II III IV V VI



Silicone (Si)





diamond structure of Si

face centered cubic lattice two atomic base: (0,0,0) and (a/4, a/4, a/4)

a = 5.65 Å

brillouin zone (bcc)

column IV material

Ge also has diamond structure





zincblende structure of GaAs

dito Si, but one atom Ga, one As

a = 5.43 Å

brillouin zone (bcc)

III – V semiconductor (binary compound)

Si band structure



Ge band structure



GaAs band structure





Fig. 3.14 Constant-energy surfaces characterizing the conduction-band structure in (a, d) Ge, (b) Si, and (c) GaAs. (d) shows the truncation of the Ge surfaces at the Brillouin-zone boundaries. [(a-c) after Sze^[2] and Ziman;^[3] (d) from McKelvey.^[4] Reprinted with permission; the latter from Robert E. Krieger Publishing Co., Malabar, Florida.]



Fig. 12.7. Bandgap energy and emission wavelength of AlGaAs at room temperature. E_{Γ} denotes the direct gap at the Γ point and E_{L} and E_{X} denote the indirect gap at the L and X point of the Brillouin zone, respectively (adopted from Casey and Panish, 1978).

E. F. Schubert Light-Emitting Diodes (Cambridge Univ. Press) www.LightEmittingDiodes.org Occupation of bands

electronic density of states $\ D_d(E)$

of states available in a window of energy [E, E+dE].d : dimensionality of the system

periodic boundary conditions (cube, square, line) of length L (endresult independent of L)

$$\psi\left(\overrightarrow{r} + (L,L)\right) = \psi\left(\overrightarrow{r}\right)$$

Electronic Density of States

$$D_1(E) = \frac{g\sqrt{2m}}{2\pi\hbar} \frac{1}{\sqrt{E}}$$

$$D_2(E) = \frac{gm}{2\pi\hbar^2}$$

independent of energy

$$D_3(E) = \frac{g (2m)^{3/2}}{4\pi^2 \hbar^3} \cdot \sqrt{E}$$