Field & temperature scales in charge-ordered YBa₂Cu₃O_y

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Charge (density wave) order, « CDW »



Picture from Keimer group MPI-FKF Stuttgart

Evidence for stripe correlations of spins and holes in copper oxide superconductors

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ONE of the long-standing mysteries associated with the hightemperature copper oxide superconductors concerns the anomalous suppression¹ of superconductivity in $La_{2-r}Ba_rCuO_4$ (and certain related compounds) when the hole concentration x is near $\frac{1}{8}$. Here we examine the possibility that this effect is related to dynamical two-dimensional spin correlations, incommensurate with the crystal lattice, that have been observed in La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO₄ by neutron scattering²⁻⁴. A possible explanation for the incommensurability involves a coupled, dynamical modulation of spin and charge in which antiferromagnetic 'stripes' of copper spins are separated by periodically spaced domain walls to which the holes segregate⁵⁻⁹. An ordered stripe phase of this type has recently FIG. 1 a, Idealized diagram of the spin and charge stripe pattern within are related to superconductivity in the copper oxides.



been observed in hole-doped La2NiO4 (refs 10-12). We present a NiO2 plane observed in hole-doped La2NiO4 with a hole density of evidence from neutron diffraction that in the copper oxide material $n_{\rm h} = \frac{1}{4}$. b, Hypothesized stripe pattern in a CuO₂ plane of hole-doped La_{1.6-x}Nd_{0.4}Sr_xCuO₄, with x = 0.12, a static analogue of the La₂CuO₄ with $n_h = \frac{1}{8}$. In both, only the metal atoms are represented; the dynamical stripe phase is present, and is associated with an oxygen atoms, which surround the metal sites in a square planar array anomalous suppression of superconductivity^{13,14}. Our results thus (as shown in Fig. 2), have been omitted. Arrows indicate the orientation provide an explanation of the '1' conundrum, and also support the of magnetic moments on metal atoms, which are locally antiparallel; suggestion¹⁵ that spatial modulations of spin and charge density the spin direction rotates by 180° (relative to a simple antiferromagnetic structure) on crossing a domain wall, as emphasized by the change in

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20 years of charge order in cuprates



20 years of charge order in cuprates



H – T phase diagram



Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7})

From Nuclear Magnetic Resonance



• CHARGE (CDW) ORDER

- No spin order
- CDW must reconstruct Fermi surface
- Looks like a phase transition
- (Presumably) long-range CDW order
- Unidirectional CDW (at least in O-II)
- CDW COMPETES WITH SC
- Similar energy scales ($T_{charge} \approx T_c$)
- CDW correlations in the normal state
- CDW INSTABILITY MUST BE GENERIC

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Wu *et al.* Nature 477, 191 (2011) Wu *et al.* Nature Commun. 4, 2113 (2013)

Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7})

From Nuclear Magnetic Resonance



Wu et al. Nature Commun. 6, 6438 (2015)

Lessons from NbSe₂ Archetypal 2D CDW system



Berthier et al. J. Phys.: Solid State Phys. (1978) Ghoshray et al. J. Phys.: Condens. Matter (2009)

Pre-transitional NMR broadening from **short-range CDW around defects**

Lessons from NbSe₂

Recent STM experiments provide real-space images of Friedel oscillations with CDW period

Arguello et al. Phys. Rev. B 89, 235115 (2014) Chatterjee *et al*. Nature Commun. 6, 6313 (2015)



Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7}) From NMR

Striking analogy with NbSe₂ suggests:



Wu et al. Nature Commun. 6, 6438 (2015)

Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7}) From sound velocity

• Thermodynamic evidence of phase transition



LeBoeuf et al. Nature Phys. 9, 79 (2013)

Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7}) From (hard & soft) X-ray scattering



Ghiringhelli et al. Science 337, 821 (2012) Chang et al. Nature Phys. 8, 871 (2012) Achkar et al. PRL 109, 167001 (2012) Blackburn et al. PRL 110, 137004 (2013) Blanco-Canosa et al. PRL 110, 187001 (2013)

Should we call this « CDW order »? What does $\xi_{CDW} \approx 6 \lambda$ mean?

Is this a CDW?	Νο	Yes
ξ _{CDW}	Small	Half as long as in LBCO (1/8)
If disorder were absent	Fluctuating CDW	Long-ranged CDW
Effect of disorder	Freezes fluctuations	Breaks into domains
High-field transition	« The » CDW transition	Subsidiary transition
Vocabulary	« Embryonic » CDW	« Vestigial » CDW

Nie, Tarjus, Kivelson, PNAS 111, 7980 (2014)

In any event: « Incipient CDW » pinned by native defects Disorder does play a role, even in super-clean O-II YBCO

NB: disorder pinning affects CDW « texture »

Del Maestro *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 74, 024520 (2006) Robertson *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 74, 134507 (2006)

Charge order phase diagram (YBa₂Cu₃O_{6.5-6.7})



Wu et al. Nature Commun. 6, 6438 (2015)

Field dependence

Provides direct evidence of competition: SC impedes CDW



 $YBa_2Cu_3O_{6.56}$ ortho-II

CDW in vortex state

Incipient CDW takes refuge in/around vortex cores



Nature of field-induced transition?

Should we expect 2nd order transition?

Transition fields in NMR and ultrasound are different



Possible explanations:

- Experimental error (ruled out)
- Phase diagram has cusp
- NMR sees *local* order first



Conclusion

CDW is an important piece of the high- T_c puzzle

- Ubiquitous
- Impacts on many electronic properties
- Related to superconductivity in a way or another

Yet, its exact nature remains to be worked out

