

Design and preparation of quantum spin liquid in κ -type ET salts

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Molecular and crystal designs of ET system for triangular spin lattice having spin liquid state next to metallic state were examined utilizing band parameters and anion structures. Many κ -(ET)₂X include polymerized anions which exhibit periodic triangular patterns of anion opening, and an ET dimer (1 spin) fits to the anion opening resulting in the two-dimensional isosceles triangular spin lattice. The electron correlation in terms of U/W (U : on-site Coulomb repulsion, W : upper band width) and the shape of the triangular spin lattice in terms of t'/t (t, t' : transfer interactions in triangular spin lattice) are the key parameters whether κ -(ET)₂X exhibits metallic (and superconducting), antiferromagnetic, or spin liquid ground state. A dimer-type Mott insulator κ -(ET)₂Cu₂(CN)₃ has nearly equilateral triangular spin lattice ($U/W = 0.93$, $t'/t = 1.06 - 1.09$). As a consequence, the salt exhibited no long-range spin ordering and is the best candidate for quantum spin liquid. A superconducting state as well as a metallic state appears next to the quantum spin liquid state without passing through the antiferromagnetic state. A newly obtained dimer-type Mott insulator with discrete anion exhibits no long-range spin ordering down to 2 K with $|J| = 160 - 180$ K ($U/W = 1.1$) though it has a considerably large $t'/t (= 1.4)$. Another dimer-type Mott insulator with polymerized anion has the band parameters suitable for the spin liquid ($U/W = 1.04$, $t'/t = 0.97$). Preparation, crystal and band structures, and physical properties of them will be discussed.