

## ELECTRONIC DEVICES ASSIGNMENT 7

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### Exercise 1.

Consider a silicon P<sup>+</sup>N step junction diode, maintained at  $T = 300\text{ K}$ , with  $N_D = 5 \times 10^{16}$ . Assume that it is a long diode, with

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_n &= 100\text{ ns} \\ \tau_p &= 50\text{ ns} \\ D_n &= 50\text{ cm}^2\text{ s}^{-1} \\ D_p &= 20\text{ cm}^2\text{ s}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

A forward bias of  $0.6\text{ V}$  is applied to the diode.

- (1) Calculate the hole diffusion current density  $2\mu\text{m}$  away from the edge of the depletion region on the N-type side of the diode.
- (2) If the doping on the P<sup>+</sup>-type side is doubled, what effect will it have on the above?

### Solution 1.

- (1) As the diode is a P<sup>+</sup>N step junction diode,

$$\begin{aligned}J_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 2\mu\text{m}) &= q \left( \frac{D_p}{L_p} p_{N0} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \left( e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \right) \\ &= q \left( \frac{D_p}{\sqrt{D_p \tau_p}} \frac{n_i^2}{N_D} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \left( e^{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{D_p \tau_p}}} \right) \\ &= q \left( \frac{\sqrt{D_p}}{\sqrt{\tau_p}} \frac{n_i^2}{N_D} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \left( e^{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{D_p \tau_p}}} \right) \\ &= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{20}}{\sqrt{50 \times 10^{-9}}} \frac{10^{20}}{10^{16}} \right) \left( e^{\frac{0.6}{0.026}} - 1 \right) \left( e^{-\frac{2 \times 10^{-4}}{\sqrt{(20)(50 \times 10^{-9})}}} \right) \\ &= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{5}} 10^{13} \right) \left( e^{23.076923077} - 1 \right) \left( e^{-0.2} \right) \\ &= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( 0.632455532 \times 10^{13} \right) \left( e^{23.056923077} - 1 \right) \\ &= (1.0119288512) e^{23.056923077} \times 10^{-6} \text{ A cm}^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

- (2) As hole diffusion current density is independent of  $N_A$ , it is unchanged if the doping on the P<sup>+</sup>-type side is doubled.

**Exercise 2.**

Consider a silicon PN step junction diode, maintained at  $T = 300\text{ K}$ , with

$$N_A = 5 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$N_D = 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\tau_n = 0.5 \mu\text{s}$$

$$\tau_p = 0.2 \mu\text{s}$$

$$D_n = 25 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$D_p = 10 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

and cross-sectional area of  $10^{-3} \text{ cm}^2$ .

A forward bias of  $0.625\text{ V}$  is applied on the diode.

- (1) Calculate the minority electron diffusion current at the edge of the depletion region.
- (2) Calculate the minority hole diffusion current at the edge of the depletion region.
- (3) Calculate the electron and hole currents at
  - (a)  $x = x_n$
  - (b)  $x = x_n + L_p$
  - (c)  $x = x_n + 10L_p$

**Solution 2.**

(1)

$$\begin{aligned}
 J_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) &= q \left( \frac{D_n}{L_n} n_{P0} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
 &= q \left( \frac{D_n}{\sqrt{D_n \tau_n}} n_{P0} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
 &= q \left( \frac{\sqrt{D_n} n_i^2}{\sqrt{\tau_n} N_A} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
 &= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{25}}{\sqrt{0.5 \times 10^{-6}}} \frac{10^{20}}{5 \times 10^{16}} \right) \left( e^{\frac{0.625}{0.026}} \right) \\
 &= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( 1.4142135623 \times 10^7 \right) e^{24.038461538} \\
 &= 2.2627416997 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-12} \text{ A cm}^{-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) &= J_{\text{diffusion}_n} \times 10^{-3} \\
 &= 2.2627416997 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
 \end{aligned}$$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned}
J_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) &= q \left( \frac{D_p}{L_p} p_{N0} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
&= q \left( \frac{D_p}{\sqrt{D_p \tau_p}} p_{N0} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
&= q \left( \frac{\sqrt{D_p} n_i^2}{\sqrt{\tau_p} N_D} \right) \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) \\
&= (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \left( \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{0.2 \times 10^{-6}}} \frac{10^{20}}{10^{16}} \right) \left( e^{\frac{0.625}{0.026}} \right) \\
&= (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) (\sqrt{50} \times 10^7) e^{24.038461538} \\
&= (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) (7.071067812 \times 10^7) e^{24.038461538} \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-12} \text{ A cm}^{-2}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) &= J_{\text{diffusion}_p} \times 10^{-3} \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

(3) (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
I_p(x=x_n) &= I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_n(x=x_n) &= I_{\text{total}} - I_p(x=x_n) \\
&= I_{\text{total}} - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) \\
&= I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) + I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) \\
&= I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) \\
&= 2.2627416997 e^{24.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
I_p(x=x_n + L_p) &= I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=L_p) \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{24.038461538} e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \times 10^{-15} \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{24.038461538} e^{-\frac{L_p}{L_p}} \times 10^{-15} \\
&= 11.313708499 e^{23.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_n(x=x_n + L_p) &= I_{\text{total}} - I_p(x=x_n + L_p) \\
&= I_{\text{total}} - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=L_p) \\
&= I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) + I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=L_p) = I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x=0) + I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=0) - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x=L_p)
\end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
I_p(x = x_n + 10L_p) &= I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 10L_p) \\
&= 11.313708499e^{24.038461538} e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \times 10^{-15} \\
&= 11.313708499e^{24.038461538} e^{-\frac{10L_p}{L_p}} \times 10^{-15} \\
&= 11.313708499e^{14.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_n(x = x_n + 10L_p) &= I_{\text{total}} - I_p(x = x_n + 10L_p) \\
&= I_{\text{total}} - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 10L_p) \\
&= I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x = 0) + I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 0) - I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 10L_p) \\
&= I_{\text{diffusion}_n}(x = 0) + I_{\text{diffusion}_p}(x = 0) - 11.313708499e^{14.038461538} \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}
\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 3.**

Consider a silicon PN step junction diode with a cross-sectional area of  $100\mu\text{m}^2$  with

$$N_A = 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$N_D = 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\tau_n = 10^{-6} \text{ s}$$

$$\tau_p = 10^{-7} \text{ s}$$

$$T = 300 \text{ K}$$

$$\mu_n = 1350 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\mu_p = 480 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

- (1) For an applied voltage of 0.5 V, sketch the minority and majority carrier concentrations as a function of  $x$ .
- (2) Calculate the minority carrier diffusion lengths  $L_n$  and  $L_p$ .
- (3) What are the excess minority carrier charge stored within the quasi-neutral regions? Set up the integral and calculate.
- (4) Calculate the diode current using the charge control model. Is it dominated by hole injection into the N-type side or by electron injection into the P-type side?

**Solution 3.**

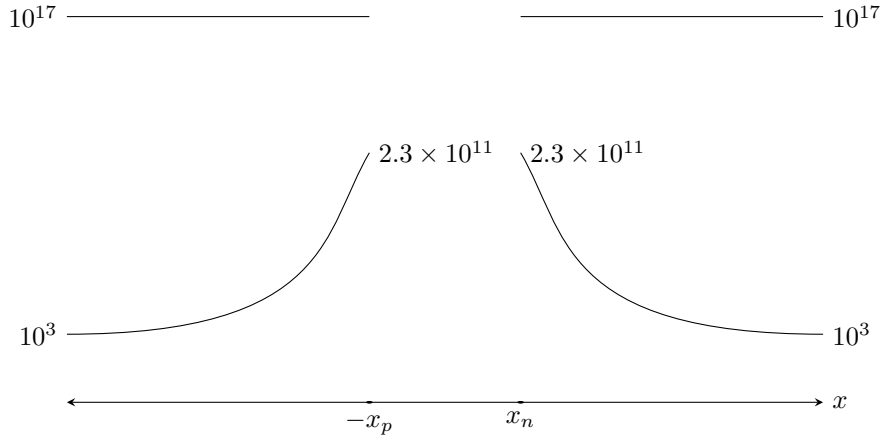
(1)

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{N0} &= \frac{n_i^2}{N_D} \\
&= \frac{10^{20}}{10^{17}} \\
&= 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\
n_{P0} &= \frac{n_i^2}{N_A} \\
&= \frac{10^{20}}{10^{17}} \\
&= 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_N &= p_{N0} e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} \\
 &= 10^3 e^{\frac{0.5}{0.026}} \\
 &= (10^3) (2.3 \times 10^8) \\
 &= 2.3 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3} \\
 n_P &= n_{P0} e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} \\
 &= 10^3 e^{\frac{0.5}{0.026}} \\
 &= (10^3) (2.3 \times 10^8) \\
 &= 2.3 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the carrier concentrations are



(2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_n &= \sqrt{D_n \tau_n} \\
 &= \sqrt{\mu_n \frac{kT}{q} \tau_n} \\
 &= \sqrt{(1350)(0.026)(10^{-6})} \\
 &= \sqrt{3.51 \times 10^{-5}} \\
 &= 5.924525297 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm} \\
 L_p &= \sqrt{D_p \tau_p} \\
 &= \sqrt{\mu_p \frac{kT}{q} \tau_p} \\
 &= \sqrt{(480)(0.026)(10^{-7})} \\
 &= \sqrt{1.248 \times 10^{-6}} \\
 &= 1.117139204 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}
 \end{aligned}$$

(3)

$$\begin{aligned}
Q_p &= qA \int_0^{\infty} \hat{p} \, dx \\
&= qA \int_0^{\infty} p_{N0} \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \, dx \\
&= \left( 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \right) \left( 100 \times 10^{-8} \right) \int_0^{\infty} \left( 2.3 \times 10^{11} \right) e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \, dx \\
&= 3.96 \times 10^{-17} \text{C} \\
Q_n &= qA \int_0^{\infty} \hat{n} \, dx \\
&= qA \int_0^{\infty} n_{P0} \left( e^{\frac{qV_a}{kT}} - 1 \right) e^{-\frac{x}{L_p}} \, dx \\
&= 21.33 \times 10^{-17} \text{C}
\end{aligned}$$

(4) As the junction is in steady state,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_{\text{total}} &= \frac{Q_p}{\tau_p} + \frac{Q_n}{\tau_n} \\
&= \frac{3.96 \times 10^{-17}}{10^{-7}} + \frac{21.33 \times 10^{-17}}{10^{-6}} \\
&= 3.96 \times 10^{-10} + 2.133 \times 10^{-10} \\
&= 6.093 \times 10^{-10} \text{A}
\end{aligned}$$

The diode current is dominated by hole injection into the N-type side.