

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Optical Transitions in Semiconductors</b> .....	1
1.1	Effective-Mass Theory .....	2
1.1.1	Electron in a Periodic Potential .....	3
1.1.2	$\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{p}$ Perturbation Theory .....	7
1.1.3	Low-Dimensional Structures .....	13
1.2	Electron–Light Interaction .....	17
1.2.1	Transition Matrix Elements .....	18
1.2.2	The Optical Density of States .....	20
1.2.3	Examples .....	23
1.3	Excitons .....	29
1.3.1	The Semiconductor Bloch Equations .....	31
1.3.2	The Elliott Formula .....	35
1.3.3	Examples .....	39
1.4	Summary and Conclusions .....	44
<b>2</b>	<b>Numerical Calculation</b> .....	47
2.1	Preliminaries .....	48
2.1.1	Formulation of the Problem .....	49
2.1.2	Overview .....	54
2.2	Approximation in Space .....	60
2.2.1	Orthonormal Base Functions .....	61
2.2.2	Non-Orthonormal Base Functions .....	69
2.2.3	Finite Differences .....	76
2.3	Solution of the Initial-Value Problem .....	83
2.3.1	The Time-Propagation Scheme .....	84
2.3.2	Two Examples .....	89
2.3.3	Absorbing Boundary Conditions .....	93
2.4	Summary and Conclusions .....	99
<b>3</b>	<b>Fano Resonances</b> .....	101
3.1	The Fano Model .....	102
3.1.1	One Resonance and One Continuum .....	103
3.1.2	The General Case .....	107
3.2	Fano Resonances as a General Feature .....	114
3.2.1	The Channel Picture .....	114

3.2.2	The Subband Picture .....	119
3.3	Examples .....	122
3.3.1	Overview .....	122
3.3.2	Bulk Semiconductor in a Magnetic Field .....	126
3.3.3	Quantum Well .....	136
3.4	Summary and Conclusions .....	142
<b>4</b>	<b>Zener Breakdown in Superlattices</b> .....	<b>145</b>
4.1	Bloch Electron in One Dimension .....	149
4.1.1	General Properties .....	150
4.1.2	Tightly Bound and Nearly Free Electrons .....	151
4.1.3	Two Samples .....	154
4.2	Bloch Electron in an Electric Field .....	158
4.2.1	Discrete Model and Tight-Binding Approximation ...	158
4.2.2	Kane Functions .....	162
4.2.3	Breakdown of Wannier–Stark Ladders .....	169
4.3	The Optical Spectrum .....	172
4.3.1	Optical Density of States .....	173
4.3.2	Optical Absorption .....	181
4.3.3	Optical Absorption in a Perpendicular Magnetic Field	188
4.4	The Tunneling Rate .....	191
4.4.1	Semiclassical Approach .....	192
4.4.2	Perturbation Theory .....	196
4.4.3	Discussion .....	203
4.5	Summary and Conclusions .....	206
<b>A</b>	<b>Mathematical Supplement</b> .....	<b>209</b>
A.1	Basic Definitions and Relations .....	209
A.2	Special Functions of Mathematical Physics .....	215
A.3	Miscellaneous Relations .....	217
<b>B</b>	<b>Physical Supplement</b> .....	<b>223</b>
B.1	Physical Constants and Material Parameters .....	223
B.2	Dimensionless Quantities .....	225
B.3	Crystal Symmetry .....	227
<b>C</b>	<b>Essentials of Quantum Mechanics</b> .....	<b>231</b>
C.1	The Quantum-Mechanical Eigenvalue Problem .....	231
C.1.1	The Spectrum of Schrödinger Operators .....	231
C.1.2	Selected Eigenvalue Problems .....	234
C.2	Angular Momentum in Quantum Mechanics .....	244
C.2.1	The Eigenvalue Problem .....	245
C.2.2	Orthogonal Transformations .....	247
C.2.3	Addition of Angular Momenta .....	248
C.2.4	Time Reversal .....	249

C.3	Perturbation Theory .....	250
C.3.1	Degenerate Time-Independent Perturbation Theory ...	250
C.3.2	Time-Dependent Perturbation Theory .....	251
<b>D</b>	<b>Computer Programs</b> .....	255
D.1	Cartesian Coordinates .....	255
D.2	Polar Coordinates .....	260
D.3	Time-Reversal Symmetry .....	264
D.4	Absorbing Boundary Conditions .....	265
D.5	Cylindrical Coordinates .....	268
	<b>References</b> .....	273
	<b>Index</b> .....	289