

- 8 (a) A photomultiplier tube (PMT) can be used to detect high-energy charged particles. Fig. 8.1 shows a diagram of a particular photomultiplier tube.

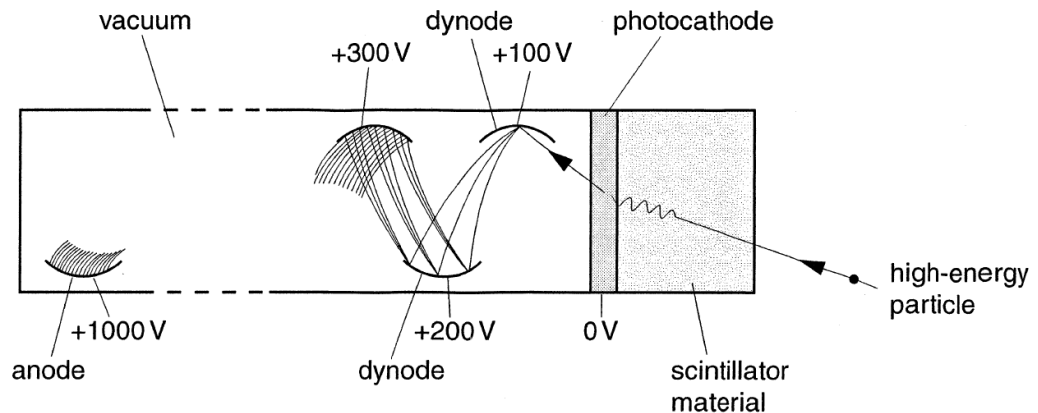


Fig. 8.1

The incoming charged particle strikes the scintillator material and produces a short burst of visible light. When this light reaches the photocathode, it removes some of the surface electrons due to the *photoelectric effect*. These electrons are then accelerated towards the first positive dynode because of the 100 V potential difference between it and the cathode.

The kinetic energy of one such electron is sufficient to liberate, on average, 3 'secondary' electrons from a dynode. These electrons are then accelerated towards the next dynode and the whole process is repeated. Eventually a tiny pulse of charge is detected at the anode.

In one particular case, a proton of kinetic energy 0.70 MeV produces 550 photons of light of wavelength 410 nm in the scintillator material. For a PMT with 9 dynodes, a single electron emitted from the photocathode produces a pulse of charge lasting  $2.3 \times 10^{-8}$  s at the anode. The work function energy of the material of the photocathode is  $3.5 \times 10^{-19}$  J.

- (i) Explain what is meant by the *photoelectric effect*.

.....  
 ..... [1]

- (ii) For a single electron emitted from the photocathode, determine the number of electrons striking the anode.

number of electrons = ..... [1]

- (iii) If the current at the anode is  $7.2 \mu\text{A}$ , deduce the rate of electrons emitted at the photocathode.

rate of photoelectrons = .....  $\text{s}^{-1}$  [4]

- (iv) Calculate the energy of a single photon of light of wavelength 410 nm.

energy of photon = ..... J [2]

- (v) Hence, calculate the maximum kinetic energy of the electrons emitted from the photocathode.

maximum kinetic energy = ..... J [2]

- (vi) Hence, calculate the maximum possible speed of the electrons arriving at the first dynode (+100 V as shown in Fig. 8.1)

maximum possible speed = .....  $\text{m s}^{-1}$  [2]

- (b) Fig. 8.2 shows a cooler region of hydrogen gas surrounding a hot gas cloud emitting white light.

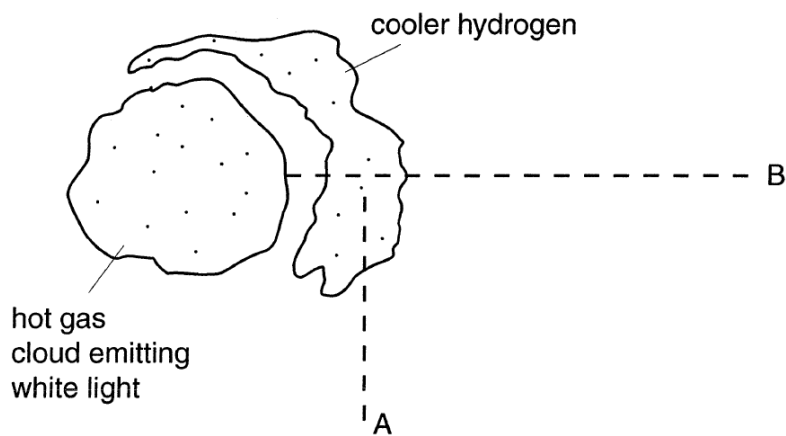


Fig. 8.2

- (i) State the type of hydrogen spectrum observed from

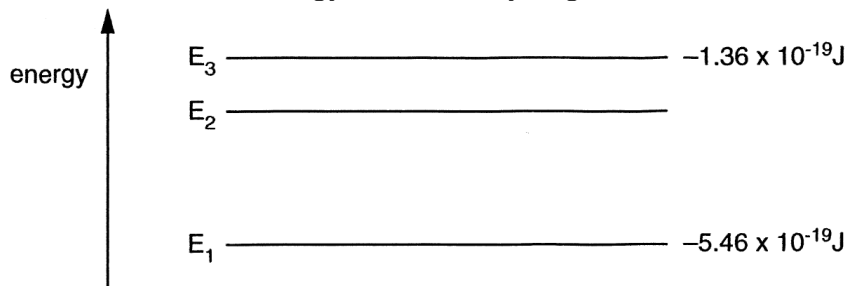
1. point A

..... [1]

2. point B

..... [1]

- (ii) Fig. 8.3 shows some of the energy levels of a hydrogen atom.



(not to scale)

Fig. 8.3

1. The frequency of radiation emitted when an electron makes a transition between energy levels  $E_3$  to  $E_2$  is  $1.60 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$ .

Determine the wavelength of the electromagnetic radiation when an electron makes a transition between energy levels  $E_2$  and  $E_1$ .

wavelength = ..... nm [3]

2. Determine the shortest wavelength of the electromagnetic spectrum that can be emitted when an electron makes a transition between any two energy levels shown in Fig. 8.3.

shortest wavelength = ..... nm [2]

3. State the colour of this shortest wavelength.

..... [1]

**END OF PAPER**