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# Chapter 16 Corpuscular Aspect of Light

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A metallic plate, covered with a layer of cesium, is illuminated with a monochromatic luminous beam of wavelength  $\lambda = 0.45 \mu m$  in vacuum.

The work function (extraction energy) of cesium is  $W_0$ = 1.88eV

A convenient apparatus (D) is used to detect the electrons emitted by the illuminated plate.

Given: Planck's constant  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34}$  J. s; speed of light in vacuum  $C = 3 \times 10^8 m/s$ ;  $1eV = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} J$ ; elementary charge  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$ .

# Quiz Photoelectric effect Duration: 20min

$$\lambda = 0.45 \mu m$$
;  $W_0 = 1.88 \text{eV}$ ;  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{J.s}$ ;  $C = 3 \times 10^8 m/s$ ;  $1 \text{eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{J}$ ;  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$ .

- 1) What aspect of light does the phenomenon of photoelectric effect show evidence of?
- Photoelectric effect shows evidence of Corpuscular (particle) aspect of light
- 2) Define the term "work function" of a metal.
- The work function  $(W_0)$  of a substance is the minimum energy needed to extract an electron from the substance.

# Quiz

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- 3) The luminous beam illuminating the metallic plate is formed of photons.
  - a) Write down the expression of the energy E of a photon in terms of h, c and  $\lambda$ .

# Quiz

#### Photoelectric effect Duration: 20min

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b) Calculate, in eV, the energy of an incident photon.

$$E_{ph} = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

$$E_{ph} = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \times 3 \times 10^{8}}{0.45 \times 10^{-6}}$$

$$E_{ph} = 44 \times 10^{-20} J = 2.75 eV$$

# Quiz

#### Photoelectric effect Duration: 20min

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;  $W_0 = 1.88 \text{eV}$ ;  $h = 6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{J.s}$ ;  $C = 3 \times 10^8 m/s$ ;  $1 \text{eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{J}$ ;  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$ .

c) (D) detects electrons emitted by the plate. Why do we have an emission of electrons by the plate?

Since 
$$E = 2.75 \ eV > W_0 = 1.88 \ eV$$

d)Calculate, in eV, the maximum kinetic energy of an emitted electron.  $\Delta = \mathbf{W_0} + \mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{E}$ 

$$2.75 = 1.88 + K.E$$

$$K. E = 0.87eV$$

- 4) The luminous power P received by the plate is  $10^{-3}W$ , and the emitted electrons form a current  $I = 5 \, mA$ .
- a) Calculate the number n of photons received by the plate in one second.

$$P = n \times E$$

$$Be Mart$$
 $n = \frac{F}{E}$ 

$$n = 227 \times 10^{13} ele/s$$

b)Knowing that the current I is related to the number N of the electrons emitted per second and to the elementary charge e by the relation:  $I = N \times e$ . Calculate N.

$$I = \frac{N \times e}{t} \qquad \qquad N = \frac{I \times t}{e} \qquad \qquad N = \frac{5 \times 10^{-3} \times 1}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}}$$

$$N = 3.125 \times 10^{13} elec/sec$$

c) Calculate the quantum efficiency  $r = \frac{N}{n}$ .

$$r = \frac{3.125 \times 10^{13}}{227 \times 10^{13}}$$

$$r = 0.014 = 1.4\%$$

d)Deduce that the number of effective photons in one second is relatively small.

r is small, then the number of effective photons per second is small

e)We increase the luminous power P received by the plate without changing the wavelength  $\lambda$ . Would the current increase or decrease? Why?

$$P = \frac{n \times E}{t} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad P = n \times E \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad P = n \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$



$$P = n \times E$$

$$P=n\frac{nc}{\lambda}$$

If we increase P, and keep  $\lambda$  constant: then n increases. then  $N_{eff} = N$  will increase:

But  $I = N \times \rho$ 

But 
$$I = N \times e$$

Since the number N increases, then the current I will increase.

