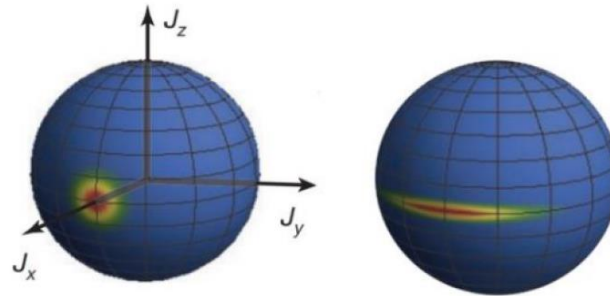


# Physics 482-01 and Physics 690-01 Quantum Optics & Atomics



[Kasevich group, Stanford U.]

# Instructor

## Prof. Seth Aubin

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**e-mail:** [saubi@wm.edu](mailto:saubi@wm.edu)

**web:** <http://www.physics.wm.edu/~saubin/index.html>

**Office hours:** Wednesdays 4-5 pm

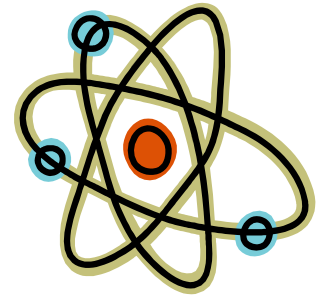


# Course Objectives (I)

Introduce the *basic physics*, *theory*, *current research topics*, and *applications* of *Atomic Physics and Quantum Optics*.

## *Topics:*

- Classical and quantum **coherence**.
- **2-level atoms**, atom-light interactions, Bloch sphere.
- Spontaneous emission, **decoherence**.
- **Schrödinger** equation, **density matrix**, **quantum Monte Carlo**.

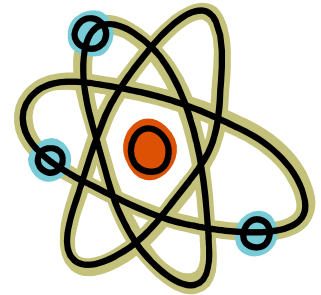


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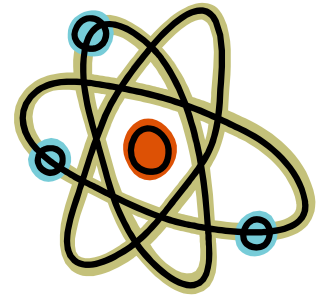


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- **Angular momentum** of light and atoms.
- **Multi-level** quantum systems.
- **Laser cooling and trapping**.
- Quantum theory of light, **dressed atoms**, squeezing.
- **Quantum gases**: Bose-Einstein condensation, atom-atom interactions.
- **Spin squeezing**, entanglement ... quantum Fourier transform (Shor's alg.)



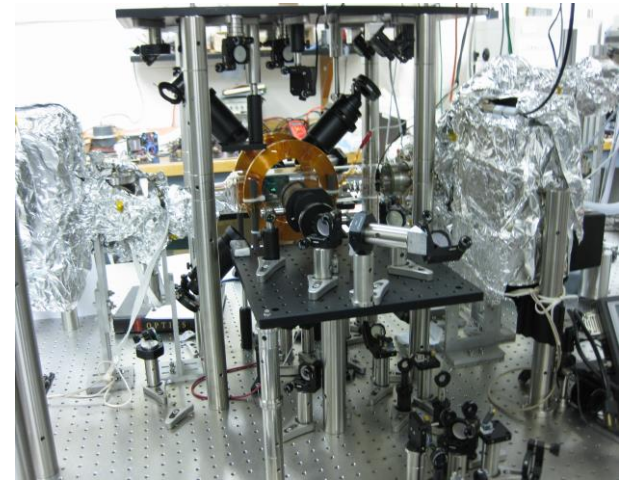
# Course Objectives (II)

## Experimental Demonstrations

Seeing is believing ... Demonstration topics:

- Research lab visits.
- laser cooling and trapping.
- Magnetic trapping.
- Saturation spectroscopy.
- Spatial and temporal coherence.
- Particle behavior of light.

etc ...



## Scientific Articles and Presentations

Practice reading and writing scientific articles and making science presentation.

# Course Work

- **Problem sets:** not-quite weekly, extra problems for graduate students.
- **Participation:** class attendance, classroom discussion.
- **Midterm** (before spring break).
- **Undergraduate students** (work done in teams of two):
  - **Final paper** (4 pages, single space, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* format).
  - **Oral presentation** on the same subject matter.
- **Graduate students: Final exam** (May 7, 9 am - noon)

# Undergraduate Grading

Problem sets	40 %
Participation	10 %
Midterm	15 %
Final paper	20 %
<u>Oral presentation</u>	<u>15 %</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>



# Graduate Grading

Problem sets	50 %
Participation	10 %
Midterm	15 %
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>25 %</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

# References

The course materials will be taken from original physics papers and the following texts:

**Laser Cooling and Trapping**, Metcalf and van der Straten.

**Quantum Theory of Light**, Loudon.

**Cold Atoms and Molecules**, Weidemüller and Zimmermann.

**Introduction to Quantum Optics**, Grynberg, Aspect, and Fabre.

**Optical Coherence and Quantum Optics**, Mandel and Wolf.

**Atomic Physics**, Foot.

**Bose-Einstein Condensation in Dilute Gases**, Pethick and Smith.

**Quantum Mechanics**, Cohen-Tannoudji, Diu, Laloë.

# Schedule (I)

**Week 0: 1/25**                      **Intro to Atomic Physics and Quantum Optics**

Introduction to atom-light interactions, semi-classical atomic physics.

**Week 1: 1/30-2/1**                      **Coherence**

Interference, first and second order coherence, correlation functions.

**Week 2: 2/6-8**                      **Quantum atomic physics: 2-level atoms**

2-level systems, Rabi Flopping, Bloch sphere, Landau-Zener transitions.

**Week 3: 2/13-15**                      **AC Stark shift**

Dressed atom picture, optical dipole trapping, optical tweezers.

**Week 4: 2/20-22**                      **Density Matrix**

Decoherence, spontaneous emission, optical Bloch equations.

**Week 5: 2/27-29**                      **Monte Carlo numerical methods**

Classical Monte Carlo, Quantum Monte Carlo, quantum jumps.

**Week 6: 3/5-7**                      **Multi-level atoms**

Selection rules, fine and hyperfine structure, Zeeman effect.

----- Spring Break -----

# Schedule (II)

**Week 7: 3/19-21**

**3-level atoms**

Saturation spectroscopy, electromagnetically-induced transparency.

**Week 8: 3/26-28**

**Laser cooling and trapping I**

Doppler cooling, optical molasses, Sisyphus cooling.

**Week 9: 4/2-4**

**Laser cooling and trapping II**

Resolved sideband cooling of ions, magnetic trapping, RF evaporation.

**Week 10: 4/9-11**

**Photons I: Quantization of the electromagnetic field**

Introduction to field theory: quantization of the electromagnetic field.

**Week 11: 4/16-18**

**Photons II: Quantization of the electromagnetic field**

Atom-photon interactions, photon squeezing, Casimir force.

**Week 12: 4/23-25**

**Quantum gases**

2nd quantization, atom interactions, Bose-Einstein condensation, Gross-Pitaevskii equation, Thomas-Fermi. **Final papers due on 4/23. UG oral presentations.**

**Week 13: 4/30-5/2**

**Quantum sensing & spin squeezing**

Optical & atom interferometry, standard quantum limit, spin squeezing, entanglement.

**May 7, 2024, 9 am-noon Final Exam (graduate students only)**

# **Quantum Mechanics, Atoms, and Photons**

# Review and Questions

1. What do you know about light and photons?
2. What do you know about atoms?
3. How was Quantum Mechanics discovered?

# Light as a wave

LASER  
source

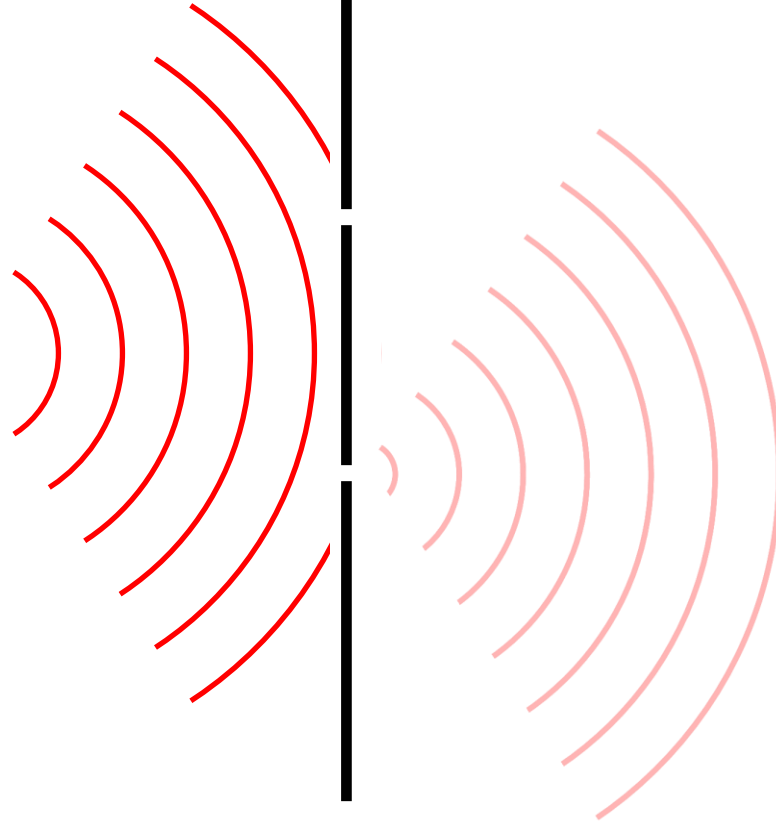


Screen



# Light as a wave

LASER  
source



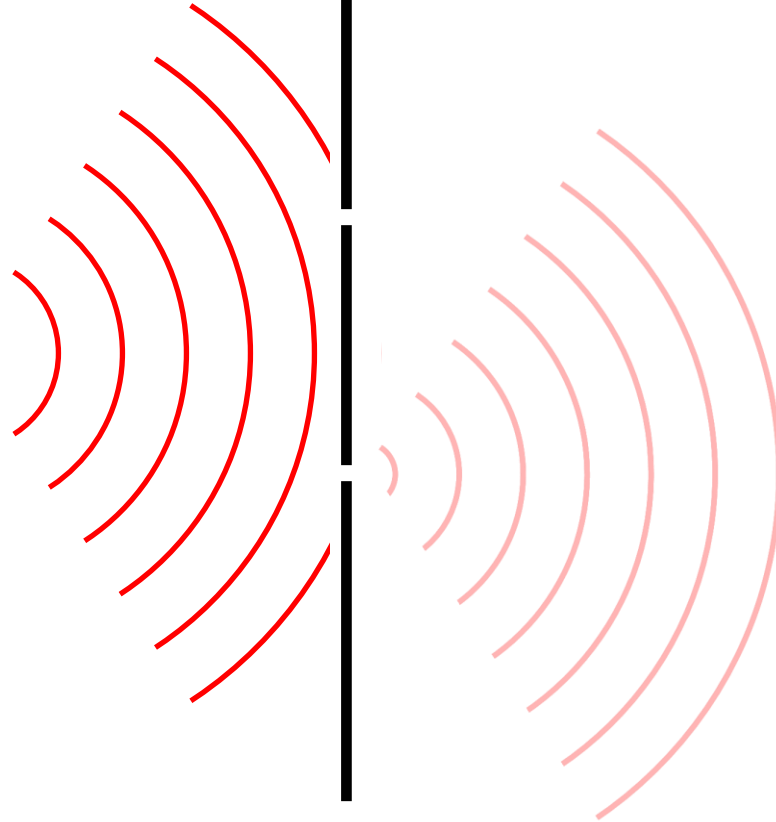
Light waves diffract as they go through the slits

Screen



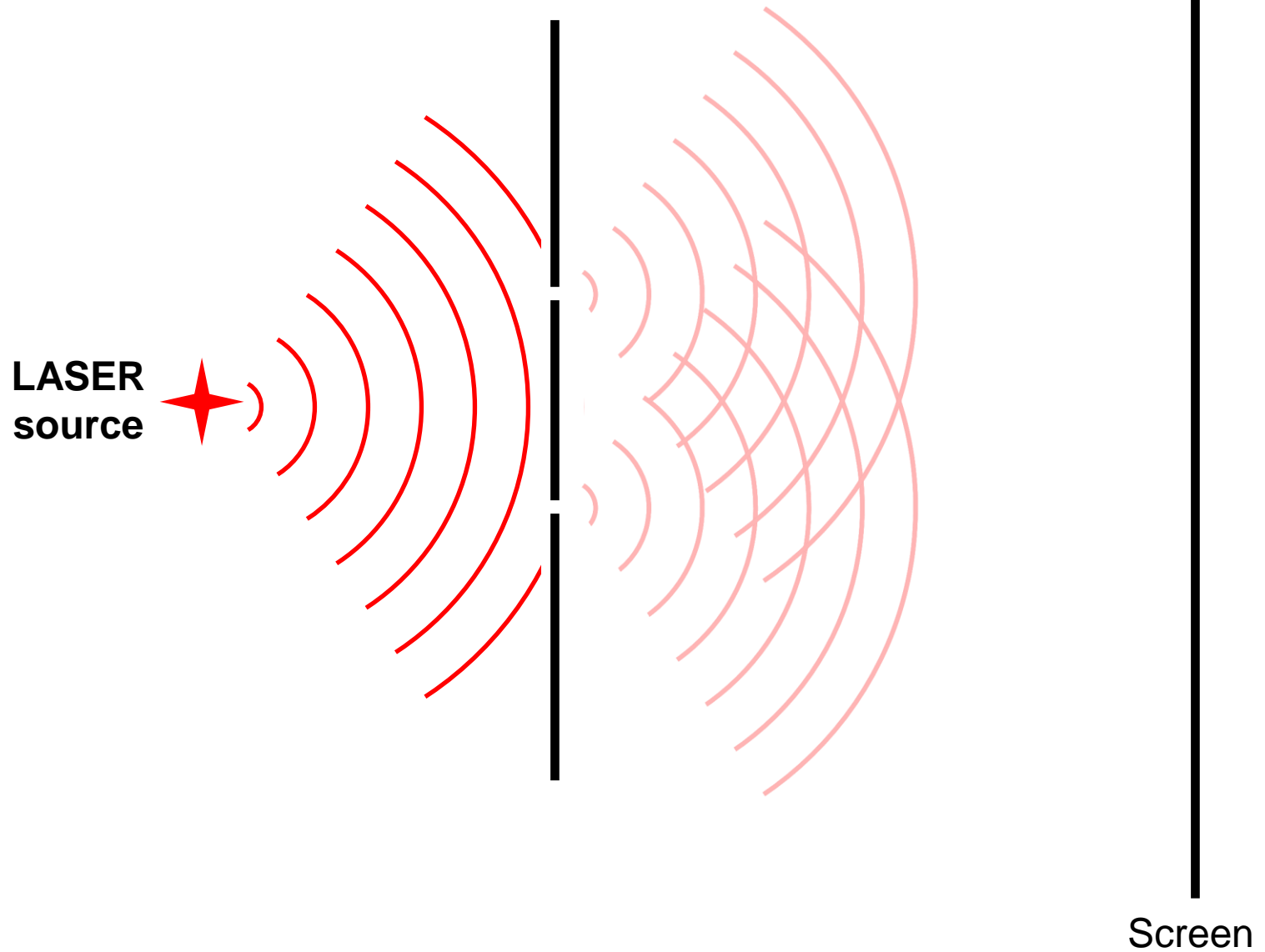
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LASER  
source

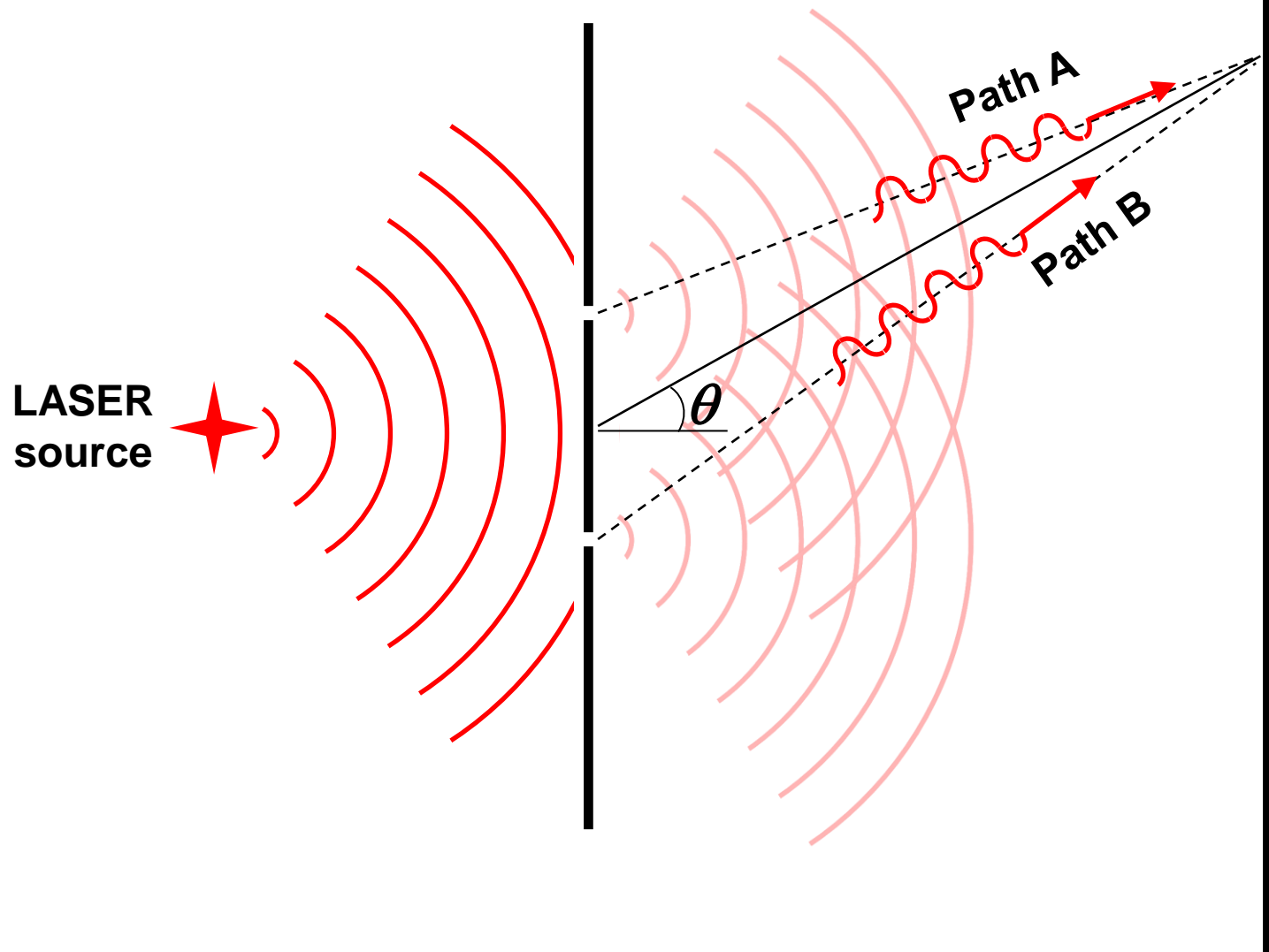


Screen

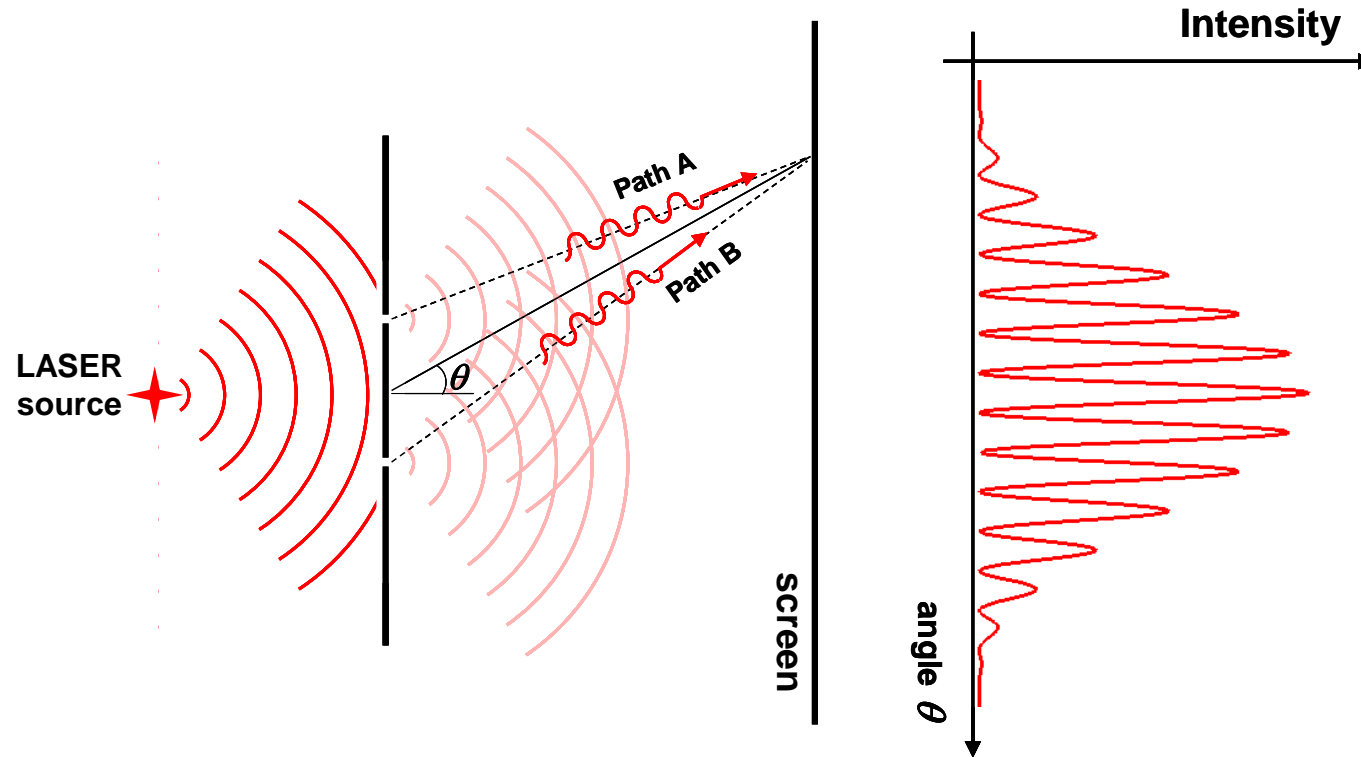
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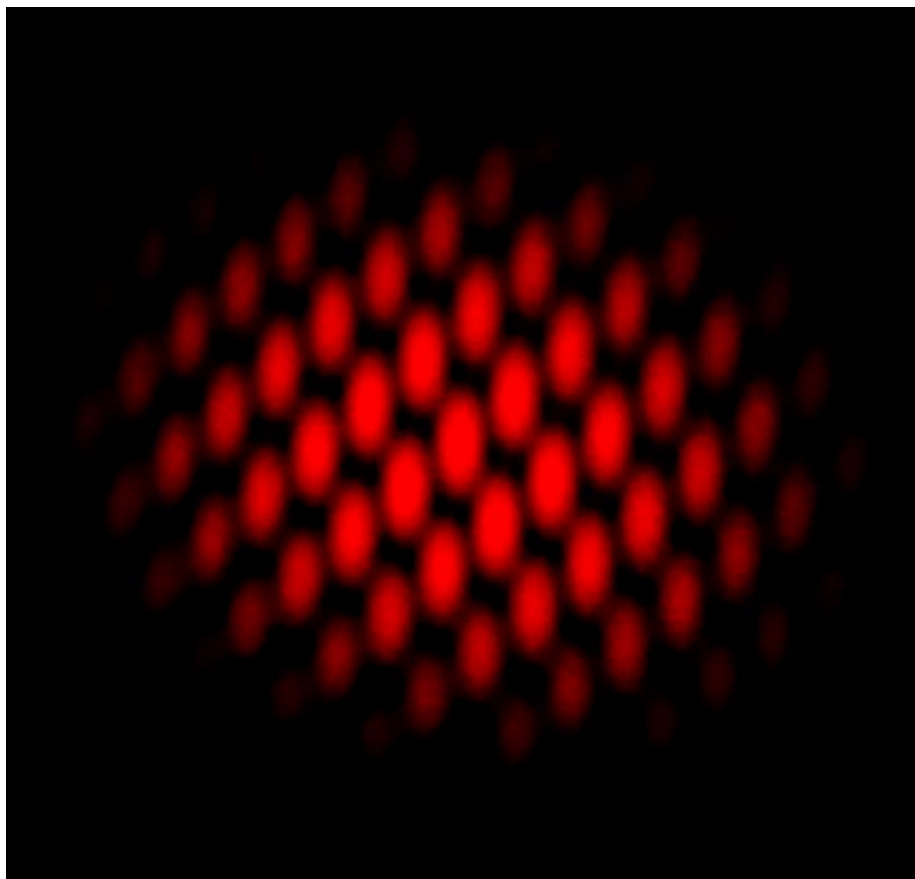
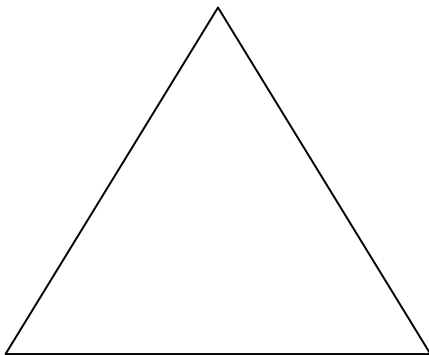


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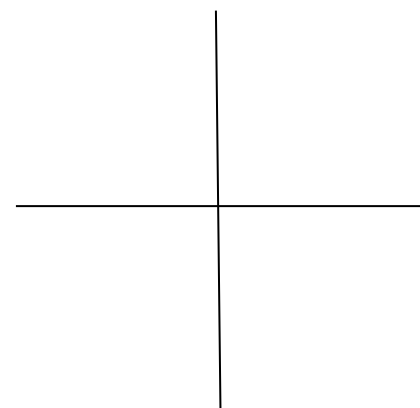
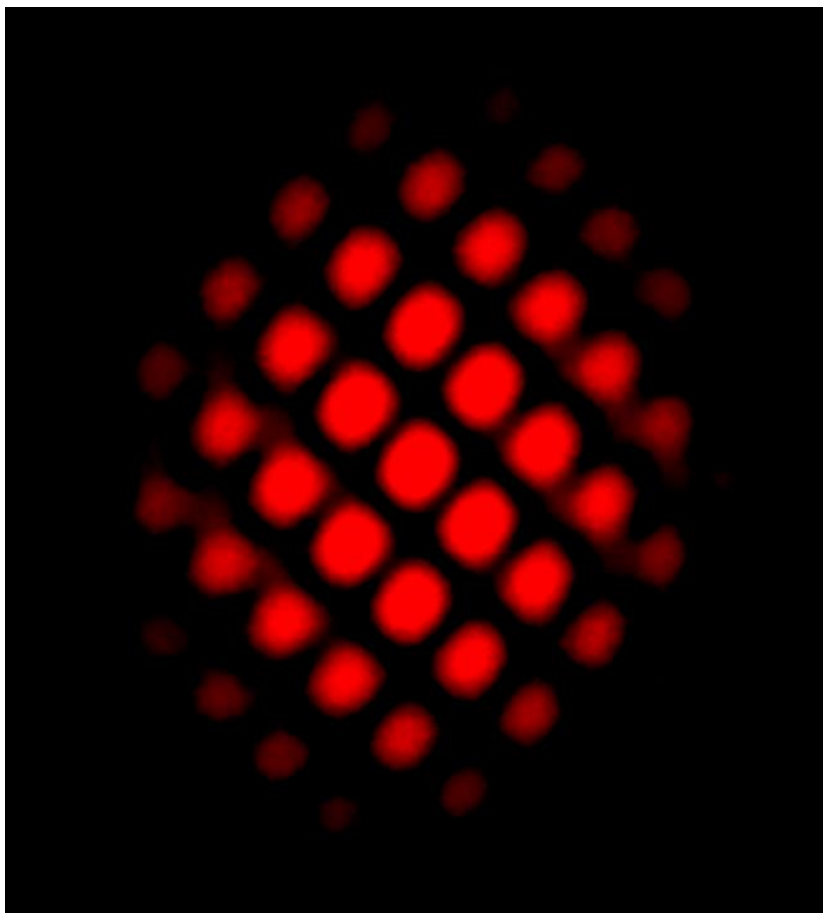


Light waves interfere.

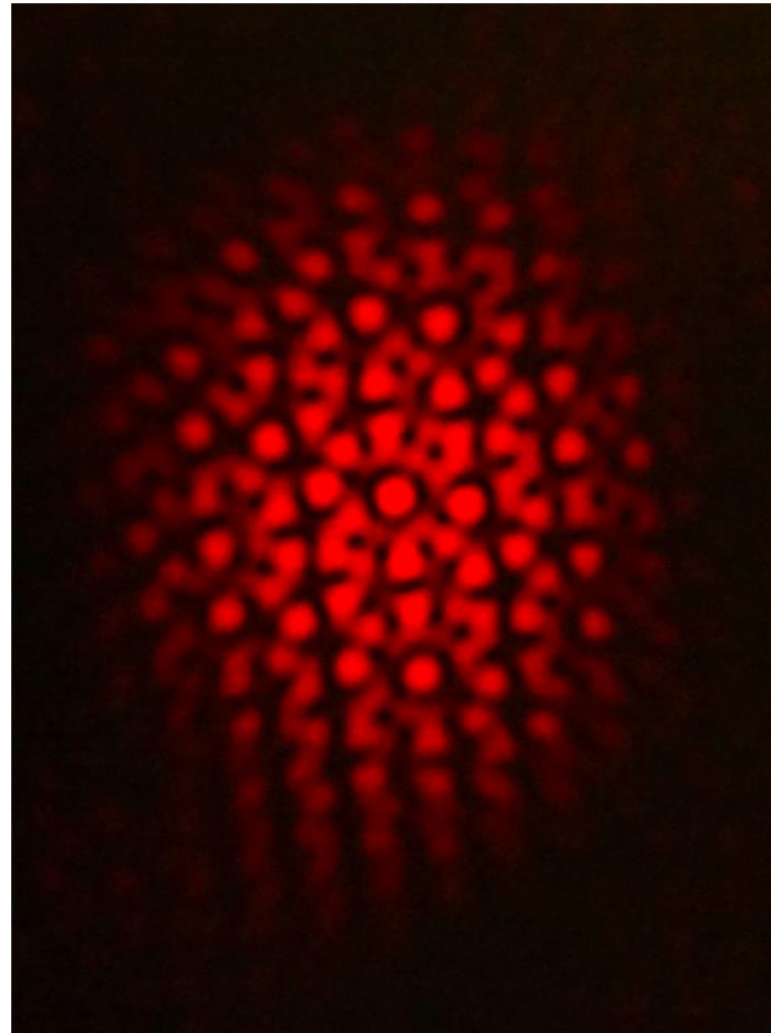
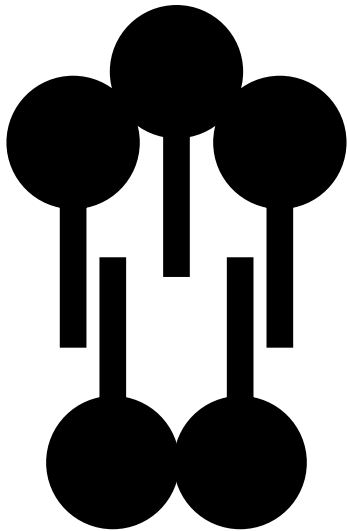
# 3 Holes



# 4 Holes

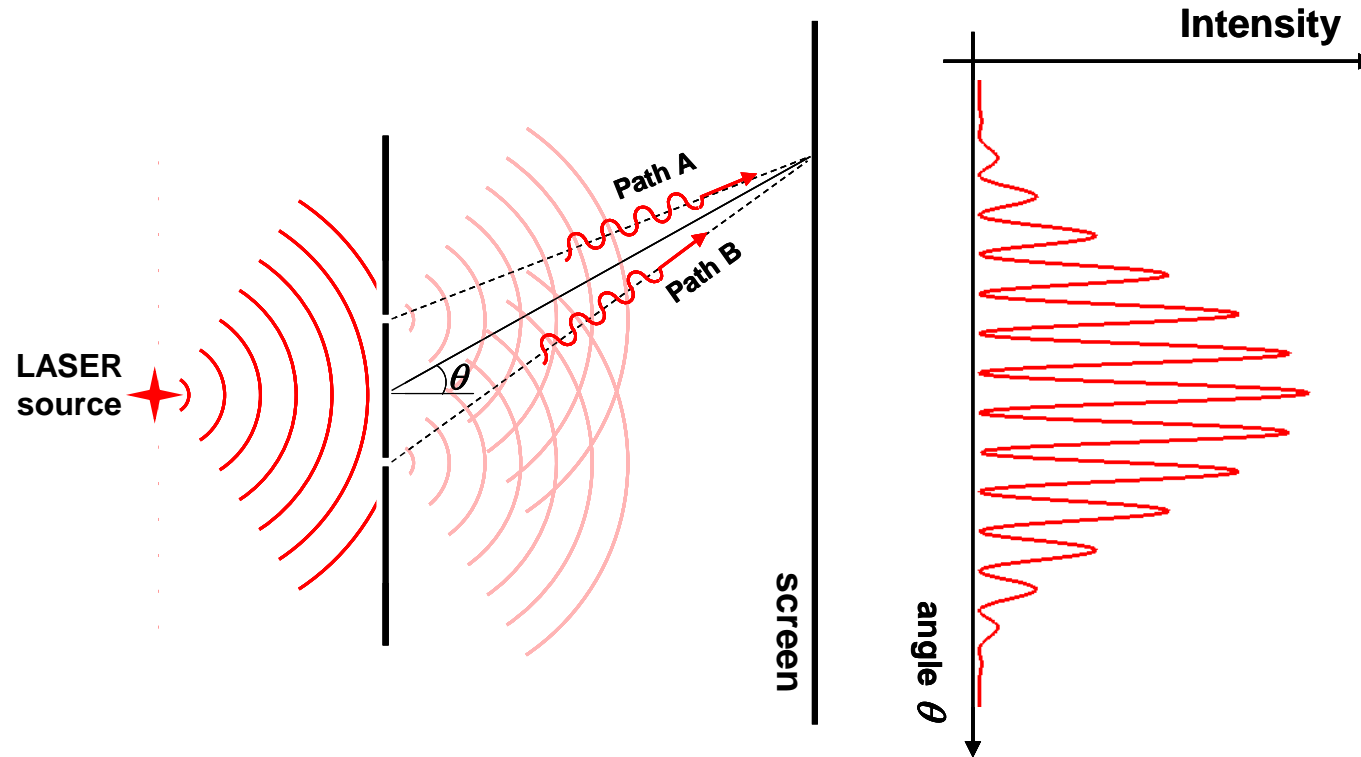


## 5 Holes



Quasi-crystal pattern → pattern does not truly repeat!!

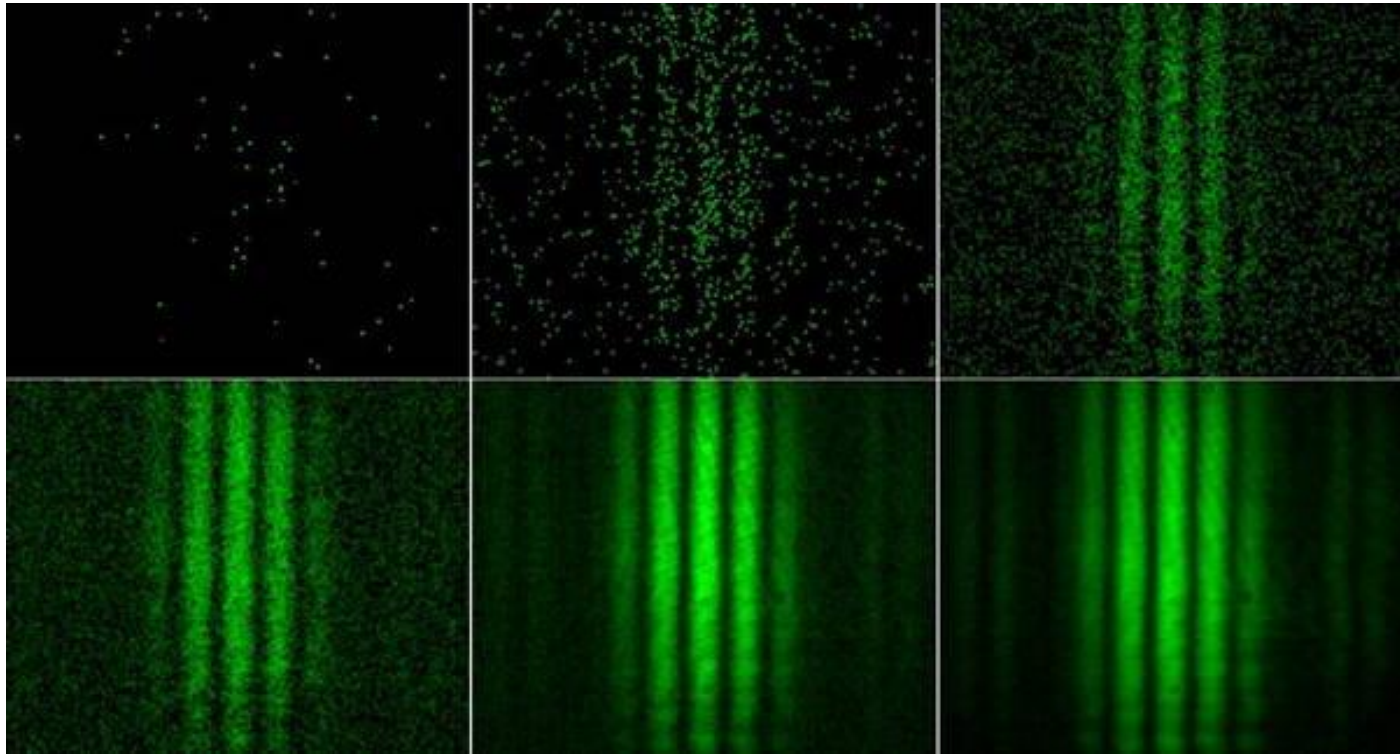
# Light as a wave



Light waves interfere.



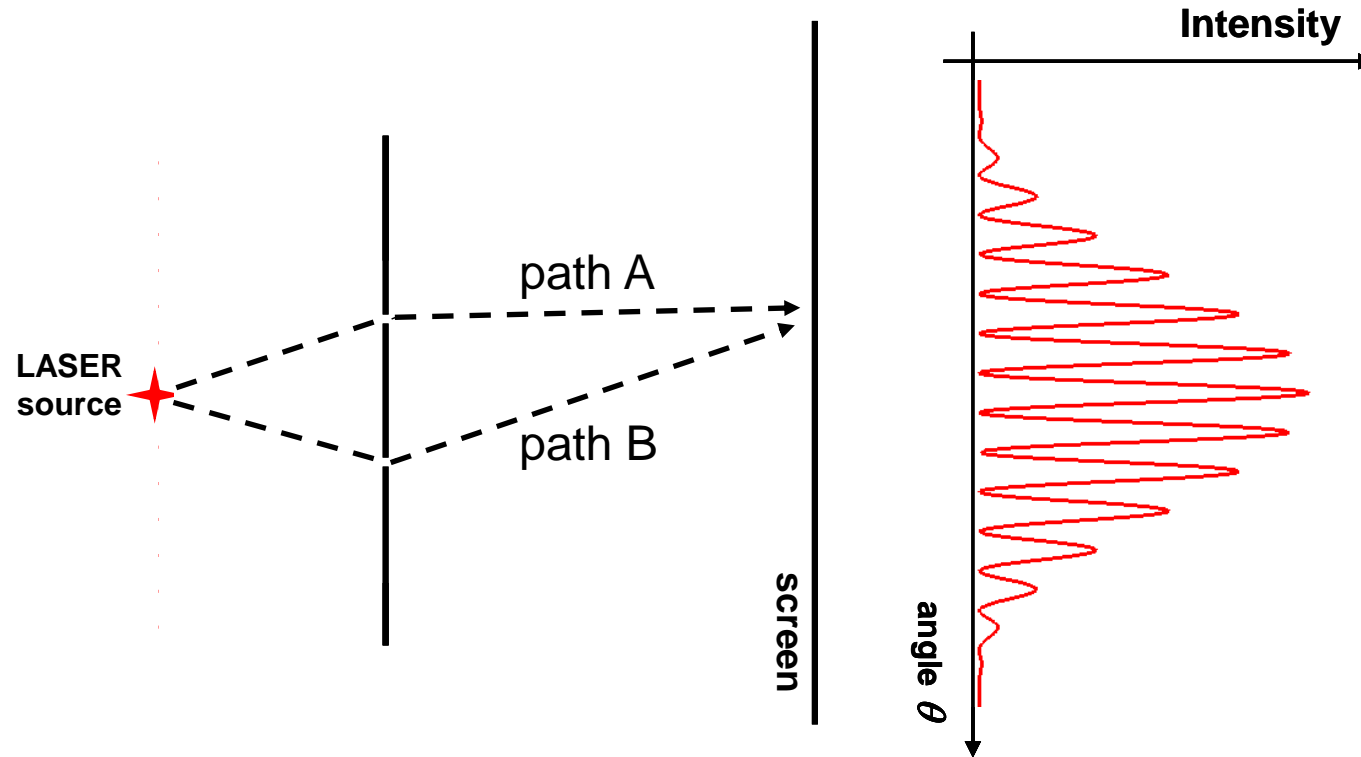
# Also works for single photons !!!



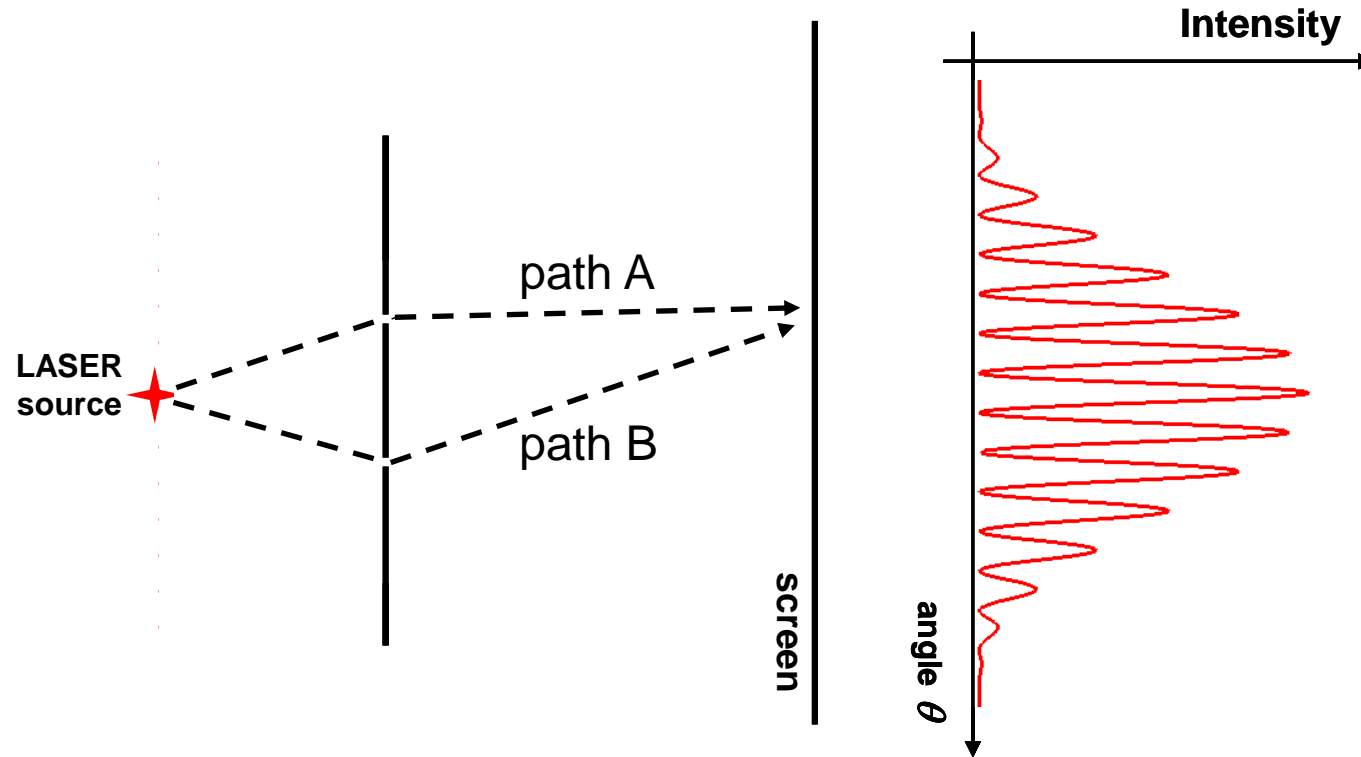
[A. L. Weiss and T. L. Dimitrova, Swiss Physics Society, 2009.]

Experiment uses a CCD camera (i.e. sensor in your digital camera).

# Photons follow 2 paths simultaneously



# Photons follow 2 paths simultaneously

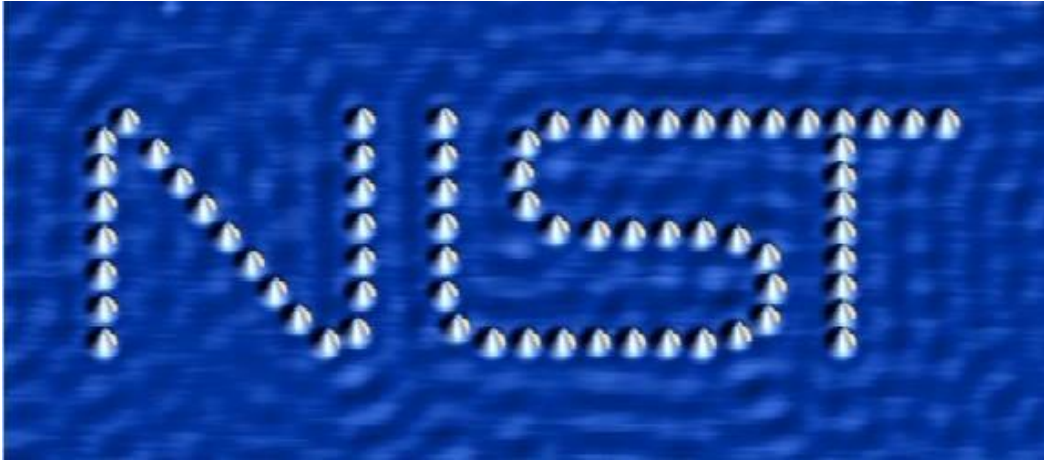


$$|\psi\rangle_{\text{photon}} = |A\rangle + e^{i\phi} |B\rangle$$

LIGHT IS A

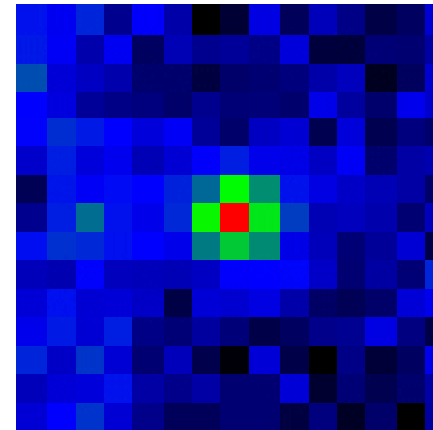
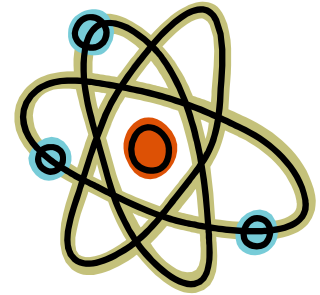
WAVE!

# Atoms



Cobalt atoms on a copper surface (scanning tunneling microscope image)

[image from [www.nist.gov](http://www.nist.gov)]



Single Rb atom  
(laser cooled and trapped)

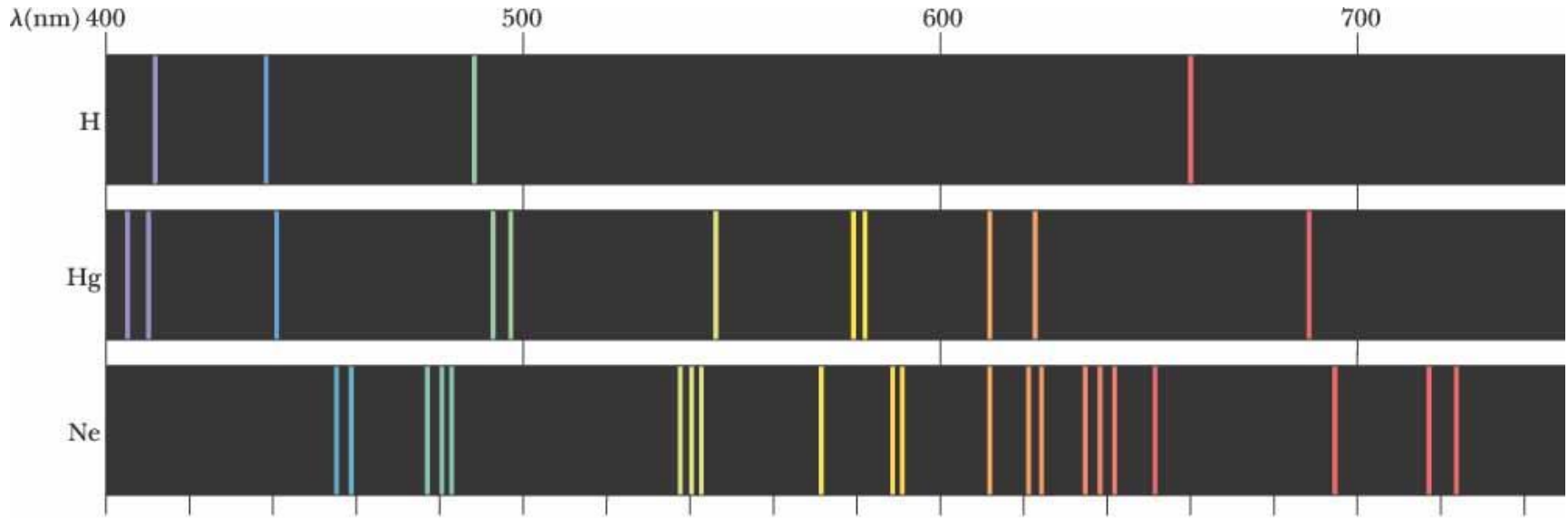
[image from Grangier group, [www.optique-quantique.u-psud.fr](http://www.optique-quantique.u-psud.fr) ]

Matter is also a

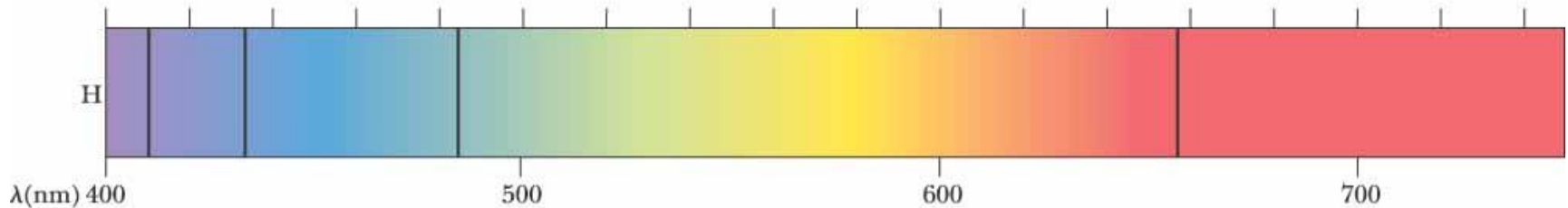
WAVE!

**How was  
quantum mechanics  
discovered?**

# Atomic Emission and Absorption Spectra



(a)

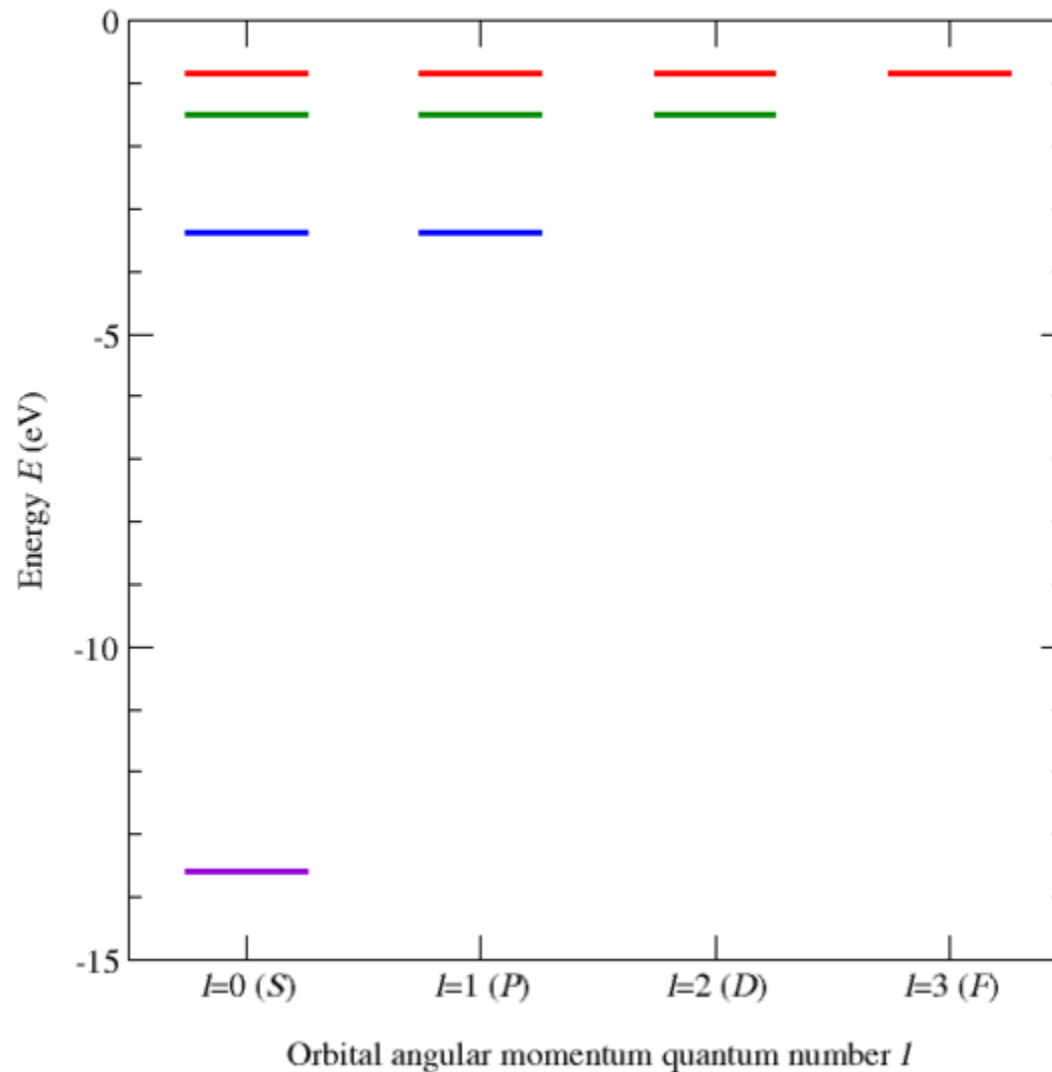


(b)



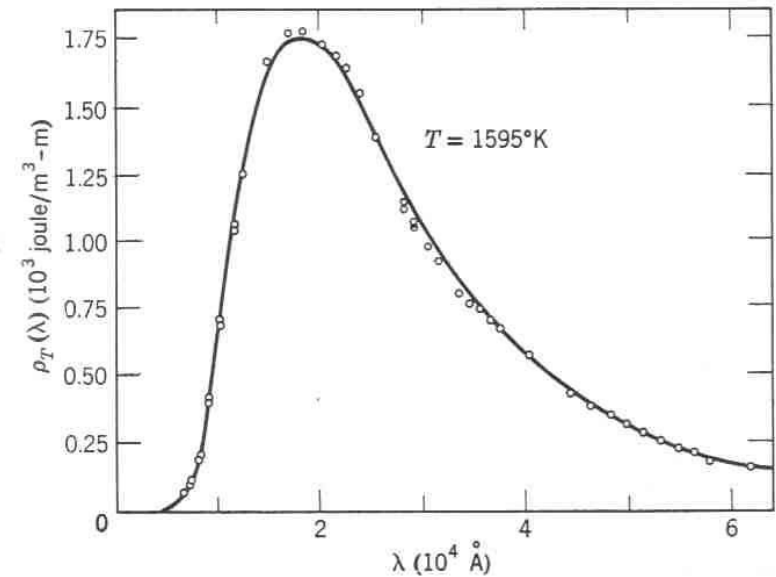
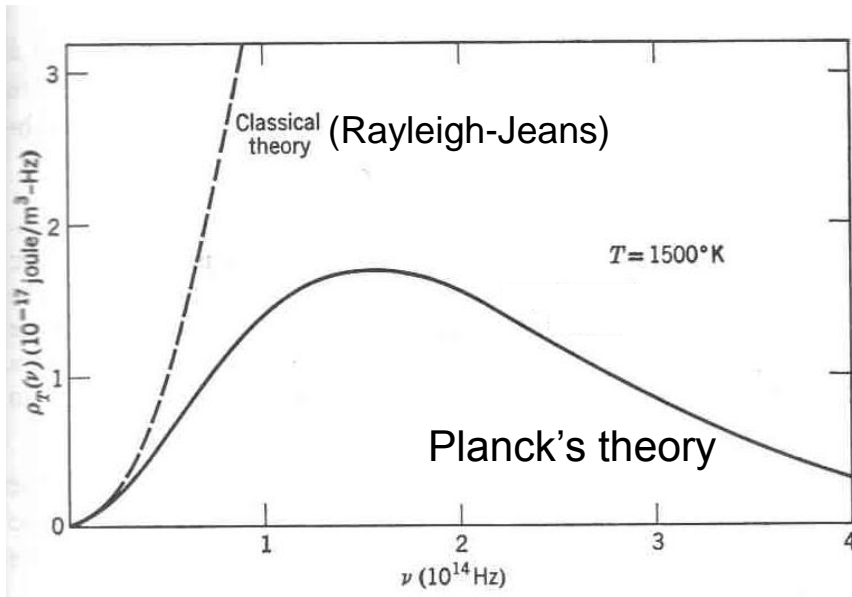
# Quantum Version of Atoms

Energy Levels of Hydrogen ( $n=1-4$ )



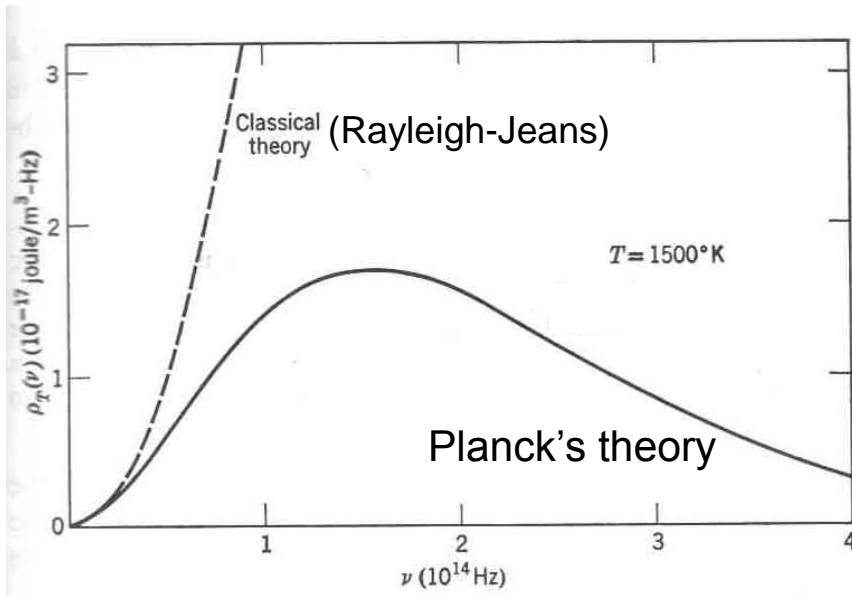
[Figure from wikimedia.org]

# Blackbody Radiation: Rayleigh-Jeans vs. Planck

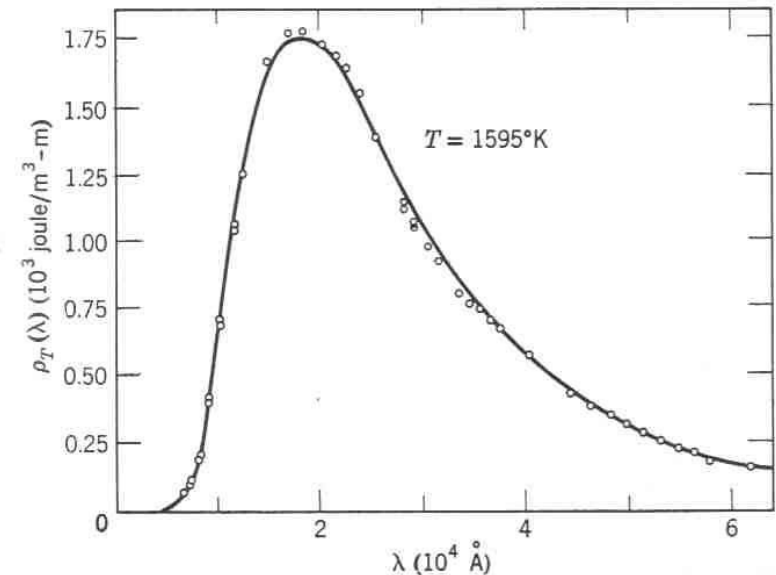


Experiment vs. Theory  
(Coblentz data, 1916)

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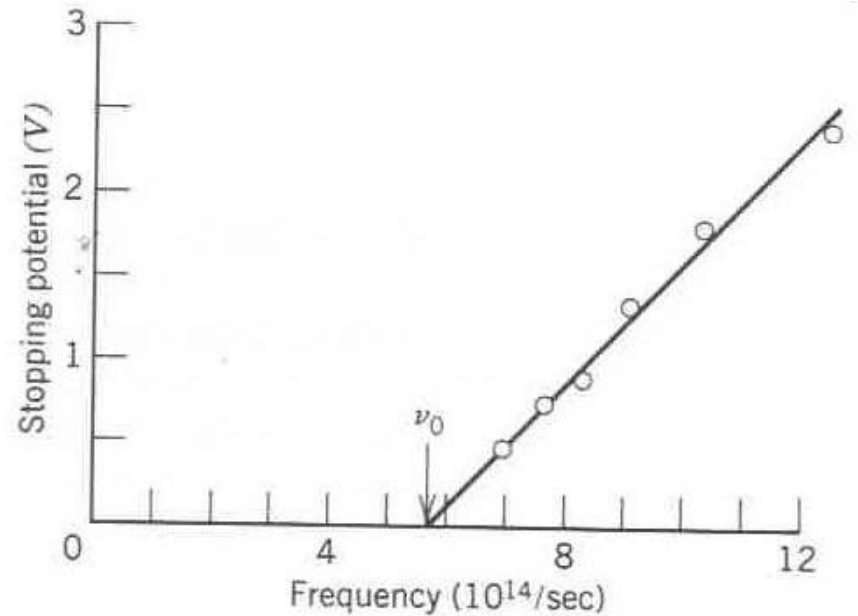
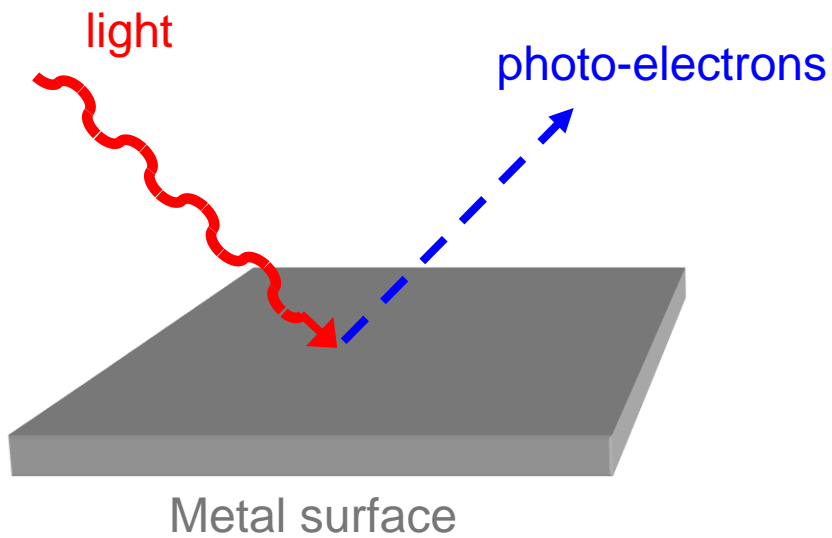


$$E = \hbar \omega$$



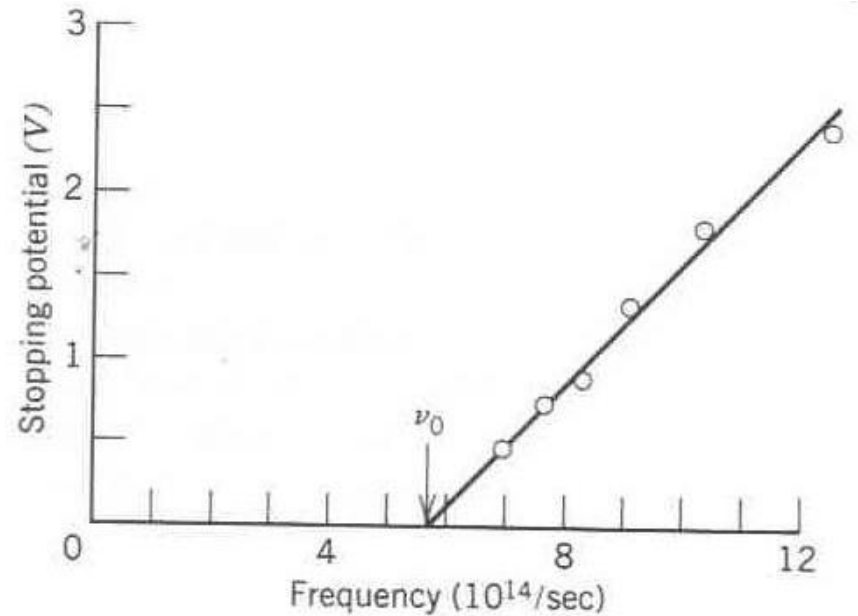
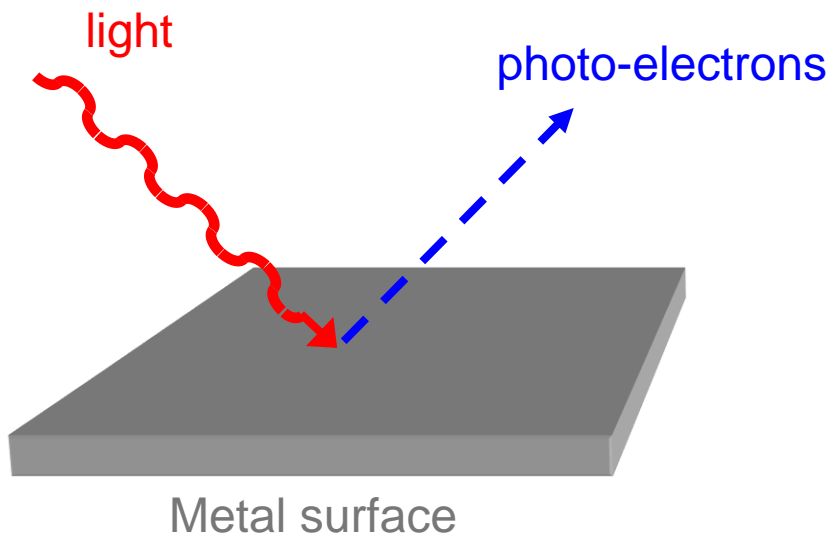
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# Photo-Electric Effect



Millikan's photo-electric data for sodium (1914)

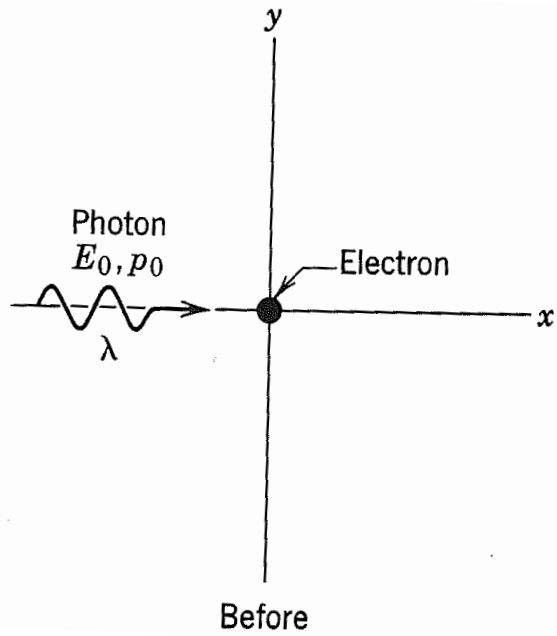
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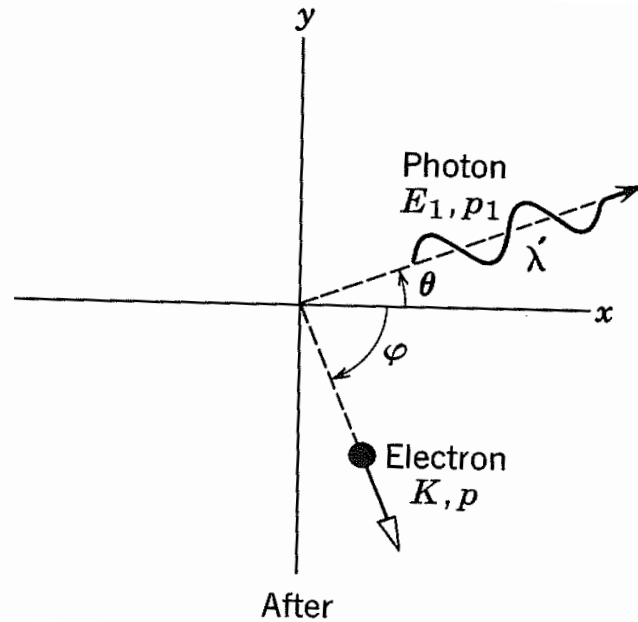
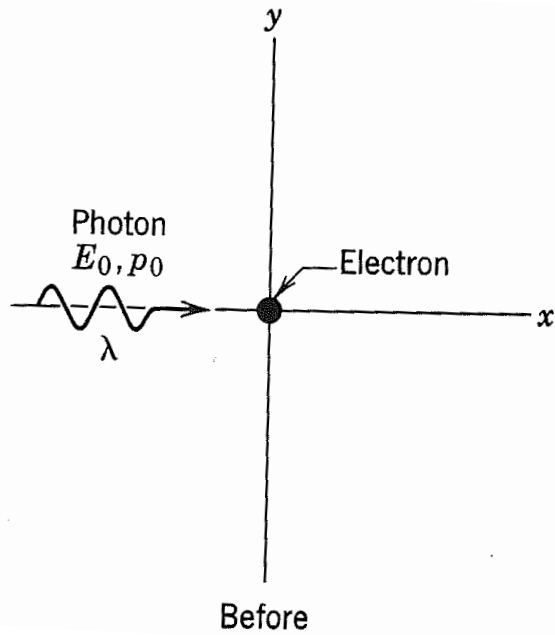
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# Compton Scattering



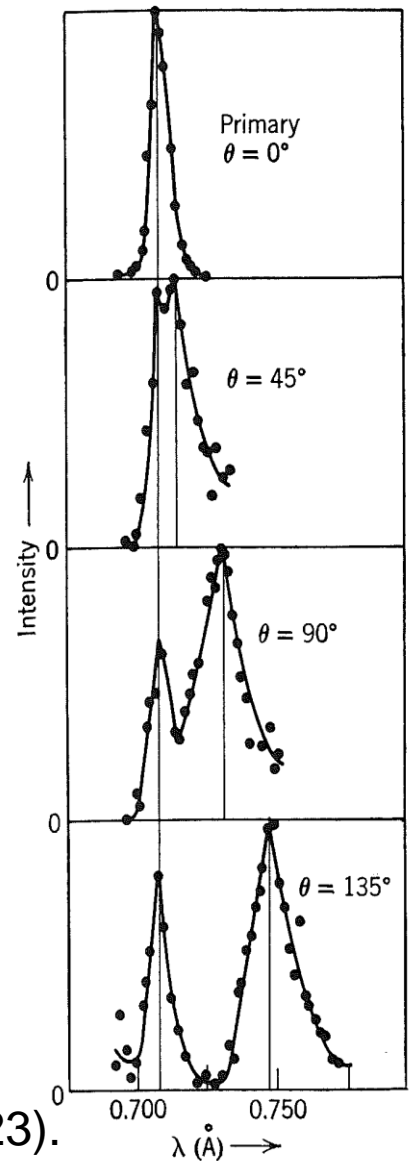
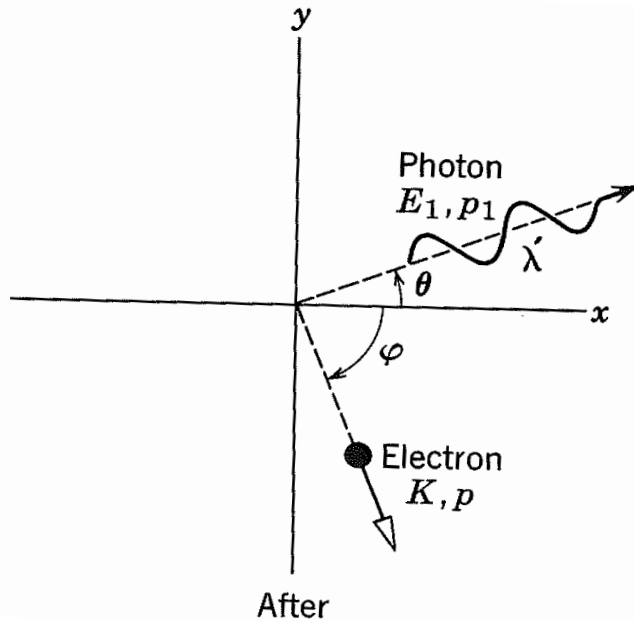
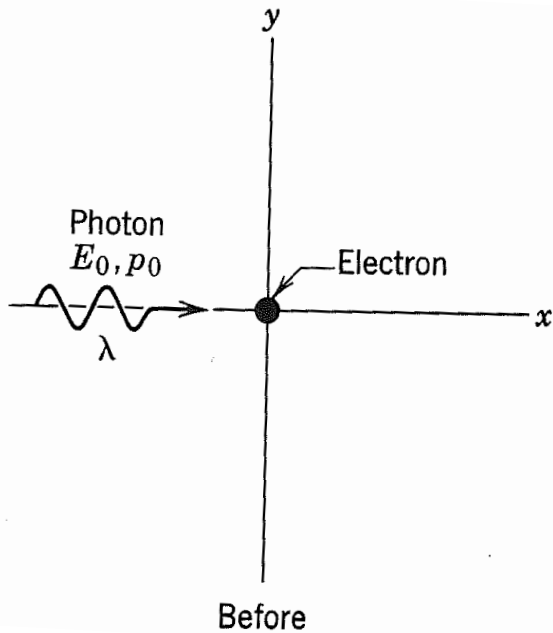
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$$\vec{p} = \hbar \vec{k}$$

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Compton's data for x-ray scattering in graphite (1923).

[figures adapted from *Quantum Physics* by Eisberg and Resnick, 1985.]



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- Essential to the discovery of Quantum Mechanics

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[QM treatment ?]
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- Do photons obey the **Heisenberg uncertainty relations**?

# What's special about AMO Physics?

**AMO Physics** = Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics.

- Test bed for Quantum Mechanics.
- Energy resolution of internal levels at the **1 part per  $10^9 - 10^{18}$** .
- 100+ years of spectroscopy.
- **Frequency** measurements at  **$10^3 - 10^{15}$  Hz**.
- *Ab initio* calculable internal structure.
- Precision tests of QED to 9-digits (measurement to 12-digits)

Electron's g-factor:  $g_e = 2.002\ 319\ 304$

## Applications

- Time keeping.
- Inertial navigation, force sensing.
- Astronomy, nuclear, particle, and condensed matter physics.
- GPS, telecommunications, data storage.