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**Relationship between superconductivity and calculated  $\sigma$ -band conductivity in  $\text{MgB}_2$**  PABLO DE LA MORA, GUSTAVO TAVIZON, Facultad de Quimica, UNAM, Mexico, D.F. — Four different relaxation times were needed to adjust the electrical conductivity and Hall coefficient to experimental values in  $\text{MgB}_2$ . Al-doping was analyzed in the *rigid band approximation*; this permitted a detailed study of the partial substitution of magnesium for aluminium ( $\text{Mg}_{1-x}\text{Al}_x\text{B}_2$ ). Other substitutions such as  $\text{AB}_2$  (A=Be, Sc, Zr, Nb and Ta) were also discussed. In ( $\text{Mg}_{1-x}\text{Al}_x\text{B}_2$ )  $T_c$  diminishes with Al content, the other compounds are not superconductors or have a low  $T_c$ . In this work it was found that with electron doping, such as Al substitution, the  $\sigma$ band conductivity decreases in a very similar way as  $T_c$  and the corresponding bands become less anisotropic.  $\sigma$ band contribution for  $\text{BeB}_2$  and  $\text{ScB}_2$  at  $E_F$  is very small and the anisotropy is much lower. For Zr, Nb and Ta there are no  $\sigma$ bands at  $E_F$ . These results give a clear connection between superconductivity and the character of the  $\sigma$ -band, band conductivity, and band anisotropy. This gives a plausible explanation for the diminution of  $T_c$  with different doping of  $\text{MgB}_2$

Pablo de la Mora  
Facultad de Ciencias, UNAM, Mexico, D.F.

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