

1. A flat aluminum strip has a resistivity of  $3.44 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{m}$ , a cross-sectional area of  $2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mm}^2$ , and a length of 5mm. what is the voltage drop across the strip for a current of 50 mA?

Sol:  $\rho = 3.44 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{m}$ ,  $A = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mm}^2$ ,  $L = 5 \text{ mm}$ ,  $I = 50 \text{ mA}$

$$\Rightarrow R = \frac{\rho L}{A} = \frac{(3.44 \times 10^{-8})(5 \times 10^{-3})}{(2 \times 10^{-4}) \times 10^{-6}} = 0.86 \Omega$$

$$\Rightarrow V = IR = (50 \times 10^{-3})(0.86) = 0.043 \text{ Volt}$$

2. The resistance of no.18 copper wire (diameter= 1.03mm) is 6.5 ohms per 1000 ft. The concentration of free electrons in copper is  $8.4 \times 10^{28} \text{ electrons/m}^3$ . If the current is 2A, find the followings:

(a) Drift velocity (b) Conductivity (c) Mobility (1 ft. = 0.3 m)

Sol:  $\Rightarrow d = 1.03 \text{ mm} \Rightarrow r = 0.515 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$   
 $\Rightarrow R_{\ell} = 6.5 \Omega / 1000 \text{ ft} = 6.5 \times 10^{-3} \Omega / \text{ft} = 6.5 \times 10^{-3} \times \frac{1}{0.3} \Omega / \text{m} = 21.67 \times 10^{-3} \Omega / \text{m}$

$$\Rightarrow n = 8.4 \times 10^{28} \text{ e}^{-} / \text{m}^3, I = 2 \text{ A}$$

a)  $\Rightarrow I = J \cdot A = nq \frac{\mu E}{v_d} \cdot A$   
 $= nq v_d A$

$$\Rightarrow v_d = \frac{I}{nqA} = \frac{2}{8.4 \times 10^{28} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times \pi \times (0.515 \times 10^{-3})^2}$$

$$= 1.785 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m/s}$$

b)  $\because R = \frac{L}{\sigma A} \Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{1}{R_{\ell} \times A} = \frac{1}{(21.67 \times 10^{-3}) \pi (0.515 \times 10^{-3})^2}$   
 $= 55.383 \times 10^6 \text{ S/m}$

c)  $\Rightarrow \sigma = nq\mu \Rightarrow \mu = \frac{\sigma}{nq} = \frac{55.383 \times 10^6}{8.4 \times 10^{28} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$   
 $= 4.12 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^2 / \text{V.s.}$   
 $= 41.2 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{V.s}$

3. A specimen of silicon is 4cm long and has a square cross section 2x2mm. the current is due to electrons whose mobility is 1300 cm<sup>2</sup>/v. Two volts impressed across the bar results in a current of 8mA.

- (a) Calculate the concentration  $n$  of free electrons.  
(b) The drift velocity.

Sol:  $l = 4 \text{ cm}$  ,  $A = 2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2$  ,  $\mu_n = 1300 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V.s.}$   
 $V = 2 \text{ Volt}$  ,  $I = 8 \text{ mA}$

a)  $\because R = \frac{V}{I} \Rightarrow R = \frac{2}{8 \times 10^{-3}} = 250 \Omega$

$\because R = \frac{l}{\sigma A} \Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{l}{RA} = \frac{4 \times 10^{-2}}{250 \times 4 \times 10^{-6}} = 0.4 \times 10^2 \text{ S/m}$

$\because \sigma = n q \mu_n = 0.4 \times 10^2 \text{ S/m}$

$\Rightarrow n = \frac{\sigma}{q \mu_n} = \frac{0.4}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 1300 \times 10^{-4}} = 1.923 \times 10^{21} \text{ e/m}^3$   
 $= 1.923 \times 10^{15} \text{ e/cm}^3$

b)  $\because v_d = \mu E$  ,  $E = \frac{V}{l}$

$\Rightarrow v_d = (1300) \left( \frac{2}{4 \times 10^{-2}} \right) = 6.5 \text{ m/s}$

4. Show that the resistivity of intrinsic germanium at 300°K is 45 ohm.cm, and also find the resistivity of intrinsic silicon at 300°K.

Sol:

For germanium :  $\mu_p = 1900 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V.s}$ ,  $\mu_n = 3900 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V.s}$   
(at 300°K)  $n_i = 2.4 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = nq\mu_n + pq\mu_p$$

∵  $n = p = n_i$  (For intrinsic semiconductor)

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = n_i q (\mu_n + \mu_p)$$

$$= (2.4 \times 10^{13}) (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) (3900 + 1900)$$
$$= 0.02227 \text{ S/cm}$$

$$\rightarrow \rho = \frac{1}{\sigma} = 44.89 \approx 45 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$$

For silicon :  $\mu_p = 475 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V.s}$ ,  $\mu_n = 1500 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V.s}$   
(at 300°K)  $n_i = 1.45 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma = n_i q (\mu_n + \mu_p)$$

$$= (1.45 \times 10^{10}) (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) (1500 + 475)$$
$$= 4.582 \times 10^{-6} \text{ S/cm}$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho = 2.18 \times 10^5 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$$

5. (a) Determine the concentration of free electrons and holes in a sample of germanium at 300°K which has a concentration of donor atoms equal to  $2 \times 10^{14}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup> and a concentration of acceptor atoms equal to  $3 \times 10^{14}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>. Is this p or n type germanium? In other words, is the conductivity due primarily to holes or to electrons? ( $n_i$  for Ge at 300°K =  $2.5 \times 10^{13}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>).
- (b) Repeat part a for equal donor and acceptor concentration of  $10^{15}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>. Is this p or n type germanium?
- (c) Repeat part a for a donor concentration of  $10^{16}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup> and an acceptor concentration  $10^{14}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>.

$$a) N_D = 2 \times 10^{14} \text{ atom/cm}^3, N_A = 3 \times 10^{14} \text{ atoms/cm}^3$$

$$\because N_A > N_D \Rightarrow \text{p-type germanium}$$

From mass action law:

$$\Rightarrow np = n_i^2, \quad N_D + P = N_A + n \quad (\text{charge neutrality})$$

$$\Rightarrow P = \frac{n_i^2}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow N_D + \frac{n_i^2}{n} = N_A + n$$

$$\Rightarrow n^2 + n N_A = n N_D + n_i^2$$

$$\Rightarrow n^2 - n(N_D - N_A) - n_i^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \frac{N_D - N_A \pm \sqrt{(N_D - N_A)^2 + 4n_i^2}}{2}$$

(we will only take + sol. since  $n = n_i$  at  $N_D = N_A$ )

$$\Rightarrow n = \frac{-10^{14} + (1.118 \times 10^{14})}{2}$$

$$= 5.9016 \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow P = \frac{n_i^2}{n} = \frac{(2.5 \times 10^{13})^2}{5.9016 \times 10^{12}} = 1.059 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$b) N_A = N_D = 10^{15}$$

∴  $N_A = N_D \Rightarrow$  not n nor p-type  $\Rightarrow$  Intrinsic Germanium

$$\Rightarrow n = p = n_i = 2.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$c) N_D = 10^{16} \text{ atom / cm}^3$$

$$N_A = 10^{14} \text{ atom / cm}^3$$

$\Rightarrow N_D \gg N_A \Rightarrow$  n-type Germanium

$$\Rightarrow np = n_i^2, \quad N_D + p = N_A + n$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{n_i^2}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow n^2 - n(N_D - N_A) - n_i^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \frac{(N_D - N_A) + \sqrt{(N_D - N_A)^2 + 4n_i^2}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{9.9 \times 10^{15} + \sqrt{(9.9 \times 10^{15})^2 + 4(2.5 \times 10^{13})^2}}{2}$$

$$= 9.9 \times 10^{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{n_i^2}{n} = 6.313 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

# Another sol:

$$\because N_D \gg N_A \Rightarrow n \gg p$$

$$\Rightarrow n \approx N_D \Rightarrow n = 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{n_i^2}{n} = \frac{(2.5 \times 10^{13})^2}{10^{16}}$$

$$= 6.25 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$