

Engineering Optics

Lecture 4

by

Debolina Misra

Assistant Professor
Department of Physics
IIITDM Kancheepuram, Chennai, India

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 : *wavelength*

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

To transform it to a wave travelling with a speed v

$$\psi(x, t) = A \sin k(x - vt) = f(x - vt)$$

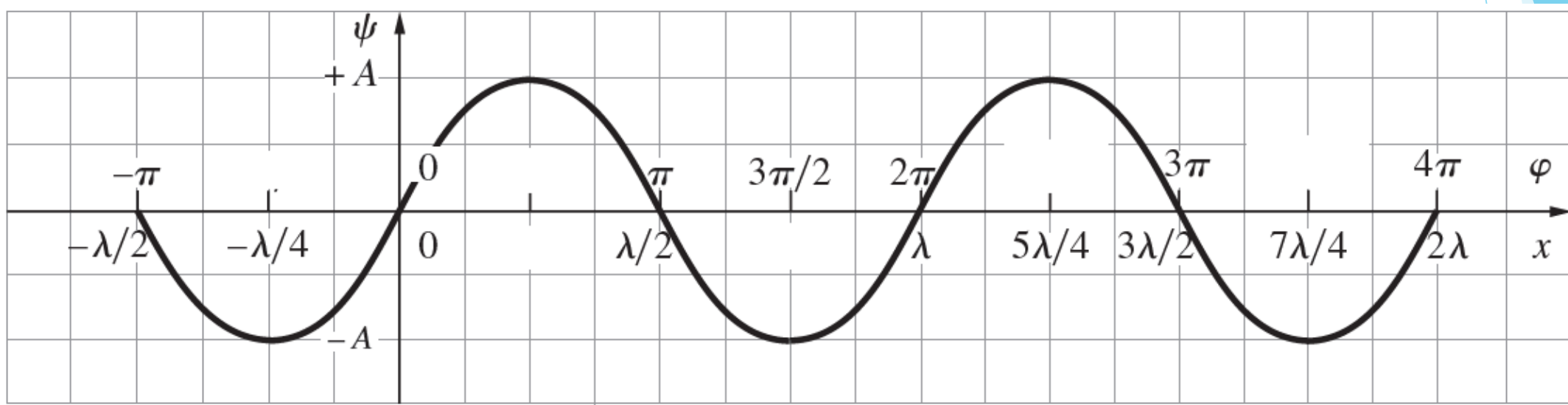
Fix 'x' or 't' \rightarrow sinusoidal disturbance \rightarrow periodic wave in both space and time

A change in x by λ = change in φ by 2π

$$\sin k(x - vt) = \sin k[(x \pm \lambda) - vt] = \sin [k(x - vt) \pm 2\pi]$$

$$|k\lambda| = 2\pi \quad k = 2\pi/\lambda$$

Harmonic waves continued



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

► Units?

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

Harmonic waves: *Frequency*

Temporal period: τ

$$\psi(x, t) = \psi(x, t \pm \tau)$$

$$\sin k(x - vt) = \sin k[x - v(t \pm \tau)]$$

$$\sin k(x - vt) = \sin [k(x - vt) \pm 2\pi]$$

$$kv\tau = 2\pi$$

$$\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} v\tau = 2\pi$$

$$\tau = \lambda/v$$

Temporal frequency:

$$\nu \equiv 1/\tau$$

Hence,

$$v = \nu\lambda$$

units: cycles/second or Hertz

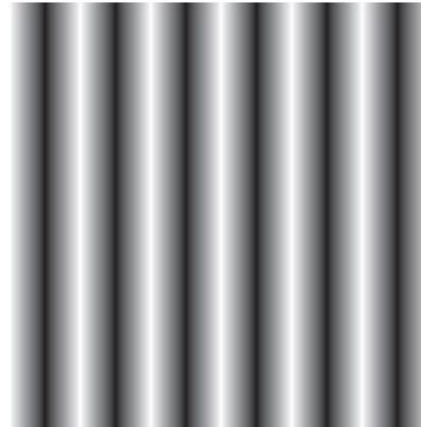
Monochromatic (monoenergetic) waves
(ideal, not reality)

angular (temporal) frequency:

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu$$

Harmonic waves: *Frequency*

optical information \rightarrow spread out in space \rightarrow periodically like a harmonic wave



(a) _ and (b) _ spatial frequency (high/low)

Single κ (λ) \rightarrow monochromatic.

Superposition of various such waves (each with unique λ) \rightarrow images

Phase and Phase velocity

Phase

- ▶ Consider a sinusoidal wave:

$$\psi = A \sin k(x - vt)$$

$$[k(x-vt) = kx - kvt = kx - (2\pi/\lambda)(v\lambda)t = kx - (2\pi v)t = kx - \omega t]$$

$$\psi(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

Phase

$$\varphi = (kx - \omega t)$$

$$\text{At } t = x = 0, \psi(x, t) \Big|_{x=0}^{t=0} = \psi(0, 0) = 0$$

$$\psi(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t + \varepsilon)$$

ε is the **initial phase**.

Initial phase → contribution from the generator.

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)

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

Superposition principle

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

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

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

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

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

Problems

1. Draw $\psi_1 = 1.0 \sin kx$
 $\psi_2 = 0.9 \sin kx$

and $\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$

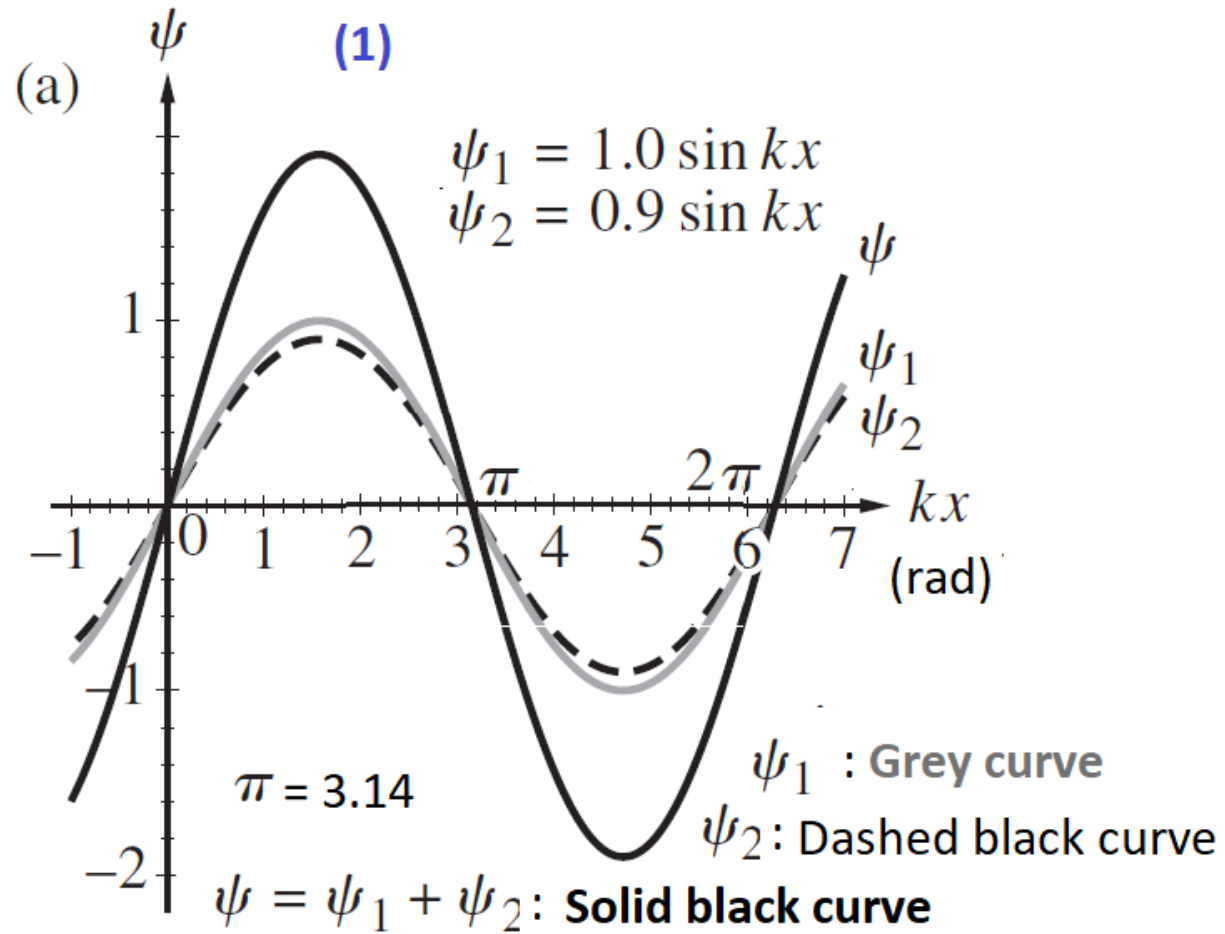
2. Draw $\psi_1 = 1.0 \sin kx$
 $\psi_2 = 0.9 \sin (kx - \pi/3)$

and $\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$

3. Draw $\psi_1 = 1.0 \sin kx$
 $\psi_2 = 0.9 \sin (kx - \pi)$

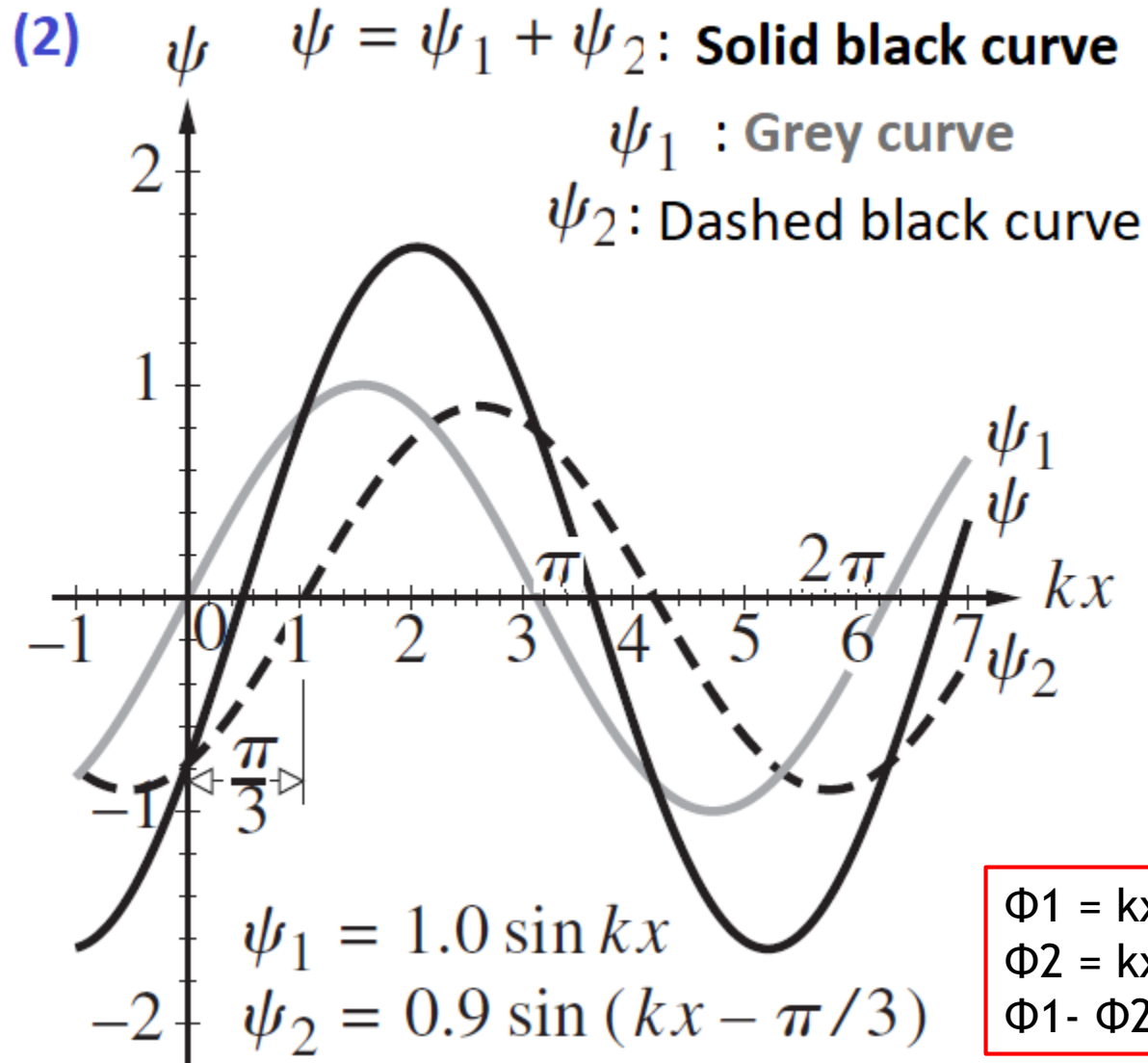
and $\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$

In-phase

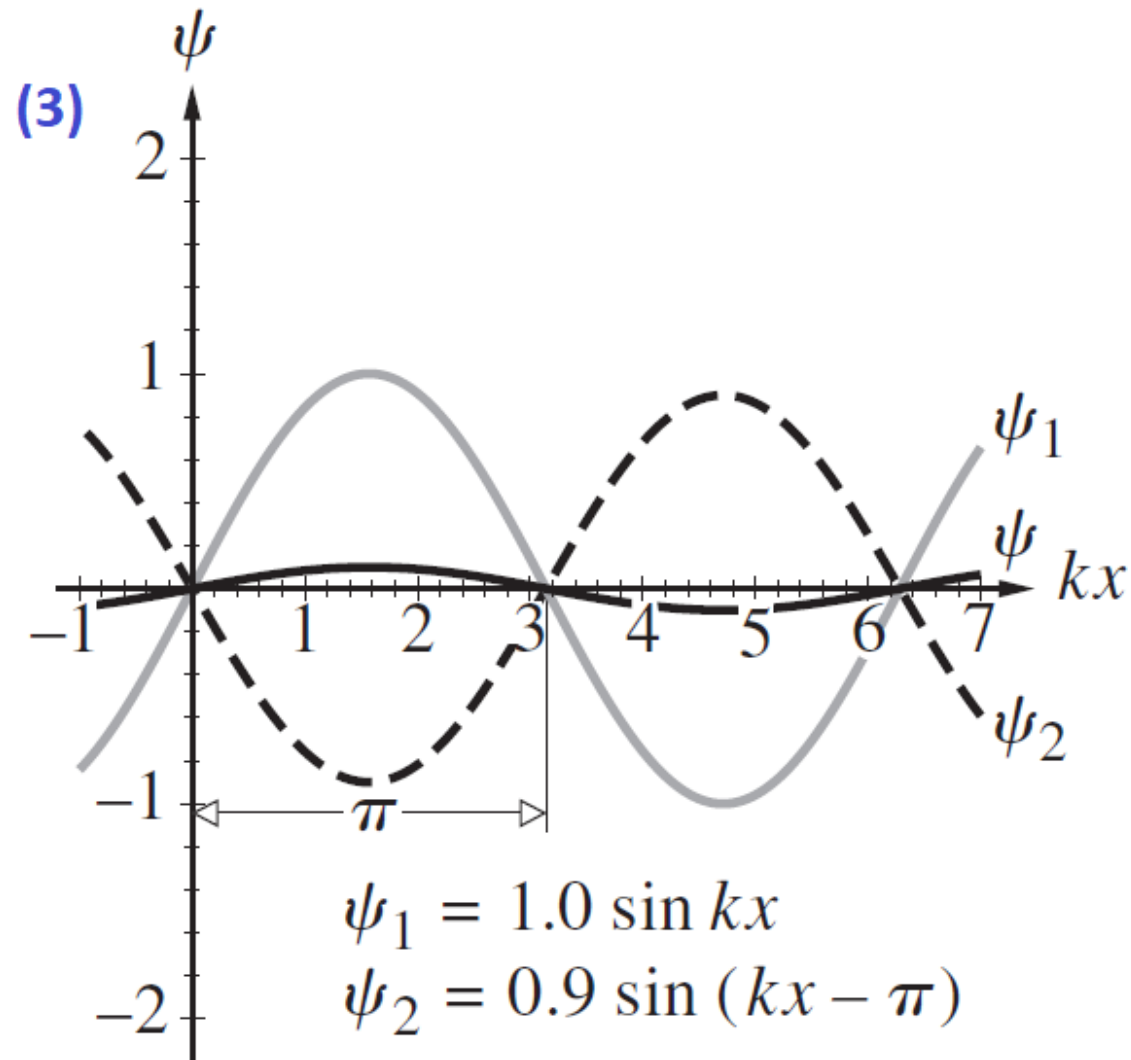


***Constructive interference**

Phase difference

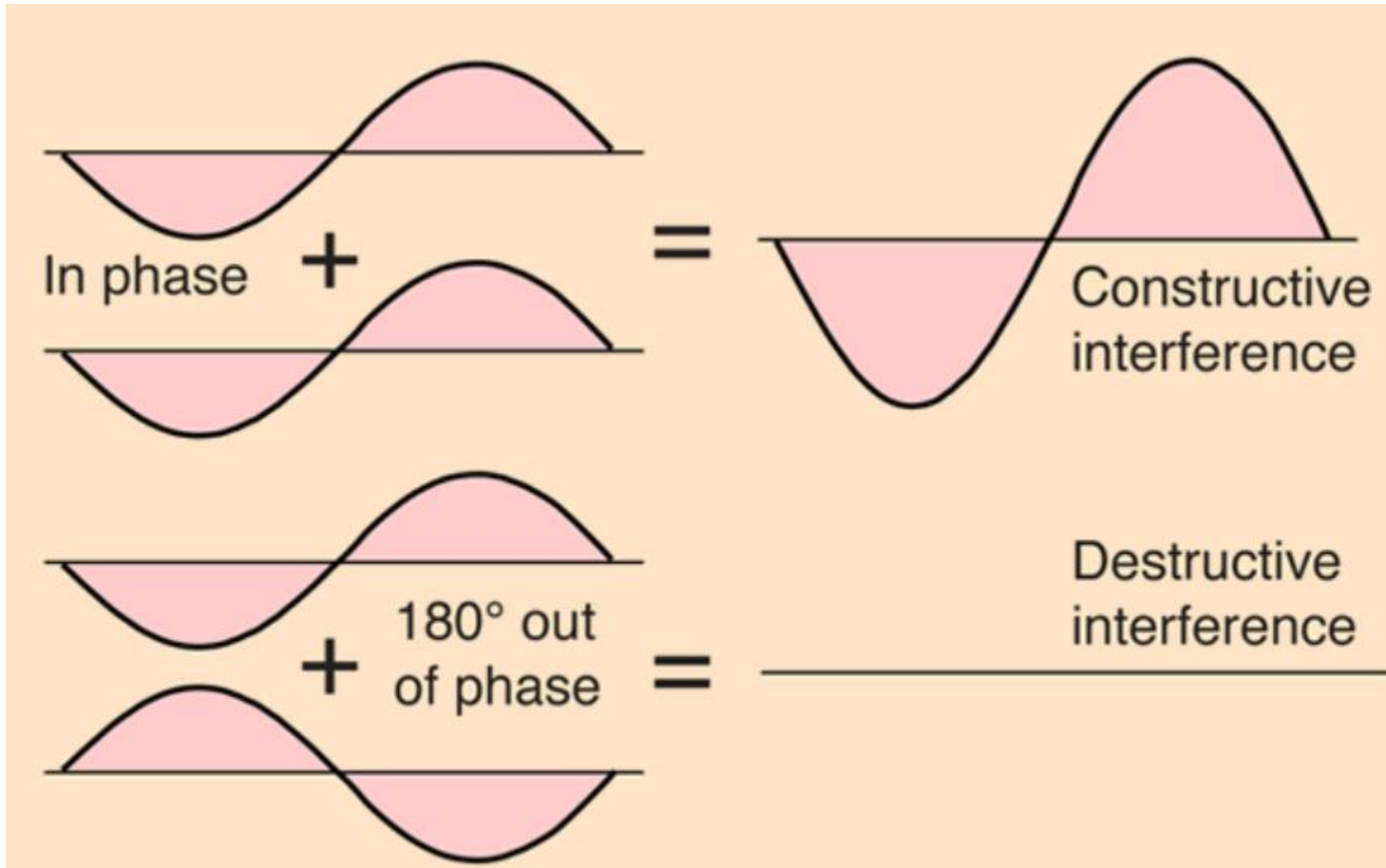


Out-of-phase



***Destructive interference**

Relative phase → Interference



Thank You