(SS 2015)

Problem 17: Polaron

An electron interacts with optical phonons in an ionic crystal. The interaction part of the Hamilton operator is given by

$$\hat{H}_{1} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{k}\sigma} \sum_{\vec{q}\vec{q}'} \left(\left(A(\vec{k},\vec{q}\,)(\hat{a}_{\vec{q}}\,\hat{a}_{\vec{q}\,'} + \hat{a}_{\vec{q}}\,\hat{a}_{-\vec{q}\,'}^{\dagger}) + B(\vec{k},\vec{q}\,)(\hat{a}_{-\vec{q}}^{\dagger}\,\hat{a}_{\vec{q}} + \hat{a}_{-\vec{q}}^{\dagger}\,\hat{a}_{-\vec{q}\,'}^{\dagger}) \right) \times \\ \times W(\vec{q}\,) W(\vec{q}\,')(\hat{c}_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}+\vec{q}\,'}^{\dagger}\,\hat{c}_{\vec{k}\sigma} - \hat{c}_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}\sigma}^{\dagger}\,\hat{c}_{\vec{k}-\vec{q}\,'\sigma}) + \delta_{\vec{q},\vec{q}\,'} |W(\vec{q}\,)|^{2} \left(B\left(\vec{k},\vec{q}\,\right) - A(\vec{k},\vec{q}\,) \right) \,\hat{c}_{\vec{k}\sigma}^{\dagger}\,\hat{c}_{\vec{k}\sigma} \right).$$

Here,

$$A(\vec{k}, \vec{q}) = \frac{-1}{\varepsilon_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}} - \varepsilon_{\vec{k}} - \hbar \,\omega_{\rm LO}} \quad \text{and} \quad B(\vec{k}, \vec{q}) = \frac{-1}{\varepsilon_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}} - \varepsilon_{\vec{k}} + \hbar \,\omega_{\rm LO}} \quad \text{with} \quad \varepsilon_{\vec{k}} = \frac{\hbar^2 \,k^2}{2 \,m}$$

The interaction matrix element has the property

$$W(-\vec{q}) = W(\vec{q})^*$$
 with $|W(\vec{q})| = \frac{\gamma}{q}$

 γ is a real constant and $\hbar \omega_{\rm LO}$ is the energy of the longitudinal optical phonons.

a) Calculate the contribution E_1 of \hat{H}_1 in first order perturbation theory. Consider a product state $|\Psi\rangle = |\Phi\rangle_{\rm el} |\chi\rangle_{\rm ph}$ which contains one electron with wave vector \vec{k} and no phonons.

$$|\Phi\rangle_{\rm el} = \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{\vec{k}\,\sigma} |0\rangle_{\rm el} \quad \text{and} \quad |\Phi\rangle_{\rm ph} = |n_{\vec{q}} = 0\rangle_{\rm ph} \;.$$

Show that the energy can be written in the following form

$$E_1 = \sum_{\vec{q}} \frac{|W(\vec{q})|^2}{\varepsilon_{\vec{k}} - \varepsilon_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}} - \hbar \omega_{\rm LO}}$$

- b) Evaluate the remaining sum over \vec{q} by integration over the *whole* \vec{q} space.
- c) Use a Taylor series expansion of E_1 to analyse your result in the limit of small wave vectors \vec{k} . Consider the quadratic term and determine the change of the electron's effective mass due to electron-phonon interaction.

Usefull integral:
$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x} \ln \left| \frac{a^2 + 2bx + x^2}{a^2 - 2bx + x^2} \right| dx = 2\pi \arcsin \frac{b}{a} .$$

(5 points)

Problem 18: Superconducting bar

(5 points)

The current density \vec{j} of superconducting electrons is related by

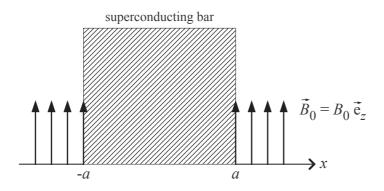
$$\vec{j} = -\frac{n_s \,\mathrm{e}^2}{m} \,\vec{A}\left(\vec{r}\right)$$

to the vector potential $\vec{A}(\vec{r})$. Here, n_s is the particle density of the superconducting electrons.

a) Use the Maxwell equations for the static case to show that the magnetic field in a superconductor is described by the Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta \vec{B}\left(\vec{r}\right) = \mu_0 \frac{n_s e^2}{m} \vec{B}\left(\vec{r}\right) \,.$$

- b) Solve the Helmholtz equation for a superconducting bar (with the width 2a) which is in a magnetic field. Assume that a homogeneous magnetic field $\vec{B}_0 = (0, 0, B_0)$ in z direction exists outside of the bar. Neglect the y and z dependence of the field inside the bar and consider the case $\vec{B} = \vec{B}(x)$ with $\vec{B}(-\vec{a}) = \vec{B}_0 = \vec{B}(a)$. Plot the resulting magnetic field $\vec{B}(x)$.
- c) Calculate the y component of the current density and plot your result.



Problem 19: BCS ground state

(5 additional points)

The BCS ground state has the form

$$|\Psi_{\rm BCS}\rangle = \prod_{\vec{k}} \left(u_{\vec{k}} + v_{\vec{k}} \, \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{\vec{k}\uparrow} \, \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow} \right) |0\rangle$$

with

$$u_{\vec{k}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{\varepsilon_{\vec{k}}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_k^2 + \Delta_{\vec{k}}^2}} \right), \quad u_{\vec{k}}^2 + v_{\vec{k}}^2 = 1, \quad \Delta_k = \Delta \quad \text{for} \quad |\varepsilon_{\vec{k}}| \le \hbar \,\omega_{\text{LO}}$$

and $\Delta_{\vec{k}} = 0$ else.

- a) Calculate the expectation values $\langle \hat{n}_{\vec{k}\uparrow} \rangle$ and $\langle \hat{n}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow} \rangle$ of the occupation number operators $\hat{n}_{\vec{k}\uparrow} = \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{\vec{k}\uparrow} \hat{c}_{\vec{k}\uparrow}$ and $\hat{n}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow} = \hat{c}^{\dagger}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow} \hat{c}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow}$, respectively. Plot your result as a function of $\varepsilon_{\vec{k}}$ for i) $\Delta = 0$ and ii) $\Delta \neq 0$.
- b) In this part, the action of creation and annihilation operators $\hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger}$, $\hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger}$, $\vec{\alpha}_{\vec{k}}$, $\beta_{\vec{k}}$ resulting from the Bogoliubov transformation should be investigated.
 - i) Calculate $\hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}} | \Psi_{\text{BCS}} \rangle$ and discuss your result.
 - ii) Proof that $\hat{a}_{\vec{k}'}^{\dagger} |\Psi_{\text{BCS}}\rangle = \hat{c}_{\vec{k}'\uparrow}^{\dagger} |\tilde{\Psi}_{\vec{k}'}\rangle$ with $|\tilde{\Psi}_{\vec{k}'}\rangle = \prod_{\vec{k}\neq\vec{k}'} (u_{\vec{k}} + v_k \hat{c}_{\vec{k}\uparrow}^{\dagger} \hat{c}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow}^{\dagger}) |0\rangle.$
 - iii) Calculate $\hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}'}^{\dagger} \hat{\alpha}_{k'}^{\dagger} | \Psi_{\text{BCS}} \rangle$. Express your result in terms of $| \tilde{\Psi}_{\vec{k}'} \rangle$.
- c) Show that the particle number operator $\hat{N}_k = \hat{n}_{\vec{k}\uparrow} + \hat{n}_{-\vec{k}\downarrow}$ can be written as

$$\hat{N}_{\vec{k}} = 2 v_{\vec{k}}^2 + (u_k^2 - v_k^2) \left(\hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} \hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}} + \hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} \hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}} \right) + 2 u_{\vec{k}} v_{\vec{k}} \left(\hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} \hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}}^{\dagger} + \hat{\beta}_{\vec{k}} \hat{\alpha}_{\vec{k}} \right) \,.$$

Calculate

$$\langle \hat{N}_{\vec{k}} \rangle = \langle \Psi_{\rm BCS} | \hat{N}_{\vec{k}} | \Psi_{\rm BCS} \rangle , \qquad \langle \hat{N}_{\vec{k}}^2 \rangle = \langle \Psi_{\rm BCS} | \hat{N}_{\vec{k}} \, \hat{N}_{\vec{k}} | \Psi_{\rm BCS} \rangle$$

and $(\Delta N_{\vec{k}})^2 = \langle \hat{N}_{\vec{k}}^2 \rangle - \langle \hat{N}_{\vec{k}} \rangle^2$. Express your result in terms of $\varepsilon_{\vec{k}}$ and $\Delta_{\vec{k}}$. Discuss your result.