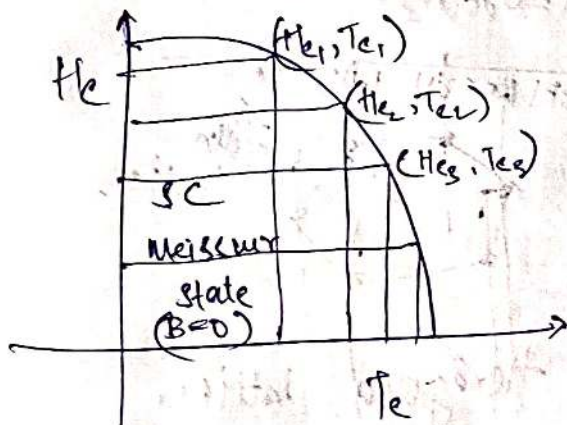
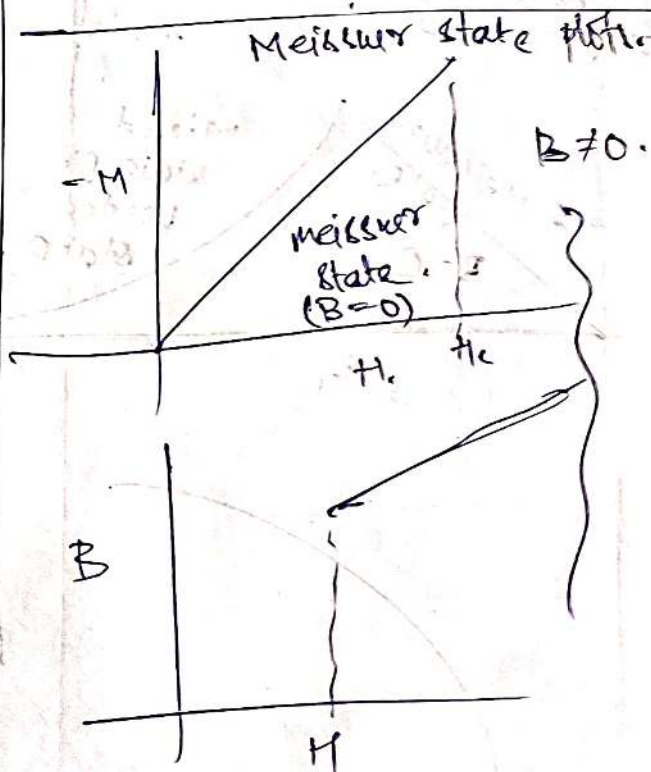
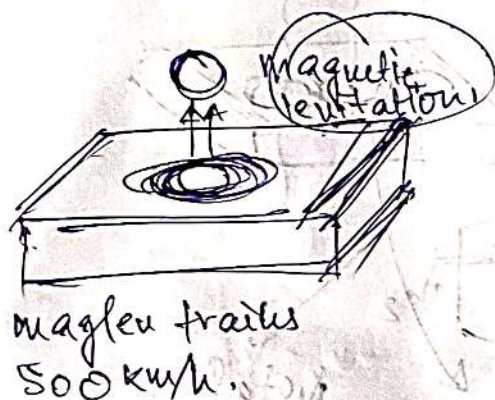
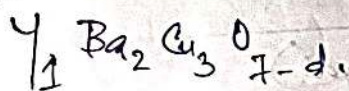
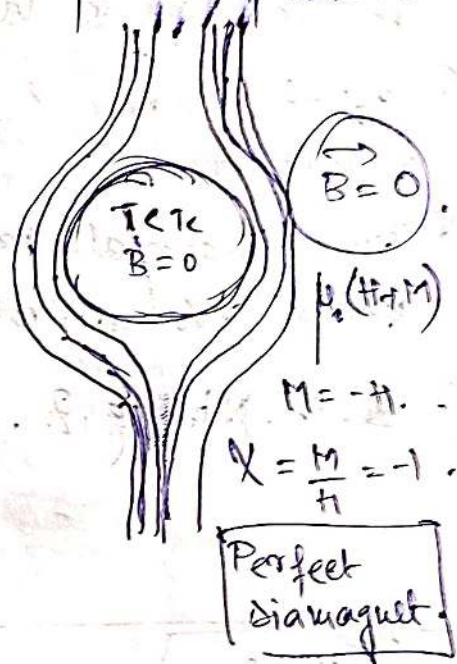
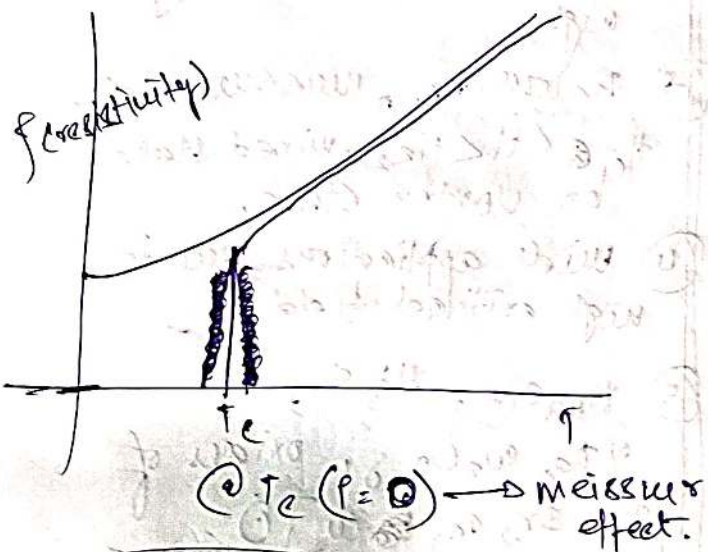


SUPERCONDUCTIVITY.

27/3/24

Superconductivity is a macroscopic quantum phenomenon.



$$H_c = H_0 \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^2 \right]$$

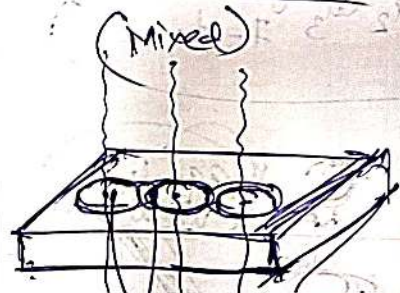
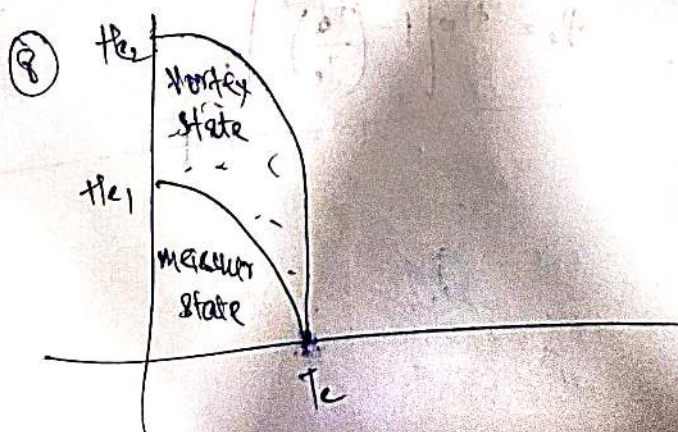
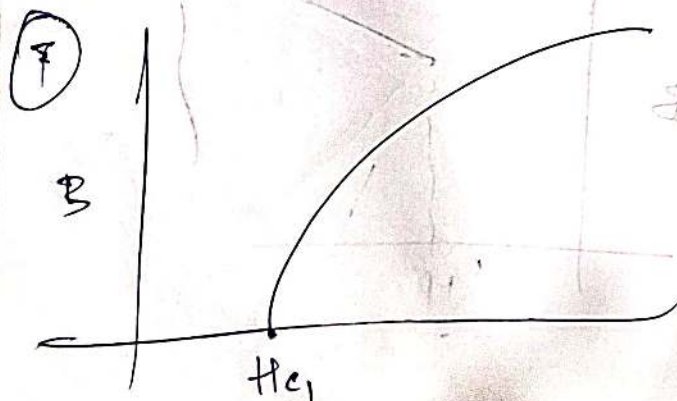
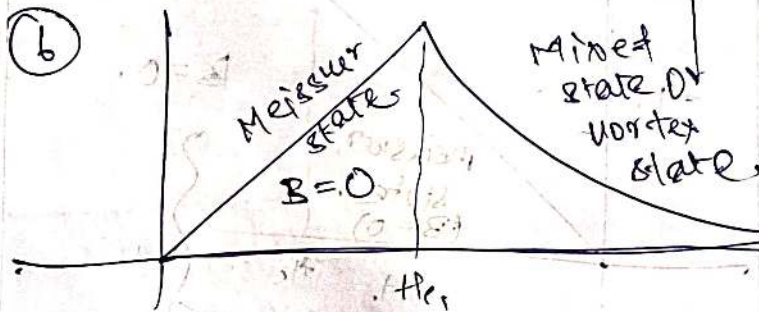
Type 1

- ① Only 1 critical field exists (H_c)
- ② critical field is low.
- ③ exhibit complete & perfect Meissner state.
- ④ These materials have limited field application.
- ⑤ Sn, Pb, Nb, Hg, Zn.

Type 2

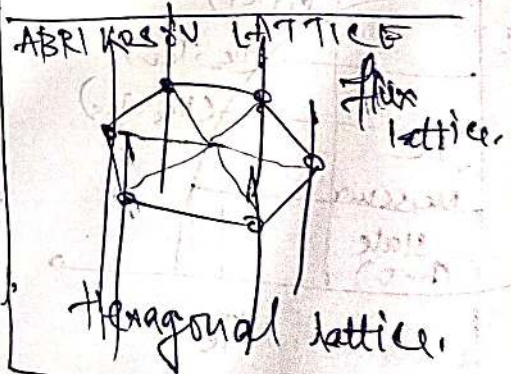
- ① Two critical fields H_{c1} & H_{c2}
- ② critical field H_{c2} is very high.
- ③ Below H_{c1} , Meissner state.
 $H_{c1} < H < H_{c2}$, mixed state or vortex state.
- ④ wide applications due to high critical field.
- ⑤ Nb_3Sn , Nb_3Si , $YBaCuO_{7-\delta}$, oxides of [Bi, Sr, Ca, Cu] $n \neq 0$.

Type 2



metal ($p \neq 0$)

$p=0$



Perfect conductor.

$$\rho = 0$$

$$E = \rho J$$

$$\nabla \times E = 0$$

$$-\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} = 0$$

or

$$\Rightarrow B = \text{const.}$$

Superconductor.

$$\rho = 0, B = 0$$

0! Not only
const but
zero.

Type 1

$$\epsilon_1 > 1$$

coherence
length

$$k = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} > 1$$

Type 2

$$\epsilon_2 < 1$$

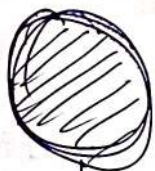
penetration
depth

$$k < 1$$

Perfect conductor

Fe

$$B_A = 0$$



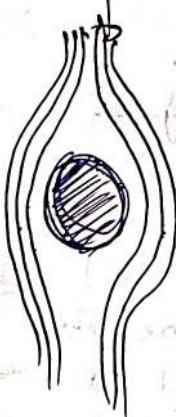
$T > T_c$

cool



$T < T_c$

$$B_A \neq 0$$



Fe



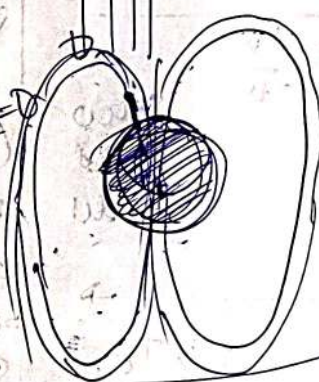
$T > T_c$

cooled



$T < T_c$

$$B_A = 0$$



Superconductor.

Fe

$T > T_c$

$$B_A = 0$$



cool

$T < T_c$

$$B_A = 0$$



$$B_A \neq 0$$

@ $T < T_c$



Fe

$T > T_c$

$$B_A \neq 0$$



$T < T_c$

$$B_A \neq 0$$



The magnetic state of perfect conductor is dependent on the order in which the field is applied and the state of perfect conductivity is achieved.
If the field is first induced in PC, field won't penetrate.
Sequence of applied magnetic field is immaterial for a superconductor.

LONDON - Pippard theory

- 1934, two different types of e^- (conduction e^-):
- ① superelectrons
 - ② normal electrons.

$$n = n_s + n_n \Rightarrow \text{total } e^- \text{ density.}$$

- ③ The super electron do not experience any scattering, have zero entropy (perfect order) & long coherence length (ξ).

- ④ Normal e^- behave in usual fashion. & experience resistive scattering due to collision.

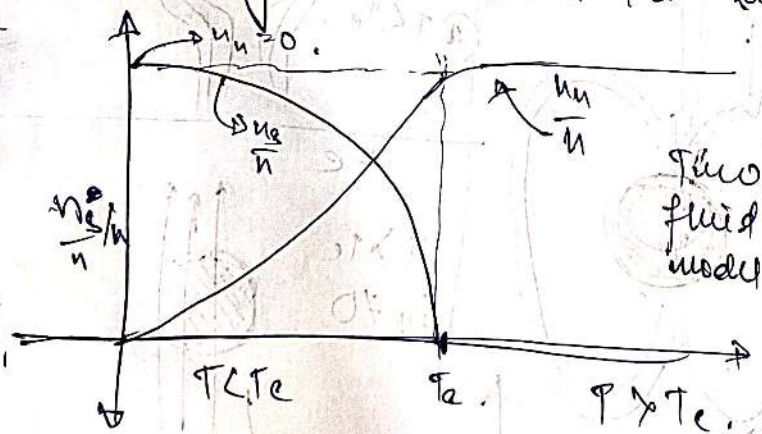
- ⑤ The concentration of super electron can be written:

$$n_s = n \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^4 \right], \quad n = n_s + n_n.$$

$T = 0$, $n_s = n$, all are superelectrons.

$T = T_c$, $n_s = 0$, all are normal electrons.

for $T < T_c$, some se electrons are present since they have infinite conductivity (no scattering), they essentially short circuit the normal electrons.



$\left(\frac{n_s}{n} \right) \rightarrow$ fraction carries electrical energy.
 below T_c

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{J}_n &= -n_n e \vec{v}_n \\ \vec{J} &= \sigma_n \vec{E} \end{aligned}$$

(normal electron)

For the super electron are considered to be not affected by scattering interaction.

$$m_e \frac{d\vec{v}_s}{dt} = -e \vec{E}$$

[if damping term is dropped from classical eqn]

$$\vec{J}_s = -n_s e \vec{v}_s$$

$$\frac{d\vec{J}_s}{dt} = -n_s e \frac{d\vec{v}_s}{dt}$$

$$= -\frac{n_s e^2 \vec{E}}{m_e}$$

first London equation for perfect conductor.

Take curl on both sides,

$$\nabla \times \frac{d\mathbf{J}_s}{dt} = \nabla \times \left(\frac{n_s e^2 \mathbf{E}}{m_e} \right) \quad (\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt})$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (\nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s) = \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \frac{d\mathbf{E}}{dt}$$

$$\therefore \frac{d}{dt} \left[(\nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s) + \left(\frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mathbf{B} \right) \right] = 0$$

Contribution

London diam. the const

to be zero.

$$\therefore \nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s + \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla \phi$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[(\nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s) + \nabla \times \left(\frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mathbf{A} \right) \right] = 0$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{J}_s}{dt} = \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \nabla^2 \mathbf{E}$$

First London eqn.

Second London eqn.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \left[\nabla \times \left\{ \mathbf{J}_s + \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mathbf{A} \right\} \right] = 0$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{J}_s = -\frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mathbf{A}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s) = \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}_s$$

$$\therefore \nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{J}_s) = \frac{n_s e^2}{m_e} \mu_0 \mathbf{J}_s = -\frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \mathbf{J}_s$$

Penetration depth

$$\lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{m_e}{n_s e^2 \mu_0}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_s) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{J}_s =$$

$$\text{OR} \quad \nabla \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = -\frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \mathbf{B}$$

B inside SC (Meissner state = 0)

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{J}) = -\frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \mathbf{J}$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) = -\frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \mathbf{B}$$

$$\nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = \frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \mathbf{B}$$

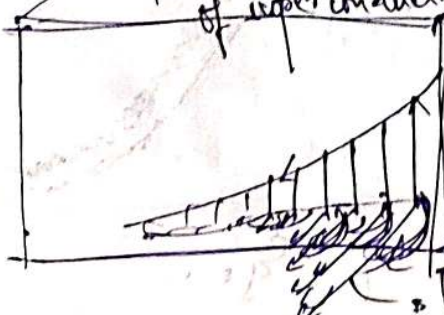
Solution

$$\mathbf{B}_y(x) = \mathbf{B}_0(x) \exp(-x/\lambda_L) \hat{y}$$

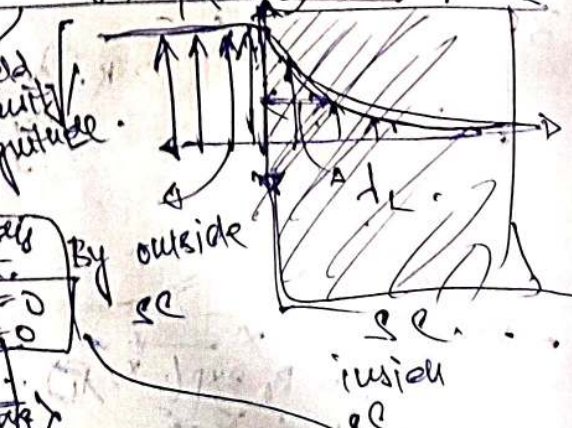
$$\mathbf{J}_s(x) = -\mathbf{J}_0 \exp(-x/\lambda_L) \hat{y}$$

Meissner state

Any super current associated with \mathbf{B}_y are confined to a surface steady within the interior of superconductor.



Field intensity magnitude. \mathbf{B} which carries only steady current. $\mathbf{B} = 0, \mathbf{E} = 0$ inside SC. Surface current \mathbf{J}_s (shielding)



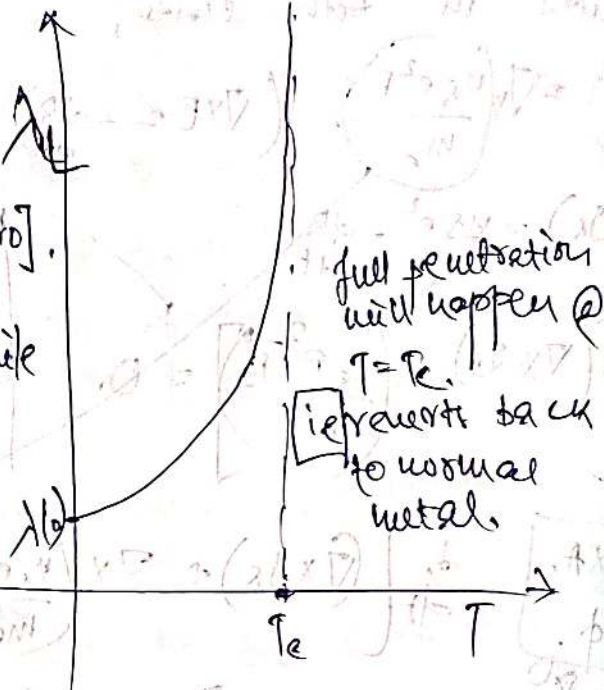
Empirical formula:

$$\lambda_L = \lambda_L(0) \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^4 \right]^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$\lambda_L \sim 500 \text{ \AA}$ [at absolute zero].

λ_L @ $T=0$ is finite while

@ $T > T_c$, $\lambda_L \rightarrow \infty$ i.e. full penetration & field penetrates wholly.



COHERENCE length.

Penetration depth $\lambda_L = \lambda_L(0)$

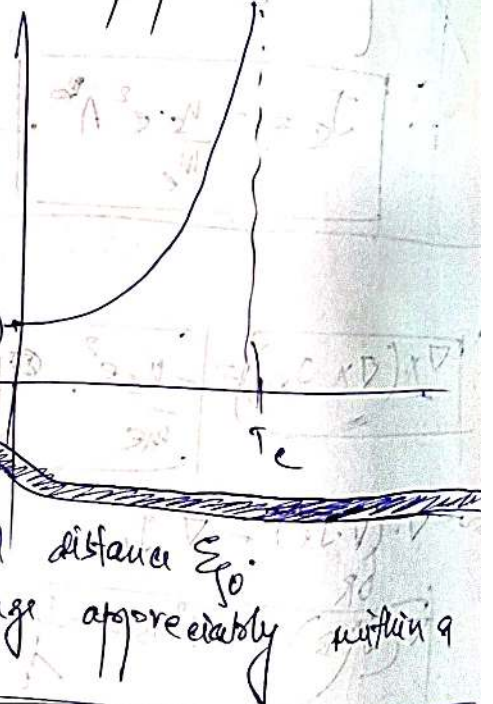
$$\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^4}$$

It is the measure of the natural length scale over which the spatial variation of the order parameter costs superconductivity energy.

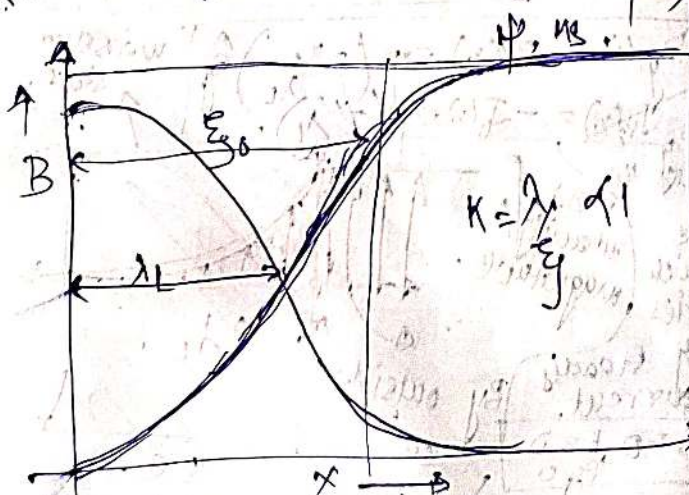
The order parameter which is zero at the axis (highest field core) rises to its equilibrium value in radial distance ξ_0 .

It cannot change rapidly but change appreciably within a distance $\sim 10^{-4} \text{ cm}$ (for Cu).

28/3/25

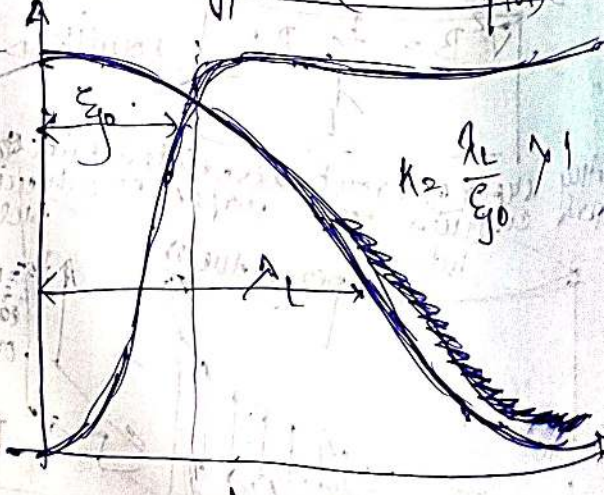


Type 1. (coherence length ξ_0)



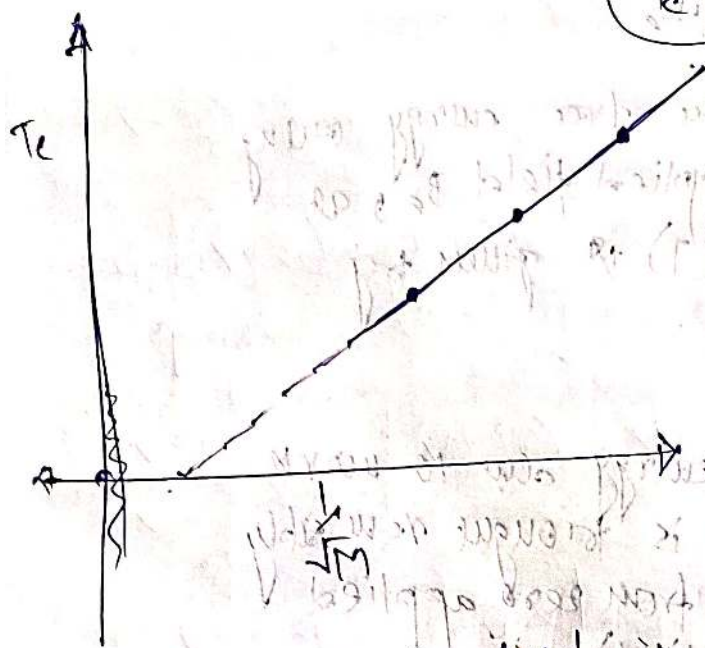
$$B = B_0 \exp(-x/\lambda_L)$$

Type 2. (coherence length ξ_0)



$$\lambda_L > \xi_0$$

Isotope theory.



$T_c \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}}$ expt observation.

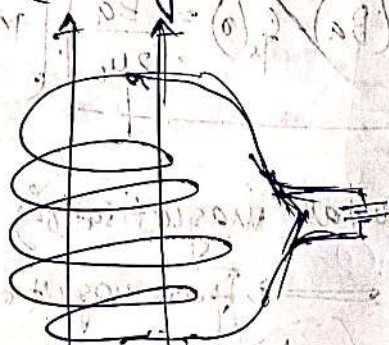
$T_c M^\beta = \text{const}$
The value of "critical temp or transition temperature" T_c of a superconductor is found to vary with its isotopic mass.

Lattice is involved in this particular observation.

Persistent current.

In a superconducting coil, if you introduce some current due to induction the current stays for a persistent while i.e. long time.

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dt} = \epsilon$$



$$\Phi = L I$$

$$R \rightarrow 0,$$

$$\text{Thus, } \tau = \frac{L}{R} \approx 10^5 \text{ years.}$$

Thermodynamics of a superconductivity transition.

The transition between normal & SC state is thermodynamically reversible just like a transition b/w liquid & vapour of a substance is reversible.

- Normal state entropy
- Superconductive state entropy

$G_N - G_S$: Gibbs free energy

$$G = U - TS - MB_a$$

Any small change in the free energy owing to a small change in applied field B_a at a constant temperature (T) is given by

$$dG = -M dB_a$$

The change in Gibbs free energy due to work done on a SC when it is brought reversibly at constant temperature from zero applied field to $B_a = B_a$ (finite field).

$$dG = -M dB_a$$

$$\Delta G = \int_0^{B_a} -M dB_a$$

$$G_S(B_a, T) - G_S(0, T) = \frac{B_a^2}{2\mu_0}$$

critical/maximum field can be applied to SC @ T_c

At $T = T_c$
(No change in T)

$$G_S(B_a) - G_S(0) = \frac{B_a^2}{2\mu_0}$$

$\chi = -1$
For a SC material
 $M = -H$
 $B = 0 = \mu_0(M + H)$
 $M = -H = -\frac{B}{\mu_0}$

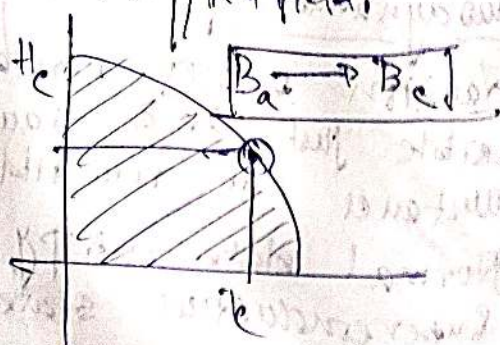
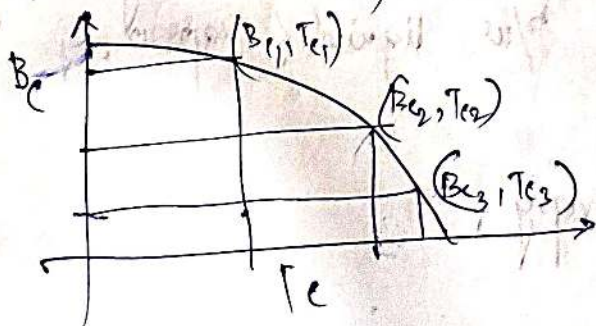
For Normal state (weak magnetisation)

Normal state $G_N(B, T) = G_N(0, T)$ \Rightarrow Paramagnetic character

$$G_N(B, T) = G_N(0, T) + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0}$$

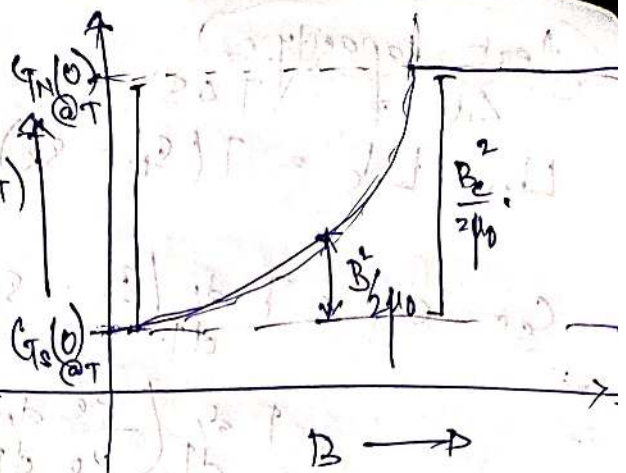
small change in applied field.

$$G_S(B_c, T) = G_N(0, T) = G_S(0, T) + \frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0} H_c$$



$$G_N(0, T) - G_S(0, T) = \frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0}$$

- In the $B=0$, SC state is lower in free energy by $\frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0}$ from the normal state per unit volume. In the presence of weak field below T_c the specimen has to choose between gaining in energy by forcing all the magnetic field out (retaining SC character) and gaining in energy by letting the flux in (going to normal). The superconductivity is found to be energetically favourable for the small field but NOT for large field.

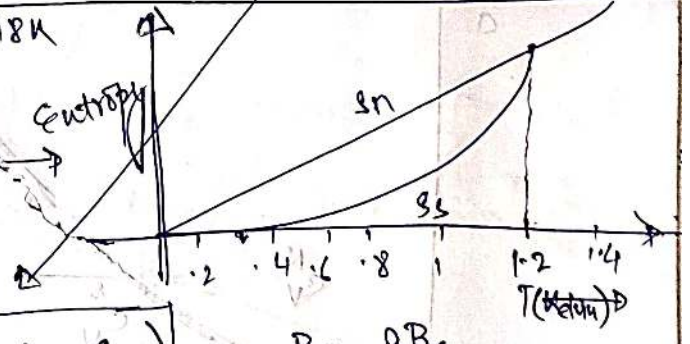
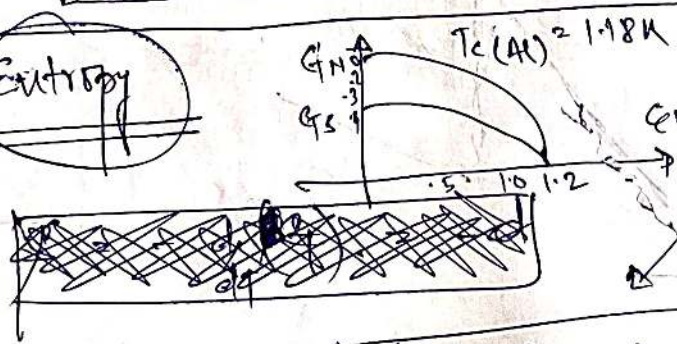


Criteria

$$G_N(T) - G_S(T) = \frac{B_c^2(T)}{2\mu_0}$$

$$B_c(T) = \sqrt{2\mu_0 [G_N(T) - G_S(T)]}$$

Entropy



$$S = - \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} = - \left(\frac{\partial G_N}{\partial T} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial G_S}{\partial T} \right) = - \frac{B_c}{\mu_0} \frac{\partial B_c}{\partial T}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_N - S_S = - \frac{B_c}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{\partial B_c}{\partial T} \right)$$

Boundary (limiting)

$$\therefore S_N - S_S \gg 0 = \frac{B_c}{\mu_0} (\text{negative slope}) \quad \therefore \left(\frac{\partial B_c}{\partial T} \leq 0 \right)$$

$\therefore S_N \gg S_S \rightarrow$ superconducting state is more ordered.

Heat capacity.

$$\Delta U \approx T \Delta S.$$

$$U_N - U_S = T(S_N - S_S)$$

$$C_S - C_N = T \frac{d}{dT} (S_S - S_N)$$

$$= T \frac{d}{dT} \left(\frac{B_c}{\mu_0} \frac{dB_c}{dT} \right)$$

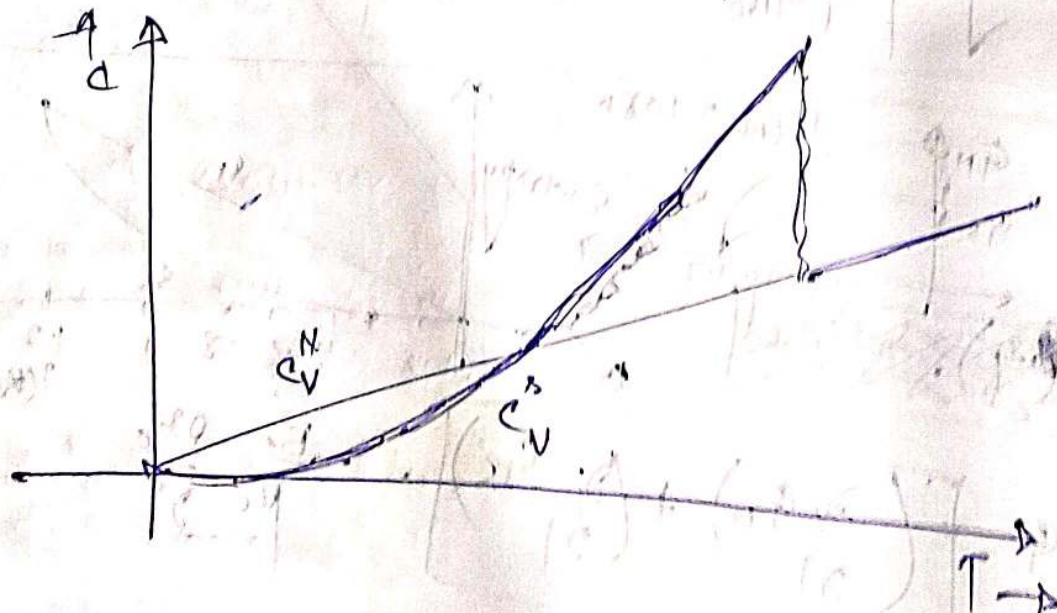
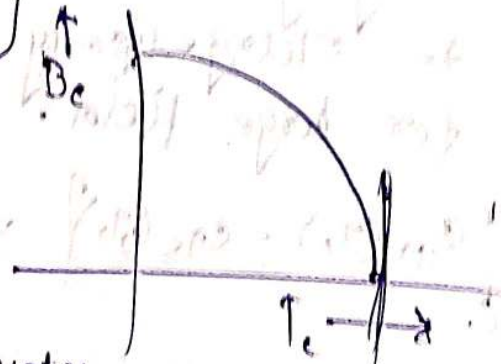
$$= \frac{T}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{dB_c}{dT} \right)^2 + \frac{T B_c}{\mu_0} \frac{d^2 B_c}{dT^2}$$

Near $B_c = 0$ neighbourhood

slope $\left(\frac{dB_c}{dT} \right)$ is huge.

$$\therefore C_S - C_N = \frac{T}{\mu_0} \left(\frac{dB_c}{dT} \right)^2$$

Δ dominates.



$$C_N^N = \gamma T + \alpha T^3$$

$$C_N^S = A e^{-\Delta / k_B T} + \alpha T^3$$