

Prep guide – Intro to optics

Big picture goal – To review two core optics ideas: The phenomenon of interference, and the multi-frequency nature of light.

1) Given the fields associated with two sources of light, what are the mathematical steps we take to characterize the extent to which they interfere with one another?

2) Will two light sources of orthogonal polarizations interfere with each other?

3) In general, how are the temporal and spectral widths of a pulse related?