
Lecture19

Sung-Min Hong (smhong@gist.ac.kr)

Semiconductor Device Simulation Lab.
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology

Notice

- No lecture days due to my business trip
 - December 3 and December 5
- One makeup session will be made on December 10.
 - L20 & L21: Drift-diffusion
 - L22 & L23: Circuit simulation
- Term project
 - No presentation
 - Just submit your final report and code.
 - Due: December 17

Drift-diffusion model

- We have to solve these equations.

- The Poisson equation

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho = +q(p - n + N^+)$$

- Electron continuity

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_n = \frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_n$$

- Electron current density

$$\mathbf{J}_n = +q\mu_n n \mathbf{E} + qD_n \nabla n$$

- And the counterpart for holes

Continuity equation

- By using the current density,
 - The electron continuity can be simplified as

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_n = \frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot (+q\mu_n n \mathbf{E} + qD_n \nabla n)$$

- Steady-state
 - Time derivative vanishes.

$$\nabla \cdot (+q\mu_n n \mathbf{E} + qD_n \nabla n) = 0$$

N⁺NN⁺ structure

- 600-nm-long version (Long)
 - 100 nm: Highly doped ($5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
 - 400 nm: Lowly doped ($2 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
 - 100 nm: Highly doped ($5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
- 120-nm-long version (Short)
 - 40 nm: Highly doped ($5 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
 - 40 nm: Lowly doped ($2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
 - 40 nm: Highly doped ($5 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)

Boundary condition

- 600-nm-long version (Long)
 - At $x = 0$ nm or 600 nm, the electrostatic potential is given by the charge neutrality condition.

$$5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \approx n_{int} \exp\left(\frac{\phi}{V_T}\right)$$

- Here, V_T is the thermal voltage.
 - Therefore, the electrostatic potential at the boundary points is

$$\phi = V_T \log\left(\frac{5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n_{int}}\right)$$

Nonlinear Poisson equation (1)

- Set up the structure.

```
q = 1.602192e-19; % Elementary charge, C
eps0 = 8.854187817e-12; % Vacuum permittivity, F/m
k_B = 1.380662e-23; % Boltzmann constant, J/K
T = 300.0; % Temperature, K
thermal = k_B*T/q; % Thermal voltage, V
Deltax = 1e-9; % 1 nm spacing
N = 601; % 600-nm-long structure
x = Deltax*transpose([0:N-1]); % real space, m
x_12 = 101; % At x=100 nm
x_23 = 501; % At x=500 nm
eps_si = 11.7; eps_ox = 3.9; % Relative permittivity
Ndon = 2e21*ones(N,1); % 2e15 /cm^3
Ndon(1:x_12,1) = 5e23; % 5e17 /cm^3
Ndon(x_23:N,1) = 5e23; % 5e17 /cm^3
ni = 1.075e16; % 1.075e10 /cm^3
coef = Deltax*Deltax*q/eps0;
```

Nonlinear Poisson equation (2)

- `Jaco` and `res` should be constructed.

```
res = zeros(N,1);
Jaco = sparse(N,N);
res(1,1) = phi(1,1) - thermal*log(Ndon(1,1)/ni);
Jaco(1,1) = 1.0;
for ii=2:N-1
    res(ii,1) = eps_si*(phi(ii+1,1)-2*phi(ii,1)+phi(ii-1,1));
    Jaco(ii,ii-1) = eps_si;
    Jaco(ii,ii) = -2*eps_si;
    Jaco(ii,ii+1) = eps_si;
end
res(N,1) = phi(N,1) - thermal*log(Ndon(N,1)/ni);
Jaco(N,N) = 1.0;
for ii=2:N-1
    res(ii,1) = res(ii,1) - coef*(-Ndon(ii,1)+ni*exp(phi(ii,1)/thermal));
    Jaco(ii,ii) = Jaco(ii,ii) - coef*ni*exp(phi(ii,1)/thermal)/thermal;
end
```

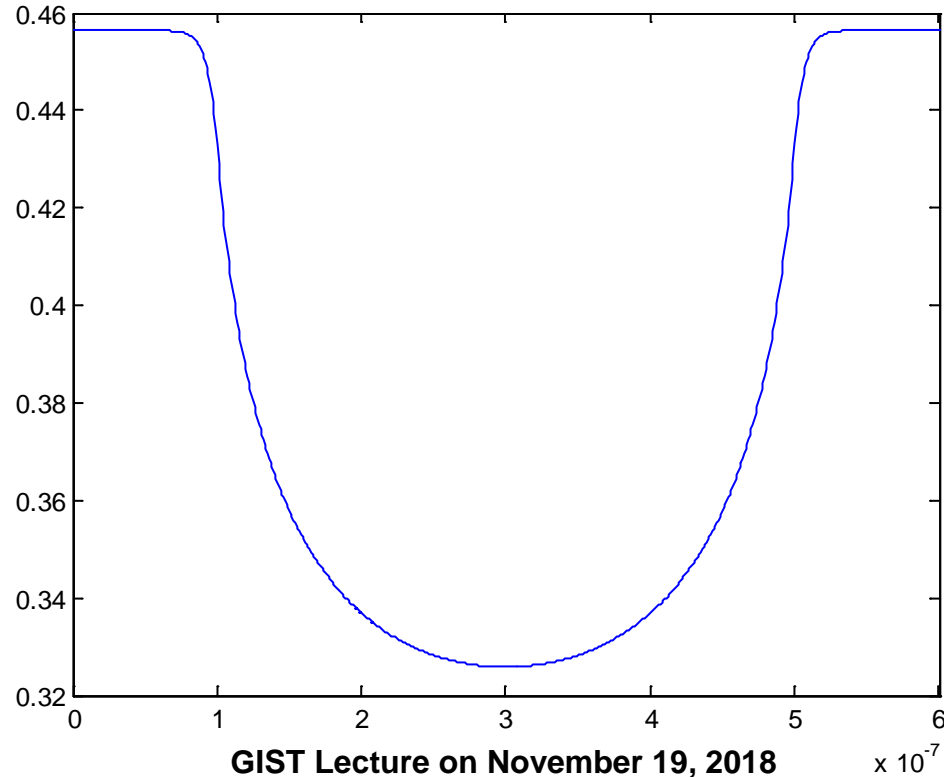

Nonlinear Poisson equation (3)

- Full code

```
(Defining variables. Copy-and-paste)
phi = zeros(N,1);
phi(:,1) = thermal*log(Ndon(:,1)/ni);
for newton=1:10
    (Jaco and res are constructed here. Copy-and-paste)
    update = Jaco \ (-res);
    phi = phi + update;
    norm(update,inf)
end
plot(x,phi);
```

Long structure

- Result of `plot(x, phi)`



Today's goal

- 1D, steady-state

- The electrostatic potential, ϕ , is given.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(-q\mu_n n \frac{d\phi}{dx} + qD_n \frac{dn}{dx} \right) = 0$$

- Moreover, μ_n and D_n are assumed to be constant.
 - They have the following relation (Einstein relation)

$$D_n = \frac{k_B T}{q} \mu_n = V_T \mu_n$$

- A naïve approach to discretize the above equation

Integration

- The equation is integrated from $x_{i-0.5}$ to $x_{i+0.5}$.
 - Then, we have

$$J_{n,i+0.5} - J_{n,i-0.5} = 0$$

- Remember that

$$J_{n,i+0.5} = -q\mu_n n_{i+0.5} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} + qD_n \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5}$$

- By using the Einstein relation,

$$J_{n,i+0.5} = -q\mu_n \left(n_{i+0.5} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} - V_T \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} \right)$$

Discretized form

- Continuity equation after integration

- It is written as

$$n_{i+0.5} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} - V_T \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} - n_{i-0.5} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i-0.5} + V_T \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i-0.5} = 0$$

- How can we discretize the above equation? One possibility is...

$$\begin{aligned} n_{i+0.5} &= \frac{n_{i+1} + n_i}{2} \\ \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} &= \frac{\phi_{i+1} - \phi_i}{\Delta x} \\ \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} &= \frac{n_{i+1} - n_i}{\Delta x} \end{aligned}$$

Contribution to Jacobian

- Consider the flux, $J_{n,i+0.5}$ (Divided by $-q\mu_n$)
 - It is written as

$$n_{i+0.5} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} - V_T \left. \frac{dn}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5}$$

- Its contributions to the Jacobian matrix are

$$-\frac{1}{q\mu_n} \frac{\partial J_{n,i+0.5}}{\partial n_{i+1}} = \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} - V_T \frac{1}{\Delta x}$$
$$-\frac{1}{q\mu_n} \frac{\partial J_{n,i+0.5}}{\partial n_i} = \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{i+0.5} + V_T \frac{1}{\Delta x}$$

Notes

- It is noted that $J_{n,i+0.5}$ is used both for x_i -centered integration and x_{i+1} -centered one.
 - Therefore, we will construct it once and apply it to two equations.
- Boundary condition
 - At boundary points, the electron density is equal to the donor density.
 - For the 600-nm-long structure,
$$5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \approx n$$

Continuity equation (1)

- The code is based on the previous nonlinear Poisson equation solver.
- First, the electron density is calculated from $n = n_{int} \exp \frac{\phi}{V_T}$.

```
elec = zeros(N,1);  
elec = ni*exp(phi/thermal);  
plot(x,elec,'r');  
hold on;
```


Continuity equation (2)

- Now, the continuity equation is constructed.

```
res_elec = zeros(N,1);
Jaco_elec = sparse(N,N);
for ii=1:N-1 % edge-wise construction
    n_av = 0.5*(elec(ii+1,1)+elec(ii,1));
    dphidx = (phi(ii+1,1)-phi(ii,1))/Deltax;
    delecidx = (elec(ii+1,1)-elec(ii,1))/Deltax;
    Jn = n_av * dphidx - thermal * delecidx;
    res_elec(ii,1) = res_elec(ii,1) + Jn;
    Jaco_elec(ii,ii+1) = Jaco_elec(ii,ii+1) + 0.5*dphidx - thermal / Deltax;
    Jaco_elec(ii,ii) = Jaco_elec(ii,ii) + 0.5*dphidx + thermal / Deltax;
    res_elec(ii+1,1) = res_elec(ii+1,1) - Jn;
    Jaco_elec(ii+1,ii+1) = Jaco_elec(ii+1,ii+1) - 0.5*dphidx + thermal / Deltax;
    Jaco_elec(ii+1,ii) = Jaco_elec(ii+1,ii) - 0.5*dphidx - thermal / Deltax;
end
```

Continuity equation (3)

- Boundary condition

```
res_elec(1,1) = elec(1,1) - Ndon(1,1);  
Jaco_elec(1,:) = 0.0;  
Jaco_elec(1,1) = 1.0;  
res_elec(N,1) = elec(N,1) - Ndon(N,1);  
Jaco_elec(N,:) = 0.0;  
Jaco_elec(N,N) = 1.0;
```

- Obtain the result.

- Since it is a linear equation of n , only one solution step is sufficient.

```
update_elec = Jaco_elec \ (-res_elec);  
elec = elec + update_elec;  
plot(x,elec,'o');
```

Long structure

- Result of `plot(x,elec)`
 - Red line (Nonlinear Poisson) vs circle (Continuity equation)
 - Test it with a reduced number of points.

