

## 9. Appendix D - Nomenclature

The following sections list the symbols, definitions, and units of the fundamental variables that SimWindows solves, the specified variables that the user supplies, and the computed variables that SimWindows generates. The equations in this section do not consider different units, and there are no terms in the equations that are present simply to convert between units. For example, various equations interchange electron volts (eV) with Joules (J) without including an extra  $q$  to convert between electron volts and Joules.

### 9.1 Fundamental Variables

$f(x)$	Electrostatic Potential (V)
$h_c(x) = (E_{fn}(x) - E_c(x))/kT_n(x)$	Electron Planck potential (unitless)
$h_v(x) = (E_v(x) - E_{fp}(x))/kT_p(x)$	Hole Planck potential (unitless)
$S$	Total number of photons in a mode (unitless)
$T_L(x)$	Lattice Temperature (K)
$T_n(x)$	Electron Temperature (K)
$T_p(x)$	Hole Temperature (K)

### 9.2 Specified Variables

$A_c$	Area of a laser cavity (cm <sup>2</sup> )
$B$	Spontaneous recombination constant (cm <sup>3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
$B_{qw}$	QW spontaneous recombination constant (cm <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )
$E_D, E_A$	Donor and acceptor energy level relative to nearest band (eV)
$E_g$	Band Gap (eV)
$g_D, g_A$	Donor and acceptor degeneracy factor (unitless)
$L$	Total length of the device (cm)
$L_c$	Laser cavity length (cm)
$L_{qw}$	Length of the quantum well (cm)
$m_n^*, m_p^*$	Electron and hole density of states mass (kg)
$m_{cn}^*, m_{cp}^*$	Electron and hole conductivity mass (kg)
$n_{real}$	Real part of the refractive index (unitless)
$N_D, N_A$	Total donor and acceptor concentrations (cm <sup>-3</sup> )
$r_d$	Device radius (cm)
$r_e$	Environment radius (cm)

$R_l, R_r$	Reflectivities of left and right mirrors (unitless)
$T_{env}$	Environment temperature (K)
$T_l, T_r$	Temperature of left and right surfaces (K)
$V_l, V_r$	Bias of left and right contacts (V)
$x$	Position (cm)
$a$	Absorption coefficient ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$a_s$	Laser scattering loss ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$b$	Fraction of spontaneous photons emitted into lasing mode (unitless)
$\epsilon$	Dielectric permitivity ( $\text{F cm}^{-1}$ )
$k$	Thermal conductivity ( $\text{J s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ )
$k_l, k_r$	Thermal conductivities of the left and right surfaces ( $\text{J s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1}$ )
$m_n, m_p$	Electron and hole mobilities ( $\text{cm}^2 \text{V}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ )
$u_n, u_n$	Power dependence of the electron and hole momentum relaxation times (unitless)
$u_{opt}$	External optical generation frequency ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )
$t_n, t_n$	Electron and hole shr recombination lifetime (s)
$t_{wn}, t_{wn}$	Electron and hole energy relaxation lifetime (s)
$c$	Electron affinity (eV)

### 9.3 Computed Variables

$A_{n,p}^*$	Electron and hole Richardson constants ( $\text{A cm}^{-2} \text{K}^{-2}$ )
$\mathbf{D}$	Electrostatic Displacement ( $\text{C cm}^{-2}$ )
$\mathcal{E}$	Electrostatic field ( $\text{V cm}^{-1}$ )
$\mathcal{E}_{stim}$	Normalized stimulated electromagnetic field ( $\text{cm}^{-3/2}$ )
$E_c, E_v$	Conduction and valence band edges (eV)
$E_{c,top}, E_{v,top}$	Conduction and valence band energies of the top of a QW (eV)
$E_{fn}, E_{fp}$	Electron and hole quasi-fermi levels (eV)
$E_{gqw}$	Quantum well band gap (bulk band gap plus electron and hole quantized energy levels) (eV)
$E_j^+, E_j^-$	Forward and reverse propagating electric fields (unitless)
$E_{n,stim}, E_{p,stim}$	Electron and hole stimulated emission energies (eV)
$E_{qwn}, E_{qwp}$	Electron and hole QW quantized energy level (eV)
$g$	Local gain ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$G_{opt}$	Total external optical generation rate ( $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ )
$G_{u,opt}$	External optical generation rate at a specific frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{J}_n, \mathbf{J}_p$	Electron and hole current density ( $\text{A cm}^{-2}$ )
$\mathbf{J}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{therm}, \mathbf{J}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{therm}$	Electron and hole current due to thermionic emission traveling from left to right (- to +) and right to left (+ to -) ( $\text{A cm}^{-2}$ )
$\mathbf{J}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{tun}, \mathbf{J}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{tun}$	Electron and hole current due to tunneling traveling from left to right (- to +) and right to left (+ to -) ( $\text{A cm}^{-2}$ )

$k_o$	Free space wave vector ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$m_{qwn}^*, m_{qwp}^*$	Electron and hole DOS masses in a quantum well (kg)
$m_{bulk_n}, m_{bulk_p}^*$	Electron and hole DOS masses in bulk material (kg)
$n, p$	Total electron and hole concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$n_b, p_b$	QW bound electron and hole concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$n_f, p_f$	QW free electron and hole concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$n_i$	Bulk intrinsic carrier concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$n_{i,2d}$	QW intrinsic carrier concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$n_j$	Complex refractive index of region j (unitless)
$n_{2d}, p_{2d}$	Total QW electron and hole concentration ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )
$N_c, N_v$	Effective conduction and valence bands density of states ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$N_{cqw}, N_{vqw}$	Effective quantum well conduction and valence bands density of states ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )
$N_D^+, N_A^-$	Ionized donors and acceptor concentrations ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
$\langle S_j \rangle$	Total Poynting vector for a propagating electromagnetic field ( $\text{W cm}^{-2}$ )
$\langle S_j^+ \rangle, \langle S_j^- \rangle$	Time averaged Poynting vectors for forward and reverse propagating electromagnetic fields ( $\text{W cm}^{-2}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_n^{tot}, \mathbf{S}_p^{tot}$	Electron and hole total energy flow ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_{n,p}^{therm}$	Electron and hole total energy flow due to thermionic emission ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{therm}, \mathbf{S}_{n,p \rightarrow -}^{therm}$	Electron and hole kinetic energy flow due to thermionic emission traveling from left to right (- to +) and right to left (+ to -) ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_{n,p}^{tun}$	Electron and hole total energy flow due to tunneling ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_{n,p \rightarrow +}^{tun}, \mathbf{S}_{n,p \rightarrow -}^{tun}$	Electron and hole kinetic energy flow due to tunneling traveling from left to right (- to +) and right to left (+ to -) ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{S}_{lat}$	Lattice energy flow ( $\text{J cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$U_{c-,v-}, U_{c+,v+}$	Conduction and valence barrier heights seen from the left (-) and the right (+) (eV)
$U_{tot}$	Total carrier recombination rate ( $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$U_{stim}, U_{b-b}, U_{shr}$	Stimulated, Band to band, and Shockley-Hall-Reed recombination ( $\text{cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$\tilde{U}_{stim}, \tilde{U}_{b-b}$	Total stimulated and spontaneous recombination rates in the laser cavity ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )
$u_n, u_p$	Total electron and hole energy density ( $\text{J cm}^{-3}$ )
$u_{n,2d}, u_{p,2d}$	Total QW electron and hole energy density ( $\text{J cm}^{-2}$ )
$V_{qwn}, V_{qwp}$	Conduction and Valence QW heights (eV)
$v_{stim}$	Velocity of stimulated emission photons ( $\text{cm s}^{-1}$ )
$W_n^{tot}, W_p^{tot}$	Total electron and hole energy loss rate ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$W_{n,shr}^{tot}, W_{p,shr}^{tot}$	Total electron and hole SHR energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )

$W_{n,b-b}^{tot}, W_{p,b-b}^{tot}$	Total electron and hole spontaneous energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$W_{n,stim}^{tot}, W_{p,stim}^{tot}$	Total electron and hole stimulated energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$W_{n,opt}^{tot}, W_{p,opt}^{tot}$	Total electron and hole external optical energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$W_{n,relax}^{tot}, W_{p,relax}^{tot}$	Total electron and hole relaxation energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$W_{lat}^{tot}$	Total lattice energy loss ( $\text{J cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
$Z_j$	relative complex impedance in region j (unitless).
$\mathbf{a}_m$	Distributed mirror loss ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{f}_0$	Built-in Potential (V)
$\mathbf{h}_{c0}, \mathbf{h}_{v0}$	Charge neutral values of the electron and hole Planck potentials (eV)
$\mathbf{k}$	Effective environment thermal conductivity ( $\text{J cm}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{u}_{stim}$	Stimulated emission frequency ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )
$\mathbf{r}$	Total Charge ( $\text{C cm}^{-3}$ )
$\mathbf{y}_n, \mathbf{y}_p$	Electron and hole QW wavefunction ( $\text{cm}^{-1/2}$ )
$t_{ph}$	Photon lifetime (s)

## 9.4 Constants

$q$ - Electronic charge ( $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ )
$k$ - Boltzmann Constant ( $8.62 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV K}^{-1}$ )
$h$ - Planck Constant ( $6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$ )
$\hbar$ - Planck Constant/2 $\mathbf{p}$ ( $1.0546 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$ )
$i$ - $(-1)^{0.5}$
$\mathbf{p}$ - Pi ( $3.141592654$ )