

Contents

Acknowledgment	i
Abstract	ii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Multi-degrees of freedom in strongly correlated electron systems	1
1.2 Geometrical frustration	3
1.3 Multi-degrees of freedom in geometrically frustrated systems .	6
1.4 Purpose of this thesis	6
1.5 Organization of this thesis	6
2 Triangular-lattice systems ANiO₂	8
2.1 Atomic electronic structure and lattice structure	8
2.2 Experimental studies	11
2.2.1 NaNiO ₂	11
2.2.2 LiNiO ₂	15
2.2.3 AgNiO ₂	19
2.3 Theoretical studies	24
2.3.1 First-principle band calculations	24
2.3.2 Effective spin-orbital model	27
2.3.3 Analysis of the effective spin coupling	27
2.3.4 Extended effective spin-orbital model	29
3 Model and Method	34
3.1 Background	34
3.2 Model Hamiltonian	35
3.2.1 Hopping term \mathcal{H}_{hop}	35
3.2.2 Electron-electron interactions \mathcal{H}_{int}	37
3.2.3 Electron-phonon couplings	37
3.2.4 Phonon terms	38
3.2.5 Full Hamiltonian	40

3.3	Method	41
3.3.1	Hartree approximation	41
3.3.2	Adiabatic approximation	41
3.3.3	Self-consistent scheme	42
3.3.4	Details of calculations	42
3.4	Range of model parameters	43
3.4.1	Transfer integrals t and t'	43
3.4.2	Coulomb interactions	46
3.4.3	Electron-phonon couplings and cooperative phonon couplings	46
4	Results and Discussion	48
4.1	Global phase diagram by varying t'/t	48
4.2	Effect of cooperative phonon terms	54
4.2.1	Phase diagram without cooperative phonon terms	54
4.2.2	Phase diagram with cooperative phonon terms	57
4.3	Effect of Coulomb interaction	59
4.4	Charge-ordered metallic phase	62
4.5	Charge-ordered insulating phases	64
4.6	OF SF insulating phase	65
4.7	Discussion and comparison with experiments in $ANiO_2$	67
5	Summary	69