

**Physics 256 Assignment 3 Fall 2012**  
**Submit online or Place in Phys 256 box, Phys 2nd floor Wednesday October 3rd,**  
**2012 by 4pm TATAL MARKS 43**

**1 Follow up question from Hecht Problem 3.14**

**b) What is the photon flux from the light bulb in 3.14 assuming negligible heat loss and a wavelength of 600 nm? Remember, you calculated irradiance as  $1.59 \text{ W/m}^2$  in the last problem set.**

1. b)5marks photon flux

$$\Phi = \frac{\text{power}}{h\nu} = \frac{\text{power} * \lambda}{h * c} = \frac{(20 \text{ Js}^{-1})(6 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m})}{(6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js})(3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1})} \approx 6.06 \times 10^{19}$$

photon/s       $\frac{h\nu}{h * c}$        $(6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js})(3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1})$

**Wrong answer:**

$$\text{Mean photon flux density} = \frac{\Phi}{A} = \frac{I}{h\nu_0} = \frac{1.6 \text{ W/m}^2}{6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js} \left( \frac{2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}} \right)} = 4.03 \times 10^{18}$$

photons/m<sup>2</sup>/sec. This is flux density and then flux is:

$$\text{Mean photon flux} = \text{flux density} \times \text{area} = 4.03 \times 10^{18} \text{ photons/m}^2/\text{sec} \times 4\pi \text{ m}^2 = 5.06 \times 10^{19} \text{ photons/sec which is consistent}$$

**2 a) For the blue wavelength in slide 11, show whether the wavelengths and energies given are consistent.**

a)5 marks

$$E = h\nu = \frac{hc}{\lambda} = \frac{(6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js})(3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1})}{(4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m})(1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ JeV}^{-1})} \approx 3.1 \text{ eV}$$

yes, the wavelength and energy given are consistent.

**b) For the red light, no electron is freed from the surface. Why is this?**

**2 marks** *The photon energy is smaller than the energy needed to liberate a single electron from its highest orbital.*

**c) What is the momentum of a green photon in slide 11?**

5 marks  $p = \frac{h\nu}{c} = \frac{h}{\lambda} = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}}{5.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}} \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-27} \text{ Js m}^{-1} (\text{m kgs}^{-1})$

**d) Do Hecht Problem 3.58**

5 marks

$$\nu = \frac{E}{h} = \frac{(11 \text{ eV})(1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J/eV})}{(6.62 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js})} \approx 2.67 \times 10^{15} \text{ Hz}$$

**3 a) A 200 mW laser is focused in an optical trap to create “laser tweezers”. What is the force of the laser on a particle which reflects all of the light?**

5 marks  $F = \frac{2 \text{ power}}{c} = \frac{2 \times 200 \text{ mW}}{3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}} = 1.33 \times 10^{-9} \text{ N}$  reflected

**b) What is the photon flux if the wavelength is 500 nm?**

$$\Phi = \frac{\text{power}}{h\nu} = \frac{\text{power} \times \lambda}{hc} = \frac{200 \text{ mW} \times 500 \text{ nm}}{6.62 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js} \times 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}} = 5.04 \times 10^{17} \text{ photon/sec}$$

**c) If the laser beam is focused so that its cross section is  $9 \mu\text{m}^2$  what is the average radiation pressure of the beam incident perpendicular to a cell which absorbs all the light?**

5 marks  $F = \frac{\text{power}}{c} = \frac{200 \text{ mW}}{3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}} = 6.67 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N}$  absorbed

$$P = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{6.67 \times 10^{-10} \text{ N}}{9 \times (10^{-6})^2 \text{ m}^2} \approx 7.4 \times 10 \text{ Nm}^{-2} \text{ absorb}$$

**d) What is the photon flux density of the beam? 3 marks**

$$\text{Photon flux density} = \frac{\Phi}{A} = \frac{5.04 \times 10^{17} \text{ photon/sec}}{9 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}^2} = 5.6 \times 10^{28} \text{ photon/s} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

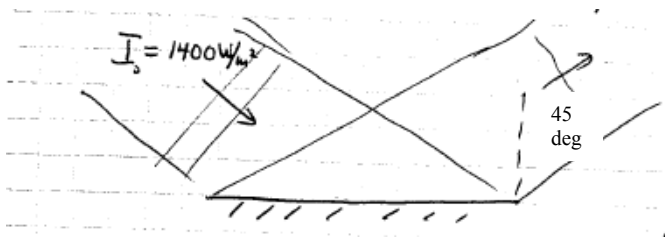
**4) A satellite has a “photon sail” of size 50 m by 50 m. What is the force exerted on it by sunlight if it strikes the mirror at an angle of  $45^\circ$  from the normal? The irradiance of sunlight is  $1400 \text{ W/m}^2$  measured with a detector whose surface is perpendicular to the sun’s rays. Hint: You might find it helpful to calculate the power and irradiance incident on the mirror first. Remember that force is a vector.**

5 marks The irradiance perpendicular to the beam is  $1400 \text{ W/m}^2$ . The area of the photon sail over which this irradiance falls is  $1 \text{ m} / \cos(\theta)$  where  $\theta$  is the angle to the normal of the ray ( $45^\circ$ ).

$$\text{Thus } I_{\text{on the sail}} = 1400 \cos(45^\circ) \text{ W/m}^2 = 989.9 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$F_{\text{normal to the beam}} = PA = \frac{2IA}{c} = \frac{2 \times (1400 \text{ Wm}^{-2}) \cos(45^\circ) (2500 \text{ m}^2)}{3 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}} \approx 1.65 \times 10^{-2} \text{ N}$$

2marks  $F_{\text{exerted}} = (F_{\text{normal}})(\cos(45^\circ)) = 1.65 \times 10^{-2} \times 0.707 \approx 0.012 \text{ N}$  See below, this is because the momentum change is in the vertical



change in momentum, hence causes the force.

