

Colors of the Universe

- Nebulae / emission (H_{II} regions)
- reminders on microphysics of light emission
- (+ some bonus sideways :-)

→ *Let's start with the reminders*

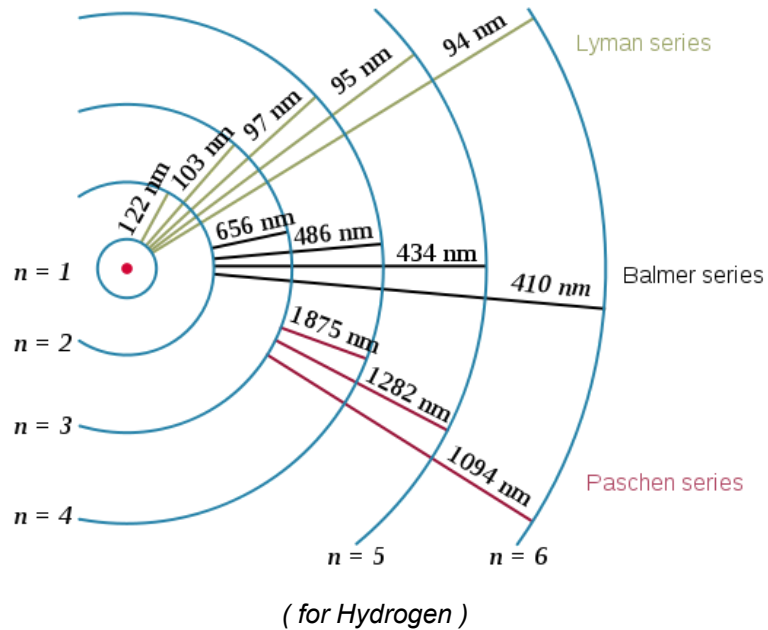
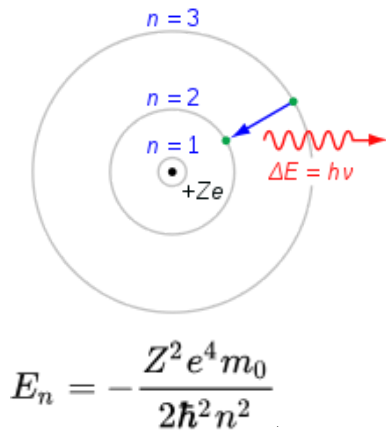
(*Nebulae color's : [next week](#)*)

Reminders on microphysics of light emission

1: Atom ; electronic shell → de-excited electron + photon

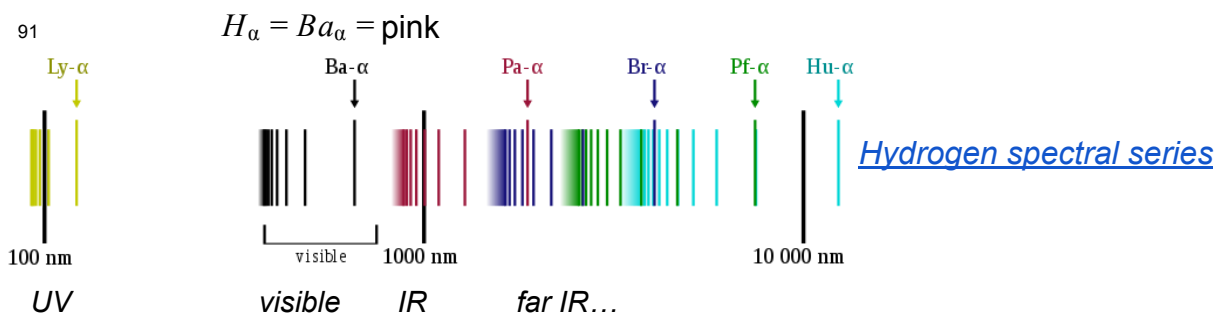
shell = stationary electron wave
as if captured photon

$$E = mc^2, E = h\nu \rightarrow \text{Compton } \lambda = \frac{h}{mc}$$



ionized / recombination = goto ∞ (91nm) ~ highest excited

→ Rydberg formula: $\nu = \frac{c}{\lambda} = cRZ^2 \left(\frac{1}{n^2} - \frac{1}{n'^2} \right)$ → **line spectrum**



NB: not really Diracs (mvt → Doppler, + uncertainty principle / Fourier)

Anyway, isolated atoms are rare !

→

1b: Molecules, complex molecules, metals, crystals

Very weak bands (far IR → microwave → radio)

e.g., H_2 (μ w oven)

Then break to atoms → totally different emission look

$H : H_I$

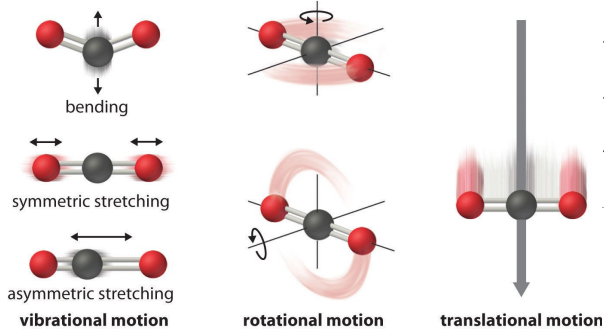
Then ionize

→ yet totally different emission look

$H^+ : H_{II}$

2: Black Body spectrum

Molecular mechanical DOF ($\sim T$): de-excited + photon



→ accelerated dipoles (\sim oscillating EM field)

→ can emit

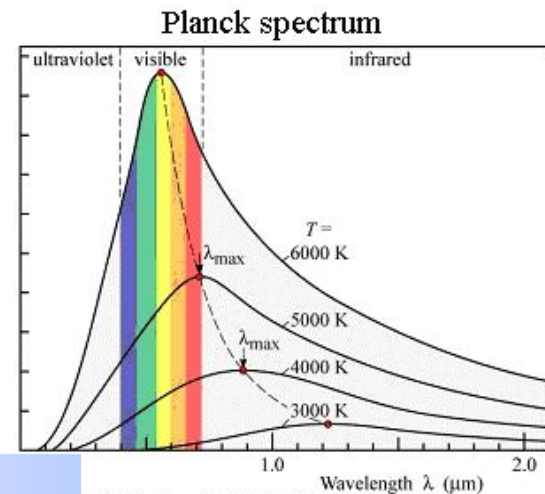
→ cf: charge acceleration (\uparrow, \downarrow, R)

⇒ synchrotron radiation

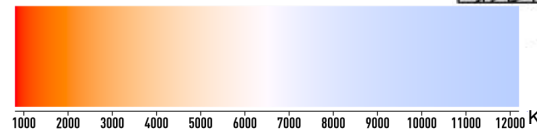
In fact, quantized too.

But numerous modes + non-linearities + macroscopic balance → **continuous spectrum**

A lot more energy !



Sideway: perception:
no green star :-)



peak \neq in λ vs ν

3: forbidden modes (Nature \gg lab)

- In practice, continuous exchanges btw DOF (including electron level).
- E.g.: inelastic collision → excited DOF or electron → inelastic collision (→ emerging notion of T , unique global scalar at balance).
- Deep vacuum: electron might de-excite before next (rare) collision (once mysterious "Nebulium", "Coronium" → forbidden transition)

Equivalences and reciprocities

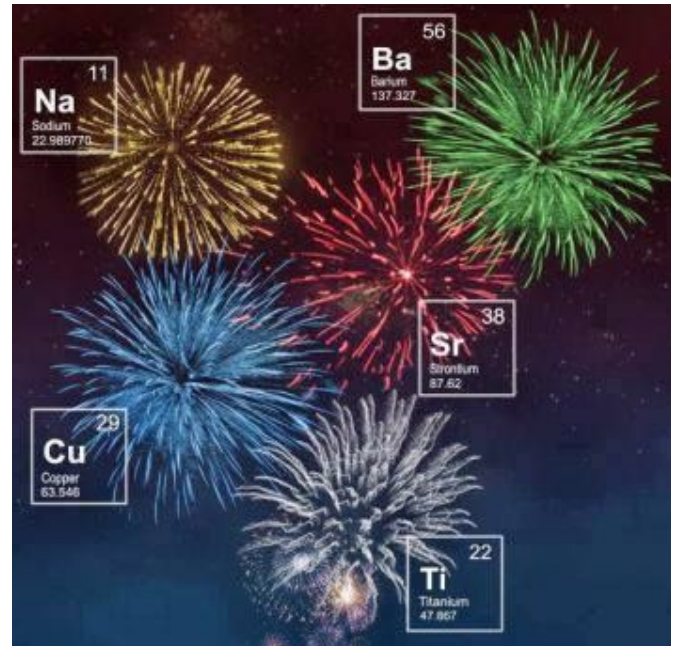
weak emitter \Rightarrow weak absorber \Rightarrow transparent (e.g., H_2 . c/: BB)
 \Rightarrow hard to heat (with radiations) + hard to cool.

Sideway:

- Collapsing gas clouds into star requires dust
collapse: heats → (2ble) pressure → balance gravity
dust: radiates → cools → P_{\downarrow} → gravity win over pressure
- Reason why black matter is diffuse

Sideway | application: fire & fireworks

- *very hot* → *ionized* → *line emission*
- *kitchen gas*, + *throw salt etc.*
- *fireworks: black powder* + *added “salt”*



- ... + *one “special case”*: (*only happens to be ultra frequent*)
carbon material + *oxygen* → *partial combustion* → *soot* (= *nanopartic*)
- *BlackBody continuous spectrum* (~ 1000°C)
 - *ultra-bright* (*masks lines*)
 - *ultra-opaque* (→ *heats a lot*, + *oven effect*)
 - *smoke* (*same*, if *undispersed*)



Sideway: hyperspectral images + a world in a pixel

Hyperspectral: a spectrum per pixel

Look at surfaces (usually)

→ directly “read” materials (reflect. spectrum)

→ separating lighting easy

Multispectral: some discrete bands

Astronomy:

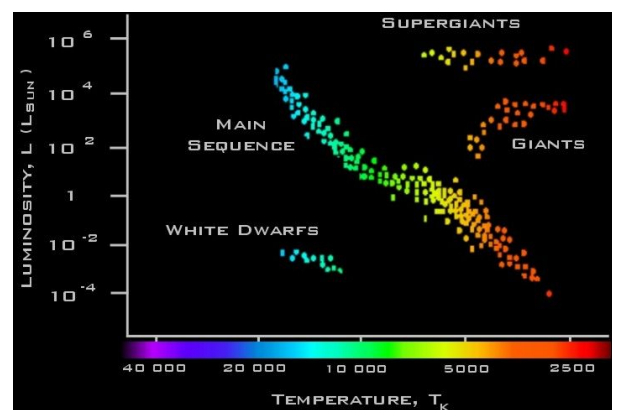
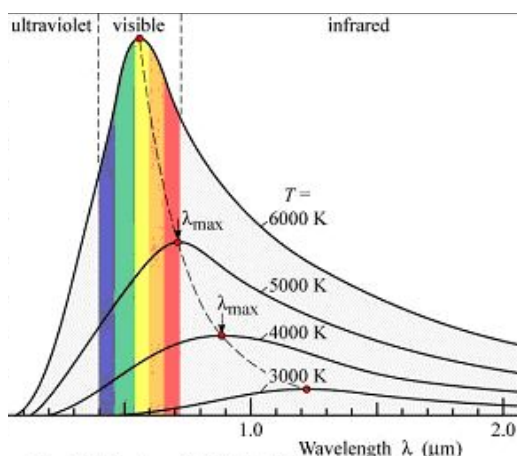
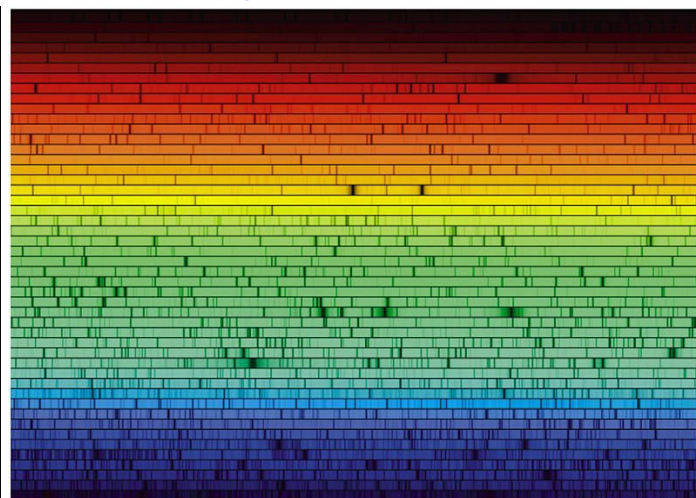
- nebulae quite homogeneous
- lighting simple (no shadows ; direct emission lines...)
- stars = points, + planets & binaries ; transparent medium

But: many things along ray (vol) / in the pixel

→ analyzing one pixel.

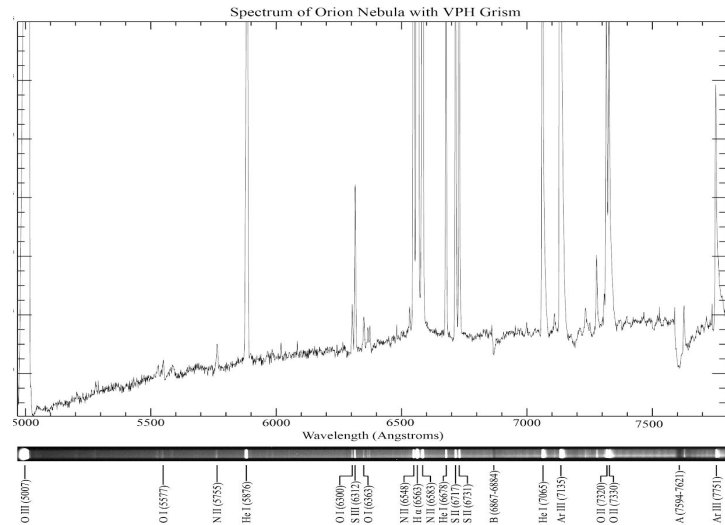
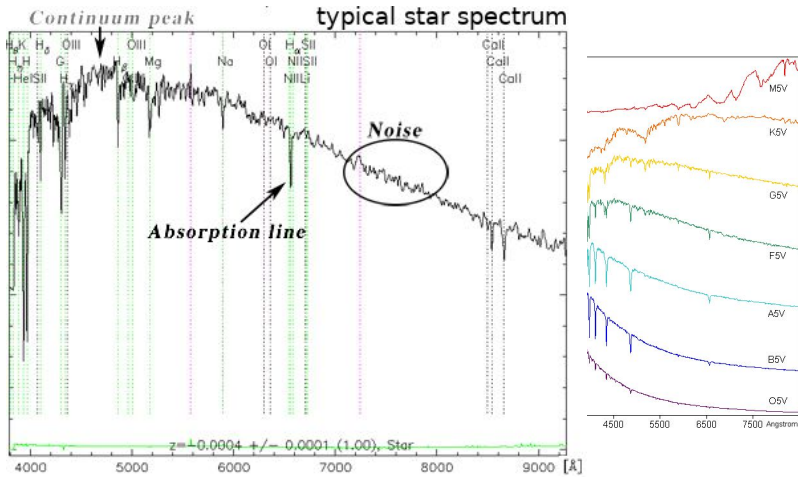
trick: recognize lines pattern (=material) in spectrum

or $BB(T)$ (+ we know $absL(T)$) + absorption lines

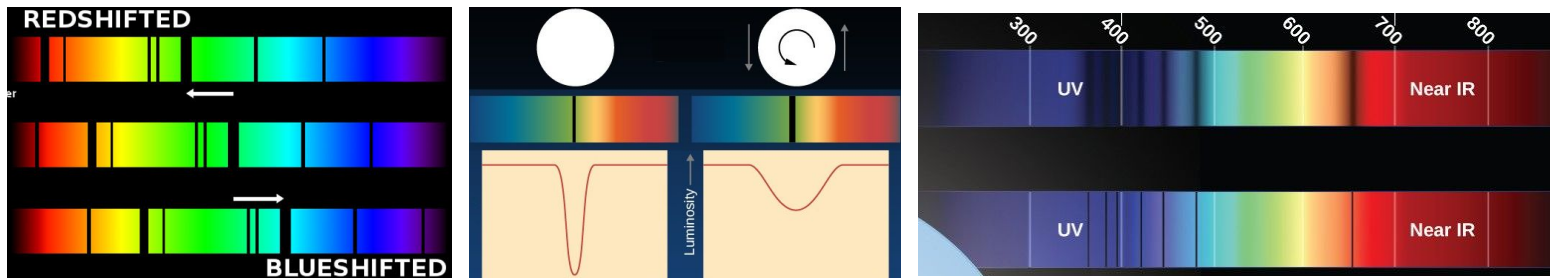


A world in a pixel

- *material mix* (+ correlation: e.g. CO for H_2) : *pattern*
- *temperature* (BB/IR ; + lines of split molecules / ionization): *shape, presence*



- *radial velocity / high distance* (via expansion): *red/blue shift of pattern*
- *rotating*: *blurry pattern*
- *binary stars*: *doubled pattern*
- *photosphere temperature*: *blurry absorption lines*



- *separating distant objects along ray*: *different shifts superimposed*
- *magnetic field* (+ orientation) : *polarization*
- *planet/binary + period* : *variation of L in time*
+ *atmosphere composition*: *variation of spectrum in time*

... all this from one pixel !

Disclaimers

I'm not physicist ;-)

just my understanding & memory + fast sketching

Other emission types reducing to previous:

laser (sync de-excitation), [auroras](#), [airglow](#) (ionization, etc) , lightning & electric arcs (plasma), photoluminescence [=fluo+phospho] (de-excitation), "neon" tubes (ionization+fluorescence), bio/chemio-luminescence ($\Delta\text{molec} \rightarrow \Delta\text{shells}$) ...

Emission modes not covered:

LED (gap - e^- annihilation), laser-LED (quantum box), Cherenkov radiation ($v_{\text{partics}} > \text{light}$), Unruh effect (referential-dep. photons), sonoluminescence (unknown), various particle decays and interactions...

+ passive effects:

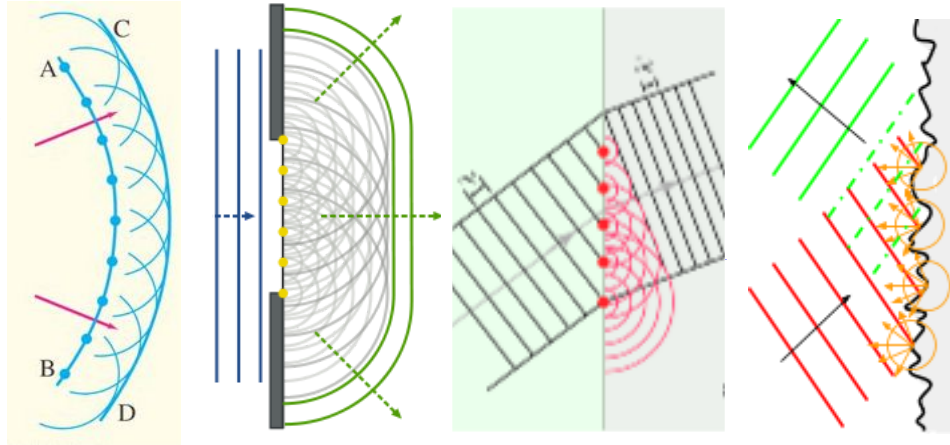
effects of diffractions (includes refrac & reflec), scatterings (Rayleigh,Mie,...), interferences & irisations, + everything in materials [+ scale matters]...

Sideway: Refraction as a subset of diffraction

Microphysics of refraction

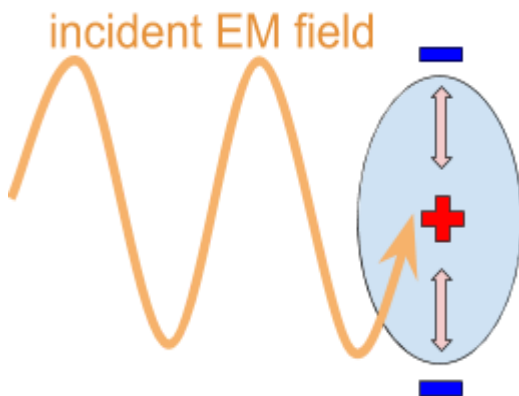
1. Huygens principle

Diffraction everywhere
Forget ray / photon "particle"
 → all waves
 → whole geometrical optic emerges.



2. Microphysics of refraction: dipole reacting EM field

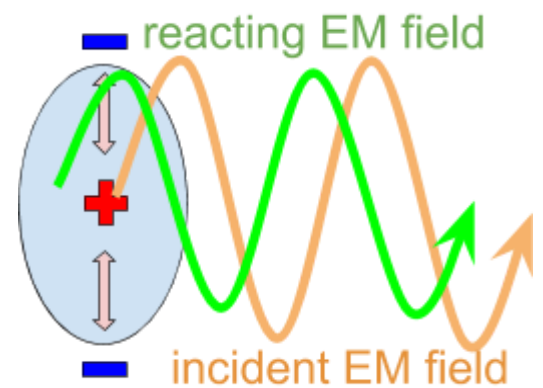
(= coherent Rayleigh)



Dielectric:

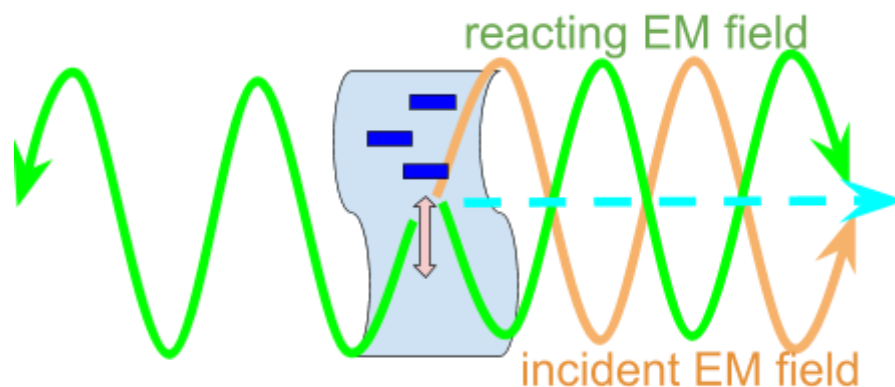
- dielectric deforms in EM wave plane
- reacts with a delay (analogous mass-spring)
- charge motion → induced EM field (all dirs)
 → Huygens : fronts (partic dist << λ)

- sum: resulting field = late-phased
- accumulation: closer fronts, slower phases
 "slower light" $v = \frac{c}{n} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}}$
- but E (group velocity) keeps c speed
 Where is the photon ? :-)
 (could induce miss-predictions)



Conductor (ideal) :

- electrons very mobiles
- kills incident wave
- reflect all (th: no color)



Sideway: microphysics of c

For whole kinds of waves, $c = \sqrt{\frac{\text{reactivity}}{\text{inertia factor}}}$

reason: just the differential equation :

Harmonic oscillator: e.g.: mass - spring

Newton: $ma = F$

$$(m) \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial t^2} = -(k) X \rightarrow X = A \cos(\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} t + \phi)$$

(BTW: + forcing term = EM waves \rightarrow dielectric dipole reaction \rightarrow refr. index)

Wave equation: medium = chained oscillators

$$(m') \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial t^2} = (k') \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} \rightarrow X = A \cos(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}(x - c_\phi t) + \phi), c_\phi = \sqrt{\frac{k'}{m'}}$$

$$\rightarrow c_\phi = \sqrt{\frac{\text{elasticity (Young)}}{\text{density}}}$$

is the speed of information in a medium (sound, Froude, seism...)

EM (Maxwell) : $\mu \frac{\partial^2 E, B}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 E, B}{\partial x^2}$ (permittivity⁻¹ $1/\epsilon \sim F$ between 2 charges , like k)

$$\rightarrow c_\phi = \sqrt{\frac{1/\epsilon}{\mu}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu\epsilon}} \quad (\text{material permeability } \mu \text{ \& permittivity } \epsilon)$$

Vacuum: $c_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0\epsilon_0}}$ Vacuum is a dielectric medium:

has properties: vacuum permittivity $\epsilon_0 = 8.85... \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$

vacuum permeability $\mu_0 = 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ H/m}$

free space impedance $Z_0 = \mu_0 c = 376.73... \Omega$

vacuum energy $= 10^{-9} - 10^{113} \text{ J/m}^3 \text{ :-)}$

\rightarrow fluctuations, creation/annihilation of "virtual" particles +-

\rightarrow QM vacuum is polarizable (i.e.: dielectric-like dipole)

+ Casimir effect, shifts in material properties (Lamb shift, ...),

causes of spontaneous photon emission, \sim van der Waals force, etc.

\rightarrow c is not about "light".

Relativity: "c = max speed, speed of massless, speed of information"

QM: "c = characteristic of the vacuum 'medium' (speed of info) " (?)