## From Electrons Paired











-- A Personal Journey in Superconductivity ---- IBM, EPRI, and Beyond --

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# AGING IBM PENSIONER

IBM Almaden Research Center 650 Harry Road San Jose, CA ARC Auditorium 10:30AM – 11:30AM Friday, 6 May 2011



A DFT (LDA+U) Study of the Electronic Properties of Square-Planar Coordinated Copper Monoxide Structures



Back to the Future... My IBM SJRL Day Job of the 60s and 70s... Electronic Structure Calculations



After Imada, et al, RMP 70, 1039 (1998)

### Cubic Rocksalt TMOs

**Direct and Reciprocal Lattices** 



Cubic Rocksalt Divalent TMOs		
TMO	3d Config	Properties
MnO	5	MH-CTI (5.6)
FeO	6	MH-CTI (5.9)
CoO	7	MH-CTI (6.3)
NiO	8	MH-CTI (6.5)
CuO	9 <b>X</b>	X Doesn't Exist!

See Imada, Fujimore, Tokura, RPM 70 (1988) Why Not?

#### Tenorite (Monoclinic CuO)



#### Can Application of DFT (LDA+U) Help Unravel the Cubic Rocksalt CuO Enigma?

...Let's see...

# DFT & (LDA + U)

$$E_{\text{LDA+U}}\left[n(\mathbf{r})\right] = E_{\text{LDA}}\left[n(\mathbf{r})\right] + E_{\text{HUB}}\left[\left\{n_m^{l\sigma}\right\}\right] - E_{\text{DC}}\left[\left\{n^{l\sigma}\right\}\right]$$

• Implemented in LMTO by Anisimov, et al, JPCM 2, 3973 (1990)

- Applied to NiO, MnO, FeO, CoO and La<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4</sub>

- Plane-Wave Pseudopotential Implementation by Cococcioni and de Gironcoli, PRB 71, 035105 (2005)
  - Applied to FeO and NiO
  - Download open-source package from http://www.pwscf.org

# **Proxy Structures** A New Materials Science Discipline

- You want to understand the basic physics of some given system...(e.g., HTSCs)
- So try to synthesize a simple proxy...(e.g., rocksalt CuO)
- But "Mother Nature" won't "agree." (She's a woman!)
- However, you can build it in a computer and perform various "ab initio" experiments.
- And from such, numerically calculate "observables," e.g., "response functions."
- Try it out...it's lots of fun! And perhaps you'll discover something as well!

## <u>Tools</u>

#### **QUANTUM-ESPRESSO** Suite of Codes

DFT (LDA+U) plus electron-phonon

Graphics by Tone Kolalj (XCrysDen)

www.quantum-espresso.org

"Dial-in" Parameters

 $G^2 = 40 Ry$   $\rho = 320 Ry$ 

Convergence ≤ 10<sup>-6</sup> Ry

"Smearing" = Methfessel-Paxton

Psuedopotentials: Ultrasoft, XC = Perdew-Zunger Cu: 3d<sup>9</sup>4s<sup>2</sup> O: 2s<sup>2</sup>2p<sup>4</sup>

#### Hardware

3.33 GHz Intel Core i7 – 12 GB+ (Gaming Box – Home Built)

#### Software

Linux Kubuntu



Viva Italia!

### Rocksalt CuO Band Widths U = 0 eV



Band Widths

#### Rocksalt CuO Fermiology (U = 0 eV) (8 Bands Combined)



#### Non-Magnetic (U = 0) Cubic Rocksalt CuO -- Electron-Phonon Properties --



# Are There Phonons w/ High-Tc in YBCO?



Fig. 38: Pintschovius and Reichardt, in Furrer, ISBN 0-7923-5226-2

## Yes -- They're There!



Harashima, et al., Physica C263, 257 (1996)

#### Macfarlane, Rosen, Seki, SSC 63, 831 (1987)





#### Copper and Oxygen Isotope Effects in La<sub>2-x</sub>Sr<sub>x</sub>CuO<sub>4</sub>



# **Proto-TMO AF-II Rocksalt Unit Cell**



## Proto-TMO AF-II Rocksalt



# The Answer(s) !





Ground State Energy vs c/a & U(ev)



t-CuO Density-of-States



### <u>References</u>

The International Conference on Theoretical Physics 'Dubna-Nano2008'

Journal of Physics: Conference Series 129 (2008) 012042

doi:10.1088/1742-6596/129/1/012042

**IOP** Publishing

#### Electronic properties of rocksalt copper monoxide: A proxy structure for high temperature superconductivity

Paul M. Grant<sup>\*</sup>

W2AGZ Technologies

#### "Electronic Properties of Rocksalt Copper Monoxide,"

APS MAR09-2008-006217, P. M. Grant, Pittsburgh (2009)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 79, 195122 (2009)

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#### Tetragonal CuO: End member of the 3d transition metal monoxides

Wolter Siemons,<sup>1,2</sup> Gertjan Koster,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Dave H. A. Blank,<sup>1</sup> Robert H. Hammond,<sup>2</sup> Theodore H. Geballe,<sup>2</sup> and Malcolm R. Beasley<sup>2</sup>

#### **The Great Quantum Conundrum**



#### **The Colossal Quantum Conundrum**







#### Hubbard (eV)

U = 6



0.00



+0.15







-0.15







3

#### **The Colossal Quantum Conundrum**

T U~U<sub>0</sub> exp(- $\alpha g$ ),  $g < g^*$ ; 0,  $g > g^*$ 



Somewhere in here there has to be "BCS-like" pairing!

## **Shakes or Spins or Both?**

Are They Copacetic, Competitive...or...

... just another Conundrum?

### What formalism is the HTSC analogy to Migdal-Eliashberg-McMillan?

(In other words, how do I calculate the value of the BCS gap?)

- Original Strong Coupling, Eliashberg (JETP, 1960), McMillan (PR, 1968)
- Generalized Linhard Response Function (RPA + fluctuations) *Hu and* O'Connell (PRB 1989)
- Dielectric Response Function Kirznits, Maximov, Khomskii (JLTP 1972)

# McMillan Strong Coupling

(Computationally implemented by Wierzbowska, et al., cond-mat/0504077, 2006)

$$T_{c} = \frac{\Theta}{1.45} \exp\left[-\frac{1.04(1+\lambda)}{\lambda-\mu^{*}(1+0.62\lambda)}\right].$$
(18) What's the HTSC equivalent?  
$$\lambda = 2 \int \frac{d\omega \, \alpha^{2}(\omega) F(\omega)}{\omega} = \frac{N(0)(g^{2})}{M\langle\omega^{2}\rangle},$$
(23)

$$\alpha^{2}(\omega)F(\omega) = \int_{S} \frac{d^{2}p}{v_{F}} \int_{S'} \frac{d^{2}p'}{(2\pi\hbar)^{3}v_{F'}} \sum_{r} g_{pp'r} \delta(\omega - \omega_{p-p'r}) \int_{S} \frac{d^{2}p}{v_{F}}, \qquad (19)$$

where the integral  $\int d^2 p$  is taken over the Fermi surface and the electron-phonon matrix elements are given by<sup>14</sup>  $q = (\hbar/2MNV_{ch} + )^{1/2} (\hbar/2)^{1/2} (\hbar/$ 

$$g_{pp'\nu} = (\hbar/2MNV\omega_{p'\nu})^{1/2} \mathcal{G}_{\nu}(p, p'), \qquad (20)$$

where  $\mathfrak{s}_{\mathfrak{s}}(pp')$  is the electronic matrix element of the change in the crystal potential  $\mathfrak{U}$  as one atom is moved:

$$\mathcal{G}_{\nu}(pp') = \int \psi_{p}^{*}(\varepsilon_{p-p'\nu} \nabla \mathfrak{U}) \psi_{p'} d\mathbf{r}.$$
(21)



# **Dielectric Response Function**

$$G(\mathbf{k}, i\omega_n) = 1/(i\omega_n - \xi_k)$$

$$F(\mathbf{p}, i\omega_n) = -G(\mathbf{p}, i\omega_n)G(-\mathbf{p}, -i\omega_n)T_c \sum_{\mathbf{m}} \int [d^3k/(2\pi)^3]$$

$$\times V(\mathbf{p} - \mathbf{k}, i\omega_n - i\omega_m)F(\mathbf{k}, i\omega_m)$$

$$4\pi e^2 \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dE^2 o(\mathbf{p}, E) \right]$$

$$V(\mathbf{q}, i\omega_n) = \frac{4\pi e^2}{q^2} \left[ 1 - \int_0^\infty \frac{dE^2 \rho(\mathbf{q}, E)}{\omega_n^2 + E^2} \right]$$

In principle, KMK can calculate the BCS gap for general "bosonic" fields, be they phonons, magnons, spin-ons, excitons, plasmons...or morons!

KMK (1972)

# **Bottom Line**

Can studying CuO proxies with DFT + LDA+U + phonons + spins provide insight into the origins of High-T<sub>c</sub>? I say "Yes," but... Size Matters... ...and I need a...

BIGGER COMPUTER!

## **Other CuO Proxy Structures**

## - Studies in Progress -



a = b = 3.905 Å c = 6 x 3.905 = 23.43 Å 2 CuO segments per quadrant 16 Å between tubes









### -- OK...Enough Already !

### -- That's all for now !

-- But Stayed Tuned...