

# Week ③

PHY 106 Quantum Physics

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*These notes are provided for the students of the class above only.*

*There is no warranty for correctness, please contact me if you spot a mistake.*

## 2) Waves and Particles

### revision of movie:

Quantum physics is essentially all about

“things that ought to be particles are **also** waves”

and

“things that ought to be waves are **also** particles”.

Thus, let's make sure we are all on the same page regarding waves.....

## 2.1) Introduction to wave mechanics

What **is** a wave?

Definition of **wave**:

A perturbation of some **property** is transported through a **medium**, without transport of the medium itself

**Book:** A.P. French, “Vibrations and waves”

# Waves

## Examples:

fill in lecture

fill in lecture

fill in lecture

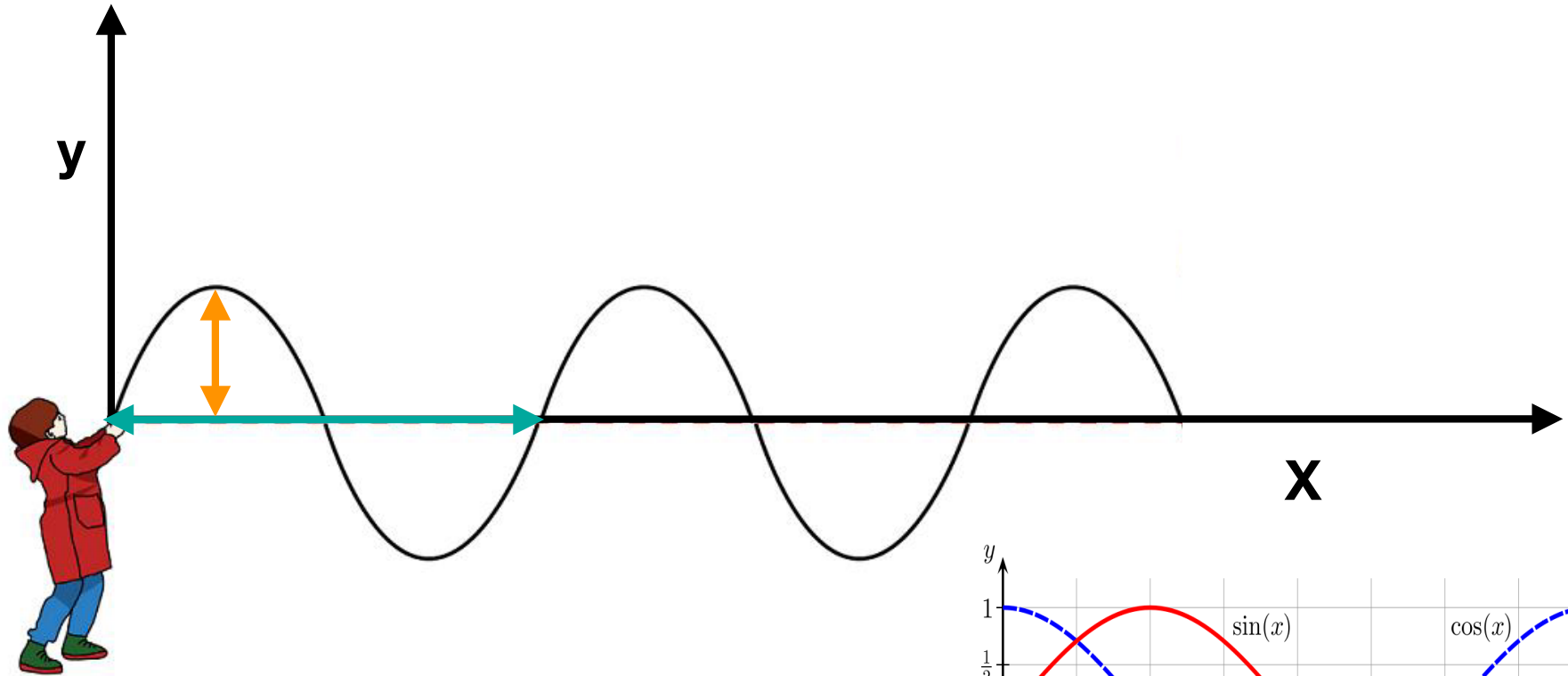
# Waves

fill in lecture

fill in lecture

fill in lecture

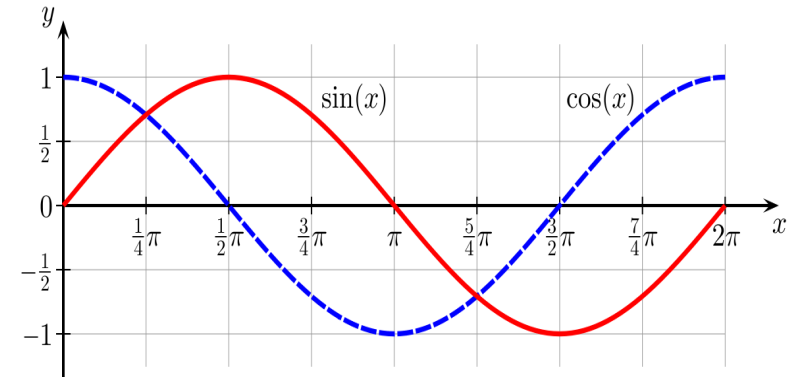
## 2.1.1) Waves, frequencies, wavelengths



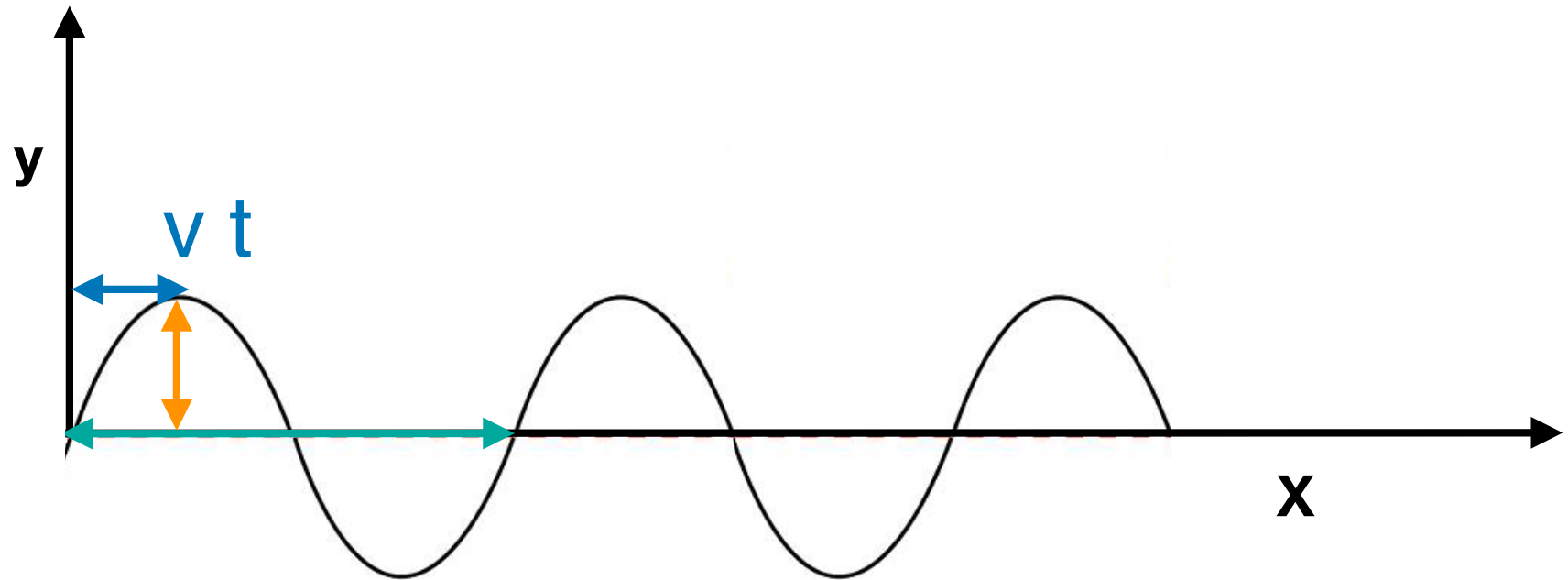
$$y(x) = \boxed{A} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi}{\boxed{\lambda}} x \right)$$

amplitude

wavelength



# Waves



$$y(x, t) = \boxed{A} \sin \left( \frac{2\pi}{\boxed{\lambda}} (x - \boxed{V}t) \right) \quad (5)$$

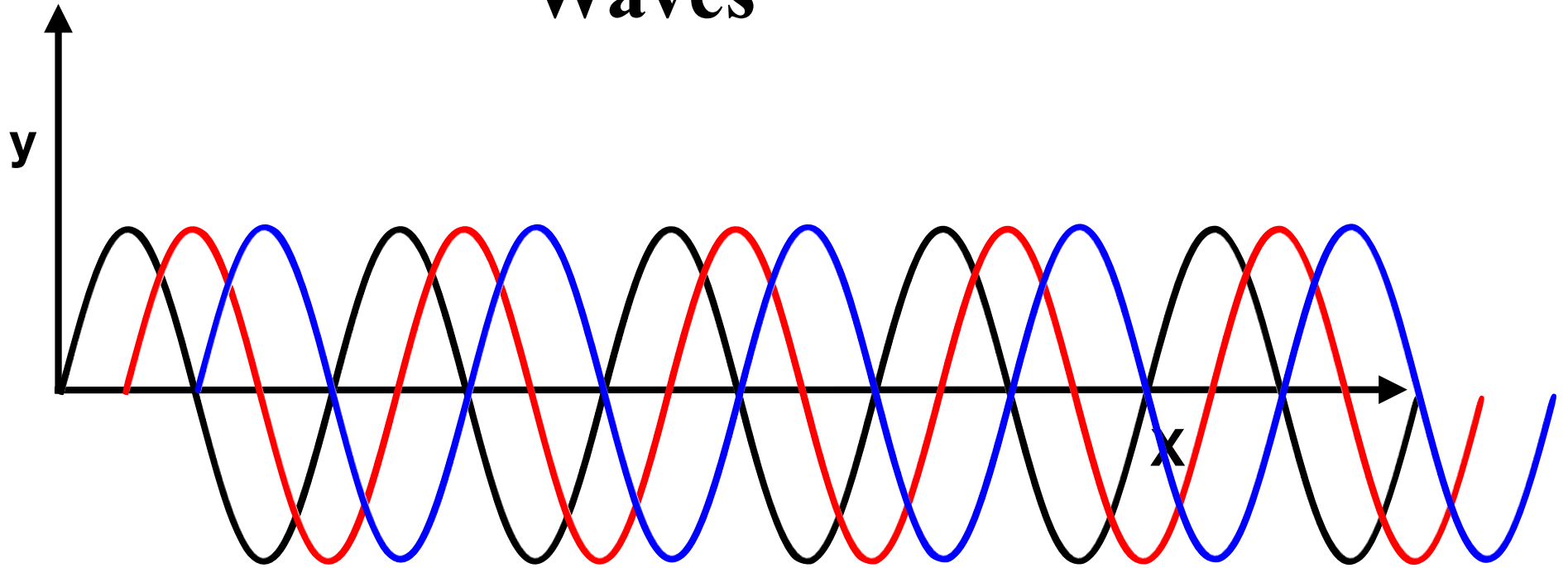
amplitude

wavelength

wave velocity

Form of **progressive/travelling wave**

# Waves



$$y(x, t) = A \sin \left( \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (x - Vt) \right)$$

$$t = 0$$

$$t = \frac{\lambda}{4} \frac{1}{V}$$

$$t = \frac{\lambda}{2} \frac{1}{V}$$

Argument of **sin** is called **phase**

**V** here is the **phase velocity**

# Waves

Rewrite wave form:

$$y(x, t) = A \sin \left( \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (x - Vt) \right)$$



$$y(x, t) = A \sin \left( 2\pi \left( \frac{x}{\lambda} - \nu t \right) \right)$$



$$y(x, t) = A \sin (kx - \omega t) \quad (6)$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = V \quad (8)$$

**k** is the **wave number** (unit 1/m)

**$\omega$**  is the **angular frequency**

**$\nu$**  is the **frequency** (unit Hz = 1/s)

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu \quad (9)$$



# Waves

$$y(x, t) = A \sin (kx - \omega t) \quad (6)$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \quad (7)$$

Relation between **frequency**, **wave length** or **wave number** and **phase velocity** of any wave  
(unit m/s)

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = V \quad (8)$$

$$\nu \lambda = V \quad (10)$$

**k** is the **wave number**

**$\omega$**  is the **angular frequency**

**$\nu$**  is the **frequency**

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu \quad (9)$$

# Wave velocities

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = V \quad (8)$$

$$\nu \lambda = V \quad (10)$$

## Examples:

sound in solid

$$V = \sqrt{\frac{Y}{\rho}} \approx 5000 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\nu = 440 \text{ Hz} \quad \lambda = 11.4 \text{ m}$$

gravitational waves

$$V = c = 299792458 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\nu = 440 \text{ Hz} \quad \lambda = 681 \text{ km}$$

# Wave velocities

$$\frac{\omega}{k} = V \quad (8)$$

$$\nu \lambda = V \quad (10)$$

## Examples II:

water wave  
(tsunami)

$$V = 500 \text{ km/h}$$

$$\nu = 3.3 \text{ /h} \quad \lambda = 151 \text{ km}$$

light wave (elm)

$$V = c = 299792458 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\lambda = 700 \text{ nm} \quad \nu = 4.2 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

## 2.1.2) The wave equation

Is there a general equation that governs wave behavior?

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

We see:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = -k^2 A \sin(kx - \omega t) = -k^2 y(x, t) \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t) = -(-\omega)^2 A \sin(kx - \omega t) = -\omega^2 y(x, t) \quad (12)$$

# The wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = -k^2 y(x, t) \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t) = -\omega^2 y(x, t) \quad (12)$$

$$y(x, t) = -\frac{1}{\omega^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t)$$

With:  $\frac{\omega}{k} = V \quad (8) \quad \frac{k}{\omega} = \frac{1}{V}$

## General wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = \frac{1}{V^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t) \quad (13)$$

- Change in time **causes** change in space **and vice versa**.

# Wave equation

Any function:

$$y(x, t) = f(x - Vt)$$

Chain rule:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = (1)^2 f''(x - Vt)$$

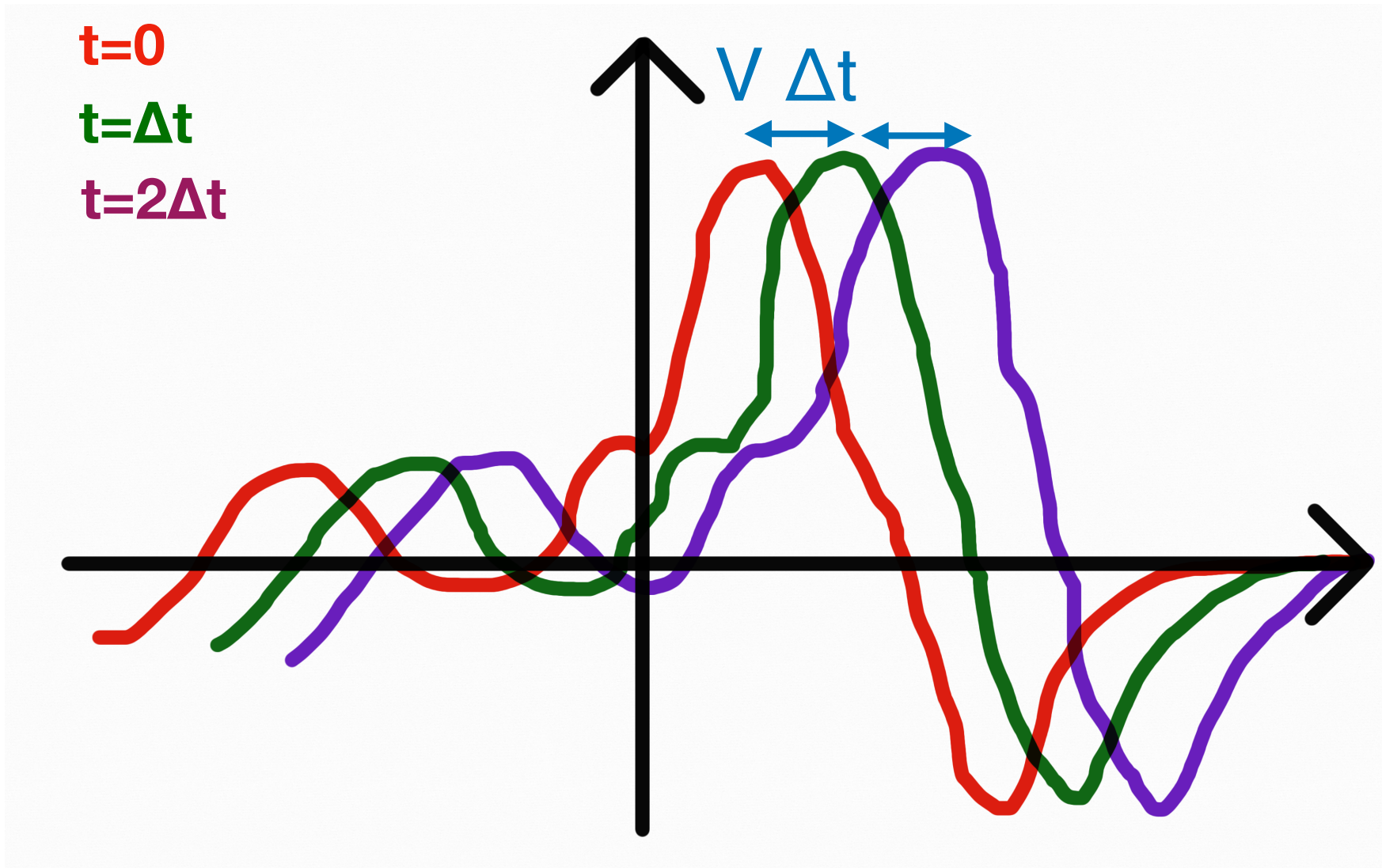
$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t) = (-V)^2 f''(x - Vt)$$

Fulfills wave-equation: **(13)**

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = \frac{1}{V^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t)$$

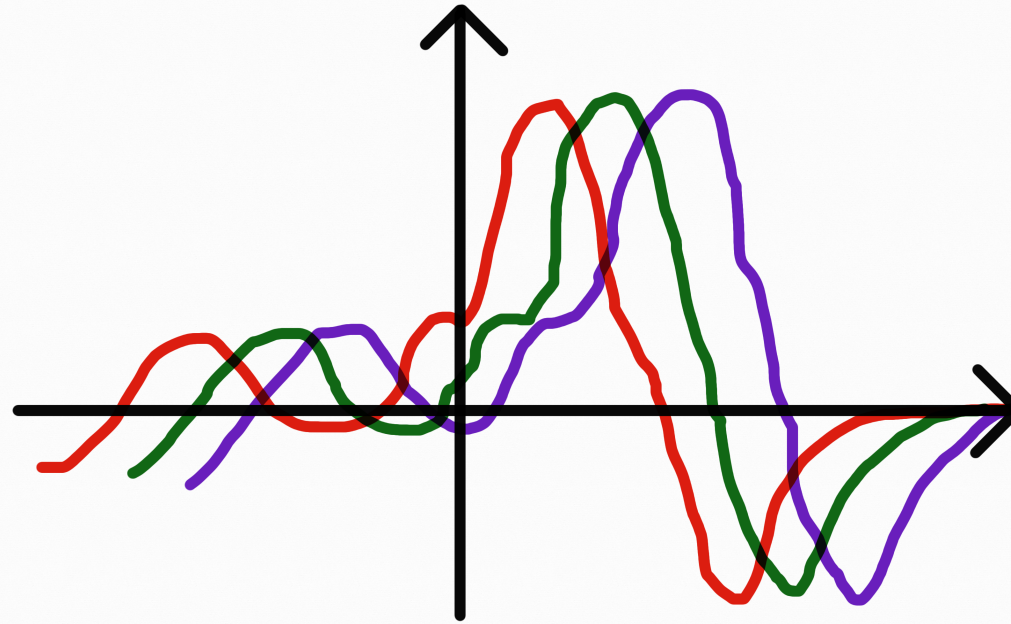
# Wave equation

$y(x, t) = f(x - Vt)$  moves to the right with velocity  $V$ !!



# Wave equation

$y(x, t) = f(x - Vt)$  moves to the right with velocity  $V$ !!



- $y(x, t) = f(x + vt)$  Moves to the left with velocity  $V$ , also fulfills wave equation
- Can be generalized to 2D, 3D
- There are many wave-equations, one for each medium.



# Superposition principle

The wave equation is linear. That means any **combination of waves** is also a **solution**

let: 
$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x, t) = \frac{1}{V^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} y(x, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} w(x, t) = \frac{1}{V^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} w(x, t)$$

Then:

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [y(x, t) + w(x, t)] = \frac{1}{V^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} [y(x, t) + w(x, t)]$$

## **2.1.3) Standing waves**

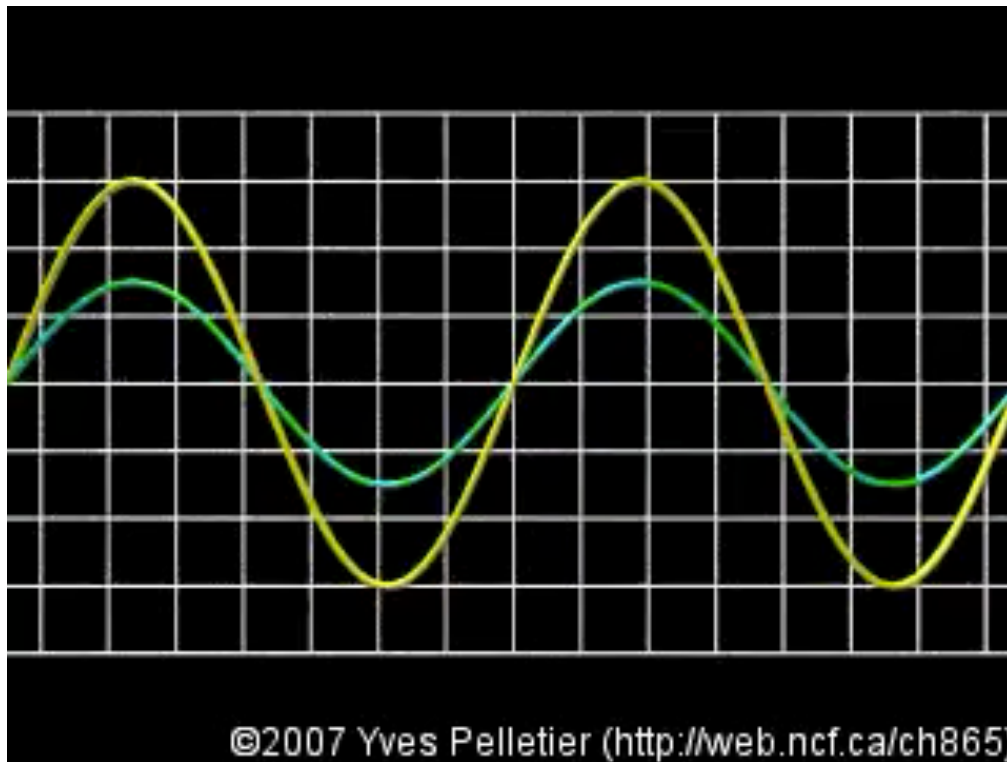
What happens if we combine two identical waves travelling in opposite directions?

[https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/wave-on-a-string/latest/wave-on-a-string\\_en.html](https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/html/wave-on-a-string/latest/wave-on-a-string_en.html)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgJStYrk2fc>

## 2.1.3) Standing waves

What happens if we combine two identical waves travelling in opposite directions?



Animation from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ic73oZoqr70>

Using (6), we can write this as:

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t) + A \sin(-kx - \omega t)$$

# Standing waves

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t) + A \sin(-kx - \omega t)$$

## Trigonometric identity

$$\sin(\alpha \pm \beta) = \sin(\alpha)\cos(\beta) \pm \cos(\alpha)\sin(\beta) \quad (14)$$

$$y(x, t) = A \left[ \cancel{\sin(kx)\cos(\omega t)} - \cos(kx)\sin(\omega t) \right. \\ \left. + \cancel{\sin(-kx)\cos(\omega t)} - \underbrace{\cos(-kx)}_{\cos(kx)}\sin(\omega t) \right]$$

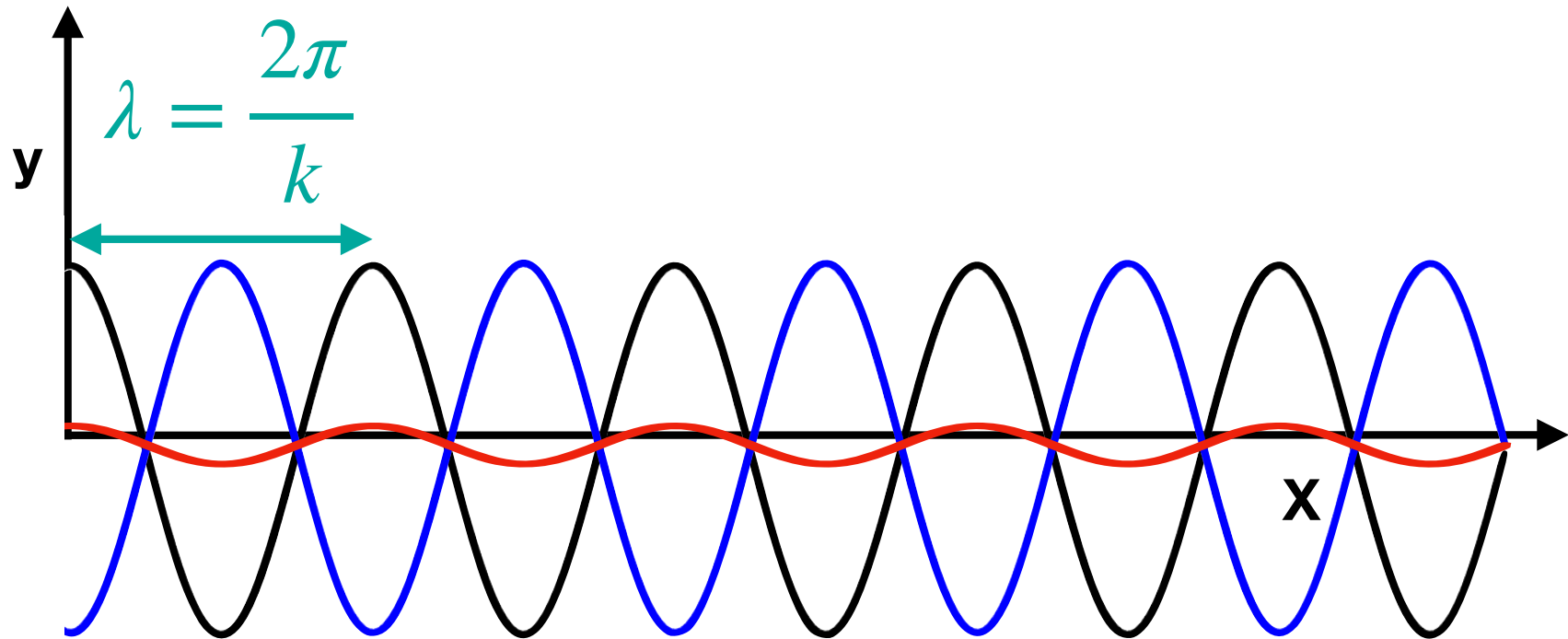
$$y(x, t) = -2A \cos(kx) \sin(\omega t)$$

# Standing waves

Formula for some **standing wave**

$$y(x, t) = \tilde{A} \cos(kx) \sin(\omega t)$$

(15)

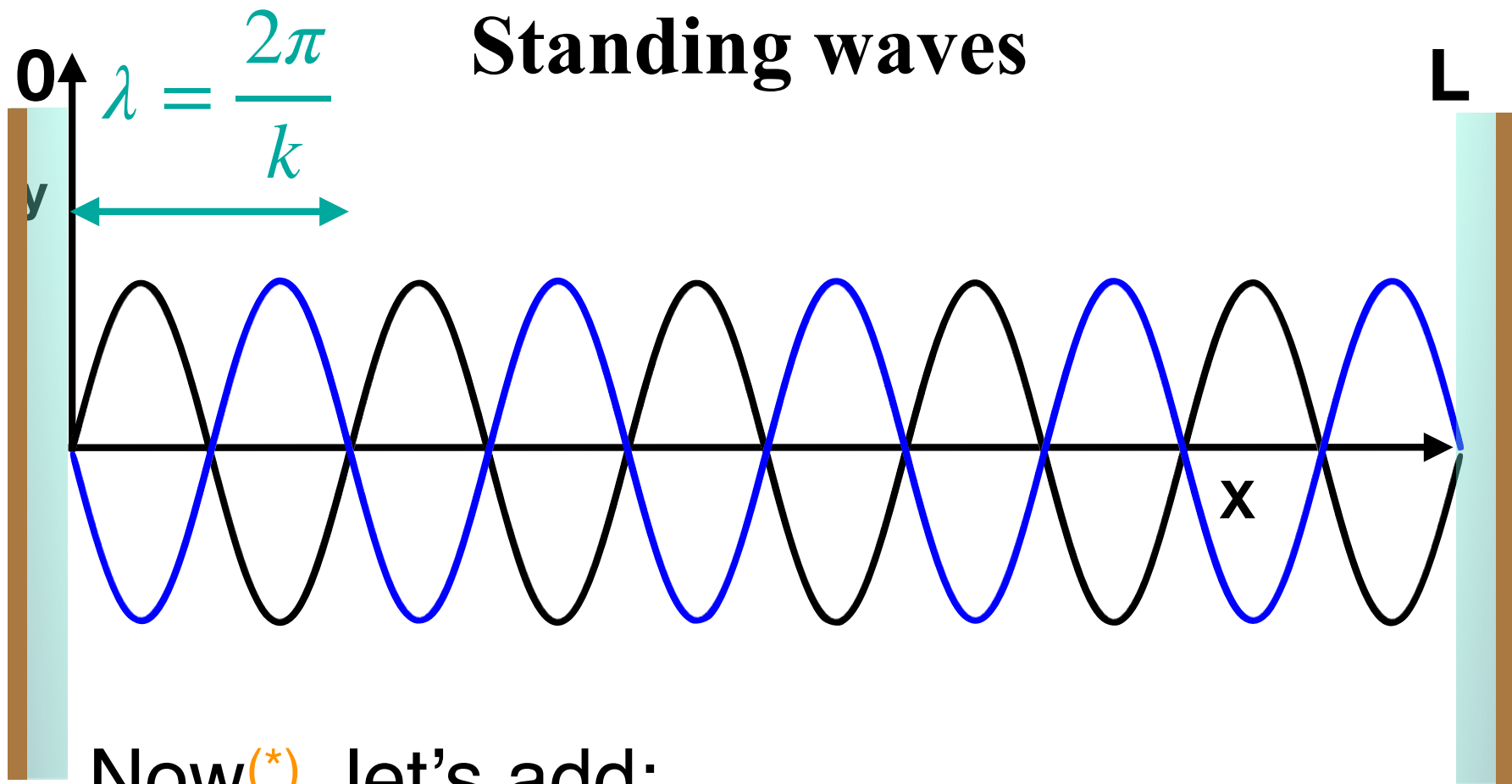


$$t = \frac{\pi}{2\omega}$$

just before  $t = \frac{\pi}{\omega}$

$$t = \frac{3\pi}{2\omega}$$

# Standing waves



Now<sup>(\*)</sup> let's add:

**Boundary condition:**  $y(0,t) = y(L,t) = 0$  (16b)

Resonance condition for **standing wave**

$$L = n \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad \lambda = \frac{2L}{n} \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (16)$$

\* Q: Eq. (15) is an example that does not fulfill Eq. (16b). Find another example that does.

# Standing waves

## Examples:

fill in lecture

fill in lecture

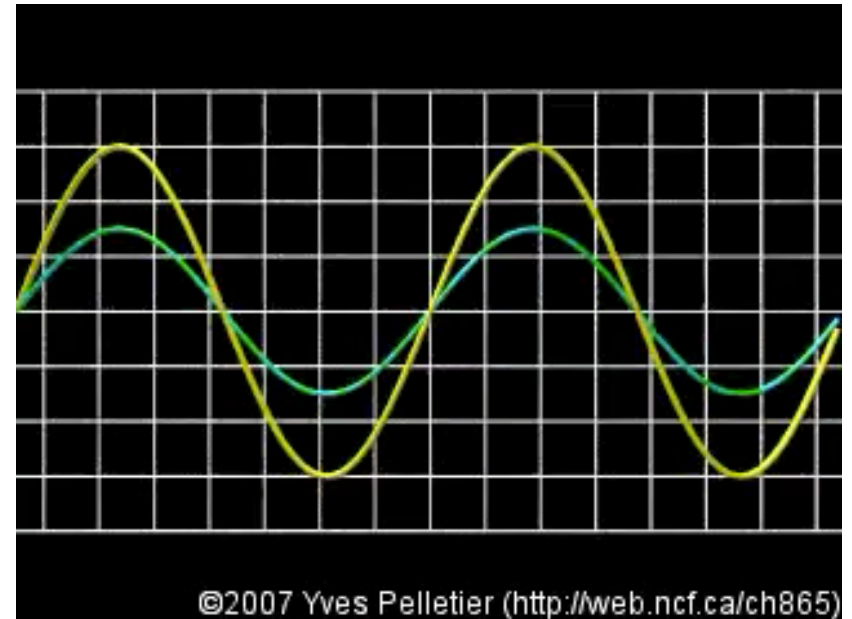
fill in lecture

## 2.1.4) Phenomena characteristic for waves

### Interference

Superposition principle: Waves taking different paths get added.

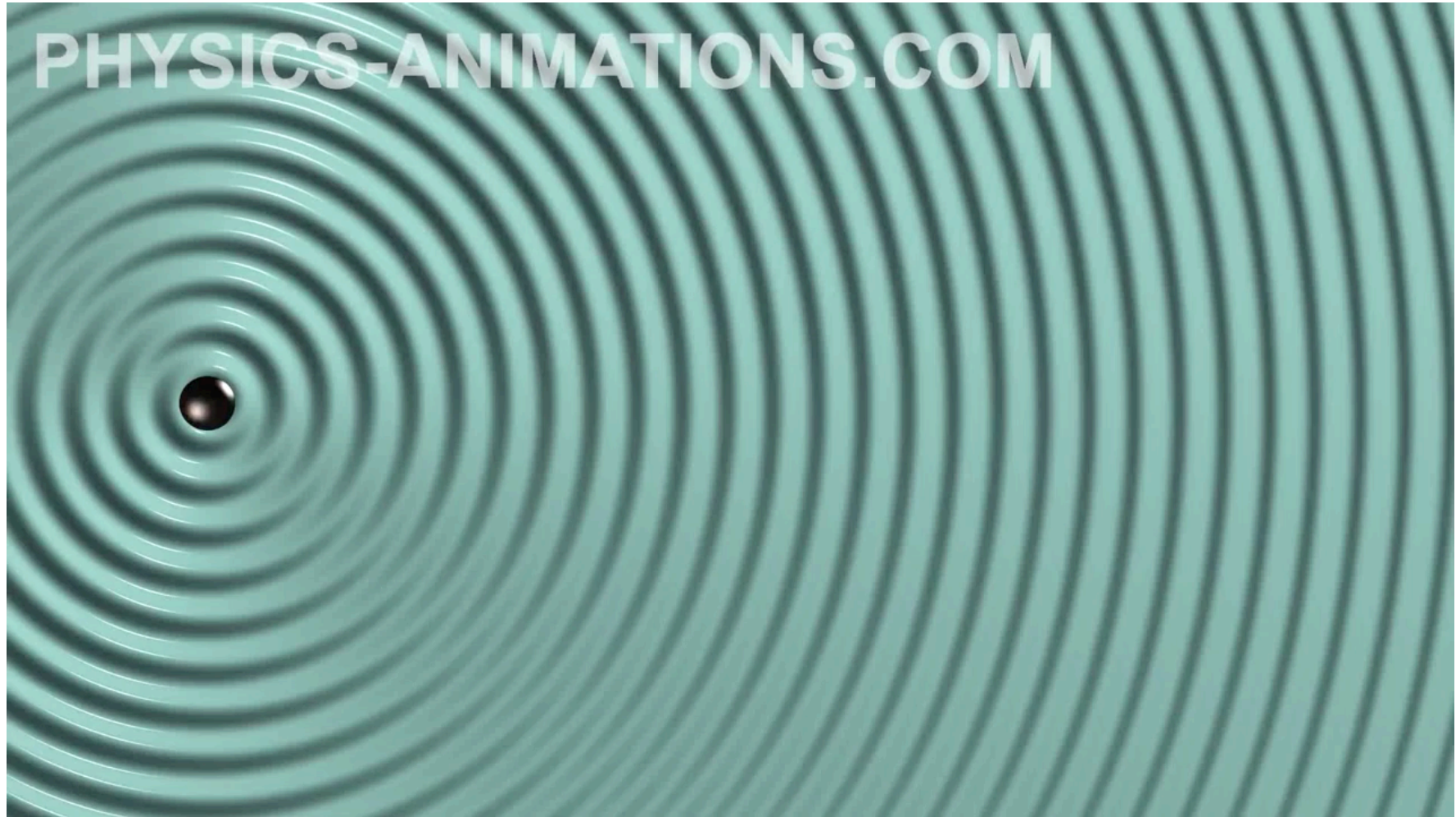
Standing wave: example where superimposed waves always cancel at anti-node:





# Interference

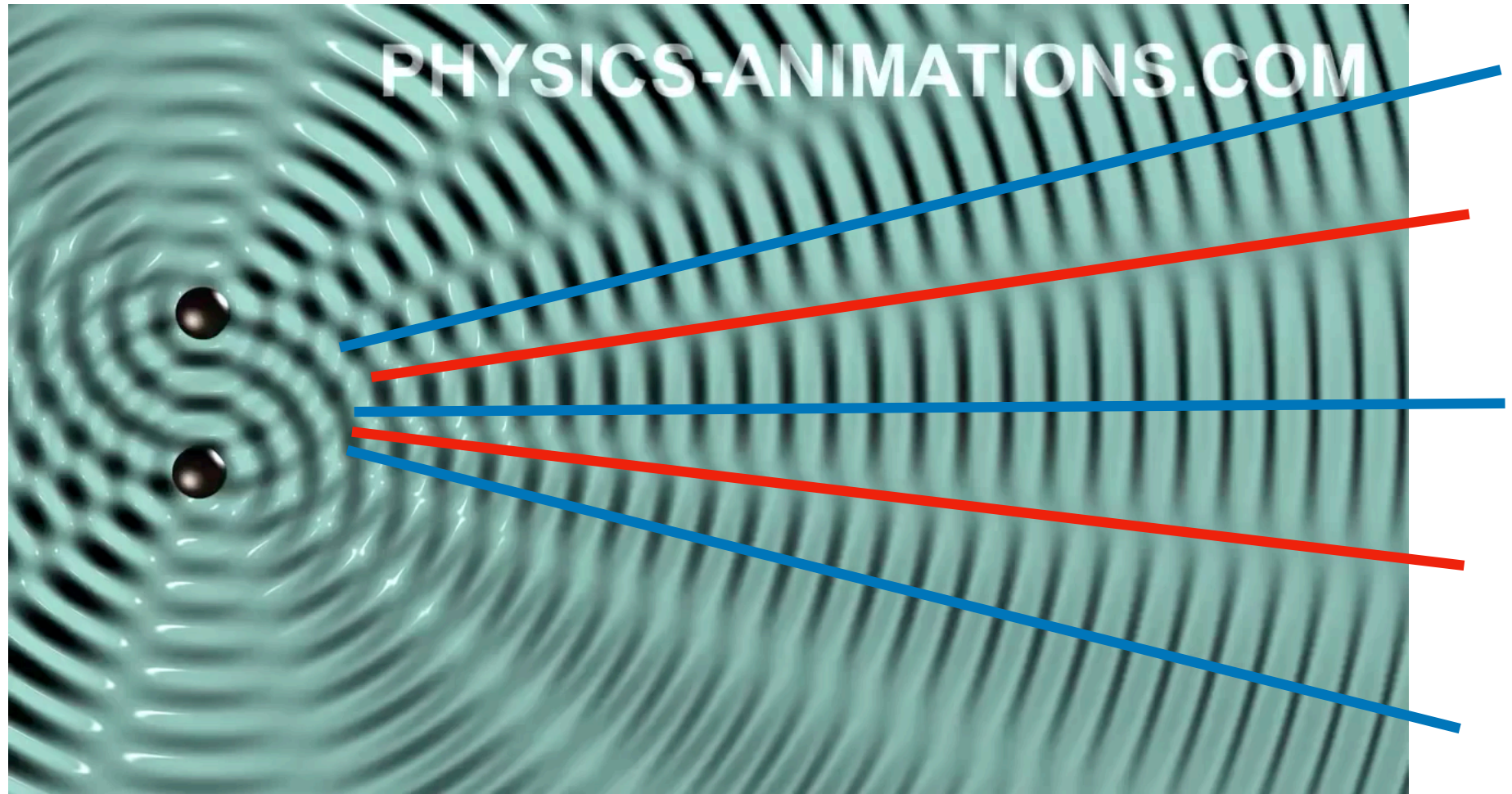
Usually (2D, 3D) more options:



Circular waves on a water surface

# Interference

Usually (2D, 3D) more options:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovZkFMuxZNc>

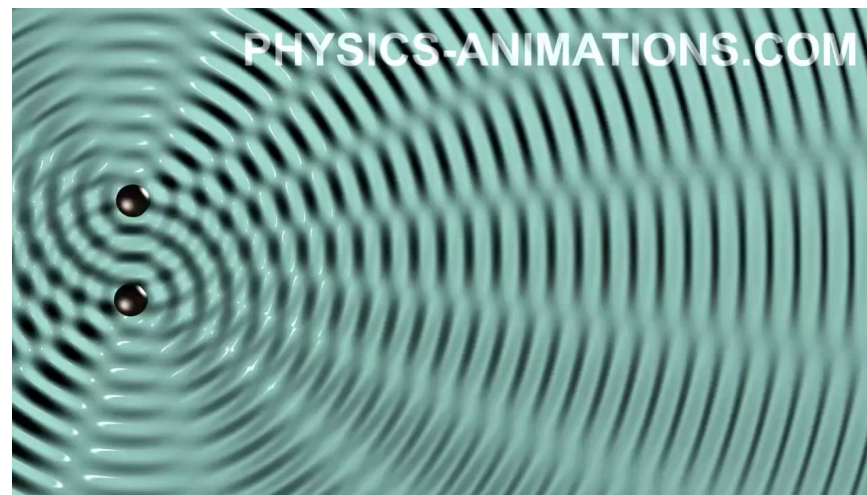
Two circular waves: — strengthen — cancel

# Interference

Waves can show **interference**

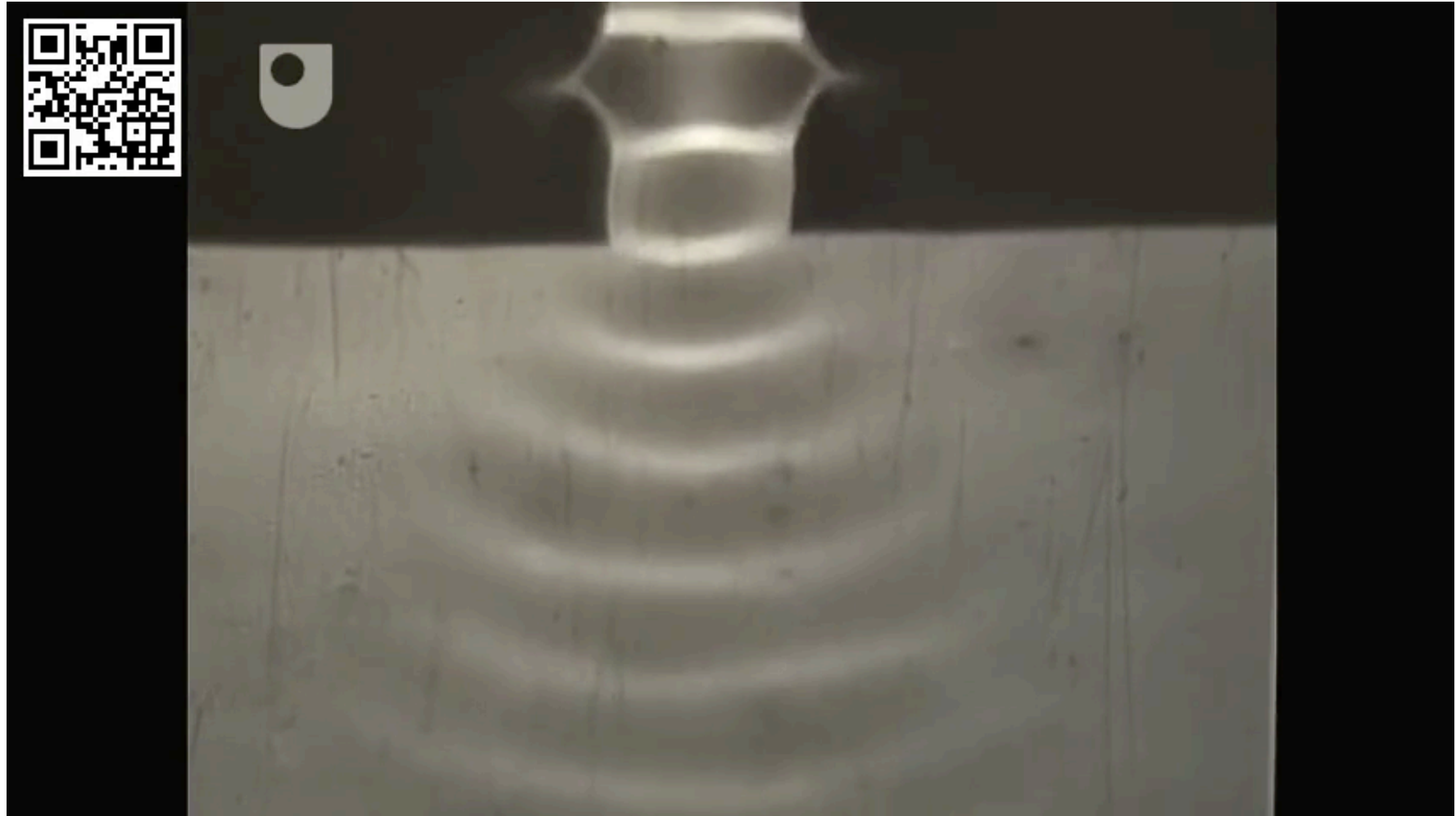
-strengthening in certain directions/ at certain times: **constructive** interference

-weakening in certain directions/ at certain times: **destructive** interference



# Diffraction

Waves can turn around corners:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH0NfVUTWG4>

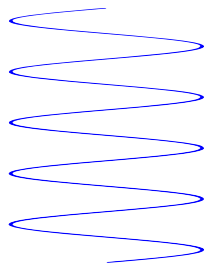
# Diffraction

Decompose wave into lots of spherical waves:



Could see this from 2D wave equation

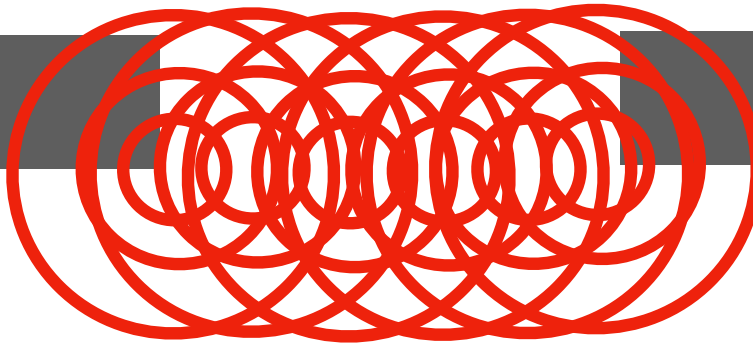
# Diffraction



equal phase fronts



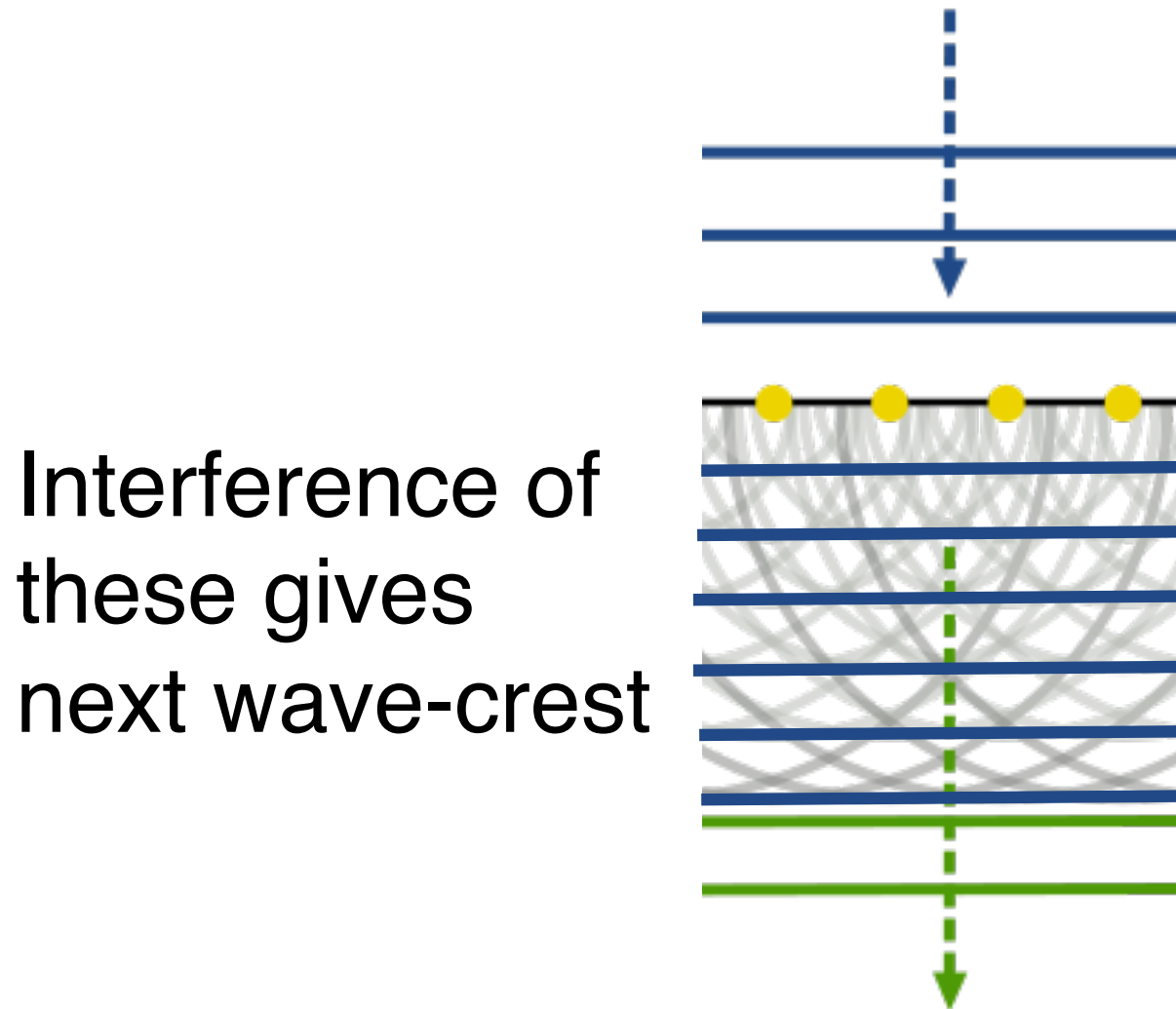
Slit **smaller** than wavelength: emits circular waves going in **ALL** directions



Slit **larger** than wavelength: waves destructively interfere if direction not almost forward (*tutorial, waves and optics course*)

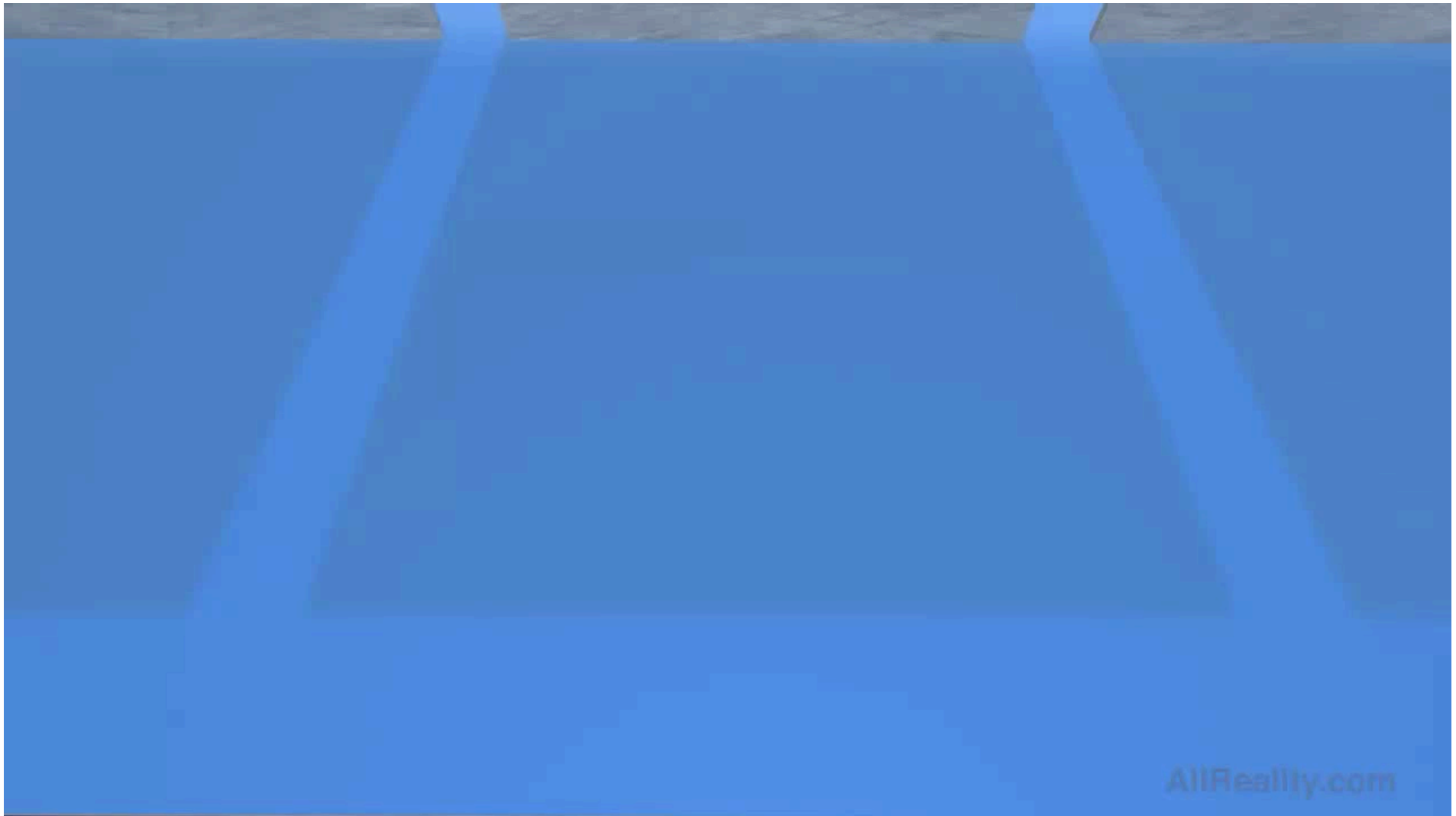
# Excursion: Huygens–Fresnel principle

Decompose wave into lots of spherical waves:



When plane wave is obstructed: diffraction

# Diffraction and Interference

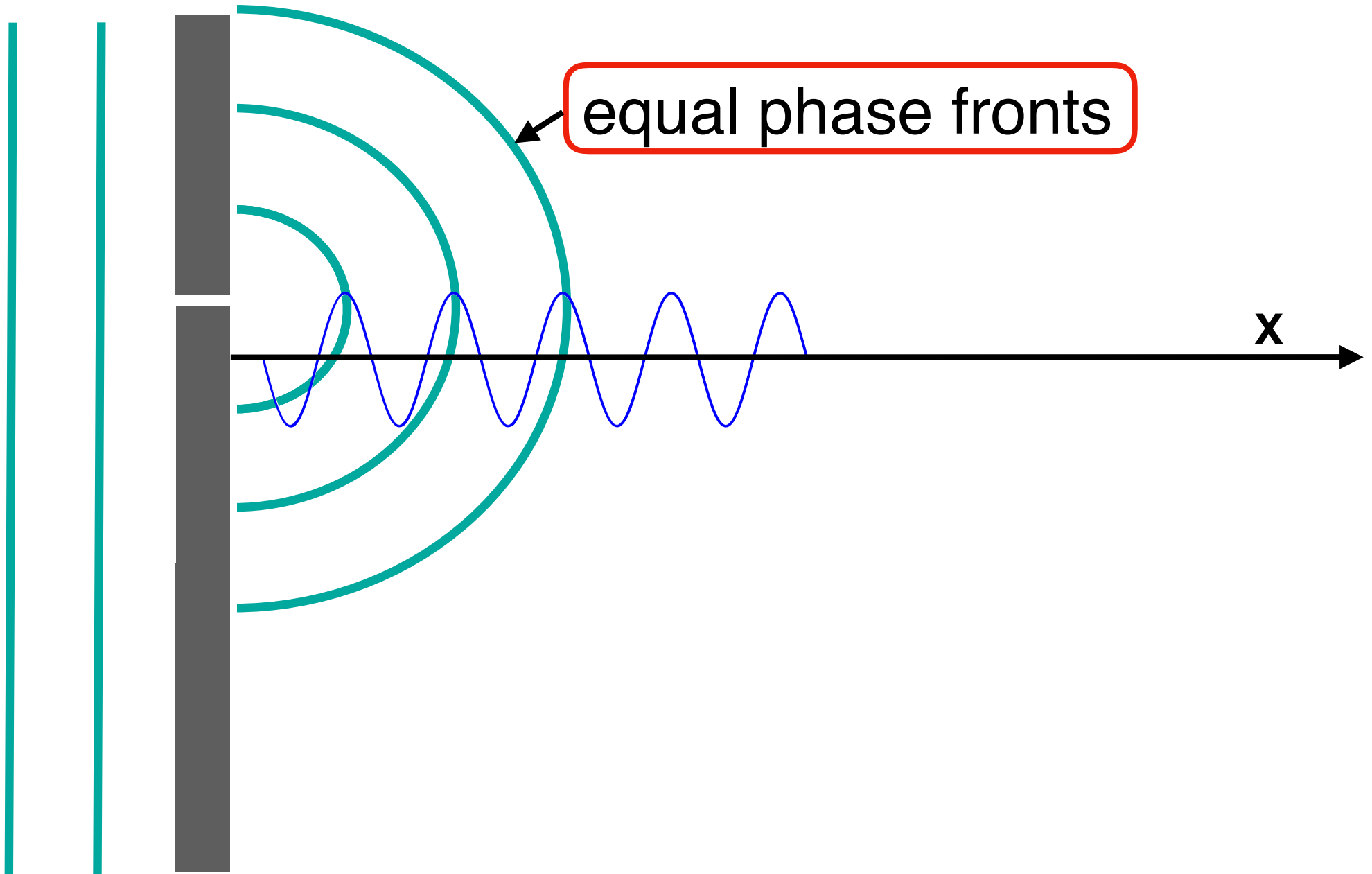


Double slit interference



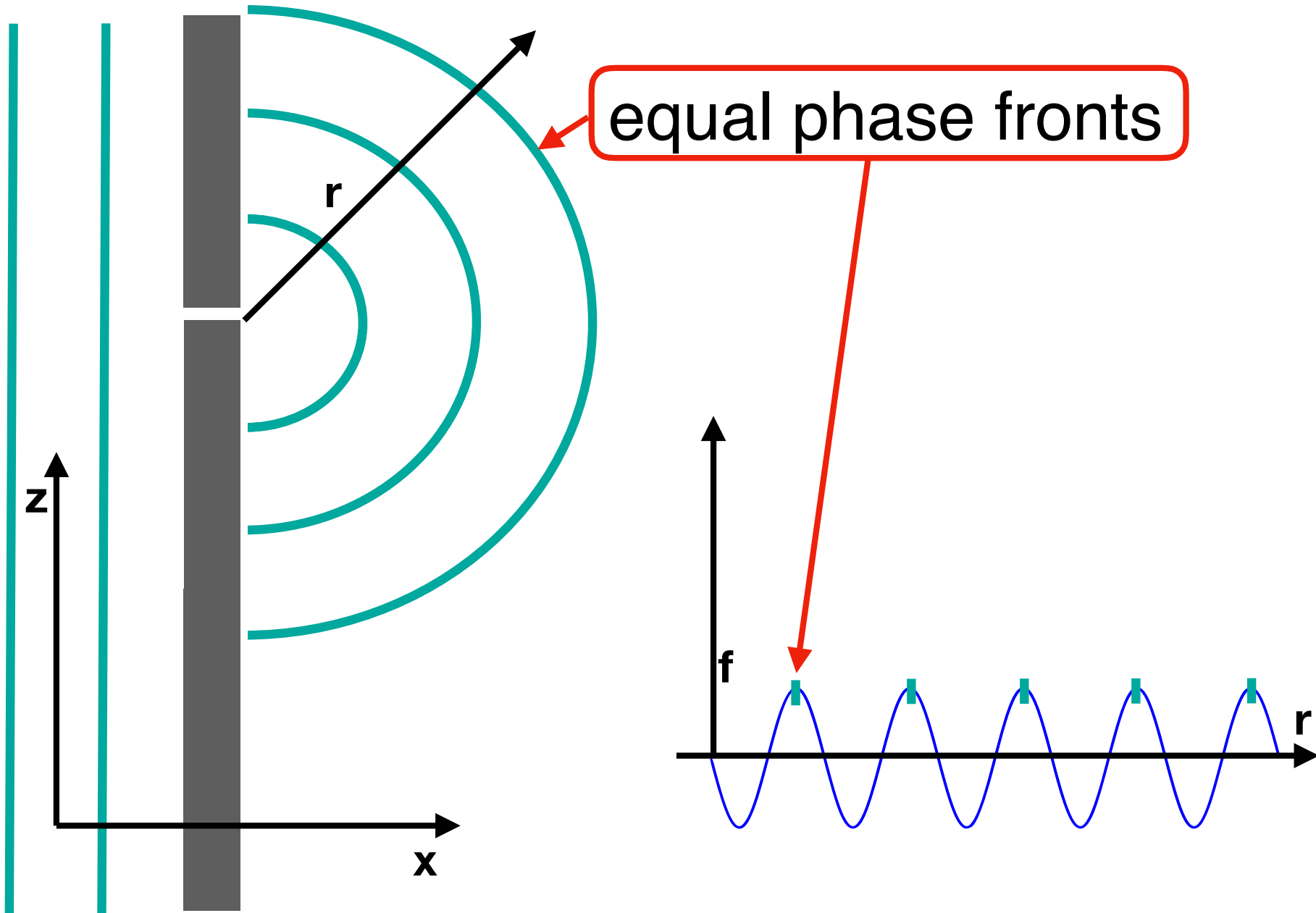
# Diffraction and Interference

## Double slit interference



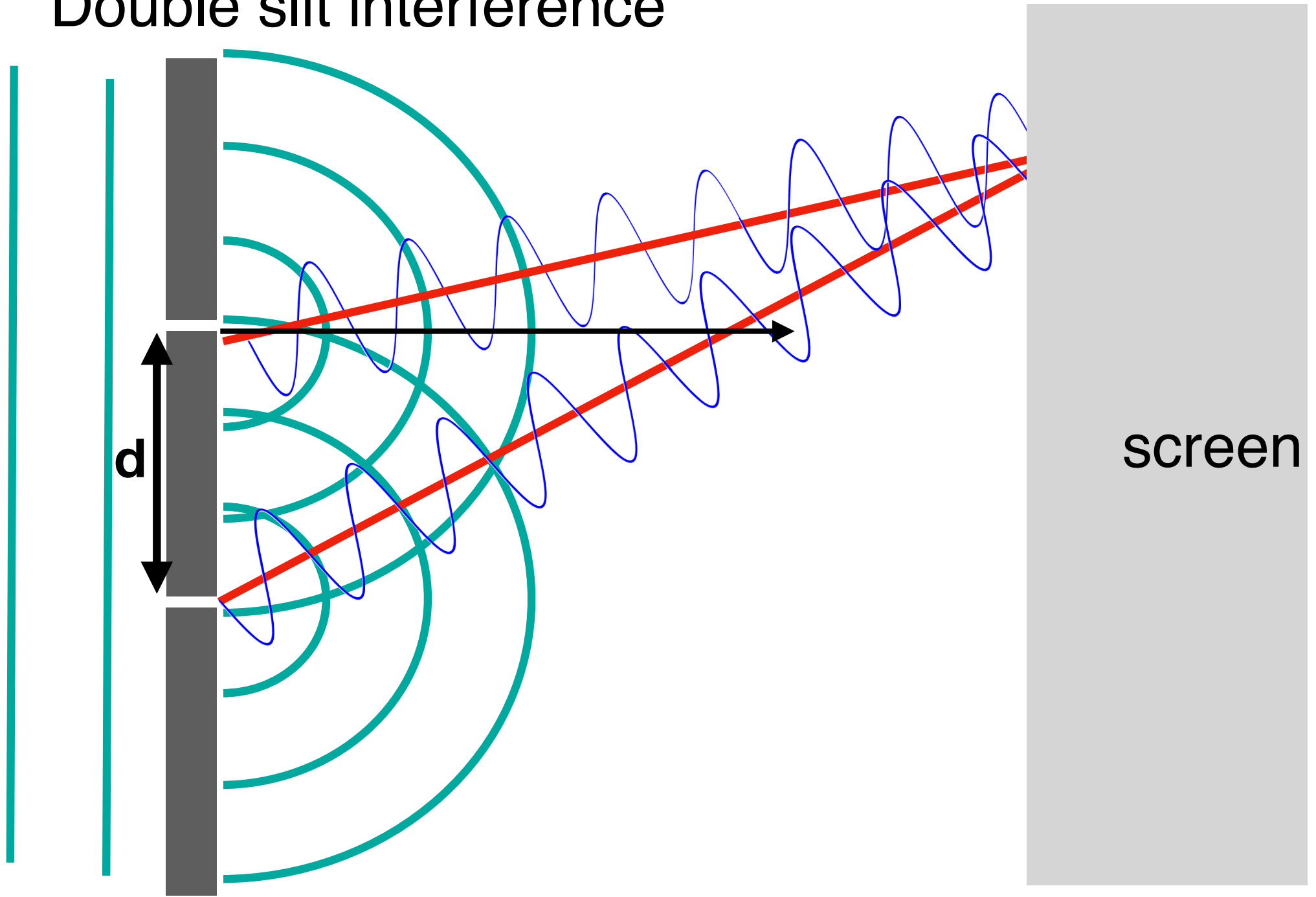
# Diffraction and Interference

More tidy picture



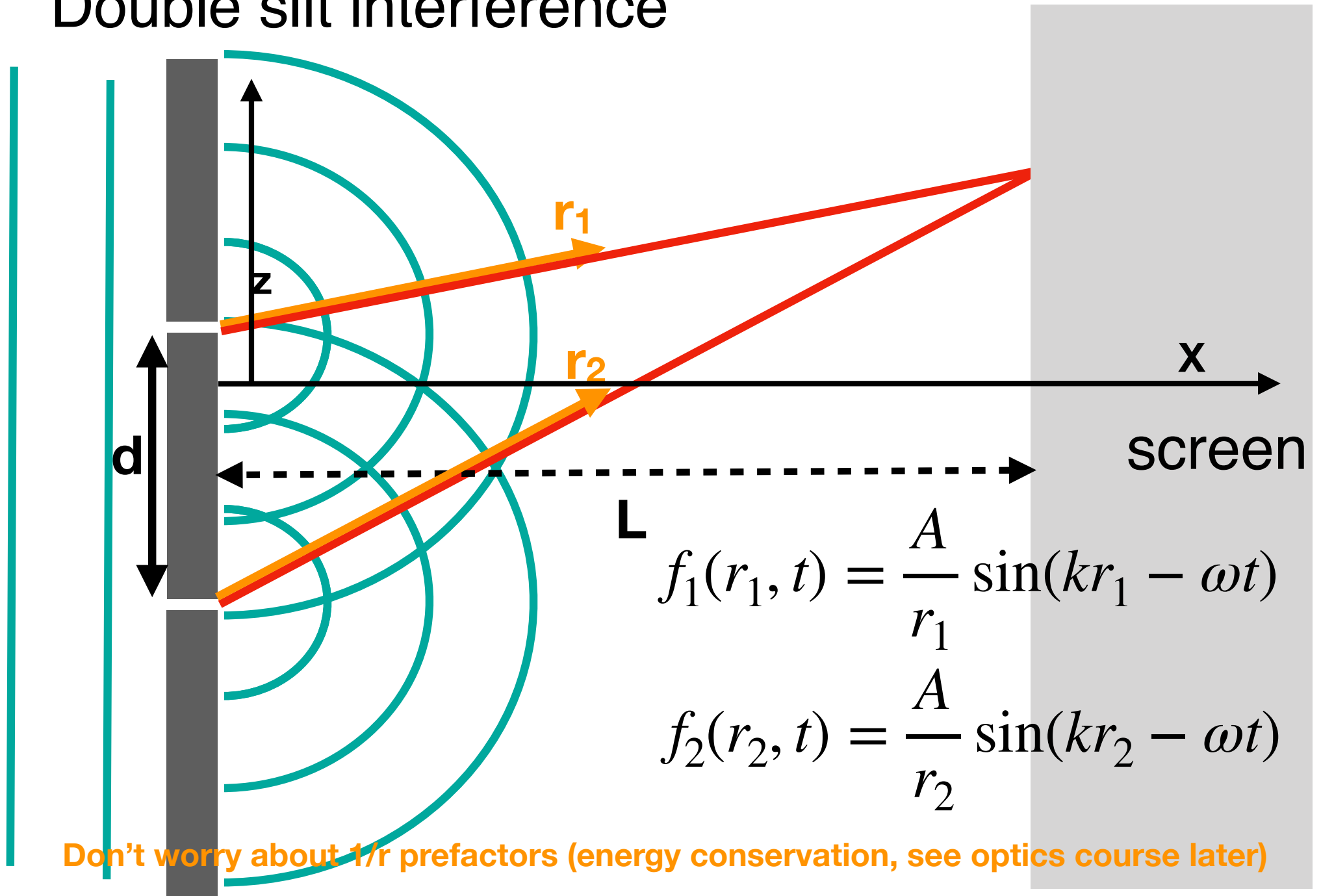
# Diffraction and Interference

## Double slit interference



# Diffraction and Interference

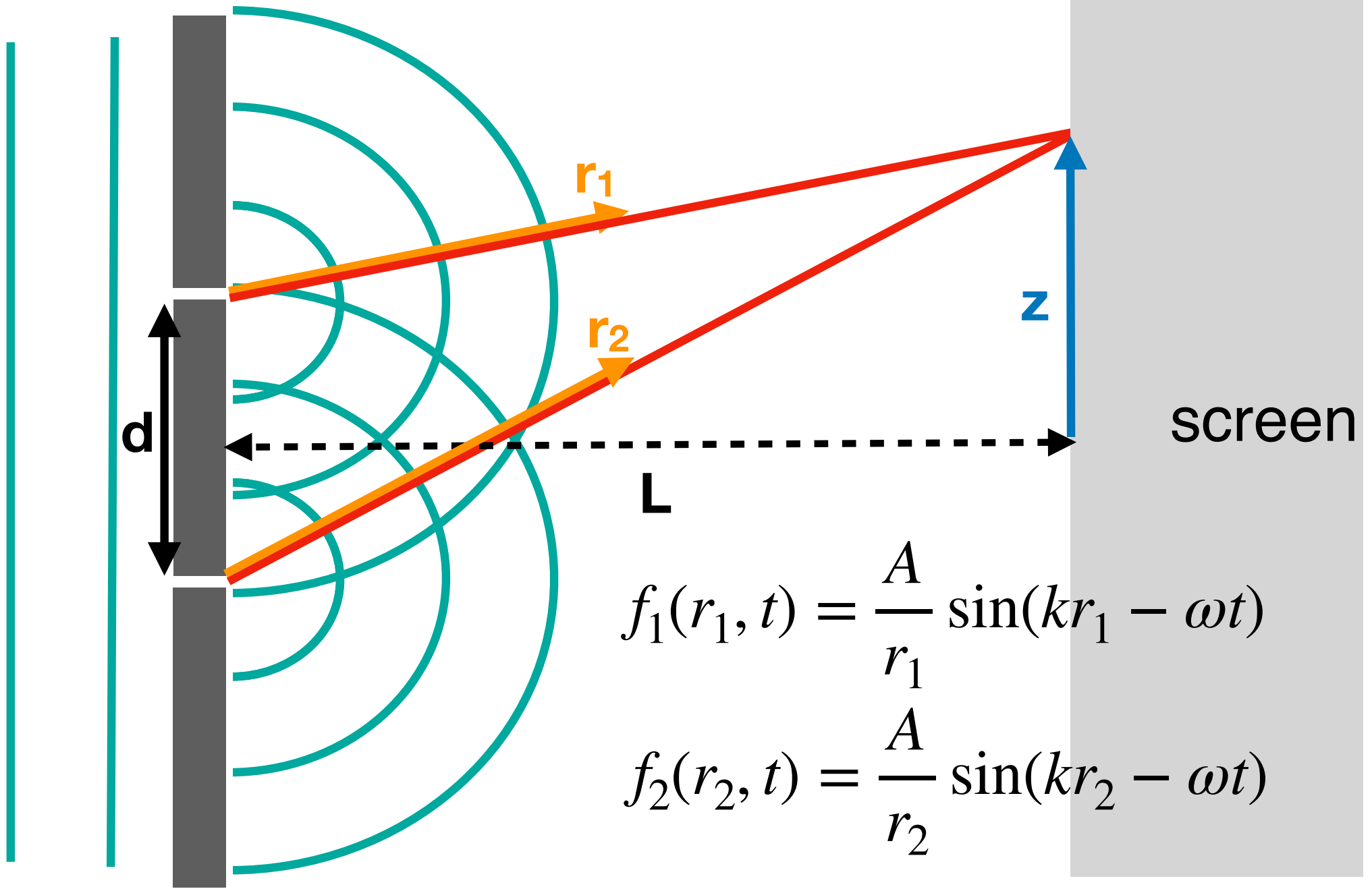
## Double slit interference



# Diffraction and Interference

Double slit interference

Fig. 2

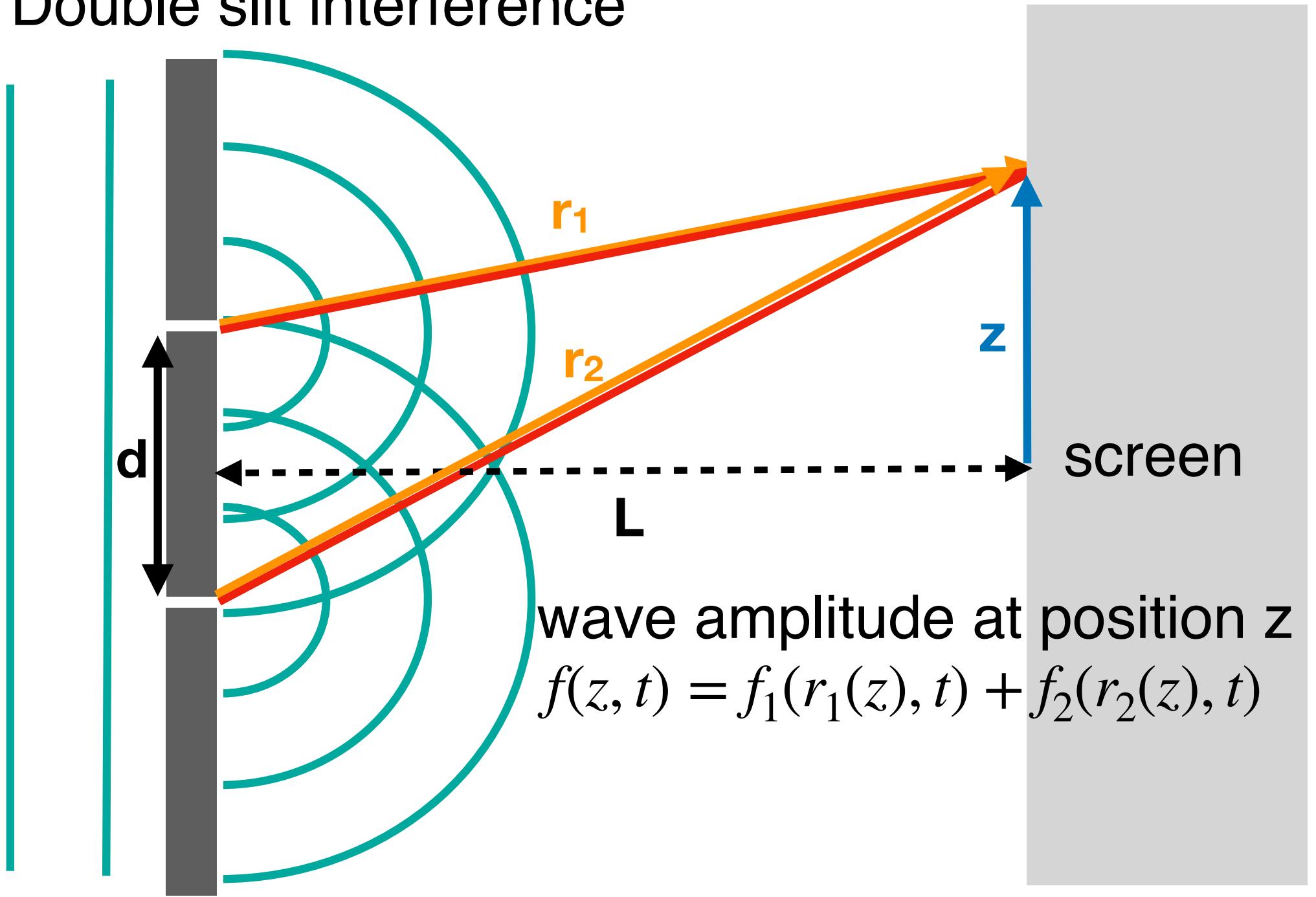


$$f_1(r_1, t) = \frac{A}{r_1} \sin(kr_1 - \omega t)$$

$$f_2(r_2, t) = \frac{A}{r_2} \sin(kr_2 - \omega t)$$

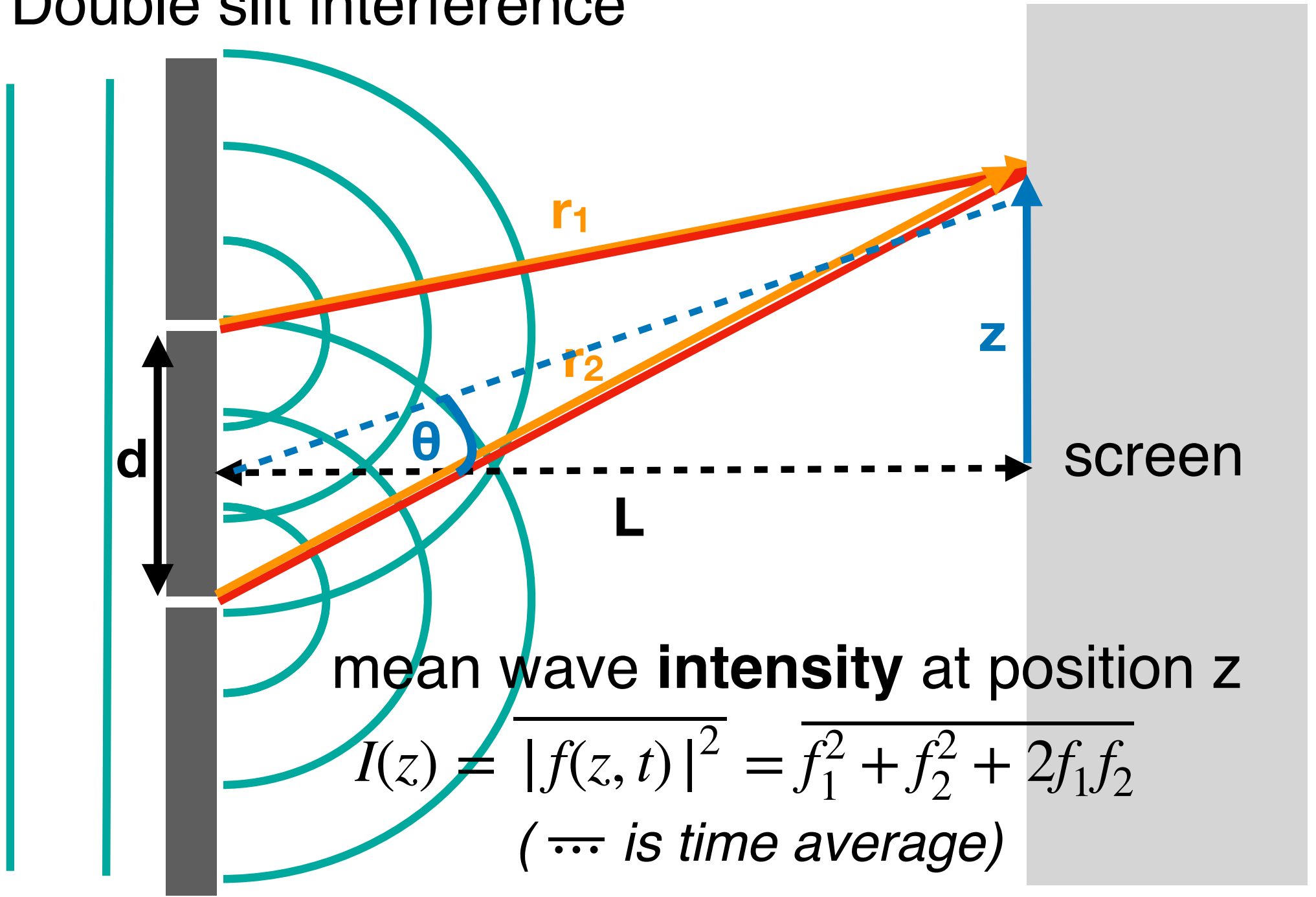
# Diffraction and Interference

## Double slit interference

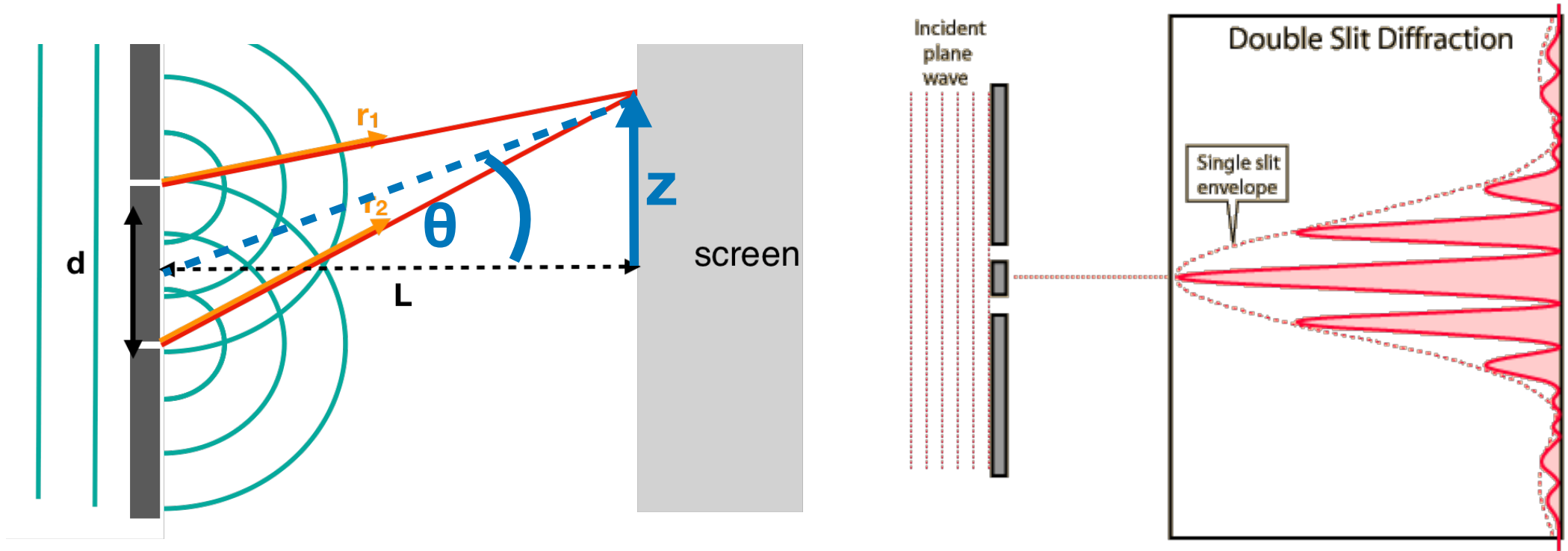


# Diffraction and Interference

## Double slit interference



# Diffraction and Interference

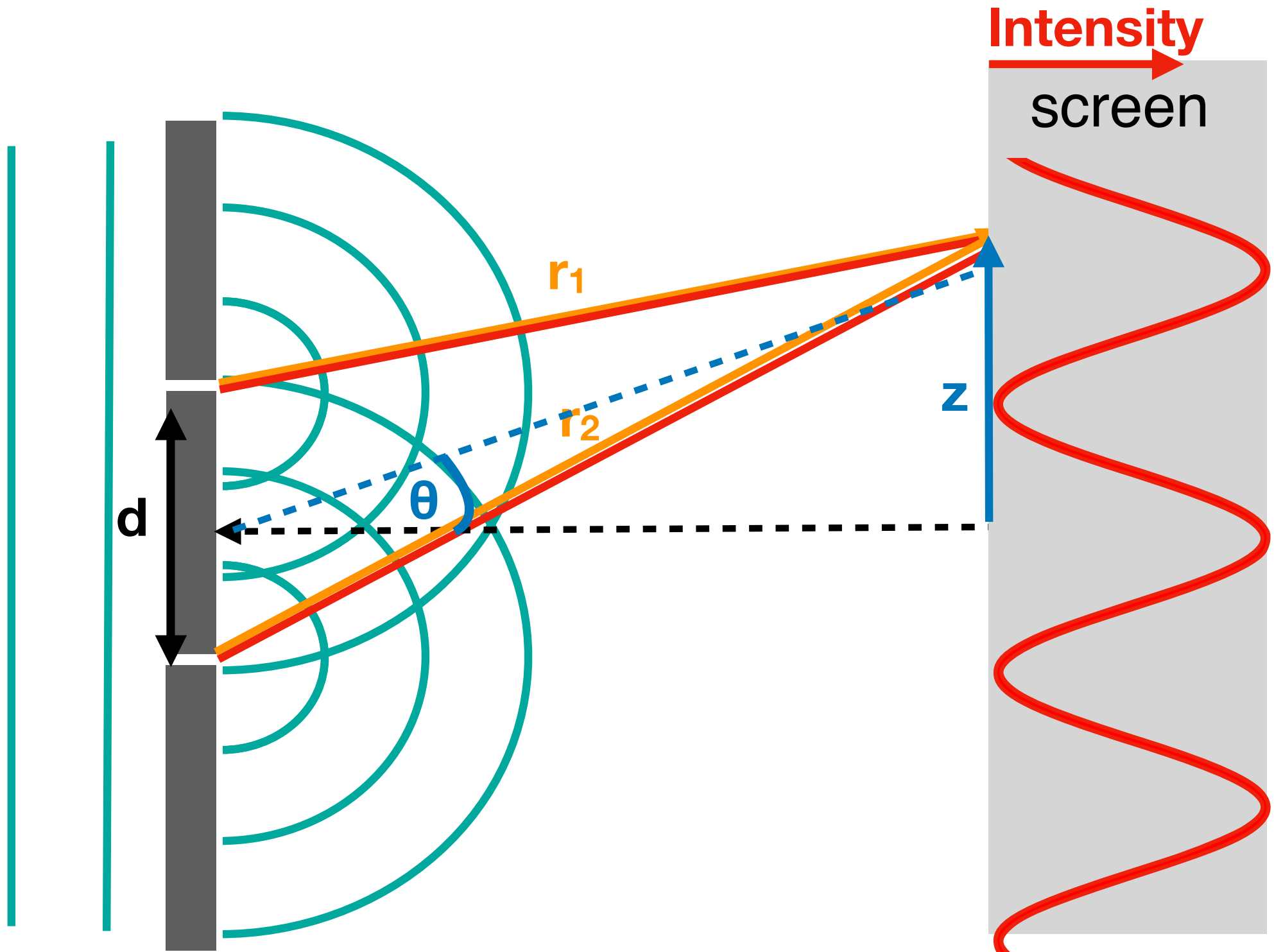


double slit interference pattern

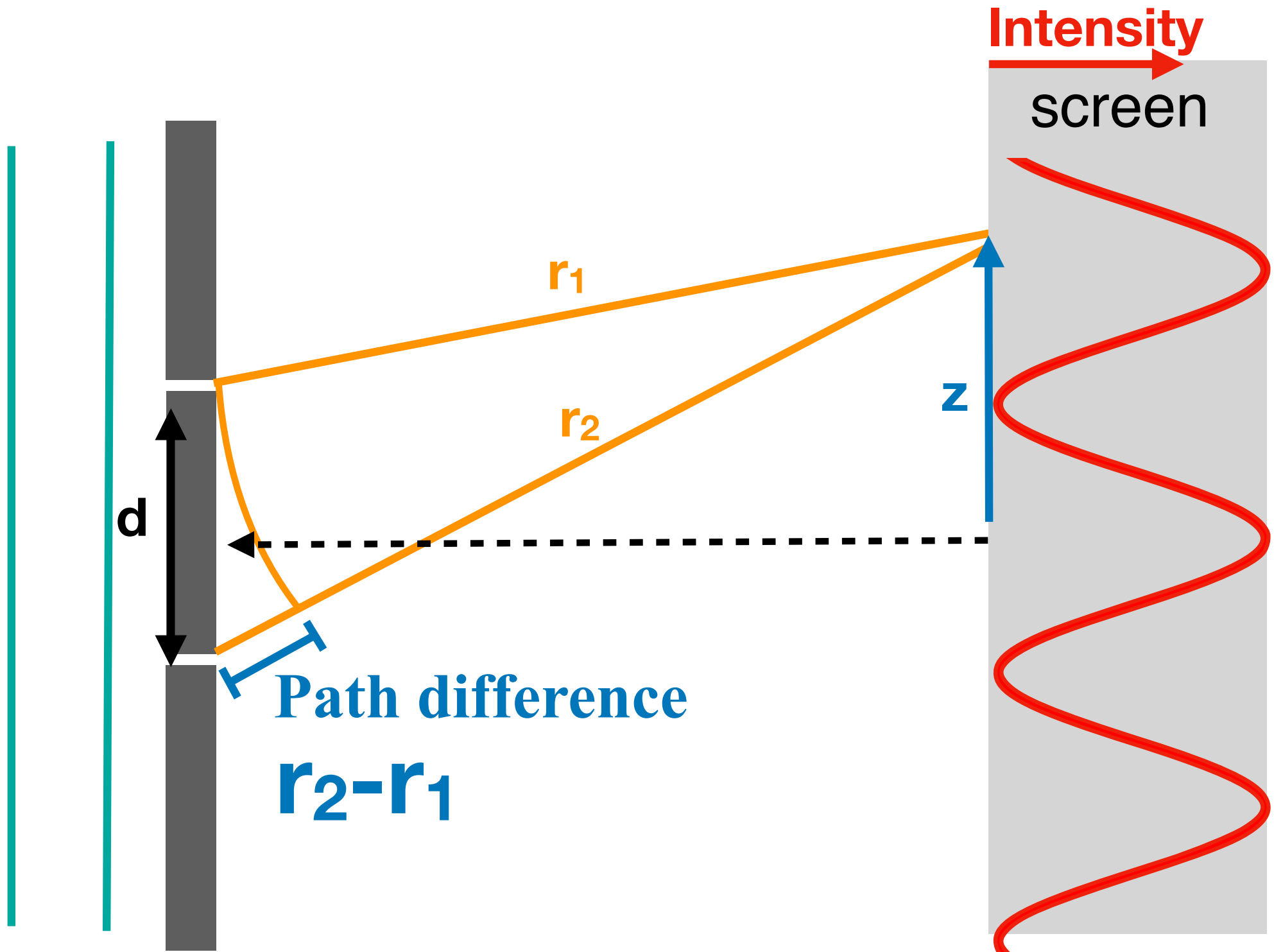
$$I(\theta) \approx I_0 \cos^2\left(\pi d \frac{\sin \theta}{\lambda}\right) \quad (17)$$



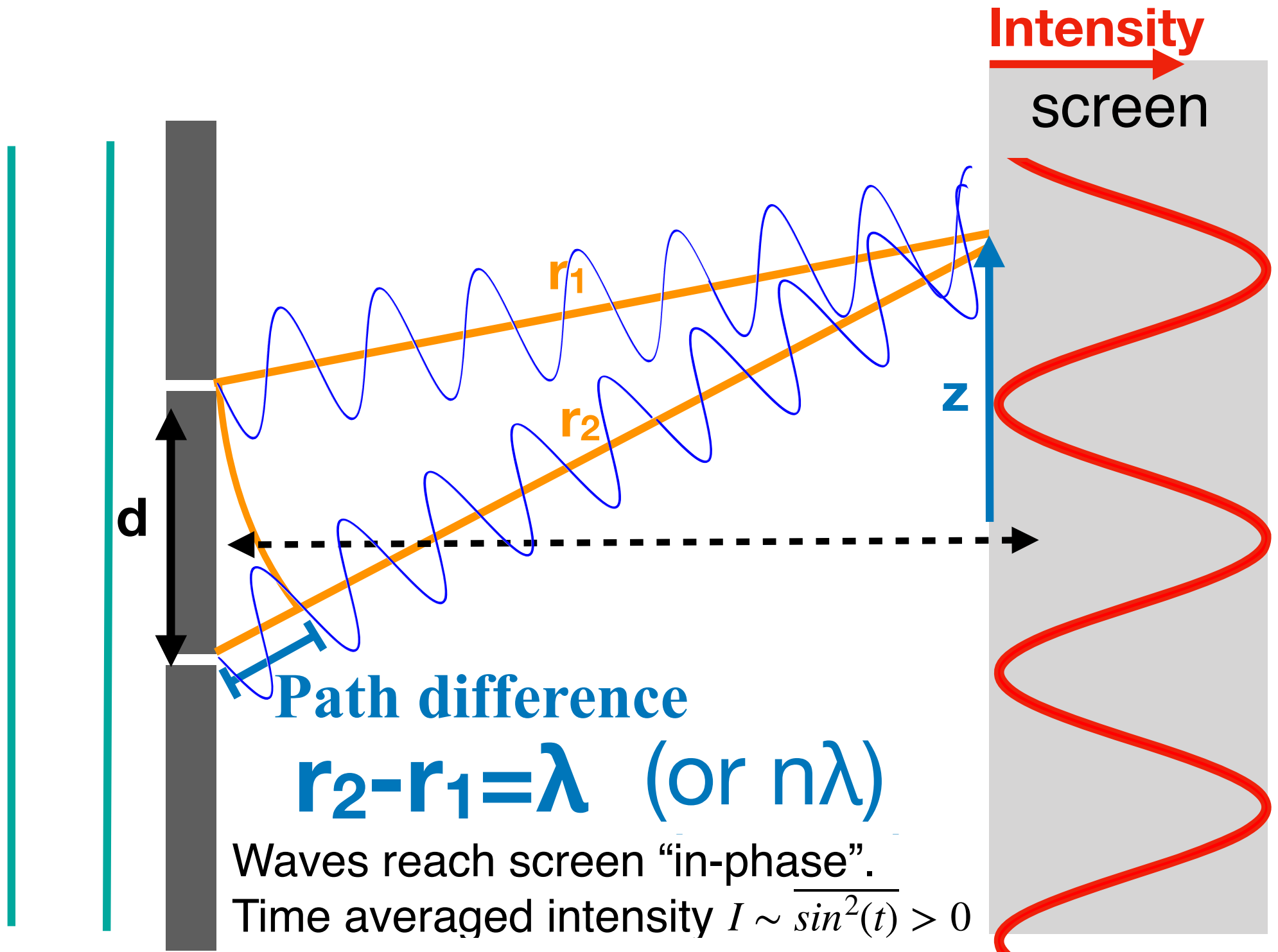
# Diffraction and Interference



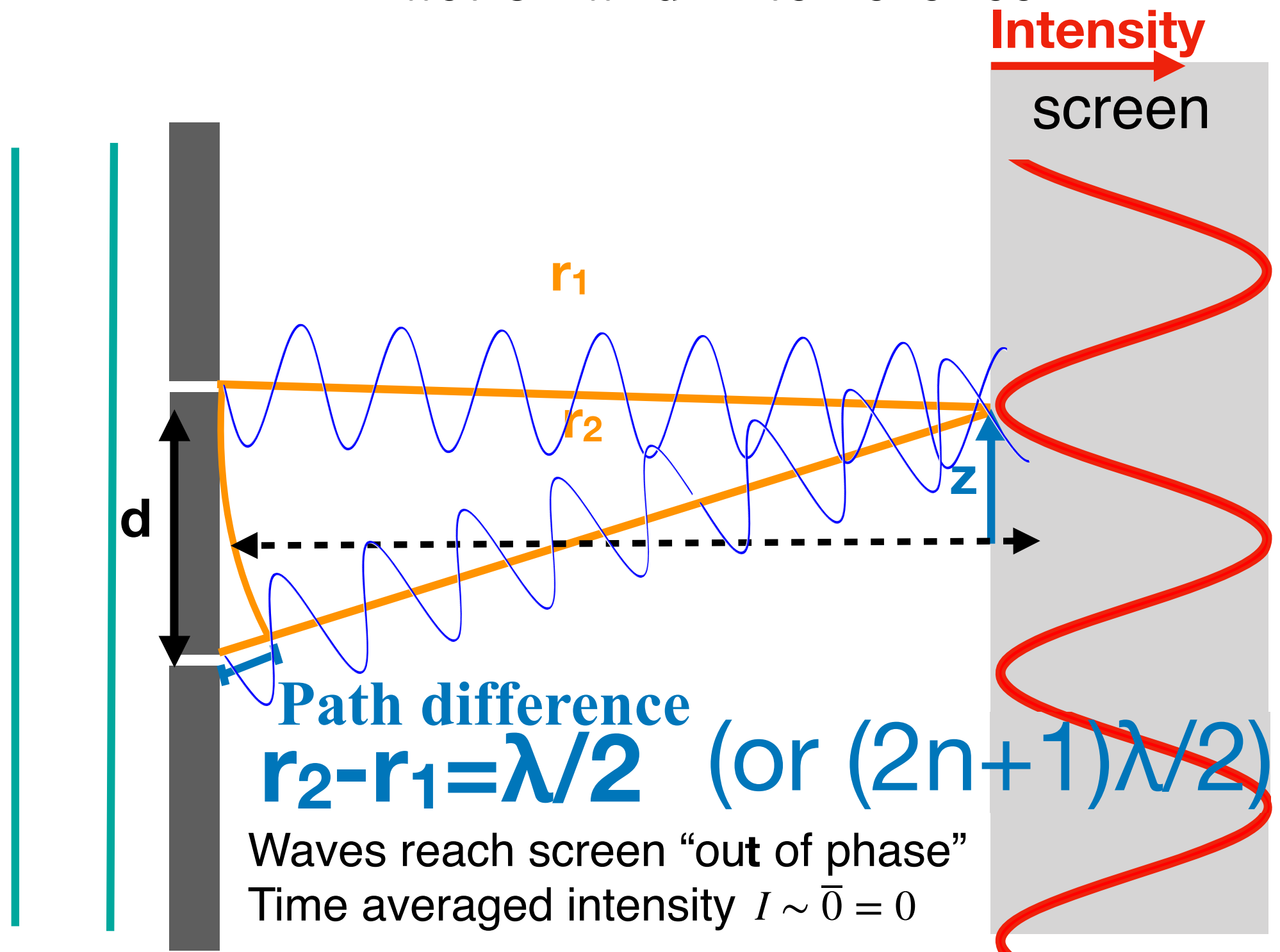
# Diffraction and Interference



# Diffraction and Interference



# Diffraction and Interference

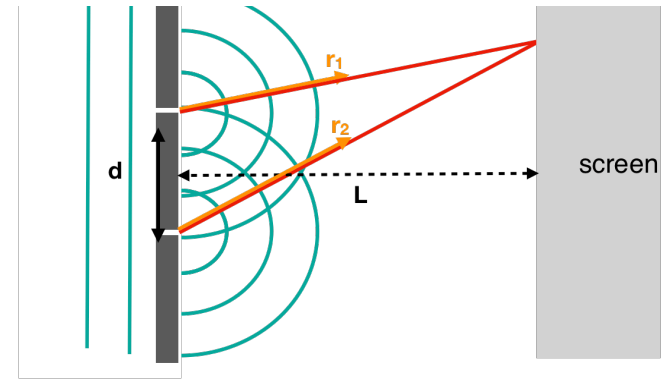


Path difference  
 $r_2 - r_1 = \lambda/2$  (or  $(2n+1)\lambda/2$ )

Waves reach screen "out of phase"  
Time averaged intensity  $I \sim \bar{0} = 0$

# Diffraction and Interference

## Summary for two-path / double -slot interference



- path difference integer multiple of wavelength

$$|r_2 - r_1| = n\lambda, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

⇒ constructive interference, same phase, waves add up.

**Bright fringe on screen**

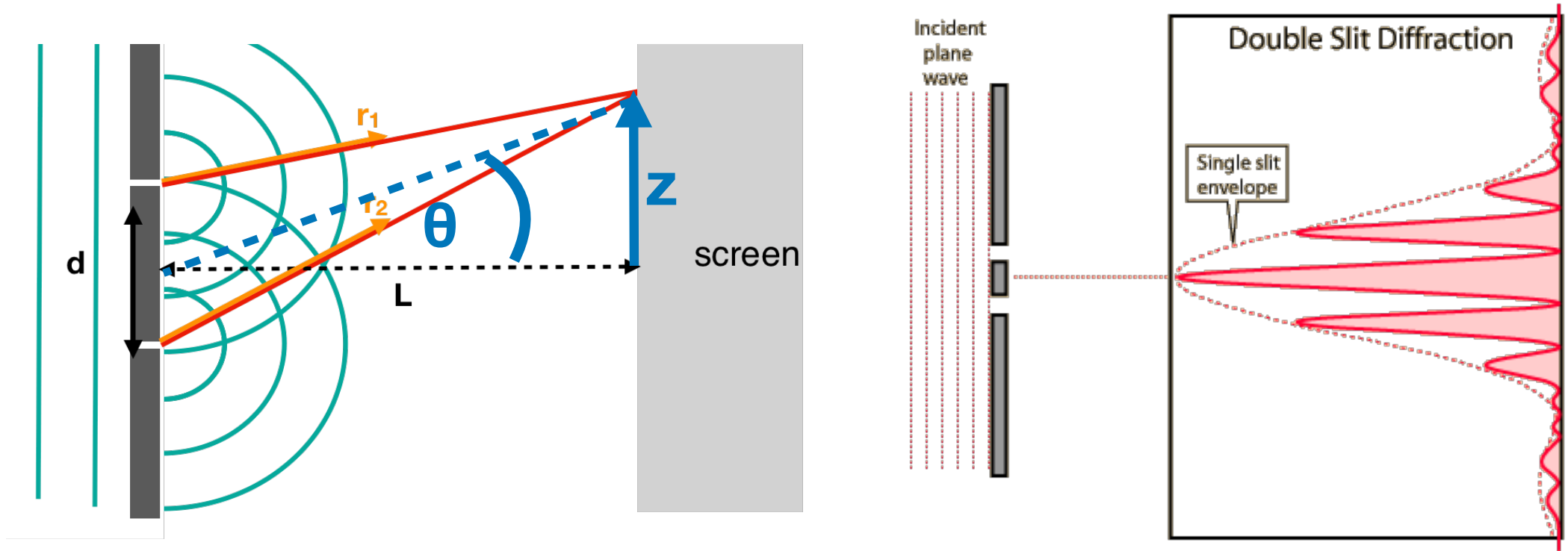
- path difference odd integer multiple of half wavelength

$$|r_2 - r_1| = (2n + 1)\frac{\lambda}{2}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

⇒ destructive interference, opposite phase, waves cancel.

**Dark on screen**

# Diffraction and Interference



double slit interference pattern

$$I(\theta) \approx I_0 \cos^2\left(\pi d \frac{\sin \theta}{\lambda}\right) \quad (17)$$

# Diffraction and Interference

## Examples:

fill in lecture

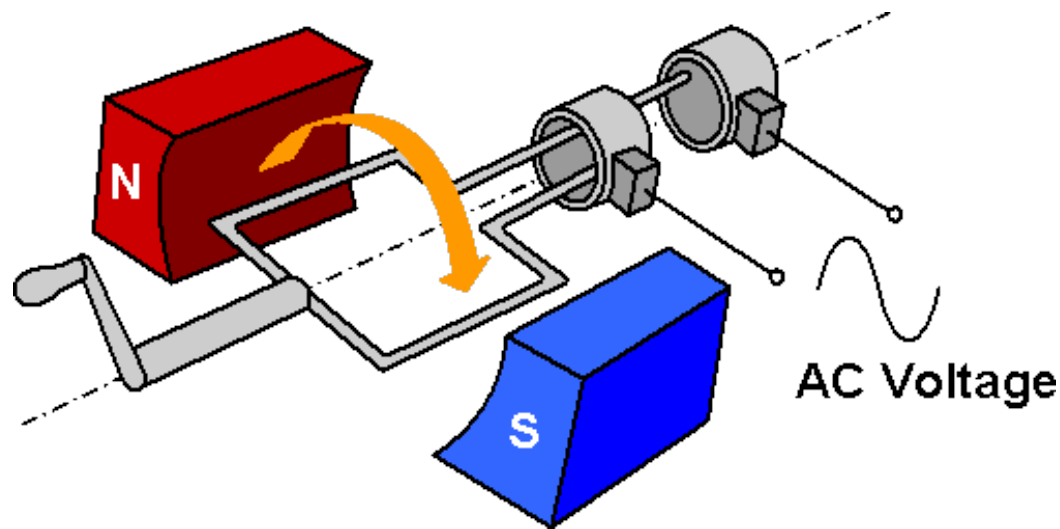
fill in lecture

fill in lecture

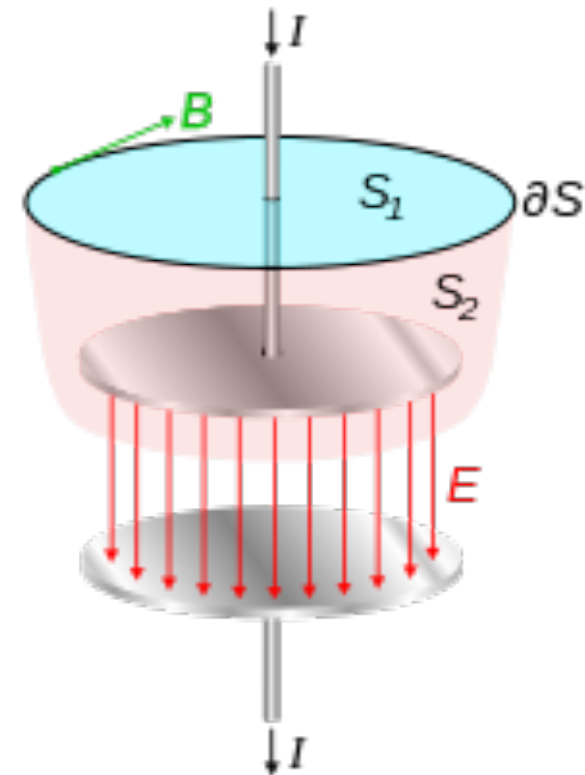
## 2.1.5) Electromagnetic waves

You will learn in Electro-magnetism lecture:

Changing **magnetic** field causes **electric** field (**induction**)

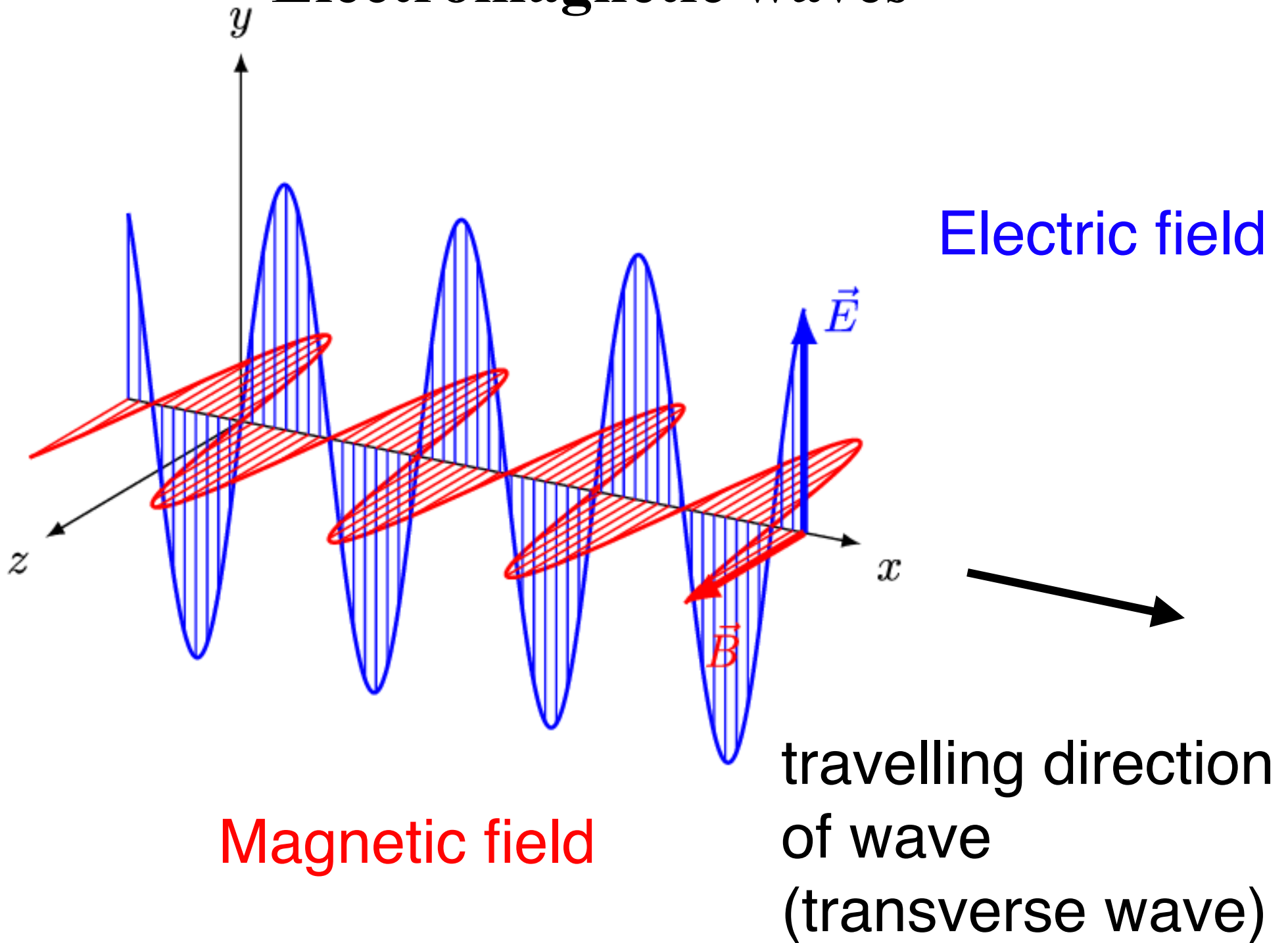


Changing **electric** field causes **magnetic** field

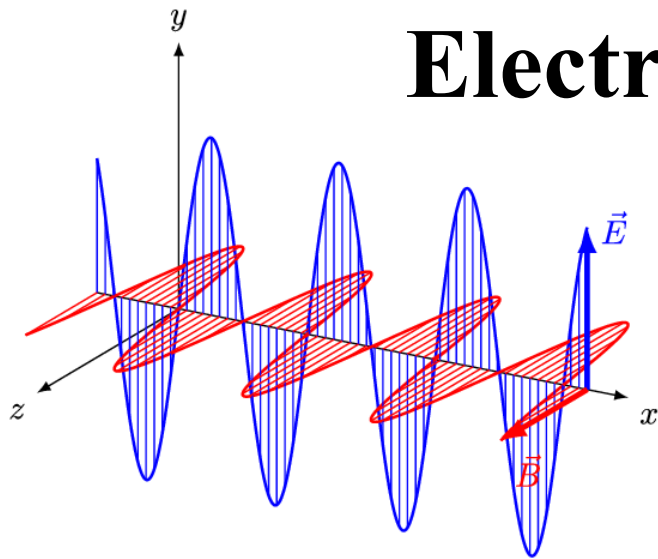




# Electromagnetic waves



# Electromagnetic waves



Electric field

Magnetic field

Electromagnetic wave equation:

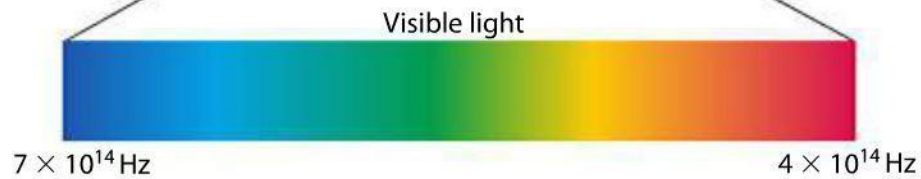
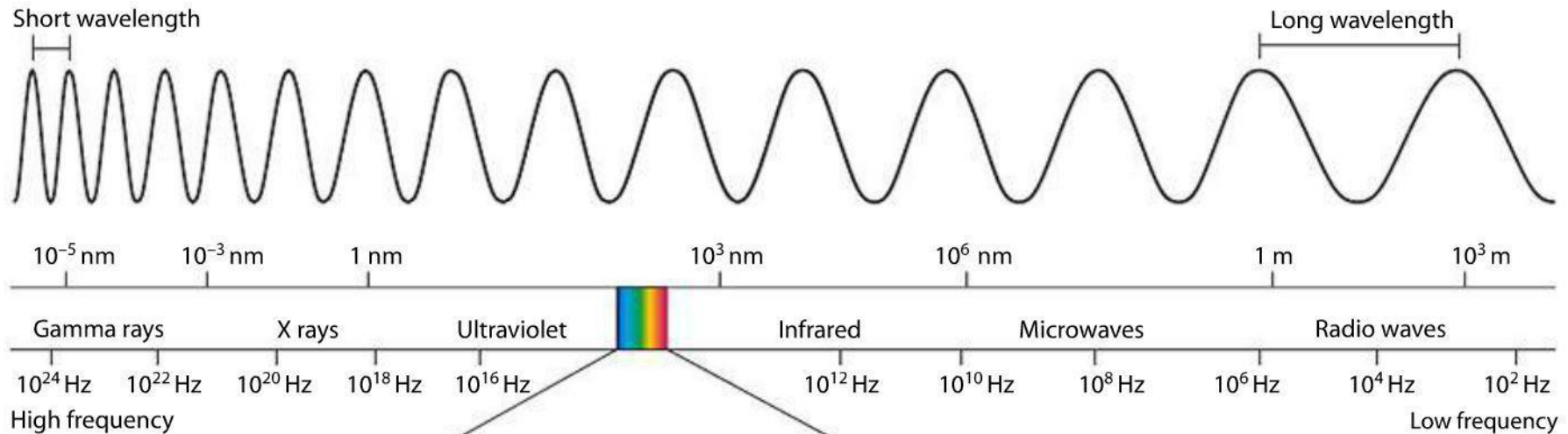
$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}, t) \quad (18)$$

Speed of light (vacuum)  $c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} \quad (19)$

$$c = 29\,979\,2458 \text{ m/s}$$

# Electromagnetic waves

$$\nu \lambda = c \quad (10)$$



Color	Wavelength
violet	380–450 nm
blue	450–495 nm
green	495–570 nm
yellow	570–590 nm
orange	590–620 nm
red	620–750 nm

# Electromagnetic waves

Energy density in a (classical) electromagnetic wave:

$$\rho_E = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0\mathbf{E}^2 + \frac{1}{2\mu_0}\mathbf{B}^2 \quad (19b)$$

Can have **any** value, more energy = stronger electric and magnetic fields.