

Chapter 7 - Superposition - when waves combine at the same place at the same, the displacements add together

$$\psi = \psi_1 + \psi_2$$



$$E_1(x,t) = E_1 \cos(kx_1 - \omega t + \phi_1)$$

same frequency

$$E_2(x,t) = E_2 \cos(kx_2 - \omega t + \phi_2)$$

different phase

$$\alpha_1 = kx_1 + \phi_1$$

$$\alpha_2 = kx_2 + \phi_2$$

phase difference  $\rightarrow \alpha_2 - \alpha_1 = k(x_2 - x_1) + (\phi_2 - \phi_1)$

What if :  $\alpha_2 - \alpha_1 = 2\pi \cdot m$   $\rightarrow$  even integer of  $\pi$

any integer

$$E_R = E_1 + E_2 = E_1 \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t) + E_2 \cos(\alpha_2 - \omega t)$$

$$= E_1 \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t) + E_2 \cos(2\pi \cdot m + \alpha_1 - \omega t)$$

$$\cos(x) = \cos(x + 2\pi \cdot m)$$

$$= (E_1 + E_2) \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t)$$

constructive interference

But, what if  $\alpha_2 - \alpha_1 = (2m-1)\pi$  }  $\rightarrow$  odd integers of  $\pi$ .

$\uparrow$   
any integer

$$E_+ = E_1 + E_2 = E_1 \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t) + E_2 \cos(\alpha_2 - \omega t)$$

$$= E_1 \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t) + E_2 \cos(\alpha_1 + (2m+1)\pi - \omega t)$$

$$-\cos x = \cos(x + (2m-1)\pi)$$

destructive interference

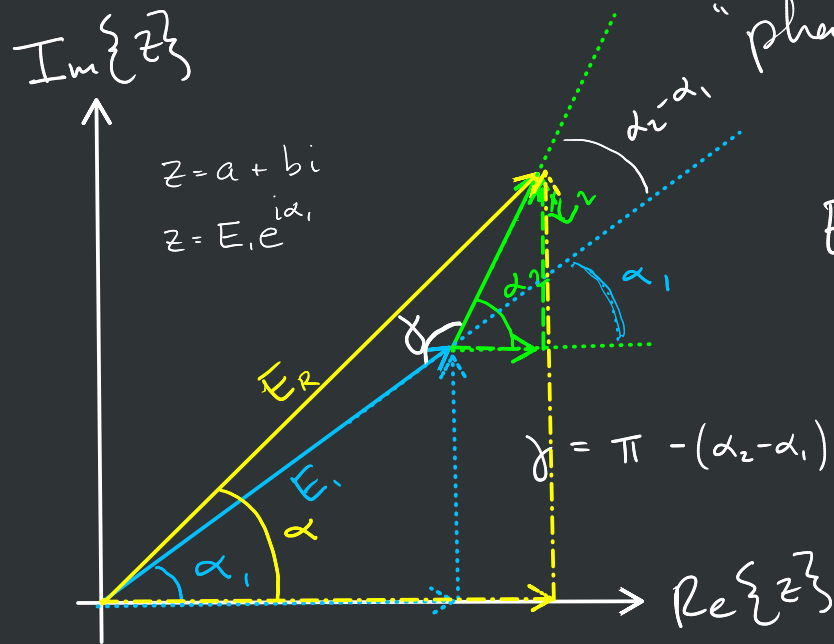
$$= (E_1 - E_2) \cos(\alpha_1 - \omega t)$$

What if any other phase shift?

↳ switch from trig to complex notation

$$E_R = E_1 + E_2 = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ E_1 e^{i(\alpha_1 - \omega t)} + E_2 e^{i(\alpha_2 - \omega t)} \right\}$$

$$= \operatorname{Re} \left\{ e^{-i\omega t} (E_1 e^{i\alpha_1} + E_2 e^{i\alpha_2}) \right\}$$



"phasor diagram" → treat complex number like vectors

$$E_R(x,t) = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ E_R e^{i(\alpha - \omega t)} \right\}$$

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$   
 ?                      ?

$$E_R^2 = E_1^2 + E_2^2 - 2E_1 E_2 \underbrace{\cos \gamma}_{\cos(\pi - \alpha_2 + \alpha_1)}$$

$$= \cos(-\alpha_2 + \alpha_1)$$

$$= \cos(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)$$

$$E_R^2 = E_1^2 + E_2^2 + 2E_1E_2\cos(\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)$$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{E_1 \sin \alpha_1 + E_2 \sin \alpha_2}{E_1 \cos \alpha_1 + E_2 \cos \alpha_2}$$





































































