

18.35 This problem asks that we estimate the temperature at which GaAs has an electrical conductivity of  $1.6 \times 10^{-3} (\Omega\text{-m})^{-1}$  assuming that the conductivity has a temperature dependence as shown in Equation 18.36. From the room temperature (298 K) conductivity [ $10^{-6} (\Omega\text{-m})^{-1}$ ] and band gap energy (1.42 eV) of Table 18.3 we determine the value of  $C$  (Equation 18.36) by taking natural logarithms of both sides of the equation, and after rearrangement as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\ln C &= \ln \sigma + \frac{3}{2} \ln T + \frac{E_g}{2kT} \\ &= \ln [10^{-6} (\Omega\text{-m})^{-1}] + \frac{3}{2} \ln (298 \text{ K}) + \frac{1.42 \text{ eV}}{(2)(8.62 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K})(298 \text{ K})} \\ &= 22.37\end{aligned}$$

Now we substitute this value into Equation 18.36 in order to determine the value of  $T$  for which  $\sigma = 1.6 \times 10^{-3} (\Omega\text{-m})^{-1}$ , thus

$$\begin{aligned}\ln \sigma &= \ln C - \frac{3}{2} \ln T - \frac{E_g}{2kT} \\ \ln [1.6 \times 10^{-3} (\Omega\text{-m})^{-1}] &= 22.37 - \frac{3}{2} \ln T - \frac{1.42 \text{ eV}}{(2)(8.62 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K})(T)}\end{aligned}$$

This equation may be solved for  $T$  using an equation solver. For some solvers, the following set of instructions may be used:

$$\ln(1.6 \times 10^{-3}) = 22.37 - 1.5 \ln(T) - 1.42 / (2 \times 8.62 \times 10^{-5} \times T)$$

The resulting solution is  $T = 417$ ; this value is the temperature in K which corresponds to  $T(^{\circ}\text{C}) = 417 \text{ K} - 273 = 144^{\circ}\text{C}$ .