

**Quiz Answers: Week 6**  
**ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors**  
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**Lecture 13 Quiz :**

- 1) What are the special properties of a contact in the Landauer model?
  - a) Strong inelastic scattering keeps them near equilibrium.
  - b) Any electron incident upon the contact is completely absorbed (no reflections).
  - c) Each contact is described by its own Fermi level.
  - d) Contacts have a very large number of channels (modes) compared to the device.
  - e) All of the above.**
  
- 2) Which of the follow is true about the Landauer expression for current:  
$$I = (2q/h) \int \left\{ \gamma \pi D(E)/2 \right\} (f_1 - f_2) dE$$
  - a) It applies to electrons in the conduction band.
  - b) It applies to electrons in the valence band.
  - c) It applies to holes in the valence band.
  - d) It applies to **both** electrons in the conduction band and holes in the valence band.
  - e) It applies to both electrons in the conduction band and electrons in the valence band.**
  
- 3) What are the units of the quantity,  $\gamma \pi D(E)/2$ ?
  - a) Energy
  - b) One over energy
  - c) Ohms
  - d) One over Ohms or Siemens.
  - e) The quantity is unitless.**
  
- 4) What is meant by the term “near-equilibrium” transport?
  - a) The contacts stay very close to equilibrium.
  - b) The Fermi level in the contact is close to its equilibrium value.
  - c) The Fermi levels of the two contacts,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ , can be replaced by the equilibrium Fermi level.
  - d) The difference in Fermi levels between the two contacts can be replaced by a first order Taylor series expansion of  $f_1 - f_2$ .**
  - e) The temperature of the two contacts is the same.

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5) Consider a small nano-device under bias with a steady-state current flowing. Which of the following is true?

- a) **One contact tries to fill states in the device and the other one tries to empty them.**
- b) Both contacts try to fill states in the device.
- c) Both contacts try to empty states in the device.
- d) All of the above.
- e) None of the above.

#### Lecture 14 Quiz:

- 1) Mathematically, the number of modes (channels) at energy,  $E$ , is proportional to what?
  - a) The density of states.
  - b) The velocity.
  - c) **The density of states times velocity.**
  - d) The density of states divided by velocity.
  - e) The deBroglie wavelength.
- 2) How is the transmission,  $T$ , related to the mean-free-path for backscattering,  $\lambda$ , and the length of the resistor,  $L$ ?
  - a)  $T = e^{-L/\lambda}$ .
  - b)  $T = e^{+L/\lambda}$ .
  - c)  $T = \lambda/L$ .
  - d)  $T = L/\lambda$ .
  - e)  **$T = \lambda/(\lambda + L)$ .**
- 3) For parabolic band semiconductors,  $M(E)$  is independent of energy (above the bottom of the conduction band) for which of the following cases?
  - a) **1D**
  - b) 2D
  - c) 3D
  - d) 1D and 2D
  - e) 2D and 3D

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4) Under what conditions does the Landauer expression for current,

$$I = \frac{2q}{h} \int T(E) M(E) (f_1 - f_2) dE, \text{ apply?}$$

- a) Near-equilibrium.
- b) For near-ballistic transport conditions,  $L \ll \lambda$ .
- c) For diffusive transport conditions,  $L \gg \lambda$
- d) Far from equilibrium.
- e) All of the above.**

5) When should we NOT use the Landauer expression,  $I = \frac{2q}{h} \int T(E) M(E) (f_1 - f_2) dE$ ?

- a) When quantum transport is important.
- b) When semi-classical transport dominates.
- c) When the temperatures of the two contacts are different.
- d) When hole conduction dominates.
- e) When it is necessary to spatially resolve quantities inside the device.**