

F. J. Duarte, *Optics & Photonics News* **24** (7-8), 7 (2013).



Electron interference, part deux

In a recent letter entitled “Electron Interference?” (OPN, June 2013) J. H. Eberly correctly and studiously refers to Dirac’s description of interference which is also known as *Dirac’s dictum*. In the same letter, he points toward “instructors in engineering-related courses” as propagating an erroneous description of interference, divergent from Dirac’s dictum.

This is a topic that has surfaced time and time again in the open literature. In 1998, I participated in a written discussion that was published not in an engineering journal, but in the *American Journal of Physics*; it defended Dirac’s description of interference. My new book *Quantum Optics for Engineers*, which is now in press, treats this topic in detail and reaffirms Dirac’s perspective as well. Incidentally, Dirac himself was an engineer prior to becoming a physicist.

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