

Theoretical Solid-State Physics, Herbstsemester 2014

I. Introduction

- I.1 Electrons in periodic potentials
- I.2 Second quantization and lattice models

II. Green's functions

- II.1 Time evolution in quantum mechanics
- II.2 Single-particle Green's function
- II.3 Wick's theorem and Feynman diagrams
- II.4 Linear response theory
- II.5 Imaginary-time Green's functions
- II.6 Self energies and the Dyson equation

III. The electron gas

- III.1 The Jellium model
- III.2 Non-interacting electrons
- III.3 first-order perturbation theory in the electron-electron interaction
- III.4 Failure of second-order perturbation theory
- III.5 Wigner crystal
- III.6 Polarizability and Random-Phase Approximation (RPA)

IV. Phonons, electron-phonon interaction

- IV.1 Hamiltonian for electrons and nuclei
- IV.2 Optical and acoustic phonons
- IV.3 Quantum-mechanical theory
- IV.4 Electron-phonon interaction

V. Superconductivity

- V.1 Phenomenology of superconductivity
- V.2 Cooper pairs
- V.3 The Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) theory

VI. Broken symmetry and collective properties

- VI.1 Broken symmetry
- VI.2 Goldstone modes

VII. The quantum Hall effect

- VII.1 Landau levels
- VII.2 Quantized Hall conductance
- VII.3 Landau levels in graphene

VIII. Strongly correlated systems

- VIII.1 Fermi liquid theory
- VIII.2 The Hubbard model
- VIII.3 The atomic limit $t/U \rightarrow 0$
- VIII.4 Ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic order; low-energy excitations

“The behavior of large and complex aggregations of elementary particles, it turns out, is not to be understood in terms of a simple extrapolation of the properties of a few particles. Instead, at each level of complexity entirely new properties appear, and the understanding of the new behaviors requires research which I think is as fundamental in its nature as any other.”

P. W. Anderson, *More is Different*, Science **177**, 393 (1972).

“Can properties emerge from a more complex system which are not present in the simpler substrate from which the complex system is formed?”

The theory of broken symmetry gives an unequivocal ‘yes’ answer to this question: In equilibrium systems containing large number of atoms, new properties – such as rigidity or superconductivity – and new entities or structures – such as quantized vortex lines – can emerge which are not just nonexistent but meaningless on the atomic level.”

P.W. Anderson and D.L. Stein, in *Basic notions of condensed matter physics* (Addison-Wesley, Reading, 1984)