The thermodynamic properties of metals

Recipe for determining the thermodynamic properties of a metal

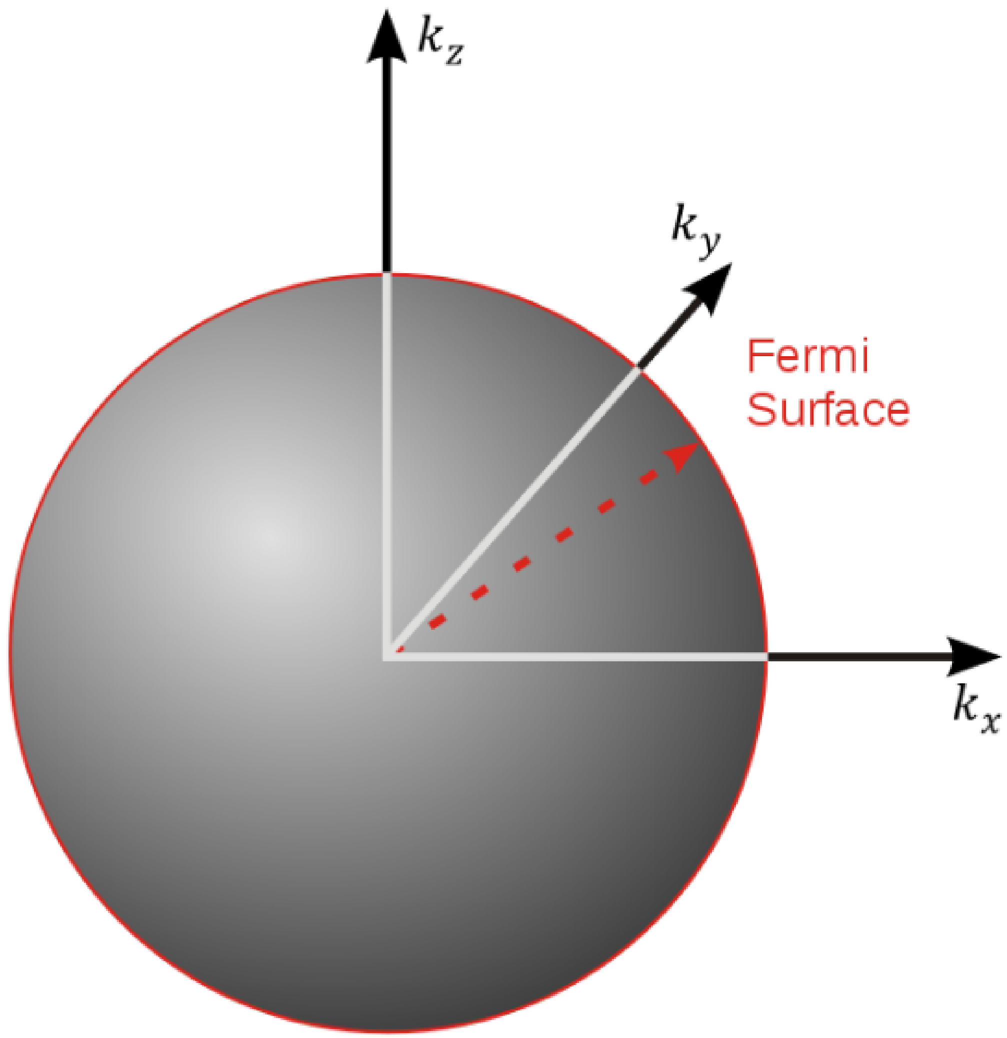
Solve the Schrödinger equation for an electrons moving in the periodic potential of the crystal

From the energy - k dispersion relation, determine the density of states.

Use the density of states to determine the thermodynamic properties

States near the Fermi surface determine the thermodynamic properties

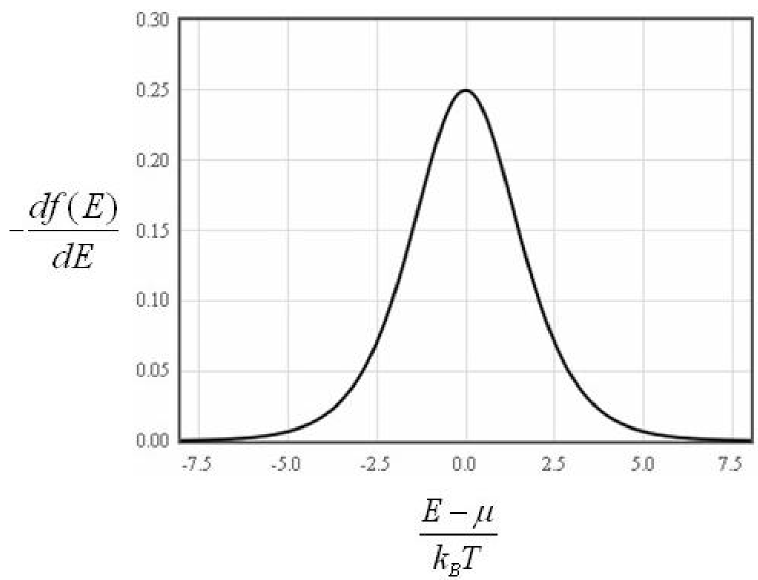
Fermi surface for free electrons



Properties of metals depend mostly on the electron states at the Fermi surface

$$n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} D(E) f(E) dE = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{D(E)dE}{\exp\left(\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}\right)+1}.$$

$$n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} D(E) f(E) dE = K(\infty) f(\infty) - K(-\infty) f(-\infty) - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(E) \frac{f(E)}{dE} dE.$$



http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/materials/thermo/dos2mu.html

Thermodynamic properties

Chemical potential (implicitly defined by):

$$n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{D(E)}{1+\exp\left(\frac{(E-\mu)}{k_B T}\right)} dE$$

DoS → mu

Internal energy density:

$$u = \phi + Ts + \mu n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{ED(E)}{1+\exp\left(\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}\right)} dE$$

DoS → u(T)

Energy spectral density:

$$u(E,T) = \frac{ED(E)}{1+\exp\left(\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}\right)}$$

DoS → u(E)

Specific heat:

$$c_v = \frac{\partial u}{\partial T} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{ED(E)(E-\mu)\exp\left(\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}\right)}{k_B T^2 \left(1+\exp\left(\frac{E-\mu}{k_B T}\right)\right)^2} dE$$

DoS → cv(T)

http://lamp.tu-graz.ac.at/~hadley/ss2/fermigas/thermo/thermo.php