

Week 6 Summary:

Landauer Approach

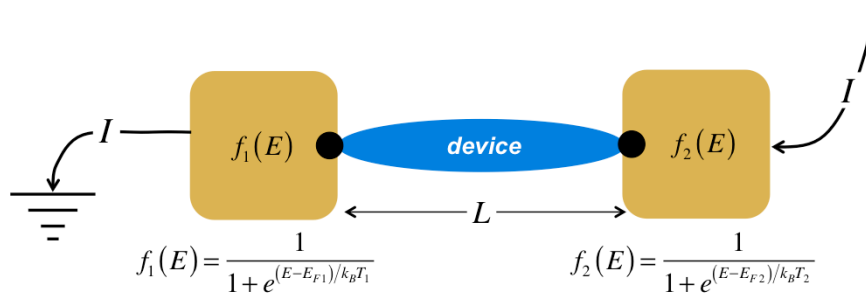
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nano to macro device



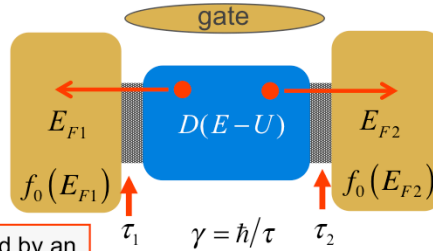
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assumptions

2) **Contacts** are large with strong inelastic scattering, always near equilibrium

3) U is the self-consistent (mean-field) potential. (For “strongly correlated” transport, see Datta.)



1) Device is described by an $E(k)$. For the more general case, see Datta.

4) All **inelastic scattering** takes place in the contacts. Electrons flow from left to right (or right to left) in **independent** energy channels.

5) **Reflectionless** (“absorbing”) contacts.

Landauer-Boltzmann-NEGF (LBN) Approach

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

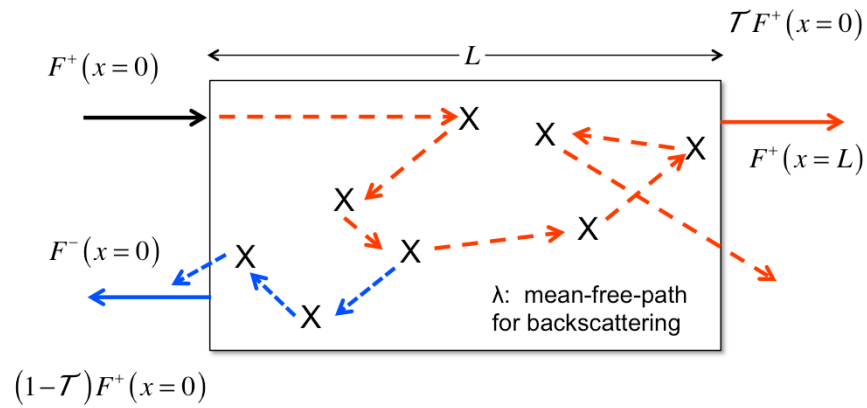
- 1) Transmission
- 2) modes (channels)
- 3) differences in Fermi-levels

For a discussion of fundamentals, see:

<https://nanohub.org/groups/lnebook/questions>

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transmission



transmission

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

1) Diffusive: $L \gg \lambda \quad T = \frac{\lambda}{L} \ll 1$

2) Ballistic: $L \ll \lambda \quad T = 1$

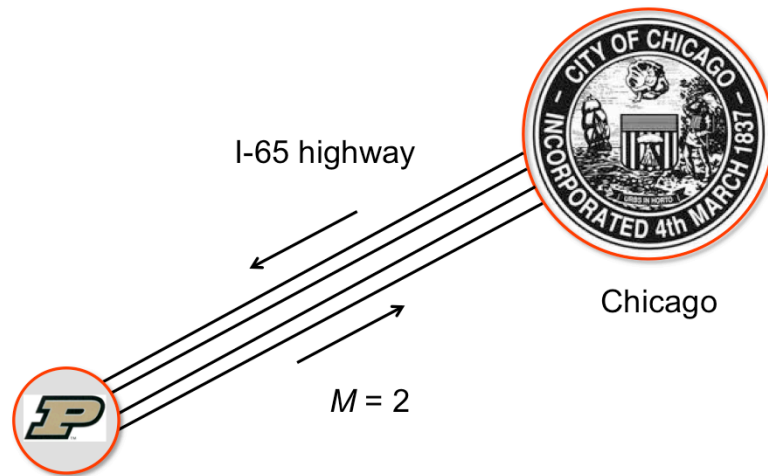
3) Quasi-ballistic: $L \approx \lambda \quad T < 1$

$$T(E) = \frac{\lambda(E)}{\lambda(E) + L}$$

λ is the “mean-free-path for backscattering”

This expression can be derived with relatively few assumptions.

modes (channels)



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modes (channels)

$$M(E) = \frac{h}{4} \langle v_x^+ \rangle D(E)$$

parabolic energy bands: $\frac{1}{2} m^* v^2(E) = E - E_c$

$$v(E) = \sqrt{2(E - E_c) / m^*}$$

x-directed velocity:

$$1D: \langle v_x^+ \rangle = v(E)$$

$$2D: \langle v_x^+ \rangle = (2/\pi) v(E)$$

$$3D: \langle v_x^+ \rangle = (1/2) v(E)$$

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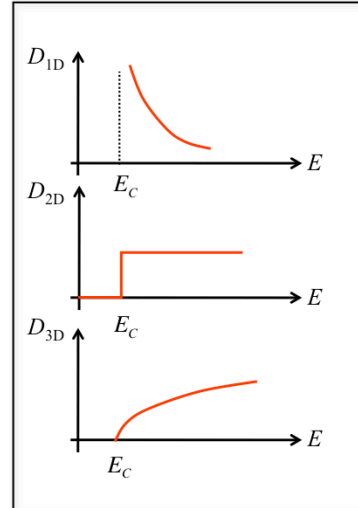
density of states (for parabolic energy bands)

$$D(E) = L D_{1D}(E) = \frac{L}{\pi \hbar} \sqrt{\frac{2m^*}{(E - E_c)}} H(E - E_c)$$

$$D(E) = A D_{2D}(E) = A \frac{m^*}{\pi \hbar^2} H(E - E_c)$$

$$D(E) = \Omega D_{3D}(E) = \Omega \frac{m^* \sqrt{2m^* (E - E_c)}}{\pi^2 \hbar^3} H(E - E_c)$$

$$(E(k) = E_c + \hbar^2 k^2 / 2m^*)$$



number of modes (for parabolic energy bands)

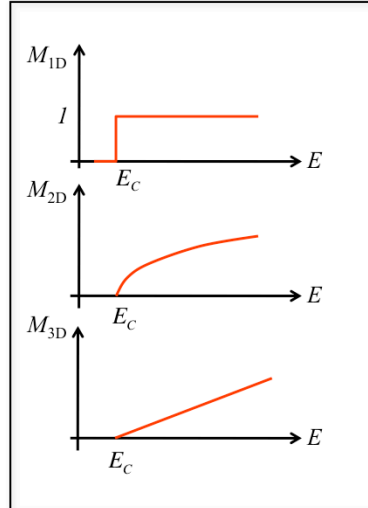
$$M(E) = \frac{h}{4} \langle v_x^+ \rangle D(E)$$

$$M(E) = M_{1D}(E) = H(E - E_c)$$

$$M(E) = W M_{2D}(E) = W \frac{\sqrt{2m^*(E - E_c)}}{\pi \hbar} H(E - E_c)$$

$$M(E) = A M_{3D}(E) = A \frac{m^*}{2\pi \hbar^2} (E - E_c) H(E - E_c)$$

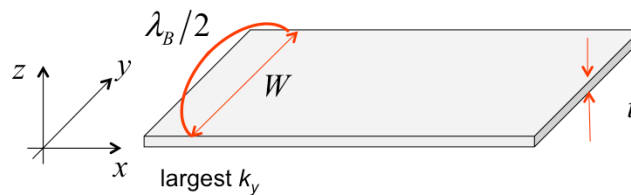
$$(E(k) = E_c + \hbar^2 k^2 / 2m^*)$$



waveguide modes

Assume that there is **one** subband associated with confinement in the z-direction. How many subbands (channels) are there associated with confinement in the y-direction?

$$M(E) = \frac{W}{\lambda_B(E)/2} \quad \text{When} \quad M(E) = 1 \rightarrow \lambda_B(E)/2 = W$$



largest k_y

$$E = \hbar^2 k_y^2 / 2m^*$$

$$\psi(x, y) \propto e^{ik_x x} \sin k_y y$$

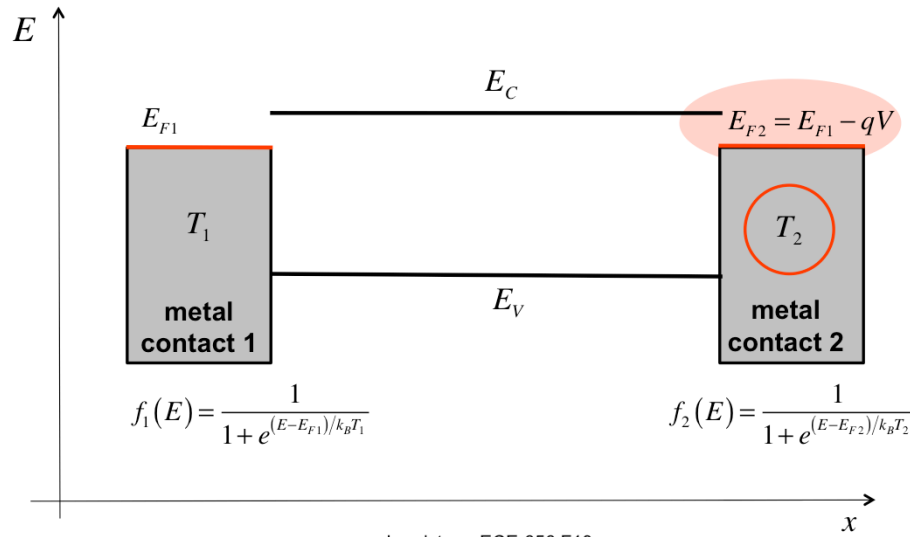
$$k_y = m\pi/W \quad m = 1, 2, \dots$$

LBN expression for current

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

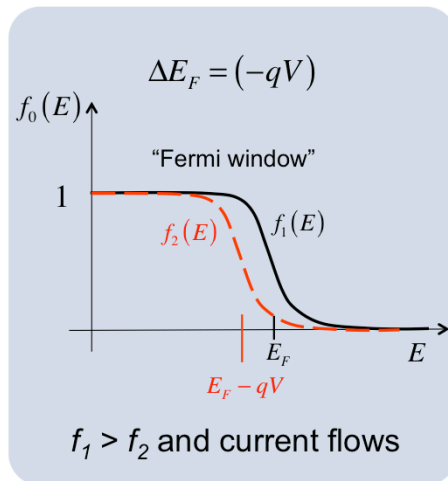
- 1) Transmission
- 2) Modes (channels)
- 3) Difference in Fermi-levels

differences in the Fermi levels



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differences in the Fermi levels (constant T)



near-equilibrium
(small applied bias)

$$(f_1 - f_2) \approx \left(-\frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} \right) qV$$

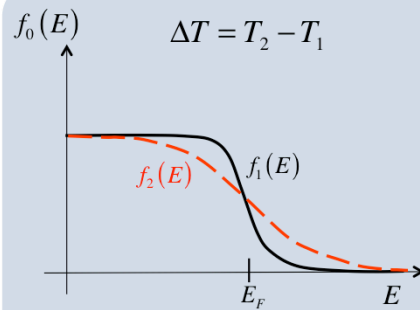
$$(f_1 \approx f_2 \approx f_0)$$

$$\Delta E_F$$

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differences in the Fermi levels (constant V)



$|f_1 - f_2| > 0$ so current flows, but the sign depends on whether the states are located above or below E_F (n-type or p-type).

near-equilibrium
(small temperature difference)

$$(f_1 - f_2) \approx - \left(- \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} \right) \frac{(E - E_F)}{T} \Delta T$$

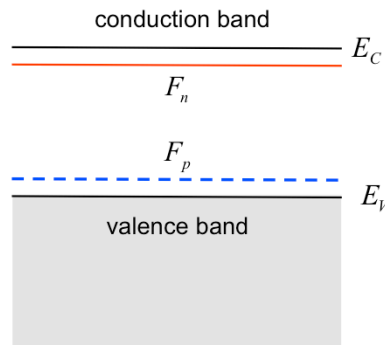
$$(f_1 \approx f_2 \approx f_0)$$

re-cap

Now that we understand transmission, modes, and $f_1 - f_2$, we can compute the coupled electrical and heat currents.

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

what about holes?



All of these expressions refer to **electrons** in the conduction and valence bands

n-type

$$I = G_n V$$

$$G_n = \frac{2q^2}{h} \int \mathcal{T}(E) M_c(E) \left(-\frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} \right) dE$$

$$f_0(E) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(E - F_n)/k_B T_L}}$$

p-type

$$I = G_p V$$

$$G_p = \frac{2q^2}{h} \int \mathcal{T}(E) M_v(E) \left(-\frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} \right) dE$$

$$f_0(E) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{(E - F_p)/k_B T_L}}$$

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