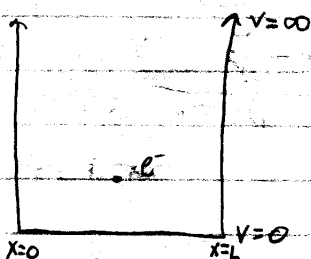


Problem Set 2 Solutions



a) need 3 lowest  $\Delta E$  values from ground state, i.e.

$$\Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 2}, \Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 3}, \Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 4}$$

in 1-d infinite potential well, energy levels are given by

$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = \frac{n^2 \hbar^2}{8mL^2} \quad [E_0: 8.25]$$

oops! need wavelength. Using  $E = \frac{hc}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{hc}{E}$

$$\Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \frac{\hbar^2}{8mL^2} (2^2 - 1^2) = \frac{(6.63 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s})^2}{8(9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg})(10^{-9} \text{ m})^2} \cdot (3) = (6.02 \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ J}) \cdot 3 = 1.81 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 1.13 \text{ eV}$$

$$\Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 3} = (6.02 \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ J}) \cdot (3^2 - 1^2) = 4.82 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 3.01 \text{ eV}$$

$$\Delta E_{1 \rightarrow 4} = (6.02 \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ J}) \cdot (4^2 - 1^2) = 9.04 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 5.64 \text{ eV}$$

$\lambda_{1 \rightarrow 2} = 1.10 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ m}$
$\lambda_{1 \rightarrow 3} = 4.12 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}$
$\lambda_{1 \rightarrow 4} = 2.20 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}$

at  $T=300\text{K}$ ,  $k_B T = (1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K})(300 \text{ K}) = 4.14 \cdot 10^{-21} \text{ J}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1.81 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J}\cdot\text{m}^2}{L^2} = 4.14 \cdot 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$L^2 = 4.37 \cdot 10^{-17} \text{ m}^2$$

$$L = 6.61 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ m} = 6.61 \text{ nm}$$

c) Want  $\Delta E_{1 \rightarrow n} = K_B T$  for  $L = 1 \text{ cm}$ ,  $T = 300 \text{ K}$

$$\Delta E = \frac{h^2}{8mL^2} (n^2 - 1^2) = \frac{(6.63 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s})^2}{8(9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg})(10^{-2} \text{ m})^2} (n^2 - 1)$$
$$= 6.02 \cdot 10^{-34} \cdot (n^2 - 1) \text{ J}$$

$$K_B T = 4.14 \cdot 10^{-21} \text{ J} = \Delta E$$

$$6.02 \cdot 10^{-34} (n^2 - 1) = 4.14 \cdot 10^{-21}$$

$$n^2 - 1 = 6.87 \cdot 10^{12}$$

$$n = 2.62 \cdot 10^6$$

2. This was a tricky question... parts b and c threw me for a loop for a long time...

$$a) E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$\therefore v = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}}$$

$$v_F = \sqrt{\frac{2E_F}{m}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2(2.8 \text{ eV})(1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV})}{9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}}}$$

$$= 9.92 \cdot 10^5 \text{ m/s}$$

$$E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

$$\therefore k = \sqrt{\frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$k_F = \sqrt{\frac{2mE_F}{\hbar^2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2(9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg})(2.8 \text{ eV})(1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV})}{(1.05 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s})^2}}$$

$$= 8.61 \cdot 10^9 \text{ m}^{-1}$$

b) Average velocity is zero, because the free electrons are moving with random orientation! However, they have a speed related to the Kinetic energy.

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$\therefore v = \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}}$$

average speed is found analytically by

$$v_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\int v \cdot Z(E) \cdot F(E) dE}{\int Z(E) \cdot F(E) dE}$$

$Z(E)$  for a 3-D metal is given by  $C E^{1/2}$ , where  $C$  is a constant not dependent upon energy.

$$F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)}$$

So the average speed is

$$V_{\text{avg}} = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{2E}{m}} \cdot C E^{1/2} \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)} dE}{\int_0^{\infty} C E^{1/2} \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)} dE}$$

$$= \frac{C \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{E}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)} dE}{C \int_0^{\infty} \frac{E^{1/2}}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)} dE}$$

These are two pretty hard integrals! We'll have to make an assumption:

Even at room temp,  $E_F \gg kT$ , so almost all of the electrons will have energies less than the Fermi energy.

In other words, the vast majority of electrons will have the same speeds as at  $T = 0$  K. Therefore, taking  $T = 0$  K and thus  $E \leq E_F$  for all electrons does not introduce much error.

$$V_{\text{avg}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot \frac{\int_0^{E_F} \frac{E}{1 + \exp(-\infty)} dE}{\int_0^{E_F} \frac{E^{1/2}}{1 + \exp(-\infty)} dE}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot \frac{\int_0^{E_F} E dE}{\int_0^{E_F} E^{1/2} dE} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot \frac{\left[\frac{1}{2} E^2\right]_0^{E_F}}{\left[\frac{2}{3} E^{3/2}\right]_0^{E_F}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2}{m}} \cdot \frac{3}{4} E_F^{1/2} = \frac{3}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2E_F}{m}} = \frac{3}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2(2.8 \text{ eV})(1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV})}{9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}}}$$

$$= \boxed{7.44 \cdot 10^5 \text{ m/s}}$$

A much tougher problem than I think the writer intended....

2. c) The root mean square speed is the square root of the average "velocity-squared", i.e.

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle}$$

We could find the average "velocity-squared" using a similar method as part b, replacing  $v$  with  $v^2$  in the equation

$$\langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{\int_0^{\infty} v^2 \cdot Z(E) \cdot F(E) dE}{\int_0^{\infty} Z(E) \cdot F(E) dE}$$

However from the energy-velocity relation,

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

we can see that the average "velocity-squared" is related to the average energy:

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{1}{2} m \langle v^2 \rangle$$

This is useful because we know the average energy (it is worked out in the book).

$$\langle E \rangle = \frac{3}{5} E_F = \frac{3}{5} (2.8 \text{ eV}) (1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV}) = \boxed{2.7 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J}}$$

The analysis assumed  $T = 0 \text{ K}$ , but as we saw in part (b) the error should be small in using this assumption. So:

$$\langle v^2 \rangle = \frac{2 \langle E \rangle}{m} = \frac{6 E_F}{5 m}$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\frac{6 E_F}{5 m}} = \sqrt{\frac{6 (2.8 \text{ eV}) (1.6 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV})}{5 (9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg})}}$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \boxed{7.69 \cdot 10^5 \text{ m/s}}$$

$$3. a) F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)}$$

$$\text{at } T = 300 \text{ K, } kT = 4.14 \cdot 10^{-21} \text{ J} = 2.59 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

$$F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - 3 \text{ eV}}{2.59 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ eV}}\right)}$$

$$F(2.9 \text{ eV}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{-0.1}{2.59 \cdot 10^{-2}}\right)} = 0.979$$

$$F(3.1 \text{ eV}) = 0.021 \quad \left[ \text{you can determine this from the } F(E) \text{ equation} \right. \\ \left. \text{or realize that } F(E) \text{ has a symmetry about } E_F, \text{ such} \right. \\ \left. \text{that } F(3.1 \text{ eV}) = 1 - F(2.9 \text{ eV}) \right]$$

$$F(3.0 \text{ eV}) = 0.5$$

density of filled states is  $Z(E) \cdot F(E)$

$Z(E)$  for a 3-D metal is

$$Z(E) = C E^{3/2}$$

$$\frac{Z(2.9 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(2.9 \text{ eV})}{Z(3.0 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.0 \text{ eV})} = \frac{(2.9)^{3/2} (0.979)}{(3.0)^{3/2} (0.5)} = \boxed{1.93}$$

$$\frac{Z(3.1 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.1 \text{ eV})}{Z(3.0 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.0 \text{ eV})} = \frac{(3.1)^{3/2} (0.021)}{(3.0)^{3/2} (0.5)} = \boxed{0.043}$$

$$b) F(2.95 \text{ eV}) = 0.873$$

$$F(3.05 \text{ eV}) = 0.127$$

$$\frac{Z(2.95 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(2.95 \text{ eV})}{Z(3.0 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.0 \text{ eV})} = \frac{(2.95)^{3/2} (0.873)}{(3.0)^{3/2} (0.5)} = \boxed{1.73}$$

$$\frac{Z(3.05 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.05 \text{ eV})}{Z(3.0 \text{ eV}) \cdot F(3.0 \text{ eV})} = \frac{(3.05)^{3/2} (0.127)}{(3.0)^{3/2} (0.5)} = \boxed{0.26}$$