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# 2. Intrinsic semiconductors 

Oct. 9, 2019

## Crystal Structure

Atoms are arranged in a periodic pattern in a crystal.
The atomic arrangement affects the macroscopic properties of a material.

Many important materials (silicon, steel) are crystals


Gallium crystals

quartz


Insulin crystals

## Crystal Structure



simple cubic

body centered cubic, bcc

face centered cubic, fcc

## Crystal planes and directions: Miller indices


plan (111)

[ ] specific direction
$<>$ family of equivalent directions
() specific plane
\{ \} family of equivalent planes


A plane with the intercepts $1 / h$, $1 / k, 1 / l$ is the ( $h, k, l$ ) plane.


MOSFETs are made on $<100>$ wafers

## silicon




The conventional unit cell is a cube with sides of 0.543 nm . There are 8 atoms atoms in the conventional unit cell. (The image can be rotated with a mouse.)

JSmol
http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/memm/materials/silicon/silicon.php

## Silicon surfaces

(Source: Sandia Nat.Labs.)

## $\mathbf{S i}(100)$

## KOH etching of silicon



KOH etches Si $\{110\}>\{100\}>\{111\}$, producing a characteristic anisotropic V-etch, with sidewalls that form a $54.7^{\circ}$ angle with the surface ( $35.3^{\circ}$ from the normal).
http://www.ece.uncc.edu/research/clean_room/fabprocesses/KOHEtchingAndDecon.pdf

## Crystal structures



## face centered cubic (fcc)

$\mathrm{Al}, \mathrm{Cu}$, Ni, Ag, $\mathrm{Pt}, \mathrm{Au}$, Pb

http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/crystalstructure/structures/fcc/fcc_jsmol.php

## hexangonal close pack (hcp)

Ti, Co, $\mathrm{Zn}, \mathrm{Zr}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { HM:P 63/m m c } \\
& a=2.50 \mathrm{~m} \\
& \mathrm{~b}=2.507 \AA \\
& \mathrm{c}=4.069 \AA \\
& \alpha=90.000^{\circ} \\
& \beta=90.000^{\circ} \\
& Y=120.000^{\circ}
\end{aligned}
$$


http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/crystalstructure/structures/hcp/hcp_jsmol.php

## Close packing


$\mathrm{HCP}=$ Hexagonal close pack
Hexagonal Bravais lattice with two atoms in the basis.

## body centered cubic bcc

W
Cr
Fe
Mo
Ta

http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/crystalstructure/structures/bcc/bcc_jsmol.php

## zincblende


http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/crystalstructure/structures/zincblende/zincblende_jsmol.php
wurtzite




http://cst-www.nrl.navy.mil/lattice/

## Structural phase transitions



GaAs, Zincblende


GaAs, Wurtzite


3C-SiC

$4 \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{SiC}$


6H - SiC

SiC has about 100 polytypes

## Electrons

> Charge $=-1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \mathrm{C}$
> Mass $=9.11 \times 10^{-31} \mathrm{~kg}$
> Radius $=?$

0.15 nm


## Everything moves like a wave but exchanges energy and momentum like a particle.


de aangegeven golflengten gelden in vacuüm


## Molecular energy levels



## Semiconductors



(a)

valence band conduction band band gap

molecular orbitals are plane waves

## wave vector k

A $k$-vector points in the direction a wave is propagating.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { wavelength: } & \lambda=\frac{2 \pi}{|\vec{k}|} \\
\text { momentum: } & \vec{p}=\hbar \vec{k}
\end{array}
$$

## Absorption and emission of photons


absorption

semiconductor
$h f<E_{g}$ no absorption
emission

## What color light does a GaAs LED emit?



$$
\begin{gathered}
E=1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \times 1.43 \mathrm{~J}=h f=\frac{h c}{\lambda} \\
\lambda=867 \mathrm{~nm} \quad \text { infrared }
\end{gathered}
$$

## Direct and indirect band gaps

indirect bandgap
$\Delta k \neq 0$
phonons are emitted direct bandgap:
$\Delta k=0$
photons can be emitted


Indium Arsenide


Momentum must be conserved when photons are absorbed or emitted.

## Silicon band structure



Electrons with energies in the gap are reflected out of the crystal.

TABLE 1 Common III-V materials used to produce LEDs and their emission wavelengths.

| Material | Wavelength (nm) |
| :---: | :---: |
| InAsSbP/InAs | 4200 |
| InAs | 3800 |
| GaInAsP/GaSb | 2000 |
| GaSb | 1800 |
| $\mathrm{Ga}_{x} \mathrm{In}_{1-x} \mathrm{As}_{1-y} \mathrm{P}_{y}$ | 1100-1600 |
| $\mathrm{Ga}_{0.47} \mathrm{In}_{0.53} \mathrm{As}$ | 1550 |
| $\mathrm{Ga}_{0.27} \mathrm{In}_{0.73} \mathrm{As}_{0.63} \mathrm{P}_{0.37}$ | 1300 |
| GaAs:Er,InP:Er | 1540 |
| Si:C | 1300 |
| GaAs:Yb,InP:Yb | 1000 |
| $\mathrm{Al}_{x} \mathrm{Ga}_{1-x} \mathrm{As}: \mathrm{Si}$ | 650-940 |
| GaAs:Si | 940 |
| $\mathrm{Al}_{0.11} \mathrm{Ga}_{0.89} \mathrm{As}: \mathrm{Si}$ | 830 |
| $\mathrm{Al}_{0.4} \mathrm{Ga}_{0.6} \mathrm{As}: \mathrm{Si}$ | 650 |
| $\mathrm{GaAs}_{0.6} \mathrm{P}_{0.4}$ | 660 |
| $\mathrm{GaAs}_{0.4} \mathrm{P}_{0.6}$ | 620 |
| $\mathrm{GaAs}_{0.15} \mathrm{P}_{0.85}$ | 590 |
| $\left(\mathrm{Al}_{x} \mathrm{Ga}_{1-\mathrm{x}}\right)_{0.5} \mathrm{In}_{0.5} \mathrm{P}$ | 655 |
| GaP | 690 |
| GaP:N | 550-570 |
| $\mathrm{Ga}_{x} \mathrm{In}_{1-x} \mathrm{~N}$ | 340,430,590 |
| SiC | 400-460 |
| BN | 260,310,490 |

## Light emitting diodes





## Metals, semiconductors, insulators



Semiconductor or insulator
$E_{g}<3 \mathrm{eV}=$ Semiconductor
$E_{g}>3 \mathrm{eV}=$ Insulator

## Copper dispersion relation and density of states



from Ibach \& Lueth

## Germanium


from Ibach \& Lueth

## Band gap

Electrons with energies in the gap are reflected out of the crystal.


## Density of states

Silicon

filled states

Aluminum

empty states

## Structural phase transition in Sn


$\beta-\mathrm{Sn}$, white tin, tetragonal
$\alpha-\mathrm{Sn}$, gray tin, diamond structure

## Structural phase transitions



Si, diamond structure


Si II, $\beta-\mathrm{Sn}$, tetragonal
silicon makes a diamond to $\beta$-Sn transition under pressure


## Fermi function

$f(E)$ is the probability that a state at energy $E$ is occupied.


## Silicon density of states







[^0]:    Technische Universität Graz

