

How learning skateboard tricks is just like learning physics  
(or math, piano, engineering, ...)

After exam-- trying to master new trick (*double kickflip?*)

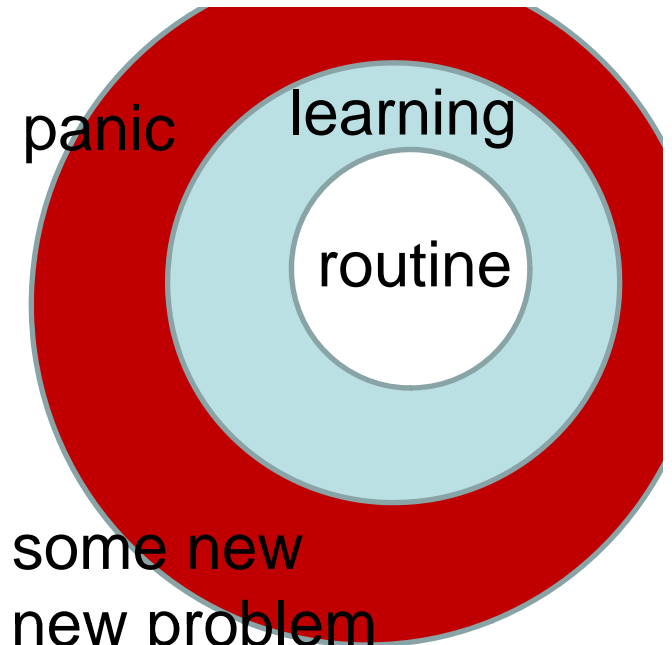
- beyond level of competence, but not impossibly so--attainable
- try with full focus- when fail, analyze why.
- modify what did and try again. (*“deliberate”*)
- when succeed, analyze how made changes to achieve.
- repeat until reasonably easy
- then try harder trick--

*repeat and repeat. After hundreds-thousands of hours, get really expert.*

classic pattern of “deliberate practice”-- how all experts become expert. See new posting on website “The influence of experience and deliberate practice on the development of superior expert performance” K. Anders Ericsson

## Example of how to become expert in physics

(also practiced by some of you)



- try to see how can extend idea to explain some new situation not covered in class, solve some new problem
- Pick problems that require thinking very hard, good chance will not get right, but not crazy impossible.
- work out explanation/solution
- check if correct
- if not, understand why not, analyze how line of reasoning failed, why way that tried to solve problem did not work.
- go back and repeat
- when succeed, analyze how improved to get better, apply. *after hundreds-thousands of hours, get really expert*

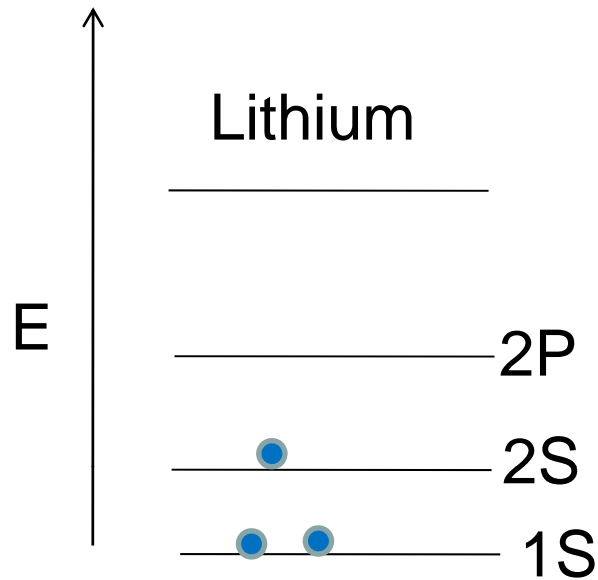
## Physics learning goals for today and friday

1. Be able to explain how energy levels and spacings in atoms carryover but change as go to  $\Rightarrow$  molecules  $\Rightarrow$  then solids
2. Explain how energy levels determine how electrons move, predict whether something is insulators, conductors, or semiconductors based on quantum energy levels.
3. Be able to use this physics for nifty stuff like designing copying machines, diodes, photodetectors, light-emitting diodes (LEDs).

(how is electrical conductivity like London subway system?)

phet sim-- band structure

adding in more than one electron to atom --



Why don't all three electrons go into 1S level?

- a. they repel each other
- b. too much angular momentum
- c. would trigger nuclear explosion
- d. only can have 1 electron per quantum level
- e. can only have 2 of any particle in a single quantum energy level

“Pauli exclusion principle” -- purely experimental discovery, new property of quantum mechanics. Only one electron per quantum state. But electrons cheat and have another quantum label “spin”. Can only be  $+1/2$  (up) or  $-1/2$  (down).

So only one electron per quantum state means one up electron and one down electron per energy level (like 1S). When add electrons into atom, fill up higher and higher energy levels.

so what we labeled as 1S is not actually single level.  
It is two distinct quantum states, with energies very close together. 1S with spin up, and 1S with spin down.

(if look super hard, see slight difference. small energy associated with spin)

can have multiple distinct quantum states (particular shaped wave functions, labelled with distinct set of quantum numbers) with same energy

(although usually different, especially if look harder)

also true for protons and neutrons (spin  $=\pm 1/2$  like electron)

“fermions” or “fermionic particles”

“One-per-quantum-state particles”

Other half of particles in nature are different.

Bosons” or “bosonic particles”

“many-per-quantum-state particles”

photon, certain atoms where all the  $1/2$  spins of protons, neutrons, electrons add up to make integer.

Then can have any number of particles per quantum state.

(more on this week from Friday)

today-- only thing that is important, 2 electrons per level.  
add more electrons, fill up more levels.

Bringing atoms together-- what happens to the energy levels and wave functions of the electrons?

two nuclei (molecules)

then

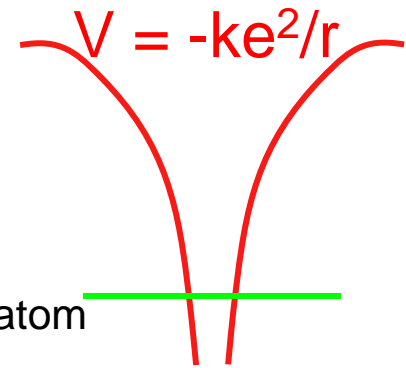
⇒ many nuclei (solid)

*holler if lose track of where we are!*

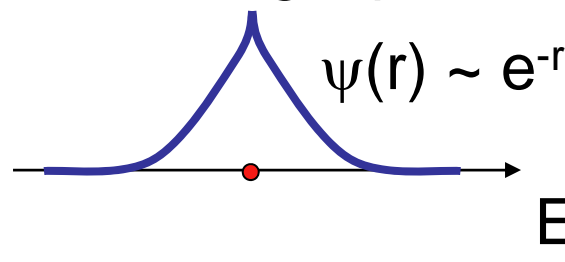
a. I have heard about band structure in solid and how it relates to conductivity of material.

b. have not learned about this

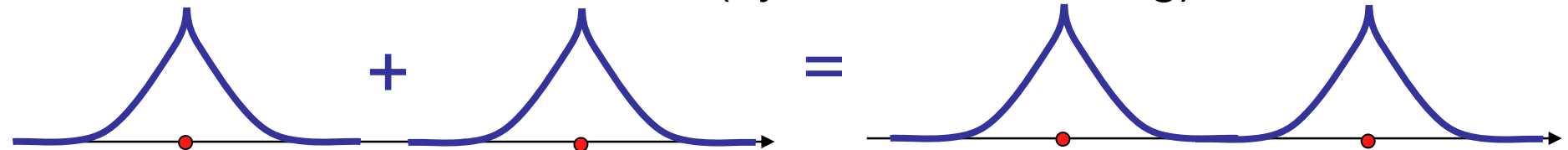
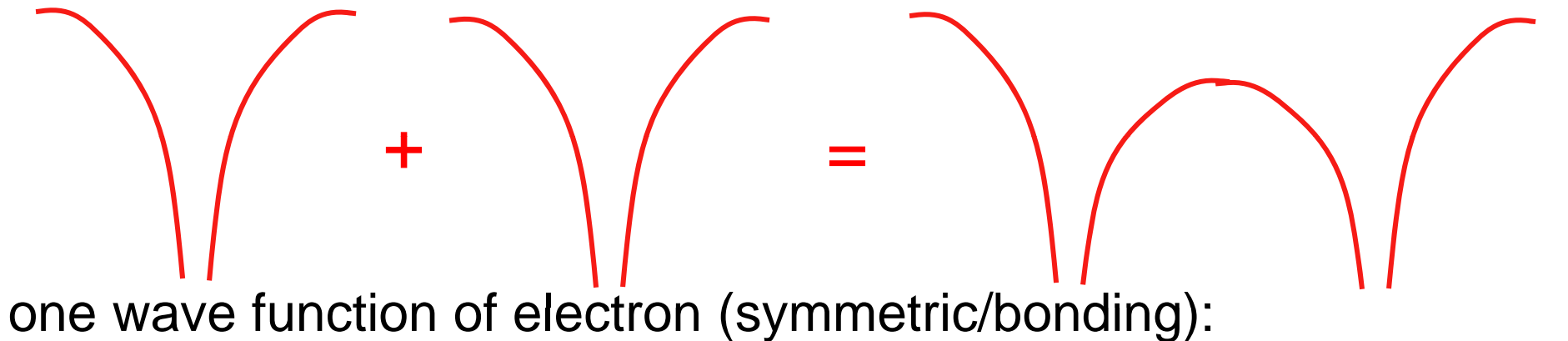
Potential energy of electron due to single proton:



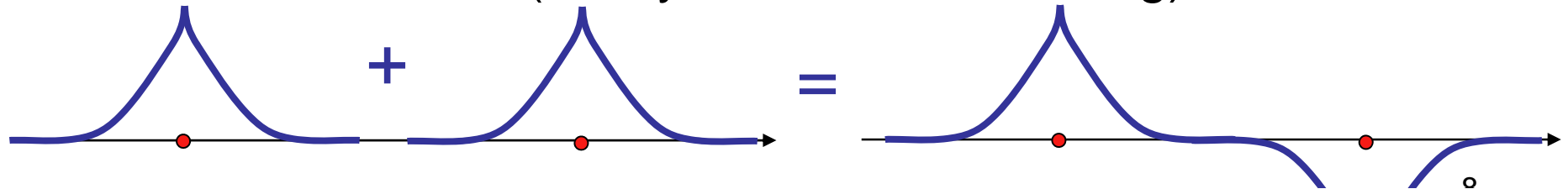
Ground state wave function of electron in this potential:



Potential energy of electron due to **two** protons:



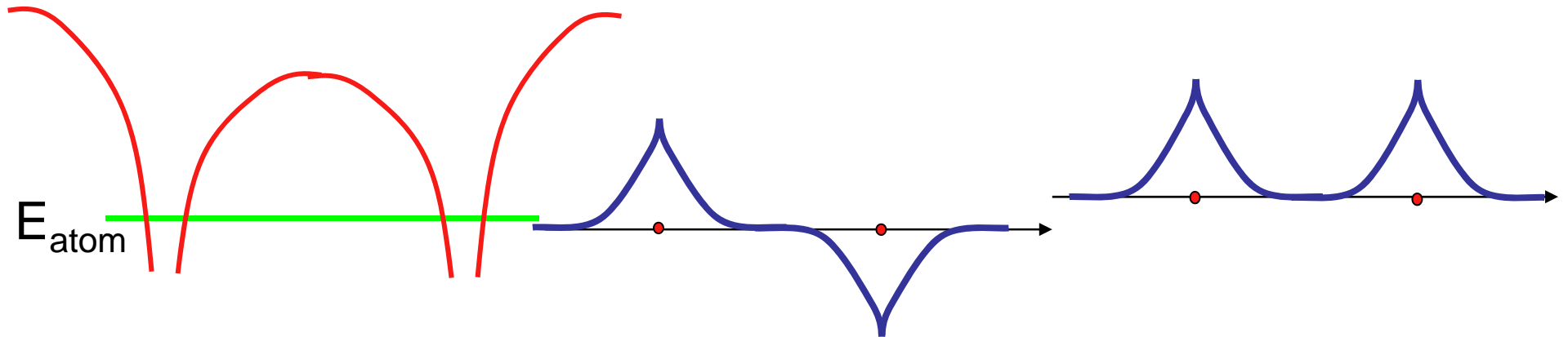
second wave function (antisymmetric/antibonding):



For every energy level for 1 proton, 2 energy levels for 2 protons.



If protons far away, symmetric and antisymmetric state both have **same energy** as ground state of electron bound to single proton:



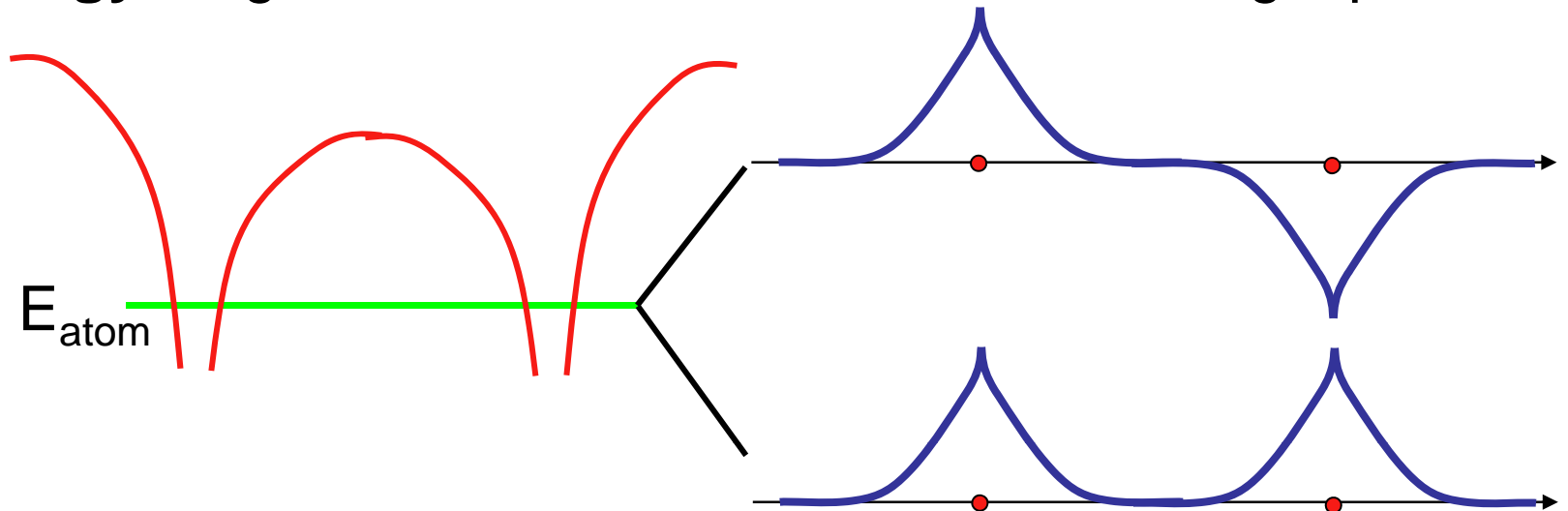
As protons get closer together, symmetric and antisymmetric state become more distinct and energy levels shift.

How will the energies of the two levels compare?

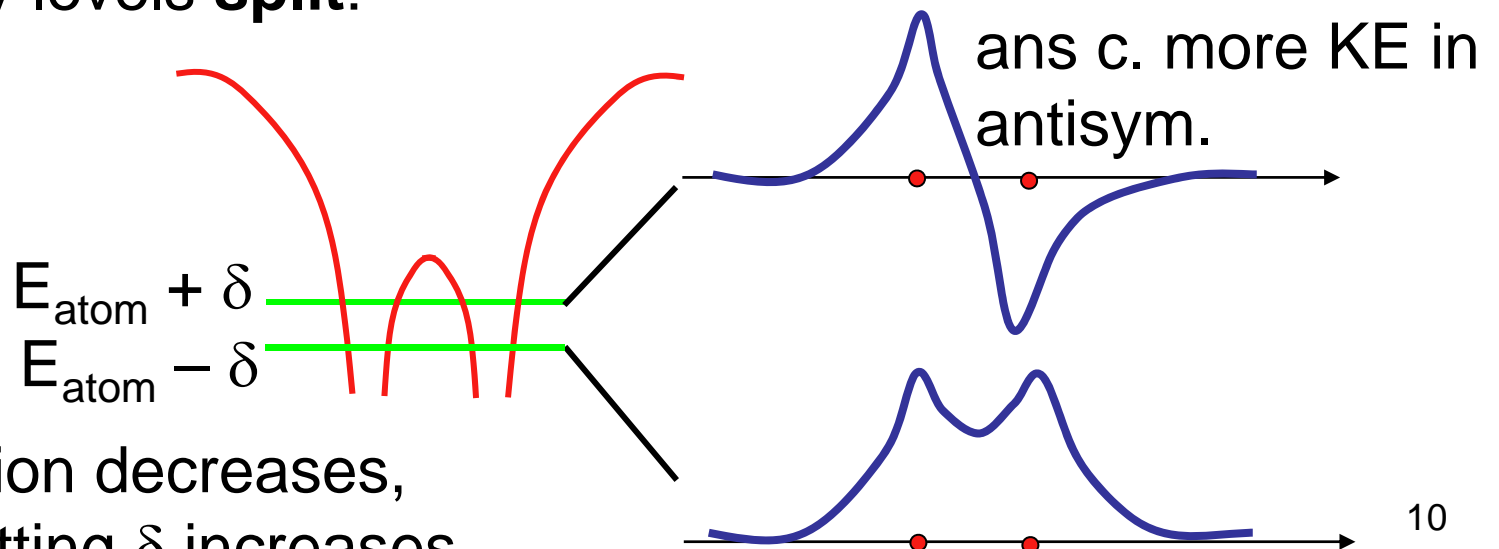
- symmetric state has higher energy (less tightly bound)
- they will remain equal energy
- antisymmetric state has higher energy

go to sim-- try

If protons far away, symmetric and antisymmetric state both have **same energy** as ground state of electron bound to single proton:



As protons get closer together, symmetric and antisymmetric state energy levels **split**:

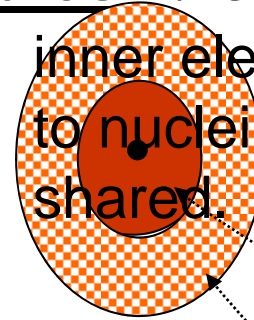
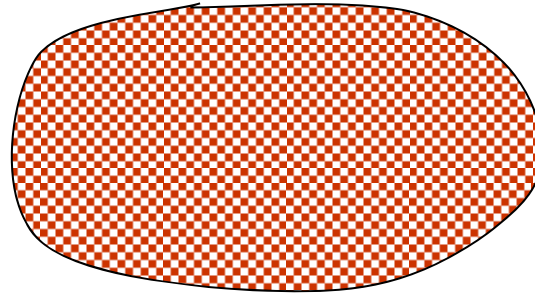
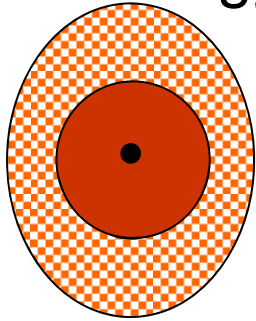


As separation decreases,  
energy splitting  $\delta$  increases

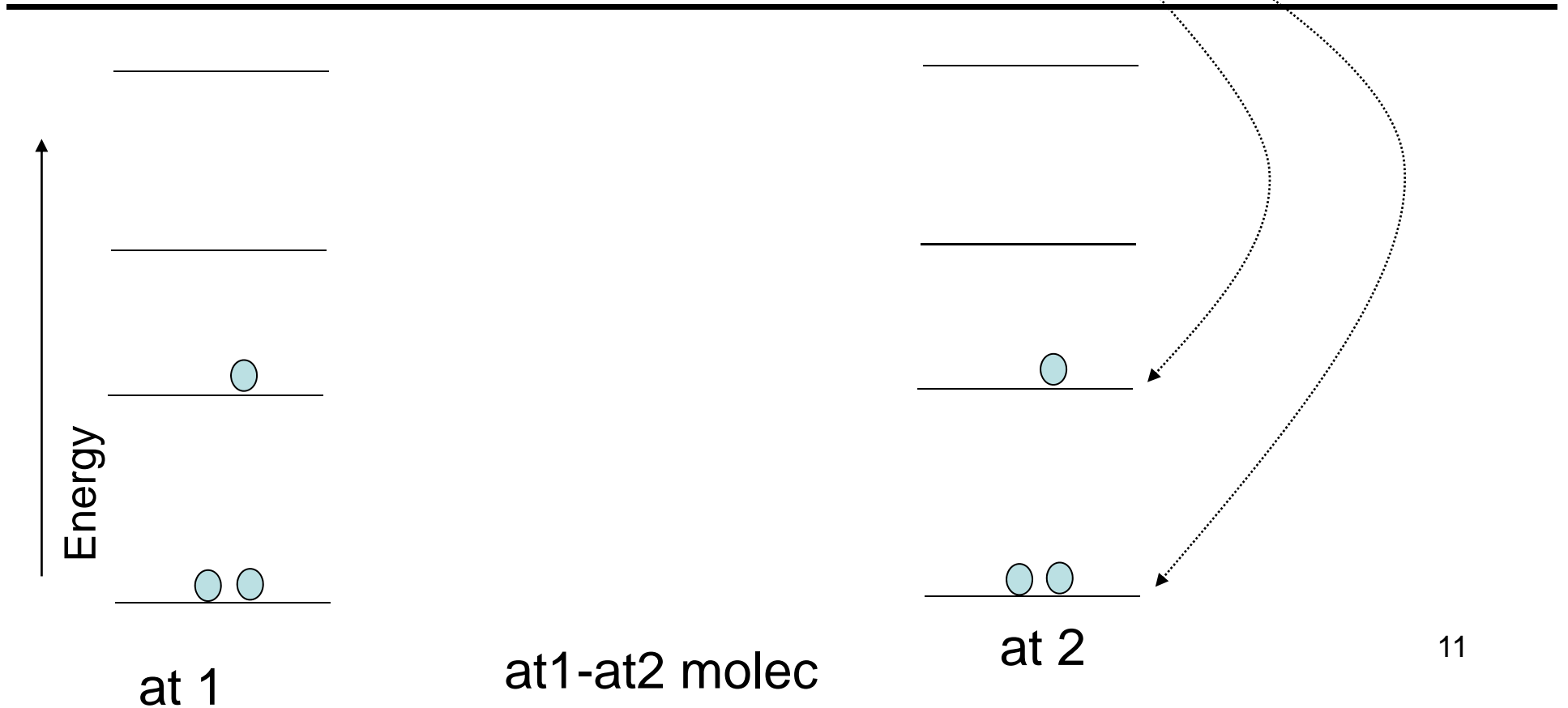
# QM of electrical conduction

multielectron atoms

energy levels of atoms  $\Rightarrow$  molecules  $\Rightarrow$  solids



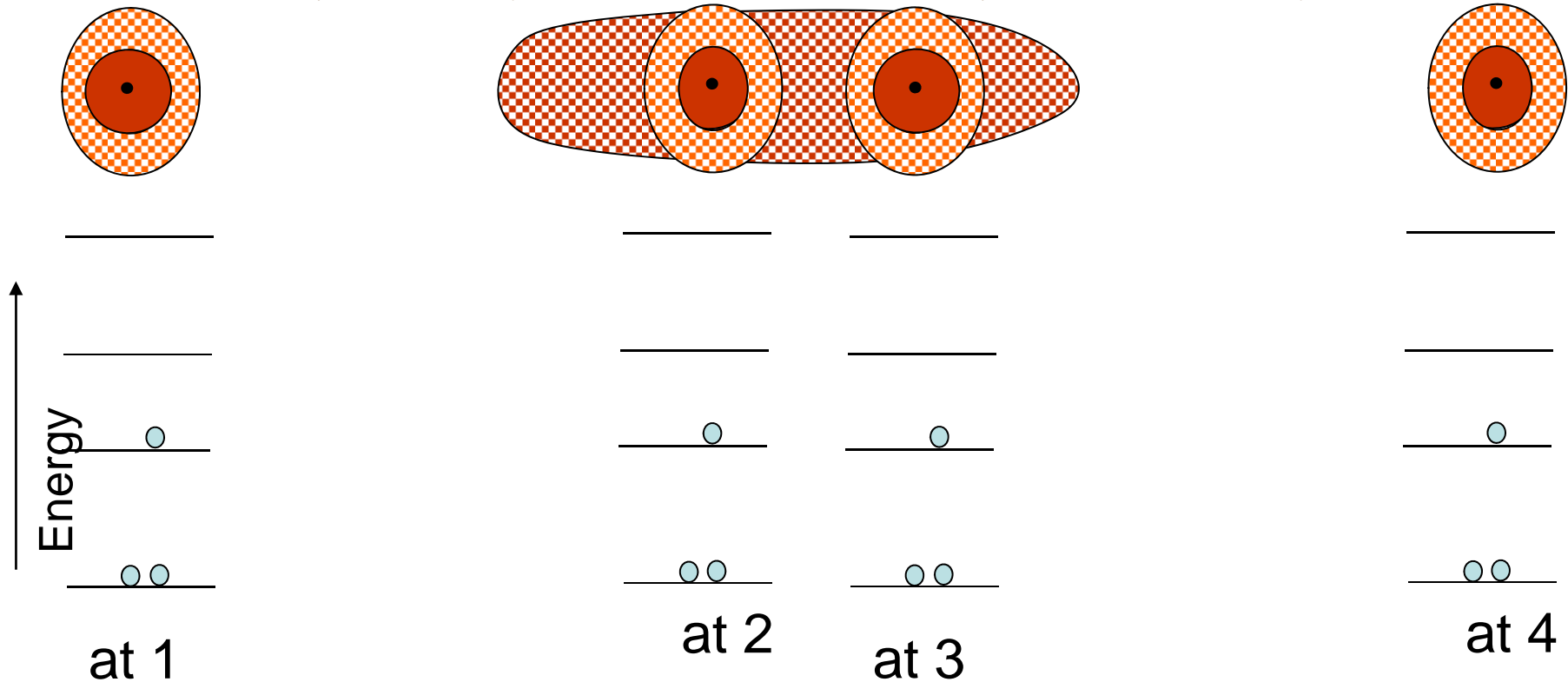
inner electrons stick close to nuclei. Outer e's get shared.



# QM of electrical conduction

energy levels of atoms  $\Rightarrow$  molecules  $\Rightarrow$  solids

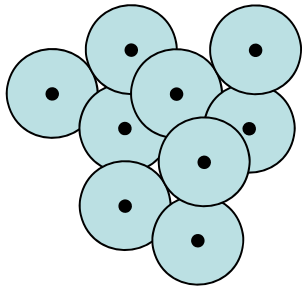
top energy wave functions spread waaaaay out



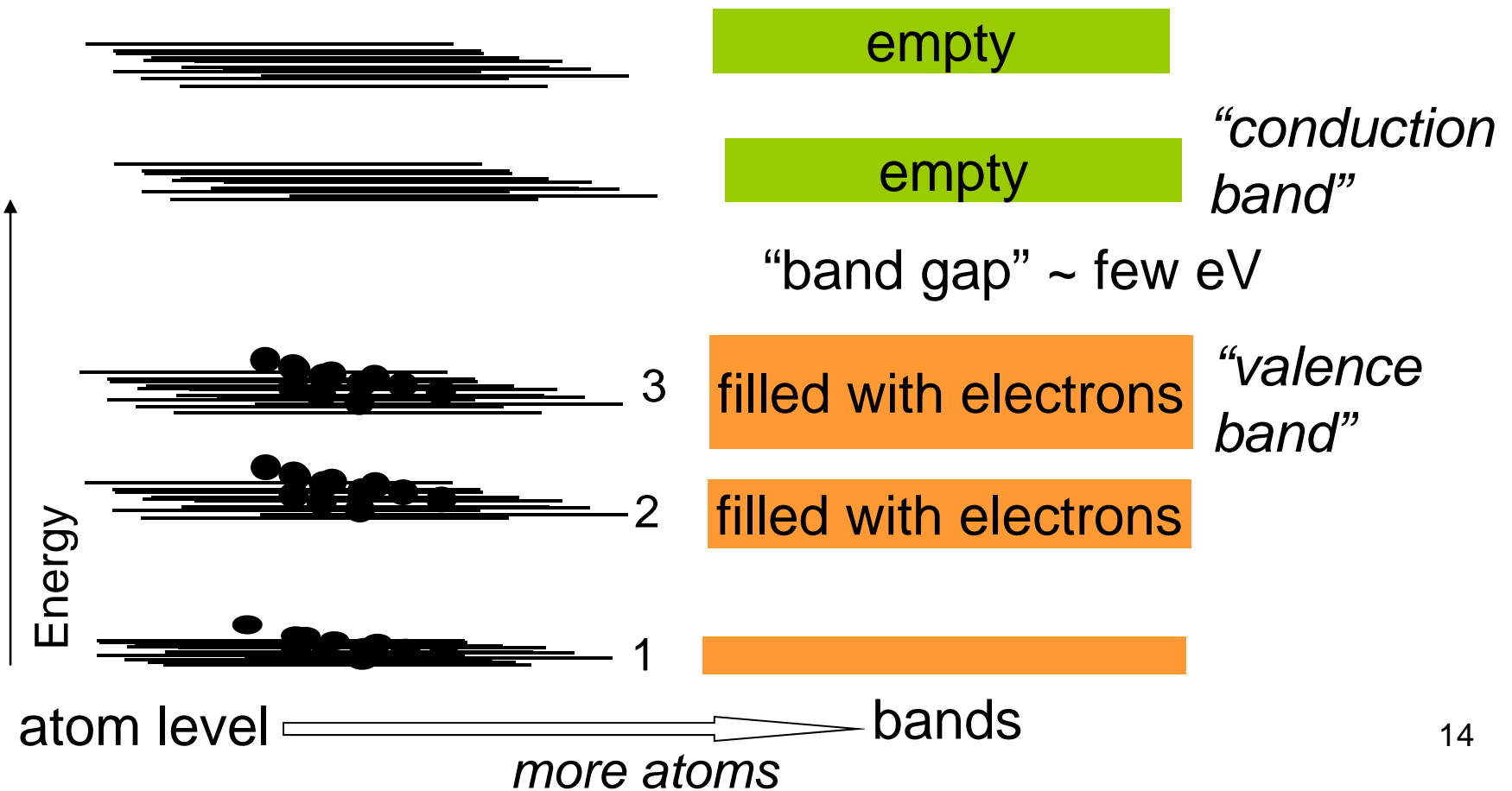
many levels!

go to band structure sim-- like bringing many atoms together

In solid,  $\sim 10^{22}$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>, many!! electrons, and levels



countless levels smeared together, individual levels indistinguishable.  $\Rightarrow$  "bands" of levels. Each level filled with 2 electrons until run out.



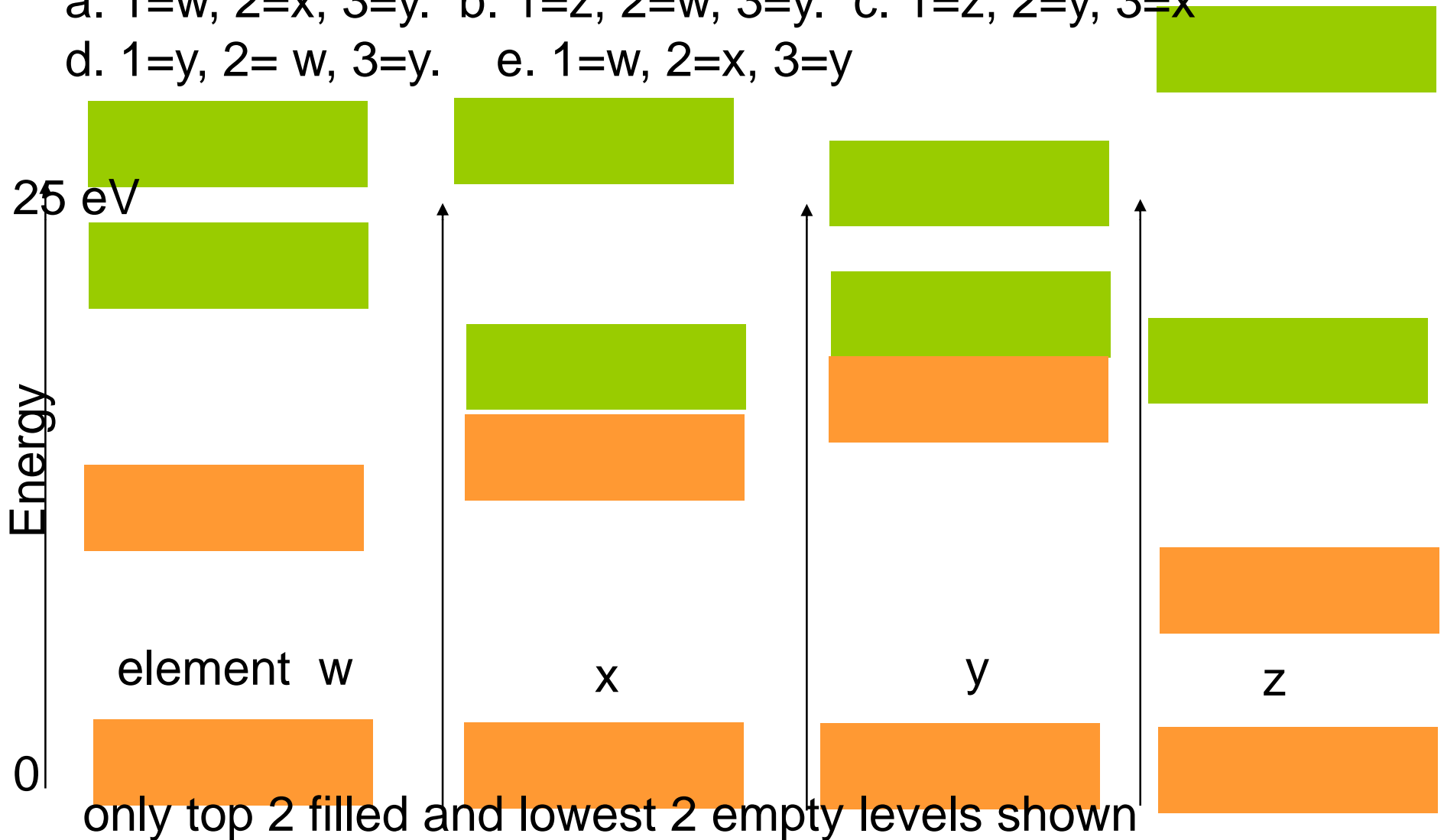
Which band structure goes with which material?  
(be ready to give reasoning)

empty  
 full

1. Diamond      2. copper      3. germanium (poor conductor)

a. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y.    b. 1=z, 2=w, 3=y.    c. 1=z, 2=y, 3=x

d. 1=y, 2=w, 3=y.    e. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y



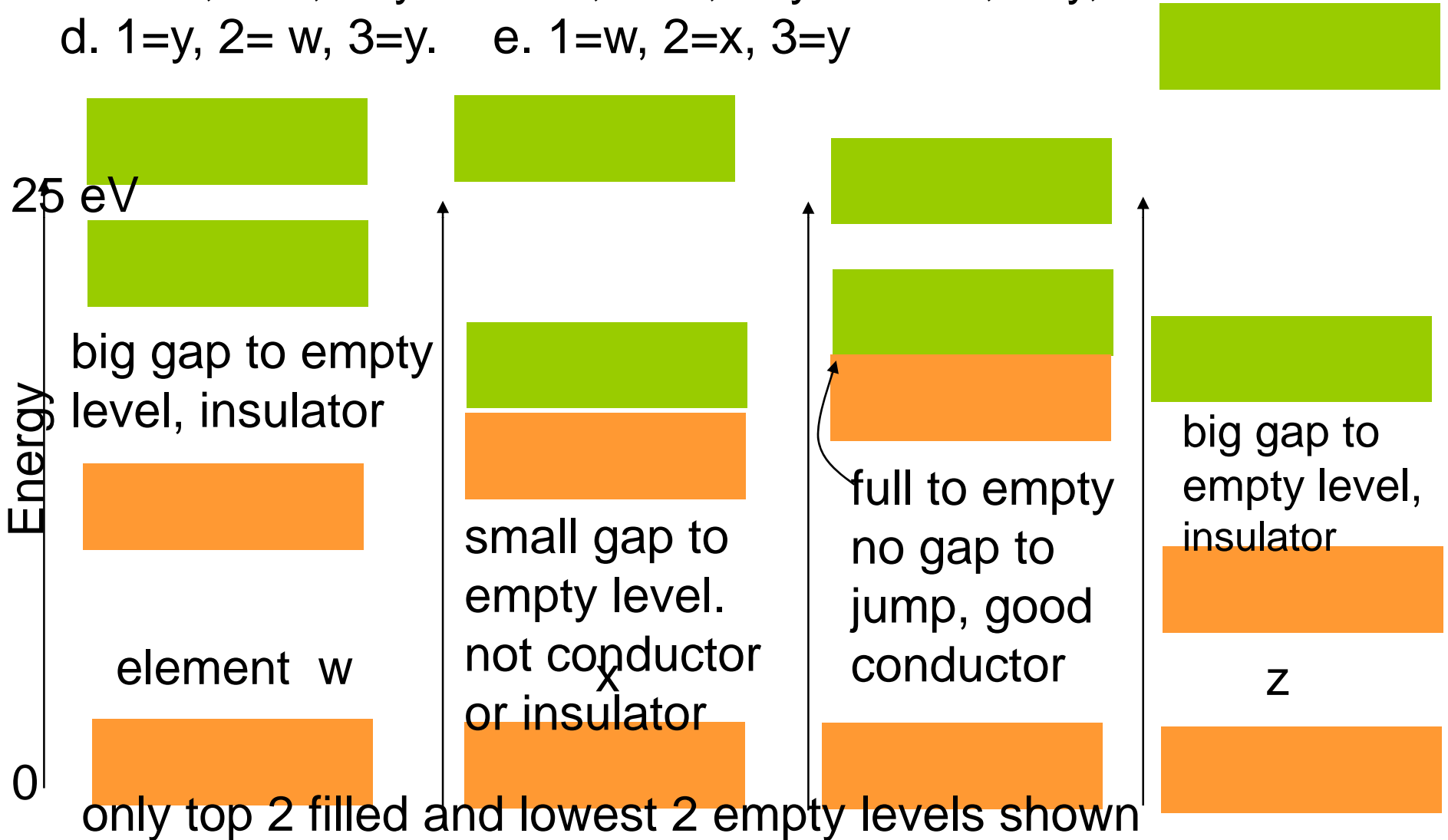
Which band structure goes with which material?



1. Diamond      2. copper      3. germanium (poor conductor)

a. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y.    b. 1=z, 2=w, 3=y.    c. 1=z, 2=y, 3=x

d. 1=y, 2=w, 3=y.    e. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y





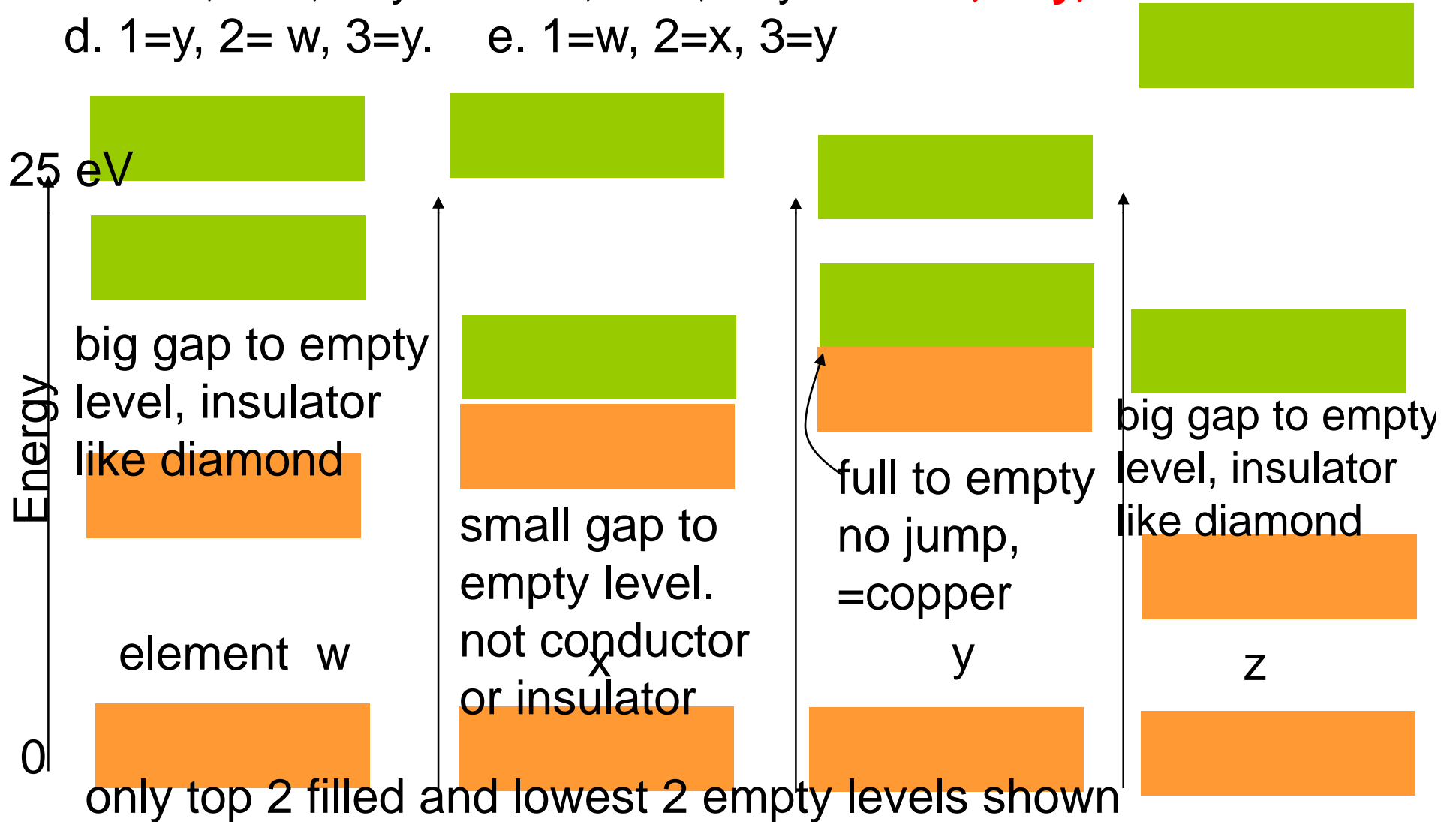
Which band structure goes with which material?



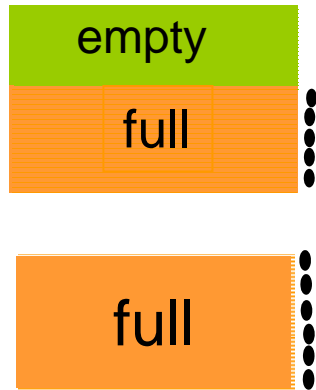
1. Diamond      2. copper      3. germanium (poor conductor)

a. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y.    b. 1=z, 2=w, 3=y.    **c. 1=z, 2=y, 3=x**

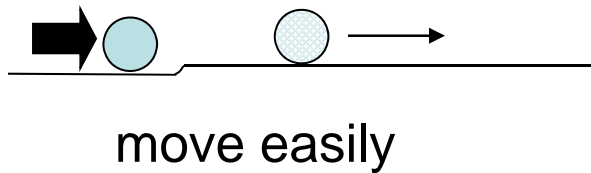
d. 1=y, 2=w, 3=y.    e. 1=w, 2=x, 3=y



conductor- empty levels very close



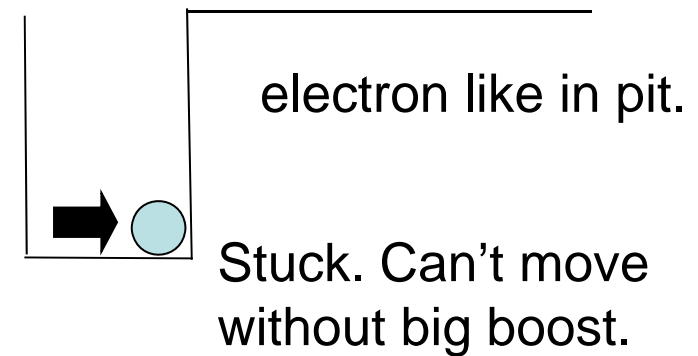
electron like ball rolling on almost flat ground



insulator- big jump to empties.

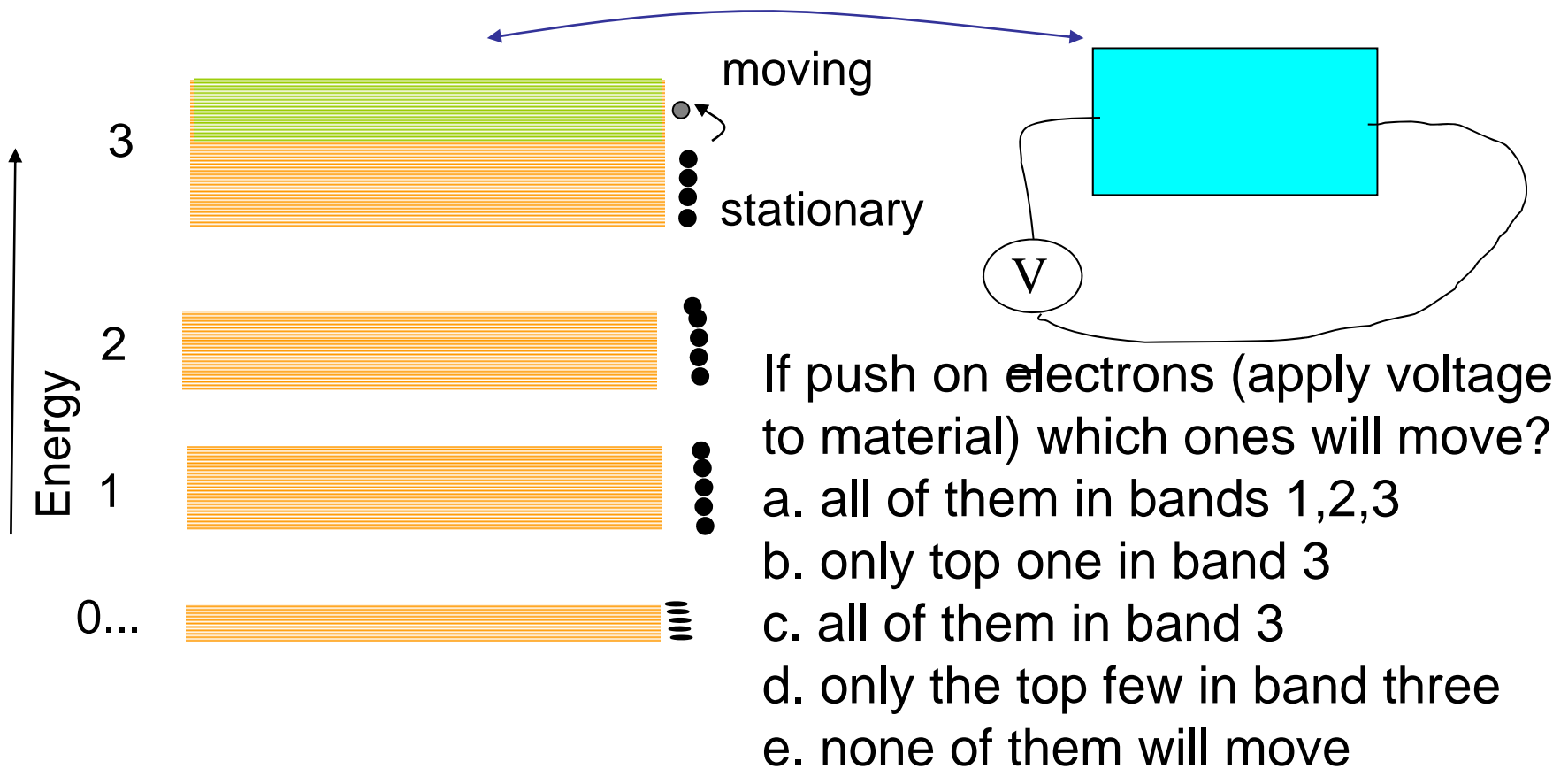


ENERGY gap- no ALLOWED levels



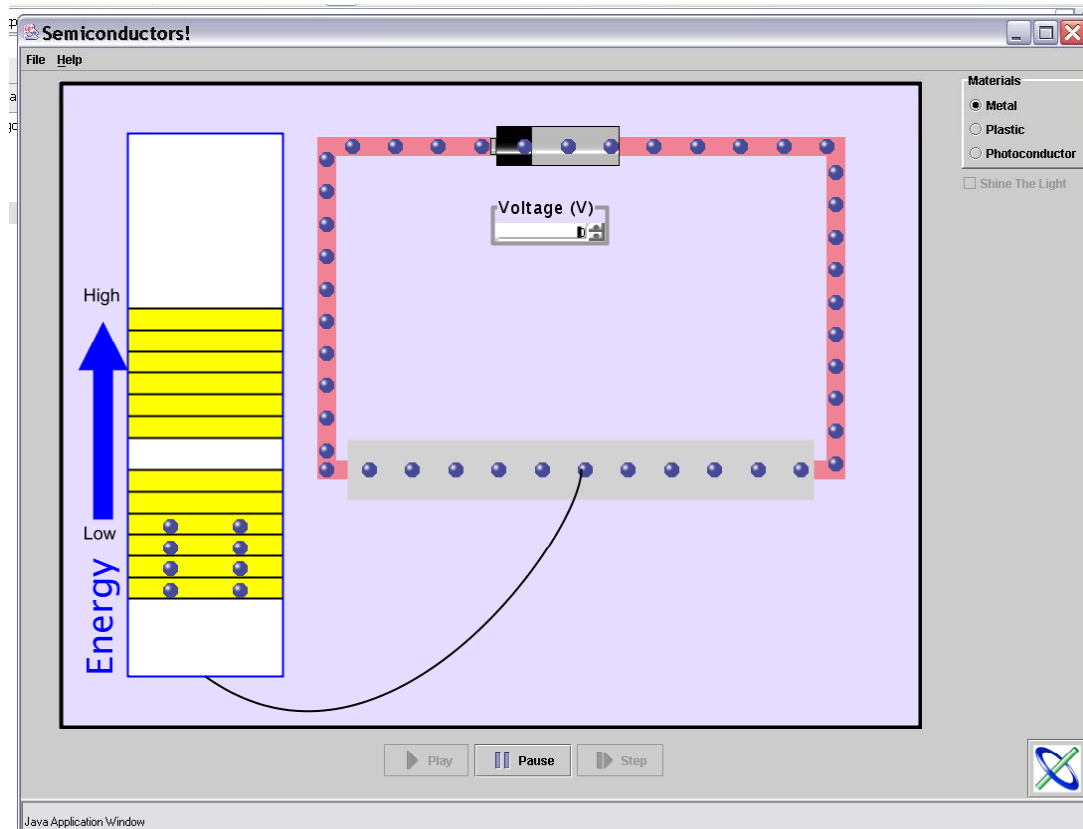
semiconductor-- half way in between. Little gap to empty levels, shallow pit.





d. only the top few in band 3.

The others have no higher level they can move into, all filled with other electrons. *After top one has gotten pushed up, is room to move next one below it. so include those within  $\sim kT = 1/40$  eV of top (room temp). Band gaps and widths  $\sim$  eVs. Small fraction, still big #.*

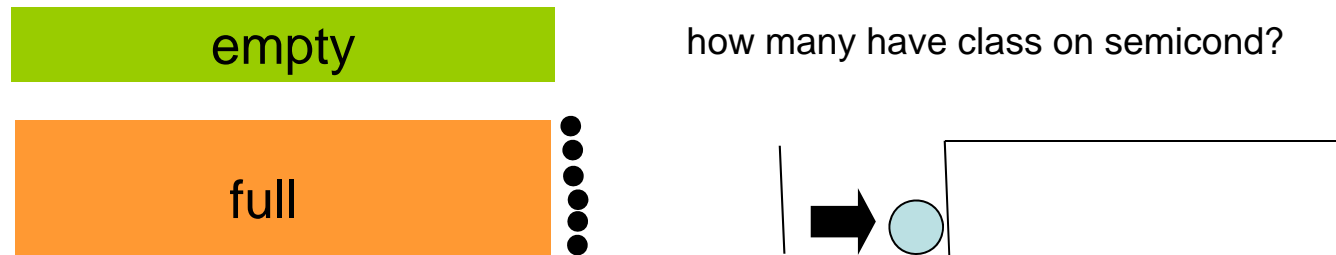


phet conductivity sim on phet site  
(also semiconductor and diode sim there)

insulators and conductors good- wires, electricity for lights and heating, electric motors, telegraph ( $I=V/R$  stuff).

For more interesting electrical stuff need more control- small currents & voltages control higher powers (“nonlinear circuit elements”).

semiconductor-- half way in between. Little gap to empty levels.



sensitive enough so people can affect conductivity of material

What are possible ways could get electron to higher empty level (out of pit), so could move to conduct electricity?

Write down on sheet of paper as many as can think of that are practical.

One sheet per group with names of all group members here.

Will collect.

semiconductor-- half way in between. Little gap to empty levels, shallow pit.



### Ways to get electron up to where can move.

1. heat

(important, but usually just as a problem- HW with numbers)

2.voltage -- can be problem and can be useful

(semiconductors that don't conduct until enough voltage applied, then conduct well.

3. light-- photoconductors (copying machines, laser printers)

4. designer impurities- tinker slightly with energy levels.

Used for all modern electronics.