

Semiconductor Devices Summary

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1. Constants & Various

Constants (@300K)

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ F/m} \quad m_0 = 9.11 \cdot 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

$$k = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K} = 8.617 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K}$$

$$\frac{kT}{q} = 0.0259 \text{ V}, \quad \frac{q}{kT} = 38.61 \frac{1}{\text{V}}, \quad kT = 25.9 \text{ meV}$$

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ J} \quad q = 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ A s}$$

Silicon (@300K) -> 4 valence electrons

$$n_i^2 = 9.3 \cdot 10^{19} / \text{cm}^6 \quad n_i = 9.65 \cdot 10^9 / \text{cm}^3$$

$$N_C = 2.86 \cdot 10^{19} / \text{cm}^3 \quad N_V = 2.66 \cdot 10^{19} / \text{cm}^3$$

$$\epsilon_s = 11.8 \cdot \epsilon_0 \quad v_{th} \approx 10^7 \text{ cm/s}$$

$$\epsilon_{ox} = 3.9 (\text{SiO}_2) \quad E_G = 1.12 \text{ eV} \quad \chi_S = 4.05 \text{ V}$$

Quantum physics

$$h = 6.625 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ J s} = \lambda \cdot p$$

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T} = v \cdot k \quad k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad p = \frac{h}{2\pi} \cdot k = \hbar \cdot k$$

$$\frac{1}{2} m v_{th} = \frac{3}{2} kT \rightarrow v_{th} = \sqrt{3kT/m_0} \approx 10^7 \text{ cm/s}$$

Electronics

$$R = \rho \cdot \frac{\text{Length}}{\text{Area}}, \quad \rho \text{ conductivity } (\Omega/\text{cm})$$

$$E_{kin} + E_{pot} = \text{constant}$$

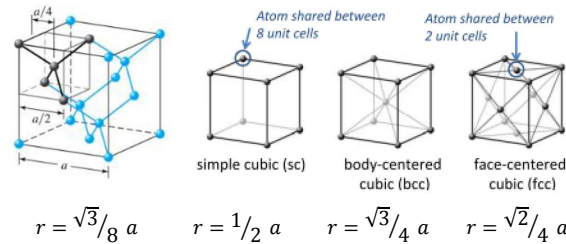
$$V = -\frac{E_{pot}}{q} = -\int E dx, \quad E = -\frac{dV}{dx}$$

2. Crystals and Current Carriers

Semi-Conductor: Conductivity controllable over orders of magnitude by means of:

Impurities (doping), light, temperature, EM-fields

Coordination number: number of nearest neighbors



Simple Metals: coord. number > # of valence electrons

Transition Metals: bonds covalent-like, harder

Covalent Bonding: hybridization of s- & p-orbitals, stiff
-> *tetrahedral bonding*: coord. number = 4, 8N states

s-orbitals : 2 allowed states ; **p-orbitals** : 6 allowed states

Partially filled/empty bands conduct currents !

Band gap: between valence and conduction band

Intrinsic carriers

No doping, pure semiconductor, created by heat

$$n_0 = p_0 = n_i \sim 1/E_G$$

E_G : Silicon 1.12 eV, GaAs 1.42 eV @ 300 K

Extrinsic carriers

Donors (n-type): give electrons (P, As, Sb)

Acceptors (p-type): give holes (B, Al, Ga, In)

Overall, solid is neutral: one fixed charge, one free

$$p_0 = \frac{n_i^2}{N_D}, \quad n_0 = \frac{n_i^2}{N_A}$$

Fermi Dirac Statistics

$F(E)$: probability of finding an electron with energy E

$$F(E) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(E-E_F)/kT}} \cong e^{-\frac{(E-E_F)}{kT}} \quad E \gg E_F$$

Fermi level E_F : energy where $F(E = E_F) = 1/2$

Probability of finding a hole: $H(E) = 1 - F(E)$

$$n_0 = \int_{E_C}^{\infty} f(E) \times D(E_{kin}) dE_{kin}, \quad p_0 = \int_{-\infty}^{E_V} (1 - f(E)) \times D(E_{kin}) dE_{kin}$$

$$\text{Density of State: } D(E_{kin}) = \frac{8\pi\sqrt{2}}{h^3} (m^*)^{3/2} (E_{kin})^{1/2}$$

$$\text{Kinetic energy: } E_{kin} = \frac{|\vec{p}|^2}{2m^*} = \frac{(p_x)^2 + (p_y)^2 + (p_z)^2}{2m^*}$$

i) Fermi levels in all regions will lign up

ii) Far away from transition, Fermi level is like without junction (material doesn't "know")

iii) At Equilibrium/Steady-State, E_F must be flat (constant) so that no current will be flowing

Carrier concentration

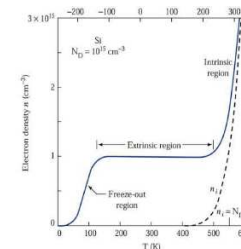
$$N_C = \frac{4\sqrt{2}(\pi m^* kT)^{3/2}}{h^3}, \quad N_V = \frac{4\sqrt{2}(\pi m^* kT)^{3/2}}{h^3}$$

$$n_0 = N_C \cdot e^{-\frac{E_C - E_F}{kT}} = n_i \cdot e^{-\frac{E_F - E_i}{kT}}$$

$$p_0 = N_V \cdot e^{-\frac{E_F - E_V}{kT}} = n_i \cdot e^{-\frac{E_i - E_F}{kT}}$$

$$n_i^2 = N_V \cdot N_C \cdot e^{-E_G/kT}, \quad E_G = E_C - E_V$$

$$\text{Constant product: } n_0 \cdot p_0 = n_i^2$$



Carrier "Freeze-Out": $T \ll 0^\circ\text{C}$

"Extrinsic Region": donors ionized

"Intrinsic Region": doping irrelevant

3. Carrier transport

Diffusion current: concentration gradients
from *high to low* concentration

$$J_n = q D_n \frac{dn}{dx}, \quad J_p = -q D_p \frac{dp}{dx}$$

Drift current: electric field
holes with field, electrons against it

$$J_n = n q \mu \vec{E}, \quad J_p = p q \mu \vec{E}$$

Total current:

$$J_n = n q \mu \vec{E} + q D_n \frac{dn}{dx}, \quad J_p = p q \mu \vec{E} - q D_p \frac{dp}{dx}$$

Conductivity

$$J_{drift,tot} = \sigma E \rightarrow \sigma = n q \mu_n + p q \mu_p$$

Einstein relation

$$D_n = \frac{kT}{q} \mu_n, \quad D_p = \frac{kT}{q} \mu_p$$

In PN Junction: only diffusion currents (flat bands)

$$\frac{dn}{dx} = \frac{n_{po}(e^{qV_F/kT} - 1)}{L_n}, \quad \frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{p_{no}(e^{qV_F/kT} - 1)}{L_p}$$

$$J_t = q D_n \frac{dn}{dx} - q D_p \frac{dp}{dx} = J_s * (e^{qV_F/kT} - 1)$$

$$J_t = \left[\frac{q D_n n_{po}}{L_n} + \frac{q D_p p_{no}}{L_p} \right] * (e^{qV_F/kT} - 1)$$

Reverse breakdown

i) **Band-to-Band Tunneling (Zener)**

applies when both sides are heavily doped

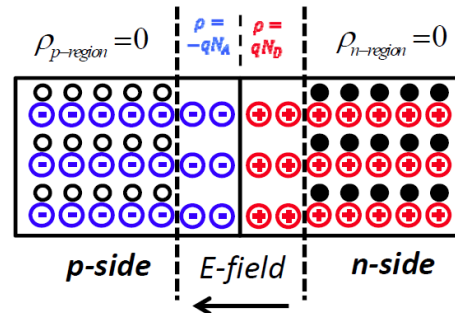
ii) **Avalanche Multiplication**

strong electric field creates large kinetic energy to the carriers, so that they ionize others via collision

4. PN Junction

Built-in voltage

Band-bending that balances drift & diffusion currents



$$V_{bi} = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left(\frac{N_A * N_D}{(n_i)^2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} E_{max} * W$$

Forward Bias: reduce band bending, less difference
more minority carriers -> minority carrier injection

Reverse Bias: increase band bending, less minority

Band-bending = presence of an electric field

Conduction Band Edge: E_{pot} of electrons

Valence Band Edge: E_{pot} of holes

Diode currents: minority carriers

$$n_{p0} = \frac{(n_i)^2}{N_A} = N_D * e^{-\frac{qV_{bi}}{kT}}$$

$$p_{n0} = \frac{(n_i)^2}{N_D} = N_A * e^{-\frac{qV_{bi}}{kT}}$$

Under Forward-Bias: Shockley Boundary Conditions

$$n_p = N_D * e^{-\frac{q(V_{bi}-V_F)}{kT}} = n_{p0} * e^{+\frac{qV_F}{kT}}$$

$$p_n = N_A * e^{-\frac{q(V_{bi}-V_F)}{kT}} = p_{n0} * e^{+\frac{qV_F}{kT}}$$

Poisson Equation

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_r * \epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_S} \rightarrow V_{bi} = - \int_{-x_p}^{x_n} E(x) dx$$

Depletion approximation

$$|E_{max}| = |E(x=0)| = \frac{qN_A x_p}{\epsilon_S} = \frac{qN_D x_n}{\epsilon_S}$$

$$W = x_p + x_n = \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon_S}{q} \left(\frac{1}{N_A} + \frac{1}{N_D} \right) (V_{bi} - V_{apply})}$$

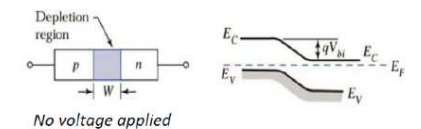
Neutrality: $N_A x_p = N_D x_n$ (same areas)

One-Sided junction: only depletion on lightly-doped side

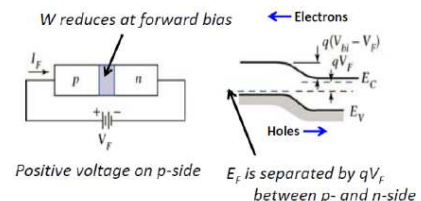
$$W \approx \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon_S}{q} \frac{1}{N_D} V_{bi}}, \quad N_D \ll N_A$$

Depletion capacitance

$$C_j = \frac{dQ}{dV} = \frac{\epsilon_S}{W(V_{bi}, V_{apply})} = \sqrt{\frac{q \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r N_A N_D}{2 V_{bi} (N_A + N_D)}}$$

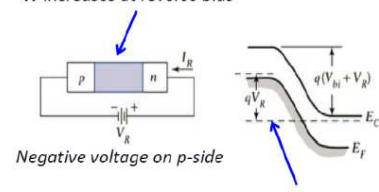


No voltage applied



Positive voltage on p-side E_F is separated by qV_F between p- and n-side

W increases at reverse bias



Negative voltage on p-side

E_F is separated by $q(V_{bi} + V_R)$ between p- and n-side

4. Generation and Recombination

Recombination brings the system back to equilibrium

Non-equilibrium concentration:

$$n = n_0 + \Delta n, p = p_0 + \Delta p, \Delta n = \Delta p$$

Recombination rate (even at Non-equilibrium):

$$R = \beta * (n * p)$$

Thermal generation rate

$$G_{th} = R_{th} = \beta * (n_{n0} * p_{n0})$$

External excitation (e.g. Light) gives additional term:

$$G = G_L + G_{th} \rightarrow \frac{dp_n}{dt} = G_L + G_{th} - R$$

Direct recombination

Direct recombination across the bandgap results in the emission of a photon with energy $E_G = h * f$

Net generation rate U

$$U = \beta * (n * p - n_i^2) = G_L = R - G_{th}$$

Under low-level injection: $p_{n0} \ll n_{n0}, \Delta p \ll n_{n0}$

$$U = \frac{\Delta p}{\tau_p}, \quad \tau_p = \frac{1}{\beta n_{n0}}$$

τ : Minority carrier lifetime (how fast decay)

Example: Lesson 5, p.7

- Light ON

$$G_L = U = \frac{p_n - p_{n0}}{\tau_p} \rightarrow p_n = p_{n0} + \tau_p G_L$$

- Light OFF:

$$G_L = 0 \rightarrow \frac{dp_n}{dt} = G_{th} - R = - \frac{p_n - p_{n0}}{\tau_p}$$

$$\rightarrow p_n(t) = p_{n0} + \tau_p G_L e^{-t/\tau_p}$$

Indirect recombination (Neamen: p.223)

G-R Centers in the Gap (defect states near midgap)

These “traps” facilitate the return of an electron

G/R centers: most effective if E_t near intrinsic E_i

$$U \approx v_{th} \sigma_0 N_t * \frac{\Delta p}{1 + \left(\frac{2n_i}{n_{n0}}\right) \cosh\left(\frac{E_t - E_i}{kT}\right)} = \frac{\Delta p}{\tau_p}$$

N_t : Density of Recombination Centers

σ : Recombination Center cross section

$e_n = v_{th} \sigma_n n_i e^{(E_t - E_i)/kT}$ Electron emission prob.

$e_p = v_{th} \sigma_p n_i e^{(E_i - E_t)/kT}$ Hole emission probability

$R_a = n N_t (1 - f) * v_{th} \sigma_n$ Electron capture rate

$R_b = e_n N_t f$ Electron emission rate

$R_c = p N_t (f) * v_{th} \sigma_p$ Hole capture rate

$R_d = e_p N_t (1 - f)$ Hole emission rate

Surface recombination: “dangling bonds” at surface

Continuity equation

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = \frac{1}{q} \frac{dJ_n}{dx} + (G_n - R_n), \quad \frac{dp}{dt} = -\frac{1}{q} \frac{dJ_p}{dx} + (G_p - R_p)$$

$$\frac{dn_p}{dt} = n_p \mu_n \frac{d\vec{E}}{dx} + \mu_n \vec{E} \frac{dn_p}{dx} + D_n \frac{d^2 n_p}{dx^2} + G_n - \frac{n_p - p_{n0}}{\tau_n}$$

$$\frac{dp_n}{dt} = -p_n \mu_p \frac{d\vec{E}}{dx} - \mu_p \vec{E} \frac{dp_n}{dx} + D_p \frac{d^2 p_n}{dx^2} + G_p - \frac{p_n - p_{n0}}{\tau_p}$$

Steady State: Quantities are Time Independent

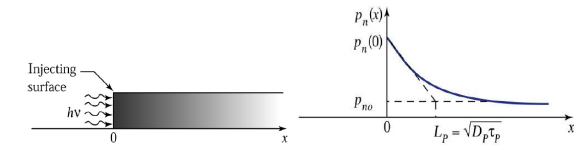
Zero Field: fields in neutral regions are approx. zero

Generation: deficiency of minority carriers

Recombination: excess of minority carriers

Exp: Steady State surface Generation

Long diode: semi-infinite, exponential decay $L \ll W$



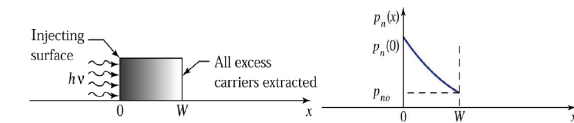
$$p_n(0) = \text{const}, \quad p_n(x \rightarrow \infty) = p_{n0}$$

$$p_n(x) = p_{n0} + [p_n(0) - p_{n0}] * e^{-x/L_p}$$

$$J_p(x_n) = -q D_p \left[\frac{dp_n}{dx} \right]_{x_n} = \frac{q D_p p_{n0}}{L_p} (e^{\frac{q V_F}{kT}} - 1)$$

$$J_n(-x_p) = q D_n \left[\frac{dn_p}{dx} \right]_{-x_p} = \frac{q D_n n_{p0}}{L_n} (e^{\frac{q V_F}{kT}} - 1)$$

Short diode: finite, linear decay $L \gg W$



$$p_n(0) = \text{const}, \quad p_n(x = W) = p_{n0}$$

$$p_n(x) = p_{n0} + [p_n(0) - p_{n0}] \left[\frac{\sinh\left(\frac{W-x}{L_p}\right)}{\sinh\left(\frac{W}{L_p}\right)} \right]$$

Minority Carrier Diffusion Length:

$$L_p = \sqrt{D_p \tau_p}$$

Quasi-Fermi Levels

Under bias, the equilibrium Fermi level splits into 2 distinct quasi-Fermi levels that describe carrier statistics in each diode region

$$n(x) = N_C e^{-(E_C(x) - E_{Fn})/kT}, \quad p(x) = N_V e^{-(E_{Fp} - E_V(x))/kT}$$

$$n(x)p(x) = N_C N_V e^{-\frac{E_G}{kT}} e^{(E_{Fn} - E_{Fp})/kT}$$

$$E_{Fn} - E_{Fp} = q V_F$$

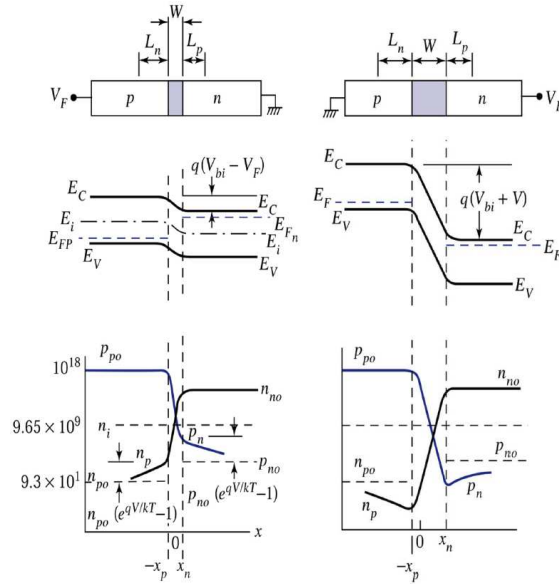
Carrier Profile through Depletion Region

Forward Bias

Reverse Bias

$$n(x)p(x) = n_i^2 e^{q(V_F)/kT} \geq n_i^2$$

$$n(x)p(x) = n_i^2 e^{-q(V_R)/kT} \leq n_i^2$$



Capacitance in depletion region

Depletion capacity per unit square [F / cm²]

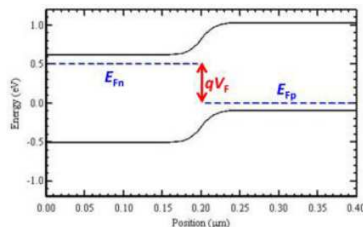
$$C_A = \frac{C}{A} = \frac{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r}{W}, \quad W: \text{depletion width}$$

Non idealities

$$n(x) = N_C e^{-\frac{E_C(x) - E_{Fn}}{kT}}$$

$$p(x) = N_V e^{-\frac{E_{Fp} - E_V(x)}{kT}}$$

$$n(x)p(x) = N_C N_V e^{-\frac{E_G}{kT}} * e^{\frac{E_{Fn} - E_{Fp}}{kT}} = n_i^2 e^{\frac{qV_F}{kT}}$$



Generation currents

Reverse bias

Carrier Deficit \rightarrow Generation current

$$J_{gen} = \int_0^W qG dx = \frac{q n_i}{\tau_g} W, \quad G = \frac{n_i}{\tau_g}$$

$$J_{RT} = J_S + J_{gen} = \left[\frac{qD_n}{N_A L_n} + \frac{qD_p}{N_D L_p} \right] n_i^2 + \frac{qW n_i}{\tau_g}$$

Forward bias

Carrier Excess \rightarrow Recombination current

$$U_{max} = \sigma_0 N_t \frac{n_i^2 (e^{\frac{qV_F}{kT}} - 1)}{p_n + n_n + 2n_i} \approx \frac{1}{2} v_{th} \sigma_0 N_t n_i e^{qV_F/kT}$$

$$J_{rec} = \int_0^W qU dx = \frac{qW n_i}{2 \tau_r} e^{\frac{qV_F}{2kT}}$$

$$J_{FT} = \left[\frac{qD_n}{N_A L_n} + \frac{qD_p}{N_D L_p} \right] n_i^2 e^{qV_F/kT} + \frac{qW n_i}{2 \tau_r} e^{qV_F/2kT}$$

Ideality Factor η : characterizes Diode Forward Current Ideality

Materials with longer recombination lifetime have better ideality

$$J_{FT} = J_S \left(e^{\frac{qV_F}{kT}} - 1 \right) + J_{rec} \sim \exp \left[\frac{qV_F}{\eta kT} \right]$$

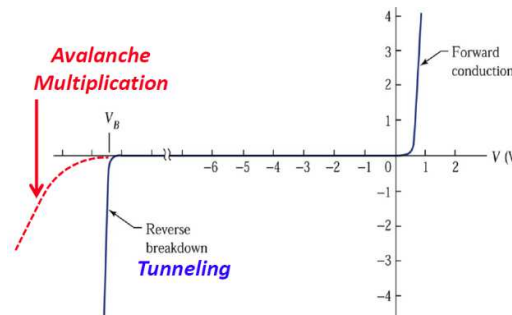
Reverse Breakdown of Diode:

i) *Band-to-Band Tunneling (Zener)*

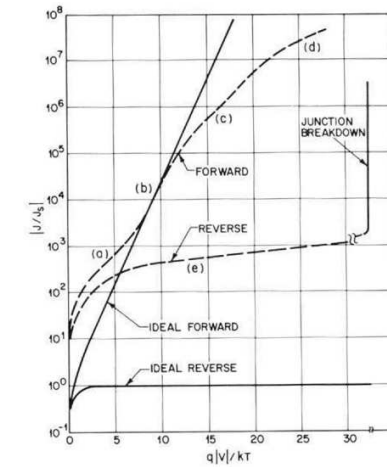
applies when both sides are heavily doped

ii) *Avalanche Multiplication*

strong electric field creates large kinetic energy to the carriers, so that they ionize others via collision



Real PN Junction Diode



a) Recombination in Depletion Region

b) Ideal Injection ($\eta = 1$; $60 \text{ mV}/\text{dec}$)

c) High-Level Injection ($\eta \rightarrow 2$)

d) Series resistance effects (ohmic loss)

e) Generation in Depletion region

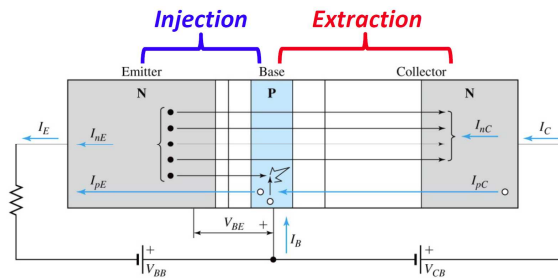
Ohmic losses

Ohmic losses reduce the internal voltage that actually appears across the depletion; at low current levels negligible

$$I \approx I_S \frac{e^{qV_A/kT}}{e^{qIR/kT}}$$

5. Bipolar Junction Transistor (BJT)

BJT is a *Minority Carrier Device* and acts as an *ideal current source* ($I_{Collector}$ does not vary with V_{CB})



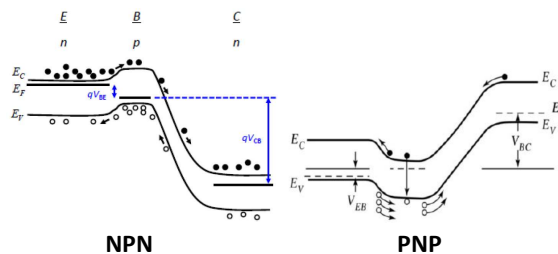
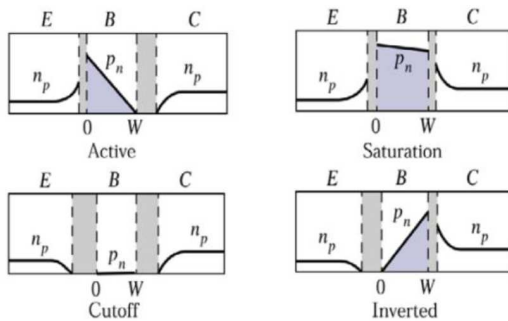
Emitter/Base Junction (in active mode)

Forward-Biased: **Minority Carrier Injection**

Base/Collector Junction (in active mode)

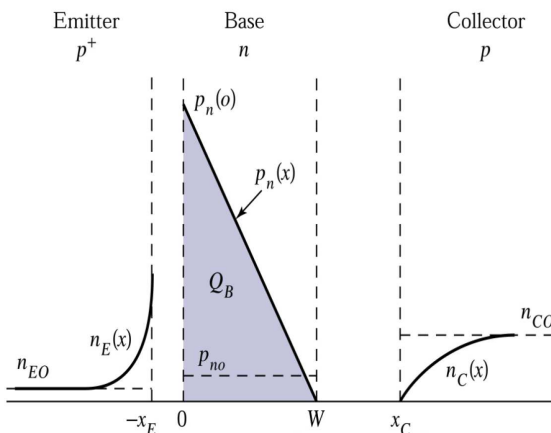
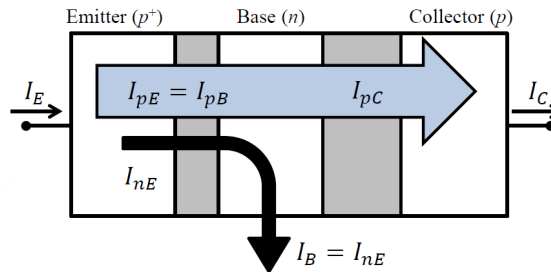
Reversed-Biased: **Minority Carrier Extraction**

Modes	B-E	B-C
Active	Forward	Reverse
Saturation	Forward	Forward
Cutoff	Reverse	Reverse
inverted	Reverse	forward



Ideal currents

- Injection from Emitter into Base
- No Generation/Recombination in Base Layer
- neglect Diode Leakage Current



Constant carrier densities in the depleted regions
Assumed no recombination or generation

$$n_E = n_{E0}, x \rightarrow \infty; n_E(-x_E) = n_{E0} * e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}}$$

$$n_E(x) = n_{E0} + (n_E(-x_E) - n_{E0}) * e^{\frac{x+x_E}{L_E}}$$

$$\rightarrow I_{nE} = I_B = q D_{nE} \frac{dn_E}{dx} = \frac{q D_{nE}}{L_{nE}} n_{E0} \left(e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}} - 1 \right)$$

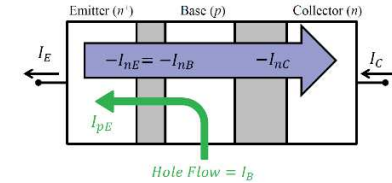
$$p_B(0) = p_{B0} * e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}}, \quad p_B(W) = p_{B0} * e^{\frac{qV_{BC}}{kT}}$$

$$p_B(x) = p_B(W) + (p_B(0) - p_B(W)) * \left(1 - \frac{x}{W} \right)$$

$$\rightarrow I_{pB} = -q D_{pB} \frac{dp_{nB}}{dx} = \frac{q D_{pB}}{W_{B0}} p_{B0} \left(e^{\frac{qV_{EB}}{kT}} - e^{\frac{qV_{BC}}{kT}} \right)$$

For NPN:

$$\beta = \frac{D_{nB}}{D_{pE}} \frac{L_{pE}}{W_B} \frac{N_{DE}}{N_{AB}}$$



$$I_B = I_{pB} = I_{pE} = -\frac{q D_P}{L_{pE}} p_{E0} \left(e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}} - 1 \right)$$

$$I_C = I_{nB} = -\frac{q D_{NB}}{W_B} n_{B0} \left(e^{\frac{qV_{BE}}{kT}} - e^{\frac{qV_{BC}}{kT}} \right)$$

Common Emitter current gain

$$\beta = \frac{I_C}{I_B} = \frac{I_{pC}}{I_{nE}} = \frac{I_{pE}}{I_{nE}} = \frac{D_{pB}}{D_{nE}} \frac{L_{nE}}{W} \frac{N_{AE}}{N_{DB}}, \quad V_{CB} = 0$$

$$I_C = \alpha I_E = \beta I_B, \quad \beta = \alpha / (1 - \alpha)$$

Emitter doping must be higher than base doping:

$$I_{pC} \gg I_{nE} \Leftrightarrow N_{AE} \gg N_{DB}$$

Doping Ration most powerful factor to reach gain

Gummel-Characteristics: 60mV/dec gain in I/V

Transconductance

Collector current: $I_C = I_S * \left(e^{\frac{qV_{EB}}{kT}} - 1 \right)$

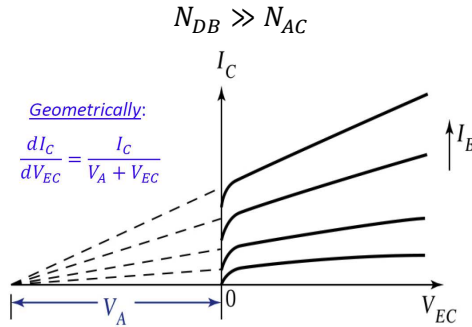
Transconductance: $g_m \approx \frac{I_C}{kT/q}$

Non-ideal currents

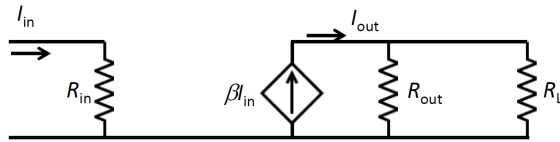
NPN	PNP
$J_{nE} = -q D_{nB} \frac{\partial n_{pB}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=0}$	$J_{nE} = -q D_{nE} \frac{\partial n_{pE}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=-x_E}$
$J_{pE} = -q D_{pE} \frac{\partial p_{nE}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=-x_E}$	$J_{pE} = -q D_{pB} \frac{\partial p_{nB}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=0}$
$J_{nC} = q D_{nB} \frac{\partial n_{pB}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=W}$	$J_{nC} = q D_{nC} \frac{\partial n_{pC}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=x_C}$
$J_{pC} = -q D_{pC} \frac{\partial p_{nC}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=x_C}$	$J_{pC} = -q D_{pB} \frac{\partial p_{nB}}{\partial x} \Big _{x=W}$
$J_{BB} = J_{nE} - J_{nC}$	$J_{BB} = J_{pE} - J_{pC}$
No base recombination, if:	
$W_B \ll L_{nB} \Rightarrow J_{BB} \approx 0$	$W_B \ll L_{pB} \Rightarrow J_{BB} \approx 0$
$I_E = I_{pE} + I_{nE}$	$I_E = I_{nE} + I_{pE}$
$I_C = I_{pC} + I_{nC}$	$I_C = I_{nC} + I_{pC}$
$I_B = I_{pE} + (I_{nE} - I_{nC}) - I_{pC}$	$I_B = I_{nE} + (I_{pE} - I_{pC}) - I_{nC}$

“Early” – effect:

In practice, the I_C depends on V_{BC} . The depletion region becomes wider with increasing BC reverse bias, decreasing the undepleted base width, which increases I_C . To avoid this, the base doping must be higher than collector:



Power Gain from Amplifier



$$G = \frac{I_{out}^2 R_{load}}{I_{in}^2 R_{in}} = \beta^2 \frac{R_L}{R_{in}} = \beta \frac{R_L I_C}{kT/q}$$

For power gain: $R_{out} \rightarrow \infty \Leftrightarrow V_A \rightarrow \infty$

$$G_A = \beta^2 \frac{R_L}{R_{in}} \left(\frac{[V_A + V_{CE}]/I_C R_L}{[V_A + V_{CE}]/I_C R_L + 1} \right)$$

Used power: $P = V_{CE} * I_C$

Cost of power gain: $P_D = V_{CE} * I_C - P_{out}$

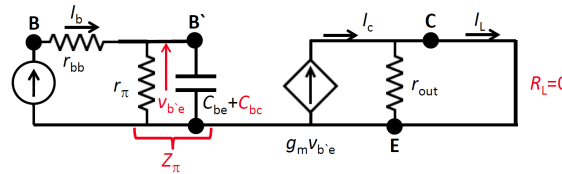
Maximum Power gain (with impedance matching)

$$G_p = \frac{1}{f^2} \frac{f_T}{8\pi R_B C_{BC}}, \quad f_{MAX} = \sqrt{\frac{f_T}{8\pi R_B C_{BC}}}$$

Cutoff frequency

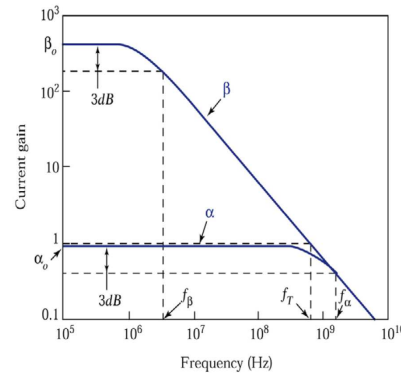
Unity Current Gain Cutoff frequency: $\beta(f_T) = 1$

Measured with Short-Circuit load ($R_L = 0$)



$$h_{fe}(\omega) = \frac{I_C}{I_B} = \frac{g_m r_\pi}{1 + j\omega r_\pi C_\pi} = \beta(\omega)$$

$$h_{fe}(\omega = 0) = g_m r_\pi$$



Transistor behaves as a Low-Pass

$$\beta(\omega) = h_{fe}(\omega) = \frac{\beta_0}{1 + j(f/f_\beta)}$$

$$f_\beta = \frac{1}{2\pi C_\pi r_\pi}, \quad \beta_0 = g_m r_\pi$$

Cutoff Frequency: $f_{T0} = \frac{g_m}{2\pi C_\pi}$

Common-Base (BC) Current Gain

$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{\beta(\omega)}{\beta(\omega) + 1} = \frac{I_C}{I_E} = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + j(f/f_\alpha)}$$

$$f_\alpha = (\beta_0 + 1) f_\beta, \quad \alpha_0 = \beta_0 / \beta_0 + 1$$

Additional Delay terms

τ_B : Base Transit Time (diffusion across the base)

τ_C : Collector Signal Delay Time (through depletion)

$$\tau_B = \frac{Q_B}{J_C} = \frac{W_B^2}{2D_n}, \quad \tau_C = \frac{W_C}{2 * v_{sat}}$$

$$\frac{1}{f_{\alpha\tau}} = \frac{1}{f_\alpha} + \frac{1}{f_\tau}, \quad f_\tau = \frac{1}{2\pi\tau}$$

Cutoff frequency including delay terms

$$f_T = \sqrt{\beta_0^2 - 1} f_{\beta\tau} \approx \alpha_0 f_{\alpha\tau} = \frac{1}{2\pi\tau_T}$$

Where τ_T is the transit time / sum of all delays

$$\tau_T \approx \frac{C_\pi}{g_m} + \tau = \frac{C_\pi}{g_m} + \tau_1 + \tau_2 + \dots$$

Common-emitter delay term: C_π/g_m

Kirk-Effect (“Base spreading”)

At high currents, the electron density n_C in the collector becomes comparable to the donor density (npn BJT). Therefore, it cannot be neglected for the calculation of the E-Field in the collector:

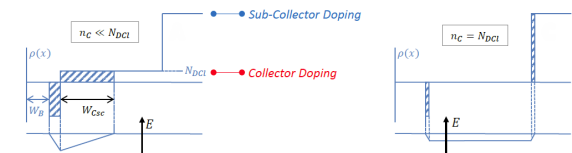
$$E(x) = \frac{q}{\epsilon_S} [(N_{DC} - n_C)x + E_{depletion}]$$

Base spread (increases τ_B , reduces β)

$$W_k = W_C * \left[1 - \sqrt{\frac{V_{CB}/V_{Cd}}{(n_C/N_{DC}) - 1}} \right]$$

Kirk effect threshold current

$$J_K = q * v_{sat} * N_{DCI} \left(1 + \frac{2 \epsilon_S V_{CB}}{q N_{DCI} W_C^2} \right)$$



Base drift field

Carrier transport across the base can be aided by introducing an electric field, such as by **non-flat base doping profiles / grading the doping**.

P-type base with width W_B with an electric field:

$$n_B(x) = -\frac{J_n W_B}{q D_n} \frac{1 - e^{-\eta(1 - \frac{x}{W_B})}}{\eta}, \quad \eta = \frac{W_B}{x_0}$$

η : accelerating field factor / grading

$$\tau_B = \frac{W_B^2}{D_n} \left(\frac{\eta - 1 + e^{-\eta}}{\eta^2} \right), \quad \tau_B(\eta = 0) = \frac{W_B^2}{2D_n}$$

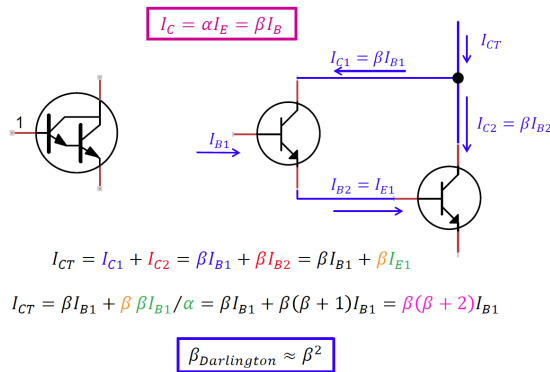
NPN base charge: $Q_B = \int_0^{W_B} -q n_B dx \quad [C/cm^2]$

Heterojunction Bipolar Transistor (HBT)

Different materials and bandgaps for emitter & base

$$\beta = \beta_{BJT} * \frac{n_{iB}^2}{n_{iE}^2} = \beta_{BJT} e^{\frac{\Delta E_G}{kT}}$$

Darlington Pair



6. MOSFET

In contrast to BJTs majority devices (majority carrier)

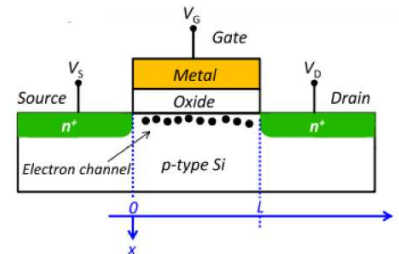
N-Channel: electrons, P-Channel: holes

Depletion Mode: channel present at equilibrium

Enhancement Mode: no channel at equilibrium

Type	Cross Section	Output Characteristics	Transfer Characteristics
n-Channel Enhancement (Normally Off)			
n-Channel Depletion (Normally On)			
p-Channel Enhancement (Normally Off)			
p-Channel Depletion (Normally On)			

Structure



Drain-Source voltage V_{DS} : low for uniform channel

Gate-Source voltage V_{GS} : large enough for channel

Channel is built by minority carriers between S & D

Sheet resistance

$$R_s = \rho * \frac{\text{Length}}{\text{Area}} = \frac{\rho}{\text{Thickness}} \quad [\Omega/m^2]$$

$$R_s(x) = \frac{1}{\mu_n C_{OX} (V_{GS} - V_T - V(x))}$$

$V(x)$: channel voltage; $V(0) = V_S = 0$, $V(L) = V_{DS}$

V_T : threshold voltage for strong inversion

Basic characteristics

Inversion layer has thickness X , charge density Q_n

$$Q_n = -q n X = -C_{OX} (V_{GS} - V_T - V(x))$$

$$X = \frac{C_{OX} (V_{GS} - V_T - V(x))}{q n}, \quad Z: \text{width}$$

$$I_{CH} = I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{OX}}{2} \frac{Z}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_T) V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

Pinch-Off

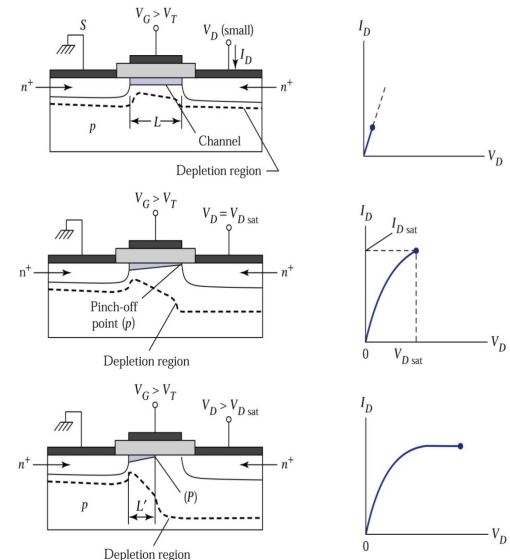
Pinch-off when $V_{DS} \geq V_{GS} - V_T$ at drain side

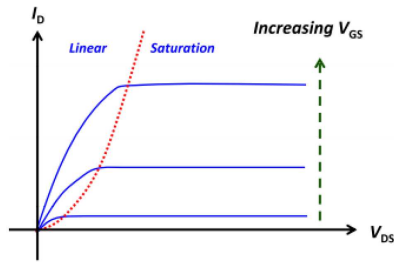
Linear region: $V_{DS} < V_{GS} - V_T$

$$I_{CH} = I_D = \frac{\mu_n C_{OX}}{2} \frac{Z}{L} [2(V_{GS} - V_T) V_{DS} - V_{DS}^2]$$

Saturation region: $V_{DS} \geq V_{GS} - V_T$

$$I_{DSat} = \frac{\mu_n C_{OX}}{2} \frac{Z}{L} (V_{GS} - V_T)^2$$

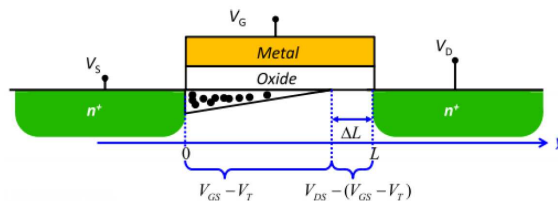




Transconductance in Saturation region

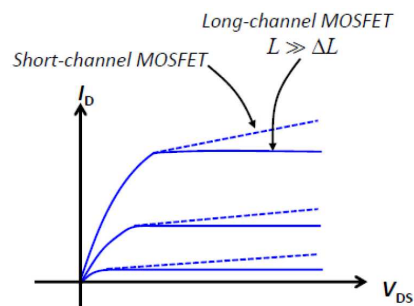
$$g_m = \frac{dI_{D_{sat}}}{dV_{GS}} = \frac{\mu_n C_{OX} Z}{L} (V_{GS} - V_T)$$

Channel length modulation (L12P2)



Assume $\Delta L \ll L$: channel length independent of V_{DS}

When we cannot assume that $\Delta L \ll L$, we have a **short-channel MOSFET** whose drain-current increases with increasing V_{DS} ! Like Early for BJTs

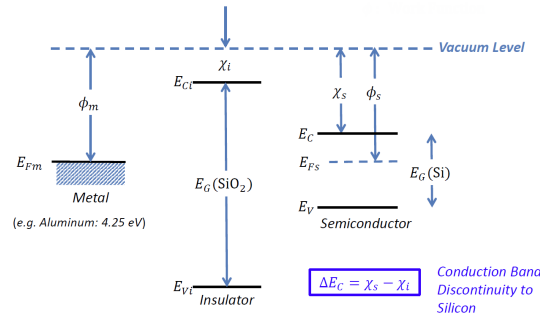


Reducing the channel length increases:

- transconductance g_m
- operation speed
- device density

But V_T decreases (threshold voltage shift)

Band diagramm



Electron affinity : $\chi = E_0 - E_C$ [eV]

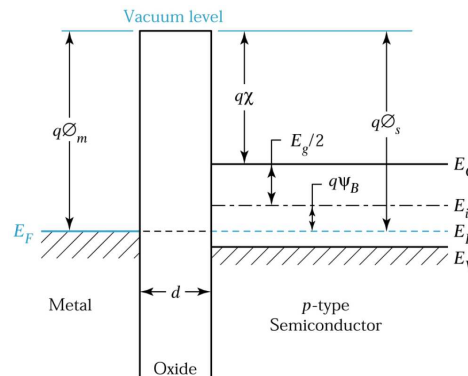
Work function : $\Phi = E_0 - E_F$ [eV]

Vacuum level : E_0

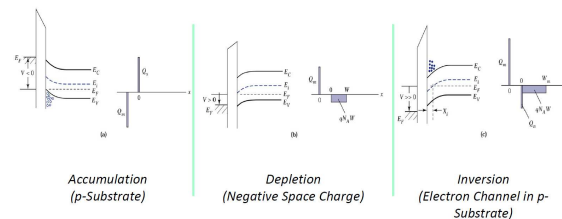
At Equilibrium, the Fermi Level must be constant !

As the metal workfunction differs from the semiconductor workfunction, there will be bandbending

Flatband voltage: Gate voltage that makes them flat



Channel Modulation



Band bending

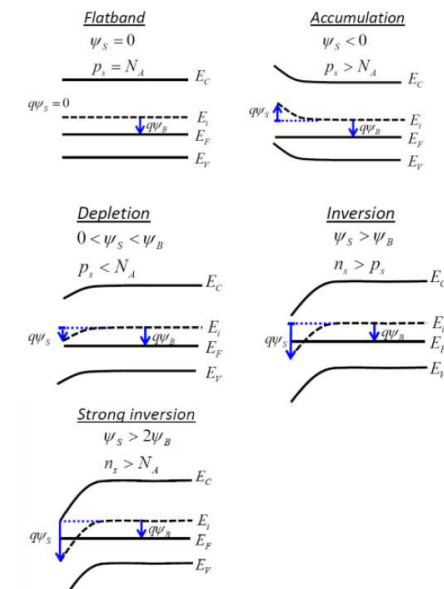
General potential: $q \Psi(x) = E_i - E_i(x)$

Bulk potential : $q \Psi_B(x) = E_i - E_F$

$$\Psi_B = \frac{kT}{q} \ln \left(\frac{N_A}{n_i} \right)$$

$$p_p = n_i e^{\frac{E_i - E_F}{kT}} = n_i e^{\frac{q(\Psi_B - \Psi)}{kT}}$$

$$n_p = n_i e^{\frac{E_F - E_i}{kT}} = n_i e^{\frac{q(\Psi - \Psi_B)}{kT}}$$



Midgap: $\Psi_s = \Psi_B$, $n_p = p_p = n_i$

Depletion region width

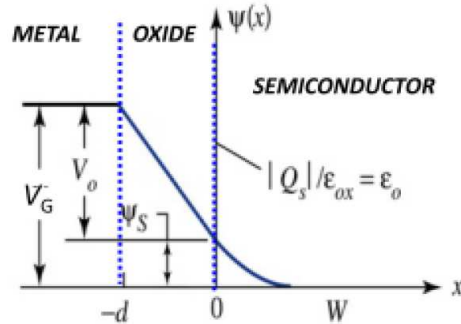
$$\Psi(x) = \Psi_s \left(1 - \frac{x}{W} \right)^2, \quad \Psi_s = \frac{q N_A W^2}{2 \epsilon_s}$$

Depletion width: $W = \sqrt{\frac{2 \epsilon_s \Psi_s}{q N_A}}$

Max. at inversion: $W_{max} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \epsilon_s 2 \Psi_B}{q N_A}}$, $\Psi_s = 2 \Psi_B$

Electric field: $E_s(x) = \frac{q N_A}{\epsilon} (W - x)$

Ideal gate voltage relationship



$$V_G = V_{ox} + \psi_s = d * E_{ox} + \psi_s$$

V_G : Potential drop across oxide & semiconductor

$$V_{ox} = \frac{\sqrt{2 q \epsilon_s N_A \psi_s}}{C_{ox}}, \quad C_{ox} = \frac{\epsilon_{ox}}{d}$$

$$V_G = \frac{\sqrt{2 q \epsilon_s N_A \psi_s}}{C_{ox}} + \psi_s$$

Threshold voltage ($\psi_s = 2 \psi_B$)

$$V_T = \frac{\sqrt{2 q \epsilon_s N_A 2 \psi_B}}{C_{ox}} + 2 * \psi_B$$

After that, W is maximal and stays more or less

Non-ideal gate voltage relationship (voltage shift)

Bands are not flat due to

1. Workfunction difference $\psi_{ms} = (\Phi_m - \Phi_s) / q$
2. Fixed charges inside the oxide

$$\rightarrow V_G = V'_G + V_{FB}, \quad V'_G: \text{ideal gate voltage}$$

$$V_{FB} = \psi_{ms} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_s} \int_{oxide} x \rho_{ox}(x) dx, \quad \epsilon_s = C_o d$$

If the charge in the oxide is fixed:

$$V_{FB} = \psi_{ms} - \frac{Q_o}{C_{ox}}, \quad Q_o \left[\frac{C}{cm^2} \right]$$

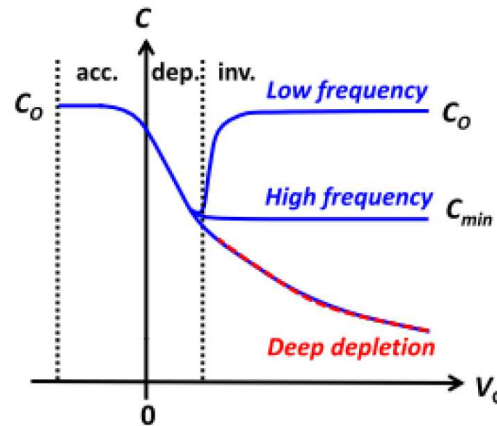
MOS Capacitance

$$C = \frac{C_{ox} C_j}{C_{ox} + C_j}, \quad C_j : \text{depletion capacitance}$$

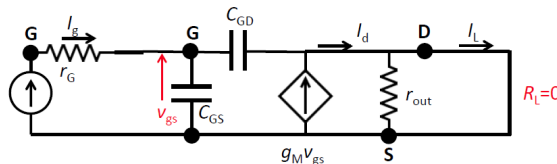
$$\frac{C}{C_{ox}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{2 \epsilon_{ox}^2 V}{q N_A \epsilon_s d}}}, \quad C_{ox} : \frac{\epsilon_{ox}}{d}$$

Accumulation: only majority carriers can respond to fast AC signal → added delta-charge

Deep depletion: DC bias changes so fast that minority carriers cannot respond. Therefore, the depletion layer keeps increasing



Cutoff frequency



$$I_d = g_m v_{gs}, \quad I_g = \frac{v_{gs}}{1/j\omega C_{gt}}, \quad C_{gt} = C_{gs} + C_{gd}$$

$$f_T = \frac{g_m}{2\pi(C_{gs} + C_{gd})} = \frac{3\mu_n}{4\pi} \frac{V_{GS} - V_T}{L^2}$$

Subthreshold swing

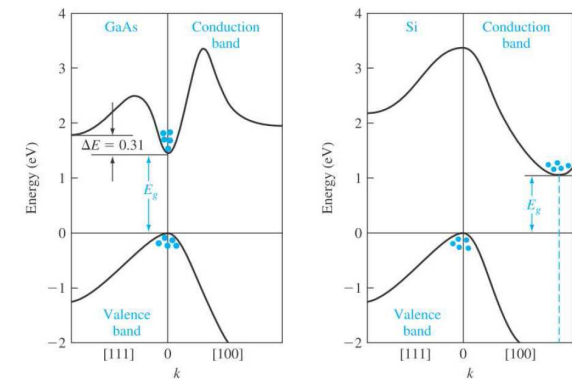
Subthreshold regime: $V_G < V_T$

Subthr. Swing: how effective can it be turned on / off

$$S = \frac{1}{\frac{d(\ln(I_D))}{dV_G}}$$

7. Various / General

Direct and Indirect Bandgaps



A transition in an indirect bandgap material must necessarily include an interaction with the crystal so that crystal momentum is conserved

Material properties

Selected Gate Materials

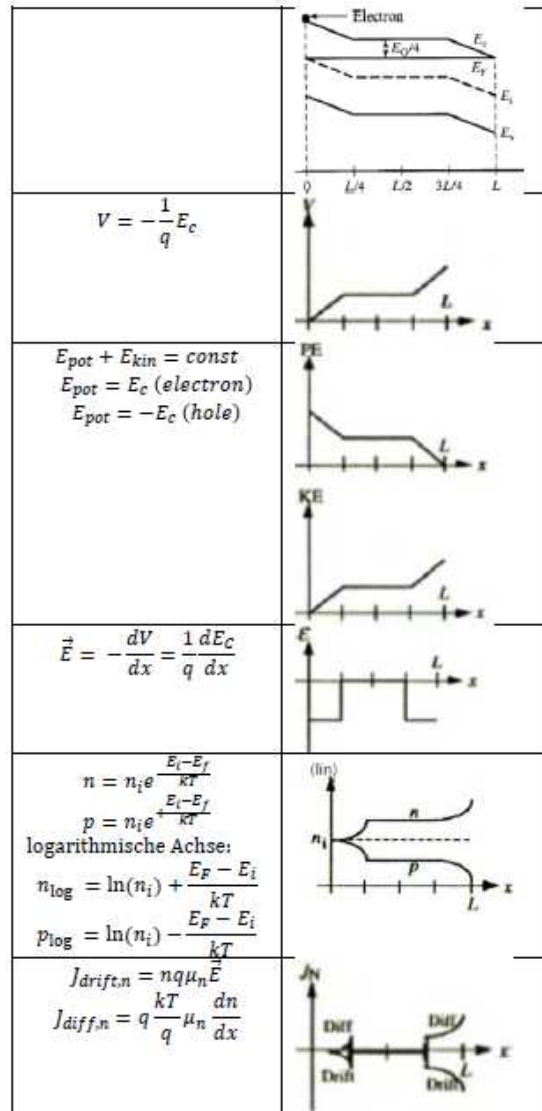
Gate Material	Work Function (eV)
n+ Polysilicon	4.0
Al	4.25
W	4.6
MoSi ₂	4.5
PtSi	5.4
Pd ₂ Si	5.1

Selected Gate Insulators $\Delta E_c = \chi_s - \chi_i$

Insulator	ϵ_r	Gap (eV)	ΔE_c to Si
SiO ₂	3.9	8-9	3.2
Si ₃ N ₄	7.2-7.6	5.1	2.0
Al ₂ O ₃	9.0	8.7	2.1
Ta ₂ O ₅	26	4.5	0.5
ZrO ₂	25	5.8	1.2
HfO ₂	25	5.7	1.5
TiO ₂	80	3.5	1.2

Tipps & Tricks

Energy: $E = \int q \cdot \varepsilon \cdot dx$
 $E_{kin} + E_{pot} = const.$
E-Field: $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{q} \frac{dE}{dx} = -\frac{dV}{dx}$
Potential: $V = -\int \varepsilon \cdot dx = -\frac{1}{q} E_C$
Charge density: $\rho = \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0 \frac{dE}{dx}$
Charge d. with depletion approximation: $q \cdot (N_A - N_D)$



Diamond structure

