

**Quiz Answers: Week 2**  
**ECE 656: Electronic Conduction In Semiconductors**  
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- 1) The 1D DOS is given by  $D_{1D} = 2/(\pi\hbar v)$ . What are the units of this expression?
- a) Joules<sup>-1</sup>.
  - b) Joules<sup>-2</sup>.
  - c) Joules<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-1</sup>.**
  - d) Joules<sup>-1</sup> m<sup>-2</sup>.
  - e) Joules<sup>-2</sup> m<sup>-1</sup>.
- 2) The 1D DOS is given by:  $D_{1D} = 2/(\pi\hbar v)$ . What band structure does this apply to?
- a) Parabolic.
  - b) Spherical.
  - c) Ellipsoidal.
  - d) Linear.
  - e) Any band structure.**
- 3) A common way to describe a non-parabolic conduction band is  $E(k)[1 + \alpha E(k)] = \hbar^2 k^2 / [2m^*(0)]$ . What does non-parabolicity ( $\alpha > 0$ ) do to the density of state in k-space and energy space?
- a) Increases  $DOS(k)$  and increases  $DOS(E)$ .
  - b) Increases  $DOS(k)$  and decreases  $DOS(E)$ .
  - c) Decreases  $DOS(k)$  and increases  $DOS(E)$ .
  - d) Decreases  $DOS(k)$  and decreases  $DOS(E)$ .
  - e) Leaves  $DOS(k)$  unchanged and increases  $DOS(E)$ .**
- 4) What is the quantity,  $(1/A) \sum_k \delta(E - E_k)$ ?
- a) The number of electrons.
  - b) The density of electrons per cm<sup>2</sup>.
  - c) The density-of-states in k-space.
  - d) The density-of-states in energy-space.**
  - e) Unity.

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- 5) Very often, it suffices to know the DOS only near the bottom of the conduction band and the top of the valence band. Why?
- Because the DOS at higher (or lower) energies can be obtained by extrapolation of the DOS near the band edges.
  - Because the Fermi function ensures that states well above  $E_C$  are always empty and that states well below  $E_V$  are always full.**
  - Because the bands become parabolic well above  $E_C$  and well below  $E_V$ .
  - All of the above.
  - None of the above.
- 6) Which of the following is generally true of the characteristic times? (Scattering time,  $\tau$ , momentum relaxation time,  $\tau_m$ , and energy relaxation time,  $\tau_E$ .)
- $\tau > \tau_m > \tau_E$ .
  - $\tau > \tau_m < \tau_E$ .
  - $\tau < \tau_m > \tau_E$ .
  - $\tau < \tau_m < \tau_E$ .**
  - $\tau \approx \tau_m \approx \tau_E$ .
- 7) Which of the following assumptions does Fermi's Golden Rule make?
- Elastic scattering and infrequent scattering.
  - Inelastic scattering and infrequent scattering.
  - Weak scattering and infrequent scattering.**
  - Time independent scattering and weak scattering.
  - Time dependent scattering and weak scattering.
- 8) When we write  $\vec{p}' = \vec{p} + \hbar\vec{q}$ , what are  $\vec{p}'$  and  $\vec{q}$ ?
- The quantity,  $\vec{p}'$ , is the final momentum of the electron and  $\vec{q}$  is a Fourier component of the scattering potential.
  - The quantity,  $\vec{p}'$ , is the final momentum of the electron and  $\vec{q}$  is the momentum of the scattering potential.
  - The quantity,  $\vec{p}'$ , is the final crystal momentum of the electron and  $\vec{q}$  is a Fourier component of the scattering potential.**
  - The quantity,  $\vec{p}'$ , is the final energy of the electron and  $\vec{q}$  is a Fourier component of the scattering potential.
  - The quantity,  $\vec{p}'$ , is the final crystal momentum of the electron and  $\vec{q}$  is the initial momentum.

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9) For isotropic scattering, how is the scattering rate related to the density-of-states? (A subscript, "i" refers to the initial state and a subscript, "f" to the final state.)

a)  $\tau(E_i) \propto D(E_i)$ .

b)  $\tau(E_i) \propto D(E_f)$ .

c)  $1/\tau(E_i) \propto D(E_i)$ .

**d)  $1/\tau(E_i) \propto D(E_f)$ .**

e)  $1/\tau(E_i) \propto D(E_i + E_f)$ .

10) If the transition rate,  $S(\vec{p}, \vec{p}')$ , has a term,  $\delta(E' - E \mp \hbar\omega)$ , which of the following is true ( $\hbar\omega > 0$ )?

a) The scattering is isotropic and elastic.

b) The scattering is isotropic and inelastic.

c) The scattering is anisotropic and inelastic.

**d) The scattering is inelastic.**

e) The scattering is anisotropic.