

23. Let  $N$  be the number of atoms per unit volume and  $n$  be the number of free electrons per unit volume. Then, the number of free electrons per atom is  $n/N$ . We use the result of Exercise 11 to find  $n$ :  $E_F = An^{2/3}$ , where  $A = 3.65 \times 10^{-19} \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{eV}$ . Thus,

$$n = \left( \frac{E_F}{A} \right)^{3/2} = \left( \frac{11.6 \text{ eV}}{3.65 \times 10^{-19} \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{eV}} \right)^{3/2} = 1.79 \times 10^{29} \text{ m}^{-3} .$$

If  $M$  is the mass of a single aluminum atom and  $d$  is the mass density of aluminum, then  $N = d/M$ . Now,  $M = (27.0 \text{ g/mol})/(6.022 \times 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}) = 4.48 \times 10^{-23} \text{ g}$ , so  $N = (2.70 \text{ g/cm}^3)/(4.48 \times 10^{-23} \text{ g}) = 6.03 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3} = 6.03 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$ . Thus, the number of free electrons per atom is

$$\frac{n}{N} = \frac{1.79 \times 10^{29} \text{ m}^{-3}}{6.03 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}} = 2.97 .$$