

List of Contents

Acronyms	xvi
Symbols.....	xviii
List of Tables.....	xxvii
CHAPTER 1	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Introduction.....	2
1.2 Research aims/objectives.....	3
1.3 Milestones achieved.....	3
1.4 Structure of the thesis.....	4
CHAPTER 2	5
SEMICONDUCTOR THEORY AND SOLAR CELL.....	5
2.1 Brief overview of pn junction.....	6
2.1.1 Material used in electronics.....	6
2.1.1.1 Insulators.....	6
2.1.1.2 Conductors.....	6
2.1.1.3 Semiconductors.....	7
2.1.2 Classification of semiconductors.....	8
2.1.2.1 p –type semiconductor.....	8
2.1.2.2 n –type semiconductor.....	10
2.1.3 Conductivity of intrinsic semiconductors.....	11
2.1.4 Conductivity of extrinsic semiconductors.....	13
2.1.5 pn junction semiconductor diode.....	13
2.1.5.1 Formation of depletion layer.....	14
2.1.5.2 Energy band diagram of pn junction.....	14
2.1.5.3 Fermi energy and holes.....	15
2.1.5.4 Biasing of pn junction.....	16
2.1.5.5 VI Characteristic curve.....	17
2.2 Diode current equation.....	18
2.3 Introduction to photovoltaics.....	19
2.3.1 Advantages of using photovoltaic cells.....	19
2.4 Physics of solar cell.....	20
2.4.1 Photovoltaic effect.....	20
2.4.2 Working principle of photovoltaic cell.....	20
2.4.2.1 Generation of charge carrier due to photon absorption.....	21
2.4.2.2 Separation of photo-generated charge carrier in a junction.....	22
2.4.2.3 Extraction of photo-generated charge carrier due to light absorption.....	22

2.4.3	Solar radiation	23
2.4.4	Equivalent circuit of solar cell.....	23
2.4.5	VI characteristic of a photovoltaic device.....	25
2.5	Basic parameters and electrical characterization methods	26
2.5.1	Short circuit current.....	26
2.5.2	Open circuit voltage.....	26
2.5.3	Fill factor	26
2.5.4	Maximum power	27
2.5.5	Power conversion efficiency.....	28
2.5.6	Quantum efficiency	28
2.6	Recombination losses in solar cell in prospective of SCAPS	28
2.7.1	Bulk recombination loss	29
2.7.2	Interface Recombination loss	31
2.7.3	Recombination at metal semiconductor contacts.....	33
2.7	Effect of minority charge carrier mobility on recombination.....	33
CHAPTER 3.....		35
SOLAR CELL TECHNOLOGY		35
3.1	Solar cell	36
3.2	Solar cell historical facts	37
3.3	Generations of solar cells	39
	First Generation solar cells	39
3.3.1	Second Generation solar cells.....	39
3.3.2	Third Generation solar cells	39
3.4	Different types of solar cells.....	40
3.4.1	Silicon semiconductor type solar cells.....	40
3.4.1.1	Monocrystalline solar cell.....	40
3.4.1.2	Polycrystalline solar cell.....	41
3.4.1.3	Amorphous solar cell	41
3.4.2	Other types of solar cell.....	41
3.5	Thin film solar cells.....	41
3.6	Current research trends.....	42
CHAPTER 4.....		45
NUMERICAL MODELING		45
4.1	Numerical modeling.....	46
4.2	Basic semiconductor equation.....	46
4.3	Photovoltaic device modeling tools.....	48
4.4	SCAPS-1D	49
4.4.1	Parameters	49

4.4.2	SCAPS startup panel interface.....	51
4.4.3	Problem definition interface	52
4.4.4	Adding device structure layers	53
4.5	Numerical modeling of CGS solar cell	54
4.5.1	Energy band diagram.....	55
4.5.2	J – V characteristics of CGS solar cell.....	55
4.5.3	CGS absorber thickness effect on device performance	56
4.5.4	Acceptor doping concentration effect on device performance.....	56
4.5.5	Buffer thickness effect on device performance.....	57
4.5.6	Buffer layer donor concentration effect on device performance	58
4.5.7	Effect of CdTe back surface field layer thickness.....	58
4.5.8	Working temperature effect on device performance.....	59
4.5.9	Conclusion	60
CHAPTER 5		61
MODELING OF CZTS KESTERITE SOLAR CELL		61
5.1	Numerical modeling of CZTS based kesterite solar cell.....	63
5.1.1	Device modeling and material parameters.....	64
5.1.2	Energy band diagram.....	64
5.1.3	J – V characteristics of CdS/CZTS solar cell.....	65
5.1.4	Absorber layer thickness effect on device performance.....	66
5.1.5	Acceptor doping concentration effect on device performance.....	67
5.1.6	Buffer layer thickness effect on device performance.....	68
5.1.7	Buffer layer doping concentration on device performance	68
5.1.8	Working temperature effect on device performance.....	69
5.1.9	Effect of defects on device performance.....	70
5.1.10	Comparison with experimental solar cell	71
5.1.11	Conclusion	74
5.2	Efficiency enhancement of CZTS based experimental solar cell.....	75
5.2.1	Modeling parameters and solar cell structure	75
5.2.2	Validation of experimental results.....	76
5.2.3	Device optimization	77
5.2.3.1	Energy band diagram	77
5.2.3.2	J – V characteristics of CdS/CZTS solar cell	78
5.2.3.3	Acceptor doping concentration effect on device performance.....	78
5.2.3.4	Buffer layer doping concentration on device performance	79
5.2.3.5	CZTS absorber thickness effect on device performance.....	80
5.2.3.6	Buffer layer thickness effect on device performance.....	81
5.2.4	Effect of minority carrier life time.....	82
5.2.5	Effect of CZTSe BSF layer	82

5.2.6	Results comparison	84
5.2.7	Conclusion	85
CHAPTER 6.....		87
MODELING OF CFTS SOLAR CELL		87
6.1	Baseline study for the modeling of CFTS based solar cell	88
6.1.1	Solar cell design and material parameters	88
6.1.2	Energy band diagram.....	90
6.1.3	J – V characteristics of CFTS/TiO ₂ photovoltaic cell	90
6.1.4	CFTS absorber thickness effect on device performance.....	91
6.1.5	Acceptor doping concentration effect on device performance	91
6.1.6	Electron transport layer effect on device performance	92
6.1.7	Back contact metal work function effect on JV characteristic curve.....	94
6.1.8	Effect of working temperature on photovoltaic cell performance	94
6.1.9	Conclusion	95
6.2	Proposing novel structure for CFTS based solar cell	95
6.2.1	Numerical modeling and material parameters	96
6.2.2	Energy band diagram.....	97
6.2.3	J – V characteristics of CFTS/ZnS/Zn(O, S) photovoltaic cell	98
6.2.4	CFTS absorber thickness effect on device performance.....	98
6.2.5	Acceptor doping concentration on device performance	99
6.2.6	ZnS and Zn (O, S) buffer layers parameters effect on device performance.....	100
6.2.7	Conclusion.....	102
CHAPTER 7.....		103
CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK.....		103
7.1	Conclusion	104
7.2	Future Work	105
BIBLIOGRAPHY		107
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.....		120