

PHY 335, Unit 3 Diode circuits and DC Power

Mini Lecture topics:

- Metals and semiconductors
- p-n junctions
- DC power supply, ripple

1. Measure the diode I-V from -15 V to about $+0.6\text{ V}$ with the two DMMs (apply forward voltage with caution).
2. Display I-V on the scope. Use the same circuit as in unit 1 with a known resistance $R_{shunt} = 100\Omega$ and the $+6\text{V AC}$ output of your power supply.
3. Design, build and test a diode-based asymmetrical clamp (also called “clipping circuit”) to limit the upper value of the input voltage to $+5.6\text{ V}$. Use the signal generator (SG) as the input signal. You may use the power supply for helper voltages. [Typically, one clamps all input voltages in a circuit for protection against overvoltage.] How would you modify this circuit to also clamp the lower value of the input at -5 V ? Draw this modified circuit in your lab report (assume you have an additional power supply of any voltage you choose) – you don’t need to build it.
4. Design and build a full-wave rectifier to deliver $>12\text{ V DC}$ with less than 0.5 V ripple at 1mA current draw from a load, using one of the 12 V AC outputs of the power supply (and the 0V output). Choose the load resistor to have $>1\text{mA}$ average current, and a capacitor large enough to limit the ripple to $<0.5\text{V}$. Test this rectifier with the scope.
5. (Bonus) Build a Villard cascade voltage multiplier. (Do not exceed 60V !)