

# How to identify the mechanism of superconductivity in the cuprates (and in other high $T_c$ 's )?

Gabriel Kotliar  
Rutgers University

Work with Chuck Yee and Turan Birol (Rutgers)

.....  
Is there a chance to reach a consensus  
about the origin of the PG phase ?  
.....



C H Yee



T. Birol

- Make **predictions** that are then tested experimentally.
- When they work, one gains more confidence in the methodology.
- Even when these are not completely born out experimentally they lead to further progress and better methodologies.

Search for universal features ( and simplified pictures!) but also understand material dependence.

Compromise between speed and accuracy. Simple pictures vs full accuracy.

Goal: material design. “**Understanding mechanism**” use insights to suggest concrete materials which would have interesting properties AND which can be made in the lab.

Tools towards that goal are not yet there, but we are much closer than when the field of correlated materials began. Lots of progress in understanding in strongly correlated materials and more powerful theoretical tools translate into more **predictive** capabilities in the materials arena.

.

- MFT divides the problem into two separate parts: a) obtaining different mean field solutions and b) evaluating their energies.
- MFT allows to follow a “state” as you vary parameters.
- MFT Compares different “states” of the system for the same value of parameters. → Understand “Mechanism”
- Long wavelength spatial fluctuations and defects are left out.
- Bridge between atomic information and physical and spectroscopical properties. [Structure-property relation] . Help find the right “coordinate system” in the “space of materials”
- Limitations Correlated Materials at  $T=0$  have a Landscape of Ordered. Needs some guesswork.
- For large clusters understand effects of boundary conditions.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** understand the limitations and the nature of the errors of the approximation method, is what makes the method useful. Example DFT, DMFT,.....

# Outline of the discussion

- Exhibit 1: some comments on what early mean field theories of cuprates predicted and connections to CDMFT [ small addition to AM Tremblay and Andy Millis' talk]( pre 1990 work)
- Exhibit 2: A theoretical prediction, 112 , NEW family of iron pnictide superconductors. ( very recent)
- Exhibit 3: Understanding  $T_{cmax}$ , and a NEW prediction of a superconducting material.  
 $Hg(CaS)_2 (CuO)_2$  (very recent)

P. W. Anderson, *Science* **235**, 1196 (1987) Mott insulator → high T<sub>c</sub>

$$H = - \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \sigma} t_{ij} c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} + J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (S_i S_j - \frac{1}{4} n_i n_j)$$

Slave Boson Formulation: Baskaran Zhou Anderson (1987)  
 Extended s superconductivity

$$c_{i\sigma} = f_{i\sigma} b_i^\dagger$$

$$\kappa_{ij} = \langle f_{i\uparrow}^\dagger f_{j\uparrow} \rangle + \langle f_{i\downarrow}^\dagger f_{j\downarrow} \rangle$$

$$b_i^\dagger b_i + f_{i\uparrow}^\dagger f_{i\uparrow} = 1$$

$$\Delta_{ij} = \langle f_{i\uparrow} f_{j\downarrow} \rangle - \langle f_{i\downarrow} f_{j\uparrow} \rangle$$

Bond variables have a life of their own. Mean Field Theory focuses on the impact on the short range physics.

$$\Delta_{ij} = \langle f_{i\sigma}^+ f_{j\bar{\sigma}}^+ \rangle$$

$$\kappa_{ij} = \langle f_{i\sigma}^+ f_{j\sigma} \rangle$$

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 37, NUMBER 7

1 MARCH 1988

**Resonating valence bonds and *d*-wave superconductivity**

G. Kotliar

*Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139*

(Received 15 May 1987; revised manuscript received 19 November 1987)

Affleck and  
Marston 1988

flux states

Affleck et. al.

SU(2)

symmetry

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 38, NUMBER 7

1 SEPTEMBER 1988

**Superexchange mechanism and *d*-wave superconductivity**

Gabriel Kotliar and Jialin Liu

*Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139*

(Received 7 March 1988)

Many possible solutions to the mean field equations in the underdoped regime. IMPORTANT CLUE supported by many later developments.

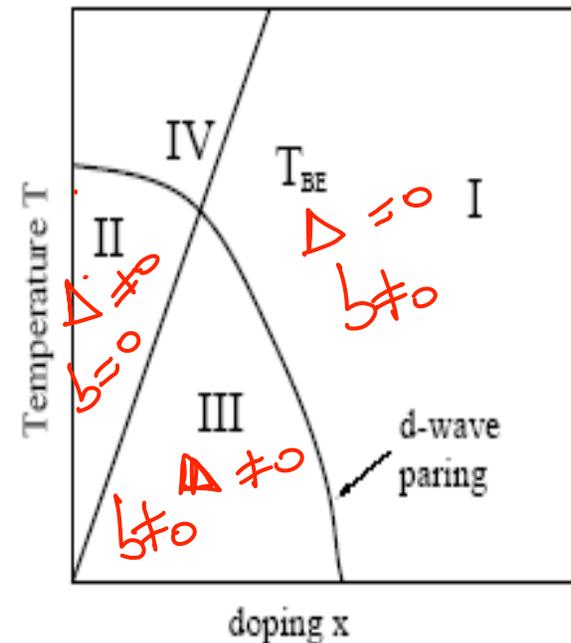
Interpret carefully !!!!

Learning to treat ELECTRONS, very far from Landau FLT asymptote.

# RVB phase diagram of the Cuprate Superconductors. Superexchange.

- $T_c$  controlled by  $J$ .
- $T_{rvb}$ , onset of spin pairing.
- $\langle b \rangle$ ,  $T_{BE}$ , coherence temperature, formation of QF
- Superconducting dome. Pseudogap evolves into SC
- Problems: a) poor description of the incoherent part b) MFT too uniform c) other states i.e. AF.
- Restricted form of the electron self energy.

G. Kotliar and J. Liu Phys.Rev. B  
38,5412 (1988)



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Related approach using wave functions at  $T=0$  :T. M. Rice group

But there are many more competing states, even in SU(N) for N large.

There are even dimer states which are nematic! Grilli Castellani and Kotliar PRB 45 (1992) but required bigger J's.

And there are also linear instabilities towards incommensurate states!

$$\kappa_Q(k) = \langle f_{k+Q/2}^+ f_{k-Q/2} \rangle \quad \kappa_Q(k) = \langle f_{k+Q/2}^+ f_{-k+Q/2}^+ \rangle$$

RAPID COMMUNICATIONS

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 42, NUMBER 13

1 NOVEMBER 1990

### Flux-density wave and superconducting instability of the staggered-flux phase

Ziqiang Wang and Gabriel Kotliar

*Department of Physics, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854*

Xiao-Fang Wang

*Department of Physics, Columbia University, New York, New York 10027*

(Received 22 May 1990)

We study the stability of the staggered-flux phase in the  $t$ - $J$  model away from half filling using a systematic large- $N$  slave-boson approach. Found, below a critical doping concentration  $\delta_c = a(J/t)^2$ , is a flux-density-wave instability with an incommensurability wave number  $\sim \delta^{3/4}$ . The instability towards a modulated-flux state is due to low-lying phase fluctuations of the valence bonds. When the doping parameter exceeds  $\delta_c$ , we find a fully gapped  $d$ -wave superconducting state due to residual quasiparticle interactions.

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And SU(2) symmetries bring to pair density waves of spinons

Cluster DMFT: retains many of the good features of the slave boson MFT while removing MANY important shortcomings. Now lifetimes and the incoherent part of the electron spectral function is included. There is strong anisotropy of the quasiparticle weight, nodal antinodal dichotomy..... NEW LANGUAGE WHEN WE CAN'T USE Fermi Liquid Theory

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PHYSICAL REVIEW B **76**, 104509 (2007)

**Strongly correlated superconductivity: A plaquette dynamical mean-field theory study**

Kristjan Haule and Gabriel Kotliar  
*Department of Physics, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854, USA*  
(Received 31 May 2007; published 13 September 2007)

We use cluster dynamical mean-field theory to study the simplest models of correlated electrons, the Hubbard model and the  $t$ - $J$  model. We use a plaquette embedded in a medium as a reference frame to compute and interpret the physical properties of these models. We study various observables such as electronic lifetimes, one electron spectra, optical conductivities, superconducting stiffness, and the spin response in both the normal and the superconducting state in terms of correlation functions of the embedded cluster. We find that the shortest electron lifetime occurs near optimal doping where the superconducting critical temperature is maximal. A

One prediction, Fermi liquid of the typical scattering rate in the underdoped regime. Beautiful experiments S. I. Mirzaei 110, 5774-5778 (2013)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **80**, 064501 (2009)

**Pseudogap opening and formation of Fermi arcs as an orbital-selective Mott transition in momentum space**

Michel Ferrero,<sup>1,2</sup> Pablo S. Cornaglia,<sup>1,3</sup> Lorenzo De Leo,<sup>1</sup> Olivier Parcollet,<sup>2</sup> Gabriel Kotliar,<sup>4</sup> and Antoine Georges<sup>1</sup>  
**Momentum-sector-selective metal-insulator transition in the eight-site dynamical mean-field approximation to the Hubbard model in two dimensions**

Emanuel Gull,<sup>1</sup> Olivier Parcollet,<sup>2</sup> Philipp Werner,<sup>3</sup> and Andrew J. Millis<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics, Columbia University, 538 West 120th Street, New York, New York 10027, USA*  
<sup>2</sup>*Institut de Physique Théorique, CEA, IPhT, CNRS, URA 2306, F-91191 Gif-sur-Yvette, France*  
<sup>3</sup>*Theoretische Physik, ETH Zurich, 8093 Zürich, Switzerland*  
(Received 9 September 2009; revised manuscript received 22 October 2009; published 1 December 2009)

Link + Plaquette as reference frame

Ferrero et. al. PRB 80 064501 (2009)

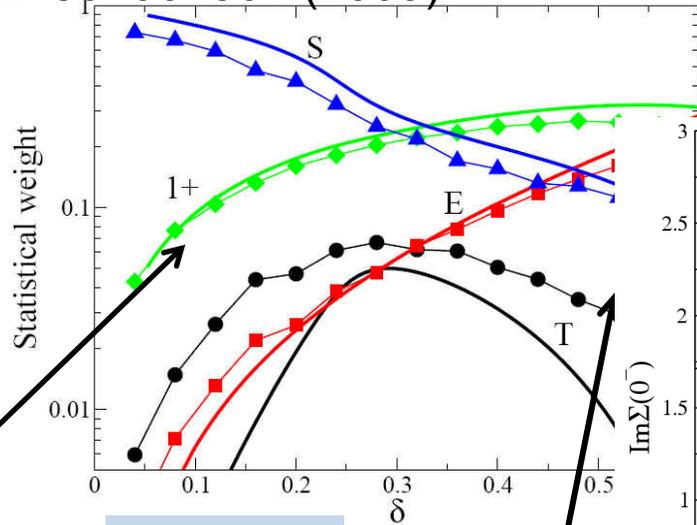
$$1+ = 1/\sqrt{2}(|0, \uparrow\rangle + |\uparrow, 0\rangle)$$

$$E = |0, 0\rangle$$

$$T = |\uparrow, \uparrow\rangle$$

$$S = 1/\sqrt{2}(|\uparrow, \downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow, \uparrow\rangle)$$

Holes in a sea of singlets

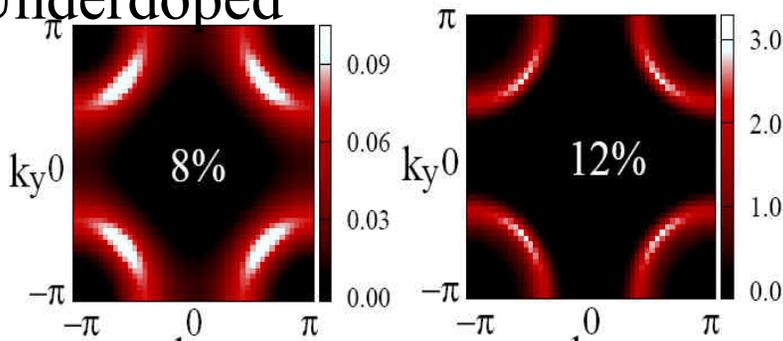


Phys. Rev. B 80, 064501 (2009)

Fermi Liquid

Momentum Space Picture Cumulants  
 Stanescu and Kotliar (2006) Civelli et.al.

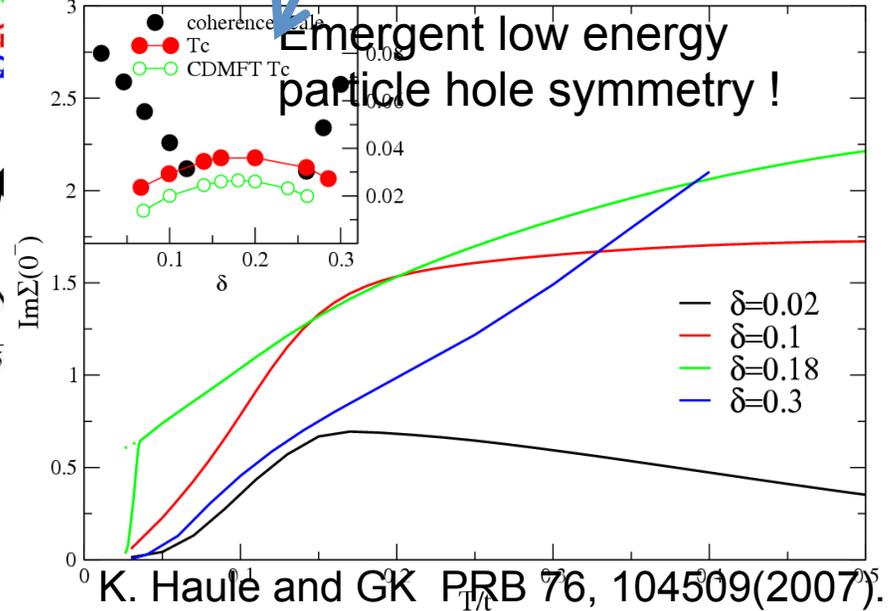
Underdoped



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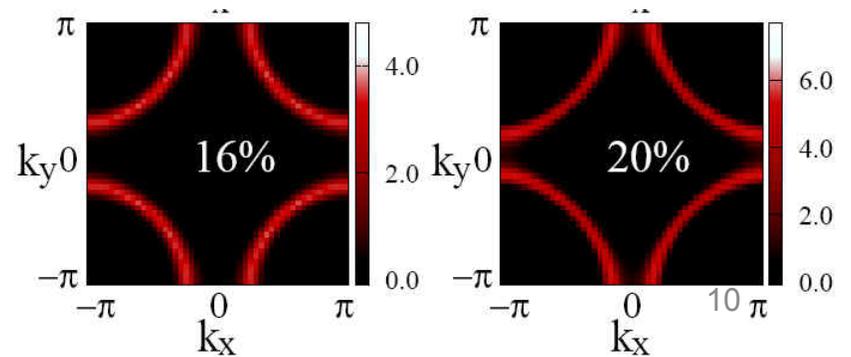
Real Space Picture

1  
0



K. Haule and GK PRB 76, 104509(2007).

Overdoped



# Caveats from LDA+DMFT NCCO vs LSCO besides the obvious electron hole asymmetry...

- Good agreement with many subtle experimental features in NCCO even within single site DMFT.
  - No need to use  $x$  dependent values of the interaction  $U$  (or  $D$  CT gap)
  - In general, better modeling with DMFT (more cluster sites, more orbitals etc ) better results.
- 
- Strength of correlations (as quantified by single site DMFT) the most fundamental difference between NCCO and LSCO compounds.
  - NCCO ( $D < D_{c2}$ ) and LSCO ( $D > D_{c2}$ ) straddle the Zaanen Sawatsky Allen localization delocalization boundary.
  - Can be traced to the absence of apical oxygen in NCCO (structure property relation).
  - Introduces subtle differences in the metallization process and interplay of magnetism and superconductivity.
  - Proximity to the metal to CTI transition, key to dopability, key to high  $T_c$
  - Weber et. al. Nature Physics Weber Haule and GK Nature Phys. 6, 574 (2010).

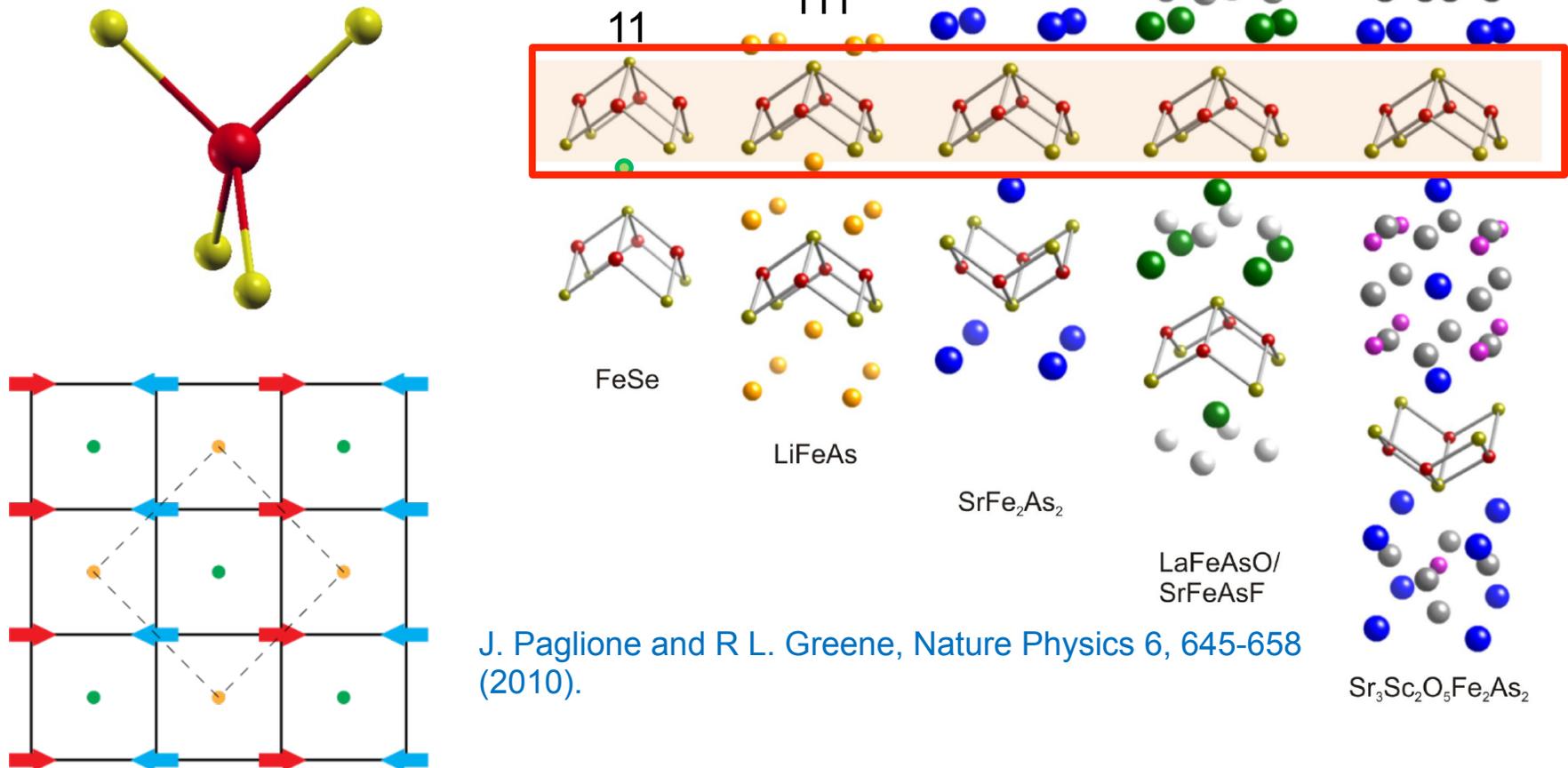
# Outline of the discussion

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 $Hg(CaS)_2 (CuO)_2$

# Landscape of Fe based SC

First discovery in 2008:  $\text{LaFeAsO}_{1-x}\text{F}_x$ , H. Hosono, JACS 130, 3296 (2/13/2008).

$$T_C^{\max} \sim 65K$$



J. Paglione and R L. Greene, Nature Physics 6, 645-658 (2010).

Theoretical understanding: iron pnictides as Hund's metals, various properties were predicted using LDA+DMFT !!! Very interesting qualitatively new features relative to Mott Hubbard systems.

Density-functional calculations of the electronic structures and magnetism of the pnictide superconductors BaFeAs<sub>2</sub> and BaFeSb<sub>2</sub>

J. H. Shim, K. Haule, and G. Kotliar

Phys. Rev. B **79**, 060501(R) – Published 1 February 2009

We investigate the structural, electronic, and magnetic properties of the hypothetical compound BaFePn<sub>2</sub> (Pn = As and Sb), which is isostructural to the parent compound of the high-temperature superconductor LaFeAsO<sub>1-x</sub>F<sub>x</sub>. Using density-functional theory, we show that the Fermi surface, electronic structure, and spin-density wave instability of BaFePn<sub>2</sub> are very similar to the Fe-based superconductors. Additionally, there are very dispersive metallic bands of a spacer Pn layer, which are almost decoupled from FePn layer. Our results show that experimental study of BaFePn<sub>2</sub> can test the role of charge

internal coordinates of Ba (0.25, 0.25, z<sub>Ba</sub>), Fe (0.75, 0.25, z<sub>Fe</sub>), and Pn (0.75, 0.25, z<sub>Pn</sub>). z<sub>Ba</sub> is ex-

Journal of the Physical Society of Japan **83**, 025001 (2014)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.7566/JPSJ.83.025001>

**Enhanced Superconductivity up to 43 K by P/Sb Doping of Ca<sub>1-x</sub>La<sub>x</sub>FeAs<sub>2</sub>**

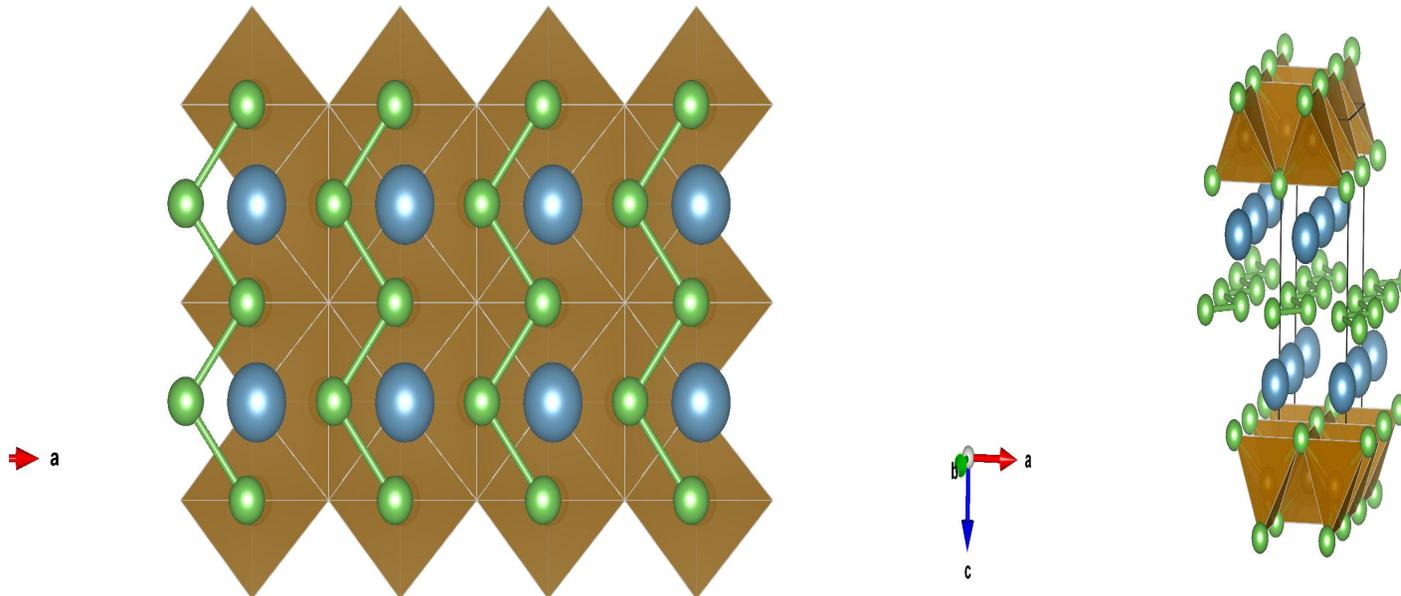
Kazutaka Kudo<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Tasuku Mizukami<sup>1</sup>, Yutaka Kitahama<sup>1</sup>,  
Daisuke Mitsuoka<sup>1</sup>, Keita Iba<sup>1</sup>, Kazunori Fujimura<sup>1</sup>,  
Naoki Nishimoto<sup>1</sup>, Yuji Hiraoka<sup>1,2</sup>, and Minoru Nohara<sup>1,2</sup>

AsO  
35  
41  
42  
51  
12  
67  
55

# Intrinsically structurally detwinned Fe pnictide superconducting family with metallic spacer layers

Shan Jiang<sup>1,\*</sup>, Chang Liu<sup>2,\*</sup>, Huibo Cao<sup>3</sup>, Turan Birol<sup>4</sup>, Jared A. Allred<sup>5</sup>,  
Wei Tian<sup>3</sup>, Lian Liu<sup>6</sup>, Kyuil Cho<sup>7</sup>, Matthew Krogstad<sup>5</sup>, Jie Ma<sup>3</sup>, Keith  
Taddei<sup>5</sup>, Makariy. A. Tanatar<sup>7</sup>, Ruslan prozorov<sup>7</sup>, Rafael. M. Fernandes<sup>8</sup>,  
Stephen Rosenkranz<sup>5</sup>, Yasutomo J. Uemura<sup>6</sup>, G. Kotliar<sup>4</sup>, Ni Ni<sup>1</sup>

It turns out that the prediction of a metallic CaAs layer was correct but that in turn lead to the formation of zig-zag chains. Acts like a uniaxial pressure field to detwin domains



# 112 family with metallic spacer layer was predicted and observed.

- The original motivation for proposing this family of compounds was to differentiate excitonic mechanisms vs magnetic mechanism of superconductivity.
- Conclusion: magnetic mechanism. A metallic layer has infinite polarizability and should have increased  $T_c$ .
- A lot more will be learned by looking at this compound more carefully, exploiting the fact that a calculable internal field couples to the different orbitals of the active iron pnictide layer. MONODOMAIN sample, stripe order, magnetic domains.....

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 $Hg(CaS)_2 (CuO)_2$

Phys. Rev. B 43, 2968–2982 (1991)

# Apex oxygen and critical temperature in copper oxide superconductors: Universal correlation with the stability of local singlets

Abstract

References

Citing Articles (126)

Page Images

Download: PDF (3,064 kB) Buy this article Export: BibTeX or EndNote (RIS)

Y. Ohta, T. Tohyama, and S. Maekawa

Department of Applied Physics, Nagoya University, Nagoya 464-01, Japan

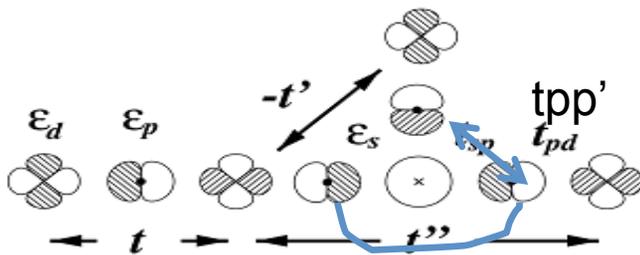
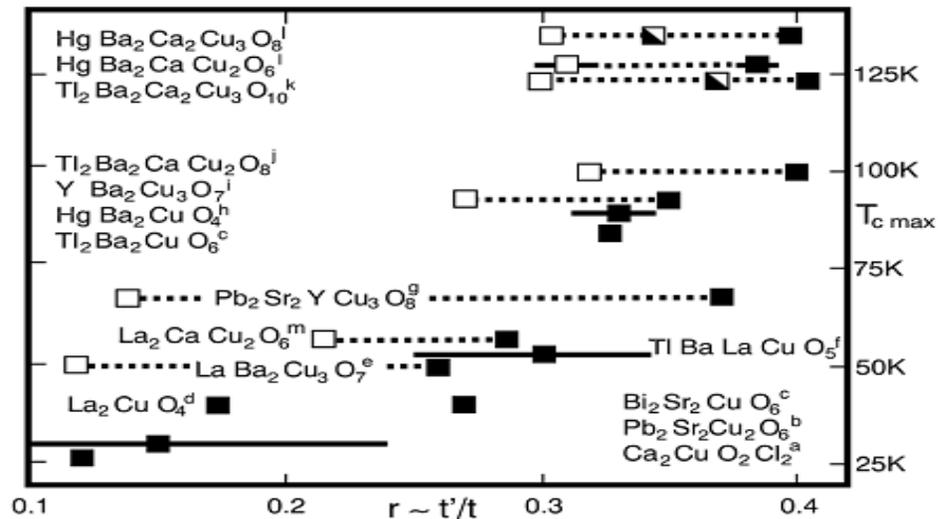


FIG. 1. Relation between the one-orbital model ( $t, t', t'', \dots$ ) and the nearest-neighbor four-orbital model [4] ( $\epsilon_d - \epsilon_p \sim 1$  eV,  $t_{pd} \sim 1.5$  eV,  $\epsilon_s - \epsilon_p \sim 16$  eV,  $t_{sp} \sim 2$  eV).



- Significant scatter, but correlation is clear:  $T_{c, \max}$  increases with larger hopping range.

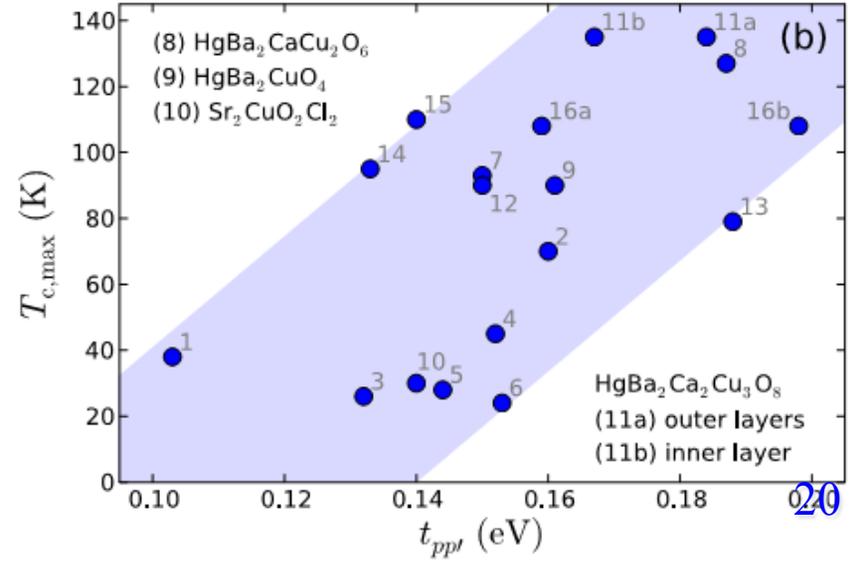
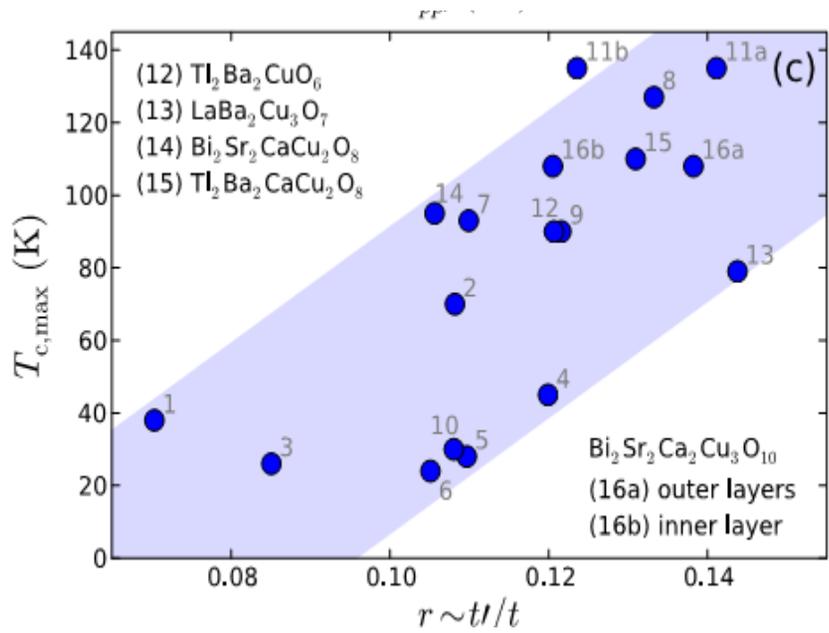
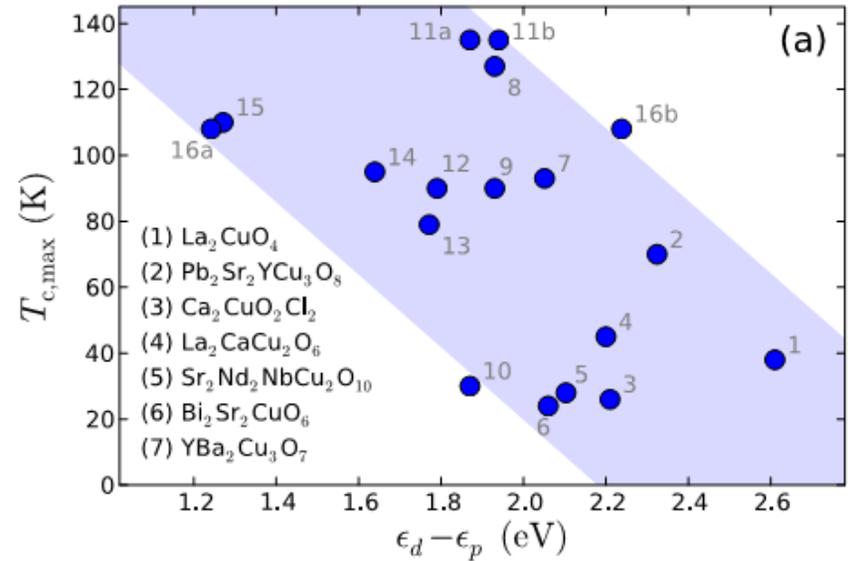
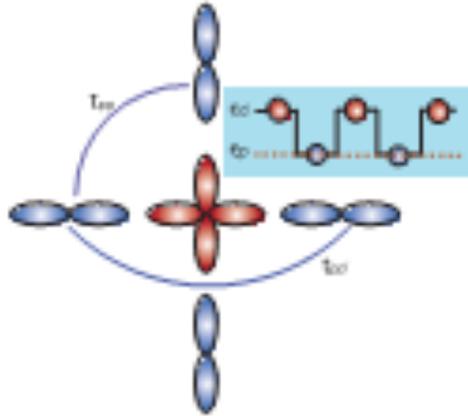
Pavarini, et. al., PRB 87, 047003 (2001)

See also Raimondi et. al.  
Phys. Rev. B 53, 8774–  
8788 (1996)

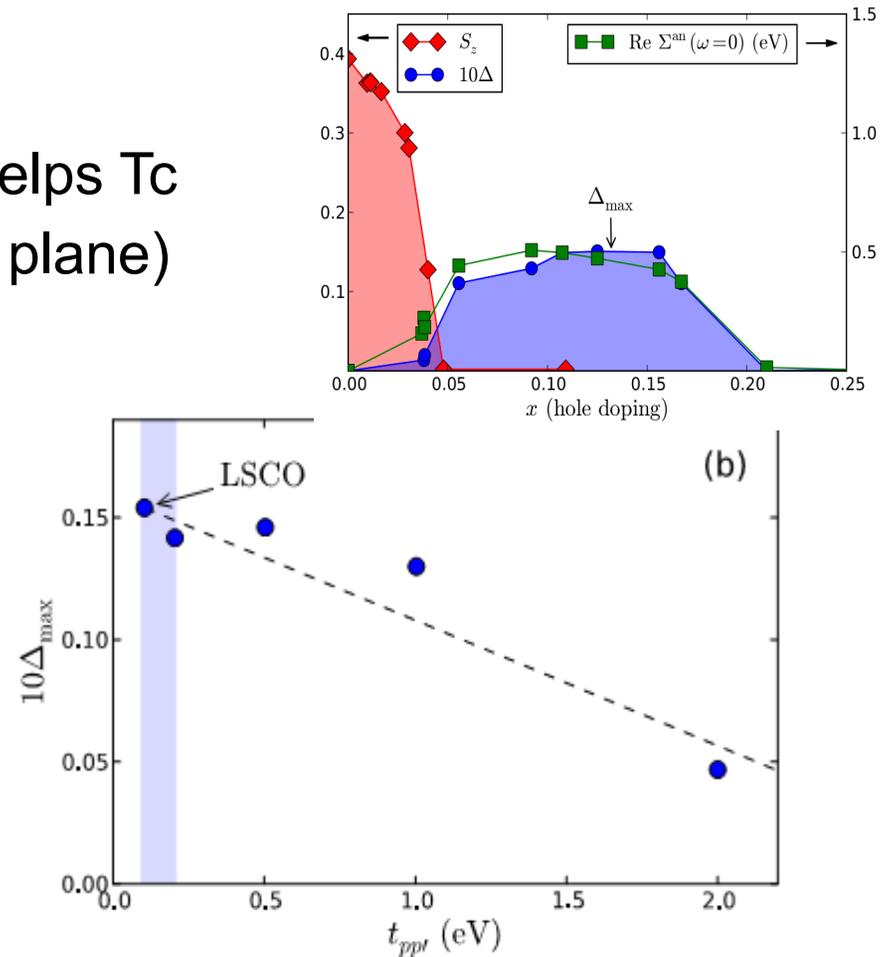
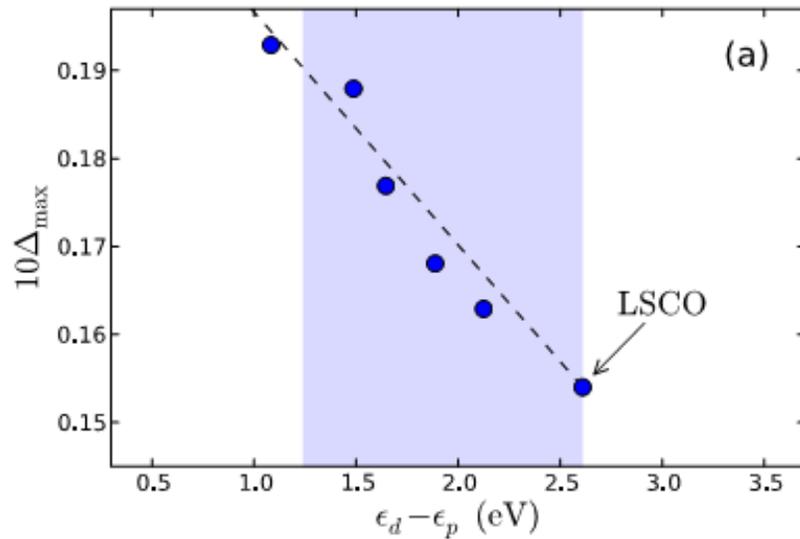


C. Weber C. Yee and G.K.

Eur. Phys. Lett. 100, 37001 (2012)



Causation: Reducing ed-ep helps Tc  
(pushing apical away from the plane)



Increasing  $t_{pp'}$  hurts Tc

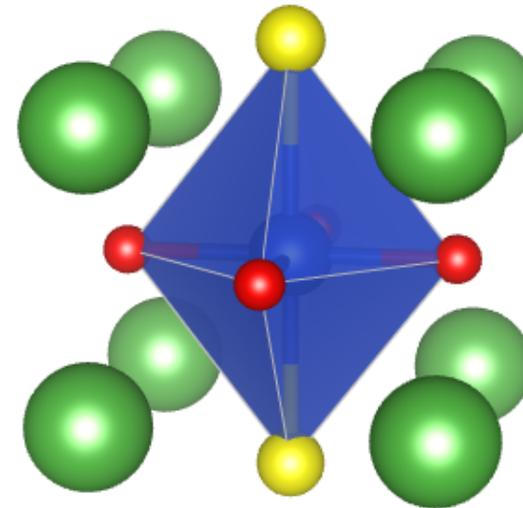
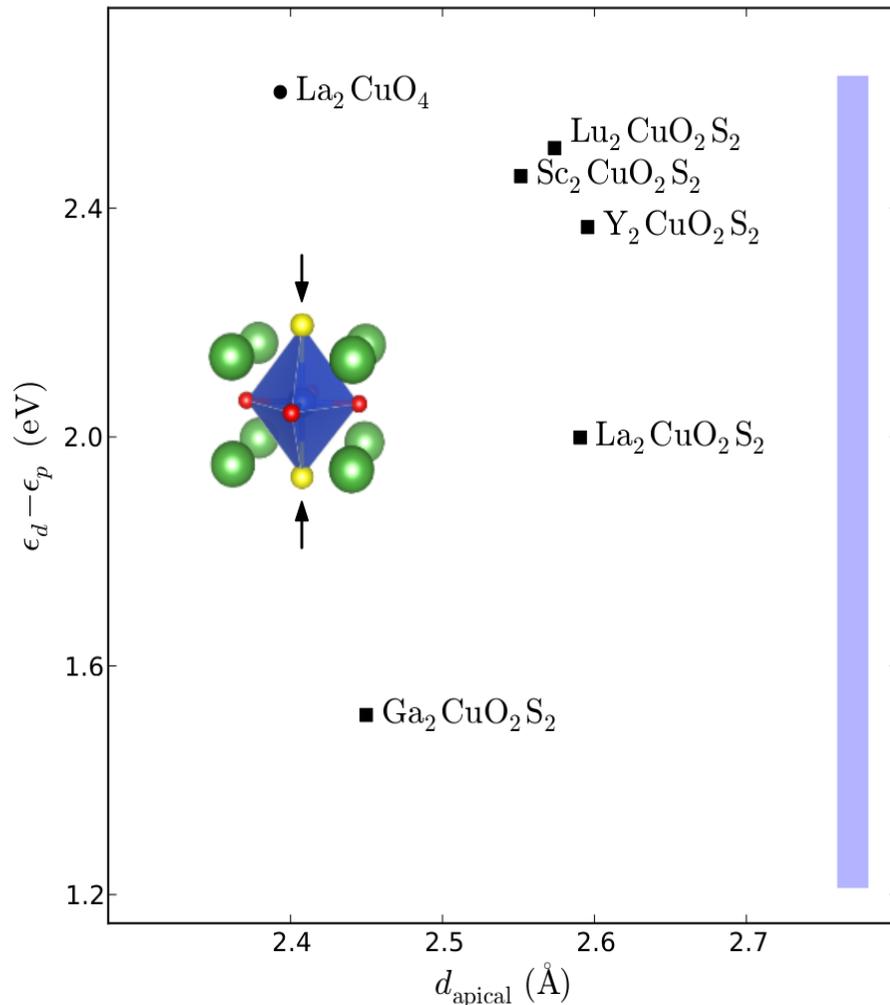
Moving the apical oxygen away from the plane reduces ed-ep but also increases  $t_{pp'}$ . We believe the reduction of ep-ed is dominant

How can we reduce CTE ? Simplest way would be layer by layer deposition  
 RCuO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> family C. Yee and GK Phys. Rev. B 89, 094517 (2014)



Chuck Yee

Apical oxygen → sulfur; La



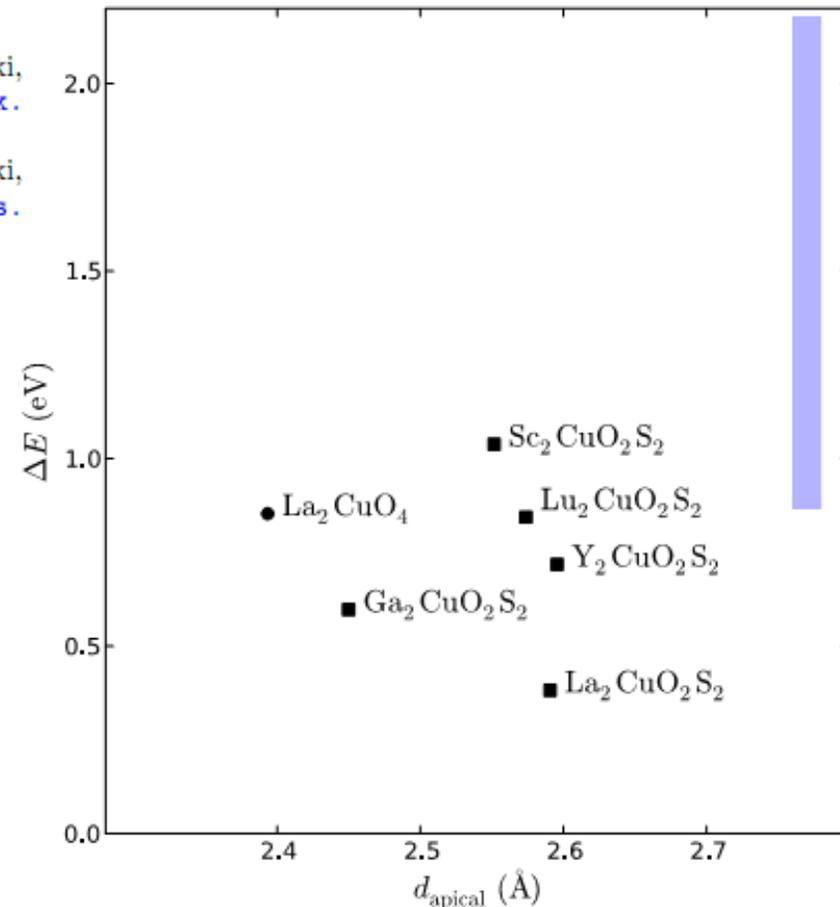
Not so easy<sup>22</sup>  
 to make.  
 Layer by  
 layer  
 methods ?

$\Delta E$	$\Delta V$	Synthesis pathway
141	-7.3	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuS → La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
223	-3.4	Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuS → Y <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
267	-5.0	Lu <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuS → Lu <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
356	-3.0	Sc <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuS → Sc <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
101	-4.9	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> + Cu → La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
148	-3.3	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> + CuS → La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>3</sub> S
454	-0.7	Sc <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> + CuS → Sc <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>3</sub> S
97	-4.9	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuO → La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>3</sub> S
269	2.8	Sc <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S + CuO → Sc <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>3</sub> S
28	-5.1	La <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> + CuO → La <sub>2</sub> CuO <sub>4</sub>

If one can avoid distortions, buckling, etc, this family will help decide if the  $d_{z^2}$  splitting or the CT energy is the right variable that controls  $T_c$ .

- [10] H. Sakakibara, H. Usui, K. Kuroki, R. Arita, and H. Aoki, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **105**, 057003 (Jul 2010), <http://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevLett.105.057003>.
- [11] H. Sakakibara, H. Usui, K. Kuroki, R. Arita, and H. Aoki, *Phys. Rev. B* **85**, 064501 (Feb 2012), <http://link.aps.org/doi/10.1103/PhysRevB.85.064501>.

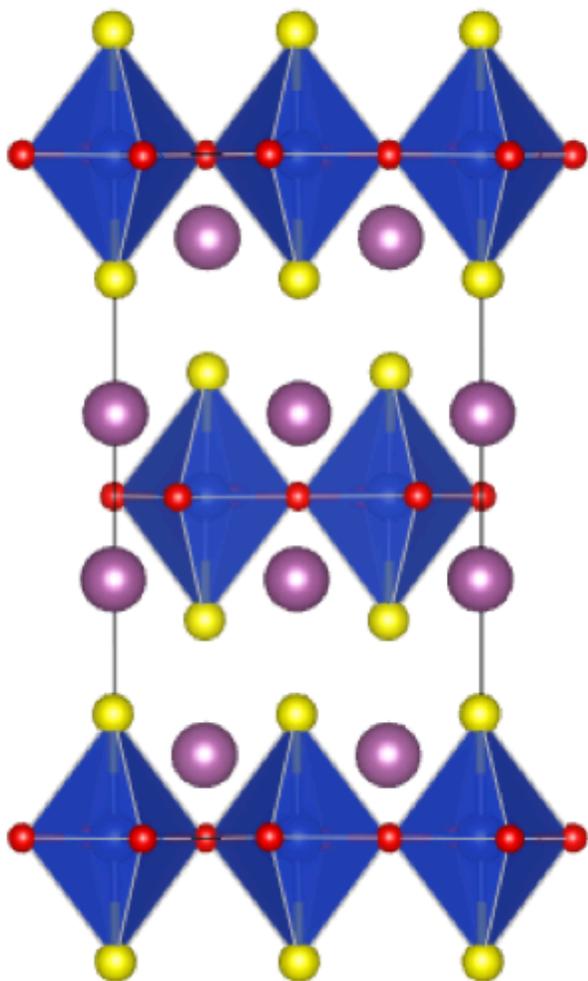
FIG. 5. The energy splitting  $\Delta E = E_{d_{x^2-y^2}} - E_{d_{z^2}}$  between the onsite energies of the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  and  $d_{z^2}$  orbitals among the copper oxysulfide family (squares). For comparison is the actual compound  $\text{La}_2\text{CuO}_4$  (circle). The physical range of  $\Delta E$  spanned by the single-layer cuprates is shown with a shaded bar (from Sakakibara, *et. al.*) [11]. The  $\Delta E$  in the oxysulfides are generally smaller, implying stronger mixing of the  $d_{z^2}$  orbital with the in-plane  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  orbital. Thus, barring other competing orders, sulfur substitution should enhance  $T_{c,\text{max}}$  according to the charge-transfer theory, while  $T_{c,\text{max}}$  will be suppressed according to the two-orbital theory.



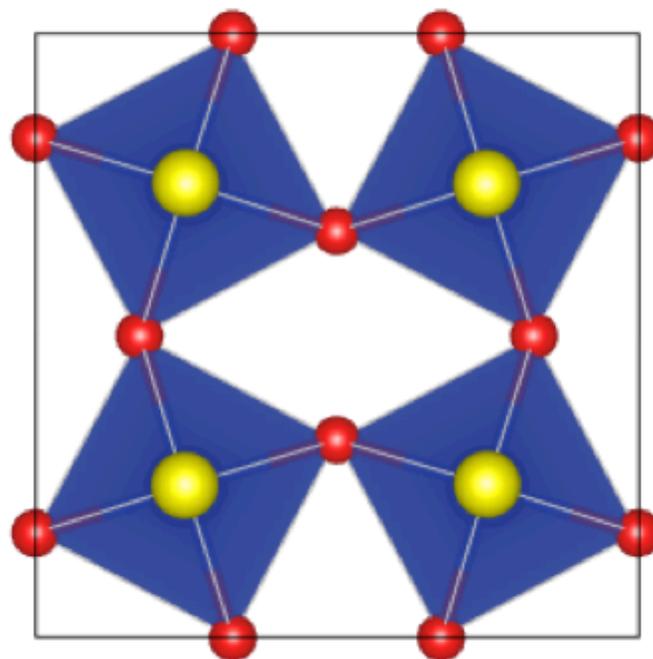
Interesting hypothetical materials, but..... they tilt in an unusual way so they are not cuprate like.

24

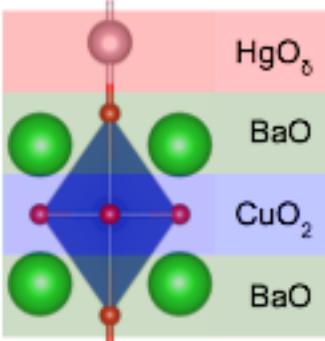
(a)



(b)



So recently Chuck and Turan undertook a little material design problem



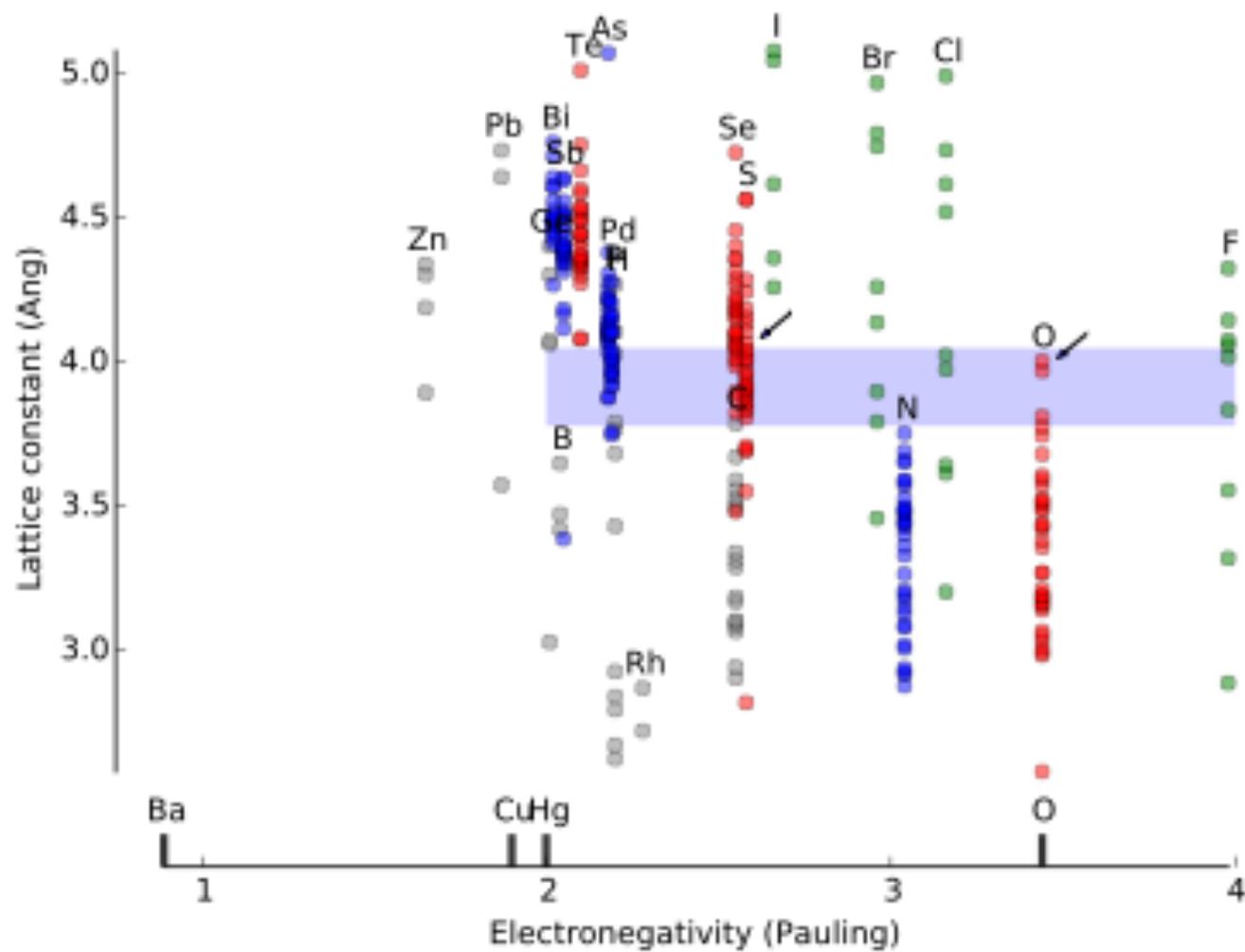
	charge	dopants	structure	hamiltonian
HgO <sub>8</sub>	balances -2 charge	supplies	harbors dopants	tunes chemical potential
BaO	neutral	inert	protects CuO <sub>2</sub> from disorder	tunes in-plane $t, t', U$
CuO <sub>2</sub>	-2 charge/u.c.	accepts	roughly sets lattice const.	superconducts
BaO			(same as other CaS layer)	

FIG. 1. Each layer in the structural stack of  $\text{HgBa}_2\text{CuO}_{4+\delta}$  performs a specific chemical, structural and electronic function. We focused on tuning the layers immediately adjacent to the  $\text{CuO}_2$  plane which function to tune the in-plane hamiltonian, but must also be charge neutral and not interfere with doping.

Strategy : C. Yee T. Birol and GK.

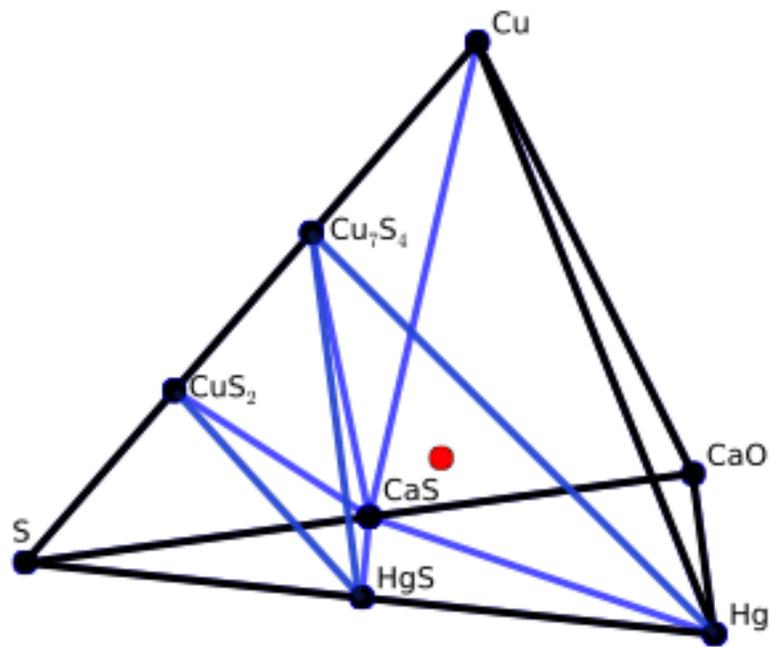
Look for replacements of Ba and O by all possible elements XY

- 1) Use chemical arguments to restrict the search
- 2) Require local stability by checking all phonons.
- 3) Check for stability of the structure against multiple moves using genetic algorithms.
- 4) Look for compounds that are marginally stable against phase separation, within 250 meV of the zero of the convex hull.



Hg ( XY)<sub>2</sub> (CuO)<sub>2</sub>

C. Yee T. Birol and GK

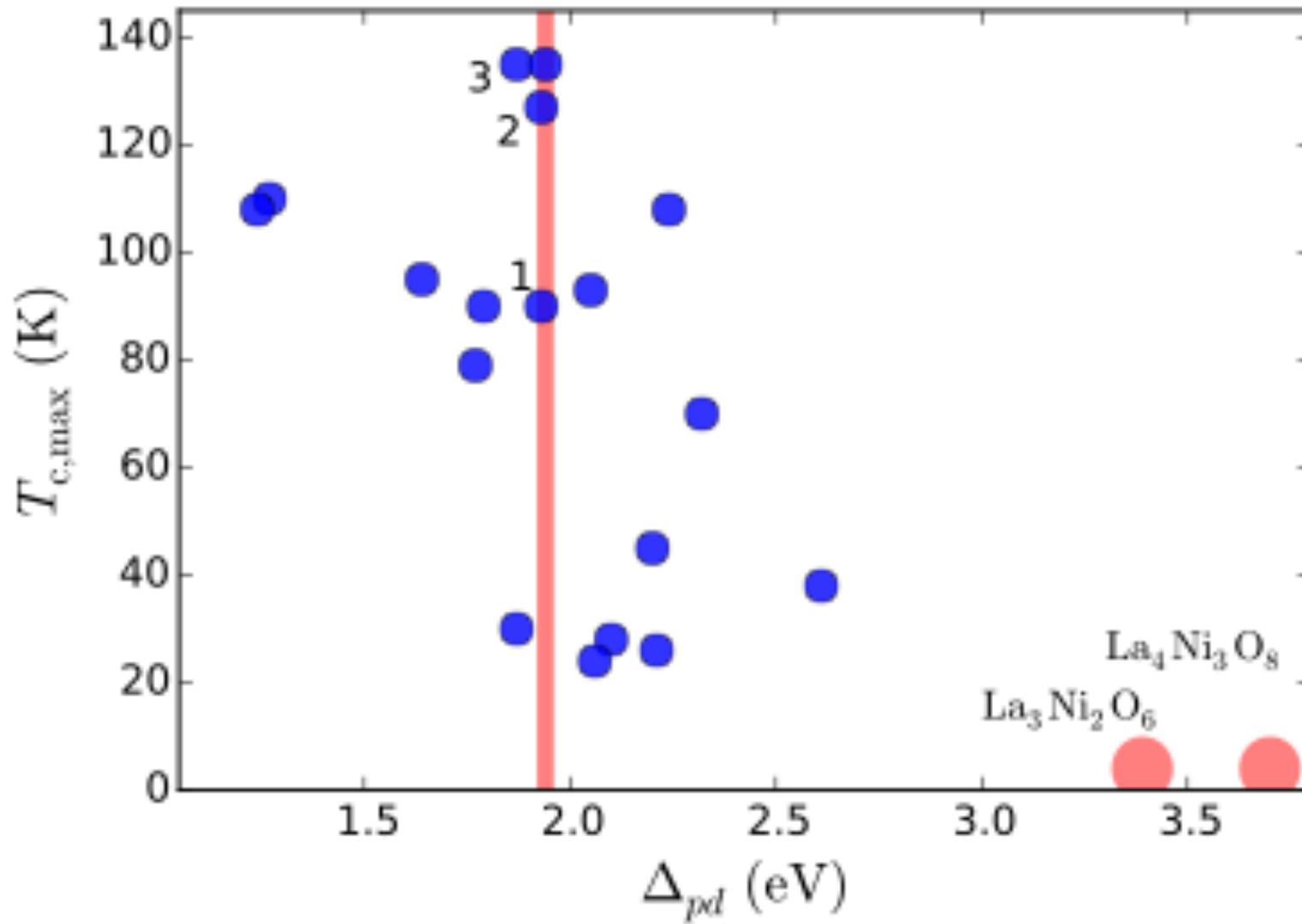


Test against phase separation.

CaO is about 175 meV above the convex hull

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FIG. 3. The Gibbs phase diagram of the Hg-Ca-S-Cu system at an oxygen chemical potential of  $\mu(\text{O}_2) = -16.48$  eV, chosen because  $\text{Hg}(\text{CaS})_2\text{CuO}_2$  (red dot) is least unstable at this value. The phase diagram forms a tetrahedron with S, Hg, Cu and CaO at the vertices (elemental Ca isn't stable under this oxygen environment). HCSCO lies in the interior of the tetrahedron, on the triangular face formed by Hg, Cu and CaS.



Hg (CaS)<sub>2</sub> (CuO)<sub>2</sub> is interesting Slightly shorter Cu-Cu distance !

Thank you for your attention!

I can also address the rest  
of the questions in the list.