

Ginzburg-Landau for charged fields:
superconductors.

Neutral superfluid: twist in phase \rightarrow superflow
charged \Rightarrow phase twist \rightarrow supercurrent.

Superconductors expel the magnetic field:
Meissner effect.

Gauge field \circ changes the Hamiltonian:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\vec{\nabla} - i\frac{e}{\hbar} \vec{A} \right)^2 + e\phi(x) \right] \psi$$

OBS: $e = -1.6 \dots 10^{-19} \text{C}$

Gauge invariance: $\psi(x,t) \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x,t)} \psi(x,t)$
 $\vec{A} \rightarrow \vec{A} + \frac{\hbar}{e} \nabla \alpha$; $\phi \rightarrow \phi - \frac{\hbar}{e} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t}$

Same in GL (etc!), but we change $\vec{\nabla} \rightarrow \vec{D} = \vec{\nabla} - \frac{ie^*}{\hbar} \vec{A}$,
where e^* is charge of condensing field
(SC: Cooper pair, $e^* = 2e$).

GL free energy for SC: in terms of \vec{D} and add energy
for magnetic field!

$$F[\psi, A] = \int d^d x \left[\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \left| \left(\vec{\nabla} - \frac{ie^*}{\hbar} \vec{A} \right) \psi \right|^2 + \mu |\psi|^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} |\psi|^4 + \frac{1}{2\mu_0} (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A})^2 \right]$$

\downarrow
2me

\uparrow
FEM

invariant under $\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x) e^{i\alpha(x)}$
 $A \rightarrow A + \frac{\hbar}{e} \nabla \alpha$

We get "two free energies, for ψ and A :

$$\text{Coherence length: } \xi = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{2M|\kappa|}}$$

Penetration depth: for $\psi = \sqrt{n_3}$, we have

$$F[A] = c_A \left(\frac{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}}{2} \right)^2 + \frac{\kappa_A}{2} A^2,$$

$$c_A = \frac{1}{\mu_0}, \quad \kappa_A = \frac{(e^*)^2 n_3}{M}, \quad \text{so } \lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{c_A}{\kappa_A}} = \sqrt{\frac{M}{n_3 (e^*)^2 \mu_0}}$$

Varying the GL free energy wrt A and ψ gives
 GL equations: give rise to Meissner effect
 and to domain walls in type II SCs ∇ .

~~$F = F_{\psi} + F_{EM}$~~ $F_{\psi} + F_{EM}$, vary \vec{A} gives

$$\delta F_{\psi} = - \int d^3x \delta \vec{A}(x) \cdot \underbrace{\left[\frac{-ie^* \hbar}{2M} (\psi^* \vec{\nabla} \psi - (\vec{\nabla} \psi^*) \psi) - \frac{(e^*)^2}{M} |\psi|^2 \vec{A} \right]}_{\vec{j}(x)}$$

$$\delta F_{EM} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \int d^3x \delta \vec{A}(x) \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B})$$

careful ∇

Use components!

So we obtain: $\frac{\delta F}{\delta \vec{A}} = -\vec{j}(x) + \frac{\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}}{\mu_0} = 0$

$$\vec{j}(x) = \frac{ie^2 \hbar}{2m} (4^* \vec{\nabla} 4 - (\vec{\nabla} 4^*) 4) - \frac{(e^2 \hbar)^2}{m} |4|^2 \vec{A}$$

↑
supercurrent density

This is Ampere's law, but $4(x)$ macroscopic wave function of superconducting condensate.

↳ Gives Meissner effect!

Vary w.r.t $4(x)$:

$$\delta F = \int d^3x \left\{ \delta 4^*(x) \left[\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(-i\vec{\nabla} - \frac{e^2 \hbar}{m} \vec{A} \right)^2 4(x) + 2 4(x) + u |4|^4 4(x) \right] + \text{h.c.} \right\}$$

$$\text{or: } -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \left(\vec{\nabla} - i \frac{e^2 \hbar}{m} \vec{A} \right)^2 4(x) + 2 4(x) + u |4|^4 4(x) = 0$$

same as in Fermi case, with: $\vec{v}^2 \rightarrow \left(\vec{\nabla} - i \frac{e^2 \hbar}{m} \vec{A} \right)^2$ (Nambu SE^D)

Gives rise to surface tension of a drop of SC.

Meissner effect: write ~~super~~ supercurrent $j(x)$ in terms of amplitude and phase: $4 = |4| e^{i\phi}$, which

gives:

$$\vec{j}(x) = \frac{e^2 \hbar}{m} |4|^2 \vec{\nabla} \phi - \frac{(e^2 \hbar)^2}{m} |4|^2 \vec{A}$$

$$= e^{\alpha} n_s \frac{\hbar}{M} \underbrace{\left(\vec{\nabla} \phi - \frac{e}{\hbar} \vec{A} \right)}_{\vec{v}_s} = e^{\alpha} n_s \vec{v}_s$$

Both twisting phase and vector potential give a ~~current~~ current \vec{v}_s , OBS: invariant under $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \alpha$; $\vec{A} \rightarrow \vec{A} + \frac{\hbar}{e} \nabla \alpha$

Ampère's eq: $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = -\mu_0 \frac{n_s (e^{\alpha})^2}{M} \left(\vec{A} - \frac{\hbar}{e} \vec{\nabla} \phi \right)$

Taking $\vec{\nabla} \times$ gives

$$\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{\nabla} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}) - \nabla^2 \vec{B} = -\nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

$$= -\mu_0 \frac{n_s (e^{\alpha})^2}{M} \left[(\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) - \frac{\hbar}{e} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} \phi \right]$$

So, we get: $\boxed{\nabla^2 \vec{B} = \frac{1}{\lambda_L^2} \vec{B}}$ $\lambda_L^2 = \frac{M}{\mu_0 n_s (e^{\alpha})^2}$

Homogeneous solutions:

$$\vec{B} = 0, n_s > 0 \quad \vec{B} \neq 0, n_s = 0.$$

One-dim solution of $\nabla^2 B = B/\lambda_L^2$ gives $B \sim B_0 e^{-x/\lambda_L}$

B ~~decays~~ decays exponentially into condensate \vec{v}_s .

Screening currents are at surface of the SC \vec{v}_s

Type II SC: $\xi < \lambda < \lambda_c$

B-field can penetrate SC in non homogeneous way: vortices.

Critical field H_{c1}

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 (\vec{H} + \vec{M})$$

coil \uparrow magnetisation

$$j_{ext} = \nabla \times \vec{H}$$

$$j_{int} = \nabla \times \vec{M}$$

$\chi = M/H$ susceptibility

$$\vec{B} = \vec{0} \text{ in SC, so } \vec{M} = -\vec{H} \Rightarrow \chi_{sc} = -1 \quad \nabla$$

Perfect diamagnet

There is upper limit (Why?):

Better to use Gibbs free energy in terms of H , instead of \vec{B}

$$g[H, \mathcal{U}] = F[\mathcal{U}, \vec{B}] - \int d^3x \vec{B} \cdot \vec{H} \quad \left(\frac{\delta g}{\delta \vec{B}} = 0 \right)$$

Uniform case: $g = \frac{G}{V} = \alpha |\mathcal{U}|^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} |\mathcal{U}|^4 + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} - BH$

Normal state: $\mathcal{U} = 0$; $B = \mu_0 H$ so $g_n = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} H^2$

SC state $|\mathcal{U}| = \mathcal{U}_0 = \sqrt{\frac{-\mu}{\alpha}}$; $B = 0$

$$g_{sc} = \alpha \mathcal{U}_0^2 + \frac{\mu}{2} \mathcal{U}_0^4 = -\frac{\mu^2}{2\alpha}$$

$g_{sc} < g_n$ if $H < H_c = \sqrt{\frac{\mu^2}{\mu_0 \alpha}}$, so

$$g_{sc} = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} H_c^2$$

$$\frac{\delta F_{\mathcal{U}}}{\delta B} = -M$$

$$\frac{\delta F_{EM}}{\delta B} = B/\mu_0$$

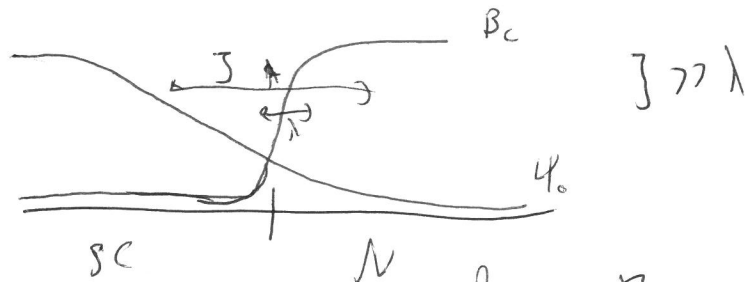
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\delta F}{\delta B} = \frac{B}{\mu_0} - M = H$$

Energy of SC - normal interface:

For $H = H_c$, free energies of SC & normal metal are the same: coexistence.

Interface: domain wall w/ surface energy (tension)

$$\Delta G/A = \sigma_{sn}$$



σ_{sn} can be positive or negative, different behaviours!

$K = \frac{\chi H_c}{J}$ critical parameter.

I: $K < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ σ_{sn} positive; B expelled 'completely' (only outer surface)

II: $K > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ $\sigma_{sn} < 0$; two critical fields:
upper $H_{c2} > H_c$; lower $H_c < H_c$

For $H_c < H < H_{c2}$: B penetrates via vortices

(which form a lattice); High energy of normal core region comp. by neg. surface energy

$H < H_c$: no B-field penetrates

Energy of domain-wall between SC and normal metal w/ $H = H_c$:

$$\sigma_{sn} = \frac{1}{A} \int dx^3 \left[\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} |(\vec{\nabla} - \frac{ie\hbar}{\hbar^2} \vec{A})\psi|^2 + \frac{1}{2}|\psi|^4 + \frac{\mu}{2}|\psi|^4 + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} - BH_c - g_{sc} \right]$$

w/ $H_c = \frac{B_c}{\mu_0}$, $g_{sc} = -\frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0}$, $\therefore \frac{(B - B_c)^2}{2\mu_0}$

Look at example w/ interface: $x=0$ ($y-z$ plane):

$x < 0$ SC; $x > 0$ normal; B in \hat{z} direction.

~~Varying~~ Varying τ_{SN} w/ η and A gives two eqs
(one is London eq).

Using these, we can write (example) (exercise!):

$$\tau_{SN} = \frac{B_c^2}{2\mu_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \left[\underbrace{\left(\frac{B(x)}{B_c} - 1 \right)^2}_{\text{field energy}} - \underbrace{\left(\frac{\psi(x)}{\psi_0} \right)^4}_{\text{condensation energy}} \right]$$

If condensation energy is larger than field energy
(short healing length) $\tau_{SN} < 0$, i.e. type II,

we get vortices (long λ_L),

Opposite for type I,

τ_{SN} is zero when $\kappa = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, see example in book.

Vortices appear in type II SC, for $H > H_c$: defect lines at which $\psi=0$

Phase of order parameter winds around them, as in SF $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$

Supercurrents gen. B field, $\oint \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \frac{h}{2e} \Phi_0$; quantized flux $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$

Super fluid: $\vec{v}_s = \frac{\hbar}{M} \vec{\nabla} \phi$

Super conductor: $\vec{v}_s = \frac{\hbar}{M} \vec{\nabla} \phi - \frac{e^* \hbar}{M} \vec{A}$

Vector pot. contribution reduces contribution from $\vec{\nabla} \phi$.

The circulation: $\omega = \oint d\vec{x} \cdot \vec{v}_s = \frac{\hbar}{M} \underbrace{\oint d\vec{x} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi}_{\Delta \phi = 2\pi n} - \frac{e^* \hbar}{M} \underbrace{\oint d\vec{x} \cdot \vec{A}}_{\Phi \leftarrow \text{flux}}$

So we get $\omega = n \frac{\hbar}{M} - \frac{e^* \hbar}{M} \Phi$

For away from vortex $\omega \rightarrow 0$ (from energetics), so

$\Phi = n \left(\frac{\hbar}{e^*} \right) = n \Phi_0$: flux is quantised!

Vortex w/ lowest energy: one flux quantum.

Take hollow cylinder as the SC: lowest energy state, no supercurrent, integer # flux quanta.

Cool SC below transition in field, remove field and measure the flux: quantised in units of $\Phi_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2e}$.

demonstration of flux quantisation, and presence of Cooper pairs!!