

Exercise 2.1-2

Derive numbers for v_0 , v_D , τ , and l

Show that the claims made in the backbone text are actually true (for room temperature = **300 K**). Use the following equations taken from the backbone:

- For the [average velocity \$v_0\$](#) of a particle zooming around in the crystal:

$$v_0 = \left(\frac{3k_B T}{m} \right)^{1/2}$$

- For the [mean time \$\tau\$ between scattering](#):

$$\tau = \frac{\sigma \cdot m}{n \cdot e^2}$$

- For the [drift velocity \$v_D\$](#)

$$v_D = - \frac{E \cdot e \cdot \tau}{m}$$

- For the [mean free path length \$l\$](#) obtained for $v_D = 0$:

$$l = 2 \cdot v_0 \cdot \tau$$

Of course, you need numbers for the concentration n of the free carriers and for the specific conductivity σ

- Since we are essentially considering metals, you assume for a start that you have **1** free electron per atom if you want to find a number for n . Here are a few data needed for the calculation:

Atom	Density [kg m ⁻³]	Atomic weight [1.66 · 10 ⁻²⁷ kg]	Conductivity σ [10 ⁷ Ω^{-1} m ⁻¹]	Atomic density n [m ⁻³] ???
Na	970	23	2.4	
Cu	8.920	64	5.9	
Au	19.300	197	4.5	

You may run into some trouble with the dimensions. Just look at conversions from, e.g. **eV** to **J**, from Ω to **V** and **A**, and at the relations between Volt, Ampere, Watts and Joule.

Solution