Experimental studies of 5d systems

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For the last fifty years the Mott-Hubbard model has served as the enduring paradigm for describing strongly-correlated electron systems, forming the basis for our understanding of hightemperature superconductors, low-dimensional quantum magnets, atomic gasses, etc.

The metal-insulator transition (MIT) it displays - driven as it is by purely electronic correlations - is one of its defining features. New classes of materials have been recently discovered that potentially fall outside of the Mott-Hubbard paradigm, offering challenges and opportunities to both experimentalists and theorists alike. These are materials characterized by strong spinorbit interaction and extended orbitals, such as are found in 4d and 5d transition metal oxides (TMO). In this talk I will present the results of experiments on several 5d TMO which establish novel classes of correlated systems displaying metal-insulator transitions (MIT) and unusual magnetic order and excitations.