Chapter 1: The Schrodinger Equation

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Problem 1.1.

- (a) Calculate the energy of one photon of infrared radiation whose wavelength is $1064 \ nm$.
- (b) An Nd:YAG laser emits a pulse of 1064-nm radiation of average power $5 \times 10^6 W$ and duration $2 \times 10^{-8} s$. Find the number of photons emitted in this pulse. (Recall that 1W = 1J/s.)

Solution of (a).

$$\begin{split} E_{\rm photon} &= h\nu & ({\rm Equation}~(1.1)) \\ &= \frac{hc}{\lambda} & ({\rm Equation}~(1.3)) \\ &= \frac{(6.626\times 10^{-34}Js)(2.998\times 10^8 m/s)}{1064\times 10^{-9}m} \\ &= 1.867\times 10^{-19}J. \end{split}$$

Solution of (b). Total energy in one pulse is $E = (5 \times 10^6 W)(2 \times 10^{-8} s) = 0.1 J$. By (a), the energy of one photon $E_{\rm photon} = 1.867 \times 10^{-19} J$. So the number of photons is

$$n = \frac{E}{E_{\rm photon}} = \frac{0.1J}{1.867 \times 10^{-19}J} = 5 \times 10^{17}.$$