HW solution, week 2

due: Wednesday, Sept-08, 2010 - before class

## 1. A wave

(4 pts)

Figure 1 shows three snapshots of a harmonic wave.



(a) Write down expressions for this wave as a trig function and in exponential notation.

 $\Psi(x,t) = A \cdot \cos(kx - \omega t)$  and

 $\Psi(x,t) = A \cdot e^{i(kx - \omega t)}$ 

With  $\lambda = 200$  nm from diagram,  $T = 2.66 \ 10^{-15}$  s from shift of cos function in diagram, retrieve

$$k = 2\pi/\lambda = 3.14 \cdot 10^5 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$$
,  $\omega = 2\pi/T = \frac{\pi \,\mathrm{rad}}{1.33 \cdot 10^{-15} \,\mathrm{s}} = 0.75 \cdot \pi \cdot 10^{15} \,\frac{\mathrm{rad}}{\mathrm{s}}$ 

(b) Determine its wavelength  $\lambda$ , phase velocity, frequency v and temporal period T.

 $\lambda = 200$  nm from diagram.  $T = 2.66 \ 10^{-15}$  s from shift of the cos function in the diagram.

$$v = \omega/k = \frac{0.75 \cdot \pi \cdot 10^{15} \,\mathrm{s}^{-1}}{\pi \cdot 10^5 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}} = 0.75 \cdot 10^{10} \,\frac{\mathrm{cm}}{\mathrm{s}}$$

 $v = \omega/2\pi = 3.75 \ 10^{14} \ Hz$ 

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## 2. Sound wave

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A sound wave with a frequency v = 1.65 kHz travels at a speed of 340 m/s in dry air.

(a) Determine its angular frequency  $\omega$  and wavelength  $\lambda$ .

 $\omega = 2\pi v = 3.3 \cdot \pi \cdot 10^3 \text{ rad/s}$ 

 $\lambda = c/v = (340 \text{ m/s/}) / (1650 \text{ s}^{-1}) = 0.206 \text{ m}$ 

(b) What is the phase difference in radians of two points on the wave separated by 100 mm?

 $\Delta \varphi = (0.1 \text{ m}) / (0.2.6 \text{ m}) \cdot 2\pi = 3.05 \text{ rad}$ 

## 3. Light wave

(3 pts)

A light wave with a phase velocity of  $3 \times 10^8$  m/s has a frequency  $v = 5 \times 10^{14}$  Hz. What phase shift on this wave at a given point in space occurs in 100 ns? How many full wavelengths have passed by in this time interval?

 $\Delta x = 3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s} \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ s} = 30 \text{ m}$ 

 $\Delta \varphi = 2\pi \frac{\Delta x}{\lambda} = 2\pi \frac{\Delta x \nu}{c} = 2\pi \frac{30 \text{ m} \cdot 5 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1}}{3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m}/\text{s}} = 2\pi \cdot 5 \cdot 10^7 \text{ : no phase shift; } 5 \cdot 10^7 \text{ passes.}$ 

(3 pts)