



## **CHAPTER 6: WAVES**



### **Extra Info & Graphic**

#### **Diffraction Rings around the Sun (Halos)**

A **halo** is an optical phenomenon that appears near or around the Sun or Moon, and sometimes near other strong light sources such as street lights.



*Solar diffraction ring*

A common appearance of halo is the pattern of bright rings which is visible around the rising sun. It is caused by diffraction of light by water droplets or ice crystals in the atmosphere. The diffracted light may split up into colours because of dispersion, similar to the case of the rainbow.

The halos around street lights are caused by diffraction of light by water droplets formed near the street lights during cold weather.