

Lecture #2

- How to distinguish various phases.
- NB. - A concept of an order parameter (show in class presentation)

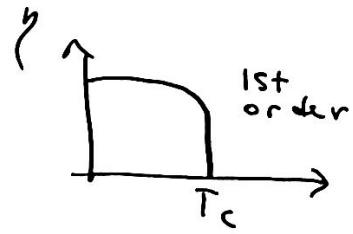
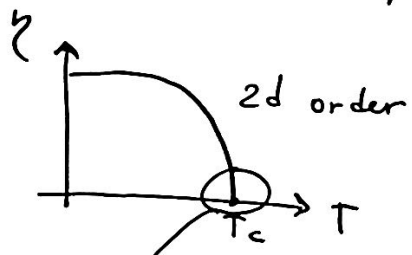
Statement: At finite  $T$ , the state of a system is a minimum of of a 'thermodynamic potential Helmholtz or Gibbs.

e.g.  $F = E - TS \rightarrow T \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow S \rightarrow 0$  is unimportant for the order  
 ~~$T$  goes up  $S \uparrow$~~   
 with increasing  $T$ , entropy favors disorder.



Order parameter (OP)

OP depends on ~~on~~  $T, P, V$ , external things like strain, mag. field, electric field etc.



$T_c \equiv$  critical temperature

around  $T_c$   $\eta$  is small, lets try Taylor expansions

Gibbs free energy:  $\Phi(P, T, \eta) = \Phi_0 + \alpha \eta + A \eta^2 + C \eta^3 + \dots$

here  $\alpha, A, C, B$  are functions of  $P, T$  and hence we can determine  $T_c$  from the condition that

$\min \Phi$  for  $T > T_c \quad \eta = 0$   
 for  $T < T_c \quad \eta \neq 0$

$\Phi = \Phi_0 + \alpha(P, T) \eta + A(P, T) \eta^2 + C(P, T) \eta^3 + \frac{B}{(P, T)} \eta^4 + \dots$   
 $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial T} = 0$

What can we say about the expansion coeff.s?

since  $\Phi$  has to have a minimum the term

$\alpha \eta \rightarrow$  requires  $\alpha = 0$  otherwise

as a function of  $\eta$   $\Phi$  would always grow,

Next, for  $A\eta^2$ : we know  $\eta = 0$  for  $T > T_c$   
 $\eta \neq 0$  for  $T < T_c$

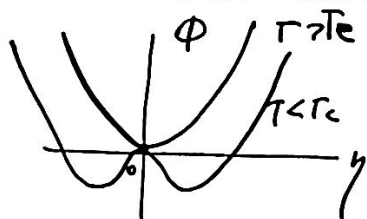
①  $A\eta^2$  is present in the expansion.

②  $A(P, T)\eta^2 \Rightarrow \eta = 0$  for  $T > T_c$   
 $A(P, T) = \begin{cases} > 0 & T > T_c \\ < 0 & T < T_c \end{cases}$

the simplest term like this

$$A(P, T) = a(T - T_c)$$

we also assume for the moment that  $c = 0$   
 and  $B > 0$



$$\Phi = \Phi_0 + A(P, T)\eta^2 + \frac{B(P, T)}{2}\eta^4$$

$$\Phi = \Phi_0 + a(T - T_c)\eta^2 + B\eta^4$$

To find out how the or. parameter depends on T

$$\frac{d\Phi}{d\eta} = 0 \Rightarrow 2a(T - T_c)\eta + \frac{1}{2}B\eta^3 = 0 \Rightarrow \eta^2 = \frac{2a(T - T_c)}{B}$$

Here all the coeff. can be a function of P

or external parameters:  $a = a(P)$

$$B = B(P)$$

$$T_c = T_c(P)$$

For cond. mat.  $T_c = T_c(P)$  is the most important.

and  $a = B = \text{const}$  in P

At the equilibrium the free energy:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{\min}|_{T < T_c} &= \Phi_0 + A\eta^2 + B\eta^4 = \Phi_0 + A \cdot \frac{2a(T - T_c)}{B} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{a^2(T - T_c)^2}{B^2} \\ &= \Phi_0 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2(T - T_c)^2}{B} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{a^2(T - T_c)^2}{B} = \Phi_0 - \frac{1}{4B} a^2(T - T_c)^2 \end{aligned}$$

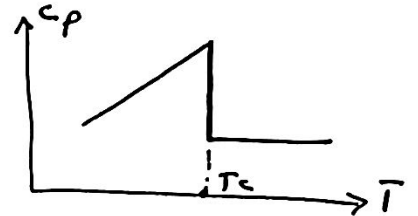
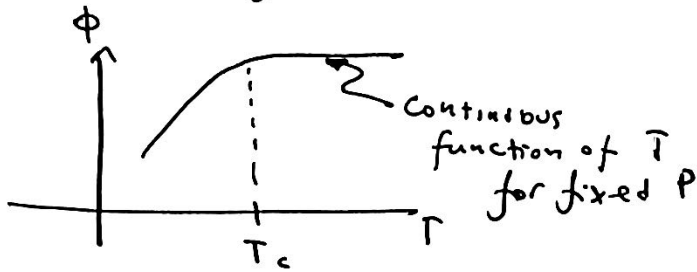
and  $\Phi = \Phi_0$  for  $T > T_c$

$$\phi_{min} = \begin{cases} \phi_0 - \frac{a^2}{4B} (T - T_c)^2 & T < T_c \\ \phi_0 & T > T_c \end{cases}$$

$T < T_c$

$T > T_c$

but  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial T}$  has a kink at  $T_c$ !



★ Homework: 1) Derives  $c_p$  behavior at the 2<sup>nd</sup> order phase transition temperature.

Given  $c_p = T \left( \frac{\partial s}{\partial T} \right)_P$  ;  $s = - \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial T} \right)_P$

$\phi = \frac{a}{2B} (T_c - T)^2$  ;  $\phi_{min} = \phi_0 - \frac{a^2}{4B} (T_c - T)^2$

~~Comment on~~

Assume  $s = 1/2$ , calculate total entropy: in the ordered phase:

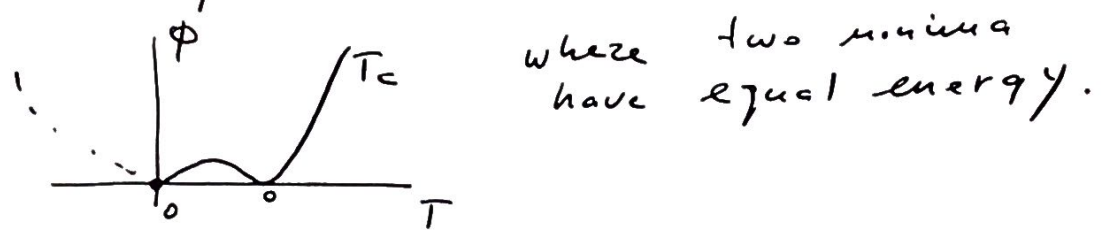
2). e.g.  $s_{ord} = \int_{T_c}^T s_{ord} dT$

( see SEPARATE PDF)

General Rules:

① if you include the cubic term  $ny^3$  you always end up with 1st order transitions.

② in this case  $T_c$  is not the singular minimum of  $\phi$  but the point where



⑥

③  $T^*$  and  $T^{**}$  are the singular points

④ Thermodynamic quantities e.g.  $C_p$  or  $C_v$  will not diverge at  $T_c$  but will diverge at  $T^*$  and  $T^{**}$

limit of overcooling      limit of ~~overheating~~ overheating

\* Cool example of 1st order ph. transition.

SEE NEXT PAGE

L2

TaS<sub>2</sub>

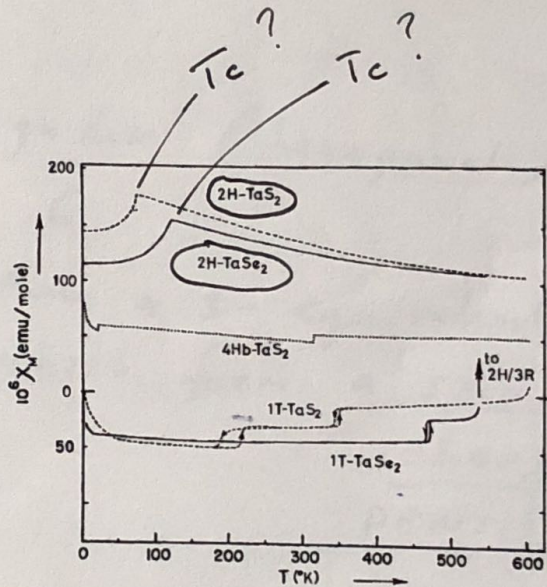
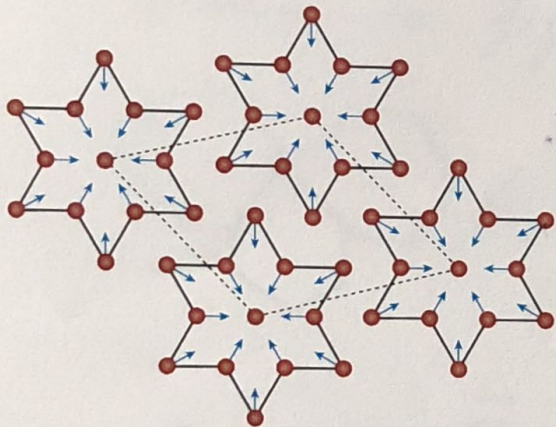
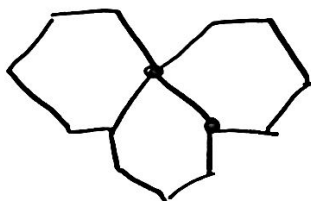


Fig. 2. The molar magnetic susceptibility ( $\chi_M$ ) versus temperature ( $T$ ) for TaS<sub>2</sub> and T<sub>c</sub> with different lattice structures. The background diamagnetic term has not been subtracted. The data are taken from ref. 3.

So how do we describe the order parameter in this system?

- ① we include every possible term allowed by symmetry

i.e. on triangular (hexagonal) lattice shown in fig. 6



there are 3-equivalent vectors which form a spin or SDW charge CDW DENSITY WAVE

$$\eta_n = \eta e^{i \bar{Q}_n \cdot \bar{r}}$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3$$



so that  $\bar{Q}_1 + \bar{Q}_2 + \bar{Q}_3 = 0$

Then we can form a new invariant in the GIBS free energy, i.e.

$$C \eta_1 \cdot \eta_2 \cdot \eta_3 = C \eta^3 e^{i (\underbrace{\bar{Q}_1 + \bar{Q}_2 + \bar{Q}_3}_{=0}) \cdot \bar{r}} =$$

$$= C \eta^3 \leftarrow \text{this term will cause the 1st order phase transition found in}$$

TaS<sub>2</sub> or TaSe

as shown in fig. on page 6

Q: what do you think about crystallization or melting?  
is it a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>d</sup> order phase transition?

Another possibility of getting 1<sup>st</sup> order.

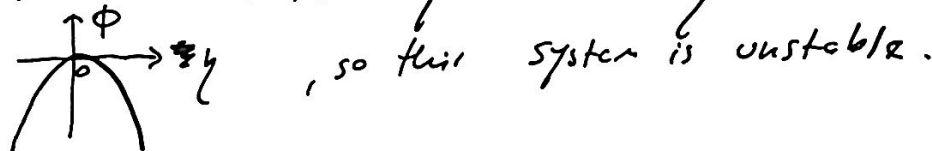
Assume that there are no odd terms  $\eta^3, \eta^5$  etc

$$\Phi = A(P, T) \eta^2 + B(P, T) \eta^4 =$$

$$= a(T - T_c) \eta^2 + B(P, T) \eta^4$$

Assume that at some value of  $P$  the coeff.  $B$  is  $< 0$

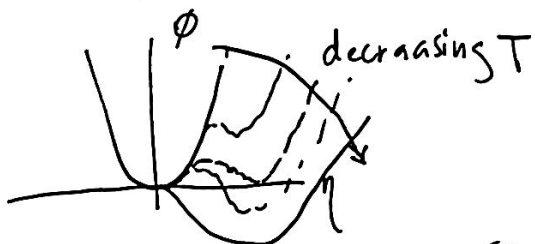
so  $T < T_c$  both  $\eta^2$  and  $\eta^4 < 0$



We need to stabilize the system, we add up

$$\Phi = \dots + D \eta^6$$

For  $D > 0$  and  $T > T_c$  where  $A > 0$  and very small,  $B < 0$



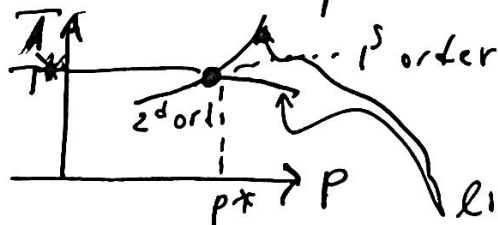
near  $T_c$   $a(T - T_c)$  is small  
 $-B \eta^4$  is large enough

so we may end up with 2 minima

or the 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition.

Note however if  $B(P, T) > 0$  then we will have a "regular" 2<sup>d</sup> order phase tr.

Thus if at some pressure  $P^*$   $B(P^*, T)$  changes sign we will have 2<sup>d</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> order transition. This point is called the tricritical point



lines of overheating and overcooling.

~~scribbles~~

Interaction with other degrees of freedom

Suppose we want to study how strain  $\epsilon$  or pressure  $P$  affects a magnetic phase transition.

bulk modulus  
 $b = \Delta P / \Delta V / V$   
 $b_{\text{steel}} = 160 \times 10^9 \text{ N/m}^2$   
 $b_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 2.2 \times 10^9 \text{ N/m}^2$   
 $\frac{1}{b} = \text{compressibility}$

$$\Phi = a(T - T_c) \eta^2 + B \eta^4 + \frac{b u^2}{2} + \lambda \eta^2 \cdot u$$

Find min:

$$\frac{d\Phi}{du} = a(T - T_c) \eta^2 + B \eta^4 + b u + \lambda \eta^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{\text{min}} = - \frac{\lambda \eta^2}{b}$$

elastic energy

coupling between distortion  $u$  and magnetic order parameter

$$\Phi(U_{\text{min}}) = a(T - T_c) \eta^2 + B \eta^4 + \frac{b}{2} \frac{\lambda^2 \eta^4}{b^2} + \lambda \eta^2 \left( - \frac{\lambda \eta^2}{b} \right) = a(T - T_c) \eta^2 +$$

$$+ \left( B - \frac{\lambda^2}{2b} \right) \eta^4$$

now if coupling to the lattice, e.g.

magneto elastic coupling is strong, or lattice compressibility is large, i.e. bulk modulus  $b$  is small  $\Rightarrow$

$$\left( B - \frac{\lambda^2}{2b} \right) \eta^4 < 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  2<sup>nd</sup> order turns into 1<sup>st</sup> order phase transition

~~...  $b = \frac{\lambda^2}{b}$  ...~~

NB. things which are difficult to compress has a large bulk modulus,  $b$  but small compressibility  $1/b$



What if the order parameter is complex?

For those who care!

Superconductivity for pedestrians.

In transitioning to superconductivity the broken symmetry is the gauge symmetry.

① in the superconducting state the macroscopic wave function is the complex order parameter; e.g.

$$\eta = \eta_0 e^{i\theta}, \quad \eta_0 \text{ and } \theta \text{ are real}$$

Now we can write down  $\Phi$ :

$$\Phi = \Phi_0 + \frac{A|\eta|^2}{\alpha(T-T_c)} + \frac{B|\eta|^4}{\gamma_0} + \dots =$$

$$= \Phi_0 + \frac{A}{\alpha(T-T_c)} \eta_0^2 + \frac{B}{\gamma_0} \eta_0^4 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{d\Phi}{d\eta_0} = \alpha(T-T_c) \cdot 2\eta_0 + 4B\eta_0^3 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha(T-T_c) + 2B\eta_0^2 \\ \eta_0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

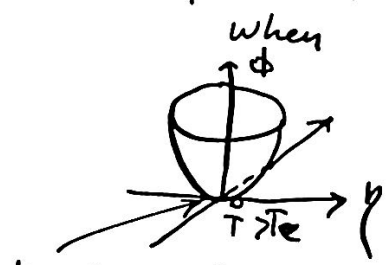
or  $\eta_0 = 0$  for  $T > T_c$

$$\eta_0 = \left[ \frac{\alpha(T-T_c)}{2B} \right]^{1/2}, \quad T < T_c$$

For the normal state of a superconductor

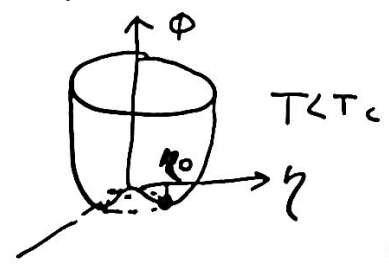
when  $T > T_c$   $\Phi = \Phi_0$  and gauge symmetry is preserved

or  $\begin{cases} \eta_0 = 0 \\ \text{and thus } \theta \text{ can take any value} \end{cases}$



$\eta_0 = 0$  for  $T < T_0$

$\eta_0 = \left( \frac{\alpha(T-T_c)}{2B} \right)^{1/2}$  and  $\theta$  is fixed  $\Rightarrow$  the symmetry is broken!



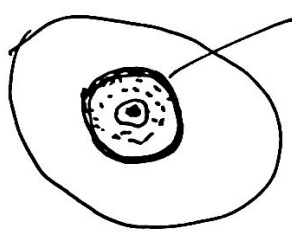
$\eta = \eta_0 e^{i\theta}$ , however the system can move inside the "mexican hat"

i.e.  $\eta \rightarrow \eta' = e^{i\theta'} \cdot \eta$  the set of all rotations in the complex plane  $U(1)$

So it seems that even in the superconducting phase we have gage symmetry in the ordered phase, i.e.  $\theta \rightarrow \theta'$  but with the same energy.

All those ordered states are degenerate in energy.

Top view:



minimum  
of the  
"mexican"  
hat =  
= circle

~~the~~ every point on the circle is a possible state.

When the symmetry is spontaneously broken the system chooses a specific  $\eta^*$  and  $\theta^*$ .

Physical picture:

Just below  $T_c$  only a small number of electrons condense into Cooper pairs with specific  $\theta$ . When  $T=0$  K max number of  $N$  condense.

so  $N$  and  $\theta$  are conjugate: or:

$$\Delta N \cdot \Delta \theta \sim 1,$$