

1. Quantum mechanics (27%)

- (a) (4%) Please write down the time-dependent and time-independent Schrödinger equations in three-dimensions. Assume  $\Psi(x, y, z, t) = \psi(x, y, z)\phi(t)$ . Note that  $\Psi(x, y, z, t) \neq \psi(x, y, z)$ . You must write clearly to get full credits.
- (b) (6%) For a well-behaved wavefunction, they must be single-valued. In addition, the wavefunction and its first derivative must be continuous. Please explain why from the momentum and energy perspectives.
- (c) (17%) Now considering a 1-D potential barrier in Fig. 1. Assume an electron injecting from left ( $x < 0$ ) with a total energy ( $E$ ) smaller than the barrier potential energy ( $U_0$ ). What is the tunneling probability in terms of  $E$ ,  $U_0$ , and  $a$ ?

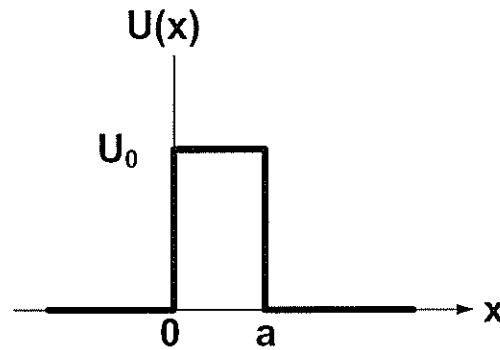


Fig. 1 A barrier potential

2. Particle properties of wave (13%)

- (a) (6%) Please explain what "the Ultraviolet Catastrophe" is when the Rayleigh-Jeans prediction is used to represent the energy density of blackbody radiations. Please write the Rayleigh-Jeans and Planck radiation formula and plot the spectra generated by these two formula.
- (b) (3%) In Fig. 2-1, for different materials, the frequency of light must be higher than a threshold for photoelectrons to be generated. Please explain why.

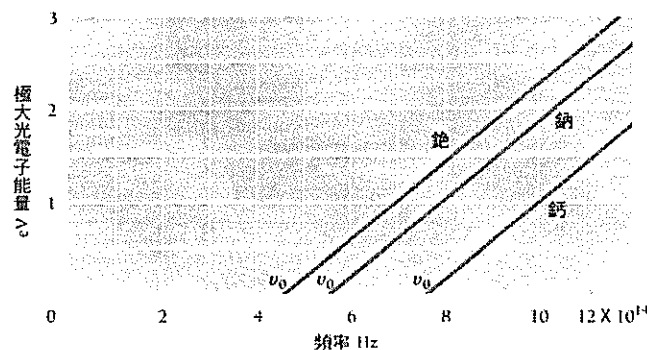


Fig. 2-1 Photoelectron energy vs. frequency for different metals

- (c) (4%) See the experimental setup for photoelectric effect in Fig. 2-2. Please explain why for different incident light intensities, the retarding potentials are the same (Fig. 2-3).

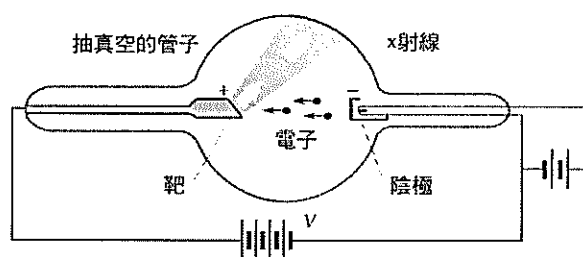


Fig. 2-2 Photoelectric experimental setup

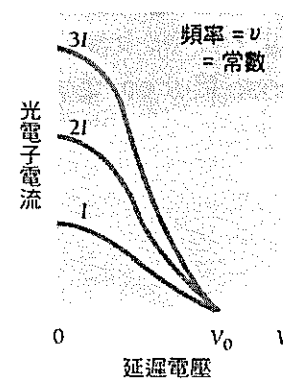


Fig. 2-3 Photocurrent vs. retarding potential

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3. Statistical mechanics (18%)

- (a) (8%) Please draw the energy diagrams of a metal and a n-type semiconductor, respectively. You MUST label the vacuum levels, the Fermi levels, the work functions, and the conduction and valence band levels (if needed).
- (b) (4%) Assume two energy levels  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and  $E_2 > E_1$ . Consider the rate that a particle jumps from  $E_i$  level to  $E_j$  level as  $r_{ij} = k_{ij}f(E_i)[1 - f(E_j)]$ , where  $k_{ij}$  is a rate constant. Show that in equilibrium,  $\frac{k_{12}}{k_{21}} = e^{-\frac{E_2-E_1}{kT}}$ .
- (c) (6%) Assume there are two different materials now contacting with each other. Please show that in thermal equilibrium, their Fermi levels are the same. Hint: there are several useful parameters such as density of state ( $g_1$  and  $g_2$ ), electron numbers ( $n_1$  and  $n_2$ ), vacancy numbers ( $v_1$  and  $v_2$ ), and Fermi probability functions ( $f_1$  and  $f_2$ ). You need to prove  $E_{F1} = E_{F2}$  by assuming that the reaction rates of jumping between two materials are the same in equilibrium.

4. Semiconductor devices (42%)

- (a) (4%) For a practical pn junction, there is a non-zero current flowing at reverse biases. Please write down the expression of the saturation current density ( $J_0$ ) given that  $n_i$ : intrinsic carrier concentration,  $D_p$  and  $D_n$ : diffusion constants of holes and electrons;  $L_p$  and  $L_n$ : diffusion lengths of holes and electrons;  $N_D$  and  $N_A$ : donor and acceptor concentrations. Assume full carrier activation of dopants at room temperature.
- (b) (6%) At low forward biases, if you plot the current (log) vs. voltage (linear) (see Fig. 4-1) and take the derivative of current with respect to voltage, please show that the ideal subthreshold slope  $SS \equiv \left[ \frac{d \log_{10} I}{dV} \right]^{-1}$  is 60 mV/decade at room temperature.

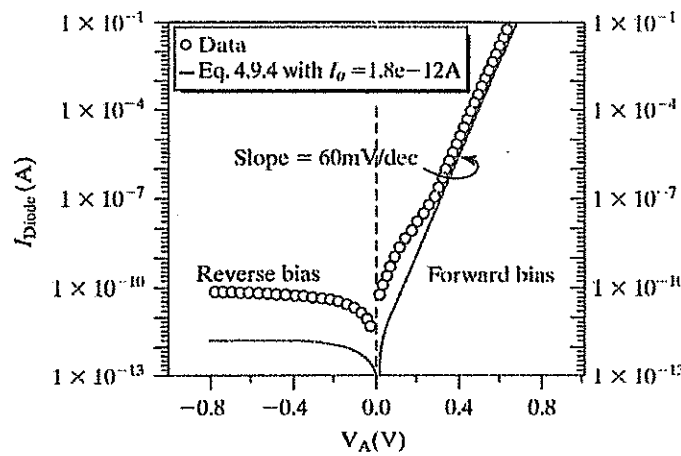


Fig. 4-1 I-V characteristics in a diode with a line and the circles representing the theoretical curve and experimental data, respectively.

- (c) (6%) Considering there exists defect centers in the depletion region of a pn junction diode, why is the actual current larger than the ideal current at both reverse biases and small forward biases (see Fig. 4-1)? Explain briefly the mechanisms by drawing the associated band diagrams.
- (d) (8%) A MOSFET is the baseline device for logic chips. It actually consists of a capacitor, a resistor, and two diodes. Please label those four components on the cross-sectional MOSFET schematic (Fig. 4-2).

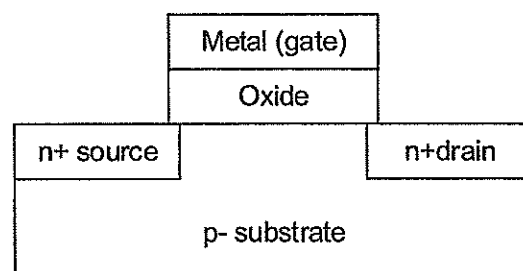


Fig. 4-2 A n-MOSFET cross-section.

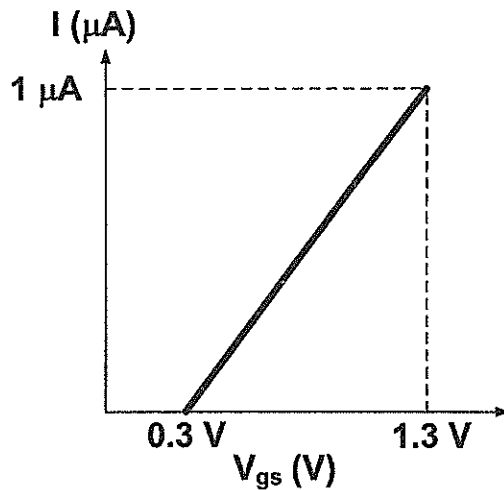


Fig. 4-3 Drain current vs. gate voltage.

- (e) (8%) Consider a  $I_d$  vs.  $V_{gs}$  curve with a small  $V_{ds} = 0.01$  V in Fig. 4-3, and assume that the relative dielectric constant ( $\epsilon_r$ ) of the oxide is 4,  $W = L$ , and the oxide thickness is 10 nm. Ignore tunneling leakage through the oxide layer. Please extract the electron mobility in the channel. Note:  $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-14}$  (F/cm).
- (f) (10%) If we change the gate length and measure the channel resistance vs. gate length in Fig. 4-4, please extract the mobility. The channel resistance is defined as  $R \equiv \frac{V_{ds}}{I}$ , where  $V_{ds} = 0.01$  V,  $V_{gs} - V_{th} = 1$  V, and  $W = 1$   $\mu\text{m}$ . In addition, do you know why with a zero gate length, the resistance is NOT zero? Please explain.

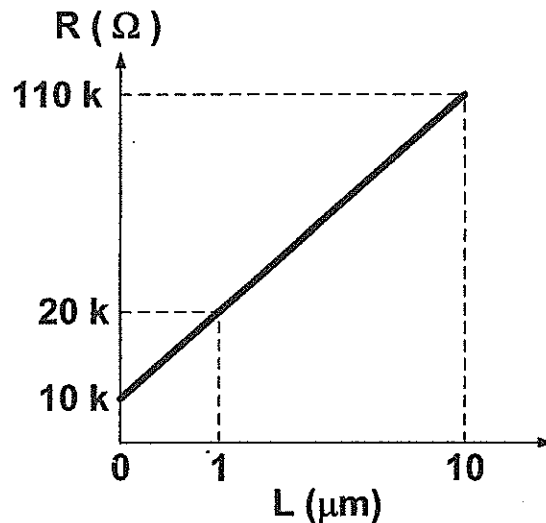


Fig. 4-4 Channel resistance vs. gate length.

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