

- **Metals**
- **Theory of radiation**

Reference Notes:

<https://egyankosh.ac.in/bitstream/123456789/65774/1/Unit-11.pdf>

# **Metals**

In physics, a metal is generally regarded as any substance capable of conducting electricity at a temperature of absolute zero.

## **Physical Properties of Metals**

- good conductors of heat and electricity.
- Ductile: can be stretched into a wire.
- Malleable: can be changed into new shape
- Sonorous: produces a ringing sound when struck with hard object
- shiny appearance
- Most metals are hard. {Sodium and potassium can be cut by knife whereas mercury is a liquid at room temperature}

# What is radiation ?

In physics, radiation is the emission or transmission of energy in the form of waves or particles through space or through a material medium.

Examples:

- EM radiation
- Particle radiation (alpha, beta, neutron)
- Acoustic radiation
- Gravitational radiation

**All bodies emit thermal radiation.**

Thermal radiation is the emission of electromagnetic waves from all matter that has a temperature greater than absolute zero.

Normal camera

Thermal camera

Thermal camera

## **What is a Black Body?**

Idealized physical body that absorbs all incident electromagnetic radiation, regardless of frequency or angle of incidence.

## **What is a Black Body Radiation?**

spectral distribution of radiant energy  
Blackbody radiation is thermal radiation. It is a special / idealized case that it absorbs all incident radiation with no reflection.

## **Experimental results of spectral distribution of radiant energy**

### **Spectroscopic analysis:**

- For a given wavelength, spectral energy density increases with temperature.
- For each temperature, the spectral energy density plot shows a maximum. It shifts to shorter wavelengths with increase in temperature
- The spectral energy density becomes zero as wavelength tends to either zero or infinity.

**Spectral energy density** gives energy per unit volume per unit range of wavelength.

**Correct explanation of these results was a huge challenge!!**

## Stefan-Boltzmann law

He gave formula to calculate total energy density of all photons in blackbody Spectrum.

It states that total rate of emission of radiant energy per unit area is related to energy density as fourth power of temperature:

$$E = \sigma T^4$$

Stefan's constant  
 $5.672 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Jm}^{-2}\text{K}^{-4}\text{s}^{-1}$

Limitation:

It does not give any information about the spectral distribution of radiant energy

## Plank's law

He presented the formula for energy density of blackbody radiation. It also gives spectral distribution of radiant energy.

$$u_\nu d\nu = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^3} \left( \frac{h\nu}{\exp(h\nu/k_B T) - 1} \right) d\nu$$

$$u_\lambda d\lambda = \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \left( \frac{1}{\exp(hc/\lambda k_B T) - 1} \right) d\lambda$$

$h$  is Planck's constant  
 $k_B$  is Boltzmann constant

He considered

- emission and absorption of radiation as a discontinuous process

Novel prize in 1918

Nature does not allow  
half wavelength.

### Plank's hypothesis:

- The exchange of energy between matter (walls) and radiation (cavity) could take place only in bundles of a certain size.
- The quantum of exchange is directly proportional to its frequency.

$$E = h\nu = \frac{hc}{\lambda}$$

This led to the birth of quantum mechanics

Novel prize in 1918

**Planck's law** provides most general description of blackbody radiation

**Rayleigh-Jeans law** and **Wien's law** are its limiting cases in the region of longer and shorter wavelengths, respectively.

***Wien's law***

- For  $\lambda \ll hc/k_B T$ , Planck's law reduces to Wien's law:

$$u_\lambda d\lambda = \left( \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \right) \exp(-hc/\lambda k_B T) d\lambda$$

***Rayleigh-Jeans law***

- For  $\lambda \gg hc/k_B T$ , Planck's law reduces to Rayleigh-Jeans law:

$$u_\lambda d\lambda = \frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \times \left( \frac{\lambda k_B T}{hc} \right) d\lambda = \frac{8\pi k_B T}{\lambda^4} d\lambda$$

## Plank's formula analysis :

$$u_v dv = \frac{8\pi v^2}{c^3} \left( \frac{hv}{\exp(hv/k_B T) - 1} \right) dv$$

$$u_v dv = n_v \epsilon_v dv$$

$\epsilon_v$  average energy of a mode of oscillation in Plank's theory

$n_v dv$  number of modes per unit volume in the frequency range

Calculate the number of modes of oscillations in a chamber of volume  $100\text{ cm}^3$  in the frequency range  $4.02 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz}$  to  $4.03 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz}$ .

Formula used:

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$$N_v dv = \frac{8\pi V v^2}{c^3} dv$$

**SOLUTION ■** It is given that  $V = 100\text{ cm}^3 = 10^{-4}\text{ m}^3$ ,  $v = 4.02 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz}$ ,  $dv = 0.01 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz}$  and  $c = 3 \times 10^8\text{ ms}^{-1}$ . On substituting these values in the expression given in Eq. (11.6c), we get

$$N_v dv = \frac{8 \times 3.14 \times (4.02 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz})^2 \times (10^{-4}\text{ m}^3) \times (0.01 \times 10^{14}\text{ Hz})}{(3 \times 10^8\text{ ms}^{-1})^3} = 1.5 \times 10^{13}$$

An oscillator vibrates with frequency  $1.51 \times 10^{14}$  Hz at  $T = 1800$  K.

Compare the values of its average energy by treating it as (a) a classical oscillator and (b) Planck's oscillator. Take  $h = 6.62 \times 10^{-34}$  Js $^{-1}$ , and  $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$  JK $^{-1}$ .

**SOLUTION ■** (a) The average energy of a classical oscillator is given by

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = k_B T = (1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ JK}^{-1}) \times (1800 \text{ K})$$

$$= 2.48 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$$

(b) The average energy of Planck's oscillator is given by

$$\bar{\varepsilon} = \frac{h\nu}{e^{h\nu/k_B T} - 1} = \frac{k_B T(h\nu/k_B T)}{e^{h\nu/k_B T} - 1}$$

We note that  $\frac{h\nu}{k_B T} = \frac{(6.62 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}) \times (1.51 \times 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1})}{(1.38 \times 10^{-23} \text{ J K}^{-1}) \times (1800 \text{ K})}$

$$= \frac{9.99 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}}{2.48 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}} = 4.03$$

Hence,  $\bar{\varepsilon} = \frac{(2.48 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}) \times (4.03)}{e^{4.03} - 1} = \frac{9.99 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}}{53.6} = 1.81 \times 10^{-20} \text{ J}$

Note that the average energy of Planck's oscillator is less than that of a classical oscillator.

**Thank you**