

Experiment 4: Phase and Group velocity of EM waves

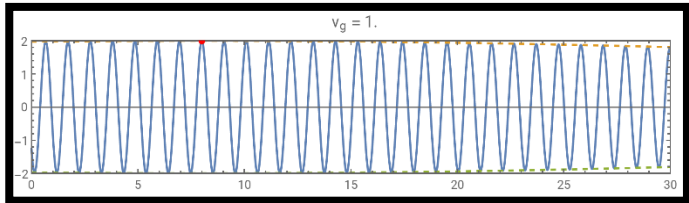
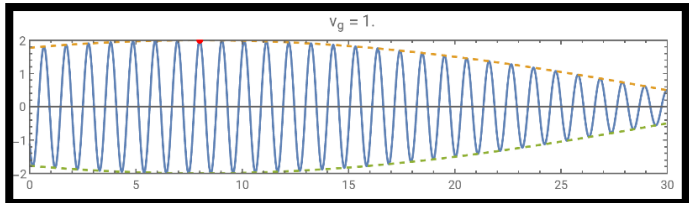
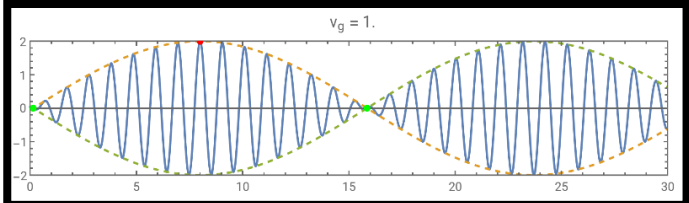
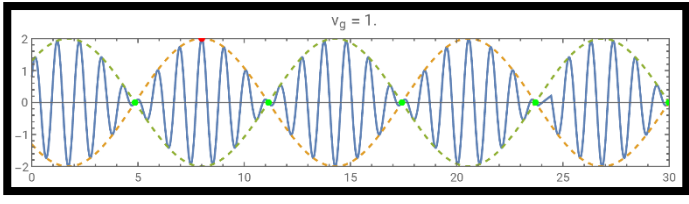
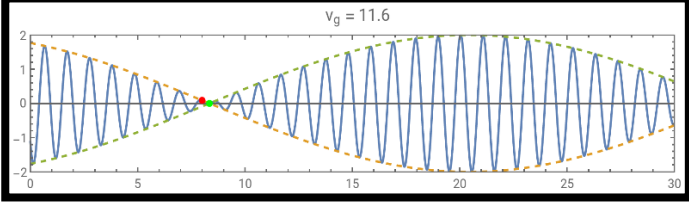
Tools required:

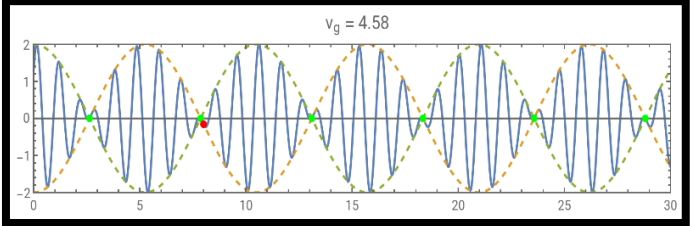
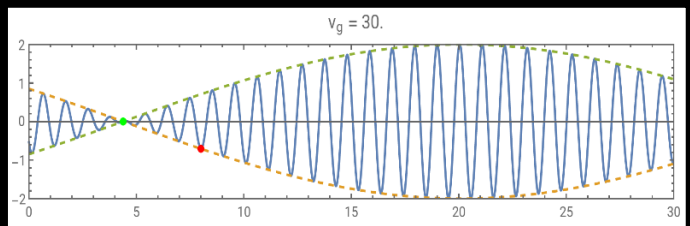
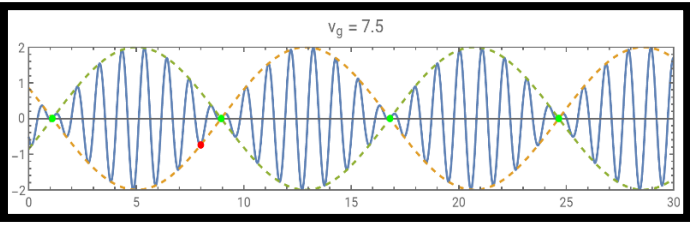
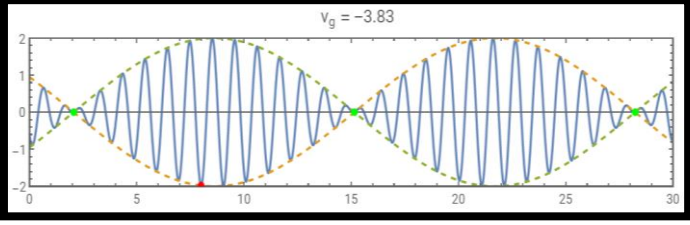
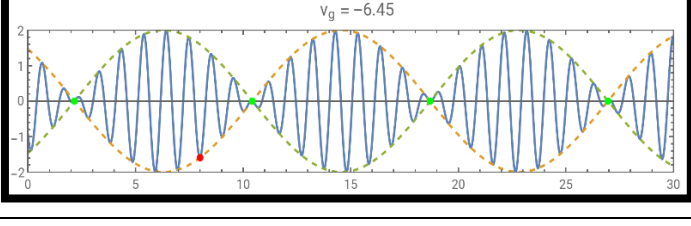
<http://demonstrations.wolfram.com/GroupAndPhaseVelocity/>

Objective:

To understand the nature of EM waves travelling in a medium with the help of Phase and Group velocities.

Observation table:

S. No	$\Delta\omega$	Δk	Wave pattern of the resultant waves	V_g
1	0.02	0.02		1
2	0.06	0.06		1
3	0.2	0.2		1
4	0.5	0.5		1
5	1.51	0.13		11.6

S. No	$\Delta\omega$	Δk	Wave pattern of the resultant waves	V_g
6	2.75	0.6		4.58
7	3	0.1		30
8	3	0.4		7.5
9	-0.92	0.24		-3.83
10	-2.45	0.38		-6.45

Inferences:**1. Are the wave patterns for various values of $\Delta\omega$ and Δk same? If not, why?**

No, the wave patterns for various values of $\Delta\omega$ and Δk are not same even if V_g is same. The resultant wave formed by the superposition of two waves is dependent on the values of $\Delta\omega$ and Δk . The resultant wave of the two waves is:

$$2 \cos\left(\frac{\Delta k}{2} z - \frac{\Delta \omega}{2} t\right) \cos(\bar{k} \cdot z - \bar{\omega} \cdot t)$$

2. Comment on the Phase velocity (V_p) of the waves for increased values of $\Delta\omega$ and Δk .

Phase Velocity (V_p) remains the same for a wave in a given medium. It does not get affected by the increased values of $\Delta\omega$ and Δk .

3. When do we see V_p and V_g being the same?

If the phase velocity does not depend on the wavelength of the propagating wave, then

$V_g = V_p$. This happens in non-dispersive media.

4. Draw a typical dispersion relation curve (ω - k curve) for $V_p = V_g$ and $V_p \neq V_g$ cases.

$V_p = V_g$ – No dispersion

$V_p \neq V_g$ – Anomalous Dispersion and Normal Dispersion

