

Abstract Submitted  
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**Linked and knotted beams of light** WILLIAM IRVINE, Center for Soft Matter Research, NYU, DIRK BOUWMEESTER, UCSB, Physics Department — Maxwell's equations allow for curious solutions having linked and knotted field lines. A particularly striking solution is one characterized by the property that *all* electric and magnetic field lines are closed loops with *any* two electric(magnetic) field lines linked. These little known solutions, are based on the Hopf fibration and have a remarkably simple representation in terms of self-dual Chandrasekhar-Kendall curl eigenstates. I will discuss their structure, time evolution, physical properties and how they may be physically realizable.

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