

# Chapter 3

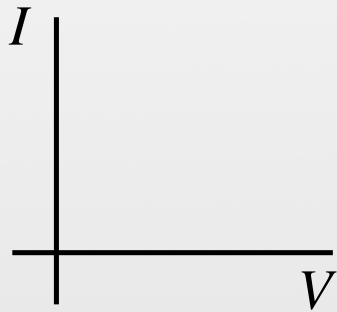
## Band Theory and Diode Circuits

# 1) *Non-linear components*

$R, L, C$  are “linear” because  $v$  is prop to  $i$

That is,  $v = iz$

## (a) *Current-voltage characteristics*

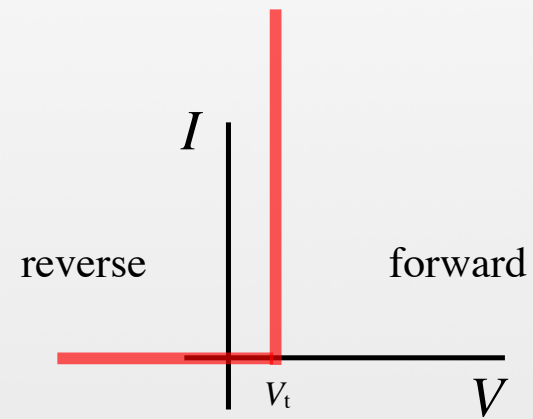
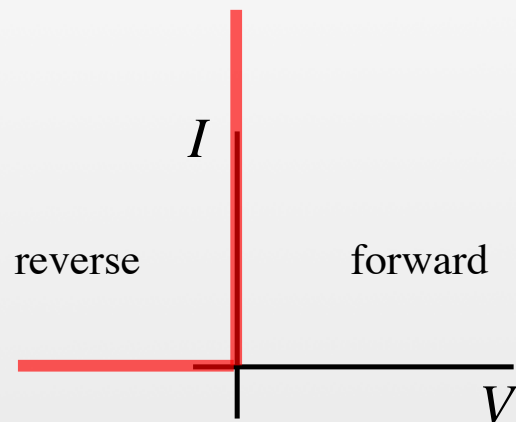


$IV$  dependence determines properties

usually measured and analyzed graphically

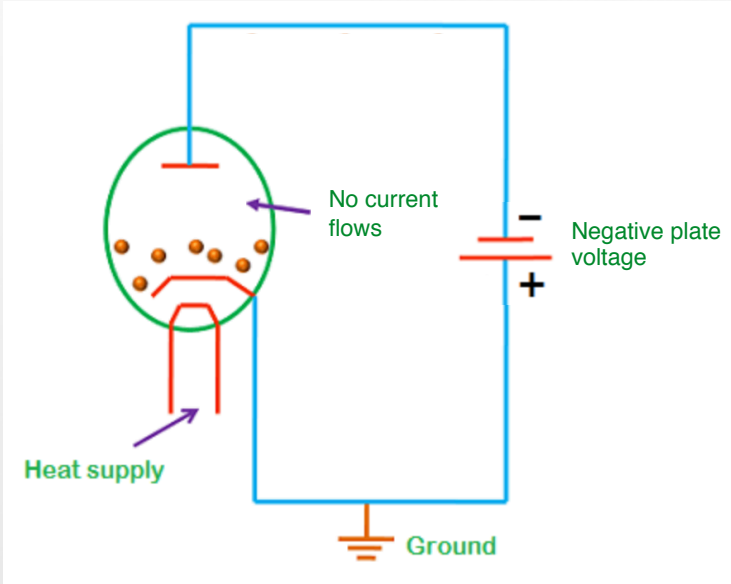
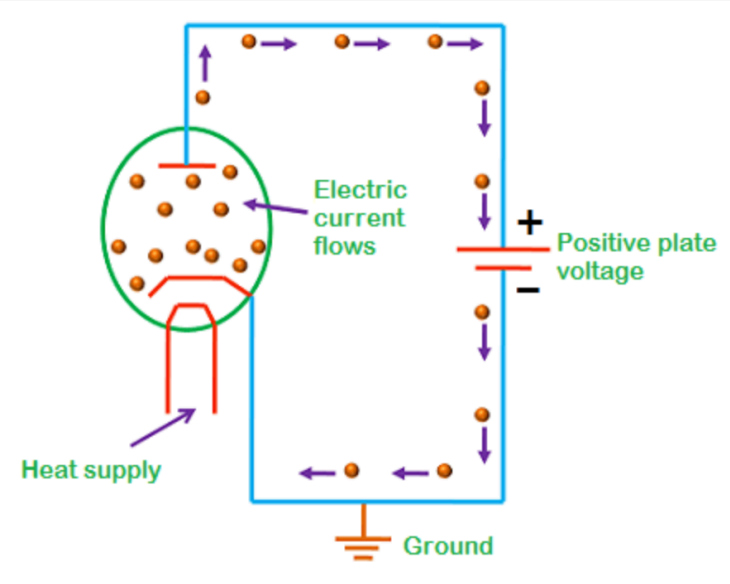
- ideally, components considered here do not have frequency dependence
- real components have stray capacitance and inductance

*(b) The ideal rectifier (conducts in one direction only)*



non-zero turn-on voltage

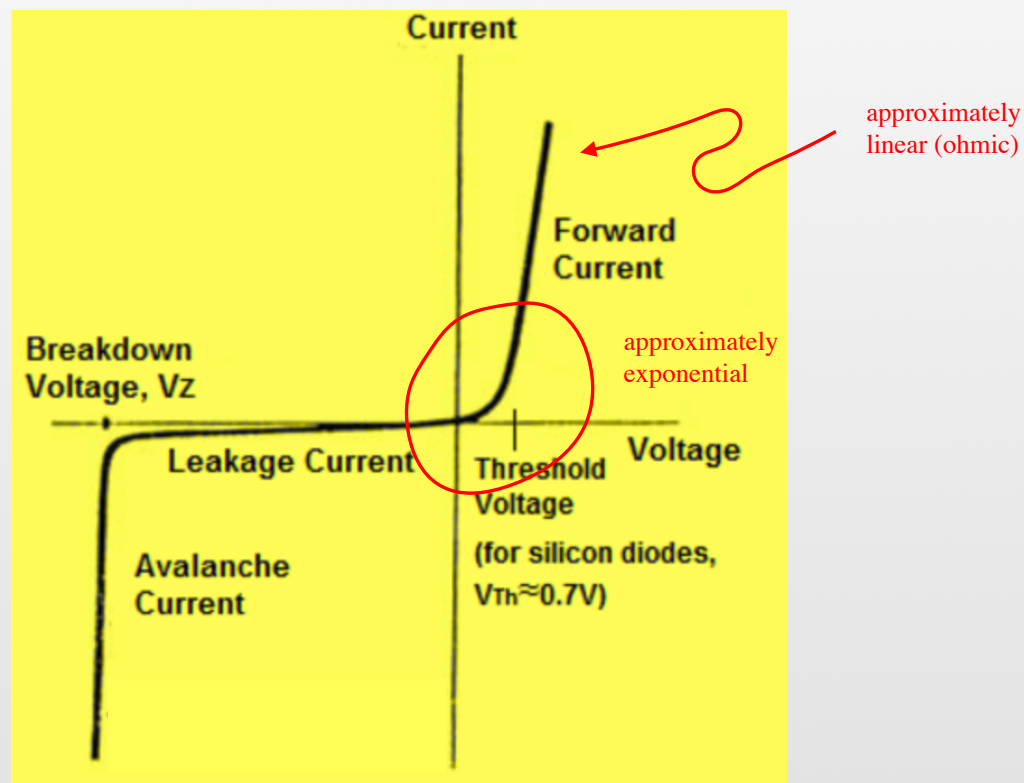
*Rectifier example; vacuum tube diode*

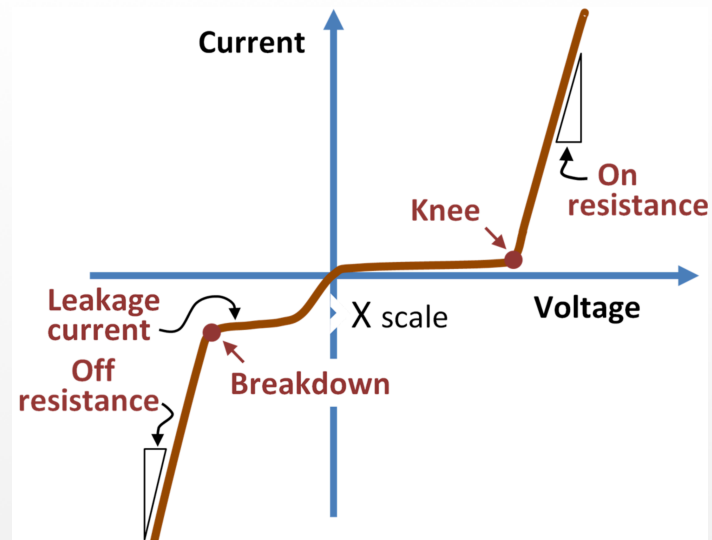


## 2) *The junction diode (pn)*

p - means positive charge carriers  
n - means negative charge carriers

(a) *IV characteristics*





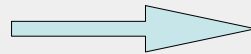
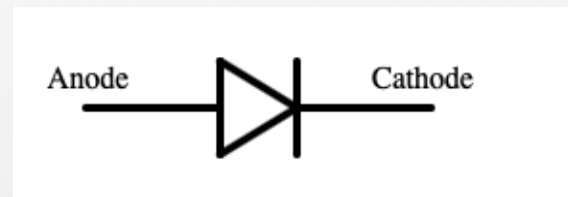
- Turn-on (or threshold) voltage:  $V_t \sim$  0.7 V (Si); 0.2 V (Ge)
- Leakage (or reverse) current:  $I_0 \sim$  pA (Si);  $\mu\text{A}$  (Ge)

(depends exponentially on temperature; unusable @  $> \sim 200^\circ\text{C}$ )

- Forward resistance:  $r_D = \frac{dV}{dI} = \frac{1}{dI/dV} \rightarrow 0$  ( $\sim \Omega$ )

- ignore in nearly all circuits
- needs series resistor for protection

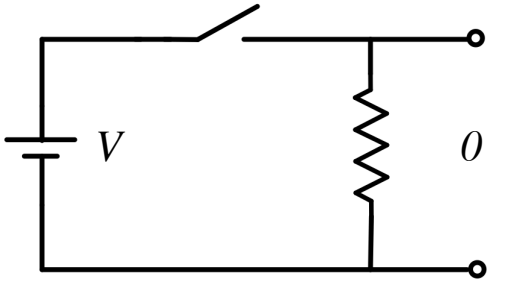
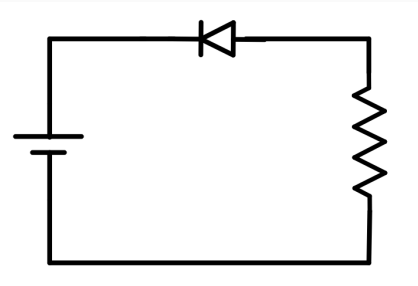
*(b) Symbol for solid state diode*



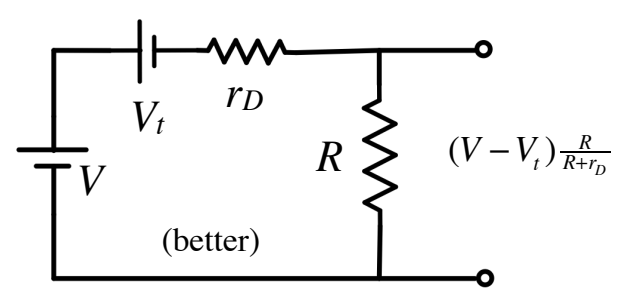
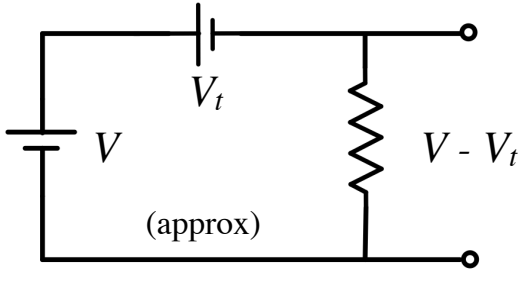
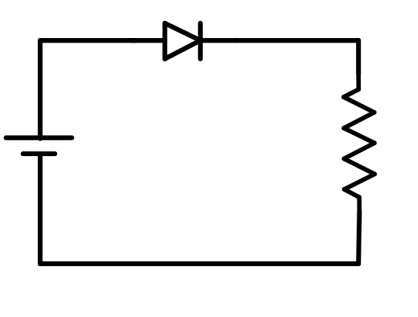
direction of positive current flow

*(c) Equivalent circuits*

Reverse  
biased



Forward  
biased





*(d) Shockley diode equation (justified later)*

$$I = I_0 \left( e^{qV_d/\eta kT} - 1 \right)$$

$q$  - elementary charge

$k$  - Boltzmann constant

$T$  - thermodynamic temperature

$V_d$  - diode voltage

$\eta$  - ideality factor

(1 for ideal diode; > 1 for Si)

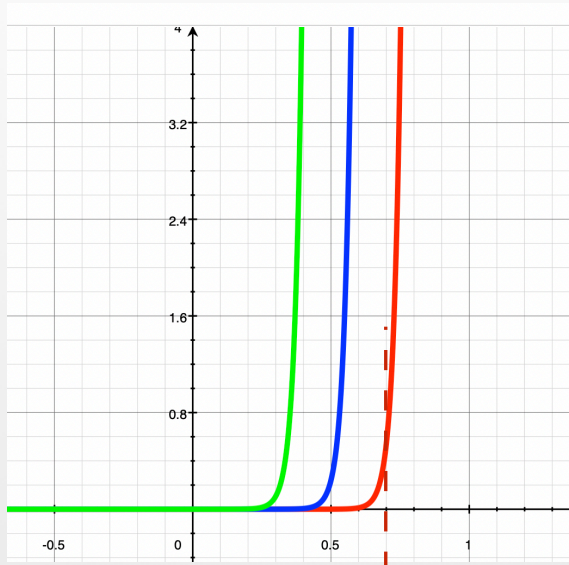
$I_0$  - reverse saturation current

$$I = I_0 \left( e^{V_d/\eta V_{th}} - 1 \right)$$

$$V_{th} = \frac{kT}{q} = 25.85 \text{ mV at } T = 300 \text{ K}$$

is the thermal voltage

$$I = I_0 \left( e^{V_d / \eta V_{th}} - 1 \right)$$



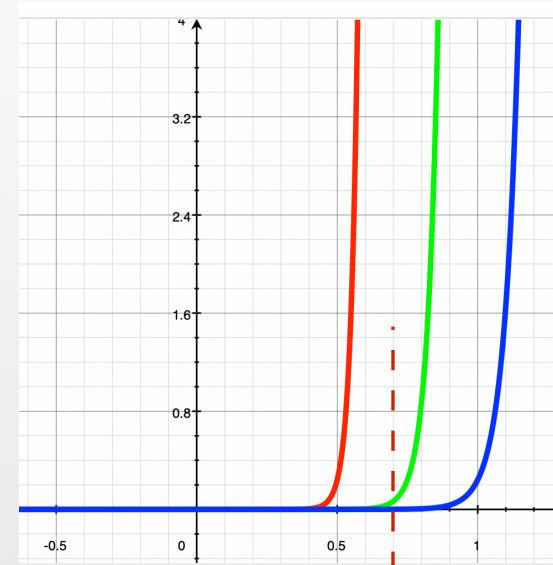
0.7 V

$$\eta = 1$$

$$I_0 = \text{pA}$$

$$I_0 = \text{nA}$$

$$I_0 = \mu\text{A}$$



0.7 V

$$I_0 = \text{pA}$$

$$\eta = 1$$

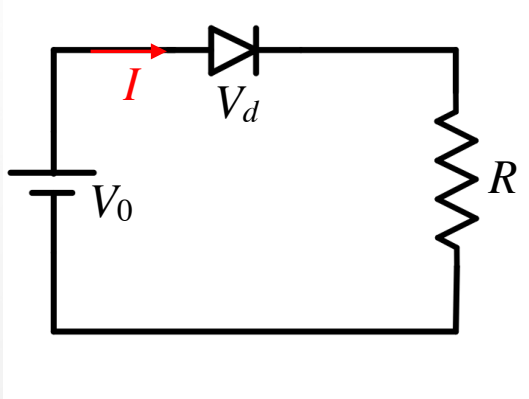
$$\eta = 1.5$$

$$\eta = 2$$

For positive bias,

$$I \cong I_0 e^{V_d / \eta V_{th}}$$

(e) Load line analysis

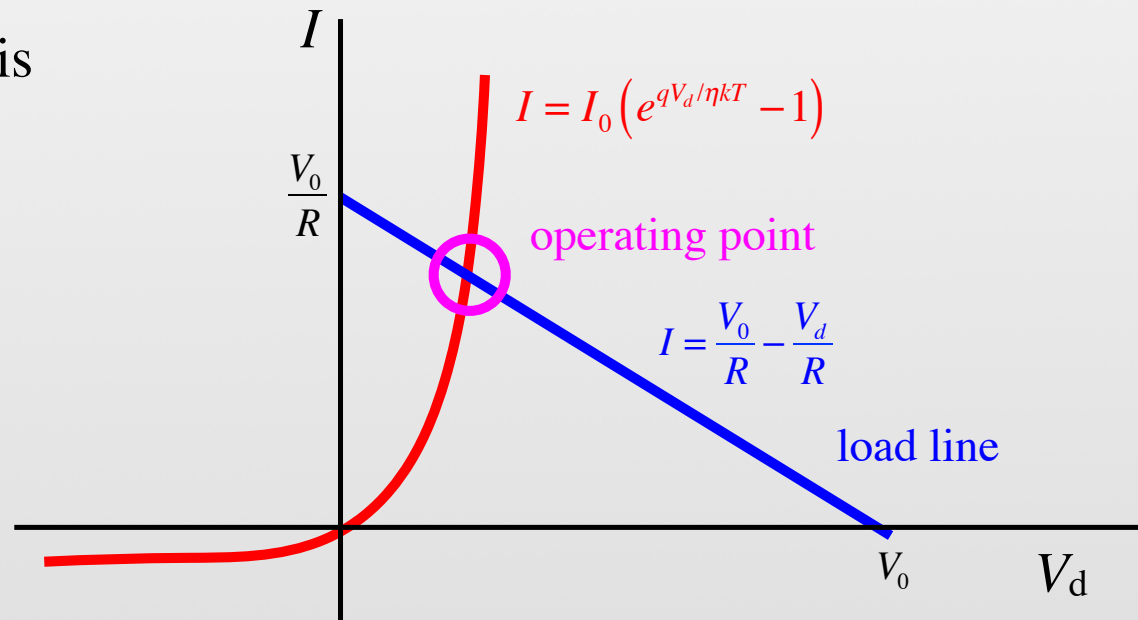


$$V_0 - V_d - IR = 0$$

$$I = \frac{V_0}{R} - \frac{V_d}{R} \quad \text{but} \quad I = I_0 \left( e^{qV_d/\eta kT} - 1 \right)$$

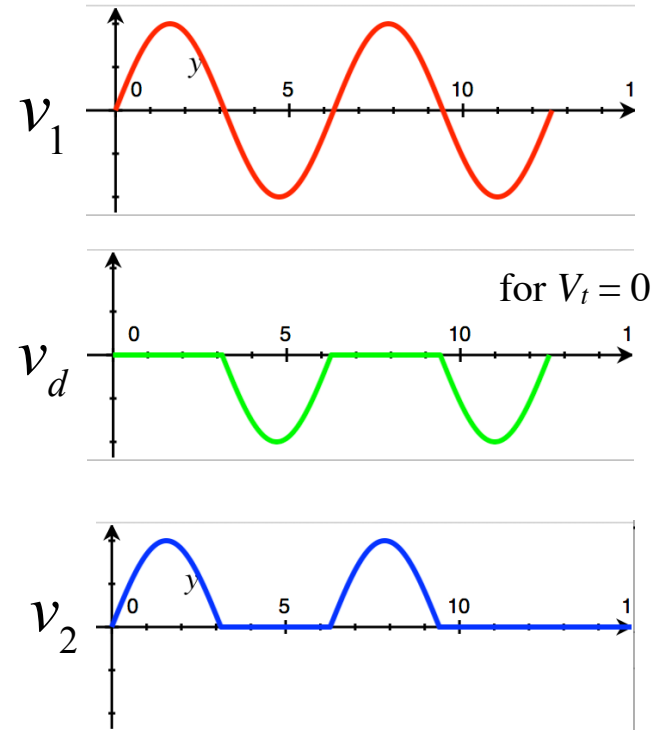
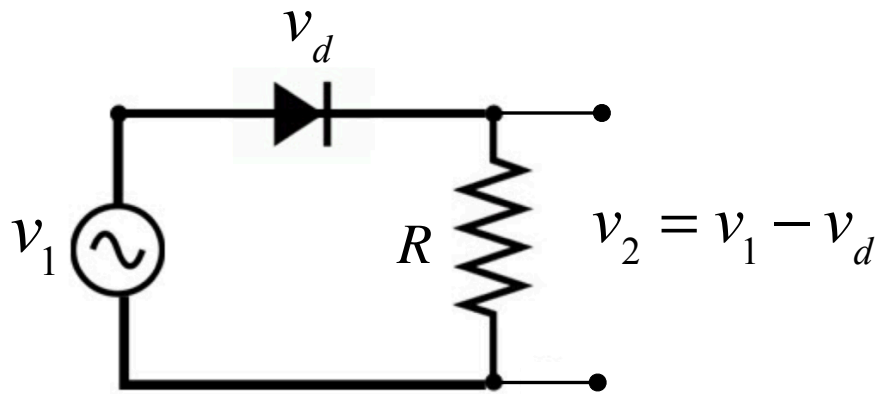
$$\text{so} \quad \frac{V_0 - V_d}{R} = I_0 \left( e^{qV_d/\eta kT} - 1 \right) \quad \text{no simple analytical solution}$$

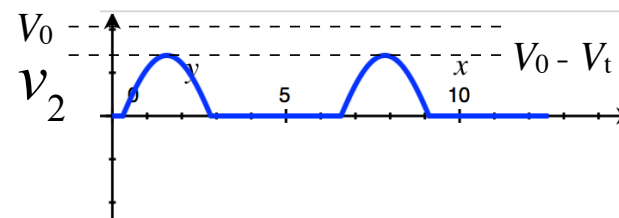
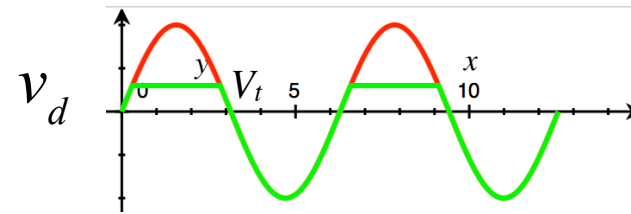
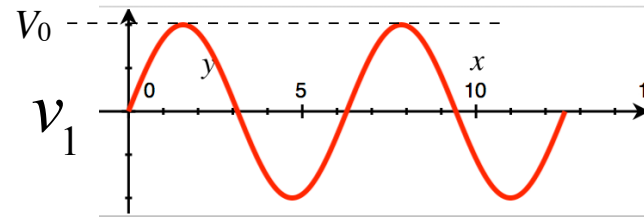
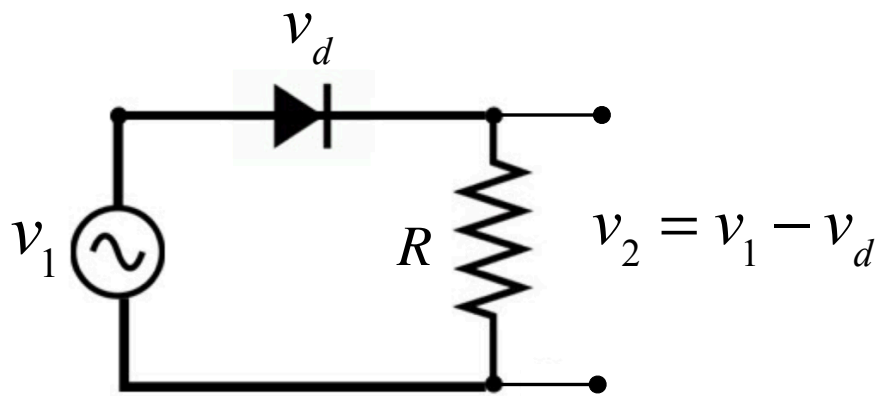
graphical analysis



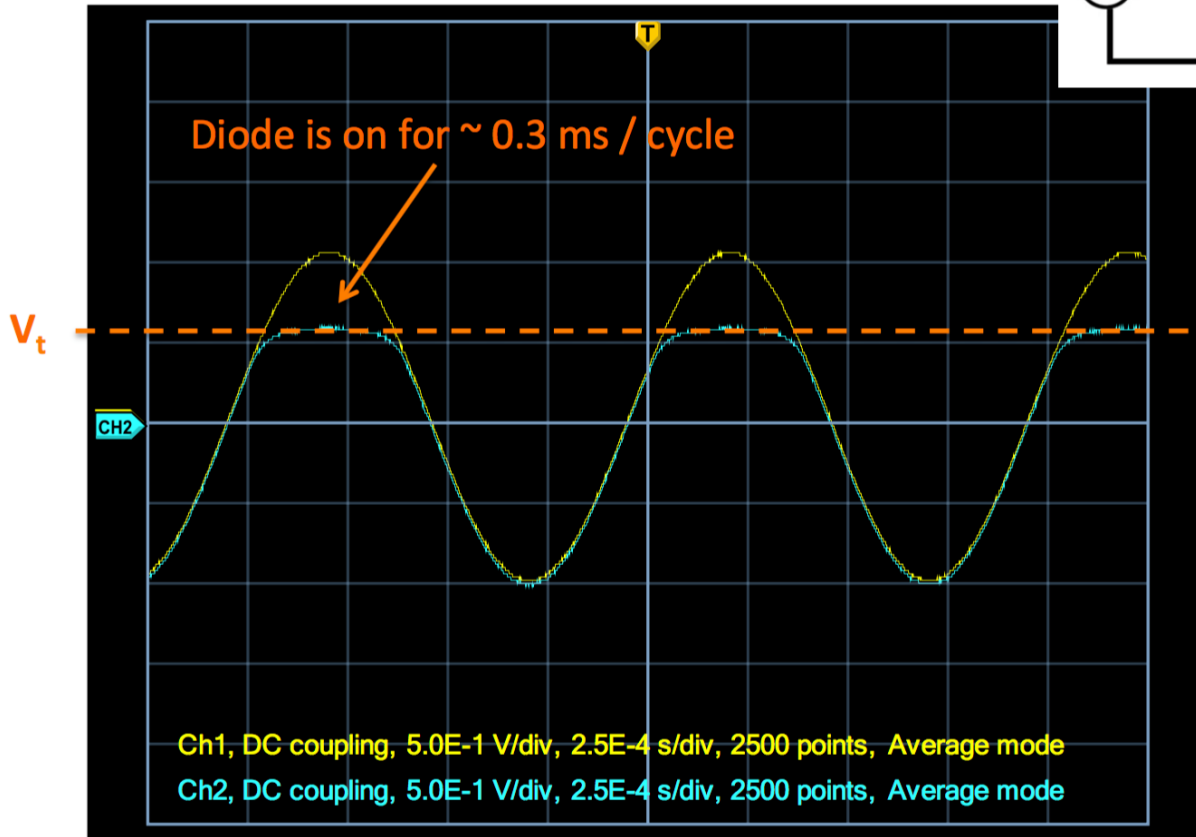
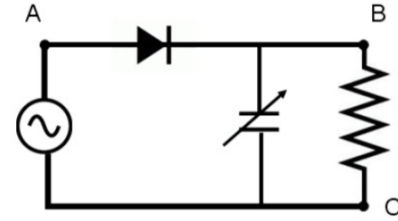
### 3) Rectifier circuits

(a) Half-wave rectifier



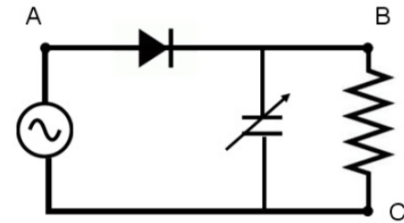


Signal diode, 10 k resistor, no capacitor

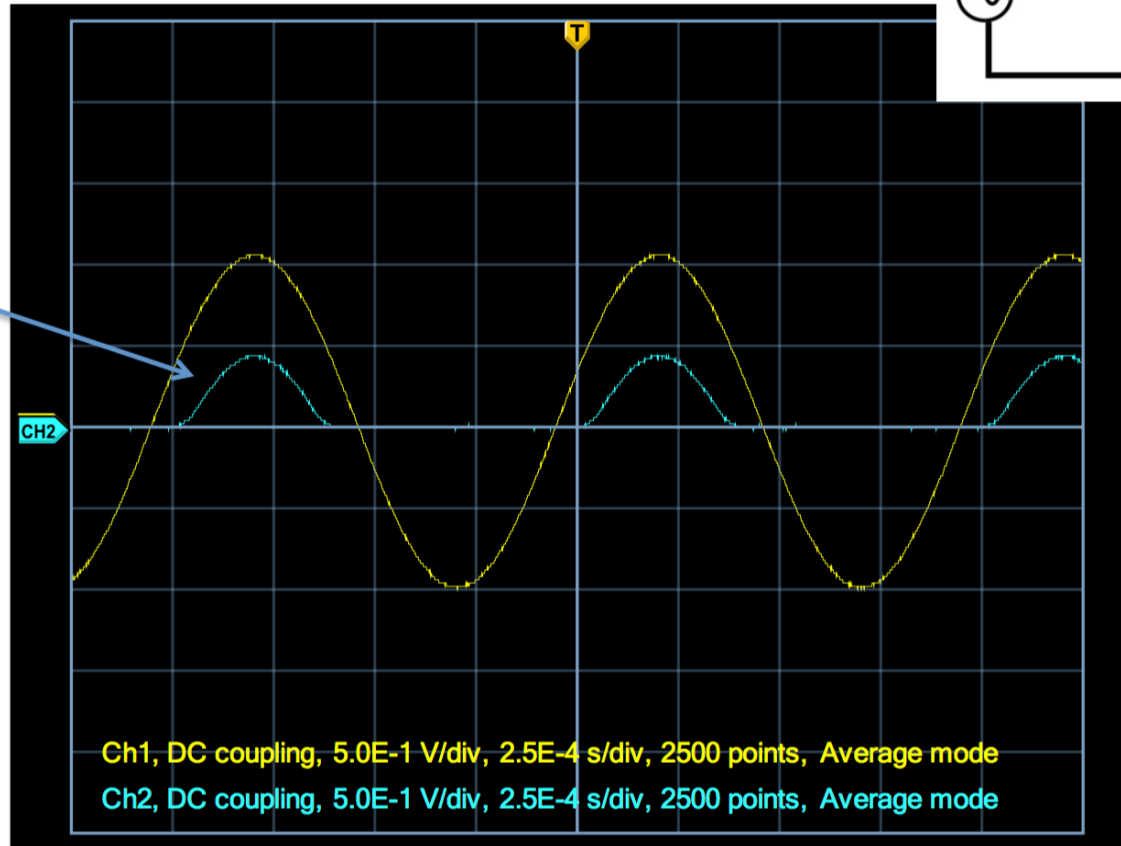


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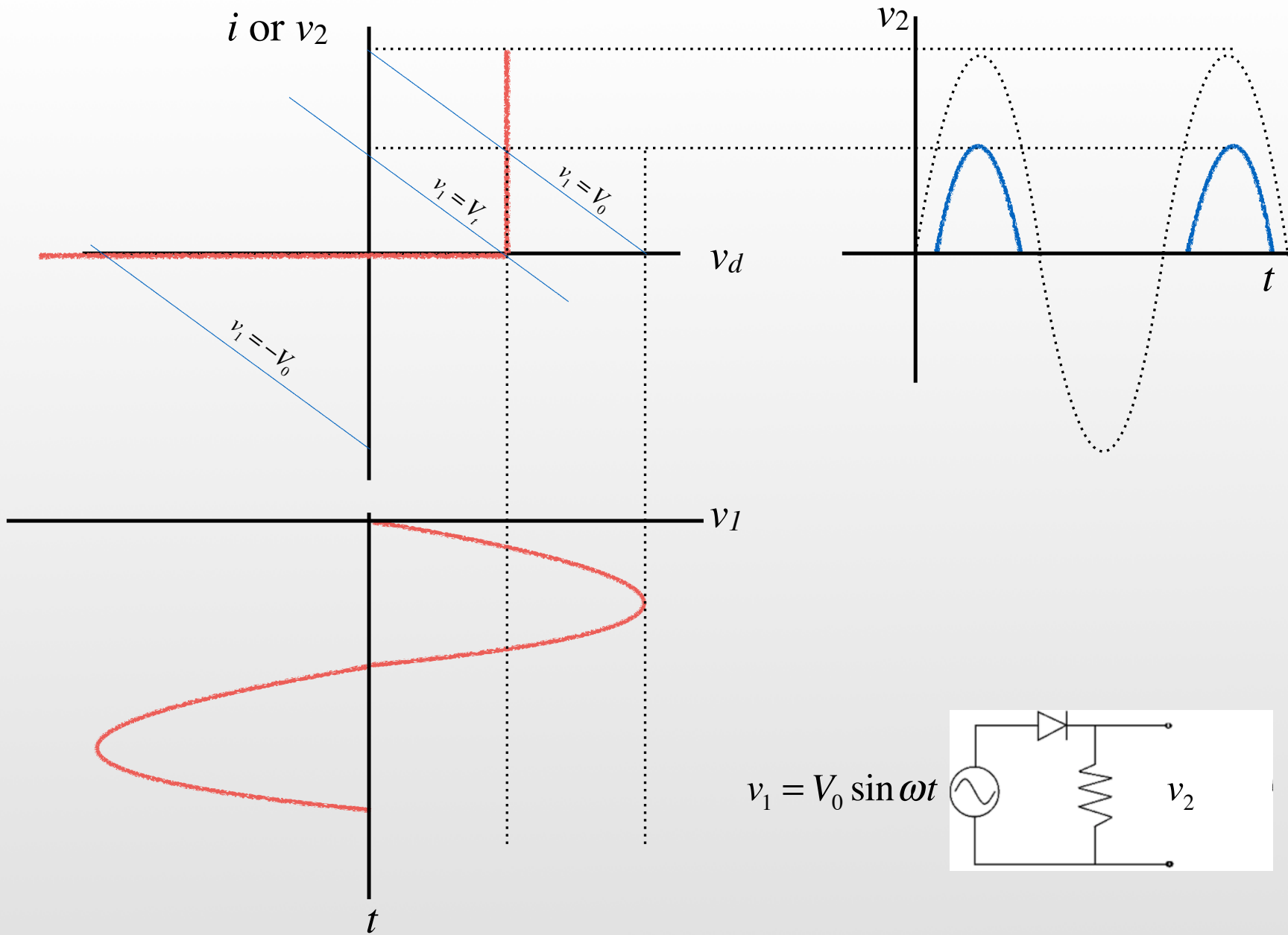
Resistor waveform, no C



Diode on

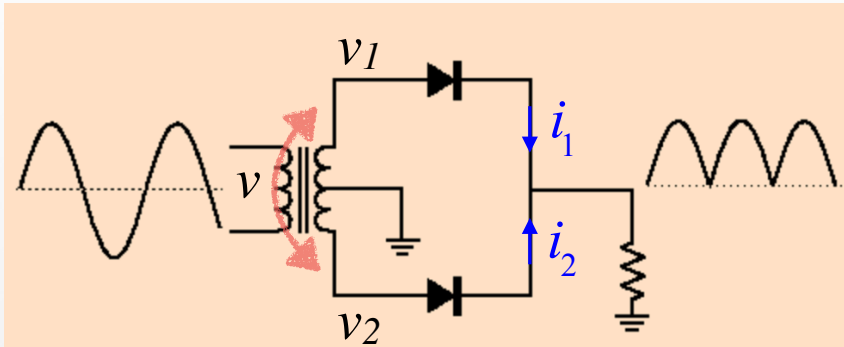


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(b) centre-tapped full wave rectifier

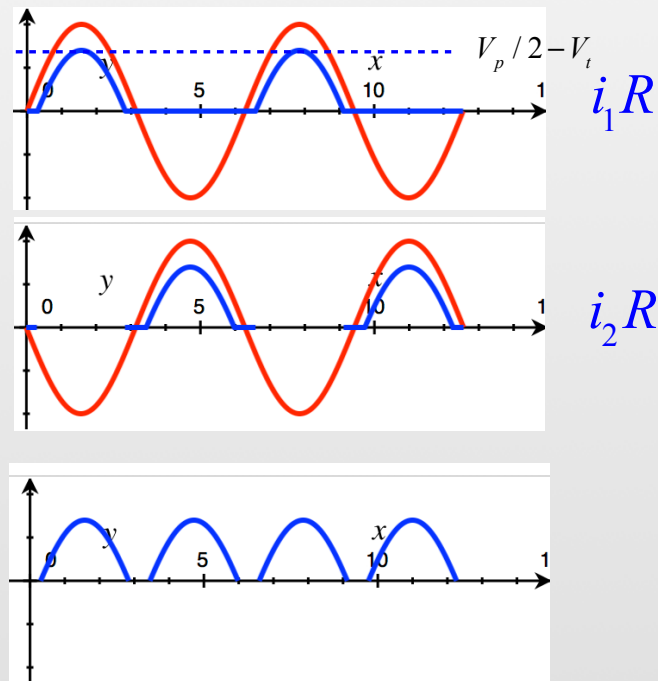


Secondary:  $v = V_p \sin \omega t$

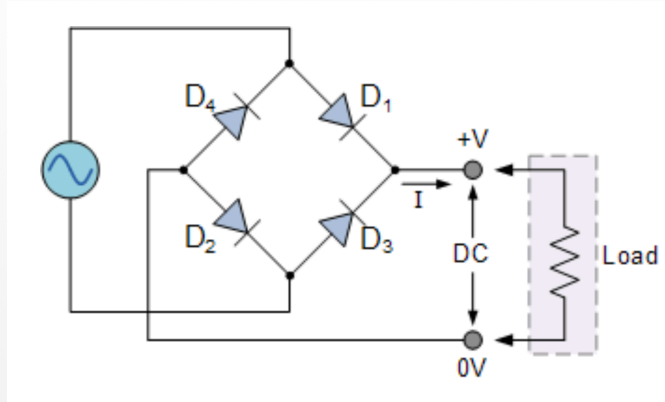
$$v_1 = \frac{V_p}{2} \sin \omega t$$

$$v_2 = -\frac{V_p}{2} \sin \omega t$$

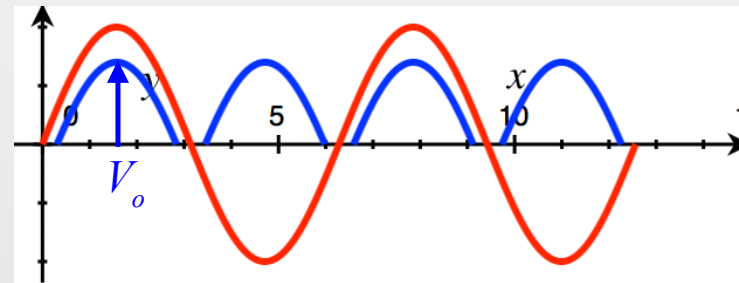
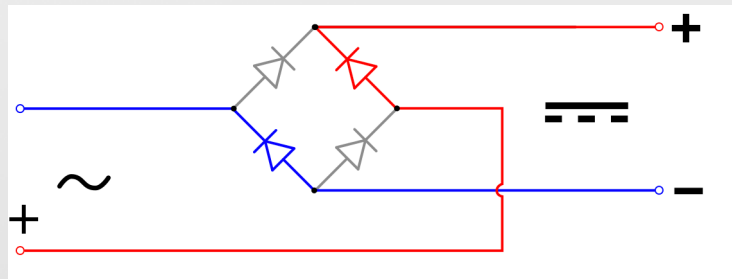
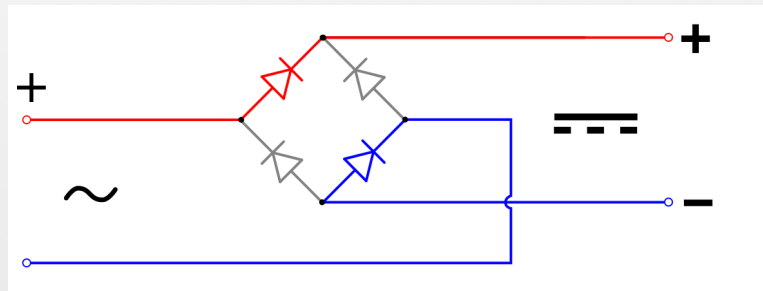
$$v_o = (i_1 + i_2)R$$



(c) Bridge rectifier

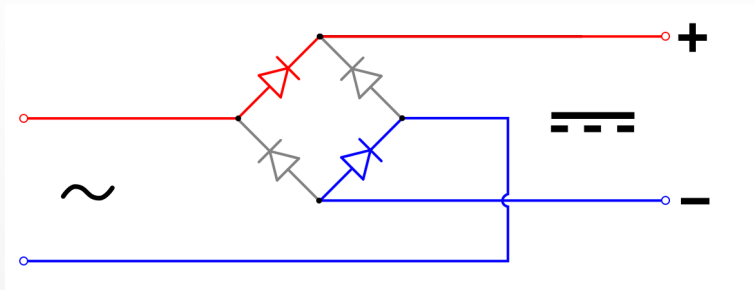


Input:  $v = V_p \sin \omega t$

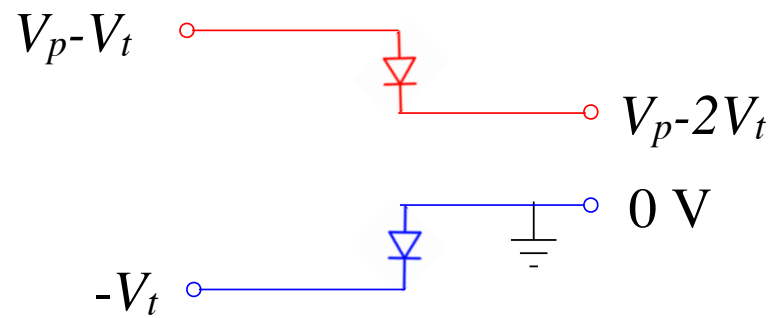


Peak output:  $V_o = V_p - 2V_t$

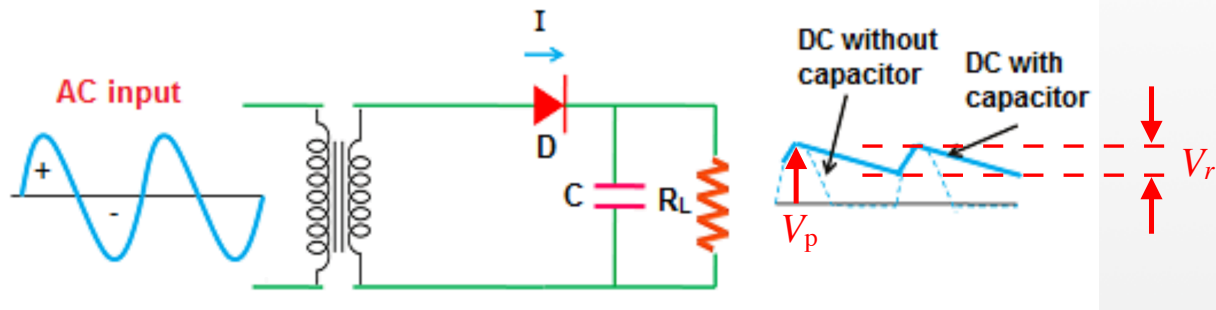
$$v = V_p \sin \omega t$$



For  $v = V_p$



## 4) Capacitor filters

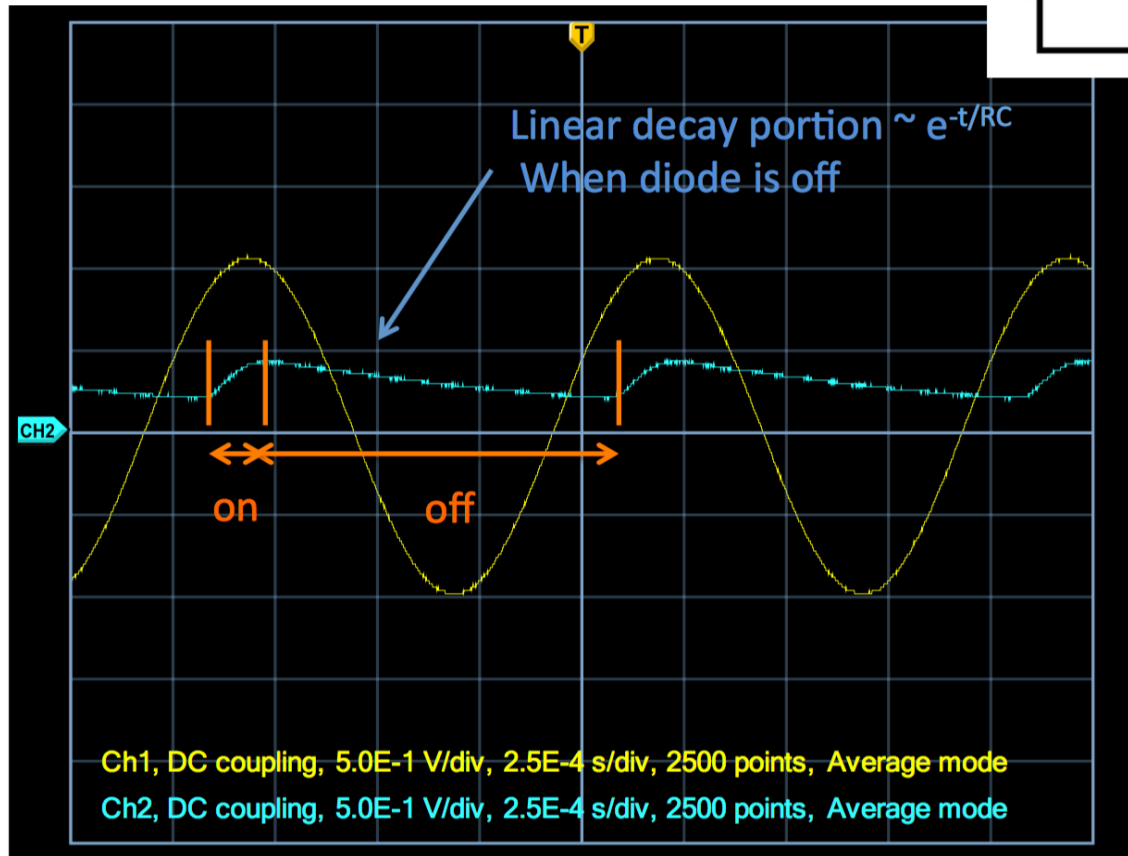
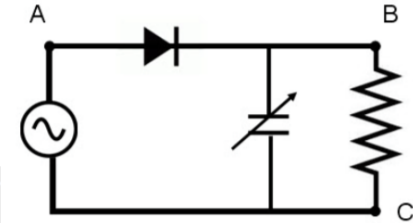


$$\frac{V_r}{V_p} = \frac{1}{fR_L C}$$

If  $f$  represents output frequency, same equation applies for full-wave rectifier

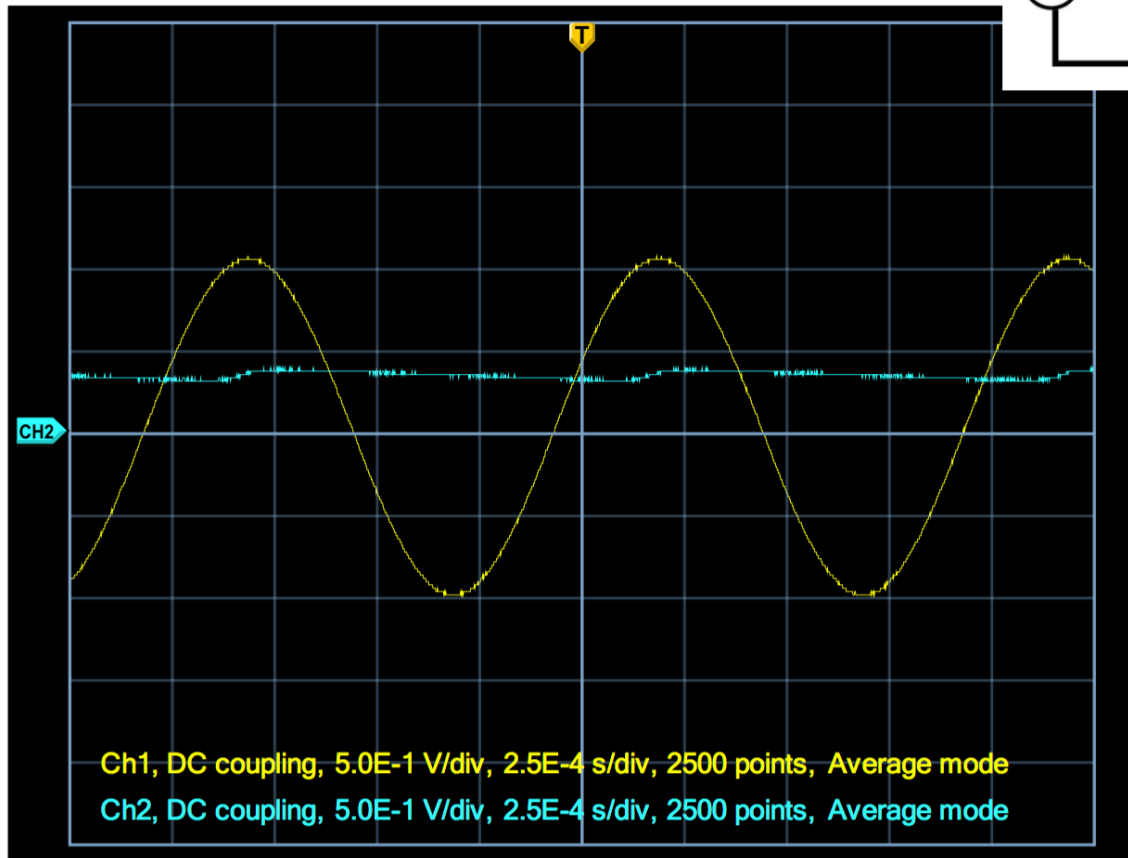
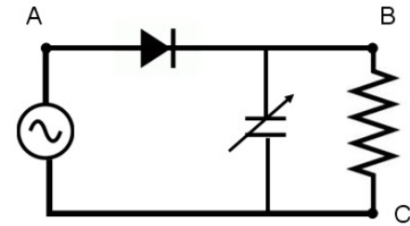
$$r = \frac{V_{rms}(ac)}{V_{dc}} \cong \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}fR_L C}$$

Resistor waveform with 1 uF capacitor: always positive!



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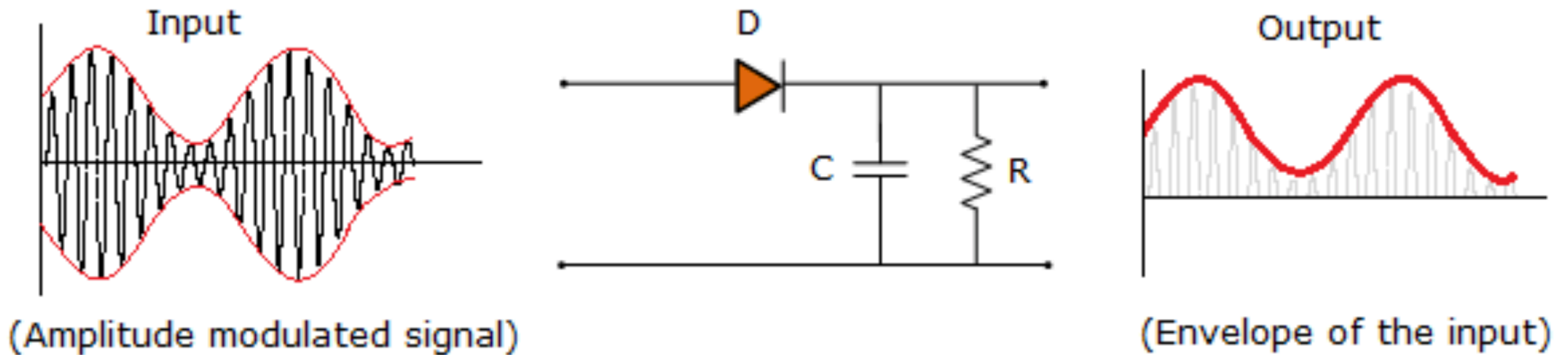
Resistor waveform, 4 uF capacitor



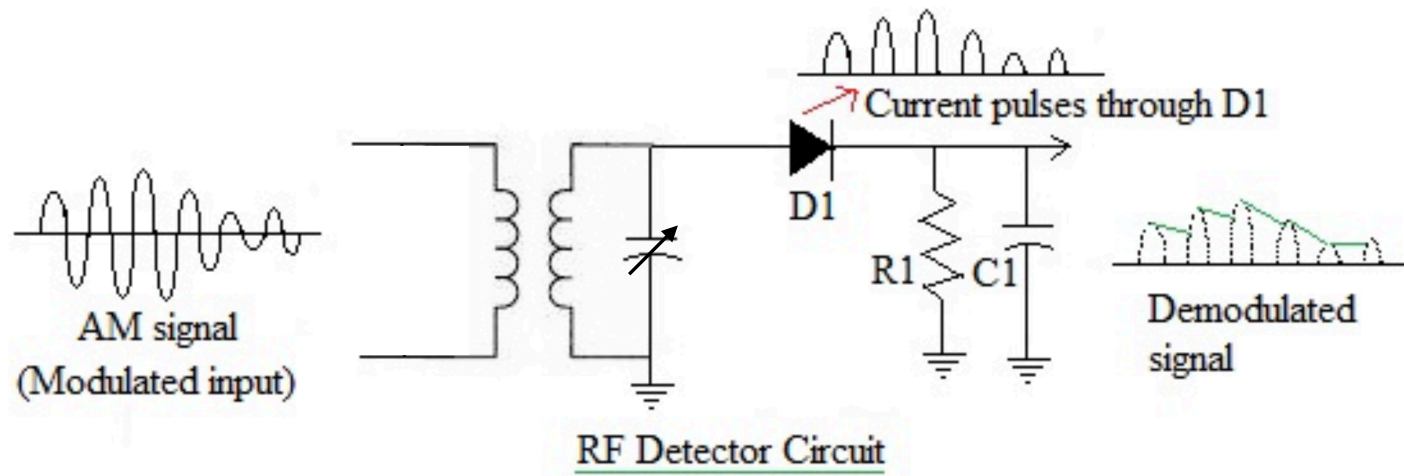
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## 5) AM diode detector

Demodulation by a diode envelope detector: -



- carrier signal  $f \sim 1 \text{ MHz}$
- modulating audio signal  $f \sim 10 \text{ kHz}$
- to smooth carrier frequency,  $RC \gg T_c = 1/f_c = \sim 1 \mu\text{s}$
- to preserve audio signal,  $RC \ll T_m = 1/f_m = \sim 1 \text{ ms}$
- Choose  $RC = \sim 10 \mu\text{s}$

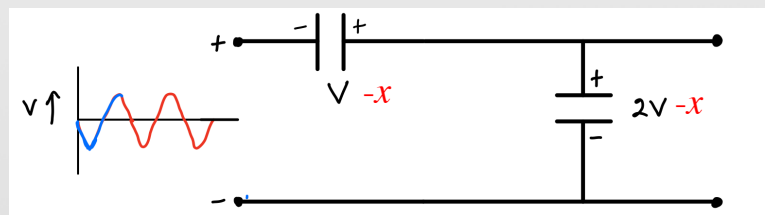
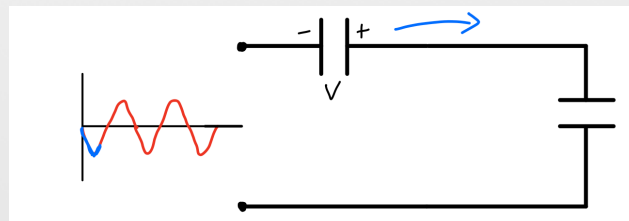
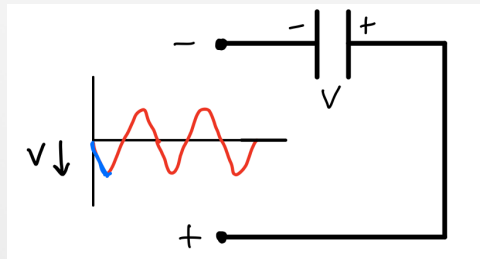
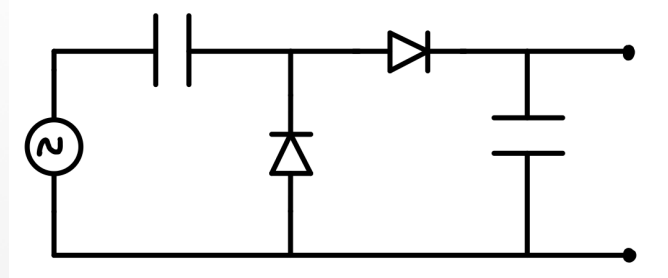




## 6) Voltage doubler / multiplier

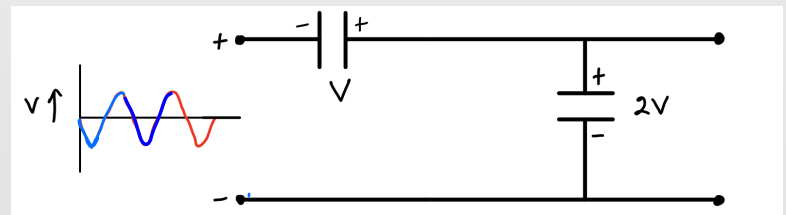
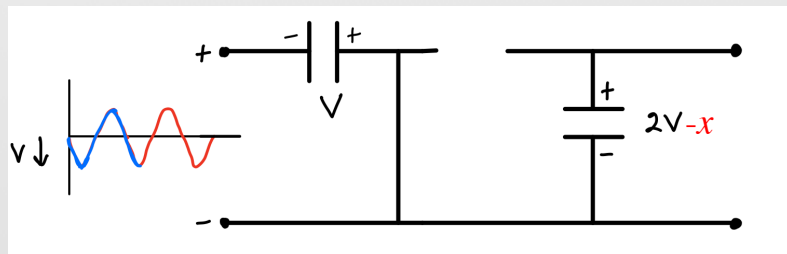
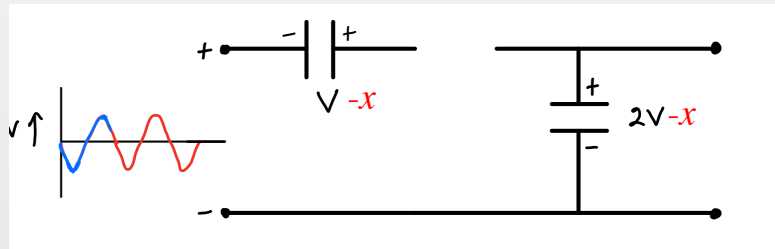
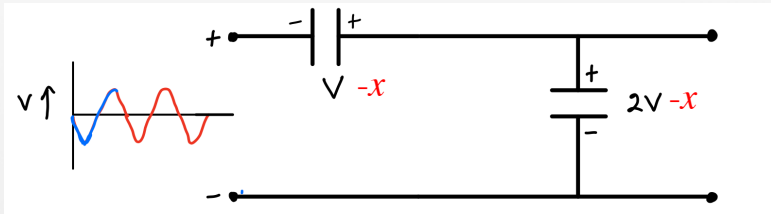
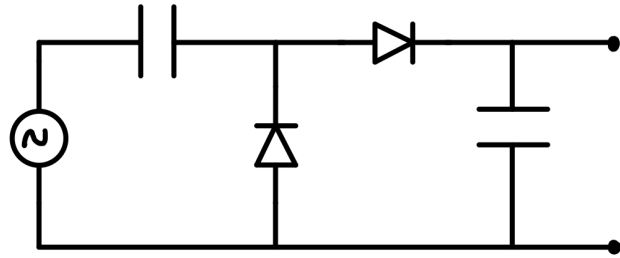
(a) Doubler

$$v = V \sin \omega t$$

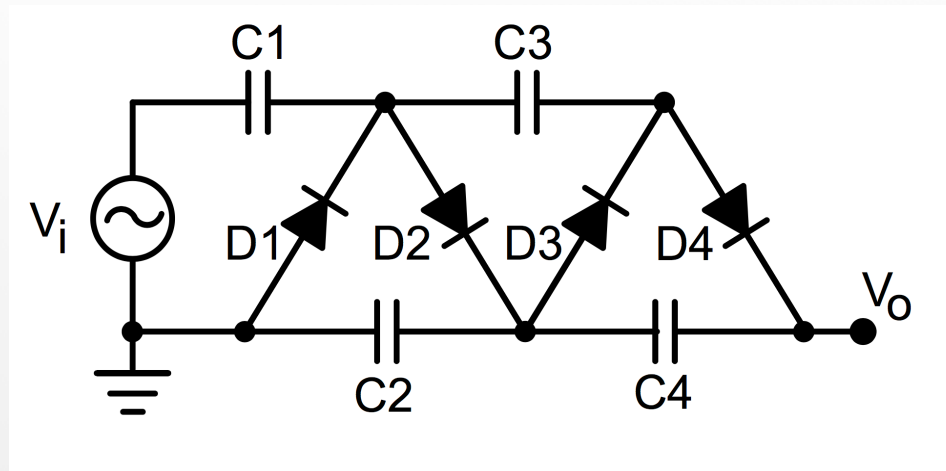


Full voltage is not reached in the first cycle, but rapidly converges to these values.

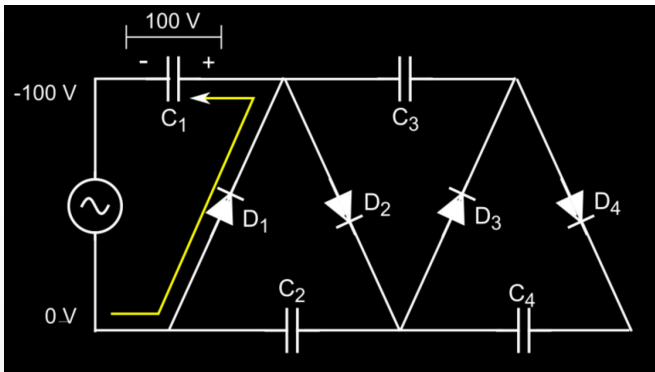
$$v = V \sin \omega t$$



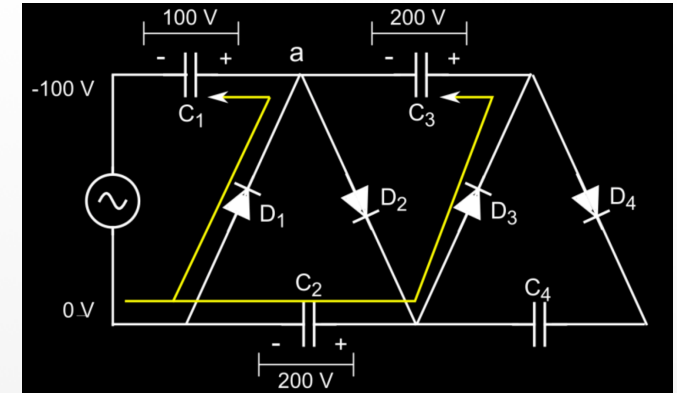
## *b) Cockroft-Walton generator*



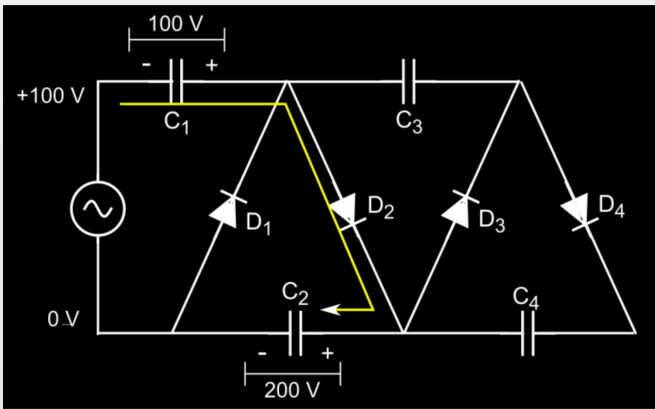
- When the input voltage  $V_i$  reaches its negative peak  $-V_p$ , current flows through diode  $D_1$  to charge capacitor  $C_1$  to a voltage of  $V_p$ .
- When  $V_i$  reverses polarity and reaches its positive peak  $+V_p$ , it adds to the capacitor's voltage to produce a voltage of  $2V_p$  on  $C_1$ 's righthand plate. Since  $D_1$  is reverse-biased, current flows from  $C_1$  through diode  $D_2$ , charging capacitor  $C_2$  to a voltage of  $2V_p$ .
- When  $V_i$  reverses polarity again, current from  $C_2$  flows through diode  $D_3$ , charging capacitor  $C_3$  also to a voltage of  $2V_p$ .
- When  $V_i$  reverses polarity again, current from  $C_3$  flows through diode  $D_4$ , charging capacitor  $C_4$  also to a voltage of  $2V_p$ .



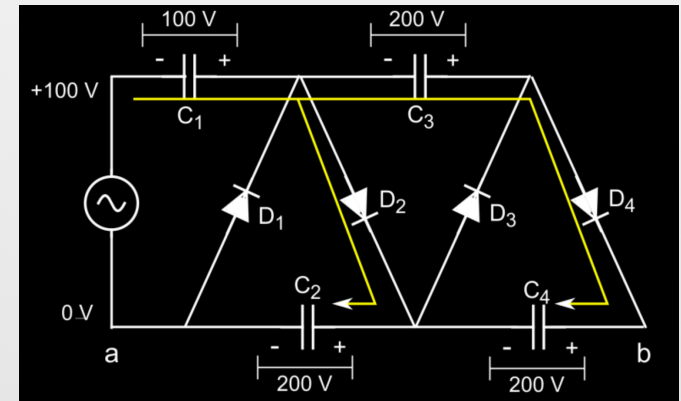
1. Capacitor  $C_1$  charges through diode  $D_1$  at the voltage  $U$  (100 V) of the power supply, which is at its negative peak. Note that this leads the capacitor to be positive at its right side and negative at its left. The yellow line indicates the direction of current flow



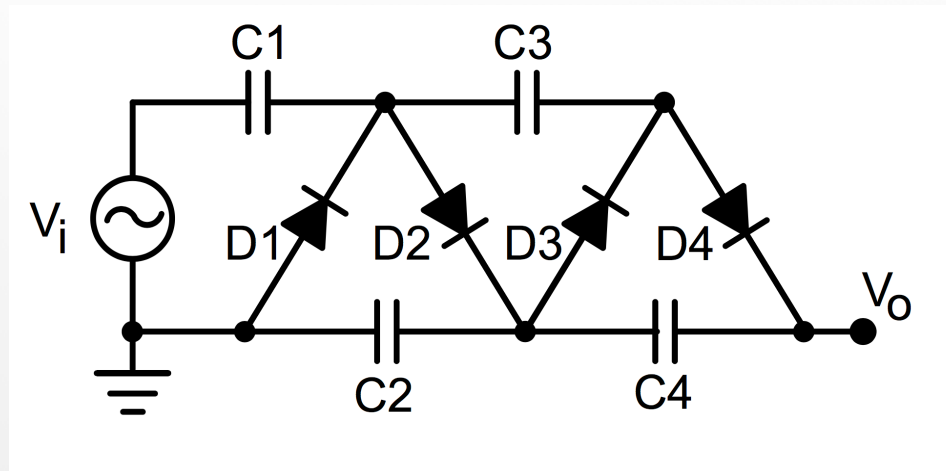
3. The charge stored in  $C_1$  was used in the previous cycle to charge  $C_2$ , so  $C_1$  is now charging through  $D_1$  as in step 1. Also, capacitor  $C_3$  is charged through  $D_3$  to  $2U$ . Why  $2U$ ? Because since  $C_1$  is discharged, point "a" in the schematic is at zero potential and  $C_3$  sees the 200 V of  $C_2$ .



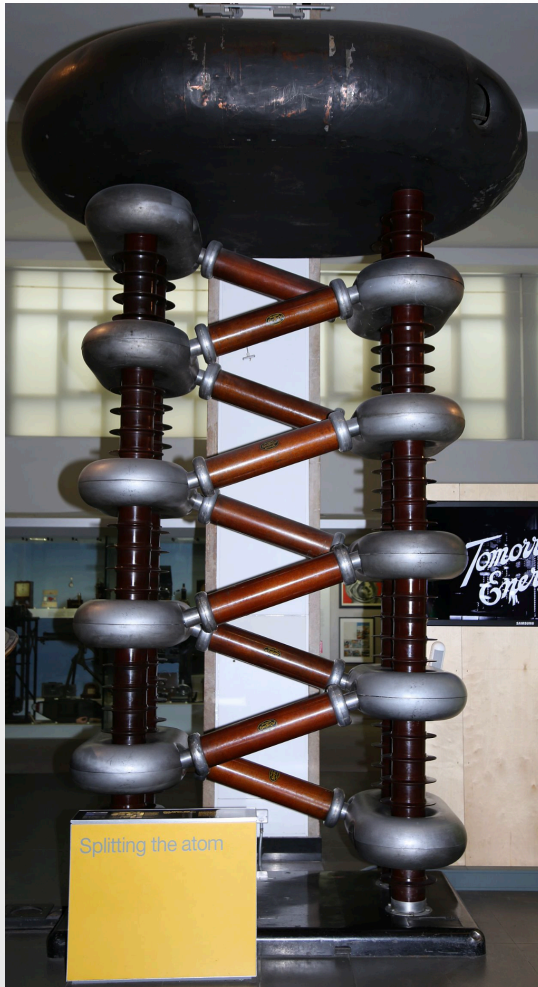
2. We now have +100 V at the upper side of the power supply, and this voltage adds to that of  $C_1$  that was charged in the previous step. Therefore capacitor  $C_2$  charges through  $D_2$  to 200 V, or  $2U$  (100 V from the power supply plus 100 V from  $C_2$ ).



4. The power supply is again at its positive peak, and  $C_2$  is now being recharged as in step 2. At the same time, capacitor  $C_4$  charges to 200 V, because it is the potential difference that it sees: 400 V at its positive side (100 V of the supply plus 100 V of  $C_1$  plus 200 V of  $C_3$ ), and 200 V at its negative side, which is the potential of  $C_2$ .



- All the capacitors are charged to a voltage of  $2V_p$ , except for  $C_1$ , which is charged to  $V_p$ .
- The key to the voltage multiplication is that while the capacitors are charged in parallel, they are connected to the load in series.



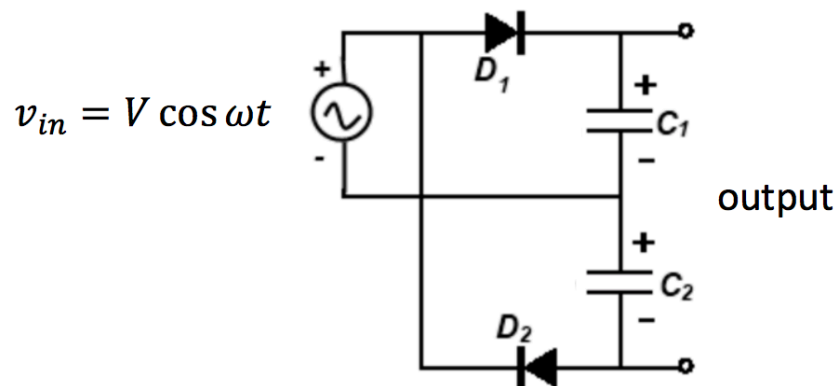
Cockroft and Walton used this [voltage multiplier](#) cascade to generate potentials up to 1 MV, used to accelerate particles. In 1932 they split lithium nuclei by bombarding them with 700 keV protons.

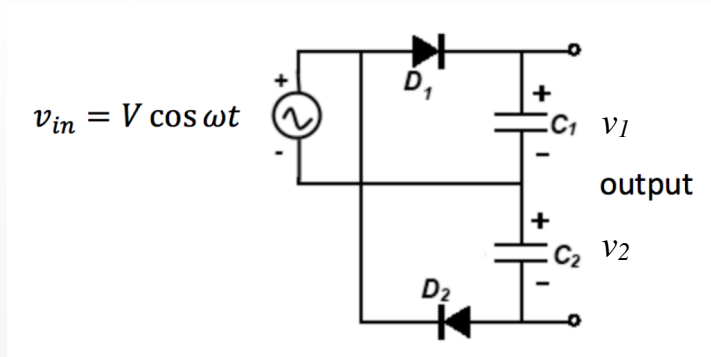
In 1951 they were awarded the [Nobel Prize in Physics](#) for "Transmutation of atomic nuclei by artificially accelerated atomic particles".

This Cockcroft–Walton [voltage multiplier](#) was part of one of the early particle accelerators responsible for development of the [atomic bomb](#). Built in 1937 by [Philips of Eindhoven](#) it is now in the [National Science Museum](#) in [London, England](#).

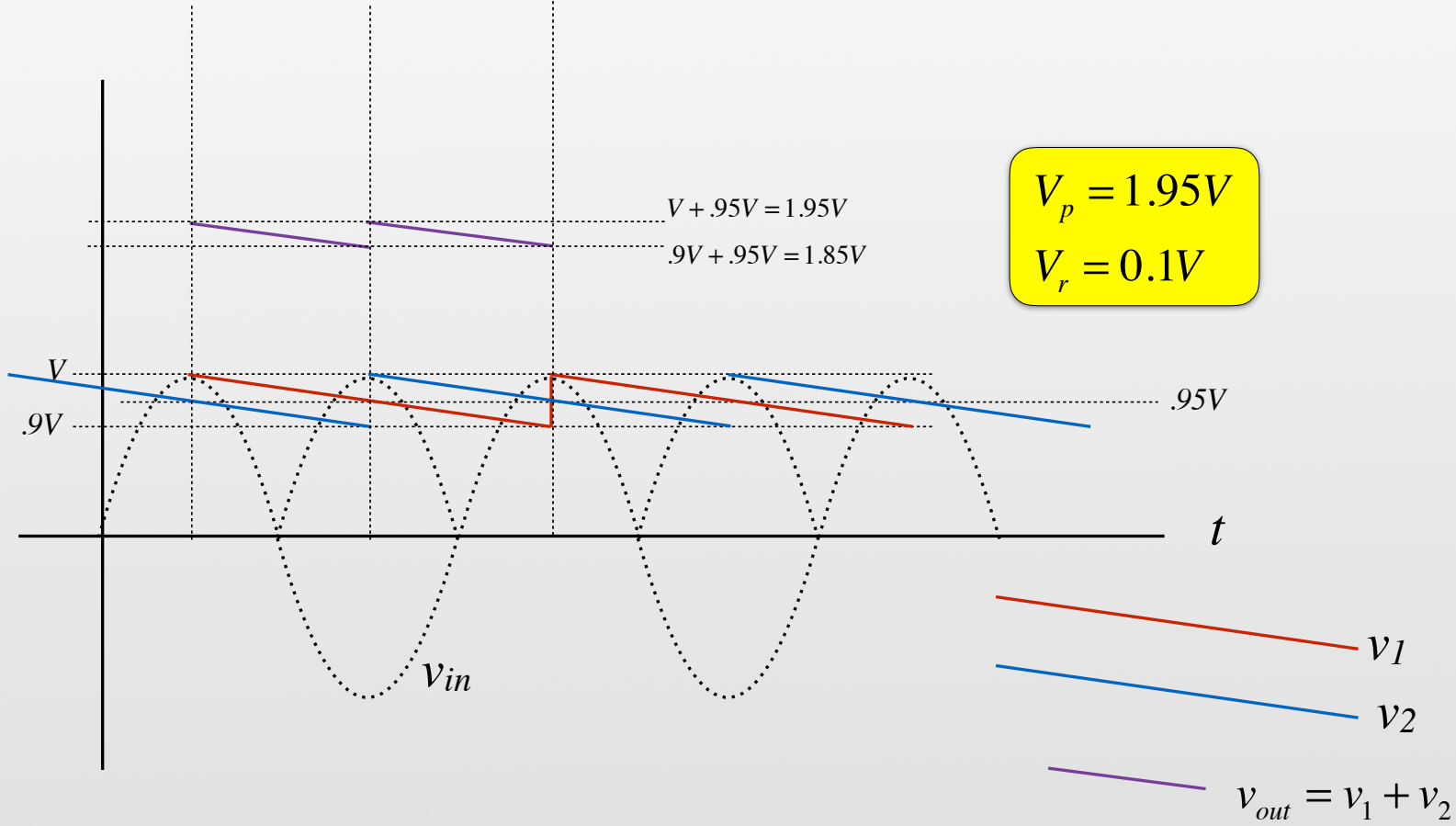
## Example:

3. (a) For zero load current, the output of the voltage doubler is pure dc. What happens to the output when the load becomes appreciable? Sketch the input and output waveforms for a load resistance  $R_L$  connected across the output so that the decay time constant is about 10 times the input period. Give approximate expressions for the peak output voltage and the peak-to-peak ripple in this case. Ignore the voltage drop across the diodes.





$$V_{r2} = V_{r1} = \frac{VT}{\tau} = 0.1V$$



$V_p = 1.95V$

$V_r = 0.1V$



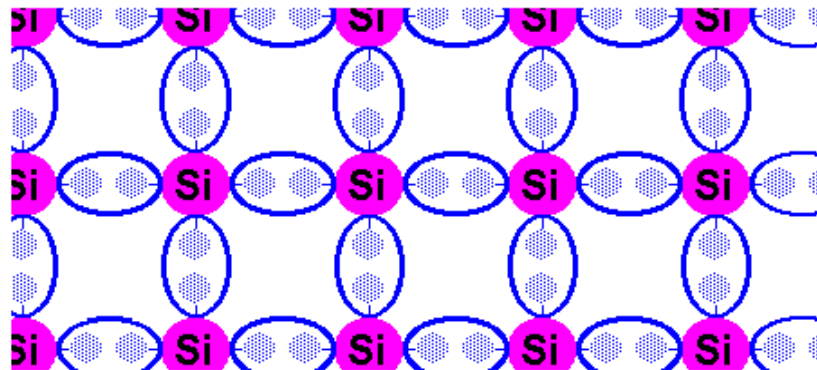
## *Part 2 - band theory*

## 7) Semiconductors

- resistivity  $\sim 1 \Omega\text{m}$ , decreases with temperature
- pure Si (or Ge, or GaAs): 4 valence electrons
- in crystal, all participate in covalent bond: no free charge carriers

Material	Resistivity, $\rho$ ( $\Omega\cdot\text{m}$ )
Superconductors	0
Metals	$10^{-8}$
Semiconductors	Variable
Electrolytes	Variable
Insulators	$10^{16}$
Superinsulators	$\infty$

UNDOPED SILICON. BOND ARRANGEMENT



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18						
1	1 <b>H</b> 1.0079	Atomic Sym Mass																2 <b>He</b> 4.0026						
2	3 <b>Li</b> 6.941	4 <b>Be</b> 9.0121	Metals										Nonmetals		273									
3	11 <b>Na</b> 22.989	12 <b>Mg</b> 24.305	Alkali metals										Alkaline earth metals		Lanthanoids		Transition metals		Poor metals		Other nonmetals		Noble gases	
4	19 <b>K</b> 39.098	20 <b>Ca</b> 40.078	21 <b>Sc</b> 44.955	22 <b>Ti</b> 47.867	23 <b>V</b> 50.941	24 <b>Cr</b> 51.996	25 <b>Mn</b> 54.938	26 <b>Fe</b> 55.845	27 <b>Co</b> 58.933	28 <b>Ni</b> 58.693	29 <b>Cu</b> 63.546	30 <b>Zn</b> 65.38	31 <b>Ga</b> 69.723	32 <b>Ge</b> 72.64	33 <b>As</b> 74.921	34 <b>Se</b> 78.96	35 <b>Br</b> 79.904	36 <b>Kr</b> 83.798						
5	37 <b>Rb</b> 85.467	38 <b>Sr</b> 87.62	39 <b>Y</b> 88.905	40 <b>Zr</b> 91.224	41 <b>Nb</b> 92.906	42 <b>Mo</b> 95.96	43 <b>Tc</b> (97.907)	44 <b>Ru</b> 101.07	45 <b>Rh</b> 102.90	46 <b>Pd</b> 106.42	47 <b>Ag</b> 107.86	48 <b>Cd</b> 112.41	49 <b>In</b> 114.81	50 <b>Sn</b> 118.71	51 <b>Sb</b> 121.76	52 <b>Te</b> 127.60	53 <b>I</b> 126.90	54 <b>Xe</b> 131.29						
6	55 <b>Cs</b> 132.90	56 <b>Ba</b> 137.32	57-71	72 <b>Hf</b> 178.49	73 <b>Ta</b> 180.94	74 <b>W</b> 183.84	75 <b>Re</b> 186.20	76 <b>Os</b> 190.23	77 <b>Ir</b> 192.21	78 <b>Pt</b> 195.08	79 <b>Au</b> 196.96	80 <b>Hg</b> 200.59	81 <b>Tl</b> 204.38	82 <b>Pb</b> 207.2	83 <b>Bi</b> 208.98	84 <b>Po</b> (208.98)	85 <b>At</b> (209.98)	86 <b>Rn</b> (222.01)						
7	87 <b>Fr</b> (223)	88 <b>Ra</b> (226)	89-103	104 <b>Rf</b> (261)	105 <b>Db</b> (262)	106 <b>Sg</b> (266)	107 <b>Bh</b> (264)	108 <b>Hs</b> (277)	109 <b>Mt</b> (268)	110 <b>Ds</b> (271)	111 <b>Rg</b> (272)	112 <b>Uub</b> (285)	113 <b>Uut</b> (284)	114 <b>Uuq</b> (289)	115 <b>Uup</b> (288)	116 <b>Uuh</b> (292)	117 <b>Uus</b>	118 <b>Uuo</b> (294)						

Search  
# or Name

For elements with no stable isotopes, the mass number of the isotope with the longest half-life is in parentheses.

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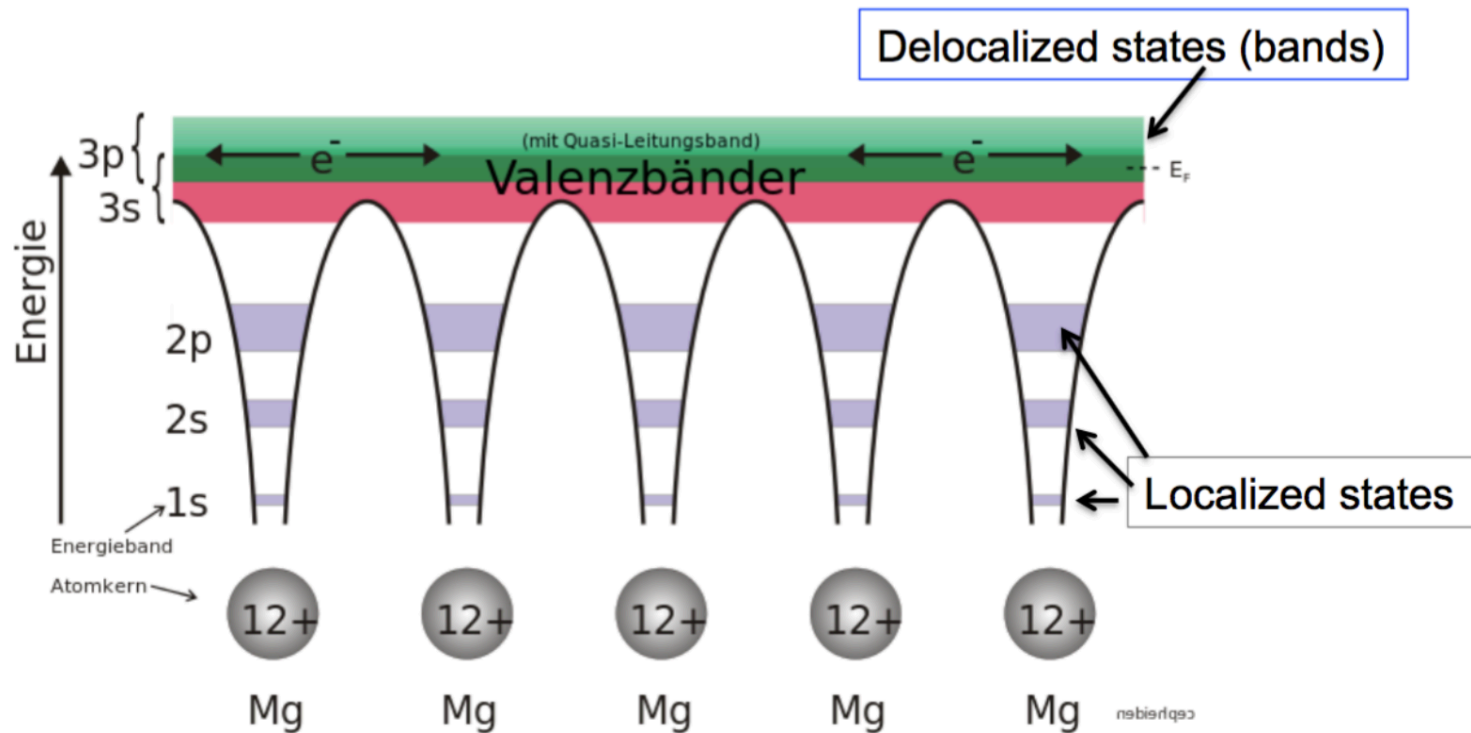


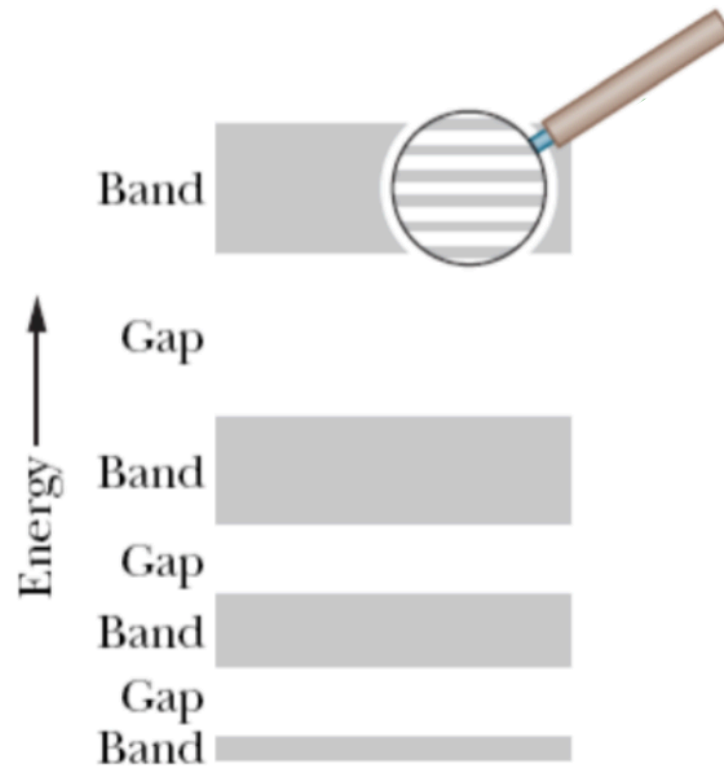
57 <b>La</b> 138.90	58 <b>Ce</b> 140.11	59 <b>Pr</b> 140.90	60 <b>Nd</b> 144.24	61 <b>Pm</b> (145)	62 <b>Sm</b> 150.36	63 <b>Eu</b> 151.96	64 <b>Gd</b> 157.25	65 <b>Tb</b> 158.92	66 <b>Dy</b> 162.50	67 <b>Ho</b> 164.93	68 <b>Er</b> 167.25	69 <b>Tm</b> 168.93	70 <b>Yb</b> 173.05	71 <b>Lu</b> 174.96
89 <b>Ac</b> (227)	90 <b>Th</b> 232.03	91 <b>Pa</b> 231.03	92 <b>U</b> 238.02	93 <b>Np</b> (237)	94 <b>Pu</b> (244)	95 <b>Am</b> (243)	96 <b>Cm</b> (247)	97 <b>Bk</b> (247)	98 <b>Cf</b> (251)	99 <b>Es</b> (252)	100 <b>Fm</b> (257)	101 <b>Md</b> (258)	102 <b>No</b> (259)	103 <b>Lr</b> (262)

## 8) Energy bands

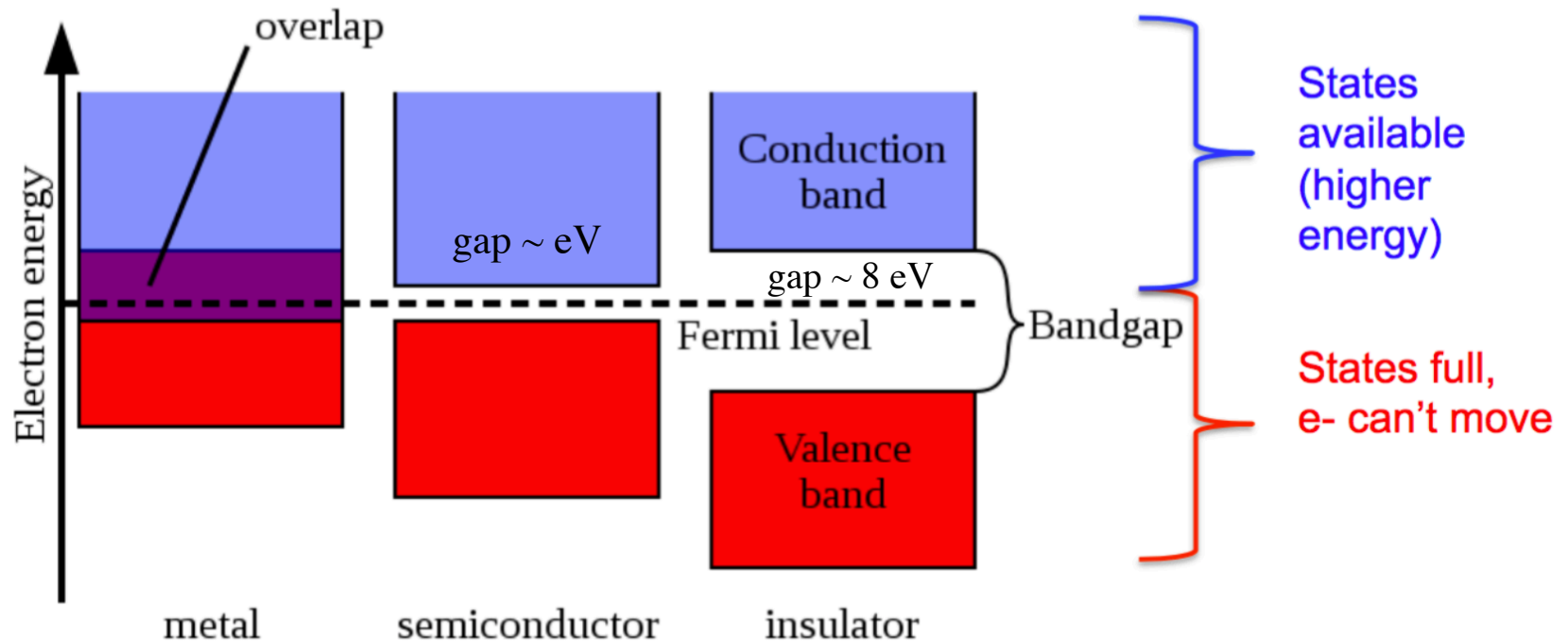
Key to understanding semiconductor devices: electron energy levels in a solid!

These are different from the discrete energy levels in an atom, because in a solid, the outermost electron wave functions overlap → formation of **energy bands** !





**Fig. 41-3** The band–gap pattern of energy levels for an idealized crystalline solid. As the magnified view suggests, each band consists of a very large number of very closely spaced energy levels. (In many solids, adjacent bands may overlap; for clarity, we have not shown this condition.)



5

UNDOPED SILICON. BOND ARRANGEMENT

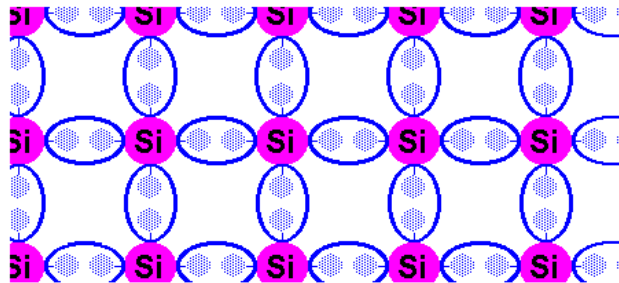
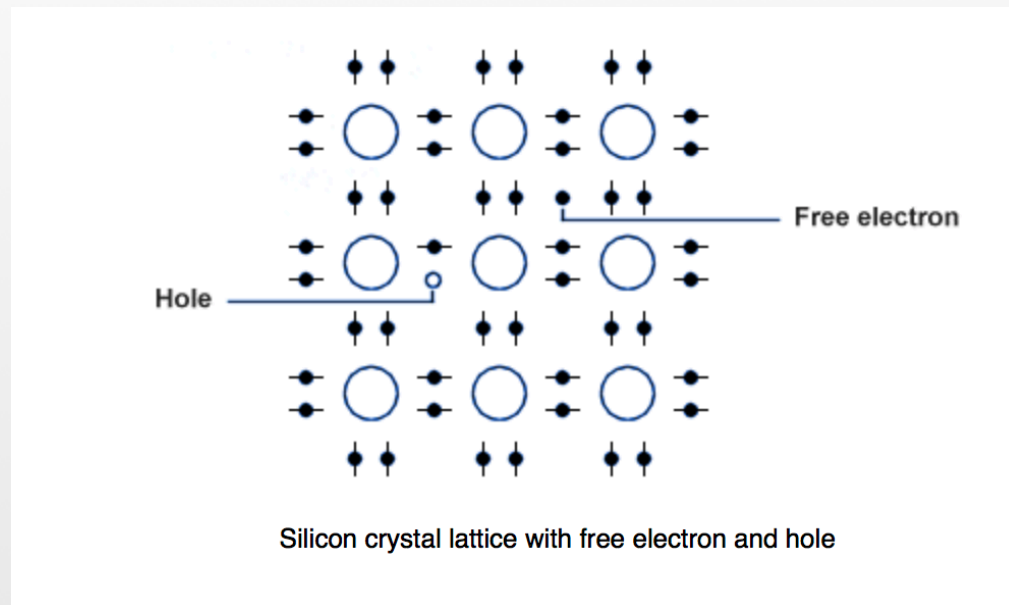


Table of semiconductor materials [\[ edit \]](#)

Group ↕	Elem. ↕	Material ↕	Formula ↕	Band gap (eV) ↕	Gap type ↕	Description ↕
IV	1	<a href="#">Diamond</a>	C	5.47 <sup>[3][4]</sup>	indirect	Excellent thermal conductivity. Superior mechanical and optical properties. Extremely high <a href="#">nanomechanical resonator</a> quality factor. <sup>[5]</sup>
IV	1	<a href="#">Silicon</a>	Si	1.12 <sup>[3][4]</sup>	indirect	Used in conventional <a href="#">crystalline silicon</a> (c-Si) <a href="#">solar cells</a> , and in its amorphous form as <a href="#">amorphous silicon</a> (a-Si) in <a href="#">thin film solar cells</a> . Most common semiconductor material in <a href="#">photovoltaics</a> ; dominates worldwide PV market; easy to fabricate; good electrical and mechanical properties. Forms high quality <a href="#">thermal oxide</a> for insulation purposes.
IV	1	<a href="#">Germanium</a>	Ge	0.67 <sup>[3][4]</sup>	indirect	Used in early radar detection diodes and first transistors; requires lower purity than silicon. A substrate for high-efficiency <a href="#">multijunction photovoltaic cells</a> . Very similar lattice constant to <a href="#">gallium arsenide</a> . High-purity crystals used for <a href="#">gamma spectroscopy</a> . May grow <a href="#">whiskers</a> , which impair reliability of some devices.
IV	1	<a href="#">Gray tin, α-Sn</a>	Sn	0.00, <sup>[6]</sup> 0.08 <sup>[7]</sup>	indirect	Low temperature allotrope (diamond cubic lattice).
IV	2	<a href="#">Silicon carbide, 3C-SiC</a>	SiC	2.3 <sup>[3]</sup>	indirect	used for early yellow LEDs
IV	2	<a href="#">Silicon carbide, 4H-SiC</a>	SiC	3.3 <sup>[3]</sup>	indirect	
IV	2	<a href="#">Silicon carbide, 6H-SiC</a>	SiC	3.0 <sup>[3]</sup>	indirect	used for early blue LEDs
III-V	2	<a href="#">Gallium arsenide</a>	GaAs	1.43 <sup>[3][4]</sup>	direct	second most common in use after silicon, commonly used as substrate for other III-V semiconductors, e.g. InGaAs and GaInNAs. Brittle. Lower hole mobility than Si, P-type CMOS transistors unfeasible. High impurity density, difficult to fabricate small structures. Used for near-IR LEDs, fast electronics, and high-efficiency <a href="#">solar cells</a> . Very similar lattice constant to <a href="#">germanium</a> , can be grown on germanium substrates.
III-V	2	<a href="#">Gallium antimonide</a>	GaSb	0.726 <sup>[3][4]</sup>	direct	Used for infrared detectors and LEDs and <a href="#">thermophotovoltaics</a> . Doped n with Te, p with Zn.

## 9) *Electrons and holes*

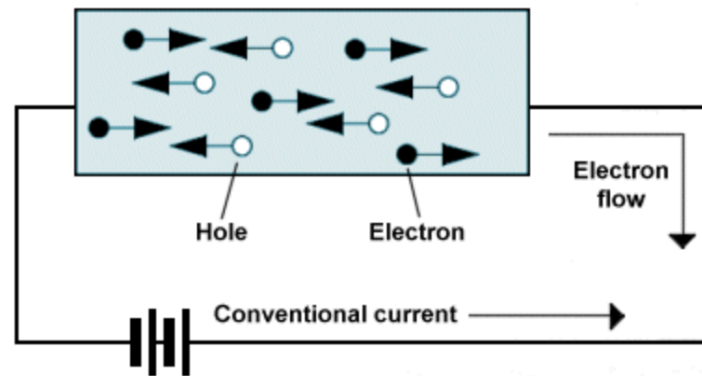
- At room temperature, a small number of electrons are promoted to the conduction band by thermal energy.



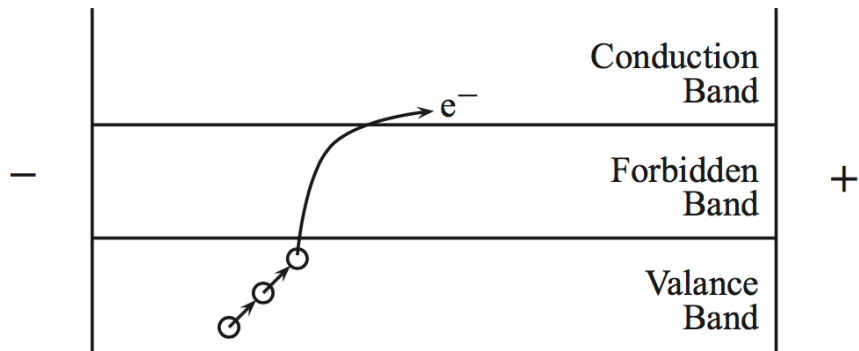
- This leaves a vacancy, called a hole; which can migrate.
- Both holes and electrons carry current; holes are less mobile.



### Intrinsic semiconductor



Current flow in an intrinsic semiconductor



**Figure 3.5** Schematic depiction of hole formation and transport when an electron is promoted.

# 10) Doping; extrinsic semi-conductors

- **n-type**: doped at ppb level with 5 valence-electron element (e.g. As)

## ARSENIC DOPING IN SILICON ( n - DOPING )

extra electrons are free to carry negative charge

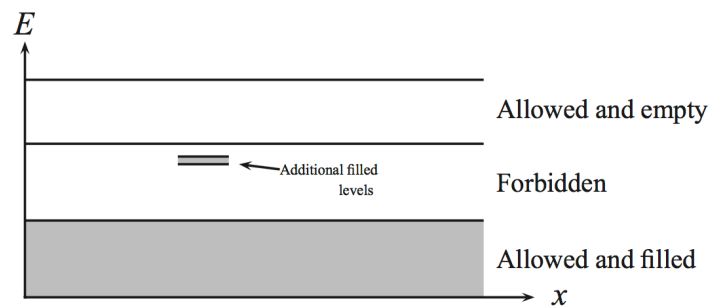
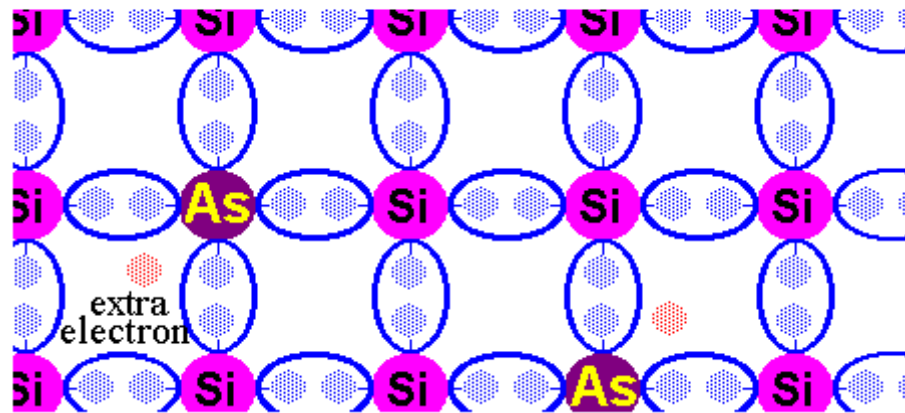


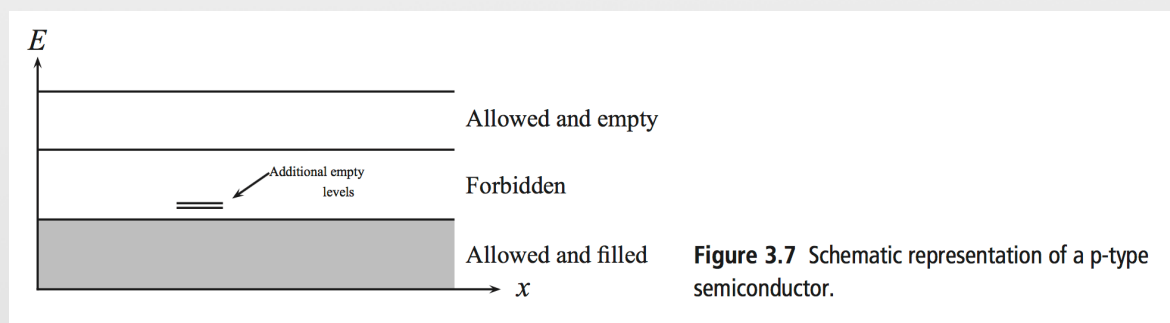
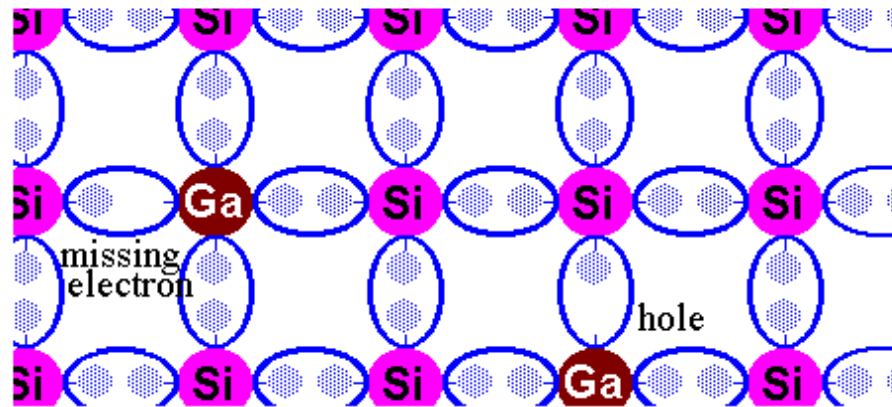
Figure 3.6 Schematic representation of an n-type semiconductor.

- negative electrons are majority charge carriers

- **p-type**: doped at ppb level with 3 valence-electron element (e.g. Ga)

### GALLIUM DOPING IN SILICON (p - DOPING)

“holes” act as positive charge carriers



- positive holes are majority carriers

p and n type semiconductors are on average neutral, and conduct electricity

# 11) pn junction (2)

- electrons from n-type diffuse across to fill vacancies in the p-type
- forms a depletion region with E field; at eq'm diffusion stops

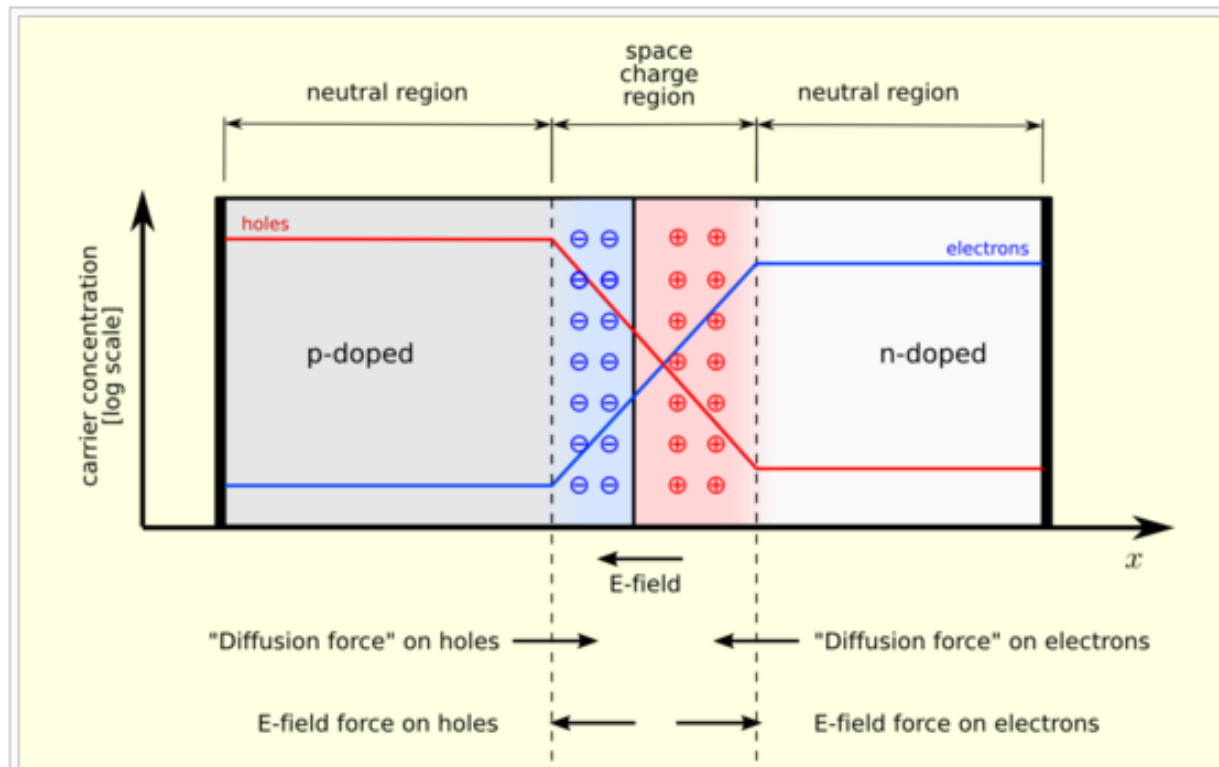
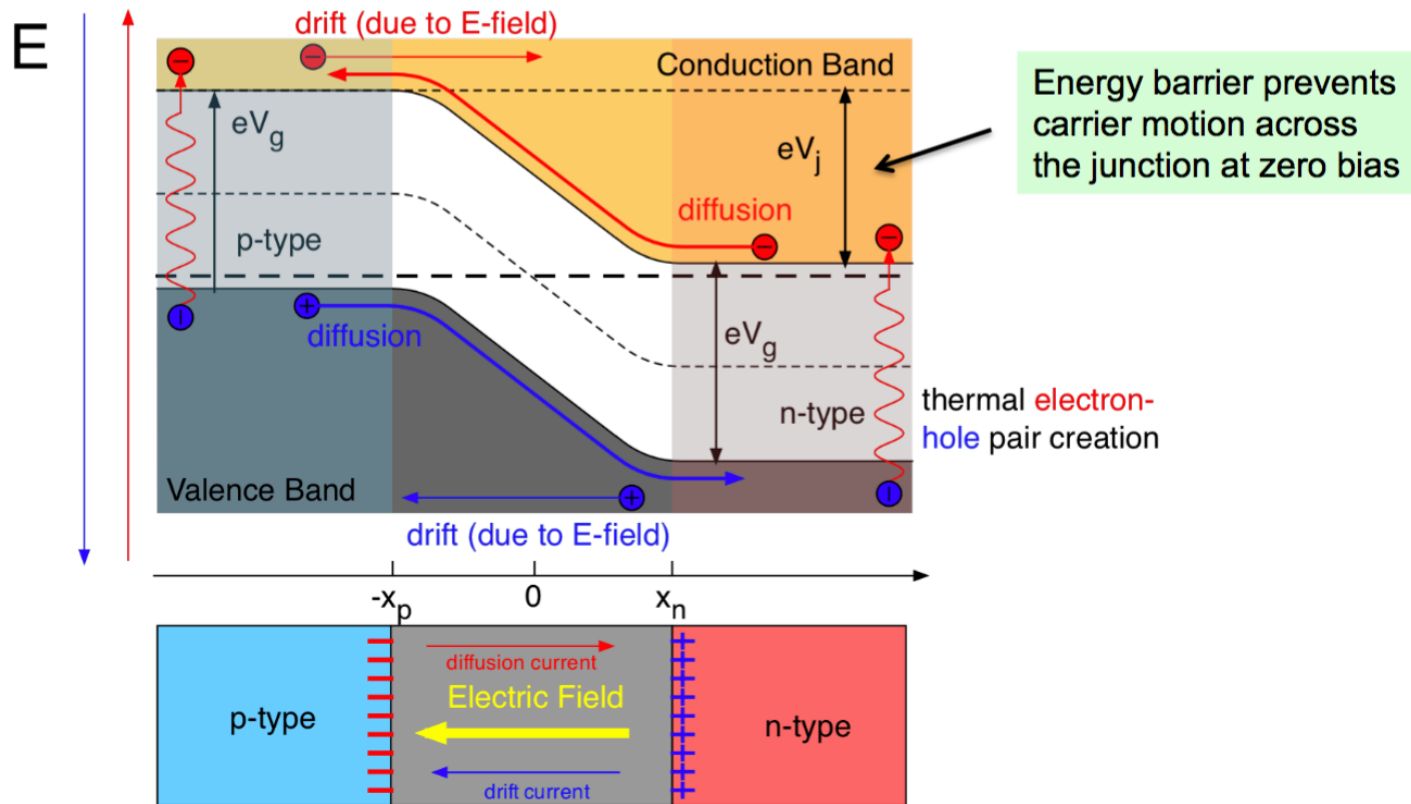


Figure A. A p-n junction in thermal equilibrium with zero bias voltage applied. Electrons and holes concentration are reported respectively with blue and red lines. Gray regions are charge neutral. Light red zone is positively charged. Light blue zone is negatively charged. The electric field is shown on the bottom, the electrostatic force on electrons and holes and the direction in which the diffusion tends to move electrons and holes.

# Band diagram of pn junction



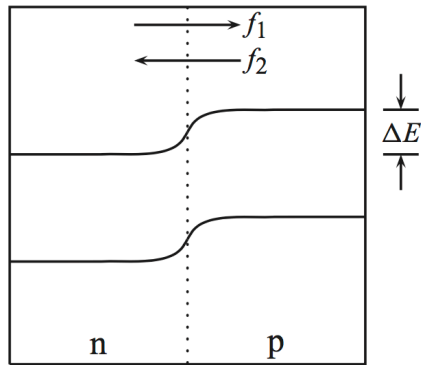


Figure 3.9 An unbiased p-n junction.

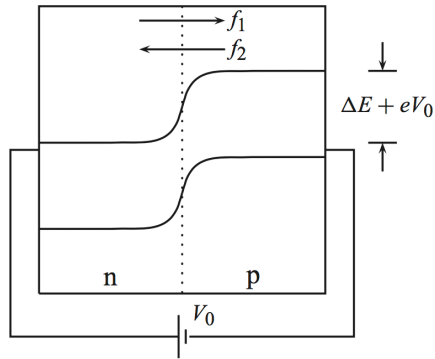


Figure 3.10 Reverse bias of the p-n junction.

small current due to minority carriers

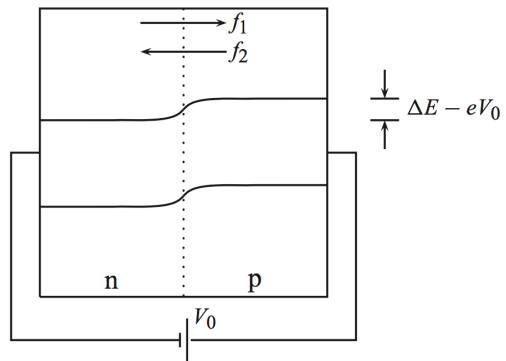


Figure 3.11 Forward bias of the p-n junction.

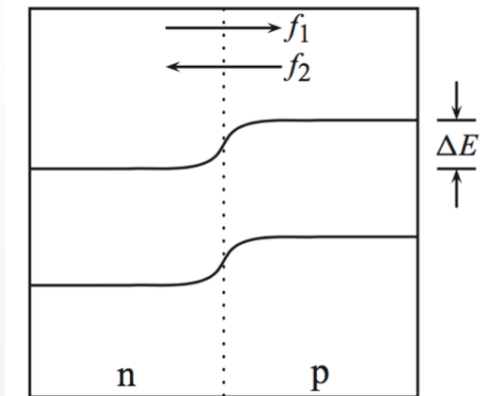
conducts when thermal energy of electrons (holes) exceeds barrier



## Unbiased diode

Density of particles at energy  $E$ , at temp  $T$ :

$$F = Ae^{-E/kT}$$



Number of particles with energy  $> E + \Delta E$

$$N = A \int_{E_0 + \Delta E}^{\infty} e^{-E/kT} dE = -AkT \left( e^{-\infty} - e^{-(E_0 + \Delta E)/kT} \right) = AkT e^{-E_0} e^{-\Delta E/kT}$$

Electron flow is proportional to  $N$  (and are equal with no bias):

$$f_1 = Ce^{-\Delta E/kT}$$

$$f_2 = Ce^{-\Delta E/kT}$$

## Biased diode

Applying a bias only affects  $f_1$ .

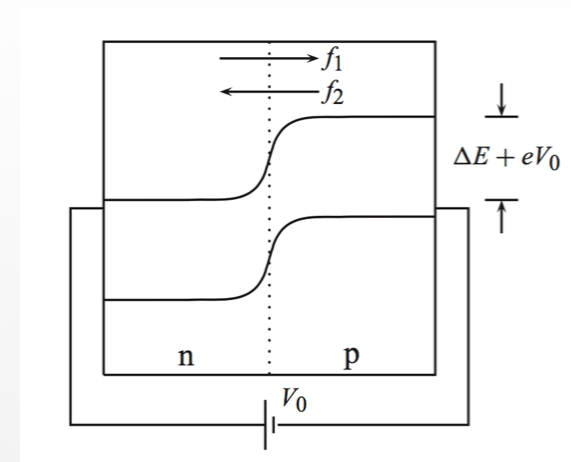
Taking  $V_d > 0$  for forward bias:

$$f_1 = C e^{-(\Delta E - eV_d)/kT}$$

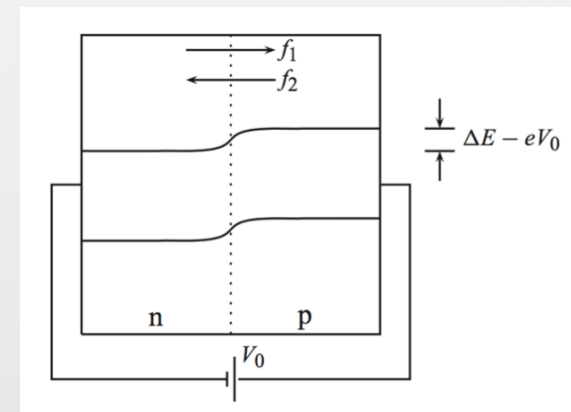
so,

$$f_{\text{net}} = f_1 - f_2 = C e^{-\Delta E/kT} \left( e^{eV_d/kT} - 1 \right)$$

$$I = I_0 \left( e^{eV_d/kT} - 1 \right)$$

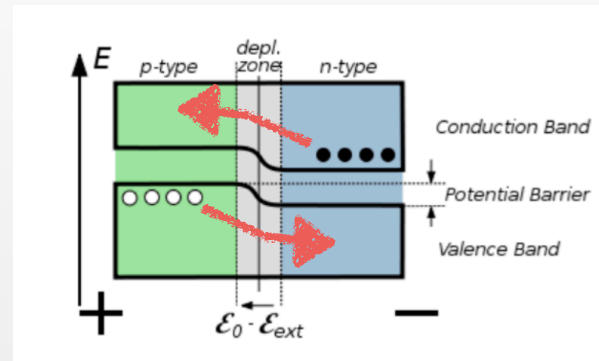


$$V_d = -V_0$$



$$V_d = V_0$$

Minority carrier injection:



A fwd biased diode, injects electrons into p-type, and holes into n-type.

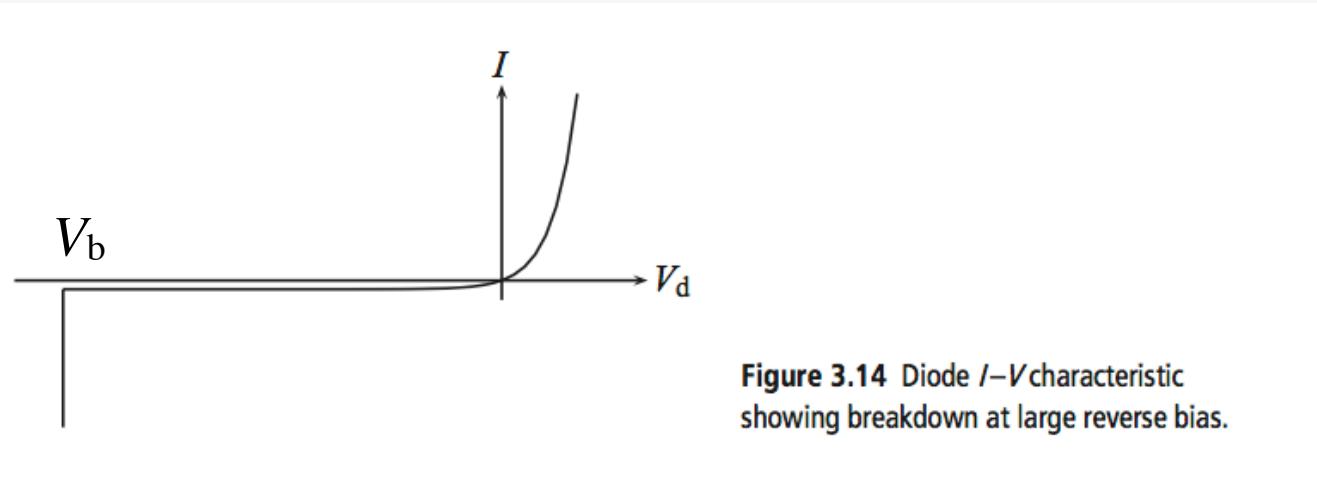
## *12) Breakdown, Zener diodes*

For high doping, depletion region is small and electric field is large.

High reverse bias can cause two breakdown phenomena:

1. **Avalanche breakdown.** Electrons from the p-side gain high energy and ionize other atoms in the depletion layer, producing a new electron-hole pair. The new electron produces more pairs and so on.
2. **Zener breakdown.** The electric field in the depletion layer directly produces ionization.

When breakdown occurs, current increase is nearly vertical.



## 13) Zener diode regulator

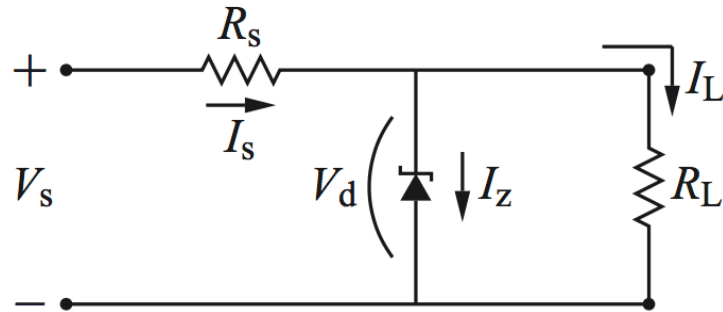
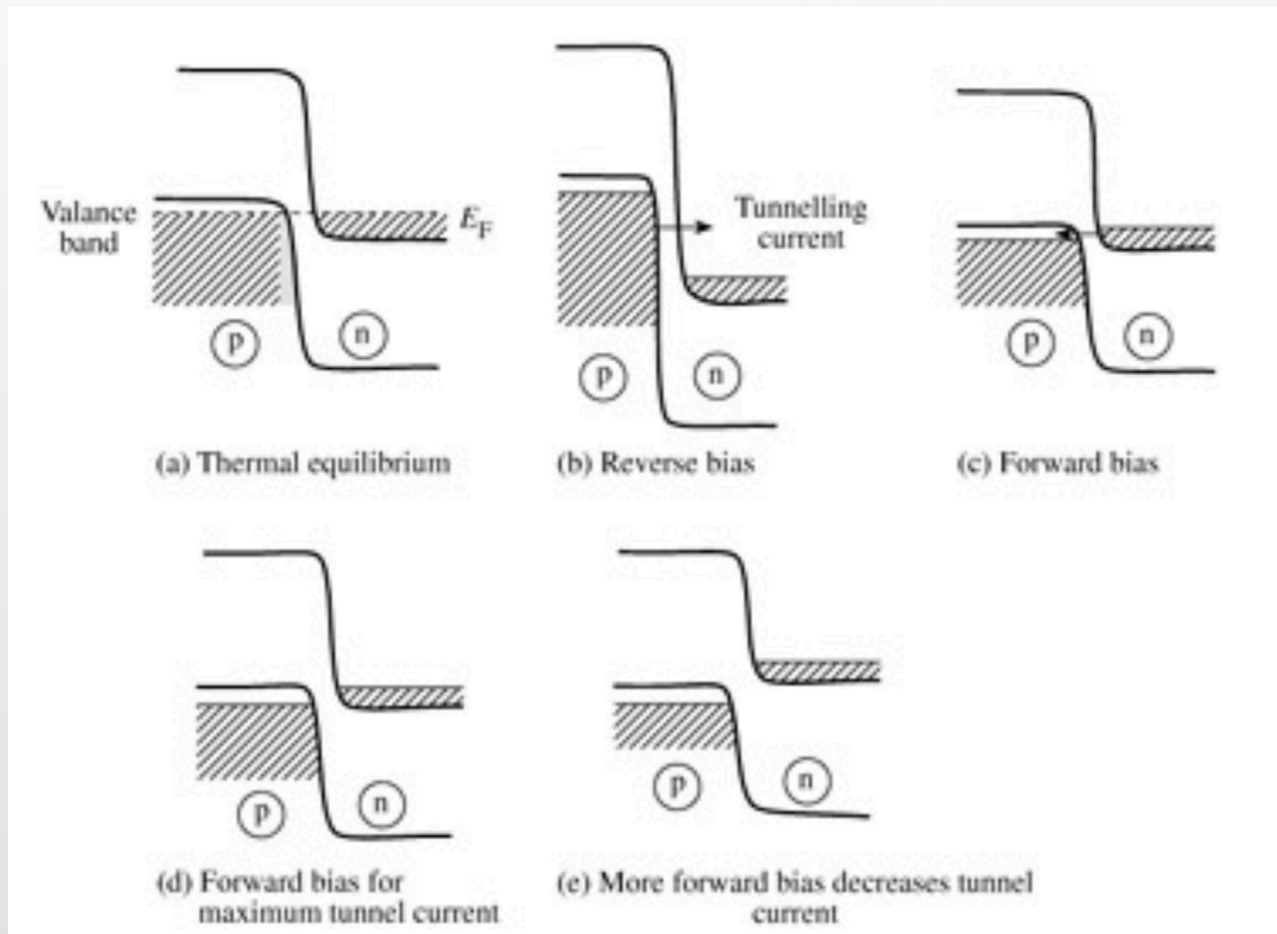


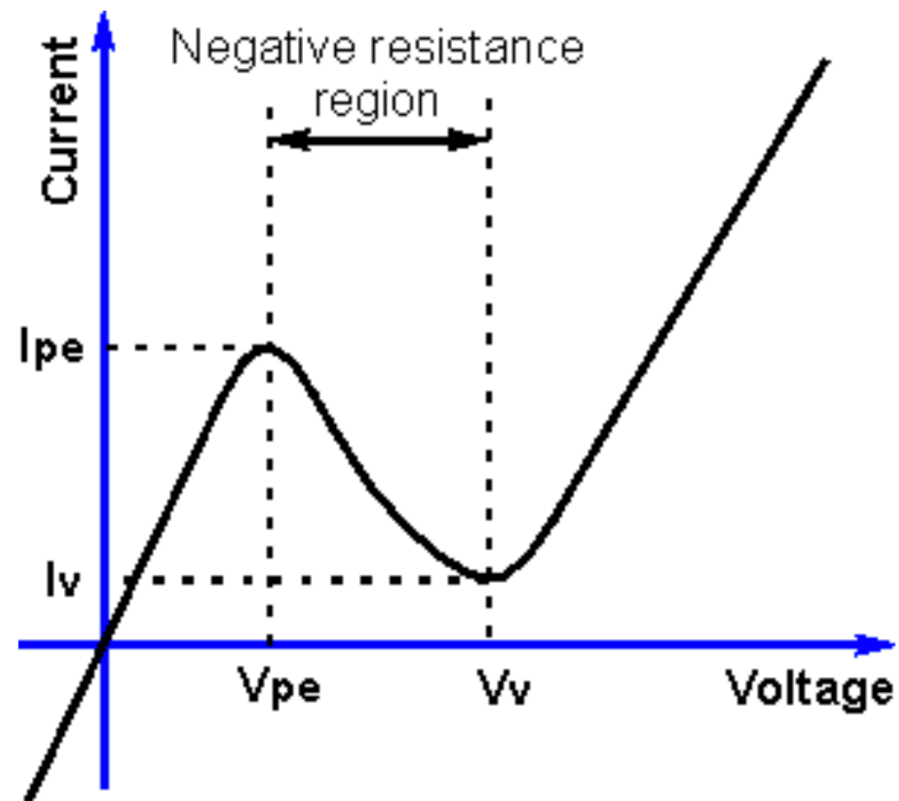
Figure 3.38 Zener diode circuit.

- If  $\left(\frac{R_L}{R_s + R_L}\right) V_s > V_b$  output voltage is  $V_b$
- The zener must be able to handle  $(V_s - V_b)/R_s$
- dynamic resistance about  $1 \Omega$  if breakdown is exceeded.

# 14) Tunnel diode

Highly doped pn junction  $\implies$  narrow depletion region  
(10 - 100 atomic dimensions)





**Tunnel diode IV characteristic**



- *narrow depletion region* —>*fast response*
- *negative differential resistance*
  - high frequency oscillator (microwave range)
  - amplifier

# 15) Silicon controlled rectifier (SCR)

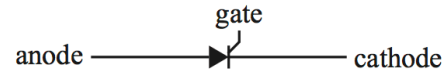


Figure 3.44 Electronic symbol for an SCR.

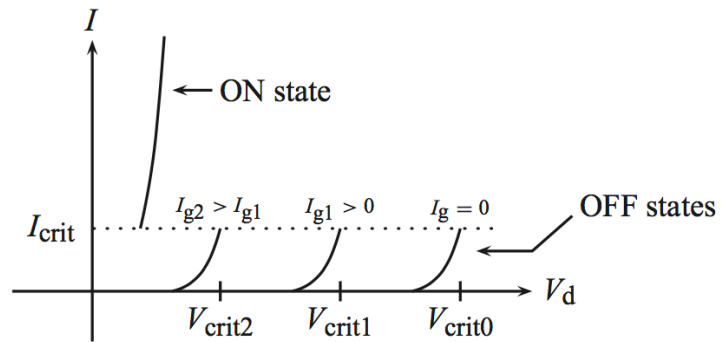
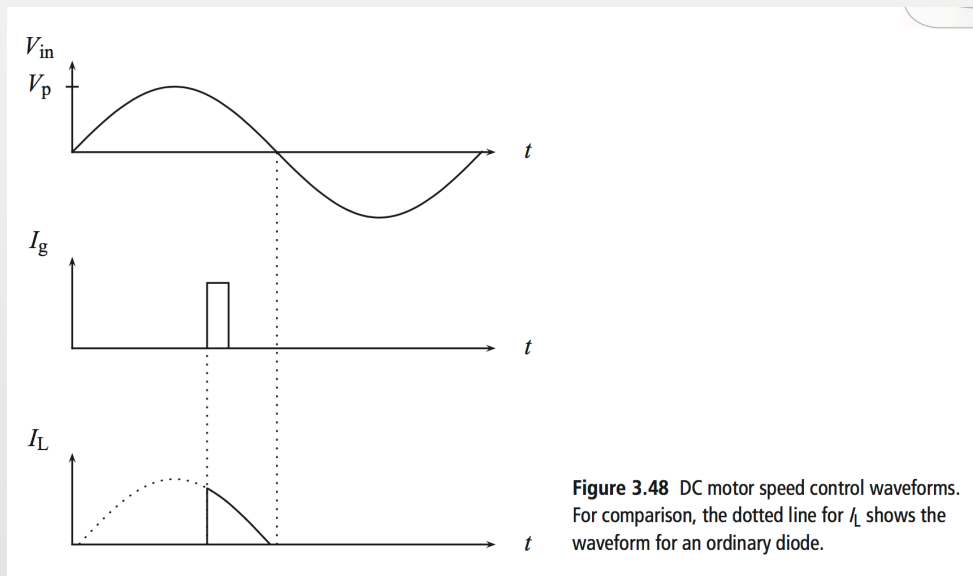
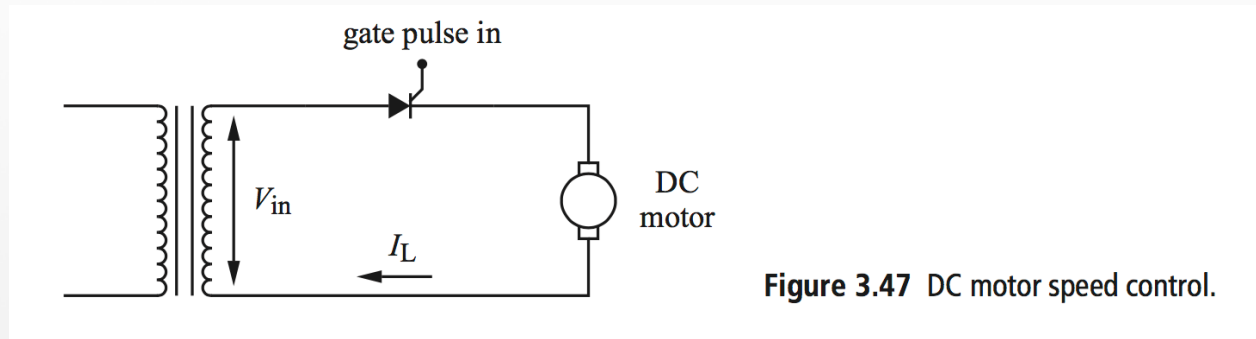


Figure 3.45  $I$ - $V$  characteristics for the SCR.

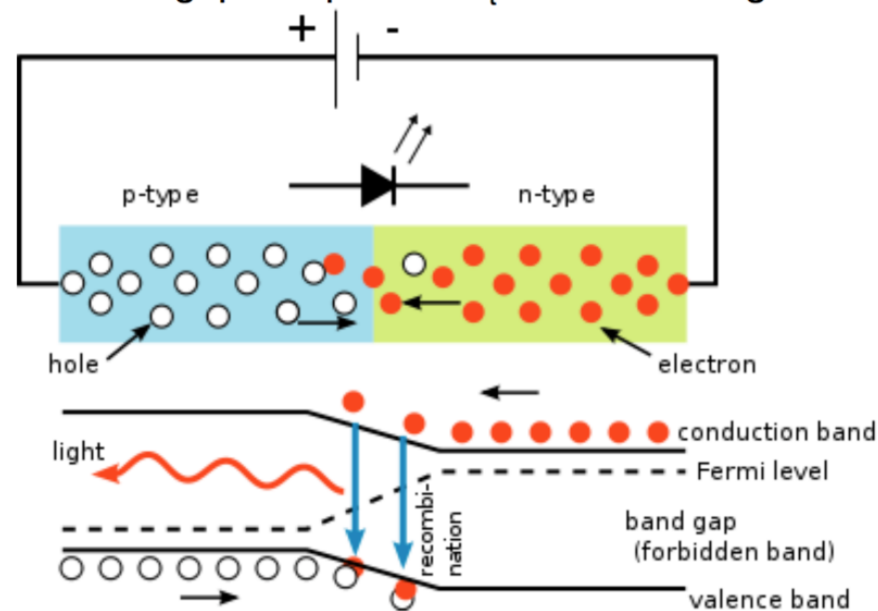
# Light dimmer, etc



# 16) Photon emission and absorption

## Light Emitting Diode

- Under forward bias, diode “on”, energy levels line up
- Assume the band gap is equal to  $eV_t$  → color of light indicates this!



	Color	Wavelength [nm]	Voltage drop [ $\Delta V$ ]	Semiconductor material
	Infrared	$\lambda > 760$	$\Delta V < 1.63$	Gallium arsenide (GaAs) Aluminium gallium arsenide (AlGaAs)
	Red	$610 < \lambda < 760$	$1.63 < \Delta V < 2.03$	Aluminium gallium arsenide (AlGaAs) Gallium arsenide phosphide (GaAsP) Aluminium gallium indium phosphide (AlGaInP) Gallium(III) phosphide (GaP)
	Orange	$590 < \lambda < 610$	$2.03 < \Delta V < 2.10$	Gallium arsenide phosphide (GaAsP) Aluminium gallium indium phosphide (AlGaInP) Gallium(III) phosphide (GaP)
	Yellow	$570 < \lambda < 590$	$2.10 < \Delta V < 2.18$	Gallium arsenide phosphide (GaAsP) Aluminium gallium indium phosphide (AlGaInP) Gallium(III) phosphide (GaP)
	Green	$500 < \lambda < 570$	$1.9^{[75]} < \Delta V < 4.0$	<b>Traditional green:</b> Gallium(III) phosphide (GaP) Aluminium gallium indium phosphide (AlGaInP) Aluminium gallium phosphide (AlGaP) <b>Pure green:</b> Indium gallium nitride (InGaN) / Gallium(III) nitride (GaN)
	Blue	$450 < \lambda < 500$	$2.48 < \Delta V < 3.7$	Zinc selenide (ZnSe) Indium gallium nitride (InGaN) Silicon carbide (SiC) as substrate Silicon (Si) as substrate—under development
	Violet	$400 < \lambda < 450$	$2.76 < \Delta V < 4.0$	Indium gallium nitride (InGaN)

# Press Release

7 October 2014

[The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences](#) has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Physics for 2014 to

**Isamu Akasaki**

Meijo University, Nagoya, Japan and Nagoya University, Japan

**Hiroshi Amano**

Nagoya University, Japan

and

**Shuji Nakamura**

University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA

*“for the invention of efficient blue light-emitting diodes which has enabled bright and energy-saving white light sources”*

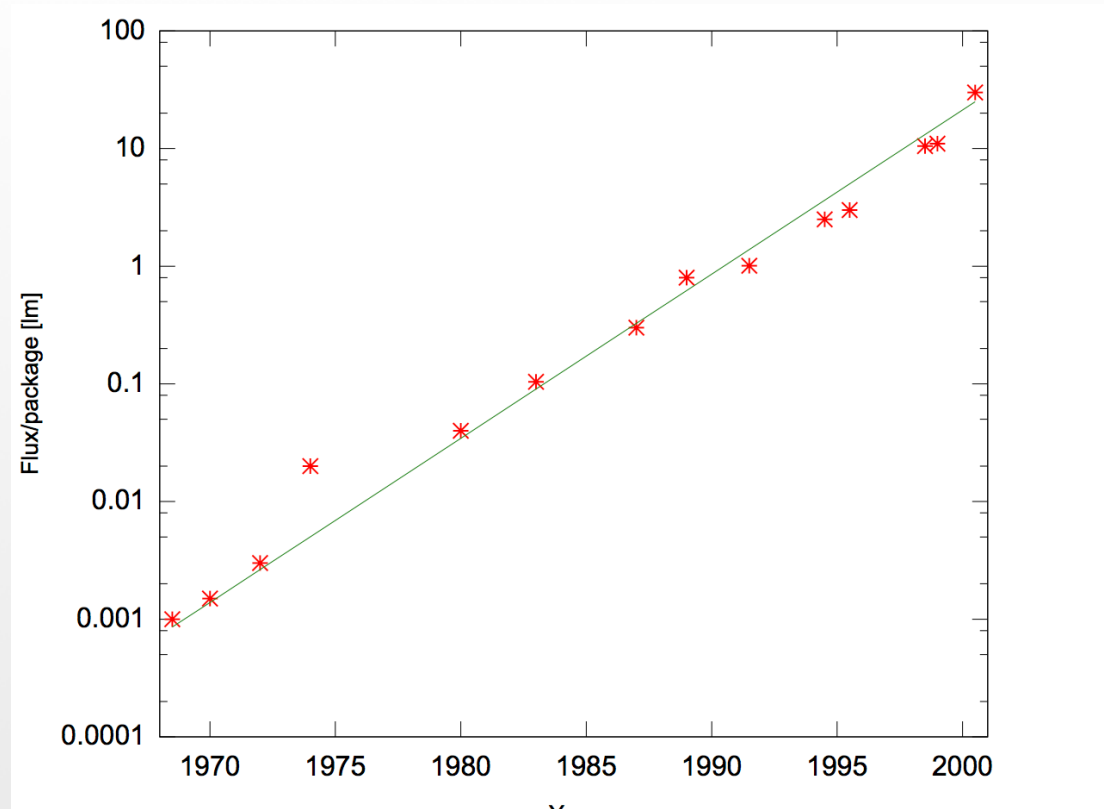


Illustration of [Hertz's law](#), showing improvement in light output per LED over time, with a logarithmic scale on the vertical axis

1500 lm



800 lm



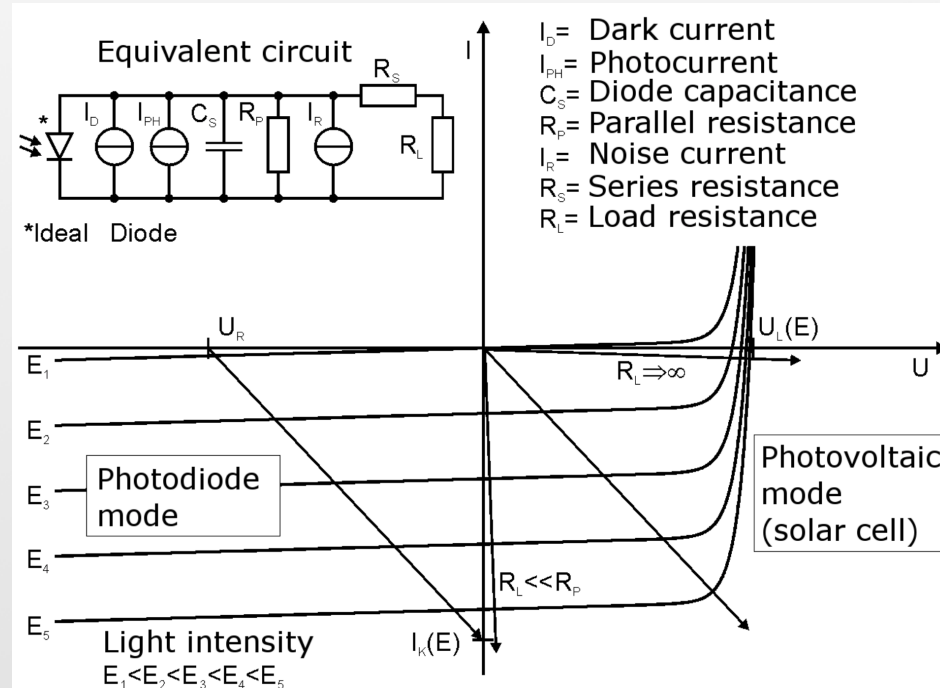
Category	Type	Overall luminous efficacy (lm/W)	Overall luminous efficiency <sup>[7]</sup>
Combustion	candle	0.3 <sup>[11]</sup>	0.04%
	gas mantle	1–2 <sup>[12]</sup>	0.15–0.3%
Incandescent	100–200 W tungsten incandescent (230 V)	13.8 <sup>[13]</sup> –15.2 <sup>[14]</sup>	2.0–2.2%
	100–200–500 W tungsten glass halogen (230 V)	16.7 <sup>[15]</sup> –17.6 <sup>[14]</sup> –19.8 <sup>[14]</sup>	2.4–2.6–2.9%
	5–40–100 W tungsten incandescent (120 V)	5–12.6 <sup>[16]</sup> –17.5 <sup>[16]</sup>	0.7–1.8–2.6%
	2.6 W tungsten glass halogen (5.2 V)	19.2 <sup>[17]</sup>	2.8%
	tungsten quartz halogen (12–24 V)	24	3.5%
	photographic and projection lamps	35 <sup>[18]</sup>	5.1%
Light-emitting diode	white LED (raw, without power supply)	4.5–150 <sup>[19][20][21][22]</sup>	0.66–22.0%
	4.1 W LED screw base lamp (120 V)	58.5–82.9 <sup>[23]</sup>	8.6–12.1%
	5.4 W LED screw base lamp (100 V 50/60Hz)	101.9 <sup>[24]</sup>	14.9%
	6.9 W LED screw base lamp (120 V)	55.1–81.9 <sup>[23]</sup>	8.1–12.0%
	7 W LED PAR20 (120 V)	28.6 <sup>[25]</sup>	4.2%
	7 W LED PAR20 (110-230 V)	60.0 <sup>[26]</sup>	8.8%
	8.7 W LED screw base lamp (120 V)	69.0–93.1 <sup>[23][27]</sup>	10.1–13.6%
	Theoretical limit	260.0–300.0 <sup>[28]</sup>	38.1–43.9%
Arc lamp	xenon arc lamp	30–50 <sup>[29][30]</sup>	4.4–7.3%
	mercury-xenon arc lamp	50–55 <sup>[29]</sup>	7.3–8.0%
Fluorescent	T12 tube with magnetic ballast	60 <sup>[31]</sup>	9%
	9–32 W compact fluorescent	46–75 <sup>[32][33][14]</sup>	8–11.45% <sup>[34]</sup>
	T8 tube with electronic ballast	80–100 <sup>[31]</sup>	12–15%
	PL-S 11W U-tube with traditional ballast	82 <sup>[35]</sup>	12%
	T5 tube	70–104.2 <sup>[36][37]</sup>	10–15.63%
	Spiral tube with electronic ballast	114–124.3 <sup>[38]</sup>	15–18%
Gas discharge	1400 W sulfur lamp	100 <sup>[39]</sup>	15%
	metal halide lamp	65–115 <sup>[40]</sup>	9.5–17%
	high pressure sodium lamp	85–150 <sup>[14]</sup>	12–22%
	low pressure sodium lamp	100–200 <sup>[41][42][14]</sup>	15–29%
Cathodoluminescence	electron stimulated luminescence	30 <sup>[43]</sup>	5%
Ideal sources	Truncated 5800 K blackbody <sup>[9]</sup>	251 <sup>[citation needed]</sup>	37%
	Green light at 555 nm (maximum possible luminous efficacy)	683.002 <sup>[10]</sup>	100%



# Photodiode

Light produces electron-hole pair, which produces current if near enough to the depletion region

## Electronic symbol



## photo-voltaics

- photon excites electron to conduction band (photoelectric effect)
- E-field in depletion region separates charge, produces electricity

