

EECS170A ELECTRONICS I

Week 6 Discussion class: Examples for calculations of X_p , X_n , V_{bi}

Example 1: Problem 5.4 from textbook on page 228

A Si step junction maintained at room temperature under equilibrium conditions has a p-side doping of $N_A = 2 \times 10^{15}/\text{cm}^3$ and an n-side doping of $N_D = 10^{15}/\text{cm}^3$.

a) Compute V_{bi} .

Using equation 5.10 from page 204:

$$\begin{aligned}V_{bi} &= (kT/q) \ln(N_A N_D / n_i^2) \\ &= (0.0259) \ln [(2 \times 10^{15}) \times (10^{15}) / (10^{10})^2] \\ &= 0.614 \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

b) Compute x_p , x_n and W .

Using equation 5.30 a and 5.30b from page 214:

$$\begin{aligned}x_p &= [(2K_S \epsilon_0 / q) \cdot (N_D / (N_A (N_A + N_D))) \cdot V_{bi}] \\ &= [(2 \times 11.8 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-14} / 1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{15} / (2 \times 10^{15} \times (2 \times 10^{15} + 10^{15})) \times 0.614) \\ &= 3.66 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_n &= [(2K_S \epsilon_0 / q) \cdot (N_A / (N_D (N_A + N_D))) \cdot V_{bi}] \\ &= [(2 \times 11.8 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-14} / 1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (2 \times 10^{15} / (10^{15} \times (2 \times 10^{15} + 10^{15})) \times 0.614) \\ &= 7.31 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}.\end{aligned}$$

$$W = x_n + x_p = 3.66 \times 10^{-5} + 7.31 \times 10^{-5} = 10.97 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}.$$

c) Compute ϵ at $x = 0$.

Using equation 5.35 from page 216:

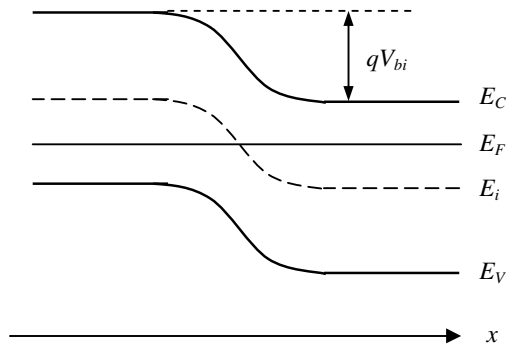
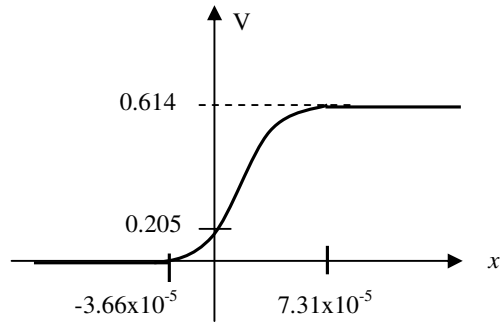
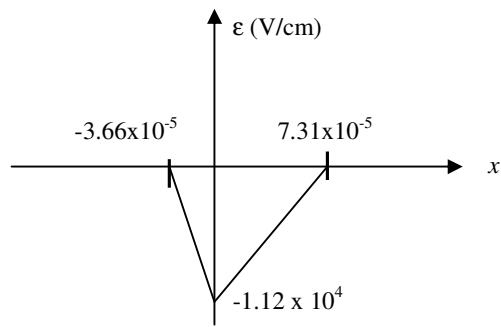
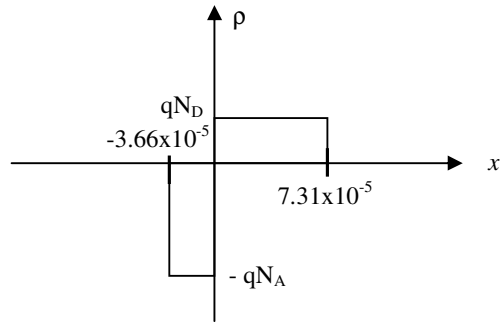
$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon(0) &= -qN_D x_n / K_S \epsilon_0 \\ &= -[(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{15}) \times (7.31 \times 10^{-5})] / [(11.8) \times (8.85 \times 10^{-14})] \\ &= -1.12 \times 10^4 \text{ V/cm}\end{aligned}$$

d) Compute V at $x = 0$.

Using equation 5.33 from page 216:

$$\begin{aligned}V(0) &= qN_A x_p^2 / 2K_S \epsilon_0 \\ &= [(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (2 \times 10^{15}) \times (3.66 \times 10^{-5})^2] / [2 \times (11.8) \times (8.85 \times 10^{-14})] \\ &= 0.205 \text{ V}.\end{aligned}$$

e) Make sketches that are roughly to scale of the charge density, electric field, electrostatic potential, and energy band diagram as a function of position.



Example 2: Problem 5.5 from textbook on page 229

Repeat Problem 5.4, taking $N_A = 10^{17}/\text{cm}^3$ to be the p-side doping. Briefly compare the results here with those of Problem 5.4.

a) Compute V_{bi} .

Using equation 5.10 from page 204:

$$\begin{aligned} V_{bi} &= (kT/q) \ln(N_A N_D / n_i^2) \\ &= (0.0259) \ln [(10^{17}) \times (10^{15}) / (10^{10})^2] \\ &= 0.716 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

b) Compute x_p , x_n and W .

Using equation 5.30 a and 5.30b from page 214:

$$\begin{aligned} x_p &= [(2K_S \epsilon_0 / q) \cdot (N_D / (N_A (N_A + N_D))) \cdot V_{bi}] \\ &= [(2 \times 11.8 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-14} / 1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{15} / (10^{17} \times (10^{17} + 10^{15}) \times 0.716))] \\ &= 9.62 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_n &= [(2K_S \epsilon_0 / q) \cdot (N_A / (N_D (N_A + N_D))) \cdot V_{bi}] \\ &= [(2 \times 11.8 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-14} / 1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{17} / (10^{15} \times (10^{17} + 10^{15}) \times 0.716))] \\ &= 9.62 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm.} \end{aligned}$$

$$W = x_n + x_p = 9.62 \times 10^{-5} + 9.62 \times 10^{-7} = 9.72 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm.}$$

c) Compute ϵ at $x = 0$.

Using equation 5.35 from page 216:

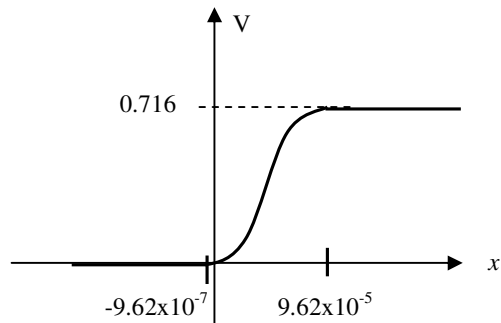
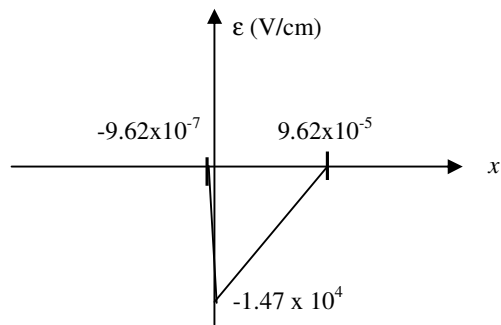
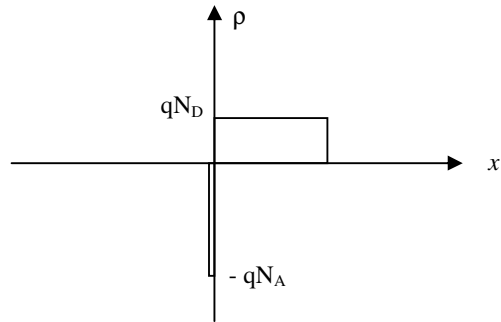
$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon(0) &= -qN_D x_n / K_S \epsilon_0 \\ &= -[(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{15}) \times (9.62 \times 10^{-5})] / [(11.8) \times (8.85 \times 10^{-14})] \\ &= -1.47 \times 10^4 \text{ V/cm} \end{aligned}$$

d) Compute V at $x = 0$.

Using equation 5.33 from page 216:

$$\begin{aligned} V(0) &= qN_A x_p^2 / 2K_S \epsilon_0 \\ &= [(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (10^{15}) \times (9.62 \times 10^{-7})^2] / [2 \times (11.8) \times (8.85 \times 10^{-14})] \\ &= 7.09 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V.} \end{aligned}$$

e) Make sketches that are roughly to scale of the charge density, electric field, electrostatic potential, and energy band diagram as a function of position.



In Problem 5.4, the widths of the n- and p-sides of the depletion region and the corresponding variation of the electrostatic variables are comparable reflecting the fact that $N_A \sim N_D$. Here with $N_A \gg N_D$, the depletion width and potential drop lie almost exclusively on the lowly doped n-side of the junction.