

Contents

1	The Quantum Mechanics of Solids	1
1.1	General Hamiltonian for a Solid	3
1.1.1	The Need for Approximations	4
1.1.2	Wave Functions and Pauli Exclusion Principle	7
1.2	Energy Bands	8
1.2.1	Tight-Binding Approximation	8
1.2.2	Linear Atomic Chain	11
1.2.3	Energy Bands Associated with Tightly Bound Atomic Levels	20
1.3	Summary	21
2	Crystalline Solids: Diffraction	23
2.1	Crystal Structures	25
2.1.1	Crystal Lattice	25
2.1.2	Two-Dimensional Crystals	27
2.1.3	Three-Dimensional Crystals	29
2.1.4	Beyond the Perfect Crystal	33
2.2	Diffraction	35
2.2.1	General Principles	35
2.2.2	Reciprocal Lattice	38
2.3	Determination of Crystal Structures	39
2.3.1	On the Bragg Diffraction Condition	39
2.3.2	Diffraction Intensity and Basis of the Primitive Cell	41
2.3.3	X-Ray Diffraction	42
2.4	Summary	44
2.5	Answers to Questions	45
3	Electronic Structure of Solids: Metals and Insulators	51
3.1	Electrons in a Periodic Potential	53
3.1.1	Bloch's Theorem in Three Dimensions	53
3.1.2	General Properties of Bloch States	55

3.1.3	Electrons in a Weak Periodic Potential	56
3.1.4	First Brillouin Zone	59
3.2	Band Structure of Solids	60
3.2.1	Linear Chain	60
3.2.2	Band Structure of Two-Dimensional Solids	64
3.2.3	Three-Dimensional Band Structures	68
3.3	Metals, Insulators, and Semiconductors	72
3.3.1	Statistical Physics of Fermions	72
3.3.2	Real Solids: Conductor or Insulator?	74
3.3.3	Introduction to the Semiconductor Case	77
3.3.4	The Special Case of Graphene	78
3.3.5	Thermodynamic Properties of Metals	80
3.4	Experimental Determination of Band Structures	84
3.4.1	Optical Absorption in Insulators	84
3.4.2	Tunneling Effect and Scanning Tunneling Microscopy	85
3.4.3	Angle-Resolved Photoemission Spectroscopy	88
3.5	Summary	90
3.6	Answers to Questions	92
4	Electron Transport in Solids	99
4.1	Drude Model for Transport in an Electron Gas: Relaxation Time and Collisions	101
4.1.1	Electrical Conductivity	102
4.1.2	Thermal Conductivity and the Wiedemann–Franz Law	105
4.2	Electron Transport in a Fermion Gas	107
4.2.1	Electrical Conductivity	108
4.2.2	Thermal Conductivity and the Wiedemann–Franz Law	110
4.3	Electrons in a Lattice: Dynamics of Bloch Electrons	111
4.3.1	Group Velocity	111
4.3.2	Acceleration in Reciprocal Space and Real Space	113
4.3.3	Electronic Conductivity in a Crystal	115
4.4	Origin of Collisions	116
4.4.1	Experimental Observation	116
4.4.2	Scattering by Lattice Vibrations	118
4.4.3	Collisions with Impurities and Defects	119
4.5	Electrons, Holes, and Dopants in Semiconductors	121
4.6	Electrons, Holes, and Transport in Graphene	126
4.7	Summary	132
4.8	Answers to Questions	133
5	Introduction to Superconductivity	145
5.1	Conditions for Superconductivity	147
5.1.1	Persistent Currents	147
5.1.2	Critical Field and Critical Current	150

5.2	Difference Between a Perfect Conductor and a Superconductor: The Meissner Effect	152
5.2.1	Effect of a Magnetic Field on a Perfect Conductor	152
5.2.2	Meissner Effect: Exclusion of the Magnetic Field	154
5.2.3	London Equations and Penetration Depth	155
5.3	A Macroscopic Quantum Effect	158
5.3.1	Macroscopic Wave Function and Current	158
5.3.2	Quantisation of Magnetic Flux	159
5.3.3	Measuring the Flux Quantum	160
5.3.4	Josephson Effect	162
5.3.5	SQUID	165
5.4	Summary	167
5.5	Answers to Questions	168
6	Thermodynamics of Superconductors	175
6.1	Thermodynamics of Bulk Superconductors	177
6.1.1	Free Energy of the Superconducting State	178
6.1.2	Entropy and Specific Heat	179
6.2	Thin Films and Coherence Length	181
6.2.1	Thermodynamics of Thin Films	181
6.2.2	Coherence Length ξ	184
6.2.3	Mixed State: A Simple Model	185
6.3	Two Types of Superconductivity	188
6.3.1	Type I Superconductors	189
6.3.2	Simple London Model for a Vortex	189
6.3.3	Type II Superconductivity	191
6.3.4	Applications of Type II Superconductors	194
6.4	Summary	195
6.5	Answers to Questions	196
7	Microscopic Origins of Superconductivity	201
7.1	Conventional Metal Superconductors	203
7.1.1	Superconducting Metals and Alloys	203
7.1.2	Attractive Interaction Due to Phonons	205
7.1.3	The Band Gap in the Superconducting State	208
7.2	Cooper Instability	210
7.2.1	Electrons in the Conduction Band of a Semiconductor	212
7.2.2	Extra Electrons in a Metal	213
7.3	BCS Theory: Experimental Evidence	214
7.3.1	Ground State and Band Gap	215
7.3.2	Excited States in the BCS Theory	216
7.3.3	Electron Tunneling Determination of the Gap	217
7.3.4	Critical Temperature and BCS Theory	220
7.3.5	Coherence Length	221

7.4	High- T_c Superconductors	223
7.4.1	Cuprates	223
7.4.2	Other Families of Superconductors	225
7.5	Summary	226
7.6	Answers to Questions	227
8	Magnetism of Insulators	231
8.1	Magnetic Behaviour of Solids	234
8.2	Magnetism of Atoms	236
8.2.1	Hydrogen Atom	236
8.2.2	Multielectron Atoms with Filled Shells	237
8.2.3	An Atom with a Partially Filled Shell: Carbon	237
8.2.4	Atoms with Partially Filled Shells: Hund Rules	240
8.3	Paramagnetism of an Ensemble of Isolated Ions	243
8.4	Ordered Magnetic States	244
8.4.1	Interatomic Exchange Interaction	245
8.4.2	Heisenberg Model	247
8.4.3	Ferromagnetism: Molecular Field Approximation	249
8.5	Antiferromagnetism and Ferrimagnetism	252
8.6	From Insulator Magnetism to Metallic Magnetism	255
8.6.1	Mott–Hubbard Insulator	256
8.6.2	Mott Transition and Doped Mott–Hubbard Insulators	258
8.6.3	Magnetism and Superconductivity	259
8.6.4	Metallicity and Magnetism in a Band Approach	261
8.7	Summary	265
8.8	Answers to Questions	266
9	Magnetic Anisotropy, Domains, and Walls	269
9.1	Magnetic Anisotropy	272
9.1.1	Magnetocrystalline Anisotropy	272
9.1.2	Effect of Anisotropy: Irreversibility	273
9.2	Dipole Interactions, Demagnetising Fields, and Domains	277
9.2.1	Demagnetising Fields	277
9.2.2	Demagnetisation Energy and Magnetic Domains	282
9.3	Bloch Walls	285
9.4	Magnetic Hysteresis Cycles	288
9.4.1	Bitter Method for Observing Domains	288
9.4.2	Magnetisation Process and Hysteresis	289
9.5	Summary	291
9.6	Answers to Questions	292
10	Measurements in Magnetism: From the Macroscopic to the Microscopic Scale	295
10.1	Macroscopic Magnetic Measurements	297
10.1.1	Susceptibility or Magnetisation	298
10.1.2	Examples of Measurements on Superconductors	301

10.1.3	Hysteresimeters: Toroidal Geometry	303
10.2	Magnetic Surface Measurements and Magnetic Imaging	304
10.2.1	Microscale Measurements and Surface Imaging	305
10.2.2	Towards Submicron Scales	308
10.3	Summary	312
10.4	Answers to Questions	312
11	Spin Dynamics and Magnetic Resonance	317
11.1	Dynamics in Magnetism: General Considerations	319
11.1.1	Linear Response and Dissipation	320
11.1.2	Pulse Response and Frequency Response	321
11.2	Dynamics in Ferromagnets	322
11.2.1	Low Frequency Losses in Ferromagnets	322
11.2.2	Ferromagnetic Resonance	324
11.3	Resonance in the Paramagnetic Regime	331
11.3.1	Resonance for a Thermodynamic Ensemble of Spins	331
11.3.2	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)	333
11.3.3	Spin Echoes: Transverse Relaxation	336
11.3.4	Applications	339
11.4	Summary	341
11.5	Answers to Questions	342
12	The Thermodynamics of Ferromagnets	345
12.1	Excited States and Low Temperature Properties	347
12.1.1	Magnons	347
12.1.2	Low Temperature Thermodynamic Properties	349
12.1.3	Experimental Detection of Magnons	351
12.2	The Magnetic Phase Transition	352
12.2.1	Mean Field Theory	352
12.2.2	Landau and Ginzburg–Landau Theories	354
12.2.3	Critical Behaviour	357
12.3	Summary	359
12.4	Answers to Questions	360
13	Problem Set	363
Problem 1	Debye–Waller Factor	367
Problem 2	Reflectance of Aluminium	373
Problem 3	Band Structure of $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$	377
3.1	Isolated Copper–Oxygen Chain	378
3.2	Isolated Copper–Oxygen Plane	379
3.3	Chain and Plane	380
3.4	Realistic Models of $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$	381
Problem 4	Electronic Energy and Stability of Alloys	391
Problem 5	Optical Response of Monovalent Metals	399
Problem 6	One-Dimensional TTF-TCNQ Compounds	405
6.1	Isolated Chains	405

	6.2	Experimental Observations	406
	6.3	Dimerised Chain	407
	6.4	Peierls Transition	409
Problem 7		Insulator–Metal Transition	419
	7.1	Tight-Binding Method for Hydrogen-Like Orbitals	419
	7.2	Interactions Between Electrons	420
	7.3	Alkali Elements and Hydrogen	423
	7.4	Insulator–Metal Transition in Si–P	423
Problem 8		Cyclotron Resonance	441
	8.1	Real and Reciprocal Space Paths of an Electron State	441
	8.2	A Semiconductor: Silicon	442
	8.3	Metals	444
Problem 9		Phonons in Solids	453
	9.1	Einstein Model	453
	9.2	Debye Model	453
	9.3	Experimental Detection of Phonons	455
	9.4	Thermodynamic Properties	456
	9.5	Resistivity	457
Problem 10		Thermodynamics of a Thin Superconducting Cylinder: Little–Parks Experiment	469
Problem 11		Direct and Alternating Josephson Effects in Zero Magnetic Field	481
	11.1	Model Josephson Junction	481
	11.2	Realistic Josephson Junction	481
	11.3	Josephson Junction in a Microwave Field	483
Problem 12		Josephson Junction in a Magnetic Field	491
	12.1	Current Distribution	492
	12.2	Screening of the Magnetic Field	493
	12.3	Josephson Plasma Resonance	495
Problem 13		Magnetisation of a Type II Superconductor	511
Problem 14		Electronic Structure and Superconductivity of V_3Si	523
Problem 15		Superconductivity of $NbSe_2$	531
Problem 16		Magnesium Diboride: A New Superconductor?	541
	16.1	Atomic and Electronic Structure of MgB_2	541
	16.2	Superconductivity of MgB_2	543
Problem 17		Electronic Properties of La_2CuO_4	557
Problem 18		Properties of an Antiferromagnetic Solid	563
	18.1	Preliminaries: The Ferromagnetic Case	563
	18.2	Antiferromagnetic Transition	564
	18.3	Susceptibility in the Antiferromagnetic State	565
Problem 19		Magnetism of Thin Films and Magneto-Optic Applications	573
Problem 20		Magnetism of a Thin Film	579
	20.1	Uniform Magnetisation	580
	20.2	Non-uniform Situations	581
	20.3	Detailed Investigation of Non-uniform Situations	583

Appendix A	Physical Constants	593
Appendix B	Some Useful Functions and Relations	595
Appendix C	Standard Notation	599
Appendix D	Specific Notation	601
References		607
Index		613