

# ENGINEERING THE SPIN TRANSITION AND CARRIER TYPE THROUGH HIGH-ENTROPY LATTICE DISTORTIONS IN RARE- EARTH COBALTATES

Elliot J. Fuller

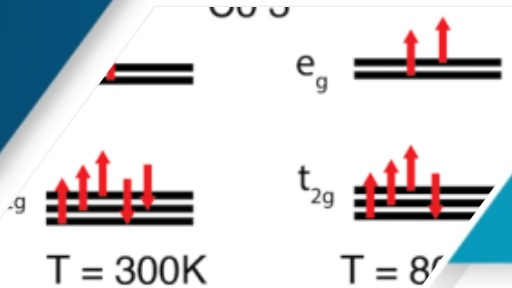
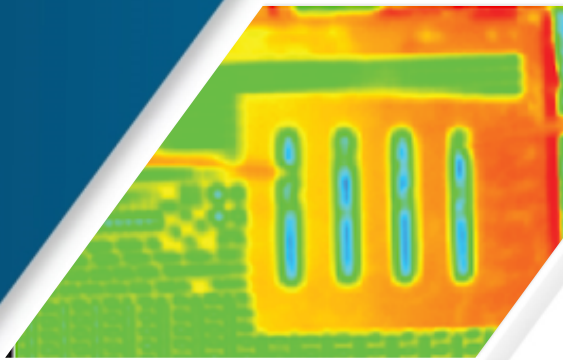
Materials Physics Department, Livermore, California

MRS Spring Meeting 2024

SAND2024-05022C



Alan Zhang



Intermediate Spin



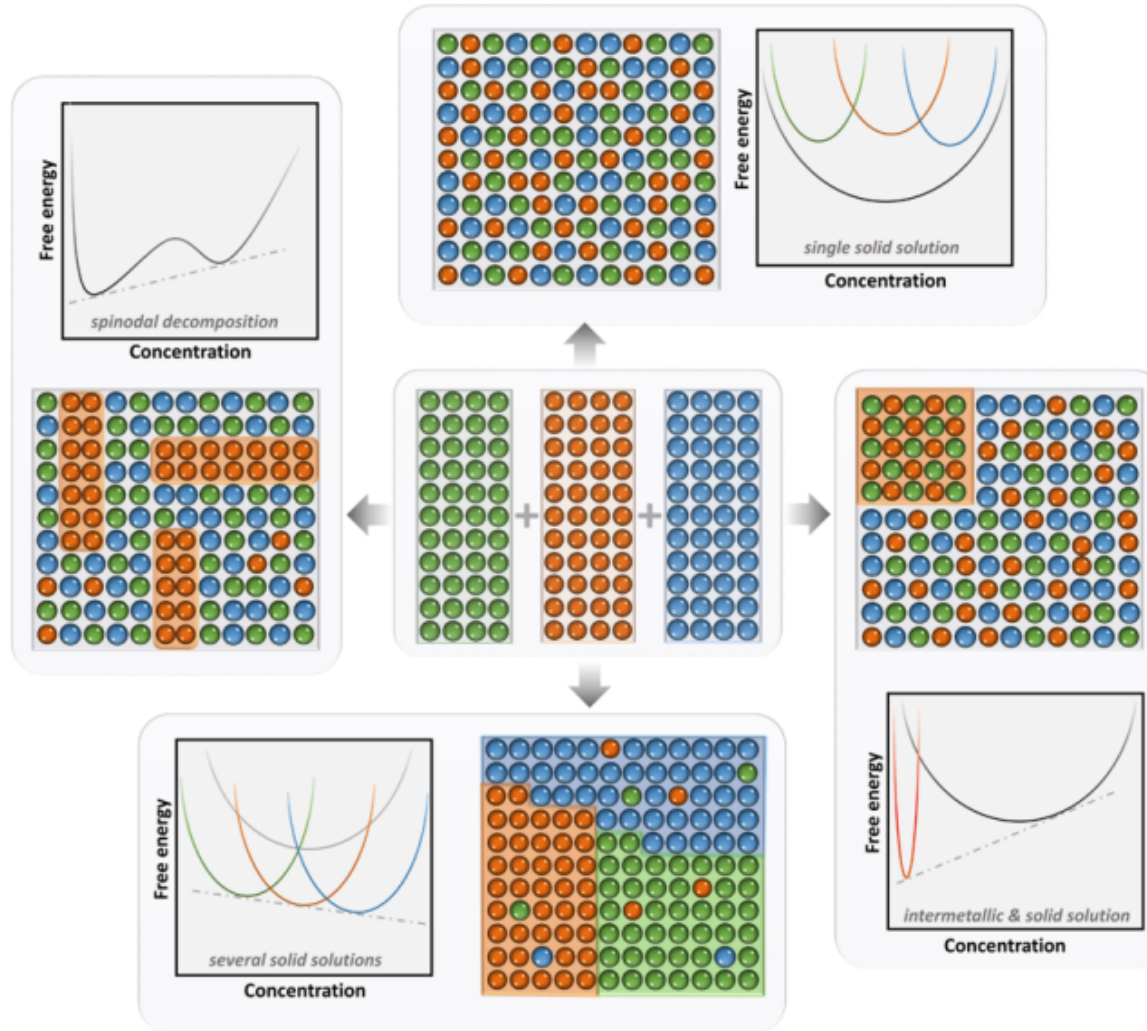
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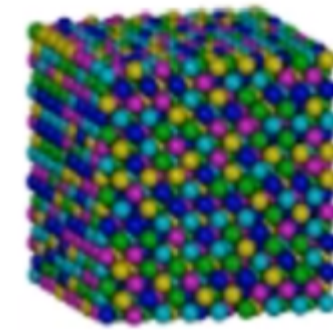


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# HIGH ENTROPY MATERIALS AND THE 'COCKTAIL' EFFECT



$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

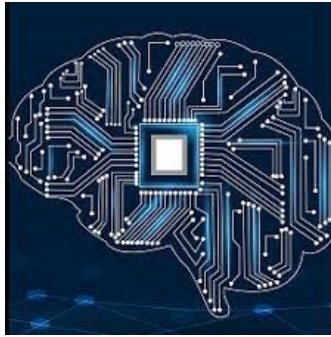


4,5+ components

# WIDE RANGING PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENTS, FUNCTIONALITIES AND APPLICATIONS

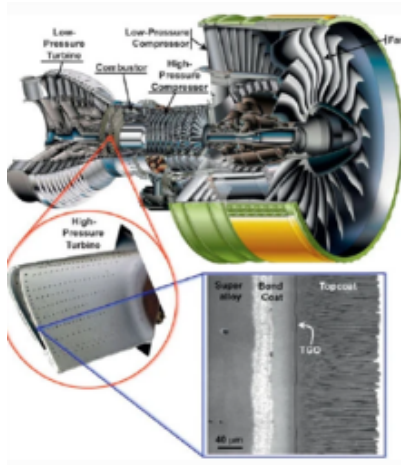


beyond Moore computing devices

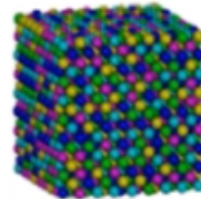


Ahn et. al. Adv. Elec. Mat. 2021

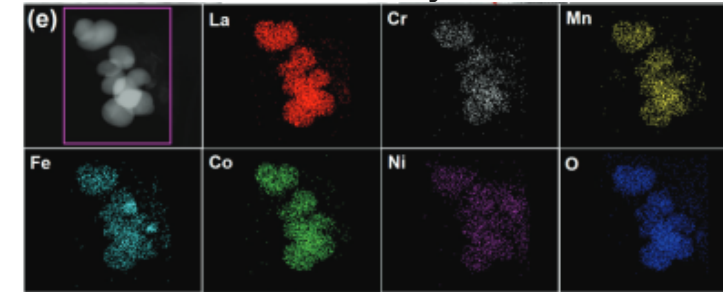
thermal barrier coatings



entropy oxides

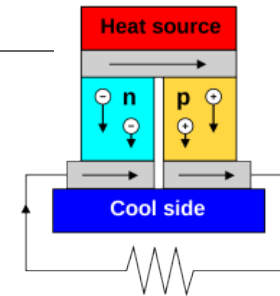


catalysts



Nguyen et. al. Adv. Func. Mat. 2021

oxide thermoelectrics



Banerjee et. al. ACS Sust. Chem. Eng. 2020

ceramic capacitors

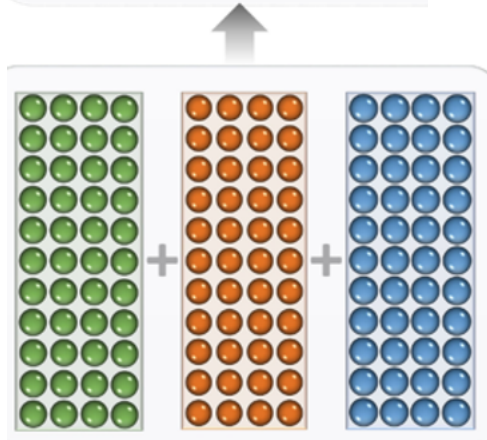
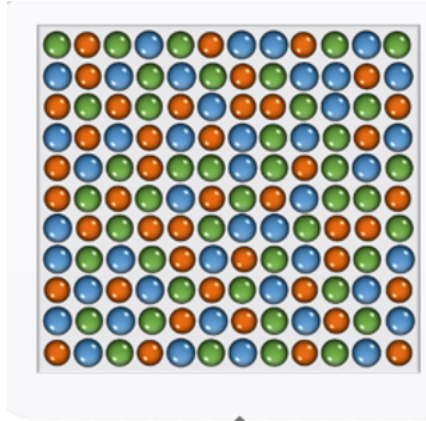


Yang et. al. Nat. Mat. 2022

# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF COMPOSITIONAL COMPLEXITY IN OXIDES?



$$X' = \frac{A+ \quad B+ \quad C+..}{N}$$



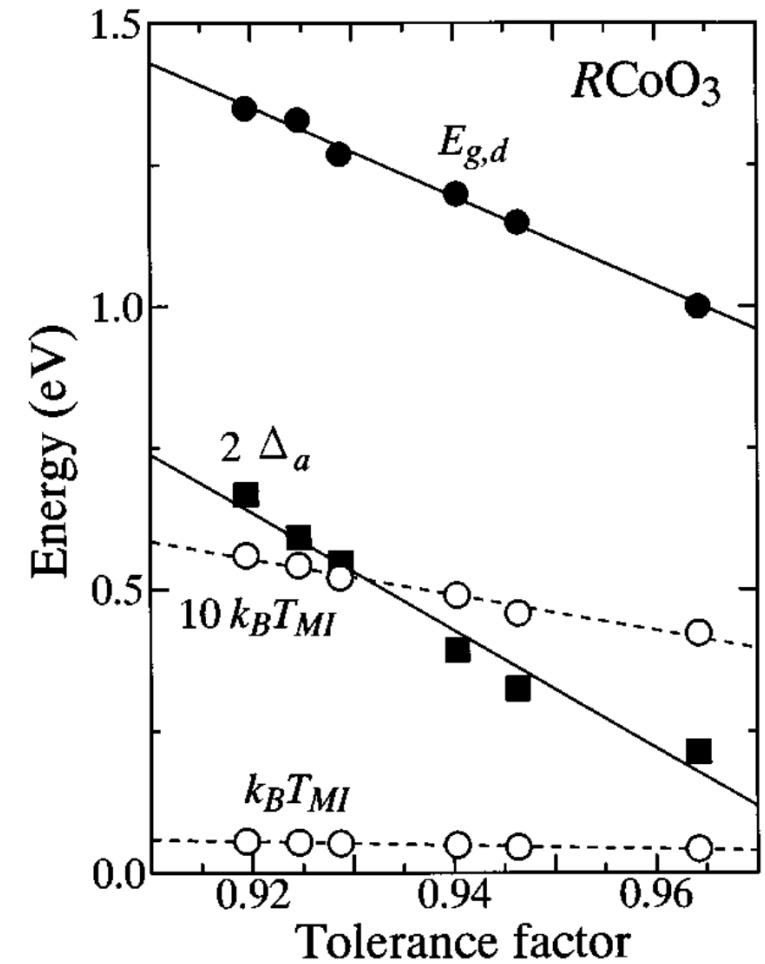
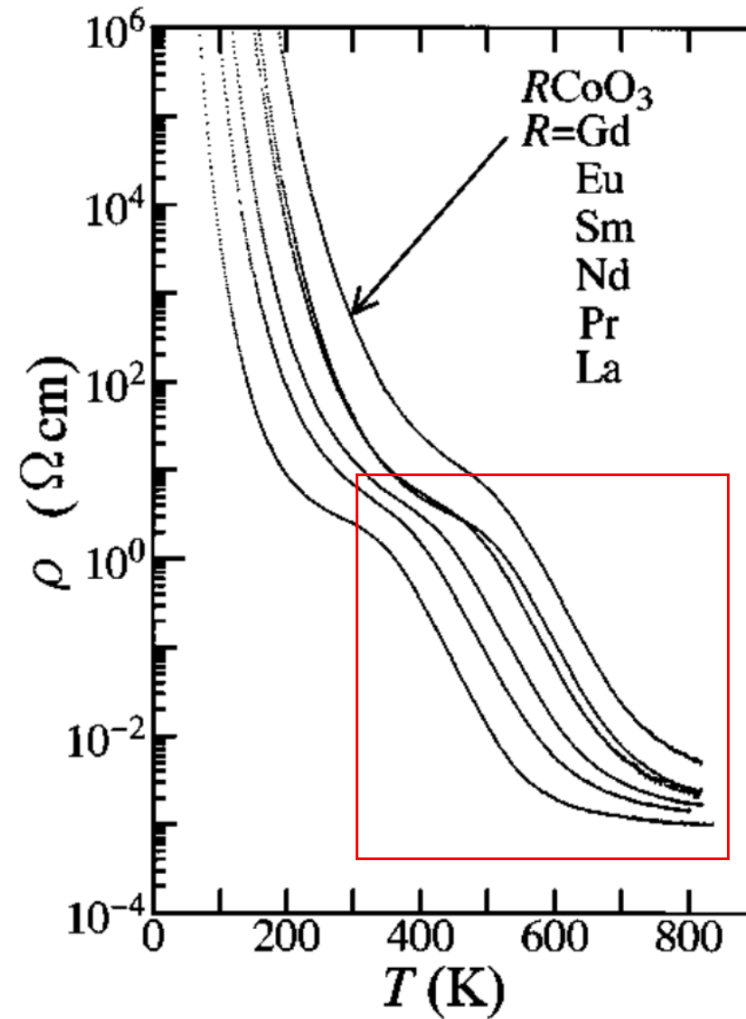
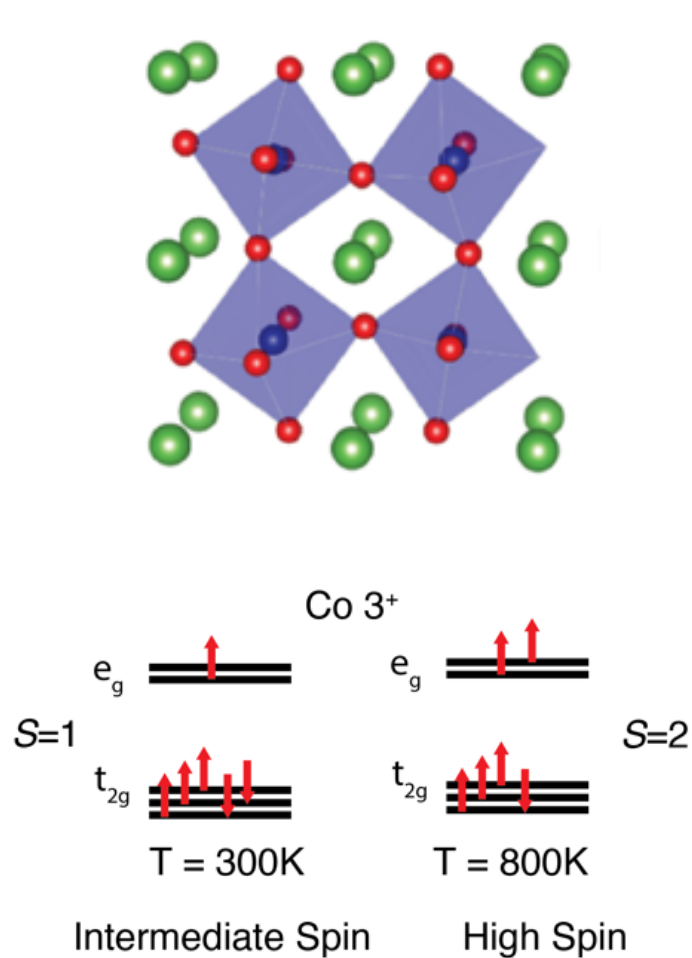
$$X = \quad A \quad B \quad C...$$

## When does complexity play a role?

- Correlated effects mean exquisite sensitivity to small variations
- Functionality or performance is strongly affected by disorder
- Entropy stabilization effects occur, preferring order, solid solutions etc.
- Strong distortions lead to new electronic hybridization

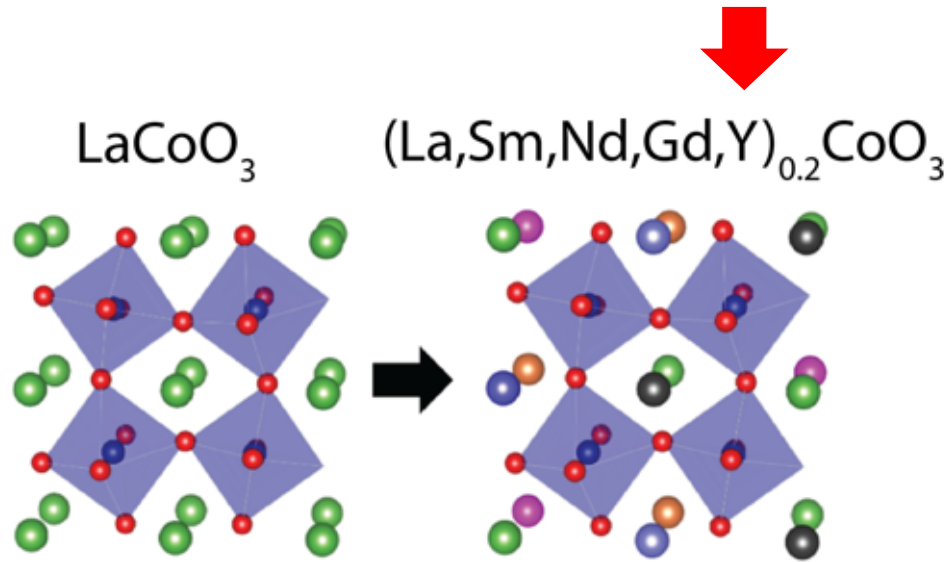
.... So when do these effects occur? What do they do? Rational design?

# RARE EARTH COBALTATES – AN IDEAL SYSTEM TO STUDY COMPLEXITY

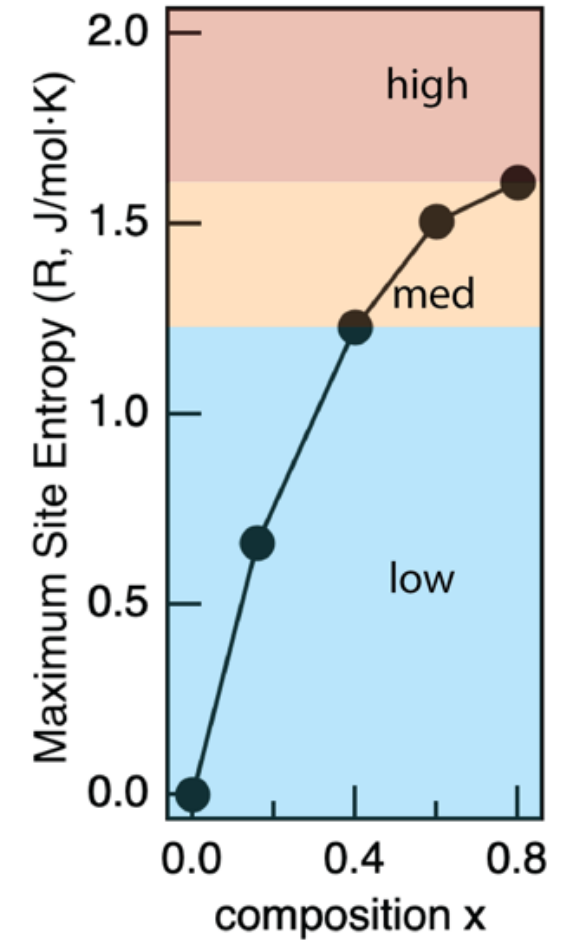
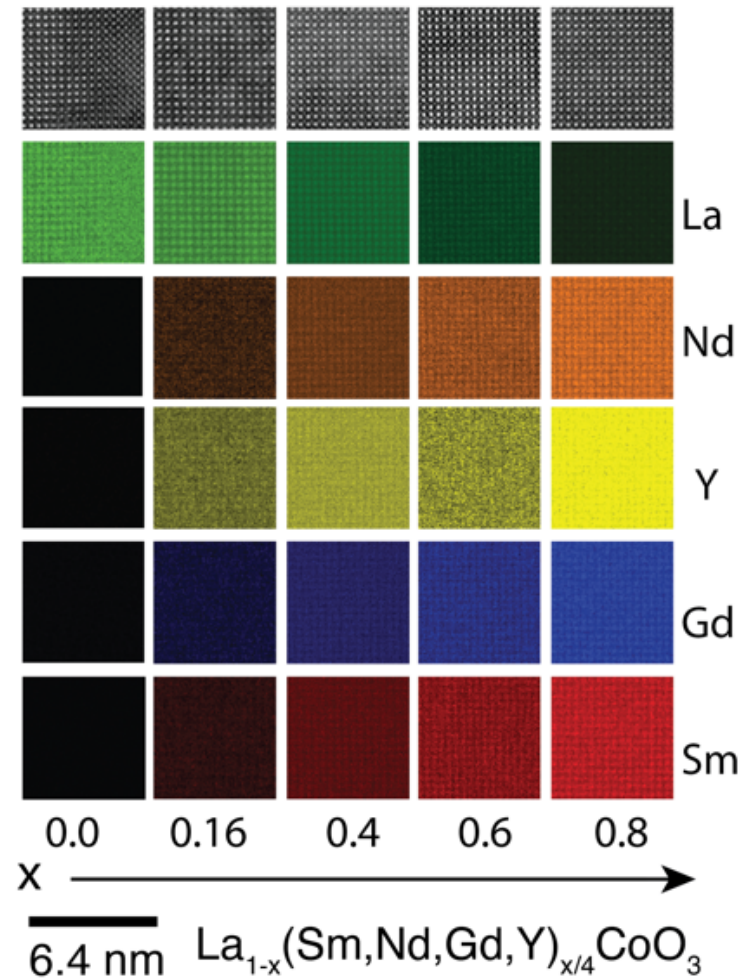


rare earth complexity can become a tunable parameter of the system

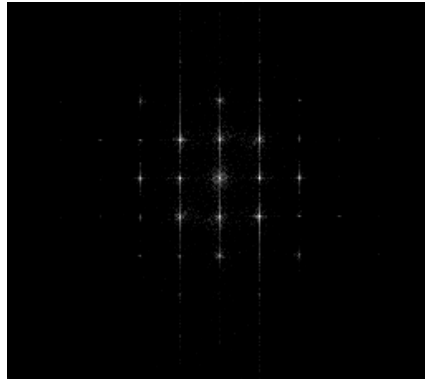
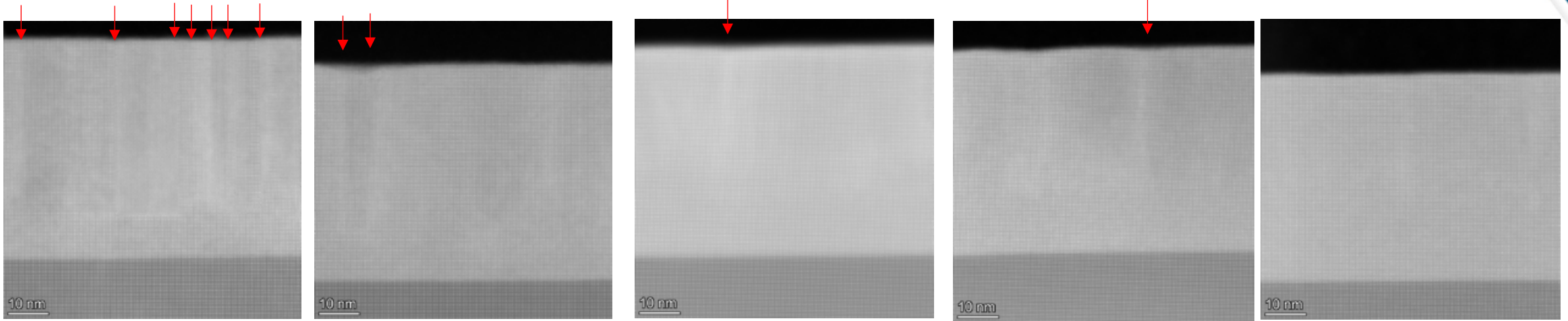
# COMPLEXITY AS A TUNABLE PARAMETER IN THE COBALTATE SYSTEM



Strategy:  
gradually increase the *population* of complex  
cations and watch the system evolve...

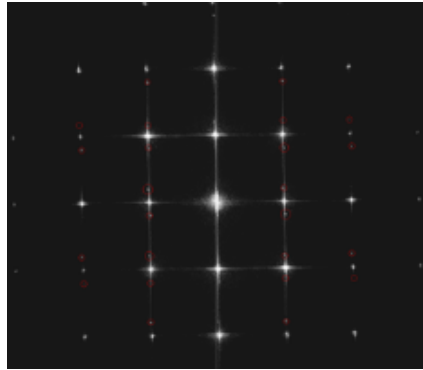


# STRUCTURAL ENHANCEMENT, EVEN AT DILUTE COMPLEXITY



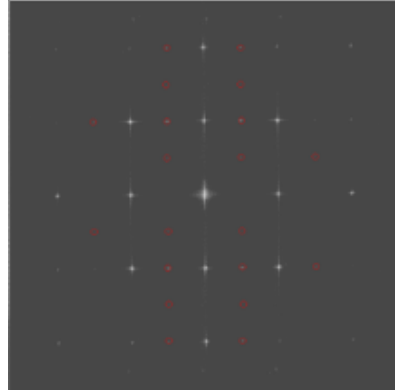
x=0.00

rhombohedral



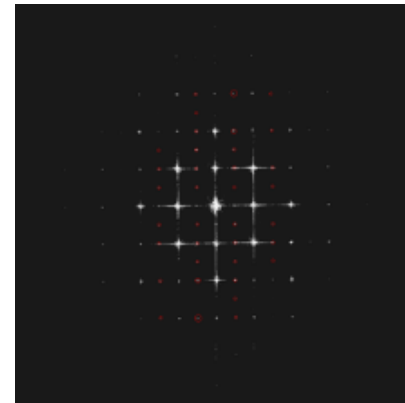
x=0.16

rhombohedral



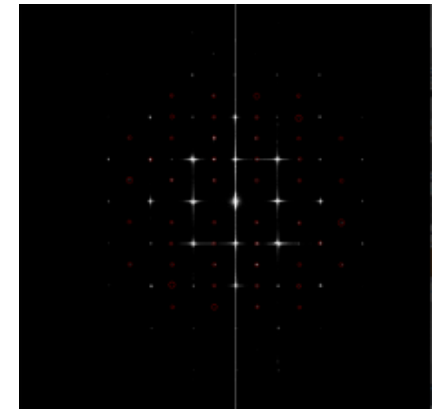
x=0.40

orthorhombic



x=0.60

orthorhombic



x=0.80

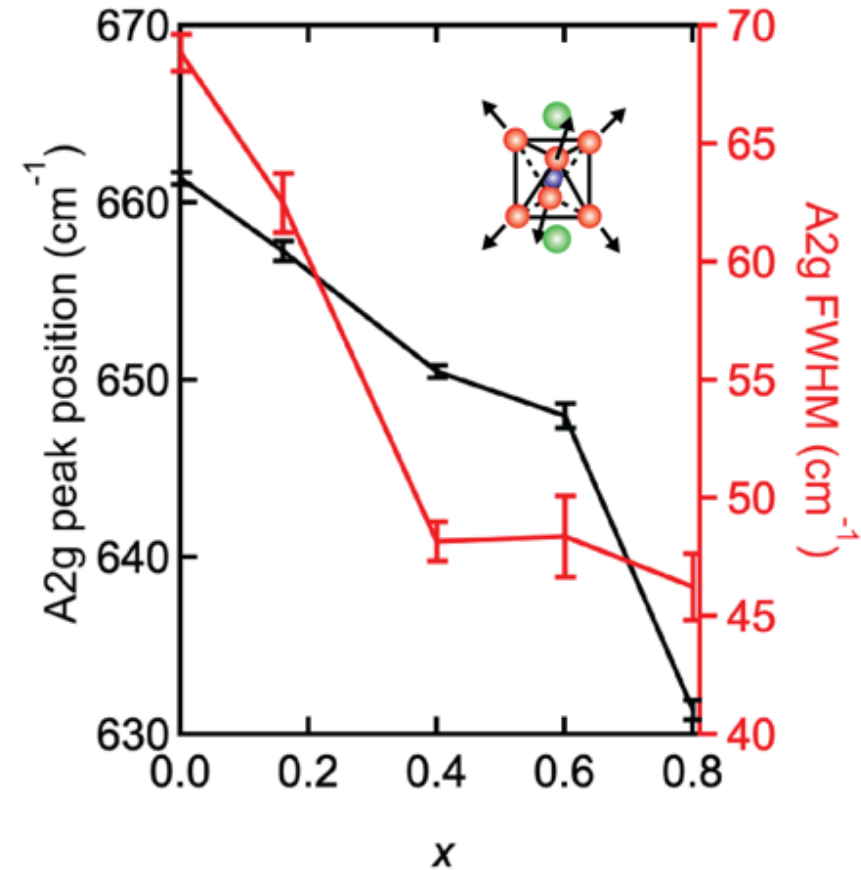
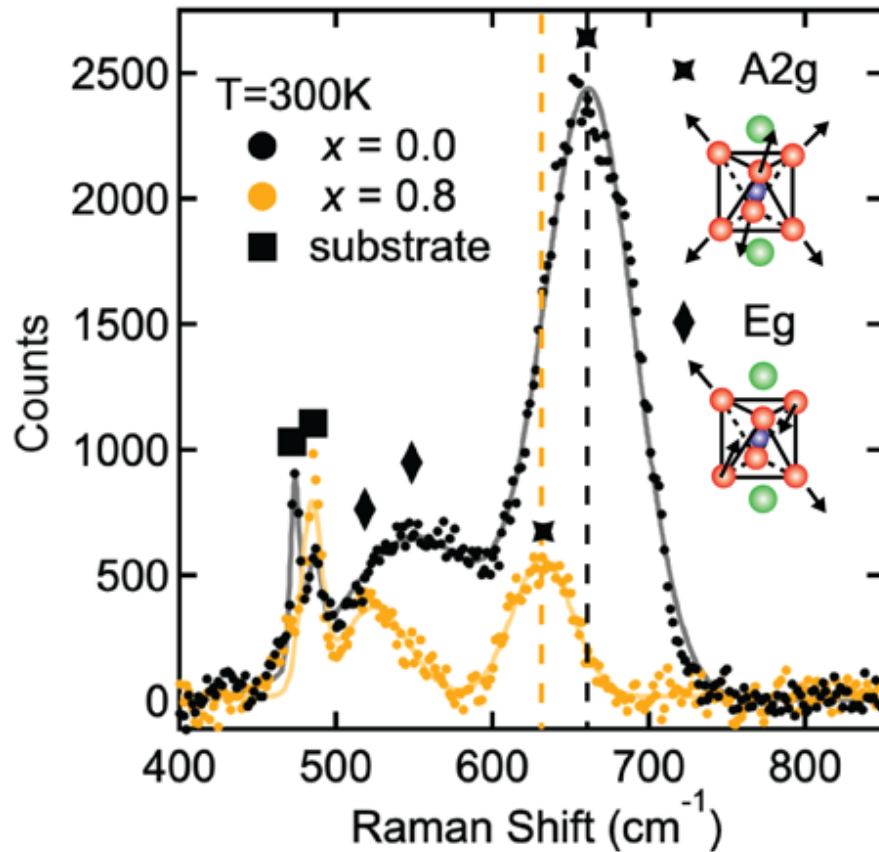
orthorhombic

Even at low molar fractions, dilute complexity suppresses defects!

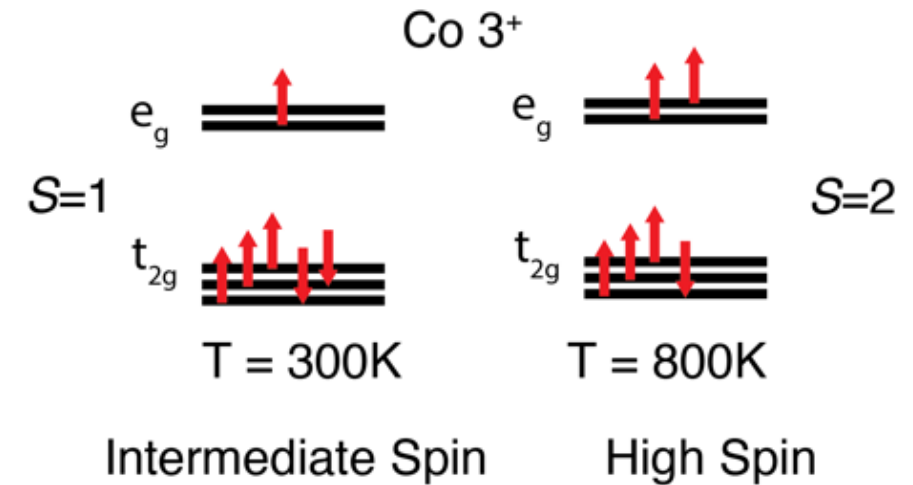
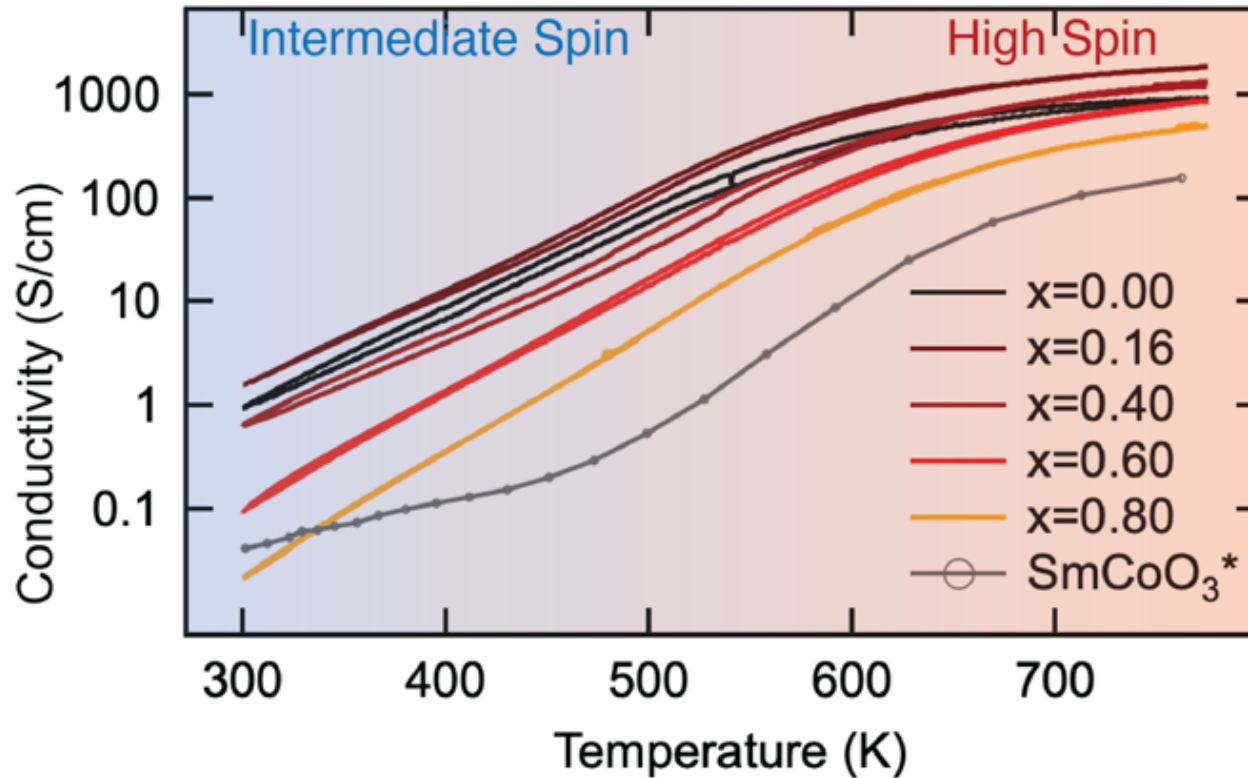
$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

Zhang et. al., *in preparation*

# STRUCTURAL ENHANCEMENT ALSO OBSERVED IN RAMAN MODES



# CONTINUOUSLY TUNABLE SMT, BUT NOT SIMPLE ALLOYING

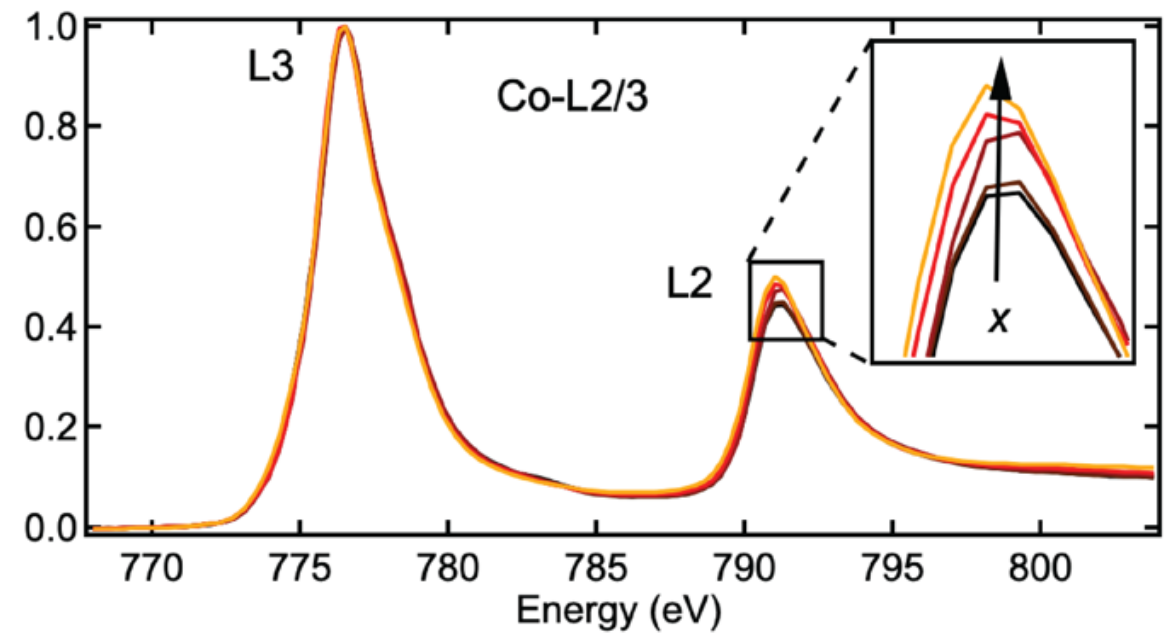
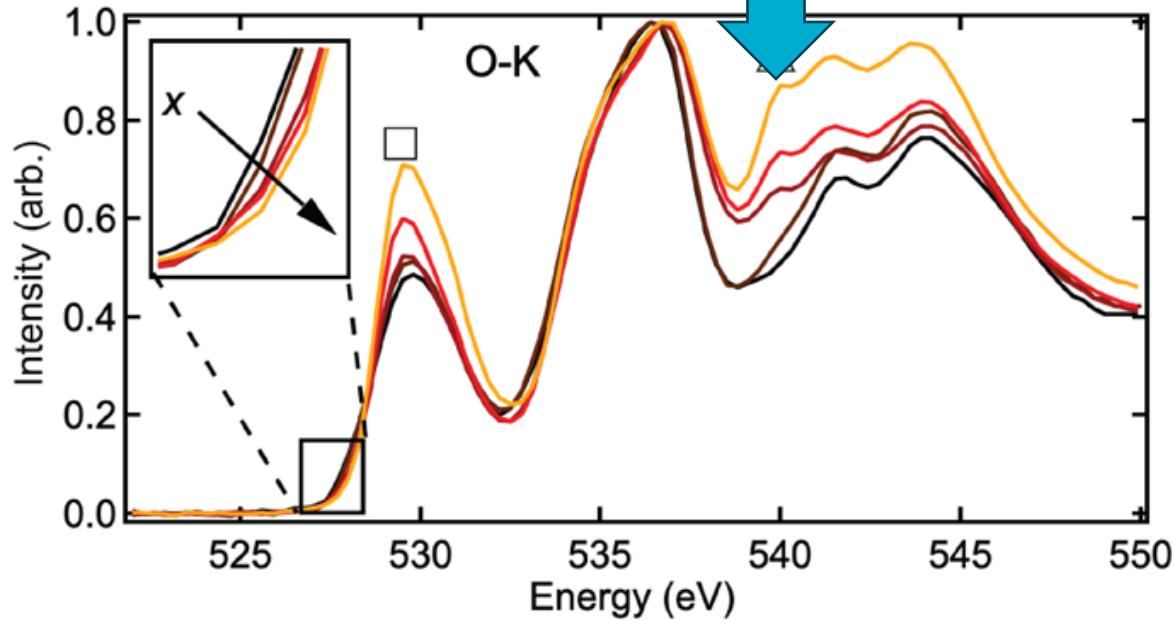


transition temperatures are not the same as simple alloys or their averages (based on tolerance factor)

# XAS SUGGESTS NEW HYBRIDIZATION DUE TO DISTORTIONS



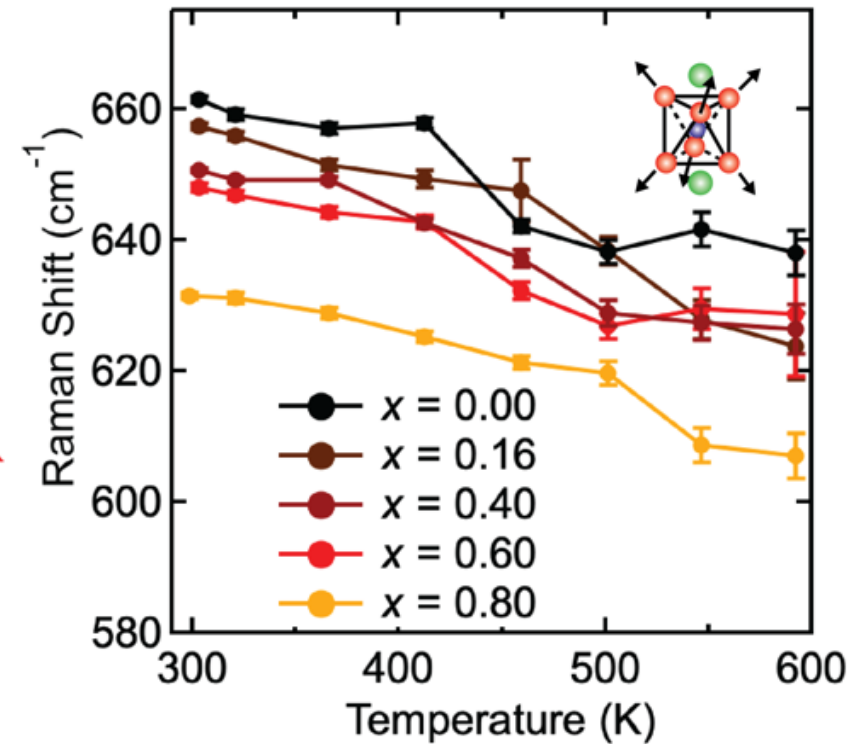
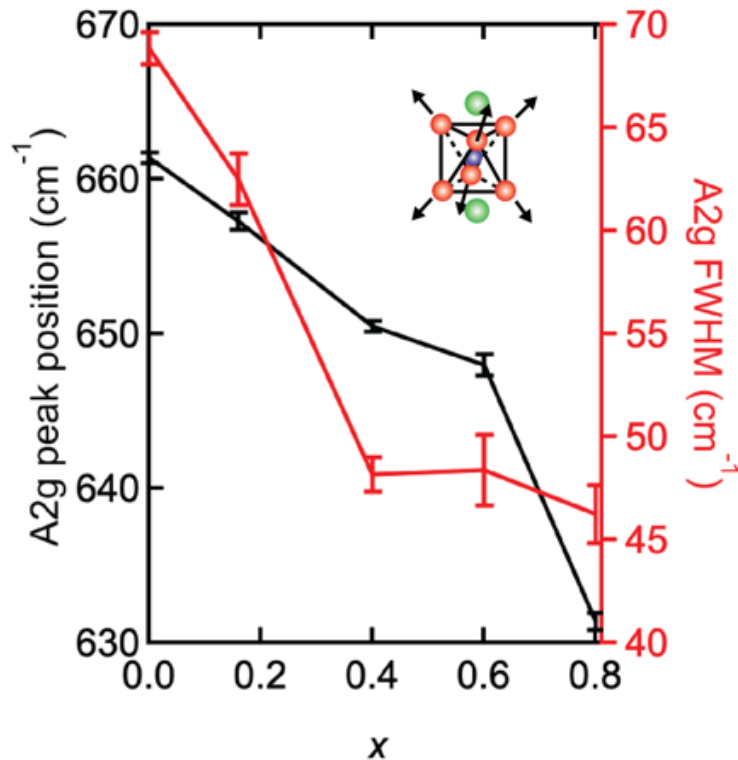
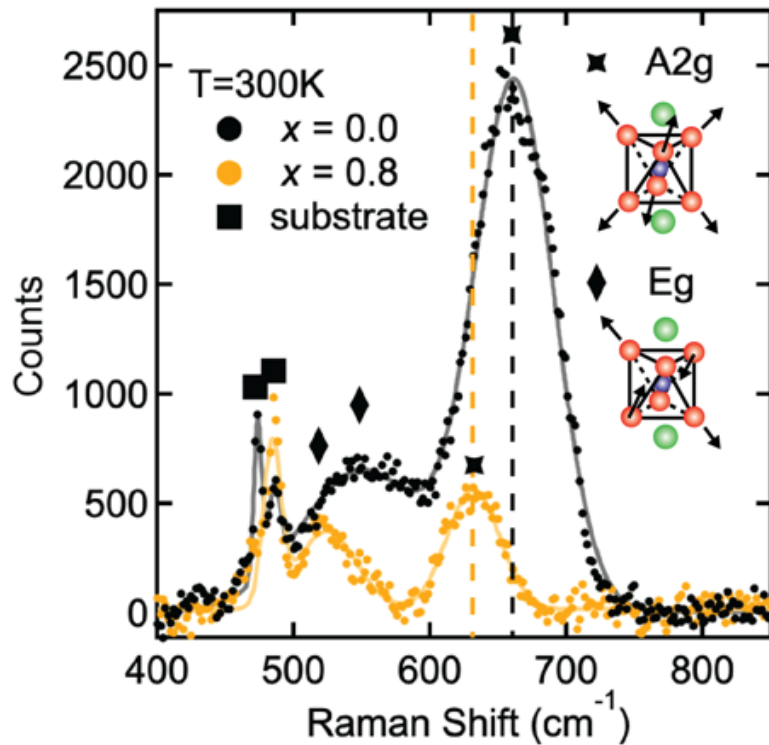
Between La 5d and Co 4sp



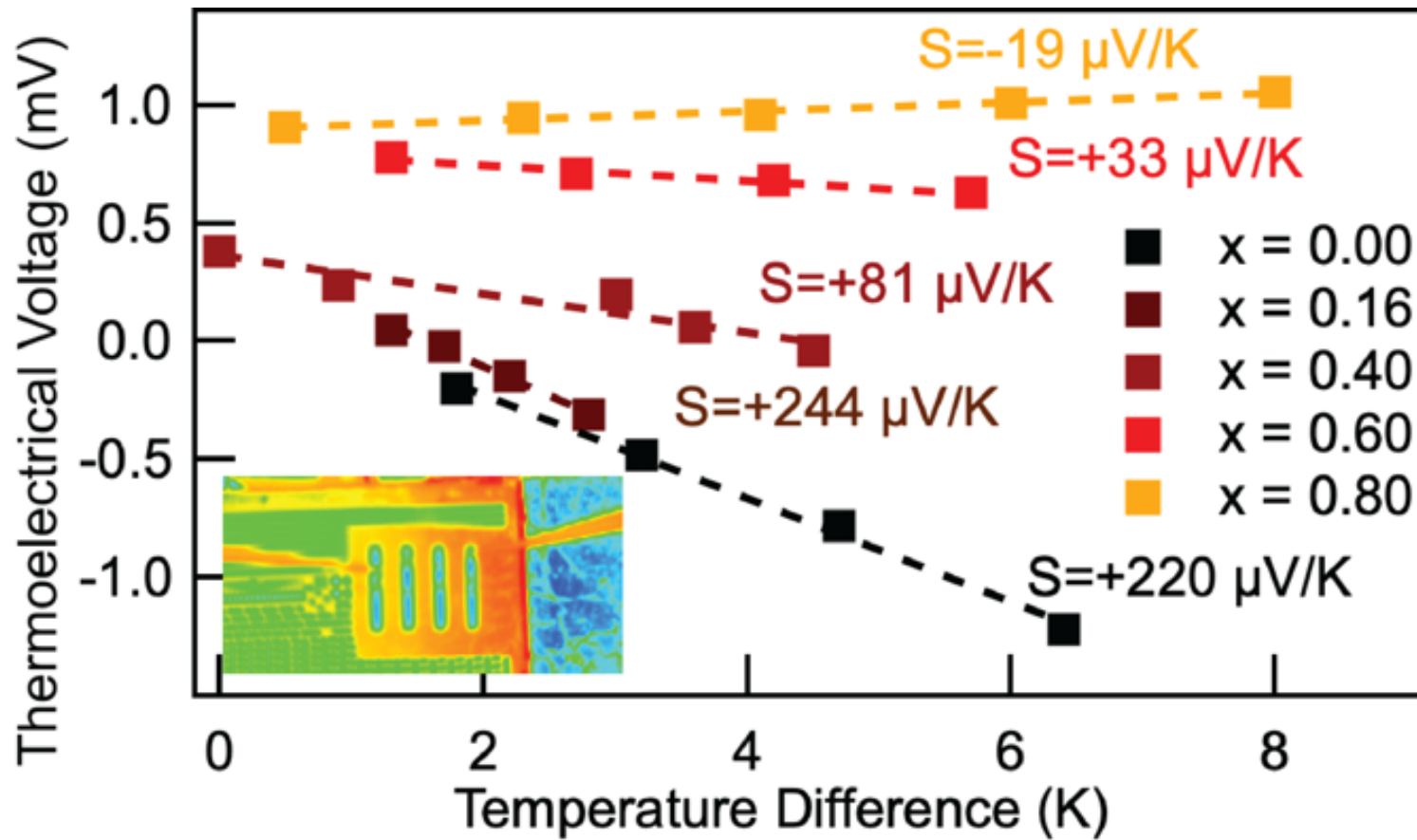
lattice distortions are strong enough to create new hybridizations of deep lying states

Zhang et. al., *in preparation*

# STRUCTURAL COMPONENT OF SMT IS PRESERVED



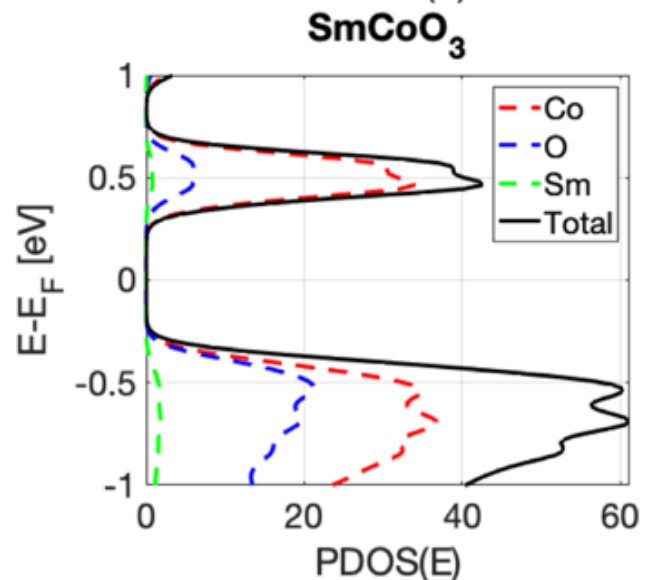
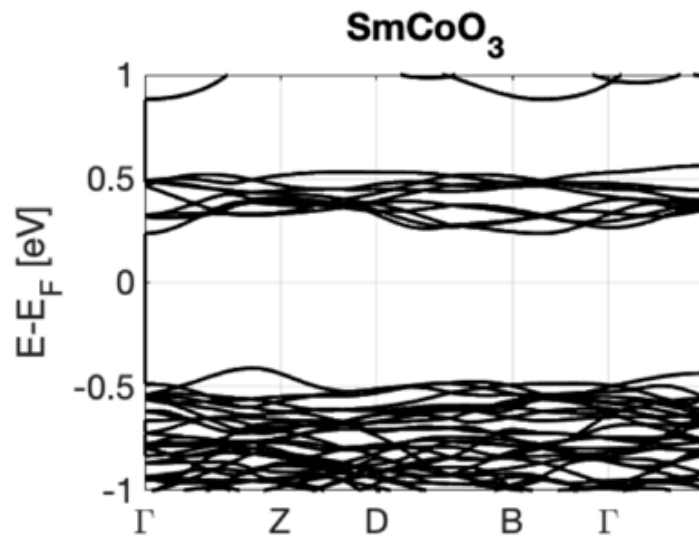
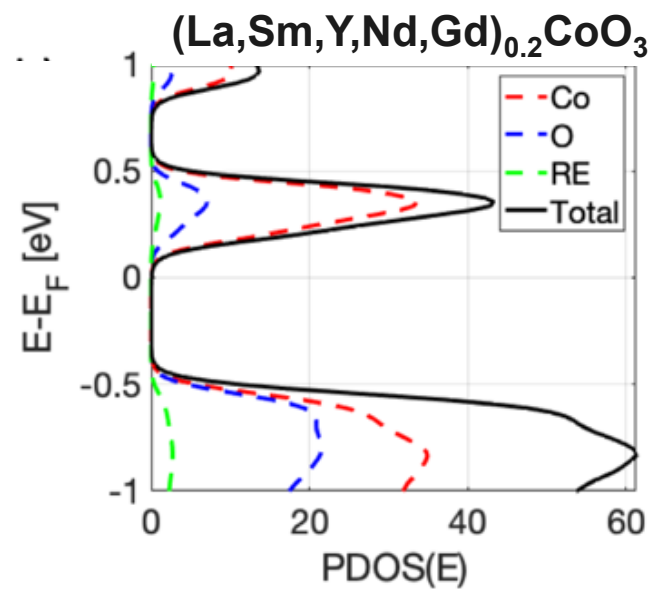
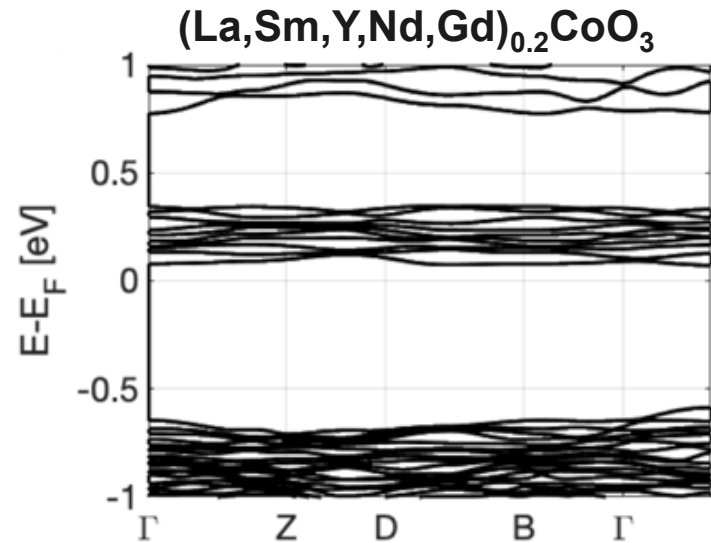
# TUNE CARRIER TYPE WITH COMPLEXITY



All simple alloys are p-type.

Why the carrier reversal?

# DFT: DISTORTIONS LEAD TO DISPROPORTIONATE HOLE LOCALIZATION



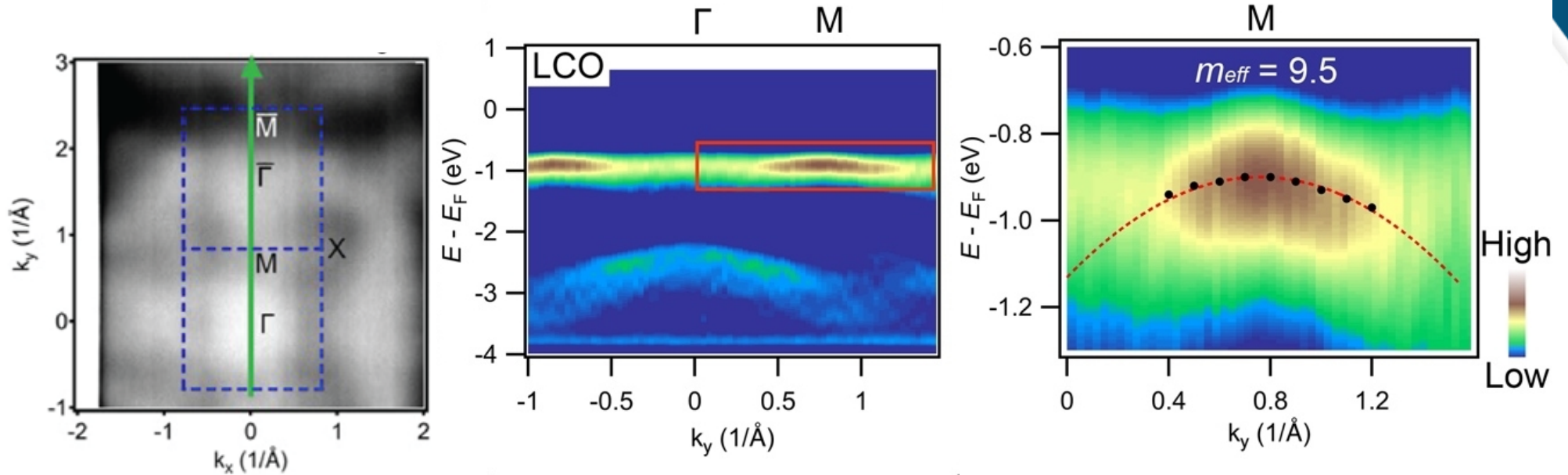
Selective localization:

- target the RE site
- RE has more contribution to the valence DOS,
- localize holes over electrons

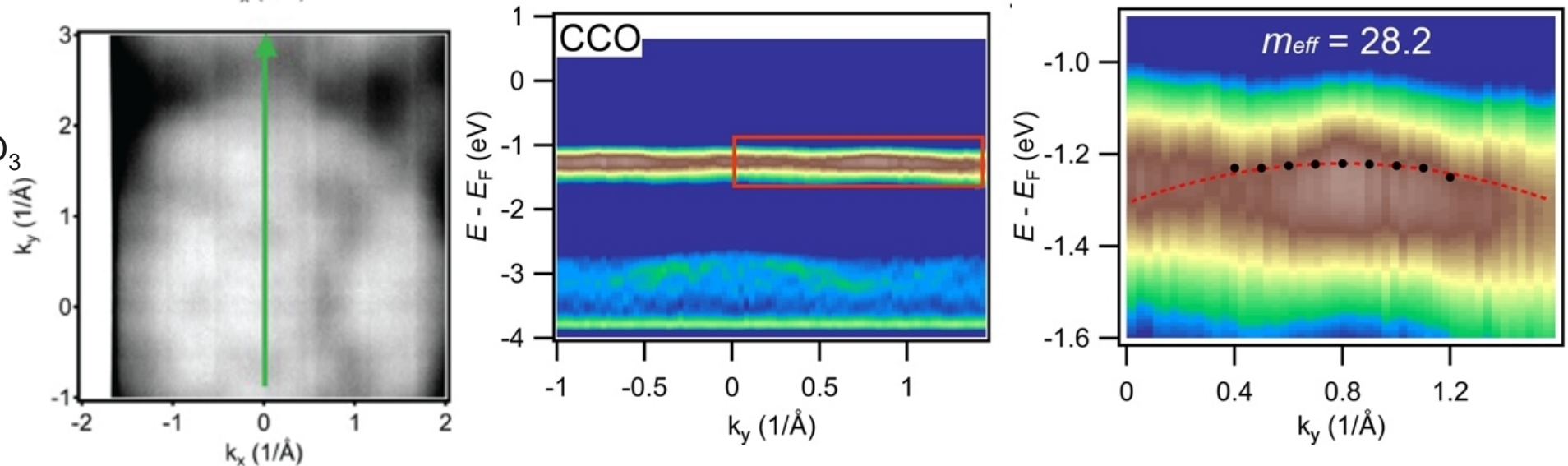
# ANGLE RESOLVED PHOTOEMISSION CONFIRMS INCREASED EFFECTIVE MASS



LaCoO<sub>3</sub>



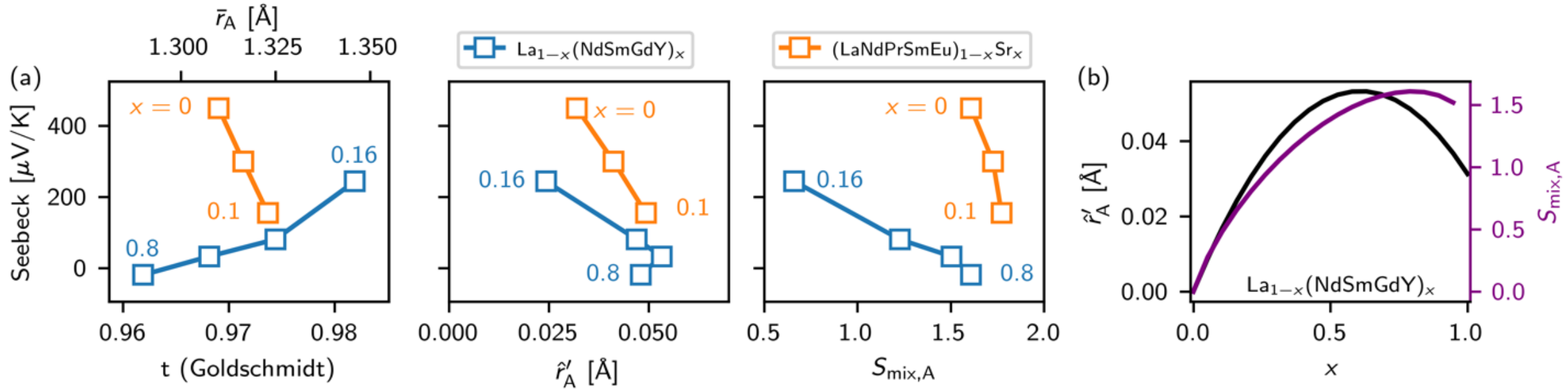
(La,Sm,Y,Nd,Gd)<sub>0.2</sub>CoO<sub>3</sub>



first ARPES,  
HEO or LCO

Zhang et. al., *in preparation*

# CAN WE CREATE GENERALIZED MATERIAL DESCRIPTORS?



Kumar et. al., *J. Materiomics* 2023

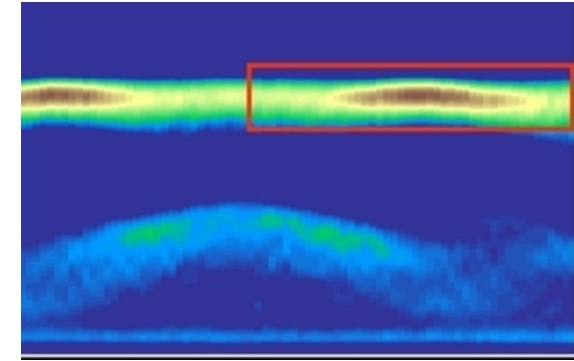
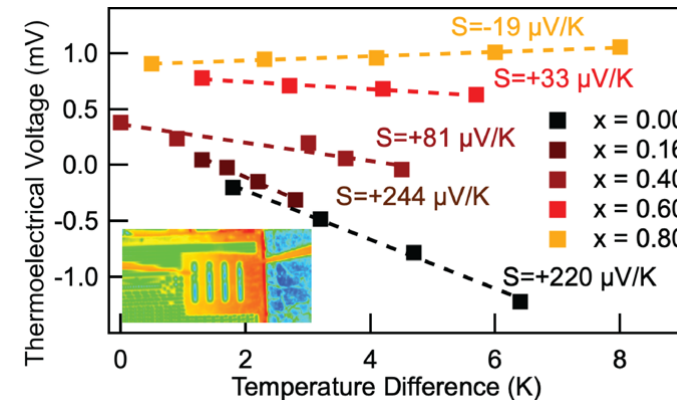
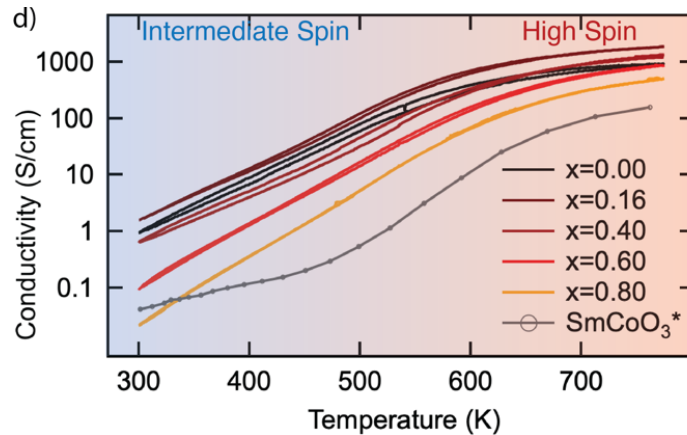
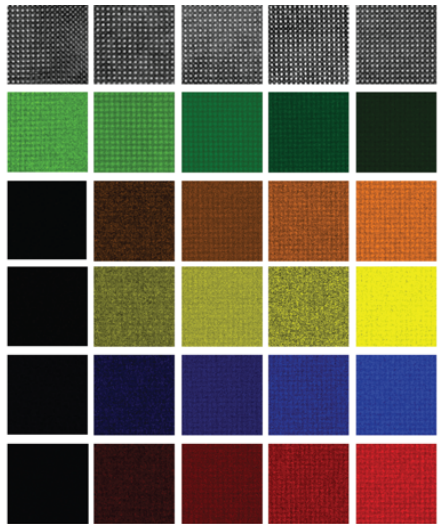


Zhang et. al., *in preparation*

# CONCLUSIONS



- Tunable complexity allows us to distinguish the effects of simple alloying vs. complexity/entropy
- Structural enhancements can occur even at dilute molar fractions of complexity
- Correlated transitions are continuously tunable with entropy, but properties distinct from conventional alloys
- Complexity can be targeted to specific lattice sites to tune carrier type in oxide semiconductors
- ARPES reveals the electronic structure of entropy oxides, localization can have dramatic effects!



Zhang et. al., *in preparation*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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