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Week 8 Quiz: Deviations from Ideal and Small Signal Model

ECE 305: Semiconductor Devices

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Answer the **multiple choice questions** below by choosing the **one, best answer**.

- 1) Which of the following is true about “impact ionization”?
 - a) It is the cause of avalanche breakdown.
 - b) It can be initiated by either electrons or holes.
 - c) It generates both electrons and holes.
 - d) All of the above.
 - e) None of the above.

- 2) What effect does quantum mechanical tunneling have on a PN junction?
 - a) It can lead to reverse breakdown at low voltages ($-5 < V < 0$).
 - b) It can lead to reverse breakdown at high voltages ($V < -15$).
 - c) It can lead to current “roll-off” at high voltages.
 - d) It can increase the series resistance of a diode.
 - e) It is the most common cause for $n = 2$ currents at low forward bias.

- 3) Why does the reverse bias current increase as the square root of voltage in a Si diode?
 - a) Because of quantum mechanical tunneling.
 - b) Because of impact ionization.
 - c) Because of recombination in the transition region.
 - d) Because of generation in the transition region.
 - e) Because of series resistance.

- 4) What is the primary reason for the strong temperature dependence of the forward biased current in an N+P junction?
 - a) The D_n term in J_0 .
 - b) The L_n term in J_0 .
 - c) The N_A term in J_0 .
 - d) The n_i^2 term in J_0 .
 - e) None of the above

- 5) Which of the following is true about the small signal model of a PN junction?
- It consists of a resistor in series with a capacitor.
 - It consists of a resistor in parallel with a capacitor.
 - It consists of a resistor in series with an inductor.
 - It consists of a resistor in parallel with an inductor.
 - It consists of a resistor in parallel with a capacitor in parallel with an inductor.
- 6) Which of the following is true about the resistor in the small signal model of a diode?
- It has a very large value in reverse bias and a very small value in forward bias.
 - It is equal to $(dI_D/dV_A)^{-1}$.
 - In forward bias, it is very close to $(k_B T/q)/I_D$.
 - All of the above.
 - None of the above.
- 7) Which of the following is true of the junction capacitance?
- It is proportional to $1/\sqrt{V_{bi} - V_A}$.
 - It is proportional to $\sqrt{V_{bi} - V_A}$.
 - It is proportional to $1/(V_{bi} - V_A)$.
 - It is proportional to $(V_{bi} - V_A)$.
 - It is proportional to $\exp(qV_A/k_B T)$.
- 8) Which of the following is true of the diffusion capacitance?
- It is proportional to $1/\sqrt{V_{bi} - V_A}$.
 - It is proportional to $\sqrt{V_{bi} - V_A}$.
 - It is proportional to $1/(V_{bi} - V_A)$.
 - It is proportional to $(V_{bi} - V_A)$.
 - It is proportional to $\exp(qV_A/k_B T)$.
- 9) What is $\Delta n = (n_i^2/N_A)(e^{qV_A/k_B T} - 1)$ called?
- The Einstein relation.
 - The Caughey-Thomas relation.
 - The second law of thermodynamics.
 - Moore's Law
 - The Law of the Junction.