



# LIGHT

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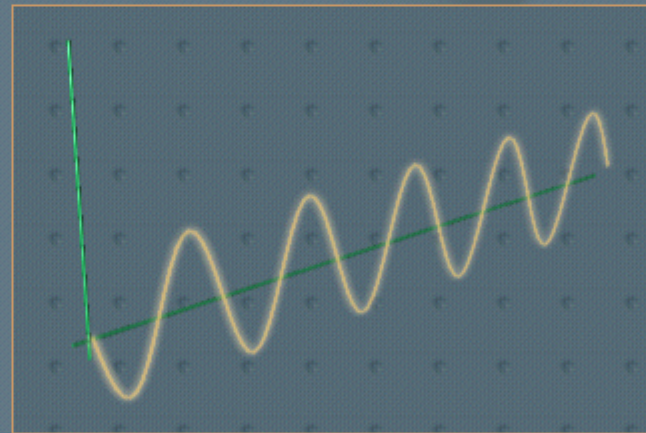
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Light is electromagnetic radiation.

Light may be understood as propagating waves. Sound may also be described as propagating waves.

However, light waves are [electromagnetic] waves, [sound] waves are not.

All electromagnetic waves propagate at the [speed of light].



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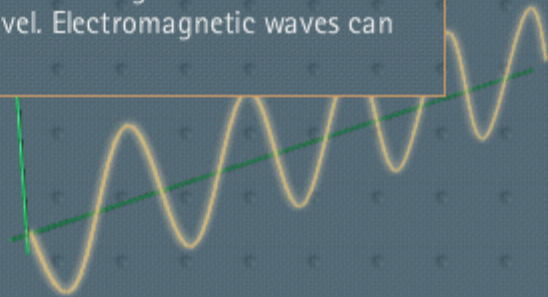
Light is electromagnetic radiation.

Light may be understood as propagating waves. Sound may also be understood as propagating waves.

However, light waves are transverse waves, [sound] waves are not.

All electromagnetic waves propagate at the [speed of light].

In contrast with sound waves, electromagnetic waves do not need a medium in which to travel. Electromagnetic waves can even travel in vacuum.



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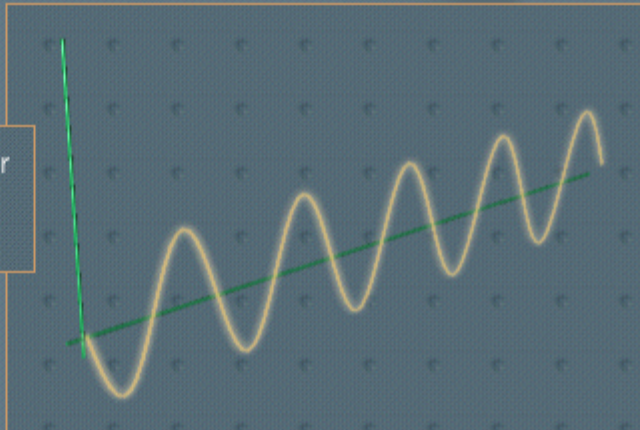
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Light is electromagnetic radiation.

Light may be understood as propagating waves. Sound may also be described as propagating waves.

Sound waves require a medium in which to travel. Air or water are typical examples. In air, sound travels at a velocity of around 330 meters per second.

All electromagnetic waves propagate at the [speed of light].



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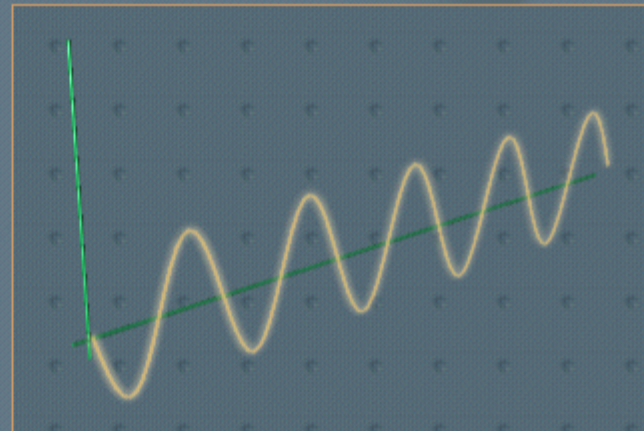
Light is electromagnetic radiation.

Light may be understood as propagating waves. Sound may also be described as propagating waves.

However, light waves are [electromagnetic] waves, [sound] waves are not.

All electromagnetic waves propagate at the

Light travels in vacuum at almost 300 000 kilometers per second. This is almost 1 million times faster than the velocity of sound traveling in air.



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Light is a part of the electromagnetic spectrum.



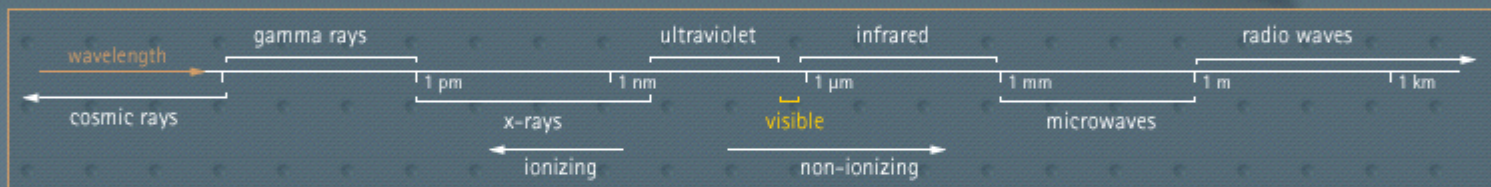
Waves differ from each other by their **wavelength**.

Electromagnetic waves of all wavelengths make up the electromagnetic spectrum.

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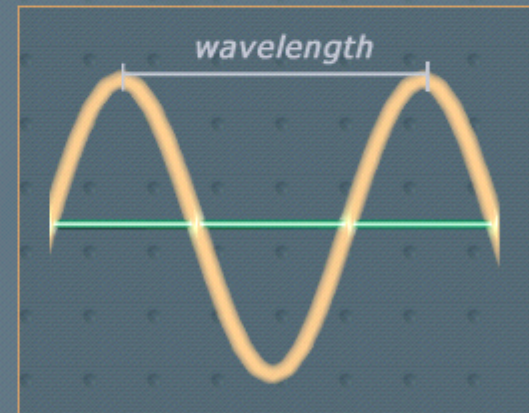
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Light is a part of the electromagnetic spectrum.



The wavelength is defined as the distance between two peaks of a wave. The wavelength is frequently symbolized by the greek letter lambda ( $\lambda$ ) and ranges over many [orders of magnitude].

Electromagnetic waves of all wavelengths make up the electromagnetic spectrum.



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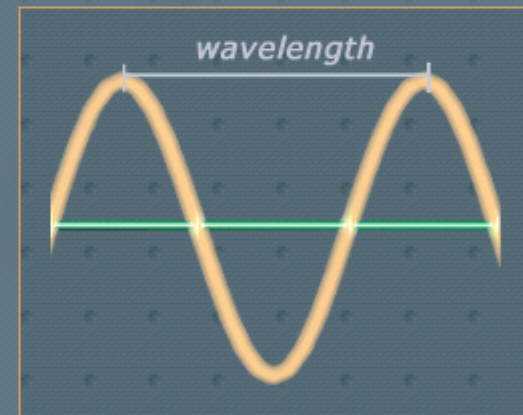
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Electromagnetic wave  
electromagnetic spect

1 kilometer	(km)	= 1 000 m
1 millimeter	(mm)	= 0.001 m
1 micrometer	(μm)	= 0.000 001 m
1 nanometer	(nm)	= 0.000 000 001 m
1 picometer	(pm)	= 0.000 000 000 001 m

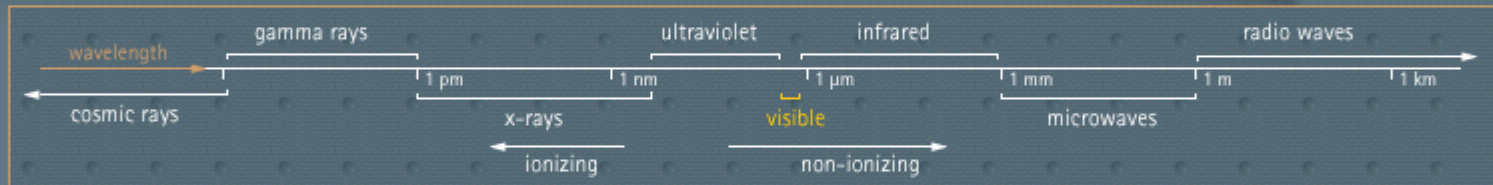


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Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.

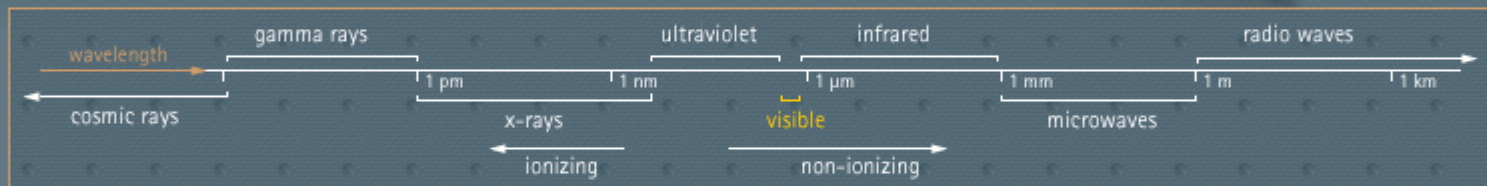


With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths are called [cosmic rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light]. Then there is a very small region called [visible light], next to the [infrared] part of the spectrum. [Microwaves] and [radio waves] represent the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

Lasers usually emit optical radiation that is ultraviolet, visible or infrared radiant energy, with few [exceptions].

Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths are  $\lambda < 0.01 \text{ pm}$  [gamma rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light]. Then there is a very small region called [visible light], next to the [infrared] part of the spectrum. [Microwaves] and [radio waves] represent the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

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Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



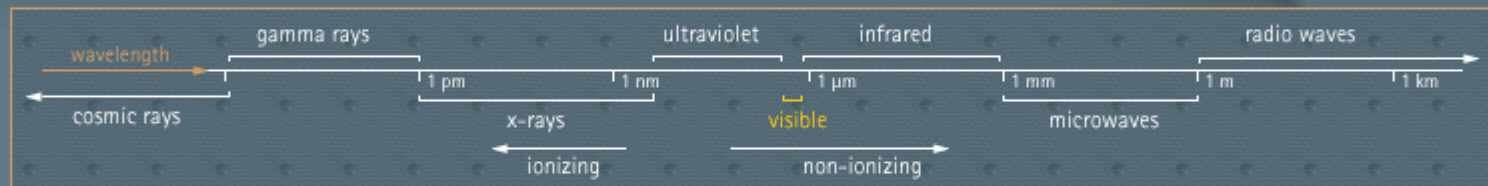
With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several regions.

$$\lambda = 1 \text{ pm} - 10 \text{ nm}$$

The shortest wavelengths are called [cosmic rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light]. Then there is a very small region called [visible light], next to the [infrared] part of the spectrum. [Microwaves] and [radio waves] represent the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

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Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths are called [cosmic rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [x-rays], [ultraviolet], [visible light], [infrared], and [radio waves] represent the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

Lasers usually emit optical radiation that is ultraviolet, visible or infrared.

$\lambda = 100 \text{ nm} - 400 \text{ nm}$

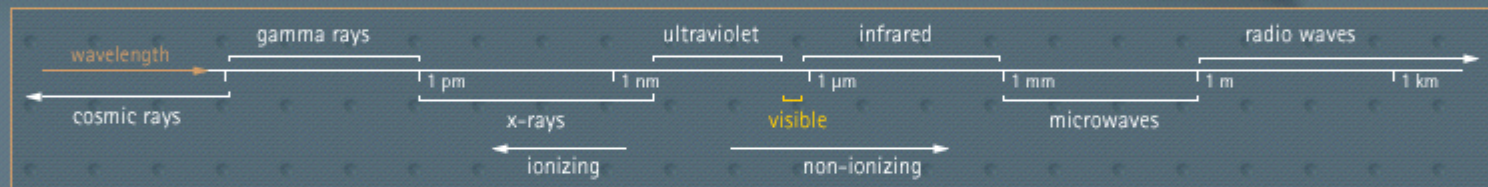
In photobiology, ultraviolet radiation is subdivided into 3 parts:

UV-C	100 - 280 nm
UV-B	280 - 315 nm
UV-A	315 - 400 nm

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Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths are called [cosmic rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light]. Then there is [visible light], next to the [infrared] part of the spectrum. [Microwaves] and [radio waves] are the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

Visible light is by far the smallest part of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Lasers use

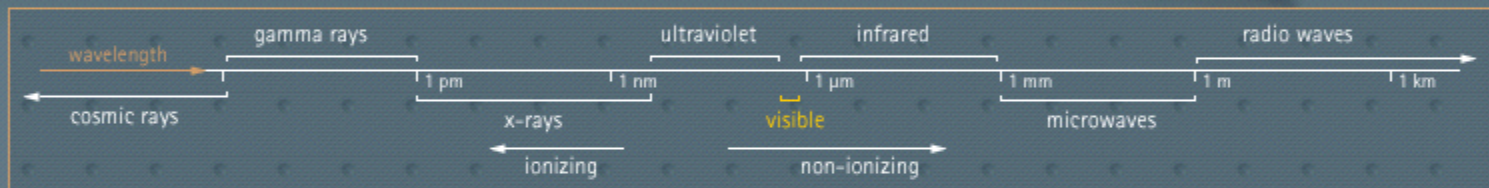
ultraviolet, visible or infrared radiant energy, with few [exceptions].

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Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths  
Then there is a very small  
and [radio waves] represent

Lasers usually emit optical

$\lambda = 700 \text{ nm} - 1 \text{ mm}$

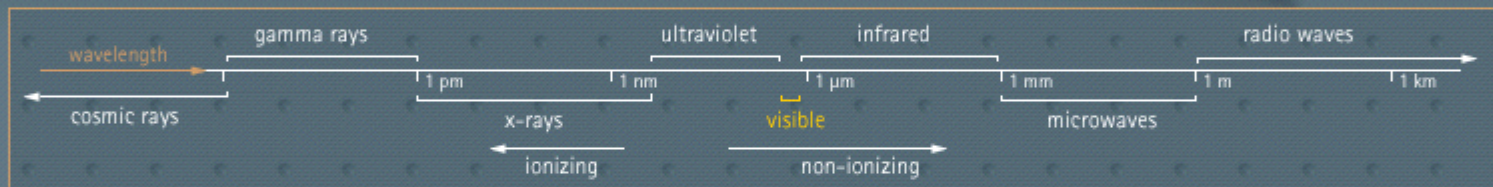
In photobiology, infrared radiation is  
subdivided into 3 parts:

IR-A	700 nm – 1400 nm
IR-B	1.4 μm – 3 μm
IR-C	3 μm – 1 mm

covered by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light].  
part of the spectrum. [Microwaves]

radiant energy, with few [exceptions].

Visible light makes up only a very small portion of the electromagnetic spectrum.



With respect to the wavelength, the electromagnetic spectrum is divided into several parts.

The shortest wavelengths are called [cosmic rays] and [gamma rays], followed by [X-rays] and [ultraviolet light]. Then there is a very small region called [visible light], next to the [infrared] part of the spectrum. [Microwaves] and [radio waves] represent the longest wavelengths of the spectrum.

Lasers usually emit optical radiation that is ultra

Research groups sometimes use lasers at other wavelengths, e.g. soft X-ray lasers. At present, those systems are of little relevance for medical applications.

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Find the corresponding wavelengths !

10.6  $\mu\text{m}$  is equivalent to...

[10600 nm]

correct!

[1060 nm]

[1.06 mm]

1064 nm is equivalent to...

[10.64  $\mu\text{m}$ ]

[1.064  $\mu\text{m}$ ]

[0.001064 mm]

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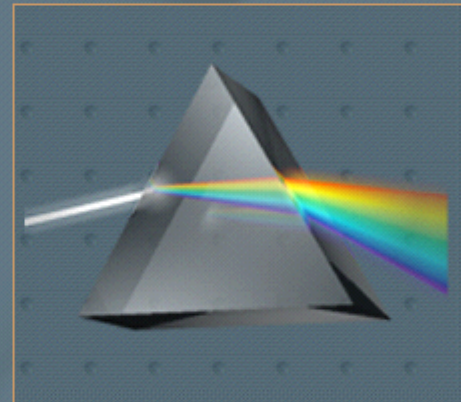


Different colors correspond to different wavelengths.

Natural light consists of electromagnetic waves of different wavelengths.

Different wavelengths of the visible part of the spectrum are interpreted as different colors by the human eye: short wavelengths appear blue, longer wavelengths appear red.

The human eye detects different [colors] with different [sensitivities].



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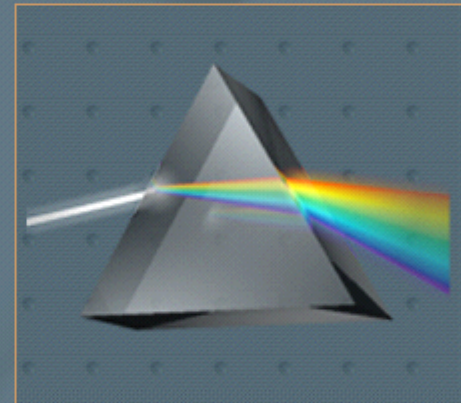
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Looking at electromagnetic radiation, different wavelengths correspond to different colors. Listening to sound waves, different wavelengths correspond to different pitch. While the human ear can only detect specific sounds the human eye can only detect specific colors. Ultrasound is not audible, ultraviolet radiation is not visible. [activities].



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Different colors correspond to different wavelengths.

Natural light consists of electromagnetic waves of different wavelengths.

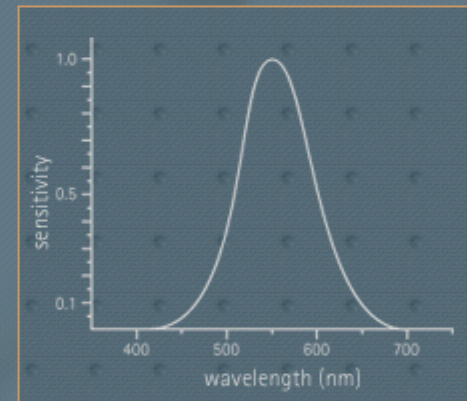
Different wavelengths of the visible part of the spectrum are interpreted as different colors by the human eye: short wavelengths appear blue, longer wavelengths appear red.

The

The human eye is most sensitive at a wavelength of  $\lambda = 550 \text{ nm}$ . Thus, green and yellow light are detected especially well, other wavelengths not as well.

Assuming a green ( $\lambda = 550 \text{ nm}$ ) and a red ( $\lambda = 650 \text{ nm}$ ) light source appear equally bright to the human eye, this means that in reality the red light is much more powerful.

If those light sources emitted the same output power, the red light would appear much fainter than the green light.



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