



Engineering Physics

(PHY1701)

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Problems

- 1) The average kinetic energy of neutrons, atoms and molecules is also expressed in terms of temperature through the equipartition law $E = \frac{3}{2} kT$. Write down the de-Broglie formula for such particles whose energy corresponds to temperature T . Hence determine the wavelength of thermal neutron; Rest mass of the neutron is $1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$. ($T=300 \text{ K}$ say)

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2m_0} = \frac{3}{2} kT \quad \Rightarrow \quad p = \sqrt{3m_0 kT}$$

According to de-Broglie,

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{mv} = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{\sqrt{3m_0 kT}} = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{3 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300}}$$

Non-relativistic formula for K.E is used, as it is valid for 'T' not very high

$$\lambda = 1.46 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

Problems

- 2) A beam of mono-energetic neutrons corresponding to 27°C is allowed to fall on a crystal. A first order reflection is observed at a glancing angle 30. Calculate the interplanar spacing of the crystal.

According to Bragg's law

$$2d \sin \theta = n\lambda$$

$$2d \sin 30^\circ = 1 \times \lambda \Rightarrow d = \lambda$$

The energy of neutron

$$E = kT = 1.38 \times 10^{-28} \times 300 = 4.14 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J}$$

$$\text{Now, } p = \sqrt{2m_n E} = \sqrt{2 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \times 4.14 \times 10^{-21}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore d = \lambda &= \frac{h}{p} = \frac{6.62 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \times 4.14 \times 10^{-21}}} \\ &= 1.78 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

Problems

3) 10 kV electrons are passed through a thin film of a metal for which the atomic spacing is $5.5 \times 10^{-11} \text{m}$. What is the angle of deviation of the first order diffraction maximum?

Wavelength of the electron

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{\sqrt{2.m.eV}} = \frac{6.6 \times 10^{-34}}{\sqrt{2 \times 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \times 10^4 \times 1.602 \times 10^{-19}}}$$
$$= 1.227 \times 10^{-11} \text{m}$$

Applying Bragg's formula for diffraction at the atomic planes,

$$n\lambda = 2d \sin \theta \Rightarrow 1 \times 1.227 \times 10^{-11} = 2 \times 5.5 \times 10^{-11} \sin \theta$$
$$\sin \theta = 0.1115$$
$$\therefore \theta = 6^\circ 24'$$

Angle through which electron is deviated $= 2\theta = 12^\circ 48'$