Analog Electronics Notes

Samyak Sheersh

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Contents

1 Some basic concepts

1

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To manipulate currents externally, we generally need to create a gradient, which generates an electric field which can be controlled externally

Band gap in Si = 1.12eV

 \Rightarrow For Silicon to function as a semiconductor, $\frac{1}{2}k_BT \geq 1.12eV$

where k_B is the Boltzmann constant.

In a simple p-n junction, the p-n junction is a metallurgical junction, and at thermal equilibrium, it forms a depletion layer, which results in a built-in potential V_{bi} , due to a distribution of charge.

If the p-side is doped with N_a acceptor atoms (cm^{-3}) and the n-side is doped with N_d donor atoms (cm^{-3}) , then:

$$V_{bi} = \frac{k_B T}{q} \ln(\frac{N_a N_d}{n_i^2}) \tag{1}$$

which at $T \approx 300K$:

• V_T called the thermal voltage $q = e = 1.6 * 10^{-19}$,

$$V_T = \frac{k_B T}{q} \approx 26mV$$

.

• $n_i = 1.35 * 10^{10} \approx 10^{10} cm^{-3}$