

The following are some of the frequently asked questions for Viva of the Four Probe Experiment, to determine the resistivity and Energy Band gap of a semiconductor.



1. *Why is Four-Probe method preferred over other conventional methods for measuring resistivity?*
2. *Why is the current kept constant for measuring the resistivity of a semiconductor using four probe at different temperatures?*
 A. In Four Probe Method, the voltage across the inner two probes at different temperatures is recorded. This voltage is an indication of resistance or resistivity only if V is proportional to R or I is constant. This is why a constant current source is necessary.
3. *How do the conductivities of metals and semiconductor depend on temperature?*
 A. The conductivity of a semiconductor increases with increasing temperature while that of a metal decreases with increasing temperature.
4. *What is the equation giving the variation of conductivity/resistivity of a semiconductor with temperature?*
 A. Resistivity:

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{E_g/2kT}$$

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 e^{-E_g/2kT}$$
5. *For calculating the band gap from resistivity measurements why is it recommended to heat the sample over 100 degree Celsius?*
6. *What are the values of band gaps for Silicon and Germanium?*
7. *How does the band gap of a semiconductor vary with temperature?*

Video:



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I'm a physicist specializing in computational material science with a PhD in Physics from Friedrich-Schiller University Jena, Germany. I write efficient codes for simulating light-matter interactions at atomic scales. I like to develop Physics, DFT, and Machine Learning related apps and software from time to time. Can code in most of the popular languages. I like to share my knowledge in Physics and applications using this Blog and a YouTube channel.

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