

THEORY OF THE PROPERTIES  
OF RESONANT-TUNNELING NANOSTRUCTURES  
AS ACTIVE ELEMENTS OF QUANTUM  
CASCADE LASERS AND DETECTORS

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S u m m a r y

A theory describing the spectral parameters of quasi-stationary states and the dynamic conductivity in an open three-barrier resonant-tunneling system (RTS) as an active element of a quantum cascade laser or a quantum cascade detector has been developed in the framework of the rectangular potential model and the effective electron mass approximation. It is shown that the optimal functioning of a three-barrier RTS can be obtained by properly choosing its geometric configuration, namely, by arranging the inner barrier closer to the input one in a position determined by the electromagnetic field energy.