How to form a chunk – Part 1

By Barbara Oakley, PhD

Listen Watch

Pattern





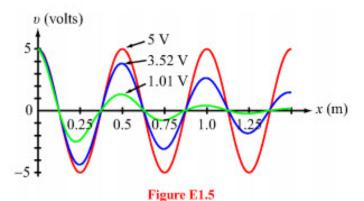


To see what I mean, try repeating the following tongue-twister in the Indian language of Kannada

Not easy, is it? (Unless you are a native speaker of *Kannada*!)

But the language was learned bit by bit.

Exercise 1.5 The red wave shown in Fig. E1.5 is given by $v = 5\cos 4\pi x$ (V). What expression is applicable to (a) the blue wave and (b) the green wave?



Solution: At x = 0, all three waves start at their peak value of 5 V. Also, $\lambda = 0.5$ m for all three waves. Hence, they share the general form

$$v = Ae^{-\alpha x} \cos \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}$$
$$= 5e^{-\alpha x} \cos 4\pi x \quad (V).$$

For the red wave, $\alpha = 0$.

For the blue wave,

$$3.52 = 5e^{-0.5\alpha}$$
 \Rightarrow $\alpha = 0.7 \text{ Np/m}.$

For the green wave,

$$1.01 = 5e^{-0.5\alpha}$$
 \Rightarrow $\alpha = 3.2 \text{ Np/m}.$



Credits

- Example of guitar playing ©Katherine Oakley, 2014. Excerpt from "Somebody Loves You Through It," by Katherine Oakley, ©Katherine Oakley, 2014, https://www.facebook.com/KatherineOakleyMusic.
- Example of soccer playing courtesy Kevin Mendez, ©Kevin Mendez, 2014.
- Example of a tongue-twister in Kannada courtesy Ms. Shilpa Konkani, ©Shilpa Konkani, 2014.
- Example of an electromagnetics problem from *Fundamentals of Applied Electromagnetics 6e, "*Exercise Solutions," by Fawwaz T. Ulaby, Eric Michielssen, and Umberto Ravaioli http://em.eecs.umich.edu/pdf/ulaby_exercise_solutions.pdf
- Map from Google Maps.

Relevant Readings

- Baddeley, Alan, Michael W. Eysenck, and Michael C. Anderson. *Memory*. NY: Psychology Press, 2009.
- Bransford, John D, A. L. Brown, R. R. Cocking, M Suzanne Donovan, and JW Pellegrino. "How People Learn." Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 2000.
- Brent, Rebecca, and Richard M. Felder. "Learning by Solving Solved Problems." *Chemical Engineering Education* 46, no. 1 (2012): 29-30.
- Cho, Soohyun, Arron W. S. Metcalfe, Christina B. Young, Srikanth Ryali, David C. Geary, and Vinod Menon. "Hippocampal-Prefrontal Engagement and Dynamic Causal Interactions in the Maturation of Children's Fact Retrieval." *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* 24, no. 9 (2012): 1849-66.
- Cooper, Graham, and John Sweller. "Effects of Schema Acquisition and Rule Automation on Mathematical Problem-Solving Transfer." *Journal of Educational Psychology* 79, no. 4 (1987): 347.
- Cree, George S, and Ken McRae. "Analyzing the Factors Underlying the Structure and Computation of the Meaning of Chipmunk, Cherry, Chisel, Cheese, and Cello (and Many Other Such Concrete Nouns)." *Journal of Experimental Psychology General* 132, no. 2 (2003): 163-200.
- Gobet, F., and N. Charness, eds. *Chess and Games*. edited by K. Anders Ercisson, Neil Charness, Paul Feltovich and Robert R. Hoffman, Cambridge Handbook on Expertise and Expert Performance: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- Gobet, F., and G. Clarkson. "Chunks in Expert Memory: Evidence for the Magical Number Four... or Is It Two?". *Memory* 12, no. 6 (2004): 732-47.
- Gobet, F., P.C.R. Lane, S. Croker, P.C.H. Cheng, G. Jones, I. Oliver, and J.M. Pine. "Chunking Mechanisms in Human Learning." *Trends in Cognitive Sciences* 5, no. 6 (2001): 236-43.
- Gobet, Fernand. "Chunking Models of Expertise: Implications for Education." Applied Cognitive Psychology 19, no. 2 (2005): 183-204.
- Guida, A., F. Gobet, H. Tardieu, and S. Nicolas. "How Chunks, Long-Term Working Memory and Templates Offer a Cognitive Explanation for Neuroimaging Data on Expertise Acquisition: A Two-Stage Framework." *Brain and Cognition* 79, no. 3 (Aug 2012): 221-44.
- Mastascusa, Edward J., William J. Snyder, and Brian S. Hoyt. Effective Instruction for Stem Disciplines. San Francisco, CA: Jossey Bass, 2011.
- Nyhus, E., and T. Curran. "Functional Role of Gamma and Theta Oscillations in Episodic Memory." *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews* 34, no. 7 (Jun 2010): 1023-35.
- Sweller, John, Paul Ayres, and Slava Kalyuga. Cognitive Load Theory. NY: Springer, 2011.