

LIGHT Notes

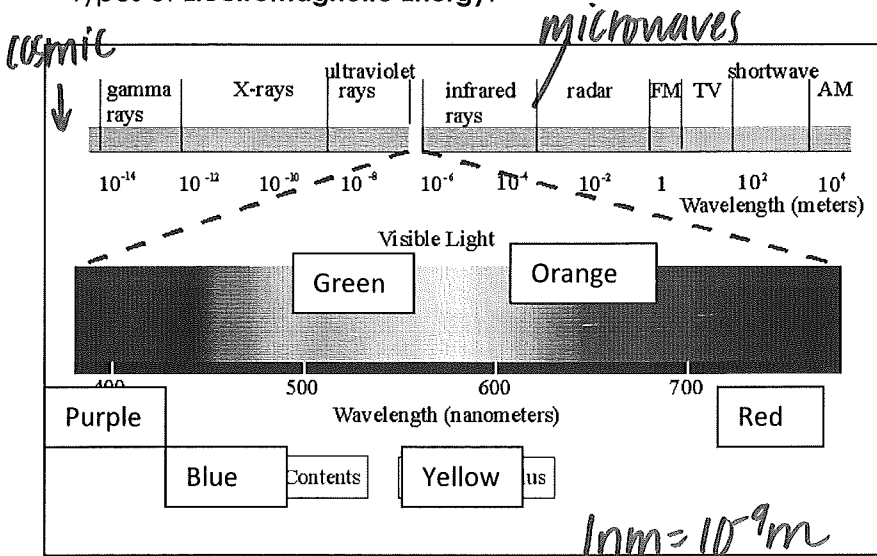
We **see an object** in 2 ways:

1. The object is the source of light
Ex: light bulb, flame, star
2. By light reflected from an object which enters our eyes and allows us to see object

Light: Energy in the form of electric and magnetic fields- called **electromagnetic radiation**. Acts like both a particle and a **transverse wave** as it travels.



Types of **Electromagnetic Energy**:



Electromagnetic Spectrum:

TV, Radio: long λ , low f

Infrared: Heat

Ultraviolet: UV rays emitted Sun, tanning booths
Birds, bees may see them

X-rays: Fires e- at Tungsten which releases x-rays

Gamma rays: high energy found in stars, cancer treat.

Cosmic rays: highest energy
Solar flares, supernovas

Light:

Visible light is **electromagnetic radiation** with a λ of 4×10^{-7} m to 7.5×10^{-7} m 400-700nm

*Travels in straight lines called light rays

*Does NOT need a medium to travel through (why light travels in space)

*Behaves like both a particle and a wave

- has mass
- photon emitted
- no medium
- affected by gravity
- can interfere
- crest/trough
- transfers energy
- has $f + \lambda$

The speed of light (c) is 3×10^8 m/s

Speed of light (c) = freq x wavelength

$$c = f \lambda$$

If the wavelength of light increases, what will happen to the frequency of the wave?

$$3 \times 10^8 = f \lambda \quad \lambda \uparrow, f \downarrow \text{ (inverse)}$$

Which color (purple or red) has a greater frequency? (more waves/sec) Explain your answer.

red has longer $\lambda \rightarrow$ lower f

purple $\downarrow \lambda \rightarrow \uparrow$ freq