

Shiba-Rusinov theory of magnetic impurities in anisotropic superconductors: Eliashberg formalism

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The effect of paramagnetic impurities in anisotropic superconductors is investigated with use of the Shiba-Rusinov theory for the impurities and the Eliashberg formalism for the host superconductor. The analytical expressions for the transition temperature T_c and the specific-heat jump ΔC are derived with the use of the square-well model for the electron-phonon interaction. Considered as a function of the spin-flip scattering rate α , the quantities T_c/T_{c0} and $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ depend on the microscopic parameters λ , ω_D , and μ^* of the host material. The dependence on the material parameters becomes insignificant if the above properties are plotted versus α/α_{cr} or if $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ versus T_c/T_{c0} is studied. (T_{c0} and ΔC_0 are values of T_c and ΔC , respectively, in the absence of impurities, α_{cr} is the value of α for which T_c becomes zero, λ is electron-phonon-interaction parameter, ω_D is the Debye frequency, and μ^* is the Coulomb pseudopotential.)

I. INTRODUCTION

Recently, Okabe and Nagi¹ have studied the effect of paramagnetic impurities on the anisotropic superconductors by treating the impurities within the Shiba²-Rusinov³ (SR) model. In the SR theory the electron-impurity scattering is calculated exactly assuming a classical spin and the well-known Abrikosov-Gor'kov⁴ (AG) theory is a limiting case of this model. In Refs. 1–4 the host metal is described by using the Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer⁵ (BCS) formalism of the theory of superconductivity and as such the properties do not depend on the microscopic parameters λ , ω_D , and μ^* of the host (λ is the electron-phonon-interaction parameter, ω_D is the Debye cutoff frequency, and μ^* is the Coulomb pseudopotential).

It is important to consider the problem of paramagnetic impurities in superconductors by treating the host metal using the Eliashberg⁶ formalism (EF) of the theory of superconductivity.⁷ The transition temperature T_c for the case of AG impurities in isotropic superconductors using EF and the square-well model of the electron-phonon interaction (or the $\lambda^{\theta\theta}$ model) was investigated by Allen.⁸ Detailed numerical study using $\alpha^2 F(\omega)$ of lead in the AG case was done by Schachinger, Daams, and Carbotte⁹ [$\alpha^2 F(\omega)$ is the electron-phonon spectral density]. The T_c and some tunneling properties for the case of SR impurities were considered by Schachinger.¹⁰ The specific-heat jump of anisotropic superconductors with AG impurities using EF and the $\lambda^{\theta\theta}$ model has been given by Zarate and Carbotte.¹¹

The purpose of the present paper is to generalize the results of Ref. 1 by using the Eliashberg formalism. We are interested in the analytical expressions for the transition temperature and the specific-heat jump and as such we use the $\lambda^{\theta\theta}$ model. In appropriate limits the results of Refs. 1 and 11 are retrieved from our calculations.

The plan of the paper is as follows. In Sec. II we outline our general formalism. The transition temperature

T_c and the specific-heat jump ΔC are discussed in Secs. III and IV, respectively. In Sec. V we give conclusions.

II. FORMALISM

Assuming a low concentration of magnetic impurities in a strong-coupling superconductor, the single-particle Green's function for the conduction electrons, averaged over the positions and the spin directions of the impurities is given by

$$G_{\vec{k}}(n) = [i\tilde{\omega}_{\vec{k}}(n)\rho_3 - \epsilon_{\vec{k}} - \tilde{\Delta}_{\vec{k}}(n)\rho_2\sigma_2]^{-1}, \quad (2.1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\omega}_{\vec{k}}(n) = & \omega_n + \pi T \left\langle \sum_m \lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}}(n-m) \frac{U_{\vec{k}}(m)}{[U_{\vec{k}}^2(m)+1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle \\ & + \Gamma_1 \left\langle \frac{U_{\vec{k}}(n)[U_{\vec{k}}^2(n)+1]^{1/2}}{U_{\vec{k}}^2(n) + \epsilon_0^2} \right\rangle, \quad (2.2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Delta}_{\vec{k}}(n) = & \pi T \left\langle \sum_m [\lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}}(n-m) - \mu^*] \frac{1}{[U_{\vec{k}}^2(m)+1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle \\ & + \Gamma_2 \left\langle \frac{[U_{\vec{k}}^2(n)+1]^{1/2}}{U_{\vec{k}}^2(n) + \epsilon_0^2} \right\rangle. \quad (2.3) \end{aligned}$$

In above equations $\epsilon_{\vec{k}}$ is the single-particle energy, σ_i and ρ_i ($i=1,2,3$), respectively, are Pauli matrices operating on the ordinary spin states and the electron-hole spin states, ω_n is Matsubara frequency [$\omega_n = \pi T(2n+1)$, where T is temperature and n is an integer], $U_{\vec{k}}(n) = \tilde{\omega}_{\vec{k}}(n)/\tilde{\Delta}_{\vec{k}}(n)$, ϵ_0 is the normalized position of a bound state within the BCS gap, and

$$2\Gamma_1 = 1/\tau_1 + 1/\tau_2, \quad (2.4a)$$

$$2\Gamma_2 = 1/\tau_1 - 1/\tau_2, \quad (2.4b)$$

where $1/\tau_2$ ($1/\tau_1$) is the spin-flip (non-spin-flip) scattering rate from the magnetic impurities. Further $\langle \rangle'$ indicates the Fermi-surface averaging over the electron states \vec{k}' , the parameter μ^* is the Coulomb pseudopotential, and $\lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'}$ is the electron-phonon—interaction parameter.

We use the square-well model (or the $\lambda^{\theta\theta}$ model) of the electron-phonon interaction and take

$$\lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'}(n-m) = \lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} \theta(\omega_D - |\omega_n|) \theta(\omega_D - |\omega_m|), \quad (2.5)$$

where ω_D is the Debye cutoff frequency. The quantities Γ_1 , Γ_2 , and μ^* are taken to be isotropic. For anisotropy, we use the separable model of Ref. 12 and write

$$\lambda_{\vec{k}\vec{k}'} = \lambda(1+a_{\vec{k}})(1+a_{\vec{k}'}) , \quad (2.6)$$

$$\Delta_{\vec{k}} = \phi_0 + a_{\vec{k}} \phi_1 , \quad (2.7)$$

where $a_{\vec{k}}$ is the anisotropy parameter.

Using the above models, Eqs. (2.2) and (2.3) give

$$\frac{\omega_n}{U_{\vec{k}}(n)} = \frac{\phi_{0\lambda} + a_{\vec{k}} \phi_{1\lambda} + \Gamma_{2\lambda} \phi_n}{1 + \Gamma_{1\lambda} C_n + a_{\vec{k}} \lambda / (1 + \lambda)} , \quad (2.8)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{0\lambda} &= \frac{\phi_0}{1 + \lambda} \\ &= \frac{2\pi T}{1 + \lambda} \sum_{m \geq 0} \left[\lambda \left\langle \frac{(1 + a_{\vec{k}'})}{[U_{\vec{k}',(m)}^2 + 1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle' \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \mu^* \left\langle \frac{1}{[U_{\vec{k}',(m)}^2 + 1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle' \right] , \quad (2.9) \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi_{1\lambda} = \frac{\phi_1}{1 + \lambda} = \frac{2\lambda\pi T}{1 + \lambda} \sum_{m \geq 0} \left\langle \frac{(1 + a_{\vec{k}'})}{[U_{\vec{k}',(m)}^2 + 1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle' , \quad (2.10)$$

$$\phi_n = \left\langle \frac{[U_{\vec{k},(n)}^2 + 1]^{1/2}}{U_{\vec{k},(n)}^2 + \epsilon_0^2} \right\rangle' , \quad (2.11)$$

$$C_n \omega_n = \left\langle \frac{U_{\vec{k},(n)}}{[U_{\vec{k},(n)}^2 + 1]^{1/2}} \right\rangle' , \quad (2.12)$$

$$\Gamma_{1\lambda} = \frac{\Gamma_1}{1 + \lambda} , \quad (2.13)$$

$$\Gamma_{2\lambda} = \frac{\Gamma_2}{1 + \lambda} . \quad (2.14)$$

From now on various sums go up to $N = (\omega_D/2\pi T) - \frac{1}{2}$.

For temperature near the superconducting transition temperature T_c , the superconducting order parameter becomes very small and $U_{\vec{k}}(n) \gg 1$. Furthermore, the anisotropy parameter is assumed to be small. Thus for T near T_c , Eq. (2.8) can be rewritten as

$$\omega_n / U_{\vec{k}}(n) = A_{0n} + a_{\vec{k}} A_{1n} + a_{\vec{k}}^2 A_{2n} , \quad (2.15)$$

where after lengthy algebra, we find

$$A_{0n} = A_{0n}|_{T=T_c} + \frac{2\epsilon_0^2 - 1}{2} \frac{\phi_{0\lambda}^3 \alpha_\lambda \omega_n}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^4} + \frac{2\epsilon_0^2 - 1}{2} \phi_{0\lambda}^3 a^2 H_{2n} , \quad (2.16)$$

$$A_{0n}|_{T=T_c} = \frac{\phi_{0\lambda} \omega_n}{\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda} - \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{a^2 \phi_{0\lambda} \Gamma_{2\lambda} \omega_n^2 \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2 (\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)^2} , \quad (2.17)$$

$$A_{1n} = \frac{\phi_{0\lambda} \omega_n \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} + \frac{\phi_{0\lambda}^3 (2\epsilon_0^2 - 1)}{2(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2 (\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \left[\frac{\omega_n \beta_\lambda \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)} - \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{\alpha_\lambda \omega_n^2}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2} \right] , \quad (2.18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{2n} = -\phi_{0\lambda} \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{1}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)^2} &\left[\omega_n^2 \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda) - \frac{2\epsilon_0^2 - 1}{2} \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \phi_{0\lambda}^2 \frac{\alpha_\lambda \omega_n^3}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^3} \right. \\ &\left. + \phi_{0\lambda}^2 (2\epsilon_0^2 - 1) \frac{\omega_n^2 \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda) \beta_\lambda}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2 (\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right] , \quad (2.19) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{2n} = \frac{1}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^4} &\left[(3\alpha_\lambda - 2\beta_\lambda) \frac{\omega_n \tilde{h}^2(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} + \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \left[\beta_\lambda - 3\alpha_\lambda - \frac{\beta_\lambda \Gamma_{2\lambda}}{\omega_n + \beta_\lambda} \right] \frac{\omega_n^2 \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)} \right. \\ &\left. - 2 \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{\omega_n^2 \Gamma_{2\lambda} \beta_\lambda \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)^2} + \left[\frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \right]^2 \frac{\omega_n^3 \Gamma_{2\lambda} \alpha_\lambda}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right] , \quad (2.20) \end{aligned}$$

where we have introduced

$$a^2 = \langle a_{\vec{k}}^2 \rangle , \quad (2.21)$$

$$\alpha_\lambda = \Gamma_{1\lambda} - \Gamma_{2\lambda}, \quad (2.22)$$

$$\beta_\lambda = \Gamma_{1\lambda} = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_\lambda(1+\delta), \quad \delta = \tau_2/\tau_1, \quad (2.23)$$

$$\tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda) = \left[h\omega_n + \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - \mu^*} \alpha_\lambda \right], \quad (2.24)$$

$$h = \frac{\lambda(1+\mu^*)}{(1+\lambda)(\lambda - \mu^*)}. \quad (2.25)$$

Now we proceed to Eq. (2.9) for $\phi_{0\lambda}$. Expanding the square root in the denominator for small $1/U_{\vec{k}}(m)$, then substituting Eqs. (2.15)–(2.20) and evaluating the Fermi-surface averages, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2\pi T} \left[\frac{1+\lambda}{\lambda - \mu^*} \right] &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left[\frac{1}{\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda} + a^2 \frac{\tilde{h}^2(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right] \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \phi_{0\lambda}^2 \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^4} \left[\omega_n + 2(1 - \epsilon_0^2)\alpha_\lambda + 2a^2 \left[3\omega_n + 3\alpha_\lambda(1 - \epsilon_0^2) + \beta_\lambda(1 + \epsilon_0^2) \right] \frac{\tilde{h}^2(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)^2} \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{2\lambda}{1+\lambda} (2\epsilon_0^2 - 1)\alpha_\lambda \frac{\omega_n \tilde{h}(\omega_n, \alpha_\lambda)}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right]. \quad (2.26) \end{aligned}$$

III. TRANSITION TEMPERATURE

At the transition temperature, the order parameter becomes zero. Setting $\phi_{0\lambda} = 0$ in Eq. (2.26), and following a standard procedure, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (1 + h^2 a^2) \ln \left[\frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} \right] &= [1 + a^2 h_1 (2h - h_1)] \left[\psi \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] \\ &+ a^2 (h - h_1)^2 \left[\psi \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] + a^2 h_1^2 \left[\frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} - \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right], \quad (3.1) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$h_1 = \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda} \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{\beta_\lambda - \alpha_\lambda}, \quad (3.2)$$

$\psi^{(n)}(z)$ are polygamma functions,¹³ and T_{c0} is the transition temperature of a pure anisotropic superconductor given by

$$\frac{1+\lambda}{\lambda - \mu^*} = (1 + a^2 h^2) \ln(2e^C \omega_D / \pi T_{c0}), \quad (3.3)$$

with C as the Euler's constant. Equation (3.1) is our general T_c equation and agrees with Eq. (49) of Ref. 11. Note that the difference between the AG- and SR-approximation results is only through the definitions of Γ_1 and Γ_2 . Using the values of these quantities given in Table I of Ref. 1, we obtain T_c in the AG and SR models. Note also that Eq. (3.1) of Ref. 1 is retrieved from our equations by taking $h_1 \rightarrow 0$, $h \rightarrow 1$, and $\alpha_\lambda \rightarrow \alpha$.

In the limit of low impurity concentration $n_i \rightarrow 0$, Eq. (3.1) gives

$$\frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} = 1 - \frac{\pi P}{4T_{c0}(1 + a^2 h^2)}, \quad (3.4)$$

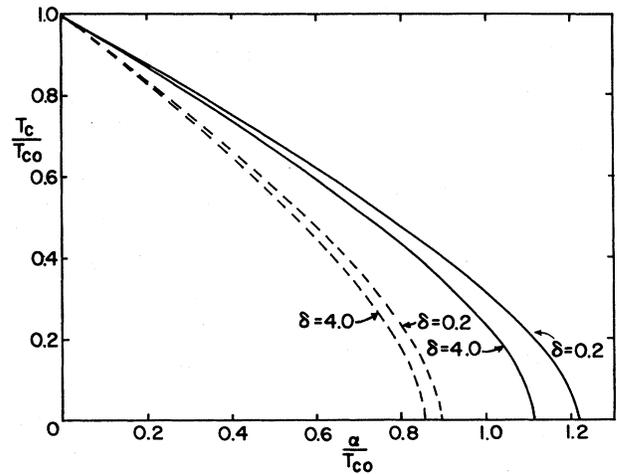


FIG. 1. Normalized transition temperature T_c/T_{c0} vs α/T_{c0} for $a^2=0.03$ and $\delta=0.2$ and 4.0 . The quantity α is proportional to the impurity concentration, a^2 is the anisotropy parameter, and $\delta=\tau_2/\tau_1$ with $1/\tau_2$ ($1/\tau_1$) as the spin-flip (non-spin-flip) scattering rate. The microscopic parameters used for solid curves are $\lambda=0.313$ [appropriate for Zn (Ref. 14)] and $\mu^*=0.1$. The dashed curves denote the BCS results.

with

$$P = \alpha_\lambda + a^2 h^2 \beta_\lambda - 2a^2 h^2 \alpha_\lambda \frac{\lambda - \mu^*}{1 + \mu^*}. \quad (3.5)$$

The critical value of α which makes $T_c = 0$ is obtained from Eq. (3.1),

$$\alpha_{cr} = (1 + \lambda) \frac{\pi T_{c0}}{2e^C} \left[\frac{2}{1 + \delta} \right]^{a^2(h-h_1)^2/(1+a^2h^2)} \times \exp \left[\frac{a^2 h_1^2 (\delta - 1)}{2(1 + a^2 h^2)} \right]. \quad (3.6)$$

One should note the dependence of Eqs. (3.4) and (3.6) on the microscopic parameters by comparing these with Eqs. (3.2) and (3.3) of Ref. 1.

When $\alpha_\lambda = \beta_\lambda$ (i.e., $\delta = 1.0$), Eqs. (3.1) and (3.6) become, respectively,

$$\ln \left[\frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} \right] = \left[\psi \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] + 2h \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \frac{a^2}{1 + a^2 h^2} \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right], \quad (3.7)$$

$$\alpha_{cr} = (1 + \lambda) \left[\frac{\pi T_{c0}}{2e^C} \right] \exp \left[\frac{2\lambda}{1 + \lambda} \frac{a^2 h}{1 + a^2 h^2} \right]. \quad (3.8)$$

The dependence of T_c/T_{c0} on the impurity concentration for the case of $\lambda = 0.313$ [appropriate for Zn (Ref. 14)] $\mu^* = 0.1$, and for the BCS case is shown in Fig. 1. We have taken $a^2 = 0.03$ and $\delta = 0.2$ and 4.0. One notes a dependence on the microscopic parameters in the figure. However, this dependence becomes very small if we plot T_c/T_{c0} versus the normalized impurity concentration α/α_{cr} .

IV. SPECIFIC-HEAT JUMP

In this section we discuss the specific-heat jump at T_c . Because the λ^{00} model is essentially a weak-coupling model, with the electron-phonon-interaction parameter regarded as a constant, we calculate¹⁵ ΔC by following the same procedure as in Ref. 1. First we write Eq. (2.26) as

$$\ln \left[\frac{T_{c0}}{T} \right] = B_0(n_i, T) + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\phi_0}{2\pi T} \right]^2 \frac{B_1(n_i, T)}{(1 + \lambda)^2} + \dots, \quad (4.1)$$

where

$$B_0(n_i, T) = \frac{2\pi T}{1 + a^2 h^2} \sum_{n \geq 0} \left[\left[\frac{1}{\omega_n} - \frac{1}{\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda} \right] + a^2 h^2 \left[\frac{1}{\omega_n} - \frac{\{\omega_n + [(1 + \lambda)/(1 + \mu^*)]\alpha_\lambda\}^2}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^2(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right] \right], \quad (4.2)$$

$$B_1(n_i, T) = \frac{1}{1 + a^2 h^2} [b_0(n_i, T) + a^2 b_1(n_i, T)], \quad (4.3)$$

$$b_0(n_i, T) = (2\pi T)^3 \sum_{n \geq 0} \left[\frac{1}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^3} - \frac{(2\epsilon_0^2 - 1)\alpha_\lambda}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^4} \right], \quad (4.4)$$

$$b_1(n_i, T) = 16\pi^3 T^3 \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)^4} \left[[3\omega_n + 3\alpha_\lambda(1 - \epsilon_0^2) + \beta_\lambda(1 + \epsilon_0^2)] \frac{h^2 \{\omega_n + [(1 + \lambda)/(1 + \mu^*)]\alpha_\lambda\}^2}{(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)^2} + \frac{2\lambda}{1 + \lambda} (2\epsilon_0^2 - 1) \frac{\alpha_\lambda \omega_n h \{\omega_n + [(1 + \lambda)/(1 + \mu^*)]\alpha_\lambda\}}{(\omega_n + \alpha_\lambda)(\omega_n + \beta_\lambda)} \right]. \quad (4.5)$$

In BCS limit, Eqs. (4.2)–(4.5) reduce to Eqs. (2.16)–(2.19) of Ref. 1.

Now the specific-heat jump is given by

$$\Delta C = C_S - C_N = 8\pi^2 N(0) T_c (1 + \lambda) \frac{1 + a^2 h^2}{B_1(n_i, T_c)} \left[1 + T_c \frac{\partial}{\partial T} B_0(n_i, T) \right]_{T=T_c}^2, \quad (4.6)$$

where C_S and C_N are the electronic specific heat in the superconducting and normal states, respectively. It is convenient to define

$$\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta C_0} = \frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} \frac{B_1(0, T_{c0})}{B_1(n_i, T_c)} \left[1 + T_c \frac{\partial}{\partial T} B_0(n_i, T) \right]_{T=T_c}^2, \quad (4.7)$$

where ΔC_0 is the value of ΔC for $n_i = 0$ and is given by

$$\Delta C_0 = \frac{8\pi^2 N(0) T_{c0} (1 + \lambda) (1 + a^2 h^2)^2}{8\lambda(3)(1 + 6a^2 h^2)}, \quad (4.8)$$

with

$$\lambda(l) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^l} = \frac{1}{2^l(-1)^l(l-1)!} \psi^{(l-1)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right). \quad (4.9)$$

First we calculate the initial depression of $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ in the limit of $n_i \rightarrow 0$. Using Eqs. (4.7) and (4.2)–(4.5) we obtain

$$\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta C_0} = 1 - \frac{12\lambda(2)}{1+a^2h^2} \frac{P}{2\pi T_{c0}} + \frac{4\lambda(4)}{\lambda(3)(1+6a^2h^2)} \frac{Q}{2\pi T_{c0}}, \quad (4.10)$$

where

$$Q = \alpha_\lambda(1+\epsilon_0^2) + a^2h^2\left[\frac{9}{2}(\alpha_\lambda+\beta_\lambda) + \frac{1}{2}(2\epsilon_0^2-1)(3\alpha_\lambda-\beta_\lambda)\right] - 4a^2h^2\alpha_\lambda(\epsilon_0^2+1)\frac{\lambda-\mu^*}{1+\mu^*}, \quad (4.11)$$

and P is defined in Eq. (3.5). One should note the dependence of Eq. (4.10) on the microscopic parameters.

It is also interesting to calculate the quantity

$$C^* = \left. \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial n_i} \frac{\Delta C}{\Delta C_0} / \frac{\partial}{\partial n_i} \frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} \right] \right|_{n_i \rightarrow 0} \quad (4.12)$$

using Eqs. (3.4), (3.5), (4.10), and (4.11) in Eq. (4.12), thereby obtaining

$$C^* = 3 - \frac{1+a^2h^2}{1+6a^2h^2} \frac{\lambda(4)}{\lambda(2)\lambda(3)} \frac{\alpha(1+\epsilon_0^2) + a^2h^2\left[\frac{9}{2}(\alpha+\beta) + \frac{1}{2}(2\epsilon_0^2-1)(3\alpha-\beta)\right] - 4a^2h^2\alpha(1+\epsilon_0^2)[(\lambda-\mu^*)/(1+\mu^*)]}{\alpha + a^2h^2\beta - 2a^2h^2\alpha[(\lambda-\mu^*)/(1+\mu^*)]} \quad (4.13)$$

Comparing Eq. (4.13) with Eq. (4.4) of Ref. 1, we note that the anisotropy parameter a^2 has been replaced by a^2h^2 and the terms proportional to $(\lambda-\mu^*)/(1+\mu^*)$ have been added in the numerator and the denominator. Taking $a^2=0.03$, $\epsilon_0^2=1.0$, and $0 \leq (\beta/\alpha) \leq 5$, however, we find no significant difference between the BCS value of C^* and the value computed by taking $\lambda=0.313$ (appropriate for Zn) and $\mu^*=0.1$.

For the purpose of numerical evaluation of the specific-heat jump at different impurity concentrations, we use Eqs. (4.7) and (4.2)–(4.5) to write

$$\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta C_0} = 8\lambda(3) \frac{(1+6a^2h^2)}{(1+a^2h^2)^2} \frac{T_c}{T_{c0}} \frac{[\bar{A}(n_i, T_c) + a^2\bar{B}(n_i, T_c)]^2}{[\underline{C}(n_i, T_c) + a^2\underline{D}(n_i, T_c)]}, \quad (4.14)$$

where

$$\bar{A}(n_i, T_c) = 1 - \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right], \quad (4.15)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{B}(n_i, T_c) = & h^2 - (h-h_1)^2 \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] - \left[h_1(2h-h_1) \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} + h_1^2 \left[\frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} - \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \\ & + h_1^2 \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \left[\frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} - \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \psi^{(2)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

$$\underline{C}(n_i, T_c) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{n + \frac{1}{2} + 2(1-\epsilon_0^2)(\alpha_\lambda/2\pi T_c)}{\left[n + \frac{1}{2} + (\alpha_\lambda/2\pi T_c) \right]^4}, \quad (4.17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{D}(n_i, T_c) = & 2 \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{\left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]^4} \left[\left(3\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) + 3 \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} (1-\epsilon_0^2) + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} (1+\epsilon_0^2) \right) \frac{h^2 \left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1+\lambda}{1+\mu^*} \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]^2}{\left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]^2} \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{2\lambda}{1+\lambda} (2\epsilon_0^2-1) \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) h \frac{\left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1+\lambda}{1+\mu^*} \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]}{\left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \left[n + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.18)$$

When $\alpha_\lambda = \beta_\lambda$ (i.e., $\delta = 1.0$), Eqs. (4.15), (4.17), and (4.18) remain valid but Eq. (4.16) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{B}(n_i, T_c) = & h^2 - \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} h \left[h - \frac{2\lambda}{1+\lambda} \right] \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] - \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda} \left[2h - \frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda} \right] \left[\frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]^2 \psi^{(2)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\lambda}{1+\lambda} \right]^2 \left[\frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]^3 \psi^{(3)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\alpha_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

In the AG limit ($\epsilon_0 = 1.0$) the above equations agree with corresponding ones given in Ref. 11, and in the BCS limit the results of Ref. 1 are retrieved.

We show the dependence of $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ versus α/T_{c0} for $\epsilon_0^2 = 0.0$ and 0.5 , $a^2 = 0.03$, and $\delta = 1.0$ in Fig. 2. The microscopic parameters used for the solid curves are $\lambda = 0.313$, $\omega_D = 26.3$ meV [appropriate for Zn (Ref. 14)], and $\mu^* = 0.1$. The dashed curves denote the BCS results. Although one notes a dependence on the material parameters in the figure, this dependence becomes very small if we plot $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ versus α/α_{cr} . We have also found that the normalized plot of the specific-heat jump versus the transition temperature does not depend on the microscopic parameters significantly.

Now we give ΔC for the nonmagnetic impurities ($\alpha_\lambda = 0$). In this limit, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta C/T_c}{(\Delta C_0)_0/(T_{c0})_0} = & \left[1 + a^2 h^2 - a^2 h^2 \left[\frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right]^2 \\ & \times \left\{ 1 - \frac{a^2 h^2}{\frac{1}{4} \psi^{(2)}(\frac{1}{2})} \frac{2\pi T_c}{\beta_\lambda} \left[2\psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{2\pi T_c}{\beta_\lambda} \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \frac{2\pi T_c}{\beta_\lambda} \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right\}^{-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.20)$$

where $(\Delta C_0)_0$ and $(T_{c0})_0$ are the values of the corresponding quantities for $n_i = 0$ and $a^2 = 0$. For $a^2 \ll 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta C/T_c}{(\Delta C_0)_0/(T_{c0})_0} = & 1 - 2a^2 h^2 \left[\frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] - 1 + \left[-\frac{1}{2} \psi^{(2)}(\frac{1}{2}) \right]^{-1} \right. \\ & \times \left\{ \frac{2\pi T_c}{\beta_\lambda} \left[2\psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] - \psi^{(1)} \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] \right] \right. \\ & \left. \left. - \left[\frac{2\pi T_c}{\beta_\lambda} \right]^2 \left[\psi \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\beta_\lambda}{2\pi T_c} \right] - \psi \left[\frac{1}{2} \right] \right] \right\} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

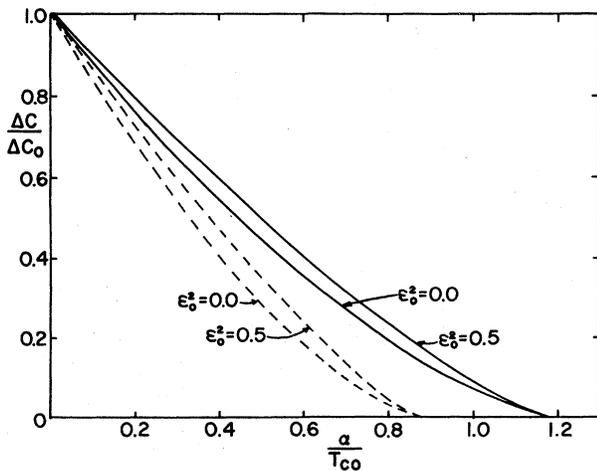


FIG. 2. Normalized specific-heat jump at T_c vs α/T_{c0} for $\epsilon_0^2 = 0.0$ and 0.5 , $a^2 = 0.03$, and $\delta = 1.0$. The microscopic parameters used for solid curves are $\lambda = 0.313$, $\omega_D = 26.3$ meV, and $\mu^* = 0.1$. The dashed curves denote the BCS results.

Comparing Eq. (4.21) with Eq. (4.8) of Ref. 1 we note that the quantity a^2 has been replaced by $a^2 h^2$ and β has been replaced by $\beta_\lambda = \beta/(1+\lambda)$. With a suitable scaling of a^2 and β , the dependence of $\Delta C/T_c$ on β_λ/T_{c0} is the same as shown in Fig. 5 of Ref. 1.

V. CONCLUSIONS

We have studied the problem of anisotropic superconductors containing paramagnetic impurities. The host superconductor is described using the Eliashberg formalism and the impurities are treated within the Shiba-Rusinov theory. The analytical expressions for the transition temperature T_c and the specific-heat jump ΔC are derived by using the $\lambda^{\theta\theta}$ model of the electron-phonon interaction and our results are the generalization of those given in Ref. 1.

T_c and ΔC are discussed in Secs. III and IV, respectively. The initial depression in T_c [Eq. (3.4)], the critical value of the spin-flip scattering rate α_{cr} [Eq. (3.6)], and the initial depression in ΔC [Eq. (4.10)] depend on the mi-

microscopic parameters λ , ω_D , and μ^* of the host material. The variation of T_c/T_{c0} and $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ with α/T_{c0} are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively, and these curves also depend on the microscopic parameters (we took $a^2=0.03$). We have found that the dependence on the material parameters becomes insignificant if the above properties are plotted against α/α_{cr} or if $\Delta C/\Delta C_0$ versus T_c/T_{c0} is studied.

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