

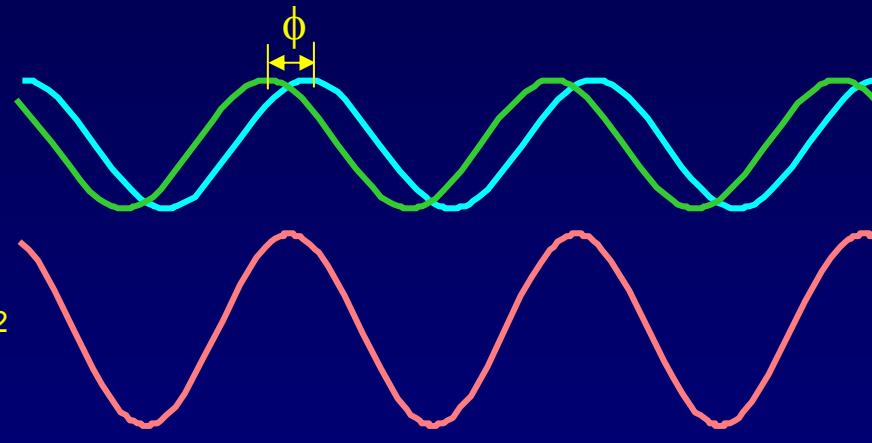
Review: Adding Sine Waves

Suppose we have two sinusoidal waves with the same A_1 , ω , and k . Suppose one starts at phase ϕ after the other:

$$y_1 = A_1 \cos(kx - \omega t) \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 = A_1 \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi)$$

Spatial dependence
of 2 waves at $t = 0$:

Resultant wave: $y = y_1 + y_2$



Use this trig identity:

$$A_1(\cos \alpha + \cos \beta) = 2A_1 \cos\left(\frac{\beta - \alpha}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\beta + \alpha}{2}\right)$$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
 $y_1 + y_2$ $(\phi/2)$ $(kx - \omega t + \phi/2)$

$$y = \boxed{2A_1 \cos(\phi/2)} \cos(kx - \omega t + \phi/2)$$

Amplitude

Oscillation