Table of contents

- **Authors' preface** (p. xiii)
- **Physical constants and conversion factors** (p. xv)
- **Acknowledgements** (p. xvi)
- **1 Light As Waves, Rays and Photons** (p. 1)
- **1.1 The Nature of Light** (p. 1)
- **1.2 Waves and Rays** (p. 4)
- **1.3 Total Internal Reflection** (p. 6)
- **1.4 The Light Wave** (p. 7)
- **1.5 Electromagnetic Waves** (p. 10)
- **1.6 The Electromagnetic Spectrum** (p. 11)
- **1.7 Waves and Photons** (p. 12)
- **1.8 Further Reading** (p. 14)
- **Numerical Examples 1** (p. 15)
- **Problems 1** (p. 15)
- **2 Geometric Optics** (p. 19)
- **2.1 The Thin Prism** (p. 19)
- **2.2 The Lens as an Assembly of Prisms** (p. 22)
- **2.3 Refraction at a Spherical Surface** (p. 23)
- **2.4 Two Surfaces: the Simple Lens** (p. 25)
- **2.5 Imaging in Spherical Mirrors** (p. 26)
- **2.6 General properties of Imaging Systems** (p. 27)
- **2.7 Separated Thin Lenses in Air** (p. 29)
- **2.8 Perfect Imaging** (p. 31)
- **2.9 Perfect Imaging of Surfaces** (p. 32)
- **2.10 Ray and Wave Aberrations** (p. 33)
- **2.11 Wave Aberration On Axis--Spherical Aberration** (p. 34)
- **2.12 Off-Axis Aberrations** (p. 37)
- **2.13 The Influence of Aperture Stops** (p. 39)
- **2.14 The Correction of Chromatic Aberration** (p. 40)
- **2.15 Achromatism in Separated Lens Systems** (p. 42)
- **2.16 Adaptive Optics** (p. 42)
- **2.17 Further Reading** (p. 43)
- **Numerical Examples 2** (p. 43)
- **Problems 2** (p. 44)
- **3 Optical Instruments** (p. 47)
- **3.1 The Human Eye** (p. 47)
- **3.2 The Simple Lens Magnifier** (p. 50)
- **3.3 The Telescope** (p. 51)
- **3.4 Advantages of the Various Types of Telescope** (p. 53)
- **3.5 Binoculars** (p. 55)
- **3.6 The Compound Microscope** (p. 58)
- **3.7 The Confocal Scanning Microscope** (p. 59)
- **3.8 The Camera** (p. 61)
- **3.9 Illumination in Optical Instruments** (p. 64)

- **3.10 Further Reading** (p. 66)
- **Numerical Examples 3** (p. 66)
- **Problems 3** (p. 66)
- **4 Periodic and Non-Periodic Waves** (p. 69)
- **4.1 Simple Harmonic Waves** (p. 70)
- **4.2 Positive and Negative Frequencies** (p. 72)
- **4.3 Standing Waves** (p. 74)
- **4.4 Beats Between Oscillations** (p. 76)
- **4.5 Similarities Between Beats and Standing Wave Patterns** (p. 77)
- **4.6 Standing Waves at a Reflector** (p. 78)
- **4.7 The Doppler Effect** (p. 80)
- **4.8 Doppler Radar** (p. 81)
- **4.9 Astronomical Aberration** (p. 82)
- **4.10 Fourier Series** (p. 83)
- **4.11 Modulated Waves: Fourier Transforms** (p. 86)
- **4.12 Modulation by a Non-periodic Function** (p. 87)
- **4.13 Convolution** (p. 89)
- **4.14 Delta and Grating Functions** (p. 90)
- **4.15 Autocorrelation and the Power Spectrum** (p. 91)
- **4.16 Wave Groups** (p. 91)
- **4.17 An Angular Spread of Plane Waves** (p. 93)
- **4.18 Further Reading** (p. 94)
- **Numerical Example 4** (p. 94)
- **Problems 4** (p. 94)
- **5 Electromagnetic Waves** (p. 97)
- **5.1 Maxwell's Equations** (p. 98)
- **5.2 Transverse Waves** (p. 100)
- **5.3 Energy Flow** (p. 102)
- **5.4 Reflection and Transmission: Fresnel's Equations** (p. 103)
- **5.5 Total Internal Reflection: Evanescent Waves** (p. 107)
- **5.6 Photon Momentum and Radiation Pressure** (p. 109)
- **5.7 Black-body Radiation** (p. 110)
- **5.8 Further Reading** (p. 113)
- **Numerical Examples 5** (p. 114)
- **Problems 5** (p. 114)
- **6 Polarization of Light** (p. 115)
- **6.1 Polarization of Transverse Waves** (p. 116)
- **6.2 Analysis of Elliptically Polarized Waves** (p. 119)
- **6.3 Polarizers** (p. 119)
- **6.4 Birefringent Polarizers** (p. 122)
- **6.5 Quarter- and Half-wave Plates** (p. 124)
- **6.6 Optical Activity** (p. 125)
- **6.7 Induced Birefringence** (p. 126)
- **6.8 Formal Descriptions of Polarization** (p. 130)
- **6.9 Further Reading** (p. 131)
- **Numerical Example 6** (p. 132)

- **Problems 6** (p. 132)
- **7 Interference and Fraunhofer Diffraction** (p. 133)
- **7.1 Interference** (p. 134)
- **7.2 Young's Experiment** (p. 136)
- **7.3 Diffraction at a Single Slit** (p. 139)
- **7.4 The General Aperture** (p. 142)
- **7.5 Rectangular and Circular Apertures** (p. 144)
- **7.6 The Field at the Edge of an Aperture** (p. 148)
- **7.7 Further Reading** (p. 149)
- **Numerical Examples 7** (p. 149)
- **Problems 7** (p. 149)
- **8 Fresnel Diffraction** (p. 151)
- **8.1 Fraunhofer and Fresnel Diffraction** (p. 151)
- **8.2 Shadow Edges - Fresnel Diffraction at a Straight Edge** (p. 153)
- **8.3 Diffraction of Cylindrical Wavefronts** (p. 157)
- **8.4 Fresnel Diffraction by Slits and Strip Obstacles** (p. 159)
- **8.5 Spherical Waves and Circular Apertures: Half-period Zones** (p. 162)
- **8.6 Fresnel-Kirchhoff Diffraction Theory** (p. 166)
- **8.7 Babinet's Principle** (p. 167)
- **8.8 Further Reading** (p. 168)
- **Numerical Examples 8** (p. 168)
- **Problems 8** (p. 168)
- **9 Interference by Division of Amplitude** (p. 169)
- **9.1 Newton's Rings** (p. 169)
- **9.2 Interference Effects with a Plane-parallel Plate** (p. 173)
- **9.3 Thin Films** (p. 175)
- **9.4 Michelson's Spectral Interferometer** (p. 177)
- **9.5 Multiple Beam Interference** (p. 179)
- **9.6 The Fabry-Perot Interferometer** (p. 182)
- **9.7 Interference Filters** (p. 183)
- **9.8 Further Reading** (p. 184)
- **Numerical Examples 9** (p. 184)
- **Problems 9** (p. 184)
- **10 The Diffraction Grating and Its Applications** (p. 187)
- **10.1 The Diffraction Grating** (p. 187)
- **10.2 Diffraction Pattern of the Grating** (p. 191)
- **10.3 The Effect of Slit Width and Shape** (p. 192)
- **10.4 Fourier Transforms in Grating Theory** (p. 193)
- **10.5 Missing Orders and Blazed Gratings** (p. 195)
- **10.6 Making Gratings** (p. 196)
- **10.7 Radio Antenna Arrays** (p. 198)
- **10.8 X-ray Diffraction with a Ruled Grating** (p. 200)
- **10.9 Diffraction by a Crystal Lattice** (p. 202)
- **10.10 Further Reading** (p. 204)
- **Numerical Examples 10** (p. 204)
- **Problems 10** (p. 205)

- **11 Interferometry: Length and Angle** (p. 207)
- **11.1 The Rayleigh Refractometer** (p. 208)
- **11.2 Wedge Fringes and End Gauges** (p. 208)
- **11.3 The Twyman and Green Interferometer** (p. 209)
- **11.4 The Standard of Length** (p. 211)
- **11.5 The Michelson-Morley Experiment** (p. 213)
- **11.6 The Ring Interferometer** (p. 214)
- **11.7 Optical Fibres in Interferometers** (p. 216)
- **11.8 Detecting Gravitational Waves by Interferometry** (p. 218)
- **11.9 Double Source Interferometers** (p. 218)
- **11.10 The Effect of Slit Width** (p. 220)
- **11.11 Source Size and Coherence** (p. 221)
- **11.12 Michelson's Stellar Interferometer** (p. 223)
- **11.13 Very Long Baseline Interferometry** (p. 226)
- **11.14 The Intensity Interferometer** (p. 227)
- **11.15 Further Reading** (p. 229)
- **Numerical Examples 11** (p. 229)
- **Problems 11** (p. 230)
- **12 Prism and Grating Spectrometers** (p. 233)
- **12.1 The Prism Spectrometer** (p. 233)
- **12.2 The Grating Spectrometer** (p. 236)
- **12.3 Resolving Power in Wavelength** (p. 238)
- **12.4 Resolving Power: Prism Spectrometers** (p. 239)
- **12.5 Resolving Power: Grating Spectrometers** (p. 241)
- **12.6 Concave Gratings** (p. 243)
- **12.7 Blazed, Echellette, Echelle and Echelon Gratings** (p. 244)
- **12.8 Efficiency of Spectrographs** (p. 247)
- **Numerical Examples 12** (p. 248)
- **Problems 12** (p. 249)
- **13 High Resolution Spectrometry** (p. 251)
- **13.1 The Shape and Broadening of Spectral Lines** (p. 251)
- **13.2 Natural Linewidths** (p. 252)
- **13.3 Pressure Broadening** (p. 253)
- **13.4 Doppler Broadening** (p. 254)
- **13.5 Twin-beam Spectrometry: Fourier Transform Spectrometry** (p. 256)
- **13.6 Practical Fourier Spectrometry** (p. 259)
- **13.7 Intensity, or Photon correlation Spectroscopy** (p. 260)
- **13.8 Scattered Laser Light** (p. 263)
- **13.9 Further Reading** (p. 263)
- **Numerical Examples 13** (p. 264)
- **14 Coherence and Correlation** (p. 265)
- **14.1 Temporal and Spectral Coherence** (p. 265)
- **14.2 Correlation as a Measure of Coherence** (p. 267)
- **14.3 Autocorrelation and Coherence** (p. 269)
- **14.4 Two-dimensional Angular Resolution** (p. 271)
- **14.5 The Intensity Interferometer** (p. 273)

- **14.6 Spatial Filtering** (p. 275)
- **14.7 Further Reading** (p. 278)
- **Numerical Examples 14** (p. 278)
- **Problems 14** (p. 278)
- **15 Lasers** (p. 279)
- **15.1 Stimulated Emission** (p. 279)
- **15.2 Pumping: the Energy Source** (p. 281)
- **15.3 Absorption and Emission of Radiation** (p. 283)
- **15.4 Laser Gain** (p. 286)
- **15.5 Population Inversion** (p. 289)
- **15.6 Threshold Gain Coefficient** (p. 289)
- **15.7 Laser Resonators** (p. 291)
- **15.8 Beam Irradiance and Divergence** (p. 293)
- **15.9 Examples of Important Laser Systems** (p. 295)
- **15.10 Further Reading** (p. 297)
- **Numerical Examples 15** (p. 297)
- **Problems 15** (p. 298)
- **16 Semiconductors and Semiconductor Lasers** (p. 301)
- **16.1 Semiconductors** (p. 301)
- **16.2 Semiconductor Diodes** (p. 304)
- **16.3 Light-emitting Diodes and Semiconductor Lasers** (p. 306)
- **16.4 Semiconductor Laser Cavities** (p. 309)
- **16.5 Wavelengths and Tuning of Semiconductor Lasers** (p. 311)
- **16.6 Electroluminescence in Organic Semiconductors** (p. 312)
- **16.7 Further Reading** (p. 313)
- **17 Laser Light** (p. 315)
- **17.1 Laser Linewidth** (p. 315)
- **17.2 Spatial Coherence** (p. 319)
- **17.3 Temporal Coherence and Coherence Length** (p. 322)
- **17.4 Laser Pulse Duration** (p. 323)
- **17.5 Brightness** (p. 327)
- **17.6 Focusing Laser Light** (p. 327)
- **17.7 Nonlinear Optics** (p. 328)
- **17.8 Further Reading** (p. 329)
- **Numerical Examples 17** (p. 330)
- **Problems 17** (p. 330)
- **18 Fibre Optics** (p. 331)
- **18.1 The Light Pipe** (p. 332)
- **18.2 Guided Waves** (p. 333)
- **18.3 The Slab Dielectric Guide** (p. 336)
- **18.4 Evanescent Fields in Fibre Optics** (p. 338)
- **18.5 Cylindrical Fibres and Waveguides** (p. 340)
- **18.6 Numerical Aperture** (p. 342)
- **18.7 Materials for Optical Fibres** (p. 343)
- **18.8 Dispersion in Optical Fibres** (p. 345)
- **18.9 Dispersion Compensation** (p. 349)

- **18.10 Hole-array Light Guide** (p. 352)
- **18.11 Fabrication of Optical Fibres** (p. 352)
- **18.12 Further Reading** (p. 354)
- **Numerical Examples 18** (p. 354)
- **Problems 18** (p. 354)
- **19 Holography** (p. 357)
- **19.1 Reconstructing a Plane Wave** (p. 358)
- **19.2 Holographic Recording** (p. 359)
- **19.3 Gabor's Original Method** (p. 361)
- **19.4 Aspect Effects** (p. 362)
- **19.5 Holographic Interferometry** (p. 363)
- **19.6 Phase Holograms** (p. 364)
- **19.7 Holography in Colour** (p. 365)
- **19.8 Holography of Moving Objects** (p. 366)
- **19.9 Holographic Optical Elements** (p. 366)
- **19.10 Holographic Data Storage** (p. 367)
- **19.11 Further Reading** (p. 367)
- **20 Radiation, Scattering and Refraction** (p. 369)
- **20.1 Radiation Processes** (p. 369)
- **20.2 The Hertzian Dipole** (p. 370)
- **20.3 Free-Free Radiation** (p. 372)
- **20.4 Synchrotron Radiation** (p. 373)
- **20.5 Cerenkov Radiation** (p. 374)
- **20.6 Rayleigh Scattering** (p. 375)
- **20.7 Raman Scattering** (p. 376)
- **20.8 Thomson and Compton Scattering by Electrons** (p. 377)
- **20.9 Polarization in Dielectrics** (p. 377)
- **20.10 Free Electrons** (p. 379)
- **20.11 Resonant Atoms in Gases** (p. 380)
- **20.12 Anisotropic Refraction** (p. 381)
- **20.13 Further Reading** (p. 382)
- **21 The Detection of Light** (p. 383)
- **21.1 Photoemissive Detectors** (p. 383)
- **21.2 Semiconductor Detectors** (p. 386)
- **21.3 Semiconductor Junction Photodiodes** (p. 388)
- **21.4 Imaging Detectors** (p. 391)
- **21.5 Noise in Photodetectors** (p. 392)
- **21.6 Image Intensifiers** (p. 394)
- **21.7 Photography** (p. 397)
- **21.8 Thermal Detectors** (p. 398)
- **21.9 Further Reading** (p. 399)
- **Numerical Examples 21** (p. 399)
- **22 Optics and Photonics in Nature** (p. 401)
- **22.1 Light and Colour in the Open Air** (p. 401)
- **22.2 The Development of Eyes** (p. 402)
- **22.3 Corneal Focusing** (p. 403)

- **22.4 Compound Eyes** (p. 405)
- **22.5 Reflection Optics** (p. 406)
- **22.6 Thin Film Reflectors in Nature** (p. 407)
- **22.7 Biological Light Detectors** (p. 408)
- **22.8 Photosynthesis** (p. 410)
- **22.9 Further Reading** (p. 411)
- **Appendix Radiometry and Photometry** (p. 413)
- **Solutions to Numerical Examples** (p. 417)
- **Solutions to Problems** (p. 423)
- **Index** (p. 435)