

Semiconductor Fundamentals

Presented to

EE2187 class in Semester 1 2019/20

Shiv Govind Singh

sgsingh@iith.ac.in

*Professor, Electrical Engineering
IIT Hyderabad, India*



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

Lecture 10

Course information

- ❖ Semiconductors Materials - Types of Solids, Space lattice, Atomic Bonding,
- ❖ Introduction to quantum theory, Schrodinger wave equation, Electron in free space, Infinite well, and step potentials, Allowed and forbidden bands
- ❖ Electrical conduction in solids, Density of states functions, Fermi-Dirac distribution in Equilibrium,
- ❖ Valence band and Energy band models of intrinsic and extrinsic Semiconductors. Degenerate and non degenerate doping
- ❖ Thermal equilibrium carrier concentration, charge neutrality
- ❖ Carrier transport – Mobility, drift, diffusion, Continuity equation.

Reference

Text Book:

1. Physics of Semiconductor Devices, *S. M. Sze*, John Wiley & Sons (1981).
2. Solid State Electronics by *Ben G. Streetman and Sanjay Banerjee*, Prentice Hall International, Inc.
3. Semiconductor Physics and Devices, Donald A. Neamen, Tata Mcgraw-Hill Publishing company Limited.
4. Advanced Semiconductor Fundamentals by Pirret

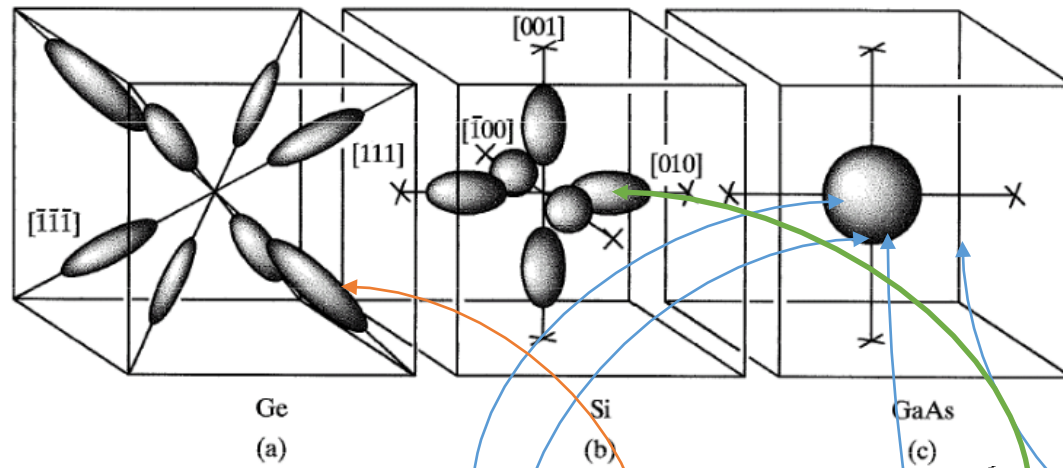
Reference Book:

1. Fundamentals of Solid-State Electronic Devices, *C. T. Sah*, Allied Publisher and World Scientific, 1991.
2. Complete Guide to Semiconductor Devices, *K. K. Ng*, McGraw Hill, 1995.
3. Solid state physics, Ashcroft & Mermins.
4. Introduction to Solid State Electronics, *E. F. Y. Waug*, North Holland, 1980.

Recap

Constant-Energy Surfaces: Conduction Band

Geometrical shapes for given Energy are called CES



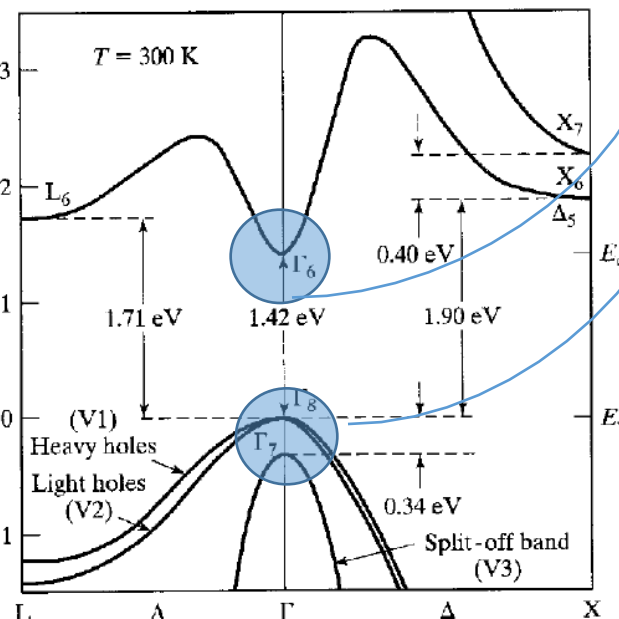
So Energy E in
Conduction band

$$E = E_c + Ak_1^2 + Bk_2^2 + Ck_3^2$$

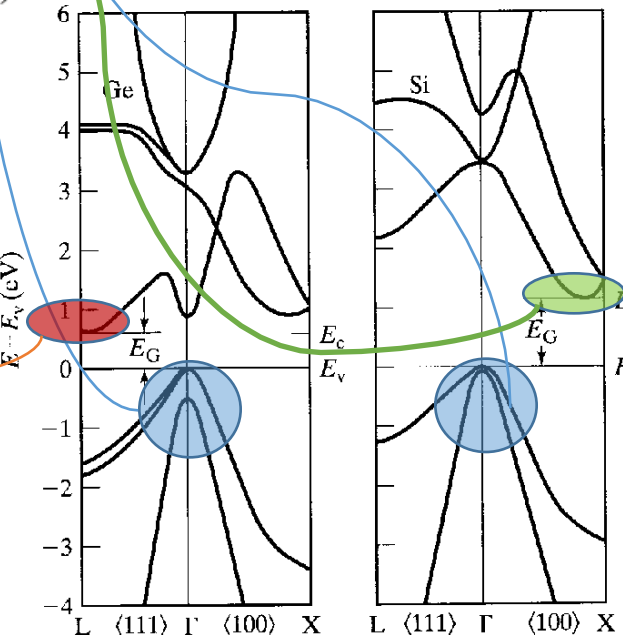
k_1, k_2, k_3 are k space
coordinate measured from
center of band minimum
along the principle axis for
example Ge it will be center
on L point and one of the
axis say k_1 would directed
along k_x, k_y, k_z in $[111]$
direction

For GaAs $A=B=C$

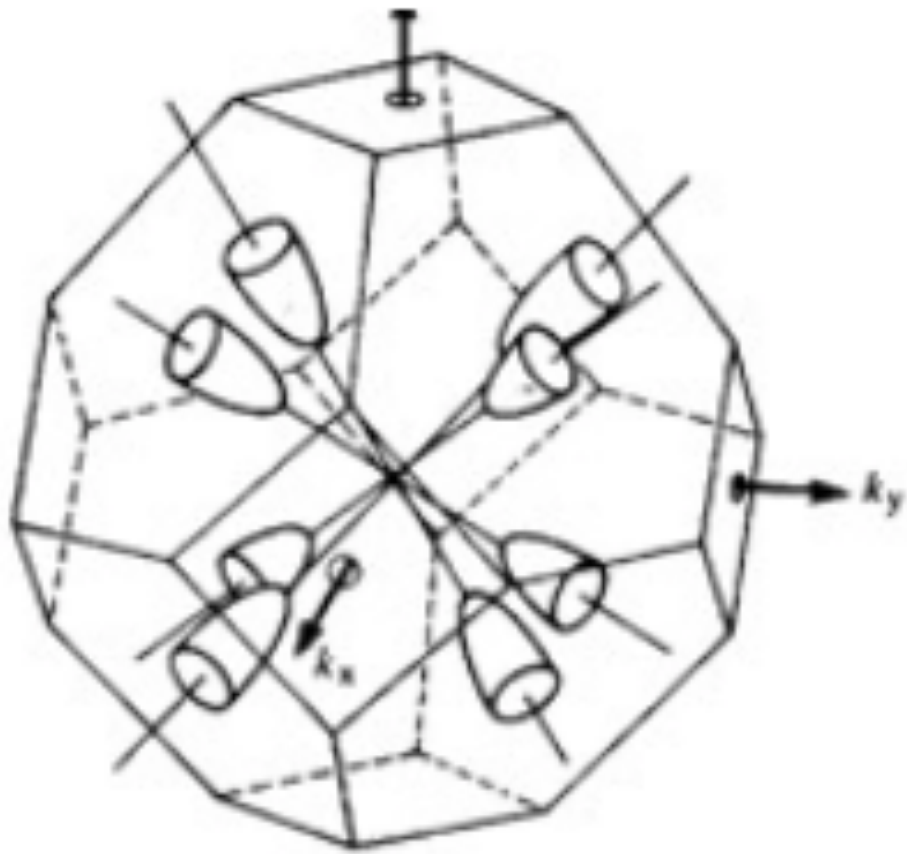
And for Si, and Ge, $B=C$



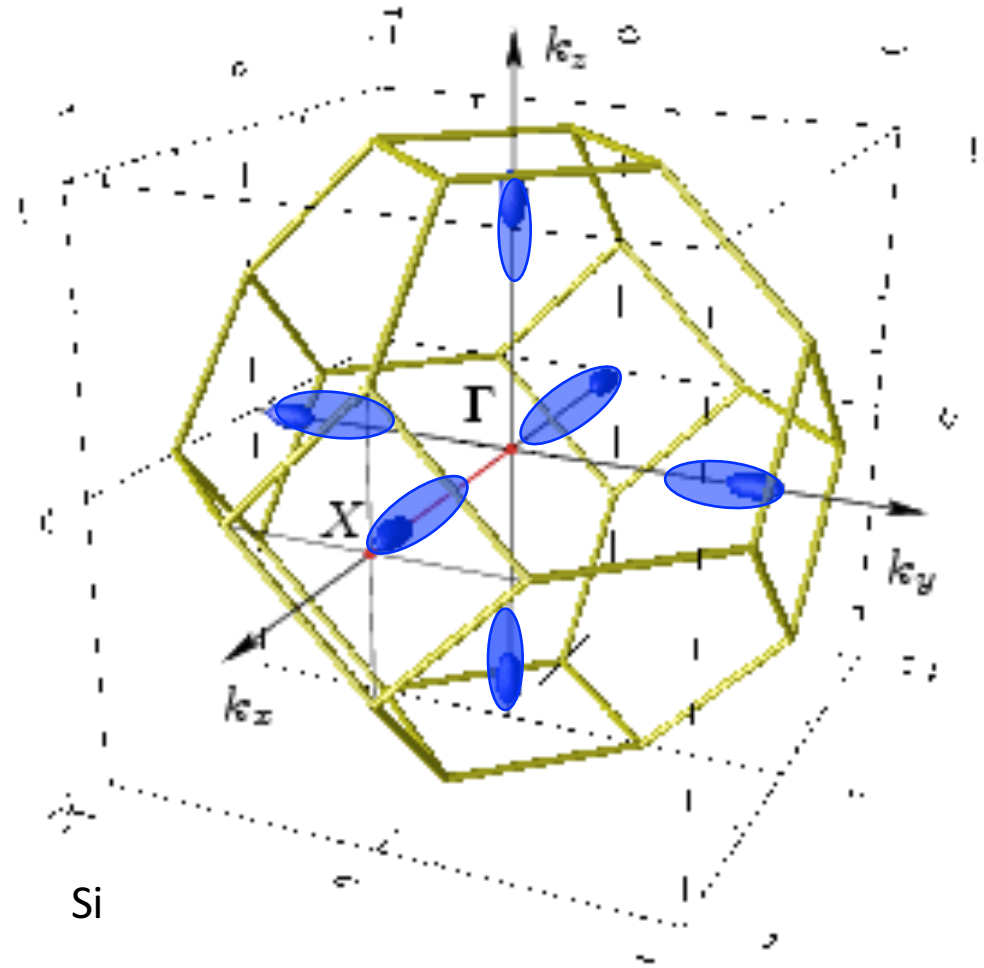
Valence Band E-k
and constant energy
surfaces all look similar



Constant-Energy Surfaces at BZ Boundaries

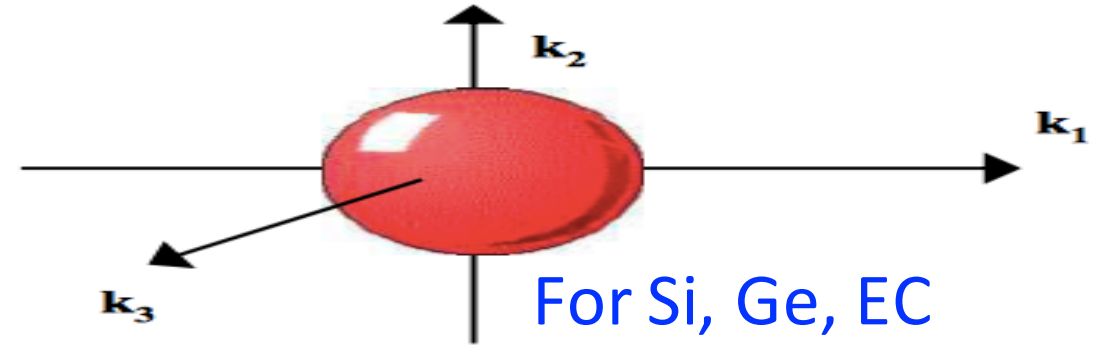
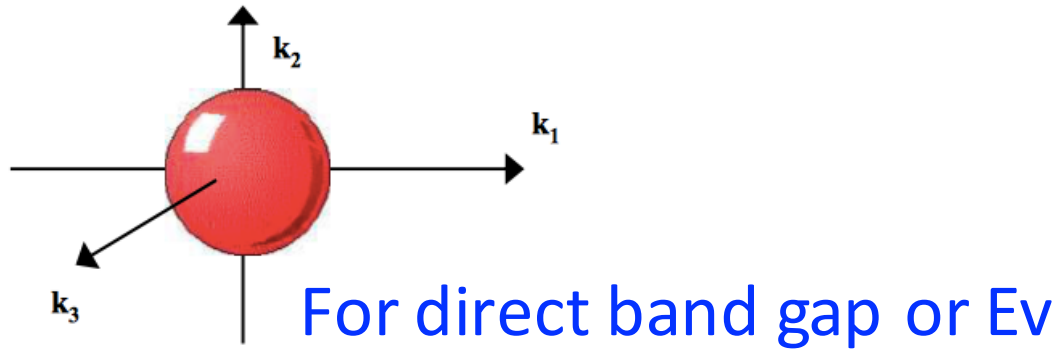


Ge



Si

Effective Mass in 3D Crystal



$$m^* a = F$$

for 3D crystals

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{m^*} F$$

$$\text{where, } \frac{1}{m^*} = \begin{pmatrix} m_{xx}^{-1} & m_{xy}^{-1} & m_{xz}^{-1} \\ m_{yx}^{-1} & m_{yy}^{-1} & m_{yz}^{-1} \\ m_{zx}^{-1} & m_{zy}^{-1} & m_{zz}^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E - E_c = A(k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2)$$

$$m_{ij}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial k_i \partial k_j} \text{ for } i, j = x, y \& z$$

$$E - E_c = A(k_x^2) + B(k_y^2 + k_z^2)$$

$$E - Ec = A(k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2)$$

$$E - Ec = A(k_x^2) + B(k_y^2 + k_z^2)$$

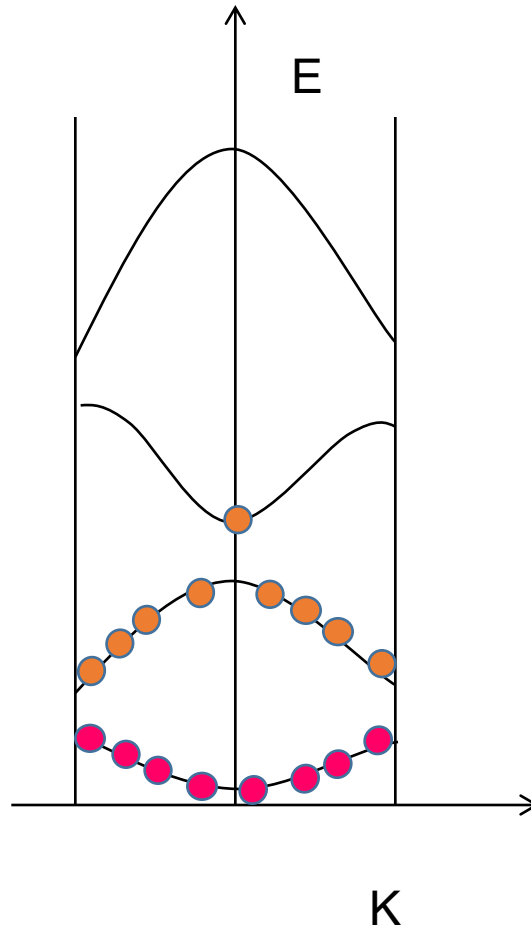
$$m_{ij}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\hbar^2} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial k_i \partial k_j} \text{ for } i, j = x, y \& z$$

$$m_{11}^{-1} = m_{22}^{-1} = m_{33}^{-1} = \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} \quad m_{ij}^{-1} = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j \quad m_{11}^{-1} = \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} \quad m_{33}^{-1} = m_{22}^{-1} = \frac{2B}{\hbar^2} \quad m_{ij}^{-1} = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j$$

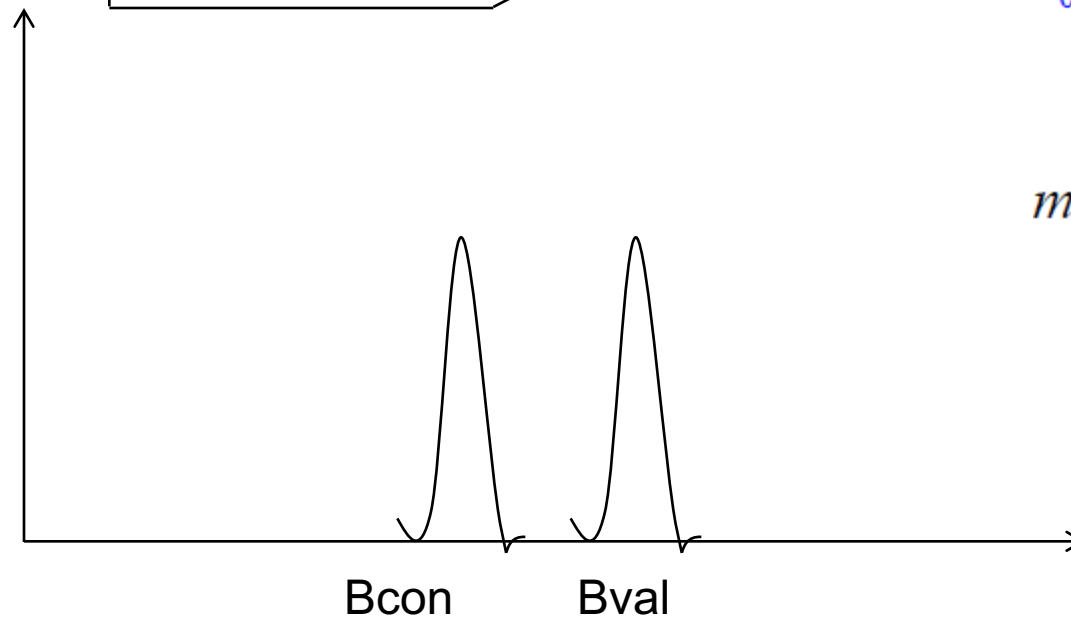
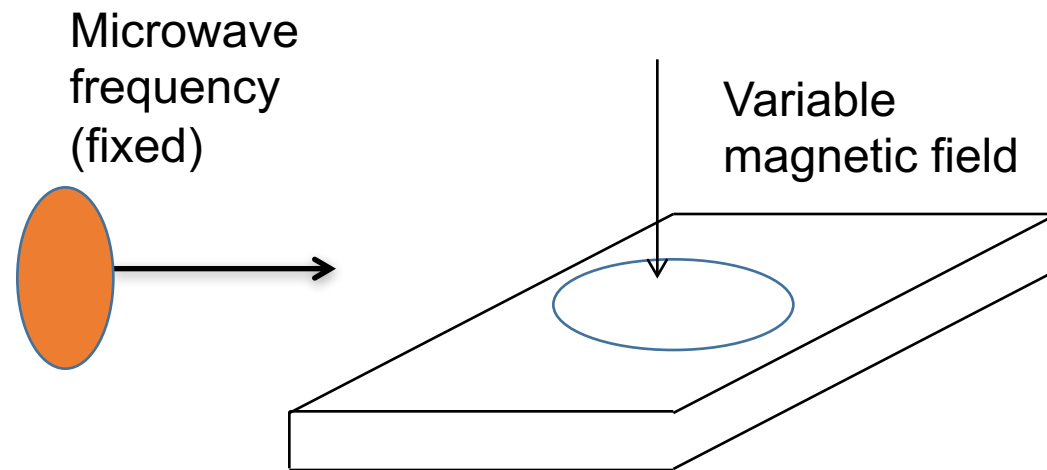
$$\text{where, } \frac{1}{m_*} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{where, } \frac{1}{m_*} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2A}{\hbar^2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2B}{\hbar^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{2B}{\hbar^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Measurement of effective mass



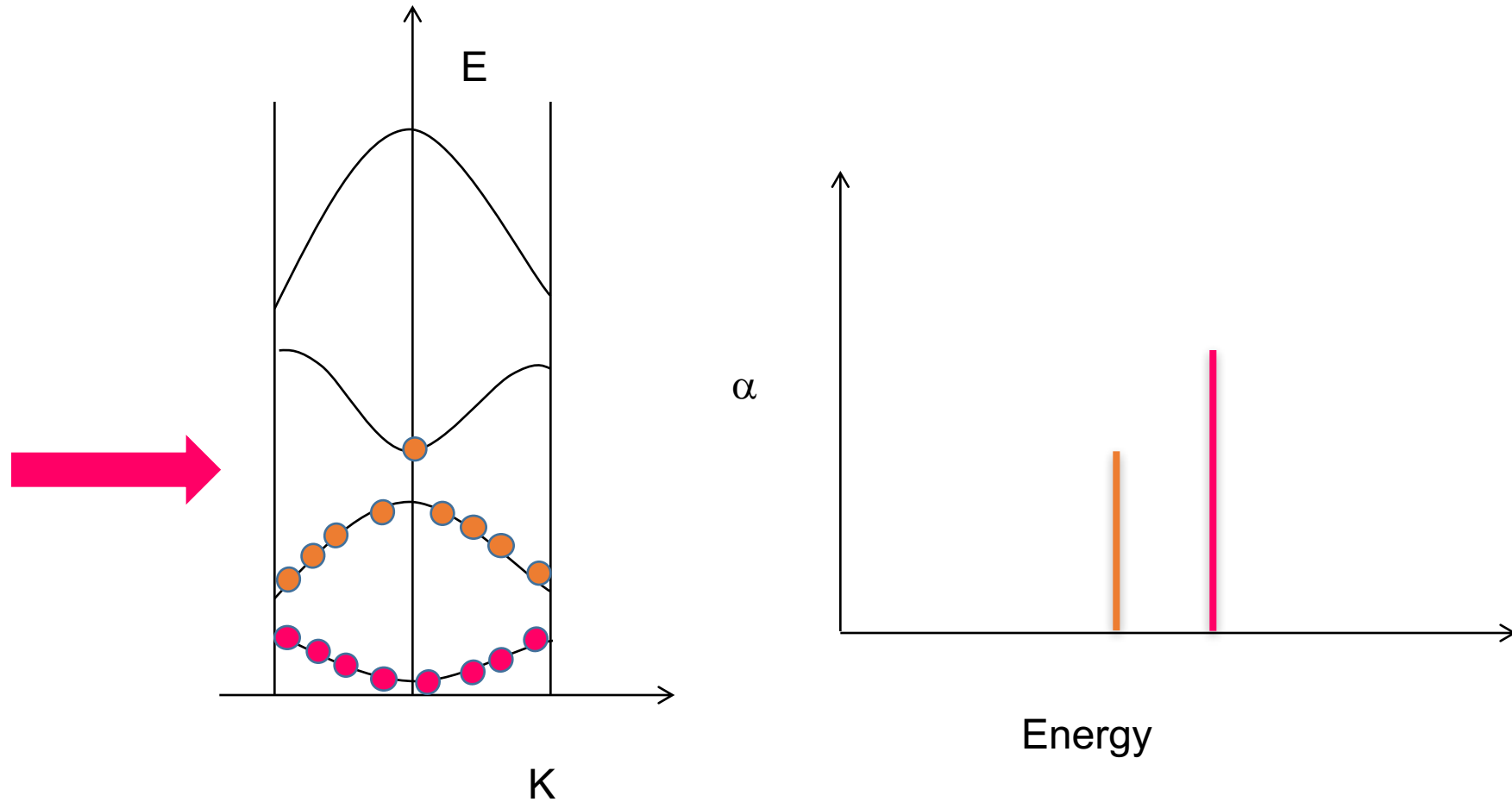
Cont.



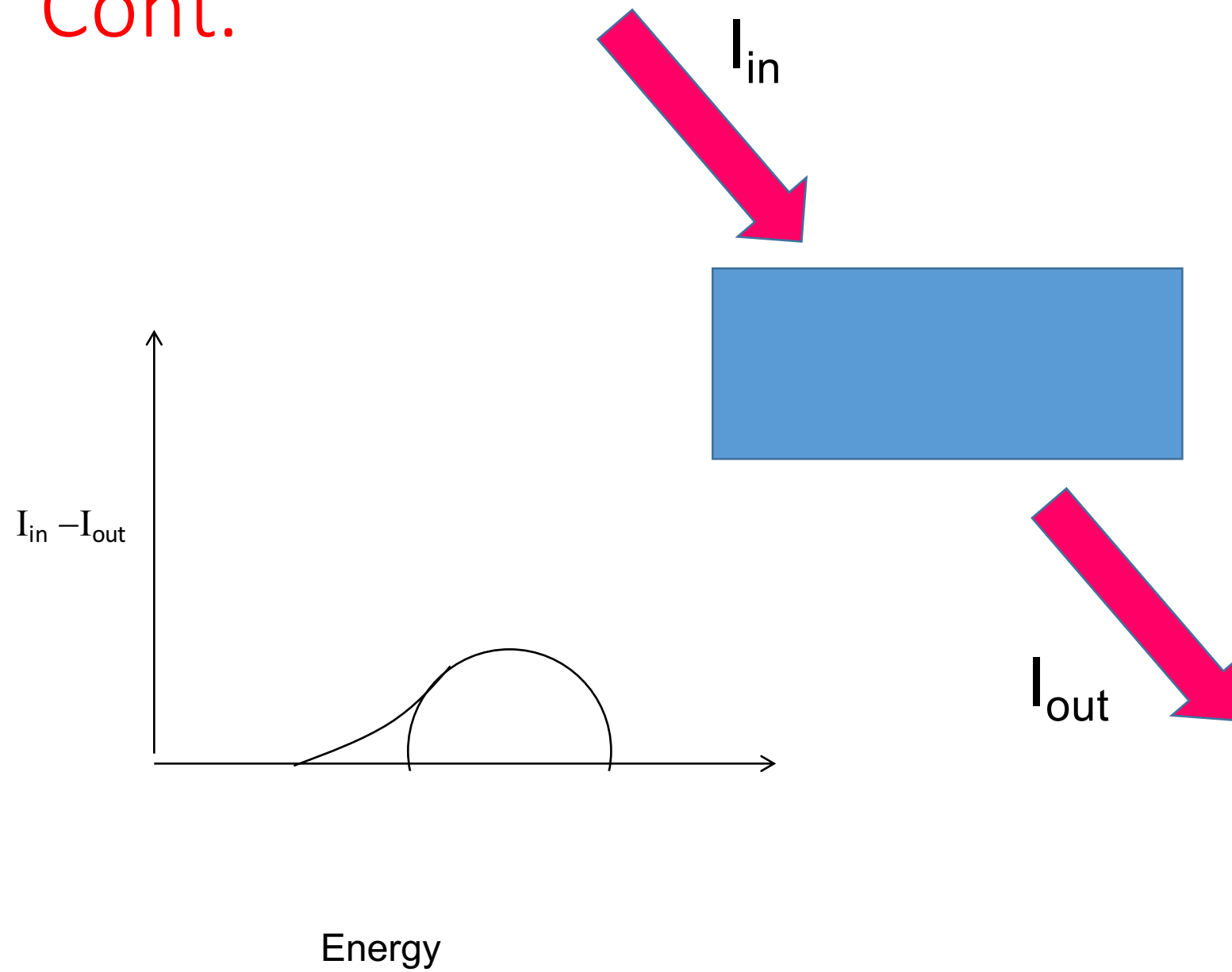
$$\nu_0 = \frac{qB_0}{2\pi m^*}$$

$$m^* = \frac{qB_0}{2\pi\nu_0}$$

Measurement of Band Gap



Cont.



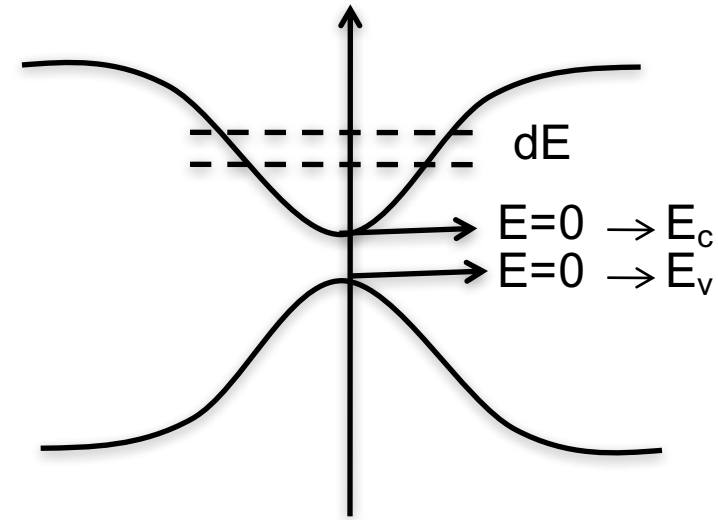
Carrier concentration

Density of electron/holes in energy interval dE -

$$dn_o = f(E)g(E)dE$$

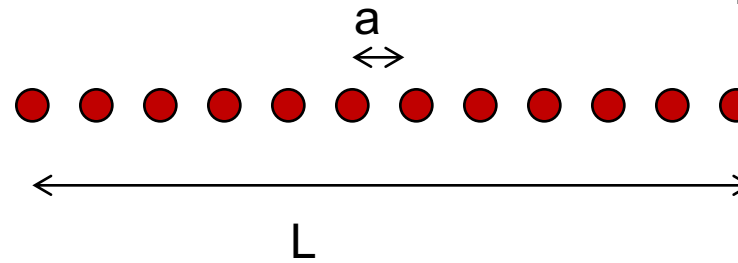
How do electrons and holes populate the bands?

$$n_o = \int_0^{E_{top}} f(E)g(E)dE$$



Density of states in band (1-D)

N total no of atoms

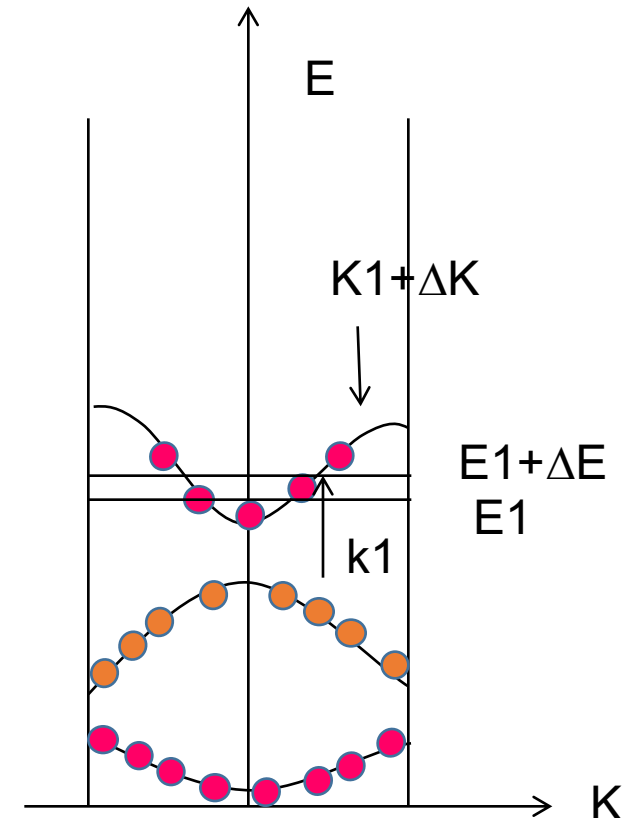


States between $E_1 + \Delta E$ and $E_1 = 2\pi(\Delta k / \delta k)$

$$k = \pm \frac{2\pi n}{Na} = -\frac{N}{2} \dots -1, 0, 1, \dots, N/2$$

$$= 2\pi \Delta k / (2\pi / Na)$$

$$\text{States per unit Energy} = (N \cdot a \cdot \Delta k) / (\pi \cdot \Delta E)$$



Cont.

- States per unit Energy = $\frac{N \cdot a \cdot \Delta k}{\pi \cdot \Delta E}$

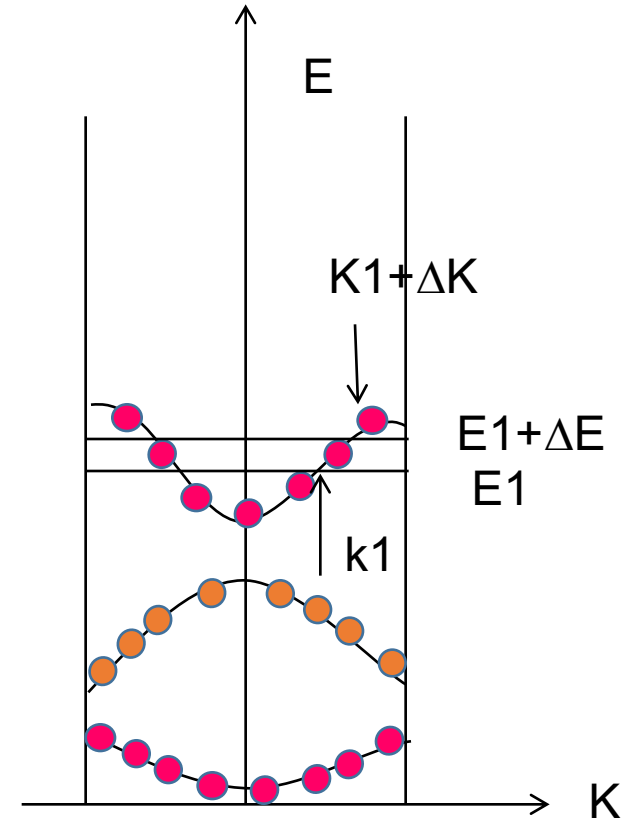
With free electron approximation

$$E - E_0 = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m^*} \Rightarrow k = \sqrt{\frac{2m^* (E - E_0)}{\hbar^2}}$$

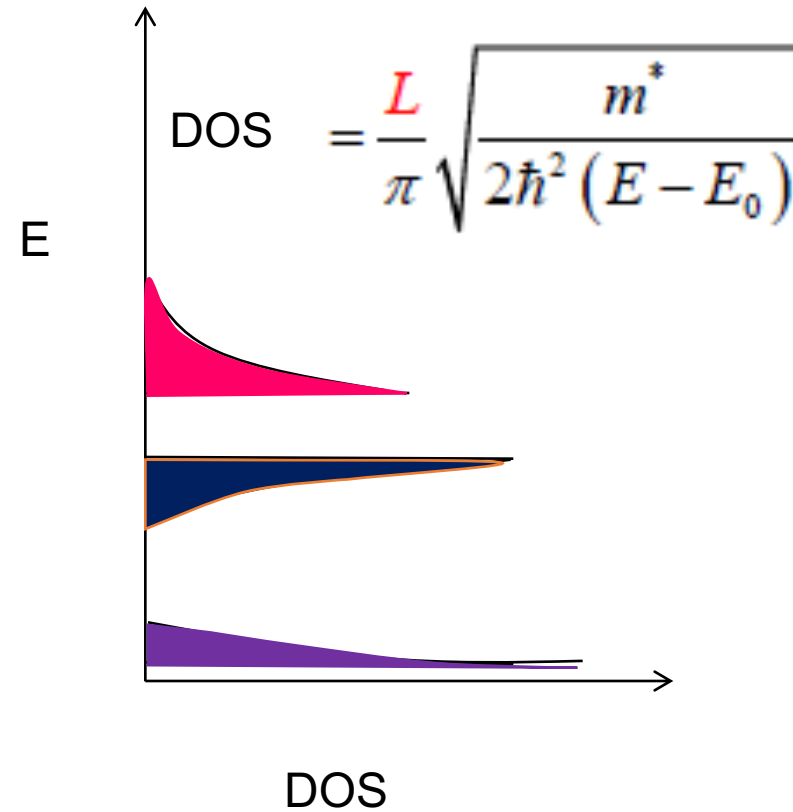
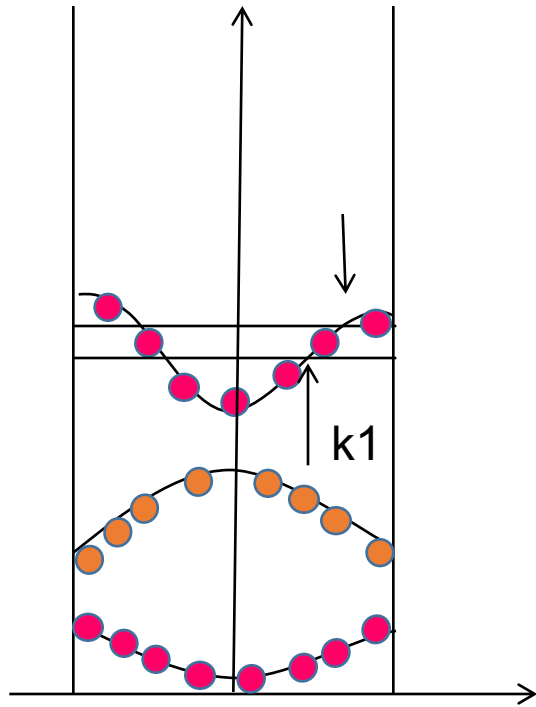
$$\frac{dk}{dE} = \sqrt{\frac{m^*}{2\hbar^2 (E - E_0)}}$$

$$\text{States per unit Energy @E} = \frac{L}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{m^*}{2\hbar^2 (E - E_0)}}$$

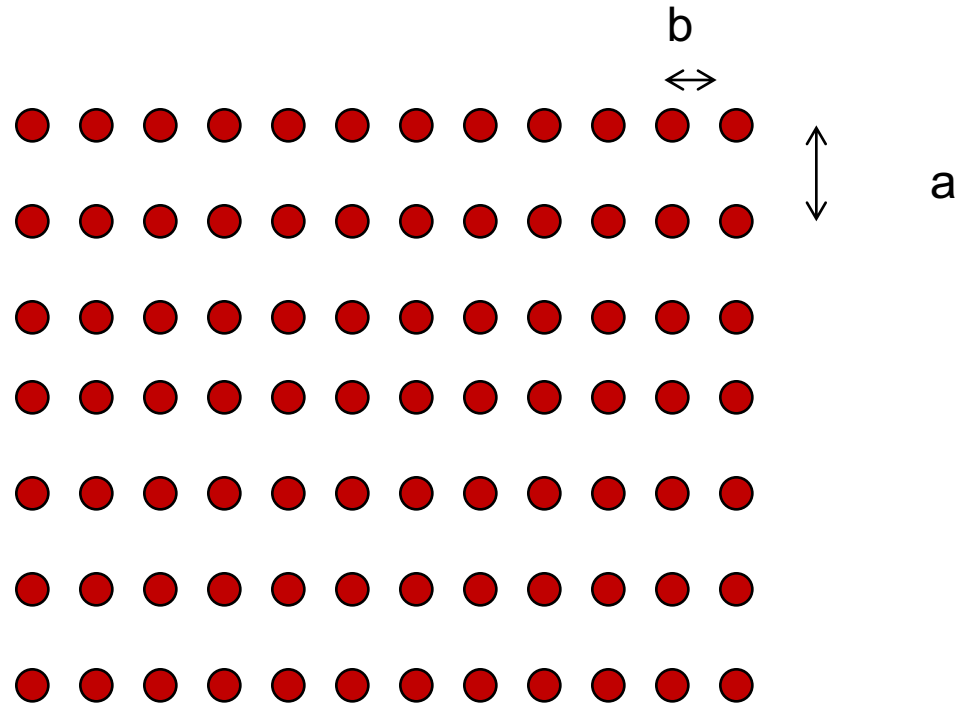
$$\text{States per unit Energy per unit length @E} = \frac{1}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{m^*}{2\hbar^2 (E - E_0)}}$$



Graphical Representation of DOS



Density of States in 2D Semiconductors



Interesting result :
DOS will be independent of Energy

DOS in 3-D semiconductor

Volume of single states in K-space is $(2\pi/L)^3$

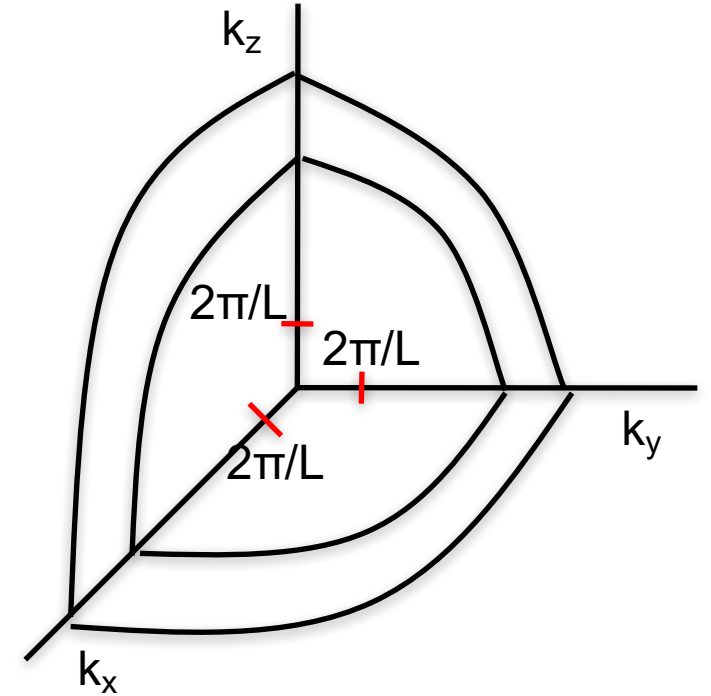
Volume of spherical cell of radius k
and thickness $k+dk$ $=4\pi k^2 dk$

States between $E_1+\Delta E$ and E_1

$$=4\pi k^2 dk / (2\pi/L)^3$$

$$=Vk^2 dk / 2\pi^2$$

$$\text{States /energy} = (Vk^2 dk / dE) / 2\pi^2$$



$$E - E_0 = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m^*} \Rightarrow k = \sqrt{\frac{2m^* (E - E_0)}{\hbar^2}} \Rightarrow \frac{dk}{dE} = \sqrt{\frac{m^*}{2\hbar^2 (E - E_0)}}$$

States/unit energy/unit volume @ E_1

$$DOS = \frac{m^*}{2\pi^2 \hbar^3} \sqrt{2m^* (E - E_0)}$$

Graphical representation

