



Unit 3 - Electrons and Energy

- Section 2 - Wave Calculations - **Radiant Energy**

How does light energy transfer through space?

- Light travels in packets of energy called **photons**
 - Photons have **no mass** and have electrical and magnetic properties.
- Energy of a photon can be calculated using **frequency** or **wavelength** of the wave emitted
- Both would require a value to be plugged in for h
 - h = Planck's constant =

$$6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{sec}$$

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

E = Energy of a single photon

$h = 6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$ (Planck's constant)

ν = frequency (Hz)

λ = wavelength (m)

$c = 2.998 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$ (speed of light)

Calculation of Energy of a Photon

- *Calculate the energy of a photon (E) of blue light with a wavelength (λ) of 450 nm. (Convert to m)*

$$E = hc / \lambda$$

$$E = (6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{sec})(2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m/sec}) / 4.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

$$E = 4.41424 \times 10^{-19} \rightarrow \underline{4.4 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}}$$

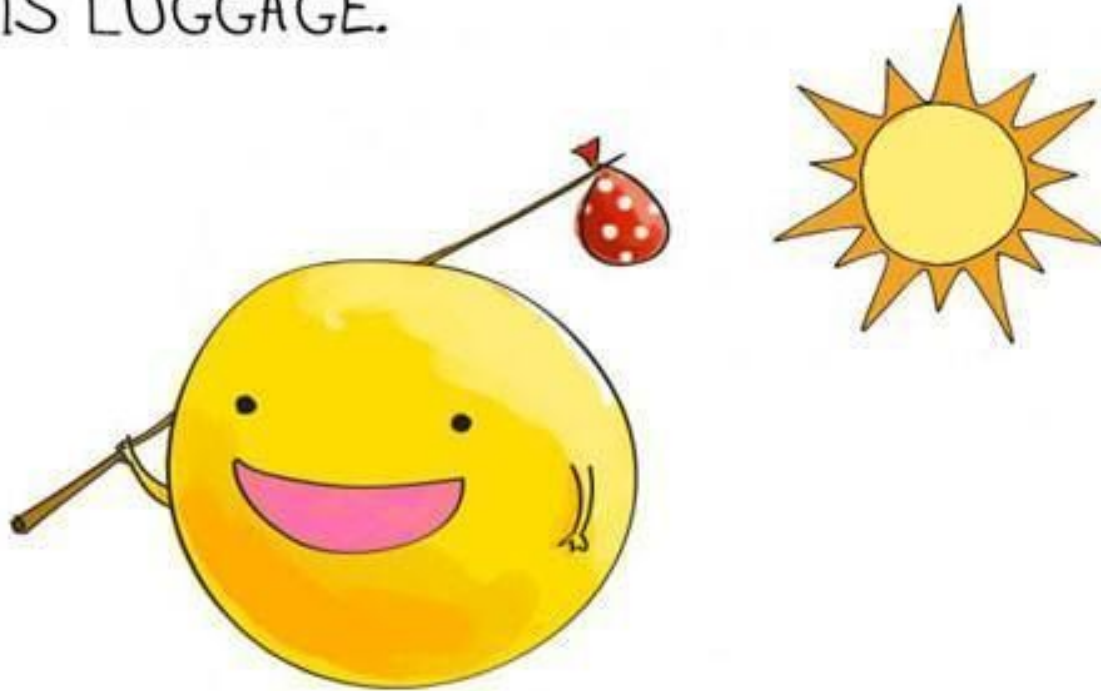
- *What is the energy of a photon (E) corresponding to radio waves with a $\nu = 1.255 \times 10^6$ Hz?*

$$E = h\nu$$

$$E = (6.626 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{sec})(1.255 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz})$$

$$E = 8.31563 \times 10^{-28} \rightarrow \underline{8.316 \times 10^{-28} \text{ J}}$$

A PHOTON CHECKS INTO A HOTEL AND
IS ASKED IF HE NEEDS ANY HELP WITH
HIS LUGGAGE.



”NO, I’M TRAVELLING LIGHT.”

Calculation of Wavelength and Frequency of Light

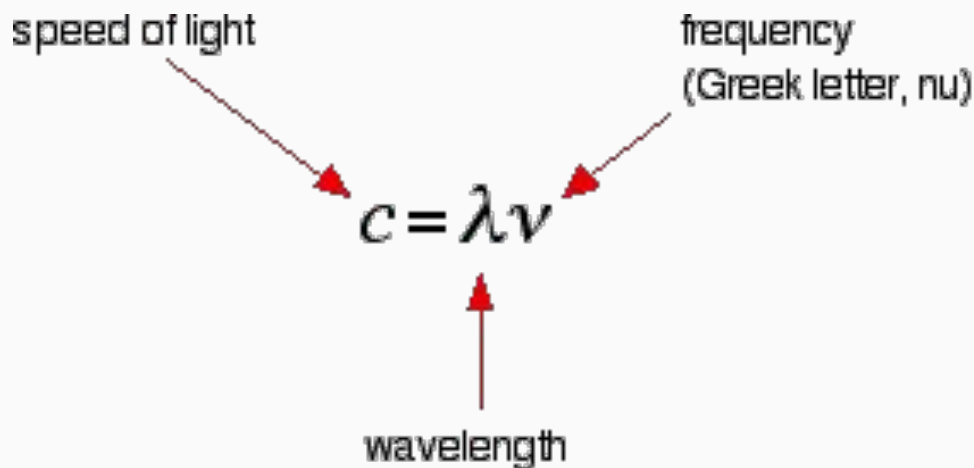
- Wavelength is calculated by using the speed the light is traveling and its frequency.
 - Speed of Light (c) - 2.998×10^8 m/sec
 - Can redesign formula to solve for frequency or wavelength!

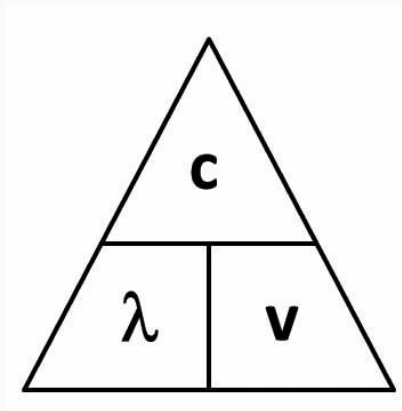
speed of light

frequency
(Greek letter, nu)

$$c = \lambda \nu$$

wavelength

A diagram showing the equation $c = \lambda \nu$. Three red arrows point from text labels to the variables in the equation: 'speed of light' points to 'c', 'frequency (Greek letter, nu)' points to 'nu', and 'wavelength' points to 'lambda'.



Calculation of Wavelength and Frequency of Light

- *What is the wavelength of light emitted from an atom (in nm) if the frequency of the radiation is 5×10^{12} Hz (Hertz)?*

$$\lambda = 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} / 5 \times 10^{12} \text{ Hz}$$

$$\lambda = 0.000599 \text{ m} (\times 1 \times 10^9 \text{ nm}) = \underline{60,000 \text{ nm}}$$

- *The wavelength of green light is 522 nm (convert to m). What is the frequency (in Hz) of this radiation?*

$$5.22 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m} = 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s} / \nu$$

$$\nu = \underline{5.74 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}}$$

**My favorite frequency is
50,000 Hz**



**You've probably never
heard it before**

*At the bottom of
your notes, write a
reflection where
you explain in
WORDS why this
section of notes
relates to
Chemistry and
how the
calculations work!*