

LECTURE 5.1

Phonons as excitations

Start with those 3 pages

THE PROBLEM OF QUANTUM MELTING

Second quantization:

Recall from quantum mechanics:

$$[x, p] = xp - px = i\hbar$$

based on this let's introduce 2 operators,

which create and annihilate an excitation when applied to the ground state or vacuum.

$$\begin{cases} b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar M\omega}} (M\omega x + ip) \\ b^\dagger = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\hbar M\omega}} (M\omega x - ip) \end{cases}$$

lets verify that anti-commutator is

$$[b, b^\dagger] = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} [bb^\dagger] &= \frac{1}{2\hbar M\omega} \left\{ (M\omega^2) [xx] + iM\omega [px] - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - iM\omega [xp] + [pp] \right\} = \frac{1}{2\hbar} iM\omega [px] \\ &= \frac{1}{2\hbar} (-2i [xp]) = \frac{-2i\hbar \cdot i}{2\hbar} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

inversely we can express x and p as

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2M\omega}} (b^\dagger + b) \quad p = i \frac{\sqrt{2\hbar M\omega}}{2} (b^\dagger - b)$$

Recall x, p are operators here!

Just a different representation.

For the HARMONIC OSCILLATOR:

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \frac{p^2}{2M} + \frac{B}{2} x^2 = -\frac{\hbar^2 M\omega^2}{2 \cdot 2M} (b^\dagger - b)^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{B\hbar}{2M\omega} (b^\dagger + b)^2 = -\frac{\hbar\omega}{4} (b^\dagger - b)^2 + \frac{B\hbar}{2M\omega} (b^\dagger + b)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Recall $\omega = \sqrt{B/M}$

$\hookrightarrow B = \omega^2 M$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega (b b^\dagger + b^\dagger b) = \hbar \omega \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

\uparrow
 $[b b^\dagger] = 1$

where $n = b^\dagger b$ is the occupation number
(the number of particles in the ground state)

for the states with excitations present:

$$b |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$$

$$b^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$$

the philosophy of bosons: the more the merrier!

the amplitude grows as $\sim \sqrt{n+1}$!

b - annihilation operators
 b^\dagger - creation operators

they increase (decrease) the # of bosons by $+(-1)$.

$$\text{for } n = b^\dagger b \Rightarrow b |n\rangle = b^\dagger b |n\rangle = b^\dagger \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle = \sqrt{n} \cdot \sqrt{n} |n\rangle = n |n\rangle$$

for the ground state: $b |0\rangle = 0$

$$|n\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n!}} (b^\dagger)^n |0\rangle$$

Now we are ready for something interesting.

Quantum Melting

Recall that vibration amplitude

$$U \equiv \delta x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2M\omega}} (b^\dagger + b) \text{ for 1 phonon mode}$$

The average shift from eq. is $\langle U \rangle = 0$ but for:

$$\langle U^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2M\omega} \langle (b^\dagger + b)^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2M\omega} \langle b^\dagger b^\dagger + b b + 2b^\dagger b \rangle$$
$$\langle b^\dagger b + b b^\dagger \rangle = \frac{\hbar}{2M\omega} (2 \langle b^\dagger b \rangle + 1) = \frac{\hbar}{2M\omega} (n + \frac{1}{2})$$

and for the highest energy phonons

$$\omega = \omega_D \quad \Theta_D \equiv \hbar \omega_D$$

$$\langle U^2 \rangle = \frac{\hbar^2}{2M\Theta_D} (n + \frac{1}{2})$$

$$n = \frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/k_B T} - 1}$$
$$= \frac{1}{e^{\Theta_D/k_B T} - 1}$$

So for

$$T \rightarrow 0 \quad \langle U^2 \rangle \sim \frac{\hbar^2}{2M\omega_D}$$

(zero point oscillations!)

$$T \gg \Theta_D : \quad \langle U^2 \rangle \sim \frac{\hbar^2}{4M\Theta_D^2}$$

According to the Lindermann criterion

when $\langle U^2 \rangle \sim a$ melting occurs.
(precisely: $\langle U^2 \rangle \sim 0.2a$)

So one can introduce the melting parameter $\Lambda \equiv \frac{\langle U^2 \rangle}{a}$ ← De Boer parameter

at $T=0 \quad \langle U^2 \rangle \sim \frac{\hbar^2}{M\omega}$ where $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{M}}$ ← bulk modulus or the stiffness of the lattice

Lets estimate β

If we shift an atom from the equilibrium by a there will be a change in the pot. energy

$$\text{energy} \sim Ba^2 \sim V(a)$$

↑ the interaction potential between atoms.

$$B \sim \frac{V(a)}{a^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Lambda \approx \frac{\hbar}{a} \frac{1}{\sqrt{MV(a)}}$$

and if $\Lambda \gtrsim 0.2 - 0.3$ the system is unstable against the ~~of~~ zero point motion and the xtal melts!!!

Q: Does it really happen?

Well we need small M and weak $V(a)$

meet ${}^4\text{He}$ He is very light and

the He interaction is very small.

That's why He is liquid down to $T=0$!

What do you think about H (hydrogen)?

Another way to "encourage" quantum melting is to apply pressure P

but of course $a \downarrow$ but $V(a)$ goes up

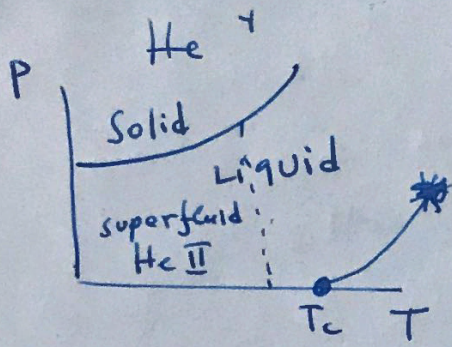
and then $\Lambda \sim V(a)a^2$ may change

either way. For He $V(a)$ goes up quickly

and it becomes solid. For electronic liquid it is opposite:

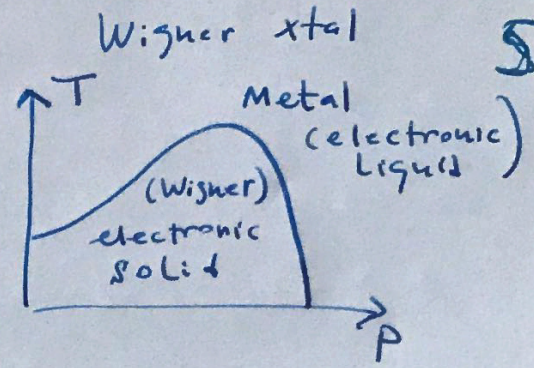
$$V(a) = \frac{e^2}{a} \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda = \frac{\hbar}{a} \sqrt{\frac{Me^2}{a}} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}}$$

so as $P \uparrow$ $a \downarrow$ $\Lambda \uparrow \Rightarrow$ cold melting of an electronic crystal (Wigner)



LIS

vs.



Phonons

The 1st type of collective excitations

Consider a chain of identical atoms:



Define the position of atoms as:

$$x_n - \text{in the equilibrium } x_n^{eq} = n \cdot a$$

If we allow the motion of the atoms:

$$\delta x_n = x_n - x_n^{eq}$$

Note since it is 1D we allow only longitudinal motion

Let us also assume the potential is quadratic,

Now it's getting strange. We technically describe the motion of balls connected with springs!!

$$V_{total} = \sum V(x_{j+1} - x_j) =$$

$$= \sum_j \frac{k}{2} (\delta x_{j+1} - \delta x_j)$$

restoring
The Force

on the mass n is

$$F_n = - \frac{\partial V_{tot}}{\partial x_n} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_n} \left(\frac{k}{2} (x_{n+1} - x_n - a)^2 \right) =$$

$\delta x_n = x_n - n a$

$$= \underbrace{k(\delta x_{n+1} - \delta x_n) + k(\delta x_{n-1} - \delta x_n)}_{\text{Newtonian Law}} = m \delta \ddot{x}_n$$

Newtonian Law.

Recap: A normal mode is a collective oscillation where all particles move at the same frequency.

Lets attempt to solve it by assuming that we have a wave propagating through the chain

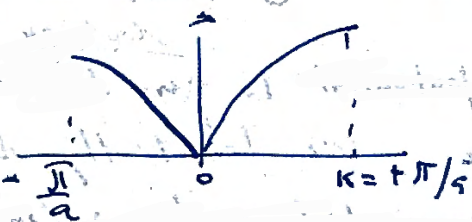
$$\delta x_n = A e^{i\omega t - i k x_n} = A e^{i\omega t - i k n a}$$

A is the amplitude of the wave.

$$-m\omega^2 A e^{i\omega t - i k n a} = k A e^{i\omega t} [e^{-i k a (n+1)} + e^{-i k a (n-1)} - 2e^{-i k a n}]$$

$$m\omega^2 = 2k [1 - \cos(ka)] = 4k \sin^2(ka/2)$$

$$\text{or } \omega = 2 \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right|$$



Not too surprising again b/c of the periodicity of the crystal we end up with the same physics

$$e^{iG \cdot x} = 1 \quad \text{where } G = \frac{2\pi}{a} \cdot n$$

Again the same issue as for electrons

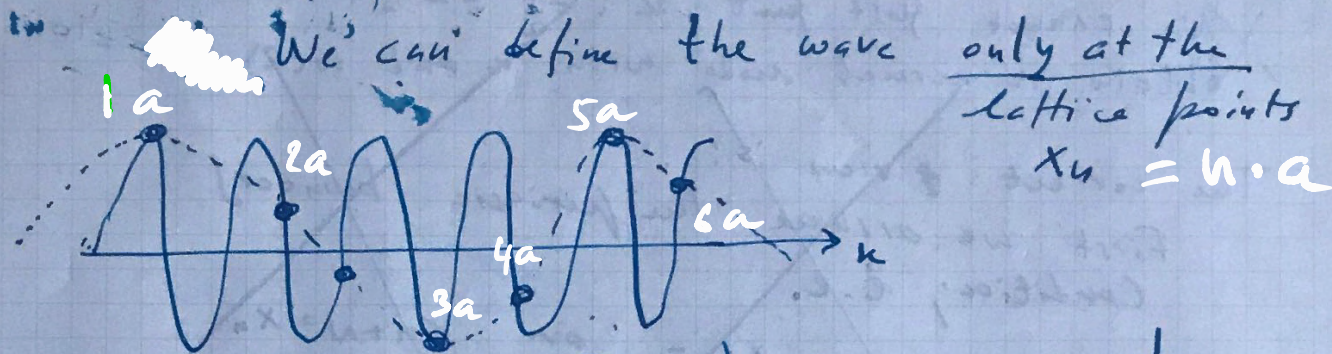
$$k \text{ is defined up to } k + G = k$$

But what k we should use say is

$$v_{\text{phase}} = \frac{\omega}{k} = ? = \frac{\omega}{k+G} ?$$

$$\text{or do we say } \frac{2\pi}{k} = \frac{2\pi}{k+G} ?$$

The resolution to this puzzle comes from the fact that:



We can define the wave only at the lattice points
 $x_n = n \cdot a$

So $k + \frac{2\pi}{a}n$ and k are the same! as long as we look only at x_n !

This is also known as aliasing of waves.

Properties of 1D chains.

Sound wave: always has λ much larger than a (e.g. bunch 1cm - 10m)

Large λ , small k so

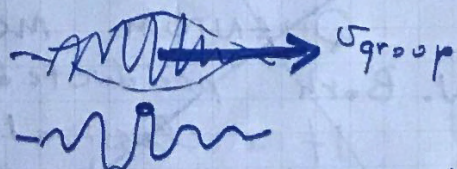
the dispersion $\omega = v_{\text{sound}} k$

$$\omega = 2 \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \left| \sin\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right) \right| \approx 2 \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \cdot \frac{ka}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow v_{\text{sound}} = \frac{\omega}{k} \approx \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \cdot a$$

Large λ , short k : We define the group velocity:

$$\begin{cases} v_{\text{group}} = \frac{d\omega}{dk} \\ v_{\text{phase}} = \omega/k \end{cases}$$



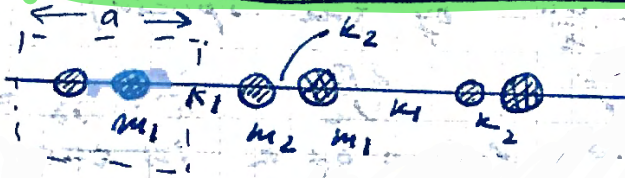
how individual maxima and minima move, if the dispersion is linear

$$v_{\text{group}} = v_{\text{phase}}$$

non-linear they are different.

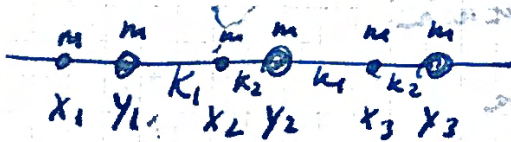
Note at $\pm\pi/a$: $v_{\text{group}} = 0!$ the dispersion is flat.

Two atoms per unit cell. - PHONON modes.



Lets for simplicity assume that $m_1 = m_2$
 We are about to repeat the same algebra
 as for the 1D chain with 1-type of atoms
 where we found that the system will
 have the energy dispersion $\omega(k) \propto |\sin \frac{ka}{2}|$

$$\begin{cases} m \ddot{\delta x}_n = k_2 (\delta y_n - \delta x_n) + k_1 (\delta y_{n-1} - \delta x_n) \\ m \ddot{\delta y}_n = k_1 (\delta x_{n+1} - \delta y_n) + k_2 (\delta x_n - \delta y_n) \end{cases}$$



again we will be
 looking for a solution of
 this kind:

$$\delta x_n = A_x e^{i\omega t - i k n a}$$

$$\delta y_n = A_y e^{i\omega t - i k n a}$$

We focus our attention on the 1st BZ.

$$-\frac{\pi}{a} \leq k \leq \frac{\pi}{a}, \text{ with } N \text{ unit cells}$$

$$L = N a$$

$$k \text{ will be quantized } k = \frac{2\pi}{Na} = \frac{2\pi}{L}$$

here we mean N
 the number of u.c.
 Not the number of atoms.

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if we divide the range of k values in the 1st BZ $\frac{2\pi}{a}$ by the spacing between neighboring k 's $\frac{2\pi}{Na}$: $\frac{2\pi}{a} : \frac{2\pi}{Na} \Rightarrow N$
 we obtain N possible values of k or 1 value of k per unit cell.

But Debye states that there is only one wave normal mode per degree of freedom and here we have 2 atoms but seemingly one mode!

What to do? Lets go ahead and solve the equations:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} -\omega^2 m A_x e^{-i\omega t - ikna} &= \\ & k_2 A_y e^{i\omega t - ikna} + k_1 A_y e^{i\omega t - ik(n-1)a} \\ & - (k_1 + k_2) A_x e^{i\omega t - ikna} \\ -\omega^2 m A_y e^{i\omega t - ikna} &= \\ & k_1 A_x e^{i\omega t - ik(n+1)a} + k_2 A_x e^{i\omega t - ikna} \\ & - (k_1 + k_2) A_y e^{i\omega t - ikna} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} -\omega^2 m A_x &= k_2 A_y + k_1 A_y e^{ika} - (k_1 + k_2) A_x \\ -\omega^2 m A_y &= k_1 A_x e^{-ika} + k_2 A_x - (k_1 + k_2) A_y \end{aligned} \right.$$

or

$$m\omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (k_1 + k_2) & -k_2 - k_1 e^{ika} \\ -k_2 - k_1 e^{-ika} & (k_1 + k_2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix}$$

The solution is:

$$0 = \begin{vmatrix} (k_1 + k_2) - m\omega^2 & -k_2 - k_1 e^{ika} \\ -k_2 - k_1 e^{-ika} & (k_1 + k_2) - m\omega^2 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$= |(k_1 + k_2) - m\omega^2|^2 - |k_2 + k_1 e^{ika}|^2 = 0$$

$$m\omega^2 = (k_1 + k_2) \pm |k_1 + k_2 e^{ika}|$$

$$|k_1 + k_2 e^{ika}| = \sqrt{(k_1 + k_2 e^{ika})(k_1 + k_2 e^{-ika})} =$$

$$= \sqrt{k_1^2 + k_2^2 + 2k_1 k_2 \cos ka}$$

So finally

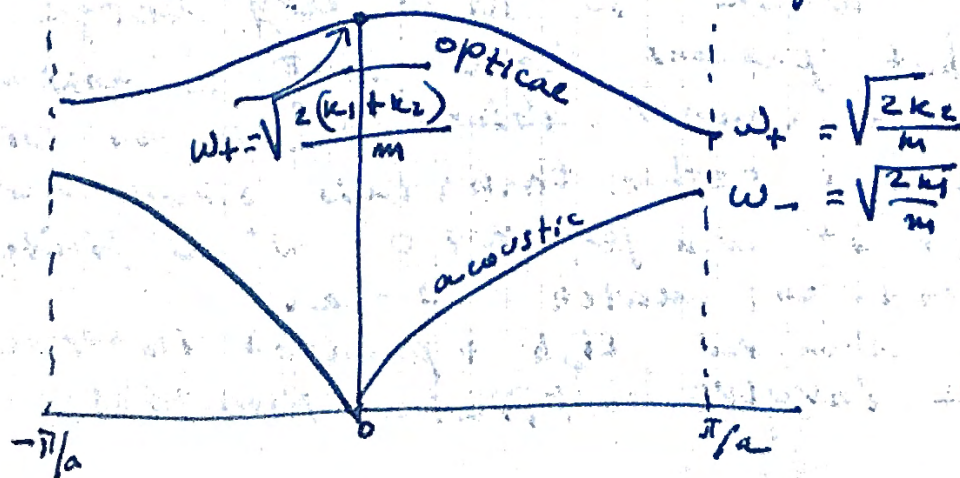
$$\omega_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{k_1 + k_2}{m} \pm \frac{1}{m} \sqrt{k_1^2 + k_2^2 + 2k_1 k_2 \cos(ka)}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{k_1 + k_2}{m} \pm \frac{1}{m} \sqrt{(k_1 + k_2)^2 - 4k_1 k_2 \sin^2\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right)}}$$

for each k we have 2 solutions \pm
or 2 branches of the dispersion

or we have

$2N$ modes! Exactly as Debye predicted
one excitation mode per degree of freedom.



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Long wavelength show linear dispersion
= acoustic branch. = $\omega_-(k)$

Def: any mode which $\omega = ck$ for $k \rightarrow 0$
is called acoustic

and if we assume $\sin \frac{k_1 a}{2} \sim \frac{k_1 a}{2}$ and $\sqrt{1+x} \approx 1+x/2$

$$\text{we get } \omega_- = \sqrt{\frac{k_1 + k_2}{m}} \approx \frac{1}{m} \sqrt{(k_1 + k_2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{m} \sqrt{k_1 k_2} (ka)^2$$

$$v_{\text{sound}} = \frac{d\omega_-}{dk} = \sqrt{\frac{a^2 k_1 k_2}{2m(k_1 - k_2)}}$$

The high energy branch is more interesting:

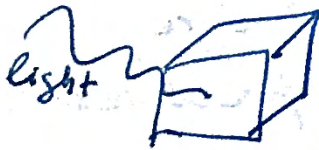
$$\text{for } k=0 \quad \omega_+ = \sqrt{\frac{2c(k_1 + k_2)}{m}}$$

and

$$v_{\text{group}} = \frac{d\omega}{dk} = 0 \text{ at } k=0!$$

This branch is called OPTICAL.

Here is why.



during the light absorption energy and momentum must be conserved, i.e.

$$\omega = ck \text{ so } \omega \text{ is very large}$$

but phonons have $k \sim \frac{\pi}{a}$ as maximum and cannot absorb the photon with anything rather than this small value.

But for ω_+ even for $k \rightarrow 0$ ω_+ is finite and can match $\omega = ck$.

So whenever light + phonons interact we involve OPTICAL PHONONS.

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Lets look a little more carefully at the opt. and. acoustic mode for $k \rightarrow 0$

$$m\omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1+k_2 & k_2-k_1 \\ -k_2-k_1 & k_1+k_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix}$$

or $\omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{k_1+k_2}{m}$

For the acoustic mode $\omega=0$ at $k=0$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

masses at position x and y move together

In Short the atoms within the unit cell always move together



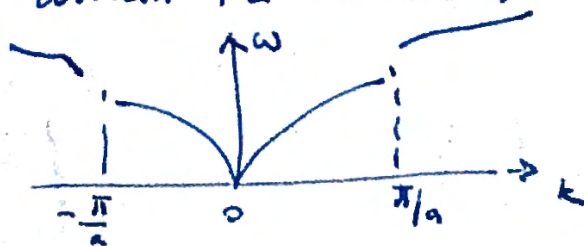
For optical branch $k=0$ $\omega^2(k=0) = \frac{2(k_1+k_2)}{m}$

$$\frac{2(k_1+k_2)}{m} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} \frac{k_1+k_2}{m} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_x \\ A_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

describes two masses moving in opposite directions

within the unit cell.



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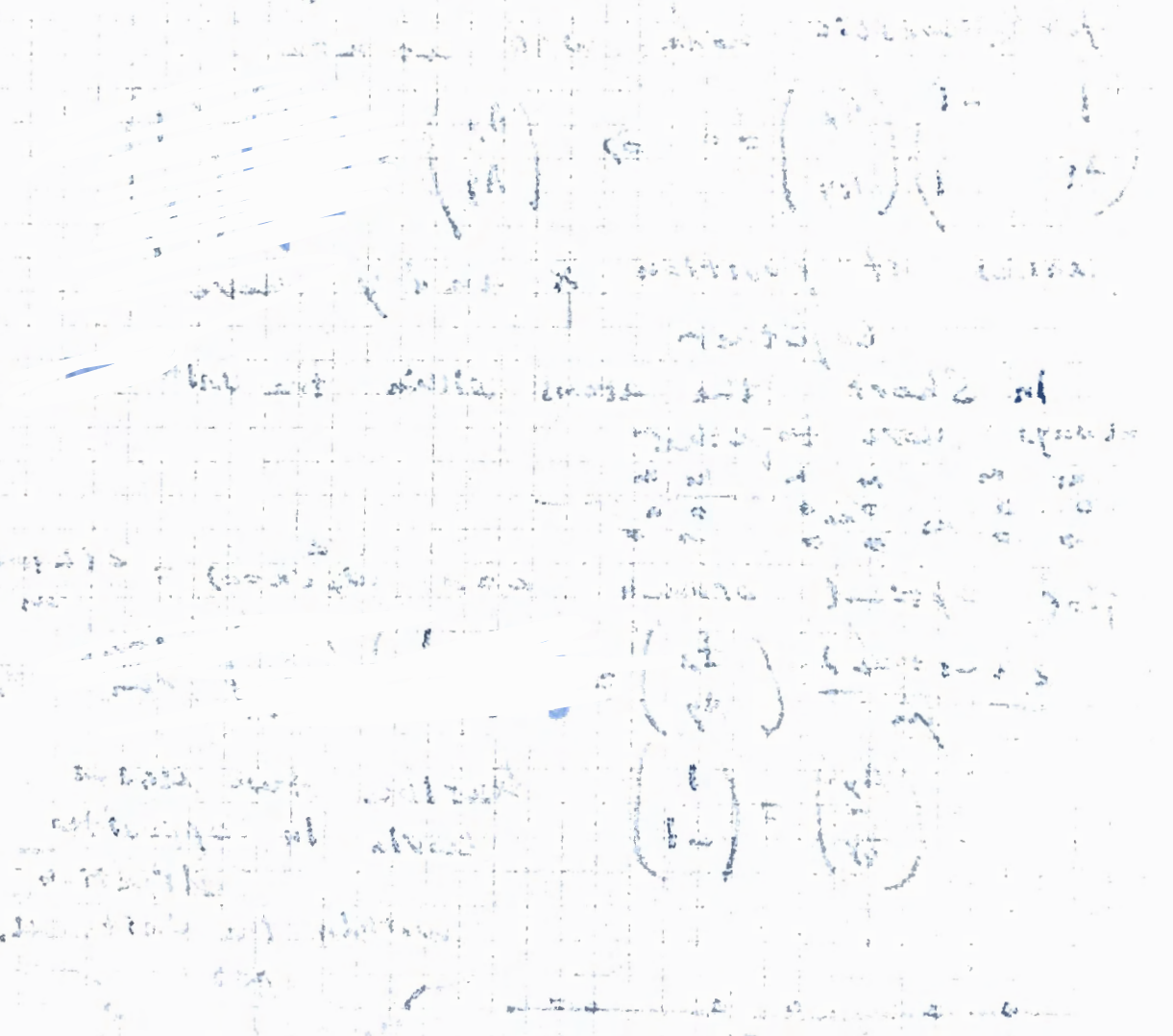
Now let's study our nodes close to the zone boundary. $\pm \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$\omega_+ = \sqrt{\frac{c_+^2 k^2}{m}}$$

$$\omega_- = \sqrt{\frac{c_-^2 k^2}{m}}$$

$$\frac{d\omega}{dk} = 0 \text{ at the z.B.}$$

When the phonon k approaches the z.b. the plane wave turns into a standing wave, with antiphase motion

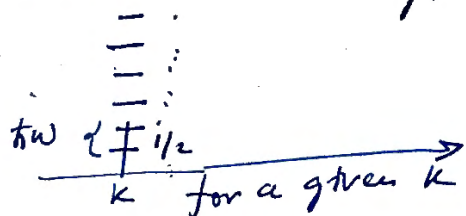


THE THERMODYNAMICS OF PHONONS

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For $n=0$ we get $\hbar\omega(k)/2$
 The lowest energy of excitation for $\hbar\omega(k) \Rightarrow n=1$



Phonon is a discrete quantum of vibration
 (photon is a quantum of light)

All known excitations are bosons
 except for exotics like spinions, Majoranas etc.

Temperature shakes atoms and the phonons
 can occupy higher and higher energy states.

based on the Bose statistics:

$$n_B(\beta\hbar\omega) = \frac{1}{e^{\beta\hbar\omega} - 1} \quad \beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}$$

Thus the energy expectation:

$$E_k \doteq \hbar\omega(k) \left(n_B + \frac{1}{2} \right) \text{ for finite } T$$

From this we can calculate
 many thermodynamical quantities, including
 say the heat capacity:

$$U_{\text{total}} = \sum_k \hbar\omega(k) \left(n_B + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

"sum over all normal modes"

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{Na} \cdot m \quad \text{for } -\frac{\pi}{a} \leq k \leq \frac{\pi}{a}$$

As we did for electrons:

$$\sum_k \rightarrow \frac{Na}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} dk$$

Note the total number of modes is

$$\frac{Na}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} dk = \underline{\underline{N}}$$

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Now let's calculate the total internal energy due to phonons

$$U_{\text{total}} = \frac{N_a}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} dk \hbar \omega(k) \left(n_B(\beta \hbar \omega(k)) + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{dU}{dT} = C_V$$

Historically, the difference between Debye and what we got is in ω_k

for Debye $\omega = v \cdot k$, but in our case $\omega(k) \approx \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \sin\left(\frac{k a}{2}\right)$

In fact what Einstein did he just introduced the same idea stating how ω depends on k .

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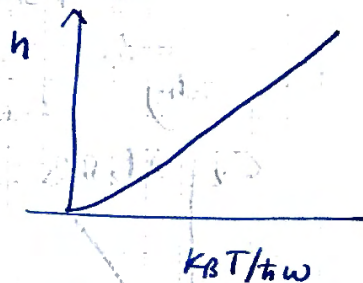
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We state without a proof that bosons should obey to the Bose-Einstein statistics, i.e.

$$n = \frac{1}{e^{\epsilon/k_B T} - 1} \quad \text{and if consider}$$

the thermal vibrations of the frequency ω (or $E = \hbar\omega$)

$$n(\omega, T) = \frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/k_B T} - 1}$$



for high temperatures

$$k_B T > \hbar\omega$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{e^{\beta\epsilon} - 1} = \frac{e^{\beta\epsilon} + 1}{2(e^{\beta\epsilon} - 1)}$$

$$= \frac{(1 + \beta\epsilon + \dots) + 1}{2(1 + \beta\epsilon + (\beta\epsilon)^2/2 + \dots) - 1} = \frac{2 + \beta\epsilon + \dots}{\beta\epsilon(2 + \beta\epsilon + \dots)}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\beta\epsilon} = \frac{k_B T}{\hbar\omega} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{for high } T \text{ we have}$$

$$E = \hbar\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} + n(\omega, T) \right) = \hbar\omega \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{k_B T}{\hbar\omega} \right) = \frac{\hbar\omega}{2} + k_B T = k_B T \quad (\text{This is for 1D})$$

↑ "0" motion

for 3D = 3 deg. of freedom

$$E = \sum = 3 k_B T \quad \text{which is equivalent to the internal energy of a gas.}$$

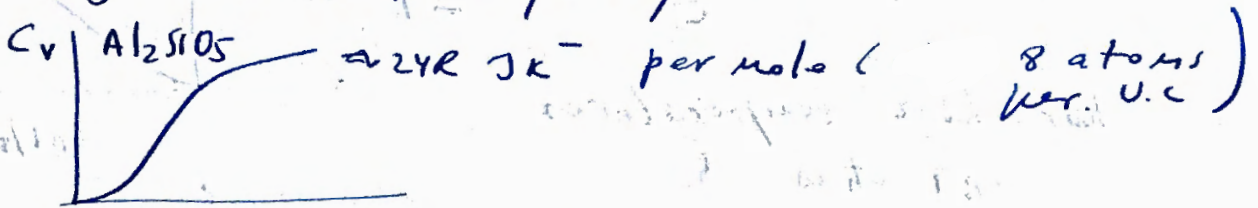
$$C_V = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial T} \right)_V = \sum \hbar \omega \frac{\partial n}{\partial T} =$$

$$= \sum k_B \left(\frac{\hbar \omega}{k_B T} \right)^2 \frac{e^{-\hbar \omega / k_B T}}{\left(e^{-\hbar \omega / k_B T} - 1 \right)^2}$$

For the high T limit $C_V = 3R$ ($J K^{-1}$)

\equiv Dulong - Petit.

What classical stat. physics cannot explain why the heat capacity $\rightarrow 0$ $T \rightarrow 0$?



Density of states for phonons

$g(\omega)$ the number of vibration modes between ω and $\omega + d\omega \Rightarrow g(\omega) d\omega$

$$U = \int \left(n(\omega) + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar \omega g(\omega) d\omega$$

$$C_V = \int \frac{dn}{dT} \hbar \omega g(\omega) d\omega$$

Now let's apply the idea of DOS to acoustic phonons:

To determine $g(\omega)$ we note

$$g(\omega) d\omega = g(k) dk \quad \text{since} \quad \omega = v_{ac} k$$

In the xtal with N unit cells, the volume per u.c.

$$\frac{V}{N} \quad \text{and the volume of B.Z.} = \frac{(2\pi)^3 N}{V}$$

So in the 1st BZ there will be N available values of the k -vector, and the number of k -values per unit volume

$$N / V_{BZ} = V (2\pi)^3$$

of the reciprocal space

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or in Spherical Coordinates:

$$g(\omega) d\omega = \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \cdot 4\pi k^2 dk \quad \text{where } k = \omega/v_a \quad dk = \frac{d\omega}{v_a} =$$

$$\Rightarrow g(\omega) d\omega = 3 \times \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \cdot 4\pi \left(\frac{\omega}{v_a}\right)^2 \frac{d\omega}{v_a} = \frac{3V\omega^2}{2\pi^2 v_a^3} d\omega$$

3 comes from the fact that there are 3 branches of acoustic waves for 3D.
 so $g(\omega) \sim \omega^2$

HEAT CAPACITY

The total energy due to phonons:

$$E = \int_0^{\omega_D} \frac{3V\omega^2}{2\pi^2 v_a} \frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/k_B T} - 1} d\omega \quad \text{where } \hbar\omega = h\nu$$

where ω_D is called the Debye frequency, a cut-off parameter.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dE}{dT} = C_V = \int_0^{\omega_D} \frac{3V\omega^2}{2\pi^2 v_a} \cdot \hbar\omega \frac{d}{dT} \left(\frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/k_B T} - 1} \right) d\omega$$

1) Low T limit: At low T only low ω phonons exist since $n(\omega, T) \rightarrow 0$ as $T \rightarrow 0$.
 also those $\omega \ll \omega_D$ so ω_D looks like ∞ .

Substituting $x \equiv \hbar\omega/k_B T$ $\omega^3 d\omega = \left(\frac{k_B T}{\hbar}\right)^4 \frac{1}{3} dx$

$$E = \frac{3V\hbar}{2\pi^2 v_a} \left(\frac{k_B T}{\hbar}\right)^4 \int_0^{\infty} x^3 (e^x - 1)^{-1} dx \Rightarrow$$

$$E = \frac{V\pi^2 (k_B T)^4}{10 (v_a \hbar)^3} \Rightarrow E \sim T^4 \Rightarrow C_V = \frac{dE}{dT} \sim T^3$$

or $C_V = \frac{2V\pi^2 k_B}{5 (v_a \hbar/k_B)^3} T^3$ if we introduce the Debye temperature

$$\Theta_D = \frac{\hbar\omega_D}{k_B} \Rightarrow \Theta_D = \frac{\hbar v_a}{k_B} \left(\frac{16\pi N^2}{V}\right)^{1/2} \quad \text{(not shown here, cant AEM)}$$