

PHYSICS FACTORY

Photoelectric effect

- **1** A photon of wavelength 640 nm is incident on a metal surface. The work function of the metal is 3.70 eV.
 - a Calculate the energy of the photon in eV
 - **b** Explain what happens to the photon when it strikes the metal surface given a photoelectron is emitted.
 - **c** Explain any assumptions you have made in your explanation.
- 2 Ultraviolet light of wavelength 250 nm is incident on a metal surface. If the photoelectron emitted has kinetic energy 0.63 eV, identify the type of metal used from the table below.

Work function / eV	Type of metal
3.70	Mg
4.30	Al
4.32	Ag

- The threshold frequency of a metal is 8.97×10^{14} Hz. Light of wavelength 300 nm is incident on the metal surface.
 - **a** What does the threshold frequency explain about the way the metal behaves?
 - **b** Write down Einstein's photoelectric equation
 - **c** Explain how the threshold frequency can be used to calculate the work function for the metal. Calculate the work function in eV for this metal.
 - d Calculate the energy of the incident photon in eV.
 - **e** Find the maximum kinetic energy of the photoelectrons emitted from the surface of the metal in eV.
 - f A stopping potential is applied to the metal in order to just stop electrons leaving the surface. Find the value of the stopping potential V_s required to achieve this. (all calculations to 3 sf please)
- 4 Photoelectrons are emitted from a metal surface when light of wavelength 400 nm is incident on the surface. If the maximum speed of the photoelectrons is 2.22 x 10⁵ ms⁻¹,
 - a find the maximum kinetic energy of the photoelectrons in J
 - **b** find the stopping potential required to just stop the photoelectrons being emitted from the surface.
 - **c** why don't all photoelectrons leave the metal surface with maximum possible kinetic energy?

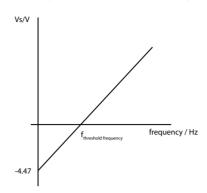
(mass of electron is 9.11 x 10⁻³¹ kg)





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5 The graph shows the results from a photocell with a zinc photocathode.



Given the wavelength of light that just starts to produce photoelectrons from the surface of zinc is 278 nm

- a find the threshold frequency of light causing photoelectrons to emitted from zinc
- **b** calculate the gradient of the graph
- **c** Give an equation for the line based on Einstein's photoelectric equation
- **d** Show how the gradient of the graph can be used to estimate a value for Planck's constant.
- **e** Calculate Planck's constant from the gradient of the graph. (fundamental unit of charge is 1.6×10^{-19} C)
- **6** A photocell produces a current of $0.6 \mu A$ when light of wavelength 590 nm is incident on the surface delivering $0.5 \mu A$ mW of light energy to the photocell.
 - **a** Calculate the charge following from the anode every second in C.
 - **b** Calculate the number of photoelectrons emitted from the surface of the metal every second.
 - **c** For the light incident on the anode, calculate the photon energy in J.
 - **d** Calculate the number of photons incident on the surface every second.
 - **e** Calculate the efficiency of the photocell in converting photons into photoelectrons The intensity of the light source is doubled but the wavelength of the light remains the same.
 - **f** What happens to the number of photons incident on the surface per second?
 - g What happens to the number of photoelectrons incident on the surface per second?
 - **h** What happens to the maximum speed of the photoelectrons emitted from the surface compared to the first experiment?



