

Planck's Constant

The "missing constant" essential to understanding size of atoms.

Size of atoms \leftrightarrow Avogadro's Number..

Car tire lasts $\approx 10^5$ miles. $\equiv L$
 $\approx 2 \cdot 10^5$ km $\approx 2 \cdot 10^8$ m $\approx 2 \cdot 10^{10}$ cm

Assume 1 layer of atoms peels off per revolution of the tire.

$$r \approx 30 \text{ cm}, \quad 2\pi r \approx 180 \text{ cm} \approx 2 \cdot 10^2 \text{ cm}$$

$$t \approx 2 \text{ cm} \quad (\text{thickness of tread})$$

$$a = \text{atom size.} \quad w \approx 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$m \approx \dots \quad \rho = 1 \text{ gm/cm}^3 \cdot V \quad (\text{width of tire})$$

$$V \approx 2\pi r \cdot t \cdot w = 2 \cdot 10^2 \cdot 2 \cdot 10^2 = 4 \cdot 10^4 \text{ cm}^3$$

$$m \approx 4 \cdot 10^4 \text{ gm}$$

volume of tire.

$$\text{then...} \quad \underbrace{L \cdot a \cdot w}_{\text{Volume of rubber deposited on road}} = \underbrace{2\pi r \cdot t \cdot w}_{\text{volume of tire}}$$

Volume of rubber deposited on road

$$a \approx \frac{2\pi r t}{L} = \frac{2 \cdot 10^2 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 10^{10}} = 2 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$$

$$a \approx 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$$

\leftarrow atomic size.

(not quite)

Avogadro: how many "atoms"
in a gram

How many atoms in the $4 \cdot 10^4$ gm
in the fire?

$$N_{\text{atom}} = \frac{4 \cdot 10^4 \text{ cm}^3}{10^{-24} \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{atom}}} \approx 4 \cdot 10^{28}$$

$$N_{\text{Av}} \approx \frac{N_{\text{atom}}}{m} \approx \frac{4 \cdot 10^{28}}{4 \cdot 10^4} \approx 10^{24}$$

$N_{\text{Av}} \approx 10^{24}$, really $6 \cdot 10^{23}$

meaning: # of mass carrying
constituents in matter

mass carrying constituents \equiv neutrons
or protons.

1 gram of stuff $\begin{cases} \text{Hydrogen} \\ \text{Uranium} \end{cases}$

has $\approx 6 \cdot 10^{23} = \# \text{ neutrons} + \# \text{ protons}$.

$6 \cdot 10^{23}$ ^{238}U weighs ≈ 238 gm

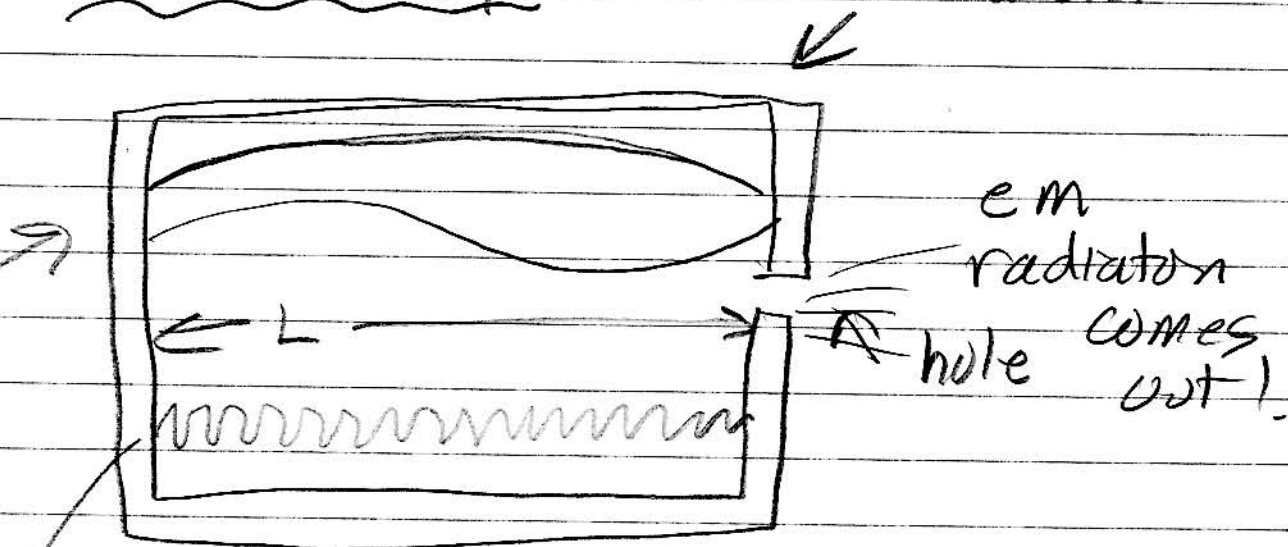
\uparrow
238 n+p

Explain $a \approx 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$?

⇒ Planck's Constant.

⇒ First appearance, black body radiation

Black Body box of conductor



walls at temperature T (think Kelvin).

→ the electromagnetic field is a "degree of freedom"

wavelength:

$$n \frac{\lambda_n}{2} = L$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{L}{2n}$$

each n yields a degree of

freedom! Should be equal amount of energy in each "increment" of wavelength.

$$|\Delta\lambda| = |\lambda_{n+1} - \lambda_n| = \left| \frac{L}{2(n+1)} - \frac{L}{2n} \right|$$

$$\approx \left| \frac{L}{2} \left[\frac{1}{n(1+\frac{1}{n})} - \frac{1}{n} \right] \right|$$

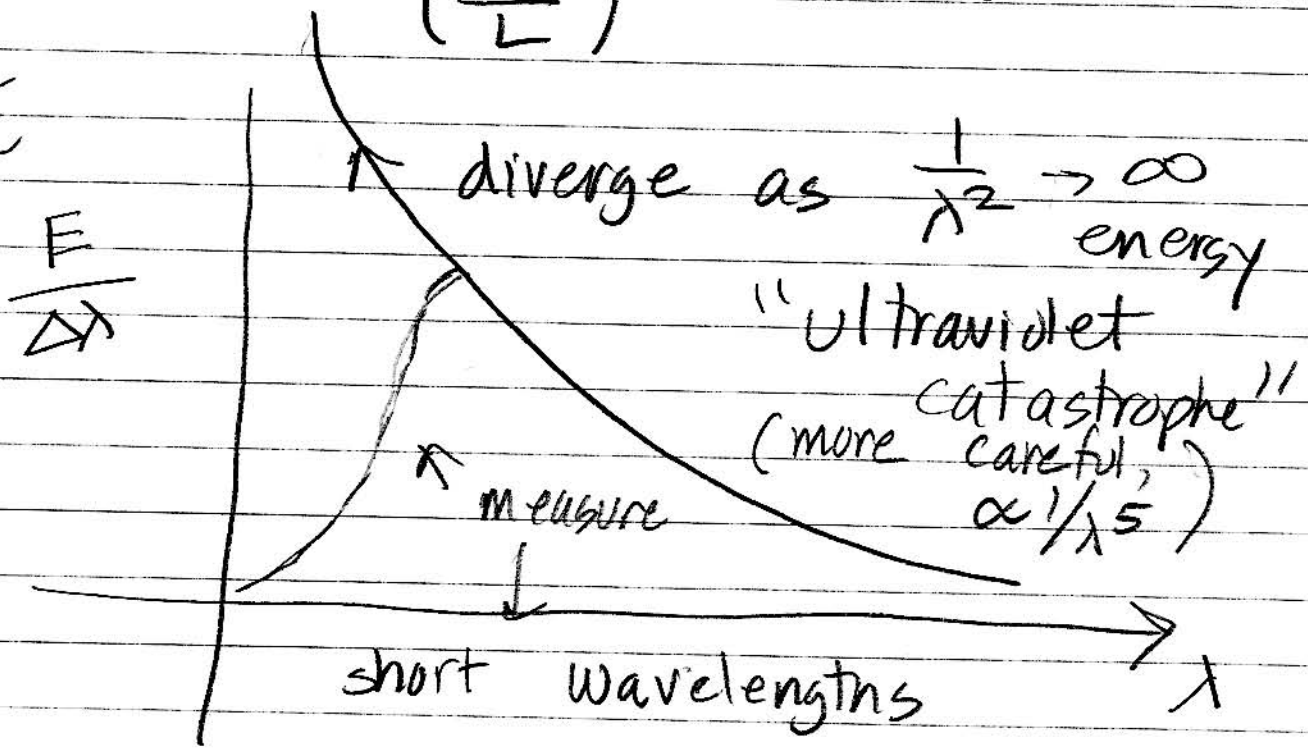
$$= \left| \frac{L}{2n} \left[1 - \frac{1}{n} - 1 \right] \right| \approx \frac{L}{2n^2}$$

$$n = \frac{L}{2\lambda}$$

$$|\Delta\lambda| = \frac{L}{2\left(\frac{L}{2\lambda}\right)^2} = \frac{2\lambda^2}{L}$$

$$\frac{E}{\Delta\lambda} \sim \frac{kT}{\left(\frac{2\lambda^2}{L}\right)} \sim \frac{1}{2} \frac{LkT}{\lambda^2}$$

Predict



"freeze out" ... killed
 by an exponential factor
 $\propto e^{-\frac{\gamma}{\lambda}}$

$\gamma \rightarrow$ involves planck's constant.
 \rightarrow temperature

$$\frac{\gamma}{\lambda} = \frac{hc}{\lambda} \cdot \frac{1}{kT} \quad k: \text{ Boltzmann}$$

new constant $\frac{hc}{\lambda}$ will be the energy of a quantum of light.

In full form,

$$E(\lambda, T) = \left(\frac{8\pi hc}{\lambda^5} \right) \frac{1}{e^{(hc/\lambda kT)} - 1}$$

$$h = 6.626 \cdot 10^{-27} \text{ erg-s}$$

Photoelectric Effect

Puzzle: shine as strong a light as you want on a metal surface,