

ITALIAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PHYSICS
«ENRICO FERMI»

COURSE LXXXIX

edited by F. BASSANI, F. FUMI
and M. P. TOSI

Directors of the Course

VARENNA ON LAKE COMO

VILLA MONASTERO

28 June - 16 July 1983

*Highlights of
Condensed-Matter Theory*

1985



NORTH-HOLLAND
AMSTERDAM - OXFORD - NEW YORK - TOKYO

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PUBLISHED BY:

North-Holland Physics Publishing

a division of

Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.

P.O. Box 103

1000 AC Amsterdam

The Netherlands

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE USA AND CANADA:

Elsevier Science Publishing Company Inc.

52, Vanderbilt Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017

U.S.A.

Technical Editor

P. PAPALI

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Main entry under title:

Highlights of condensed-matter theory.

(Proceedings of the International School of Physics
"Enrico Fermi" ; course 89)

At head of title: Italian Physical Society.

Title on added t.p.: Punti focali nella teoria degli
stati condensati.

Includes index.

I. Condensed matter. I. Bassani, F. II. Fumi, F.
III. Tosi, M. P. IV. Società italiana di fisica.
V. Title: Punti focali nella teoria degli stati condensati.
VI. Series: International School of Physics "Enrico Fermi".
Proceedings of the International School of Physics "Enrico
Fermi" ; 89

QC173.4.C65H54 1985

530

85-17212

ISBN 0-444-86976-X

Proprietà Letteraria Riservata

Printed in Italy

SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI FISICA

RENDICONTI

DELLA

SCUOLA INTERNAZIONALE DI FISICA

«ENRICO FERMI»

LXXXIX CORSO

a cura di F. BASSANI, F. FUMI

e M. P. TOSI

Direttori del Corso

VARENNA SUL LAGO DI COMO

VILLA MONASTERO

28 Giugno - 16 Luglio 1983

*Punti focali
nella teoria degli stati condensati*

1985



SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI FISICA
BOLOGNA - ITALY

Preface.

This volume originates from the lectures delivered at the LXXXIX Course of the Enrico Fermi School, which was held in Varenna from 28 June to 15 July 1983. The purpose of the Course was to review leading areas in the theory of condensed matter, singling out those aspects which are of preminent current interest. The field is very broad and no attempt at complete coverage was made. The lecturers, who are among the people who have mostly contributed to each individual topic and also to the field as a whole, have agreed to prepare texts of their lectures for final publication.

The result which is now appearing in this volume is an overview of the present status of the physics of condensed matter. It is grouped under five general titles covering i) electronic structure of solids, ii) optical and transport properties, iii) defects and surfaces, iv) liquids and noncrystalline materials, and v) co-operative phenomena, phase transitions and instabilities. The volume should be useful to graduate students at the beginning of their career and also to advanced research professionals. In addition to up-to-date reviews of frontier topics in what may be his specific field of endeavour, the reader will find added stimulus to broaden his limits of competence and to acquire a taste for new problems in related fields, under the guidance of leading authorities.

The foundations of the theory of the electronic structure of solids are presented by W. KOHN in his lecture on the density functional formalism, the applications being reviewed in some detail by M. L. COHEN for nonmetals and by O. K. ANDERSEN for metals. J. C. PHILLIPS next discusses universal aspects of chemical bonding in condensed matter, while new aspects introduced by superlattices are highlighted by M. ALTARELLI.

Optical spectroscopy provides very precise tools for the study of excited electronic states as described by L. HEDIN. The development of lasers, with the possibility of nonlinear optical effects, has opened up new perspectives in this field. In this connection S. RODRIGUEZ and A. QUATTROPANI review nonlinear scattering of light (Brillouin and Raman) and two-photon absorption processes with their applications. R. PEIERLS has revived the fundamental problem of the definition of momentum and pseudomomentum of light and sound in condensed matter.

Aspects of transport properties in quasi-one-dimensional materials are examined by J. BARDEEN and L. PIETRONERO, while J. R. SCHRIEFFER reviews the topic of solitons and fractional charges in these materials. The newly discovered phenomenon of the fractional quantized Hall effect is presented by E. TOSATTI.

M. SCHLÜTER, J. D. DOW, C. CALANDRA and A. C. LEVI review next achievements of considerable importance in the understanding of impurity and defect states and of surface states and structures.

Many-body effects in quantum fluids are considered by D. PINES and A. W. OVERHAUSER, with emphasis on elementary excitations in liquid helium and in the electron gas and on charge and spin density waves, respectively. Related to these is the area of highly excited semiconductors with their electron-hole liquid phase described by L. V. KELDYSH. Classical liquids, with special emphasis on the structure of ionic liquids and electrolyte solutions, are covered by N. H. MARCH, while J. C. PHILLIPS reviews network glasses.

The last part of the book opens with a discussion of vibrational states and their interaction with electronic states. The behaviour of strongly coupled electron-phonon systems is particularly emphasized by P. W. ANDERSON, and the self-trapping of excited electrons with associated lattice deformation and symmetry breaking by Y. TOYOZAWA.

T. M. RICE and C. DI CASTRO discuss next the role of disorder localization and of electron-electron interactions. Phase transitions appear also through a discussion of scaling in dilute systems by R. B. STINCHCOMBE, other topics in this area being presented by M. RASETTI and A. CONIGLIO. Finally, the problem of symmetry-breaking instabilities and of the transition to chaotic behaviour could not be ignored. H. HAKEN and L. A. LUGIATO discuss examples in various domains of condensed matter, from Gunn oscillations to laser behaviour and optical bistability.

We hope that the reader will find the same enjoyment in this book as we and the other participants in the School had in attending the lectures in Varenna.

F. BASSANI

F. FUMI

M. TOSI

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONDENSED-MATTER THEORY

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