

Voltage - current characteristics of diode

The diode current equations - or (Shockley eqn)

$$I_D = I_0 \left[e^{V_D/nV_T} - 1 \right] \quad \text{--- (A)}$$

Where

$I_D \rightarrow$ Diode current (mA)

$I_0 \rightarrow$ Reverse saturation current (uA)

$V_D \rightarrow$ Voltage across Diode

$n \rightarrow$ Constant $1 \rightarrow \text{Ge}$

$2 \rightarrow \text{Si}$

$V_T \rightarrow$ Temp. dependent voltage

$$V_T = \frac{kT}{e} = \frac{T}{11600}$$

Where $k \rightarrow$ Boltzman's constant $= 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$

$T \rightarrow$ Temp. in Kelvin

at $T = 27^\circ\text{C} = 300\text{K}$, $V_T = 26\text{mV}$

For Forward Biased

$$I_D = I_{DF}, \quad V_D = V_{DF}$$

$$I_{DF} = I_0 \left[e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1 \right] \quad \text{--- (B)}$$

For Reverse Biased

$$I_D = I_{DR}, \quad V_D = -V_{DR} \quad \text{--- then}$$

$$I_{DR} = I_0 \left[e^{-V_{DR}/nV_T} - 1 \right] \quad \text{--- (C)}$$

$I_{DR} \rightarrow$ Negative. \Rightarrow flow of current in opposite direction

Junction Temp. effects :

For Reverse biased \Rightarrow If I_0 (reverse saturation current) at T_1 Temp. then $I_{0\text{new}}$ at T_2 i.e.

$$I_0(T_2) = I_0(T_1) \left[2^{(T_2 - T_1)/10} \right] \quad \text{--- (D)}$$

NOTE

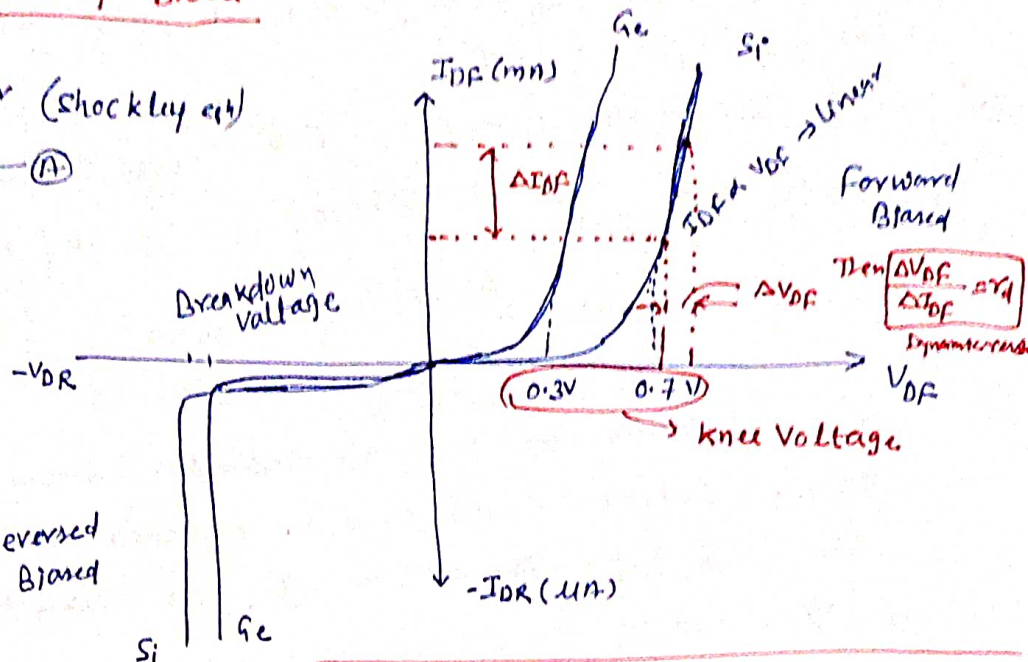
i.e. I_0 approximately doubles for each 10°C rise in Temp.

For Forward Biased

The Temp. coeff. for forward voltage of P-N Junction $\rightarrow -1.8\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ for Si

$\rightarrow -2.02\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ for Ge

so as a figure at every $^\circ\text{C}$ rise in temp. the forward voltage drop of P-N Junction is $\underline{\underline{-2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}}}$.



① Determine reverse saturation current at 35°C and 45°C for a Junction where $I_0 = 30\text{ nA}$ at 25°C .

Ans Given $I_0 = 30\text{ nA}$, $T_1 = 25^\circ\text{C}$, find $I_0(35^\circ\text{C})$ and $I_0(45^\circ\text{C})$

$$I_0(35^\circ\text{C}) = I_0(25^\circ\text{C}) \left[2^{(35-25)/10} \right] = 30\text{ nA} [2^1] = \underline{60\text{ nA}}$$

$$I_0(45^\circ\text{C}) = I_0(25^\circ\text{C}) \left[2^{(45-25)/10} \right] = 30\text{ nA} (4) = \underline{120\text{ nA}}$$

② A Si p-n Junction has a reverse saturation current of $I_0 = 30\text{ nA}$ at Temp of 300 K . Calculate the Junction current when the applied voltage is (a) 0.7 V forward bias (b) 10 V reverse bias.

Ans (a) $V_{DF} = 0.7\text{ V}$, $I_0 = 30\text{ nA}$, $T = 300\text{ K}$, $n = 2$ { Si }

$$\text{Then } I_{DF} = I_0 \left[e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1 \right]$$

$$= 30\text{ nA} \left[e^{0.7/2 \times V_T} - 1 \right]$$

$$\text{But } V_T = \frac{T}{11600} = \frac{300}{11600} = 26\text{ mV}$$

$$I_{DF} = 30 \times 10^{-9} \left[e^{\frac{0.7}{2 \times 26 \times 10^{-3}}} - 1 \right] = 30 \times 10^{-9} \left[e^{13.46} - 1 \right] = \underline{21\text{ mA}}$$

$$(b) I_{DF} = 30 \times 10^{-9} \left[e^{-\frac{10}{2 \times 26 \times 10^{-3}}} - 1 \right] = 30 \times 10^{-9} \left[e^{-192} - 1 \right] = \underline{-30\text{ nA}}$$

Diode Specification

① Peak Inverse Voltage (PIV) or Peak reverse Voltage (PRV) \Rightarrow maximum reverse voltage that may be applied across the diode. Beyond this voltage diode will be damaged.

② Steady state forward current \Rightarrow The maximum current that may be passed continuously through the diode.

③ Reverse breakdown Voltage \Rightarrow The maximum voltage when diode is connected on reverse bias, after which avalanche breakdown takes place.

Numericals Based On Diode Current Equation

$$I_{DF} = I_0 (e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1)$$

Where $I_0 \rightarrow$ reverse saturation current at room Temp: i.e. 27°C or

$$I_{DR} = I_0 (e^{-V_{DR}/nV_T} - 1)$$

$$V_T = \text{Thermal Voltage} = \frac{300\text{K}}{11600}$$

$$V_T \text{ at room Temp} = 26\text{mV}$$

$$n = \text{identical constant } n=1 \Rightarrow \text{Ge}$$

$$n=2 \Rightarrow \text{Si}$$

Q1. Calculate reverse saturation current of a diode if the current at 0.2V forward bias is 0.1mA at a Temp. 25°C and identical factor is 1.5 .

Given- $I_0 = ?$

$$V_{DF} = \text{Forward Bias Voltage} = 0.2\text{V}$$

$$I_{DF} = \text{Forward Bias diode current} = 0.1\text{mA} = 0.1 \times 10^{-3}\text{A}$$

$$\text{Temp.} = 25^\circ\text{C} = 25 + 273 = 298\text{ Kelvin}$$

$$V_T = \frac{T}{11600} = \frac{298}{11600} = 0.0257\text{ Volt}$$

$$n = 1.5$$

The Diode eqn for forward Bias - $I_{DF} = I_0 (e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1)$

$$\text{or } I_0 = \frac{I_{DF}}{[e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1]} = \frac{0.1 \times 10^{-3}}{[e^{\frac{0.2}{1.5 \times 0.0257}} - 1]} = \frac{0.1 \times 10^{-3}}{[e^{5.190} - 1]}$$

$$I_0 = \frac{0.1 \times 10^{-3}}{(179.122055 - 1)} = 5.614 \times 10^{-4} \times 10^{-3}\text{A} \quad (\text{In Box})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{I_0 = 5.614 \times 10^{-7}\text{A}}$$

Q2. If current of a diode changes from 1mA to 10mA , what will be the change in voltage across the diode. $n = 1.2$

$$I_{DF1} = I_0 (e^{V_{DF1}/nV_T} - 1) \Rightarrow \frac{I_{DF1}}{I_{DF2}} = \frac{e^{V_{DF1}/nV_T} - 1}{e^{V_{DF2}/nV_T} - 1}$$

$$I_{DF2} = I_0 (e^{V_{DF2}/nV_T} - 1)$$

Take \ln -

$$\ln\left(\frac{I_{DF1}}{I_{DF2}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{e^{V_{DF1}/nV_T} - 1}{e^{V_{DF2}/nV_T} - 1}\right) = \frac{\ln(A)}{\ln(B)}$$

$$= \frac{V_{DF1}}{nV_T} - \frac{V_{DF2}}{nV_T} = \frac{\Delta V}{nV_T}$$

$$= \ln[A - B] = \ln[e^{V_{DF2}/nV_T} - e^{V_{DF1}/nV_T}]$$

$$\Delta V = nV_T \ln\left(\frac{I_{DF1}}{I_{DF2}}\right) = 1.2 \times 26 \times 10^{-3} \ln\left(\frac{10 \times 10^{-3}}{1 \times 10^{-3}}\right) = \underline{\underline{0.0718\text{V}}}$$

Q3 A Ge diode is operating at a Temp. 25°C with reverse saturation current of $1000\mu\text{A}$. Calculate the value of forward current if it is forward biased by 0.22V .

Given $\Rightarrow T = 25^\circ\text{C} = 25 + 273 = 298\text{K}$, $n = 1$

$$I_{0, 25^\circ\text{C}} = 1000\mu\text{A}, \text{ (1) } I_{0, \text{at room Temp}} = ?$$

$$I_{0, \text{at room Temp}} = I_{0, \text{at } 25^\circ\text{C}} \left(2^{(T_2 - T_1)/10} \right)$$

$$= 1000 \left(2^{(27 - 25)/10} \right)$$

$$= 1000 \times 1.1487$$

(2) Find $I_{DF} = ?$, when $V_{DF} = 0.22\text{V}$,

$$I_{DF} = I_{0, \text{at room Temp}} \left(e^{V_{DF}/nV_T} - 1 \right)$$

$$= 1148.698 \left[e^{\left(\frac{0.22}{1 \times 26 \times 10^{-3}} \right)} - 1 \right] = 1148.698 [4729.328 - 1]$$

$$I_{DF} = 5431421.254 \mu\text{A} = \underline{\underline{5.43\text{A}}}$$

MOST Important Questions for 2-marks.

Submission Date: 8/10/23

(For your Lab Internal mark evaluation)

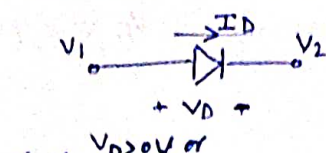
- (1) why Si diode is preferred Ge.
- (2) what do you mean by doping? why it is required?
- (3) why Bridge type full wave rectifier is preferred over center tapped full wave rectifier. State two reasons.
- (4) what is difference between avalanche and Zener breakdown in P-N Junction diode.
- (5) why Temperature coefficient of resistance of a Semiconductor is Negative.
- (6) Explain breakdown and knee voltage with its value for Si & Ge.
- (7) The reverse saturation current of a Silicon diode is 5mA at room temperature. Find the diode current at 60°C and a forward voltage of 0.5V .
- (8) Discuss the formation of depletion layer in diode.
- (9) Explain the effect of Temperature on diode.

1, 2, 7, 15, 33
35, 46, 47, 49
Sub: 60, 62, 65, 66
Lives: 25, 27, 28, 39, 56, 58, 63

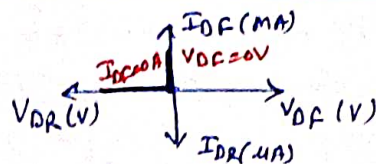
5, 15, 20, 23,
36, 38, 40, 44,
45, 54, 58,
59, 60, 62,
65, 66, 68 (Sub)

Ideal Diode

In Forward Biased



If $V_D > 0V$ or $V_1 - V_2 > 0V \Rightarrow V_1 > V_2 \rightarrow$ ON condition \Rightarrow
 Then $V_D =$ Voltage across diode $= 0$, Current through diode (I_D) = maximum.



In Reverse Biased

If $V_1 - V_2 < 0V$ then $V_1 < V_2 \Rightarrow$ OFF condition $=$

Then V_D (Voltage across diode) = maximum, I_D (Current through diode) = 0A

So In Ideal case it work as Automatic Switch.

Practical Diodes:

For Ge Diode

Knee Voltage = 0.3V

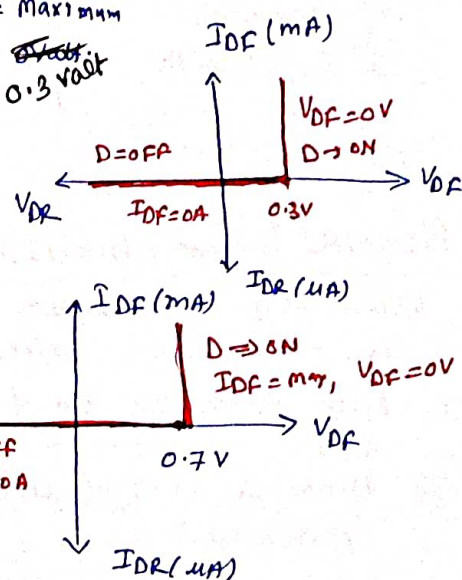
If $V_1 - V_2 > 0.3$ Volt, then Diode is ON. $\Rightarrow I_{DF} = \text{Maximum}$

If $V_1 - V_2 < 0.3$ Volt, then Diode is OFF

$I_{DF} = 0A$

$V_{DF} = \text{max.}$

$V_{DF} = 0.3 \text{ Volt}$



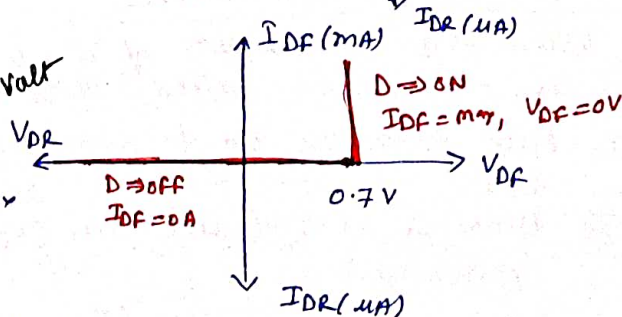
For Si diode

Knee Voltage = 0.7 Volt

If $V_1 - V_2 > 0.7V \Rightarrow$ Diode \rightarrow ON, $I_{DF} \rightarrow \text{max}$

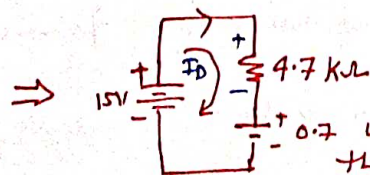
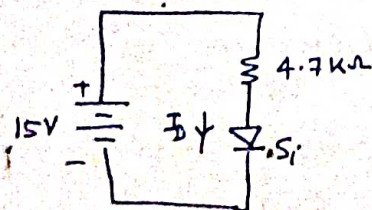
If $V_1 - V_2 < 0.7V \Rightarrow$ Diode \rightarrow OFF $\Rightarrow V_{DF} \rightarrow \text{max}$

$I_{DF} = 0A$



Example.

A Si diode is used in ckt as shown in fig. Calculate diode current



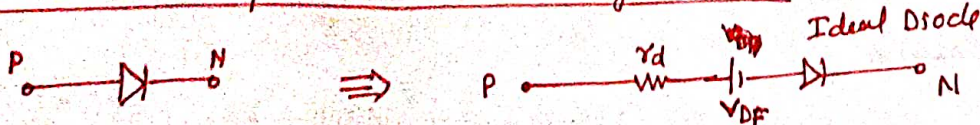
When Diode is Forward Bias then Voltage across diode is 0.7V. and In Reverse biased work as open circuit no diode current is 0A.

Accord to KVL.

$$15 - I_D \times 4.7 \times 10^3 - 0.7 = 0$$

$$I_D = \frac{15 - 0.7}{4.7 \times 10^3} = 3.04 \text{ mA}$$

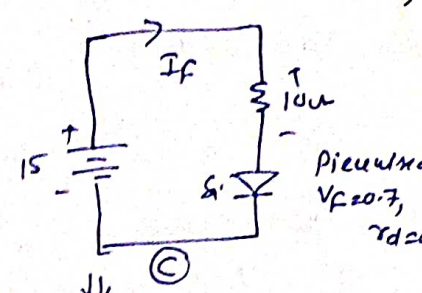
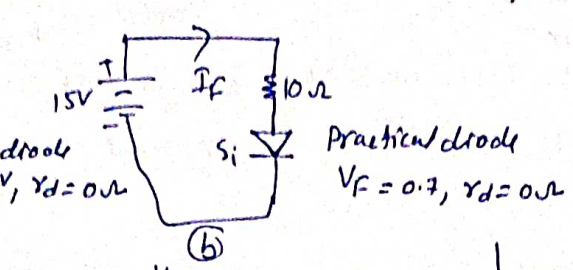
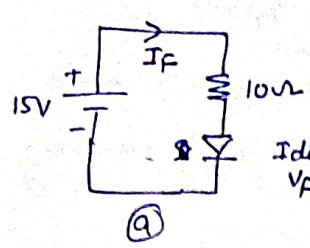
Piecewise Linear Equivalent Circuit of Diode



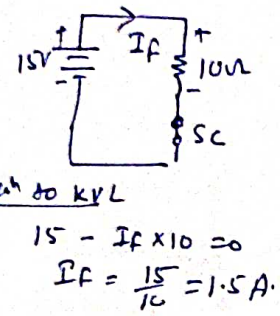
$r_d \rightarrow$ Diode Forward resistance

$V_{DF} \rightarrow$ Voltage across diode when forward Bias.

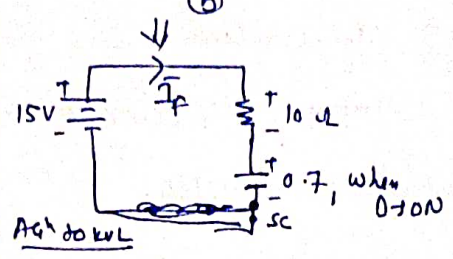
Ex Calculate I_F for the diode ckt assume diode has $V_F = 0.7V$, and $r_d = 0\Omega$.
 Recalculate when $r_d = 0.25\Omega$. $r_d = 0.025\Omega$.



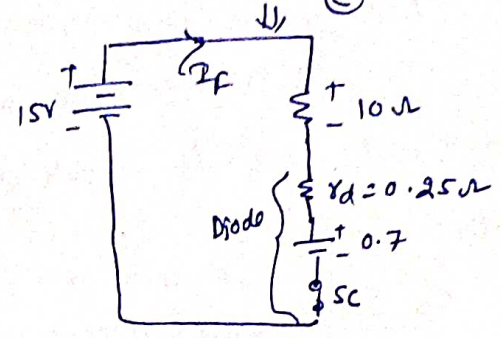
For Fig. (a)
 When in forward biased diode is ON then work as a wire



App to KVL
 $15 - I_F \times 10 = 0$
 $I_F = \frac{15}{10} = 1.5A$



$15 - I_F \times 10 - 0.7 = 0$
 $I_F = \frac{15 - 0.7}{10}$
 $I_F = 80mA$



App to KVL
 $15 - 10I_F - 0.25I_F - 0.7 = 0$
 $I_F = \frac{15 - 0.7}{10 + 0.25} = 78mA$

Piecewise Linear Characteristics

When F.B. characteristics of a diode is not available then a straight line approximation called Piecewise linear characteristics.

- First mark the forward voltage (V_{DF}) (0.3 for Ge, and 0.7 for Si) on Horizontal axis.
- Draw a straight line from (V_{DF}) point with a slope of the diode dynamic resistance.

Ex Construct Piecewise linear characteristics for Si diode, which has a 0.25Ω dynamic resistance and 200mA max forward current.

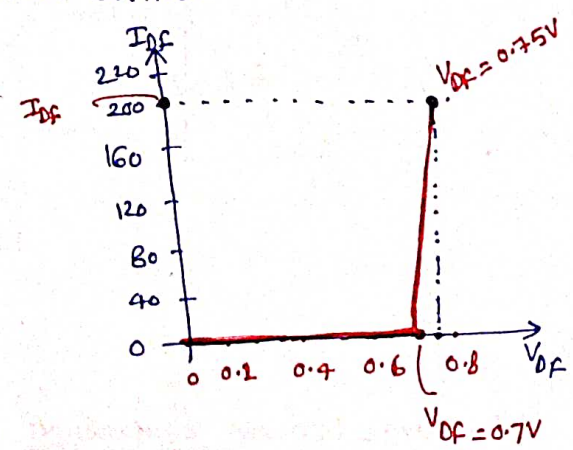
Sol: $V_{DF} = 0.7$ because diode is made by Si

Then dynamic resistance (r_d) = $\frac{\Delta V_{DF}}{\Delta I_{DF}}$

So $\Delta V_{DF} = r_d \times \Delta I_{DF} = 0.25\Omega \times 200 \times 10^{-3}$

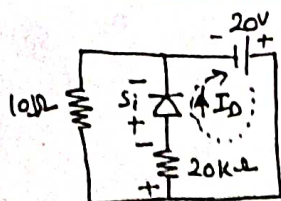
$\Delta V_{DF} = 0.05V \Rightarrow$ change in ΔV_{DF}

So $\Delta V_{DF}(\text{new}) = V_{DF} + \Delta V_{DF} = 0.7 + 0.05$
 at $\Delta I_{DF} = 200mA$ $= 0.75V$



Numericals

①

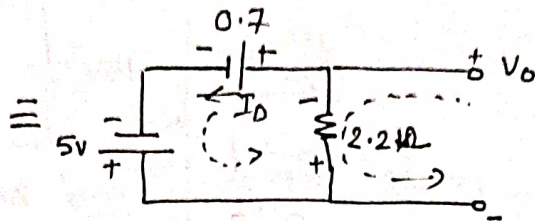
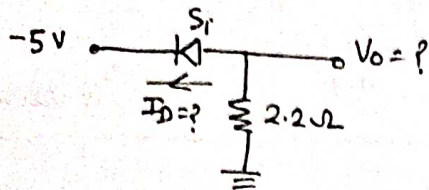


Find out $I_D = ?$

Apply KVL $\Rightarrow -20V + 20 \times 10^3 \times I_D + 0.7V = 0$

$$I_D = \frac{19.3}{20 \times 10^3} = \underline{\underline{0.96A}}$$

②



Apply KVL in outer loop.

$$V_O = I_D \times 2.2\Omega$$

Apply KVL in inner loop -

$$0.7V - 5V - 2.2\Omega \times I_D = 0$$

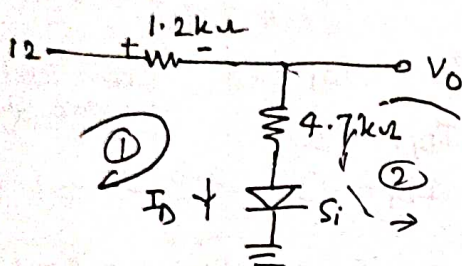
$$-4.3 - V_O = 0$$

$$\boxed{V_O = -4.3V}$$

and $I_D = \frac{V_O}{2.2\Omega} = \frac{-4.3}{2.2\Omega}$

$$\boxed{I_D = -1.95A}$$

③



KVL in loop - ①

$$12 - 1.2k\Omega I_D - 4.7k\Omega I_D - 0.7 = 0$$

$$I_D = \frac{11.3}{5.9 \times 10^3} = 1.9mA$$

for V_O KVL in loop - ②

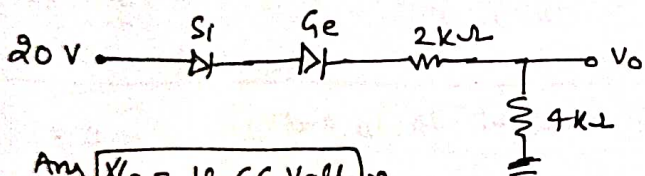
$$V_O = I_D \times 4.7k\Omega + 0.7$$

$$= 1.9 \times 10^{-3} \times 4.7 \times 10^3 + 0.7$$

$$V_O = 8.93 + 0.7$$

$$\boxed{V_O = 9.63V}$$

④



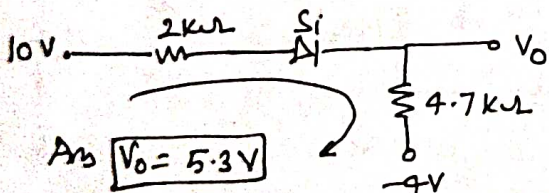
Ans $\boxed{V_O = 12.66 \text{ Volt}}$

$$20 - 0.7 - 0.3 - I(6k\Omega) = 0$$

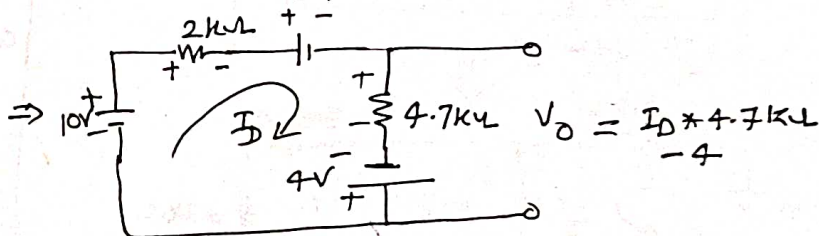
$$I = \frac{19}{6k\Omega}$$

$$V_O = \frac{19}{6k\Omega} \times 6k\Omega + 0.7$$

⑤



Ans $\boxed{V_O = 5.3V}$



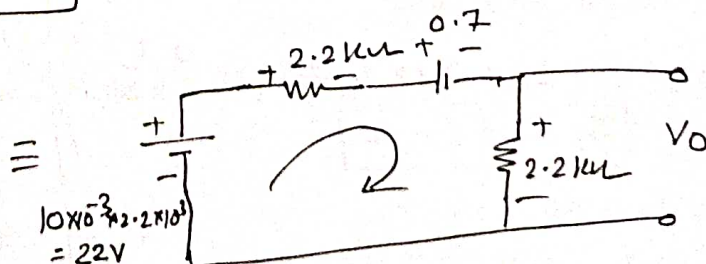
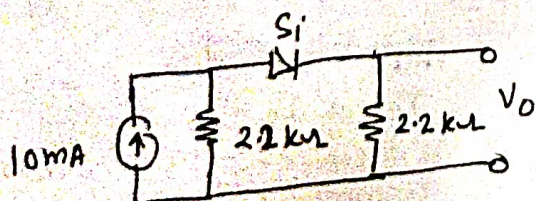
$$-10 + 2 \times 10^3 I_D + 0.7 + 4.7 \times 10^3 I_D - 4 = 0$$

and $V_O = 4.7 \times 10^3 \times 1.98 \times 10^{-3} - 4$

$$\boxed{V_O = 9.306 - 4 = 5.306}$$

$$I_D = \frac{14 - 0.7}{6.7 \times 10^3} = \frac{13.3}{6.7 \times 10^3} = \underline{\underline{1.98mA}}$$

⑥

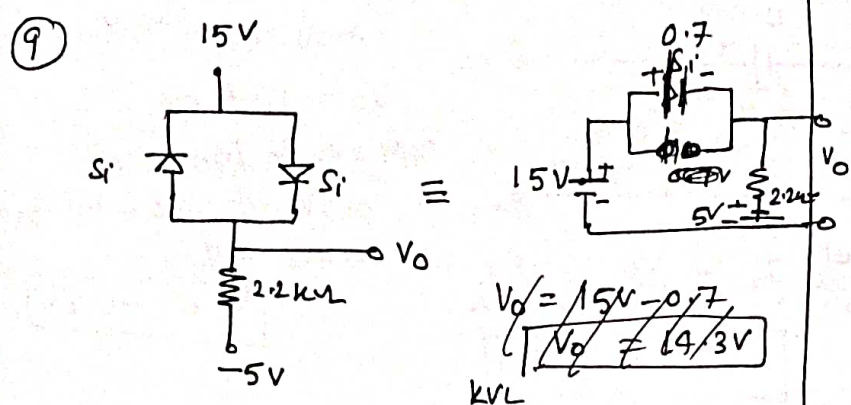
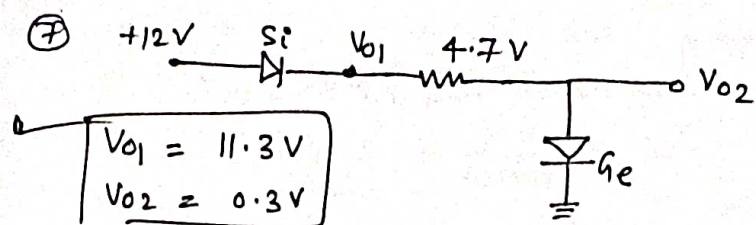


Convert Current source into Voltage source -

Apply KVL $-22 + 2.2 \times 10^3 I_D + 0.7 + 2.2 \times 10^3 I_D = 0$

$$I_D = \frac{22 - 0.7}{4.4 \times 10^3} = \frac{21.9}{4.4 \times 10^3} = \underline{\underline{4.8mA}}$$

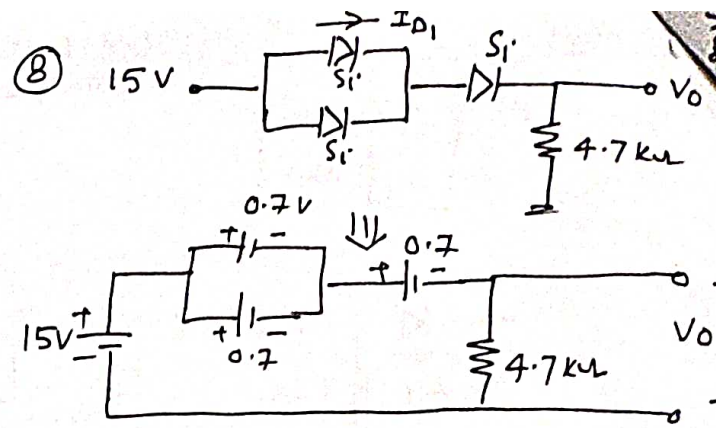
$$V_O = I_D \times 2.2 \times 10^3 = 4.8 \times 2.2 = \underline{\underline{10.65V}}$$



For I_D

$$V_0 = I_D \times 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega - 5 \text{ V}$$

$$I_D = \frac{V_0 + 5}{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{14.3 + 5}{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{19.3}{2.2 \text{ k}\Omega} = 8.7 \text{ mA}$$



Apply KVL

$$15 - 0.7 - 0.7 - I_D \times 4.7 \text{ k}\Omega = 0$$

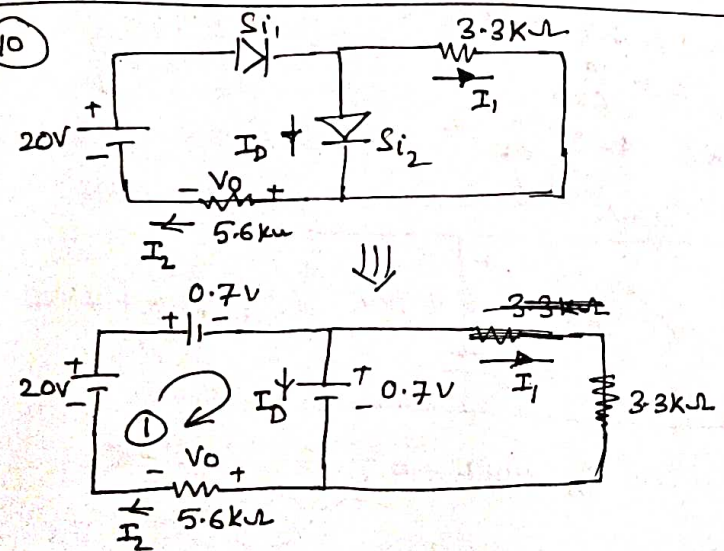
$$I_D = \frac{13.6}{4.7 \times 10^3} = 2.8 \text{ mA}$$

But $I_D = I_{D1} + I_{D2}$, since both diodes are similar

$$2I_{D1} = I_D$$

$$I_{D1} = \frac{I_D}{2} = \frac{2.8 \text{ mA}}{2} = 1.4 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_0 = I_D \times 4.7 \text{ k}\Omega = 2.8 \times 4.7 \text{ V} = 13.16 \text{ Volt}$$



Diode $Si_2 \parallel 3.3 \text{ k}\Omega$, so voltage drop across $3.3 \text{ k}\Omega$ is $\Rightarrow 0.7 \text{ Volt}$

i.e. $0.7 = I_1 \times 3.3 \text{ k}\Omega \Rightarrow I_1 = \frac{0.7}{3.3 \text{ k}\Omega}$

$I_1 = 0.212 \text{ mA}$

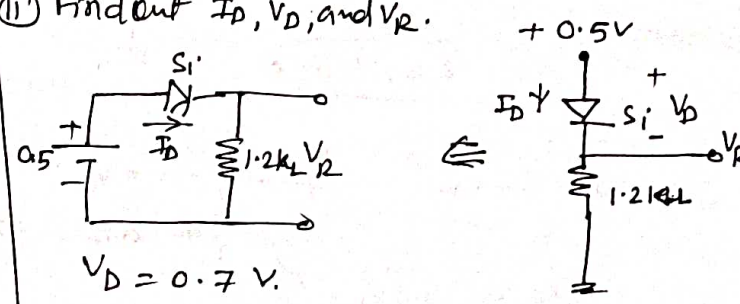
Apply KVL in loop ①

$$20 - 0.7 - 0.7 - I_2 \times 5.6 \times 10^3 = 0$$

$$I_2 = \frac{18.6}{5.6 \times 10^3} = 3.32 \text{ mA}$$

$$V_0 = I_2 \times 5.6 \times 10^3 = 18.6 \text{ Volt}$$

⑪ Find out I_D , V_D , and V_R .



$$V_D = 0.7 \text{ V}$$

$$0.5 - 0.7 - V_0 = 0$$

$$V_0 = -0.2 \approx 0 \text{ V} \quad \{ \text{Diode is always off condition} \}$$

$$I_D = 0 \text{ A}$$

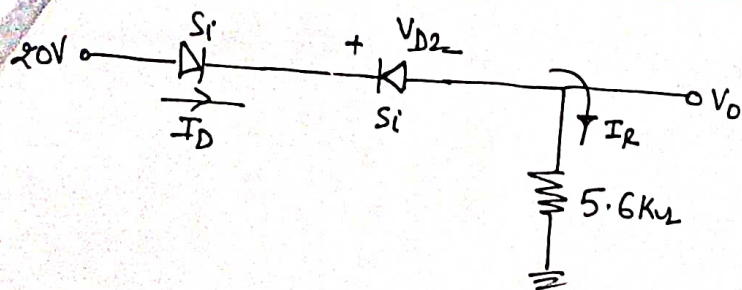
$V_R = 0.5 \text{ V}$

for I_D

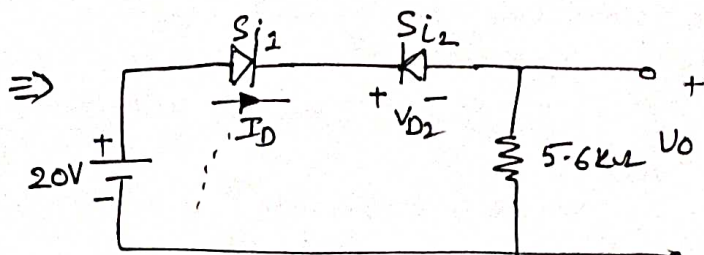
$$I_D + I_1 = I_2$$

$$I_D = I_2 - I_1 = (3.32 - 0.212)$$

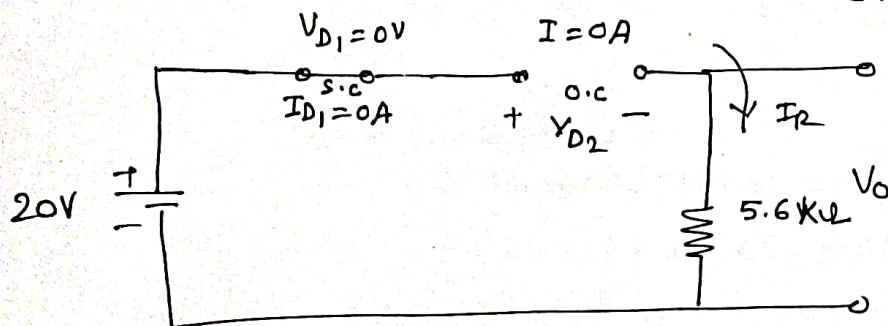
$I_D = 3.11 \text{ mA}$



Find out I_D , V_{D2} , and V_0 .



Diode $Si_1 \rightarrow ON$, But $Si_2 \rightarrow OFF$, so series combination is treated as open circuit. i.e. current through diodes is $I_D = 0A$



$$i.e. I_{D1} = I_{D2} = I_R = 0A$$

$$V_0 = I_R \times 5.6k\Omega = I_D \times 5.6k\Omega$$

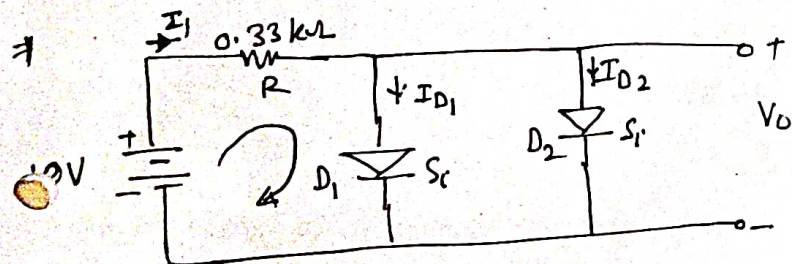
$$\boxed{V_0 = 0V} \quad \because I_D = 0A$$

$$\text{and } V_{D2} = V_{\text{open circuit}} = E = 20V$$

Apply. KVL \rightarrow

$$20 - V_{D1} - V_{D2} - V_0 = 0$$

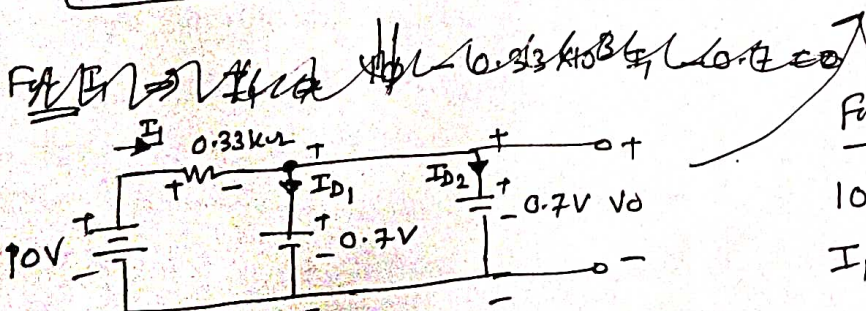
$$\boxed{V_{D2} = 20 - 0 - 0V = 20V}$$



Find out V_0 , I_1 , I_{D1} , I_{D2} , and V_0

$V_0 = \text{Voltage across } D_2 \text{ diode i.e.}$

$$\boxed{V_0 = 0.7V}$$



For I_1 , Apply Branch current KVL

$$10 - 0.33 \times 10^3 I_1 - 0.7 = 0$$

$$I_1 = \frac{10 - 0.7}{0.33 \times 10^3} = \underline{\underline{28.18 \text{ mA}}}$$

For I_{D1} & I_{D2}

$$I_1 = I_{D1} + I_{D2}$$

But Both diodes are same

$$I_{D1} = I_{D2} = \frac{I_1}{2} = \frac{28.18 \text{ mA}}{2} = \underline{\underline{14.09 \text{ mA}}}$$