Quantum physics

International Baccalaureate · IB Diploma · Physics · HL · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
photoelectric effect /ˌfəʊtəʊɪˈlektrɪk ɪˈfekt/	In the **photoelectric effect**, light knocks electrons out of a metal.
photoelectron /ˌfəʊtəʊɪˈlektrɒn/	A **photoelectron** leaves the metal surface.
threshold frequency /ˈθreʃəʊld ˈfriːkwənsi/	Light below the **threshold frequency** frees no electrons.
work function /wɜːk ˈfʌŋkʃn/	A metal's **work function** is the energy needed to free an electron.
stopping potential /ˈstɒpɪŋ pəˈtenʃl/	A **stopping potential** of 2 V stops the fastest electrons. 2 V
de Broglie wavelength /də ˈbrəʊli ˈweɪvleŋθ/	A fast electron has a short **de Broglie wavelength**.
wave–particle duality /weɪv ˈpɑːtɪkl djuːˈælɪti/	**Wave–particle duality** means light acts as a wave and as a particle.
Compton scattering /ˈkɒmptn ˈskætərɪŋ/	In **Compton scattering**, an X-ray loses energy to an electron. X

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