

# Fundamentals of light

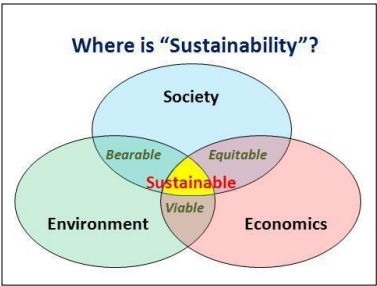
CHAPTER 1



## Introduction

### Environmental issues

➤ **Limited resources** ..... **Consumption** .....  
**Sustainability**

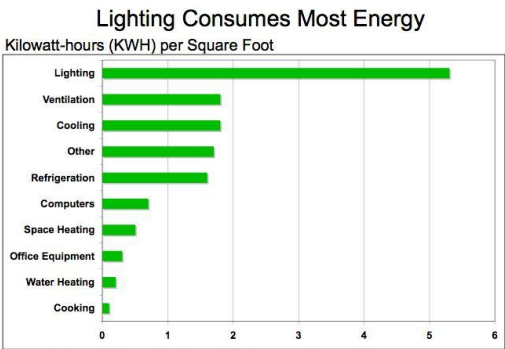
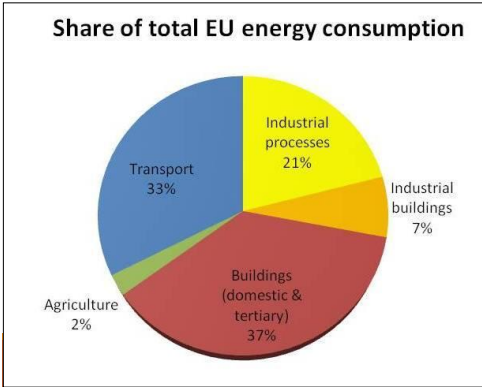


➤ **Environmental damage will result in environmental changes (climate change, global warming, air pollution ...**



For built environment

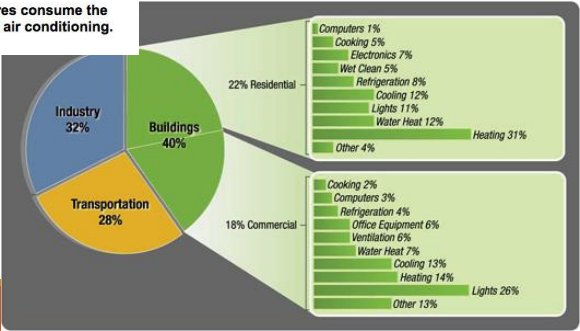
- Indoor and outdoor environment
- Human comfort (Visual) .....  
Efficiency (energy saving)



Source: Energy Information Administration and Green Economics research  
According to the EIA, in commercial buildings, lighting fixtures consume the most electric energy, three times the energy consumption of air conditioning.

Glare  
Solar heat gain

- Enhancing productivity
- Daylight and health
- Daylight and finance
- Psychologically, daylight and a view are much desired.
- Visual comfort



## Why studying illumination in buildings

1. Daylight—its introduction and integration with electric light
2. The interrelationship between the energy aspects of electric and daylighting, heating, and cooling
3. The effect of lighting on interior space arrangement.
4. The characteristics, means of generation, and utilization techniques of electric lighting
5. Visual needs of specific occupants and of specific tasks
6. The effects of brightness patterns on visual acuity
7. The artistic effects, and psychological effects of light and shadow
8. The use of color, both of light and of surfaces, and the effect of the illuminant source on object color
9. Physiological and psychological effects of the lighting design, particularly in spaces occupied for extended periods

## Physics of light

light is a visually evaluated radiant energy

or, more simply, as a form of energy that permits us to see.

If light is considered as a wave, similar to a radio wave or an alternating-current wave, it has a frequency and a wavelength

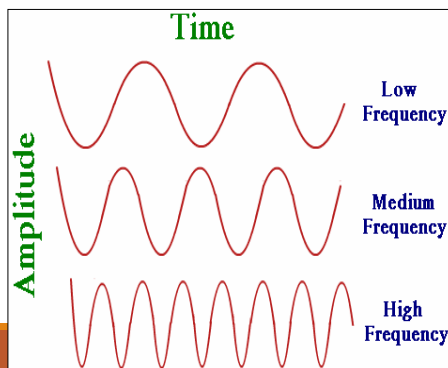
$$\lambda = \frac{v}{f} \quad \text{or} \quad f = \frac{v}{\lambda}$$

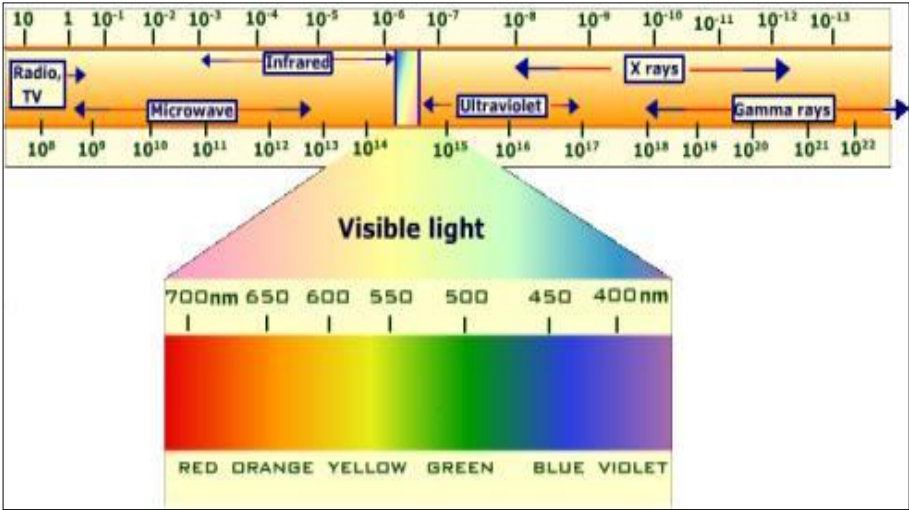
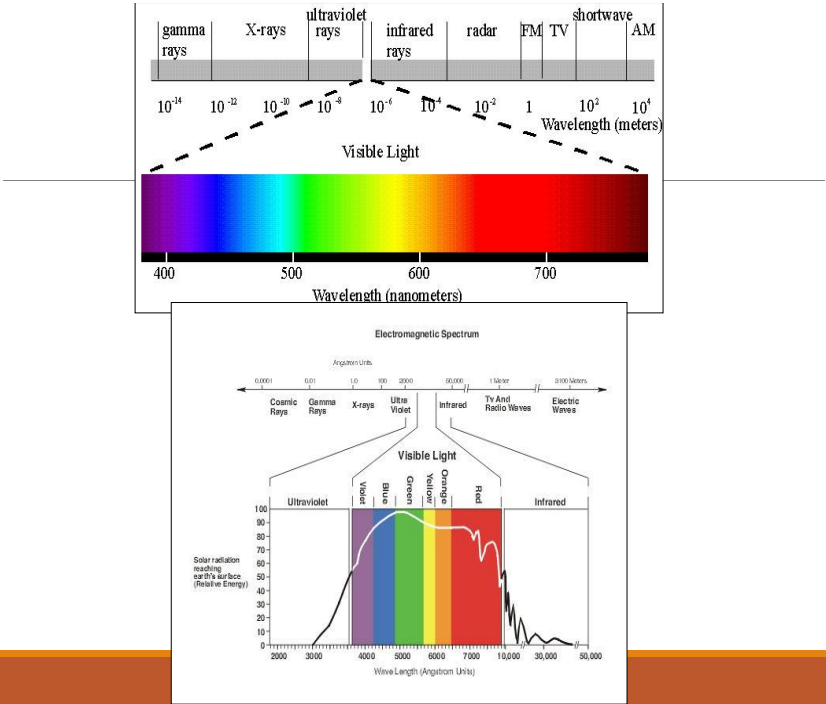
Where:

$\lambda$  = wavelength in meters

$v$  = velocity of radio wave  
(speed of light)

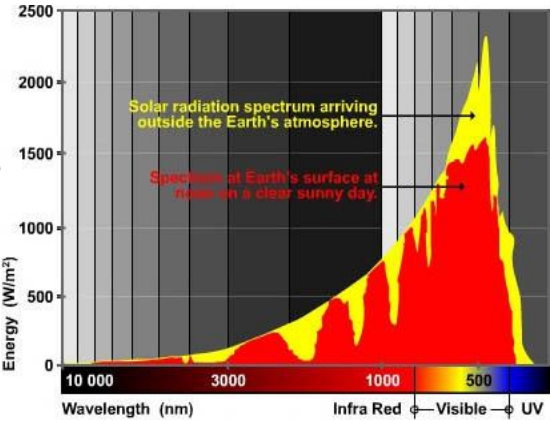
$f$  = frequency of radio wave  
(in Hz, kHz or Mhz)





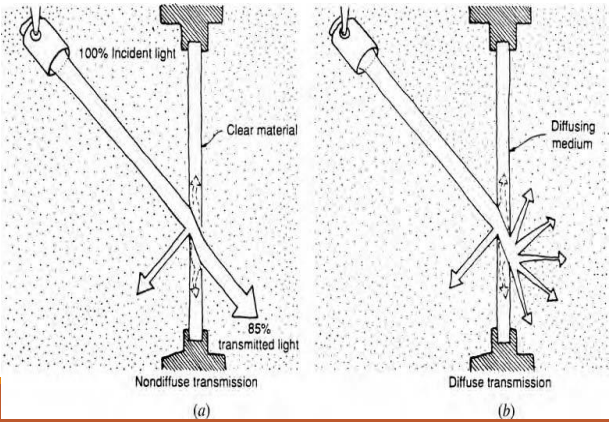
# Energy - light

the majority of solar radiation occurs between the short-wave infra-red and ultra-violet portions of the electromagnetic spectrum. Ultra-violet (UV) radiation makes up a very small part of the total energy, roughly 8%- 9%. The visible range, with a wavelength of 0.35mm to 0.78mm, represents only 46%-47% of the total energy received from the sun. The final 45% of the sun's total energy is in the short-wave infrared range of 0.78mm to 5mm.



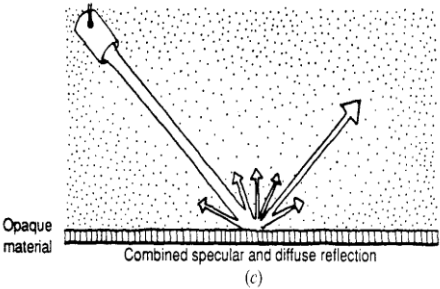
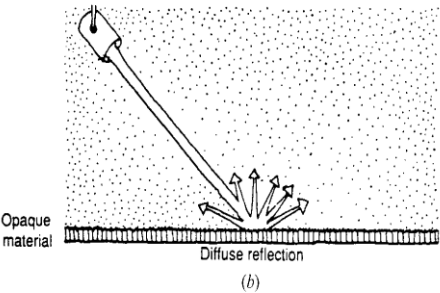
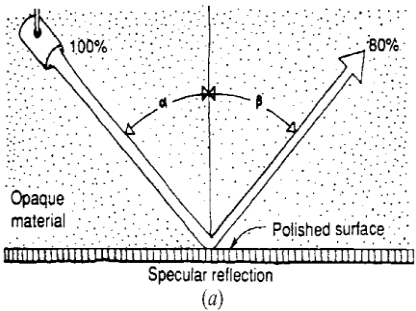
## TRANSMITTANCE, ABSORPTION AND REFLECTANCE

*transmittance, transmission factor, and coefficient of transmission, is the ratio of the total transmitted light to the total incident light.*



# Reflectance

the ratio of reflected to incident light is variously called *reflectance*, *reflectance factor*, and *reflectance coefficient*



## REFLECTANCE MEASUREMENTS

Reflected/Incident Light Method

Meter base on wall

Incident light reading = 60

Example

Meter cell 2" from wall

Reflected light reading = 35

Reflectance of wall:  $\frac{35}{60} = 60\%$  (approx.)

Known Sample Comparison Method

Known reflectance sample (90% R.F.)

Meter 2" from sample

Meter reading with 90% reflectance sample = 55

Example

Unknown reflectance wall

Meter 2" from wall

Meter reading with test card removed = 35

Reflectance of unknown surface:  $\frac{35}{55} \times 90 = 60\%$  (approx.)

## TERMINOLOGY AND DEFINITIONS

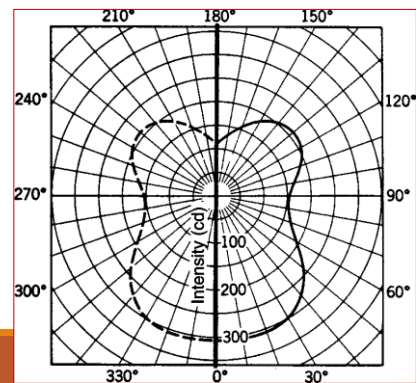
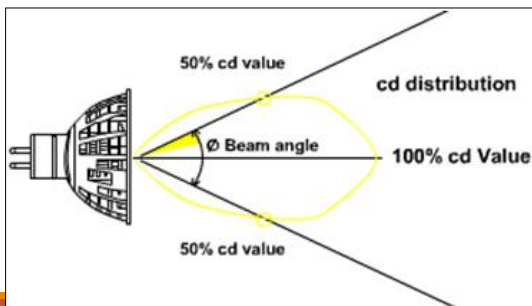
- LUMINOUS INTENSITY (  $I$  )
- LUMINOUS FLUX (  $\phi$  )
- ILLUMINANCE (  $E$  )
- LUMINANCE AND BRIGHTNESS (  $L$  )

## LUMINOUS INTENSITY ( $I$ )

The SI unit of *luminous intensity* is the candela (candlepower), abbreviated cd (cp)

and represents the force that generates the light that we see

Luminous intensity is a characteristic of the source only; it is independent of the visual sense (Radiometric unit)

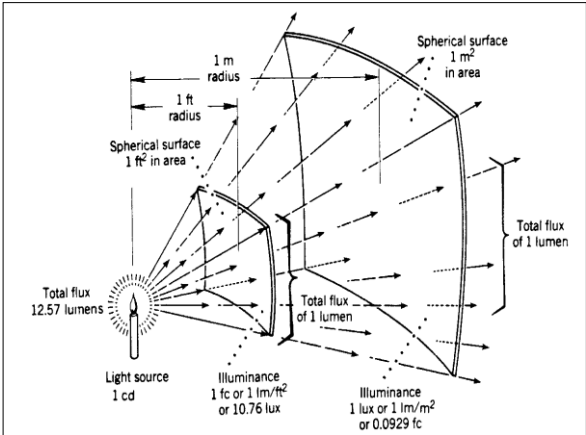


# LUMINOUS FLUX ( $\phi$ )

The unit of luminous flux, in both SI and I-P units, is the lumen (lm). (photometric unit):

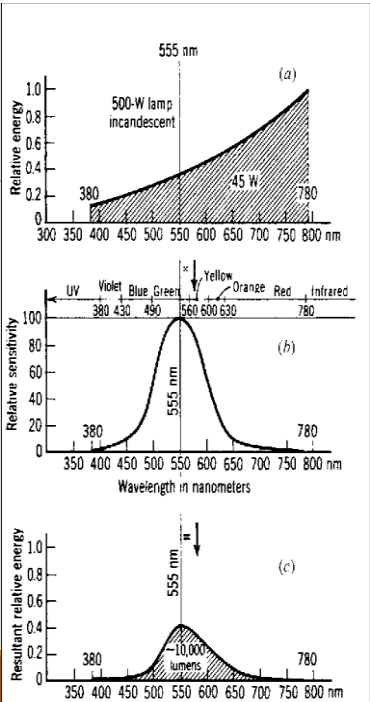
This means light power as perceived by the human eye and therefore as a function of human physiology.)

If we take a 1-cd source that radiates light equally in all directions and surround it with a transparent sphere of 1 m (ft) radius, then *by definition* the amount of luminous energy (flux) emanating from 1 m<sup>2</sup> (ft<sup>2</sup>) of surface on the sphere is 1 lm. Because there is 4 $\pi$  m<sup>2</sup> (ft<sup>2</sup>) surface area in such a sphere, it follows that a source of 1 candela (candlepower) intensity produces 4 $\pi$ , or 12.57, lm.



## Radiometric and photometric units

Measured radiometrically, it amounts to 45 W. However, when passed through a selective filter, which is effectively what happens when the light enters the eye, the resultant “understood” light power appears as in, and therefore can no longer be measured in watts. Instead, we use a unit of eye-perceived, or photometric, power called the *lumen*





# ILLUMINANCE ( E )

One lumen of luminous flux, uniformly incident on 1 m<sup>2</sup> of area, produces an *illuminance* of 1 lux (lx)

illuminance is the density of luminous power, expressed in terms of lumens per unit area (ft<sup>2</sup>) (*footcandle* [fc]).

$$\text{lux} = \frac{\text{lumens}}{\text{square meter area}}$$
$$\text{lux} = \frac{\text{lm}}{\text{m}^2}$$

and

$$\text{footcandles} = \frac{\text{lumens}}{\text{square foot area}}$$
$$\text{fc} = \frac{\text{lm}}{\text{ft}^2}$$

As an approximation (with 8% error)

$$10 \text{ lx} \approx 1 \text{ fc}$$

## Convert lux to fc

10.764 lux = 1 fc

$$\frac{1 \text{ lux}}{1 \text{ FC}} = \frac{1 \text{ m}^2}{(3.28)^2 \text{ ft}^2}$$

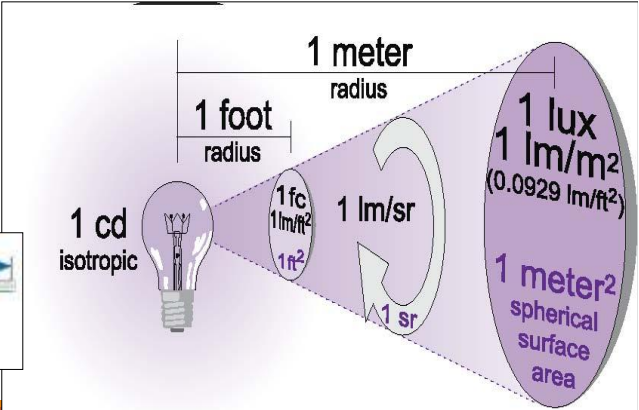
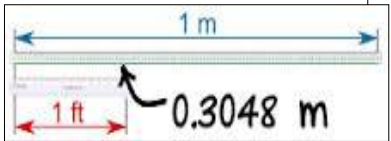


Fig. 7.4 Irradiance.

INVERSE SQUARE LAW

$$\text{lux} = \frac{\text{cd intensity}}{\text{distance}^2}$$

(11.6)

$$\frac{\text{lux}_2}{\text{lux}_1} = \frac{\text{area}_1}{\text{area}_2}$$

(11.4)

or

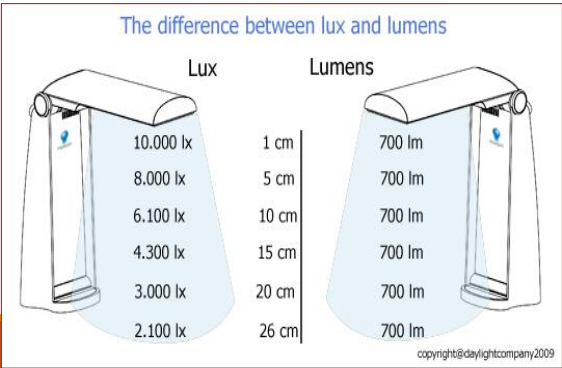
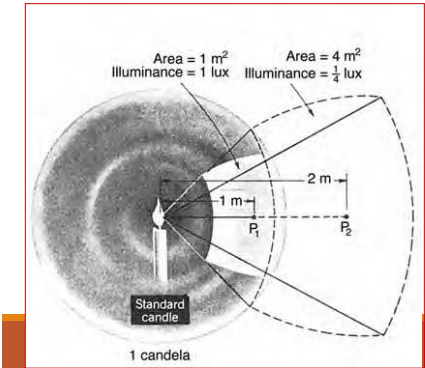
$$\text{lux}_2 = \text{lux}_1 \times \frac{\text{area}_1}{\text{area}_2}$$

therefore,

$$\text{lux}_2 = \text{lux}_1 \times \frac{4\pi r_1^2}{4\pi r_2^2}$$

(11.5)

$$= \text{lux}_1 \times \frac{r_1^2}{r_2^2}$$



LUMINANCE AND BRIGHTNESS

**object luminance (L)**, Luminance is normally defined in terms of intensity; it is the luminous intensity per unit of *apparent* (projected) area of a primary (emitting) or secondary (reflecting) light source : (cd/m²)

Brightness

An object is perceived because light coming from it enters the eye. The impression received is one of object *brightness*. This brightness sensation, however, is subjective and depends not only upon the object *luminance (L)*, but also upon the state of adaptation of the eye

| Unit            | Multiply     | By     | To Obtain   |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|-------------|
| Illuminance (E) | Lux          | 0.0929 | Footcandle  |
|                 | Footcandle   | 10.764 | Lux         |
| Luminance (L)   | cd/m²        | 0.2919 | Footlambert |
|                 | cd/cm²       | 10,000 | cd/m²       |
|                 | cd/in.²      | 1,550  | cd/m²       |
|                 | cd/ft²       | 10.76  | cd/m²       |
|                 | Millilambert | 3.183  | cd/m²       |
|                 | Footlambert  | 3.4263 | cd/m²       |
| Intensity (I)   | Candela      | 1.0    | Candlepower |

## *luminous Exitance*

*luminous exitance*, or simply as *exitance*, describes the total luminous flux density leaving (exiting) a surface, irrespective of directivity or viewer position.

$$\text{exitance} = \frac{\text{luminous flux}}{\text{area}}$$

A surface that is a perfect diffuser, whether by emitting light diffusely or reflecting light diffusely, is known as a *Lambertian surface*.

It is fairly simple to demonstrate mathematically the luminance of such a surface equals  $1/\pi$  times its exitance.

$$\text{luminance} = \frac{1}{\pi} (\text{exitance})$$

$$L = \frac{E \times RF}{\pi}$$

and in I-P units,

$$fL = fc \times RF$$

where

$L$  = luminance in  $\text{cd/m}^2$

$E$  = illuminance in lux

$RF$  = reflection factor

$fL$  = luminance in foot-lamberts

$fc$  = illuminance in footcandles (

## ILLUMINANCE AND LUMINANCE MEASUREMENT



## Example – 1

A 34-W, 425-mA (milliampere), 48-in. (122-cm) fluorescent tube produces 3200 lm. What is the illuminance on the floor of a 3-m<sup>2</sup> room, assuming 60% overall efficiency and uniform illumination?

## Example – 2

---

Luminance of a light-emitting surface.

1. Calculate the luminance of an A-19 standard inside-frosted, 100-W incandescent light bulb with a maintained output of 1700 lm. Assume (for simplicity's sake) that the bulb is spherical. An A-19 bulb has a diameter of  $19/8$  in. (60 mm)
2. Assume that an opal glass globe of 8 in. (200 mm) diameter and a transmittance of 35% surrounds the bulb described in step 1. Calculate the luminance of the globe. Use SI units throughout.

## Example – 3

---

Calculate the luminance of a 34-W, T12, 4-ft white fluorescent lamp. Assume a viewing angle normal to the long axis of the lamp and that the lamp is a diffuse (Lambertian) emitter. Use SI units.

use 2770 lm. The luminous length is 4 ft (1200 mm) and the diameter is  $12/8$  in. (38 mm).

## Example – 4

---

To demonstrate the usefulness of the luminance/exitance approximation, calculate the luminance, in SI units, of the page that you are now reading. Assume a uniform illuminance of 500 lx, a diffuse reflectance of 0.77, and a viewing angle normal to the page.

