First order quantum evolution in disappearance of magnetic order: Mott systems, unconventional superconductors and itinerant ferromagnets (plus)

Searching for topological vortex core in Sr₂RuO₄

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RENiO₃ (RE=Rare Earth) and V₂O₃ are prototypical systems which exhibit Mott metal-insulator transition and associated antiferromagnetic (AF) order. The AF insulator state can be driven to paramagnetic metal state in quantum tuning by RE element substitutions in RENiO3 and application of hydrostatic pressure in V₂O₃. We have performed muon spin relaxation measurements in these systems and found that the magnetically ordered state disappears in quantum tuning associated with decreasing volume fraction in phase separation without change of the local ordered moment size. Similar behavior was also found in Ba(Fe,Ni)₂As₂, overdoped Na(Fe,Cu)As, and itinerant electron systems MnSi and (Sr,Ca)RuO₃. To our surprise, (Mn,Fe)Si exhibits tendency towards second order quantum criticality tuned by pressure. We discuss implications of these results on unconventional superconductors, and relevance to the theory of itinerant-electron magnets by Belitz and Kirkpatrick. Finally, we will introduce our ongoing efforts to detect topological effect in vortex cores of Sr₂RuO₄. Work performed in collaboration with Alonso, Dai, Jin, Boeni, Pfleiderer, Kageyama, Yoshimura, Maeno, Yonezawa, Luke and others.