

Lecture 13.

Lecture objectives.

- To recognise and understand that the wave equation for classical dispersionless waves is

$$\frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial t^2}$$

- To appreciate that its general solution is $A(x, t) = f(vt \pm x)$ where v is the *phase velocity*.
- To understand that small-amplitude waves on strings satisfy this wave equation, with a phase velocity of;
- To be familiar with the wave equation derivation for waves on a string.

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\rho}}$$

Post-lecture tasks.

- Complete the following past paper question:

A transverse wave on a string with linear density $r = 0.1 \text{ kg m}^{-1}$ is given by;

$$y = (0.03 \text{ m}) \sin [(32 \text{ s}^{-1}) t - (7.5 \text{ m}^{-1}) z]$$

where m and s indicate the units of the numerical quantities.

For this wave calculate or state:

- the frequency
- the wavelength
- the phase velocity
- the largest transverse speed reached by each point on the string
- the tension of the string T
- the wave direction.