



Lecture Wed.2

# Superconductors and Migdal-Eliashberg theory

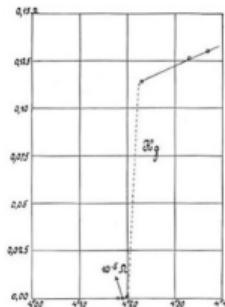
Roxana Margine

Department of Physics, Applied Physics, and Astronomy  
Binghamton University - State University of New York

# Lecture Summary

- Superconductivity milestones
- BCS theory of superconductivity
- McMillan-Allen-Dynes formula for critical temperature
- Nambu-Gor'kov formalism and Migdal-Eliashberg theory
- Density functional theory for superconductors
- Examples from calculations

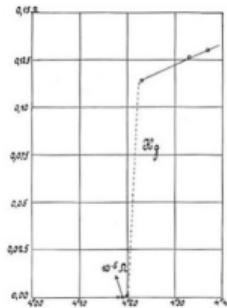
# Superconductivity Milestones



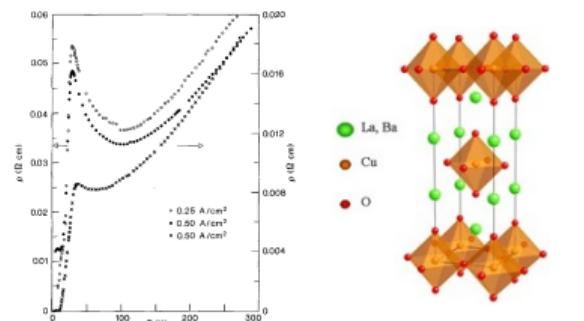
Onnes, Commun. Phys. Lab.

Univ. Leiden. Suppl. 29 (1911)

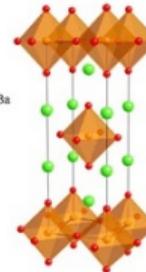
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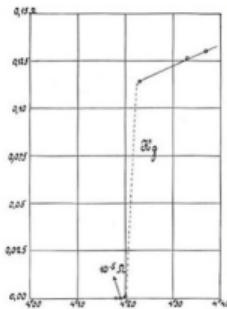
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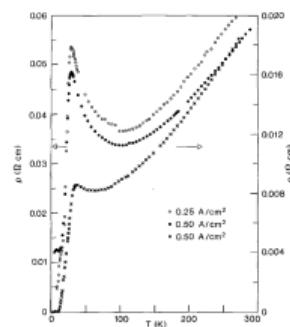
Bednorz and Müller, Z. Phys. B - Cond. Matter  
64, 189 (1986)



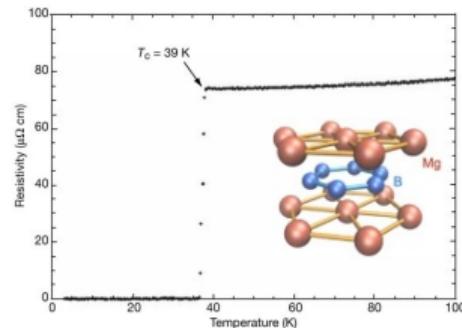
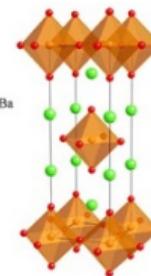
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Onnes, Commun. Phys. Lab.  
Univ. Leiden. Suppl. 29 (1911)

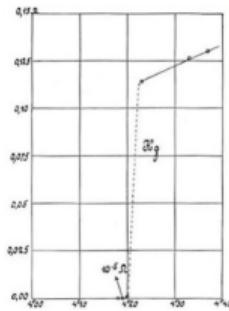


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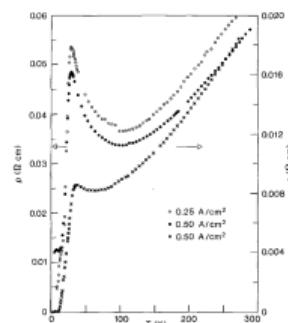


Nagamatsu *et. al.*, Nature 410, 63 (2001)

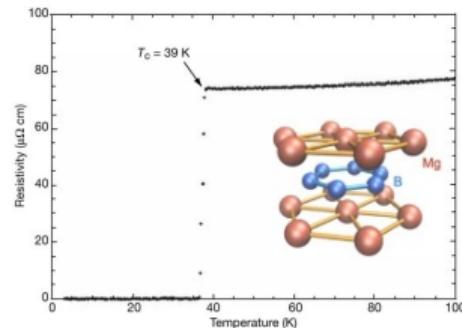
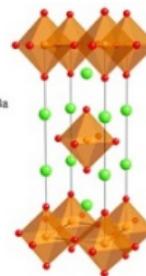
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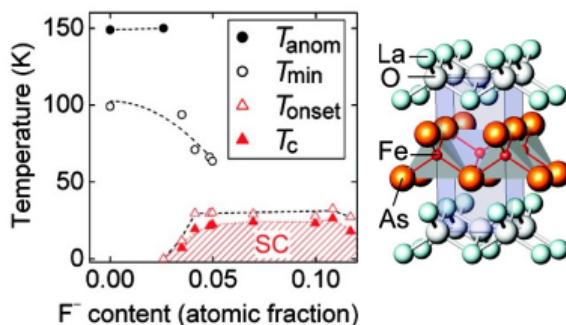
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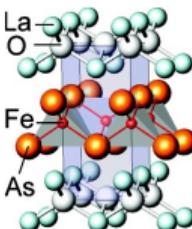
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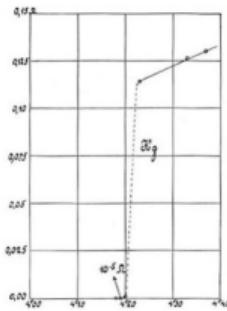
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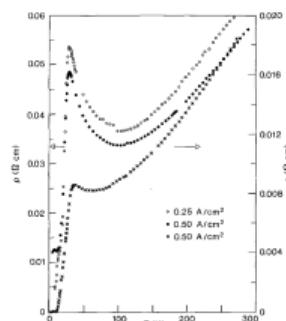
Kamihara *et. al.*, JACS 130, 3296 (2008)



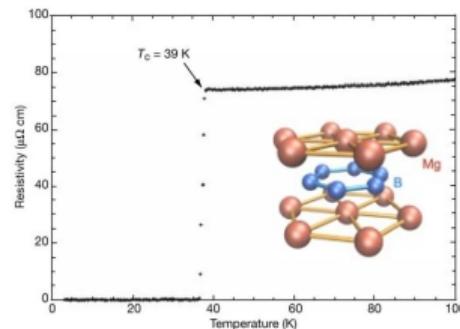
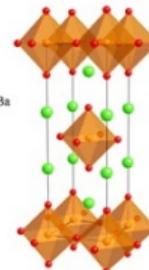
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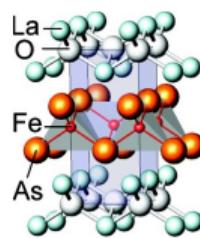
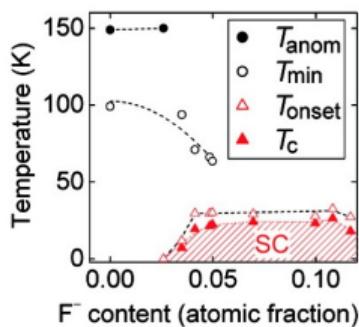
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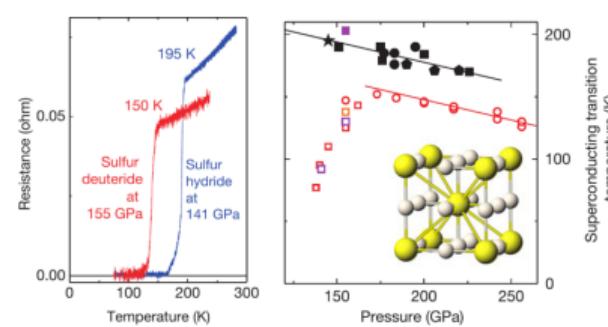
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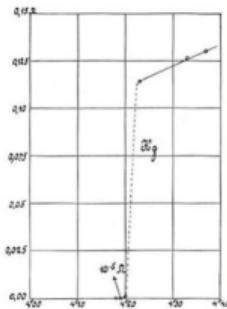


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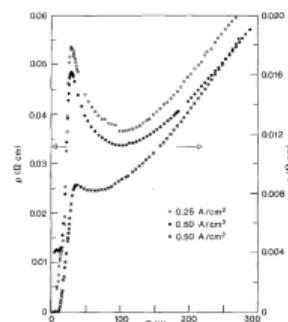


Drozdov *et. al.*, Nature 73, 525 (2015)

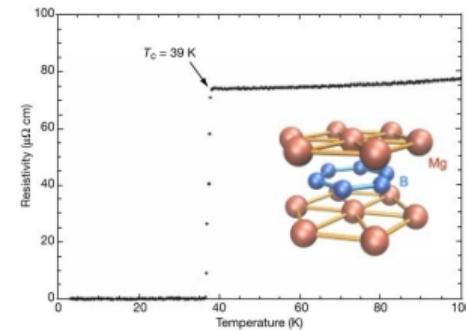
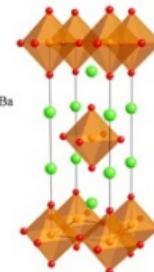
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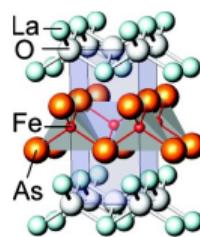
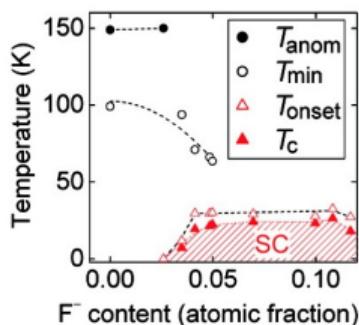
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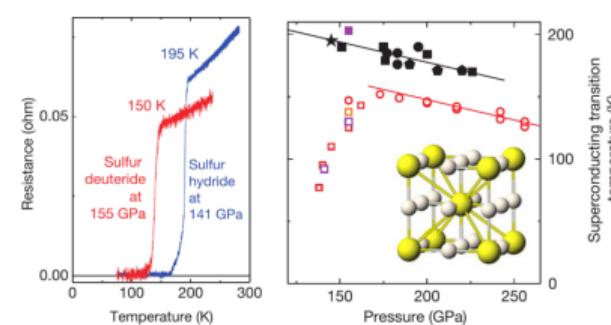
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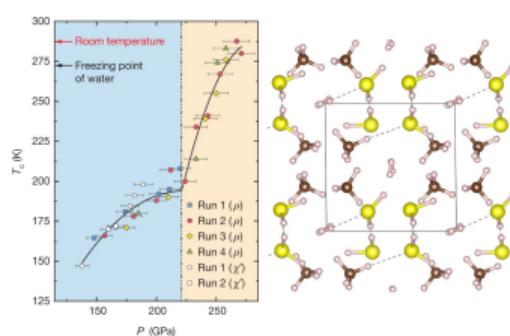
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Drozdov *et. al.*, Nature 73, 525 (2015)



Snider *et. al.*, Nature 583, 373 (2020)

# Superconductivity Milestones

E  
X  
P

1911  
Hg

1986  
cuprates

2001  
 $MgB_2$

2008  
Fe-based

2015  
 $H_3S$

2020  
 $CSH_x$



T  
H  
E  
O  
R  
Y

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1957  
BCS  
theory

1960  
Eliashberg  
theory

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O  
R  
Y

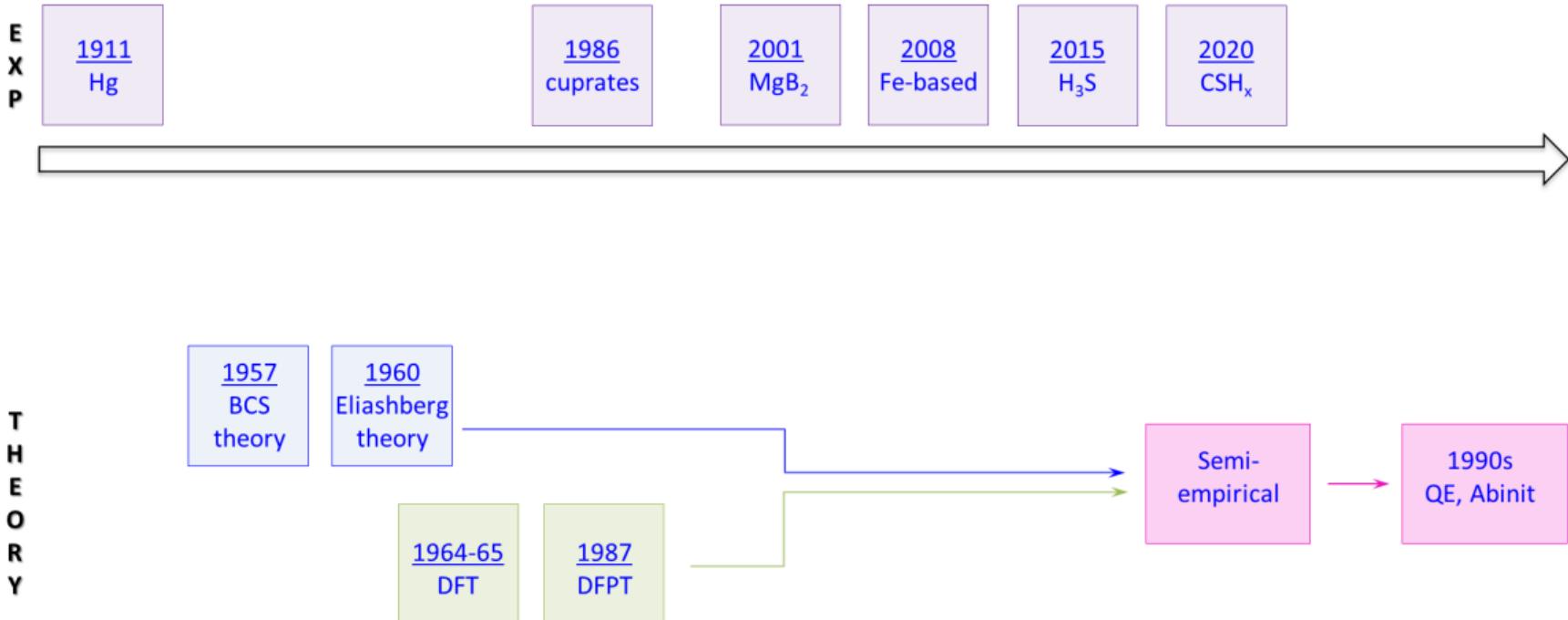
1957  
BCS  
theory

1960  
Eliashberg  
theory

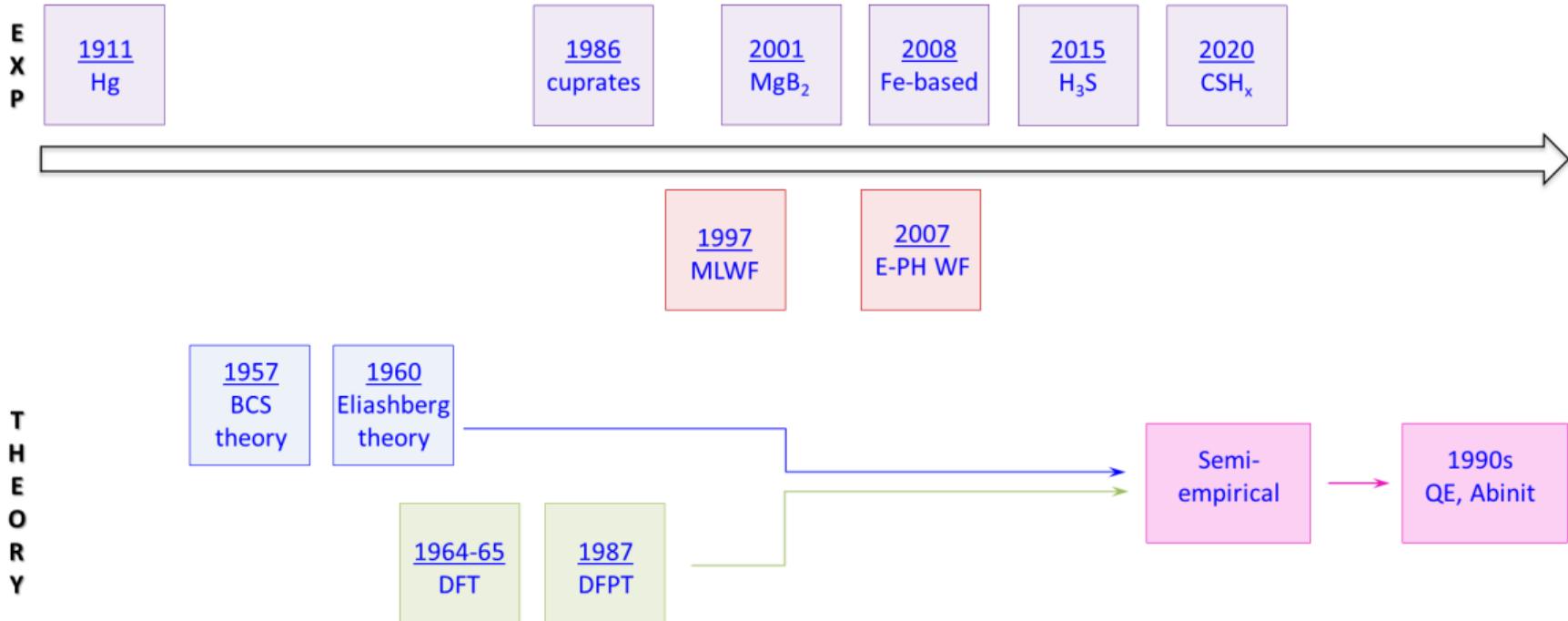
1964-65  
DFT

1987  
DFPT

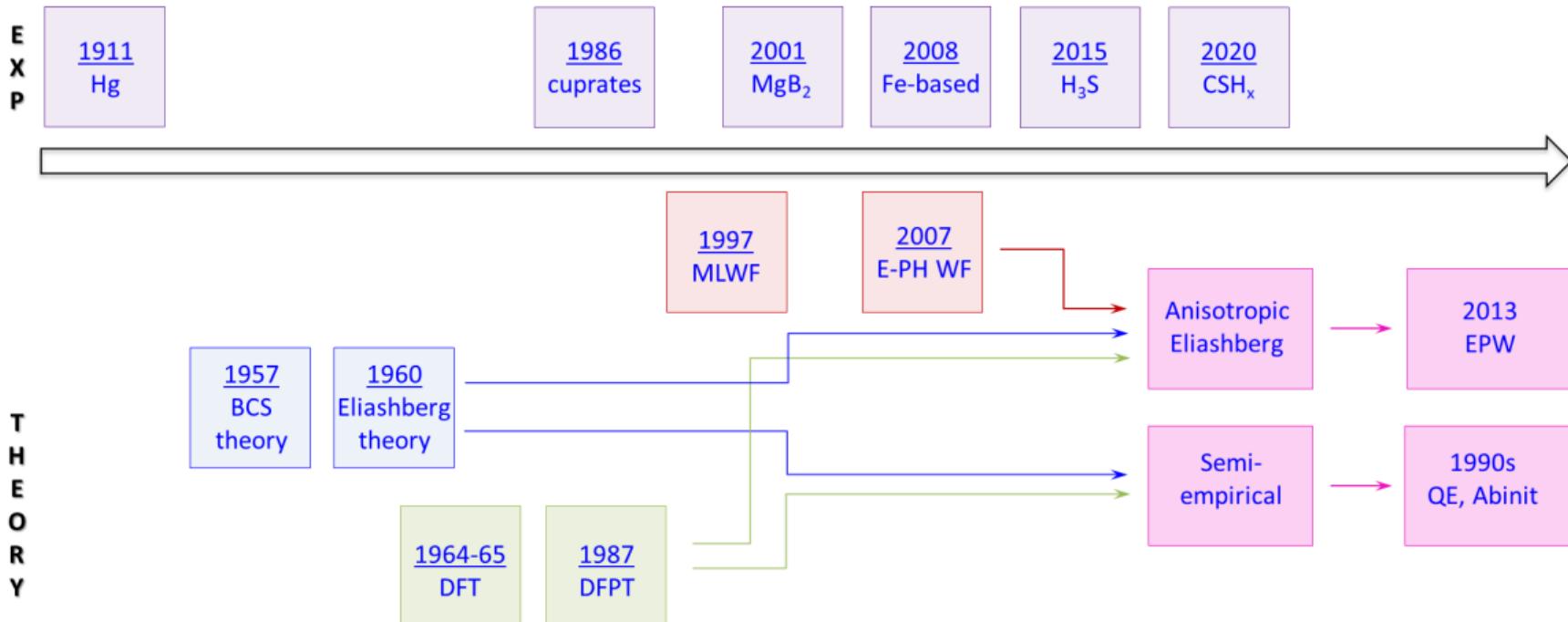
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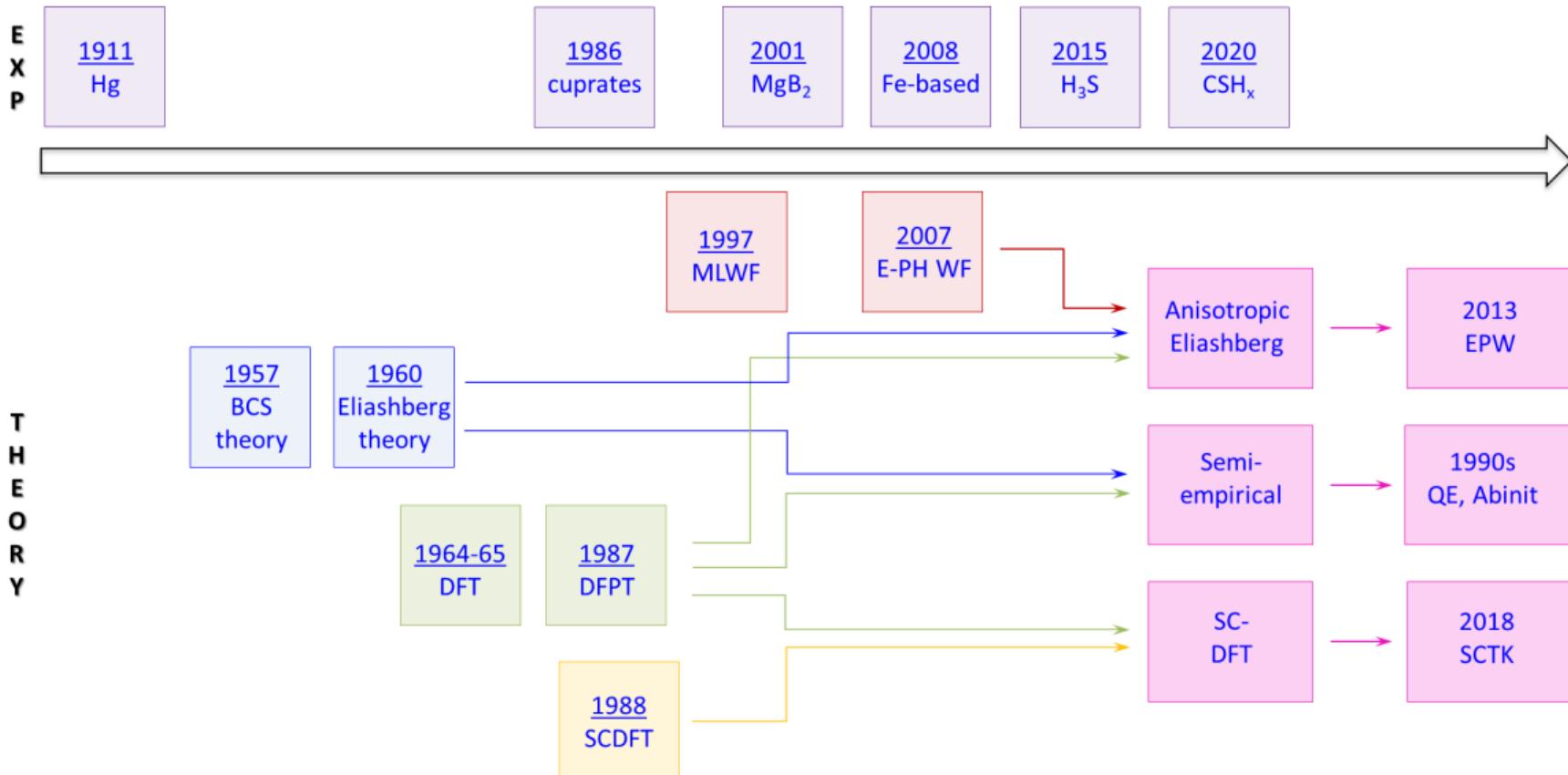
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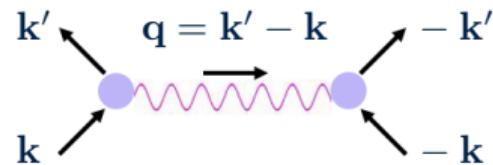
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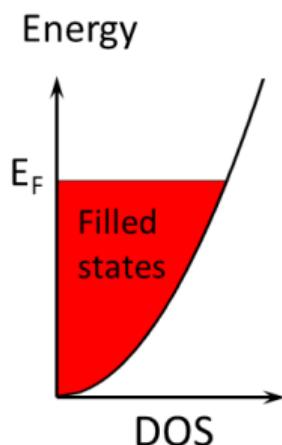
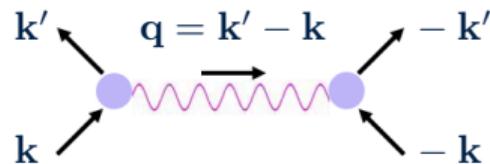


# BCS Theory



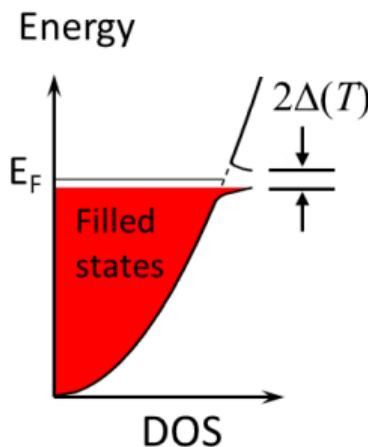
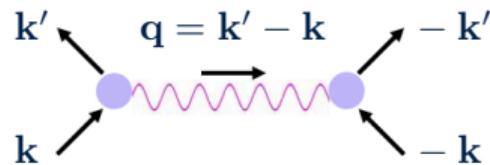
Bardeen, Cooper, and Schrieffer, Phys. Rev. 108, 1175 (1957)

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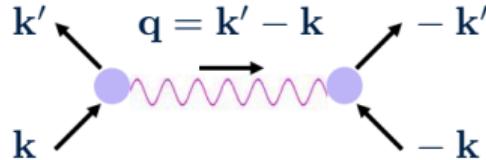
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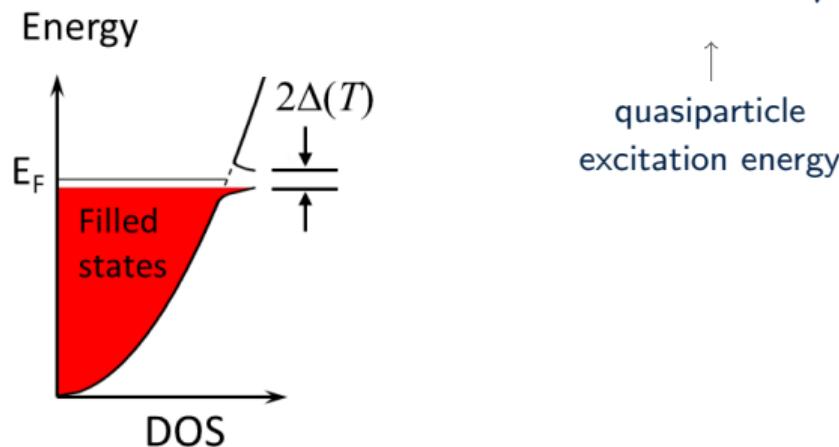
# BCS Theory



superconducting gap

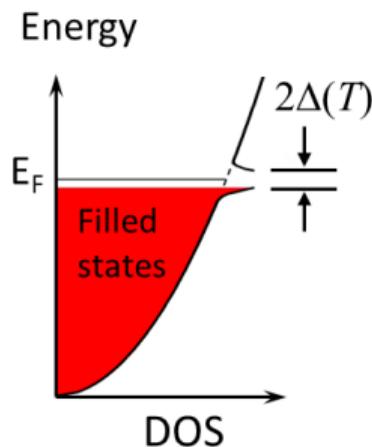
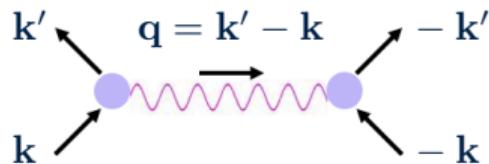
$$\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}} = \sum_m \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{BZ}} \tanh \left( \frac{E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2k_B T} \right) \frac{V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}$$

pairing potential



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# BCS Theory



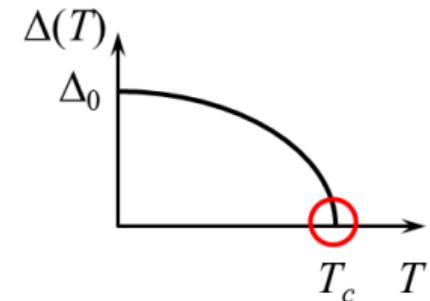
superconducting gap

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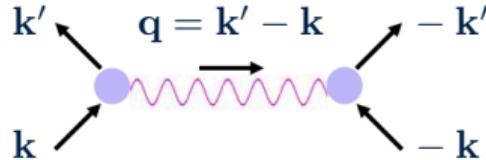
$$E_{n\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 + |\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}|^2}$$

↑  
quasiparticle  
excitation energy



Bardeen, Cooper, and Schrieffer, Phys. Rev. 108, 1175 (1957)

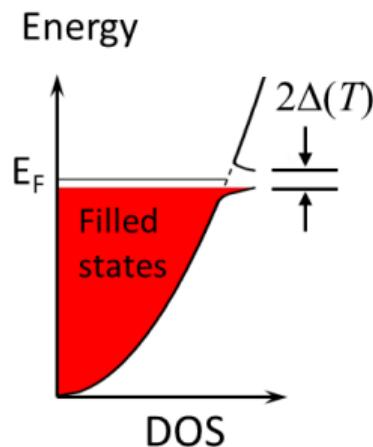
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superconducting gap

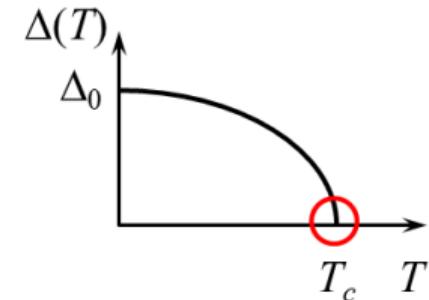
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pairing potential



$$E_{n\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 + |\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}|^2}$$

↑  
quasiparticle  
excitation energy



- describes in detail the phenomenology of superconductivity
- is a descriptive theory, material-independent  $\rightarrow 2\Delta_0 = 3.53k_B T_c$
- does not account for the retardation of the e-ph interaction

Bardeen, Cooper, and Schrieffer, Phys. Rev. 108, 1175 (1957)

How can  $T_c$  be calculated beyond BCS?

# McMillan-Allen-Dynes Formula

$$T_c = \frac{\omega_{\log}}{1.2} \exp \left[ \frac{-1.04(1 + \lambda)}{\lambda - \mu_c^*(1 + 0.62\lambda)} \right] \quad (\text{Lecture Mon.1})$$

↑                      ↗  
Coulomb                e-ph  
pseudopotential      coupling strength



$$\lambda = N_F \left\langle \left\langle \sum_{\nu} \frac{|g_{mn\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2}{\hbar \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}} \right\rangle \right\rangle_{\text{FS}}$$

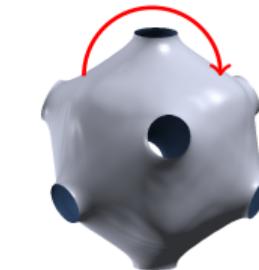
McMillan Phys. Rev. 167, 331(1968); Allen and Dynes, PRB 12, 905 (1975).

# McMillan-Allen-Dynes Formula

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↑                      ↗  
Coulomb                e-ph  
pseudopotential      coupling strength

- can be easily calculated (e.g., QE, Abinit)
- works reasonably well for isotropic superconductors
- requires dense  $\mathbf{k}$ - and  $\mathbf{q}$ -meshes to converge  $\lambda$
- fails for multiband and/or anisotropic superconductors
- approximates the Coulomb interaction through  $\mu_c^*$



$$\lambda = N_F \left\langle \left\langle \sum_{\nu} \frac{|g_{mn\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2}{\hbar \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu}} \right\rangle \right\rangle_{\text{FS}}$$

McMillan Phys. Rev. 167, 331(1968); Allen and Dynes, PRB 12, 905 (1975).

# Nambu-Gor'kov Formalism

A generalized  $2 \times 2$  matrix Green's functions  $\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau)$  is used to describe the propagation of electron quasiparticles and of superconducting Cooper pairs on an equal footing.

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = -\langle T_\tau \Psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) \Psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^\dagger(0) \rangle$$

↑  
two-component field operator       $\Psi_{n\mathbf{k}} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \end{bmatrix}$

imaginary time      Wick's time-ordering operator

# Nambu-Gor'kov Formalism

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{imaginary time} & \downarrow & \downarrow \quad \text{Wick's time-ordering operator} \\ & & \\ \hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = -\langle T_\tau \Psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) \Psi_{n\mathbf{k}}^\dagger(0) \rangle & & \\ & & \uparrow \\ \text{two-component} & & \Psi_{n\mathbf{k}} = \left[ \begin{array}{c} \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \\ \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger \end{array} \right] \\ \text{field operator} & & \end{array}$$

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = - \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}(\tau) \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}(\tau) \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}(0) \rangle \\ \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger(\tau) \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger(\tau) \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}(0) \rangle \end{array} \right]$$

# Nambu-Gor'kov Formalism

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- Diagonal elements are the **normal state Green's functions** and describe single-particle electronic excitations.

# Nambu-Gor'kov Formalism

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- Diagonal elements are the **normal state Green's functions** and describe single-particle electronic excitations.
- Off-diagonal elements are the **anomalous Green's functions** and describe Cooper pairs amplitudes.

# Nambu-Gor'kov Formalism

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = - \begin{bmatrix} \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}(\tau) \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}(\tau) \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}(0) \rangle \\ \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger(\tau) \hat{c}_{n\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^\dagger(0) \rangle & \langle T_\tau \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}^\dagger(\tau) \hat{c}_{n-\mathbf{k}\downarrow}(0) \rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

- Diagonal elements are the **normal state Green's functions** and describe single-particle electronic excitations.
- Off-diagonal elements are the **anomalous Green's functions** and describe Cooper pairs amplitudes.

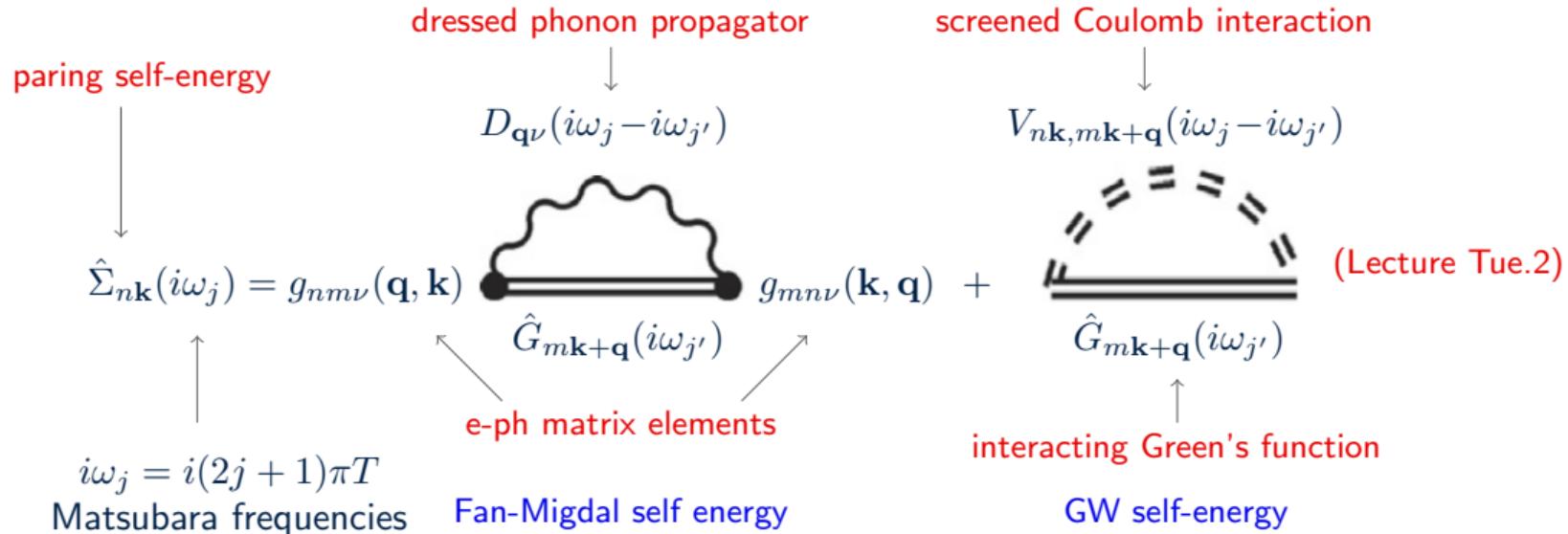
$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau)$  is periodic in  $\tau$  and can be expanded in a Fourier series:

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\tau) = T \sum_{i\omega_j} e^{-i\omega_j \tau} \hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$$

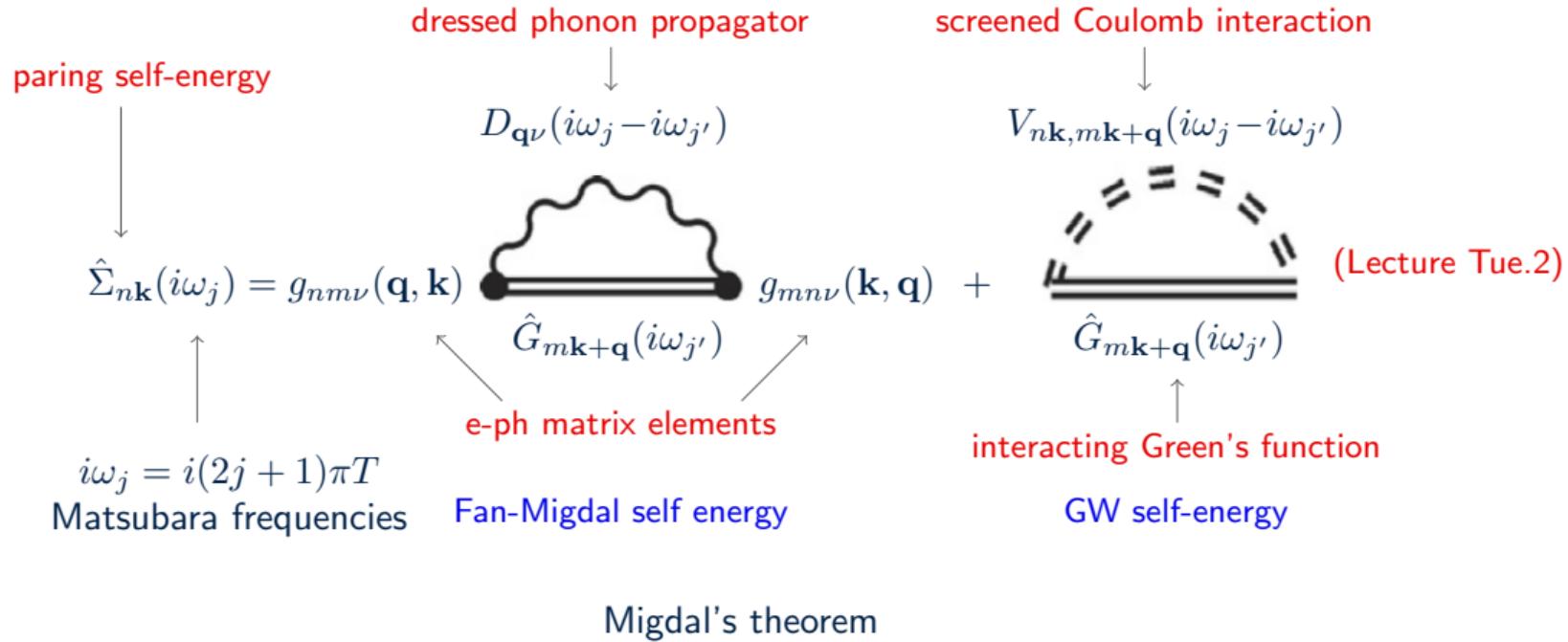
where  $i\omega_j = i(2j+1)\pi T$  ( $j$  integer) are Matsubara frequencies and  $T$  is the temperature.

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = \begin{bmatrix} G_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) & F_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \\ F_{n\mathbf{k}}^*(i\omega_j) & -G_{-n\mathbf{k}}(-i\omega_j) \end{bmatrix}$$

# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory



# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory



## Migdal's theorem

E-ph vertex corrections are neglected assuming that the neglected terms are of the order of  $(m_e/M)^{1/2} \propto \omega_D/\epsilon_F$ .

# Migdal-Eliashberg Approximation

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) &= -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \hat{\tau}_3 \hat{G}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_3 \\ &\times \left[ \sum_{\nu} |g_{mn\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 D_{\mathbf{q}\nu}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) + V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) \right]\end{aligned}$$

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bare phonon propagator

$$D_{0,\mathbf{q}\nu}(i\omega_j) = \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} d\omega \frac{2\omega}{(i\omega_j)^2 - \omega^2} \delta(\omega - \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu})}$$

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anisotropic e-ph coupling strength

$$\lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j) = N_F \sum_{\nu} \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \frac{2\omega}{\omega_j^2 + \omega^2} |g_{mn\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu})$$

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$$\hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \hat{\tau}_3 \hat{G}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_3 \times [\lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) + V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'})]$$

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# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory

$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$  obeys the **Dyson's equation** in Matsubara space:

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}^{-1}(i\omega_j) = \hat{G}_{0,n\mathbf{k}}^{-1}(i\omega_j) - \hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$$

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non-interacting  
Green's function  $\hat{G}_{0,n\mathbf{k}}^{-1}(i\omega_j) = i\omega_j \hat{\tau}_0 - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) \hat{\tau}_3$

Pauli  
matrices

$$\hat{\tau}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\tau}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\tau}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\hat{G}_{0,n\mathbf{k}}^{-1}(i\omega_j) = i\omega_j \hat{\tau}_0 - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) \hat{\tau}_3$$
$$\hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = i\omega_j [1 - Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)] \hat{\tau}_0 + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_1$$

mass renormalization function      energy shift      superconducting gap function

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$$\hat{\tau}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\tau}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\tau}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = \frac{-1}{\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)} \begin{bmatrix} i\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) + (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) & \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \\ \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) & i\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) - \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = [\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2$$

- Diagonal elements are the **normal state Green's functions**  $G_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$  and describe single-particle electronic excitations in the normal state.
- Off-diagonal elements are the **anomalous Green's functions**  $F_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$  and describe Cooper pairs amplitudes in the superconducting state.

# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -\frac{i\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\hat{\tau}_0 + [(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]\hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\hat{\tau}_1}{\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)}$$

$$\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = [\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2$$

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$$\rightarrow \hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \hat{\tau}_3 \hat{G}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_3 \times [\lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) + V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'})]$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) &= -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) - N_F V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \\ &\quad \times \{i\omega_{j'} Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_0 + [(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})] \hat{\tau}_3 - \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_1\} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -\frac{i\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\hat{\tau}_0 + [(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]\hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\hat{\tau}_1}{\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)}$$

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$$\rightarrow \hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \hat{\tau}_3 \hat{G}_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \hat{\tau}_3 \times [\lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) + V_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'})]$$

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$$\hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = i\omega_j [1 - Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)] \hat{\tau}_0 + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_1$$

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$$\Theta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = [\omega_j Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2 + [Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)]^2$$

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$$\hat{\Sigma}_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = i\omega_j [1 - Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)] \hat{\tau}_0 + \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \hat{\tau}_1$$

Equating the scalar coefficients of the Pauli matrices leads to the anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg equations.

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Imaginary Axis: FBW

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{T}{\omega_j} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'} Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$\chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F} - V_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) \right]$$

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Imaginary Axis: FBW

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{T}{\omega_j} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'} Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$\chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F} - V_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) \right]$$

$$n_e = 1 - 2T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}$$

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Imaginary Axis: FBW

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{T}{\omega_j} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'} Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$\chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = -T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F}$$

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{Z_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'}) \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F} - V_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) \right]$$

$$n_e = 1 - 2T \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) + \chi_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\Theta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}$$

- only the off-diagonal contributions of the Coulomb self-energy are retained in order to avoid double counting of Coulomb effects

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Imaginary Axis: FSR

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{\pi T}{\omega_j} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'}}{\sqrt{\omega_{j'}^2 + \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^2(i\omega_{j'})}} \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F} \delta(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) &= \frac{\pi T}{\omega_j} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\sqrt{\omega_{j'}^2 + \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^2(i\omega_{j'})}} \left[ \frac{\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'})}{N_F} - V_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'}) \right] \\ &\quad \times \delta(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F) \end{aligned}$$

- all quantities are evaluated around the Fermi surface  $\rightarrow \chi_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$  vanishes when integrated on the Fermi surface because it is an odd function of  $\omega_j$
- the electron density of states in the vicinity of the Fermi level is assumed to be constant
- the dynamically screened Coulomb interaction  $N_F V_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_j - i\omega_{j'})$  is embedded into the semiempirical pseudopotential  $\mu_c^*$

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Imaginary Axis: FSR

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{\pi T}{\omega_j N_F} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'}}{\sqrt{\omega_{j'}^2 + \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^2(i\omega_{j'})}} \lambda_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) \delta(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F)$$

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anisotropic e-ph  
coupling strength

$$\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j) = N_F \sum_{\nu} \int_0^{\infty} d\omega \frac{2\omega}{\omega_j^2 + \omega^2} |g_{mn\nu}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{q})|^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_{\mathbf{q}\nu})$$

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Poncé et al, Comput. Phys. Commun. 209, 116 (2016)



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Coulomb  
pseudopotential

$$\mu_c^* = \frac{\mu_c}{1 + \mu_c \log(\omega_{\text{el}}/\omega_{\text{ph}})}$$

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Schlipf et al, Comput. Phys. Commun. 247, 106856 (2020)

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- $Z_{n\mathbf{k}}$  and  $\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}$  are only meaningful for  $n\mathbf{k}$  at or near the Fermi surface

# Anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg Equations on Real Axis

- The Migdal-Eliashberg equations on the imaginary frequency axis are computationally efficient (sums over a finite number of Matsubara frequencies) and they are adequate for calculating the  $T_c$  and  $\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j)$ .

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- Solutions on the real energy axis can be obtained by analytic continuation of the solutions along the imaginary frequency axis using Padé approximants (very light computationally) or an iterative procedure (very heavy computationally).

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# Excitation Spectrum of a Superconductor

- The single-particle Green's function on real axis is given by:

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega) = \frac{\omega Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\hat{\tau}_0 + (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)\hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\hat{\tau}_1}{[\omega Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^2 - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 - [Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^2}$$

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$\text{Re}E_{n\mathbf{k}}$  quasiparticle energy renormalized by the superconducting pairing

$\text{Im}E_{n\mathbf{k}}$  quasiparticle inverse lifetime due to the superconducting pairing

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- The single-particle Green's function on real axis is given by:

$$\hat{G}_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega) = \frac{\omega Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\hat{\tau}_0 + (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)\hat{\tau}_3 + \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\hat{\tau}_1}{[\omega Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^2 - (\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 - [Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(\omega)]^2}$$

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- The pole positions are:

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$\text{Re}E_{n\mathbf{k}}$  quasiparticle energy renormalized by the superconducting pairing

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At Fermi level:  $E_{n\mathbf{k}} = \text{Re}\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(E_{n\mathbf{k}})$

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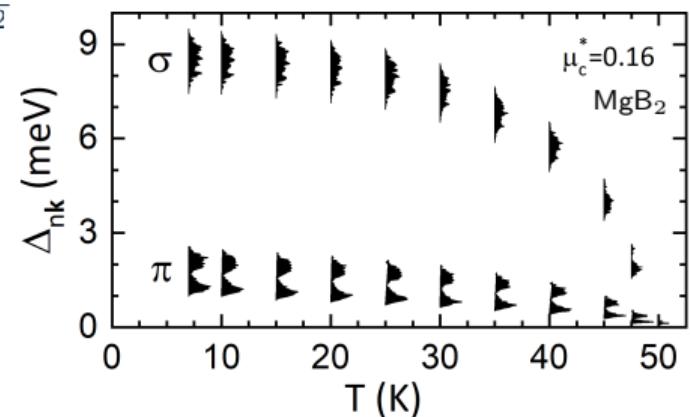
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Margine and Giustino, Phys. Rev. B 87, 024505 (2013)

# Superconducting Quasiparticle Density of States and Spectral Function

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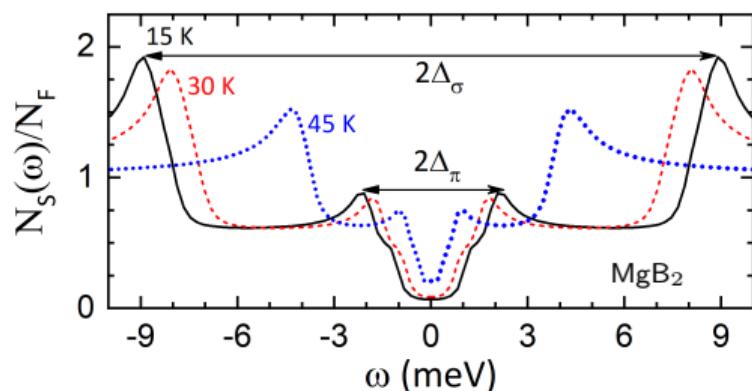
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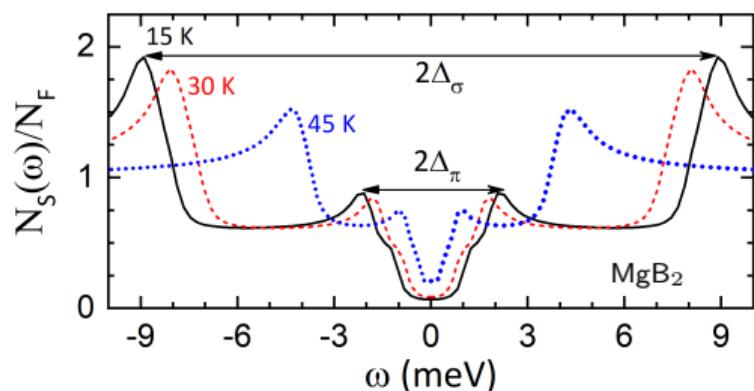
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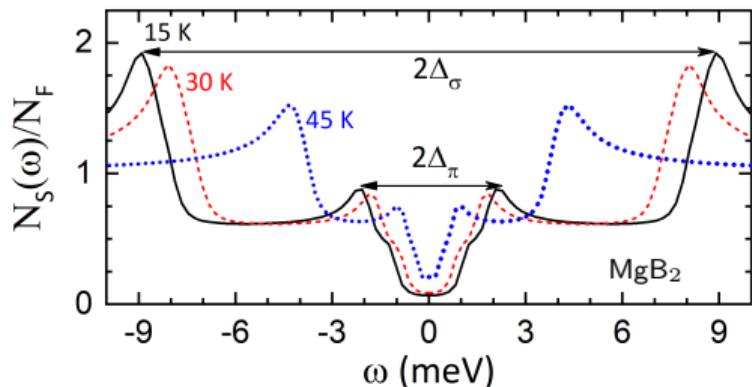
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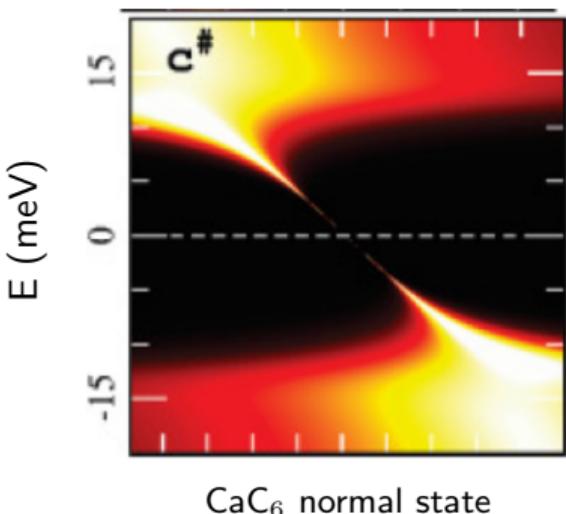
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Sanna et al, Phys. Rev. B 85, 184514 (2012)

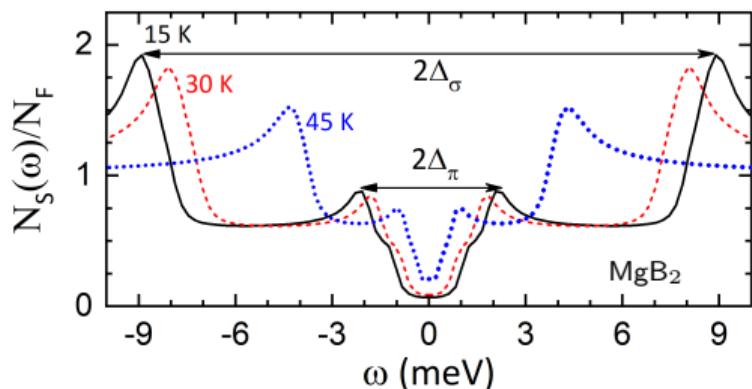
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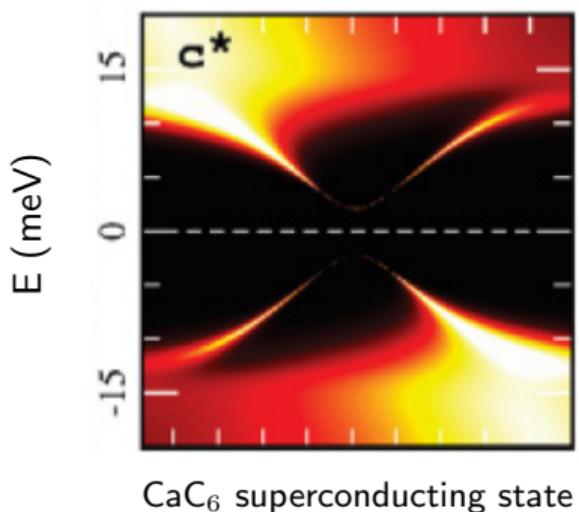
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CaC<sub>6</sub> superconducting state

Sanna et al, Phys. Rev. B 85, 184514 (2012)

# Migdal-Eliashberg Theory

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = 1 + \frac{\pi T}{\omega_j N_F} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\omega_{j'}}{\sqrt{\omega_{j'}^2 + \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^2(i\omega_{j'})}} \lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) \delta(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F)$$

$$Z_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}(i\omega_j) = \frac{\pi T}{N_F} \sum_{mj'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(i\omega_{j'})}{\sqrt{\omega_{j'}^2 + \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}^2(i\omega_{j'})}} [\lambda_{n\mathbf{k},m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}(\omega_j - \omega_{j'}) - \mu_c^*] \delta(\epsilon_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} - \epsilon_F)$$

- has predictive power, material-dependent
- accounts for the retardation of the e-ph interaction
- works for multiband and/or anisotropic superconductors
- generally approximates the Coulomb interaction through  $\mu_c^*$
- requires dense  $\mathbf{k}$ - and  $\mathbf{q}$ -meshes

# Density Functional Theory for Superconductors (SCDFT)

$\mathcal{Z}$  accounts for  
e-ph interactions      kernel  $\mathcal{K}$  accounts for  
e-ph and e-e interactions

↓                          ↓

superconducting gap function  $\rightarrow \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}} = -\mathcal{Z}_{n\mathbf{k}}\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}} - \sum_m \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\mathcal{K}_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}} \tanh\left(\frac{E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2k_{\text{B}}T}\right)$

quasiparticle excitation energy  $\rightarrow E_{n\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 + |\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}|^2}$

Lüders et al, Phys. Rev. B 72, 024545 (2005); Marques et al, Phys. Rev. B 72, 024546 (2005);  
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$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{Z} \text{ accounts for} & & \text{kernel } \mathcal{K} \text{ accounts for} \\ \text{e-ph interactions} & & \text{e-ph and e-e interactions} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{superconducting} & \rightarrow \Delta_{n\mathbf{k}} = -\mathcal{Z}_{n\mathbf{k}}\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}} - \sum_m \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \frac{\mathcal{K}_{n\mathbf{k}, m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}} \Delta_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}} \tanh\left(\frac{E_{m\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{q}}}{2k_B T}\right) \\ \text{gap function} & & \\ \text{quasiparticle} & \rightarrow E_{n\mathbf{k}} = \sqrt{(\epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - \epsilon_F)^2 + |\Delta_{n\mathbf{k}}|^2} \\ \text{excitation energy} & & \end{array}$$

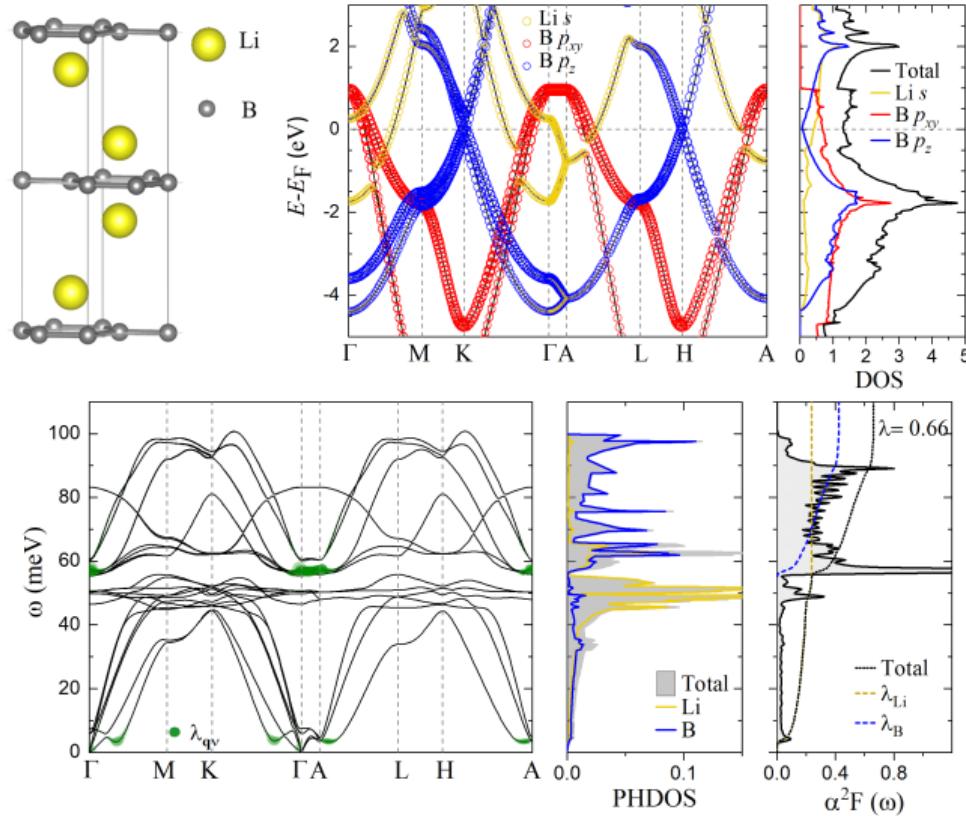
- has predictive power, material-dependent
- accounts for retardation effects through the XC functionals
- works for multiband and/or anisotropic superconductors
- treats e-ph and e-e interactions on equal footing
- requires development of new functionals for e-ph interactions
- requires dense  $\mathbf{k}$ - and  $\mathbf{q}$ -meshes

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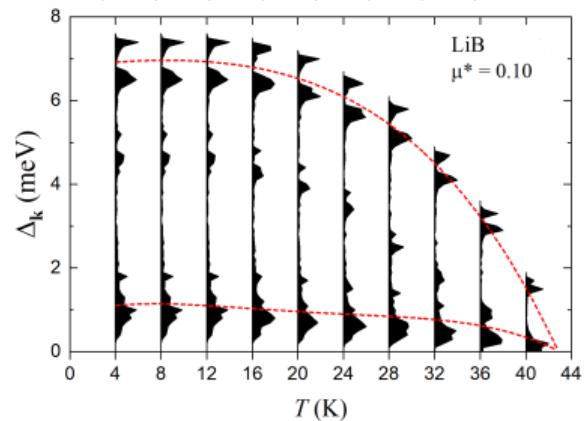
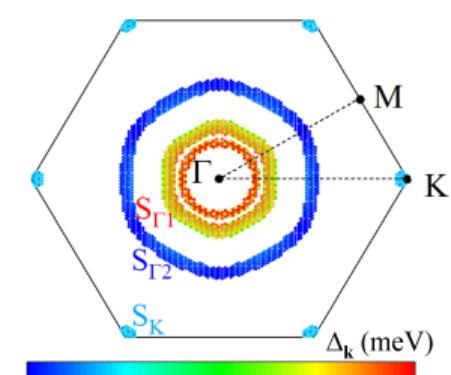
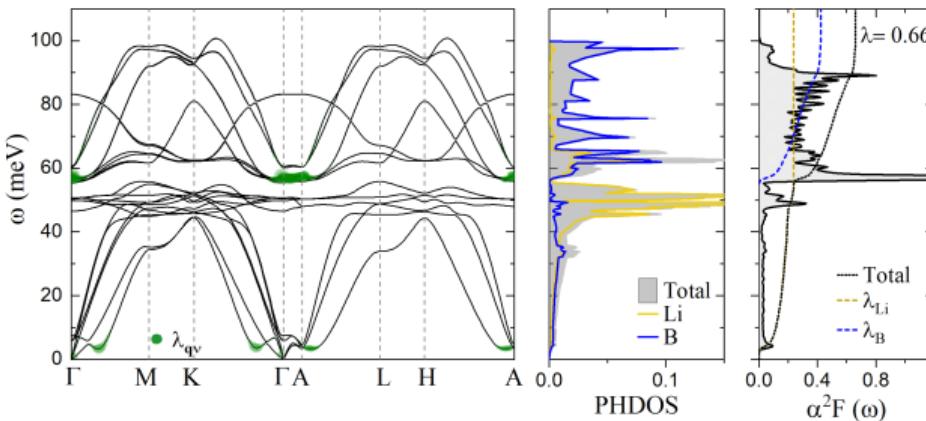
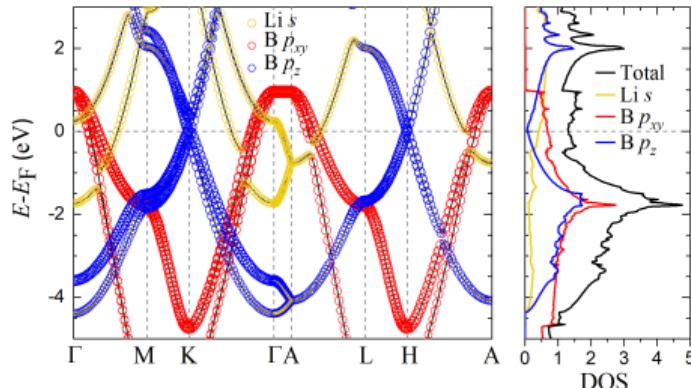
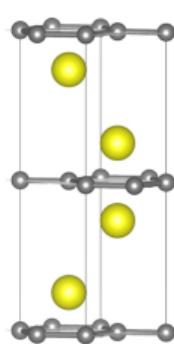
Examples from calculations

# Superconductivity in LiB: FSR



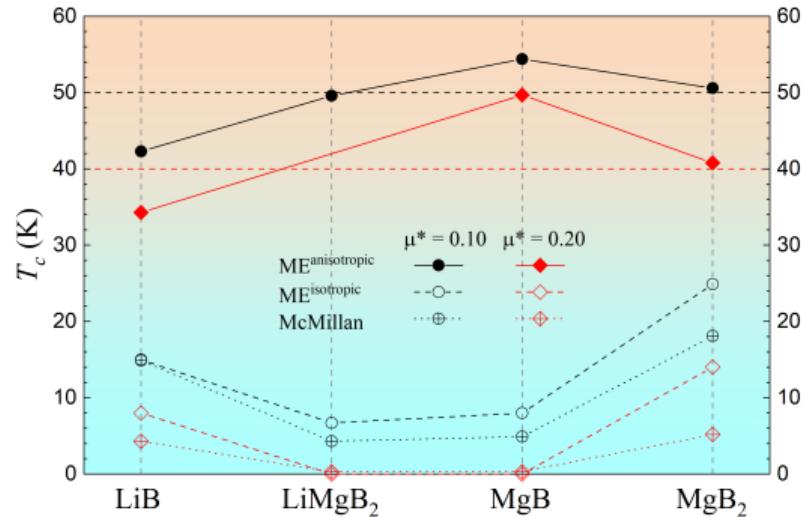
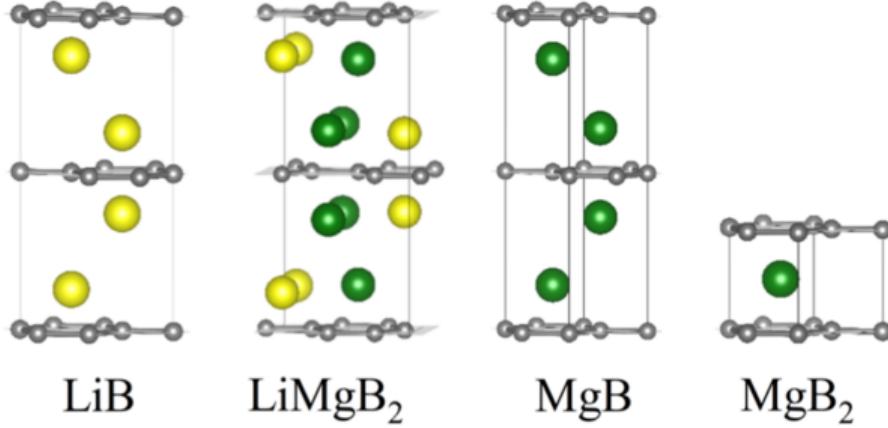
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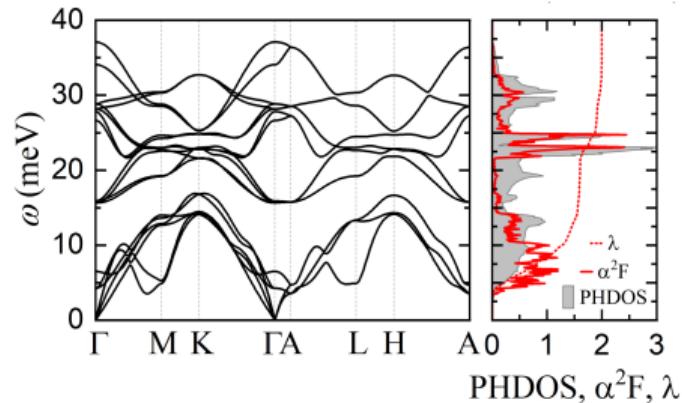
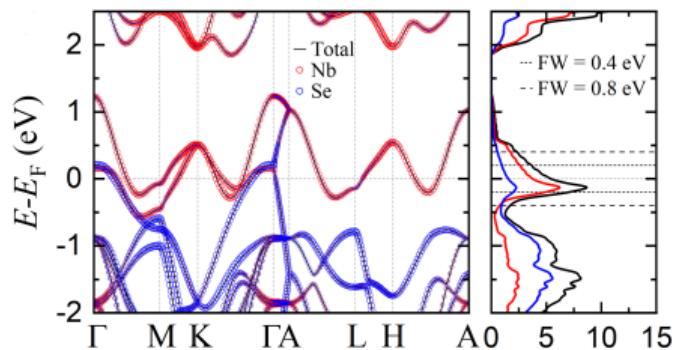
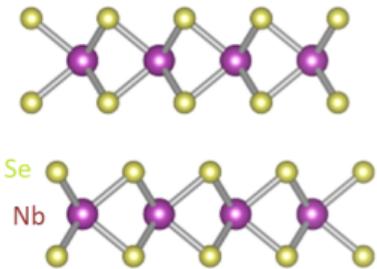
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# Superconductivity in Li-Mg-B phases

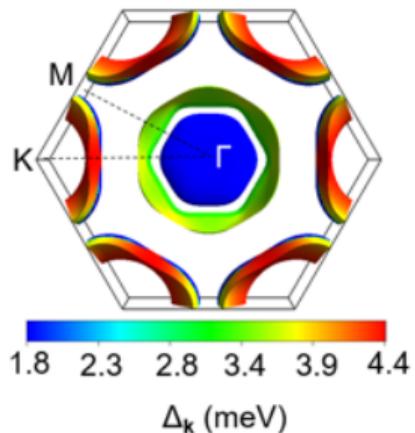
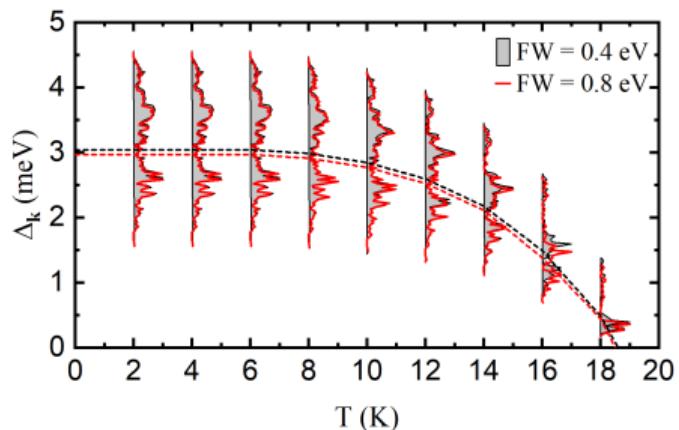
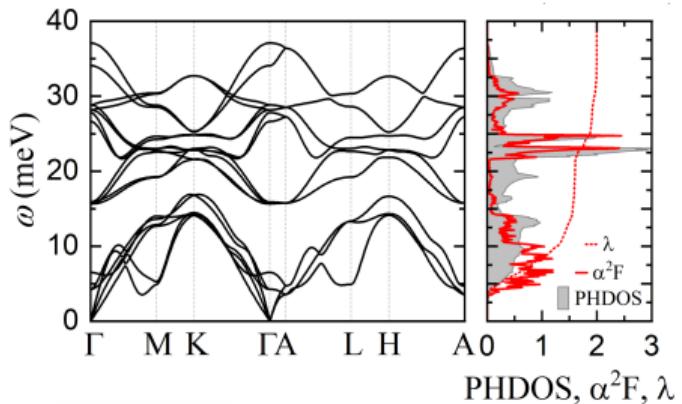
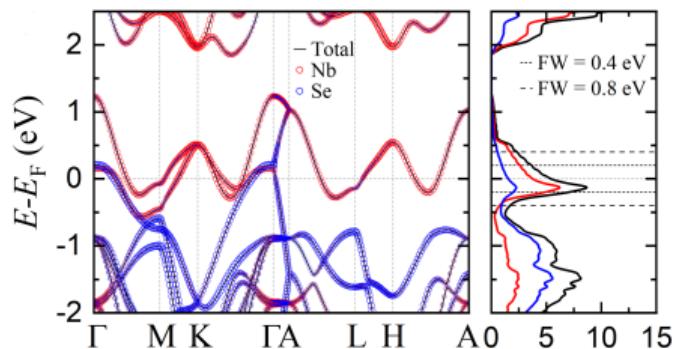
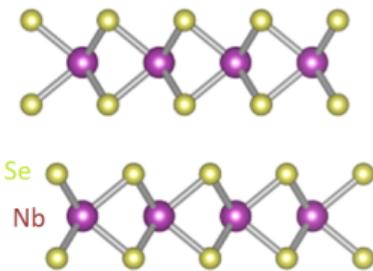


Kafle, Tomassetti, Mazin, Kolmogorov and Margine, Phys. Rev. Materials (under review).

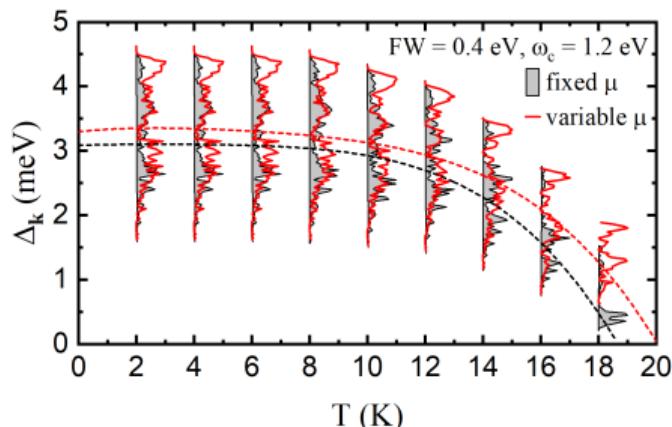
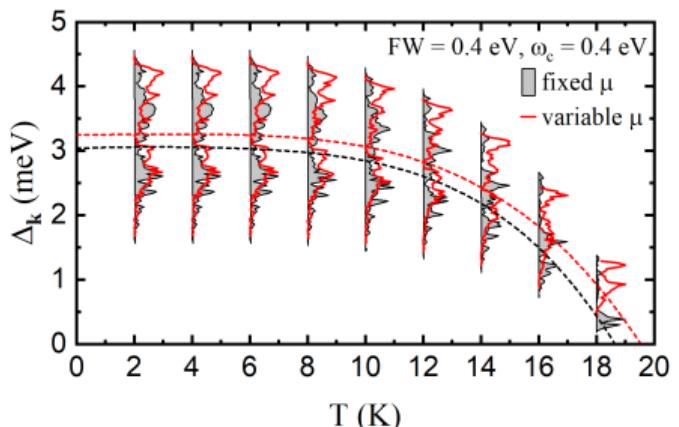
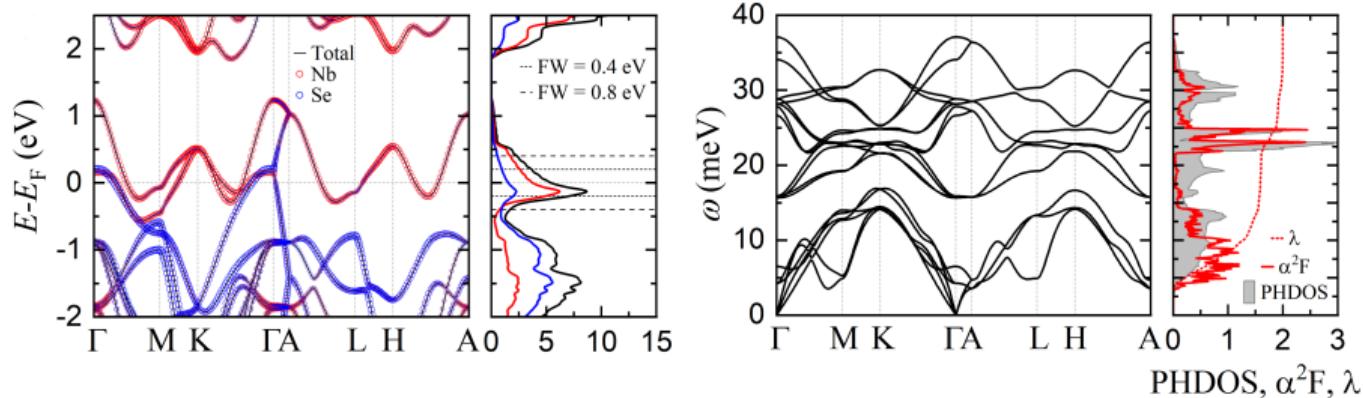
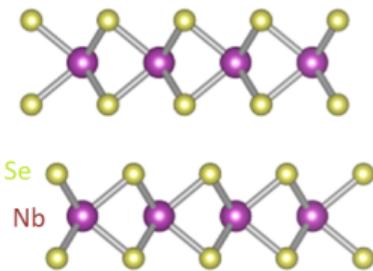
# Superconductivity in 2H-NbSe<sub>2</sub>: FBW



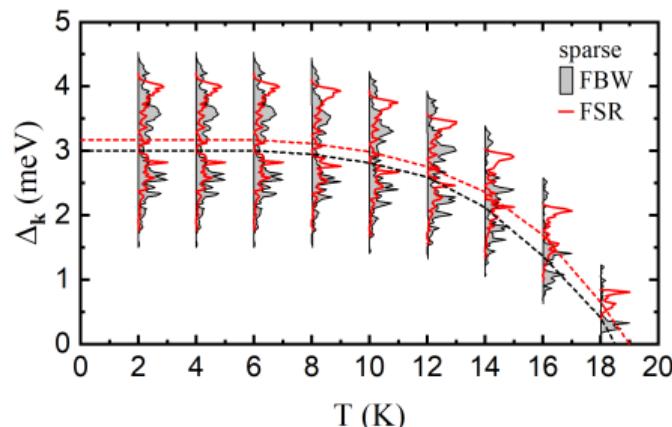
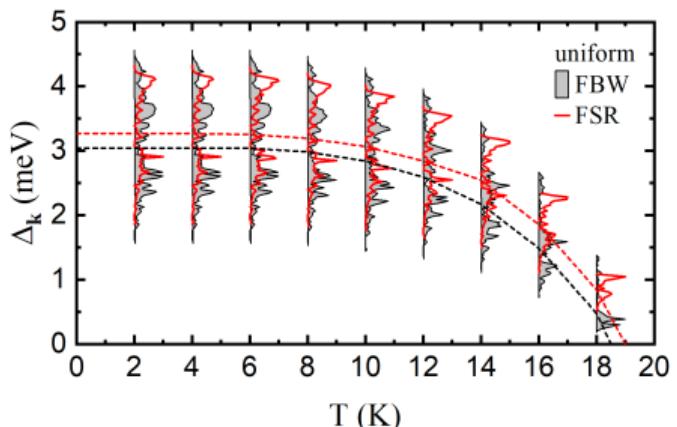
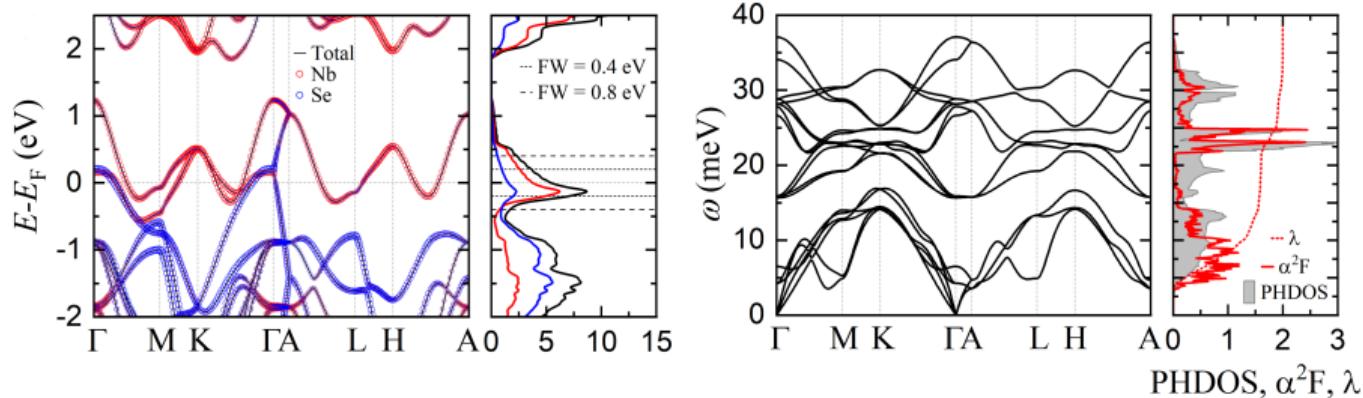
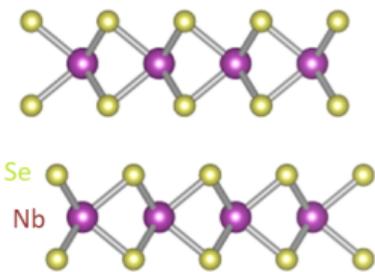
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# Superconductivity in 2H-NbSe<sub>2</sub>: FBW vs. FSR



## Take-home Messages

- We can obtain measurable superconducting properties with anisotropic resolution using the Migdal-Eliashberg theory
- The solutions of the anisotropic Migdal-Eliashberg equations invariably require a fine sampling of the electron-phonon matrix elements across the Brillouin zone

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