

waves and vibrations

Categorising waves:

Mechanical
Oscillating matter

or

Electromagnetic

Oscillating electric & magnetic fields

Longitudinal
displacement is
parallel to energy
propagation

or

Transverse

displacement is perpendicular
to energy propagation

Progressive
non-zero net
energy propagation

or

Stationary

zero net energy propagation.

Longitudinal wave vocabulary: compression

- high density

rarefaction

- low density

Transverse wave vocabulary: peak / crest

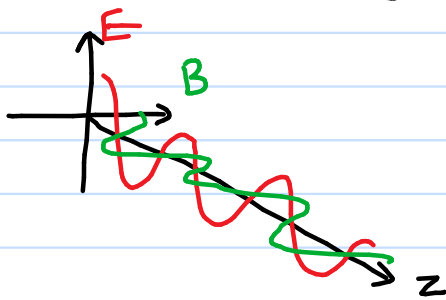
- highest positive displacement

trough

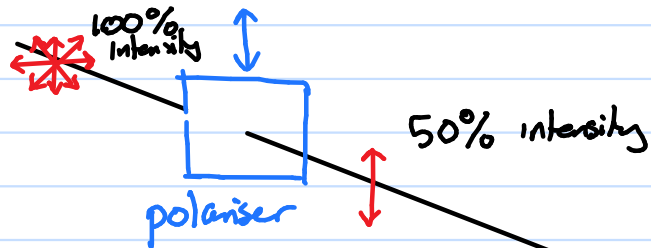
- highest negative displacement

Polarisation

Only transverse waves can be polarised

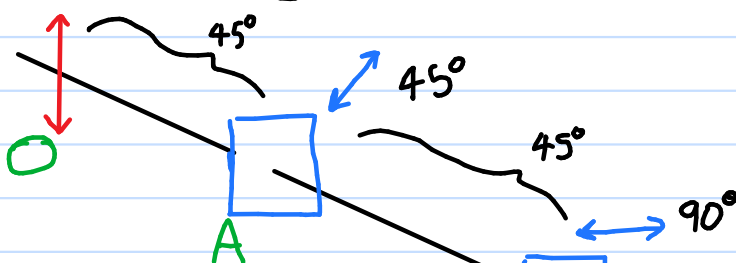


Polarisers polarise unpolarised light

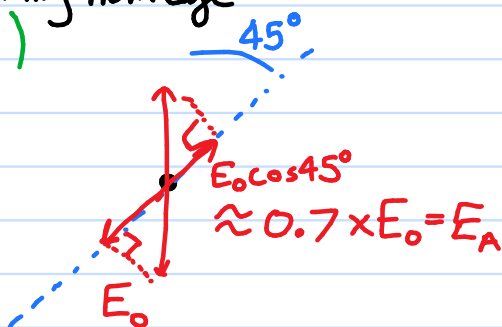


Intensity measured in W m^{-2}

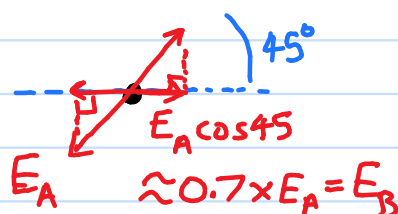
Intensity $\propto \text{amplitude}^2$



Looking from eye A)

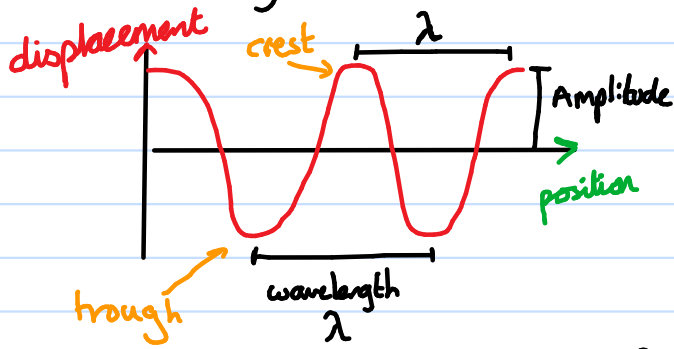


B)



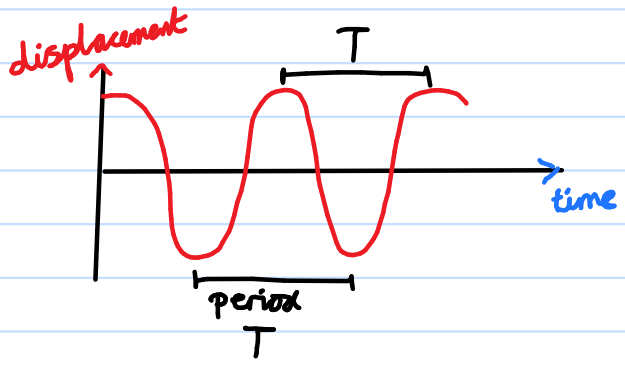
$0.7 \times 0.7 \times E_0$
 $\approx 0.5 E_0$

Measuring Waves

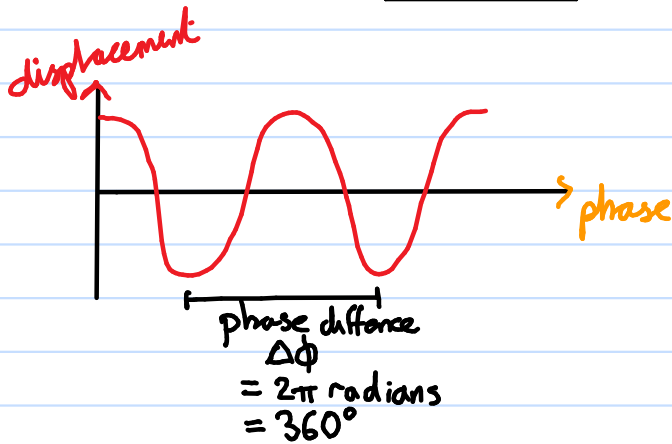


wave speed $\rightarrow C = \frac{\lambda}{T}$

$$C = f\lambda$$



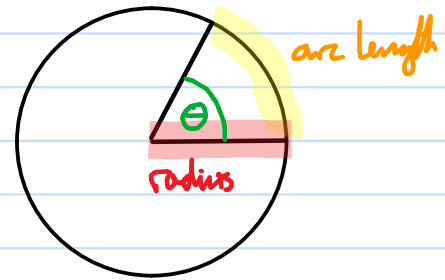
frequency $\rightarrow f = \frac{1}{T}$ (if f in hertz, number of waves passing a position per second.)



$$\frac{\Delta\phi}{2\pi} = \frac{\Delta x}{\lambda} = \frac{\Delta t}{T} = \text{fraction of cycle}$$

$$\Delta\phi = 2\pi \frac{\Delta x}{\lambda} = 2\pi \frac{\Delta t}{T}$$

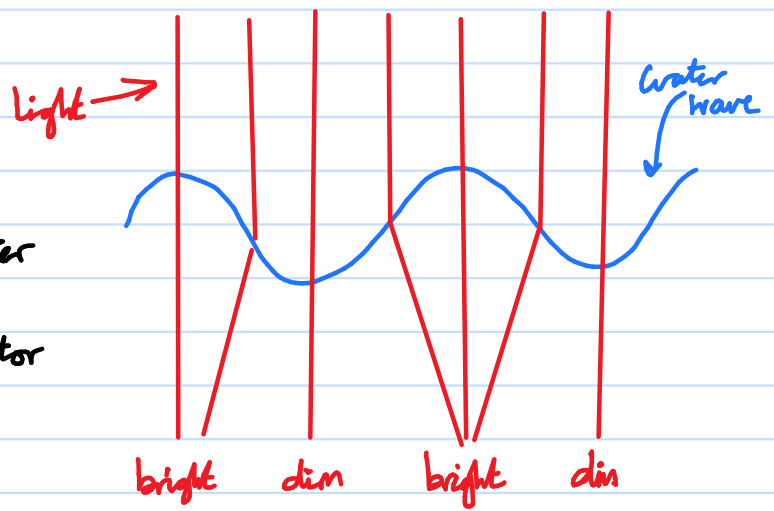
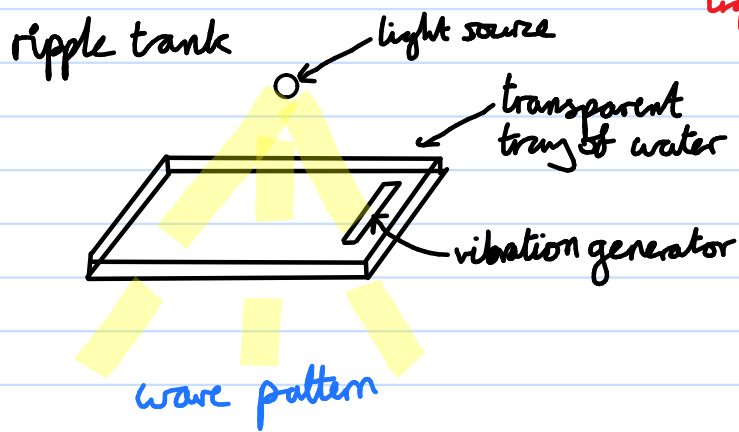
Define radians



$$\text{Circumference} = \text{diameter} \times \pi$$

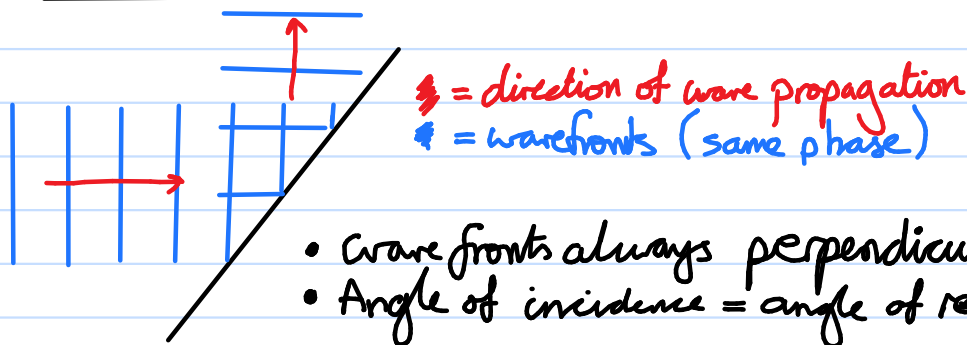
$$\theta = 1 \text{ radian if arc length} = \text{radius}$$

Wave properties 1



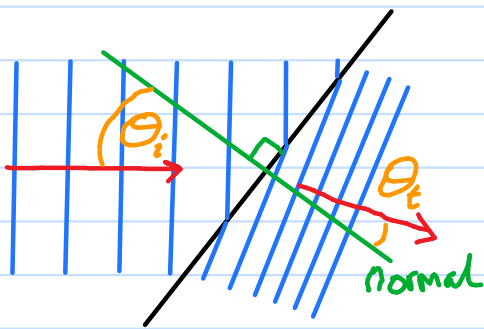
Waves can interfere / superposition

Reflection:



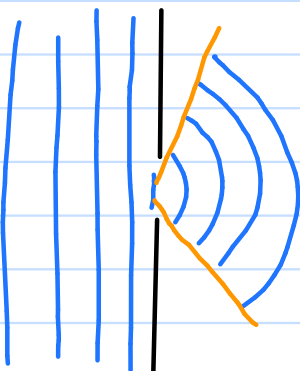
- wavefronts always perpendicular to wave propagation
- Angle of incidence = angle of reflection

Refraction:

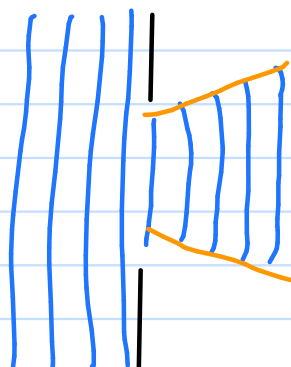


- $c = f \lambda$, c is reduced in this example
- $\therefore \lambda$ is also reduced because f does not change
- if wave slows, $\theta_r < \theta_i$
 θ_r = angle of refraction
 θ_i = angle of incidence

Diffraction:



Small gap : big spread

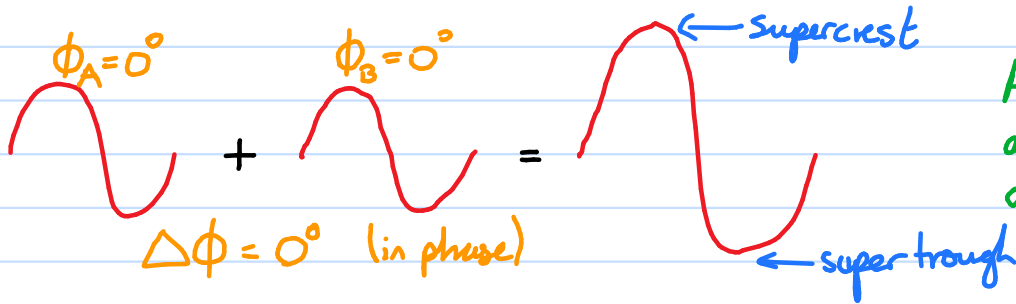


big gap : small spread

Wave properties 2

Superposition: adding together the effect of two or more waves

Reinforcement/constructive interference:



At each instant in time we add together the displacements of each wave

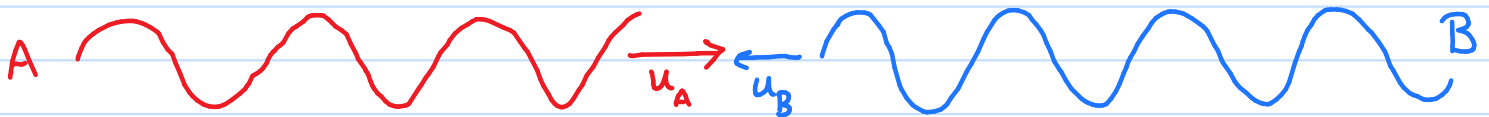
If displacements are in the same direction, their addition increases the magnitude of the resultant displacement

Cancellation/destructive interference:



the displacements are always in opposite directions, so their addition decreases the magnitude of the resultant displacement

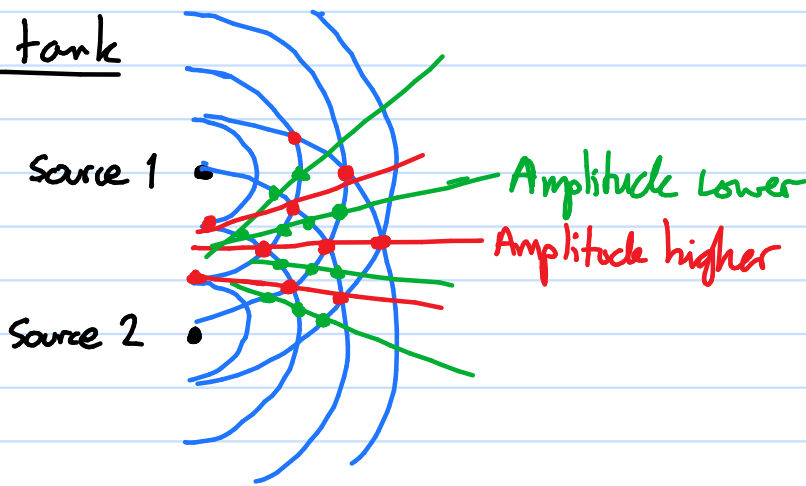
Two wave superpositioning:



- At one instant in time all crests from A align with crests from B
- At a different instant in time, all crests from A align with troughs from B

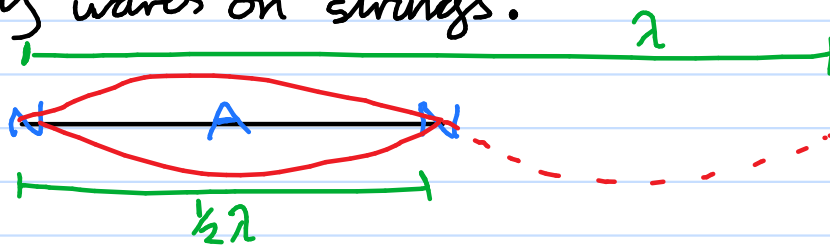
This forms a stationary wave: Nodes - crests of A align with troughs of B
Antinodes - crests of A align with crests of B

Ripple tank



Stationary and progressive waves

Stationary waves on strings:



N = node (amplitude of stat. wave = 0)

A = Antinode (amplitude = maximum)

Wavelength of progressive waves that are added to form a stationary are $2 \times$ distance between adjacent nodes

Harmonics:

waves on string, two fixed boundaries



L = length of string

$c = f\lambda$ and c (progressive wave speed) does not depend on f or λ .

$n=1$
Fundamental mode

$$f = f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_1 = 2L$$

$n=2$
Second harmonic

$$f = f_2 = 2f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_1 = \frac{2}{2}L$$

$$f_n = n f_1$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{\lambda_1}{n} = \frac{2L}{n}$$

$n=3$
Third harmonic

$$f = f_3 = 3f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_3 = \frac{1}{3}\lambda_1 = \frac{2}{3}L$$

$$c = f_n \lambda_n = \cancel{n} f_1 \times \frac{2L}{\cancel{n}}$$

$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \times c$$

$n=4$
Fourth harmonic

$$f = f_4 = 4f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_4 = \frac{1}{4}\lambda_1 = \frac{2}{4}L$$

Waves in a pipe, one fixed boundary, one open boundary



$n=1$

$$f = f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_1 = 4L$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{4L}{2n-1}$$

$n=2$

$$f = f_2 = 3f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_2 = \frac{1}{3}\lambda_1 = \frac{4}{3}L$$

$$c = f_n \frac{4L}{2n-1}$$

$$f_n = \frac{(2n-1)}{4} \cdot \frac{c}{L}$$

$n=3$

$$f = f_3 = 5f_1$$

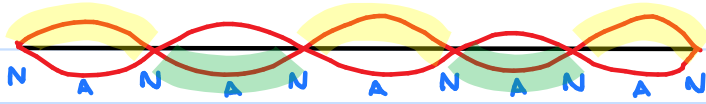
$$\lambda = \lambda_3 = \frac{1}{5}\lambda_1 = \frac{4}{5}L$$

$n=4$

$$f = f_4 = 7f_1$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_4 = \frac{1}{7}\lambda_1 = \frac{4}{7}L$$

More about stationary waves on strings



If there is an odd number of nodes between two points,
 $\Delta\phi = \pi$ radians = 180°

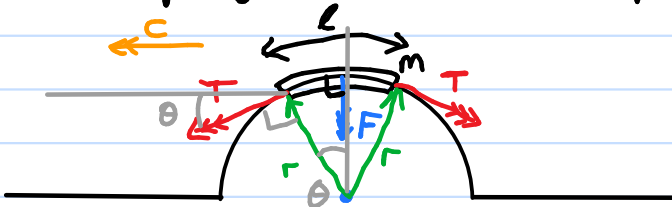
If there is an even number of nodes between two points, $\Delta\phi = 0$

String bound at both ends:

$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \times c$$

derive c (speed of wave) in terms of T (tension) and μ (linear density / mass per unit length of string)

Consider progressive wave as a pulse



$$F = ma$$

$$a = \frac{v^2}{r} = \frac{c^2}{r}$$

$$F = m \frac{c^2}{r}$$

to be derived
in circular motion
topic

Vertical component of $T = T \sin \theta$
 Resultant force $F = 2T \sin \theta$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} 2T \sin \theta &= m \frac{c^2}{r} \\ \sin \theta &= \frac{l}{2r} \end{aligned} \right\} 2T \frac{l}{2l} = m \frac{c^2}{l}$$

$$Tl = mc^2$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{Tl}{m}}$$

$$\mu = \frac{m}{l} \text{ (mass per unit length)}$$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \times c$$

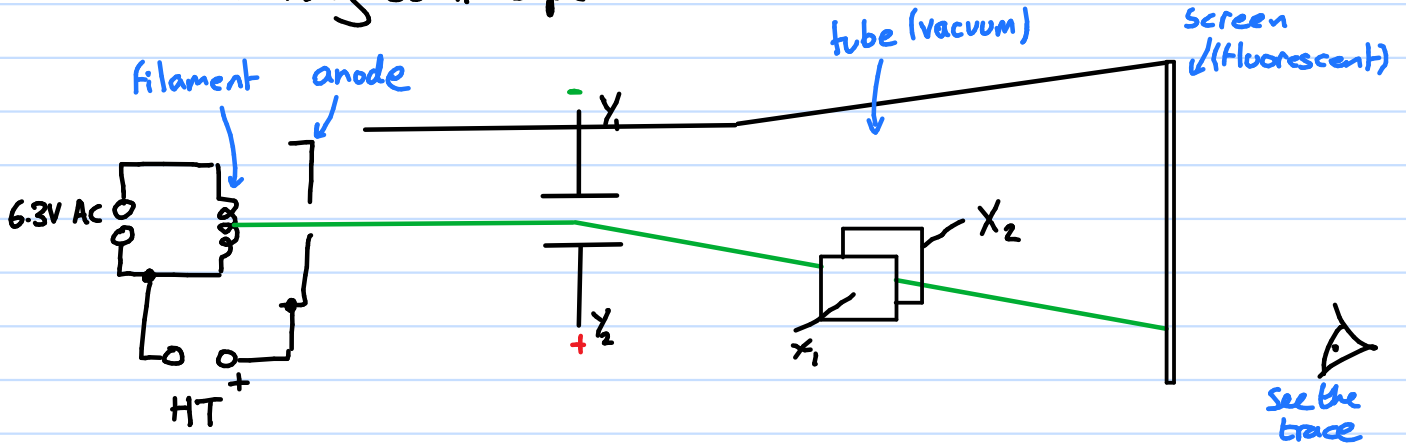
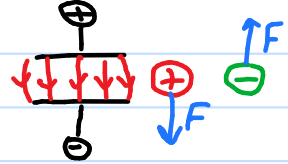
$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

Using an oscilloscope

An oscilloscope is a voltmeter.

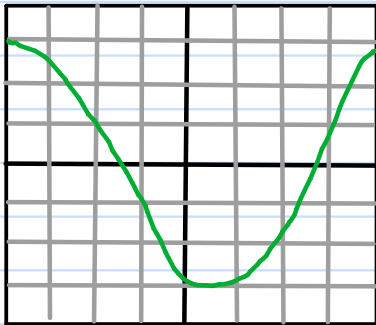
CRO: Cathode-ray oscilloscope

GCSE:



potential difference between Y_1 & Y_2 influences vertical position of dot on screen
 potential difference between X_1 & X_2 influences horizontal "

Oscilloscope screen



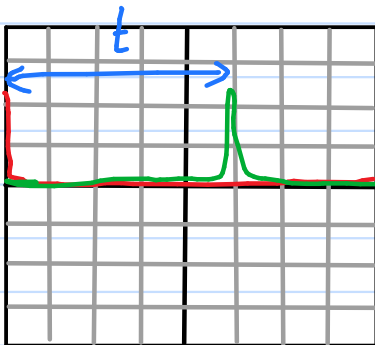
Time base
ms/div

← Usually adjusted to show at least one period

Y-gain
V/div

← usually adjusted to show peak-though as large as possible

Measuring speed of sound



Time base
ms/div

Y-gain
V/div

- Use two channels
- trigger on ch 1, first microphone
- Measure time for sound to reach second microphone on ch 2
- produce series of pulses of sound