

* Wave Particle Duality: It is well known that light can exhibit the phenomenon of interference, diffraction, and polarisation which can only be explained by the wave nature of light or electromagnetic radiation. These phenomena prove that light is of wave nature.

Frank-Hertz experiment shows that the energy of electromagnetic wave is absorbed or emitted in discrete quanta or photons which move with velocity of light.

The two specific phenomena, the photoelectric effect and the Compton effect give evidence that the photon behaves like a particle.

De-Broglie Wavelength: According to De-Broglie, a moving particle whatever its nature, has wave properties associated with it. The wavelength λ associated with any moving particle of mass m and velocity v is given by

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv} \quad \text{--- (1)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$

and kinetic energy of the particle is

$$E = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{p^2}{2m} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(p = mv)$$

$$p = \sqrt{2mE}$$

Thus equation (1) becomes:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2mE}} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

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If a charged particle carrying charge q is accelerated through a potential difference of V volts, then De-Broglie wavelength,

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2q m V}} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

Kinetic energy at absolute temperature T

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 = \frac{3}{2} k T$$

Thus equation (3) becomes

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3 m k T}}$$

k - Boltzmann constant.

* Properties of Matter waves:

① The De-Broglie wavelength of a wave associated with moving light particles is greater than that of heavier particles.

② De-Broglie wavelength of wave associated with a slow moving particle is greater than the wavelength associated with fast moving particle.

③ For a particle at rest, i.e. $v=0$, The De-Broglie wavelength becomes infinite and if $v=\infty$ then $\lambda=0$. Thus the matter waves are generated only when the material particle is in motion.

④: The expression for De-Broglie wavelength $\lambda = \frac{h}{mv}$ is independent of charge of the particle, therefore matter wave are generated by moving charge particles

⑤ The velocity v of the matter wave is greater than the velocity of the electromagnetic wave, i.e. the velocity of light. It may be shown as

$$E = h\nu \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Energy of particle mass m ,

$$E = mc^2 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$h\nu = mc^2 \Rightarrow \nu = \frac{mc^2}{h} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

wave velocity $w = \nu \lambda$

$$\lambda = h/mv$$

$$\therefore w = \frac{mc^2}{h} \cdot \frac{h}{mv}$$

$$\text{or } v = \frac{mc^2}{h}$$

$$\boxed{w = c^2/v}$$

As the particle velocity v is always less than the velocity of light, it follows that velocity of propagation of associated matter wave is greater than the c , velocity of light.