

# Fundamentals of Semiconductors

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## ① Main Document

- Title and your roll number
- Aim
- Procedure
  - How was the experiment performed
  - Figures
- Results and Discussion
  - Quantitative results, tables and graphs
  - Understanding (a good writer not only knows where to start but also where to end)
- Conclusion

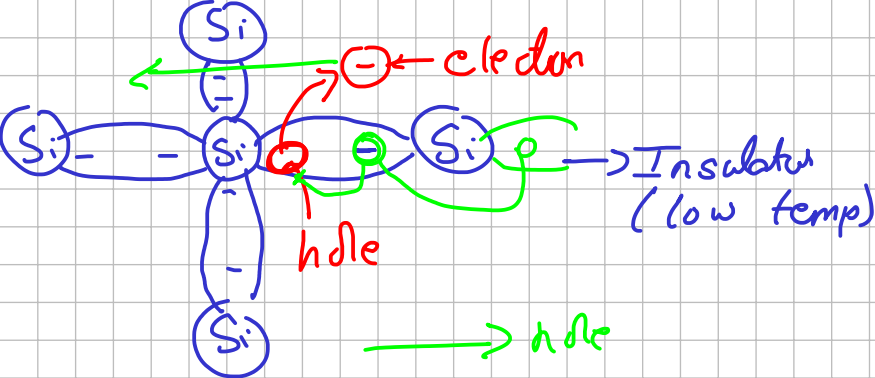
## ② Scripts

Material  $\rightarrow$

- $\rightarrow$  Metals  $\sigma > 10^4 / \Omega \text{cm}$
- $\rightarrow$  Semiconductor  $\downarrow$
- $\rightarrow$  Insulators  $\sigma < 10^{-10} / \Omega \text{cm}$

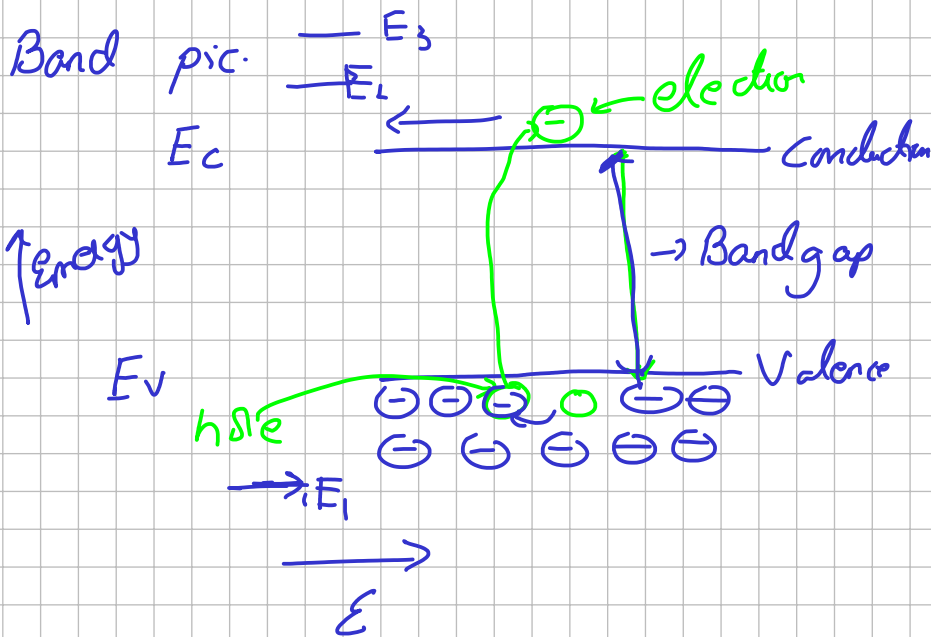
Semiconductors

- $\rightarrow$  Elemental  
 $\rightarrow \text{Si, Ge, } \alpha\text{-Sn}$
- $\rightarrow$  Compound, InAs  
GaAs...

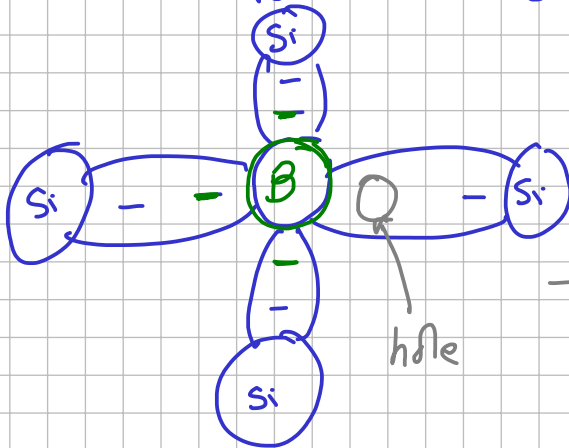


$E$  (V/cm)

Bond Picture.



Doping : Process of adding foreign atoms to the intrinsic crystal



— p-type

P-type - excess of hole.

n-type - excess of electrons

Classification based on doping

↳ intrinsic

→ p-type (eg Boron)

- n-type (eg P)

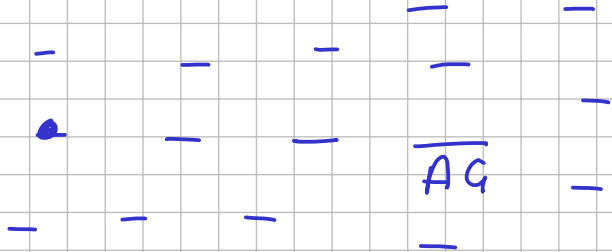
$$f(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left[\frac{E - E_F}{k_B T}\right]}$$

— Fermi-Dirac Statistics

$1 - f(E) \rightarrow$  probability of occupation  
by a hole

$$n(E) = f(E) \underline{\underline{DOS(E)}}$$





$$f(E_F) = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$\underbrace{n(E)}_{/cm^3 J} = D_{OS}(E) f(E)$$

$$n = \int n(E) dE = \int D(E) f(E) dE$$

$$= N_C \exp\left[-\frac{E_C - E_F}{k_B T}\right]$$

$$p = \int p(E) dE = \int D(E) (1 - f(E)) dE$$

$$\rho = N_v \exp \left[ - \frac{E_F - E_v}{k_B T} \right]$$

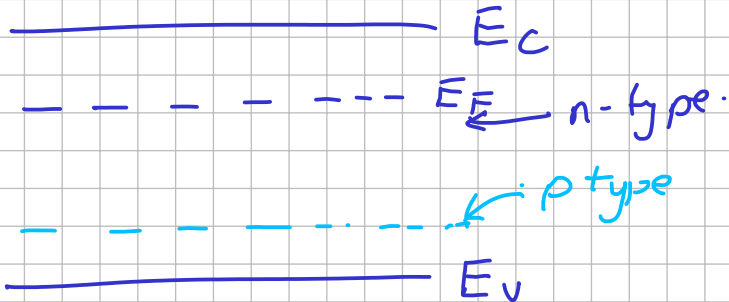
$$N_D = N_c \exp \left[ - \frac{E_c - E_F}{k_B T} \right]$$

$$\frac{E_c - E_F}{k_B T} = - \ln \left[ \frac{N_D}{N_c} \right]$$

$$E_c = 0$$

$$\frac{E_F - E_V}{k_B T} = - \ln \left[ \frac{n_A}{n_V} \right]$$

$$E_V = 0$$



$$n_i^2 = n p$$

$$n_i = 2 \left( \frac{m^* k_B T}{2 \pi \hbar^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp \left[ \frac{-E_g}{2 k_B T} \right]$$



$$Si = 1.1 \text{ eV}$$

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

$$\underbrace{n_i \geq N_D}_{\text{electron}}$$

$$; \quad \underbrace{n_i \geq N_A}_{\text{holes}}$$

$$N_D \quad 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\# \text{ of electrons} = 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$n_i = C \exp\left[\frac{-E_g}{2k_B T}\right]$$

$$n_i \geq N_D$$

$$n_i \geq N_A$$

# Semiconductors

- Types of semiconductors on the basis of doping
  - Intrinsic semiconductor
  - n-type – Group V elements
  - p-type – Group III elements
- The probability of an electron to occupy a particular energy level is given by Fermi-Dirac statistics

$$f(E) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{E - E_F}{k_B T}\right)}$$

- Thus the probability of absence of electron (hole) is given by  $1 - f(E)$
- The Density of States (density of the allowed energy levels) is given by

$$D(E) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \left(\frac{2m^*}{\hbar^2}\right)^{1.5} E^{0.5}$$

- The intrinsic carrier density is given by

$$n_i = 2 \left( \frac{m^* k_B T}{2\pi \hbar^2} \right)^{1.5} e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B T}}$$

- Electron/Hole density as a function of energy

$$n(E) = D(E)f(E)$$

- Assume that the effective mass is the same as free electron mass
- **Make sure that your units match**



# Primer on Octave

- Cleaning up
  - clc; clear; close;
- Assignment statement

`a = 300;`

- Mathematical operation § between 2 variables `a`, `b`

`a § b`

`a. § b`

- Plotting
  - `figure(1) plot(x, y, 'linewidth', 2); hold on`
  - `semilogx(x, y, 'linewidth', 2)`
  - `axis([xmin xmax ymin ymax])`
  - `xlabel(" Temperature(K) ")`
  - `ylabel(" Carrierconcentration(cm-3) ")`
  - `set(gca, "linewidth", 2, "fontsize", 24)`



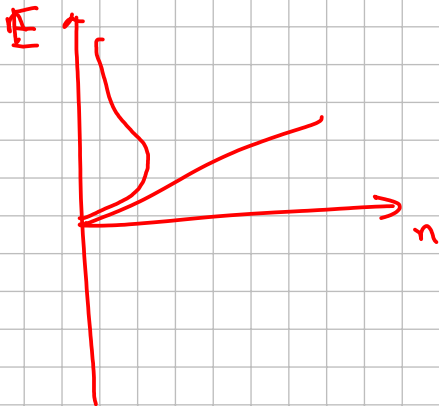
$$f = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left[\frac{E - E_F}{k_B T}\right]}$$
$$\approx \exp\left[\frac{E_F - E}{k_B T}\right]$$

# Problems

- 1 How does the occupation probability (Fermi-Dirac Statistics and Maxwell Boltzmann statistics) as a function of the energy and temperature ? Under what circumstances does the Fermi-Dirac statistics reduce to Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics
- 2 How the carrier density varies with respect to the energy ?
  - Group 1: p-type
  - Group 2: n-type
- 3 How does the intrinsic carrier concentration changes with respect to the temperature ? Assume effective density of states for conduction and valence band to be  $2.8E19 \text{ cm}^3$  and  $1.8E19 \text{ cm}^3$ . Assume doping to be  $1E17 \text{ cm}^3$  and comment on the nature of semiconductor. Plot  $n_i$  on a semilog scale versus  $(1000/T)$ 
  - Group 1: p-type
  - Group 2: n-type

*Comment on the type of semiconductor*
- 4 Calculate and plot the position of the Fermi Level as a function of Temperature
  - Group 1: p-type
  - Group 2: n-type

- 2 page of theory  
↳ Understanding
  - 1 page graphs
  - Scripts
- .zip



$$n_i = C \exp \left[ \frac{-\bar{E}_i}{2k_B T} \right]$$