

Answer on Question #53754-Physics-Electromagnetism

For biological organisms, more damage is done to cells by standing in front of a very weak (low power) beam of x-rays than in front of a much brighter red light. How does the photon concept explain this situation that an 18th century physicist would have found paradoxical?

Answer

An x-ray beam is far more energetic than an intense bright red light, since the wavelength of the x-ray beam has a much smaller wavelength than the red light.

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