

Stefan's law states the power per unit area Φ radiated by a body of uniform absolute temperature T is $\Phi = \sigma T^4$ where the Stefan-Boltzmann constant $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Wm}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$. *Wien's law* states the wavelength λ_{max} corresponding to the peak of the Planck 'Black Body' radiation spectrum is related to the absolute temperature T of the radiation source by the equation $\lambda_{\text{max}} T = 2.90 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \times \text{K}$.

In order to explain the shape of radiation spectrum, electromagnetic radiation must be *quantized* in an energy sense. *Photons* have energy $E = hf$ where f is the frequency (in Hz) and $h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$ is *Planck's constant*.

If a metal surface is illuminated by light, the maximum energy of *photoelectrons* emitted is given by $E = hf - \phi$ where ϕ is the *work function* of the metal. Typical values are a few (e.g. between 2.0 and 5.0) eV. $1\text{eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$.

The de-Broglie relation relates the momentum p of a particle to its associated wavelength λ : $p = h/\lambda$. This means electrons, protons etc can exhibit wave-like properties such as *diffraction*.

In Special Relativity $p = \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} mv$, and energy $E = \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} mc^2$ for particles with mass m . The *Energy-Momentum invariant* $E^2 - p^2c^2 = m^2c^4$, so this means for massless particles (like photons) $p = \frac{hf}{c} = \frac{h}{\lambda}$ i.e. de-Broglie's relation is general.

In the *Bohr theory of the Hydrogen atom*, electrons can be thought of as *standing waves*, with their de-Broglie wavelength constrained by a 'circular orbit' of radius r . i.e. $n\lambda = 2\pi r$ where n is a positive integer. This also means that *angular momentum* of the electron is quantized. Note if the electron were to 'actually' orbit, the acceleration would cause it to *radiate*, and therefore spiraling into the proton nucleus within about 1 microsecond. In the Bohr model of a Hydrogen atom, the electron is only allowed to have energies given by the formula $E_n = -\frac{13.6\text{eV}}{n^2}$ where n is a positive integer. The wavelength of photons which correspond to transitions between energy level n and energy level m is given by the *Balmer Formula*: $\lambda_{nm} = \frac{8\epsilon_0 h^3 c}{me^4} \frac{1}{Z^2} \left(\frac{1}{m^2} - \frac{1}{n^2}\right)^{-1} \approx 91.13\text{nm} \frac{1}{Z^2} \left(\frac{1}{m^2} - \frac{1}{n^2}\right)^{-1}$. Z is the number of protons in *Hydrogenic* nucleus.¹

Question 1

- (i) To an order of magnitude (i.e. power of ten), what is the radius of an atom (in metres)? How does this compare to the radius of the nucleus of an atom?
- (ii) A large blue marble has a diameter of about 3.6cm. Contrast the number of atoms that constitute the marble with the number of marbles that could fill an Earth-sized container. (Earth diameter is about $1.28 \times 10^7 \text{ m}$).

Question 2

Describe briefly *the Rutherford experiment* (with a suitable diagram) and what we know about atomic structure from the conclusions drawn by Geiger and Marsden.

Question 3

- (i) An old 100W light bulb produces light by a glowing Tungsten filament. The filament can be modelled as a thin strip of length 20cm and width 0.14mm. Calculate the temperature of the filament in degrees Celsius. What have you assumed in this calculation? Do you think this a reasonable assumption?
- (ii) The Sun has a radius of 695,500km and has a surface temperature of about 5778K. Calculate its luminosity (in watts).

¹ i.e. an atom with Z protons and a single electron.

- (iii) Calculate the width of a square solar panel (in m) that delivers a maximum of 100W of solar energy on the surface of Mars. Mars is 227.9 million km from the Sun. Assume the solar panel is 20% efficient.
- (iv) Human core body temperature is about 37°C and surface skin temperature about 34°C. Determine λ_{\max} in nm for the EM radiation given off by human skin. What part of the EM spectrum is this?
- (v) Sketch the radiation spectrum for the Sun, vs a cooler red star, and a hotter blue star. Calculate λ_{\max} for the Sun (in nm).
- (vi) In several billion years, the Sun will probably expand and become a Red Giant. If at the start of this process, the Sun still radiates with the same luminosity as now, calculate the expansion ratio of the solar radius, if $\lambda_{\max} = 680\text{nm}$.

Question 4

- (i) Silver has a work function of 4.3eV. Calculate the maximum wavelength of light (in nm) that will enable photoelectrons to be produced.
- (ii) UV light of wavelength 200nm is shone onto a silver cathode. Calculate the energy of the photoelectrons produced (in J).
- (iii) The UV light power received by the silver is 1.00 micro-watts. Assuming all the light is absorbed by the silver, calculate number of photons absorbed per second.
- (iv) If one photo-electron is produced per UV photon, calculate the photocurrent (in A). The charge on the electron is $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$
- (v) Calculate the stopping voltage required to reduce the photocurrent to zero.

Question 5 An electron of mass $m = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{kg}$ and charge e is accelerated in a vacuum tube which has a potential difference of V volts.

- (i) Find an expression for the final velocity v of the electron in terms of m, e, V
- (ii) Derive an inequality for V such that the electron speed is less than 1% of the speed of light. $c = 2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ms}^{-1}$. What does this mean we can ignore?
- (iii) In the *Classical limit*, show that the de-Broglie wavelength of the electron is given by: $\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2meV}}$
- (iv) An electron beam is directed into a carbon disc target, which is thought to have layers of atoms about $1.23 \times 10^{-10} \text{m}$ apart. Sketch a diagram of electron intensity on a screen, vs angle from the original beam direction. Explain briefly *why* it has this shape, and what this tells you (perhaps mysteriously!) about the physical characteristics of electrons. [To do this properly, consider *Bragg scattering* from alternate atomic layers in the carbon disc].
- (v) The first peak of the intensity pattern is at an angle of 10.0° . Calculate the accelerating voltage to achieve this.
- (vi) Calculate the angles of all the other peaks, and hence make a more accurate sketch than in part (iv)

Question 6 The *Lyman* series of (emission) spectral lines is a transition from E_n to E_1 where $n \geq 2$. Calculate the wavelength (in nm) of the spectral line when $n = 3$. Repeat the calculation for a *Balmer* line (E_4 to E_2), and a *Pfund* line (E_7 to E_5). Which parts of the EM spectrum are these?