



# The National College

Autonomous  
Jayanagar, Bangalore -560070

## Department of Physics For B.Sc III & IV Semester

For the Academic years 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25

CourseContent Phy.DSCT3: WaveMotion andOptics	
Unit -1 Waves and Superposition of Harmonic waves (11hoursof teachingplus 2hoursof activities)	
<p><b>ChapterNo. 1</b> Waves:PlaneandSphericalWaves.LongitudinalandTransverseWaves.Characteristicsofwavemotion,PlaneProgressive (Travelling) Wave and its equation (derivation),Wave Equation – Differential form (derivation). Particle andWave Velocities - Relation between them, Energy Transport – Expressionforintensityofprogressivewave,Newton’sFormulaforVelocityofSound.Laplace’sCorrection(Derivation).BriefaccountofRippleandGravity Waves.(TextBook:1-4) 5hours</p> <p><b>ChapterNo. 2</b> SuperpositionofHarmonicWaves:LinearityandsuperpositionPrinciple.Superpositionoftwocollinearoscillationshaving(1)equalfrequenciesand(2)differentfrequencies (Beats) – Analytical treatment. Superposition oftwo perpendicularharmonicoscillations:LissajousFigureswith equal and unequal frequency- Analytical treatment. UsesofLissajous’figures. (TextBook:1-4) 6hours</p>	
<b>Unit – 2</b>	
<p>- Standing Waves and Acoustics(11hoursof teachingplus2hoursof activities) <b>ChapterNo.3</b> <b>StandingWaves:</b>Velocityoftransversewavesalongastretched string (derivation), Standing (Stationary) Waves in aString - Fixed and Free Ends (qualitative). Theory of Normalmodes of vibration in a stretched string, Energy density andenergy transport of a transverse wave along a stretched</p>	

string. Vibrations in rods – longitudinal and transverse modes (qualitative). Velocity of Longitudinal Waves in gases (derivation). Normal Modes of vibrations in Open and Closed Pipes – Analytical treatment. Concept of Resonance, Theory of Helmholtz resonator.

**(Text Book: 1-4) 8 hours**

**Chapter No. 4**

**Acoustics:** Absorption coefficient, Reverberation time – Sabine’s Reverberation formula (derivation), Factors affecting acoustics in buildings, Requisites for good acoustics. Acoustic measurements – intensity and pressure levels.

**(Text Book: 1-4) 3 hours**

**Unit – 3: Nature of light and Interference (11 hours of teaching plus 2 hours of activities)**

**Chapter No. 5**

**Nature of light:** Corpuscular theory, The Wave model, Huygens’ wave theory, Maxwell’s electromagnetic waves, Dual nature of light, concept of wave packet. Group velocity and wave velocity – relation between them. **(Text Book No 5) 2 hours**

**Chapter No. 6**

**Interference of light by division of wave front:** Coherent source – Interference of light waves by division of wave-front, Young’s double slit interference – theory and experiment, Fresnel Biprism – theory and experiment (determination of wavelength)

**(Text Book No 5) 4 hours**

**Chapter No. 7**

**Interference of light by division of amplitude:** at thin films – reflected and transmitted light, Colours of thin films; Theory of air wedge; Theory of Newton’s rings (Reflection) – Determination of Refractive index of a liquid. Michelson Interferometer (qualitative) **(Text Book No 5) 5 hours**

**Topics for Self-study**

Why colour strips are seen in paddles on roads in rainy seasons? Give reasons. Make a report of it.

**Unit – 4: Diffraction and Polarisation (11 hours of teaching plus 2 hours of activities)**

**Chapter No. 8**

**Fraunhofer diffraction:** Introduction – Fraunhofer diffraction – Theory of single slit diffraction, Two slit diffraction pattern (qualitative), Theory of

diffraction Grating-oblique incidence–  
experimental determination of wavelength. Resolving power–  
Rayleigh criterion, Expression for resolving power of grating  
and telescope. (Text Book No 5)

**4 hours**

**Chapter No. 9**

**Fresnel Diffraction**–Concept of Fresnel half period zones (mention of equations),  
Qualitative discussion on diffraction by a circular aperture and diffraction by an  
opaque disc, Zone plate (mention of equation for focal  
length) Comparison of Zone plate with lens, Theory of diffraction at a straight edge.

(Text Book No 5)

**3 hours**

**Chapter No. 10**

**Polarisation:** Production of polarized light, Malus' law, Phenomenon of double refraction  
in crystals, Huygen's theory of double refraction (qualitative), Quarter

**4 hours**

wave plate and half wave plate, Optical activity, Laurent's half shade polarimeter.  
(Text Book No 5)

## Employability

### Wave motion and optics:

A B.Sc. program with a specialization in "Wave Motion and Optics" offers a range of specific program outcomes. Graduates from this program will first and foremost demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of wave motion principles, encompassing the fundamental behavior of waves, wave equations, and the intriguing phenomenon of wave interference. In the realm of optics, they will acquire expertise in the behavior of light, geometric optics, wave optics, and the practical application of optical principles to a variety of systems.

Moreover, this program equips students with strong problem-solving skills. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge of wave motion and optics to solve complex problems, both analytically and numerically. This includes, for instance, designing lenses, understanding diffraction, and working with polarization, all of which are essential aspects of the field.

In terms of practical experience, graduates will have extensive exposure to

laboratory work, where they will gain proficiency in conducting experiments related to wave motion and optics. They will be adept at using advanced optical equipment, collecting precise data, and drawing meaningful insights from their experimental results. Their critical thinking abilities will be honed as they evaluate and interpret both experimental data and theoretical models within the context of wave motion and optics.

The practicality of this specialization extends to various industries heavily reliant on optics and wave-based systems, such as telecommunications, photonics, and optical instrument development. Graduates will be well-prepared for roles in these technology-driven fields, where their understanding of optics is highly sought after.

Furthermore, this program instills research and development capabilities in its students. Graduates will possess the skills necessary to contribute to advancements in optical technologies and wave-based systems. Their strong quantitative and analytical skills will make them competitive candidates for positions that require data analysis, mathematical modeling, and problem-solving within the domain of wave motion and optics.

Finally, the B.Sc. program prepares students for advanced studies in optics, photonics, or related fields, offering a solid foundation for those who aspire to pursue master's or doctoral degrees in these areas. In summary, the program outcomes for "Wave Motion and Optics" provide students with a deep understanding of the subject matter, a diverse skill set, and numerous career opportunities in technology-driven industries.

1. **Mastery of Electromagnetic Principles** : Graduates will demonstrate a thorough understanding of the fundamental principles of electricity and magnetism, including Maxwell's equations, electromagnetic waves, and the behavior of charges and currents.

2. **Problem-Solving Skills** : Graduates will be proficient in applying electromagnetic theory to solve complex problems, both analytically and numerically, demonstrating competence in areas such as electrical circuits, magnetic fields, and electromagnetic radiation.

3. **Laboratory Proficiency** : Graduates will have hands-on experience in conducting experiments related to electricity and magnetism, with the ability to use advanced laboratory equipment, collect data, and analyze results.

4. **Critical Thinking and Data Analysis** : Graduates will exhibit critical

thinking skills when evaluating and interpreting experimental data and theoretical models in the context of electricity and magnetism.

5. Applications in Engineering : Graduates will be able to assess, design, and optimize electrical systems, making them well-suited for roles in electrical engineering, power generation, and the development of electronic devices.

6. Versatility in Technology : Graduates will be adaptable to various technology-driven industries, such as telecommunications, electronics, and energy, where their understanding of electromagnetism is highly relevant.

7. Research and Development Abilities : Graduates will possess the skills necessary for research, development, and design roles, with the capability to contribute to advancements in electromagnetism-related fields.

8. Quantitative and Analytical Skills : Graduates will have strong quantitative and analytical abilities, making them competitive candidates for jobs that require data analysis, mathematical modeling, and problem-solving.

9. Continued Education : The program will prepare students for advanced studies in physics or related fields, providing a solid foundation for those who wish to pursue master's or doctoral degrees.