MANY-BODY PHYSICS: 12 lectures Syllabus (2017)

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1 PHONONS: 4 lectures

1. Lattice dynamics in one dimension

- Classical harmonic chain. Continuum limit and sound waves in elastic string
- Quantum approach: acoustic phonons
- Lattice with a basis: optical phonons
- 2. Lattice dynamics in three dimension
- 3. Thermodynamics: Debye model
- 4. Lattice stability; role of dimensionality

2 MAGNONS: 4 lectures

- 1. Exchange Hamiltonian
- 2. Spin waves in ferromagnets
 - Holstein-Primakoff transformation
 - Equations of motion
- 3. Spin waves in antiferromagnets
- 4. Broken symmetry and Goldstone modes

3 ELECTRONS ON A LATTICE: 4 lectures

- 1. Tight-binding model. Band spectrum
- 2. Electrons on a diatomic chain: band insulator with a charge density wave
- 3. Types of band spectrum in two and three dimensions
- 4. Electron-phonon interaction; Peierls insulators; soliton excitations
- 5. Hubbard model: Mott insulators