

MAR13-2012-020188

Abstract for an Invited Paper
for the MAR13 Meeting of
the American Physical Society

Interplay between the pseudogap, mode coupling and superconductivity in Bi-based cuprates¹

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Complexity of the high-T_c cuprate superconductors is partly due to the coexisting energy scales that are of the order of superconducting gap (<50 meV). The pseudogap (<100 meV) and bosonic mode (<100 meV) could be relevant to superconductivity, but they have not been understood in a unified picture. We first show the commencement of the pseudogap state at temperature T* using three different techniques (ARPES, polar Kerr effect, and Time-resolved reflectivity) on the same optimally doped Bi2201 crystals. The result suggests that the pseudogap is a distinct phase that shows broken symmetry,^{2,3} which could be consistent with the two-dimensional charge ordering observed by STM and scattering measurements. Further, we discuss how this distinct pseudogap order is entangled with superconductivity below T_c. In Bi2212, by analyzing the ARPES spectral weight in the antinodal region, we show compelling evidence for the dynamic competition between the two order parameters for the pseudogap and superconductivity as a function of temperature.⁴ Such competition can naturally result in the shift of the critical point for the pseudogap.⁵ Moreover, by studying the detailed temperature and doping dependence of the spectral lineshape in the antinodal region, we reveal that the interplay between the pseudogap, bosonic-mode coupling and superconductivity with similar energy scales is crucial and they have to be considered in an integrated picture to understand the cuprates electronic structure.⁶

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¹This work is supported by the Department of Energy, Office of Basic Energy Science, Division of Materials Science.

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