Waves and optics

GRE Subject Test · GRE Physics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
coherent /kəʊˈhɪərənt/	Two **coherent** sources give a steady interference pattern.
path difference /pæθ ˈdɪfrəns/	A **path difference** of one wavelength gives a bright fringe.
diffraction /dɪˈfrækʃn/	The narrow opening produces a broad **diffraction** pattern.
superposition /ˌsuːpəpəˈzɪʃn/	By **superposition**, the waves' displacements add together.
fringes /ˈfrɪndʒɪz/	The bright and dark **fringes** are evenly spaced.
thin film /θɪn fɪlm/	Light reflected from a soap **thin film** shows colours.

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