STATUS REPORT

Contract No. Nonr-2964(01), NR 017 208

Robert G. Morris, Principal Investigator
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Rapid City, South Dakota

1 October 1964 - 30 September 1965

HIGH-TEMPERATURE THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY
MEASUREMENTS IN SEMICONDUCTORS

a) Technical Reports

TR 13 "The Thermal Conductivity and Seebeck Effect of Impure Indium
Antimonide in a Magnetic Field," Eldon F. Hult, Master's Thesis,
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, 1964, Issued 1 November,
1964.

Published Articles
None; however, publication is pending on three articles.

b) Names of Graduate Students and Post-Doctoral Personnel Associated with the Project and Their Status

Graduate Students

1. Ralph L. Benbow, about 4/10 time
   full time
   October 1964 - June 1965
   July - August 1965
   Mr. Benbow's thesis on thermal conductivity of silicon at high temperatures
   has run into severe experimental difficulties. It will probably be
   finished by 1 November 1965.

2. Ronald J. Holyer, about 4/10 time
   full time
   October 1964 - June 1965
   July - August 1965
   Mr. Holyer's thesis on thermal conductivity of silicon at low temperatures
   will be issued 1 October 1965 as Technical Report 14. Mr. Holyer is now
   employed at Texas Instruments.

3. Ronald R. Cox, about 4/10 time
   Beginning work for Master's degree.
   September 1965

4. Emery J. Stehans, about 4/10 time
   Beginning work for Master's degree.
   September 1965

Post-Doctoral Personnel

1. Dr. R. G. Morris, about 2/10 time
   full time
   October 1964 - June 1965;
   September 1965
   July - August 1965
   Principal Investigator; Professor of Physics, Head of the Department

2. Dr. R. D. Redin, about 2/10 time
   full time
   October 1964 - June 1965;
   September 1965
   July - August 1965
   Co-Investigator; Associate Professor of Physics.
e) **Summary of Work**

1. **OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of the work are to measure the contact and bulk thermal conductivities of semiconductors at temperatures above room temperature by means of the series comparative method. To these has been added the measurement of thermal conductivity at temperatures below room temperature.

2. **DOPED N-TYPE INDIUM ANTIMONIDE:** Mr. Eldon P. Ault successfully defended his M.S. thesis entitled "The Thermal Conductivity and Seebeck Effect of Impure Indium Antimonide in a Magnetic Field" in October 1964 and the thesis was issued as Technical Report No. 13 on 1 November 1964. A paper based on this work and earlier work of Rodenberg on p-type InSb was presented at the April 1965 meeting of the South Dakota Academy of Science and will be published in the Proceedings. Ault is now at Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Michigan.

Thermal conductivity \( K \) and electrical conductivity \( \sigma \) have been measured on samples of the semiconductor indium antimonide (InSb) to which impurities from either the third column (giving p-type InSb) or from the fifth column (giving n-type InSb) of the periodic table had been added. The effect of these impurities on the conductivities was measured over the range 340° - 650°K. \( \sigma \) is generally larger in the impure than in pure samples, while \( K \) is smaller for p-type InSb and somewhat larger for n-type InSb than for pure InSb. Calculations show that the lattice part of \( K \) decreases in both cases.
3. **HIGH-TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS:** Mr. Ralph Benbow has been measuring n-type silicon \( N_D = 5(10)^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3} \) 30-1000°C. Previous measurements here were to 700°C. He has used silicon standards (higher purity) and Armco iron standards. Tungsten-niobium thermocouples were used at the start of the work but now he is using Chromel-Alumel couples. These are attached to niobium wires wedged into holes cut into the samples.

The measurements are plagued with contact difficulties - both between samples and standard and between samples and the thermocouples. Sodium silicate and silicone greases were unstable at the higher temperatures. Two high-temperature adhesives from the Whittaker Corporation, Los Angeles, Imidite 850 and Narmcad, have been used with considerable success between samples and standard. Imidite 850 is superior to Narmcad.

Figure one shows data to 1075°C. Solid lines are experimental curves of Slack and Glassbrenner (Phys. Rev. **135**, A1058(1964)) as well as a curve of lattice conductivity calculated here by Benbow on the College IBM 1620 computer.

4. **LOW TEMPERATURE THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY:** Our liquid nitrogen plant went into operation in January 1965. Mr. Ronald J. Holyer successfully defended his M.S. thesis entitled "A System for Low-Temperature Measurements of Silicon from 77°C to 300°C" on 2 September 1965. He is now employed at Texas Instruments in Dallas. The Abstract of the thesis is appended to this report. The thesis will be released as a Technical Report on 1 October 1965.
Figure 2 shows the results of Holyer's work along with those of other workers. We believe operation of the system is verified.

Work is now beginning on extension of the measurements to liquid helium temperatures. The material to be investigated will be InSb, pure and impure, in the range 4 - 300°K. We expect the first air shipment of liquid helium in October 1965. The graduate research assistant on this project is Emery J. Stephens.

5. MEDIUM-TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENTS: We have initiated a project to "go back and take another look" at our basic method of measurement in the range 300 - 700°K. Mr. Ronald R. Cox will investigate and evaluate each step of the work with regard to improving reliability and reducing errors. Some problems to investigate:

1. Radiation loss
2. Thermocouple separation uncertainties
3. Measurement sensitivities
4. Use of positive and negative temperature gradients.

The material to be studied will be silicon.

6. OTHER WORK: Work by men not receiving support from ONR but being done in our laboratory.

Measurements of thermal conductivity of boron:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T°K</th>
<th>K watt/cm deg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>0.25 (ave.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370</td>
<td>0.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>410</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>470</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>630</td>
<td>0.17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Slack's (Phys. Rev. 139, 1507(1965)) room-temperature value (he measured T ≤ 300°) is 0.28 watt/cm deg.
Fig. 2. Thermal conductivity of silicon. Shown also are results of other investigators.
f) **Personnel Changes**

**as of 1 June 1965**

D. Hill, undergraduate Research Assistant, leaves payroll (graduation)

R. Rollins becomes Undergraduate Research Assistant.

**as of 1 September 1965**

Leaving payroll:

Graduate Research Assistants

Ralph L. Jenbow

Ronald J. Holyer

New on payroll:

Graduate Research Assistants

Ronald R. Cox

Emery J. Stephens

Date: 30 September 1965

[Signature]

Robert G. Morris, Principal Investigator
A system has been designed and constructed to measure thermal conductivity by the series comparative method in the temperature range 4° to 300°K. A sample temperature of 77°K was reached when the cylindrical sample chamber 5-1/4 inches in diameter and 8-3/4 inches long was evacuated to a pressure of 3X10^-6 Torr and submerged in a bath of liquid nitrogen held in a 5-1/2 liter stainless-steel dewar. Temperatures as low as 4,2°K could be obtained if the sample chamber were submerged in liquid helium. Temperatures between that of the liquid bath and room temperature were obtained by electrical heating. A simple Wheatstone bridge circuit, one arm of which was a copper resistance thermometer made from 140 ohms of B and S No. 36 copper wire, served to regulate automatically the electrical heating so as to give a drift in sample temperature of less than 0.002 deg/min. Measurements were attempted from 77°K to 300°K on a sample of n-type single-crystal silicon with an impurity concentration of 5X10^15 cm^-3. Arco iron was used as a standard. Temperatures were measured with copper vs constantan thermocouples. The thermal conductivity of the sample was found to range from 8.7 watt/cm-degK at 98°K to 1.8 watt/cm-degK at 255°K. These values agree with those of Carruthers et al. (3) within 7% and of Glassbronner and Slack (5) within 10%. Comparison of results with results obtained by other investigators suggests the reliability and the accuracy of the apparatus and of the method at low temperatures.