

# CHAPTER 11

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Electronic Materials

# What are they?

- Materials that conduct electricity
- **Used** in electrical industries, electronics and microelectronics, and the substances for the building up of integrated circuits, circuit boards, packaging materials, communication cables, optical fibres, displays, and various controlling and monitoring devices.



# Ohm's Law

$$V = IR$$

- Where  $V$  is the voltage (volts, V),  $I$  is the current (amperes or amps, A), and  $R$  is the resistance (ohms).

$$R = \rho \frac{l}{A} = \frac{l}{\sigma A}$$

- where  $l$  is the length (cm) of the resistor,  $A$  is the cross-sectional area (cm<sup>2</sup>) of the resistor,  $\rho$  is the electrical resistivity (ohm.cm), and  $\sigma$ , which is the reciprocal of  $\rho$ , is the electrical conductivity (ohm<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>).
- Metals: High conductivity
- Insulators: Low Conductivity
- Semiconductors: Conductivity can be varied by several orders of magnitude.

# Using Ohm's law

$$P = IV = I^2R$$

The electrical power **P** (in watts, W) lost when a current flows through a resistance.

$$J = \frac{I}{A} = \sigma \frac{V}{l} = \sigma E = nq\nu; \quad \nu = \frac{l}{t}$$

$$\mu = \frac{\nu}{E} = \frac{\sigma}{nq}$$

J: Current density(A/cm<sup>2</sup>)

E: Electric field (V/cm)

n: number of charge carriers (carriers/cm<sup>3</sup>)

q: charge on each carrier (1.6×10<sup>-19</sup> C)

ν:the average drift velocity (cm/s) at which the charge carriers move

μ: Mobility (cm<sup>2</sup> /V s)

# Example

- A voltage of 1700 V is applied to a gold wire 25 m in length. Calculate the diameter of wire and current density if the resistance is 3 ohm

- $V = 1700\text{ V}$
- $R = 3\ \Omega$
- $l = 25\text{ m} = 2500\text{ cm}$
- $\sigma_{Au} = 4.26 \times 10^5\ \Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$

Diameter of the wire?

Current density?

# Example

- Design an electrical transmission line 1500 m long and diameter of 1 cm that will carry a current of 50 A with no more than  $5 \times 10^5$  W loss in power.

Material	Conductivity ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{m}^{-1}$ )
Aluminum	$3.5 \times 10^7$
Copper	$6.0 \times 10^7$
Gold	$4.1 \times 10^7$
Iron	$1.0 \times 10^7$
Silver	$6.2 \times 10^7$
Tungsten	$1.8 \times 10^7$
Nichrome*	$6.7 \times 10^5$
Carbon	$2.9 \times 10^4$

- $l = 1500 \text{ m}$
- $d = 1 \text{ cm} = 0.01 \text{ m}$
- $I = 50 \text{ A}$
- $P = 5 \times 10^5 \text{ W}$

What is the maximum conductivity for this power loss?

Material	Conductivity ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1}$ )
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Silver	$6.2 \times 10^7$
Tungsten	$1.8 \times 10^7$
Nichrome <sup>®</sup>	$6.7 \times 10^5$
Carbon	$2.9 \times 10^4$



# Example

- A current density of  $5000 \text{ A/cm}^2$  is applied to a Aluminum wire. If half of the valence electrons serve as charge carriers, calculate the average drift velocity of the electrons

- $J = 5000 \frac{A}{cm^2}$
  - *Al is FCC*
  - $a_0 = 4.04 \times 10^{-8} cm$
- q: charge on each carrier  
( $1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$ )

Drift velocity?

# How does conductivity work?

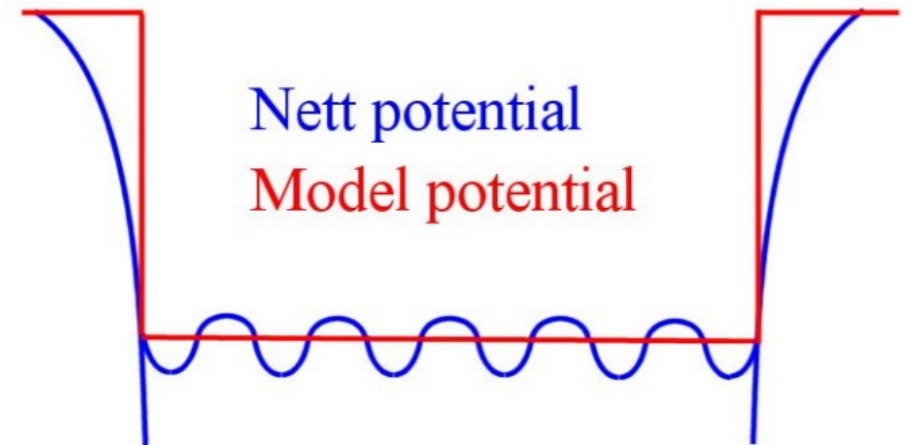
## 1. FREE ELECTRON MODEL

Assumptions: e- are not interacting with each other

e- respond equally to an external field

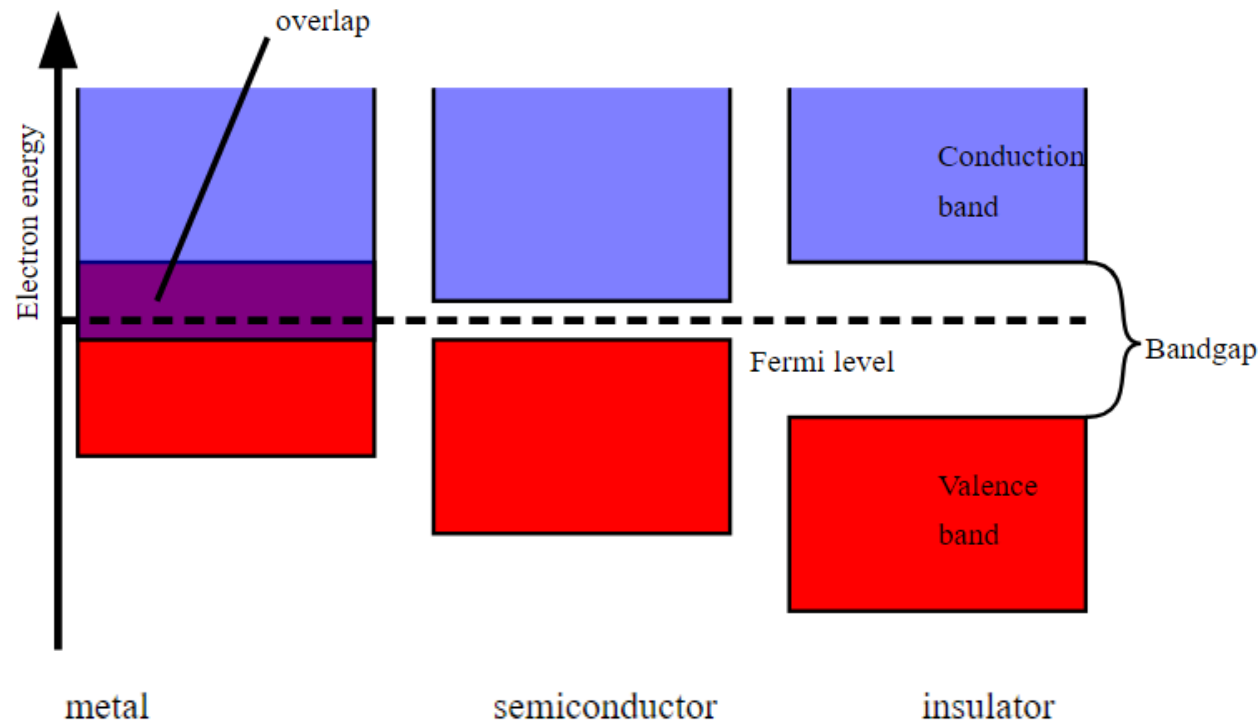
inner e- are localized

Constant potential



# How does conductivity work?

- BAND THEORY
- Describes the conduction in terms of the energy to excite an e-



# BAND THEORY

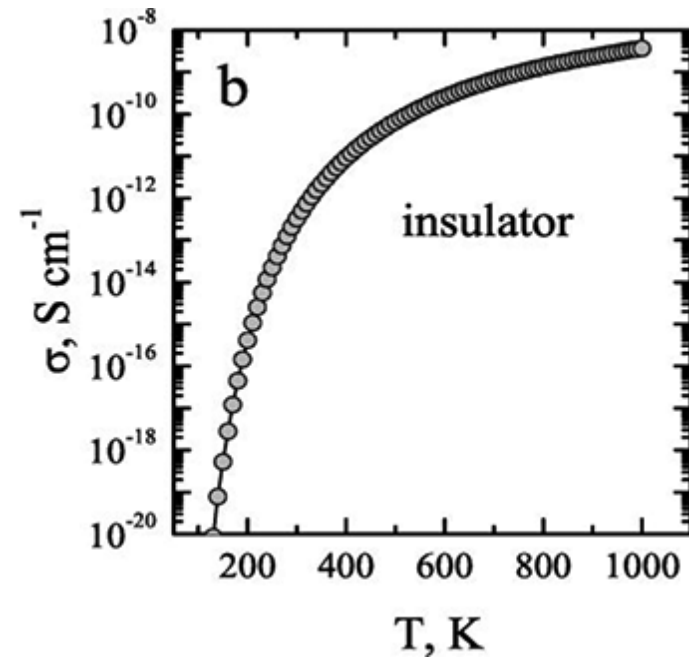
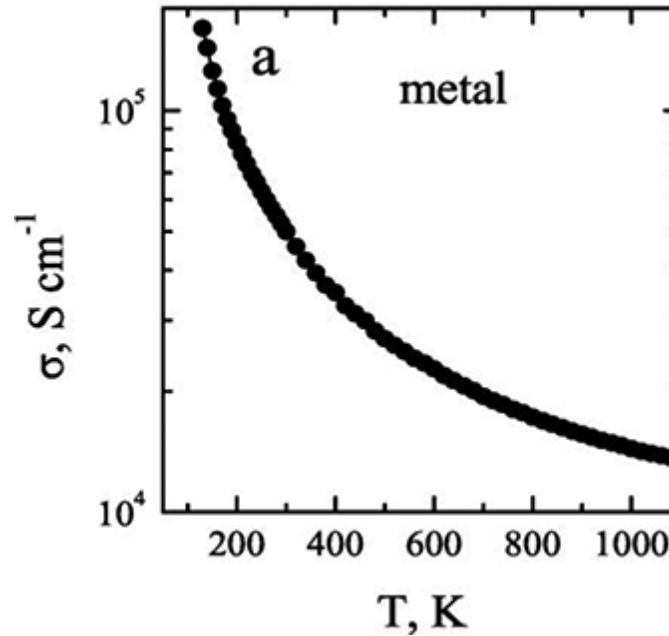
- In order for e- to jump from one band to another, the energy must accelerate the e- enough to promote it to energy empty states.
- Fermi Energy ( $E_f$ ): Energy level at which only half of the energy levels in the band are filled at ABSOLUTE ZERO
- What happens with Non-metals? Due to covalent bonding the energy needed to excite an e- will form a hybrid band between s and p levels.

# Response to temperature

By the way

Siemens is a resistivity unit

$$S = \Omega^{-1}$$



# Example

- If all valence e- contribute to the current flow in Cu, calculate:  
a) Mobility of e- and, b) average drift velocity of e- in 100cm long wire when 10V are applied

- $a_0 = 3.51 \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}$
- FCC structure
- $\sigma = 5.98 \times 10^5 \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$

Mobility?

$$a_0 = 3.51 \text{E-18 cm}$$

FCC structure

Valence=1

$$\sigma = 5.98 \text{E}5 \Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$$



b) Drift velocity?

$$a_0 = 3.51 \text{E-18 cm}$$

FCC structure

Valence=1

$$\sigma = 5.98 \text{E5 } \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$V = 10 \text{ v}$$

$$L = 100 \text{ cm}$$

# Conductivity of Metals and Alloys

- Conductivity is defined by the electronic structure of the material, if and only, the material is pure and defect-free.

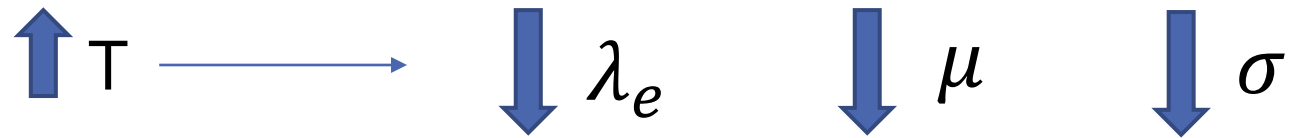
$$\sigma = nq\mu$$

- The paths of electrons are influenced internal fields due to the atoms present in the solid and imperfections present in the lattice.

$$\lambda_e = \tau v$$

- $\lambda_e$ : Mean free path
- $\tau$ : Average time between collisions

# Conductivity of Metals and Alloys: Temperature effect

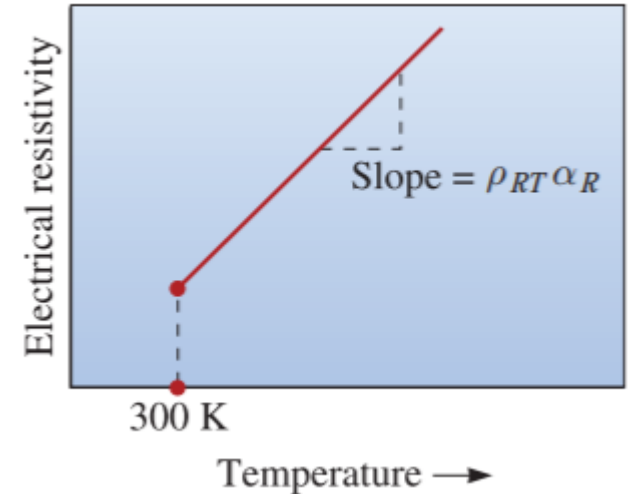


$$\frac{1}{\sigma} = \rho = \rho_{RT}(1 + \alpha_R(T - 25^\circ\text{C}))$$

$\rho_{RT}$ : Resistivity at room temperature ( $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ )

$\alpha_R$ : Temperature resistivity coefficient ( $\Omega / \Omega^\circ\text{C}$ )

T: New temperature ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )



# Example

- After finding the electric conductivity of cobalt at 0 °C, we decide to double the conductivity. To what temperature must we cool the metal?

TABLE 19-3 ■ The temperature resistivity coefficient  $\alpha_R$  for selected metals

Metal	Room Temperature Resistivity (ohm · cm)	Temperature Resistivity Coefficient ( $\alpha_R$ ) [ohm/(ohm · °C)]
Be	$4.0 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0250
Mg	$4.45 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0037
Ca	$3.91 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0042
Al	$2.65 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0043
Cr	$12.90 \times 10^{-6}$ (0°C)	0.0030
Fe	$9.71 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0065
Co	$6.24 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0053
Ni	$6.84 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0069
Cu	$1.67 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0043
Ag	$1.59 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0041
Au	$2.35 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0035
Pd	$10.8 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0037
W	$5.3 \times 10^{-6}$ (27°C)	0.0045
Pt	$9.85 \times 10^{-6}$	0.0039

Conductivity at 0°C

- $\rho_{RT}(Co) = 6.24 \times 10^{-6} \Omega \text{ cm}$
- $\alpha_{Rt} = 0.0053 \frac{1}{^\circ C}$
- $T_1 = 0^\circ C$

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- $T_1 = 0^\circ C$

If we wish to double the conductivity, what temperature should we use?

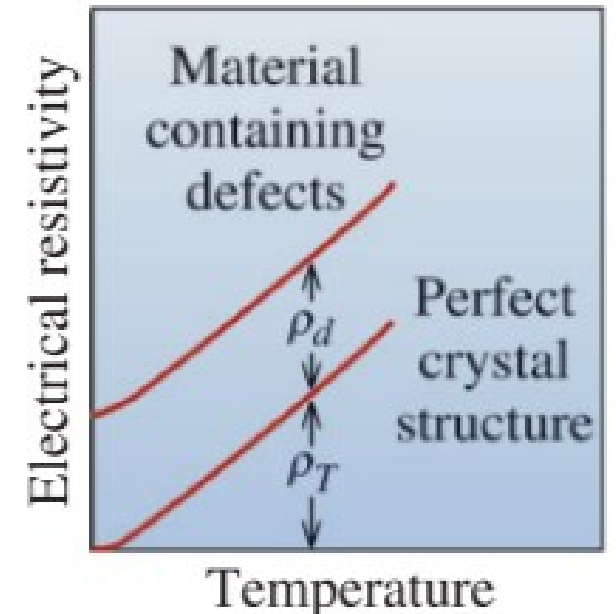
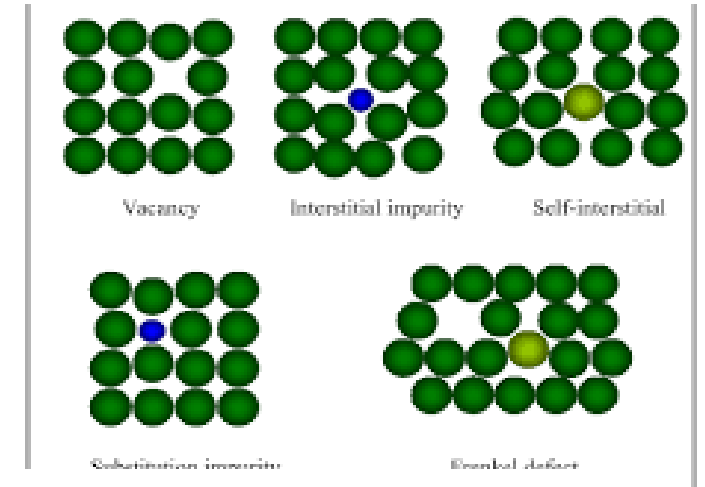
# Conductivity of Metals and Alloys: Defects effect



$$\rho_d = bx(1 - x)$$

$\rho_d$ : Resistivity due to defects ( $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ )  
b: Defect resistivity coefficient ( $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ )  
x: fraction of impurity

$$\rho = \rho_t + \rho_d$$



# Example

- The electrical resistivity of beryllium alloy containing 5at% of an alloying element is found to be  $50 \times 10^{-6} \Omega \text{ cm}$  at  $400^\circ\text{C}$ .
- Determine the contributions to resistivity due to temperature and due to impurities by finding the expected resistivity of pure beryllium at  $400^\circ\text{C}$ , the resistivity due to impurities, and the defect resistivity coefficient.
- What would be the electrical resistivity if beryllium contained 10 at% of the same alloying element at  $200^\circ\text{C}$ ?
  - $\rho_{\text{RT}}: 4 \times 10^{-6} \Omega \text{ cm}$
  - $\alpha_R: 0.025 \text{ } 1/^\circ\text{C}$

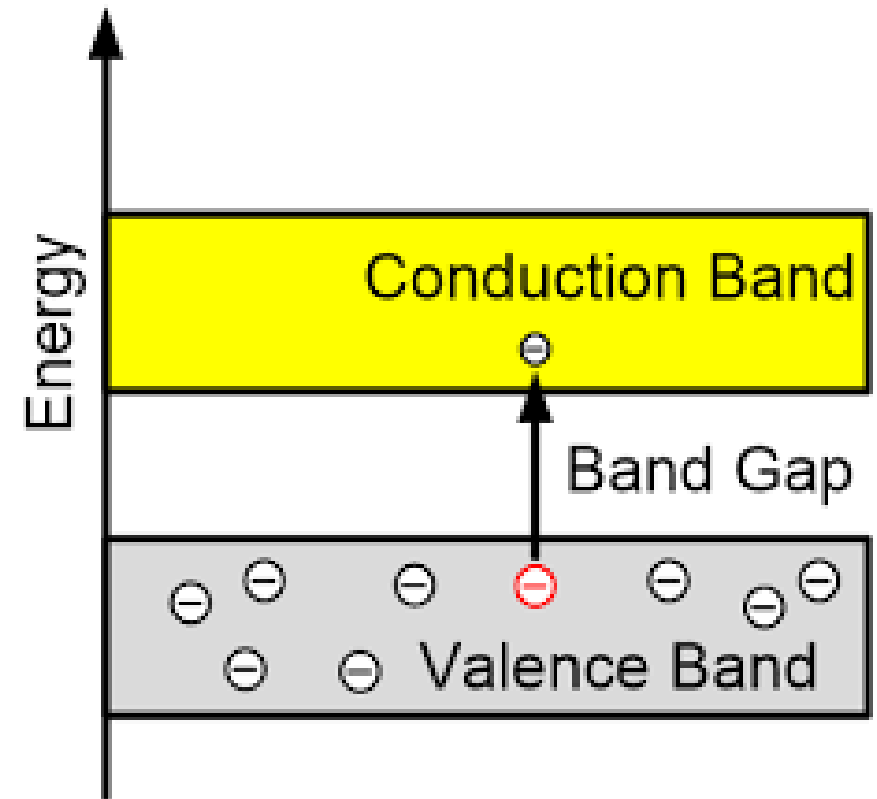


- $\rho_{400^{\circ}\text{C}} = 50 \times 10^{-6} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$
- $\rho_{RT} = 4 \times 10^{-6} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$
- $\alpha_R = 0.025 \text{ } 1/^{\circ}\text{C}$
- $\chi = 0.05$

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- $\alpha_R = 0.025 \text{ 1/}^\circ\text{C}$
- $\chi = 0.1$
- $b = 1.79 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}$

# Semiconductors

- Any of a class of crystalline solids intermediate in electrical conductivity between a conductor and an insulator.
- Key elements for the majority of electronic systems, serving communications, signal processing, computing, and control applications in both the consumer and industrial markets.
- Energy gap ( $E_g$ ) between the valence and conduction bands is relatively small.
- **Intrinsic semiconductors:** Properties independent of the impurities.
- **Extrinsic semiconductors:** Temperature stable and can be controlled by ion implantation or diffusion of impurities known as dopants.



# Intrinsic semiconductors

- For every electron promoted to the conduction band, there is a hole left in the valence band.

$$\sigma = n_i q (\mu_n + \mu_p)$$

- $n_i$ : Concentration of e-
- $\mu_n$ : Mobility of e-
- $\mu_p$ : Mobility of holes (h+)

$$\mu_n > \mu_p$$

# Intrinsic semiconductors: Temperature effect

$$n_i = n_0 \exp\left(\frac{-E_g}{2k_B T}\right) \quad n_0 = 2 \left(\frac{2\pi k_B T}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} (m_n^* m_p^*)^{3/4}$$

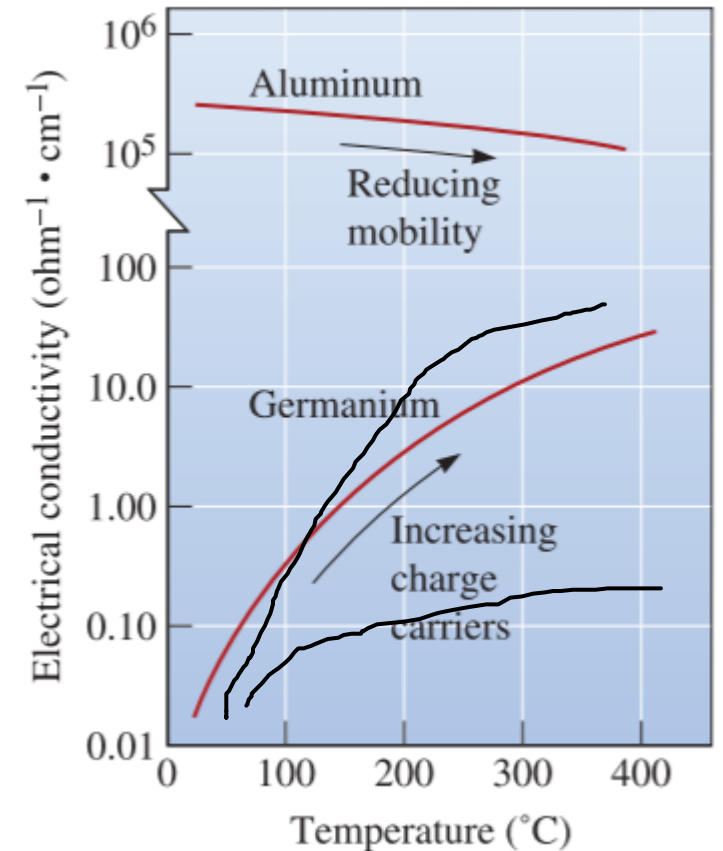
$$\sigma = n_0 q (\mu_n + \mu_p) \exp\left(\frac{-E_g}{2k_B T}\right)$$

$k_B$ : Boltzmann's constant ( $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg s}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}$  or  $8.63 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K}$ )

$h$ : Planck's constant ( $6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg / s}$ )

$m_n^*$ : Effective mass of e-

$m_p^*$ : Effective mass of h+



# Example

For germanium and silicon, compare, at 25°C, the number of charge carriers per cubic centimeter, the fraction of the total # electrons in the valence band that are excited into the conduction band, and the constant no

**TABLE 19-5** ■ *Properties of commonly encountered semiconductors at room temperature*

Semiconductor	Bandgap (eV)	Mobility of Electrons ( $\mu_n$ ) ( $\frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{V}\cdot\text{s}}$ )	Mobility of Holes ( $\mu_p$ ) ( $\frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{V}\cdot\text{s}}$ )	Dielectric Constant (k)	Resistivity ( $\Omega \cdot \text{cm}$ )	Density ( $\frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^3}$ )	Melting Temperature (°C)
Silicon (Si)	1.11	1350	480	11.8	$2.5 \times 10^5$	2.33	1415
Amorphous Silicon (a:Si:H)	1.70	1	$10^{-2}$	~11.8	$10^{10}$	~2.30	—
Germanium (Ge)	0.67	3900	1900	16.0	43	5.32	936
SiC ( $\alpha$ )	2.86	500		10.2	$10^{10}$	3.21	2830
Gallium Arsenide (GaAs)	1.43	8500	400	13.2	$4 \times 10^8$	5.31	1238
Diamond	~5.50	1800	1500	5.7	$> 10^{18}$	3.52	~3550

$$a_0(\text{Si}) = 5.43\text{E-}8 \text{ cm}$$

$$a_0(\text{Ge}) = 5.66\text{E-}8 \text{ cm}$$

## Germanium @ 25°C

- $\rho_{RT}(Ge) = 43 \, \Omega \, cm$
- $\sigma_{RT}(Ge) = 0.0233 \, \Omega^{-1} cm^{-1}$
- $E_g = 0.67 \, eV$
- $\mu_n = 3900 \frac{cm^2}{Vs}$
- $\mu_p = 1900 \frac{cm^2}{Vs}$
- $2k_bT = 0.0514 \, eV$
- $a_0 = 5.66 \times 10^{-8} cm$
- $DC \rightarrow 8 \frac{at}{uc}$
- Oxidation number = 4

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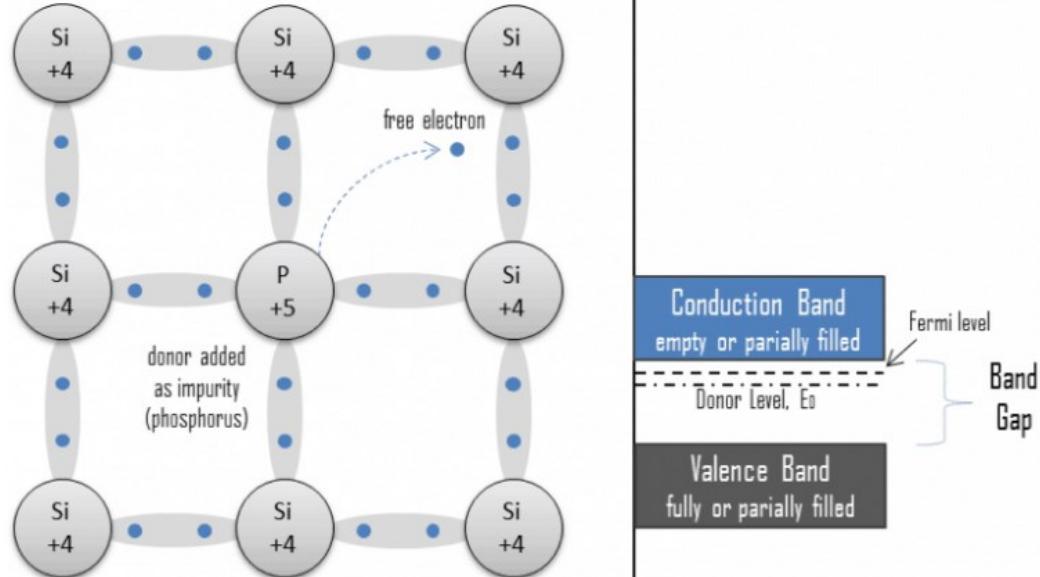


# Extrinsic Semiconductors

- Conductivity is based on the addition of impurities (Doping)
- Conductivity can be independent of temperature

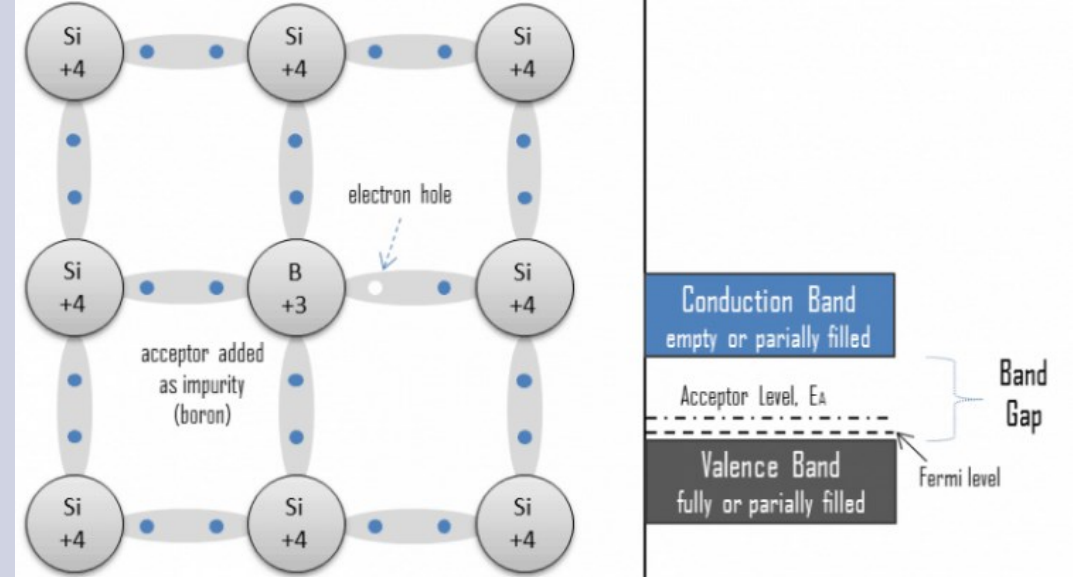
## n-Type

Negative: Valence of dopant is greater than 4

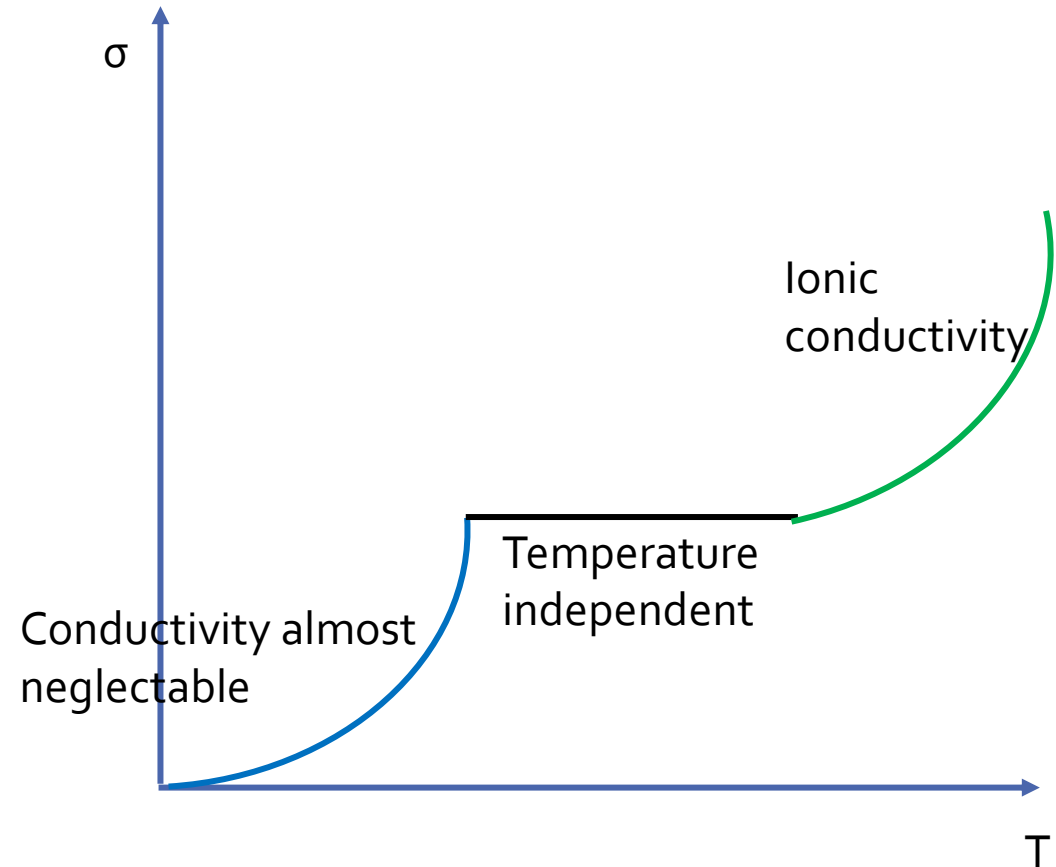
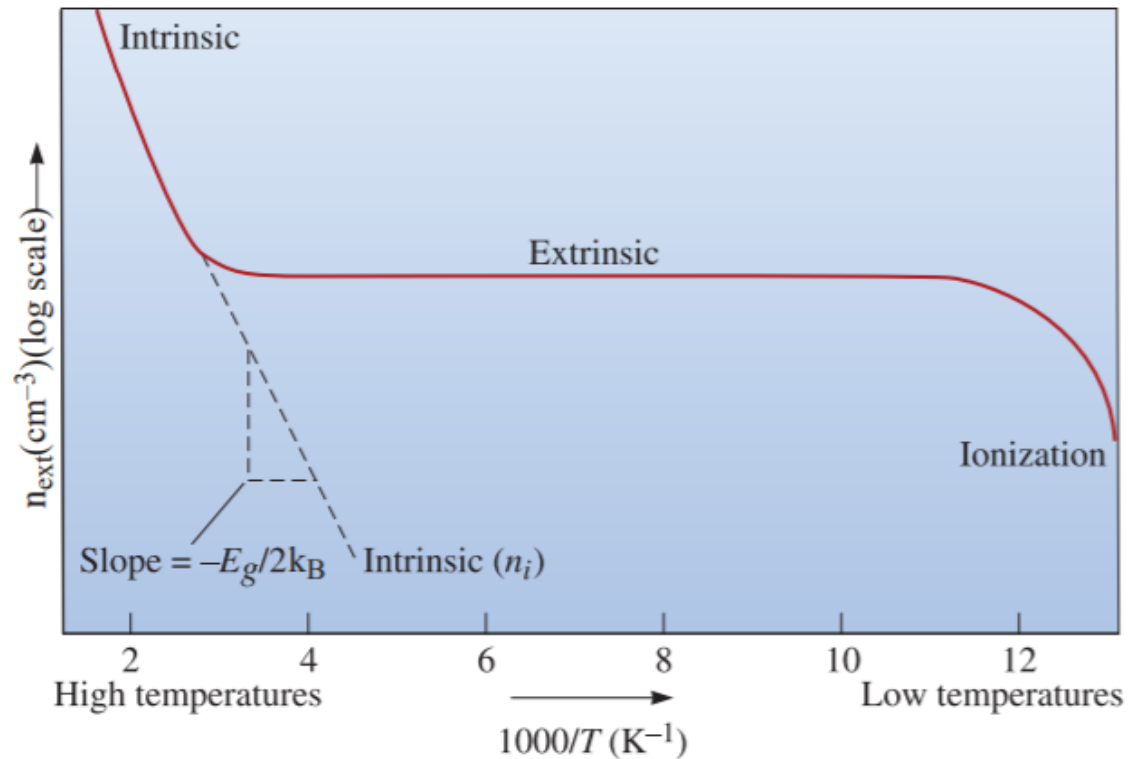


## p-Type

Positive: Valence of dopant is less than 4



# Extrinsic Semiconductors: Temperature dependence



# Example

- Determine the electrical conductivity of silicon when 0.0001at% Sb is added as a dopant. Compare it to the electrical conductivity when the same percentage of In is added.

**TABLE 19-6** ■ *The donor and acceptor energy levels (in electron volts) when silicon and germanium semiconductors are doped*

Dopant	Silicon		Germanium	
	$E_d$	$E_a$	$E_d$	$E_a$
P	0.045		0.0120	
As	0.049		0.0127	
Sb	0.039		0.0096	
B		0.045		0.0104
Al		0.057		0.0102
Ga		0.065		0.0108
In		0.160		0.0112

## P-Type (In)

- *In in Silicon*  $E_a \rightarrow \mu_p$
- $\mu_p = 480 \frac{cm^2}{Vs}$
- $a_0 = 5.43 \times 10^{-8} cm$
- $DC \rightarrow 8 \frac{at}{uc}$
- 0.0001at% In

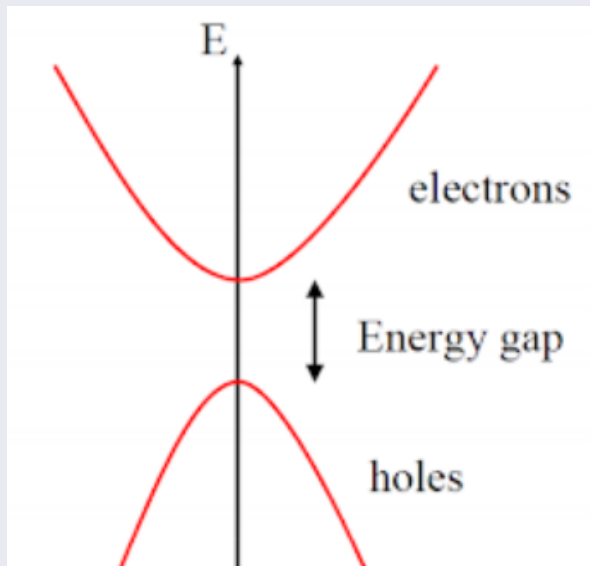
## N-Type (Sb)

- *Sb in Silicon*  $E_d \rightarrow \mu_n$
- $\mu_n = 1350 \frac{cm^2}{Vs}$
- $a_0 = 5.43 \times 10^{-8} cm$
- $DC \rightarrow 8 \frac{at}{uc}$
- 0.0001at% Sb

# Bandgap Semiconductors

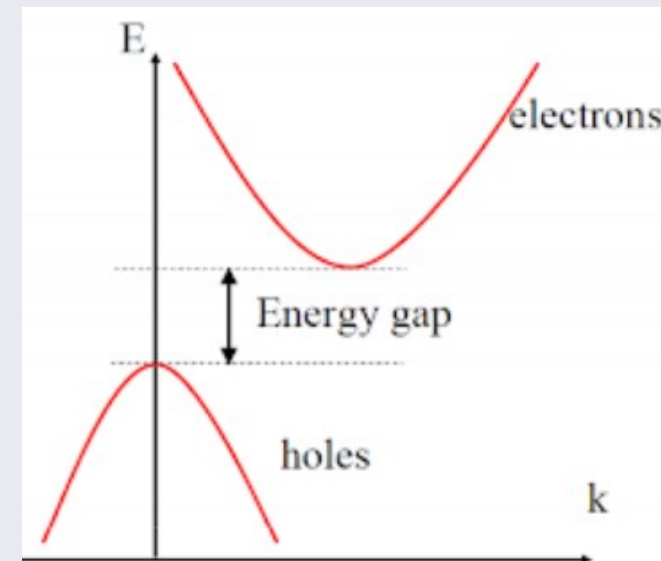
## Direct (DBG) semiconductor

- The maximum energy level of the valence band aligns with the minimum energy level of the conduction band.
- The probability of a radiative recombination is high.
- DBG semiconductors are always preferred over IBG for making optical sources.
- Example, Gallium Arsenide (GaAs).

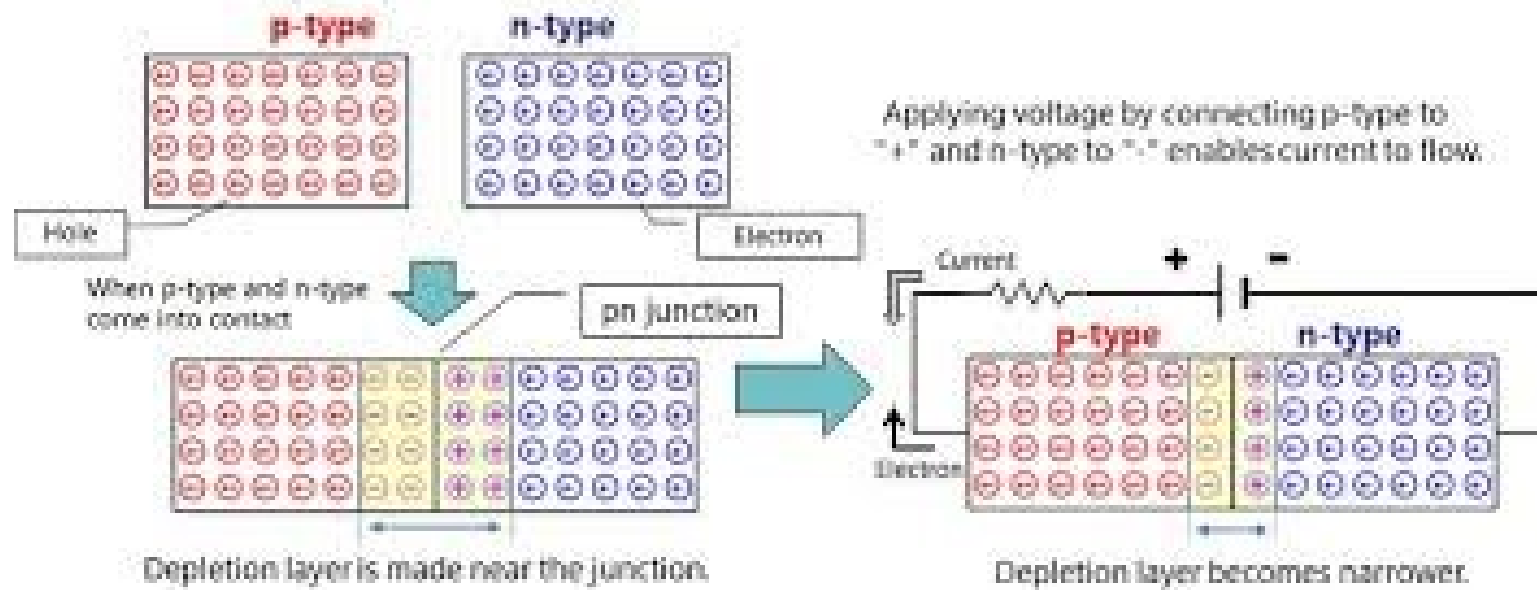


## Indirect (IBG) semiconductor

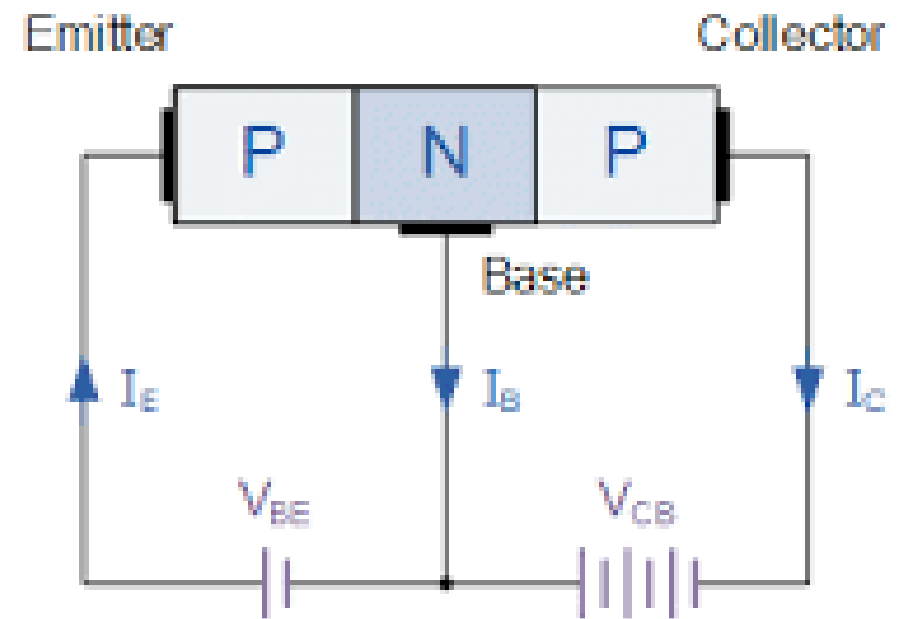
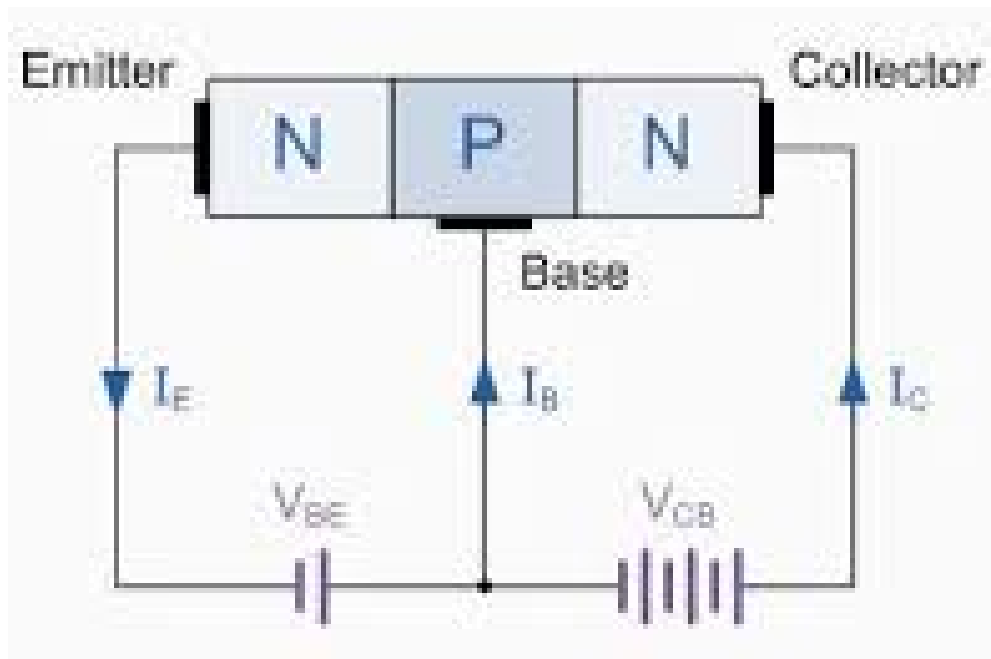
- The maximum energy level of the valence band and the minimum energy level of the conduction band are misaligned.
- Heat
- Example, Silicon and Germanium.



# p-n Junction



# Transistors

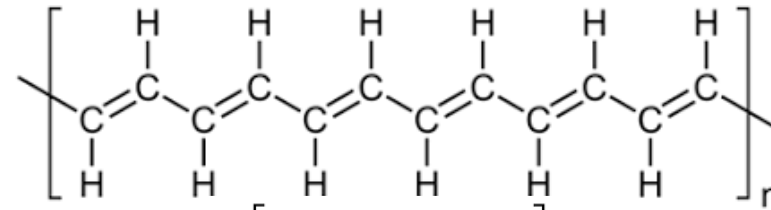




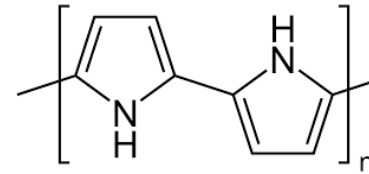
# Conductivity in other materials: Polymers

- -  $10^{-8}, 10^{-12} \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$
- - Covalent bonds
- + **Composite materials:**
- Powders
- Coatings

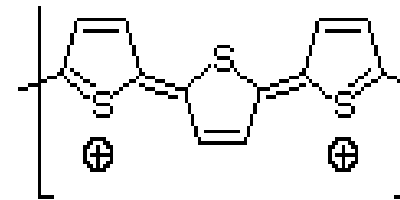
Polyacetylene



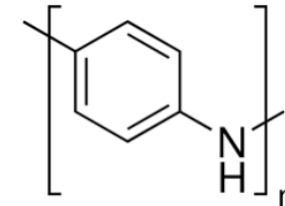
Polypyrrole



Polythiophene



Polyaniline



Dope with:  
 $\text{ClO}_4^-$   
 $\text{I}_3$   
 $\text{AsF}_5$

# Conductivity in other materials: Ceramics

- - Ionic material
- - entire ions move, not just e-

$$\mu = \frac{zqD}{k_B T}$$

$$\sigma = n_i z q \mu$$

$$D = D_0 \exp\left(\frac{-Q}{RT}\right)$$

Z: valence of the ion

q: charge on each carrier ( $1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C)

D: diffusion coefficient

n<sub>i</sub>: concentration of diffusing ions



# Example

Suppose that the electrical conductivity of MgO is determined primarily by the diffusion of the  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions. Estimate the mobility of the  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  ions and calculate the electrical conductivity of MgO at  $1500^\circ\text{C}$ .

$$D_0 = 0.705 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ [cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}\text{]}$$

$$Q = 1.25 \cdot 10^5 \text{ J}$$

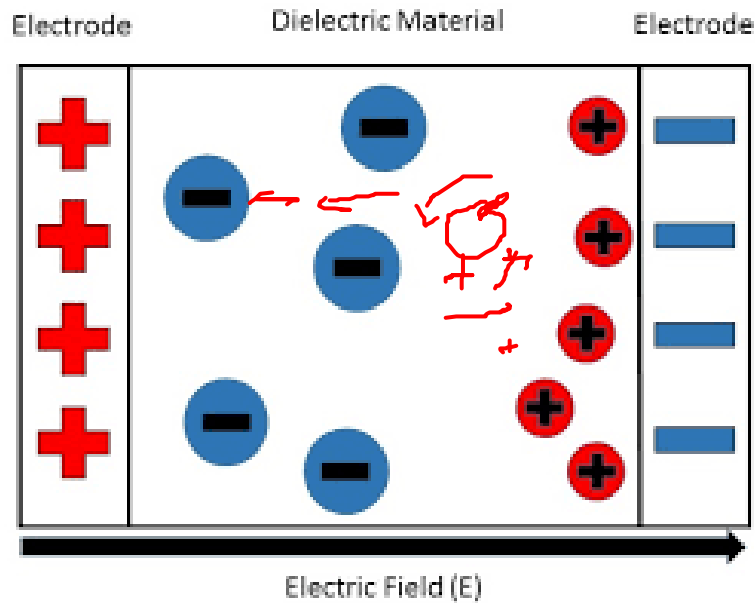
$$a_0 = 3.96 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$$

- $D_0 = 0.705 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
- $Q = 1.25 \times 10^5 \text{ J}$
- $a_0 = 3.96 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$
- $T = 1500^\circ\text{C} = 1773\text{K}$
- $\text{Mg}^{2+} \rightarrow 2e^- \rightarrow z = 2$

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# Dielectric and insulating materials: Polarization

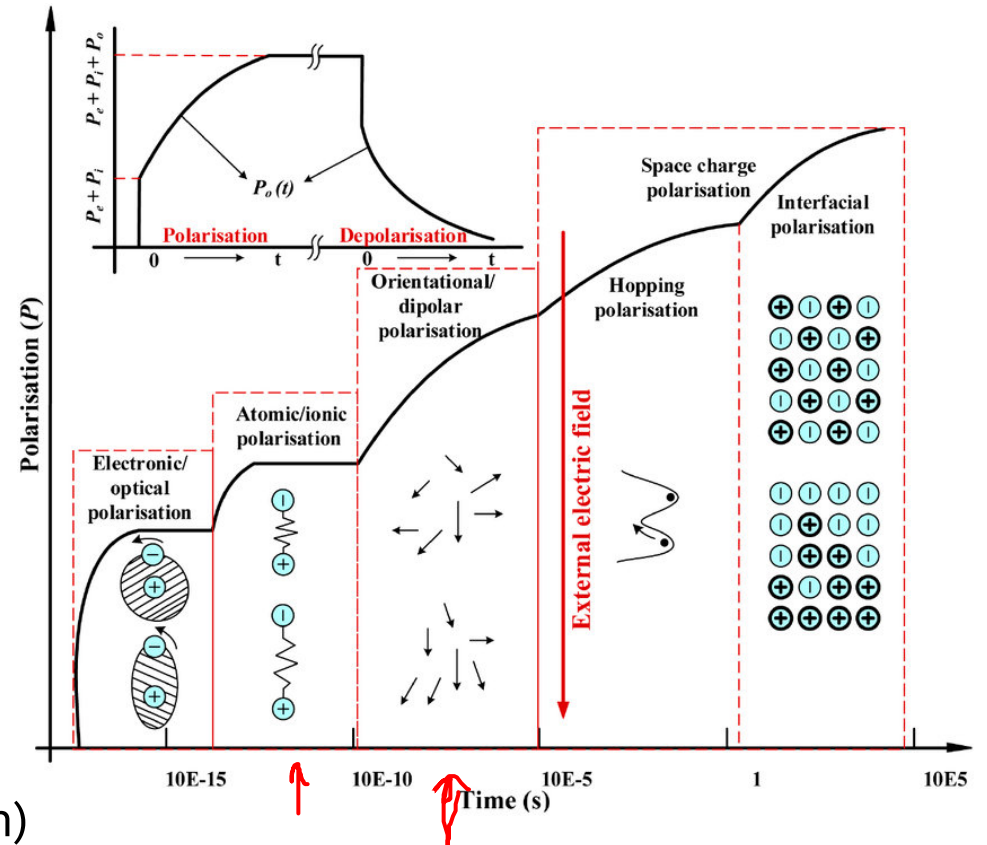
Charge separation!



$$U = qd$$

$$P = zqd$$

P: polarization  
z: Number of charges  
displaced per unit volume  
d: average displacement (m)



# Example

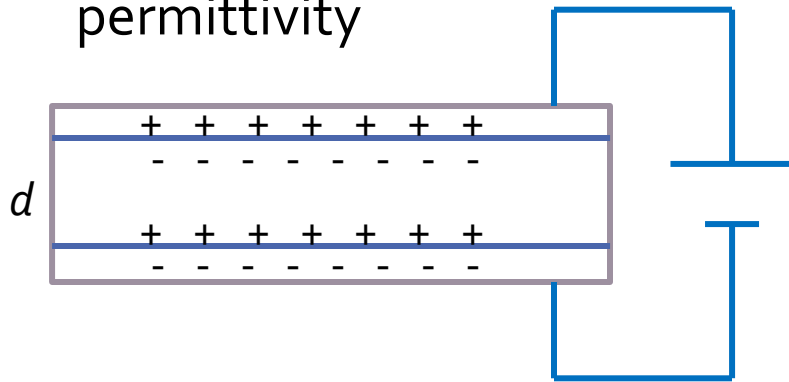
- Calculate the displacement of e- if the polarization of Al is  $2\text{E-}8 \text{ C m}^{-2}$ 
  - Atomic number: 13
    - $a_0$ :  $4.04\text{E-}8 \text{ cm}$
    - FCC structure

- Atomic number: 13
- $a_0 = 4.04 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$
- FCC structure
- $P = 2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C/m}^2$



# Dielectric constant (k)

- Also known as Relative permittivity



$$Q = CV \qquad k = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$C = \epsilon \frac{A}{d} \qquad C = k\epsilon_0 \frac{A}{d}$$

Q: Stored charge (C)

C: capacitance (Farad)

V: voltage (V)

$\epsilon_0$ : Permittivity of vacuum (8.85E-12 F/m)

A: Surface area (m<sup>2</sup>)

d: average displacement (m)

$\epsilon$ : permittivity of material (F/m)

# Example

- A simple parallel plate capacitor is designed to store  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  C at a potential of 8000 V. The distance between plates is 0.30 mm. Calculate the area of the plates if a) there is vacuum in between and b) alumina is the chosen dielectric material, if the permittivity of this material is 9 times the vacuum permittivity.

$$Q = 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

$$V = 8000 \text{ V}$$

$$d = 0.30 \text{ mm}$$

$$Q = 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

$$V = 8000 \text{ V}$$

$$d = 0.30 \text{ mm}$$

# Example

Design a capacitor that is capable of storing  $1\ \mu\text{F}$  when  $1000\ \text{V}$  is applied, producing an electric field of  $250\ \text{V/m}$  and the distance between plates is a fifth of the side of a plate.

$$C = 1 \times 10^{-6} F$$

$$V = 1000 V$$

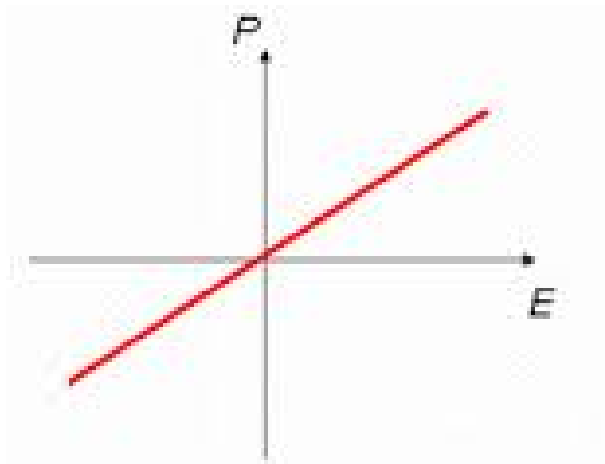
$$E = 250 V/m$$

Distance between plates is  
a fifth of the side of a plate

**k?**

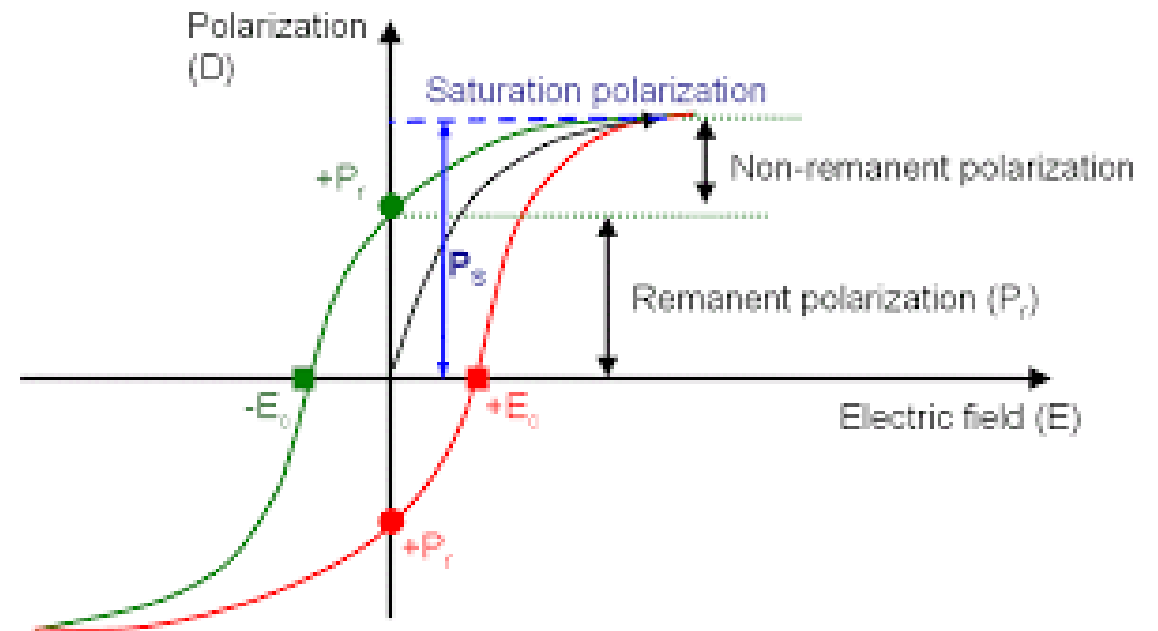
# Linear and non-Linear dielectrics

- Polarization only occurs when an electric field is applied
- $P = (k - 1)\epsilon_0 E$        $V = Ed$
- $\chi = (k - 1)$ : Dielectric susceptibility



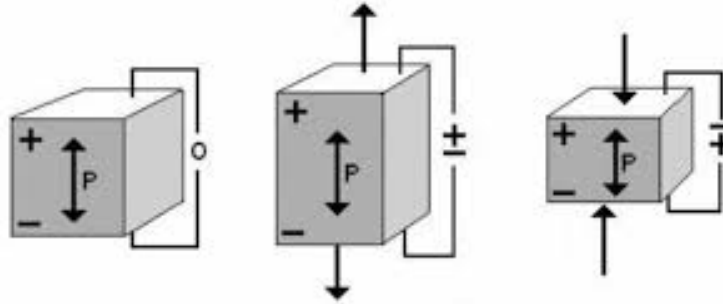
- E: Electric field (V/m)

Polarization has a remnant even after the electric field is removed

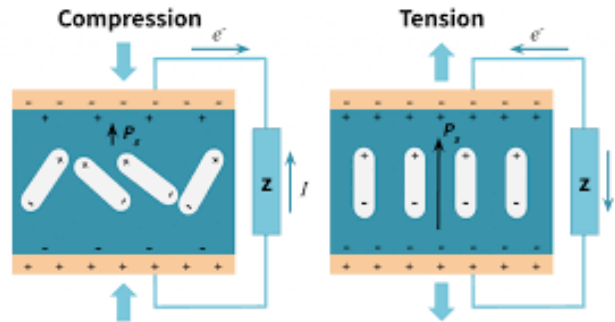


# Non-Linear dielectrics

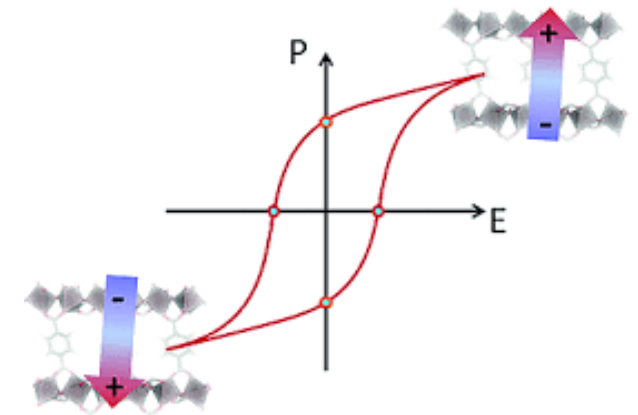
- Electrostrictivity: Dimensional change in the material when there is  $E$ .



- Piezoelectricity: Application of stress on some materials can produce polarization



- Ferroelectricity: Spontaneous and reversible dielectric polarization ( $P_s$ ).





# Example

A 2-mm-thick alumina dielectric is used in a 60 Hz circuit. Calculate the voltage required to produce a polarization of  $5\text{E-}7 \text{ C/m}^2$

TABLE 19-7 ■ Properties of selected dielectric materials

Material	Dielectric Constant		Dielectric Strength ( $10^6 \text{ V/m}$ )	$\tan \delta$ (at $10^6 \text{ Hz}$ )	Resistivity (ohm · cm)
	(at 60 Hz)	(at $10^6 \text{ Hz}$ )			
Polyethylene	2.3	2.3	20	0.00010	$> 10^{16}$
Teflon	2.1	2.1	20	0.00007	$10^{18}$
Polystyrene	2.5	2.5	20	0.00020	$10^{18}$
PVC	3.5	3.2	40	0.05000	$10^{12}$
Nylon	4.0	3.6	20	0.04000	$10^{15}$
Rubber	4.0	3.2	24		
Phenolic	7.0	4.9	12	0.05000	$10^{12}$
Epoxy	4.0	3.6	18		$10^{15}$
Paraffin wax		2.3	10		$10^{13}\text{--}10^{19}$
Fused silica	3.8	3.8	10	0.00004	$10^{11}\text{--}10^{12}$
Soda-lime glass	7.0	7.0	10	0.00900	$10^{15}$
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	9.0	6.5	6	0.00100	$10^{11}\text{--}10^{13}$
TiO <sub>2</sub>		14–110	8	0.00020	$10^{13}\text{--}10^{18}$
Mica		7.0	40		$10^{13}$
BaTiO <sub>3</sub>		2000–5000	12	$\sim 0.0001$	$10^8\text{--}10^{15}$
Water		78.3			$10^{14}$

$$P = 5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C/m}^2$$

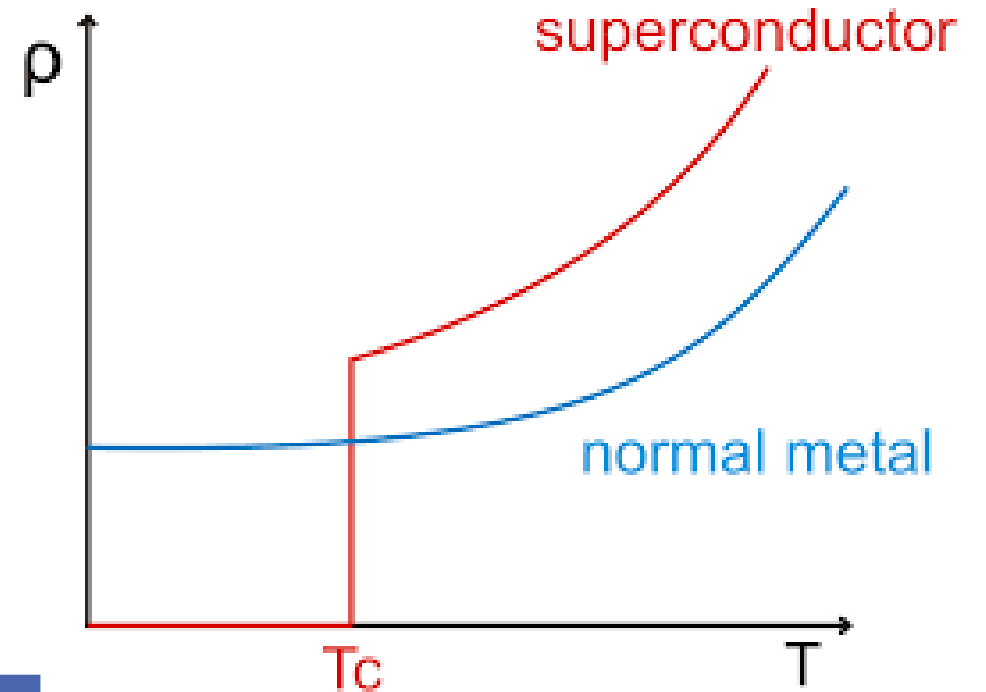
$$d = 2 \text{ mm} = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

From the table

$$k = 9$$

# Superconductivity

- Zero resistance
- Temperature dependent
- Meissner effect: Response of the superconductor to a magnetic field. A new opposing field.
- Critical magnetic field: Magnitude of field needed to eliminate the superconductivity property of the material.



Type I	Type II
Ideal metals (most of them)	Intermetallic compounds
Completely expel magnetic field	Able to lose superconductivity

