

# I Introduction

{ Element of quantum mechanics,  
energy spectrum

## ① Light

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century,  
light is known to be a wave.

(From the works of Huygens, Newton, Maxwell,  
Young, Fresnel)

The "wave theory" of light failed to  
explain the following experiments:

- Blackbody radiation
- the photoelectric effect.

## (a) Blackbody radiation [A.1.1]

Solid bodies emit a spectrum of radiation at all times. For a blackbody, the energy of this electromagnetic radiation (EM) depends directly on the temperature of the body. Classical mechanics fails to explain the energy spectrum of a blackbody.

\* Planck explanation 1900 (Nobel 1918)

⇒ Electromagnetic energy can only be emitted in quantized form (discrete energy values)

[A.1]

$$E_m = m h \nu$$

$$m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$\nu$  is the frequency (Hz)

$$\nu = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$c$  = light velocity (m/s)

$\lambda$  = wavelength (m)

$$h = 6.62618 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

Planck constant

Energy is in Joules.

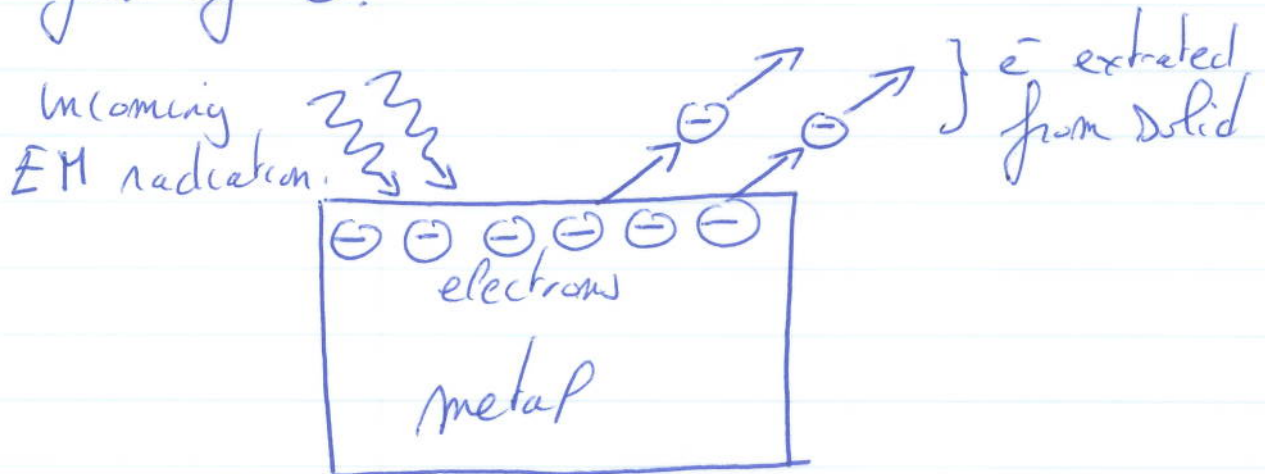
③

Important: Planck introduced the quantization of energy as a mathematical trick to explain (reproduce) the experiment.

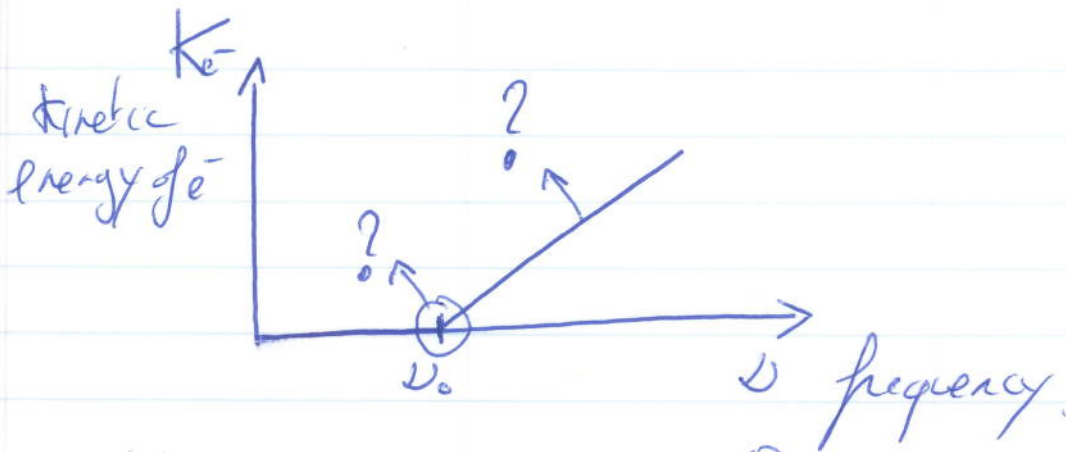
## ① Photoelectric effect

"hitting a metal with light to extract  $e^-$ "

$e^-$  (electrons) are negatively charged particles,  
and at this time (1905) we know that a metal  
is full of  $e^-$ .



Experiment: Let us suppose that we change (vary) the frequency of the light, and we look at the kinetic energy of the  $e^-$  (extracted).



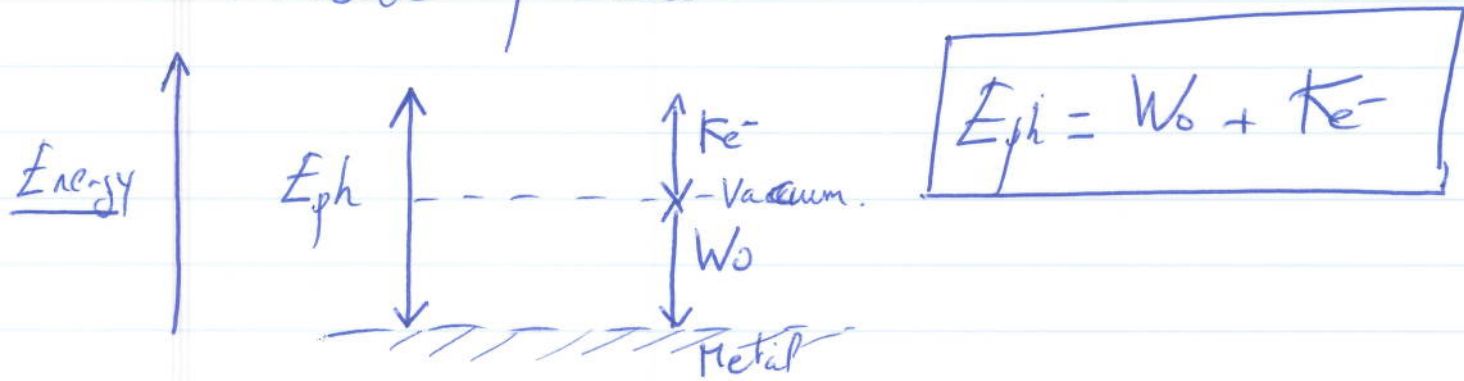
## 2 problems with classical mechanics

- (i) in EM theory, the kinetic energy of  $e^-$  should be proportional to the intensity of the light and it should not depend on the frequency.
- (ii) Nothing happens below a certain threshold  $\nu_0$ .

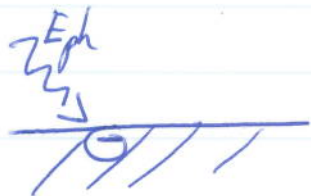
## \* Einstein's explanation (1905) (Nobel 1921)

$\Rightarrow E = h\nu$  has a physical meaning, it is the energy of a 'light quantum', a particle that is called (later on) a "photon" ( $E = E_{ph}$ )

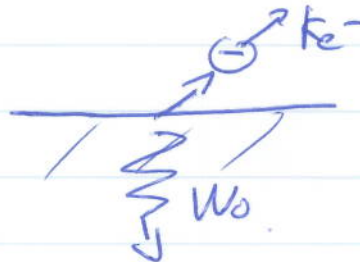
⑤  
 $\Rightarrow$  photoelectric effect can then be explained using a collision between 2 particles: photon and  $e^-$ .  
 we also consider a loss in energy  $\Rightarrow$  inelastic collision process.



Before collision:



After collision:



$W_0$  is called the work function, it is the energy that is required by  $1e^-$  to leave the metal (it is also a potential barrier).

we then obtain

$$E_{ph} = h\nu = W_0 + K_{e^-}$$

$$\text{for } K_{e^-} = 0 \text{ (no extraction)} \Rightarrow h\nu_0 = W_0$$

$$\Rightarrow h\nu = h\nu_0 + K_{e^-}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{K_{e^-} = h(\nu - \nu_0)}$$

that confirms  
the experimental  
data!!

Conclusion  $\Rightarrow$  light is both a wave and a particle!

## ② Electrons

$e^-$  is known to be a particle.

Classical mechanics failed to explain the energy spectrum of EM radiation of an excited hydrogen gas, which is discrete (?).

## (a) The Bohr Atom [A.1.2]

Let us ~~suppose~~ consider the Hydrogen atom and the "planetary model of the atom" by Rutherford.

$\Rightarrow e^-$  rotates around a positive charge center (nucleus)  $= 1$  proton

electrostatic potential between  $1e^-$ ,  $1$  proton is

$$V(r) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} q = \text{charge of the electron (absolute value)} \\ 1.602 \cdot 10^{-19} \text{ Coulomb.} \\ \epsilon_0 \text{ vacuum permittivity.} \\ r \text{ distance from center to } e^- \end{array} \right.$

Energy potential is defined by:

$$U(r) = -qV(r)$$

$V$  is in Volt.

$U$  is in Joule (International system)

In the class, we will express  $U(r)$  in eV (electron Volt)

$$1 \text{ eV} \leftrightarrow q \text{ Joules}$$

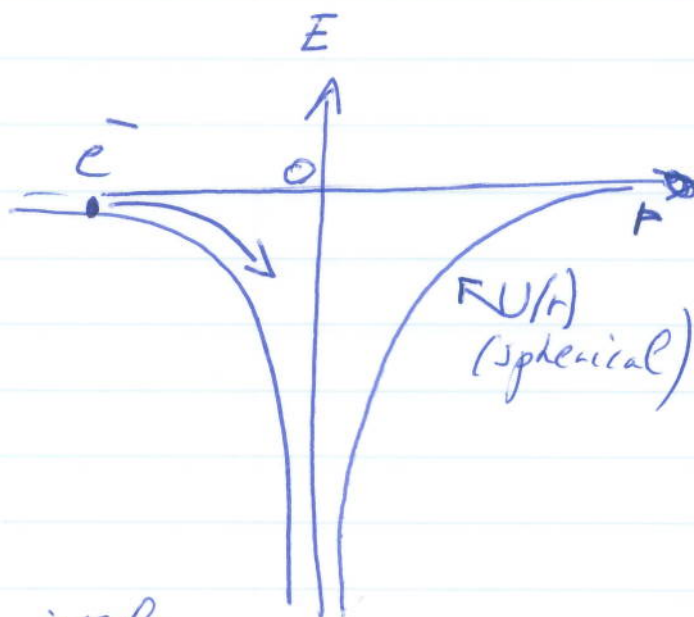
Advice: once you get the result in Joule, just divide by  $q$  to get in eV

outer shell of the atom.



Energy Spectrum

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in classical mechanics, the ~~electron~~  $e^-$  will fall into the nucleus.  $\Rightarrow$  Principle of minimization of the Energy.

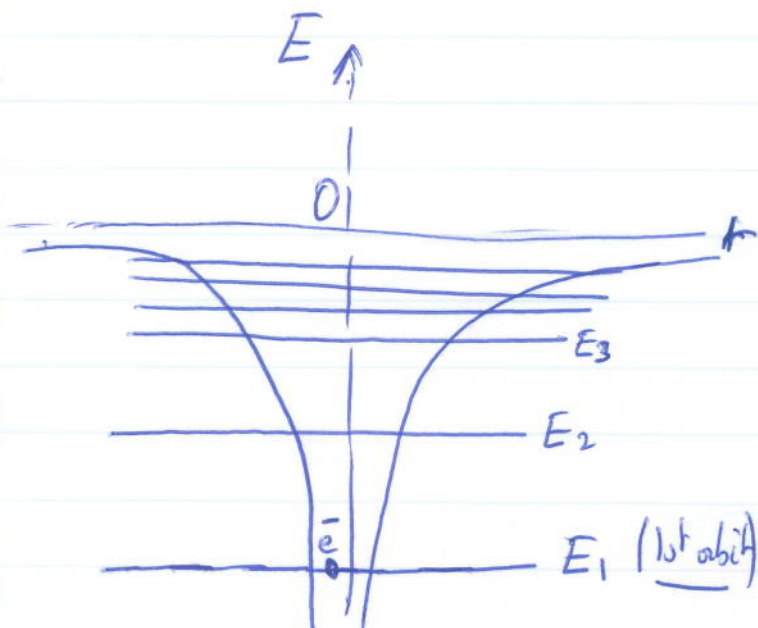
\* Bohr Solution (1913) (Nobel 1922)

Orbits of the Hydrogen atom are quantized.

different quantized orbits.



At equilibrium the  $e^-$  is at the first orbit





we have

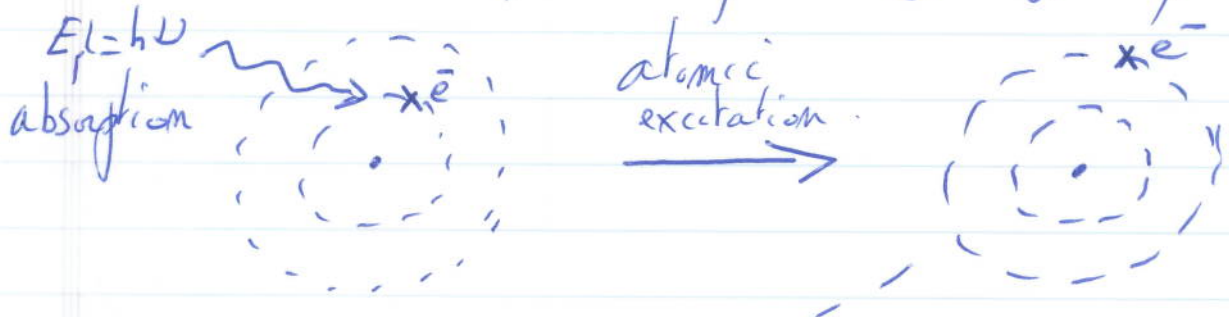
$$\boxed{h = \frac{h}{2\pi}}$$

$$\left[ E_n = \frac{-m e^4}{2(4\pi\epsilon_0 m h)^2} = \frac{-13.6 \text{ eV}}{n^2} \right] \begin{matrix} \text{[A.7]} \\ \text{[2.1]} \end{matrix}$$

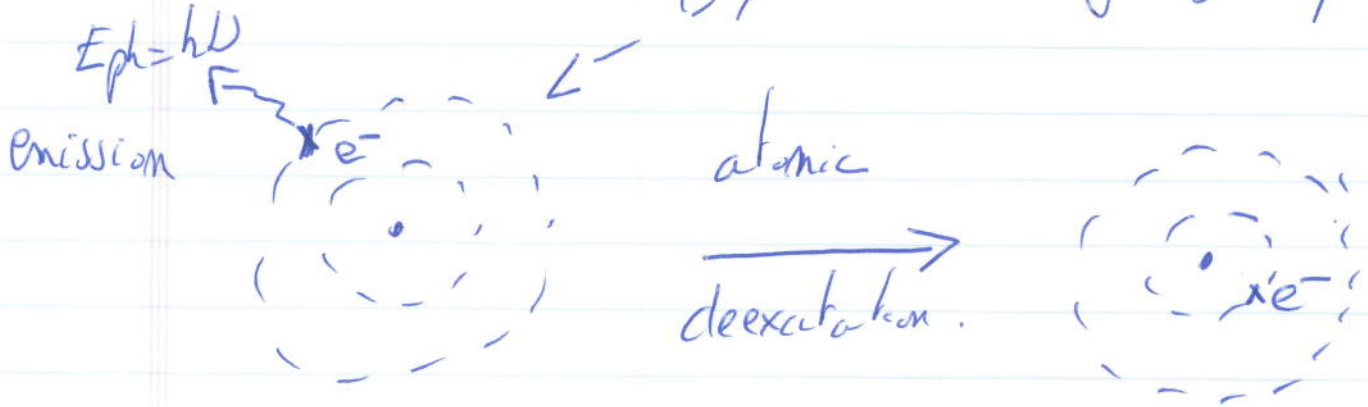
So the energy of the  $e^-$  in the 1<sup>st</sup> orbit is -13.6 eV.

\* In order to explain the discrete energy spectrum of the Hydrogen gas, Bohr suggests that  $e^-$  can make transition between the orbits via

(i) excitation (by absorption of light-photon).



(ii) or deexcitation (by emission of light-photon)



All the transitions between the energy levels are described in Figure [A.2.]

The Bohr model has some problems:

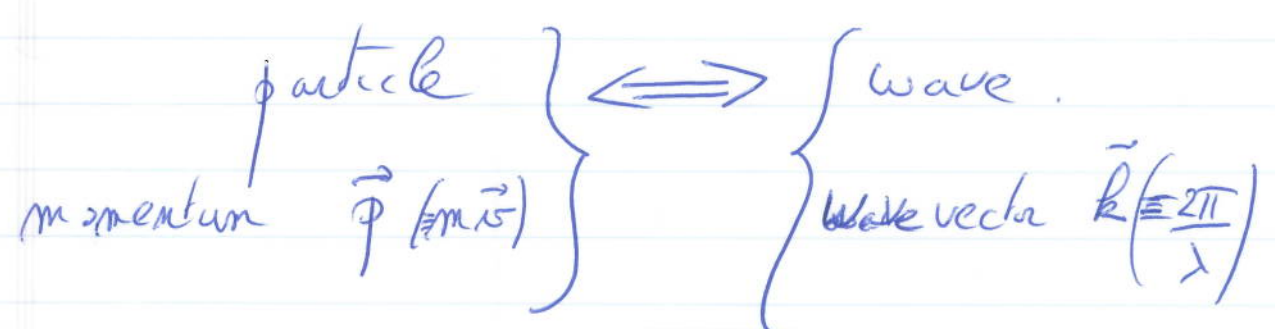
- it works perfectly well for the Hydrogen atom but it does not provide a general framework for solving problem of this type.
- it leaves many unanswered questions, what happens to the fundamental electrostatic interaction between  $e^-$  and protons (2 particle)?

[A.1.3] (B) De-Broglie hypothesis (1924) Nobel 1929

	wave	particle.
light	yes	yes.
electron.	<u>so why not?</u>	yes.

De-Broglie: Generalization of duality wave - particle for all form of matter (beyond light, ... not only electron).

"It was an assumption not based on experiments."



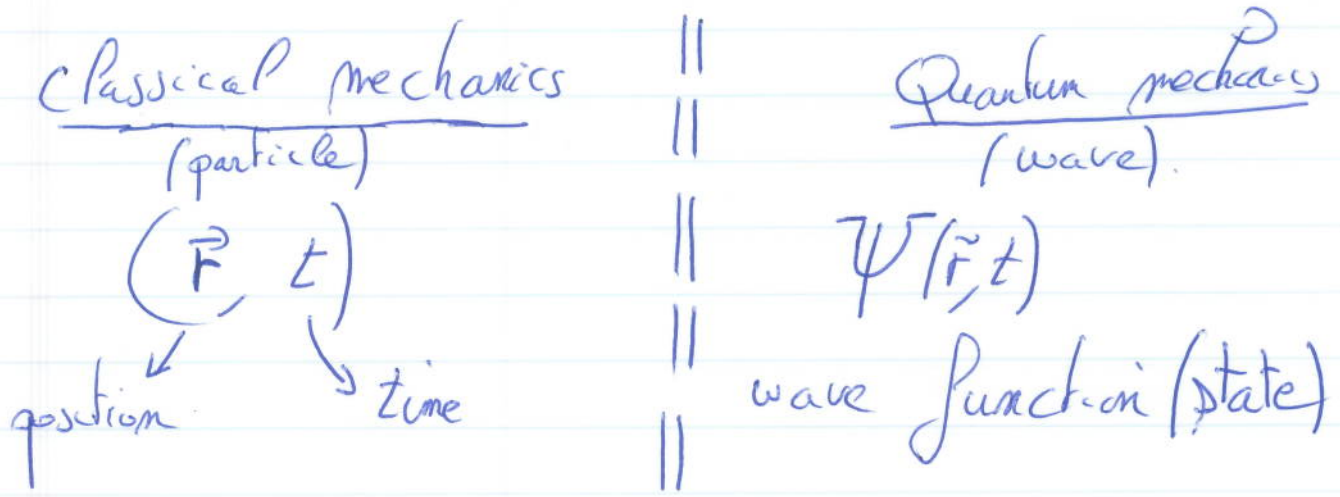
$$\vec{p} = h \vec{k}$$

or  $p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$  [A.8]

(C) Consequences of duality wave  $\leftrightarrow$  particle

(i) All form of matter is a wave.

if  $\lambda$  is of the order of (or) the dimension of the displacement of the object, the wave nature of the object needs to be considered.



$\Psi$  has no physical meaning, only  $|\Psi|^2 = \Psi\Psi^*$  has one. It is the probability to find the  $e^-$  ~~in position~~ in position  $\vec{r}$  at time  $t$ .

(ii) we know that the total energy of a <sup>"object"</sup> particle is

$E = K + U$

↑ kinetic      ↑ potential

Let us consider  $e^-$ , if  $U=0$  the  $e^-$  is then a free  $e^-$ .  
(no potential energy, only kinetic energy).

$E = \frac{p^2}{2m}$	⇒	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"><math>E = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}</math></div>
classical mechanics		quantum physics.

General Solution for  $\Psi$

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, t) = e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{r} - i\omega t}$$

the free  $e^-$  is a plane wave.

(iii) Let us suppose  $U \neq 0$  and known.

For an arbitrary energy potential, the wave function and energy of the  $e^-$  are solution of the Schrödinger equation (1926 - Nobel 1933)

time dependent

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_{\vec{r}} \Psi + U \Psi = i \hbar \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial t} \end{array} \right. \quad (\text{A.9})$$

time independent

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Psi_{\vec{r}, t} = \Psi(\vec{r}) e^{-i\omega t} \\ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \Delta_{\vec{r}} \Psi + U \Psi = E \Psi \end{array} \right. \quad (*)$$

Solving (\*) we get  $\Psi_{\vec{r}}$  and  $E$  for any  $U(\vec{r})$ .

# d) quantum effects

\* confinement effects ("quantization")

Let us suppose that the  $e^-$  is confined in a region of the space  $\Omega$ .



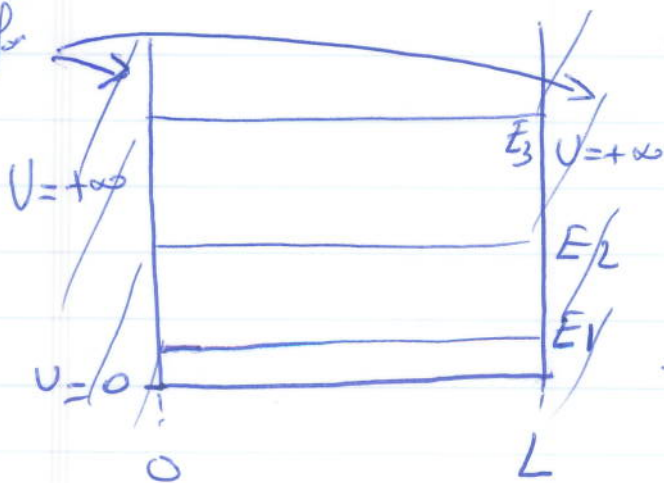
This means that one cannot find  $e^-$  outside  $\Omega$  ( $\Psi=0$  outside  $\Omega$ ) where the potential energy is too big.

→ Quantum mechanics (i.e. solving the Schrödinger equation) tell us that the  $e^-$  cannot take ~~any~~ any energy levels; only ~~some~~ some discrete energy are allowed.

confinement effect

example: infinite square well.

Forbidden region for  $e^-$

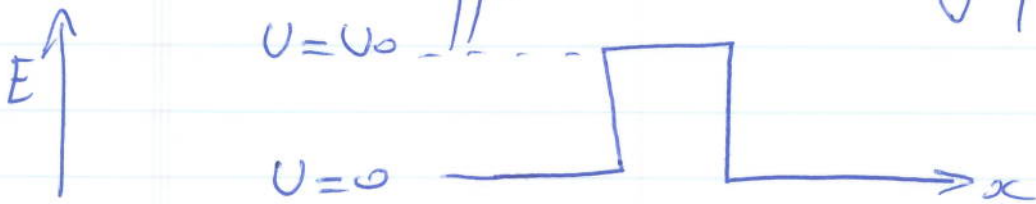


$$E_m = \frac{m^2 \hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mL^2}$$

$$\Psi_m = \sqrt{\frac{2}{L}} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right)$$

# \* Tunneling and Interference effects

Let us suppose a barrier of potential



and  $e^-$  coming from the left.

For example, this barrier of potential can be created by having a metal tip very close to a metal surface full of  $e^-$ .

	<u>Classical mechanics</u>	<u>Quantum mechanics</u>
incoming $e^-$ energy $E < U_0$	<p><math>R=1</math> (Reflection) <math>T=0</math> (Transmission) <math>R+T=1</math></p>	<p><math>T \neq 0!</math> tunneling effect.</p>
$E > U_0$	<p><math>R=0</math>      <math>T=1</math></p>	<p><math>R \neq 0!</math> interference effects.</p>

# II Semiconductors: Definitions

① From one to many atoms

② The Hydrogen atom (1e<sup>-</sup>) [Fig 2.1]

$$V/A = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

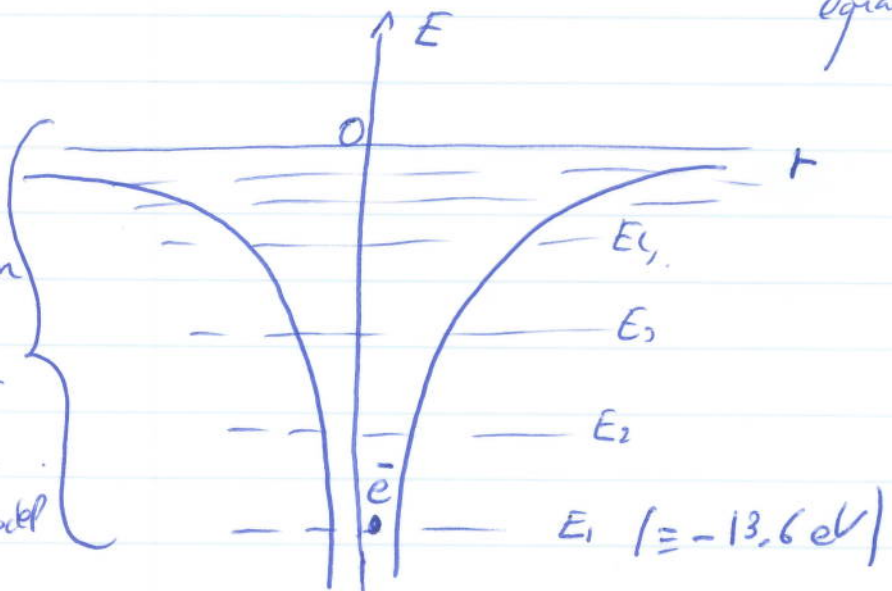
$$U/A = -qV/A$$

↑  
energy potential "seen" by the e<sup>-</sup>.

Since  $\psi$  vanishes if  $r \rightarrow (\infty)$ ; the e<sup>-</sup> is confined and we get discrete energy levels (solving the Schrödinger equation)



energy spectrum is consistent with the Bohr model



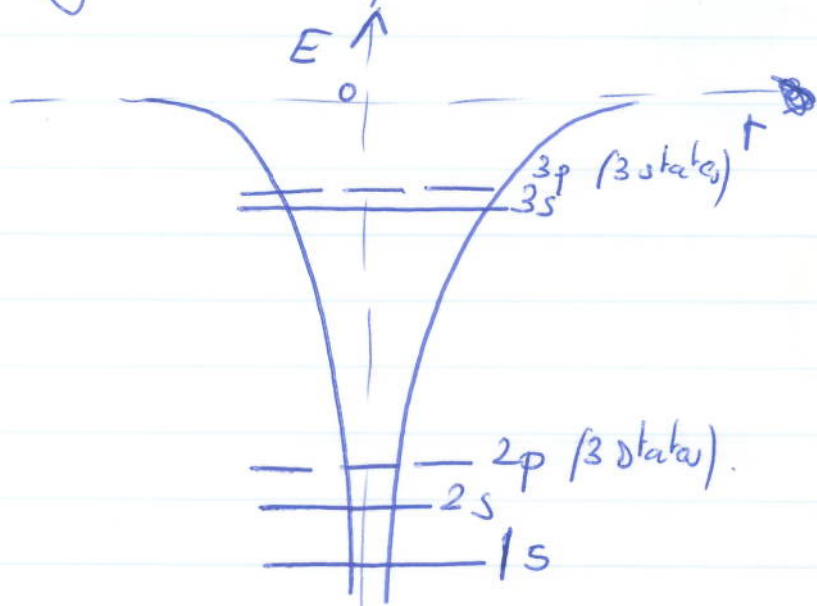
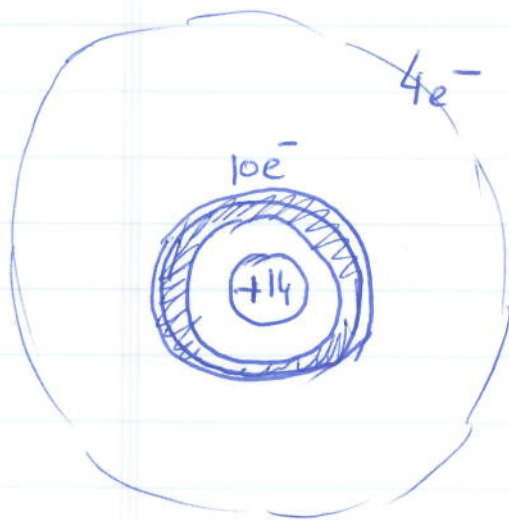


① The Silicon atom (many  $e^-$ ) [Fig 2.2] [A.3.2] ①⑦

A Silicon atom Si is composed by 14 $e^-$  and then the charge of the nucleus is +14.

(i.e. "14 times deeper" than the Hydrogen atom).

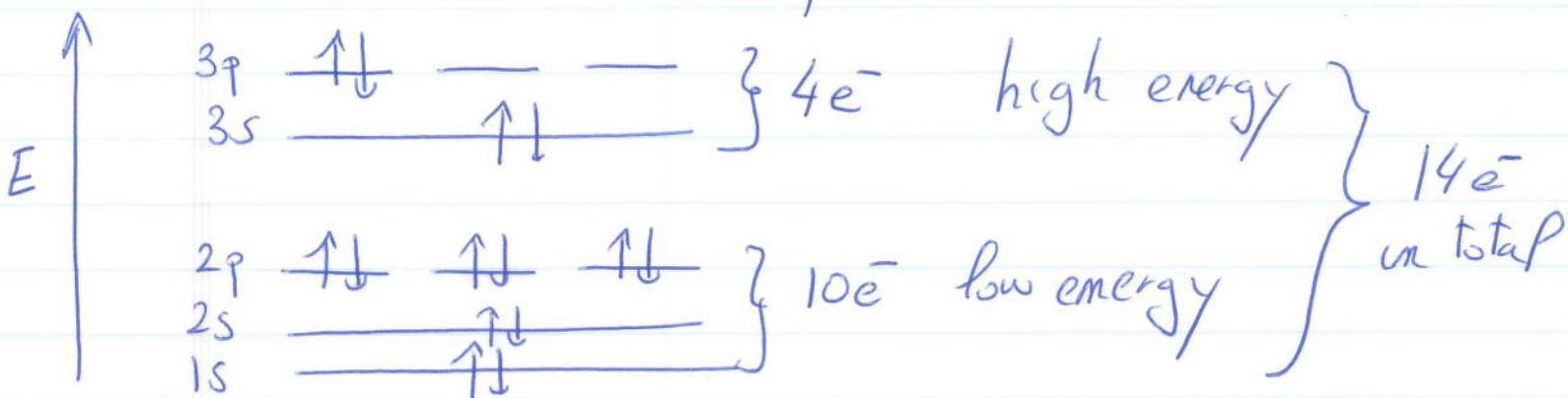
[we also get a discrete energy spectrum,  
~~but~~ some energy levels can be degenerated, ~~where~~  
(i.e. many states for 1 energy).



[see Table [A.3] for electronic configuration]

To fill up the energy states with  $e^-$ ; we use the Pauli exclusion principle  $\Rightarrow$  2 $e^-$  with the same energy and spin cannot occupied the same state.

So maximum of  $2e^-$  per state ( $\uparrow\downarrow$ )

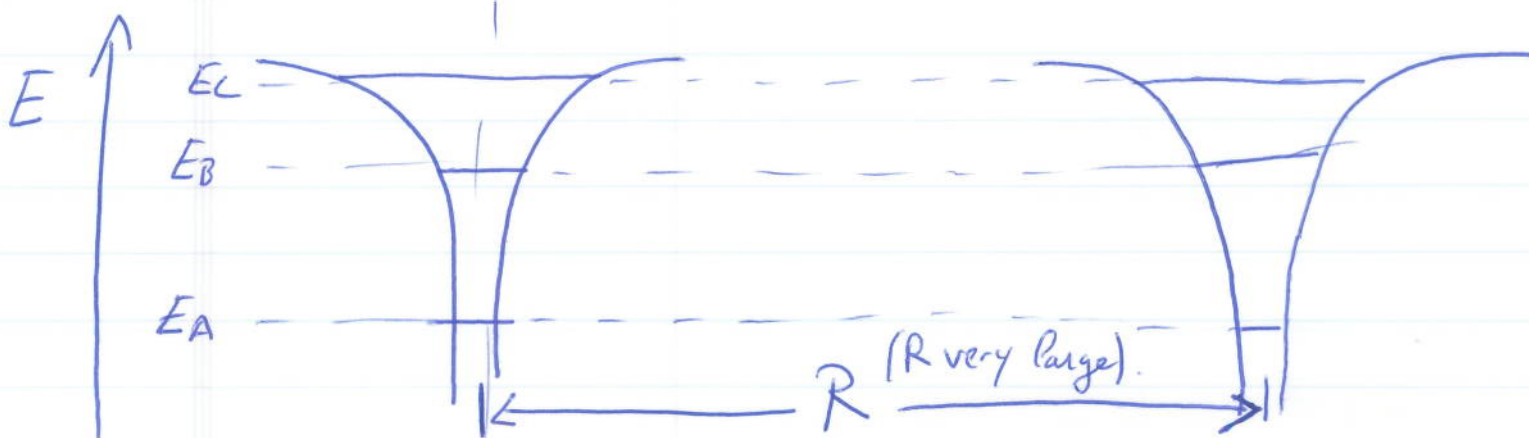


we say that Silicon has 10 core  $e^-$ , 4 valence  $e^-$

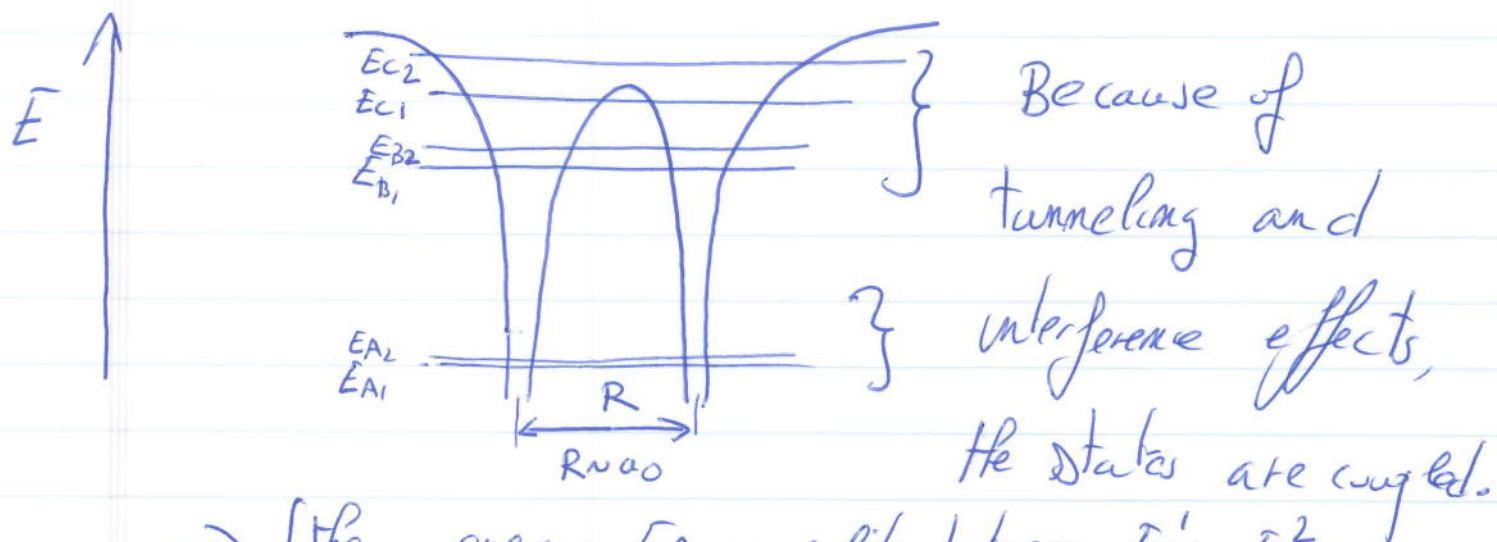
$e^-$  of valence: It is an  $e^-$  in an outer-shell of an atom that can participate in forming chemical bonds with other atoms

### 2 atoms system

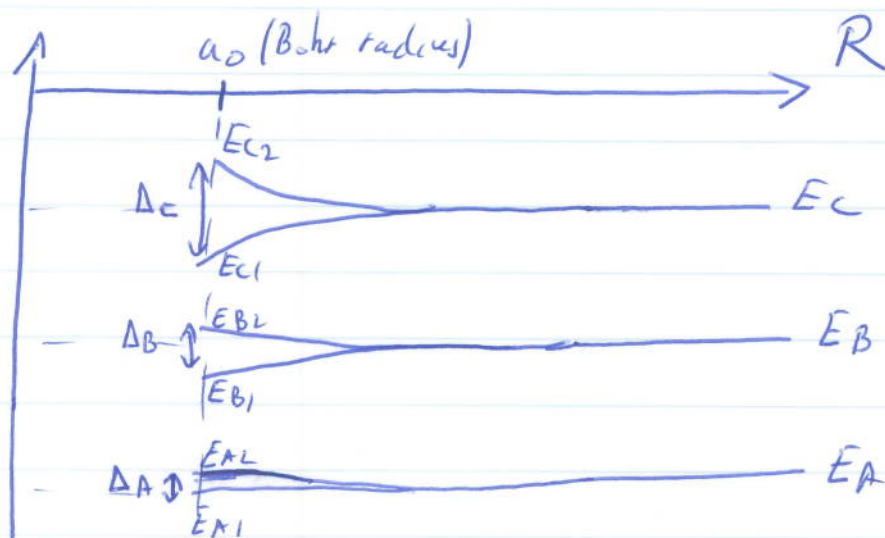
Let us suppose 2 isolated atoms (hypothetical atoms).



we bring these 2 atoms closer.



$\Rightarrow$  The energy  $E_A$  is split between  $E_A^1, E_A^2$   
 " "  $E_B$  " "  $E_B^1, E_B^2$   
 " "  $E_C$  " "  $E_C^1, E_C^2$



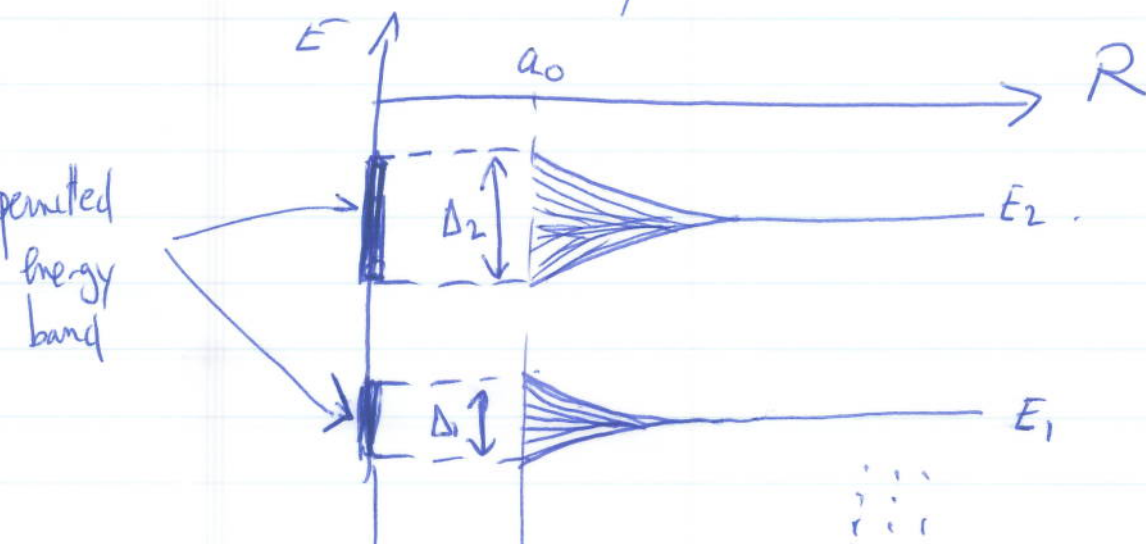
[ Distance  $\Delta$  depends on the strength of the coupling.  
 [  $\hookrightarrow$  Energy increases the coupling is stronger.

# ① Many atoms system

Let us consider N atoms (chain of atoms).



Each energy level of a given isolated atom gives rise now to  $N$  different energy levels. (actually  $2N$  because of spin).



if  $N$  is large, the energy levels are so close one another that they form a continuum  $\Rightarrow$  band of energy

It appears some forbidden energy band between permitted energy band  $\Rightarrow$  energy gap.

The  $e^-$  are still filling up the energy levels from the bottom (lowest energies) to the top (highest energies)

