were identified, and that each of these cosmids detected transcripts of the same size in Northern blot experiments, suggest that only one highly expressed gene (that is, gli) was present within the amplification unit.

The assignment of the sequences amplified in D-259 MG cells to chromosome 12 (q13 to q14.3) is provocative. A fragile site of the folic acid type has been described at 12q13 (17); such sites have been hypothesized to colocalize with proto-oncogenes and play a role in tumor development in affected individuals (18). In addition, translocations in the 12(q13 to q14) region have been described in human myxoid liposarcomas and salivary gland tumors (19). There is a precedent for genes that are amplified in some tumors to be translocated in other tumors and thus to show similar increases in expression (1). This hypothesis can now be tested in liposarcomas and salivary gland tumors with probes for gli.

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pKK36P1. This was confirmed by Southern blot-ting of Pst I-cleaved DNA, which showed that a 1.55-kb Pst I fragment homologous to pKK36P1 was amplified in both tumors

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## Superconductivity in Alkaline Earth–Substituted $La_2CuO_{4-v}$

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La<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4-y</sub> ceramics containing a few percent of Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Sr<sup>2+</sup>, and Ba<sup>2+</sup> ions have been prepared. Resistivity and susceptibility measurements exhibit superconductive onsets (as in earlier  $Ba^{2+}$ -containing samples). The onset temperature  $La_2CuO_{4-y}$  with  $Sr^{2+}$  is higher and its superconductivity-induced diamagnetism larger than that found with Ba<sup>2+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup>. This is proof that the electronic change resulting from alkaline earthdoping, rather than the size effect, is responsible for superconductivity. The ionic radius of Sr<sup>2+</sup> is close to that of La<sup>3+</sup> for which it presumably substitutes.

ECENTLY, BEDNORZ AND MÜLLER (1) reported the possible onset of superconductivity in the metallic BaLaCuO system with transition temperatures  $T_c$  in the 30 K range. Subsequent dc susceptibility measurements in our laboratory (2) supported this, and resistivity and low-field susceptibility data from Tanaka's group (3) and Chu's (4) group substantiated this finding. The early BaLaCuO samples consisted of up to three phases (2); by combining x-ray and diamagnetic susceptibility measurements (5, 6), it could be shown that one of them, the  $La_2CuO_{4-\nu}$ :Ba phase, becomes partly superconducting. Identification of flux trapping and the existence of a superconductive glass state in the ceramics was demonstrated by nonergodic magnetic responses (7).

Leading to the discovery of superconductivity in the  $La_2CuO_{4-\nu}$  were, first, the known existence of high electron-phonon coupling in oxides such as  $Li_xTi_{2-x}O_4$  (8) spinel and  $BaPb_{1-x}Bi_xO_3$  (9) perovskite, and, second, the expected high electron-phonon coupling occurring in polaronic systems as emphasized by Chakraverty (10). The existence of Jahn-Teller polarons in a linear chain model was proposed by Höck et al. (11): If the Jahn-Teller stabilization energy is of the same magnitude as the bandwidth in a metal, the effective mass of the itinerant electrons or holes will become large, that is, a large electron-phonon coupling exists. As a result, such a polaronic system can be favorable for the occurrence of superconductivity. The Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions in the itinerant compound  $La_2CuO_{4-\nu}$ 

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have this property. However, the experiments showed that Ba<sup>2+</sup> doping is essential for the occurrence of superconductivity (1-7). The ionic radius of Ba<sup>2+</sup> is 1.34 Å, that of La<sup>3+</sup> is 1.14 Å, whereas that of  $Cu^{2+}$  is 0.72 Å (12). By comparing these sizes, one expects that the  $Ba^{2+}$  substitutes  $La^{3+}$  rather than  $Cu^{2+}$ . There are, in principle, two possible mechanisms consistent with these observations which result in the occurrence of superconductivity. (i) The first is an electronic mechanism. The Ba<sup>2+</sup> substitution causes a mixedvalence state of Cu<sup>2+</sup> and Cu<sup>3+</sup>, and this state serves to preserve charge neutrality. It is assumed that the oxygen deficiency y is the same in the doped and undoped crystallites, an assumption that needs further investigation. (ii) The second could be a size effect. The larger Ba<sup>2+</sup> induces an orthorhombic-tetragonal symmetry change as found by roomtemperature x-ray diffraction. La<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4-v</sub>:Ba samples with nearly tetragonal symmetry exhibit the highest transition temperatures. This symmetry change, however, is also obtained by doping  $La_2CuO_{4-y}$  with  $Sr^{2+}$  or  $Ca^{2+}$  ions, which have radii of 1.12 and 0.99 Å, respectively. We are therefore able to disprove the size-mismatch mechanism (ii) in favor of the electronic, or more accurately, the electron-phonon mechanism (i).

Our oxygen-deficient compounds have been prepared by the coprecipitation process with subsequent low-temperature treatment (1, 2) and by high-temperature solidstate reaction from the corresponding oxides and carbonates at 1100°C (5, 13). Although in the case of barium substitution, if we start from the ratio (La, Ba):Cu = 2:1, which has been identified as the composition of the superconducting compound (2), the lowtemperature process yields a two-phase product. A single-phase sample, however, is obtained by proper annealing, whereas in the case of calcium and strontium substitu-

**Fig. 1.** Resistivity as a function of temperature for calcium  $(\bullet)$ , strontium  $(\triangle)$ , and barium  $(\bigcirc)$  substitution with substituent lanthanum ratios of 0.02/1.98, 0.02/1.8, and 0.15/1.85, respectively. The strontium curve has been vertically expanded by a factor of 15.

**Fig. 2.** Magnetic susceptibility of the samples whose resistivities are shown in Fig. 1. The substituents are calcium ( $\oplus$ ), strontium ( $\triangle$ ), and barium ( $\bigcirc$ ), with total sample masses of 0.14, 0.21, and 0.13 g, respectively. The calcium curve has been vertically expanded by a factor of 10. Arrows indicate onset temperatures.

tion single-phase samples were prepared without additional treatments (5).

As the samples are cooled from room temperature, the resistivity  $\rho$  first shows a metal-like decrease. At low temperatures (Fig. 1), a change to an increase occurs in the case of calcium compounds as well as in the barium-substituted samples (1). This increase is followed by a resistivity drop, showing the onset of superconductivity at  $22 \pm 2$  K and  $33 \pm 2$  K for the calcium and barium compounds, respectively;  $\pm$  ranges represent uncertainties due to rounding effects at the onset. In the strontium compound, the resistivity remains metallic down to the resistivity drop at  $40 \pm 1$  K. The presence of localization effects, however, depends strongly on alkaline-earth ion concentration and sample preparation, in particular annealing conditions and the density, which have to be optimized. In strontiumsubstituted La2CuO4 with concentration x = 0.2 produced by the high-temperature reaction and subsequent oxygen annealing, Cava et al. (14) were able to dramatically narrow the transition width to 1.4 K with an onset of 38.5 K. All our samples with low concentrations of calcium, strontium, and barium show a strong tendency toward localization before the resistivity drops occur.

In each case, at temperatures somewhat lower than the onset of the resistivity drops, the magnetic susceptibility measurements (Fig. 2) show a transition from Pauli paramagnetic behavior to diamagnetism. The changes to diamagnetism occur at  $17 \pm 1$ ,  $32 \pm 1$ , and  $37 \pm 1$  K for calcium, barium, and strontium, respectively. Values of susceptibility  $\chi$  shown here are equilibrium values obtained by field cooling at 0.5 K/min. Zerofield cooling the samples results in a considerably larger metastable diamagnetism (2, 7). For the strontium compound, the value of the volume susceptibility is estimated to be several percent of  $-1/4\pi$  at 6 K in a relatively high magnetic field of 0.3 kG, as compared to the  $Li_xTiO_4$  spinel and the oxygen-annealed La2CuO4:Sr samples studied by Cava et al. (14). For lower probing fields,  $\chi$  is considerably enhanced [see inset of figure 4 in (2)]; this is expected theoretically (15) in a superconductive glass. Most recently, we proved the existence of such a superconductive glass state in La<sub>2</sub>CuO<sub>4-y</sub>:Ba from measurements of  $\chi(T)$ and magnetization m(T) in zero-field and nonzero-field cooled states by the presence of metastability (7).

Our resistivity and susceptibility measurements, as a function of temperature, of  $Sr^{2+}$ -and  $Ca^{2+}$ -doped  $La_2CuO_{4-y}$  ceramics (Figs. 1 and 2) show the same general tendency as the  $Ba^{2+}$ -doped samples (1, 2, 7): that is, a drop in  $\rho(T)$ , and at a slightly lower tem-

perature a crossover to diamagnetism. The samples containing Sr<sup>2+</sup> actually have yielded a higher onset temperature than those containing  $Ba^{2+}$  and  $Ca^{2+}$ . Furthermore, the diamagnetic susceptibility is about three times as large as for the barium samples. As the ionic radius of  $Sr^{2+}$  nearly matches the one of  $La^{3+}$ , it is clear that the size effect does not cause the occurrence of superconductivity. On the contrary, it is rather adverse, as the data on Ba<sup>2+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> indicate.

The highest  $T_c$  for each of the dopantions investigated occurs for those concentrations where, at room temperature, the  $La_2CuO_{4-y}$  structure is close to the orthorhombic-tetragonal structural phase transition (SPT) (5). Thus, this SPT may be related to the substantial electron-phonon interaction enhanced by the substitution. The alkaline earth-substitution of lanthanum is clearly important, and quite likely creates Cu<sup>3+</sup> ions with two orbitals transforming as orbitals of the cubic eg group which are half-filled and have a singlet ground state. Therefore, the absence of the third electron in the eg states, which introduces a Jahn-Teller hole near the Fermi energy, probably plays an important role for the  $T_{\rm c}$  enhancement as investigated theoretically (16). Referring to the theory of Höck et al. (11), one creates Jahn-Teller polaron holes by the doping. However, we cannot yet exclude an enhanced oxygen-vacancy content in the samples on alkaline earthsubstitution to preserve charge neutrality. As the concentration of vacancies is finite, the role of pairs of Cu<sup>2+</sup> and oxygen vacancies in the lattice needs to be investigated (17).

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## Avascular Necrosis: Occurrence in **Diving Cretaceous Mosasaurs**

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A study of vertebrae of extinct giant marine lizards showed the presence of avascular necrosis in two of the three most common genera of these mosasaurs, Platecarpus and Tylosaurus. This bone disease was invariably present (involving 5 to 66% of vertebrae) in these genera, but absent in a third genus Clidastes. Differential occurrence of avascular necrosis may be related to decompression syndrome, suggesting different habitat and diving habits of the respective genera.

**HE BONE PATHOLOGY, AVASCULAR** necrosis, was found to be common in the skeletons of extinct giant marine lizards, the mosasaurs. The phenomenon was identified by its pathognomonic radiologic appearance (1-3), that of a linear region of radiolucency. This focal avascular necrosis (Fig. 1A) is quite different from the regional vascular changes resulting in tail loss in iguanids and the hoof and distal extremity loss occurring in grazing animals, secondary to ergotism. Whereas bone necrosis may occur in the latter circumstances, it is quite different from the linear necrotic pattern herein described in mosasaur vertebrae, where it is identical to the phenomenon known as avascular necrosis in man. Ischemic necrosis of vertebrae, presenting with an intravertebral radiolucent cleft is rare. All reported human cases that we have identified appear to manifest vertebral collapse, in addition to the intravertebral radiolucent cleft. Resnick considered this radiolucent cleft sign "virtually pathognomonic of bone necrosis" (1) as did Maldague (2). The vertebrae involved in man typically have

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included the tenth thoracic through the third lumbar, generally as an isolated phenomenon (limited to one vertebrae). Spinal involvement in avascular necrosis has thus been diagnosed by its radiologic appearance.

During study of a mosasaur vertebra with infectious spondylitis, we selected what appeared to be a normal vertebra for sectioning in order to characterize normal vertebral anatomy, and found a linear region of loss of tissue definition. The similarity of radiographs of this vertebra to those of vertebral bodies with avascular necrosis occasionally observed in man led to characterization of the nature of the bony change and a survey of the frequency of the pathology in caudal vertebrae in the University of Kansas Vertebrate Paleontology mosasaur collection.

Vertebral material in the collection belongs mostly to three genera of mosasaurs, Platecarpus, Tylosaurus, and Clidastes. Avascular necrosis was identifiable in all specimens of Platecarpus and Tylosaurus in the collection and in none of *Clidastes* (Table 1). The percentage of vertebrae involved in a

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given individual (Table 1) was greater for Platecarpus (mean  $\pm$  SEM,  $25.2 \pm 5.5$ ) than for Tylosaurus  $(9.1 \pm 1.2)$  (t = 2.36,P < 0.03).

The vertebrae had no external evidence of vertebral collapse. Their size was the same as that of unaffected vertebrae. Radiologic examination revealed a radiolucent cleft (Fig. 1A). The cut surface revealed a linear area of loss of bone definition (Fig. 1B), confirmed on scanning electron microscopy. This can be distinguished from vascular channels by absence of sharply defined, radiodense margins. The relative localization of this abnormal zone within a given vertebrae corresponds to localization of vertebral avascular necrosis in man (4, 5) which in man represents a watershed region of vascular supply (6). Localization of perforating vertebral vessels in Platecarpus (Fig. 1C) is consistent with their location in man. Figure 1D shows on transverse section the vascular supply in Platecarpus, which is similar to that reported in man (6). The fossil occurrences differ from reported cases of avascular necrosis in man only in that vertebral collapse does not occur in the mosasaur specimens (4), and osteoporosis, reported in 65% of human cases (7, 8), was not identifiable in the mosasaur specimens. The relatively uniform width of the clefts would not be compatible with a diagnosis of metastatic carcinoma. Absence of irregular finger-like radiolucen-

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