

"It's all about the electrons, baby!"

- Certain elements emit visible light when heated in a flame.
- Analysis of the emitted light revealed that an element's chemical behavior is related to the arrangement of the electrons in its atoms!

The Physics of Light



Sometimes light acts like a particle,
sometimes like a wave

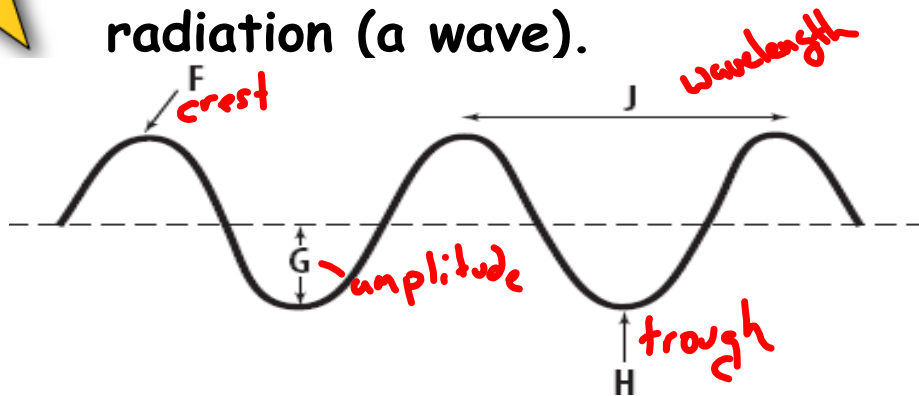
<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/is-light-a-particle-or-a-wave-colt-kelleher>



Wave Nature of Light



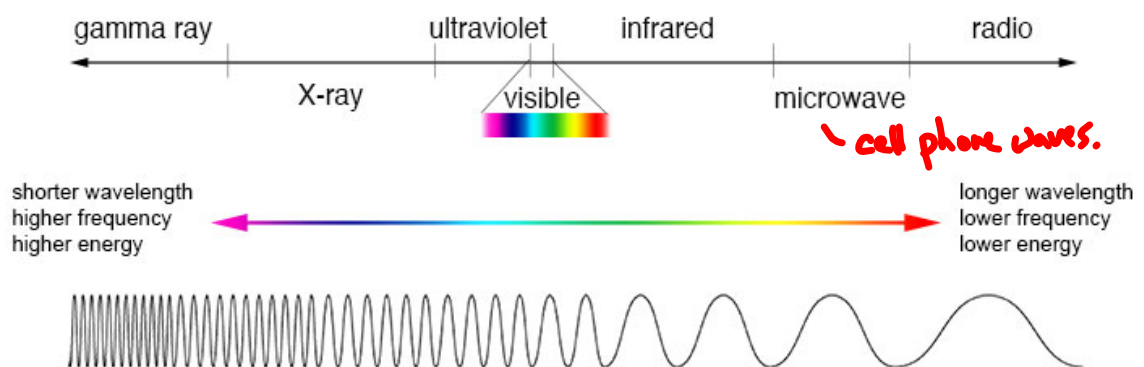
Visible light is a type of electromagnetic radiation (a wave).



wavelength (λ) (λ)

frequency (ν) - wave speed.

wave speed (c) = $3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$



wavelength (λ) = m

frequency (ν) $1/2 = \frac{1}{5} = 5^{-1}$

wave speed (c) = 3.00×10^8 m/s

$$c = \lambda \nu$$

Calculating wavelength, frequency, and wave speed

- 1) What is the frequency of green light, which has a wavelength of $4.90 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$?

$$C = \lambda \nu$$

$$\frac{(3.00 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s})}{4.90 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}} = \frac{(4.90 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}) \nu}{4.90 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ m}} \quad \frac{3 \text{ E } 8}{4.9 \text{ E } -7}$$

$$6.12 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ } 1/\text{s} = \text{s}^{-1} = \text{Hz}$$

Microwaves are used to transmit information. What is the wavelength of a microwave with a frequency of $3.44 \times 10^9 \text{ Hz}$?

$$C = \lambda \nu$$

$$\frac{3.00 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{3.44 \cdot 10^9 \text{ s}^{-1}} = \lambda \cdot \frac{3.44 \cdot 10^9 \text{ s}^{-1}}{3.44 \cdot 10^9 \text{ s}^{-1}}$$

$$8.72 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

Particle Nature of Light



^{photon}
Quantum - minimum amount of energy gained or lost by an electron.

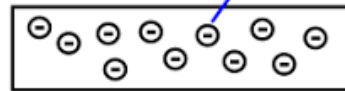
$$E_{\text{quantum}} = h\nu$$

$$E_{\text{photon}} = h\nu$$

$$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$$

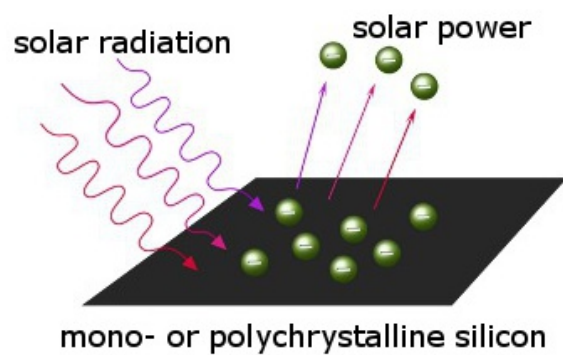
Planck's constant.

frequency



photoelectric effect

This explains the photoelectric effect!



$$E_{\text{quantum}} = h\nu$$

$$E_{\text{photon}} = h\nu$$

$$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$$

$$E_{\text{quantum}} = h\nu$$

$$E_{\text{photon}} = h\nu$$

$$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$$

5) What is the energy of a type of radiation with a frequency of $6.32 \times 10^{20} \text{ s}^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} E &= h\nu \\ &= (6.626 \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \cancel{\text{s}}) (6.32 \cdot 10^{20} \cancel{\text{s}^{-1}}) \\ &= 4.19 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$