

Recitation Class 2

Zexi Li

lzx12138@sjtu.edu.cn

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Outline

Chapter 3-II Introduction to the Quantum Theory of Solids

Chapter 4-I The Semiconductor in Equilibrium

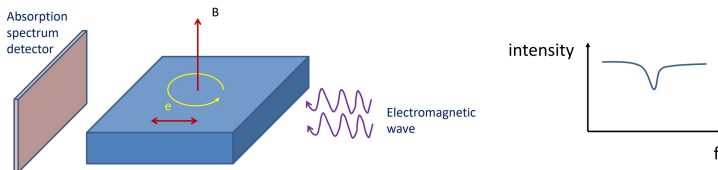
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Chapter 3-II Introduction to the Quantum Theory of Solids

Chapter 4-I The Semiconductor in Equilibrium

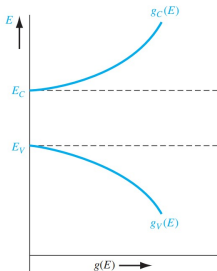
Effective Mass: experimentally

Cyclotron resonance



$$m^* = \frac{eB\lambda}{2\pi c}$$

Density of States Function



$$g(E) = \frac{4\pi(2m)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} \sqrt{E}$$
$$g_c(E) = \frac{4\pi(2m_n^*)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} \sqrt{E - E_c}$$
$$g_v(E) = \frac{4\pi(2m_p^*)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{h^3} \sqrt{E_v - E}$$

Related Materials

Proof (if interested):

- ▶ [https://eng.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Materials_Science/Supplemental_Modules_\(Materials_Science\)/Electronic_Properties/Density_of_States](https://eng.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Materials_Science/Supplemental_Modules_(Materials_Science)/Electronic_Properties/Density_of_States)
- ▶ Textbook 3.4 Density of States Function

Example

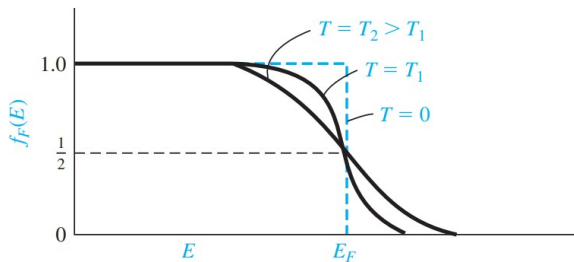
Determine the number ($\#/cm^3$) of quantum states in silicon between E_c and $E_c + kT$ at $T = 300K$.

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \int_{E_c}^{E_c+kT} \frac{4\pi(2m^*)^{3/2}}{h^3} \sqrt{E - E_c} dE \\ &= \frac{4\pi(2m^*)^{3/2}}{h^3} \frac{2}{3} (E - E_c)^{3/2} \Big|_{E_c}^{E_c+kT} \\ &= 2.22 \times 10^{25} m^{-3} \text{ or } 2.12 \times 10^{19} cm^{-3} \end{aligned}$$

Distribution Function

- Fermi-Dirac probability function:

$$f_F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)}$$



Distribution Function

► Boltzmann distribution

When $\exp\left(\frac{E-E_F}{kT}\right) \gg 1 \Rightarrow E - E_F > 2kT$

$$f_F(E) \approx \exp\left(-\frac{E - E_F}{kT}\right)$$

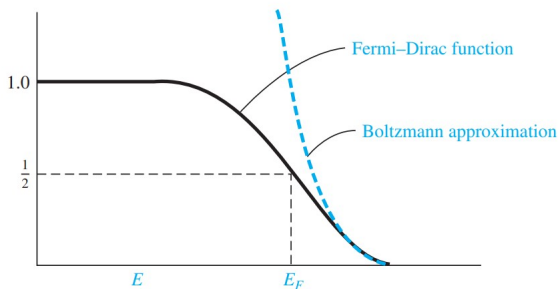


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n_0 and p_0 Equations

$$n_0 = \int_{E_c}^{\infty} g_c(E) f_F(E) dE$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{n_0 = N_c \exp \left[\frac{-(E_c - E_F)}{kT} \right], \quad N_c = 2 \left(\frac{2\pi m_n^* kT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2}}$$

$$p_0 = \int_{-\infty}^{E_v} g_v(E) (1 - f_F(E)) dE$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{p_0 = N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_F - E_v)}{kT} \right], \quad N_v = 2 \left(\frac{2\pi m_p^* kT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2}}$$

Example

Calculate the thermal-equilibrium hole concentration in silicon at $T = 400K$. Assume that the Fermi energy is $0.27eV$ above the valence-band energy. The value of N_v for silicon at $T = 300K$ is $N_v = 1.04 \times 10^{19} cm^{-3}$.

$$\underline{kT = 0.0259 \text{ only for } T = 300K}$$

$$kT = (0.0259) \left(\frac{400}{300} \right) = 0.03453 eV$$

$$N_v = (1.04 \times 10^{19}) \left(\frac{400}{300} \right)^{3/2} = 1.60 \times 10^{19} cm^{-3}$$

The hole concentration is then

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_F - E_v)}{kT} \right] = (1.60 \times 10^{19}) \exp \left(\frac{-0.27}{0.03453} \right) \\ &= 6.43 \times 10^{15} cm^{-3} \end{aligned}$$

Intrinsic Semiconductor

For intrinsic semiconductor, the Fermi energy level is called the intrinsic Fermi energy, or $E_F = E_{Fi}$. We have

$$n_0 = n_i = N_c \exp \left[\frac{-(E_c - E_{Fi})}{kT} \right]$$
$$p_0 = n_i = N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_{Fi} - E_v)}{kT} \right]$$

Take the product:

$$n_0 p_0 = n_i^2 = N_c N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_c - E_v)}{kT} \right] = N_c N_v \exp \left[\frac{-E_g}{kT} \right]$$

Self-consistency

$$n_i^2 = N_c N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_c - E_v)}{kT} \right] = N_c N_v \exp \left[\frac{-E_g}{kT} \right]$$

For *Si* at 300K:

$$n_i = 1.5 \times 10^{10} \text{cm}^{-3},$$

$$E_g = 1.12 \text{eV},$$

$$N_c = 2.8 \times 10^{19} \text{cm}^{-3},$$

$$N_v = 1.04 \times 10^{19} \text{cm}^{-3},$$

$$kT = 0.0259 \text{eV}$$

$$LHS = 2.25 \times 10^{20} \neq 4.82936 \times 10^{19} = RHS$$

Self-consistency Example

For n-doped Silicon semiconductor at $300K$, the Fermi level is $E_F = E_c - 0.3eV$. Calculate p_0 .

► Approach I:

$$n_0 = N_c \exp \left[\frac{-(E_c - E_F)}{kT} \right] = 2.61 \times 10^{14} cm^{-3}$$

$$p_0 = \frac{n_i^2}{n_0} = 8.62 \times 10^5 cm^{-3}$$

► Approach II:

$$E_F - E_v = E_g - (E_c - E_F) = 0.82eV$$

$$p_0 = N_v \exp \left[\frac{-(E_F - E_v)}{kT} \right] = 1.85 \times 10^5 cm^{-3}$$

End