

# Co-existing long- and short-range magnetic order in the frustrated diamond antiferromagnet, $\text{LiYbO}_2$

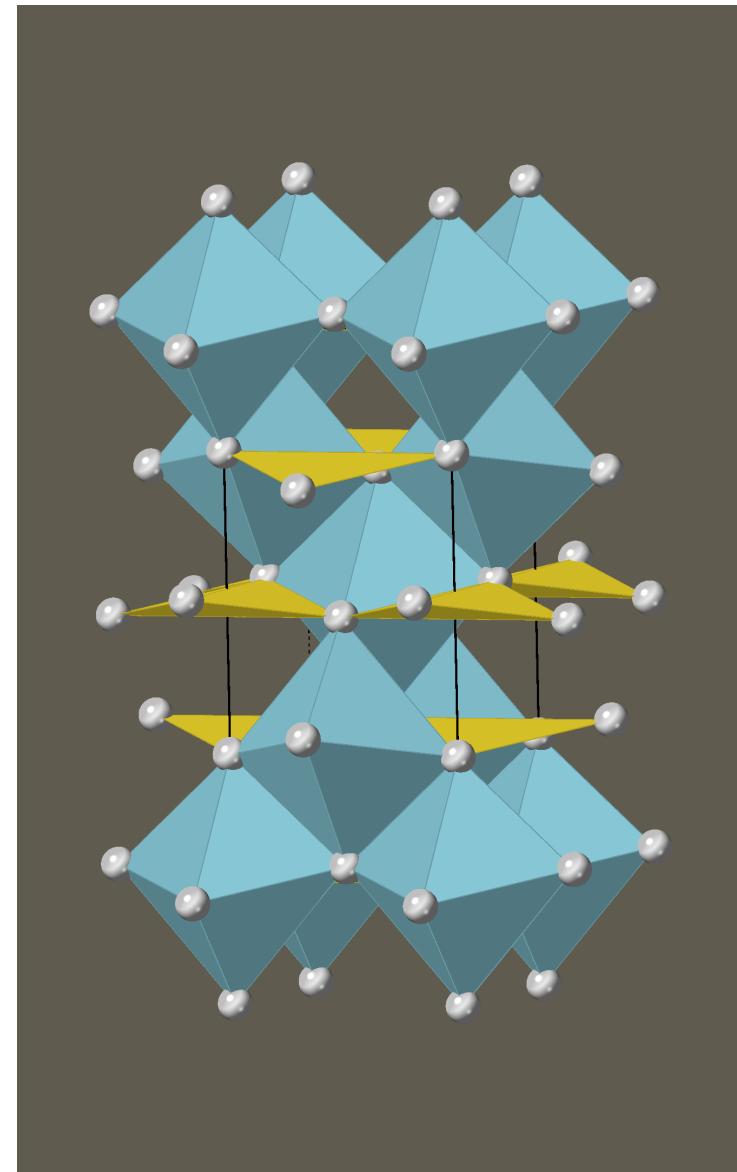
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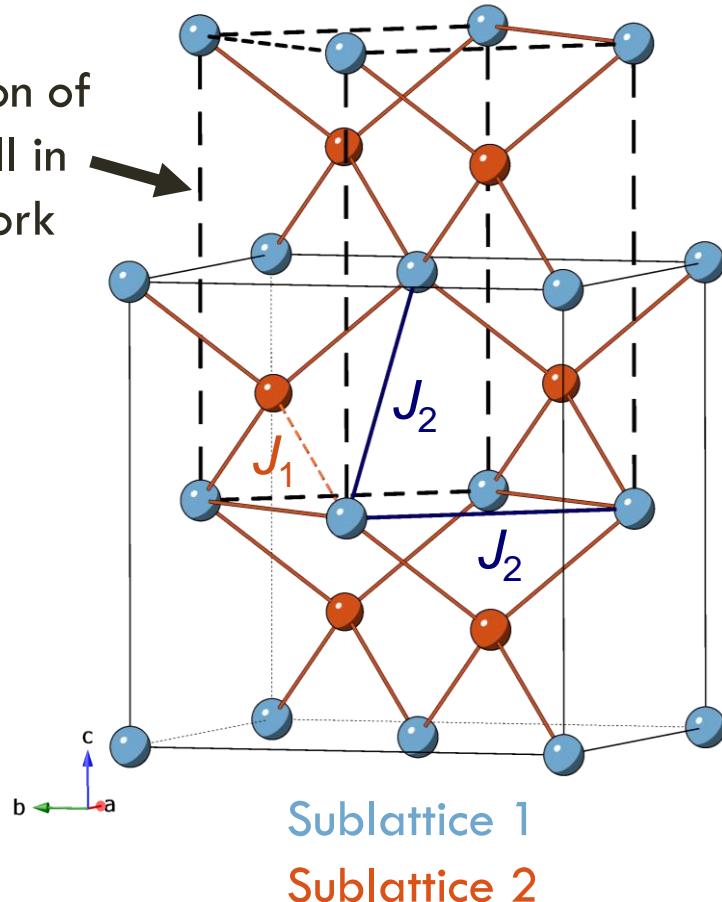


UNIVERSITY OF  
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# DIAMOND LATTICE

Definition of  
unit cell in  
this work



$J_1$ - $J_2$  Heisenberg model on diamond lattice

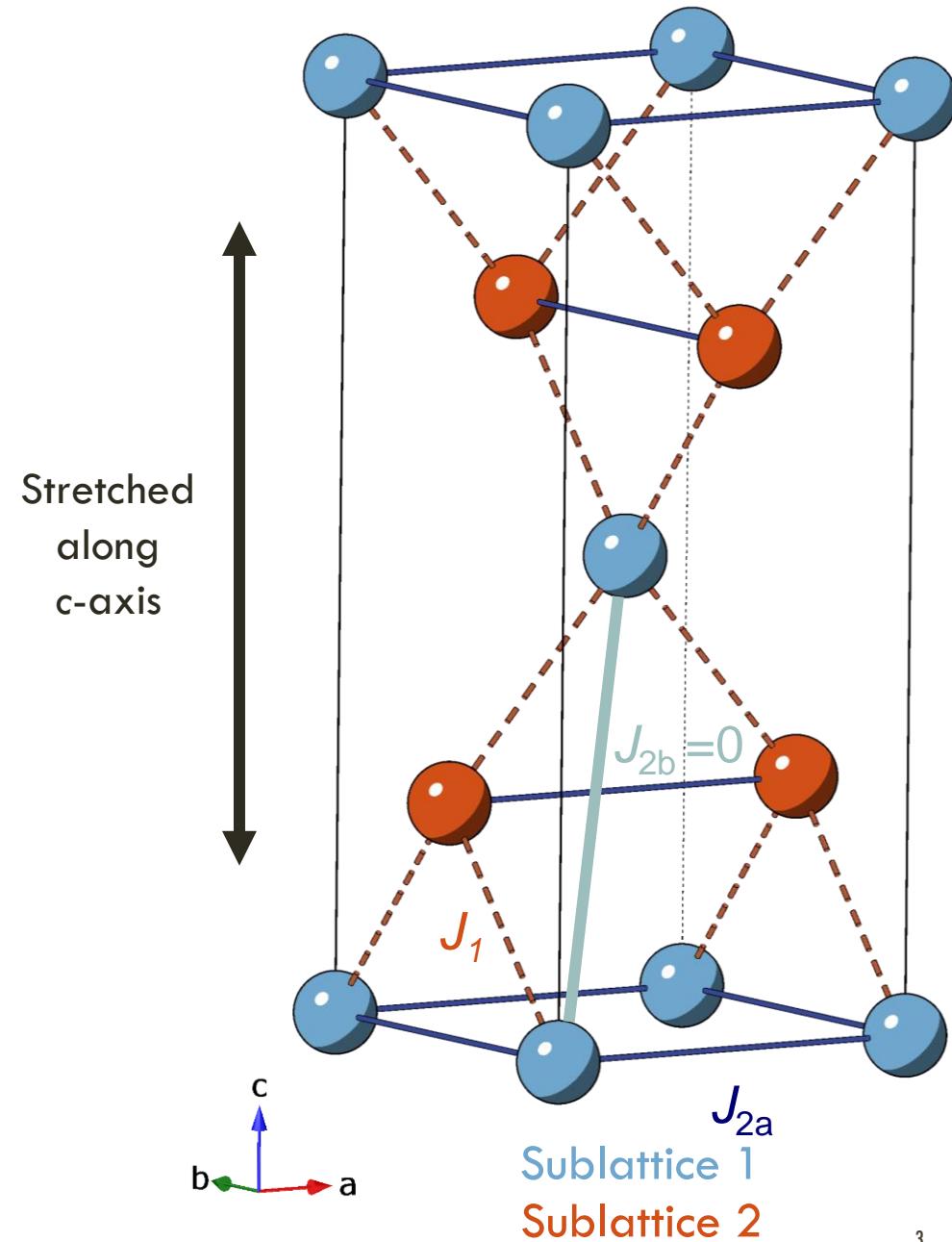
- Perturbing longer range couplings outside  $J_1$ - $J_2$
- Cubic-tetragonal distortion

What if the diamond lattice was not perfect to begin with?

# STRETCHED DIAMOND LATTICE

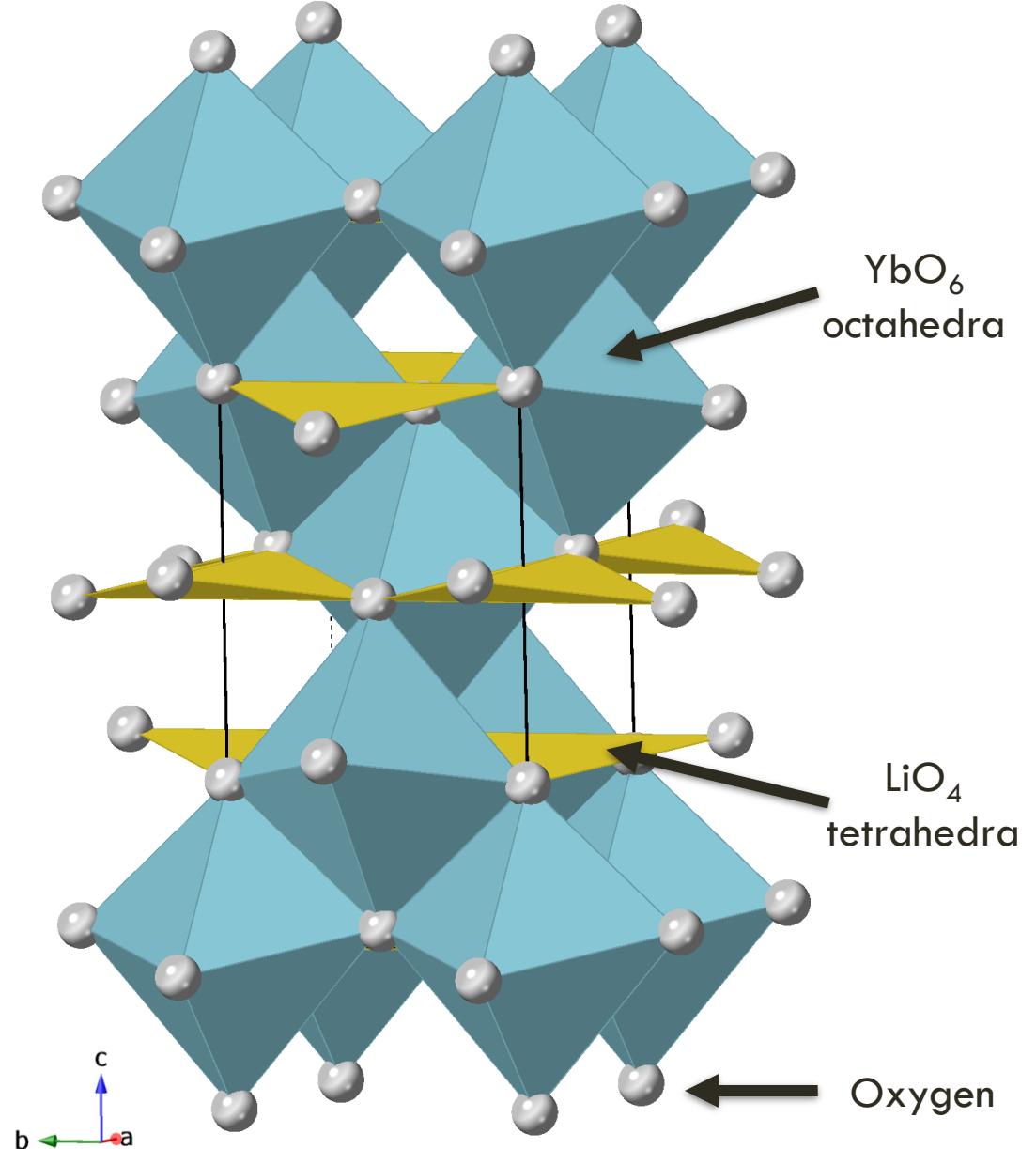
$J_1$ - $J_2$  Heisenberg model on **stretched** diamond lattice

- Superexchange pathways are equivalent in length through  $J_1$  and  $J_{2a}$
- $J_{2b}$  pathway is significantly longer,  $J_{2b} = 0$
- Frustration generated if  $|J_1| \sim J_{2a}$



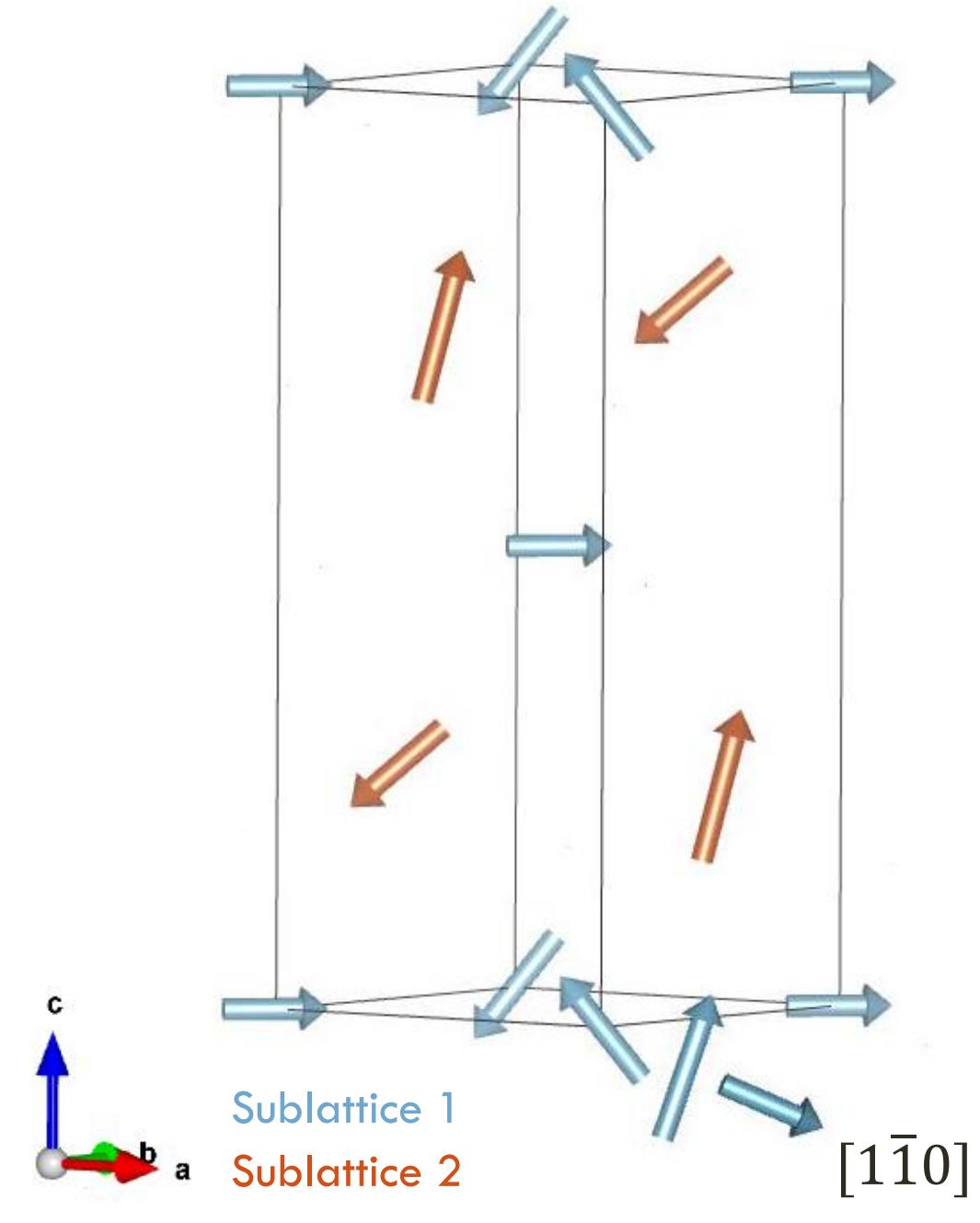
# $\text{LiYbO}_2$

- $I\bar{4}_1/\text{amd}$  space group

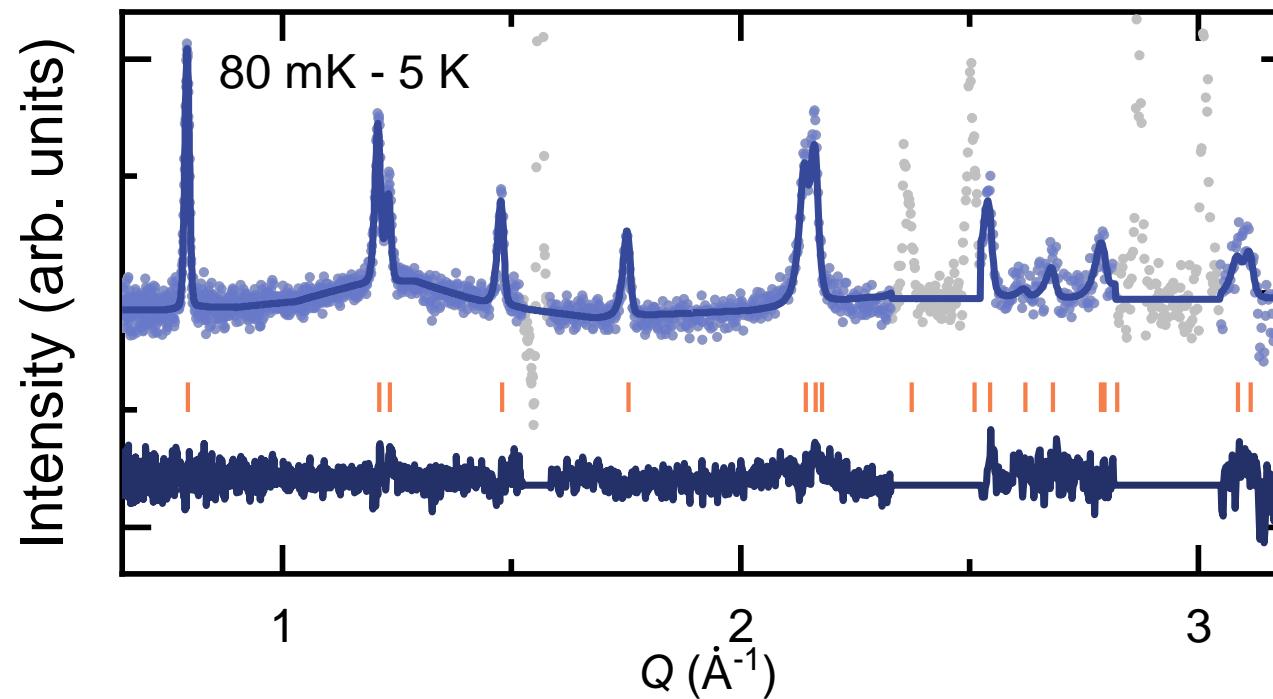


# $\text{LiYbO}_2$

- $I4_1/\text{amd}$  space group
- Below 450 mK fully ordered incommensurate helix
- Helices related by fixed phase angle
  - Experiment =  $0.58 \pi$
  - Theory =  $\pi$



$T < 450$  mK

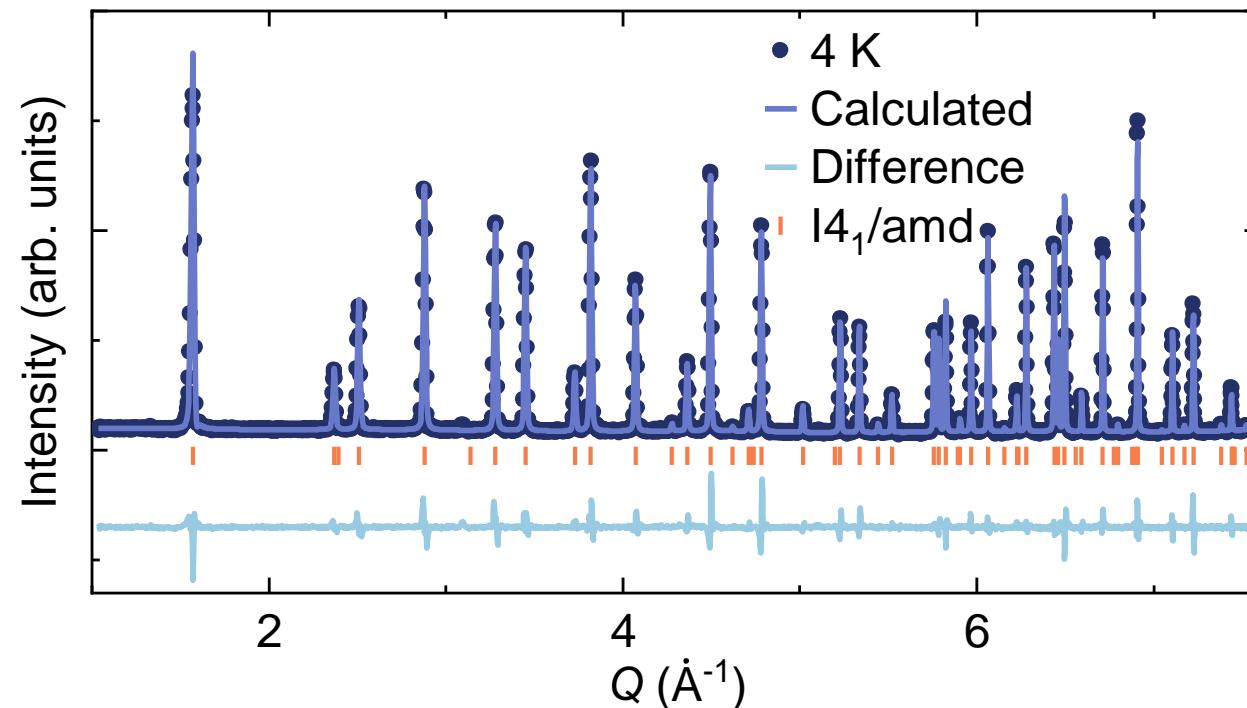


Magnetic scattering data from WISH, 80 mK – 5 K

$$R_{\text{mag}} = 13.1\%, \chi^2 = 3.06$$

$$\mathbf{k} = (0.391, \pm 0.391, 0), \mu_{\text{order}} = 0.63(1) \mu_B, \phi = 1.15(5)\pi$$

# CHEMICAL STRUCTURE



High resolution NPD data from D2B at 4 K

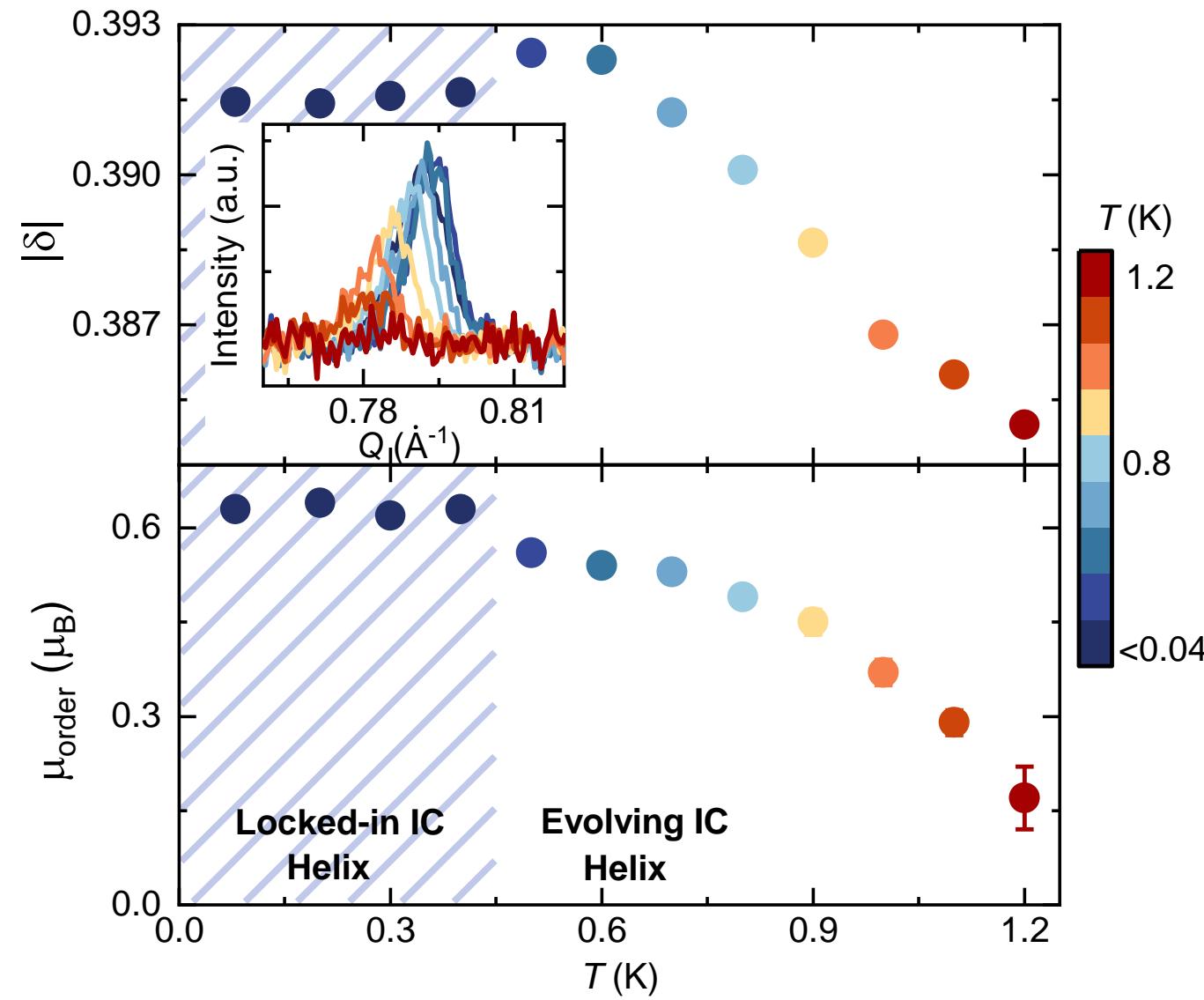
$$R_F = 1.59\%, \chi^2 = 8.73$$

No preferred orientation

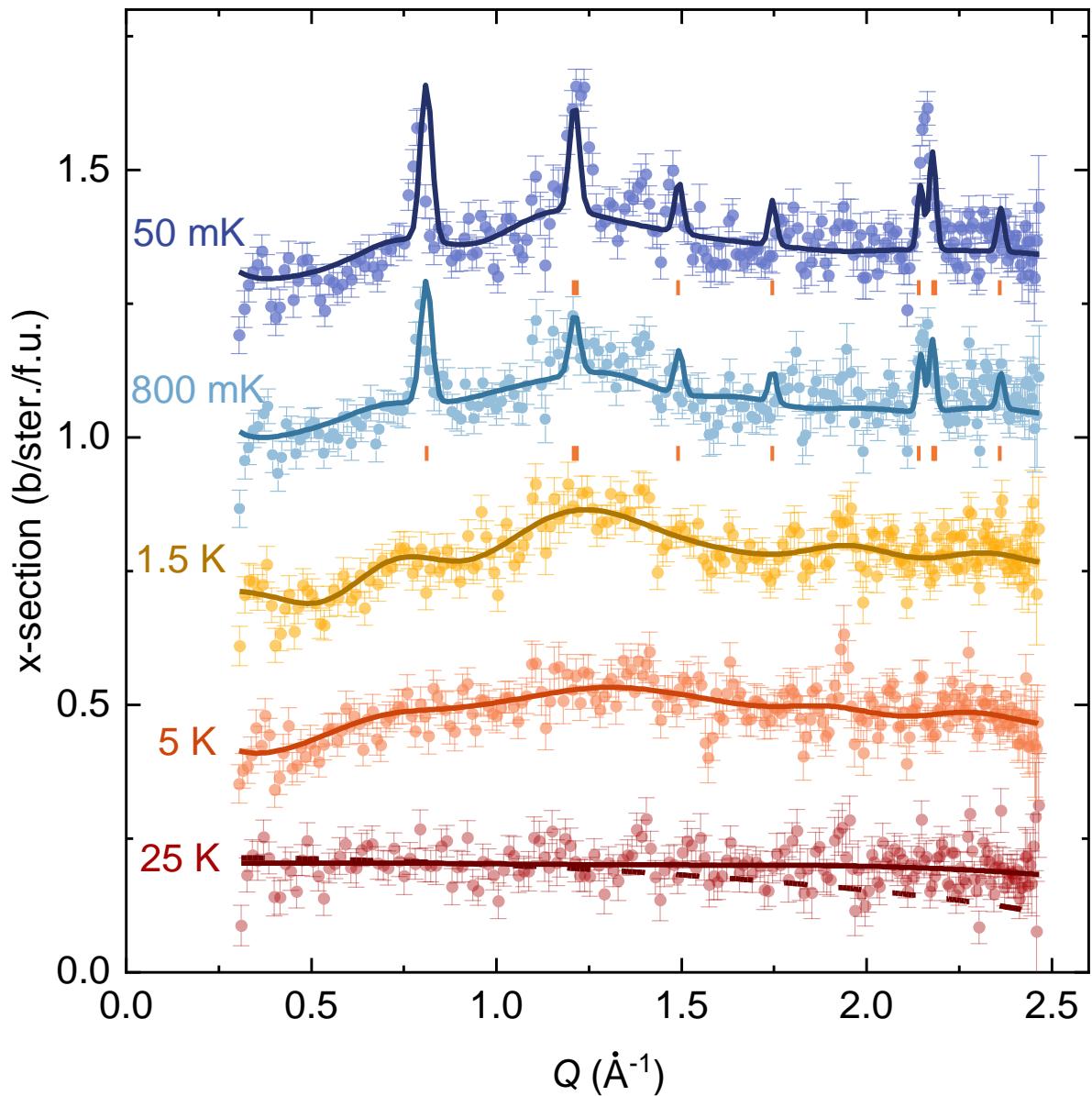
# $T$ EVOLUTION

(0,0,0) magnetic satellite changes with  
 $T \rightarrow$  Evolving incommensurate helix

1.  $\mathbf{k}$  varies but always takes the form,  
 $\mathbf{k} = (\delta, \pm\delta, 0)$
2. Moment size,  $\mu_{\text{order}}$  gradually  
reduces to zero by 1.2 K
3. Phase angle,  $\phi = 1.15(5)\pi$



# DIFFUSE SCATTERING



Diffuse scattering data measured on D7

Data have been vertically shifted by 0.3 b/ster./f.u. for clarity

SPINVERT + Bragg analysis – 50 mK and  
800 mK <sup>1,2</sup>

- $\mathbf{k} = (0.4, \pm 0.4, 0)$
- $10 \times 10 \times 4$  supercell

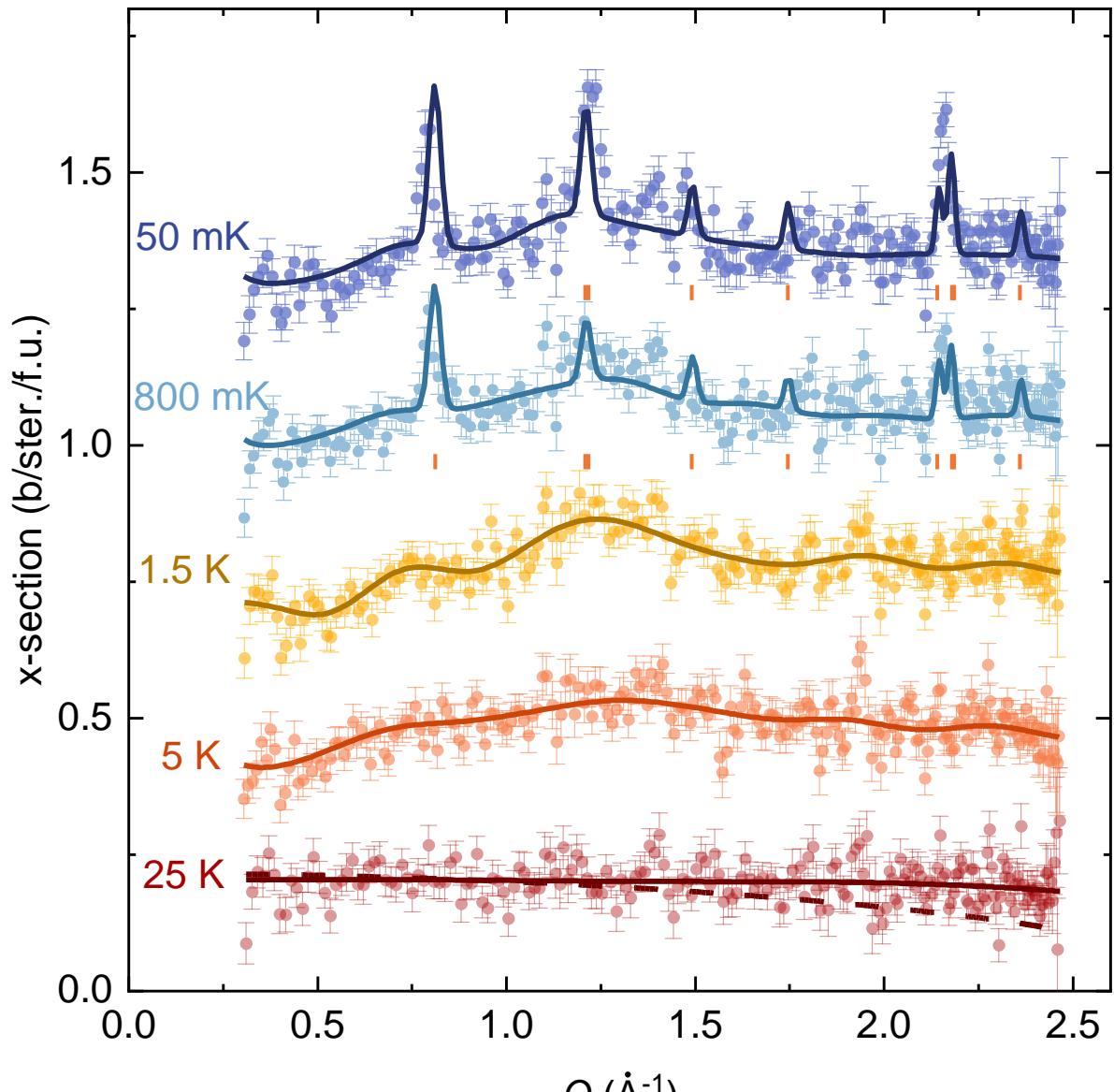
SPINVERT analysis – 1.5 K, 5 K and 25 K

- $6 \times 6 \times 3$  supercell (25 K =  $2 \times 2 \times 1$ )

Paramagnetic fit of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ions – 25 K  
(dashed line)

- $S = \frac{1}{2}, g = 3$

# DIFFUSE SCATTERING



Diffuse scattering data measured on D7

Data have been vertically shifted by 0.3 b/ster./f.u. for clarity

T (K)	WISH $\mu_{\text{order}} (\mu_B)$	D7		
		$\mu_{\text{order}} (\mu_B)$	$\mu_{\text{disorder}} (\mu_B)$	$\mu_{\text{eff}} (\mu_B)$
Base	0.63 (1)	0.80(1)	1.80(1)	2.60(1)
0.8	0.49(1)	0.67(2)	1.92(2)	2.59(2)
1.5	-	-	2.73(2)	2.73(2)
5	-	-	2.74(2)	2.74(2)
25	-	-	2.76(2)	2.76(2)

$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = gS \mu_B$$

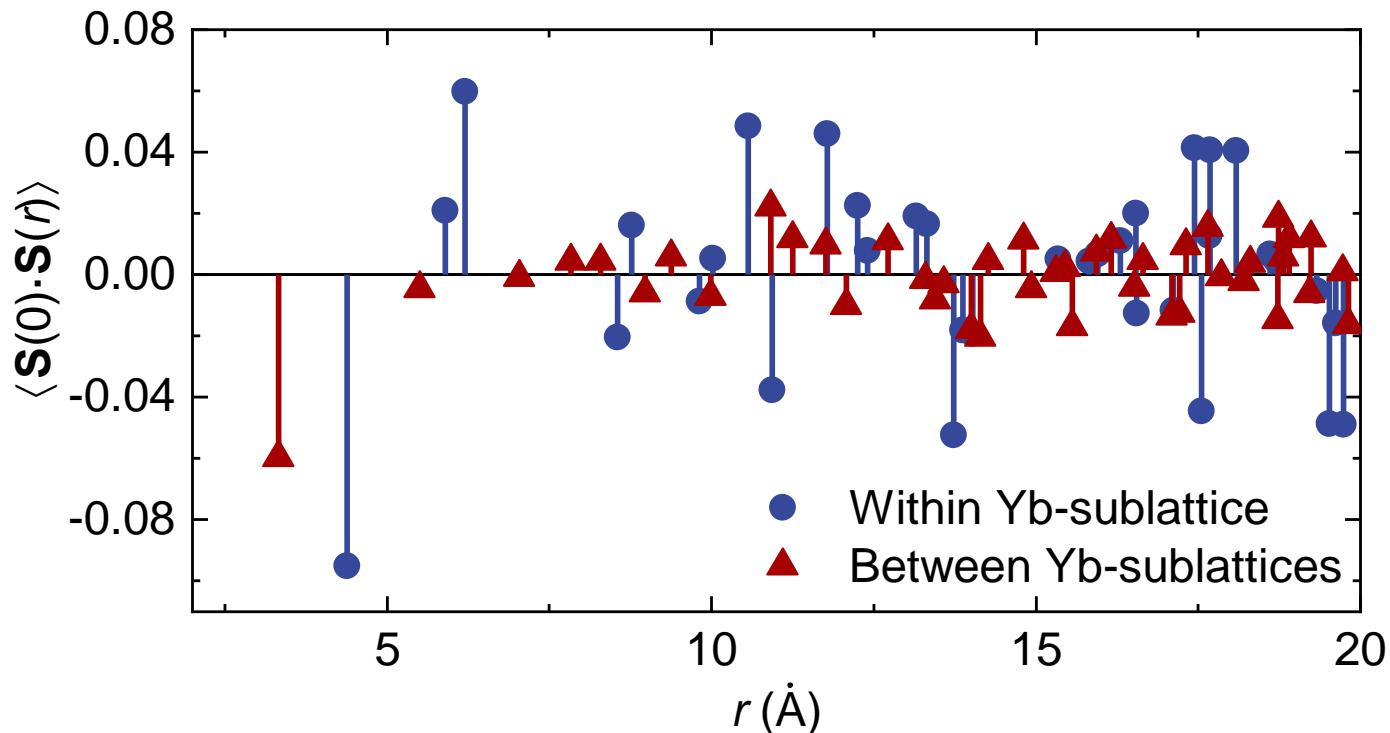
$$\mu_{\text{eff}} = g\sqrt{S(S+1)} \mu_B$$

Full effective moment size:

WISH:  $1.5 \mu_B$  (40 % at base)

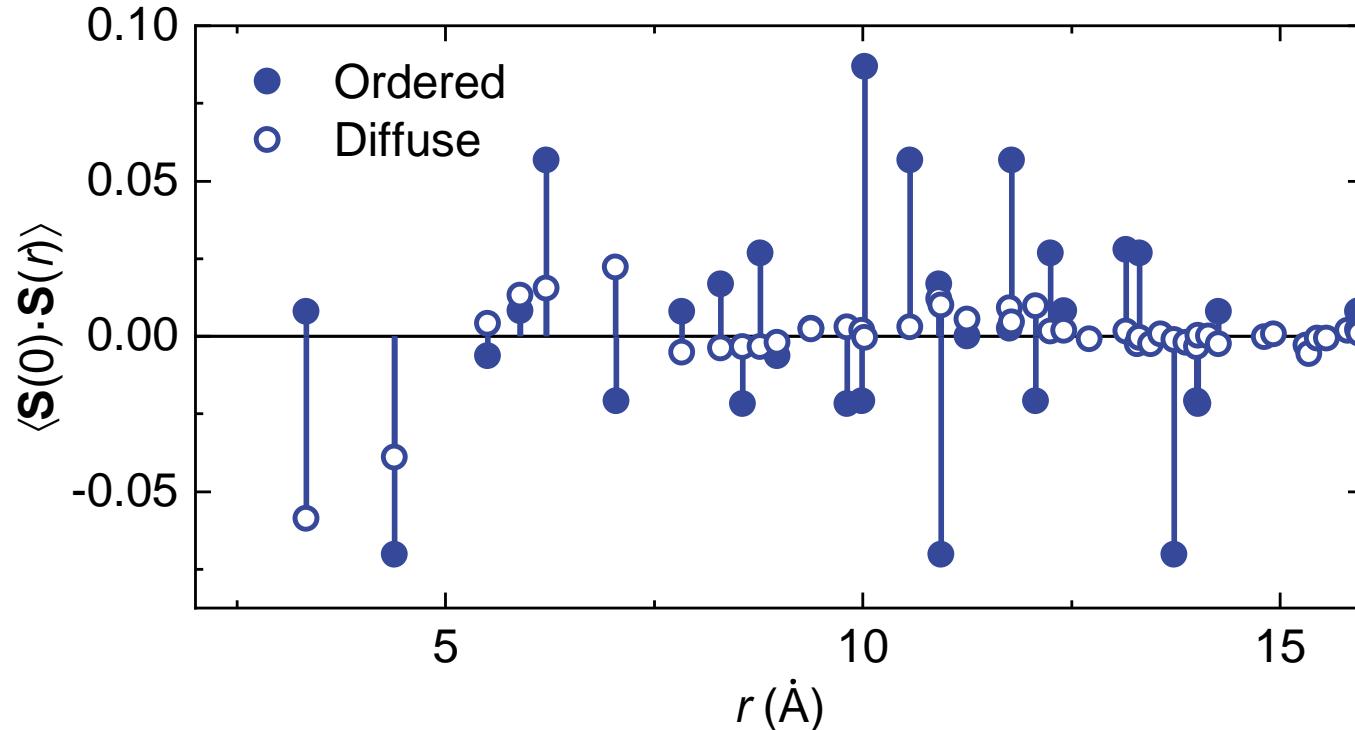
D7:  $2.64 \mu_B$  (30% at base)

# CORRELATIONS



Radial spin correlations calculated by  
SPINCORREL\* at 50 mK

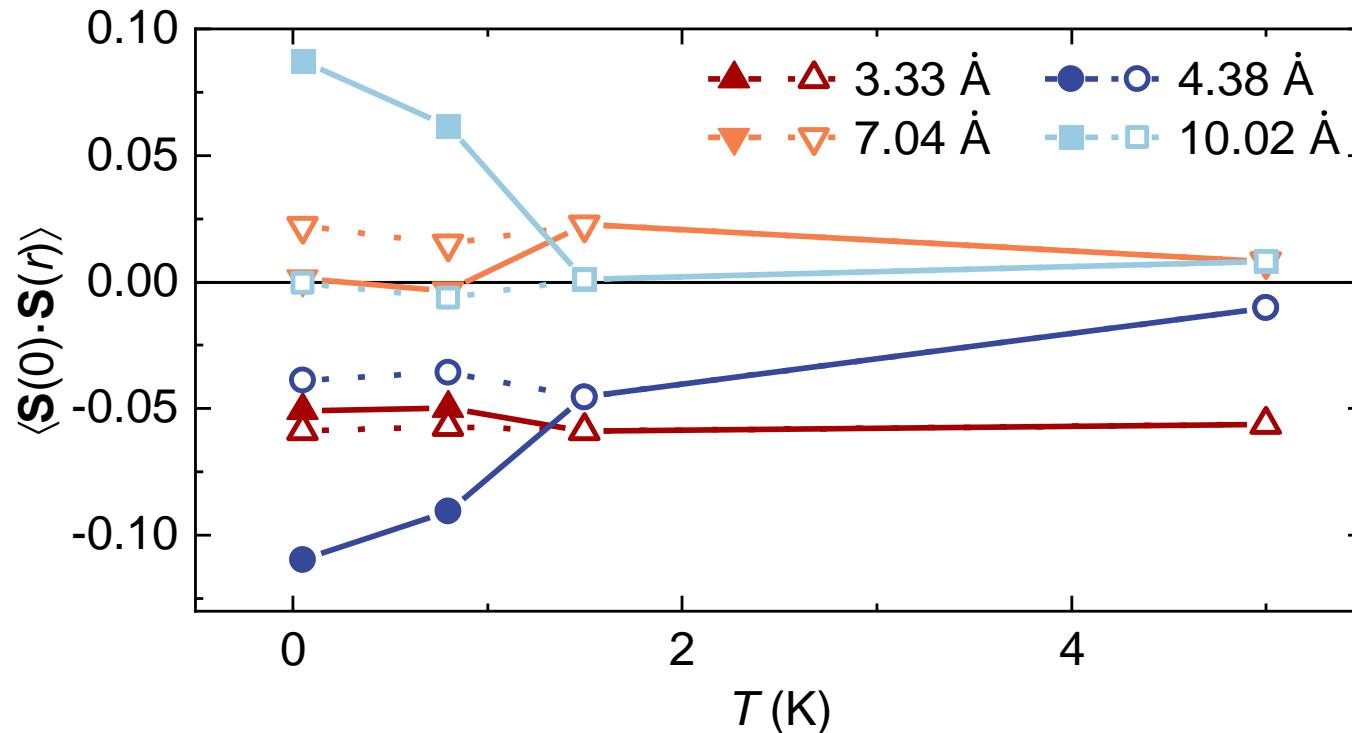
# CORRELATIONS BREAKDOWN



**Ordered** contribution = **long-range helical structure**

**Diffuse** contribution = **short-range order**

# $T$ DEPENDENCE



**Open** markers = **diffuse** contribution =  $T$  **independent**

**Closed** markers = **ordered** correlation =  $T$  **dependent**

# SUMMARY



**Persistent short-range** correlations down to 50 mK  
= partially disordered magnetic ground state

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**Thank you all for listening!**



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