

Engineering Optics

Lecture 5

by

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Harmonic waves

1-D differential wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2}$$

Simplest waveform: Sine or Cosine → *Sinusoidal / harmonic waves*

$$\psi(x, t)|_{t=0} = \psi(x) = A \sin kx = f(x)$$

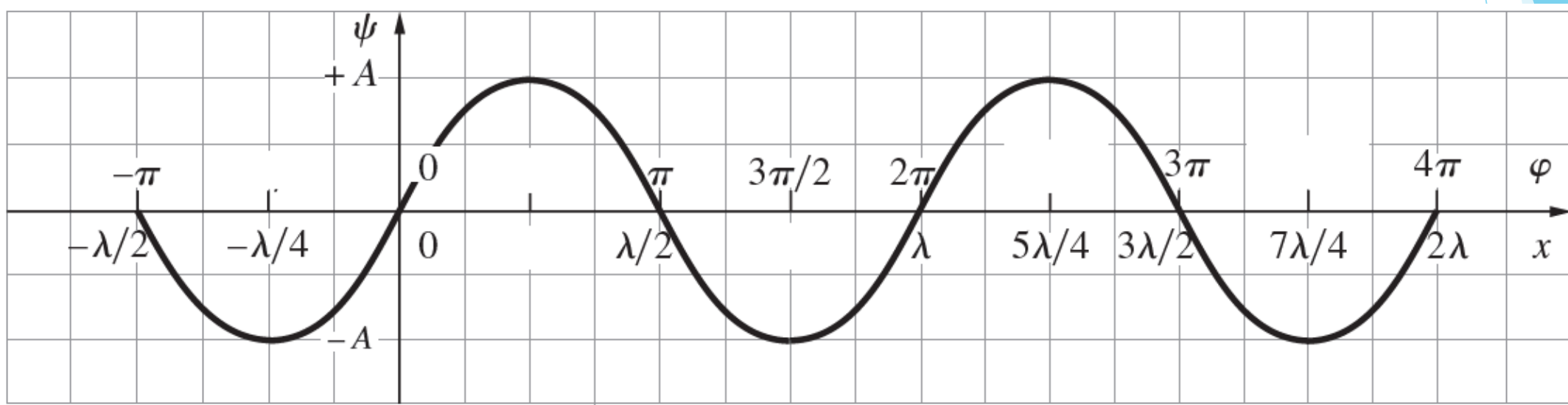
Any wave → superposition of harmonic waves

k : propagation number → a +ve constant

$|\psi(x)|_{\max} = \rightarrow$ maximum disturbance → *amplitude*

Argument of Sine function → '*phase (φ)*'

Harmonic waves continued



► *Spatial period* \rightarrow wavelength ' λ ' \rightarrow meaning? $\psi(x, t) = \psi(x \pm \lambda, t)$

► Units?

Spatial frequency: wave number (κ) = $1/\lambda$

Phase velocity

$$\varphi(x, t) = (kx - \omega t + \varepsilon)$$

Rate-of change of phase with time: $\left| \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} \right)_x \right| = \omega$ (1)

Rate of change of phase with distance: $\left| \left(\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right)_t \right| = k$ (2)

(1)/(2) $\rightarrow \frac{\omega}{k} = v \rightarrow$ *phase velocity*

Superposition principle

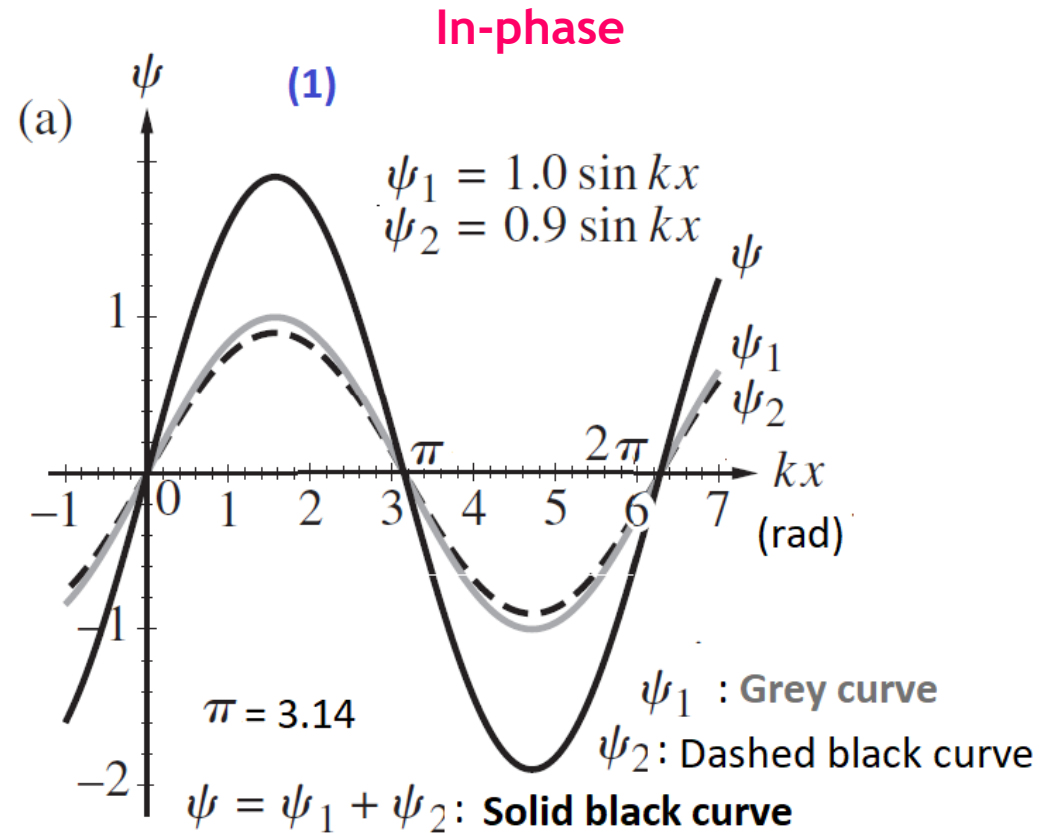
$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi_1}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_1}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi_2}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_2}{\partial t^2}$$

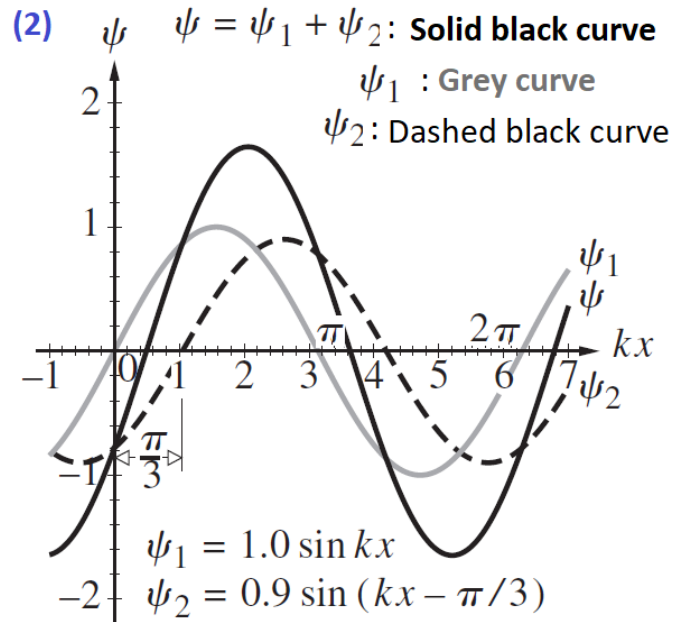
$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi_2}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_1}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_2}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (\psi_1 + \psi_2) = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (\psi_1 + \psi_2)$$

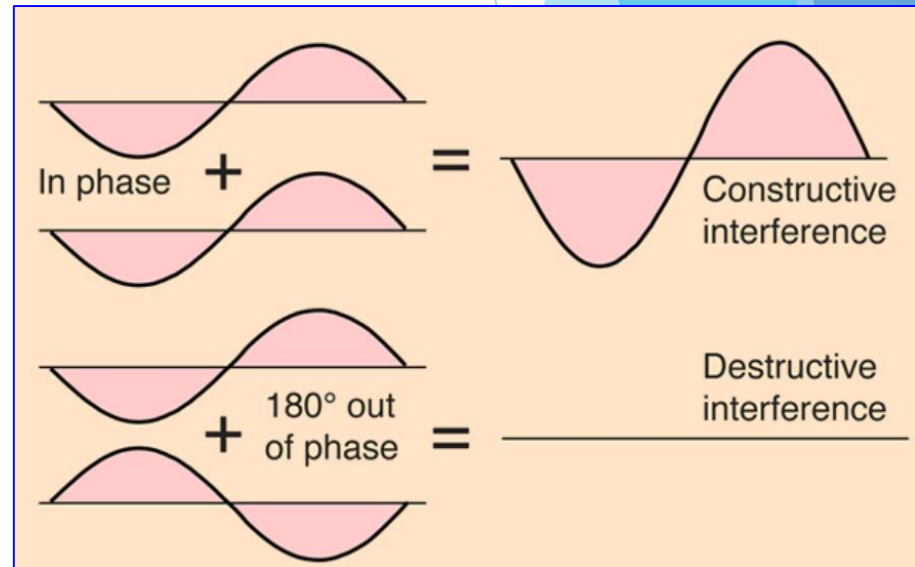
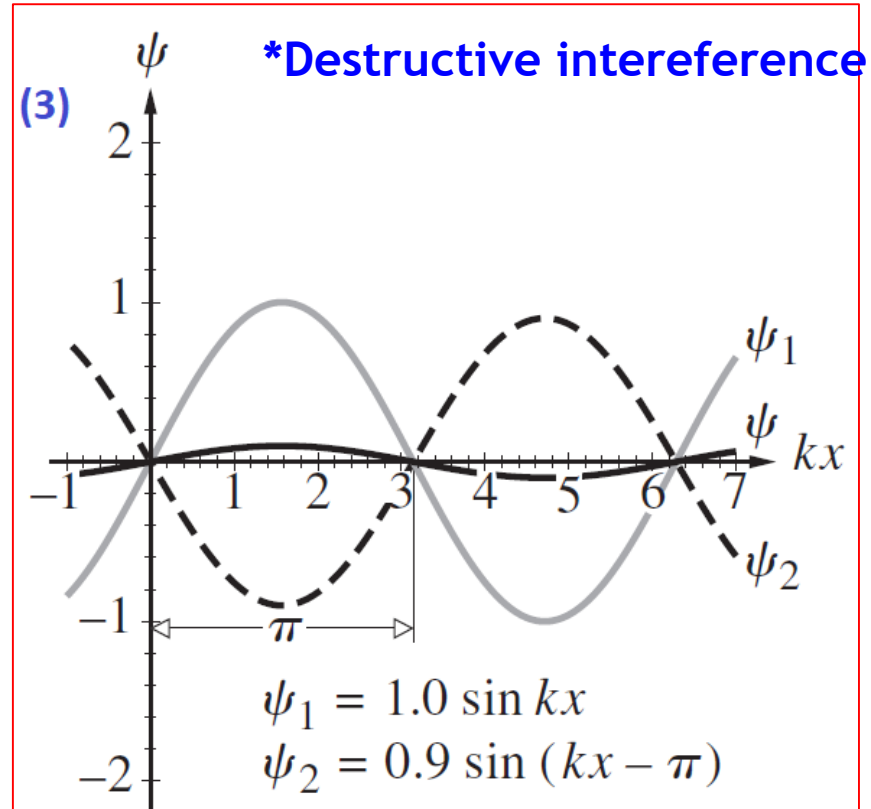
$$\boxed{\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2}$$



Phase difference



Optics, Hecht



Reference: <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/Sound/interf.html>

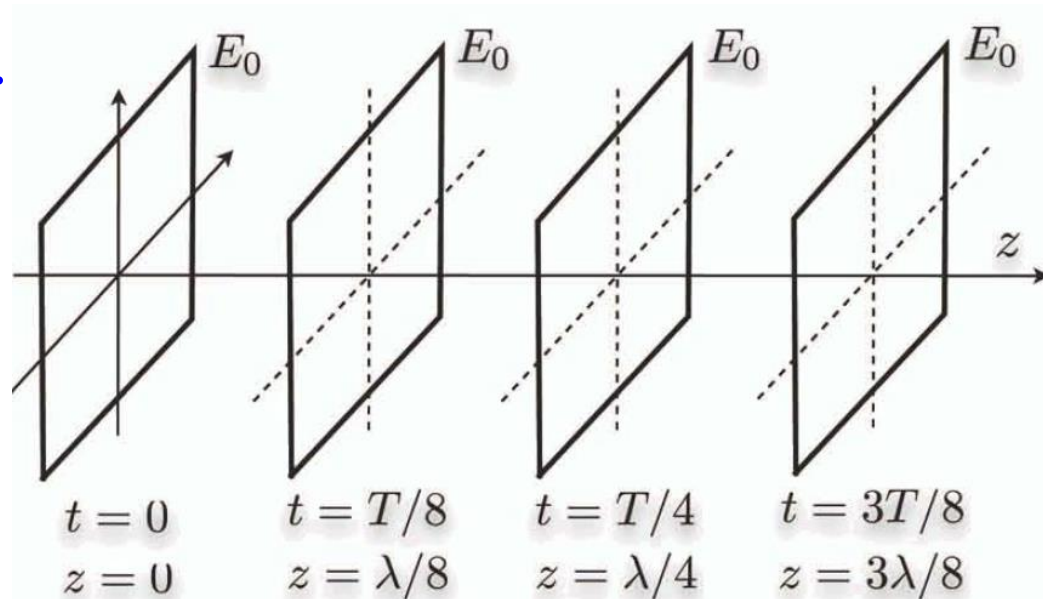
Wavefronts

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2}$$

Optical disturbance \rightarrow in space \rightarrow spatial distribution \rightarrow *wavefront*

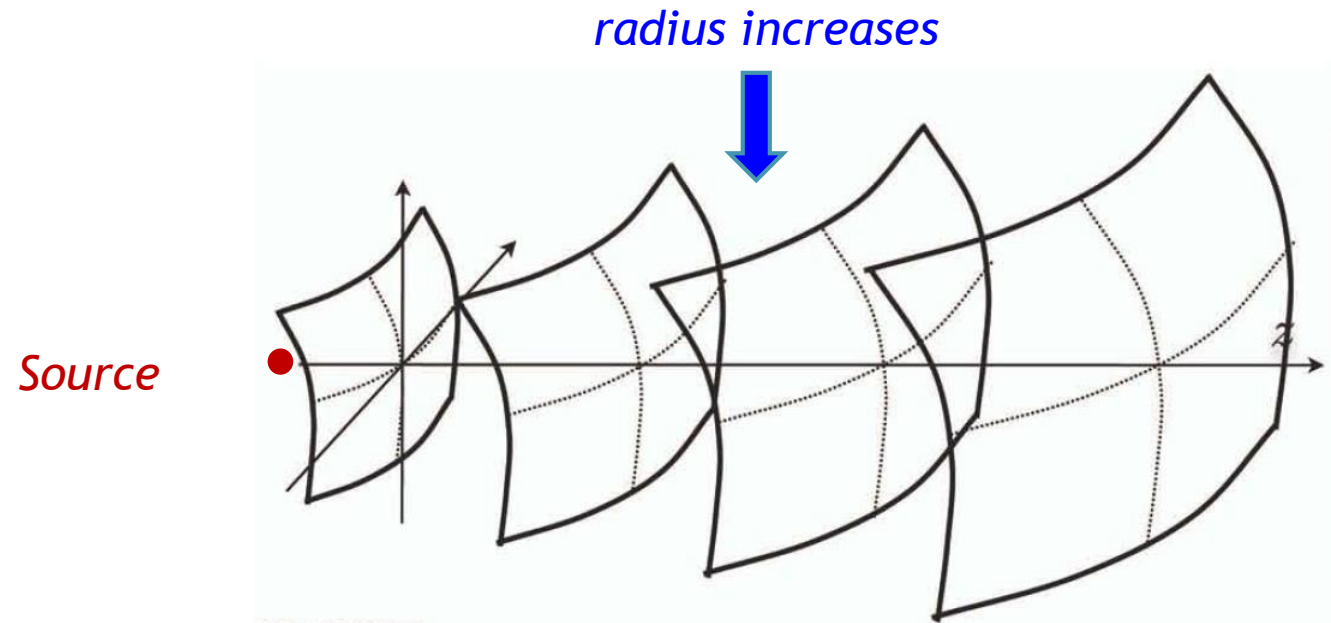
at any $t \rightarrow$ *a surface of constant phase* \rightarrow wavefront (phase front)

Plane wave:



Spherical waves

point source of light \rightarrow radiating in all directions



Flattening of spherical waves

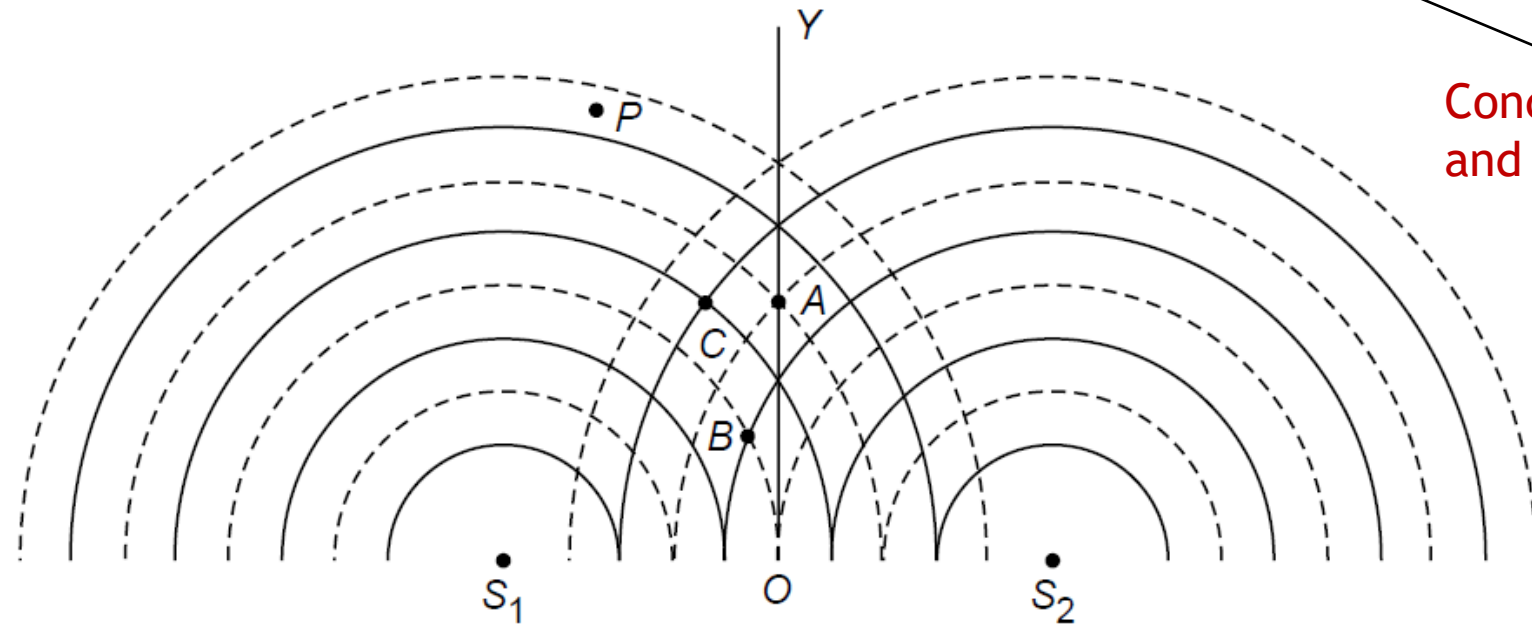
Plane waves



Interference between two waves e.g. on *surface of water*

Example-1: when the sources are vibrating in phase

Refer. '14.2 INTERFERENCE PATTERN PRODUCED ON THE SURFACE OF WATER'



Conditions for maxima
and minima?

Waves emanating from two point sources S_1 and S_2 vibrating in phase. The solid and the dashed curves represent the positions of the crests and troughs, respectively.

Answer

at A

$$y = y_1 + y_2 \\ = 2a \cos \omega t$$

$$S_2C - S_1C = \lambda$$

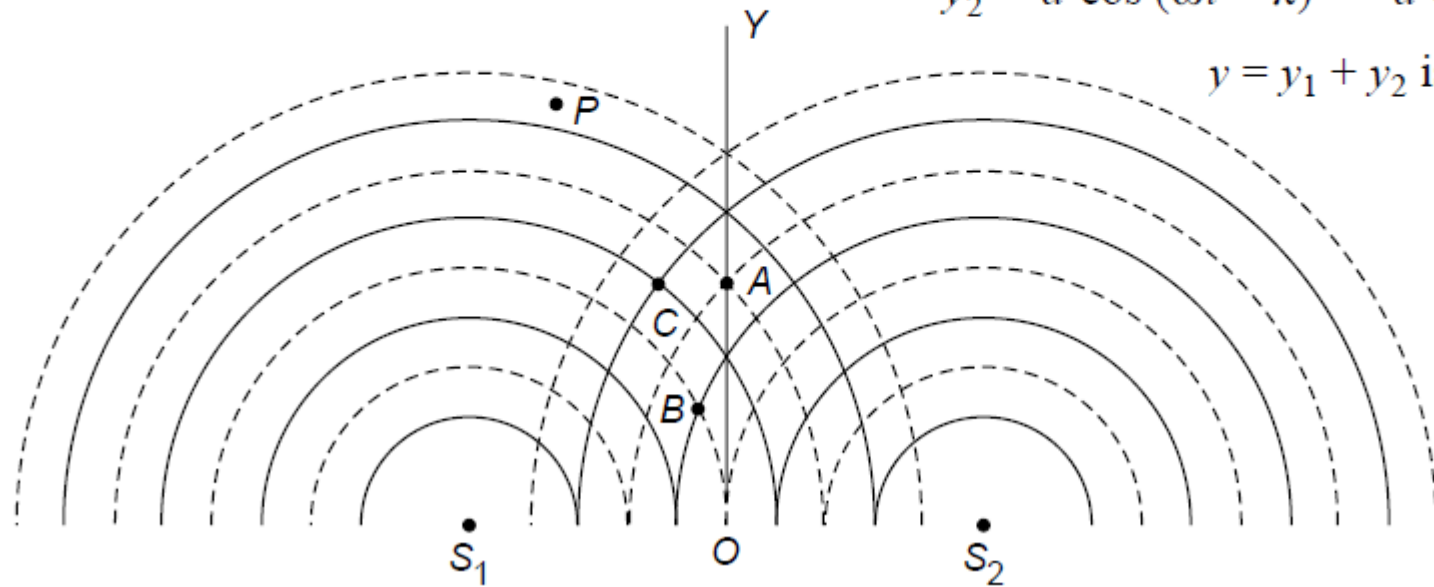
$$S_2P \sim S_1P = n\lambda \quad (\text{maxima})$$

$$S_2B - S_1B = \lambda/2$$

$$y_1 = a \cos \omega t$$

$$y_2 = a \cos (\omega t - \pi) = -a \cos \omega t$$

$y = y_1 + y_2$ is zero at all times.



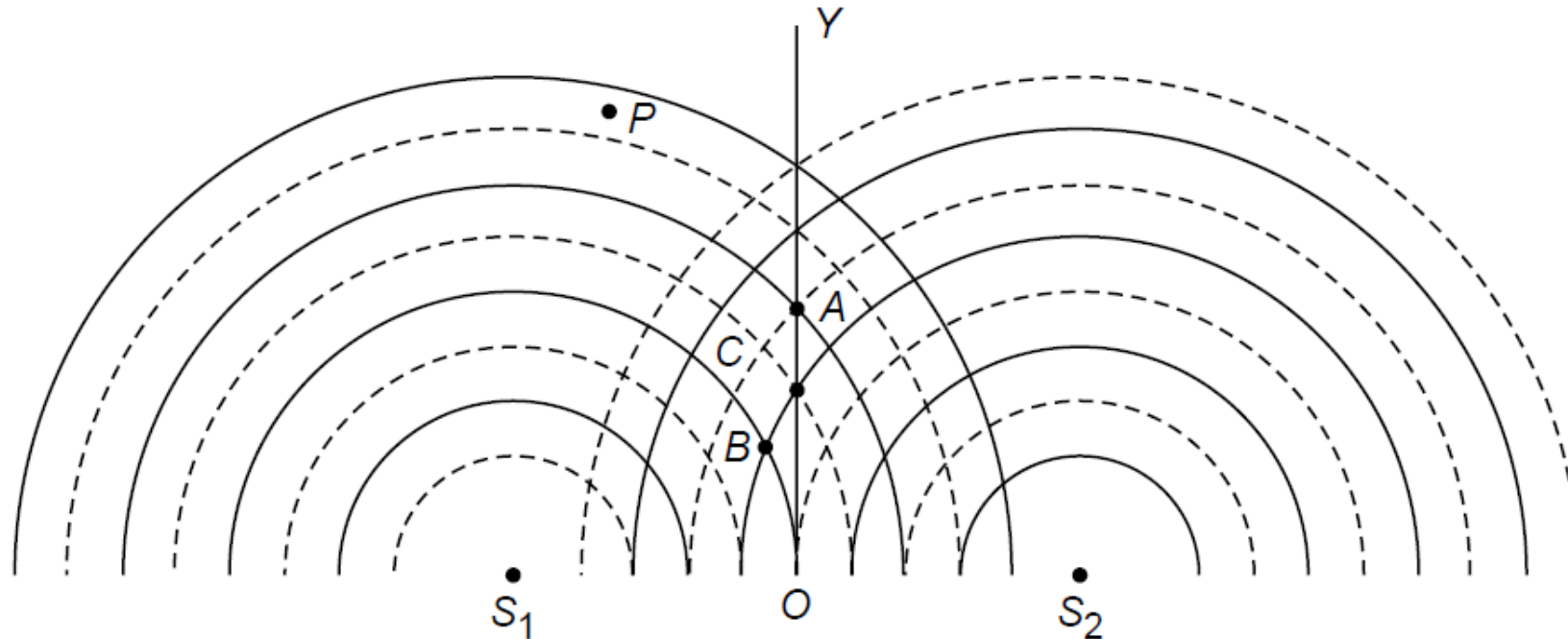
$$S_2P \sim S_1P = n\lambda \quad (\text{maxima})$$

$$S_2P \sim S_1P = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\lambda \quad (\text{minima})$$

Interference between two waves

- ▶ Example-2: when the sources are vibrating out of phase

Will you observe maxima and minima?



Waves emanating from two point sources S_1 and S_2 vibrating out of phase.

Thank You