

of almost two is given. The difference in behaviour is very obvious. Mercury and caesium already attain a conductance of $1000 \text{ ohm}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ at less than twice the critical density. This has been shown as due to electronic conductance in the dense gas phase⁵⁰. For water, as an ionic conductor, compression to more than five times the critical density and twice the critical temperature is necessary to reach a specific conductance of $1 \text{ ohm}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

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