

## From Last Time...

- Molecules
  - Symmetric and anti-symmetric wave functions
  - Lightly higher and lower energy levels
  - More atoms more energy levels
- Conductors, insulators and semiconductors

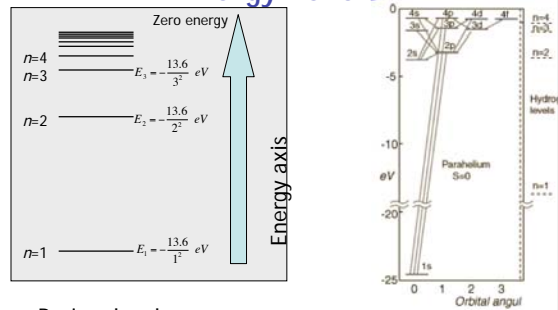
## Today

- Conductors and superconductors

Due Friday: Essay outline

HW9: Chap 15 Conceptual: # 2, 4, 14, 24 Problems: # 2, 4

## Energy Levels



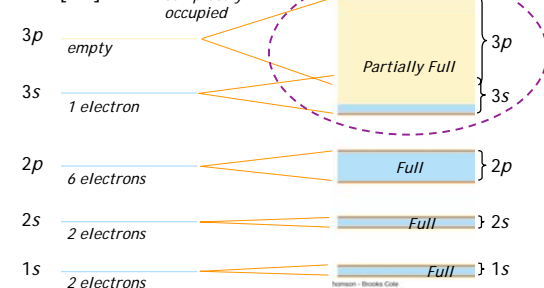
- Basic n levels,
- include l and  $m_l$

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## Energy Levels in a Metal

Na = [Ne]3s<sup>1</sup>

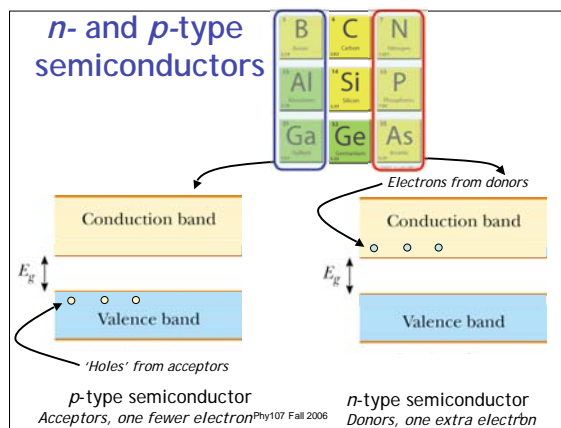


- Include molecular symmetric and anti-symmetric wavefunctions

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## n- and p-type semiconductors



p-type semiconductor

Acceptors, one fewer electron

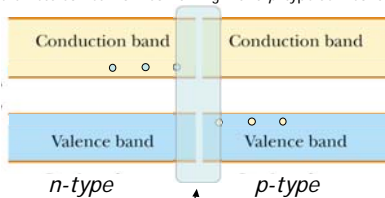
n-type semiconductor

Donors, one extra electron

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## Junctions

- Real usefulness comes from combining n and p-type semiconductors



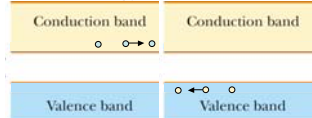
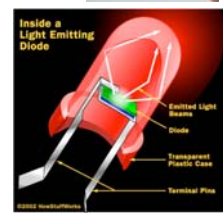
Junction develops a 'built-in' electric field at the interface due to charge rearrangement.

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## Light emitting diode

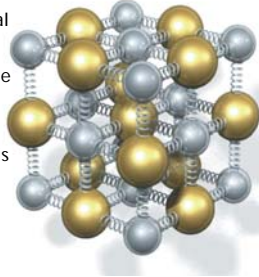
- Battery causes electrons and holes to flow toward pn interface
- Electrons and holes recombine at interface (electron drops down to lower level)
- Photon carries away released energy.
- Low energy use - one color!



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## Electrical resistance

- Last time we said that a metal can conduct electricity.
- Electrons can flow through the wire when pushed by a battery.
- But remember that the wire is made of atoms.
- Electrons as waves drift through the atomic lattice.



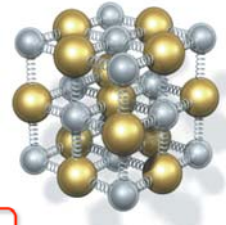
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## Resistance question

Suppose we have a perfect crystal of metal in which we produce an electric current. The electrons in the metal

- A. Collide with the atoms, causing electrical resistance
- B. Twist between atoms, causing electrical resistance
- C. Propagate through the crystal without any electrical resistance



If all atoms are perfectly in place, the electron moves through the without any resistance!

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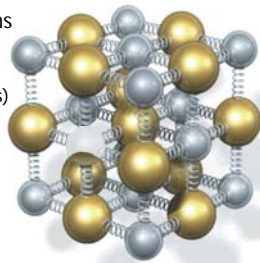
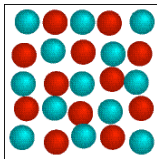
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## Life is tough

- In the real world, electrons don't have it so easy

Some missing atoms (defects)

Vibrating atoms!



Electron scatters from these irregularities, -> resistance

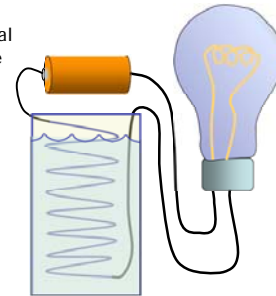
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## Temperature-dependent resistance

Suppose we cool down the wire that carries electrical current to light bulb. The light will

- A. Get brighter
- B. Get dimmer
- C. Stay same

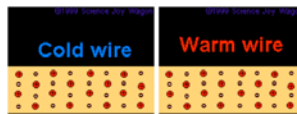
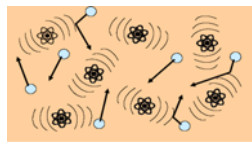


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## Resistance

- As electron wave propagates through lattice, it faces resistance
- Resistance:
  - ❖ Bumps from vibrating atoms
  - ❖ Collisions with impurities
  - ❖ Repulsion from other electrons
- Electrons 'scatter' from these atomic vibrations and defects.
- Vibrations are less at low temperature, so resistance decreases.
- More current flows through wire
- Life is tough for electrons, especially on hot days



<http://regentprep.org/Regentiv/physics/phy403/technic/dcfault.htm>

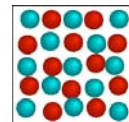
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## Why does temperature matter?

Temperature is related to the energy of a macroscopic object.

- The energy usually shows up as energy of random motion.
- There really is a coldest temperature, corresponding to zero motional energy!
- The Kelvin scale has the same size degree as the Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) scale. But 0 K means no internal kinetic energy.
- 0 degrees Kelvin (Absolute Zero) is the coldest temperature possible
  - This is  $-459.67^{\circ}\text{F}$



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## Temperature scales

- Kelvin (K):
  - $K = C + 273.15$
  - $K = 5/9 F + 255.37$

Fahrenheit	Celsius	Kelvin	comments
212	100	373.15	water boils
32	0	273.15	water freezes
-300.42	-195.79	77.36	liquid nitrogen boils
-452.11	-268.95	4.2	liquid helium boils
-459.67	-273.15	0	absolute zero

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## What happens at the lowest temperature?



Kelvin (1824-1907):  
electrons freeze and  
resistance increases



Onnes (1853-1926):  
Resistance continues drop,  
finally reaching zero at zero  
temperature

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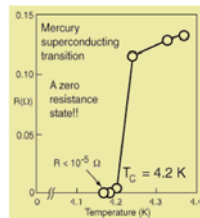
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## Sometimes, something else!

Heike Kamerlingh Onnes

- 1908 - liquefied helium ( $\sim 4 \text{ K} = -452^\circ \text{F}$ )
- 1911- investigated low temperature resistance of mercury
- Found resistance dropped abruptly to zero at 4.2 K
- 1913 - Nobel Prize in physics

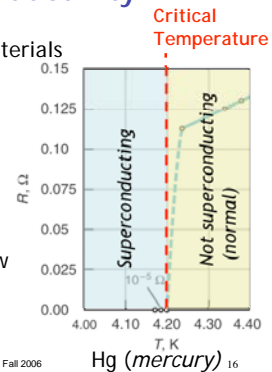


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## Superconductivity

- Superconductors are materials that have exactly zero electrical resistance.
- But this only occurs at temperatures below a critical temperature,  $T_c$
- In most cases this temperature is far below room temperature.

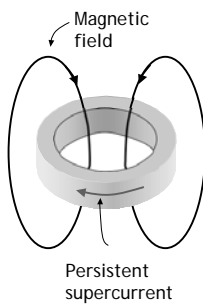


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Hg (mercury) 16

## Persistent currents

- How zero is zero?
- EXACTLY!
- Can set up a persistent current in a ring.
- The magnitude of the current measured by the magnetic field generated.
- No current decay detected over many years!

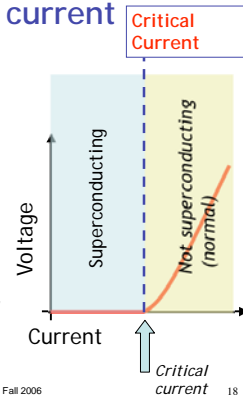


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## Critical current

- If the current is too big, superconductivity is destroyed.
- Maximum current for zero resistance is called the critical current.
- For larger currents, the voltage is no longer zero, and power is dissipated.

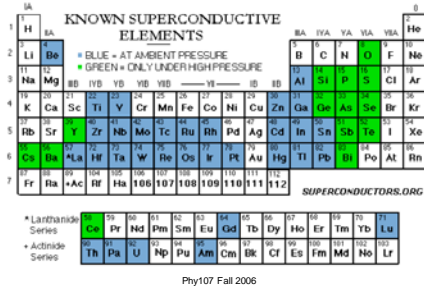


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## Superconducting elements

- Many elements are in fact superconducting
- In fact, most of them are!



## Critical temperatures

If superconductivity is so common, why don't we have superconducting cars, trains, toothbrushes?

Many superconducting critical temperatures are low.

Element	Critical T. (K)	(°C)	(°F)
Aluminum	1.75	-271	-457
Mercury	4.15	-269	-452
Lead	7.2	-266	-447
Tin	3.72	-269	-453
Niobium	9.25	-264	-443

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## Higher transition temperatures

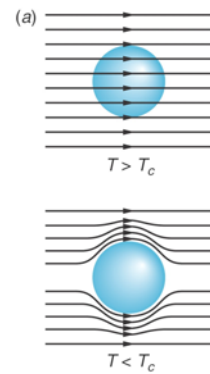
- Much higher critical temperature alloys have been discovered
  - NbTi 10 K
  - Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn 19 K
  - YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, 92 K
  - BiSrCaCuO, 120 K
- } High-temperature superconductors

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## Meissner effect

- Response to magnetic field
- For small magnetic fields a superconductor will spontaneously expel all magnetic flux.
- Above the critical temperature, this effect is not observed.

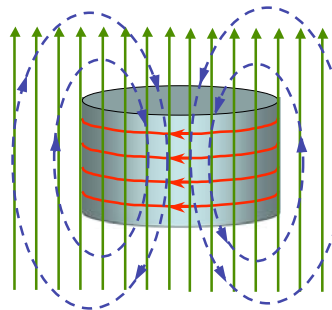


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## Meissner effect

- Apply uniform magnetic field.
- Superconductor responds with circulating current.
- Produces own magnetic field



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Applied field  
Field from screening currents

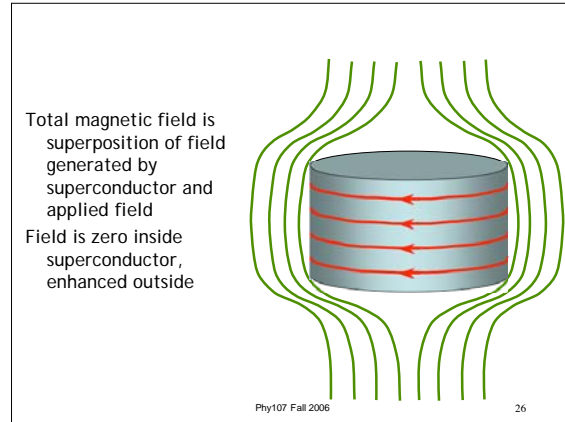
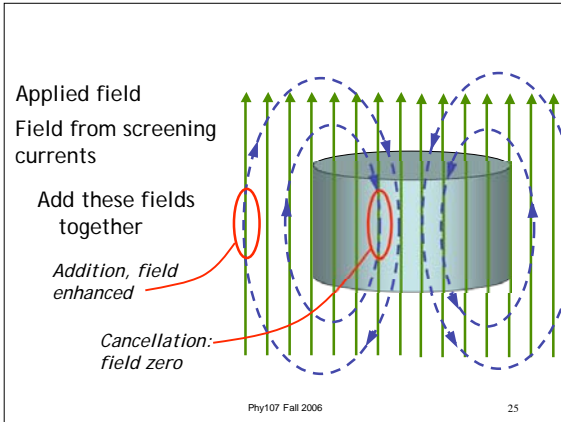
Add these fields together

Addition, field enhanced

Cancellation: field zero

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### Question

A superconductor has a maximum supercurrent it can carry before losing superconductivity.

A superconductor expels an applied magnetic field with a circulating supercurrent that generates a canceling magnetic field.

When the applied magnetic field is increased to larger and larger values, the superconductor

- Continues to expel the field
- Expels only part of the field
- Loses superconductivity

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### Critical magnetic field

- Magnetic field is screened out by screening current.
- Larger fields require larger screening currents.
- Screening currents cannot be larger than the critical current.
- This says there is a critical magnetic field which can be screened.
- Above this field, superconductivity is destroyed (screening current exceeds critical current)

Superconductor phase diagram (Type I)

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### Critical fields

- It was one of Onnes' disappointments that even small magnetic fields destroyed superconductivity.
- Superconductivity seemed a fragile effect
  - Only observed at low temperature
  - Destroyed by small magnetic fields.

DISCOVERY! Some superconductors behave entirely differently in a magnetic field.

These are called type II superconductors

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### A century of superconductivity

1911: superconductivity discovered: Hg at 4K

1933: Meissner effect

1950: Landau-Ginzburg theory

1954: Type II superconductors

1957: BCS microscopic theory


1962: Josephson effect

1986: high temp superconductivity

2011

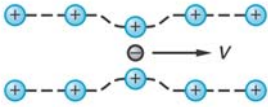
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### Microscopic theory of superconductivity



**Bardeen Cooper Schrieffer**  
**BCS theory (1957) - Nobel Prize in Physics 1972**

Multi-electron effect, interactions with lattice vibrations  
 'Correlated' ground state  
 Very different from any previous theory.  
 Add two spin 1/2 particles together to get a spin one particle. No longer fermion - new physics



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### Superconducting power cables

- 2001: Detroit, MI
  - Detroit Edison, Frisbie Substation
  - three 400-foot HTS cables
  - 100 million watts of power
  - Uses high-temperature superconductors
  - Discovered 1986, work at temperature of liquid nitrogen


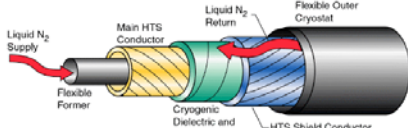


Figure 1. Superconducting cable being pulled in underground circuit.




<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/fed/applied/htspa/cable.htm>

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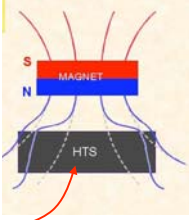
### Superconducting Magnets

- Solenoid as in conventional electromagnet.
- But once current is injected, power supply turned off, current and magnetic field stays forever...  
 ...as long as  $T < T_c$



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### Magnetic Levitation





High-temperature superconductor

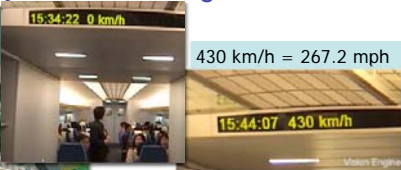
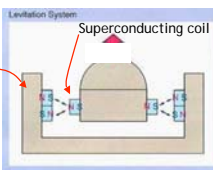
- Permanent magnet above a superconductor

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### Superconducting Train



430 km/h = 267.2 mph







- At base of Mount Fuji, close to Tokyo,
- 18 km long test track constructed

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### Tevatron

- 1983
- Radius = 6.3 km
- 1000 superconducting magnets ( $Nb_3Ti$  wires)
- Protons + Antiprotons
- Energy = 1000 GeV (=1 TeV)
- $v \sim 200$  mph slower than speed of light

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