

# The Role of Various Scattering Mechanisms in $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ ( $x=0.22, 0.3$ )

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## Abstract

An iteration computation was carried out to investigate electron transport properties in  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ . We employed the modified iterative procedure which allows us to increase the computational accuracy in several structures. We considered deformation potential, polar optical phonon, piezoelectric, and ionized impurity scattering. Electron drift mobility is calculated for different temperature and doping dependencies. It was found that the electron drift mobility decreases with the temperature increases from 100K to 300K. Competitions among several temperature-dependent scattering mechanisms create temperature-dependent of MCT mobility. Furthermore, it was concluded that the x-dependence of the  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  mobility results primarily from the x-dependence of bandgap, and secondarily the x-dependence of effective masses. In the case of low temperatures, the electron mobility quickly decreases with the increase of doping concentration, while this happens at a slower speed in the case of high temperatures.

## Keywords

Iteration method, electron drift mobility, scattering,  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ .

## 1. Introduction

IR detectors are widely used in thermal imaging [1,2], material spectroscopy analysis [3-5], autonomous driving assistants [6], surveillance [7], and biological health monitoring [8-11]. The primary photon detector was a PbS detector with a reaction wavelength of 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , and subsequent infrared detectors included germanium-mercury amalgam (Ge: Hg), germanium-silicon combination (Ge: Si), lead selenide (PbSe), indium antimonide (InSb), and mercury cadmium telluride ( $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ ). The variables, high electron mobility, capacity to obtain both low and high carrier concentrations, direct energy gap, and low dielectric constant are all advantages of HgCdTe. With the advancement of HgCdTe technology, HgCdTe photodetectors are now employed in many application areas, such as night vision [1], chemical sensing [2], space and science imaging [3-5], etc [8-15]. In order to further improve the performance of an electronic and optoelectronic device, it is important to know properties of the carrier transport of semiconductor materials. Theories of carrier transport include nonequilibrium Green's functions [16, 17], the Kubo formalism [18], the Landauer-Buttiker formalism [19, 20, 21], and the Boltzmann transport equation (BTE). Mobility is one of the most essential variables, affecting the current-voltage specifications of the devices. Also, it limits photoconductive gain, dark current, and recombination in photodetectors, including photovoltaic detectors and photo-electromagnetic detectors (PEM) [22-28]. The

mobility can be numerically calculated from the solution of the BTE. The Boltzmann transport equation (BTE) has been solved with iterative, finite-difference techniques [29], variational approaches [30], or Monte Carlo sampling [31,32]. This paper aims to calculate the electron mobility in  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  crystals with  $x=0.22$  and 0.3 in a low electric field by solving the BTE. The goal is achieved through an iteration method. The  $\text{Hg}_{0.78}\text{Cd}_{0.22}\text{Te}$  and  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$  are important to IR detection in atmospheric windows 3-5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 8-12  $\mu\text{m}$ . The iterative method presents a straightforward physical interpretation of the transport equations. Also, the relative simplicity of the formalism allows its generalization to, Fermi statistics, energy band nonparabolicity, n-type and p-type electron wave function admixture, arbitrary time dependence, and combination of various scattering mechanisms. We follow the work of Arabshahi [33-35] and consider in the mobility calculation, the effect of polar-phonon, acoustic, piezoelectric, and ionized impurity scattering. The following is the paper's structure:

Section 2 contains details on the iterative model, as well as electron mobility and scattering rates. The results of iterative calculations carried out on

$\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  structures are offered in Section 3 and were then compared with the theoretical and experimental results of available studies. This is followed by conclusions in Section 4.

## 2. Theoretical model

The iterative procedure for the calculations is described in Rode [29] that Arabshahi used for binary material and obtained good results in comparison with experimental data. We have used Arabshahi's procedure but improved it so that we can use it for ternary alloy narrow bandgap semiconductors, such as HgCdTe. First, as is the case with HgCdTe, such essential parameters as bandgap, intrinsic concentration, nonparabolity, electron effective mass, hole mass and etc., depending on x and temperature, thus, the number of iterations for convergence was increasing, therefore the programming was carried out thorough the combination of MATLAB and C languages. The modified procedure yielded accurate results for ternary materials. In principle, the iterative technique is an approach to solve the Boltzmann transport equation (BTE) and to obtain the accurate prediction of electron mobility in bulk semiconductors [36]. The Boltzmann equation describes how the electron distribution function evolves under the action of a steady electric field

$$\left(\frac{e}{\hbar}\right) \mathcal{E} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} f = \oint [s' f'(1 - f) - s f(1 - f')] d\mathbf{k} \quad (1)$$

Where s and f are the differential scattering rates and the probability distribution function ( $s = s(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$  and  $f = f(\mathbf{k})$ ), respectively.

$$f(\mathbf{k}) = f_0(\mathbf{k}) + g(\mathbf{k}) \cos \theta \quad (2)$$

$\theta$ ,  $f_0(\mathbf{k})$  and  $g(\mathbf{k})$  are the angle between  $\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$ , the equilibrium distribution function and the isotropic function, respectively and the isotropic function is proportional to the magnitude of the electric field. There are two types of scattering processes to determine contributions to the differential scattering rates. They are elastic scattering,  $S_{el}$ , which is because of impurity, acoustic and piezoelectric phonons as well as inelastic scattering,  $S_{inel}$ , which is because of polar optic phonons

$$S(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') = S_{el}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') + S_{inel}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \quad (3)$$

The sum of all different elastic scattering rates, such as acoustic, piezoelectric, and ionized impurity scattering, yields the total elastic scattering rate.  $S_{inel}$  is the transition from the state characterized by  $\mathbf{k}$  to  $\mathbf{k}'$  either by absorption [ $S_{ab}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$ ] or by emission [ $S_{em}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}')$ ] of a phonon. The Boltzmann equation, together with consideration of all differential scattering rates can present us with the factor  $g(\mathbf{k})$  in the perturbed part of the distribution function  $f(\mathbf{k})$ .

$$g(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{-e\mathcal{E} \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial k} + \sum_j \int g' \cos \varphi [S'_{inelj}(1 - f_0) + S_{inelj} f_0]}{\sum_i \int (1 - \cos \varphi) S_{eli} dk' + \sum_j \int [S_{inelj}(1 - f_0') + S'_{inelj}]} \quad (4)$$

The first term in the denominator for elastic scattering is the momentum relaxation rate. In the first iteration  $g(\mathbf{k})$  is zero. Once  $g(\mathbf{k})$  has been estimated to the required precision, it is possible to compute parameters, such as the drift mobility

$$\mu_d = \frac{\hbar \int_0^\infty (k^3 g(k) / \mathcal{E} d) dk}{3m^* \int_0^\infty k^2 f_0(k) dk} \quad (5)$$

Where  $d$  is defined as  $1/d = m^* \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} E / \hbar^2 k$  and  $\hbar$ ,  $k$ , and  $m^*$  represents the reduced Planck constant, the wave vector and the effective mass [29].

The aim is to calculate the low field drifts mobility in  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  structure. In the following sections, electron-impurity and electron-phonon mechanisms, including deformation potential scattering, piezoelectric, polar optical phonon scattering, and ionized impurity scattering are taken into account.

### 2.1. Deformation potential scattering

This mechanism changes the band edge's energy, which is determined by a deformation potential, and the outcome scattering of carriers is called deformation potential scattering. The average value of  $k$  (the electron wave-vector) is of the arrange of  $10^7(\text{cm}^{-1})$  and the velocity of sound ( $v_s$ ) is of the arrange of  $10^7(\text{cms}^{-1})$ . Hence,  $2\hbar v_s k \sim 1\text{mev}$ , which is insubstantial compared to the thermal energy at room temperature. For this reason, the deformation potential scattering of acoustic modes can be considered as an elastic process however at very low temperatures. The deformation potential scattering rate with both phonon absorption or emission for an electron of energy  $E$  in a nonparabolic band is described via Fermi's golden rule.

$$S_{ab}(E) = \frac{\sqrt{2} D_{ac}^2 (m^*)^{3/2} K_B T}{\pi \rho v^2 \hbar^4} \times \frac{\sqrt{E(1 + \alpha E)}}{(1 + 2\alpha E)} \quad (6)$$

$$[(1 + \alpha E)^2 + 1/3(\alpha E)^2]$$

where  $D_{ac}$ ,  $K_B$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\rho$  and  $T$  are the deformation potential, Boltzmann constant, nonparabolicity coefficient of the conduction band, the material density, and lattice temperature, respectively. This formula illustrates that the acoustic scattering increases with temperature [37-39]. The curve a in Fig. 1 shows that energy increase causes acoustic phonon scattering increasing and also show the acoustic phonon scattering rate of  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$  is more than  $\text{Hg}_{0.78}\text{Cd}_{0.22}\text{Te}$ , due to a larger amount of electron effective mass in  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$ .

### 2.2. Polar optical phonon scattering

The dipolar electric field arising from the contrary displacement of the negatively and positively charged atoms makes a coupling between the electrons and the lattice which ultimately results in electron scattering. This scattering is called polar optical phonon scattering and is commonly the most significant scattering mechanism for electrons in II-VI semiconductors at room temperature. As a result, the scattering rate for an electron of energy  $E$  in the isotropic, nonparabolic band is  $R_{po}(\vec{E})$  where  $N_{op}$  is the phonon occupation number.

$$R_{po}(\vec{E}) = \frac{e^2 \sqrt{2m^*} \omega_{op}}{8\pi \epsilon_s \hbar} \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_\infty} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_s} \right) \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{(1 + 2\alpha E')}{\sqrt{\gamma(E)}} F_o(E, E') \{N_{op}, N_{op} + 1\}$$

Now,

$$E' = \begin{cases} E + \hbar\omega_{op} & (\text{absorption}) \\ E - \hbar\omega_{op} & (\text{emission}) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

is the final energy state in a phonon absorption (upper case) and a phonon emission (lower case) where  $\hbar\omega_{op}$  is the polar optical phonon energy. The other quantities are read as

$$F_0(E, E') = C^{-1} \left\{ A \ln \left| \frac{\gamma(E)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \gamma(E')^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\gamma(E)^{\frac{1}{2}} - \gamma(E')^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right| + B \right\} \quad (9)$$

$$A = [2(1 + \alpha E)(1 + \alpha E') + \alpha(\gamma + \gamma')]^2 \quad (10)$$

$$B = -2\alpha\gamma^{\frac{1}{2}}\gamma'^{\frac{1}{2}} [4(1 + \alpha E)(1 + \alpha E') + \alpha(\gamma + \gamma')] \quad (11)$$

$$C = 4(1 + \alpha E)(1 + \alpha E') (1 + 2\alpha E)(1 + 2\alpha E') \quad (12)$$

At room temperature, polar optical phonon scattering dominates in the  $\Gamma$ -valley.

The polar optical phonon scattering rate (emission) happens when the electron energy is more than the optical phonon energy. The average number of photons is given by the Bose-Einstein distribution

$$N_{op} = \frac{1}{\exp\left(\frac{\hbar\omega_{op}}{K_B T}\right) - 1} \quad (13)$$

$\hbar\omega_{op}$  is the polar optical phonon energy [37-39]. The curve b in Fig. 1 does not start with zero because the polar optical phonon scattering (emission) happens when the electron energy is more than  $\hbar\omega_{op}$  but the curve d in Fig. 1 starts with zero since the polar optical phonon scattering (absorption) phenomenon occurs for all materials with any level of energy for electrons.

The curve b in Fig. 1 showing the polar optical phonon scattering is generally the most important scattering mechanism for electrons at room temperature. At this temperature, the phonon occupation number is so excessive that the polar optical phonon scattering rate (emission) dominates in a wide variety of energy. Also, the polar optical phonon scattering rate of  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$  is more than  $\text{Hg}_{0.78}\text{Cd}_{0.22}\text{Te}$  due to its large amount of nonparabolicity coefficient.

### 2.3. Intravalley impurity scattering

The Brook-Herring (BH) technique is the standard method for numerical calculation of the ionized impurity scattering in semiconductors [40]. To overcome the Born approximation, the BH method has proven that the phase-shift analysis of electron-impurity scattering is the best method. At high electron concentrations, the departure from the BH predictions of electron mobility is obvious. Bartoli and Meyer have

considered analytic dealing relying on the phase-shift analysis taking into consideration the multi-ion screening effect [37-40]. All the previous methods of impurity screening with free electrons in semiconductors were based on the Thomas-Fermi (TF) approximation. This approximation assures that a given impurity should be fully screened. The single-ion screening formalism becomes less related at high compensation. This is because to maintain the charge neutrality situation, it will be more difficult for a given number of electrons to screen all the ionized donors separately. The compensation ratio for  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  is usually quite large, and the ratio  $N_D^+/n$  is also temperature-dependent. Hence the multi-ion screening modification is very necessary for  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ . Thus, we have used phase-shift analysis to calculate the differential scattering rate  $(k, k')$ . The effective potential  $V(r)$  can be given as:  $V(r) = -(Z_i e^2)/(4\pi\epsilon_0 k_0 r) e^{-r/\lambda}$ , where  $\lambda$  is the screening length and  $Z_i$  is the charge of the ionized impurity in units of  $e$ . For obtaining the screening length, we use the TF approach which is based on single ion screening approximation. The TF approach can calculate the charge contribution  $q_i$  to the screening of a single ionized donor by an electron of energy  $E_i$  and is given by

$q_i = -(2e^3 \lambda^2 / \epsilon_0 k_0 E_i V)$  also, for the multi-ion, the TF method can be expressed as:  $Q_i = -(2e^3 \lambda^2 N_D^+ / \epsilon_0 k_0 E_i)$ .

$$\sum_i -\frac{Q_i}{e} f_0(E_i) = N_D^+ \quad (14)$$

For enough low energy electrons,  $Q_i$  can be greater than the electronic charge, which is physically illogical. One way to solve this problem is to recommend a factor  $S_i$  such as

$$S_i(E_i) = \frac{E_i}{\xi} \quad (15)$$

And  $Q_i$  will be corrected as  $Q'_i = Q_i S_i$  in equation 14 and  $\xi = (2c^2 \lambda^2 N_D^+ / \epsilon_0 k_0)$ . The contribution will be  $-e$  for the low energy electrons. Since the total contribution to the screening by the low energy electrons has been effectively decreased, equation 14 no longer holds. However, in case the screening length  $\lambda$  is more than the average distance between the donors, donors may not be needed to be fully screened as the preservation of totally charge neutrality suffices. Electrons in the overlap region can supply screening with the ionized donors. In the equation 14, factor p would be the fraction of the total charge and factor p is included within a sphere of radius R surrounding the donor. Therefore, equation 14 will be modified as

$$\sum_i -\frac{Q'_i}{e} f_0(E_i) = p N_D^+ \quad (16)$$

Where  $Q''_i = p Q_i S_i$

$$\lambda_m^{-2} = \eta \lambda_0^{-2} \quad (17)$$

Where  $\lambda_0$ , and  $\lambda_m$  are TF screening length, and multi-ion screening length, respectively. The equation for the ionized impurity scattering rate

$$S_{ii}(k, k') = \frac{8\pi^3 \hbar^3}{m^* 2V^2} |f(x)|^2 \quad (18)$$

$\delta[E(K') - E(K)]$   
 the scattering amplitude  $f(x)$  depends on Legendre polynomial  $P_l$  and the phase shift  $\delta_l$  and is written by

$$f(X) = \frac{1}{2ik} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (2l+1)(e^{2i\delta_l} - 1)P_l(X) \quad (19)$$

The curve c in Fig. 1 demonstrates that the ionized impurity scattering rate decreases with energy increasing because electrons energy increase can lead to the electron velocity increase and the Coulomb screening potential. The reason can be ascribed to impurity atoms effects on the electrons in a shorter time. Therefore, ionized impurity scattering is important for carrier transport at low electric fields and temperature.

#### 2.4. Piezoelectric scattering

The piezoelectric scattering can happen in the compound semiconductors, such as the II-VI and III-V materials.  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  is a part of these materials. It is worth noting that  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  has a relatively large piezoelectric constant. Ridley [38] has considered the piezoelectric scattering rate for an electron of energy  $E$  in the isotropic, nonparabolic band. He also considered the modification of the Coulomb potential because free carrier screening. The screened Coulomb potential is given as

$$V(r) = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\epsilon_s} \frac{\exp(-q_0r)}{r} \quad (20)$$

Where  $q_0$  and  $\epsilon_s$  are the inverse screening length and the relative dielectric constant of the material respectively, which under non-degenerate conditions are written by

$$q_0^2 = \frac{ne^2}{\epsilon_0\epsilon_s k_B T} \quad (21)$$

$n$  is the electron density. The equation for the scattering rate of an electron in a non-parabolic band structure retaining the essential terms can be given as

$$R_{pz}(E) = \frac{\sqrt{m^*}e^2 K_{ac}^2 K_B T}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\hbar^2 \epsilon_0 \epsilon_s} \gamma^{-1/2}(E) \left( 1 + 2\alpha E \right)^2 \times \left[ \ln \left( 1 + \frac{8m^* \gamma(E)}{\hbar^2 q_0^2} \right) - \frac{1}{1 + \hbar^2 q_0^2 / 8m^* \gamma(E)} + \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}\alpha E}{1 + 2\alpha E} \right)^2 \right] \quad (22)$$

Where  $K_{ac}$  is the average electromechanical coupling constant and it is dimensionless.

$$\gamma(E) = E(1 + \alpha E) = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m^*} \quad (23)$$

, with

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{E_g} \left( 1 - \frac{m^*}{m_0} \right)^2 \quad (24)$$

In energy-wave vector relation,  $E$  is the electron energy in the conduction band,  $E_g$  is the bandgap of the material, and  $m_0$  is the mass of free electrons [38]. The curve a in Fig. 2 showing the piezoelectric scattering rate only matters in low energy. Also, the piezoelectric scattering rate of  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$  is more than

$\text{Hg}_{0.78}\text{Cd}_{0.22}\text{Te}$ , due a larger electromechanical coupling constant and a lower amount of the inverse screening length and nonparabolicity coefficient in  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$ .

**Table I.** Parameters of  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$ , is used in the iterative method [41-45].

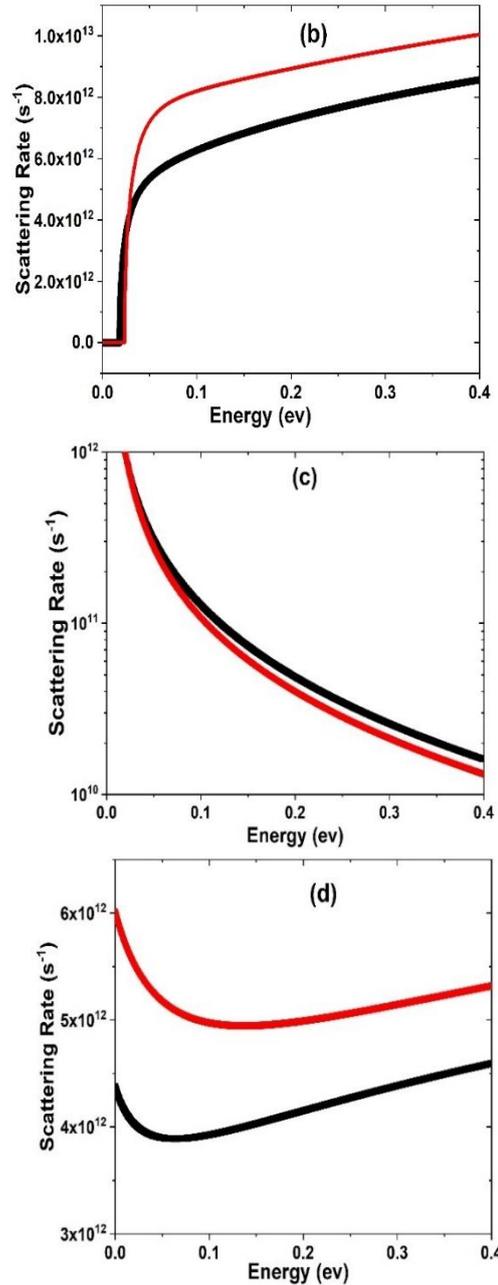
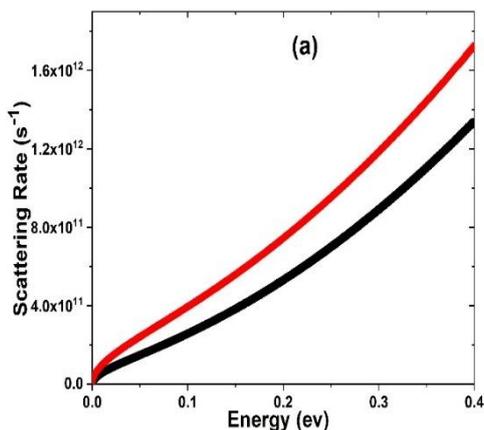
	Unit	x		Ref.
		0.22	0.3	
$\nu$	$ms^{-1}$	2054	2077	[41,44]
$\rho$	$kgm^{-3}$	7544	7360	[41,44]
$\epsilon_0$	-	17.34	16.33	[41,44]
$\epsilon_\infty$	-	12.16	11.25	[41,44]
$D_{ac}$	$ev$	9.47	9.45	[41,44]
$\omega_{op}$	$ev$	0.0183	0.0184	[41,44]
$a$	$\text{\AA}$	6.4640	6.4653	[41,4 <sup>o</sup> ]
$p$	$Ccm^{-2}$	0.028	0.029	[41,42]
$\alpha$	$ev^{-1}$	5.3515	3.2992	Calc.
$E_g$	$ev$	0.1819	0.2906	[41]
$m^*$	-	0.0134	0.0209	[41]

### 3. Result and Discussion

Building on the iteration method, the scattering rates and mobility of  $\text{Hg}_{0.78}\text{Cd}_{0.22}\text{Te}$  and  $\text{Hg}_{0.7}\text{Cd}_{0.3}\text{Te}$  were studied. The main scattering parameters, which were employed in this method, are reported in Table I. Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 show the energy dependence of scattering rate in  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  for  $x = 0.22$  and  $0.3$ . In curves, the carrier concentration is taken to be  $n = 10^{17} cm^{-3}$  for  $x=0.22$  and  $n = 10^{16} cm^{-3}$  for  $x=0.3$  at 300K. In order to understand which scattering mechanisms limit the mobility of  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  under various conditions, we have separately performed calculations of the scattering mechanisms. Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 show the calculated scattering for all scattering mechanisms. The curve (b) in Fig. 2 shows the calculated scattering for all scattering mechanisms. This should be noted that Ionized impurity scattering is important since it is primarily dominant in the case of low-energy carriers and then the polar optical phonon (emission) scattering becomes dominant in more energies. Thus, the marked reduction in mobility can be ascribed to the polar optical phonon (emission) scattering. We performed low-field electron mobility calculations in  $\text{Hg}_{1-x}\text{Cd}_x\text{Te}$  structures. Using the iteration method low field mobility has been derived.

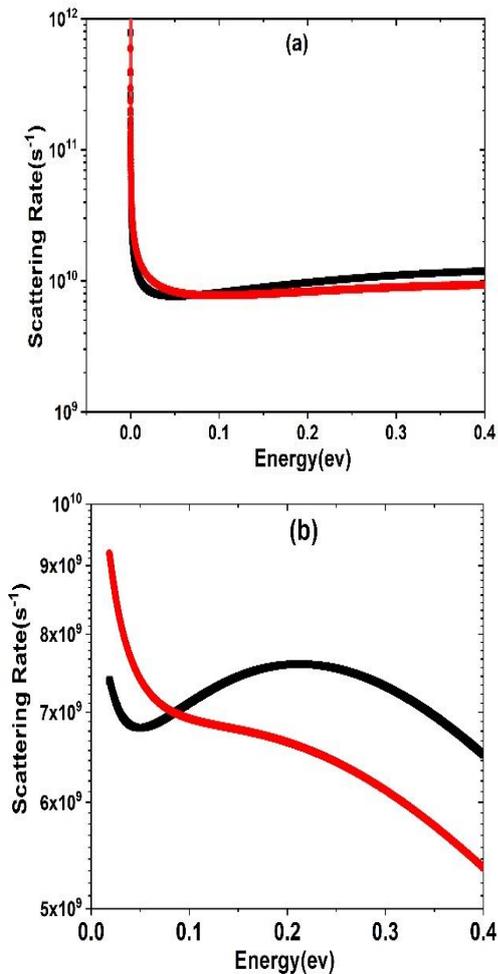
Fig. 3 shows the temperature dependence of electron drift mobility in  $Hg_{1-x}Cd_xTe$  for  $x = 0.22$  and  $0.3$ . According to Fig. 3, the electron drift mobility decreases with the increasing temperature because the optical phonon scattering rate increase. The variation of the mobility curve as a function of temperature shows how different scattering mechanisms compete with each other in the different temperature ranges. In between 5-100 K, the ionized impurity scattering is a dominant mechanism and the electron mobility shows a maximum value at about 50 K and the polar optical-phonon scattering is dominant because of the temperature increase and its mobility begins to decrease quickly. Nevertheless, the competition between different scattering mechanisms in case of  $x=0.3$  is not serious in comparison with  $x=0.2$ , because its slope of the curve is less than  $x=0.22$  and the difference between their band structure and effective mass can be another reason. Studies with a focus on the effect of doping in mobility can significantly contribute to electronic and optoelectronic device design.

Fig. 4 illustrates the variation of electron mobility in terms of concentration in  $T=77, 150$  and  $300K$  for bulk  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  (a) and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$  (b). In curve (a), the intrinsic carrier concentration is taken to be  $n_i(0.22,77) = 10^{13}cm^{-3}$ ,  $n_i(0.22,150) = 10^{15}cm^{-3}$ ,  $n_i(0.22,300) = 10^{16}cm^{-3}$  and in curve (b), the intrinsic carrier concentration is taken to be  $n_i(0.3,77) = 10^9cm^{-3}$ ,  $n_i(0.3,150) = 10^{13}cm^{-3}$ ,  $n_i(0.3,300) = 10^{15}cm^{-3}$ . The results plotted in Fig. 4 indicate that electron drift mobility decreases with any increase in donor concentration. For the lower temperature case, the electron drift mobility decreases faster than the higher temperature cases because of the temperature dependence on intrinsic carrier concentration  $n_i$ . In this situation, the ratio of doping concentration to intrinsic concentration ( $Z_x^T = \frac{N_d}{n_i(x,T)}$ ) is determined.  $Z$  is a measure for the doping regime, the less  $Z_x^T$  means low doping and the more  $Z_x^T$  means highly doping. It is noticeable that the mobility in 77K is less than mobility in 150 and 300K in the range  $10^{17} - 10^{18}cm^{-3}$  because  $Z_x^{77}$  is more than  $Z_x^{150}$  and  $Z_x^{300}$  in both  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$ . The mobility variation for the curve of 300K respects the doping change is less than two other curves because of the  $Z_x^{300}$  variation is less than  $Z_x^{150}$  and  $Z_x^{77}$ .

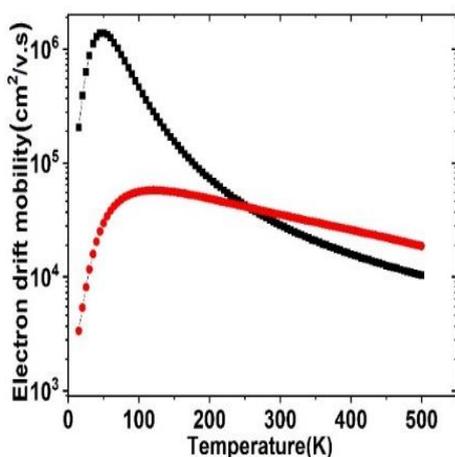


**Fig. 1.** Calculated electron scattering rates as a function of energy for bulk  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  (black line) and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$  (red line) at  $T = 300 K$  and the carrier concentration is taken to be  $n = 10^{17}cm^{-3}$  for  $x=0.22$  and  $n = 10^{16}cm^{-3}$  for  $x=0.3$  : (a) acoustic phonon (b) polar-optical phonon (emission) (c) ionized impurity (d) polar-optical phonon (absorption).

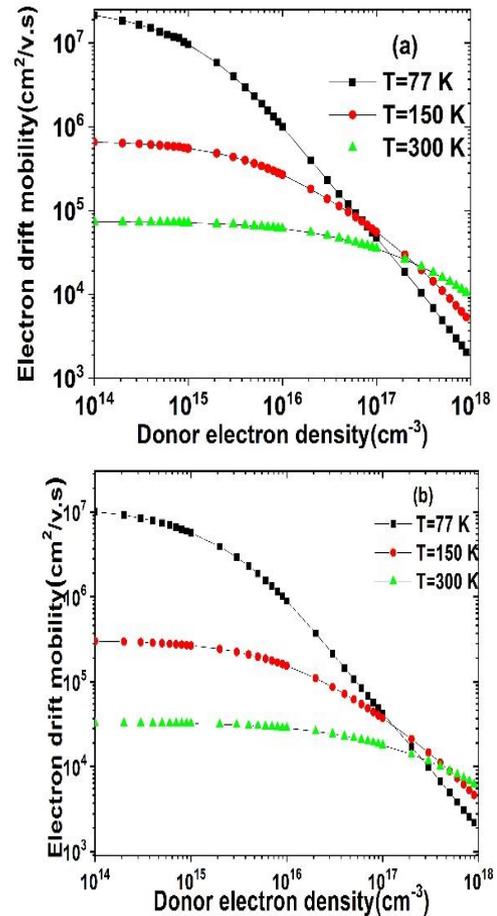
Although increasing doping causes the increasing scattering center and decreasing mobility,  $Z$  is the determinant factor that is dependent on temperature and ratio of impurity concentration to intrinsic concentration. Also, as can be observed in Fig. 4(a), although doping for curves in the point of intersection is almost  $10^{17}cm^{-3}$ , their  $Z_x^T$  are different, where  $Z_{0.22}^{77}$ ,  $Z_{0.22}^{150}$ , and  $Z_{0.22}^{300}$  are  $10^4$ ,  $10^2$  and  $10^1$ , respectively, and they correspond to highly, medium and near intrinsic doping. Thus, it is advisable to study mobility as a function of  $Z_x^T$ , instead of doping concentration. Similar behaviour is seen in Fig. 4(b).



**Fig. 2.** Calculated electron scattering rates as a function of energy for bulk  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  (black line) and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$  (red line) at  $T = 300\text{ K}$  and the carrier concentration is taken to be  $n = 10^{17}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $x=0.22$  and  $n = 10^{16}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $x=0.3$ : (a) piezoelectric (b) total scattering rate.



**Fig. 3-**The electron mobility versus temperature for bulk  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  (black line) and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$  (red line) from 10K to 500 K and the carrier concentration is taken to be  $n = 10^{17}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $x=0.22$  and  $n = 10^{16}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $x=0.3$ .



**Fig. 4.** Variations of electron mobility in terms of concentration in  $T=77, 150$  and  $300\text{ K}$  for bulk  $Hg_{0.78}Cd_{0.22}Te$  (a) and  $Hg_{0.7}Cd_{0.3}Te$  (b).

Moreover, we compared our results with numerical results Yoo [46], Miles [47], Higgins [48] et al and experimental results Bartoli [49], Nimitz [50], Scott [51], Mroczkowski [52], and Wu [53] et al that you can see some of them in Table II.

This comparison shows a reasonable discrepancy. This is because, in study (46), carrier density at temperature 300K was mentioned  $10^{15}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  ( $Z=0.1$ ) with the compensation ratio 0.2 while we have chosen  $10^{16}\text{ cm}^{-3}$  ( $Z=10$ ). Also, in references (45), (44), and (48), annealed samples are used. In this case, the compensation and the ionicity of impurities should be considered. The compensation causes a change in the real carrier density, followed by a change in mobility. In addition, n times changing in ionicity result in  $n^2$  times changing in impurity scattering strength [45,54]. As  $HgCdTe$  is an II-VI compound matter, the impurity may be divalent. Divalent ionicity enhances impurity scattering strength four times. Thus, it is noticeable that our results are larger than the values compared to them.

#### 4. Conclusions

In conclusion, drawing on the iterative method in the low applied field, we calculated the electron transport characteristic related to zincblende  $Hg_{1-x}Cd_xTe$  structures.

**Table II.** Comparison of current Study results with other Studies.

x	T(k)	Mobility	Ref.
0.22	77	$8.2 \times 10^5$	This work
0.22	77	$2.1 \times 10^5$	[44]
0.22	77	$1.8 \times 10^5$	[47]
0.22	77	$1.1 \times 10^4$	[48]
0.22	77	$1.9 \times 10^5$	[49]
0.22	300	$2.8 \times 10^4$	This work
0.22	300	$0.8 \times 10^4$	[44]
0.22	300	$1.0 \times 10^4$	[47]
0.22	300	$1.7 \times 10^5$	[48]
0.22	300	$1.4 \times 10^4$	[49]
0.3	77	$4.8 \times 10^4$	This work
0.3	77	$5.8 \times 10^4$	[44]
0.3	77	$6.0 \times 10^4$	[47]
0.3	77	$4.0 \times 10^4$	[50]
0.3	77	$3.6 \times 10^4$	[51]
0.3	300	$3.5 \times 10^4$	This work
0.3	300	$5.0 \times 10^4$	[44]
0.3	300	$4.0 \times 10^4$	[47]
0.3	300	$5.6 \times 10^3$	[46]
0.3	300	$6.3 \times 10^3$	[45]

According to our calculation, as depicted in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, all scattering rates are dependent on  $x$  because of the bandgap dependence of  $x$  except ionized impurity and piezoelectric scattering rates. Moreover, the polar optical phonon (emission) scattering is prevailing in the energy range 0.05-0.4 (eV). We obtained temperature dependence in the mobility results from the competition among various scattering mechanisms, which are temperature-dependent. At low temperature, the ionized impurity scattering is a dominant mechanism and the electron mobility shows a maximum value at about 50 K. Then the polar optical-phonon scattering is dominant because of temperature increase and its mobility begins to decrease quickly. However, the competition between different scattering mechanisms in case of  $x=0.3$  is not serious in comparison with  $x=0.2$ , because its slope of the curve is less than  $x=0.22$ . It was found that the low-field electron mobility is significantly higher for the  $Hg_{1-x}Cd_xTe$  structures with lower  $x$  because of primarily the  $x$ -dependence of bandgap, and secondarily the  $x$ -dependence of effective masses.  $Z_x^T$  is a simple criterion for the interpretation of the dependent simultaneous mobility to doping and temperature. Finally, the results our study were in a good agreement with those of the existing literature.

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