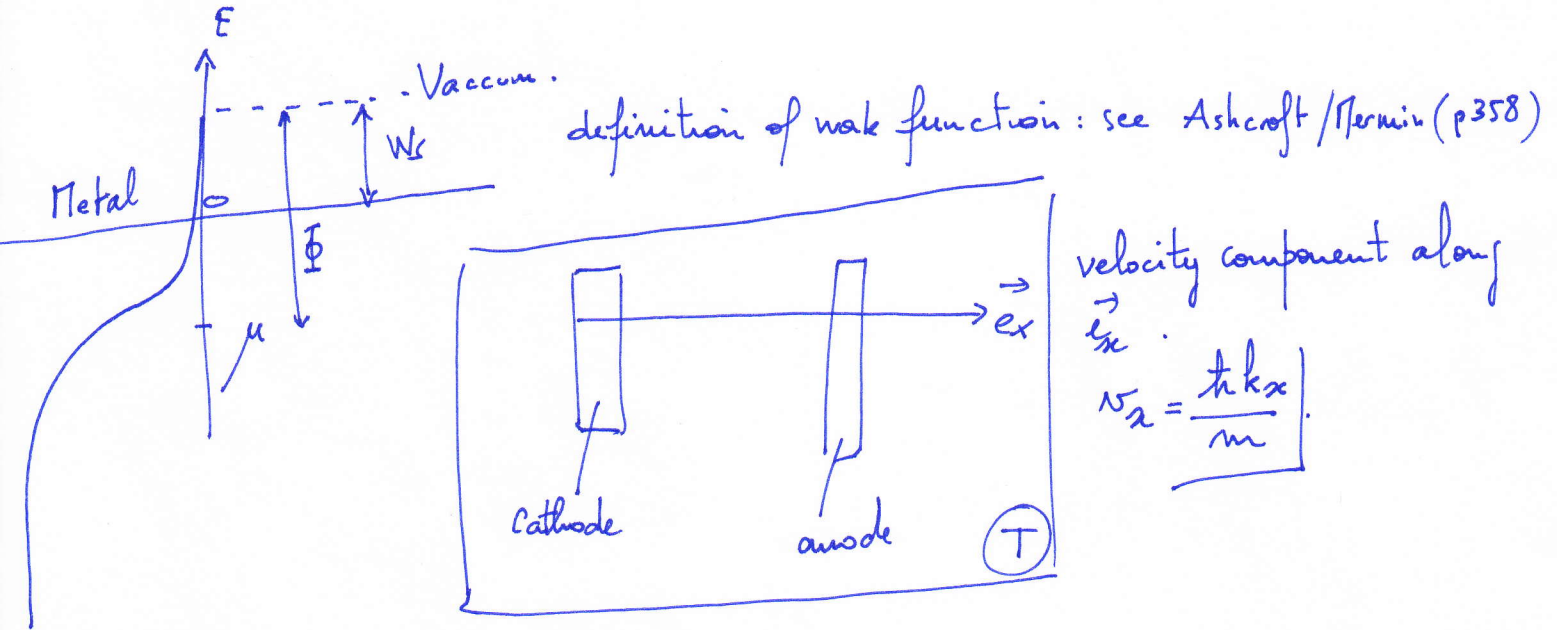


2011 Serie 9  
 Probleme 33.

Consider a metallic cathode at T with a work function of  $\Phi$ .



Then we can write the current density:

$$j = -e \int_{\hbar k_x > 0} \frac{1}{4\pi^3} v_x f(\vec{k}) d\vec{k}$$

By definition  $f(\vec{k})$  is the Fermi-Dirac distribution function

$$f(\vec{k}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta[\epsilon_n(\vec{k}) - \mu]}} \quad \text{with } \beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}$$

in the vacuum between the cathode & the anode we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_n(\vec{k}) &= \text{kinetic energy} + \text{potential energy} \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + W_s \quad (\text{see drawing}) \quad W_s = \mu + \Phi \\ &= \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + \mu + \Phi \end{aligned}$$

finally  $f(\vec{k}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\beta\left(\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + \Phi\right)}}$

at physical temperature for the experiment  $T < 10^4 \text{ K}$ .  
 we get  $\Phi > k_B T$

then we can simplify  $f(\vec{k})$  as  $e^{-\beta\left(\frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + \Phi\right)}$ .

Probleme 33 suite

then  $j = -e \int \frac{\hbar k_x}{4\pi^3 m} e^{-\beta \left( \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} + \Phi \right)} d\vec{k}$  after we integrate over all possible  $\vec{k}$ .

$$= -\frac{e \hbar}{4\pi^3 m} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\beta \frac{\hbar^2 k_y^2}{2m}} dk_y \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-\beta \frac{\hbar^2 k_z^2}{2m}} dk_z \int_{k_x > 0}^{\infty} k_x e^{-\beta \frac{\hbar^2 k_x^2}{2m}} dk_x \times e^{-\Phi/k_B T}$$

using  $\int e^{-u^2} du = \sqrt{\pi}$

we finally get  $j = -\frac{em}{2\pi^2 \hbar^3} (k_B T)^2 e^{-\Phi/k_B T}$ .

---

### Problem 34.

a) We have to calculate the conductance  $G = I/V$ .

let's consider the current density  $j = \frac{I}{b}$

then one can write  $\vec{j}_x = e \langle v_x \rangle n_{eV}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}$  number of  $e^-$  between  $E_F$  and  $E_F + eV$ .

$$n_{eV} = \int_{E_F}^{E_F + eV} \rho_{2D}(E) dE = \int_{E_F}^{E_F + eV} \frac{m}{\pi \hbar^2} dE = \frac{m eV}{\pi \hbar^2}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}$  script 4.10.

$eV \ll E_F$  then  $n_x = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} v_F \cos \theta d\theta = \frac{v_F}{\pi}$

 all  $e^-$  has  $\vec{v}_F$  since  $eV \ll E_F$ .

finally we write  $I = b \times j_x = \frac{e^2}{\pi^2 \hbar^2} m b v_F V$ .

which leads to  $G = I/V = \frac{2 m b v_F}{h} G_0$

$G_0 = \frac{2e^2}{h}$  quantum of conductance

using  $\lambda_F = \frac{h}{m v_F}$   $G = \frac{2b}{\lambda_F} G_0$

b) if  $\lambda_F \gg b$   $e^-$  will see the hole as a scattering center. The wave behavior of  $e^-$  should be taken into account.

a) in the Fermi gas description:

$$C_V^{el} = \frac{\pi^2}{2} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 T}{E_F} \right) n_{el} k_B \quad \text{and for } T < \Theta_D \quad C_V^{ph} = \frac{12\pi^4}{5} \left( \frac{T}{\Theta_D} \right)^3 n_i k_B$$

$Z$  is the valence of the solid, then we can write  $n_{el} = Z n_i$

We are looking for  $T_0$  such that  $C_V^{el}(T_0) = C_V^{ph}(T_0)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\pi^2}{2} \left( \frac{\hbar^2 T_0}{E_F} \right) Z n_i k_B = \frac{12\pi^4}{5} \left( \frac{T_0}{\Theta_D} \right)^3 n_i k_B$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{Z}{2} \left( \frac{k_B T_0}{E_F} \right) = \frac{12\pi^2}{5} \left( \frac{T_0}{\Theta_D} \right)^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{T_0}{T_0^3} = \frac{24\pi^2}{Z5} \times \left( \frac{1}{\Theta_D} \right)^3 \times \frac{E_F}{k_B} = \frac{1}{T_0^2} = \frac{24\pi^2 T_F}{5 Z \Theta_D^3} \quad \text{with } T_F = \frac{E_F}{k_B}$$

$$\text{finally we get } T_0 = \left( \frac{5Z}{24\pi^2} \times \frac{\Theta_D}{T_F} \right)^{1/2} \Theta_D$$

b) For silver  $T_F = 63800 \text{ K}$  with  $E_F = 5.5 \text{ eV}$ .

$$\Theta_D = 215 \text{ K} \rightarrow \text{we get } T_0 = 1,81 \text{ K}$$

$$Z = 1$$

$$\text{Moreover we know that } E_F = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} (3\pi^2 n_{el})^{2/3}$$

see serie 8 exercise 31-a).

$$\Rightarrow n_{el} = 5,86 \times 10^{28} \text{ e}^-/\text{m}^3$$

$$\text{At } 300 \text{ K: } C_V^{el} = 18746,25 \text{ J} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$$

$\Theta_D = 215 \text{ K}$  then Debye model is not valid anymore

$$\text{finally we use the law of Dulong and Petit } C_V^{ph} = 3 n_i k_B = 2426040 \text{ J} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$$

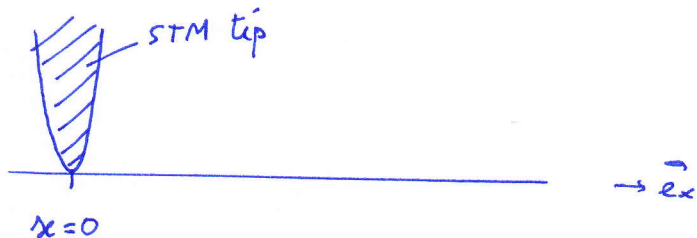
$$\text{At } 4 \text{ K: } C_V^{el} = 249,95 \text{ J} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{K}^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad C_V^{ph} = 1218,59 \text{ J} \cdot \text{m}^{-3} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$$

Exercise 36.

Consider a 1D conductor with electron gas density  $n$ .

A ferromagnetic STM tip induces a constant spin imbalance at one point of the conductor.

Let's make a nice drawing



Constant spin imbalance  $\Delta n = n_{\uparrow} - n_{\downarrow} = \boxed{\Delta n_0}$

Generalization:

\* First we can write the equation of particles conservation in general (3D)

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial n(x,t)}{\partial t} dV}_{\text{variation of } n \text{ in the volume } dV} = \underbrace{j(x,t)S}_{\substack{\text{entering} \\ \text{particles}}} - \underbrace{j(x+dx,t)S}_{\text{outgoing particles}}$$

$$= - \frac{dj}{dx} S$$

\* Finally in 1D we get  $\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial j}{\partial x}$  when zero particles are created. (1)

\* We can also remind the Fick law in 1D. (Diffusion Law).

$$\vec{j} = -D \frac{\partial n}{\partial x} \quad (2)$$

Let's come back to our problem:

with equation (2) we can write  $\vec{j}_{\uparrow} = -D \frac{\partial n_{\uparrow}}{\partial x}$  spin up diffusion  
 $\vec{j}_{\downarrow} = -D \frac{\partial n_{\downarrow}}{\partial x}$  spin down diffusion

Equation (1) needs an other term since we have spin-flip process.

\*  $\frac{\partial n_{\uparrow}}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial j_{\uparrow}}{\partial x} + p_{\downarrow} - p_{\uparrow}$   
 you lose  $\uparrow$  spin with spin-flip  
 you gain spin  $\uparrow$  with spin-flip.

serie 9 - 2011. exercice 36 suite

finally we can combine Fick law and particle conservation for the 2 spins.

$$\frac{\partial m_{\uparrow}}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 m_{\uparrow}}{\partial x^2} - p(m_{\uparrow} - m_{\downarrow})$$

$$\frac{\partial m_{\downarrow}}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 m_{\downarrow}}{\partial x^2} - p(m_{\downarrow} - m_{\uparrow}).$$

in the steady state we have  $\frac{\partial m_{\uparrow}}{\partial t} = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial m_{\downarrow}}{\partial t} = 0$ .

By combining the 2 equations one can write:

$$D \left[ \frac{\partial^2 m_{\uparrow}}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 m_{\downarrow}}{\partial x^2} \right] = 2p(m_{\uparrow} - m_{\downarrow}) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \Delta m_{\uparrow, \downarrow}}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{\tau D} \Delta m_{\uparrow, \downarrow}$$

$$\text{at } x=0 \quad \Delta m = \Delta m_0.$$

then  $\Delta m(x) = \Delta m_0 \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\sqrt{\tau D}}\right)$  which leads to a typical

spin relaxation time  $\lambda = \sqrt{\tau D}$ .