



## The study of interplay of charge density wave and spin density wave in cuprate systems

S K Panda<sup>1\*</sup> and G C Rout<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> K D Science College, Pochilima, Hinjilicut-761 101, Ganjam, Orissa, India

<sup>2</sup> Condensed Matter Physics Group,  
Govt Science College, Chatrapur-761 020, Orissa, India

E-mail skp@iopb.res

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**Abstract** A microscopic model is proposed to study the co-existence of charge density wave (CDW) and spin density wave (SDW) effects in high- $T_c$  superconductors in normal state under underdoping condition before the onset of superconductivity. The one particle electron Green's functions are calculated by Zubarev's technique. The CDW and SDW gap parameters are calculated from their correlation functions and solved self-consistently taking into account the position of the impurity levels and the hybridisation between the impurity electron and the copper  $d$ -electrons. The temperature dependence of CDW and SDW gap parameters are studied for different model parameters of the system.

**Keywords** superconductivity, charge density wave, spin density wave

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The interplay of lattice distortions accompanied by charge density wave (CDW) and superconductivity (SC) is inherent to cuprates. The existence of structural instability arising due to partial Fermi surface destruction prevents even high transition temperature  $T_c$ . The thermal expansion measurements on underdoped  $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{M}_x\text{CuO}_4$  ( $M=\text{Ba}, \text{Sr}$ ) system show two lattice instabilities having  $T_{d1} \approx 32\text{K}$  and  $T_{d2} \approx 36\text{K}$ , while  $\text{YBa}_2\text{CuO}_{7-\delta}$  with  $T_c \approx 49\text{K}$  has a single instability at  $T_d \approx 90\text{K}$  [1]. Both  $T_{d2}$  and  $T_d$  are close to maximal  $T_c$ 's in the corresponding optimally doped compounds. Anomalous lattice properties above  $T_c$  in  $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{M}_x\text{CuO}_4$  are observed in ultrasound experiments [2], thermal expansion and specific

heat measurements [1]. The structural and electronic phase transitions occur above  $T_c$  for  $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{M}_x\text{CuO}_4$ ,  $\text{YBa}_2\text{CuO}_{7-\delta}$  and Bi-Sr-Ca-Cu-O [3,4]. It is remarkable that  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_{8+\delta}$  has  $T_c = 84\text{K}$  and structural transition at  $T_d = 95\text{K}$ , while Bi-Sr-Ca-Cu-Pb-O has  $T_c = 107\text{K}$  and  $T_d = 130\text{K}$  [5]. The occurrence of a CDW in Cu-O plane of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{CuO}_{7-\delta}$  is observed in scanning tunneling microscopy [6]-[10]. Similarly, the high- $T_c$  cuprates also exhibit the antiferromagnetic phase for low dopant concentrations. So the cuprates having two dimensional character are likely candidates for the existence of spin density wave (SDW) [11]. Schrieffer *et al* [12] have proposed the SDW state as one of the reasons for the enhancement of  $T_c$ . The SDW and CDW states arise from the nesting property of the Fermi surface in low dimensional systems. The SDW state arises due to Coulomb interaction between electrons while CDW state is a consequence of the electron phonon interaction in presence of perfectly nested pieces of Fermi surface. Ghosh *et al* [13] have reported the interplay of the SDW and superconductivity for the cuprates. In the present communication we report the interplay of the CDW and SDW phases in presence of impurity in normal phase before the onset of the superconductivity.

The Hamiltonian used in this model is given by

$$H_0 = \sum_{k\sigma} \varepsilon_k c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k\sigma} + \Delta^c \sum_{k\sigma} c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k+Q,\sigma} + \Delta^s \sum_{k\sigma} \sigma c_{k\sigma}^\dagger c_{k+Q,\sigma} + V \sum_{k,\sigma} (c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger f_{k,\sigma} f_{k,\sigma}^\dagger c_{k,\sigma}) + \varepsilon_f \sum_{k\sigma} f_{k,\sigma}^\dagger f_{k,\sigma}. \quad (1)$$

The first term in  $H_0$  describes the hopping of copper d-electron between adjacent sites. Here  $c_{k\sigma}^\dagger, (c_{k\sigma})$  are the creation (annihilation) operators of the conduction electrons of copper. The hopping takes place between the neighbouring sites of copper with the dispersion  $\varepsilon_k = -2t_0 [\cos(k_x) + \cos(k_y)]$ .

The second and third terms in  $H_0$  describe the mean field CDW and SDW states. In high- $T_c$  systems oxygen atoms surrounding the central Cu-atom form an octahedron. The structural evidences show that the neighbouring Cu-O octahedra are enlarged and contracted alternately. As a result, Cu-atoms acquire disproportionate charges, because of the two different Cu-O bond lengths. This indicates to the existence of strong electron-phonon interaction. The presence of the nested pieces of Fermi surface and the disproportionate charges of Cu-site stabilizes the system with Fermi surface instability by the formation of the charge density wave (CDW). Long range antiferromagnetic order present in cuprates owes its origin to itinerant electrons in the system. The presence of the Fermi surface instability due to the existence of the nested pieces of Fermi surface results in the formation of a spin density wave (SDW). The  $\Delta^c$  and  $\Delta^s$  are respectively the CDW and SDW order parameters given by

$$\Delta^c = -V_0 \sum_{k\sigma} \langle c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger c_{k+Q,\sigma} \rangle, \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta^s = -U_0 \sum_{k\sigma} \sigma \langle c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger c_{k+Q,\sigma} \rangle, \quad (3)$$

where  $V_0$  and  $U_0$  being respectively the attractive and repulsive strengths and  $Q$  being the nesting wave vector. The nesting of pieces of the Fermi surface separated by the wave vector  $Q$  responsible for the formation of CDW and SDW results in the electron-hole symmetry.

$$\varepsilon_{k\pm Q} = -\varepsilon_k. \quad (4)$$

The fourth term of eq.(1) describes a weak hybridisation between the  $f$ -level of the rare earth ion and the Cu-3d electron band. This is mostly influenced by the degree of a dispersionless hybridization strength ( $V$ ). The fifth term in  $H_0$  describes the intra  $f$ -electron kinetic energy term with the dispersionless renormalized  $f$ -level energy  $\varepsilon_f$  of the rare-earth ion and  $f_{i,k,\sigma}^\dagger, (f_{i,k,\sigma})$  are the creation (annihilation) operators of the localised electrons.

We calculate one electron Green's function using the Hamiltonian  $H_0$  given in eq.(1) for the CDW and SDW of the cuprate system in presence of impurity by using Zubarev's technique [14]. The Green's functions  $A_i(k, \omega) (i = 1 - 4)$  involved in these calculations are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} A_1(k, \omega) &= \left\langle \left\langle c_{k,\sigma}; c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger \right\rangle \right\rangle_\omega, \\ A_2(k, \omega) &= \left\langle \left\langle c_{k+Q,\sigma}; c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger \right\rangle \right\rangle_\omega, \\ A_3(k, \omega) &= \left\langle \left\langle f_{k,\sigma}; c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger \right\rangle \right\rangle_\omega, \\ A_4(k, \omega) &= \left\langle \left\langle f_{k+Q,\sigma}; c_{k,\sigma}^\dagger \right\rangle \right\rangle_\omega. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

The four coupled equations involving four Green's functions are solved and are given below.

$$A_1(k, \omega) = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right) \left[ \frac{((\omega + \varepsilon_k)(\omega + \varepsilon_f) - v^2)(\omega - \varepsilon_f)}{|D_\sigma(\omega)|} \right], \quad (6)$$

$$A_2(k, \omega) = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right) \left[ \frac{(\Delta^c + \Delta^s \sigma)(\omega^2 - \varepsilon_f^2)}{|D_\sigma(\omega)|} \right], \quad (7)$$

$$A_3(k, \omega) = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right) \left[ \frac{v((\omega + \varepsilon_k)(\omega + \varepsilon_f) - v^2)}{|D_\sigma(\omega)|} \right], \quad (8)$$

$$A_4(k, \omega) = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \right) \left[ \frac{(\Delta^c + \Delta^s \sigma)(\omega^2 - \varepsilon_f^2)}{|D_\sigma(\omega)|} \right], \quad (9)$$

where

$$|D_\sigma(\omega)| = [\omega^4 - \omega^2 P_\sigma + Q_\sigma]. \quad (10)$$

The four quasi particle bands for the up-spin are  $\pm\omega_{1,2}$  and the four quasi particle bands for the down-spin are  $\pm\omega_{3,4}$

$$\begin{aligned} \pm\omega_{1,2} &= \left[ \frac{P_1 \pm \sqrt{P_1 - 4Q_1}}{2} \right]^{1/2}, \\ \pm\omega_{3,4} &= \left[ \frac{P_3 \pm \sqrt{P_2 - 4Q_1}}{2} \right]^{1/2}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $P_1, Q_1$  are for the up-spins and  $P_2, Q_2$  are for down spins :

$$\begin{aligned} P_1 &= E_{1,k}^2 + \varepsilon_f^2 + 2V^2; \quad Q_1 = E_{1,k}^2 \varepsilon_f^2 - 2\varepsilon_k \varepsilon_f V^2 + V^4, \\ P_2 &= E_{2,k}^2 + \varepsilon_f^2 + 2V^2; \quad Q_2 = E_{2,k}^2 \varepsilon_f^2 - 2\varepsilon_k \varepsilon_f V^2 + V^4, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$$E_1^2 = \varepsilon_k^2 + (\Delta^c + \Delta^s)^2; \quad E_2^2 = \varepsilon_k^2 + (\Delta^c - \Delta^s)^2. \quad (13)$$

The expression for CDW gap of eq.(2) is written as

$$\Delta^c = -g \int_{-\omega/2}^{\omega/2} d\varepsilon_k [\phi_{k,\uparrow} + \phi_{k,\downarrow}], \quad (14)$$

where the CDW coupling parameter  $g = N(0)V_0$  with  $N(0)$  being the density of states of the conduction electron at the Fermi level. The correlation function given in bracket of eq.(14) are calculated for the Green's function given in eq.(7) and given by

$$\phi_{k,\uparrow} = \frac{\Delta^c + \Delta^s}{2(\omega_1^2 - \omega_2^2)} [F_{11}],$$

$$\phi_{k,\downarrow} = \frac{\Delta^c - \Delta^s}{2(\omega_3^2 - \omega^2)} [F_{22}],$$

$$F_{11} = \left[ \frac{(\omega_2^2 - \epsilon_f^2)}{\omega_2} \tanh \frac{\beta\omega_2}{2} - \frac{(\omega_2^2 - \epsilon_f^2)}{\omega_1} \tanh \frac{\beta\omega_1}{2} \right], \quad (15)$$

$$F_{22} = \left[ \frac{(\omega_4^2 - \epsilon_f^2)}{\omega_4} \tanh \frac{\beta\omega_4}{2} - \frac{(\omega_3^2 - \epsilon_f^2)}{\omega_3} \tanh \frac{\beta\omega_3}{2} \right]. \quad (16)$$

Similarly, the expression for SDW gap of eq. (3) is written as

$$\Delta^s = -g_1 \int_{-\omega/2}^{\omega/2} d\epsilon_k [\phi_{k,\uparrow} + \phi_{k,\downarrow}], \quad (17)$$

where the SDW coupling is  $g_1 = N(0)U_0$ . The physical quantities involved are made dimensionless by dividing them by  $2t_0$ . They are

$$Z_1 = \frac{\Delta^c}{2t_0}; \quad Z_2 = \frac{\Delta^s}{2t_0}; \quad d = \frac{\epsilon_f}{2t_0}; \quad v = \frac{V}{2t_0},$$

$$g = N(0)V_0; \quad g_1 = N(0)U_0.$$

The charge density wave (CDW) parameter ( $Z_1$ ) and the spin density wave (SDW) parameter ( $Z_2$ ) are solved self-consistently in normal phase. The temperature variation of  $Z_1$  is shown in Figure 1 and that of  $Z_2$  is shown in the inset of Figure 1. Both the parameters show similar temperature variations. The  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  slowly decreases and become minimum at the same temperature *i.e.* the CDW transition temperature ( $T_c$ ) equals the SDW transition temperature ( $T_s$ ) with  $T_c = T_s \approx 0.125$ . The gap parameters at  $T = 0$  K are  $Z_1(0) = 0.0174$  and  $Z_2(0) \approx 0.017$ . The CDW coupling  $g = 4.0$  is much larger than the SDW coupling  $g_1 = 1.0$ .

The temperature variation of the SDW parameters for different values of the CDW coupling is shown in Figure 2. The SDW gap parameter ( $Z_2$ ) decreases slightly with increase of the CDW coupling ( $g$ ) similar to the charge density gap CDW. The temperature ( $T_c$ ) remaining unchanged. The CDW gap also decreases with the increase of the CDW coupling [see inset of Figure 2].

The effect of SDW coupling ( $g_1$ ) on the CDW gap parameter ( $Z_1$ ) is shown in Figure 1. The increase of SDW coupling suppresses the CDW gap ( $Z_1$ ) throughout the temperature

We have solved self-consistently, the gap equations of the CDW and the SDW phases in normal phase in presence of the impurity level ( $d$ ) and the hybridization ( $V$ ). Both the gaps  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  show slow temperature decrease with temperature and form a minima for  $T_c = T_s$  and increase beyond the temperature  $T_c$ . A large CDW coupling ( $g \sim 4$ ) changes the CDW gap and the SDW gap. Now, the SDW coupling ( $g_1 \sim 1.25$ ) suppresses both the gap parameters in normal phase. The hybridization between the impurity  $f$ -level and the conduction band enhances both the gaps due to introduction of lattice distortion in the system.

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