

Quiz Week 11
ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors
 Mark Lundstrom
 Purdue University, Fall 2017

- 1) The equation of motion for an electron in k-space is $d(\hbar\vec{k})/dt = \vec{F}_e$. What assumptions are necessary for this equation to be valid?
- Parabolic energy bands.
 - Non-degenerate conditions.
 - No quantum mechanical reflections.
 - No B-field.
 - No temperature gradients.
- 2) Under what conditions is this equation valid? $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla_r f + \vec{F}_e \cdot \nabla_p f = 0$
- No recombination-generation.
 - Equilibrium.
 - No scattering.
 - Position independent effective mass.
 - All of the above.
- 3) What is the quantity, $-\left(\frac{f(\vec{p}) - f_0(\vec{p})}{\tau_m}\right)$?
- The collision operator.
 - The collision operator in the Relaxation Time Approximation.
 - The solution to the steady-state Boltzmann equation.
 - The in-scattering term of the collision operator.
 - The out-scattering terms of the collision operator.
- 4) In the solution to the steady-state Boltzmann equation, $\delta f = \tau_m (-\partial f_0 / \partial E) \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\mathcal{F}}$, what is the term $\vec{\mathcal{F}}$ called?
- The electrochemical potential.
 - The chemical potential.
 - The statistical force.
 - The generalized force.
 - The electric field.

(continued on next page)

- 5) What is the quantity: $\frac{1}{A} \sum_{\vec{k}} (E - F_n) \vec{v}(\vec{k}) f(\vec{r}, \vec{k})$? (E is the total energy.)
- The energy density.
 - The energy flux.
 - The heat density.
 - The heat flux.
 - The kinetic energy flux.
- 6) In this equation, $\hat{C}f = -\left(\frac{f(\vec{p}) - f_s(\vec{p})}{\tau_m}\right)$, what is $f_s(\vec{p})$?
- The distribution function.
 - The equilibrium distribution function.
 - A distribution with the shape of the equilibrium distribution function.
 - The Bose-Einstein distribution.
 - The anti-symmetric part of the distribution function.
- 7) How do we interpret the quantity, $(\vec{v}\vec{v})$?
- As a scalar.
 - As a vector.
 - As a second rank tensor.
 - As a third rank tensor.
 - None of the above.
- 8) For spherical bands, how is the average scattering time, $\langle\langle\tau_m\rangle\rangle$ defined?
- $\langle v_x^2 \tau_m \rangle / \langle v_x^2 \rangle$.
 - $\langle v^2 \tau_m \rangle / \langle v^2 \rangle$.
 - $\langle (E - E_C) \tau_m \rangle / \langle (E - E_C) \rangle$.
 - All of the above.
 - None of the above.
- 9) What is $\frac{1}{\mu_{tot}} = \frac{1}{\mu_1} + \frac{1}{\mu_2}$ called?
- The Thompson relation.
 - The Kelvin relation.
 - The Wiedemann-Franz law.
 - The Lorenz number.
 - Mathiessen's rule.

(continued on next page)

- 10) Why is the BTE harder to solve in the presence of a B-field?
- Because we are no longer near equilibrium.
 - Because non-degenerate statistics must be used.
 - Because the cross product makes the math more difficult.
 - Because the gradient in momentum space can no longer be approximated by the gradient of f_S .
 - Because the gradient in position space can no longer be approximated by the gradient of f_S .
- 11) In this equation, $\vec{J}_n = \sigma_S \vec{E} - \sigma_S \mu_H (\vec{E} \times \vec{B})$, what is μ_H ?
- The mobility.
 - The effective mobility.
 - The conductivity mobility.
 - The chemical potential.
 - The Hall mobility.
- 12) What is the quantity, $\frac{\langle\langle \tau_m^2 \rangle\rangle}{\langle\langle \tau_m \rangle\rangle^2}$, called?
- The Hall mobility.
 - The Hall coefficient.
 - The Hall factor.
 - The Hall concentration.
 - The Hall parameter.
- 13) What quantity does a Hall effect measurement find?
- The Hall mobility.
 - The mobility.
 - The Hall concentration.
 - The carrier concentration.
 - The Hall resistivity.
- 14) What does the criterion $\omega_c \tau_m \ll 1$ imply?
- Electrons scattering many times before completing a cyclotron orbit.
 - The magnetic field is low.
 - Shubnikov-deHaas oscillations will not be observed.
 - All of the above.
 - None of the above.

(continued on next page)

15) Electron-electron scattering is often treated to first order by assuming an **equilibrium** (Maxwellian or Fermi-Dirac) distribution with one change. What is the change?

- a) The Fermi level is replaced by the quasi-Fermi level.
- b) The lattice temperature is replaced by the electron temperature.
- c) The magnitude of the distribution is re-normalized.
- d) The Fermi-function is replaced by the Bose-Einstein function.
- e) None of the above.

(The assumption here is that we are still near equilibrium)

16) When we write the collision integral in the Relaxation Time Approximation,

$$\hat{C}f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) = -\frac{(f - f_s)}{\tau_m(\vec{r}, \vec{p})},$$

why do we use f_s rather than the equilibrium, f_0 ?

- a) Because we are not exactly at equilibrium.
- b) To be sure that the number of carriers is conserved.
- c) To be sure that the momentum of the carriers is conserved.
- d) To be sure that the energy of the carriers is conserved.
- e) To be sure that the heat of the carriers is conserved.

17) Under what conditions is the Relaxation Time Approximation,

$$\hat{C}f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}, t) = -(f - f_s)/\tau_f(\vec{r}, \vec{p}), \text{ valid?}$$

- a) Near equilibrium.
- b) Near equilibrium with Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics with elastic scattering.
- c) Near equilibrium with Maxwell-Boltzmann statistics with isotropic scattering.
- d) Near equilibrium with elastic scattering or isotropic scattering with Maxwell Boltzmann statistics.
- e) Near equilibrium with isotropic scattering or inelastic scattering with Maxwell Boltzmann statistics.

18) Which of the following statements is true in equilibrium?

- a) The electrostatic potential is independent of position.
- b) The chemical potential is independent of position.
- c) The carrier density potential is independent of position.
- d) The electrochemical potential is independent of position.
- e) The electrochemical potential and temperature independent of position.