



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE



Scienza dei Materiali -lezione 6-

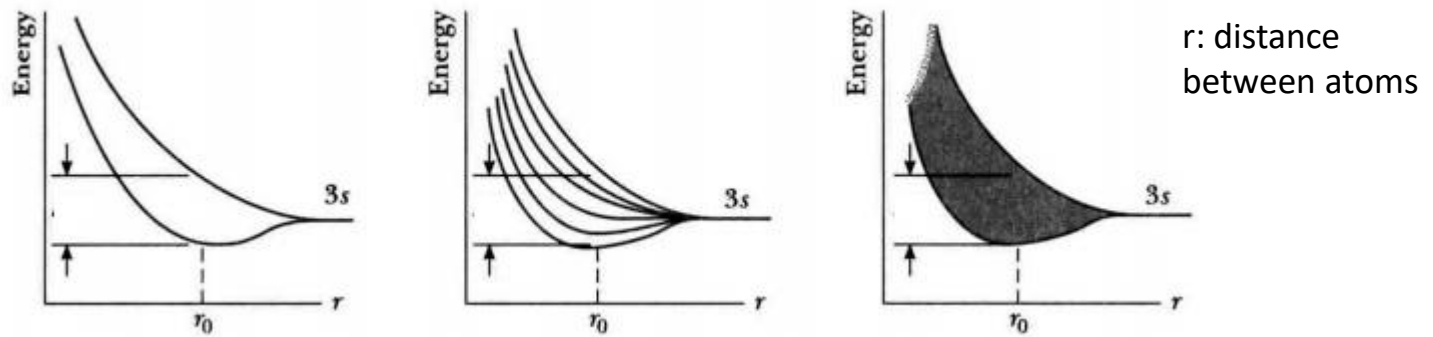
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Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Architettura

A.A. 2021-22

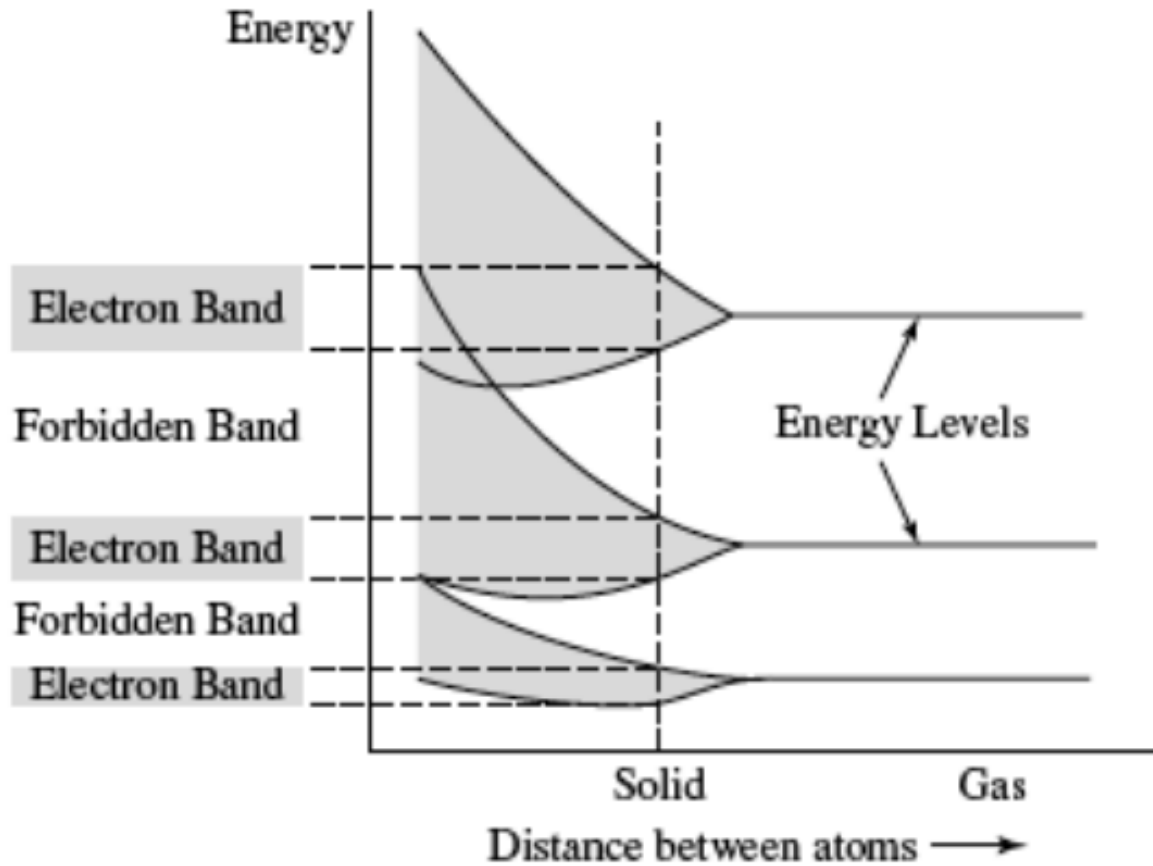
Critical review of bonding

- Bonding states are stable because they have electrons in the middle → this resembles the H_2^+ covalent bonding
- Antibonding states are unstable because they create antialigned dipoles
- If the distance between two atoms (potential wells, boxes) is shortened, splitting of energy levels increases (see example with quantum wells)
- Adding the repulsion energy (origin: Pauli's exclusion principle) gives the overall bonding energy



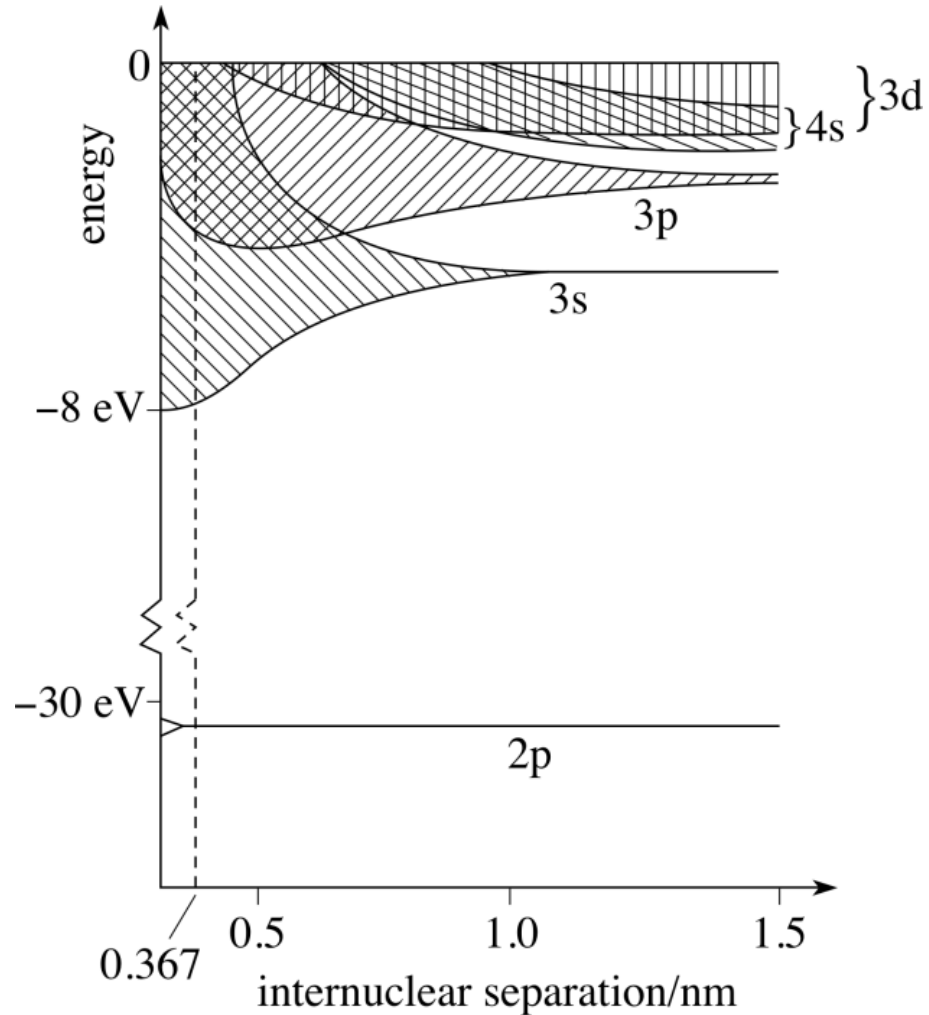
Increasing number of atoms involved

Band Theory of Solids



Band Theory of Solids

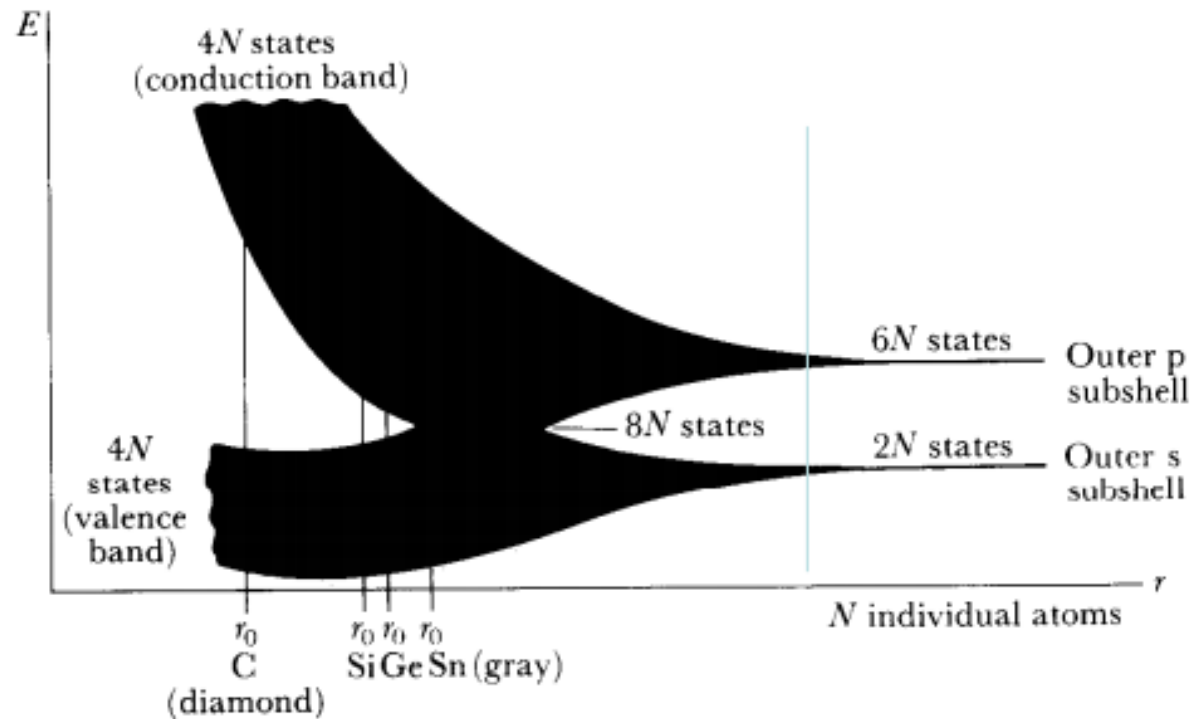
- the example of sodium -



Band Theory of Solids

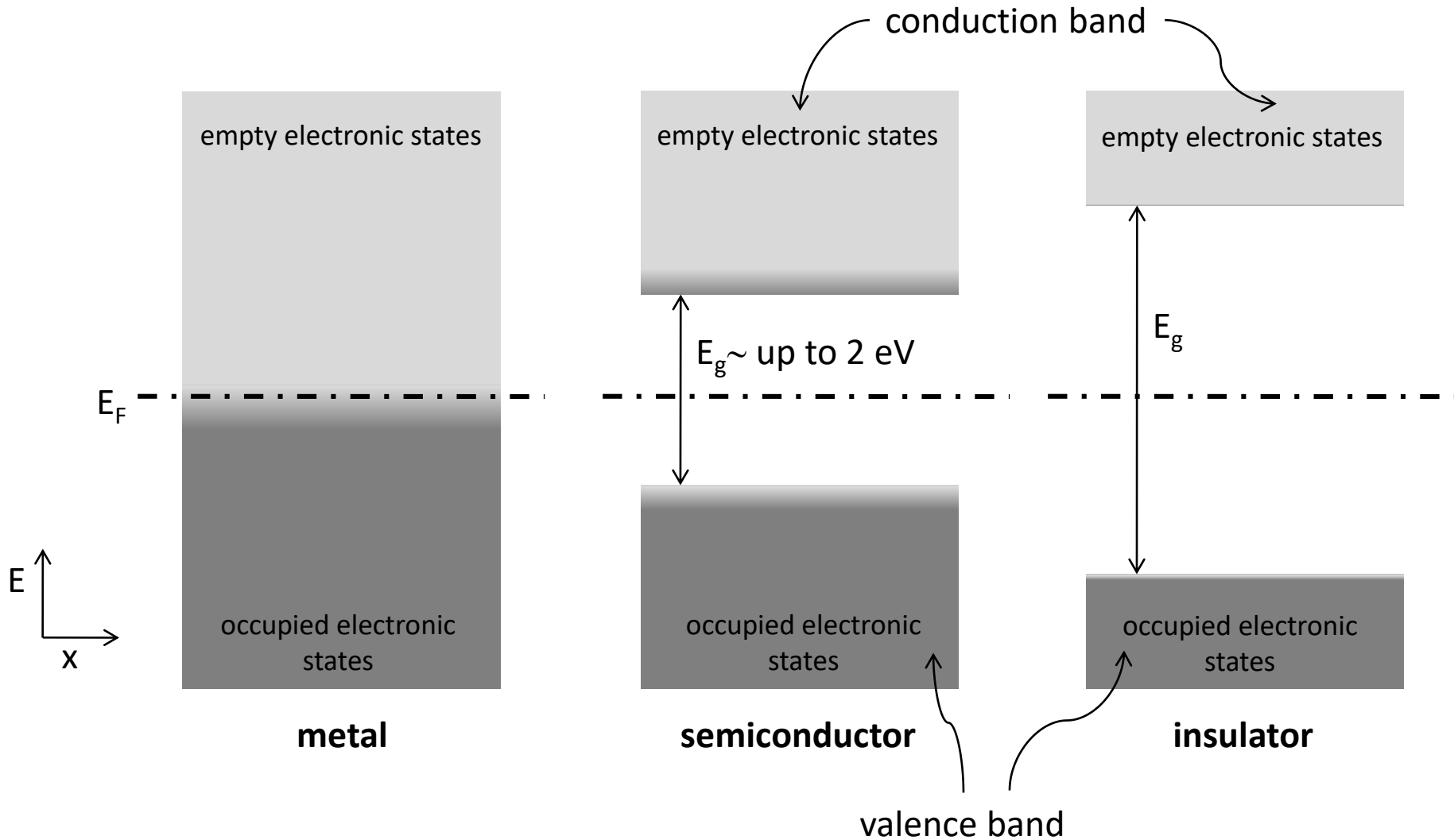
- the example of group IV elemental substances -

5 B Boron Metalloid	6 C Carbon Nonmetal	7 N Nitrogen Nonmetal
13 Al Aluminum Post-Transiti...	14 Si Silicon Metalloid	15 P Phosphorus Nonmetal
31 Ga Gallium Post-Transiti...	32 Ge Germanium Metalloid	33 As Arsenic Metalloid
49 In Indium Post-Transiti...	50 Sn Tin Post-Transiti...	51 Sb Antimony Metalloid



Classification of Solids

- according to Band Theory -

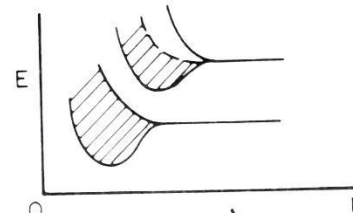
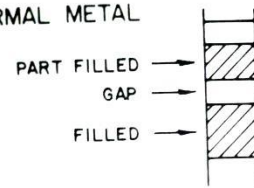


Side note: E_g for semiconductors is much larger than $k_b T$... What's going on?

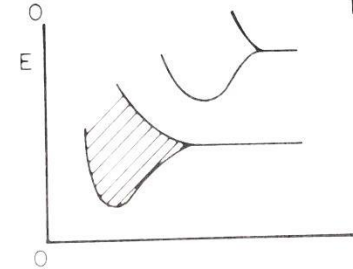
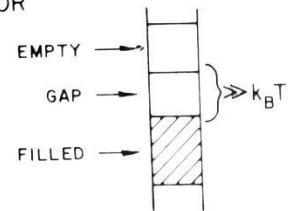
Classification of Solids

- according to Band Theory -

(a) NORMAL METAL



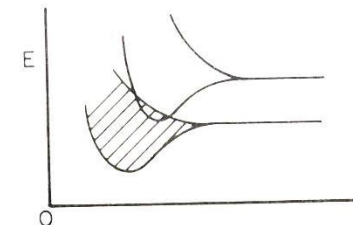
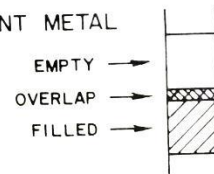
(b) INSULATOR



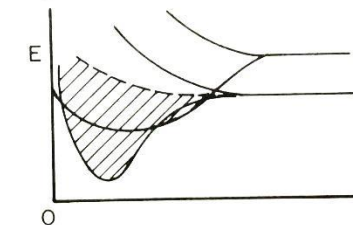
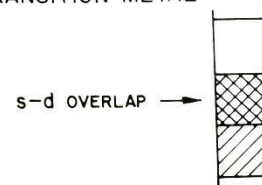
(c) SEMICONDUCTOR

SIMILAR TO INSULATOR; $\text{GAP} \sim k_B T$

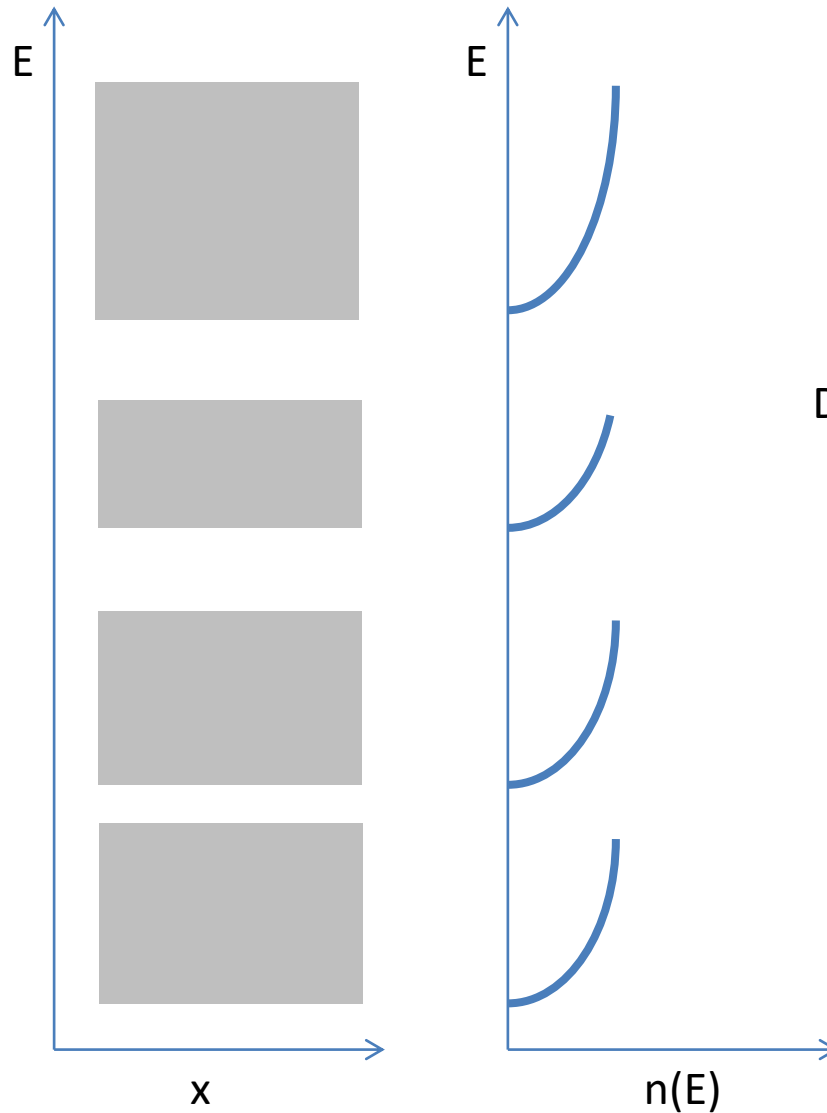
(d) DIVALENT METAL



(e) TRANSITION METAL



Density of States

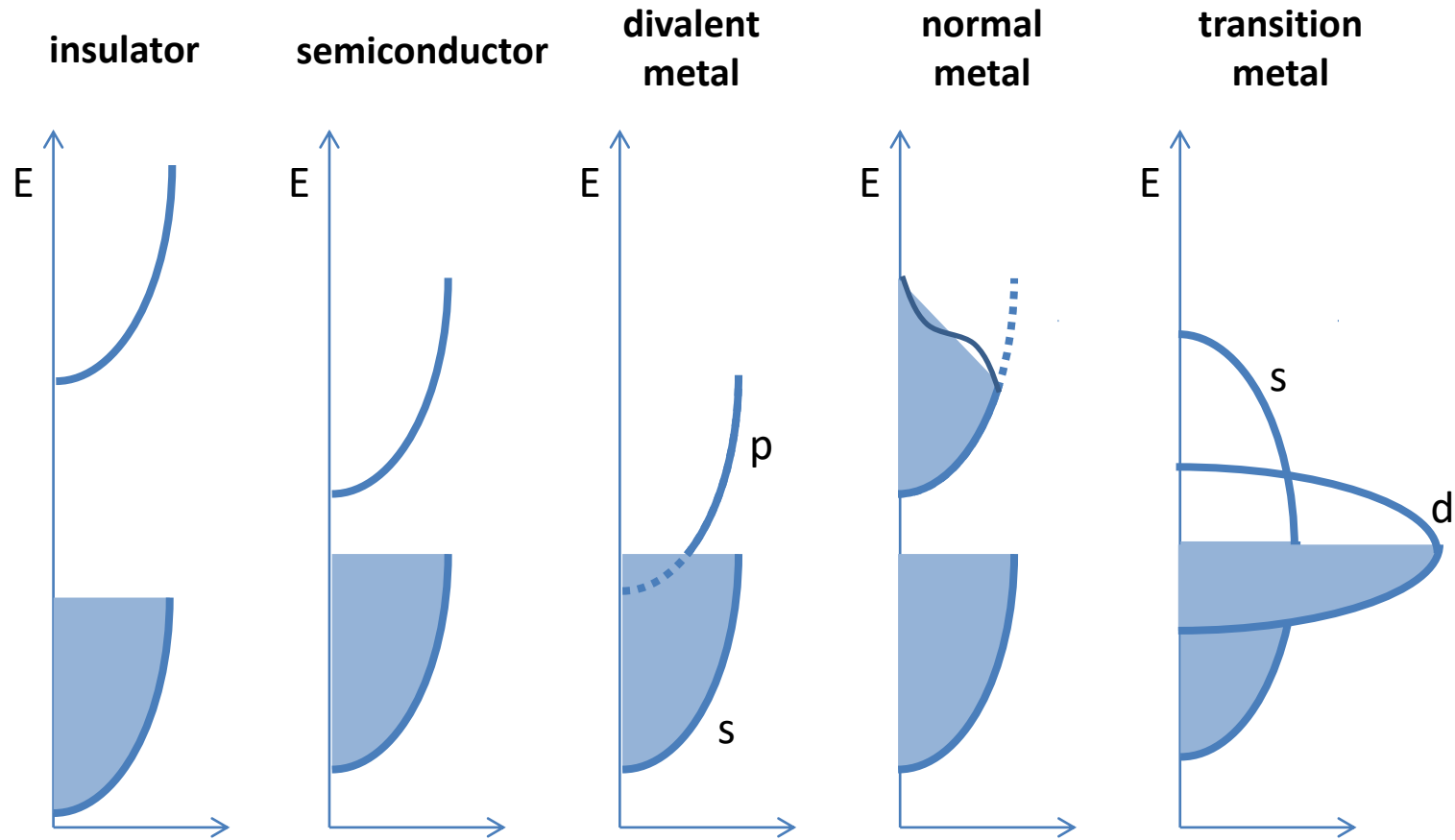


Density of States (DoS)

$$n(E) \propto E^{1/2}$$

Classification of Solids

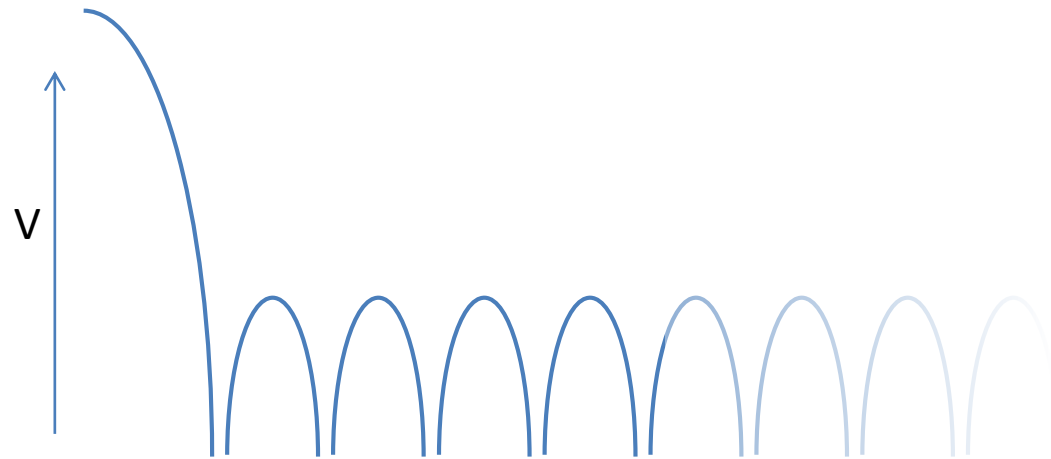
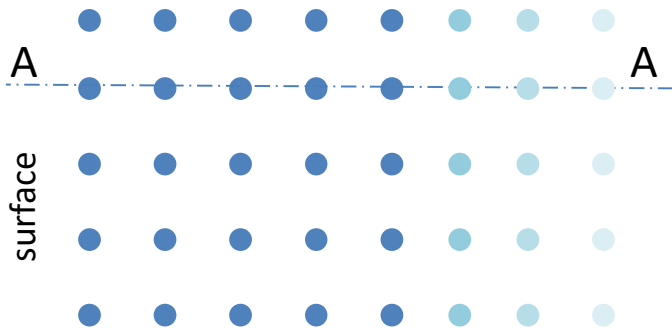
- according to Band Theory -



$$N(E) = n(E)f(E)$$

Periodicity of Crystal Potential

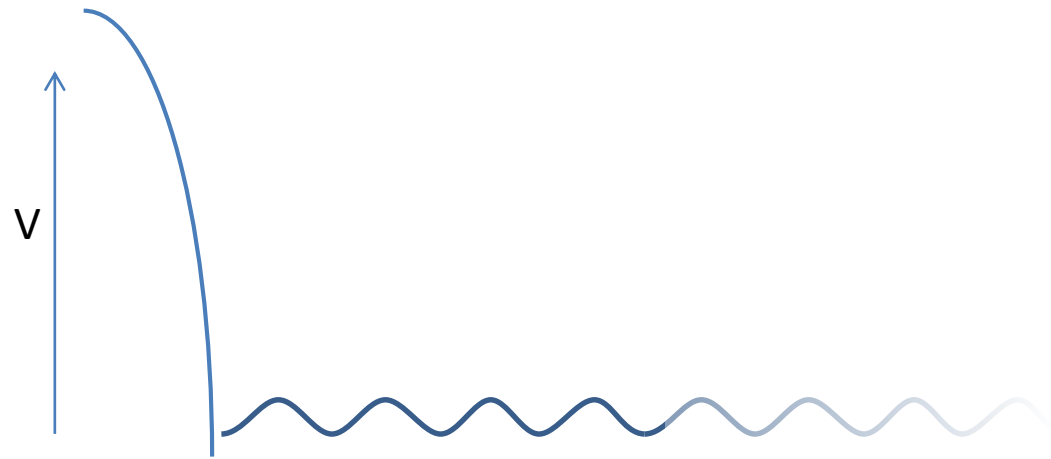
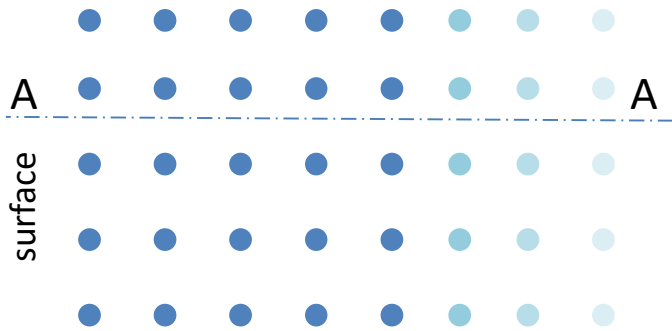
Potential in solids is not constant, it is periodic
Direction is important



Potential along A-A

Periodicity of Crystal Potential

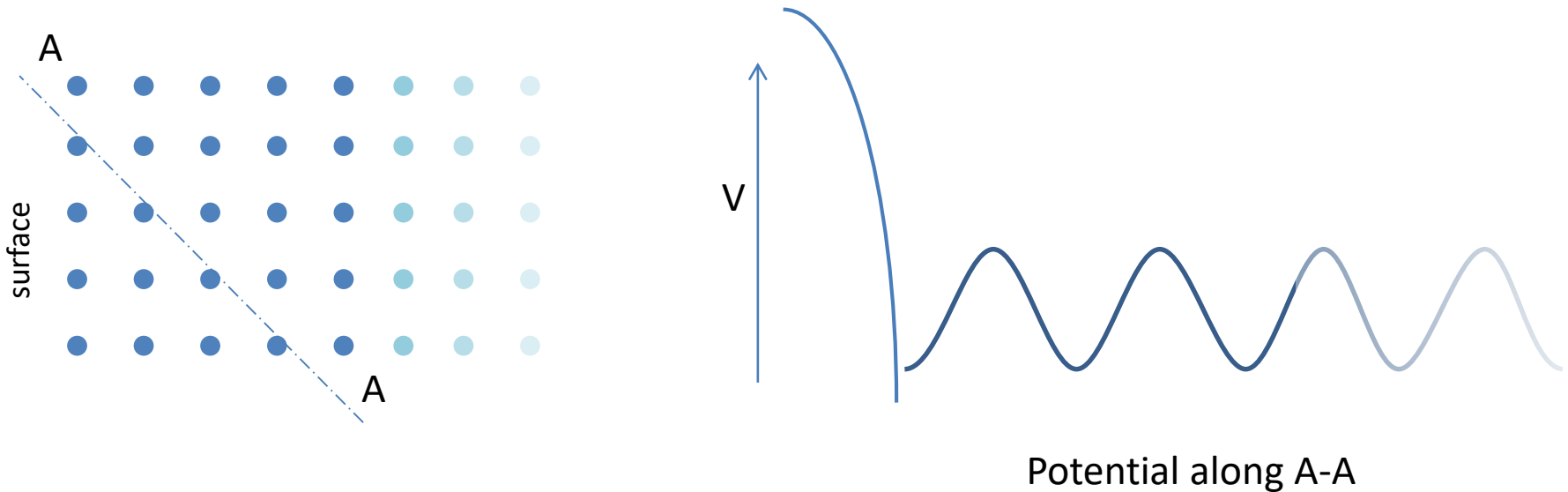
Potential in solids is not constant, it is periodic
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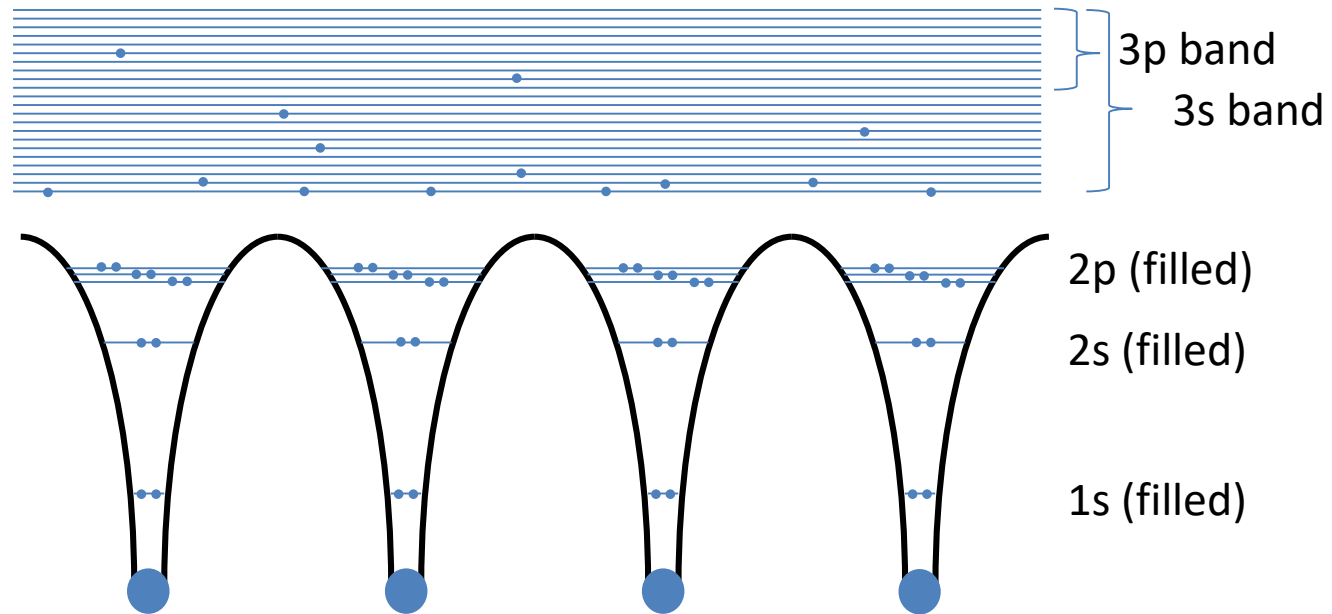
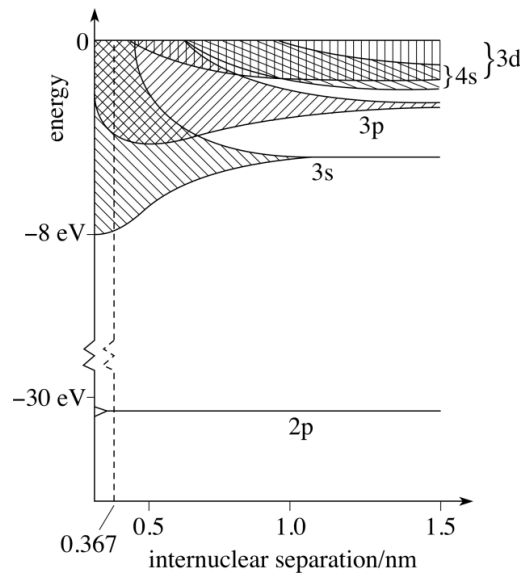
Potential along A-A

Periodicity of Crystal Potential

Potential in solids is not constant, it is periodic
Direction is important



Band Theory of Solids



CRYSTAL LATTICES

A crystal lattice is defined by the **unit cell vectors**:

$$\vec{R} = n_1 \vec{a}_1 + n_2 \vec{a}_2 + n_3 \vec{a}_3$$

with $\vec{a}_1, \vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3$ linearly independent: $(\vec{a}_1 \wedge \vec{a}_2) \cdot \vec{a}_3 \neq 0$

$$n_i \in \mathbb{Z}: \quad 0; \pm 1; \pm 2; \pm 3; \dots$$

Examples:

SC – Simple Cubic

$$Vol = a^3$$

$$\vec{a}_1 = a (1, 0, 0)$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = a (0, 1, 0)$$

$$\vec{a}_3 = a (0, 0, 1)$$

FCC – Face Centred Cubic

$$Vol = \frac{a^3}{8} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{a^3}{4}$$

$$\vec{a}_1 = \frac{a}{2} (1, 1, 0)$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \frac{a}{2} (0, 1, 1)$$

$$\vec{a}_3 = \frac{a}{2} (1, 0, 1)$$

BCC – Body Centred Cubic

$$Vol = \frac{a^3}{8} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{a^3}{2}$$

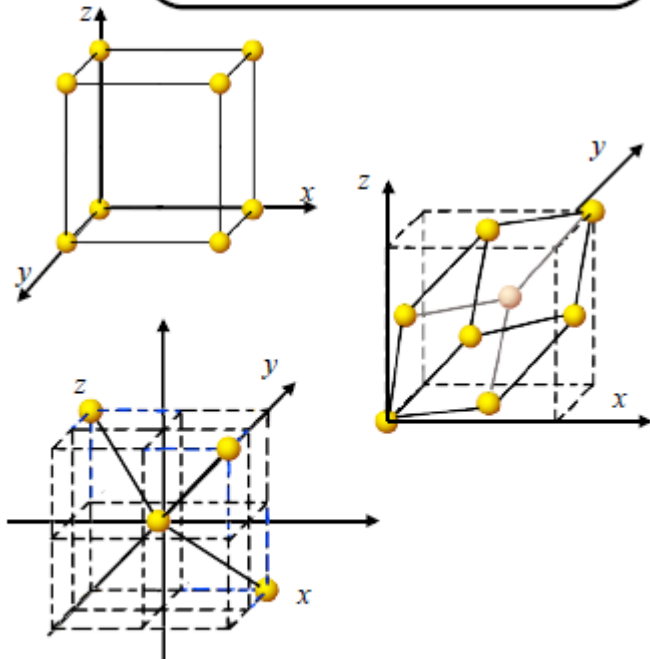
$$\vec{a}_1 = \frac{a}{2} (-1, 1, 1)$$

$$\vec{a}_2 = \frac{a}{2} (1, -1, 1)$$

$$\vec{a}_3 = \frac{a}{2} (1, 1, -1)$$

Volume

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{1x} & a_{1y} & a_{1z} \\ a_{2x} & a_{2y} & a_{2z} \\ a_{3x} & a_{3y} & a_{3z} \end{vmatrix} = \vec{a}_1 \cdot (\vec{a}_2 \wedge \vec{a}_3)$$



THE RECIPROCAL LATTICE

It is a lattice of **wave vectors** \vec{k} (dimension $\left[\frac{1}{L}\right]$).

$$\vec{b}_i = 2\pi \frac{\vec{a}_j \wedge \vec{a}_k}{\vec{a}_i \cdot [\vec{a}_j \wedge \vec{a}_k]} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \vec{b}_1 = 2\pi \frac{\vec{a}_2 \wedge \vec{a}_3}{\vec{a}_1 \cdot [\vec{a}_2 \wedge \vec{a}_3]} \\ \vec{b}_2 = 2\pi \frac{\vec{a}_3 \wedge \vec{a}_1}{\vec{a}_2 \cdot [\vec{a}_3 \wedge \vec{a}_1]} \\ \vec{b}_3 = 2\pi \frac{\vec{a}_1 \wedge \vec{a}_2}{\vec{a}_3 \cdot [\vec{a}_1 \wedge \vec{a}_2]} \end{array} \right.$$

where i, j, k , are *ordered*
triplets (1,2,3 – 3,1,2 – 2,3,1)

→ reciprocal lattice:

$$\vec{G} = m_1 \vec{b}_1 + m_2 \vec{b}_2 + m_3 \vec{b}_3$$

we construct it this way because of the following property of the **plane waves** $e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}}$:

RECIPROCAL LATTICES

Theorem:

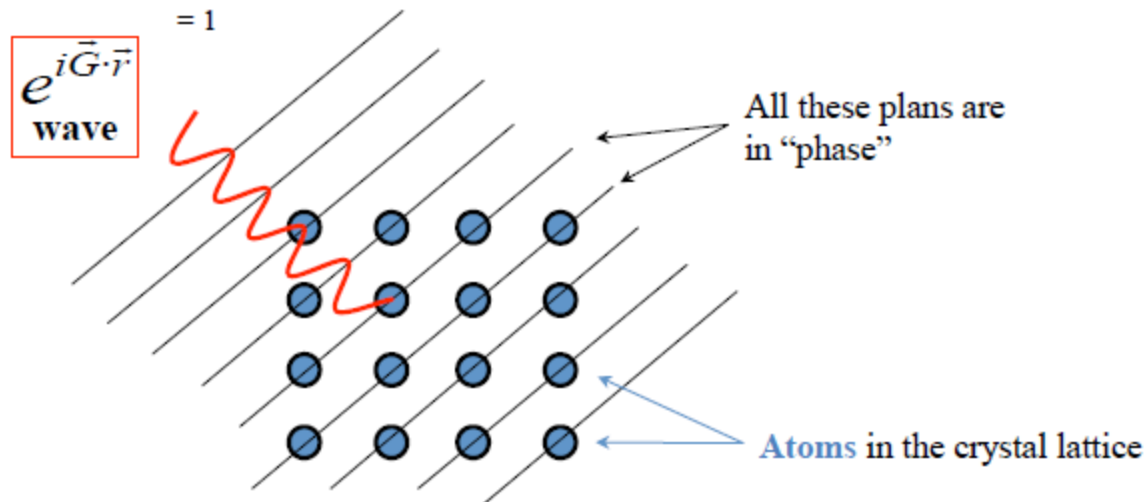
The function $e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}} \forall \vec{G} \in \text{reciprocal lattice}$, has the lattice periodicity:

$$e^{i\vec{G}\cdot(\vec{r}+\vec{R})} = e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}} \forall \vec{R} \in \text{direct lattice}$$

Proof:

$$\begin{cases} \vec{G} \cdot \vec{R} = (n_1\vec{a}_1 + n_2\vec{a}_2 + n_3\vec{a}_3) \cdot (m_1\vec{b}_1 + m_2\vec{b}_2 + m_3\vec{b}_3) \\ \vec{a}_i \cdot \vec{b}_j = 2\pi\delta_{ij} \quad \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{cases} \implies \therefore \vec{G} \cdot \vec{R} = 2\pi \underbrace{(n_1m_1 + n_2m_2 + n_3m_3)}_{\text{an integer}}$$

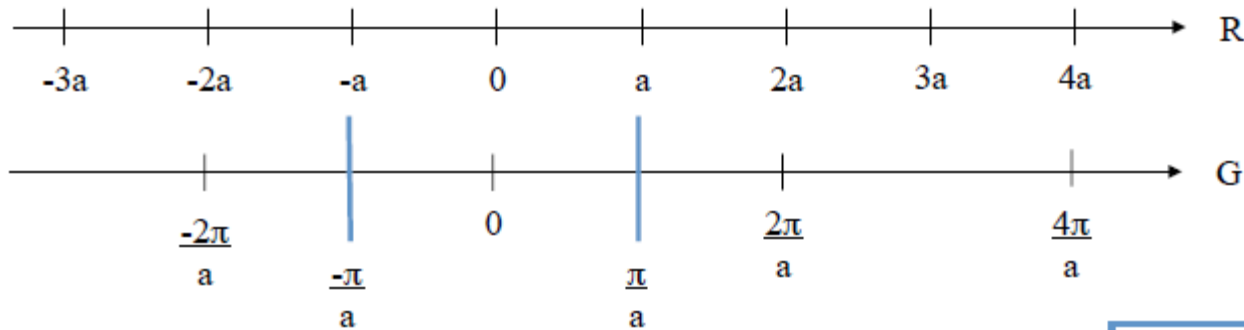
so $e^{i\vec{G}\cdot(\vec{r}+\vec{R})} = e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}} \cdot \underbrace{e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{R}}}_{=1} = e^{i\vec{G}\cdot\vec{r}}$



RECIPROCAL LATTICES

a simple example: 1d

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{lattice } R = na \\ \text{r. lattice } G = \frac{2\pi}{a}m \\ R \cdot G = \left[\left(\frac{2\pi}{a} \right) \cdot a \right] nm = 2\pi nm \quad \therefore e^{\frac{2\pi}{a}mx} = \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{a}mx\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{a}mx\right) \end{array} \right.$$



= unit cell of the reciprocal lattice

“Brillouin Zone”

$$\left[-\frac{\pi}{a}; \frac{\pi}{a} \right]$$

Note that $f(\vec{r}) = \sum_{G \in RL} c_G \cdot e^{i\vec{G} \cdot \vec{r}}$ is a general periodic function

➔ $e^{i\vec{G} \cdot \vec{r}} =$ (Fourier) basis for all those functions periodic over the lattice

RECIPROCAL LATTICES

Exercise 1: Reciprocal lattice of a simple cubic?

$$\begin{cases} \vec{b}_1 = 2\pi \frac{\vec{a}_2 \wedge \vec{a}_3}{Volume} = \frac{2\pi}{a^3} a^2 \begin{vmatrix} \hat{i} & \hat{j} & \hat{k} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{2\pi}{a} (1, 0, 0) \\ \vec{b}_2 = \frac{2\pi}{a} (0, 1, 0) \\ \vec{b}_3 = \frac{2\pi}{a} (0, 0, 1) \end{cases}$$

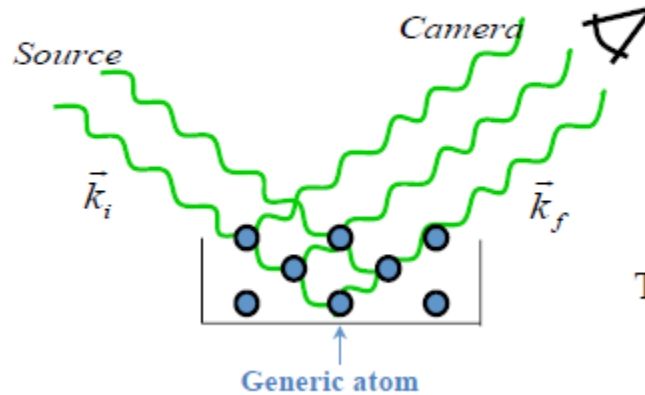
Q: what is the volume of the RL unit cell?

A: clearly $\left(\frac{2\pi}{a}\right)^3 = V_G$

➔ product of direct and reciprocal unit cell volumes $= V_R V_G = (2\pi)^3 \quad (3D)$

Exercise 2: prove that the RL of a BCC lattice is a FCC lattice
prove that the RL of a FCC lattice is a BCC lattice
prove that the volumes product is $(2\pi)^3$ in each of these cases.

DIFFUSION OF LIGHT



For positive interference at the receiving point \vec{R} all waves must be in phase \vec{R}_I .

Total Phase: $e^{i \vec{k}_i \cdot \vec{R}_I} \cdot e^{i \vec{k}_f \cdot (\vec{R} - \vec{R}_I)}$

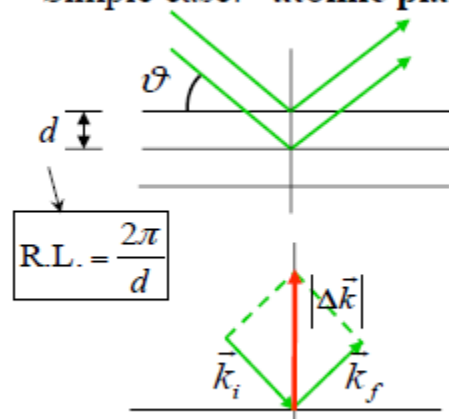
The ion-dependent part is: $e^{-i (\vec{k}_f - \vec{k}_i) \cdot \vec{R}_I}$

So a criterium for a **diffraction peak** is the:

Bragg condition:

$$\Delta \vec{k} = \vec{G}$$

Simple case: “atomic planes”



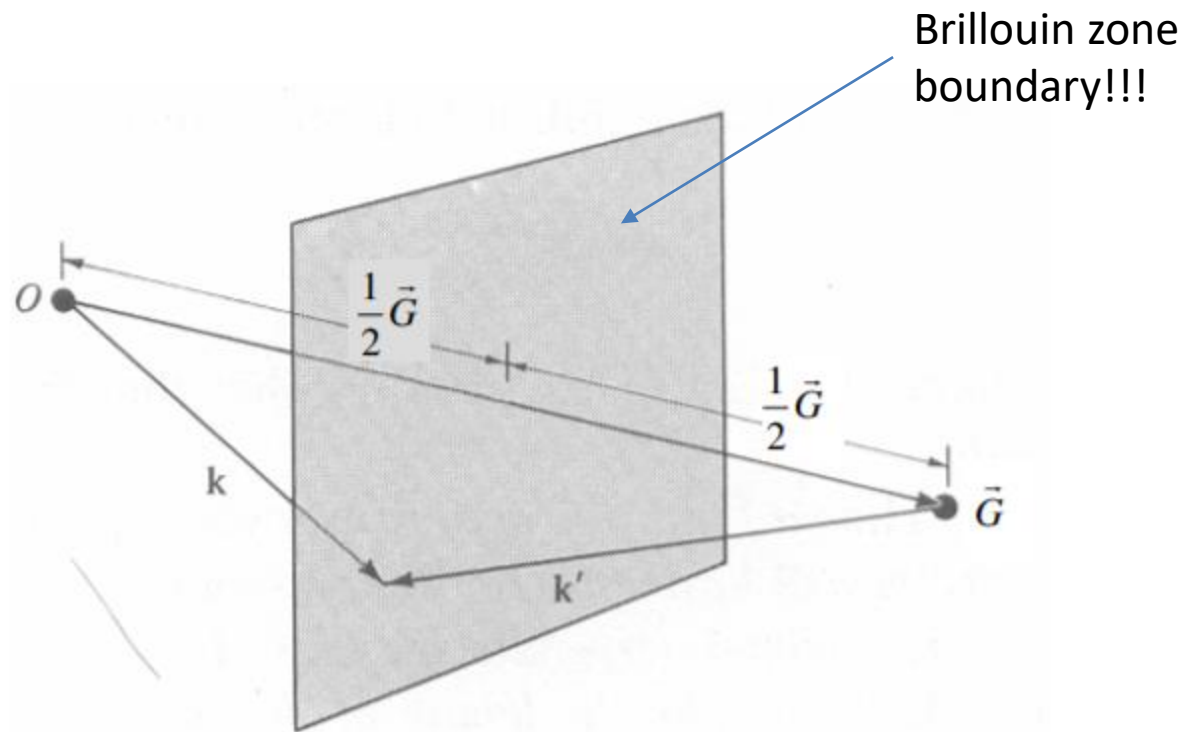
$2d \sin \vartheta = \text{difference of path} = n\lambda$

$|\Delta \vec{k}| = 2k \sin \vartheta$ but is also $|\Delta \vec{k}| = m \frac{2\pi}{d}$ and remember $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$

$\Rightarrow 2 \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin \vartheta = m \frac{2\pi}{d} \Rightarrow \boxed{2d \sin \vartheta = m\lambda}$ as above.

Note $|\vec{k}_i| = |\vec{k}_f| = k \Rightarrow$ “Elastic scattering” = the energy of the photon is conserved!

we know that $E = \hbar\omega \Rightarrow$ same $\nu, \lambda, k...!$



Band Theory of Solids

- Brillouin theory and the dependence on k -

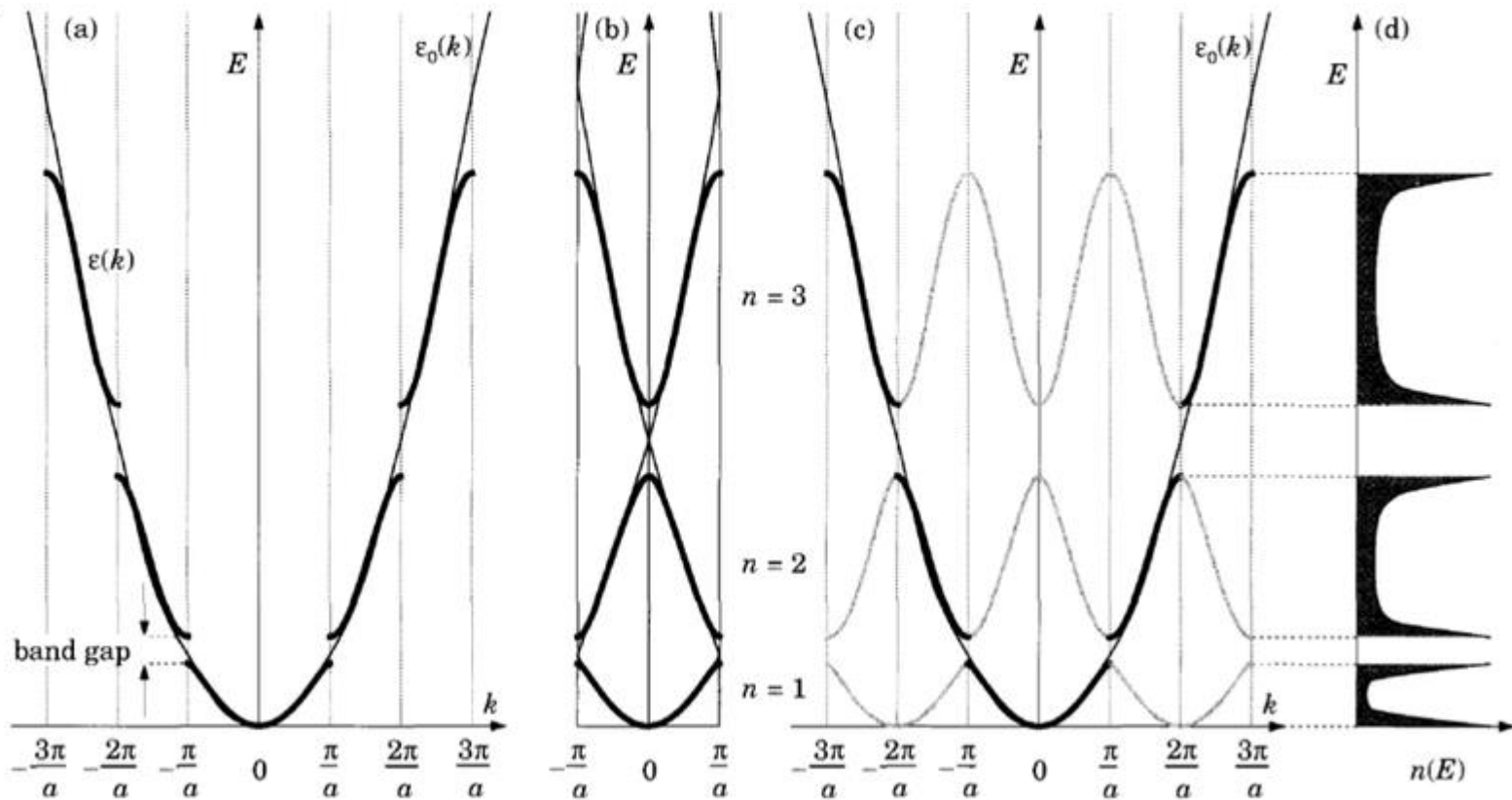
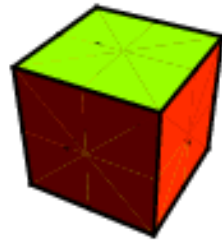


Figure 2.2. Band structure of a one-dimensional crystal in the (a) extended, (b) reduced, and (c) repeated zone schemes, and (d) the density of states as a function of energy. The thick lines show $\epsilon(k)$ in a weak periodic potential, with bands labelled by n , while the thin parabola is $\epsilon_0(k)$ for free electrons. The grey lines are periodic repeats.

Band Theory of Solids

- Brillouin zones in 3D -

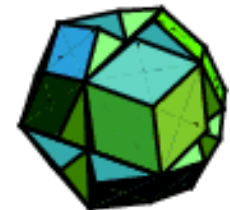
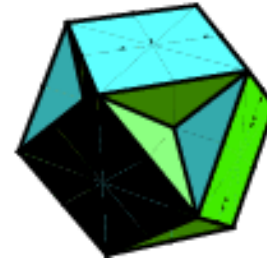
simple cubic



face-centered cubic

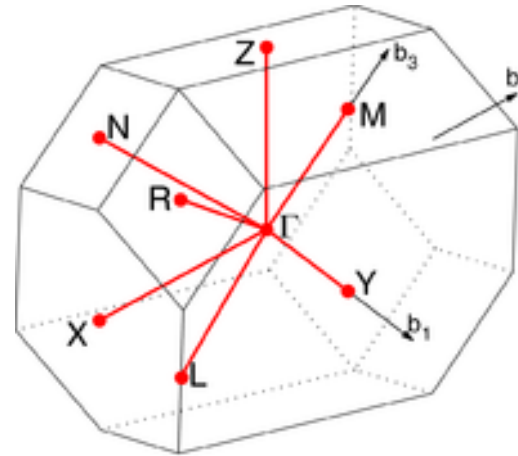
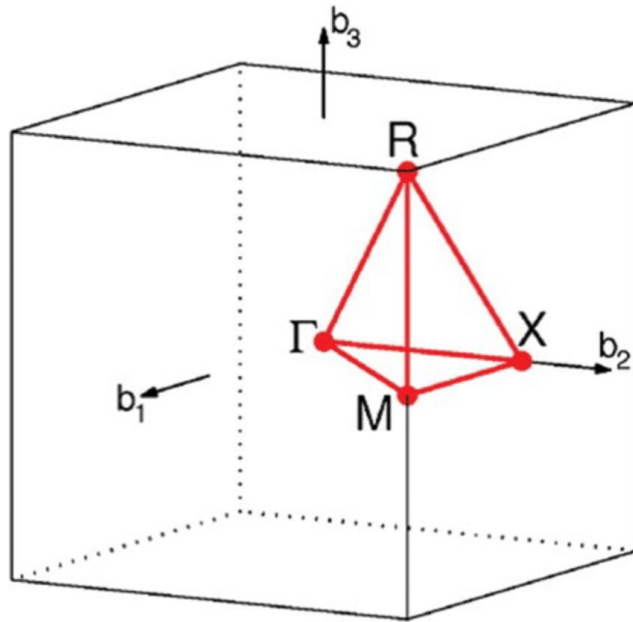


body-centered cubic



Band Theory of Solids

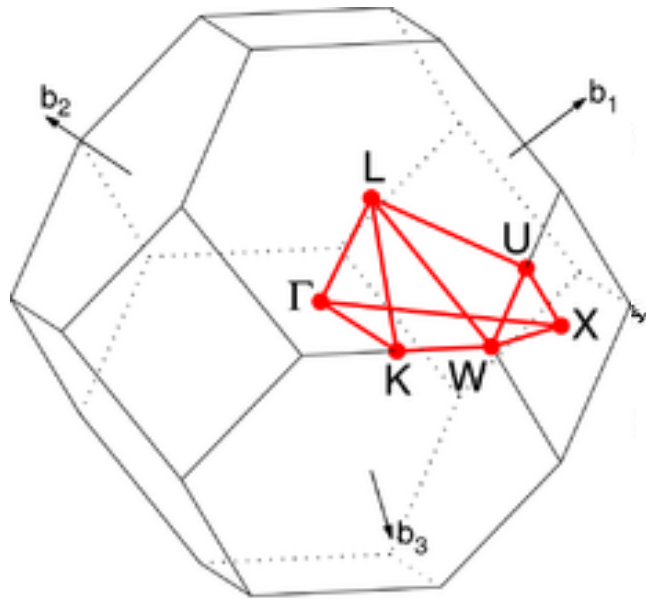
- Brillouin zones in 3D -



Band Theory of Solids

- Brillouin zones in 3D -

Free electron bands for fcc structure



FCC path: Γ -X-W-K- Γ -L-U-W-L-K|U-X

Γ - center of the BZ

X - $[100]$ intercept;

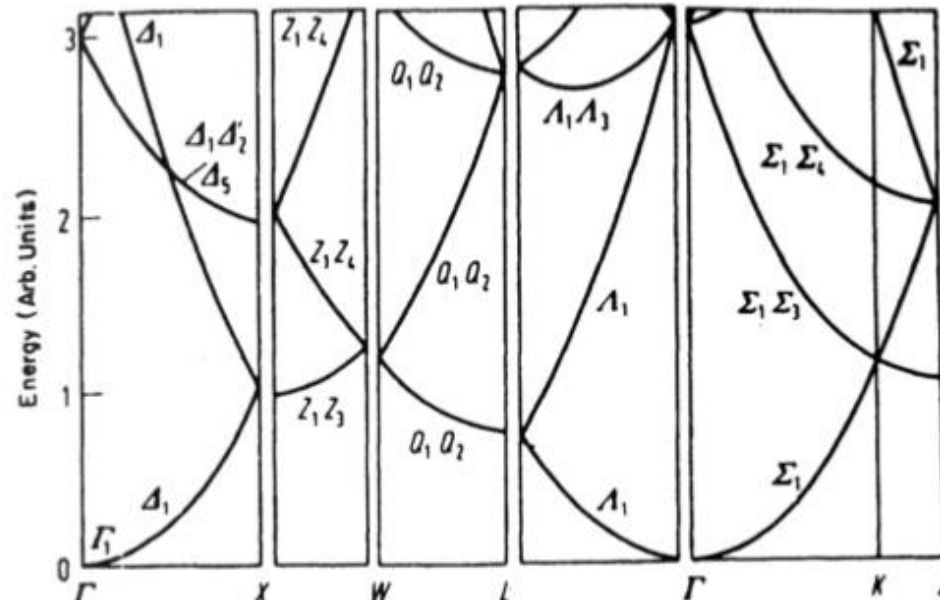
K - $[110]$ intercept;

L - $[111]$ intercept;

Γ - X path Δ

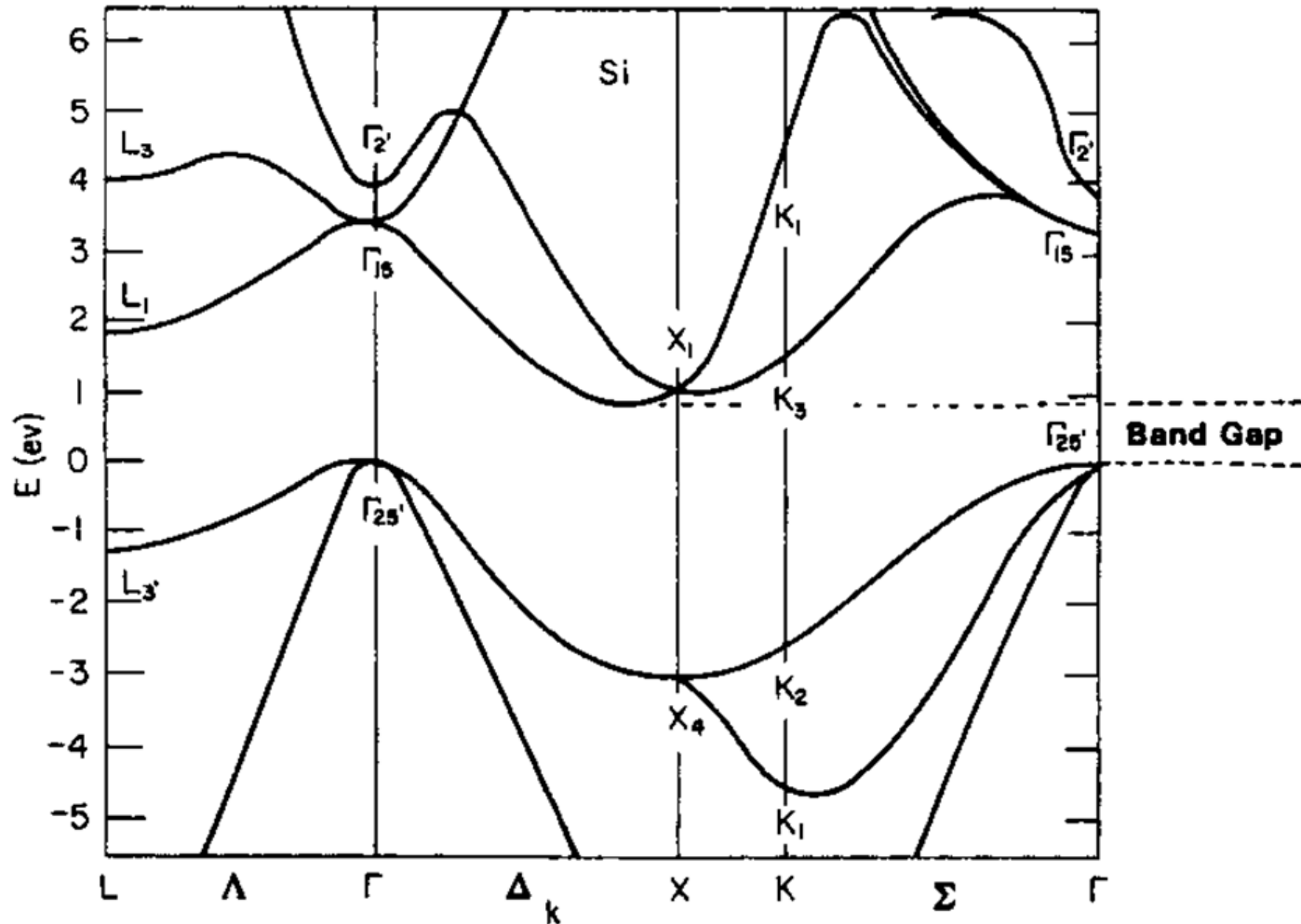
Γ - K path Σ

Γ - L path Λ

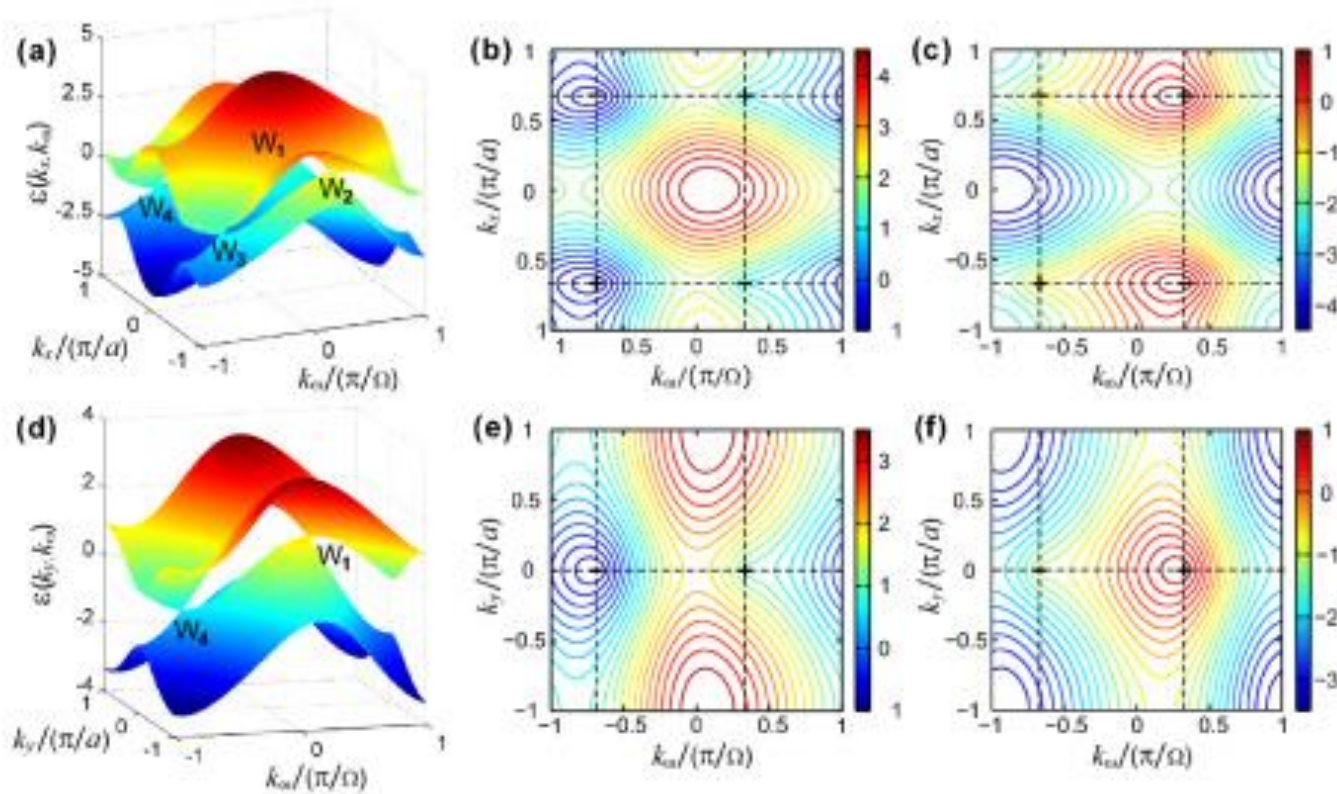


Band Theory of Solids

- Brillouin zones in 3D -



Representing Bands – a different way



Statistics

- Probability of occupation of a state

$$\bar{n} = \frac{n_s}{g_s}$$

number of particles
number of states with energy E_s

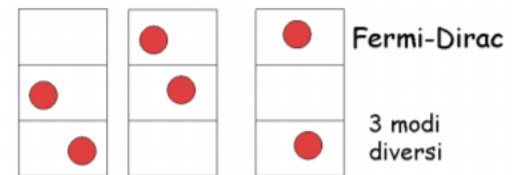
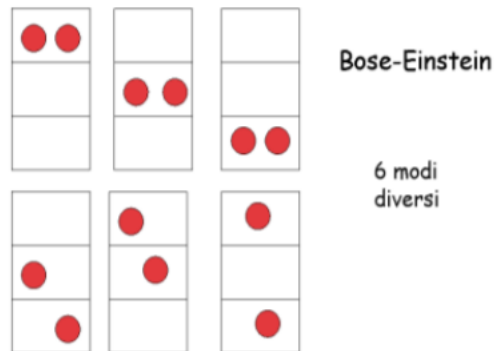
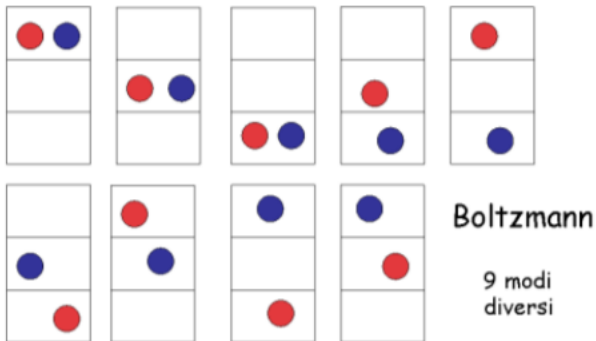
Boltzmann	Bose Einstein	Fermi Dirac
$\bar{n}_k = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}\right)}$	$\bar{n}_k = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$	$\bar{n}_k = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\epsilon - \mu}{k_B T}\right) + 1}$
indistinguishable $Z = (Z_1)^N / N!$ $n_k \ll 1$	indistinguishable integer spin 0, 1, 2 ...	indistinguishable half-integer spin 1/2, 3/2, 5/2 ...
spin doesn't matter	bosons	fermions
localized particles Ψ don't overlap	wavefunctions overlap total Ψ symmetric	wavefunctions overlap total Ψ anti-symmetric
gas molecules at low densities	photons ^4He atoms	free electrons in metals electrons in white dwarfs
"unlimited" number of particles per state	unlimited number of particles per state	never more than 1 particle per state

Statistics

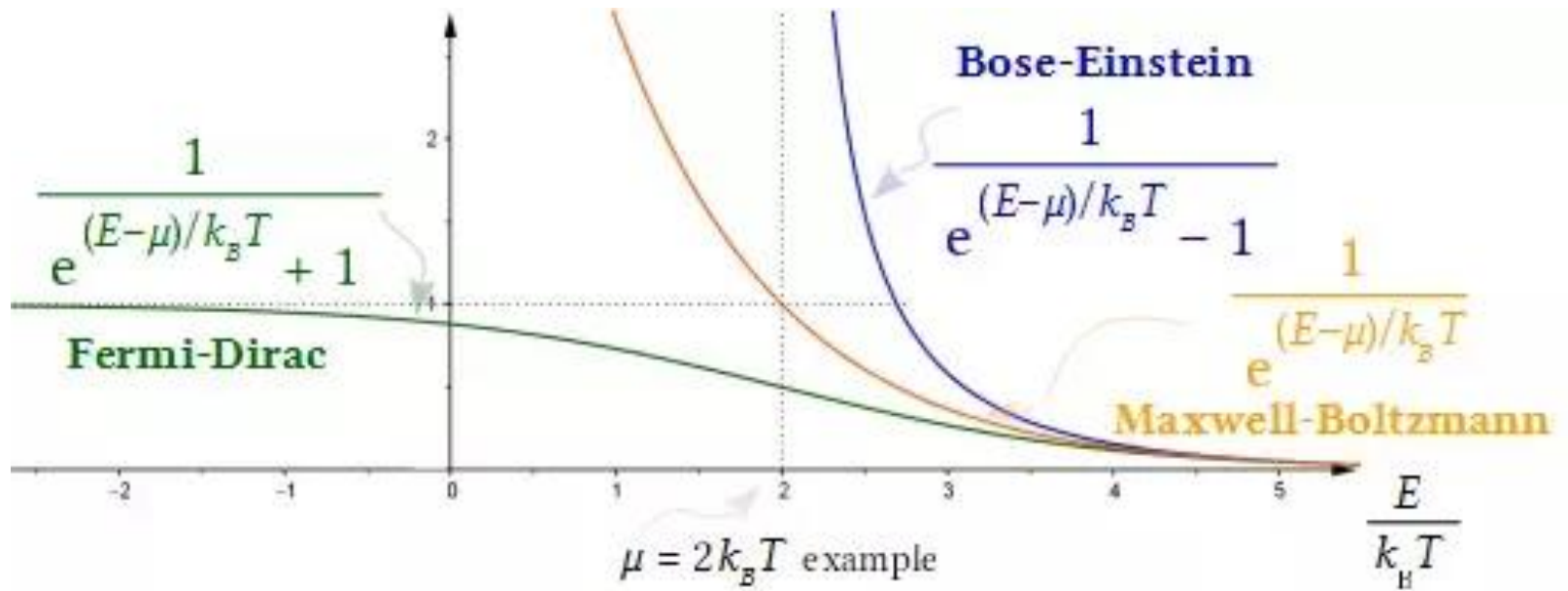
- Probability of occupation of a state

$$\bar{n} = \frac{n_s}{g_s}$$

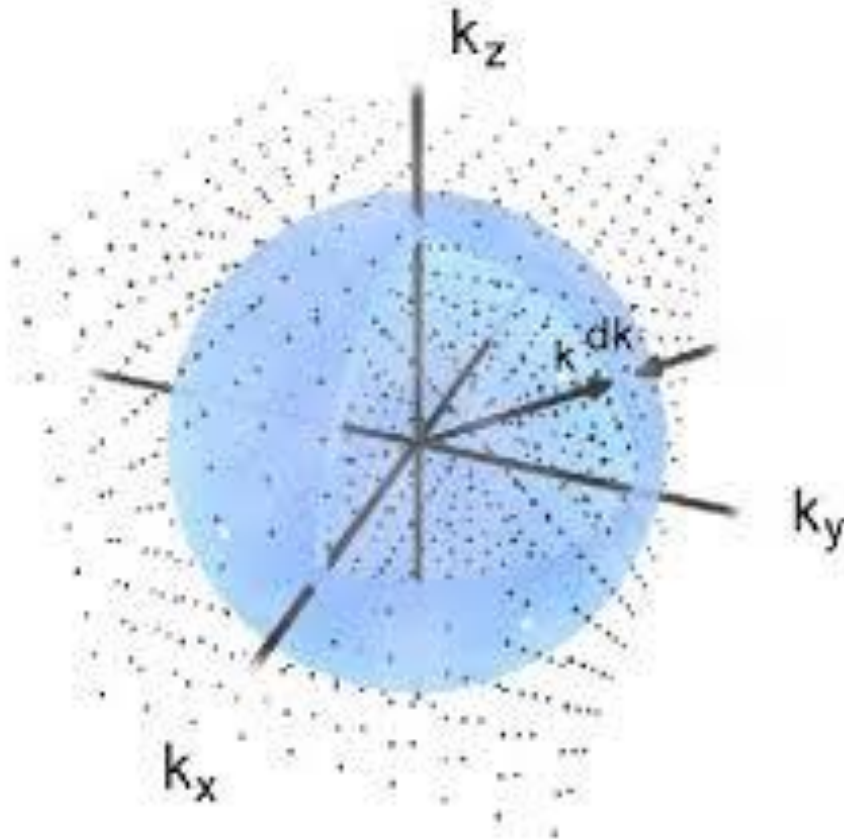
number of particles
number of states with energy E_s



Statistics



Calculating the density of states



Densità degli stati per unità di volume reale

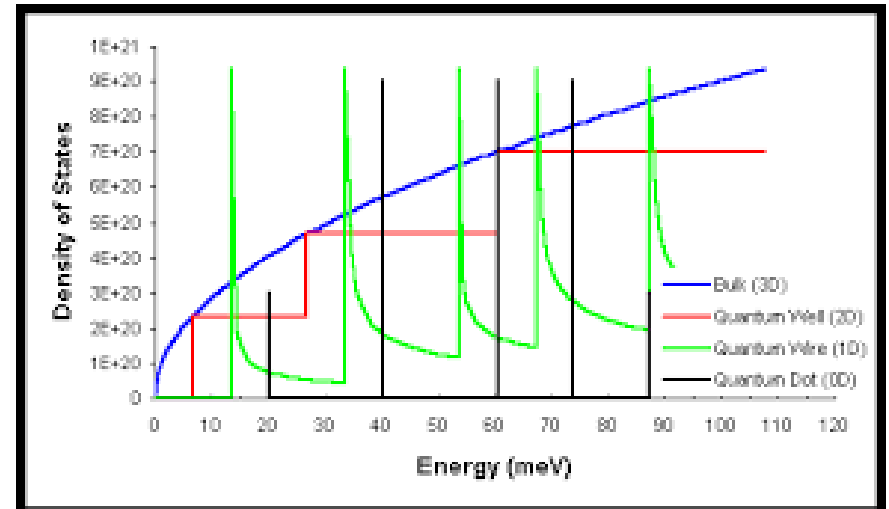
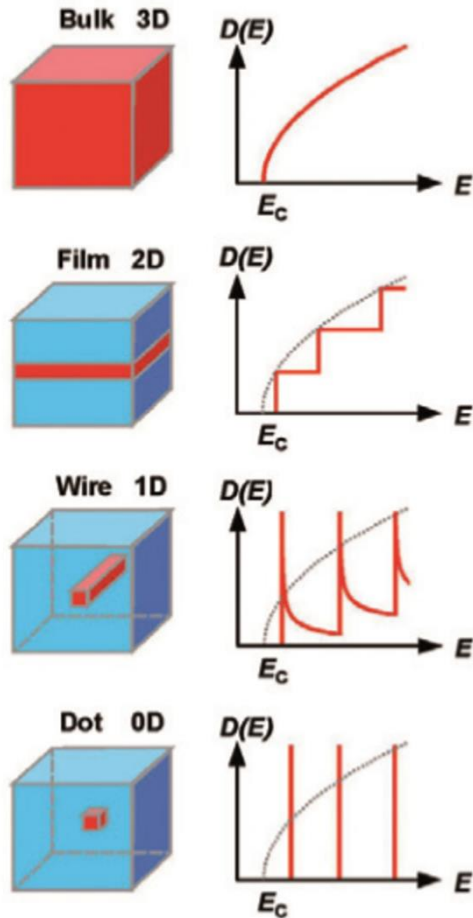
$$n(k) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{V} \cdot \frac{1}{\Omega}$$

V : volume della cella unitaria
nello spazio reciproco

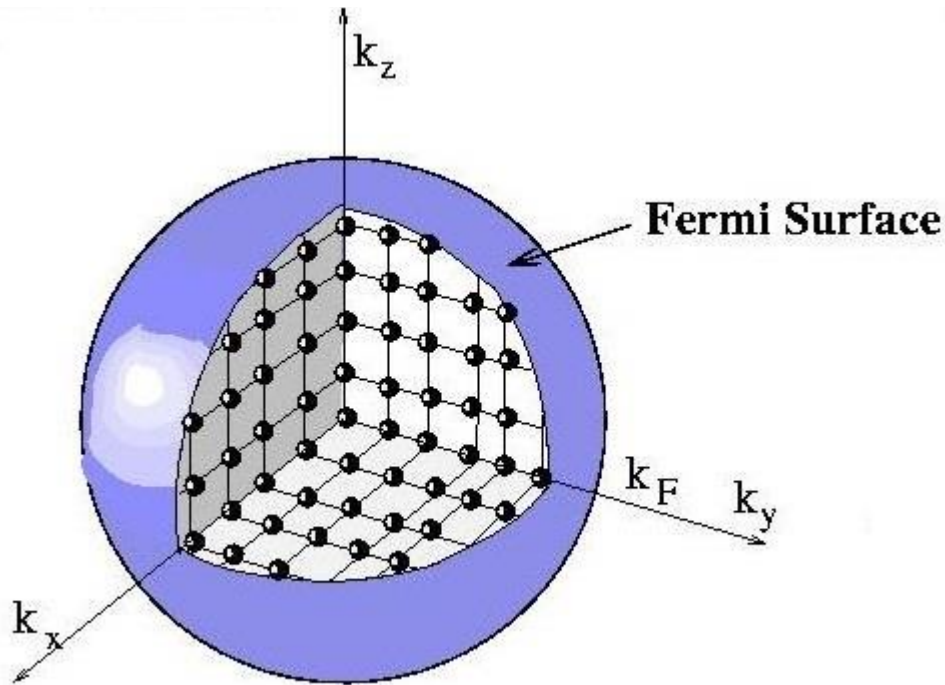


$$n(E) = \frac{8m\pi}{h^3} \sqrt{2mE}$$

Density of States in 3D, 2D, 1D, 0D



Fermi Energy and Average Electron Energy



$$E_F = \frac{h^2}{8m} \left[\frac{3N}{\pi V} \right]^{2/3}$$

$$\bar{E} = \frac{3}{5} E_F$$

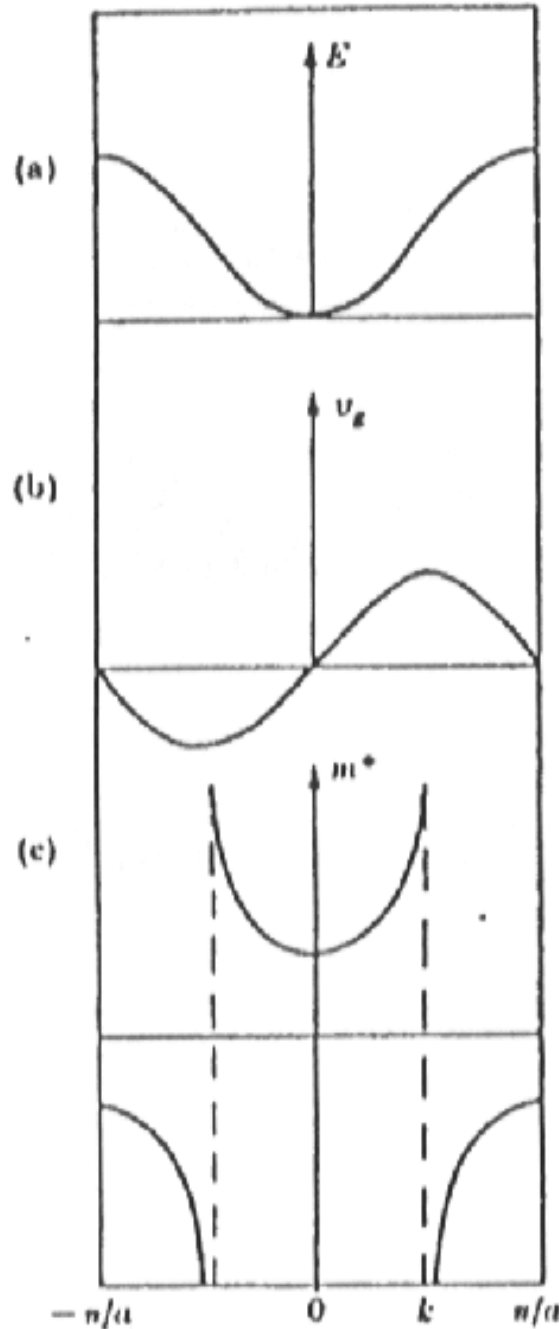
$E_F \sim \text{units of eV}$

Transport in solids

Energy (approximate with a sin function)

Velocity

Effective mass



$$E(k) = W \sin^2 \frac{ka}{2}$$

$$E(k) \sim \frac{W}{4} a^2 k^2$$

$$v(k) = \frac{a}{2\hbar} W \sin ka$$

$$m^*(k) = \frac{2\hbar^2}{m_0 a^2 W} \sec ka$$