

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

10: The Nature of Light

In this chapter, we study the basic properties of light. In the next few chapters, we investigate the behavior of light when it interacts with optical devices such as mirrors, lenses, and apertures.

[10.1: Prelude to The Nature of Light](#)

[10.2: The Propagation of Light](#)

[10.3: The Law of Reflection](#)

[10.4: Refraction](#)

[10.5: Total Internal Reflection](#)

[10.6: Dispersion](#)

[10.7: Huygens's Principle](#)

[10.8: Polarization](#)

[10.A: The Nature of Light \(Answers\)](#)

[10.E: The Nature of Light \(Exercises\)](#)

[10.S: The Nature of Light \(Summary\)](#)

Thumbnail: An EM wave, such as light, is a transverse wave. The electric \vec{E} and magnetic \vec{B} fields are perpendicular to the direction of propagation. The direction of polarization of the wave is the direction of the electric field.

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- Samuel J. Ling (Truman State University), Jeff Sanny (Loyola Marymount University), and Bill Moebs with many contributing authors. This work is licensed by OpenStax University Physics under a [Creative Commons Attribution License \(by 4.0\)](#).

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