

# Unkonventionelle Supraleitung

## Serie 2

Verteilung: 8.November

Abgabe: 15.November

**2.1** Assuming that liquid  $^3\text{He}$  may be described as a Fermi *gas* (FG), with a molar volume of  $37 \text{ cm}^3$ , estimate the following:

i) The Fermi temperature  $T_F$ , the magnetic susceptibility  $\chi_{\text{FG}}$ , the specific heat  $C_{\text{FG}}$ , and the sound velocity  $S_{\text{FG}}$ .

Then, to appreciate the deviations of the actual properties of  $^3\text{He}$  (Fermi *liquid*) from the expectations for a Fermi *gas*, compare your estimates with the experimental low-temperature (between 2 and 100 mK) values, given in the following table:

*Low-Temperature Properties of  $^3\text{He}$  at Atmospheric Pressure*

$C/RT$ ( $\text{K}^{-1}$ )	$S$ ( $\text{ms}^{-1}$ )	$\chi$ (cgs)	$KT$ ( $\text{K}\cdot\mu\text{W}/\text{m}$ )	$\eta T^2$ (poise $\text{K}^2$ )
2.78	183	$3.3 \times 10^{38} \beta^2$	500	$2.5 \times 10^{-6}$

Here  $K$  is the thermal conductivity,  $\eta$  is the viscosity,  $\beta$  is the magnetic moment of the  $^3\text{He}$  nucleus in cgs units, and  $R = N_A k_B$  is the gas constant (with  $N_A$  the Avogadro number:  $N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23}$ , and  $k_B$  the Boltzmann constant:  $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-16} \text{ erg}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ ).

Hints: Recall the following (refer to the lecture notes of Solid State I, or see standard textbooks on the solid state physics, such as, “*Introduction to Solid State Physics*” by C. Kittel )

- The density of  $^3\text{He}$  is  $\rho = N/V = N_A/37\text{cm}^3$  and the bare mass of  $^3\text{He}$  nucleus is  $m_3 = 0.5008 \times 10^{-23} \text{ g}$ .
- The Fermi wave number is  $k_F = (3\pi^2\rho)^{1/3}$ . The Fermi energy is  $E_F = \hbar^2 k_F^2 / 2m_3$ .  $T_F = E_F/k_B$ . The density of states is  $N(E_F) = 2D(E_F) = 3\rho/2E_F$  [ $D(E_F)$  is the density of states *per spin*].  $\hbar = 1.055 \times 10^{-27} \text{ erg s}$ .
- $\chi_{\text{FG}}$  and  $C_{\text{FG}}$  for a Fermi gas, may also be obtained from Eqs. II.3, II.4, II.5, and II.13 of the experiment lecture notes, setting the Fermi-liquid parameters  $F_l$  and  $Z_l$  to zero and replacing the magnetic moment  $\mu_B$  of a free electron by the  $^3\text{He}$  nuclear magnetic moment  $\beta$ , and  $m^* \rightarrow m_3$ .
- When calculating  $C_{\text{FG}}/RT$ , use  $N(E_F)$  *per mol* defined as  $N(E_F) = 3N_A/2E_F$ .
- $S_{\text{FG}}^2 = 1/(\kappa m_3 \rho)$ , where  $\kappa$  is the compressibility [Use the expression for  $\kappa^{-1}$  shown in the problem 1.1 or Eq. II.8 in the experiment lecture notes, and note the chemical potential  $\mu \approx E_F$  at sufficiently low temperatures].

ii) How well localized in real space are the  $^3\text{He}$  atoms? (Provide a rough estimate of the uncertainty in the position of the  $^3\text{He}$  atoms in any direction, in units of  $\text{\AA}$ .)

Hint: Consider the Heisenberg’s uncertainty relation  $\Delta x \Delta p \sim \hbar$ , ( $p = \hbar k$ ), or consider the wavelength of the de Broglie wave for a  $^3\text{He}$  atom with momentum  $p = (2m_3 k_B T_F)^{1/2}$ .

**2.2** Considering liquid  ${}^3\text{He}$  to be a Fermi *liquid* (FL).

- i) What is the value of the effective mass ( $m_3^*/m_3$ ) of the  ${}^3\text{He}$  atoms?
- ii) Estimate the Fermi-liquid parameters  $Z_0$  and  $F_1$  for  ${}^3\text{He}$ .
- iii) Compare the observed values of  $K$  and  $\eta$ , at 2 mK and atmospheric pressure (see the above table in **2.1**), with those of other familiar liquids such as oil and water at 300 K,  $\text{N}_2$  at 77 K, and  ${}^4\text{He}$  at 4.2 K.<sup>‡</sup>

Hints: For the comparison of the Fermi liquid (FL) and Fermi gas (FG) properties recall that

- The specific heat  $C$ :  $C \propto N(E_F)$  and  $N(E_F) \propto 1/E_F \propto m$ . Then, consider the ratio  $C_{\text{exp}}/C_{\text{FG}}$ . ( $C_{\text{exp}}$  is the experimental value given in the table of Probl. **2.1**.)
- Refer to Eq. II.5 in the experiment lecture notes, for the effective mass  $m_{FL} = m_3^*$  as a function of the bare mass,  $m_{FG} = m_3$ , and the Fermi-liquid parameter  $F_1$ . Also, refer to Eq. II.13 for the magnetic susceptibility  $\chi_{FL}$ , in which  $Z_0$  appears. Note  $\chi \propto N(E_F) \propto m$ . And  $k_F = (3\pi^2\rho)^{1/3}$  is a function of only the density  $\rho$  and therefore  $k_F$  is the same for both the FG and the FL.
- From the table of **2.1**, at  $T = 2$  mK, the thermal conductivity  $K = 500/(2 \times 10^{-3})$  [ $\mu\text{W}/\text{m}$ ] and the viscosity  $\eta = 2.5 \times 10^{-6}/(2 \times 10^{-3})^2$  [poise].

<sup>‡</sup> Sources: For the properties of common liquids see: “Properties of Materials at low temperatures, a compendium”, V.J. Johnson (Ed) NBS/USA 1961. For the properties of normal liquid  ${}^3\text{He}$  see: “The theory of Quantum Liquids” Vol. I, Chap. I, by D. Pines and P. Nozières, Addison-Wesley, 1966 (see references therein).