

**COURSE:** ECE730 Topic 29

**COURSE TITLE:** **Computational Nanoelectronics**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Prof. Youngki Yoon

Office: QNC 5623

Office Hours: after class; or by appointment (via email)

Email: [youngki.yoon@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:youngki.yoon@uwaterloo.ca)

**LECTURE HOURS:** TBD

**DESCRIPTION:**

The purpose of this course is to convey a new viewpoint to understand the current flow in nanoscale devices. Great success of nanotechnology has brought numerous opportunities in nanoelectronics, but the properties of nanosystems cannot be well described by a classical way where empirical fitting parameters have been widely adopted. This course provides the conceptual framework to explore nanoscale materials and devices based on quantum mechanics. Through hands-on coding assignments, students can grasp physical insights into confined systems and carrier transport in novel semiconductor devices.

**EXPECTED BACKGROUND:** Basic matrix algebra

**COURSE/TEACHING OBJECTIVES:**

This course will help students with no or limited background in computational nanoelectronics

- ≡ acquire the basic concepts of quantum mechanics within the relevant topics of nanoscale devices,
- ≡ obtain in-depth understanding of nanomaterials and nanoscale devices,
- ≡ acquire the knowledge and skill in the field of atomistic quantum simulation, and
- ≡ develop hands-on coding experience for electronic band structure and device simulation.

**SYLLABUS:**

01. **Introduction** (1 week)

Energy level diagram; Electron/Hole conduction; Origin of current flow; Quantum of conductance

02. **Schrödinger equation** (1 week)

Hydrogen atom; Finite difference method; Boundary conditions

03. **Self-consistent electrostatics** (1 week)

Self-consistent field; Multi-electron picture

04. **Basis functions** (1 week)

Basis functions as a computational tool; Basis functions as a conceptual tool; Equilibrium density matrix

05. **Band structure of semiconductors** (1 week)

Chain of atoms; Brillouin zone; Reciprocal lattice; Band structure of common semiconductors

06. **Subbands of nanomaterials** (1 week)

Quantum wells, wires and dots; Graphene and carbon nanotubes; Density of states; Minimum resistance of a wire

07. **Nanoscale MOS Capacitance** (1.5 weeks)

Model Hamiltonian; Electron density; Quantum capacitance

08. **Open systems** (1.5 weeks)

Contacts; Level broadening; Local density of states

09. **Carrier transport** (2 weeks)

Non-equilibrium density matrix; Transmission; Coherent/Incoherent transport

10. **Project Presentation** (1 week)

**CODING ASSIGNMENT:**

Assignment will be given for the topics covered in the class. Matlab (or equivalent software package) will be used. (No prior programming experience is required.) Examples are as follows:

- ≡ Current through a simple system with constant density of states
- ≡ Charge in a nanosystem with self-consistent field
- ≡ Eigenvalues under different boundary conditions
- ≡ Band structure of confined systems such as carbon nanotubes and graphene
- ≡ Transmission of a nanoscale device

**TEXTBOOK:**

There is no required textbook.

**GENERAL REFERENCES:**

- ≡ Quantum Transport: Atom to Transistor, Supriyo Datta, Cambridge University Press (2013).
- ≡ Lessons from Nanoelectronics: A New Perspective on Transport, Supriyo Datta, World Scientific Publishing Company (2012).

**MARKING SCHEME:**

- ≡ Assignment: 30%
- ≡ Term Project: 20%
- ≡ Final Exam: 50%