

# Lect 10 Superconductivity

The superfluidity theory we have discussed is for neutral systems.

How about for charged systems, say, superconductors?

The neutral boson Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}(\varphi) = \frac{i}{2} (\varphi^* \partial_t \varphi - \varphi \partial_t \varphi^*) - \frac{1}{2m} \partial_x \varphi^* \partial_x \varphi + \mu |\varphi|^2 - \frac{V_0}{2} |\varphi|^4$$

has the U(1) global symmetry  $\varphi \rightarrow e^{if} \varphi$ , but it does not have the

symmetry  $\varphi(x,t) \rightarrow e^{if(x,t)} \varphi(x,t)$ .

For charged bosons (Cooper pairs of electrons)

$$\mathcal{L}(\varphi, A_\mu) = \frac{i}{2} (\varphi^* (\partial_0 + iA_0) \varphi - \varphi (\partial_0 - iA_0) \varphi^*) - \frac{1}{2m} |(\partial_i + iA_i) \varphi|^2 + \mu |\varphi|^2 - \frac{V_0}{2} |\varphi|^4 + \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} (\frac{1}{c} E^2 - c B^2)$$

where  $E_i = \partial_0 A_i - \partial_i A_0 = F_{0i}$ ,  $B_i = \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j A_k = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} F_{jk}$

which is invariant as

$$\varphi \rightarrow \tilde{\varphi} = e^{if(x,t)} \varphi, \quad \tilde{A}_\mu = A_\mu - \partial_\mu f$$

If  $\varphi_c$  satisfy the classical equation of motion (fix  $A_\mu$ ).

$\Rightarrow$  do variation respected to  $\delta \varphi$ :  $\varphi' = e^{if(x,t)} \varphi \Rightarrow \delta \varphi' = \varphi (1 + if(x,t))$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}[\tilde{\varphi}, A_\mu] &= \mathcal{L}[\varphi, A_\mu - \partial_\mu f] & J_i &= \frac{i}{2m} (\varphi^* \partial_i \varphi - \partial_i \varphi^* \varphi) \\ \Rightarrow \delta \mathcal{L} &= \int d^4x \partial_\mu f \cdot J^\mu & \Rightarrow \partial_\mu J^\mu &= 0 & + A_i |\varphi|^2 \\ & & \text{where } J_0 &= \varphi^* \varphi, \end{aligned}$$

\* Current correlation function & E-M responses

$$\mathcal{L}[\varphi, A_\mu] = \mathcal{L}[\varphi] - A_0 j^0 - A_i j^i - \frac{1}{2m} (A_i)^2 \rho$$

we use the linear response theory  $j_i = -\frac{i}{2m} [\varphi^\dagger (\partial_i \varphi) - (\partial_i \varphi^\dagger) \varphi]$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle J^\mu(x,t) \rangle &= \langle j^\mu(x,t) \rangle + (1 - \delta_{\mu,0}) A_\mu \rho \\ &= \int d^d x' dt' \pi^{\mu\nu}(x,t; x',t') A_\nu(x',t') \end{aligned}$$

The response function ~~read~~ reads

$$\pi^{00}(x,t; x',t') = -i \Theta(t-t') \langle [\rho(x,t), \rho(x',t')] \rangle$$

$$\pi^{0i}(x,t; x',t') = -i \Theta(t-t') \langle [\rho(x,t), j^i(x',t')] \rangle$$

$$\pi^{i0}(x,t; x',t') = -i \Theta(t-t') \langle [j^i(x,t), \rho(x',t')] \rangle$$

$$\pi^{ij}(x,t; x',t') = -i \Theta(t-t') \langle [j^i(x,t), j^j(x',t')] \rangle + \delta^{ij} \delta(x-x') \delta(t-t') \frac{\langle \rho \rangle}{m}$$

$\pi^{\mu\nu}$  satisfies  $(\pi^{\mu\nu}(x,t; x',t'))^* = \pi^{\nu\mu}(x',t'; x,t)$

$$\Rightarrow (\pi^{\mu\nu}(k))^* = \pi^{\nu\mu}(-k)$$

$\pi^{\mu\nu}$  satisfies continuity & gauge invariance conditions.

$$\partial_\mu J^\mu = 0 \Rightarrow k_\mu \pi^{\mu\nu}(k) = 0$$

$$A \rightarrow A + \partial f \Rightarrow \pi^{\mu\nu}(k) k_\nu = 0$$

We can decompose  $\pi^{ij}(k)$  into transverse & longitudinal parts <sup>ij</sup> ③

spatial part  $\rightarrow \pi^{ij}(k) = \frac{k_i k_j}{k^2} \pi^{||}(k) + (\delta_{ij} - \frac{k_i k_j}{k^2}) \pi^{\perp}(k)$

$$\pi^{0i}(k) = (\pi^{i0}(-k))^{\dagger} = -\frac{k_j}{\omega} \pi^{ji}(k) \leftarrow k_{\mu} \pi^{\mu\nu}(k) = 0$$

$$\pi^{00}(k) = -\frac{k_j}{\omega} \pi^{0j} = \frac{k_i k_j}{\omega^2} \pi^{ij}(k)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi^{0i}(k) &= -k_i \pi^{||}(k) \\ \pi^{00}(k) &= \frac{k^2}{\omega^2} \pi^{||}(k) \end{aligned}$$

the time component is only related to the longitudinal component.

For the correlation in the spatial direction, we define the paramagnetic contribution as

$$\pi_{\text{para}}^{ij}(x, t; x', t') = -i \Theta(t-t') \langle [j^i(x, t), j^j(x', t')] \rangle,$$

then  $\pi^{||}(k) = \pi_{\text{para}}^{||}(k) + \frac{\langle P \rangle}{m}$

$\pi^{\perp}(k) = \pi_{\text{para}}^{\perp}(k) + \frac{\langle P \rangle}{m}$

$\rightarrow$  diamagnetic contribution.

We know  $\delta P(k) = \pi^{00}(k) A_0(k)$ ,

Since  $A_0(k)$  is just external potential, thus  $-\pi^{00}(k)$  is just

the compressibility  $\chi(k) = -\pi^{00}(k)$ . Let us assume that  $\chi(k)$

$\rightarrow \text{const } (k \rightarrow 0)$

then  $\Pi''(k) = -\chi(k) \frac{\omega^2}{k^2}$ , thus at the static limit

( $\omega \rightarrow 0$  first;  $k \rightarrow 0$  second),  $\Pi''(k)$  goes to zero (longitudinal field has no effect!), thus  $\Pi''_{para}(k)$  must exactly ~~cancel~~ cancel the diamagnetic contribution.

On the other hand, if  ~~$\omega \rightarrow 0$~~   $k \rightarrow 0$  first and  $\omega \rightarrow 0$  second ( $k \ll \omega$ ).

$-i\omega A(k, \omega)$  is the electric field

$$j^i(\omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Pi^{ij} \cancel{A_j(k, \omega)}}{-i\omega} \underbrace{(-i\omega) A_j(k, \omega)}_{E(\omega, k)}$$

$\Rightarrow \sigma(\omega) = \frac{\Pi''(\omega, 0)}{-i\omega} = \frac{\Pi^{\perp}(\omega, 0)}{-i\omega}$  in the normal state, as  $k \rightarrow 0$ , there's no difference between transverse and longitudinal modes.

~~$\sigma(\omega)$~~

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho \Rightarrow \vec{D} = \vec{E} + 4\pi\vec{P} = (1 + 4\pi\chi)\vec{E} = \epsilon\vec{E}$$

$$\vec{j} = \partial_t \vec{P} \Rightarrow \vec{j}(\omega) = -i\omega \vec{P}(\omega) = -i\omega \chi(\omega) \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{j}(\omega) = \frac{-i}{4\pi} (\epsilon - 1) \omega \vec{E}(\omega)$$

i.e.  $\sigma(\omega) = \frac{-i}{4\pi} (\epsilon - 1) \omega$  i.e.

$$\epsilon(\omega) = 1 + \frac{i 4\pi \sigma(\omega)}{\omega}$$

how about in the static limit  $\omega \ll k$ ,  $\Pi^\perp(k, \omega)$ ?

From  $\nabla \times \vec{M} = \vec{j}$

$$\Rightarrow j_i = i \epsilon^{ijk} k_j M_k = -\Pi^{ij} A_k = -(\delta_{ij} k^2 - k^i k^j) A_j \frac{\Pi^\perp}{k^2}$$

$$= \epsilon^{ij'k'} k_{j'} \epsilon^{k'i'j} k_{i'} A_j \frac{\Pi^\perp(k, \omega)}{k^2} = -i \epsilon^{ijk} k_j B_k \frac{\Pi^\perp(k, \omega)}{k^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{M_i = -\frac{\Pi^\perp(k, 0)}{k^2} B_i}, \text{ i.e. } \frac{\Pi^\perp(k, 0)}{k^2} \text{ is magnetic susceptibility.}$$

Summarize: Compressibility  $\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \chi(k) = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} k^2 \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Pi^{\parallel}(k, \omega)}{\omega^2}$

orbital magnetic susceptibility  $\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \chi_m(k) = -\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{k^2} \Pi^\perp(k, 0)$

\* E-M:

let us calculate  $\Pi^{\mu\nu}$  for bosonic field:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\chi}{2} ((\partial_0 \theta + A_0)^2 - v^2 (\partial_i \theta + A_i)^2)$$

the paramagnetic current  $j_0 = -\chi \partial_0 \theta$ ,  $j_i = \chi v^2 \partial_i \theta$

total current  $J_0 = -\chi (\partial_0 \theta + A_0)$   $J_i = \chi v^2 (\partial_i \theta + A_i)$

$$\Pi_{\text{para}}^{\text{ov}}(k, \omega) = \chi^2 (-i\omega)(+i\omega) \langle \Theta(\omega, k) \Theta(-\omega, -k) \rangle = \frac{\chi^2 \omega^2}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)}$$

$$\Pi_{\text{para}}^{\text{oi}}(k, \omega) = \Pi_{\text{para}}^{\text{i0}}(k, \omega)$$

↳ retarded  
green's function

$$= \frac{\chi^2}{v^2} (-i\omega)(-ik_i) \langle \Theta(\omega, k) \Theta(-\omega, -k) \rangle = \frac{v^2 \chi^2 (-) k_i \omega}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)}$$

$$\Pi^{ij} = \chi^2 (ik_i)(-ik_j) \langle \Theta(\omega, k) \Theta(-\omega, -k) \rangle = \chi v^4 \frac{k_i k_j}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pi^{00}(k, \omega) = \chi \left[ \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)} - 1 \right] = +\chi \left[ \frac{v^2 k^2}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)} \right]$$

$$\Pi^{oi}(k, \omega) = \Pi^{i0}(k, \omega) = -\chi v^2 \frac{\omega k_i}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)}$$

$$\Pi^{ij}(k, \omega) = \chi v^2 \left( \delta_{ij} + v^2 \frac{k_i k_j}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Pi^{\parallel 0} = \chi v^2 \left( 1 + \frac{v^2 k^2}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)} \right) = \chi v^2 \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 - v^2 k^2 + i0^+ \text{sgn}(\omega)}$$

$$\Pi^{\perp} = \chi v^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{the Compressibility} \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} -\Pi^{00}(k, \omega) = \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} -\Pi^{00}(k, 0) = \chi.$$

$$\text{magnetic susceptibility} \quad - \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{k^2} \Pi^{\perp}(k, 0) \quad \text{divergences.}$$

~~rest part of~~ if we choose transverse gauge  $\partial_i A_i = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{J^i = \Pi^{ij} A_j = \Pi^{\perp} A_{,i} = \chi v^2 A_i = + \frac{\rho}{m} A_i} \quad \text{London equation!}$$

optical conductivity  $\text{Re } \sigma(\omega) = -\text{Im} \frac{\Pi''(\omega, 0)}{\omega} = \text{Im} \frac{\chi v^2}{\omega + i0^+} = \frac{\pi \rho}{m} \delta(\omega)$

which is zero at finite frequency.

### \* Anderson - Higgs mechanism

In charged superfluid (superconductor), the gapless Goldstone mode is gone. The gauge field  $A_\mu$  has its own dynamics.

$$\mathcal{Z} = \int \mathcal{D}\varphi \mathcal{D}A_\mu e^{i \int d^d x dt \mathcal{L}(\varphi, A_\mu) + \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} (E^2 - B^2)}$$

in the symmetry breaking ground states  $\varphi = |\varphi| e^{i\theta(x,t)}$

we can absorb the phase by doing a gauge transformation

$$\left| (\partial_\mu - iA_\mu) |\varphi| e^{i\theta(x,t)} \right|^2 = \left| (\partial_\mu - i \underbrace{A_\mu + \partial_\mu \theta}_{\tilde{A}_\mu}) |\varphi| \right|^2$$

$\tilde{A}_\mu$  which is equivalent

thus  $\varphi$  can be made real:

$$\varphi = \bar{\varphi} + \delta\varphi$$

to  $iA_\mu$ , and does not give new physical field configuration.

$\Rightarrow$  ...

~~or~~ or equivalently we can set  $\theta=0$  in the

action  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{\chi}{2} \left[ (\partial_0 \theta + A_0)^2 - v^2 (\partial_i \theta + A_i)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{2V_0} A_0^2 - \frac{\rho}{2m} A_i^2$

$\Rightarrow$  the Lagrangian for  $A$  becomes

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2V_0} A_0^2 - \frac{\rho}{2m} A_i^2 + \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} (E^2 - B^2)$$

note that  $\frac{1}{8\pi e^2} E^2 = \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} [\partial_0 A_i]^2 + \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} (\partial_i A_0)^2 - \frac{1}{4\pi e^2} \partial_i A_0 \partial_0 A_i$

and thus  $A_0$  has no time derivative. Let's integrate out  $A_0$ .

$$A_0 \left( \frac{1}{2V_0} - \frac{\partial_i^2}{8\pi e^2} \right) A_0 + \frac{1}{4\pi e^2} A_0 \partial_0 \partial_i A_i$$

$\nwarrow$  neglected

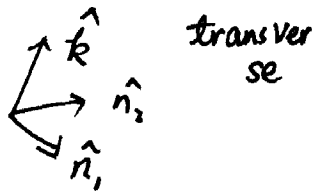
$$\approx \frac{1}{2V_0} \left( A_0 - \frac{V_0}{4\pi e^2} \partial_0 \partial_i A_i \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2V_0} \frac{V_0^2}{(4\pi e^2)^2} (\partial_0 \partial_i A_i)(\partial_0 \partial_j A_j)$$

$\uparrow$   
const after gaussian integration

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \partial_0 A_j \left[ \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} \delta_{ij} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_0}{(4\pi)^2 e^4} \frac{\partial_i \partial_j}{\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} \text{longitudinal}} \right] \partial_0 A_i - \frac{\rho}{2m} A_i^2 - \frac{B^2}{8\pi e^2}$$

$\uparrow$   
transverse

Let us decompose  $A_i = \hat{k}_i A'' + \hat{n}_a A_a^\perp$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} [(\partial_0 A_a^\perp)^2 - (\partial_i A_a^\perp)^2] - \frac{\rho}{2m} (A_a^\perp)^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} \partial_0 A'' (1 + \frac{V_0}{4\pi e^2} (\partial_i)^2) \partial_0 A'' - \frac{\rho}{2m} (A'')^2$$

all the 3 modes has the gap  $\Delta = e \sqrt{4\pi \rho/m}$

$\checkmark$  replace  $\partial_0^2 = -\Delta^2$   
and  $v^2 = V_0 \rho/m$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} [(\partial_0 A_a^\perp)^2 - (\partial_i A_a^\perp)^2] - \frac{\rho}{2m} (A_a^\perp)^2 + \frac{1}{8\pi e^2} [(\partial_0 A'')^2 - v^2 (\partial_i A'')^2] - \frac{\rho}{2m} (A'')^2$$



## \* Superfluidity & superfluid density:

Let's consider a boson system which is invariant under Galileo transformation, and assume an excitation spectrum  $E(k)$ . Consider a single excitation  $E(k)$ , thus  $\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}$  and  $E = E_{\text{ground}} + E$ . Let us boost the system by velocity  $\vec{v}$ , ~~the excitation has a doppler~~

~~shift~~ the total energy and momentum change to

$$E = E_{\text{ground}} + E + \frac{1}{2} N m v^2 + \vec{v} \cdot \hbar \vec{k}$$

$$\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k} + N m \vec{v}$$

Thus compared with boosted ground state, we have

$$E_v(k) = E(k) + \hbar \vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}, \quad \vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}.$$

~~In the boosted~~

In the boosted superfluid, in the equilibrium, we have distribution according to

$$E_v = E_g + \sum_{\vec{k}} E_v(k) n_B(E_v(k)) + \frac{1}{2} N m v^2 \quad E_v(k).$$

$$\vec{p} = N m \vec{v} + \sum_{\vec{k}} \hbar \vec{k} n_B(E_v(k))$$

The momentum can be written as, (expand to first order of  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{k}$ ).

$$\vec{p} = (N m - \rho_s m) \vec{v} = \rho_s m \vec{v}$$

↑  $\rho_s$  superfluid density.

where  $\rho_n = - \frac{1}{m d} \int \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} k^2 n'_B(\epsilon(k))$  .

from the angle integral  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{k}$   
average

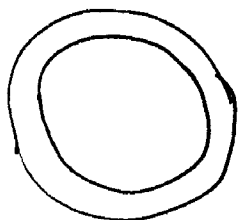
If  $\epsilon(k) \propto |k|$

$\Rightarrow \rho_n \propto T^{d+1}$  . ~~and  $\rho_n \propto T^{d+1}$~~

Another question is: since super-current carrying state is not the lowest energy state, why it is stable?

Let us consider a symmetry breaking state  $\varphi = \varphi_0 + \delta\varphi$   
condensate fluctuation

Let us twist  $\varphi_0$  (boost)

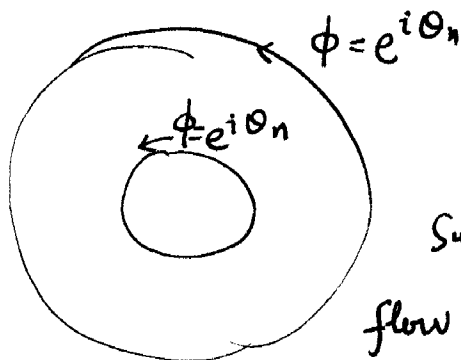


$\varphi' = \varphi_0 e^{imvx}$  such that  $mvL = 2\pi n$ .

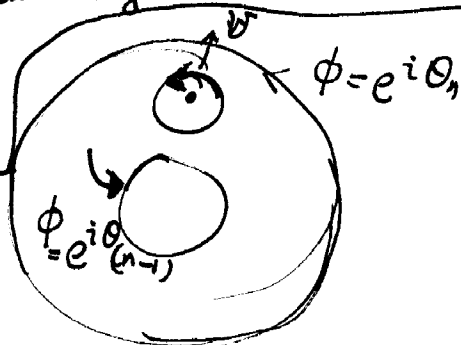
Because  $|\varphi_0|$  is fixed, we cannot untwist the condensate without suppressing  $|\varphi_0|$  to zero. Thus although  $\varphi_0 e^{imvx}$

has a high energy, it ~~is~~ cannot relax unless vortex tunneling.

The vortex tunneling is the decaying



mechanism of superfluidity.



Superfluid won't flow forever, but it is long-lived!

create a vortex in the inner wall and move it across the sample to outer wall untwist the superfluid.