

Homework Assignment #3

(*Due Date:* Mon, 10/08, 04:10 pm, in class; Show all your work for full/partial credit)

3.1 *Blackbody Radiation* (cf. Prob. 3.2 in textbook) (2 pts.)

The temperature of the human skin is about 35°C .

- (a) At what intensity and peak wavelength does a human emit blackbody radiation? What are the corresponding radiation frequency and photon energy?
- (b) How much energy does a human emit during 12 hours (assume a surface area of 2m^2)? How many photons at the peak wavelength does that correspond to?

3.2 *Sun's Radiation* (1 pts.)

Assuming an average wavelength of 500nm for the Sun's radiation, calculate the average photon energy (in eV) and the Sun's surface temperature (in K).

3.3 *Classical Limit of Planck's Formula* (1 pts.)

Show that in the limit of small frequencies Planck's formula for the spectral energy density of a blackbody recovers the classical Rayleigh-Jeans expression.

3.4 *Photoelectric Effect* (cf. Prob. 3.18 in textbook) (3 pts.)

Ultraviolet light of wavelength 120nm is incident on an unknown metal. The stopping voltage for the cathode current is found to be 3.98V .

- (a) Find the maximum energy (in eV) and speed of the emitted electrons.
- (b) Identify the metal by calculating its workfunction (and check a suitable table).
- (c) Calculate the cutoff wavelength (in nm) of incoming light if the voltage is (slightly) positive.

3.5 *Compton Effect* (cf. Prob. 3.36 in textbook) (3 pts.)

A photon Compton-scatters, bouncing off with an energy of 110keV after the collision, while the electrons recoil with a kinetic energy of 32keV . Calculate

- (a) the wavelength of the incident photon (in nm).
- (b) the scattering angle of the photon.
- (c) the electron's recoil angle relative to the incoming photon momentum.