

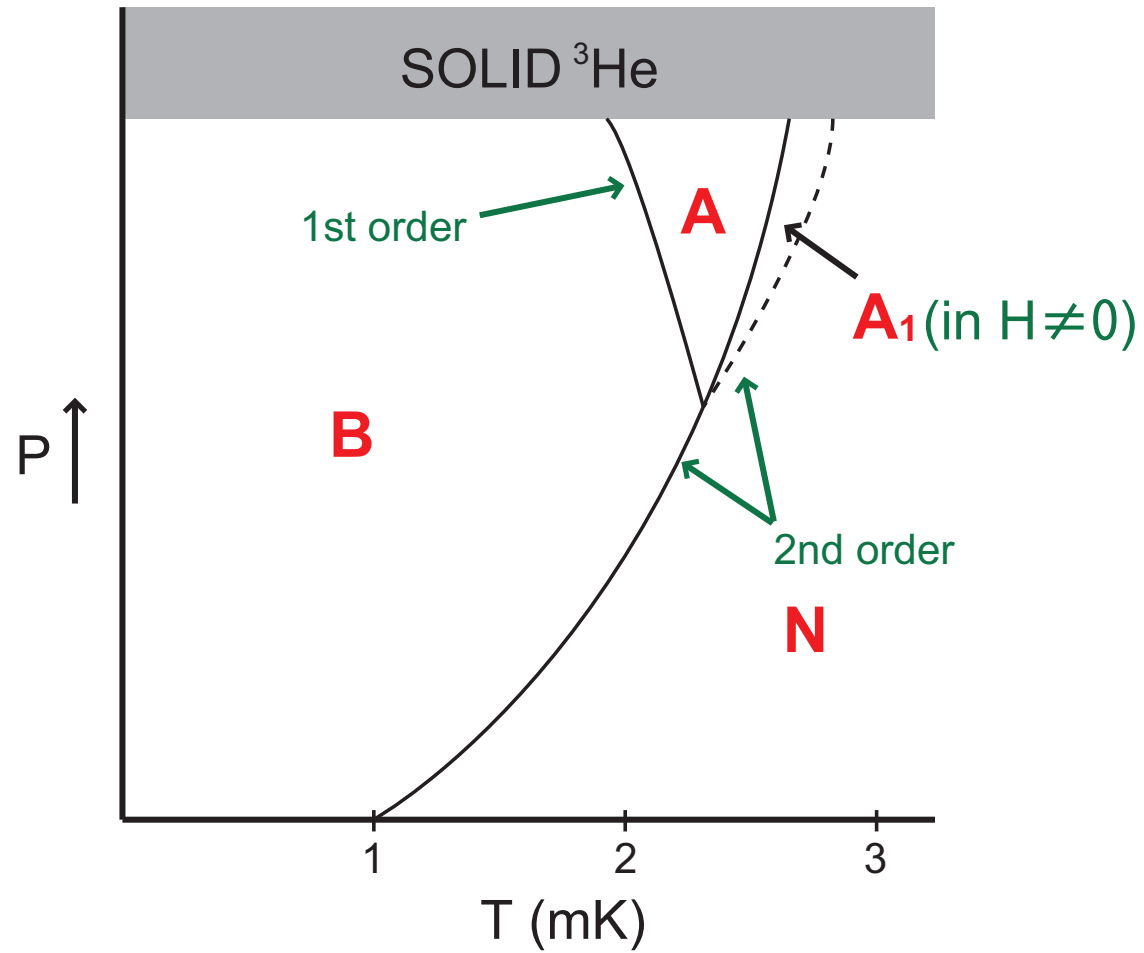
Lecture3 Superfluid ^3He cont.

Lecture Web page:

http://www.phys.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/curriculum/H23shuchu-kobetsu_015.htm

room: 434

1. The experimental phases of liquid ^3He



Nature of **Order Parameter** of different phases : (stability, susceptibility, NMR,...)

A phase :

$$\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) = \hat{\mathbf{d}} \cdot \text{const.} \cdot (\hat{\mathbf{k}} \times \hat{\boldsymbol{\ell}}) \leftarrow \text{ABMstate} \quad (1)$$

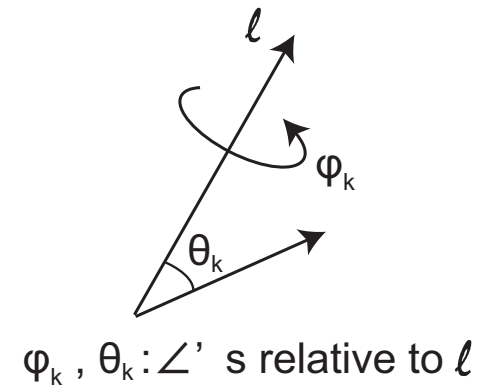
$\hat{\mathbf{d}}$: characterize spin vector $\hat{\boldsymbol{\ell}}$: characterize orbited vector

i.e. : $F(\mathbf{r}, \sigma) = F(\mathbf{r})\chi(\sigma)$

$\chi(\sigma) = \text{state } S = 1, S_z = 0 \text{ along } \hat{\mathbf{d}}$

$F(\mathbf{r}) = \text{state with (apparent) angular momentum } \hbar \text{ along } \hat{\boldsymbol{\ell}}$

$\Delta_k = \Delta_0 \sin \theta_k \exp(i\phi_k) \Rightarrow \text{nodes at } \pm \boldsymbol{\ell} \Rightarrow \text{many quasi-particle's}$
 at low T . \mathbf{d} independent of $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ \Rightarrow equal spin pairing state, χ not reduced



Alternative representation of ABM state :

$$\Psi_N = \text{const.} \left(\sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}} (\alpha_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger \alpha_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger + \exp(i\chi) \alpha_{\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \alpha_{-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger) \right)^{N/2} |\text{vac}\rangle \quad (2)$$

$$c_{\mathbf{k}} = f(|k|) \sin\theta_k \exp(i\phi_k) \quad \chi : \text{half angle of d in } xy \text{ plane}$$

A_1 phase :

$$\Psi_N = \text{const.} \left(\sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger \alpha_{-\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger \right)^{N/4} \times (\downarrow \text{ Fermi Surface}) \quad (3)$$

note : not automatically spin-polarized!

B phase : naive identification :

$\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) = \text{const.} \times \hat{\mathbf{k}} \leftarrow$ BW state

i.e. spin state is $S = 1, S_z = 0$ along \mathbf{k} ($\hat{L}_z = 0$)

i.e. \mathbf{S} always directed oppositely to \mathbf{L} :

$\mathbf{L} + \mathbf{S} \equiv \mathbf{J} = 0$, i.e.

3P_0 state \leftarrow BW state

by Wigner-Eckart theorem, all properties isotropic, in particular,

$$|\Delta(\mathbf{n})| \propto |\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{n})| = \text{const.} \quad (4)$$

\Rightarrow no. of quasi-particles exponentially small ($\propto \exp(-\Delta/T)$) at low temperature.

Spin susceptibility χ : for any direction of field, some $S_z = 0$ pairs

$\Rightarrow \chi$ reduced from N-state value.

(so, magnetic field advantages A phase over B phase)

Why the A phase?

Recall (1.2) : for pairing with given l , free energy is minimized by the choice which minimizes the anisotropy of $|\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{n}})|^2$ over the Fermi surface, or specifically (for unitary states)

$$\text{minimize } \overline{|\mathbf{d}|^4} / (\overline{|\mathbf{d}|^2})^2 \equiv K.$$

Now :

$$\text{for ABM, } |\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{n}})|^2 \propto \sin^2\theta \Rightarrow K = \frac{8/15}{(2/3)^2} = 6/5$$

$$\text{for BW, } |\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{n}})|^2 \propto \text{const.} \Rightarrow K = 1$$

\Rightarrow in generalized BCS theory, F_{BW} always $< F_{\text{ABM}}$!

Possible approaches :

(a)generalized GL(Ginzburg-Landau) approach :

since $\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{n}})$ is a vector in spin space, and orbital dependence is assumed to be p-wave, can always write

$$d_\alpha(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) \equiv \sum_i d_{i\alpha} \hat{\mathbf{n}}_i \quad (5)$$

\Rightarrow any p-wave triplet states parametrized by 9 complex numbers $d_{i\alpha}$.

Now assume generalized GL expansion :

$$F(T : \{d_{i\alpha}\}) = (\text{const.}+) (T_c - T) \cdot o(|d|^2) + \beta(T) \cdot o(|d|^4) + \dots \quad (6)$$

From invariance under spin + rotation separately (plus gauge invariance) :

$$o(|d|^2) \propto \sum_{i\alpha} |d_{i\alpha}|^2 \left(\equiv \int \frac{d\Omega}{4\pi} |\mathbf{d}(\hat{\mathbf{n}})|^2, \text{ as in BCS} \right) \quad (7)$$

but for the $o(|d|^4)$ term **5 independent invariants**, e.g.

$$I_1 = \left(\sum_{i\alpha} |d_{i\alpha}^2| \right)^2 \leftarrow \left(\text{note different from } \left(\sum_{i\alpha} |d_{i\alpha}|^2 \right)^2! \right) \quad (8)$$

$$I_2 = \sum_{\alpha\beta ij} d_{\alpha i}^* d_{\alpha j} d_{\beta i}^* d_{\beta j} \quad \text{etc} \quad (9)$$

and in general

$$o(|d|^4) = \sum_{s=1}^5 \beta_s I_s \quad (10)$$

Generalized GL approaches (cont.) (for details, see e.g. AJL RMP '75, section IX.B)

Recap : for given normalization of $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{n})$ (e.g. $\sum_{i\alpha} |d_{i\alpha}|^2 \equiv |\overline{d}|^2 = 1$) must minimize expression

$$K \equiv \sum_{s=1}^5 \beta_s I_s \quad (\text{e.g. } I_2 = \sum_{\alpha\beta ij} d_{\alpha i}^* d_{\alpha j} d_{\beta i}^* d_{\beta j}) \quad (11)$$

β_s : unknown coefficient

I_s : 4th - order invariant characteristic of particular state (ABM, BW)

Problem : find all possible states (= forms of $d_{i\alpha}$) which can be free energy minima (i.e. minima of K) for some choice of the β_s .

Unrestricted problem : v. messy, near-insoluble.

So : restrict to **unitary** states. (for every $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$, $S_z = 0$ in some set of spin axis.)

Then, only 4 states can be extrema of free energy :

- (a) BW (“isotropic”), $d_{\alpha i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \delta_{\alpha i}$
- (b) 2D (“planar”), $d_{\alpha i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \delta_{\alpha i} (1 - \delta_{iz})$
- (c) ABM (“axial”), $d_{yx} = -i d_{zx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, all other $d_{\alpha i} = 0$
- (d) 1D (“polar”), $d_{zz} = 1$, all other $d_{\alpha i} = 0$

Theorem : (remarkable!)

2D (planar) state is **never** absolute minimum of free energy, for any choice of β 's.
For BCS values of β 's, BW state most stable (of course). Polar state competitive with BW only if non-BCS contributions to β 's comparable to BCS ones. But ABM state competitive with BW for relatively small non-BCS contributions.
 \Rightarrow in general, **BW/ABM most likely**.

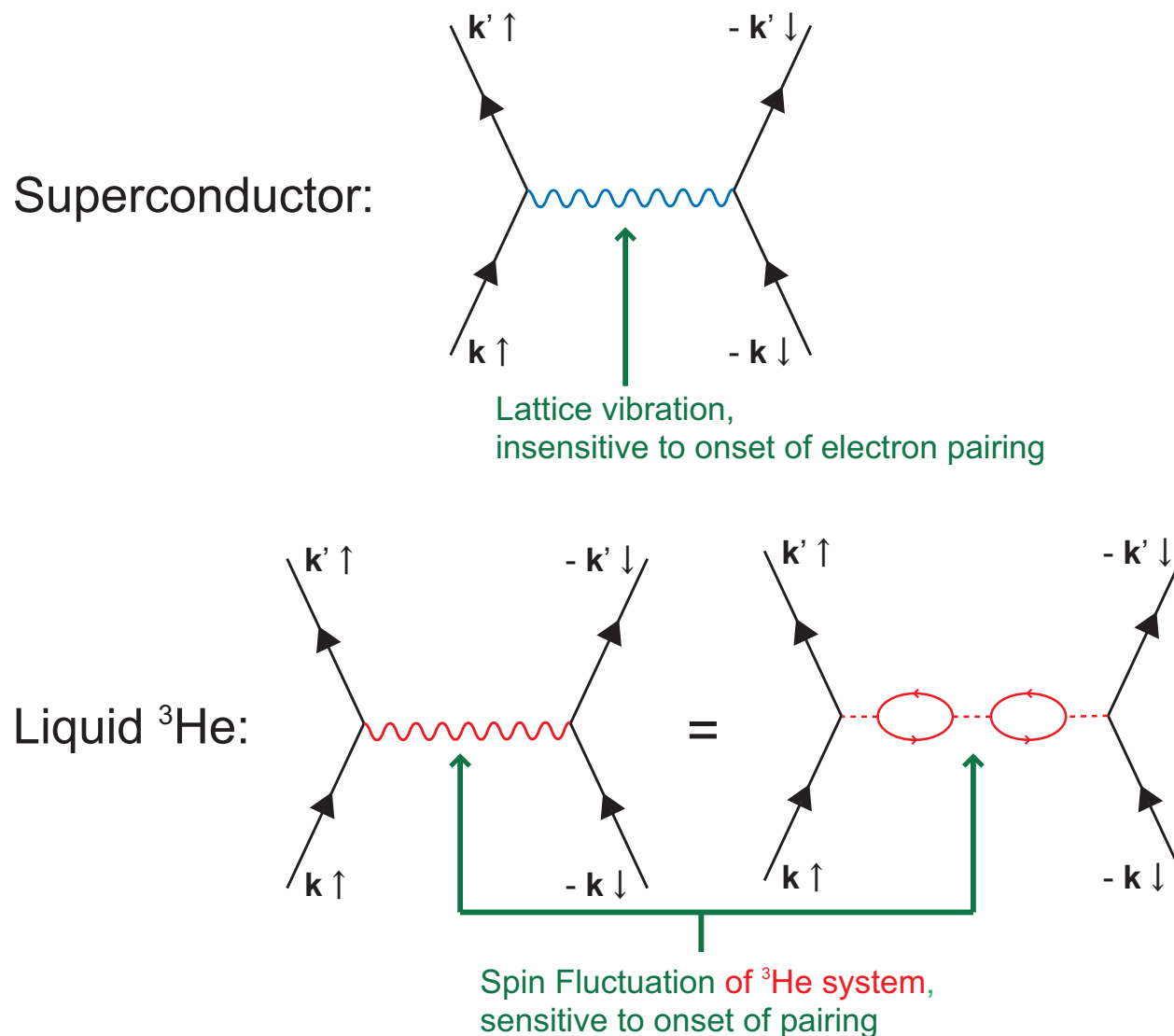
Important note : in above analysis, both α 's and i 's always occur in pairs.

$\Rightarrow I_s$'s invariant under spin and orbital rotation separately. So BW, ABM, etc. represent **classes** of states transforming into one another under these rotations.

Possible approaches (cont.)

(b) Spin fluctuation feedback (Anderson+Brinkman, PRL **30**, 1108 (1973))

The physical idea :



Technically : (cf. 1.2)

Spin Fluctuation induced interaction is

$$V_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{q}\omega) \approx -(F_0^a)^2 \chi_{\text{sp}}(\mathbf{q}\omega) \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}' \quad (12)$$

and $\chi_{\text{sp}}(\mathbf{q}\omega)$ is **modified** by pairing.

Crude ansatz : $\delta\chi_{\text{sp}}(\mathbf{q}\omega) \propto \delta\chi$. ← **static spin susceptibility**.

In BW state, $\chi < \chi_n \Rightarrow V_{\text{eff}}$ reduced \Rightarrow disfavored.

ABM state is more subtle : for fixed \mathbf{d} , $\delta\chi$ is actually **anisotropic**,

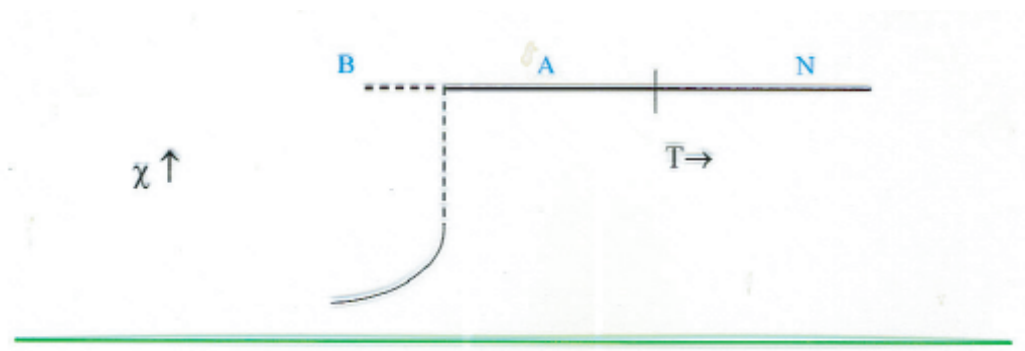
$$\delta\chi_{ij} \approx f(T) d_i d_j \quad (13)$$

$$\Delta\langle V \rangle \approx -\delta\chi_{ij} \langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle \approx +f(T) d_i d_j \langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle \approx \langle (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{d})^2 \rangle \quad (14)$$

but, in paired state $(\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{d})^2$ is **negative!**

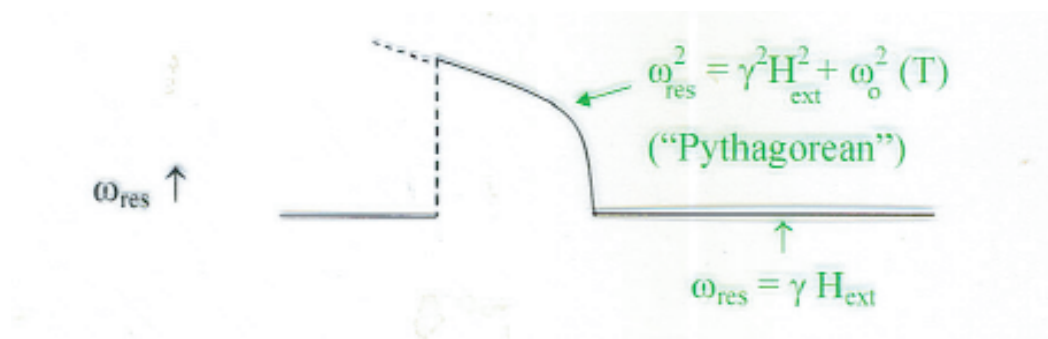
\Rightarrow Spin Fluctuation attraction **increased** in ABM state over N-state value.

NMR in the new phase :



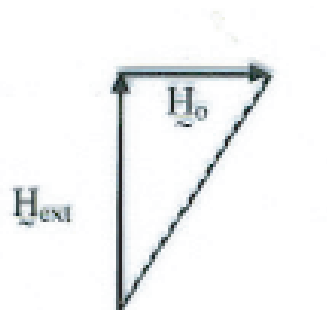
Not necessarily mysterious : e.g. A phase could be an ESP (Equal Spin Pairing) state (only $\uparrow\uparrow, \downarrow\downarrow$ pairs \Rightarrow no reduction in χ), B could be singlet or BW (some $\uparrow\downarrow$ pairs, so χ reduced). But why is ESP ever stable?

But : what about the resonance frequency?



$$\omega_0^2(T) \approx A(1 - T/T_A), \quad \frac{A}{(2\pi)^2} \approx 5 \times 10^{10} \text{Hz}^2 \quad (15)$$

Need $H_0(\equiv \omega_0(T)/\gamma) \sim 30G$. But, only spin-non-conserving force in problem is **nuclear dipole-dipole interaction**, and max. associated field is $< 1G$!



Is this the first indication of radical breakdown of quantum mechanics?

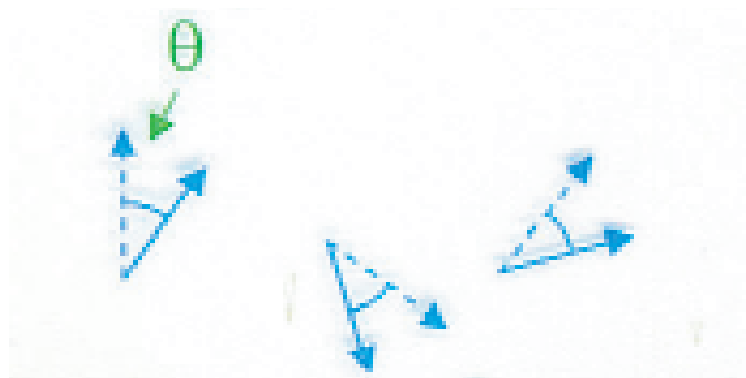
What can be inferred from sum rules?

IF a single sharp resonance is observed (as in expectation) then :

$$\omega_{\text{res}}^2 = \gamma^2 H_{\text{ext}}^2 + \omega_0^2 \quad (16)$$

$$\omega_0^2 = \gamma^2 \chi^{-1} \frac{\partial^2 \langle H_D \rangle}{\partial \theta^2} \quad (17)$$

H_D : nuclear dipole energy, θ : angle of simultaneous rotation of all spins



But $\frac{\partial^2 \langle H_D \rangle}{\partial \theta^2} \sim \langle H_D \rangle$: So, experimental value of $\omega_0^2(T) \Rightarrow$

$$\langle H_D \rangle(T) \sim K \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_A} \right), \quad K \sim 10^{-3} \text{ ergs/cm}^3 \quad (18)$$

How can this be?

$$\uparrow (\text{"bad"}) \uparrow \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad (19)$$

$$\qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad (\text{"good"}) \qquad \qquad (20)$$

$$\qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \qquad \uparrow \qquad \qquad (21)$$

$$\Delta E \leq \frac{\mu_0 \mu_n^2}{r_0^3} \sim 10^{-7} \text{K} \ll k_B T \qquad (22)$$

So, prima facie, preference for good orientation over "bad" is at most

$$\sim \Delta E / k_B T \sim 10^{-4} \text{ (actually, } \sim \Delta E / k_B T_F \sim 10^{-7} \text{)} \qquad (23)$$

\Rightarrow expectation value of dipole energy much too small!

Spontaneously Broken Spin-Orbit Symmetry

Ferromagnetic analogy :

Ferromagnet

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_z$$

\hat{H}_0 : invariant under simultaneous rotation of all spins

$$\hat{H}_z = -\mu_B \mathcal{H} \sum_i S_{zi}$$

breaks spin-rotation symmetry

Paramagnetic phase ($T > T_c$) :
 spins behave independently,
 $k_B T$ competes with $\mu_B \mathcal{H}$
 \Rightarrow polarization $\mu_B \mathcal{H} / k_B T \ll 1$
 $\Rightarrow \langle H_z \rangle \sim N (\mu_B \mathcal{H})^2 / k_B T$

Liquid ^3He

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0 + \hat{H}_D$$

\hat{H}_0 : invariant under relative rotation of spin + orbital coordinate systems.

$$\hat{H}_D = g_d \sum_{ij} \left(\frac{\sigma_i \cdot \sigma_j - 3 \sigma_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij} \sigma_j \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}}{(r_{ij}^3 / r_0^3)} \right)$$

breaks relative spin-orbit rotation symmetry.

Normal phase ($T > T_A$) :
 pairs of spins behave independently
 \Rightarrow polarization $g_D / k_B T \ll 1$
 $\Rightarrow \langle H_D \rangle \sim N g_D^2 / k_B T$

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Ferromagnet

Ferromagnetic phase ($T < T_c$) :
 \hat{H}_0 forces all spins to **lie parallel**
 $\Rightarrow k_B T$ competes with $N \mu_B \mathcal{H}$
 $\Rightarrow \langle S_z \rangle \approx 1 \Rightarrow \langle H_z \rangle \approx N \mu_B \mathcal{H}$

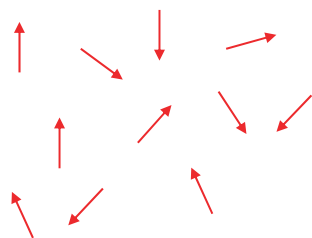
Liquid ^3He

Ordered phase ($T < T_A$) :
 \hat{H}_0 forces all pairs to
behave similarly
 $\Rightarrow k_B T$ competes with $N g_D$
 $\Rightarrow \langle H_D \rangle \approx N g_D$
 $10^{-3} \text{ergs/cm}^3!$

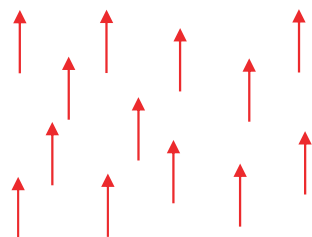
SBOS : Ordering may be subtle

Ferromagnet

Normal phase



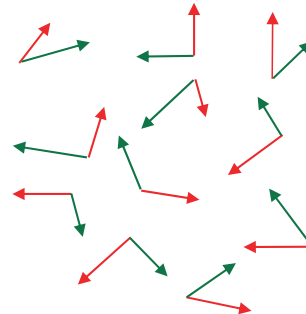
Ordered phase



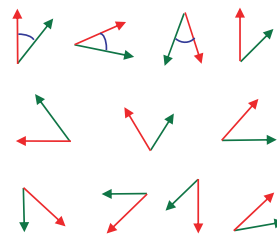
$$\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle \neq \mathbf{0}$$

Liquid ^3He

Normal phase



Ordered phase



(\nearrow = total spin of pair

\nearrow = relative orbital ang. momentum)

$$\langle \mathbf{S} \rangle = \mathbf{0} \quad \langle \mathbf{L} \rangle = \mathbf{0}$$

but $\langle \mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{S} \rangle \neq \mathbf{0}!!$

Microscopic spin dynamics(schematic)

Basic variables :

(a) Total spin \mathbf{S}

(b) Orientation $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ of spin of Cooper pairs

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_0(\mathbf{S}) + \hat{H}_D(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad (24)$$

↑ hydrodynamic (Born-Oppenheimer) approximation

Semiclassical equations of motion :

$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\theta}}{dt} = \frac{\partial \langle \hat{H}_0 \rangle}{\partial \mathbf{S}} = \mathcal{H}_{ext} - \chi^{-1} \mathbf{S} \quad (\mathcal{H}_{ext} : \text{zero in equilibrium.}) \quad (25)$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{S}}{dt} = \mathbf{S} \times \mathcal{H}_{ext} - \frac{\partial \langle \hat{H}_D \rangle}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \leftarrow \text{dipole torque} \quad (26)$$

⇒ linear NMR behavior completely determined by eigenvalues of quantity

$$\Omega_{ij}^2 \equiv \frac{\partial^2 \langle H_D \rangle}{\partial \theta_i \partial \theta_j} \quad (27)$$

so, can "fingerprint" A and B phases by NMR!!

ABM : **single resonance line**

planer : split resonance

BW : original BW state is $\mathbf{L} = -\mathbf{S}, i.e. \mathbf{J} = 0$.

But dipole torque rotates \mathbf{S} relative to \mathbf{L} by $\angle \cos^{-1}(-1/4) = 104^\circ$
around axis $\hat{\omega}$ whose “best” choice is \mathcal{H}_{ext} .

Result : **no** shift in transverse resonance,

but finite-frequency **longitudinal resonance!**(also in ABM phase)

$$\mathcal{H}_{ext} \uparrow$$

$$\uparrow \mathcal{H}_{rf} \sim \cos \omega t$$

Illustration of NMR behavior : A-phase longitudinal resonance

Throughout the experiment, \mathbf{d} lies in the xy -plane (but may rotate), i.e. schematically (ignore (fixed) orbital part of pair wave function)

$$\Psi_N(t) \approx (\exp(i\Delta\phi(t)/2) |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + \exp(-i\Delta\phi(t)/2) |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)^{N/2} \quad (28)$$

$\Delta\phi(t)$: note coherent superposition of $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$

Variable canonically conjugate to $\hat{\Delta}\phi$ is z-component of total (not Cooper-pair!) spin \hat{S}_z

$$[\hat{S}_z, \hat{\Delta}\phi] = 2i \quad (29)$$

Dipole interaction scatters $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle \rightleftharpoons |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$, so depends on relative phase $\Delta\phi$:

$$\hat{H}_D = -\frac{1}{4}g_D \cos\hat{\Delta}\phi \quad (30)$$

In adiabatic (BO) approx, polarization energy is

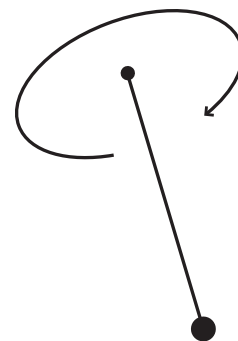
$$\hat{H}_0 = \hat{S}_z^2/2\chi - \hat{S}_z \mathcal{H}(t) \quad (31)$$

Eqns.(27-29) define problem of (driven) simple quantum pendulum.

Generally, in real-life experiments, in semiclassical limit (cf. below), so can treat $S_z(t)$ and $\Delta\phi(t)$ as classical variables. Then,

$$\frac{dS_z}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial(\Delta\phi)} = -\frac{1}{2}g_D \sin\Delta\phi \quad (32)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\Delta\phi) = \frac{\partial H}{\partial S_z} = 2 \left(\frac{S_z}{\chi} - \mathcal{H}(t) \right) \quad (33)$$



small oscillations :

$$\omega_0 = (g_D/\chi)^2$$

rotation

”internal Josephson effect”

Digression : Spontaneous (?) Symmetry Breaking

Standard statement : global U(1) symmetry is spontaneously broken in superconducting (superfluid) state.

↑ : a priori experimentally untestable!

So consider breaking of **relative** symmetry, e.g. regarding relative phase of $|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle$ and $|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle$.

We assume (cf. eqn. (26))

$$\Psi_N \sim (\exp(i\Delta\phi/2) |\uparrow\uparrow\rangle + \exp(-i\Delta\phi/2) |\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)^{N/2} \quad (\text{A})$$

$\Delta\phi$: definite relative **phase**

Why not

$$\Psi_N \sim (|\uparrow\uparrow\rangle)^{N_\uparrow} (|\downarrow\downarrow\rangle)^{N_\downarrow} \quad ? \quad (\text{B})$$

N_\uparrow, N_\downarrow : definite relative **number** ($S_z = N_\uparrow - N_\downarrow$)

Answer :

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{S}_z^2}{2\chi} - \frac{1}{4}g_D \cos \Delta\phi \quad (34)$$

(a) $g_D \gg \chi^{-1}$: $\Delta\phi$ fixed, S_z fluctuates (case(A))

(b) $g_D \ll \chi^{-1}$: S_z fixed, $\Delta\phi$ fluctuates (case(B))

But : $g_D \approx N$, $\chi^{-1} \approx N^{-1}$

\Rightarrow in thermodynamic limit, always case (A)

To get case (B), need $N < 10^9$ (may be possible in small inclusions of liquid ^3He in solid ^4He)

Conclusion : No mystery about spontaneous symmetry breaking - just energetics!

Superfluid ^3He : Supercurrents, Textures, Defects...

In absence of “small” perturbations (inc. dipole forces) , A phase is characterized by a spin orientation vector \mathbf{d} and on orbital orientation vector $\boldsymbol{\ell}$, which in uniform situation are arbitrary. Similarly, B phase is characterized by a rotation $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$ away from the $^3\text{P}_0$ (reference) state ; $\hat{\mathbf{R}}$ again is arbitrary .

Dipole force (dominant perturbation in bulk) tends, in A phase, to orient \mathbf{d} \parallel (or anti- \parallel) to $\boldsymbol{\ell}$, but common orientation. still arbitrary. In B phase fixes angle of rotation \mathbf{R} the $\cos^{-1}(-1/4) = 104^\circ$, but axis ($\boldsymbol{\omega}$) is still arbitrary.

External magnetic field \mathbf{H} tends to orient $\mathbf{d} \perp$ to \mathbf{H} , and, in B phase, $\hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \parallel$ to \mathbf{H} .
(very weak effect)

Spatial variation :

(a) If \mathbf{d} and ℓ (or $\hat{\omega}$) fixed, only thing that can vary in overall phase ϕ : $\phi = \phi(\mathbf{R}) \Rightarrow$ ordinary superfluid (mass) flow.

$$\mathbf{v}_s(\mathbf{R}) = \frac{\hbar}{2m} \nabla \phi(\mathbf{R}) \text{ (cf. superconductors, } ^4\text{He)} \quad (35)$$

only special point : in A phase superfluid density ρ_s is tensor with axis df. by ℓ ($\rho_{s\perp} > \rho_{s\parallel}$ more quasi-particle's excited \parallel to ℓ). Expect vortices as in ^4He .

(b) If ϕ and ℓ fixed but \mathbf{d} spatially varying (or ϕ fixed but $\hat{\omega}$ varying) \Rightarrow spin supercurrents.

(c) What if (in A phase) \mathbf{d} is fixed but ℓ (and ϕ ?) vary in space?

Problem : since $F(\mathbf{r}) \sim f(r) \sin\theta_k \exp(i\phi_k)$, overall phase rotation is equivalent to rotation around axis of ℓ . But if ℓ varies in space, such rotations are **not holonomic** in particular, $\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s \neq 0$ in general.

Mermin - Ho rotation :

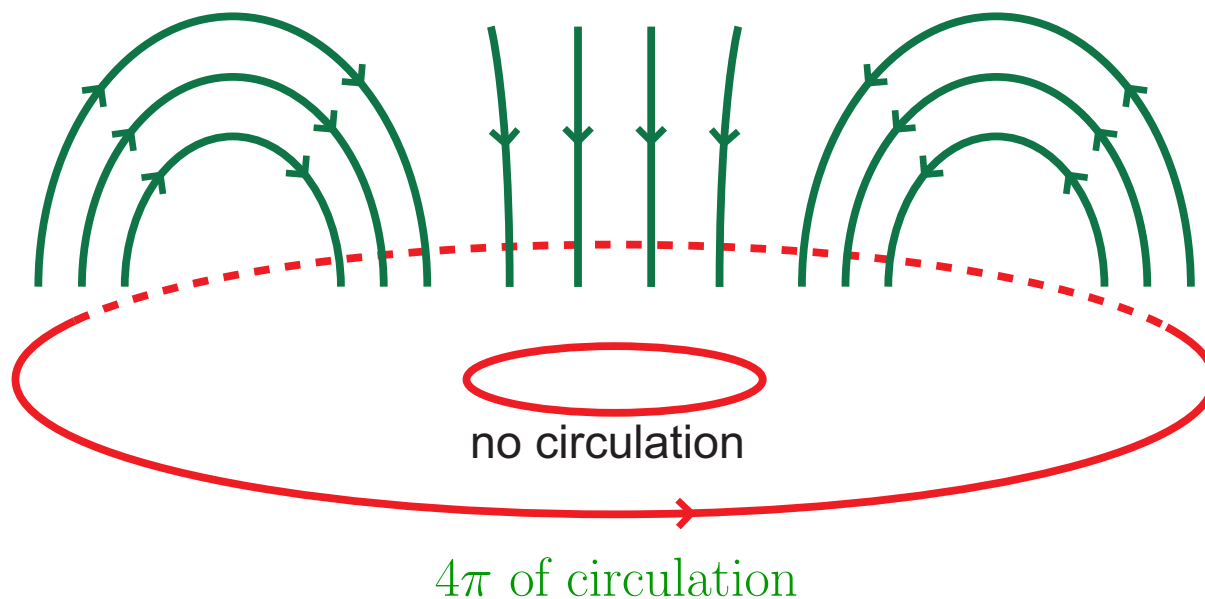
If we continue to define \mathbf{v}_s in terms of **infinitesimal** rotations around \mathbf{l} , i.e. by

$$\mathbf{v}_s \equiv \frac{\hbar}{2m} \nabla \phi \quad (36)$$

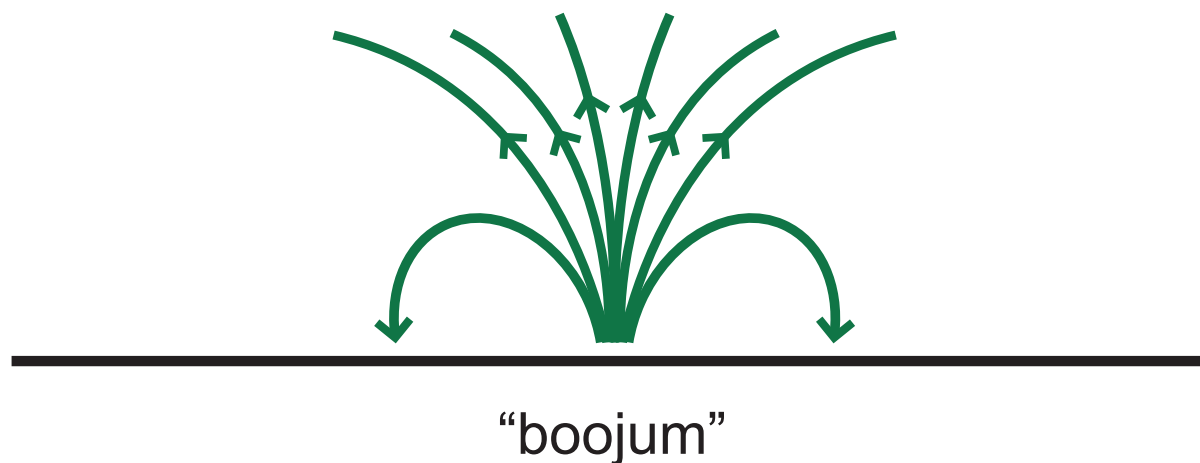
then

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{v}_s = \frac{\hbar}{4m} \sum_{ijk} \epsilon_{ijk} \mathbf{l}_i \nabla \mathbf{l}_j \times \nabla \mathbf{l}_k \quad (37)$$

\Rightarrow possibility of "coreless" vortices



(Cf : spin texture in 2D topological insulator.)



Energetics $\Rightarrow \ell$ must lie \perp to walls :

For A phase in a simply connected geometry (e.g. cylinder) topological argument
 \Rightarrow must have **at least 2 topological singularities** (most likely boojums).

Also : all sorts of nonsingular textures (of $\mathbf{d}, \ell, \omega..$)