# **Nanostructures – density of states**



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**Density of states** Number of states per unit energy  $\rho^{nD}(E)$  depends on the dimension

If our crystal has a finite size the set of  $k$  –vectors is finite (though enormous!). For example: we can assume periodic boundary conditions and then:



*Lx*

**Density of states** Number of states per unit energy  $\rho^{nD}(E)$  depends on the dimension

The density of states in  $k$ -space of  $n$  dimension (and the unite volume)

#### **3D case**

$$
\rho^{3D}(E)dE = \rho_k^{3D}d\vec{k} = 2\left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^3 4\pi k^2 dk
$$

For a spherical and parabolic band:

$$
\rho_c^{3D}(E) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \left(\frac{2m_0 m_c^*}{\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} \sqrt{E - E_c}
$$

$$
\rho_v^{3D}(E) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \left(\frac{2m_0 m_h^*}{\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} \sqrt{E_v - E}
$$



 $\rho_k^{nD}=2$ 

1

 $\boldsymbol{n}$ 

 $2\pi$ 

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$$



 $\rho_k^{nD}=2$ 

1

 $\boldsymbol{n}$ 

 $2\pi$ 

Inside the well:



**2D density of states** for a spherical and parabolic band:



Marc Baldo MIT OpenCourseWare Publication May 2011

## Density of states – 2D







# Density of states – 2D



FIG. 1. cw absorption (i.e.,  $1 -$  reflectivity; bold line, left axis) and the TR-PL integrated over 1300 ps (logarithmic scale, right) results.  $E_{1s} = 1.4823$  eV  $(E_{2s} = 1.4882$  eV) is the 1s (2s) heavy-hole exciton,  $E_{\text{plasma}} = 1.4888 \text{ eV}$ , lighthole exciton  $E_{\text{lh}} = 1.4988$  eV (vertical lines). The low energy exponential tail of the excitonic transition originates from the trion at 1.4807 eV (discussed in  $[18]$ ).

J. Szczytko, et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 137401 (2004)

# Density of states – 1D

**1D density of states** for a spherical and parabolic band :

$$
\rho^{1D}(E)dE = \rho_k^{1D}d\vec{k} = 2\left(\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^{1} 2 dk
$$
  

$$
\rho^{1D}(E)dE = \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{m_0 m^*}{2\hbar^2}} \sum_{a_x, a_y} \frac{\theta \left(E - E_{a_x, a_y}\right)}{\sqrt{E - E_{a_x, a_y}}} dE
$$







Density of states

# Density of states – 1D

### **0D density of states**

For the ISOLATED QD:  $\Delta E \to 0$ ,  $\Delta t \to \infty$   $\rho^{0D}(E)dE = g_n \delta(E - E_n)dE$ 

Suppose that the lifetime of the state energy E is equal to  $\tau$ , we assume an exponential decay



# Density of states – the summary

### **Density of states**



# Harmonic potential 2D



# Summary –Fermi golden rule

The probability of transition per unit time:

$$
W(t) = W
$$
  
0 \le t \le \tau  

$$
P_{mn} = \frac{w_{mn}}{\tau} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle m|W|n\rangle|^2 \delta(E_m - E_n)
$$

Transitions are possible only for states, for which  $E_m = E_n$ 

$$
W(t) = w^{\pm} e^{\pm i\omega t}
$$
  
 
$$
0 \le t \le \tau
$$
  
\n
$$
P_{nm} = \frac{w_{nm}}{\tau} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle n|w^{\pm}|m\rangle|^{2} \delta(E_{n} - E_{m} \pm \hbar \omega)
$$

Transitions are possible only for states, for which  $E_m = E_n \pm \hbar \omega$ 

**The perturbation in a form of an electromagnetic wave:**

$$
A_{nm} = \frac{\omega_{nm}^3 e^2}{3\pi \varepsilon_0 \hbar c^3} |\langle m|\vec{r}|n\rangle|^2 = \frac{4\alpha \omega_{nm}^3}{3} |\langle m|\vec{r}|n\rangle|^2
$$

$$
P_{nm} = A_{nm} \delta(E_n - E_m \pm \hbar \omega)
$$

# Summary –Fermi golden rule

The transition rate – the probability of transition per unit time – from the initial state  $|i\rangle$  to final  $|f\rangle$  is given by:

Szybkość zmian – czyli prawdopodobieństwo przejścia na jednostkę czasu – ze stanu początkowego  $|i\rangle$  do końcowego  $|f\rangle$  dane jest wzorem:



**Perturbation** W does not have to be in the form of an electromagnetic wave.

### Density of states – the summary



The probability that a state of the energy  $E$  will be occupied  $E_F$  – chemical potential



Anyons – eg. composite fermions  $|\Psi_1\Psi_2\rangle = e^{i\theta} |\Psi_2\Psi_1\rangle$ Slave fermions (chargon, holon, spinon) = fermion+bozon with the charge-spin separation



1901 – 1954



Paul Adrian Maurice Dirac 1902 – 1984

$$
f_0 = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-E_F}{k_BT}} + 1}
$$













The case of a semiconductor, in which both the electron gas and hole gas are far from the degeneracy:

$$
\frac{E_c - \xi}{k_B T} \gg 1
$$

$$
\frac{\xi - E_v}{k_B T} \gg 1
$$

$$
\frac{E_c - E_v}{k_B T} = \frac{E_g}{k_B T} \gg 1
$$

The probability of filling of the electronic states:

$$
f_e = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-\xi}{k_B T}} + 1} = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} + \frac{E_e}{k_B T} - \frac{\xi}{k_B T}} + 1}
$$

and of holes: 
$$
f_h = 1 - f_e
$$
  
\n
$$
f_h = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{-E + \xi}{k_B T}} + 1} = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} + \frac{E_h}{k_B T} + \frac{\xi}{k_B T}} + 1}
$$



 $\gg 1$ 

 $\gg 1$ 

 $E_{g}$ 

 $k_BT$ 

 $\gg 1$ 

The case of a semiconductor, in which both the electron gas and hole gas are far from the degeneracy:

The probability of filling of the electronic states:

 $E_c-E_\nu$ 

 $k_BT$ 

 $k_BT$ 

 $\xi - E_v$ 

 $k_BT$ 

=

$$
f_e = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E-\xi}{k_B T}} + 1} = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} + \frac{E_e}{k_B T} - \frac{\xi}{k_B T}} + 1} \approx e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} - \frac{E_e}{k_B T} + \frac{\xi}{k_B T}} - \frac{E_e}{2}
$$

and of holes: 
$$
f_h = 1 - f_e
$$
  
\n
$$
f_h = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{-E + \xi}{k_B T}} + 1} = \frac{1}{e^{\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} + \frac{E_h}{k_B T} + \frac{\xi}{k_B T}} + 1} \approx e^{\frac{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B T} - \frac{E_h}{k_B T} - \frac{\xi}{k_B T}}{1 - \frac{E_h}{k_B T} - \frac{\xi}{k_B T}}}
$$



The case of a semiconductor, in which both the electron gas and hole gas are far from the degeneracy:

the probability of filling of the electronic states:

$$
f_e \approx e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_BT} - \frac{E_e}{k_BT} + \frac{\xi}{k_BT}}
$$

and of holes  $f_h = 1 - f_e$  $f_h \approx e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B}}$  $\frac{E_G}{2k_BT}-\frac{E_h}{k_BT}$  $\frac{E_h}{k_B T} - \frac{\xi}{k_B}$  $\overline{k_B T}$ 

$$
\int_{0}^{\infty} \sqrt{x} e^{-x} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}
$$

Thus:

$$
n(\xi) = 2 \left(\frac{m_e^* k_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B T}} \cdot e^{\frac{\xi}{k_B T}} = N_c(T) e^{\frac{-(E_c - \xi)}{k_B T}}
$$

$$
p(\xi) = 2 \left(\frac{m_h^* k_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} e^{-\frac{E_G}{2k_B T}} \cdot e^{-\frac{\xi}{k_B T}} = N_v(T) e^{\frac{-(\xi - E_v)}{k_B T}}
$$



#### **What is the concentration of carriers for T>0?**

In the thermodynamic equilibrium for an intrinsic semiconductors (*półprzewodniki samoistne*), the concentration of electrons in the conduction band is equal to the concnetration of holes in the valence band (because they appear only as a result of excitation from the valence band).

$$
n = p = n_{i} \text{ (an intrinsic case)}
$$
\n
$$
n \cdot p = n_{i}^{2} = 4 \left(\frac{k_{B}T}{2\pi\hbar^{2}}\right)^{3} (m_{e}^{*}m_{h}^{*})^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\frac{E_{g}}{k_{B}T}} = N_{c}N_{v}e^{-\frac{E_{g}}{k_{B}T}}
$$
\n
$$
n = p = n_{i} = 2 \left(\frac{k_{B}T}{2\pi\hbar^{2}}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (m_{e}^{*}m_{h}^{*})^{\frac{3}{4}} e^{-\frac{E_{g}}{2k_{B}T}} = \sqrt{N_{c}N_{v}}e^{-\frac{E_{g}}{2k_{B}T}}
$$
\n
$$
e^{-\frac{E_{g}}{2k_{B}T}}
$$
\n2015-11-27

### Intrinsic carrier concentration

### **What is the concentration of carriers for T>0?**

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$$
n \cdot p = n_i^2 = 4 \left(\frac{k_B T}{2\pi \hbar^2}\right)^3 (m_e^* m_h^*)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-\frac{E_g}{k_B T}} = N_c N_v e^{-\frac{E_g}{k_B T}}
$$
\n(general formula)\n
$$
n = p = n_i \text{ (an intrinsic case)}
$$
\n
$$
n = p = n_i = 2 \left(\frac{k_B T}{2\pi \hbar^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} (m_e^* m_h^*)^{\frac{3}{4}} e^{-\frac{E_g}{2k_B T}} = \sqrt{N_c N_v} e^{-\frac{E_g}{2k_B T}}
$$
\n
$$
\frac{N_c}{N_v} = e^{\frac{2\xi - E_g}{k_B T}} \Rightarrow \xi = \frac{1}{2} (E_c + E_v) + \frac{3}{4} k_B T \ln \left(\frac{m_h^*}{m_e^*}\right)
$$
\n
$$
\frac{1}{2} \text{ in our notation the middle of the band is 0}
$$

## Intrinsic carrier concentration

### **What is the concentration of carriers for T>0?**

The intrinsic semiconductors (*półprzewodniki samoistne*) in thermal equilibrium, the concentration of electrons in the conduction band is equal to the concnetration of holes in the valence band.



#### Koncentracja samoistna typowych półprzewodników

The concentration values less than  $10^{10}$  cm<sup>-3</sup> do not make sense because the concentration of impurities, and thus the concentration resulting from unintentional doping, is greater

$$
n = p = \sqrt{N_c N_v} e^{-\frac{Eg}{2k_B T}}
$$
  
\n
$$
n = N_c e^{\frac{E_F - E_c}{k_B T}}
$$
  
\n
$$
p = N_v e^{-\frac{E_F - E_v}{k_B T}}
$$

# Domieszkowanie półprzewodników

#### **Semiconductors**



**Group III-V:** GaAs, AlAs, InSb, InAs... **Group II-VI:** ZnSe, CdTe, ZnO, SdS...

#### **How to control the concentration of carriers?**

In semiconductors we can find several deviations from the ideal crystal structure:

- · Defects of the crystal structure, vacancies, the atoms in interstitial positions, dislocations created eg. during the growth process.
- · Foreign atoms (dopants) introduced intentionally or by adding impurities

As a result of their presence:

- · allowed states in the forbidden gap due to deviations from the ideal crystalline potential
- · space charges in insulators
- · screening by free carriers

#### **Dopant states** can be classified into:

· Deep - the short-range potential located mainly in the area of one unit cell - eg. a vacancy, izoelectronics dopant (the same valency as atom of the base material e.g. N InP).

· Shallow - mainly long-range Coulomb potential

### **Hydrogen-like model**

Atom of a valency higher than the base material atom becomes a source of Coulomb potential (modified by the dielectric constant of the crystal  $\varepsilon_r$ ) caused by an extra proton in the nucleus. Extra electron in the conduction band feels this potential. The states are described by the effective mass equation:

$$
T = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m^*} \Delta \qquad U = -\frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{\varepsilon_r r}
$$

 $T + U\phi(\vec{r}) = E\phi(\vec{r})$ 



**Group IV:** diamond, Si, Ge **Group III-V:** GaAs, AlAs, InSb, InAs... **Group II-VI:** ZnSe, CdTe, ZnO, SdS...

### **Hydrogen-like model**

Finally, the problem reduces to the problem of hydrogen atpom with a free carrier of mass  $m^*$ in the medium of dielectric constant  $\varepsilon$  and with a small "perturbation" potential.

$$
E_n = -\left(\frac{m^*}{m_0}\right) \frac{1}{\varepsilon_r^2} R y \frac{1}{n^2}
$$

For typical semiconductors  $m_e^* \approx 0.1 m_e$   $\varepsilon_{\rm s} \approx 10$ 

$$
a_B^* = \frac{4\pi\varepsilon_r\varepsilon_0\hbar^2}{m_0e^2} \left(\frac{m_0}{m^*}\right) = a_B\varepsilon_r \left(\frac{m_0}{m^*}\right)
$$

For Hydrogen  $Ry = 13.6$  eV and  $a_B = 0.053$  nm

For GaAs semiconductor  $Ry^* \approx 5$  meV and  $a_B^* \approx 10$  nm



**Group IV:** diamond, Si, Ge **Group III-V:** GaAs, AlAs, InSb, InAs... **Group II-VI:** ZnSe, CdTe, ZnO, SdS...

### Far infrared spectroscopy



Ry =30.28(5) meV

### Far infrared spectroscopy



### **Hydrogen-like model – ionization of the dopant**



### **Doping**



#### **The carrier concentration in extrinsic semiconductor** (*niesamoistny*) Consider a semiconductor, in which:  $N_A$  – concentration of acceptors  $N_D$  – concentration of donors  $p_A$  – concentration of neutral acceptors  $n_D$  – concentration of neutral donors  $n_c$  – concentration of electrons in conduction band

 $p_v$  – concentration of holes in valence band

#### **From the charge neutrality of the crystal**:

### **Doping**

Electron energy

Electron energy

*Eg* /2 *-E<sup>g</sup>* /2  $\overline{0}$  $E_D$ *EA*  $E_F$ conduction band vallence band donor level acceptor level

x

**The carrier concentration in extrinsic semiconductor** (*niesamoistny*) Consider a semiconductor, in which:  $N_A$  – concentration of acceptors  $N_D$  – concentration of donors  $p_A$  – concentration of neutral acceptors  $n_D$  – concentration of neutral donors  $n_c$  – concentration of electrons in conduction band

 $p_v$  – concentration of holes in valence band

**From the charge neutrality of the crystal**:

$$
n_c + (N_A - p_A) = p_v + (N_D - n_D)
$$
  

$$
n_c + n_D = (N_D - N_A) + p_v + p_A
$$

Occupation of impurity / defect levels in the thermodynamic equilibrium

"Occupation" of localized or band states means the exchange of particles (electrons) between the reservoir and considered subsystem (microstate).

**The grand canonical ensemble** (subsystem exchange particles and energy with the environment)

**Thermodynamic probability** (unnormalized) of finding subsystem in a state *j*, in which there are  $n_j$  particles (electrons) and which subsystem energy is  $E_j$  (the total energy of all  $n_j$  particles):

$$
P_j = e^{-\beta(E_j - n_j \xi)}, \qquad \beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}
$$

 $\xi$ - chemical potential.

**Statistical sum:**

$$
Z = \sum_{j} P_j = \sum_{j} e^{-\beta (E_j - n_j \xi)}
$$

#### TUTAJ 2015.11.12

#### **Statistical sum :**

$$
Z = \sum_{j} P_j = \sum_{j} e^{-\beta (E_j - n_j \xi)}
$$

**Statistical means**:

$$
\langle A \rangle = \frac{\sum_j A_j \cdot e^{-\beta (E_j - n_j \xi)}}{\sum_j e^{-\beta (E_j - n_j \xi)}}
$$

#### **Examples**:

free electron occupying (or not) the quantum state of the  $\vec{k}$ -vector and spin: 2 possible states of the subsystem (microstate):

$$
n_0 = 0
$$
;  $E_0 = 0$   
\n $n_1 = 1$ ;  $E_1 = E$  (the occupation only for one spin state)  
\nthe average number of particles of the subsystem:

$$
\langle n \rangle = \frac{0 \cdot e^{0} + 1 \cdot e^{-\beta(E - \xi)}}{1 + e^{-\beta(E - \xi)}} = \frac{1}{e^{\beta(E - \xi)} + 1} = f(E, T)
$$

(Fermi-Dirac distribution)

#### **Examples** :

free electron occupying (or not) the quantum state of the  $\vec{k}$ -vector and ANY spin: 4 possible states of the subsystem (microstate):

 $n_0 = 0$ ;  $E_0 = 0$  $n_1 = 1; E_1 = E$  (spin 1)  $n_2 = 1$ ;  $E_2 = E$  (spin  $\downarrow$ )  $n_3 = 2; E_3 = 2E$  (spin  $\uparrow \downarrow$ )

the average number of particles of the subsystem:

$$
\langle n \rangle = \frac{0 \cdot e^{0} + 1 \cdot e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} + 1 \cdot e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} + 2 \cdot e^{-\beta(2E - 2\xi)}}{1 + e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} + e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} + e^{-\beta(2E - 2\xi)}} = 2 \frac{e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} \left(1 + e^{-\beta(E - \xi)}\right)}{(e^{-\beta(E - \xi)} + 1)^{2}} = 2f(E, T)
$$

(Fermi-Dirac distribution x2)

The ratio of the probability of finding dopant / defect of  $n + 1$  electrons and of  $n$  electrons:

$$
\frac{p_{n+1}}{p_n} = \frac{N_{n+1}/N_{total}}{N_n/N_{total}} = \frac{\sum_{j:n_j=n+1} e^{-\beta [E_j - (n+1)\xi]}}{\sum_{k:n_k=n} e^{-\beta [E_k - n\xi]}} = \frac{g_{n+1}}{g_n} \cdot e^{-\beta [(E_{n+1} - E_n) - \xi]}
$$



 $\sum_n N_n = N$  – impurity (dopants) concentration

 $E_{n+1}$  i  $E_n$  – the lowest of all subsystem energies  $E_i$ with  $n + 1$  and  $n$  electrons respectively

Successive impurity energy levels are filled with the increase of the Fermi level.

 $E^{n+1/n}$  – so-called *energy level* of the impurity/ defect "numbered" by charge states  $n + 1$  and  $n$ 

 $g_{n+1}$ ,  $g_n$  – so-called degeneration of states of subsystem of  $n + 1$  and  $n$  electrons

Fig. 15. Energy levels of interstitial 3d metals in silicon (full lines), see Table 3, compared with the results of  $X_n$  calculations of DeLeo et al. **11.52** (broken lines) **42** 

 $g_{n+1}$ ,  $g_n$  – so-called degeneration of states of subsystem of  $n + 1$  and  $n$  electrons.

The degeneracy  $g_{n+1}$  and  $g_n$  takes into account the possibility of the existence of different subsystem states corresponding to a same number of particles (including the excited states):



 $g_n = \alpha_{n,0} + \sum$  $i = 1, 2, ...$  $\alpha_{n,i}e^{-\beta \varepsilon_{n,i}}$ 

 $\alpha_{n,0}$  *i*  $\alpha_{n,i}$  they are respectively: the degeneracies of the  $n$ -electronic ground state and its excited states of energies higher than the ground state by  $\varepsilon_{n,i}$  (excitation energies)

Such defined degeneration  $g_n$  generally depends **on temperature** 

Fig. 15. Energy levels of interstitial 3d metals in silicon (full lines), see Table 3, compared with the results of  $X_n$  calculations of DeLeo et al.  $\left[15\right]$  (broken lines)  $\qquad \qquad$  43

**Example** – donor (we omit the excited states)

charge state  $(+)$  implemented in 1 way :  $g_{+} = 1$ charge state(0) implemented in 2 ways (spin  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ):  $g_0 = 2$ the energy of the donor state  ${\rm E}^{0/+}~=~E_D$ Doping concentration of donors  $N_D$ 

$$
\frac{p_{n+1}}{p_n} = \frac{p_0}{p_+} = \frac{g_0}{g_+} \cdot e^{-\beta [E_D - \xi]}, \qquad p_+ + p_0 = 1
$$

The occupation probability of the donor state:

$$
p_0 = \langle n \rangle = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{g_+}{g_0} \cdot e^{\beta [E_D - \xi]}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot e^{\beta [E_D - \xi]}}
$$

The concentration of occupied donor states (neutral donors are  $N_D^0$ )

$$
N_D^0 = \frac{N_D}{1 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot e^{\beta [E_D - \xi]}}
$$