

The nature of orbital order in transition-metal oxides

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Orbital order plays a crucial role in the physics of transition-metal oxides, and yet its nature is poorly understood. Using the LDA+DMFT technique, we disentangle many-body super-exchange from electron-phonon coupling effects. This allows us to finally clarify the role of the Kugel-Khomskii mechanism in determining orbital order in a number of paradigmatic systems [1,2,3,4].

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