Question:

Infrared radiation has wavelengths ranging from about 800 nm to 1 mm. What is the frequency of radiation of wavelength 890 nm? Answer in units of s-1.

Solution:

The relation between wavelength (λ) and frequency of electromagnetic oscillations (f) is described by the following expression:

 $\lambda = c/f$, where c – is the speed of light in vacuum = $3*10^8$ m/s.

Derive f from above: $f = c / \lambda$.

Calculate:

$$\begin{split} \lambda &= 890 \text{ nm} = 890^* 10^{-9} \text{ m} = 8.9^* 10^{-7} \text{ m} \\ \text{f} &= 3^* 10^8 \text{ m/s} \text{ / } 8.9^* 10^{-7} \text{ m} = 0.34^* 10^{15} \text{ s}^{-1} = 3.4^* 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1}. \end{split}$$

Answer:

The frequency of radiation of wavelength 890 nm is $3.4*10^{14}$ s⁻¹.

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