

PHYSICS 232 SPRING 2002 PRACTICE EXAM 3 SOLUTIONS

Some Useful Information:

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s} = 4.14 \times 10^{-15} \text{ (eV)}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$h \cdot c = 1.99 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J}\cdot\text{m} = 1.24 \times 10^{-6} \text{ (eV)}\cdot\text{m}$$

$$e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$$

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

1. A man is told this year (2002) that he has exactly $\Delta t_p = 12$ years to live. However, he then gets into a rocket ship and travels at $0.8c$ away from the earth, and then returns at the same speed. The last New Year the doctors can expect him to celebrate is:

- a) 2006
- b) 2012
- c) 2017
- d) **2022**
- e) 2027

$$\Delta t = \gamma \Delta t_p = 1.667 \cdot 12 \text{ yr} = 20 \text{ yr}$$

2. In the photoelectric effect experiment at a frequency above cut off, the number of electrons ejected is proportional to :

- a) the kinetic energy of the photons
- b) the potential energy of the electrons
- c) the work function of the sample
- d) the frequency of the incident light
- e) **the number of photons that hit the sample**

3. Interference of light is evidence that:

- a) the speed of light is very large
- b) light is a transverse wave
- c) light is electromagnetic in character
- d) **light is a wave phenomenon**
- e) light does not obey conservation of energy

4. Two slits in an opaque barrier each have a width of $a = 0.020$ mm and are separated by $d = 0.050$ mm. When coherent monochromatic light passes through the slits the number of interference maxima within the central diffraction maximum is

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) 3
- d) 4
- e) **5**

Interference maxima: $m\lambda = d \sin(\mathbf{q}_i)$ with $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$

1st diffraction minimum: $\lambda = a \sin(\mathbf{q}_d)$. We want

$$|\sin(\mathbf{q}_i)| < \sin(\mathbf{q}_d), \text{ giving } \frac{|m|\lambda}{d} < \frac{\lambda}{a} \Rightarrow |m| < \frac{d}{a} = 2.5 .$$

Thus $|m_{\max}| = 2$, giving $m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$.

5. Radio waves are diffracted by large objects such as buildings whereas visible light is not. Why is this?

- a) Radio waves are unpolarized, whereas light is plane polarized
- b) **The wavelength of light is much smaller than the wavelength of radio waves.**
- c) The wavelength of light is much greater than the wavelength of radio waves
- d) Radio waves are coherent, and light is usually not coherent
- e) The frequency of radio waves is greater than the frequency of light waves

6. A proton has a rest energy of 938 MeV. If the proton is moving at velocity $v = 0.95c$, its kinetic energy is?

- a) 1.51 GeV
- b) 1.65 GeV
- c) 1.79 GeV
- d) 1.93 GeV
- e) **2.06 GeV**

Given $KE = (\gamma - 1)m_p c^2$ and $\gamma = 3.20$. Then
 $KE = 2.20 \times 938 \text{ MeV} = 2.06 \text{ GeV}$

7. Two photons are produced when a proton and an anti-proton annihilate each other. What is the maximum wavelength of each photon?

- a) $7.25 \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$
- b) $9.73 \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$
- c) **$1.3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$**
- d) $4.3 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$
- e) $5.98 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$

Given $E_{\text{photon}} = m_p c^2 = 938 \text{ MeV}$. Then

$$\lambda = \frac{1.24 \times 10^{-6} \text{ (eV)} \cdot \text{m}}{9.38 \times 10^8 \text{ eV}} = 1.32 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m}$$

8. In a diffraction grating (spacing d) experiment, light of $\lambda_1 = 600 \text{ nm}$ wavelength produces a first-order maximum $y_1 = 0.35 \text{ mm}$ from the central maximum on a distant screen (distance L from grating). A second monochromatic source produces a third-order maximum $y_2 = 0.87 \text{ mm}$ from the central maximum when it passes through the same diffraction grating. What is the wavelength λ_2 of the light from the second source?

- a) 633 nm
- b) **497 nm**
- c) 342 nm
- d) 679 nm
- e) 713 nm

Given: $1 \cdot \lambda_1 = d \frac{y_1}{L}$ and $3 \cdot \lambda_2 = d \frac{y_2}{L}$. Then

$$\frac{3 \cdot \lambda_2}{\lambda_1} = \frac{y_2}{y_1} \Rightarrow \lambda_2 = \lambda_1 \frac{y_2}{3 \cdot y_1} = 497 \text{ nm}$$

9. A person of mass $m = 50$ kg has a wavelength of $\lambda = 4.42 \times 10^{-36}$ m when running. How fast (v) is she running?

- a) 2 m/s
b) 3 m/s
 c) 4 m/s
 d) 5 m/s
 e) 6 m/s

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{mv} \Rightarrow v = \frac{h}{m\lambda} = 3.0 \text{ m/s}$$

10. Light of 450 nm wavelength shines on a metal surface. Electrons are emitted with a maximum energy of 1.20 eV. What is the work function for the surface?

- a) **1.56 eV**
 b) 1.20 eV
 c) 3.72 eV
 d) 4.79 eV
 e) 5.03 eV

$$E_{\text{photon}} = \frac{hc}{\lambda} = \frac{1.24 \times 10^{-6} \text{ (eV)} \cdot \text{m}}{4.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}} = 2.76 \text{ eV}$$

$$KE_{\text{max}} = E_{\text{photon}} - \phi \Rightarrow \phi = E_{\text{photon}} - KE_{\text{max}} = 1.56 \text{ eV}$$

11. X-rays are:

- a) **electromagnetic waves**
 b) negatively charged ions
 c) rapidly moving electrons
 d) rapidly moving protons
 e) rapidly moving neutrons

12. A thin layer of oil ($n = 1.25$) is floating on water ($n = 1.33$). What is the minimum thickness t for the oil in the region that reflects green light ($\lambda = 530$ nm)?

- a) **212 nm**
 b) 313 nm
 c) 404 nm
 d) 500 nm
 e) 607 nm

Because rays #1 & #2 reflect off 1.00/1.25 and 1.25/1.33 interfaces, respectively, then both rays have 180° phase shifts due to reflection. Thus one needs a "0" phase shift, when ray #2 travels through the oil a distance of $2 \times t$, to have constructive interference. The equation needed is:

$$2 \cdot n \cdot t = m\lambda \text{ with } m = 1. \text{ Finally, } t = \frac{\lambda}{2 \cdot 1.25} = 212 \text{ nm.}$$