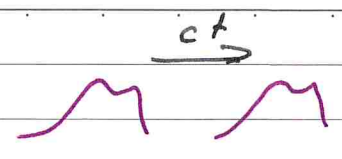


IA Waves

- For a travelling wave, $c = f\lambda$
- For a wave travelling to the right, its displacement at time t can be found by looking backwards by ct .



- ↳ thus the wave function has the form $\psi = f(x-ct)$
- Any function of this form will satisfy the wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2}$$

↳ linear in ψ so principle of superposition applies.
i.e waves that meet don't interact.

↳ likewise, a disturbance can be split into +ve and -ve components
 $\psi = f(x-ct) + g(x+ct)$

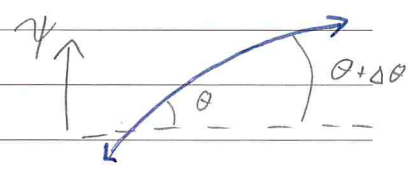
e.g waves on a stretched string

- Consider a segment Δx with tension T and density ρ .

↳ $F_y = T \sin(\theta + \Delta\theta) - T \sin\theta = T \Delta\theta$

↳ by NII: $T \Delta\theta = \rho \Delta x \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2}$

↳ with $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \sim \theta$, $\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = \frac{T}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2}$



∴ wave motion with $c = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\rho}}$

- Both $A \cos(kx - \omega t)$ and $B \sin(kx - \omega t)$ are solutions:

$\psi = \exp\{i(kx - \omega t)\}$ is also a solution

$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ is the wavenumber, and $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$ is the angular frequency.

- $c \neq$ particle speed, which is given by $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}$

• The KE / unit length for a string is $\frac{1}{2} \rho \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}\right)^2$

• The PE / unit length is $\frac{1}{2} T \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}\right)^2$

∴ total energy density is $\frac{1}{2} \rho \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2} T \left(\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}\right)^2$.

From this we can calculate the time-avg energy density as

$$\frac{1}{2} \rho A^2 \omega^2$$

↳ $\therefore \Delta E = \frac{1}{2} \rho A^2 \omega^2 \Delta x$. But $\Delta x = c \Delta t$:

$$\therefore P = \frac{1}{2} \rho A^2 \omega^2 c$$

In more dimensions, the wavenumber becomes a **wavevector**:

$$\Psi(\underline{r}, t) = \text{Re} \left\{ A e^{i(\omega t - \underline{k} \cdot \underline{r})} \right\}$$

where $\underline{k} = (k_x, k_y, k_z)$.

$$\hookrightarrow \omega^2 = c^2 k^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \nabla^2 \Psi$$

Standing waves

Two sinusoidal waves travelling in opposite directions ^{will} ~~may~~ interfere to produce a **standing wave**:

$$\Psi(x, t) = A [\cos(\omega t - kx) + \cos(\omega t + kx)] = 2A \cos kx \cos \omega t$$

↳ each point oscillates but there is no overall transfer of energy

↳ all osc has the same freq and phase, but different amplitude

↳ there will be **nodes** and **antinodes**

The exact wave will depend on boundary conditions, e.g because fixed ends reflect with a phase change of π .

- e.g for a string of length L fixed on both ends

$$\Psi(0, t) = \Psi(L, t) = 0, \text{ with general } \Psi(x, t) = (A \cos kx + B \sin kx) \cos \omega t.$$

$$\Rightarrow A = 0 \text{ or } k = \frac{n\pi}{L}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3.$$

↳ i.e boundary conditions lead to quantised wavenumbers

$\therefore f = \frac{cn}{2L} \leftarrow n=1$ gives the **fundamental frequency**,

$n > 1$ gives **harmonics**

In pipes, we must distinguish between particle displacement ψ and atmospheric pressure, $\propto \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$.

$\hookrightarrow \psi(x,t) = (A \cos kx + B \sin kx) \cos \omega t$ as before, but the B.C.s are now in terms of $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$.

\hookrightarrow for an open end, $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = 0$, i.e. pressure node (but ψ antinode).

\hookrightarrow if one end is closed: $k = \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2L} \Rightarrow f = \frac{c(2n-1)}{4L}$

In 2D, we will also have a separated solution:

$$\psi(x,y,t) = X(x)Y(y) \cos \omega t$$

with. $X(x) = A_x \cos(k_x x) + B_x \sin(k_x x)$

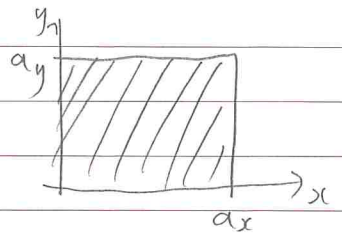
$$Y(y) = A_y \cos(k_y y) + B_y \sin(k_y y)$$

On a rectangular drumskin, this has the solution:

$$k_x = \frac{n\pi}{a_x}, \quad k_y = \frac{m\pi}{a_y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\omega^2}{c^2} = k_x^2 + k_y^2 = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a_x^2} + \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{a_y^2}$$

and $\psi(x,y,t) = B \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{a_y}\right) \cos \omega t$.



This is easily extended to 3D. In a box:

$$\frac{\omega^2}{c^2} = k_x^2 + k_y^2 + k_z^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x,y,z,t) \propto \sin k_x x \sin k_y y \sin k_z z \cos \omega t$$

Optics

• **Huygens' Principle**: every point on a primary wavefront behaves as a source of secondary wavelets.

- at a boundary, the first wavefront arrives and propagates

- at a later time, the next wavefront arrives

- connecting the cusps gives a reflected wave with $\theta_i = \theta_r$



• The **Law of Refraction** is: $\frac{\sin \theta_1}{\sin \theta_2} = \frac{v_1}{v_2}$

↳ using the definition of the refractive index, we derive **Snell's law**

$$n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$$

↳ if $n_1 > n_2$, there will be some values of θ_1 that make $\sin \theta_2 > 1$. Not possible, so there cannot be refraction.

Total internal reflection instead.

• An object in a denser medium viewed from a less dense one will appear shorter

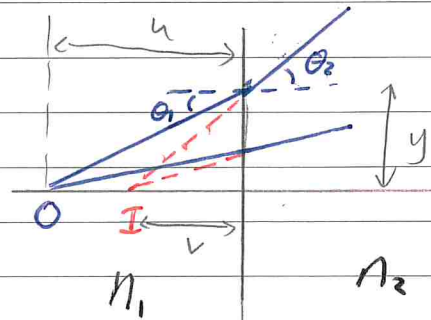
- O is a distance u from the interface with $n_2 < n_1$

- using a small angle approximation:

$$\sin \theta_1 \approx \tan \theta_1 = \frac{y}{u} \quad \tan \theta_2 = \frac{y}{v}$$

$$\therefore \text{and } \theta_1 / \theta_2 \approx n_2 / n_1$$

$$\Rightarrow v = u \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$

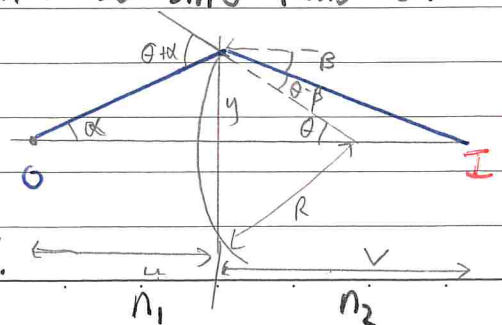


• To analyse spherical interfaces, we must make the **paraxial approximation**, i.e. rays are almost horizontal so $\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta \approx \theta$.

$$n_1 \sin(\theta + \alpha) = n_2 \sin(\theta - \beta) \Rightarrow n_1(\theta + \alpha) = n_2(\theta - \beta)$$

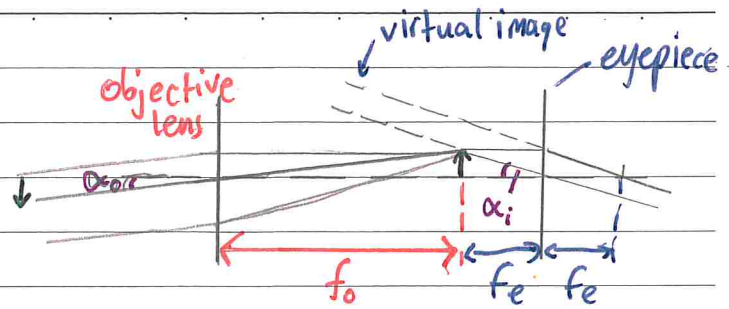
$$\therefore n_1 \frac{y}{R} + n_1 \frac{y}{u} = n_2 \frac{y}{R} - n_2 \frac{y}{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n_1}{u} + \frac{n_2}{v} = \frac{n_2 - n_1}{R} \quad \leftarrow \text{independent of } \alpha, \text{ all paraxial rays focused.}$$



Astronomical telescopes

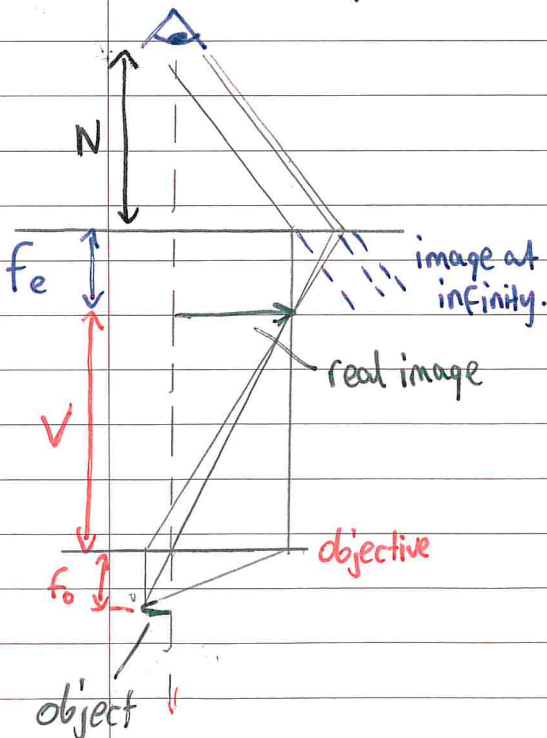
- For astronomical objects, $u \approx \infty$ so beams are near-parallel.
- The **objective lens** brings them to a focus at f_o , forming an inverted real image.



- If this happens to be located at the focal length of the eyepiece f_e , it will form a virtual image at infinity.
- Thus the telescope needs to be constructed such that the distance between lenses is the sum of their focal lengths.
- The magnification is then: $|M| = \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_o} = \frac{f_o}{f_e}$

↳ hence old telescopes are very long to maximise f_o .

Compound light microscope



- The object is placed close to the focal length to produce a large real image

$$M_o = \frac{v}{u} \approx \frac{v}{f_o}$$

- This image is at the focal length of the eyepiece so produces // rays and a virtual image at infinity.

↳ distance from eye to eyepiece is the **nearpoint distance** $N \sim 25\text{cm}$

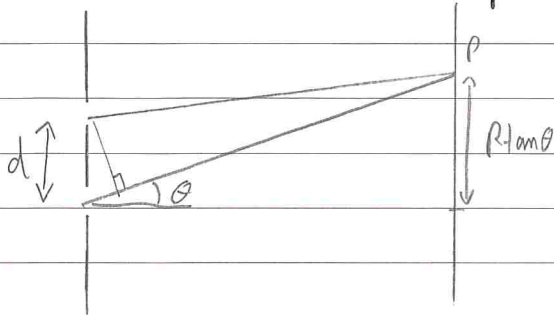
$$M_e = - \frac{N}{f_e}$$

- Combined:

$$M = M_o M_e = - \frac{v}{f_o} \frac{N}{f_e} \quad (\text{upright}).$$

Interference & Diffraction

- Consider the interference pattern from twin slits on a distant screen.



$$r_2 = r_1 + d \sin \theta$$

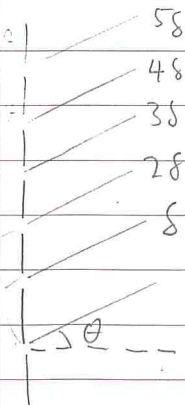
$$\Rightarrow \psi_p = A \cos(\omega t - kr_1) + A \cos(\omega t - kr_2) \\ = 2A \cos(\omega t - kr + \frac{kd \sin \theta}{2}) \cos(\frac{kd \sin \theta}{2})$$

- We can average out the time variation so that:

$$I_p \propto \psi_p^2 \propto \cos^2\left(\frac{kd \sin \theta}{2}\right)$$

- Thus there are maxima when $d \sin \theta = n \lambda$, i.e. constructive interference because integer number of wavelengths.

- To analyse many slits, it is better to use **phasors**.



each wave is at a constant phase difference to the previous one, $\delta = kd \sin \theta$.

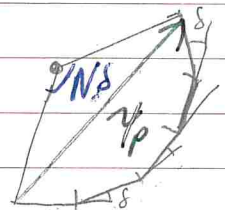
- on a phasor diagram, this will be a section of a polygon.

- maxima when the phasors add in phase $\Rightarrow \delta = \pm 2n\pi \Rightarrow d \sin \theta = n \lambda$

$$- \psi \propto N^2$$

$$- \text{zero when } N\delta = 2\pi \Rightarrow \sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{Nd}$$

\hookrightarrow i.e. peak width $\propto \frac{1}{N}$.



- By the **Rayleigh criterion**, two lines will be resolved if the maximum of one lies over the first zero of the other.

$$\text{i.e. } \Delta \theta = \frac{\lambda}{Nd}$$

Slits of Finite width

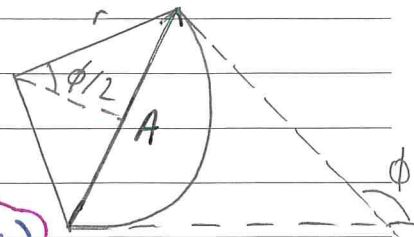
• Because of Huygens' principle, a finite slit can be treated as a grating with $N \rightarrow \infty$ slits. Thus the polygon becomes a circular arc

↳ if the slit has width a , the total phase diff between the top and bottom is $\phi = k a \sin \theta$

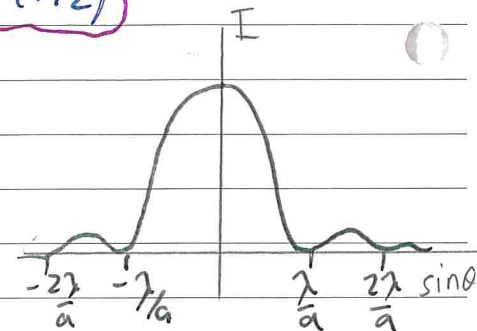
↳ by geometry, $A = 2r \sin(\frac{\phi}{2})$.

↳ the arc length is $N A_0 \equiv A_{\max}$

$$\therefore A = \frac{2 A_{\max} \sin(\frac{\phi}{2})}{\phi} \Rightarrow A = A_{\max} \operatorname{sinc}(\frac{\phi}{2})$$

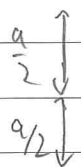


↳ thus there are minima when $\phi = 2n\pi$,
or equivalently $\sin \theta \sim \theta = \frac{n\lambda}{a}$



• Alternatively, we can derive this by integration, considering phase diff relative to the centre

- ↳ to P • The phase diff at a height x will be $k x \sin \theta$.
- Let $A_0 \equiv$ amplitude per unit length of slit
- Hence the total amplitude at P, A_p , is:



$$A_p = A_0 \int_{-a/2}^{a/2} \exp(i k x \sin \theta) dx$$

$$= \frac{2 A_0}{k \sin \theta} \sin\left(k \left(\frac{a}{2}\right) \sin \theta\right)$$

• But $\phi = k a \sin \theta$, and $A_{\max} = A_0 a$ if they all add in phase

$\therefore A_p = A_{\max} \operatorname{sinc}(\frac{\phi}{2})$ as before.

Quantum physics

- The probability of finding a particle at a given position: $P = |\hat{\Psi}|^2$
 \rightarrow in QM we need to use the complex wavefunction.
- For a photon, $E = pc = hf$ (experimentally), allowing us to derive the **de Broglie wavelength** $\lambda = h/p$.
- The wavefunction for a particle moving in $+x$ is

$$\hat{\Psi}(x, t) = \Psi_0 \exp i(kx - \omega t) \quad \leftarrow \text{always } kx - \omega t \text{ in QM.}$$

\rightarrow can be rewritten using $p = \hbar k$ and $E = \hbar \omega$ ($\hbar \equiv \frac{h}{2\pi}$)

$$\hat{\Psi}(x, t) = \Psi_0 \exp \frac{i}{\hbar} (px - Et)$$

The Schrödinger equation

- From $E = p^2/2m + V(x, t)$, we can derive:

$$E\hat{\Psi} = i\hbar \frac{\partial \hat{\Psi}}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{\Psi}}{\partial x^2} + V(x, t) \hat{\Psi}$$

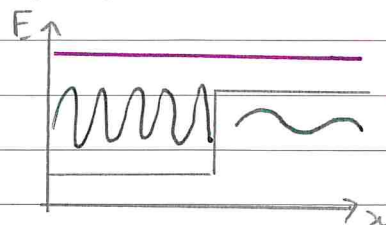
- If $V(x)$ is not time-varying and E is constant, we can derive the **time-independent Schrödinger equation**:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \hat{\Psi}}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [E - V(x)] \hat{\Psi} = 0$$

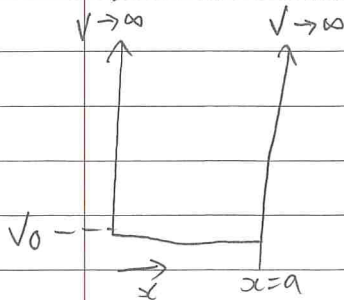
- Substituting the wave function of a single particle:

$$k = \frac{\sqrt{2m(E-V)}}{\hbar}$$

- Thus k varies based on V :



Potential wells (infinite)



- Outside the well, $\hat{\Psi} = 0$ so the particle cannot exist.
- Inside the well, $\hat{\Psi}(x, t) = \Psi_0 \exp(i(kx - \omega t))$
 $\Rightarrow k^2 = 2m(E - V_0)/\hbar^2$
- Because $\pm k$ are solutions, the general solution is:

$$\hat{\Psi}(x, t) = A \exp(i(kx - \omega t)) + B \exp(-i(kx - \omega t))$$

• $\hat{\Psi}(0, t) = 0 \Rightarrow B = -A \therefore \hat{\Psi} = C \sin kx \exp(-i\omega t)$

\hookrightarrow note that imaginary part disappears for $|\hat{\Psi}|^2 = \hat{\Psi} \hat{\Psi}^*$

• To satisfy $\hat{\Psi}(a, t) = 0$, the wavenumber becomes quantised: $k_n = \frac{n\pi}{a}$

\hookrightarrow hence energy levels are quantised

$$E_n - V_0 = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2ma^2} n^2 \quad \leftarrow n \text{ is the quantum number}$$

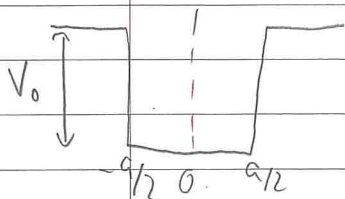
\hookrightarrow i.e. heavy particles are easier to confine

\hookrightarrow more energy req for particles in small box \leftarrow uncertainty princ.

• The constant can be found by normalising:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\hat{\Psi}|^2 dx = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Psi = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} e^{-i\omega t}$$

Finite potential well



- Inside the well, $E - V > 0 \Rightarrow$ oscillatory solution
- Outside, $E < V_0 \therefore k$ is imaginary.

$$k \equiv iK \Rightarrow \Psi = A e^{\pm Kx} e^{-i\omega t}$$

• Hence inside:

$$\hat{\Psi}(x) = A \exp(ik_1 x) + B \exp(-ik_1 x), \quad k_1 = \sqrt{2mE}/\hbar$$

• Outside: $\hat{\Psi} = C e^{-Kx} + D e^{Kx}$

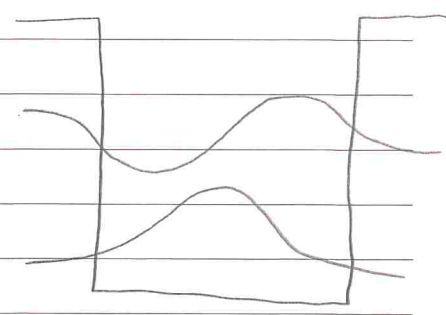
• Boundary conditions:

- $\hat{\Psi}(x \rightarrow \pm \infty) = 0$

- $\hat{\Psi}$ continuous at \pm everywhere, otherwise $\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}$ (momentum) infinite.

- $\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial x}$ continuous everywhere, else $\frac{\partial^2 \Psi}{\partial x^2}$ (energy) infinite.

- Outside the well, ψ decays exponentially
↳ **evanescent wave**



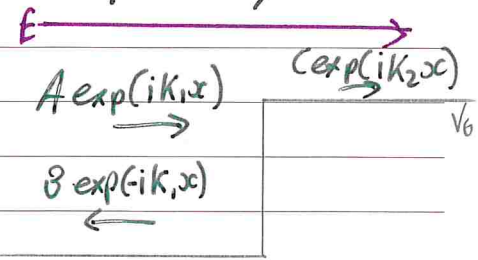
Step barriers

- Consider a constant beam of electrons with energy E travelling in $+x$ towards a potential step V_0 , $E > V_0$.
- Classically, we wouldn't expect reflection. But in quantum, there is a finite **amplitude reflection coefficient**.

- to the left of the barrier:

$$\psi = A \exp(ik_1x) + B \exp(-ik_1x) \quad \text{with } k_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2mE}}{\hbar}$$

- to the right, there is no reflected wave so $\psi = C \exp(ik_2x)$, $k_2 = \frac{\sqrt{2m(E-V_0)}}{\hbar}$



- we can then apply B.C.s to find $\frac{C}{A}$ and $\frac{B}{A}$, because we only care about the reflected proportion.

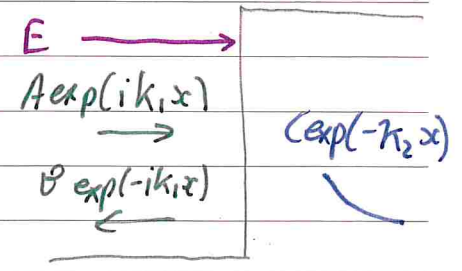
- For a step barrier with $E < V_0$, the wave is totally reflected:

- to the right, there is a decaying evanescent wave. No $\exp(+k_2x)$ because unrealistic.

- using the same B.C.s, we get

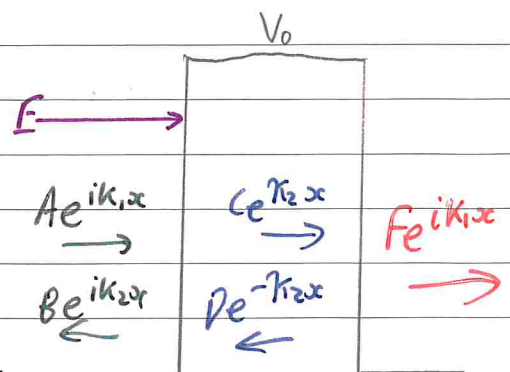
$$\frac{B}{A} = \frac{k_1 - ik_2}{k_1 + ik_2} \quad \frac{C}{A} = \frac{2k_1}{k_1 + ik_2}$$

↳ note that $|B|^2 = |A|^2$, \therefore fully reflected
- but the wave does penetrate a bit.



Quantum tunnelling

- If an electron beam hits a finite boundary with $E < V_0$, there is a wave function beyond the boundary
 - ↳ i.e. nonzero prob of electron tunnelling
 - ↳ prob depends on E and barrier width.



Waves in boxes

- The 3D time-independent Schrödinger equation:

$$\nabla^2 \psi + \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} (E - V) \psi = 0$$

- In a box we can separate the components, $\hat{\psi} = \hat{X}(x) \hat{Y}(y) \hat{Z}(z)$, then solve in each dimension.
- The solutions are a standing wave:

$$X(x) = A_x \sin k_x x$$

$$Y(y) = A_y \sin k_y y$$

$$Z(z) = A_z \sin k_z z$$

$$k_x = \frac{n_x \pi}{a}$$

$$k_y = \frac{n_y \pi}{b}$$

$$k_z = \frac{n_z \pi}{c}$$

- The energy levels are: $E_{n_x, n_y, n_z} = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^2}{2m} \left(\frac{n_x^2}{a^2} + \frac{n_y^2}{b^2} + \frac{n_z^2}{c^2} \right)$
- This leads to **degeneracy**: states with different quantum numbers but the same energy.
- Normalising requires $\iiint |\psi|^2 dx dy dz = 1$.

- In reality, spherical wells are more common, e.g. the H atom with $V(r) = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{e^2}{r^2}$.

↳ in this case: $E_n = -\frac{13.6}{n^2} \text{ eV}$