

VE320 Intro to Semiconductor Devices

Chapter 7

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- ① semiconductor lattice
- ② e^- in potential field
- ③ e^- in periodic potential field
- ④ concentration of electrons and holes

E_F E_{Fi}

1 Chapter 7: The pn Junction

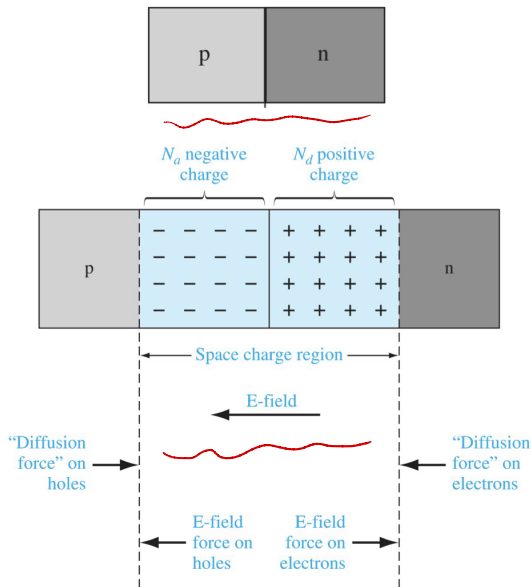
- Basic Structure of the pn junction
- Zero applied bias
- Reverse applied bias

⑤ current density \rightarrow drift
 \rightarrow diffusion

⑥ concentration of e^- and holes change w.r.t. x and y

⑦ pn junction.

Structure of pn Junction



Energy-band Diagram

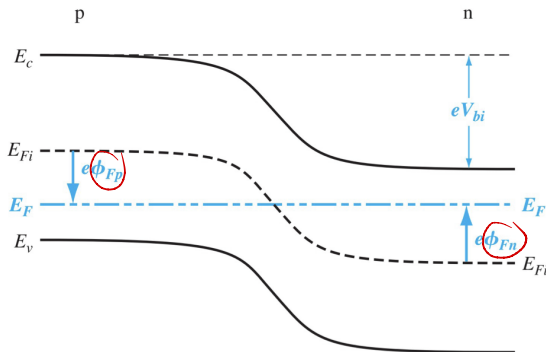


Figure: Energy-band diagram of a pn junction in thermal equilibrium

Built-in Potential Barrier

N_{a2} N_{d2}

$$N_{a1} = N_{a2} - N_{d2}$$

P

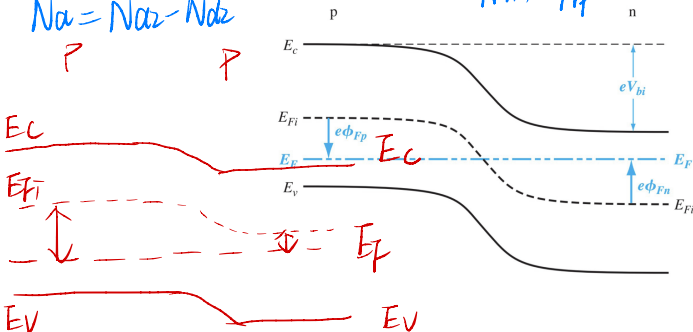
P

$$n_0 = n_i \exp\left(\frac{E_F - E_{Fi}}{kT}\right) = n_i \exp\left(\frac{-e\phi_{Fn}}{kT}\right)$$

ϕ_{Fn} , ϕ_{Fp}

N_{a1} N_{d1}

$$N_d = N_{d1} - N_{a1}$$



$$V_{bi} = |\phi_{Fn}| + |\phi_{Fp}|$$

$$= \frac{kT}{e} \ln\left(\frac{N_a N_d}{n_i^2}\right) = V_t \ln\left(\frac{N_a N_d}{n_i^2}\right)$$

net concentration

where $V_t = kT/e$ is the thermal voltage.

Electric Field

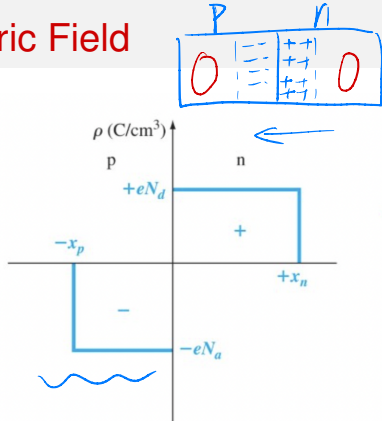


Figure: space charge density

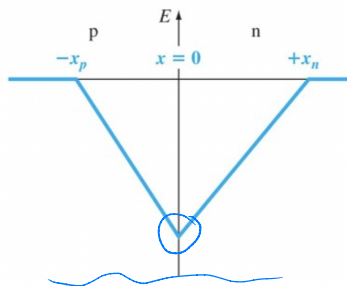


Figure: electric field

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} -eN_a, & -x_p \leq x \leq 0 \\ +eN_d, & 0 \leq x \leq x_n \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{d^2\phi(x)}{dx^2} = -\frac{\rho(x)}{\epsilon_s} = -\frac{dE(x)}{dx} \quad (\epsilon_s : \text{Dielectric constant})$$

$$E(x=x_p)=0$$

$$E(x=x_n)=0$$

$$E(x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{eN_a}{\epsilon_s}(x+x_p), & -x_p \leq x \leq 0 \\ -\frac{eN_d}{\epsilon_s}(x_n-x), & 0 \leq x \leq x_n \end{cases}$$

When $x = 0$:

$$N_a x_p = N_d x_n$$

$$\begin{cases} x_p = \frac{N_d x_n}{N_a} \\ x_n = \frac{N_a x_p}{N_d} \end{cases}$$

Maximum electric field intensity at $x=0$:

$$E_{\max} = -\frac{eN_a x_p}{\epsilon_s} = -\frac{eN_d x_n}{\epsilon_s}$$



Electric Potential

Suppose $\Phi(x) = 0$ when $x = -x_p$:

$$\Phi(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{eN_a}{2\epsilon_s}(x + x_p)^2, & -x_p \leq x \leq 0 \\ \frac{eN_d}{\epsilon_s}(x_n \cdot x - \frac{x^2}{2}) + \frac{eN_a}{2\epsilon_s}x_p^2, & 0 \leq x \leq x_n \end{cases}$$

When $x = x_n$, the potential is the same as the built-in potential barrier:

$$V_{bi} = |\Phi(x = x_n)| = \frac{e}{2\epsilon_s}(N_dx_n^2 + N_ax_p^2)$$

Space Charge Width

$$\begin{cases} x_n = \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(V_{bi})}{e} \left(\frac{N_a}{N_d} \right) \left(\frac{1}{N_a + N_d} \right) \right]^{1/2} \\ x_p = \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(V_{bi})}{e} \left(\frac{N_d}{N_a} \right) \left(\frac{1}{N_a + N_d} \right) \right]^{1/2} \end{cases}$$

The total depletion region:

$$\begin{aligned} W &= x_n + x_p \\ &= \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(V_{bi})}{e} \left(\frac{N_a + N_d}{N_a N_d} \right) \right]^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Reverse Bias

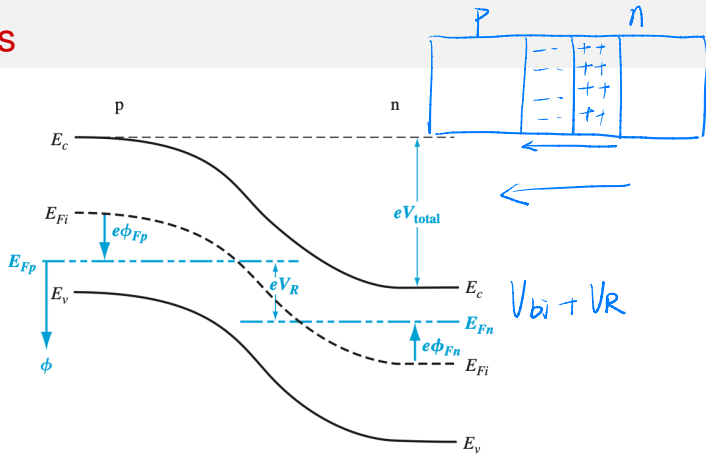


Figure: Energy-band diagram of a pn junction under reverse bias

$$V_{total} = |\phi_{Fn}| + |\phi_{Fp}| + V_R = V_{bi} + V_R$$

W and E

$$V_{bi} \rightarrow \underline{V_{bi} + V_R}$$

$$W = \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(\underline{V_{bi} + V_R})}{e} \left(\frac{N_a + N_d}{N_a N_d} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$E_{\max} = - \left[\frac{2e(V_{bi} + V_R)}{\epsilon_s} \left(\frac{N_a N_d}{N_a + N_d} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$

$$E_{\max} = \frac{-2(V_{bi} + V_R)}{W}$$

Junction Capacitance

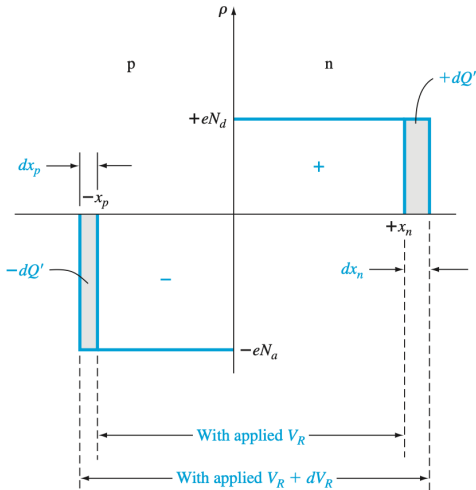
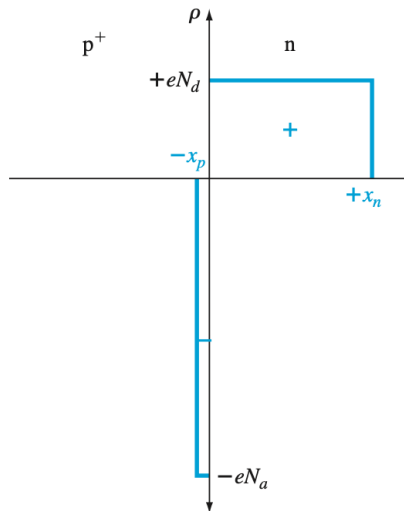


Figure: Change of depletion region width with a change in reverse-bias voltage

Junction Capacitance

$$\begin{aligned}C' &= \frac{dQ'}{dV_R} \\&= eN_d \frac{dx_n}{dV_R} \\&= \left[\frac{e\epsilon_s N_a N_d}{2(V_{bi} + V_R)(N_a + N_d)} \right]^{1/2} \\&= \frac{\epsilon_s}{W}\end{aligned}$$

One-sided Junction



$$N_a \gg N_d$$

$$x_n \gg x_p$$

$$W \approx x_n$$

Figure: One-sided p^+n junction

One-sided Junction

$$W \approx \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(V_{bi} + V_R)}{eN_d} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$C' \approx \left[\frac{e\epsilon_s N_d}{2(V_{bi} + V_R)} \right]^{1/2} \leftarrow$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{C'} \right)^2 = \frac{2(V_{bi} + V_R)}{e\epsilon_s N_d}$$

V_{bi}

One-sided Junction

$$W \approx \left[\frac{2\epsilon_s(V_{bi} + V_R)}{eN_d} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$C' \approx \left[\frac{e\epsilon_s N_d}{2(V_{bi} + V_R)} \right]^{1/2}$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{C'} \right)^2 = \frac{2(V_{bi} + V_R)}{e\epsilon_s N_d}$$