Three-Orbital Spin-Fermion Model for CuO₂ Planes

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High T_c Cuprates



Mott versus Charge-Transfer Insulators



Single-orbital models are often used:

- ARPES show one single band at the Fermi surface.
- Zhang-Rice singlet transforms the three-orbital model to a t-J model.

However, cuprates are charge-transfer insulators.

- Do oxygen p_{σ} orbitals play an important role?
- Is the Zhang-Rice picture correct?

We need a three-orbital model that can be studied numerically in large lattices and at all temperatures.

Spin-Fermion Model for the CuO₂ planes:

 $-t_{md}$ $+t_{md}$

Three-band Hubbard model

$$H_{\mathrm{TB}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,\beta,\sigma} T^{\alpha,\beta} \left(\mathbf{k} \right) \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,\sigma} \hat{c}_{\mathbf{k},\beta,\sigma}$$

$$H_{\text{int}} = U_d \sum_{\mathbf{i}} \hat{n}_{\mathbf{i},d,\uparrow} \hat{n}_{\mathbf{i},d,\downarrow}$$

 $\alpha = d, p_x, p_y$

Spin-Fermion model

$$H_{sF} = H_{TB} + H_{d} + H_{p} + H_{Heis}$$

$$H_{TB} = \sum_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,\beta,\sigma} T^{\alpha,\beta} (\mathbf{k}) \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,\sigma} \hat{c}_{\mathbf{k},\beta,\sigma}$$
Prevents double occupancy
in d orbitals.
Introduces frustration.
Encourages AF order.

Simplification: classical localized spins can be studied with Monte Carlo

 S_i are phenomenological localized spins.

S. Liang et al., PRL **109**, 047001 (2012); C. Buhler et al., PRL **84**, 2690 (2000); E. Dagotto et al., PRB **58**, 6414 (1998).

Numerical Study of the Spin-Fermion Model:

Simplification: classical localized spins can be studied with Monte.

 $\mathbf{S_i} = (\sin \theta_i \cos \phi_i, \sin \theta_i \sin \phi_i, \cos \theta_i)$



Results



Spectral Functions $A(\mathbf{k},\omega)$



- The ZRB appears.
- Its dispersion is ~ 0.5-0.8 eV, close to experimental result.
- Dispersion symmetric about $(\pi/2,\pi/2)$ not captured by t-J model.



Spectral Functions $A(\mathbf{k},\omega)$



- Pseudogap (PG) at chemical potential.
- Dispersion is ~ 1 eV, close to experiments.
- "Waterfall" feature along Γ-Μ.
- FS features along X-Y.

C. Weber et al., PRB **78**, 134519 (2008). DMFT



Magnetic Structure

Undoped Case: 5 electrons per unit cell.



- Tendency towards AF long-range order.
- T_N~300-500K.
- Quantum Cu spins follow classical spins.

Conclusions

A three-orbital spin-fermion model for the CuO₂ planes was presented.

- It captures the charge-transfer nature of cuprates.
- •AFM state stabilizes in the undoped limit around 300 K.
- •Zhang-Rice singlet band observed in $A(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$.
- •The symmetry about $(\pi/2,\pi/2)$ in A(**k**, ω), reproduced only with long range hoppings in single-orbital models, develops spontaneously.

Next steps: study charge-spin structures such as stripes, Zhang-Rice singlets, high spin polarons, intertwined orders, etc.

- •The studied cluster sizes cannot be accessed with DMRG, Lanczos nor Quantum Monte Carlo.
 - -64x64 clusters possible with traveling cluster approximation.