

## Solid State Physics- SSP

### Free Electron Theory of Metals

(T-Sheet 2)

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1. Compute the average kinetic energy of a gas molecule at  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Express in electron volt. If the gas is hydrogen, what is the order of magnitude of the velocity of molecules at  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$ ?
2. Silver Ag is having density of  $10.5 \times 10^3 \text{ kg/m}^3$  and the atomic weight is 107.9. Assuming that each silver provides one conduction electron, calculate the density of electrons. The conductivity of silver at  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$  is  $6.8 \times 10^7 \text{ ohm}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$ . Calculate the mobility of electrons.
3. The resistivity of Al is  $2.62 \times 10^{-8} \text{ ohm.m}$  at room temp. Calculate (i) drift velocity of the conduction electrons in a field of  $50 \text{Vm}^{-1}$  (ii) their mobility (iii) their relaxation time and mean free path on the basis of classical free theory.
4. The relaxation time of conduction electron in copper is  $2.5 \times 10^{-14} \text{ sec}$ . Find the thermal conductivity of copper at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ . assume density of electron to be  $8.5 \times 10^{28} / \text{m}^3$ .
5. A stream of electrons, each of energy  $E = 3 \text{ eV}$  is incident on a potential barrier of height  $V_0 = 4 \text{ eV}$ . The width of the barrier is  $2 \text{ nm}$ . Cal. the percentage transmission of the beam through this barrier.
6. Find the lowest energy of an electron confined in a box of each side  $0.1 \text{ nm}$ . Find the percentage at which the average energy of molecules of a perfect gas would be equal to the lowest energy of electron.
7. Calculate the number of energy states available for the electrons in a cubical box of side  $1 \text{ cm}$  lying below an energy of one electron volt.
8. The Fermi energy of sodium is  $3 \text{ eV}$ . Calculate the difference in energy between the neighboring levels at the highest energy state in a cubical box of side  $1 \text{ cm}$ . Given  $n_x = n_y = n_z$
9. Cal. the mean free path of potassium, if its Fermi energy is  $2.1 \text{ eV}$  and the electrical conductivity is  $1.5 \times 10^7 \text{ ohm}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$ .
10. Calculate the number of states lying in an energy interval of  $0.02 \text{ eV}$  above Fermi level for sodium crystal of unit volume.
11. Estimate the relative contribution of electrons and the lattice to specific heat of sodium at  $20 \text{ K}$ . The fermi temperature of sodium is  $3.8 \times 10^4 \text{ K}$  and its Debye temp. is  $150 \text{ K}$ .
12. The resistivity's of copper and nickel at room temperature are  $1.65 \times 10^{-8}$  and  $14 \times 10^{-8} \text{ ohm. m}$  respectively. If the wave mechanical treatment of Wiedemann-Franz law applies to these materials and find the electronic contribution to the thermal conductivities of these materials.
13. By how many orders of magnitude is the mean free path reduced in a certain metal when temperature increases from  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $340^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Take  $\alpha = 5 \times 10^{-3}$ .
14. Show that for a simple square lattice, the kinetic energy of free electrons at a corner of the first zone is higher than that of an electron at midpoint of a side face of zone by a factor of 2.
15. The electronic specific heat of zinc is  $1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T cal mol}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$ . Find the Fermi energy of zinc. Zinc is a divalent metal. Cal the density of of states of  $1 \text{ m}^3$  of copper at Fermi level. Take  $1 \text{ eV}$  interval,  $E_F = 7 \text{ eV}$ ,  $m = m^*$