An overview of the TiberCAD capabilities

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tiber CAD

Multiscale Device Simulator

http://www.tiberlab.com





Applications





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multiscale/multiphysics

Different physical models on different scales are needed to describe electronic devices







Introduction: TiberCAD





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OVERLAP METHOD



 each model computes physical quantities that act as parameters to the other models.

Schrödinger/Poisson Transport parameters from DFT

BRIDGE METHOD



 each domain provides boundary conditions to adjacent domains.

NEGF/drift-diffusion VFF/continuous elasticity

M. Auf der Maur, G. Penazzi , G. Romano, F. Sacconi, , A. Pecchia , A. Di Carlo IEEE Trans. Electron Devices, 58, 1425 (2011)



Models overview







General Structure



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GUI development



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TiberCAD input file - Modules

Module elasticity

```
name = strain
regions = all
plot = (Strain, Stress, Displacement)
Solver {
  preconditioner = lu
  method = pconly
}
Physics {
  body force lattice mismatch {
    reference material = GaN
Contact substrate { type = clamp }
```

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Drift-Diffusion







Drift-Diffusion equations

- Consider only $M^{(0)}$ and $M^{(1)}$, assuming carriers in thermal equilibrium $(T_e = T_0)$
- □ Assume term $(\mathbf{u}\nabla\mathbf{u})$ is negligible
- $\hfill \hfill \hfill$

Current equations

$$\mathbf{J}_{n} = qn\mu_{n}\mathbf{F} + qD_{n}\nabla n$$
$$\mathbf{J}_{p} = qn\mu_{p}\mathbf{F} - qD_{p}\nabla p$$

Continuity equations

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_{n} + G - R$$
$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{q} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}_{p} + G - R$$

Poisson equation: $\mathbf{F} = -\nabla V$ $\nabla \cdot (\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \nabla V) = -q(p - n + N_D - N_A)$



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Mobility models

tey parameter:
$$\mu = \mu(F, T, N_D, N_A, ...)$$

Low Field

$$\mu(T) = \mu_0 \left(\frac{T}{300}\right)^{\alpha}$$

Silicon-like

$$\mu(F) = \mu_0 \frac{1}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{\mu_0 F}{v_{sat}}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{1/\beta}}$$

High field

GaAs-like

$$\mu_0 + \frac{v_{sat}}{F} \left(\frac{F}{F_0}\right)^{\gamma}$$

$$\mu(E) = \frac{1 + \left(\frac{F}{F_0}\right)^{\gamma}}{1 + \left(\frac{F}{F_0}\right)^{\gamma}}$$

Doping Dependent

$$\mu(N_D) = \mu_0 - A \ln\left[\frac{N_D}{n_i}\right]$$

Organic transport

Band-like

$$\mu(F) = \frac{\mu_0(T)\sqrt{2}}{\left[1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{3\pi}{8} \left(\frac{\mu_0 F}{v_s}\right)^2}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$



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Shockley-Read-Hall (SRH) recombination (non-radiative)

$$R_{SRH} = \frac{pn - n_i^2}{\tau_p \left[n + n_i \exp\left(\frac{E_t - E_i}{kT}\right) \right] + \tau_n \left[p + n_i \exp\left(\frac{E_i - E_t}{kT}\right) \right]}$$



Radiative recombination

$$R_R = C\left(pn - n_i^2\right)$$



Auger recombination (non-radiative)

$$R_A = D_n \left(pn^2 - nn_i^2 \right) + D_p \left(np^2 - pn_i^2 \right)$$



Impact ionization generation (hot-carriers)

$$G_{II} = \alpha_n \frac{|J_n|}{q} + \alpha_p \frac{|J_p|}{q} \qquad \qquad \alpha_{n,p}(F) = \alpha_{n,p}^{\infty} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{F_{n,p}^{crit}}{F}\right)^{\beta_{n,p}}\right]$$



Photoabsorption generation

$$G_{ph} = \alpha \left| E \right|^2$$



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Special case for organics



F. Santoni, A. Gagliardi, M. auf der Maur, A. Di Carlo, Organic Electronics 15 (2014) 1557–1570

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Elasticity and Strain Module





Physical Models: Strain in heterostructures

- External mechanical forces can be included as boundary conditions
- We can calculate shape deformation and piezoelectric effect $P_i = e_{i,jk} \varepsilon_{jk}$
- Converse piezoelectric effect can be included $\sigma_{jk} = -e_{i,jk}E_i$
- Thermal stress can be included $\varepsilon_{jk} = -\alpha_{jk}(T T_0)$

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• Several boundary conditions: substrate, plane, free



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Grid deformations

Povolotskyi-Di Carlo, JAP 100, 063514 (2006)



Piezoelectric sensors in InGaAs



Electron density in the AlGaAs/InGaAs/GaAs B-face structure without (a) and with (b) pressure (F = 75mN/cm).



Band profile and classical electron density for the B-face structure with and without pressure.



Piezoresistivity for the AlGaAs/InGaAs/GaAs structure. Gate voltage is 0 V.



Piezoelectric nanogenerators





Quantum States







Quantum Models: k·p







Envelope Function Approx

k·p Hamiltonian generalizes single band dispersions

 $\left|\psi^{i}(r)\right\rangle = \sum_{n} \left|u_{n\Gamma}(r)\right\rangle \phi_{n}^{i}(r) \quad \longleftarrow \quad \text{Envelope function}$ $\sum_{n} \left[E_{\Gamma}\delta_{mn} + \frac{\hbar^{2}k^{2}}{2m^{2}}\delta_{mn} + H_{mn}(\mathbf{k}) + V(r)\delta_{mn}\right] \phi_{n}^{i}(r) = E^{i}\phi_{m}^{i}(r)$

k is interpreted as the usual momentum operator: $k_l \mapsto i\partial_l$



In TiberCAD:

Full Band kp





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M. Buda et. al., IEEE Journal of Quantum Electronics, 2003









Energy

Energy/Position Multiscale

Drift-Diffusion Transport





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InGaAs Quantum wire: overlap scheme





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Embracing technique

TiberCAD includes a technique for mixing classical and quantum density, acting as a quantum correction to drift-diffusion calculation



Embracing region where **classical** and **quantum** charge are mixed.



The mixing parmeter is solution of a Laplace equation with Dirichelet boundary conditions 0.0 and 1.0







Alternative: Quantum+Classical





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InP dots for gas sensing





Idealized dot

Realistic dot





Strain field maps



Closely coupled dots





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Electronic properties





Comparisons between dots

homo-nuclear dots 14 Homonuclear QDM Dot1 Dot2 12 Power density [nW/eV] el: 10 8 6 4 hl: 2 0 1.45 1.5 1.55 1.4 1.6 E (eV) hetero-nuclear dots 14 Homonuclear QDM Heteronuclear QDM 12 Power density [nW/eV] 10 el: 8 6 4 hl: 2 0 L____ 1.4 1.45 1.5 1.55 1.6 E (eV)

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Shape and alloy effects in Qdot system



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Lateral coupling via strain

Impact of **lateral** coupling given mainly by strain field (continuum and k*p 3D model): **shift** of the spectrum of the central dot of about **90meV**



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Current densities







Increasing electron current density with electron-rich layer








Bridge Multiscale





Thermal properties of HEMT





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Thermal Models

Fourier Heat Diffusion:
$$-\nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla T) = H$$

Energy Moment of the Boltzman Transport Equation for phonons

$$\frac{\partial e^{"}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla e^{"} = -\frac{e^{"}-e^{0}}{\tau}$$

$$e^{"} = \int \hbar \omega [N - \overline{N}(T_{ref})]g(\omega)d\omega$$
A gray model assume isotropic and constant phonon velocity:

$$\frac{\partial e^{"}}{\partial t} + v_{s}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{s}e^{"} = -\frac{e^{"}-e^{0}}{\tau}$$



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Fourier/Gray bridge method



Temperature profile





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Special self-consistence scheme









Electro-thermal and Strain







- How does mechanical stress in a HEMT depend on operating conditions?
- Electrical, thermal and mechanical device behavior are interconnected:







Simulation Results: mechanical energy

Mechanical energy density, integrated along [0001]:



^{Au} S <mark>- 1.5</mark>	μm G SiN _{x 4 μm}	D
	→0.5 μm → 3 nm GaN n.i.d	
	22 nm Al _{0.28} Ga _{0.72} N n.i.d	
z [500] [1120] X	2 μm GaN	

- Converse piezoelectric effect increases locally mechanical stress
- Self-heating decreases
 overall mechanical stress

Critical planar energy densities are given in the range of 0.49 $\sim 0.7~J/m^2$ Joh et al. Microelectronics Reliability, 50, 767, 2010

J. Floro et al. J. Appl. Phys., 96, 7087, 2004





Quantum Transport: NEGF





Models overview





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Open quantum systems



$[E - H + \Sigma^{r}(E)]G^{r}(E) = \mathbf{I}$

$D(\mathbf{r}, E) = 2i \operatorname{Im} G^{r}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}, E)$







libNEGF





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NEGF: contact generation



- Automatic mesh creation using *lib*MESH classes
- General extrusion of planar contacts in 1,2,3D











Example: MOS with NEGF

Mix between overlap (Schrödinger/Poisson) and bridge (current at NEGF boundary) schemes







NEGF: input file



absolute_tolerance = 1e-3 relative tolerance = 1e-9









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RTD devices





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InGaN/GaN multi QW





Example: excited states

• Here we use (NE)GF to calculate the LDOS, on top of a DD





Difficulties

- Difficulties: separate n/p densities near equilibrium
- Below knee voltage the minority carrier densities become extremely low
- Reproduce non-radiative recombinations in NEGF (Auger, SRH)
- Introduce el-γ coupling in NEGF











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Atomistic structure generation

 We can assure a consistent atomistic structure using a top down approach:



- 1. Identify relevant volume
- 2. Shift origin slightly inside
- 3. Fill up with atoms using the crystal basis
- 4. Cut atoms outside of the structure

It is important that all atoms are lying **inside** the simulation domain

we assume pseudomorphic structures with commensurate interfaces





The multiscale problem







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Valence Force Field

We included a Keating model to calculate strain at an atomistic level

$$U = \sum_{i} U_{i\alpha} + U_{i\beta}$$

$$U_{i\alpha} = \sum_{j} \frac{3\alpha_{ij}}{16r_{0ij}^2} \left(|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|^2 - r_{0ij}\right)^2$$

$$U_{i\beta} = \sum_{j} \sum_{k \neq j} \frac{3\beta_{ijk}}{8r_{0ij}r_{0ik}} \left(\mathbf{r}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ik} - r_{0ij}r_{0ik}\cos\theta_{0ijk}\right)^2$$

The equilibrium position is that one which minimizes U We use a nonlinear conjugate gradient minimization technique

Keating (1966) D. Camacho, Y. M. Niquet (2009) Penazzi Gabriele, PhD. Thesis (2010)







VFF vs Elasticity

Evaluating when Continuum Elasticity failures is not trivial. It depends on structure geometry. In general, it fails near interfaces

InAs quantum dot on GaAs substrate



Self assembled by strain relaxation High lattice mismatch (about 7%)





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VFF vs Elasticity II

Smaller differences on low aspect/ratio structures





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Empirical Tight Binding



 $\psi(\mathbf{r}) = \sum \quad \sum \quad C_{i\alpha} \phi_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}_i)$

site, *i*

atomic orbitals, α

 $\langle \phi_{i\alpha} | \phi_{j\beta} \rangle = S_{i\alpha, j\beta} = \delta_{ij} \delta_{\alpha\beta}$

$$\sum_{\substack{\text{atomic} \\ \text{site, j}}} \sum_{\substack{\text{orbitals, }\beta}} \left[H_{i\alpha, j\beta} - E_n \right] C_{j\beta} = 0 \qquad \text{matrix notation:} \\ \mathbf{HC} = \mathbf{EC}$$



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Empirical Tight-Binding



The sp³s* Hamiltonian [Vogl et al. J. Phys. Chem Sol. 44, 365 (1983)]

The sp³d⁵s* Hamiltonian [Jancu et al. PRB 57 (1998); PRB (2001)]



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k.p vs TB



Residual difference can be due to interface effects







Alloys







Can treat alloys in two ways: VCA (virtual crystal approximation, effective material) or 'real' structure (e.g. random alloy)

- In VCA matrix elements are taken as mean values: $In_xGa_{1-x}N = x^*(InN) + (1-x)^*(GaN)$
- otherwise onsite elements according to the atom and hopping element according to the pair



requires supercell + statistical ensemble

Note: we like parameter sets where the common atom (N) is consistent between InN and GaN







Motivation: why InGaN/GaN

- Tunable gap across visible: high efficiency/efficacy LEDs
- Theoretically could allow for all-nitride phosphor-free white light
- Challenge: InN GaN are 10% lattice mismatched !









Localization behavior in InGaN QW

Correlation of local In concentration with wave function localization Electrons and holes subject to different In fluctuations planes





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Effect of non-uniformity





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InGaN QW: optical matrix element

Lateral localization leads to strong fluctuations in optical matrix elements



Increasing deviation from VCA values

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Modelling nanopillars



M. Auf der Maur IEEE TED (2011)



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InGaN nanocolumns





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InGaN nanocolumns





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InGaN nanocolumns





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Modelling nanopillars





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Modelling nanopillars









ETB groundstates





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VFF and elasticity models





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Effects of clustering

Strain from VFF on a random sample









Optical Spectrum – no clustering





In 30%



FWHM = 18 meV











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Optical Spectrum – 30% clustering

In 30%

In 10%







Distribution of energy gaps Mean = 2.793 Std = 0.028 skew = -0.708







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Transport across EBL

tunneling across Al_{0.2}Ga_{0.8}N EBL:



Considerable fluctuations due to random alloy: similar to defect assisted tunneling



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0.7



Inter-well transport in LED

tunneling across In_{0.05}Ga_{0.95}N barrier:





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Oxide-tunneling





Sacconi et al IEEE TED 2004 and 2007 M. Auf der Maur et al. J. Comp. Elect., 7 398 (2008)



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Bridge method: flux continuity





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1,000,000 atoms on a WS!







Fig 3:State 1 confined inside the Dot





Fig 5:State 8 confined inside the Ring



Lambda state

W. Rodrigues, A. Pecchia, A Di Carlo, Comp. Phys. Comm. (2014)



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Software Development ToolKit







Software Development toolKit

 \Rightarrow Allows to add new modules by user without relinking core





Example: Poisson

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private:

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Conclusions

- Multiscale/multiphysics is requested for simulation of real modern electronic devices where electronics, optics, chemistry are linked together
- We have seen the most important physical models implemented in tiberCAD
- We have discussed the basics of how to couple atomistic and classical simulations
- Much effort is still needed to arrive at a true multiscale integration for transport simulations

Additional info about **TiberCAD**: http://www.tibercad.org

Download free trial version:



www.tiberlab.com info@tiberlab.com







THANK YOU !



