



COLLÈGE  
DE FRANCE  
—1530—

*Chaire de Physique  
de la Matière Condensée  
Antoine Georges*

# Fermions en interaction: Introduction à la théorie de Champ Moyen Dynamique (DMFT)

*Cours 1 – Motivations, Concept*

Cycle 2018-2019  
7 mai 2019



COLLÈGE  
DE FRANCE  
—1530—

*Chaire de Physique  
de la Matière Condensée  
Antoine Georges*

# Interacting Fermions: Introduction to Dynamical Mean-Field Theory (DMFT)

*Lecture 1 – Motivations, Concept*

***Slides will be in English***

*Please don't hesitate to ask questions in French or English*

2018-2019 Lectures

May 7, 2019

Today's seminar (11:30)

**Michel Ferrero**

*Ecole Polytechnique, CPHT  
and Collège de France*

***Were Fermions Born Under a Bad Sign ?***

# Mailing List

(Weekly announcement of lecture and seminar, etc.)

Send email to: [listes-diffusion.cdf@college-de-france.fr](mailto:listes-diffusion.cdf@college-de-france.fr)

Subject line: **subscribe chaire-pmc.ipcdf**

...or: unsubscribe chaire-pmc.ipcdf

## Website:

<https://www.college-de-france.fr/site/antoine-georges/index.htm>

Lectures from this year (and 2016-2017) are video recorded  
PDF and Audio of lectures available for all years  
PDF for (almost) all seminars

- 7 mai 2019      Séance de cours  
Séminaire : “Were fermions born under a bad sign ?”  
Michel FERRERO, *CPHT-Ecole Polytechnique et Collège de France*
- 14 mai 2019      Séance de cours  
Séminaire : “Nonequilibrium extensions of dynamical mean field theory”  
Philipp WERNER, *université de Fribourg, Suisse*
- 21 mai 2019      Séance de cours  
Séminaire : “Excitonic condensation of strongly correlated electrons”  
Jan KUNES, *TU-Wien and Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague*
- Mercredi 22 mai (exceptionnel) Séminaire par Andrew J.Millis – 11h00, Salle 5
- 28 mai 2019      Deux séances de cours
- 4 juin 2019      Pas de cours (2 conférences à Paris)

# 11 juin: Cours, Séminaire et Colloque/Workshop

11 juin 2019 Séance de cours

Séminaire : "Unifying spin-fluctuations and DMFT: TRILEX and vertex-based methods"

Olivier PARCOLLET, *Flatiron Institute, New York et IPhT, CEA-Saclay*

Colloque le mardi 11 juin 2019 de 14h à 18h30

5 séminaires - Salle 2

"Dynamical Mean Field Theory and Beyond: Recent Developments"

Orateurs : Manuel ZINGL, Jernej MRAVLJE, Hugo STRAND, Alessandro TOSCHI, Malte RÖSNER

# June 11 workshop - program

## ***Dynamical Mean-Field Theory and Beyond:***

### ***Recent Developments***

*(Talks are 30' plus 15' discussion)*

14:00-14:45 Manuel Zingl (CCQ, Flatiron Institute). ***Recent insights on  $Sr_2RuO_4$ : High-resolution photoemission and Hall effect***

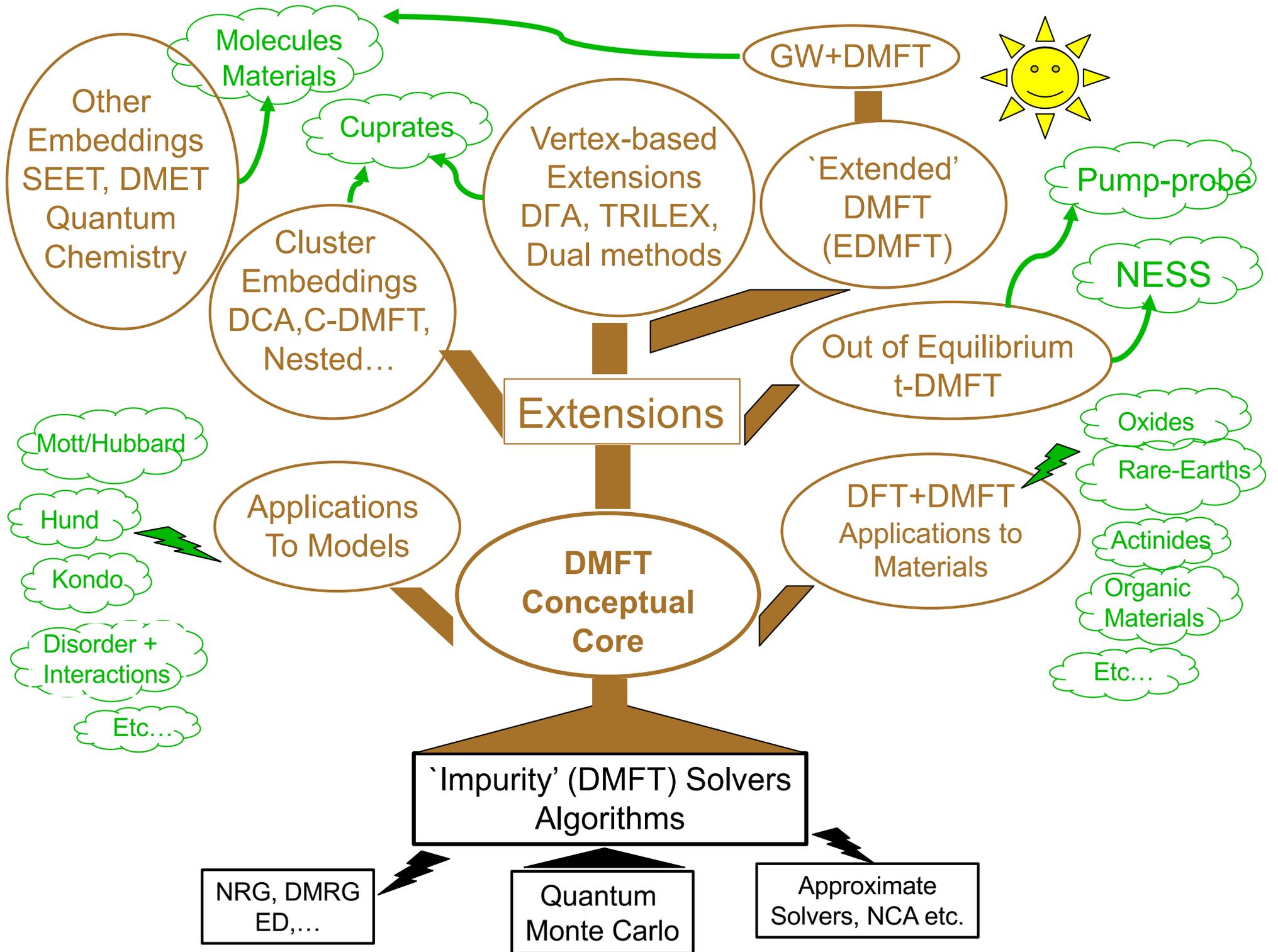
14:45-15:30 Jernej Mravlje (Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana). ***Hund's metals: overview, NRG insights, and the role of spin-orbit coupling***

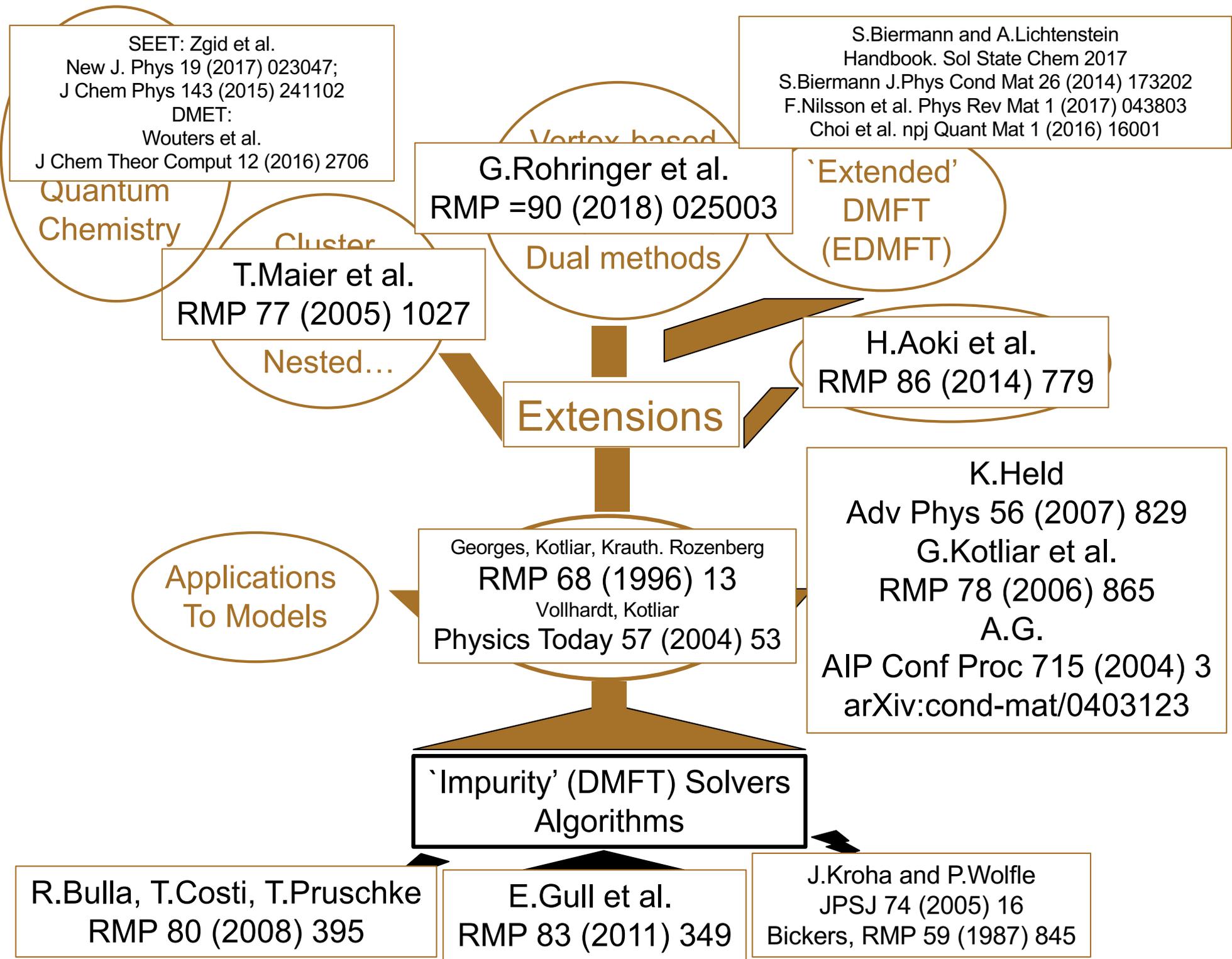
15:30-16:15 Hugo Strand (CCQ, Flatiron Institute). ***Magnetic response of a Hund's metal within DMFT:  $Sr_2RuO_4$***

16:15-17:00 Break

17:00-17:45 Alessandro Toschi (IFP – TU Wien). ***Fluctuation diagnostics of many-electron systems: How to read between the lines of single-particle spectra***

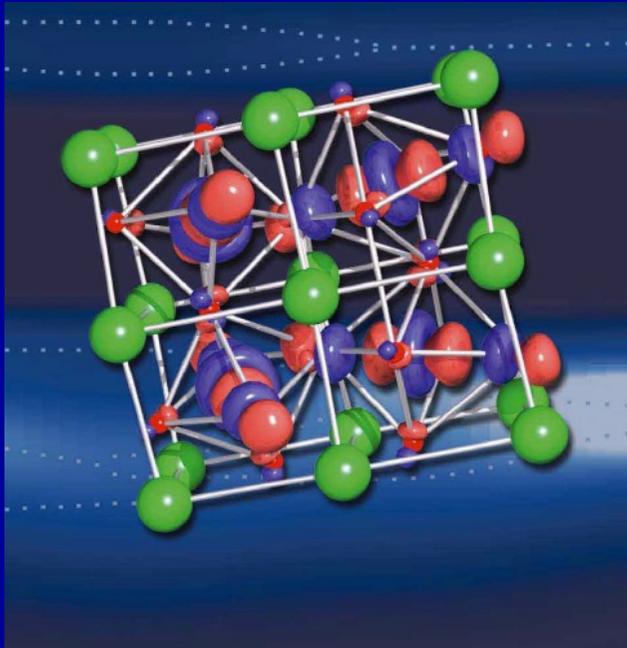
17:45-18:30 TBA





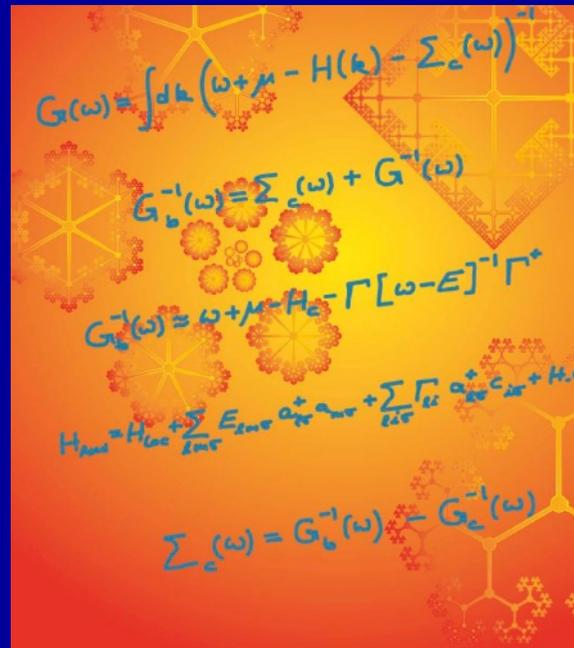
# Jülich Autumn School on Correlated Electrons

## Book series – available as free eBooks



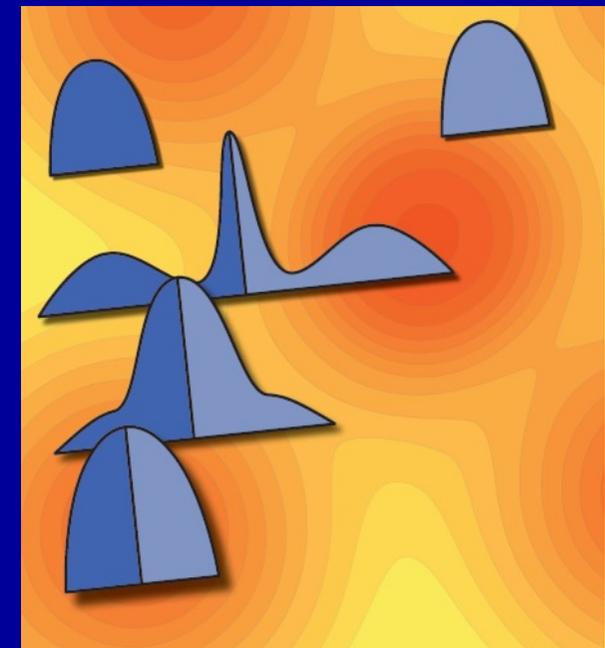
**The LDA+DMFT approach to strongly correlated materials**

Eva Pavarini, Erik Koch, Dieter Vollhardt, and Alexander Lichtenstein (Eds.)



**DMFT at 25: Infinite Dimensions**

Eva Pavarini, Erik Koch, Dieter Vollhardt and Alexander Lichtenstein (Eds.)

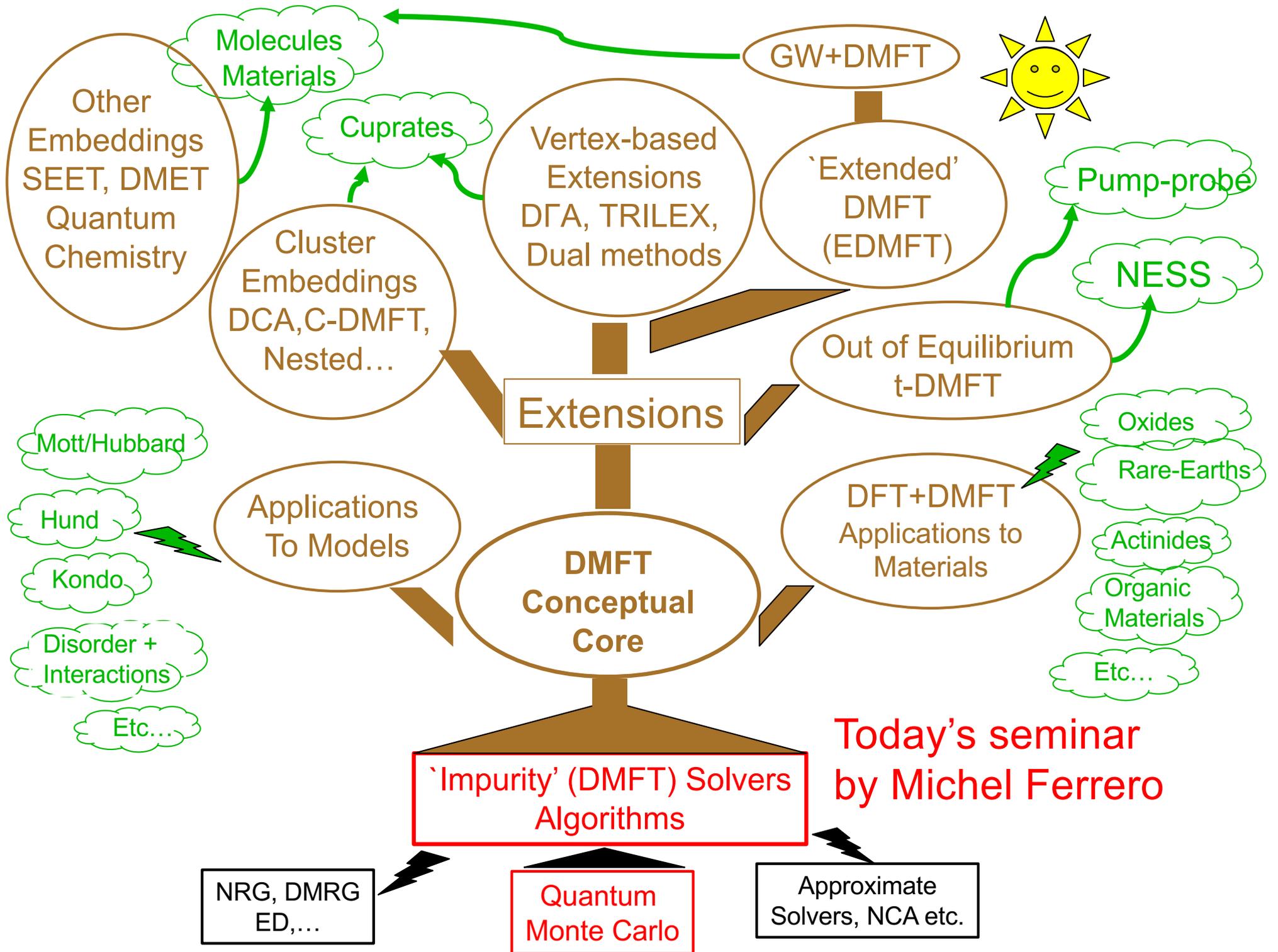


**DMFT: From Infinite Dimensions to Real Materials**

Eva Pavarini, Erik Koch, Alexander Lichtenstein, and Dieter Vollhardt (Eds.)



<https://www.cond-mat.de/events/correl.html>



# The 'Quantum Many-Body' Research Agenda – Born 1929 !

714

*Quantum Mechanics of Many-Electron Systems.*

By P. A. M. DIRAC, St. John's College, Cambridge.

(Communicated by R. H. Fowler, F.R.S.—Received March 12, 1929.)

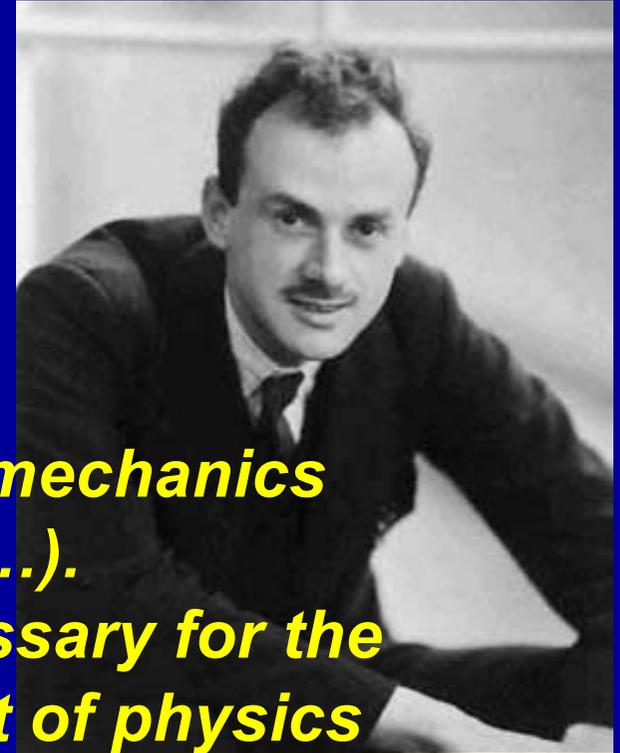
## § 1. *Introduction.*

The general theory of quantum mechanics is now almost complete, the imperfections that still remain being in connection with the exact fitting in of the theory with relativity ideas. These give rise to difficulties only when

P. A. M. Dirac, "Quantum Mechanics of Many-Electron Systems",  
Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series A, Vol.123,  
April 1929, pp 714.

Paul Dirac, 1929

“Quantum Mechanics  
of Many-Electron Systems”



***“The general theory of quantum mechanics  
is now almost complete (...).  
The underlying physical laws necessary for the  
mathematical theory of a large part of physics  
and the whole of chemistry  
are thus completely known,  
and the difficulty is only that  
the exact application of these laws***

***leads to equations much too complicated to be soluble.”***

P. A. M. Dirac, "Quantum Mechanics of Many-Electron Systems",  
Proceedings of the Royal Society of London, Series A, Vol.123,  
April 1929, pp 714.

# Quantum Mechanics of $10^{21}$ interacting particles !

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_i \nabla_i^2 + \sum_i v_{ion}(\vec{r}_i) +$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |r_i - r_j|}$$

$$H\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N) = E\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N)$$

Eigenstates (wave-functions)  
and Eigenvalues (Energy spectrum)

# `Dirac's program' (same 1929 article):



*“ It therefore becomes desirable that approximate practical methods of applying quantum mechanics should be developed, which can lead to an explanation of the main features of complex atomic systems without too much computation.”*

Dirac's program is not yet fully implemented but key progress has been made.

Note that “without too much computation” has an entirely different meaning now than in the 1930's ☺

# Why are interacting fermion systems hard problems ?

- Exponential size of the Hilbert space  $\sim \exp(10^{23})$ 
  - Exact diagonalisation only handles (very) small systems
- Alternating sign of fermionic quantum-mechanical amplitudes
  - (Direct) Quantum Monte-Carlo is in trouble
  - See seminar by Michel Ferrero

Continuous progress in algorithms and computational methods: a crucial line of research !

# Why is diagonalizing the Hamiltonian (very) hard ?

Consider a `simple' model: a chain of N electrons, which are localized so the only remaining degree of freedom is their spin – can take two values on each site

Basis of configuration space:

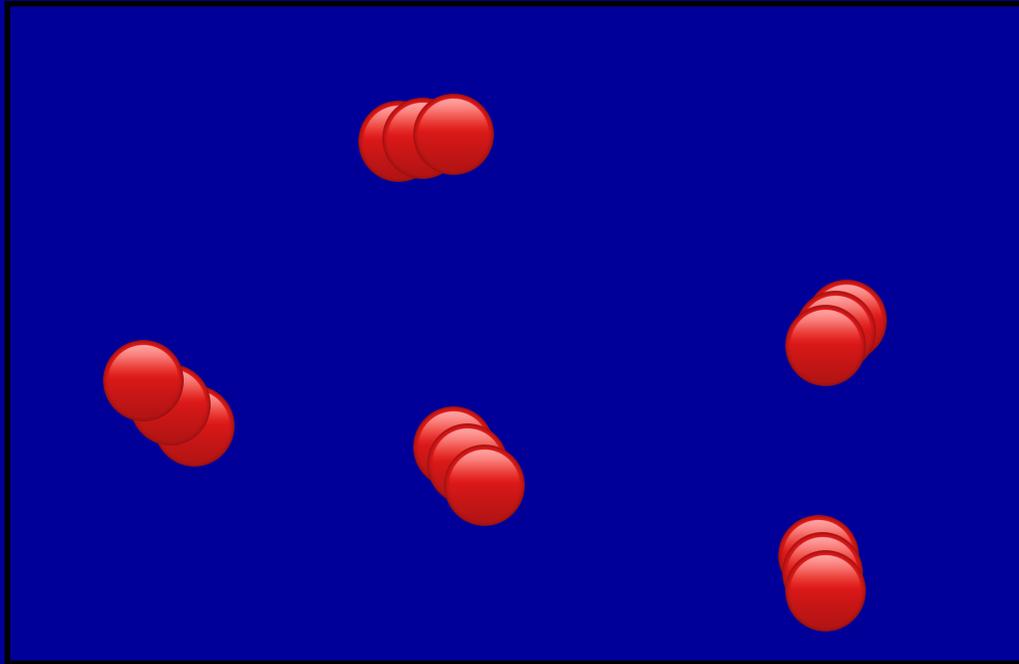
$$|\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_N\rangle, \quad \sigma_i = \pm 1$$

$2^N$  states ! Grows exponentially in N... Try thinking of  $\text{Exp}[10^{21}]$  ...

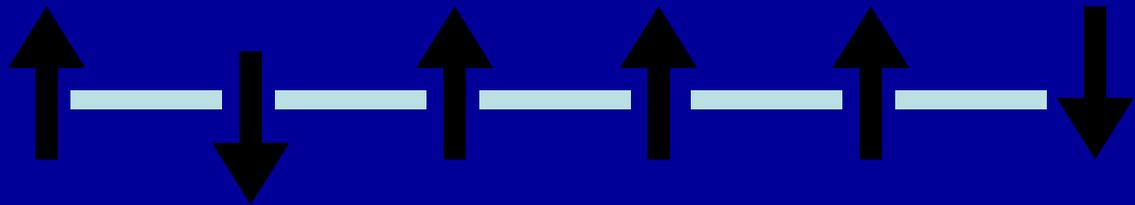
State vector (wave-function):

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_N} c_{\sigma_1 \dots \sigma_N} |\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_N\rangle$$

Storing it is already very hard, let alone computing it...



From particles... to spins in a line



# In Quantum Mechanics, the Hamiltonian is an operator acting on these state vectors

Heisenberg Model:

$$\hat{H} = J \sum_i S_i^z S_{i+1}^z + J_{\perp} \sum_i [S_i^+ S_{i+1}^- + S_{i+1}^+ S_i^-]$$

$$S^z |\sigma\rangle = \sigma |\sigma\rangle, \quad S^+ |-\rangle = |+\rangle, \quad S^- |+\rangle = |-\rangle$$

With only J-term: energy spectrum easy to evaluate  
(classical Ising)

With second term: diagonalization of a  $2^N \times 2^N$  (sparse) matrix

Model is directly relevant to (quantum) Magnets

Energy matrix (Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$ ) acts on space of all configurations

$N = 2$  example

$$\hat{H} = \begin{array}{c} \uparrow\uparrow \\ \uparrow\downarrow \\ \downarrow\uparrow \\ \downarrow\downarrow \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} \uparrow\uparrow & \uparrow\downarrow & \downarrow\uparrow & \downarrow\downarrow \\ -1 & & & \\ & 1 & -1 & \\ & -1 & 1 & \\ & & & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Energy matrix (Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}$ ) acts on space of all configurations

$N = 3$  example

	↑↑↑	↑↑↓	↑↓↑	↑↓↓	↓↑↑	↓↑↓	↓↓↑	↓↓↓
↑↑↑	-2							
↑↑↓		0	-1					
↑↓↑		-1	2		-1			
↑↓↓				0				
↓↑↑			-1		0			
↓↑↓				-1		2	-1	
↓↓↑						-1	0	
↓↓↓								-2

N=4 case can hardly fit on slide...

# Efficient algorithms for evaluating eigenvectors of sparse matrices e.g. Lanczos

Current record, using symmetries and many tricks

## 50 spins !

... not quite  $10^{21}$

## Sublattice coding algorithm and distributed memory parallelization for large-scale exact diagonalizations of quantum many-body systems

Alexander Wietek\* and Andreas M. Läuchli

*Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Innsbruck, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria*



(Received 18 April 2018; published 26 September 2018)

We present algorithmic improvements for fast and memory-efficient use of discrete spatial symmetries in exact diagonalization computations of quantum many-body systems. These techniques allow us to work flexibly in the reduced basis of symmetry-adapted wave functions. Moreover, a parallelization scheme for the Hamiltonian-vector multiplication in the Lanczos procedure for distributed memory machines avoiding load-balancing problems is proposed. We demonstrate that using these methods low-energy properties of systems of up to 50 spin-1/2 particles can be successfully determined.

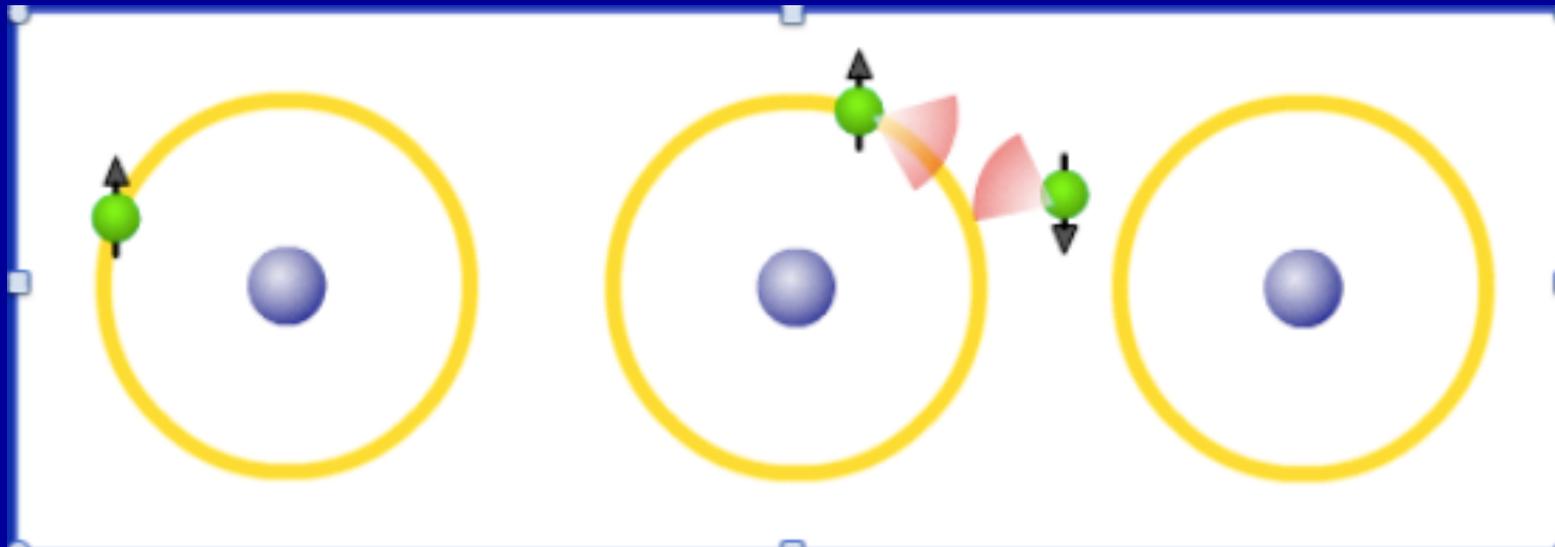
DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevE.98.033309](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.98.033309)

Simplest « toy model » with mobile electrons:

The Hubbard model (Hilbert space:  $4^N$ )

$$-t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \sum_{\sigma=\uparrow,\downarrow} (c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + h.c.) + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

4 states per site:  $|0\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle, |\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$



t: Tunnel amplitude (electron hopping between sites)

U: On-site matrix element of screened Coulomb interaction

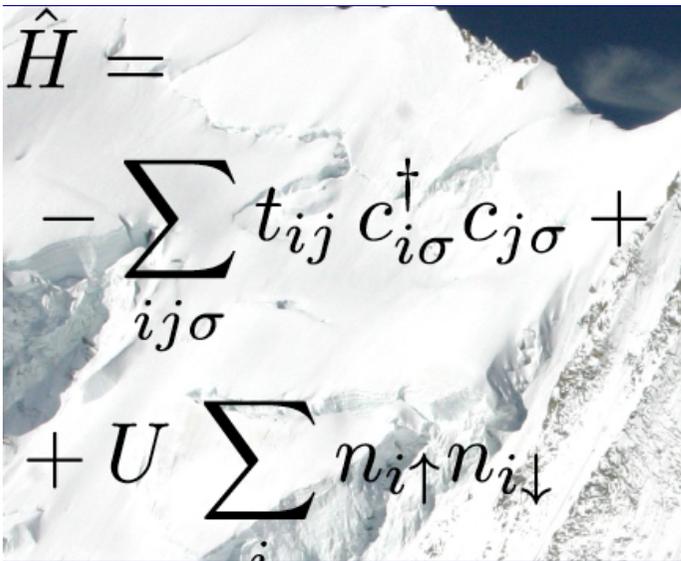
Despite its simple formulation  
the Hubbard model  
is far from being 'solved'  
and even qualitatively understood

Except in some cases such as:

- ONE spatial dimension
- INFINITE spatial dimensions

Especially relevant:  $d=2$

The Hubbard model plays a somewhat similar role  
for many-body quantum physics  
to that of the Ising model in classical statistical mechanics  
And we are living in pre-Onsager days ( $< 1942$ )...

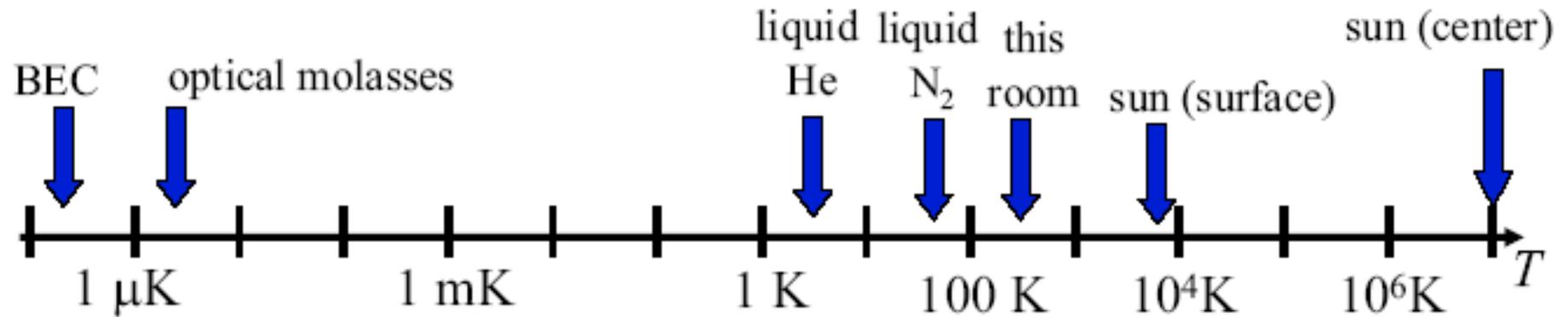

$$\hat{H} = - \sum_{ij\sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + U \sum_i n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow}$$

The Hubbard model  
is no longer only  
a Toy Model !

*A new frontier  
at the interface  
of Condensed Matter Physics  
and Quantum Optics:*

Ultra-Cold Atomic Gases  
in Optical Lattices

# Ultra-Cold Atomic Gases



BEC

COOLING

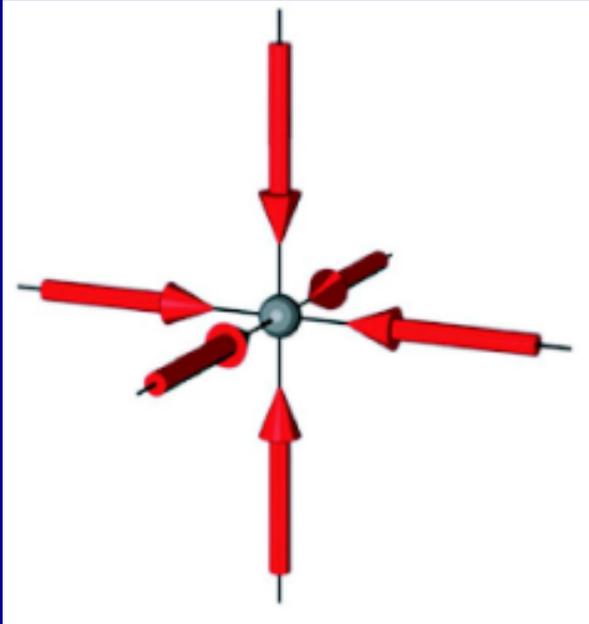


Nobel 2001  
E. Cornell , W. Ketterle , C. Wieman



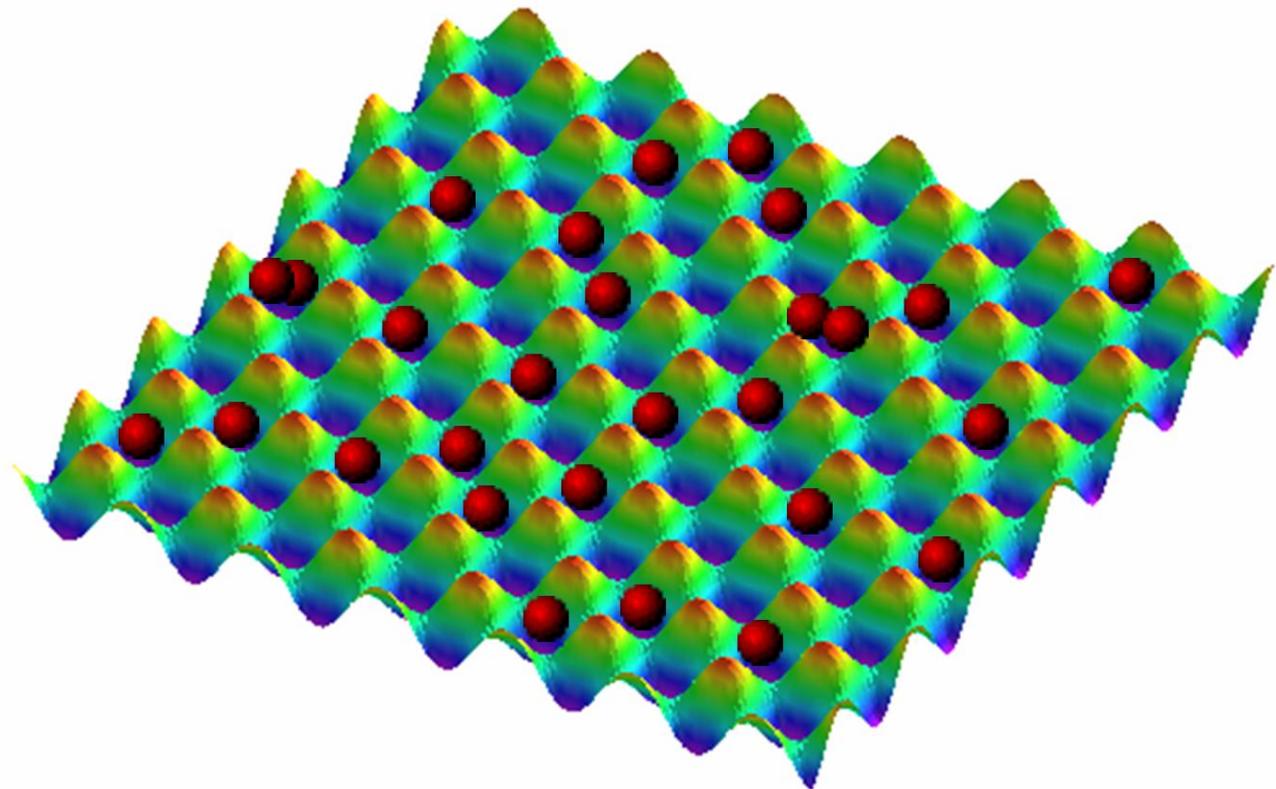
Nobel 1997  
S. Chu, C. Cohen-Tannoudji, W. Phillips

# The Hubbard model can now be realized using quantum optics techniques !



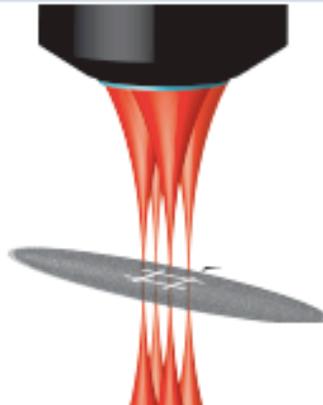
A new frontier: cold atoms in optical lattices: «artificial crystals of atoms and light »

D.Jaksch et al.  
PRL, 1998



# Cold Atoms and Condensed Matter Physics: very different characteristic scales

	Cold Fermionic atoms	Electrons in a solid
Density	$10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	$10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (Metals)
Mass	6 (Li), 40 (K)	$5.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$
Fermi Temperature	$\mu\text{K}$	$10^4 \text{ K}$
Temperature	100 nK	10 mK
Charge	0	-1
Interactions	Contact, <i>tunable</i>	Coulomb, material dep.
Potential shaping	Laser light	growing, lithography



Slide: courtesy  
J-P Brantut

# Highly controllable systems:

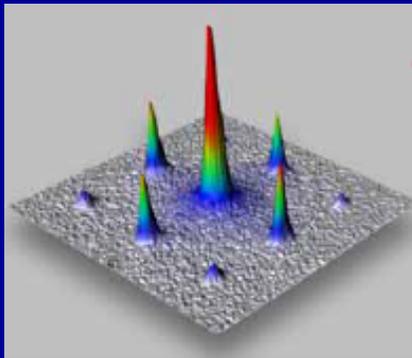
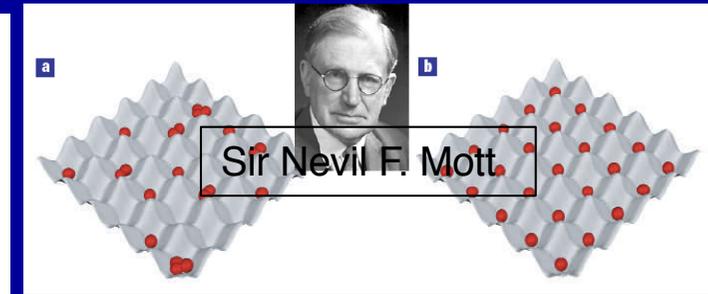
- Interaction strength ( $U$ ) can be tuned (e.g. through Feshbach resonances)
- Hopping ( $t$ ) can be tuned by changing lattice depth (laser intensity)
- Geometry of lattice can be changed
- Controlled time-dependent perturbations
  - BUT... still quite `hot':  $T \sim t / 5 \sim$  a few nK (aka room temperature in the solid-state!)

# Experimental observation of the Superfluid to Mott insulator transition for cold bosonic atoms

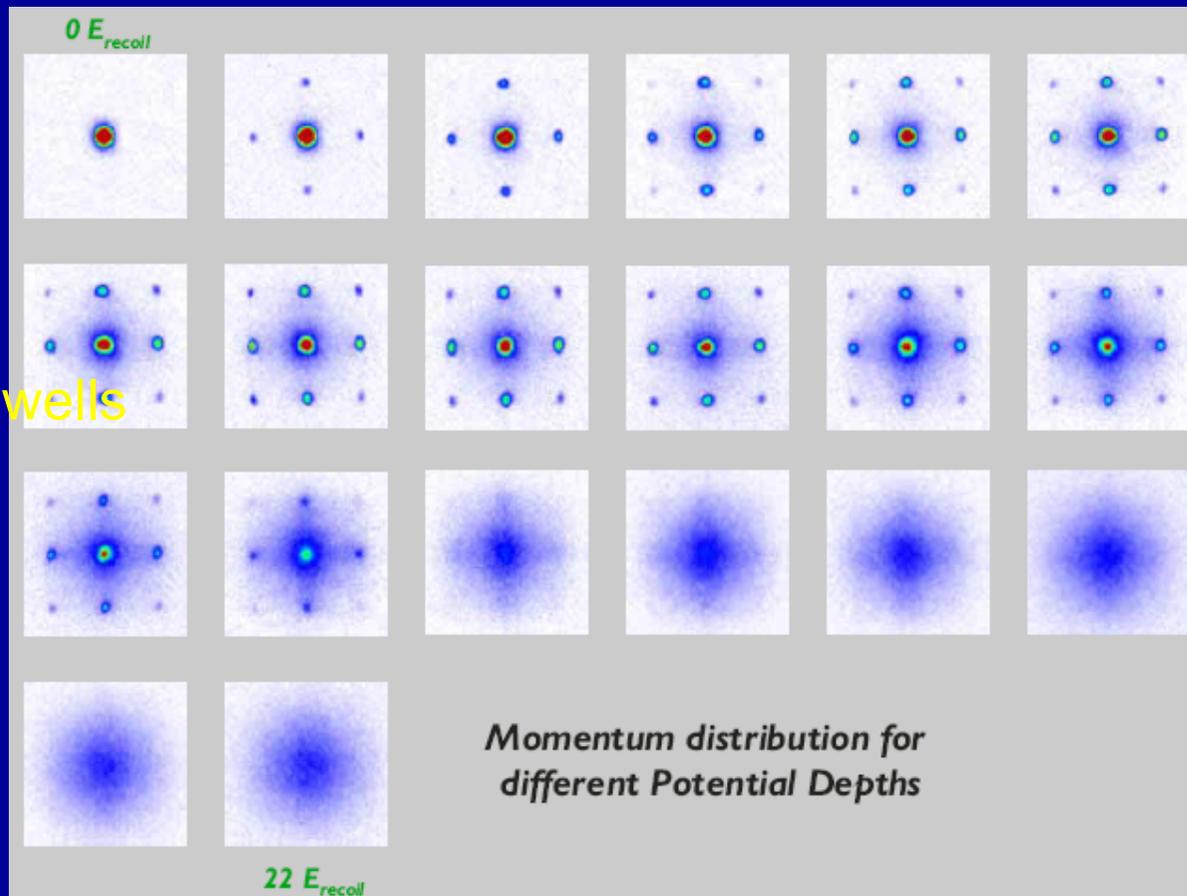
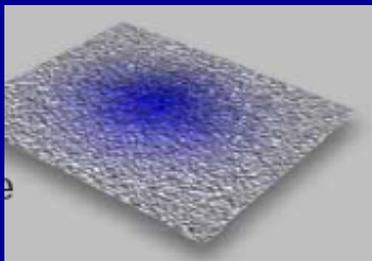
## Quantum phase transition from a superfluid to a Mott insulator in a gas of ultracold atoms

Markus Greiner<sup>\*</sup>, Olaf Mandel<sup>†</sup>, Tilman Esslinger<sup>†</sup>, Theodor W. Hänsch<sup>\*</sup> & Immanuel Bloch<sup>\*</sup>

NATURE | VOL 415 | 3 JANUARY 2002



Phase coherence between wells  
in superfluid phase  
>interference pattern





A Mott insulator  
is an  
incompressible  
state of matter

LA's highways

The RER-subway in Paris at rush hours



# How to make progress ?

- **1. Approximations** – In best cases: sequence of approximations that will converge (at least in principle) to the exact answer
  - *'Dynamical Mean-Field Theory' and 'Embedding Methods'*
- **2. Find clever ways of doing Quantum Monte Carlo** → *'Diagrammatic QMC'*
- **3. Data compression methods for the full wave-function** → *'Tensor Networks'*

# Computational Quantum Physics and Chemistry

- Computational methods for many-body quantum systems have seen considerable progress in the last ~ 30 years
- Moore's law increase in computing power is not the main reason for these advances
- **RATHER:**
- New algorithms
- New Concepts and Approximations

# More Physics Motivations

*Materials with Strong Electronic  
Correlations*

# INTERACTIONS lead to COLLECTIVE EFFECTS

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_i \nabla_i^2 + \sum_i v_{ion}(\vec{r}_i) + \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |r_i - r_j|}$$

Wave-function NOT well approximated  
by a single Slater determinant ( $\sim$ product): ENTANGLEMENT  
 $\rightarrow$  CORRELATIONS between particles

$$H\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N) = E\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N)$$

# Approximation of (quasi) independent electrons

$$\Psi(r_1, \dots, r_N) \simeq \text{Det} [\phi_{\nu_i}(r_j)]$$
$$(i, j = 1, \dots, N)$$

The many-body wave-function is approximated as a product of single-particle Bloch waves (antisymmetrized  $\rightarrow$  Slater determinant)

Works OK for many materials, but here we shall focus on those for which this approximation FAILS !

# Materials with Strong Electron Correlations do “BIG THINGS”

- Because of the strong interdependence of electrons, collective phenomena take place
- Such as: *metal-insulator transitions, magnetism, superconductivity, etc.*
- → Interesting functionalities
- → Fundamental questions in physics and chemistry

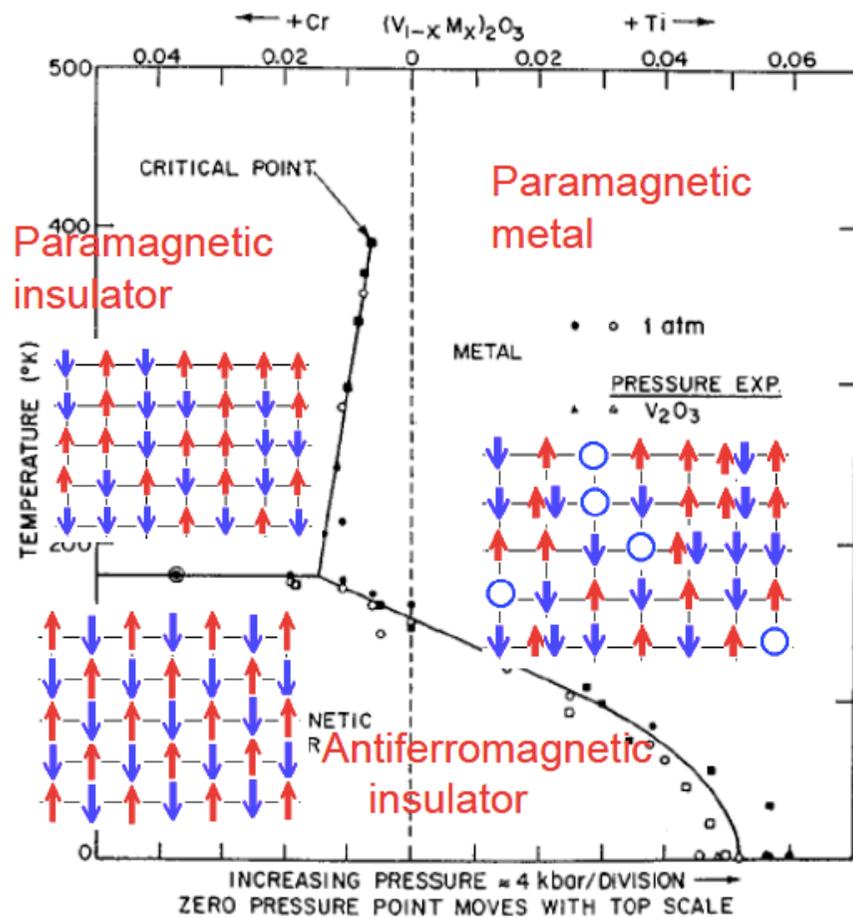
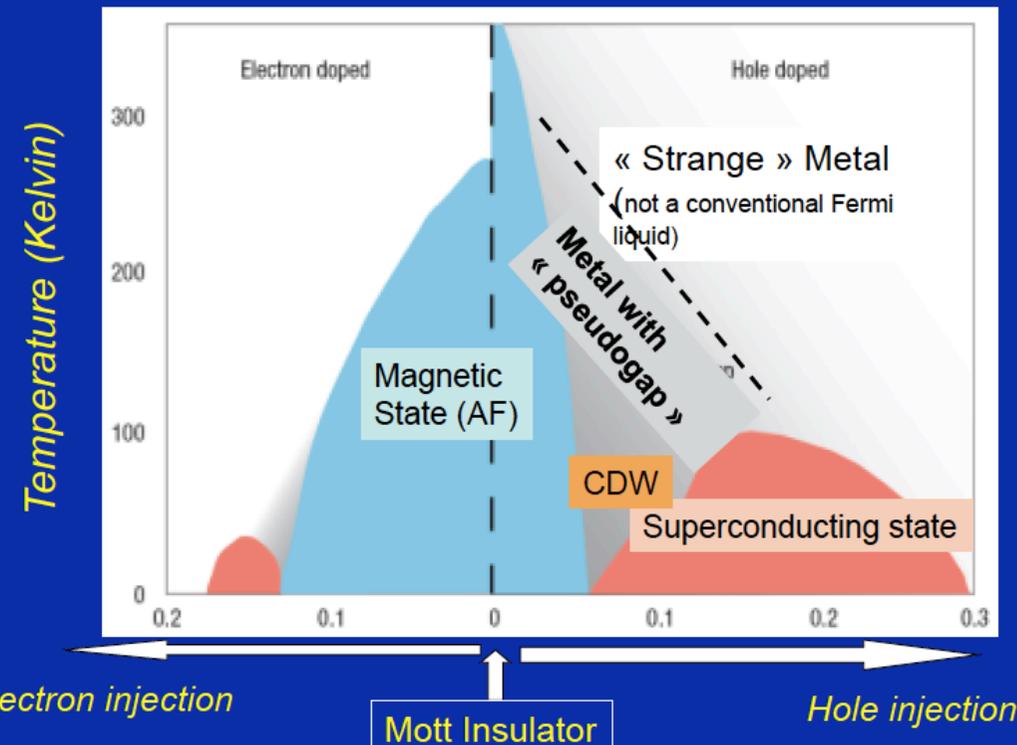
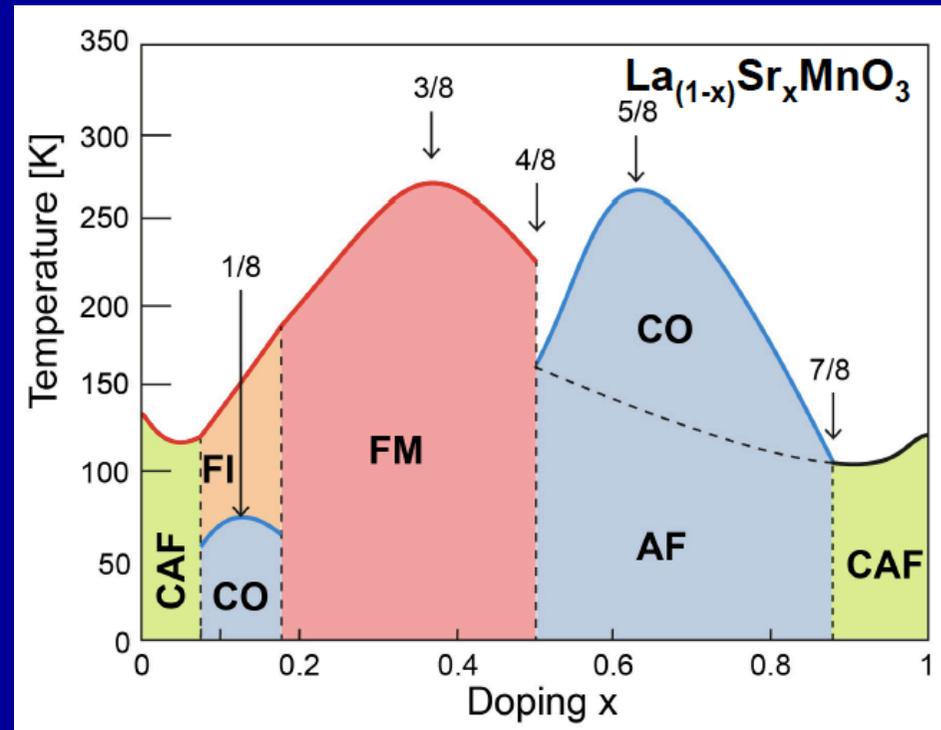


FIG. 70. Phase diagram for doped  $V_2O_3$  systems,  $(V_{1-x}Cr_x)_2O_3$  and  $(V_{1-x}Ti_x)_2O_3$ . From McWhan *et al.*, 1971, 1973.



Remarkable Properties  
Complex Phase Diagrams  
Competing Phases

Electron injection

Mott Insulator

Hole injection

**Which Materials display  
'Strong Electronic Correlations' ?**

# Periodic Table of the Elements

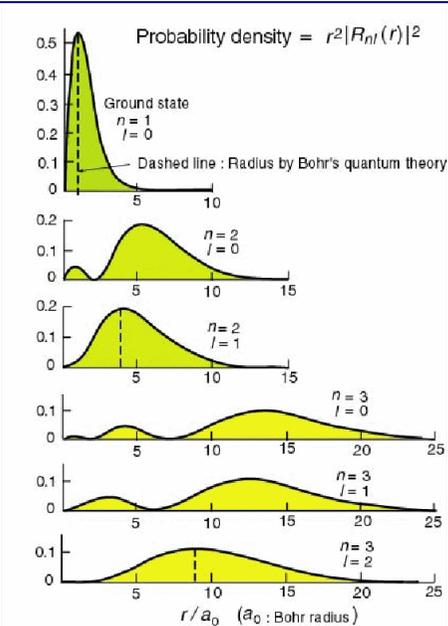
## Transition Metals

- 3d transition metals
- 4d transition metals
- 5d transition metals

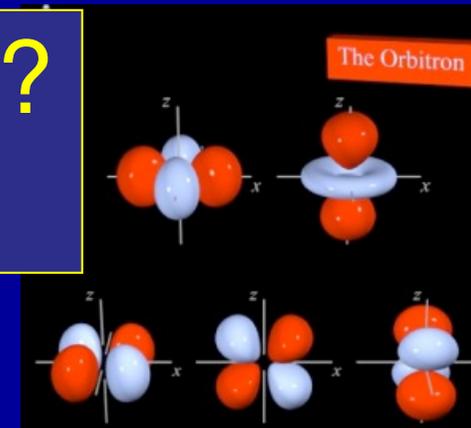
1A 1 <b>H</b> hydrogen 1.008	2A 4 <b>Be</b> beryllium 9.012	3A 5 <b>B</b> boron 10.81	4A 6 <b>C</b> carbon 12.01	5A 7 <b>N</b> nitrogen 14.01	6A 8 <b>O</b> oxygen 16.00	7A 9 <b>F</b> fluorine 19.00	8A 10 <b>Ne</b> neon 20.18				
11 <b>Na</b> sodium 22.99	12 <b>Mg</b> magnesium 24.31	13 <b>Al</b> aluminum 26.98	14 <b>Si</b> silicon 28.09	15 <b>P</b> phosphorus 30.97	16 <b>S</b> sulfur 32.07	17 <b>Cl</b> chlorine 35.45	18 <b>Ar</b> argon 39.95				
19 <b>K</b> potassium 39.10	20 <b>Ca</b> calcium 40.08	21 <b>Sc</b> scandium 44.96	22 <b>Ti</b> titanium 47.88	23 <b>V</b> vanadium 50.94	24 <b>Cr</b> chromium 52.00	25 <b>Mn</b> manganese 54.94	26 <b>Fe</b> iron 55.85	27 <b>Co</b> cobalt 58.93	28 <b>Ni</b> nickel 58.69	29 <b>Cu</b> copper 63.55	30 <b>Zn</b> zinc 65.39
37 <b>Rb</b> rubidium 85.47	38 <b>Sr</b> strontium 87.62	39 <b>Y</b> yttrium 88.91	40 <b>Zr</b> zirconium 91.22	41 <b>Nb</b> niobium 92.91	42 <b>Mo</b> molybdenum 95.94	43 <b>Tc</b> technetium (98)	44 <b>Ru</b> ruthenium 101.1	45 <b>Rh</b> rhodium 102.9	46 <b>Pd</b> palladium 106.4	47 <b>Ag</b> silver 107.9	48 <b>Cd</b> cadmium 112.4
55 <b>Cs</b> cesium 132.9	56 <b>Ba</b> barium 137.3	57 <b>La*</b> lanthanum 138.9	72 <b>Hf</b> hafnium 178.5	73 <b>Ta</b> tantalum 180.9	74 <b>W</b> tungsten 183.9	75 <b>Re</b> rhenium 186.2	76 <b>Os</b> osmium 190.2	77 <b>Ir</b> iridium 192.2	78 <b>Pt</b> platinum 195.1	79 <b>Au</b> gold 197.0	80 <b>Hg</b> mercury 200.5
87 <b>Fr</b> francium (223)	88 <b>Ra</b> radium (226)	89 <b>Ac~</b> actinium (227)	104 <b>Rf</b> rutherfordium (257)	105 <b>Db</b> dubnium (260)	106 <b>Sg</b> seaborgium (263)	107 <b>Bh</b> bohrium (262)	108 <b>Hs</b> hassium (265)	109 <b>Mt</b> meitnerium (266)	110 <b>Ds</b> darmstadtium (271)	111 <b>Uuu</b> (272)	112 <b>Uub</b> (277)

Lanthanide Series*	58 <b>Ce</b> cerium 140.1	59 <b>Pr</b> praseodymium 140.9	60 <b>Nd</b> neodymium 144.2	61 <b>Pm</b> promethium (147)	62 <b>Sm</b> samarium 150.4	63 <b>Eu</b> europium 152.0	64 <b>Gd</b> gadolinium 157.3	65 <b>Tb</b> terbium 158.9	66 <b>Dy</b> dysprosium 162.5	67 <b>Ho</b> holmium 164.9	68 <b>Er</b> erbium 167.3	69 <b>Tm</b> thulium 168.9	70 <b>Yb</b> ytterbium 173.0
Actinide Series	90 <b>Th</b> thorium 232.0	91 <b>Pa</b> protactinium (231)	92 <b>U</b> uranium (238)	93 <b>Np</b> neptunium (237)	94 <b>Pu</b> plutonium (242)	95 <b>Am</b> americium (243)	96 <b>Cm</b> curium (247)	97 <b>Bk</b> berkelium (247)	98 <b>Cf</b> californium (249)	99 <b>Es</b> einsteinium (254)	100 <b>Fm</b> fermium (253)	101 <b>Md</b> mendelevium (256)	102 <b>Nc</b> nobelium (254)

## Rare Earths Actinides



# Who are the suspects ? Localized orbitals !

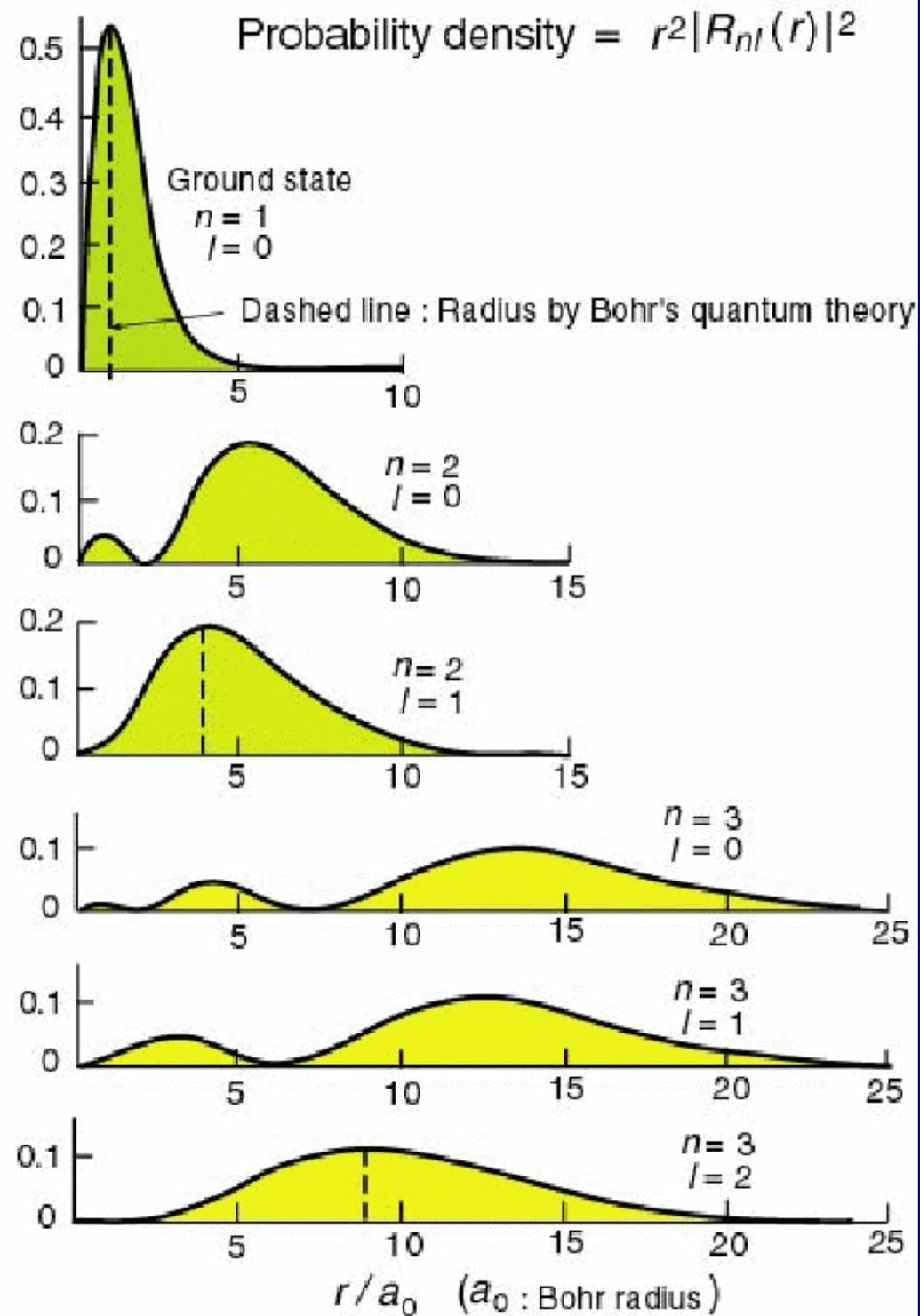


d- or f- orbitals are quite close to ions nuclei  
(particularly 3d and 4f, for orthogonality reasons)

They do not behave as regular band-forming orbitals  
(e.g sp-bonding) and retain atomic-like aspects

→ **Electrons “hesitate” between  
localized and itinerant behaviour !**

**Materials:** transition-metals and their oxides,  
rare-earth/actinides and their compounds, but  
also some organic materials



# Molecular Materials

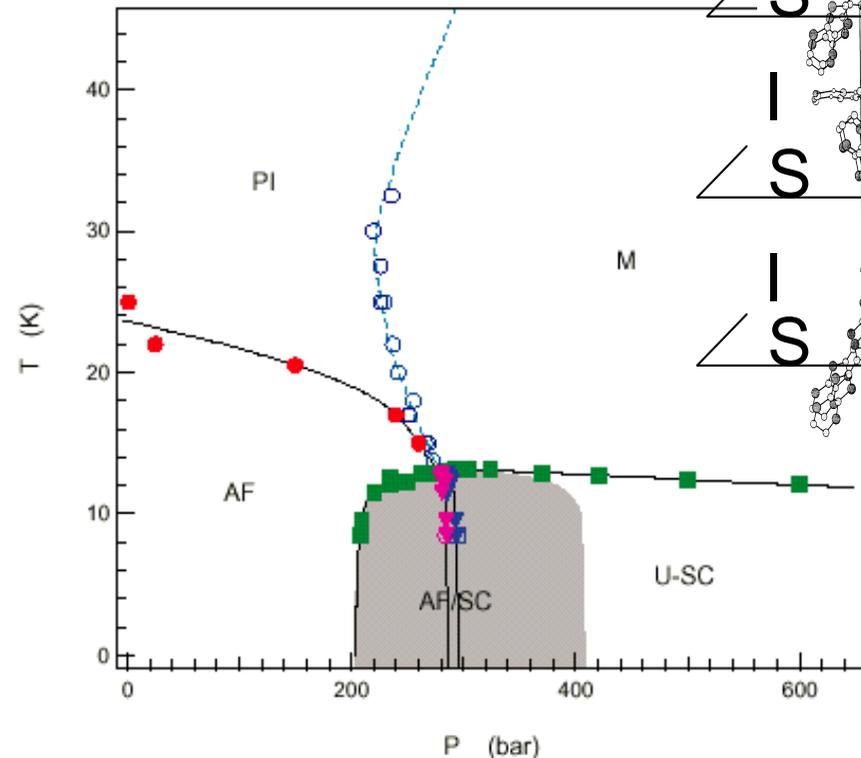
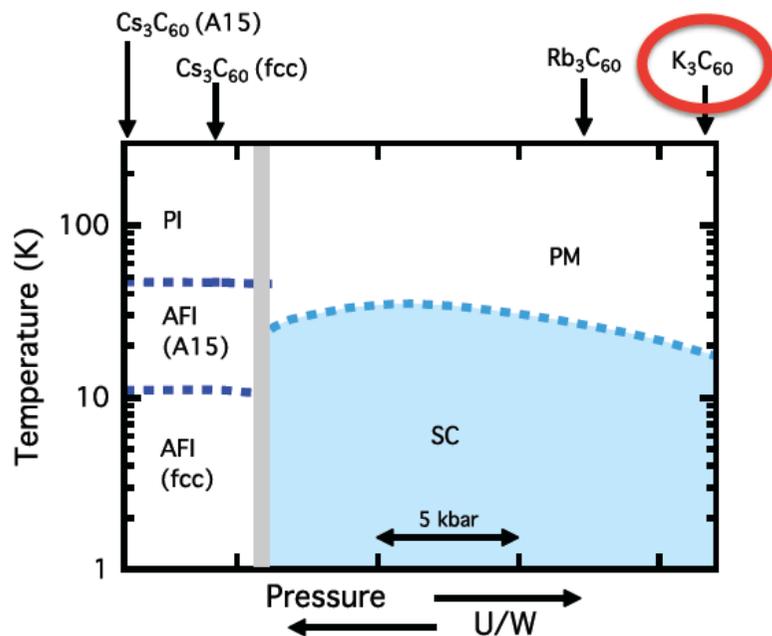
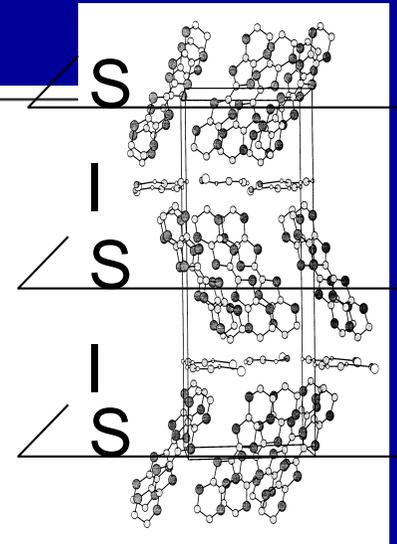
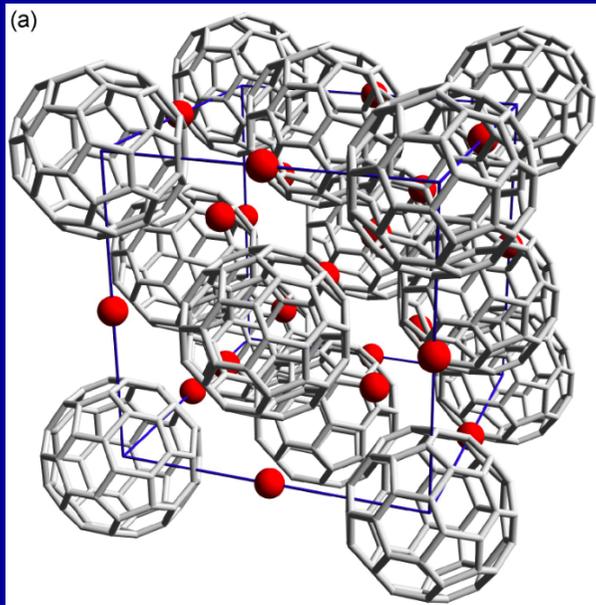
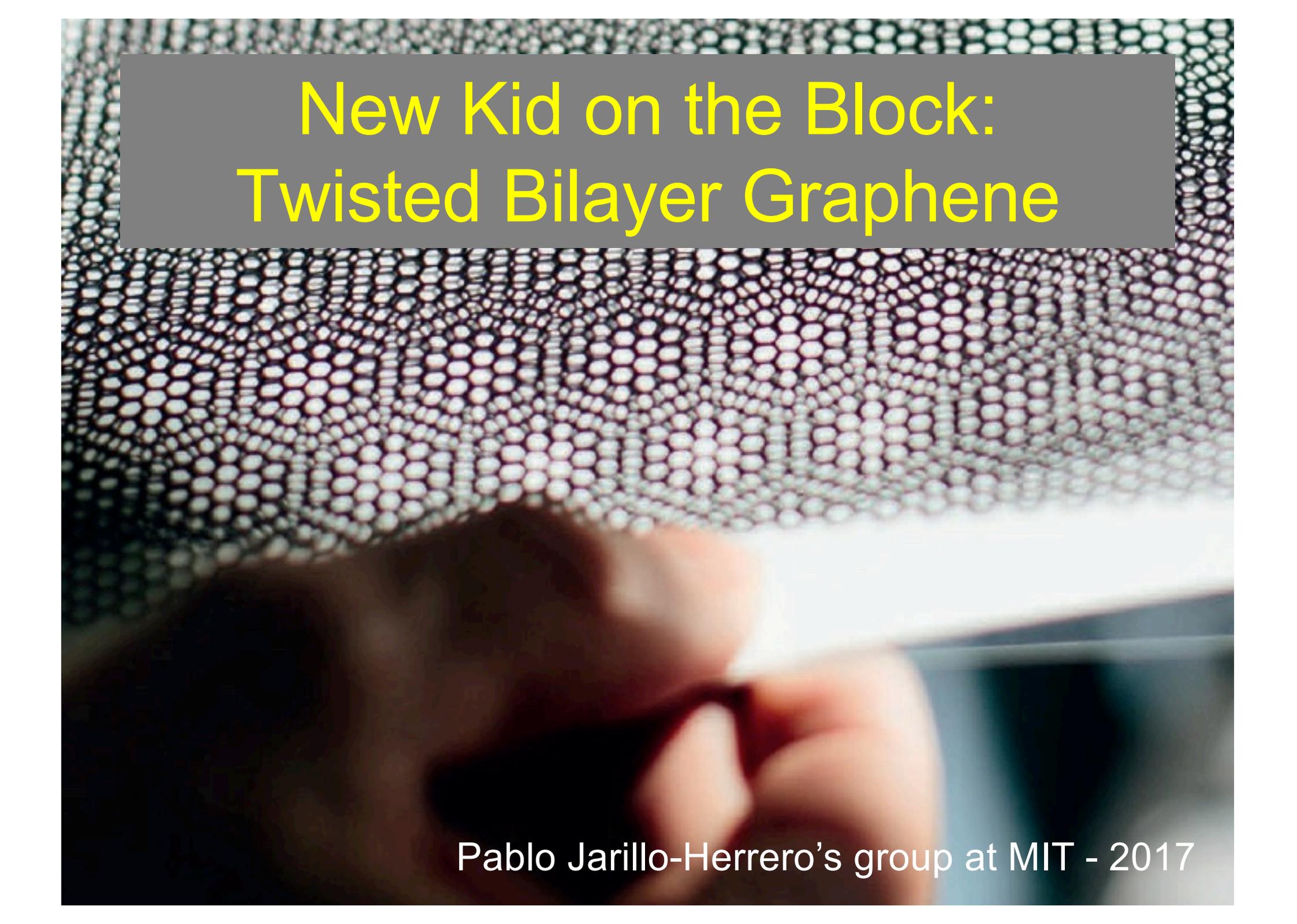
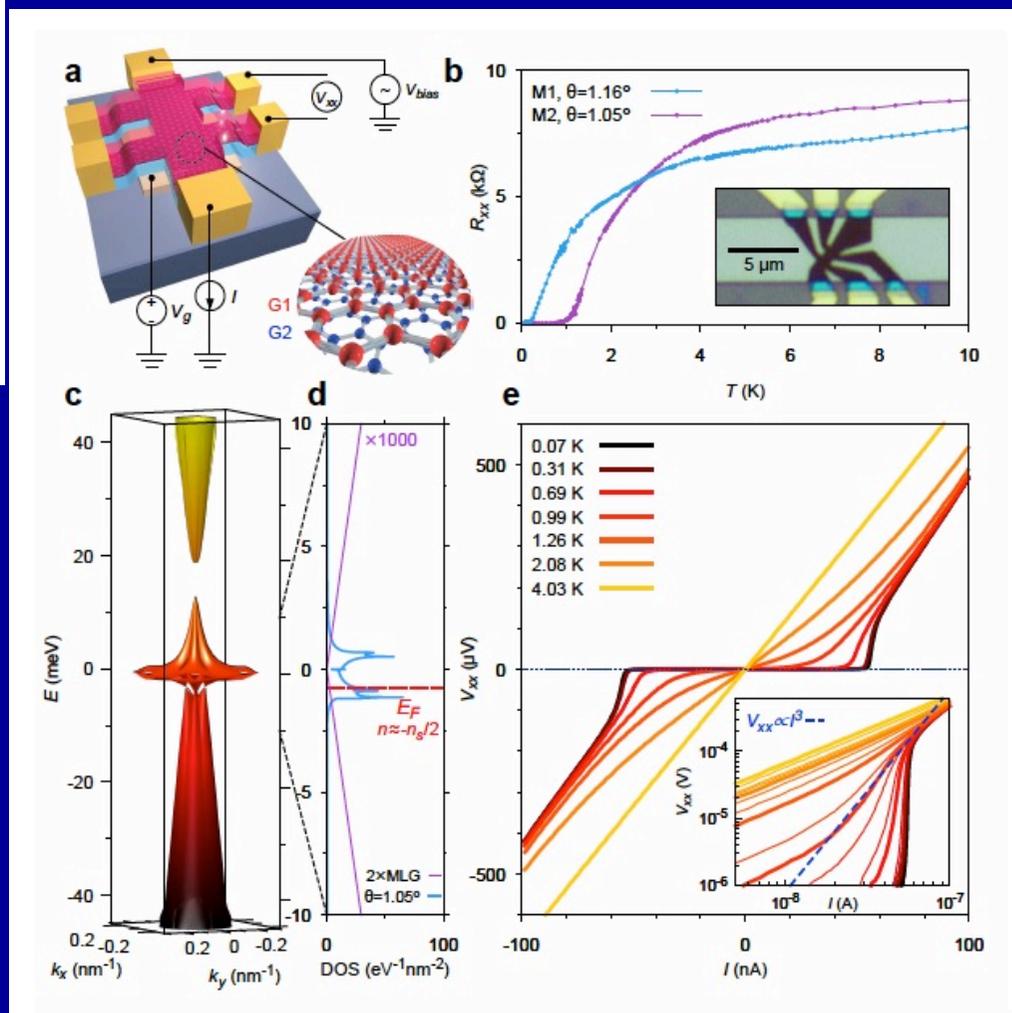
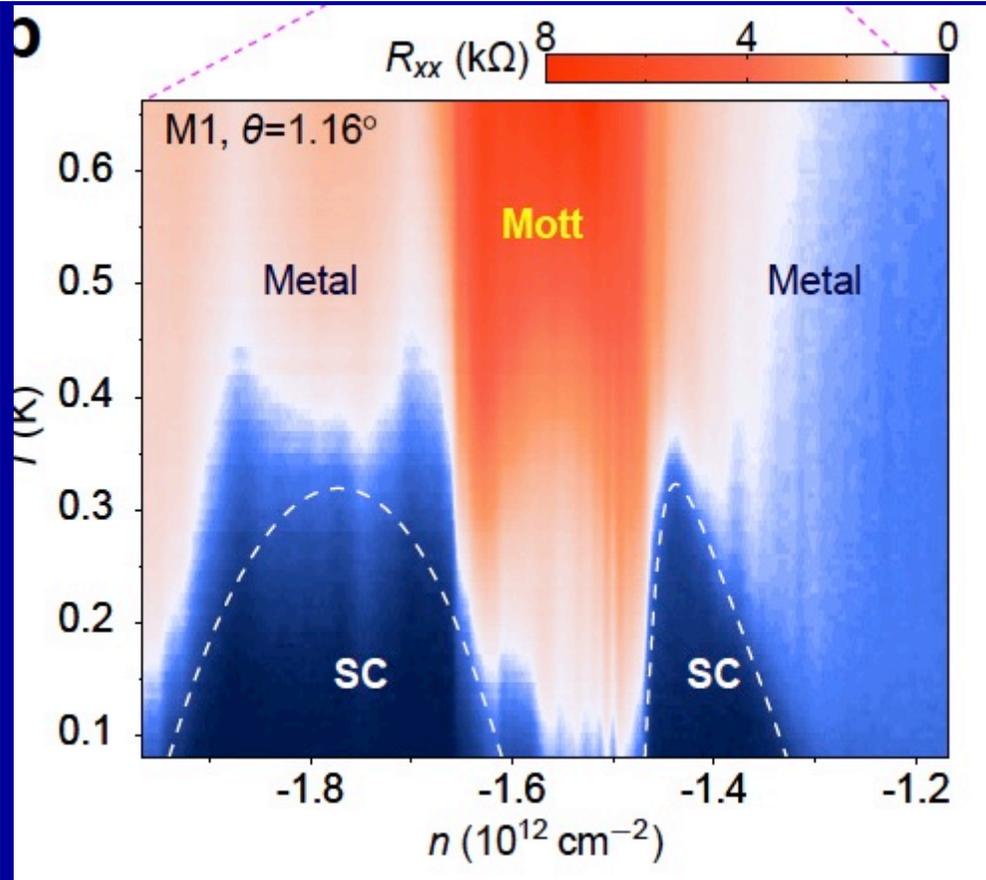


FIG. 1. Temperature *vs* pressure phase diagram of  $\kappa$ -Cl. The antiferromagnetic (AF) critical line  $T_N(P)$  (dark circles) was determined from NMR relaxation rate while  $T_c(P)$  for unconventional superconductivity (U-SC: squares) and the metal-insulator  $T_{MI}(P)$  (MI: open circles) lines were obtained from the AC susceptibility. The AF-SC boundary (double dashed line) is determined from the inflexion point of  $\chi'(P)$  and, for 8.5K, from sublattice magnetization. This boundary line separates two regions of inhomogeneous phase coexistence (shaded area).

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a piece of twisted bilayer graphene. The material exhibits a complex, interconnected lattice structure of small, dark, circular or hexagonal patterns, characteristic of the material's atomic structure. The background is blurred, showing a white surface and a blue object.

# New Kid on the Block: Twisted Bilayer Graphene

Pablo Jarillo-Herrero's group at MIT - 2017

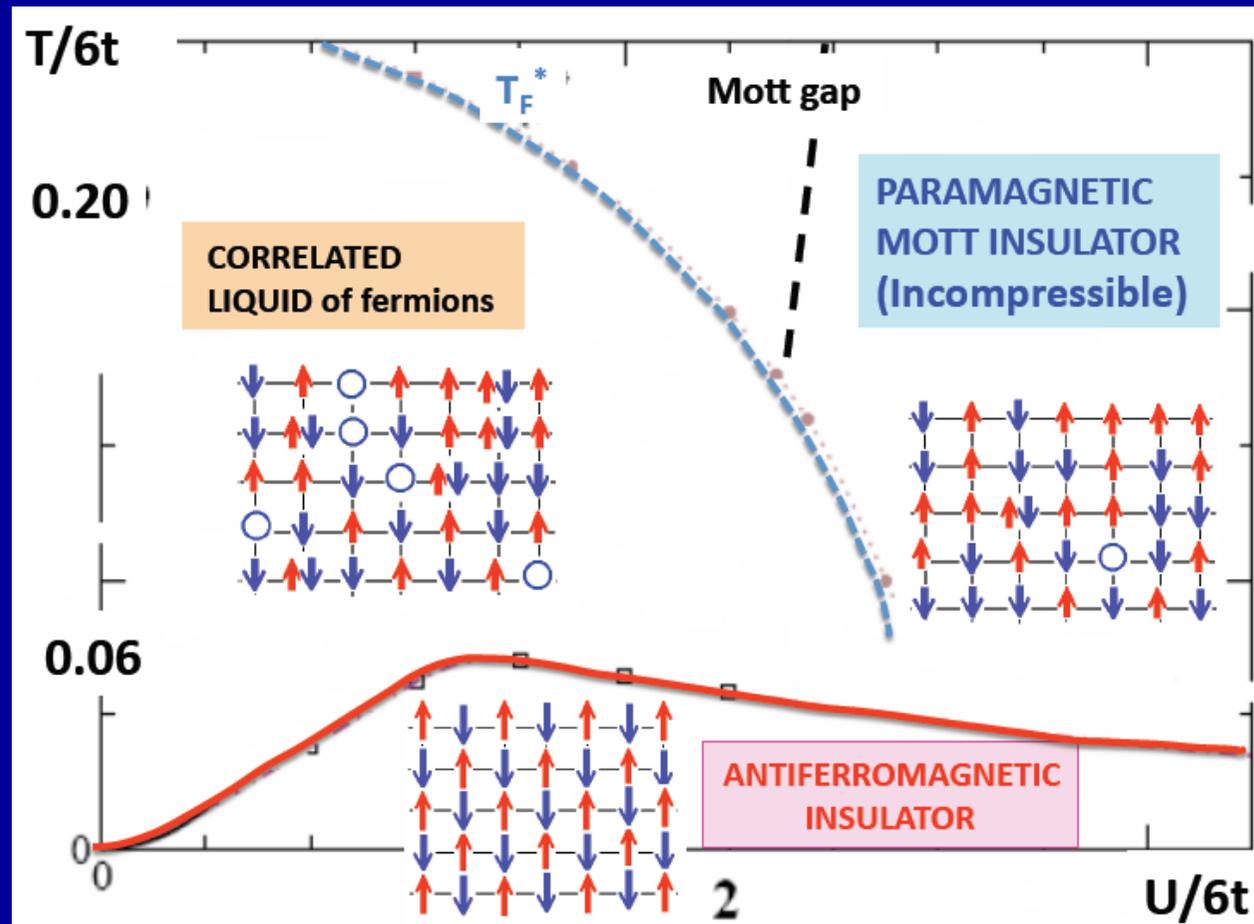


Cao et al.  
Nature 556 (2018)  
pages 43 and 80

Why do we need to go  
beyond (effective)  
one-particle descriptions ?

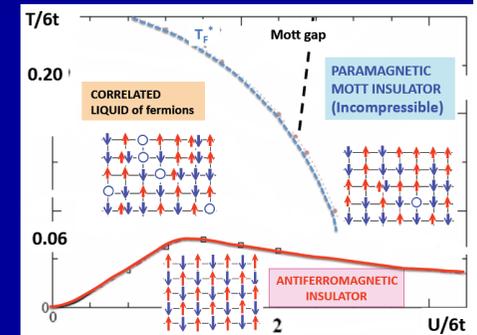
Why DMFT ?

# Illustrate this on a simple case: $\frac{1}{2}$ filled Hubbard model on cubic lattice



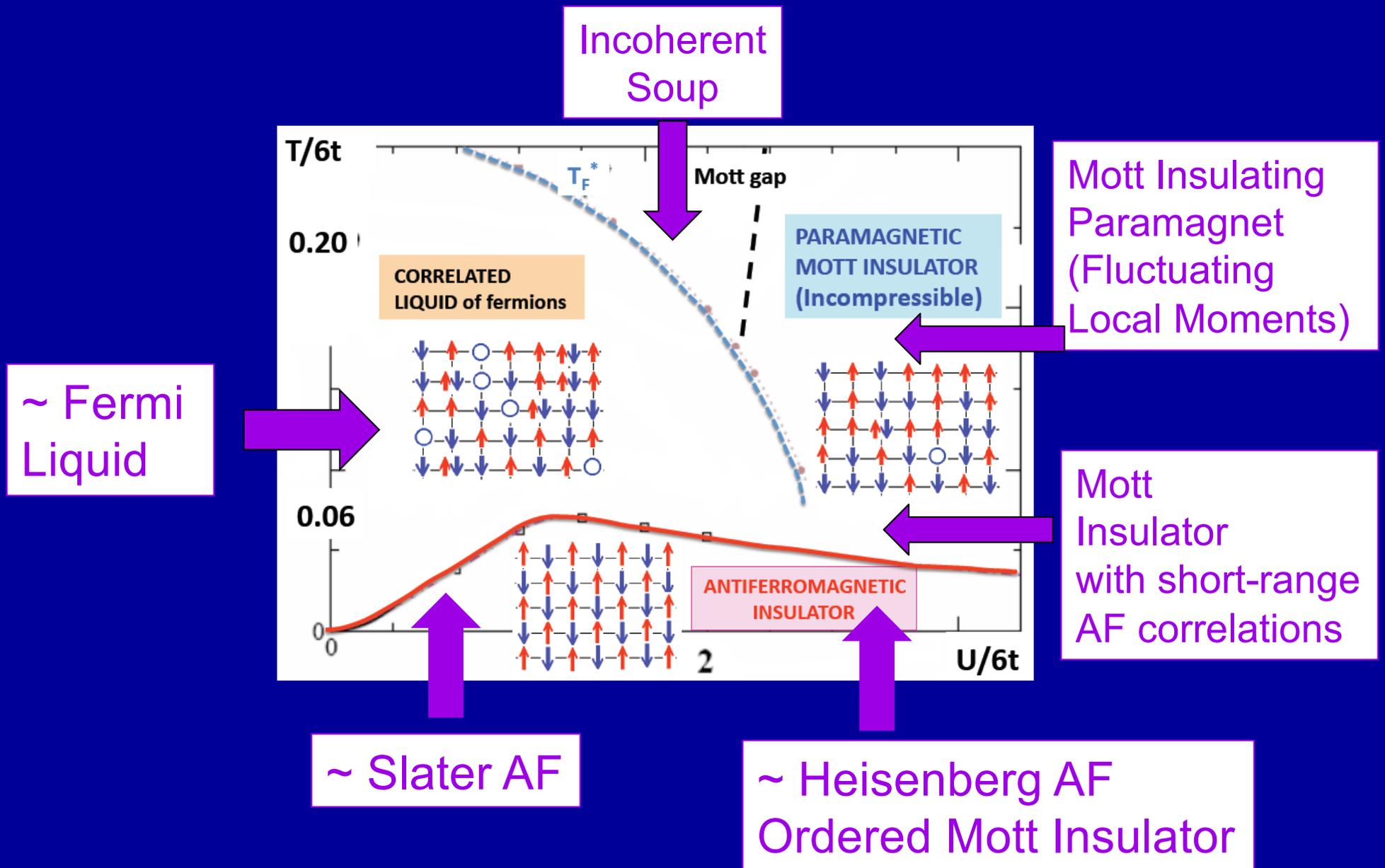
From: A.G. DMFT@25 book;  
Crossover lines are indicative (not quantitative)

# Please note:



- Ordered phase: Crossover from Slater-like antiferromagnet to localized Heisenberg AF
- Phase w/out long-range order:
- Weak-coupling: Crossover corresponding to the formation of coherent quasiparticles
- Strong coupling - Two crossovers:
  - - Opening of Mott gap  $\sim U$
  - - Onset of magnetic correlations  $\sim J=4t^2/U$
- At strong coupling, the onset of Mott insulating regime (incompressible w/ local moments) has nothing to do with magnetism

# Hence, 6 distinct regimes:



The Mott phenomenon  
at strong coupling ( $U \gg t$ )

HAS NOTHING TO DO

with magnetism

It is due to blocking of density/charge

Energy scale for magnetism: superexchange  $J \sim t^2/U$

Insulating gap:  $\sim U > t \gg J$

The system is basically an insulator

even well above  $T_{\text{Neel}}$

Ex: MANY oxides, e.g. NiO, YTiO<sub>3</sub>, cuprates etc...

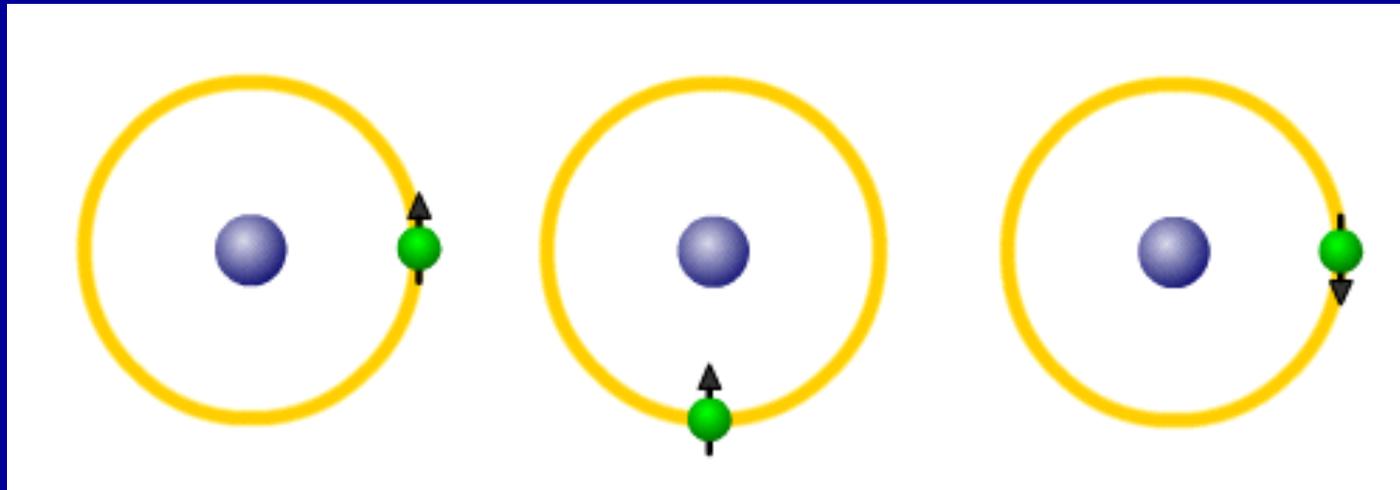
In contrast, LDA+U needs to assume ordering  
to describe the insulator

# OBSERVABLES

- Since we want to also understand crossovers, we cant just rely on (static) order parameters
- Need to address nature of excited states (especially low-energy)
- Green's function
- Spectral Function
- Relation to photoemission experiments
- Two-particle response functions: charge, spin, current, etc...

In materials with strong  
correlations  
**LOCAL ATOMIC PHYSICS**  
is crucial

Electrons “hesitate”  
between being localized  
on short-time-scales  
and itinerant on long time-scales

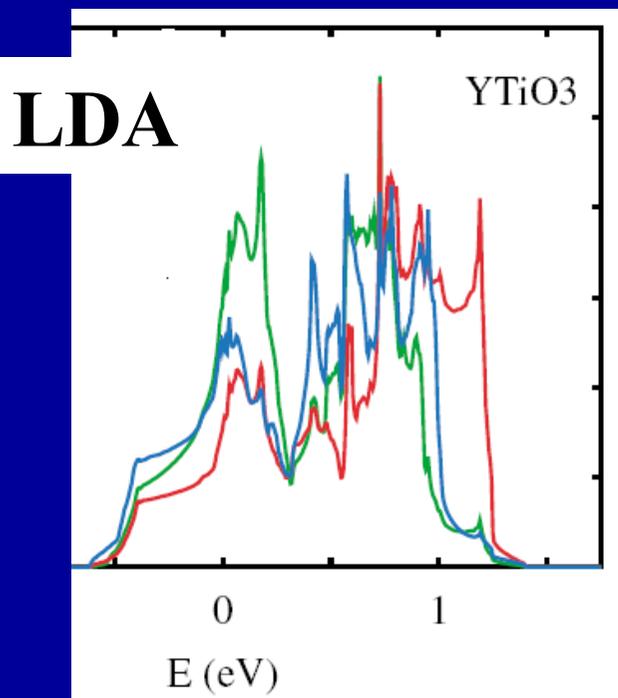


We see this from spectroscopy...

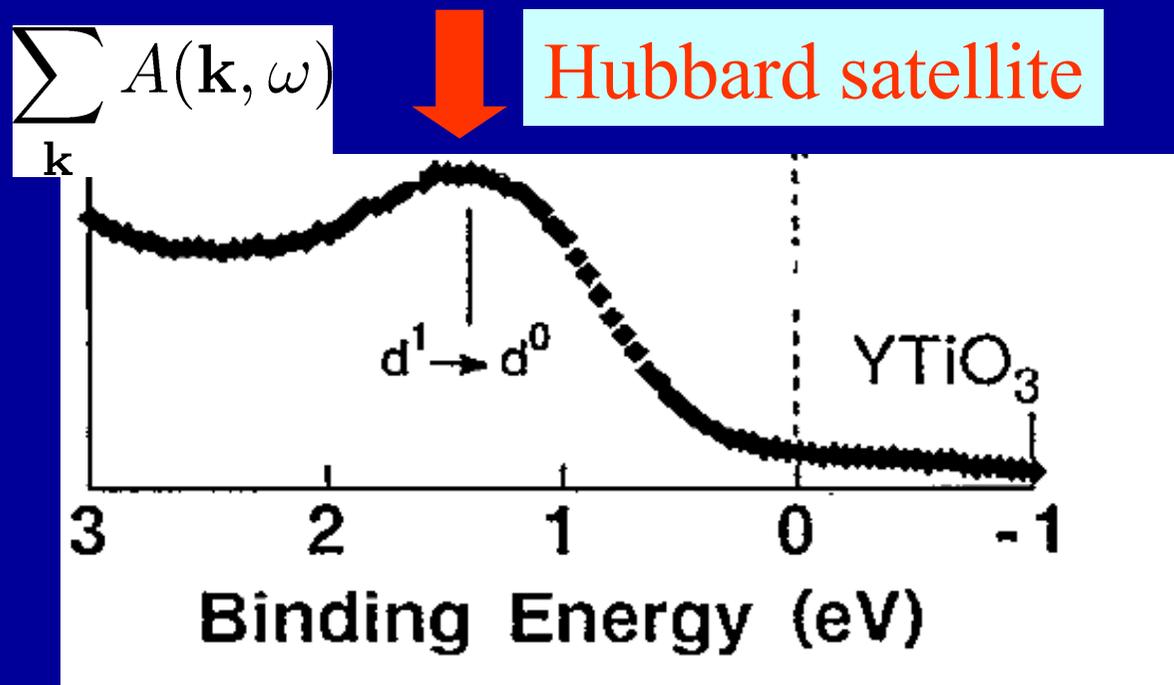
# Mott insulators :

*Their excitation spectra contain atomic-like excitations*

Band structure calculations (interpreting Kohn-Sham spectra as excitations) is in serious trouble for correlated materials !



Metallic LDA (KS)  
spectrum !

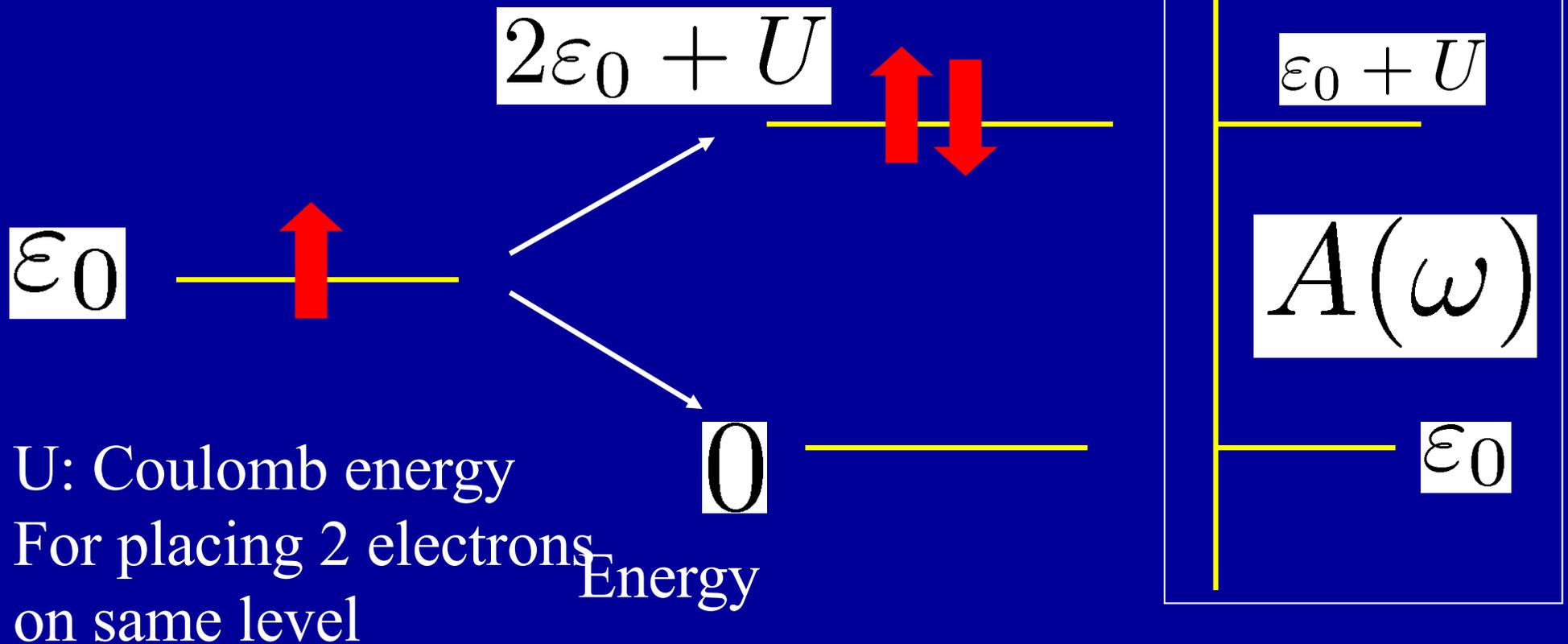


Photoemission: Fujimori et al., PRL 1992

# A "Hubbard satellite" is nothing but *an atomic transition*

(broadened by the solid-state environment)

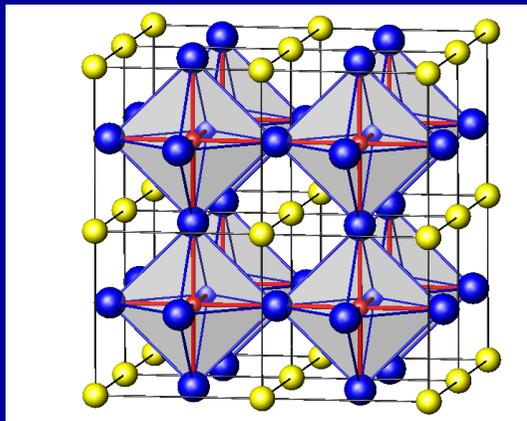
Imagine a simplified atom with a single atomic level



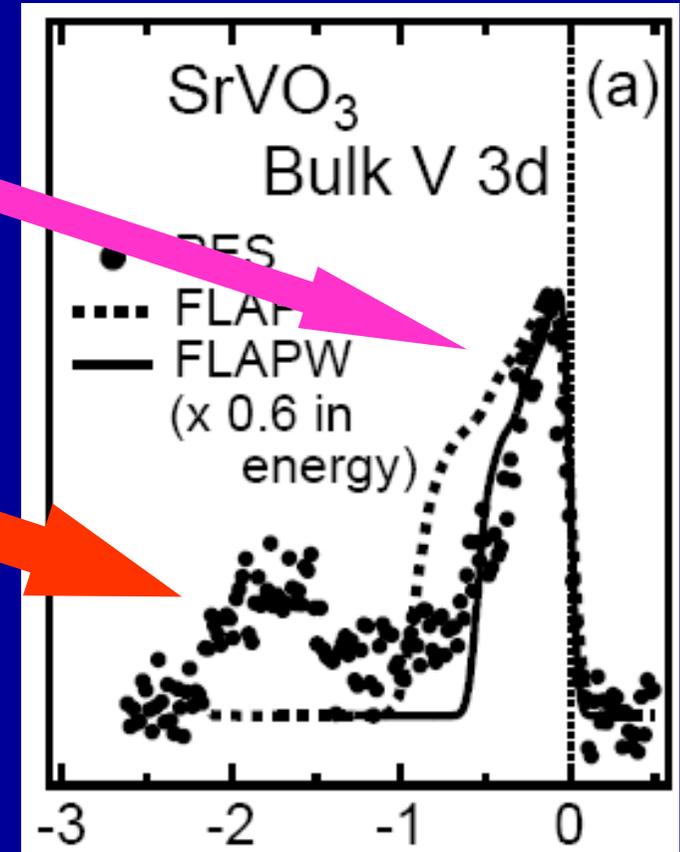
Note: Energetics of the Mott gap  
requires an accurate description  
of the many-body eigenstates  
of single atoms  
(`multiplets';  $U, J_H, \dots$ )

# Correlated metals: atomic-like excitations at high energy, quasiparticles at low energy

- **Narrowing of quasiparticle bands** due to correlations (the Brinkman-Rice phenomenon)
- **Hubbard satellites** (i.e. extension to the solid of atomic-like transitions)



Dashed line:  
Spectrum obtained from  
Conventional  
band-structure methods (DFT-LDA)

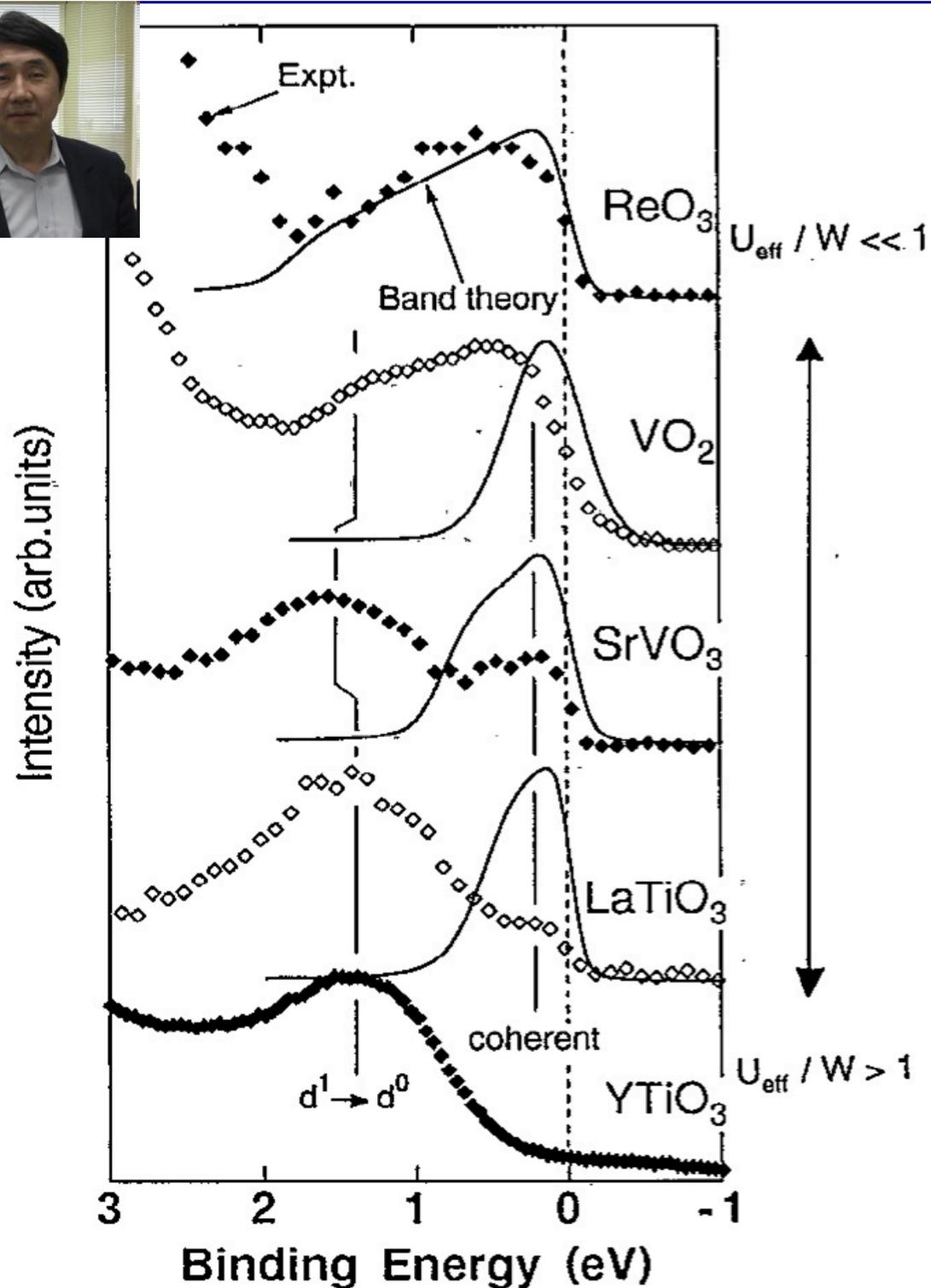
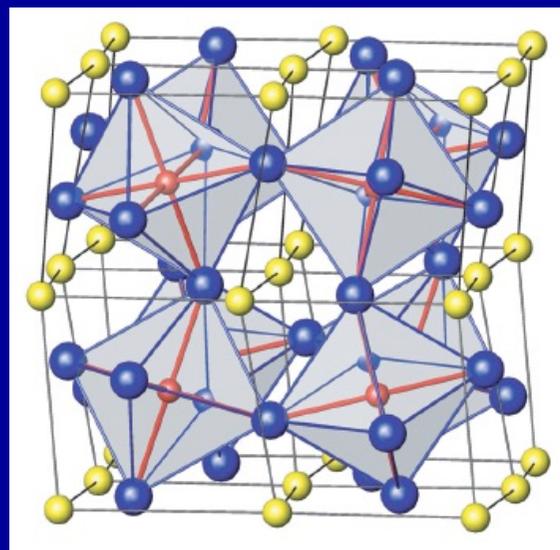


Sekiyama et al., PRL 2004

From weak to strong correlations in  $d^1$  oxides  
 [Fujimori et al. PRL 69, 1796 (1992)]



*Puzzle:*  
 Why is  $\text{SrVO}_3$   
 a metal  
 and  $\text{LaTiO}_3$ ,  $\text{YTiO}_3$   
 Mott insulators ?



A theoretical description of the  
solid-state based on ATOMS  
rather than on an electron-gas picture:  
« ***Dynamical Mean-Field Theory*** »

Dynamical Mean-Field Theory:

A.G. & G.Kotliar, PRB 45, 6479 (1992)

Correlated electrons in large dimensions:

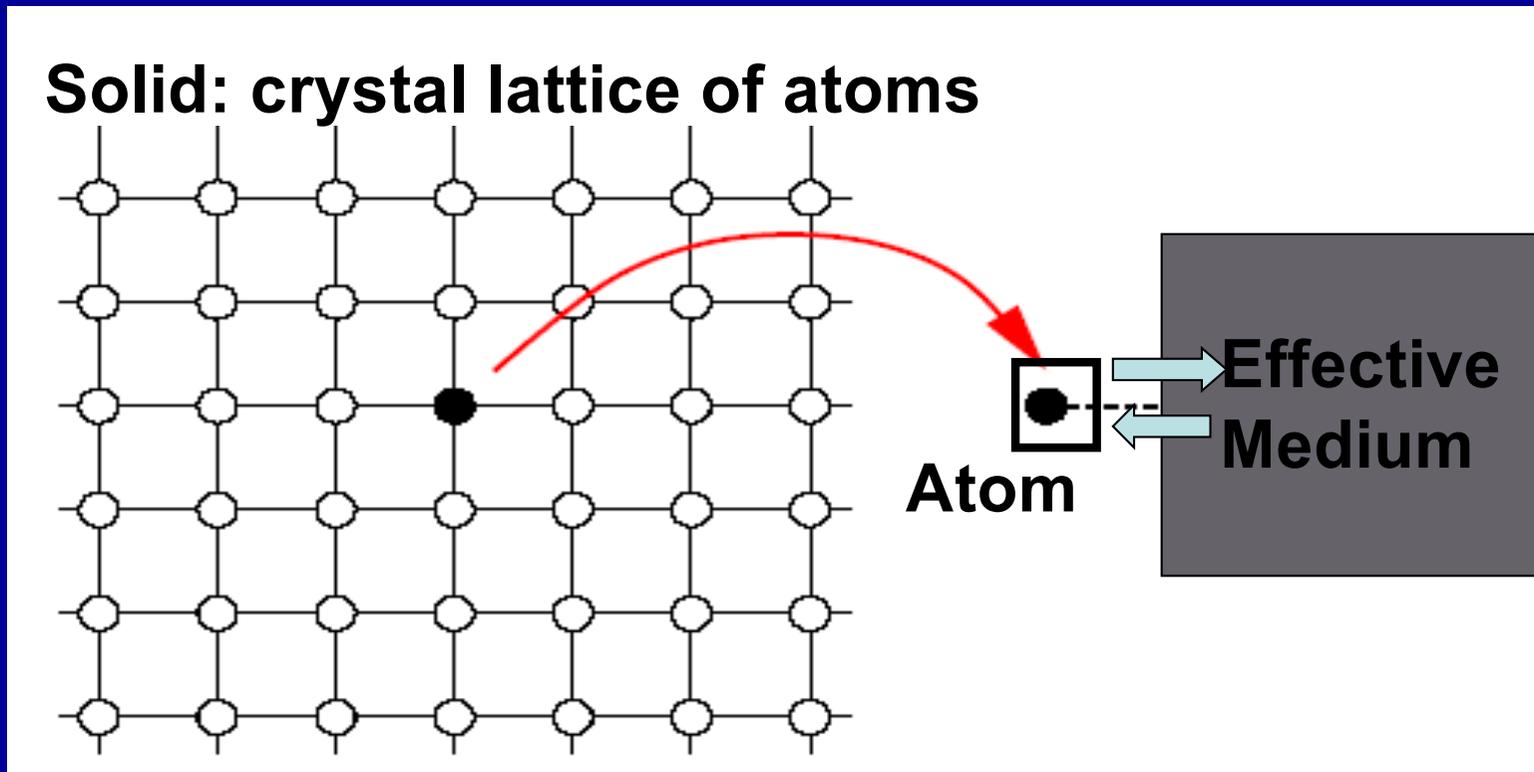
W.Metzner & D.Vollhardt, PRL 62, 324 (1989)

*Important intermediate steps by: Müller-Hartmann,  
Schweitzer and Czycholl, Brandt and Mielsch, V.Janis*

Early review: Georges et al. Rev Mod Phys 68, 13 (1996)

# Dynamical Mean-Field Theory:

viewing a material as an (ensemble of) atoms coupled to a self-consistent medium



Correlated electrons in large dimensions: W.Metzner & D.Vollhardt, 1989  
Dynamical Mean-Field Theory: A.G. & G.Kotliar, 1992

## Example: DMFT for the Hubbard model (a model of coupled atoms)

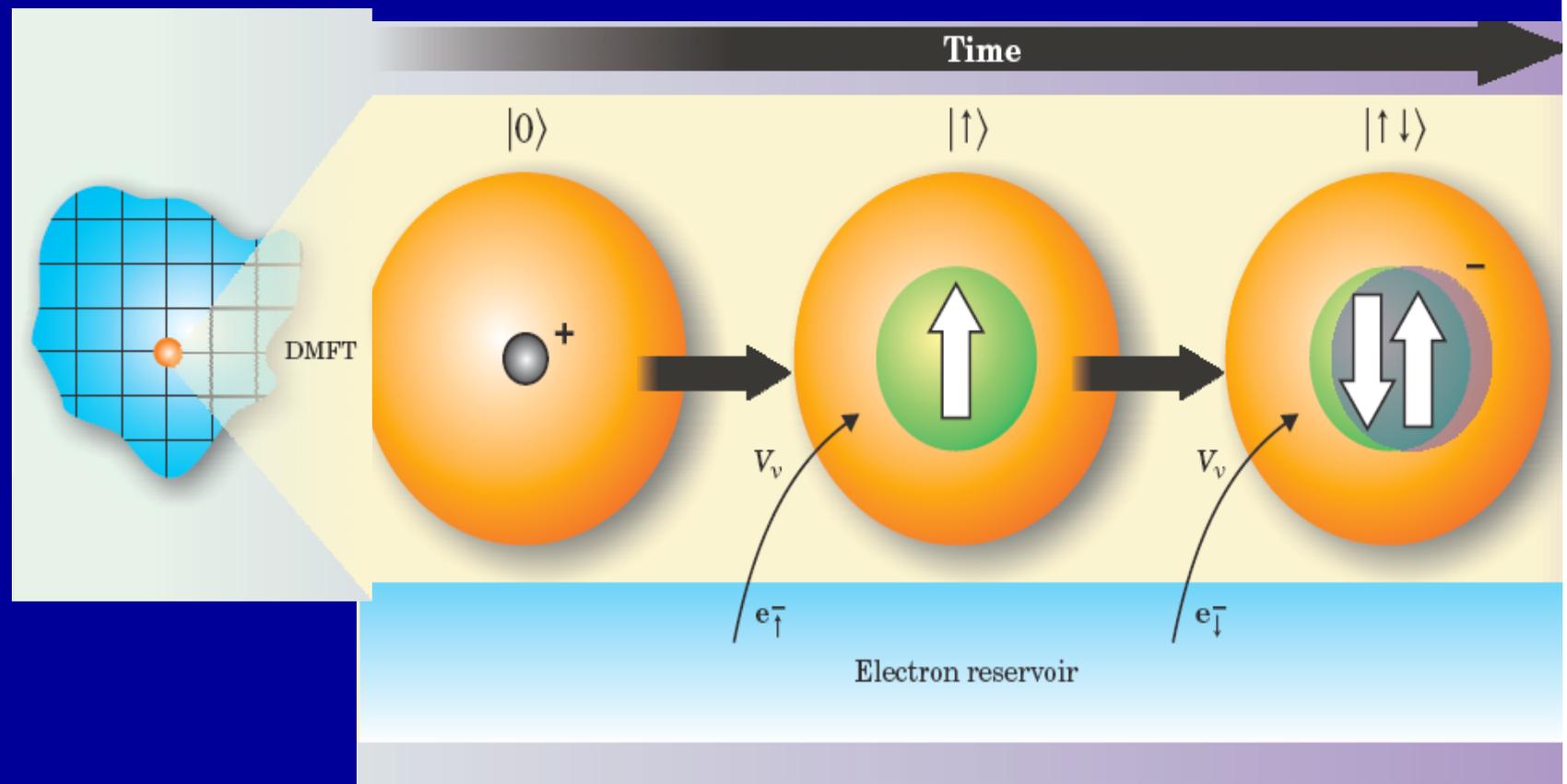
$$H = - \sum_{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'} t_{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{R}'} d_{\mathbf{R}\sigma}^\dagger d_{\mathbf{R}'\sigma} + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} H_{atom}^{\mathbf{R}}$$

$$H_{atom} = \varepsilon_d \sum_{\sigma} n_{\sigma} + U n_{\uparrow} n_{\downarrow}$$

Focus on a given lattice site:

“Atom” can be in 4 possible configurations:  $|0\rangle$ ,  $|\uparrow\rangle$ ,  $|\downarrow\rangle$ ,  $|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle$

Describe “history” of fluctuations between those configurations



# Imaginary-time effective action describing these histories:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= S_{\text{at}} + S_{\text{hyb}} \\ S_{\text{at}} &= \int_0^\beta d\tau \sum_{\sigma} d_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\tau) \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \varepsilon_d \right) d_{\sigma}(\tau) + U \int_0^\beta d\tau n_{\uparrow} n_{\downarrow} \\ S_{\text{hyb}} &= \int_0^\beta d\tau \int_0^\beta d\tau' \sum_{\sigma} d_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\tau') \Delta(\tau - \tau') d_{\sigma}(\tau) \end{aligned}$$

The amplitude  $\Delta(\tau)$  for hopping in and out of the selected site is self-consistently determined: it is the quantum-mechanical Generalization of the Weiss effective field.

$$\mathcal{G}_0^{-1} \equiv \omega + \mu - \Delta(i\omega) \quad \text{Effective 'bare propagator'}$$

# Hamiltonian formulation: Anderson impurity model

$$H_c = \sum_{l\sigma} E_l a_{l\sigma}^+ a_{l\sigma}$$

$$H = H_c + H_{\text{at}} + H_{\text{hyb}}$$

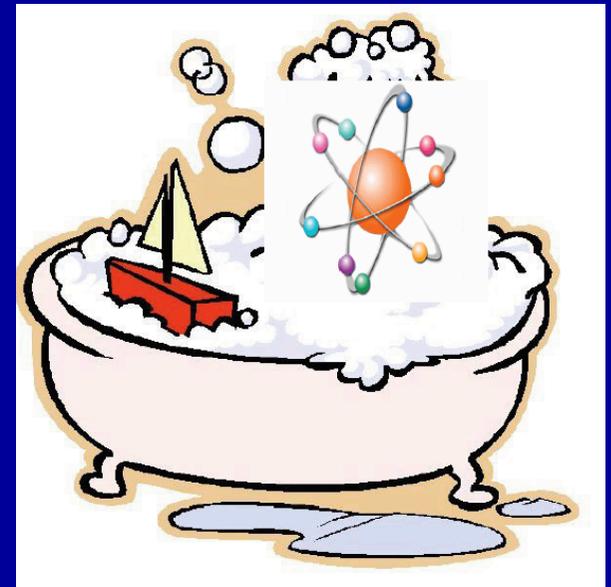
Conduction electron host (“bath”, environment)

$$H_{\text{at}} = \varepsilon_d \sum_{\sigma} d_{\sigma}^{\dagger} d_{\sigma} + U n_{\uparrow}^d n_{\downarrow}^d$$

Single-level “atom”

$$H_{\text{hyb}} = \sum_{l\sigma} [V_l a_{l\sigma}^+ d_{\sigma} + \text{h.c.}]$$

Transfers electrons between bath and atom – Hybridization, tunneling



## Local effective action:

Focus on dynamics of impurity orbital: integrate out conduction electrons  $\rightarrow$  Effective action for impurity orbital:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= S_{\text{at}} + S_{\text{hyb}} \\ S_{\text{at}} &= \int_0^\beta d\tau \sum_\sigma d_\sigma^\dagger(\tau) \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial\tau} + \varepsilon_d \right) d_\sigma(\tau) + U \int_0^\beta d\tau n_\uparrow n_\downarrow \\ S_{\text{hyb}} &= \int_0^\beta d\tau \int_0^\beta d\tau' \sum_\sigma d_\sigma^\dagger(\tau') \Delta(\tau - \tau') d_\sigma(\tau) \end{aligned}$$

$$-\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \Delta(\omega + i0^+) = \sum_l |V_l|^2 \delta(\omega - E_l)$$

$$\mathcal{G}_0^{-1} \equiv \omega + \mu - \Delta(i\omega) \quad \text{Effective 'bare propagator'}$$

Focus on energy-dependent local observable :

$$G_{RR}(\omega) \equiv G_{\text{loc}}$$

On-site Green's function (or spectral function) of the 'solid'

Use atom-in-a-bath as a reference system to represent this observable:

→ IMPOSE that  $\varepsilon_d$  and  $\Delta$  should be chosen such that:

$$G_{\text{imp}}[\omega; \varepsilon_d, \Delta(\omega)] = G_{\text{loc}}(\omega)$$

At this point, given  $G_{\text{loc}}$  of the lattice Hubbard model, we have just introduced an exact local representation of it

$G_{RR}$  is related to the exact self-energy of the lattice (solid) by:

$$G_{RR}(\omega) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{1}{\omega + \mu - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega)} = G_{loc}(\omega)$$

In which  $\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}$  is the tight-binding band (FT of the hopping  $t_{RR}$ ),

High-frequency  $\rightarrow$   $\varepsilon_d = -\mu + \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} (= -\mu)$

Let us now make the **APPROXIMATION** that the lattice self-energy is **k-independent** and coincides with that of the effective atom (impurity problem):

$$\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \simeq \Sigma_{imp}(\omega)$$

This leads to the following self-consistency condition:

$$G_{imp}[i\omega; \Delta] = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{1}{G_{imp}[i\omega; \Delta]^{-1} + \Delta(i\omega) - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}$$

# The self-consistency equation and the DMFT loop

Approximating the self-energy by that of the local problem :  $\Sigma(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \simeq \Sigma_{imp}(\omega)$

→ fully determines both the local G and  $\Delta$ :

$$G_{imp}[i\omega; \Delta] = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{1}{G_{imp}[i\omega; \Delta]^{-1} + \Delta(i\omega) - \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}}$$

**EFFECTIVE QUANTUM IMPURITY PROBLEM**



**SELF-CONSISTENCY CONDITION**