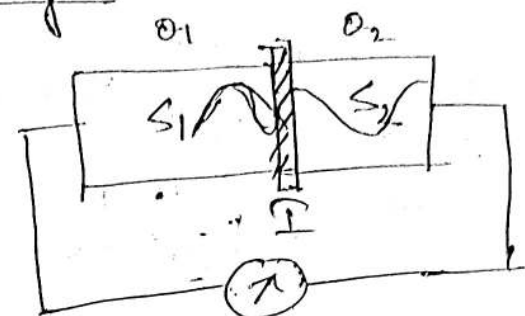


10/4/25

# Josephson Junction Tunneling :-

$$J = J_0 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2)$$



highly coherent state  $\Rightarrow$  single quantum state (macroscopic)

## SQUID

$$|\psi\rangle = \alpha |\psi_1\rangle + \beta |\psi_2\rangle$$

$$AC J : J = J_0 \sin\left(\delta_0 - \frac{2eV}{\hbar} t\right)$$

$\delta_0 \rightarrow \delta_0 - \frac{2eV}{\hbar} t \rightarrow$  can change phase by just changing biasing.

Super current flowing b/w 2 points if phases of the wave function are different as these 2 points are not same. The Josephson effect are due to the fact that phases can be changed by  $\vec{B}$  or  $V$ . Josephson effects are the manifestation of quantum interference phenomenon on a macroscopic scale.

Quantum  $\Rightarrow$  entire SC as on a single quantum state. Interference  $\Rightarrow$  the measured properties depend on the phase of the state which can be tuned by a  $\vec{B}$  or  $V$ . and states w/ diff. phases can be made to interfere. The interference results in current oscillation which can be detected electrically.

## Quantum Interference Device

SQUID  $\rightarrow$  Superconducting

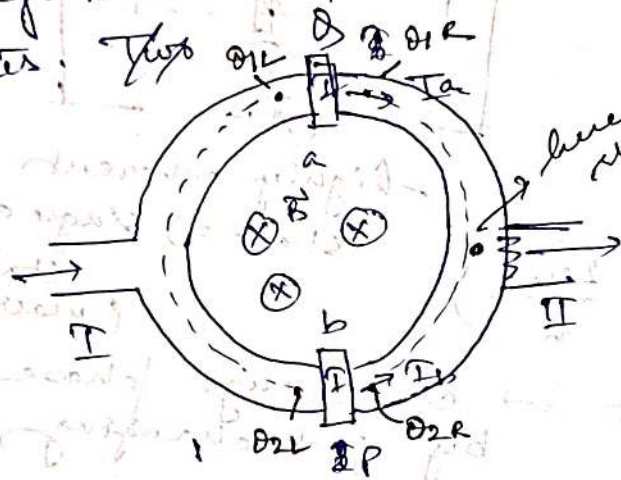
$$\Phi_0 = \frac{h}{2e} = 2 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Wb } (T \cdot m^2)$$

interference pattern  $\equiv$  classical

oscillating electric field quantum

# Supercurrent Interference

The JJ tunneling in presence of  $\vec{B}$  provides strong evidence for highly coherent nature of SC states. This is shown in the diagram below.



line phase shift is identical

$$I = I_a + I_b$$

$\delta a, \delta b = \delta \phi$   
for same type of SC and same JJ. (same  $I$ , same thickness)

← one SC (line 1) → another SC (line 2)

Two Josephson junctions are arranged in parallel combination and are placed in a region in which magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  is imposed. A supercurrent starting in region I is divided into two parts and get to flow parallel paths, each of which contains tunnel junction.

The current  $I_a$  and  $I_b$  carrying the tunnel barrier a and b respectively in R-I. The combined current shows oscillation characteristics of an interference pattern produced by 2 coherent sources.

By analogy,  $I_a$  and  $I_b$  are regarded as two sources of current whose disturbances when superposed by the wave of recombination producing interference pattern. In view of Josephson tunneling, tunneling of Cooper pair causes a phase shift to total wave fn. of the superconducting state, in R-II relative to R-I.



If phase shift at the two barriers in absence of magnetic field be  $\delta_a$  and  $\delta_b$

$$\delta_a = \phi_{1L} - \phi_{2R}$$

$$\delta_b = \phi_{2L} - \phi_{2R}$$

Then supercurrent through the 2 junctions  $I_a$  and  $I_b = I_0 \sin \delta_b$  — this is without magnetic field.  
 $I_a = I_0 \sin \delta_a$

The phase diff. b/w two regions I. and II in presence of magnetic field of vector potential  $\vec{A}$ ,  $\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = 0$  and deep inside material  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \vec{B}$ .

$$\vec{\nabla} \phi = \frac{2e}{\hbar} \vec{A}$$

Line integral  $\int_a^b \vec{\nabla} \phi \cdot d\vec{l}$

$$= \frac{2e}{\hbar} \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

total phase shift  $\rightarrow$

$$\nabla \phi_{II} = \delta_a + \frac{2e}{\hbar} \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$\nabla \phi_I = \delta_b - \frac{2e}{\hbar} \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

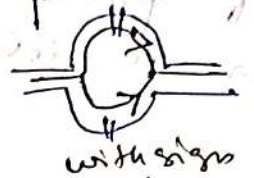
The two phase shifts coming back to same point ~~the~~ must be same as  $\psi$  is uniquely valued at each point.

$$\delta_a + \frac{2e}{\hbar} \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = \delta_b - \frac{2e}{\hbar} \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta_a - \delta_b = \frac{2e}{\hbar} \left[ \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_a^b \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} \right]$$

Taken together with sign  $\Rightarrow$  one closed path

$$\delta_b - \delta_a = \frac{2e}{\hbar} \oint \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{e}$$



$$= \frac{2e}{\hbar} \oint (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) \cdot d\vec{S}$$

$$\delta_b - \delta_a = \frac{2e}{\hbar} \phi \quad (\text{flux enclosed by ring})$$

The above relation states the total phase difference around loop can be controlled by varying magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ .

General:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \delta_a &= \delta_0 - \frac{e}{\hbar} \int \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} \\ \delta_b &= \delta_0 + \frac{e}{\hbar} \int \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} \delta_a &= \delta_b = \delta_0 \\ \text{when } B &= 0 \\ \text{(initial phase diff)} \end{aligned}$$

$\delta_b - \delta_a = 0$  when  $B = 0$  (this is when same type of SC used)

$$\therefore \delta_b - \delta_a = \frac{2e}{\hbar} \cdot 2\pi \phi$$

$\Rightarrow (2\pi \phi / \phi_0) = \text{in units of flux quantum}$

Total current after recombining  $\Rightarrow$  total recombined super-current

$$I = I_a + I_b$$

$$= I_0 \sin \delta_a + I_0 \sin \delta_b$$

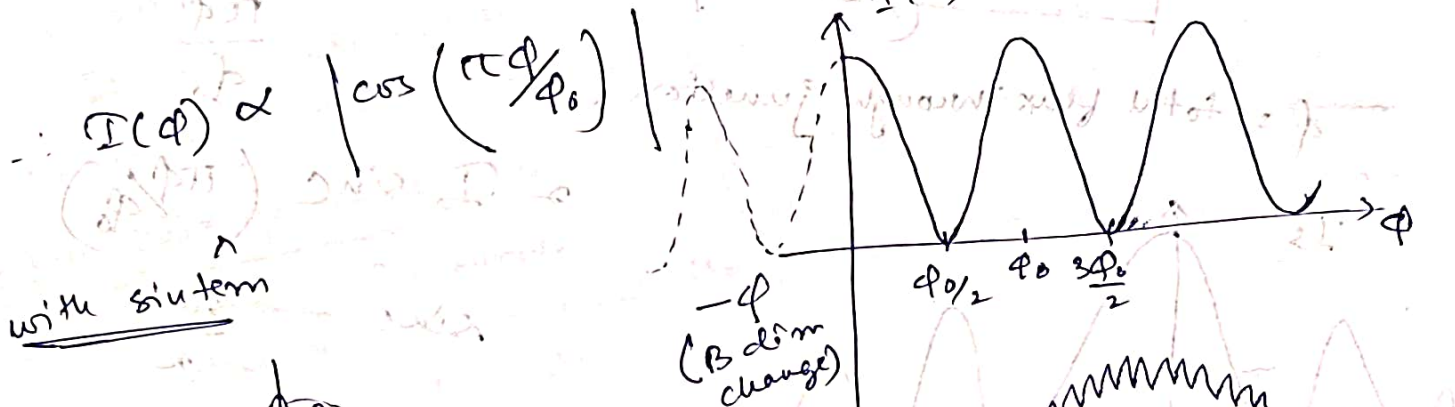
$$= I_0 \sin \left( \delta_0 - \frac{e}{\hbar} \phi \right) + I_0 \sin \left( \delta_0 + \frac{e}{\hbar} \phi \right)$$



$$I = I_0 \left( 2 \sin \frac{\delta a + \phi b}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{\phi b - \phi a}{2} \right)$$

$$= 2 I_0 \left[ \sin \delta_0 \cdot \cos \frac{2\pi \cdot \phi}{2\phi_0} \right]$$

$$= 2 I_0 \sin \delta_0 \cdot \cos(\pi \phi / \phi_0)$$



as  $\phi \rightarrow \phi_0, 2\phi_0, \dots$  additional peaks appear

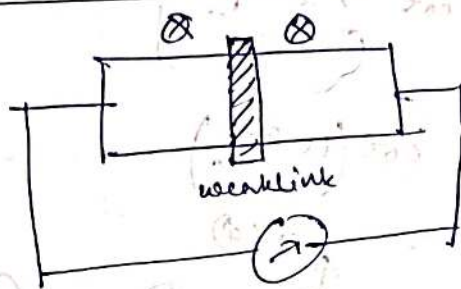
This modulation of observed SQUID ring critical current is shown. The current is essentially an ideal Fraunhofer interference pattern observed in optics with Young's double slit expt.

Here, the two Josephson Junctions play the role of two slits and interference is b/w the supercurrent passing through 2 halves of the ring. The supercurrent require different phases due to  $\vec{B}$ . The SQUID provides a simple but highly accurate system for measuring  $\vec{B}$ , magnetic flux. Since  $\phi \approx 10^{-15} \text{ T-m}$  one can make device  $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^2$ , we can measure  $B \sim 10^{-10} \text{ T}$  (very small field or moment can be measured = bio fields)

Optics  
 $\sin = \text{diffraction}$   
 $\cos = \text{interference}$

SQUID = highest accuracy magnetometer

Single Josephson Junction



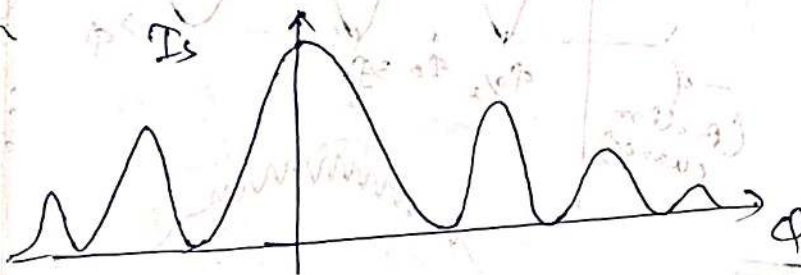
Tunnel current through one junction →

$$I_s = I_0 \frac{\sin(\pi \Phi / \Phi_0)}{\pi \Phi / \Phi_0}$$

$$= I_0 \operatorname{sinc}(\pi \Phi / \Phi_0)$$

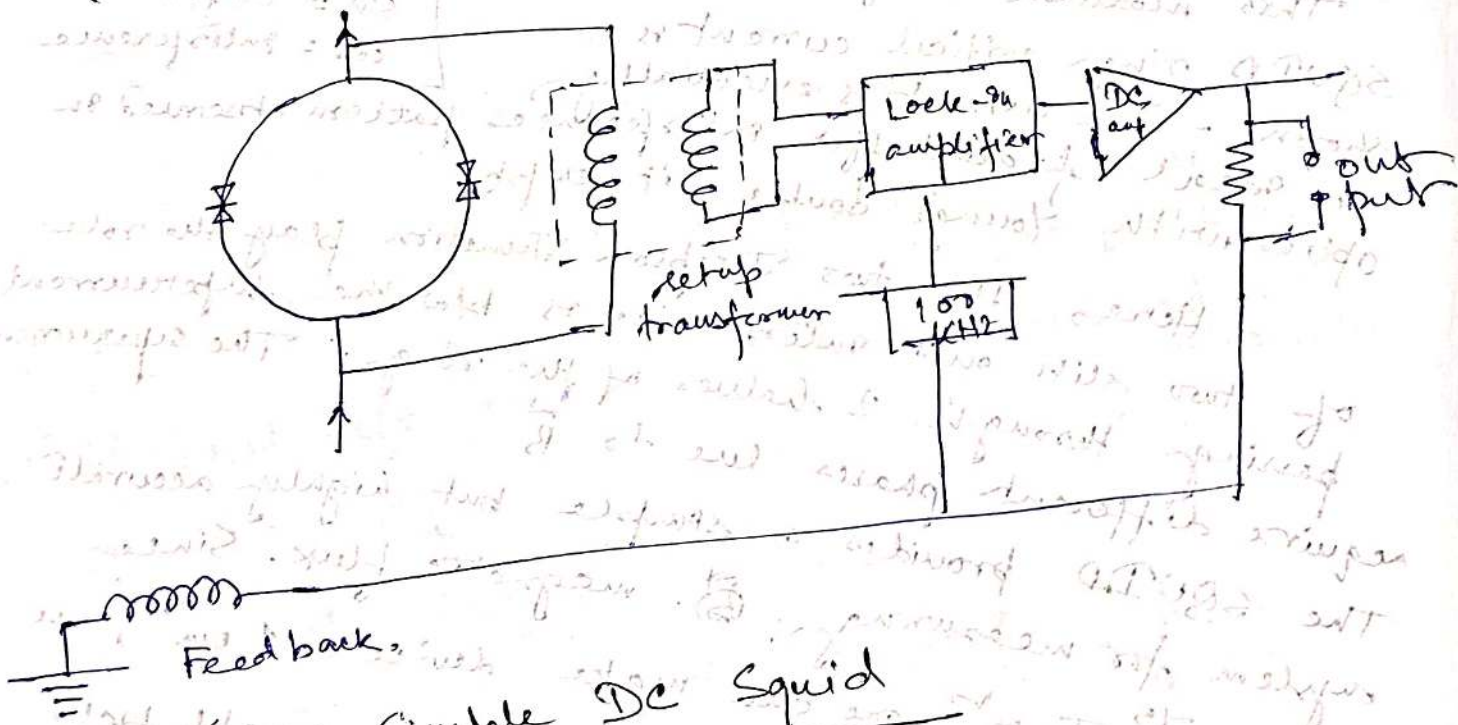
$$\operatorname{sinc} \rightarrow \frac{\sin x}{x}$$

Φ = total flux through junction



like single slit pattern

(magnetic field dependant current through a single J-J) (su/su/su)



Simple DC Squid



11/04/25

# BCS Theory

[Bardeen, Cooper & Schrieffer Theory] (1957)

BCS theory — well accepted for low  $T_c$  SC.

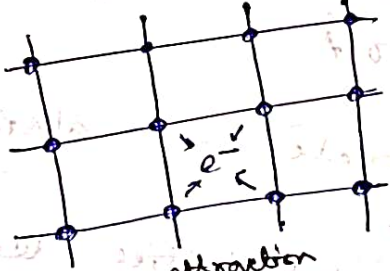
① Isotope effect  $T_c \propto M^{-1/2} \Rightarrow$  phonons are involved in Superconductivity

② cooper remodeled frolich's idea on  $e^-$ -phonon interaction into the philosophy of an  $e^-e^-$  interaction mediated by phonon — cooper pair.

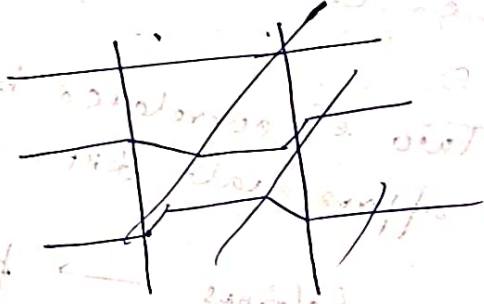
Cooper pair formation :- Cooper demonstrated that the creation condn. favourable for net attractive interactions b/w 2 electrons in a conductor, conductor transforms from normal state to SC state.

Electron-phonon interaction  $\rightarrow$  coulombic repulsion and also instantaneous  $e^-e^-$  interaction  $\propto$  (retarded int.)

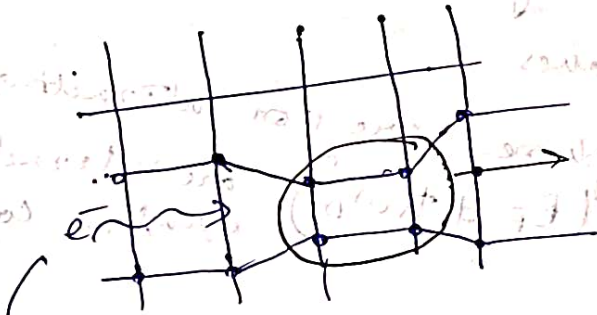
—  $e^-$ -lattice- $e^-$  interaction  $\Rightarrow e^-e^-$  int. mediated by phonon can give rise to attraction



distorted lattice



• electron travelling in a lattice leaves behind a disorted trail which can be regarded as an accumulation of locally charged ion cores.

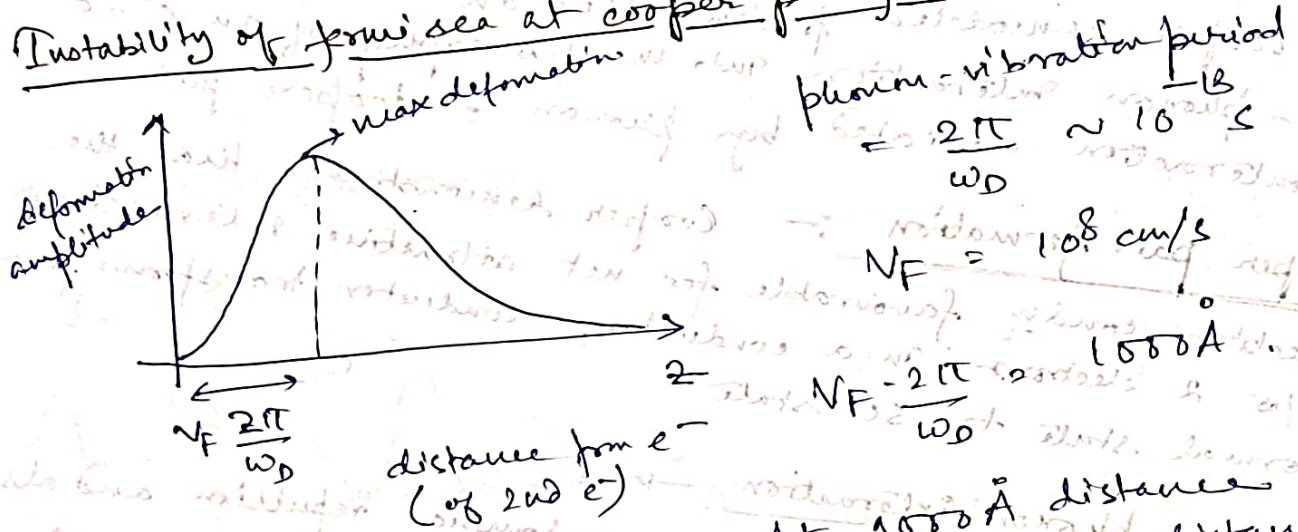


distorted lattice.

• area of enhanced charge compared to neutral crystal is created behind  $e^-$  and exerts an attractive force on  $e^-$

- $e^-$  moves very fast but ions cannot move as fast. so next  $e^-$  behind that one feels attractive force.
- at low  $T$ ,  $e^- - e^-$  coulombic repulsion is weaker
- $e^-$  - phonon -  $e^- \rightarrow$  stronger ~~effects~~ (due to screening)

### Instability of fermi sea at cooper pair formation $\rightarrow$



This is a long distance process. At  $1000 \text{ Å}$  distance interaction can take place. At this far away distance  $e^- - e^-$  coulomb repulsion is weak.

$\Rightarrow$  Two  $e^-$  correlated by lattice distortion will have an approximate dist. of  $1000 \text{ Å}$ .

$e^- \rightarrow$  deforms  $\rightarrow$  phonon created  $\rightarrow$  absorbed by next  $e^-$ .

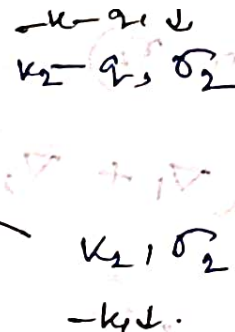
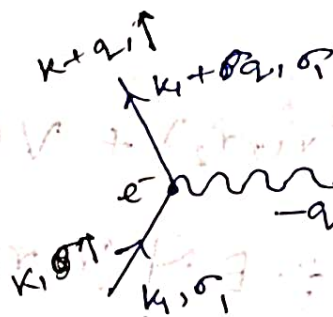
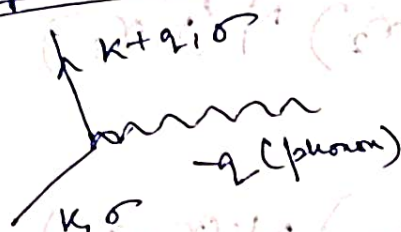
An  $e^-$  travelling through crystal lattice leaves behind the deformation trail which can be regarded as an accumulation of truly charged cores.

$\Rightarrow$  compression of lattice planes

$e^-$  well within fermi sphere are non interacting  
 $e^-$  close to fermi level ( $E_F \pm \hbar\omega_D$ ) are interacting and can form cooper pair.



$e-p$  vertex



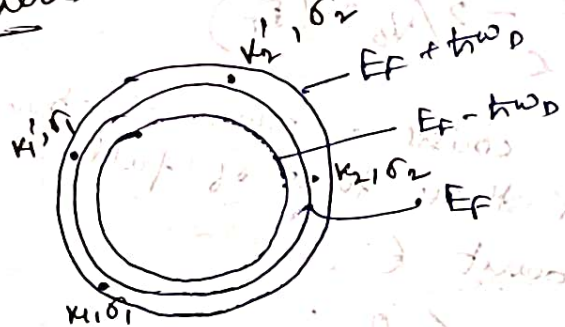
$k \rightarrow \uparrow$   
 $-k \rightarrow \downarrow$

$\sigma = \text{spin (up/down)}$

most favourable pair = opposite momentum and oppo. spin.

ideal  $\left\{ \begin{aligned} k_1 + k_2 &= k'_1 + k'_2 = k \approx 0 \\ k_1 &= -k_2 \end{aligned} \right.$

Fermi Sphere



$k'_1 = k_1 + q$

$k'_2 = k_2 - q$

The  $e^-$  at  $(k_1, \sigma_1)$  and  $(k_2, \sigma_2)$  are scattered to  $(k_1 + q, \sigma_1)$  and  $(k_2 - q, \sigma_2)$ . The net attractive provided all wave vectors lie in the range  $\hbar\omega \leq \epsilon_k \leq \hbar\omega_D$

Vertex  $= |g_q|^2 \frac{1}{\omega_r - \omega_q}$

$g_q \sim \sqrt{\frac{m}{M}}$

$\sim 0.01$

$N_{eff}(q, \omega) = |g_{eff}|^2 \frac{1}{\omega_r - \omega_D}$

and  $\omega < \omega_D$ .

$\rho \approx \frac{1}{V_0}$

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (\nabla_1^2 + \nabla_2^2) \Psi(r_1, r_2) + V(r_1, r_2) \Psi(r_1, r_2)$$

$$= E \Psi(r_1, r_2)$$

$$= (E + 2E_{F_0}) \Psi(r_1, r_2)$$

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L^3}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}_1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{L^3}} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}_2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{L^3} e^{i\vec{k} \cdot (\vec{r}_1 + \vec{r}_2)}$$

$$\text{and } E = -2\hbar\omega_D e^{-2/N_0 E_F}$$

Then we mean there exists a two electron bound state whose energy is lower than that of fully occupied fermi sea by an amount  $E$ .

$$E = E - E_{F_0} < 0$$

The ground state of non-interacting free  $e^- \rightarrow$

becomes unstable when any attractive interaction is switched on. (well within fermi sphere)

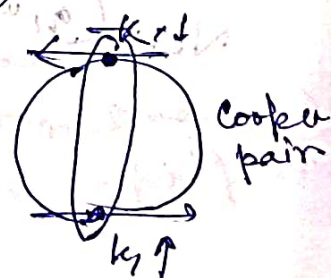
b/w. electrons closest to  $E_F$

The instability leads to formation of such electron pairs

— cooper pairs having momentum  $(\vec{k}\uparrow, -\vec{k}\downarrow)$

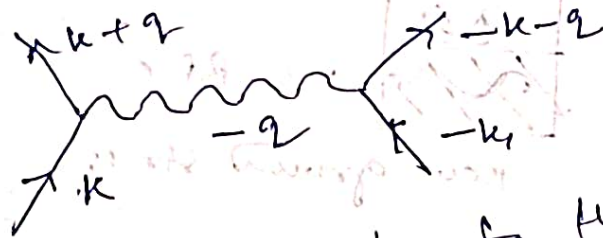
And system tries to reach new lower energy ground state.  $(\vec{k}\uparrow, -\vec{k}\downarrow), (\vec{k}'\uparrow, -\vec{k}'\downarrow)$

and so on. cooper pairs w/ opposite  $\vec{k}$  vectors and spin





Feynman diagram →



Coulomb's int. is reduced due to the screening (presence of other  $e^-$  in Fermi sphere)  
 Something new occurs → the two  $e^-$  may attract e/o  
 The two  $e^-$  would then form bound state very close to Fermi surface.

The binding energy is strongest when  $e^-$  forming the pair have opposite momentum and oppo. spins  
 All  $e^-$  in neighbourhood of Fermi surface condense into a system of many Cooper pairs.

The binding b/w  $e^-$  (1 and 2) → an energy gap appears in the spectrum of  $e^-$  ( $k \uparrow$ )  
 $e^-$  polarises lattice → creates phonon → another  $e^-$  absorbs phonon → result →  $(k-q, \uparrow, -k+q, \downarrow)$

Bose Einstein condensate →

At low temp Cooper pairs are formed with favourable cond. The pair wavefn all have form and the superposn. of pair wavelength describes → BEC.

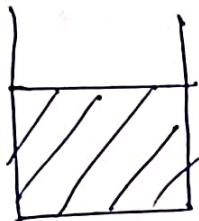
BCS energy gap relation →

In simple form →

$$k_B T_c = 1.14 \hbar \omega_D \exp \left[ \frac{1}{-V N(E_F)} \right] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$V$  = effective  $e^-$ -phonon int. poten.

$N(E_F)$  = density of states at  $E_F$   
 $\omega_D$  = Debye freq.



normal metal band gap



new ground state

$$2\Delta(T=0) = 4\hbar\omega_D \exp\left[-\frac{1}{N(E_F)}\right] \quad (2)$$

$$\hbar\omega_D \sim 10^{-2} \text{ eV} - 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$$

$$\frac{2\Delta(0)}{k_B T_c} = 3.53$$

energy to give Cooper pair

measured values close to typical values:

element

Du

4.1

Su

3.6

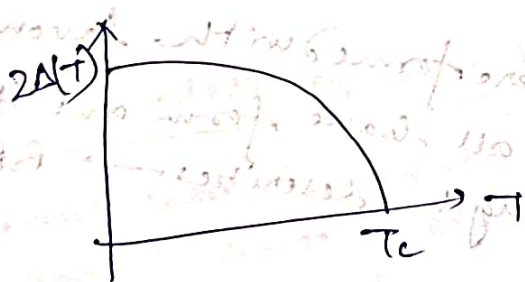
Hg

4.6

Pb

4.1

at  $T = T_c$ , band gap vanishes.



$$2\Delta(T) = 2\Delta(0) \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c}\right)^2\right]$$



BCS ground state  $\rightarrow$

$$\psi(r, s, r', s')$$

$r_2$  electronic position  
 $s = \text{spin}$

In a system of  $N e^-$  the  $e^-$  are grouped into  $N/2$  pairs

$$\psi(r_1 s_1, r_2 s_2, \dots) = \psi(r_1 s_1, r_2 s_2) \psi(r_3 s_3, r_4 s_4) \dots \psi(r_{N-1} s_{N-1}, r_N s_N)$$

(ground state)

$\phi_{BCS} = a \phi$   $a = \text{antisymmetrizer}$   
 $\phi_{BCS}$  have to antisym created somewhere

$$|\phi_{BCS}\rangle = \prod_k (u_k |0\rangle + v_k |1\rangle)$$

$\hookrightarrow$  annihilated somewhere

normalisation

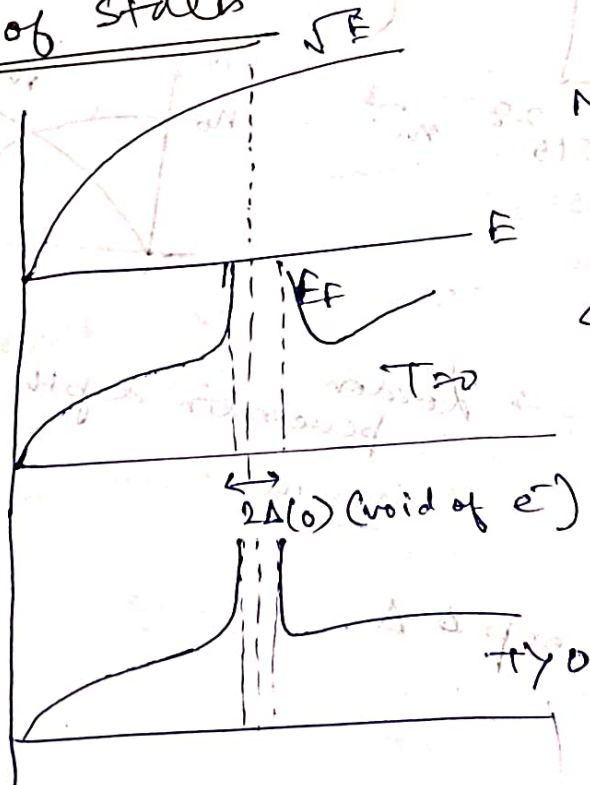
$$u_k^2 + v_k^2 = 1$$

Book

Imbach & Luth  
Kittel  
(Theory of solids)

Density of states

DCE



Normal

$T < 0$

$T > 0$

$$\begin{cases} \text{at } T > 0 \\ 2\Delta(T) < 2\Delta(0) \end{cases}$$