

## Chapter 3 – Dual Nature Of Radiation And Matter

---

Question 11.1:

Find the

(a) maximum frequency, and

(b) minimum wavelength of X-rays produced by 30 kV electrons.

Answer:

Potential of the electrons,  $V = 30 \text{ kV} = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ V}$

Hence, energy of the electrons,  $E = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ eV}$

Where,

$e = \text{Charge on an electron} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

(a) Maximum frequency produced by the X-rays =  $\nu$

The energy of the electrons is given by the relation:

$$E = h\nu$$

Where,

$h = \text{Planck's constant} = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

$$\therefore \nu = \frac{E}{h}$$

$$= \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 3 \times 10^4}{6.626 \times 10^{-34}} = 7.24 \times 10^{18} \text{ Hz}$$

Hence, the maximum frequency of X-rays produced is  $7.24 \times 10^{18} \text{ Hz}$ .

(b) The minimum wavelength produced by the X-rays is given as:

$$\lambda = \frac{c}{\nu}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 10^8}{7.24 \times 10^{18}} = 4.14 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m} = 0.0414 \text{ nm}$$

Hence, the minimum wavelength of X-rays produced is 0.0414 nm.

---

Question 11.2:

The work function of caesium metal is 2.14 eV. When light of frequency  $6 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$  is incident on the metal surface, photoemission of electrons occurs. What is the

(a) maximum kinetic energy of the emitted electrons,

(b) Stopping potential, and

(c) maximum speed of the emitted photoelectrons?

Answer:

Work function of caesium metal,  $\phi_0 = 2.14 \text{ eV}$

Frequency of light,  $\nu = 6.0 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$

(a) The maximum kinetic energy is given by the photoelectric effect as:

$$K = h\nu - \phi_0$$

Where,

$h$  = Planck's constant =  $6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

$$\therefore K = \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 6 \times 10^{14}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} - 2.14$$

$$= 2.485 - 2.140 = 0.345 \text{ eV}$$

Hence, the maximum kinetic energy of the emitted electrons is 0.345 eV.

(b) For stopping potential  $V_0$ , we can write the equation for kinetic energy as:

$$K = eV_0$$

$$\therefore V_0 = \frac{K}{e}$$

$$= \frac{0.345 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 0.345 \text{ V}$$

Hence, the stopping potential of the material is 0.345 V.

(c) Maximum speed of the emitted photoelectrons =  $v$

Hence, the relation for kinetic energy can be written as:

$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

Where,

$m$  = Mass of an electron =  $9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

$$v^2 = \frac{2K}{m}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times 0.345 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{9.1 \times 10^{-31}} = 0.1104 \times 10^{12}$$

$$\therefore v = 3.323 \times 10^5 \text{ m/s} = 332.3 \text{ km/s}$$

Hence, the maximum speed of the emitted photoelectrons is 332.3 km/s.

---

Question 11.3:

The photoelectric cut-off voltage in a certain experiment is 1.5 V. What is the maximum kinetic energy of photoelectrons emitted?

Answer:

Photoelectric cut-off voltage,  $V_0 = 1.5 \text{ V}$

The maximum kinetic energy of the emitted photoelectrons is given as:

$$K_e = eV_0$$

Where,

$e$  = Charge on an electron =  $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore K_e &= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 1.5 \\ &= 2.4 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the maximum kinetic energy of the photoelectrons emitted in the given experiment is  $2.4 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$ .

---

Question 11.4:

Monochromatic light of wavelength 632.8 nm is produced by a helium-neon laser. The power emitted is 9.42 mW.

- Find the energy and momentum of each photon in the light beam,
- How many photons per second, on the average, arrive at a target irradiated by this beam? (Assume the beam to have uniform cross-section which is less than the target area), and
- How fast does a hydrogen atom have to travel in order to have the same momentum as that of the photon?

Answer:

Wavelength of the monochromatic light,  $\lambda = 632.8 \text{ nm} = 632.8 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

Power emitted by the laser,  $P = 9.42 \text{ mW} = 9.42 \times 10^{-3} \text{ W}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s

Mass of a hydrogen atom,  $m = 1.66 \times 10^{-27}$  kg

(a) The energy of each photon is given as:

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$
$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{632.8 \times 10^{-9}} = 3.141 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

The momentum of each photon is given as:

$$P = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$
$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34}}{632.8} = 1.047 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$$

(b) Number of photons arriving per second, at a target irradiated by the beam =  $n$

Assume that the beam has a uniform cross-section that is less than the target area.

Hence, the equation for power can be written as:

$$P = nE$$

$$\therefore n = \frac{P}{E}$$
$$= \frac{9.42 \times 10^{-3}}{3.141 \times 10^{-19}} \approx 3 \times 10^{16} \text{ photon/s}$$

(c) Momentum of the hydrogen atom is the same as the momentum of the photon,

$$p = 1.047 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$$

Momentum is given as:

$$p = mv$$

Where,

$v$  = Speed of the hydrogen atom

$$\therefore v = \frac{p}{m}$$
$$= \frac{1.047 \times 10^{-27}}{1.66 \times 10^{-27}} = 0.621 \text{ m/s}$$

---

Question 11.5:

The energy flux of sunlight reaching the surface of the earth is  $1.388 \times 10^3 \text{ W/m}^2$ . How many photons (nearly) per square metre are incident on the Earth per second? Assume that the photons in the sunlight have an average wavelength of 550 nm.

Answer:

Energy flux of sunlight reaching the surface of earth,  $\Phi = 1.388 \times 10^3 \text{ W/m}^2$

Hence, power of sunlight per square metre,  $P = 1.388 \times 10^3 \text{ W}$

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Average wavelength of photons present in sunlight,  $\lambda = 550 \text{ nm}$

$$= 550 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Number of photons per square metre incident on earth per second =  $n$

Hence, the equation for power can be written as:

$$P = nE$$

$$\therefore n = \frac{P}{E} = \frac{P\lambda}{hc}$$

$$= \frac{1.388 \times 10^3 \times 550 \times 10^{-9}}{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8} = 3.84 \times 10^{21} \text{ photons/m}^2/\text{s}$$

Therefore, every second,  $3.84 \times 10^{21}$  photons are incident per square metre on earth.

---

Question 11.6:

In an experiment on photoelectric effect, the slope of the cut-off voltage versus frequency of incident light is found to be  $4.12 \times 10^{-15} \text{ V s}$ . Calculate the value of Planck's constant.

Answer:

The slope of the cut-off voltage ( $V$ ) versus frequency ( $\nu$ ) of an incident light is given as:

$$\frac{V}{\nu} = 4.12 \times 10^{-15} \text{ Vs}$$

$V$  is related to frequency by the equation:

$$h\nu = eV$$

Where,

$e$  = Charge on an electron =  $1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C

$h$  = Planck's constant

$$\therefore h = e \times \frac{V}{\nu}$$

$$= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 4.12 \times 10^{15} = 6.592 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$$

Therefore, the value of Planck's constant is  $6.592 \times 10^{-34}$  Js.

---

Question 11.7:

A 100 W sodium lamp radiates energy uniformly in all directions. The lamp is located at the centre of a large sphere that absorbs all the sodium light which is incident on it. The wavelength of the sodium light is 589 nm. (a) What is the energy per photon associated with the sodium light? (b) At what rate are the photons delivered to the sphere?

Answer:

Power of the sodium lamp,  $P = 100$  W

Wavelength of the emitted sodium light,  $\lambda = 589 \text{ nm} = 589 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

(a) The energy per photon associated with the sodium light is given as:

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$
$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{589 \times 10^{-9}} = 3.37 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{3.37 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 2.11 \text{ eV}$$

(b) Number of photons delivered to the sphere =  $n$

The equation for power can be written as:

$$P = nE$$

$$\therefore n = \frac{P}{E}$$

$$= \frac{100}{3.37 \times 10^{-19}} = 2.96 \times 10^{20} \text{ photons/s}$$

Therefore, every second,  $2.96 \times 10^{20}$  photons are delivered to the sphere.

Question 11.8:

The threshold frequency for a certain metal is  $3.3 \times 10^{14}$  Hz. If light of frequency  $8.2 \times 10^{14}$  Hz is incident on the metal, predict the cutoff voltage for the photoelectric emission.

Answer:

Threshold frequency of the metal,  $\nu_0 = 3.3 \times 10^{14}$  Hz

Frequency of light incident on the metal,  $\nu = 8.2 \times 10^{14}$  Hz

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Cut-off voltage for the photoelectric emission from the metal =  $V_0$

The equation for the cut-off energy is given as:

$$eV_0 = h(\nu - \nu_0)$$

$$V_0 = \frac{h(\nu - \nu_0)}{e}$$

$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times (8.2 \times 10^{14} - 3.3 \times 10^{14})}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 2.0292 \text{ V}$$

Therefore, the cut-off voltage for the photoelectric emission is 2.0292 V.

---

Question 11.9:

The work function for a certain metal is 4.2 eV. Will this metal give photoelectric emission for incident radiation of wavelength 330 nm?

Answer:

No

Work function of the metal,  $\phi_0 = 4.2$  eV

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Wavelength of the incident radiation,  $\lambda = 330 \text{ nm} = 330 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

The energy of the incident photon is given as:

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$
$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{330 \times 10^{-9}} = 6.0 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$
$$= \frac{6.0 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 3.76 \text{ eV}$$

It can be observed that the energy of the incident radiation is less than the work function of the metal. Hence, no photoelectric emission will take place.

---

Question 11.10:

Light of frequency  $7.21 \times 10^{14}$  Hz is incident on a metal surface. Electrons with a maximum speed of  $6.0 \times 10^5$  m/s are ejected from the surface. What is the threshold frequency for photoemission of electrons?

Answer:

Frequency of the incident photon,  $\nu = 488 \text{ nm} = 488 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

Maximum speed of the electrons,  $v = 6.0 \times 10^5 \text{ m/s}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Mass of an electron,  $m = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

For threshold frequency  $\nu_0$ , the relation for kinetic energy is written as:

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = h(\nu - \nu_0)$$
$$\nu_0 = \nu - \frac{mv^2}{2h}$$
$$= 7.21 \times 10^{14} - \frac{(9.1 \times 10^{-31}) \times (6 \times 10^5)^2}{2 \times (6.626 \times 10^{-34})}$$
$$= 7.21 \times 10^{14} - 2.472 \times 10^{14}$$
$$= 4.738 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

Therefore, the threshold frequency for the photoemission of electrons is  $4.738 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$ .

---

Question 11.11:

Light of wavelength 488 nm is produced by an argon laser which is used in the photoelectric effect. When light from this spectral line is incident on the emitter, the



stopping (cut-off) potential of photoelectrons is 0.38 V. Find the work function of the material from which the emitter is made.

Answer:

Wavelength of light produced by the argon laser,  $\lambda = 488 \text{ nm}$

$$= 488 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Stopping potential of the photoelectrons,  $V_0 = 0.38 \text{ V}$

$$1\text{eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$\therefore V_0 = \frac{0.38}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} \text{ eV}$$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

From Einstein's photoelectric effect, we have the relation involving the work function  $\phi_0$  of the material of the emitter as:

$$eV_0 = \frac{hc}{\lambda} - \phi_0$$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{hc}{\lambda} - eV_0$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 488 \times 10^{-9}} - \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 0.38}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$= 2.54 - 0.38 = 2.16 \text{ eV}$$

Therefore, the material with which the emitter is made has the work function of 2.16 eV.

---

Question 11.12:

Calculate the

(a) momentum, and

(b) de Broglie wavelength of the electrons accelerated through a potential difference of 56 V.

Answer:

Potential difference,  $V = 56 \text{ V}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Mass of an electron,  $m = 9.1 \times 10^{-31}$  kg

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C

(a) At equilibrium, the kinetic energy of each electron is equal to the accelerating potential, i.e., we can write the relation for velocity ( $v$ ) of each electron as:

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = eV$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2eV}{m}$$

$$\therefore v = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 56}{9.1 \times 10^{-31}}}$$

$$= \sqrt{19.69 \times 10^{12}} = 4.44 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$$

The momentum of each accelerated electron is given as:

$$p = mv$$

$$= 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \times 4.44 \times 10^6$$

$$= 4.04 \times 10^{-24} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$$

Therefore, the momentum of each electron is  $4.04 \times 10^{-24} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$ .

(b) De Broglie wavelength of an electron accelerating through a potential  $V$ , is given by the relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{12.27}{\sqrt{V}} \text{ \AA}$$

$$= \frac{12.27}{\sqrt{56}} \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

$$= 0.1639 \text{ nm}$$

Therefore, the de Broglie wavelength of each electron is 0.1639 nm.

---

Question 11.13:

What is the

(a) momentum,

(b) speed, and

(c) de Broglie wavelength of an electron with kinetic energy of 120 eV.

Answer:

Kinetic energy of the electron,  $E_k = 120 \text{ eV}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Mass of an electron,  $m = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

(a) For the electron, we can write the relation for kinetic energy as:

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

Where,

$v$  = Speed of the electron

$$\therefore v^2 = \sqrt{\frac{2eE_k}{m}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 120}{9.1 \times 10^{-31}}}$$

$$= \sqrt{42.198 \times 10^{12}} = 6.496 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$$

Momentum of the electron,  $p = mv$

$$= 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \times 6.496 \times 10^6$$

$$= 5.91 \times 10^{-24} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$$

Therefore, the momentum of the electron is  $5.91 \times 10^{-24} \text{ kg m s}^{-1}$ .

(b) Speed of the electron,  $v = 6.496 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$

(c) De Broglie wavelength of an electron having a momentum  $p$ , is given as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{5.91 \times 10^{-24}} = 1.116 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

$$= 0.112 \text{ nm}$$

Therefore, the de Broglie wavelength of the electron is 0.112 nm.

---

Question 11.14:

The wavelength of light from the spectral emission line of sodium is 589 nm. Find the kinetic energy at which

(a) an electron, and

(b) a neutron, would have the same de Broglie wavelength.

Answer:

Wavelength of light of a sodium line,  $\lambda = 589 \text{ nm} = 589 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

Mass of an electron,  $m_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Mass of a neutron,  $m_n = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

(a) For the kinetic energy  $K$ , of an electron accelerating with a velocity  $v$ , we have the relation:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} m_e v^2 \quad \dots (1)$$

We have the relation for de Broglie wavelength as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{m_e v}$$

$$\therefore v^2 = \frac{h^2}{\lambda^2 m_e^2} \quad \dots (2)$$

Substituting equation (2) in equation (1), we get the relation:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_e h^2}{\lambda^2 m_e^2} = \frac{h^2}{2 \lambda^2 m_e} \quad \dots (3)$$

$$= \frac{(6.6 \times 10^{-34})^2}{2 \times (589 \times 10^{-9})^2 \times 9.1 \times 10^{-31}}$$

$$\approx 6.9 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{6.9 \times 10^{-25}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 4.31 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV} = 4.31 \mu\text{eV}$$

Hence, the kinetic energy of the electron is  $6.9 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J}$  or  $4.31 \mu\text{eV}$ .

(b) Using equation (3), we can write the relation for the kinetic energy of the neutron as:

$$\frac{h^2}{2 \lambda^2 m_n}$$

$$= \frac{(6.6 \times 10^{-34})^2}{2 \times (589 \times 10^{-9})^2 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}}$$

$$= 3.78 \times 10^{-28} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{3.78 \times 10^{-28}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 2.36 \times 10^{-9} \text{ eV} = 2.36 \text{ neV}$$

Hence, the kinetic energy of the neutron is  $3.78 \times 10^{-28} \text{ J}$  or  $2.36 \text{ neV}$ .

---

Question 11.15:

What is the de Broglie wavelength of

- (a) a bullet of mass  $0.040 \text{ kg}$  travelling at the speed of  $1.0 \text{ km/s}$ ,
- (b) a ball of mass  $0.060 \text{ kg}$  moving at a speed of  $1.0 \text{ m/s}$ , and
- (c) a dust particle of mass  $1.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ kg}$  drifting with a speed of  $2.2 \text{ m/s}$ ?

Answer:

(a) Mass of the bullet,  $m = 0.040 \text{ kg}$

Speed of the bullet,  $v = 1.0 \text{ km/s} = 1000 \text{ m/s}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

De Broglie wavelength of the bullet is given by the relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{0.040 \times 1000} = 1.65 \times 10^{-35} \text{ m}$$

(b) Mass of the ball,  $m = 0.060 \text{ kg}$

Speed of the ball,  $v = 1.0 \text{ m/s}$

De Broglie wavelength of the ball is given by the relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{0.060 \times 1} = 1.1 \times 10^{-32} \text{ m}$$

(c) Mass of the dust particle,  $m = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ kg}$

Speed of the dust particle,  $v = 2.2 \text{ m/s}$

De Broglie wavelength of the dust particle is given by the relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{2.2 \times 1 \times 10^{-9}} = 3.0 \times 10^{-25} \text{ m}$$


---

Question 11.16:

An electron and a photon each have a wavelength of 1.00 nm. Find

- (a) their momenta,
- (b) the energy of the photon, and
- (c) the kinetic energy of electron.

Answer:

Wavelength of an electron ( $\lambda_e$ ) and a photon ( $\lambda_p$ ),  $\lambda_e = \lambda_p = \lambda = 1 \text{ nm}$

$$= 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

(a) The momentum of an elementary particle is given by de Broglie relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

It is clear that momentum depends only on the wavelength of the particle. Since the wavelengths of an electron and a photon are equal, both have an equal momentum.

$$\therefore p = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34}}{1 \times 10^{-9}} = 6.63 \times 10^{-25} \text{ kg ms}^{-1}$$

(b) The energy of a photon is given by the relation:

$$E = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

Where,

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

$$\therefore E = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{1 \times 10^{-9} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$= 1243.1 \text{ eV} = 1.243 \text{ keV}$$

Therefore, the energy of the photon is 1.243 keV.

(c) The kinetic energy (K) of an electron having momentum p, is given by the relation:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \frac{p^2}{m}$$

Where,

m = Mass of the electron =  $9.1 \times 10^{-31}$  kg

p =  $6.63 \times 10^{-25}$  kg m s<sup>-1</sup>

$$\therefore K = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{(6.63 \times 10^{-25})^2}{9.1 \times 10^{-31}} = 2.415 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{2.415 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 1.51 \text{ eV}$$

Hence, the kinetic energy of the electron is 1.51 eV.

---

Question 11.17:

(a) For what kinetic energy of a neutron will the associated de Broglie wavelength be  $1.40 \times 10^{-10}$  m?

(b) Also find the de Broglie wavelength of a neutron, in thermal equilibrium with matter, having an average kinetic energy of  $(3/2) kT$  at 300 K.

Answer:

(a) De Broglie wavelength of the neutron,  $\lambda = 1.40 \times 10^{-10}$  m

Mass of a neutron,  $m_n = 1.66 \times 10^{-27}$  kg

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Kinetic energy (K) and velocity (v) are related as:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} m_n v^2 \quad \dots (1)$$

De Broglie wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) and velocity (v) are related as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{m_n v} \quad \dots (2)$$

Using equation (2) in equation (1), we get:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_n h^2}{\lambda^2 m_n^2} = \frac{h^2}{2 \lambda^2 m_n}$$

$$= \frac{(6.63 \times 10^{-34})^2}{2 \times (1.40 \times 10^{-10})^2 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}} = 6.75 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{6.75 \times 10^{-21}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 4.219 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$$

Hence, the kinetic energy of the neutron is  $6.75 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$  or  $4.219 \times 10^{-2} \text{ eV}$ .

(b) Temperature of the neutron,  $T = 300 \text{ K}$

Boltzmann constant,  $k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Average kinetic energy of the neutron:

$$K' = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300 = 6.21 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

The relation for the de Broglie wavelength is given as:

$$\lambda' = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2K'm_n}}$$

Where,

$$m_n = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

$$h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$$

$$K' = 6.75 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$\therefore \lambda' = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 6.21 \times 10^{-21} \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27}}} = 1.46 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m} = 0.146 \text{ nm}$$

Therefore, the de Broglie wavelength of the neutron is  $0.146 \text{ nm}$ .

Question 11.18:

Show that the wavelength of electromagnetic radiation is equal to the de Broglie wavelength of its quantum (photon).

Answer:

The momentum of a photon having energy ( $h\nu$ ) is given as:



$$p = \frac{h\nu}{c} = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} \quad \dots (i)$$

Where,

$\lambda$  = Wavelength of the electromagnetic radiation

$c$  = Speed of light

$h$  = Planck's constant

De Broglie wavelength of the photon is given as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$$

But  $p = mv$

$$\therefore \lambda = \frac{h}{p} \quad \dots (ii)$$

Where,

$m$  = Mass of the photon

$v$  = Velocity of the photon

Hence, it can be inferred from equations (i) and (ii) that the wavelength of the electromagnetic radiation is equal to the de Broglie wavelength of the photon.

Question 11.19:

What is the de Broglie wavelength of a nitrogen molecule in air at 300 K? Assume that the molecule is moving with the root-mean square speed of molecules at this temperature. (Atomic mass of nitrogen = 14.0076 u)

Answer:

Temperature of the nitrogen molecule,  $T = 300 \text{ K}$

Atomic mass of nitrogen = 14.0076 u

Hence, mass of the nitrogen molecule,  $m = 2 \times 14.0076 = 28.0152 \text{ u}$

But  $1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

$\therefore m = 28.0152 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Boltzmann constant,  $k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}$

We have the expression that relates mean kinetic energy  $\left(\frac{3}{2}kT\right)$  of the nitrogen molecule with the root mean square speed ( $v_{\text{rms}}$ ) as:

$$\frac{1}{2}mv_{\text{rms}}^2 = \frac{3}{2}kT$$

$$v_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\frac{3kT}{m}}$$

Hence, the de Broglie wavelength of the nitrogen molecule is given as:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{h}{mv_{\text{rms}}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3mkT}} \\ &= \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{3 \times 28.0152 \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}} \\ &= 0.028 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \\ &= 0.028 \text{ nm}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the de Broglie wavelength of the nitrogen molecule is 0.028 nm.

---

Question 11.20:

(a) Estimate the speed with which electrons emitted from a heated emitter of an evacuated tube impinge on the collector maintained at a potential difference of 500 V with respect to the emitter. Ignore the small initial speeds of the electrons. The specific charge of the electron, i.e., its  $e/m$  is given to be  $1.76 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$ .

(b) Use the same formula you employ in (a) to obtain electron speed for an collector potential of 10 MV. Do you see what is wrong? In what way is the formula to be modified?

Answer:

(a) Potential difference across the evacuated tube,  $V = 500 \text{ V}$

Specific charge of an electron,  $e/m = 1.76 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$

The speed of each emitted electron is given by the relation for kinetic energy as:

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = eV$$

$$\therefore v = \left( \frac{2eV}{m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left( 2V \times \frac{e}{m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \left( 2 \times 500 \times 1.76 \times 10^{11} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1.327 \times 10^7 \text{ m/s}$$

Therefore, the speed of each emitted electron is  $1.327 \times 10^7 \text{ m/s}$ .

(b) Potential of the anode,  $V = 10 \text{ MV} = 10 \times 10^6 \text{ V}$

The speed of each electron is given as:

$$v = \left( 2V \frac{e}{m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \left( 2 \times 10^7 \times 1.76 \times 10^{11} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= 1.88 \times 10^9 \text{ m/s}$$

This result is wrong because nothing can move faster than light. In the above formula, the expression  $(mv^2/2)$  for energy can only be used in the non-relativistic limit, i.e., for  $v \ll c$ .

For very high speed problems, relativistic equations must be considered for solving them. In the relativistic limit, the total energy is given as:

$$E = mc^2$$

Where,

$m$  = Relativistic mass

$$= m_0 \left( 1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$m_0$  = Mass of the particle at rest

Kinetic energy is given as:

$$K = mc^2 - m_0c^2$$

Question 11.21:

(a) A monoenergetic electron beam with electron speed of  $5.20 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  is subject to a magnetic field of  $1.30 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$  normal to the beam velocity. What is the radius of the circle traced by the beam, given  $e/m$  for electron equals  $1.76 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$ .

(b) Is the formula you employ in (a) valid for calculating radius of the path of a 20 MeV electron beam? If not, in what way is it modified?

[Note: Exercises 11.20(b) and 11.21(b) take you to relativistic mechanics which is beyond the scope of this book. They have been inserted here simply to emphasise the point that the formulas you use in part (a) of the exercises are not valid at very high speeds or energies. See answers at the end to know what 'very high speed or energy' means.]

Answer:

(a) Speed of an electron,  $v = 5.20 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$

Magnetic field experienced by the electron,  $B = 1.30 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$

Specific charge of an electron,  $e/m = 1.76 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$

Where,

$e$  = Charge on the electron =  $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

$m$  = Mass of the electron =  $9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

The force exerted on the electron is given as:

$$F = e|\vec{v} \times \vec{B}|$$

$$= evB \sin \theta$$

$\theta$  = Angle between the magnetic field and the beam velocity

The magnetic field is normal to the direction of beam.

$$\therefore \theta = 90^\circ$$

$$F = evB \quad \dots (1)$$

The beam traces a circular path of radius,  $r$ . It is the magnetic field, due to its bending

nature, that provides the centripetal force  $\left( F = \frac{mv^2}{r} \right)$  for the beam.

Hence, equation (1) reduces to:

$$evB = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

$$\therefore r = \frac{mv}{eB} = \frac{v}{\left( \frac{e}{m} \right) B}$$

$$= \frac{5.20 \times 10^6}{(1.76 \times 10^{11}) \times 1.30 \times 10^{-4}} = 0.227 \text{ m} = 22.7 \text{ cm}$$

Therefore, the radius of the circular path is 22.7 cm.

(b) Energy of the electron beam,  $E = 20 \text{ MeV} = 20 \times 10^6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$

The energy of the electron is given as:

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$\therefore v = \left( \frac{2E}{m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 20 \times 10^6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{9.1 \times 10^{-31}}} = 2.652 \times 10^9 \text{ m/s}$$

This result is incorrect because nothing can move faster than light. In the above formula, the expression  $(mv^2/2)$  for energy can only be used in the non-relativistic limit, i.e., for  $v \ll c$

When very high speeds are concerned, the relativistic domain comes into consideration.

In the relativistic domain, mass is given as:

$$m = m_0 \left[ 1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Where,

$m_0$  = Mass of the particle at rest

Hence, the radius of the circular path is given as:

$$r = mv / eB$$

$$= \frac{m_0 v}{eB \sqrt{\frac{c^2 - v^2}{c^2}}}$$

---

Question 11.22:

An electron gun with its collector at a potential of 100 V fires out electrons in a spherical bulb containing hydrogen gas at low pressure ( $\sim 10^{-2}$  mm of Hg). A magnetic field of  $2.83 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$  curves the path of the electrons in a circular orbit of radius 12.0 cm. (The path can be viewed because the gas ions in the path focus the beam by attracting electrons, and emitting light by electron capture; this method is known as the 'fine beam tube' method. Determine  $e/m$  from the data.

Answer:

Potential of an anode,  $V = 100 \text{ V}$

Magnetic field experienced by the electrons,  $B = 2.83 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$

Radius of the circular orbit  $r = 12.0 \text{ cm} = 12.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$

Mass of each electron =  $m$

Charge on each electron =  $e$

Velocity of each electron =  $v$

The energy of each electron is equal to its kinetic energy, i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = eV$$
$$v^2 = \frac{2eV}{m} \quad \dots (1)$$

It is the magnetic field, due to its bending nature, that provides the centripetal force

$$\left( F = \frac{mv^2}{r} \right) \text{ for the beam. Hence, we can write:}$$

Centripetal force = Magnetic force

$$\frac{mv^2}{r} = evB$$
$$eB = \frac{mv}{r}$$
$$v = \frac{eBr}{m} \quad \dots (2)$$

Putting the value of  $v$  in equation (1), we get:

$$\frac{2eV}{m} = \frac{e^2 B^2 r^2}{m^2}$$
$$\frac{e}{m} = \frac{2V}{B^2 r^2}$$
$$= \frac{2 \times 100}{(2.83 \times 10^{-4})^2 \times (12 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 1.73 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$$

Therefore, the specific charge ratio ( $e/m$ ) is  $1.73 \times 10^{11} \text{ C kg}^{-1}$ .

---

Question 11.23:

(a) An X-ray tube produces a continuous spectrum of radiation with its short wavelength end at  $0.45 \text{ \AA}$ . What is the maximum energy of a photon in the radiation?

(b) From your answer to (a), guess what order of accelerating voltage (for electrons) is required in such a tube?

Answer:

(a) Wavelength produced by an X-ray tube,  $\lambda = 0.45 \text{ \AA} = 0.45 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s

The maximum energy of a photon is given as:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{hc}{\lambda} \\ &= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{0.45 \times 10^{-10} \times 1.6 \times 10^{19}} \\ &= 27.6 \times 10^3 \text{ eV} = 27.6 \text{ keV} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the maximum energy of an X-ray photon is 27.6 keV.

(b) Accelerating voltage provides energy to the electrons for producing X-rays. To get an X-ray of 27.6 keV, the incident electrons must possess at least 27.6 keV of kinetic electric energy. Hence, an accelerating voltage of the order of 30 keV is required for producing X-rays.

---

Question 11.24:

In an accelerator experiment on high-energy collisions of electrons with positrons, a certain event is interpreted as annihilation of an electron-positron pair of total energy 10.2 BeV into two  $\gamma$ -rays of equal energy. What is the wavelength associated with each  $\gamma$ -ray?

(1BeV =  $10^9$  eV)

Answer:

Total energy of two  $\gamma$ -rays:

$$E = 10.2 \text{ BeV}$$

$$= 10.2 \times 10^9 \text{ eV}$$

$$= 10.2 \times 10^9 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

Hence, the energy of each  $\gamma$ -ray:

$$\begin{aligned} E' &= \frac{E}{2} \\ &= \frac{10.2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-10}}{2} = 8.16 \times 10^{-10} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s

Energy is related to wavelength as:

$$E' = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$\therefore \lambda = \frac{hc}{E'}$$

$$= \frac{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{8.16 \times 10^{-10}} = 2.436 \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$$

Therefore, the wavelength associated with each  $\gamma$ -ray is  $2.436 \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$ .

---

Question 11.25:

Estimating the following two numbers should be interesting. The first number will tell you why radio engineers do not need to worry much about photons! The second number tells you why our eye can never 'count photons', even in barely detectable light.

(a) The number of photons emitted per second by a Medium wave transmitter of 10 kW power, emitting radiowaves of wavelength 500 m.

(b) The number of photons entering the pupil of our eye per second corresponding to the minimum intensity of white light that we humans can perceive ( $\sim 10^{-10} \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ). Take the area of the pupil to be about  $0.4 \text{ cm}^2$ , and the average frequency of white light to be about  $6 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$ .

Answer:

(a) Power of the medium wave transmitter,  $P = 10 \text{ kW} = 10^4 \text{ W} = 10^4 \text{ J/s}$

Hence, energy emitted by the transmitter per second,  $E = 10^4$

Wavelength of the radio wave,  $\lambda = 500 \text{ m}$

The energy of the wave is given as:

$$E_1 = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

Where,

$h$  = Planck's constant =  $6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

$c$  = Speed of light =  $3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

$$\therefore E_1 = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{500} = 3.96 \times 10^{-28} \text{ J}$$

Let  $n$  be the number of photons emitted by the transmitter.

$$\therefore nE_1 = E$$



$$n = \frac{E}{E_1}$$

$$= \frac{10^4}{3.96 \times 10^{-28}} = 2.525 \times 10^{31}$$

$$\approx 3 \times 10^{31}$$

The energy ( $E_1$ ) of a radio photon is very less, but the number of photons ( $n$ ) emitted per second in a radio wave is very large.

The existence of a minimum quantum of energy can be ignored and the total energy of a radio wave can be treated as being continuous.

(b) Intensity of light perceived by the human eye,  $I = 10^{-10} \text{ W m}^{-2}$

Area of a pupil,  $A = 0.4 \text{ cm}^2 = 0.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$

Frequency of white light,  $\nu = 6 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$

The energy emitted by a photon is given as:

$$E = h\nu$$

Where,

$h$  = Planck's constant =  $6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

$$\therefore E = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 6 \times 10^{14}$$

$$= 3.96 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

Let  $n$  be the total number of photons falling per second, per unit area of the pupil.

The total energy per unit for  $n$  falling photons is given as:

$$E = n \times 3.96 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J s}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2}$$

The energy per unit area per second is the intensity of light.

$$\therefore E = I$$

$$n \times 3.96 \times 10^{-19} = 10^{-10}$$

$$n = \frac{10^{-10}}{3.96 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$= 2.52 \times 10^8 \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

The total number of photons entering the pupil per second is given as:

$$n_A = n \times A$$

$$= 2.52 \times 10^8 \times 0.4 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$= 1.008 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

This number is not as large as the one found in problem (a), but it is large enough for the human eye to never see the individual photons.

---

Question 11.26:

Ultraviolet light of wavelength  $2271 \text{ \AA}$  from a  $100 \text{ W}$  mercury source irradiates a photo-cell made of molybdenum metal. If the stopping potential is  $-1.3 \text{ V}$ , estimate the work function of the metal. How would the photo-cell respond to a high intensity ( $\sim 10^5 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ) red light of wavelength  $6328 \text{ \AA}$  produced by a He-Ne laser?

Answer:

Wavelength of ultraviolet light,  $\lambda = 2271 \text{ \AA} = 2271 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Stopping potential of the metal,  $V_0 = 1.3 \text{ V}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J s}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Work function of the metal =  $\phi_0$

Frequency of light =  $\nu$

We have the photo-energy relation from the photoelectric effect as:

$$\phi_0 = h\nu - eV_0$$

$$= \frac{hc}{\lambda} - eV_0$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{2271 \times 10^{-10}} - 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 1.3$$

$$= 8.72 \times 10^{-19} - 2.08 \times 10^{-19}$$

$$= 6.64 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{6.64 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 4.15 \text{ eV}$$

Let  $\nu_0$  be the threshold frequency of the metal.

$$\therefore \phi_0 = h\nu_0$$

$$\nu_0 = \frac{\phi_0}{h}$$

$$= \frac{6.64 \times 10^{-19}}{6.6 \times 10^{-34}} = 1.006 \times 10^{15} \text{ Hz}$$

Wavelength of red light,  $\lambda_r = 6328 \text{ \AA} = 6328 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

$$\therefore \text{Frequency of red light, } \nu_r = \frac{c}{\lambda_r}$$

$$= \frac{3 \times 10^8}{6328 \times 10^{-10}} = 4.74 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

Since  $\nu_0 > \nu_r$ , the photocell will not respond to the red light produced by the laser.

---

Question 11.27:

Monochromatic radiation of wavelength 640.2 nm ( $1 \text{ nm} = 10^{-9} \text{ m}$ ) from a neon lamp irradiates photosensitive material made of caesium on tungsten. The stopping voltage is measured to be 0.54 V. The source is replaced by an iron source and its 427.2 nm line irradiates the same photo-cell. Predict the new stopping voltage.

Answer:

Wavelength of the monochromatic radiation,  $\lambda = 640.2 \text{ nm}$

$$= 640.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Stopping potential of the neon lamp,  $V_0 = 0.54 \text{ V}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Let  $\phi_0$  be the work function and  $\nu$  be the frequency of emitted light.

We have the photo-energy relation from the photoelectric effect as:

$$eV_0 = h\nu - \phi_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_0 &= \frac{hc}{\lambda} - eV_0 \\ &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{640.2 \times 10^{-9}} - 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 0.54 \\ &= 3.093 \times 10^{-19} - 0.864 \times 10^{-19} \\ &= 2.229 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} \\ &= \frac{2.229 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 1.39 \text{ eV} \end{aligned}$$

Wavelength of the radiation emitted from an iron source,  $\lambda' = 427.2 \text{ nm}$

$$= 427.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Let  $V'_0$  be the new stopping potential. Hence, photo-energy is given as:

$$\begin{aligned}
 eV_0' &= \frac{hc}{\lambda'} - \phi_0 \\
 &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{427.2 \times 10^{-9}} - 2.229 \times 10^{-19} \\
 &= 4.63 \times 10^{-19} - 2.229 \times 10^{-19} \\
 &= 2.401 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} \\
 &= \frac{2.401 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 1.5 \text{ eV}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the new stopping potential is 1.50 eV.

---

Question 11.28:

A mercury lamp is a convenient source for studying frequency dependence of photoelectric emission, since it gives a number of spectral lines ranging from the UV to the red end of the visible spectrum. In our experiment with rubidium photo-cell, the following lines from a mercury source were used:

$$\lambda_1 = 3650 \text{ \AA}, \lambda_2 = 4047 \text{ \AA}, \lambda_3 = 4358 \text{ \AA}, \lambda_4 = 5461 \text{ \AA}, \lambda_5 = 6907 \text{ \AA},$$

The stopping voltages, respectively, were measured to be:

$$V_{01} = 1.28 \text{ V}, V_{02} = 0.95 \text{ V}, V_{03} = 0.74 \text{ V}, V_{04} = 0.16 \text{ V}, V_{05} = 0 \text{ V}$$

Determine the value of Planck's constant  $h$ , the threshold frequency and work function for the material.

[Note: You will notice that to get  $h$  from the data, you will need to know  $e$  (which you can take to be  $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ ). Experiments of this kind on Na, Li, K, etc. were performed by Millikan, who, using his own value of  $e$  (from the oil-drop experiment) confirmed Einstein's photoelectric equation and at the same time gave an independent estimate of the value of  $h$ .]

Answer:

Einstein's photoelectric equation is given as:

$$eV_0 = h\nu - \phi_0$$

$$V_0 = \frac{h}{e}\nu - \frac{\phi_0}{e} \quad \dots (1)$$

Where,

$V_0$  = Stopping potential

$h$  = Planck's constant

$e$  = Charge on an electron

$\nu$  = Frequency of radiation

$\phi_0$  = Work function of a material

It can be concluded from equation (1) that potential  $V_0$  is directly proportional to frequency  $\nu$ .

Frequency is also given by the relation:

$$\nu = \frac{\text{Speed of light } (c)}{\text{Wavelength } (\lambda)}$$

This relation can be used to obtain the frequencies of the various lines of the given wavelengths.

$$\nu_1 = \frac{c}{\lambda_1} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{3650 \times 10^{-10}} = 8.219 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\nu_2 = \frac{c}{\lambda_2} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{4047 \times 10^{-10}} = 7.412 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\nu_3 = \frac{c}{\lambda_3} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{4358 \times 10^{-10}} = 6.884 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

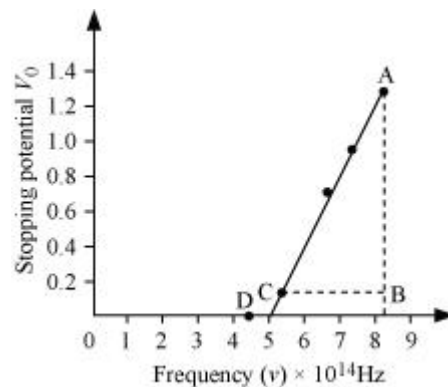
$$\nu_4 = \frac{c}{\lambda_4} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{5461 \times 10^{-10}} = 5.493 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\nu_5 = \frac{c}{\lambda_5} = \frac{3 \times 10^8}{6907 \times 10^{-10}} = 4.343 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

The given quantities can be listed in tabular form as:

Frequency $\times 10^{14}$ Hz	8.219	7.412	6.884	5.493	4.343
Stopping potential $V_0$	1.28	0.95	0.74	0.16	0

The following figure shows a graph between  $V_0$  and  $\nu$ .



It can be observed that the obtained curve is a straight line. It intersects the  $\nu$ -axis at  $5 \times 10^{14}$  Hz, which is the threshold frequency ( $\nu_0$ ) of the material. Point D corresponds to a frequency less than the threshold frequency. Hence, there is no photoelectric emission for the  $\lambda_5$  line, and therefore, no stopping voltage is required to stop the current.

$$\text{Slope of the straight line} = \frac{AB}{CB} = \frac{1.28 - 0.16}{(8.214 - 5.493) \times 10^{14}}$$

From equation (1), the slope  $\frac{h}{e}$  can be written as:

$$\frac{h}{e} = \frac{1.28 - 0.16}{(8.214 - 5.493) \times 10^{14}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore h &= \frac{1.12 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{2.726 \times 10^{14}} \\ &= 6.573 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js} \end{aligned}$$

The work function of the metal is given as:

$$\phi_0 = h\nu_0$$

$$= 6.573 \times 10^{-34} \times 5 \times 10^{14}$$

$$= 3.286 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{3.286 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-18}} = 2.054 \text{ eV}$$

Question 11.29:

The work function for the following metals is given:

Na: 2.75 eV; K: 2.30 eV; Mo: 4.17 eV; Ni: 5.15 eV. Which of these metals will not give photoelectric emission for a radiation of wavelength 3300 Å from a He-Cd laser placed 1 m away from the photocell? What happens if the laser is brought nearer and placed 50 cm away?

Answer:

Mo and Ni will not show photoelectric emission in both cases

Wavelength for a radiation,  $\lambda = 3300 \text{ Å} = 3300 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

The energy of incident radiation is given as:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{hc}{\lambda} \\ &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{3300 \times 10^{-10}} = 6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J} \\ &= \frac{6 \times 10^{-19}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 3.158 \text{ eV} \end{aligned}$$

It can be observed that the energy of the incident radiation is greater than the work function of Na and K only. It is less for Mo and Ni. Hence, Mo and Ni will not show photoelectric emission.

If the source of light is brought near the photocells and placed 50 cm away from them, then the intensity of radiation will increase. This does not affect the energy of the radiation. Hence, the result will be the same as before. However, the photoelectrons emitted from Na and K will increase in proportion to intensity.

---

Question 11.30:

Light of intensity  $10^{-5} \text{ W m}^{-2}$  falls on a sodium photo-cell of surface area  $2 \text{ cm}^2$ . Assuming that the top 5 layers of sodium absorb the incident energy, estimate time required for photoelectric emission in the wave-picture of radiation. The work function for the metal is given to be about 2 eV. What is the implication of your answer?

Answer:

Intensity of incident light,  $I = 10^{-5} \text{ W m}^{-2}$

Surface area of a sodium photocell,  $A = 2 \text{ cm}^2 = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$

Incident power of the light,  $P = I \times A$

$$= 10^{-5} \times 2 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$= 2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ W}$$

Work function of the metal,  $\phi_0 = 2 \text{ eV}$

$$= 2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$$

$$= 3.2 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

Number of layers of sodium that absorbs the incident energy,  $n = 5$

We know that the effective atomic area of a sodium atom,  $A_e$  is  $10^{-20} \text{ m}^2$ .

Hence, the number of conduction electrons in  $n$  layers is given as:

$$\begin{aligned} n' &= n \times \frac{A}{A_e} \\ &= 5 \times \frac{2 \times 10^{-4}}{10^{-20}} = 10^{17} \end{aligned}$$

The incident power is uniformly absorbed by all the electrons continuously. Hence, the amount of energy absorbed per second per electron is:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{P}{n'} \\ &= \frac{2 \times 10^{-9}}{10^{17}} = 2 \times 10^{-26} \text{ J/s} \end{aligned}$$

Time required for photoelectric emission:

$$t = \frac{\phi_0}{E}$$

$$= \frac{3.2 \times 10^{-19}}{2 \times 10^{-26}} = 1.6 \times 10^7 \text{ s} \approx 0.507 \text{ years}$$

The time required for the photoelectric emission is nearly half a year, which is not practical. Hence, the wave picture is in disagreement with the given experiment.

---

Question 11.31:

Crystal diffraction experiments can be performed using X-rays, or electrons accelerated through appropriate voltage. Which probe has greater energy? (For quantitative comparison, take the wavelength of the probe equal to  $1 \text{ \AA}$ , which is of the order of inter-atomic spacing in the lattice) ( $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ ).

Answer:

An X-ray probe has a greater energy than an electron probe for the same wavelength.

Wavelength of light emitted from the probe,  $\lambda = 1 \text{ \AA} = 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Mass of an electron,  $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

The kinetic energy of the electron is given as:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m_e v^2$$

$$m_e v = \sqrt{2Em_e}$$

Where,

$v$  = Velocity of the electron

$m_e v$  = Momentum ( $p$ ) of the electron

According to the de Broglie principle, the de Broglie wavelength is given as:



$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{m_e v} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2Em_e}}$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{h^2}{2\lambda^2 m_e}$$

$$= \frac{(6.6 \times 10^{-34})^2}{2 \times (10^{-10})^2 \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31}} = 2.39 \times 10^{-17} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{2.39 \times 10^{-17}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 149.375 \text{ eV}$$

Energy of a photon,  $E' = \frac{hc}{\lambda e} \text{ eV}$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^8}{10^{-10} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$= 12.375 \times 10^3 \text{ eV} = 12.375 \text{ keV}$$

Hence, a photon has a greater energy than an electron for the same wavelength.

---

Question 11.32:

(a) Obtain the de Broglie wavelength of a neutron of kinetic energy 150 eV. As you have seen in Exercise 11.31, an electron beam of this energy is suitable for crystal diffraction experiments. Would a neutron beam of the same energy be equally suitable? Explain. ( $m_n = 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$ )

(b) Obtain the de Broglie wavelength associated with thermal neutrons at room temperature (27 °C). Hence explain why a fast neutron beam needs to be thermalised with the environment before it can be used for neutron diffraction experiments.

Answer:

(a) De Broglie wavelength =  $2.327 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$ ; neutron is not suitable for the diffraction experiment

Kinetic energy of the neutron,  $K = 150 \text{ eV}$

$$= 150 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$$

$$= 2.4 \times 10^{-17} \text{ J}$$

Mass of a neutron,  $m_n = 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$

The kinetic energy of the neutron is given by the relation:

$$K = \frac{1}{2} m_n v^2$$

$$m_n v = \sqrt{2 K m_n}$$

Where,

$v$  = Velocity of the neutron

$m_n v$  = Momentum of the neutron

De-Broglie wavelength of the neutron is given as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{m_n v} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2 K m_n}}$$

It is clear that wavelength is inversely proportional to the square root of mass.

Hence, wavelength decreases with increase in mass and vice versa.

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \lambda &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 2.4 \times 10^{-17} \times 1.675 \times 10^{-27}}} \\ &= 2.327 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

It is given in the previous problem that the inter-atomic spacing of a crystal is about  $1 \text{ \AA}$ , i.e.,  $10^{-10} \text{ m}$ . Hence, the inter-atomic spacing is about a hundred times greater. Hence, a neutron beam of energy  $150 \text{ eV}$  is not suitable for diffraction experiments.

(b) De Broglie wavelength =  $1.447 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Room temperature,  $T = 27^\circ\text{C} = 27 + 273 = 300 \text{ K}$

The average kinetic energy of the neutron is given as:

$$E = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

Where,

$k$  = Boltzmann constant =  $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

The wavelength of the neutron is given as:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{h}{\sqrt{2 m_n E}} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3 m_n kT}} \\ &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{3 \times 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}} \\ &= 1.447 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

This wavelength is comparable to the inter-atomic spacing of a crystal. Hence, the high-energy neutron beam should first be thermalised, before using it for diffraction.

---

Question 11.33:

An electron microscope uses electrons accelerated by a voltage of  $50 \text{ kV}$ . Determine the de Broglie wavelength associated with the electrons. If other factors (such as numerical aperture, etc.) are taken to be roughly the same, how does the resolving power of an electron microscope compare with that of an optical microscope which uses yellow light?

Answer:

Electrons are accelerated by a voltage,  $V = 50 \text{ kV} = 50 \times 10^3 \text{ V}$

Charge on an electron,  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Mass of an electron,  $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

Wavelength of yellow light  $= 5.9 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$

The kinetic energy of the electron is given as:

$$E = eV$$

$$= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 50 \times 10^3$$

$$= 8 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}$$

De Broglie wavelength is given by the relation:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{h}{\sqrt{2m_e E}} \\ &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \times 8 \times 10^{-15}}} \\ &= 5.467 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

This wavelength is nearly  $10^5$  times less than the wavelength of yellow light.

The resolving power of a microscope is inversely proportional to the wavelength of light used. Thus, the resolving power of an electron microscope is nearly  $10^5$  times that of an optical microscope.

---

Question 11.34:

The wavelength of a probe is roughly a measure of the size of a structure that it can probe in some detail. The quark structure of protons and neutrons appears at the minute length-scale of  $10^{-15} \text{ m}$  or less. This structure was first probed in early 1970's using high energy electron beams produced by a linear accelerator at Stanford, USA. Guess what might have been the order of energy of these electron beams. (Rest mass energy of electron = 0.511 MeV.)

Answer:

Wavelength of a proton or a neutron,  $\lambda \approx 10^{-15} \text{ m}$

Rest mass energy of an electron:

$$m_0 c^2 = 0.511 \text{ MeV}$$

$$= 0.511 \times 10^6 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$$

$$= 0.8176 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$$

Planck's constant,  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34}$  Js

Speed of light,  $c = 3 \times 10^8$  m/s

The momentum of a proton or a neutron is given as:

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$
$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{10^{-15}} = 6.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ kg m/s}$$

The relativistic relation for energy (E) is given as:

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m_0^2 c^4$$
$$= (6.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 3 \times 10^8)^2 + (0.8176 \times 10^{-13})^2$$
$$= 392.04 \times 10^{-22} + 0.6685 \times 10^{-26}$$
$$\approx 392.04 \times 10^{-22}$$

$$\therefore E = 1.98 \times 10^{-10} \text{ J}$$

$$= \frac{1.98 \times 10^{-10}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$= 1.24 \times 10^9 \text{ eV} = 1.24 \text{ BeV}$$

Thus, the electron energy emitted from the accelerator at Stanford, USA might be of the order of 1.24 BeV.

---

Question 11.35:

Find the typical de Broglie wavelength associated with a He atom in helium gas at room temperature (27 °C) and 1 atm pressure; and compare it with the mean separation between two atoms under these conditions.

Answer:

De Broglie wavelength associated with He atom =  $0.7268 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

Room temperature,  $T = 27^\circ\text{C} = 27 + 273 = 300 \text{ K}$

Atmospheric pressure,  $P = 1 \text{ atm} = 1.01 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$

Atomic weight of a He atom = 4

Avogadro's number,  $N_A = 6.023 \times 10^{23}$

Boltzmann constant,  $k = 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

Average energy of a gas at temperature T, is given as:

$$E = \frac{3}{2} kT$$

De Broglie wavelength is given by the relation:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}}$$

Where,

m = Mass of a He atom

$$= \frac{\text{Atomic weight}}{N_A}$$

$$= \frac{4}{6.023 \times 10^{23}}$$

$$= 6.64 \times 10^{-24} \text{ g} = 6.64 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

$$\therefore \lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3mkT}}$$

$$= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{3 \times 6.64 \times 10^{-27} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}}$$

$$= 0.7268 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

We have the ideal gas formula:

$$PV = RT$$

$$PV = kNT$$

$$\frac{V}{N} = \frac{kT}{P}$$

Where,

V = Volume of the gas

N = Number of moles of the gas

Mean separation between two atoms of the gas is given by the relation:

$$r = \left( \frac{V}{N} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = \left( \frac{kT}{P} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}{1.01 \times 10^5} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= 3.35 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

Hence, the mean separation between the atoms is much greater than the de Broglie wavelength.

Question 11.36:

Compute the typical de Broglie wavelength of an electron in a metal at 27 °C and compare it with the mean separation between two electrons in a metal which is given to be about  $2 \times 10^{-10}$  m.

[Note: Exercises 11.35 and 11.36 reveal that while the wave-packets associated with gaseous molecules under ordinary conditions are non-overlapping, the electron wave-packets in a metal strongly overlap with one another. This suggests that whereas molecules in an ordinary gas can be distinguished apart, electrons in a metal cannot be distinguished apart from one another. This indistinguishability has many fundamental implications which you will explore in more advanced Physics courses.]

Answer:

Temperature,  $T = 27^\circ\text{C} = 27 + 273 = 300 \text{ K}$

Mean separation between two electrons,  $r = 2 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

De Broglie wavelength of an electron is given as:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3mkT}}$$

Where,

$h$  = Planck's constant =  $6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$

$m$  = Mass of an electron =  $9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$

$k$  = Boltzmann constant =  $1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lambda &= \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{3 \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}} \\ &\approx 6.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the de Broglie wavelength is much greater than the given inter-electron separation.

---

Question 11.37:

Answer the following questions:

- (a) Quarks inside protons and neutrons are thought to carry fractional charges  $[(+2/3)e ; (-1/3)e]$ . Why do they not show up in Millikan's oil-drop experiment?
- (b) What is so special about the combination  $e/m$ ? Why do we not simply talk of  $e$  and  $m$  separately?
- (c) Why should gases be insulators at ordinary pressures and start conducting at very low pressures?
- (d) Every metal has a definite work function. Why do all photoelectrons not come out with the same energy if incident radiation is monochromatic? Why is there an energy distribution of photoelectrons?

(e) The energy and momentum of an electron are related to the frequency and wavelength of the associated matter wave by the relations:

$$E = h\nu, p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

But while the value of  $\lambda$  is physically significant, the value of  $\nu$  (and therefore, the value of the phase speed  $\nu\lambda$ ) has no physical significance. Why?

Answer:

(a) Quarks inside protons and neutrons carry fractional charges. This is because nuclear force increases extremely if they are pulled apart. Therefore, fractional charges may exist in nature; observable charges are still the integral multiple of an electrical charge.

(b) The basic relations for electric field and magnetic field are

$$\left( eV = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \right) \text{ and } \left( eBv = \frac{mv^2}{r} \right) \text{ respectively}$$

These relations include  $e$  (electric charge),  $v$  (velocity),  $m$  (mass),  $V$  (potential),  $r$  (radius), and  $B$  (magnetic field). These relations give the value of velocity of an electron as

$$\left( v = \sqrt{2V\left(\frac{e}{m}\right)} \right) \text{ and}$$

$$\left( v = Br\left(\frac{e}{m}\right) \right) \text{ respectively.}$$

It can be observed from these relations that the dynamics of an electron is determined not by  $e$  and  $m$  separately, but by the ratio  $e/m$ .

(c) At atmospheric pressure, the ions of gases have no chance of reaching their respective electrodes because of collision and recombination with other gas molecules. Hence, gases are insulators at atmospheric pressure. At low pressures, ions have a chance of reaching their respective electrodes and constitute a current. Hence, they conduct electricity at these pressures.

(d) The work function of a metal is the minimum energy required for a conduction electron to get out of the metal surface. All the electrons in an atom do not have the same energy level. When a ray having some photon energy is incident on a metal surface, the electrons come out from different levels with different energies. Hence, these emitted electrons show different energy distributions.

(e) The absolute value of energy of a particle is arbitrary within the additive constant. Hence, wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) is significant, but the frequency ( $\nu$ ) associated with an electron has no direct physical significance.

Therefore, the product  $\nu\lambda$ (phase speed) has no physical significance.

Group speed is given as:

$$v_G = \frac{dv}{dk}$$

$$= \frac{dv}{d\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)} = \frac{dE}{dp} = \frac{d\left(\frac{p^2}{2m}\right)}{dp} = \frac{p}{m}$$

This quantity has a physical meaning.

---