

Answer on Question #51239, Physics, Solid State Physics

Task: Aluminium has three valence electrons per atom, an atomic weight of $0.02698 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$, a density of 2700 kg m^{-3} , and a conductivity of $3.54 \times 10^7 \Omega^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1}$. Calculate the relaxation time in Aluminium

Solution:

Given, Atomic weight = $0.02698 \text{ kg mol}^{-1}$; density $D = 2.7 \times 10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$; conductivity $\sigma = 3.54 \times 10^7 \Omega^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1}$; Avagadro number $N_A = 6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

$$\sigma = \frac{ne^2\tau}{m}$$

$$n = (\text{number of free electrons} \cdot N_A \cdot D) / (\text{Atomic weight}) = \frac{3 \cdot 6.02 \cdot 10^{23} \cdot 2.7 \cdot 10^3}{0.02698} \text{ m}^{-3} \approx 18.08 \cdot 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$$

$$\text{Thus, } \tau = \frac{\sigma n}{ne^2} = \frac{3.54 \cdot 10^7 \cdot 4.48 \cdot 10^{-31}}{18.08 \cdot 10^{28} \cdot (1.6 \cdot 10^{-19})^2} = 0.34 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ s}$$

Answer: $\tau = 0.34 \cdot 10^{-14} \text{ s}$

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