



ANSWER BOOK

Antimatter and photons

Particles · Year 12

AQA 3.2.1.3 · CIE 11.1 · OCR A 6.4.2, 6.4.4

10 questions · 30 marks

NAVY EDITION

SECTION A · Warm-up

- A1** An antiparticle has the same mass as its corresponding particle but the opposite charge (and opposite values of other quantities such as lepton number). [2]
- A2** $E = hf = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 1.0 \times 10^{15} = 6.63 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$. [2]
- A3** A particle meets its antiparticle and the two are destroyed, their mass-energy being converted into two photons that travel off in opposite directions. [2]

SECTION B · Standard

- B1** $E = hc/\lambda = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.0 \times 10^8)/(500 \times 10^{-9}) = 3.98 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$. [3]
- B2** Rest energy of one particle $= m_e c^2 = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \times (3.0 \times 10^8)^2 = 8.20 \times 10^{-14} \text{ J}$. For a pair, $E_{\min} = 2m_e c^2 = 1.64 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$. $f_{\min} = E/h = 2.47 \times 10^{20} \text{ Hz}$. [4]
- B3** Each photon carries the rest energy of one particle: $E = m_e c^2 = 8.20 \times 10^{-14} \text{ J}$. $f = E/h = 1.24 \times 10^{20} \text{ Hz}$. [2]
- B4** $E = (6.63 \times 10^{-19})/(1.60 \times 10^{-19}) = 4.14 \text{ eV}$. [3]

SECTION C · Stretch

- C1** Rest energy of the pair $= 2 \times 0.511 = 1.022 \text{ MeV}$. Kinetic energy shared $= 2.0 - 1.022 = 0.978 \text{ MeV} = 0.978 \times 10^6 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19} = 1.56 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$. [3]
- C2** $E_{\min} = 1.022 \times 10^6 \times 1.60 \times 10^{-19} = 1.64 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$. $\lambda_{\max} = hc/E = (6.63 \times 10^{-34} \times 3.0 \times 10^8)/1.64 \times 10^{-13} = 1.22 \times 10^{-12} \text{ m}$. [4]
- C3** A single photon has momentum, and this momentum must be conserved when the pair is created. A nearby massive nucleus can recoil and take up momentum, allowing both energy and momentum to be conserved; without it the process could not satisfy both. [3]