

**Quiz Answers: Week 13**  
**ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors**  
Mark Lundstrom  
Purdue University, Fall 2013  
(Revised 11/6/13)

**Lecture 31 Quiz :**

- 1) In this lecture, we wrote the general balance equation for a quantity,  $n_\phi$ , as

$$\frac{\partial n_\phi}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \vec{F}_\phi + G_\phi - R_\phi. \text{ What assumption is this equation based upon?}$$

- a) That the semiconductor is non-degenerate.
  - b) That the bandstructure is parabolic.
  - c) That the temperature is uniform.
  - d) That the electron temperature is equal to the phonon temperature.
  - e) Only that the BTE is valid.**
- 2) If  $\phi(\vec{p}) = (E - F_n)\vec{v}$ , where  $E$  is the total energy, then what is the associated flux in the balance equation?
- a) The kinetic energy flux.
  - b) The total energy flux.
  - c) The heat flux.**
  - d) The internal energy flux.
  - e) The particle flux.
- 3) What is the quantity,  $-q\mathcal{E}_i \left\{ \frac{1}{L} \sum_{\vec{p}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p_i} f \right\}$ ?
- a) The physical quantity term in the balance equation.
  - b) The associated flux in the balance equation.
  - c) The generation term in the balance equation.**
  - d) The recombination term in the balance equation.
  - e) The drift term in the associated flux.
- 4) When we write the recombination term as  $R_\phi = (n_\phi - n_\phi^0)/\langle \tau_\phi \rangle$ , what assumption are we making?
- a) Near equilibrium.
  - b) The Relaxation Time Approximation.
  - c) Non-degenerate carrier statistics.
  - d) Steady-state conditions.
  - e) Only that the BTE is valid.**

(continued on next page)

- 5) When we write the 1D current equation as  $I_x = n_L q \mu_n \mathcal{E}_x + q D_n dn_L/dx$ , what assumptions are we making?
- a) Near-equilibrium conditions.
  - b) Time variations slow in comparison to the momentum relaxation time.
  - c) Uniform temperature.
  - d) All of the above.**
  - e) b) and c) above.

### Lecture 32 Quiz:

- 1) When we write a balance equation for a quantity,  $n_\phi$ , we always end up with an unknown, that we must write a new balance equation for. What is this unknown?
- a) The associated flux for the quantity.**
  - b) The generation term for the quantity.
  - c) The recombination term for the quantity.
  - d) The recombination time in the recombination term.
  - e) The electron temperature.
- 2) What does the third moment of the BTE give us?
- a) The carrier continuity equation.
  - b) The carrier flux equation.
  - c) The carrier energy balance equation.
  - d) The carrier energy flux equation.**
  - e) The carrier energy squared continuity equation.
- 3) What is the quantity,  $W_{xx}$ ?
- a) The total energy density.
  - b) The kinetic energy density.
  - c) The kinetic energy density associated with one of the degrees of freedom.
  - d) The kinetic energy density associated with one of the degrees of freedom when the bands are parabolic.**
  - e) The kinetic energy density associated with one of the degrees of freedom when the bands are parabolic and the semiconductor is non-degenerate.

(continued on next page)

- 4) How is the hierarchy of balance equations terminated?
- By assuming near-equilibrium conditions.
  - By assuming the Relaxation Time Approximation.
  - By invoking the Onsager Relations.
  - By expressing all of the quantities in the equations only in terms of quantities in the equations.**
  - By using the NEGF equation.
- 5) When we write the recombination term in the various balance equations as  $R_\phi = (n_\phi - n_\phi^0) / \langle \tau_\phi \rangle$ , sometimes a term corresponding to  $n_\phi$  appears and a term corresponding to  $n_\phi^0$  **does not appear**. Why?
- Under near-equilibrium conditions.
  - Under spatially uniform conditions.
  - When the balance equation corresponds to a moment higher than 2.
  - When the balance equation corresponds to a moment higher than 3.
  - When the quantity in the balance equation is a flux.**

### Lecture 33 Quiz:

- 1) When we write a drift-diffusion equation in the form,  $J_{nj} = nq\mu_n E_j + \frac{2}{3}\mu_n \frac{\partial W}{\partial x_j}$ , what assumption are we making?
- Non-degenerate carrier statistics.
  - The temperature does not vary with position.
  - The electron temperature is equal to the lattice temperature.
  - The kinetic energy is equally distributed between the three degrees of freedom.**
  - Only that the BTE is valid.
- 2) When we write the velocity as  $v_x = v_{dx} + c_x$  what is the quantity,  $c_x$ ?
- The average velocity.
  - The rms thermal velocity.
  - The uni-directional thermal velocity.
  - The peculiar velocity.**
  - The Richardson velocity.

(continued on next page)

- 3) The quantity,  $nm^* \langle c^2 c_x \rangle / 2$  is commonly called what?
- a) The kinetic energy density.
  - b) The kinetic energy flux.
  - c) The heat.
  - d) The heat flux.**
  - e) The electron temperature.
- 4) To close the balance equations, we need to approximate which of the three terms in the energy flux,  $F_{Wx} = W v_{dx} + nk_B T_e v_{dx} + Q_x$ ?
- a)  $W v_{dx}$
  - b)  $nk_B T_e v_{dx}$ .
  - c)  $Q_x$ .**
  - d) a) and b) above.
  - e) b) and c) above.
- 5) Which of the following statements is true about a displaced Maxwellian distribution?
- a) The kinetic energy flux is zero.
  - b) The total energy flux is zero.
  - c) The heat flux is zero.**
  - d) The particle flux is zero.
  - e) None of the above.