



Contact during the exam:  
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### Exam in SIF4052 SOLID STATE PHYSICS 1

Saturday, December 16, 2000

09:00–14:00

Allowed help: Alternativ B

Godkjent lommekalkulator.

K. Rottman: *Matematisk formelsamling* (alle språkutgaver).

O.H. Jahren og K.J. Knudsen: *Formelsamling i matematikk*.

This problem set consists of 2 pages.

#### Problem 1

For long wave lengths, the equation of motion for longitudinal waves along the [100] direction of a simple cubic crystal is

$$\frac{d^2u}{dt^2} = \left(\frac{c}{\rho}\right) \frac{d^2u}{dx^2}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $c$  is the elastic modulus and  $\rho$  is the volume mass density of the crystal. In the same direction, the LA dispersion relation is

$$\omega^2 = \left(\frac{4K}{M}\right) \sin^2\left(\frac{ka}{2}\right), \quad (1.2)$$

where  $a$  is the cubic lattice constant,  $K$  is the harmonic force constant between atoms and  $M$  is the mass of each atom.

a) Express  $c$  in terms of  $a$  and  $K$ .

#### Problem 2

Consider vibrations of a planar square lattice of rows and columns of  $N$  identical atoms, mass  $M$  spaced a distance  $a$  apart and constrained to only move in the 2D plane.  $N \gg 1$ .

- Using periodic boundary conditions, show that the number of allowed values of  $\vec{k}$  per unit area in  $\vec{k}$  space is  $(Na^2)/(2\pi)^2$ .
- What is the radius  $k_D$  of the circle in  $\vec{k}$ -space containing  $N$  allowed  $\vec{k}$  values?
- Assume that all waves in the plane have the same velocity  $v$ . The density of states is  $g(\omega)$ . Show that  $g(\omega) = B\omega$  and express the constant  $B$  in terms of the given information.

- d) Using the Debye model, prove that for  $T \ll \Theta_D$  (where  $\Theta_D$  is the Debye temperature), the heat capacity of this lattice is proportional to  $T^2$ . Express  $\Theta_D$  in terms of the given information.

### Problem 3

A linear monoatomic lattice has lattice constant  $a$ , and a basis of two identical atoms with mass  $m$  at 0 and  $a/4$ . The potential energy of an electron can be expressed as

$$V(x) = \sum_{j=-\infty}^{+\infty} V_0(x - x_j) , \quad (4.1)$$

where  $x_j$  is the  $x$  coordinate of the  $j$ th atom.

- a) Assuming the potential is strong, sketch the electron wave function in light of the Bloch theorem.
- b) Show that the Fourier coefficient of the potential energy function  $\tilde{V}_G = 0$ , where  $G = l(2\pi/a)$ , for  $l = 2$ . We define

$$\tilde{V}_G = \frac{2\pi}{a} \int_{-a/2}^{+a/2} V(x) e^{iGx} dx . \quad (4.2)$$

- c) Assume that the potential is not strong enough to bind the electrons. Let the first and the third Fourier coefficients be given as  $\tilde{V}_1$  and  $\tilde{V}_3$  such that  $\tilde{V}_1/\tilde{V}_3 = 3/2$ . Make a good sketch of  $E(k)$  for the extended zone scheme for  $-(3.5\pi)/a < k < +(3.5\pi)/a$ . Repeat showing the same bands in the reduced zone scheme on the same  $E(k)$  graph.

### Problem 4

The figure shows the  $(k_x, k_y)$  plane for a two-dimensional metal having a hexagonal lattice. Reciprocal lattice points are shown as solid dots. Consider the second Brillouin zone (2BZ). One segment of it is marked “2” in the figure.

- a) We assume that the Fermi-surface lies very close to the incircled circle. Sketch it directly on the figure or on a redrawing of it in the NFL (“Near Free Lattice”) approximation.
- b) What is the direction of the group velocity  $\vec{v}_g$  for electrons with  $\vec{k}$  vectors in the vicinity of point  $P$  just inside 2BZ.
- c) Draw in all of the  $E_F$  contour lines of 2BZ in the reduced zone scheme showing how you determined where one of the elements went. Show point  $P$  in the reduced zone scheme.
- d) Draw in the segments of the Fermi surface of the third Brillouin zone (3BZ) in the periodic zone scheme.

