93**, 245147 (2016)

# Covalent limiting case " Realistic model"

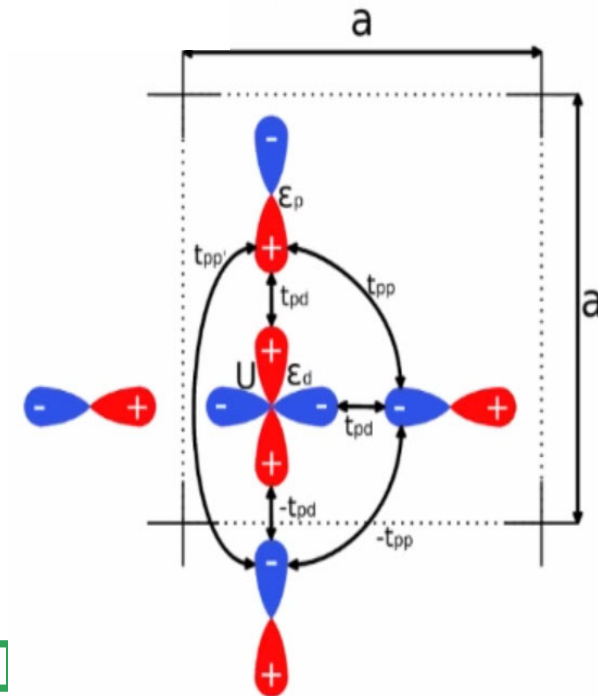
Hohenberg-Kohn : Exchange correlation

Kohn-Sham : Basis set

Density Functional Theory

# Electronic structure

	Compound	$\epsilon_d - \epsilon_p$ (eV)	$t_{pd}$ (eV)	$t_{pp}$ (eV)	$t_{pp'}$ (eV)	$t'/t$	layers	$d_{\text{Cu-O}}^{\text{apical}}$ (Å)	$T_c$ (K)
(1)	La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>4</sub>	2.61	1.39	0.640	0.103	0.070	1	2.3932	38
(2)	Pb <sub>2</sub> Sr <sub>2</sub> YCu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	2.32	1.30	0.673	0.160	0.108	2	2.3104	70
(3)	Ca <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	2.21	1.27	0.623	0.132	0.085	1	2.7539	26
(4)	La <sub>2</sub> CaCu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	2.20	1.31	0.644	0.152	0.120	2	2.2402	45
(5)	Sr <sub>2</sub> Nd <sub>2</sub> NbCu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>10</sub>	2.10	1.25	0.612	0.144	0.110	2	2.0450	28
(6)	Bi <sub>2</sub> Sr <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>6</sub>	2.06	1.36	0.677	0.153	0.105	1	2.5885	24
(7)	YBa <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	2.05	1.28	0.673	0.150	0.110	2	2.0936	93
(8)	HgBa <sub>2</sub> CaCu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	1.93	1.28	0.663	0.187	0.133	2	2.8053	127
(9)	HgBa <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>4</sub>	1.93	1.25	0.649	0.161	0.122	1	2.7891	90
(10)	Sr <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	1.87	1.15	0.590	0.140	0.108	1	2.8585	30
(11a)	HgBa <sub>2</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (outer)	1.87	1.29	0.674	0.184	0.141	3	2.7477	135
(11b)	HgBa <sub>2</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> (inner)	1.94	1.29	0.656	0.167	0.124	3	2.7477	135
(12)	Tl <sub>2</sub> Ba <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>6</sub>	1.79	1.27	0.630	0.150	0.121	1	2.7143	90
(13)	LaBa <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	1.77	1.13	0.620	0.188	0.144	2	2.2278	79
(14)	Bi <sub>2</sub> Sr <sub>2</sub> CaCu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	1.64	1.34	0.647	0.133	0.106	2	2.0033	95
(15)	Tl <sub>2</sub> Ba <sub>2</sub> CaCu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	1.27	1.29	0.638	0.140	0.131	2	2.0601	110
(16a)	Bi <sub>2</sub> Sr <sub>2</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (outer)	1.24	1.32	0.617	0.159	0.138	3	1.7721	108
(16a)	Bi <sub>2</sub> Sr <sub>2</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>10</sub> (inner)	2.24	1.32	0.678	0.198	0.121	3	1.7721	108

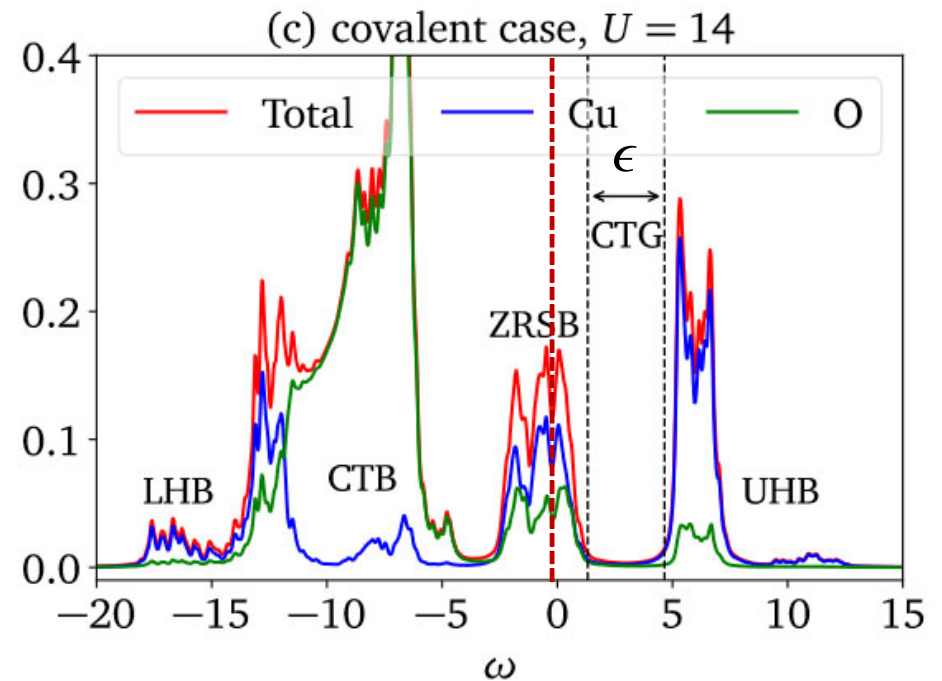


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Weber, Yee, Haule, Kotliar, EPL 100, 2012

# "Covalent" models ( $T = 0$ )

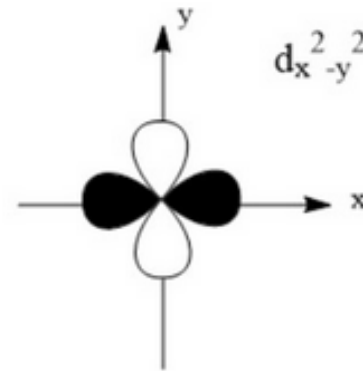
"Realistic"



○  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 2.3$ ,  $t_{pd} = 2.1$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 0.2$



# d-wave Superconductivity



# Order parameter



$$2\hat{\Delta} = \sum_{\langle i \rangle_x} (d_{i,\uparrow} d_{j,\downarrow} - d_{i,\downarrow} d_{j,\uparrow}) - \sum_{\langle i \rangle_y} (d_{i,\uparrow} d_{j,\downarrow} - d_{i,\downarrow} d_{j,\uparrow}) + \text{H.c.},$$

$$\langle \hat{\Delta} \rangle = \oint \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \frac{d^2 \tilde{\mathbf{k}}}{(2\pi)^2} \text{tr} \left[ \tilde{\Delta}(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}) \tilde{\mathbf{G}}(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}, \omega) \right]$$

Average per site
Green function from CDMFT

Reduced wave vector

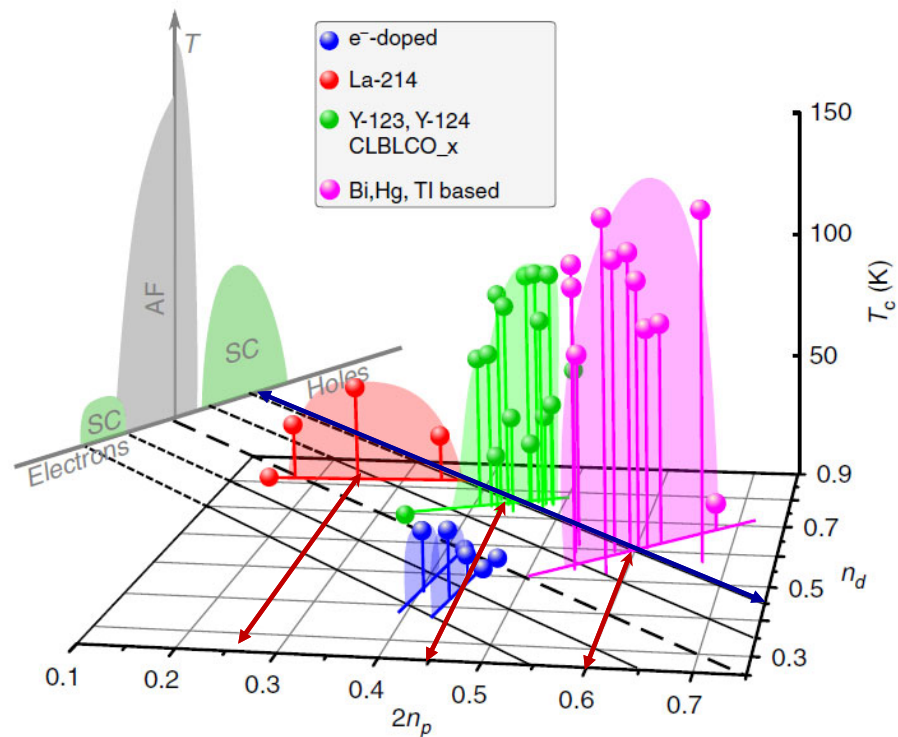


# #1 Optimizing $T_c$ with oxygen hole content

# #1 Optimizing $T_c$ with oxygen hole content

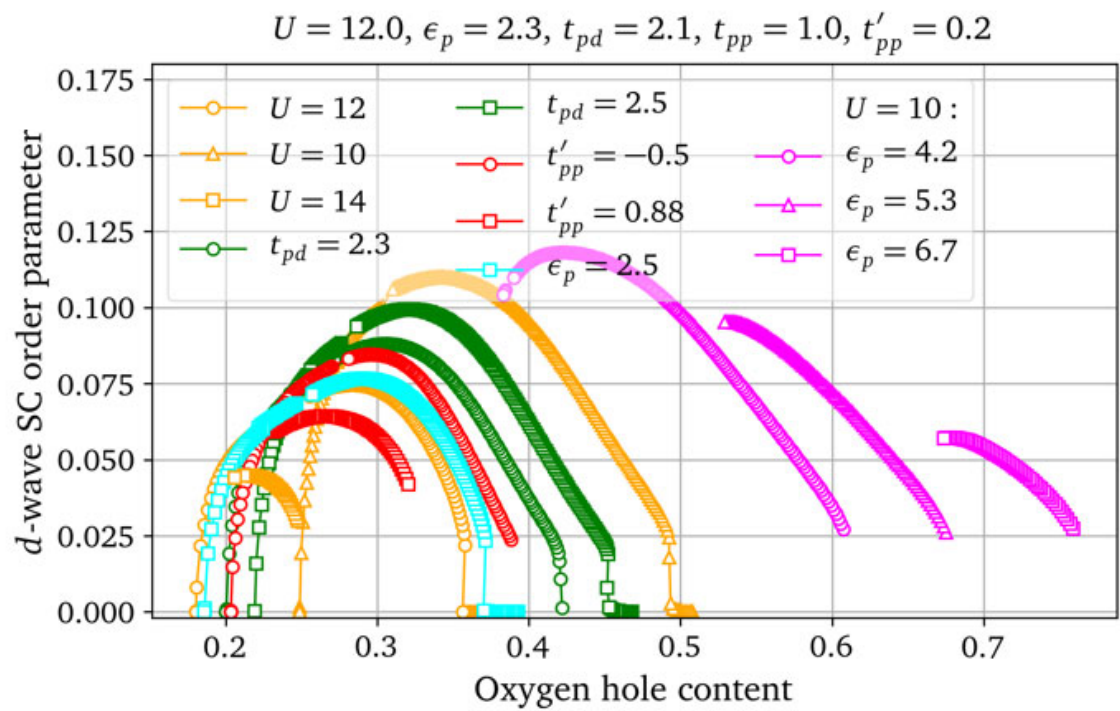
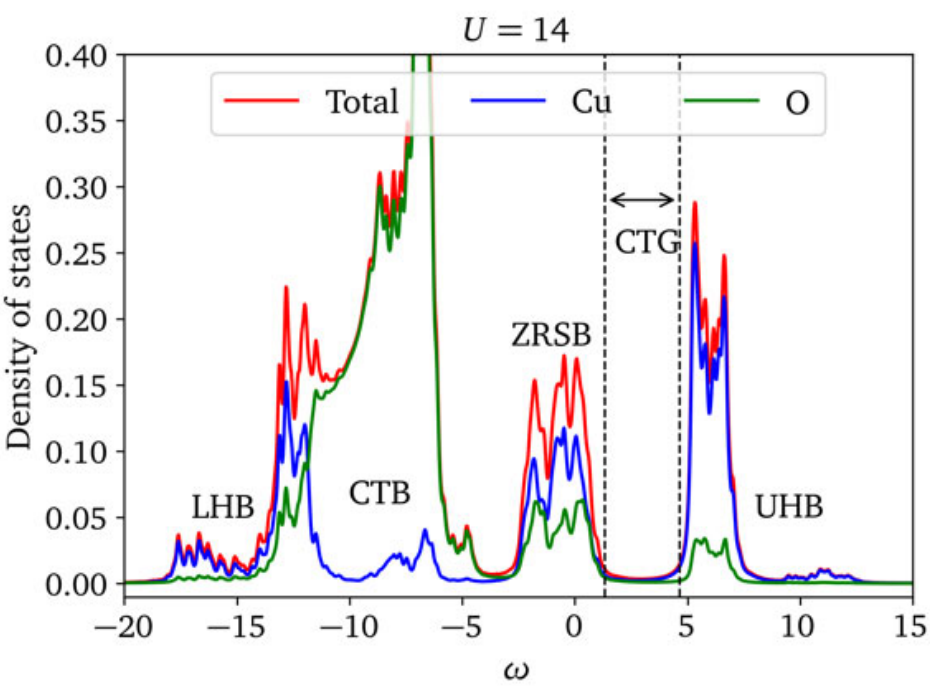


$$n = n_d + 2n_p$$



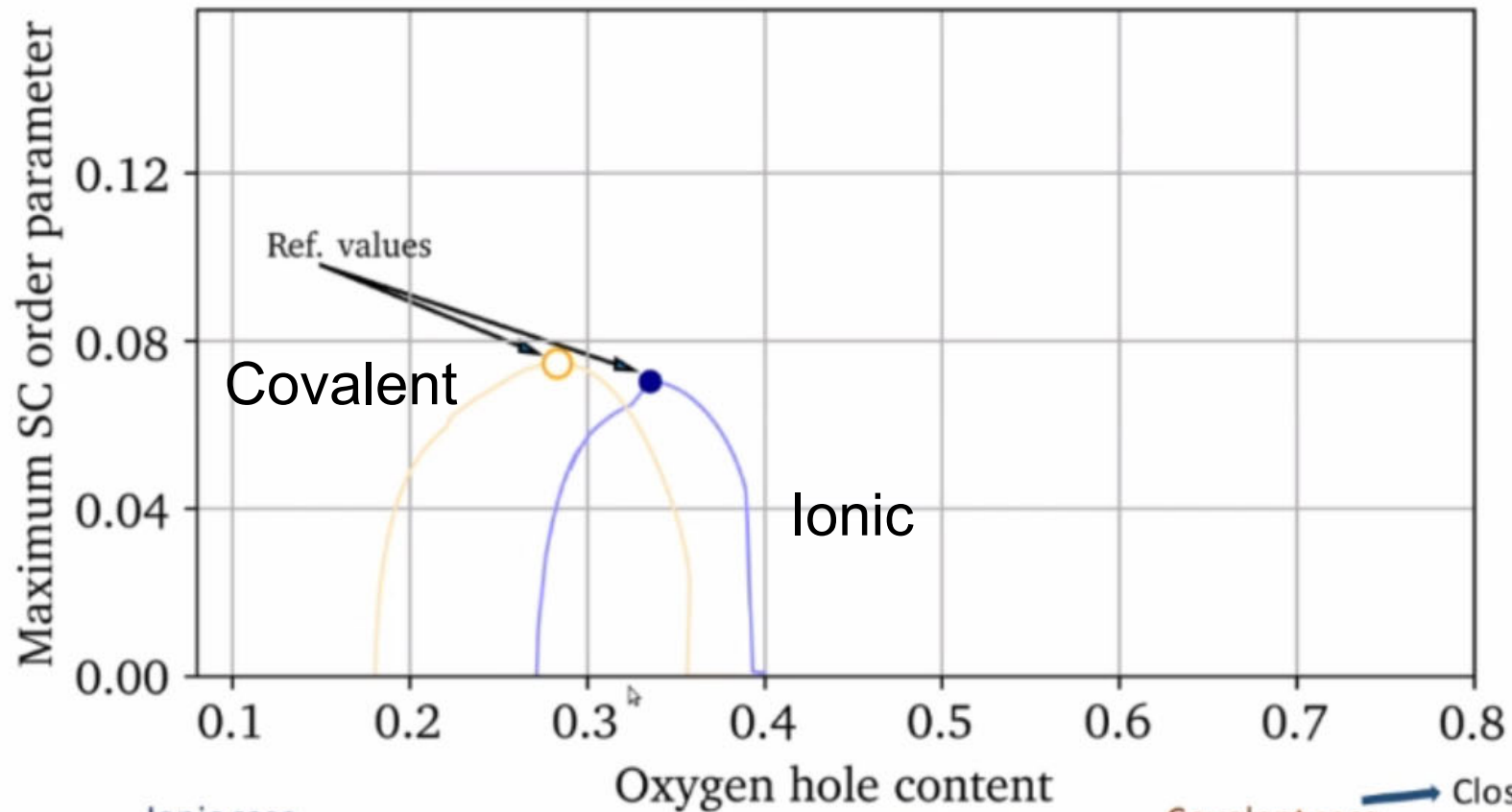
Rybicki,, Haase, Nat. Comm. 7, 11413 (2016)

# $T = 0$ superconducting domes for the covalent models



Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
 PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

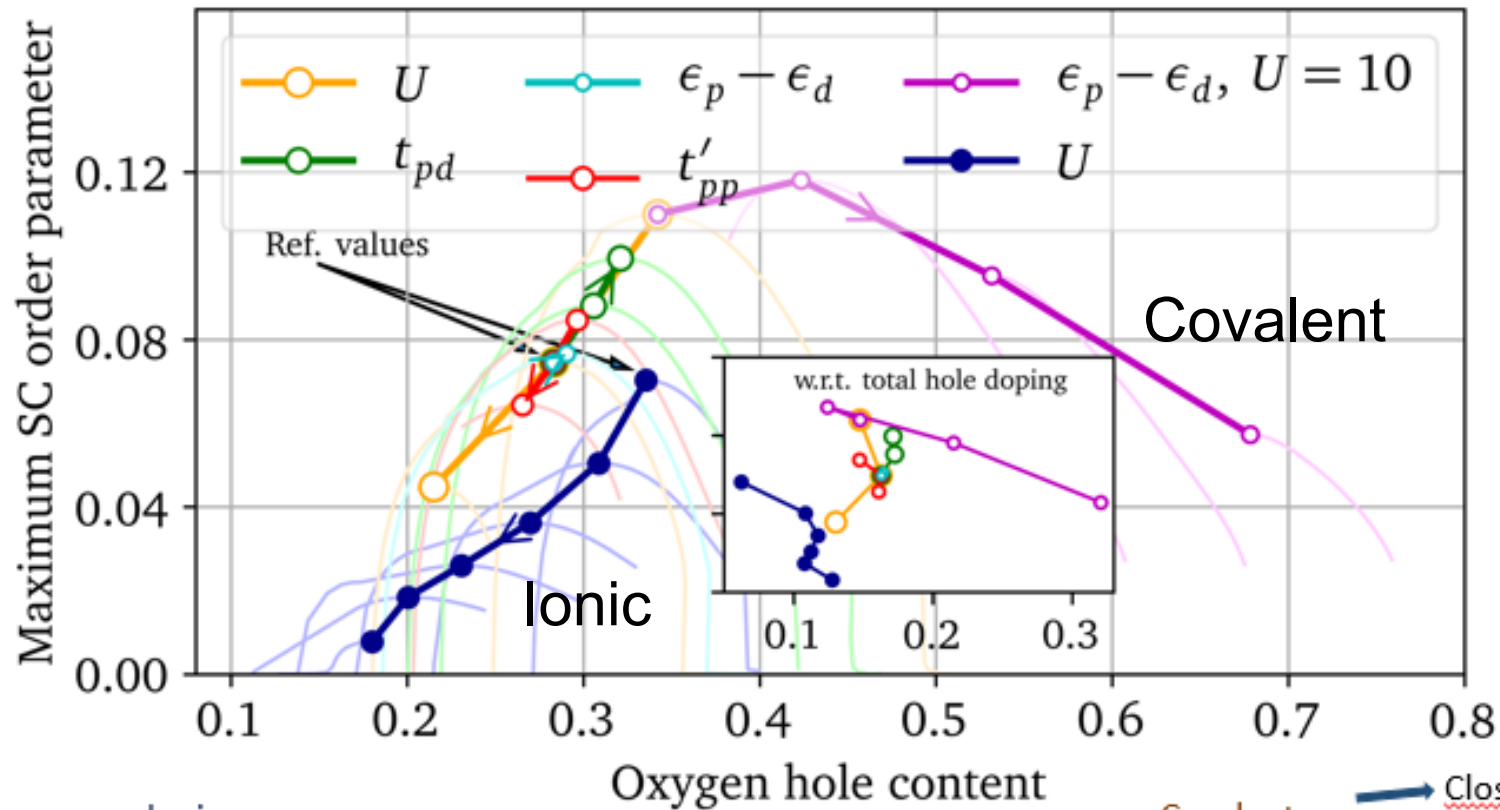
# $T = 0$ superconducting domes for the reference models



- $U = 12$ ,  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 7.0$ ,  $t_{pd} = 1.5$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 1.0$  (Ionic case)
- $U = 12$ ,  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 2.3$ ,  $t_{pd} = 2.1$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 0.2$  (Covalent case)

Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
 PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# $T = 0$ max order parameter for the two models



●  $U = 12$ ,  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 7.0$ ,  $t_{pd} = 1.5$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 1.0$ 
○  $U = 12$ ,  $\epsilon_p - \epsilon_d = 2.3$ ,  $t_{pd} = 2.1$ ,  $t_{pp} = 1.0$ ,  $t'_{pp} = 0.2$

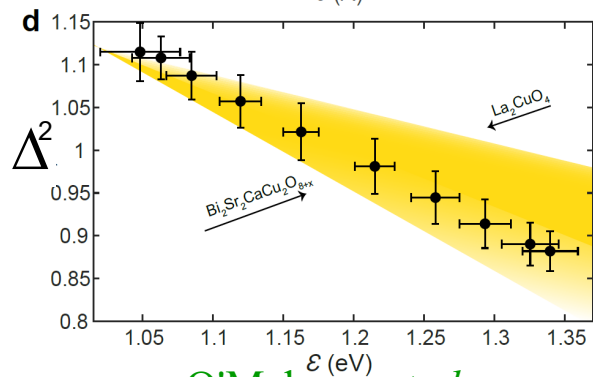
Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T. PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# #2 Optimizing $T_c$ with Charge Transfer gap $\epsilon$

(Oxygen as a witness)

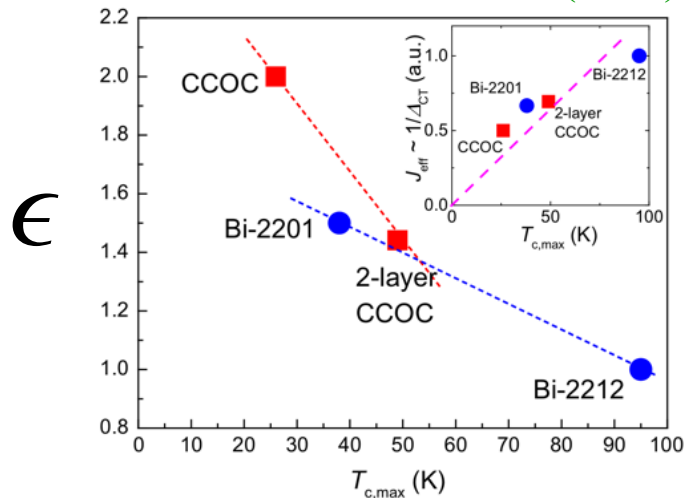


## #2 Optimizing $T_c$ with CT gap $\epsilon$ (Oxygen as a witness)

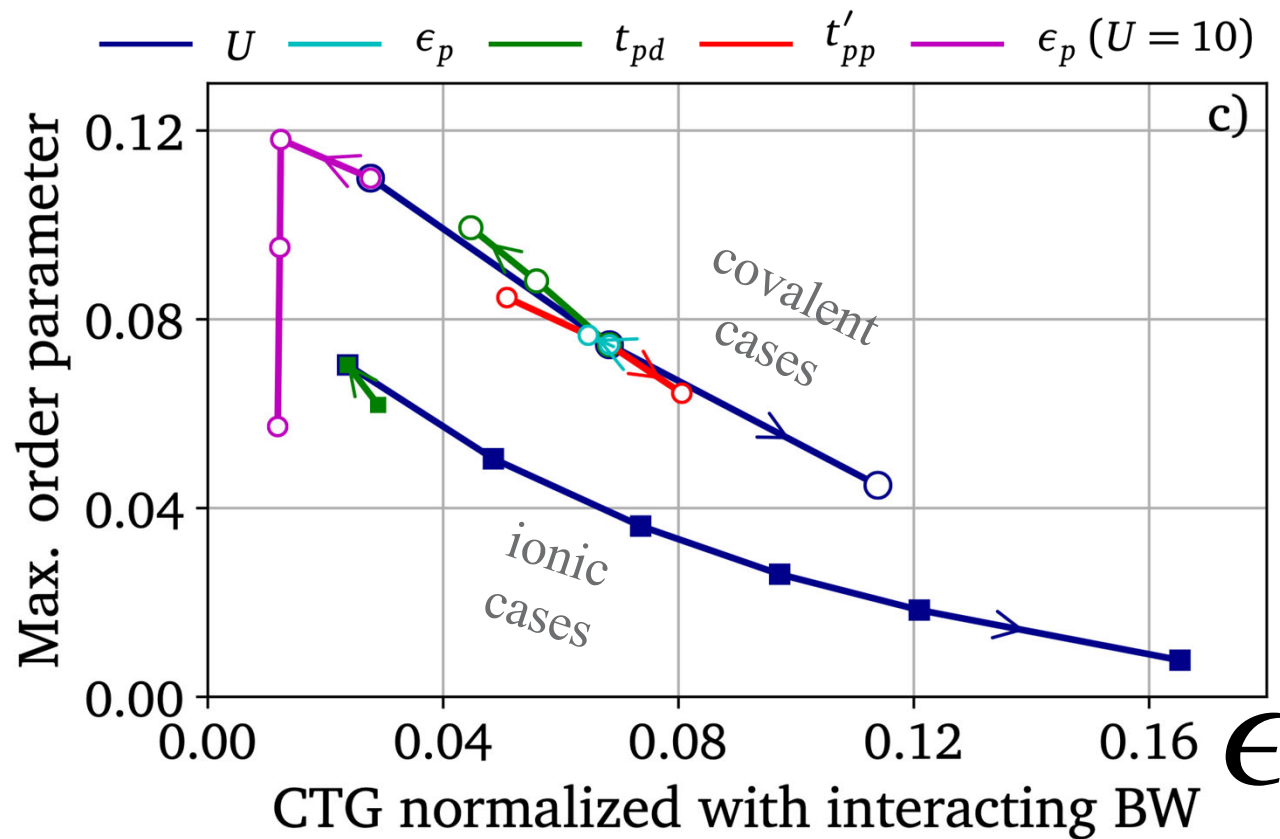


O'Mahony *et al.*

PNAS 119 e2207449119 (2022)

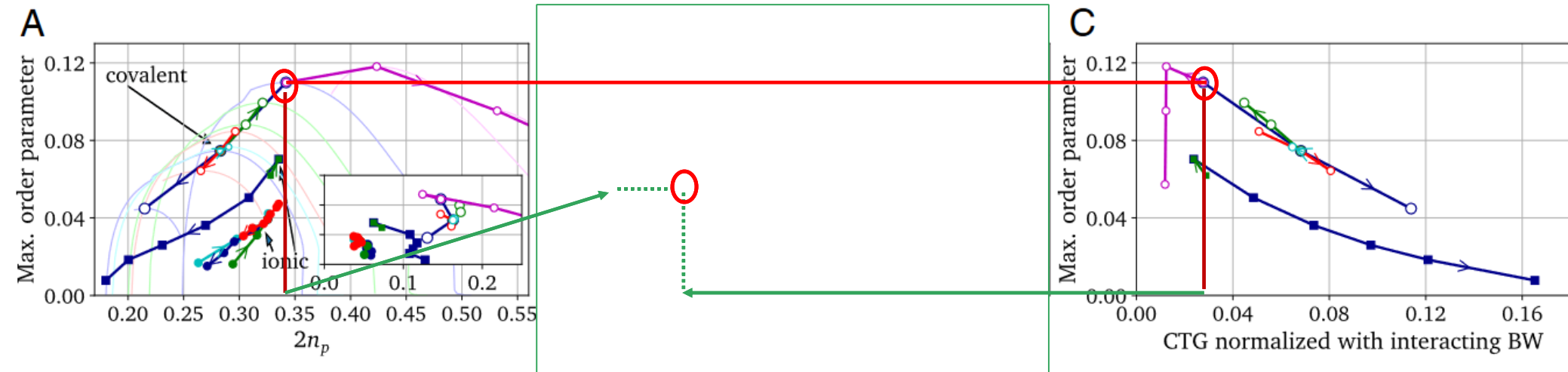


Ruan *et al.* Sci. Bull. 61 (2016)

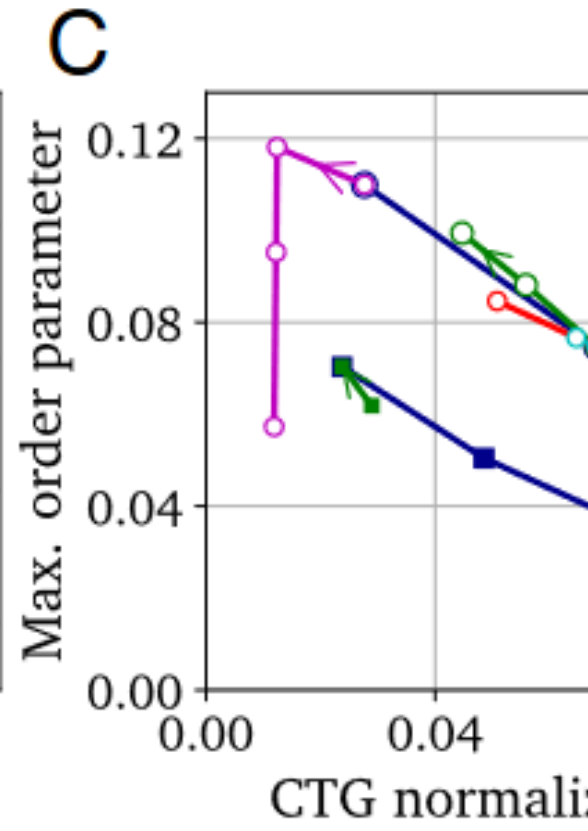
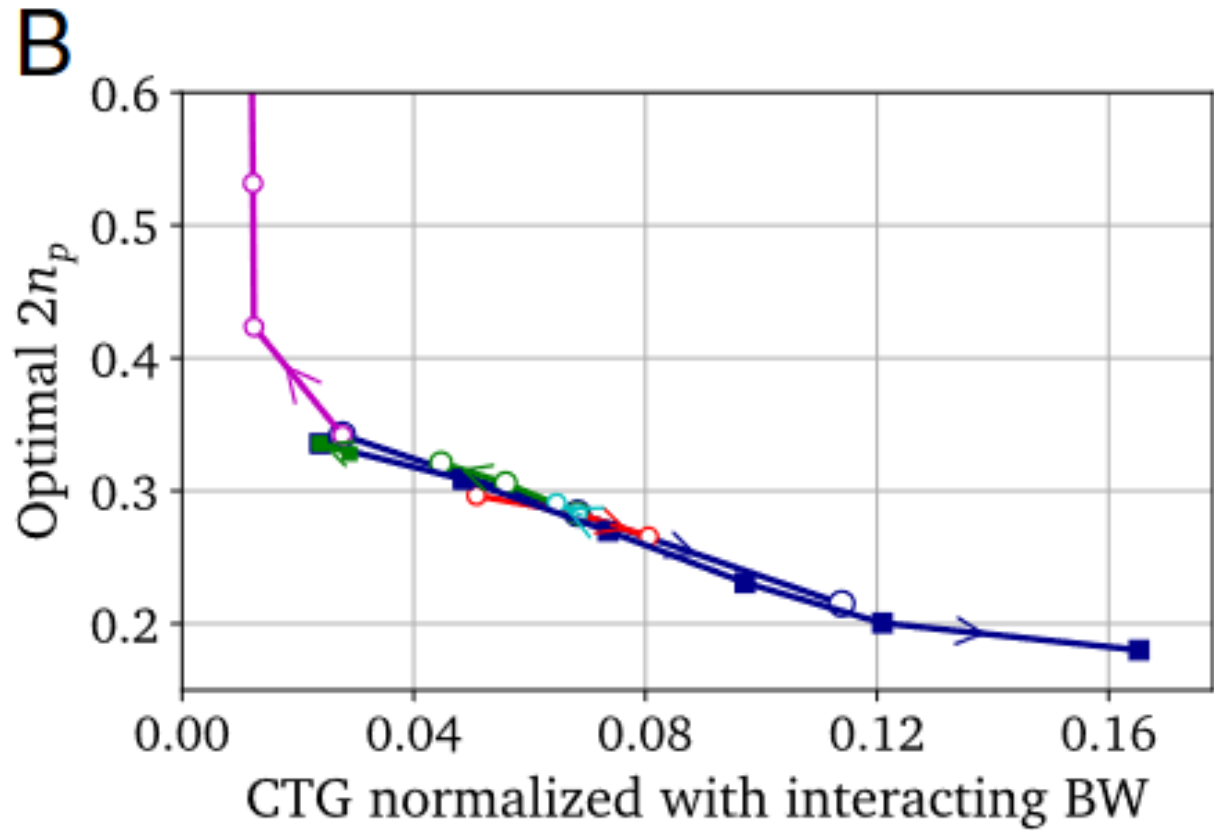
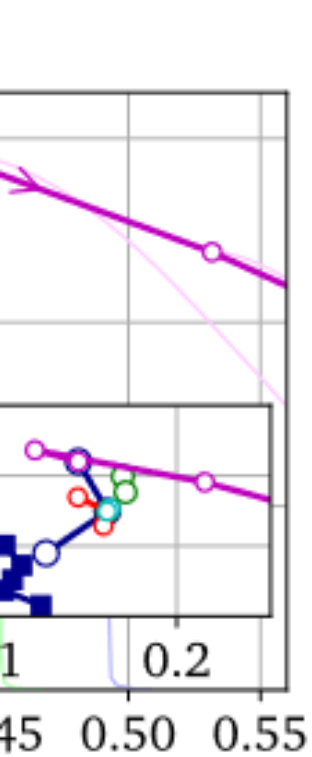


Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# Oxygen hole content OR charge transfer gap?

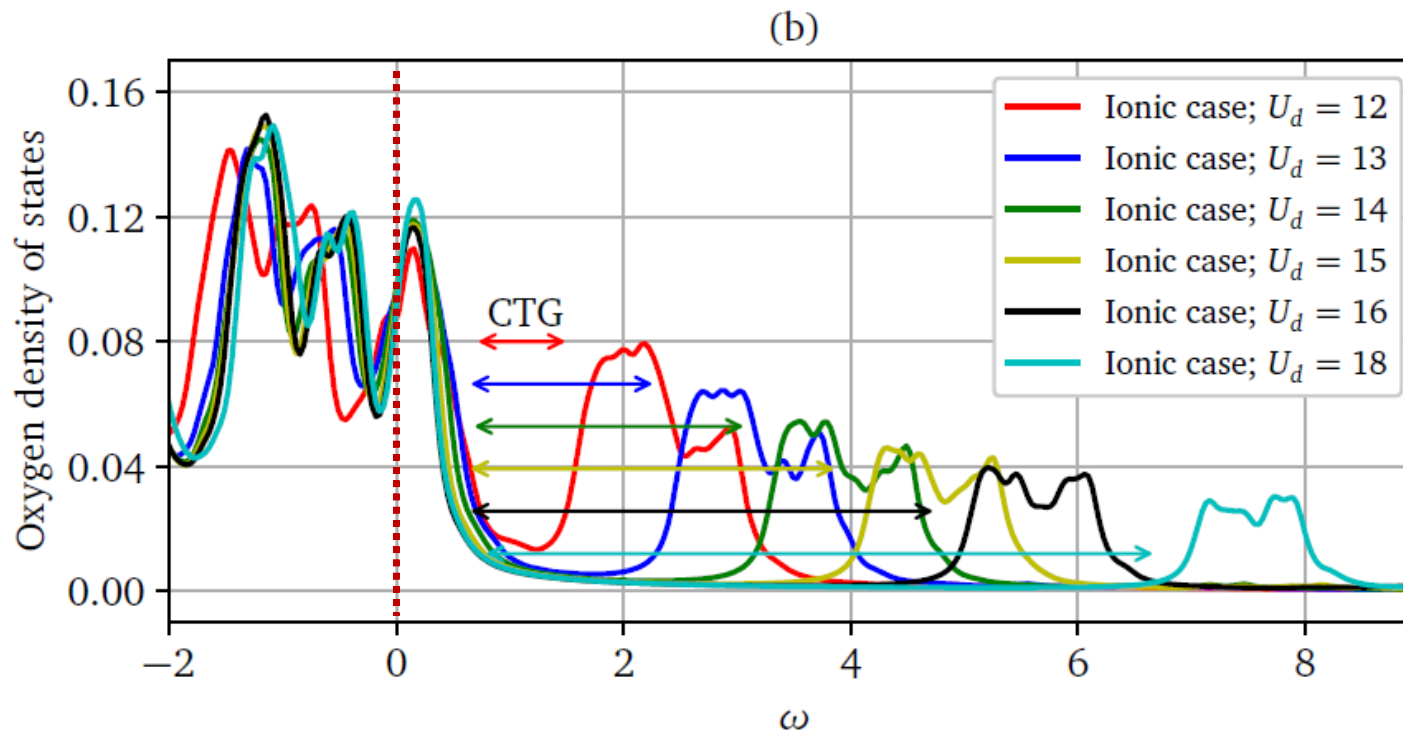


# Charge-transfer gap, oxygen hole content



Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
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# Charge transfer gap and oxygen hole content : Oxygen as a witness



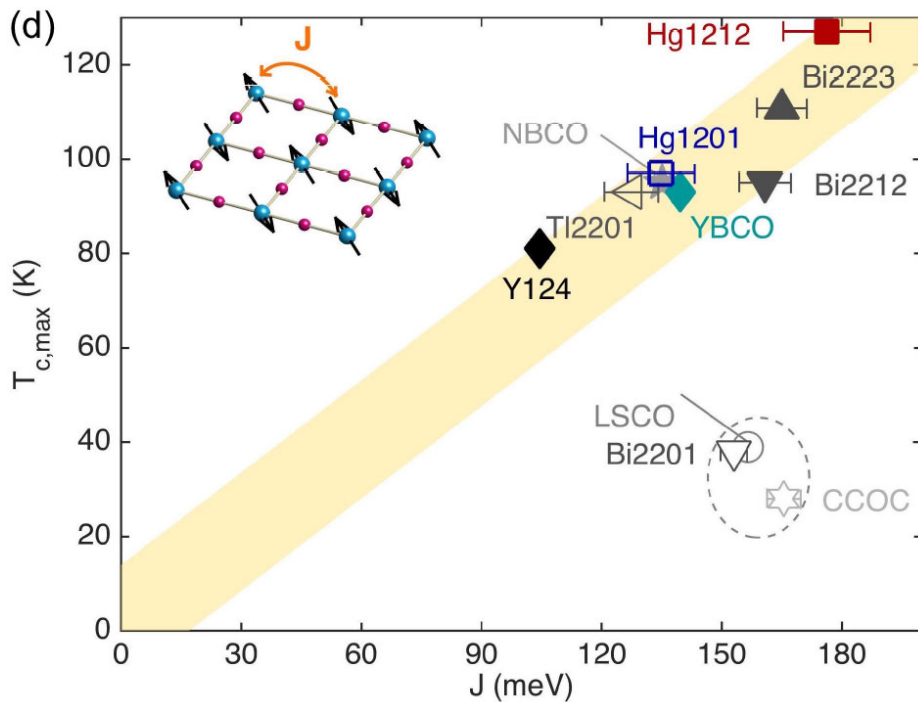
© Sidhartha Dash

# #3 Optimizing $T_c$ with superexchange

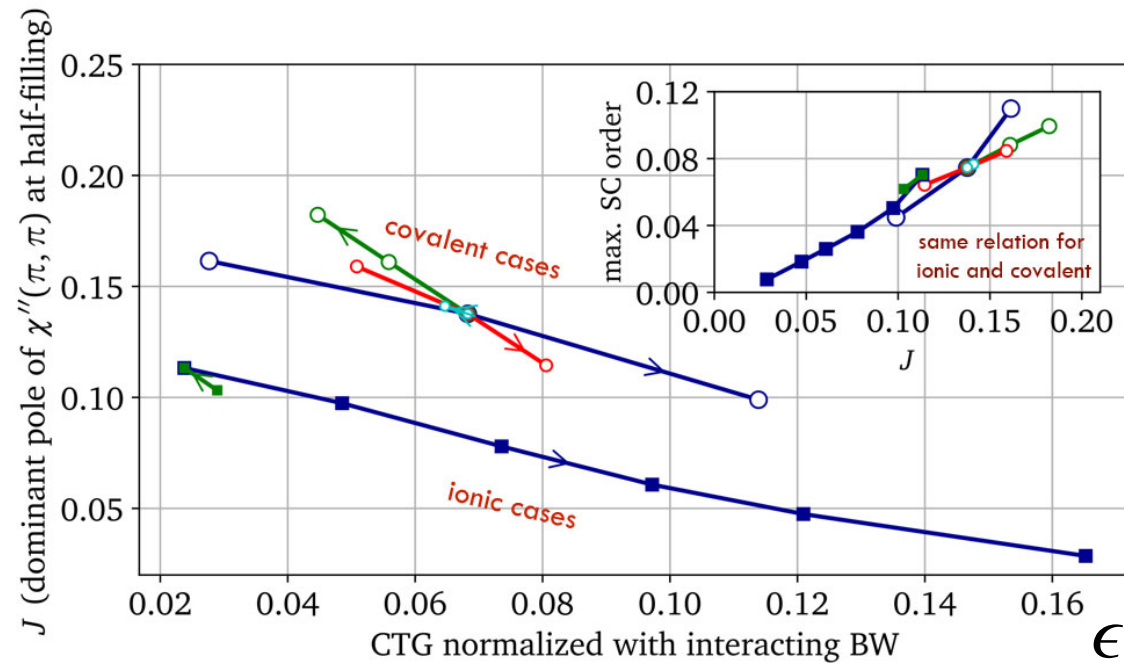
# #3 Optimizing $T_c$ with superexchange

E. Müller-Hartmann *et al.* Eur. Phys. J. B **28**, 173 (2002)

$$J = \frac{4t_{pd}^4(U+\epsilon)}{U\epsilon^3} \rightarrow_{U \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4t_{pd}^4}{\epsilon^3}$$

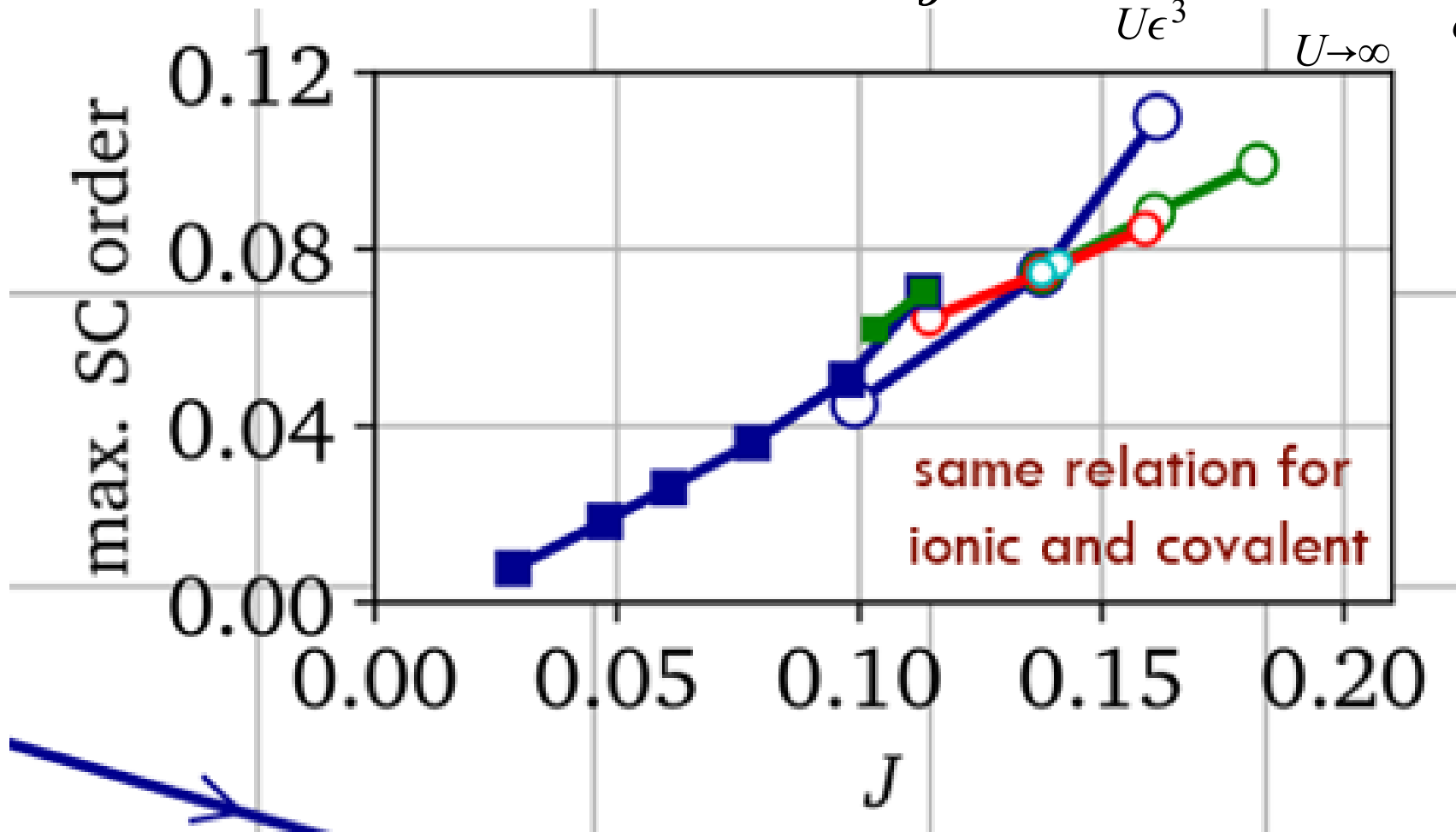


Lichen Wang *et al.*  
Nat. Comm. **13**, 3163 (2022)



# Super exchange

$$J = \frac{4t_{pd}^4(U+\epsilon)}{U\epsilon^3} \rightarrow \frac{4t_{pd}^4}{\epsilon^3} \quad U \rightarrow \infty$$



## Other references on the three-band model

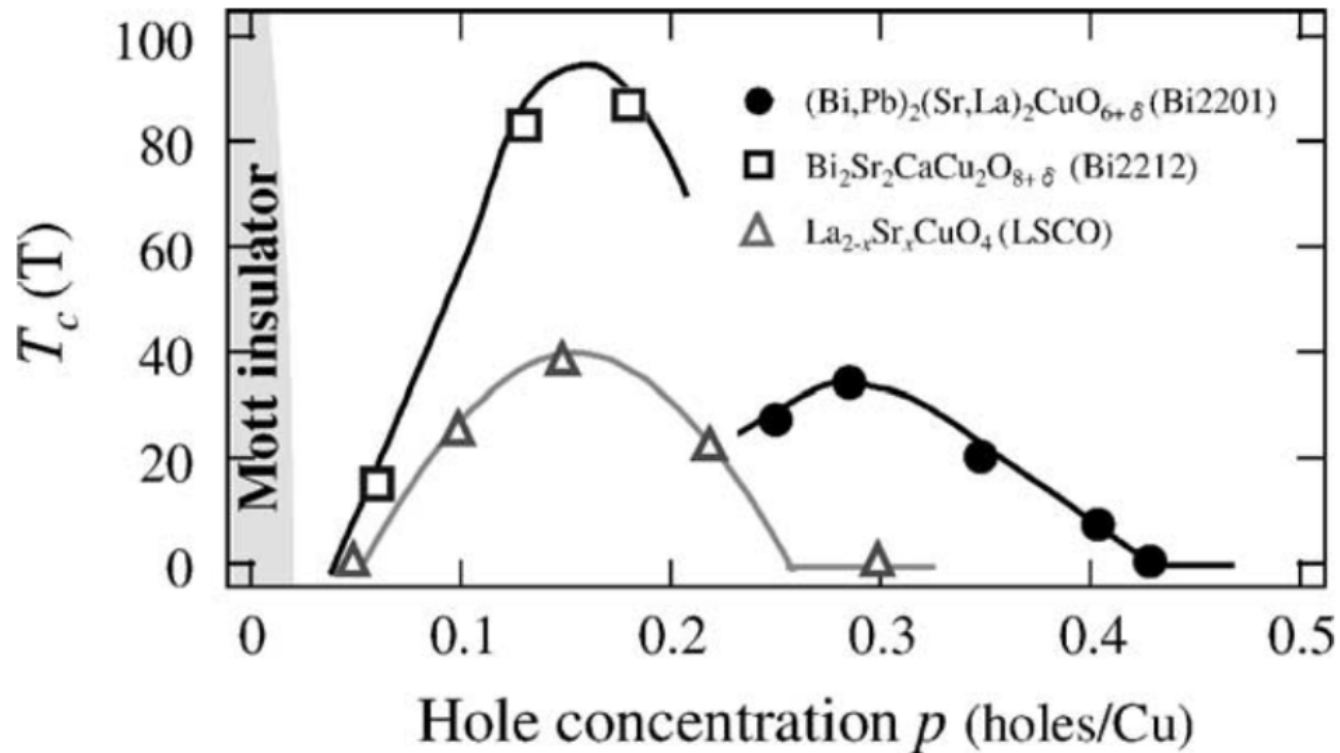


- C. Weber, T. Giamarchi, C. M. Varma,  
Phase diagram of a three-orbital model for high-T<sub>c</sub> cuprate superconductors. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 112, 117001 (2014).
- L. Fratino, P. Sémon, G. Sordi, A.-M. S. Tremblay,  
Pseudogap and superconductivity in two-dimensional doped charge-transfer insulators. *Phys. Rev. B* 93, 245147 (2016)
- Z.-H. Cui et al.,  
Ground-state phase diagram of the three-band Hubbard model from density matrix embedding theory. *Phys. Rev. Res.* 2, 043259 (2020).
- M. Zegrodnik, A. Biborski, M. Fidrysiak, J. Spalek,  
Superconductivity in the three band model of cuprates: Nodal direction characteristics and influence of intersite interactions. *J. Phys. Condens. Matter* 33, 415601 (2021).
- P. Mai, G. Balduzzi, S. Johnston, T. A. Maier,  
Orbital structure of the effective pairing interaction in the high-temperature superconducting cuprates. *NPJ Quantum Mater.* 6, 1–5 (2021).
- P. Mai et al.,  
Pairing correlations in the cuprates: A numerical study of the three-band Hubbard model. *Phys. Rev. B* 103, 144514 (2021).



# Bonus

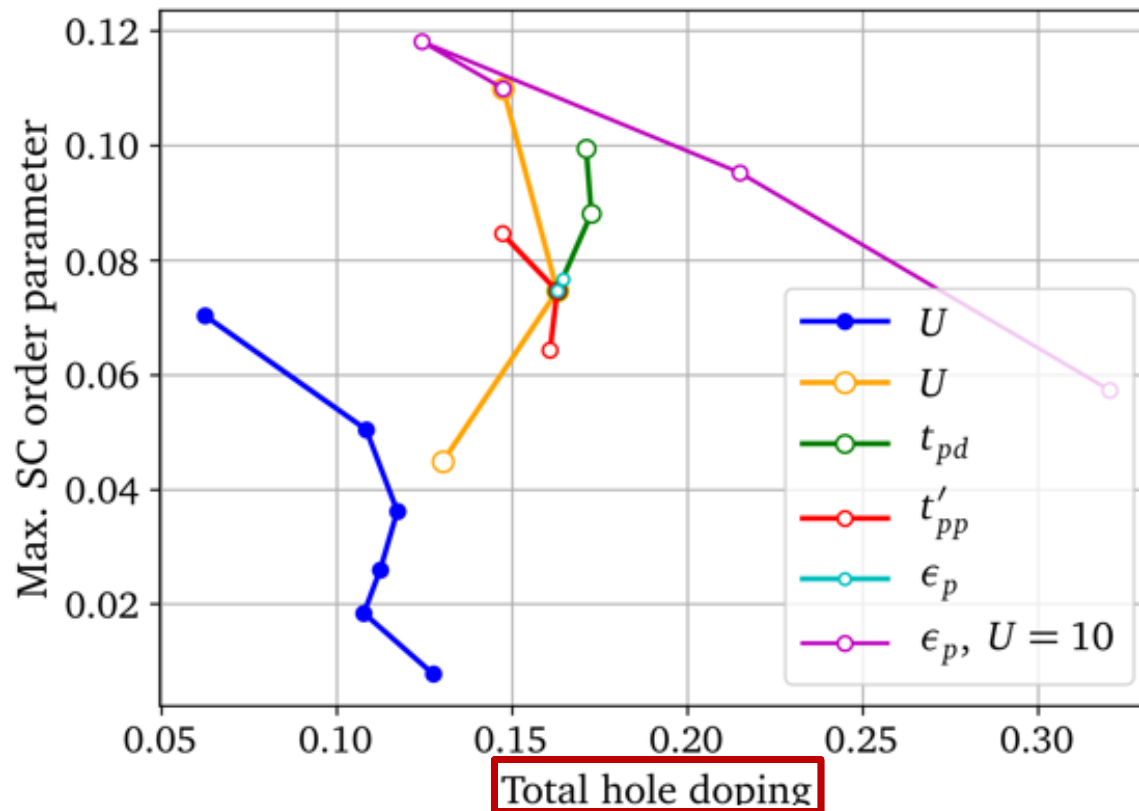
# $T_c$ and total hole concentration are not well correlated



T. Kondo *et al.*

Journal of Electron Spectroscopy and Related Phenomena **137-140**, 663 (2004)

# Bonus: total hole doping does not explain max order parameter for the two classes of models

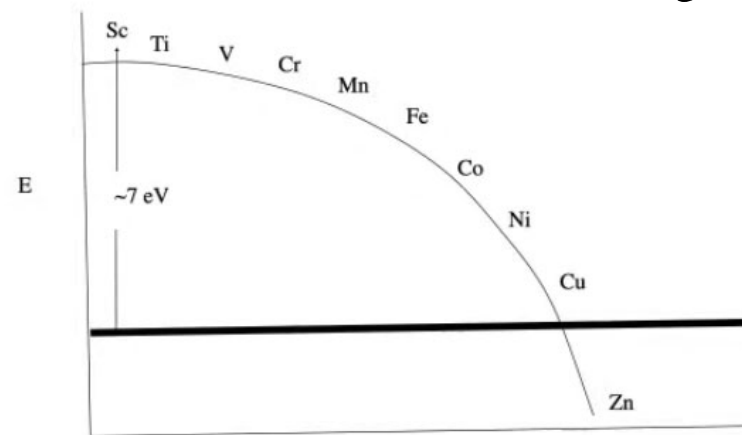


Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

# Bonus : Importance of covalency



Affinity Energy (  $E(M^{2+}) - E(M^{1+})$  ) of first row  
Trans. Metals in relation to Ionization Energy of  
Oxygen (  $E(O^{2-}) - E(O^{1-})$  )



$$J = \frac{4t_{pd}^4(U+\epsilon)}{U\epsilon^3} \rightarrow_{U \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4t_{pd}^4}{\epsilon^3}$$

Also, Zaanen, Sawatzky, Allen (prl 1985).

C. M. Varma and T. Giamarchi, *Model for copper oxide metals and superconductors* (Elsevier Science B.V., 1995).

# Copper pairing mechanism : superexchange and retardation





D. Sénéchal



Bumsoo Kyung

## The glue

Kyung, Sénéchal, Tremblay, Phys. Rev. B **80**, 205109 (2009)

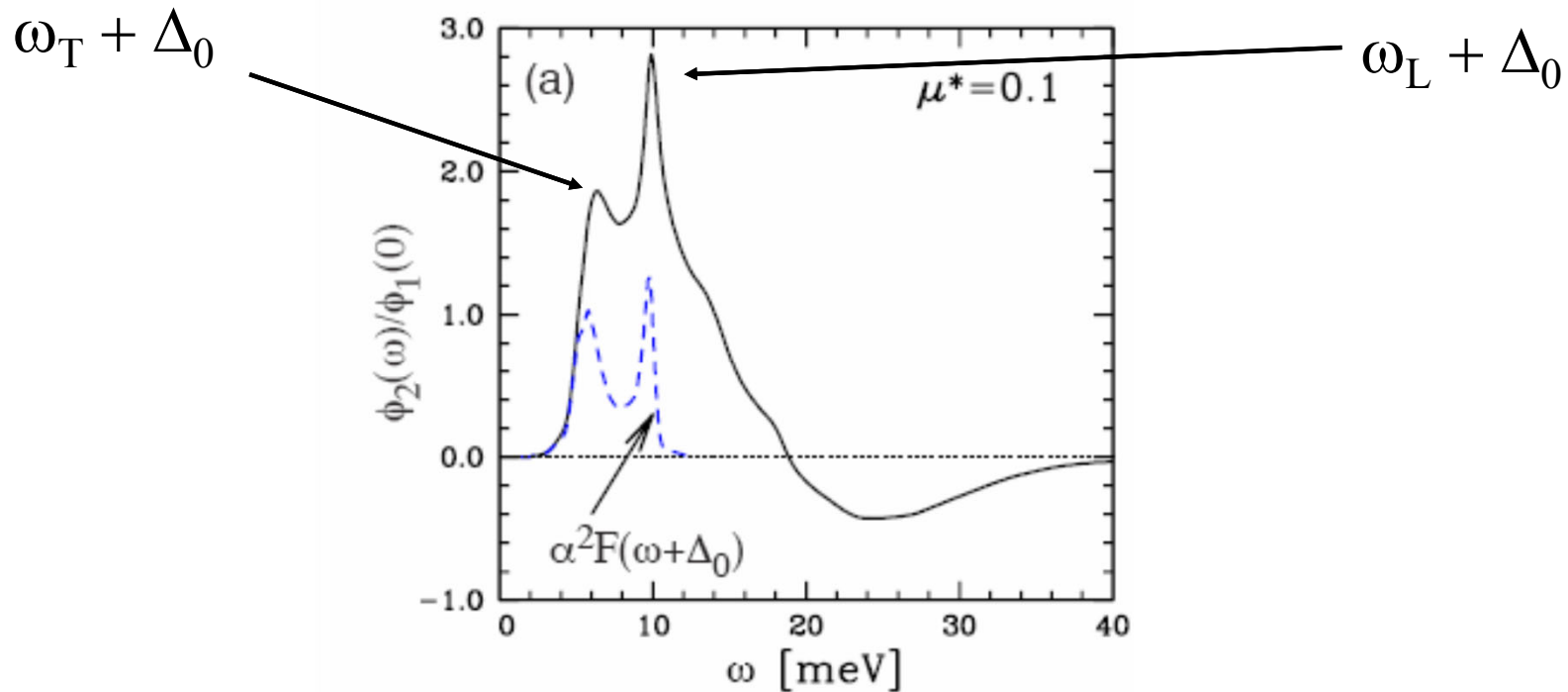
Sénéchal, Day, Bouliane, AMST, Phys. Rev. B **87**, 075123 (2013)

A. Reymbaut *et al.* PRB **94** 155146 (2016)

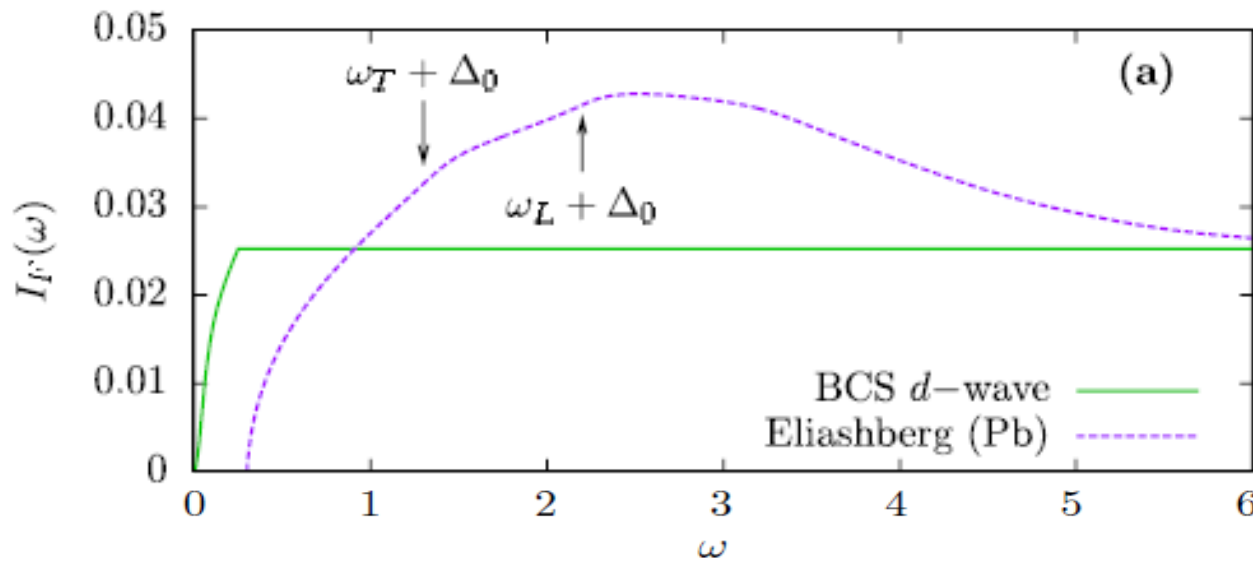
# $\text{Im } \Sigma_{\text{an}}$ and electron-phonon in Pb



Maier, Poilblanc, Scalapino, PRL (2008)



# Another way to look at this



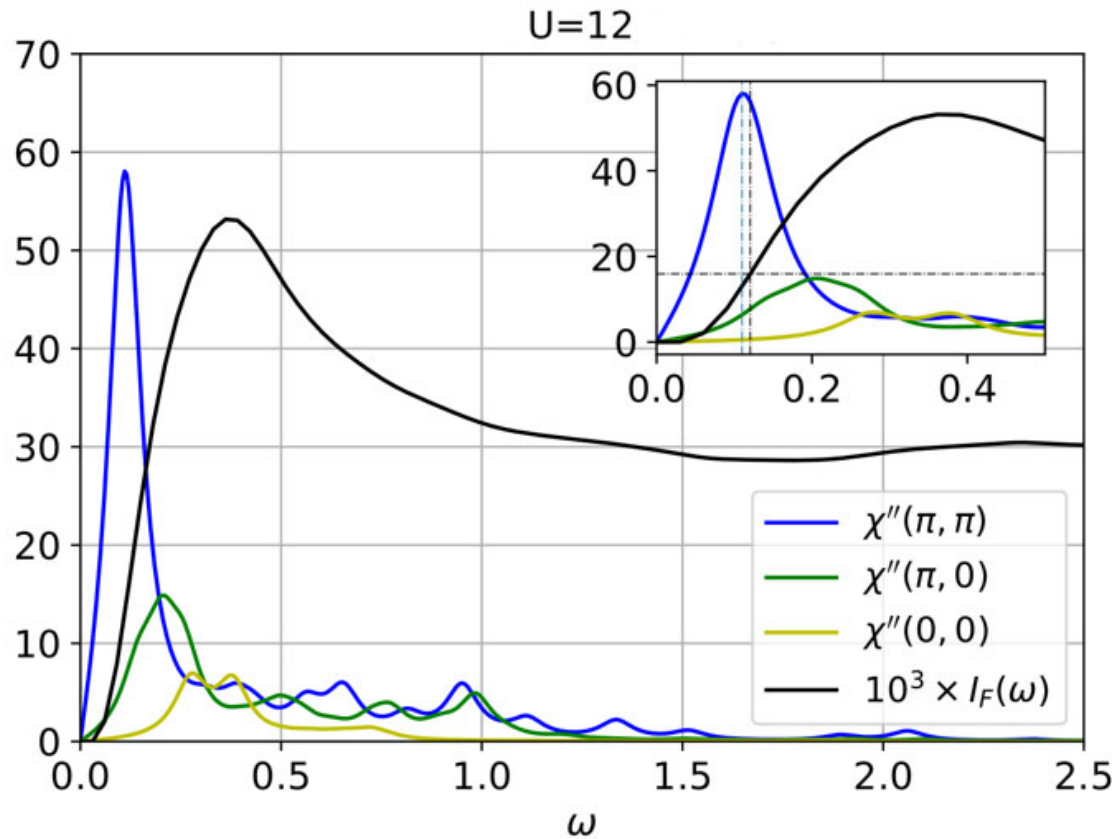
$$I_F(\omega) \equiv - \int_0^\omega \frac{d\omega'}{\pi} \text{Im} F_{ij}^R(\omega')$$

$$F_{ij} \equiv -\langle T c_{i\uparrow}(\tau) c_{j\downarrow}(0) \rangle$$

- Kyung, S en echal, Tremblay, Phys. Rev. B **80**, 205109 (2009)  
 S en echal, Day, Bouliane, AMST, Phys. Rev. B **87**, 075123 (2013)  
 A. Reymbaut *et al.* PRB **94** 155146 (2016)



# Spin fluctuations on copper in the three-band model



$$I_F(\omega) \equiv - \int_0^\omega \frac{d\omega'}{\pi} \text{Im} F_{ij}^R(\omega')$$

$$F_{ij} \equiv -\langle T c_{i\uparrow}(\tau) c_{j\downarrow}(0) \rangle$$

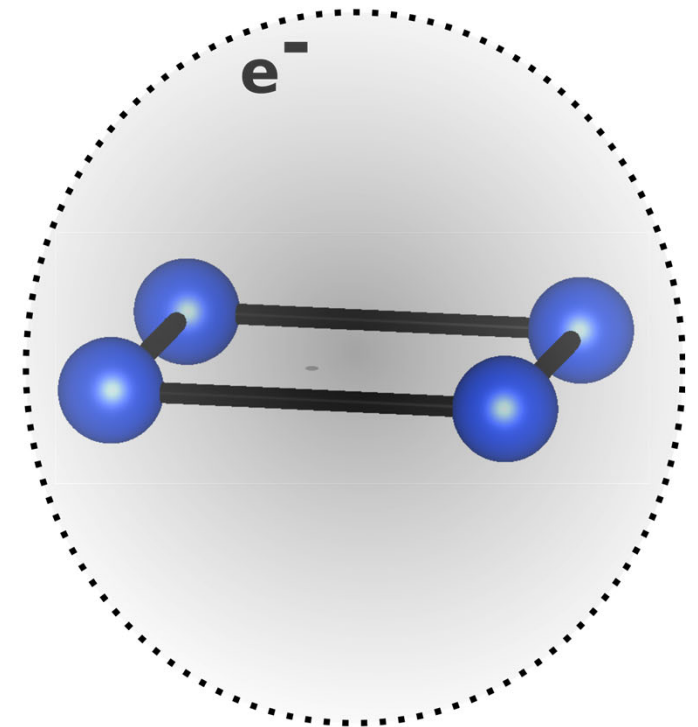
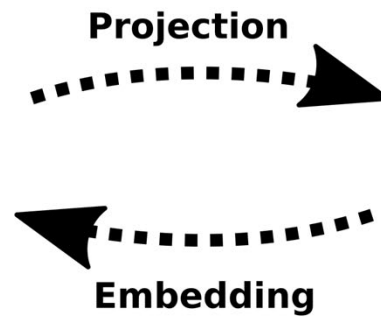
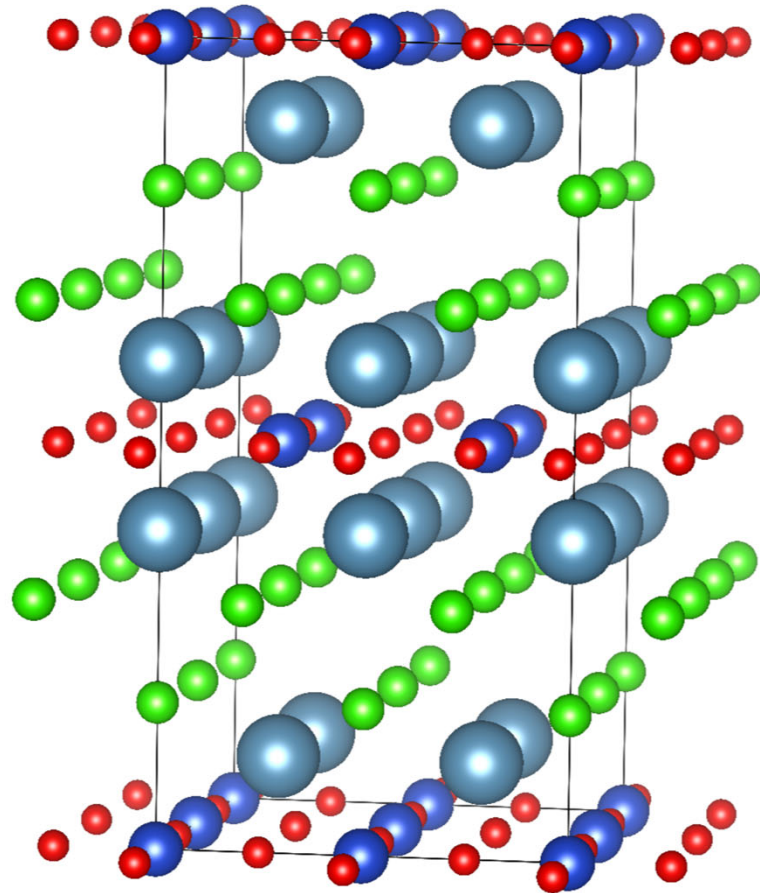
Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.  
 PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

**Next step : Realistic**

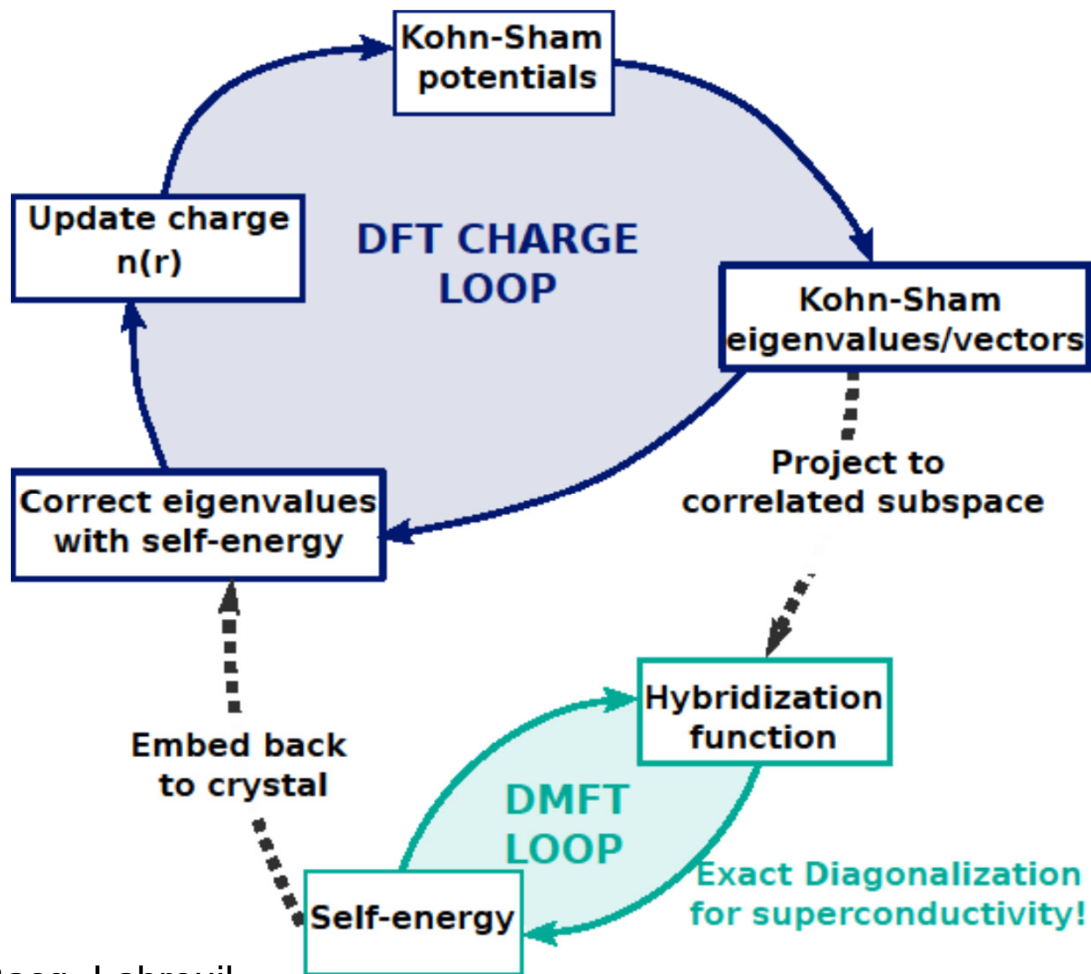


**USHERBROOKE.CA/IQ102**

# DFT + CDMFT



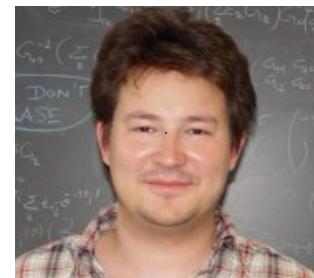
# Realistic materials simulations



Benjamin Bacq Labreuil

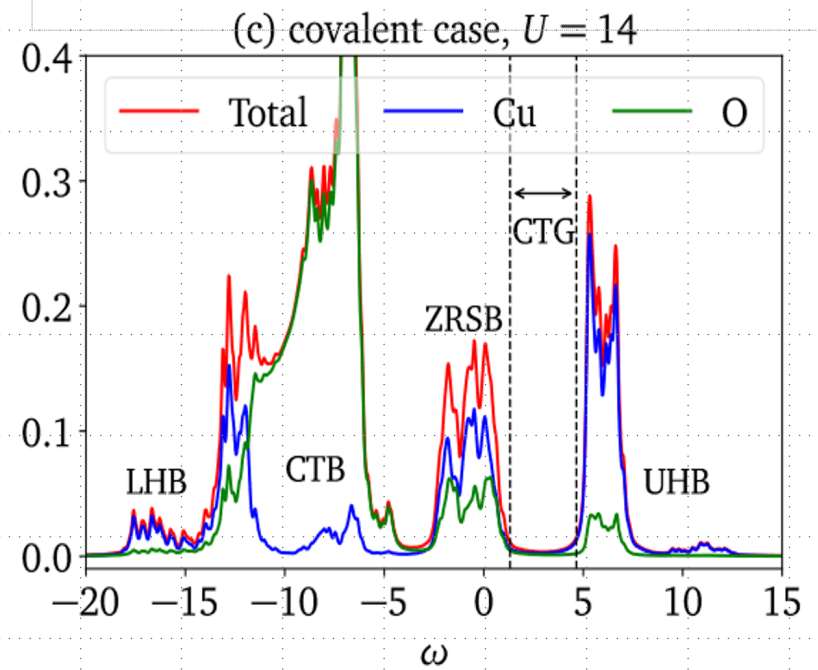
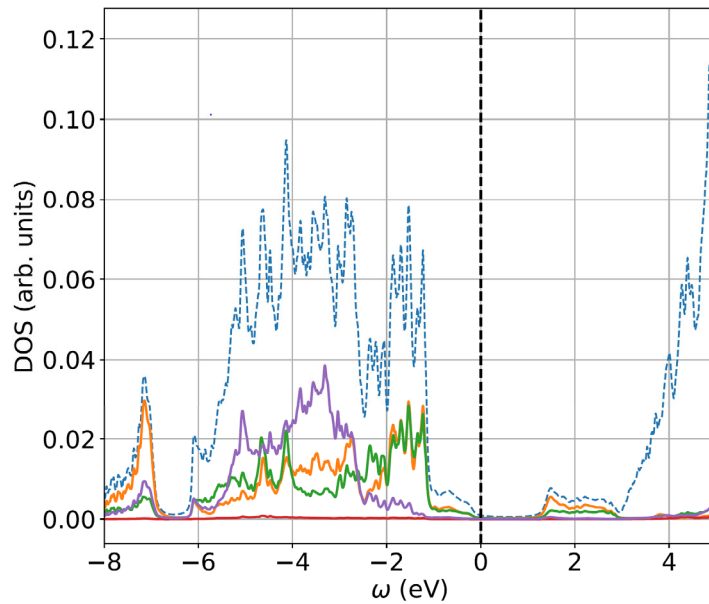
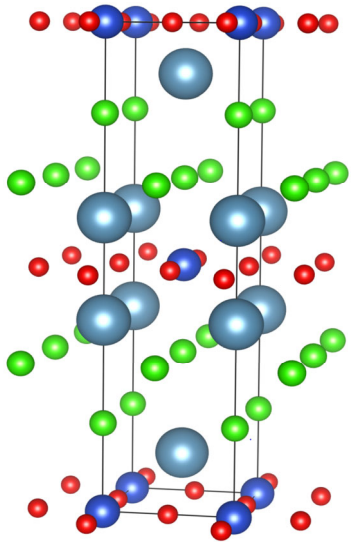


David Sénéchal



Kristjan Haule

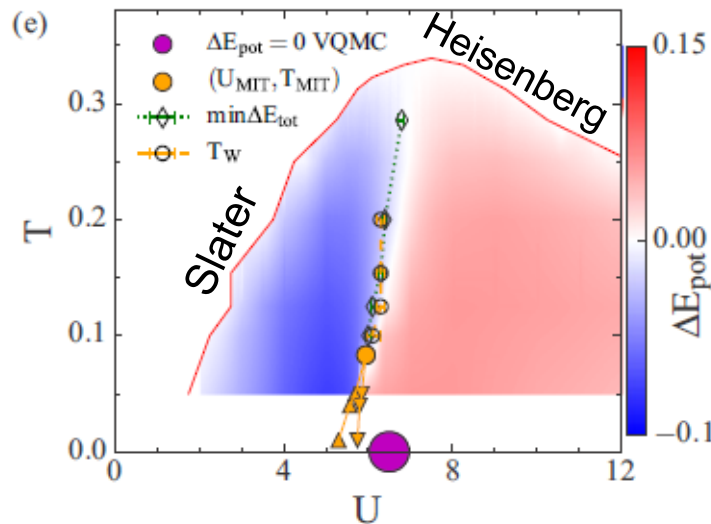
# Realistic vs model



# Summary Conclusion

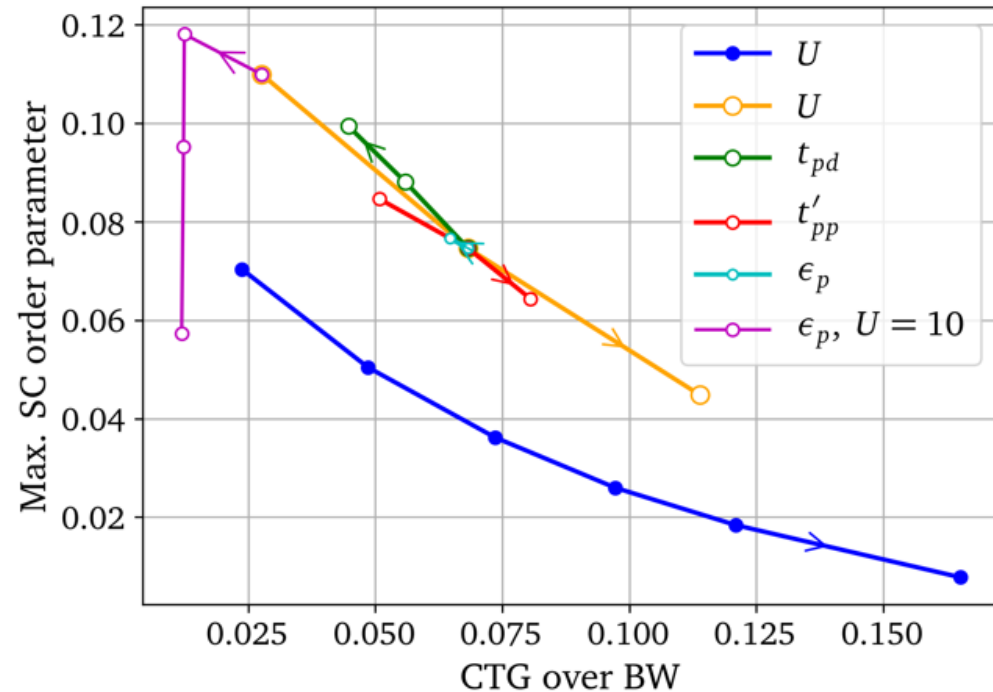


# Pairing at small and large $U$ : An analogy



Fratino et al. PRB 95, 235109 (2017)

Optimal doping



Kowalski, Dash, Sémon, Sénéchal, A-M.T.

PNAS 118 (40) e2106476118 (2021)

Weber et al Europhys. Lett. 100, 37001 (2012)

Yee et al Phys. Rev. B 89, 094517 (2014)

Acharya et al Phys. Rev. X 8, 021038 (2018)



# Optimizing $T_c$



- Spin  $\frac{1}{2}$
- One band
- Two-dimensions
- Strong covalency between chalcogen and transition metal.
  - Chalcogen screens  $U$
- Charge-transfer gap just opening (intermediate interactions).
- Large  $J$  at half-filling
- ... and more

C. Weber, PNAS 2021 Vol. **118** No. 46 e2115874118

Chuck-Hou Yee *et al* *EPL* **111** 17002 (2015 )

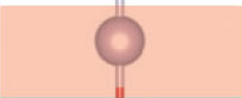



Stanev *et al.*, *npj Computational Materials* **4**, 29 (2018)

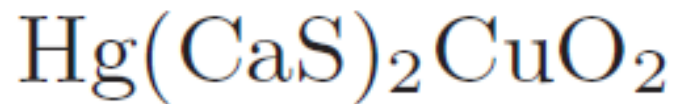
Liu *et al.* *APL Materials* **8**, 061104 (2020)



# Optimizing $T_c$



	charge	dopants	structure	hamiltonian	
	HgO <sub>6</sub>	balances -2 charge	supplies	harbors dopants	tunes chemical potential
	BaO	neutral	inert	protects CuO <sub>2</sub> from disorder	tunes in-plane $t, t', U$
	CuO <sub>2</sub>	-2 charge/u.c.	accepts	roughly sets lattice const.	superconducts
	BaO			(same as other CaS layer)	



Chuck-Hou Yee *et al* *EPL* **111** 17002 (2015)

## Take home messages

- A detailed picture of the origin of superconductivity in cuprates follows from a model that takes into account Cu, O, kinetic energy and repulsion
- We need to look beyond traditional tools of solid state physics to work this out.



# Merci Thank you



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# CDMFT

$$H_{\text{AIM}} = \sum_{\alpha, \beta} t_{c, \alpha \beta} c_{\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{\beta} + \sum_{\alpha, r} \left( \theta_{\alpha r} c_{\alpha}^{\dagger} a_r + \text{H.c.} \right) + \sum_r^{N_b} \varepsilon_r a_r^{\dagger} a_r + H_1$$

hybridization ←
↗ bath energy  
↘ bath annihilation operator

$$\mathbf{G}_{0c}^{-1} = \mathbf{z} - \mathbf{t}_c - \mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{z})$$

$$\mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{z}) = \boldsymbol{\theta} \frac{1}{\mathbf{z} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}} \boldsymbol{\theta}^{\dagger}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{G}_c^{-1}(\mathbf{z}) &= \mathbf{z} - \mathbf{t}_c - \mathbf{\Gamma}(\mathbf{z}) - \mathbf{\Sigma}(\mathbf{z}) \\ &= \mathcal{G}_0^{-1}(\mathbf{z}) - \mathbf{\Sigma}(\mathbf{z}) \end{aligned}$$

hybridization function



## CDMFT (cont.)

The local, cluster Green function  $\mathbf{G}_c$  must be consistent with the projection  $\bar{\mathbf{G}}$  to the cluster of the lattice Green function:

$$\bar{\mathbf{G}}(z) = \frac{L}{N} \sum_{\tilde{\mathbf{k}}} [z - t(\tilde{\mathbf{k}}) - \Sigma(z)]^{-1}$$

This condition may be satisfied (up to statistical errors) in QMC.  
It can only be satisfied approximately in ED (i.e. with a finite bath).  
Instead, one minimizes the **distance function**:

$$d(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \sum_{i\omega_n} \overset{\text{weight}}{W(i\omega_n)} \text{Tr} \left| \mathbf{G}_c^{-1}(i\omega_n) - \bar{\mathbf{G}}^{-1}(i\omega_n) \right|^2$$

$\downarrow$  Matsubara freqs from a fictitious temperature  $\beta^{-1}$



# CDMFT (cont.)

