

A scenic landscape photograph of a lake at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of soft orange, yellow, and pale blue. In the background, there are large, hazy mountains. The water is calm, reflecting the sky's colors. On the left, a dark, forested hillside slopes down towards the water. In the foreground, a small, dark boat is moving away from the viewer, leaving a white wake. Several birds are visible in flight across the sky.

Optics for Computational Imaging

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Chapter 1

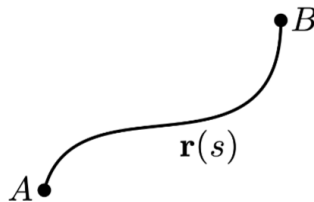
Ray Optics

1.1 Fermat's Principle

Index of refraction n

- Assumption: the media are lossless
- $n \geq 1$
 - vacuum: $n = 1$
 - Air: $n = 1.0003$
 - Water: $n = 1.33$
- Speed of light in the medium $c = c_0/n$
- Refractive indices that vary spatially: $n(r)$
- Vacuum: $n(r(s)) = r(s)$

Optical path length



- A corresponds to $r(0)$ and B corresponding to $r(d)$

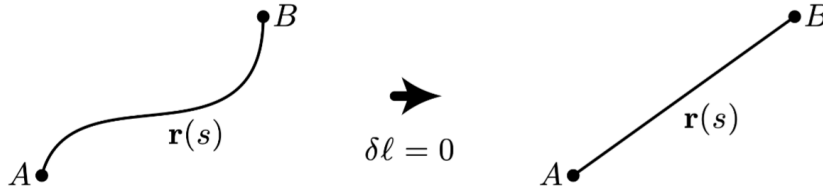
- Optical path length functional: $\ell[r] := \int_0^d n(r(s)) ds$
- $\Delta t = \ell/c_0$

Fermat's Principle (Variational Principle)

- $\delta\ell = 0$
- $\delta\ell$: the (first) variation of ℓ
- Meaning: nearby paths have the same path length

1.2 Fermat's Principle: Examples

Homogeneous Medium



- $\ell = n \int_A^B ds = nd$
- $\delta\ell = 0$ implies straight path from A to B

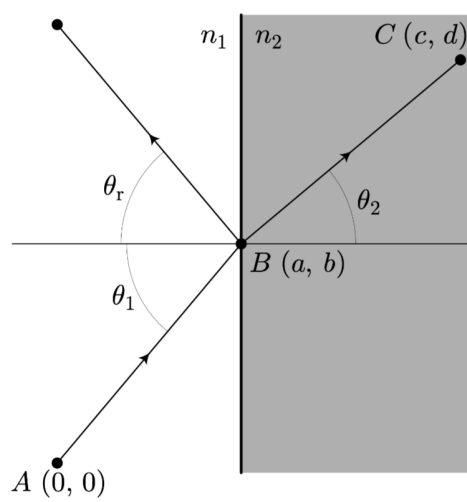
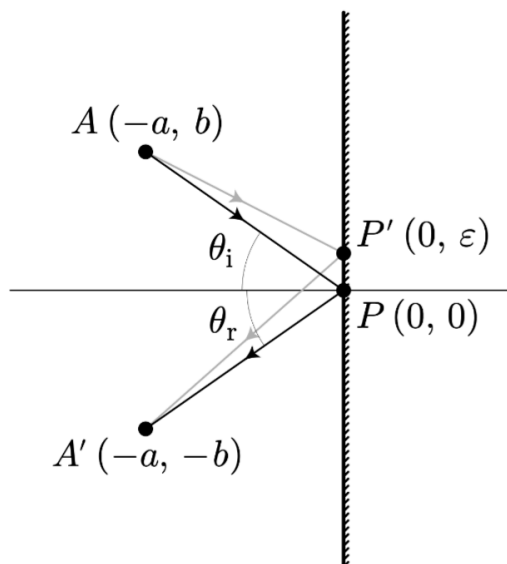
Plane Mirror (Law of Reflection)

- By symmetry, APA' is the minimum-length path. To prove it, consider a nearby point P' .
- The length of $AP'A'$ is

$$\frac{\ell}{n} = \sqrt{a^2 + (b - \varepsilon)^2} + \sqrt{a^2 + (b + \varepsilon)^2}$$

- Differentiation with respect to the perturbation ε ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \left(\frac{\ell}{n} \right) = \frac{\varepsilon - b}{\sqrt{a^2 + (b - \varepsilon)^2}} + \frac{\varepsilon + b}{\sqrt{a^2 + (b + \varepsilon)^2}} = 0$$



- We get $\varepsilon = 0$ and thus

$$\theta_i = \theta_r$$

Refractive Interface (Snell's Law)

- Assume the refracted ray begins at A and ends at C . Find B by $\delta(ABC) = 0$.
- Path length is

$$\ell = n_1\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + n_2\sqrt{(c - a)^2 + (d - b)^2}$$

- Differentiating with respect to the moveable coordinate b of B ,

$$\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial b} = \frac{n_1 b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} - \frac{n_2(d - b)}{\sqrt{(c - a)^2 + (d - b)^2}} = 0$$

- Equivalently,

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2 \quad (\text{Snell's Law})$$

Critical Angle and Total Internal Reflection

- Notice that

$$\sin \theta_2 = \frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \theta_1 \leq 1$$

- If $n_1 > n_2$, critical angle θ_c is given by

$$\frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \theta_c = 1$$

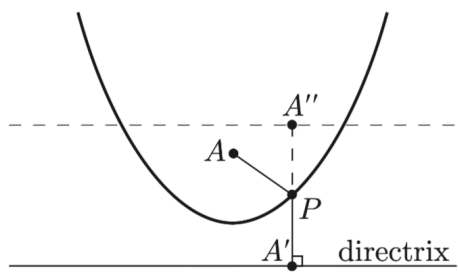
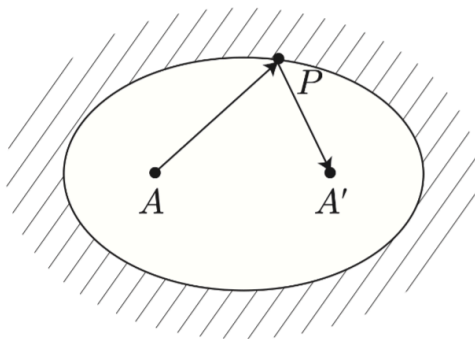
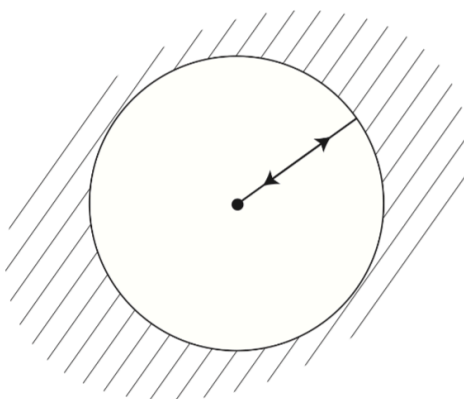
- Total internal reflection: If $\theta_1 > \theta_c$, then there is no possible transmitted ray and all the light is reflected.

Spherical Mirror

- All rays from the center to the outer edge and back have the same (minimum) optical path length.
- A spherical mirror focuses rays from an object at the center point back onto itself

Elliptical Mirror

- Ellipse: $\{P : APA' = d\}$ for some constant distance d
- A and A' : the **foci** of the ellipse



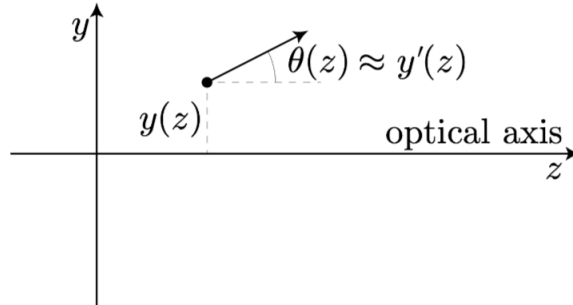
- Since APA' is constant for any P on the ellipse, rays starting at A will end at A'
- Therefore, an elliptical mirror images an object at A to A'

Parabolic Mirror

- Parabola: $\{P : AP = PA' \text{ where } PA' \perp \text{directrix}\}$
- A : the **focus** of the parabola
- For any P on the parabola, $AP + PA'' = PA' + PA''$ and thus $AP + PA'' = A'A''$, which is constant.
- Thus, a parabolic mirror collimates all rays starting at A .

1.3 Paraxial Rays

Vector Representation of a Ray



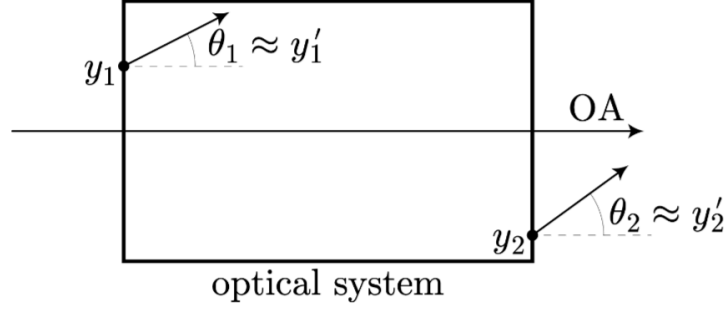
- Optical axis: the reference axis for the optical propagation
- y : displacement from the optical axis
- θ : direction
- In the paraxial approximation,

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} y \\ y' \end{bmatrix}$$

Change in the Ray Vector

- Model the optical system as a transformation of ray vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix} = f \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \end{bmatrix}$$



- Applying Taylor polynomial,

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix} = Df(0,0) \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \end{bmatrix} + \text{higher-order terms in } y_1, y_1'$$

- Assumption 1: for $i = 1, 2$, y_i and y_i' are small so that $\theta_i \approx \sin \theta_i \approx \tan \theta_i = y_i'$.
- Assumption 2: $f_1(0,0) = f_2(0,0) = 0$.

1.4 Matrix Optics

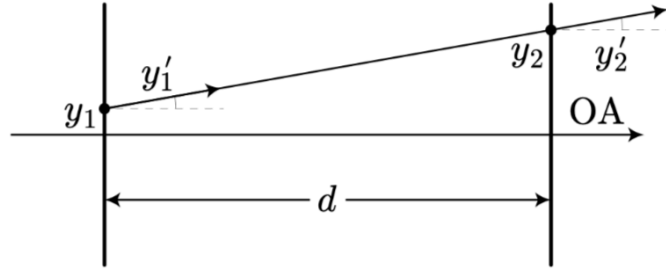
Ray-transfer Matrix

- In the last section, $Df(0,0)$ is a 2×2 matrix.
- For the general paraxial case we use the notation

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \end{bmatrix} + \text{higher-order terms in } y_1, y_1'$$

- ray-transfer matrix
- $ABCD$ matrix
- ray matrix

Free-Space Propagation



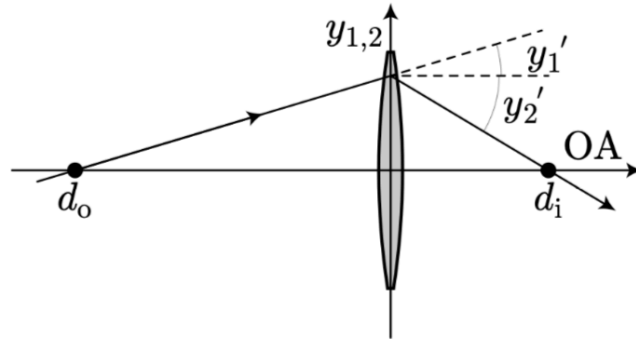
- The ray travels in a straight line,

$$y_2 = y_1 + y_1' d, \quad y_2 = A y_1 + B y_1' \Rightarrow A = 1, B = d$$

$$y_2' = y_1', \quad y_2' = C y_1 + D y_1' \Rightarrow C = 0, D = 1$$

- $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & d \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Thin Lens



- Lens is thin and ray is continuous:

$$y_2 = y_1 \Rightarrow A = 1, B = 0$$

- By thin lens law:

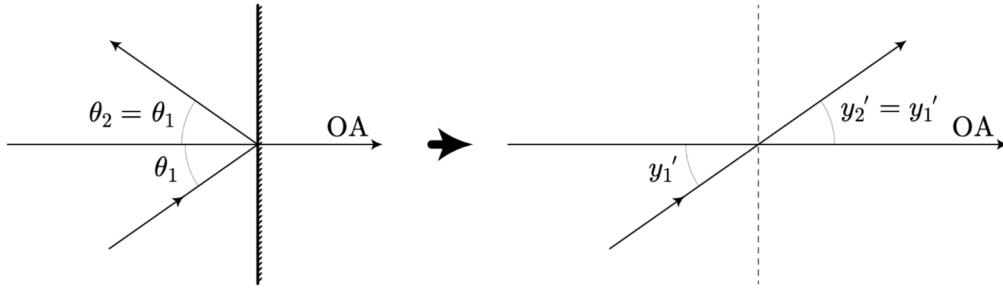
$$\frac{1}{d_o} + \frac{1}{d_i} = \frac{1}{f}$$

- Notice

$$y_1' = \frac{y_1}{d_o}, \quad y_2' = -\frac{y_2}{d_i} \Rightarrow C = -\frac{1}{f}, D = 1$$

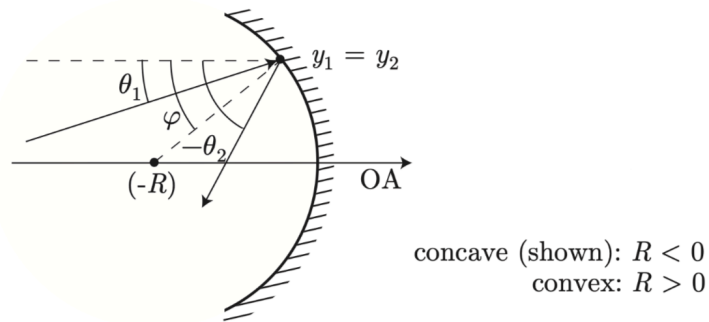
- $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Plane Mirror



- $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Spherical Mirror



- The mirror is thin:

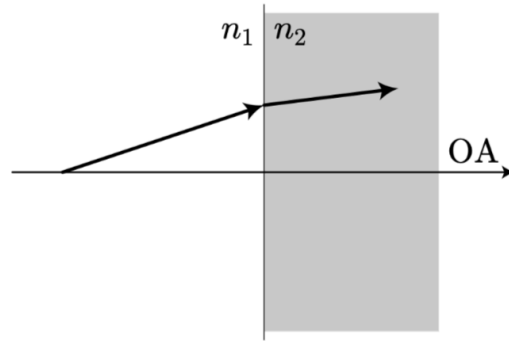
$$y_2 = y_1 \Rightarrow A = 1, B = 0$$

- By Law of Reflection

$$\varphi - \theta_1 = -\theta_2 - \varphi, \varphi = \frac{y_1}{-R} \Rightarrow \theta_2 = \theta_1 + \frac{2y_1}{R} \Rightarrow C = \frac{2}{R}, D = 1$$

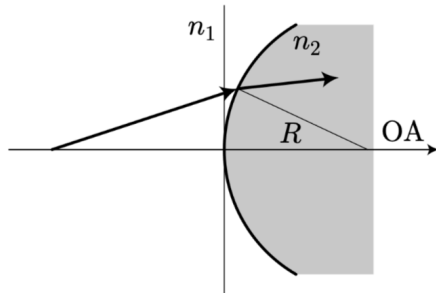
- $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{2}{R} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Planar Refractive Interface



$$\bullet M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & n_1/n_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Spherical Refractive Interface

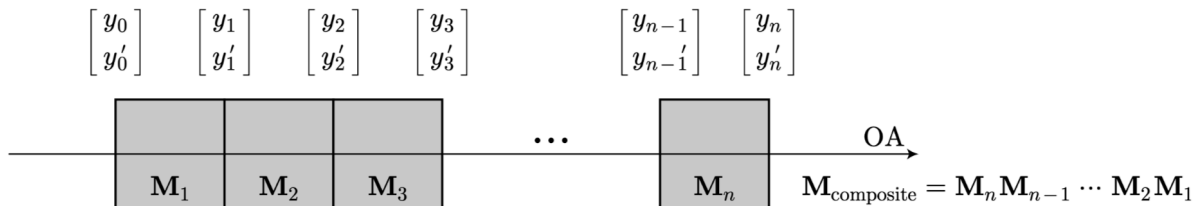


convex (shown): $R > 0$
concave: $R < 0$

$$\bullet M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_2 R} & \frac{n_1}{n_2} \end{bmatrix}$$

1.5 Composite Systems

Ray-transfer Matrix for Composite Optical System



- For the first component:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y'_1 \end{bmatrix} = M_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y'_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- For the second component:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y'_2 \end{bmatrix} = M_2 \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y'_1 \end{bmatrix} = M_2 M_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y'_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

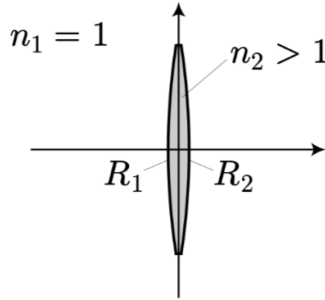
- For the entire system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_n \\ y'_n \end{bmatrix} = M_n M_{n-1} \cdots M_2 M_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y'_0 \end{bmatrix} =: M_{\text{composite}} \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y'_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Ray-transfer Matrix for Composite Optical System: right-to-left ordering

$$M_{\text{composite}} = M_n M_{n-1} \cdots M_2 M_1$$

Thin Lens (Lensmaker's Formula)



- The composite matrix is

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{n_1 - n_2}{n_2 R_2} & \frac{n_2}{n_1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_2 R_1} & \frac{n_1}{n_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \frac{n_2 - n_1}{n_1} \left(\frac{1}{R_2} - \frac{1}{R_1} \right) & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Taking $n_1 = 1$ for simplification,

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ (n_2 - 1) \left(\frac{1}{R_2} - \frac{1}{R_1} \right) & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Standard thin-lens matrix:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{f} & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Therefore,

$$\frac{1}{f} = -(n_2 - 1) \left(\frac{1}{R_2} - \frac{1}{R_1} \right) \quad (\text{Lensmaker's formula})$$

Chapter 2

Fourier Analysis

2.1 Periodic Functions: Fourier Series

Period Function

- $f(t) = f(t + T)$
- **Period:** T
- **Frequency (Hz):** ν
- **Angular Frequency (rad/s):** ω
- **Relation:**

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

Fourier Series

$$f(t) = a_0 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(n\omega t) + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega t)$$

Complex Fourier Series

- Rewrite Fourier series:

$$f(t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n (e^{in\omega t} + e^{-in\omega t}) - i \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n (e^{in\omega t} - e^{-in\omega t})$$

- For non-negative n , define

$$a_{-n} := a_n, \quad b_{-n} := -b_n, \quad c_n = a_n + ib_n$$

- Notice that $b_0 = 0$. Therefore,

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n e^{-in\omega t} + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} b_n e^{-in\omega t} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{-in\omega t}$$

- **Complex Fourier Series:**

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{-in\omega t}$$

- Relation between real and complex coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{2}(c_n + c_n^*) = \frac{1}{2}(c_n + c_{-n}) \\ b_n &= \frac{1}{2i}(c_n - c_n^*) = \frac{1}{2i}(c_n - c_{-n}) \end{aligned}$$

Orthonormality of Harmonic Functions

- **Kronecker Delta:**

$$\delta_{nn'} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(e^{-in'\omega t} \right)^* e^{-in\omega t} dt$$

- **Property of Kronecker Delta:** $\delta_{nn'} = 1$ if $n = n'$ and 0 otherwise.

- **Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{nn'} &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(e^{-in'\omega t} \right)^* e^{-in\omega t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^{-in\omega T} e^{in'\omega T} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^{-i(n-n')\omega t} dt \end{aligned}$$

- If $n = n'$:

$$\delta_{nn'} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^0 dt = 1$$

- If $n \neq n'$:

$$\delta_{nn'} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \left(\cos(-i(n-n')\omega t) + i \sin(-i(n-n')\omega t) \right) dt = 0$$

Complex Fourier Coefficient

- Inner Product of Periodic Functions

$$\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle := \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f_1^*(t) f_2(t) dt$$

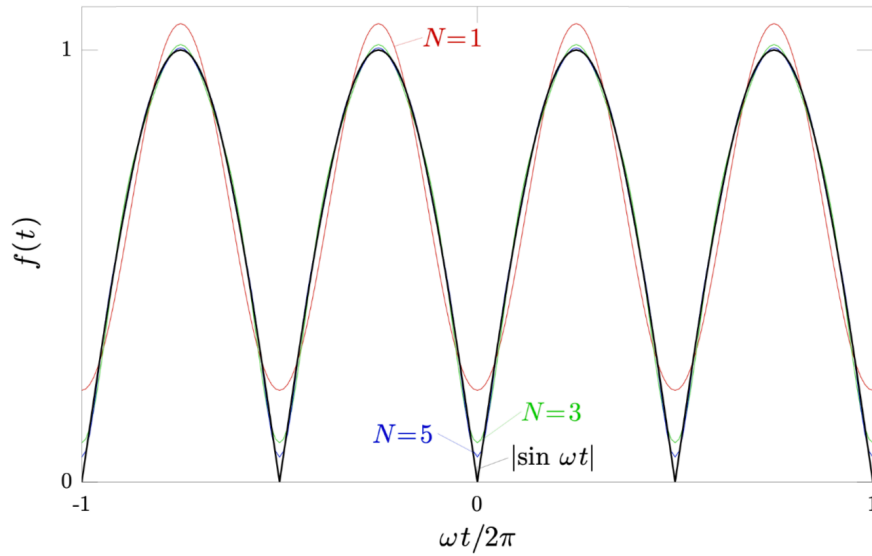
- Complex Fourier Coefficient:

$$\begin{aligned} c_n &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (e^{-in\omega t})^* f(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^{in\omega t} f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

- Proof from Inner Product:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e^{-in\omega t}, f \rangle &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (e^{-in\omega t})^* f(t) dt \\ &= \sum_{n'=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{c_{n'}}{T} \int_0^T (e^{-in\omega t})^* e^{-in'\omega t} dt \\ &= \sum_{n'=-\infty}^{\infty} c_{n'} \delta_{n'n} \\ &= c_n \end{aligned} \quad (\text{by property of Kronecker Delta})$$

Example: Rectified Sine Wave $|\sin \omega t|$



- Because of "rectification", the effective frequency is 2ω , and period is $T = \frac{\pi}{\omega}$.

- By formula, the complex Fourier coefficient satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_n &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |\sin \omega t| e^{in(2\omega)t} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \frac{1}{2i} (e^{i\omega t} - e^{-i\omega t}) e^{in(2\omega)t} dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{2iT} \int_0^T \left(e^{i(2n+1)\omega t} - e^{i(2n-1)\omega t} \right) dt \\
 &= \frac{1}{2iT} \int_0^\pi \left(e^{i(2n+1)x} - e^{i(2n-1)x} \right) dx \quad (x := \omega t) \\
 &= \frac{2}{\pi(1 - 4n^2)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Therefore,

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\pi(1 - 4n^2)} e^{-i2n\omega t}$$

2.2 Aperiodic Functions: Fourier Transform

Conditions

- f is a real function
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) dt$ exists
- f has a finite number of discontinuities
- f has a finite number of maxima and minima in any finite interval
- f has no infinite discontinuities

Generalization to Inverse Fourier Transform

- Harmonic (discrete): $\Delta\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$.
- Aperiodic (continuous): $T \rightarrow \infty$, thus $\Delta\omega \rightarrow 0$ is needed.
- Inverse Fourier Transform:

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{-in\omega t} \longrightarrow f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega$$

- $\tilde{f}(\omega)/2\pi$: Amplitude of component $e^{-i\omega t}$

- $\tilde{f}(\omega)$: **Fourier transform** of $f(t)$.
- **Property:** If f is a real function, then

$$\tilde{f}(\omega) = \tilde{f}^*(-\omega)$$

- **Inverse:** finding $f(t)$ from its Fourier transform

Generalization to Fourier Transform

- By projection,

$$c_n = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^{in\omega t} f(t) dt \longrightarrow \tilde{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$

- **Fourier Transform Pair:** $f(t)$ and $\tilde{f}(\omega)$

Two Forms of Fourier Transforms

- In ω form:

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega \\ \tilde{f}(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt \end{aligned}$$

- Define

$$\bar{f}(\nu) := \tilde{f}(\omega/2\pi)$$

- In $\nu - t$ form:

$$\begin{aligned} f(t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \bar{f}(\nu) e^{-i2\pi\nu t} d\nu \\ \bar{f}(\nu) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{i2\pi\nu t} dt \end{aligned}$$

Connection to Linear Algebra

- Denote the Fourier transform by the symbol \mathcal{F} . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{f}(\omega) &= \mathcal{F}[f(t)] \\ f(t) &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}[\tilde{f}(\omega)] \end{aligned}$$

- The Fourier transform is a linear transformation between vector spaces of functions

- By linearity of the Fourier transform,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{F}[\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)] &= \alpha \tilde{f}(\omega) + \beta \tilde{g}(\omega) \\ \text{iff } \mathcal{F}[f(t)] &= \tilde{f}(\omega), \quad \mathcal{F}[g(t)] = \tilde{g}(\omega)\end{aligned}$$

Example: Fourier Transform of a Gaussian Pulse

- **Gaussian pulse:**

$$f(t) = Ae^{-\alpha t^2}$$

- By definition of Fourier transform,

$$\tilde{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Ae^{-\alpha t^2 + i\omega t} dt = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Ae^{-a(t-b)^2 + c} dt$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}t^2 : -a &= -\alpha \Rightarrow a = \alpha \\ t^1 : 2ab &= i\omega \Rightarrow b = \frac{i\omega}{2\alpha} \\ t^0 : c - ab^2 &= 0 \Rightarrow c = -\frac{\omega^2}{4\alpha}\end{aligned}$$

- Substitute $t - b$ with t :

$$\tilde{f}(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Ae^{-at^2 + c} dt$$

- Compare with the standard normalized form of the Gaussian:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) dx = 1$$

- Taking $\sigma = 1/\sqrt{2\alpha}$, we get

$$\tilde{f}(\omega) = Ae^c \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} = A\sqrt{\frac{\pi}{\alpha}} \exp\left(-\frac{\omega^2}{4\alpha}\right)$$

- Therefore, **the Fourier transform of a Gaussian is a Gaussian.**

Uncertainty Principle

$$\delta t \sim \frac{1}{\delta \omega}$$

- δt : “width” of $f(t)$
- $\delta \omega$: “width” of $\tilde{f}(\omega)$

- From the example of Gaussian Pulse, for the original Gaussian

$$\sigma_t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\alpha}}$$

- For the Fourier transform Gaussian

$$\sigma_\omega = \sqrt{2\alpha}$$

2.3 The Fourier Transform in Optics

Gaussian

- The Fourier transform of a Gaussian is a Gaussian

$$\mathcal{F}\left[e^{-t^2/2}\right] = e^{-\omega^2/2}$$

Exponential

- The Fourier transform of an exponential is a Lorentzian

$$\mathcal{F}\left[e^{-|t|}\right] = \frac{2}{1 + \omega^2}$$

- Atoms decay exponentially due to spontaneous emission

$$N_e(t) = N_e(0) \exp(-\Gamma t)$$

Square Pulse

- The **rectangular function** is defined by

$$rect(t) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |t| < 1/2 \\ 1/2 & \text{if } |t| = 1/2 \\ 0 & \text{if } |t| > 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- The Fourier transform of a square pulse is a **sinc function**

$$\mathcal{F}\left[rect(t)\right] = \text{sinc}(\omega/2) := \frac{\sin(\omega/2)}{\omega/2}$$

Constant

- The Fourier transform of a constant is a delta function

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\frac{1}{2\pi}\right] = \delta(\omega)$$

- This relation is the extreme limit of the uncertainty principle.

Delta Function

- The Fourier transform of a delta function is a constant

$$\mathcal{F}\left[\delta(t)\right] = 1$$

- This is the opposite extreme of the uncertainty principle.

2.4 Delta Function

Introduction

- A delta function is an idealized limit of a very short pulse.
- Construct a sequence of functions $h_n(t)$ such that
 - The h_n are “reasonable” (e.g., simply peaked around $t = 0$).
 - The width of h_n converges to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
 - The h_n are normalized : $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_n(t) dt = 1$ for all n .
- Example: Gaussian Functions.
 - Normalized form of Gaussian Function:

$$h_n(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_n} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2\sigma_n^2}\right)$$

- Taking $\sigma_n = 1/\sqrt{2\pi}n$,

$$h_n(t) = n \exp\left(-\pi n^2 t^2\right)$$

Definition of Delta Function

- Integral form:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t)f(t) dt := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h_n(t)f(t) dt$$

- Inner-product form:

$$\langle \delta, f \rangle := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \delta, h_n \rangle$$

- Note: The delta function only makes sense as part of the argument of an integral since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n(t)$ DNE.
- But as a shorthand of the definition, we often write

$$\delta(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n(t)$$

- For all $t \neq 0$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_n(t) = 0$$

2.5 Properties of Delta Function

Normalization of Delta Function

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$

Projection Property of Delta Function

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t) f(t) dt = f(0)$$

Shifted Projection Property of Delta Function

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t - a) f(t) dt = f(a)$$

Integral Representation of Delta Function

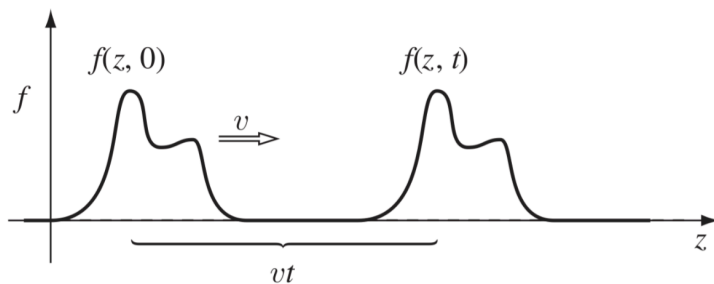
$$\delta(t - a) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\omega(t-a)} d\omega$$

Chapter 3

Electromagnetic Waves

3.1 The Wave Equation

Wave



- **Definition:** A wave is a disturbance of a continuous medium that propagates with a fixed shape at constant velocity.
- $f(z, t)$: represents the displacement of the string at the point z , at time t .
- Initial shape of the string: $g(z) \equiv f(z, 0)$
- fixed shape traveling in the z direction at speed v

$$f(z, t) = f(z - vt, 0) = g(z - vt)$$

Examples of Waves

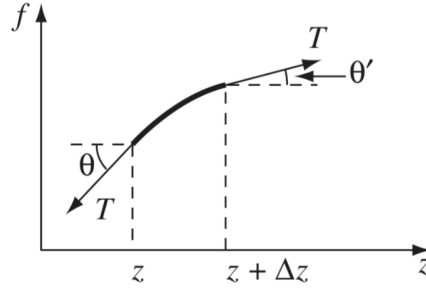
- $f_1(z, t) = Ae^{-b(z-vt)^2}$
- $f_2(z, t) = A \sin[b(z - vt)]$

- $f_3(z, t) = \frac{A}{b(z-vt)^2+1}$

Examples of Non-Waves

- $f_4(z, t) = Ae^{-b(bz^2+vt)}$
- $f_5(z, t) = A \sin(bz) \cos(bvt)^3$

Wave Equation



- Net transverse force

$$\Delta F = T \sin \theta' - T \sin \theta$$

- Provided the distortion of the string of the string is not too great, θ' and θ are small,

$$\Delta F \approx T(\tan \theta' - \tan \theta) = T \left(\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_{z+\Delta z} - \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right|_z \right) \approx T \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} \Delta z$$

- μ : the mass per unit length. By Newton's second law,

$$\Delta F = \mu(\Delta z) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

- Therefore,

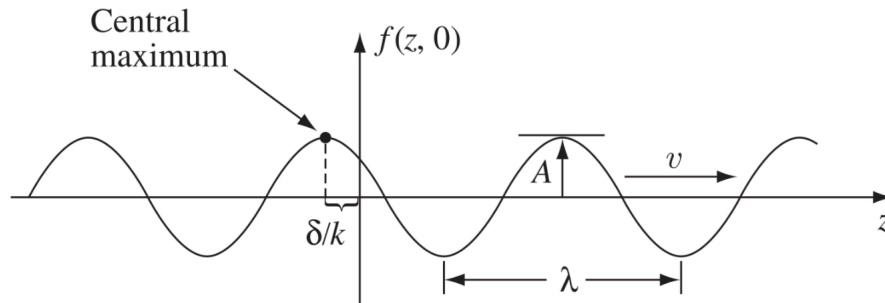
$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = \frac{\mu}{T} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

- Let $v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$,

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} \quad (\text{Wave Equation})$$

3.2 Sinusoidal Waves

Terminology



- Sinusoidal Wave

$$f(z, t) = A \cos[k(z - vt) + \delta]$$

- Amplitude (maximum displacement from equilibrium, positive):

$$A$$

- Phase:

$$k(z - vt) + \delta$$

- Phase Constant:

$$\delta$$

ordinarily,

$$0 \leq \delta < 2\pi$$

- Wave Number:

$$k$$

- Wavelength:

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{k}$$

- Period:

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{kv}$$

- Frequency (number of oscillations per unit time):

$$\nu = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{kv}{2\pi} = \frac{v}{\lambda}$$

- Angular Frequency (number of radians swept out per unit time):

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

- **Sinusoidal Waves in terms of ω :**

$$f(z, t) = A \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta)$$

- **Traveling to the left:**

$$f(z, t) = A \cos(kz + \omega t - \delta) = A \cos(-kz - \omega t + \delta)$$

Complex Notation

- **Advantage:** Exponentials are much easier to manipulate than sines and cosines
- **Euler's Formula**

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

- Therefore,

$$f(z, t) = A \cos(kz - \omega t + \delta) = \text{Re}[Ae^{i(kz - \omega t + \delta)}]$$

- **Real part of the complex number ξ :**

$$\text{Re}(\xi)$$

- **Complex Wave Function:**

$$\tilde{f}(z, t) \equiv \tilde{A}e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

- **Complex Amplitude:**

$$\tilde{A} \equiv Ae^{i\delta}$$

- **Actual Wave function:**

$$f(z, t) = \text{Re}[\tilde{f}(z, t)]$$

Example: Combination of Two Sinusoidal Waves

- Given

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{f}_1 &= \tilde{A}_1 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} \\ \tilde{f}_2 &= \tilde{A}_2 e^{i(kz - \omega t)}\end{aligned}$$

- The combination of the two waves is

$$\tilde{f}_1 + \tilde{f}_2 = \tilde{A}_1 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} + \tilde{A}_2 e^{i(kz - \omega t)} = (\tilde{A}_1 + \tilde{A}_2) e^{i(kz - \omega t)}$$

- In other words, we only need to add the complex amplitudes.

Linear Combinations of Sinusoidal Waves

- Any wave can be expressed as a linear combination of sinusoidal ones:

$$\tilde{f}(z, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{A}(k) e^{i(kz - \omega t)} dk$$

- If we know how sinusoidal waves behave, we know in principle how any wave behaves.