Theoretical Aspect of Physical Phenomena in Inorganic Photovoltaic Cells. Electrical Modeling and Numerical Simulation.

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Abstract: This work is based on the development of a theoretical model describing the drift and diffusion transport of photogenerated charge carriers and the impact of space charge on this transport in relation to the different physical phenomena characterizing the photovoltaic conversion in an inorganic silicon-based cell. In a second step, we used a numerical solution of the transport differential equations based on the Runge-Kutta algorithm in the framework of the finite difference method. This led us to an electrical model of the photovoltaic cell and of the generated currents by RLC circuit equipped with a diode modeling the direction of electron and hole transport and allowed us to study the relations between the optical and electrical properties of the cell, as well as the influence of the different concentrations of impurities used for the n-type and p-type doping of the silicon on the properties of absorption of the light photons, the spectral response as well as the conductivity, the open-circuit potential and the short-circuit current.

Keywords: numerical simulation; electrical modeling; finite difference method; solar cell

1 Introduction

The absorption of light photons by a semiconductor leads to the photo-generation of charge carriers, electrons and holes, through the formation of excitons which are considered as bound states of an electron and a hole, the photovoltaic effect [1-2]. The dissociation of these excitons under the influence of the electric field of the p-n junction leads to the generation of electrons and holes which diffuse from the p-n junction towards the electrode-semiconductor contact zones and thus their collection on the cathode for electrons and on the anode for holes. This transport phenomena are due to the concentration and junction potential gradients, the transport equations describing the main physical phenomena related to photovoltaic conversion and charge carrier diffusion are derived from the differential equations related to the electron and hole current densities by calculating the divergence of the current density vectors and using the kinetic evolution of charge densities [5-6]. The effect of the space charge zone on the generation and recombination phenomena as well as on the transport of the load carriers is also considered. The study of the hope charge zone is based on the Nernst-Planck equations, the transport equations and the Poisson equation.[7] These equations allowed us to establish the theoretical model on which the numerical simulation of the cell is based, using the Runge-Kutta algorithm derived from the finite difference method for solving the differential equations obtained. On the other hand, we proceeded to model the silicon-based inorganic photovoltaic cell by an equivalent circuit focusing on the generated photo-currents and their relationship with the densities of the donor and acceptor impurities, the wavelength, the open circuit potential and the luminous flux. In a second row, we have also approached the resistances equivalent to the series, source and shunt resistances by trying to elucidate with maximum clarity, the links between the structural properties of the material at the microscopic scale with the optical and electrical properties of the photovoltaic cell.[8-9].

2 Theoretical model

2.1 Diffusion and drift of electrons and holes

For the electron:

$$\vec{J}_e = -qD_e \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial x} + qn_e \mu_e \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \hat{i}$$

(1)
For the holes:
\[ \overline{J}_h = -qD_h \frac{\partial n_h}{\partial x} = q\mu_h \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} i \]  
(2)

2.1.1 Continuity equations relating to electrons and holes
Let us calculate the one-dimensional divergence of the two vector fields \( \overline{J}_e \) and \( \overline{J}_h \) in order to arrive at the diffusion and drift equations relating to the charge carriers:[10].

\[ \text{div} \overline{J}_e = \frac{\partial J_e}{\partial x} = q \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial x} + n_e \mu_e \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right] \]  
(2)

This therefore allows us to arrive at the expression of the diffusion equation and the drift relating to the electrons

\[ \frac{1}{q} \frac{\partial J_e}{\partial x} = -D_e \frac{\partial^2 n_e}{\partial x^2} - \mu_e \frac{\partial n_e \partial \phi}{\partial x} + n_e \mu_e \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} \]  
(3)

For \( D_e = cte \) et \( \mu_e = cte \)

The continuity equation reduces to:

\[ \frac{1}{q} \frac{\partial J_e}{\partial x} = -D_e \frac{\partial^2 n_e}{\partial x^2} + \mu_e \frac{\partial n_e \partial \phi}{\partial x} + n_e \mu_e \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} \]  
(4)

The same for the holes gives:

\[ \frac{1}{q} \frac{\partial J_h}{\partial x} = -D_h \frac{\partial^2 n_h}{\partial x^2} - \mu_h \frac{\partial n_h \partial \phi}{\partial x} - n_h \mu_h \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} \]  
(5)

The charge carriers diffuse from the (p-n) junction to the cathode for electrons and to the anode for holes.

2.1.2 Gauss - Poisson Equation
The Gauss-Poisson equation is an elliptic equation deduced from the laws of electostatics, for intrinsic one-dimensional semiconductors this equation takes the form [11-14]:

\[ \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{-q}{\varepsilon} (n_h - n_e) \]  
(6)

For extrinsic semiconductors provided with ionized sites (impurities) and structural defects, we can write [12].

\[ \frac{\partial^2 \phi(x)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{q}{\varepsilon} (n_h - n_e + N_{D^+} + N_{A^+} + n_i) \]  
(7)

2.1.3 Determination of the expression of the junction electric field
By integrating the Nernst – Planck equations relating to the densities of electronic currents and those of holes we find as an expression for the junction electric field In the case of an open circuit

\[ E_{int} = -\frac{KT}{q} \frac{\mu_e}{\partial x} \frac{dn_e}{\partial x} - \frac{\mu_h}{\partial x} \frac{dn_h}{\partial x} \]  
(8)

It is the junction electric field which appeared during the irradiation of the material whose electric neutrality is no longer respected; this field is due to the diffusion currents which appeared under the influence of the concentration gradients of the carriers of load out of equilibrium when irradiation is not uniform.

This permits to write the Poisson equation:

\[ \frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} - \frac{kT \mu_e}{q \mu_h} \frac{dn_e}{dx^2} = \frac{\mu_h}{q} \frac{dn_h}{dx^2} \]  
(9)

By solving the Poisson equation we find:

\[ \phi = \frac{kT}{q} \int \left[ \frac{dn_e}{dx} \right] - \frac{\mu_h}{q} \frac{dn_h}{dx} \]  
(10)

Therefore:

\[ \frac{q}{\varepsilon} \left[ n_h - n_e + N_{D^+} + N_{A^+} + n_i \right] \]  
(11)

\[ + \frac{kT \mu_e}{q} \frac{dn_e}{dx^2} - \frac{\mu_h}{q} \frac{dn_h}{dx^2} = 0 \]

Where \( N \) is the total density:

\[ N = n_h - n_e + N_{D^+} + N_{A^+} + n_i \]

The absorption of the radiation gives rise to a process of photoionization and causes an increase in the energy of the electrons and holes which remain bound and form an exciton when the concentration of the ND donor centers of low ionization energy is large enough; here is the phenomenon of photoconductivity.

2.2 The space charge
In the case of unipolar conductivity \( (n_h = 0) \) we write the electric field by virtue of the Poisson equation:

\[ \frac{dE(x)}{dx} = -\frac{KT}{q} \int \frac{1}{dn_e}{dn_e} \]  

From where: \( E(x) = -\frac{KT}{q} \int \frac{1}{n_e} dn_e \)

So:

\[ \phi(x) = \frac{kT}{q} \int \ln \left( \frac{n_e(x)}{n_0} \right) \]  
(12)

It’s about Nernst potential

\[ n_e(x) = n_0 \exp \left( -\frac{q\phi(x)}{kT} \right) \]

For the holes we have \( n_h(x) = n_0 \exp \left( \frac{q\phi(x)}{kT} \right) \)

Densities follow the Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution law by substituting the coordinate \( x \) by the spherical coordinate. The electric charge density will then be:

\[ \rho(r) = qn_i(r) = qn_i \exp \left( -\frac{q\phi(r)}{kT} \right) \]  
(13)

and by virtue of the expression of \( \phi(r) \)

\[ \rho(r) = qn_i \exp \left( -\frac{q^2}{4\pi\epsilon r kT} \right) \]  
(14)
Since the electrostatic interactions are relegated to thermal agitation therefore we have $q \phi \ll kT$, the expansion of the exponential gives as an expression of $n (r)$ by virtue of the make that $n_i = n_h$

$$n_i(r) = -\frac{q^2 n_i}{4\pi \epsilon r kT}$$

(15)

And the nonlinear equation of $\phi (r)$ in spherical coordinates is linearized to take the form

$$r^2 \frac{d^2 \phi}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{d\phi}{dr} + \frac{n_i q^2}{kT} \phi = 0$$

(16)

This admits for the solution

$$\phi = \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon r} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{l_D}\right)$$

(17)

Let's pose:

$L_D = \sqrt{\frac{kT}{n_i q^2}}$: The thickness of the space charge zone (Debye length)

$L_D \approx 1A$: it is the characteristic length of the space charge in the proximity of two regions containing different densities of charge carriers.

So:

$$\phi = \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon r} \exp\left(-\frac{r}{L_D}\right)$$

(18)

If $r \ll l_D \Rightarrow \phi = \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon r} \left(1 - \frac{r}{L_D} + \frac{r^2}{2L_D^2} + \ldots\right)$

So $\phi \approx \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon r} - \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon L_D}$

In thermodynamic

$$W_e = -\int_0^\phi q d\phi = -\frac{q^2}{8\pi \epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{L_D}\right)$$

(19)

From the laws of thermodynamics, the dissociation energy of the excitons is related to the dissociation equilibrium constant

$$-RT l n K_{ed} = -\frac{q^2 N_h}{8\pi \epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{L_D}\right)$$

(20)

That is $l n K_{ed} = \frac{q^2}{8\pi nkT} \left(1 - \frac{1}{L_D}\right)$

It is therefore the dissociation constant of the excitons at equilibrium taking into account the space charge zone; the electric double layer reigning in this zone favors even more the dissociation of the excitons; the potential drop due to the space charge.

$$\Delta \phi = \frac{q L_D^2}{2\epsilon} \left(n_h - n_e + \frac{1}{N_p} - \frac{1}{N_h}\right) \Delta \phi < \frac{KT}{q}$$

(21)

The drop in potential becomes negligible the current limit by the space charge is given by the Mott-Gurney law:

$$j = \frac{9 \mu E}{8 l_D^2} (\phi_{bi} - V)^2$$

$$x = l_D$$

On a $\frac{d\phi}{dx} = 0$

$-l_D < x < 0: \quad \rho = -qN_p$ p-type conduction

$0 < x < l_D : \quad \rho = +qN_n$ n-type conduction

$$\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial n_h}{\partial x} = 0$$

(23)

With $J_n = 0$ at the acceptor-cathode interface and $J_p = 0$ at the anode-donor interface, because $p>n$ and because $\mu_e > \mu_h$ we then have $V_{liu} \neq V_{ob}$ and this is due to the space charge, there is therefore accumulation of charge

### 3 Method for numerical resolution of differential equations (numerical modeling)

The equations obtained are non-linear and strongly coupled equations so they do not admit analytical solutions except in very simplified cases.

The method used for the numerical solution approximation analysis of these differential equations of diffusion and drift for electrons and holes is the Runge-Kutta method because of its simplicity, its ease and its adequacy for the numerical resolution of conservation equations for physical systems with simple geometry.[11]

The adopted meshes are:

$$\{x(i) = (i-1)\Delta x\}$$

$$\{t(j) = (j-1)\Delta t\}$$

These are steps of discretization; $i$ and $j$ are the indices of discretization.

### 4 Results and discussion

A dimensional writing of the diffusion equation in the form of a Boltzmann kinetic equation

$$\frac{d^2 n^*}{d\eta^2} + 2n_0 \eta \frac{dn}{d\eta} + \left(n - \frac{dn}{d\eta}\right) = 0$$

(24)

4.1 Discretization of the exciton diffusion equation in space and time

$$\frac{D_E}{\Delta x^2} \frac{\partial^2 \rho_E}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial \rho_E}{\partial t} + \frac{\rho_E}{\tau} - \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} = 0$$

(25)

The application of the discretization operator

$$d_s; \Delta \rho_E = \rho_E(i+1) = 2 \rho_E(i) + \rho_E(i - 1)$$

$$\frac{d_s; \Delta \rho_E}{2\Delta t} = \frac{\rho_E(i+1) - \rho_E(i - 1)}{2\Delta t}$$

(22)
So differential equation (26) can be written as the numerical difference equation as follows:

$$\rho_{j+1} - 2\rho_j + \rho_{j-1} = \frac{1}{D_E} (\rho_E - G_E)$$

(27)

$$J_e = -qD_E \frac{\partial n_e}{\partial x} + qn_e \mu_e$$  (28)

In stationary regime we can write

$$-2\rho_j + \rho_{j+1} \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} = -1 \frac{D}{\Delta x^2} (\rho - G) \Delta x$$

The method followed here is that of Runge-Kutta of the second order which requires two iteration steps of the system of implicit equations:

$$t = 0 \rightarrow t = j + 1$$

$$t = j + 1 \rightarrow t = j + 1$$

Based on equation 27 we find:

$$\rho_{j+1} = \rho_j + 2\Delta t \left[ \frac{D_E (\rho_{j+1} - 2\rho_j + \rho_{j-1})}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{\rho_E - G_E}{\Delta x} \right]$$

4.2 Discretization of the current density equation

In adimensional writing the equations take the following form:

$$J_e = -D \frac{\partial n_e^*}{\partial \eta^*} + n_e^* \mu_e \frac{\partial U_e^*}{\partial \eta^*}$$

This equation can be written as a system of two equations:

$$J_e^{(mi)}(g) = n_e^* \mu_e \frac{\partial U_e^*}{\partial \eta^*}$$

$$J_e^{(diff)} = -D \frac{\partial n_e^*}{\partial \eta^*}$$

The application of the discretization operator results in the following differences equations:

$$dU_e^* = \frac{(U_e^*_{j+1} - U_e^*_{j-1})}{2\Delta \eta^*}$$

$$dn_e^* = \frac{n_e^*_{j+1} - n_e^*_{j-1}}{2\Delta \eta^*}$$

So:

$$J_e = \frac{n_e^* \mu_e}{2\Delta \eta^*} [(U_e^*_{j+1} - U_e^*_{j-1}) - D^* (n_e^*_{j+1} - n_e^*_{j-1})]$$

$$n_{j+1} = n_{j-1} + \frac{1}{D} \left[ (U_e^*_{j+1} - U_e^*_{j-1}) - \frac{2\Delta \eta^*}{n_e^* \mu_e} J_e \right]$$

4.3 Discretization of the charge conservation equation

Let’s now move on to the difference equations and application of the discretization operator:

$$\frac{d^2 n_e^*}{d \eta^*^2} = \frac{\Delta \eta^*}{2\Delta t} [n_{j+1} - 2n_{j+1} - n_{j-1}^*]$$

4.4 Discretization of the Poisson equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 n_0^*}{\partial \eta^*^2} = \frac{-q}{\varepsilon} (n_0 - n_e + N_e + N_n - n_{\text{pie}})$$

Let's apply the operator to the differences $d_s, \Delta^* U_e^*$

$$\frac{U_e^*_{j+1} - 2U_e^* + 2U_e^*_{j-1}}{2\Delta \eta^*} = \frac{-q}{\varepsilon} [n_h - n_e + N_e + N_n + n_{\text{pie}}]$$
Let us apply the operator of discretization only on the operator of the first derivation
\[
\frac{d}{d \eta} \left[ \frac{U_{i+1} - U_{i-1}}{\Delta \eta} \right] = \frac{-q}{\varepsilon} \left[ n_h - n_e + N^+ + N^- + n_{\text{piege}} \right] d \eta
\]

\[
U_{i+1} = U_{i-1} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \left[ \sigma_n - \sigma_h - \sigma_{N^+} - \sigma_{N^-} - \sigma_{\text{piege}} \right] \Delta \eta
\]

In the space charge zone the diffusion potential takes the form:
\[
\phi_{\text{diff}} = \frac{KT}{q} \ln \frac{N_N N_p}{n_i^2}
\]

For the Zone of contact \( x=0 \) we have
\[
S \Delta n = D_n \frac{\partial n}{\partial x} \bigg|_{x=0}
\]

And the current density
\[
J_n = -q D_n \frac{\partial n}{\partial x} \bigg|_{x=0}
\]

At the limit of the junction \( n = n_0 = \frac{n_i^2}{N_A} x = x_p \)

And the current density
\[
J_{n_h} = -q D_{n_h} \frac{\partial n_h}{\partial x} \bigg|_{x=x_{n_h}}
\]

### 4.5 Electrical modeling and simulation of the photovoltaic cell

#### 4.5.1 Photo-currents generated

The generated photo-current is the sum of three currents. 
\( I_{\text{ph}}(\lambda) \) due to the transition of electrons from the valence band of the donor to the conduction band therefore to the drift of the electrons towards the p-type region

\( I_{\text{sc}}(\text{pn junction}) \) due to the dissociation of excitons and charge separation in the space charge zone.

\( I_h(\lambda) \) : the current due to drift from the holes towards region n (relative to the acceptor)

\[
J_{\text{ph}}(\lambda) = J_e(\lambda) + J_{\text{sc}}(\lambda) + J_h(\lambda)
\]

The current generated from the space charge zone is the sum of two currents
\[
J_{\text{sc}} = J_e + J_h
\]

The total photo-current relating to the entire solar spectrum can be written
\[
J_{\text{ph}}(\lambda) = \int^{\lambda_M}_{\lambda_m} J_{\text{ph}}(\lambda) d\lambda
\]

In darkness; the current density is expressed by Shockley’s law
\[
J = J_0 \left[ \exp \left( \frac{qV}{KT} \right) - 1 \right]
\]

Where \( J_0 \) represents the saturation current density which has the form in the case of p-n junction
\[
J_0 = \frac{q n_i^2 D_h}{N_D L_h}
\]

With \( D_h = \frac{i_h^2}{\tau_h} \)

We can write \( J_0 = \frac{q n_i^2 i_{ph} L_h}{N_p \mu_h} \)

Express \( J_0 \) as a function of the diffusional mobility of the holesBy virtue of the Nernst -Einstein equation we can write: \( \frac{i_{ph}}{\tau_h} = \frac{kT}{q} \mu_h \)

\( J_0 \) takes the form:
\[
J_0 = \frac{KT n_i^2}{N_D \mu_h} \mu_h
\]

After illumination; the absorption of photons generates a photo-current \( I_{\text{ph}} \), in such a way that the density of the total current becomes:
\[
J = J_{\text{ph}} - J_0 \left[ \exp \left( \frac{qV}{KT} \right) - 1 \right]
\]

\[
J = J_{\text{ph}} - \frac{KT n_i^2 \mu_h}{N_D L_h} \left[ \exp \left( \frac{qV}{KT} \right) - 1 \right]
\]

The variation of the total current as a function of the ND impurities is represented by the following graph:
The total current increases rapidly with the density of the donor impurities and this is due to the decrease in dark current with the doping this results in the strong dependence of the total current mainly on the photocurrent. The doping this type increases the photoinduced electron donor sites and further decreases the dark current density.

This is the equation of the curve J (V) of the photovoltaic cell. At short-circuit that is to say at $V = 0$, the current density equals the density of the short-circuit current $J_{cc}$ which is expressed as a function of luminous flux $\Phi$ in the form:

$$J_{cc} = \frac{q \lambda}{h c} \Phi(\lambda)(1 - r(\lambda))P_{diff}(\text{exciton})$$

With $K$ the photovoltaic sensitivity and $r(\lambda)$ the spectral reflection coefficient:

$$r(\lambda) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{\epsilon_r(\lambda)} - 1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r(\lambda)} + 1}\right)^2$$

Depending on the photovoltaic sensitivity we can express the quantum efficiency of the cell

$$Q_E = \frac{J_{cc} \ h c}{\Phi(\lambda) \lambda q} = \frac{K h c}{\lambda q}$$

4.5.2 Open-circuit voltage:

Now let's determine the open circuit potential:

We write $J = 0$

$$V_{oc} = \frac{KT}{q} \ln \left(\frac{J_{cc}}{J_0} + 1\right)$$

Let us replace $J_0$ by its expression:

$$V_{oc} = \frac{KT}{q} \ln \left[\frac{N_D L_h}{K T n_i^2 \mu_h J_{cc} + 1}\right]$$

As a function of the diffusion coefficient and the electronic mobility we find Knowing that:

$$D_e = \frac{D_h}{\mu_e}$$

so:

$$\mu_h = \frac{\mu_e D_h}{D_e}$$

We can then write

$$V_{oc} = \frac{KT}{q} \ln \left[\frac{N_D L_h D_e \mu_e J_{cc} + 1}{K T \mu_e D_h n_i^2 J_{cc} + 1}\right]$$

For $J_{cc} \ll J_0$

We can write $V_{oc} = \frac{KT J_{cc}}{q J_0}$

That is to say: $V_{oc} = \frac{KT}{q} \left[\frac{q \lambda}{h c f_0} \Phi(\lambda)(1 - r(\lambda))P_{diff}^{E}\right]$ Si $J_{cc} \gg J_0$

$$V_{oc} = \frac{KT}{q} \ln \left(\frac{q \lambda \Phi(\lambda)(1 - r(\lambda))P_{diff}^{E}}{h c f_0}\right)$$

4.5.3 Energy efficiency of the cell:

This efficiency is dependent on the quantum efficiency by

$$E_E = \frac{q \lambda}{h c} Q_E V_{oc}$$

Where $Q_E$ is the quantum efficiency of the photovoltaic conversion the spectral wavelength response of the photovoltaic cell depends more often on the associated electrical circuit has the form

$$R_{sp}(\lambda) = \frac{J_{ph}(\lambda)}{q \Phi(\lambda)(1 - r(\lambda))}$$

By virtue of the dependency of photo-current on Voc input, the variation of this spectral response in relation to the open circuit potential is illustrated by the graph below:

![Graph showing variation of spectral response as a function of open-circuit potential](image)

Fig. 2. The variation of spectral response as a function of open-circuit potential
This graph illustrates the variation of the polarization inversion current density with the wavelength of the incident light. It can be seen that this current density is an increasing function of the wavelength, that is to say that the polarization inversion current density is a function of the wavelength of the incident light, that is to say that the polarization inversion current density is an increasing function of the wavelength of the incident light. That is to say that the optimal wavelengths for a current density of the photoinduced charge carriers are in the visible range of the electromagnetic spectrum and more precisely the long wavelengths. This could appear paradoxical but it is not the case of the fact that the polarization inversion current density depends more on the luminous flux than on the wavelength and this means that the current density depends on the photon numbers much more than on the individual energy and this means that the photo current in turn then increases with the photon number with the luminous flux.

If we account for the parallel variation of the polarization inversion current as a function of the density of the donor impurities and the luminous flux, we obtain the following 3D graph.

In this 3D graph it is constant that the polarization inversion current density decreases strongly with the density of the donor impurities which determines the saturation current density which becomes negligible in front of the photo current, that is to say that the polarization inversion current density depends in this case essentially on luminous flux and increases with its increase, and since \( j_{\text{inv}} \) decreases with the donor dopage it leads to an increase of the photo current.

4.6 Equivalent electrical circuit of the photovoltaic cell

4.6.1 Space charge modeling condenser:
The capacity of SCZ is expressed by modeling it with a condenser as follows:

$$C = \frac{\varepsilon S q N}{[(\varepsilon \phi) - V]}$$

The thickness of the space charge zone depends strongly on the potential drop as well as the density of the donor and acceptor impurities. This dependence is given by the equation

$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{2 \varepsilon \Delta \phi \left(\frac{1}{N_A} - \frac{1}{N_D}\right)}{q}}$$

And it is illustrated by the following 3D graph.
We can see from this 3d graph that the thickness of the space charge zone decreases with type P doping and increases with type n dropping. This leads to an increase in the dissociation of the excitons by the increase of the electric field generated by the pn junction, which leads to an increase in the current generated by the space charge zone, which is due to the separation of the charges generated by the dissociation of the excitons.

4.6.2 Solar cell modelling

This cell can be assimilated to an R.L.C circuit where C represents the capacitance of the space charge zone the resistances $R = R_s + R_L + R_{sh}$ and the coil is assimilated to the polarization current this circuit can be described by the differential equation

$$V_c + RC \frac{dV_c}{dt} + LC \frac{d^2V_c}{dt^2} = E$$ \hspace{1cm} (42)

For the recombination the time can be expressed as follows

$$R_{Rec}C_{PEC(Rec)} = \tau_{Rec}$$

For a bimolecular recombination we can write

$$R_{Rec} = \frac{K_c q^2 n_0 (n_0 + n_e^2) (D_e + D_h)}{\varepsilon K T}$$ \hspace{1cm} (45)

5 Conclusion

The modulation of the electronic properties of semiconductors, especially silicon, allows the optical and electrical characteristics of silicon-based photovoltaic cells to be optimized. This modulation is only possible by an optimal doping as well as by the control of the morphology and the thickness of the p-n junction, which requires the implementation of laborious and expensive physico-chemical characterization techniques [15-16]. This is the reason why we have resorted to the electrical modeling of the photovoltaic cell by an RLC circuit as well as to the numerical simulation of some of its optical and structural characteristics (density of impurities) (input functions) in relation to the electrical characteristics of the cell (output function).

In future research, since we used numerical simulations to solve our problem, we can make use of the work of Daaf et al. [18] who programmed computer solutions to solve different manipulations of crystallography, thus by the development of virtual laboratories [19-20].

A multitude of mathematical and numerical techniques are possible, but we have opted for the finite difference method and the Runge-Kutta algorithm, which allows easy numerical resolution of drift diffusion and charge distribution equations that describe the essential transport properties of photo-induced charge carriers as well as the influence of space charge zone on the electrical properties of the cell, especially in relation to exciton dissociation. In this work, we have also drawn attention to the theoretical description of the physical phenomena characterizing the photovoltaic conversion, which allowed us to highlight the links between the electronic structure of silicon and the optical and electrical properties of the cell [17].

The electrical modeling allowed us to represent the cell by an equivalent electrical circuit modeling the different layers as well as the interfaces of the cell through three resistors, a capacitor as well as a diode and a coil; it also allowed us to model the physical processes on which the operation of the photovoltaic cell is based. By numerical simulation we tried to understand the relationship between the total current, the inversion current, and the optical parameters of the incident light such as luminous flux and wavelength, we also found a strong dependence of the polarization inversion current, and photocurrent as well as the thickness of the space charge zone and the density of impurities due to the donor doping which influences the current due to electrons and the acceptor doping which influences the current due to holes, the influence of the open circuit potential on the spectral response was also studied.
To conclude with this work, which in no way claims to be exhaustive, we hope that it is a modest contribution to the theoretical study and modeling of silicon-based photovoltaic cells.

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