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# **Optical Spectroscopy in Materials Science Optical properties of interacting systems**

## Superconductors





Superconductivity vs. perfect conductors



### BCS theory: gapped electronic excitations

BCS theory:



Norman E. Phillips. Heat Capacity of Aluminum between 0.1 K and 4.0 K. *Phys. Rev.*, 114(3):676–685, May 1959.



M. Dressel, Advances in Condensed Matter Physics 2013, 104379

## BCS theory: gapped electronic excitations

BCS theory:



## BCS theory: optical excitations

- Matrix element: coherence effect
- Conservation of spectral weight





### Optical conductivity in experiments



### Optical conductivity in experiments



#### Optical conductivity in experiments



BCS fit:  $2\Delta_0=5$  meV Weak coupling limit:  $2\Delta_0=3.5k_BT_C=9$  meV

Gap alatt kvázirészecske gerjesztés

### Length scales in superconductors



## Superconductors in the dirty limit

Only a fraction of the Drude peak contribute to the condenstate:

$$\ell < \xi_0$$

$$v_F \tau < \frac{\hbar v_F}{2\Delta}$$

$$2\Delta < \frac{\hbar}{\tau}$$

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \sigma(\omega) d\omega = \frac{nq^2}{m} \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\sigma_{DC} 2\Delta \sim \frac{n_S q^2}{m} = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \lambda_L^2}$$
$$\lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{m}{\mu_0 n q^2 2\Delta \tau}}$$

Clean limit:  
>> 
$$\lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{m}{\mu_0 n q^2}}$$



### Extended Drude model

 $\sigma$ 

Interactions of electrons:

- other electrons (Coulomb)
- phonons

Frequency dependent scattering rate (Kramers-Kronig should be satisfied):

$$= i \frac{nq^2}{m} \frac{1}{\omega + i\gamma} \rightarrow i \frac{nq^2}{m} \frac{1}{\omega + i\Gamma(\omega)}$$
$$\frac{1}{\tau^*} = \Re e\{\Gamma(\omega)\}$$
$$\frac{m^*}{m} = 1 - \frac{\Im m\{\Gamma(\omega)\}}{\omega}$$

Frequency dependent scattering rate

Frequency dependent mass enhancement

Weakly interacting electron gas (Fermi liquid):



$$\frac{\hbar}{\tau^*} = \frac{2}{3E_F} (\hbar\omega)^2 + (2\pi k_B T)^2$$

Maslov, D. L., & Chubukov, A. V. *Rep. Prog. Phys.,* 80(2), 026503 (2016).

#### Electron-electron interaction: Mott insulators



#### Electron-electron interaction: Mott insulators







FIG. 75. Optical conductivity spectra of  $V_{2-y}O_3$  in the metallic phase (full lines) at T=170 K (upper) and T=300 K (lower). The inset contains the difference of the two spectra  $\Delta\sigma(\omega) = \sigma_{170 \text{ K}}(\omega) - \sigma_{300 \text{ K}}(\omega)$ . Diamonds indicate the measured dc conductivity. Dotted lines indicate  $\sigma(\omega)$  of insulating phase with y=0.013 at 10 K (upper) and y=0 at 70 K (lower). From Rozemberg *et al.*, 1995.



## Ferroelectrics



#### Vibrational spectroscopy



The q=0 case is equivalent to a diatomic molecule, atoms move respect to the center of mass





$$m\frac{\partial^2 u_{opt}}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial u_{opt}} \propto -a(T)u_{opt}$$
$$\omega(q=0)^2 \propto \frac{1}{\chi}$$



Figure 4. Frequencies of the E modes at room temperature and temperature dependence of the frequencies of  $F_{1u}$  modes in the cubic phase for BaTiO<sub>3</sub>. O, transverse modes;  $\bullet$ , longitudinal modes. Raman data ( $\Box$ ) are taken from Scalabrin *et al* (1977).

Figure 10. Temperature dependence of the dielectric constant of  $BaTiO_3$ :  $\bigcirc$  present IR study; **\blacksquare** Raman data of Scalabrin *et al* (1977); direct dielectric measurements  $\forall$  (24 GHz),  $\Box$  (37 GHz),  $\triangle$  (250 MHz) are those of Benedict and Durand (1958), Poplavko (1966) and Wemple *et al* (1968) respectively.