

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR07 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Local Electronic Structure of Bi₂Sr₂CaCu₂O₈ near Oxygen Dopants: A Window on the High-T_c Pairing Mechanism¹ YAO HE, PETER HIRSCHFELD, HAI-PING CHENG, University of Florida — The cuprate material Bi₂Sr₂CaCu₂O₈(BSCCO-2212) is believed to be doped by a combination of cation switching and excess oxygen. The interstitial oxygen dopants are of particular interest because scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) experiments have shown that they are positively correlated with the local value of the superconducting gap, and calculations suggest that the fundamental attraction between electrons is modulated locally. In this work, we use density functional theory to try to ascertain which locations in the crystal are energetically most favorable for the O dopant atoms, and how the surrounding cage of atoms deforms. Our results provide support for the identification of STM resonances at -1.0 eV with dopant interstitial O atoms, and show how the local electronic structure is modified nearby.

¹Supported by DOE under DE-FG02-97ER45660DE-FG02-02ER45995, NSF/DMR/ITR/DMR-032553, ONR/N00014-04-0060, and DOE/DEFG02-05ER46236

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Date submitted: 20 Nov 2006

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