Calculation of the transport properties of metals under non-equilibrium heating

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The work studies the transport properties of three noble metals—Ir, Pt and Au—under non-equilibrium heating when the electron temperature T_e is higher than the ionic temperature T_i , and their density corresponds to that of their solid state. The static conductivity σ and the thermal conductivity κ were calculated by two methods. At relatively low electron temperatures (form room temperature to a few eV), we used an approach based on solving the Boltzmann equation [1] and the FP-LMTO method of band structure calculation from first principles [2]. At higher temperatures, we used an average atom model implemented in the RESEOS code [3]. Here we calculated σ and κ from Ziman formula and the Wiedemann-Franz law and the relaxation time approximation too [4]. Results of calculation with the two approaches are compared and shown to agree quite satisfactory at T_e above 1 eV.

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