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Compensated electron and hole pockets in an underdoped high- $T_{\rm c}$ superconductor

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We report quantum oscillations in the underdoped high-temperature superconductor $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$ over a wide range in magnetic field $28 \le \mu_0 H \le 85$ T corresponding to ≈ 12 oscillations, enabling the Fermi surface topology to be mapped to high resolution. As earlier reported by Sebastian et al. [Nature (London) 454, 200 (2008), we find a Fermi surface comprising multiple pockets, as revealed by the additional distinct quantum oscillation frequencies and harmonics reported in this work. We find the originally reported broad lowfrequency Fourier peak at \approx 535 T to be clearly resolved into three separate peaks at \approx 460, \approx 532, and ≈ 602 T, in reasonable agreement with the reported frequencies of Audouard *et al.* [Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 157003 (2009)]. However, our increased resolution and angle-resolved measurements identify these frequencies to originate from two similarly sized pockets with greatly contrasting degrees of interlayer corrugation. The spectrally dominant frequency originates from a pocket (denoted α) that is almost ideally two-dimensional in form (exhibiting negligible interlayer corrugation). In contrast, the newly resolved weaker adjacent spectral features originate from a deeply corrugated pocket (denoted γ). On comparison with band structure, the *d*-wave symmetry of the interlayer dispersion locates the minimally corrugated α pocket at the "nodal" point \mathbf{k}_{nodal} $=(\pi/2,\pi/2)$, and the significantly corrugated γ pocket at the "antinodal" point $\mathbf{k}_{antinodal} = (\pi,0)$ within the Brillouin zone. The differently corrugated pockets at different locations indicate creation by translational symmetry breaking—a spin-density wave has been suggested from the suppression of Zeeman splitting for the spectrally dominant pocket. In a broken-translational symmetry scenario, symmetry points to the nodal (α) pocket corresponding to holes, with the weaker antinodal (γ) pocket corresponding to electrons—likely responsible for the negative Hall coefficient reported by LeBoeuf et al. [Nature (London) 450, 533 (2007)]. Given the similarity in α and γ pocket volumes, their opposite carrier type and the previous report of a diverging effective mass in Sebastian et al. [Proc. Nat. Am. Soc. 107, 6175 (2010)], we discuss the possibility of a secondary Fermi surface instability at low dopings of the excitonic insulator type, associated with the metal-insulator quantum critical point. Its potential involvement in the enhancement of superconducting transition temperatures is also discussed.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Different bosonic physics from tightly bound pairs of fermions may arise depending on whether the binding takes place between like particles or between particles and holes.¹ Such bosonic physics can potentially be involved in the physics of high-temperature superconductivity. On one hand, strongly interacting pairs of like particles with zero momentum have been proposed to constitute the fabric of unconventional superconductors,^{2,3} while on the other, electron-hole pairs with finite momentum could condense into a competing state with a superlattice, such as a spin-density wave. Another realization of such particle-hole pairing could occur in the limit of strong Coulomb coupling, where electron and hole pockets of identical size become susceptible to an excitonic insulator instability.⁴⁻⁶ In this study, we use high resolution quantum oscillation measurements to show that the underdoped high temperature superconductor YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} (Ref. 7) contains compensated electron and hole pockets, potentially predisposing it to excitonic electron-hole pair condensation.

Quantum oscillations have been measured on underdoped $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$ using in-plane transport,^{8,9} out-of-plane transport,¹⁰ torque,¹¹⁻¹⁴ and contactless conductivity¹⁶⁻¹⁸ experiments. In this work, the power of quantum oscillations is enhanced by the technique we employ that utilizes interlayer dispersion measurements to enable a momentum-space identification of individual Fermi surface sections-details of which are provided in Sec. II. Quantum oscillations are measured on high quality detwinned single crystals of $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$ (x=0.54,0.56) (Ref. 7) as a function of magnetic field and of angle. Measurements are made down to ≈ 1 K with the sample immersed in ⁴He medium, and the contactless conductivity technique used to obtain a high value of signal-to-noise ratio. Out-of-plane rotation measurements are performed in pulsed magnetic fields up to 65 T, and two-axis (in-plane and out-of-plane) rotation measurements are performed in dc fields up to 45 T. Additional experimental and analysis details are provided in Appendix A.

Our angle-resolved measurements show that the dominant series of low frequency oscillations⁸ arises not from one, but

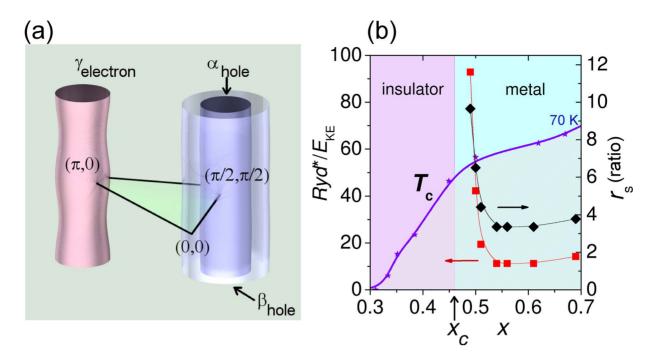


FIG. 1. (Color online) (a) A schematic of the small hole (blue) pocket α and small electron (red) pocket γ , illustrating greatly contrasting degrees of corrugation and approximate locations within the sector of the Brillouin zone bounded by (0,0), ($\pi/2, \pi/2$), and ($\pi, 0$), shown for $-2\pi < k_z < 2\pi$. Also shown in semitransparent fashion is the larger hole orbit β [corresponding to a separate Fermi surface section or potentially a magnetic breakdown orbit (Ref. 12)]. The degree of corrugation is determined from angle-dependent Fourier transforms shown in Fig. 3 and frequencies shown in Fig. 4(a). On using the Onsager relation, the three pockets collectively yield an effective hole doping of $p=11.7 \pm 0.2\%$. (b) Estimates of the ratio of the exciton binding energy to kinetic energy Ry^{*}/ E_{ke} and effective exciton separation r_s as a function of oxygen concentration x, using the expressions in Appendix B and effective masses from Refs. 16 and 17, with arrows indicating the appropriate axes. Also shown are the corresponding values of T_c (renormalized) from Ref. 7 and different shadings representing the insulating and metallic regimes at low T.

from two pockets of similar size, the distinct topologies of which point to different positions in the Brillouin zone on comparison with the interlayer dispersion, which has *d*-wave symmetry in underdoped YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} (Refs. 19 and 20) [see Fig. 1(a)]. On comparison with the interlayer hopping integrals in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x},^{19,20} we show that the prominent frequency corresponding to the α pocket with minimal interlayer corrugation is likely to represent a section of Fermi surface at the ($\pm \pi/2$, $\pm \pi/2$) nodal location in the Brillouin zone where holes are expected to nucleate on doping. In contrast, the more recently measured satellite frequencies¹³ of smaller amplitude correspond to a strongly corrugated pocket (γ) close to the antinodal location in the Brillouin zone, suggestive of electron carriers.

II. RESULTS

A. Interlayer corrugation

High experimental resolution of the quantum oscillation frequency is key to resolving and characterizing the two adjacent peaks flanking the larger central peak (shown in Fig. 2). The weaker spectral features at 460 ± 2 and 603 ± 2 T on either side of the central frequency at 533 ± 2 T are distinguished on account of their separation being well above the frequency resolution limit of our current experiment ($\Delta F_{\text{lim}} \approx [1/\Delta(1/\mu_0 H)] \approx 42$ T). The three distinct peaks in the Fourier transform (shown in Fig. 2) are observed both without (black curve) and with (red curve) a Hann window to reduce diffraction artifacts.

Evidence for the three resolved low-frequency oscillations originating from similar volume electron and hole pockets with different degrees of corrugation [shown schematically in Fig. 1(a) in addition to the previously resolved high frequency oscillation¹² is presented in Fig. 3, which shows quantum oscillations and Fourier transforms measured at different angles θ between the crystalline c axis and **H**, and in Fig. 4 where the separately resolved quantum oscillation frequencies $(F_{\alpha}, F_{\beta}, F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}, \text{ and } F_{\gamma,\text{belly}})$ are plotted versus θ . The subtle beat pattern modulating the amplitude of the measured oscillations [Fig. 3(a), upper panel of upper inset] and the multiple low frequency peaks in the Fourier transform suggest two different Fermi surface sections yielding closely spaced low frequencies. To separate α and γ pocket contributions, we use three independent analysis methods and find them to yield mutually consistent results for a significant difference in corrugation between the α and γ pockets.

Given the layered character of the cuprate family of hightemperature superconductors, the quasi-two-dimensional nature of the Fermi surface needs to be factored into the quantum oscillation analysis. Specifically, for quasi-twodimensional materials, interlayer corrugation introduces phase smearing that leads to a distinctive beat pattern which has been well characterized.²² The location and separation in magnetic field of the amplitude zeroes (nodes) constituting the beat pattern are a topologically constrained function of

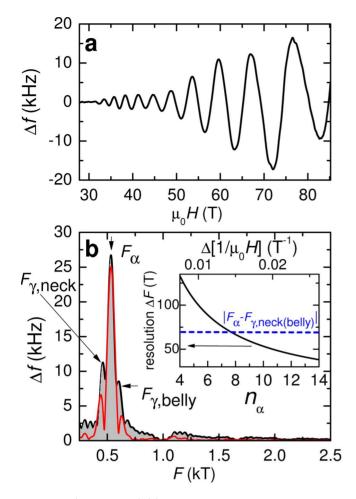


FIG. 2. (Color online) (a) Quantum oscillations made using the contactless conductivity method on a sample of YBa2Cu3O6.54 over a broad range of magnetic fields $28 < \mu_0 H < 85$ T at ≈ 1.5 K, corresponding to ≈ 12 oscillations of the prominent α frequency. The experimental data below and above 65 T are from measurements made using the same sample on the same probe in two different pulsed magnets. (b) A Fourier transform of the quantum oscillations both without (thick black curve) and with (thin red curve) a Hann window applied. The inset shows a comparison of the separation in frequency $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}} - F_{\alpha}$ or $F_{\alpha} - F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ (shown by the horizontal dotted line) with the frequency resolution limit $\Delta F_{\rm lim}$ $\approx [1/\Delta(1/\mu_0 H)]$ (left axis), as a function of the number of α oscillation periods n_{α} (bottom axis). The frequency separation exceeds the frequency resolution for $n_{\alpha} \gtrsim 8$, enabling all three frequencies to be clearly resolved in Fourier transforms and fits of the quantum oscillations. All three frequencies are found to be present in a Fourier transform only at high enough resolution (i.e. when the number of oscillations exceeds eight), and irrespective of the choice of window function (e.g. Boxcar, Hann, Blackman), confirming that they are genuine spectral features.

the depth of corrugation and may be used to extract the size of the corrugation. For this purpose, we use an expression that explicitly treats the form of phase smearing in layered systems²⁴ [Eq. (1)] rather than the standard Lifshitz-Kosevich expression²¹ which does not capture this form of interference (see Appendix G).

We perform an unconstrained fit (red line—solid gray online) of two corrugated Fermi surface sections to the measured oscillations in the 65 T magnet (black line) for a sample of oxygen concentration x=0.56 at $\theta=0$ [Fig. 3(a), upper inset]. Oscillations are fit to the expression

$$\Delta f = \sum_{i=\alpha,\gamma} \Delta f_{i,0} R_T R_D \mathbf{J}_0 \left(\frac{2\pi\Delta F_{i,\theta}}{\mu_0 H \cos \theta} \right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi F_i}{\mu_0 H} \right), \quad (1)$$

incorporating a summation over independent α and γ corrugated cylinders.^{22,24,25} The spin splitting factor R_s (Ref. 21) does not appear in this expression since it has been reported to be close to unity for the dominant α frequency (Refs. 14 $\Delta f_{i,0}$ is the amplitude, and 15). Here, R_T $=(2\pi^2 k_{\rm B} m_i^* T/e\hbar \mu_0 H)/\sinh(2\pi^2 k_{\rm B} m_i^* T/e\hbar \mu_0 H)$ is a temperature damping factor where m_i^* is the quasiparticle effective mass obtained from the fit shown in Fig. 3, $R_{\rm D}$ $=\exp(\frac{-\Gamma_i}{\mu_0 H})$ is a Dingle damping factor where Γ_i is a damping constant,²¹ $\Delta F_{i,\theta}$ is the depth of corrugation of sheet "*i*" at angle θ , while the Bessel function J_0 captures the interference due to phase smearing, with characteristic "neck" and "belly" extremal frequencies

$$F_{i,\text{neck,belly}}\cos\theta = F_i \pm \Delta F_{i,\theta} \tag{2}$$

for each section.^{22,24,25} On performing an unconstrained fit to Eq. (1) (shown in Fig. 3(a) upper inset) we obtain corrugations $\Delta F_{\alpha,0} \leq 11$ T and $\Delta F_{\gamma,0} = 72 \pm 4$ T, while $F_{\alpha,0} = 531 \pm 2$ T and $F_{\gamma,0} = 532 \pm 2$ T are the same within experimental uncertainty. These parameters correspond to three frequencies $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}} = 460 \pm 4$ T, $F_{\alpha,0} = 531 \pm 2$ T (the splitting being unresolvably small), and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}=604\pm4$ T in close agreement with those resolved in the Fourier transform in Fig. 2. Similar frequencies were recently reported in Ref. 13, in which case the experimental uncertainty was larger due to the reduced range in 1/H [see Fig. 2(b) inset]. The analysis presented here is performed on data spanning between ≈ 9 and 12 measured oscillations. The value of effective hopping between the nearest-neighbor planes of two adjacent unit cells t_c (for a tight-binding model assuming a parabolic form of in-plane dispersion) is given by $\Delta Fe\hbar/2m^*$, corresponding to a value $t_c^{\gamma} \approx 2.4$ meV for the significantly warped γ pocket, and $t_c^{\alpha} \leq 0.4$ meV for the less warped α pocket.

The monotonic field dependence of the dominant α component (dot-dashed green line) identified in the present experiment implies that it can be reliably subtracted from the raw data [on performing an unconstrained fit to Eq. (1)], enabling the residual beat pattern of the γ oscillations (purple line) to be extracted [lower panel of the upper inset to Fig. 3(a)]. Distinct nodes are observed in the residual γ oscillations. We turn to the expected locations of zeros in the amplitude due to the interference pattern to confirm that they coincide with the observed nodes. The values of magnetic field at which amplitude zeros are expected due to interference are given by

$$\mu_0 H_{n,i} \cos \theta = \frac{8\Delta F_{i,\theta}}{4n+3}.$$
(3)

Equation (1) (Ref. 24) can be expanded as the interference between neck and belly frequencies $F_i - \Delta F_{i,\theta}$ and $F_i + \Delta F_{i,\theta}$, respectively. The neck and belly frequencies interfere destructively whenever they have a relative phase difference

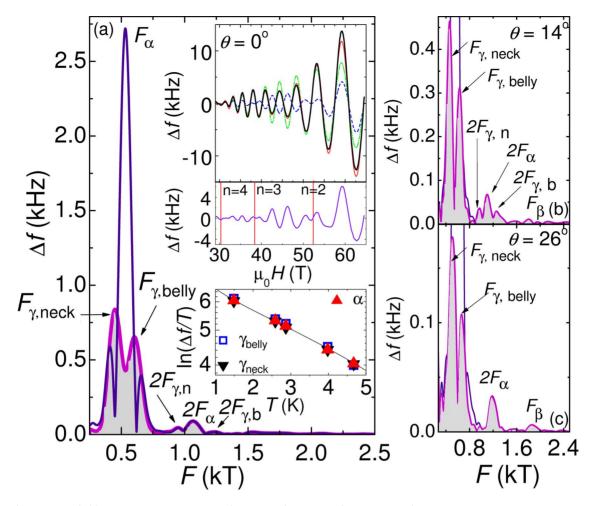


FIG. 3. (Color online) (a) Fourier transform before (thin purple) and after (thick magenta) subtracting the dominant α component of an unconstrained fit to Eq. (1) (dot-dashed green line in the upper inset) to the quantum oscillations (black line in the upper inset) measured in a sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.56 at $T \approx 1.5$ K using the contactless conductivity technique (see Appendix A). The weaker $F_{\nu,\text{neck}}$ and $F_{\text{x,belly}}$ frequency peaks in the Fourier transform are clearly visible after the dominant oscillatory component of the oscillations has been subtracted (unlike expected behavior of sidelobes, that would vanish along with the subtraction of the central dominant frequency). A polynomial is used to fit the background and the waveform is modulated by a Hann window prior to Fourier transformation. The prominent oscillations and harmonics are indicated. Extremal Fermi surface cross sections given by $A_k = (2\pi e/\hbar)F$ are obtained from the observed frequencies F_{α} , $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$, and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ and harmonics $2F_{\alpha}$, $2F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$, and $2F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ as indicated; here $H=|\mathbf{H}|$. The red line (solid gray online) in the upper inset is an unconstrained fit to Eq. (1), where the dot-dashed green line and the dashed blue lines are the α and γ components, respectively. The purple curve (upper inset, lower panel) shows the result of subtracting the α component (dot-dashed green line) of the unconstrained fit to Eq. (1) from the raw data, revealing a distinctive beat pattern in the lower panel of the inset. The vertical lines represent the fields at which nodes occur for n=2,3,4 from Eq. (3) using the fit value of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$. The lower inset shows the temperature dependences of the F_{α} , $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$, and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ amplitudes (the latter two renormalized to equalize the amplitudes at the highest temperature), indicating similar effective masses m^* for the α and γ pockets. A fit to $\Delta f = a_0 R_T$ (Ref. 21) yields $m^*_{\alpha} = 1.56 \pm 0.05 m_e$, $m^*_{\gamma,\text{neck}} = m^*_{\gamma,\text{belly}} = 1.6 \pm 0.2 m_e$ (where m_e is the free electron mass). [(b) and (c)] Examples of Fourier transforms of oscillations measured in a sample with x=0.54 at T \approx 1.5 K and different angles θ [data in Figs. 4(b) and 4(c)] before and after subtracting the fitted α component [see Fig. 4(b)] as described in the text (expanded to show the finer high frequency structure)-further Fourier transforms before and after subtraction are shown in the Appendix D. Note that the higher frequency F_{β} (when observed) is 3.14±0.05 times larger than F_{α} , inconsistent with a harmonic of F_{α} (Refs. 12 and 16).

equal to an odd multiple of π , which occurs at values of the field H_n given by Eq. (3).

Using the fit value of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$, the expected nodes for n = 2, 3, 4 are indicated by the vertical red lines in the lower panel of the upper inset to Fig. 3(a). We find these to coincide very well with the observed nodes in the residual γ oscillations, establishing that the frequencies $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}} \approx 460$ T and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}} \approx 604$ T correspond to the neck and

belly extremal frequencies of a single corrugated γ cylinder, distinct from the α section. Indeed, these frequencies correspond to those that appear in the extracted Fourier transform in Fig. 3 (depicted before and after subtraction of the fitted α oscillation component) and in Fig. 2.

In Figs. 3(b), 3(c), and 4, we extend this analysis to a second sample of oxygen concentration x=0.54, for which oscillations are measured at several different angles θ . Fits to

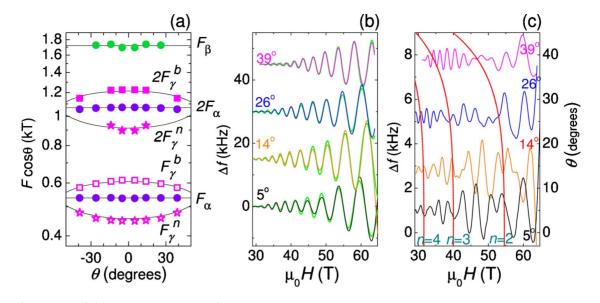


FIG. 4. (Color online) (a) The product $F \cos \theta$ (for both fundamental and harmonic—solid symbols for unsubtracted data and hollow symbols for subtracted data) obtained from the Fourier analysis shown in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c) and Appendix D plotted versus θ . $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$ and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ are obtained by Fourier analysis after subtracting the fitted α component [using Eq. (1)]. For clarity, the data have been symmetrized with respect to $\pm \theta$: both the swept θ data [shown in Fig. 6(a)] and measurements made over extensive range of θ in Ref. 14 indicate the oscillations to be symmetric in $\pm \theta$, as expected for a detwinned single-phase orthorhombic crystal. Lines indicate the expected θ dependences according to Eqs. (2) and (4), using the fitted parameters in Fig. 3(a). Consistency with Eq. (4) indicates a deeply corrugated γ section of Fermi surface (Refs. 22 and 23). The harmonics are obtained directly from peaks in Fourier transforms of the raw data—consistency between fundamentals and harmonics confirms our finding of similarly sized but distinctly different α and γ Fermi surface sections. (b) Examples of quantum oscillations measured in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.54 at different angles θ , as indicated (where $\varphi \approx 0$) together with the fitted α component [green lines, using Eq. (1)] as described in the text. (c) The quantum oscillations measured in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.54 at different angles θ after subtracting the green fits in (b), yielding residuals dominated by the γ pocket oscillations. Curves are offset according to θ (right axis). Also plotted (red lines) are the predicted values of H_n from Eqs. (3) and (4) using the fit value of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$.

Eq. (1) similar to those in Fig. 3(a) are made to the data in Fig. 4(b) as a function of angle (here $\Delta F_{\alpha,0} \leq 10$ T, $\Delta F_{\gamma,0} = 74 \pm 4$ T, $F_{\alpha,0} \approx 535 \pm 2$ T, and $F_{\gamma,0} \approx 533 \pm 2$ T). Figure 4(c) shows the residual γ oscillations on subtracting the dominant fitted α component [dot-dashed green lines in Fig. 4(b)], and Fig. 4(a) shows the extracted peaks in the Fourier transform [shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b) and Appendix D] of the subtracted data (hollow symbols) and unsubtracted data (solid symbols). The angular dependent amplitude nodes observed in the residual γ oscillations in Fig. 4(c) and frequencies in Fig. 4(a) are compared with those expected for a single corrugated cylinder, by using Yamaji's expression for an angular dependent frequency difference between the neck and belly of a single corrugated cylinder,²³

$$\Delta F_{i,\theta} = \Delta F_{i,0} \mathbf{J}_0(k_{\parallel}c \, \tan \, \theta). \tag{4}$$

On substituting the fit value of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$ into Eq. (4), the predicted nodes for a single corrugated cylinder in Eq. (3) are shown by lines in Fig. 4(c), and the predicted neck and belly frequencies are shown by black lines in Fig. 4(a). We see that excellent agreement with the data is obtained in both Figs. 4(a) and 4(c) independent of any fitting parameters, confirming a single corrugated γ Fermi surface section (distinct from α).

The small value of ΔF_{α} implies that the putative nodes for the α Fermi surface section occur at fields too low for interference between its neck and belly frequencies to be observed in the form of nodes. We can now understand why the α cylinder yields a spectrally dominant peak at $F_{\alpha,0} \approx 532$ T in Fig. 3(a)—no significant smearing of the quantum oscillation phase occurs on averaging over k_z for this section [see diagram in Fig. 1(a)]. The larger corrugation of the γ section, by contrast, implies that significant phase smearing occurs on averaging over k_z for this section, with phase coherence being achieved only at the extrema $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$ and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ —accounting for the spectrally weak satellite frequencies flanking the central peak in Fig. 3(a).

For a final consistency check, we turn to the harmonics $2F_{\alpha}$, $2F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$, and $2F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$, which are observed for both samples (x=0.54 and x=0.56) in Figs. 3(a)-3(c) [plotted versus θ in Fig. 4(a) together with the Yamaji prediction]. Because the harmonics appear in the Fourier transforms of the raw data [Figs. 3(a)-3(c) and Appendix D], they provide a second estimate of each frequency [Fig. 3(a)] that is independent of any subtraction of the predominant α frequency and therefore independent of the previous fits. A further advantage of harmonic detection is that the doubling of the frequency yields a twofold increase in the confidence to which the separate Fermi surface sections can be resolved. The absolute frequency resolution obtained from the interval in magnetic field is therefore $\Delta F_{\text{lim}} \approx [1/\Delta(1/\mu_0 H)]/2 \approx 26 \text{ T}.$ The lack of a peak splitting or deviation of F_{α} and its harmonic from $F_{\alpha} = F_{\alpha}/\cos \theta$ over the entire angular range in Fig. 4(a) implies an irresolvably small depth of corrugation $\Delta F_{\alpha,0} \lesssim 13$ T, while the values of $\Delta F_{\gamma,\theta} = (2F_{\gamma,\text{belly}})$ $-2F_{\gamma,\text{neck}})/4$ coincide well with the expected values from the fundamental analysis [shown in Fig. 4(a)]. The observation of prominent harmonics for both the α and γ pockets also enables us to estimate the relative size of the damping term for each of the electron and hole pockets, which we find to be similar in magnitude: $\Gamma_{\alpha} \sim \Gamma_{\gamma} \sim 10^2$ T, corresponding to a mean-free path of ~200 Å.

We therefore find the nodal analysis of the oscillations, Fourier transform analysis, Yamaji fits and second harmonic detection *all* to yield internally consistent results corresponding to two similarly sized α and γ sections with significantly different degrees of corrugation. Oscillations from two pockets with the same degree of corrugation, as expected for significantly bilayer-split pocket areas in the underdoped cuprates,¹³ on the other hand, would not be consistent with our data (see Appendix G).

B. Correspondence with equal and opposite electron and hole pockets

In the simplest model, our finding of Fermi surface sections with significantly different degrees of corrugation locates them at different locations in the Brillouin zone. We compare the different measured interlayer hoppings with calculated values in a tight binding model of underdoped YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} (Ref. 26) to locate the different pockets. As shown in Refs. 19 and 20 the low-energy in-layer dispersion $[\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y)]$ of the Cu $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -like band is

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = -4t \left[u(\mathbf{k}) + 2r \frac{v(\mathbf{k})^2}{1 - 2ru(\mathbf{k})} \right],\tag{5}$$

where $u(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos k_x + \cos k_y)$, $v(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \frac{1}{2}(\cos k_x - \cos k_y)$, *t* is the nearest neighbor hopping integral, and *r* is a "range" parameter due to in-layer hopping via the so-called axial orbital—a hybrid of mostly Cu 4*s* and apical oxygen $2p_z$. For small *r*, Eq. (5) reduces to the familiar tight-binding form,

$$\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) = \text{const.} - 2t(\cos k_x + \cos k_y) + 4t' \cos k_x \cos k_y - 2t''(\cos 2k_x + \cos 2k_y), \tag{6}$$

with t' = rt, and $t'' = \frac{1}{2}rt$. Hopping between nearest neighbor planes of two adjacent unit cells in the z direction (t_c) occurs via the axial orbital and therefore depends on (k_x, k_y) as $\frac{v(\mathbf{k})^2}{1-2ru(\mathbf{k})}$, i.e., it has the same symmetry as the superconducting gap, vanishing along the nodal lines and reaching maxima at the $(\pm \pi, 0)$ and $(0, \pm \pi)$ points. If the layers are stacked on top of each other, the k_z dispersion is simply included in Eq. (5) by the substitution: $r \rightarrow r + (t_c^0/t) \cos k_z$. For YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} ($x \approx 0.5$), $t \approx 400$ meV, t_c^0 causes r to vary between ≈ 0.28 and 0.32 and the corresponding Fermi surface is shown in Fig. 5(a). Here the line thickness is the size of the k_z dispersion yielded by the perturbation in r. The different interlayer hoppings at different locations in the Brillouin zone reveals that small pockets at each of these locations created by Fermi surface reconstruction will have different corrugations. Accordingly, we proceed to examine the difference in corrugation expected for each of the multiple pockets throughout the Brillouin zone yielded by a translational symmetry-breaking order parameter.

For illustrative purposes, we adopt a model involving a single transformation of $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$ by $\mathbf{Q}_{s+} = (\pi [1 \pm 2\delta], \pi)$ of the helical spin-density or d-density wave type such as that used in Refs. 12 and 27-29 as one possibility, with an incommensurability $\delta \approx \frac{1}{16} \approx 0.06$ to match incipient spin order and/or excitations^{30–32}), and a single variable Δ_s adjusted to have the value 0.625t, as explained in the next section. The Fermi surface thus obtained comprises equal-sized electron (red) and hole (blue) pockets at the antinodal and nodal positions, respectively, accompanied by a larger (green) hole pocket at the node [shown in Fig. 5(b)]. Here again, the line thickness is the size of the interlayer hopping. A significant difference in corrugation (resulting from the dispersion in k_z) is expected for pockets located at the nodal and antinodal locations: the obtained interlayer corrugation for each of the smaller and larger nodal pockets and the antinodal pocket is of order 14, 45, and 180 T, respectively, being representative of general translational symmetry-breaking order parameters yielding pockets at the antinodal and nodal regions of the Brillouin zone.^{12,27–29,33,34} The difference in corrugation thus provides an opportunity for their respective locations to be identified in quantum oscillation measurements. We find that the ratio of observed corrugations for the α and γ pocket is comparable to that expected for the nodal and antinodal pockets. The association of the nodes and antinodes with the expected positions of hole and electron pockets within a broken symmetry Fermi surface,^{27–29} further identify α as a twodimensional hole pocket and γ as a corrugated electron pocket within this picture. Additionally, bilayer splitting in the case where bilayers are ferromagnetically coupled is expected to result in a large splitting of frequencies, as opposed to the case of antiferromagnetic coupling between bilayers, in which case the frequency splitting of the bilayers would remain small. The lack of a discernible splitting in any of the α , β , and γ frequencies is therefore indicative of antiferromagnetic coupling between bilayers (see Appendix F for a discussion of bilayer splitting). The observation in inelastic neutron scattering experiments of low energy spin excitations and a spin resonance near (π, π) that antiferromagnetically couple bilayers³⁵ suggests the association of spin order with pocket formation.

For a larger β orbit corresponding to a distinct section of Fermi surface (as opposed to a magnetic breakdown orbit),¹² its character can be identified in a scenario where α and γ correspond to equal and opposite hole and electron pockets at nodal and antinodal locations. Luttinger's theorem³⁶ [requiring a hole concentration of $p=10\pm1\%$ (Ref. 7)] and the absence of a discernible splitting of F_{β} from corrugation, suggests the association of the β orbit with a larger "hole-like" pocket located near $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$ [see Fig. 1(a)]. The entire hole doping concentration would then be provided by the β pocket, which acts as a reservoir of charge carriers, while the α and γ pockets almost cancel out in carrier concentration.

C. Electronic origin of the observed pockets

In the simplest case, our observations indicate a brokentranslational symmetry order parameter that creates differ-

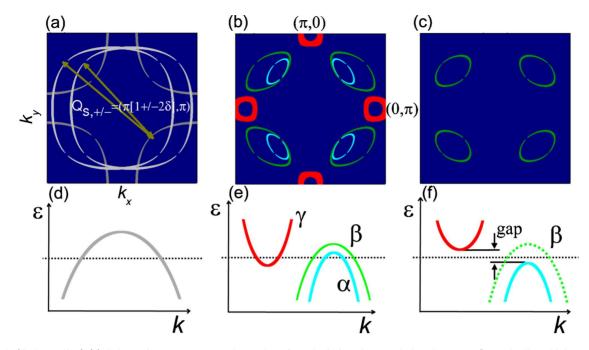


FIG. 5. (Color online) (a) Schematic unreconstructed Fermi surface depicting the translational vectors $\mathbf{Q}_{s,\pm}$, the line thickness (obtained by a perturbation in *r* as described in the text) represents the interlayer dispersion k_z responsible for corrugation and is seen to be greater in the antinodal $(\pm \pi, 0)$, $(0, \pm \pi)$ compared to the nodal $(\pm \pi/2, \pm \pi/2)$ region. (b) Representative reconstructed Fermi surface according to models used in Refs. 12 and 27–29 (described in the text and Appendixes F and I). Blue and red lines correspond to the nodal hole pockets and antinodal electron pocket, respectively. The line thickness (obtained by a perturbation in *r*) represents the interlayer dispersion k_z and is significantly bigger for the antinodal compared to the nodal pocket. (c) Reconstructed Fermi surface consisting of only a single type of pocket (β) after increasing the coupling Δ_s (neglecting Δ_c). Antiferromagnetic bilayer coupling (Ref. 19) (shown in Fig. 10 of Appendix F) would yield two slightly different variants of the Fermi surfaces in (b) and (c), but with very similar pocket areas. (d) Schematic dispersion prior to Fermi surface reconstruction depicted in one dimension. (e) Schematic dispersion of the three pockets. (f) Schematic showing the opening of a gap between the α and γ pockets, as expected to result from an excitonic insulator instability. Here the charge potential Δ_c is not included; its effect on the β orbit (or remnants thereof, shown as a dotted line) will depend on its strength and on the specifics of the superlattice (see Appendix J). The effects of bilayer splitting are not shown here for clarity, but are discussed in Appendix F.

ently corrugated Fermi surface pockets at different locations in the Brillouin zone—Fermi surface models that yield pockets only at the nodal locations would face a considerable challenge in explaining our observations.

Spin ordering involving a broken-translational symmetry has been reported in YBa2Cu3O6+x samples with oxygen concentrations $x \approx 0.45$ (Refs. 30 and 37) and ≈ 1.0 (Ref. 38) in an applied magnetic field. Antiferromagnetic order has not yet been observed in samples with oxygen concentrations $(0.49 < x \le 0.8)$ in which quantum oscillations are observed.^{8,12,13,16,17} except when 2% of the Cu ions are replaced by spinless Zn ions in samples with $x \approx 0.6$.³⁹ The suppression of Zeeman splitting of the Landau levels has also been reported in Refs. 14 and 15. A translational symmetry-breaking order parameter involving spin degrees of freedom or alternate means of suppression of the spin degrees of freedom is suggested. In addition, the implicit near degeneracy of the bilayer-split pocket frequencies [see Fig. 4(a) and Appendixes F and G] signal antiferromagnetically coupled bilayers.

To better understand the underlying origin of the electronic structure, we map the in-plane topology of the corrugated pocket. The in-plane topology of the warped γ pocket is reflected in a variation of the in-plane calliper radius k_{\parallel} (mapped, for example in Ref. 40, see Appendix K). In our

experiment, the calliper radius is mapped by two-axes angledependent quantum oscillation measurements where θ (the angle between **H** and the c axis) is swept while $H = |\mathbf{H}|$ remains fixed, the sweeps being repeated for many different orientations ϕ of the in-plane component of the magnetic field $\mathbf{H}_{\parallel} = (H \sin \theta \cos \phi, H \sin \theta \sin \phi, 0)$. The dominant fundamental and harmonic quantum oscillations corresponding to the minimally warped α pocket are found to be periodic in $1/\mu_0 H \cos \theta$ over a broad angular range (Appendix C). Because of its low degree of corrugation, the method described here is not applicable for determination of the inplane Fermi surface topology of the α hole pocket. The significant corrugation of the γ pocket, by contrast, enables variations in k_{\parallel} to be mapped in Fig. 6. The quantum oscillation data as a function of θ at each value of ϕ is fit to a waveform composed of superimposed α and γ oscillations as described in Appendix E, and the calliper radius thereby extracted at various values of ϕ . Our results show a roundedsquare in-plane topology of the γ pocket.

The rounded-square (i.e., nearly circular) topology of the γ pocket [shown in Fig. 6(b)] is broadly consistent with an electron pocket predicted by numerous Fermi surface reconstruction models,^{12,27–29,33} although unconventional models—for example those involving novel quasiparticles—cannot be ruled out. The coexistence of a near circular elec-

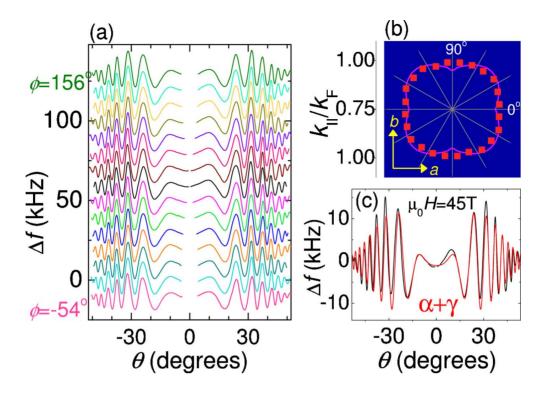


FIG. 6. (Color online) (a) Examples of angle-swept measurements made from positive to negative values of θ on a sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.56 at fixed field $\mu_0H=45$ T, for different in-plane orientations (ϕ) of the in-plane component of the magnetic field $\mathbf{H}_{\parallel}=(H \sin \theta \cos \phi, H \sin \theta \sin \phi, 0)$. Curves shown correspond to $-54 \le \phi \le 156^{\circ}$ (bottom to top) in steps of 15°. The gap in angular data around $\theta=0$ is due to a correction made for a small misalignment of the crystal, explained in Appendix A. (b) The ϕ dependence of the caliper radius k_{\parallel} of the γ pocket determined from fits [see Appendix E, Eq. (E1)] of superimposed α and γ oscillation waveforms to the data in (a)—using values of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$ and Γ_{α} obtained from fits to the field swept data. Fit frequencies are given in Appendix E. The full 360° ϕ rotation is inferred from performing a rotation over 180° in ϕ combined with fits to $\pm \theta$, with only k_{\parallel} allowed to vary. The magenta line is the ϕ dependence of k_{\parallel} expected for the single $\mathbf{Q}_{s,\pm}$ model shown in Fig. 5(b). (c) An example fit (red line—solid gray online) to $\phi=51^{\circ}$ (equivalent to 231°) data (black line), with further fits shown in Appendix E.

tron pocket with hole pockets of comparable and/or larger size does not appear consistent with presently proposed "stripe" models involving multiple translations of the electronic bands $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_k$ by ordering vectors of the form \boldsymbol{Q} = $(\pi[1\pm 2\delta],\pi)$ where $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{8}$.^{33,34,41} We consider an example of translational symmetry-breaking model that could yield pockets of the observed size and shape to facilitate an estimation of the size of the order parameter Δ_s that breaks translational symmetry. The model we consider involves a single transformation of $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$ by $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{s},\pm} = (\pi [1 \pm 2\delta], \pi)$ of the helical type described in the earlier section. Adjusting the value of a single parameter $\Delta_s = 0.625t$ in such a model yields three pockets of size (to within 2%), carrier type, corrugation depth, and shape consistent with experiment—see Fig. 5 and Appendix I, in conjunction with the experimentally observed constraint of hole doping $p \approx 11.7\%$ (see Fig. 5) and $\delta \approx \frac{1}{16}$). The large ratio of Δ_s/t indicates a substantial coupling, consistent with the near-circular topology of the electron pocket [the small magnitude of deviation from a circle is seen from Fig. 6(b)]. While band structure calculations indicate t $\approx 400 \text{ meV}$,¹⁹ $t \approx 100 \text{ meV}$ provides closer correspondence with the observed effective masses (see Fig. 3, lower inset), suggesting $\Delta_s \sim 60$ meV. Such a large value of Δ_s is challenging to reconcile with the absence of signatures of long range order in neutron scattering experiments in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} samples of composition $0.49 < x \le 0.8$ (where quantum oscillations are observed). An unconventional form of broken-translational symmetry-breaking spin order are suggested, including staggered moments present chiefly in the vortex cores,³⁸ magnetic field-stabilized spin-density wave order,³⁷ or spin ordering with *d*-wave pairing symmetry;^{27,28} although unconventional models not involving translational symmetry breaking cannot be ruled out.

III. DISCUSSION

An open question pertains to the origin of the unexpected similarity in size of the α and γ pockets observed in underdoped YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x}. More information on the microscopic nature of the primary instability will assist in addressing this question. Irrespective of their origin, the existence of compensated pockets suggests a Fermi surface prone to a secondary instability^{1,5} at which the compensated pockets are destroyed.

A. Excitonic instability

The possibility of an "excitonic insulator" instability [at which the compensated γ (electron) and α (hole) pockets are destroyed] is raised by their similar volumes (within the ex-

perimental uncertainty, both occupying $1.91 \pm 0.01\%$ of the Brillouin zone) with effective masses sufficiently large $[m_{\alpha}^* \approx m_{\gamma}^* \approx 1.6 m_{\rm e}$ for x=0.56, found from the fit in the lower inset to Fig. 3(a)] to cause strong attraction. Strong coupling between pairs of electrons and holes is suggested by a binding energy (Ry*~430 meV, derived in Appendix B) that is more than ten times larger than their individual kinetic energies ($E_{\rm ke} \sim 39$ meV). This also means that the putative exciton separation to Bohr radius ratio is larger than unity [i.e., $r_{\rm s} \approx 3.4$ for x=0.54, see Fig. 1(b)], rendering the system unstable to an excitonic insulating instability.⁴² Due to the strongly interacting dilute Bose-Einstein condensate (BEC) limit in which this system is consequently positioned (i.e., $r_{\rm s} \gg 1$), the excitonic attraction is not contingent on exactly matching pocket shapes or perfect "nesting."

Suggestive of an instability actually taking place is the occurrence of a metal-insulator quantum critical point (QCP) at $x_c = 6.46$ identified in recent experiments.^{16,43} The threefold increase in effective mass on reducing x=0.54 to x =0.49 immediately preceding the QCP signals a tenfold increase in Ry/ $E_{\rm ke}$ to $\sim 10^2$ (see Appendix B) and threefold increase in r_s to ~10 on approaching the critical doping [shown in Fig. 1(b)], potentially indicating a further reduction in the effectiveness of screening of the Coulomb attraction, with the final trigger for an excitonic instability occurring at x_c. Strongly correlated systems that support conditions propitious for an excitonic insulator are unusual,^{1,4,42} given that a single carrier type rather than equal and opposite types typically results close to a Mott insulating state.44 This situation appears to be reversed in $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$, where Fermi surface reconstruction at the first instability transforms the single band of carriers with a strong on-site repulsion into two bands containing equal and opposite pockets that are strongly attracted to each other [illustrated in Figs. 5(a) and 5(b)].

B. Destruction of compensated pockets

A secondary superlattice instability would be anticipated to accompany exciton condensation for $x < x_c$,⁵ destroying the compensated α and γ pockets [see Figs. 5(d) and 5(e)]. Drawing an analogy with other underdoped cuprates, accompanying charge order could be expected at wave vectors $\mathbf{Q}_c = 2\mathbf{Q}_s$ (Ref. 45) and/or $\mathbf{Q}_{\perp} = (0, \pi/2)$ (Ref. 46) (see Appendix J). The possibility of the charge plus spin character of the second instability is suggested by the wave vector match $\mathbf{Q}_c = 2\mathbf{Q}_s$ between the "charge" wave vector \mathbf{Q}_c characterizing phonon broadening⁴⁷ and possible superlattice formation,⁴⁸ and the "spin" wave vector \mathbf{Q}_s associated with short range spin order³⁰ and magnetic excitations.³¹ A finite charge superlattice potential Δ_c would reconstruct the remaining β pocket into smaller pockets or open sheets³³—the precise details depending on the choice of wave vector (see Appendix J).

Further, the emergence of signatures of quasistatic magnetism in neutron scattering^{30,37} and local moment behavior in muon spin rotation experiments^{49,50} is consistent with a strengthened Δ_s for the region $x < x_c$. A strengthened Δ_s alone could gap the α and γ pockets in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} [see Fig. 5(c)], leaving behind only the β hole pockets at the nodes—reminiscent of strong coupling models.⁵¹

C. Reconciliation with photoemission experiments

Signatures from our measurements that the α pocket from which predominant oscillations arise is of the "hole" carrier type located at the nodes, brings the results of quantum oscillation measurements close to reconciliation with the results of angle-resolved photoemission spectroscopy (ARPES) experiments. A dichotomy arises at the antinodes, however; while quantum oscillations indicate antinodal Fermi surface pockets measured by quantum oscillations, a large antinodal "pseudogap" has been measured by ARPES measurements. An intriguing question concerns whether the finite spectral weight measured by ARPES to be concentrated at "arcs" of finite extent centered at the nodal points $(\pm \pi/2, \pm \pi/2)$ could conceivably reflect the sole remaining parts of the β Fermi surface on annihilation of the equal and opposite α and γ hole and electron pockets at the secondary Fermi surface instability as shown in Fig. 5 (Ref. 52)-a Fermi surface consisting of arcs is reported in materials with robust stripe order.⁵³ While such an interpretation is suggestive, an additional explanation is still required for the closing of the ARPES pseudogap in the low-temperature and high magnetic field regime relevant to quantum oscillation measurements.

One possibility suggested by recent models^{54,55} for the re-emergence of spectral weight at the antinodes in quantum oscillation measurements is that incoherent superconducting pairs destroy the spectral weight under the experimental conditions $(T \ge T_c \text{ and } B=0)$ where the normal state is accessed in photoemission experiments, while this spectral weight is recovered in the "quantum vortex liquid" regime accessed by quantum oscillation measurements. Another contribution could arise from fluctuations of the excitonic insulating instability that cause loss of antinodal spectral weight over a range of oxygen concentrations above x_c extending to higher temperatures-similar to the case of NbSe2 and TiSe2 above their charge ordering temperatures.^{56,57} The possible role of density wave reconstruction has also been suggested by theory⁵⁸ and by results of ARPES experiments.^{59,60} Alternatively, more exotic models such as those involving quantum oscillations from Fermi arcs,⁶¹ or novel quasiparticles visible to quantum oscillations and not ARPES have also been proposed.62

D. Relevance to pairing

Finally, we consider the effect that excitations of the potential excitonic insulator instability may have on the quasiparticle pairing mechanism. The unusual occurrence of a Fermi surface ideally predisposed to an excitonic insulator instability in the same material where high T_c superconductivity occurs could either suggest a link between the phenomena, or a coincidence. Similar compensated corrugated cylindrical Fermi surface pockets are found in other families of unconventional superconductor that also exhibit unexpectedly high transition temperatures—such as the Fe pnictides⁶³ and Pu-based superconductors.⁶⁴ Theoretical proposals made prior to the advent of hightemperature superconductivity considered conditions under which an excitonic mechanism may potentially enhance T_c .⁶ Whether or not such a cooperative mechanism is in play in the *d*-wave cuprate superconductors, however, is contingent on a better understanding of the relative importance of spin and charge fluctuations in contributing to high T_c in these materials.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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APPENDIX A: EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Quantum oscillations are measured using the contactless conductivity method⁶⁵ in two pulsed magnets reaching 65 and 85 T, and in a dc magnet reaching 45 T. Platelike single crystals of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} (Ref. 7) with in-plane dimensions 0.3×0.8 mm² are attached to the face of a flat five turn coil (compensated in the case of pulsed field experiments) that forms part of a proximity detector circuit resonating at ~22 MHz.⁶⁶ A change in the sample skin depth (or complex penetration depth in the superconducting state⁶⁷) leads to a change in the inductance of the coil, which in turn alters the resonance frequency of the circuit. Quantum oscillations are observed in the in-plane resistivity and hence the skin depth).

To minimize the effects of flux dissipation heating in pulsed magnetic fields, the sample is immersed in liquid ⁴He throughout the experiment, ^{68,69} and only the oscillations observed during the falling field are considered for detailed analysis. On taking such precautions, effective mass estimates are obtained that are comparable to those obtained in samples of the same oxygen concentration in static magnetic fields.¹²

The fixed H(=45 T) angle-swept θ measurements performed at different in-plane angles ϕ shown in Fig. 6 are obtained using a dual-axis rotator. Due to a small misalignment of the sample by $\theta_0 \approx 7^\circ$ at $\phi_0 \approx 51^\circ$, a minor correction

 $\cos \theta_{\text{actual}} = \cos \theta_{\text{uncorrected}} \times \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta_0 + \sin^2 \theta_0 \sin^2(\phi - \phi_0)}$

is made to obtain the correct θ .

APPENDIX B: ESTIMATES OF THE EXCITON BINDING ENERGY

We estimate the effective "Rydberg" for exciton binding to $be^{4,42}$

$$Ry^* = \frac{\mu}{m_e} \frac{1}{\epsilon^2} Ry$$
 (B1)

 \approx 430 meV for YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} samples of oxygen concentration x=0.54 and 0.56,⁷ where $\mu \approx m^*/2 \approx 0.8m_e$ is the reduced biexciton mass, $Ry \approx 13.6 \text{ eV}$ is the hydrogen Rydberg, and $\epsilon \approx 5$ is the relative permittivity for $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$.⁷⁰ The kinetic energy is estimated using

$$E_{\rm ke} = \frac{e\hbar F}{m^*} \tag{B2}$$

 \approx 39 meV for *F*=535 T and *m*^{*}=1.6*m*_e, yielding a ratio Ry^{*}/*E*_{ke} \approx 11. The effective Bohr radius of the exciton is estimated to be

$$a^* = \epsilon \frac{m_{\rm e}}{\mu} a_0 \tag{B3}$$

 ≈ 3.3 Å, where $a_0 \approx 0.53$ Å is the hydrogen Bohr radius. We estimate the exciton density as $n=A_k/2\pi^2 \approx 2.6 \times 10^{17} \text{ m}^{-2}$, where $A_k=2\pi eF/\hbar \approx 5.1 \times 10^{17} \text{ m}^{-1}$, yielding an effective exciton separation of

$$r_{\rm s} \approx \frac{1}{a^*} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi n}}$$
 (B4)

from which $r_s \approx 3.4$ (here r_s is dimensionless).

In estimating Ry^{*} and r_s , we have neglected the effects of screening, which could become significant should a large β pocket survive the formation of a superstructure accompanying exciton condensation. On the other hand, superstructure formation (see following section) would likely cause significant reconstruction of the β orbit—the outcome being strongly dependent on the associated ordering vectors and nature of the broken symmetry (see Appendix J). Screening will also become ineffective if m^* globally diverges at the quantum critical point at $x_c \approx 0.46$, at which point both Ry^{*} and r_s would diverge while $E_{\rm ke}$ collapses to zero.

When the quasiparticle effective mass changes (as reported in $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$ as a function of doping¹⁶), then we can expect the following dependences (shown in Fig. 1 of the main text):

$$\frac{\mathrm{Ry}^*}{E_{\mathrm{ke}}} \propto (m^*)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad r_{\mathrm{s}} \propto m^*, \tag{B5}$$

indicating that tuning of the electron correlations is expected to have dramatic consequences for the likelihood of exciton pairing and the applicability of the strong coupling BEC limit.^{1,42}

APPENDIX C: ORBITAL QUANTIZATION FROM ANGLE-SWEPT MEASUREMENTS

The α oscillations corresponding to a minimally warped cylinder dominate the angular dependent oscillations (similar to the field dependent oscillations in Figs. 1 and 3). Consequently a periodicity in $1/B \cos \theta$ is observed in both the fundamental and harmonic oscillations over a broad angular range (Fig. 7). We note that an angular damping that varies with angle is suggested by the similarly nonmonotonically varying form of the fundamental and harmonic oscillations are extracted by a two cylinder fit [Eq. (E1)] explained further in Appendix E.

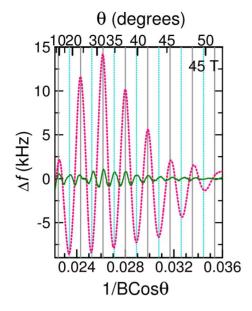


FIG. 7. (Color online) (a) Quantum oscillations measured as a function of the angle of inclination to the crystalline $c \, axis (\theta)$ on a sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} (x=0.56) at a constant field $\mu_0H=45$ T and a fixed in-plane angle ϕ at T=1.5 K using the contactless conductivity technique. Periodicity in $1/B \cos \theta$ of both the fundamental (dotted pink lines) and harmonic (solid green lines) oscillations (dominated by the α frequency) are revealed. The gray vertical lines label the expected peak positions for fundamental α quantum oscillations periodic in $1/B \cos \theta$ with periodicity F_{α} , and the dotted vertical cyan lines label the expected peak positions for the corresponding $2F_{\alpha}$ harmonic. The harmonic oscillations are extracted by subtracting the fundamental oscillations fit using Eq. (E1) from the measured oscillations as a function of θ (fit and measurements shown in Figs. 6 and 9). A residual background has been further subtracted for visual clarity.

APPENDIX D: EXTENDED ANALYSIS OF SWEPT MAGNETIC FIELD DATA

During Fourier analysis, weaker spectral features can be affected by interference effects between oscillations from a spectrally dominant series of oscillations (nearby in frequency) and the window function (a Hann window in the current study) used to modulate the data. Such interference between the α oscillation and the window function affects the resolved γ frequencies in the present study. One way to mitigate interference is to subtract fits to a dominant well characterized sequence of oscillations (i.e., the α oscillations) prior to Fourier analysis. This procedure is justified in the present case owing to the resolved separation between the α and γ frequencies in our Fourier analysis (see Figs. 2–4 and 8)—with the degree of separation growing proportionately larger for the harmonics as expected.

In Fig. 8 we show Fourier transforms of the measured oscillations in samples with x=0.54 before [i.e., Fig. 4(b) of the main text] and after [i.e., Fig. 4(c) of the main text] subtracting the fit of the α oscillations [Eq. (1) in the main text], a subset of which are shown in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c) of the main text. The γ frequencies $F_{\gamma,\text{neck}}$ and $F_{\gamma,\text{belly}}$ in Fig. 4(a) of the main text are determined with greater accuracy by performing Fourier transformation after subtracting the α oscillations.

APPENDIX E: EXTENDED ANALYSIS OF SWEPT ANGLE DATA

When a Fermi surface has an interlayer corrugation, as we identify for the γ pocket [depicted in Fig. 1(a)], angle-dependent measurements provide a means for mapping its in-plane topology.²² If the degree of corrugation is sufficiently deep to yield separately resolved neck and belly frequencies in Fourier transforms,²⁵ quantum oscillations then

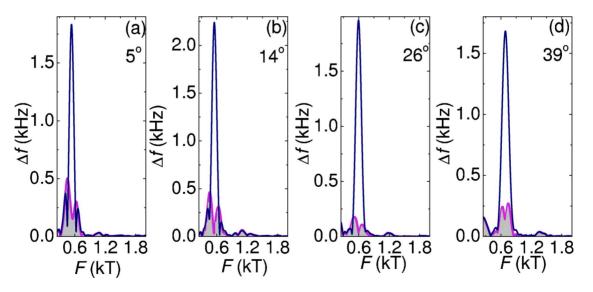


FIG. 8. (Color online) (a)–(d) Fourier transforms of the oscillations measured in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.54 at different angles θ before (thin mauve line) and after (thick magenta line with gray shading) subtracting the α component of a fit to Eq. (1) of the main text—a subset of which are shown in Figs. 3(b) and 3(c) of the main text. The resolved γ frequencies are used to construct Fig. 4(a) of the main text. Frequency peaks corresponding to 2*F* harmonic oscillations are observed in the Fourier transform at all measured angles.

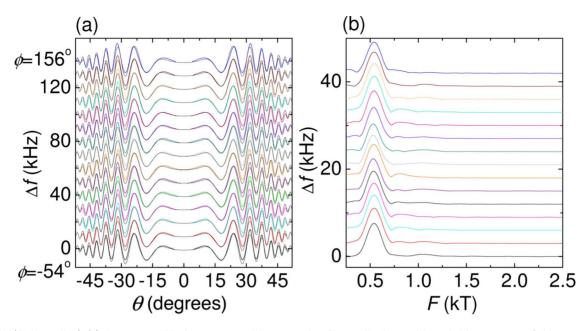


FIG. 9. (Color online) (a) Swept θ oscillations measured in a sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.56 at constant field μ_0H =45 T and different fixed values of ϕ at $T \approx 1.5$ K fit to Eq. (E1) (dashed black lines) as described in Fig. 6. The gaps in the data result from a correction for a sample misalignment of $\approx 7^{\circ}$ (see experimental details). (b) Fourier transforms in $1/\mu_0H \cos \theta$ of the oscillations shown in (a), which are dominated by the α pocket. As expected for a nearly ideal two-dimensional Fermi surface section, the dominant α frequency obtained is the same as that from fixed θ swept magnetic field experiments [i.e., Fig. 6(a)] at all angles of rotation. Periodicity of the oscillations in $1/B \cos \theta$ is shown in Appendix C. The curves correspond from bottom to top to $-54 \le \phi \le 156^{\circ}$ in 15° steps.

provide an accurate means for mapping the in-plane topology. The in-plane topology can be efficiently mapped out by sweeping θ in a constant magnetic field for many different in-plane orientations ϕ of the magnetic field $\mathbf{H}_{\parallel} = (H \sin \theta \cos \phi, H \sin \theta \sin \phi, 0)$ —requiring the use of a dual-axis rotator (for other examples, see Appendix K). In the present experiments on YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.56 and 0.54, the γ electron pocket is found to be deeply corrugated yielding spectral features between 10% and 40% in amplitude of the spectral weight associated with the α pocket. A minimal model for fitting is given by

$$\Delta f = \Delta f_{\alpha,0} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi F_{\alpha,0}}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\Gamma_{\alpha}}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) + \Delta f_{\gamma,0} \cos\left(\frac{2\pi F_{\gamma,0}}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\Gamma_{\gamma}}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) \times J_0\left(\frac{2\pi\Delta F_{\gamma,0} J_0(k_{\parallel}c\,\tan\theta)}{\mu_0 H\cos\theta}\right)$$
(E1)

[similar to Eq. (1) but without including a corrugation of α] that takes into consideration the superposition of α and γ oscillation waveforms in Figs. 6(a) and 9(a). Here $\Delta f_{\alpha,0}$ and $\Delta f_{\gamma,0}$ are amplitude prefactors, Γ_{γ} is a damping factor for the γ oscillations, while the remaining parameters are defined in the main text.

Changes in the caliper radius of the γ pocket k_{\parallel} are assumed to be the dominant factor responsible for the subtle ϕ dependence of the waveform in Fig. 6(a) of the main text and Fig. 9(a). Fourier analysis in Fig. 9(b) of the θ -swept oscillations in $1/\mu_0 H \cos \theta$ yields a leading frequency $F_{\alpha} \approx 539 \pm 5$ T similar to that obtained on sweeping the field at

fixed angle, confirming the $1/\cos\theta$ angular dependence of the dominant α oscillations.

Owing to the subtle variation of the waveform with ϕ , parameters $\Delta f_{\alpha,0}$, $\Delta f_{\gamma,0}$, $F_{\alpha,0}$, $F_{\gamma,0}$, and Γ_{γ} are obtained from fits of Eq. (E1) to the angular data assuming a circular cross section (i.e., $k_{\parallel} = k_{\rm F}$, where $k_{\rm F} = \sqrt{2eF_{\gamma,0}}/\hbar$ is the mean Fermi radius). The fits yield frequency parameters $F_{\alpha,0}$ =536 ± 5 T and $F_{\gamma,0}$ =535 ± 5 T, closely matching those determined in magnetic field sweeps. These parameters are then held constant for all ϕ , and a single parameter fit is performed with only k_{\parallel} being allowed to vary to refine the fits for each ϕ . The resulting ϕ dependence of k_{\parallel} —shown in Fig. 6(b) of the main text—yields a rounded-square Fermi surface cross section for the γ electron pocket, similar to that calculated using the helical spin-density wave model. We assume that the in-plane pocket topology accessed is an average between the bilayer-split pocket topologies (such as shown in Fig. 10). In Fig. 9(a), we show the ϕ dependence of the actual fits to Eq. (E1).

APPENDIX F: EFFECT OF BILAYER SPLITTING

Bilayer splitting in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} arises from the bilayer crystalline structure, yielding bonding and antibonding bands that lead to two large hole sections of different sizes in the paramagnetic phase [see Fig. 10(a)].¹⁹ Here the width of the line represents the difference in area between bilayer-split bands, with "+" and "-" representing the sign of this difference.

If ordering occurs in which there is antiferromagnetic coupling between bonding and antibonding bands, the Hamiltonian factorizes into

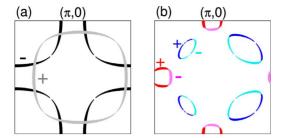


FIG. 10. (Color online) Calculated Fermi surfaces in which the effects of bilayer splitting are included as a perturbation in r (here r is the hopping "range" parameter discussed in Sec. II B, see Ref. 19). The effects of corrugation are not shown for clarity, but are the same as in Fig. 5. The difference in area between different bilayer-split variants of the Fermi surface is represented by the thickness of the line, where the colors (and "+" and "–" labels) indicate the sign of this difference. (a) shows the translation of the unreconstructed Fermi surface where the coupling between bonding and antibonding bands is represented by different signs for the difference in area (black for "–" and gray for "+") between $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$ and $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k+Q}}$. (b) shows the reconstructed Fermi surface where the difference in area (red for "+" and pink for "–" for the electron pocket, and blue for "+" and cyan for "–" for the hole pocket), can be seen to cancel for each pocket.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\mathrm{b}} & \boldsymbol{\Delta}_{\mathrm{s}} \\ \boldsymbol{\Delta}_{\mathrm{s}} & \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{Q}}^{\mathrm{a}} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathbf{k}}^{\mathrm{a}} & \boldsymbol{\Delta}_{\mathrm{s}} \\ \boldsymbol{\Delta}_{\mathrm{s}} & \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{Q}}^{\mathrm{b}} \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (F1)

The resulting Fermi surface shown in Fig. 10(b) has two different variants—the difference between them being more pronounced for the electron pocket, which is stretched along each of the k_x and k_y directions. The difference in area between each is represented by the thickness of the line, with

the sign of the difference being positive or negative as indicated by "+" or "-." Since the lines bounding each of the pockets contain both positive and negative segments that almost cancel, the pocket areas of the each bilayer-split variants of the reconstructed Fermi surface are only weakly split—i.e., the degeneracy of the pockets is not significantly lifted by bilayer splitting (t_{\perp}), when the bilayers are antiferromagnetically coupled. Consequently, different frequencies would likely not be resolvable in quantum oscillation experiments^{27,28} from antiferromagnetically coupled bilayersplit pockets.

Were the bilayers instead ferromagnetically coupled, then like bands would be coupled giving rise to significant differences in pocket areas between each of the bilayer-split Fermi surfaces. The size of this difference is expected to significantly exceed the depth of corrugation¹⁹ and so would be observable as distinct frequencies in the quantum oscillation data, and also as well-separated angle-dependent peaks in the Fourier transform.

APPENDIX G: INCONSISTENCY OF SIMILARLY WARPED POCKETS SCENARIO

Here we show that a scenario where the observed multiple frequencies arise from two bilayer-split pockets¹³ is inconsistent with the experimental data. Figure 11 shows the least square error in an unconstrained fit of the measured oscillations to Eq. (1). The Bessel term $J_0(2\pi\Delta F_i/B)$ that modulates the quantum oscillation amplitude in Eq. (1) (Ref. 24) arises from phase smearing due to the Onsager phase of a quasi-two-dimensional Fermi surface with depth of corrugation ΔF_i that varies sinusoidally with k_z . In the limit $2\pi\Delta F_i/B \ge 1/4$, the waveform from each section *i* is a superposition of extremal neck and belly frequencies

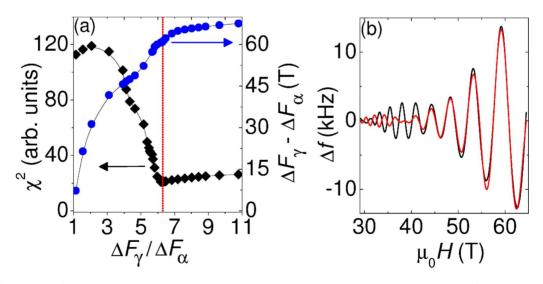


FIG. 11. (Color online) Error analysis of unconstrained oscillation fit to two Fermi surface sections. (a) Least squares error of the unconstrained fit of Eq. (1) to the measured oscillations of the sample with oxygen concentration x=0.56 as a function of different ratios between the corrugation of the α and γ pockets is shown on the left-hand axis. The corresponding difference between the fit corrugations of the α and γ pockets is shown on the right-hand axis. A clear minimum is observed for $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}/\Delta F_{\alpha,0} \approx 6.2$, yielding the best fit parameters—while the error is seen to rapidly increase if the corrugations of the two pockets are similar. (b) Example best fit (red line) to the measured oscillations for the scenario where $\Delta F_{\gamma,0} \approx \Delta F_{\alpha,0}$. The fit does not yield good agreement, demonstrating the need for two low frequency Fermi surface sections of significantly different warpings to explain the measured oscillations.

 $F_{i,\text{neck,belly}} = F_i \mp \Delta F_i$. For corrugated cylindrical pockets with a small degree of warping, such as the α pocket, the difference in Onsager phase $[2\pi(2\Delta F)/\mu_0 H]$ between the neck and belly extremal orbits at $\mu_0 H = 65$ T is small enough (≈ 2 radians for the α pocket) to render inadequate the parabolic approximation assumed in the Lifshitz Kosevich expression.²¹ Instead, the corrugated cylinder topology is best represented by Eq. (1) in which the amplitude of the neck and belly oscillations is constrained to be identical (i.e., C_i), and their relative phase difference constrained to be $\pi/2.^{24}$

All parameters have been allowed to vary for different fixed ratios of $\Delta F_{\gamma,0}$ and $\Delta F_{\alpha,0}$, and the resulting least squares error of the best fit obtained as a function of the corrugation ratio between the two pockets. It is evident that the minimum error appears for a significantly different corrugation of the α and γ sections, with a rapidly growing error with increasingly similar corrugations of the α and γ Fermi surface sections. Very similar parameters are also obtained on fitting the quantum oscillations in Ref. 13 to Eq. (1) (where a sine term replaces the cosine term for magnetic oscillations), indicating consistency with two very differently warped pockets. Considering the scenario where bilayer-split pockets are invoked to explain the multiple low frequencies, the warping of each of the two α and γ sections would be required to be the same [we assume that the nonconducting chains in underdoped YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} do not hybridize with bonding and antibonding states to create differently warped bilayer-split sections as in optimally doped YBa₂Cu₃O₇ (Ref. 19)]. The least squares error is near maximum in this case, as demonstrated by the best fit for $\Delta F_{\gamma,0} / \Delta F_{\alpha,0} \approx 1$ shown in Fig. 11. This disagreement in fit indicates that the multiple observed low frequencies are not explained by similarly warped pockets, as would be the case for bilayer-split pockets originating from a ferromagnetic bilayer coupling.

The bilayer splitting which must occur for $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6+x}$ is not experimentally resolvable as an additional set of frequencies in the Fourier transform. Indications therefore are that the areas of the bilayer-split pockets remain almost degenerate, as would occur for the antiferromagnetic coupling of bonding and antibonding states, consistent with the low-energy spin excitations observed in inelastic neutron scattering experiments.³⁵

We can understand from an inspection of the oscillations why the scenario of two equally warped Fermi surface sections does not explain the multiple low frequencies. We define two pockets (labeled "1" and "2") with neck and belly frequencies $F_{1,neck}$ and $F_{1,belly}$, and $F_{2,neck}$ and $F_{2,belly}$ in terms of two median frequencies F_1 and F_2 with a depth of corrugation ΔF , i.e.,

$$F_{1,\text{neck/belly}} = F_1 \pm \Delta F, \quad F_{2,\text{neck/belly}} = F_2 \pm \Delta F. \quad (G1)$$

where ΔF would have the same magnitude and sign for the two pockets in a ferromagnetically coupled bilayer-splitting model.

Quantum oscillations result from a superposition of two oscillatory terms

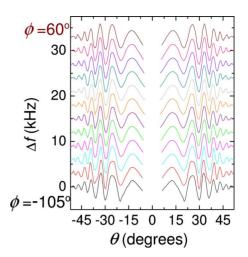


FIG. 12. (Color online) Swept θ oscillations measured by contactless conductivity on a sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.54 at constant field H=45 T and different fixed values of ϕ at T \approx 1.5 K.

$$\Delta f \propto \left[\cos\left(\frac{2\pi F_1}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) J_0\left(\frac{2\pi\Delta F}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{2\pi F_2}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) J_0\left(\frac{2\pi\Delta F}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) \right]$$
(G2)

for the two pockets, yielding the four frequencies given above. On combining them, we obtain

$$\Delta f \propto \cos\left(\frac{\pi(F_1 + F_2)}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) \times \cos\left(\frac{\pi(F_1 - F_2)}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right) J_0\left(\frac{2\pi\Delta F}{\mu_0 H \cos\theta}\right).$$
(G3)

Two terms in Eq. (G3) will give rise to nodes: the Bessel term containing ΔF will give rise to nodes at the set of magnetic fields given by Eq. (3) [Eq. (3) in the main text], while the cosine term containing $(F_1-F_2)/2$ will give rise to nodes

$$\mu_0 H_m \cos \theta = \frac{|F_1 - F_2|}{2m + 1},$$
 (G4)

where *m* is an integer. Since the node terms are multiplicative, both sets of nodes would be observed giving rise to a suppression of the total waveform [as shown in the attempted fit in Fig. 11(b)] at the field values given by both Eqs. (3) and (G4). The absence of such nodes in the full experimental waveform [Figs. 2(a) and 4(b) of the main text] indicates that the multiple observed low frequencies are not a consequence of two equally warped pockets.

APPENDIX H: ADDITIONAL SWEPT ANGLE DATA

In Fig. 12 we show oscillations in contactless conductivity data measured by sweeping θ for constant *H* at many different values of ϕ obtained for a single crystal sample of YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} with x=0.54. The weak ϕ dependence reflects the same behavior observed for x=0.56.

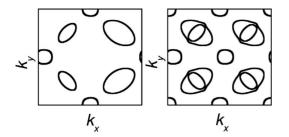


FIG. 13. The left-hand panel shows the Fermi surface calculated for a helical spin-density wave model. Using a hole doping p=11.7% and $\delta \approx \frac{1}{16} \approx 0.06$ as constraints, adjustment of a single parameter $\Delta_{\rm s}$ yields a Fermi surface with frequencies comparable to those observed—i.e., $F_{\alpha,0}=575$ T, $F_{\beta,0}=1583$ T, and $F_{\gamma,0}$ =517 T. The largest difference from measured area for the case of the β pocket corresponds to 0.2% of the paramagnetic Brillouin zone area. The helical spin-density wave model used is described in Ref. 12. On including an ortho-II potential (right-hand panel), using the formalism described in Ref. 29, pockets with frequencies— $F_{\alpha,0}=517$ T, $F_{\beta,0} = 1641$ T, and $F_{\gamma,0}$ =515 T—closer to those observed experimentally are obtained in the right-hand panel. The largest difference from measured area for any one pocket now corresponds to 0.07% of the Brillouin zone.

APPENDIX I: BAND-STRUCTURE DETAILS

Antiferromagnetic coupling between bilayers couples bonding to antibonding bands, yielding two slightly different variants of the Fermi surfaces shown in Figs. 5(b) and 5(c) of the main text with very similar areas.

For samples with oxygen concentration close to $x \approx 0.5$, ortho-II ordering has the potential to modify the Fermi surface, depending on the strength of the relevant potential $\Delta_{\rm II}$.^{27,29} For commensurate spin ordering (i.e., δ =0), it has been postulated in Ref. 28 that the ortho-II potential ($\Delta_{\rm II}$) alone can produce pockets of area comparable to those measured. In the case of incommensurate ordering where $\delta \geq \frac{1}{16}$, an additional ortho-II potential is not expected to significantly change the observed frequencies²⁸ (see Fig. 13). The inclusion of an additional ortho-II potential can however make a small change to the observed frequencies, yielding improved agreement between the calculated Fermi surface and experiment (Fig. 13).

APPENDIX J: POSSIBLE ORDERING RESULTING FROM AN EXCITONIC INSULATOR INSTABILITY

While the extended zone representations in Figs. 5(b) and 5(c) of the main text provide a convenient means of visualizing the three distinct pockets, the actual magnetic Brillouin zone depicted in Fig. 14 [obtained on repeatedly folding that in Fig. 5(b) of the main text] must be considered in order to identify possible ordering vectors associated with the excitonic insulator instability. Here, we make the simplifying assumption that $\delta = \frac{1}{16} \approx 0.06$.

One possible candidate ordering vector is $\mathbf{Q}_c = 2\mathbf{Q}_s = (\pm 4\delta\pi, 0)$, corresponding to the charge modulation that can accompany a spin-density wave should it become collinear or "stripelike" (as opposed to helical). In this case \mathbf{Q}_c does not introduce a new periodicity in Fig. 14, but rather

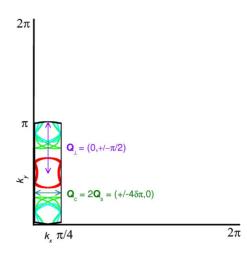


FIG. 14. (Color online) The actual Brillouin zone for Fermi surface reconstruction by $\mathbf{Q}_{s} = (\pi [1 \pm 2\delta], \pi)$, assuming $\delta = \frac{1}{16}$, illustrating the possible superlattice modulation vectors \mathbf{Q}_{c} and \mathbf{Q}_{\perp} accompanying an excitonic insulator instability.

introduces additional couplings between $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}+n\mathbf{Q}_s}$ and $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}+(n\pm 2)\mathbf{Q}_s}$ that are not present in a purely helical spin-density wave. Such additional couplings will cause gaps to open around the edges of the magnetic Brillouin zone in Fig. 14, leading to the destruction of closed pockets and the creation of open Fermi surface sheets in a manner analogous to those obtained Ref. 33 (where $\delta = \frac{1}{8}$ was considered). The observation of phonon broadening effects⁴⁷ together with the possible observation of Bragg peaks in Ref. 48 could be consistent with charge ordering of this type.

An alternative possibility is a form of broken-translational symmetry with a characteristic vector $\mathbf{Q}_{\perp} \approx (0, \pi/2)$ that maps the electron and hole pockets onto each other as in a conventional Fermi surface nesting scenario. In this case, \mathbf{Q}_{\perp} has a similar periodicity to the purely charge wave vectors identified in stripe systems³³ and/or scanning tunneling microscopy experiments.⁴⁶ Although such forms of order are reported in various families of high T_c cuprates, they have not been reported in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x}.

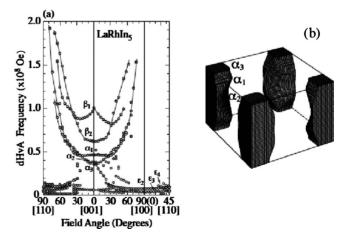


FIG. 15. (a) Experimentally measured angular dependence of the dHvA frequencies in LaRhIn₅. (b) Band structure calculations of the Fermi surface topology of the α pockets in LaRhIn₅ (taken from Ref. 71).

APPENDIX K: ROTATION STUDIES ON OTHER CORRUGATED FERMI SURFACE MATERIALS

The rare-earth paramagnet LaRhIn₅ (Ref. 71) and the organic superconductor β -(BEDT-TTF)₂IBr₂ (Ref. 22) are two examples of strongly correlated materials for which a similar degree of corrugation enables angle-dependent quantum oscillation experiments to access information on the inplane topology.

LaRhIn₅ has a section of Fermi surface (labeled α in Fig. 15) with a proportionately similar degree of corrugation to the γ pocket in YBa₂Cu₃O_{6+x} and a round-square cross section.⁷¹ de Haas–van Alphen experiments can resolve neck and belly frequencies $F_{\alpha 1,2}$ and $F_{\alpha 3}$, respectively, which become degenerate when **H** is rotated by an angle θ away from the [0,0,1] axis, corresponding to the first Bessel zero in $F \cos \theta \approx F_0 \pm \Delta F J_0(k_{\parallel}c' \tan \theta)$. Owing to the rounded-square cross section, the caliper radius is larger along $\langle 1, 1, 0 \rangle$ than along $\langle 1, 0, 0 \rangle$ causing the degeneracy to occur at a smaller angle θ when the field is rotated toward [1,1,0] than when it is rotated toward [1,0,0].

According to Ref. 22, β -(BEDT-TTF)₂IBr₂ has a warped Fermi surface [see Fig. 16(a)] with an elliptical inplane topology and triclinic crystal structure, causing the θ

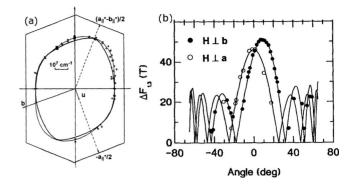


FIG. 16. (a) In-plane Fermi surface cross section of β – (BEDT–TTF)₂IBr₂ from Ref. 22. (b) θ dependence of the difference frequency $\Delta F_{1,3} = F_{\text{belly}} - F_{\text{neck}}$ (also from Ref. 22) for two different ϕ angles, which are 90° apart according to (a).

dependences of the difference frequency $\Delta F_{1,3} = F_{\text{belly}} - F_{\text{beck}}$ [see Fig. 16(b)] to be different for the two different φ angles considered (which are 90° apart). The existence of only a single section of Fermi surface β -(BEDT – TTF)₂IBr₂ and the very low transition temperature of this organic superconductor enables multiple nodes to be directly observed.

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