

**Quiz Week 12**  
**ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors**  
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Answer the **multiple choice questions** below by choosing the **one, best answer**. Then **ask a question** about the lecture.

- 1) In class, 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 band structure 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  $\phi(\vec{p}) = (E - F_n)\bar{v}$ , 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,  $-q\vec{E}_i \left\{ \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\vec{p}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p_i} f \right\}$ ?

- 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.

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- 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?
- Near-equilibrium conditions.
  - Time variations slow in comparison to the momentum relaxation time.
  - Uniform temperature.
  - All of the above.
  - b) and c) above.
- 6) 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?
- The associated flux for the quantity.
  - The generation term for the quantity.
  - The recombination term for the quantity.
  - The recombination time in the recombination term.
  - The electron temperature.
- 7) What does moment equation does  $\phi(\vec{p}) = v_x (p^2/2m^*)$  give us?
- The carrier continuity equation.
  - The carrier flux equation.
  - The carrier energy balance equation.
  - The carrier energy flux equation.
  - The carrier energy squared continuity equation.
- 8) What is the quantity,  $W_{xx}$  for parabolic energy bands?
- The total energy density.
  - The kinetic energy density.
  - The kinetic energy density associated with one of the degrees of freedom.
  - The electron temperature.
  - The heat flux.
- 9) 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 set of equations only in terms of quantities in same set of equations.
  - By using the NEGF equation.

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10) 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?

- a) Under near-equilibrium conditions.
- b) Under spatially uniform conditions.
- c) When the balance equation corresponds to a moment higher than 2.
- d) When the balance equation corresponds to a moment higher than 3.
- e) When the quantity in the balance equation is a flux.

11) When we write a drift-diffusion equation in the form,  $J_{nj} = nq\mu_n \mathcal{E}_j + \frac{2}{3} \mu_n \frac{\partial W}{\partial x_j}$ , what assumption are we making?

- a) Non-degenerate carrier statistics.
- b) The temperature does not vary with position.
- c) The electron temperature is equal to the lattice temperature.
- d) The kinetic energy is equally distributed between the three degrees of freedom.
- e) Only that the BTE is valid.