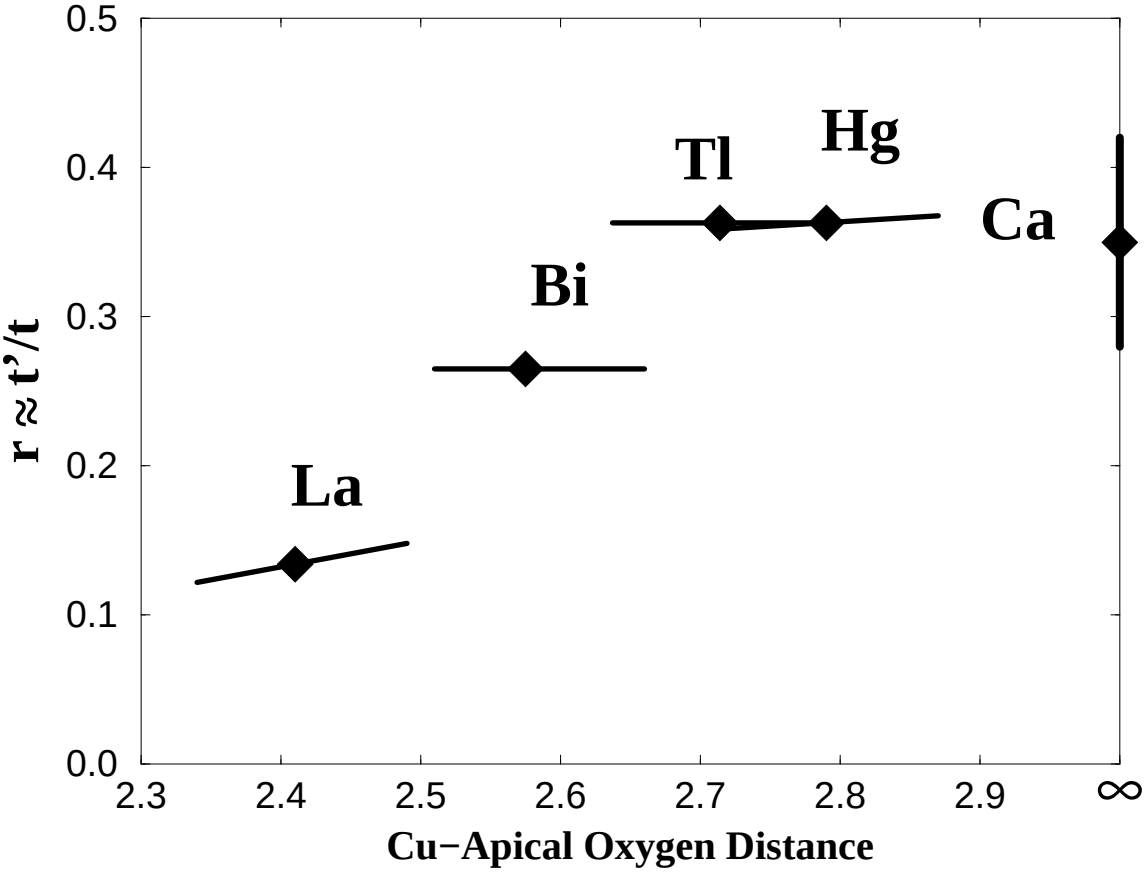

Figure 3: *Diamonds:* Calculated range-parameter for the hopping integrals in the single-layer compounds La_2CuO_4, $Bi_2Sr_2CuO_6$, $Tl_2Ba_2CuO_6$, and $HgBa_2CuO_4$, as well as for the idealized infinite-layer compound, buckled $CaCuO_2$, plotted as a function of the distance (in Å) between plane-copper and apical oxygen. For the optimally doped compounds, the observed T_c-values are respectively 40 K, 40 K, 85 K, 90 K, and possibly $\gg$100 K. *Lines:* Calculated range-parameters for displacements of apical oxygen.