



Montogue

Quiz EL202



Diodes

Lucas Monteiro Nogueira

►► **PROBLEM DISTRIBUTION**

Problems	Subject
1 - 11	<i>pn</i> junction diodes
12 - 18	Diode circuits
19 - 23	Half-wave and full-wave rectifiers



Refer to Table 3 for *pn* junction data. Note that values provided in individual problems override those of Table 3.

►► **PROBLEMS**

► **Problem 1**

Consider an ideal *pn* junction diode at $T = 300$ K operating in the forward-bias region. Calculate the change in diode voltage that will cause a factor of 10 increase in current. Repeat for a factor of 100 increase in current.

► **Problem 2** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

Consider a GaAs *pn* junction with doping concentrations $N_a = 5 \times 10^{16}$ cm^{-3} and $N_d = 10^{16}$ cm^{-3} . The junction cross-sectional area is $A = 10^{-3}$ cm^2 and the applied forward-bias voltage is $V_a = 1.10$ V. Calculate:

Problem 2.1: The minority electron diffusion current at the edge of the space charge region.

Problem 2.2: The minority hole diffusion current at the edge of the space charge region.

Problem 2.3: The total current in the *pn* junction diode.

► **Problem 3** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

An ideal germanium diode at $T = 300$ K has the following parameters: $N_a = 4 \times 10^{15}$ cm^{-3} , $N_d = 2 \times 10^{17}$ cm^{-3} , $D_p = 48$ cm^2/s , $D_n = 90$ cm^2/s , $\tau_{p0} = \tau_{n0} = 2 \times 10^{-6}$ s, and cross-sectional area $A = 10^{-4}$ cm^2 . Determine the diode current for:

Problem 3.1: A forward-bias voltage of 0.25 V.

Problem 3.2: A reverse-biased voltage of 0.25 V.

► **Problem 4** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

An *n⁺p* silicon diode at $T = 300$ K has the following parameters: $N_d = 10^{18}$ cm^{-3} , $N_a = 10^{16}$ cm^{-3} , $D_n = 25$ cm^2/s , $D_p = 10$ cm^2/s , $\tau_{n0} = \tau_{p0} = 1$ μs , and $A = 10^{-4}$ cm^2 . Determine the diode current for:

Problem 4.1: A forward-bias voltage of 0.5 V.

Problem 4.2: A reverse-biased voltage of 0.5 V.

► **Problem 5** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

A one-sided *p⁺n* silicon diode has doping concentrations of $N_a = 5 \times 10^{17}$ cm^{-3} and $N_d = 8 \times 10^{15}$ cm^{-3} . The minority carrier lifetimes are $\tau_{n0} = 10^{-7}$ s and $\tau_{p0} = 8 \times 10^{-8}$ s. The cross-sectional area is $A = 2 \times 10^{-4}$ cm^2 . Calculate:

Problem 5.1: The reverse-biased saturation current.

Problem 5.2: The forward-bias current at

→ $V_a = 0.45$ V;

→ $V_a = 0.55$ V;

→ $V_a = 0.65$ V;

► **Problem 6** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

Consider an ideal silicon pn junction diode. What must be the ratio N_d/N_a so that 90 percent of the current in the depletion region is due to the flow of electrons?

► **Problem 7** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

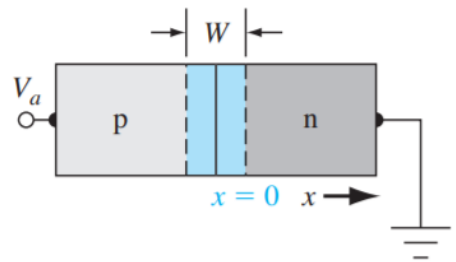
A silicon pn junction diode is to be designed to operate at $T = 300$ K such that the diode current is $I = 10$ mA at a diode voltage of $V_D = 0.65$ V. The ratio of electron current to total current is to be 0.10 and the maximum current density is to be no more than 20 A/cm². The semiconductor parameters are $D_n = 25$ cm²/s, $D_p = 10$ cm²/s, and $\tau_{n0} = \tau_{p0} = 5 \times 10^{-7}$ s. Determine the doping concentrations N_d and N_a .

► **Problem 8** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

The cross-sectional area of a silicon pn junction is 10^{-3} cm². The temperature of the diode is $T = 300$ K, and the doping concentrations are $N_d = 10^{16}$ cm⁻³ and $N_a = 8 \times 10^{15}$ cm⁻³. Assume minority carrier lifetimes of $\tau_{n0} = 10^{-6}$ s and $\tau_{p0} = 10^{-7}$ s. Calculate the total number of excess electrons in the p region and the total number of excess holes in the n region for voltages $V_a = 0.3$ V, $V_a = 0.4$ V, and $V_a = 0.5$ V.

► **Problem 9** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

Consider the ideal long silicon pn junction illustrated to the side. The device temperature is $T = 300$ K. The n region is doped with 10^{16} donor atoms per cm³ and the p region is doped with 5×10^{16} acceptor atoms per cm³. The minority carrier lifetimes are $\tau_{n0} = 0.05$ μ s and $\tau_{p0} = 0.01$ μ s. The minority carrier diffusion coefficients are $D_n = 23$ cm²/s and $D_p = 8$ cm²/s. The forward-bias voltage is $V_a = 0.610$ V. Calculate:



Problem 9.1: The excess hole concentration as a function of x for $x \geq 0$.

Problem 9.2: The hole diffusion current density at $x = 3 \times 10^{-4}$ cm.

Problem 9.3: The electron current density at $x = 3 \times 10^{-4}$ cm.

► **Problem 10** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

Problem 10.1: The reverse-biased saturation current is a function of temperature. Assuming that I_s varies with temperature only from the intrinsic carrier concentration, show that we can write $I_s = CT^3 \exp(-E_g/kT)$, where C is a constant and a function only of the diode parameters, T is temperature, E_g is the bandgap energy, and k is Boltzmann's constant.

Problem 10.2: Determine the increase in I_s as the temperature increases from $T = 300$ K to $T = 400$ K for (i) a germanium diode and (ii) a silicon diode. Use $E_g = 0.66$ eV as the bandgap energy of germanium and $E_g = 1.12$ eV as the bandgap energy of silicon.

► **Problem 11** (Neamen, 2003, w/ permission)

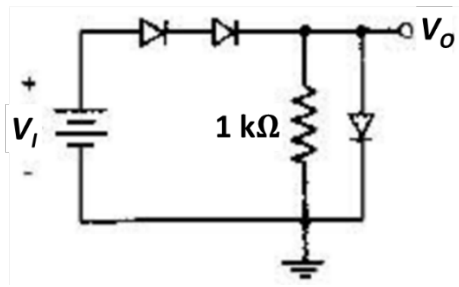
An ideal silicon pn junction diode has a cross-sectional area $A = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ cm². The doping concentrations are $N_a = 4 \times 10^{15}$ cm⁻³ and $N_d = 2 \times 10^{17}$ cm⁻³. Assume that the bandgap energy $E_g = 1.12$ eV as well as the diffusion coefficients and lifetimes are independent of temperature. The ratio of the magnitude of forward- to reverse-biased currents is to be no less than 2×10^4 with forward- and reverse-biased voltages of 0.50 V, and the maximum reverse-biased current is to be limited to 1.2 μ A. Determine the maximum temperature at which the diode will meet these specifications and state which specification is the limiting factor. Use $N_c = 2.8 \times 10^{19}$ cm⁻³ and $N_v = 1.04 \times 10^{19}$ cm⁻³ as the effective density of states functions in the conduction and valence bands of silicon, respectively.

► **Problem 12** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

A pn junction diode is in series with a 10-M Ω resistor and a 1.5 V power supply. The reverse-saturation current of the diode is $I_s = 30$ nA. Determine the diode current and voltage if the diode is forward biased. Use $V_T = 0.026$ V as the thermal voltage.

► **Problem 13** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

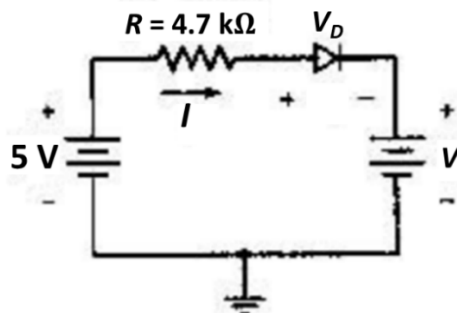
The reverse-saturation current of each diode in the circuit illustrated below if reverse-saturation current $I_S = 2 \times 10^{-13}$ A. Also determine the input voltage V_I required to produce an output voltage of $V_O = 0.60$ V.



► **Problem 14** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

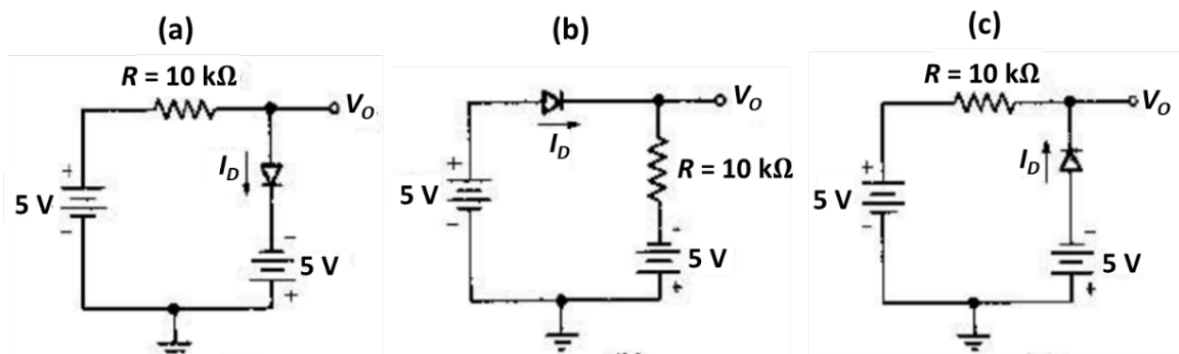
Problem 14.1: In the circuit illustrated below, find the diode voltage V_D and the supply voltage V such that the current in the loop is $I = 0.50$ mA. Assume the reverse-saturation current is $I_S = 5 \times 10^{-12}$ A. Also determine the power dissipated in the diode.

Problem 14.2: Reconsider the circuit introduced in Problem 14.1. If the voltage V is $V = 1.7$ V and the cut-in voltage of the diode is $V_\gamma = 0.65$ V, determine the new value of R required to limit the power dissipation in the diode to no more than 0.20 mW.



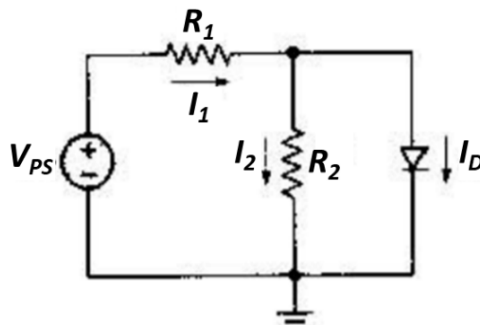
► **Problem 15** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

The cut-in voltage for each diode in the circuits shown below is $V_\gamma = 0.6$ V. For each circuit, determine the diode current I_D and the voltage V_O (measured with respect to ground potential).



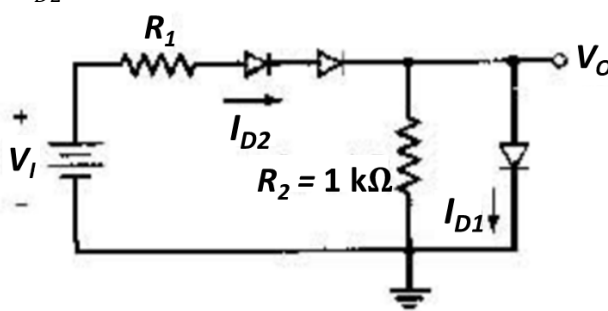
► **Problem 16** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

The cut-in voltage of the diode in the circuit illustrated below is $V_\gamma = 0.7$ V. The diode is to remain biased “on” for a power supply voltage in the range $5 \leq V_{PS} \leq 10$ V. The minimum diode current is to be $I_{D,\min} = 2$ mA. The maximum power dissipated in the diode is to be no more than 10 mW. Determine the appropriate values of R_1 and R_2 .



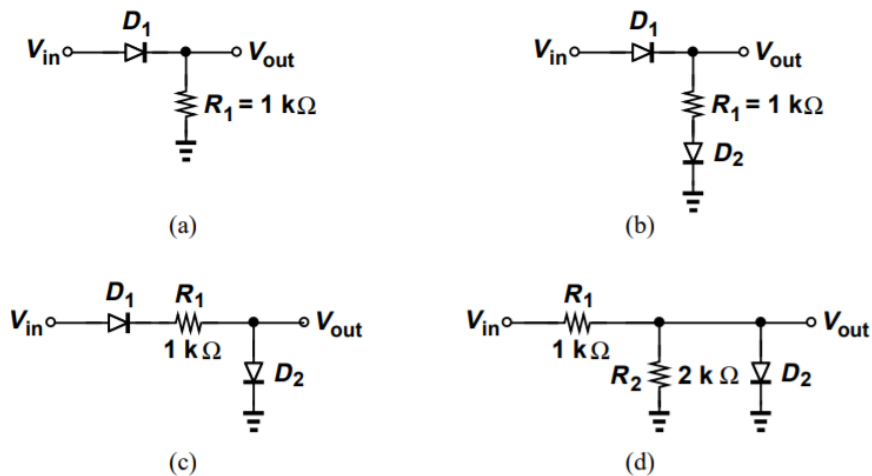
► **Problem 17** (Neamen, 2000, w/ permission)

Assume each diode in the circuit illustrated below has a cut-in voltage of $V_\gamma = 0.65$ V. The input voltage is $V_I = 5$ V. Determine the value of R_1 required such that current I_{D1} is one-half the value of I_{D2} . What are the values of I_{D1} and I_{D2} ?



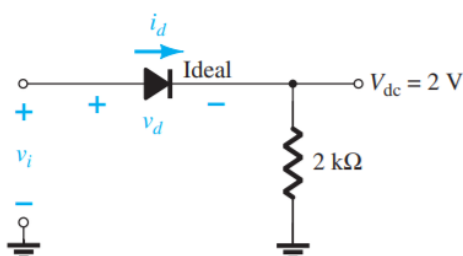
► **Problem 18**

Beginning with a cut-in voltage $V_\gamma \approx 800$ mV for each diode, determine the change in V_{out} if V_{in} changes from +2.4 V to +2.5 V for the circuits illustrated below. Use the small-signal model.



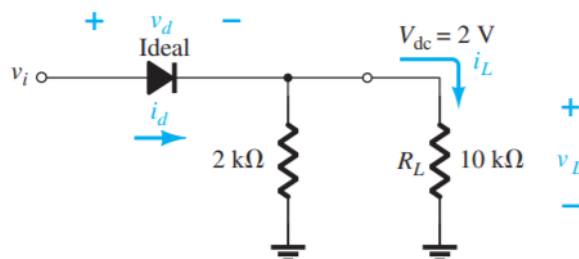
► **Problem 19** (Boylestad and Nashelsky, 2013, w/ permission)

Problem 19.1: Assuming an ideal diode, sketch the input voltage v_i , the diode voltage v_d , and the diode current i_d for the half-wave rectifier illustrated below if the input is a sinusoidal waveform with a frequency of 60 Hz.



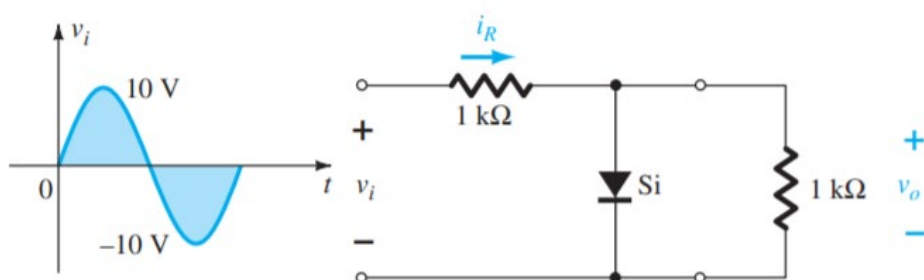
Problem 19.2: Repeat the previous problem if the ideal diode is replaced with a silicon diode, which has a “turn-on” voltage $V_K = 0.7$ V.

Problem 19.3: Repeat Problem 19.1 if a 10-k Ω load is applied, as shown below. Sketch the input voltage v_i , the diode current i_d , the load voltage v_L and the load current i_L .



► **Problem 20** (Boylestad and Nashelsky, 2013, w/ permission)

For the network illustrated below, sketch the voltage v_o and current i_R .

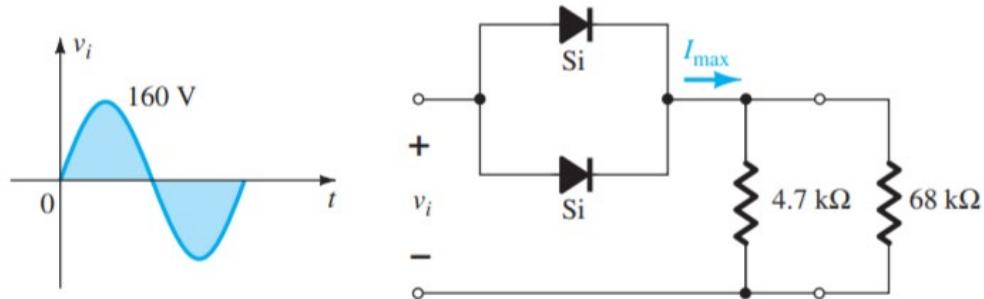


► **Problem 21** (Boylestad and Nashelsky, 2013, w/ permission)

Problem 21.1: Given the maximum power rating $P_{\max} = 14 \text{ mW}$ for each diode in the following circuit, determine the maximum current rating of each diode (using the approximate equivalent model).

Problem 21.2: Determine current I_{\max} .

Problem 21.3: Determine the current through each diode at maximum input voltage $V_{i,\max}$ using the results of Problem 21.2. If only one diode were present, what would be the expected result?



► **Problem 22** (Boylestad and Nashelsky, 2013, w/ permission)

A full-wave bridge rectifier with a 120-V rms sinusoidal input has a load resistor of 1 kΩ.

Problem 22.1: If silicon diodes are employed, what is the dc voltage available at the load?

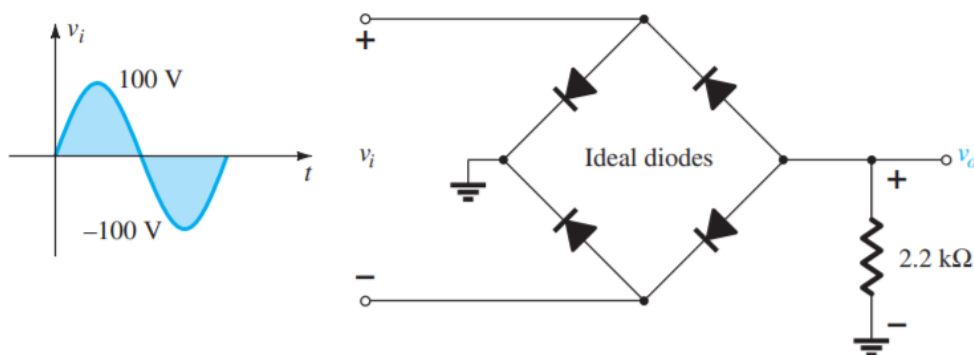
Problem 22.2: Determine the required peak inverse voltage (PIV) rating of each diode.

Problem 22.3: Find the maximum current through each diode during conduction.

Problem 22.4: What is the required power rating of each diode?

► **Problem 23** (Boylestad and Nashelsky, 2013, w/ permission)

Determine v_o and the required peak inverse voltage (PIV) rating of each diode for the full-wave rectifier illustrated below. In addition, determine the maximum current through each diode.



► **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Table 1 Concentration variables

Variable	Meaning
I_S	Reverse-saturation current in a diode
$V_T = kT/e$	Thermal voltage in a diode; (k is Boltzmann's constant, T is temperature, and e is elementary charge)
J	Current density
A	Cross-sectional area
D_n	Diffusion coefficient of electrons in a pn diode junction
D_p	Diffusion coefficient of holes in a pn diode junction
τ_{n0}	Lifetime of electrons in a pn diode junction
τ_{p0}	Lifetime of holes in a pn diode junction
$L_n = \sqrt{D_n \tau_{n0}}$	Diffusion length of electrons in a pn diode junction
$L_p = \sqrt{D_p \tau_{p0}}$	Diffusion length of holes in a pn diode junction

Table 2 More variables related to pn junction diodes

Variable	Meaning
N_a	Acceptor concentration in the p region of the pn junction
N_d	Donor concentration in the n region of the pn junction
n_i	Intrinsic carrier concentration
$n_{n0} = N_d$	Thermal-equilibrium majority carrier hole concentration in the n region
$p_{p0} = N_a$	Thermal-equilibrium majority carrier hole concentration in the p region
$n_{p0} = n_i^2/N_a$	Thermal-equilibrium minority carrier electron concentration in the p region
$p_{n0} = n_i^2/N_d$	Thermal-equilibrium minority carrier hole concentration in the p region
n_p	Total minority carrier electron concentration in the p region
p_n	Total minority carrier
$n_p(-x_p)$	Minority carrier electron concentration in the p region at the space charge edge
$p_n(x_n)$	Minority carrier hole concentration in the n region at the space charge edge
$\delta n_p = n_p - n_{p0}$	Excess minority carrier electron concentration in the p region
$\delta p_n = p_n - p_{n0}$	Excess minority carrier hole concentration in the n region

Table 3 Silicon, and gallium arsenide pn junction properties* ($T = 300$ K)

Property	Si	GaAs
Intrinsic carrier concentration (cm^{-3})	1.5×10^{10}	1.8×10^6
Electron diffusion coefficient, D_n (cm^2/s)	25	205
Hole diffusion coefficient, D_p (cm^2/s)	10	9.8
Electron lifetime, τ_{n0} (sec)	5×10^{-7}	5×10^{-8}
Hole lifetime, τ_{p0} (sec)	10^{-7}	10^{-8}
*Values provided in individual problems override these values.		

Equations

1 → Basic pn junction diode equation

$$I_D = I_S \left[\exp\left(\frac{eV}{kT}\right) - 1 \right]$$

where I_D is diode current, I_S is reverse-saturation current, e is elementary charge, V is the applied voltage. Note that factor kT/e can be replaced with the so-called *thermal voltage* V_T .

Some problems use the approximation

$$I_D \approx I_S \exp\left(\frac{eV}{kT}\right)$$

2 → Electron current density in a pn junction diode

$$J_n(-x_p) = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where J_n is electron current density, x_p is the horizontal coordinate of one of the edges of the pn junction, e is elementary charge, L_n is electron diffusion length, V_a is applied voltage, and V_T is thermal voltage. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1. The equation can be restated as

$$J_n(-x_p) = \frac{en_i^2}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where D_n is electron diffusion coefficient and τ_{n0} is the lifetime of electrons. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1.

3 → Hole current density in a pn junction diode

$$J_p(x_n) = \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where J_p is hole current density, x_n is the horizontal coordinate of one of the edges of the pn junction, e is elementary charge, L_p is hole diffusion length, V_a is applied voltage, and V_T is thermal voltage. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1. The equation can be restated as

$$J_p(x_n) = \frac{en_i^2}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where D_p is hole diffusion coefficient and τ_{p0} is the lifetime of electrons. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1.

4 → Reverse-saturation current density

$$J_s = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p}$$

where e is the elementary charge, D_n is the diffusion coefficient of electrons, D_p is the diffusion coefficient of holes, L_n is the electron diffusion length, and L_p is the hole diffusion length. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1. Replacing the concentration variables and using the definition of diffusion length ($L_n^2 = D_n \tau_{n0}$, $L_p^2 = D_p \tau_{p0}$), we obtain the more convenient form

$$J_s = en_i^2 \left(\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right)$$

where n_i is the intrinsic carrier concentration, τ_{n0} is the electron lifetime, and τ_{p0} is hole lifetime. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1.

5 → Distribution of excess electron concentration in a pn junction

$$\delta n_p = n_p - n_{p0} = n_{p0} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] \exp\left(\frac{-x}{L_n}\right)$$

where V_a is applied voltage, V_T is thermal voltage, x is distance from the center of the pn junction, and L_n is electron diffusion length. Concentration variables are as defined in Table 1.

6 → Distribution of excess hole concentration in a pn junction

$$\delta p_n = p_n - p_{n0} = p_{n0} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] \exp\left(\frac{-x}{L_p}\right)$$

where V_a is applied voltage, V_T is thermal voltage, x is distance from the center of the pn junction, and L_p is hole diffusion length.

► SOLUTIONS

P.1 → Solution

In the forward bias region, the forward-bias current flowing through a pn junction diode is approximated as

$$I_f \approx I_s \exp\left(\frac{eV}{kT}\right)$$

where I_s is the saturation current, $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19}$ C is the charge of an electron, V is diode voltage, $k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$ J/K is Boltzmann's constant, and T is the junction temperature. k , e and T can be condensed in the so-called thermal voltage V_T , which at 300 K amounts to

$$V_T = \frac{kT}{e} = \frac{(1.38 \times 10^{-23}) \times 300}{1.60 \times 10^{-19}} = 0.0259 \text{ V} \approx 0.026 \text{ V}$$

This is the approximation used in future problems. Now, letting subscripts 1 and 2 denote variables under two different conditions, we have the ratio

$$\frac{I_{f,2}}{I_{f,1}} = \frac{I_s \exp(V_2/V_T)}{I_s \exp(V_1/V_T)} = \exp\left[\frac{1}{V_T}(V_2 - V_1)\right]$$

or, solving for voltage difference,

$$\frac{I_{f,2}}{I_{f,1}} = \exp\left[\frac{1}{V_T}(V_2 - V_1)\right] \rightarrow \Delta V = V_T \ln\left(\frac{I_{f,2}}{I_{f,1}}\right)$$

For a 10-fold increase in current, we require a change in diode voltage such that

$$\Delta V = 0.026 \times \ln(10) = 59.9 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V} \approx \boxed{60 \text{ mV}}$$

while for a 100-fold increase,

$$\Delta V = 0.026 \times \ln(100) = 120 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V} \approx \boxed{120 \text{ mV}}$$

P.2 → Solution

Problem 2.1: The electron diffusion current can be obtained by multiplying the corresponding current density $J_n(-x_p)$ by the cross-sectional area of the junction; that is,

$$I_n = AJ_n(-x_p) \quad (\text{I})$$

where A is cross-sectional area. J_n is given by

$$J_n(-x_p) = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

which can be restated as

$$J_n(-x_p) = \frac{en_i^2}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

$$\therefore J_n(-x_p) = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.8 \times 10^6)^2}{5 \times 10^{16}} \times \sqrt{\frac{205}{5 \times 10^{-8}}} \times \exp\left(\frac{1.10}{0.026}\right) = 1.57 \text{ A/cm}^2$$

Substituting in (I) brings to

$$I_n = AJ_n(-x_p) = 10^{-3} \times 1.57 = \boxed{1.57 \text{ mA}}$$

Problem 2.2: To find the minority hole diffusion current, we write

$$J_p(x_n) = \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

which can be restated as

$$J_p(x_n) = \frac{en_i^2}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

$$\therefore J_p(x_n) = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.8 \times 10^6)^2}{10^{16}} \times \sqrt{\frac{9.80}{10^{-8}}} \times \exp\left(\frac{1.10}{0.026}\right) = 3.84 \text{ A/cm}^2$$

so that

$$I_p = AJ_p(x_n) = 10^{-3} \times 3.84 = \boxed{3.84 \text{ mA}}$$

Problem 2.3: To find the total current, simply add I_n and I_p ,

$$I = I_n + I_p = 1.57 + 3.84 = \boxed{5.41 \text{ mA}}$$

P.3 → Solution

Problem 3.1: The current can be obtained by multiplying the ideal current density by the cross-sectional area of the junction,

$$I = AJ$$

Using the ideal-diode equation, the product above can be restated as

$$I = AJ_s \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) \quad (\text{I})$$

All but one of the variables in the equation above are given; the missing one is the ideal reverse-saturation current density J_s , which is given by equation 4,

$$J_s = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p}$$

This can be restated as

$$J_s = en_i^2 \left(\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right)$$

$$\therefore J_s = (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (2.4 \times 10^{13})^2 \times \left[\frac{1}{4 \times 10^{15}} \sqrt{\frac{90}{2.0 \times 10^{-6}}} + \frac{1}{2 \times 10^{17}} \sqrt{\frac{48}{2.0 \times 10^{-6}}} \right] = 1.57 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A/cm}^2$$

so that, substituting in (I),

$$I = 10^{-4} \times (1.57 \times 10^{-4}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.25}{0.026}\right) = 2.35 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A} = \boxed{0.235 \text{ mA}}$$

Problem 3.2: In this case, the diode would yield a current given by its reverse-bias saturation value, which, using $J_s = 1.57 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A/cm}^2$ determined above,

$$I \approx -I_s = -AJ_s = -10^{-4} \times (1.57 \times 10^{-4}) = -1.57 \times 10^{-8} \text{ A}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{I = -15.7 \text{ nA}}$$

P.4 → Solution

Problem 4.1: The current can be determined with equation (I) of the previous problem,

$$I = AJ_s \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where J_s is given by, as before (equation 4)

$$J_s = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p}$$

Since this is an n^+p diode, however, the n -side is more heavily doped and the p -side contributes little to the saturation current; thus, we may write

$$J_s = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{\cancel{eD_p p_{n0}}}{\cancel{L_p}} \approx \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n}$$

or, equivalently,

$$J_s = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} = en_i^2 \frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}$$

$$\therefore J_s = (1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.5 \times 10^{10})^2 \times \frac{1}{10^{16}} \sqrt{\frac{25}{10^{-6}}} = 1.8 \times 10^{-11} \text{ A/cm}^2$$

so that

$$I = AJ_s \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) = 10^{-4} \times (1.8 \times 10^{-11}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.5}{0.026}\right) = 4.05 \times 10^{-7} \text{ A}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{I = 0.405 \mu\text{A}}$$

Problem 4.2: When reverse-biased, the diode will yield a current equal to its reverse-saturation value I_s ,

$$I \approx -I_s = -AJ_s = -10^{-4} \times (1.8 \times 10^{-11}) = -1.8 \times 10^{-15} \text{ A}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{I = -1.8 \text{ fA}}$$

P.5 → Solution

Problem 5.1: To determine the reverse-biased saturation current, simply apply

$$I_s = AJ_s$$

where (equation 4)

$$J_s = en_i^2 \left(\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right)$$

$$\therefore J_s = (1.60 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.5 \times 10^{-10})^2 \times \left(\frac{1}{5.0 \times 10^{17}} \sqrt{\frac{25}{10^{-7}}} + \frac{1}{8.0 \times 10^{-15}} \sqrt{\frac{10}{8.0 \times 10^{-8}}} \right) = 5.14 \times 10^{-11} \text{ A/cm}^2$$

so that

$$I_s = AJ_s = (2 \times 10^{-4}) \times (5.14 \times 10^{-11}) = 1.03 \times 10^{-14} \text{ A}$$

$$\boxed{I_s = 10.3 \text{ fA}}$$

Problem 5.2: Using the ideal-diode equation, we have

$$I = I_s \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) = (1.03 \times 10^{-14}) \times \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{0.026}\right)$$

Accordingly, with a bias voltage $V_a = 0.45 \text{ V}$,

$$I = (1.03 \times 10^{-14}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.45}{0.026}\right) = 3.38 \times 10^{-7} \text{ A}$$

$$\boxed{I = 0.338 \mu\text{A}}$$

With a bias voltage $V_a = 0.55 \text{ V}$,

$$I = (1.03 \times 10^{-14}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.55}{0.026}\right) = 1.58 \times 10^{-5} \text{ A}$$

$$\boxed{I = 15.8 \mu\text{A}}$$

Finally, with $V_a = 0.65 \text{ V}$,

$$I = (1.03 \times 10^{-14}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.65}{0.026}\right) = 7.42 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A}$$

$$\boxed{I = 742 \mu\text{A}}$$

P.6 → Solution

If 90 percent of the current is to be due to the flow of electrons, we may write the ratio

$$\frac{J_n}{J_n + J_p} = 0.9 \rightarrow \frac{\frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n}}{\frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p}} = 0.9$$

Using the conversions we have been using in previous problems, namely

$$\frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} = \frac{en_i^2}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}; \quad \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p} = \frac{en_i^2}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}$$

it follows that

$$\frac{J_n}{J_n + J_p} = \frac{\frac{\cancel{en_i^2}}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}}{\frac{\cancel{en_i^2}}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{\cancel{en_i^2}}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} = 0.9$$

$$\therefore \frac{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}}{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} = 0.9$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} = 0.9$$

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} = 0.9$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{1 + \frac{N_a}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{\tau_{n0}}{\tau_{p0}} \frac{D_p}{D_n}}} = 0.9$$

Denoting the ratio N_a/N_d by ζ and using the generic data for a silicon diode $\tau_{n0} = 5 \times 10^{-7}$ s, $\tau_{p0} = 10^{-7}$ s, $D_n = 25$ cm²/s, and $D_p = 10$ cm²/s, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{1}{1 + \zeta \sqrt{\frac{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}{10^{-7}} \times \frac{10}{25}}} &= 0.9 \\ \therefore \frac{1}{1 + \zeta \times 1.41} &= 0.9 \\ \therefore 1 &= 0.9 \times (1 + 1.41\zeta) \\ \therefore 1 &= 0.9 + 1.27\zeta \\ \therefore \zeta &= \frac{1 - 0.9}{1.27} = 0.0787 \end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\frac{N_d}{N_a} = \zeta^{-1} = \frac{1}{0.0787} = \boxed{12.7}$$

Thus, 90 percent of the current in the depletion region will be due to the flow of electrons inasmuch as the donor concentration in the n region is about 12.7 times greater than the acceptor concentration in the p region.

P.7 → Solution

If the ratio of electron current to total current must be 0.10, we may write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{J_n}{J_n + J_p} = 0.1 &\rightarrow \frac{\frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n}}{\frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} + \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p}} = 0.1 \\ \therefore \frac{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}}{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} &= 0.1 \end{aligned}$$

Performing the same manipulations employed in Problem 6, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}}}{\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}}} = 0.1 &\rightarrow \frac{1}{1 + \frac{N_a}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{\tau_{n0}}{\tau_{p0}} \frac{D_p}{D_n}}} = 0.1 \\ \therefore \frac{1}{1 + \frac{N_a}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}} \times \frac{10}{25}}} &= 0.1 \\ \therefore \frac{1}{1 + \zeta \times 0.632} &= 0.1 \\ \therefore 1 &= 0.1 + 0.0632\zeta \\ \therefore \frac{N_a}{N_d} &= \frac{1 - 0.1}{0.0632} = 14.2 \quad (\text{I}) \end{aligned}$$

Observing that the current density $J = 20$ A/cm², we can determine the reverse-saturation CD as

$$J = J_s \exp\left(\frac{V_D}{V_T}\right) \rightarrow J_s = \frac{J}{\exp(V_D/V_T)}$$

$$\therefore J_s = \frac{20}{\exp(0.65/0.026)} = 2.78 \times 10^{-10} \text{ A/cm}^2$$

Recalling another expression for J_s (equation 4), we obtain

$$J_s = en_i^2 \left(\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right) = 2.78 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\therefore (1.60 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.5 \times 10^{10})^2 \times \left(\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{25}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{10}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}} \right) = 2.78 \times 10^{-10}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{25}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{10}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}} = \frac{2.78 \times 10^{-10}}{(1.60 \times 10^{-19}) \times (1.5 \times 10^{10})^2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{7.07 \times 10^3}{N_a} + \frac{4.47 \times 10^3}{N_d} = 7.72 \times 10^{-12}$$

From (I), $N_a = 14.2N_d$; it follows that

$$\frac{7.07 \times 10^3}{14.2N_d} + \frac{4.47 \times 10^3}{N_d} = 7.72 \times 10^{-12} \rightarrow \frac{498}{N_d} + \frac{4.47 \times 10^3}{N_d} = 7.72 \times 10^{-12}$$

$$\therefore N_d = \frac{(498 + 4.47 \times 10^3)}{7.72 \times 10^{-12}} = \boxed{6.44 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}}$$

and

$$N_a = 14.2 \times (6.44 \times 10^{14}) = \boxed{9.15 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}}$$

P.8 → Solution

First, note that the excess electron concentration is given by equation 5,

$$\delta n_p = n_p - n_{p0} = n_{p0} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] \exp\left(\frac{-x}{L_n}\right)$$

where x is the distance from the center of the pn junction. To establish the number of excess electrons, we integrate δn_p from $x = 0$ to $x \rightarrow \infty$ and multiply the result by the cross-sectional area A of the junction,

$$N_p = A \int_0^{\infty} \delta n_p dx$$

The improper integral in question is easy to evaluate,

$$\int_0^{\infty} \delta n_p dx = n_{p0} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \exp\left(\frac{-x}{L_n}\right) dx}_{=L_n} = n_{p0} L_n \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right]$$

so that

$$N_p = An_{p0}L_n \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] = \frac{An_i^2 \sqrt{D_n \tau_{n0}}}{N_a} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right]$$

$$\therefore N_p = \frac{10^{-3} \times (1.5 \times 10^{10})^2 \times \sqrt{25 \times (1.0 \times 10^{-6})}}{8.0 \times 10^{15}} \times \left[\exp\left(\frac{0.3}{0.026}\right) - 1 \right]$$

$$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{=0.141}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{N_p = 15,100 e^-}$$

Repeating for a voltage of 0.4 V, the number of excess electrons is

$$N_p = 0.141 \left[\exp\left(\frac{0.4}{0.026}\right) - 1 \right] = \boxed{677,000 e^-}$$

With $V_a = 0.5$ V, the number of excess electrons is

$$N_p = 0.141 \left[\exp\left(\frac{0.5}{0.026}\right) - 1 \right] = \boxed{31.7 \text{ million } e^-}$$

P.9 → **Solution**

Problem 9.1: The excess hole concentration is expressed as (equation 6)

$$\delta p_n = p_n - p_{n0} = p_{n0} \left[\exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) - 1 \right] \exp\left(-\frac{x}{L_p}\right)$$

Here, p_{n0} , the thermal-equilibrium minority carrier hole concentration in the n region, is given by

$$p_{n0} = \frac{n_i^2}{N_d} = \frac{(1.5 \times 10^{10})^2}{10^{16}} = 2.25 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

while the diffusion length L_p is determined as

$$L_p = \sqrt{D_p \tau_{p0}} = \sqrt{8 \times (0.01 \times 10^{-6})} = 2.83 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}$$

so that

$$\delta p_n = (2.25 \times 10^4) \times \left[\exp\left(\frac{0.610}{0.026}\right) - 1 \right] \times \exp\left(-\frac{x}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right)$$

$$\therefore \delta p_n(x) = 3.48 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-x}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right) \text{ [cm}^{-3}\text{]}$$

Problem 9.2: The hole diffusion current density J_p at a distance x from the center of the device is

$$J_p(x) = -eD_p \frac{d(\delta p_n)}{dx} = -eD_p \frac{d}{dx} \left[3.48 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-x}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right) \right]$$

$$\therefore J_p(x) = -eD_p \times 3.48 \times 10^{14} \times \left(-\frac{1}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right) \times \exp\left(\frac{-x}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right)$$

$$\therefore J_p(x) = 1.57 \exp\left(\frac{-x}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right)$$

so that, at $x = 3 \times 10^{-4}$ cm,

$$J_p(3 \times 10^{-4}) = 1.57 \exp\left(\frac{-3 \times 10^{-4}}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}}\right) = \boxed{0.544 \text{ A/cm}^2}$$

Problem 9.3: For an ideal pn junction, the sum of electron and hole current densities at a distance x from the center of the junction must be constant. Accordingly, we may write

$$J_p(x) + J_n(x) = J_{p0} + J_{n0}$$

where $J_n(x)$ is the current density of electrons at a distance x from the center of the junction and J_{p0} and J_{n0} are the current densities at $x = 0$. Solving for $J_n(x)$,

$$J_n(x) = J_{p0} + J_{n0} - J_p(x) \quad (\text{I})$$

We already have $J_p(x)$. J_{p0} is given by

$$J_{p0} = \frac{eD_p p_{n0}}{L_p} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

$$J_{p0} = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times 8 \times (2.25 \times 10^4)}{2.83 \times 10^{-4}} \exp\left(\frac{0.610}{0.026}\right) = 1.57 \text{ A/cm}^2$$

Likewise, the electron current density at the origin, J_{n0} , is stated as

$$J_{n0} = \frac{eD_n n_{p0}}{L_n} \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right)$$

where n_{p0} , the thermal-equilibrium minority carrier electron concentration in the p region, is given by

$$n_{p0} = \frac{n_i^2}{N_d} = \frac{(1.5 \times 10^{10})^2}{5 \times 10^{16}} = 4.5 \times 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

while the diffusion length L_n is determined as

$$L_n = \sqrt{D_n \tau_{n0}} = \sqrt{23 \times (0.05 \times 10^{-6})} = 1.07 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}$$

giving

$$J_{n0} = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19}) \times 23 \times (4.5 \times 10^3)}{1.07 \times 10^{-3}} \exp\left(\frac{0.610}{0.026}\right) = 0.239 \text{ A/cm}^2$$

Substituting our results into (I), we have, with $x = 3 \times 10^{-4}$ cm,

$$J_n(3 \times 10^{-4}) = J_{p0} + J_{n0} - J_p(3 \times 10^{-4})$$

$$\therefore J_n(3 \times 10^{-4}) = 1.57 + 0.239 - 0.544 = \boxed{1.27 \text{ A/cm}^2}$$

P.10 → Solution

Problem 10.1: The reverse-saturation current is given by a modified form of equation 4,

$$I_s = Aen_i^2 \left[\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right]$$

Here, we may take the term in brackets and the Ae product as constants, but the intrinsic carrier concentration n_i varies sensibly with temperature. We thus restate I_s as

$$I_s = Aen_i^2 \left[\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right] = C_1 n_i^2$$

Recall that n_i is expressed as

$$n_i^2 = N_c N_v \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT}\right)$$

where N_c is the effective density of states function in the conduction band, N_v is the effective density of states function in the valence band, E_g is the bandgap energy, k is Boltzmann's constant, and T is temperature. N_c and N_v may be taken as functions of $T^{3/2}$, so their product must be a function of the cube of temperature; thus, writing N_{c0} and N_{v0} as the density of states functions at the reference temperature of 300 K, we have

$$I_s = C_1 n_i^2 = C_1 N_{c0} N_{v0} \left(\frac{T}{300}\right)^3 \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT}\right) = C_1 \times \frac{N_{c0} N_{v0}}{300^3} \times T^3 \exp(-E_g/kT)$$

$$\therefore I_s = C_1 C_2 T^3 \exp(-E_g/kT)$$

$$\therefore \boxed{I_s = CT^3 \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT}\right)}$$

Problem 10.2: Let $I_{s,1}$ denote the reverse-saturation current at the initial temperature $T_1 = 300$ K and $I_{s,2}$ denote the RSC at the final temperature $T_2 = 400$ K. Using the relation derived above, we have the ratio

$$\frac{I_{s,2}}{I_{s,1}} = \frac{\cancel{T_2^3} \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT_2}\right)}{\cancel{T_1^3} \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT_1}\right)} = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^3 \exp\left[-\frac{E_g}{kT_2} - \left(-\frac{E_g}{kT_1}\right)\right] = \left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right)^3 \exp\left[E_g \left(\frac{1}{kT_1} - \frac{1}{kT_2}\right)\right]$$

Taking $k = 8.62 \times 10^{-5}$ eV/K as Boltzmann's constant, we have

$$\frac{1}{kT_1} = \frac{1}{(8.63 \times 10^{-5}) \times 300} = 38.6$$

$$\frac{1}{kT_2} = \frac{1}{(8.63 \times 10^{-5}) \times 400} = 29.0$$

so that, for germanium ($E_g = 0.66$ eV),

$$\frac{I_{s,2}}{I_{s,1}} = \left(\frac{400}{300}\right)^3 \exp[0.66 \times (38.6 - 29.0)] = \boxed{1340}$$

while for silicon ($E_g = 1.12$ eV),

$$\frac{I_{s,2}}{I_{s,1}} = \left(\frac{400}{300}\right)^3 \exp[1.12 \times (38.6 - 29.0)] = \boxed{117,000}$$

P.11 → Solution

Evoking the ideal-diode equation and noting that the ratio of I_f to I_s is to be no greater than 20,000, we see that the thermal voltage is limited to

$$\begin{aligned} I_f &= I_s \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) \rightarrow \left|\frac{I_f}{I_s}\right| = \exp\left(\frac{V_a}{V_T}\right) \\ \therefore V_T &= \frac{V_a}{\ln|I_f/I_s|} \\ \therefore V_T &= \frac{0.50}{\ln|20,000|} = 0.0505 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

If a thermal voltage of 0.026 V corresponds to a temperature of 300 K, a V_T of 0.0505 V pertains to a temperature T_1 such that

$$\frac{0.026}{300} = \frac{0.0505}{T_1} \rightarrow T_1 = \frac{300 \times 0.0505}{0.026} = 583 \text{ K}$$

As an additional restriction, the reverse-biased current I_s is to be no greater than 1.2 μA . We first evoke the equation for I_s and solve for the squared intrinsic carrier concentration n_i^2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} I_s &= Aen_i^2 \left[\frac{1}{N_a} \sqrt{\frac{D_n}{\tau_{n0}}} + \frac{1}{N_d} \sqrt{\frac{D_p}{\tau_{p0}}} \right] \\ \therefore 1.2 \times 10^{-6} &= (5.0 \times 10^{-4}) \times (1.60 \times 10^{-19}) \times n_i^2 \times \left[\frac{1}{4.0 \times 10^{15}} \sqrt{\frac{25}{5.0 \times 10^{-7}}} + \frac{1}{2.0 \times 10^{17}} \sqrt{\frac{10}{10^{-7}}} \right] \\ \therefore 1.2 \times 10^{-6} &= 1.45 \times 10^{-34} n_i^2 \\ \therefore n_i^2 &= \frac{1.2 \times 10^{-6}}{1.45 \times 10^{-34}} = 8.28 \times 10^{27} \end{aligned}$$

Now, using the definition of n_i^2 and recalling that the product of density of states functions varies with the cube of temperature, we may write

$$\begin{aligned} n_i^2 &= N_c N_v \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT}\right) = N_{c0} N_{v0} \left(\frac{T}{300}\right)^3 \exp\left(-\frac{E_g}{kT}\right) = 8.28 \times 10^{27} \\ \therefore n_i^2 &= (2.8 \times 10^{19}) \times (1.04 \times 10^{19}) \times \left(\frac{T}{300}\right)^3 \exp\left[-\frac{1.12}{(8.62 \times 10^{-5}) \times T}\right] = 8.28 \times 10^{27} \\ \therefore n_i^2 &= 1.08 \times 10^{31} T^3 \exp(-1.30 \times 10^4 T^{-1}) = 8.28 \times 10^{27} \end{aligned}$$

The equation above is transcendental in nature and requires numerical methods to be solved. One way to go is to apply MATLAB's `fzero` function:

```
function y = intrinsic(T)
y = 1.08E31*T^3*exp(-1.3E4*T^-1)-8.28E27;

>> fun = @intrinsic;
x0 = 400;
z = fzero(fun,x0)
```

This returns $T_2 \approx 503$ K. Gleaning our results, observe that the first specification limits the temperature of the diode to $T_1 = 583$ K, while the second specification limits the temperature of the device to $T_2 = 503$ K. The lower temperature governs, therefore the reverse-bias current limit of 1.2 μA is the limiting factor and the diode is to operate at a temperature no greater than 503 K.

P.12 → **Solution**

The diode voltage V_D and current I_D are related by the ideal diode equation as

$$I_D = I_S \left[e^{\left(\frac{V_D}{V_T}\right)} - 1 \right] \rightarrow I_D = (30 \times 10^{-9}) \times \left[e^{\left(\frac{V_D}{0.026}\right)} - 1 \right] \quad (\text{I})$$

If a dc voltage $V_{PS} = 1.5$ V is applied to the circuit with resistance $R = 10$ M Ω , we can write Kirchhoff's voltage law for the diode voltage V_D and current I_D ,

$$V_{PS} = I_D R + V_D \rightarrow 1.5 = (10 \times 10^6) I_D + V_D \quad (\text{II})$$

Equations (I) and (II) constitute a system of two nonlinear equations with two unknowns, I_D and V_D . Substituting (I) in (II) brings to

$$1.5 = (10 \times 10^6) \times \left\{ (30 \times 10^{-9}) \times \left[e^{\left(\frac{V_D}{0.026}\right)} - 1 \right] \right\} + V_D$$

This equation can be solved with MATLAB's `fzero` command,

```
function y = diode(VD)
y = 1.5 - 10E6*30E-9*(exp(VD/0.026)-1) - VD;

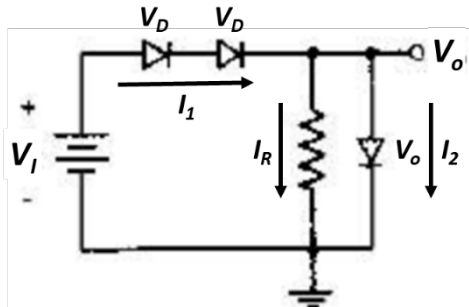
>> fun = @diode;
x0 = 0.01;
z = fzero(fun,x0)
```

This returns $V_D = 0.0459$ V. Substituting in (I) yields the diode current I_D ,

$$I_D = (30 \times 10^{-9}) \times \left[e^{(0.0459/0.026)} - 1 \right] = 1.45 \times 10^{-7} \text{ A} = \boxed{0.145 \mu\text{A}}$$

P.13 → **Solution**

Refer to the figure below.



Noting that the diode below the output node is subjected to a potential difference V_o , which we prescribe as 0.6 V, current I_2 is calculated as

$$I_2 = I_S \exp\left(\frac{V_o}{V_T}\right) = (2 \times 10^{-13}) \times \exp\left(\frac{0.6}{0.026}\right) = 0.0021 \text{ A} = 2.1 \text{ mA}$$

The 1-k Ω resistor is subjected to the same voltage V_o and conducts a current I_R such that

$$I_R = \frac{V_o}{1 \text{ k}\Omega} = \frac{0.6}{10^3} = 0.6 \text{ mA}$$

Using Kirchhoff's current law, the current I_1 flowing through the two in-series diodes is

$$I_1 = I_R + I_2 = 0.6 + 2.1 = 2.7 \text{ mA}$$

The voltage V_D in either of these two diodes is then

$$V_D = V_T \ln\left(\frac{I_1}{I_S}\right) = 0.026 \times \ln\left(\frac{2.7 \times 10^{-3}}{2 \times 10^{-13}}\right) = 0.606 \text{ V}$$

Using Kirchhoff's voltage law, the input voltage V_I is calculated to be

$$V_I - V_D - V_D = V_o \rightarrow V_I = V_o + 2V_D$$

$$\therefore V_I = 0.6 + 2 \times 0.606 = \boxed{1.81 \text{ V}}$$

P.14 → **Solution**

Problem 14.1: If the current flowing through the diode is $I = 0.5$ mA, the diode voltage V_D is determined to be

$$V_D = V_T \ln\left(\frac{I}{I_S}\right) = 0.026 \times \ln\left(\frac{0.5 \times 10^{-3}}{5 \times 10^{-12}}\right) = \boxed{0.479 \text{ V}}$$

Applying Kirchhoff's voltage law, we can determine the supply voltage V ,

$$5 - RI - V_D - V = 0 \rightarrow V = 5 - RI - V_D$$

$$\therefore V = 5 - (4.7 \times 10^3) \times (0.5 \times 10^{-3}) - 0.479 = \boxed{2.17 \text{ V}}$$

Finally, the power dissipated in the diode is

$$P_D = V_D I = 0.479 \times (0.5 \times 10^{-3}) = \boxed{0.240 \text{ mW}}$$

Problem 14.2: If the cut-in voltage of the diode is 0.65 V and the power dissipated is to be no greater than 0.20 mW, current I_D flowing through the loop is restricted to

$$P_D = V_\gamma I_D \rightarrow I_D = \frac{P_D}{V_\gamma} = \frac{0.20 \times 10^{-3}}{0.65} = 0.308 \text{ mA}$$

Applying Kirchhoff's voltage law to the loop yields

$$5 - RI - 0.65 - 1.7 = 0 \rightarrow R = \frac{5 - 0.65 - 1.7}{0.308 \times 10^{-3}} = 8600 \text{ } \Omega = \boxed{8.60 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

P.15 → **Solution**

In circuit (a), the diode is conducting and contributes to the loop with an amount equal to the cut-in voltage V_γ . Applying KVL, we obtain

$$5 - 10,000I_D - V_\gamma + 5 = 0 \rightarrow I_D = \frac{10 - V_\gamma}{10\text{k}}$$

$$\therefore I_D = \frac{10 - 0.7}{10\text{k}} = \boxed{0.94 \text{ mA}}$$

Voltage V_o is then

$$0 - 5 + V_\gamma = V_o \rightarrow V_o = -5 + 0.6 = \boxed{-4.4 \text{ V}}$$

Circuit (b) is simply a rearrangement of circuit (a). Current I_D continues to be 0.94 mA and, using KVL, voltage V_o is determined to be

$$0 + 5 - V_\gamma = V_o \rightarrow V_o = 5 - 0.6 = \boxed{+4.4 \text{ V}}$$

In circuit (c), notice the orientation of the power supplies relative to the diode; the diode is reverse biased, hence $I_D = 0$ and $V_D = -10$ V.

P.16 → **Solution**

In the mildest configuration for this circuit, a voltage equal to the cut-in value $V_\gamma = 0.7$ V appears in the diode and the diode conducts a current $I_{D,\min} = 2$ mA. The current flowing through resistance R_2 , which is in parallel to the diode, is

$$I_2 = \frac{0.7}{R_2}$$

With the voltage supply set to its minimum value of 5 V, the current through resistor R_1 is determined as

$$I_1 = \frac{5 - 0.7}{R_1}$$

From Kirchhoff's current law,

$$I_1 = I_2 + I_D \rightarrow \frac{4.3}{R_1} = \frac{0.7}{R_2} + 2 \text{ (I)}$$

Now, when the circuit is set to its most extreme conditions, the voltage supply feeds 10 V to the circuit and the diode, which is to dissipate a power no greater than 10 mW, conducts a current $I_{D,\max}$ such that

$$P_{\max} = I_{D,\max} V_D \rightarrow I_{D,\max} = \frac{P_{\max}}{V_D} = \frac{10}{0.7} = 14.3 \text{ mA}$$

Resistor R_2 conducts a current $I_2 = 0.7/R_2$, while R_1 receives $I_1 = (10 - 0.7)/R_1$. Applying KCL a second time and substituting from (I), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= I_2 + I_D \rightarrow \frac{9.3}{R_1} = \frac{0.7}{R_2} + 14.3 \\ \therefore \frac{9.3}{R_1} &= \left(\frac{4.3}{R_1} - 2 \right) + 14.3 \\ \therefore \frac{5}{R_1} &= 12.3 \\ \therefore R_1 &= \frac{5}{12.3} = 0.407 \text{ k}\Omega = \boxed{407 \Omega} \end{aligned}$$

Substituting in (I) and solving for R_2 , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4.3}{R_1} &= \frac{0.7}{R_2} + 2 \rightarrow \frac{4.3}{0.407} = \frac{0.7}{R_2} + 2 \\ \therefore 10.6 - 2 &= \frac{0.7}{R_2} \\ \therefore R_2 &= \frac{0.7}{8.6} = 0.0814 \text{ k}\Omega = \boxed{81.4 \Omega} \end{aligned}$$

Resistances R_1 and R_2 have been specified.

P.17 → Solution

Let I_R denote the current flowing through resistor R_2 . Applying Kirchhoff's current law and noting that $I_{D1} = I_{D2}/2$ as prescribed, we get

$$\begin{aligned} I_{D2} &= I_R + I_{D1} \rightarrow 2I_{D1} = I_R + I_{D1} \\ \therefore I_{D1} &= I_R \quad (\text{I}) \end{aligned}$$

Resistor R_2 is in series with diode D_1 and hence withstands a potential difference $V_\gamma = 0.65$ V. The corresponding current is

$$I_R = \frac{0.65}{R_2} = \frac{0.65}{10^3} = 0.65 \text{ mA}$$

so that, using (I),

$$I_{D1} = I_R = \boxed{0.65 \text{ mA}}$$

Then, recalling that $I_{D2} = 2I_{D1}$,

$$I_{D2} = 2 \times 0.65 = \boxed{1.3 \text{ mA}}$$

If 1.3 milliamperes flow through resistor R_1 , the corresponding resistance must be, accounting for the voltages that appear in all three diodes,

$$R_1 = \frac{5 - 0.65 - 0.65 - 0.65}{1.3 \times 10^{-3}} = 2350 \Omega = \boxed{2.35 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

P.18 → Solution

Circuit (a): The current flowing through diode D_1 is initially given by

$$I_{D1} = \frac{V_{in} - V_\gamma}{R_1} = \frac{2.4 - 0.8}{10^3} = 1.6 \text{ mA}$$

Now, for calculation of voltage changes in the small-signal model, diode D_1 can be replaced with a linear resistor r_d given by the ratio of the device's thermal voltage V_T to the current flowing through it; mathematically,

$$r_d = \frac{V_T}{I_{D1}} = \frac{0.026}{1.6 \times 10^{-3}} = 16.3 \Omega$$

Finally, using the voltage divider rule,

$$\Delta V_{out} = \frac{R_1}{r_d + R_1} \Delta V_{in} = \frac{1000}{16.3 + 1000} \times (2500 - 2400) = \boxed{98.4 \text{ mV}}$$

Circuit (b): Firstly, the current flowing through either diode is given by

$$I_{D1} = I_{D2} = \frac{V_{in} - 2V_\gamma}{R_1} = \frac{2.4 - 2 \times 0.8}{10^3} = 0.8 \text{ mA}$$

For voltage change calculation purposes, the diodes can be replaced with linear resistors r_{d1} and r_{d2} such that

$$r_{d1} = r_{d2} = \frac{V_T}{I_{D1}} = \frac{V_T}{I_{D2}} = \frac{0.026}{0.8 \times 10^{-3}} = 32.5 \Omega$$

Lastly,

$$\Delta V_{out} = \frac{r_{d2} + R_1}{r_{d1} + r_{d2} + R_1} \Delta V_{in} = \frac{1032.5}{32.5 + 32.5 + 1000} \times (2500 - 2400) = \boxed{96.9 \text{ mV}}$$

Circuit (c): This is a slightly modified version of circuit (c). The current flowing through either diode continues to be

$$I_{D1} = I_{D2} = 0.8 \text{ mA}$$

while resistances r_{d1} and r_{d2} remain

$$r_{d1} = r_{d2} = 32.5 \Omega$$

Now, noting that resistor R_1 has been displaced from the lower branch of the circuit to the segment that joins the V_{in} node to the V_{out} node, it no longer appears in the numerator of the voltage divider rule,

$$\Delta V_{out} = \frac{r_{d2}}{r_{d1} + r_{d2} + R_1} \Delta V_{in} = \frac{32.5}{32.5 + 32.5 + 1000} \times (2500 - 2400) = \boxed{3.05 \text{ mV}}$$

Circuit (d): In this case, the current flowing through diode D_2 equals the current stemming directly from the V_{in} node minus the amount deviated to resistor R_2 ,

$$I_{D2} = \frac{V_{in} - V_D}{R_1} - \frac{V_D}{R_2} = \frac{2.4 - 0.8}{10^3} - \frac{0.8}{2.0 \times 10^3} = 1.2 \text{ mA}$$

The diode can be replaced with a resistance r_{d2} given by

$$r_{d2} = \frac{V_T}{I_{D2}} = \frac{0.026}{1.2 \times 10^{-3}} = 21.7 \Omega$$

Finally, we apply the voltage divider rule to obtain

$$\Delta V_{out} = \frac{R_2 \parallel r_{d2}}{R_1 + R_2 \parallel r_{d2}} \Delta V_{in} = \frac{\frac{2000 \times 21.7}{2000 + 21.7}}{1000 + \frac{2000 \times 21.7}{2000 + 21.7}} \times (2500 - 2400) = \boxed{2.10 \text{ mV}}$$

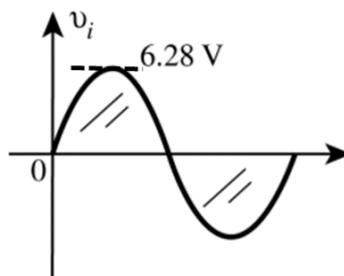
P.19 → Solution

Problem 19.1: Per the problem statement, the input voltage is a sinusoidal waveform with 60-Hz frequency; from the circuit diagram, we see that the diode is supplied with a dc voltage $V_{dc} = 2 \text{ V}$. It follows that the input sine wave will peak at a voltage V_m such that

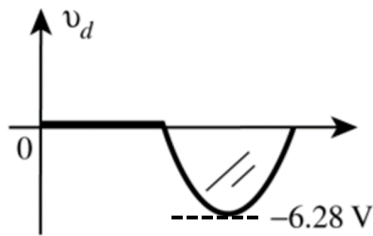
$$V_{dc} = 0.318V_m \rightarrow V_m = \frac{V_{dc}}{0.318}$$

$$\therefore V_m = \frac{2.0}{0.318} = 6.28 \text{ V}$$

The input v_i is sketched below.



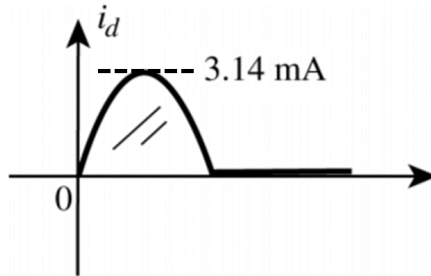
Now, as the diode is functioning as a half-wave rectifier, it will respond to v_i by suppressing the first half-period of the input sine wave and reproducing the second.



The average current crossing the diode is

$$I_m = \frac{V_m}{R} = \frac{6.28}{2000} = 3.14 \text{ mA}$$

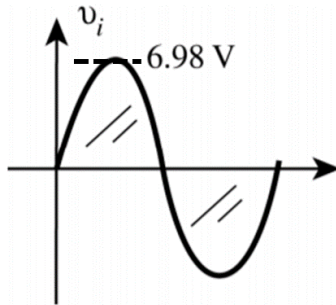
The diode conducts for the positive half-cycle, leading to the following current profile,



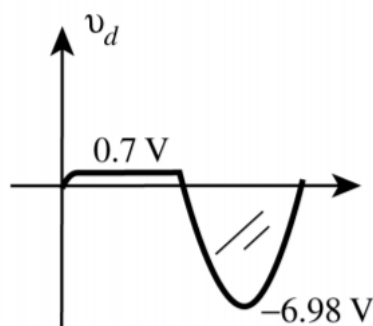
Problem 19.2: In this case, the input voltage will peak at a new value V'_m such that

$$\begin{aligned} V_{dc} &\approx 0.318(V'_m - V_K) \rightarrow 2 = 0.318(V'_m - 0.7) \\ \therefore 2 &= 0.318V'_m - 0.223 \\ \therefore V'_m &= \frac{2 + 0.223}{0.318} = 6.98 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

The input voltage is sketched below.



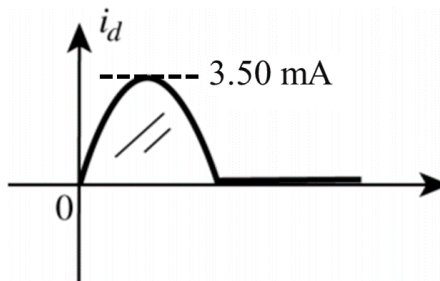
The voltage output profile is similar to the one obtained for the ideal diode, but differs from it in that the positive half-cycle will retain a positive plateau of $V_K = 0.7 \text{ V}$ that the rectifier cannot suppress.



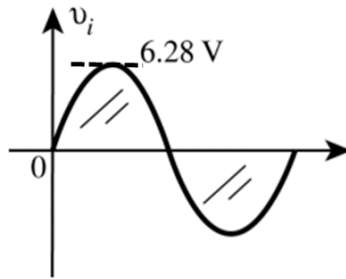
Lastly, the current profile will peak at an updated average value i'_m given by

$$i'_m = \frac{V'_m}{R} = \frac{6.99}{2000} = 3.50 \text{ mA}$$

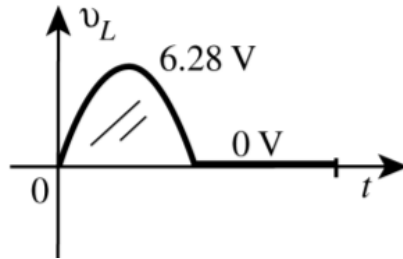
The waveform is sketched below.



Problem 19.3: The input waveform v_i remains unchanged relative to Problem 19.1.



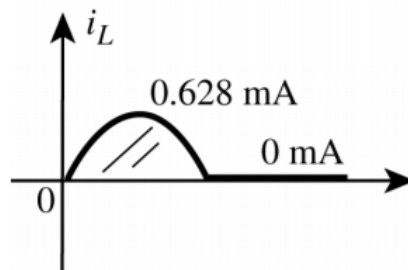
The load R_L sees a voltage waveform with a positive half-cycle only, as illustrated below.



The peak current flowing through R_L is

$$i_{L,\max} = \frac{6.28 \text{ V}}{10 \text{ k}\Omega} = 0.628 \text{ mA}$$

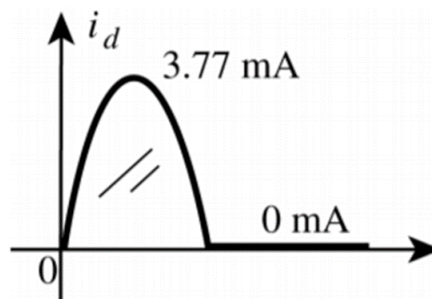
The i_L waveform is shown in continuation.



Now, noting that the maximum current through the $2\text{-k}\Omega$ resistor is $i_{2,\max} = 6.28/2000 = 3.14 \text{ mA}$, the maximum current $i_{d,\max}$ flowing in the diode follows as

$$i_{D,\max} = i_{L,\max} + i_{2,\max} = 0.628 + 3.14 = 3.77 \text{ mA}$$

The pertaining waveform is shown below.



P.20 → Solution

A silicon diode will conduct when $v_o = 0.7 \text{ V}$. Using the voltage divider rule and solving for input voltage v_i , we obtain

$$v_o = 0.7 = \frac{1.0 \times v_i}{1.0 + 1.0} \rightarrow v_i = 1.4 \text{ V}$$

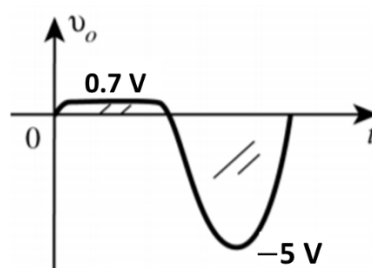
Accordingly, for $v_i \geq 1.4 \text{ V}$ the diode is “on” and $v_o = 0.7 \text{ V}$; if $v_i \leq 1.4 \text{ V}$, the diode is open and the level of v_o is determined by the voltage divider rule,

$$v_o = \frac{1.0 \times v_i}{1.0 + 1.0} = 0.5v_i$$

With $v_i = -10 \text{ V}$, the peak output voltage is then

$$v_o = 0.5 \times (-10) = -5.0 \text{ V}$$

The v_o waveform is sketched below.



When $v_o = 0.7\text{ V}$, the maximum voltage across the resistor that receives current i_R is

$$v_{R_{\max}} = v_{i_{\max}} - 0.7 \rightarrow v_{R_{\max}} = 10 - 0.7 = 9.3\text{ V}$$

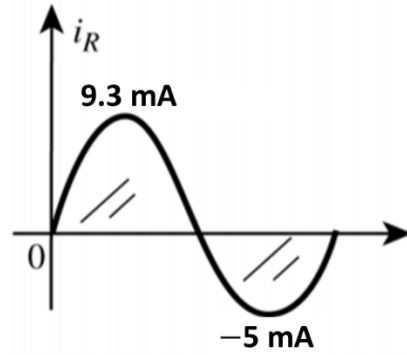
and corresponds to a peak current $i_{R_{\max}}$ such that

$$I_{R_{\max}} = \frac{9.3}{1\text{ k}\Omega} = 9.3\text{ mA}$$

The maximum reverse current is, in turn,

$$I_{\max}(\text{reverse}) = \frac{-10}{1\text{ k}\Omega + 1\text{ k}\Omega} = -5\text{ mA}$$

The i_R waveform is sketched below.



P.21 → Solution

Problem 21.1: Noting that “turn-on” voltage of a silicon diode is 0.7 V and the specified power rating is 14 mW , current I_D is determined as

$$I_D = \frac{14 \times 10^{-3}}{0.7} = \boxed{20\text{ mA}}$$

Problem 21.2: If each of the two diodes is conducting a current of 20 mA , the maximum current I_{\max} is found as

$$I_{\max} = 2I_D = 2 \times 20 = \boxed{40\text{ mA}}$$

Problem 21.3: We aim to determine the largest current through each diode, which should occur when the input voltage waveform reaches its peak value of 160 V . The two resistances of $4.7\text{ k}\Omega$ and $68\text{ k}\Omega$ can be replaced with an equivalent resistance R given by

$$R = (4.7 \times 10^3) \parallel (68 \times 10^3) = 4.40\text{ k}\Omega$$

The maximum voltage across this equivalent resistance equals 160 V minus the 0.7 V that appears in the two-diode arrangement; that is,

$$v_{\max} = 160 - 0.7 = 159.3\text{ V}$$

The corresponding current is

$$I_{\max} = \frac{159.3}{4400} = 0.0362\text{ A} = 36.2\text{ mA}$$

Because the two diodes are identical and in parallel, each one receives a current I_d given by

$$I_d = \frac{36.2}{2} = \boxed{18.1\text{ mA}}$$

Note that this current is lower than the 20-mA current rating obtained in Part 1, which indicates that the two diodes would operate safely even at the peak value of the input voltage waveform.

Operating the circuit with a single diode will cause one of the diodes to conduct a current of 36.2 mA at the peak of the input voltage waveform; since this current far exceeds the 20-mA current rating obtained in Part 1, the diode would be damaged.

P.22 → Solution

Problem 22.1: Using the amplitude of the rms sinusoidal input, we obtain the average voltage

$$V_m = \sqrt{2}V(\text{rms}) = \sqrt{2} \times 120 = 169.7\text{ V}$$

The voltage across the load, accounting for the silicon ($V_K = 0.7\text{ V}$) diodes, is

$$V_{L_m} = V_m - 2V_K = 169.7 - 2 \times 0.7 = 168.3\text{ V}$$

Converting this result to a dc quantity,

$$V_{dc} \approx 0.636V_{L_m} = 0.636 \times 168.3 = \boxed{107.04\text{ V}}$$

Problem 22.2: The peak inverse voltage is given by

$$PIV = V_{L_m} + V_K = 168.3 + 0.7 = \boxed{169.0\text{ V}}$$

Problem 22.3: To find the maximum current through the diodes, divide the load voltage V_{L_m} by the load resistance,

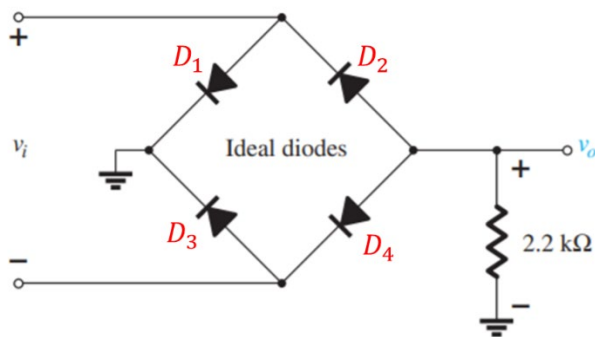
$$I_{D,\max} = \frac{V_{L_m}}{R_L} = \frac{168.3}{1000} = 0.168\text{ A} = \boxed{168\text{ mA}}$$

Problem 22.4: To find the power rating of each diode, use $V_K = 0.7\text{ V}$ and the maximum current obtained just now,

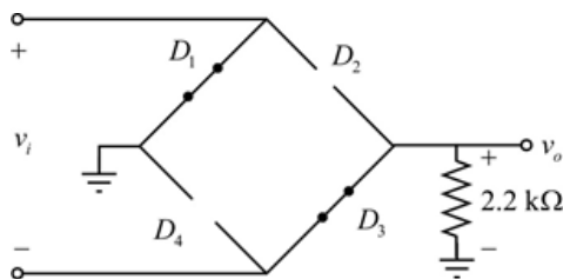
$$P_D = V_K I_{D,\max} = 0.7 \times 0.168 = 0.118\text{ W} = \boxed{118\text{ mW}}$$

P.23 → Solution

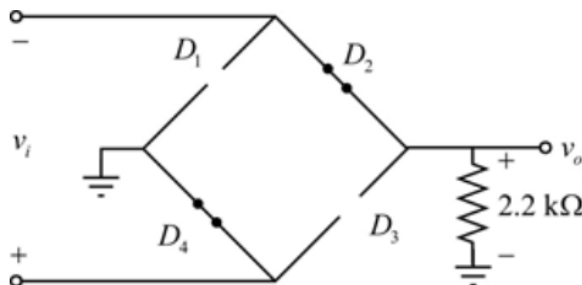
Let the four diodes be numbered as follows.



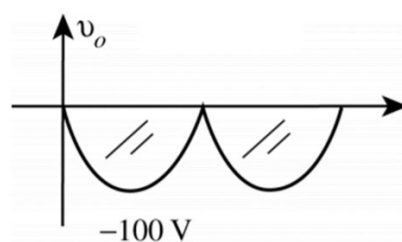
For the positive half-cycle of the input, diodes D_1 and D_3 are forward biased, whereas diodes D_2 and D_4 are reverse biased, as shown. It follows that, for the positive half-cycle, the output voltage is $v_o = -v_i$.



For the negative half-cycle of the input, diodes D_2 and D_4 are forward biased, whereas diodes D_1 and D_3 are reverse biased, as shown. It follows that, for the positive half-cycle, the output voltage is $v_o = v_i$.



With the two previous observations in mind, we can sketch the output voltage v_o :



The peak inverse voltage of the diodes is

$$\boxed{PIV = 100\text{ V}}$$

To establish the maximum current through each diode, apply Ohm's law with $|v_{o,\max}| = 100\text{ V}$ as the voltage,

$$i_{D,\max} = \frac{|v_{o,\max}|}{R_L} = \frac{100}{2200} = 0.0455\text{ A} = \boxed{45.5\text{ mA}}$$

► REFERENCES

- BOYLESTAD, R.L. and NASHELSKY, L. (2013). *Electronic Devices and Circuit Theory*. 11th edition. Upper Saddle River: Pearson.
- NEAMEN, D.A. (2000). *Electronic Circuit Analysis and Design*. 2nd edition. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- NEAMEN, D.A. (2003). *Semiconductor Physics and Devices*. 4th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill.



Was this material helpful to you? If so, please consider donating a small amount to our project at www.montoguequiz.com/donate so we can keep posting free, high-quality materials like this one on a regular basis.