# **Chapter 6 Electronic Properties of Semiconductors**



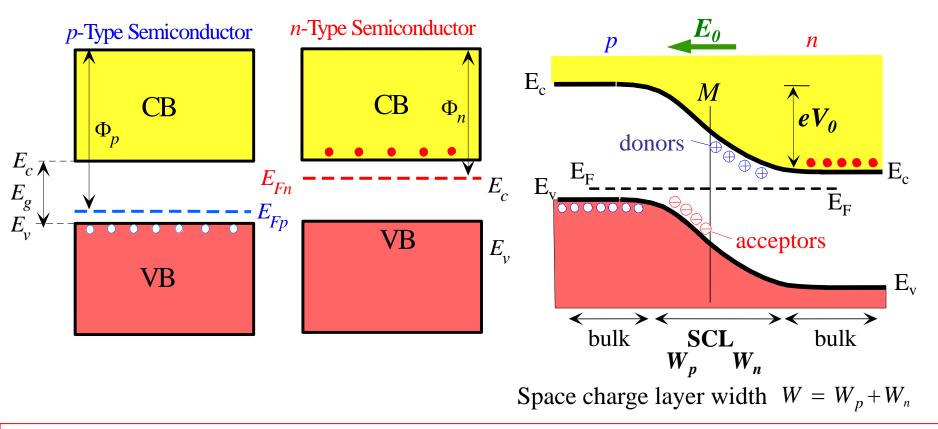
# Devices always involve interfaces:

- 1. metal-semiconductor
  - Schottky Junction
  - Ohmic Contact

## 2. semiconductor-semiconductor

- pn Junction (1)
- **■** *pn Junction* (2)
- Tutorial + metal oxide field-effect transistor (MOSFET)

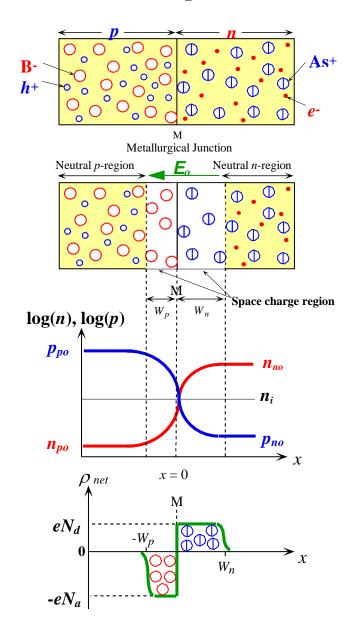
# Band Diagram of pn Junction: No Bias (Open Circuit)



The region around the M contains the **space charge layer** (**SCL**). On the *n*-side of M, SCL has the exposed positively charged donors whereas on the *p*-side it has the exposed negatively charged accepters.

SCL: space charge layer(空间电荷层)/depletion region/depletion layer (耗尽层) M: metallurgical junction (冶金结), Bulk (块体)

## pn Junction: Space Charge Layer



Each electron moves over the interface will combine with one hole.

The total number of negative charge on p side equals to that of positive charge on n side to remain charge neutrality

 $p_{p0}$ : majority carrier concentration on p side  $n_{p0}$ : minority carrier concentration on p side  $p_{n0}$ : minority carrier concentration on p side  $p_{n0}$ : majority carrier concentration on p side  $p_{n0}$ : majority carrier concentration on p side

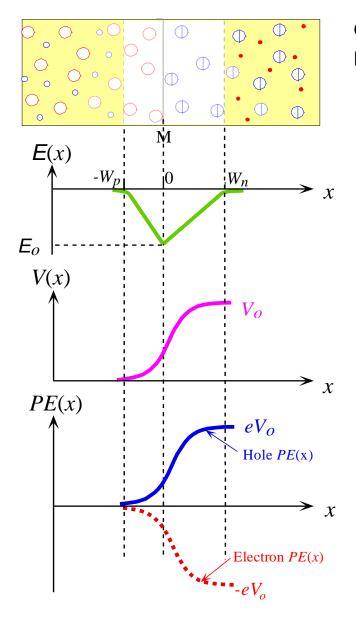
$$N_a W_p = N_d W_n$$

 $\rho_{net}$ : net space charge density

*N*: doping concentration

W: space charge layer width

## pn Junction: Space Charge Layer



Gauss's law in point form:

 $ε_o$  and  $ε_r$ : absolute and relative permittivity (介电常数) of the semiconductor material

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{\rho_{net}(x)}{\varepsilon_r \varepsilon_o} \longrightarrow E(x) = \frac{\rho_{net}}{\varepsilon_r \varepsilon_o} x + C_I$$

$$E_0 = -\frac{eN_dW_n}{\mathcal{E}_r\mathcal{E}_o} = -\frac{eN_aW_p}{\mathcal{E}_r\mathcal{E}_o}$$

The negative field means –x direction

$$E(x) = -\frac{dV}{dx} \longrightarrow V(x) = -\int_{-W_p}^{x} E(x)dx$$

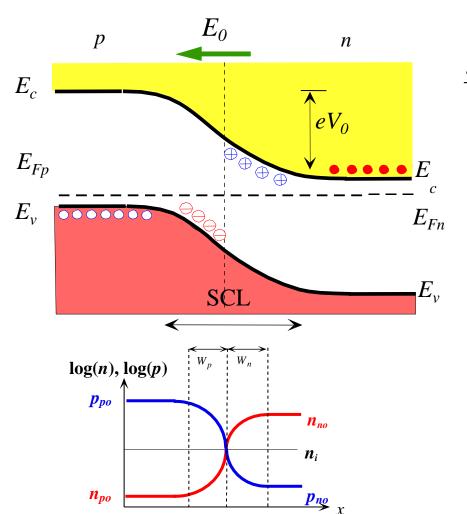
By putting 
$$x = W_n$$

$$V_0 = \frac{1}{2} E_0 W_0 = \frac{e N_a N_d W_0^2}{2 \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0 (N_a + N_d)}$$

 $V_0$ : the built-in potential (內置电位)  $W_0 = W_p + W_n$ : the total width of the space charge layer under a zero applied voltage

### pn Junction: Built-in Potential

Probability of electrons occupying energy E is determined by **Fermi-Dirac statistics**, which is reduced to **Boltzmann statistics** when E-E<sub>F</sub>>>k<sub>B</sub>T, it demands the concentrations  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  of potential energies  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are related by:  $\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \exp\left[-\frac{(E_2 - E_1)}{kT}\right]$ 



$$\frac{n_{po}}{n_{no}} = \exp(-\frac{eV_o}{k_B T}) \qquad \frac{p_{no}}{p_{po}} = \exp(-\frac{eV_o}{k_B T})$$

$$p_{po} = N_a$$
  $p_{no} = \frac{n_i^2}{n_{no}} = \frac{n_i^2}{N_d}$ 

$$V_o = \frac{k_B T}{e} \ln(\frac{N_a N_d}{n_i^2})$$

$$W_o = \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon_o \varepsilon_r (N_a + N_d) V_o}{e N_a N_d}}$$

#### Diffusion

Electron diffusion current density

Hole diffusion current density

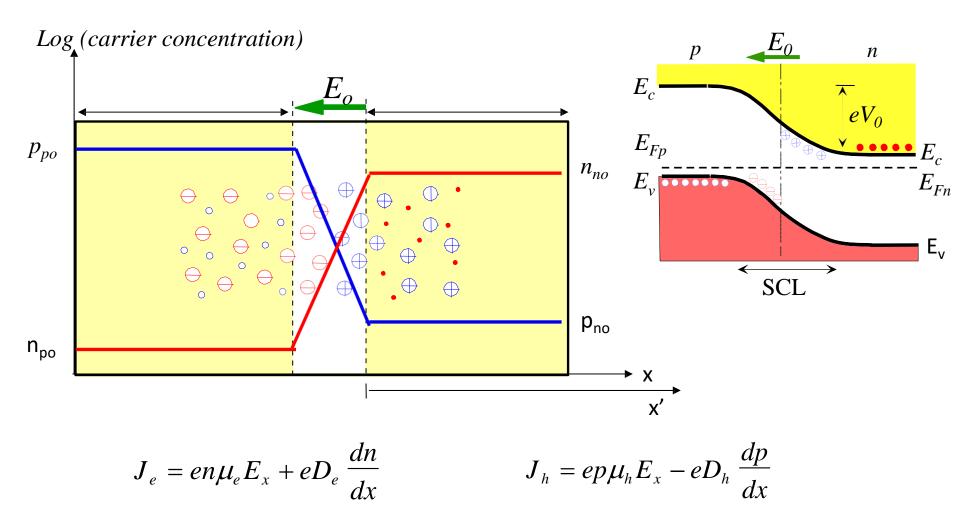
$$J_{D,e} \propto -\frac{dn}{dx}$$
$$= eDe \frac{dn}{dx}$$

$$J_{D,h} \propto -\frac{dp}{dx}$$
$$= -eDh \frac{dp}{dx}$$

**Diffusion coefficient**(扩散系数),  $D_e$  or  $D_h$ , is a measure of the ease of carrier *diffusion* motion in a medium. Mobility,  $\mu_e$  or  $\mu_h$ , is a measure of the ease of carrier *drift* motion in a medium. The two quantities are related by the **Einstein Relation**.

$$\frac{D_e}{\mu_e} = \frac{kT}{e}$$
 and  $\frac{D_h}{\mu_h} = \frac{kT}{e}$ 

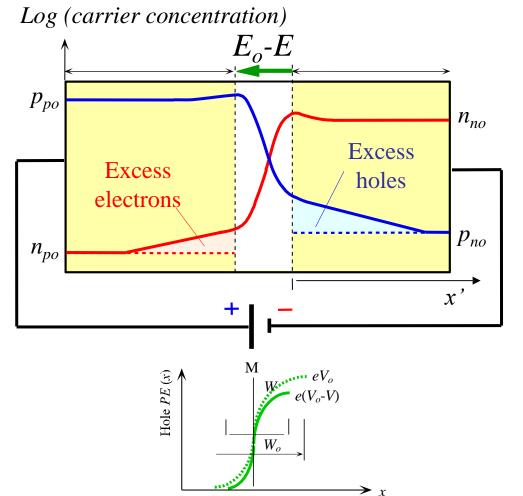
## Carrier Concentration Profiles Across a pn Junction: No Bias

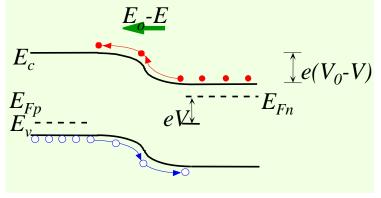


When there is no electric field applied to a *pn* junction, there is no current. The diffusion current and drift current balance each other within the space charge layer.

#### Carrier Concentration Profiles Across a pn Junction:

#### **Forward Bias**

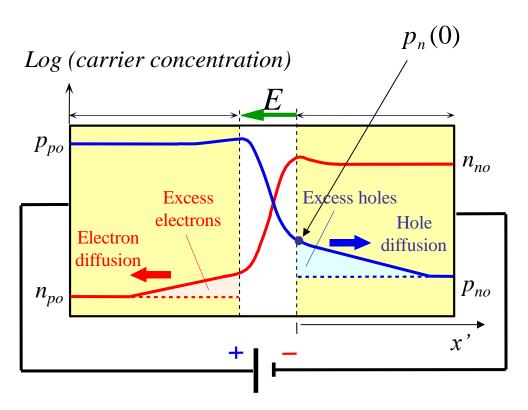




- (1) Voltage drops mainly across the SCL.
- (2) The potential barrier against diffusion is reduced to  $(V_o-V)$ .
- (3) The probability that a carrier will surmount the barrier becomes proportional to  $\exp\left[-\frac{(V_o V)}{k_B T}\right]$

More carriers can diffuse to the opposite sides of the junction. This is called the **injection of excess minority carriers**(少数载流子注入).

## Current Across a Forward Biased pn Junction: Diffusion



The **diffusion of minority carriers** contributes to the current density of a forward biased *pn* junction.

$$\frac{n_2}{n_1} = \exp\left[-\frac{(E_2 - E_1)}{kT}\right]$$

$$p_n(0) = p_n(x'=0)$$

$$= p_{po} \exp\left[-\frac{e(V_o - V)}{k_B T}\right]$$

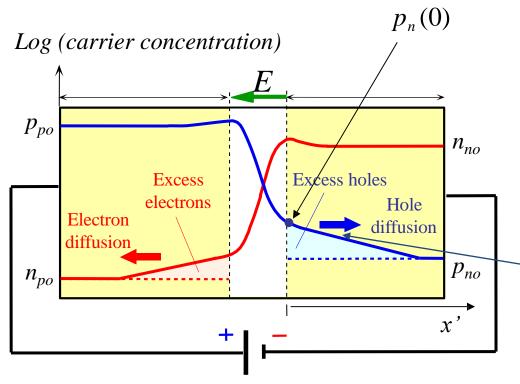
$$\frac{p_{no}}{p_{po}} = \exp(-\frac{eV_o}{k_B T})$$

$$p_n(0) = p_{no} \exp\left[\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right]$$

#### Law of the junction

relates the injected minority carrier concentration just outside SCL to the applied voltage.

## Current Across a Forward Biased pn Junction: Diffusion



#### Law of the junction

$$p_n(0) = p_{no} \exp\left[\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right]$$

$$J_{D,hole} = -eD_h \frac{dp_n(x')}{dx'}$$

hole concentration  $p_n(x')$  fall **exponentially** toward the thermal equilibrium value  $p_{no}$ 

$$\Delta p_n(x') = \Delta p_n(0) \exp\left(-\frac{x'}{L_h}\right)$$

Where: 
$$\Delta p_n(x') = p_n(x') - p_{no}$$

#### Minority Carrier **Diffusion Length**

$$L_{\scriptscriptstyle h} = \sqrt{D_{\scriptscriptstyle h} \tau_{\scriptscriptstyle h}}$$

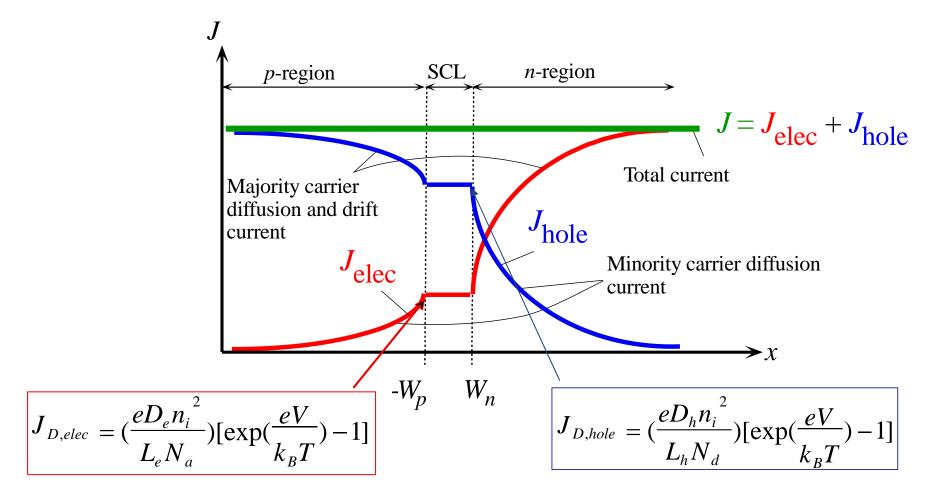
 $\tau_h$  is the mean hole **recombination** lifetime (minority carrier lifetime) in the n-region

#### At x'=0:

$$J_{D,hole} = \left(\frac{eD_h p_{no}}{L_h}\right) \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right) - 1\right]$$

$$p_{no} = \frac{n_i^2}{n_{no}} = \frac{n_i^2}{N_d}$$

#### Total **Diffusion Current**: Electron and Hole



The total current anywhere in the device is constant.

#### Total Diffusion Current: Electron and Hole

$$J = J_{\text{elec}} + J_{\text{hole}}$$

$$J_{D,elec} = \left(\frac{eD_e n_i^2}{L_e N_a}\right) \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right) - 1\right]$$

$$J_{D,hole} = \left(\frac{eD_h n_i^2}{L_h N_d}\right) \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right) - 1\right]$$

$$J = \left(\frac{eD_e}{L_eN_a} + \frac{eD_h}{L_hN_d}\right)n_i^2 \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{k_BT}\right) - 1\right]$$

$$J = J_{so} \left[ \exp \left( \frac{eV}{kT} \right) - 1 \right]$$
 Ideal diode equation (Shockley equation)

Ideal diode equation

$$J_{so} = \left[ \left( \frac{eD_h}{L_h N_d} \right) + \left( \frac{eD_e}{L_e N_a} \right) \right] n_i^2$$
 reverse saturati current density

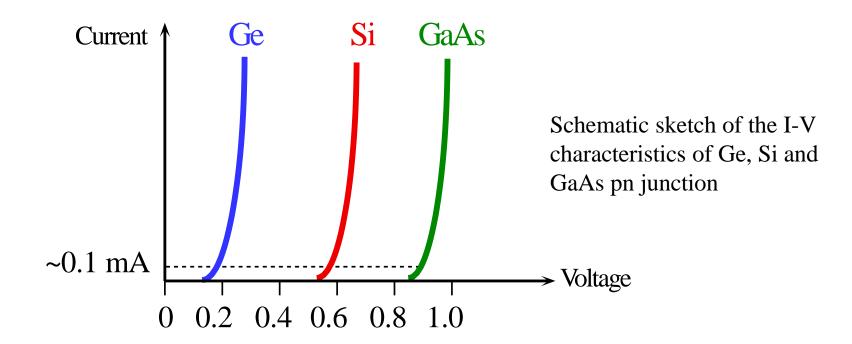
reverse saturation

#### Total Diffusion Current: Electron and Hole

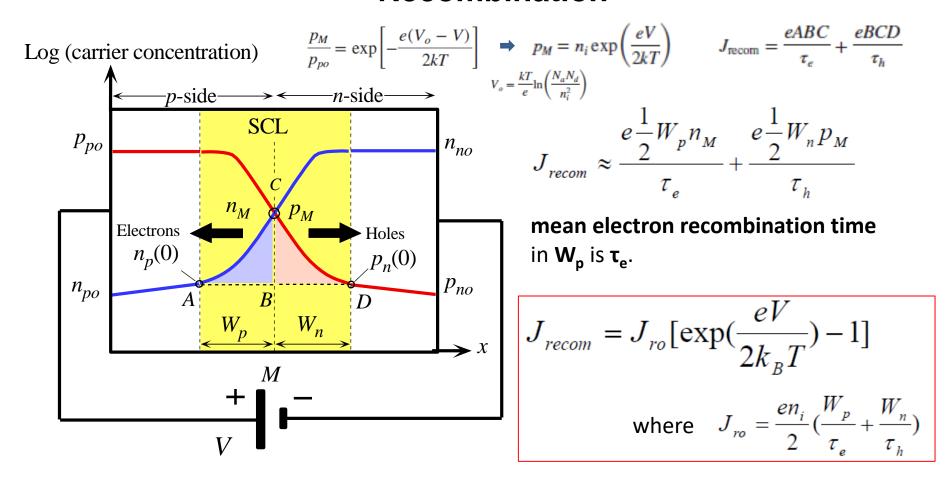
$$J = (\frac{eD_e}{L_e N_a} + \frac{eD_h}{L_h N_d}) n_i^{2} [\exp(\frac{eV}{k_B T}) - 1]$$

$$n_i^2 = N_c N_v \exp(-\frac{E_g}{k_B T})$$

$$J \approx (\frac{eD_e}{L_e N_a} + \frac{eD_h}{L_h N_d}) N_c N_v \exp[\frac{e(V - V_g)}{k_B T}]$$



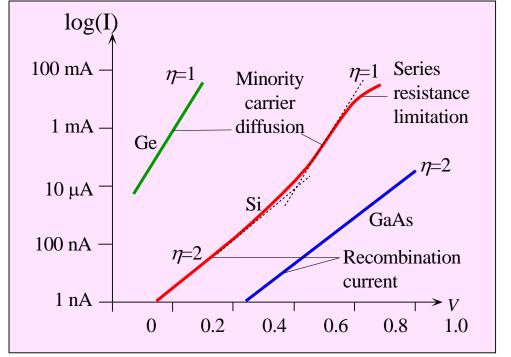
# Current Across a Forward Biased pn Junction: Recombination



Forward biased *pn* junction: the injection of carriers and their recombination in the SCL

## Total Current of a pn Junction under Forward bias

$$\begin{split} J &= J_{so} [\exp(\frac{eV}{k_BT}) - 1] + J_{ro} [\exp(\frac{eV}{2k_BT}) - 1] \\ & J \approx J_{so} \exp(\frac{eV}{k_BT}) + J_{ro} \exp(\frac{eV}{2k_BT}) \end{split}$$

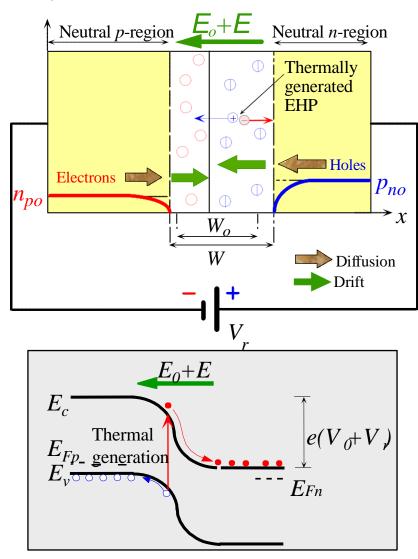


 $I = I_o[\exp(eV/\eta kT) - 1]$ 

Schematic sketch of typical I-V characteristics of Ge, Si and GaAs pn junctions as log(I) vs. V. the slope indicates  $e/(\eta k_B T) \eta$ : ideality factor

## Current Across a pn Junction: Reverse Bias

#### Minority Carrier



(a) Minority carrier extracted and swept by the field across the SCL Essentially **Shockley equation**:

$$J = \left(\frac{eD_e}{L_e N_a} + \frac{eD_h}{L_h N_d}\right) n_i^2 \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{k_B T}\right) - 1\right]$$

$$\approx -\left(\frac{eD_e}{L_e N_a} + \frac{eD_h}{L_h N_d}\right) n_i^2$$

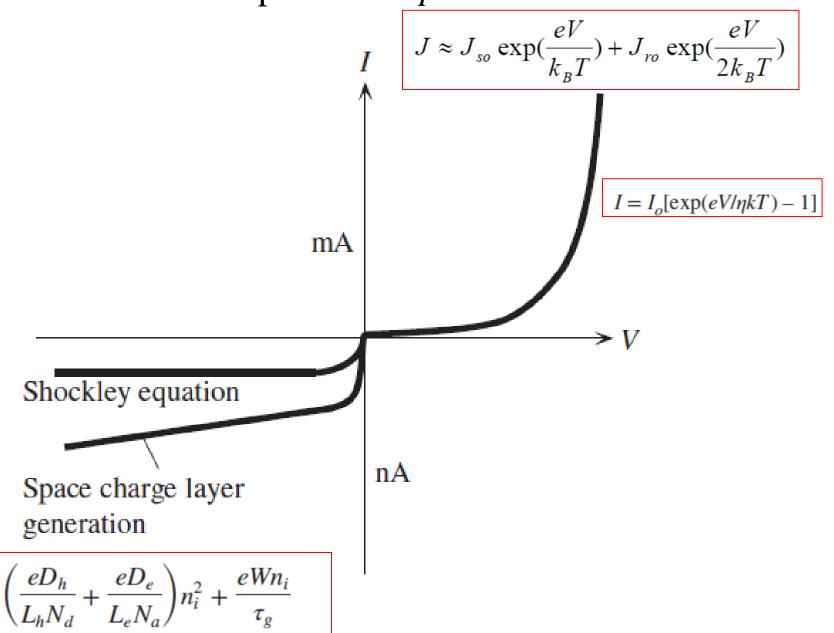
reverse saturation current density, -J<sub>0</sub> independent of voltage V<sub>r</sub>

**(b)** Electron-hole pair (EHP) thermally generated within the SCL.

$$J_{gen} = \frac{eWn_i}{\tau_g}$$

 $\tau_{\text{g}}$  is the mean time to generate an EHP

## I-V Response of a pn Junction



完成并提交 Assignment 6.3 (1)

Assignment 6.3 (2)无须提交,在5月12日习题课前尽量完成

提交时间: 5月12日(周一)中午前提交Assignment 6.3 (1)

提交方式: 电子版(写明姓名、学号),通过本班课代表统一提交