

Palestine Technical University-Kadoorie PTUK Faculty of Engineering and Technology

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Chapter.1 Introduction to Electronics

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- 1–1 The Atom
- 1–2 Materials Used in Electronics
- 1–3 Current in Semiconductors
- 1–4 *N*-Type and *P*-Type Semiconductors
- 1–5 The PN Junction GreenTech Application 1: Solar Power

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

- Describe the structure of an atom
- Discuss insulators, conductors, and semiconductors and how they differ
- Describe how current is produced in a semiconductor
- Describe the properties of *n*-type and *p*-type semiconductors
- Describe how a pn junction is formed

INTRODUCTION

Electronic devices such as diodes, transistors, and integrated circuits are made of a semiconductive material. To understand how these devices work, you should have a basic knowledge of the structure of atoms and the interaction of atomic particles. An important concept introduced in this chapter is that of the *pn* junction that is formed when two different types of semiconductive material are joined. The *pn* junction is fundamental to the operation of devices such as the solar cell, the diode, and certain types of transistors.

1-1: The Atom

- All matter is composed of atoms; all atoms consist of electrons, protons, and neutrons except normal hydrogen, which does not have a neutron.
- An atom: is the smallest particle of an element that retains the characteristics of that element.
- Atomic number : equals the number of protons in the nucleus, which is the same as the number of electrons in an electrically balanced (neutral) atom.



Bohr model

- electrons orbits the nucleus at a certain distance.(orbit)
- electrons near the nucleus have less energy.
- each orbit correspond to a certain energy level.
- The orbits are grouped **into energy levels** known as **Shells**.
- For most practical purposes in electronics, the Bohr model suffices and is commonly used because it is easy to visualize.

The max number of electrons in each Shell:

$$N_e = 2n^2$$

where *n* is the number of the shell.

shell 1 $N_e = 2n^2 = 2(1)^2 = 2$

shell 2
$$N_e = 2n^2 = 2(2)^2 = 2(4) = 8$$

shell 3
$$N_e = 2n^2 = 2(3)^2 = 2(9) = 18$$

shell 4 $N_e = 2n^2 = 2(4)^2 = 2(16) = 32$



Quantum model

- Bohr model is simple but not complete
- The quantum model is
 - o more accurate
 - o statistical model
 - o difficult to visualize
 - like Bohr: has nucleus of neutrons and protons, surrounded by electrons
 - Unlike Bohr: electrons don't exist in precise circular orbits.
- Underlying Theories:



(1) Wave-particle duality: Electrons are thought to exhibit both wave and particle characteristics and velocity of orbiting particle is considered to be its wavelength.

(2) Uncertainty Principle (Heisenberg): It is impossible to determine simultaneously both the position and velocity of an electron with any degree of accuracy or certainty.

 \rightarrow The result of this model produces a concept of atom with probability clouds which are mathematical description of where electrons in atom are most likely.

Quantum model (cont.)

In quantum model, each shell contains of up to **4 subshells** called **orbitals**.

s: hold max of 2e
p: hold max of 6e
d: hold max of 10e
f: hold max of 14e

| ► TABLE 1-1 | NOTATION | EXPLANATION |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Electron configuration table for nitrogen. | $ \frac{1s^2}{2s^2} 2p^3 $ | 2 electrons in shell 1, orbital <i>s</i> 5 electrons in shell 2: 2 in orbital <i>s</i> , 3 in orbital <i>p</i> |

EXAMPLE 1–1

Using the atomic number from the periodic table in Figure 1–3, describe a silicon (Si) atom using an electron configuration table.

| NOTATION | EXPLANATION |
|-----------------|--|
| 1s ² | 2 electrons in shell 1, orbital s |
| $2s^2 2p^6$ | 8 electrons in shell 2: 2 in orbital s, 6 in orbital p |
| $3s^2$ $3p^2$ | 4 electrons in shell 3: 2 in orbital s, 2 in orbital p |

Valence Electrons

- The outermost shell is known as **Valence Shell** and the electrons are **Valence electrons**
- Electrons in orbit far from nucleus have higher energy and less tightly bounded because of the force of attraction between positive nucleus and negative electron.

Ionization

- **Positive ion**: atom absorbs sufficient energy (ionization energy), valence electron escape from outer shell.
- Negative ion: when free electron collides with an atom, and captures, releasing energy.