

University of Virginia

Department of Physics

Physics 606: How Things Work II

Lecture #12 Slides:

Xerographic Copiers II

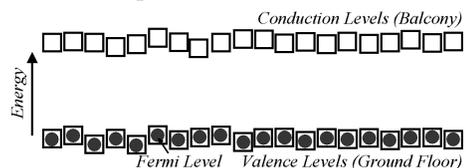
Metals

- The Fermi level has empty levels just above it
- Like patrons in a partly full theatre, electrons can move in response to electric fields



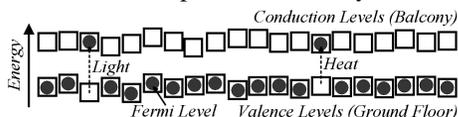
Insulators

- The Fermi level has no empty levels nearby
- Like patrons in a full theatre, electrons can't move in response to forces



Semiconductors

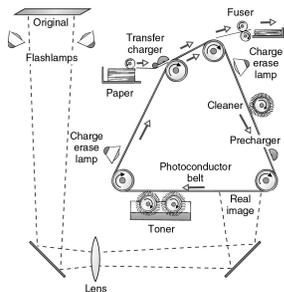
- Semiconductors are “poor insulators”
- Valence & conduction bands have narrow gap
- Like patrons in a theatre with a low balcony, electrons can hop into the balcony and move



Photoconductors

- In the dark, a semiconductor is insulating
 - When polarized, it has an electric field in it
- In the light, a semiconductor may conduct
 - Will conduct if photon energy can bridge gap
 - Blue photons have more energy than red photons
 - If conducting, electric field makes charges move
 - In light, a “photoconductor” will depolarize

Copier Structure



Xerographic Process

