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**618327-2560**

**PHYSICS OF ELECTRONIC MATERIALS  
AND DEVICES**

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**Lecture 6**

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# The band theory of solids

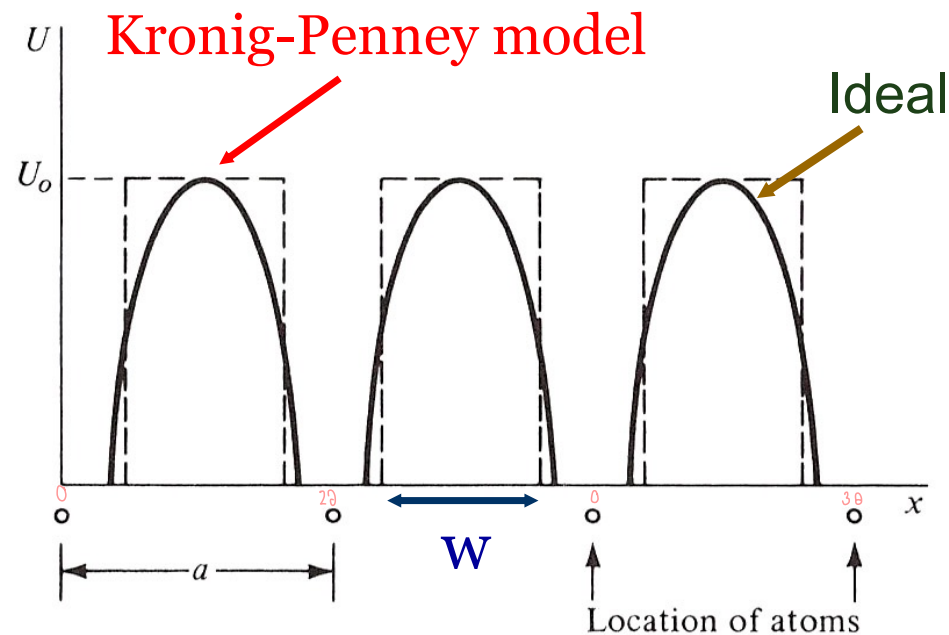
ທຸກໆຊັ້ນຂອງແຄບພລັງການ (ສາມາດອະທິບາຍຄຸນສັມປັດຂອງວັດຖຸ)

- Band theories help explain the properties of materials.
- There are three popular models for band theory:
  - Kronig-Penney model
  - Ziman model
  - Feynman model

# Kronig-Penney Model

ลักษณะของศักย์พลังงานไม่ต่อเนื่องเป็นคาบ

- Band theory uses  $V \neq 0$ . The potential is periodic in space due to the presence of immobile lattice ions.



# *Kronig-Penney Model*

- Ions are located at  $x = 0, a, 2a$ , and so on. The potential wells are separated from each other by barriers of height  $U_0$  and width  $w$ .
- From time-independent Schrödinger equation in 1-dimension (x-only), we have

สมการคลื่นเริ่มต้น

$$\frac{d^2\psi(x)}{dx^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \{E - V(x)\} \psi(x) = 0 \quad (1)$$

# Kronig-Penney Model

- For this equation to have solution, the following must be satisfied

เขียนสมการในรูปนี้

$$\cos(ka) = \frac{P \sin(\alpha a)}{\alpha a} + \cos(\alpha a) \quad (2)$$

Plot Graph

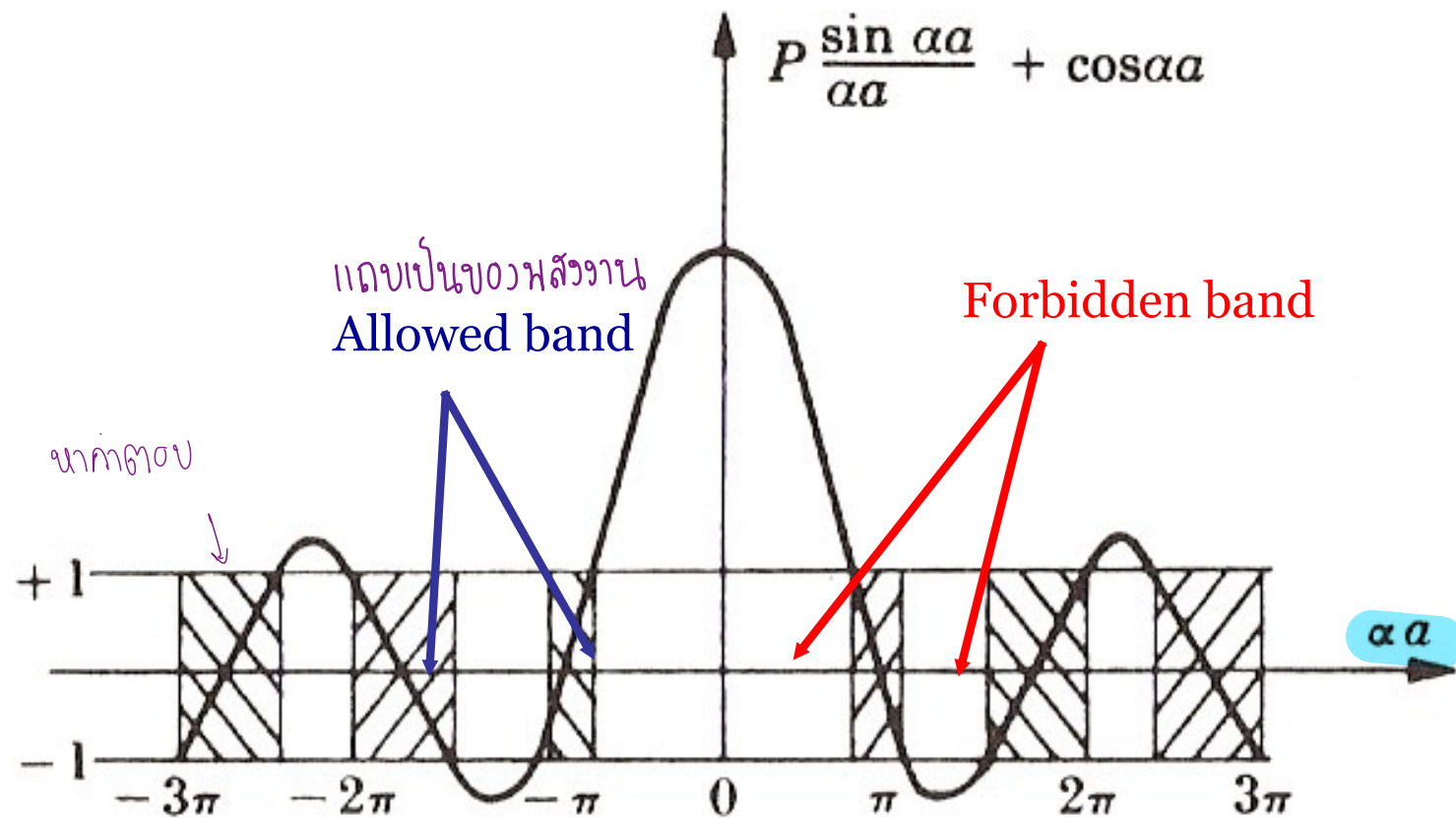
ลัดได้ 1  
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$$P = \frac{maV_0w}{\hbar^2} \quad (3)$$

ถ้า  $P=0$   
 $\cos(ka) = \cos(\alpha a)$

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{\hbar} \sqrt{2mE} \quad (4)$$

# Kronig-Penney Model



## *Kronig-Penney Model*

- We plot the right-hand side of (2) as a function of  $\alpha a$  and since the left-hand side of the same equation is always between  $-1$  and  $+1$ , a solution exists only for the shaded region and no solution outside the shaded region.
- These regions are called “*allowed and forbidden bands of energy*” due to the relation between  $\alpha$  and  $E$ .

# Kronig-Penney Model

From equation (2), we have

- If **P increases**, allowed bands get narrower and the forbidden bands get wider. P ↑ แดบนสว่างขึ้น แดบลดลง
- If **P decreases**, allowed bands get wider and forbidden bands get narrower.
- If **P = 0**, then  $\cos(\alpha a) = \cos(ka)$

$$\alpha^2 = k^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} \quad \text{or}$$

$$E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} \quad (\text{like a case of free electron of } V = 0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hbar^2 \cdot k^2 &= 2mE \\ E &= \frac{\hbar^2 \cdot k^2}{2m} \end{aligned}$$



# Kronig-Penney Model

- If  $P \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $\sin(\alpha a) = 0$

$$\alpha a = n\pi$$

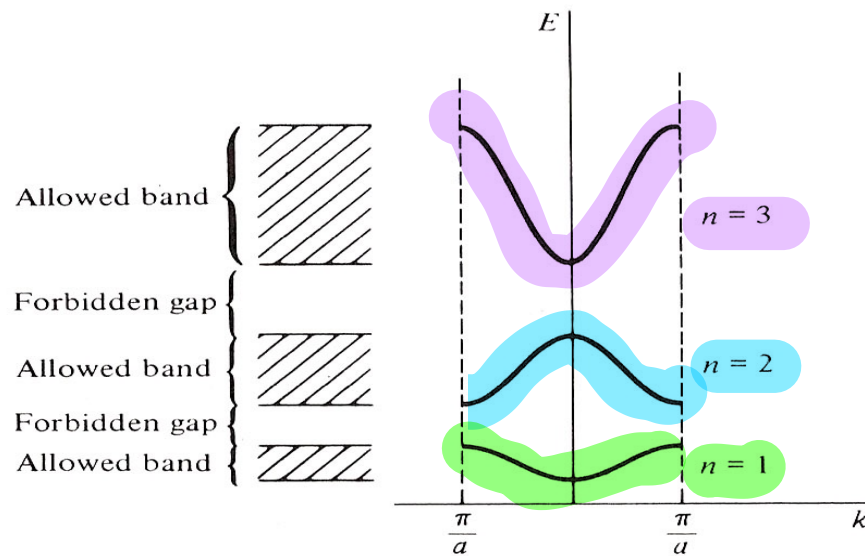
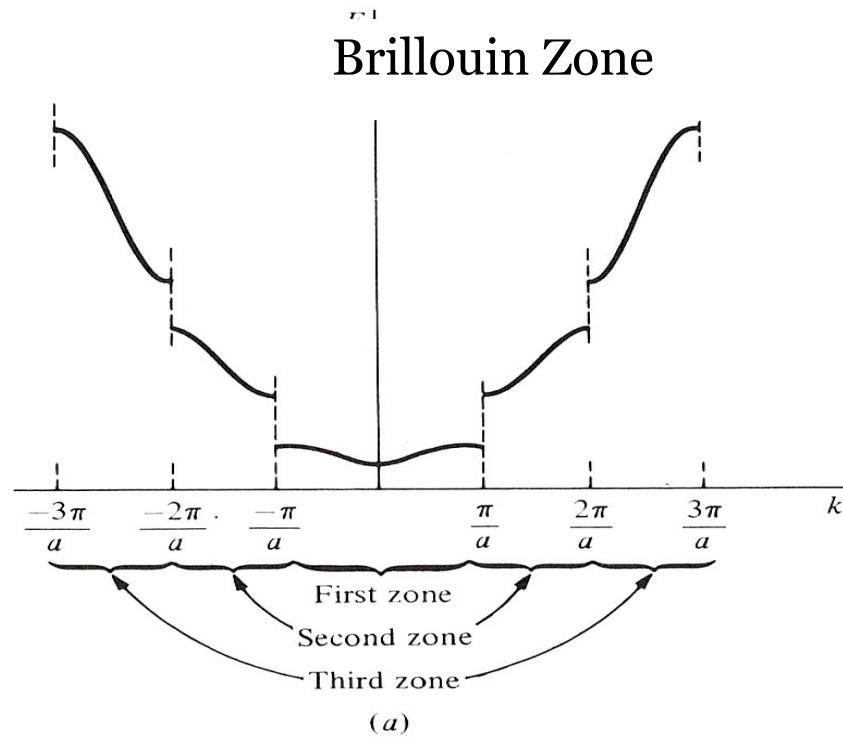
$$\alpha^2 = \left( \frac{n\pi}{a} \right)^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}$$

$$E = \frac{n^2 \hbar^2}{8ma^2} \quad (\text{a case of infinite potential well } V = \infty \text{ with width } a)$$

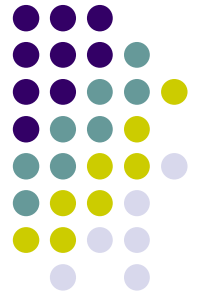
*ร.ดับชั้นพลังงาน*

- At the boundary of an allowed band  $\cos(ka) = \pm 1$ , this implies  $k = n\pi/a$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

# E-k diagram



Reduced Brillouin Zone



# Number of electrons per unit volume

- The total number of electrons per unit volume in the range  $dE$  (between  $E$  and  $E + dE$ ) is given

$$n = \int_0^{\infty} n(E) d(E) = \int_0^{\infty} N(E) F(E) dE \quad (5)$$

← ถ้ายกมาจำนวน  $e^-$  ต่อหน่วยปริมาตรในพื้นที่แคบ

จำนวน  $e^-$  หรือ hole :  $e^-$  . จำนวนต่อหน่วยปริมาตร

where  $N(E)$  = density of states (number of energy levels per energy range per unit volume)

$F(E)$  = a distribution function that specifies expectancy of occupation of state or called “*probability of occupation*”.

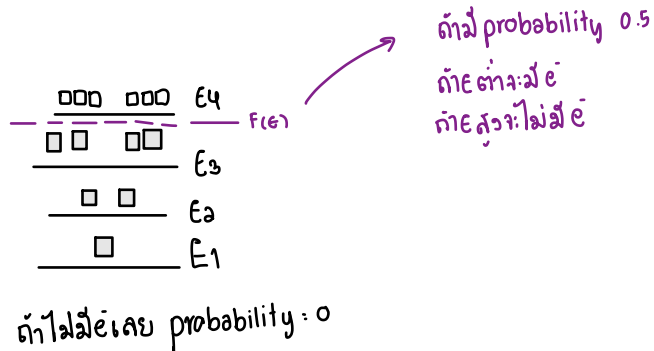
ความน่าจะเป็นของการมี - อัตรา

$f^n$  โอกาสที่มันจะที่ครอบครองอยู่ ณ พลังงานนั้นๆ

# Number of electrons per unit volume

- The density of states per unit volume in three dimensions can be expressed as

$$N(E) = 4\pi \left( \frac{2m}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} E^{1/2}$$



# Number of electrons per unit volume

- The probability of occupancy is given by the *Fermi-Dirac- distribution* as

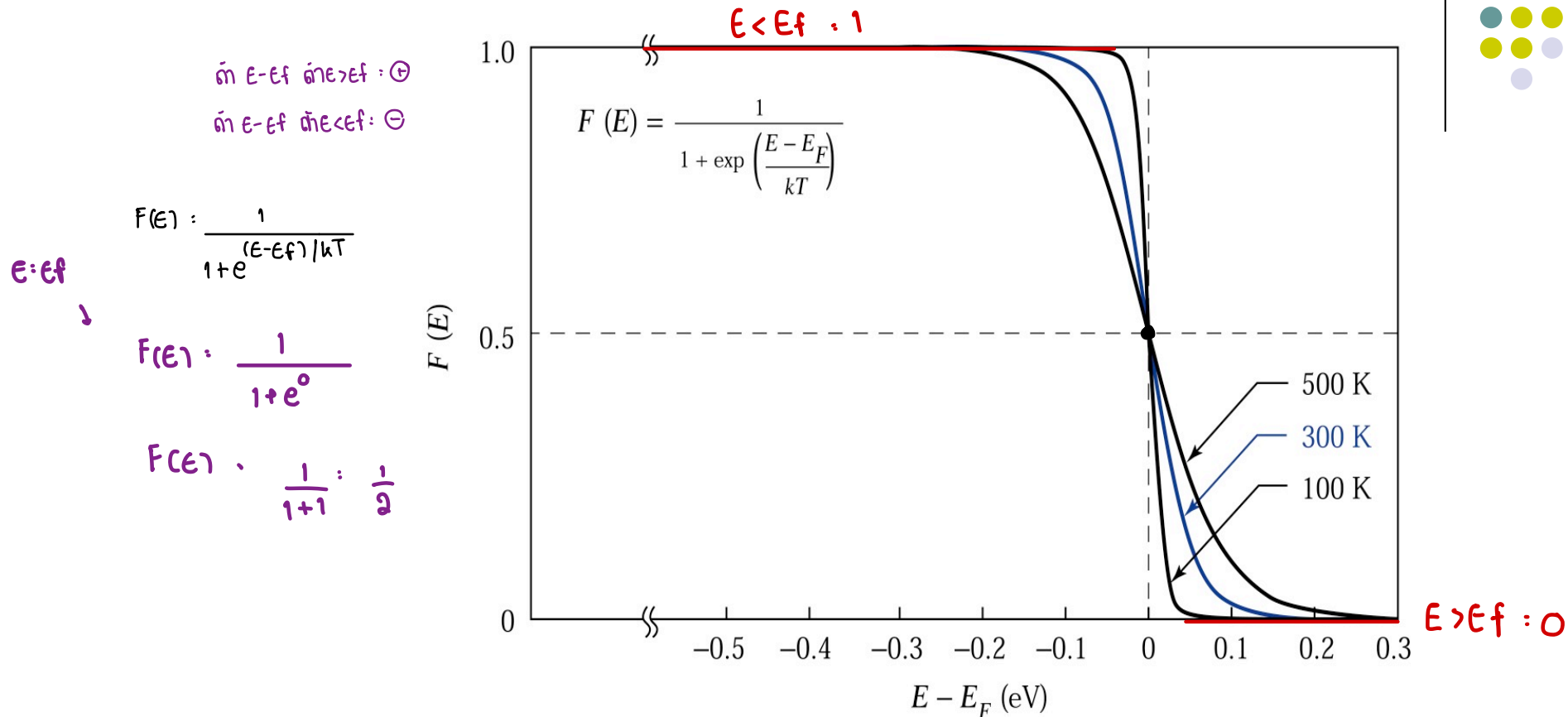
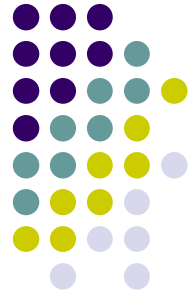
$$F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(E-E_F)/kT}}$$

where  $E_F$  = Fermi energy level (the energy at  $F(E) = 0.5$ )

$k$  = Boltzmann's constant

$T$  = absolute temperature (K)

# Number of electrons per unit volume



- For  $T = 0$  K:  
 If  $E > E_F$ ,  $F(E) = 0 \rightarrow F(E) = 1/(e^\infty + 1) = 0$   
 If  $E < E_F$ ,  $F(E) = 1 \rightarrow F(E) = 1/(e^{-\infty} + 1) = 1$
- For  $T > 0$  K,  $F(E_F) = 0.5$

# Number of electrons per unit volume

- From equation (5),

$$n = \int_0^{\infty} N(E)F(E)dE = \int_0^{E_F} N(E)F(E)dE$$

- For  $T = 0$  and  $E < E_F$

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \int_0^{E_F} N(E)(1)dE \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \left( \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} \right)^{3/2} \left( \frac{2}{3} E_F^{3/2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Number of electrons per unit volume

- For  $T = 0$  and  $E < E_F$

$$E_F(T = 0) = \left(3\pi^2 n\right)^{2/3} \left(\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\right)$$

- For  $T > 0$

$$E_F(T) = E_F(0) \left[ 1 - \frac{\pi^2}{12} \left( \frac{kT}{E_F(0)} \right)^2 + \dots \right]$$



# Fermi levels of various materials

$$1\text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

|    |          |
|----|----------|
| Li | 4.72 eV  |
| Na | 3.12 eV  |
| K  | 2.14 eV  |
| Cu | 7.04 eV  |
| Ag | 5.51 eV  |
| Al | 11.70 eV |

# Characteristics of $F(E)$

1.  $F(E)$ , at  $E = E_F$ , equals to 0.5.  
*กรณี  $E = E_F$*

2. For  $(E - E_F) > 3kT$   
*ระดับพลังงานพอสูง*

$$F(E) \approx e^{-(E-E_F)/kT}$$

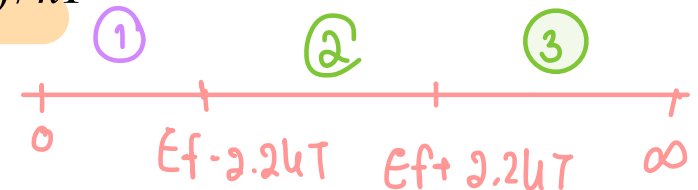
*สรุป*  $F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(E-E_F)/kT}}$

This is called “**Maxwell–Boltzmann distribution**”.

# Characteristics of $F(E)$

3. For  $(E - E_F) < 3kT$

$$F(E) \approx 1 - e^{-(E - E_F)/kT}$$



4.  $F(E)$  may be distinguished into 3 regions for  $T > 0$  as

- $E = 0$  to  $(E = E_F - 2.2kT)$ :  $F(E)$  is close to unity. ✓ เขົกค้๑
- $(E = E_F - 2.2kT)$  to  $(E = E_F + 2.2kT)$ :  $F(E)$  changes from nearly 1 to nearly 0. เขົกค้๐
- $(E = E_F + 2.2kT)$  to  $E = \infty$ :  $F(E)$  is close to zero. เขົกค้๐

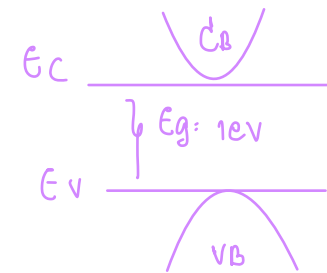
# Intrinsic carrier concentration

- Free charge carrier density or the number of electrons per unit volume

$$\dot{e} - n = \int_0^{\infty} N(E)F(E)dE$$

hole  $p$

$$N(E) = 4\pi \left( \frac{2m_e}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} E^{1/2}$$



$$E_g: E_C - E_V$$

- For electrons:  $E^{1/2} = (E - E_C)^{1/2}$  and
- For holes:  $E^{1/2} = (E_V - E)^{1/2}$  and

① สารกึ่งตัวนำบริสุทธิ์

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

$$1 \text{ J} = \frac{1}{1.6 \times 10^{19}} \text{ eV}$$

ที่อุณหภูมิห้อง  $T = 300 \text{ K}$

$$1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300 \text{ K} = \frac{4.14 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}}{1.6 \times 10^{19} \text{ eV}} = 0.0259 \text{ eV}$$

- At room temperature,  $kT = 0.0259 \text{ eV}$  and  $(E - E_F) \gg kT$ , so Fermi function can be reduced to Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution.

$$F(E) \approx e^{-(E-E_F)/kT}$$

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

$$n = \int_0^{\infty} 4\pi \left( \frac{2m_e^*}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \overset{\substack{\text{function } f(E) \\ F(E)}}{e^{-(E-E_F)/kT}} \cdot (E-E_C)^{1/2} dE$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{E-E_C}{kT} = x_C,$$

$$\text{then } \frac{dx_C}{dE} = \frac{1}{kT} \text{ or } dE = kT dx_C$$

$$\text{so } e^{-(E-E_F)/kT} = e^{-(kTx_C + E_C - E_F)/kT} = e^{-x_C} \cdot e^{-(E_C - E_F)/kT}$$

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

Then

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \int_0^{\infty} 4\pi \left( \frac{2m_e^*}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \cdot e^{-x_C} \cdot e^{-(E_C - E_F)/kT} \cdot (kTx_C)^{1/2} kT dx_C \\ &= 4\pi \left( \frac{2m_e^*}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} (kT)^{3/2} e^{-(E_C - E_F)/kT} \int_0^{\infty} x_C^{1/2} e^{-x_C} dx_C \end{aligned}$$

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

- Therefore, the electron density in the conduction band at room temperature can be expressed by

$$\bar{e} \leftarrow n = N_C \exp[-(E_C - E_F) / kT] \quad (6)$$

hole:  $p$   
where  $N_C = 2 \left( 2\pi m_e^* kT / h^2 \right)^{3/2}$  is effective

density of states in the conduction band.

$N_C$ :  $f^n$  ความหนาแน่นสถานะที่แท้จริงในแถบความถี่



# Intrinsic carrier concentration

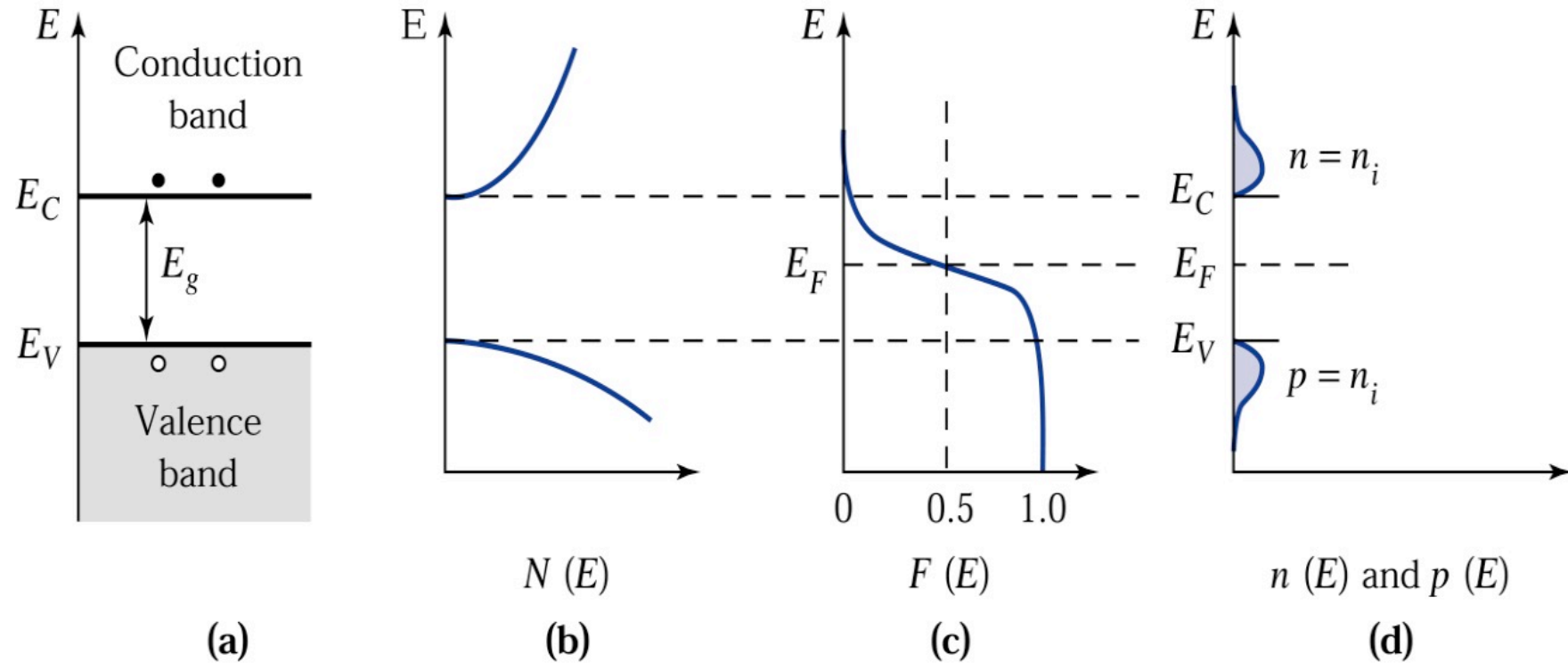
- Similarly, we can obtain the hole density  $p$  in the valence band as

$$\text{hole} \leftarrow p = N_V \exp[-(E_F - E_V) / kT] \quad (7)$$

where  $N_V = 2 \left( 2\pi m_h^* kT / h^2 \right)^{3/2}$  is effective

density of states in the valence band.

# Intrinsic carrier concentration



- (a) Schematic band diagram.
- (b) Density of states.
- (c) Fermi distribution function.
- (d) Carrier concentration

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

- For intrinsic semiconductors, the number of electrons per unit volume in the conduction band equals to the number of holes per unit volume in the valence band.

$$\begin{aligned} n &= p = n_i & n_i \times n_i &= n_i^2 \\ n \cdot p &= n_i^2 \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where  $n_i$  = intrinsic carrier density

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

- From (8);

$$N_C \exp\left[-(E_C - E_F)/kT\right] \cdot N_V \exp\left[-(E_F - E_V)/kT\right] = n_i^2$$

$$N_C.N_V.\exp[-(E_C - E_V)/kT] = n_i^2$$

$$E_C - E_V = E_g$$

$$n_i^2 = N_C \cdot N_V \cdot \exp(-E_g / kT) \quad \text{๓ สมการคำนวณหา}$$

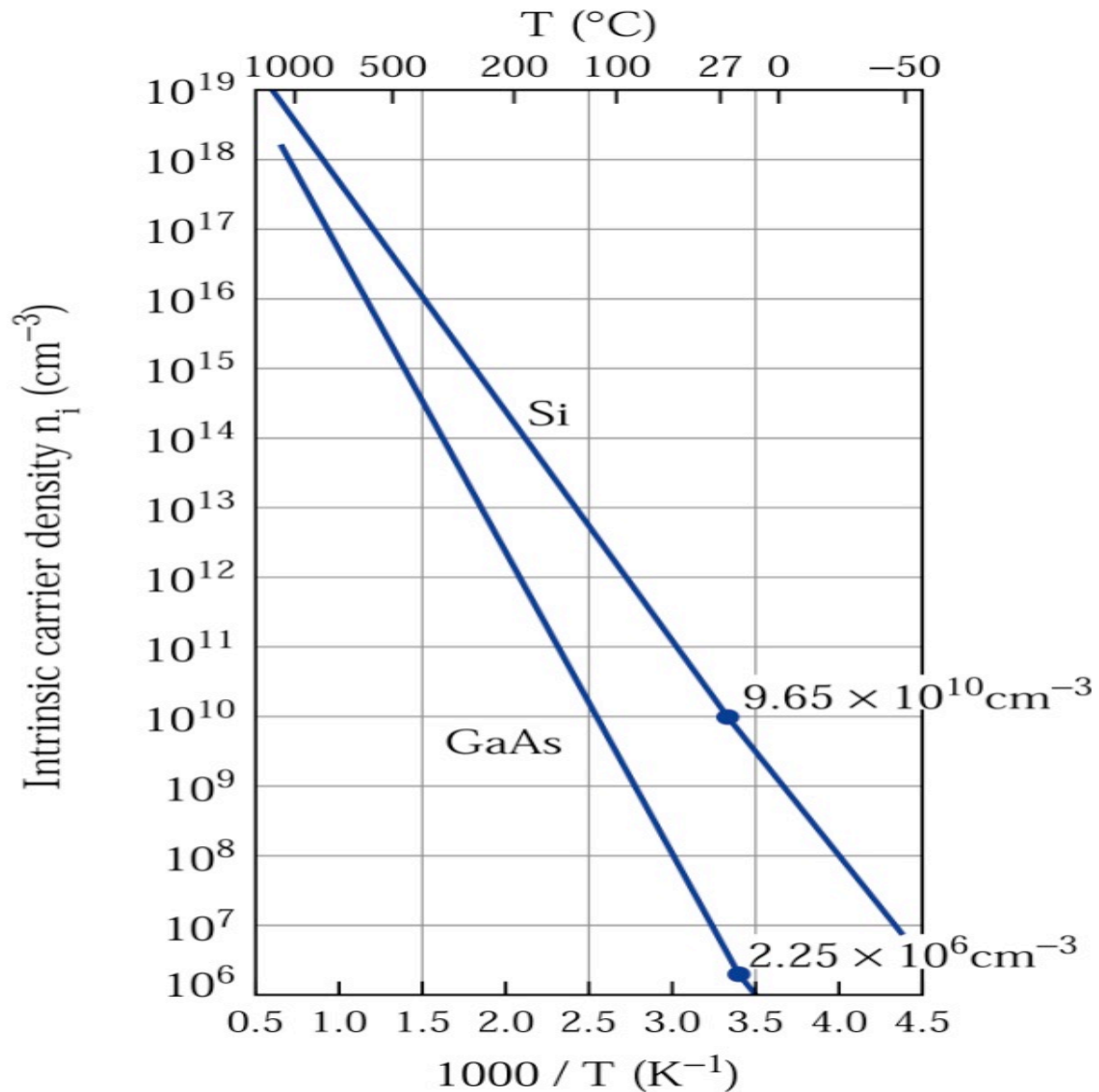
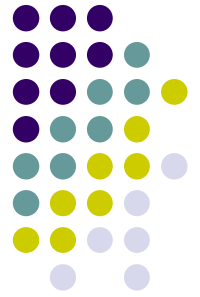
$$n_i = \sqrt{N_C N_V} \exp(-E_g / 2kT)$$

# Intrinsic carrier concentration

- The Fermi level of an intrinsic semiconductor can be found by equating (6) = (7) as

$$E_F = E_i = (E_C + E_V) / 2 + (kT / 2) \ln(N_V / N_C)$$

# Intrinsic carrier concentration



## Example 1

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34}$$

$$m_0 = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

- Calculate effective density of states  $N_C$  and  $N_V$  for GaAs at room temperature if GaAs has

$$m_e^* = 0.067m_0 \quad \text{and} \quad m_h^* = 0.65m_0$$

$$N_C = 2 \left[ \frac{2\pi m_e^* k T}{h^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}} = 2 \left[ \frac{2 \times \pi \times 0.067 \times 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}{(6.63 \times 10^{-34})^2} \right]^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\text{Hence } N_C = 4.34 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$N_V = 1.31 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

## Example 2

- From previous example, calculate intrinsic carrier density  $n_i$  for GaAs at room temperature where energy gap of GaAs is 1.43 eV.  $E_g(\text{eV})$

$$n_i = \sqrt{N_c N_v} \exp(-E_g / 2kT)$$