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Fractionalized Excitations in higher dimensional Iridates¹

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Fractionalization of elementary excitations remains an exotic phenomenon usually limited to 1D and 2D systems. Here we report spectroscopic signatures of fractional excitations in the 3D harmonic-honeycomb iridates beta - and gamma-Li₂IrO₃ [1]. Our experimental evidence is based on Raman spectroscopic investigations of the polarization and temperature dependence of a scattering continuum, a comparison with earlier investigations of alpha-RuCl₃ [2], and a comparison with theoretical modelling of the Kitatev model on different topologies [3]. [1] A. Glamazda, P. Lemmens, S.-H. Do, K.-Y. Choi, Nature Commun. 7, 12286 (2016). [2] L. J. Sandilands, Y. Tian, K. W. Plumb, Y. -J. Kim, and K. S. Burch, PRL 114, 147201 (2015). [3] J. Knolle, G.-W. Chern, D. L. Kovrizhin, R. Moessner, and N. B. Perkins, PRL 113, 187201 (2014). B. Perreault, J. Knolle, N. B. Perkins, and F. J. Burnell, PRB 92, 094439 (2015).

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