

World of Light - Exam 1 study guide

Exam 1 will be on Friday, April 24

Bring a calculator to the exam (smart phones are fine)

The exam will cover:

- material that we've learned in class
- labs 1 and 2
- problem sets 1, 2, and 3
- book chapters 1 and 2, and section 6.5.

Scientific units

scientific notation

metric system (meters, seconds, joules, hertz; prefixes: mega, kilo, centi, milli, micro, nano)

unit analysis

unit conversion

Terminology

For each of the following terms, you should be able to define it, provide examples of it, and, if appropriate, draw a diagram for it.

waves - wavelength, crest, trough, amplitude

waves - transverse and longitudinal

standing waves - nodes and antinodes, wavelength

water waves - shallow and deep water

medium that waves travel through

refractive index

electromagnetic spectrum - gamma ray, X-ray, UV, visible, IR, microwave, radio

electromagnetic wave - oscillating electric and magnetic fields

sound spectrum - ultrasound, audible sound, infrasound

spectra - line spectra and continuous spectra, reading spectra

absorption, transmission, reflection

resonance, coupling, damping

normal modes, fundamental frequency, first harmonic, overtones, octaves

shadows - umbra, penumbra

pinhole camera - focal length

scalars, vectors, scalar fields, vector fields

photons, photoelectric effect, photodiode

energy, power

hydrogen atom energy levels, ionization energy

scattering of light

superposition - waves passing, constructive and destructive interference, standing waves

Doppler shift - for light, sound, water waves

Calculations

You will be given all equations that you need. However, you need to know what each equation is, when to use it, and how to use it.

speed of light in vacuum = $c = 3 \times 10^8$ m/s
acceleration due to gravity = $g = 10$ m/s²
speed of sound in air = 350 m/s
Rydberg constant = $R = 1.097 \times 10^7$ m⁻¹

$$v = \frac{d}{t} \quad v = \lambda f \quad v = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda g}{2\pi}} \quad v = \sqrt{gh} \quad v = \frac{c}{n}$$

$$E = hf$$

$$P = E/t \quad (P = \text{power}, E = \text{energy}, t = \text{time})$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = R \left(\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{m^2} \right)$$

Colors

reading spectra

correspondence between light wavelength and color

absorption, transmission

energy in a spectral peak

color addition with lights

color subtraction with paint

causes of colors of common things (sky, clouds, sunset, leaves, etc.)