

Energy of a photon: $E = h\nu$

$$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ joule-sec} = 6.63 \times 10^{-27} \text{ erg-sec (Planck's constant)}$$

$$\nu = c/\lambda = 3 \times 10^8 \text{ m-sec}^{-1} / .5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m (for 500 nm light)}$$

$$= 6 \times 10^{14} \text{ sec}^{-1}$$

$$E = 6 \times 10^{14} \text{ sec}^{-1} \times 6.63 \times 10^{-27} \text{ erg-sec} = 3.96 \times 10^{-12} \text{ erg}$$

(Energy of one photon of green light)

$$.0002 \text{ dynes/cm}^2 = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dynes/cm}^2; \text{ acting on } 1 \text{ cm}^2 = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dynes}$$

$$\text{Threshold amplitude} = 10^{-9} \text{ cm}$$

Threshold energy in ergs

$$= 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ dynes} \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm} = 2 \times 10^{-13} \text{ ergs}$$

Assuming 1 cm^2 tympanic membrane and $\frac{1}{2}$ cycle for threshold

ν = frequency; λ = wavelength

$$1 \text{ erg} = 10^{-7} \text{ joules}$$

c = speed of light

$$1 \text{ erg} = 1 \text{ dyne} \times 1 \text{ cm}$$