EE 606: Solid State Devices ... Exam No. 1

Instructions: Open Text and Notes. Be sure that there are 5 pages in total. Show all your work and write neatly, this exam is worth 100 points. You have 70 minutes to complete the exam.

Problem 1 (37 points)

This question deals with quantum mechanics.

A. Compute the lowest three eigenenergies in units of eV for a particle in an infinite potential well, where the well width is 5nm. Assume the effective mass of the particle to be 0.1m₀. (**5 points**)

B. Consider a double barrier structure as follows,



Sketch the eigenenergies levels of this structure (using solid line) and that of part A (using dashed line). Explain the relative position of the new energies compared to the ones computed in part A). (**7 points**)

C. Sketch the transmission through the quantum structure in B as a function of energy. Clearly identify the key features. Indicate the resonance energies as a function of energy and occurrence. (5 points)



D. Consider now a similar quantum structure like B, but now with 6 barriers instead. How many resonance energies are we expecting to get in this case? Sketch also its transmission as a function of energy. Transmission is along x-axis. (**10 points**)



E. Explain how the structure in D would change as one make a Kronig Penney model out of these series of quantum well. (5 points)

F. Explain how would the bandstructure in a Kronig Penney model change if the barrier were made thicker? (5 points)

Problem 2 (15 points)

Si is n-doped with $N_D = 1 \times 10^{17}$ cm⁻³ of Phosphorus. Assume T=300K and bandgap 1.12eV

A. Compute the equilibrium electron and hole density assuming complete ionization and nondegenerate carrier statistics. (5 points) B. You were tasked to performed an experiment to measure the majority carrier density n, briefly describes this experiment (**5 points**)

C. You found experimentally that the electron carrier density was only 95.8% of N_D, suggesting incomplete ionization. Determine the donor energy level assuming standard value for the degeneracy factor (**5 points**)

Problem 3 (13 points)

Consider the physical processes illustrated on the band diagram below, where the subscripts C/E denotes capture and emission respectively.



A. If the sample is in **equilibrium**, circle one choice for each statement below. (**4 points**)

$n_T(\mathbf{x})$ must be 0	True	False
$R_{C,Hole}$ must be equal $R_{C,Elec}$	True	False
$J_{N,DRIFT}(\mathbf{x}) = -J_{N,DIFFUSION}(\mathbf{x})$	True	False
$J_{N,DRIFT}(\mathbf{x}) = J_{N,DRIFT}(\mathbf{x}+\Delta \mathbf{x})$	True	False

B. If the sample is in **non-equilibrium steady state**, write down an equation governing the quantities related to electrons shown in the figure. (**4 points**)

C. Si is unintentionally doped with impurities that creates traps level at (i) $E_1 = 0.3eV$ above midgap, (ii) $E_2 = 0.3eV$ below mid-gap and (iii) $E_3 = mid$ -gap level. Compute the ratio of the steady state recombination rate R (E_1)/R (E_3) and R (E_2)/R (E_3) for depletion region. Assume the following:

- Depletion condition

- Trap densities for each energy level are the same

- Electron/hole capture coefficients are the same and the degeneracy factor is one Which trap level dominates the process?

(5 points)

Problem 4 (35 points)



Holes are injected and extracted into an n-doped semiconductor at x=0 as shown in above figure. However, the doping is not perfectly uniform such that there is a small internal electric field E. Assume that the semiconductor is maintained in the dark and with low level recombination and the right end is contacted with a metal.

A. Obtain an expression for the excess hole density Δp in terms of $\Delta p(x=0)$ and at steady state condition. (15 points)

Hint: The solution of a homogeneous differential equation of the following

$$a\frac{\partial^2 \Delta p}{\partial x^2} + b\frac{\partial \Delta p}{\partial x} + c\Delta p = 0$$

Can be expressed as

$$\Delta p(x) = c_1 \exp(r_1 x) + c_2 \exp(r_2 x)$$

Where r_1 and r_2 are roots to the quadratic equation

 $ar^2 + br + c = 0$

B. Assuming that the minority carrier lifetime is $\tau_p = 100$ ns and the hole mobility is 400 cm²/Vs, compute the drift and diffusion current assuming that L=10 μ m, $\Delta p(0)=1\times10^{15}$ cm⁻³ and E=10V/cm at x=0. (8 points)

C. Supposed one did the calculation by assuming E=0V/cm. What is the fraction of error introduced in the diffusion current calculation? (**4 points**)

- D. Answer the following questions on basic concepts
 - Hall measurement of carrier density requires high magnetic field so that electron forms cyclotron orbits
 True/False (2 points)
 - (ii) Excitons flow does not contribute to a net electrical current True/False (**2 points**)
 - (iii) Graphene has six valleys in the first Brillouin zone True/False (**2 points**)
 - Boltzmann Maxwell distribution is a good approximation to Fermi Dirac distribution when the temperature is low True/False (2 points)