



ENGINEERING PHYSICS

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ENGINEERING PHYSICS

Unit I : Review of concepts leading to Quantum Mechanics



- **Group velocity relations**

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➤ *Suggested Reading*

1. *Concepts of Modern Physics, Arthur Beiser, Chapter 2*
2. *Learning Material prepared by the Department of Physics*

➤ *Reference Videos*

1. *Video lectures : MIT 8.04 Quantum Physics I*
2. *Institute of Sound and Vibrations Research, UK*

- Group velocity*

$$\begin{aligned}v_g &= \frac{d}{dk}(\omega) = \frac{d}{dk}(v_{ph}k) \\&= v_{ph} - k \frac{dv_{ph}}{dk} = v_{ph} - k \frac{dv_{ph}}{d\lambda} \frac{d\lambda}{dk} \\&= v_{ph} - \lambda \frac{dv_{ph}}{d\lambda}\end{aligned}$$

- Group velocity is dependent on the phase velocity and how the phase velocity changes with wavelength*

Group and Phase velocity relation

Group velocity = Phase velocity

$$v_g = v_{ph}$$

$$-\lambda \frac{dv_{ph}}{d\lambda} = 0$$

- *Phase velocity does not change with wavelength*
- *The medium is non dispersive*
- *A dispersive medium is one in which*

Group velocity \neq Phase velocity

➤ $v_g < v_{ph}$

➤ $v_g > v_{ph}$

- $v_g < v_{ph}$ - *group velocity is half the phase velocity*
- $v_g = v_{ph} / 2$
- $\frac{dv_p}{v_{ph}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d\lambda}{\lambda}$ on integration yields
- $\ln(v_{ph}) \propto \ln \sqrt{\lambda}$ or $v_{ph} \propto \sqrt{\lambda}$
- This implies that the phase velocity is proportional to the square root of the wavelength

- $v_g > v_{ph}$ - *group velocity is twice the phase velocity*
- $v_g = 2v_{ph}$
- $\frac{dv_p}{v_{ph}} = -\frac{d\lambda}{\lambda}$ on integration yields
- $\ln(v_{ph}) \propto \ln \frac{1}{\lambda}$ or $v_{ph} \propto \lambda^{-1}$
- This implies that the phase velocity is inversely proportional to the wavelength

The concepts which true of matter waves

- 1. Wave packets do not disperse in any medium**
- 2. Group and phase velocities of a wave packet is dependent on the medium in which it propogates**
- 3. In a non dispersive medium the group velocity is equal to the phase velocity**



THANK YOU

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