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Spin and Charge Frustration in Spinel Oxides

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Exotic phases produced by geometrical frustration on pyrochlore lattice

..Introduction

2.Spin frustration in $\text{Zn(Cd)Cr}_2\text{O}_4$

spin JT phase and its magnetic field control

..Charge frustration in AlV_2O_4

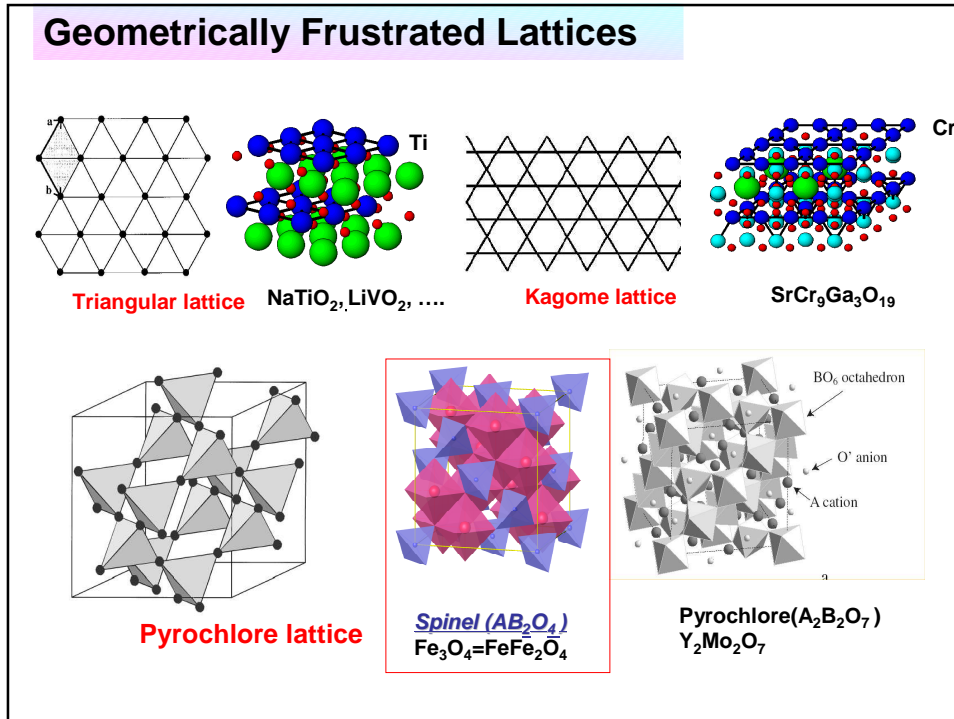
.....3-1 charge ordering (valence skipping)

..Charge & Spin Liquid State

.... .Heavy Fermion Oxides LiV_2O_4

5. Comment on CO in pseudo gap phase of cuprates

Yazdani



What do we expect ?

Spin Frustration (when AF)

- Strongly degenerate low lying spin excitations
Prevents long range order 3D spin liquid

Charge Frustration (when mixed valent)

Verway problem
 $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 = \text{Fe}^{3+}\text{Fe}_2^{2.5+}\text{O}_4$ 1:1 Fe^{2+} & Fe^{3+}

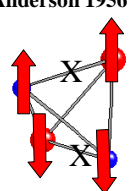
- Strongly degenerate low lying charge excitations
Prevents long range order charge liquid

Orbital Frustration?

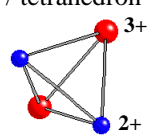
Exotic Phase (transition) ?

- Nature always tries to reduce the degeneracy
couple with lattice, orbital, itinerant carriers

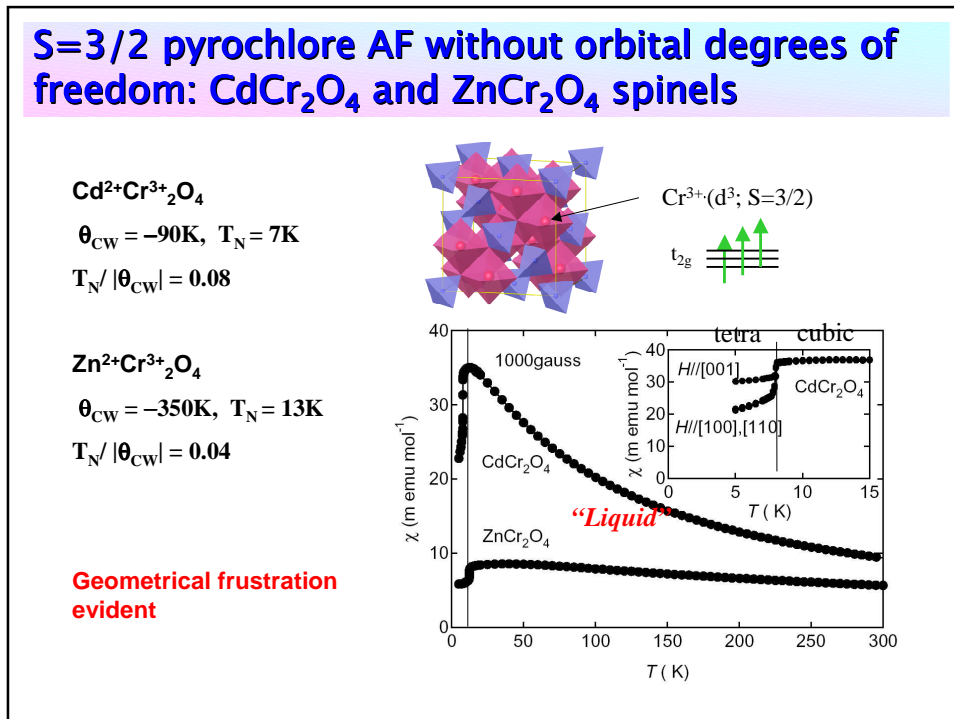
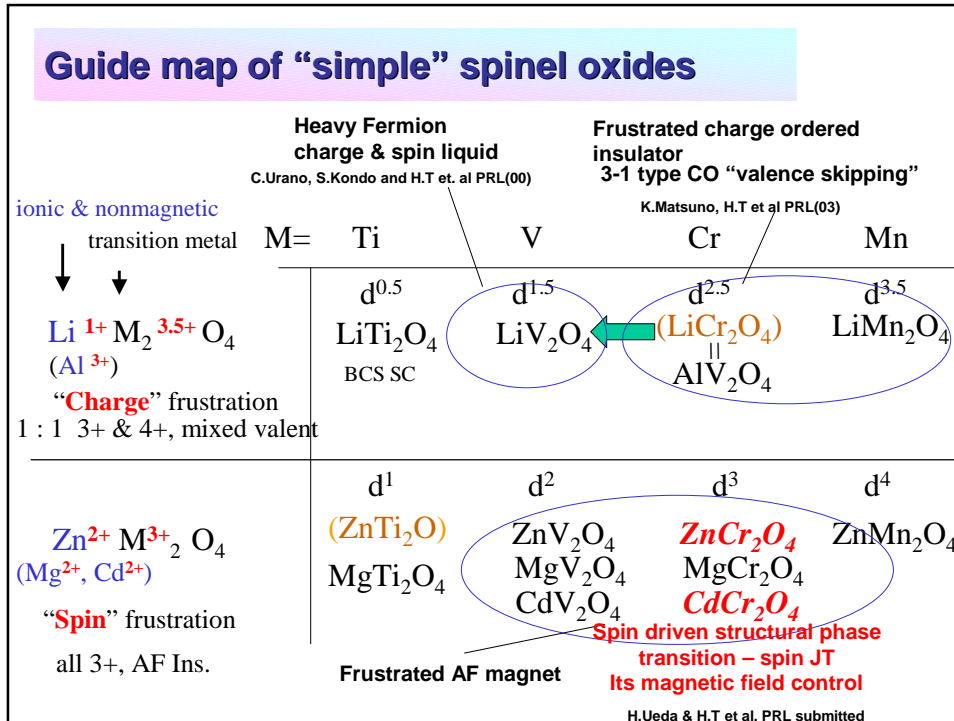
Anderson 1956



$S=0$ / tetrahedron



charge / tetrahedron = const
Anderson condition

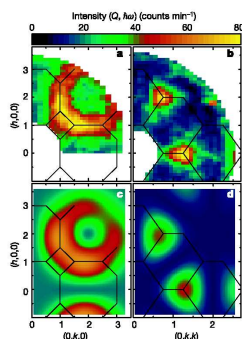
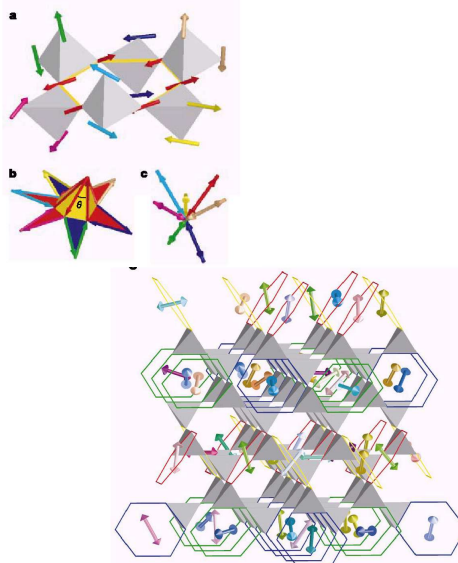


Hexagonal spin cluster formation in the spin liquid phase above $T_S=T_N$

Emergent excitations in a geometrically frustrated magnet

S.-H. Lee*, C. Broholm[†], W. Ratcliff[‡], G. Gasparovic[§], Q. Huang[†], T. H. Kim[§] & S.-W. Cheong[†]

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[‡] Department of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854, USA



Spin JT transition in CdCr_2O_4 and ZnCr_2O_4 spinels

$\text{Cr}^{3+} (d^3; S=3/2)$



$\text{Cd}^{2+}\text{Cr}^{3+}_2\text{O}_4$

$$T_N = T_S = 7\text{K} \ll \theta_{\text{CW}}$$

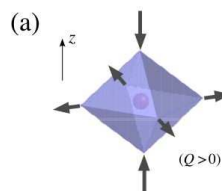
$\text{Zn}^{2+}\text{Cr}^{3+}_2\text{O}_4$

$$T_N = T_S = 13\text{K} \ll \theta_{\text{CW}}$$

AF ordering (easy plane type & complicated **non-collinear**)

accompanied with 1st order

Cubic to Tetragonal transition

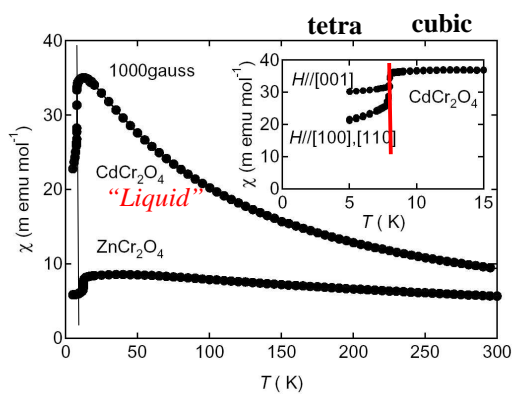


no orbital degree of freedom

Spin- JT transition

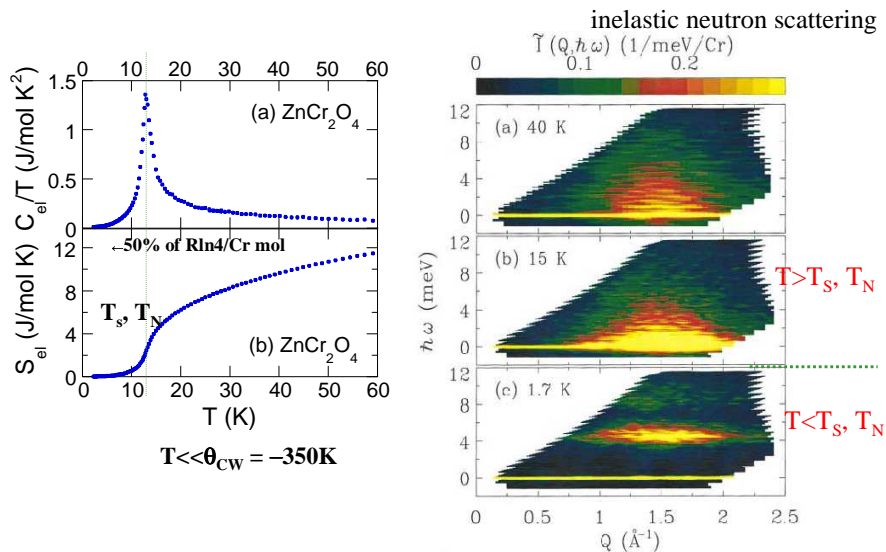
remove "spin degeneracy" by lattice distortion

Yamashita and K.Ueda, PRL(01)
 O.Tchernyshyov PRL & PRB (02)



Gigantic entropy at low T – support for spin-JT

S. -H. Lee, C. Broholm, *et al.* PRL **84**, 3718 (2000).

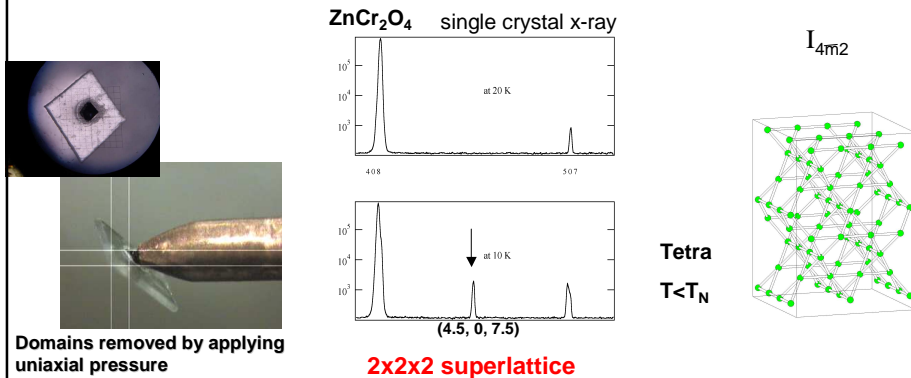


Complicated lattice distortion below T_N – support for spin-JT

Low T structure more complicated than the simple elongation of cubic $\langle 001 \rangle$ (orbital JT) should be compatible with non-collinear Neel state with $2 \times 2 \times 2$ magnetic unit cell

O.Tchernyshyov PRL (03)

→.Revisit to low-T crystal structure of $ZnCr_2O_4$



**more fun out of CdCr_2O_4
- magnetic field control of frustration**

- When spins aligned by H, frustration will be reduced

field induced structural phase transition

associated with large spin-lattice coupling ?

eventually cubic ?

-Magnetization plateau state as observed in other frustrated magnets?

Ordered local spin excitations coupled strongly with lattice

**Magnetic field control of frustration
- M-H curve of CdCr_2O_4 at 1.8 K**

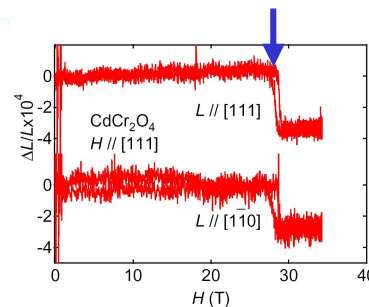
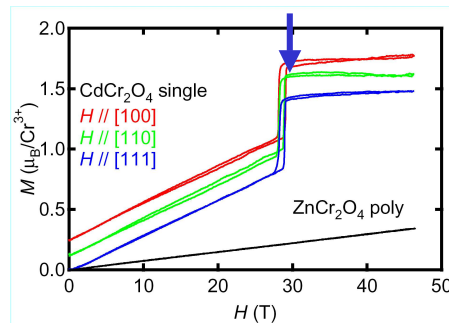
- metamagnetic transition to a plateau state at 28 T (first order) □

plateau at $M=1.5\mu_B$

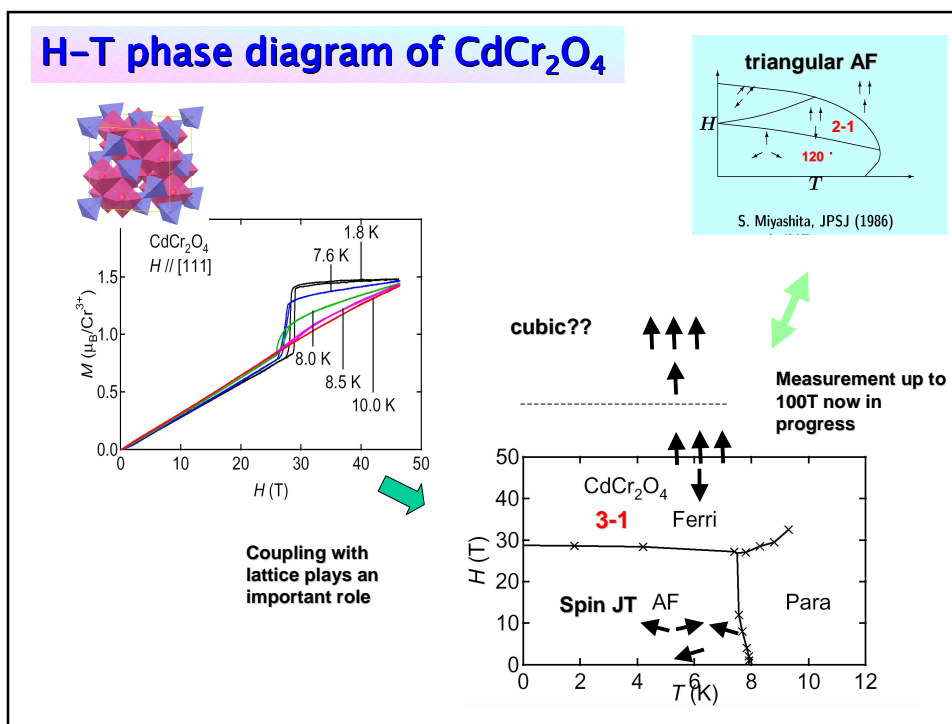
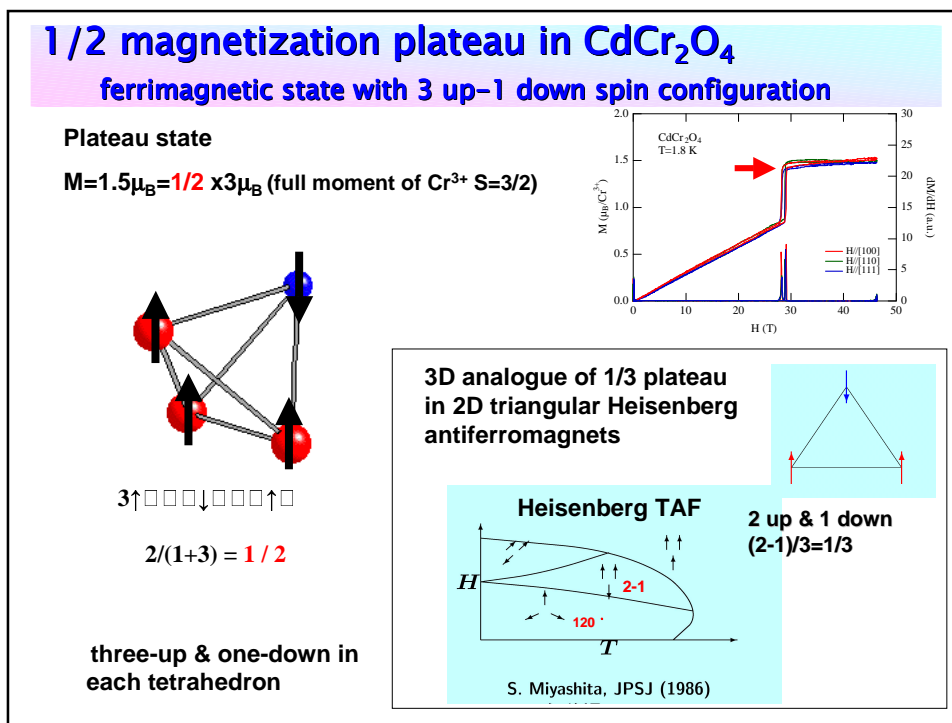
no anisotropy (Heisenberg)

- magnetostriction as large as $\sim 10^{-3}$ though spin-orbit negligible

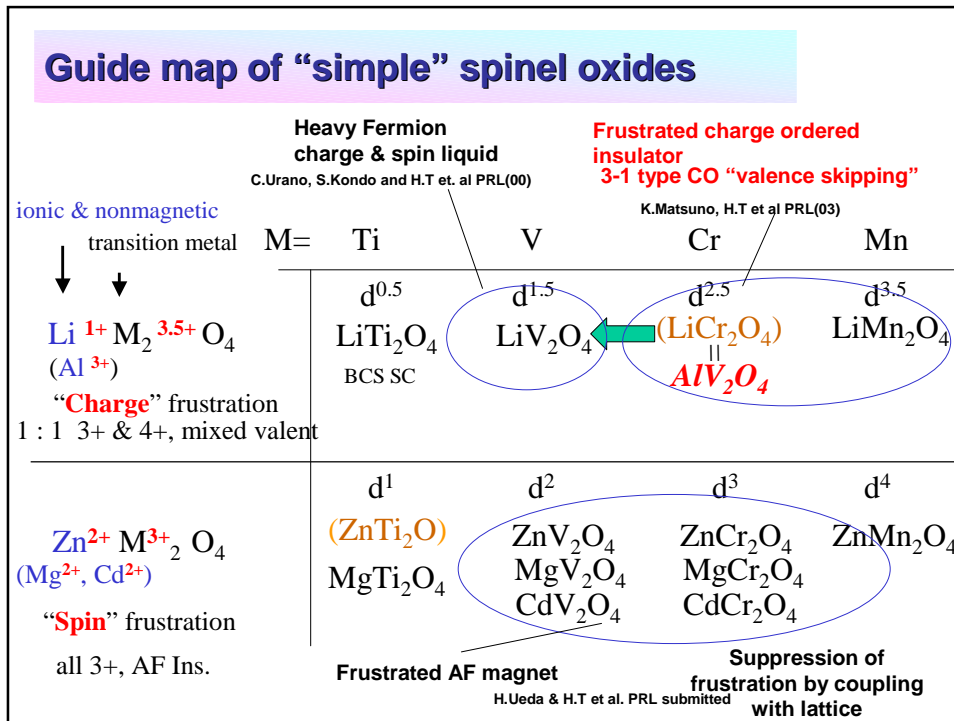
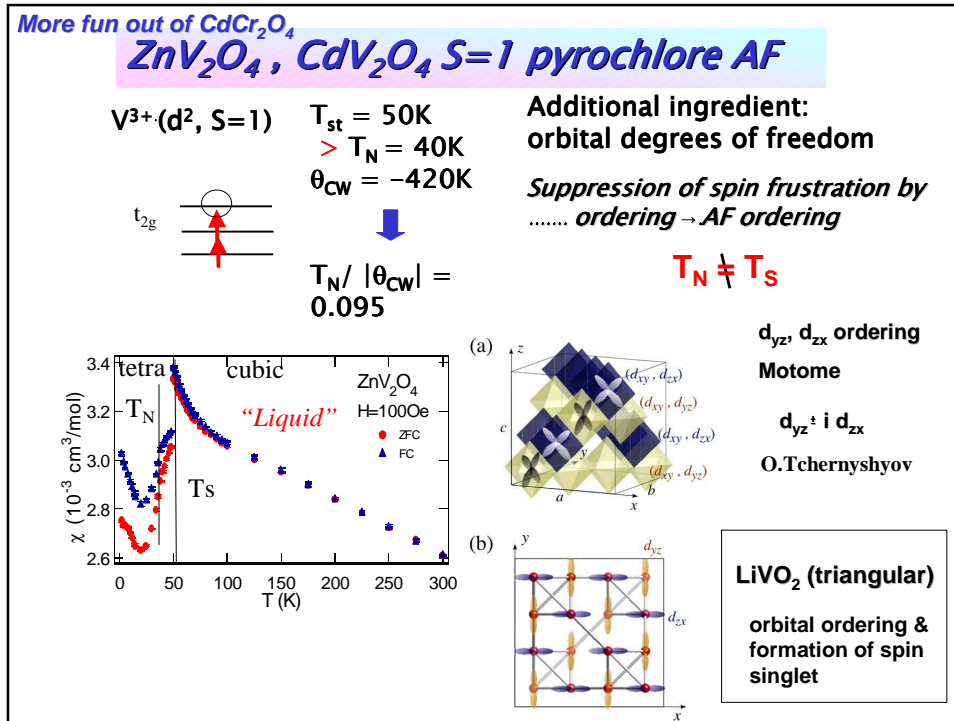
Magnetostriction normally of the order of 10^{-5} even with spin-orbit
structural phase transition suggested from ESR



Magnetostriction comparable magnitude with
to tetragonal distortion
evidence for spin JT

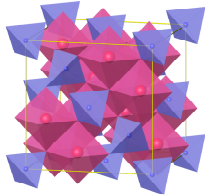


Spin and Charge Frustration in Spinel Oxides



Charge frustration on pyrochlore lattice

coupling with lattice and orbitals to remove degeneracy – Fe_3O_4



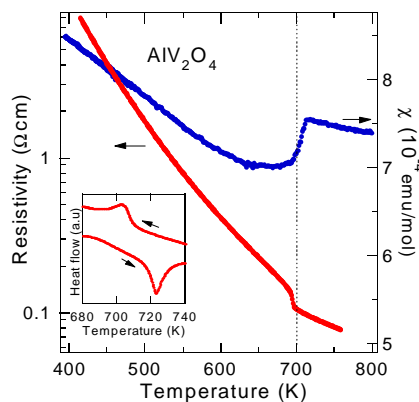
Mixed valent At first glance,
with 1:1 mixture of $\text{V}^{2+}(\text{d}^3, s=3/2)$ & $\text{V}^{3+}(\text{d}^2, s=1)$

Verway problem

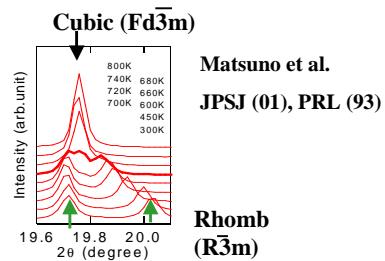
Overcoming the frustration (degeneracy) by having
valence skipping configuration, $\text{V}^{2+}\text{-V}^{4+}$, with 3:1 ratio

One of the first pyrochlore systems with
CO pattern identified

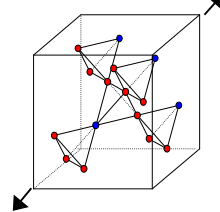
700 K anomaly in χ & ρ accompanied with structural phase transition from Cubic to Rhombedral



- Resistivity **insulating** even
above RT
Charge ordered? ‘

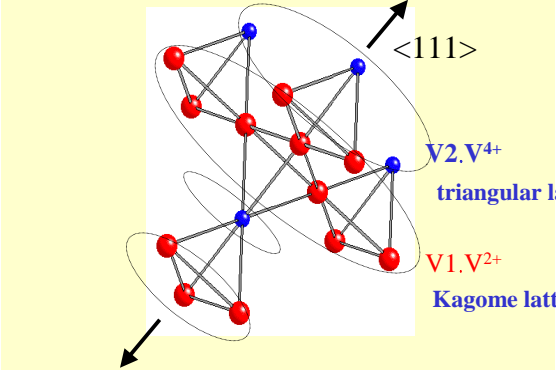


elongation along $\langle 111 \rangle$



3-1 charge ordering ($V^{2+} - V^{4+}$) below 700 K in AlV_2O_4

Rhomboidal phase - elongated along $\langle 111 \rangle$
 $V1, V2$ inequivalent ($V1:V2=3:1$)



● $V1, V^{2+}$

● $V2, V^{4+}$

$V2, V^{4+}$
triangular lattice

$V1, V^{2+}$
Kagome lattice

Matsuno et al.
JPSJ (01), PRL (93)

- Not compatible with 1:1 2+, 3+
- Valence skipping configuration, 3:1 2+($V1$), 4+($V2$)

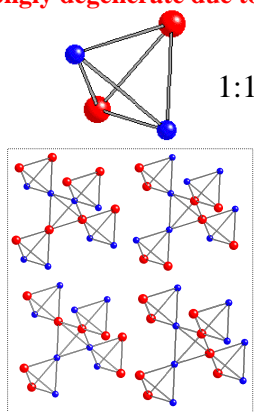
$$Al_4^{3+} V_3^{2+} V_1^{4+} O_{16}$$

(2.5- δ ($V1$), 2.5+3 δ ($V2$), $\delta=0.5$ ionic limit)

Geometrical frustration & charge ordering

1-1 order. Fe_3O_4 (Verway)
strongly degenerate due to geometry

1:1 2+&3+



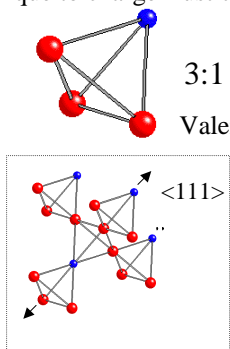
Fe₃O₄(1-1 order)
 $T_{CO}: 120K$ orbital ordering?

Anderson(56)

3-1 order. AlV_2O_4
degeneracy suppressed
 unique to charge frustration!

3:1 2+&4+

Valence skipping



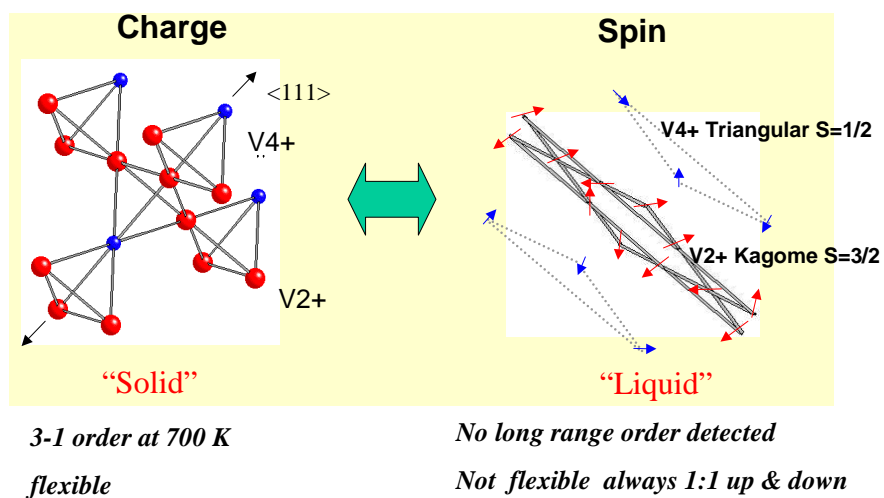
& coupled with Rhomb distortion

AlV₂O₄(3-1 order)
 $T_{CO}: 700K$ **Stable!**

⇔

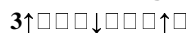
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Charge ordering in geometrically frustrated AlV_2O_4 – Contrast between spin & charge

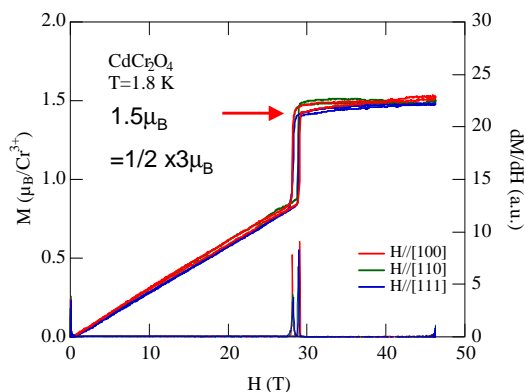
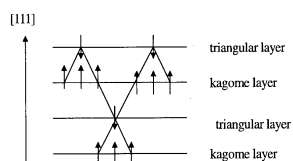


1/2 magnetization plateau in $CdCr_2O_4$ – spin version of 3-1 ordering in AlV_2O_4

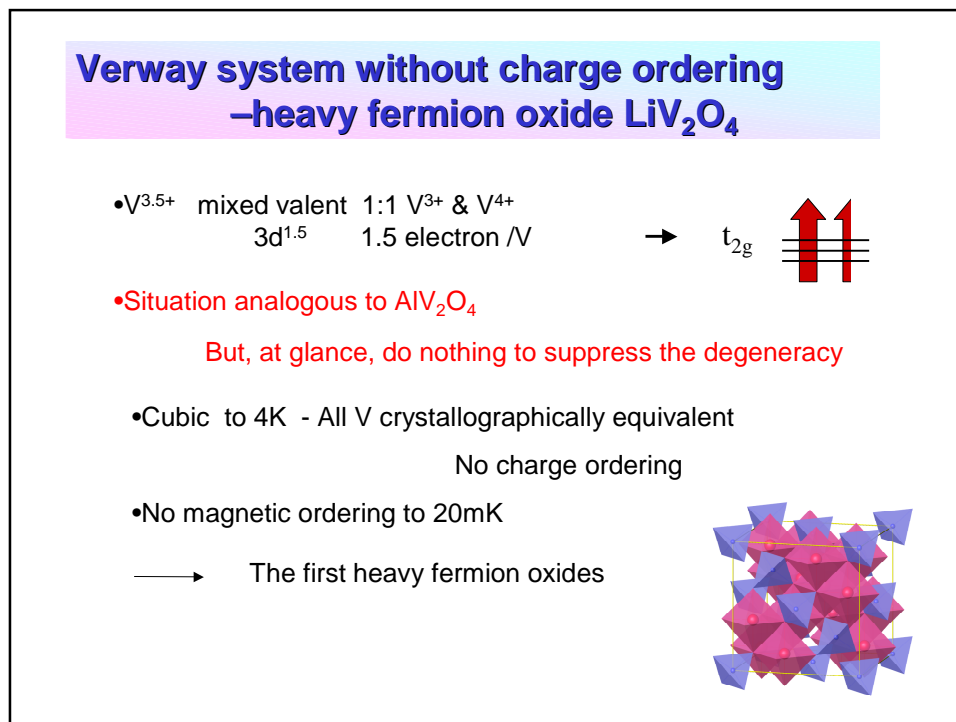
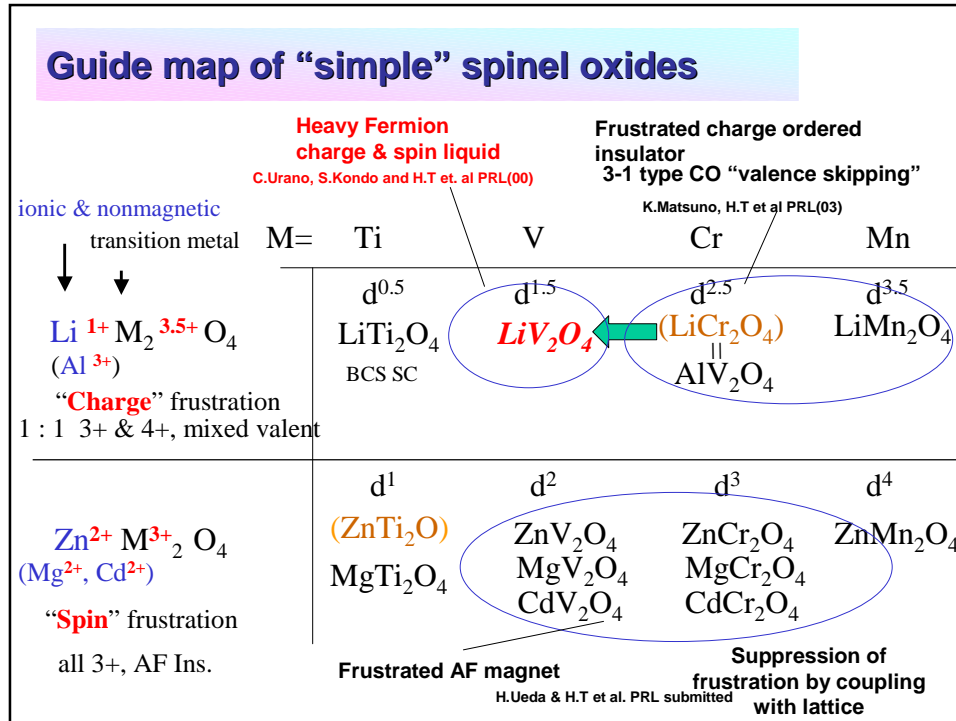
3-1 spin ordering in $CdCr_2O_4$ three-up & one-down



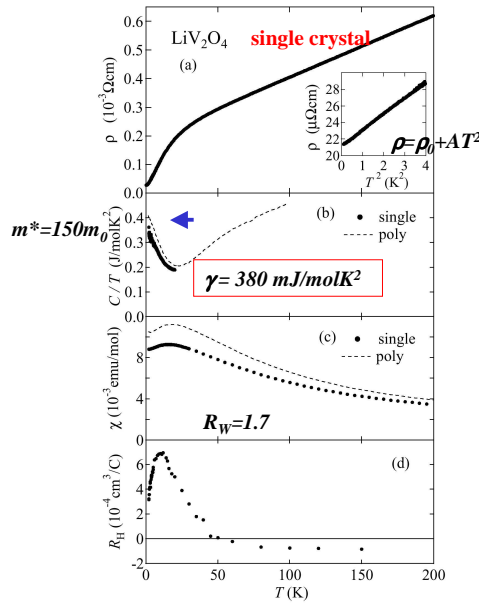
$2/(1+3) = 1/2$



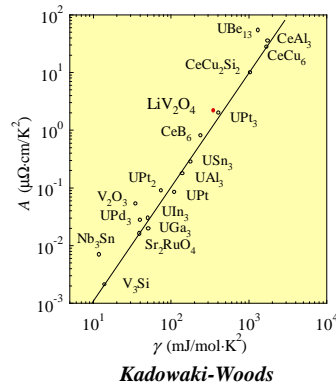
couple with Rhombedral distortion ??



Heavy Fermion oxide LiV_2O_4



C.Urano, H.T et al PRL 85, 1052 (00)
H.T et al. Mat.Sci. Eng. B63, 147 (99)



$T^* = 20-30 \text{ K}$

Origin of the heavy quasiparticle mass?

Only t_{2g} electrons involved

-Kondo Scenario? LDA+U (Anisimov *et al.*)
1.5 d-electron 0.5 e_g (itinerant)+ 1 a_{1g} (localized)
trigonal field splitting

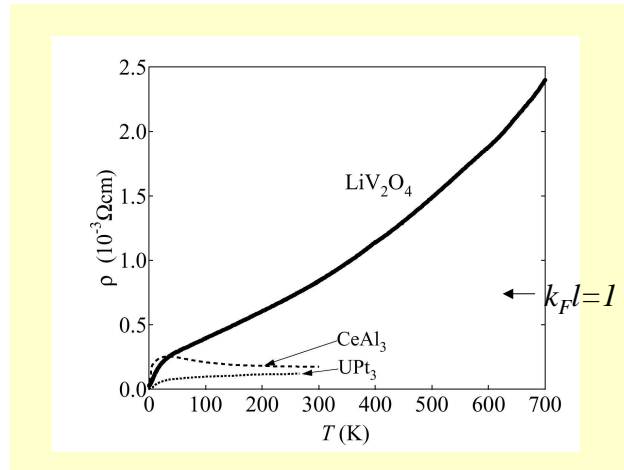
-Geometrical frustration?

A.George
P.Coleman
P.Fulde

HF state in LiV_2O_4 is located at the critical vicinity to CO state,
Where geometrical frustration plays a vital role.

“Bad metal” behavior in LiV_2O_4

analogous to TMOs near Mott(CO) transition,
indicative of close proximity to CO



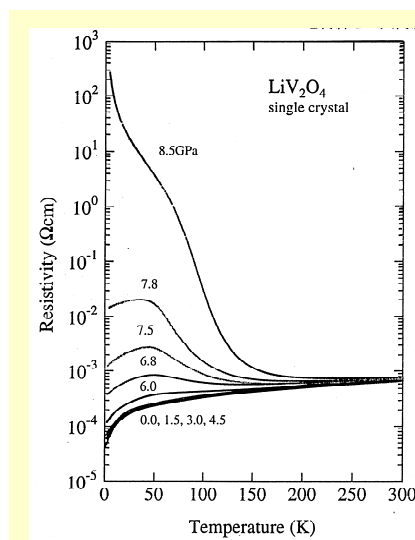
Distinct from conventional HFs

absence of resistivity saturation

Metallic behavior above IR limit

C.Urano, H.T et al PRL 85, 1052 (00)

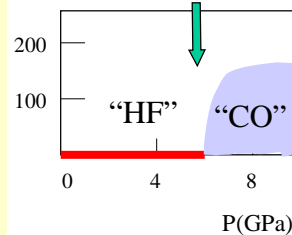
Switching from HF metal to Charge Ordered Insulator – HF is a melted COI



Pressure induced metal-insulator transition

Very likely CO transition because of the mixed valent nature (formally 1:1 $\text{V}^{3+}, \text{V}^{4+}$)

T(K) *Geometrical frustration*

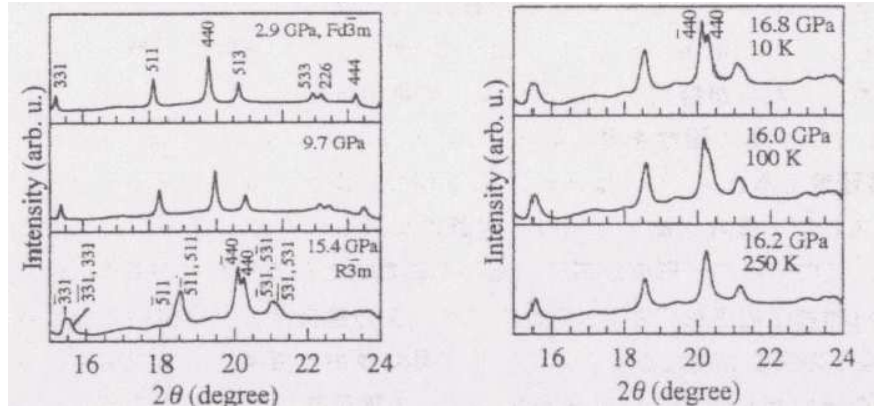


charge liquid critically close to COI but no magnetic ordering due to spin frustration

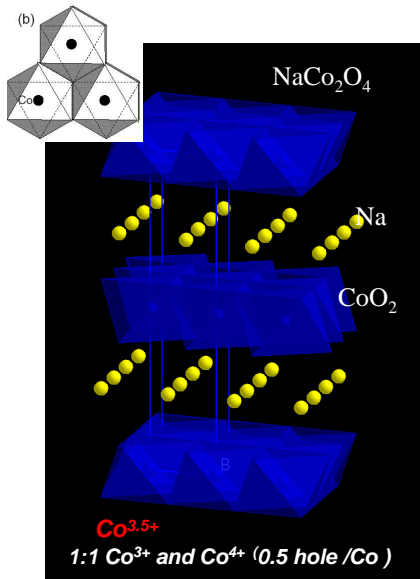
Pressure induced Cubic-Rhombedral transition

Osaka G

*HP Ins phase, possibly the same CO pattern as AlV_2O_4
V4+-V2+ or V3+-V5+?*



Thermoelectric material on triangular lattice



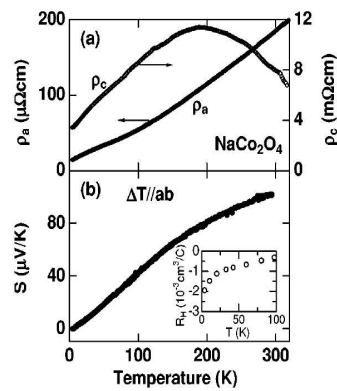
2D Co layer :triangular lattice

A large $\gamma=60\text{mJ/molK}^2$

carry large entropy

$S^2/\rho = 40 \text{ mW/K}^2\text{cm}$, $ZT = 0.1$ (RT)

Melted COI ?



Terasaki *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 56 12685

- Closely related to Watery SC

Summary

Geometrical frustration dominates the physics of spinel oxides

AlV_2O_4	Lift charge degeneracy: 3-1 ordering, a text book example of CO on the spinel (pyrochlore) lattice
CdCr_2O_4	Lift spin degeneracy: Spin JT system spin version of 3-1 ordering realized in magnetic fields as a magnetization plateau <i>3-1 ordering, a common way to suppress frustration</i>
LiV_2O_4	<i>heavy fermion ground state realized in the presence of CO instability (3-1 ordering??)</i> <i>HF formation is linked with the physics of CO on the frustrated lattice</i>