

W.C.J. Magnus
W.J. Schoenmaker

Quantum Transport in Sub-Micron Devices

A Theoretical
Introduction



Springer

Wim Magnus Wim Schoenmaker

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A Theoretical Introduction

With 40 Figures



Springer

Dr. Wim Magnus

Dr. Wim Schoenmaker

STDI/TCAD, IMEC, Kapeldreef 75, 3001 Leuven, Belgium

e-mail: magnus@imec.be

e-mail: schoen@imec.be

Series Editors:

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Professor Dr., Dres. h. c. Peter Fulde*

Professor Dr., Dres. h. c. Klaus von Klitzing

Professor Dr., Dres. h. c. Hans-Joachim Queisser

Max-Planck-Institut für Festkörperforschung, Heisenbergstrasse 1, D-70569 Stuttgart, Germany

* Max-Planck-Institut für Physik komplexer Systeme, Nöthnitzer Strasse 38

D-01187 Dresden, Germany

Professor Dr. Roberto Merlin

Department of Physics, 5000 East University, University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1120, USA

Professor Dr. Horst Störmer

Dept. Phys. and Dept. Appl. Physics, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027 and

Bell Labs., Lucent Technologies, Murray Hill, NJ 07974, USA

ISSN 0171-1873

ISBN 3-540-43396-1 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data.

Magnus, Wim, 1954- . Quantum transport in submicron devices: a theoretical introduction/

Wim Magnus, Wim Schoenmaker. p. cm. - (Springer series in solid-state sciences, ISSN 0171-1873; 137)

Includes bibliographical references and index. ISBN 3-540-43396-1 (alk. paper)

1. Electron transport. 2. Holes (Electron deficiencies) I. Schoenmaker, Wim. II. Title. III. Series.

QC176.8.E4 M34 2002 530.4'16-dc21 2002021663

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Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

a member of BertelsmannSpringer Science+Business Media GmbH

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Printed in Germany

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Typesetting made by the author

Cover concept: eStudio Calamar Steinen

Cover production: *design & production* GmbH, Heidelberg

Printed on acid-free paper

SPIN: 10859825

57/3141/tr - 5 4 3 2 1 0

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To our beloved wives Marie-Paule and Vee
for lending their husbands to science

Preface

In this book the problem of transport of electrons and holes is approached from the point of view that a coherent and consistent physical theory can be constructed for transport phenomena. Along the road we will visit various exciting citadels in theoretical physics. The authors will guide the reader in this tour along the strong and weak aspects of the various theoretical constructions. Moreover, our goal is to make clear the mutual coherence and to put each theoretical model in an appropriate perspective. Merely the fact that so many partial solutions have been proposed to describe transport, be it in condensed matter, fluids, or gases, illustrates that we are entering a world of physics with a rich variety of phenomena. Moreover, the subject is not closed and the final theory of transport has still to be written down. Unavoidably, some aspects are commented by us with remarks that contain our personal views and there is room for discussion. Theoretical physics always aims at a unifying picture, but so far this ultimate goal has not been reached. However, this situation should not withhold us from working towards this goal. By presenting this tour among the many very inventive attempts to build this unifying picture, we hope that the reader is inspired and encouraged to help find the unifying principle behind the many faces of transport.

The present work grew out of a series of lectures that we have presented at IMEC, a research center for microelectronics and populated by a mixture of engineers, physicists, chemists and computer scientists, as far as the scientific staff is concerned. The underlying text reflects this audience. The first part of the book describes a series of physical concepts that can be found in numerous text books in physics libraries. One does not possess an operational knowledge of the Schrödinger equation, if one has no knowledge about the Hamiltonian operator. The latter one can only be properly understood within a realm of analytical mechanics.

Each chapter of Part I describes the essential knowledge that is needed to catch up with the present-day language in device engineering. For example, for engineers, these chapters should trigger interest in further reading physics books. Gradually, the text moves towards engineering problems and the second part of this work should convince physicists that there are numerous fundamental problems to be addressed that originate from microelectronic

and mesoscopic physics. Therefore, it is our hope that physicists will find their way to engineering libraries.

Whereas Part I describes well-established result in physics, the second part of this work (Chaps. 11 to 17) contain our research results that can be found in the recent physics literature.

A multidisciplinary text book always runs the risk that a specialist in one field is disappointed by that piece of the text that covers his field of expertise, whereas the areas that are outside his field of interest remain hidden in a layer of fog, because the treatment is too condensed. Being aware of this risk, we have put serious effort into presenting the text in such a way that the reader can follow the line of thoughts. As a consequence, the text is occasionally 'narrative'. The intention of some sections is to introduce the reader to a terminology. The goal of these sections is to encourage further study and to provide access to the modern literature in the field.

Acknowledgment

The writing of this book was triggered by the request of a number of researchers at IMEC with a strong desire to gain a better understanding of what is going on in submicron devices. We have benefited substantially from numerous discussions which have also sharpened our views. In particular we would like to express our gratitude to Serge Biesemans, Stefan Kubicek, Carlos Augusto, Bart Sorée, Brahim Elattari, Marc Van Rossum, Kristin De Meyer, Karl-Heinz Bock, An de Keersgieter and many others scientists who contributed in one way or another to our knowledge of transport theory in the way as it became formulated in this book. We would like to thank our directors Herman Maes and Gilbert Declerck for creating the stimulating environment and support. We also benefited from numerous discussions with co-workers outside IMEC. In particular, we mention Jozef Devreese, Volodya Fomin, Sergei Balaban, Volodya Gladilin, Eugene Pokatilov of the University of Antwerp and the University of Moldova. Their impact can hardly be overrated. We are grateful to many research colleagues for sharing their views. To mention a few: Bob Dutton, Zhiping Yu (Stanford University), Wolfgang Fichtner, Andreas Schenk (ETH Zurich), Andreas Wettstein (ISE-AG), Siegfried Selberherr (TU Vienna), Gilles Le Carval (LETI Grenoble) and Marcel Profirescu (Technical University Bucharest). Some of the results that are presented in this book were obtained in research projects funded by Flemish Institute for Science and Technology (IWT) and the European Commission (IST). Last but not least we would like to express our thanks to Claus Ascheron, Angela Lahee and Elke Sauer (Springer-Verlag) for the smooth collaboration that helped to get this monograph off/on the shelf.

Leuven
April 2002

Wim Magnus
Wim Schoenmaker

List of Symbols

A	vector potential
a_q, a_Q	phonon annihilation operator
a_q^\dagger, a_Q^\dagger	phonon creation operator
B	magnetic induction
C	set of complex numbers
$c_{k\sigma}, c_{\alpha l k\sigma}, c_{n\sigma}$	electron annihilation operator
$c_{k\sigma}^\dagger, c_{\alpha l k\sigma}^\dagger, c_{n\sigma}^\dagger$	electron creation operator
$d\mathbf{r}$	line element
dS	surface element
$d\tau$	volume element
D_{AC}	acoustic deformation potential
D_{it}	density of interface states
E	electric field
E_C	conservative electric field
E_{NC}	non-conservative electric field
E, \mathcal{E}	energy
E_F	Fermi energy
E_L	longitudinal electric field
$E_{\alpha k}$	one-electron energy
H, H_0, H_1, H', H_{int}	Hamiltonian
h	Planck's constant
\hbar	reduced Planck constant ($h/2\pi$)
I	electric current
$I_{\alpha l}$	leakage current carried by a virtual bound state
J	electric current density
$J_{\alpha l}^z$	leakage current density carried by a virtual bound state
k, k_1, k_2, \dots	single-particle quantum numbers
$k_{g,\alpha}, k_{1,ox,\alpha}, k_{2,ox,\alpha}, \dots,$ $k_{1,w,\alpha}, k_{2,w,\alpha}, \dots, k_{s,\alpha}$	electron wave number

k	electron wave vector
k_B	Boltzmann's constant
L	Lagrangian
L	total angular momentum
l	subband index
l	one-particle angular momentum
m_0	free electron mass
$m_{g\alpha x}, m_{g\alpha y}, m_{g\alpha z}, m_{\alpha}^{\parallel}, m_{\alpha}^{\perp},$ $m_{\parallel}^{\parallel}, m_{\perp}^{\perp}, m_{1,ox,\alpha}, m_{2,ox,\alpha}, \dots,$ $m, m_n, m_{\alpha x}, m_{\alpha y}, m_{\alpha z}$	electron effective masses
m_p	hole effective masses
$M(\mathbf{Q}), v_q$	electron-phonon coupling strength
N	number of particles, coordinates or modes
N_A	acceptor doping density
n	electron concentration
N_{ox}	number of gate stack layers
N_w	number of sublayers in the inversion layer
Φ	wave function, magnetic flux
$ \Phi\rangle$	state vector
$\phi_{\alpha l}(z)$	subband wave function
p_1, p_2, \dots	generalized momenta
p	one-particle momentum
P	total momentum
p	hole concentration
q_D	Debye wave number
q_1, q_2, \dots	generalized coordinates
q, Q	phonon or photon wave vector
R	set of real numbers
$\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots$	position vector
S	spin vector operator
S	entropy
s	spin index
T	lattice temperature
T_e	electron temperature
$T_{g,\alpha} T_{1,ox,\alpha}, T_{1,ox,\alpha}, \dots,$ $T_{1,w,\alpha}, T_{2,w,\alpha}, \dots$	transfer matrices
$t_g, t_{ox}, t_{1,w}, t_{2,w}, \dots$	layer thicknesses
U	potential energy
V	scalar electric potential
v	velocity, one-particle velocity operator
v_D	electron drift velocity
v_S	velocity of sound
V_{ε}	electromotive force
w	electron energy density

$W_{\alpha l}$	subband energy
α	valley index
$\partial\Omega$	boundary surface of Ω
ε_S	silicon permittivity
ε_k	one-electron energy
ε_0	vacuum permittivity
$\Gamma_{\alpha l}$	resonance width of virtual bound state
μ	chemical potential
μ_0	vacuum permeability
$\phi_k, \psi_{\alpha k}$	electron wave function
ψ	field operator
Ω	connected subset of \mathbf{R}^3
ω_D	Debye frequency
ω_q	phonon, photon frequency
ϱ	density matrix, statistical operator, charge density
ϱ_{Si}	silicon mass density
σ	spin index
$\tau_{\alpha l}$	lifetime of a virtual bound state

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Contents

Part I. General Formalism

1. The Many Faces of Transport	3
2. Classical Mechanics	7
2.1 Generalized Coordinates and Constraints	7
2.2 d'Alembert's Principle	8
2.3 Reduction of Dynamics to Statics	10
2.4 The Lagrangian and Euler–Lagrange Equations	11
2.5 Maupertuis and Maserati	11
2.6 From Lagrangian to Hamiltonian	12
2.7 Phase Space and Configuration Space	14
2.8 The Liouville Equation	15
2.9 The Micro-Canonical Ensemble	16
2.10 The Boltzmann Equation	18
2.11 Drude's Model of Carrier Transport	21
2.12 Currents in Semiconductors	23
3. Mathematical Interlude	27
3.1 Generalized Functions	27
3.1.1 The Step Function $\theta(x)$	27
3.1.2 The Delta Function $\delta(x)$	28
3.1.3 Some Useful Relations	28
3.2 Functions of Functions – Functionals	29
3.3 Functional Integration – Path Integrals	30
3.4 Vector Identities	31
3.5 A Few Theorems	32
Exercises	33
4. Quantum Mechanics	35
4.1 Rules of the Game	35
4.1.1 States in Fock Space	35
4.1.2 The Superposition Principle	36
4.1.3 Scalar Products and Probability Amplitudes	36
4.1.4 Observable Quantities and Operators	36

4.1.5	Measurements and Expectation Values	37
4.1.6	Dynamics – The Schrödinger Equation	38
4.2	The Book of Recipes	39
4.2.1	First Recipe – Correspondence Principle	40
4.2.2	Second Recipe – Canonical Commutation Rules	40
4.2.3	Third Recipe – Use Your Imagination	40
4.2.4	Fourth Recipe – Choose an Appropriate Basis	40
4.3	The Position and Momentum Representation	43
4.3.1	Position Representation	43
4.3.2	Momentum Representation	44
4.3.3	Stationary Schrödinger Equation	44
4.4	Commuting Operators, ‘Good’ Quantum Numbers	44
4.5	Path Integrals	46
	Exercises	51
5.	Single-Particle Quantum Mechanics	53
5.1	Charge Density, Current and Single Particle Wave Functions ..	53
5.2	Constant Potential, Energy Bands and Energy Subbands	54
5.3	Potential Wells	58
5.4	Potential Barriers	62
5.5	Electromagnetic Fields	71
5.6	Spin	73
	Exercises	77
6.	Second Quantization	79
6.1	Identical Particles	79
6.2	Field Operators	83
6.2.1	Definition	83
6.2.2	Field Operators, Wave Functions and Topology	84
6.2.3	Field Operators in Fock Space	85
6.2.4	The Connection to First Quantization	88
6.2.5	How to Construct the Operators	90
6.3	More Creation and Annihilation Operators	94
6.3.1	The Electron Hamiltonian	96
6.3.2	The Number Operator	96
6.3.3	Charge and Current Density	96
6.3.4	Many-Particle Ground State of a Non-Interacting System	96
	Summary	98
	Exercise	98