

External-fields induced  
novel phenomena  
in "Mott insulator  $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$ "

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- I . Pressure induced Superconductivity
- II .  $E$  induced Ins.-Metal transition

## >> Collaborators <<

### >> Pressure works <<

**Hiroshima:** Y.Senoo, Y.Nakai, T.Suzuki, T.Fujita

**Cambridge:** P.L.Alireza, S.K.Goh, Y.T.C.Ko,  
M.Sutherland, G.G.Lonzarich,  
S.R.Julian (Toronto)

**Kyoto:** Y.Maeno, S.Nakatsuji (ISSP),  
H.Fukazawa (Chiba)

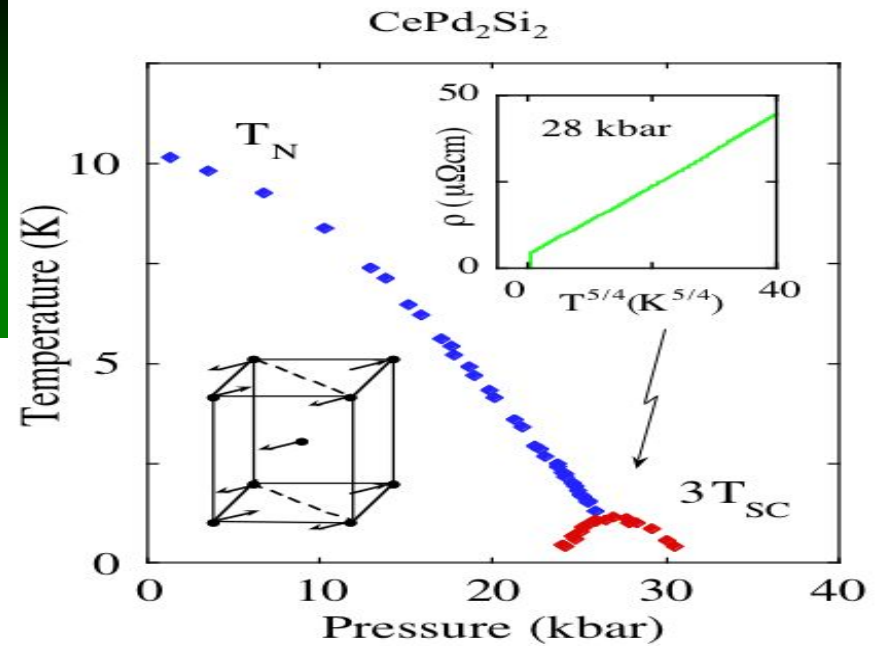
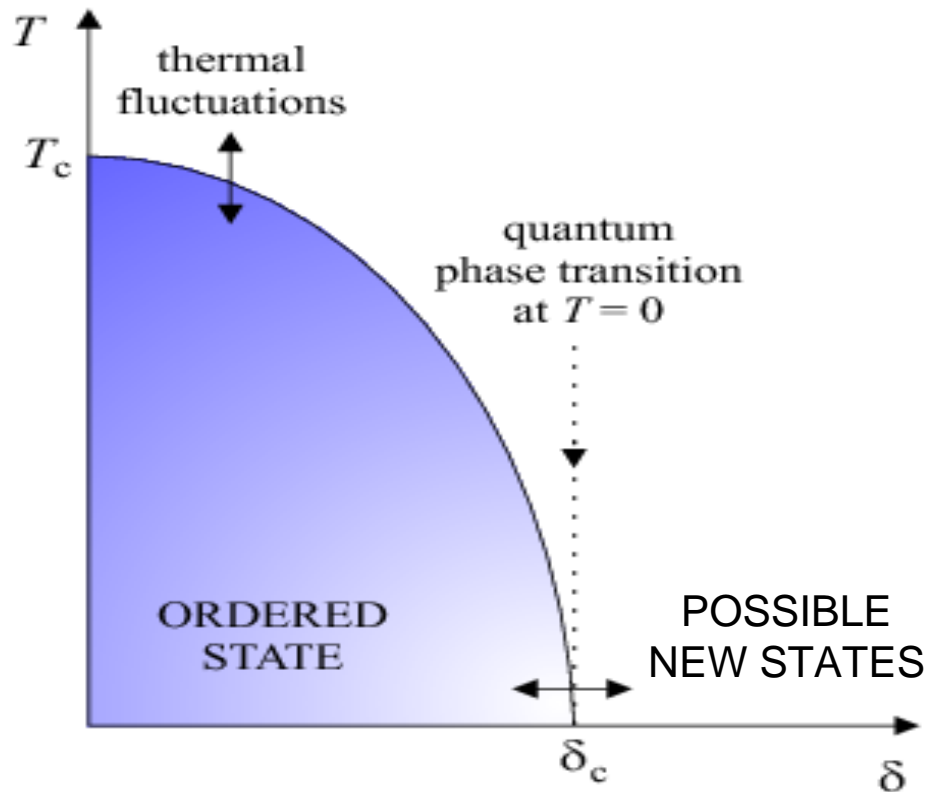
### >> Dielectric breakdown <<

**Hiroshima:** T.Takemoto, M.Sakaki, Y.Yamauchi

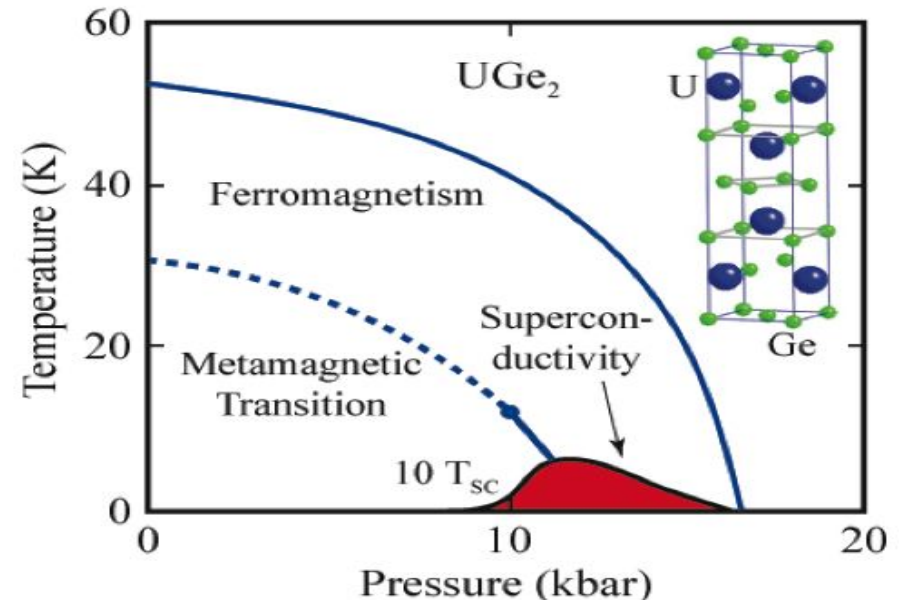
**Kyoto:** Y.Maeno, S.Yonezawa, T.Yamagishi

# I. Quantum Critical natures in the vicinity of magnetic ordered state

3D system



ND Mathur, FM Grosche, SR Julian, IR Walker, DM Freye, RKW

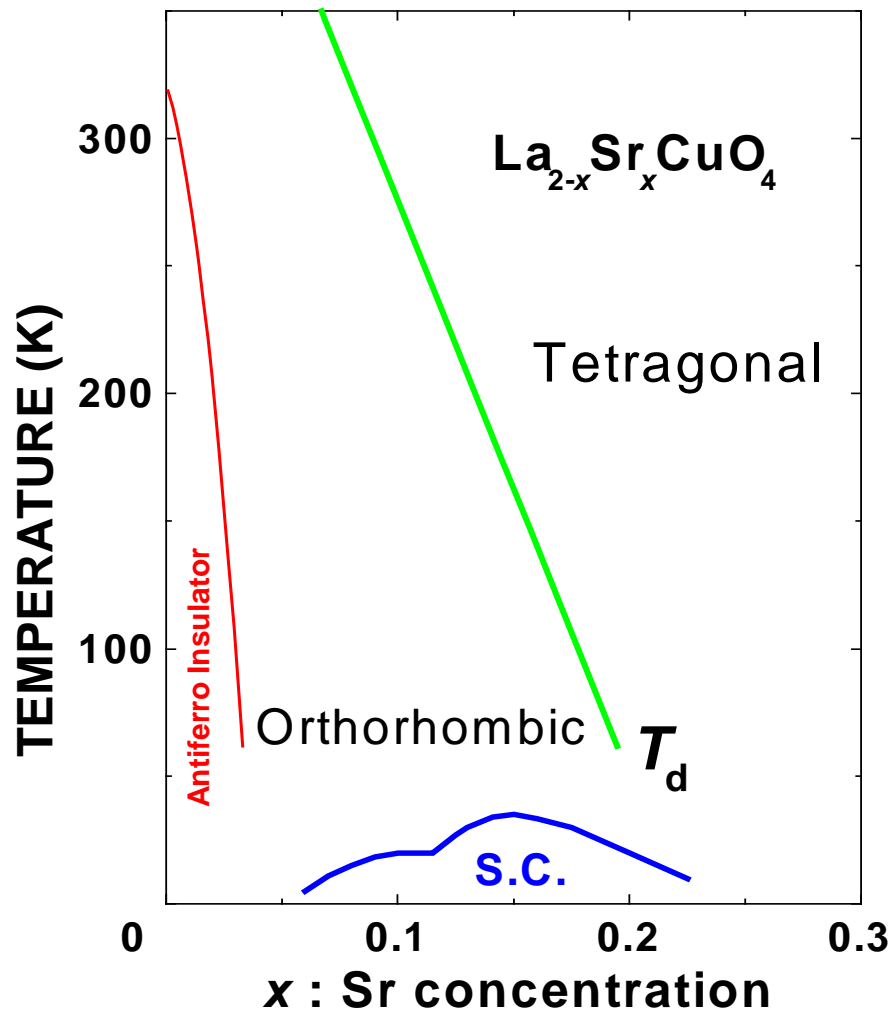


Saxena *et al.*, *Nature* (2000); Huxley *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. B* (2001); Tateiwa *et al.*, *J. Phys: Condens. Matter* (2001)

from P. L. Alireza, G.G.Lonzerich

# How about "2D system" ?

## 2D system AFM



## 2D system FM

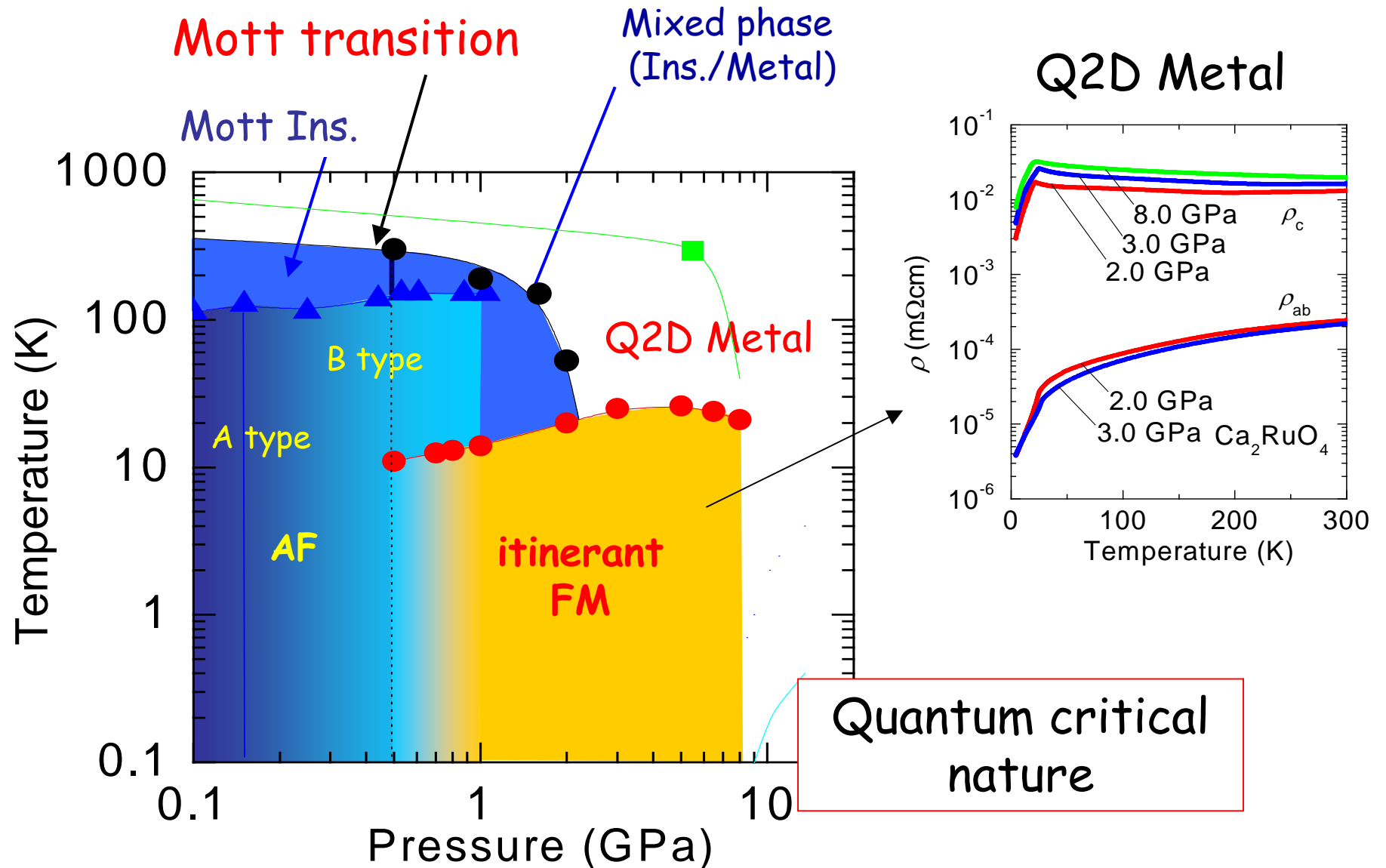
?

Theoretical prediction  
only

Hatatanani and Moriya,  
JPSJ, 64 (1995) 3434

" $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$ " was a candidate.

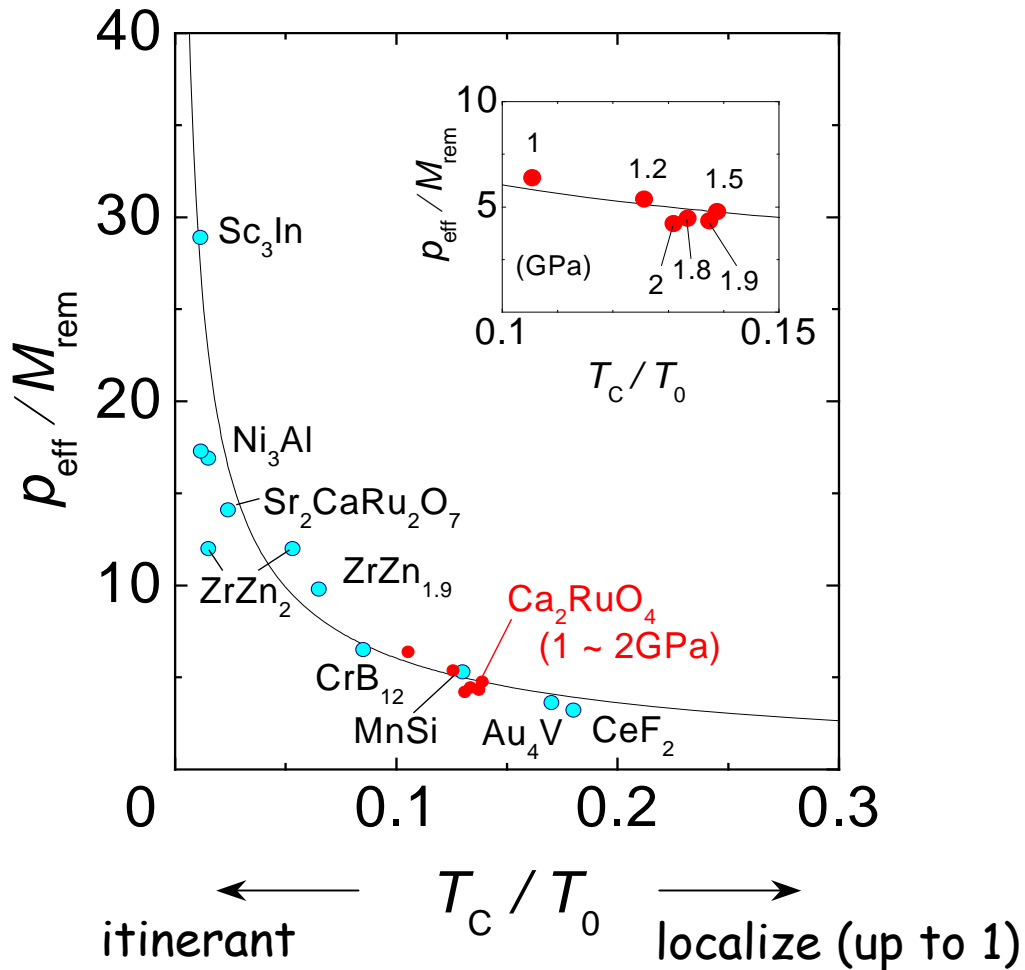
# Rich variety of pressure phase diagram from Mott insulator to Q2D FM metal



F.Nakamura, PRB65 (2002)220402, JPSJ (2007).

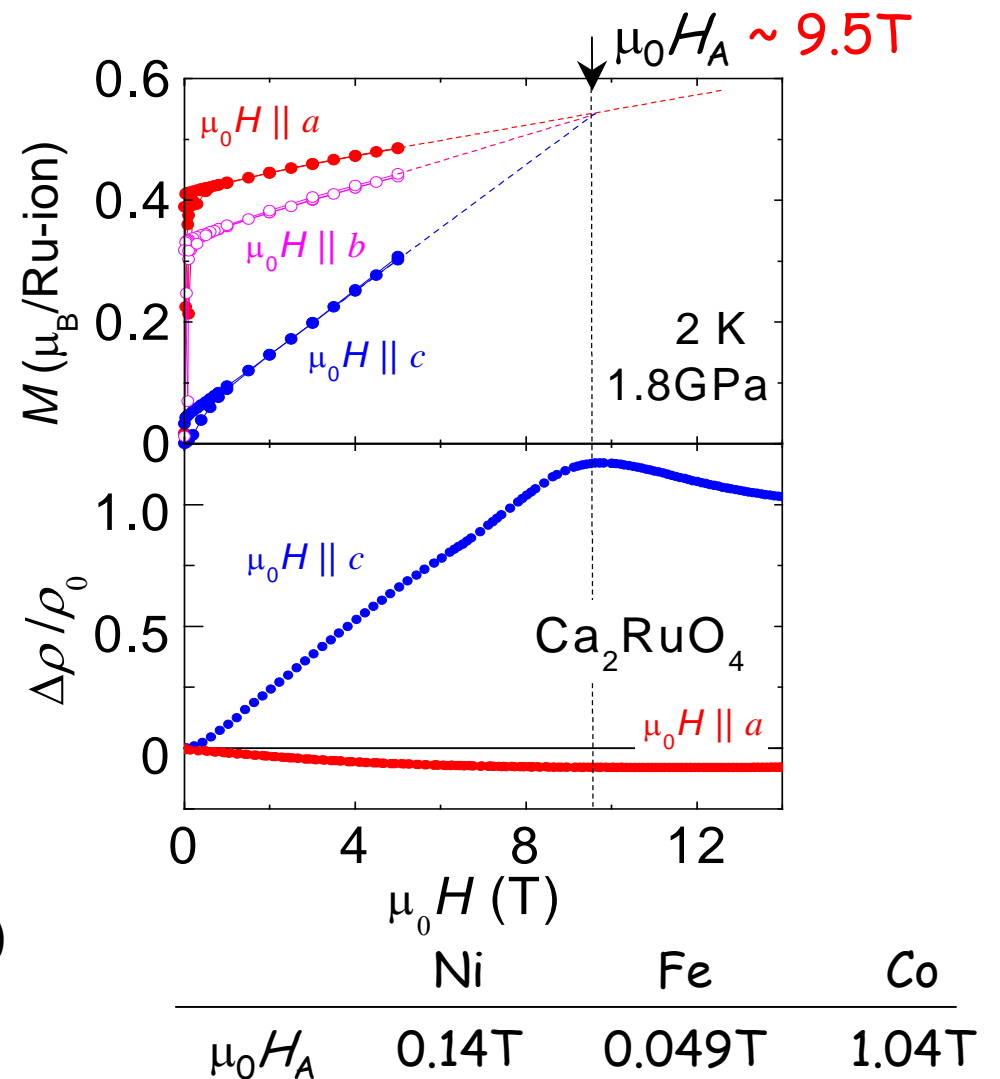
# Itinerant and Anisotropic FM in $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$

Generalized Rhodes-Wohlfarth Plot  
the scale for itinerant FM



Y.Yamauchi, et al., Physica C (2010).

Strongly anisotropic FM  
due to Spin-orbit coupling

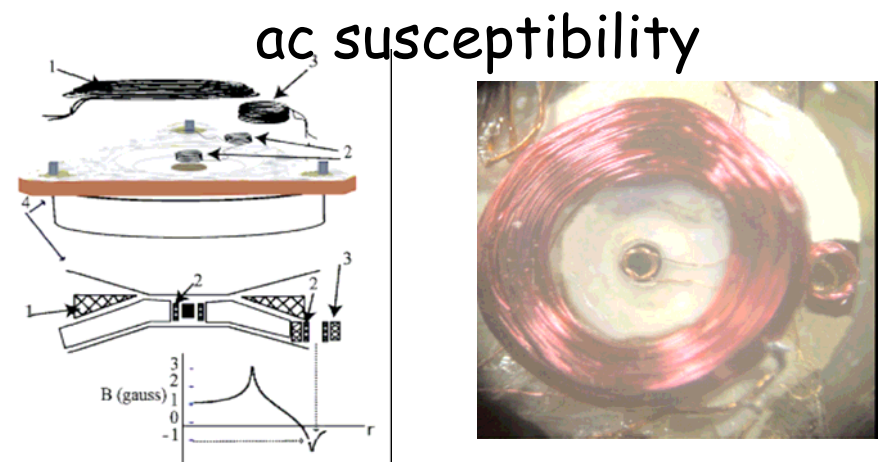
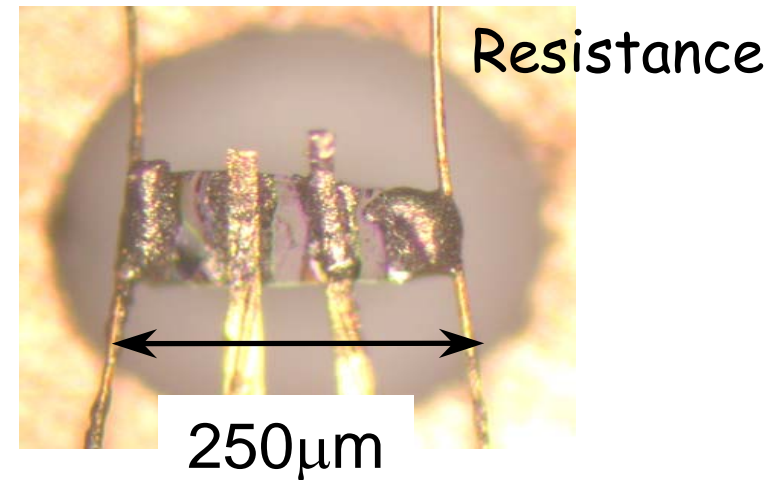
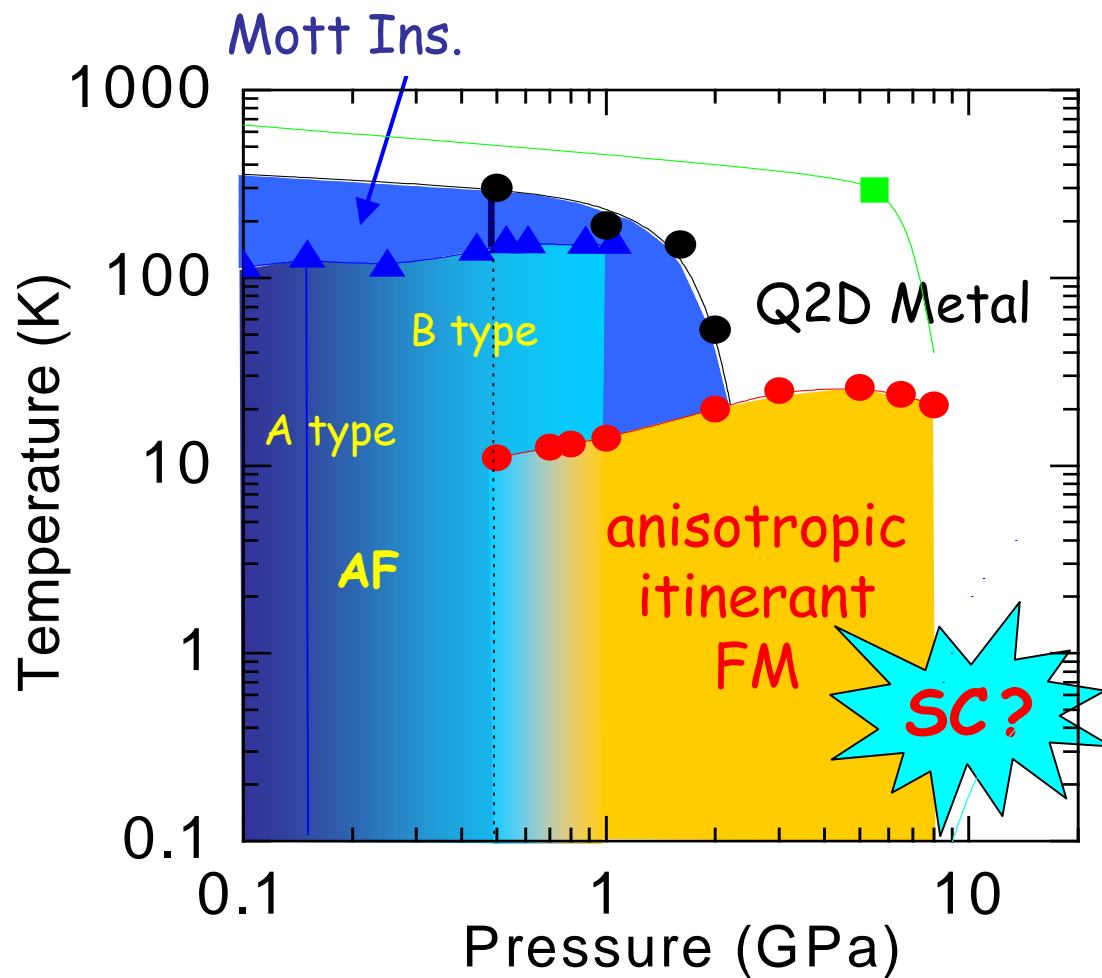


# To explore superconductivity in a Mott ins. $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$

Our project started in 1999.

>>> One decade after

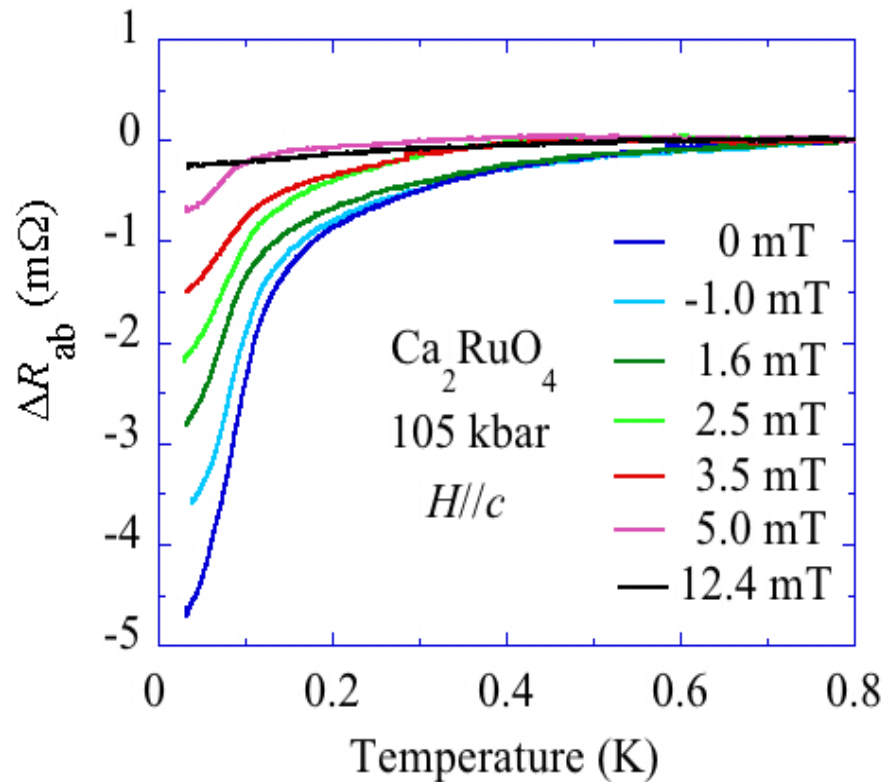
Over 10GPa: Very hard work !!



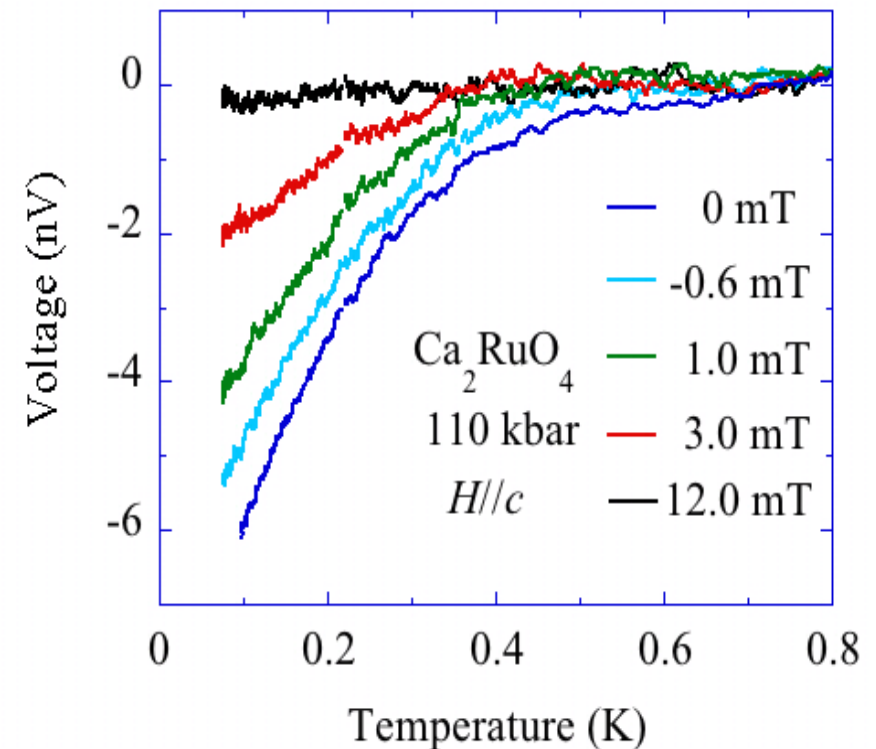
Alireza. Rev.Sci.Ins.74, 4728 (2003).

# We found pressure induced SC at $\sim 10$ GPa

Resistance (2-terminal)



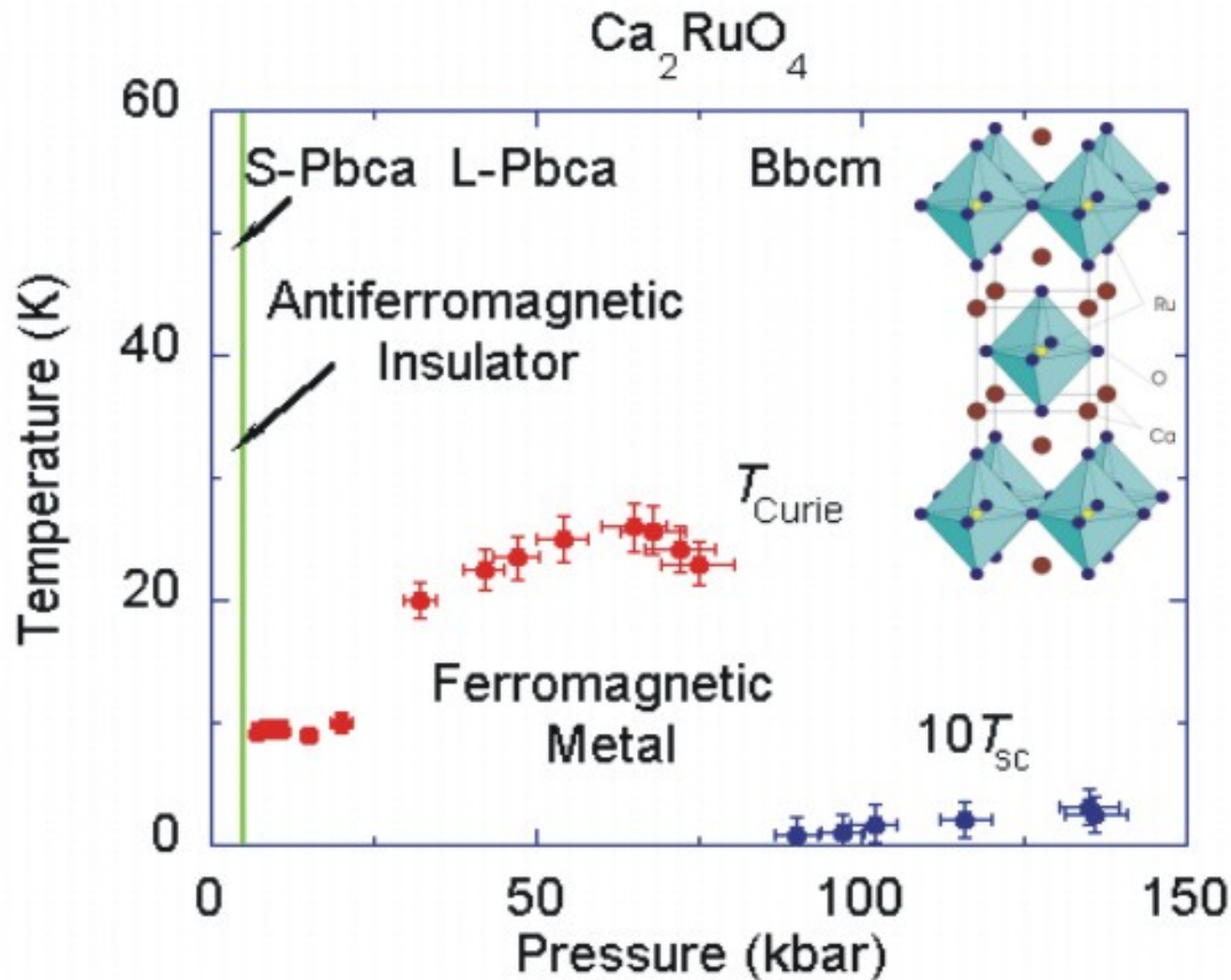
ac susceptibility



P. L. Alireza, et al., Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter **22** (2010) 052202.  
arXiv:0912.1513 [cond-mat.supr-con]



# From Mott insulator to "SC" via itinerant FM



$$T_c \sim 0.4 \text{ K} \\ \text{at } P \sim 14 \text{ GPa}$$

P. L. Alireza, et al., Journal of Physics: Condensed Matter **22** (2010) 052202.  
arXiv:0912.1513 [cond-mat.supr-con]

# New SC phase in pressurised CRO

Pressurisation above  $\sim 8$  GPa turns CRO  
from FM metal to SC ( $T_c \sim 0.4$  K and  $\sim 14$  GPa).

1. How about relation between FM and SC ?
2. How about difference in SC between  
SRO and CRO ? (  $p$  or  $s$ -wave SC ? )
3. Ru214 is 2D Fermi liquid metal  
but what is difference ?

Quantum oscillation data is required.



## II. "Electric-field" induced Mott transition

"Electric field" has higher potential than  $P$

Reported breakdown in Mott insulator

	$E_{th}$ (kV/cm)	$E_{gap}$ (eV)
$La_{2-x}Sr_xNiO_4$ <sup>1)</sup>	1~10	0.26
$Sr_2CuO_3$ <sup>2)</sup>	1~3	
$SrCuO_2$ <sup>2)</sup>	0.3~1	
(TTeC1TTF)-TCNQ <sup>3)</sup>	0.3~1.2	
$Ca_2RuO_4$	?	0.2 / 0.05 (@RT)

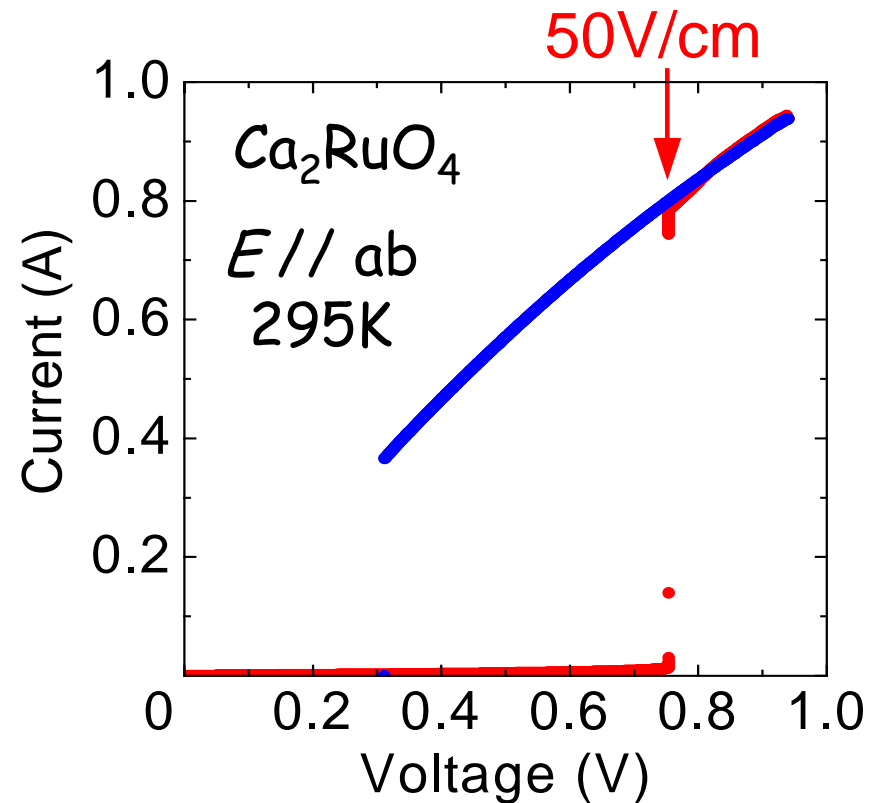
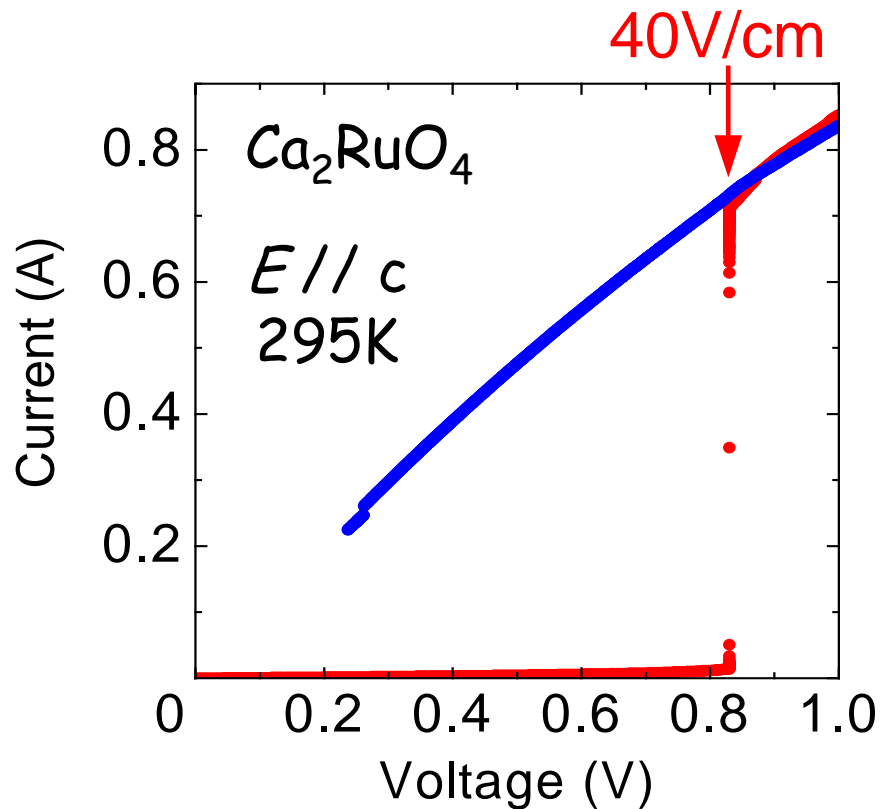
1) M.Imada, Rev.Mod.Phys. 70 4 (1998).  
2) Y.Taguchi., PRB. 62 11 (1999).  
3) Y. Iwasa ., APL. 39, 10441 (1989).

We expect " $E_{th} \sim 3kV/cm$ " @RT for  $Ca_2RuO_4$   
based on Zener breakdown model.

$$E_{th} = \frac{\epsilon_{gap}^2}{e^2 \epsilon_0 a}$$



Breakdown in 4d Mott insulator  $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$  occurs at "Surprisingly weak  $E_{\text{th}} \sim 40\text{V/cm}$ "



Zener Breakdown No !

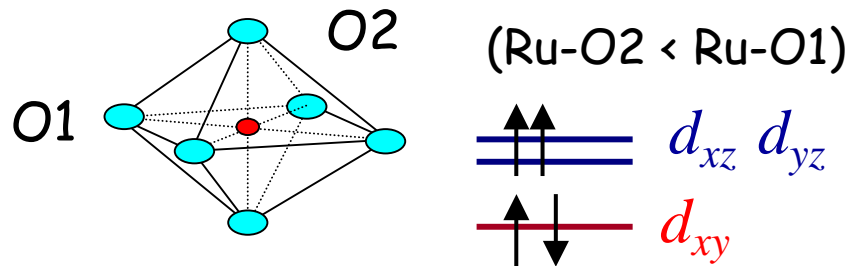
Why is  $E_{\text{th}} \sim 40\text{V/cm}$  so weak in  $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$  ?

Avalanche Breakdown ?

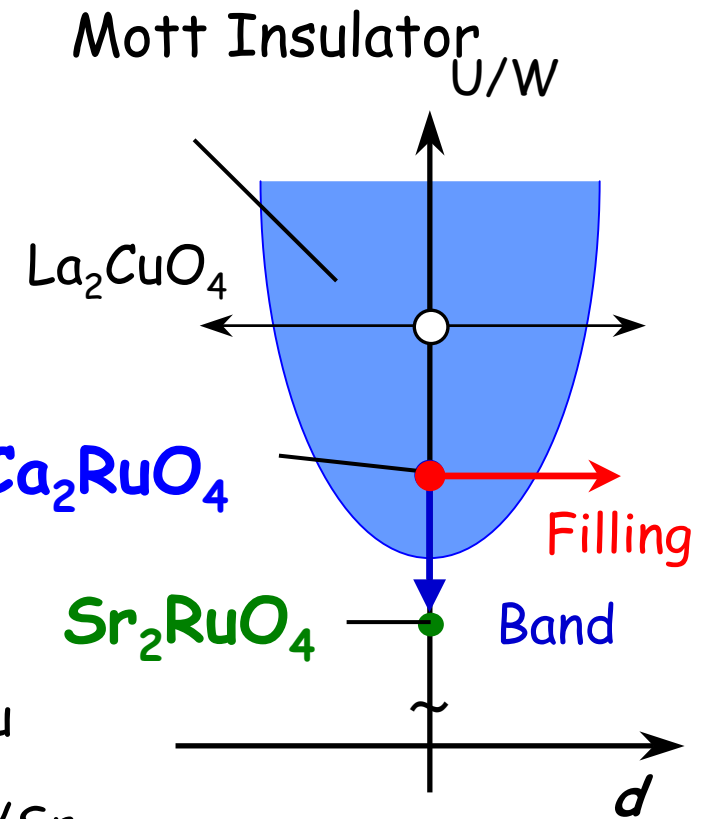
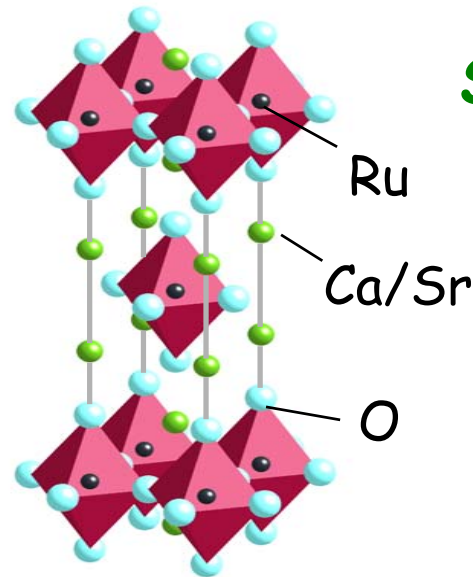
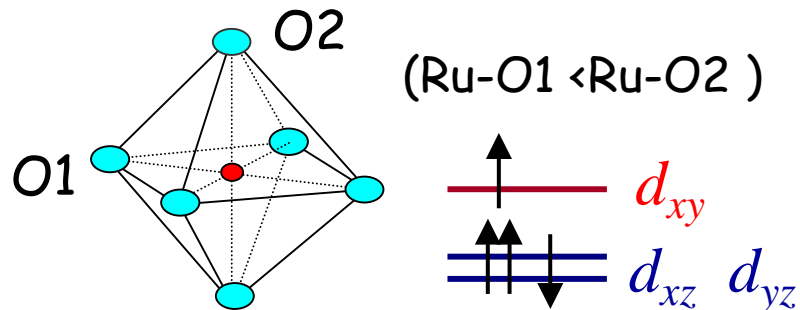
# Metal-Insulator transition in $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$ accompanied by structural change

1. Substitution ( $(\text{Sr}/\text{Ca})_2\text{RuO}_4$ )
2. Heating (temperature)
3. Pressure
4. Electric field

Insulator ( S-Pbca **flattened** )



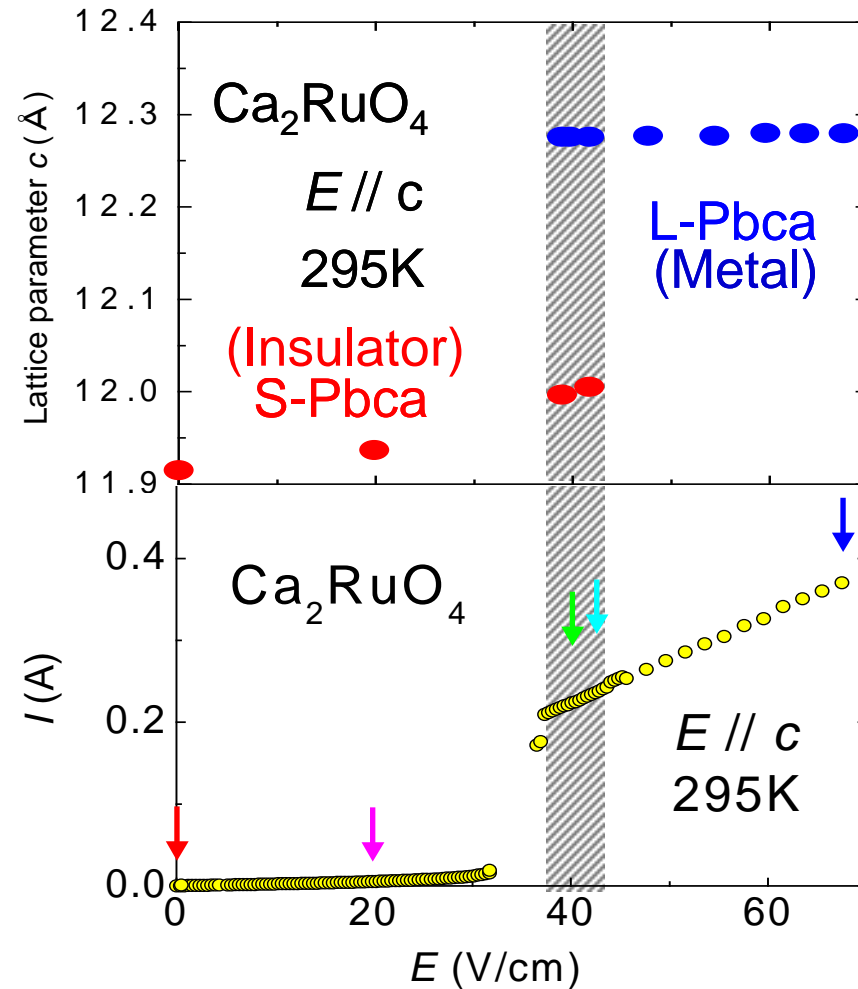
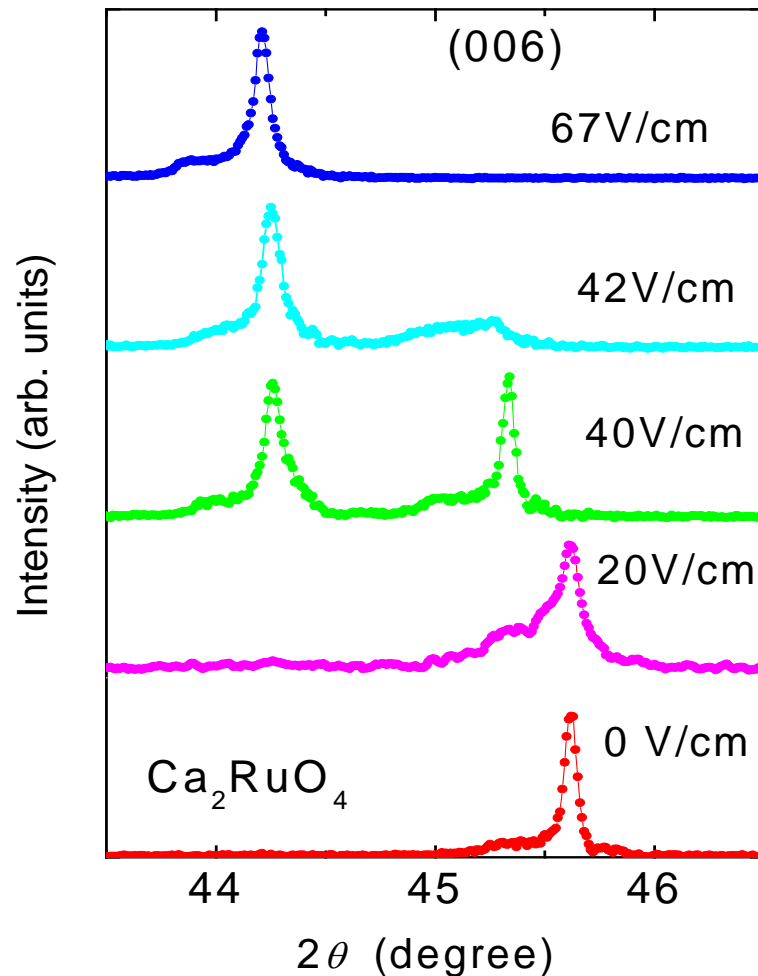
Metal ( L-Pbca )





# The breakdown accompanied by structural transition from S- to L-Pbca

Breakdown in CRO is "Bulk transition".  
Avalanche Breakdown **NO!**





## Summary

Dielectric Breakdown in Mott insulator  $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$  occurs

at "Superisingly weak  $E_{\text{th}} \sim 40\text{V/cm}$ "

accompanying with structural transition

$c$  axis:  $11.9 \text{ \AA}$  (insulator)  $\rightarrow$   $12.3 \text{ \AA}$  (metal)

**DB in CRO  $\rightarrow$  Bulk transition**

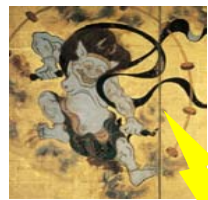
- |                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| 1. Zener Breakdown     | No |
| 2. Joule heating       | No |
| 3. Avalanche Breakdown | No |

What is the possible mechanism for weak  $E_{\text{th}}$  ?

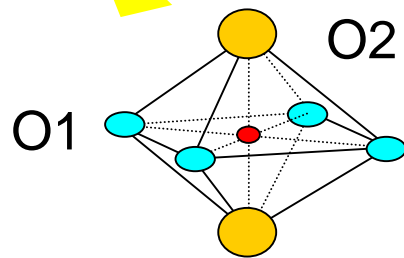
# How about possible mechanism for Dielectric breakdown in $\text{Ca}_2\text{RuO}_4$ ?

## Change of the internal charge distribution.

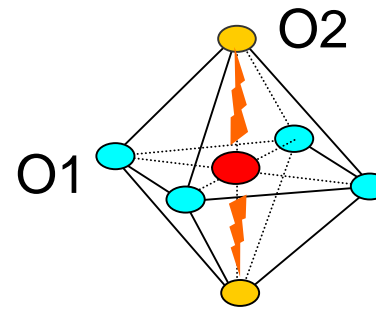
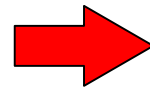
Enough amount of charge for the metalisation is internally stored in the apical oxygen (O2) of  $\text{CRO}$ , and then it can be poured into the  $\text{RuO}_2$  plane only by quite weak field of  $E_{\text{th}} \sim 40\text{V/cm}$ .



$$E_{\text{th}} \sim 40\text{V/cm}$$



Insulator ( S-Pbca )



Metal ( L-Pbca )



# Other possible mechanism

