

Historical timeline of scientific descriptions of light and matter – B.P. Anderson

Wave nature of light	Particle nature of light	Particle nature of matter	Wave nature of matter
1680 - Huygens 1800 – Young (diffraction, interference) 1818 – Fraunhofer (grating), Arago, Fresnel (diffraction) 1820 – Young, Fresnel (light as trans. wave), Arago (Poisson's spot) 1860 – Maxwell (EM eqs)	~1000 - Alhazen 1670 - Newton	1808 – Dalton (theory of matter)	
		1869 – Mendeleev (per table)	
	1888 – Hertz (disc. photoelect effect)	1895 – JJ Thomson (disc. electron)	
	1901 – Planck 1905 – Einstein (quantized rad., PE effect, spec relativity) 1909 – Einstein (statistical fluctuations of light properties) 1917 – Einstein (theory of radiation) 1923 – Compton 1924 – Bose (quantum statistics)	1909 – Rutherford (disc. nucleus), Millikan, Fletcher (charge of elect.) 1912 – Braggs (x-ray diffraction) 1913 – Bohr (atom model)	1922-24 – deBroglie (matter wave hypothesis)
		1923 – Pauli (exc. princ)	
		1924, 1925 – Einstein (BE distrib, BEC, atom diffraction proposed)	
		1925 – Uhlenbeck, Goudsmit (electron spin)	
		1925 – Heisenberg, Jordan, Born (QM)	
		1926 – Schrodinger (wave eq), Fermi, Dirac (quantum statistics)	
		1927 – Heisenberg (uncert. princ.)	
		1927 – Heisenberg, Bohr (QM interp)	
			1927 – Davisson, Germer, Thomson (elect diffrac)
		1928 – Dirac (rel wave eq)	
	1930 – Dirac – quantum electrodynamics, formal theory of QM and wave mechanics		
		1932 – Anderson (disc positron), Chadwick (disc neutron)	1930 – Estermann, Stern (Helium atom diffraction)
		1935 – Heisenberg – theory of nuclear structure	1936 – Mitchell, Powers (neutron diffraction)