

# FSK324 Exam 2008 - Suggestions

Time: [ ]

Total marks: [ ]

## Section A - The crystalline state

1. i.) Distinguish between amorphous, poly-crystalline and single crystal materials [3]  
ii.) Define the terms *vacancy* and *Schottky defect* [2]
2. i.) Define a Wigner-Seitz (WS) unit cell and describe its construction [3]  
ii.) How is the WS unit cell related to a Brillouin zone? [3]
3. Let  $\bar{A} = (\bar{a}_1, \bar{a}_2, \bar{a}_3)$  and  $\bar{B} = (\bar{b}_1, \bar{b}_2, \bar{b}_3)$  define basis vectors in real and reciprocal lattice spaces respectively. Prove that  $\bar{b}_i \cdot \bar{a}_j = 2\pi\delta_{ij}$  where  $\delta_{ij}$  is Kronecker's delta. [5]
4. FCC gold has density  $19.3 \text{ gcm}^{-3}$  and atomic number 197. Calculate  
i.) the distance between the (111) planes [3]  
ii.) the atomic radius of the gold atom, assuming hard spheres. [3]
5. Show that for the HCP structure  $a = b \neq c$ , where  $c/a = \sqrt{8/3}$ . [8]
6. Sodium undergoes the martensitic transformation from BCC ( $a = 0.423 \text{ nm}$ ) to HCP at 23K. Calculate the parameter  $a$  for HCP. [10]
7. Determine the density of zinc, which is HCP with atomic mass 65.37 and lattice parameter  $a=0.266 \text{ nm}$ . [4]

## Section B - The reciprocal lattice and diffraction

8. Prove that a crystal lattice is invariant to a rotation of  $2\pi/n$  for  $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 6\}$ .
9. The total amplitude of the scattered wave in the direction  $\bar{k}'$  for  $N$  cells is  $F_{\bar{G}} = NS_{\bar{G}}$ , where  $S_{\bar{G}}$  is the structure factor defined as the integral [10]

$$S_{\bar{G}} = \int_{\text{cell}} n(\bar{r}) e^{-\bar{G} \cdot \bar{r}} dV$$

and  $\Delta\bar{k} = \bar{G}$ . The lattice vector  $\bar{r} = 0$  at one corner. Show that the structure factor for  $hkl$  reflections is given by

$$S_{\bar{G}}(hkl) = \sum_j^N f_j e^{-2\pi i(hx_j + ky_j + lz_j)}.$$

10. The electron density (concentration) is given by the Fourier expansion

$$n(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\vec{G}} e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}}.$$

Define  $\vec{G}$  mathematically and then prove that the definition meets the translational requirement of a periodic crystal, i.e.  $n(\vec{r}) = n(\vec{r} + \vec{T})$ . [10]

11. Derive the conditions necessary for diffraction in a BCC lattice if the structure factor is given by [10]

$$S_G = \sum_j f_j e^{(-i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}_j)}$$

12. The Bragg angle for a certain reflection of a powdered sample of copper is  $47.75^\circ$  at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $46.60^\circ$  at  $1000^\circ\text{C}$ . Determine the coefficient of linear expansion of copper. [10]

13. A beam of 150 eV electrons is incident on a sample of powdered nickel. If nickel has the FCC structure with  $a = 3.25\text{\AA}$ , determine the two smallest angles at which diffraction can occur. [10]

14. Aluminium, which is FCC, has a Bragg angle of  $19.2^\circ$  for the (111) planes. Calculate

- i.) the (111) inter-planar distance given that  $\lambda = 1.54\text{\AA}$ ;
- ii.) Avogadro's number,  $N_A$ , given that  $\rho_{Al} = 2.7\text{g/cm}^3$  and  $M = 27\text{g}$ .

### Section C - The thermal properties of materials

15. The energy of a system in the Debye model is

$$E = 9RT \left( \frac{T}{\theta_D} \right)^3 \int_0^{\theta_D/T} \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx, \quad \text{where } x = \frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}. \quad (1)$$

Determine the specific heat  $C_v$  at

- i.) low temperatures [3]
- ii.) high temperatures [3]

16. With regards to specific heat capacity  $C_v$ , discuss the failings of

- i.) the classical Petit-Dulong model [3]
- ii.) the Einstein model [3]

17. The wave equation for elastic waves in a rod is given by

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\rho}{Y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}. \quad (2)$$

- i.) Define *all* the symbols and their S.I. units in equation (2). [3]
- ii.) assuming a solution of the form  $u = u(x, t) = Ae^{i(kx - \omega t)}$ , show that the dispersion relation is  $\omega = v_s k$  where  $v_s = \sqrt{Y/\rho}$ . [3]

- iii.) Normally the wave-number  $k$  in a dispersive medium is considered real-valued, such that

$$\omega^2 = \omega_m \sin^2 \frac{ka}{2}. \quad (3)$$

Show that if  $k$  is complex-valued for  $\omega > \omega_m$ , then the amplitude of vibration is damped by a factor  $e^{-\alpha na}$  where  $\alpha$  is real-valued. [4]

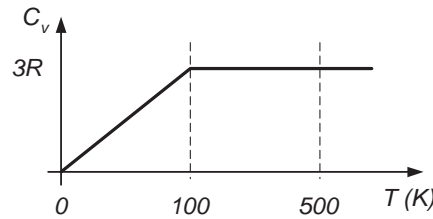


Figure 1:  $C_v$  as a function of temperature for some unknown material.

18. Using the data in Fig. 1, calculate the internal energy of 1 mole of the material at 500K. [6]  
 19. Given that the atomic mass and density of gold are 197 and 19.3 g/cm<sup>3</sup> respectively, determine the Debye temperature of gold if sound travels through it at 2.1 km/s. [6]

#### Section D - The free-electron model

20. Describe the Hall effect in metals. Use diagrams as necessary. [8]  
 21. Consider equation (4).

$$\sigma = \frac{ne^2\tau}{m} \quad (4)$$

- i.) Derive equation (4) using Ohm's law as a starting point. [4]  
 ii.) Derive equation (4) using the classical approach by assuming a free-electron gas under the influence of a viscous force. [4]  
 22. Copper has a density of 8.95 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, atomic mass of 63 and a room-temperature electrical conductivity of  $1.55 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot m$ . Calculate  
 i.) the concentration of conduction electrons. [2]  
 ii.) relaxation time,  $\tau$ . [2]  
 iii.) the Fermi level,  $E_F$  in electron-volts. [2]  
 iv.) the Fermi velocity,  $v_F$ . [2]

(Assume that the effective mass of the electron is the rest mass).

23. Assuming that the Fermi energy level is  $\varepsilon_F$ ,  
 i.) write down the Fermi-Dirac distribution (FD), [4]  
 ii.) explain the significance of having an energy equal to  $\varepsilon_F$ . [2]  
 iii.) plot a schematic graph of the FD distribution. [2]

24. Discuss the failing(s) of the *free-electron* model. [8]
25. i.) In what essential way does a plasma differ from a gas? [2]
- ii.) Describe Matthiessen's law, the "Umklapp" process and the Lorentz number. [6]
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### Some general information and data

Planck's constant	$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$ $\hbar = h/2\pi$
Avogadro's constant	$6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$
Electronic charge	$e = 1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$
Electron mass	$m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
Neutron mass	$m_n = 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
Boltzmann's constant	$k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
Electron concentration	$N = Z_\nu \rho N_A / M$
Debye frequency	$\omega_D = \nu \sqrt{6\pi^2 n}$
Debye temperature	$\theta_D = \hbar \omega_D / k_B$
Fermi energy	$\varepsilon = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} (3\pi^2 n)^{\frac{2}{3}}$
A useful integral:	$\int_0^\infty \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx = \frac{\pi^4}{15}$