

Nonlocal electrodynamics and the penetration depth of superconducting Sr_2RuO_4

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The thermal quasiparticles in a clean type-II superconductor with line nodes give rise to a quadratic low-temperature change of the penetration depth, $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$, as first shown by Kosztin and Leggett [I. Kosztin and A. J. Leggett, Phys. Rev. Lett. **79**, 135 (1997)]. Here, we generalize this result to multiple nodes and compare it to numerically exact evaluations of the temperature-dependent penetration depth in Sr_2RuO_4 using a high-precision tight-binding model. We compare the calculations to recent penetration depth measurements in high purity single crystals of Sr_2RuO_4 [J. F. Landaeta et al., [arXiv:2312.05129](#)]. When assuming the order parameter to have B_{1g} symmetry, we find that both a simple $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -wave and complicated gap structures with contributions from higher harmonics and accidental nodes can accommodate the experimental data.

I. INTRODUCTION

Obtaining a detailed understanding of the superconducting state in Sr_2RuO_4 remains an important outstanding problem [1–3]. Experimentally, the quest is complicated due to challenging material properties of Sr_2RuO_4 and the low energy scale of the superconducting phase. Theoretically, Sr_2RuO_4 provides an important testbed for modeling of unconventional superconductivity. More specifically, the well-characterized electronic properties of the normal state offers a rather unique opportunity to test various electronic fluctuation-based mechanisms for pairing against detailed measurements of the superconducting gap structure [4–23].

The magnetic penetration depth, λ , can elucidate nodal features of the gap, as revealed through its dependency on temperature and disorder [24–27]. Fully-gapped superconductors exhibit exponential temperature dependence at low temperatures, whereas nodal gaps display power law dependence. In Sr_2RuO_4 , measurements of the change in penetration depth, $\Delta\lambda(T)$, via a tunnel diode oscillator method yielded $\Delta\lambda(T) \sim T^2$, signalling the existence of nodal quasiparticle excitations [28]. Renewed measurements of $\Delta\lambda(T)$ in Sr_2RuO_4 high-purity spherical single crystals by applying scanning SQUID microscopy [29] and ac-susceptibility measurements [30] have confirmed this behavior and highlighted the importance of nonlocal Meissner screening. Indeed, as initially demonstrated by Kosztin and Leggett, nonlocal effects may change the low temperature dependence of the penetration depth, e.g., from linear to quadratic in $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -wave superconductors, such as the cuprates [31, 32]. The relevance of nonlocal effects in an extended temperature regime is controlled by the zero-temperature Ginzburg–Landau parameter, i.e., the ratio of the penetration depth to the coherence length. In Sr_2RuO_4 this ratio is $\kappa_0 \approx 1.92$ [30], placing this material unusually close to the Pippard limit compared to most clean, unconventional superconductors. Finally, we note

that the penetration depth was also recently extracted from SQUID susceptometry in thin Sr_2RuO_4 films, again yielding $\Delta\lambda(T) \sim T^2$ behavior at low T [33]. There, however, the origin of the T^2 dependence was interpreted in terms of disorder scattering similar to disordered $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -wave superconductors [34].

Here we perform a theoretical study of the nonlocal electrodynamics specifically relevant for nodal multi-band superconductors. We perform both an exact numerical evaluation of $\Delta\lambda(T)$ and compare this to a generalized nonlocal node-expansion similar to the method by Kosztin and Leggett [31], but for cases with several distinct nodes in the Brillouin zone, possibly distributed across multiple bands. To examine whether the superconducting order parameter can be constrained from low-temperature penetration depth data, we apply the developed theory to Sr_2RuO_4 . To minimize uncertainties in the description of the normal state, we use a tight-binding model that fits both the experimental Fermi surface and Fermi velocity with unprecedented accuracy. We explore two nodal superconducting gaps with B_{1g} symmetry, relevant for Sr_2RuO_4 , and compare the node-expansion with the numerically exact result. The analytical analysis shows that the low-temperature slope of $\Delta\lambda(T)$ as a function of $(T/T_c)^2$ is controlled by the sum of reciprocal gap velocities at the order parameter nodes and the corresponding Fermi velocities, the latter are experimentally known from ARPES measurements [35]. The analysis implies that the penetration depth in isolation is not sensitive to the details of the gap structure since the effect of having one shallow node can be compensated for by instead having two steeper nodes etc. The numerical simulations reveal that both gap structures explored can explain the presently available experimental data for the penetration depth of Sr_2RuO_4 .

II. PENETRATION DEPTH

Kosztin and Leggett showed that thermal quasiparticles in a clean, type-II, nodal d -wave superconductor are responsible for the behavior $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$ for $T < T^*$ with $T^* = \Delta_0/\kappa_0$, where Δ_0 is gap scale and $\kappa_0 = \lambda_0/\xi_0$ (λ_0

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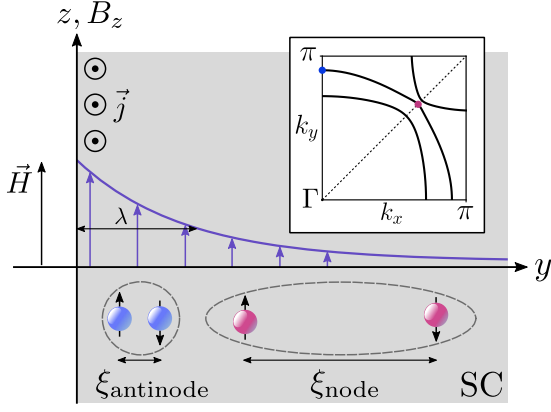


FIG. 1. Geometry and magnetic field (along $\hat{z}$) penetration into the Meissner state of the superconductor located in the half-plane $y > 0$. The magnetic penetration depth is denoted by λ . Inset: reciprocal space of a tetragonal crystal with the Fermi surface of Sr_2RuO_4 and the nodal line (dashed) of the B_{1g} irreducible representation indicated. Close to the nodal point(s), the Cooper pairs are characterized by a long coherence length and hence acquire nonlocal contributions in their electromagnetic response.

and ξ_0 is the penetration depth and the coherence length, respectively) the zero-temperature Ginzburg–Landau parameter [31]. The key ingredient here are the nonlocal effects (diverging coherence length) experienced by the Cooper pairs formed by momenta near the nodal points, see Fig. 1. This causes the penetration depth increase to acquire an additional factor of T (on top of the $2k_B T \ln 2/\Delta_0$ local contribution) coming from the inverse thermal de Broglie wavelength at low temperatures.

In Sr_2RuO_4 the behaviour $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$ is observed in a dominant fraction of the temperature window below $T_c \approx 1.5$ K, which is consistent with this material being a marginal type-II superconductor with $\kappa_0 \approx 1.92 > 1/\sqrt{2}$ [28–30] and $\Delta_0 \approx 0.35$ meV [29, 36]. Interestingly, Sr_2RuO_4 is closer to the Pippard limit than most unconventional type-II superconductors. Owing to its clean crystals, this points to the importance of nonlocal electrodynamics to understand its superconducting state, possibly also its response to a weak magnetic field as posed by muons [37].

A. Nonlocal electrodynamics

In a weak magnetic field, linear response theory for the Meissner state dictates the decay of the magnetic field into the superconductor, as per $j(y) = -\int dy' K(y - y')A(y')$. Here, j is the screening supercurrent density (along $\hat{x}$) with the boundary between vacuum and the superconductor at $y = 0$, and A is the magnetic vector potential. The geometry is shown in Fig. 1. In dimensionless units, $\tilde{K} = (4\pi\lambda_0^2/c)K$, and with the kernel difference defined as $\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) \equiv \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) - \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0)$, the

penetration depth change can be expressed as

$$\frac{\Delta\lambda(T)}{\lambda_0} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) d\tilde{q}}{(\tilde{q}^2 + \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0))(\tilde{q}^2 + 1 + \delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T))}, \quad (1)$$

where $\tilde{q} = q\lambda_0$. We emphasize that this is an exact expression that includes a correction responsible for an upturn in $\Delta\lambda$ at higher T as compared to Ref. 31. The dimensionless kernel can be computed by means of standard Green’s function methods, assuming linear response in the Meissner state and solving the relevant Maxwell equation in the superconductor [38]. In the Matsubara representation the kernel can be expressed as [31, 38]

$$\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) = 2\pi k_B T \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left\langle \frac{\hat{p}_\parallel^2 \Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2}{\sqrt{\omega_n^2 + \Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2} (\omega_n^2 + \Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2 + \alpha^2)} \right\rangle_{\text{FS}}, \quad (2)$$

where the fermionic Matsubara frequencies are given by $\omega_n = \pi k_B T (2n + 1)$, $\hat{p}_\parallel = \cos(\theta)$ is the Fermi surface momentum projected onto the boundary (θ is the polar angle of $\mathbf{p}$), and the parameter $\alpha = \pi\Delta_0\tilde{q} \sin(\theta)/(2\kappa_0)$ is the projected magnetic field penetration and is responsible for the nonlocal effects. Here, we employed the BCS expression for the coherence length, such that $\lambda_0 = v_F\kappa_0/(\pi\Delta_0)$. Finally, $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}$ is the (temperature-dependent) order parameter, and the (dimensionless) Fermi surface average is evaluated as $\langle h \rangle_{\text{FS}} \equiv (\bar{v}_F/|S_F|) \int_{S_F} d\hat{\mathbf{k}} h(\hat{\mathbf{k}})/v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})$ where $v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})$ is the Fermi velocity and $|S_F|$ the Fermi surface area. It can be noted that the zero-temperature kernel, $\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0)$, has a simple closed-form expression, as stated in Appendix A.

In practice, realistic modelling of $\Delta\lambda/\lambda_0$ in the entire temperature window below T_c is achieved by feeding in a high-precision multiband tight-binding model, as well as experimental values for κ_0 , Δ_0 , and T_c . Since the sum in Eq. (2) converges rapidly, one can in practice calculate the Fermi surface average for each frequency and truncate the Matsubara series at some $n \gg \frac{\Delta_0}{2\pi k_B T}$ for any non-zero T [39]. If one models the T dependence of the gap by the interpolation formula $\tanh(1.74\sqrt{T/T_c - 1})$, the only remaining degrees of freedom lie in the momentum-dependent gap structure.

B. The node approximation

Building on the Kosztin–Leggett philosophy at the lowest T , useful insights can be harvested by first rewriting Eq. (2) using contour integration techniques, and then linearizing the gap around its nodes, $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}} \approx \sum_j v_{\Delta,j}(\theta - \theta_j)$, where the thermally active quasiparticles are situated at the lowest T . We will henceforth refer to $v_{\Delta,j}$ as the “gap velocity” at node j . The dimensionless kernel difference, with the intermediate steps shown in Ap-

pendix A, can in this case be recast as

$$-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) \approx k_B T \frac{2\pi \ln 2}{|S_F|} \sum_j \frac{2\hat{p}_{\parallel,j}^2 \bar{v}_F}{v_{F,j} v_{\Delta,j}} \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{k}_F}{\partial \theta} \right|_j \times \left[1 - \frac{1}{\ln 2} \int_0^{\alpha_j/T} dx \tilde{f}(x) \sqrt{1 - (xT/\alpha_j)^2} \right], \quad (3)$$

where $\tilde{f}(x) = (1 + \exp(x))^{-1}$ is the Fermi function and where the sum runs over distinct nodes in the Brillouin zone (possibly distributed across multiple bands). The symbols are otherwise explained earlier. This result is a multiband generalization of the node approximation proposed by Kosztin and Leggett. To make evaluation fast we further approximate $\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0) \approx 1 = \tilde{K}(0; 0)$ in Eq. (1) when evaluating the penetration depth from the node approximation in the next section.

To validate the above expression, we benchmark it in the simple $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -wave case ($\Delta_{\mathbf{p}} = \Delta_0 \cos(2\theta)$) using a circular Fermi surface and isotropic Fermi velocity. The four distinct nodes all have $\hat{p}_{\parallel}^2 = 1/2$ and the associated gap velocities are $v_{\Delta} = 2\Delta_0$. In this case we recover the standard result $\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) = \delta\tilde{K}(0; T)F(\tilde{q}/t)$, where $t = T/T^*$, with $T^* = \Delta_0/\kappa_0$, and F is a universal function similar to the lower line in Eq. (3), stated in Appendix A. The prefactor reduces to the well-known $-\delta\tilde{K}(0; T) = 2k_B T \ln 2/\Delta_0$, i.e., the local result [32, 34, 40]. The function F ensures that below the characteristic temperature scale T^* , the change in the penetration depth depends quadratically on temperature, $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$.

For the multinode generalization in Eq. (3) the above-mentioned factorization breaks down, and the kernel difference instead depends on all of the distinct $\tilde{q}/t_j$ where $t_j \propto \frac{\Delta_0}{\kappa_0} \sin(\theta_j)$ for each distinct gap node j . Thus, each distinct gap node is associated with a characteristic temperature scale, the minimum of which dictates the regime in which $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$. Some key insights are gained by the details added to Eq. (3) caused by having a non-isotropic Fermi surface and higher-harmonic gap structure, possibly with multiple distinct nodes. Equation (3) tells us that $\lim_{T \rightarrow T_c} \Delta\lambda(T)/(T/T_c)^2$ is proportional to a weighted sum over the distinct gap nodes, where the weight contains a product of the reciprocal gap velocity and the reciprocal Fermi velocity. The primer is strain-tunable and implies an enhanced sensitivity to gap structures with nodes at strain-induced van Hove points. In the context of Sr_2RuO_4 , no substantial variations in the penetration depth slope change are detected as uniaxial strain is applied [29], which argues against both B_{2g} (d_{xy}) and A_{2g} ($g_{xy}(x^2-y^2)$) type orders, which is also consistent with elastocaloric measurements [41]. Generally, however, the dependency on the reciprocal gap velocities implies that penetration depth data alone do not impose any crisp constraints on the momentum structure of the gap, since the effect of having one shallow node can be compensated for by having two steeper nodes.

There are at least two reasons why there are few can-

didate materials for observing $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$ from the above mechanism. First, disorder is known to cause a saturation of $\Delta\lambda$ below a characteristic temperature set by the scattering rate [34], which will effectively blur the observation of a quadratic temperature dependence. Second, the most well-characterized d -wave superconductors are strong type-II, $\kappa_0 \gg 1$, suppressing T^* to a tiny fraction of the gap. In both of these respects Sr_2RuO_4 poses as a counterexample, since it has accumulated strong evidence of being both nodal [42, 43], marginal type-II [30], and is known to produce clean and disorder-sensitive crystals [44]. Other candidate superconductors possibly relevant to a low- T penetration depth of $\Delta\lambda \sim T^2$ caused by nonlocal electrodynamics include cuprates [31], KFe_2As_2 [45], and the heavy-fermion material CeCoIn_5 [24, 46]. Below we focus on the case of Sr_2RuO_4 .

III. THE CASE OF STRONTIUM RUTHENATE

A. Tight-binding model

We depart from a standard three-band tight-binding model ansatz for Sr_2RuO_4 ,

$$H_0 = \sum_{\mathbf{k}, \sigma} \bar{\psi}_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{k}) \mathcal{H}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}) \bar{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}), \quad (4)$$

where $\bar{\psi}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}) = [c_{xz,s}(\mathbf{k}), c_{yz,s}(\mathbf{k}), c_{xy,-s}(\mathbf{k})]^T$, $\sigma = \pm$ denotes spin, and $a \in \{xz, yz, xy\}$ labels the Ru d -orbitals (the t_{2g} triplet), which are the only relevant orbitals close to the Fermi energy [47]. The form of $\mathcal{H}_{\sigma}$ is

$$\mathcal{H}_{\sigma}(\mathbf{k}) = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_{xz}(\mathbf{k}) & \xi_{xz,yz}(\mathbf{k}) - i\sigma\eta & i\eta \\ \xi_{xz,yz}(\mathbf{k}) + i\sigma\eta & \xi_{yz}(\mathbf{k}) & -\sigma\eta \\ -i\eta & -\sigma\eta & \xi_{xy}(\mathbf{k}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

where spin-orbit coupling is parametrized by η and originates from the (dominant) onsite term $2\eta \sum_i \vec{L}_i \cdot \vec{S}_i$ as projected onto the t_{2g} Ru triplet. Explicit forms of the inter- and intraband energies are listed in Appendix B.

To obtain a quantitatively accurate parametrization, we consider as a starting point the tight-binding parameters from Ref. 23 as derived from relativistic DFT calculations. While these parameters provide a realistic energy scale and Fermi surface, they still do not quantitatively match the Fermi velocities as extracted from high-resolution ARPES measurements for bands β and γ in Ref. 35. To correct for this discrepancy, which is also present in another tight-binding model widely employed in the literature [48], we manually tune tight-binding parameters until a reasonable match with both the experimental Fermi surface and Fermi velocity v_F is obtained. The result is shown in Fig. 2. The effective model, with the set of parameters listed in Appendix B, provides a high-precision effective normal state descrip-

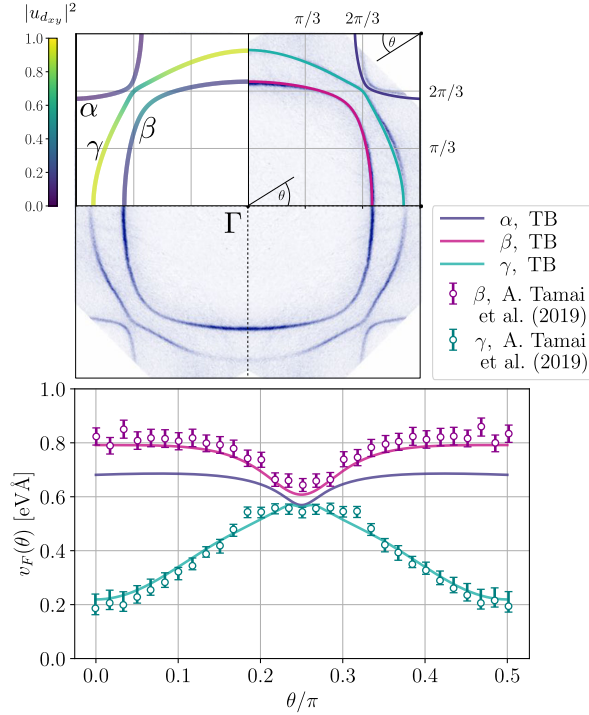


FIG. 2. Fermi surface and Fermi velocities of Sr_2RuO_4 . Model ($k_z = 0$): solid lines (labelled “TB”) show the model Fermi surface (top panel) and the Fermi velocities (bottom panel). The second quadrant in the top panel shows the Ru d_{xy} orbital content of the bands. The average model Fermi velocity is $\bar{v}_F = 0.498 \text{ eV\AA}$. Data: high-resolution ARPES Fermi surface (dark blue, top panel) and the Fermi velocities (circles with error bars, bottom panel) extracted from Ref. 35.

tion of Sr_2RuO_4 . We stress that a model that is qualitatively and quantitatively accurate in the above respect could be crucial to accurately perform calculations sensitive to v_F .

B. Numerical evaluation of the penetration depth

Equipped with an accurate description of the normal state, we now turn to the evaluation of the penetration depth difference, $\Delta\lambda(T)/\lambda_0$, for some illustrative order parameters.

First, we calculate the kernel difference $-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T)$ at two temperatures using both the node approximation of Eq. (3) and the full Matsubara sum of Eq. (2). For illustration we employ the simplest gap structure consistent with B_{1g} symmetry, i.e., $\Delta_0 \cos(2\theta)$ on all bands with $\Delta_0 = 0.35 \text{ meV}$ on bands α and β , and half the magnitude on band γ . These values are motivated by STM experiments [29, 36], and the gap magnitude on γ was reduced to match the experimental penetration depth slope at low T . We otherwise fixed $\kappa_0 = 1.92$ and $T_c = 1.5 \text{ K}$, in agreement with experiments [30]. The resulting kernel differences are shown in Fig. 3, and the order parameter

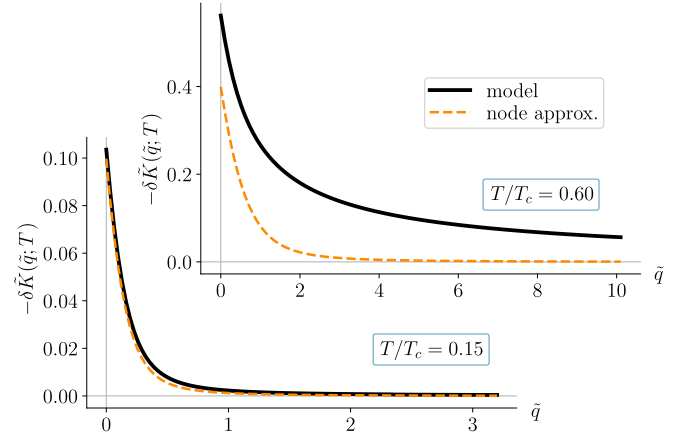


FIG. 3. Dimensionless kernel differences, $-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T)$, calculated at $T = 0.15T_c$ and $T = 0.6T_c$ for both the node approximation of Eq. (3) (“node approx.”) and in the Matsubara representation model of Sec. III A and order parameters of Fig. 4(a). Due to the curvature of $\Delta(\theta)$, the node approximation overestimates the gap and underestimates the penetration depth at higher temperatures.

and penetration depth are shown in Fig. 4(a) and (c).

Comparing the penetration depth calculations with the experimental data reveals that the temperature window in which the node approximation matches with the realistic modelling is roughly $T/T_c \lesssim 0.2$. The primary reason for this is the overestimated slope of $|\Delta(\theta)|$ when linearizing the gap, causing the node approximation to, in this case, monotonically underestimate the penetration depth. Additionally, the T dependence of the gap and the correction posed by the denominator of Eq. (1) both contribute with an upturn in $\Delta\lambda(T)$ close to the transition temperature T_c , approximately consistent with the experimental data. The realistic modelling shows that a simple $d_{x^2-y^2}$ -wave gap is sufficient to explain the experimental data, albeit with a slight discrepancy at the highest T .

In Fig. 4(b) and (d) we show the results of calculating the penetration depth for a more involved order parameter, still within the B_{1g} irreducible representation, but with an angular dependence inspired by weak-coupling and RPA spin-fluctuation calculations [6, 11, 49, 50]. In this case, the node approximation performs better when comparing to the realistic modelling. Since the order parameter is more involved by having contributions from multiple harmonics, the error introduced by linearizing the gap is non-monotonic, i.e., the gap is both over- and underestimated on the various bands. As the realistic modelling shows, an equally convincing T -dependent penetration depth is obtained for this order parameter. Therefore, not surprisingly, the change in the penetration depth is not capable of resolving subtle differences in the nodal structure of the order parameter. As the nodal expansion reveals, the slope of $\Delta\lambda(T)$ as a function of $(T/T_c)^2$ at the lowest temperatures is a weighted sum of

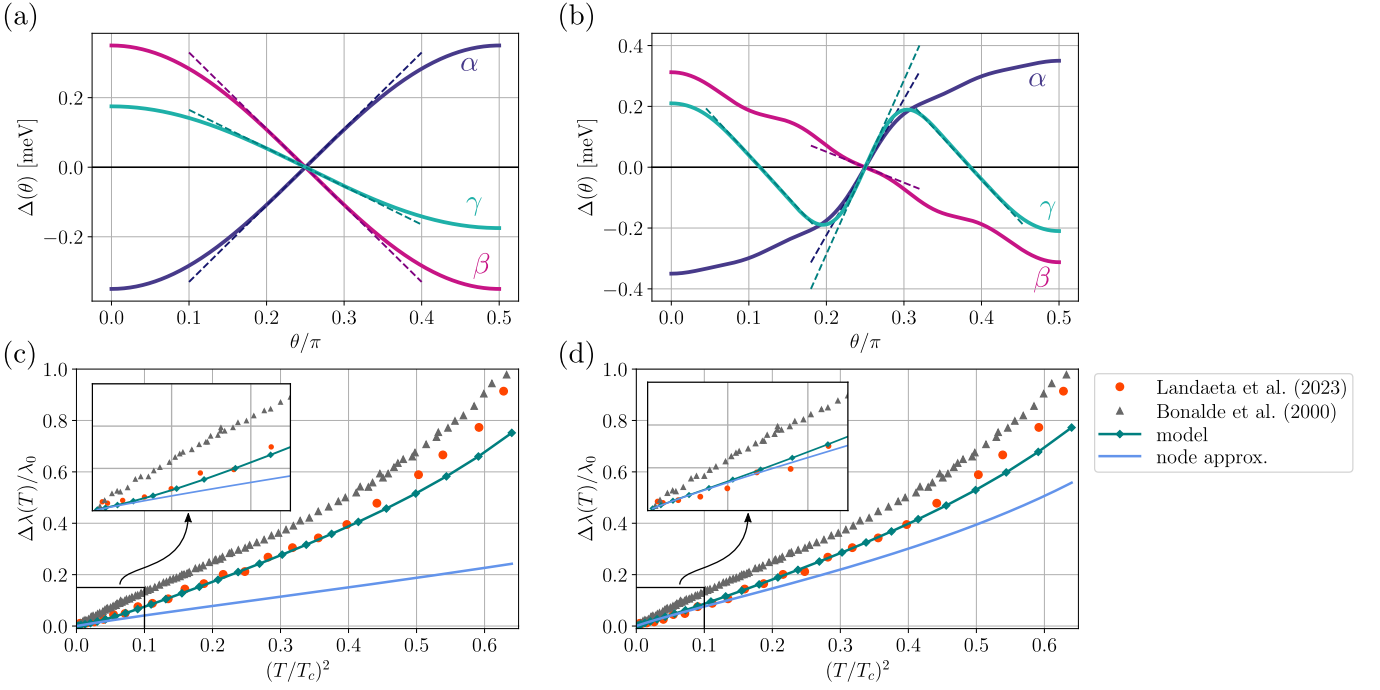


FIG. 4. Representative B_{1g} order parameters [(a) and (b)], and associated penetration depths [(c) associated with (a), and (d) associated with (b)] using both the node approximation (“node approx.”) and the Mastubara representation (“model”) to calculate the kernel. We use the three-band tight-binding model of Sec. III A. Experimental data points from Refs. 28 and 30 are plotted as gray triangles and orange disks for comparison. In (a) and (b) linearizations around the gap nodes are shown with dashed lines.

reciprocal gap velocities at the nodes, so the increase in slope gained by an additional node can be compensated for by increasing the gap velocity of one or more nodes.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we have calculated the temperature-dependent change of the penetration depth $\Delta\lambda$ including nonlocal effects from line nodes. We have provided both a multi-band multi-node generalization of the Kosztin-Leggett result [31], and demonstrated a straightforward numerical procedure to evaluate $\Delta\lambda$ numerically exact, given a multi-band tight-binding description. Focusing on the case of Sr_2RuO_4 , posing as a prime candidate material owing to its clean crystals and evidence of nodal order, we investigated two d -wave gap structures with different nodal properties. The analysis reveals that the low-temperature penetration depth is sensitive to the sum of reciprocal gap velocities at the nodes, and that both orders investigated have nodal properties compatible with the presently available data.

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Appendix A: Generalized Kosztin–Leggett theory

Here, we re-derive and generalize the central result of Kosztin and Leggett [31] for the penetration depth of a nodal type-II superconductor.

In a weak magnetic field, the Meissner state of a superconductor responds linearly to the perturbation,

$$j(y) = - \int dy' K(y - y') A(y'). \quad (\text{A1})$$

Here, j is the screening supercurrent density (pointing along $\hat{x}$, $y = 0$ is the position of the superconductor boundary), K is the electromagnetic response kernel, and A is the magnetic vector potential. With a specular boundary, the magnetic penetration depth is given by

$$\frac{\lambda(T)}{\lambda_0} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{d\tilde{q}}{\tilde{q}^2 + \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T)}, \quad (\text{A2})$$

where $\tilde{q} = \lambda_0 q$ with $\lambda_0 \equiv \lambda(0)$, and $\tilde{K} = (4\pi\lambda_0^2/c)K$. The dimensionless kernel satisfies $\tilde{K}(\tilde{q} \rightarrow 0; 0) = 1$ in the local limit. Writing $\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) = 1 + \delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T)$, with

$\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) \equiv \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) - \tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0)$ leads to the exact expression for $\Delta\lambda(T) \equiv \lambda(T) - \lambda_0$ given in the main text Eq. (1). The zero temperature kernel can be evaluated analytically [31], with

$$\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; 0) = 1 - \left\langle 2\hat{p}_{\parallel}^2 \left[1 - \frac{\text{arcsinh}(\alpha/\Delta_{\mathbf{p}})}{\alpha/\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}\sqrt{1 + (\alpha/\Delta_{\mathbf{p}})^2}} \right] \right\rangle_{\text{FS}}. \quad (\text{A3})$$

Using contour integration techniques [38], the response kernel correction can be evaluated as

$$-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) = 2 \int_0^{\infty} d\omega f(\omega) \times \left\langle 2\hat{p}_{\parallel}^2 \text{Re} \frac{\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2}(\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2 - \omega^2 + \alpha^2)} \right\rangle_{\text{FS}}, \quad (\text{A4})$$

where $f(\omega) = (1 + \exp(\beta\omega))^{-1}$ is the Fermi function, $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}$ is the order parameter, $\hat{p}_{\parallel} = \cos(\theta)$ is the projection of the Fermi surface momentum on the $\hat{x}$ -axis, and $\alpha = qv_F \sin \theta/2$. Setting $\alpha = 0$ reproduces the local result [34].

To evaluate the Fermi surface average, we first recast momentum sums as integrals over $(\xi, \hat{\mathbf{k}})$, where $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ lies on the Fermi surface defined by $S_F(\xi) \equiv \{\hat{\mathbf{k}} : \xi_{\hat{\mathbf{k}}} = \xi\}$ in the following manner (introducing also the electronic cutoff ω_c):

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k}: |\xi_{\mathbf{k}}| < \omega_c} h_{\mathbf{k}} = \int_{-\omega_c}^{\omega_c} d\xi \rho_{\xi} \int_{S_F(\xi)} \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{k}}}{|S_F|} \frac{\bar{v}_F}{v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})} h(\hat{\mathbf{k}}), \quad (\text{A5})$$

where the Fermi velocity, the average Fermi velocity, and the density of states are given by

$$v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}}) = |\nabla \xi_{\hat{\mathbf{k}}}|, \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$\bar{v}_F = \left[\int_{S_F(\xi)} \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{k}}}{|S_F|} \frac{1}{v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})} \right]^{-1}, \quad (\text{A7})$$

$$\rho_{\xi} = \int_{S_F(\xi)} \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{k}}}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})}, \quad (\text{A8})$$

respectively, and where $|S_F|$ is the Fermi surface area. From the above we define the (dimensionless) Fermi surface average as

$$\langle A \rangle_{\text{FS}} \equiv \int_{S_F(\xi)} \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{k}}}{|S_F|} \frac{\bar{v}_F}{v_F(\hat{\mathbf{k}})} A, \quad (\text{A9})$$

such that $\langle 1 \rangle_{\text{FS}} = 1$.

We next expand the order parameter around its nodes, situated at angles θ_j , $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}} \approx \sum_j v_{\Delta,j}(\theta - \theta_j)$, where $v_{\Delta,j}$ is the “gap velocity” of node j . Close to the nodes (at low temperatures), we can safely ignore the angular dependence of α and $\hat{p}_{\parallel}$. Since Eq. (A4) picks up contributions around each node, we then get

$$\begin{aligned} -\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) &= 2 \int_0^{\infty} d\omega f(\omega) \left\langle 2\hat{p}_{\parallel}^2 \text{Re} \frac{\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2}(\Delta_{\mathbf{p}}^2 - \omega^2 + \alpha^2)} \right\rangle_{\text{FS}} \\ &\approx \frac{2}{|S_F|} \int_0^{\infty} d\omega f(\omega) \sum_j \frac{2\hat{p}_{\parallel,j}^2 \bar{v}_F}{v_{F,j} v_{\Delta,j}} \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{k}_F}{\partial \theta} \right|_j \int_{-\omega}^{\omega} \text{Re} \frac{du u^2}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - u^2}(u^2 - \omega^2 + \alpha_j^2)} \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{|S_F|} \int_0^{\infty} d\omega f(\omega) \sum_j \frac{2\hat{p}_{\parallel,j}^2 \bar{v}_F}{v_{F,j} v_{\Delta,j}} \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{k}_F}{\partial \theta} \right|_j \text{Re} \left[1 - \sqrt{1 - \omega^2/\alpha_j^2} \right] \\ &= k_B T \frac{2\pi \ln 2}{|S_F|} \sum_j \frac{2\hat{p}_{\parallel,j}^2 \bar{v}_F}{v_{F,j} v_{\Delta,j}} \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{k}_F}{\partial \theta} \right|_j \left[1 - \frac{1}{\ln 2} \int_0^{\alpha_j/T} dx \tilde{f}(x) \sqrt{1 - (xT/\alpha_j)^2} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A10})$$

where $\alpha_j = \tilde{q}v_{F,j} \sin(\theta_j)/(2\lambda_0)$, $\tilde{f}(x) \equiv (1 + \exp(x))^{-1}$ is the Fermi function with dimensionless argument, and where the sum runs over distinct nodes in the Brillouin zone (possibly distributed across multiple bands). This result is a multiband generalization of the node approximation proposed by Kosztin and Leggett, which is a low-temperature approximation that is valid in the temperature window in which the order parameter can be reasonably approximated by a linear function of the angle deviation from the node.

To validate the generalized (multiband) expression of Eq. (A10), we evaluate it for the simple d -wave order parameter $\Delta_{\mathbf{p}} = \Delta_0 \cos(2\theta)$ and a circular Fermi surface with isotropic Fermi velocity [31]. The four distinct nodes all have $\hat{p}_{\parallel}^2 = 1/2$ and gap velocity $v_{\Delta} = 2\Delta_0$. Further writing $\lambda_0 = \kappa_0 \xi_0$, and using the BCS expression for the

TABLE I. Tight-binding parameters for Eqs. (5), (B1), (B2) consistent with high-resolution ARPES measurements [35].

Parameter	t_1	t_2	t_3	t_4	t_5	t_6	t_7	μ_1	η
Value [meV]	562.7	99.9	-47.3	-174.3	-51.8	-11.0	102.0	209.9	81.0

TABLE II. Tight-binding parameters for Eqs. (B3) and (B4) consistent with high-resolution ARPES measurements [35].

Parameter	t_8	t_9	t_{10}	t_{11}	t_{12}	t_{13}	t_{14}	t_{15}	μ_2	t_{16}
Value [meV]	458.2	-7.5	330.0	25.3	32.8	8.8	3.5	-12.3	284.2	72.4

coherence length, $\xi_0 = v_F/(\pi\Delta_0)$, leads to

$$-\delta\tilde{K}(\tilde{q}; T) = \frac{2k_B T \ln 2}{\Delta_0} \times \left[1 - \frac{1}{\ln 2} \int_0^{\pi \frac{\sqrt{2}z}{4}} dx \tilde{f}(x) \sqrt{1 - \frac{8x^2}{\pi^2 z^2}} \right], \quad (\text{A11})$$

where $z \equiv \frac{\tilde{q}}{T/T^*}$, and $T^* \equiv \frac{\Delta_0}{\kappa_0}$, where κ_0 is the zero-

temperature Ginzburg–Landau parameter, and the prefactor is recognized as $-\delta\tilde{K}(0; T) = 2k_B T \ln 2/\Delta_0$.

Appendix B: Details of the tight-binding model

The inter- and intra-orbital energies in Eqs. (4) and (5) take the form

$$\xi_{xz}(\mathbf{k}) = -t_1 \cos k_x - t_2 \cos k_y - t_3 \cos k_x \cos k_y - t_4 \cos(2k_x) - t_5 \cos(2k_x) \cos k_y - t_6 \cos(3k_x) - t_7 \cos(k_x/2) \cos(k_y/2) \cos(k_z/2) - \mu_1, \quad (\text{B1})$$

$$\xi_{yz}(k_x, k_y, k_z) = \xi_{xz}(k_y, k_x, k_z), \quad (\text{B2})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_{xy}(\mathbf{k}) = & -t_8 [\cos k_x + \cos k_y] - t_9 [\cos(2k_x) + \cos(2k_y)] - t_{10} \cos k_x \cos k_y \\ & - t_{11} [\cos k_x \cos(2k_y) + \cos(2k_x) \cos k_y] - t_{12} \cos(2k_x) \cos(2k_y) \\ & - t_{13} [\cos k_x \cos(3k_y) + \cos(3k_x) \cos k_y] - t_{14} [\cos(3k_x) + \cos(3k_y)] \\ & - t_{15} \cos(k_x/2) \cos(k_y/2) \cos(k_z/2) - \mu_2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B3})$$

$$\xi_{xz,yz}(\mathbf{k}) = -t_{16} \sin(k_x/2) \sin(k_y/2) \cos(k_z/2). \quad (\text{B4})$$

Tight-binding parameters providing a fit to both the Fermi surface *and* the Fermi velocity of the data in Ref. 35 are listed in Tab. I and II. These parameters are largely taken from the relativistic DFT calculation of Ref. 23. In particular, the k_z dependent terms, responsible for the out-of-plane warping, are identical. The calculations presented in the main text were done with the effective 2D model obtained by fixing $k_z = 0$.

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