

The 3-D wave equation is $\nabla^2 f(x, y, z, t) = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 f(x, y, z, t)}{\partial t^2}$

One particular “traveling wave” solution to this is often written

$$\tilde{f}_1(x, y, z, t) = \tilde{A} e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}, \quad \text{where } \tilde{A} = A e^{i\delta}.$$

This wave travels in the \mathbf{k} direction (do you see why?)

This wave has wavelength $\lambda = 2\pi/|\mathbf{k}|$ (do you see why?)

This wave has period $2\pi/\omega$ (do you see why?)

This wave has speed $v = \omega/|\mathbf{k}|$ (do you see why?)

What is the real form of this wave?

A) $A \cos(kx - \omega t)$

B) $A \cos(kx - \omega t + \delta)$

C) $A \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)$

D) $A \cos(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t + \delta)$

E) More than one of these/other/???

A wave is moving in the +z direction:

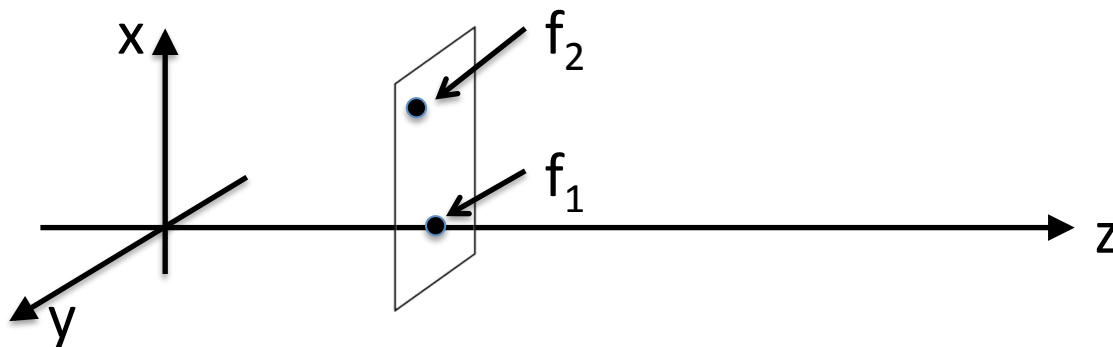
$$f(x, y, z, t) = \text{Re}[A e^{i(kz - \omega t + \delta)}]$$

The value of f at the point $(0,0,z_0, t)$ and the point at (x, y, z_0, t) are related how?

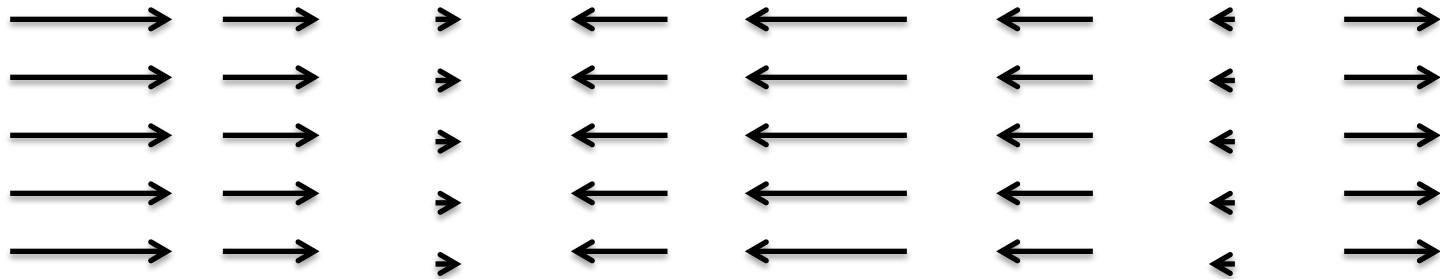
$$f_1 = f(0,0,z_0, t) \text{ vs. } f_2 = f(x, y, z_0, t)$$

A) $f_1 = f_2$ always

B) $f_1 >$ or $<$ or $= f_2$ depending on the value of x, y



Here is a snapshot in time of a longitudinal wave:



The divergence of this field is:

A) Zero

B) Non-zero

C) Impossible to tell without further information