

where ϕ is the Phase lag. Since it is evident that the Particle situated towards the right of O must be always behind the Particle at O in Phase if the wave is travelling towards the right.

We know that for a path difference λ , the Phase change is $\phi = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot \lambda = 2\pi$ or $\phi = \frac{2\pi x}{\lambda}$

$$\text{Again, } \omega = \frac{2\pi}{T} \cdot t = \frac{2\pi v}{\lambda} \left[\because v = \frac{\lambda}{T} \right]$$

$\therefore$ From equation (2) we get,

$$y = a \sin \left\{ \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot vt - \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot x \right\}$$

$$\text{or } y = a \sin \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (vt - x) \rightarrow (3)$$

This equation gives us the complete form of a plane Progressive wave of amplitude (a) with a velocity of Propagation v in the positive direction of x -axis. When x is measured opposite to the direction of Propagation, the above equation becomes,

$$y = a \sin \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (vt + x) \rightarrow (4)$$

The quantity $\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = 2\pi \bar{\nu} = k$ is called Propagation constant, while $\frac{1}{\lambda} = \bar{\nu}$ is called the wave number. Hence eqn (3) reduces to

$$y = a \sin (\omega t - kx) \rightarrow (5)$$

at $t=0$, $x=0$, and $y=0$

All the above equations from eqn (1) to eqn (5) represent the equation of a plane Progressive wave in different forms. Properties! — For a fixed value of x , the displacement y is a simple harmonic oscillation in time, ~~as~~ shows with the same amplitude and period.

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