

Quiz Week 12
ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors
Mark Lundstrom
Purdue University, Fall 2017

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_ϕ , 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 $\phi(\vec{p}) = (E - F_n)\vec{v}$, 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, $-qE_i \left\{ \frac{1}{\Omega} \sum_{\vec{p}} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial p_i} f \right\}$?

- 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.**

(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?
- 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_ϕ , 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.

(continued on next page)

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_ϕ appears and a term corresponding to n_ϕ^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.