

ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATION WAVELENGTH AND FREQUENCY CALCULATIONS

Complete the following calculations using the relationship among wavelength, frequency, and the speed of light.

1. Determine the frequency of light with a wavelength of 675nm.

$$\lambda = 675 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

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

$$v = ?$$

$$\frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{\lambda} \quad v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \frac{3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{675 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 4.44 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

2. Determine the frequency of light with a wavelength of 4.50 X 10⁻⁷ m.

$$v = ?$$

$$\lambda = 4.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

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

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

$$v = \frac{3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{4.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}} = 6.67 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

3. What is the wavelength of an X ray that has a frequency of 7.8 X 10¹⁷ Hz?

$$\lambda = ?$$

$$v = 7.8 \times 10^{17} \text{ Hz}$$

$$c = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\frac{c}{v} = \frac{\lambda \times v}{v} \quad \lambda = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{7.8 \times 10^{17} \text{ Hz}} = 3.8 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

4. Excited sodium atoms may emit radiation having a wavelength of 589 nm. 589 x 10⁻⁹ m

a) What is the wavelength in meters?

$$\lambda = 589 \text{ nm} = 589 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} \text{ or } 5.89 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

b) What is the frequency of this light?

$$\lambda = 589 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$v = ?$$

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

$$\frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{\lambda} \quad v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{589 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 5.09 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

c) What is the energy of this light?

$$E = ?$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$v = 5.09 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$E = h \cdot v$$

$$E = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}) (5.09 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz})$$

$$E = 3.38 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

5. A radio station has a frequency of 96.5 MHz. Find the wavelength and energy of these waves. E = h v

$$v = 96.5 \text{ MHz} = 96.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\lambda = ?$$

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

$$\frac{c}{v} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{v} \quad \lambda = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{96.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}} = 3.11 \text{ m}$$

$$E = ?$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$v = 96.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}$$

$$E = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}) (96.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}) = 6.40 \times 10^{-26} \text{ J}$$

6. A certain photon of electromagnetic radiation has energy of 4.65 x 10⁻¹⁵ J. What is the wavelength of this light in nm?

$$E = 4.65 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$v = ?$$

$$\lambda = ?$$

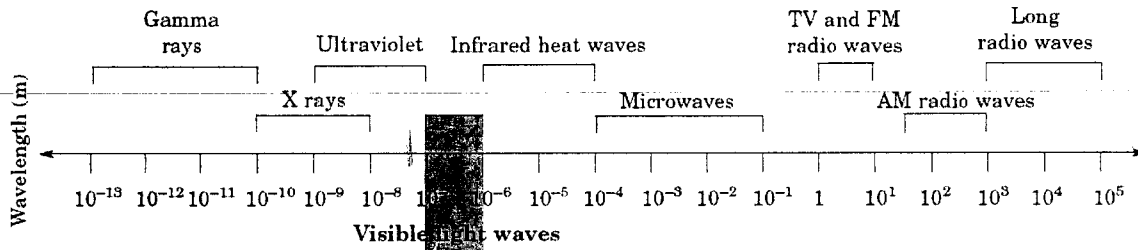
$$c = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\frac{E}{h} = \frac{h \cdot v}{h} \quad v = \frac{E}{h}$$

$$v = \frac{4.65 \times 10^{-15} \text{ J}}{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}} = 7.01 \times 10^{18} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\frac{c}{v} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{v} \quad \lambda = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{7.01 \times 10^{18} \text{ Hz}} = 4.28 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m} \Rightarrow 4.29 \times 10^{-2} \text{ nm}$$



- Violet: 400-430 nm
- Green: 500-570 nm
- Red: 610-700 nm
- Indigo: 430-450 nm
- Yellow: 570-590 nm
- Blue: 450-500 nm
- Orange: 590-610 nm

10. What is the frequency of an electromagnetic wave that has a wavelength of $72.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$?

$72.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

$$\lambda = 72.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$c = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$v = ?$$

$$\frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{\lambda} \quad v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{72.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}$$

$$v = 4.13 \times 10^{15} \text{ Hz}$$

11. Using the figures above what kind of electromagnetic radiation is used in question 10?

$$72.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m} = 7.26 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m} \Rightarrow \text{UV}$$

12. What is the wavelength of an electromagnetic wave that has a frequency of $6.79 \times 10^9 \text{ Hz}$?

$$\lambda = ?$$

$$v = 6.79 \times 10^9 \text{ 1/s}$$

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

$$\frac{c}{v} = \frac{\lambda \times v}{v} \quad \lambda = \frac{c}{v}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{6.79 \times 10^9 \text{ 1/s}}$$

$$\lambda = 4.42 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

13. What is the wavelength of a light wave that has a frequency of $4.42 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$?

$$v = 4.42 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\lambda = ?$$

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

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

$$\lambda = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{4.42 \times 10^{14} \text{ 1/s}}$$

$$\lambda = 6.79 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

14. Using the figures above, what color is the light wave from question 13?

$$\lambda = 6.79 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m} \quad \lambda = 679 \text{ nm (Red)}$$

15. A gamma ray has a wavelength of 0.039 nm . What is the frequency of the wave?

$$\lambda = 0.039 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$v = ?$$

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

$$\frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{\lambda} \quad v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{0.039 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 7.7 \times 10^{18} \text{ Hz}$$

16. Find the energy (in J) in a quantum of light that has a frequency of $1.7 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$.

$$E = ?$$

$$v = 1.7 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$$

$$E = h \times v$$

$$E = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}) (1.7 \times 10^{14} \text{ 1/s})$$

$$E = 1.13 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

17. What is the frequency of a light wave that has a wavelength of 470 nm ?

$$\lambda = 470 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$$

$$v = ?$$

$$c = 3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\frac{c}{\lambda} = \frac{v \times \lambda}{\lambda} \quad v = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \frac{3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{470 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}$$

$$v = 6.4 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$