UNI ROOT

Two waves, one pattern

Light and sound look like different worlds. Light is an electromagnetic wave that crosses empty space; sound is a mechanical wave that needs a medium to travel. Yet both are described by the same words: frequency, amplitude, phase.

When two waves meet, they do not erase each other. Where crest meets crest they add up; where crest meets trough they cancel. Between the two sources a new pattern appears, steady and ordered, that belongs to neither wave alone.

This is interference, one of the clearest examples of order in nature. The pattern depends only on the relation between the waves: their frequencies and the distance between them. Change the relation, and the whole pattern changes.

Are light and sound two languages of one wave? uni root plays them together, so that a rhythm can be seen and heard in the same moment.

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