

Unconventional Charge Dynamics in Low-Dimensional Organic Conductors

Martin Dressel

1. Physikalisches Institut der Universität Stuttgart

Outline

1. **Introduction**
to molecular conductors

2. **Mott-Insulator-Intransition**
 κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Br_xCl_{1-x}
afm insulator to superconductor

3. **Mott-Insulator:
Disorder and Frustration**
 κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃
charge dynamics of a spin liquid

4. **Summary and Outlook**

A. Pustogow, T. Ivek,
S. Elsässer, D. Faltermeier,
K. Sedlmeier, S. Yasin,
N. Drichko, M. Dumm
Physikalisches Institut
Universität Stuttgart

M. Pinterić, P. Lazić, O. Milat, S. Tomić
Institute of Physics, Zagreb, Croatia
Rujer Bošković Institute, Zagreb

B.P. Gorshunov, E.S. Zhukova
General Physics Institute, Moscow, Russia
Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology

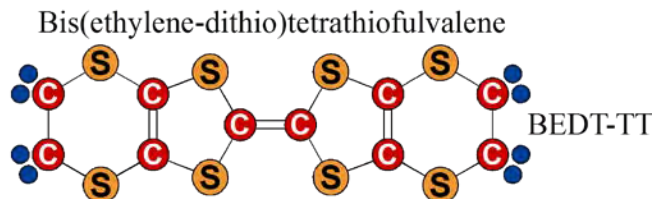
P. Batail, C. Mézière
CNRS, Université d'Angers, France
J. Schlueter
Argonne National Laboratory, U.S.A.

J. Merino
Universidad Autónoma, Madrid, Spain
R. McKenzie
Univ. Queensland, Brisbane, Australia



Quasi-Two-Dimensional Organic Conductors

charge transfer salts

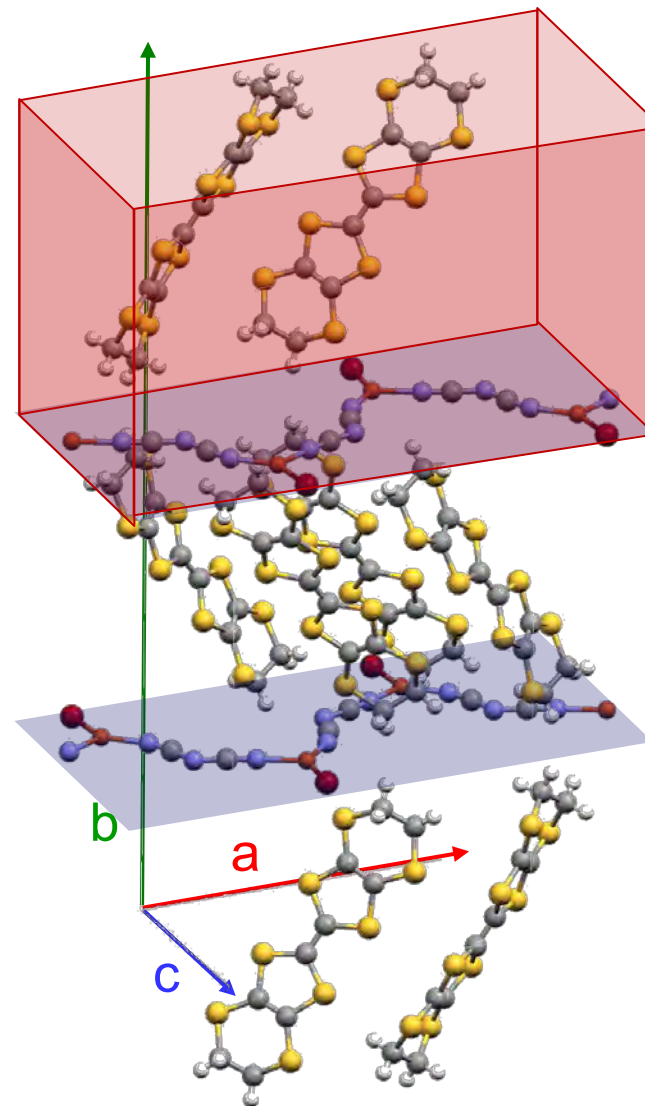
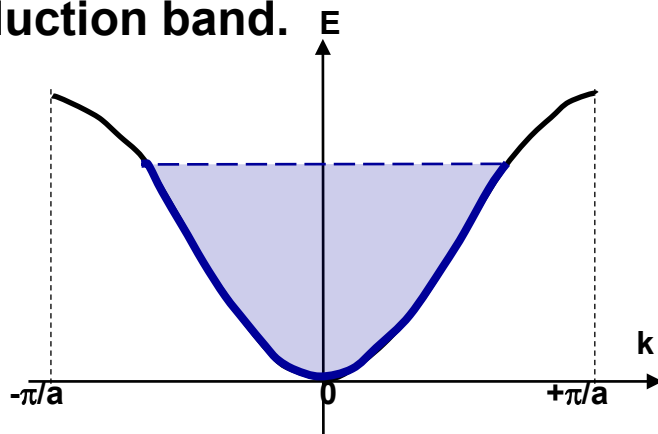


The structure consists of BEDT-TTF layers
as electron **donors**,
separated by sheets of inorganic **acceptors**.

- **Two dimensional electron system.**

The **bandfilling** depends on the stoichiometry:
typically A_2B

- $\frac{3}{4}$ - filled conduction band.





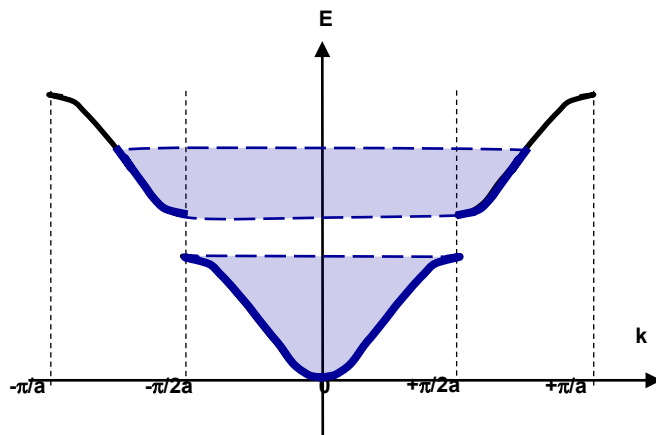
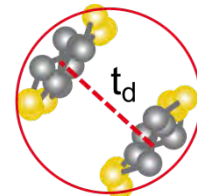
Quasi-Two-Dimensional Organic Conductors

dimerized Mott insulators



In the κ -phase, **dimers** are formed with a rather strong coupling $t_d \approx 0.2$ eV;
based on the dimer site, the system is half-filled.

- The onsite Coulomb repulsion $U \approx 0.4$ eV.
With an effective $U/W = 1.8$,
the system is a **Mott insulator**.





Quasi-Two-Dimensional Organic Conductors

dimerized Mott insulators

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

In the κ -phase, **dimers** are formed with a rather strong coupling $t_d \approx 0.2$ eV;
based on the dimer site, the system is half-filled.

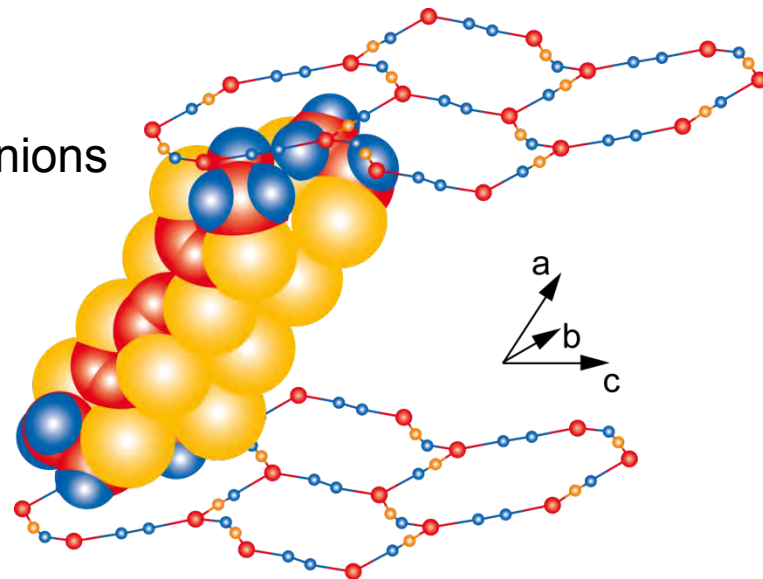
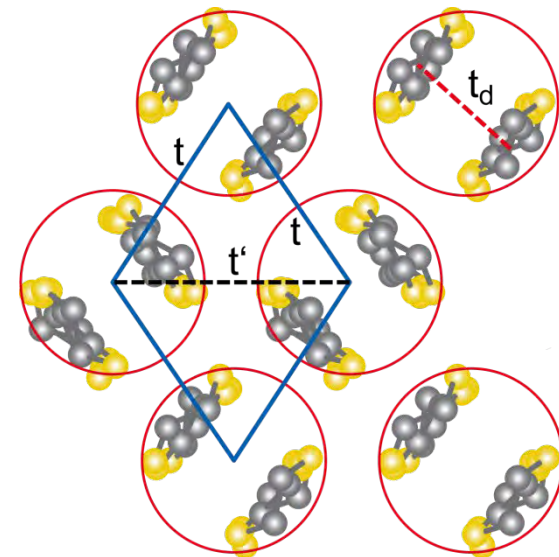
- The onsite Coulomb repulsion $U \approx 0.4$ eV.
With an effective $U/W = 1.8$,
the system is a **Mott insulator**.

The dimers are arranged on a triangular lattice,

- close to **frustration** $t' \approx t$.

The BEDT-TTF molecules are coupled to the anions via the terminal ethylene groups.

- **Disorder** in the anion sheets acts on the organic layers.



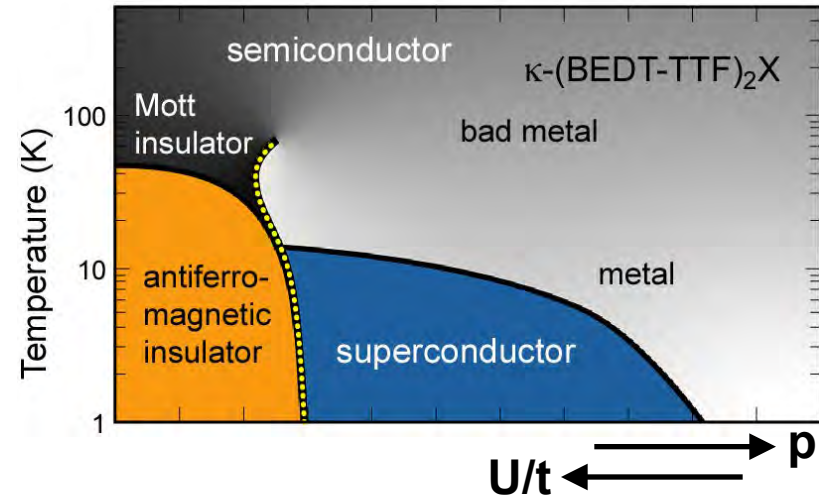


Metal-Insulator Transition

bandwidth control

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]X

- two-dimensional half-filled electron system
- strong correlations, close to Mott transition
- tuning of bandwidth $W = 4t$ by physical or chemical pressure



electronic correlations (on-site U)

bandwidth W



Metal-Insulator Transition

bandwidth control



with

$x = 0\%$, 20% , 40% , 73% , 85% , and 90% .

Changing size of the anions modifies the overlap integral t : **'chemical pressure'**

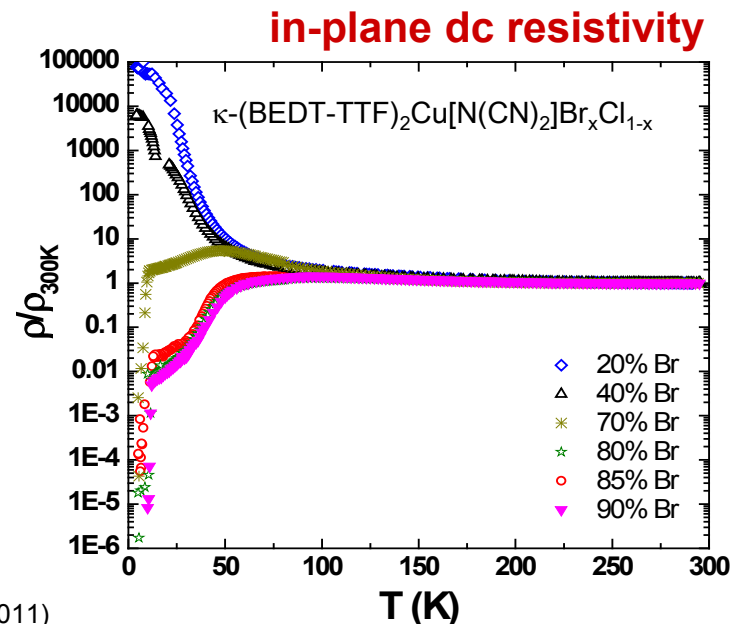
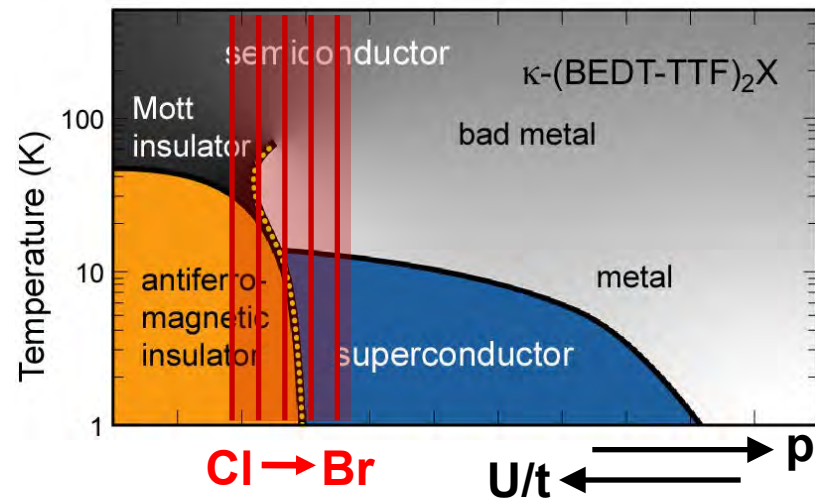


a semiconductor at room temperature which becomes a Mott insulator below 100 K. At low temperature it orders magnetically, under slight pressure it superconducts.



metallic for $T \leq T^* \approx 50$ K.

Organic superconductor with maximum $T_c = 12$ K.



Metal-Insulator Transition

bandwidth control

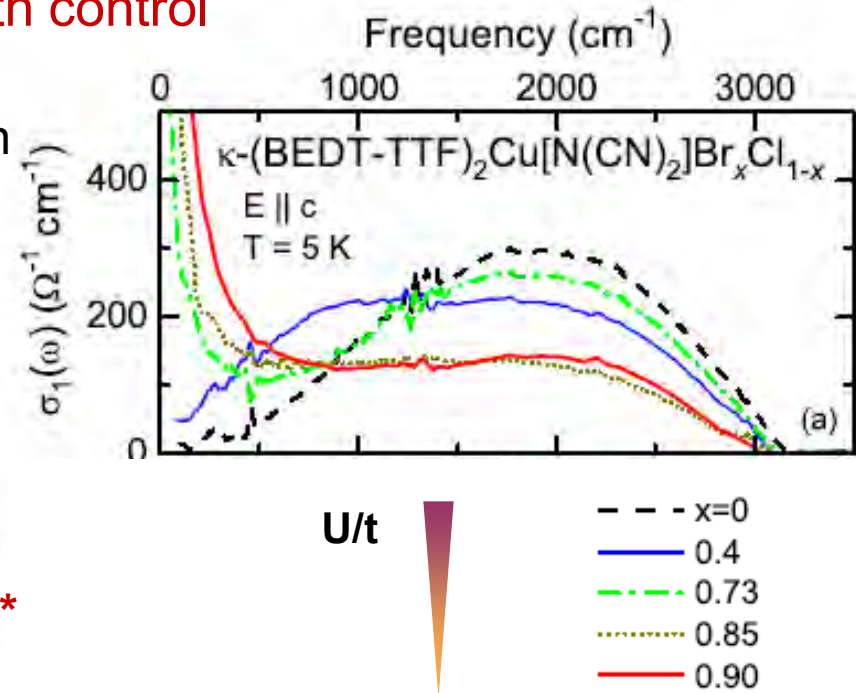


On the metallic side of the Mott transition a **coherent carrier response** develops for low temperatures.

From the extended Drude analysis, we find

- an **increase of the effective mass m^*** when approaching MIT.
- a **rise in the scattering rate $1/\tau$** .

These findings agree with predictions by dynamical mean field theory (**DMFT**).





Metal-Insulator Transition

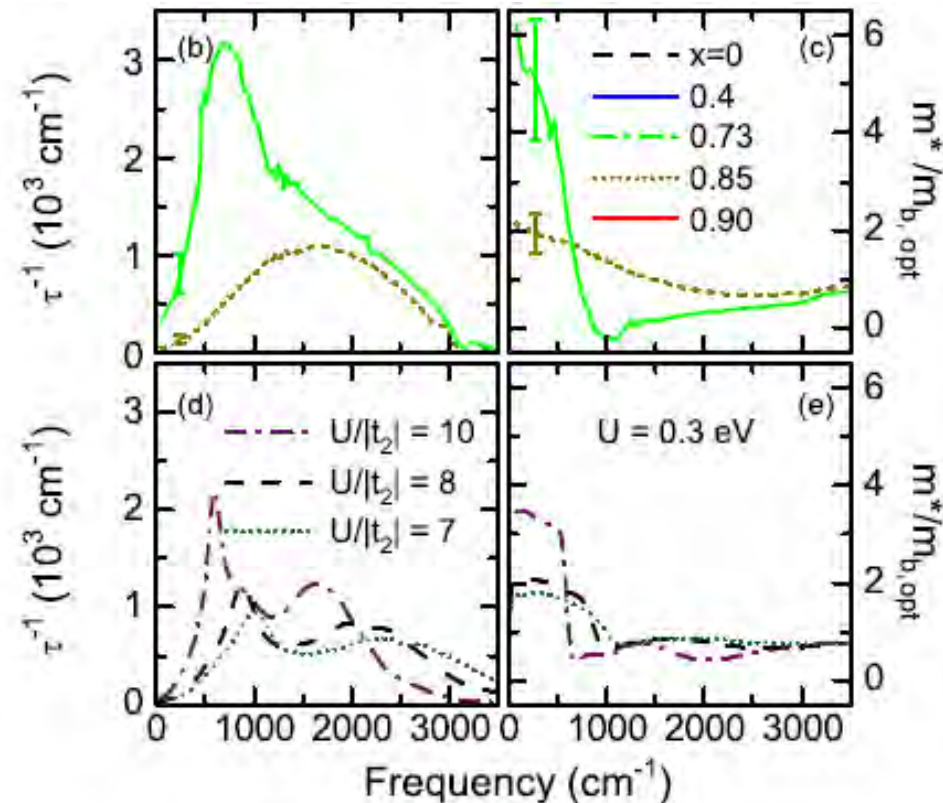
bandwidth control

Brinkman-Rice

Approaching the metal-insulator transition from the metallic side, the **effective mass increases**, because correlations become stronger.

Kadowaki-Woods

The slope of the scattering rate $1/\tau(T)$ or $1/\tau(\omega)$ **becomes larger** when correlations increase.





Dynamics of Correlated Charge Carriers

Fermi liquid behavior

At low temperatures $T < 30$ K
 Fermi liquid behavior $\tau^{-1} \propto \omega^2$ is expected
 up to a frequency $\omega^* \approx 500$ cm⁻¹.

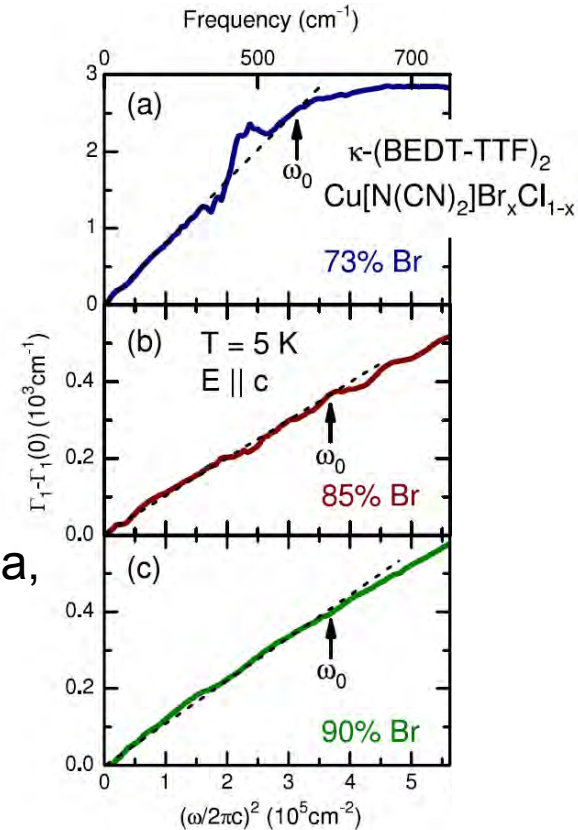
The dc resistivity exhibits a
 $\rho \propto \tau^{-1} \propto T^2$ behavior up to 30 K.

Comparing the slope for the two kind of data,
 we obtain $A/B = 56$.

Landau predicted a prefactor of
 $(2\pi)^2 \approx 40$ for a **Fermi liquid**.

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = B(\hbar\omega)^2$$

- The vicinity of the **Mott insulator** strongly influences the **metallic state**.
- Superconductivity evolves out of a Fermi liquid state.
- The presence of the Mott state is more important to **superconductivity** than antiferromagnetic fluctuations.



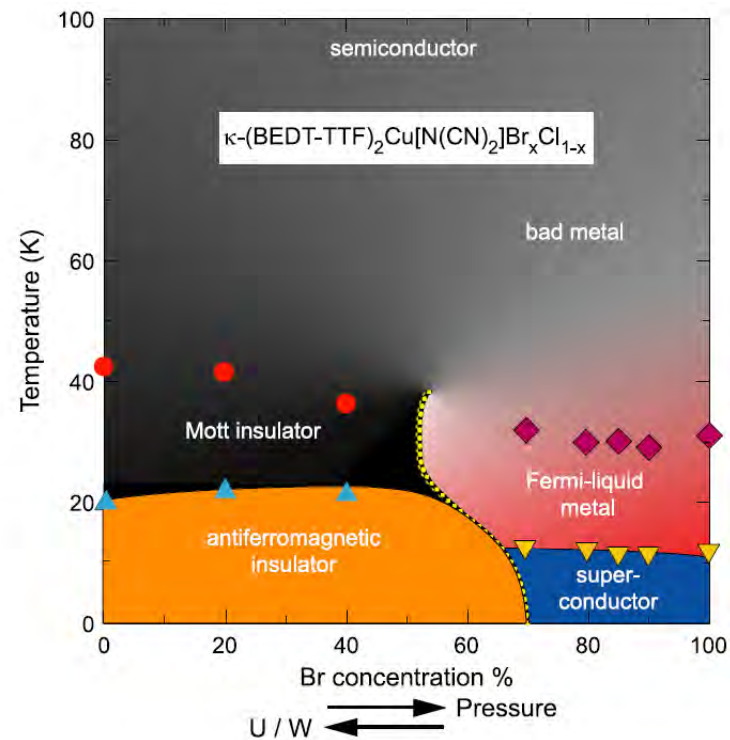


Metal-Insulator Transition on Triangular Lattice

first summary



- half-filled conduction band
- strong Coulomb repulsion U
- semiconductor / bad metal
- **Mott insulator**
- **antiferromagnetic order**
- **Fermi liquid**
- **superconductor**



- The vicinity of the **Mott insulator** strongly influences the **metallic state**.
- Superconductivity evolves out of a Fermi liquid state.
- The presence of the Mott state is more important to **superconductivity** than antiferromagnetic fluctuations.

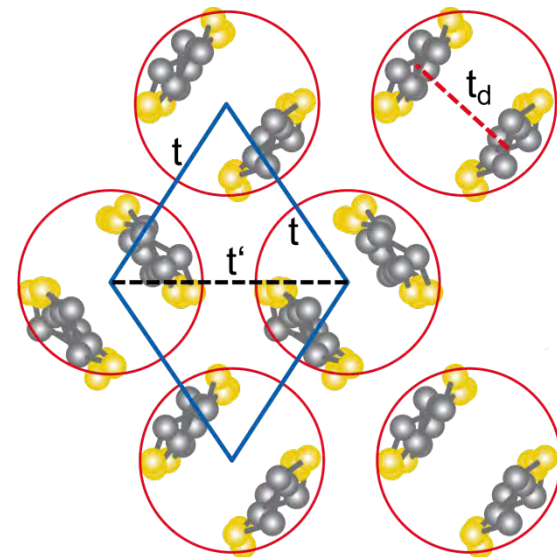


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

Variation of correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ X X=	t'/t	U/t	t _d (mev)	t (mev)	t' (meV)
Hg(SCN) ₂ Cl	0.80	5.2	129	50.2	40.2
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Br	0.42	5.1	200	78	33
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Cl	0.44	5.5	200	73	32
Cu ₂ (CN) ₃	0.83	7.3	200	55	45
Ag ₂ (CN) ₃	0.95	4.2	200		



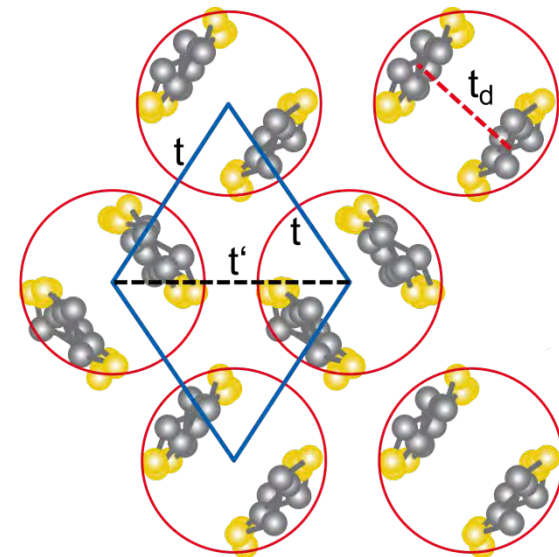


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

Variation of correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ X X=	t'/t	U/t	t _d (meV)	t (meV)	t' (meV)
Hg(SCN) ₂ Cl	0.80	5.2	129	50.2	40.2
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Br	0.42	5.1	200	78	33
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Cl	0.44	5.5	200	73	32
Cu ₂ (CN) ₃	0.83	7.3	200	55	45
Ag ₂ (CN) ₃	0.95	4.2	200		

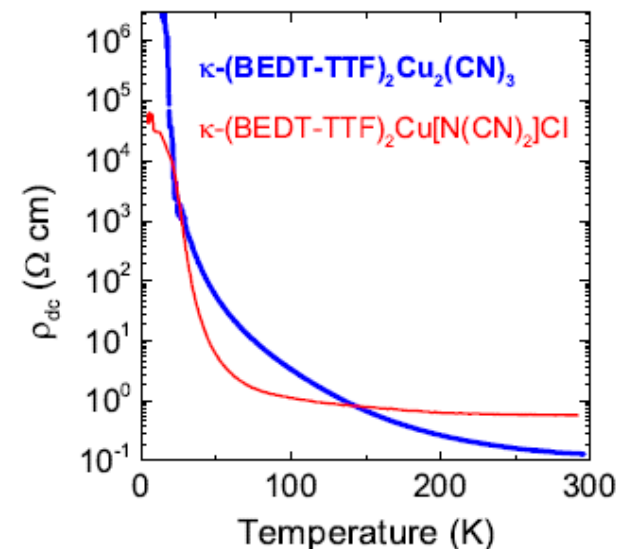


κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Cl

- $T_M \approx 40$ K Mott insulator
strong increase in $\rho(T)$
- $T_N = 25$ K afm order

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- gradual increase of $\rho(T)$
with no sharp kink indicates the opening of a gap



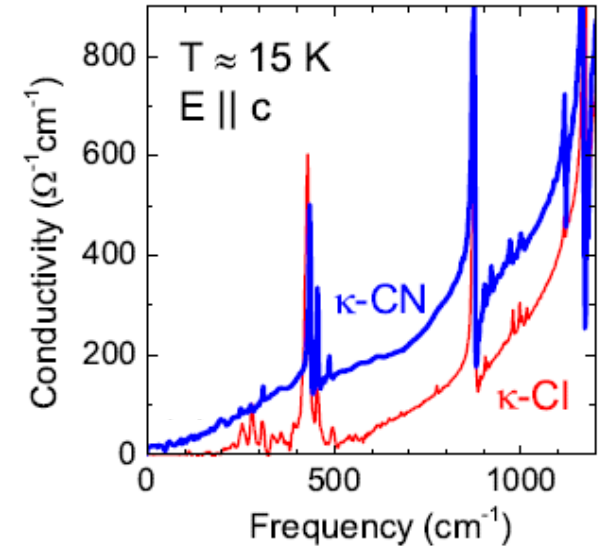


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

Variation of correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF) ₂ X X=	t'/t	U/t	t _d (meV)	t (meV)	t' (meV)
Hg(SCN) ₂ Cl	0.80	5.2	129	50.2	40.2
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Br	0.42	5.1	200	78	33
Cu[N(CN) ₂]Cl	0.44	5.5	200	73	32
Cu ₂ (CN) ₃	0.83	7.3	200	55	45
Ag ₂ (CN) ₃	0.95	4.2	200		

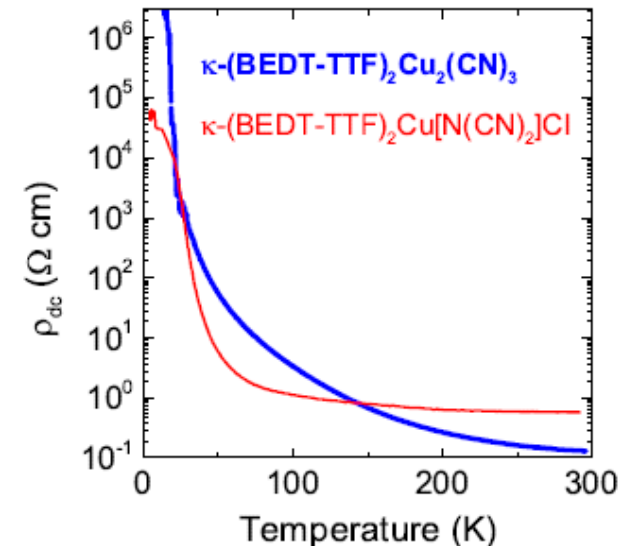


κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu[N(CN)₂]Cl

- $T_M \approx 40$ K Mott insulator
strong increase in $\rho(T)$
- $T_N = 25$ K afm order

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- gradual increase of $\rho(T)$
with no sharp kink indicates the opening of a gap





Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

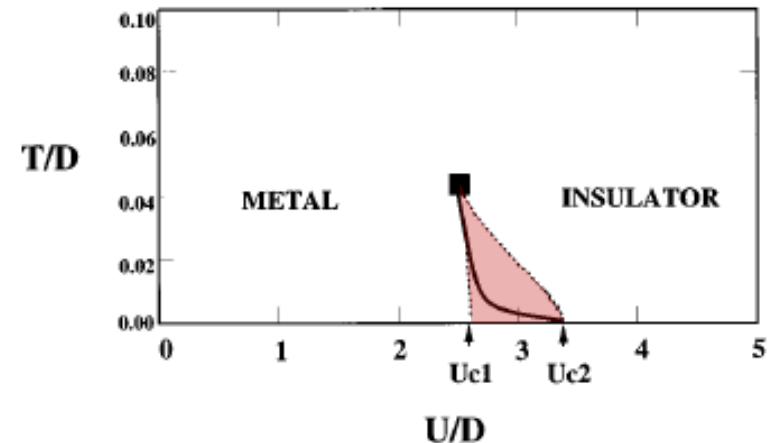
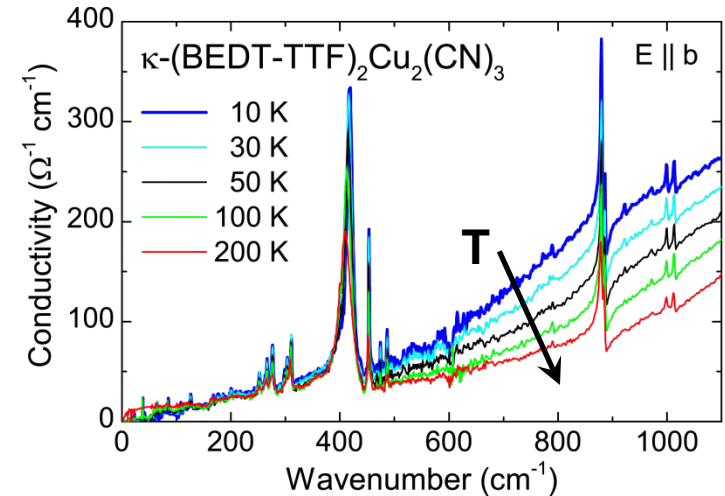
correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong in-gap absorption
- $\sigma_1(\omega)$ increases upon cooling
- finite conductivity down to $\omega = 0$ that becomes larger as T decreases.
- $\sigma(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 0$ in accord with the high resistivity.

DMFT with full frustration at half filling:
coexistence between paramagnetic metallic and insulating state.

However, κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃ remains insulating at all temperatures.



M.J. Rozenberg, G. Kotliar, and X.Y. Zhang, Phys. Rev. B **49**, 10481 (1994)

A. Georges, G. Kotliar, W. Krauth, and M.J. Rozenberg, Rev. Mod. Phys. **68**, 13 (1996)

S. Elsässer, Dan Wu, M. Dressel, and J. A. Schlueter, Phys. Rev. B **86**, 155150 (2012)



Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

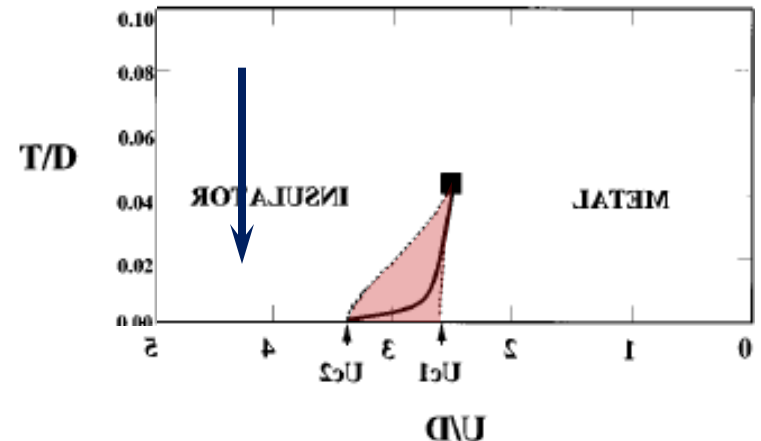
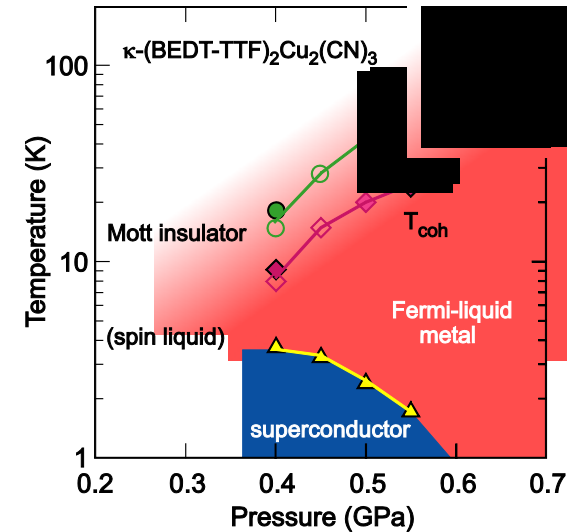
correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong in-gap absorption
- $\sigma_1(\omega)$ increases upon cooling
- finite conductivity down to $\omega = 0$ that becomes larger as T decreases.
- $\sigma(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 0$ in accord with the high resistivity.

We are well into the insulating side:

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃ is a Mott insulator at all temperatures.



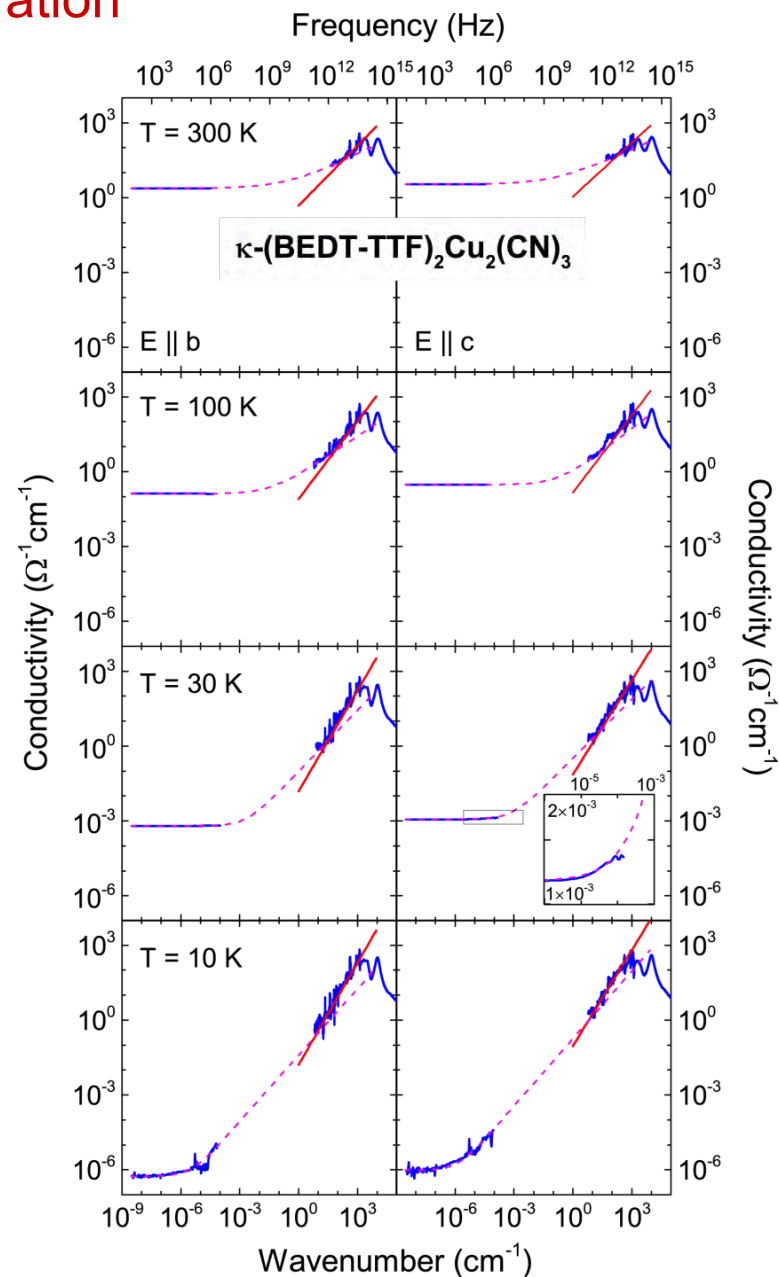


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong in-gap absorption
- $\sigma_1(\omega)$ increases upon cooling
- finite conductivity down to $\omega = 0$ that becomes larger as T decreases.
- $\sigma(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 0$ in accord with the high resistivity.





Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

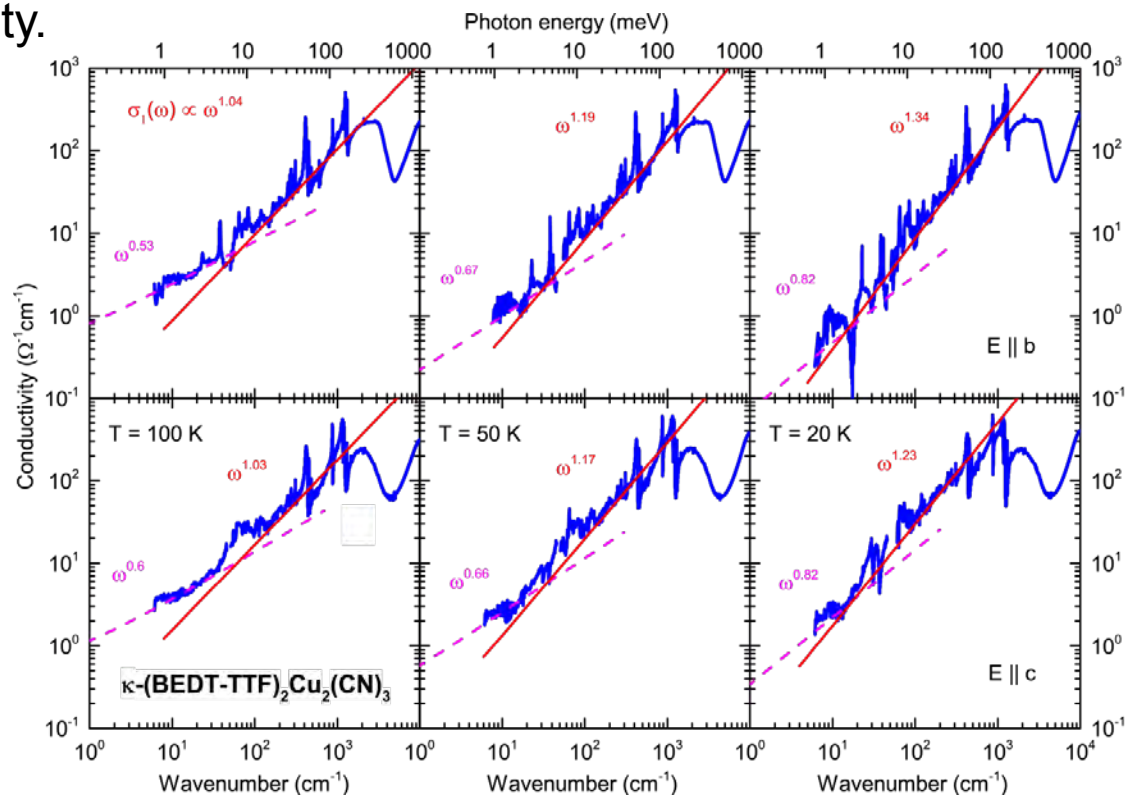
κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong in-gap absorption
- $\sigma_1(\omega)$ increases upon cooling
- finite conductivity down to $\omega = 0$ that becomes larger as T decreases.
- $\sigma(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 0$ in accord with the high resistivity.

- **power-law behavior**

$$\sigma(\omega) \propto \omega^n$$

with crossover at $\hbar\omega = k_B T$
due to spinon excitations.



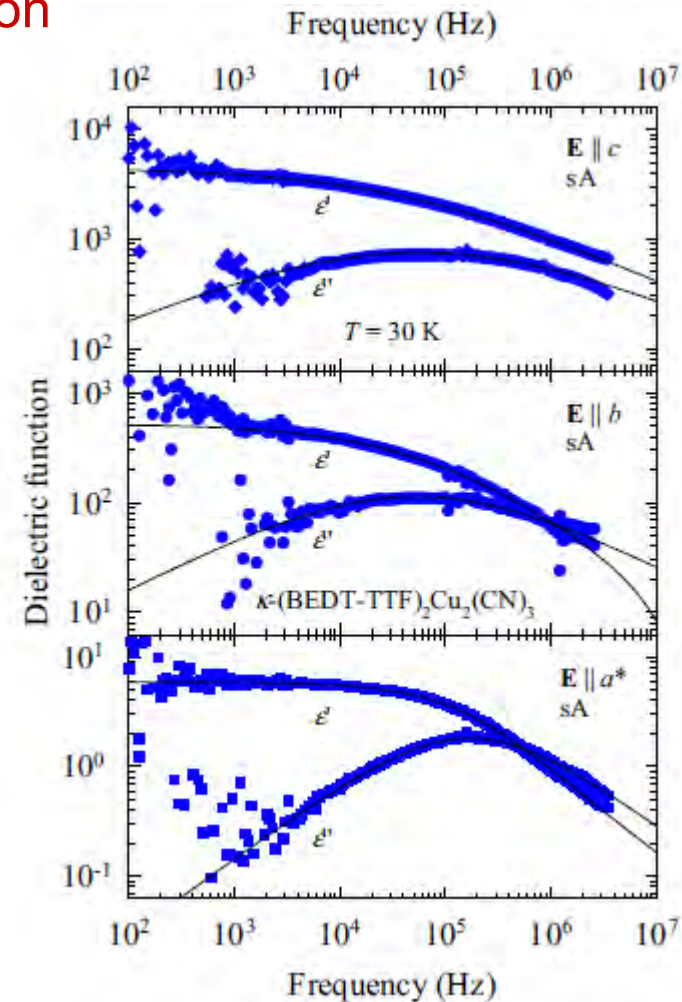


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation and frustration

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong in-gap absorption
- $\sigma_1(\omega)$ increases upon cooling
- finite conductivity down to $\omega = 0$ that becomes larger as T decreases.
- $\sigma(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 0$ in accord with the high resistivity.
- **intense dielectric response** that becomes stronger at low temperatures and is present in all three directions.



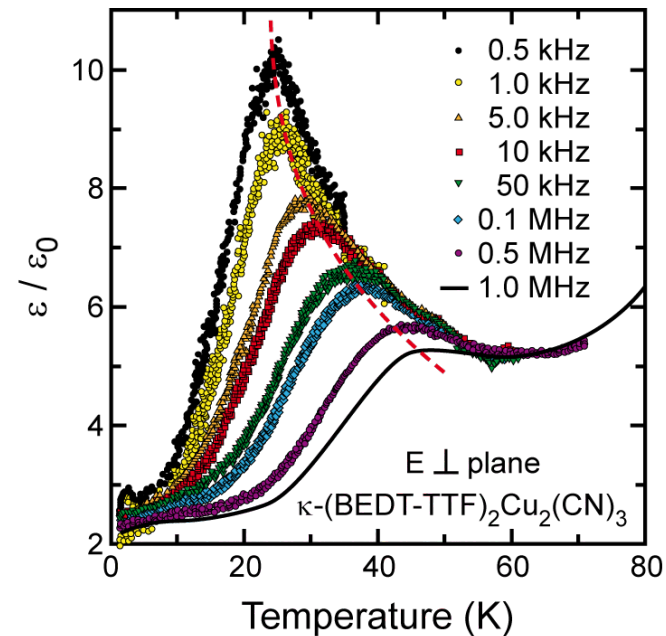


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation, frustration and disorder



- **intense dielectric response** that becomes stronger at low temperatures and is present in all three directions.
- strongly **resembles relaxor ferroelectrics**



Where does disorder come from?
Where are the dipoles?

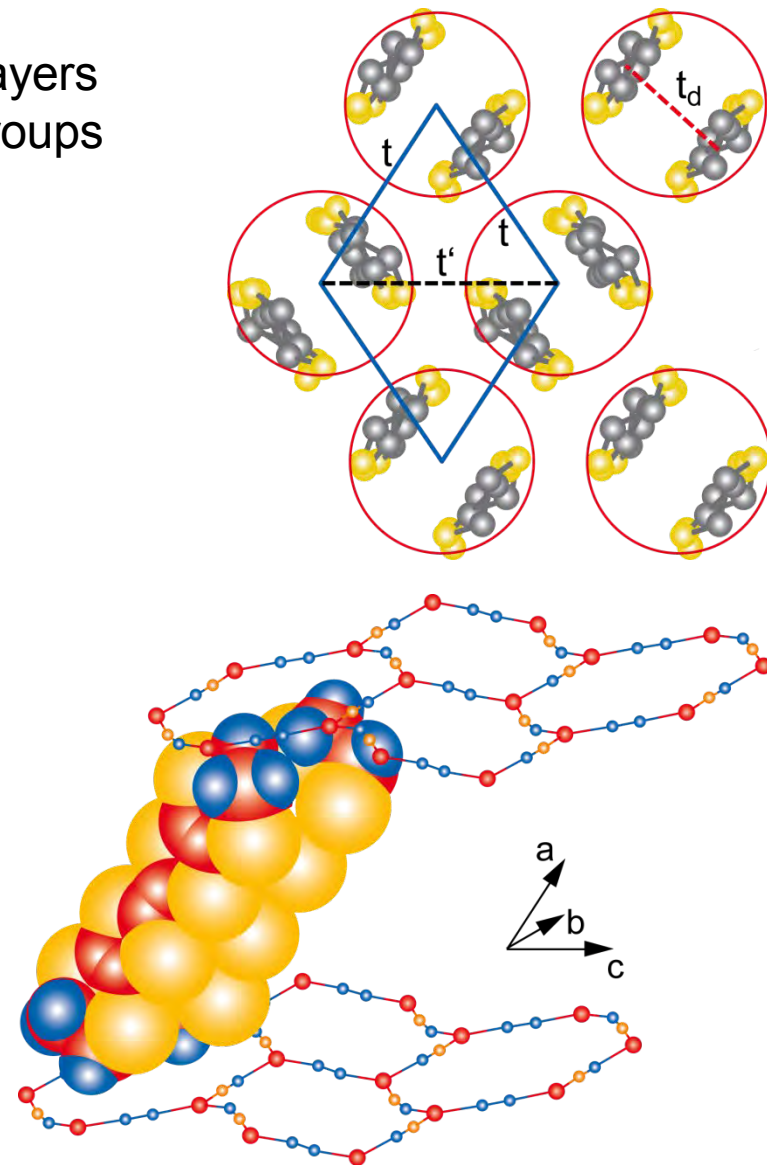


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation, frustration and disorder

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- electrodynamics takes place in BEDT-TTF layers
- coupled to anion network via ethylene endgroups



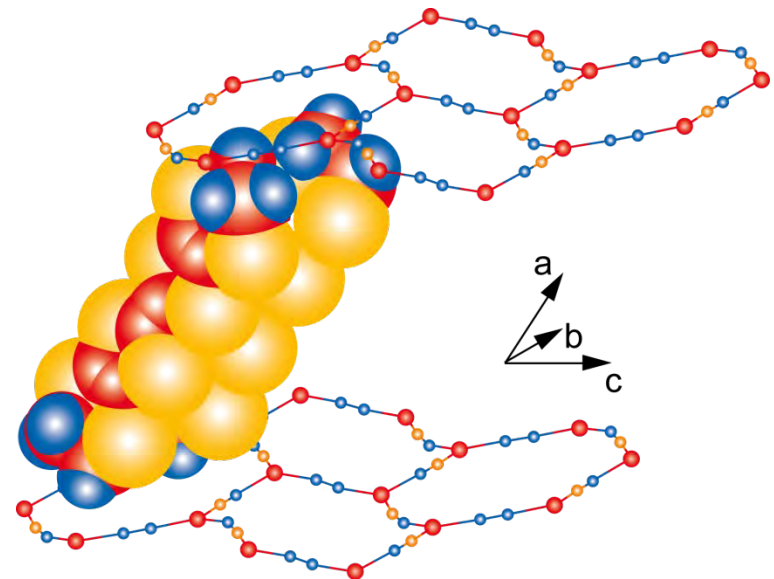
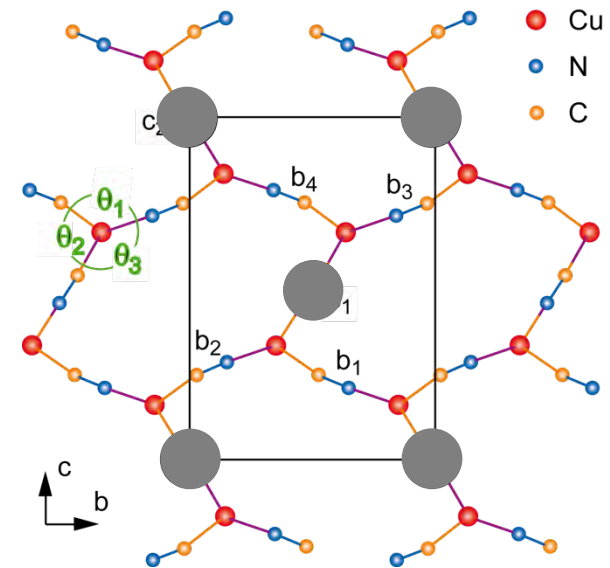
Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

correlation, frustration and disorder



κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- electrodynamics takes place in BEDT-TTF layers
- coupled to anion network via ethylene endgroups
- symmetry group $P2_1$ with **inversion centers**





Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

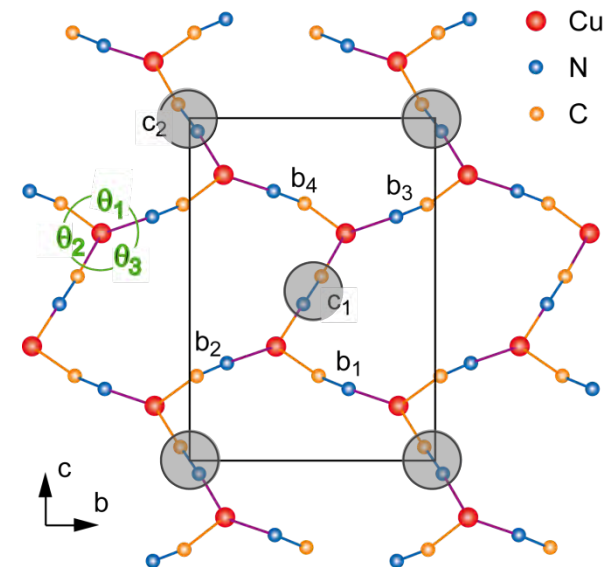
correlation, frustration and disorder

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- electrodynamics takes place in BEDT-TTF layers
- coupled to anion network via ethylene endgroups
- reduce symmetry locally to **P1**
- cyanide groups link each copper to three neighbors



- cyanide isomorphism causes **disorder**





Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

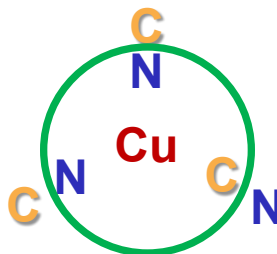
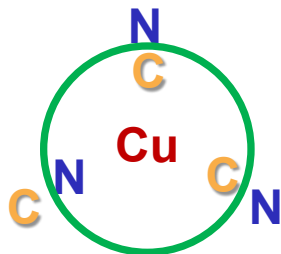
correlation, frustration and disorder

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

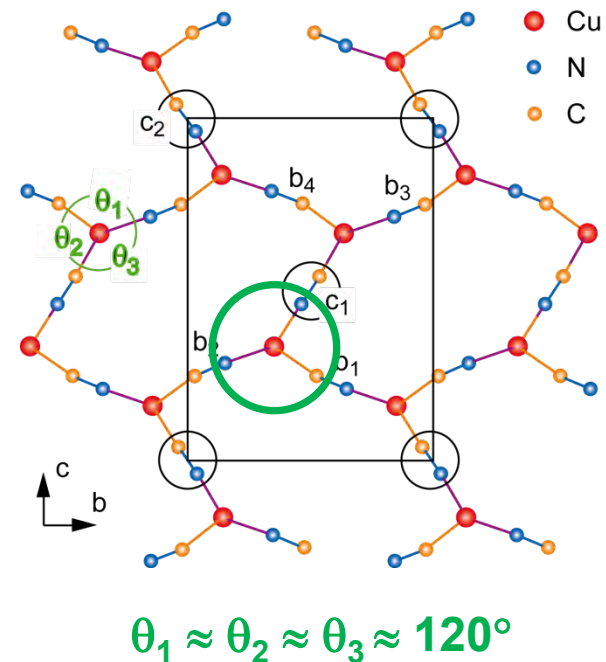
- electrodynamics takes place in BEDT-TTF layers
- coupled to anion network via ethylene endgroups
- reduce symmetry locally to **P1**
- cyanide groups link each copper to three neighbors



- cyanide isomorphism causes **disorder**



- copper linkages are **frustrated**



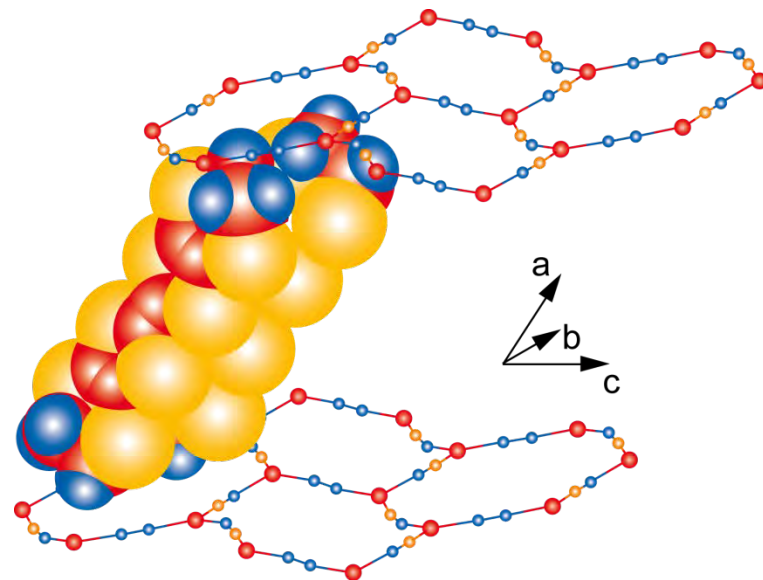
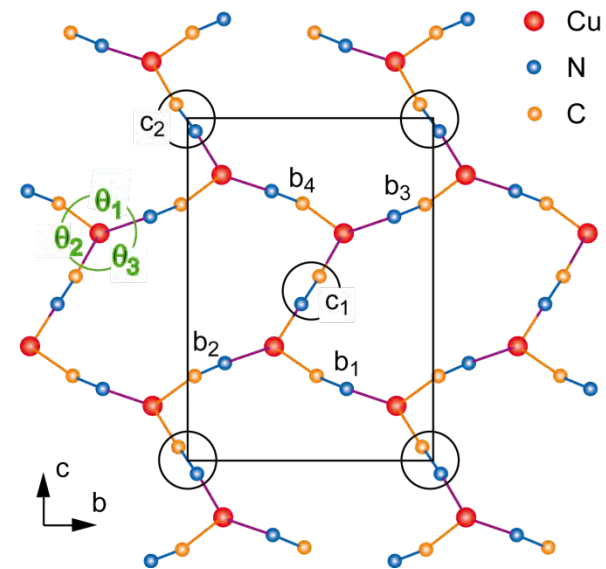
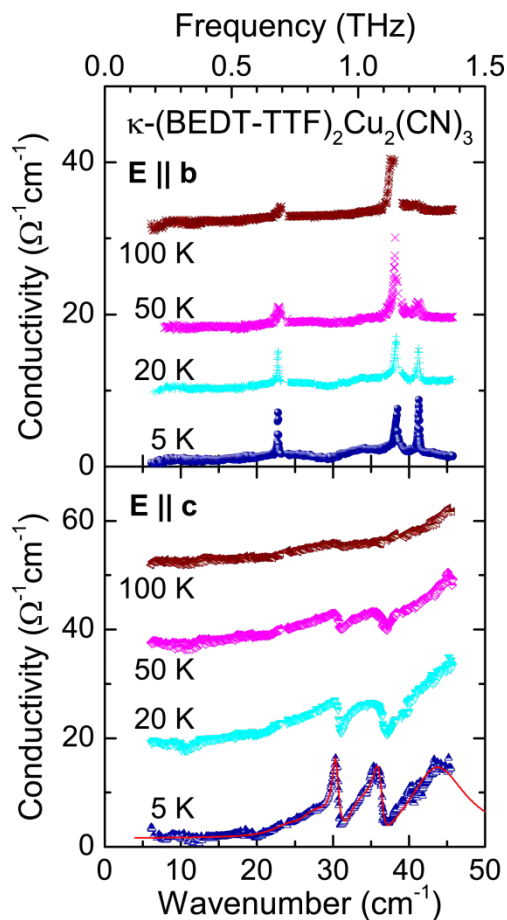


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

lattice dynamics

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions



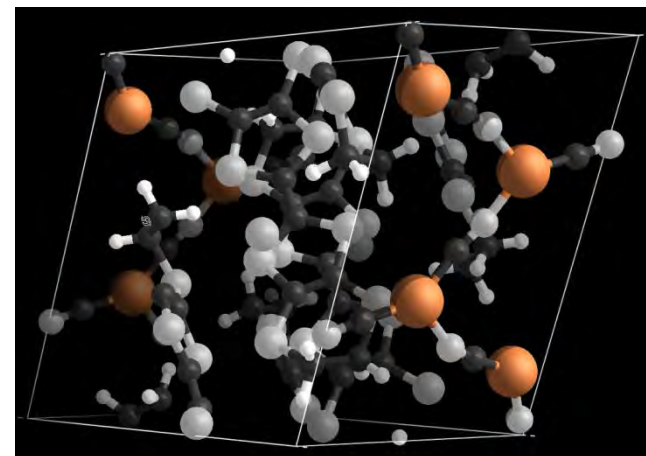
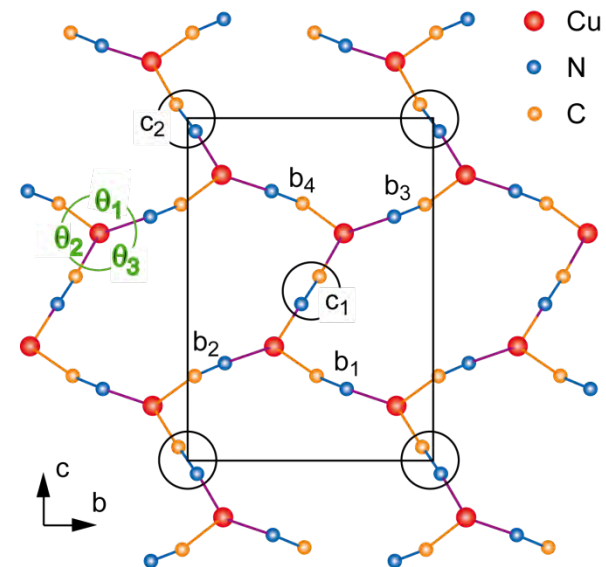
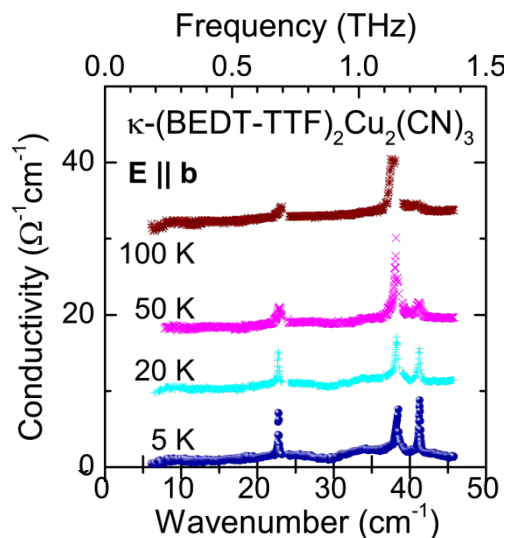


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

lattice dynamics

κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions



Ab-initio phonon calculations

based on density-functional-theory (DFT).

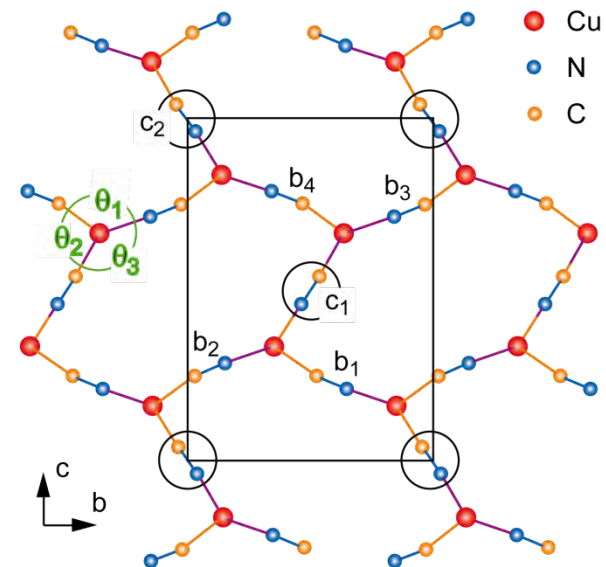
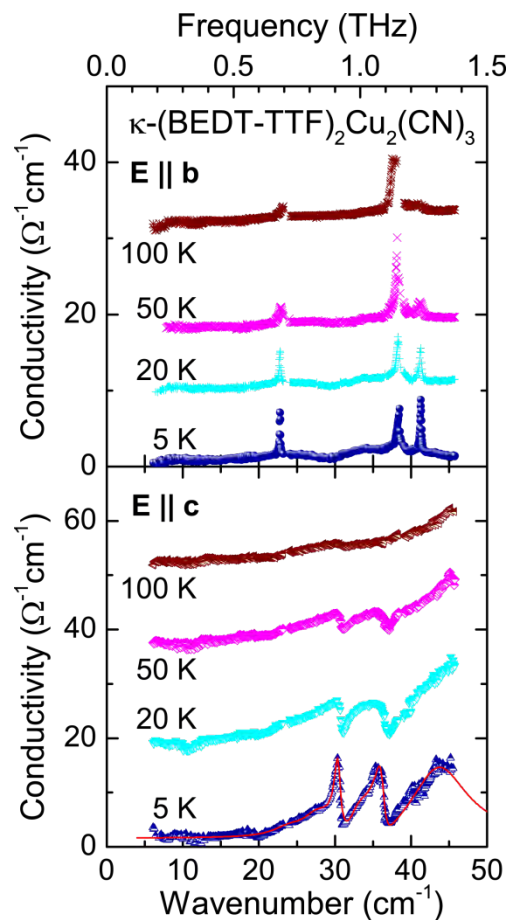
Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

lattice dynamics



κ -(BEDT-TTF)₂Cu₂(CN)₃

- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions



Mode	E b		E c	
#	calc.	exp.	calc.	exp.
4	24.3	22.7		
5			33.3	31.2
8			37.8	37.0
9	38.2	38.4		
12	41.0	41.3		

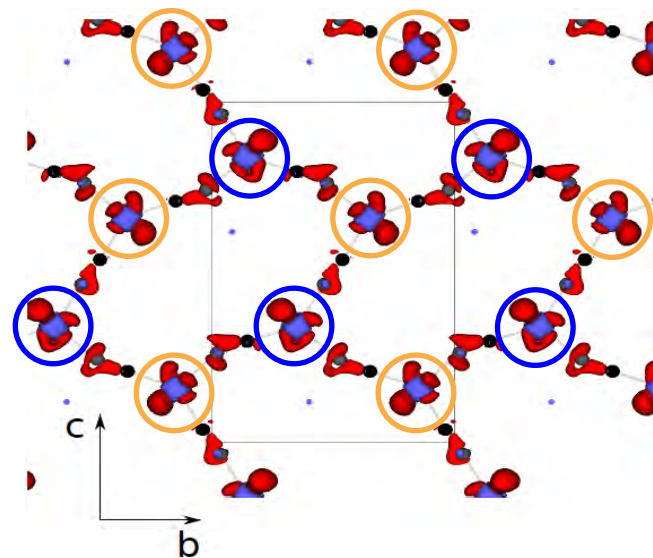
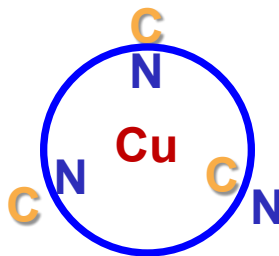
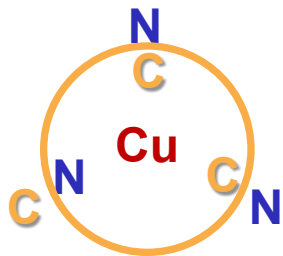


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

frustration and disorder

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions
- **DFT calculations:** charge distribution induced by cation-anion interaction
- different electron concentration at Cu sites:



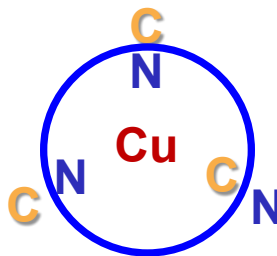
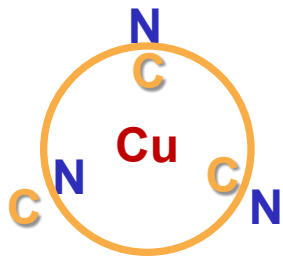


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

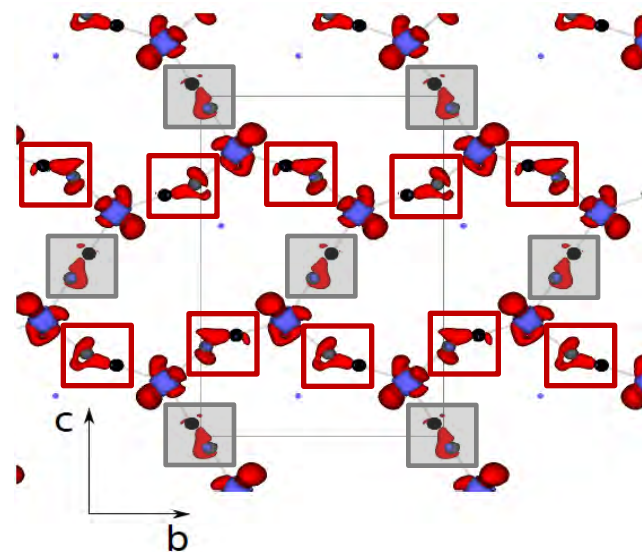
frustration and disorder



- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions
- **DFT calculations:** charge distribution induced by cation-anion interaction
- different electron concentration at Cu sites:



- different electron concentration at cyanide sites:
CN along b-direction
 CN along c-direction



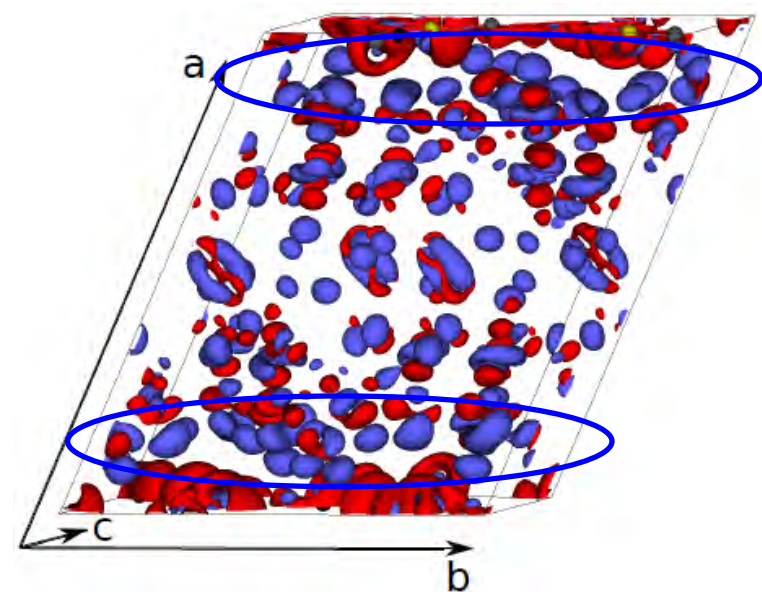
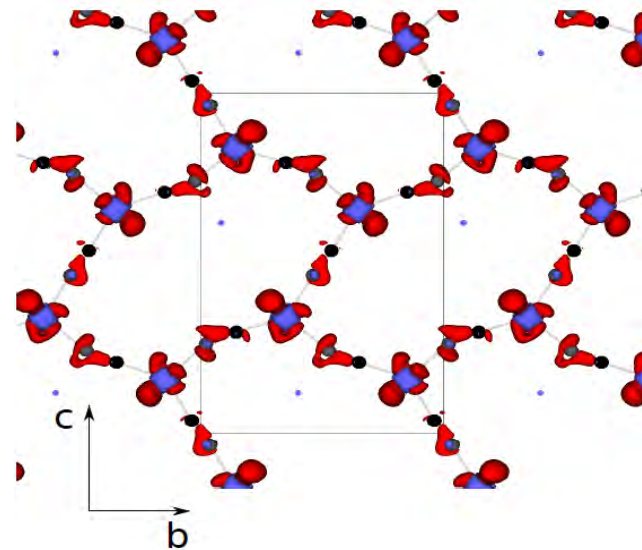


Mott Insulators on Triangular Lattice

frustration and disorder

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- strong dipole moment of cyanide
- low-frequency lattice vibrations of cations coupled to anions
- **DFT calculations:** charge distribution induced by cation-anion interaction
- BEDT-TTF molecules donate electrons via the hydrogen bonds to anion sheets





Metal-Insulator Transition on Triangular Lattice

summary

κ -(BEDT-TTF) $_2$ Cu $_2$ (CN) $_3$

- Mott insulator with half-filled conduction band
- highly frustrated lattice
- no magnetic order
- relaxor ferroelectric like dielectric response
- no charge disproportionation and dipole on the dimers
- strong lattice vibrations
- disorder and frustration in anion network with dipole moments
- coupling of anion sheets to the BEDT-TTF layers screening by charges on organic molecules

