

# Lecture Notes for 9/18/02

## ⊗ Gravity and Motion ⊗

page 1

FOR EXAM =

F.Y.I Bring ID, know ID #, bring a pencil.

### \* Inertia =

Tendency of an object at rest to remain at rest  
and an object in motion to keep moving. (Amount of Mass)  
• propensity of an object to obey Newton's 1st Law.

### \* Gravity - specific force (CENTRIPETAL FORCE) produces circular motion = planets moving around the Sun

\* Just as the Sun pulls on the Earth  
the Earth pulls on the Sun -  
Mass of the Sun keeps the two from running into each other

\* Orbital Motion is not uniform because  
things are always changing (i.e. direction)

### \* Surface Gravity - (your weight)

- It varies
- Closer you are to the planet <sup>→ CENTER</sup> the more gravitational attraction is
- Determines gravitational force of planet on object = weight of object

### \* Escape Velocity =

- Amount of speed and energy needed to disassociate yourself with the earth
- rocket has to reach a minimum of 17,500 mph to get to outer space
- speed needed to move away from an object and not fall back
- launch - always to east = earth's rotation (Spit of the earth → head start)
  - always closer to equator
  - mostly done in the east (something goes wrong → lands in ocean)

• Important in determining whether planet has atmosphere  
and for black holes

Looking for →

• Black holes - intense radiation (stuff being sucked in)  
- not able to see anything

# Light and Atoms

Light = photon, wavelengths coming from the sun;  
 high frequency is electromagnetic wave  
 • part of the electromagnetic spectrum

## Electromagnetic Spectrum

- That's how we receive all the information we have
- all objects emit Electromagnetic Radiation

## Properties of Light:

- Both particle and wave light properties
- Longer wavelengths, lower frequencies = wave light dominates
- Shorter wavelengths, longer frequencies = particle light dominates

• Electromagnetic Waves — transport Energy

• Atoms — all visible light comes from a photon and excitation with electrons decay, emit visible light

• Light from the Sun:

- surrounded by hot gases - atoms emit photons
- all visible light comes from a transition from the electronic shell of an atom.

• Wien's Law: A color

Graph = Intensity - is relative = (units don't make any difference)

Wavelength: nanometer - billionth of a meter

(Kelvin = temperature)

(Hugo Planck =)

• heat object up it has colors that are associated with what it is.

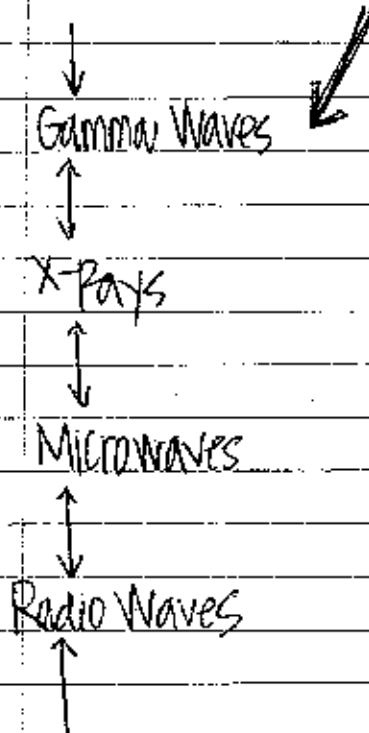
• all colors → WHITE (red, yellow, green, blue, purple)

heat →

longer wavelength  
low frequency, low energy = radio waves  
low visible light

page 4

more visible light, more energetic = X-rays  
Gamma Rays



• Types of Spectra

Spectroscopy = looking at the radiation an object is emitting.

- Astronomy Interest →
1. Emission
  2. Absorption
  3. Continuous