

Electron-lattice coupling and superconductivity in hydrogen-rich systems

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Kraków, Dec 4, 2019

1 Motivation

- Media frenzy
- Hydrogen under pressure

2 Methods

- EDABI++
- Model

3 Results

- Transition sequence
- Metallicity

4 Superconductivity

- Eliashberg Theory
- Phonons

5 Conclusions



SCIENCE

Hydrogen Squeezed Into a Metal, Possibly Solid, Harvard Physicists Say

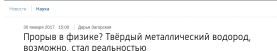
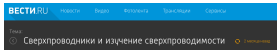
By KENNETH CHANG JAN. 26, 2017



Metallisk hydrogen sætter forskerverdenen i kog

Påstand om fremstilling af metallisk hydrogen mødes med meget hård kritik fra forskere. Lige til skraldepanen, lyder det. Andre bakker dog de kritiserede forskere op.

af Jens Ramskov 2. feb 2017 kl. 12:03



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Idrogeno solido metallico, un annuncio e molti dubbi

Due ricercatori hanno annunciato di aver prodotto per la prima volta idrogeno solido metallico, previsto per via teorica circa ottant'anni fa, un traguardo che aprirebbe la strada a nuove applicazioni, dai superconduttori ai propellenti per razzi. Ma non pochi scienziati nutrono dubbi riguardo alle modalità con cui è stato svolto l'esperimento e dunque al suo risultato.



World's first metallic hydrogen sample disappears

Last month physicists from Harvard University in the US had claimed to have successfully turned hydrogen into a metal - something researchers had been struggling to achieve for more than 80 years.



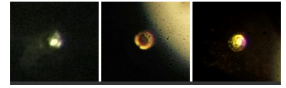
INDEPENDENT

World's only piece of a metal that could revolutionise technology has disappeared, scientists reveal



U.S. scientists create metallic hydrogen, a possible superconductor, ending quest

FULL COVERAGE INDIA ELECTIONS 2017



Metaliczny wodór, materiał marzeń, stał się rzeczywistością

30 stycznia 2017 09:08

Jego istnienie fizycy przewidywali od 80 lat. Teraz zostało stał się faktem. Naukowcy z Uniwersytetu Harvarda ogłosili, że udało im się stworzyć metaliczny wodór, materiał o potencjalnie rewolucyjnych właściwościach. Na razie jego wytworzenie wymaga ogromnej niskiej temperatury i ciśnienia - obliczenia, jakie osiągnę, nie w naszym studiu. Istnieć, jeśli całością się stabilizuje w normalnych warunkach, mógłby być w temperaturze pokojowej nadprzewodnikiem. To umożliwiłoby zwiększanie w wielu

Hydrogen under pressure

TH: Metallic state (?)

E. Wigner i H. B. Huntington, J. Chem. Phys. **3**, 764 (1935):

- $H - H$ distance (d_{HH}),
- Wigner-Seitz radius ($r_s \equiv (\frac{3}{4\pi n})^{1/3}$).

Metalization at $p \approx 25\text{GPa}$:

$$2r_s > d_{HH}.$$

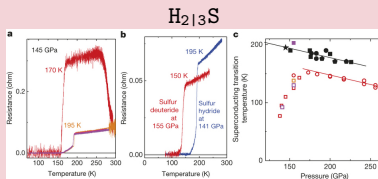
TH: Superconductivity in 300K (?)

N. Ashcroft, PRL **21**, 1748 (1968)

$$T_C = \Theta_D \mathcal{F}(\text{el.-ph.})$$

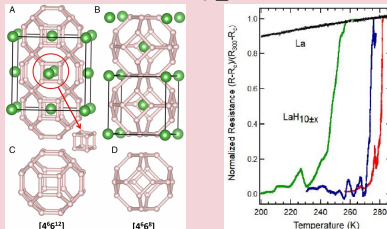
| | T_C (K) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jupiter surface | $\sim 10^{-27}$ |
| Jupiter core | ~ 290 |

Hydrogen in 2D - superconductivity?



A. P. Drozdov et al., Nature **525**, 73 (2015)

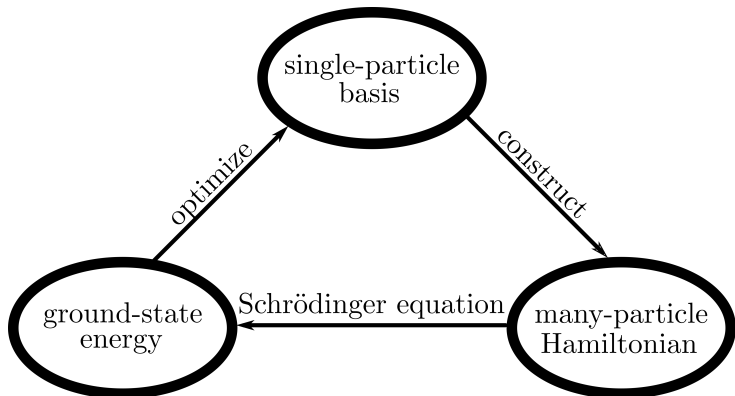
LaH₁₀ ± x



L_{theory}: Hanyu Liu et al., PNAS **114**, 27 (2017)

R_{experiment}: M. Somayazulu et al., PRL **122**, 027001 (2019)

Exact Diagonalization Ab Initio (EDABI)++

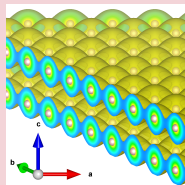
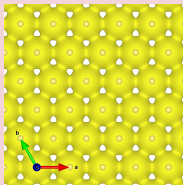
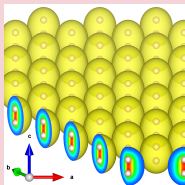
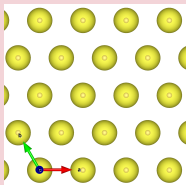


Sources

- ♠ J. Spałek et al., Phys. Rev. B 61, 15676 (2000);
 - ♣ APK et al., Eur. Phys. J. B 86, 252 (2013);
 - ♦ A. Biborski, APK, J. Spałek, Comput. Phys. Commun. 197, 7 (2015);
 - ♡ A. Biborski, APK, J. Spałek, Phys. Rev. B 98, 085112 (2018).
- Coming soon: EDABI for f electrons..

Triangular lattice

Two-dimensional crystal



- periodic boundary conditions in xy plane;
- Lanczos algorithm for the diagonalization core of 6 and 8 atoms (to comply with proper Néel 120° and 90° phases);

■ wavefunction constructed from 10 classes of nodes

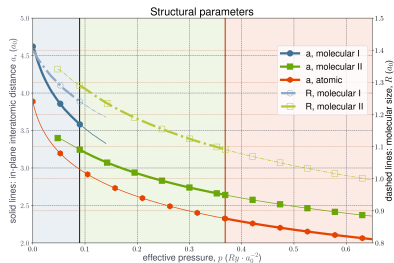
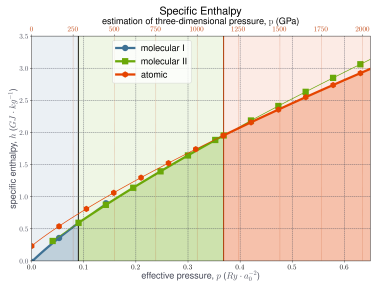
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{i\sigma} \epsilon_i \hat{n}_{i\sigma} + \sum_{i \neq j \sigma} t_{ij} \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j\sigma} \quad \hookrightarrow \text{hoppings } t_{ij} \text{ up to } 10^{\text{th}} \text{ neighbor;}$$

$$+ \sum_i U_i \hat{n}_{i\uparrow} \hat{n}_{i\downarrow} + \sum_{i \neq j} K_{ij} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j \quad \hookrightarrow \text{Coulomb repulsion } K_{ij} \text{ up to } 10^{\text{th}} \text{ neighbor;}$$

$$- \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j - \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j \quad \hookrightarrow \text{ferromagnetic exchange } J_{ij}$$

$$+ \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} \hat{c}_{i\uparrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i\downarrow}^\dagger \hat{c}_{j\downarrow} \hat{c}_{j\uparrow} \quad \text{up to } 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ neighbor;}$$

2D enthalpy and lattice parameters

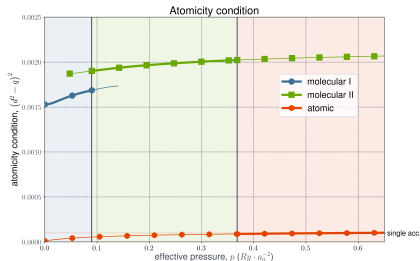


Question:

What is the quantum equivalent of $R_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \infty$?

$$\delta d \equiv \left(P \begin{pmatrix} * \\ \uparrow\downarrow \end{pmatrix} P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow\downarrow \\ * \end{pmatrix} - P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow\downarrow \\ \uparrow\downarrow \end{pmatrix} \right)^2$$

$$\equiv \left(\langle \Phi_0 | \hat{n}_{1\uparrow} \hat{n}_{1\downarrow} | \Phi_0 \rangle \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{n}_{2\uparrow} \hat{n}_{2\downarrow} | \Phi_0 \rangle - \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{n}_{1\uparrow} \hat{n}_{1\downarrow} \hat{n}_{2\uparrow} \hat{n}_{2\downarrow} | \Phi_0 \rangle \right)^2$$



Magnetic order

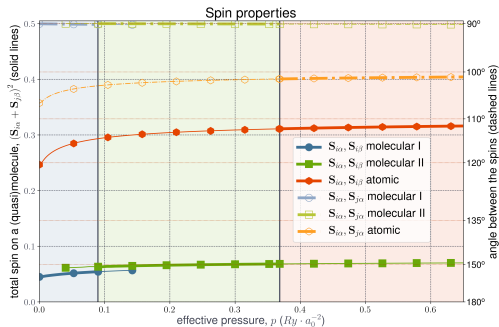
FM vs. AFM exchange

J_{FM} , Hund-like $\ll J_{\text{AFM}}$, kinetic

Required for the ambient pressure stability of the atomic phase!

Spin correlation

- 1 Molecular phases: molecular near spin-singlet H_2
- 2 Atomic phase: near 120° Néel order



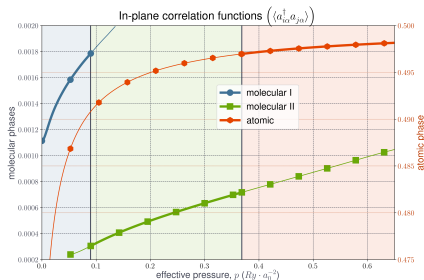
Total spin

| | mol. I \rightarrow II | | mol. II \rightarrow atomic | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------------------------------|-------|
| $\ \mathbf{S}\ _{\text{molecule}}$ | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.16 | 0.54 |
| $\ \mathbf{S}\ _{\text{triangle}}$ | 0.86 | 0.87 | 0.86 | 0.077 |

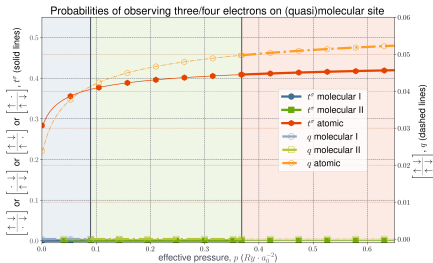
$$\|\mathbf{S}\|_{\text{molecule}} \equiv \left\| \mathbf{S}(x_{2D}, -\frac{R}{2}) + \mathbf{S}_2(x_{2D}, \frac{R}{2}) \right\|$$

$$\|\mathbf{S}\|_{\text{triangle}} \equiv \left\| \mathbf{S}(x_{2D}, \frac{R}{2}) + \mathbf{S}(x_{2D} + \mathbf{e}_1, \frac{R}{2}) + \mathbf{S}(x_{2D} + \mathbf{e}_2, \frac{R}{2}) \right\|$$

Metallization I: Correlation Functions



$$C_{ij} \equiv \langle \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i\sigma} \rangle = \langle \Phi_0 | \hat{c}_{i\sigma}^\dagger \hat{c}_{i\sigma} | \Phi_0 \rangle_G$$

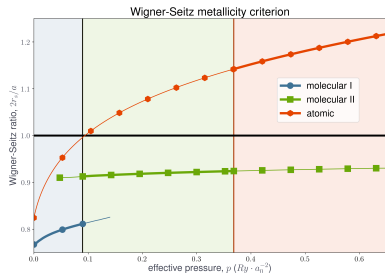


$$q \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow\downarrow \\ \uparrow\downarrow \end{pmatrix} \quad d_0 \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{pmatrix}$$

$$t_\uparrow \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow \\ \uparrow\downarrow \end{pmatrix} \quad d_\uparrow \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{pmatrix}$$

$$t_\downarrow \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \downarrow \\ \uparrow\downarrow \end{pmatrix} \quad d_\downarrow \equiv P \begin{pmatrix} \downarrow \\ \downarrow \end{pmatrix}$$

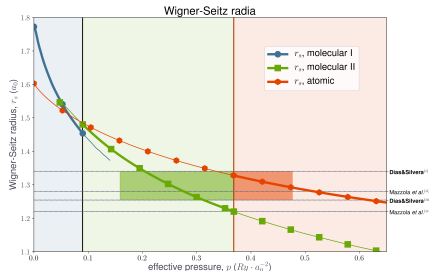
Metallization II: Wigner-Seitz Criterion



$$r_s \equiv \left(\frac{3}{4\pi n}\right)^{1/3}$$

$$\text{metal} \Leftrightarrow 2r_s > d_{HH}$$

Can be found experimentally!



| source | method | $r_s(a_0)$ |
|--|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Min et al., PRB 33, 324 (1986) | LMTO | 2.85 |
| Pfrommer et al., PRB 58, 12680 (1998) | GGA-PW91 | 2.50 |
| Svane et al., SSC 76, 851 (1990) | LSDA | 2.45 |
| Li et al. PRB 66, 035102 (2002) | LSDA | 2.78 |
| Li et al. PRB 66, 035102 (2002) | PBE | 2.50 |
| Mazzola et al., Nat.C. 5, 3487 (2014) ⁽ⁱ⁾ | DMC + MD | 1.28⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ |
| McMinis et al., arXiv:1309.7051 (2013) | DMC | 2.27 |
| AB,APK,JS, PRB 96, 085101 (2017) ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ | EDABI | 1.27 |
| <i>molecular II</i> | | EDABI 1.22^{+0.17} |
| <i>atomic</i> | | EDABI 1.33^{+0.10} |
| Dias & Silveira | | experiment 1.297(43) |

Metallization III: Band structure

Bare bands

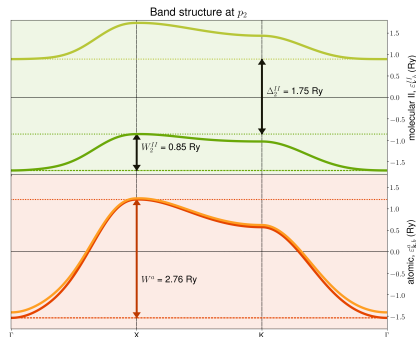
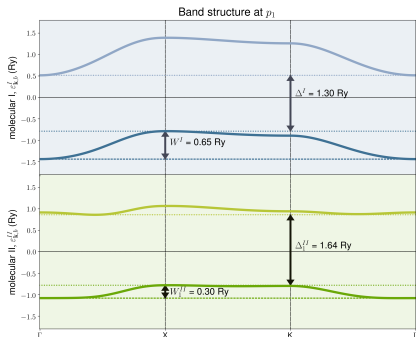
- easily calculable
- depend only on $\mathcal{H}_{\text{free}}$

Correlated bands

- full \mathcal{H} dependence
- no generic method

Bands + Correlator

- calculable
- ⊗ correlator physics



Possibility of superconducting state

Conventional Superconductivity

Atomic hydrogen is **metallic** \Leftrightarrow **McMillan formula** for critical temperature

McMillan formula

$$T_C = \frac{\Theta_D}{1.45} \exp \left[-\frac{1.04(1 + \lambda)}{\lambda + \mu^*(1 + 0.62\lambda)} \right]$$

- Θ_D - Debye temperature (from phonon DOS)
- λ - electron phonon coupling (from phononic and electronic dispersions)
- μ^* - Morel-Anderson pseudopotential - typically fitted to experimental data

We attempt to derive the ab-initio value of pseudopotential μ^* .

Morel-Anderson pseudopotential

$$\mu^* = \frac{\mu}{1 + \mu \log\left(\frac{T_{\text{phonons}}}{T_{\text{electrons}}}\right)}$$

$$\mu^* = \frac{n(E_F)(U - K_1)}{1 + n(E_F)(U - K_1) \log\left(\frac{E_F}{k_B \Theta_D}\right)}$$

Electron - phonon coupling

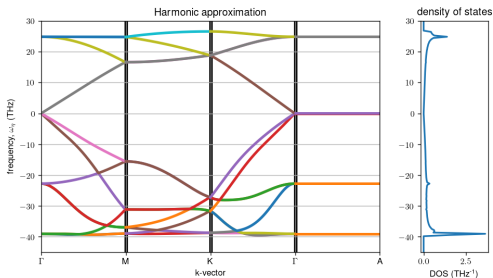
Eliashberg spectral function

$$\alpha^2 F_{\mathbf{k}}(\omega) \sim \sum_{\eta} \int d\mathbf{q} M_{\eta}^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_{\eta}) \delta(\varepsilon(\mathbf{k}) - \varepsilon(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{q}))$$

allows us to obtain electron-phonon coupling constant

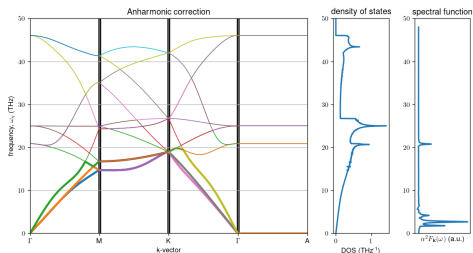
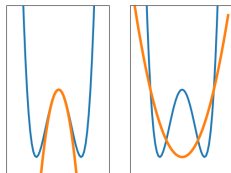
$$\lambda = 2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{\omega} \alpha^2 F_{\mathbf{k}_f}(\omega)$$

Electrons and Phonons: DFT calculations with EDABI constrains



We take the Mexican-hat potential:

$$U(\{u^i\}) = U_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Phi_{ij} u^i u^j + \frac{1}{4!} \Phi_{ijkl} u^i u^j u^k u^l$$



$$\mathbf{F}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_i + \frac{1}{4!} \Phi_{ij\langle kl \rangle} u^j \langle kl \rangle.$$

At $p_{\text{eff}} = 0.7 R y a_0^{-2}$ ($\sim 1 \text{ TPa}$)

| U_{eff} (Ry) | μ^* | λ |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1.194 | 0.192 | 1.05 |
| Θ_D (K) | T_C (K) | T_{AD} (K) |
| 1300 | 164 | 176 |

SCAN meta-GGA + vdW corrections in DFT

calculations

Conclusions

Physics of hydrogen planes

- concomitant atomization & metallization;
- long-range interactions ($\sim ||R||^{-P}$);
- London-like interactions in insulating molecular phases (true molecular crystal);
- weak London-like attraction of atomic planes;
- benchmark for infinite-system quantum chemistry

(EDABI + );

Hydrogen-induced superconductivity

- medianly correlated system;
- anharmonic correction to force constants necessary;
- superconductivity induced by electron-phonon coupling;
- Morel-Anderson pseudopotential from First Principles;
- high critical temperature $T_C = 176K$;
- extreme pressure (chemical?);

Thank you for your attention

