

**ECE606: Solid State Devices**  
**Lecture 15: Surface Recombination /Generation**

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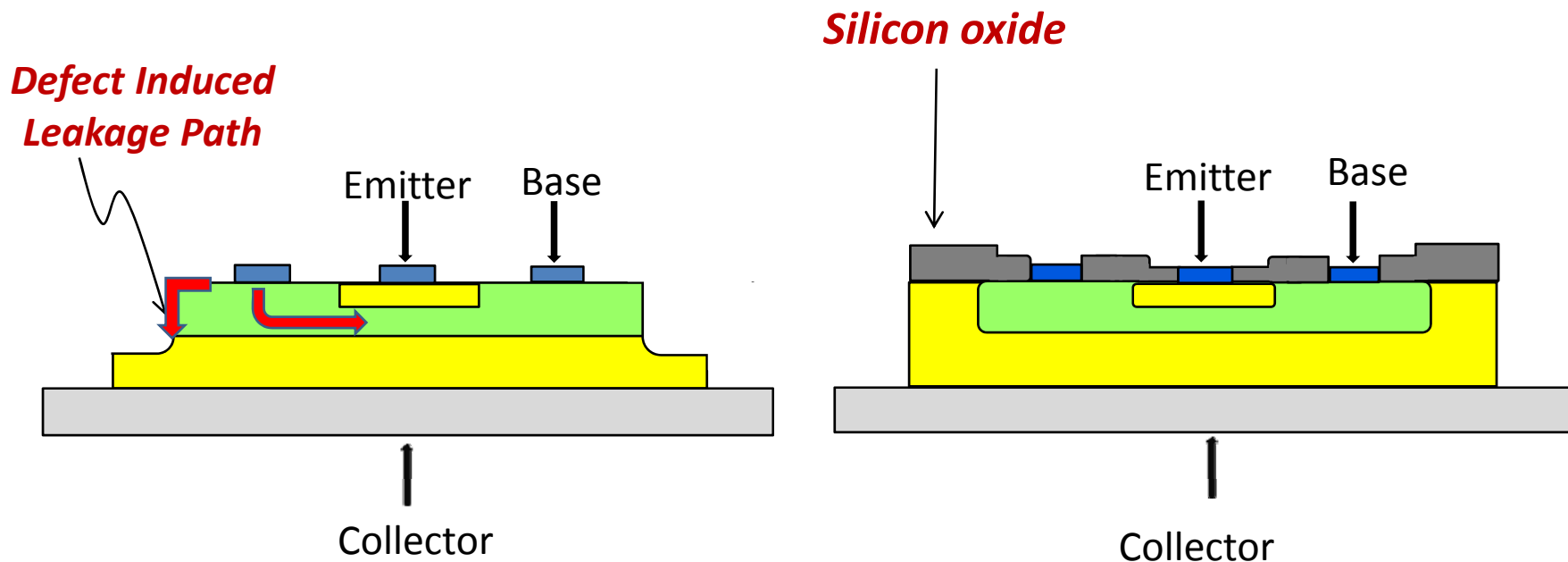
# Outline

- 1) **Nature of interface states**
- 2) SRH formula adapted to interface states
- 3) Surface recombination in depletion region
- 4) Conclusion

**REF:** ADF, Chapter 5, pp. 154-167

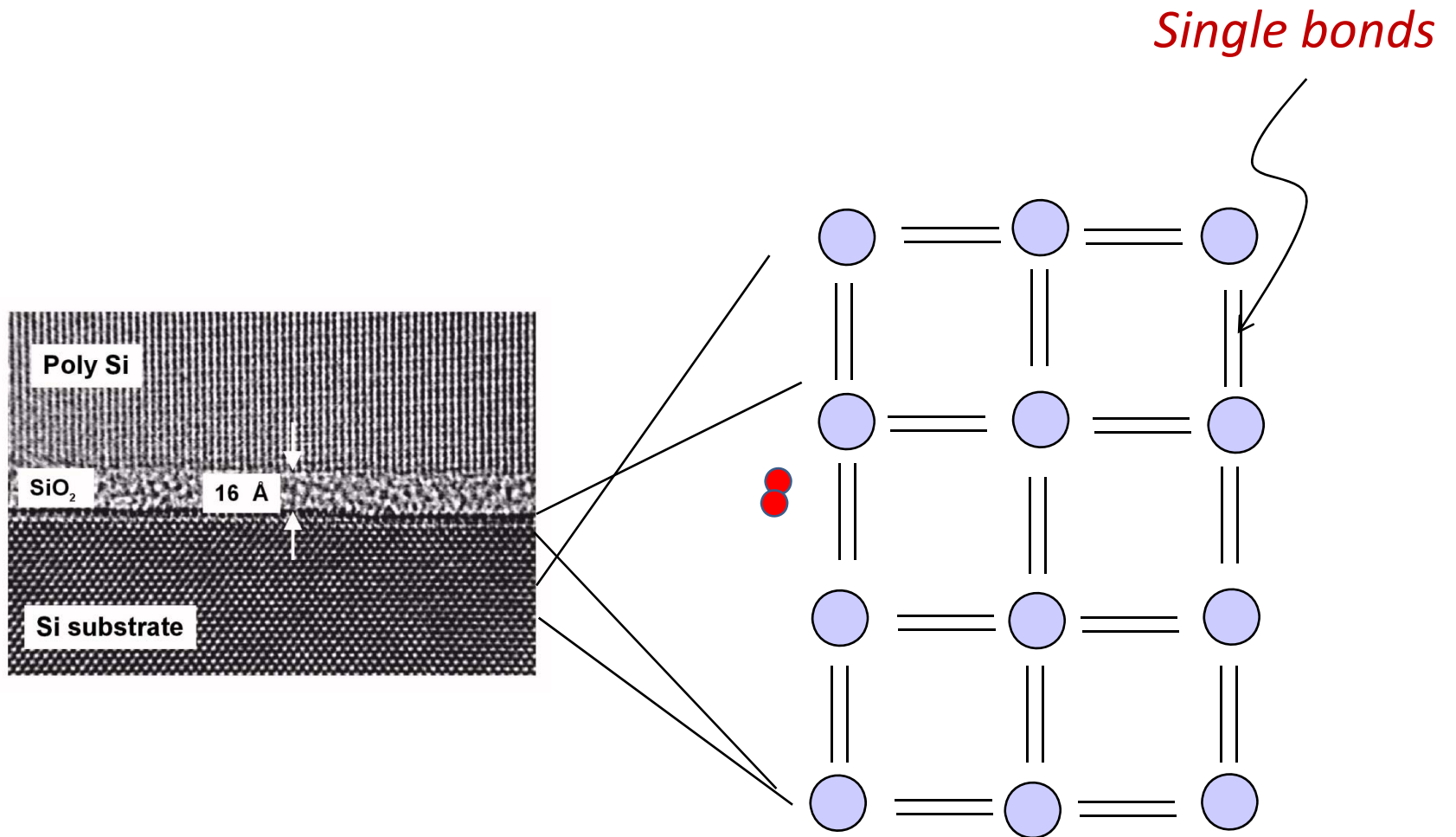
# Surface states: Little bit of history

Hoerni's diagram of Mesa and planar transistors

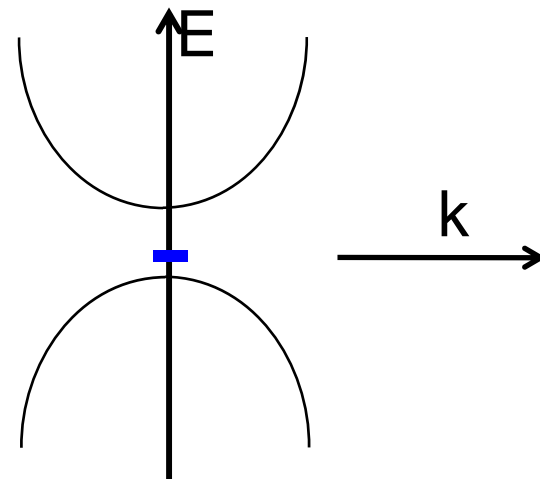
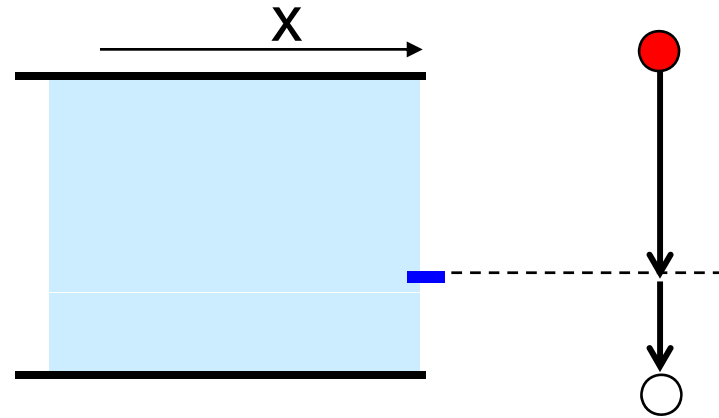
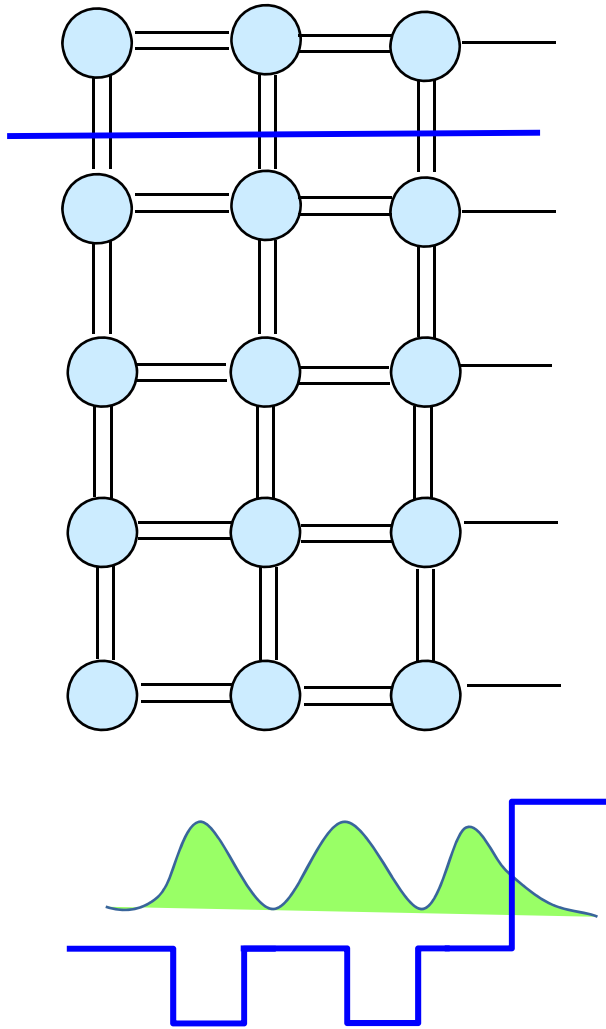


One of the fundamental advances in semiconductor history

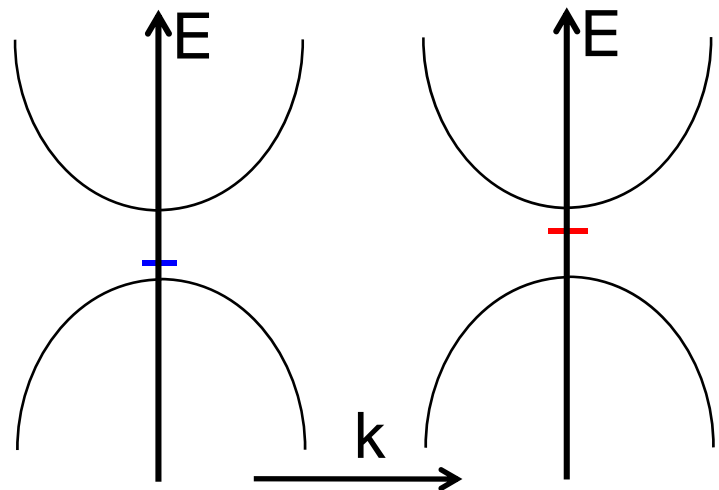
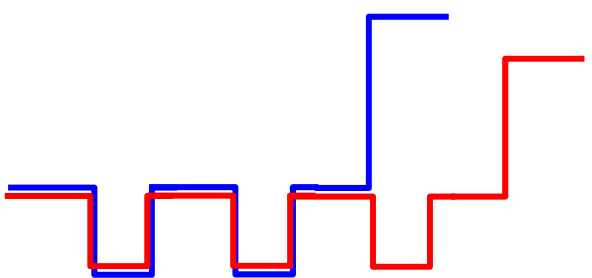
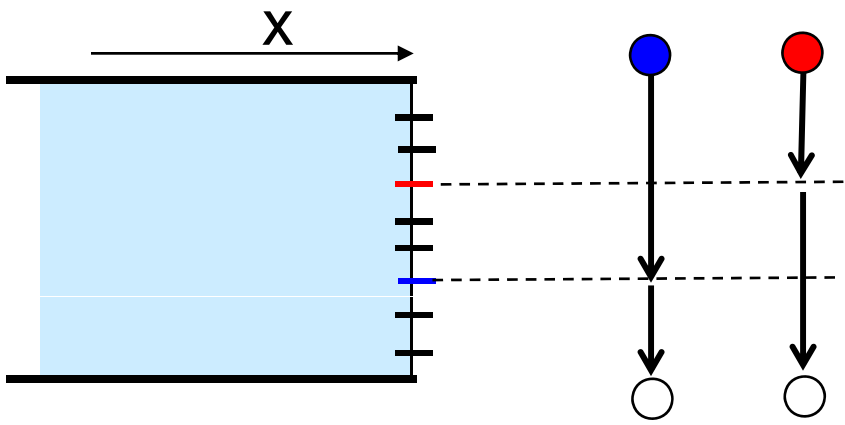
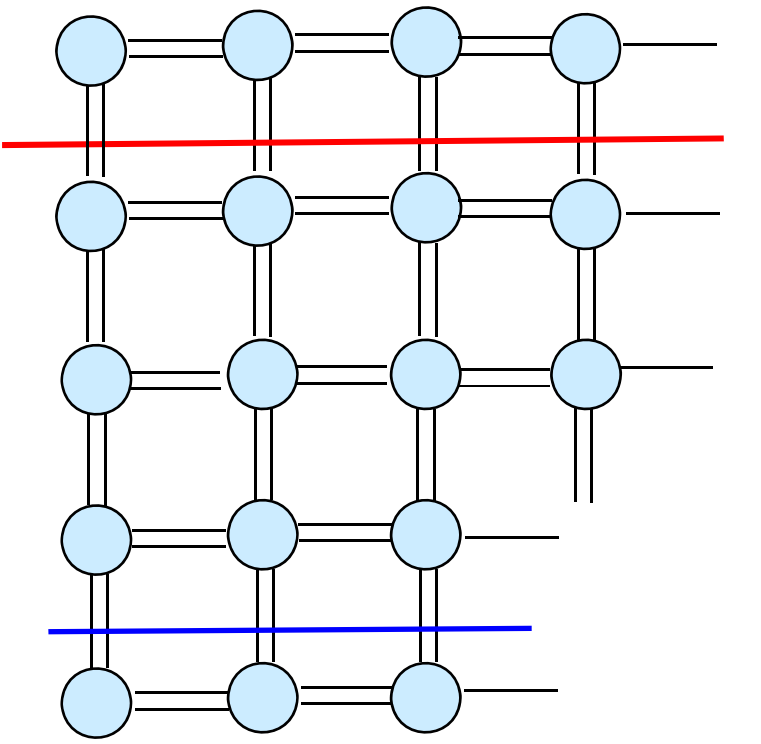
# Atomic configuration of Surface States



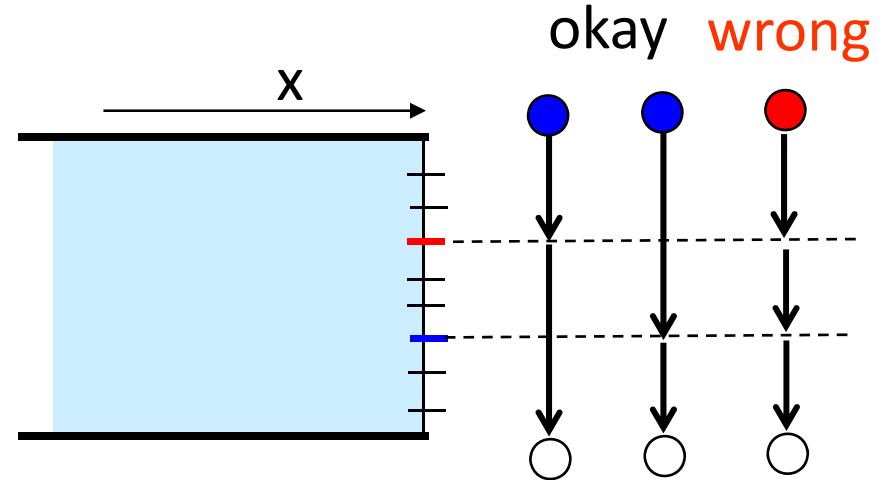
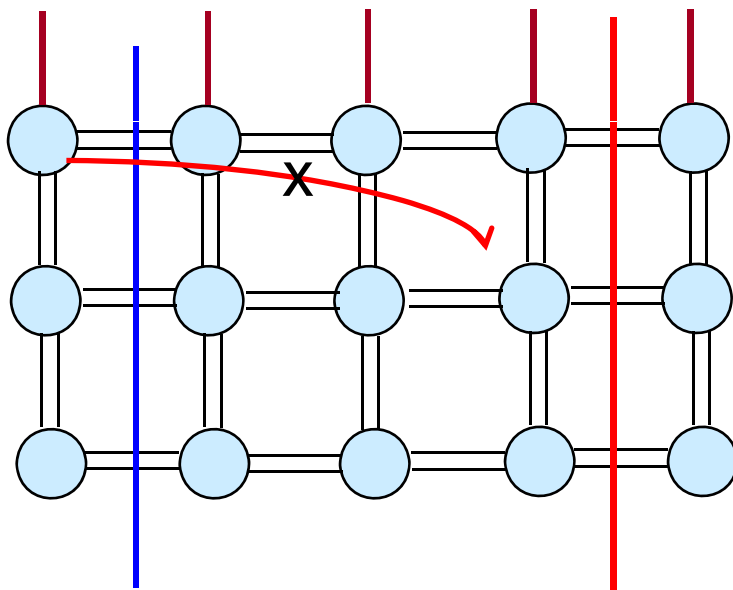
# Surface States



# Multiple Levels of Surface States



# Multiple Levels of Surface States



# Outline

- 1) Nature of interface states
- 2) SRH formula adapted to interface states**
- 3) Surface recombination in depletion region
- 4) Conclusion



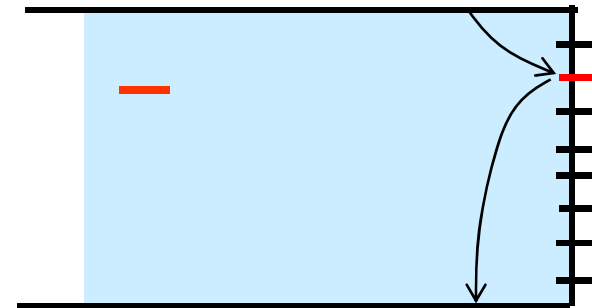
# Surface Recombination Current

For single level bulk traps ....

$$R_{bulk} = \frac{np - n_i^2}{\frac{1}{c_p N_T} (n + n_1) + \frac{1}{c_n N_T} (p + p_1)} = \frac{(np - n_i^2) N_T}{\frac{1}{c_p} (n + n_1) + \frac{1}{c_n} (p + p_1)}$$

For single level interface trap at E ...

$$R(E) = \frac{(n_s p_s - n_i^2) D_T(E) dE}{\frac{1}{c_{ps}} (n_s + n_{1s}) + \frac{1}{c_{ns}} (p_s + p_{1s})}$$



$$R = \int_{E_V}^{E_C} R(E) dE$$

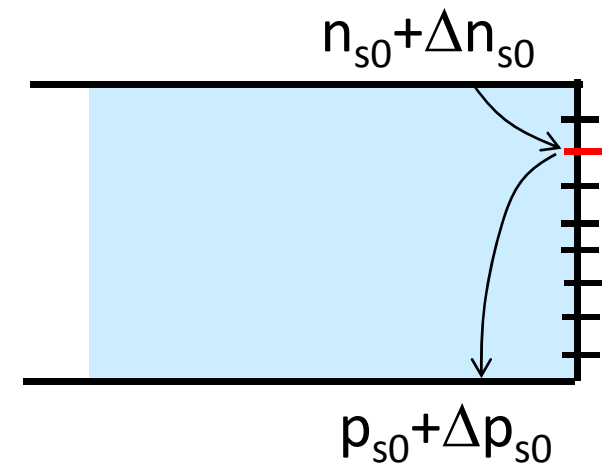
# Case 1: Minority Carrier Recombination

$$R(E) = \frac{\left[ (n_{s0} + \Delta n_{s0})(p_{s0} + \Delta p_{s0}) - n_i^2 \right] D_{IT}(E) dE}{\frac{1}{c_{ps}} (n_{s0} + \Delta n_{s0} + n_{1s}) + \frac{1}{c_{ns}} (p_{s0} + \Delta p_{s0} + p_{1s})}$$

$$= \frac{n_{s0} \Delta p_{s0} D_{IT}(E) dE}{n_{s0} \left[ \frac{1}{c_{ps}} + \frac{n_{1s}}{c_{ps} n_{s0}} + \frac{p_{1s}}{c_{ns} n_{s0}} \right]}$$

$$= \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D_{IT}(E) dE}{\left[ 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{n_{s0}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{n_{s0}} \right]}$$

Donor doped



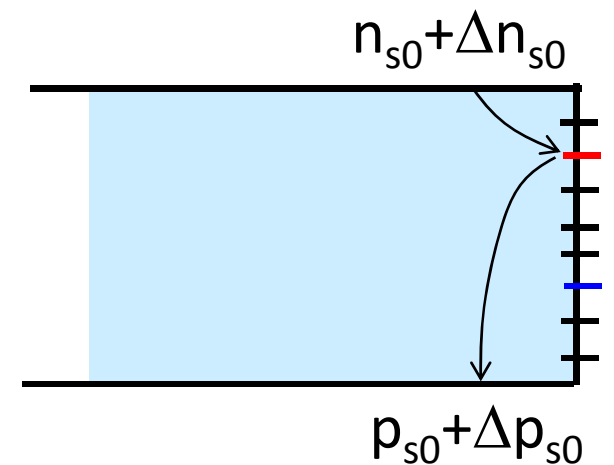
## Consider the Denominator ...

$$D = 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{n_{s0}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{n_{s0}} = 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{N_D} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{N_D}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{n_i e^{(E-E_i)\beta}}{n_i e^{(E_F-E_i)\beta}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{n_i e^{-(E-E_i)\beta}}{n_i e^{(E_F-E_i)\beta}}$$

$$= 1 + e^{(E-E_F)\beta} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} e^{(E_F-E)\beta}$$

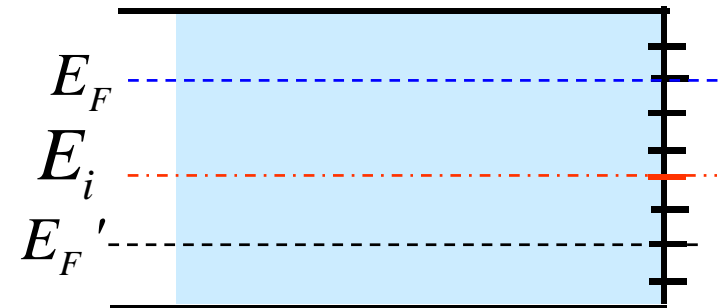
$$= 1 + e^x + ae^{-x} \quad x \equiv \beta(E - E_F)$$



## Consider the Denominator ...

$$D = 1 + \frac{n_i e^{(E-E_i)\beta}}{N_D} + \frac{c_{ps} n_i e^{-(E-E_i)\beta}}{c_{ns} N_D}$$

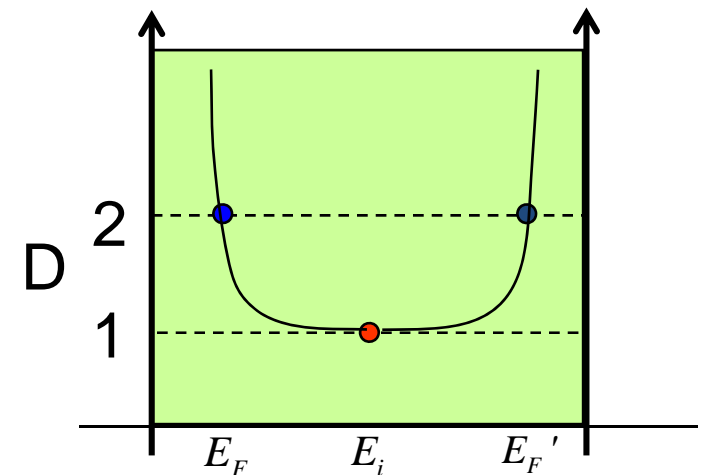
$$= 1 + e^{(E-E_F)\beta} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} e^{(E_F-E)\beta}$$



$$\text{At } E = E_i \Rightarrow D = 1 + \frac{n_i}{N_D} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{n_i}{N_D} \approx 1$$

$$\text{At } E = E_F > E_i, x = 0 \quad D = 1 + 1 + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \times \text{small} \approx 2$$

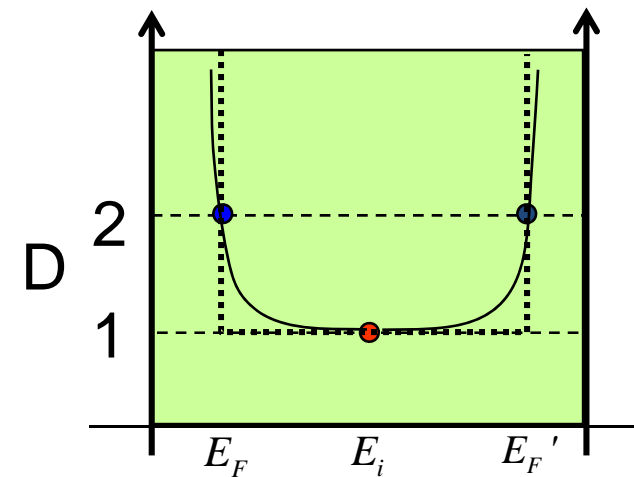
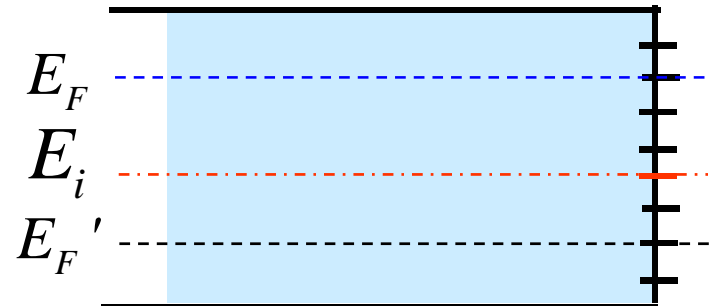
$$\text{At } E = E_F' < E_i, \quad D = 1 + \text{small} + 1 = 2$$



## Approximate the Denominator ...

$$D = 1 + \frac{n_i e^{(E-E_i)\beta}}{N_D} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{n_i e^{-(E-E_i)\beta}}{N_D}$$

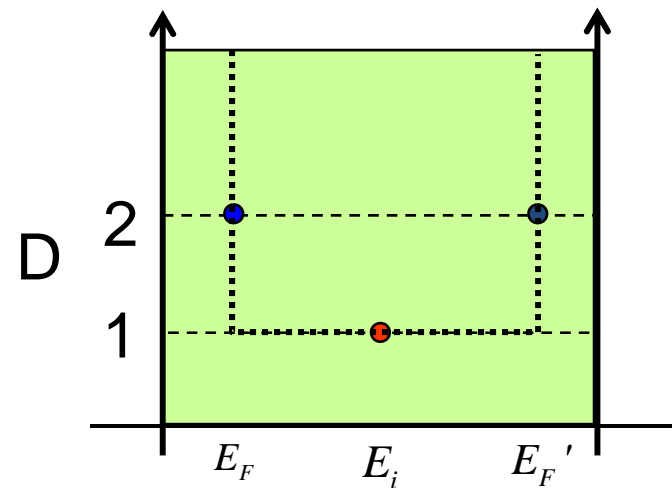
$$D \approx \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } E_F \leq E \leq E_F' \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# Integrated Recombination

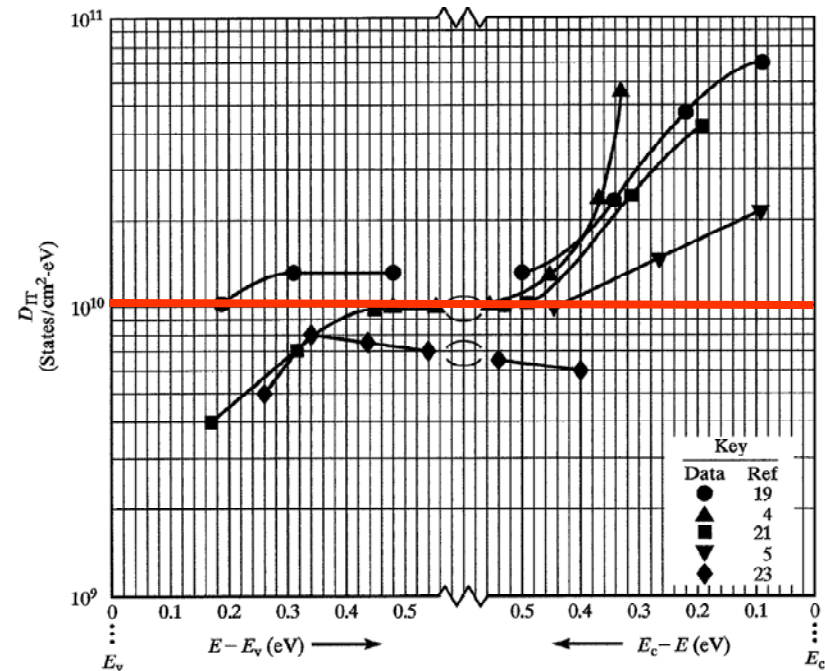
$$R = \int_{E_V}^{E_C} R(E) = \int_{E_V}^{E_C} \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D_{IT}(E) dE}{\left[ 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{n_{s0}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{n_{s0}} \right]}$$

$$\approx \int_{E_F'}^{E_F} c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D(E) dE$$



# Surface Recombination Velocity

$$\begin{aligned}
 R &\approx \int_{E_F}^{E_F} c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D_{IT}(E) dE \\
 &= c_{ps} D_{IT}(E_F - E'_F) \Delta p_{s0} \\
 &= s_g \Delta p_{s0}
 \end{aligned}$$



Surface recombination velocity

# Outline

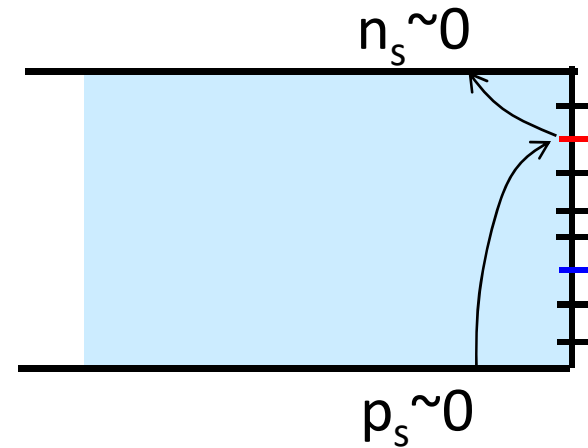
- 1) Nature of interface states
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## Case 2: Recombination in Depletion

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(E) &= \frac{(n_s p_s - n_i^2) D_{IT}(E) dE}{\frac{1}{c_{ps}}(n_s + n_{1s}) + \frac{1}{c_{ns}}(p_s + p_{1s})} \\
 &= -\frac{n_i}{\frac{n_i e^{(E-E_i)\beta}}{c_{ps}} + \frac{n_i e^{-(E-E_i)\beta}}{c_{ns}}} n_i D_{IT}(E) dE \\
 &= -c_{ns} D_{IT} n_i \frac{e^{(E-E_i)\beta} dE}{\frac{c_{ns}}{c_{ps}} e^{2(E-E_i)\beta} + 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$R = -c_{ns} D_{IT} n_i \int_{E_V}^{E_C} \frac{e^{(E-E_i)\beta} dE}{\frac{c_{ns}}{c_{ps}} e^{2(E-E_i)\beta} + 1}$$



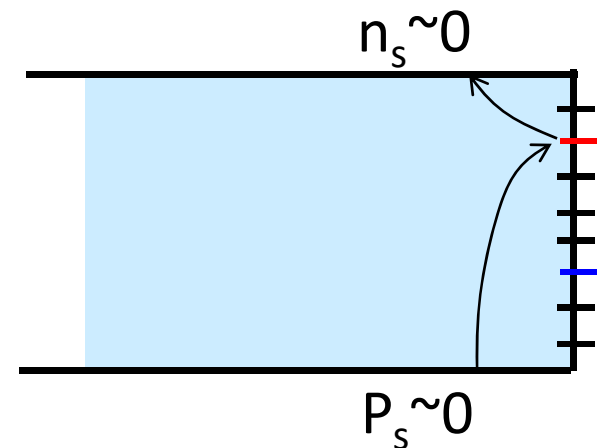
## Case 2: Recombination in Depletion

$$R = -c_{ns} D_{IT} n_i \int_{E_V}^{E_C} \frac{e^{(E-E_i)\beta} dE}{\frac{c_{ns}}{c_{ps}} e^{2(E-E_i)\beta} + 1}$$

$$= -c_{ns} D_{IT} n_i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{(E-E_i)\beta} dE}{\frac{c_{ns}}{c_{ps}} e^{2(E-E_i)\beta} + 1}$$

$$= -c_{ns} D_{IT} n_i \phi \sqrt{\frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}}} \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2 + 1}$$

$$= -\sqrt{c_{ns} c_{ps}} D_{IT} n_i \beta \frac{\pi}{2}$$



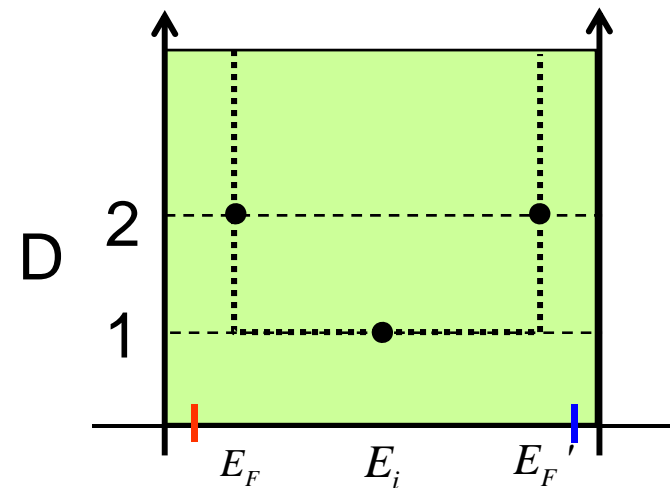
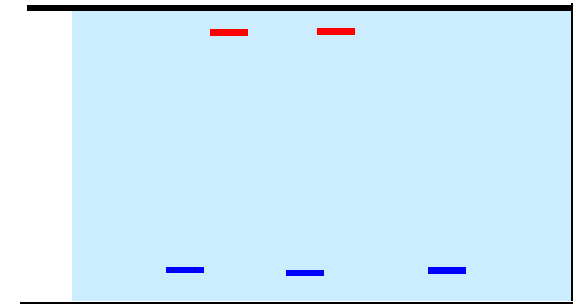
# Why do donors/acceptors **not** act as R-G Centers?

$$R(E_D) = \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D(E) dE}{\left[ 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{n_{s0}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{n_{s0}} \right]}$$

$$= \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} N_D}{D(E_D)} \rightarrow 0$$

$$R(E_A) = \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} D(E) dE}{\left[ 1 + \frac{n_{1s}}{n_{s0}} + \frac{c_{ps}}{c_{ns}} \frac{p_{1s}}{n_{s0}} \right]}$$

$$= \frac{c_{ps} \Delta p_{s0} N_A}{D(E_A)} \rightarrow 0$$



## Summary

$$R = -\sqrt{c_{ns} c_{ps}} D_{IT} \beta \frac{\pi}{2} \times n_i \quad \text{Interface (depletion)}$$

$$R = c_{ps} D_{IT} (E_F - E'_F) \Delta p_s \quad \text{Interface (minority)}$$

$$R = c_p N_T \Delta p \quad \text{Bulk (minority)}$$