

EEE 333 - Optical Communication Devices

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# LED structures MCQ Questions

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## MCQ Questions

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**1. Q** Which of the following is a drawback of LEDs compared to injection lasers?

- (a) Higher optical power coupled into a fiber
- (b) Higher modulation bandwidth
- (c) Harmonic distortion
- (d) Simpler fabrication process

**1. A** (c)

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**2. Q** LEDs typically have lower ..... compared to injection lasers.

- (a) Optical power coupled into a fiber
- (b) Fabrication cost
- (c) Modulation bandwidth
- (d) all of the above

**2. A** (d)

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**3. Q** What is the purpose of using a double-heterojunction (DH) structure in an LED?

- (a) To enhance the light emission efficiency

**3. A** (a)

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**4. Q** Which layers are sandwiched around the p-type GaAs layer in the double-heterojunction LED?

- (a) p-type AlGaAs and p-type GaAs layers

4. A (a)

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5. Q When a forward bias is applied to the double-heterojunction LED, where do the injected electrons from the n-type layer go?

- (a) They are injected into the p-type GaAs layer

5. A (a)

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6. Q What happens to the minority carriers (electrons) once they are injected into the p-type GaAs layer?

- (a) They recombine with majority carriers (holes)

6. A (a)

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7. Q What is the energy of the produced photons in the double-heterojunction LED?

- (a) Equal to the bandgap energy of the p-type GaAs layer

7. A (a)

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8. Q Why are the injected electrons inhibited from diffusing into the p-type AlGaAs layer?

- (a) Due to the presence of a potential barrier at the p-p heterojunction

8. A (a)

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9. Q electroluminescence only occurs in .....

- (a) GaAs junction layer

9. A (a)

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**10. Q** electroluminescence only occurs in the GaAs junction layer, providing .....

- ☐ a) good internal quantum efficiency
- ☐ b) high-radiance emission
- ☐ b) ☐ a) and ☐ a)

**10. A** (a)

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**11. Q** What is the reason for light being emitted from the device without reabsorption?

- ☐ a) The bandgap energy in the AlGaAs layer is **larger** than that in GaAs

**11. A** (a)

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**12. Q** Why is the DH structure preferred for applications in optical fiber communications?

- ☐ a) It provides the most efficient incoherent light sources

**12. A** (a)

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**13. Q** What type of emission does forward current flow through the junction in a Planar LED produce?

- ☐ a) Lambertian spontaneous emission

**13. A** (a)

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**14. Q** Why is the radiance of a Planar LED low?

- ☐ a) Due to total internal reflection, only a limited amount of light escapes the structure

**14. A** (a)

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**15. Q** Which surfaces of the Planar LED emit light?

- (a) All surfaces
- (b) Only the top surface
- (c) Only the side surfaces

**15. A** (a)

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**16. Q** What is the structure of the Dome LED?

- (a) A hemisphere of n-type GaAs surrounding a diffused p-type region
- (b) A flat plane of p-type GaAs with a diffused n-type region
- (c) A cylindrical shape with alternating n-type and p-type regions

**16. A** (a)

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**17. Q** Why is the diameter of the dome chosen in the Dome LED?

- (a) To maximize the amount of internal emission reaching the surface within the critical angle
- (b) To minimize the amount of internal emission reaching the surface within the critical angle

**17. A** (a)

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**18. Q** How does the external power efficiency of the Dome LED compare to the planar LED?

- (a)

**18. A** (a)

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**19. Q** How does the external power efficiency of the Dome LED compare to the planar LED?

- (a) The Dome LED has a higher external power efficiency than the planar LED
- (b) The Dome LED has a lower external power efficiency than the planar LED
- (c)

**19. A** (a)

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**20. Q** What is the impact of the dome's geometry on the radiance of the Dome LED?

- (a) The radiance is reduced due to the larger size of the dome compared to the active recom
- (b) The radiance is increased due to the larger size of the dome compared to the active recor
- (c) The radiance remains unaffected by the dome's geometry.

**20. A** (a)

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**21. Q** Why does the larger size of the dome reduce the radiance of the Dome LED?

- (a) To increases the internal reflections within the LED structure.

**21. A** (a)

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**22. Q** What is the purpose of having a larger effective emission area in the Dome LED?

- (a) To reduce the radiance of the LED

22. A (a)

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23. Q What is the key approach to achieving high radiance in Surface emitter LEDs?

- (a) Restricting the emission to a small active region within the device

23. A (a)

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24. Q What technique was pioneered by Burrus and Dawson to improve radiance in homostructure Surface emitter LEDs?

- (a) Using an etched well in a GaAs substrate

24. A (a)

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25. Q What purpose does the etched well in a GaAs substrate serve in Surface emitter LEDs?

- (a) Preventing heavy absorption of emitted radiation  
(b) Accommodate the fiber.

25. A (a)

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26. Q What advantages are gained by employing DH structures in Surface emitter LEDs?

- (a) Both (b) and (c)  
(b) Reduced absorption of emitted radiation  
(c) Increased efficiency from electrical and optical confinement

26. A (a)

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27. Q Why is the internal absorption in DH structures very low?

- (a) Due to the larger bandgap-confining layers

27. A (a)

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28. Q What contributes to good forward radiance in DH-based Surface emitter LEDs?

- (a) High reflection coefficient at the back crystal face

28. A (a)

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29. Q How can the emission from the active layer in Surface emitter LEDs be described?

- (a) Isotropic (same value in all directions)

29. A (a)

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30. Q What causes the external emission distribution of Surface emitter LEDs to appear Lambertian with a beam width of  $120^\circ$ ?

- (a) Refraction from a high to a low refractive index at the GaAs–fiber interface

30. A (a)



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**31. Q** How does the addition of epoxy resin in the etched well affect the external power efficiency of the device?

- (a) Reduce the refractive index mismatch and increases the external power efficiency

**31. A** (a)

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**32. Q** What is the purpose of using transparent guiding layers in Edge emitter LEDs?

- (a) To reduce self-absorption in the active layer

**32. A** (a)

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**33. Q** What is the advantage of having a very thin active layer in Edge emitter LEDs?

- (a) It allows the light produced in the active layer to spread into the transparent guiding layer

**33. A** (a)

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**34. Q** Why is most of the propagating light in Edge emitter LEDs emitted at one end face only?

- (a) Due to a reflector on the other end face

**34. A** (a)

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**35. Q** How does the effective radiance at the emitting end face of Edge emitter LEDs compare to surface emitters?

- Ⓐ It can be very high, giving increased coupling efficiency into small-NA fiber

**35. A** (a)

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**36. Q** Why do surface emitters generally radiate more power into air compared to edge emitters?

- Ⓐ The emitted light in surface emitters is less affected by reabsorption and interfacial recombination.

**36. A** (a)

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**37. Q** In terms of coupling optical power into low numerical aperture (NA) fibers, which type of LED performs better?

- Ⓐ Edge emitters

**37. A** (a)

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**38. Q** For large numerical aperture (NA) fibers, which type of LED performs better in terms of power coupling?

- Ⓐ Surface emitters

**38. A** (a)

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**39. Q** What is the relationship between the optical bandwidth and the electrical bandwidth ?

- Ⓐ The optical bandwidth is significantly greater than the electrical bandwidth.

**39. A** (a)

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**40. Q** What is the relationship between the optical bandwidth and the electrical bandwidth, assuming a Gaussian system response?

- Ⓐ The optical bandwidth is a factor of  $\sqrt{2}$  greater than the electrical bandwidth.

**40. A** (a)

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**41. Q** What is one of the mechanisms that generally determines the modulation bandwidth of LEDs?

- Ⓐ The doping level in the active layer.  
Ⓑ The size of the LED package.  
Ⓒ The forward voltage applied to the LED.

**41. A** (a)

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**42. Q** How does the reduction in radiative lifetime due to injected carriers affect the modulation bandwidth of LEDs?

- Ⓐ It increases the modulation bandwidth.
- Ⓑ It decreases the modulation bandwidth.
- Ⓒ It has no effect on the modulation bandwidth.

**42. A** (a)

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**43. Q** What is one of the mechanisms that generally determines the modulation bandwidth of LEDs?

- Ⓐ The doping level in the active layer.
- Ⓑ The reduction in radiative lifetime due to the injected carriers
- Ⓒ The parasitic capacitance of the device.
- Ⓓ All of the above

**43. A** (d)