

# Spectroscopy: Intro/Background

Chem 221  
Instrumental Analysis  
Spring 2005

## Definition and Overview

- The study of the interaction of *electromagnetic radiation (EMR)* with matter
- **Scope and Purview:**
  - *Properties of EMR*
  - *Atomic and Molecular Interactions with EMR*
  - *Instrumentation*
  - *Molecular Spectroscopy*
    - Infrared Absorption Spectrophotometry
    - Luminescence Spectrometry
    - Raman Spectroscopy
  - *Atomic Spectroscopy*
    - ✓ Absorption
    - ✓ Emission

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## Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR)

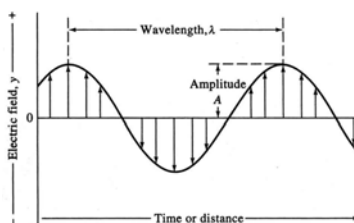
- So, just what is **EMR**?
  - an *oscillating* electric and magnetic field which travels through space
  - a discrete series of "particles" that possess a specific energy but have no mass

**BOTH!**

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## It's a Wave!

- Consider an oscillating electric field:



Characterized by:

- λ - wavelength
- A - amplitude
- ν - frequency

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## Wave Properties of EMR

- The product of λ and ν is constant:

$$\lambda \times \nu = c$$

Since ν has units of  $\text{sec}^{-1}$  and λ has units of length, their product, c, is the *velocity* of the wave:

- in a vacuum, all EMR travels at a velocity of:

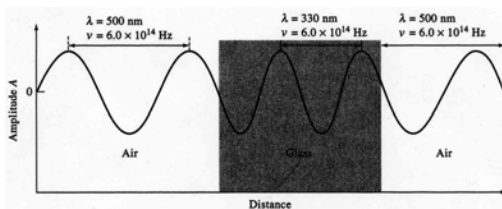
$$2.99792458 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s } (= c)$$

("The Speed of Light")

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## Propagation Velocity

- What happens as an EMR wave propagates from a *vacuum* into another medium?



Wavelength decreases; Frequency is unchanged; Velocity decreases

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## Refractive Index ( $n_i$ )

- Quantifies the magnitude of the EMR velocity decrease in a particular medium:

$$n_i = c/v_i$$

### Refractive Index

- varies with:
  - medium
  - frequency of EMR ( $n \uparrow$  as  $\nu \uparrow$ , generally)

EMR propagation velocity

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## Propagation Direction

- Propagation *direction* can also change:

### Reflection

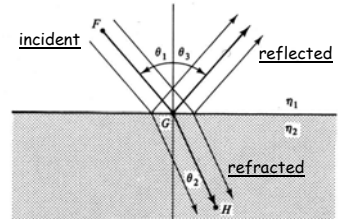
For  $\theta_i = 0^\circ$ : Fresnel Eqn

$$\frac{I_R}{I_o} = \frac{(n_2 - n_1)^2}{(n_2 + n_1)^2}$$

### Refraction

Snell's Law:

$$\frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$



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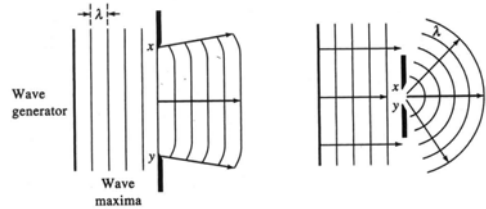
## Scattering

- Most EMR is *transmitted* through a medium (no direction change)
- BUT: a *small* amount is **scattered** isotropically:
  - > **Rayleigh Scattering**
    - Elastic (no energy loss)
    - Due to interactions with "particles"  $\ll \lambda$ 
      - e.g., molecules, aggregates, etc.
    - Scatter intensity ( $I_s$ )  $\propto \lambda^{-4}$  (blue sky!)
    - $I_s$  increases with increasing particle size

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## Diffraction

- EMR can also be "bent" as it passes through a narrow (width  $\approx \lambda$ ) opening or barrier:



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## Fun with Diffraction!

- Consider the following experiment (Fraunhofer Diffraction):



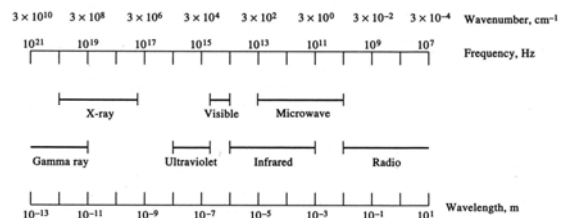
**NOTE:** There is a *wavelength dependence to the diffraction pattern*

See: <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/phyopt/sin slit.html#c1>

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## The Electromagnetic Spectrum

- EMR covers a very *wide* range of wavelengths and frequencies:



## EMR: Particle Properties

- Energy of a *photon* can be related to its frequency:

$$E = h\nu$$

• Where  $h$  = Planck's Constant =  $6.626 \times 10^{-34}$  Joule-sec

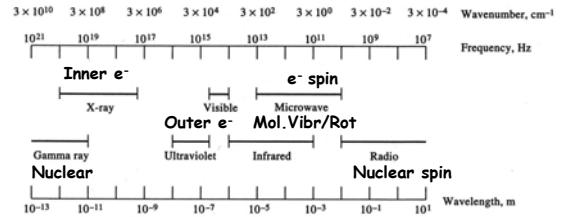
• The photon energy is *inversely proportional* to the wavelength of the EMR:

$$E = hc/\lambda$$

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## Photon Energy: Absorption/Emission of EMR

- The EMR *ENERGY* determines which atomic/molecular properties can be probed via spectroscopy:



## Units

- Varies with the spectral region:

- UV/Visible**

Wavelength:  $\text{\AA} = 10^{-8} \text{ cm} = 10^{-10} \text{ m}$   
 $\text{nm} = 10^{-7} \text{ cm} = 10 \text{ \AA}$   
 $\mu\text{m} = 10^{-4} \text{ cm} = 10^4 \text{ \AA}$

- Infrared (IR)**

Wavelength:  $\mu\text{m}$   
 Wavenumber( $\bar{\nu}$ ):  $\bar{\nu} = \lambda^{-1}$  ( $\lambda$  in cm gives  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )  
 NOTE:  $\bar{\nu} \propto \text{Energy}$

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## Jablonski Diagram

