

Meeting “Beyond Einstein” at Stanford University

## Light and the Electron - Einstein’s Last Question

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**Abstract:**Light is an energy exchange between electrons. However, the exchange mechanism was unknown, as Einstein implied when he said: "I would just like to know what an electron is." Einstein's question is answered and new applications described.

### A. Introduction

In his later years, Einstein was asked his thoughts about the huge numbers of short-lived heavy particles, kaons, pions, quarks, mesons, etc. found using high-energy accelerators and enormous amounts of time and money. These physicists thought they were finding important basic matter. They wanted to know what Einstein thought of their work. Einstein was a careful thinker and not given to theatrics so he was very serious when he replied, “I would just like to know what an electron is.”

Why did he say this? His answer implied, contrary to popular thinking, that the pedestrian electron, known since Greek times, was more important to science than the billions of dollars spent on accelerators. Little attention was paid to his remark. ~~This was unfortunate because the Wave Structure of the Electron has suddenly produced many valuable applications.~~ This paper is wrong. The electron is a super conducting sphere that doesn't radiate in the ground state. This inherent stability is why the electron doesn't crash into the nucleus. It was the central problem of QM and people gave up on it.

Einstein saw [2] the electron as the leading player in the universe, as could any careful scientist because most of the activity of the Universe is dominated by energy transfers involving the electron - light and electromagnetic waves. Neither Einstein nor anyone else understood the causes and mechanisms of light energy transfers between molecules and atoms. Although the ‘force’ between ‘electrons’ could be calculated using rules taught in Physics I, the suggested mechanism and rules do not always match the behavior of Nature. The structure of the electron itself was in question. It did not appear to be a discrete material particle. Something was wrong and Einstein knew it.

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