

Thermal radiation characteristics and description; emission of the human body, medical applications, infra-diagnostics, Polarization of light.

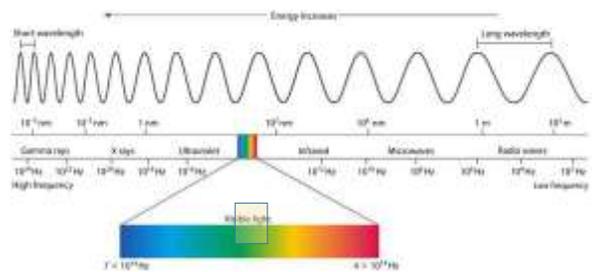
Gusztáv Schay

### Thermal emission



Hot objects emit light.

Maybe even colder objects do the same?



We only see as "Light" a very limited range of the full electromagnetic wave spectrum. But light is also all the others!

ALL objects generate light, IF their temperature is above 0 K.

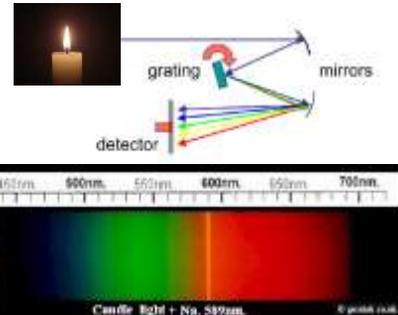
This is called thermal radiation.

Source: the thermal motion of the atoms, molecules, as they all have charges inside.  
 Basic Physics course: an accelerating charge creates an electromagnetic field.

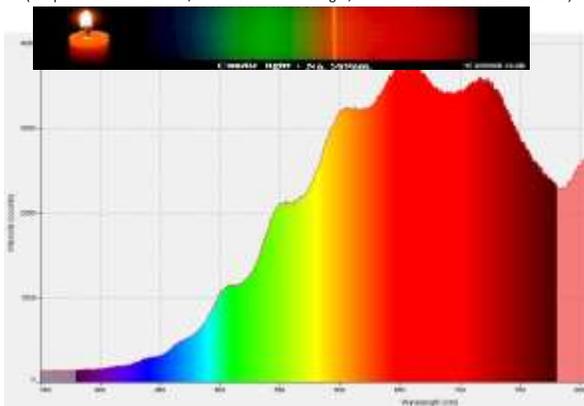
Just for fun: it can be exactly calculated, but this is NOT required here ;)

$$E_{rad}(r,t) = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{(c^2 r^2)} \right] \frac{d^2 a_{obs}}{dt^2} \left( t - r/c \right)$$

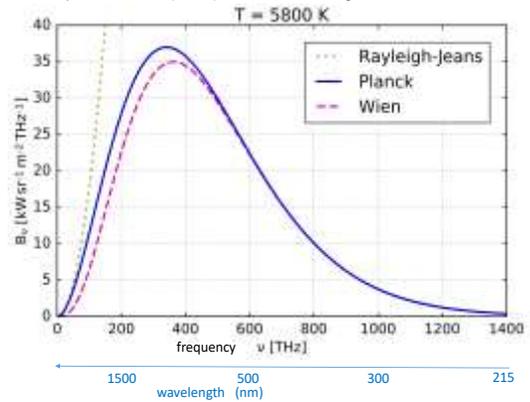
charge      acceleration      speed of light:  $3 \cdot 10^8$  m/s



Emission spectrum of a candle flame  
 (not pure thermal radiation, also other sources of light, see later lectures on luminescence)



From classic physics, with a LOT of calculations it is possible to come quite close to the shape of the experimental curve (Planck), BUT NOT close enough!





Max Planck (~ 1900)

He could get the correct shape of the curve ONLY IF he assumed that the energy of the light-waves is "packaged" into discrete values of  $h \cdot f$ , which Einstein later coined as PHOTONS

$$E_n = nhf$$

↑ vibrational frequency  
↑ integer

$E_n$  is the energy of  $n$  photons together, all with the same frequency. The accelerating charges produce photons with a given frequency

with this, he could get a formula which has the correct shape ☺

$$j(f, T) df = \frac{8\pi V f^2 df}{c^3} \frac{hf}{e^{hf/kT} - 1}$$

Do NOT learn the formula itself!



Gustav Kirchhoff (1824-1887)

If an object absorbs light well, then it also emits light well.

The best emitter is then an absolute black body, which absorbs all light arriving onto the surface.



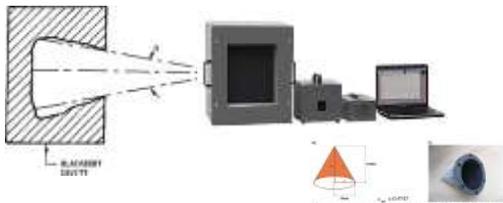
$$\alpha = \frac{J_{\text{absorbed}}}{J_{\text{total incident}}}$$

absorptance

n.B.:  $A = |g(I_0/I_{\text{transmitted}})|$   
this is the absorbance

Total black body:  $\alpha=1$

This can be simulated by specially designed boxes with a hole. The hole itself can act as a black body



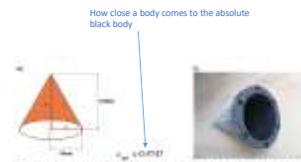
M: radiant emittance (W/m<sup>2</sup>)

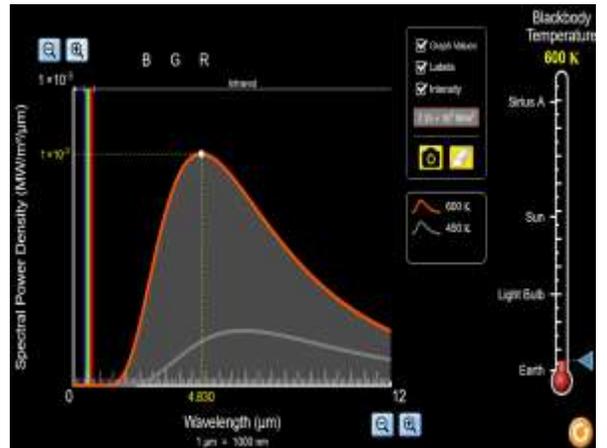
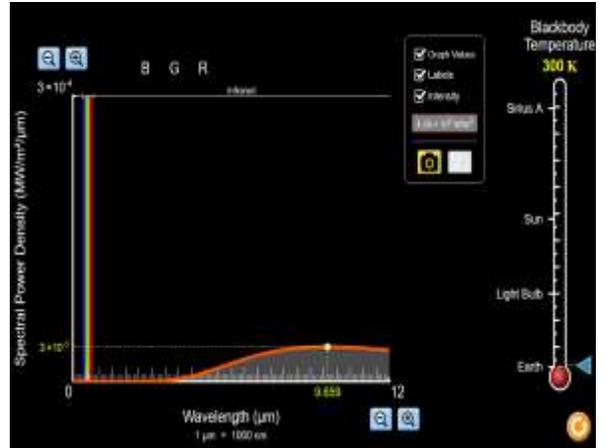
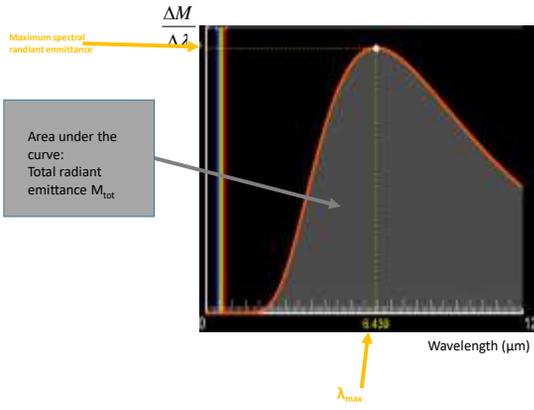
The emitted power on a unit surface of the emitter body.

**Kirchhoff's law:  $M/\alpha$  is constant.**

This means, if an object is absorbing all of the radiation, so  $\alpha=1$ , then  $M=M_{\text{max}}$

**Both M and  $\alpha$  depend on the frequency (or wavelength)!**  
(spectral radiant emittance,  $M_\lambda$  and spectral absorptance  $\alpha_\lambda$ )

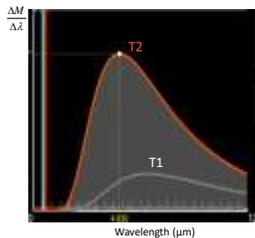




Two famous laws:

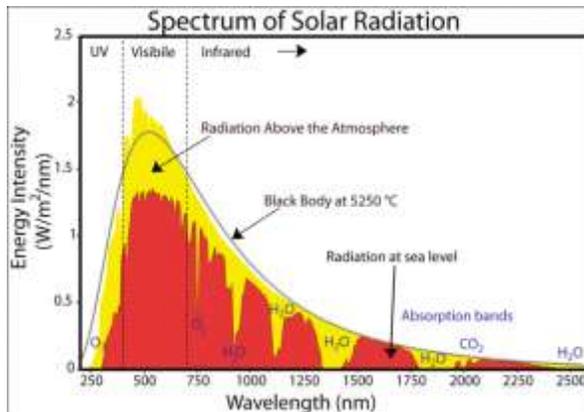
Wien's displacement law  
 $\lambda_{max} \cdot T = 2.898 \cdot 10^6 \text{ K} \cdot \text{nm}$  (Wien's constant)

Stephan-Boltzmann's law  
 $M_{tot} = \sigma \cdot T^4$   
 $\sigma = 5.7 \times 10^{-8} \left[ \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4} \right]$

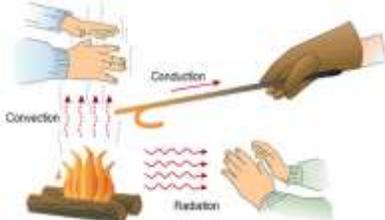


$$\Delta M = \sigma (T_{\text{object}}^4 - T_{\text{environment}}^4) \quad \text{W/m}^2$$

Thermal equilibrium will also be reached through radiation energy exchange.



Heat energy exchange possibilities



+ Evaporation (Perspiration)

For an adult, approx. 2 m<sup>2</sup> skin area (at room temperature environment):

- Radiation → ≈ 100W
- Conduction → ≤ 1W
- Convection → ≈ 10W
- Perspiration → ≈ 10W

Most of the metabolic rate (2000kcal/day = 9MJ/day) is used up for radiative heat loss.

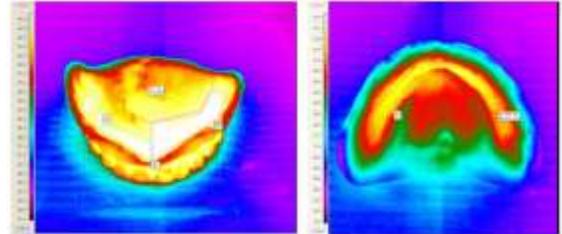
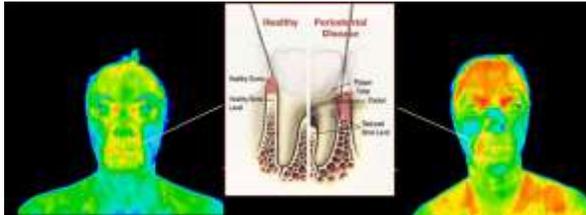
Stephan-Boltzmann's law  
 $M_{tot} = \sigma \cdot T^4$        $\sigma = 5.7 \times 10^{-8} \left[ \frac{\text{W}}{\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}^4} \right]$

Wien's displacement law  
 $\lambda_{max} \cdot T = 2.898 \cdot 10^6 \text{ K} \cdot \text{nm}$  (Wien's constant) → For human skin surface  $\lambda_{max} = 7 \dots 15 \mu\text{m}$

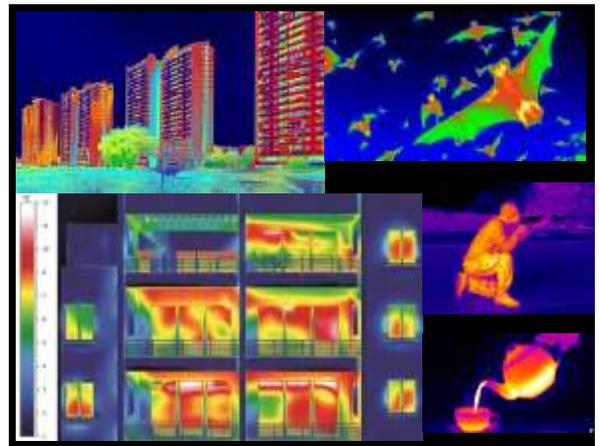
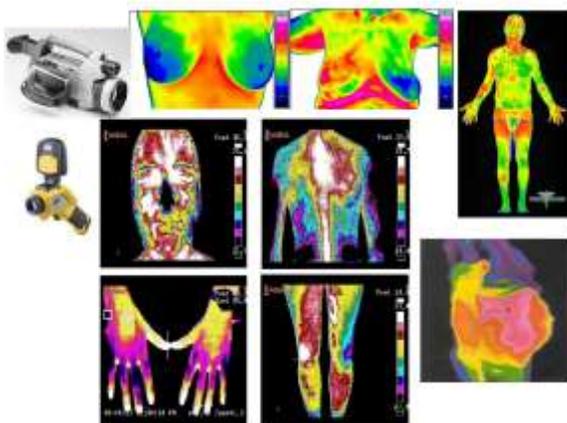
Thermal imaging and sensing is very sensitive!



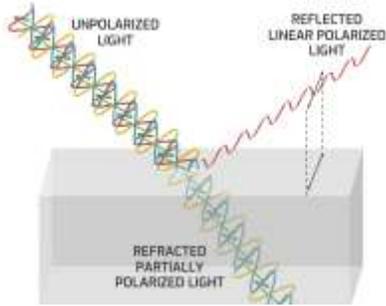
Inflammation, cancer, elevated metabolic rate can be detected.



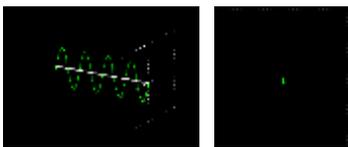
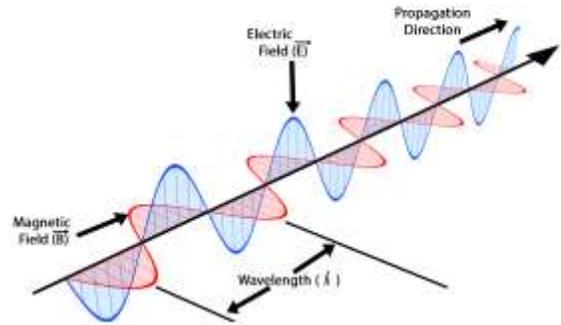
Thermograms of the denture after its removal from the oral cavity



### Polarization of light



### Electromagnetic Wave

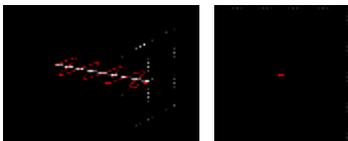


We usually only show the E-field vector, to make the drawing easier to read.

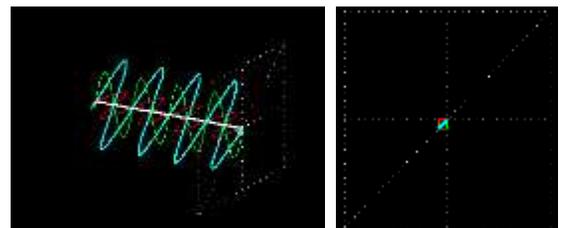
We do imagine the B-field vector to be there, since it is EM-wave!

**Polarization is the direction of the E-field vector**

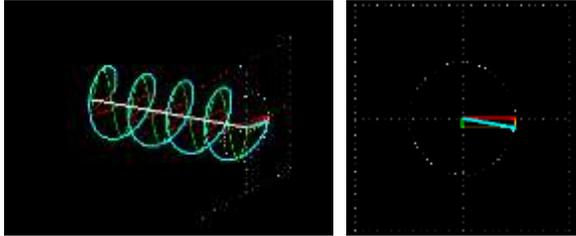
Linear polarized light: only one direction is possible. (more precisely, along one line)



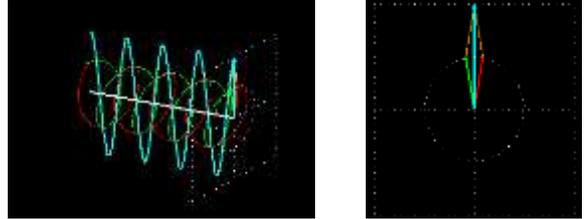
<https://cddemo.szialab.org/>



Superposition principle: waves can be freely added together, the resulting E-field is the vectorial sum of the components

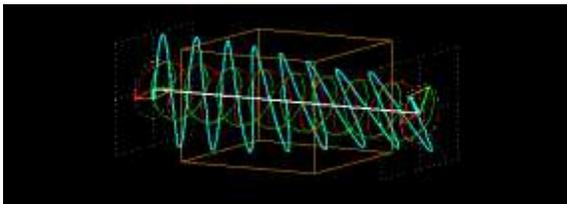


Circular polarized light: it can be the sum of two linear polarized lights.

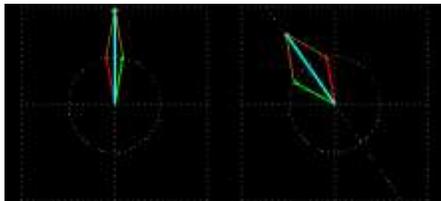


But linear polarized light can be the sum of two circular polarized lights.

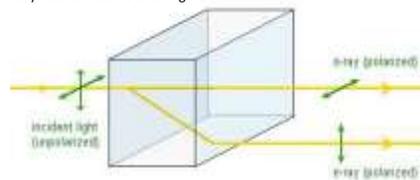
Vector algebra ☺

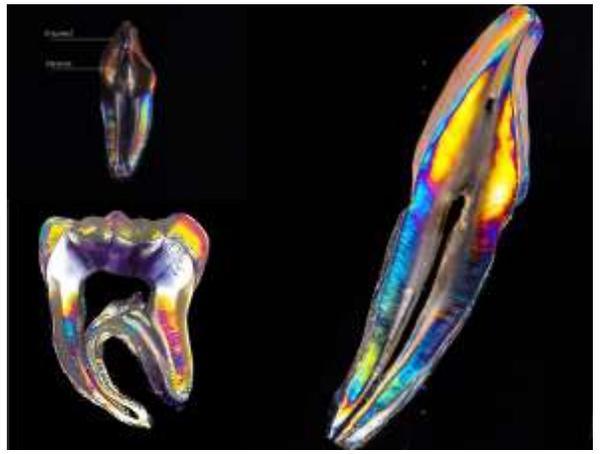
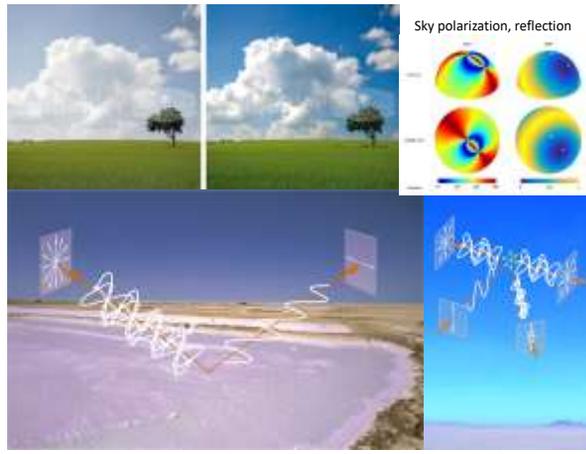
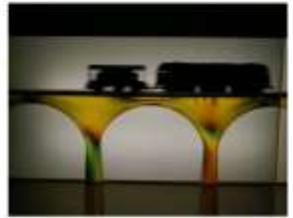
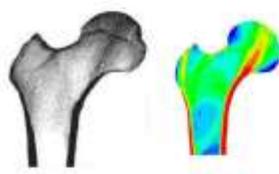
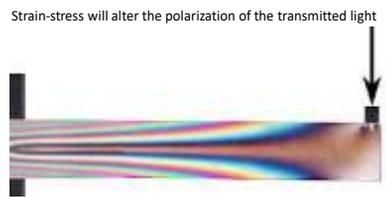
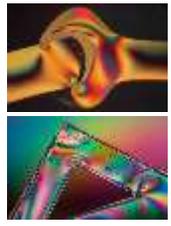
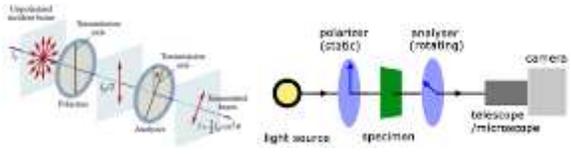


Chiral molecules have two different refractive indices:  $n_{\text{left}} \neq n_{\text{right}}$  **circular birefringence**



Crystals can also be birefringent







Cross polarization dental photography

Color matching in prosthodontics

