

TTT4120 Digital Signal Processing

Problem Set 1

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2023-09-20

Contents

Problem 1 - Conductivity	3
Problem 2 - The Hall Experiment	7
Part 3: Carrier Concentrations	10

Problem 1 - Conductivity

a)

The conductivity of a semiconductor will depend on the doping concentration. Express the conductivity σ as a function of

$$\tilde{n} = \frac{n_0}{n_i}$$

where n_i is the intrinsic electron concentration, n_0 is the electron concentration at thermal equilibrium.

The general equation for conductivity due to electron is

$$\sigma = qn_0\mu_n$$

from the given function we have that

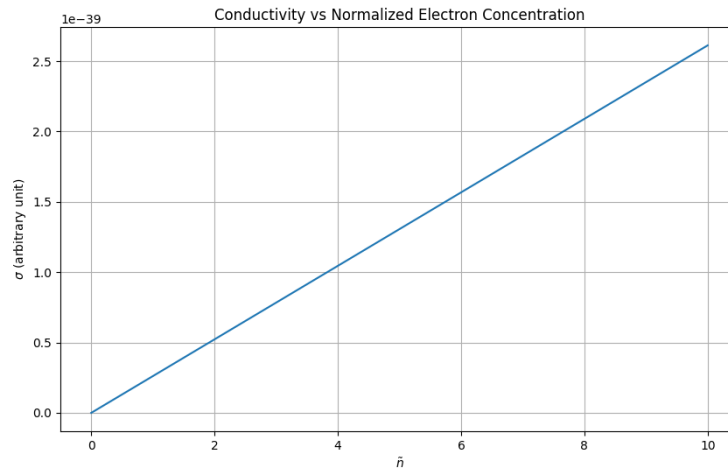
$$n_0 = \tilde{n} \cdot n_i$$

This gives us

$$\sigma = q(\tilde{n} \cdot n_i)\mu_n$$

where q is the charge of an electron, \tilde{n} is the electron concentration normalized to the intrinsic value n_i the intrinsic carrier concentration, μ_n is the electron mobility.

Use the values of μ_n and μ_p for Si and plot the function for $\tilde{n} \in [0, 10]$. Give an intuitive explanation for the shape of the function. Do not consider the variations in the mobility with the doping concentration.



We can see that the relation between the conductivity σ and the electron concentration normalized to the intrinsic value is linear. It makes sense as the conductivity increases when you n-dope the Si

b)

Show that the minimum conductivity is given by

$$\sigma_{\min} = 2qn_i\sqrt{\mu_n\mu_p}$$

The current density can be written in terms of mobility as

$$J_x = qn\mu_n\mathcal{E}_x$$

If both electrons and holes participate, then we must modify the equation to

$$J_x = q(n\mu_n + p\mu_p)\mathcal{E}_x = \sigma\mathcal{E}_x$$

by combining this with the product of electron and hole concentration and assuming that the conductivity is at minimum when $n_0 = p_0 = n_i$.

$$n_0p_0 = n_i^2$$

$$p_0 = \frac{n_i^2}{n_0}$$

Substitute this into σ :

$$\sigma = q(n_0\mu_n + \frac{n_i^2}{n_0}\mu_p)$$

for σ to be minimized, $\frac{d\sigma}{dn_0} = 0$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dn_0} = q(\mu_n - \frac{n_i^2\mu_p}{n_0^2}) = 0$$

$$\mu_n = \frac{n_i^2\mu_p}{n_0^2}$$

$$n_0^2 = n_i^2 \frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n}$$

$$n_0 = n_i \sqrt{\frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n}}$$

$$n_0 = n_i \sqrt{\frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n}}$$

$$p_0 = n_i \sqrt{\frac{\mu_n}{\mu_p}}$$

We substitute these values into the expression for σ :

$$\sigma = q(n_0\mu_n + p_0\mu_p)$$

$$\sigma = q(n_i \sqrt{\frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n}} \mu_n + n_i \sqrt{\frac{\mu_n}{\mu_p}} \mu_p)$$

$$\sigma = qn_i(\sqrt{\mu_n\mu_p} + \sqrt{\mu_n\mu_p})$$

$$\sigma_{\min} = 2qn_i\sqrt{\mu_n\mu_p}$$

Hence, the minimum conductivity σ_{\min} is given by $2qn_i\sqrt{\mu_n\mu_p}$ when $n_0 = n_i\sqrt{\frac{\mu_p}{\mu_n}}$.

The intrinsic conductivity σ_i for Si can be calculated using the equation:

$$\sigma_i = qn_i(\mu_n + \mu_p)$$

for silicon:

Parameter	Value
μ_n (Electron mobility in $\text{cm}^2/\text{V-s}$)	1350
μ_p (Hole mobility in $\text{cm}^2/\text{V-s}$)	450
n_i (Intrinsic carrier concentration in cm^{-3})	1.5×10^{10}
q (Elementary charge in C)	1.6×10^{-19}
σ_i (Intrinsic conductivity in S/cm)	4.32×10^{-2}
σ_{min} (Minimum conductivity in S/cm)	3.74×10^{-2}

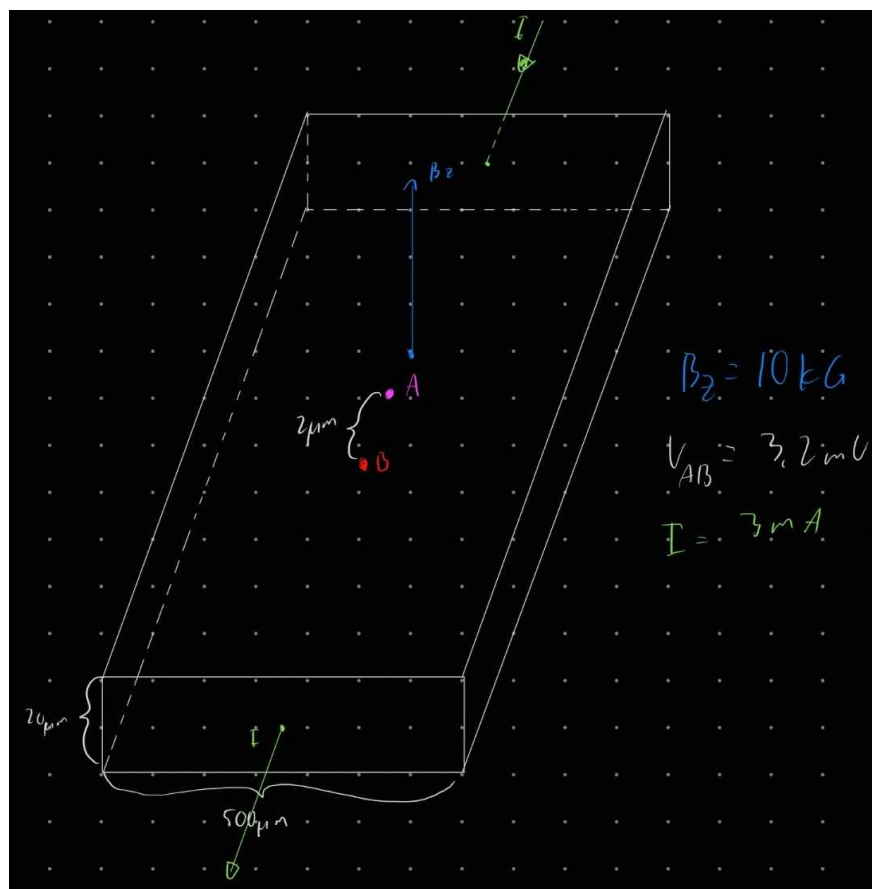
Table 1: Typical values for silicon and calculated intrinsic conductivity

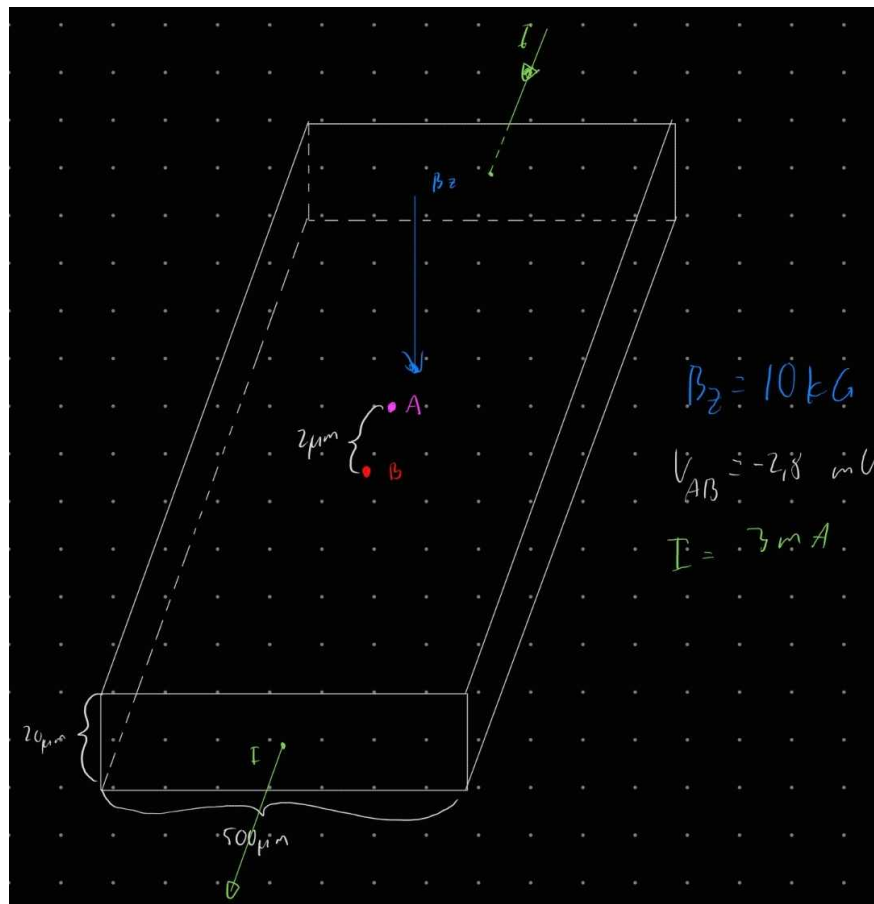
when comparing the two conductivities we can see that extrinsic doesn't necessarily mean that we get a more conductivity.

Problem 2 - The Hall Experiment

Hall measurements are made on a p-type semiconductor bar $500\mu\text{m}$ wide and $20\mu\text{m}$ thick. The Hall contacts A and B are displaced $2\mu\text{m}$ with respect to each other in the direction of a current flow of 3 mA . The voltage between A and B with a magnetic field of 10 kG ($1\text{ kG} = 10^{-5}\text{ Wb/cm}^2$) pointing out of the plane of the sample is 3.2 mV . When the magnetic field direction is reversed, the voltage changes to -2.8 mV .

a) Draw a figure that illustrate the setup and includes all the given information. Make sure you get the correct orientation of the contacts A and B .





b) Calculate the hole concentration and mobility.

we can get the hole concentration from the equation

$$p_0 = \frac{I_x B_z}{qt V_{AB}}$$

$$p_0 = \frac{0.003 \times 10^{-4}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 2 \times 10^{-5} \times 0.0031} = 3.02 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

the resistivity is given by

$$\rho = \frac{\frac{V_{AB}}{I_x}}{\frac{L}{wt}}$$

$$\rho = \frac{\frac{0.0031}{0.003}}{\frac{2 \times 10^{-6}}{2 \times 10^{-5} \times 5 \times 10^{-4}}} = 0.00516 \Omega \text{ m}$$

the mobility is given by

$$\mu_n = \frac{1}{\rho q p_o}$$

$$\mu_n = \frac{1}{0.00516 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 3.02 \times 10^{19}} = 40.11 \frac{cm^2}{Vs}$$

Part 3: Carrier Concentrations