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# Scalar wave

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v - t - e

A **scalar wave** is a purported type of [electromagnetic](#) wave that works outside [physics](#) as we know it.

The central conceit is that scalar waves restore certain useful aspects of Maxwell's equations "discarded" in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by those fools Heaviside, Hertz and Gibbs.<sup>[1]</sup> [Nikola Tesla](#) was also interested in them, in his more-than-a-little-odd period.

[Free energy](#) advocates have pushed the concept since the 1990s,<sup>[2]</sup> particularly [Thomas E. Bearden](#). It has since been adopted by some [alternative medicine](#) practitioners as the new "[quantum](#)": a universally-applicable [sciencey handwave](#) to support any arbitrary claim whatsoever.<sup>[3]</sup> [Conspiracy theorists](#) hold that it is behind weather-changing superweapons that brought down space shuttle *Columbia*.

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## In real physics[\[edit\]](#)

In physics, a quantity described as "scalar" only contains information about its magnitude. In contrast, a "vector" quantity contains information both about its magnitude and about its direction. By this definition, a "scalar wave" in physics would be defined as any solution to a "scalar wave equation".<sup>[4]</sup> In reality, this definition is far too general to be useful, and as a result the term "scalar wave" is used exclusively by [cranks](#) and peddlers of [woo](#).

Solutions to scalar wave equations are actually quite prevalent (and useful) in physics. Some prominent examples include acoustic (sound) waves, the motion of a taut string being stretched (such as a guitar string being plucked), and the motion of waves in [water](#) (such as the ripples from a stone being dropped into a pond). In contrast, electromagnetic waves are vector quantities derived as solutions to a set of vector wave equations (in this case Maxwell's equations).

The concept of a "scalar *field* theory"<sup>[5]</sup> also exists, and plays an important role in several branches of physics. In comparison, "scalar waves" have never been observed in nature, and are rooted in sound physics about as well as the average [chemtrail](#) is rooted to the ground (not at all).

## Free energy subculture[\[edit\]](#)

The main current proponent of scalar wave pseudophysics is [zero-point energy](#) advocate [Thomas E. Bearden](#), who has concocted an entire pseudoscientific "scalar field theory" unrelated to anything in actual physics of that name. It starts with Maxwell's equations originally having been written as quaternions; Bearden holds that the (mathematical) transformation to vectors lost important information.<sup>[11]</sup>

Bearden says that scalar waves differ from conventional electromagnetic transverse waves by having two oscillations anti-parallel with each other, each originating from opposite charge sources, thereby lacking any net directionality. The waves are conjugates of each other, and so, if left unperturbed, can pass through ordinary matter with relative ease. So they are not included in mainstream physics. They don't work like ordinary longitudinal waves either. (Got that?)<sup>[6]</sup>

You can apparently make scalar waves with a bifilar coil (one wound with a pair of wires instead of a single wire) and pushing opposing currents through the wires (join the far ends together). So if you want to experiment with this stuff, you can build a remarkable just-post-steampunk lab filled with coils and wires and sparks.<sup>[7]</sup> The really *astonishing* thing about this — which fascinated Tesla for years and years<sup>[8]</sup> — is that you can pour practically *limitless* amounts of power into such an apparatus and achieve precisely nothing other than converting electricity into heat — each of the two wires in the coil produces a magnetic field, but since the currents are going in opposite directions, the two magnetic fields cancel out.

[Richard C. Hoagland](#) thinks Col. Bearden is dead right. So much so that he has adopted Bearden's view and given it a different name, "hyperdimensional physics." According to him, the vectorization of Maxwell's quaternions eliminated a whole dimension from which energy magically appears. Hoagland is so mathematically challenged that it's doubtful if he even understands what a quaternion is, let alone knows how to use one in a calculation. Certainly in all he has written and said about HD physics<sup>[9]</sup> he has never cited a single one of the quaternions.

### **Scalar superweapon conspiracy theory**[\[edit\]](#)

According to Bearden, the Scalar Interferometer is a powerful superweapon that the [Soviet Union](#) used for years to modify weather in the rest of the world.<sup>[10][11]</sup> It taps the quantum [vacuum energy](#), using a method discovered by T. Henry Moray in the 1920s.<sup>[12]</sup> It may have brought down the *Columbia* spacecraft.<sup>[13]</sup> However, some [conspiracy theorists](#) believe Bearden is an agent of disinformation on this topic.<sup>[14]</sup>

### **Alternative medicine**[\[edit\]](#)

Bearden was pushing the medical effects of scalar waves as early as 1991. He specifically attributed their powers to cure [AIDS](#), [cancer](#) and genetic diseases to their quantum effects and their use in "engineering the Schrödinger equation." They are also useful in [mind control](#).<sup>[15]</sup>

Scalar waves appear to have broken out into the woo mainstream around 2005 or 2006, with this text (now widely quoted as the standard explanation) from *The Heart of Health; the Principles of Physical Health and Vitality* by Stephen Linsteadt, NHD:

““

Scalar waves are produced when two electromagnetic waves of the same frequency are exactly out of phase (opposite to each other) and the amplitudes subtract and cancel or destroy each other. The result is not exactly an annihilation of magnetic fields but a transformation of energy back into a scalar wave. This scalar field has reverted back to a vacuum state of potentiality. Scalar waves can be created by wrapping electrical wires around a figure eight in the shape of a Möbius coil. When an electric current flows through the wires in opposite directions, the opposing electromagnetic fields from the two wires cancel each other and create a scalar wave. The [DNA](#) antenna in our [cells](#)' energy production centers ([mitochondria](#)) assumes the shape of what is called a super-coil. Supercoil DNA look like a series of Möbius coils. These Möbius supercoil DNA are hypothetically able to generate scalar waves. Most cells in the body contain thousands of these Möbius supercoils, which are generating scalar waves throughout the cell and throughout the body.<sup>[16]</sup>

At this point it was all-in. Scalar waves explain [homeopathy](#),<sup>[17]</sup> achieve lymph detoxification<sup>[18]</sup>, cure diabetes, short sightedness, kidney stones, Parkinson's, strokes, arthritis,<sup>[19]</sup> cancer,<sup>[15]</sup> and reverse the aging process.<sup>[20]</sup>

Scalar waves are also part of the biological powers of [ORMUS](#).<sup>[21]</sup>

"[Harmonized H<sub>2</sub>O](#)" is a drinkable sunscreen, made only of pure [water](#), that works by scalar waves.<sup>[22]</sup> It apparently cancels out the UVA and UVB slightly above the skin.<sup>[23]</sup>

### **Scalar Wave Laser**[\[edit\]](#)

The Scalar Wave Laser is a "quantum cold laser rejuvenation technology" which "combines the most advanced low level laser technology with state of the art quantum scalar waves."<sup>[24]</sup>

The device is a small handheld unit with a wand end that shines light on the patient's skin. It uses eight 5mW 650nm (red) laser diodes and eight 5mw 780nm (near infrared) laser diodes. Oddly, these happen to be the wavelengths used for DVD and CD reading, respectively. It also has 20 5mW violet LEDs. The unit costs only \$3500.<sup>[25]</sup>

The laser directly delivers energy ([photons](#)) and [electrons](#) directly to cells. The mitochondria convert the photons to ATP, promptly initiating healing and rejuvenation.<sup>[26]</sup> So these guys have discovered photosynthesis in humans! Quick, hand them their Nobel Prizes!

The Scalar Wave Laser also cures [goat](#) polio.<sup>[27]</sup>

### **Scalar wave mind control**[\[edit\]](#)

““

...Who makes the crop circles? The technology used is the most dangerous technology ever invented...SCALAR WAVES...<sup>[28]</sup>

Cranks have wholeheartedly adopted the concept of scalar waves as a form of dangerous mind control, mostly because it sounds scary, and it's easy to make people afraid of anything related to modern wireless technology (even if it actually isn't). Internet fearmongers vigorously promote the idea that scalar waves are some kind of treacherous radio waves (rather than a mathematical solution to an ordinary [Wave equation](#)<sup>w</sup>). For example, many cranks perceive the shift from analog to digital television with suspicion, and feel mind control messages must be embedded "via the flickering of the TV picture", and believe that the use of such evil waves allows mobile phones and Wi-Fi (and don't forget to throw in the traditional boogeymen [HAARP](#) and [GWEN towers](#) to raise the level of batshit insanity) to "program" people. These mythical scalar waves are somehow even supposedly able to produce crop circles, earthquakes, and hurricanes, too.<sup>[29][30][31]</sup>

## In popular culture<sup>[edit]</sup>

"The Black Weapon", a "scalar weapon"<sup>[32]</sup> that generates a non-nuclear electromagnetic pulse, is the MacGuffin in the single-player campaign for *Battlefield: Bad Company 2*.

The old PBEM game "VGA Planets" has among the engines that can equip a ship a "Scalar Wave Thruster"<sup>[33]</sup>. It has a fair energy output and is very resistant to damage, but gives low speed.

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- [Jump up ↑](#) See the [Wikipedia](#) article on [Scalar field theory](#).
- [Jump up ↑](#) This RationalWiki article includes text from the deleted Wikipedia article "Scalar field theory (pseudoscience)", primary author Thomas E. Bearden, used under CC by-sa. Some surviving text [here](#).
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