



Pressure Induced Phase-Transition of β-As₂Te₃

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Ground-State Properties

Density Functional Theory



Interacting electrons + real potential



Non-interacting, fictitious particles + effective potential

Kohn-Sham equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\rm KS}[n(\mathbf{r})] \end{bmatrix} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) \qquad n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i^{occ} |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$
$$v_{\rm KS}[n(\mathbf{r})] = v_{\rm ext}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\rm Hartree}[n(\mathbf{r})] + v_{\rm xc}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$
$$v_{\rm xc}[n(\mathbf{r})] = \frac{\delta E_{\rm xc}[n(\mathbf{r})]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} \qquad \bullet$$

Ground-State Properties

Exchange-Correlation Functionals



Marc Chagall – Jacob's dream

Lattice Dynamics

Systems perturbed by external stimuli Temperature Phase transitions



Pieter Bruegel the Elder--The Hunters in the Snow (Winter)--1565

Little Ice Age

Lattice Dynamics

Mean energy of each vibrational mode, v

$$E(\vec{q},\nu) = \hbar\omega(\vec{q},\nu) \left[\frac{1}{2} + n(\vec{q},\nu)\right]$$

Bose-Einstein distribution

$$n(\vec{q},\nu) = n(\omega,T) = \left[\frac{1}{\exp\left(\hbar\omega(\vec{q},\nu)/k_BT\right) - 1}\right]$$

Phonons modelled as waves with an associated reciprocal-space wavevector \boldsymbol{q} (3N modes/ \boldsymbol{q} -point)

3 acoustic modes $\omega \rightarrow 0$ and $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$ (atoms move in-phase)

3N-3 optical modes (atoms move out-ofphase)



Potential Energy of a Phonon System

$$\phi = V_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{j,j'\\l,l'}} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{j,l} \partial \mathbf{u}_{j',l'}} \mathbf{u}_{j,l} \mathbf{u}_{j',l'} + \cdots$$
$$+ \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{\substack{j,\cdots,j^{(n)}\\l,\cdots,l^{(n)}}} \frac{\partial^n V}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{j,l} \cdots \partial \mathbf{u}_{j^{(n)},l^{(n)}}} \mathbf{u}_{j,l} \cdots \mathbf{u}_{j^{(n)},l^{(n)}}$$

Harmonic phonon energy

$$E(q) = \sum_{q} \hbar \omega(q) \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\exp(\hbar \omega(q)/k_{\rm B}T) - 1} \right]$$



Helmoltz Free energy

 $F = -k_B T \ln Z$

$$Z(T) = \exp\left(-\phi/k_B T\right) \prod_{\vec{q},\nu} \frac{\exp\left[-\hbar\omega(\vec{q},\nu)/2k_B T\right]}{1 - \exp\left[-\hbar\omega(\vec{q},\nu)/k_B T\right]}$$

$$F(V,T) = \phi + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\vec{q},\nu} \hbar \omega(\vec{q},\nu) + k_B T \sum_{\vec{q},\nu} \ln\left[1 - \exp\left[-\hbar \omega(\vec{q},\nu/k_B T)\right]\right]$$

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$$Lattice energy$$

$$Vibrational zero-point energy$$

$$Temperature dependence from phonon occupation$$

Phonon frequencies derived from the restoring force in response to ion displacements from equilibrium positions



Interactomic Force Constants (IFC)

$$\phi_{\alpha\beta}(jl,j'l') = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial u_{\alpha}(jl)\partial u_{\beta}(j'l')} = -\frac{\partial F_{\beta}(j'l')}{\partial u_{\alpha}(jl)}$$

- Density-Functional Perturbation Theory
- Finite displacement Parlinski-Li-Kawazoe supercell approach

K. Parlinski *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 78, 4063 (1997) L. Chaput *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B 84, 094302 (2001)

$$\phi_{\alpha\beta}(jl,j'l') \simeq -\frac{F_{\beta}(j'l';\Delta u_{\alpha}(jl)) - F_{\beta}(j'l')}{\Delta u_{\alpha}(jl)}$$

Lattice Thermal Conductivity

The *lattice thermal conductivity* arises from contributions by phonons of all frequencies (lattice vibrations).

It is also possible to estimate lattice thermal conductivity from lattice dynamics calculations alone, by considering higher order terms in the Taylor expansion:

- Relaxation times
- Anharmonic frequencies

Boltzmann transport equation

$$\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r})_{\text{diff}} + \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r})_{\text{ext}} + \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r})_{\text{scatt}} = 0$$

Relaxation-time approximation

$$-\frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}{\partial t}(\mathbf{r})_{\text{scatt}} = \frac{f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} - f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}^0}{\tau_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}$$

Mode group velocity

$$f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} - f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}^0 = -\upsilon_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} - \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}^0}{\partial T} \Delta T \tau_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}$$

 $\sim \sim 0$

Lattice Thermal Conductivity

From the group velocity and relaxation time, the lattice thermal conductivity tensor can be obtained from a summation over modes:

$$\kappa = \sum_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \omega_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \frac{\partial f_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}^0}{\partial T} \upsilon_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \otimes \upsilon_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \tau_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} = \sum_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} C_{V,\mathbf{q}\lambda} \upsilon_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \otimes \upsilon_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} \tau_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}$$
Phonon lifetimes $\tau_{\mathbf{q}\lambda} = \frac{1}{2\Gamma_{\mathbf{q}\lambda}}$

Regarding the RTA, it is worth noting that in bulk materials there may be other important scattering mechanisms, including those related to defects, the presence of different atomic isotopes, grain boundaries, etc. Moreover, the RTA only takes into account perturbations in phonon occupation numbers due to the temperature gradient for individual phonon modes, while assuming that all others maintain their equilibrium distribution. However, while neglecting the variation in occupation serves to reduce the thermal conductivity, not accounting for the effect of isotope scattering leads to an overestimation, and it is thought that these two approximations typically result ina fortuitous cancellation of errors, and so the RTA frequently gives values close to those observed experimentally.

Many-Body Perturbation Theory: *GW*

- Electron correlation: treating it as a small perturbation to the Hamiltonian of the system.
- MBPT can treat the many-body correlations as if these were composed by weakly interacting particles: quasiparticles and collective excitations. In order to calculate the properties of these particles one can resort to quantum field theoretical quantities such as Green's fuctions, also known as propogators.
- The conceptual tool of GW is the one-particle Green's function.
- Knowledge of the Green's function of a system provides the most important physical information such as the groundstate energy and other thermodynamic functions, the energy and lifetime of excited states, and linear response to external perturbations.



In GW, the self-energy is given by the Hartree term, and the Fock term is supplemented by the screened Coulomb interaction, W, instead of the bare V. W is calculated within the RPA, in which the screening is given by the interaction with independent electron-hole pairs.

Feynman diagram: the interaction between two electrons is mediated via a virtual electron-hole pair (bubble) which causes a dynamical charge redistirbuition – electrons only perceive each other through a screened interaction.

The GW approximation is an approximation to the self-energy which attempts to account for the complicated correlation effects in a many-body system. The simplest approximation results from the expansion of the Hedin's equation, which stem from five coupled equations

The Schwinger-Dyson equation, the screened interaction, the polarisation vector, the standard relations between irreducible and reducible vertex, and self-energy

The Schwinger-Dyson equation relating the self-energy to the Green's function

$$G(12) = G^{0}(12) + \int d[34] \ G^{0}(13)\Sigma(34)G(42)$$

Screened interaction

$$W(12) = \int [d3] \ \epsilon^{-1}(13)V(32)$$

Related to the polarisation vector through the dielectric function $\int dt dt dt dt dt dt$

$$\epsilon(13) = \delta(13) - \int d[4] V(14)\Pi(43)$$

Inverse of the Green's function

$$\delta(13) = \int d[4] \ G(14)G^{-1}(43)$$

Dynamically screened interaction between electrons in a general medium

$$W(12) = V(12) + \int [d34] V(13)\Pi(34)W(42)$$

The polarisation operator is the standard relation between two particle Green functions (response functions) and forms another of Hedin's equation

$$\Pi(12) = -i \int d[34] \ G(13)G(41)\Gamma(342)$$
Vertex function

The polarisation operator is the standard relation between two particle Green functions (response functions) and forms another of Hedin's equation

$$\Pi(12) = -i \int d[34] \ G(13)G(41)\Gamma(342)$$

$$Vertex \ function$$

$$\Gamma(123) = \delta(12)\delta(13) + \int d[4567] \frac{\partial \Sigma(12)}{\partial G(45)} G(46)G(57)\Gamma(673)$$
a functional derivative of the Green's function

Self-energy

$$\Gamma(123) = -\frac{\delta G^{-1}(12)}{\partial V(3)}$$

Simplest approximation: neglect the vertex corrections

$$\Pi(12) = -iG(12)G(21)$$

Self-energy reduces to

$$\Sigma(12) = -iG(12)W(12)$$

Thus obtaining the GW approximation

Quasiparticle Self-Consistent GW

The one-body Hamiltonian has the form

$$H^0 = -\frac{\nabla^2}{2m} + V^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2)$$

The potential is static and Hermitian and can be non-local

Although if \$V^\textrm{eff}\$ is generated by the Kohn-Sham relations it becomes local, such that

$$V^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = V^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1)\delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

Quasiparticle Self-Consistent GW

One-body Hamiltonian

$$H(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega) = -\frac{\nabla^2}{2m} + V^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) + V^{\text{H}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) + \Sigma(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega)$$

Omega-dependent one-body effective potential

$$V^{\text{GW}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega) = V^{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) + V^{\text{H}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) + \Sigma(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega)$$

Perturbative correction to the one-particle potential

$$\Delta V(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega) = V^{\mathrm{GW}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \omega) - V^{\mathrm{eff}}(\mathbf{r}_1)$$

One-shot-GW: GW⁰ H⁰ is generated by DFT (semi-)local functionals

Quasiparticle Self-Consistent GW

QSGW is an ab-initio method that determines the non-interacting Hamiltonian in a self-consistent manner and does not depend on the ground-state wavefunction



β-As₂Te₃ Phonon Band-Dispersion







β-As₂Te₃ Phonon Band-Dispersion





β-As₂Te₃ Infra-Red Active Frequencies



β-As2Te3 Raman and Infra-Red Spectra



2.0 GPa





β-As2Te3 Phonon Lifetimes









β-As2Te3

QSGW Electronic Band-Dispersion





β-As2Te3 **QSGW** Electronic Band-Dispersion



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Quasi-Harmonic Approximation

Harmonic approximation

 Equilibrium distance between atoms is independent of temperature

Quasi-Harmonic Approximation (QHA)

Thermal expansion Volume dependence of phonon frequencies

Phonon frequencies computed for a range of expansions and compressions about the 0 K equilibrium volume

F(T) evaluated as a function of temperature

Valid only up to \sim 2/3 $T_{\rm m}$





Seebeck Coeficcient







 β -As₂Te₃

Phonon Band-Dispersion

12.0 GPa —

