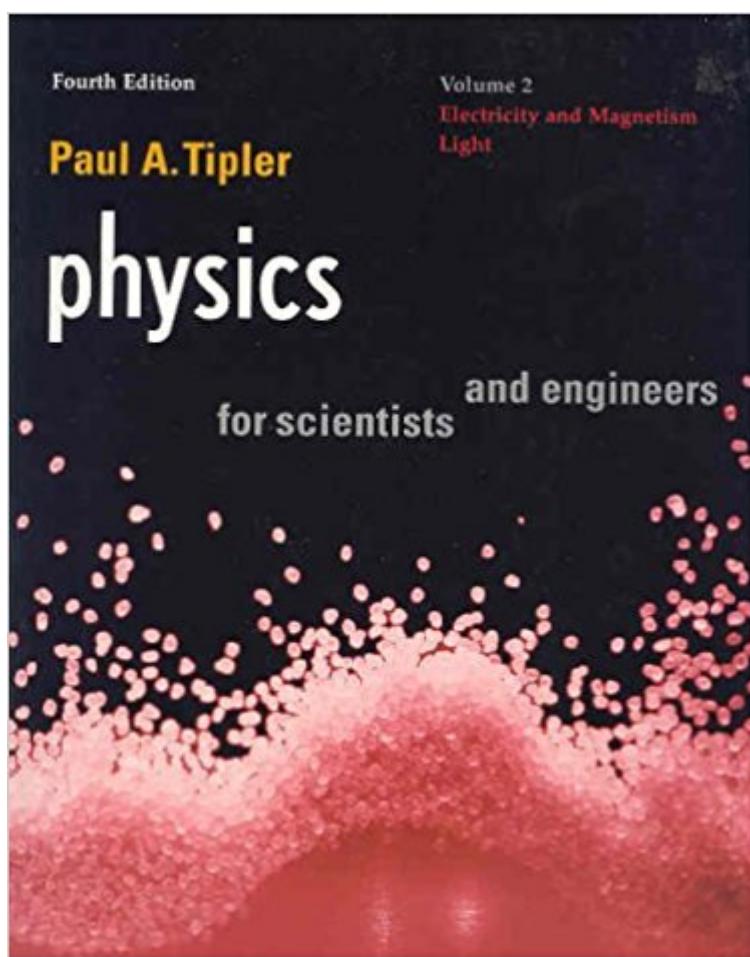


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# Physics For Scientists And Engineers: Vol. 2: Electricity And Magnetism, Light (Physics, For Scientists & Engineers, Chapters 22-35)



## Synopsis

This is part two of the fourth edition of the text which includes new artwork, updated examples, new pedagogical features and has an interactive CD-ROM. Twentieth-century developments such as quantum mechanics are introduced early so that students can see how they fit into the overall picture.

## Book Information

Series: Physics, for Scientists & Engineers, Chapters 22-35 (Book 2)

Paperback: 1141 pages

Publisher: W. H. Freeman; Fourth Edition edition (September 15, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1572594926

ISBN-13: 978-1572594920

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.7 x 12.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.7 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #508,715 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in Books > Science & Math > Physics > Electromagnetism > Magnetism #167 in Books > Science & Math > Physics > Optics #167 in Books > Science & Math > Physics > Electromagnetism > Electricity

## Customer Reviews

Tipler is great. The book was slow in coming, however.

First of all, i use Tipler physics books as a supplement for extra practice for my ap physics class. This means that i don't really read the explanations in the chapters, but rather go straight to the problems. Having glanced over some explanations, i feel tipler does explain the concepts well with very good pictures that illustrate the ideas. My favorite are the worked out problems in the sections, because i found they helped me familiarize myself with the type of math involved and generally just what to do. Also, in the back of the book, for the answers to problems, they also show which "sample problems" they refer to, which is really helpful. Only flaw I could find is that there should be more explanations of the steps rather than just showing the steps.

I am a Physics major who finished my classical physics sequence and Tipler's volume of Classical Physics text is fantastic. Volume 2 focuses on Electricity, Magnetism, and Light. The text is clear, the problems are great. The biggest advantage to this text is its format. It has great pictures and amazing examples. Here is what makes Tipler's text in my mind better than Serway or H&R. There are numerous examples reflecting the problems set on the end of the chapter. many of these examples also are "try it yourself" examples, which has suggestions on one column, and the equations on one. Every example Tipler spells out the concept in words and puts the equation next to it. This builds on problem solving techniques, the hardest part of beginning and learning the introductory physics discipline. Other things worthy of note for Tipler is his subtle references to Modern Physics, indicating more is on the way in terms of the way we understand the universe. Overall, Tipler is fantastic. I highly recommend his textbooks, He even has a Modern Physics text is the best in its class like his classical physics text. (remember a good book is never a substitute for a good teacher)

This is a calc-based physics text. Quick Reference: the material in this volume covers electric fields, electric potential, electrostatics, current (DC and AC) and circuits, magnetic fields, inductors, Maxwell's Equations/EM Waves, properties of light, mirror/lens optics, and interference/diffraction. Review: the chapter on Maxwell's Equations and Electromagnetic Waves was exceptionally bad. It should have tied Electricity and Magnetism together, but just leaves the reader confused. The rest of the text makes everything more complicated than it actually is; Tipler won't give the concepts of the reader, the reader has to discover them on her own. The examples are not a sufficient level for the problems in the book. This book is NOT FOR SELF-STUDY. Value of Book and a Better Text: the value of this book is minimal. For the price that is being asked (for just a single-volume paperback) is absurd. In place of Tipler's book, I would refer anyone to "Physics for Scientists and Engineers" by Serway; this book is sufficient for self-study, which is a quality you really need in a physics text. This book offers the material of 3 volumes of Tipler's books (the 3rd volume of Tipler's series is modern physics) at half the price. One of my friends has actually completely turned over to Serway, despite that her assigned text is Tipler (she doesn't even open her Tipler text anymore), and is now doing better in her class.

The Tiper physics textbook, while excellent for an engineering student, lacks much of the theoretical rigor desirable in a physics curriculum. A great many of the problems at the end of the chapter prove to be remarkably simple, and boil down to hunting through the book for the right constants

and the right equation to plug into to find the answer. Actual problem solving skills are not developed for a physicist. The chapters on circuits, while excellent for electrical engineering majors, are almost a waste of time for a physics major. Even though the textbook is very thorough with what it teaches, it does not teach at a very high level nor does it prepare physics majors for more difficult future classes. Having used the Kleppner and Kolenkow Introduction to Mechanics textbook for Intro. to Classical Mechanics, shifting gears to something as trivial in difficulty as the Tipler for Electrostatics just leads to frustration over spending more time finding the right constant than actually solving the problem.

Any physics textbook would be a good one in the hands of great teachers. However, without a teacher, Tipler's physics probably will not be the good choice. His way of thinking physics has a very unique personal characteristic: simple sentence contains deep meanings but does not have clue to follow. Yes, it is an introductory text, but an introductory text should, I think, explains concepts in a way that is easy for others to read and understand. It should not confuse the naive physics majors but to help them make the basic ideas more clear and familiar. In an advanced point of view, his texts are excellent because the ideas require a considerable amount of thinking. It might have been a great intro. physics series if the sentences are more concise and "elementary"!

I use both H&R and Tipler side by side. Tipler's explanations can be very valuable in H&R's shorter moments but H&R has the upper hand in Light and Magnetism. Tipler's approach in this area is simply not deep enough and leaves the reader unable to answer many basic questions. However, the illustrations are elegant and useful which make this book worth considering for any reference shelf.

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