

# CS7GV2: Mathematics of Light and Sound, M.Sc. in Computer Science.

## Lecture #4: Light and Sound →

physical  
Waves!  
Described by  
wave  
equation!

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School of Computer Science and Statistics,  
Trinity College Dublin

October 17, 2024

# Acoustic waves

Solids  
Liquids  
gases

Sound + vibration

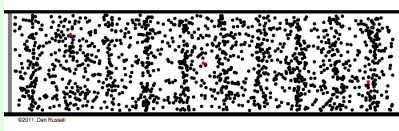
Propagation through matter by oscillation of pressure or of displacement.

\* No heat or mass is transferred; only energy!

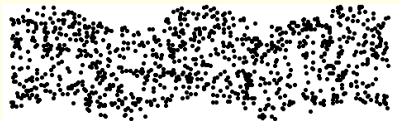
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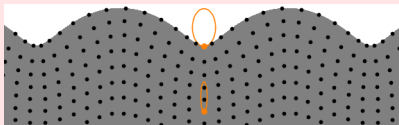
\* See <https://tinyurl.com/yyv5sajz> \*



*Longitudinal waves have variations around equilibrium pressure due to compression and rarefaction of the medium in the direction of propagation.*



*Transverse waves have surface deformations perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation.*



*In solids, superposition of different waves can cause particles to move in elliptical trajectories with depth-dependent direction. In liquids, particles move in anti-clockwise circular trajectories.*

# Acoustic waves

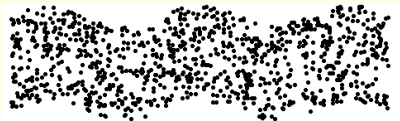
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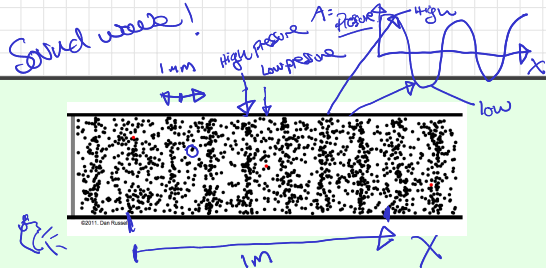
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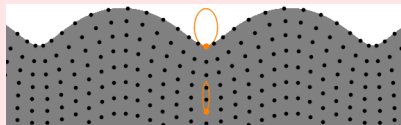
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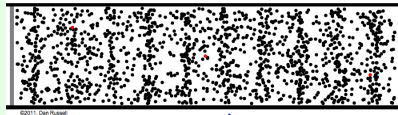
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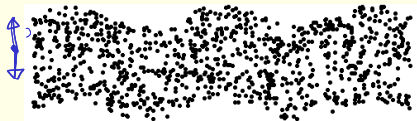
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$A = \text{pressure}$



Sound

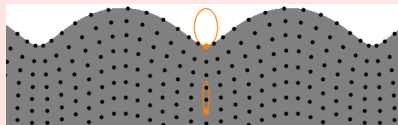
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Thin solid  
e.g. drum

*Transverse* waves have surface deformations perpendicular to the direction of wave propagation.

$A = \text{height}$



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# Acoustic waves

Sound  
= vibration

NVH

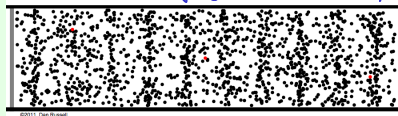
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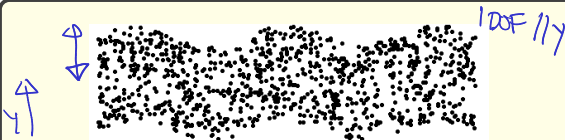
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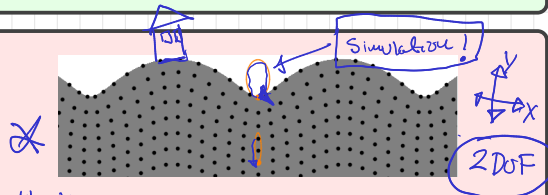
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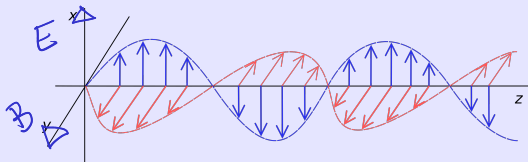
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*click*  
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# Electromagnetic radiation Sinusoïdal! WAVE EQ!

Light!



Synchronised oscillations of electric and mag. fields propagating at max. speed  
 $c \approx 300 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . "speed of light"

"Light" is electromagnetic radiation with particular ranges of wavelength  $\lambda$ .

Ultraviolet: 10—390 nm; Visible: 390—760 nm; Infrared: 760—1 000 000 nm.

Frequency  $\nu = c/\lambda$ , the number of waves that pass a point per second, is sometimes used instead of  $\lambda$ .

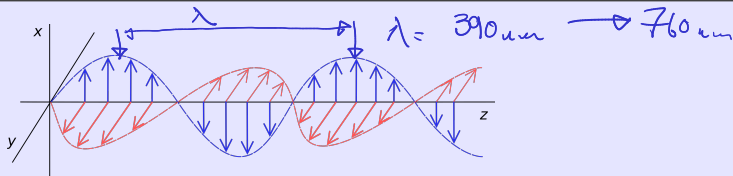
For example,  $\lambda = 532 \text{ nm}$  is a human-visible "green,"

$$\nu \approx \frac{300 \times 10^6 \text{ m s}^{-1}}{532 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 0.564 \times 10^{15} \text{ s}^{-1} = 564 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1} = 564 \text{ THz.}$$

Light has much higher frequency (shorter wavelength) than the "radio" frequencies used for mobile phones and WiFi (GHz,) FM radio (MHz,) and AM radio (kHz.)

# Electromagnetic radiation

Wave eqn!



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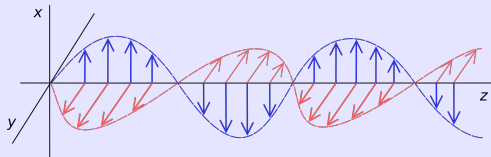
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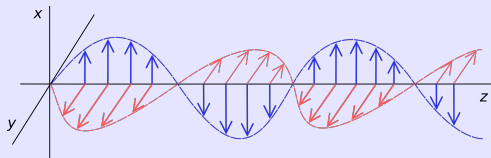
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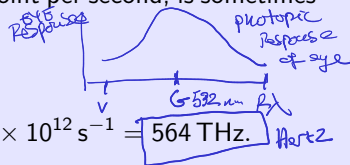
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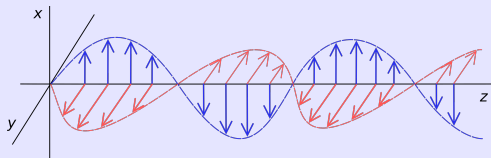
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2.4 GHz  
5 GHz

80 MHz  
Rt 1!

80-110 MHz  
50-80 MHz

# Vectors

For scalars  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ , a vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  can be defined as,

$$\mathbf{v} := a\mathbf{i} + b\mathbf{j} + c\mathbf{k} = (a, b, c)$$

with standard basis vectors,

$$\mathbf{i} = (1, 0, 0) \text{ and } \mathbf{j} = (0, 1, 0) \text{ and } \mathbf{k} = (0, 0, 1)$$

in a Euclidean coordinate system.

(Vectors  $\leftarrow$  Quaternions  $\leftarrow$  Hamilton  $\leftarrow$  TCD!)

Scalar (or dot) product of two vectors is,

$$\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{w} := ax + by + cz$$

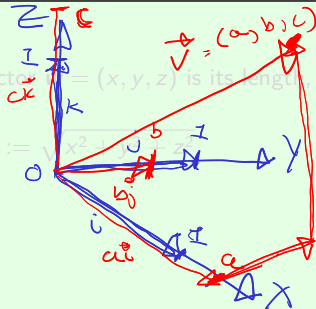
$$= \|\mathbf{v}\| \|\mathbf{w}\| \cos \theta.$$

Vector (or cross) product of two vectors is,

$$\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} := (bz - cy)\mathbf{i} + (cx - az)\mathbf{j} + (ay - bx)\mathbf{k}$$

which is  $\perp \mathbf{v}$  and  $\perp \mathbf{w}$ .

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(*Vectors* ← *Quaternions* ← *Hamilton* ← *TCD!*)

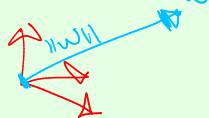
Magnitude of vector  $\mathbf{w} = (x, y, z)$  is its length,

$$\|\mathbf{w}\| := \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}.$$

EUCLIDEAN  
DISTANCE

$$|a| = \sqrt{a^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{a^2}$$



Scalar (or dot) product of two vectors is,

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*coefficient*

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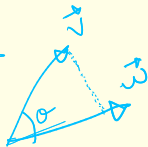
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*If  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \|\mathbf{w}\| = 1$*

*$= \cos \theta$*

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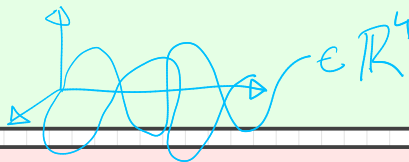
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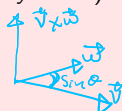
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# Vector fields and calculus

$$f(x,y,z,t) := x+y+z+t \quad \text{or} \quad (2x^3 - 5yz + 4xz) x + t$$

Most functions we encounter are scalar-valued, e.g.  $f: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  but they can be vector-valued, e.g.  $f: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ .

A scalar field is an assignment of a scalar to each point in a space; similarly, a vector field is an assignment of a vector.

A field can be considered as a function, e.g.

$$\mathbf{F}: (\underline{x}, \underline{y}, \underline{z}, \underline{t}) \rightarrow (\underline{F_x}, \underline{F_y}, \underline{F_z}).$$

*coefficients of a vector*

*Divergence is,*

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}.$$

A scalar denoting by how much, if at all, the field is like a point source at that position.

*Vector calculus is concerned with differentiation and integration of such functions.*

$$f(x,y,z,t) = (x+y) \hat{i} + (y+z) \hat{j} + (z+t) \hat{k}$$

*Space and time parameters can be omitted for improved readability but you have to remember this when looking at formulae! e.g.*

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial t} = \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial t} \right).$$

*Curl is,*

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{F} = \left( \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) \hat{i} + \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) \hat{j} + \left( \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} \right) \hat{k}.$$

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$\partial F(x, y, z, t)$

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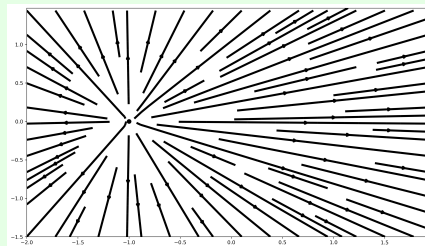
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# Physical vector fields

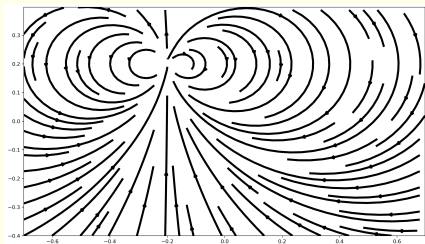
Electricity and magnetism (when considered together) comprise one of the fundamental forces in nature.

An electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  exerts force on an electric charge; and when it changes wrt time it creates a magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$ .

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Electric monopole field streamlines.



Magnetic dipole field streamlines.

A magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$  exerts force on magnetic materials; and when it changes wrt time it creates an electric field  $\mathbf{E}$ .

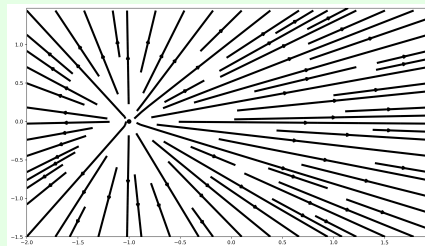
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# Physical vector fields

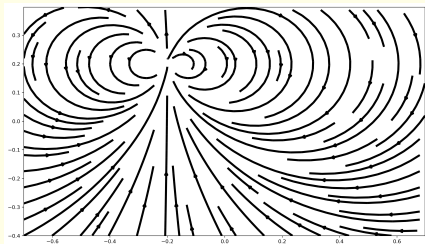
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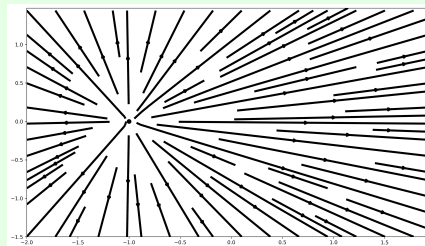
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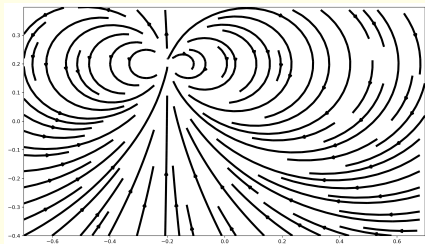
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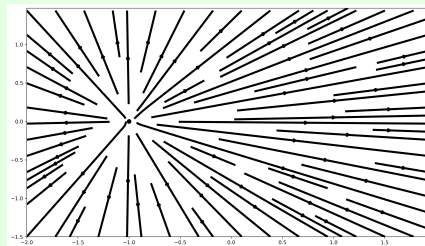
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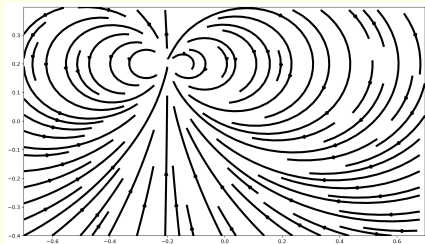
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# Some physical laws

*Gauss's law for electricity:* electric charges generate an electric field.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho/\epsilon$$

where  $\rho$  is electric charge and  $\epsilon$  is electric permittivity.

*Gauss's law for magnetism:* there are no separate magnetic charges (no monopoles.)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0.$$

*Faraday's law of induction:* A changing magnetic field creates a rotating electric field and vice-versa.

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}.$$

*Ampère-Maxwell's law:* an electric current and a changing electric field create a magnetic field.

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t})$$

where  $\mathbf{J}$  is electric current density and  $\mu$  is magnetic permeability.

Note that  $c = 1/\sqrt{\epsilon\mu}$ .

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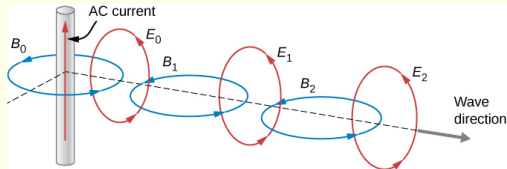
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# Maxwell's equations

A *system* of equations that describes relationships between electromagnetic radiation field characteristics at a point and time ( $\mathbf{p}, t$ ).

Solving the system at a sequence of points and moments in time allows the *propagation* of radiation to be modelled.

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho/\epsilon \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}) \end{cases}$$



AC line generating EM radiation

For very good explanations of electromagnetic radiation and Maxwell's equations, see:

<https://tinyurl.com/y6dbsrxj> (text)

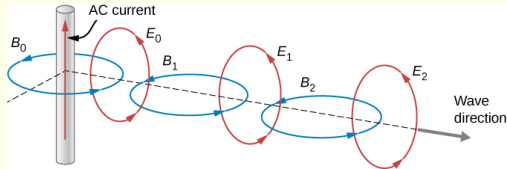
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Unknowns!  $(a, b, c)$   $(x, y, z)$

$\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B} \rightarrow \text{Solutions!}$  cos

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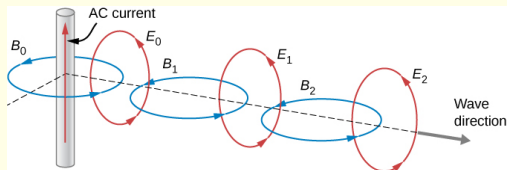
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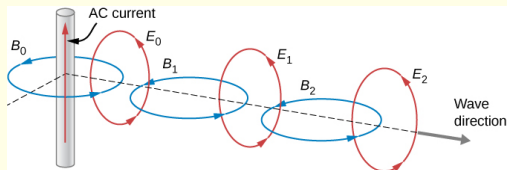
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