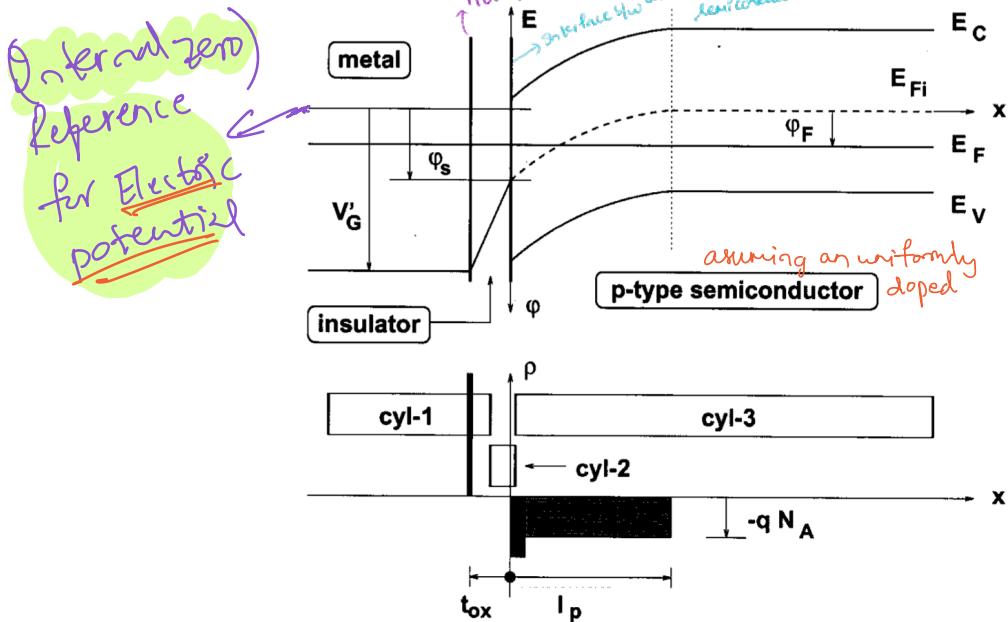


23/03/24

## Lecture-13

16/10/20

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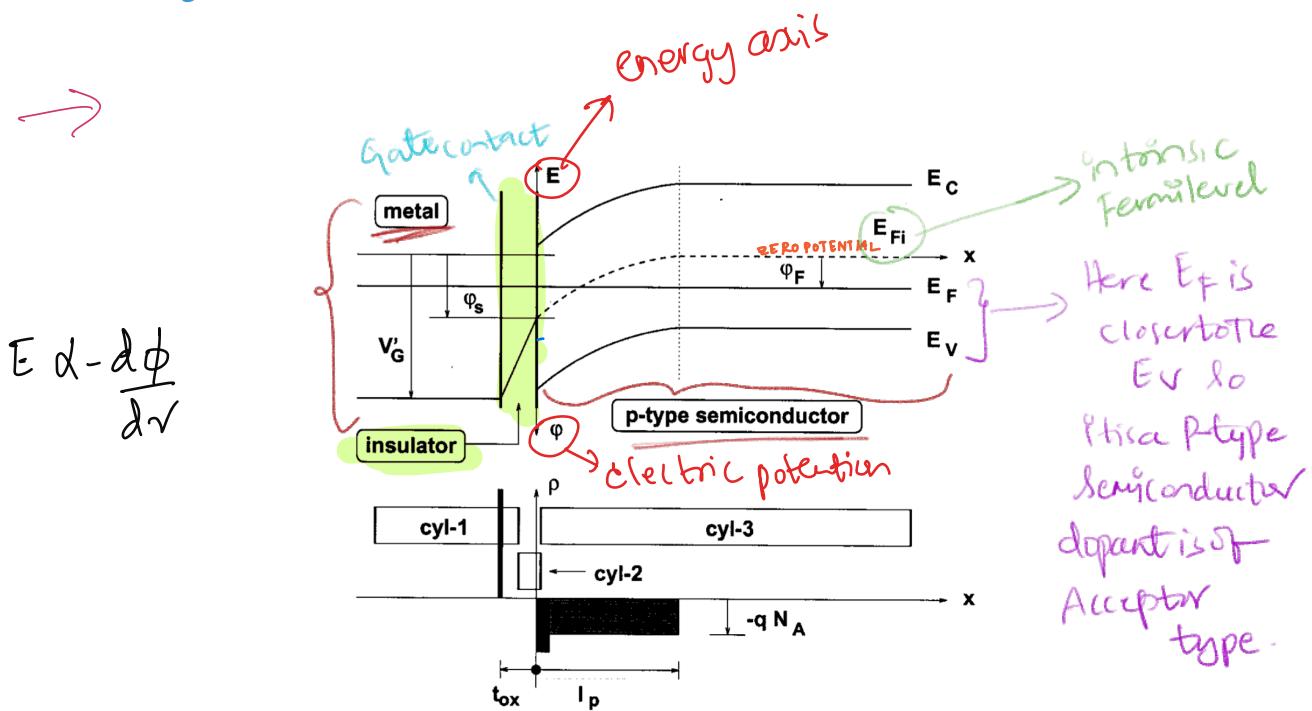
→ So, the MOS capacitor is a structure that is made of silicon substrate on which layer of insulator is deposited or grown.

- In the silicon technology, the insulator is typically made of  $\text{SiO}_2$  and this layer is obtained by growing the Oxide on the silicon (by exposing silicon at high temperature to a gas with some concentration of oxygen)

- If the insulator is made of another material then it is deposited on top of the silicon.

Then a metal contact is deposited on top of the insulator another contact is deposited on the other side of the semiconductor.

So we have a sandwich. If we look at the figure above we can see it.



- In this figure we assume semiconductor is Uniformly with acceptor impurity, if we look at the position of the Fermi level  $E_F$  is below the  $E_{F_i}$  (intrinsic Fermi level). because dopant is of acceptor type

- This diagram mixes Energies & Potentials.

The Potential energy of Electron =  $-q\phi$



↓  
electric potential

i.e The orientation of Energy axis is opposite to the orientation of Electric potential.

$E$  &  $\phi$  are opposite in the Figure

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- We assume to apply constant voltage  $V_g$  b/w Metal contacts on the left & right (it is not indicated in the figure)
  - Left Metal contact  $\Rightarrow$  Gate contact
  - Right Metal contact  $\Rightarrow$  Bulk contact
  - We assume that this voltage is constant w.r.t time
- The point is we have an insulator in b/w,  $\therefore$  no current can flow through the device and the device is in

equilibrium condition.

- So it is sufficient to use Poisson Eq<sup>n</sup> to analyze the Behaviour of device.(Mos)

It is convenient when we study the Mos device by itself, to set the zero of the Electric Potential asymptotically in the semiconductor (i.e inside)

i.e zero of Electric Potential coincides with the horizontal part of dashed line (Midgap)

- When we apply  $V_G$  b/w Gated Bulk, then we remember that when there is a contact b/w metal & semiconductor, there is a discontinuity in the Electric potential (The difference of work function of Metal & Semiconductor)

But, in the figure we are not considering Bulk contact. We must observe the difference in Electric potential b/w gate contact & internal zero of the potential is different from  $V_G$ , because for reference we are using interior of the semiconductor of zero potential.

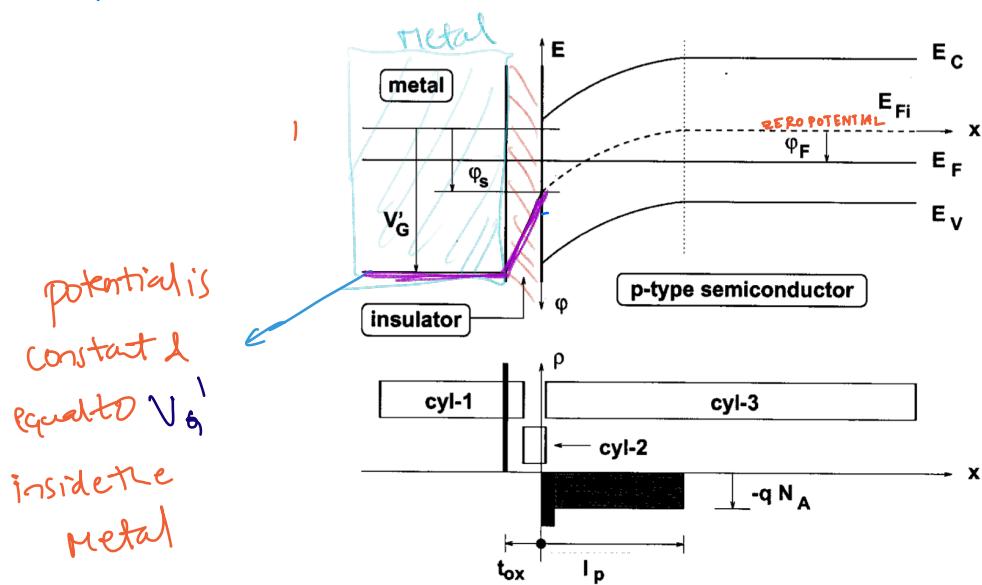
- For this reason we use another term  $V_G'$  b/w

- Gate contact<sup>E.P</sup> & Internal zero potential as shown in the figure

obviously  $V'_G$  differs from actual voltage difference  $V_G$  below the two metallic plates by a constant. This difference is the difference of work function mentioned.

- It is Qualitatively straight forward to study the behaviour of EP in the structure. If
- Metal: we start from Metal (state) & we apply some

$V'_G$  as in the figure. Since Metals are Equi potential in the interior, because there <sup>No</sup> difference of charge potential inside the Metal.



Insulators The potential inside metal is constant & is equal to  $V_0$  & When we enter the insulator & assume it is a perfect insulator with no charge inside. When we solve Poisson eqn, the second derivative of electric potential is zero:

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \phi = \text{constant}$$

$\phi = \text{linear}$

This is indicated in the figure

- We have an angle when we cross the interface b/w Metal & Insulator, the angle implies, the electric field is discontinuous.

The electric field inside metal is zero, because it has equal potential inside.

Electric field inside the insulator is Non zero;

: there is a layer of charge on the interface b/w metal & insulator.

Going on, when we reach the interface b/w

Insulator & Semiconductor are Electric potential at this point is unknown, it is called the Surface potential ( $\phi_s$ ).

→ When we enter the semiconductor, what happens in the semiconductor? What's  $E_P$ ? It depends on the sign of the applied voltage.

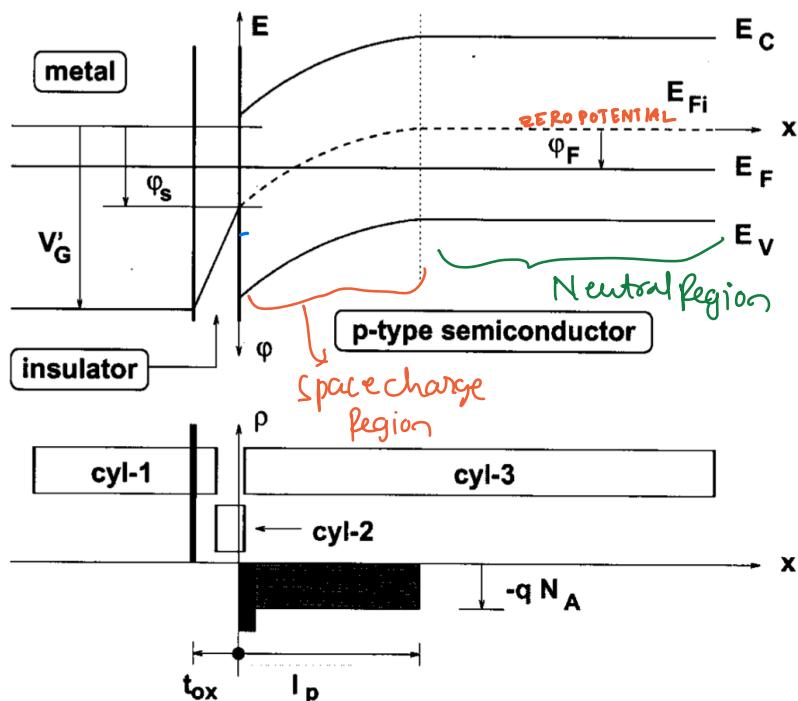
Ans  $V_G'$  is positive because we assumed the positive direction of electric potential  $\phi$  is downwards in the figure

The potential inside the P-type semiconductor depends on Voltage Applied  $\therefore V_G'$  is +ve so, Qualitatively we expect the application of the voltage will push the holes away from the surface on the interface b/w insulator & semiconductor.

→ The holes will go to the right & there is a region near the interface where there are no holes, & the charge density here is given by the acceptor atoms which are -ve

$$\text{charge density} = -q N_A$$

On essence we have formed a **Space charge region**. near the interface & far from interface the semiconductor retains the Uniformly doped characteristic (essentially it will be Neutral).

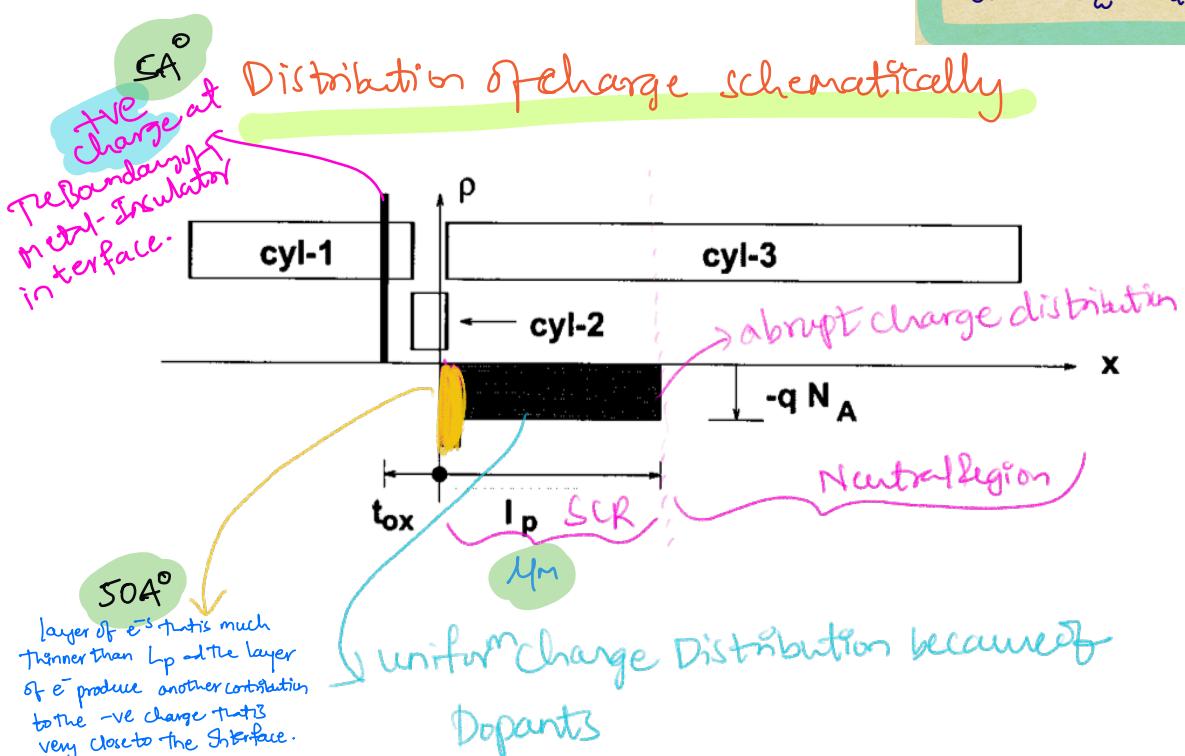


→ But, when we go away from the interface of insulator and semiconductor to the right. The semiconductor will behave like uniformly doped semiconductor.

- Neutral Region  $\Rightarrow$  Electric potential is constant
- Space charge  $\Rightarrow$  Acceptor impurities -ve Region

So, this situation is similar to that of the one of the two sides of a PN Junction but there is a difference since we have applied +ve voltage to the Gate, it will not only push holes from the semiconductor Junction but also will attract  $e^-$ s. These  $e^-$ s can travel till the insulator-semiconductor interface and after that they can't cross because there is an insulator.

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- Importantly, globally the MOS device is Neutral so if we have excess  $-ve$  charge near the semiconductor - Insulator interface then we should have  $+ve$  charge on the Metal - Insulator interface.
- If a metal is electrically charged the only possibility is that the charge stays at the Boundary.

$t_{ox}$  = Thickness of the oxide layer.

- Now it is easy to write quantitative relations among these charges using the Gauss Theorem is somewhat equivalent to the Poisson Eq<sup>n</sup>.

\* "Gauss Theorem" States that if you take any volume and then integrate the Flux of the Displacement Vector over the Surface of the volume we will obtain Total Charge inside the volume.

- We will take the volumes as cylindrical as shown in the figure. So the axis of each cylinder is horizontal and  $\therefore$  it is assumed as 1D figure the Displacement vector has only Horizontal direction.

→ The thickness of the charge layer on the metal is few  $\text{Å}$ , ex:  $5 \text{ Å}$

The thickness of layer of  $e^-$  in the semiconductor if it exists about 10 times larger than the Metal side ex:  $50 \text{ Å}$

But when considering them for calculations we can use Dirac-Delta function to represent them.

→ Now applying the Gauss theorem for the cylindrical charges answered in the figure.  
we know Displacement vector  $\propto$  Electric field

$$\text{Displacement vector} = \text{Dielectric constant} \times \text{Electric field}$$

\* Displacement vector at different positions horizontally varies with Electric field present at the different faces of the cylinder.



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## MOS Capacitor at equilibrium — I

density of the charge on the metal

- $Q_m = \int_{-\infty}^{-t_{ox}} \rho_m dx, \quad Q_{ox} = \int_{-t_{ox}}^0 \rho_{ox} dx, \quad Q_{sc} = \int_0^\infty \rho dx$

$$\rho_m = 2 Q_m \delta(x + t_{ox})$$

- Hp:  $\rho_{ox} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_{ox} = \frac{V'_G - \varphi_s}{t_{ox}}, \quad Q_{ox} = 0$

$$\rho = q [p^{(0)} \exp(-q\varphi/(k_B T_L)) - n^{(0)} \exp(q\varphi/(k_B T_L)) + N]$$

$$\int_A \mathbf{D} \bullet \mathbf{\nu} dA = AQ \Rightarrow$$

$$A (D^{\text{left}} \mathbf{i} \bullet (-\mathbf{i}) + D^{\text{right}} \mathbf{i} \bullet \mathbf{i}) = AQ, \quad D^{\text{right}} - D^{\text{left}} = Q$$

$$D^{\text{left}} = \begin{cases} D_m = 0 \\ D_{ox} = \varepsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ D_{sc}(0^+) = \varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \end{cases} \quad D^{\text{right}} = \begin{cases} D_{ox} = \varepsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ D_{sc}(0^+) = \varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \\ D_{sc}(\infty) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$Q = \begin{cases} Q_m \\ Q_{ox} = 0 \\ Q_{sc} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} Q_m = \varepsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ \varepsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} = \varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \\ Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q_{sc} = -Q_m, \quad Q_m + Q_{sc} = 0$$

$Q_{ox}$  = Charge  
permit  
are in the  
oxide layer

$Q_{sc}$  = charge  
permit Area  
in the  
semiconductor

$$\mathcal{E}_c = \frac{dV}{d\gamma}$$

electric  
field

→ The charge  
in the semicon-  
ductor, well  
we are in the

- Equilibrium condition as usual we make the assumption that the semiconductor is Non-degenerate
- so we can use the exponential expression for the concentrations and in complete Ionization condition.

$$\rho = q [p^{(0)} \exp(-q\varphi/(k_B T_L)) - n^{(0)} \exp(q\varphi/(k_B T_L)) + N]$$

Net dopant  
concentration

- $P^{(0)}, n^{(0)}$  are the concentrations at '0' electric potential of the semiconductor.

since the semiconductor is of P-type

$$P^{(0)} = P_{P_0}$$

$$n^{(0)} = n_{P_0}$$

→ Applying Gauss Theorem

$$\int_A \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{v} dA = A Q$$

$$\int_A \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{\nu} dA = A Q \Rightarrow$$

$$A (D^{\text{left}} \mathbf{i} \bullet (-\mathbf{i}) + D^{\text{right}} \mathbf{i} \bullet \mathbf{i}) = A Q, \quad D^{\text{right}} - D^{\text{left}} = Q$$

$$D^{\text{left}} = \begin{cases} D_m = 0 \\ D_{ox} = \epsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ D_{sc}(0^+) = \epsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \end{cases} \quad D^{\text{right}} = \begin{cases} D_{ox} = \epsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ D_{sc}(0^+) = \epsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \\ D_{sc}(\infty) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$Q = \begin{cases} Q_m \\ Q_{ox} = 0 \\ Q_{sc} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} Q_m = \epsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} \\ \epsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} = \epsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \\ Q_{sc} = -\epsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \end{cases} \Rightarrow Q_{sc} = -Q_m, \quad Q_m + Q_{sc} = 0$$

Here  $\frac{E_{ox}}{\epsilon_{ox}}$   
electric field is inversely proportional to dielectric constant

The example was taken for the five values of the Applied Gate voltage.

16/05/25

## MOS Capacitor at equilibrium — II

$$\Rightarrow Q_{sc} = -Q_m = -\varepsilon_{ox} \mathcal{E}_{ox} = -\varepsilon_{ox} \frac{V'_G - \varphi_s}{t_{ox}}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q_{sc} = -C_{ox} (V'_G - \varphi_s), \quad C_{ox} = \frac{\varepsilon_{ox}}{t_{ox}}$$

↳ (capacitance per unit Area)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q_{sc} = -C_{ox} (V'_G - \varphi_s) = Q_{sc}(\varphi_s; V'_G) \\ Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s \end{array} \right.$$

$$\rho = \rho(\varphi) \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_s = \mathcal{E}_s(\varphi_s)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Q_{sc} = Q_{sc}(\varphi_s; V'_G) \\ Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s(\varphi_s) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \varphi_s = \varphi_s(V'_G)$$

$Q_{sc} = -C_{ox} (V'_G - \varphi_s)$  This eqn is compact which connects the charge in the semiconductor / unit Area ( $Q_{sc}$ ) to the surface potential ( $\varphi_s$ )

Q) Is the above expansion sufficient?

A) No, because the  $Q_{sc}$  &  $\varphi_s$  are unknown

\*\* So we need another relation.

$$Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} (\mathcal{E}_s) \text{ Here this is unknown}$$

→ If we solve the poisson eqn in the semi-conductor we can find a relation b/w the surface field & the surface potential.

$$\varrho = \varrho(\varphi) \Rightarrow \mathcal{E}_s = \mathcal{E}_s(\varphi_s)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Q_{sc} = Q_{sc}(\varphi_s; V'_G) \\ Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s(\varphi_s) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \varphi_s = \varphi_s(V'_G)$$



### MOS Capacitor, p-substrate — I

$$\text{Hp: } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \partial/\partial y = \partial/\partial z = 0 \\ N = -N_A = \text{const} \\ \varphi(\infty) = 0 \\ \varphi'(\infty) = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{Def: } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p_{p0} = p(\infty) \\ n_{p0} = n(\infty) \\ u = q\varphi/(k_B T_L) \\ L_A = \sqrt{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L / (q^2 p_{p0})} \end{array} \right.$$

\$\varrho = q [p\_{p0} \exp(-u) - n\_{p0} \exp(u) + N]\$ → expression for charge density in the semiconductor  
 $\varrho(\infty) = 0 \Rightarrow N = n_{p0} - p_{p0} \Rightarrow \varrho = -qp_{p0} A(u)$   
 $A(u) = (n_{p0}/p_{p0}) [\exp(u) - 1] + 1 - \exp(-u)$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} n_{p0}/p_{p0} = \exp(-2u_F) \\ u_F > 0 \end{array} \right. \quad A(u) \begin{cases} > 0 & u > 0 \\ = 0 & u = 0 \\ < 0 & u < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$-\operatorname{div}(\varepsilon_{sc} \operatorname{grad} \varphi) = \varrho \quad \Rightarrow \quad u'' = \frac{2}{L_A^2} A(u)$$

$$u' u'' = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} (u')^2 = \frac{2}{L_A^2} A(u) u'$$

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→ Before continuing to solve the Poisson's eq<sup>n</sup>  
we must introduce some useful definitions

(i) We observe that we have a 1D problem  
∴ only dependency is on  $x$ -coordinate

(ii) Dopeant concentration is constant wrt to space  
i.e.  $-N_A$

(iii) The Poisson eq<sup>n</sup> is a Diff. eq<sup>n</sup> of 2<sup>nd</sup> order so we need two boundary conditions

(or) Two initial conditions.

We know them,

- if we go asymptotically to the right the semiconductor becomes equipotential
- The electric field at  $\infty' = 0$

We also placed potential at  $\infty = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \phi(\infty) = 0 \\ \text{potential} \end{array}} \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \phi'(\infty) = 0 \\ \text{electric field} \end{array}}$$

$$\rightarrow \Phi_{p_0} = \phi(\infty) \approx N_A$$

$$n_{p_0} = n(\infty) \approx \frac{n_i^2}{N_A}$$

- Then for convenience we introduce Normalised electric potential, so instead of using  $\phi$  as the unknown function we use

$$u = \frac{q\phi}{k_B T_L}$$

$$L_A \Rightarrow \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L}{q^2 p_{p0}}}$$

$\rightarrow$  charge density  $\rho$

$$\rho = q \left[ p_{p0} \exp(-u) - n_{p0} \exp(u) + N \right]$$

\*\*\*

- Dimensionless

$$u \geq 0 \Rightarrow A(u) \geq 0$$

$$u > 0, A(u) > 0$$

$$u < 0, A(u) < 0$$

$$\rho(\infty) = 0 \Rightarrow N = n_{p0} - p_{p0} \Rightarrow \rho = -q p_{p0} A(u)$$

$$A(u) = (n_{p0}/p_{p0}) [\exp(u) - 1] + 1 - \exp(-u)$$

$$\begin{cases} n_{p0}/p_{p0} = \exp(-2u_F) \\ u_F > 0 \end{cases}$$

Normalized Fermi potential

$$A(u) \begin{cases} > 0 & u > 0 \\ = 0 & u = 0 \\ < 0 & u < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$-\operatorname{div}(\varepsilon_{sc} \operatorname{grad} \varphi) = \rho \implies u'' = \frac{2}{L_A^2} A(u)$$

$$u' u'' = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} (u')^2 = \frac{2}{L_A^2} A(u) u'$$

Trick to solve the Diff. eq?

Poisson eq<sup>n</sup>  
in 3D 4  
in Non Normalised  
variables



## MOS Capacitor, p-substrate — II

$$\Rightarrow \int_{\infty}^0 \frac{d}{dx}(u')^2 dx = \frac{4}{L_A^2} \int_{\infty}^0 A(u) u' dx$$

$$\int_0^{(u_s')^2} d(u')^2 = \frac{4}{L_A^2} \int_0^{u_s} A(u) du$$

because the integral is never  
negative if  $u > 0$   
 $A(u) > 0$

$$\left( \frac{q\mathcal{E}_s}{k_B T_L} \right)^2 = \frac{4}{L_A^2} F^2(u_s; u_F)$$

free term

$$F^2 = \exp(-2u_F) [\exp(u_s) - 1 - u_s] + [\exp(-u_s) - 1 + u_s]$$

$$Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s = \mp \frac{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L}{q L_A} F(u_s; u_F)$$

$$Q_{sc} \begin{cases} < 0 & u_s > 0 \\ = 0 & u_s = 0 \\ > 0 & u_s < 0 \end{cases}$$

Surface potential

(flat band)

$$Q_m(u_s = 0) = -Q_{sc}(u_s = 0) = C_{ox} V'_G(u_s = 0) = 0$$

$$V'_G = V_G - \text{const} \implies V_G(u_s = 0) = \text{const} \doteq V_{FB}$$

\* \* This expression gives us the Relation b/w the  $\mathcal{E}_s$  (electric field at the surface) as a function of the Surface Potential ( $u_s$ )

\* \* when  $u_s = 0$  Bands are Flat

Q) What is the Gate voltage for which we have flat band?

$$Q_{sc} = -\varepsilon_{sc} \mathcal{E}_s = \mp \frac{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L}{q L_A} F(u_s; u_F)$$

$$Q_{sc} \begin{cases} < 0 & u_s > 0 \\ = 0 & u_s = 0 \\ > 0 & u_s < 0 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Surface potential}} \text{(flat band)}$$

$$Q_m(u_s = 0) = -Q_{sc}(u_s = 0) = C_{ox} V'_G(u_s = 0) = 0$$

$$V'_G = V_G - \text{const} \implies V_G(u_s = 0) = \text{const} \doteq V_{FB}$$

Ans

For flat Band

$$\nabla_G' = 0$$

$$\text{But } \nabla_G' = \nabla_G - \text{const} = 0$$

Flat Band voltage

$$\Rightarrow \nabla_G = \text{const} \neq 0 = V_{FB}$$

This is the difference in the work functions of Semiconductor and the Bulk metal.

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### MOS Capacitor, p-substrate — III

$$F^2 = \exp(-2u_F) [\exp(u_s) - 1 - u_s] + [\exp(-u_s) - 1 + u_s]$$

Approximations of  $F$

$$F \simeq \begin{cases} \exp(-u_s/2) & u_s < 0 \\ \sqrt{u_s} & 0 < u_s < 2u_F \\ \sqrt{n_{p0}/p_{p0}} \exp(u_s/2) & 2u_F < u_s \end{cases}$$

Both have exponential behaviour

$$n_s = n(0) = n_{p0} \exp(u_s) = n_i \exp(u_s - u_F)$$

$$p_s = p(0) = p_{p0} \exp(-u_s) = n_i \exp(u_F - u_s)$$

Surface potential

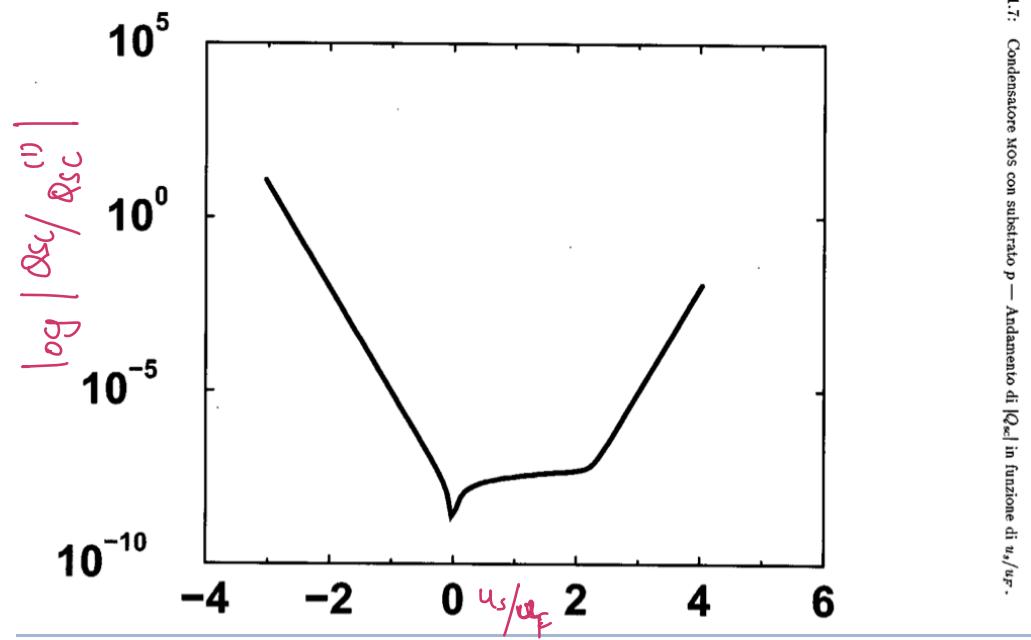
$u_s < 0$	$n_s < n_{p0} < n_i < p_{p0} < p_s$	accum.	$\propto \sqrt{u_s}$
$u_s = 0$	$n_s = n_{p0} < n_i < p_{p0} = p_s$	flat band	
$0 < u_s < u_F$	$n_{p0} < n_s < n_i < p_s < p_{p0}$	depletion	
$u_s = u_F$	$n_{p0} < n_s = n_i = p_s < p_{p0}$	mid gap	
$u_F < u_s < 2u_F$	$n_{p0} < p_s < n_i < n_s < p_{p0}$	weak inv.	
$u_s = 2u_F$	$n_{p0} = p_s < n_i < n_s = p_{p0}$	threshold	
$2u_F < u_s$	$p_s < n_{p0} < n_i < p_{p0} < n_s$	strong inv.	

- $0 < u_s < 2u_F \Rightarrow Q_{sc} \simeq -\frac{2\epsilon_{sc}k_B T_L}{qL_A} \sqrt{q\varphi_s/(k_B T_L)}$

$$\Rightarrow Q_{sc} \simeq -\sqrt{2\epsilon_{sc}qp_{p0}\varphi_s} = -C_{ox}\gamma\sqrt{\varphi_s}, \quad \gamma = \frac{\sqrt{2\epsilon_{sc}qp_{p0}}}{C_{ox}}$$

- This is the expression for charge in the depletion & weak inversion condition.

T. 31.7: Condensatore MOS con substrato  $p$  — Andamento di  $|Q_{sc}|$  in funzione di  $u_s/u_F$ .

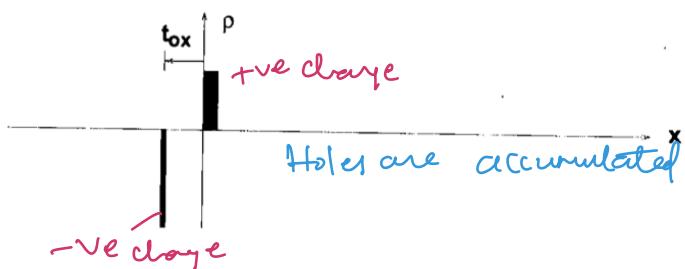
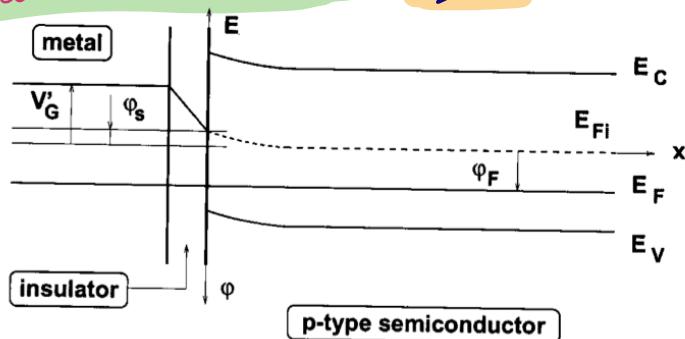


→ 19/05/25

\*

Accumulation condition

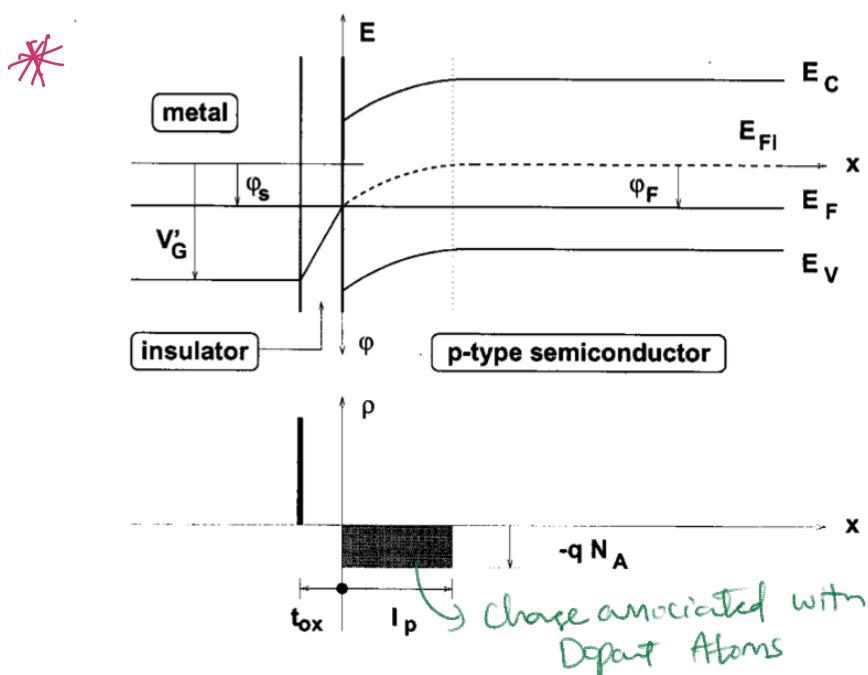
$u_s < 0$



T. 31.8: Andamento delle bande nel condensatore MOS in accumulazione.

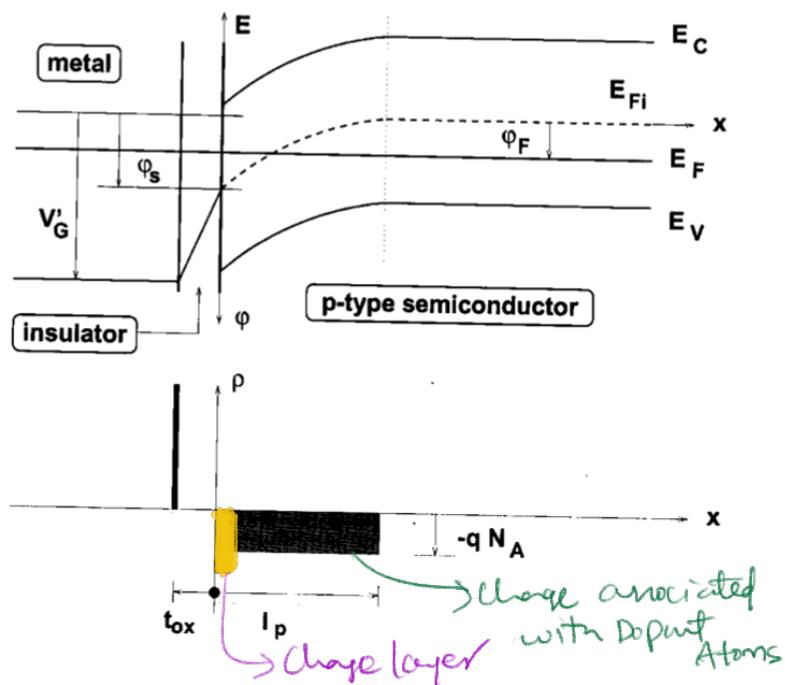
Transistor  
is OFF

Midgap condition  $\phi_s = \phi_F$



T. 31.9: Andamento delle bande nel condensatore MOS nella condizione di midgap.

At the threshold of Strong Inversion  $\phi_s = 2\phi_F$



T. 31.10: Andamento delle bande nel condensatore MOS alla soglia della forte inversione.



## MOS Capacitor, p-substrate — IV

*excluding Accumulation*

$$Q_{sc} = \int_0^\infty \rho dx$$

- Hp:  $\varphi_s > 0, \rho \neq 0$  in  $0 < x < l_p = x_d$  Inversion charge

$$Q_{sc} \simeq \int_0^{l_p} \rho dx \simeq -q \int_0^{l_p} (n + N_A) dx = Q_i + Q_b$$

$$Q_i = -q \int_0^{l_p} n dx, \quad Q_b = -q N_A l_p \quad (\text{ASCE})$$

$-qn \simeq Q_i 2\delta(x)$   $\Rightarrow \varphi'' \simeq \frac{qN_A}{\epsilon_{sc}}, \quad 0 < x < l_p$  The charge over the rest of the layer because of Dirac Delta approximation of Inversion charge

Here we consider Inversion layer as a Dirac Delta Condition

- $\varphi_s = \frac{qN_A}{2\epsilon_{sc}} l_p^2, \quad Q_b = -q N_A l_p = -\sqrt{2\epsilon_{sc} q N_A \varphi_s}$

$$\begin{cases} \varphi(l_p) = 0 \\ \varphi'(l_p) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \varphi = \frac{qN_A}{2\epsilon_{sc}} (x - l_p)^2$$

$$Q_i = Q_{sc} - Q_b = -C_{ox} \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s}$$

$$0 < \varphi_s < 2\varphi_F \Rightarrow Q_{sc} \simeq Q_b \Rightarrow |Q_i| \ll |Q_b|$$

This approximation helps us because solving the Poisson's becomes obvious

i.e  $\phi = \frac{q N_A}{\epsilon_{sc}}$ ,  $0 < x < l_p$

This is the Poisson's Eq

And the boundary conditions are; we remember we have charge neutrality after  $l_p$  i.e  $x > l_p$

i.e  $\phi(l_p) = 0, \phi'(l_p) = 0$  By continuity

$$\phi = \frac{q N_A}{2 \epsilon_{sc}} (x - l_p)^2$$

Here using the above eq we can immediately calculate the surface potential  $\rightarrow x=0$

$$\phi_s = \frac{q N_A}{2 \epsilon_{sc}} l_p^2$$

' $l_p$ ' depends on the applied voltage



$$\begin{cases} Q_b = -C_{ox} \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s} \\ Q_{sc} = Q_i + Q_b \\ Q_{sc} = -Q_m = -C_{ox} (V'_G - \varphi_s) \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$Q_i = Q_{sc} - Q_b = -C_{ox} [(V'_G - \varphi_s) - \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s}] < 0$$

$$0 < \varphi_s < 2\varphi_F \Rightarrow Q_{sc} \simeq Q_b \Rightarrow |Q_i| \ll |Q_b|$$

→ This expression is fundamental, because it is then applied in the calculation of the current of the MOS Transistor.

→ In MOS capacitor there is NO current from Gate into the Bulk because of the Dielectric

them but there is equal & opposite charge on both sides which can be treated as **capacitance**.  
But it will be a **Differential capacitance**.



## Capacitance of the MOS Structure — I

- The capacitance per unit area of the MOS structure is given by

$$C = \frac{dQ_m}{dV_G} = \frac{dQ_m}{dV'_G},$$

with  $V'_G = V_G - V_{FB}$ . From  $Q_m = C_{ox} (V'_G - \varphi_s)$  and  $Q_{sc} = -Q_m$  it follows

$$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{dV'_G}{dQ_m} = \frac{d(V'_G - \varphi_s) + d\varphi_s}{dQ_m} = \frac{1}{C_{ox}} + \frac{d\varphi_s}{d(-Q_{sc})}.$$

For a *p*-type substrate the semiconductor capacitance per unit area is given by

$$C_{sc} \doteq -\frac{dQ_{sc}}{d\varphi_s} = -\frac{q}{k_B T_L} \frac{dQ_{sc}}{du_s} = \pm \frac{2\epsilon_{sc}}{L_A} \frac{dF}{du_s} > 0,$$

where the plus (minus) sign holds for  $u_s > 0$  ( $u_s < 0$ ). In conclusion, the capacitance is the series of the oxide and semiconductor capacitances:

$$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_{ox}} + \frac{1}{C_{sc}}.$$

$C_{sc}$  will always be *positive*

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## Capacitance of the MOS Structure — II

Remembering that

$$F^2 = \exp(-2u_F) [\exp(u_s) - 1 - u_s] + [\exp(-u_s) - 1 + u_s],$$

the asymptotic behavior is

$$\begin{aligned} F &\simeq \exp(u_s/2 - u_F) & u_s \gg 1 \\ F &\simeq \exp(-u_s/2) & u_s \ll -1 \end{aligned}$$

For  $|u_s| \ll 1$  it is  $\exp(\pm u_s) \simeq 1 \pm u_s + u_s^2/2$ , whence

$$F^2 \simeq \frac{1}{2} [1 + \exp(-2u_F)] u_s^2 \simeq \frac{1}{2} u_s^2, \quad F \simeq \pm \frac{u_s}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} C_{sc} &\simeq \begin{cases} (\varepsilon_{sc}/L_A) \exp(u_s/2 - u_F) & u_s \gg 1 \\ (\varepsilon_{sc}/L_A) \exp(-u_s/2) & u_s \ll -1 \\ (\varepsilon_{sc}/L_A) \sqrt{2} \doteq C_{scFB} & |u_s| \ll 1 \end{cases} \\ C &= \frac{C_{ox}C_{sc}}{C_{ox} + C_{sc}} \simeq \begin{cases} C_{ox} & u_s \gg 1 \\ C_{ox} & u_s \ll -1 \\ C_{FB} < C_{ox} & |u_s| \ll 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

with  $C_{FB} \doteq C_{ox}C_{scFB}/(C_{ox} + C_{scFB})$ .

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→ Q) what happens when we apply a large positive pulse to the Gate of the MOS Transistor (n-type) ?

Ans you push away the holes and this action is almost immediate (Time constants of this phenomenon are very short) so we created full depleted Region.

We do not have immediately an Inversion layer because it takes time to form (remember Generation and Recombination times)

∴ only at the end of a transient an Inversion layer forms. ∴ still we can use the eq<sup>n</sup>

$$Q_i = -C_{ox} \left[ V_G' - \varphi_s - \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s} \right], \quad \varphi_s \geq 0$$

And we can get an expression for  $\varphi_s$

As a consequence, the value of  $\varphi_s$  calculated from

$$Q_i = -C_{ox} [V_G' - \varphi_s - \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s}], \quad \varphi_s \geq 0$$

may differ from the equilibrium one. The above still holds in non-equilibrium condition as it is derived from Gauss' theorem and the full-depletion + ASCE approximation. Letting  $V_i \doteq V_G' + Q_i/C_{ox} = V_G' - |Q_i|/C_{ox}$  the above becomes

$$\varphi_s + \gamma \sqrt{\varphi_s} - V_i = 0 \implies \sqrt{\varphi_s} = \sqrt{V_i + \gamma^2/4} - \gamma/2.$$



### Capacitance of the MOS Structure — III

The calculations leading to the expression of the capacitance per unit area  $C$  yields different results when non-static conditions are considered. Taking a  $p$ -substrate, let  $V_G$  be rapidly brought from  $V_{FB}$  to a value above the threshold voltage. The latter is found by setting  $u_s = 2u_F$  in

$$Q_{sc} = -C_{ox} (V_G - V_{FB} - \varphi_s) = \mp \frac{2\epsilon_{sc}}{L_A} \frac{k_B T_L}{q} F,$$

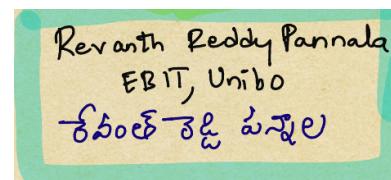
$$F^2 = \exp(-2u_F) [\exp(u_s) - 1 - u_s] + [\exp(-u_s) - 1 + u_s],$$

namely  $-Q_{scT} = C_{ox} (u_T - u_{FB} - 2u_F) \simeq (2\epsilon_{sc}/L_A) \sqrt{2u_F}$ . In transient condition  $Q_i$  has not necessarily the equilibrium value. As a consequence, the value of  $\varphi_s$  calculated from

$$Q_i = -C_{ox} [V'_G - \varphi_s - \gamma\sqrt{\varphi_s}], \quad \varphi_s \geq 0$$

may differ from the equilibrium one. The above still holds in non-equilibrium condition as it is derived from Gauss' theorem and the full-depletion + ASCE approximation. Letting  $V_i \doteq V'_G + Q_i/C_{ox} = V'_G - |Q_i|/C_{ox}$  the above becomes

$$\varphi_s + \gamma\sqrt{\varphi_s} - V_i = 0 \implies \sqrt{\varphi_s} = \sqrt{V_i + \gamma^2/4} - \gamma/2.$$





## Capacitance of the MOS Structure — IV

The surface potential  $\varphi_s$  given by

$$\sqrt{\varphi_s} = \sqrt{V_i + \gamma^2/4} - \gamma/2, \quad V_i = V'_G - |Q_i|/C_{\text{ox}},$$

increases with  $V_i$ , hence it increases as  $|Q_i|$  decreases. If  $V_G$  is rapidly brought from  $V_{FB}$  to a value above the threshold voltage, initially  $|Q_i|$  is much smaller than in equilibrium. As a consequence,

$$\sqrt{\varphi_s} \simeq \sqrt{V'_G + \gamma^2/4} - \gamma/2 \doteq \sqrt{\varphi_G}$$

is larger than the equilibrium value. In conclusion, a large depleted region is formed in the semiconductor, of width

$$x_d = \sqrt{\frac{2\epsilon_{\text{sc}}}{qN_A}} \sqrt{\varphi_G},$$

while no inversion layer is present. As the inversion layer is generated,  $|Q_i|$  increases and the surface potential decreases towards the equilibrium value. The time necessary to reach the equilibrium condition is determined by the thermal-generation processes.

- In practice, when we apply a pulse to the Gate of an MOS Transistor we open up a very large Depleted Region & we do not have initially an Inversion layer.

→ This is fundamental for Optical Sensors.

because we will try and exploit the very

large depleted Region quickly in order to detect some light that comes into the semiconductor before the Thermal generations fill up the the Inversion layer.

#### Quantitative relations — 1

Taking a  $p$ -type substrate with  $N_A = 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , and letting  $T_L = 300 \text{ K}$  whence  $k_B T_L / q \simeq 26 \text{ mV}$  and (for silicon)  $n_i \simeq 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , it follows  $p_{p0} \simeq N_A$ ,  $n_{p0} = n_i^2 / N_A \simeq 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $q p_{p0} \simeq 1.602 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C/cm}^3$ , and

$$e^{-2u_F} = \frac{n_{p0}}{p_{p0}} \simeq 10^{-12}, \quad 2u_F \simeq 27.6, \quad 2\varphi_F \simeq 0.72 \text{ V}.$$

As  $\varepsilon_{sc} \simeq 11.7 \times 8.854 \times 10^{-14} = 1.036 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/cm}$ ,

$$L_A = \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L}{q^2 p_{p0}}} \simeq 5.8 \times 10^{-2} \text{ } \mu\text{m},$$

$$Q_{sc}^{(1)} \doteq \frac{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L}{q L_A} = \sqrt{2\varepsilon_{sc} k_B T_L p_{p0}} \simeq 9.3 \times 10^{-9} \frac{\text{C}}{\text{cm}^2},$$

where  $Q_{sc}^{(1)}$  is the value of  $|Q_{sc}|$  when  $u_s$  is such that  $F = 1$ . From the derivation of  $F$ , the contributions to  $Q_{sc}^2$  of the different types of charges are found.

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