

ECE 405: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES TECHNOLOGY

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FIVE QUESTIONS (EACH QUESTION CARRIES 20 MARKS)

QUESTION 1

- Describe substitutional diffusion and interstitial diffusion stating the equations of their frequencies of diffusion. (6 marks)
- State Fick's 1st law with regards to diffusion and state its limitations. (5 marks)
- Outline the five benefits of Integrated circuit components over discrete component. (5 marks)
- Explain with five examples of each category, the difference between discrete and integrated circuits. (4 marks)

QUESTION 2

- Explain with examples the difference between the following pairs: i) element and compound semiconductors, ii) intrinsic and extrinsic semiconductors, iii) LEDs and Lasers, iv) Conductivity in copper and silicon. (12 marks)
- The required dose (Q) for a drive-in step of a limited source diffusion is 6.025×10^{13} atoms/cm². Determine the Boron surface concentration given the diffusion co-efficient of 1.55×10^{-16} cm²/sec at 1200°C and time of 500 seconds. (8 marks)

QUESTION 3

- Describe with an appropriate diagram one known method of producing monocrystalline silicon. (5 marks)
- Outline three reasons why silicon is mostly used for IC fabrication and list two other useful materials. (5 marks)
- Define epitaxy and state its function in IC fabrication. (5 marks)
- All microelectronic device fabrication happen in Clean rooms. Why? Outline cleanroom etiquettes for IC fabrication workers. (5 marks)

QUESTION 4

- State the primary uses of silicon dioxide in IC fabrication and why silicon dioxide is preferred. (5 marks)
- Describe thermal oxidation stating types and equations and represent the types of thermal oxidation. (5 marks)
- Given that the body of a resistor is five squares long. If the sheet resistance, R_s is 200Ω/square and each contact adds 0.75 squares. Find resistance of the diffused resistor. (5 marks)
- Calculate the barrier potential at room temperature for silicon p-n junction which is doped to carrier density of 10^{20} m⁻³ on the p-side and 10^{21} m⁻³ on the n-side. The intrinsic carrier density for Silicon is 1.4×10^{16} m⁻³. Assume V_T is 26mV. (5 marks)

QUESTION 5

- Sketch the energy band diagram of an n-type semiconductor showing clearly the donor level, Fermi level, the valence and the conduction bands. (6 marks)
- The Fermi level of an intrinsic semiconductor is given by: $E_f = \frac{E_c + E_v}{2}$. Prove this. (6 marks)
- Outline the difference between SIEMENS method and Fluidized bed deposition reactor method of procuring semiconductor grade silicon. (8 marks)

QUESTION 6

- Give two examples of donor and acceptor elements used in diffusion, why is aluminum not used as an acceptor? (6 marks)
- Outline the importance of diffusion and the difference between Limited source and Constant source diffusion. (8 marks)
- Describe with the aid of a simple diagram, the process flow for IC manufacturing from silica to packaging. (6 marks)

QUESTION 7

- Illustrate with energy band diagrams what distinguishes conductors from semiconductors. (6 marks)
- Outline Fermi level equation and state its relevance in semiconductor theory. (6 marks)
- In about 4 sentences each, describe the following: i) n-type semiconductors, ii) p-type semiconductor, iii) ion implantation iv) Sputtering. (8 marks)