

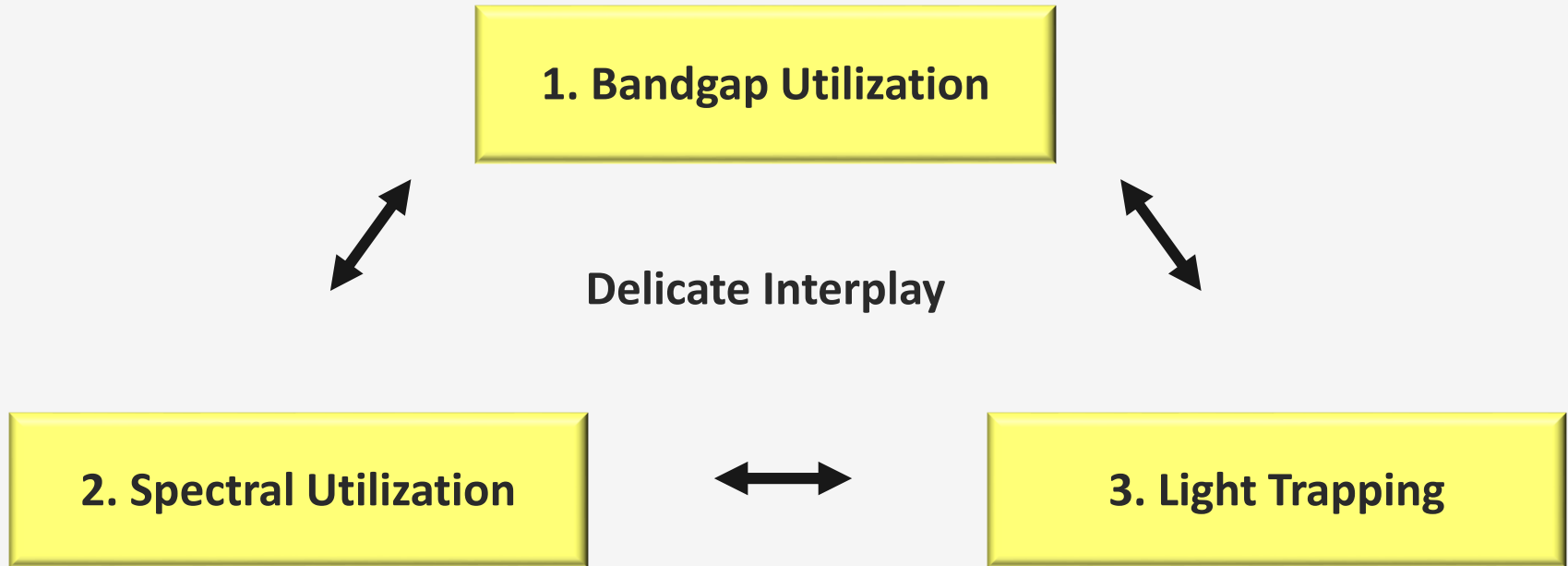
# Solar Cell Operation, Performance and Design Rules

## Utilization of Band Gap Energy

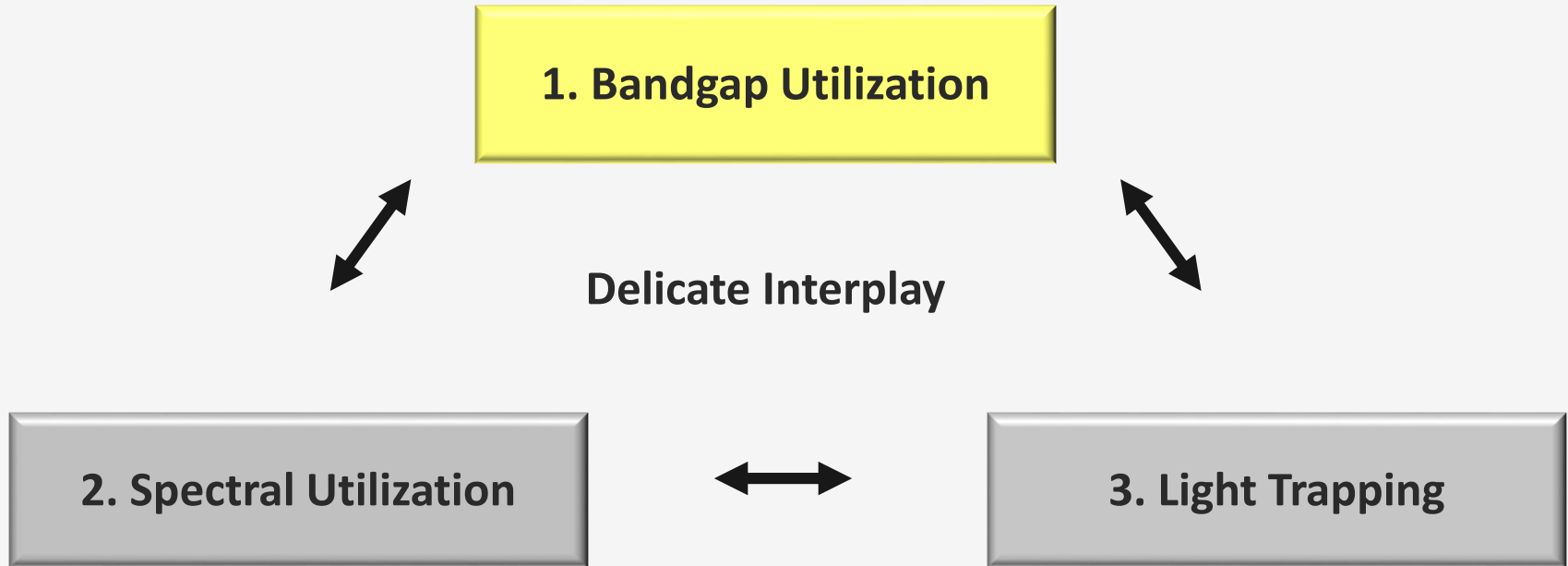
*Week 3.3.1*

Arno Smets

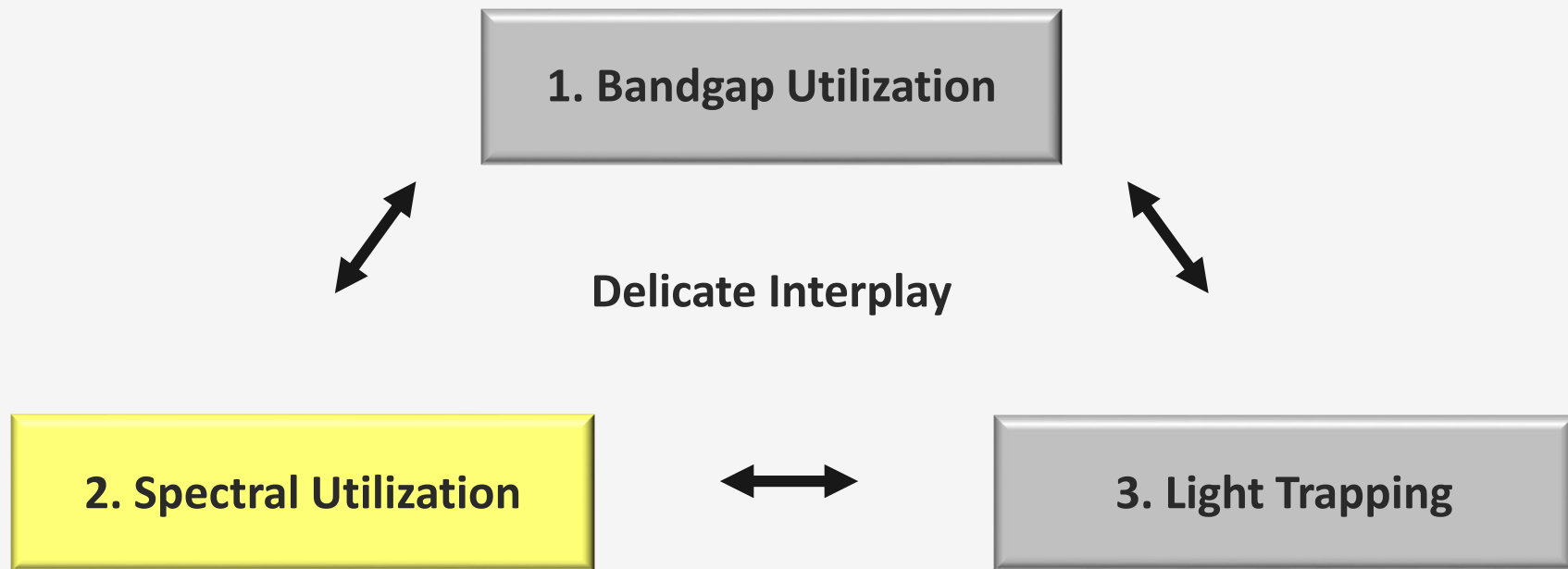
# Design Rules Solar Cells



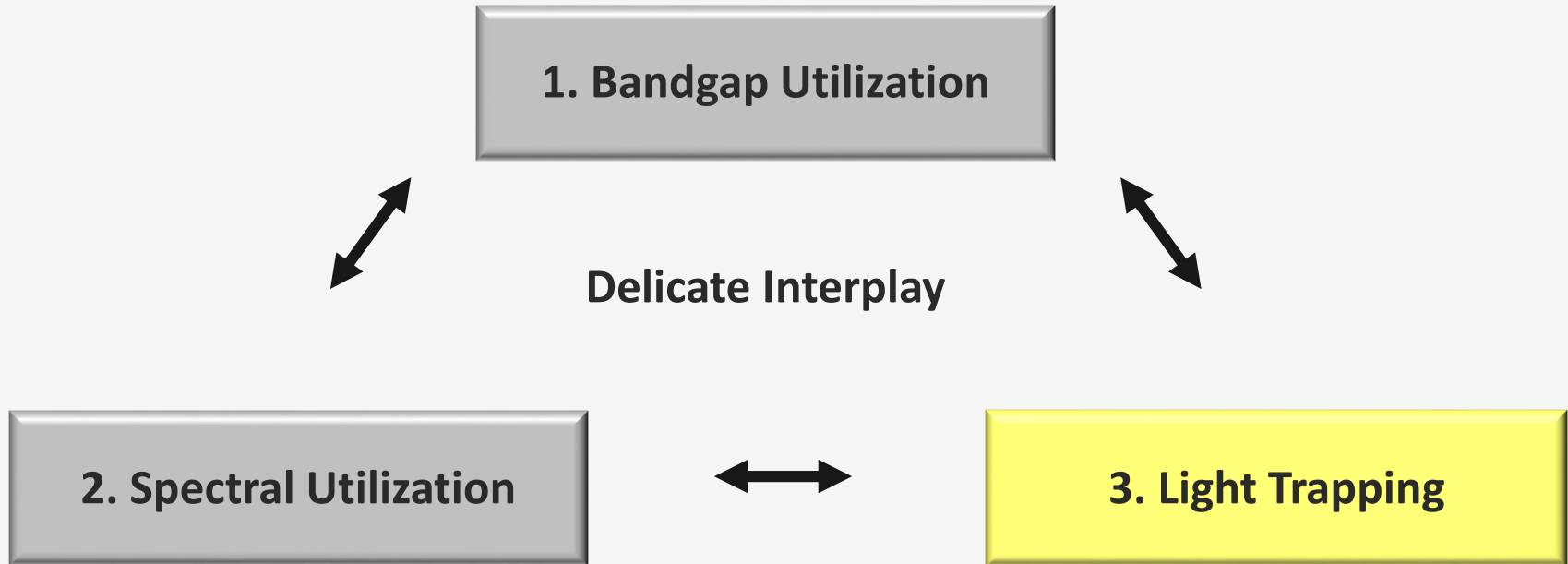
# Design Rules Solar Cells



# Design Rules Solar Cells

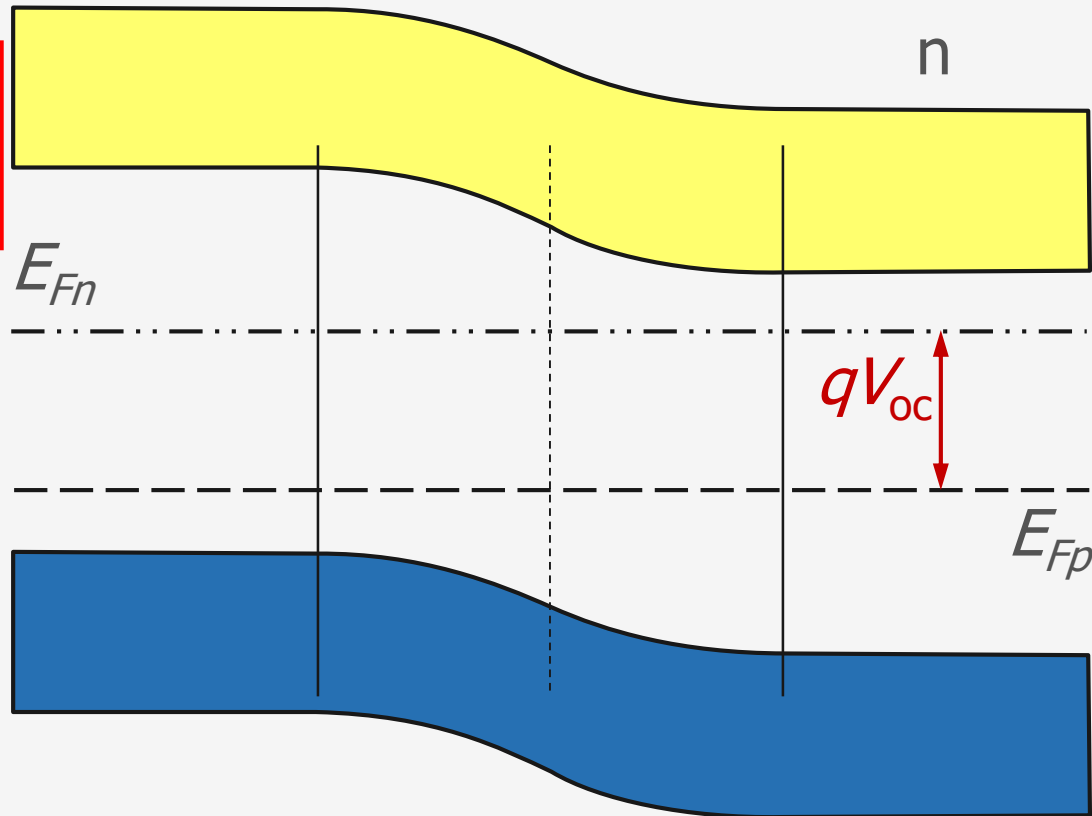


# Design Rules Solar Cells



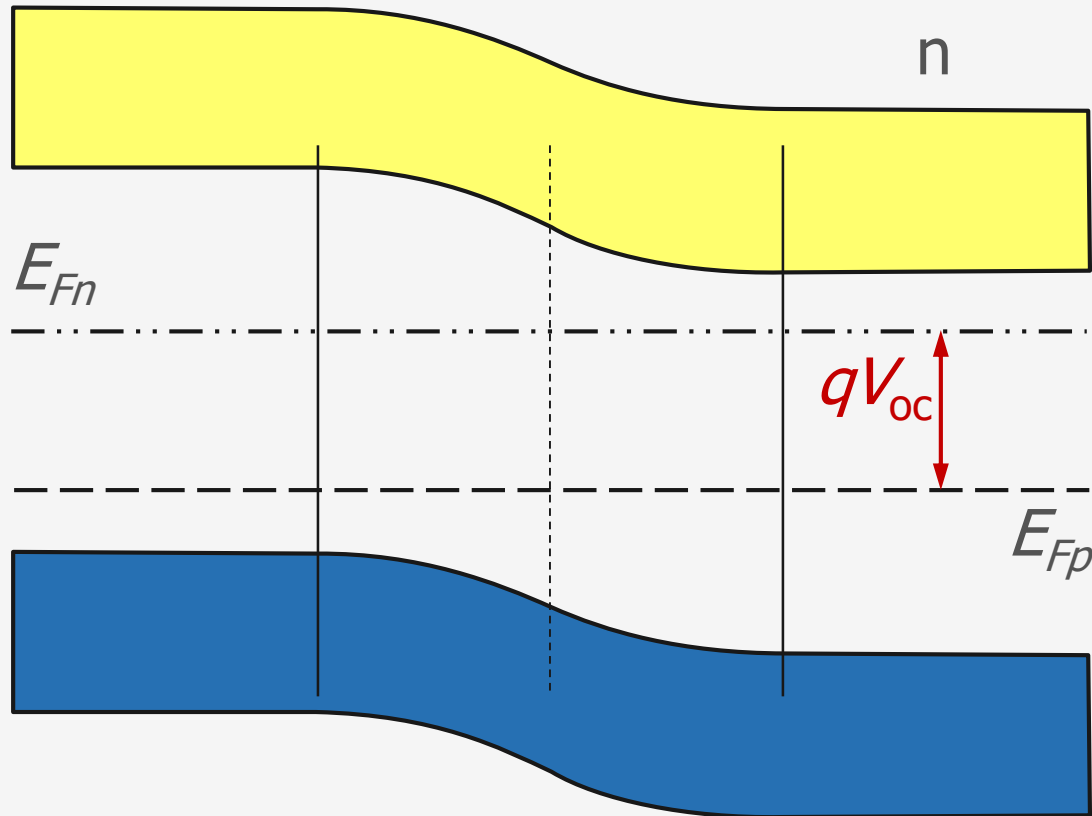
# Band gap utilization

$$V_{oc} = \frac{k_B T}{q} \ln \left( \frac{J_{PH}}{J_0} + 1 \right)$$



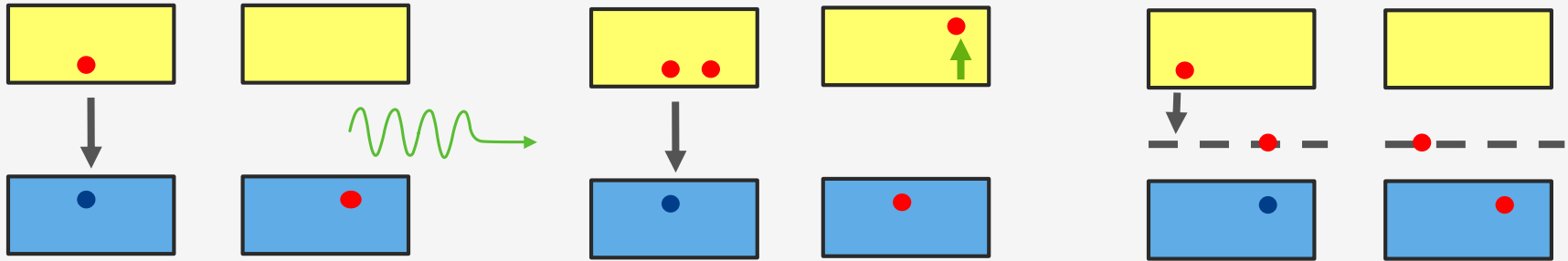
# Band gap utilization

$$V_{oc} = \frac{k_B T}{q} \ln \left( \frac{J_{PH}}{J_0} + 1 \right)$$



$$V_{oc} = \frac{2kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{G_L t_0}{e n_i} \right)$$

# Charge Carrier Recombination



Radiative

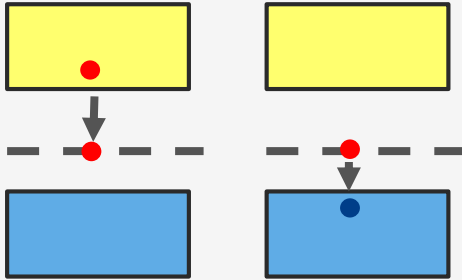
Auger

SRH



# Charge Carrier Recombination

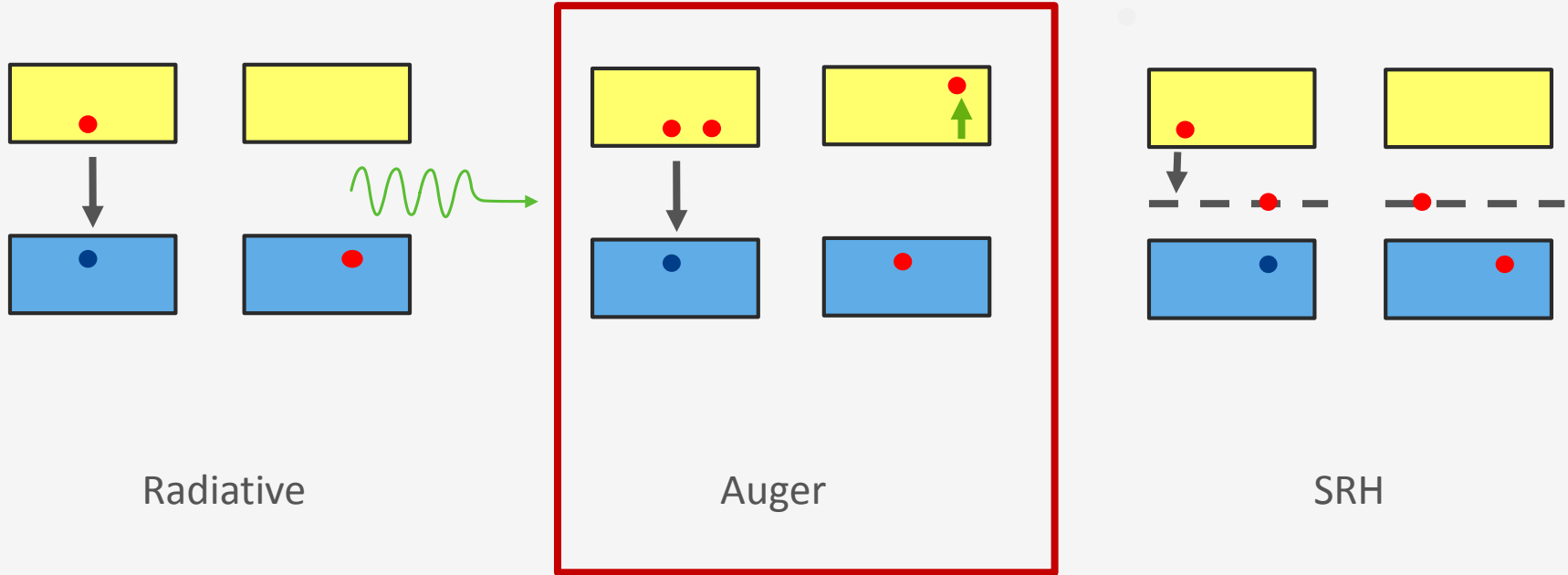
Shockley Read Hall



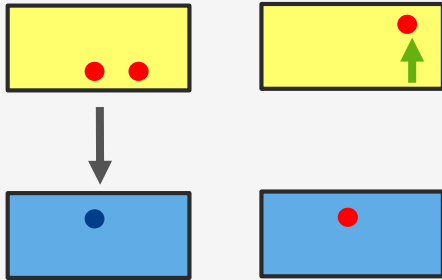
$$\tau_0 \propto N_t^{-1}$$

$$V_{oc} = \frac{2kT}{q} \ln \left( \frac{G_L \tau_0}{n_i} \right)$$

# Charge Carrier Recombination



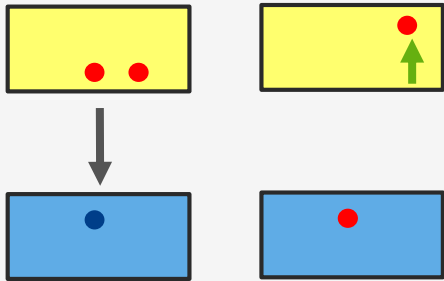
# Charge Carrier Recombination



$$R_{electron} = kn^2p$$

$$R_{hole} = kp^2n$$

# Charge Carrier Recombination



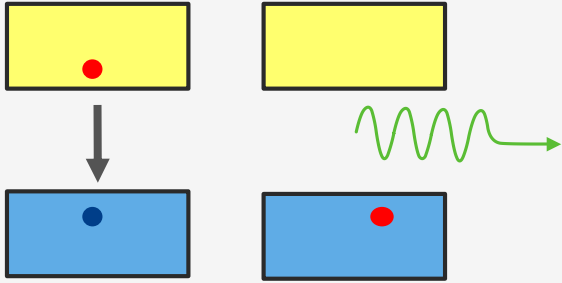
$$R_{\text{electron}} = kn^2p$$

$$t_{e, \text{Aug}} \mu \frac{p}{R} = \frac{1}{kn^2}$$

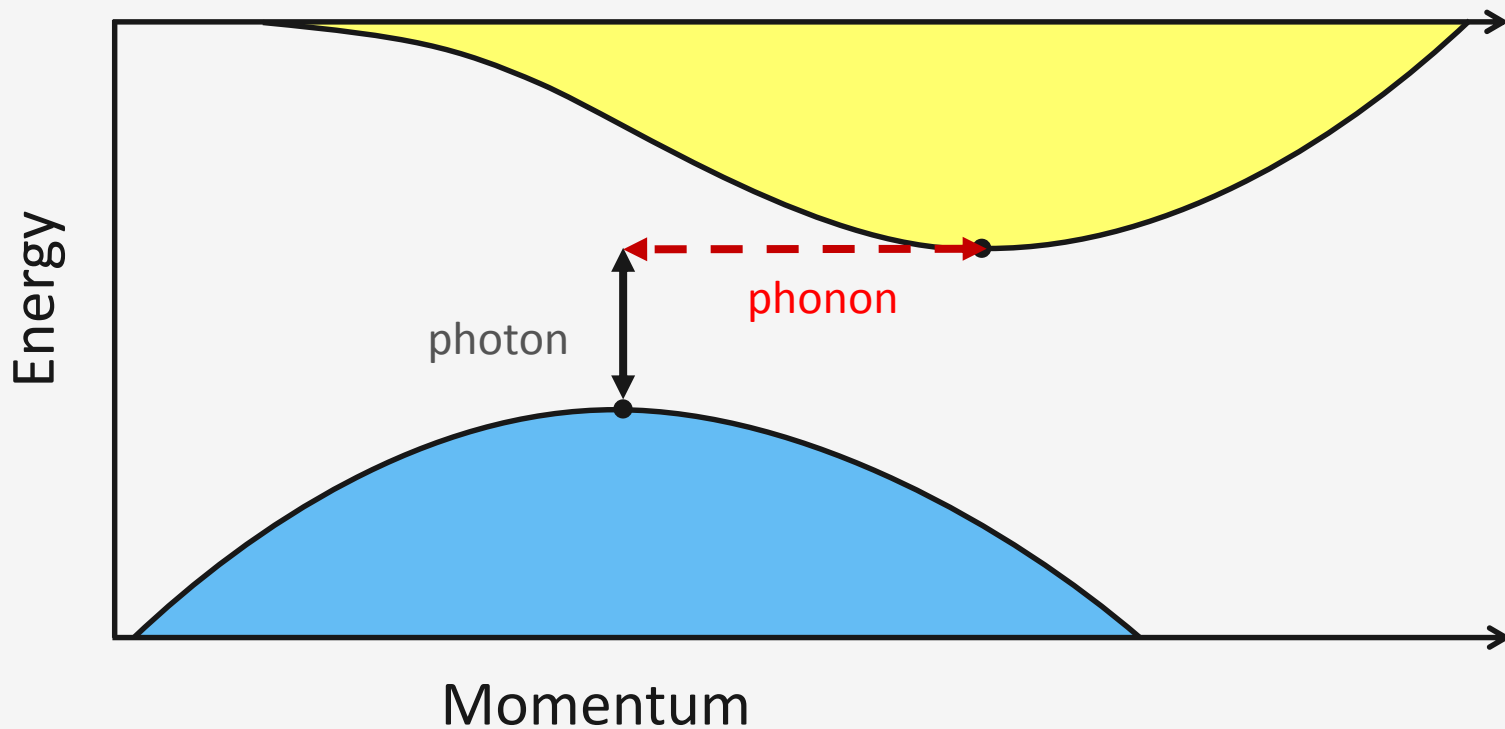
$$R_{\text{hole}} = kp^2n$$

$$t_{h, \text{Aug}} \mu \frac{n}{R} = \frac{1}{kp^2}$$

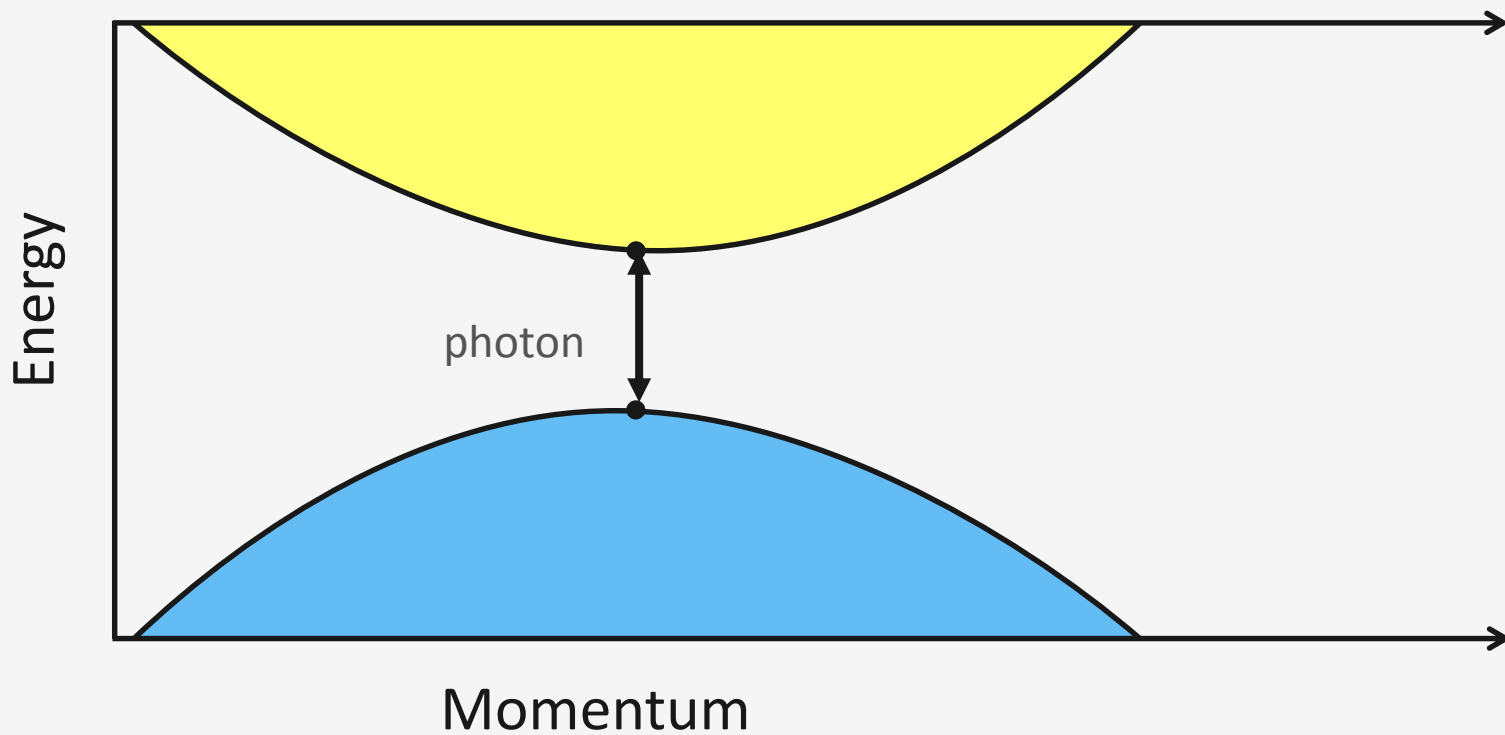
# Charge Carrier Recombination



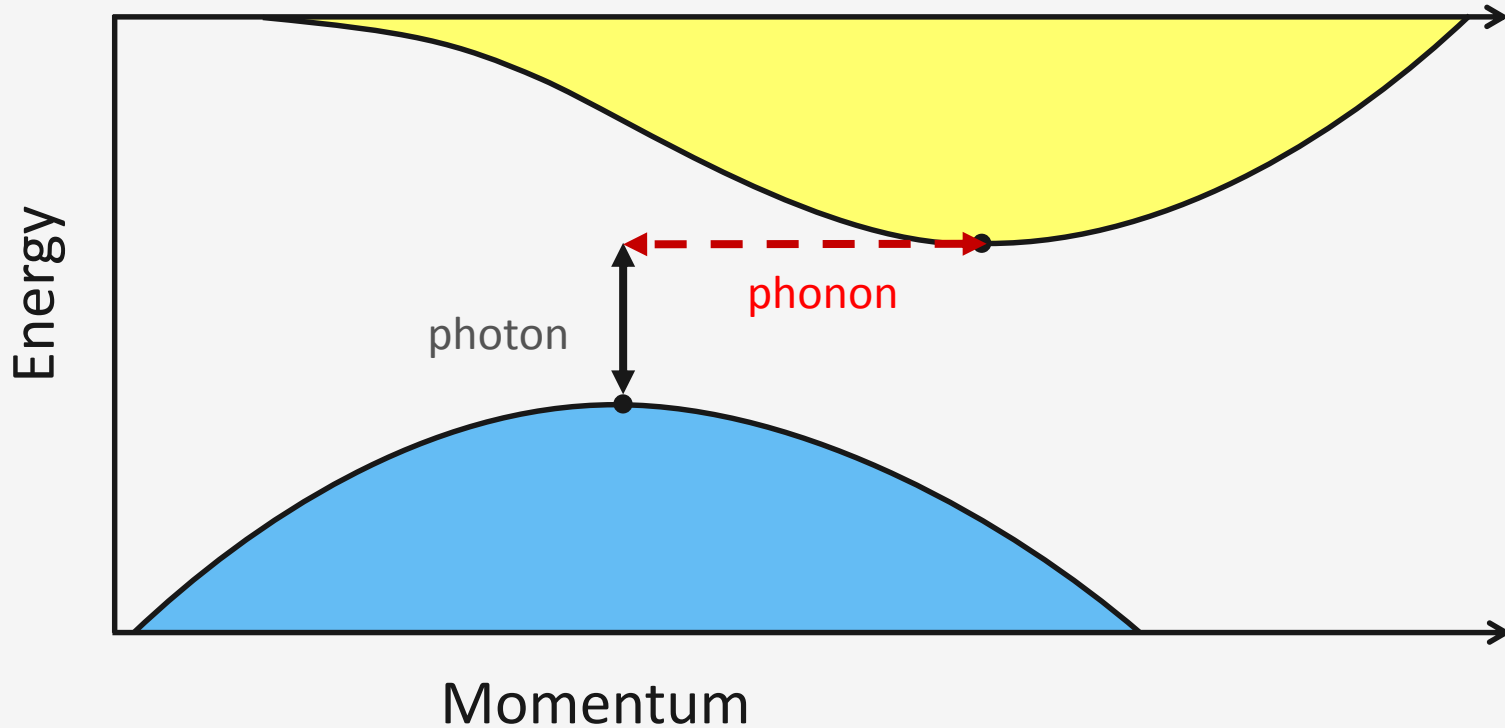
# Indirect band gap



# Direct band gap

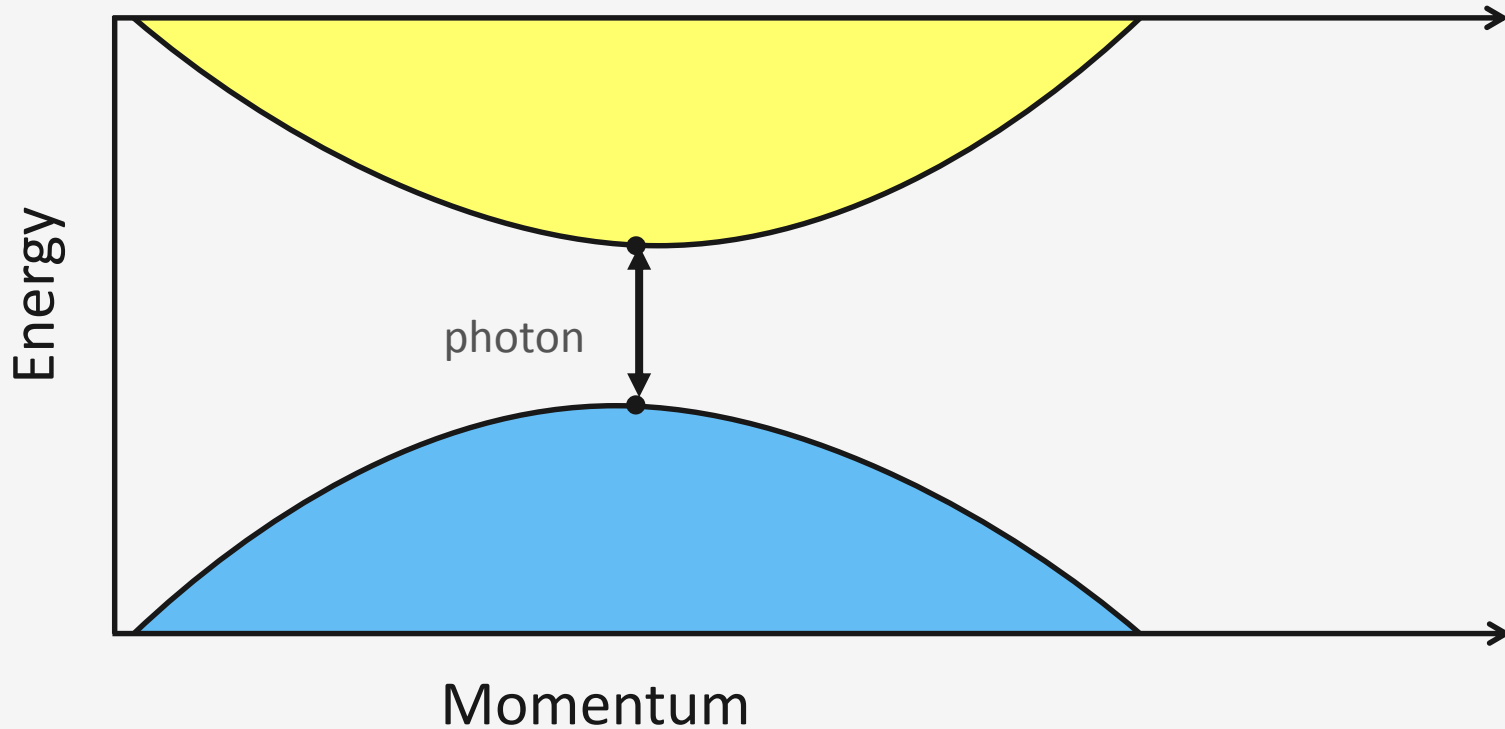


# Indirect band gap: c-Si

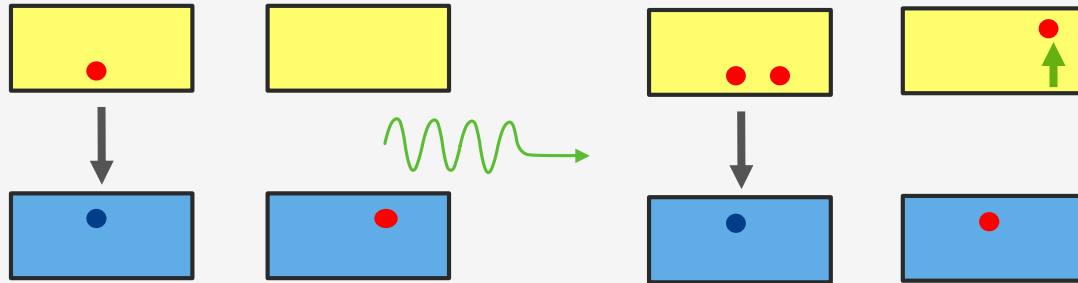




# Direct band gap: GaAs



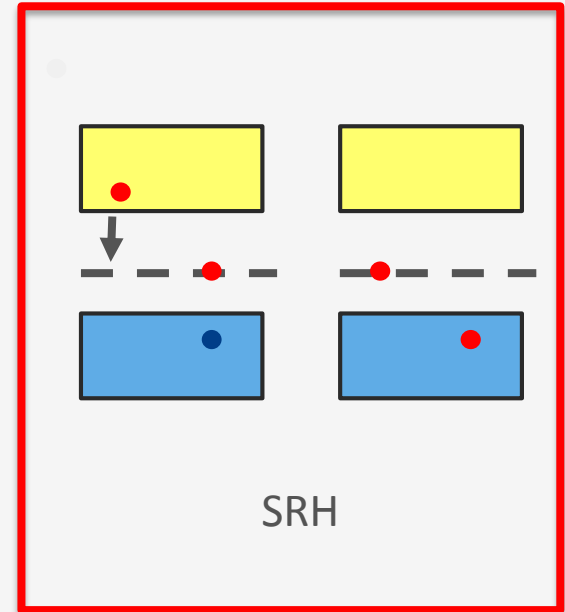
# Band gap utilization: .....the $V_{oc}$ is limited by



Radiative

Auger

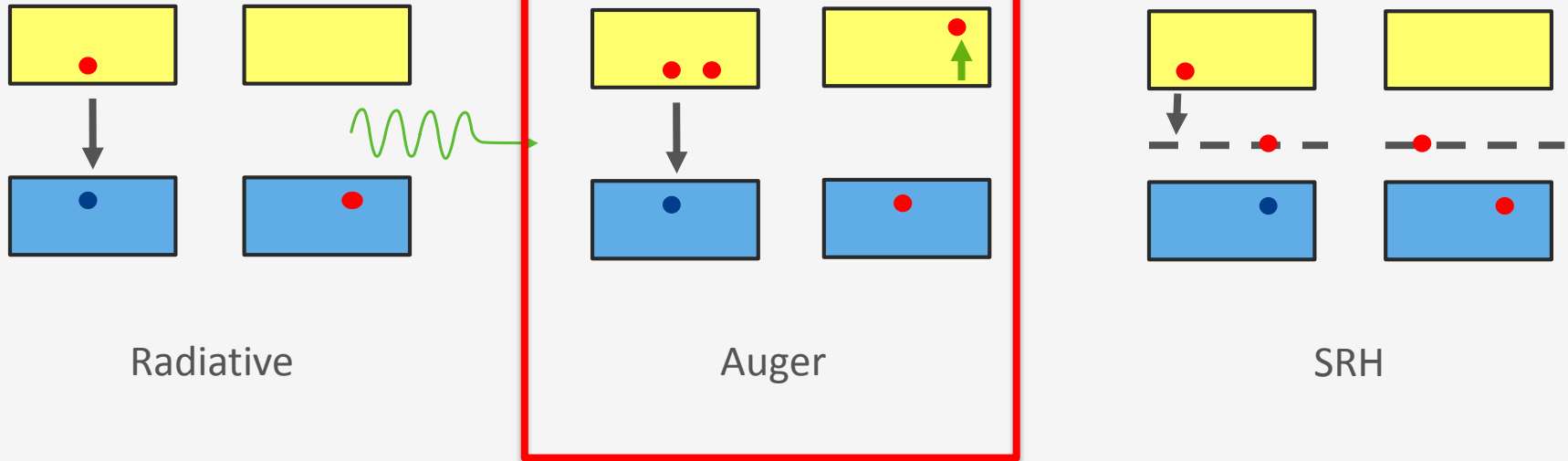
Defect-rich absorber layer



SRH

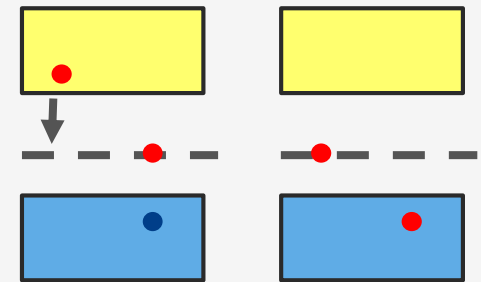
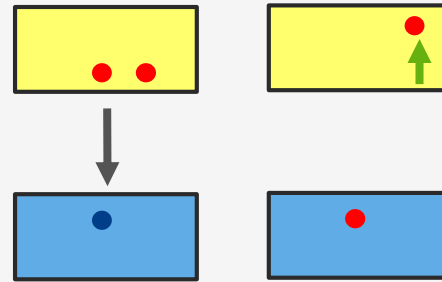
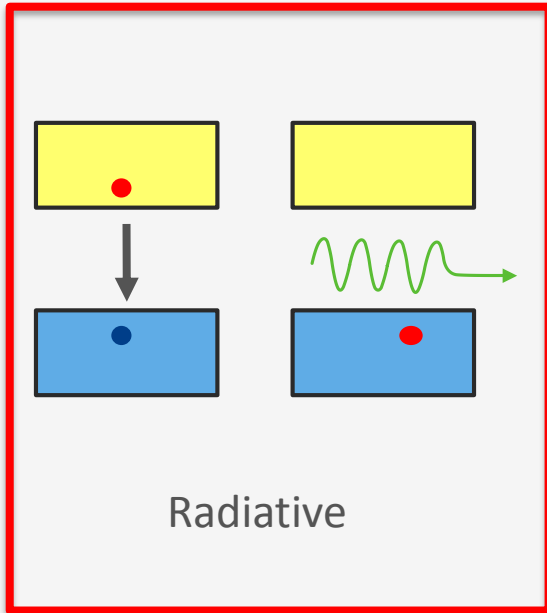
# Band gap utilization: .....the $V_{oc}$ is limited by

Defect-free indirect band gap

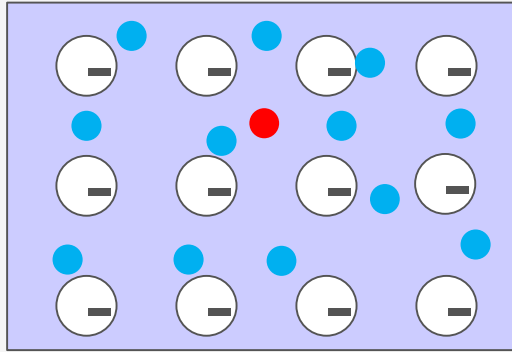


# Band gap utilization: .....the $V_{oc}$ is limited by

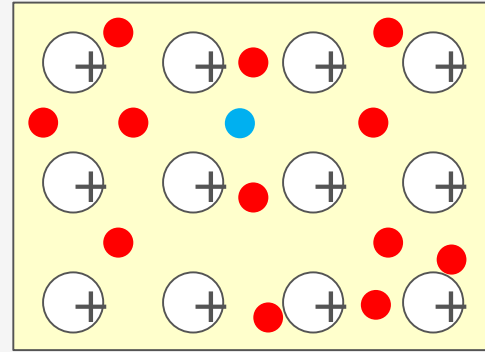
Defect-free direct band gap



# Diffusion Length



p-doped



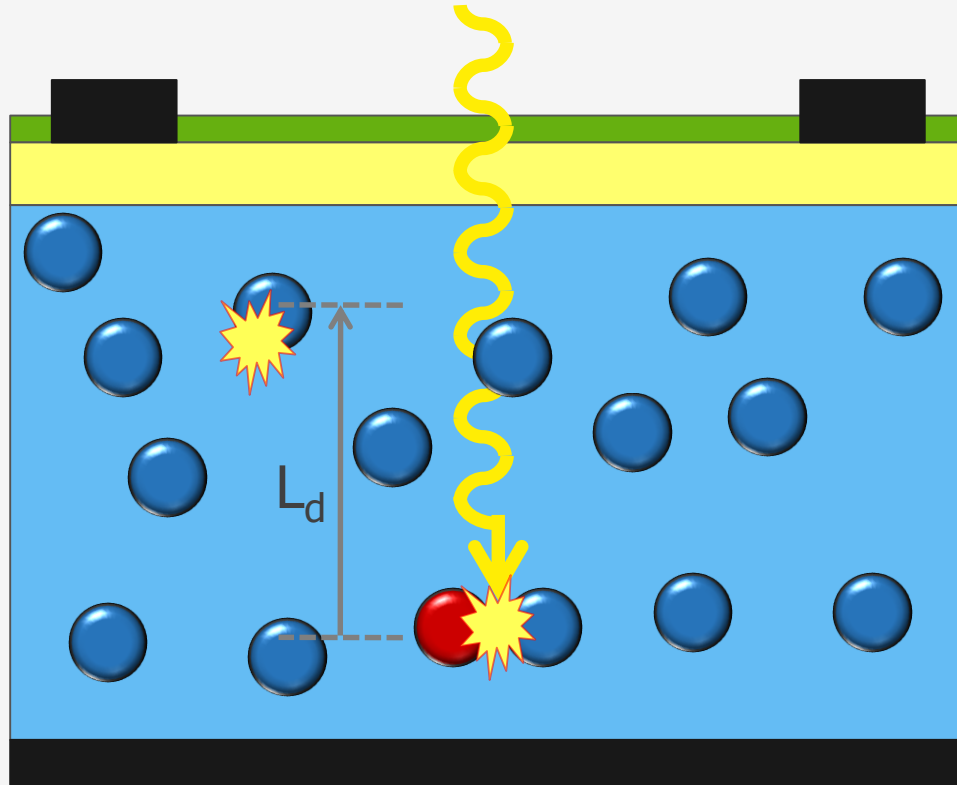
n-doped

**Diffusion length:**

$$L_e = \sqrt{D_e t_e} < L_h$$

$$L_h = \sqrt{D_h \tau_h} < L_e$$

# Minority carrier diffusion length



# Relation between diffusion length and typical thickness of solar cells

