BCS-BEC crossover of collective excitations in two-band superfluids

M. Iskin and C. A. R. Sá de Melo

School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332, USA

(Received 26 August 2004; revised manuscript received 2 March 2005; published 11 July 2005)

We use the functional integral approach to study low energy collective excitations in a continuum model of neutral two-band superfluids at $T=0$ for all couplings with a separable pairing interaction. In the long wavelength and low frequency limit, we recover Leggett’s analytical results in weak coupling (BCS) for s-wave pairing, and further obtain analytical results in strong coupling Bose-Einstein condensation for both two and three dimensional systems. We also analyze numerically the behavior of the out-of-phase exciton (finite frequency) mode and the in-phase phonon (Goldstone) mode from weak to strong coupling limits, including the crossover region. In principle, the evolution of Goldstone and finite frequency modes from weak to strong coupling may be accessible experimentally in the superfluid phase of neutral Fermi atomic gases, and could serve as a test of the validity of the theoretical analysis and approximations proposed here.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.72.024512

PACS number(s): 74.20.Fg, 03.75.Kk, 05.30.Fk, 74.40.+k

I. INTRODUCTION

A two-band model for superfluidity was introduced by Suhl et al.1 in 1959 soon after the BCS theory in order to allow for the possibility of multiple band crossing through the Fermi surface. Suhl et al.1 observed that a larger number of energy bands crossing the Fermi surface could increase the overall electron state density and lead to the onset of additional interactions. Since then, this model has been used to describe high temperature superconductivity in copper oxides and more recently it has been used in connection to MgB$_2$.2,3

In the seminal work by Leggett,4 the existence of collective phase modes in two-band superfluids has been predicted in both neutral and charged systems. Within the weak coupling (BCS) limit, Leggett showed that if s-wave interactions are attractive in both bands, an undamped long-wavelength exciton (finite frequency) mode, as well as an undamped long-wavelength phonon (Goldstone) mode may exist. These modes were further studied theoretically5–7 in the BCS limit, however, there was no experimental evidence of their existence until manifestations of two-gap behavior8–12 were found in MgB$_2$.

However, it has not been possible to study the evolution of the spectrum of collective excitations from weak (BCS) to strong coupling [Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC)] limit until very recently. Advances in experiments with neutral Fermi gases enabled the tuning and control of two-particle interactions between atoms in different hyperfine states by using Feshbach resonances.13,14 This kind of control is not fully present in standard fermionic condensed matter systems, and has hindered the development of experiments that could probe systematically the effects of strong correlations as a function of coupling or density of fermions. It was thought theoretically for many years that a weakly coupled (BCS) superfluid could evolve smoothly into the limit of tightly bound pairs which undergo Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC).15–21 It was not until recently that experimental evidence that hyperfine states of $^{40}$K (Refs. 22 and 23) and $^6$Li (Refs. 24–27) can form weakly and tightly bound atom pairs (Cooper pairs), when the magnetic field is swept through a s-wave Feshbach resonance.

Considering these recent findings in condensed matter systems and advances in atomic physics experiments, we expand Leggett’s calculation of collective modes in neutral two-band (s-wave) superfluids to all couplings by following a similar one-band approach.28 These collective modes for two-band s-wave systems are undamped in the low-frequency and low-momentum limits, provided that the two-quasiparticle threshold is not reached. We present results of the evolution of the finite frequency and Goldstone’s modes from weak coupling (BCS) and to strong coupling (BEC) limits, and discuss briefly the possibility of observing these modes in experiments involving multicomponent ultracold atomic Fermi gases. While it is still a matter of debate that extentions of Eagles’,15 Leggett’s,16 and the Nozieres and Schmitt-Rink17 (NSR) suggestions are good qualitative descriptions of the crossover phenomena, the evolution of collective modes can serve as a test of these ideas.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we discuss the effective action and the saddle point approximation for a two-band continuum Hamiltonian with attractive interactions in the s-wave channel and a Josephson interband coupling term. We analyze the effects of Gaussian fluctuations in Sec. III, and derive effective amplitude and phase actions, from which the in-phase (Goldstone) and out-of-phase (finite frequency) collective mode spectra are calculated in Sec. IV. The evolution of these modes is analyzed as a function of interaction strengths from the BCS to the BEC limit both analytically and numerical in Sec. V. In Sec. VI, we summarize our conclusions and propose that ultracold Fermi atoms can be used to test our results regarding the evolution of the finite frequency and Goldstone modes in two-band superfluids. Finally, in Appendix A, we present details of the matrix elements involved in the phase and amplitude effective actions, while in Appendix B, we show the long wavelength expansion coefficients needed to evaluate the phase modes.
II. EFFECTIVE ACTION METHOD

A Hamiltonian for multiband (or multicomponent) superfluids with singlet pairing can be written as

\[ H = \sum_{n,k,\sigma} \xi_n(k) a_{n,k,\sigma}^\dagger a_{n,k,\sigma} + \sum_{n,m,q} U_{nm}(q) \rho_{n,q} \rho_{m,-q} \]
\[ + \sum_{n,m,k,k',q} V_{nm}(k,k') b_{n,k,q}^\dagger b_{m,k',q}, \]

(1)

where the indices \( n \) and \( m \) label different bands (or components), \( \sigma \) labels the spins (or pseudospins), and \( k \) labels the momentum. In addition, \( a_{n,k,\sigma} \) is the fermion creation operator, \( \rho_{n,q} = \sum_{k,\sigma} a_{n,k,\sigma} a_{n,k,\sigma}^\dagger \) is the density operator, and \( b_{n,k,q}^\dagger = a_{n,k+q+1/2,\downarrow} a_{n,k-1/2,\uparrow} \) is the pair creation operator. Here, \( \xi_n(k) = \epsilon_n(k) - \mu \), where

\[ \epsilon_n(k) = \epsilon_{n,0} + k^2/2m_n \]

(2)

(with \( \hbar = 1 \)) is the kinetic energy of fermions. The reference energies are \( \epsilon_{1,0} = 0 \) and \( \epsilon_{2,0} = E_0 > 0 \) (see Fig. 1); \( m_n \) is the effective mass for the \( n \)-th band. Furthermore, the terms \( U_{nm} \) and \( V_{nm} \) correspond to the Coulomb and pairing interaction matrix elements, respectively. Since in this paper we are interested only in the neutral case, we will ignore Coulomb interactions, and consider only the pairing term. This choice is more appropriate to ultracold atomic Fermi gases, while the inclusion of Coulomb terms is more appropriate in the case of superconductors. The discussion of the charged case is postponed to a future manuscript. For the neutral case, we take

\[ V_{nm}(k,k') = V_{nm} \Gamma_n(k) \Gamma_m(k') \]

(3)

to be separable, and we consider in general a two-band system with distinct intraband interactions \( V_{11} \) and \( V_{22} \), and interband interactions \( V_{12} \) and \( V_{21} \). Notice that the off-diagonal terms \( V_{12} \) and \( V_{21} \) play the role of Josephson coupling terms. For the purpose of this paper we will consider all \( V_{nm} \) to be negative. The \( \Gamma_n(k) \) coefficients are symmetry factors characterizing the chosen angular momentum channel.

In the imaginary-time functional integration formalism \((\beta = 1/T, \hbar = k_B = 1)\), the partition function is written as

\[ Z = \int D[a^\dagger, a] e^{-S} \]

(4)

with an action given by

\[ S = \int_0^\beta d\tau \left[ \sum_{n,k,\sigma} a_{n,k,\sigma}^\dagger(\partial_\tau) a_{n,k,\sigma}(\tau) + H(\tau) \right]. \]

(5)

The Hamiltonian from Eq. (1) can be rewritten in the form

\[ H(\tau) = \sum_{n,m,k,\sigma} \xi_n(k) a_{n,k,\sigma}^\dagger a_{n,k,\sigma}(\tau) \]
\[ + \sum_{n,m,q} B_n(q,\tau) V_{nm} b_{n,m,q}(\tau), \]

(6)

with \( B_n(q,\tau) = \sum_k \Gamma_n(k) b_{n,k,q}(\tau) \). We first introduce the Nambu spinor \( \psi_n(p) = (a_{n,p,\uparrow}, a_{n,-p,\downarrow}) \), where \( p = (k, \imath \omega) \) is used to denote both momentum and Matsubara frequencies \( \omega = (2\ell + 1)\pi/\beta \). Furthermore, we use the Hubbard-Stratanovich transformation

\[ \exp \left\{ - \sum_{n,m,q} B_n(q) V_{nm} b_{n,m,q} \right\} = \int D[\Phi^\dagger, \Phi] \]
\[ \times \exp \left\{ \sum_{n,m,q} \Phi_n^\dagger(q) g_{nm} \Phi_m(q) \right\} \]
\[ + \sum_{n,q} \left[ R_n^\dagger(q) \Phi_n(q) + \text{H.c.} \right] \]

(7)

to decouple the fermionic degrees of freedom at the expense of introducing the bosonic fields \( \Phi_n(q) \), with \( q = (q, \imath \omega) \) where \( \omega = 2\ell \pi/\beta \). The tensor \( g_{nm} \) associated with the bosonic pairing fields \( \Phi_n(q) \) can be written as

\[ \begin{pmatrix} g_{11} & g_{12} \\ g_{21} & g_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\det V} \begin{pmatrix} V_{22} & -V_{12} \\ -V_{21} & V_{11} \end{pmatrix}, \]

(8)

where \( \det V = V_{11} V_{22} - V_{12} V_{21} \). Performing an integration over the fermionic part \( \langle D[\Phi^\dagger, \Phi] \rangle \) leads to

\[ S = -\beta \sum_{n,m,q} \Phi_n^\dagger(q) g_{nm} \Phi_m(q) \]
\[ + \sum_{n,p,p'} \left[ \beta \xi_n(k) \delta_{p,p'} - T \ln \beta G_n^{-1} \right]. \]

(9)

Here, the inverse Nambu matrix is

\[ G_n^{-1} = \Phi_n(q) \Gamma_n^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} p + p' \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \sigma_+ + \Phi_n^\dagger(-q) \Gamma_n \begin{pmatrix} p + p' \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \sigma_- \]
\[ + \left[ \imath \omega \sigma_0 - \xi_n(k) \sigma_3 \right] \delta_{p,p'}, \]

(10)

where \( \sigma_z = (\sigma_+ + \sigma_-)/2 \) and \( \sigma_i \) are the Pauli spin matrices.

We choose an approximation scheme where the field \( \Phi_n(q) \) is written as a sum of a \( \tau \)-independent (stationary) part and a \( \tau \)-dependent contribution

\[ \Phi_n(p) = \Phi_n(q) = \Delta_n \delta_{e,0} + \Lambda_n(q). \]

(11)

We first write the inverse Nambu matrix in terms of two matrices:

\[ G_n^{-1} = G_{n,0}^{-1}(1 + G_{n,0}^{-1} G_{n,1}). \]

(12)

The first one is the saddle point inverse Nambu matrix given by...
matrices is understood as the momentum labels $\mathcal{H}_{20849}/\mathcal{H}_{9272}/S_{\text{band-off-diagonal}} - 2$ is the effective saddle point action, and $V_{nm}$ is used in the expansion of the natural logarithm of $\ln G^{-1} = \ln G_{n,0} - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{j} j \ln(G_{n,0}G_{n,1}^{-1})^{j}$. (15)

Within this approximation, we expand the action to second order in the fluctuation field $\Delta_{\text{effect}}(q)$. This procedure produces an effective action of the form $S = S_{0} + S_{2}$, where

$$S_{0} = -\beta \sum_{\mu,\mu'} \Delta_{\mu,\mu'}^{2} G_{\mu,\mu'} + \sum_{\mu,\mu'} \left[ \beta \xi_{\mu}(k) \delta_{\mu,\mu'} - \ln G_{\mu,\mu'}^{-1} \right]$$

is the effective saddle point action, and

$$S_{2} = \sum_{n,p} G_{n,0}(12) G_{n,1}(23) G_{n,0}(34) G_{n,1}(41)$$

is the Gaussian correction to it. The notation $(ij)$ in the $G$ matrices is understood as the momentum labels $(p_{1},p_{2})$. An important comment about $S_{0}$ is in order. Writing $\Delta_{n,0}$ in terms of its amplitude and phase

$$\Delta_{n,0} = |\Delta_{n,0}| \exp(i \varphi_{n})$$

the first term of $S_{0}$ becomes the sum of two contributions: the standard band-diagonal terms $-\beta \sum_{n,m} \Delta_{n,0}^{2} G_{n,m}$, and the band-off-diagonal term $-2 \beta g_{12} \Delta_{1,0} \Delta_{2,0} \cos(\varphi_{2} - \varphi_{1})$ corresponding to the Josephson coupling between bands. Since $g_{12} = -V_{12}/\det \mathbf{V}$, with $\det \mathbf{V} > 0$ and $V_{nm} < 0$, the saddle point thermodynamic potential $\Omega_{0} = S_{0}/\beta$, with its quadratic term of the form $(1/2) \Delta_{1,0}^{2} + (1/2) \Delta_{2,0}^{2} - 2 |V_{12}| \Delta_{1,0} \Delta_{2,0} \cos(\varphi_{2} - \varphi_{1}) / \det \mathbf{V}$, which shows explicitly the Josephson energy. For the case chosen, where all $V_{nm}$ are negative, the in-phase $\varphi_{2} = \varphi_{1}$ is the only stable solution. However, if $V_{12}$ were positive, another stable solution would appear where $\varphi_{2} = \varphi_{1} + \pi$. This is the so-called $\pi$-phase solution, which we will not discuss here.

From the stationary condition $\partial S_{0}/\partial \Delta_{n,0}^{*}(q) = 0$ we obtain the order parameter equations

$$\Delta_{n,0} = -\sum_{m,k} V_{nm} \Delta_{m,0} G_{m,k}^{-1} \tanh \left( \beta E_{m}(k) / 2 \right) / 2 E_{m}(k)$$

where $E_{m}(k) = (\xi_{m}(k) + (\Delta_{m}(k))^{2})^{1/2}$ is the quasiparticle energy spectrum. Note that the order parameter

$$\Delta_{n,0} = \Delta_{n,0} G_{n,0}^{*}$$

is a separable function of temperature $T$ and momentum $k$.

In this manuscript, we focus on $s$-wave superfluids, and thus consider only the zero angular momentum channel of the interaction $V_{nm}(k,k')$. In addition, instead of taking $\Gamma_{n}(k) = 1$ (independent of $k$) which would cause ultraviolet divergences (logarithmic in two dimensions and linear in three dimensions) in the integrations over momentum for the order parameter equation, we take

$$\Gamma_{n}(n) = 1/(1 + k/k_{n,0})^{1/2}$$

as the corresponding symmetry factor in two dimensions (2D), and

$$\Gamma_{n}(n) = 1/(1 + k/k_{n,0})$$

as the corresponding symmetry factor in three dimensions (3D). Here $k_{n,0} \sim R_{n,0}$, where $R_{n,0}$ plays the role of the interaction range in real space, sets the scale at large momenta, and it is necessary to produce the physically correct behavior of a generic interaction at short wavelengths. In the case of 2D, $V_{nm}(k,k') \sim 1$ for small $k$ and $k'$, while $V_{nm}(k,k') \sim 1/k^{2}$ for large $k$ and $k'$, when a generic real potential is used.29 There is no ultraviolet divergence in our theory since the momentum integrations always produce finite results. This choice of interactions has the advantage of making unnecessary the introduction of the $T$-matrix approximation to renormalize the order parameter equation, and redefine the interaction amplitude in terms of the two-body binding energy.30,31 In the case of 3D, $V_{nm}(k,k') \sim 1$ for small $k$ and $k'$, while $V_{nm}(k,k') \sim 1/k^{2}$ for large $k$ and $k'$, when a generic real potential is used.17 Notice that, our three-dimensional interaction $\Gamma_{n}(k)$ has the same behavior at both low and high momenta as the one used by NSR (Ref. 17) $\Gamma_{n}(k) = 1/(1 + (k/k_{0})^{2})$. Either choice (ours or NSR’s) produces qualitatively similar results as it will be later discussed.

Furthermore, the order parameter equations need to be solved self-consistently with the number equation

$$N = \sum_{n,k,\sigma} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \xi_{\sigma}(k) \tanh \left( \frac{E_{\sigma}(k)}{2 k_{B} T} \right) \right]$$

which is obtained from $N = -\partial \Omega_{0} / \partial \mu$, where $\Omega_{0}$ is the saddle point thermodynamic potential. The inclusion of fluctuations are very important for the number equation near the critical temperature of the system, and in this case the saddle point thermodynamic potential needs to be corrected to $\Omega = \Omega_{0} + \Omega_{G}$, where $\Omega_{G}$ should be calculated at least at the Gaussian level. In this manuscript, however, we limit ourselves to fluctuation effects at low temperatures, as discussed next.

III. GAUSSIAN FLUCTUATIONS

We now investigate Gaussian fluctuations in the pairing field $\Phi_{n}(q)$ about the the static saddle point $\Delta_{n,0}$. The Gaussian (quadratic) effective action can be written as

$$S_{G} = S_{0} + \frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{q} \Lambda_{q}(-q) M(q) \Lambda(q)$$

where the fluctuation field is

$$\Lambda_{q}(-q) = (\Lambda_{1}(q), \Lambda_{2}(q), \Lambda_{3}(-q), \Lambda_{4}(-q), \Lambda_{5}(q))$$

and $M(q)$ is the fluctuation matrix given by
\[ M(q) = \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} & 0 & -g_{12} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} & -g_{12} & 0 \\ -g_{21} & M_{22} & M_{21} & 0 \\ -g_{21} & 0 & M_{21} & M_{11} \end{pmatrix}. \]  

where the matrix elements \( M_{ij}(q) = M_{ij}^*(q) \) are given by

\[ M_{11}^i = -g_{nn} + \beta^j - \sum_p \Gamma_p(p+q/2) \partial_q(p+q) \partial_q(-p) \]

\[ M_{12}^i = \beta^j - \sum_p \Gamma_p^2(p+q/2) s_q(p+q) s_q(p). \]

The expressions \( \partial_q(p) = \tilde{\epsilon}_q(p) / F(p) \) and \( s_q(p) = \Delta_q(k) / F(p) \) are the matrix elements \( \langle G_{n,0} \rangle_{11} \) and \( \langle G_{n,0} \rangle_{21} \), respectively. Here, we use the definitions \( \tilde{\epsilon}_q(p) = i \xi_q - \xi_q(k) \), and \( F(p) = \tilde{\epsilon}_q(p)^2 + |\Delta_q(k)|^2 \). Notice that while \( M_{11}^i(q) \) and \( M_{21}^i(q) \) are even under the transformations \( q \rightarrow -q \), and \( \Delta_q \rightarrow -\Delta_q \); the off-diagonal term is even in \( w \), and it reduces to

\[ M_{12}^i(q) = - \sum_k \Gamma^2 \Delta \epsilon \frac{\epsilon}{w^2 - (E + E')^2}. \]  

The off-diagonal term is even in \( w \), and it reduces to

\[ M_{22}^i(q) = - \sum_k \Gamma^2 \Delta \epsilon \frac{\epsilon}{w^2 - (E + E')^2}. \]

We used in the previous expressions the following simplified notation: the kinetic energies \( \xi_q(k) \rightarrow \xi_q \), \( \xi_q(k+q) \rightarrow \xi_q \); the quasiparticle energies \( E_q(k) \rightarrow E_q(k+q) \); the order parameters \( \Delta_q(k) \rightarrow \Delta_q \); \( \Delta_q(k+q) \rightarrow \Delta_q \); and the symmetry factors \( \Gamma_\epsilon(q) \rightarrow \Gamma_\epsilon(q+q/2) \rightarrow \Gamma_\epsilon \).

In order to obtain the collective mode spectrum, we express \( \Lambda_\epsilon(q) = \tau_\epsilon(q) e^{(\phi_\epsilon(q) / \sqrt{2})} \) where \( \tau_\epsilon(q) \), \( \phi_\epsilon(q) \), \( \lambda_\epsilon(q) \), and \( \theta_\epsilon(q) \) are all real. Notice that the new fields \( \lambda_\epsilon(q) = \tau_\epsilon(q) \cos \phi_\epsilon(q) \), and \( \theta_\epsilon(q) = \tau_\epsilon(q) \sin \phi_\epsilon(q) \) can be regarded essentially as the amplitude and phase fields, respectively, when \( \phi_\epsilon(q) \) is small. This change of basis can be described by the following unitary transformation:

\[ \Lambda_\epsilon(q) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \lambda_\epsilon(q) \\ 1 - i & 0 & 0 & \theta_\epsilon(q) \\ 0 & 0 & -i & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & i & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \]

IV. COLLECTIVE MODES AT T=0

The collective modes are determined by the poles of the propagator matrix \( M^{-1}(q) \) for the pair fluctuation fields \( \Lambda(q) \), which describe the Gaussian deviations about the saddle point order parameter. The poles of \( M^{-1}(q) \) are determined by the condition \( \det M = 0 \), and lead to a dispersion for the collective modes \( w = w(q) \), when the usual analytic continuation \( iv \rightarrow w + i0^+ \) is performed.

We will focus here only at the zero temperature limit, but we will analyze phase and amplitude modes. At \( T=0 \), only the \( qp \)-\( qp \) terms contribute, as the \( qp \)-\( qh \) terms vanish identically (see Appendix A). In this limit, we separate the diagonal matrix elements of \( M(q) \) into even and odd contributions with respect to \( w \)

\[ M_{11}^E(q) = -g_{nn} + \sum_k \frac{\Gamma^2 \epsilon \epsilon + EE' [E + E']}{2EE' [w^2 - (E + E')^2]}, \]

\[ M_{12}^E(q) = - \sum_k \frac{\Gamma^2 \epsilon \epsilon + EE' [E + E']}{2EE' [w^2 - (E + E')^2]}. \]
with $W_a = g_{12}^2 - y_1 y_2$. The dispersion relation for the amplitude-amplitude collective modes is obtained from the condition $\det M_2 = 0$. In this paper, however, we are mostly interested in the phase-phase collective modes. Thus, upon integration of the amplitude fields we obtain a phase-only effective action

$$S_{\theta_1, \theta_2} = \frac{B}{2} \sum_q \theta^*(q) M_\theta(q) \theta(q),$$

where $\theta^*(q) = [\theta_1(q), \theta_2(q)]$. The phase-phase fluctuation matrix has the form

$$M_p = \begin{pmatrix}
  y_1 + x_2 z_2^2 / W_p & - g_{12}(1 - z_1 z_2 / W_p) \\
- g_{12}(1 - z_1 z_2 / W_p) & y_2 + x_1 z_1^2 / W_p
\end{pmatrix},$$

with $W_p = g_{12}^2 - x_1 x_2$. Again, the dispersion relation for the phase-phase collective modes is obtained from the condition $\det M_p = 0$ corresponding to poles of the phase-phase correlation matrix $M_p^n$. In the next section, we will present both analytical results for the phase-phase modes in BCS and BEC limits, as well as numerical results and the crossover regime.

We note in passing that at finite temperatures, for continuum $s$-wave systems, the qp-qp terms are well behaved in the long-wavelength and low frequency limit, while the qp-qp terms do not in general allow for a simple expansion in the same limit due to the presence of Landau damping (see Appendix A). However, at zero temperature, the qp-qp terms vanish, and a well-defined expansion is possible at low frequencies provided that the collective modes cannot decay into the two-quasiparticle continuum. Thus, the collective mode dispersion $w(q)$ must satisfy the following condition:

$$w(q) \approx \min\{E_1(k) + E_1(k + q), E_2(k) + E_2(k + q)\}.$$}

(36)

To obtain the long wavelength dispersions for the collective modes at $T = 0$, we expand the matrix elements of $\hat{M}$ [Eq. (31)] in the amplitude-phase representation to second order in $|q|$ and fourth order in $w$ to get

$$x_n = A_n + C_n |q|^2 - D_n w^2 + E_n w^2 |q|^2 + F_n w^4,$$

(37)

$$y_n = P_n + Q_n |q|^2 - R_n w^2 + S_n w^2 |q|^2 + T_n w^4,$$

(38)

$$z_n = B_n w + H_n w^3,$$

(39)

where expansion coefficients are given in Appendix B. As it will become clear in Sec. V, the $|q|^4$ order terms in the expansion are not necessary to calculate the collective mode frequencies $w(q)$ accurately to order $|q|^2$.

The expressions of the coefficients found in Appendix B are valid for values of the interaction range parameter $k_{n,0}$ that satisfy the diluteness condition ($k_{n,0}/k_F \gg 1$). However, in order to make analytical progress in the calculation of collective modes to be discussed next, we take the limit $k_{n,0} \to \infty$, since all the momentum integrals are convergent. This is in contrast to the situation encountered with the order parameter equation, where we used $k_{n,0} \sim 10^4 k_F$ in order to ensure convergence of our numerical calculations for $|\Delta_n|$ and $\mu$ as will be seen in the next section.

V. ANALYTICAL AND NUMERICAL RESULTS

In this section, we will focus only on the long-wavelength (small $|q|$) limit phase-phase modes determined by the condition $\det M_p = 0$. We begin our discussion with the trivial case when $g_{12} = 0$ (where $V_{12} = 0$ but $V_{11}$ and $V_{22}$ can have any negative value) which corresponds to two uncoupled bands. In this case, the phase-phase fluctuation matrix $M_p = 0$ becomes block diagonal, and we find two Goldstone modes satisfying the relation

$$w_n^2 = c_n^2 |q|^2,$$

(40)

where the square of the speed of sound $c_n$ in nth band is given by

$$c_n^2 = \frac{A_n Q_n}{B_n^2 + A_n R_n}.$$

(41)

In the limit $|q| \to 0$, the corresponding eigenvectors are given by

$$\theta^*(q = 0, w = 0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (1, 0)$$

(42)

for the first band, and

$$\theta^*(q = 0, w = 0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (0, 1)$$

(43)

for the second band, respectively. These results are identical to the known results in the one-band case. However, in the nontrivial case when $g_{12} \neq 0$, which corresponds to a finite Josephson coupling $V_{12}$ between bands, we find two modes. In order to determine the collective mode spectra $w(q)$ accurately to order $|q|^2$ it is sufficient to rewrite the determinant condition in the form

$$w_q^4 (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 |q|^2) + w^2 (\alpha_3 + \alpha_4 |q|^2) + \alpha_5 |q|^2 = 0,$$

(44)

where $\alpha_n$ are nontrivial and extremely complicated functions of the expansion coefficients $A_n, B_n, C_n, D_n, \ldots$. The exact dependence can be obtained via a symbolic manipulation program, but we will not quote these general results here or in appendices, as they are not particularly illuminating. Instead, we will present simple limits, where their behavior can be easily understood.

In this nontrivial case of $g_{12} \neq 0$, we find two collective modes. The first mode is the Goldstone mode satisfying the relation

$$w^2 = c_1^2 |q|^2,$$

(45)

where the square of the speed of sound $c$ is given by

$$c_1^2 = - \alpha_1 / \alpha_3 > 0.$$

(46)

In the limit $|q| \to 0$, the eigenvector of the Goldstone mode is given by

$$\theta^*(q = 0, w = 0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (|\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2|),$$

(47)

which is valid for all values of the $V_{11}$ and $V_{22}$ couplings.
Notice that this mode is associated with the in-phase fluctuations of the phases of the order parameters around their saddle point values.

In the particular case, where $g_{12}/\min N_1,N_2$ is the smallest expansion parameter (small $g_{12}$ limit) we can perform a Taylor expansion of the $\alpha_n$ coefficients around $g_{12}=0$, and obtain

$$c^2 = t_{12}(P_2 Q_1 + P_1 Q_2) / (P_{1t1} + P_{2t2}),$$

(48)

as the square of speed $c$ of the Goldstone mode. Here, we introduced the coefficient

$$q_n = (A_n - P_n) / [B_n^2 + R_n (A_n - P_n)] > 0,$$

(49)

which is positive definite since $A_n > P_n$ and $R_n > 0$. The precise meaning of the smallest expansion parameter $g_{12}/\min N_1,N_2$ will be clear in Secs. V A and V B, where we discuss analytically the weak and strong coupling limits. The eigenvector in the small $g_{12}$ limit has the same as in the case of general $g_{12}$, since $\theta'(q=0,w=0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2)$ is not explicitly dependent on $g_{12}$. (See Eq. (47)).

The second mode is a finite frequency mode satisfying the relation

$$w^2 = w_0^2 + v^2 q^2,$$

(50)

where the square of a finite frequency $w_0$ of the mode is

$$w_0^2 = - \alpha_3 / \alpha_1 > 0,$$

(51)

and the square of the speed $v$ of the mode is

$$v^2 = \alpha_3 / \alpha_2^2 - \alpha_3 / \alpha_1 + \alpha_3 / \alpha_3.$$

(52)

The eigenvector for this mode has a complicated expression

$$\theta'(q,w) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto [g_{12}(W_p - z_1 z_2), y_1 W_p + x_2 z_1^2],$$

(53)

for a general value of $g_{12}$.

In the small $g_{12}$ limit, the coefficients simplify to

$$w_0^2 = p_{1t1} + p_{2t2} > 0,$$

(54)

$$v^2 = q_{1t1} + q_{2t2} - c^2 > 0,$$

(55)

In the limit of $w = w_0, q \to 0$, and small $g_{12}$, the eigenvector expression simplifies to

$$\theta'(q=0,w = w_0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (|\Delta_2| t_1, -|\Delta_1| t_2),$$

(56)

and it becomes transparent that this mode is associated with out-of-phase fluctuations of the phases of the order parameters around their saddle point values, since $q_n$ is positive definite.

Before discussing the collective modes in the analytically tractable weak and strong coupling limits, notice that a finite $q$ Goldstone mode is only possible when $c^2 > 0$, and that a finite $q$ finite frequency mode is only possible when $w_0^2 > 0$. If these conditions are violated the modes are nonexistent. Furthermore, caution should be exercised by recalling that the small $w$ approximation used in the expansion of general fluctuation matrix (M) elements breaks down when the frequency $w$ of any of the collective modes moves up into the continuum of two-quasiparticle states. Therefore, our results are strictly valid only for

$$w \ll \min \{2E_1(k), 2E_2(k)\},$$

(57)

which corresponds to

$$w \ll \min \{2|\Delta_1|, 2|\Delta_2|\}$$

(58)

in the weak coupling (BCS) limit, and to

$$w \ll \min \{2\sqrt{\mu^2 + |\Delta_1|^2}, 2\sqrt{(|\mu| + E_0)^2 + |\Delta_2|^2}\}$$

(59)

in the strong coupling (BEC) limit. With these conditions in mind, we discuss next the weak and strong coupling limits.

A. Weak Coupling Limit

The $s$-wave weak coupling limit is characterized by the criteria $\mu > 0, \mu > E_0, \mu \approx E_F \approx |\Delta_1|$, and $\mu - E_0 \approx |\Delta_2|$. Analytical calculations are particularly simple in this case since all integrals for the coefficients needed to calculate the collective mode dispersions are peaked near the Fermi surface (see Appendix B). In addition, we make use of the nearly perfect particle-hole symmetry, which forces integrals to vanish, when their integrands are odd under the transformation $\xi \to -\xi$. For instance, the coefficients that couple phase and amplitude modes within a given band ($B_n$ and $H_n$) vanish. Thus, in this case, there is no mixing between phase and amplitude fields within nth band, as can be seen by inspection of the fluctuation matrix $\mathbf{M}$ [Eq. (31)].

We would like to focus on the phase-phase collective modes, as they correspond to the low energy part of the collective mode spectrum. Notice that, all expansion coefficients appearing in the phase-phase fluctuation matrix $\mathbf{M}_{pp}$ are analytically tractable. The expansion of the matrix elements to order $|q|^2$ and $w^4$ is performed under the condition $(w, |q|^2/2m_n) \ll \min \{2|\Delta_1|, 2|\Delta_2|\}$. To evaluate $x_n$ for each band $n$, we need $A_n = g_{12}/|\Delta_1|/|\Delta_1| + N_1, A_2 = g_{21}/|\Delta_2|/|\Delta_2| + N_2$, which are the coefficients of the $w^0=0,w=0$ term; $C_n = c_{n,1}N_n/12|\Delta_1|^2$, which are the coefficients of $|q|^2; D_n = N_n/12|\Delta_1|^2$, which are the coefficients of $w^2; E_n = -N_n/120|\Delta_1|^4$, which are the coefficients of $w^4$. To evaluate $y_n$, we need $P_n = g_{12}/|\Delta_1|/|\Delta_1| + P_2 = g_{21}/|\Delta_2|/|\Delta_2|$, which are the coefficients of the $q=0,w=0$ term; $Q_n = c_{n,2}N_n/4|\Delta_1|^2$, which are the coefficients of $|q|^2; R_n = N_n/4|\Delta_1|^2$, which are the coefficients of $w^2; T_n = -N_n/24|\Delta_1|^4$ which are the coefficients of $w^4$. Here,

$$c_{n,w} = v_{n,p} \sqrt{d_n}$$

(60)

is the velocity of the sound mode in the one-band case, $d_n$ is the dimension, $v_{n,p}$ is the Fermi velocity, and $N_n$ is the density of states at the Fermi energy per spin in the nth band. While we use $N_n$ as the density of states per spin at the Fermi energy ($N_n = m_n L^2/2\pi$ in 2D and $N_n = m_n L^2 k_{a,f}^2/2\pi^2$ in 3D) in the nth band, in Ref. 4 the density of states used includes both spins. The off-diagonal elements are $(\mathbf{M}_{pp})_{12} = (\mathbf{M}_{pp})_{31} = -g_{12}$, since $B_1 = B_2 = 0$ and $H_1 = H_2 = 0$, as discussed above. Notice that the expressions above are valid for both 2D and 3D bands.

In order to bring our results in contact with Leggett’s,4 and Sharapov et al.5,6 we make use of the order parameter saddle point Eq. (17) at $T=0$.
\[ |\Delta_1|(1 + V_1 F_1) = -|\Delta_2| V_2 F_2, \quad (61) \]

\[ |\Delta_2|(1 + V_2 F_2) = -|\Delta_1| V_1 F_1, \quad (62) \]

and consider the small \( g_{12} \) limit, where

\[ g_{12}/\min(N_1, N_2) \ll \min(|\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2|)/\max(|\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2|). \quad (63) \]

A simple evaluation of \( \det M_p = 0 \) leads to a Goldstone mode \( w^2 = c^2 |q|^2 \), characterized by the speed of sound

\[ c^2 = \frac{N_1 c_{1,w}^2 + N_2 c_{2,w}^2}{N_1 + N_2}, \quad (64) \]

and a finite frequency (Leggett) mode \( w^2 = w_0^2 + u^2 |q|^2 \), characterized by

\[ w_0^2 = \frac{N_1 + N_2}{2 N_1 N_2 V_1 V_2 - V_1^2}, \quad (65) \]

\[ w^2 = \frac{N_1 c_{1,w}^2 + N_2 c_{2,w}^2}{N_1 + N_2}, \quad (66) \]

where \( w_0 \) is a finite frequency, and \( v \) is the speed of propagation of the mode. Here we reintroduced all the coupling constants of the original Hamiltonian in Eq. (1). These results are valid only in the weak-coupling limit, with all \( V_{nn} < 0 \), and \( \det \mathbf{V} > 0 \). Notice that if \( V_{12} = 0 \) the Leggett mode does not exist as the two bands are uncoupled. Furthermore, the trivial limit of one-band (say only band 1 exists) is directly recovered by taking \( |\Delta_2| = 0, N_2 = 0 \) and \( c_{2,w} = 0 \) which leads to \( c^2 = c_{1,w}^2, w_0^2 = 0 \), and \( w^2 = 0 \).

It is also very illustrative to analyze the eigenvectors associated with the two solutions. For Goldstone’s mode, in the limit of \( q \to 0 \), for any \( g_{12} \), it is easy to see that

\[ \theta(q = 0, w = 0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (|\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2|), \quad (67) \]

corresponding to an in-phase mode. In the degenerate case, where \( |\Delta_1| = |\Delta_2| \), and \( N_1 = N_2 \), the eigenvector \( \theta(q = 0, w = 0) \propto (1, 1) \) and the phase fields are perfectly in phase. The eigenvector for the finite frequency mode is \( \theta(q, w) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (g_{12}, y_1) \). In the particular limit where \( g_{12} \) is small (Leggett mode), this leads to an eigenvector

\[ \theta(q = 0, w = w_0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (N_2 |\Delta_1|, -N_1 |\Delta_2|), \quad (68) \]

which corresponds to an out-of-phase mode. In the degenerate case, this simplifies further to \( \theta(q = 0, w = 0) = (1, -1) \) becoming a perfectly out-of-phase mode.

Now, we would like to turn our attention to the analysis of the phase-phase modes in the strong coupling limit, which is also analytically tractable.

**B. Strong coupling limit**

The \( s \)-wave strong coupling limit is characterized by the criteria \( \mu < 0 \), and \( |\mu| \gg |\Delta| \) and \( |\mu| + E_0 \gg |\Delta_2| \). The situation encountered here is very different from the weak coupling limit, because one can no longer invoke particle-hole symmetry to simplify the calculation of many of the coefficients appearing in the fluctuation matrix \( \mathbf{M} \) (see Appendix B). In particular, the coefficients \( B_n, H_n \neq 0 \) indicate that the amplitude and phase fields within an individual band \( n \) are mixed.

We will concentrate here only on phase-phase modes characterized by the fluctuation matrix \( M_p \). The expansion of the matrix elements to order \( |q|^2 \) and \( w^4 \) is performed under the condition \( \langle w^4 | q^2 | 2m_n \rangle \ll 2 |\mu| \). All the coefficients \( x_n, y_n, z_n, W_p \) appearing in \( M_p \) matrix Eq. (35) are evaluated to order \( (|\Delta_1|/|\mu|^2)^2 \) and \( (|\Delta_2|/|\mu| + E_0)^2 \) in the strong coupling limit for both two and three dimensional systems. To evaluate \( x_n \) for each band \( n \), we need \( A_1 = g_{12} |\Delta_1|/|\Delta_1| + k_1 |\Delta_1|^2/2 |\mu|, A_2 = g_{22} |\Delta_2|/|\Delta_2| + k_2 |\Delta_2|^2/2 (|\mu| + E_0) \), which are the coefficients of the \( (q = 0, w = 0) \) term: \( C_n = k_n / 4 m_n \), which are the coefficients of \( |q|^2 \): \( D_1 = k_1 / 8 |\mu|, D_2 = k_2 / 8 (|\mu| + E_0) \), which are the coefficients of \( w^2 \), and \( F_1 = -k_1 g/512 |\mu|^3, F_2 = -k_2 g/512 (|\mu| + E_0)^3 \), which are the coefficients of \( w^4 \). To evaluate \( y_n \), we need \( P_1 = g_{12} |\Delta_1|/|\Delta_1| \) and \( P_2 = g_{22} |\Delta_2|/|\Delta_2| \), which are the coefficients of the \( (q = 0, w = 0) \) term: \( Q_n = k_n / 4 m_n \), which are the coefficients of \( |q|^2 \): \( R_1 = k_1 g/8 |\mu|, R_2 = k_2 g/8 (|\mu| + E_0) \), which are the coefficients of \( w^2 \), and \( T_1 = -k_1 g/512 |\mu|^3, T_2 = -k_2 g/512 (|\mu| + E_0)^3 \), which are the coefficients of \( w^4 \). To evaluate \( z_n \), we need \( B_n = k_n \), which are the coefficients of \( w, H_1 = k_1 g / 96 |\mu|^2, H_2 = k_2 g / 96 (|\mu| + E_0)^2 \) which are the coefficients of \( w^4 \). The computation of \( W_p = g_{12} - x_1 x_2 \), just relies on the knowledge of \( x_n \) already obtained above. While the expressions above are valid for any value of \( \mu \) and \( E_0 \) in the 2D bands, they are only rigorously valid for \( |\mu| \gg E_0 \) in the 3D case through the use of the dimensionally dependent variables \( k_n \), and \( \gamma \) and \( \tilde{\gamma} \) which in the 3D case become

\[ \kappa_1 = \pi N_1 / 8 |\mu| \epsilon_F, \quad (69) \]

\[ \kappa_2 = \pi N_2 / 8 (|\mu| + E_0) \epsilon_F, \quad (70) \]

and \( \gamma = 5, \tilde{\gamma} = 3 \). To write our expressions in compact notation and to recover the degenerate limit \( (E_0 = 0) \), we keep \( E_0 \) in all 3D coefficients. All expressions for the 3D case can be converted into the 2D case through the following procedure. In all coefficients \( (x_n, y_n, z_n, W_p) \), the dependence in \( |\mu| \), \( (|\mu| + E_0) \) is transformed into \( |\mu| / 2, (|\mu| + E_0) / 2 \), and the variables \( k_n \), and \( \gamma \) and \( \tilde{\gamma} \) need to be redefined as

\[ \kappa_1 = N_1 / 8 |\mu|, \quad (71) \]

\[ \kappa_2 = N_2 / 8 (|\mu| + E_0), \quad (72) \]

and \( \gamma = 2, \tilde{\gamma} = 2 \).

In the limit \( q \to 0 \), the condition \( \det M_p = 0 \) leads again to two modes. General expressions for the collective modes are highly nontrivial and, therefore, we consider analytically only the asymptotic small \( g_{12} \) limit defined as

\[ g_{12} / \min(N_1, N_2) \ll \left( \min(|\Delta_1|, |\Delta_2|)/|\mu| + E_0 \right)^2 \ll 1. \quad (73) \]

In this case, the Goldstone mode corresponds to \( w^2 = c^2 |q|^2 \), where
out-of-phase mode, similar to the weak coupling case. 

is the square of the speed of sound. The finite frequency mode (which is the extension of Leggett’s mode in the weak coupling limit) corresponds to \( w^2 = w_0^2 + v^2 |q|^2 \), where

\[ w_0^2 = \frac{\kappa_1 |\mu| + \kappa_2 (|\mu| + E_0) |V_{12}\Delta_1 \Delta_2|}{2 \kappa_1 \kappa_2 (|\mu| + E_0) \left[ V_{11} \Delta_1 - V_{12} \right]}, \]  

\[ v^2 = \frac{\kappa_1 |\mu| c_{1,2}^2 + \kappa_2 (|\mu| + E_0) c_{1,2}^2}{\kappa_1 |\mu| + \kappa_2 (|\mu| + E_0)}, \]

are the finite frequency, and speed of propagation of the mode, respectively. Here, the quantities

\[ c_{1,2} = \frac{|\Delta|}{\sqrt{8 m_1 |\mu|}}, \]  

\[ c_{2,2} = \frac{|\Delta|}{\sqrt{8 m_2 (|\mu| + E_0)}}, \]

are the velocities of the sound mode in the one-band case. These results are valid only in the strong-coupling limit, with all \( V_{nm} < 0 \), and det \( \mathbf{V} > 0 \). Notice that if \( V_{12} = 0 \) the finite frequency mode does not exist as the two bands are uncoupled. Furthermore, the trivial limit of one band (say only band 1 exists) is directly recovered by taking \( \kappa_2 = 0 \) and \( c_{2,2} = 0 \) which leads to \( c^2 = c_{1,1}^2, \ w_0^2 = 0 \), and \( v^2 = 0 \).

The eigenvectors associated with these solutions are as follows. For Goldstone’s mode, in the limit of \( q \to 0 \) and for any value of \( g_{12} \),

\[ \theta(q = 0, w = 0) = (\theta_1, \theta_2) \propto (|\Delta_1| - |\Delta_2|), \]

as the in-phase mode. For the finite frequency mode (in the small \( g_{12} \) limit), the eigenvector becomes

\[ \theta(q = 0, w = w_0) \propto (\kappa_2 (|\mu| + E_0) |\Delta_1| - \kappa_1 |\mu| |\Delta_2|), \]

which corresponds to an out-of-phase mode, as \( \kappa_2 > 0 \). In the degenerate case \( (\kappa_1 = \kappa_2, \ |\Delta_1| = |\Delta_2| \) and \( E_0 = 0 \)), this simplifies further to \( \theta(q = 0, w = 0) = (1, -1) \) becoming a perfectly out-of-phase mode, similar to the weak coupling case.

Next, we would like to turn our attention to the analysis of the phase-phase modes in the crossover region which is not analytically tractable and requires numerical calculations.

C. Numerical results and crossover region

Thus far, we have focused on the analytically tractable limits corresponding to weak and strong couplings. In order to gain further insight into the behavior of the phase-phase collective excitations at \( T = 0 \), we present numerical results of the evolution from weak to strong coupling for the Goldstone and finite frequency modes. We limit ourselves to numerical calculations of the fully degenerate (identical) bands case, from which the known one-band results for the Goldstone mode can be easily recovered in the BCS, BEC, and crossover regimes for an s-wave superfluid. While the limit of degenerate bands is probably harder to find in nature, it provides us with qualitative and quantitative understanding of the evolution of the finite frequency collective modes from weak to strong coupling. At the same time the degenerate problem is easier to solve numerically, and serves as a test model to our analytical results. Thus, we postpone a detailed numerical calculation of nondegenerate bands case for a future publication, where the more complex numerical problem will be attacked.

In this particular case (identical bands), the band offset is \( E_0 \to 0 \), the density of states at the Fermi energy are \( N_1 = N_2 = N \); the Fermion masses are \( m_1 = m_2 = m \); the Fermi velocities are \( v_1 = v_2 = v_F \); and the intraband interactions are \( V_{11} = V_{22} = V \); while the order parameter amplitudes are \( |\Delta_1| = |\Delta_2| = |\Delta| \). Furthermore, the low-momentum and low-energy expansion coefficients become identical, i.e., \( A_1 = A_2 = A; \ B_1 = B_2 = B; \ D_1 = D_2 = D; \ H_1 = H_2 = H; \ R_1 = R_2 = R \); and \( T_1 = T_2 = T \), and we define \( \tilde{A} = A - g_{12} = \Sigma_k (|\Delta(k)|)^2 / 2 E(k)^3 \). For any value of \( g_{12} \) in the degenerate bands limit, we obtain

\[ c^2 = v^2 = \frac{Q \tilde{A}}{B^2 + \tilde{A} R} > 0, \]

for the squares of the speeds \( c \) (Goldstone) and \( v \) (finite frequency). In addition, we obtain

\[ w_0^2 = \frac{P_1(g_{12})}{P_2(g_{12})}, \]

for the square of the finite frequency which is also valid for any value of \( g_{12} \). The numerator \( P_1(g_{12}) = (B^2 + \tilde{A} R) g_{12} (\tilde{A} R) \) is positive definite and the denominator \( P_2(g_{12}) = (B^2 + \tilde{A} R)^2 + g_{12}^2 (R B^2 + \tilde{A} R) + \tilde{A} (2 T - 4 B H) + 8 \tilde{A} R D + 6 B^2 D^2) + 4 g_{12}^2 [4 \tilde{A} + 8 (R D - B H) + 5 B^2 D / \tilde{A}] \) must be also positive definite to guarantee that \( w_0^2 > 0 \). Notice that these functions are not strictly second-order polynomials in \( g_{12} \), since all coefficients depend implicitly on \( g_{12} \). In the small \( g_{12} \) limit, expressions for \( c^2, v^2 \), and \( w_0^2 \) simplify to Eqs. (48), (55), and (54), with the degenerate case coefficients. Furthermore, since \( P_2(g_{12}) > 0 \) is positive definite, Eq. (82) is only valid strictly for \( P_2(g_{12}) > 0 \).

In our numerical calculations of \( |\Delta_n| \) and \( \mu \) (via the saddle point Eqs. (17) and (21)), we choose a momentum cutoff of value \( k_{1,0} = k_{2,0} = k_0 = 10^4 k_F \) to ensure convergence of all \( k \)-space integrations. The Fermion density can be expressed in dimensionless units as \( n = n_{\text{max}} \), where \( n_{\text{max}} = k_0^2 / 2 \pi \) in 2D, and \( n_{\text{max}} = k_0^3 / 3 \pi^2 \) in 3D. The maximal value of the Fermi momentum \( k_{\text{max}} \) (that fixes the maximal density \( n_{\text{max}} \)) is chosen by fixing the ratio \( k_{\text{max}} / k_0 = 10^{-4} \), which easily satisfies the diluteness conditions \( k_0 / k_{\text{max}} = 1 \) or \( n_{\text{max}} R_0^3 < 1 \) in 3D, and \( k_0 / k_{\text{max}} = 1 \) or \( n_{\text{max}} R_0^3 < 1 \) in 2D. See Sec. II to recall how the interactions depend on \( k_0 = 2 \pi / R_0 \), where \( R_0 \) plays the role of the interaction range in real space. For any \( k_F / k_{\text{max}} < 1 \) all conditions are satisfied, thus we work at fixed density \( n = n_{\text{max}} \), corresponding to \( k_F / k_{\text{max}} = 1 \) \( \sqrt{2} \pi = 0.398 \) in 2D, and \( n = 3 / (8 \pi) = 0.119 \) in 3D. We also confine ourselves to the asymptotic small \( g_{12} \) limit, which means \( g_{12} / N < 1 \) in weak coupling, and \( g_{12} / N \ll \left[ |\Delta| / |\mu| \right]^2 \) in strong coupling limits. Therefore, in 3D, we
FIG. 2. Plots of (a) chemical potential $\mu$ scaled by $\varepsilon_F$ and (b) order parameter $|\Delta|$ scaled by $\varepsilon_F$ versus dimensionless coupling $V_r$ (see text for definition) for two-dimensional degenerate bands. The region where $\mu$ changes sign is shown in the inset. Note that $\mu = 0$ when $V_r = 0.0133$.

choose $V_{12} = 10^{-7} \, V$ (since $V_{11} = V_{22} = V$) which leads to $g_{12}/N \sim 10^{-4}$, for a 3D Fermion density of $n_i = 0.119$. In the 2D case, we choose $V_{12} = 10^{-5} \, V$, which leads to $g_{12}/N \sim 10^{-4}$, for a 2D Fermion density of $n_i = 0.159$. This particular choice satisfies the small $g_{12}$ condition for the range of couplings shown in Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5.

We solve the saddle point equations for the order parameter Eq. (17) together with the number equation Eq. (21) self-consistently for fixed densities. The order parameter amplitude $|\Delta|$ and chemical potential $\mu$ in 2D (3D) are presented in Figs. 2(a) and 2(b) [Figs. 4(a) and 4(b)] as a function of the dimensionless intraband interaction parameter $V_r = N V / \pi$. Notice that the system crosses over from the BCS ($\mu > 0$) to BEC ($\mu < 0$) regimes at $V_r = 1.33 \times 10^{-2}$ in 2D, and at $V_r = 1.59 \times 10^{-4}$ in 3D, where the chemical potential $\mu$ crosses zero (the bottom of the degenerate bands).

For the 2D (3D) case, we show in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b) [Figs. 5(a) and 5(b)], numerical plots of the sound velocity $c$, normalized by the Fermi velocity $v_F$, and of the ratio of the finite frequency $w_0$ with respect to the minimum quasi-particle excitation energy $\min(2E(k))$ as a function of intra-band couplings $V_r$. In addition, notice the very good agreement between the numerical results and the analytical approximations in their respective (BCS or BEC) limits.

The analytical value for the weak coupling sound velocity follows from Eq. (64) for the nondegenerate case with $N_1 = N_2$ and $c_{1,w} = c_{2,w}$, which leads to $c^2 = v_F^2 / 2$ for 2D and $c^2 = v_F^2 / 3$ for 3D bands. Similarly, the analytical value for the strong coupling sound velocity follows from Eq. (74) with $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2$ and $c_{1,s} = c_{2,s}$, which leads to $c^2 = |\Delta|^2 / 4 m |\mu|$ for 2D and $c^2 = |\Delta|^2 / 8 m |\mu|$ for 3D bands. Thus, we recover the Goldstone mode in both BCS and BEC limits as in the case of the presence of only one band.\textsuperscript{[20,28]} The numerical values [solid circles in Figs. 3(a) and 5(a)] for the sound velocity as a function of the dimensionless coupling $V_r$ are calculated from Eq. (81). Notice the very good agreement with the analytical results in weak and strong coupling (dotted lines in the same figures). As a further consistency check, notice that this agreement is very reasonable since Eq. (81) is identical to the expression for the sound velocity given in Ref. 28 for the one-band model, with the correspondence that our coefficient $A$ has the same expression as the coefficient $A$ defined in their paper.

Notice in Fig. 3(a) that the sound velocity $c$ is essentially a constant for all couplings $V_r$ in the $k_0/k_F \rightarrow \infty (k_0/k_F^\text{max} = 10^6)$ limit. For smaller values of $k_0/k_F^\text{max}$, the sound velocity decreases as a function of $V_r$ (not shown in figure). We will not discuss here the dependence of $c$ on the ratio $k_0/k_F^\text{max}$ since we are mostly concerned with checking the consistency of our calculations with the analytically tractable limits. In this case, the sound velocity $c$ is not a good indicator that the BCS-BEC crossover is occurring in 2D. However, in the 3D case [see Fig. 5(a)], the speed of sound changes very fast in the neighborhood of $\mu = 0$, thus manifesting itself as an indicator of the crossover regime. Therefore, measurements of Goldstone mode frequency can offer an indication of the BCS-BEC crossover possibly only in 3D two-band superfluids.

With the confidence of recovering the sound mode results for a one-band model from a two-band model with identical
bands, we proceed with the discussion of the finite frequency mode, which is shown in Figs. 3(b) and 5(b) for the 2D and 3D cases, respectively.

The analytical value of \( w_0^2 \) for the weak coupling finite frequency mode follows from Eq. (65) for the nondegenerate case with \( V_{11}=V_{22}=V, N_1=\ldots=N, \) and \( |\Delta_1|=|\Delta_2|=|\Delta| \), which leads to \( w_0^2=8g_{12}|\Delta|^2/N \) for both 2D and 3D bands. Similarly, the analytical value for strong coupling follows from Eq. (75), which leads to \( w_0^2=8g_{12}|\Delta|^2/N \) for 2D, and \( w_0^2=8g_{12}|\Delta|^2/\varepsilon_F/\pi N \) for 3D bands, respectively. Numerical values [solid circles in Figs. 3(b) and 5(b)] for the finite frequency \( w_0 \) as a function of the dimensionless coupling \( V_r \) are calculated from Eq. (82). Notice the very good agreement between the numerical results and their analytical counterparts in both weak and strong coupling limits (dotted lines in the same figures). It is important to notice that the scales for weak and strong coupling used in the finite frequency plots are not the same. We scaled \( w_0 \) by \( \mu \min(2E(k)) \), which corresponds to the two-quasiparticle excitation threshold, thus \( w_0^2 \) is scaled by \( 4|\Delta|^2 \) since \( \min(2E(k))=2|\Delta| \) for \( \mu >0 \), and \( w_0^2 \) is scaled by \( 4(\mu^2+|\Delta|^2) \) since \( \min(2E(k))=2(\mu^2+|\Delta|^2) \) for \( \mu <0 \). This choice is natural, because it indicates that the finite frequency \( w_0 \) always lies below the two-quasiparticle excitation threshold for the parameters used, meaning that the collective mode is undamped.

Notice in Figs. 3(b) and 5(b) \( (k_0/k_{F_{\max}} \rightarrow \infty, k_0/k_{F_{\max}} =10^3) \) that the finite frequency \( w_0 \) changes qualitatively near the coupling \( V_r \) where \( \mu \) changes sign for both 2D and 3D cases. We will not discuss here the dependence of \( w_0 \) on the ratio \( k_0/k_{F_{\max}} \) since we are mostly concerned with checking the consistency of our calculations with the analytically tractable limits. However, it is important to emphasize that the finite frequency mode is a good indicator that the BCS-BEC crossover is occurring in both 2D and 3D. Thus, measurements of the finite frequency \( w_0 \) can reveal BCS-BEC crossover behavior in two-band superfluids.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

We studied the evolution of low energy collective excitations from weak (BCS) to strong (BEC) coupling limits in two-band \( s \)-wave superfluids at \( T=0 \) for all intraband coupling strengths with ranges satisfying the diluteness condition. We assumed that the two bands were coupled via an interband Josephson interaction. We focused on the phase-phase collective modes and showed that there can be two undamped phase-phase modes in the evolution from weak to strong coupling. In the weak coupling limit, we recovered Leggett’s results corresponding to an in-phase mode (Goldstone) mode and an out-of-phase mode (Leggett’s mode) in the appropriate asymptotic limits. Furthermore, we generalized Leggett’s weak coupling results to include the BCS-BEC crossover and the strong coupling regime. In addition, we presented analytical results in the strong coupling limit, in the asymptotic limit of small \( g_{12} \) corresponding to weak Josephson coupling between the bands. All the analytical results were presented for the cases of two-dimensional and three-dimensional bands, and the for cases of nondegenerate and degenerate bands.
On the numerical side, we analyzed fully the limit of degenerate bands, from which the one-band results can be easily recovered in the BCS, BEC, and crossover regimes for a 3D s-wave superfluid. The limit of degenerate bands, although less likely to be found in nature, provides us with a good basis for the more challenging numerical work for the non-degenerate case, which we have performed in the future, as they require the self-consistent solutions of three simultaneous nonlinear integral equations in order to determine the order parameters $\Delta_1$, $\Delta_2$, and the chemical potential $\mu$.

We have also briefly described in this manuscript the procedure to compute the amplitude-amplitude collective modes, although we have not discussed in detail their explicit form, we would like to mention that amplitude-amplitude modes, although we have not discussed in detail their existence here. The phase-phase and amplitude-amplitude collective modes are potentially important to the analysis of the Leggett mode in the BCS limit has been observed in MgB$_2$, but is presently no experimental charged two-band condensed matter systems. In particular, in the BCS limit, the effect of the Coulomb interaction is to plasmogen the the Goldstone modes. Furthermore, the Coulomb interaction modifies the velocity of the Leggett mode, but does not change its frequency offset. There is some experimental evidence that the Leggett mode in the BCS limit has been observed in MgB$_2$, but there is no present experimental charged two-band condensed matter system where the BEC limit can be reached via the tuning of an experimental parameter. The interesting extension to the BEC limit and the crossover region in the charged case is currently underway and will be published elsewhere.

To conclude, the main contribution of our manuscript is to study the evolution of the Goldstone (in-phase) and the finite frequency (out-of-phase) collective modes from weak (BCS) to strong (BEC) couplings in neutral two-band superfluids. Our results are potentially relevant to multicomponent ultracold Fermi atoms, and can be used, in principle, to test the validity of the BCS-BEC evolution based on extensions of Eagles', Leggett's, and the Nozieres and Schmitt-Rink suggestions.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to thank NSF (DMR-0304380) for financial support.

APPENDIX A: MATRIX ELEMENTS

In the evaluation of the elements of the fluctuation matrix $M(q)$ appearing in Sec. III, and defined in Eqs. (25), we need to calculate the functions $\Theta^{\text{qp-qh}}_{n,11}$, $\Theta^{\text{qp-qp}}_{n,11}$, $\Theta^{\text{qp-qh}}_{n,12}$, and $\Theta^{\text{qp-qp}}_{n,12}$ given by

$$
\Theta^{\text{qp-qh}}_{n,11} = \sum_k \frac{\langle |u|^2 |v'|^2 \rangle}{iv + E - E'} - \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv - E + E'},
$$

$$
\Theta^{\text{qp-qp}}_{n,11} = \sum_k \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv - E + E'} - \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv + E - E'},
$$

$$
\Theta^{\text{qp-qh}}_{n,12} = \sum_k \frac{\langle |u|^2 |v'|^2 \rangle}{iv + E - E'} - \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv - E + E'},
$$

$$
\Theta^{\text{qp-qp}}_{n,12} = \sum_k \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv + E + E'} - \frac{\langle |u|^2 |u'|^2 \rangle}{iv - E - E'}.
$$

In the previous expressions the indices qp-qh and qp-qp classify quasiparticle-quasihole and quasiparticle-quasiparticle terms, respectively. Furthermore, we used the following simplified notation: the kinetic energies $\bar{\xi}_n(k) \rightarrow \xi$, $\bar{\xi}_n(k+q) \rightarrow \xi'$; the quasiparticle energies $\bar{E}_n(k) \rightarrow E$, $\bar{E}_n(k+q) \rightarrow E'$; the order parameters $\Delta_n(k) \rightarrow \Delta$, $\Delta_n(k+q) \rightarrow \Delta'$; the symmetry factors $\Gamma_n(k) \rightarrow \Gamma, \Gamma_n(k+q) \rightarrow \Gamma'$; and the Fermi functions $f_n[\bar{E}_n(k)] \rightarrow f, f_n[\bar{E}_n(k+q)] \rightarrow f'$. We also made use of the definition of the first coherence factor

$$
|u|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1 + \xi}{E} \right), \tag{A1}
$$

$$
|u'|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \xi' \right), \tag{A2}
$$

$$
\left| v \right|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \xi \right), \tag{A3}
$$

$$
\left| v' \right|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \xi' \right). \tag{A4}
$$

Finally, we used the notation $X = (f - f') \Gamma^{*2}$ and $Y = (1 - f - f') \Gamma^{*2}$ to indicate the combinations of Fermi functions $(f, f')$ and symmetry coefficients $(\Gamma, \Gamma')$ appearing in the quasiparticle-quasihole, and quasiparticle-quasiparticle terms, respectively.

APPENDIX B: EXPANSION COEFFICIENTS

From the rotated fluctuation matrix $\tilde{M}$ expressed in the amplitude-phase basis as defined in Sec. IV, we can obtain the expansion coefficients necessary to calculate the collective modes at $T=0$. In the long-wavelength ($q \rightarrow 0$), and low frequency limit ($w \rightarrow 0$) the matrix $\tilde{M}$ defined in Eq. (31) is fully determined by the knowledge of the matrix elements $x_n, y_n$, and $z_n$. Note that, this expansion requires

$$
w, |q|^2/2m_n \ll \min(2E_1(k), 2E_2(k)) \tag{B1}
$$

and these coefficients are valid for all couplings for s-wave pairing.

In all the expressions below we use the following simplifying notation $\bar{\Gamma} = \partial \bar{\Gamma} / \partial k$, $\bar{\xi} = \partial \bar{\xi} / \partial k$, $\bar{f} = \partial \bar{f} / \partial k$, $\bar{\bar{f}} = \partial \bar{\bar{f}} / \partial k$, and $k = |k|$.

The coefficients necessary to obtain the matrix element $x_n$ are

$$
x_n |q|^2/2m_n \ll \min(2E_1(k), 2E_2(k)) \tag{B1}
$$

and these coefficients are valid for all couplings for s-wave pairing.

In all the expressions below we use the following simplifying notation $\bar{\Gamma} = \partial \bar{\Gamma} / \partial k$, $\bar{\xi} = \partial \bar{\xi} / \partial k$, $\bar{f} = \partial \bar{f} / \partial k$, $\bar{\bar{f}} = \partial \bar{\bar{f}} / \partial k$, and $k = |k|$.

The coefficients necessary to obtain the matrix element $x_n$ are
\[ A_n = -g_{nn} - \sum_k \frac{\xi^2}{2E^3} \Gamma^2, \quad (B2) \]
corresponding to the \((q=0, w=0)\) term,
\[ C_n = \sum_k \frac{1}{8E^5} \left( \xi \xi (E^2 - 3\Delta^2) \Gamma^2 + \xi^2 (2\Delta^2 - \xi^2) \Gamma \right) \]
\[ - \xi \left[ E^2 - 10(1 - \frac{\Delta^2}{E^2}) \right] \Gamma \cos^2 \alpha \]
\[ + 2\xi \left[ E^2 + \Delta^2 \right] \Gamma \cos^2 \alpha \]
\[ - \left[ \xi^2 (\xi^2 - 7\Delta^2) - 5\Delta^4 \left( 1 - \frac{\xi^2}{E^2} \right) \right] \Gamma \cos^2 \alpha, \quad (B3) \]
corresponding to the \(|q|^2\) term with \(\alpha\) being the angle between \(k\) and \(q\)
\[ D_n = \sum_k \frac{\xi^2}{8E^5} \Gamma^2, \quad (B4) \]
corresponding to the \(w^2\) term, and
\[ F_n = - \sum_k \frac{\xi^2}{32E^5} \Gamma^2, \quad (B5) \]
corresponding to the \(w^4\) term.

The coefficients necessary to obtain the matrix element \(z_n\) are
\[ P_n = -g_{nn} - \sum_k \frac{1}{2E^3} \Gamma^2, \quad (B6) \]
corresponding to the \((q=0, w=0)\) term,
\[ Q_n = \sum_k \frac{1}{8E^5} \left( \xi \xi E^2 \Gamma^2 - \xi^2 (E^2 - 3\Delta^2) \Gamma^2 - \xi^2 \Gamma \right) \]
\[ + \left[ \xi \xi (2E^2 - 6\Delta^2) \Gamma \right] - \xi^2 (\xi^2 - 2\Delta^2) \Gamma^2 \cos^2 \alpha \}, \quad (B7) \]
corresponding to the \(|q|^2\) term
\[ R_n = \sum_k \frac{1}{8E^5} \Gamma^2, \quad (B8) \]
corresponding to the \(w^2\) term, and
\[ T_n = - \sum_k \frac{1}{32E^5} \Gamma^2, \quad (B9) \]
corresponding to the \(w^4\) term.

The coefficients necessary to obtain the matrix element \(y_n\) are
\[ B_n = \sum_k \frac{\xi}{4E^3} \Gamma^2, \quad (B10) \]
corresponding to the \(w\) term, and
\[ H_n = \sum_k \frac{\xi}{16E^3} \Gamma^2, \quad (B11) \]
corresponding to the \(w^3\) term.

---

6. While Leggett (Ref. 4) uses explicitly the order parameter saddle-point equations Eqs. (61) and (62), Sharapov et al., (Ref. 5) does not use them explicitly.


