

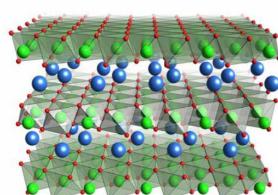
(aperçu de) la physique des oxydes de cobalt et de sodium Na_xCoO_2

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Objectifs de la présentation

1) Aperçu global du diagramme de phase de Na_xCoO_2 et de ses propriétés électroniques principales (corrélations électroniques)

2) Particularité majeure de ces composés :
mise en ordre des Na^+ et impact sur les propriétés électroniques



Acknowledgements

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• Material synthesis & crystal growth

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S. Hébert (Caen)

Search for triangular analogs of high T_c 's

Sr_2RuO_4

- metallic, multibands
- p -wave superconductor

Nickelates $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{NiO}_4$

- insulating
- Spin and charge stripes

Change Cu for Ru

Change Cu for Ni

Cu-based HTc cuprates

Cut CuO_2 planes into slices

Change \square for \triangle

Cu-based spin-ladders

- spin gap
- d -wave superconductor

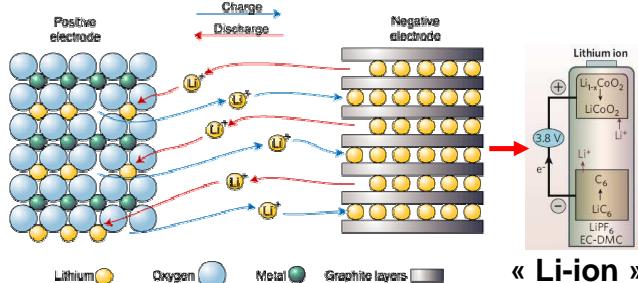
Cu-based delafossites ($\text{LaCuO}_{2.66}$, etc.)

- No superconductivity
- Insulating
- Magnetic LRO

NaxCoO_2

A_xMO_2 genealogy

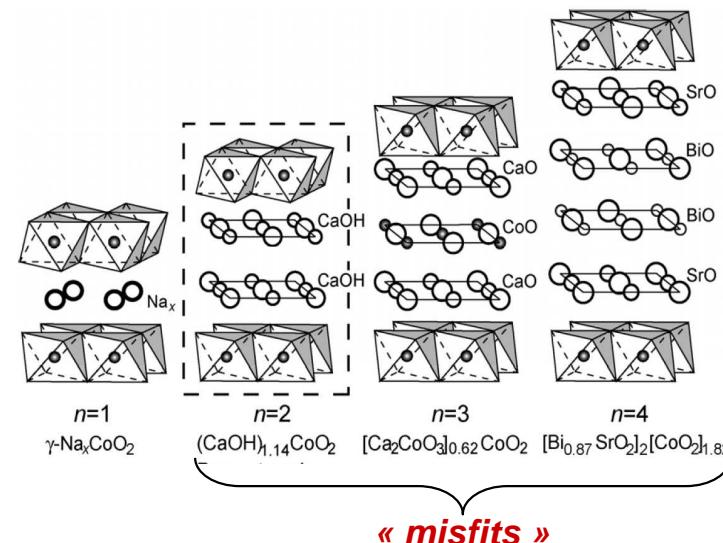
- $AxCoO_2$:
 $A = \text{Na, Li, K, Sr, Ca, etc.}$



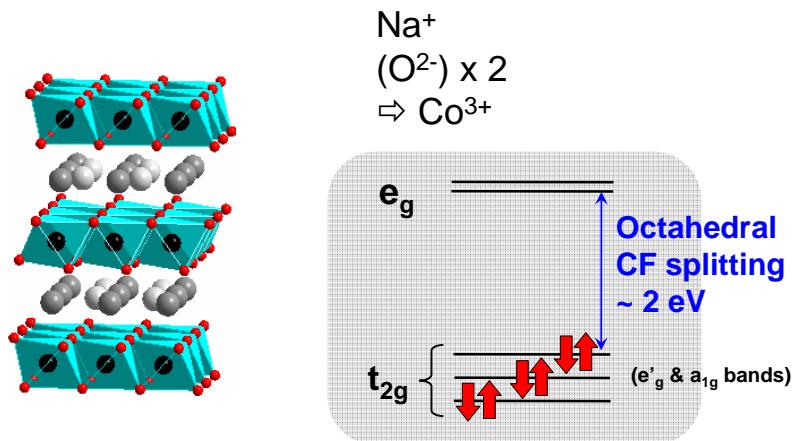
Intercalation materials, ionic conductors

- LiNiO_2 , NaNiO_2 , AgNiO_2 , magnetism
- LiVO_2 , LiMnO_2 , cathode materials

Cobaltate genealogy



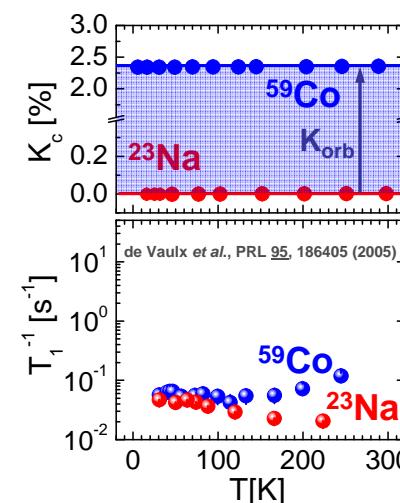
Na_1CoO_2 a band insulator ?



Na_1CoO_2 is a band insulator (Co^{3+} , $S=0$)

NMR

de Vaulx *et al.*, PRL 2005
Lang *et al.*, PRB 2005



- No spin shift (susceptibility)

$$\Rightarrow S = 0$$

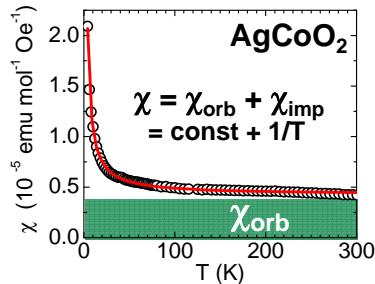
$$\Rightarrow N(E_F) = 0$$

- Extremely slow nuclear Relaxation (> 10 s)

A₁CoO₂ are all band insulators (A=Li, Na, K, Ag, etc.)

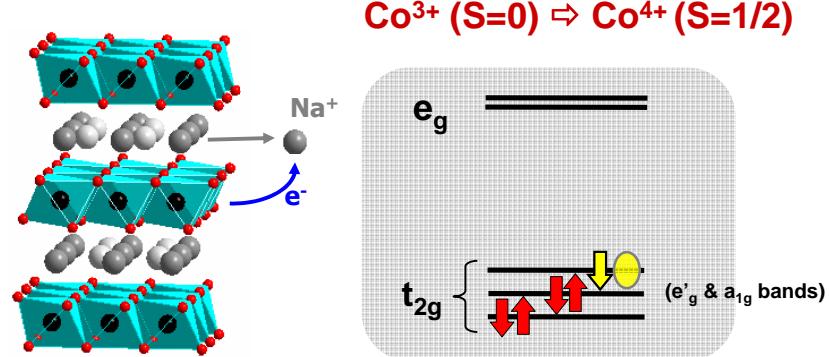
Although obtaining pure x=1 compounds can be challenging

- LiCoO₂ : Ménétrier *et al.*, Electrochim. Solid-State Lett., 11, A179 (2008)
- AgCoO₂ : Muquera *et al.*, J. Solid State Chem. 181, 2883 (2008)



H. Muquera *et al.*

Hole-doping the x=1 band insulator By removing x(Na⁺) from the layers



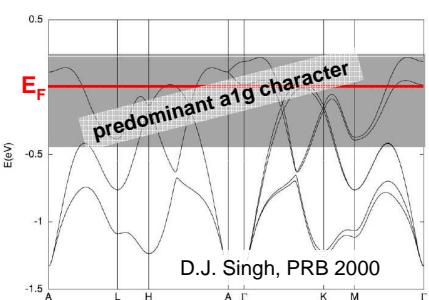
Orbital and band structure issues

Not discussed here...

- Co³⁺ intermediate spin state ?

(local symmetry breaking)

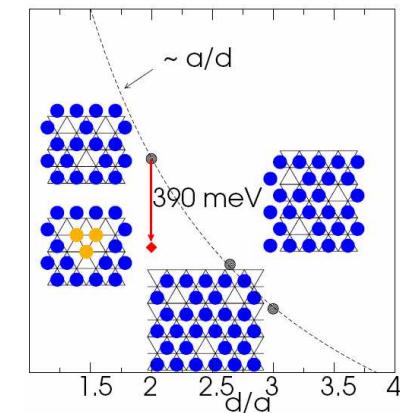
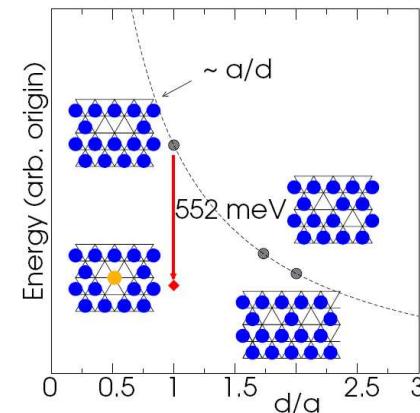
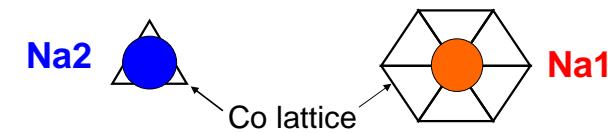
No spin-state transition ever observed in Na_xCoO₂



- a_{1g} & e'_g bands, fermiology...

- Hybridization with O_{2p} orbitals
- Orbital ordering, spin-orbit coupling ?

Two kinds of Na sites



M. Roger *et al.*, LT25 proceedings & Nature 445, 631 (2007)

Lots of material issues

- Observed phases depend on synthesis method & conditions

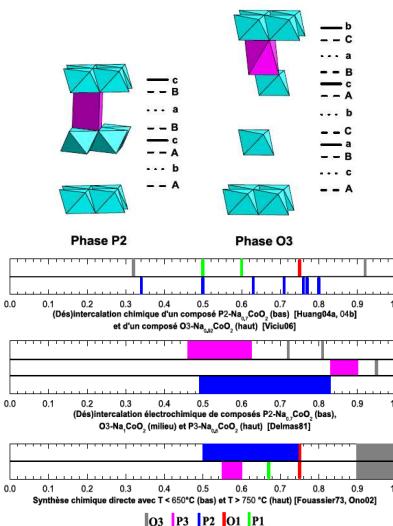
electrochemical, chemical, direct, ion-exchange, pulsed laser deposition, etc.

- Accurate measure of $x(\text{Na})$ is challenging (while physical properties can change with variation of $x \sim 1\%$)

- Surface ordering different from bulk

- Sample aging (Na losses)

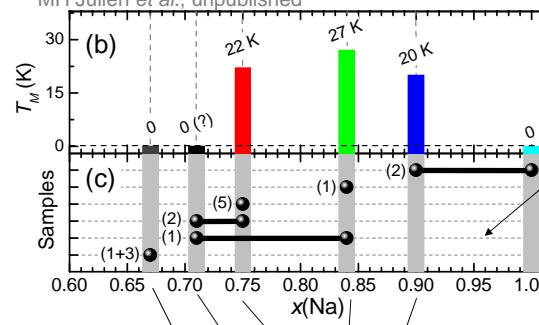
- Good samples are clean! (sharp NMR lines, Shubnikov–de Haas oscillations)



Finite number of stable phases

Ubiquitous phase separation for $0.67 < x < 0.9$

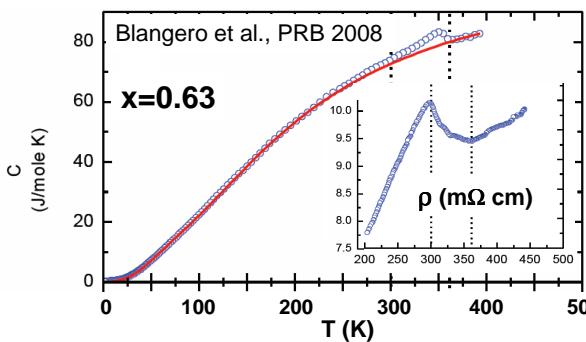
MH Julien et al., unpublished



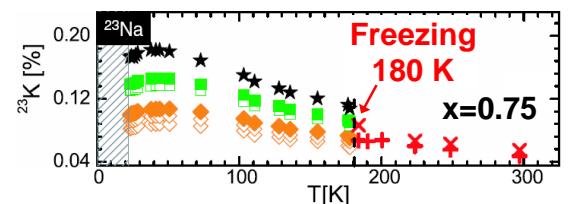
(some of the) stable phases

Na_xCoO_2
Delmas, Solid State Ionics (1981)
de Vaulx, PRL (2005)
Lee, Nature Materials (2006)
 Li_xCoO_2
Van der Ven, PRB (1998)
Ménétrier, J. Mater. Chem. (1999)
Marianetti, Nature Materials (2004)

T and x dependent Na^+ mobility



High T anomalies
in transport
measurements

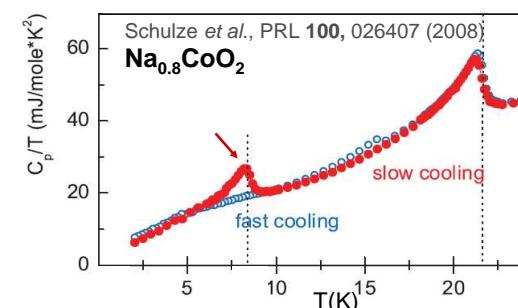


Slow dynamics
detected in NMR
down to ~180 K

Julien et al., PRL 2008
Lang et al., PRB 2008

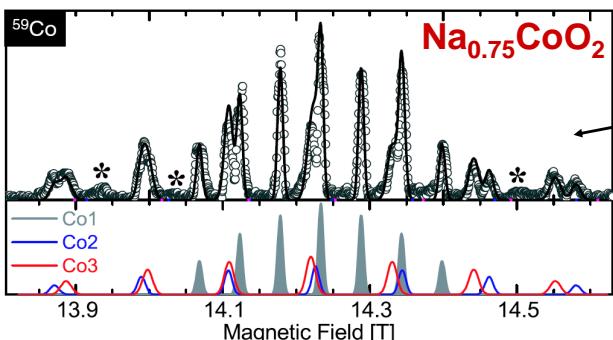
Impact of Na^+ ordering on magnetism

Apparition of a magnetic transition at 8 K,
depending on cooling protocol above ~ 200 K



Neither 1 nor 2 ^{59}Co NMR sites

3 different sites (at long time scale, $\sim 10^{-6}$ s)
30% (not 75%) of localized Co^{3+}
no Co^{4+}

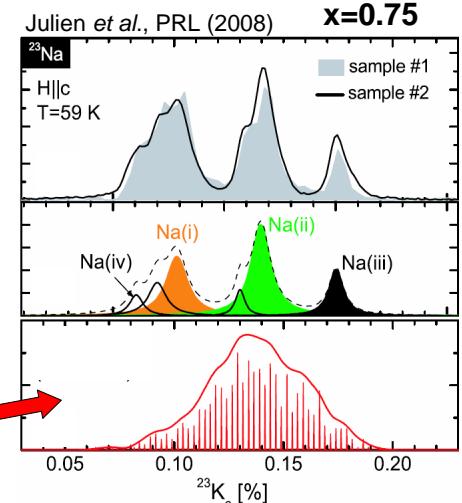
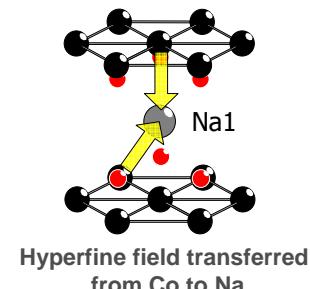


Mukhamedin, PRL (2005)
Alloul et al., EPL (2008)
Julien et al., PRL (2008)

« charge disproportionation », « charge ordering »,
« electronic texture », electron localization
But itinerant character remains!

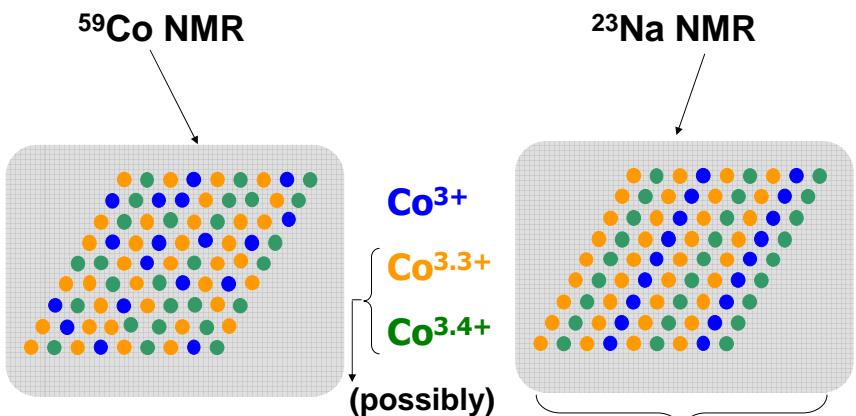
Finite number of ^{23}Na NMR lines

Demonstrates spatial ordering of the different Co states



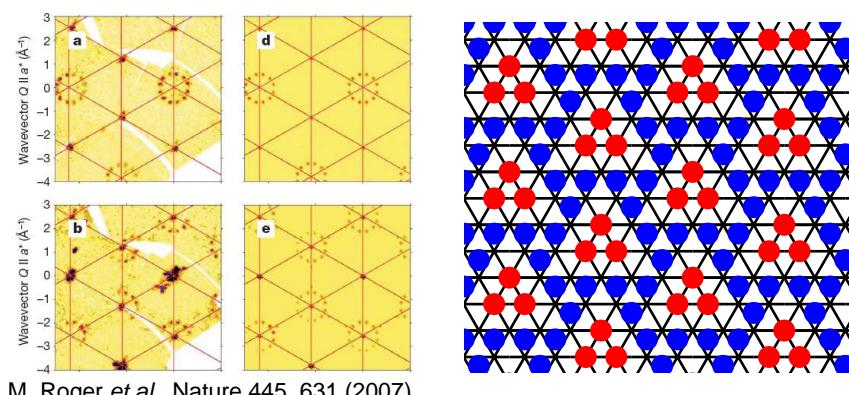
^{23}Na spectrum if Co states were at random positions (simulation)

NMR summary



Na^+ ordering is observed

e.g. vacancy clustering for $x \sim 0.8$

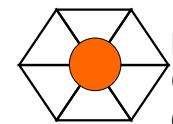


$\text{Na}1\text{-Na}2$ stripe correlations for $x < 0.7$ (G. Collin)

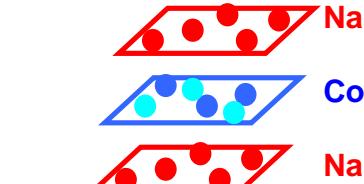
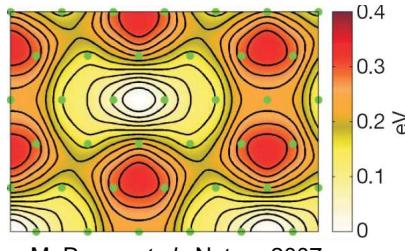
Details are controversial (accuracy of x values ?)

Electrostatic potential from Na⁺ ions

Modulates charge density in cobalt planes



Na1 should dislike Co⁴⁺ more than Co³⁺ (Coulomb repulsion)



« Texture » in cobalt planes depends on 3D stacking of Na⁺ ordering pattern

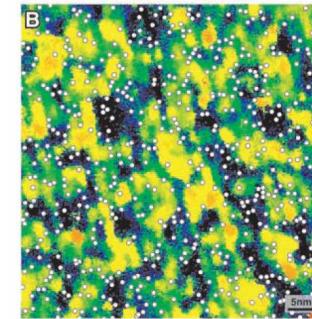
Relevance to high T_c cuprates

Dopant-induced electronic inhomogeneity

Atomic-Scale Sources and Mechanism of Nanoscale Electronic Disorder in Bi₂Sr₂CaCu₂O_{8+δ}

K. McElroy,^{1,2} Jinho Lee,¹ J. A. Slezak,¹ D.-H. Lee,² H. Eisaki,³ S. Uchida,⁴ J. C. Davis,^{1,*}

$\bar{\Delta} = 55\text{meV}$ N = 580

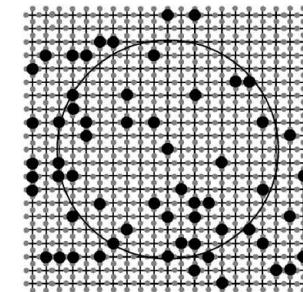


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PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 28 JANUARY 2002

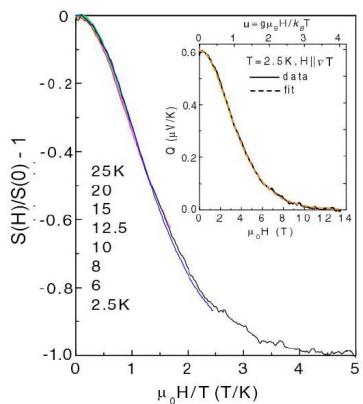
⁶³Cu NQR Evidence for Spatial Variation of Hole Concentration in La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO₄

P. M. Singer, A. W. Hunt, and T. Imai

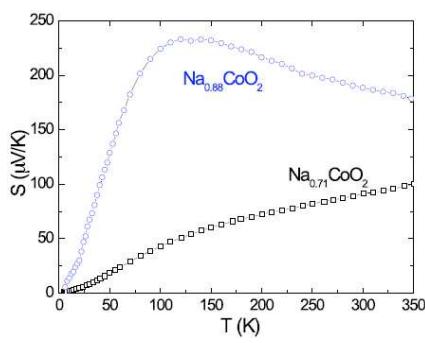


High values of the thermoelectric power

Magnetic field dependent



Strongest at the highest x(Na)



Lee et al, Nature Materials (2006)

Wang et al., Nature (2003)

Magnetic properties / electron correlations are involved

Magnetic properties

- Curie-Weiss bulk magnetization

- Magnetic transitions

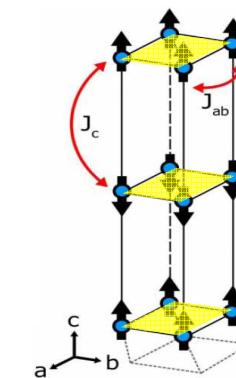
Ex: $T_M = 22\text{ K}$ for $x = 0.75$

None for $x = 0.67$ and $x = 0.71$

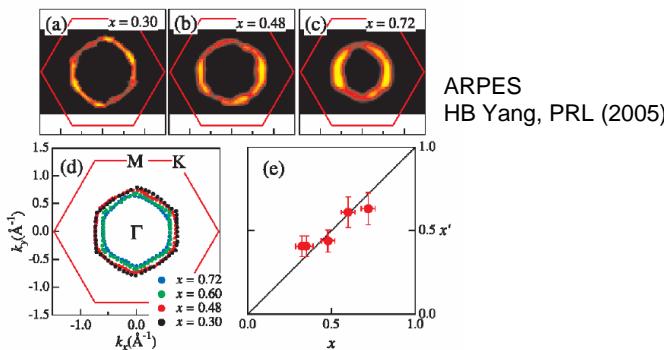
- A-type antiferromagnet

Bayrakci PRL (2005), Helme PRL (2005)

FM planes \Rightarrow no frustration \Rightarrow too bad...



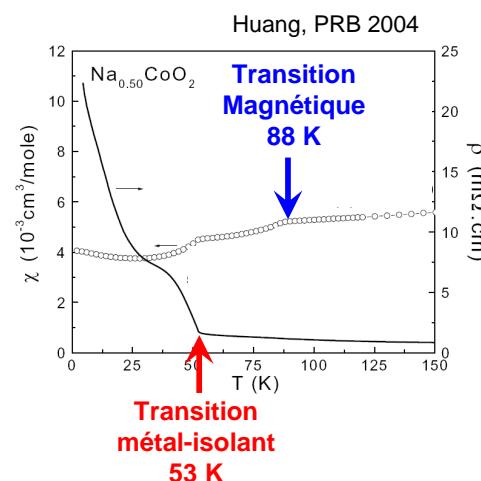
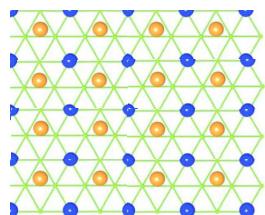
Signature of electron correlations



$t < 0$ and $|t| \sim 10$ meV (bandwidth < 100 meV)
 $U \sim 2 - 4$ eV

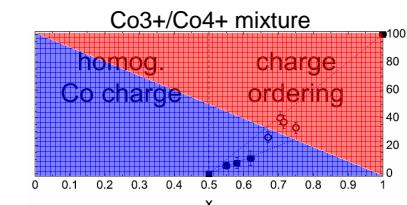
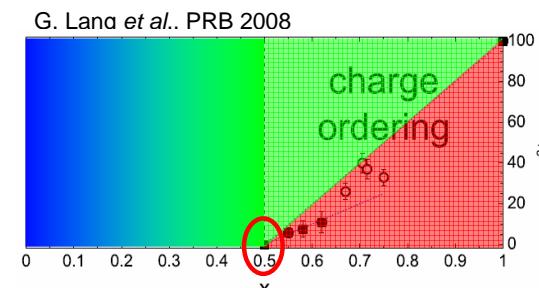
As well as in transport measurements
(T-linear resistivity, $m^*/m \sim 3 - 10$)

$\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{CoO}_2$

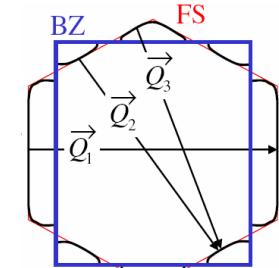


Fermi surface instability at $x=0.5$

Very small charge differentiation

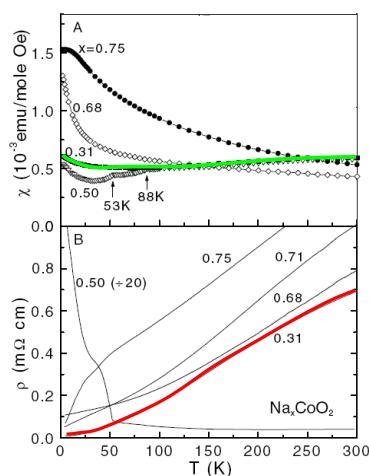


J. Bobroff et al., PRL 2006



Na order
⇒ FS reconstruction
⇒ Nesting
⇒ Transition

Weak electron correlation at $x = 0.3$



Pauli-like χ_{spin}

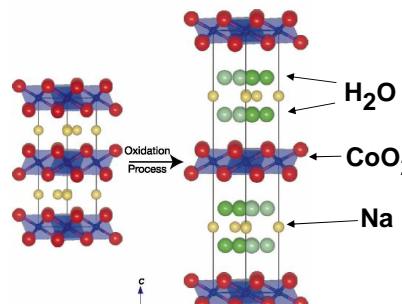
$\rho \propto T^2$ below ~ 30 K

Fermi liquid ?

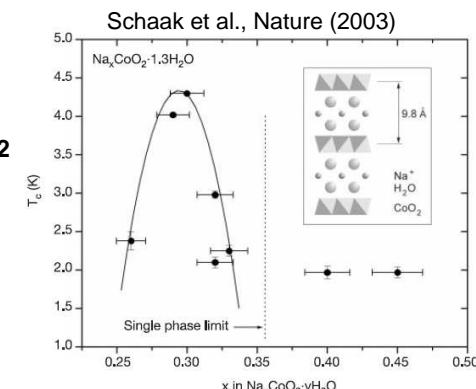
Foo et al., PRL (2004)

Water-induced superconductivity

in $\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{CoO}_2 \cdot y\text{H}_2\text{O}$



Takada et al., Nature (2003)

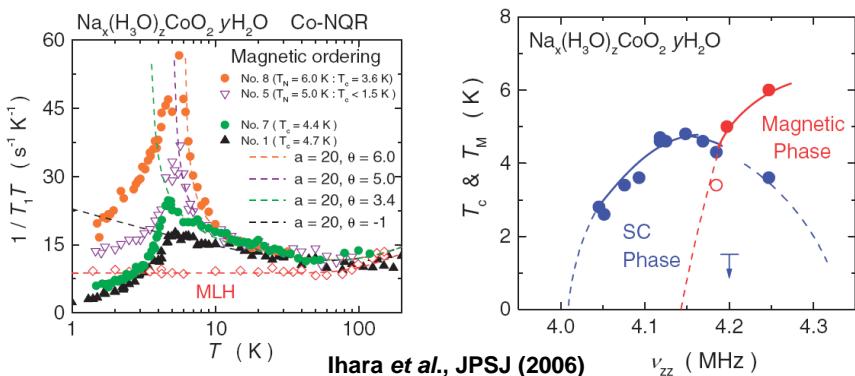


T_c max = 4.8 K

Unconventional superconductivity ?

- Type II
- Short coherence length (~100 Angstrom)
- Singlet pairing
- Pairing symmetry ?

AFM spin fluctuations and proximity to magnetic ordering



Ihara et al., JPSJ (2006)

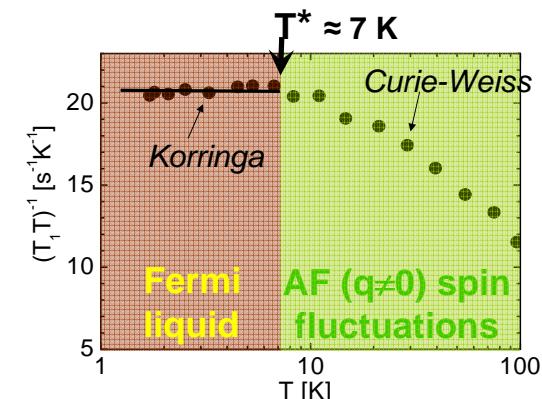
The $x = 0$ limit



CoO_2 is *not* a Mott insulator

But a correlated metal

${}^{59}\text{Co}$ NMR :
de Vaulx et al., PRL 2007



(Metal-insulator) Mott transition occurs for
 $U/t \approx 10-12$ on the triangular lattice

Na_xCoO_2 summary

- Carrier concentration can be varied over a wide range (1 elect./cell)

- Electron correlations throughout the phase diagram

- Unexpectedly, correlations are strongest at high Na concentrations

- Correlations can be enhanced by Na^+ potential

- Limited analogy with high T_c 's

