

Technische Universität Graz

Institute of Solid State Physics

Crystal structures

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







quartz



Insulin crystals

Crystal structures



Miller indices: Crystal planes

[hkl] = vector in direction $h\vec{a}_1 + k\vec{a}_2 + l\vec{a}_3$

[] specific direction <> family of equivalent directions always use integers for h,k,l



silicon



JSmol

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



KOH etching of silicon



KOH etches Si $\{110\} > \{100\} > \{111\}$, producing a characteristic anisotropic V-etch, with sidewalls that form a 54.7° angle with the surface (35.3° from the normal).

http://www.ece.uncc.edu/research/clean_room/fabprocesses/KOH-EtchingAndDecon.pdf

Structural phase transitions



GaAs, Zincblende



GaAs, Wurtzite



3C - SiC

4H - SiC

6H - SiC

SiC has about 100 polytypes



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Electrons in Crystals

Electrons

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





Quantum Mechanics

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

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





de aangegeven golflengten gelden in vacuüm



Molecular energy levels



Semiconductors



wave vector k

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

wavelength:
$$\lambda$$

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\left|\vec{k}\right|}$$

momentum:
$$\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}$$

Absorption and emission of photons



What color light does a GaAs LED emit?



$$E = 1.6022 \times 10^{-19} \times 1.43 \text{ J} = hf = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

 $\lambda = 867 \text{ nm}$ infrared

Direct and indirect band gaps



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.

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

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

Light emitting diodes



Metals, semiconductors, insulators



Semiconductor or insulator

 $E_g < 3eV = Semiconductor$ $E_g > 3eV = Insulator$

from: Singh

Copper dispersion relation and density of states



Germanium



from Ibach & Lueth

Band gap

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



Density of states



Structural phase transition in Sn



 α -Sn, gray tin, diamond structure

Structural phase transitions

