# Mott criticality studied by dilatometry under <sup>4</sup>He-gas pressure on the quasi-2D organic charge-transfer salts κ-(BEDT-TTF)<sub>2</sub>X

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## acknowledgement

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## outline

- organic charge-transfer salts
- phase diagrams
- spin-liquid:  $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>3</sub>
- Mott criticality in  $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>X
- valence-bond-solid: EtMe<sub>3</sub>P[Pd(dmit)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>
- summary and outlook

## **κ-(BEDT-TTF)**<sub>2</sub>X: charge-transfer salts



•  $\kappa$ -phase: "effective dimer model": 1 hole/ dimer  $\Rightarrow$  half-filled conduction band • W ~ U<sub>eff</sub>: correlated  $\pi$  electrons

## Mott criticality at the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order end-point (P<sub>0</sub>, T<sub>0</sub>)



Lefebvre et al., PRL 85, 5420 (00)

## effect-of-frustration



t' /t	κ-(ET) <sub>2</sub> Cu[N(CN) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl	κ-(ET) <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> (CN) <sub>3</sub>
<b>ext. Hückel calc.</b> Mori <i>et al.</i> , Chem. Soc. Jpn. <b>72</b> , 179 (99) Komatsu <i>et al.</i> , JPSJ <b>65</b> , 1340 (96)	0.72	1.06
<i>ab initio calc.</i> Kandpal <i>et al.</i> , PRL <b>103</b> , 067004 (09) Nakamura <i>et al.</i> , JPSJ <b>78</b> , 083710 (09)	0.44	~ 0.8

## spin-liquid - κ-(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>3</sub>



## **Mott universality**

 $\begin{array}{l} (\mathsf{V}_{1\text{-x}}\mathsf{Cr}_{\mathsf{x}})_2\mathsf{O}_3 \\ \text{crossover:} \ \delta, \ \beta, \ \gamma = 3, \ 0.5, \ 1 \ (\text{mean field values}) \\ \delta, \ \beta, \ \gamma = 4.81, \ 0.34, \ 1 \ (3D \ \text{lsing}) \\ \end{array} \\ \Longrightarrow \text{ liquid-gas universality (3D \ \text{lsing})}$ 

Limelette et al., Science 302, 89 (03)

DMFT of the Hubbard model: an order parameter for the finite temperature Mott end point

 $\Rightarrow$  Ising universality class, similar to the liquid-vapor transition

Castellani *et al.*, PRL **43**, 1957 (79) Kotliar *et al.*, PRL **84**, 5180 (00)





controversy: κ-(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]Cl

conductivity data of  $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]CI: coupling to the energy density dominates  $\Rightarrow$  consistent with 2D Ising universality class

Papanikolaou et al., PRL 100, 026408 (08)

## Mott criticality at the $2^{nd}$ -order end-point (P<sub>0</sub>, T<sub>0</sub>)



## thermal expansion measurements under He-gas pressure



#### experimental specifications

- high-resolution capacitive dilatometer  $(5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ Å})$
- temperature range 1.4 293 K
- hydrostatic pressure range 0 250 MPa (helium as a pressure transmitting medium)
- magnetic field range 0 14 T

## pressure cell and dilatometer

1 dilatometer cell

2 n-InSb pressure gauge ( $\Delta P = \pm 0.1 \text{ MPa}$ )

3 seal

4 plug with electrical feed-throughs

5 retaining screw

Thermal expansion coefficient,

$$\alpha_i = \frac{1}{l_i} \left(\frac{\partial l_i}{\partial T}\right)_P$$

- constant-pressure condition

- <sup>4</sup>He (pressure-transmitting medium): gas/ liquid phase
- pressure reservoirs: gas bottle/ compressor with micropump
  - R. S. Manna, PhD thesis (12)

R. S. Manna et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 83, 085111 (12)



## Mott criticality at the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order end-point (P<sub>0</sub>, T<sub>0</sub>)



Lefebvre et al., PRL 85, 5420 (00)

### **κ-D8-Br at finite pressure**

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-  $T_g$  pressure independent, cf. Müller *et al.*, PRB (02) -  $T_{MI}$  (1<sup>st</sup>-order) consistent with literature

- effect of pressure on T<sup>\*</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup>-order)



## **κ-D8-Br at finite pressure**



after subtracting a T-linear

consistent with 2D Ising universality class

## Mott criticality at the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order end-point (P<sub>0</sub>, T<sub>0</sub>)



Lefebvre et al., PRL 85, 5420 (00)

## **κ-Cl at finite pressure**

 $T(\mathbf{K})$ 





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## **κ-Cl at finite pressure**



crossover from 2D Ising ( $\kappa \approx 0.5$ ) to mean-field ( $\kappa \approx 0.3$ ) criticality? Zacharias *et al.*, PRL **109**, 176401 (12)

### summary

• Thermal expansion measurements under <sup>4</sup>He-gas pressure have been performed on  $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>X for probing critical fluctuations.

• data of  $\kappa$ -D8-Br and  $\kappa$ -CI:

- Mott critical end point is consistent with 2D Ising universality class.

### outlook

- sample-to-sample variations
- determination of  $P_c \Rightarrow \kappa = (1 \beta)/(\beta + \gamma)$
- measurement in the insulating (low-P) regime  $\Rightarrow$  sign change in  $\alpha$  !
- role of lattice degrees of freedom

# $EtMe_{3}X[Pd(dmit)_{2}]_{2}(X = P/Sb)$



Itou *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **6**, 673 (10) K. Kanoda and R. Kato, Annu. Rev. Condens. Matter Phys. **2**, 167 (11)

## EtMe<sub>3</sub>X[Pd(dmit)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> – ground state properties





- strongly anisotropic lattice distortions accompanying the formation of VBS - weak in-plane  $\alpha_a$  vs  $\alpha_c$  anisotropy for T > T<sub>VBS</sub> suggests dominant contribution from EtMe<sub>3</sub>P cations

### anomalous thermal expansion in the paramagnetic region



Assumptions:  $\alpha_a = \alpha^{lat}_a + \alpha^{mag}_a$   $\alpha_c = \alpha^{lat}_c + \alpha^{mag}_c$   $\alpha^{lat}_c = A\alpha^{lat}_a$  $\alpha^{mag}_c = B\alpha^{mag}_a$ 

anomalous contribution at  $T^{\alpha}_{max}$   $\approx$  40 K due to the short-range afm correlation, cf.  $T^{\chi}_{max}$  = 70 K

R. S. Manna *et al.*, PRB 89, 045113 (14)

## variation of $T_{\max}^{\chi}/T_{\max}^{\alpha} = T_{\max}^{\chi}/T_{\max}^{C}$ for low-D quantum magnets with different degree of frustration

- for 2D triangular lattice S =  $\frac{1}{2}$  Heisenberg afm ~ 1
- for  $Cs_2CuBr_4$ : J'/J = 0.74
- for  $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>3</sub>: J'J = 0.64 0.74

Shimizu *et al.*, PRL **91**, 107001 (03) R. S. Manna et al., PRL 104, 016403 (10)

• for 1D uniform S =  $\frac{1}{2}$  Heisenberg chain ~ 1.34, for alternating exchange variant ~ 3 and including next-nearest-neighbor interactions  $\sim 3.6$ 

> Klümper, Eur. Phys. J. B 5, 677 (98) Bühler et al., PRB 64, 024428 (01)

present case:  $T_{max}^{\chi}/T_{max}^{\alpha} \approx 1.7 - 2.3$  $\Rightarrow$  suggests a more anisotropic (quasi-1D) scenario

0.0+ 0.0 k\_T/J 24

1.0

0.5

 $\mathsf{T^C}_{\mathsf{max}}$ 

, Τ<sup>χ</sup><sub>max</sub>

 $\mathsf{T}^{\alpha}_{\text{max}}$ 

κ-(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>(CN)

100 T (K)

T<sup>x</sup>max

150

200

0.15

 $\chi J/Ng^2\mu_{\scriptscriptstyle B}^2$ 

0.10

1.5

50

 $\chi$  (10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>)

40

 $\alpha_b^{(10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1})}$ 

0.4

C/Nk<sub>B</sub>

**f''** 

0.2-

### lattice distortion at VBS transition



- distinct and strongly anisotropic second-order phase transition into the low-T VBS phase at 25  $\rm K$ 

- upon cooling *c*-axis (in-plane) contracts, *a*-axis (in-plane) expands while the dominant effect is along the *b*-axis (out-of-plane) which expands

 $\Rightarrow$  pressure dependency comes from the out-of-plane component as the in-plane pressure effects cancel each other out (- 4.2 K/100 MPa) <sup>25</sup>

### summary

- valence-bond-solid,  $EtMe_3P[Pd(dmit)_2]_2$ 
  - An anomalous contribution at  $T^{\alpha}_{max}\approx 40$  K is found and assigned to the short-range afm correlations.
  - $T_{max}^{\chi}/T_{max}^{\alpha} \approx 1.7$  2.3 seems incompatible with quasi-2D triangular lattice (~ 1), rather compatible with a quasi-1D more anisotropic scenario.

### outlook

- perform similar experiments for the spin-liquid (dmit-Sb) compound
- study the Mott criticality in dmit-salts vs ET-based compounds ?!

## Thank you for your attention !



closer to  $P_0$ : occurrence of double-peak structure, interference of another phase transition (intrinsic) or bicrystal (extrinsic)?

### coupling to the lattice degrees of freedom

Zacharias et al., PRL 109, 176401 (12)

Approaching (P<sub>0</sub>,T<sub>0</sub>): crossover to mean-field criticality ( $\kappa_{MF}$  = 0.33)



 $\kappa$ -(d8-ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]Cl

 $\kappa$ -(d8-ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu[N(CN)<sub>2</sub>]Br

sample-to-sample dependency





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## high-resolution dilatometry





30 mm

resolution:  $\Delta I / I \sim 10^{-10}$  (for I = 10 mm)

Thermal expansion coefficient, 
$$\alpha_i = \frac{1}{l_i} (\frac{\partial l_i}{\partial T})_p$$

### **experimental limitation**



Langer, J. Phys. Chem. Solids **21**, 122 (61)

F. Pobell, *Matter and Methods at Low Temperatures*, Springer

## **Phase diagrams**



Lefebvre et al., PRL 85, 5420 (00)

 $\kappa$ -(ET)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>3</sub>



no long-range magnetic order down to 32 mK

Kurosaki *et al.*, PRL **95**, 177001 (05) Shimizu *et al.*, PRL **91**, 107001 (03)

### **low-energy excitations**



'gapless spinons with a Fermi surface'

Yamashita et al., Nat. Phys. 4, 459 (08)

Specific heat

Thermal conductivity



'spin gap of  $\Delta$  = 0.46 K ~ J/500'

Yamashita *et al.*, Nat. Phys. **5**, 44 (09) 33

## low-energy excitations: EtMe<sub>3</sub>Sb[Pd(dmit)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>



Specific heat

Thermal conductivity

Yamashita et al., Nat. Commun. 2, 275 (11)

Yamashita et al., Science 328, 1246 (10)

Exponent	$Ising_2$	$Ising_3$	XY <sub>3</sub>	$\operatorname{Heisenberg}_3$
$\alpha$	$0(\log)$	0.110(1)	-0.015	-0.10
$\beta$	1/8	0.3265(3)	0.35	0.36
$\gamma$	7/4	1.2372(5)	1.32	1.39
δ	15	4.789(2)	4.78	5.11

 $C(t) \propto |t|^{-\alpha}$  $m(t) \propto (-t)^{\beta}, t \le 0$  $\chi(t) \propto |t|^{-\gamma}$ 

C (t) = sp. Heat m(t) = spontaneous magnetization  $\chi(t)$  = mag. Susceptibility m(h) = critical isotherm

 $m(h) \propto |h|^{1/\delta} sgn(h), t = 0$ 



Kagawa *et al*., Nature **436**, 534 (05)

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- Lattice coupling changes the critical properties of the electronic system drastically so that eventually Landau mean-field behavior (corresponding to  $m_f = 0.33$ ) prevails close to the Mott critical end point.

-  $\kappa$ -(BEDT-TTF)<sub>2</sub>X systems yields a width of the Landau critical regime  $\Delta T_0/T_0$  of about 8%, which is experimentally accessible the flattening of the preliminary  $\alpha_{max}$  vs (p - p<sub>0</sub>) data might indicate such a crossover behavior.

Zacharias et al., PRL 109, 176401 (12)

Crossover from 2D Ising ( $\kappa \approx 0.5$ ) to mean-field ( $\kappa \approx 0.3$ ) criticality? Zacharias *et al.*, PRL **109**, 176401 (12)

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