

Title: Topological phases in Kitaev Materials

Speakers: Yong-Baek Kim

Collection: Quantum Matter: Emergence & Entanglement 3

Date: April 25, 2019 - 2:45 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/19040115>

Abstract: We discuss recent progress in theory and experiment on emergent topological phases in Kitaev materials. Here the competition between different anisotropic spin-exchange interactions may lead to a number of exotic phases of matter. We investigate possible emergence of quantum spin liquid, topological magnons, and topological superconductivity in two and three dimensional systems. We make connections to existing and future experiments.

Topological Phases in Kitaev Materials

Yong Baek Kim
University of Toronto



CIFAR



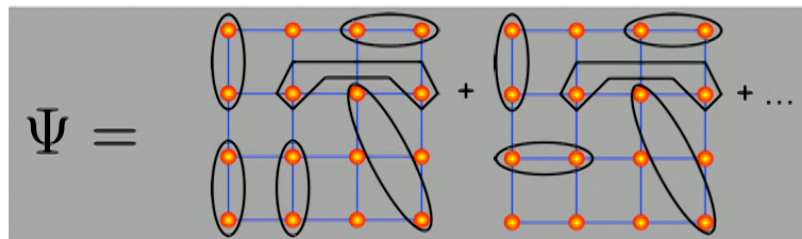
Perimeter Institute
April 25, 2019

Quantum Spin Liquids

Quantum Paramagnet $\langle S \rangle = 0$

Correlated insulator with no broken translational symmetry

Resonating Valence Bond state (RVB);
Superposition of Valence Bond coverings



P.W. Anderson

Rokhsar-Kivelson

$$|RVB\rangle = \sum_{vb} A_{vb} |vb\rangle$$



$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

Valence Bond

PHYSICS

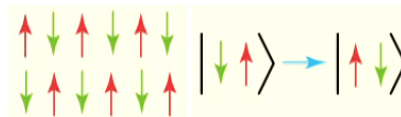
An End to the Drought of Quantum Spin Liquids

Patrick A. Lee

After decades of searching, several promising examples of a new quantum state of matter have now emerged.

Electrons possess magnetic behavior through the quantum mechanical property of spin. The magnetic properties of materials then arise from the collective interaction of electrons on atoms within the crystal. Below a transition temperature, the electron spins of normal magnets “freeze” into an ordered array of magnetic dipoles. Whether the ordering is ferromagnetic (all the dipoles point in the same direction) or antiferromagnetic (the dipoles on adjacent sites point in opposite directions) is determined by the sign and strength of the interaction between the electrons. Early theoretical work has indicated a departure from these ordered states, suggesting that quantum mechanical fluctuations of the spin could be so strong that ordering would be suppressed and the spin ensemble would remain in a liquid-like state, even down to the

Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. E-mail: palee@mit.edu



Ordered spins. (Left) Néel’s picture of antiferromagnet ordering with an alternate spin-up–spin-down pattern across the lattice. (Right) Quantum fluctuations lead to mutual spin flips, which Landau argued would disorder Néel’s state.

lowest temperatures. Experimental evidence, which has until recently remained elusive, is emerging in favor of this long-predicted state of quantum matter.

To understand the controversy surrounding this exotic quantum spin liquid state, it is instructive to go back to the description of antiferromagnetism. Soon after the invention of quantum mechanics, Heisenberg pointed out that electron spins on neighboring atoms can have short-range interaction due to quantum mechanical exchange. Louis Néel

Until ~15 years ago, candidate materials were limited.

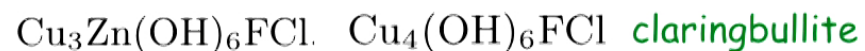
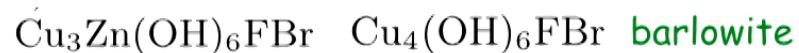
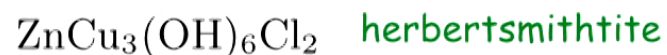
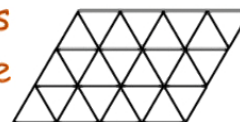
Good theoretical models existed (numerically solvable to high accuracy)

5 SEPTEMBER 2008 VOL 321 SCIENCE

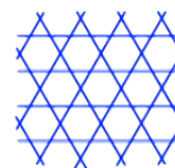
Candidate Materials (selected, as of April 2019)



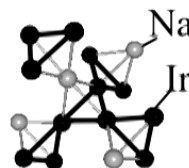
Organic Materials
Triangular Lattice



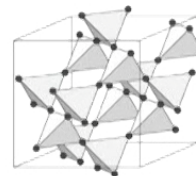
Kagome



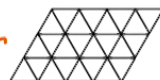
hyper-kagome



pyrochlore



triangular



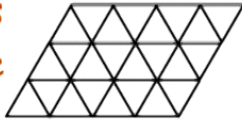
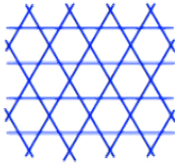
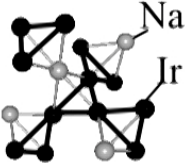
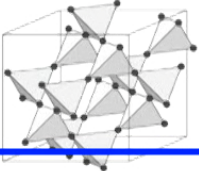
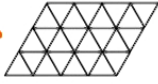
Kitaev Materials

honeycomb

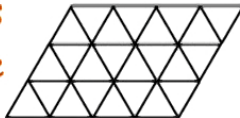
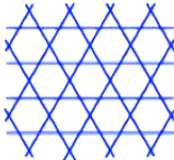


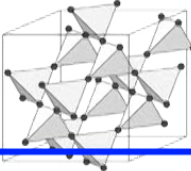
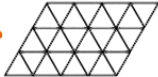
hyper-honeycomb



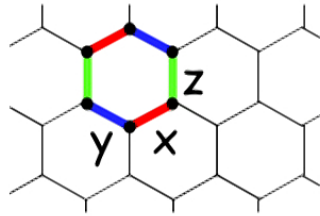
Candidate Materials (selected, as of April 2019)

κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ Cu ₂ (CN) ₃			Geometric
EtMe ₃ Sb[Pd(dmit) ₂] ₂	Organic Materials		
κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ Ag ₂ (CN) ₃	Triangular Lattice		
κ -H ₃ (Cat-EDT-TTF) ₂			
ZnCu ₃ (OH) ₆ Cl ₂	herbertsmithite		Kagome
Cu ₃ Zn(OH) ₆ FBr	Cu ₄ (OH) ₆ FBr	barlowite	
Cu ₃ Zn(OH) ₆ FCl	Cu ₄ (OH) ₆ FCl	claringbullite	
PbCuTe ₂ O ₆			
Na ₄ Ir ₃ O ₈	hyper-kagome		
Yb ₂ Ti ₂ O ₇			
Pr ₂ Zr ₂ O ₇	pyrochlore		
YbMgGaO ₄	triangular		
Kitaev Materials	honeycomb	hyper-honeycomb	

Candidate Materials (selected, as of April 2019)

κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ Cu ₂ (CN) ₃			Geometric
EtMe ₃ Sb[Pd(dmit) ₂] ₂	Organic Materials		
κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ Ag ₂ (CN) ₃	Triangular Lattice		
κ -H ₃ (Cat-EDT-TTF) ₂			
ZnCu ₃ (OH) ₆ Cl ₂	herbertsmithite		Kagome
Cu ₃ Zn(OH) ₆ FBr	Cu ₄ (OH) ₆ FBr	barlowite	
Cu ₃ Zn(OH) ₆ FCl	Cu ₄ (OH) ₆ FCl	claringbullite	
PbCuTe ₂ O ₆			
Na ₄ Ir ₃ O ₈	hyper-kagome		
Yb ₂ Ti ₂ O ₇	pyrochlore		
Pr ₂ Zr ₂ O ₇			
YbMgGaO ₄	triangular		
Kitaev Materials	honeycomb	hyper-honeycomb	Spin-orbit

Exact Question to the Answer (Kitaev)

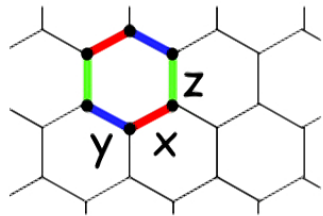


$$\mathcal{H}_K = - \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha \quad b_i^x b_i^y b_i^z c_i = 1$$

$$S_i^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} i b_i^\alpha c_i \quad \{b_i^x, b_i^y, b_i^z, c\}$$

Four Majorana Fermions

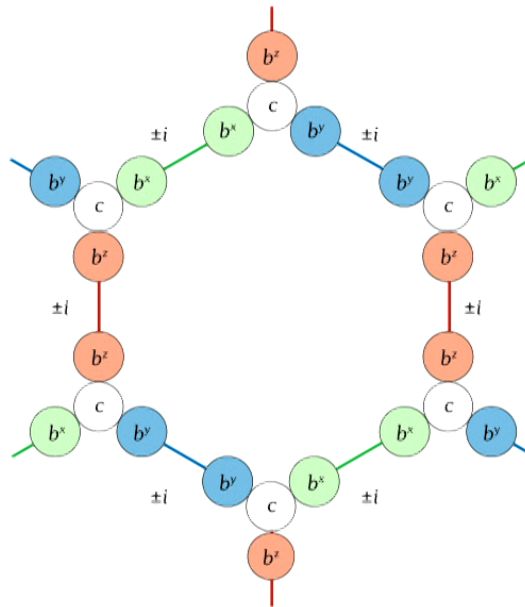
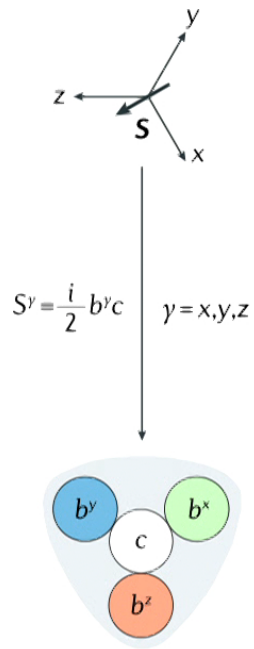
Exact Question to the Answer (Kitaev)



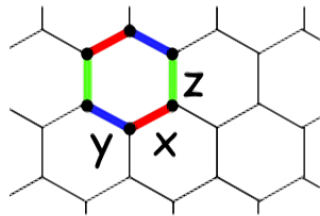
$$\mathcal{H}_K = - \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha \quad b_i^x b_i^y b_i^z c_i = 1$$

$$S_i^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} i b_i^\alpha c_i \quad \{b_i^x, b_i^y, b_i^z, c\}$$

Four Majorana Fermions

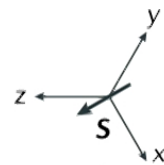


Exact Question to the Answer (Kitaev)

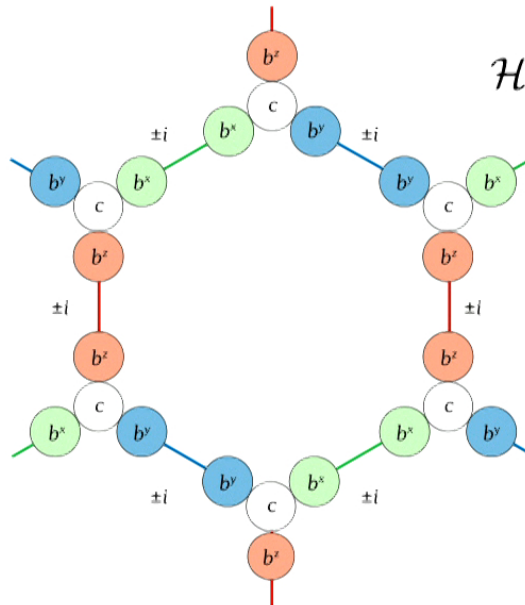
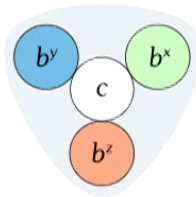


$$\mathcal{H}_K = - \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha \quad b_i^x b_i^y b_i^z c_i = 1$$

$$S_i^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} i b_i^\alpha c_i \quad \{b_i^x, b_i^y, b_i^z, c\} \quad \text{Four Majorana Fermions}$$



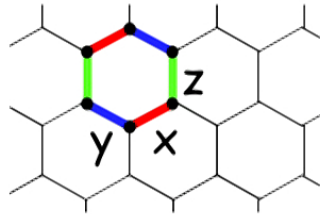
$$S^\gamma = \frac{i}{2} b^\gamma c \quad \gamma = x, y, z$$



$$\mathcal{H}_K = -\frac{i}{4} \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} u_{ij}^\alpha c_i c_j$$

$$u_{ij}^\alpha = i b_i^\alpha b_j^\alpha$$

Exact Question to the Answer (Kitaev)



$$\mathcal{H}_K = - \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha \quad b_i^x b_i^y b_i^z c_i = 1$$

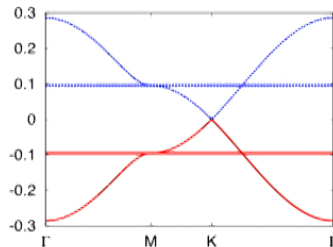
$$S_i^\alpha = \frac{1}{2} i b_i^\alpha c_i \quad \{b_i^x, b_i^y, b_i^z, c\} \quad \text{Four Majorana Fermions}$$

Ground state is in the zero-flux sector

$$W_p = +1$$

$$\mathcal{H}_K = -\frac{i}{4} \sum_{\alpha\text{-links}} u_{ij}^\alpha c_i c_j$$

$$u_{ij}^\alpha = i b_i^\alpha b_j^\alpha$$



Majorana Fermions
with Dirac Dispersion

$$W_p = 2^6 S_1^x S_2^y S_3^z S_4^x S_5^y S_6^z$$

Kitaev Spin Liquid is almost a Superconductor

Making connection to "Superconductor"

$$f_{i\uparrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_i + ib_i^z)$$

$$f_{i\downarrow} = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}(b_i^x + ib_i^y)$$

$$S_i^a = \frac{1}{2} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a f_{i\beta}$$

$$\text{with } \sum_{\alpha} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\alpha} = 1$$

Kitaev Spin Liquid is almost a Superconductor

Making connection to "Superconductor"

$$f_{i\uparrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_i + ib_i^z)$$

$$S_i^a = \frac{1}{2} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a f_{i\beta}$$

$$f_{i\downarrow} = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}(b_i^x + ib_i^y)$$

$$\text{with } \sum_{\alpha} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\alpha} = 1$$

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in a} \{ f_{i\alpha}^\dagger [T^a]_{\alpha\beta}^{ij} f_{j\beta} + f_{i\alpha} [\Delta^a]_{\alpha\beta}^{ij} f_{j\beta} \}$$

exactly one particle
per site (insulator)

Kitaev Spin Liquid is almost a Superconductor

Making connection to "Superconductor"

$$f_{i\uparrow} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_i + ib_i^z)$$

$$S_i^a = \frac{1}{2} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger \sigma_{\alpha\beta}^a f_{i\beta}$$

$$f_{i\downarrow} = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}(b_i^x + ib_i^y)$$

$$\text{with } \sum_{\alpha} f_{i\alpha}^\dagger f_{i\alpha} = 1$$

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in a} \{ f_{i\alpha}^\dagger [T^a]_{\alpha\beta}^{ij} f_{j\beta} + f_{i\alpha} [\Delta^a]_{\alpha\beta}^{ij} f_{j\beta} \}$$

exactly one particle per site (insulator)

Class BDI
Spin-Triplet
Superconductor

Hubbard $U \Rightarrow \infty$



Kitaev Spin Liquid

$$\langle n_i \rangle = 1$$

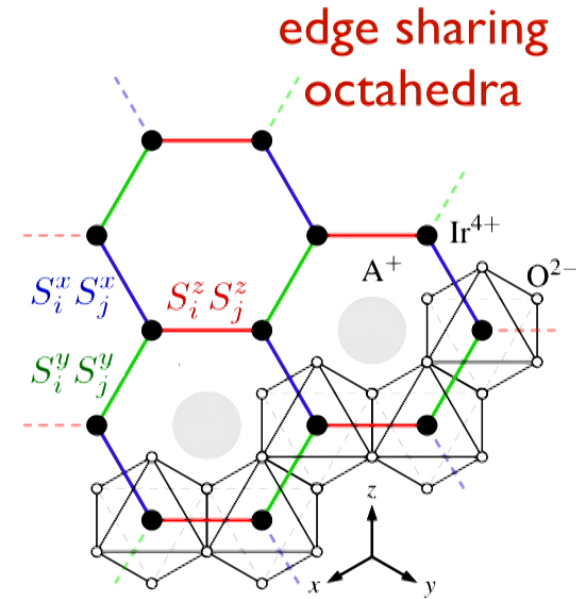
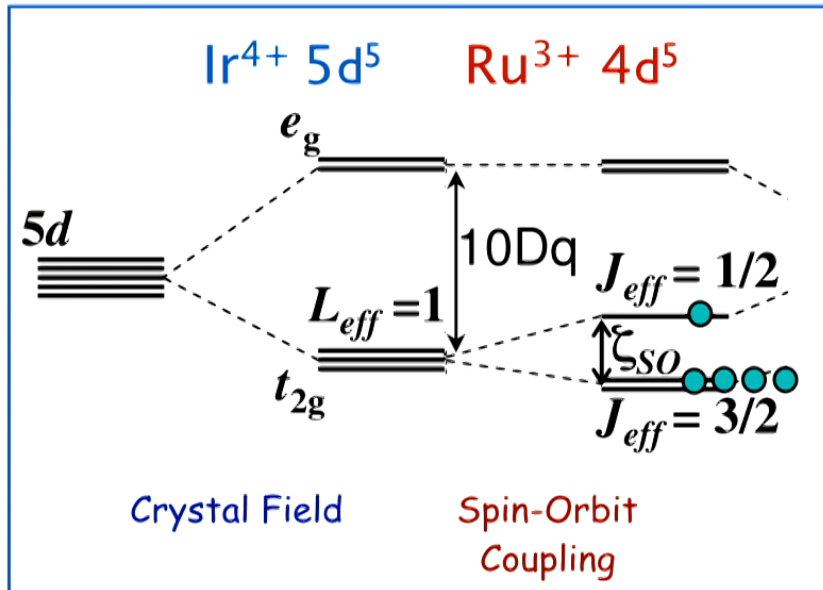
$$n_i = 1$$

Kitaev Materials

Kitaev Interaction ?

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \gamma} -K S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma$$

G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin,
PRL 102, 256403 (2009)

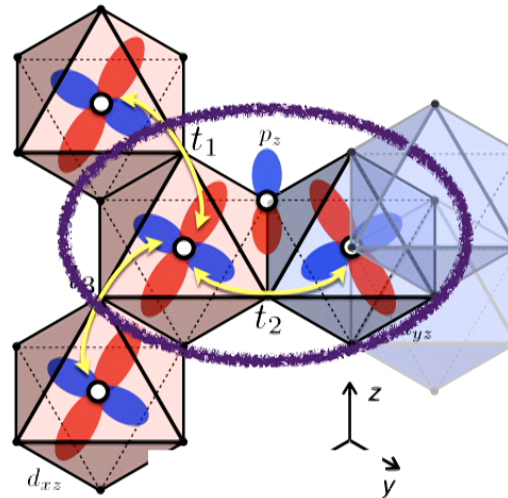


Strong Spin-Orbit Coupling
leads to Spin-Orbit
entangled pseudo-spin basis
(Kramers Doublet)

How realistic is the Kitaev model ?

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \gamma} K S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma$$

if only the super-exchange via oxygens are considered

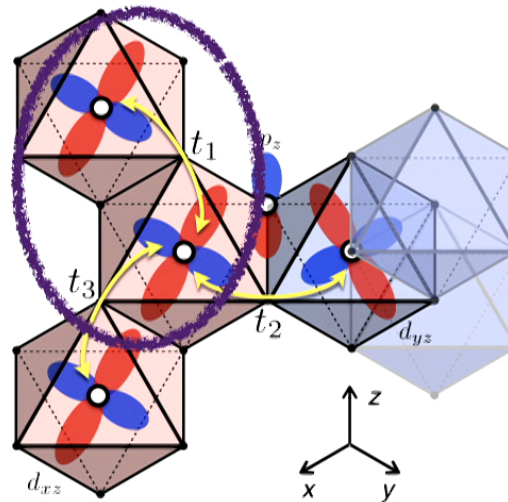


G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin (2009)

How realistic is the Kitaev model ?

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \alpha\beta(\gamma)} \left[J \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + K S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + \Gamma (S_i^\alpha S_j^\beta + S_i^\beta S_j^\alpha) \right]$$

but direct exchange is also important due to large extent of 4d/5d orbitals

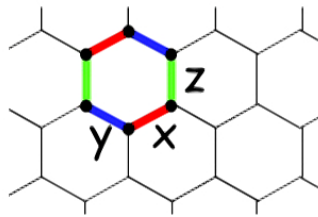


G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin (2009)

J. Rau, E. Lee, H. Y. Kee (2014)

How realistic is the Kitaev model ?

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \alpha\beta(\gamma)} \left[J \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + \boxed{K S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + \Gamma (S_i^\alpha S_j^\beta + S_i^\beta S_j^\alpha)} \right]$$



$$K S_i^x S_j^x + \Gamma [S_i^y S_j^z + S_i^z S_j^y] \quad \text{x-bond}$$

$$K S_i^y S_j^y + \Gamma [S_i^z S_j^x + S_i^x S_j^z] \quad \text{y-bond}$$

$$K S_i^z S_j^z + \Gamma [S_i^x S_j^y + S_i^y S_j^x] \quad \text{z-bond}$$

How essential/important are
these additional interactions ?

G. Jackeli and G. Khaliullin (2009)

J. Rau, E. Lee, H. Y. Kee (2014)

Realization of Kitaev Quantum Spin Liquid ?

2D

Honeycomb

α - Na₂IrO₃

α - Li₂IrO₃

α - H₃LiIr₂O₆

α - RuCl₃

β - Li₂IrO₃

3D Hyper-Honeycomb

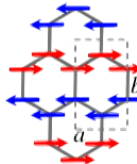
γ - Li₂IrO₃

3D Stripy-Honeycomb

Realization of Kitaev Quantum Spin Liquid ?

2D
Honeycomb
 α - Na_2IrO_3
 α - Li_2IrO_3
 α - $\text{H}_3\text{LiIr}_2\text{O}_6$
 α - RuCl_3

T_N
zig-zag, 14K



incomm. spiral, 15K

no magnetic order (NMR)

zig-zag, 7K

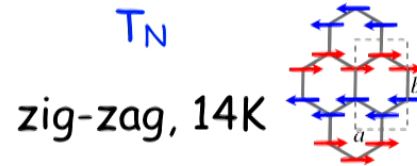
β - Li_2IrO_3
3D Hyper-Honeycomb
 γ - Li_2IrO_3
3D Stripy-Honeycomb

incomm. spiral, 38K

incomm. spiral, 38K

Realization of Kitaev Quantum Spin Liquid ?

2D
Honeycomb
 α - Na_2IrO_3
 α - Li_2IrO_3
 α - $\text{H}_3\text{LiIr}_2\text{O}_6$
 α - RuCl_3



incomm. spiral, 15K
no magnetic order (NMR)
zig-zag, 7K

suppressed
magnetic order ?

Hydrogen
intercalation H. Takagi

$H_{in} > 8\text{T}$

S. Nagler, Y.-J.Kim, R. Coldea, ...

β - Li_2IrO_3
3D Hyper-Honeycomb
 γ - Li_2IrO_3
3D Stripy-Honeycomb

incomm. spiral, 38K
incomm. spiral, 38K

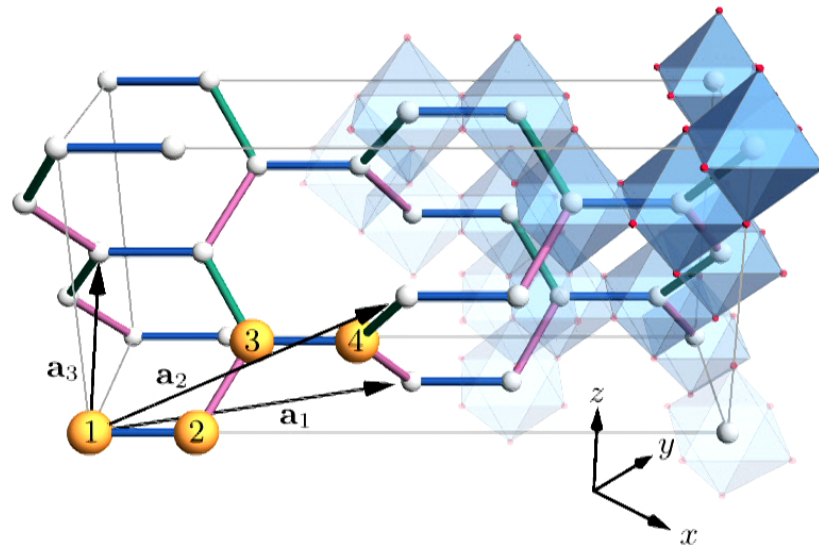
$P > 2.5\text{ GPa}$

H. Takagi, D. Haskel

$P > 1.5\text{ GPa}$

J. Analytis, D. Haskel

Three-dimensional Hyper-honeycomb Iridates β -Li₂IrO₃



Three dimensional “Hyper-Honeycomb” lattice

β - Li_2IrO_3

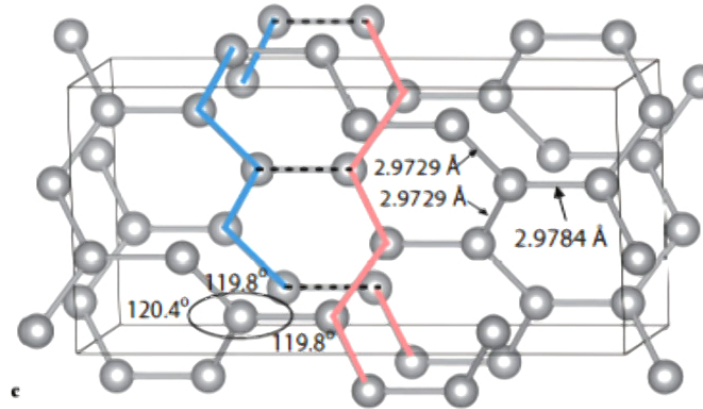
H. Takagi (PRL, 2014)

Close to ideal structure

Magnetic
order

$T_c = 38\text{K}$

Strong
Magnetic
Anisotropy

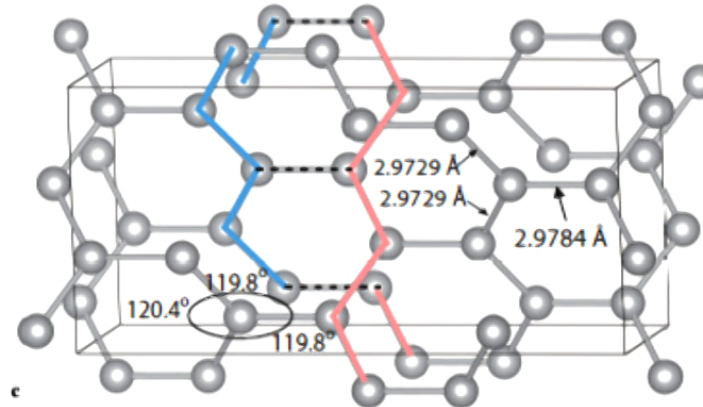


Three dimensional “Hyper-Honeycomb” lattice

β - Li_2IrO_3

H. Takagi (PRL, 2014)

Close to ideal structure



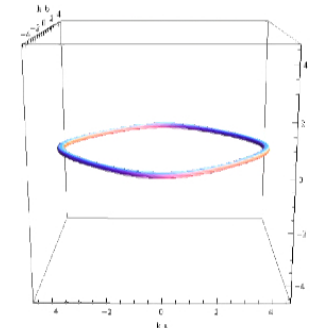
Magnetic
order

$T_c = 38\text{K}$

Strong
Magnetic
Anisotropy

Kitaev Model exactly solvable

Nodal Line
Majorana Fermions



S. Mandal and N. Surendran (2009)

E. K.-H. Lee, R. Schaffer, S. Bhattacharjee, YBK (2014)

Classical Analysis

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \alpha(\beta\gamma)} JS_i \cdot S_j + K S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha + \Gamma^\alpha (S_i^\beta S_j^\gamma + S_i^\gamma S_j^\beta)$$

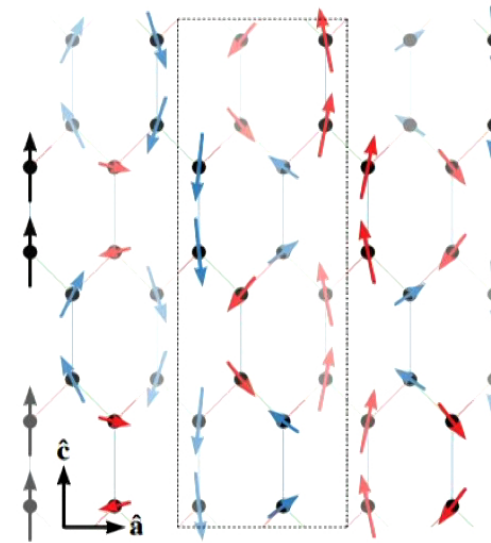
$$K < 0 \quad J > 0 \quad \Gamma < 0$$

$$|K| > |\Gamma| \gg J$$

Non-coplanar counter-propagating incommensurate spiral order

Eric K.-H. Lee, YBK (2014)

EXPERIMENT



$$Q_{\text{exp}} = (0.57, 0, 0)$$

Radu Coldea (PRL, PRB, 2014)

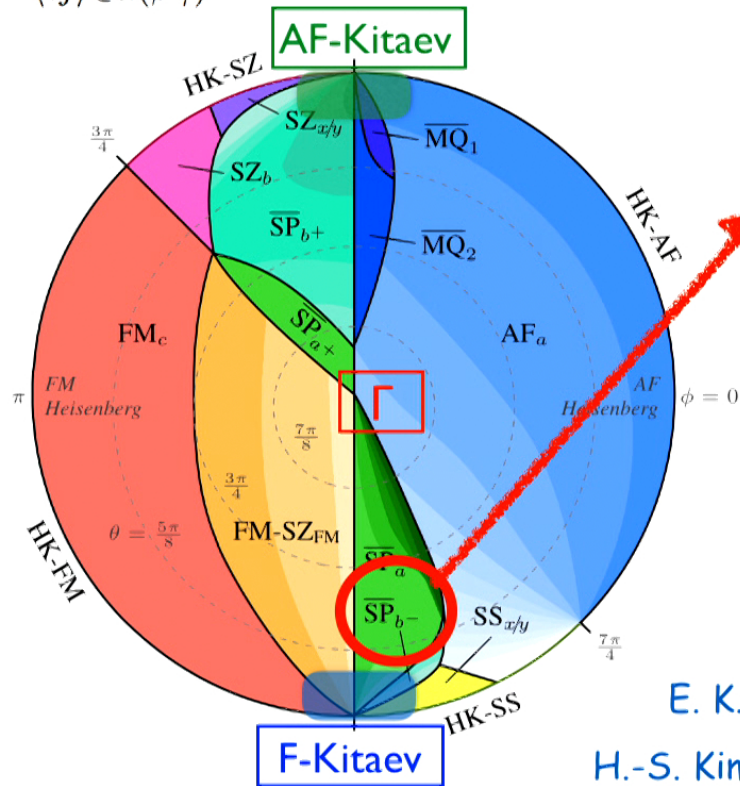
Classical Analysis

$$J = \cos \phi \sin \theta$$

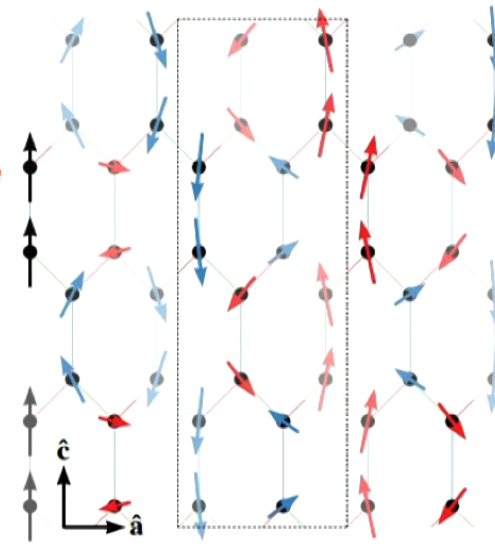
$$K = \sin \phi \sin \theta$$

$$\Gamma = \cos \theta$$

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \alpha(\beta\gamma)} JS_i \cdot S_j + K S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha + \Gamma^\alpha (S_i^\beta S_j^\gamma + S_i^\gamma S_j^\beta)$$



EXPERIMENT

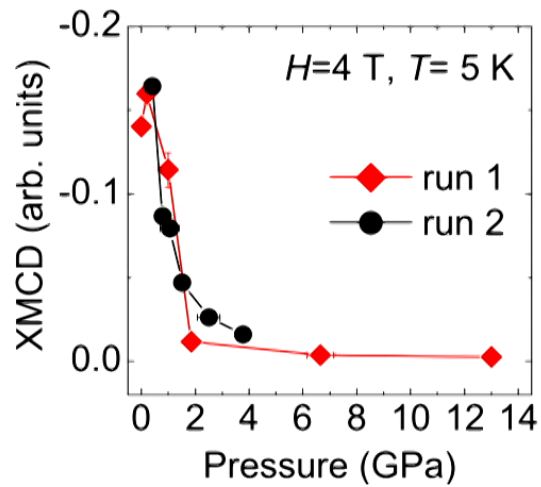


$$Q_{\text{exp}} = (0.57, 0, 0)$$

E. K.-H. Lee, YBK (2014)

H.-S. Kim, E. K.-H. Lee, YBK (2015)

High Pressure Experiment (H. Takagi, D. Haskel)



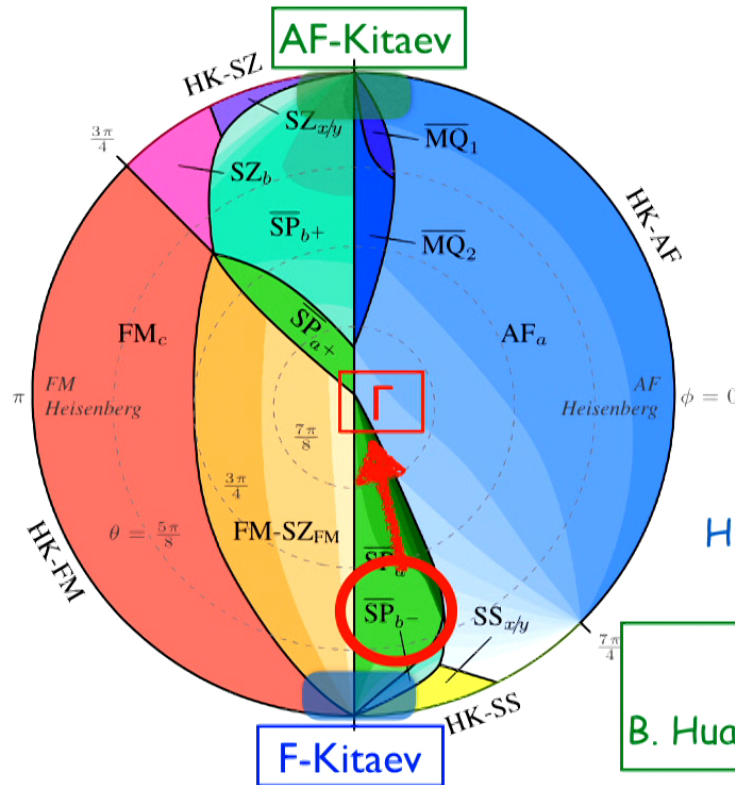
Magnetic order disappear
near 2-2.5 GPa

What's the paramagnetic state at $P > 2-2.5$ GPa ?

Structure change at $P > 4$ GPa

Effect of External Pressure (Theory, Ab Initio)

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle \in \alpha(\beta\gamma)} JS_i \cdot S_j + K S_i^\alpha S_j^\alpha + \Gamma^\alpha (S_i^\beta S_j^\gamma + S_i^\gamma S_j^\beta)$$



K dominant Low-P



Γ dominant High-P

Highly Frustrated
New Spin Liquid?

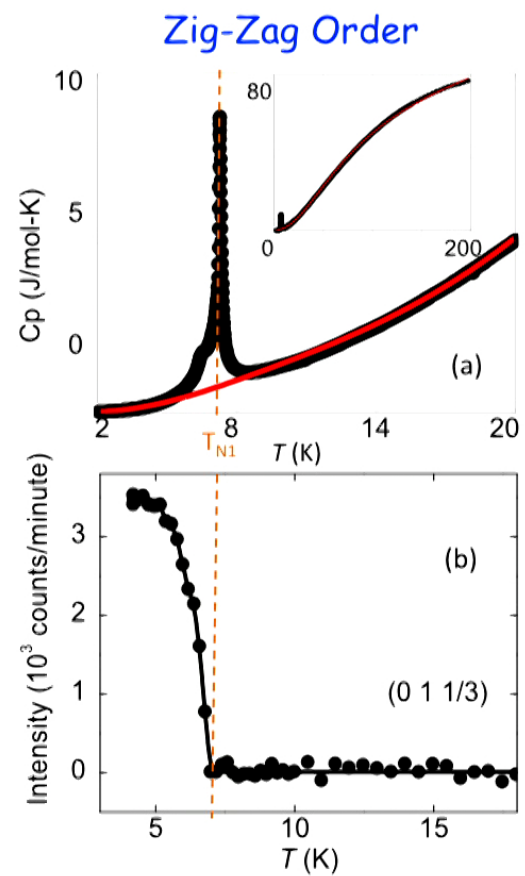
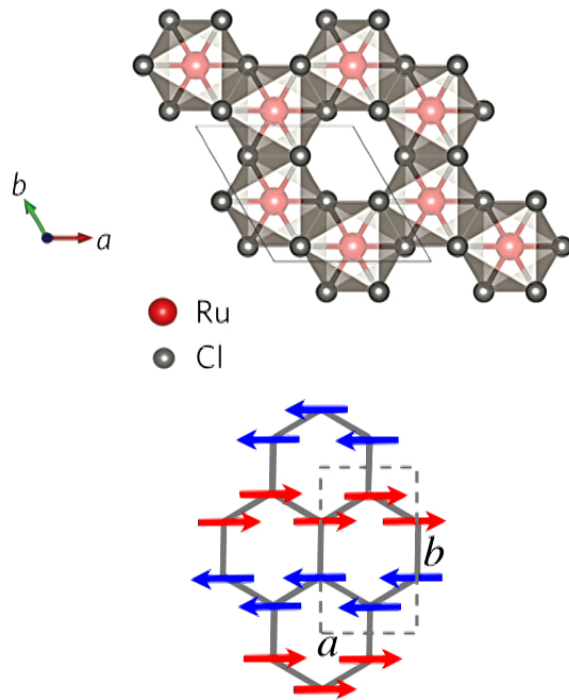
H.-S. Kim, E. K.-H. Lee, YBK (2015)

H.-S. Kim, H.-Y. Kee, YBK (2016)

Classification

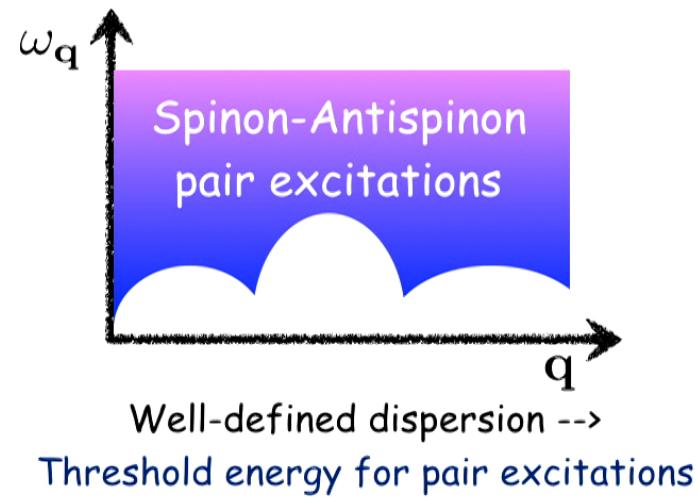
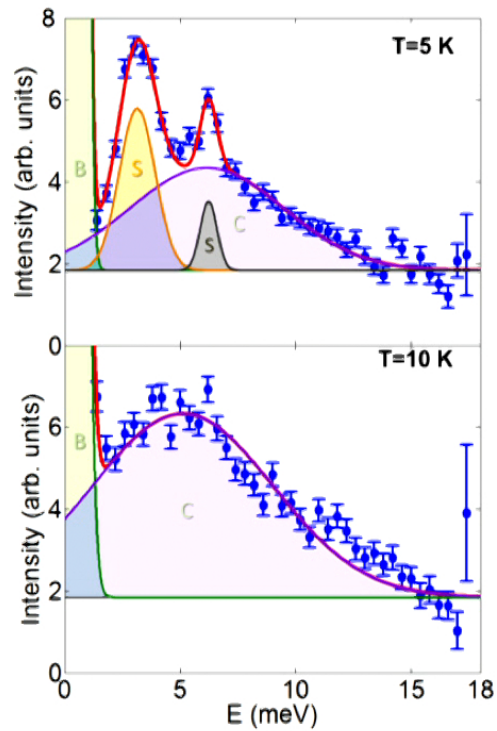
B. Huang, W. Choi, YBK, Y.-M. Lu (2018)

α -RuCl₃



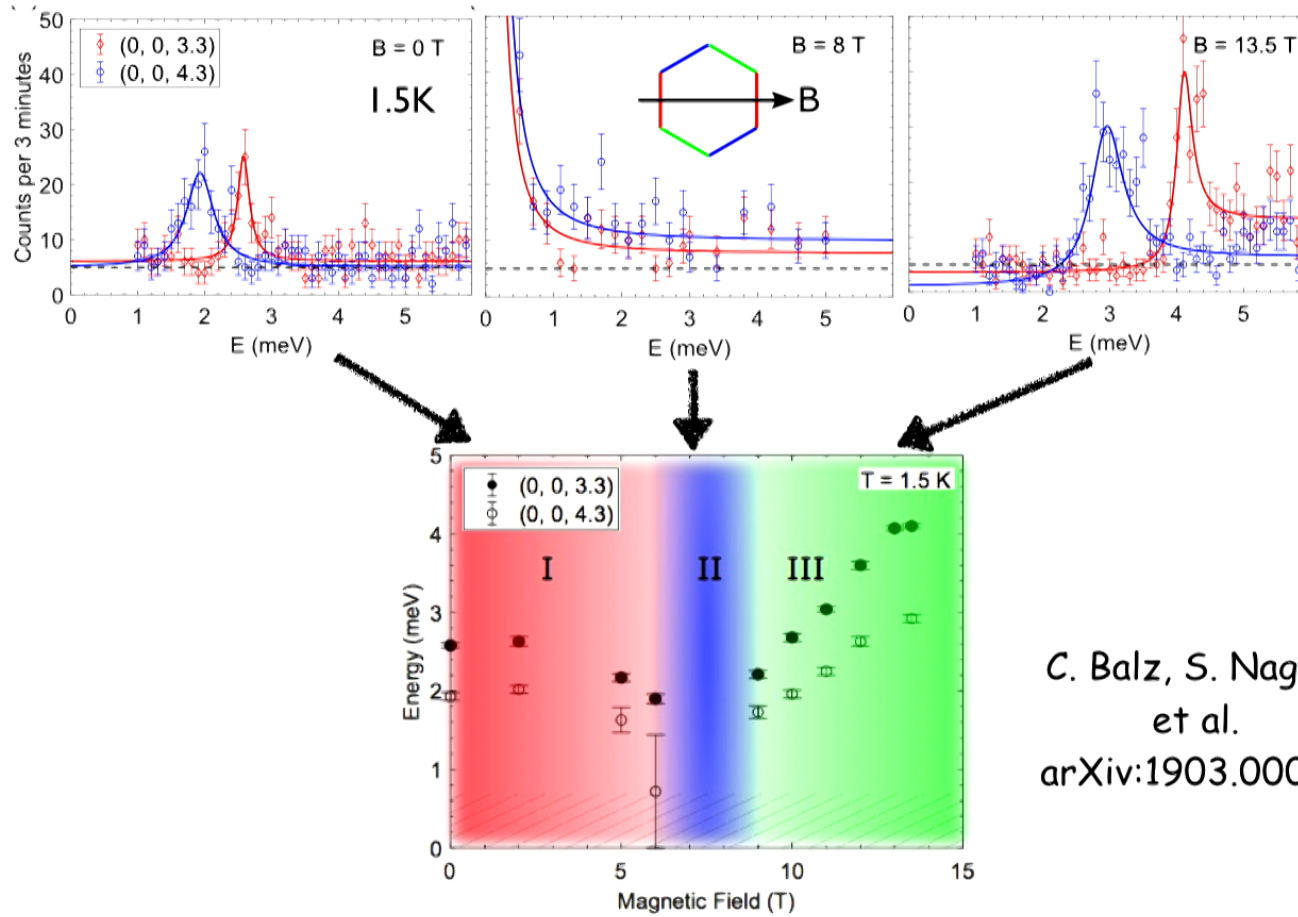
α -RuCl₃ (Y. J. Kim, S. Nagler, R. Coldea ...)

Spinon Continuum ?

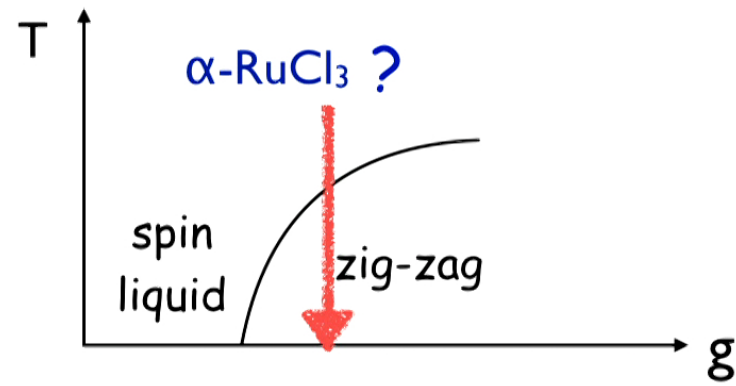


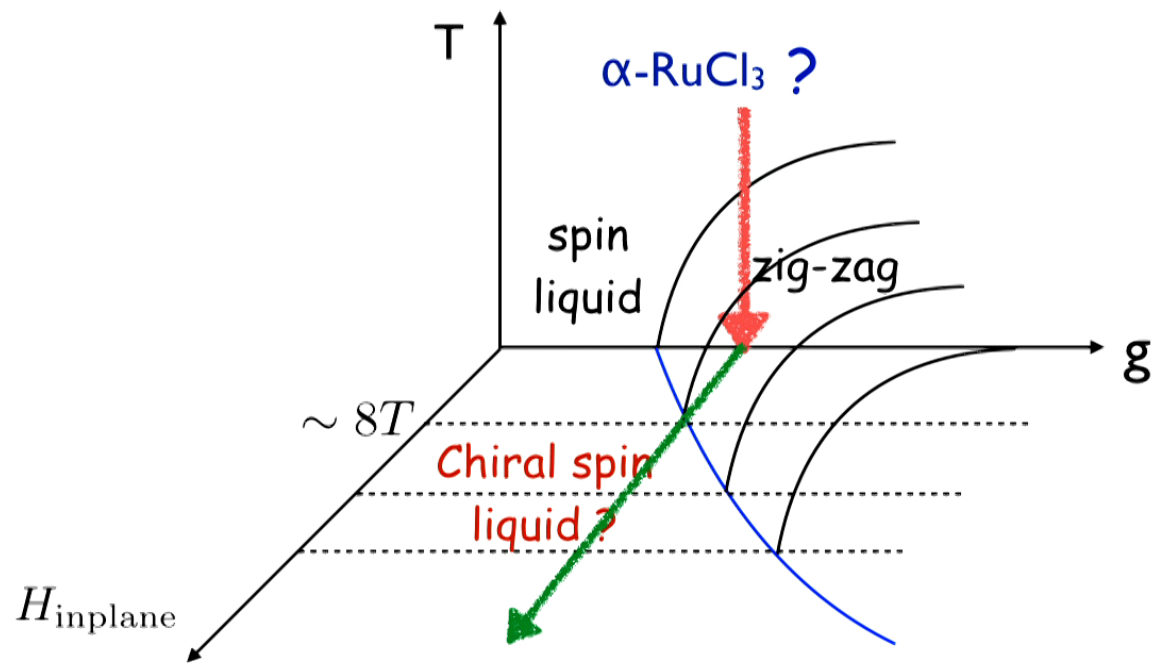
A. Banerjee, S. Nagler et al. (2016)

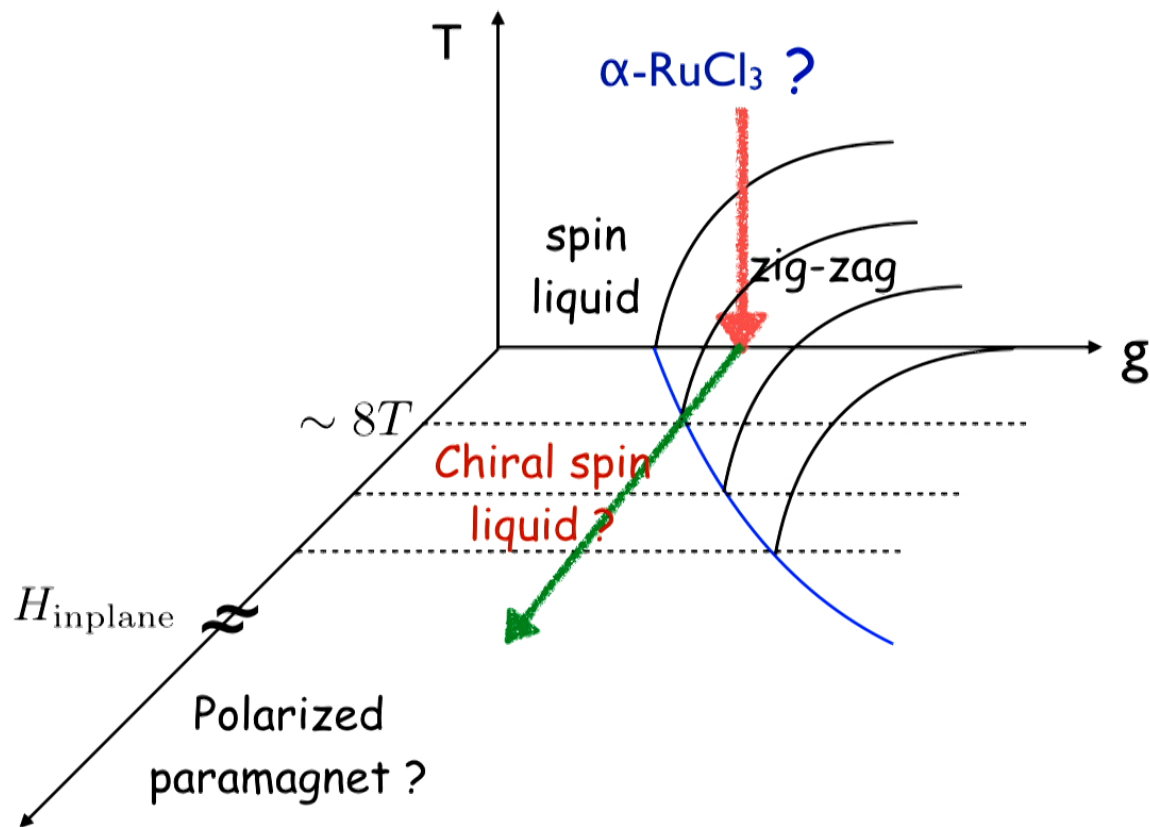
Field-induced Paramagnet: Spin Liquid ?

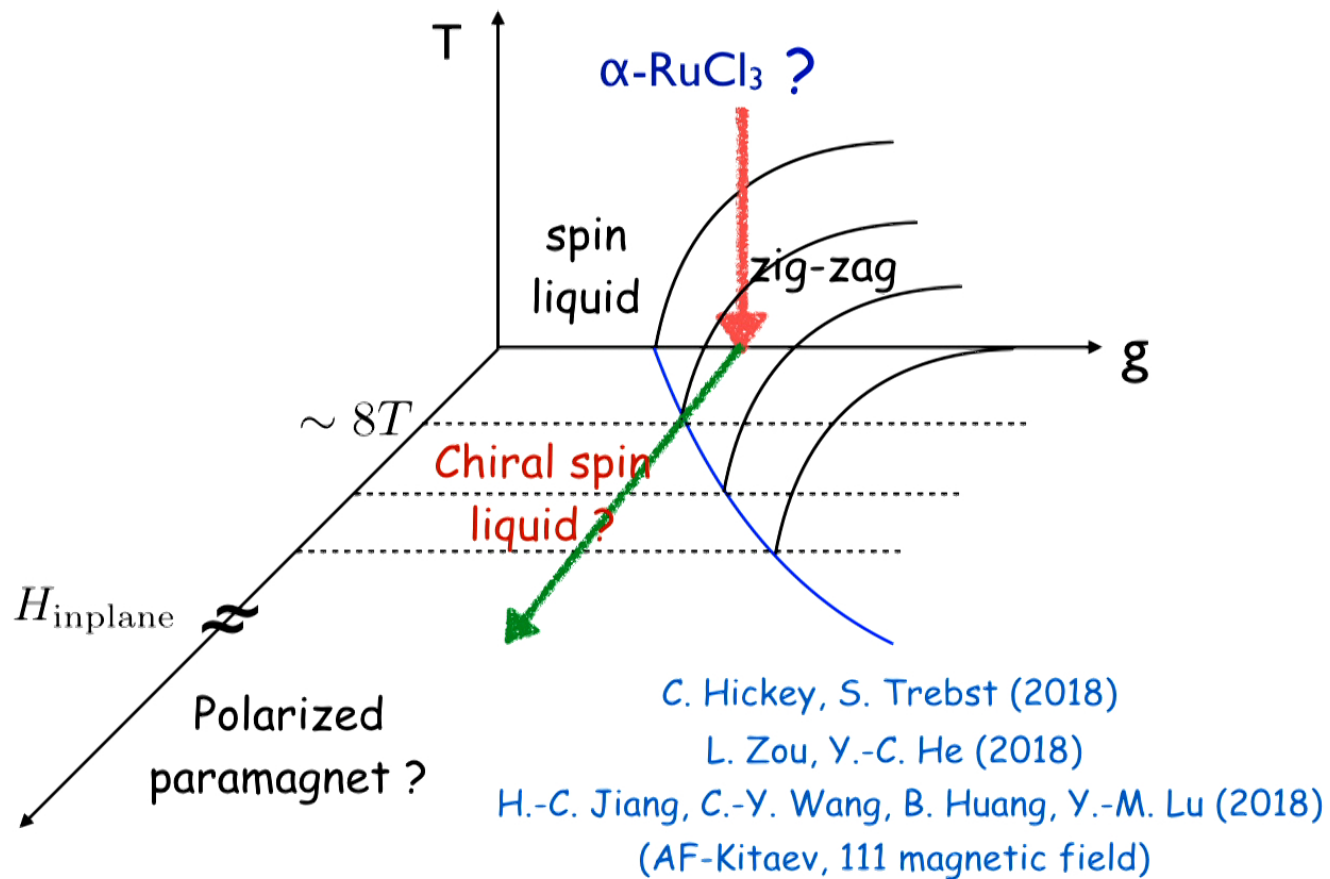


C. Balz, S. Nagler
et al.
arXiv:1903.00056

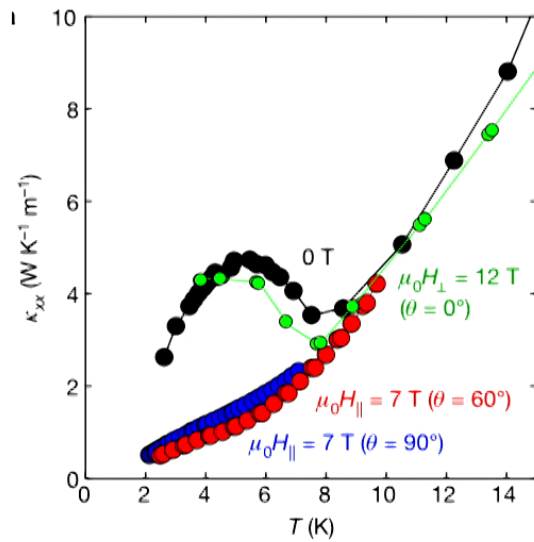
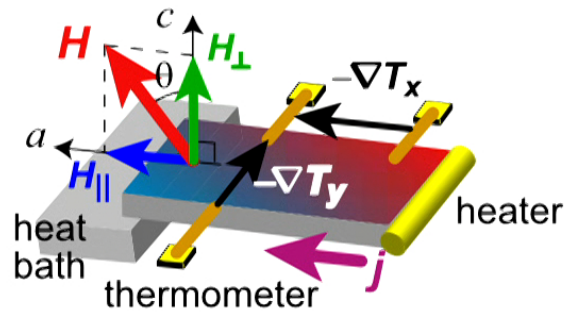




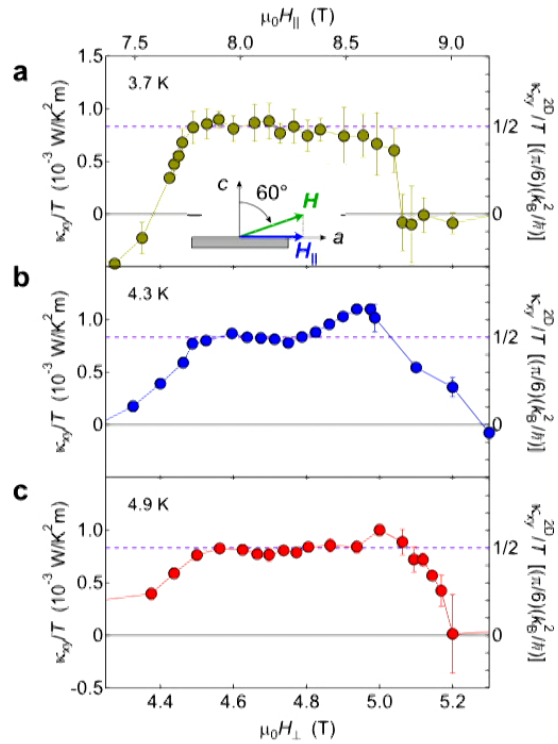
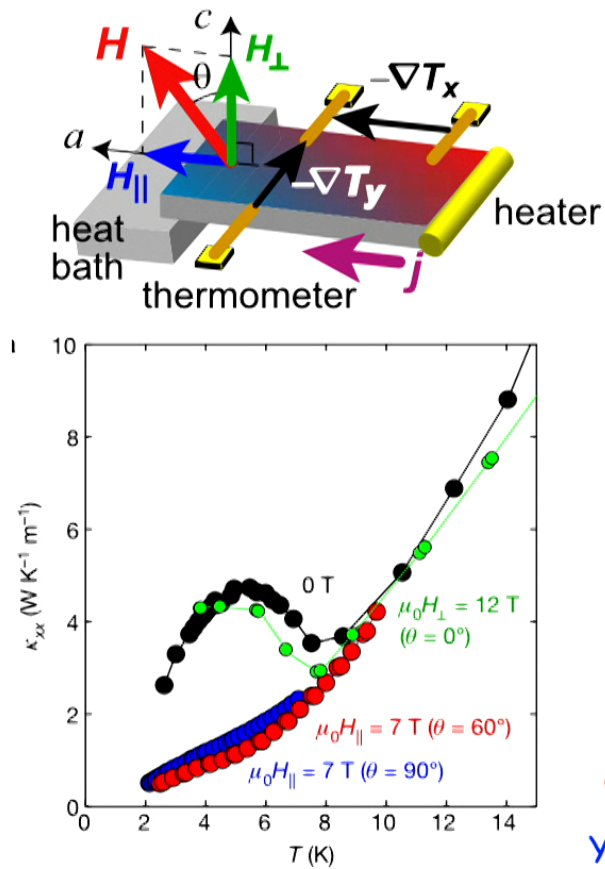




Field-induced Paramagnet: Spin Liquid ?

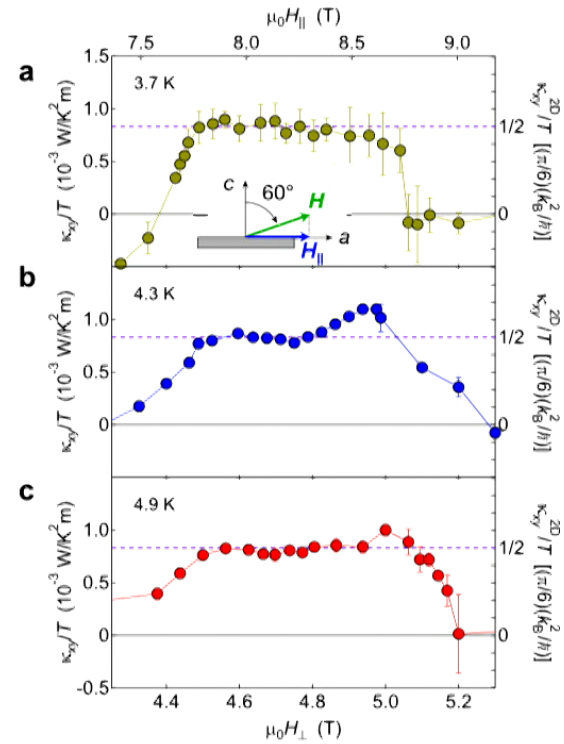
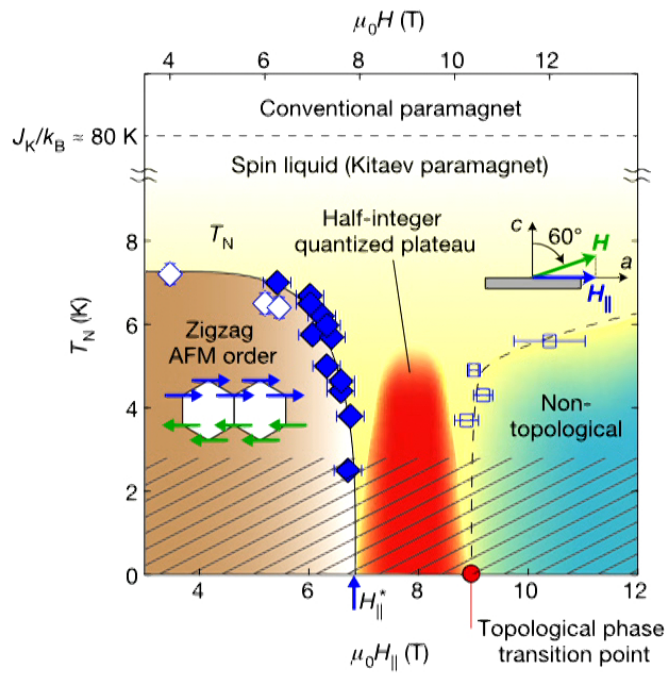


Field-induced Paramagnet: Spin Liquid ?



Quantized Thermal Hall Conductivity
 Y. Kasahara, ... Y. Matsuda et al. (2017, 2018)

Field-induced Paramagnet: Spin Liquid ?



$$\kappa_{xy}^{2D}/T = q(\pi/6)(k_B^2/\hbar)$$

$$q = 1/2$$

Quantized Thermal Hall Conductivity

Y. Kasahara, ... Y. Matsuda et al. (2017, 2018)

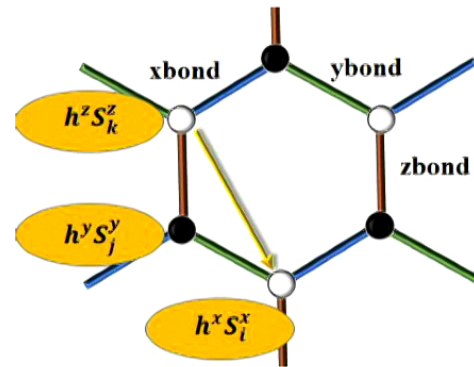
Chiral spin liquid in magnetic field

A. Kitaev (2006) Non-abelian quasiparticles, gapped bulk

$$\mathcal{H}_Z = -2 \sum_{i,\alpha} S_i^\alpha h^\alpha,$$



$$\mathcal{H}^{(3)} \sim -\frac{8h^x h^y h^z}{K^2} \sum_{i,j,k} S_i^x S_j^y S_k^z,$$



Majorana mass gap $\Delta_0 \sim 4h^x h^y h^z / K^2$

Majorana chiral edge mode

$$\kappa_{xy}^{2D} / T = q(\pi/6)(k_B^2 / \hbar) \quad q = 1/2$$

**half-quantization
in thermal Hall conductivity**

Too good to be true ?

1) Very small Hall angle

$$\frac{\kappa_{xy}}{\kappa_{xx}} \sim 10^{-3}$$

Much larger bulk thermal conduction

Presumably due to phonons

Bulk and edge not well separated ?

Too good to be true ?

1) Very small Hall angle

$$\frac{\kappa_{xy}}{\kappa_{xx}} \sim 10^{-3}$$

Much larger bulk thermal conduction
Presumably due to phonons
Bulk and edge not well separated ?

M. Ye, G. Halasz, L. Savary, L. Balents (2018)

Y. Vinkler-Aviv, A. Rosch (2018)

Majorana mode and phonons can exchange energy at the edge

Coupling between Majorana and phonons help to make
the Hall effect observable

Quantization is good w.r.t. phonon temperature

Too good to be true ?

2) Other significant interactions

$$H = \sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle} J_3^{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \gamma} K^\gamma S_i^\gamma S_j^\gamma + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \gamma} \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq \gamma} \Gamma^\gamma [S_i^\alpha S_j^\beta + S_i^\beta S_j^\alpha]$$

Ab Initio Modeling

Bond	J_n	K_n	ξ_n	Γ_n	Γ'_n	ζ_n
X ₁ , Y ₁	-1.4	-7.5	+0.2	+5.9	-0.8	+0.2
Z ₁	-2.2	-5.0	-	+8.0	-1.0	-
X ₂ , Y ₂	-0.1	-0.6	+0.1	+0.6	+0.6	+0.1
Z ₂	+0.1	-0.9	-	+0.6	+0.3	-
X ₃ , Y ₃	+3.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1
Z ₃	+2.4	+0.3	-	-0.1	-0.1	-

Nearest-Neighbour $K < 0$

Nearest-Neighbour $\Gamma > 0$

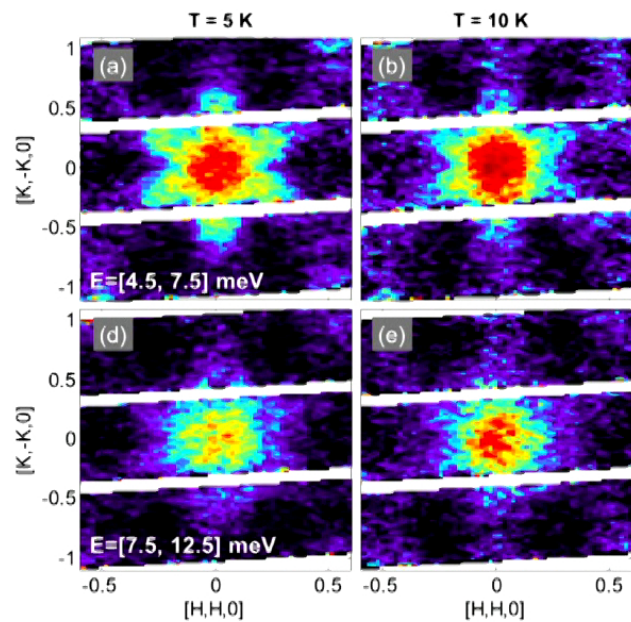
$$|K| \sim |\Gamma|$$

Third-Neighbour $J_3 > 0$

Zig-Zag magnetic order

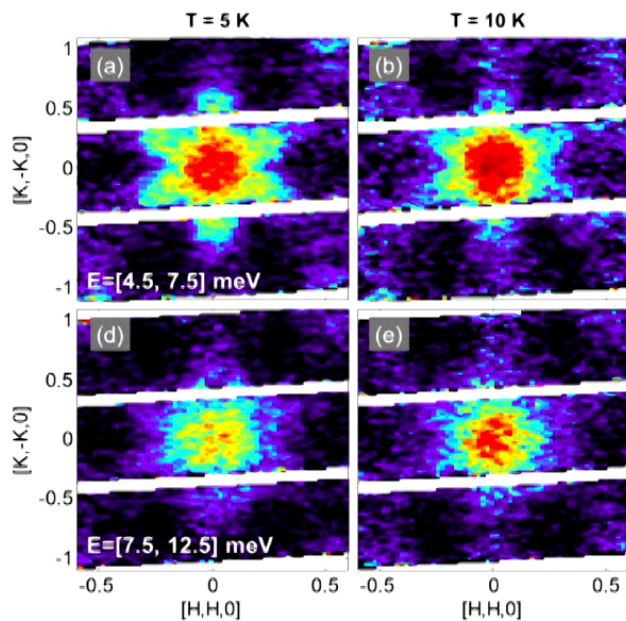
Winter, Li, Jeschke, Valenti (2016)

"Star Shape" continuum



A. Banerjee, S. Nagler et al. (2016)

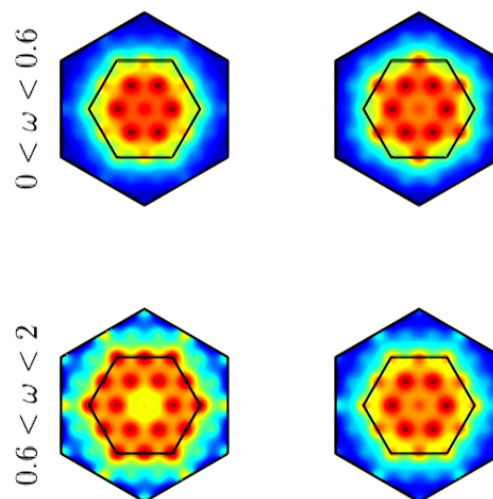
"Star Shape" continuum



A. Banerjee, S. Nagler et al. (2016)

Dynamical Structure Factor (K- Γ model, 24-site ED)

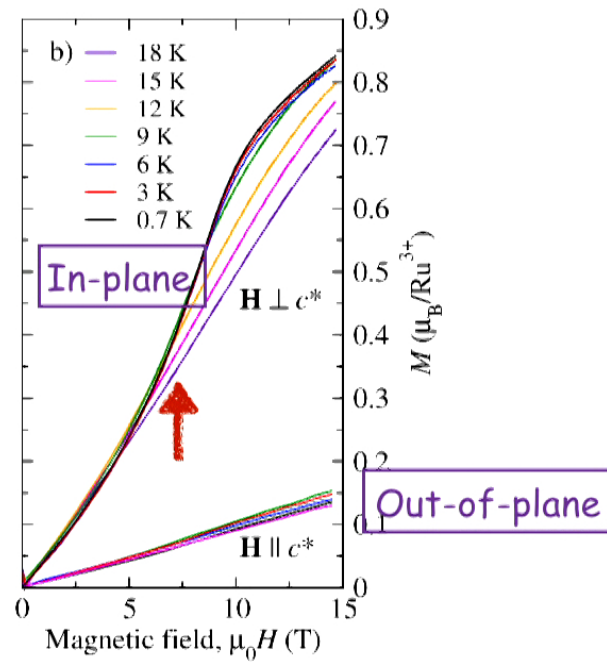
Kitaev model $\Gamma/|K| \sim 0.6$



$K < 0, \Gamma > 0$

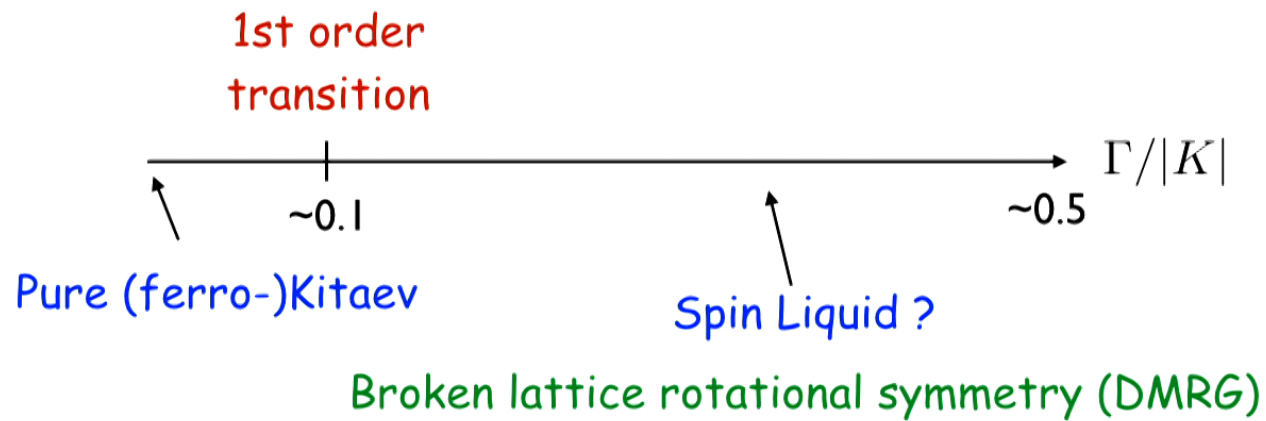
M. Gohlke, G. Wachtel,
Y. Yamaji, F. Pollmann, YBK, (2017)

Large magnetic anisotropy



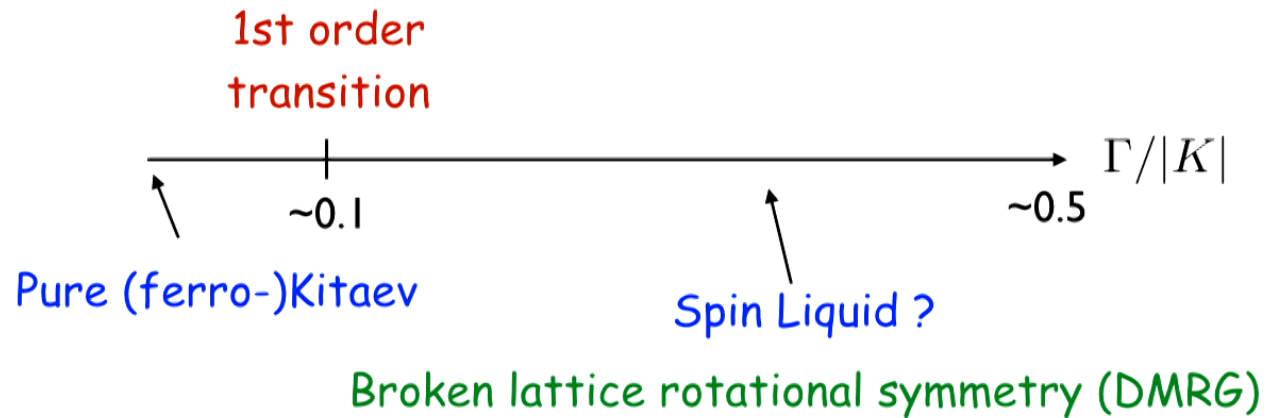
Experiment [R. Coldea] (2015)

$$H = \sum_{\langle jk \rangle, \alpha\beta(\gamma)} K S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + \Gamma (S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + S_j^\beta S_k^\alpha)$$



M. Gohlke, G. Wachtel, Y. Yamaji, F. Pollmann, YBK, (2017)

$$H = \sum_{\langle jk \rangle, \alpha\beta(\gamma)} K S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + \Gamma (S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + S_j^\beta S_k^\alpha)$$



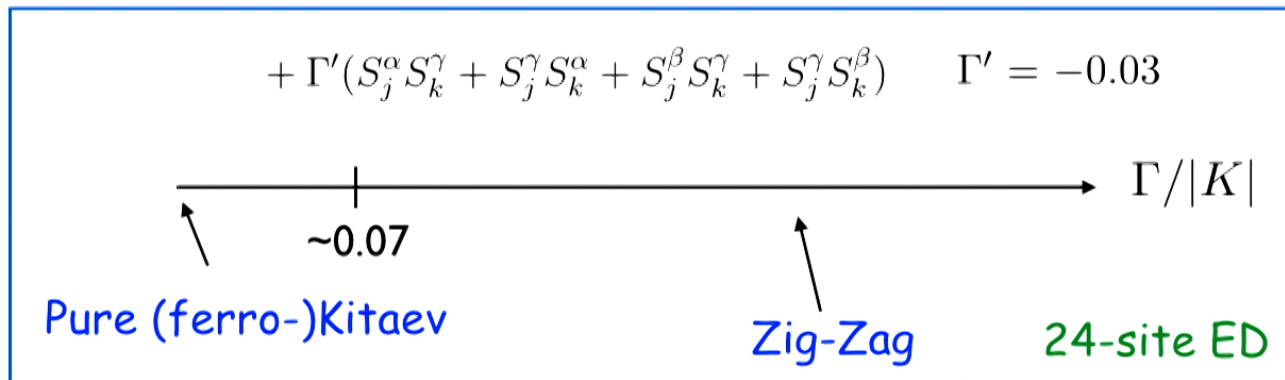
Addition of small J_3 leads to Zig-Zag order for $\Gamma/|K| > 0.1$

M. Gohlke, G. Wachtel, Y. Yamaji, F. Pollmann, YBK, (2017)

$$H = \sum_{\langle jk \rangle, \alpha\beta(\gamma)} K S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + \Gamma (S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + S_j^\beta S_k^\alpha)$$

1st order transition

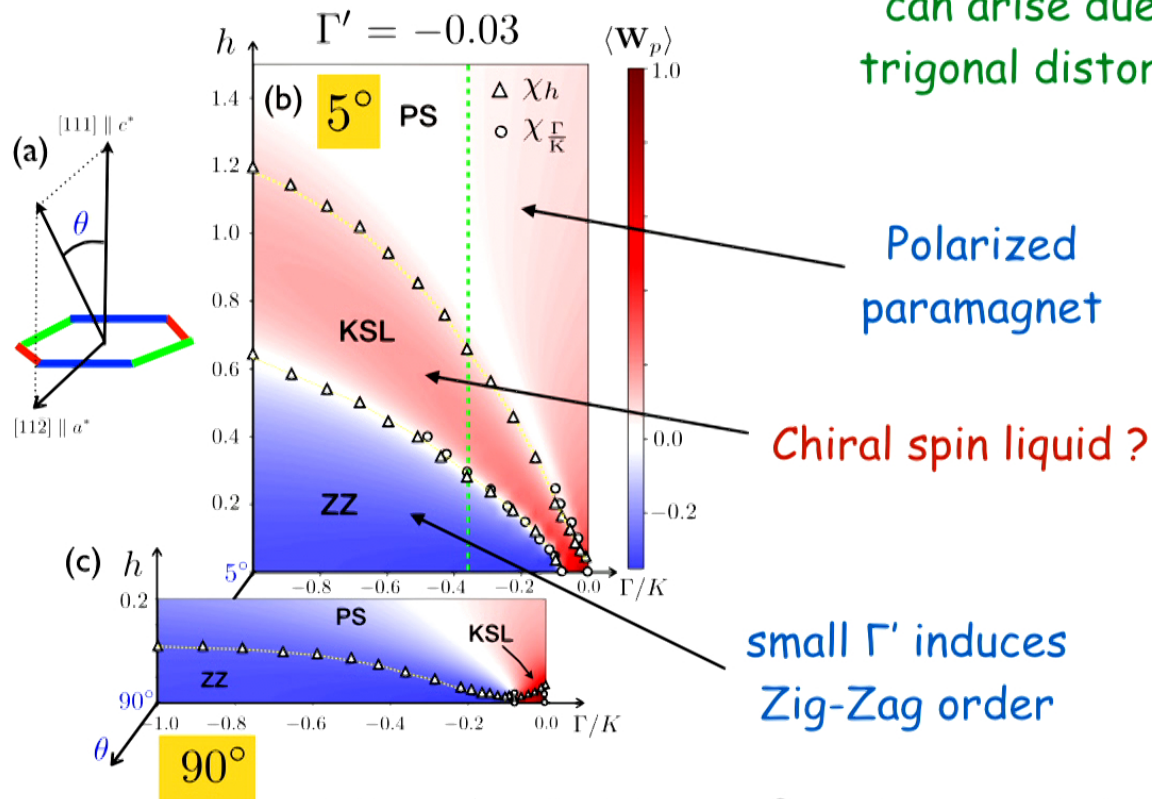
M. Gohlke, G. Wachtel, Y. Yamaji, F. Pollmann, YBK, (2017)



J. S. Gordon, A. Catuneabum E. S. Sorensen, H.-Y. Kee (2019)

$$H = \sum_{\langle jk \rangle, \alpha\beta(\gamma)} K S_j^\alpha S_k^\alpha + \Gamma (S_j^\alpha S_k^\beta + S_j^\beta S_k^\alpha) + \Gamma' (S_j^\alpha S_k^\gamma + S_j^\gamma S_k^\alpha + S_j^\beta S_k^\gamma + S_j^\gamma S_k^\beta)$$

can arise due to
trigonal distortion



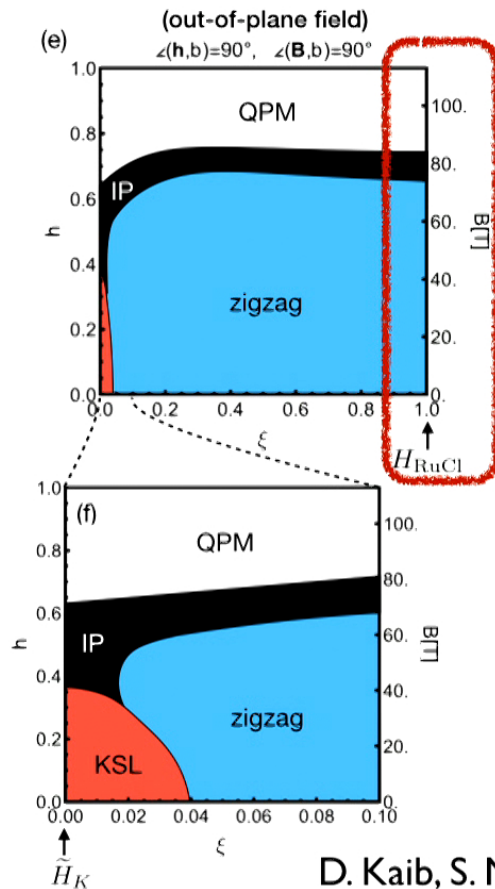
Polarized
paramagnet

Chiral spin liquid ?

small Γ' induces
Zig-Zag order

J. S. Gordon, A. Catuneau, E. S. Sorensen, H.-Y. Kee (2019)

In contrast, ... Ab initio Model



[111] field (perpendicular to 2D plane)

24-site Exact Diagonalization

There is an intermediate phase

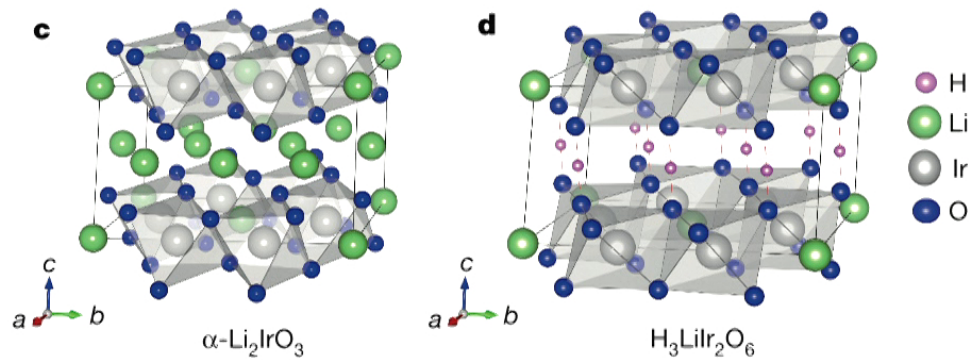
But it is not connected to the
 Kitaev (chiral) spin liquid

It disappears as soon as
 the magnetic field is tilted
 away from [111] direction

D. Kaib, S. M. Winter, and R. Valentí (2019), arXiv:1904.01025

A spin-orbital-entangled quantum liquid on a honeycomb lattice

K. Kitagawa^{1*}, T. Takayama^{2*}, Y. Matsumoto², A. Kato¹, R. Takano¹, Y. Kishimoto³, S. Bette², R. Dinnebier², G. Jackeli^{2,4} & H. Takagi^{1,2,4}



$$a = 5.1633(2) \text{ \AA}$$

$$b = 8.9294(3) \text{ \AA}$$

$$c = 5.1219(2) \text{ \AA}$$

$$a = 5.3489(8) \text{ \AA}$$

$$b = 9.2431(14) \text{ \AA}$$

$$c = 4.8734(6) \text{ \AA}$$

enlarged a/b

Reduced interlayer spacing