

# Semiconductor Device Theory: Conductivity – Theoretical Exercise

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1. An electron is moving in a piece of lightly-doped Si under an applied field at  $T=300\text{K}$ , so that its drift velocity is  $1/10$  of its thermal velocity. Calculate the average number of collisions it will experience in traversing by drift a region  $1\ \mu\text{m}$  wide. What is the voltage applied across this region? The mobility of the carriers is  $600\ \text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$ . Use  $m^*=0.91m_0$ , where  $m_0$  is the free electron mass.
2. Conductivity of a silicon sample in thermal equilibrium is given by
$$\sigma = q(n\mu_n + p\mu_p)$$
Assume that the sample temperature is  $300\ \text{K}$ . The intrinsic carrier concentration of Si at this temperature is about  $1.5 \times 10^{10}\ \text{cm}^{-3}$ . The electron and hole mobilities are  $\mu_n = 0.1\ \text{m}^2/(\text{Vs})$  and  $\mu_p = 0.03\ \text{m}^2/(\text{Vs})$ . The sample is doped by donors with the donor concentration  $10^{16}\ \text{cm}^{-3}$  and then compensated by acceptors. What values of the acceptor concentration will yield the resistivity of  $1\ \Omega\text{cm}$ ?
3. Consider an  $n$ -type semiconductor, shown schematically in the figure below. The ultraviolet light shining at the surface is absorbed in a very thin layer near the surface, creating hole concentration at the surface  $p(0) = G_L t_{\text{eff}}$ . The backside contact has a surface recombination rate  $S_p$ . Calculate and plot the steady-state hole distribution in the sample for the following values of  $S_p$ :  $10^3\ \text{cm/s}$ ,  $10^5\ \text{cm/s}$  and  $10^7\ \text{cm/s}$ . Neglect the intrinsic concentration of holes in the sample. Use the following values of the parameters:  $D_p=30\ \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$ ,  $\tau_p=10^{-7}\ \text{s}$ ,  $L=10\ \mu\text{m}$ ,  $t_{\text{eff}}=10^{-8}\ \text{s}$ ,  $G_L=10^{24}\ \text{cm}^{-3}\text{s}^{-1}$ .

