

* Numerical 1

Find the forward current in a Si diode at a forward voltage of 0.6V, reverse saturation current of $0.1 \mu A$ and temperature of $27^\circ C$ $V_p = 0.6V$, $I_s = 0.1 \mu A$, $V_T = 26mV$ $I_D = ?$

Now, if a reverse voltage of 10V is applied to the diode $\eta = \eta_{Si} = 2$
Find the reverse current flowing through the diode

Solution:

① Diode equation is

$$I_D = I_s \left(e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$T = 27^\circ C = 300K$$

For Si, $\eta = 2$ (for Si)

$$\rightarrow \frac{V_D}{\eta V_T} = \frac{0.6}{2 \times 26mV}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{V_D}{\eta V_T} = X_1 \quad X_1 = 11.53$$

$$\rightarrow I_D = 0.1 \times 10^{-6} \times (e^{X_1} - 1)$$

$$I_D = X_2 = 10.172 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_D \approx X_2 \quad \dots \text{Forward current in a Si diode}$$

$$V_T = \frac{K}{q} ; 1eV = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} J$$

$$K = 8.617 \times 10^{-5} \frac{eV}{K} \quad \dots \text{Boltzman's constant}$$

$$V_T = \frac{8.617 \times 10^{-5} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 300}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$V_T = 25.851 \times 10^{-3} V$$

$$V_T \approx 26 mV \quad \text{at } T = 27^\circ C$$

$$I_D = I_s \left(e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}} - 1 \right)$$

$$\rightarrow V_D = -10V ;$$

$$I_D = I_s \left(e^{\frac{-10}{2 \times 26mV}} - 1 \right)$$

$$I_D = I_s (X_3 - 1) \quad X_3 = 0$$

$$I_D \approx -I_s = -0.1 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$I_D = X_4 \quad \dots \text{reverse current in a Si diode}$$

* Numerical 2

The reverse saturation current of a Ge diode at $27^\circ C$ is $5 \mu A$

Find the forward voltage at which the current is 25 mA

Solution:

① Given: $T = 27^\circ C = 300K$, $I_s = 5 \mu A$

$$I_D = 25mA, \quad \eta = 1 \text{ (for Ge)}$$

② Diode equation is

$$I_D = I_s \left(e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}} - 1 \right) ; V_T = 26mV \text{ at } 27^\circ C$$

$$I_D + I_s = I_s e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}}$$

$$e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}} = 1 + \frac{I_D}{I_s} = 1 + \frac{25 \times 10^{-3}}{5 \times 10^{-6}}$$

$$e^{\frac{V_D}{\eta V_T}} = Y_1$$

$$\frac{V_D}{V_T} = \ln(Y_1) = Y_2$$

$$V_D = Y_2 \times 26 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$V_D = Y_3 \quad \dots \text{Forward voltage of Ge diode}$$