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Valence Bond Cluster Studies of Alkali Metal/Semiconductor Bonding

by

R.C. Tatar and Richard P. Messmer

Abstract Submitted

for the March 1987 Meeting of the

American Physical Society

University of Pennsylvania Department of Physics Philadelphia, PA

December 1986

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Cluster Studios of Alkeli Valence Bond Metal/Semiconductor Bonding R.C. Tatar, Univ. Penny; R.P. Messuer, General Blectric CRD and Univ. Peng. - We present results oî cluster studies of alkali Generalized metal/semiconductor bouding. Using the Valence Boad (GVB) method, we find a remarkable consistency in the behavior of bonding orbitals for a variety of systems, including: LiH, CLi, LiH, and several "hypervalent" systems, such as SiFgLi, SiH Li,. Our results show that the metal-semiconductor bording in these systems can be understand in terms of a pairing between McAdon-Goddard type detallic bonding orbitals and a set of equivalent orbitals of the non-metallic species. We propose that the results are relevant to the initial stages of alkali overlayer growth on semiconductor surfaces and lead to a simple picture of the bouding including the transition from a non-conducting to a conducting layer. We have considered numerous proposed "hypervalent" structures in light of the above results and find that they can be understood in terms of more conventional concepts of valency. A From these results we conclude that the concept of "hypervalancy" needs to be refined, if not discarded. This work was supported in part by the Office of Naval Research. • M.A. McAdon, W.A. Goddard III, PRL 55, 2563 (1985).

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