

# BCS

$$H = \sum_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + \sum_{kk'} V_{k,k'} b_k^\dagger b_{k'}$$

$$b_k^\dagger = c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger$$

If  $b^\dagger \rightarrow$  Cooper pair creation op.

then, in gs. for  $V_{kk'} < 0 \rightarrow$  gs. will have no pair  $(k\uparrow, -k\downarrow)$  occupied by a single  $\bar{e}$ .

Pair states are either empty or doubly occupied!

In this case,  $\tilde{H} \rightarrow \sum_k \epsilon_k b_k^\dagger b_k + \sum_{kk'} V_{k,k'} b_k^\dagger b_{k'}$

$\rightarrow$  looks like a bosonic hamiltonian!

However,  $b$  &  $b^\dagger$  are not bosonic.

$$[b_k, b_{k'}] = [b_k^\dagger, b_{k'}^\dagger] = 0$$

$$[b_k, b_{k'}^\dagger] = [1 - c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{k\uparrow} - c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}] \delta_{kk'}$$

$$+ (b_k^\dagger)^2 = 0 \rightarrow \text{so Pauli blocking!}$$

not bosonic.  
(not easy to diagonalize etc.)

Mean field hypothesis!

$$b_k = \langle b_k \rangle + \underbrace{(b_k - \langle b_k \rangle)}_{\delta b_k}$$

Neglecting terms proportional to  $\delta b_k \delta b_k^\dagger$

$$H_{MF} = \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_k c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + \sum_{kk'} V_{k,k'} [\langle b_k \rangle b_{k'}^\dagger + \langle b_{k'}^\dagger \rangle b_k - \langle b_k^\dagger \rangle \langle b_{k'} \rangle]$$

Rewrite as

$$H^{MF} = \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_k c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + \sum_k \left[ \Delta_k c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger + c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger + \Delta_k^* c_{k\downarrow} c_{k\uparrow} \right] - \sum_{k,k'} v_{kk'} \langle b_{k'}^\dagger \rangle \langle b_k \rangle$$

where  $\Delta_k = \sum_{k'} v_{kk'} \langle c_{k'\downarrow} c_{k'\uparrow} \rangle$

• Notice that  $[H^{MF}, N] \neq 0$  number not conserved!

$N = \sum_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} \Rightarrow$  work in grand canonical ensemble  $\mathcal{K} = H^{MF} - \mu N$

Solution to MF equations.

$$\mathcal{K} = \sum_k \begin{pmatrix} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger & c_{k\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_k & \Delta_k \\ \Delta_k^* & -\xi_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{k\uparrow} \\ c_{k\downarrow} \end{pmatrix} + \mathcal{K}_0$$

$$\xi_k = \epsilon_k - \mu \quad \mathcal{K}_0 = \sum_k \xi_k - \sum_{k,k'} v_{kk'} \langle c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{k\downarrow} \rangle \langle b_{k'} \rangle$$

Diagonalize via  $\downarrow$  constant unitary transform.

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{k\uparrow} \\ c_{k\downarrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix} = U_k \begin{pmatrix} r_{k\uparrow} \\ r_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \quad U_k = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_k & -\sin \theta_k e^{i\phi_k} \\ \sin \theta_k e^{-i\phi_k} & \cos \theta_k \end{bmatrix}$$

with  $\{ \gamma_{k\sigma}, \gamma_{k'\sigma'}^\dagger \} = \delta_{kk'} \delta_{\sigma\sigma'}$

for each "k" mode This transformation mixes particles & hole states.

$$\tilde{K} = U^\dagger K U$$

& we want  $\tilde{K}$  to be diagonal.

$$\Rightarrow \phi = \arg(\Delta) \text{ and } \tilde{K} = \begin{pmatrix} E & 0 \\ 0 & -E \end{pmatrix}$$

$$2\xi \sin\theta \cos\theta = |\Delta| (\cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta).$$

Bogoliubov-Valatin trans.

$$\tan 2\theta = \frac{|\Delta|}{\xi} \quad \cos 2\theta = \frac{\xi}{E} \quad \sin 2\theta = \frac{|\Delta|}{E}$$

$$E = \sqrt{\xi^2 + |\Delta|^2}$$

Restoring "k"

$$\phi_k = \arg(\Delta_k) \quad \tan 2\theta_k = \frac{|\Delta_k|}{\xi_k}$$

$$\cos 2\theta_k = \frac{\xi_k}{E_k} \quad \sin 2\theta_k = \frac{|\Delta_k|}{E_k} \quad E_k = \sqrt{\xi_k^2 + |\Delta_k|^2}$$

If  $\Delta_k$  has only a weak dependence on  $k$ ,

$E_k \rightarrow$  dispersion of excitations has minimum

at  $\xi_k = 0$  i.e.  $k = k_F$

$|\Delta_k| \rightarrow$  superconducting gap!

$$\hat{K} = \sum_{k\sigma} E_k \gamma_{k\sigma}^\dagger \gamma_{k\sigma} + \sum_R (\xi_R - E_k) - \sum_{k\ell} v_{k\ell} \langle \rangle \langle \rangle$$

What is the ground state of such a system?

$\Rightarrow$  GS  $\Rightarrow$   $\gamma_{k\sigma} |G\rangle = 0$

$\Rightarrow$   $|G\rangle = \prod_k \left[ \underbrace{\cos \theta_k}_{u_k} - \underbrace{\sin \theta_k e^{i\phi_k}}_{v_k} \begin{matrix} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger & c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger \\ c_{k\uparrow} & -c_{-k\downarrow} \end{matrix} \right] |0\rangle$

$\langle G|G\rangle = 1$ .  
 Normal metallic GS  $\rightarrow$   $|Q\rangle = \prod_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma}^\dagger |0\rangle = \prod_k c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger |0\rangle$   
 same form as  $S < |G\rangle$

$\gamma_{k\sigma} = \cos \theta_k c_{k\sigma} + \sigma \sin \theta_k e^{i\phi_k} c_{-k-\sigma}^\dagger$   
 with  $u_k=0$   $E_k < \mu$   
 $u_k=1$   $E_k > \mu$   
 III for  $u_k$ .

$\Delta k = 0$   $\rightarrow$   $\sum_{k < k_f} < 0$  for  $k < k_f$   
 $\sum_{k > k_f} > 0$  for  $k > k_f$   
 Choose  $\phi_k = 0$

$\cos \theta_k = \theta(k - k_f)$      $\sin \theta_k = \theta(k_f - k)$

then  $|G\rangle \rightarrow$  describes filled Fermi sphere with up to  $k = k_f$ .

$k < k_f$      $\gamma_{k\sigma}^\dagger = \sigma c_{-k-\sigma}$

$k > k_f$      $\gamma_{k\sigma}^\dagger = c_{k\sigma}^\dagger$

elementary excns. are holes below  $k_f$  + electrons above  $k_f$ .

# Self-consistency

$$N = \sum_{k\sigma} \langle c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} \rangle$$

$$\Delta_k = \sum_{k'} V_{kk'} \langle c_{k'\downarrow} c_{k'\uparrow} \rangle.$$

We thus have

$$\langle c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} \rangle = \cos^2 \theta_k t_k + \sin^2 \theta_k (1 - t_k)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\xi_k}{2E_k} \tanh\left(\beta \frac{E_k}{2}\right)$$

$$t_k = \langle \gamma_{k\sigma}^\dagger \gamma_{k\sigma} \rangle = \frac{1}{e^{\beta E_k} + 1} \rightarrow \text{fermi fn. at temp } T = \frac{1}{\beta}.$$

$$\langle c_{-k-\sigma} c_{k\sigma} \rangle = \sigma \sin \theta_k \cos \theta_k e^{i\phi_k} [2t_k - 1]$$

$$\sigma = \pm 1$$

$$= \frac{-\sigma \Delta_k}{2E_k} \tanh\left(\beta \frac{E_k}{2}\right)$$

At  $T=0$

$$N = \sum_k \left[ 1 - \frac{\xi_k}{E_k} \right]$$

[th  $\rightarrow$  1]

$$\Delta_k = - \sum_{k'} V_{kk'} \frac{\Delta_{k'}}{2E_{k'}}$$

BCS Gap Eq.

$X^N$  model

$$V_{kk'} = \begin{cases} -V & |\xi_k| < \text{twop} \\ 0 & |\xi_k| > \text{twop} \end{cases} \quad \left[ \text{like in Cooper pair problem} \right]$$

$V > 0$  of  $X^N$  attractive in an energy band twop.

$\omega_D \rightarrow$  Debye freq. for phonons

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{k}} = \begin{cases} \Delta e^{i\phi} & |\mathbf{k}| < k_{\text{WD}} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\Delta \rightarrow$  real then.

$$\Delta = v \int \frac{d^3 \mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\Delta}{2E_{\mathbf{k}}} \theta(k_{\text{WD}} - |\mathbf{k}|)$$

assume  
 $g(\epsilon)$  varies slowly  
 around  $\mu \approx \epsilon_F$ .  
 (true  $\mu \approx \epsilon_F$  true at  
 low T)

$$= \frac{1}{2} v g(\epsilon_F) \int_0^{k_{\text{WD}}} d\xi \frac{\Delta}{\sqrt{\xi^2 + \Delta^2}}$$

Trivial soln:  $\Delta = 0$ !

Non-trivial soln:

$$1 = \frac{v g(\epsilon_F)}{2} \int_0^{\frac{k_{\text{WD}}}{\Delta}} \frac{ds}{\sqrt{1+s^2}} = \frac{1}{2} v g \sinh^{-1} \left( \frac{k_{\text{WD}}}{\Delta} \right)$$

Zero temp gap

$$\Delta_0 \approx 2k_{\text{WD}} v e^{-\frac{2}{g(\epsilon_F) v}}$$

[difference in argument of exponent as compared with the Cooper problem].

$$\rightarrow e^{-\frac{4}{g(\epsilon_F) v}}!$$

$g(\epsilon_F) = 2N(\epsilon_F) \rightarrow$  for each spin

↓  
 Dos for both spins

Justifies simple Cooper solution.

# First application

$$\overline{E^S} = \langle G | K_{BCS}^{MF} | G \rangle = \sum_k \left[ \xi_k - E_k + \frac{|\Delta_k|^2}{2E_k} \right]$$

Subtract energy of metallic phase i.e.  $\Delta_k = 0$ .

$$E^M = \sum_{k < E_F} \xi_k \quad \left( \theta(k - E_F) \right) \quad \left[ \text{just the kinetic term} \right]$$

$$\overline{E^S - E^M} = 2 \sum_k \left[ (\xi_k - E_k) \theta(\xi_k) \theta(\hbar\omega_D - \xi_k) + \sum_k \frac{\Delta_0^2}{2E_k} \theta(\hbar\omega_D - |\xi_k|) \right]$$

(using nature of ex pot.)

$$= g(E_F) \Delta_0^2 \int \dots$$

$$\approx -\frac{1}{4} g(E_F) \Delta_0^2 \equiv -\frac{B_C^2(\omega_D)}{2\mu_0}$$

$$\frac{B_C^2}{2\mu_0} = \frac{\hbar c^2}{4\pi}$$

$$B_C^2 = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \hbar c^2$$

$$B_C = \sqrt{\mu_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow B_C = \frac{\mu_0 g(E_F) \Delta_0}{2}$$

$$= \int_0^{\hbar\omega_D/\Delta_0} ds \left[ s - \sqrt{s^2+1} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{s^2+1}} \right]$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{g}{2}} \Delta_0^2 (x^2 - \sqrt{1+x^2}) \approx -\frac{1}{4} V g(E_F) \Delta_0^2$$

$$x = \frac{\hbar\omega_D}{\Delta_0}$$

## Number and phase

Consider a state:

$$|G(\alpha)\rangle = \prod_k [\cos\theta_k - e^{i\alpha} e^{i\phi_k} \sin\theta_k c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{k\downarrow}^\dagger] \quad (1)$$

$$\hat{N} |G(\alpha)\rangle = 2i \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} |G(\alpha)\rangle.$$

No. of Cooper pairs  $\hat{M} = \frac{\hat{N}}{2}$  then  $\hat{M} = i \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}$ .  
 $\alpha + N$  are conjugates!

Projecting  $|G(\alpha)\rangle$  onto states of definite particle number by defining

$$|M\rangle = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \frac{d\alpha}{2\pi} e^{-iM\alpha} |G(\alpha)\rangle$$

State  $|M\rangle$  has  $N = 2M$  particles or  $N$  Cooper pairs.

$$\frac{\langle G(\alpha) | N^2 | G(\alpha) \rangle - \langle G(\alpha) | N | G(\alpha) \rangle^2}{\langle G(\alpha) | N | G(\alpha) \rangle} = 2 \frac{\int d^3k \sin^2\theta_k \cos^2\theta_k}{\int d^3k \sin^2\theta_k}.$$

$$\therefore (\Delta N)_{\text{RMS}} \propto \sqrt{N}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin\theta_k &= \theta(k_F - k) \\ \cos\theta_k &= \theta(k - k_F) \\ &= 0 \text{ in Fermi liquid regime} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta\theta \Delta N \approx 1$$

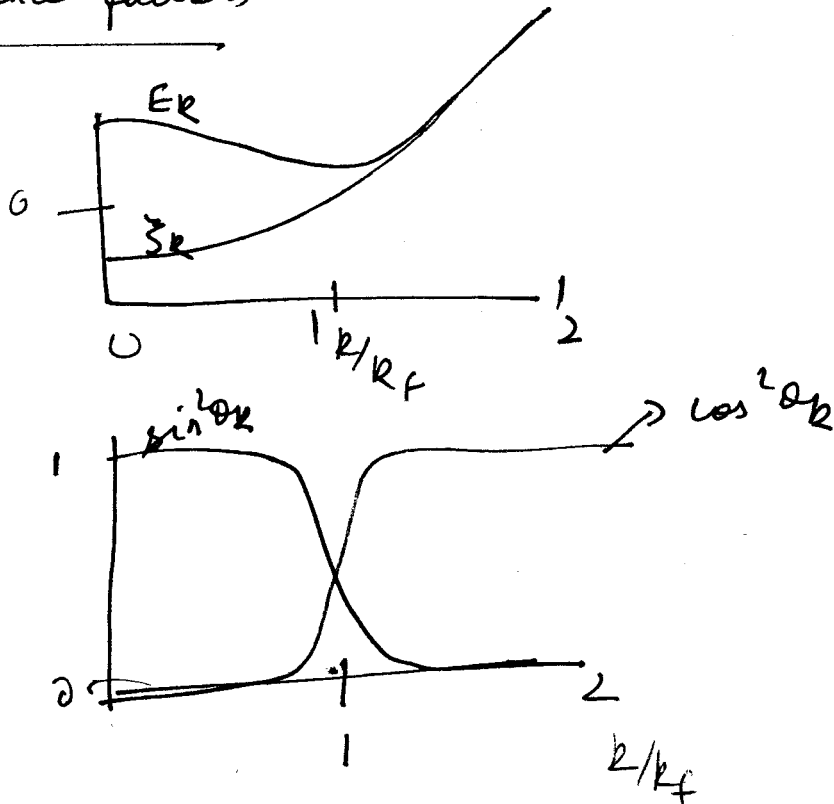
In Normal phase,  $\theta$  is indeterminate  $\rightarrow$

U(1) gauge invariance

But in SC phase  $\theta$  is determined due to U(1) symmetry breaking!



# Coherence factors



$\sin^2 \theta_k \rightarrow 1$  for  $k < k_f$       width of variation window

$\cos^2 \theta_k \rightarrow 1$  for  $k > k_f$

$$\delta k \approx \frac{\Delta_0}{k v_f} \rightarrow \xi^{-1} \rightarrow \text{coherence length}$$

Since  $\gamma_{k\sigma}^+ = \cos \theta_k c_{k\sigma}^+ + r \sin \theta_k e^{-i\theta_k} c_{-k-\sigma}$

$\gamma_{k\sigma}^+$  creates  $e^-$  like exc  $(k, \sigma)$  when  $\cos \theta_k \rightarrow 1$

" hole like exc in  $(-k, -\sigma)$  when  $\sin \theta_k \rightarrow 1$

for  $|k - k_f| \lesssim \frac{\Delta_0}{k v_f}$ , this operator creates a linear combo of  $e^-$  + hole states

Typically  $\Delta_0 \sim 10^{-4} E_f$        $E_f$  in metals keV range!

tens of thousands of Kelvin

$$\delta k \lesssim 10^{-3} k_f$$

Thus the entire physics of s wave SC states takes place within an onion skin at the Fermi surface.

## Finite temperature solution

Gap eqn: 
$$\Delta_k = - \sum_{k'} V_{kk'} \frac{\Delta_{k'}}{2E_{k'}} \tanh \frac{E_{k'}}{2k_B T}$$

clearly  $\Delta_k \rightarrow 0$  as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\sum_{k'} V_{kk'} \Delta_{k'} = -4k_B T \Delta_k$

If  $V_{kk}$  is bounded, no solution for  $k_B T$  greater than largest eigenvalue of  $V_{kk}$

To find the critical temp, we recast this eqn.

$$1 = \frac{g(E_F) V}{2} \int_0^{k_{\text{FD}}} \frac{d\xi}{\sqrt{\xi^2 + \Delta^2}} \tanh \frac{\sqrt{\xi^2 + \Delta^2}}{2k_B T}$$

$T_C$  is when  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$ .

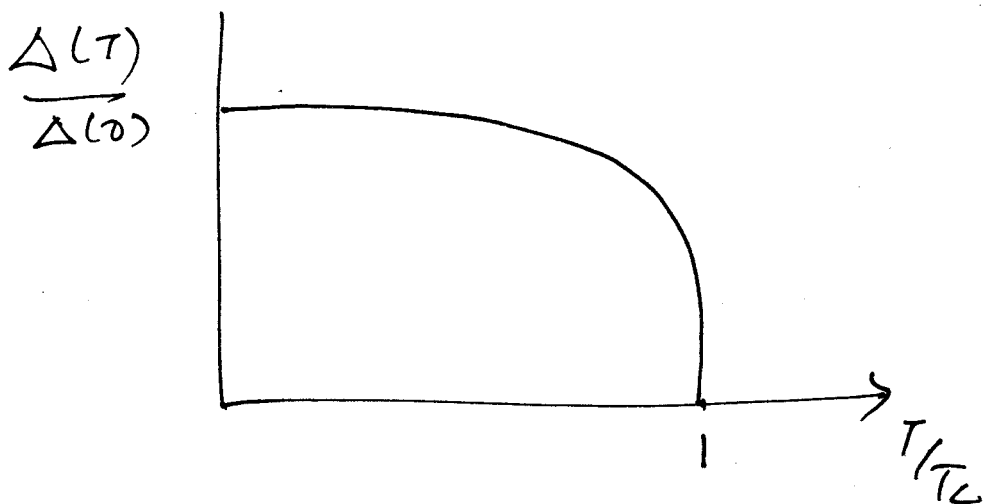
$$\frac{2}{g(E_F) V} = \int_0^{k_{\text{FD}}} \frac{\tanh \frac{\xi}{2k_B T_C}}{\xi} d\xi$$

$$\approx \ln \frac{2\gamma k_{\text{FD}}}{\pi k_B T_C}$$

$\gamma \rightarrow$  Euler const. (0.577...)

$$\boxed{k_B T_C \approx 1.13 k_{\text{FD}} e^{-\frac{2}{g(E_F) V}}}$$

[



$$\Delta(0) = 1.76 k_B T_c$$

We also know that -

$$\Delta_0 \approx 2 k_B T_c \exp \left( -\frac{2}{g(\epsilon_F) V} \right)$$

$$k_B T_c = \frac{1.13}{2} \Delta(0)$$

$$\Delta(0) \approx 1.76 k_B T_c$$

$$2\Delta \approx 3.5 T_c \quad \text{BCS relation}$$

$$\text{Old s-wave SC} \rightarrow 3.0 < \frac{2\Delta}{T_c} < 4.5 T_c \quad !$$

(No true for unconventional SC!)

Below  $T_c$   $T \rightarrow T_c^-$

$$\Delta(T) \approx 3.06 k_B T_c \left[ 1 - \frac{T}{T_c} \right]^{1/2}$$

## Isotope effect

Things are proportional to  $\hbar\omega_D$ .

$$\therefore \ln T_c = \ln \omega_D - \frac{2}{g(E_F)V} + \text{const.}$$

$$\omega \sim \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

If we can vary the mass of ions via isotopic substitution while not changing  $g(E_F)$  &  $V$

$$\text{then } \delta \ln T_c = \delta \ln \omega_D = -\frac{1}{2} \delta \ln M.$$

$\therefore$  increasing  $M$  decreases  $T_c$ !

What is the impact of repulsive  $x^4$ ?

$$V_{kk'} = \begin{cases} v_c - v_p / \sqrt{v} & |k|, |k'| < \hbar\omega_D \\ v_c / \sqrt{v} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta_R = \begin{cases} \Delta_0 \text{ real} & |k| < \hbar\omega_D \\ \Delta_1 \text{ -real} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$\nearrow$  phonons  
assume  $v_p > v_c$  to have any attraction!  
 $\hookrightarrow$  Coulomb repulsion

The gap equation leads to 2 eqns. for  $\Delta_0$  &  $\Delta_1$  new.

$$k_B T_c = 1.134 \hbar\omega_D \exp \left[ -\frac{2}{g(E_F) v_{\text{eff}}} \right]$$

$$v_{\text{eff}} = v_p - \frac{v_c}{1 + \frac{1}{2} g(E_F) \ln B / \hbar\omega_D} \quad B - \text{bandwidth of electrons}$$

At  $T=0$ , gap equation,

$$\Delta_0 = \frac{1}{2} g(E_F) (v_p - v_c) \int_0^{k_{wp}} d\xi \frac{\Delta_0}{\sqrt{\xi^2 + \Delta_0^2}} - \frac{1}{2} g(E_F) v_c \int_0^B \frac{\Delta_1}{\sqrt{\xi^2 + \Delta_1^2}}$$

$$\Delta_1 = -\frac{1}{2} g(E_F) v_c \int_0^{k_{wp}} \checkmark - \frac{1}{2} g(E_F) v_c \int \checkmark$$

$\omega_D \rightarrow$  Debye freq.

$B \rightarrow$  Bandwidth.

assume  $\Delta_{0,1} \ll k_{wp} \ll B$

$$\Delta_1 = - \frac{\frac{1}{2} g v_c \ln\left(\frac{2k_{wp}}{\Delta_0}\right)}{1 + \frac{1}{2} g v_c \ln B / k_{wp}} \Delta_0$$

Soln. only if

$$\frac{2}{g v_p} = \frac{1}{v_p} \ln \frac{2k_{wp}}{\Delta_0} \left[ v_p - v_c \cdot \frac{1}{1 + \frac{g \ln B / k_{wp}}{2}} \right]$$

$$B \gg k_{up} \quad e^{-\frac{1}{x}} \quad e^{-\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$e^{-\frac{1}{x}} \quad v_{eff} \downarrow \quad \& \quad T_c \downarrow \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$T_c$  decreases with repulsive  $X^2$ .

$\&$  so does  $\Delta_0$ .

$$\lambda = \frac{g_{up}}{2} \quad \mu = \frac{g_{vc}}{2} \quad \mu^* = \frac{\mu}{1 + \mu \ln B / k_{up}}$$

$$\text{then } k_B T_c = 1.134 k_{up} e^{-\frac{1}{\lambda - \mu^*}}$$

Isotope effect is also modified.