

4. London Equations:

- superconductor: ideal conductor + ideal diamagnet (Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect (1933))
- London theory (1935) = Maxwell theory + matter equations for superconductors

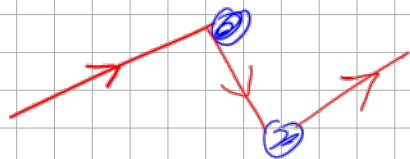
4.1 London Equations:

London two fluid model: $\vec{j} = \vec{j}_n + \vec{j}_s$

electrons = "n" (normal conducting) + "s" (superconducting)

4.1.1 Normal conducting electrons:

- metal: electrons scatter at atomic cores



permanent changes of velocity
→ resistivity

- motion is affected in two ways: drift and diffusion

> diffusion

thermal average: $\vec{s} = \vec{0}$, $\vec{v} = \vec{0}$, $\vec{a} = \vec{0}$

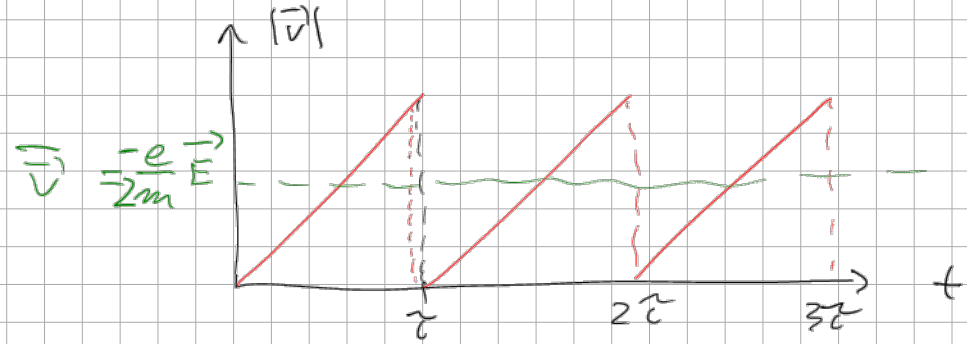
> drift: due to presence of electric field → Drude model

$$m \vec{a} = -e \vec{E}, \quad \vec{a} = - \frac{e}{m} \vec{E} \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{constant}} \Rightarrow \vec{v} = - \frac{e}{m} \vec{E} \underbrace{\tau}_{\text{mean free time}} \\ (10 - 100 \text{ fs})$$

$$\vec{j}_n = -e n_n \vec{v} = \underbrace{\frac{e^2 n_n \hbar}{2m}}_{\text{Ohm law}} \vec{E}$$

electric conductivity = σ_n

$$e = e_n, m = m_n$$



4.1.2 Superconducting Electrons:

- no scatterings, no electric resistivity
- Cooper pairs: $e_s = 2e, m_s = 2m$
- Electric field: Newton law:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} m_s \frac{d}{dt} \vec{v}_s &= -e_s \vec{E} \\ \dot{j}_s &= -e_s n_s \vec{v}_s \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{m_s}{e_s^2 n_s} \vec{j}_s \right) &= \vec{E} \\ \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\vec{j}_s \cdot \nabla}{e_s n_s} \right) \left(\frac{m_s}{e_s^2 n_s} \vec{j}_s \right) &= \vec{E} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$\underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial t}}_{\text{explicit time derivative}} + \underbrace{\vec{v}_s \cdot \nabla}_{\text{transport derivative}}$

nonlinearity

neglect

First London equation: $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_s \vec{j}_s) = \vec{E}, \Lambda_s = \frac{m_s}{e_s^2 n_s}$

4.1.3 Remarks:

normal conducting e^-

$$\vec{j}_n = \sigma_n \vec{E} \quad (\text{Ohm law})$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{j}_n = \vec{0}$$

superconducting e^-

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_s \vec{j}_s) = \vec{E} \quad \text{1st London equation}$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{j}_s = \text{const. (can be non-zero) in time}$$

4.1.4 Induction Law:

$$\text{rot } \vec{E} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}}_{\text{Lenz rule}} \quad (\text{local formulation})$$

conversion to global formulation

$$\int_F \text{rot } \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{F} \stackrel{\text{Stokes}}{=} \underbrace{\oint_{\partial F} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}}_{U_{\text{ind}}} = - \int_F \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \cdot d\vec{F} \stackrel{\text{"} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} F \text{"}}{=} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underbrace{\int_F \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{F}}_{\text{magnetic flux } = \Phi}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_{\text{ind}} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Phi \quad (\text{global formulation})$$

\Rightarrow useful later for flux quantization.

4.1.5 Second London equation;

induction law

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) = \vec{E} \quad | \quad \text{rot} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \text{rot} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) = \text{rot } \vec{E} \stackrel{\text{induction law}}{=} - \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left\{ \text{rot} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) + \vec{B} \right\} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \left\{ \text{rot} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) + \vec{B} \right\} = \text{const.} = ?$$

volume of superconductor:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \bullet \Lambda_S &= \frac{m_S}{e_S^2 n_S} \quad n_S = \text{const in London theory} \Rightarrow \Lambda_S = \text{const.} \\ \bullet \vec{E} &= \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{j}_S = \text{const.} \Rightarrow \text{rot} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) = \vec{0} \end{aligned} \right\} \downarrow ? = 0$$

Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect: $\vec{B} = \vec{0}$

$$\Rightarrow \text{rot} (\Lambda_S \vec{j}_S) + \vec{B} = \vec{0} \quad \text{2nd London equation}$$

4.1.6 Conclusions:

$\text{div } \vec{B} = 0$ (Maxwell eq.) + Helmholtz theorem: $\vec{B} = \text{rot } \vec{A}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{2nd} \\ \text{Land. eq.} \end{array} \right\} \text{rot} (\underbrace{\mu_0 \vec{j}_s}_{\text{gauge freedom: add. grad. field}} + \vec{A}) = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \vec{A} = -\mu_0 \vec{j}_s \Rightarrow \vec{v}_s = -\frac{e_s^2 n_s}{m_s} \cdot \vec{A} = -e_s n_s \vec{v}_s$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v}_s = \underbrace{\frac{e_s}{m_s}}_{\text{specific charge}} \vec{A}$$

4.2 Field Equations for a Superconductor:

$$\vec{E}, \vec{B} + \rho, \vec{j}$$

4.2.1 System of Equations:

$$\text{div } \vec{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad (M1)$$

$$\text{rot } \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}}_{\text{Maxwell displacement current}} \quad (M2)$$

$$\text{rot } \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \quad (M3)$$

$$\text{div } \vec{B} = 0 \quad (M4)$$

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}} \quad (M5), \quad \text{superconductor: } \epsilon_r \approx 1, \mu_r \approx 1$$

$$\vec{j} = \vec{j}_n + \vec{j}_s \quad (L3)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\mu_0 \vec{j}_s) = \vec{E} \quad (L1)$$

$$\vec{j}_n = \sigma_n \vec{E} \quad (L4)$$

$$\text{rot} (\mu_0 \vec{j}_s) = -\vec{B} \quad (L2)$$

4.2.2 Consistency Relations:

$$1) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho \stackrel{(M1)}{=} \epsilon_0 \operatorname{div} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \stackrel{(M2)}{=} -\epsilon_0 \mu_0 c^2 \operatorname{div} \vec{j} \stackrel{(M5)}{=} -\operatorname{div} \vec{j} \quad (M6)$$

$$2) \operatorname{rot} \vec{E} \stackrel{(L1)}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \operatorname{rot} (\Lambda_s \vec{j}_s) \stackrel{(L2)}{=} -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \stackrel{(M3)}{=}$$

$$3) \operatorname{div} \vec{B} \stackrel{(L2)}{=} 0 \stackrel{(M4)}{=}$$

London equation (L1), (L2) substitute homogeneous Maxwell equations (M3), (M4) for a superconductor.

4.2.3 Elimination of charge and current densities:

Determine one equation for \vec{E} and \vec{B} , respectively

- (L3), (L4): eliminate $\vec{j}_n \rightarrow \vec{j}_s = \vec{j} - \epsilon_m \vec{E} \quad (*)$

- eliminate \vec{j}_s :

$$(L1) \text{ and } (*): \vec{E} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_s \epsilon_m \vec{E}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_s \vec{j}) \quad (L1)'$$

$$(L2) \text{ and } (*) \text{ and } (M3): \vec{B} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\Lambda_s \epsilon_m \vec{B}) = -\operatorname{rot} (\Lambda_s \vec{j}) \quad (L2)'$$

Equation for \vec{B} :

$$\operatorname{rot} \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \quad (M2) \quad \left| \operatorname{rot} \right.$$

$$\underbrace{\operatorname{rot} \operatorname{rot} \vec{B}}_{(M4)} = \mu_0 \underbrace{\operatorname{rot} \vec{j}}_{(M3)} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \underbrace{\operatorname{rot} \vec{E}}_{= -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \vec{B}}$$

$= \operatorname{grad} \operatorname{div} - \Delta$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{B}}{\partial t^2} - \Delta \vec{B}}_{\text{"wave equation"}} + \underbrace{\mu_0 \epsilon_n \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}}_{\text{normal cond. e}} + \underbrace{\frac{\mu_0}{\Lambda_S} \vec{B}}_{\text{supercond. e}} = \vec{0}$$

homogeneous extension of telegraph equation

telegraph equation

↑
"length"^{1/2}

skin effect

magnetic field decreases along
 $d(z) = \sqrt{\frac{z}{\mu_0 \epsilon_n \omega}}$ penetration length

London length =

$$\lambda_L = \sqrt{\frac{\Lambda_S}{\mu_0}} = \sqrt{\frac{ms}{e_s^2 n_s \mu_0}}$$

Equation for electric fields

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} - \Delta \vec{E} + \mu_0 \epsilon_n \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \frac{\mu_0}{\Lambda_S} \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \text{grad } S$$

inhomogeneous extension of telegraph equation