

# Electronic properties of solids - Drude Model

*Lecture 12*

---

**CHM 637**

**Chemistry & Physics of Materials**

Varadharajan Srinivasan  
Dept. Of Chemistry  
IISER Bhopal

---

---

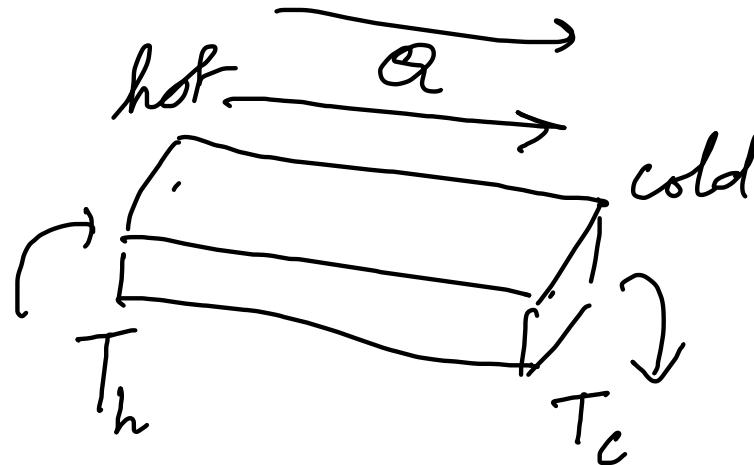
# Lecture Plan

---

- Thermal conductivity and Weidemann-Franz Law
- Seebeck Effect

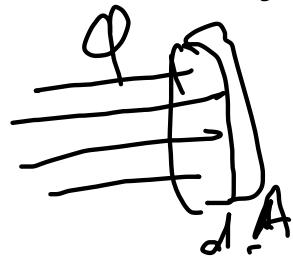
# Thermal Conductivity of Metals

Temperature gradient results



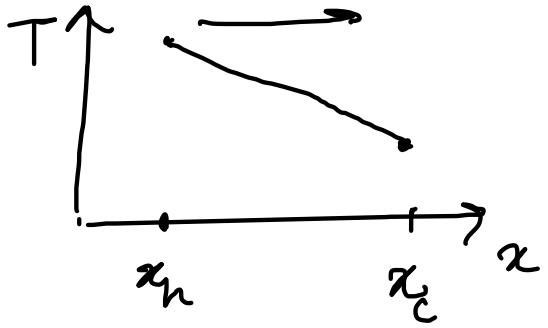
$\Rightarrow$  Steady flow of heat across the metal (bar).

$\vec{J} \cdot \vec{q}$  → Amount of heat flowing per second across a unit area (normal to direction of flow)



$$\frac{dQ}{dt} \times \frac{1}{dA} = j^q$$

$$\vec{J}^q \propto -\vec{\nabla} T$$



$$\boxed{\vec{J}^q = -K \vec{\nabla} T} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{(Fourier's) Law} \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

$$\frac{dT}{dx} < 0 \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \frac{d^2T}{dx^2} > 0 \end{matrix}$$

Thermal conductivity

Relate  $K$  to  $n, v, e, m, \ell$

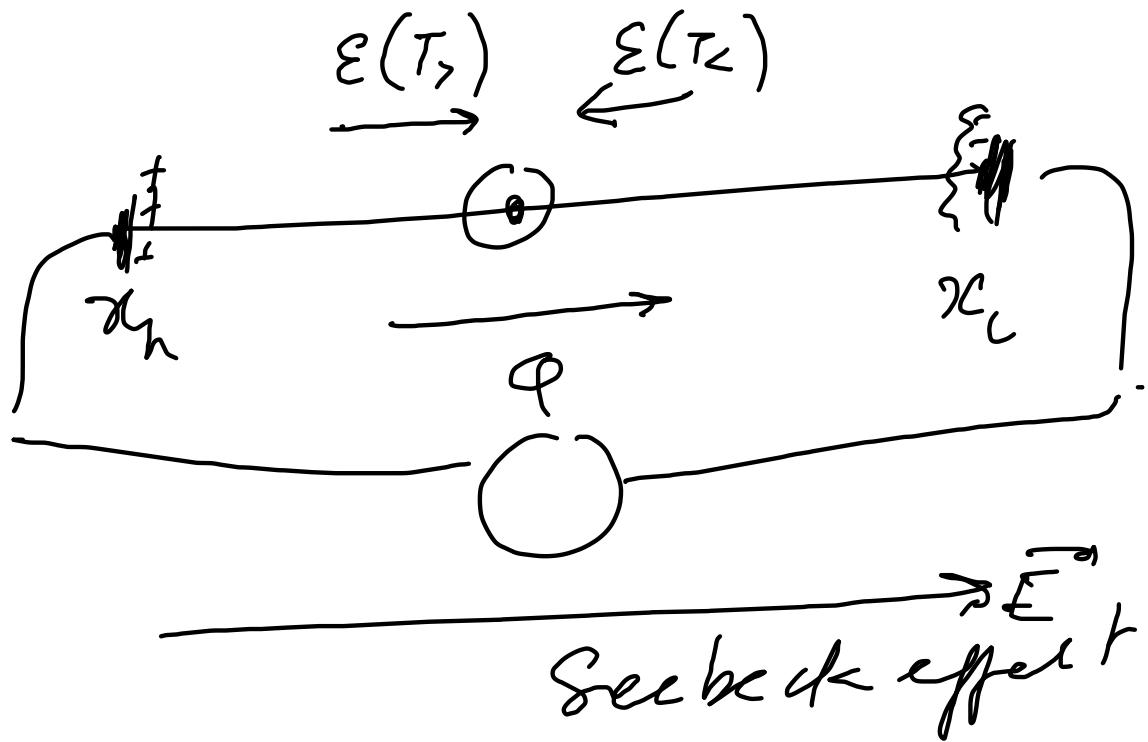
Consider flow of heat along the  $x$  axis

Assume, treat conduction  
electrons are solely responsible  $\kappa_h$  for heat flow.

The diagram shows a horizontal axis labeled  $x$ . A circle represents an electron moving along this axis. Two arrows originate from the electron: one pointing to the right labeled  $v_{hot}$  and one pointing to the left labeled  $v_{cold}$ .

- Velocities after collision are randomly distributed. But the speeds at any pt. are distributed according to the  $T$  at that pt.
- Let's assume  $E(T) \rightarrow$  average thermal energy per electron at temp.  $T$ .

Since  $T$  varies w/  $x$ ,  $\mathcal{E}(T)$  will also vary w/  $x$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{E}(T) \equiv \mathcal{E}(T[x])$



$$\int_0^x q = \text{Average thermal energy per electron flowing across a pt. } x$$

$$= n \times V$$

$$= V \times [E(T_-) \times n_- - E(T_+) \times n_+]$$

Z

Last collision of electron arriving at  $x$   
from last end w/d have been at  
 $x - vt$  (on an average)

$$\Rightarrow \overline{E(T_-)} = E(T[x-vt])$$

||<sup>b)</sup> electron arriving at  $x$  from cold side will have undergone a collision (on an average) at  $x + v\tau$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{E}(T_-) = \mathcal{E}(T[x + v\tau])$$

We are assuming that  $v$  is independent of whether electrons come from hot or cold end.

Since, the distribution of velocity at any pt is random,  $n_+ = n_- = n/2$

$$j_n^E = V_r \times \frac{n}{2} \left[ E(T[x - v\tau]) - E(T[x + v\tau]) \right]$$

$$\approx V_r \times \frac{n}{2} \times \left[ E(T[x]) - \frac{dE}{dT} \cdot \frac{dT}{dx} \cdot (v\tau) - E(T(x)) - \frac{dE}{dT} \cdot \frac{dT}{dx} (v\tau) \right]$$

$$\approx -V_r \times n \times \frac{dE}{dT} \times \frac{dT}{dx} \cdot v\tau$$

$$= - \left( n V_r^2 \tau \frac{dE}{dT} \right) \frac{dT}{dx} //$$

Going to the 3-d., we replace  $v^2$   
 by  $\langle v^2 \rangle$  in each direction. But this  
 is just  $\langle v_a^2 \rangle = \langle v_x^2 \rangle = \langle v_y^2 \rangle = \langle v_z^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \langle v^2 \rangle$

$$\vec{j}^q = \frac{1}{3} v^2 \times \cancel{\frac{d\varepsilon}{dT}} \times n (-\vec{\nabla}T)$$

$$n \frac{d\varepsilon}{dT} = \frac{N}{V} \frac{d\varepsilon}{dT} = \frac{1}{V} \left( \frac{dE}{dT} \right)_v = \frac{1}{V} C_v = \bar{C}_v$$

↓  
 volume specific  
 heat capacity

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{j}^q &= \frac{1}{3} v^2 \tau c_v (-\vec{\nabla} T) \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{3} \ell v c_v \right) (-\vec{\nabla} T) \quad \ell = v^2 \\
 &\quad \hookrightarrow \boxed{k = \frac{1}{3} \ell v c_v}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{n e^2 \tau}{m} \Rightarrow \frac{k}{\sigma} = \frac{1/3 v^2 \tau c_v}{n e^2 \tau / m}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} \left( \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} m v^2}_{\text{Av}} \right) \downarrow \times \frac{1}{n e^2}$$

Classical ideal gas.

$$\text{Av} = \frac{3 n k_B}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2} m v^2 = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{K}{\sigma} = \frac{k_B}{3} + \frac{3}{2} k_B T \times \frac{3}{2} \cancel{n k_B} + \frac{1}{n e^2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{3 k_B}{2 e^2} \right)^2 T \Rightarrow \text{N-F law}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{K}{\sigma T} = \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{k_B}{e} \right)^2 = 1.11 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W-ohm/k}^2$$

# Weidemann-Franz Law

Table 1.6  
EXPERIMENTAL THERMAL CONDUCTIVITIES AND LORENZ NUMBERS  
OF SELECTED METALS

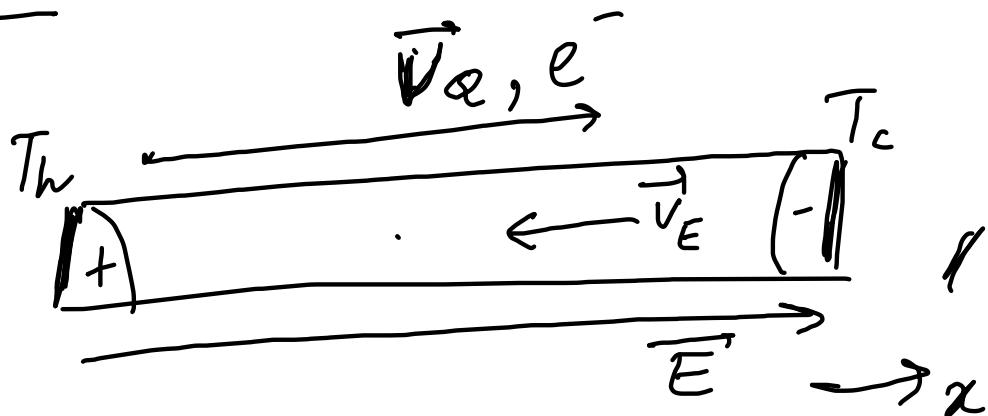
ELEMENT	273 K		373 K	
	$\kappa$ (watt/cm-K)	$\kappa/\sigma T$ (watt-ohm/K <sup>2</sup> )	$\kappa$ (watt/cm-K)	$\kappa/\sigma T$ (watt-ohm/K <sup>2</sup> )
Li	0.71	$2.22 \times 10^{-8}$	0.73	$2.43 \times 10^{-8}$
Na	1.38	2.12		
K	1.0	2.23		
Rb	0.6	2.42		
Cu	3.85	2.20	3.82	2.29
Ag	4.18	2.31	4.17	2.38
Au	3.1	2.32	3.1	2.36
Be	2.3	2.36	1.7	2.42
Mg	1.5	2.14	1.5	2.25
Nb	0.52	2.90	0.54	2.78
Fe	0.80	2.61	0.73	2.88
Zn	1.13	2.28	1.1	2.30
Cd	1.0	2.49	1.0	
Al	2.38	2.14	2.30	2.19
In	0.88	2.58	0.80	2.60
Tl	0.5	2.75	0.45	2.75
Sn	0.64	2.48	0.60	2.54
Pb	0.38	2.64	0.35	2.53
Bi	0.09	3.53	0.08	3.35
Sb	0.18	2.57	0.17	2.69

Source: G. W. C. Kaye and T. H. Laby, *Table of Physical and Chemical Constants*, Longmans Green, London, 1966

Source: Ashcroft and Mermin

# Seebeck Effect

$$\vec{V}_Q + \vec{V}_E = 0$$



$\vec{E} = Q \vec{\nabla} T$  // Thermo power  
 Thermo electric field

$$\frac{dT}{dx} < 0$$

$$E_x > 0$$

$V$   
 $V_{int} = V \left( \frac{x - v_z}{x_f - v_z} \right) \left( x - \frac{v_z}{\frac{dT}{dx}} \right)$   
 $V_{cold} = V \left( x_f - v_z \right)$

The mean  $x$ -velocity per electron at position  $x$

$$V_Q^x = \frac{1}{2} [v_x(x - \bar{v}_x) - v_x(x + \bar{v}_x)]$$

$$\approx -\tau v_x \frac{d\bar{v}_x}{dx} \quad \rightarrow \leftarrow$$

$$= -\tau \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\bar{v}_x^2}{2} \right)$$

Generalizing to 3-d:  $\langle v_z^2 \rangle = \langle v_y^2 \rangle = \langle v_x^2 \rangle$

$$\vec{V}_Q = -\frac{\tau}{3} \vec{\nabla} \left( \frac{v^2}{2} \right) = \langle v^2 \rangle / 3 = v^2 / 2$$

$$\vec{V}_Q = -\frac{\tau}{6} \frac{d v^2}{dT} \vec{T})$$

$$\vec{U}_E = - \frac{e \vec{E} z}{m} = - \frac{e \vec{Q} z}{m} \vec{\nabla} T$$

$$\vec{V}_Q + \vec{V}_E = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow - \frac{2}{6} \frac{d v^2}{dT} \vec{\nabla} T - \frac{e \vec{Q} z}{m} \vec{\nabla} T = 0$$

or

$$Q = - \frac{m}{6 e \pi} \frac{d v^2}{dT}$$

$$= \frac{m}{6 e} \frac{d v^2}{dT}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{3e} \frac{d}{dT} \left( \frac{\frac{mv^2}{2}}{n} \right)$$



$$\approx -\frac{1}{3e} \left( \frac{fv^2}{n} \right) = -\frac{\underline{fv}}{\underline{3ne}} //$$

For classical ideal gas :  $\underline{k_v} = \frac{3\pi k_B}{2}$

$\therefore Q = -\frac{k_B}{2e} = -0.43 \times 10^{-4} V/k$

is 100 times larger than measured.