

# Competing orders in the high temperature superconductors: implications of recent experiments

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Anatoli Polkovnikov  
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Ying Zhang

Science **286**, 2479 (1999).

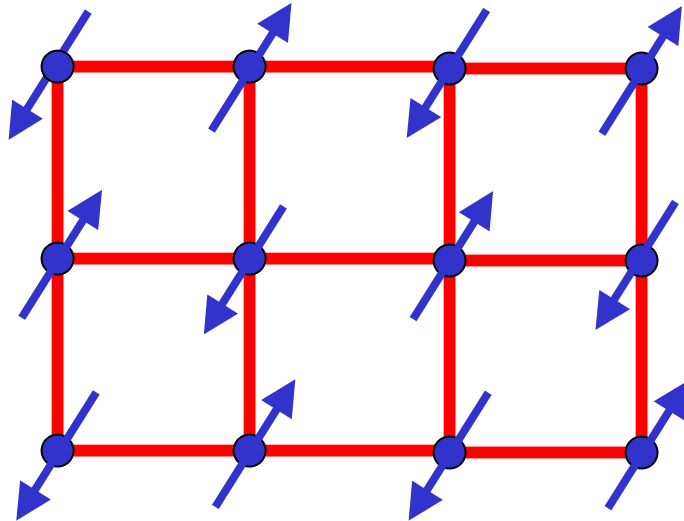


Transparencies on-line at  
<http://pantheon.yale.edu/~subir>



Parent compound of the high temperature  
superconductors:  $La_2CuO_4$

Square lattice antiferromagnet

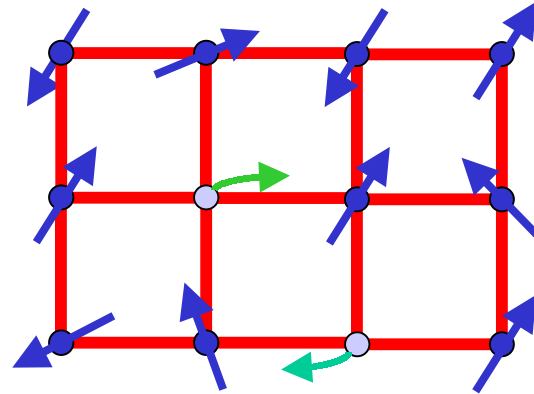


$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

Ground state has long-range  
magnetic (Neel) order

$$\langle \vec{S}_i \rangle = (-1)^{i_x + i_y} N_0 \neq 0$$

Introduce mobile carriers of density  $\delta$   
by substitutional doping of out-of-plane  
ions e.g.  $\text{La}_{2-\delta}\text{Sr}_\delta\text{CuO}_4$



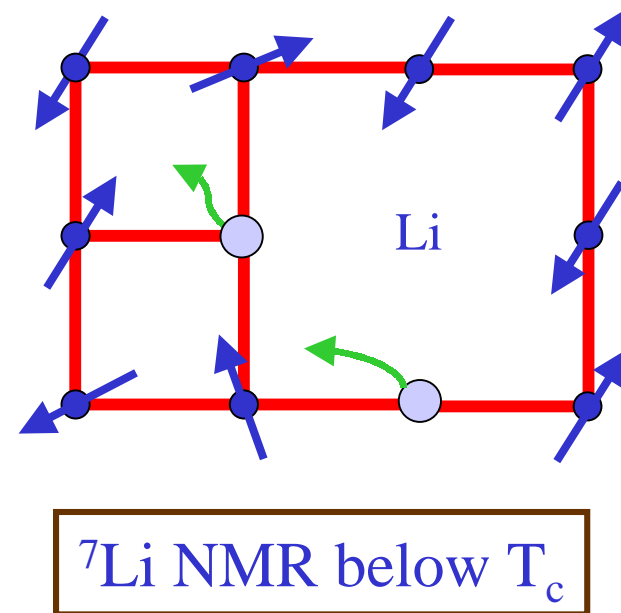
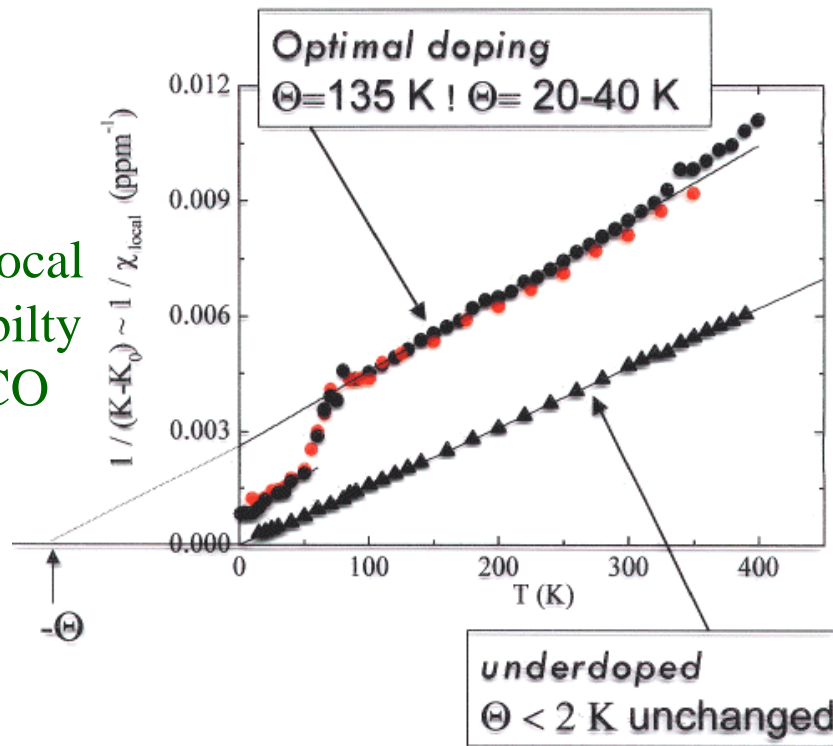
Exhibits superconductivity below a high critical temperature  $T_c$

Almost all  $T \rightarrow 0$  properties can be understood in the framework of a standard BCS theory in which the electrons form spin-singlet,  $d$ -wave Cooper pairs. However, many  $T > T_c$  properties are anomalous.

$$\text{As } T \rightarrow 0, \quad \langle S_i \rangle = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \chi_{\text{spin}} = 0$$

## Measurement of spin susceptibility near non-magnetic (Zn/Li) impurities

Inverse local susceptibility in YBCO



J. Bobroff, H. Alloul, W.A. MacFarlane, P. Mendels, N. Blanchard, G. Collin, and J.-F. Marucco, Phys. Rev. Lett. **86**, 4116 (2001).

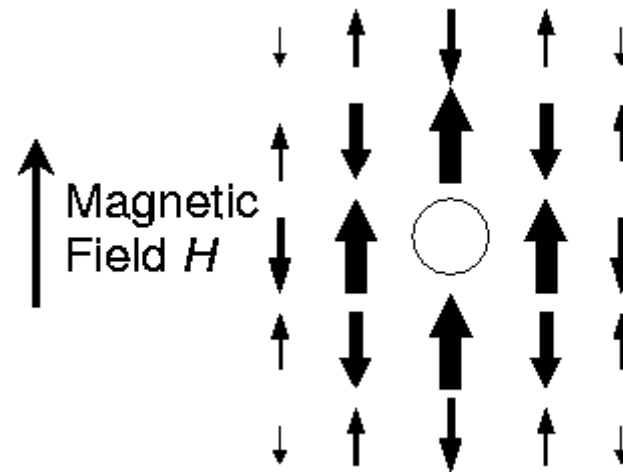
Measured  $\chi_{\text{impurity}}(T \rightarrow 0) = \frac{S(S+1)}{3k_B T}$  with  $S = 1/2$  in underdoped sample.

*Not* expected from BCS theory, which predicts  $\chi_{\text{impurity}}(T \rightarrow 0) \neq \infty$  for a non-magnetic impurity with strong potential scattering.

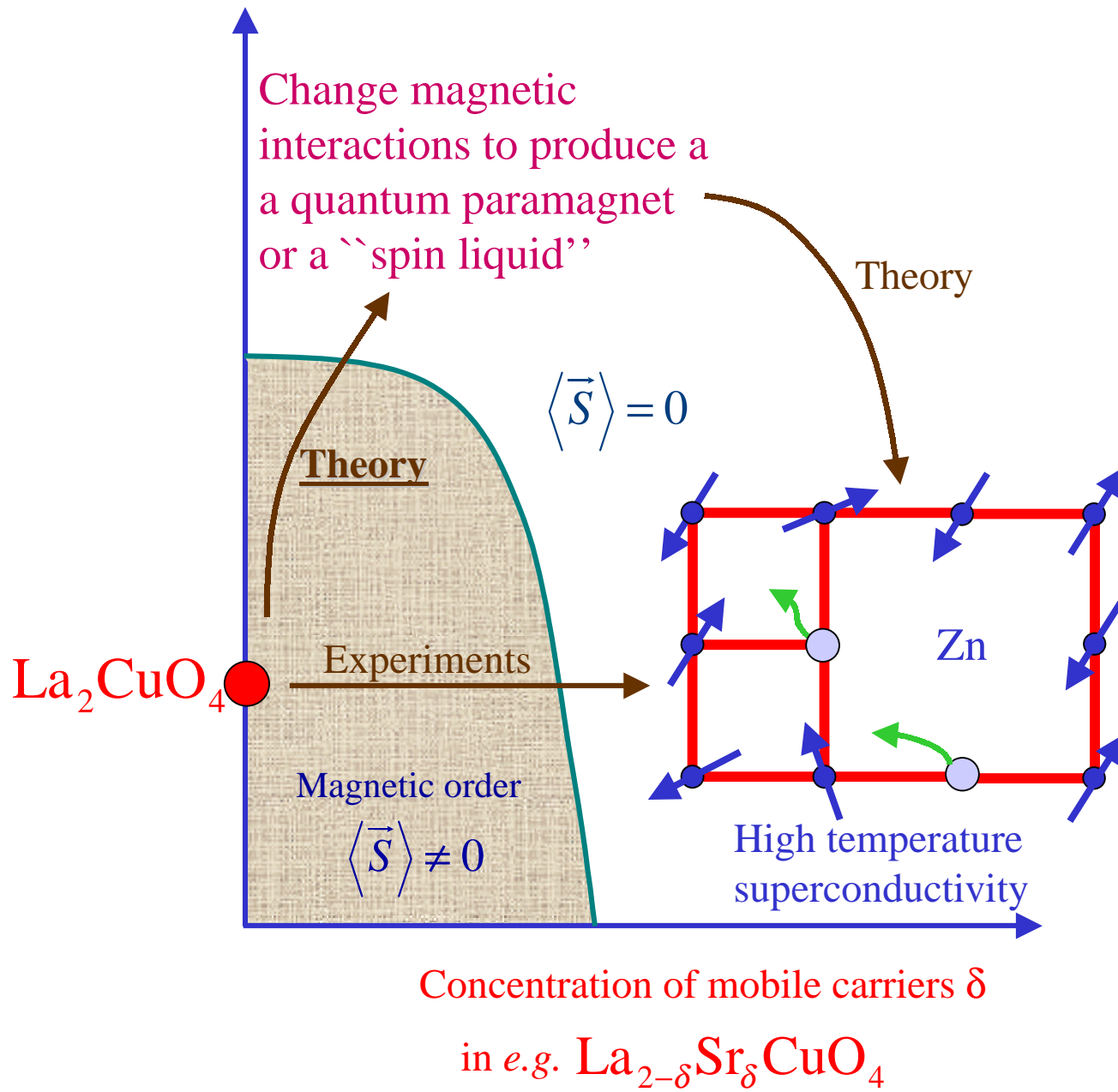
## Zn impurity in $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6.7}$

Moments measured by  
analysis of Knight shifts

M.-H. Julien, T. Feher,  
M. Horvatic, C. Berthier,  
O. N. Bakharev, P. Segransan,  
G. Collin, and J.-F. Marucco,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **84**, 3422  
(2000); also earlier work of  
the group of H. Alloul and the  
original experiment of  
A.M Finkelstein, V.E. Kataev,  
E.F. Kukovitskii, and  
G.B. Teitel'baum, Physica C  
**168**, 370 (1990).



Berry phases of precessing spins do not cancel  
between the sublattices in the vicinity of the  
impurity: net uncancelled phase of  $S=1/2$



## Outline

- I. Why do non-magnetic impurities acquire a  $S=1/2$  moment ?
  - A. Insulating quantum paramagnets
  - B. Doped antiferromagnets
- II. Effect on Zn impurities on  $S=1$  spin exciton.  
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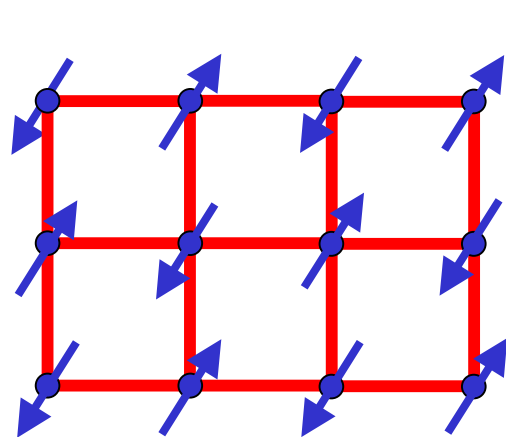
# I. Why do non-magnetic impurities acquire a $S=1/2$ moment ?

## I.A Insulating quantum paramagnets

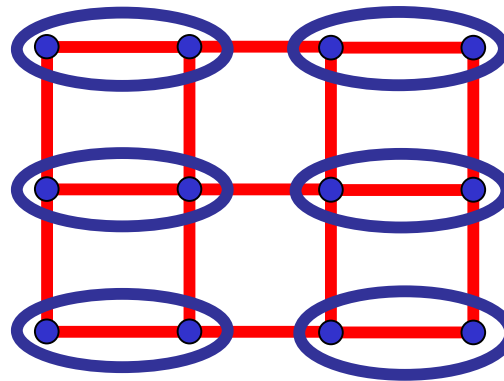
$$H = \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

Square lattice with first ( $J_1$ ) and second ( $J_2$ ) neighbor exchange interactions

N. Read and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **62**, 1694 (1989).



Neel state

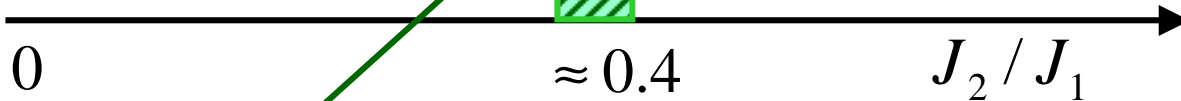


Spin-Peierls state

“Bond-centered charge stripe”

O. P. Sushkov, J. Oitmaa, and Z. Weihong, Phys. Rev. B **63**, 104420 (2001).

M.S.L. du Croo de Jongh, J.M.J. van Leeuwen, W. van Saarloos, Phys. Rev. B **62**, 14844 (2000).



Co-existence ?

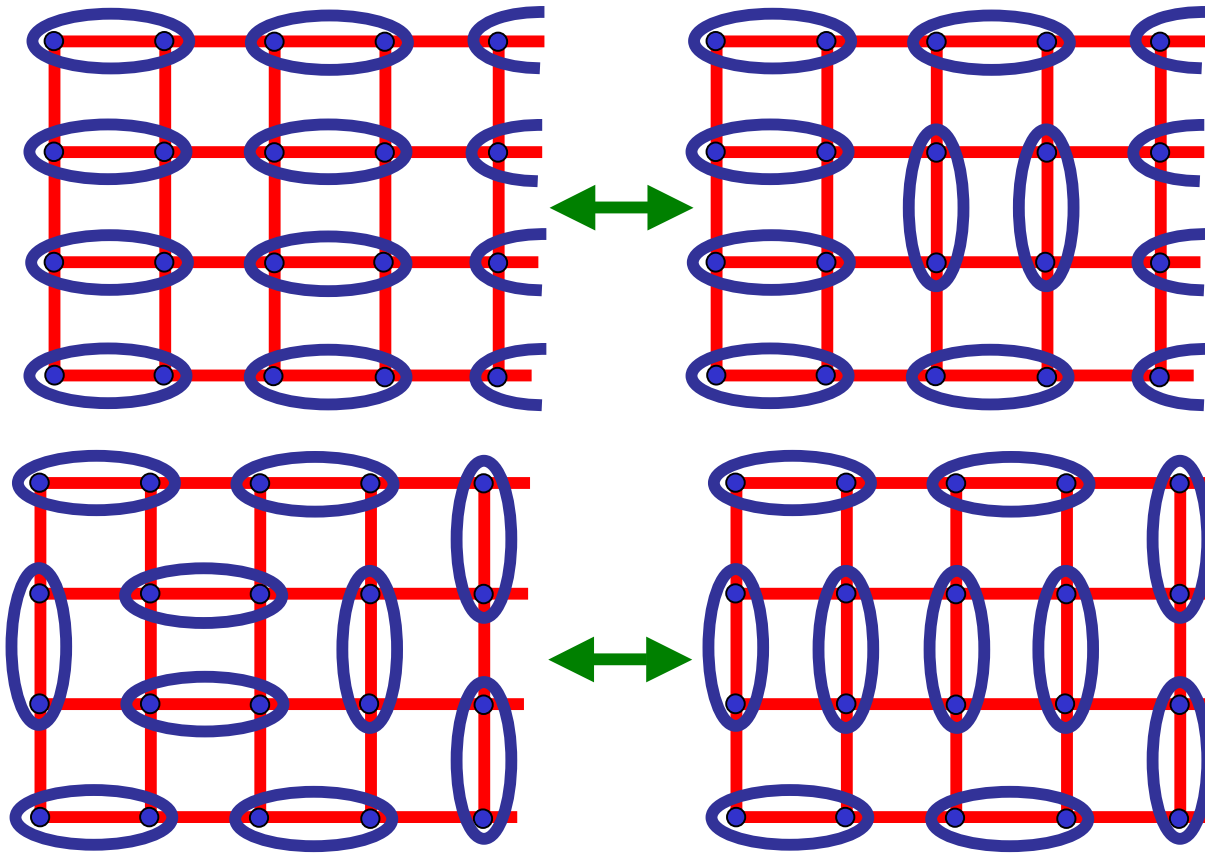
$$J_2 / J_1$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$



Quantum dimer model –

D. Rokhsar and S. Kivelson Phys. Rev. Lett. **61**, 2376 (1988)



Quantum “entropic” effects prefer one-dimensional striped structures in which the largest number of singlet pairs can resonate. The state on the upper left has more flippable pairs of singlets than the one on the lower left.

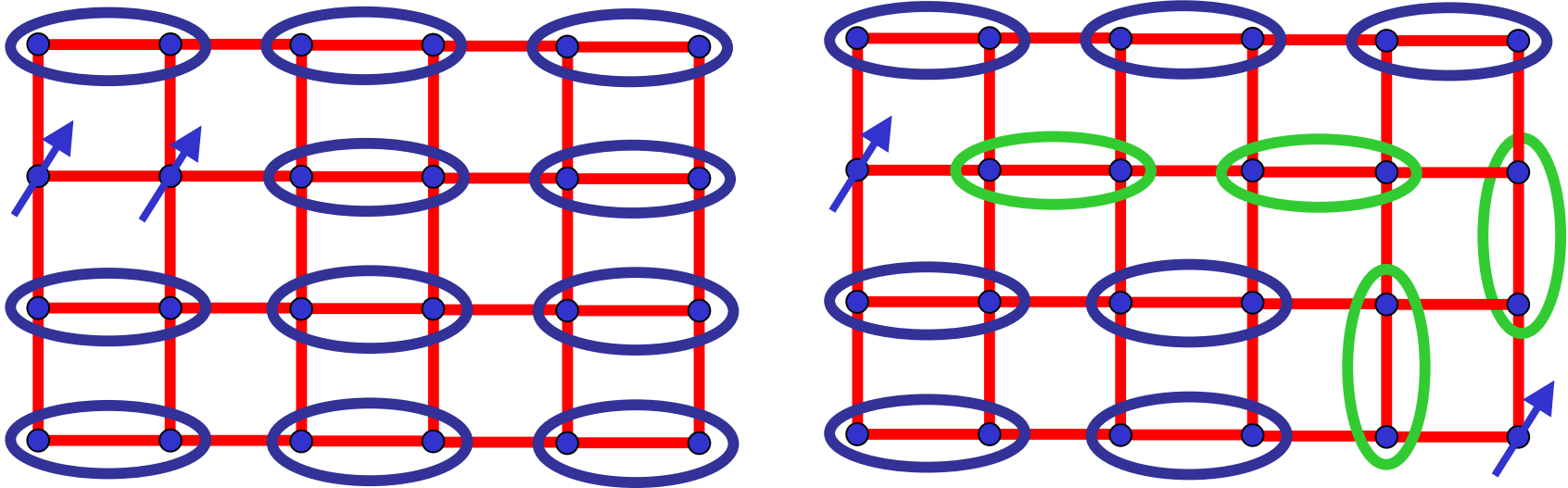
These effects always lead to a broken square lattice symmetry near the transition to the Neel state.

N. Read and S. Sachdev Phys. Rev. B **42**, 4568 (1990).

## Excitations

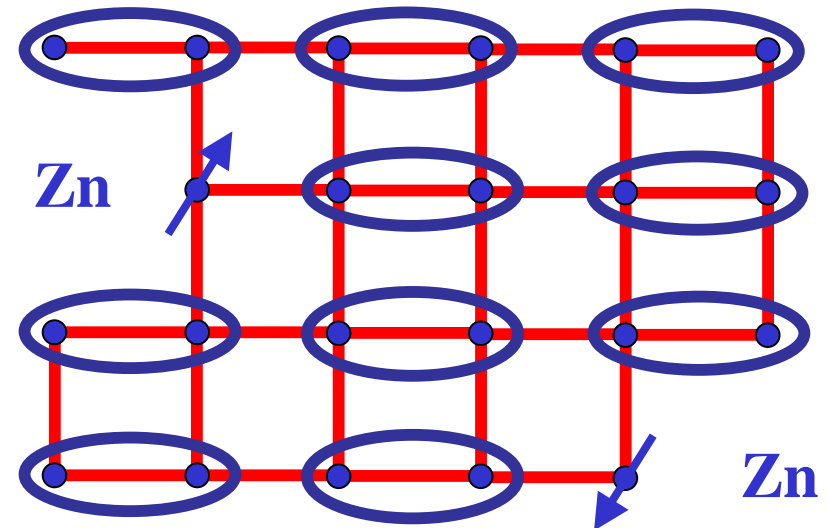
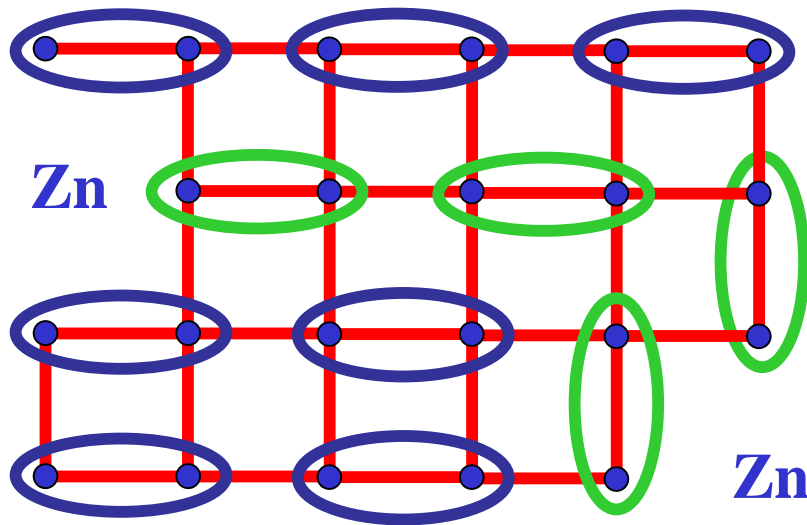
Stable  $S=1$  spin exciton

Energy dispersion  $\epsilon_k = \Delta + \frac{c_x^2 k_x^2 + c_y^2 k_y^2}{2\Delta}$   $\Delta \rightarrow$  Spin gap



$S=1/2$  spinons are linearly confined by the line of “defect” singlet pairs between them

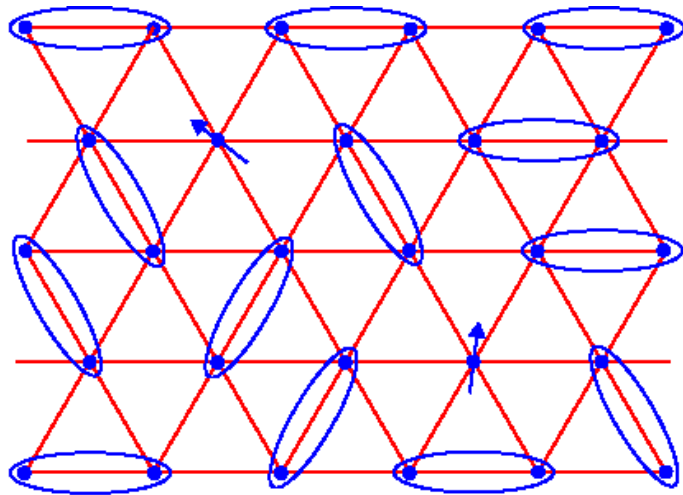
Effect of static non-magnetic impurities (Zn or Li)



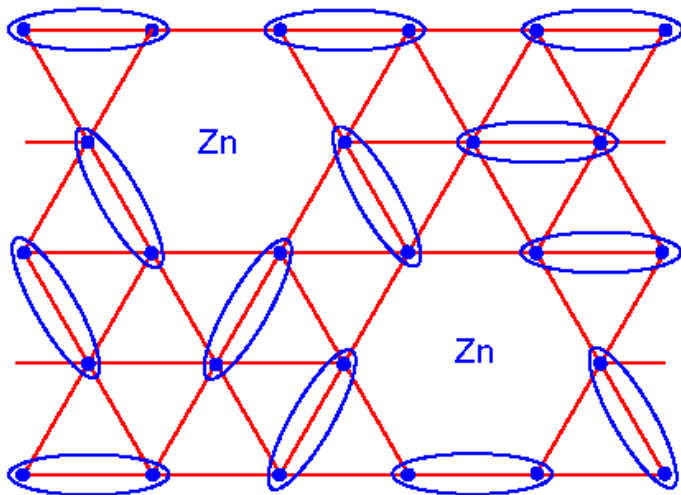
Spinon confinement implies that free  $S=1/2$  moments **must** form near each impurity

$$\chi_{\text{impurity}}(T \rightarrow 0) = \frac{S(S+1)}{3k_B T}$$

## Paramagnetic ground state with spinon deconfinement



Spinons are deconfined



Free  $S=1/2$  moments need not be present near the impurities

Translationally invariant “spin liquid” state obtained by a quantum transition from a magnetically ordered state with co-planar spin polarization. Can also appear in frustrated square lattice antiferromagnets – transition to confined states is described by a  $Z_2$  gauge theory

$$\chi_{\text{impurity}}(T \rightarrow 0) = 0$$

N. Read and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **66**, 1773 (1991).

R. Jalabert and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **44**, 686 (1991).

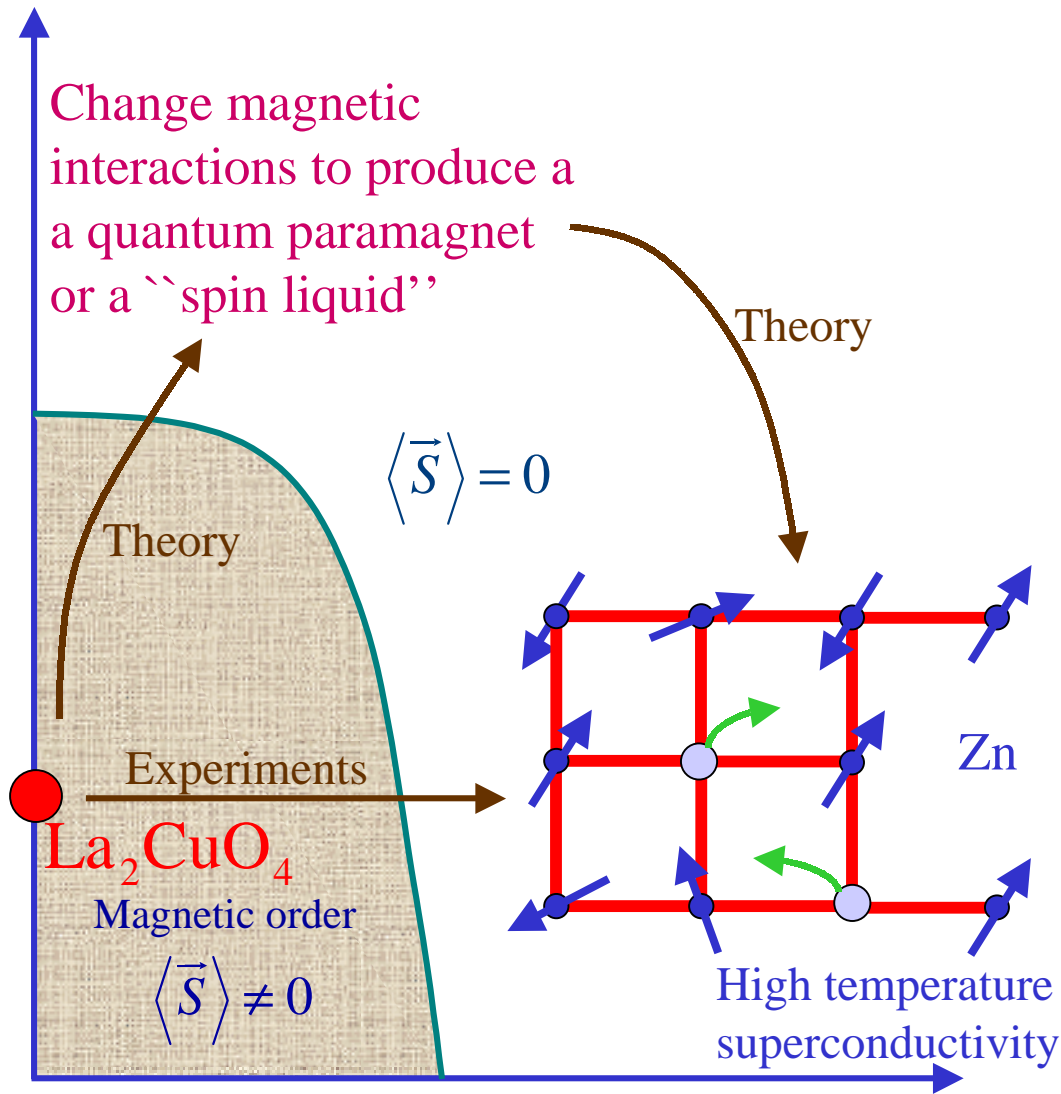
P. Fazekas and P.W. Anderson, Phil Mag **30**, 23 (1974).

S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **45**, 12377 (1992).

G. Misguich and C. Lhuillier, cond-mat/0002170.

R. Moessner and S.L. Sondhi, Phys. Rev. Lett.

**86**, 1881 (2001)



Concentration of mobile carriers  $\delta$

in e.g.  $\text{La}_{2-\delta}\text{Sr}_\delta\text{CuO}_4$

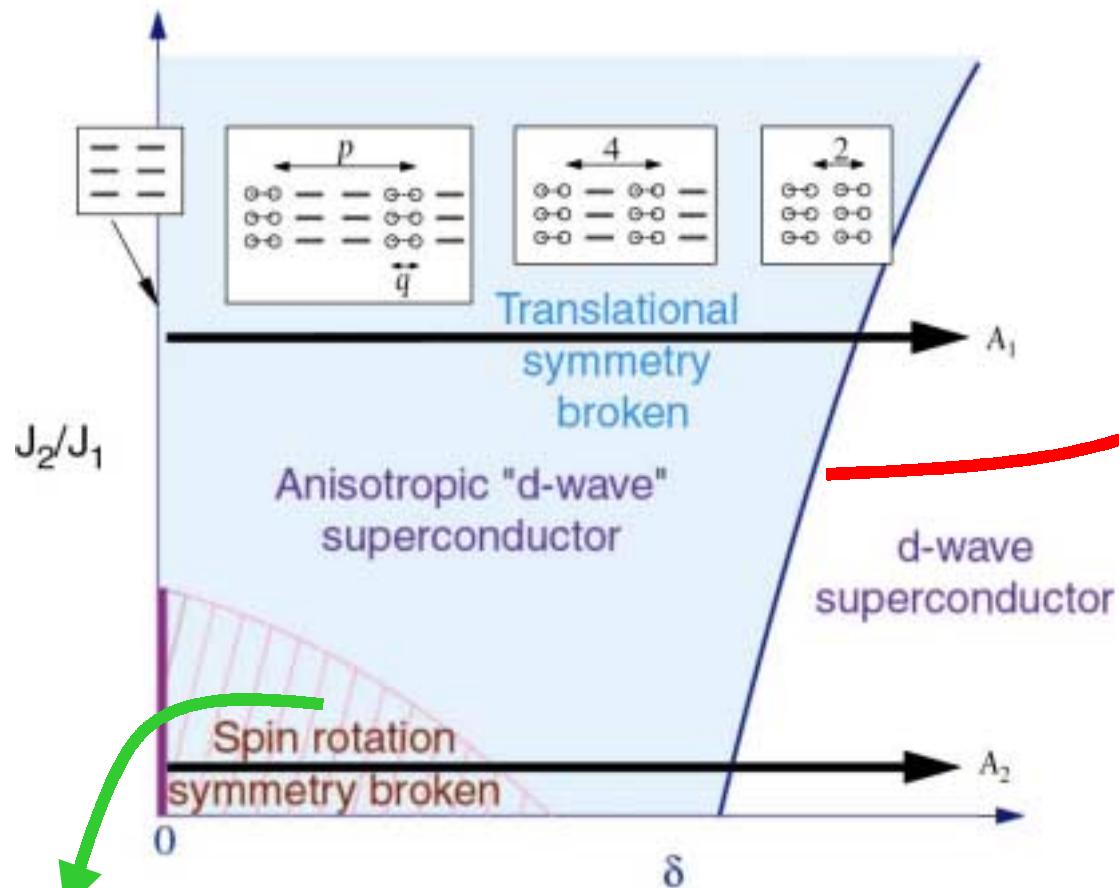
**Summary:**

Confined, paramagnetic Mott insulator necessarily has

1. Stable  $S=1$  spin exciton.
2. Broken translational symmetry:- bond-centered charge stripe order.
3.  $S=1/2$  moments near non-magnetic impurities.

These properties are expected to survive for a finite range of  $\delta$  in the superconducting states

# I.B Phase diagram for doping of confined Mott insulators

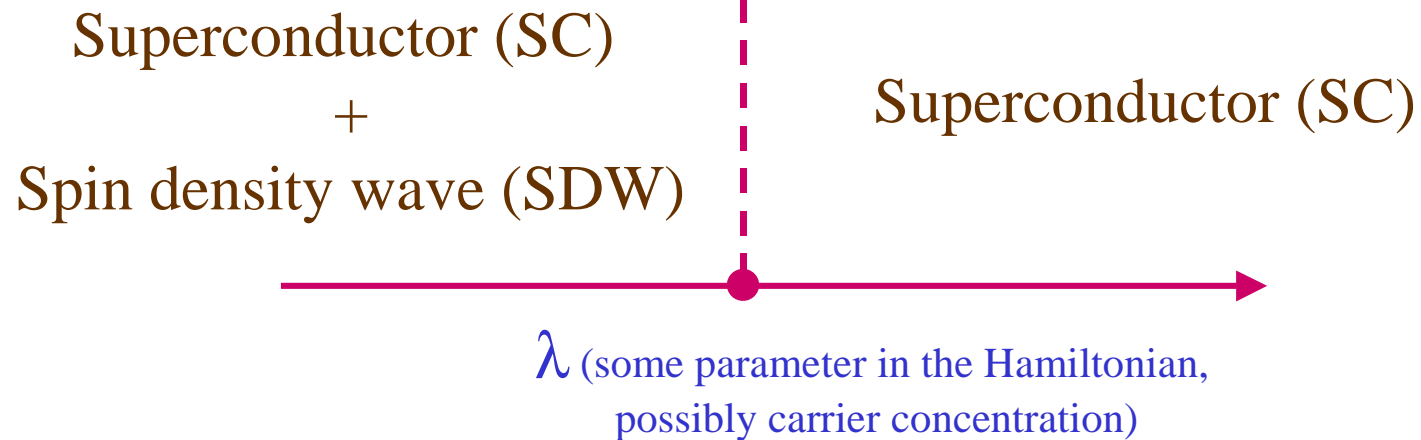


Superconductivity can coexist with bond-centered charge stripe order in region without magnetic order

Site-centered charge stripes likely in regions with magnetic order and weaker superconductivity

S. Sachdev and N. Read, Int. J. Mod. Phys. B **5**, 219 (1991).  
 M. Vojta and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. Lett. **83**, 3916 (1999).  
 M. Vojta, Y. Zhang, and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **62**, 6721 (2000)  
 K. Park and S. Sachdev, cond-mat/0104519.  
 See also J. Zaanen, Physica C **217**, 317 (1999),  
 S. Kivelson, E. Fradkin and V. Emery, Nature **393**, 550 (1998),  
 S. White and D. Scalapino, Phys. Rev. Lett. **80**, 1272 (1998); **81**, 3227 (1998).  
 C. Lannert, M.P.A. Fisher, and T. Senthil cond-mat/0007002.

$T=0, H=0$



Many experimental indications that the cuprate superconductors are not too far from such a quantum phase transition:

G. Aeppli, T.E. Mason, S.M. Hayden, H.A. Mook, J. Kulda, *Science* **278**, 1432 (1997).

Y. S. Lee, R. J. Birgeneau, M. A. Kastner *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* **60**, 3643 (1999).

S. Katano, M. Sato, K. Yamada, T. Suzuki, and T. Fukase *Phys. Rev. B* **62**, 14677 (2000).

B. Lake, G. Aeppli *et al.*, *Science* to appear.

Y. Sidis, C. Ulrich, P. Bourges, *et al.*, cond-mat/0101095.

H. Mook, P. Dai, F. Dogan, cond-mat/0102047.

J.E. Sonier *et al.*, preprint.

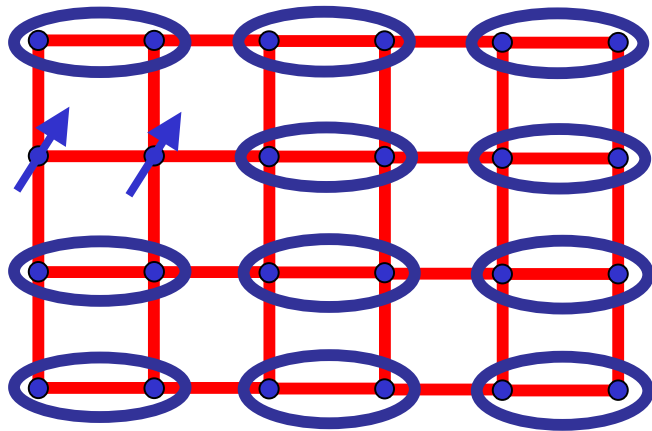
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## II. Effect of Zn impurities on $S=1$ spin exciton

### $S=1$ spin exciton mode in YBCO



H.F. Fong, B. Keimer, D. Reznik,  
D.L. Milius, and I.A. Aksay,  
Phys. Rev. B **54**, 6708 (1996)

Spin-1 collective mode in  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$ - little  
observable damping at low T.

Coupling to superconducting quasiparticles  
unimportant

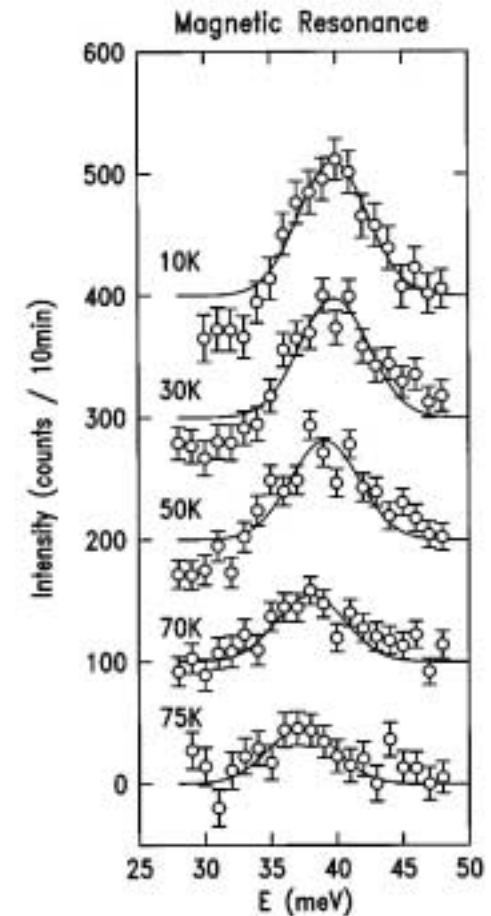


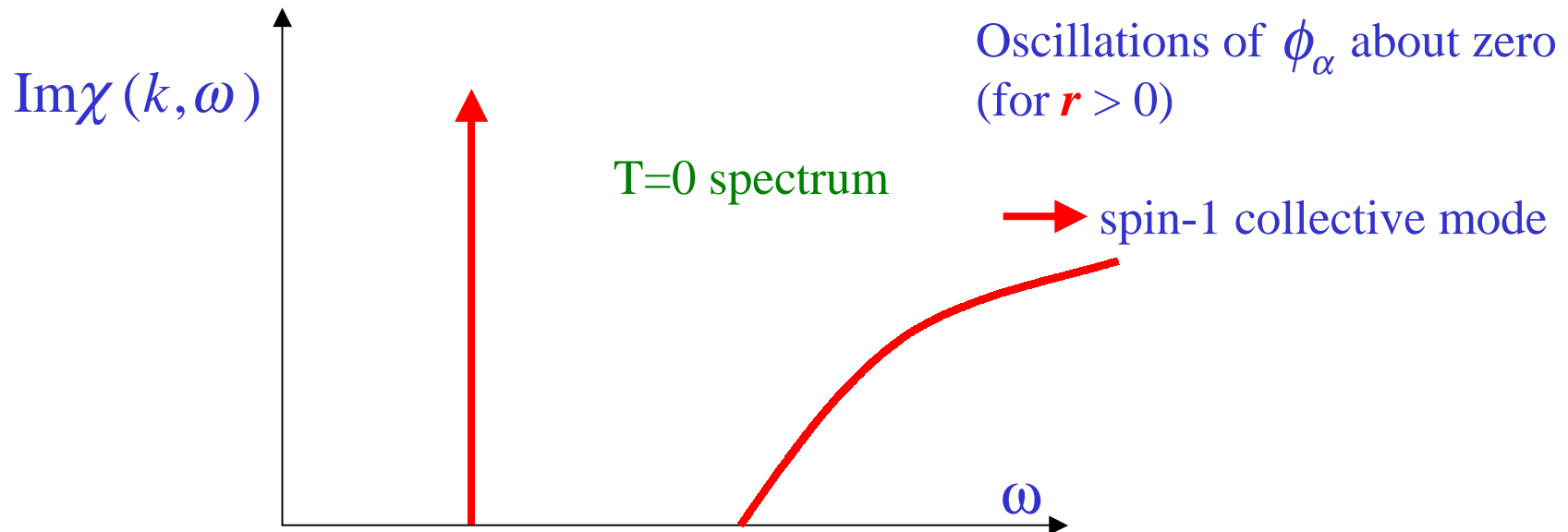
FIG. 8. Unpolarized beam, constant-Q data [ $Q=(3/2, 1/2, -1.7)$ ] of the 40 meV magnetic resonance obtained by subtracting the signal below  $T_c$  from the  $T=100$  K background. The lines are fits to Gaussians, as described in the text. For clarity successive scans are offset by 100.

Resolution limited width

Quantum field theory for  $S=1$  exciton near SC to SC+SDW quantum phase transition

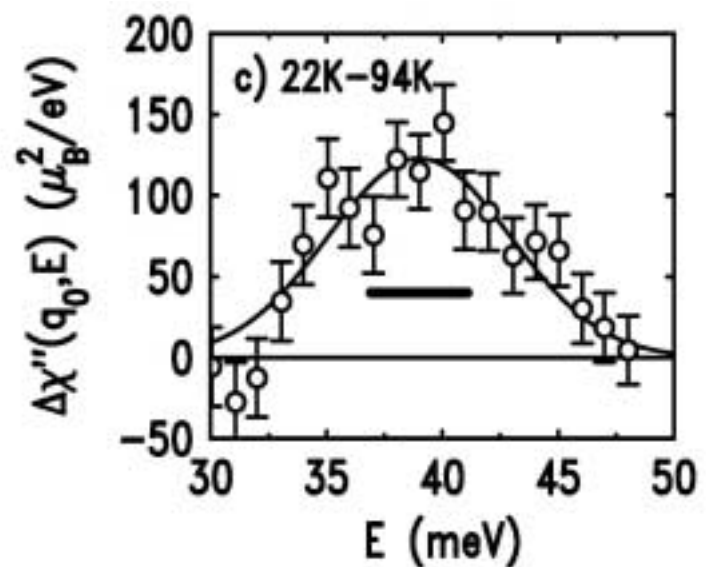
$$S_b = \int d^2x d\tau \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( (\nabla_x \phi_\alpha)^2 + c^2 (\partial_\tau \phi_\alpha)^2 + r \phi_\alpha^2 \right) + \frac{g}{4!} (\phi_\alpha^2)^2 \right]$$

$\phi_\alpha \rightarrow$  3-component antiferromagnetic order parameter

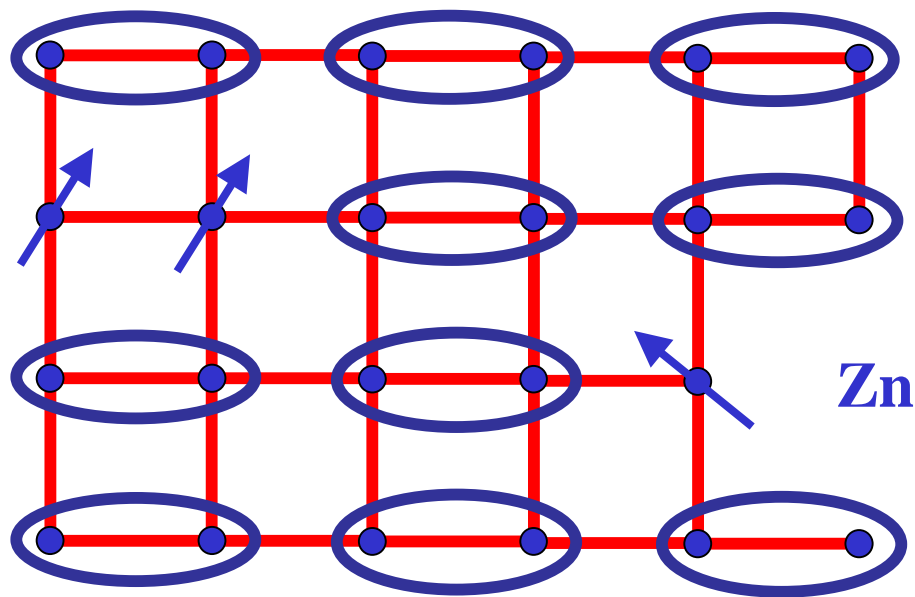


## YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> + 0.5% Zn

H. F. Fong, P. Bourges,  
Y. Sidis, L. P. Regnault,  
J. Bossy, A. Ivanov,  
D.L. Milius, I. A. Aksay,  
and B. Keimer,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **82**, 1939  
(1999)



Zn induced half-width = 4.25 meV



Quantum field theory for S=1 resonance in the presence of a non-magnetic impurity

Orientation of “impurity” spin --  $n_\alpha(\tau)$  (unit vector)

Action of “impurity” spin

$$S_{\text{imp}} = \int d\tau \left[ iSA_\alpha(n) \frac{dn_\alpha}{d\tau} - \gamma S n_\alpha(\tau) \phi_\alpha(x=0, \tau) \right]$$

$A_\alpha(n) \rightarrow$  Dirac monopole function

Boundary quantum field theory:  $S_b + S_{\text{imp}}$

Recall -

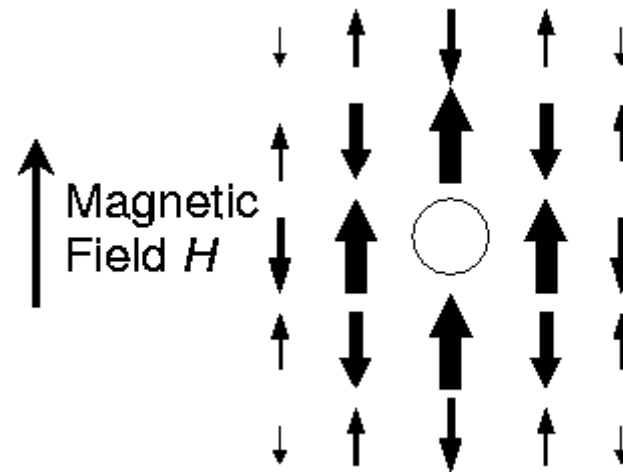
$$S_b = \int d^2x d\tau \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( (\nabla_x \phi_\alpha)^2 + c^2 (\partial_\tau \phi_\alpha)^2 + r \phi_\alpha^2 \right) + \frac{g}{4!} (\phi_\alpha^2)^2 \right]$$

Renormalization group analysis:  $g$  and  $\gamma$  reach non-zero fixed point values

## Zn impurity in $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6.7}$

Moments measured by  
analysis of Knight shifts

M.-H. Julien, T. Feher,  
M. Horvatic, C. Berthier,  
O. N. Bakharev, P. Segransan,  
G. Collin, and J.-F. Marucco,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **84**, 3422  
(2000); also earlier work of  
the group of H. Alloul and the  
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A.M Finkelstein, V.E. Kataev,  
E.F. Kukovitskii, and  
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Berry phases of precessing spins do not cancel  
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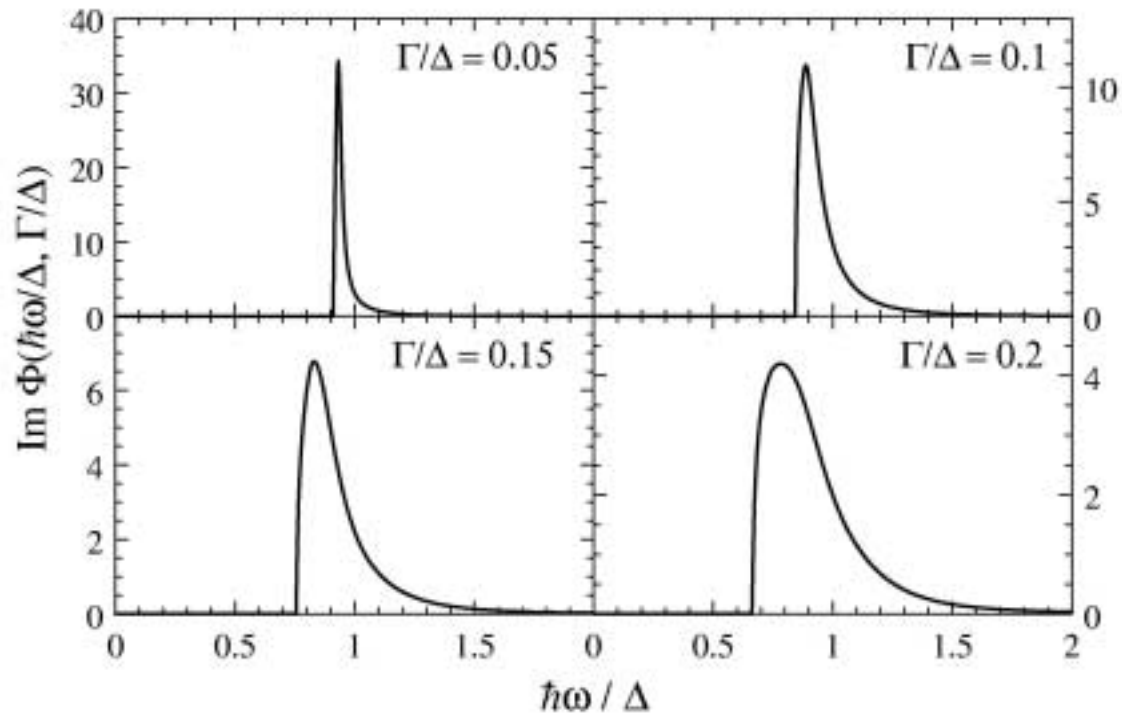
## Predictions of quantum field theory

Without impurities  $\chi(G, \omega) = \frac{A}{\Delta^2 - \omega^2}$

With impurities  $\chi(G, \omega) = \frac{A}{\Delta^2} \Phi\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{\Delta}, \frac{\Gamma}{\Delta}\right)$

$$\Gamma \equiv \frac{n_{\text{imp}} (\hbar c)^2}{\Delta}$$

$\Phi \rightarrow$  Universal scaling function. We computed it in a “self-consistent, non-crossing” approximation



**Predictions:**

Half-width of line  $\approx \Gamma$

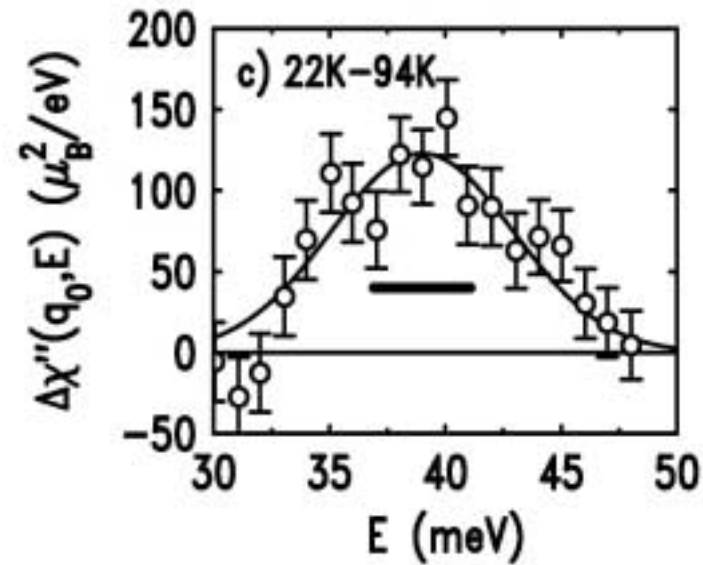
Universal asymmetric lineshape

S. Sachdev, C. Buragohain, M. Vojta, Science **286**, 2479 (1999).

M. Vojta, C. Buragohain, and S. Sachdev, Phys. Rev. B **61**, 15152 (2000).

## YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> + 0.5% Zn

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Y. Sidis, L. P. Regnault,  
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D.L. Milius, I. A. Aksay,  
and B. Keimer,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **82**, 1939  
(1999)



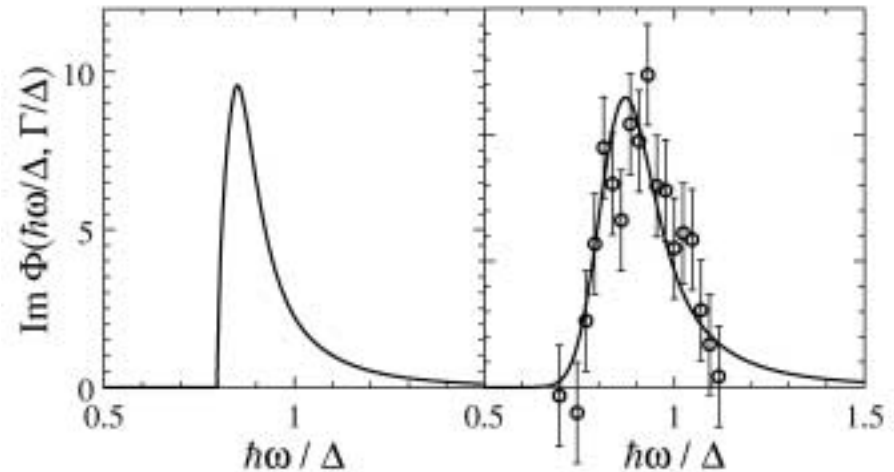
$$n_{\text{imp}} = 0.005$$

$$\Delta = 40 \text{ meV}$$

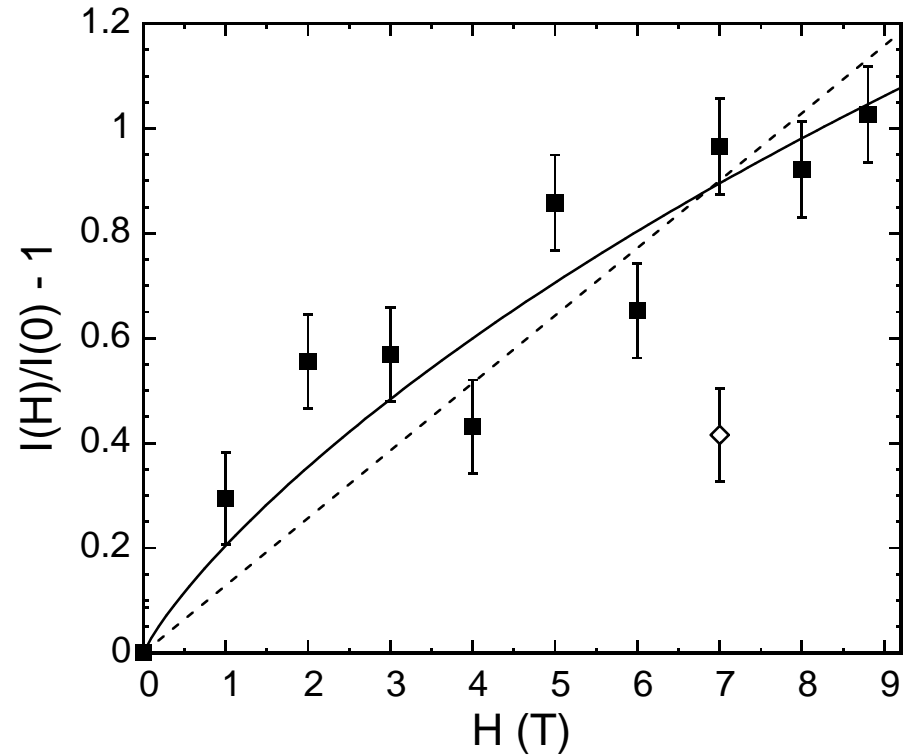
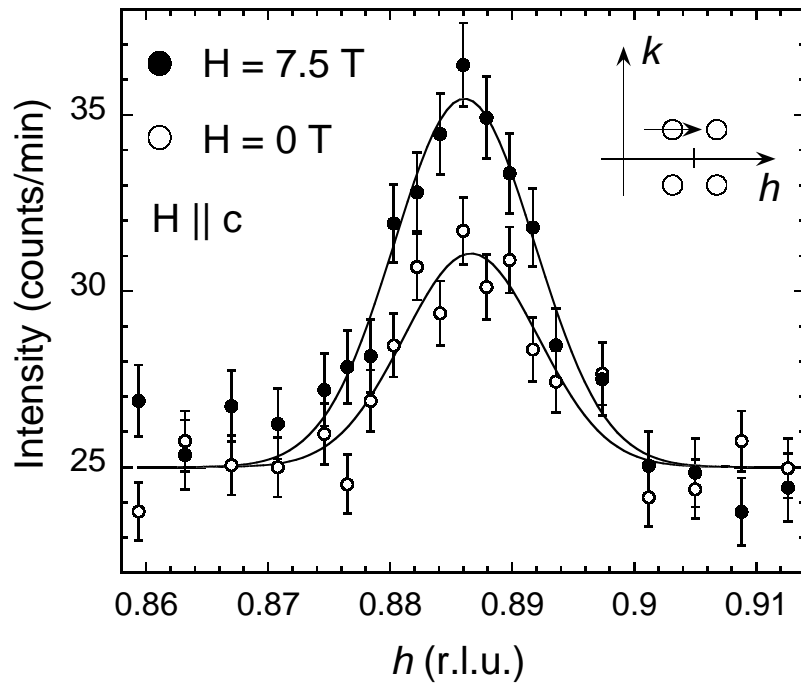
$$\hbar c = 0.2 \text{ eV}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma = 5 \text{ meV}, \Gamma/\Delta = 0.125$$

Quoted half-width = 4.25 meV



### III. Effect of magnetic field on SDW order in SC phase



Elastic neutron scattering off  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_{4+y}$

B. Khaykovich, Y. S. Lee, S. Wakimoto, K. J. Thomas,  
M. A. Kastner, and R.J. Birgeneau, preprint.



- Theory should account for quantum spin fluctuations
- All effects are  $\sim H^2$  except those associated with  $H$  induced superflow.
- Can treat SC order in a static Ginzburg-Landau theory

Action  $F_{GL} / T + S_b + S_c$

$$F_{GL} = \int d^2x \left[ -|\psi|^2 + \frac{|\psi|^4}{2} + |(\nabla_x - iA)\psi|^2 \right]$$

$$S_c = \int d^2x d\tau \left[ \frac{V}{2} \phi_\alpha^2 |\psi|^2 \right] \rightarrow$$

See also S.C. Zhang, *Science*, **275**, 1089 (1997); D. P. Arovas *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **79**, 2871 (1997).

$$S_b = \int d^2x \int_0^{1/T} d\tau \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( (\nabla_x \phi_\alpha)^2 + c^2 (\partial_\tau \phi_\alpha)^2 + r \phi_\alpha^2 \right) + \frac{g}{4!} (\phi_\alpha^2)^2 \right]$$

## Self-consistent Hartree theory of quantum spin fluctuations (large $N$ limit)

$$\chi(x, x', \omega_n) \delta_{\alpha\beta} = \langle \phi_\alpha(x, \omega_n) \phi_\beta(x', -\omega_n) \rangle$$

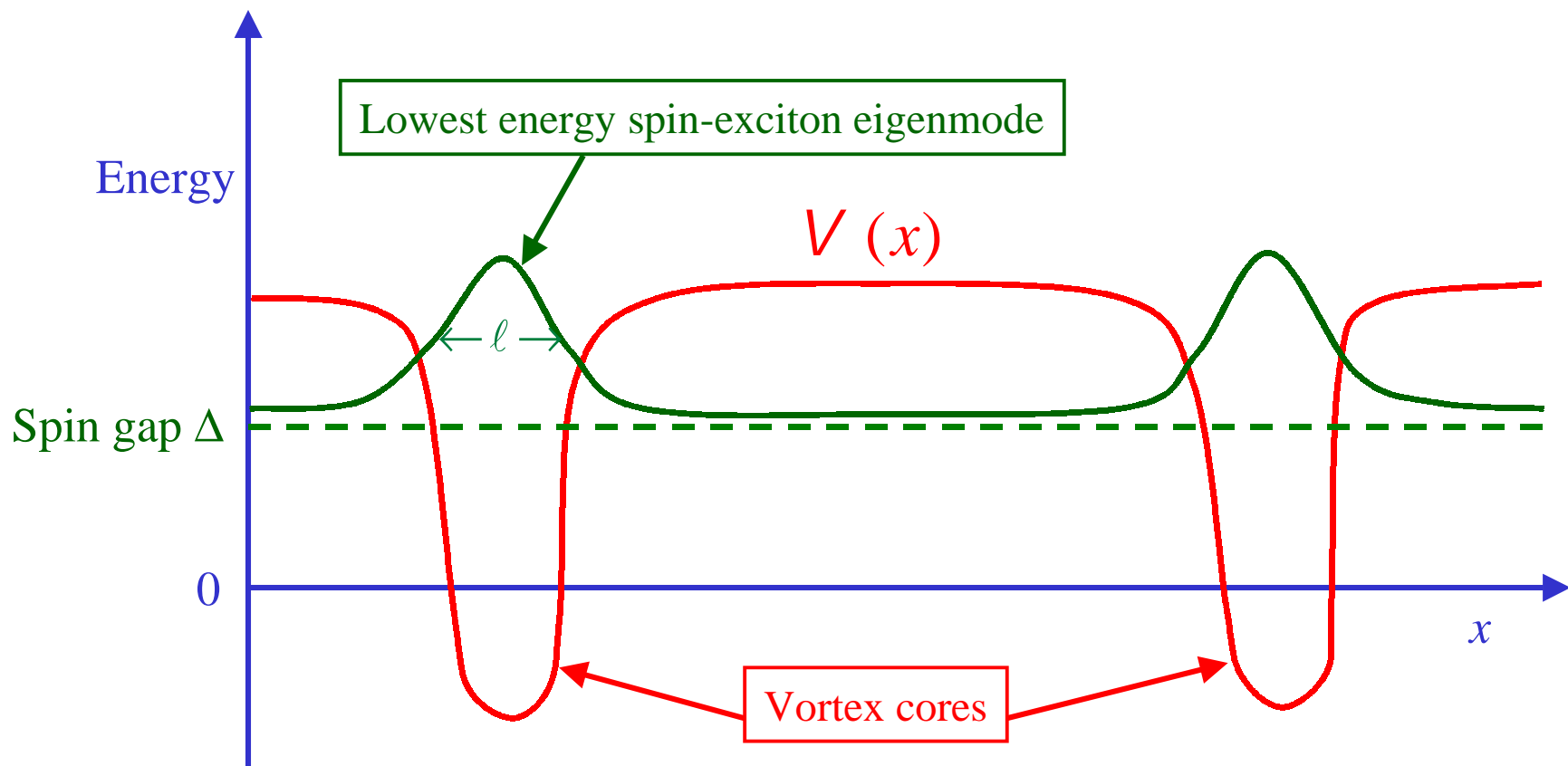
$$\left( \omega_n^2 - c^2 \nabla_x^2 + V(x) \right) \chi(x, x', \omega_n) = \delta(x - x')$$

$$V(x) = r + v |\psi(x)|^2 + (NgT/6) \sum_{\omega_n} \chi(x, x, \omega_n)$$

$$\left[ -1 + |\psi(x)|^2 - \left( \nabla_x - i\vec{A} \right)^2 \right] \psi(x) + (NvT/2) \sum_{\omega_n} \chi(x, x, \omega_n) \psi(x) = 0$$

$V(x) \rightarrow$  local classical energy of spin fluctuations; can become negative in vortex cores for  $v > 0$ .

However, spin gap remains finite because of quantum fluctuations



As  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\ell \rightarrow \infty$ , because of self interaction,  $g$ , of spin excitations.

A.J. Bray and M.A. Moore, J. Phys. C **15**, L765 (1982).

J.A. Hertz, A. Fleishman, and P.W. Anderson, Phys. Rev. Lett. **43**, 942 (1979).

Influence of  $\psi(x)$  on extended spin eigenmodes:

$$|\psi(x)| = 1 - \frac{1}{2x^2} \quad \text{outside each vortex core because of superflow kinetic energy}$$

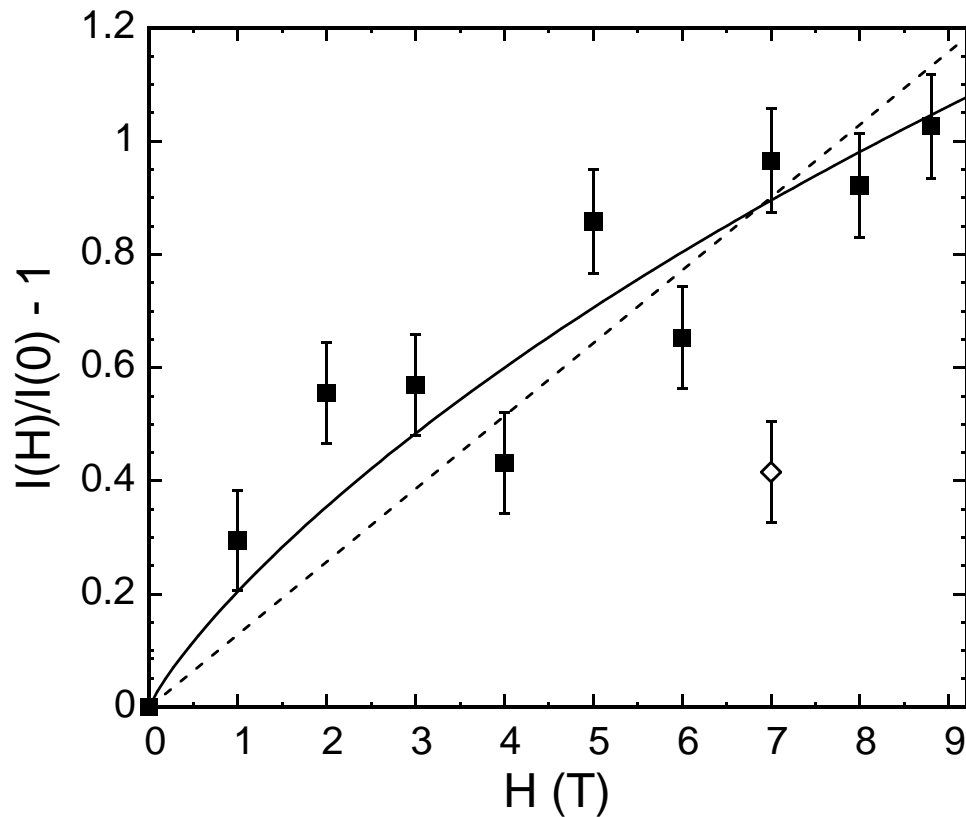
$$\langle |\psi(x)|^2 \rangle = 1 - \frac{H}{2H_{c2}} \ln\left(\frac{3.0H_{c2}}{H}\right)$$

In SC phase, spin gap obeys:

$$\Delta(H) = \Delta(0) - \frac{24\pi c^2 v}{Ng \left(1 - \frac{3v^2}{g}\right)} \frac{H}{2H_{c2}} \ln\left(\frac{3.0H_{c2}}{H}\right)$$

In SC+SDW phase, intensity of elastic scattering obeys:

$$I(H) = I(0) + \frac{6v}{g \left(1 - \frac{3v^2}{g}\right)} \frac{H}{2H_{c2}} \ln\left(\frac{3.0H_{c2}}{H}\right)$$



Elastic neutron scattering  
off  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_{4+y}$

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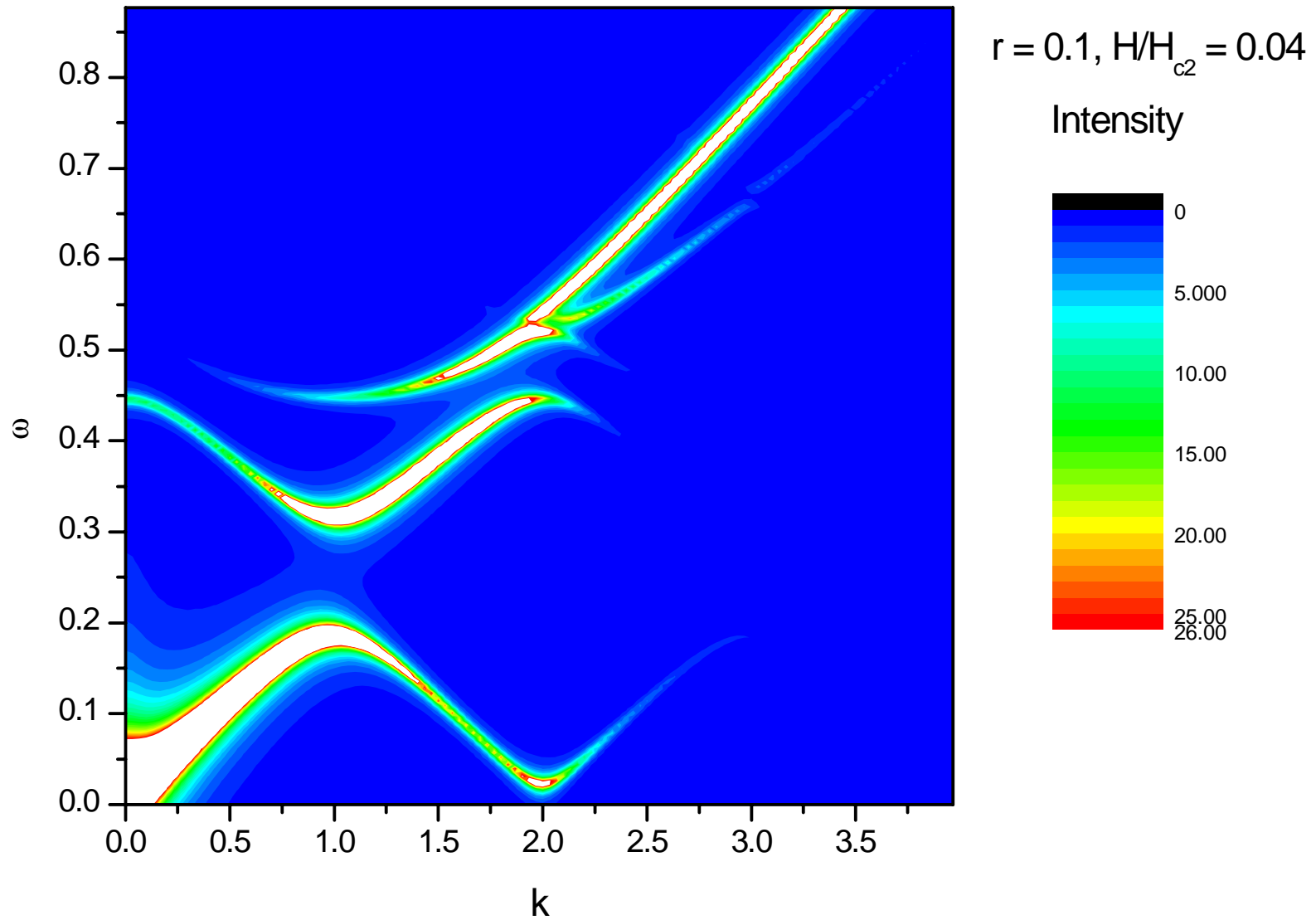
Solid line --- fit to :

$$\frac{I(H)}{I(0)} = 1 + a \frac{H}{H_{c2}} \ln \left( \frac{3.0H_{c2}}{H} \right)$$

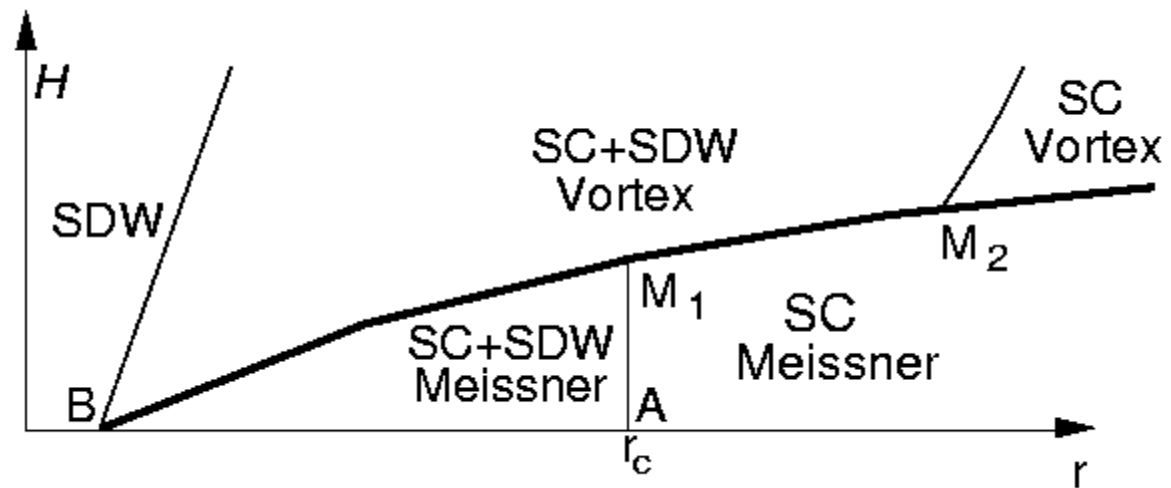
$a$  is the only fitting parameter

Best fit value -  $a = 2.4$  with  $H_{c2} = 60$  T

# Dynamic spin susceptibility $\chi''(k, \omega)$ in vortex lattice phase



Consequences of a finite London penetration depth (finite  $\kappa$ )



## Conclusions

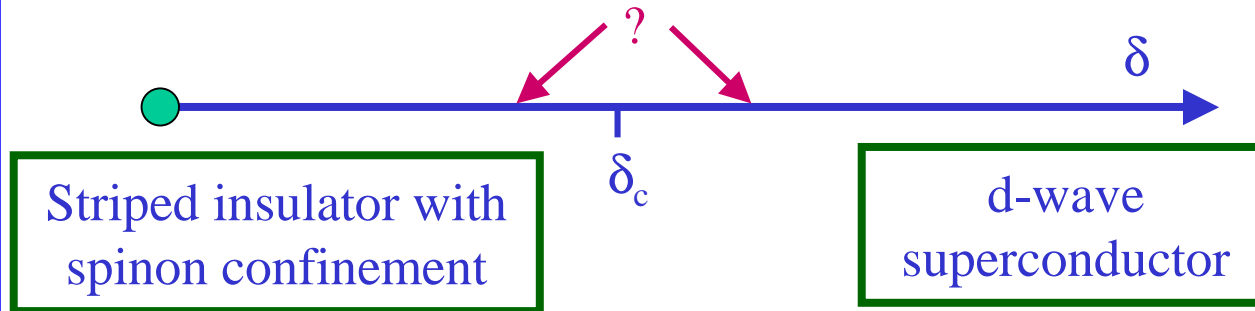
1. Strong experimental evidence for  $S=1/2$  moment near Zn and Li impurities in the underdoped high temperature superconductor.
2. New boundary conformal quantum field theory in 2+1 dimensions describes scattering of spin resonance mode off “non-magnetic” impurities.
3. This, and other properties of the high temperature superconductors (existence of  $S=1$  spin resonance mode, possible bond-centered charge stripe (spin-Peierls) order) are naturally understood by a theory of doping Mott insulators with confinement.
4. Much to be learned from interplay of SDW and superconductivity by applying an external magnetic field.



## II.B Zn or Li impurities in doped Mott insulators

### Case A

Restoration of translational symmetry



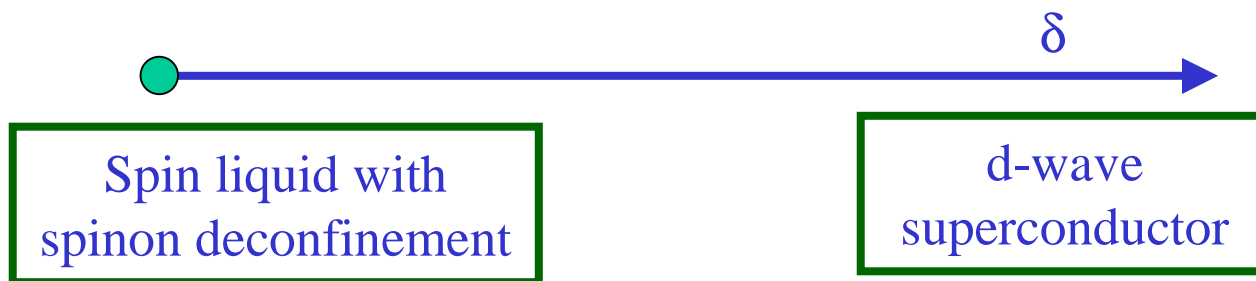
Moments form near each Zn or Li.

This moment is quenched by fermionic Bogoliubov quasiparticles at a quantum phase transition at  $\delta = \delta_c$ .

D. Withoff and E. Fradkin, Phys. Rev. Lett. **64**, 1835 (1990).

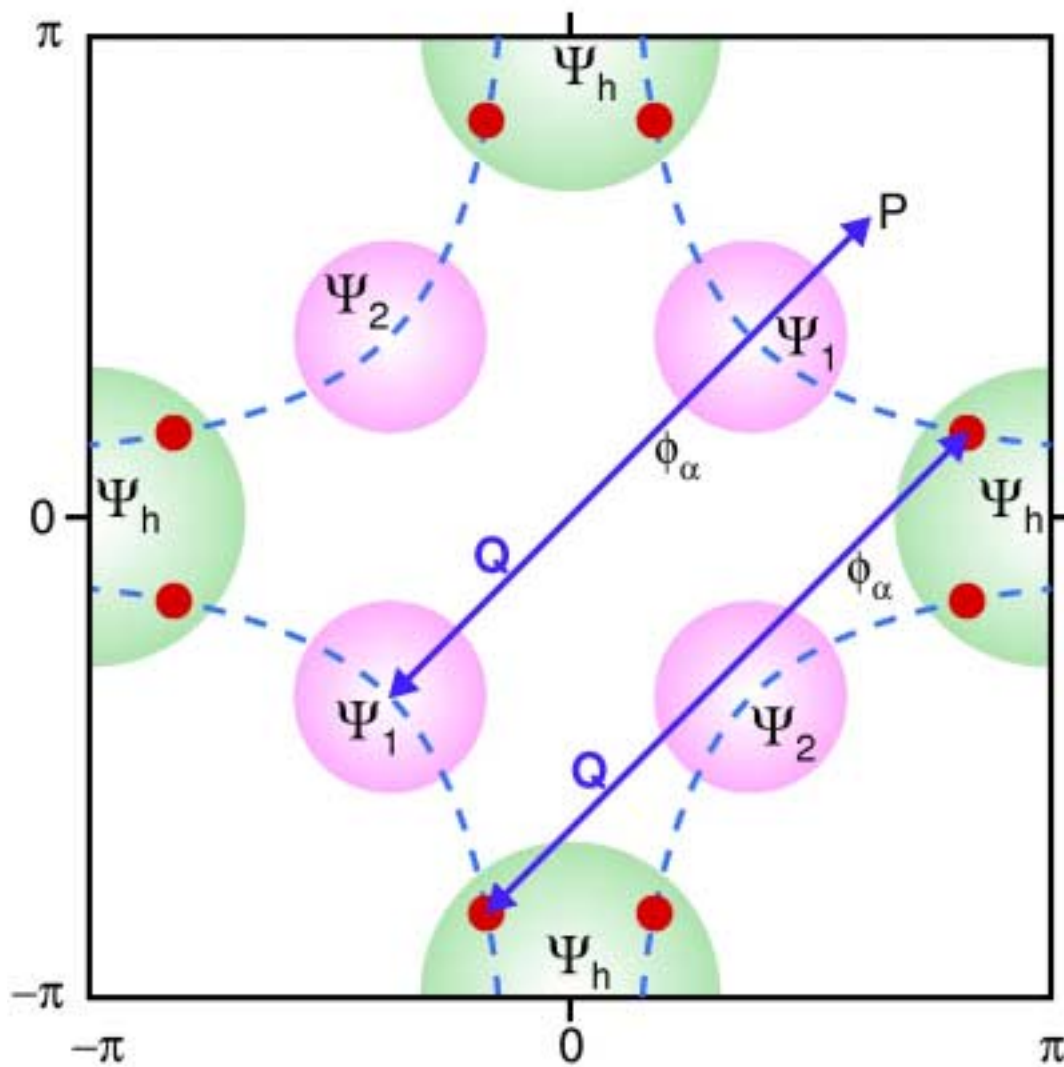
C. Gonzalez-Buxton and K. Ingersent, Phys. Rev. B **57**, 14254 (1998).

### Case B



No moments form near Zn or Li ions substituted for Cu and impurity response evolves smoothly

## Constraints from momentum conservation



$\Psi_h$ : strongly coupled to  $\phi_\alpha$ , but do not damp  $\phi_\alpha$  as long as  $\Delta < 2\Delta_h$

$\Psi_{1,2}$ : decoupled from  $\phi_\alpha$