

# **Strong Correlations and High Temperature Superconductivity**

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# Superconductivity : a typical example of a condensed matter physics problem

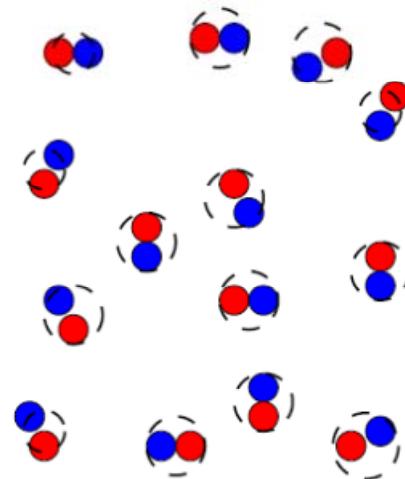
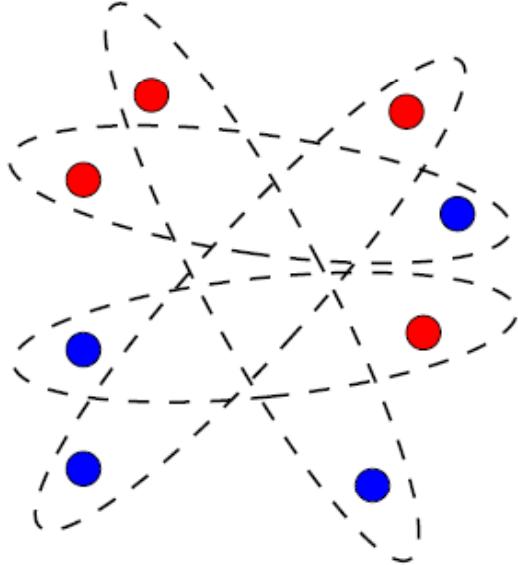
- 100 anniversary of its discovery.
  - Has impacted fields ranging from nuclear physics , astrophysics ( pulsars, neutron stars), particle physics (Higgs mechanism )
  - Emergent Phenomena
- 
- Advances thru interplay of theory and experiment.
  - Many applications resulting from basic research.
  - progress in materials needed now more than ever.
  - Illustrates relations technical advances, scientific discovery and understanding.
  - Importance of “model Hamiltonian “ studies and first principles calculations.

# Plan of the lectures

- Give a guided tour of the landscape of interesting superconducting materials (many strongly correlated!)
- Stress open issues as well as the current theoretical understanding of the problem. What to look for ?
  - Incomplete understanding, limited experimental info, primitive theoretical tools. [ lecture will combine info from theory, phenomenologies and experimental ]
    - De hoc, multi nosciunt multa, omnes aliquid, nemo satis.  
(Of this many have said many things, all something, no one enough)

Bon Voyage!

It is accepted following BCS that superconductivity is due to pairing a phase coherence



Pairing and phase coherence. ODLRO in two particle quantities in the sense of C.N.Yang RMP 34 695 (1962)

SC results from BCS pairing, but very basic “big picture” questions remain

- What is the character of the wave function of the pair, in particular its symmetry
- Does superconductivity emerge from a Fermi liquid (i.e. electrons behave like a Fermi gas with effective parameters just above the transition) ?  
Or not, in which case what are we pairing ?
- What is the “mechanism ” for superconductivity.  
To be defined more rigorously later.

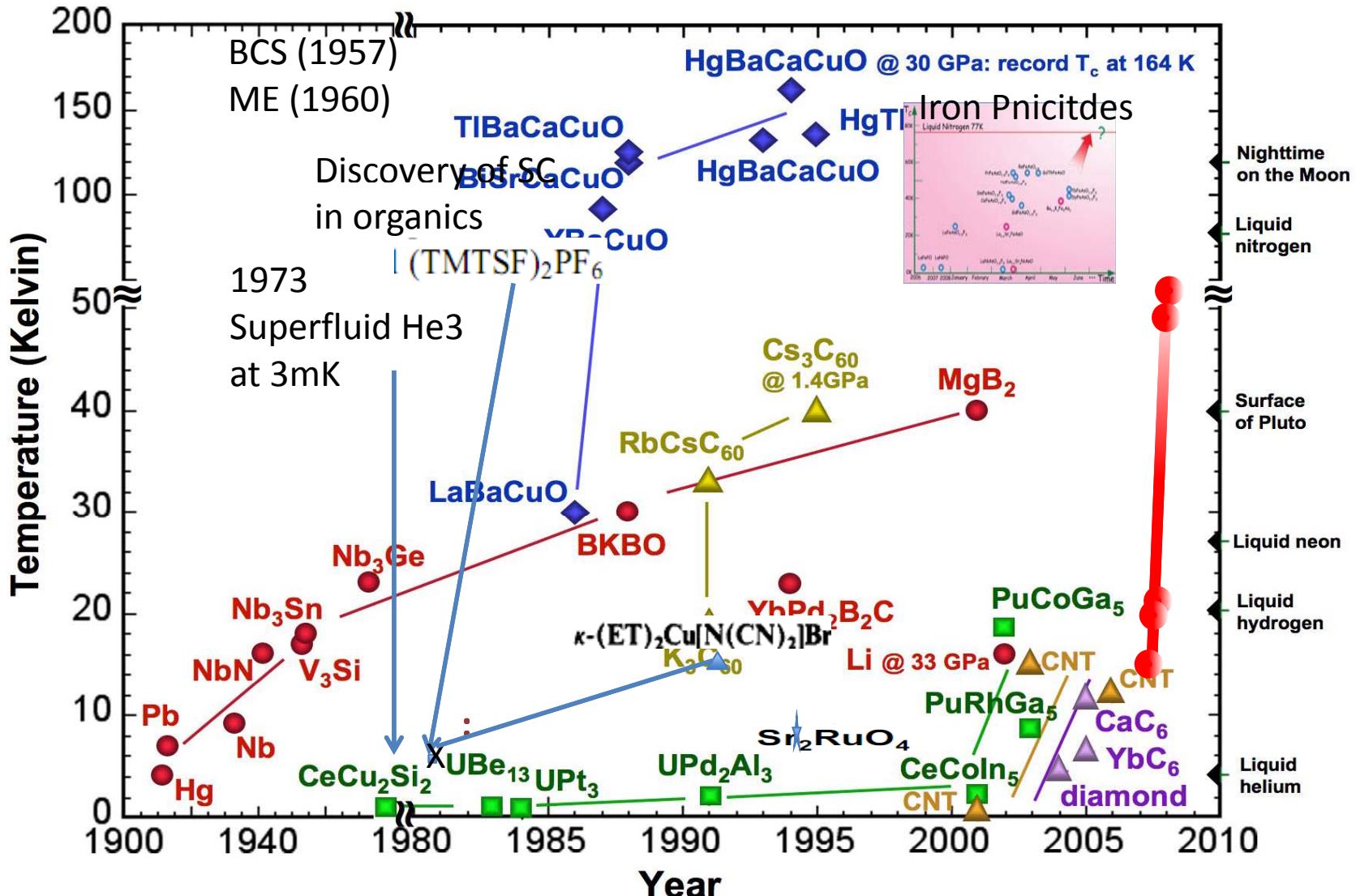
- Migdal Eliashberg theory was the first attempt to describe pairing when quasiparticles are ill defined due to strong scattering. Derive the equations . Discuss its applicability. Earliest theoretical attempt to address what controls  $T_c$ .  
Very much in vogue in connection with spin fluctuation theories.
- DMFT and its extensions describes well the incoherent high temperature state of many oxides. Formulate the issue of mechanism precisely in this framework.

# Adress these issues thru and overview of many families of compounds discovered over many years

- Look for similarities and differences between high T<sub>c</sub> materials with the “big picture” questions in mind.
- Search for trends within a family of materials and within families of materials. Domes. Competing orders (SDW , CDW ) . Fermi Surface Nesting. Quantum Criticality]
- Existing phenomenologies correlating normal state or superconducting state properties to T<sub>c</sub> : [ Homes law,  $1/T_1T$  correlations, kinetic energy plots, Uemura plot, specific heat plots ]
- Do they serve new set of “Matthias Rules” for the XXI century? [ beyond expect the unexpected]
- Look at the constant interplay of theory and experiment , and the interplay of technical advances and discovery. [ even if serendipity is still the driving force behind the discovery of high T<sub>c</sub> materials ]
- Show some illustrative example of the power of realistic electronic structure calculations of correlated materials in various systems.

# " $T_c$ vs. Time"

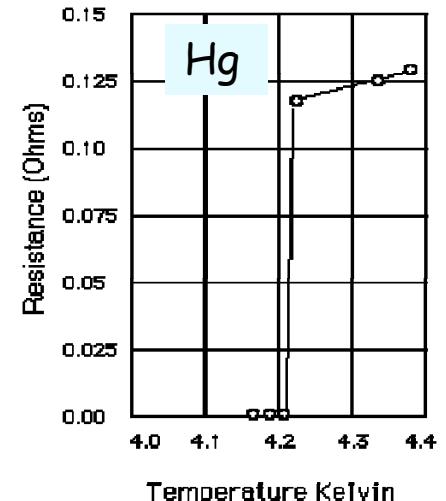
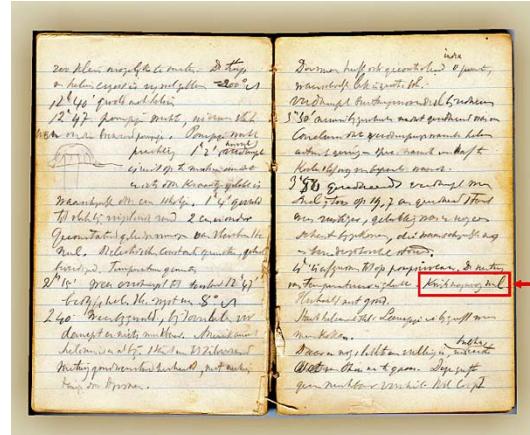
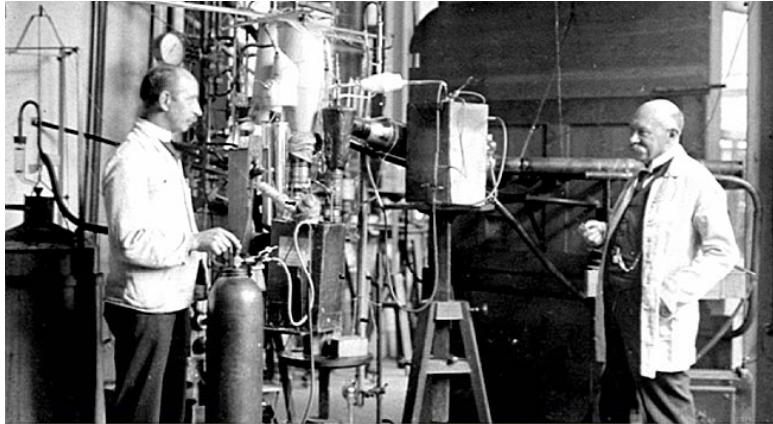
[http://science.energy.gov/~media/bes/pdf/reports/files/sc\\_rpt.pdf](http://science.energy.gov/~media/bes/pdf/reports/files/sc_rpt.pdf)



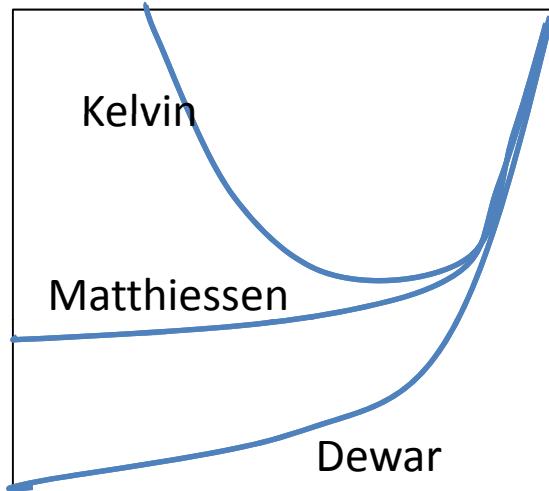
<http://www.sc.doe.gov/bes/reports.lists.html>

# 100 years ago: “mercury practically zero”

1911 Heike Kamerlingh Onnes discovery



Dirk van Delft and Peter Kes,  
Physics Today 63(8), 38 (2010)



Result of a focused effort of many years to liquefy Helium to reach low temperatures. Desire to understand the behavior of metals at low T. Still serendipity at play.

Only a few structures are conducive to superconductivity in elements under zero pressure . FCC, HEX , BCC. Type one Superconductors

Lead (Pb)	7.196 K
Lanthanum (La)	4.88 K
Tantalum (Ta)	4.47 K
Mercury (Hg)	4.15 K
Tin (Sn)	3.72 K
Indium (In)	3.41 K
Palladium (Pd)*	3.3 K
Chromium (Cr)*	3 K
Thallium (Tl)	2.38 K
Rhenium (Re)	1.697 K
Protactinium (Pa)	1.40 K
Thorium (Th)	1.38 K
Aluminum (Al)	1.175 K
Gallium (Ga)	1.083 K
Molybdenum (Mo)	0.915 K
Zinc (Zn)	0.85 K
Osmium (Os)	0.66 K
Zirconium (Zr)	0.61 K
Americium (Am)	0.60 K
Cadmium (Cd)	0.517 K
Ruthenium (Ru)	0.49 K
Titanium (Ti)	0.40 K
Uranium (U)	0.20 K
Hafnium (Hf)	0.128 K
Iridium (Ir)	0.1125 K
Beryllium (Be)	0.023 K (SRM 768)
Tungsten (W)	0.0154 K
Platinum (Pt)*	0.0019 K
Lithium (Li)	0.0004 K
Rhodium (Rh)	0.000325 K

FCC      HEX      BCC      RHL  
TET      TET

Strong coupling SC

Under irradiation  
Thin film form

HEX	CUB cubic	MCL monoclinic
TET	FCC face centered cubic	DIA diamond
FCC	BCC body centered cubic	ORC orthorhombic
FCC	HEX hexagonal	RHL rhombohedral
BCC	TET tetragonal	SCB simple cubic
HEX	C	<u>15 K</u>
HEX	Nb	<u>9.25 K</u>
HEX	Tc	7.80 K
HEX	V	5.40 K

Type2

*Lattice: C=Fullerene, Nb=BCC, Tc=HEX, V=BCC*  
<http://www.superconductors.org/TYPe1.htm>

powder

FCC

	IA	KNOWN SUPERCONDUCTIVE ELEMENTS												0					
1	H	IIA													He				
2	Li	Be													Ne				
3	Na	Mg	IIIIB	IVB	VB	VIB	VIB	— VII —	IB	IIB									
4	K	Ca	Sc	Ti	Y	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
5	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	41	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
6	Cs	Ba	*La	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn	
7	Fr	Ra	+Ac	Rf	105	Ha	106	107	108	109	110	111	112						

[SUPERCONDUCTORS.ORG](http://www.superconductors.org)

\* Lanthanide Series

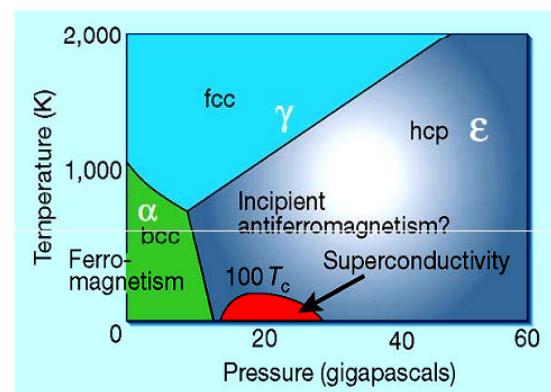
58	Ce	59	Pr	60	Nd	61	Pm	62	Sm	63	Eu	64	Gd	65	Tb	66	Dy	67	Ho	68	Er	69	Tm	70	Yb	71	Lu
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+ Actinide Series

90	Th	91	Pa	92	U	93	Np	94	Pu	95	Am	96	Cm	97	Bk	98	Cf	99	Es	100	Fn	Iron under pressure		
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Only a few fermi liquids survive low T  
and high P.  
New physics even in simple elements!

<http://www.superconductors.org>Type1.htm>





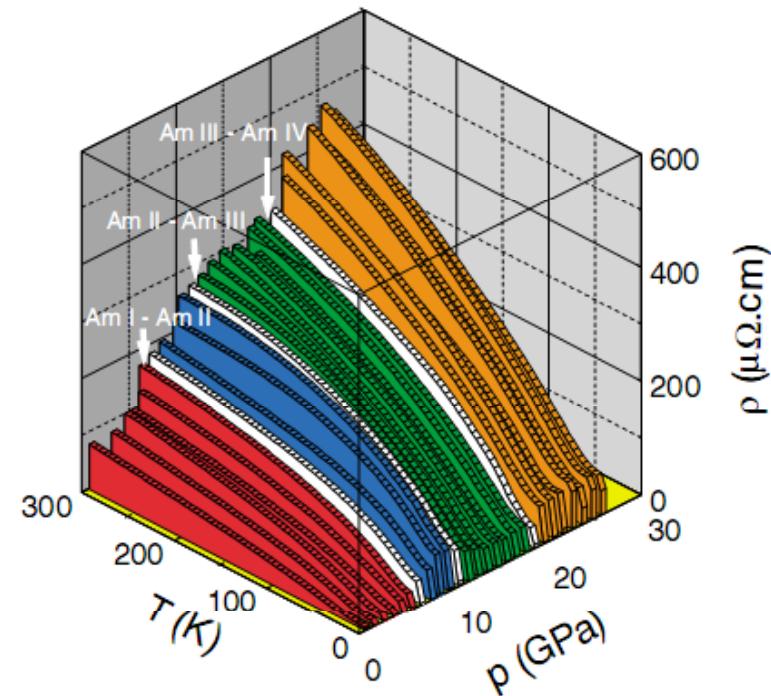
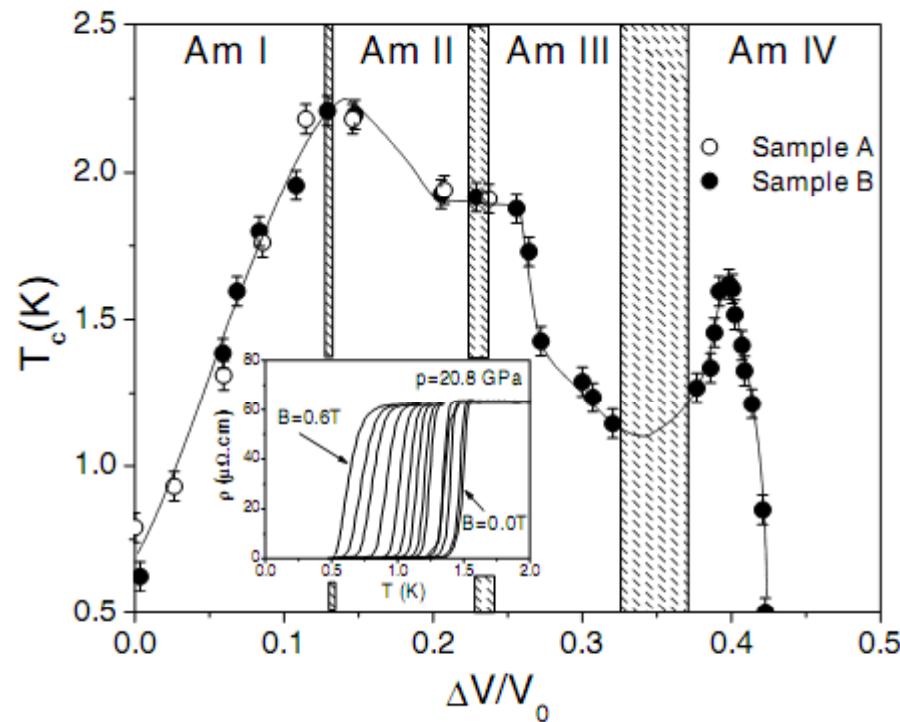
## Superconductivity in the Americium Metal as a Function of Pressure: Probing the Mott Transition

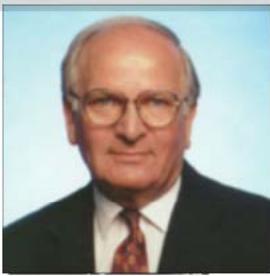
J.-C. Griveau, J. Rebizant, and G. H. Lander

*European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Institute for Transuranium Elements Postfach 2340, 76125 Karlsruhe, Germany*

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(Received 29 January 2004; published 7 March 2005)

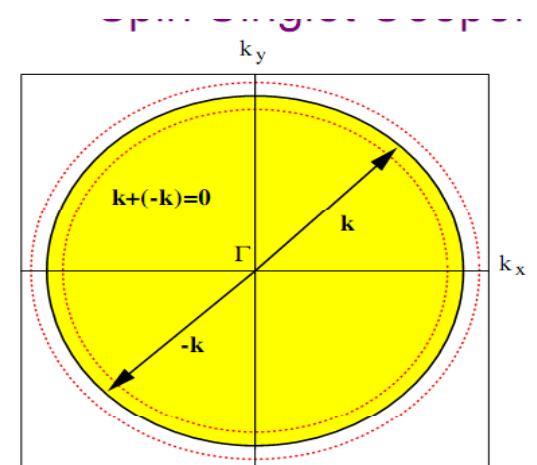




1972

$$H = H(\text{band}) + H(\text{el.-phonon}) + H(\text{phonon}) + H(\text{el.-el.})$$

$$H_{\text{red}} = \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_k c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + \sum_{kk'} V_{k,k'} c_{k\uparrow}^\dagger c_{-k\downarrow}^\dagger c_{-k'\downarrow} c_{k'\uparrow},$$



Reduced Hamiltonian and mean field solution!

*phase transition*

*Meissner effect*

*Josephson effect*

*ultrasonic attenuation*

*order parameter*

*zero resistance*

*specific heat*

*NMR*

*energy gap*

*flux quantization*

*spin susceptibility*

*fluctuation phenomena*

## Summary of BCS Mean Field Theory

$$\Delta_k = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{k'} V_{k,k'} \frac{\Delta_{k'}}{2E_{k'}} \tanh \frac{\beta E_{k'}}{2},$$

$$n = 1 - \frac{1}{N} \sum_k \frac{\epsilon_k - \mu}{E_k} \tanh \frac{\beta E_k}{2}.$$

where

$$E_k = \sqrt{(\epsilon_k - \mu)^2 + \Delta_k^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = \int_0^{\beta \omega_B/2} dx \frac{\tanh x}{x} \quad \lambda \equiv N(\mu)V$$

$$T_c \equiv 1.13 \omega_B \exp(-1/\lambda),$$

$$V_{kk'} = -V$$

At T=0 one can solve for the gap

$$\Delta = 2\omega_B \frac{\exp(-1/\lambda)}{1 - \exp(-1/\lambda)}$$

At weak coupling  $\Delta = \exp(-1/\lambda)$

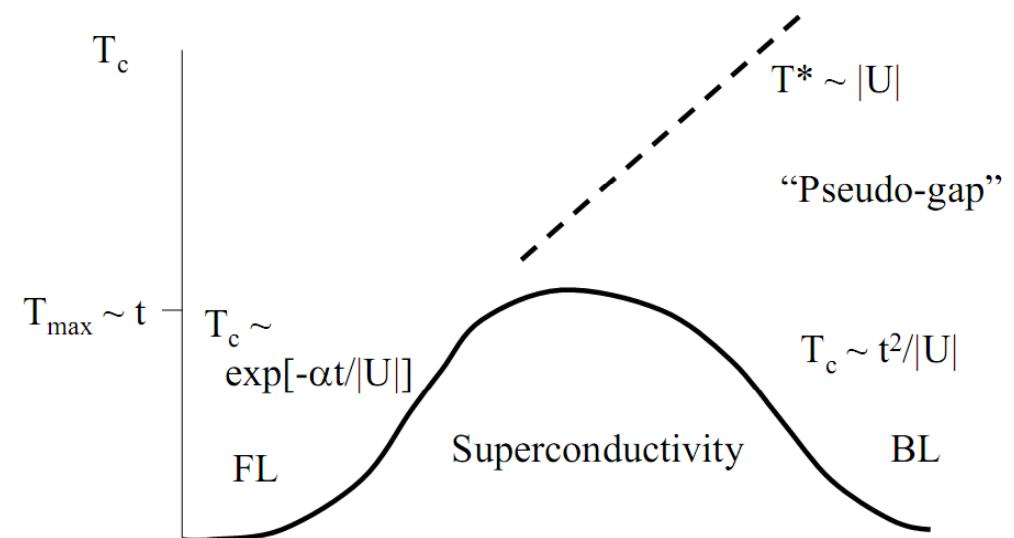
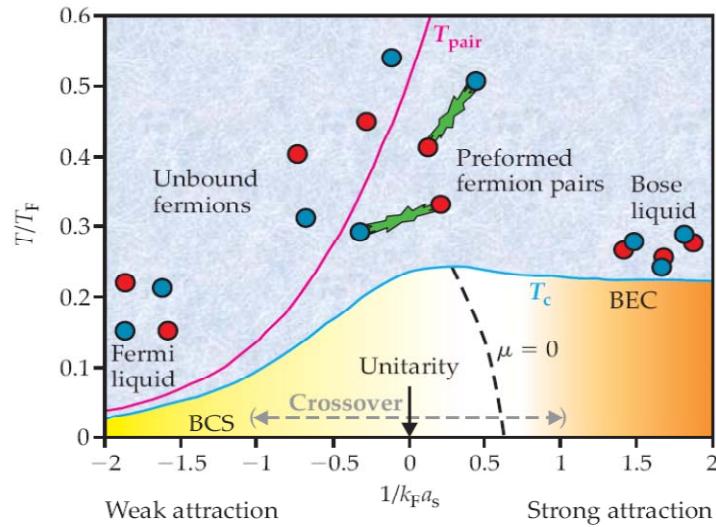
At strong coupling

$$\Delta = 2\omega_B \lambda.$$

BCS approximations break down at strong coupling.

- Q1: Why (and when !!!!) does MFT work.
- Q2 : When is the effective Hamiltonian a good guide to reality, and how do we estimate its parameter.

- BEC-BCS Crossover Problem
- A.J. Leggett, Karpacz Lectures (1980)
- P. Nozieres & S. Schmitt-Rink, JLTP 59, 195 (1985)



Review : Sa de Melo,  
Phys. Today (Oct. 2008)

Negative  $U$  Hubbard

**Critical Temperature and Thermodynamics of Attractive Fermions at Unitarity**Evgeni Burovski,<sup>1</sup> Nikolay Prokof'ev,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Boris Svistunov,<sup>1,2</sup> and Matthias Troyer<sup>4</sup>

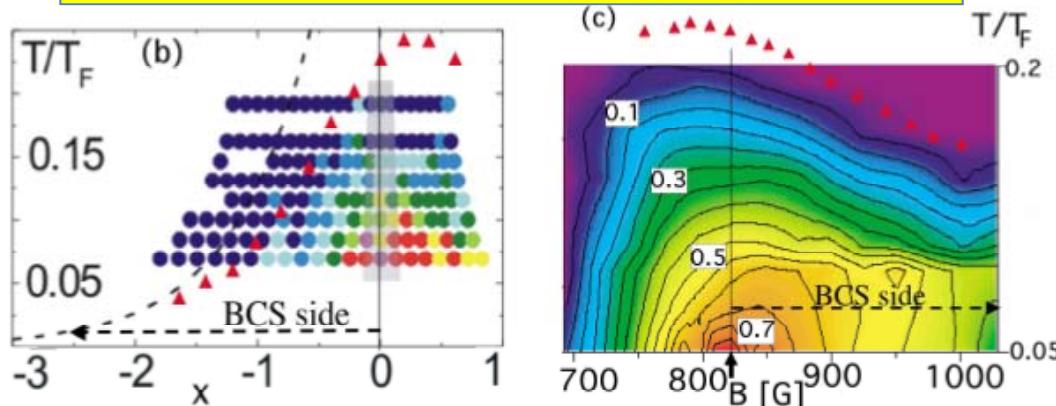
PRL 96, 160402 (2006)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
28 APRIL 2006

Scaling to the continuum the attractive Hubbard model. Diagrammatic QMC

$T_c/E_F \sim .15$



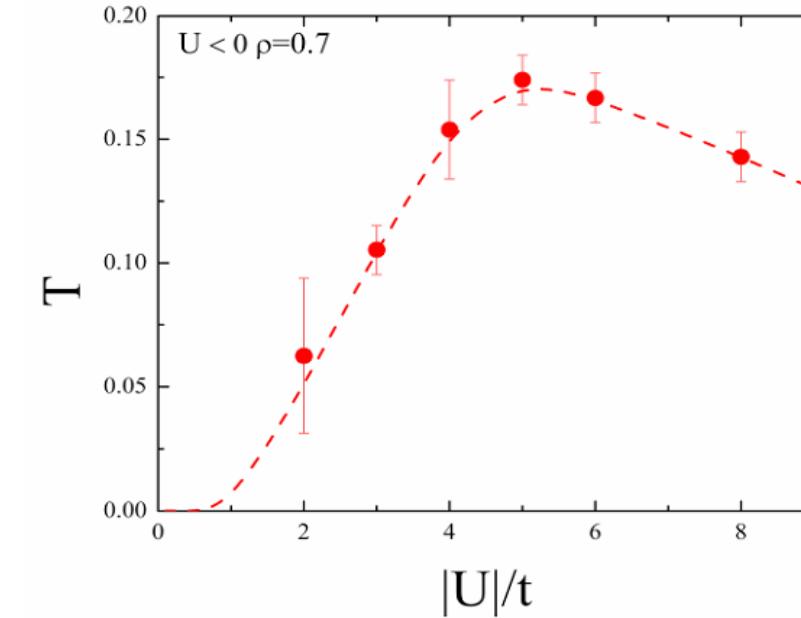
Experimental data:

K: Regal, Greiner & Jin, PRL ('04)  
Li: Zwierlein, *et al.*, PRL ('04)

$T_c/T_F \sim .2 , .25$

**Fermions in 2D Optical Lattices: Temperature and Entropy Scales  
for Observing Antiferromagnetism and Superfluidity**Thereza Paiva,<sup>1</sup> Richard Scalettar,<sup>2</sup> Mohit Randeria,<sup>3</sup> and Nandini Trivedi<sup>3</sup>

Determinantal Montecarlo on the  
negative U Hubbard model on a lattice at  
a particle density of .7.  $T_c/t$  vs  $|U|/t$ .  $D=4t$   
(half bandwidth).  $T_c$  extracted from SF  
den



Notice that most results are in the crossover region.  
BCS regime is hard to access for simulations and experiments on cold  
atoms. Solid state materials have much lower  $T_c$  /TF.  
Continuum models seem to have higher  $T_c$ /TF.

# Making, probing and understanding ultracold Fermi gases

WOLFGANG KETTERLE and MARTIN W. ZWIERLEIN

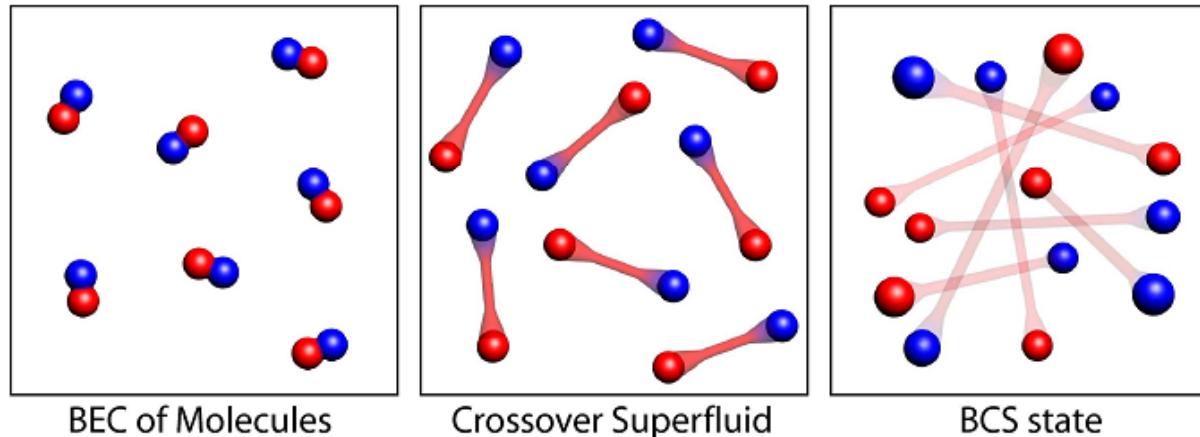


Fig. 1. – The BEC-BCS crossover. By tuning the interaction strength between the two fermionic spin states, one can smoothly cross over from a regime of tightly bound molecules to a regime of long-range Cooper pairs, whose characteristic size is much larger than the interparticle spacing. In between these two extremes, one encounters an intermediate regime where the pair size is comparable to the interparticle spacing.

System	$T_C$	$T_F$	$T_C/T_F$
Metallic lithium at ambient pressure [88]	0.4 mK	55 000 K	$10^{-8}$
Metallic superconductors (typical)	1–10 K	50 000 – 150 000 K	$10^{-4} \dots -5$
$^3\text{He}$	2.6 mK	5 K	$5 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$\text{MgB}_2$	39 K	6 000 K	$10^{-2}$
High- $T_C$ superconductors	35–140 K	2000 – 5000 K	$1 \dots 5 \cdot 10^{-2}$
Neutron stars	$10^{10}$ K	$10^{11}$ K	$10^{-1}$
Strongly interacting atomic Fermi gases	200 nK	1 $\mu$ K	0.2

TABLE I. – Transition temperatures, Fermi temperatures and their ratio  $T_C/T_F$  for a variety of fermionic superfluids or superconductors.