

Level 3 Condensed Matter Physics- Part II

Weekly problem 1

(1) Find the composition of $\text{Ga}_x\text{In}_{1-x}\text{As}$ such that its lattice constant matches that of InP. What is the band gap at that composition? [4 marks]

You may use the following. GaAs: $a = 5.65 \text{ \AA}$, $E_g = 1.42 \text{ eV}$. InAs: $a = 6.06 \text{ \AA}$, $E_g = 0.36 \text{ eV}$. InP: $a = 5.87 \text{ \AA}$, $E_g = 1.27 \text{ eV}$. The bowing parameter for the alloy $\text{Ga}_x\text{In}_{1-x}\text{As}$ is $b = 0.475 \text{ eV}$.

(2) The energy of an electron in the conduction band of a two-dimensional semiconductor is given by:

$$E(\mathbf{k}) = Ak^2 + Bk_x^2$$

where A and B are positive constants and $\mathbf{k} = (k_x, k_y)$ is the wavevector. Derive expressions of the effective mass in k_x and k_y directions. [4 marks]

(3) Silicon is made up of two interpenetrating face centred cubic (fcc) lattices displaced by a $(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ fractional lattice vector. Derive the (fractional) position coordinates of all 8 atoms in the unit cell. [2 marks]