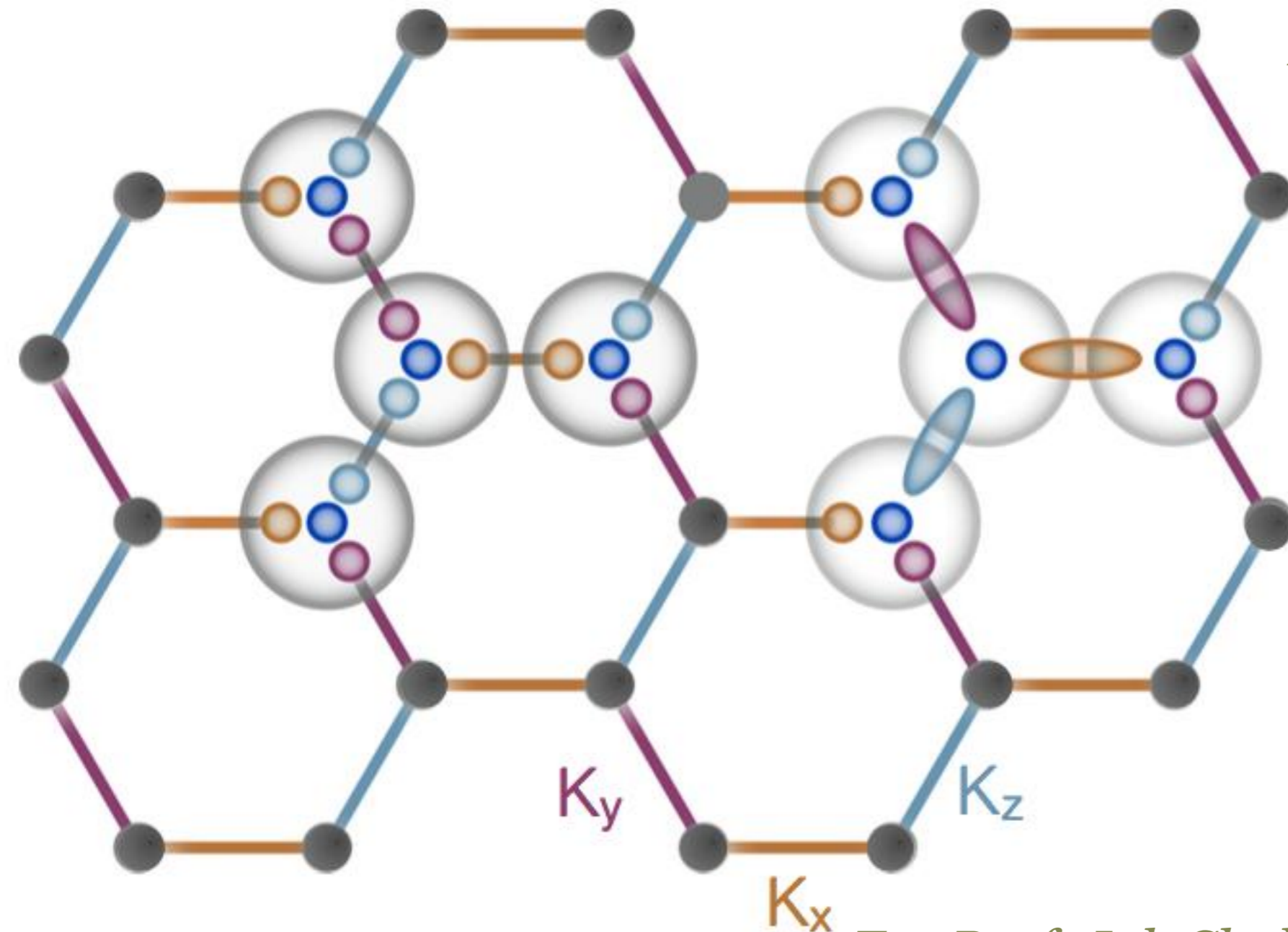


# KITAEV MATERIAL

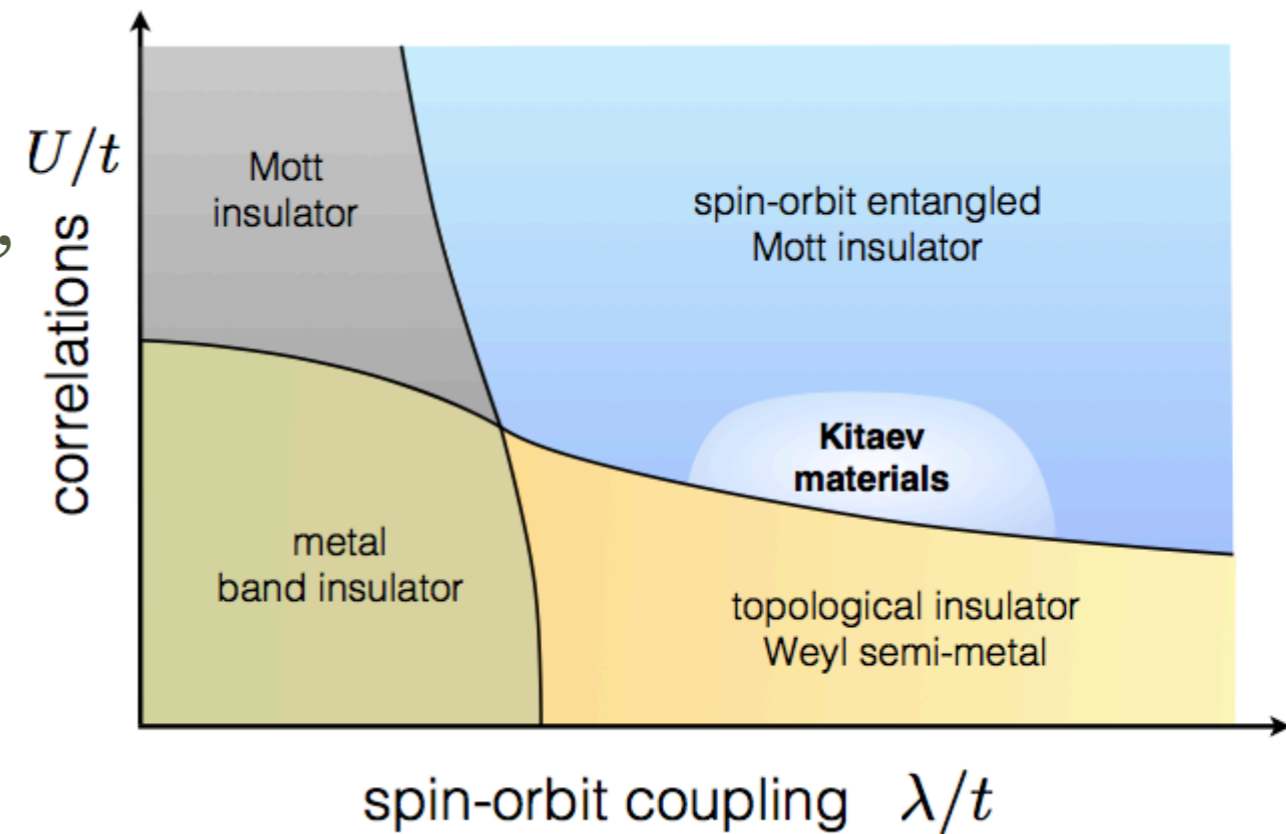
*Simon Trebst  
presented by Fangdi Wen*



*For Prof. Jak Chakhalian's Solid State Physics*

# What is Kitaev Material?

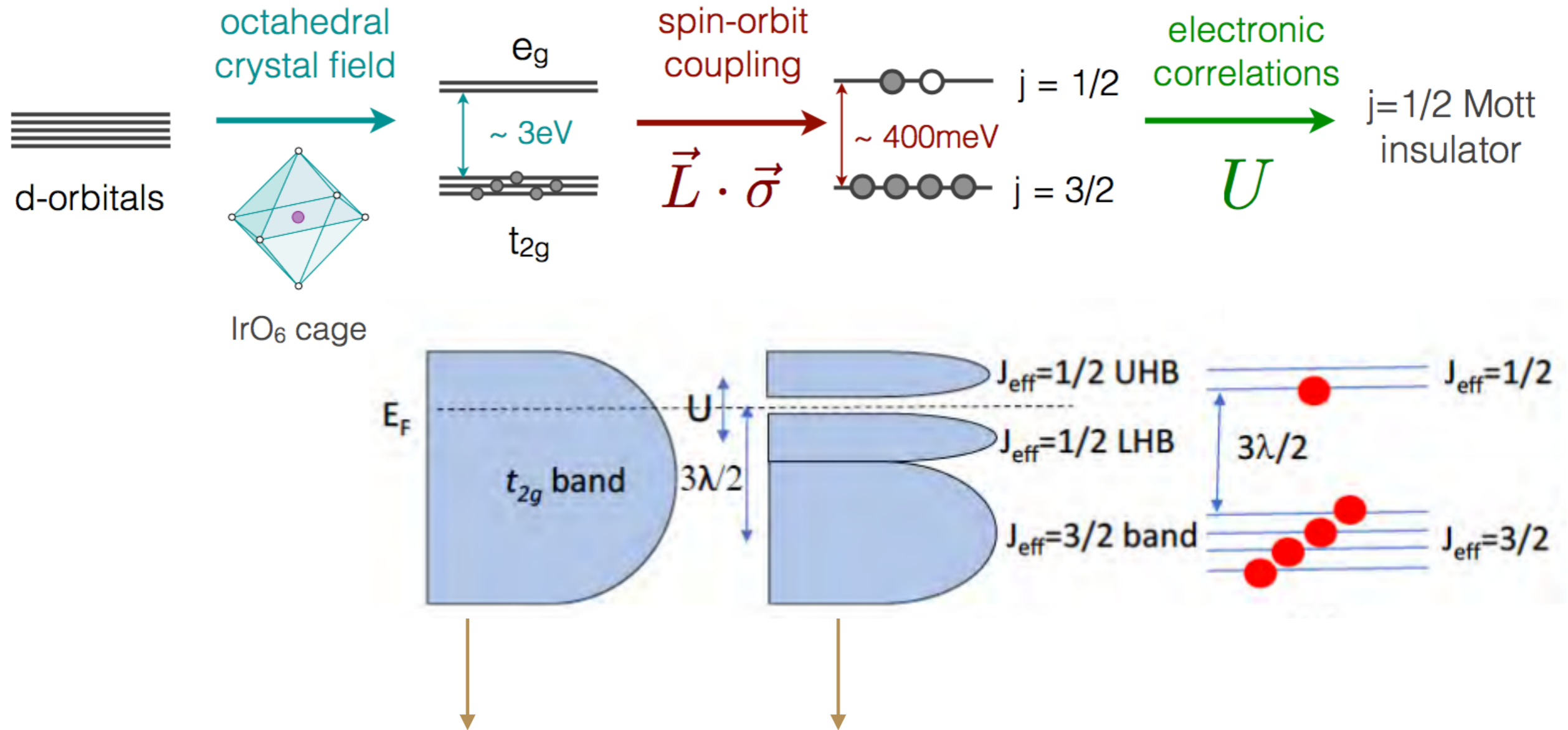
“spin-orbit assisted Mott insulators”



- What makes it Mott Insulator?
- What gives it high magnetic frustration? (Spin Liquids?)
- What is unusual about it?

# Spin-Orbit Coupling

$Z+$ , large radius (large band width)  
 $\text{SOC}+$ , suppress band width



Large band width—  
 $U$  don't split the band

Small band width—  
 $U$  might split the gap  
 Mott Gap

# Electronic correlation

Two exchange paths



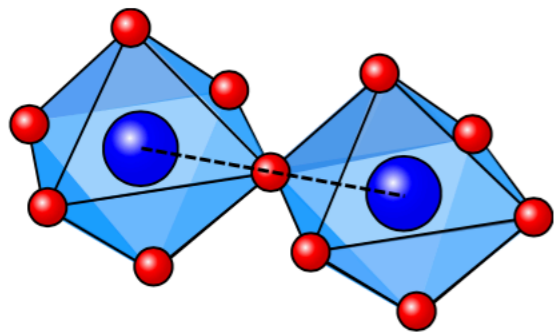
Interference of wave function



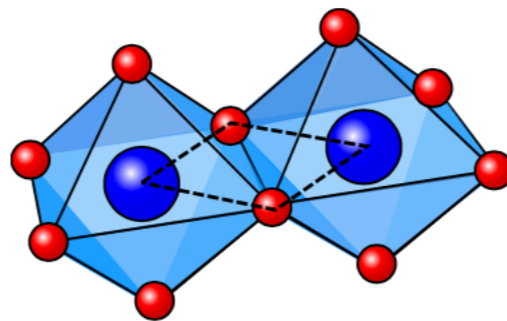
bond-directional coupling (Kitaev couplings)

$$-\frac{8t^2 J_H}{3U^2} S_1^\gamma S_2^\gamma$$

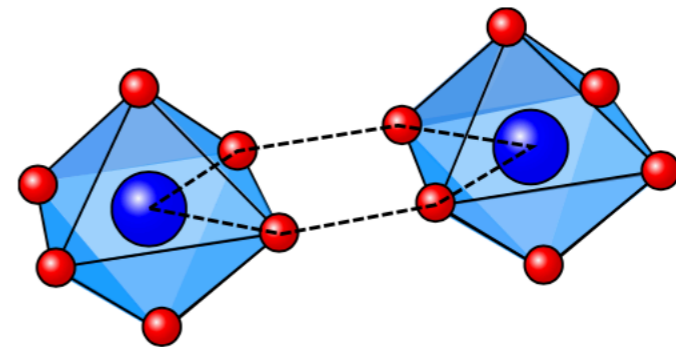
**I:** corner-sharing



**II:** edge-sharing



“parallel edge”-sharing



Ising-like coupling

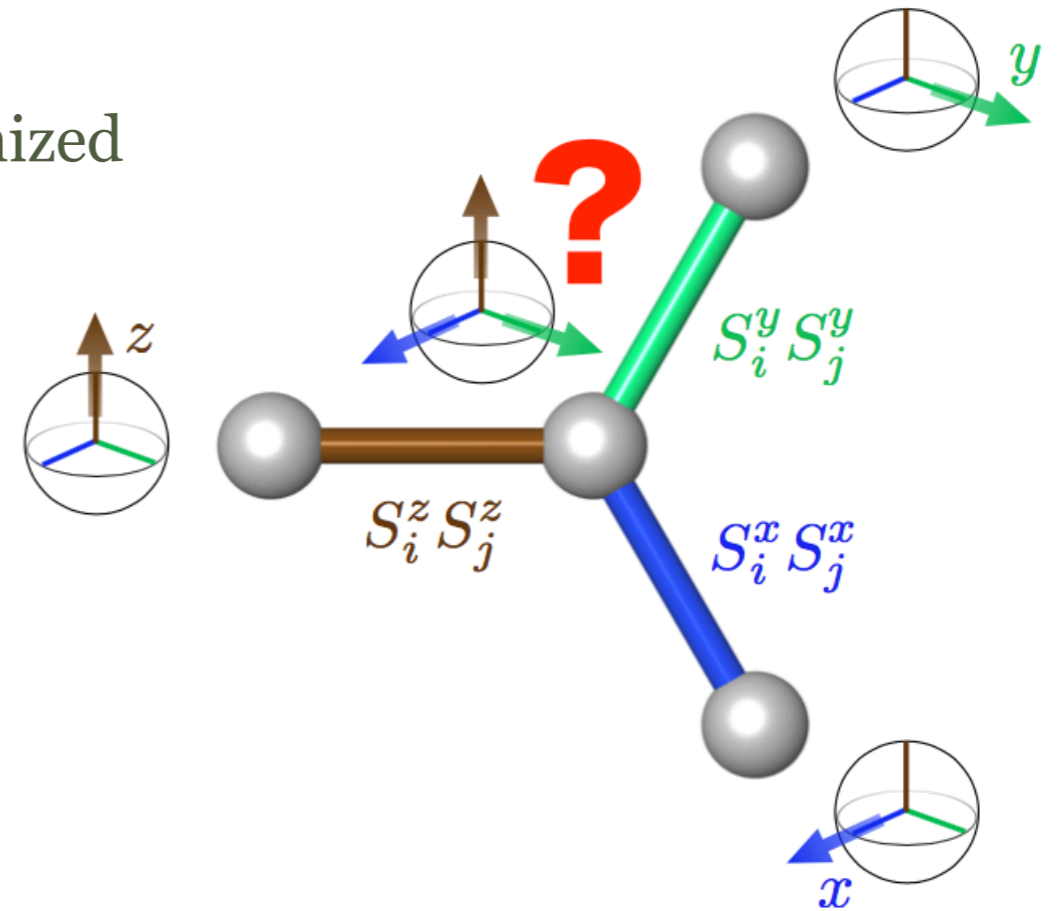
# Exchange frustration

$$H = - \sum_{\gamma\text{-bonds}} J \mathbf{S}_i \mathbf{S}_j + K S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + \Gamma (S_i^\alpha S_j^\beta + S_i^\beta S_j^\alpha)$$

strong exchange frustration:

these interactions cannot be simultaneously minimized

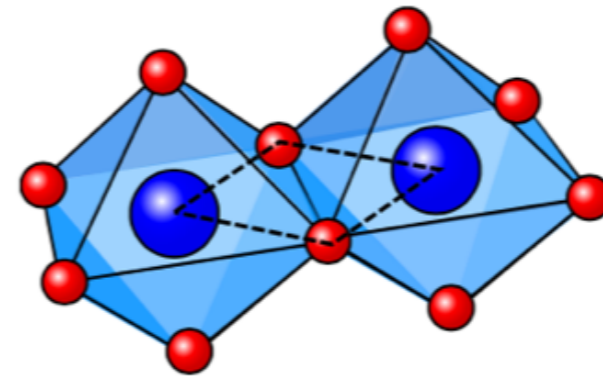
↓  
ground-state entropy



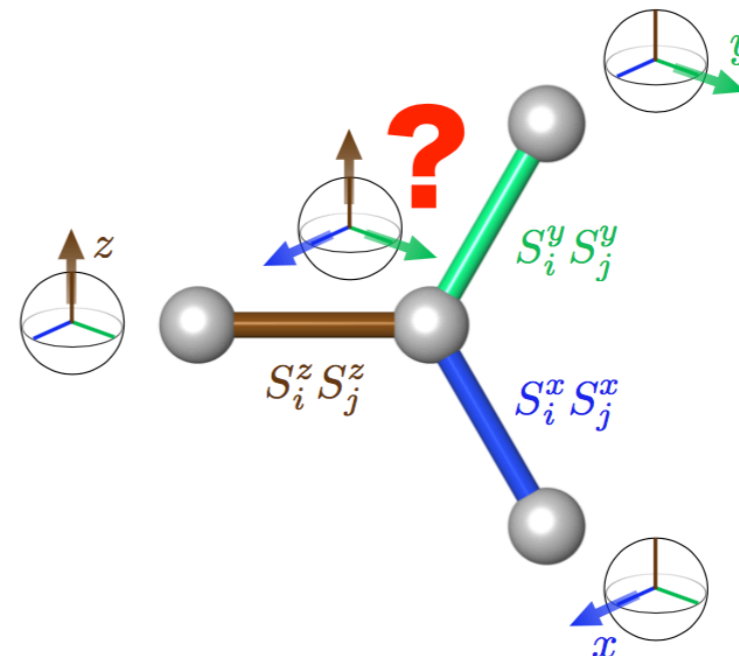
Frustration \* 2 ~ Quantum Spin Liquid!

# Why is Kitaev materials special?

Ferromagnetic



Magnetic anisotropy



(Majorana Fermions)

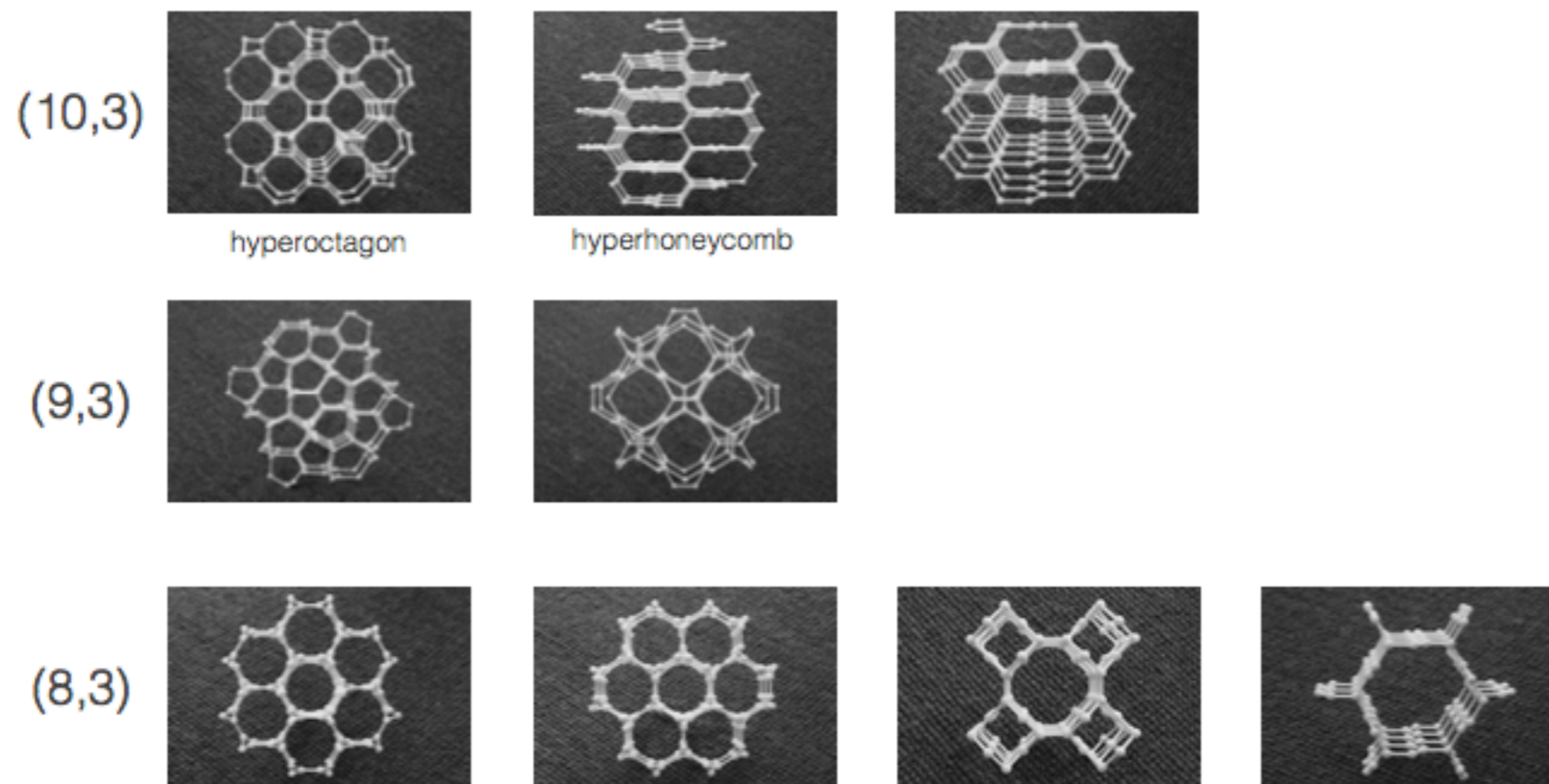


Possible Kitaev materials:

Hexagonal:  $\text{Na}_2\text{IrO}_3$

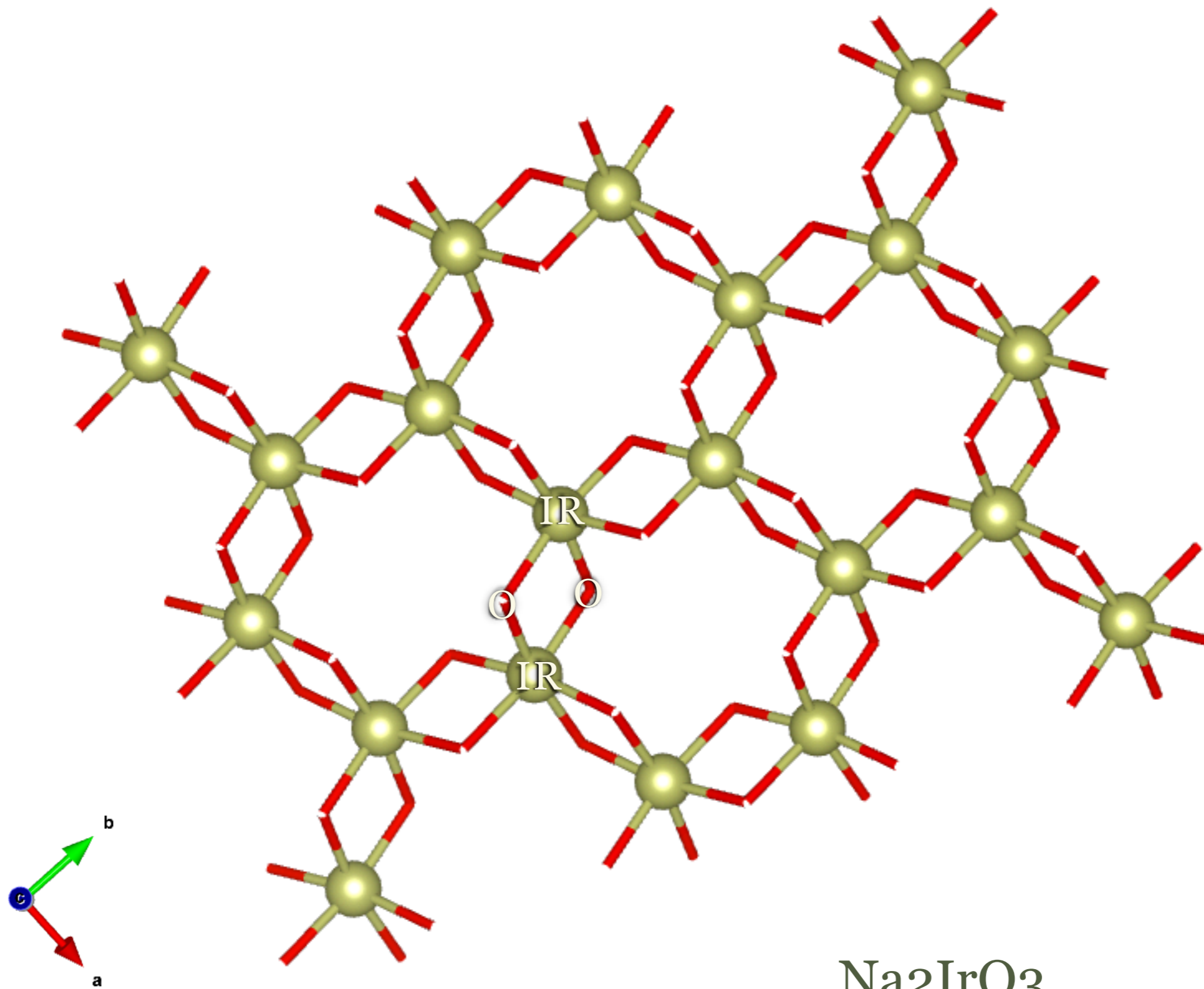
Triangle:  $\text{Ba}_3\text{Ir}(2-x)\text{Ti}_x\text{O}_9$

3D: Theoretical prediction



**Fig. 14:** Illustration of the elementary tricoordinated lattices by photographs of 3D printed models. Further information on these lattices is provided in Table 1.

Example:



$\text{Na}_2\text{IrO}_3$



## Summery Kitaev Materials

a family of spin-orbit assisted  $j=1/2$  Mott insulators  
bond-directional exchange induces frustration  
unconventional forms of magnetism