

## Section 16 Recombination & Generation

Gerhard Klimeck

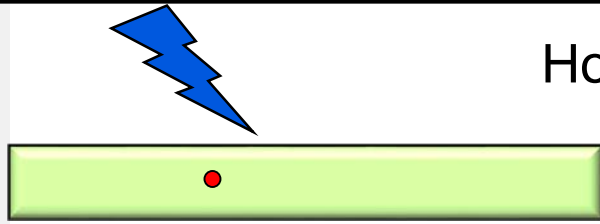
[gekco@purdue.edu](mailto:gekco@purdue.edu)



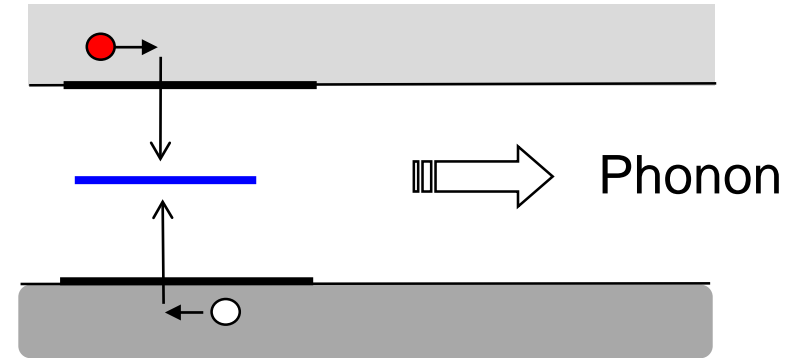
School of Electrical and  
Computer Engineering

# Section 16

## Recombination & Generation



How does the system  
go BACK to  
equilibrium?



- 16.1 Capture coefficient & Capture Cross Section
- 16.2 Derivation of SRH formula (Shockley, Reed, Hall)
  - » 16.2.1 Trap Assisted Recombination Rates
  - » 16.2.2 Capture and emission relationship ( $n_1$  and  $p_1$ )
  - » 16.2.3 Steady State Trap Population
  - » 16.2.4 Recombination-Generation Rate
- 16.3 Application of SRH formula for special cases
  - » Low level, high-level injection, depletion region
- 16.4 Direct and Auger recombination
- 16.5 Nature of interface states
- 16.6 SRH formula adapted to interface states
- 16.7 Surface recombination in depletion region

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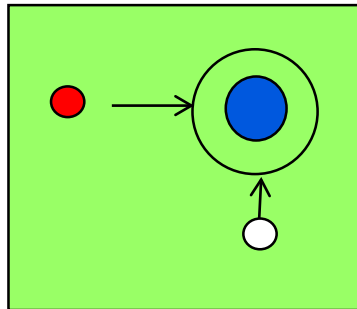
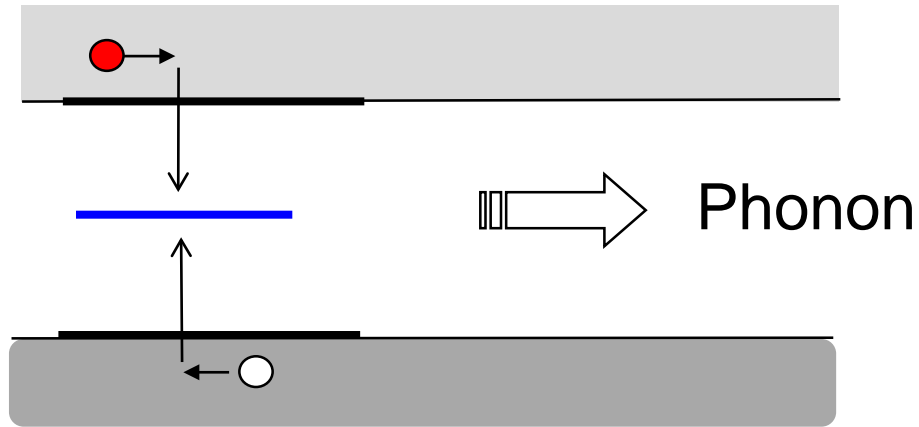
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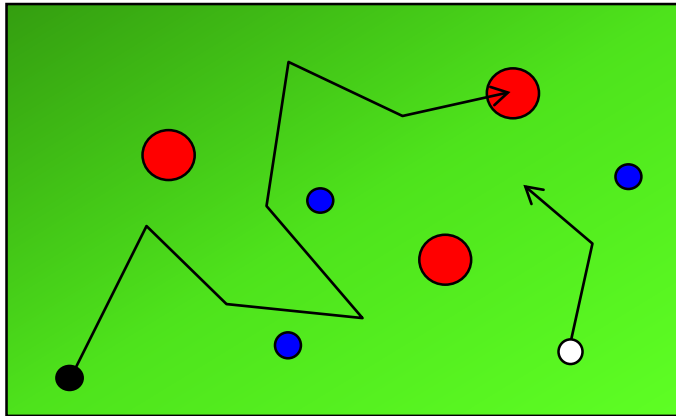
# Indirect Recombination (Trap-assisted)



Ge, Si, ....

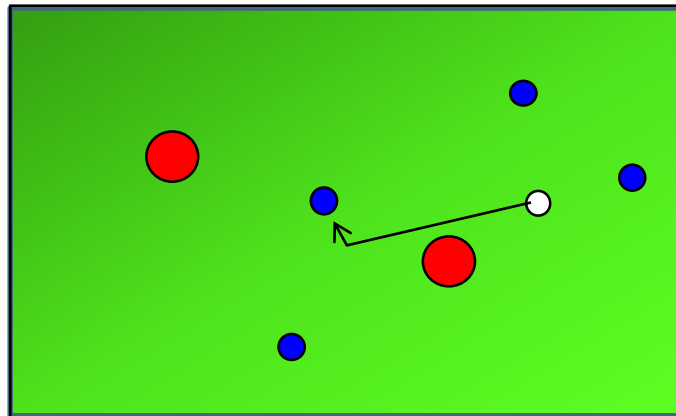
Transistors, Solar cells, etc.

# Physical view of Carrier Capture/Recombination



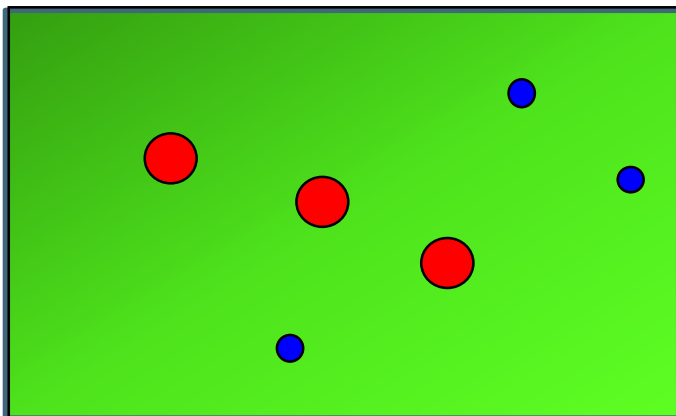
(1) Before a capture

- electron
  - hole
  - electron-filled traps  $n_T$
  - empty traps  $p_T$
- total traps  $N_T = n_T + p_T$



(2) After electron capture

Traps have destroyed one electron-hole pair

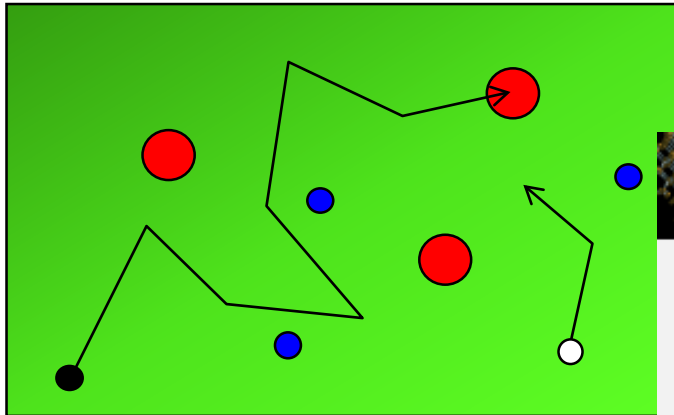


(3) After hole capture

No change in  $n_T$  and  $p_T$

Physical process for indirect recombination

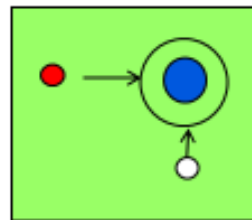
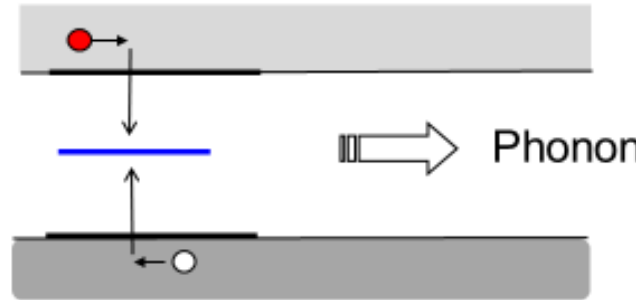
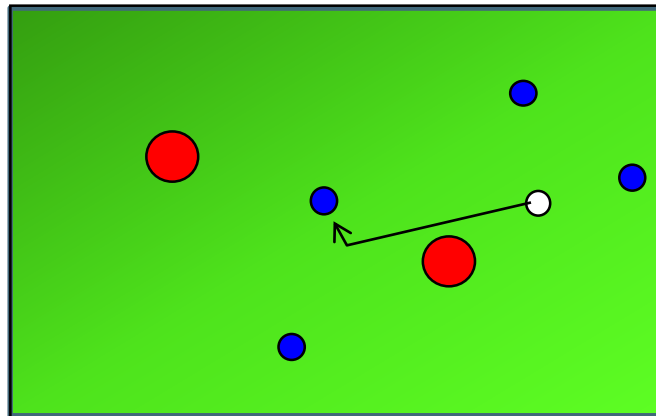
# Physical view of Carrier Capture/Recombination



**(1) Before a capture**

- electron
- hole
- Crystal / atoms with vibrations

**Indirect** Recombination (Trap-assisted)

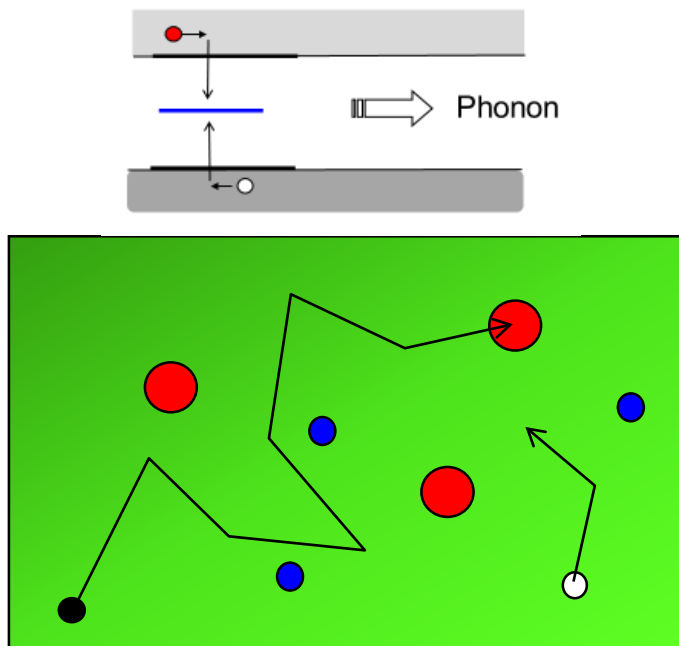


Ge, Si, ....

Transistors, Solar cells, etc.

Physical process for indirect recombination

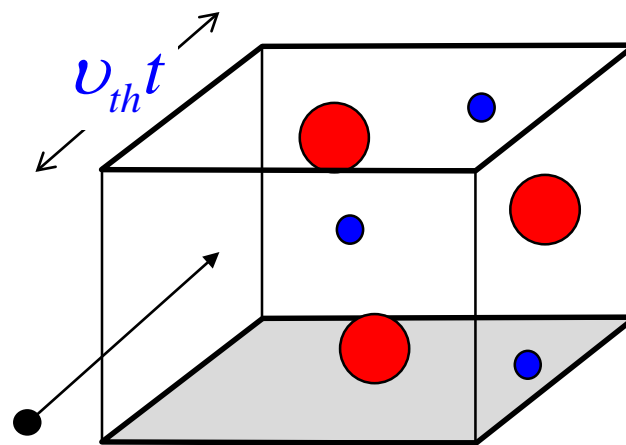
# Carrier Capture Coefficients



$$\frac{1}{2} m^* v_{th}^2 = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

$$v_{th} \approx 10^7 \frac{cm}{s}$$

$c_n$  electron capture coefficient  
electron capture rate (unit Volume/sec)



$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -n \times \left[ \frac{\text{Volume} \times p_T \times \text{RelArea}}{\text{TotalArea} \times t} \right]$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = -n \times \left[ \frac{A \times v_{th} t \times p_T \times \sigma_n}{A \times t} \right]$$

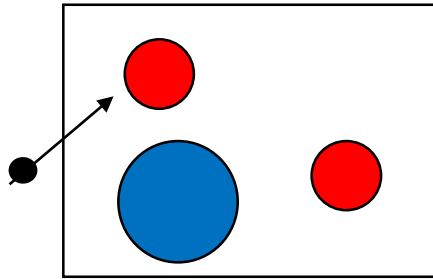
$$\equiv -c_n p_T n \quad c_n \equiv \sigma_n v_{th}$$

$\sigma_n$  electron scattering cross section

# Capture Cross-section

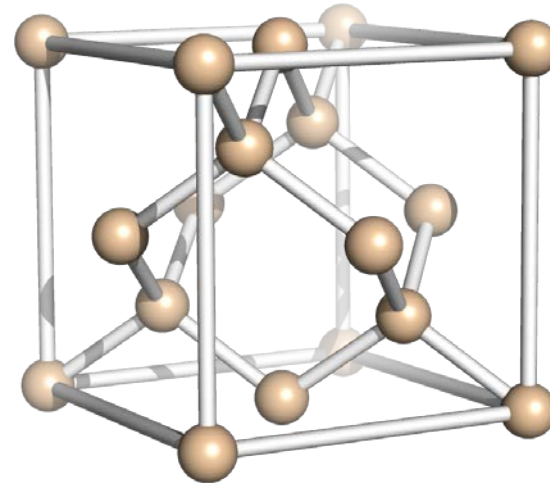
$$\sigma_n = \pi r_0^2$$

2D target – not a 3D target



capture model (with Zn values)...

$$e1 \longrightarrow \bullet \quad 2 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^2$$



Ballpark value for r:

Si unit cell / lattice constant  $\sim 0.5\text{nm}$

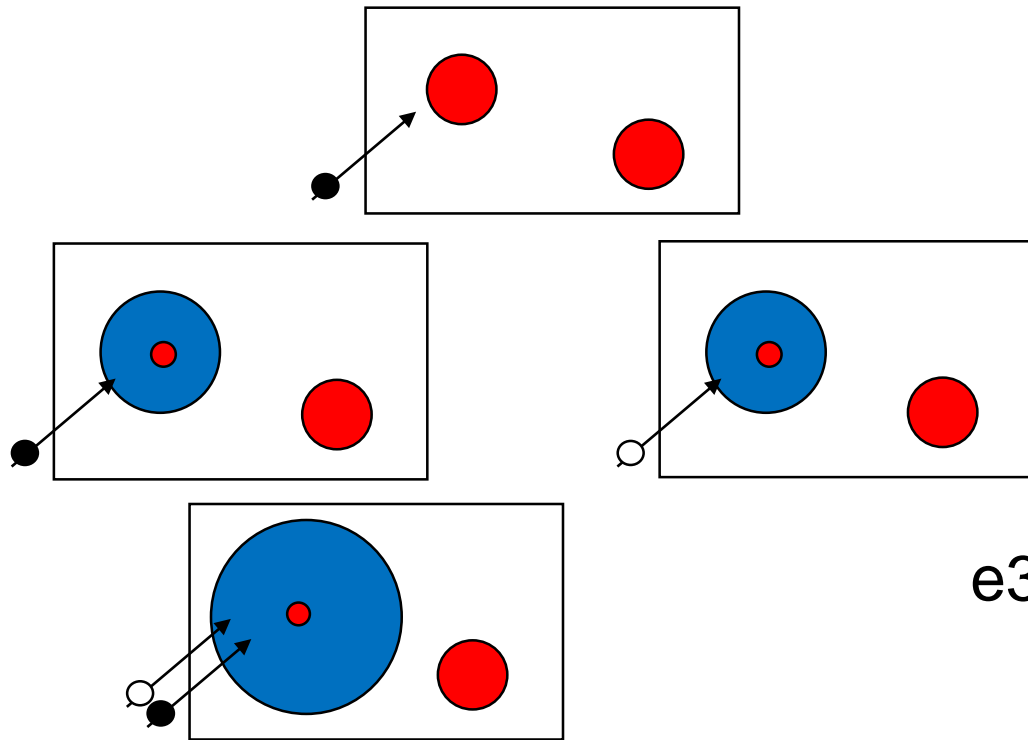
4 atoms in one direction

$\sim 0.5\text{nm} / 4 = 0.12\text{nm} = 0.12 \times 10^{-7}\text{cm}$

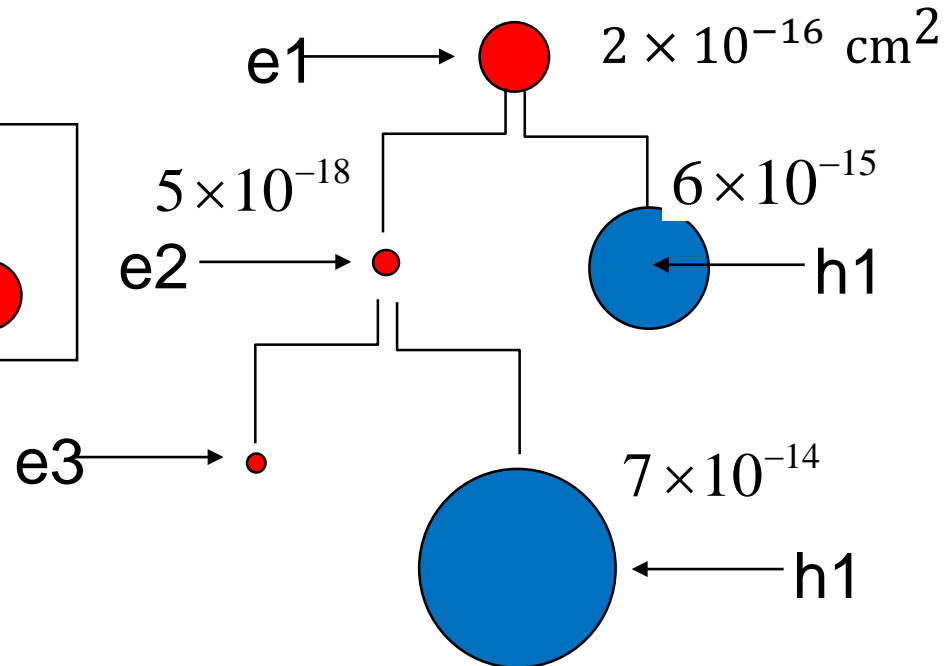
$r_0 \sim 10^{-8}\text{cm} \quad \pi r_0^2 \sim 3 \times 10^{-16}\text{cm}^2$

# Capture Cross-section

$$\sigma_n = \pi r_0^2$$



capture model (with Zn values)...

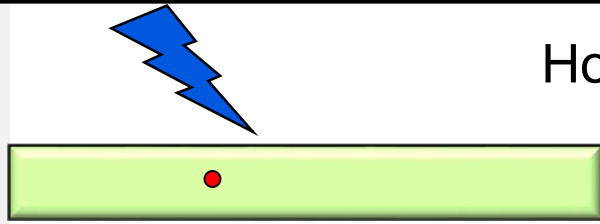


Cascade model for capture



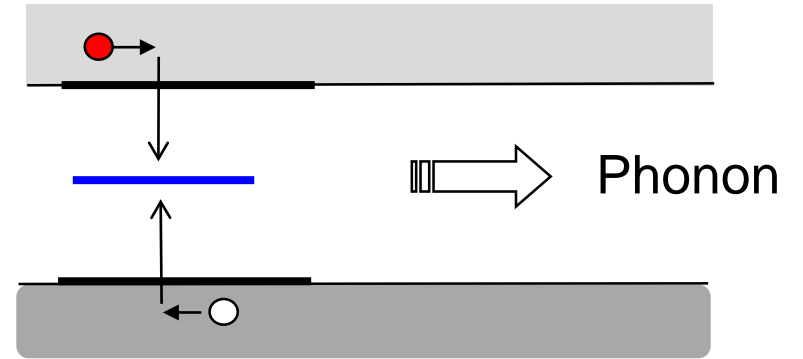
# Section 16

## Recombination & Generation

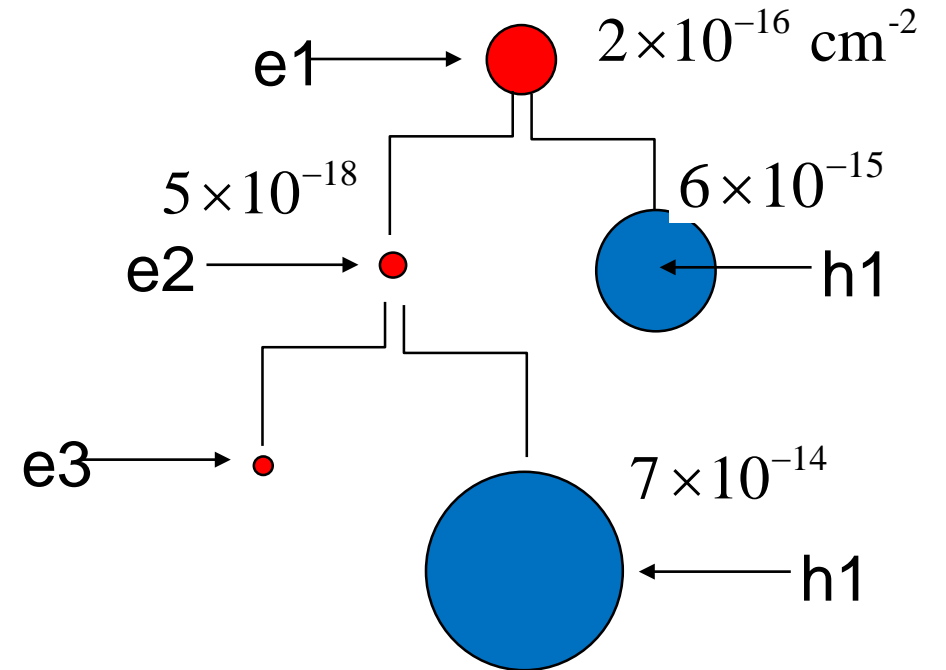


How does the system go BACK to equilibrium?

$$\sigma_n = \pi r_0^2$$



- 16.1 Capture coefficient & Capture Cross Section



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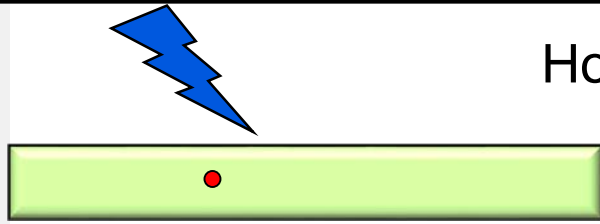
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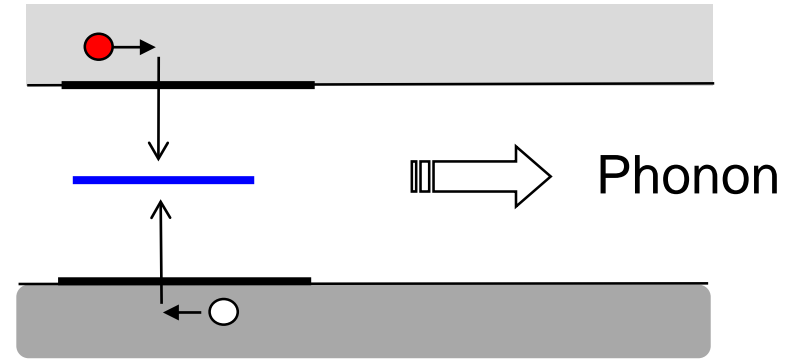
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## Recombination & Generation

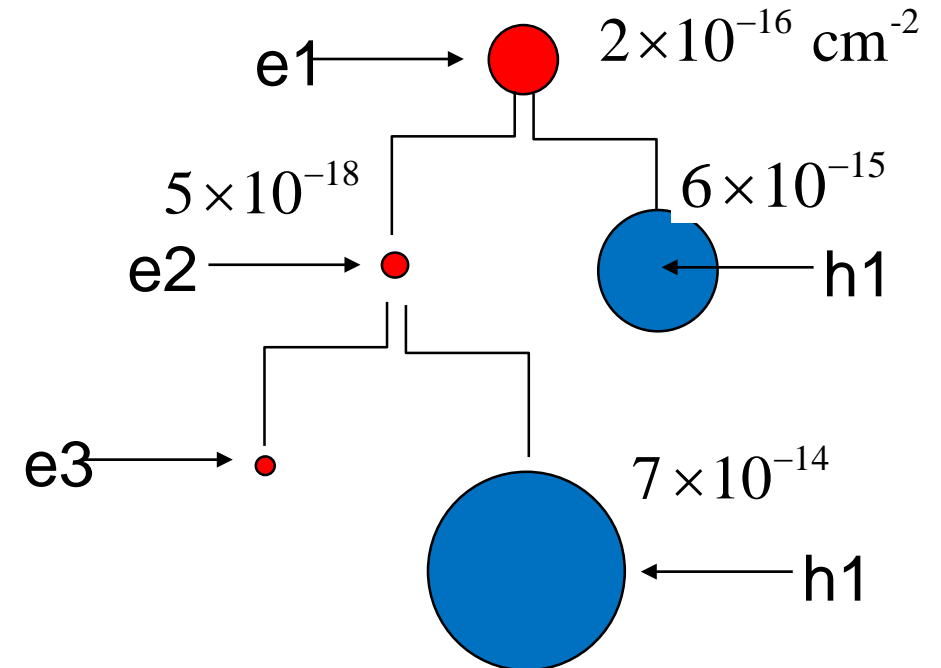


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$$\sigma_n = \pi r_0^2$$



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