

Resistivity of Si

To get a feel for the resistivity of Si, consider three cases: (1) intrinsic Si ($n_o = p_o = n_i$); (2) n-type Si with $N_d = 1 \times 10^{18}$; and (3) p-type Si with $N_a = 1 \times 10^{17}$. In the first case

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= q(n_o\mu_e + p_o\mu_h) \\ &= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} \times 1 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3} \times (1500 + 600) \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ sec}^{-1} \\ &= 3.36 \times 10^{-6} (\Omega\text{-cm})^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the resistivity is $\rho = 1/\sigma = 3 \times 10^5 \Omega\text{-cm}$. In the second case $n_o = 1 \times 10^{18}$ so $p_o = 100$, which is completely negligible. $\sigma = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 1 \times 10^{18} \times 1500 = 240 (\Omega\text{-cm})^{-1}$ so $\rho = 4.2 \times 10^{-3} \Omega\text{-cm}$. Finally, in the third case $p_o = 1 \times 10^{17}$ so $n_o = 1000$, which is again negligible. Then $\sigma = 9.6 (\Omega\text{-cm})^{-1}$ and $\rho = 0.1 \Omega\text{-cm}$.