

Quantum Mechanics

Sem -III



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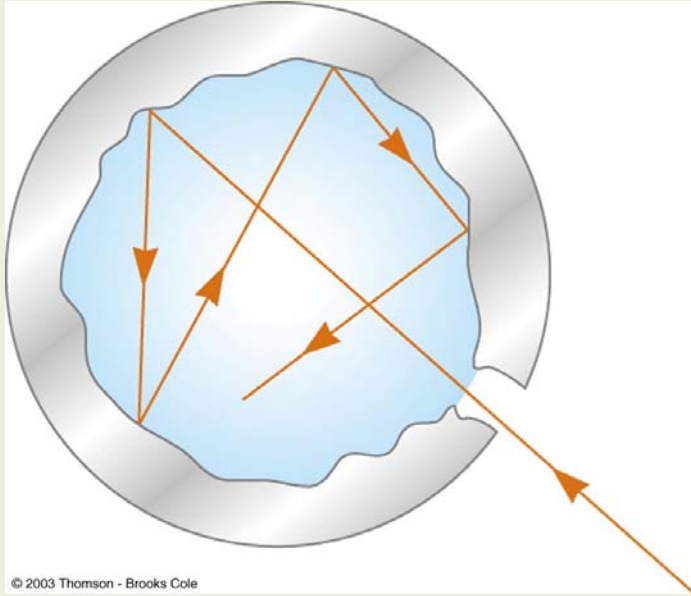
Max Karl Ernst Ludwig Planck
1858-1947

**Birthday
of
Quantum Physics
on
14th December,
1900**

$$E = h\nu$$

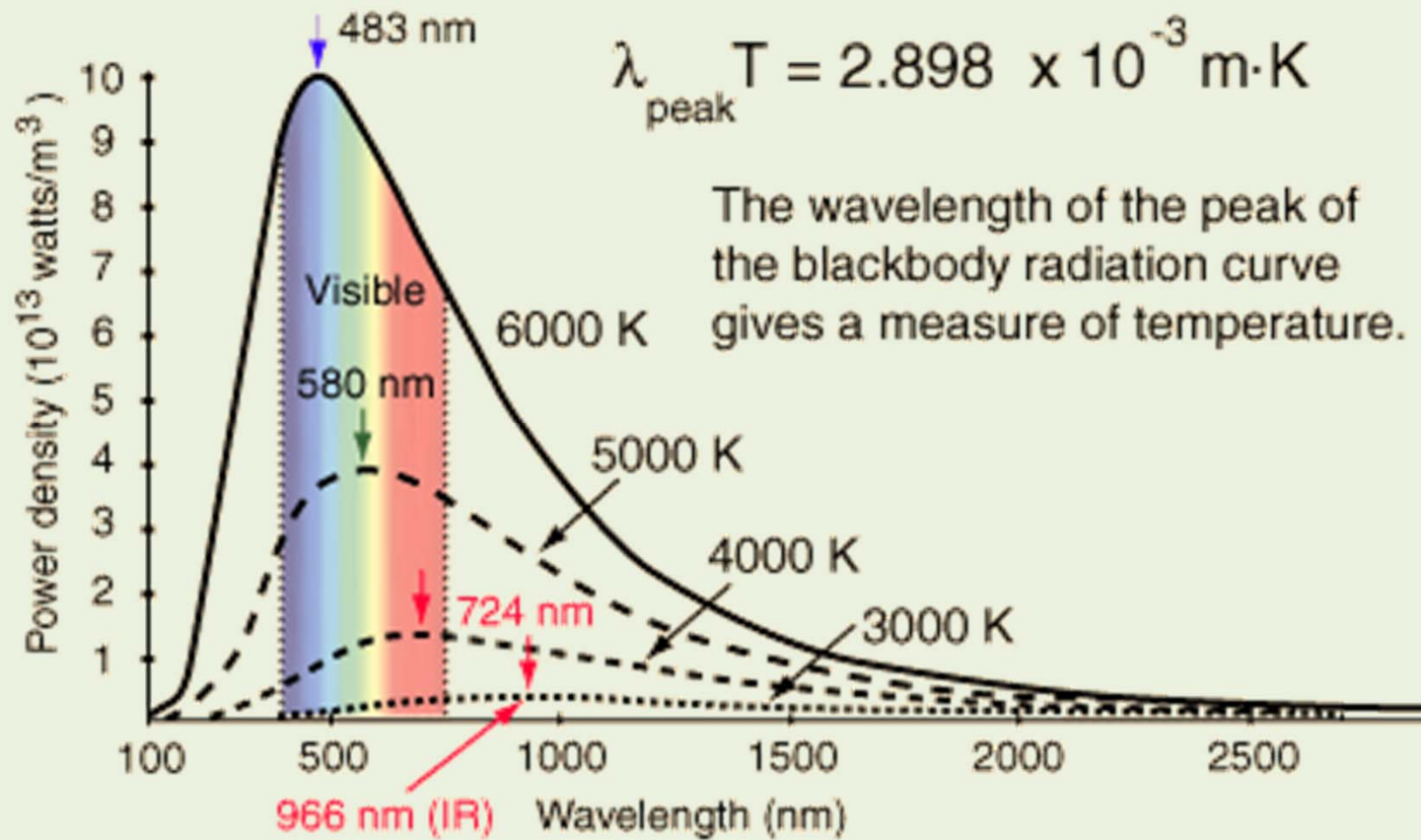
Planck introduces a new
fundamental constant **h**
to explain black-body
radiation

Blackbody Radiation



Blackbody Radiation: If a heated body emits electromagnetic radiation, which is not dependent of the chemical composition of the body, but depends only upon its temperature then the body is said to be a perfectly blackbody and radiation as blackbody radiation.

Blackbody Radiation Graph



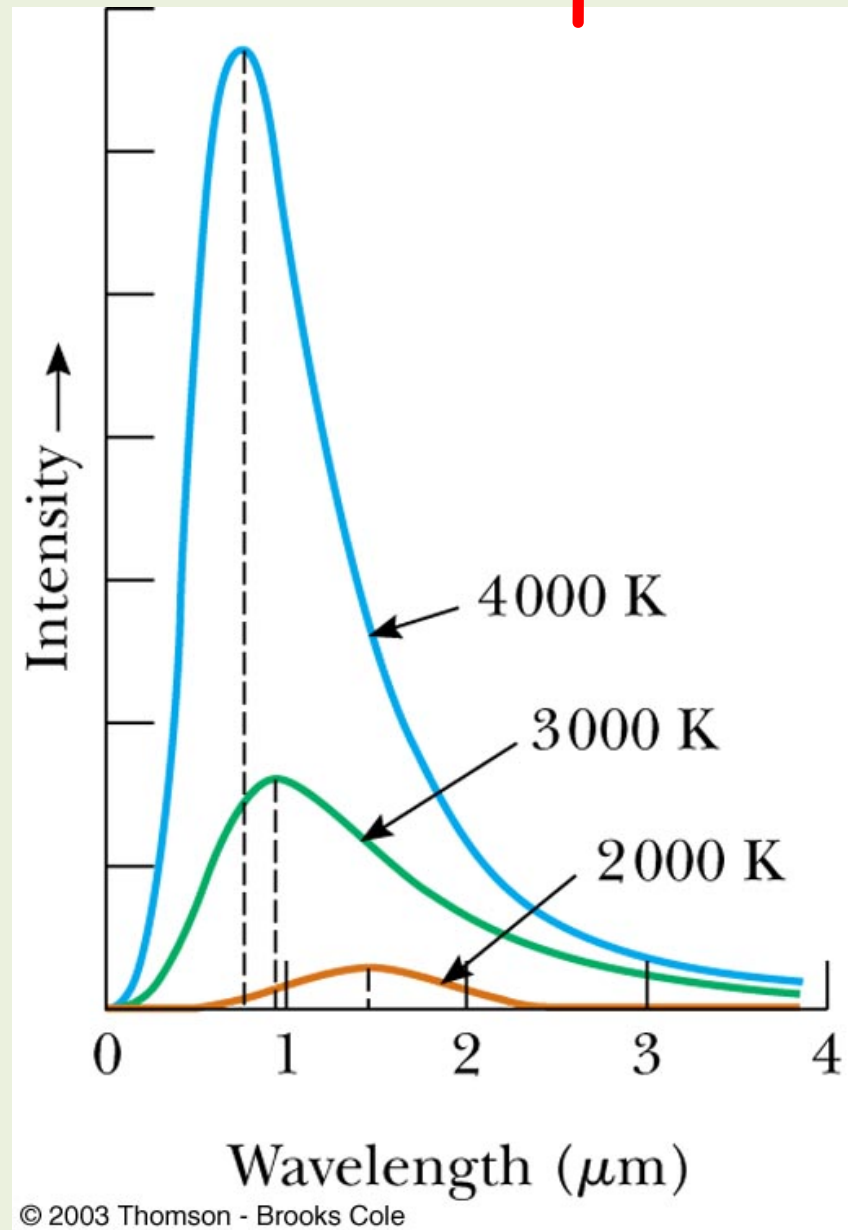
The wavelength of the peak of the blackbody radiation curve gives a measure of temperature.

UV

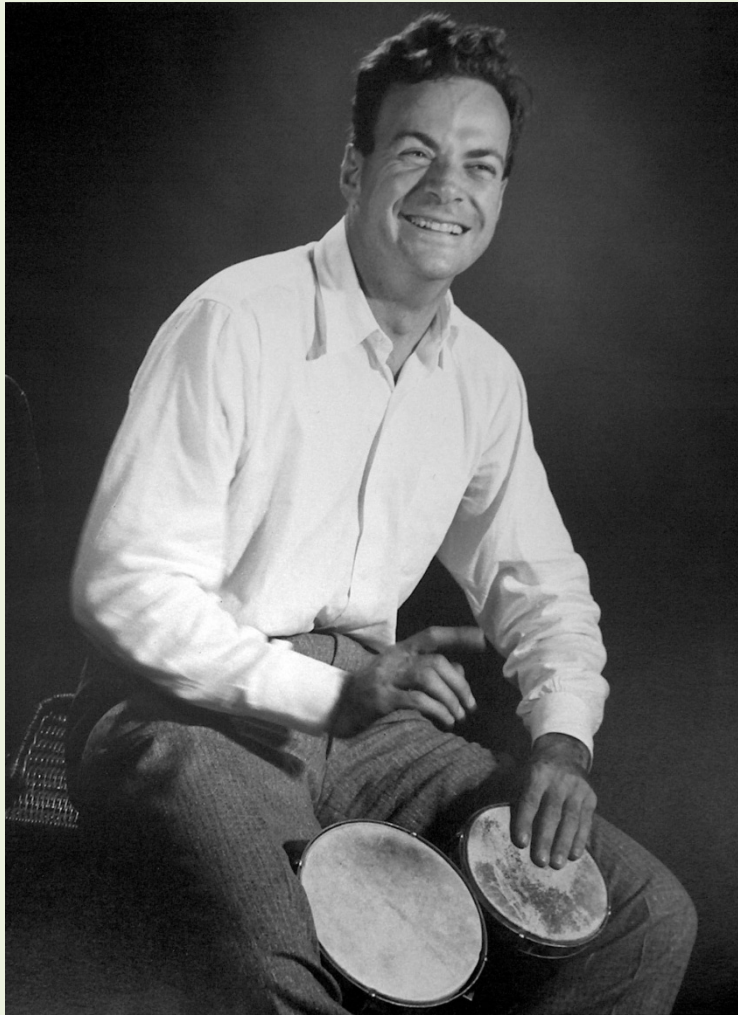
IR

Blackbody Radiation Graph

- Experimental data for distribution of energy in blackbody radiation
- As the temperature increases, the total amount of energy increases
 - Shown by the area under the curve
- As the temperature increases, the peak of the distribution shifts to shorter wavelengths



Opinions on quantum mechanics



**Richard Feynman
(1918-1988)**

I think it is safe to say that no one understands quantum mechanics. Do not keep saying to yourself, if you can possibly avoid it, "But how can it be like that?" because you will get "down the drain" into a blind alley from which nobody has yet escaped. Nobody knows how it can be like that.

- Richard Feynman

Those who are not shocked when they first come across quantum mechanics cannot possibly have understood it.

- Niels Bohr

WAVE-PARTICLE DUALITY OF LIGHT

In 1924 Einstein wrote:- " There are therefore now two theories of light, both indispensable, and ... without any logical connection."

Evidence for wave-nature of light

- Diffraction and interference
- Reflection, Refraction, Polarization

Evidence for particle-nature of light

- Photoelectric effect
- Compton effect

- Light exhibits diffraction and interference phenomena that are *only* explicable in terms of wave properties
- Light is always detected as packets (photons); if we look, we never observe half a photon
- Number of photons proportional to energy density (i.e. to square of electromagnetic field strength)

Quantum Mechanics

- At the turn of the last century, there were several experimental observations which could not be explained by the established laws of classical physics and called for a radically different way of thinking.
- This led to the development of Quantum Mechanics which is today regarded as the fundamental theory of Nature.
- Quantum Mechanics is the most accurate and complete description of the physical world.
- It also forms a basis for the understanding of quantum information.

Some key events/observations that led to the development of quantum mechanics...

- ❖ Black body radiation spectrum (Planck, 1901)
- ❖ Photoelectric effect (Einstein, 1905)
- ❖ Model of the atom (Rutherford, 1911)
- ❖ Quantum Theory of Spectra (Bohr, 1913)
- ❖ Scattering of photons by electrons (Compton, 1922)
- ❖ Exclusion Principle (Pauli, 1922)
- ❖ Matter Waves (de Broglie 1925)
- ❖ Experimental test of matter waves (Davisson and Germer, 1927)

Particles and Waves

Two ways in which energy is transported:

Point mass interaction:
transfers of momentum and
kinetic energy: *particles*.



Extended regions wherein
energy is transferred by
vibrations and rotations:
waves.



Classical concepts never allow to think that

1. Wave may also behave like particle.
(Planck's hypothesis)
2. Particle may behave like wave.
(de Broglie hypothesis)
3. Position and momentum of a particle cannot be measured accurately & simultaneously.
(Heisenberg uncertainty principle)
4. Energy of wave is related with frequency and is quantised.

$$E = nh\nu$$

These new concepts is basically quantum concepts

Classical concept

Two distinct categories :

1. Material body (particle)
Newton's laws of motion

Position and velocity (momentum) are precisely measurable

2. Electromagnetic field (wave)
Maxwell's equation

Spread over the space, amplitude gives energy/intensity, frequency is nothing but time periodicity of oscillator

Additionally
Laws of thermodynamics

$$E = kT$$

Fundamental constants :

1. velocity of light c
2. Avogadro Number N
3. Boltzman constant k
4. Unit of charge e

$$E = mc^2$$

Velocity $\ll c$: non-relativistic

Velocity comparable to c : relativistic

De Broglie Waves

If a light-wave could also act like a particle, why shouldn't matter-particles also act like waves?

➤ In his thesis in 1923, Prince Louis V. de Broglie suggested that mass particles should have wave properties similar to electromagnetic radiation.

➤ The energy can be written as:

$$h\nu = pc \quad h\nu = p\lambda\nu$$

➤ Thus the wavelength of a matter wave is called **the de Broglie wavelength**:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p}$$



Louis V. de Broglie
(1892-1987)

Relation between particle and wave properties of light

Energy and frequency $E = h\nu$

Also have relation between momentum and wavelength

Relativistic formula relating energy and momentum

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4$$

For light $E = pc$ and $c = \lambda\nu$

$$p = \frac{h}{\lambda} = \frac{h\nu}{c}$$

Also commonly write these as

$$E = \hbar\omega$$

angular frequency

wavevector

$$p = \hbar k$$

$$\omega = 2\pi\nu$$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

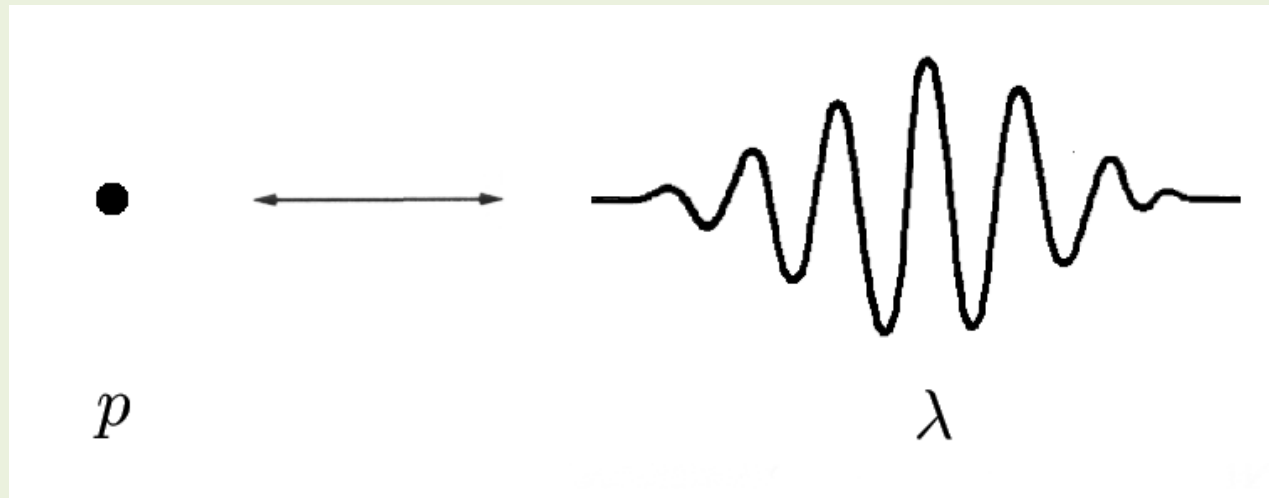
$$\hbar = \frac{h}{2\pi}$$

h bar

Wave-Particle Duality

particle

wave function



$$\lambda = \frac{h}{p} = \frac{h}{m v}$$

Example: de Broglie wavelength of a ball

- Mass = 1 kg
Speed = 1 m / sec

$$\lambda = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Joules} \cdot \text{sec}}{(1 \text{ kg})(1 \text{ m/sec})} = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m}$$

- *This is extremely small!* Thus, it is very difficult to observe the wave-like behaviour of ordinary objects.

Example: de Broglie wavelength of an electron

- Mass = 9.11×10^{-31} kg
Speed = 10^6 m / sec

$$\lambda = \frac{6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Joules} \cdot \text{sec}}{(9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg})(10^6 \text{ m/sec})} = 7.28 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}$$

- This wavelength is in the region of
X-rays

Wave packet, phase velocity and group velocity

- The velocities of the individual waves which superpose to produce the wave packet representing the particle are different - the wave packet as a whole has a different velocity from the waves that comprise it
- **Phase velocity:** The rate at which the phase of the wave propagates in space
- **Group velocity:** The rate at which the envelope of the wave packet propagates

Wave packet, phase velocity and group velocity

Phase velocity

$$v_p = \frac{c^2}{v}$$

Group velocity

$$v_g = v$$

Here c is the velocity of light and v is the velocity of the particle

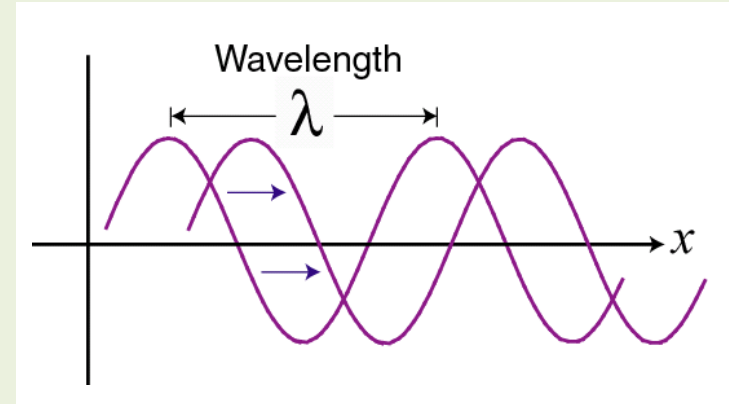
Wave Function

- Completely describes all the properties of a given particle
- Called $\psi = \psi(x,t)$; is a complex function of position x and time t
- What is the meaning of this wave function?

The Phase Velocity

How fast is the wave traveling?

Velocity is a reference distance divided by a reference time.



The phase velocity is the wavelength / period: $v = \lambda / \tau$

Since $f = 1/\tau$:

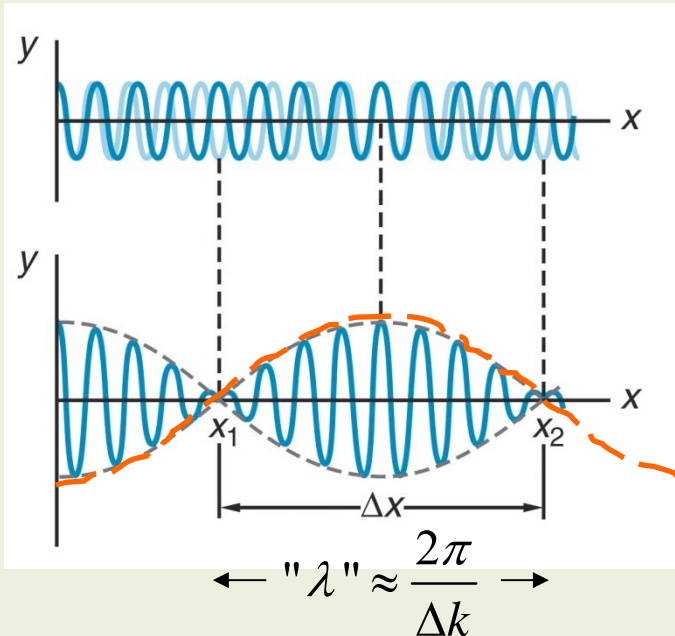
$$v = \lambda f$$

In terms of k , $k = 2\pi / \lambda$, and the angular frequency, $\omega = 2\pi / \tau$, this is:

$$v = \omega / k$$

Phase and Group Velocities

This **phase** velocity $v_p = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{E}{p} = \frac{\gamma mc^2}{\gamma mv} = \frac{c^2}{v} > c$ - no limitations on the phase velocity, (phase of a plane wave does not carry any information)



The observable is the **group** velocity (the velocity of propagation of a wave "packet" or wave "group". Let's consider the superposition of two harmonic waves with slightly different frequencies ($\omega \gg \Delta\omega$, $k \gg \Delta k$):

$$y_1 = A \cos(\omega t - kx)$$

$$y_2 = A \cos[(\omega + \Delta\omega)t - (k + \Delta k)x]$$

$$\cos \alpha + \cos \beta = 2 \cos \left[\frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta) \right] \cos \left[\frac{1}{2}(\alpha - \beta) \right]$$

$$y = y_1 + y_2 = 2A \cos \left[\frac{1}{2} \{ (2\omega + \Delta\omega)t - (2k + \Delta k)x \} \right] \cos \left[\frac{1}{2} (\Delta\omega \cdot t - \Delta k \cdot x) \right]$$

$$\approx 2A \underbrace{\cos(\omega t - kx)}_{\text{fast oscillations within the wave group}} \underbrace{\cos \left(\frac{\Delta\omega}{2} t - \frac{\Delta k}{2} x \right)}_{\text{"envelope" = wave group}}$$

fast oscillations
within the wave
group

"envelope" =
wave group

$$v_g = \frac{d\omega}{dk}$$

The velocity of propagation of
the wave packet:

-the **group** velocity

Group Velocity of de Broglie waves

$$v_g = \frac{d\omega}{dk} = \frac{dE}{dp}$$

$$E = \sqrt{(pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2}$$

$$v_g = v$$

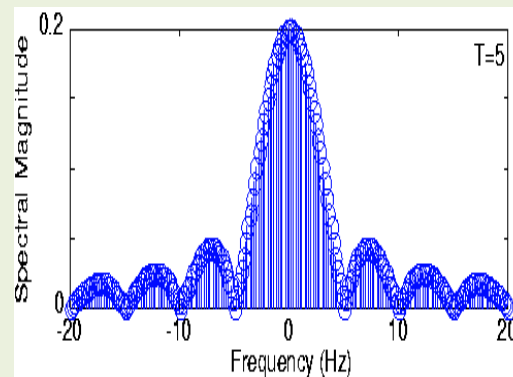
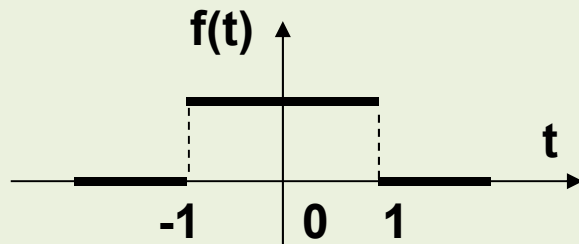
- the group velocity of de Broglie waves coincide with the particle's velocity

$$\frac{dE}{dp} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2pc^2}{\sqrt{(pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2}} = \frac{pc^2}{E} = \frac{\gamma mv \cdot c^2}{\gamma mc^2} = v$$

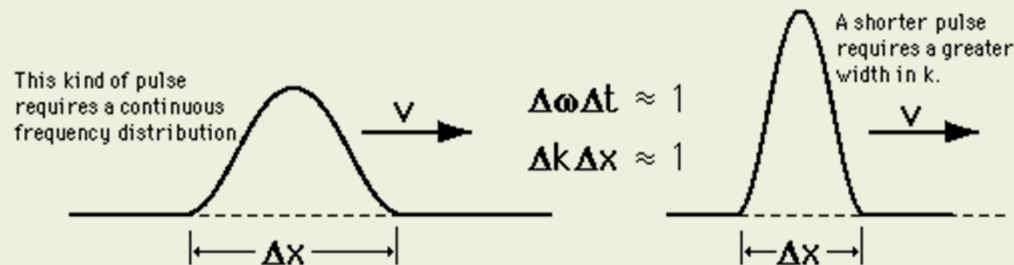
$$v_g v_p = c^2$$

Periodic processes: discrete spectrum (Fourier series).

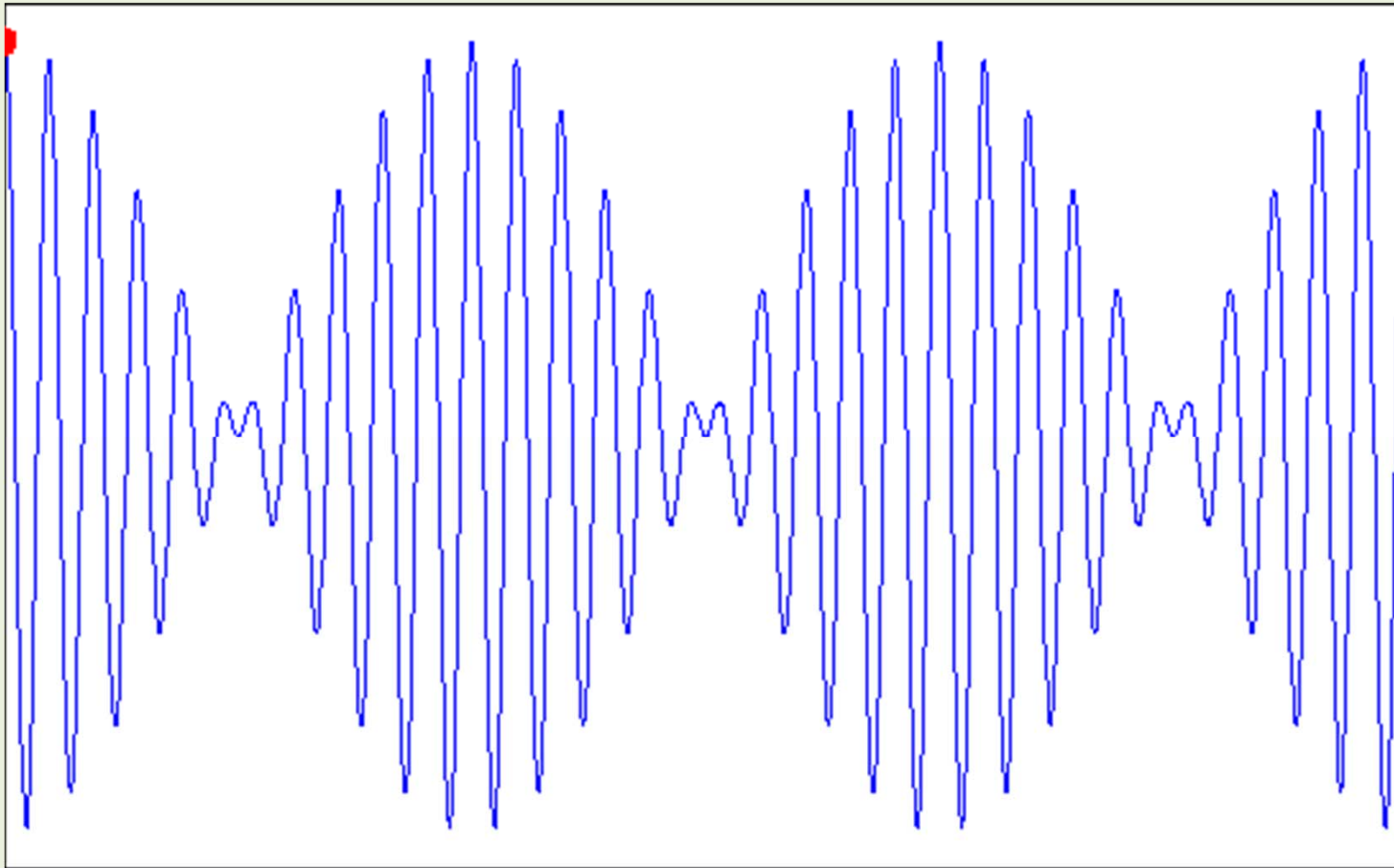
Aperiodic processes: continuous spectrum (represented as Fourier integral)



$$\text{sinc}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \omega = 0 \\ \frac{\sin \omega}{\omega}, & \omega \neq 0 \end{cases}$$



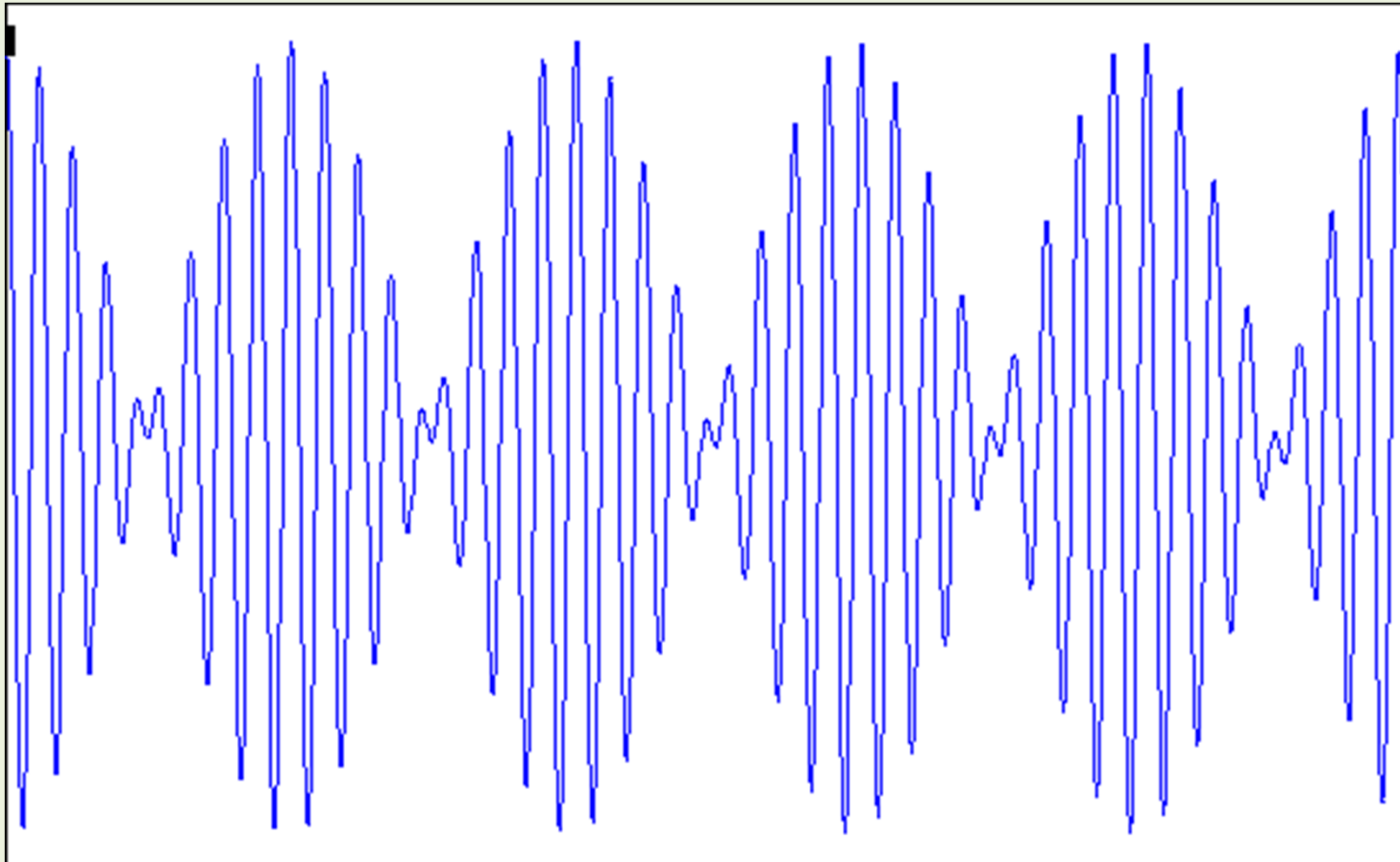
The Group Velocity



This is the velocity at which the overall shape of the wave's amplitudes, or the wave 'envelope', propagates. (= signal velocity)

Here, phase velocity = group velocity (the medium is *non-dispersive*)

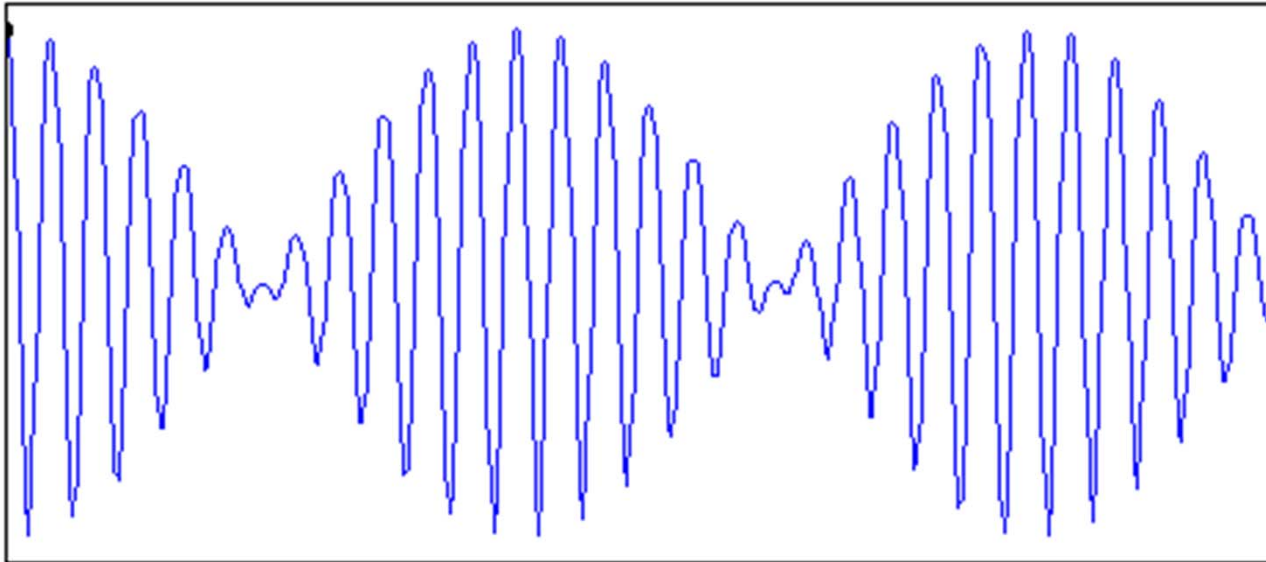
Dispersion: phase/group velocity depends on frequency



Black dot moves at phase velocity. Red dot moves at group velocity.

This is normal dispersion (refractive index decreases with increasing λ)

Dispersion: phase/group velocity depends on frequency

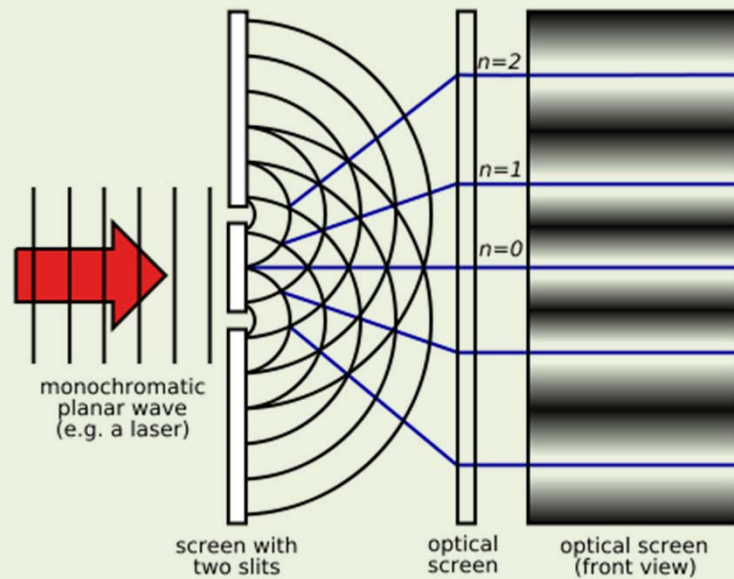


Black dot moves at group velocity. Red dot moves at phase velocity.

This is *anomalous dispersion* (refractive index increases with increasing λ)

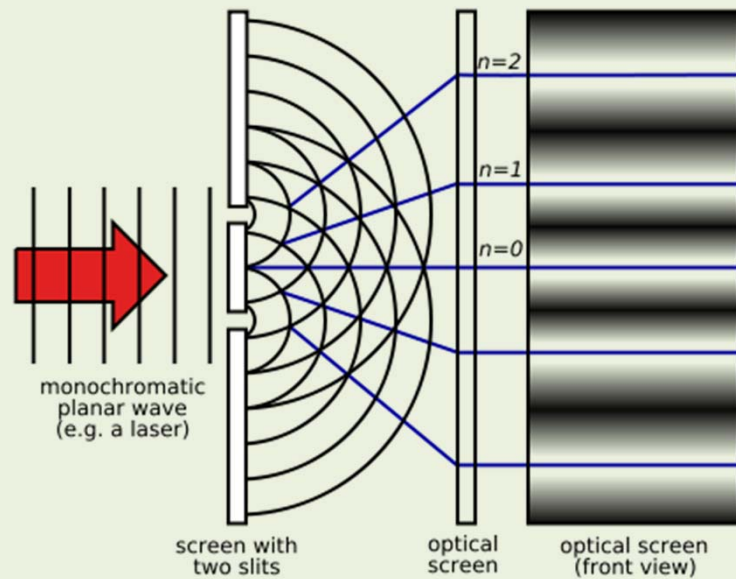
Double-slit experiments:

Light:

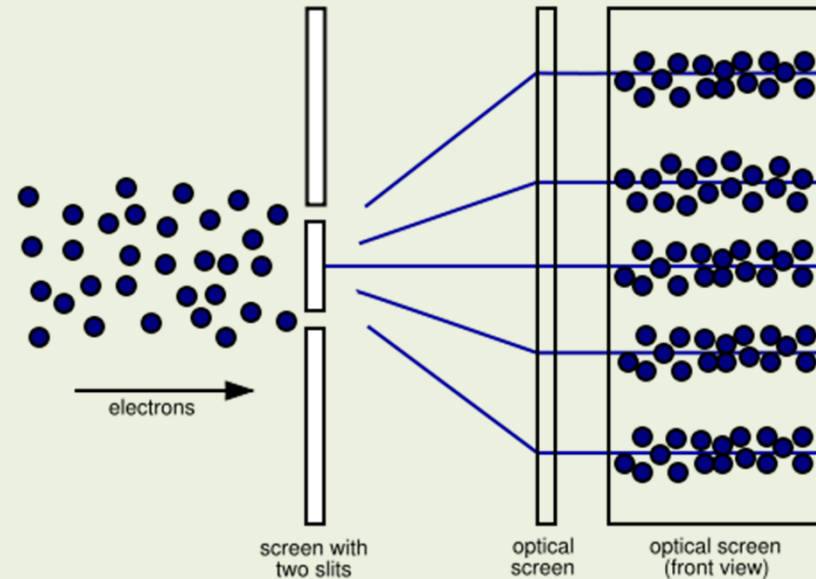


Double-slit experiments:

Light:



Electrons:



Individual electrons:

- In previous experiments many electrons were diffracted (or show interference)
- Will one get the same result for a single electron?
- Such experiments were performed
 - Intensity of the electron beam was so low that only one electron at a time proceeds
 - Still diffraction (and interference) patterns, and not diffused scattering, were observed, confirming that

Thus individual electrons possess wave properties!!!

Complementarity

- Thus Heisenberg's principle says that quantum mechanics imposes certain limits on the accuracy with which we can observe the world.
- A pair of variables like position and its associated momentum which we cannot observe accurately together are said to be complementary variables.
- Other such complementary pairs are rotational angle and the associated angular momentum.
- The product of each pair has dimensions $=[h]$!

Complimentarity Principle:

The particle and the wave models are **COMPLIMENTARY**

No measurements can simultaneously reveal the particle and the wave properties of matter

Characteristic of Quantum mechanics

No general consensus

Can "do", but can't tell what we are doing.

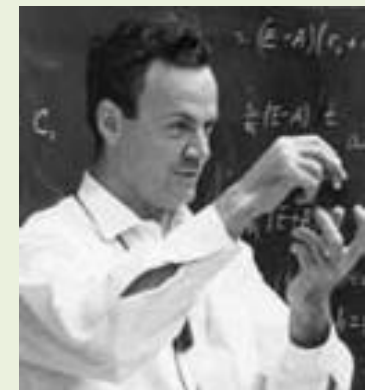
Implausible



Niels Bohr: "If you are not confused by quantum physics then you haven't really understood it".



Richard Feynman: "I think I can safely say that nobody understands quantum mechanics".



The Uncertainty Principle

An experiment cannot simultaneously determine a component of the momentum of a particle (e.g., p_x) and the exact value of the corresponding coordinate, x .

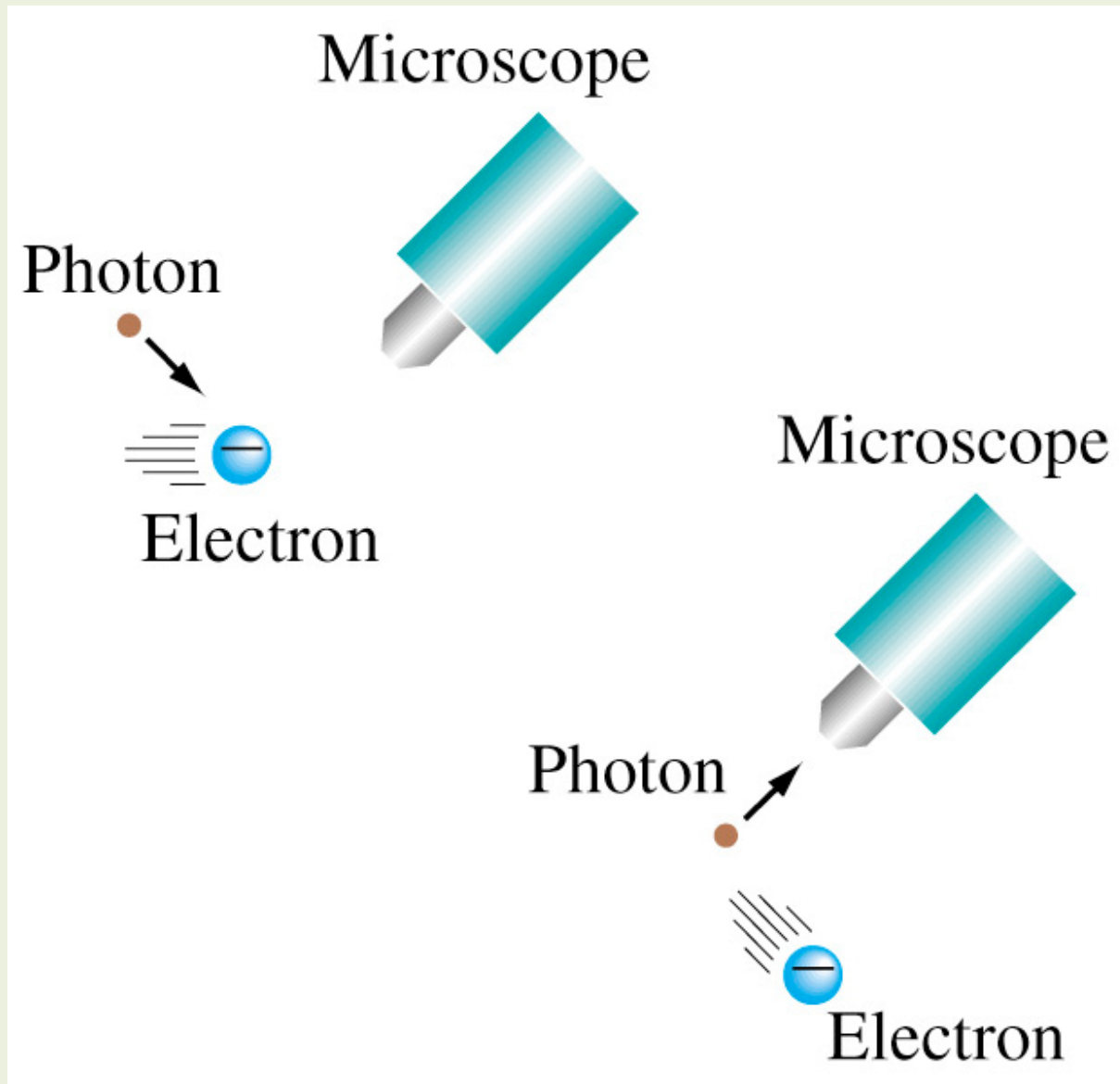
The best one can do is

$$(\Delta p_x)(\Delta x) \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

The Uncertainty Principle

1. *The limitations imposed by the uncertainty principle have nothing to do with quality of the experimental equipment*
2. *The uncertainty principle does imply that one cannot determine the position or the momentum with arbitrary accuracy*
 - *It refers to the impossibility of precise knowledge about both: e.g. if $\Delta x = 0$, then Δp_x is infinity, and vice versa*
3. *The uncertainty principle is confirmed by experiment, and is a direct consequence of the de Broglie's hypothesis*

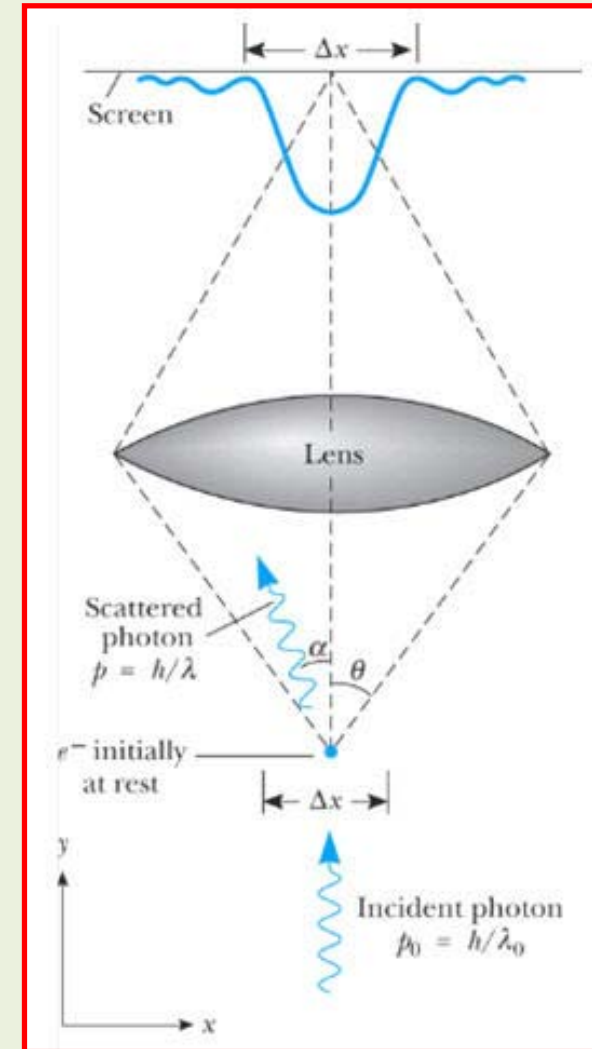
Heisenberg Microscope



Physical Origin of the Uncertainty Principle

Heisenberg (Bohr) Microscope

- The measurement itself introduces the uncertainty
- When we “look” at an object we see it via the photons that are detected by the microscope
 1. These are the photons that are scattered within an angle 2θ and collected by a lens of diameter D
 2. Momentum of electron is changed
 3. Consider single photon, this will introduce the minimum uncertainty



Heisenberg (Bohr) Microscope

$$\Delta p_{ph}^{\max} = 2p_{ph} \sin \theta$$

As a consequence of
momentum conservation

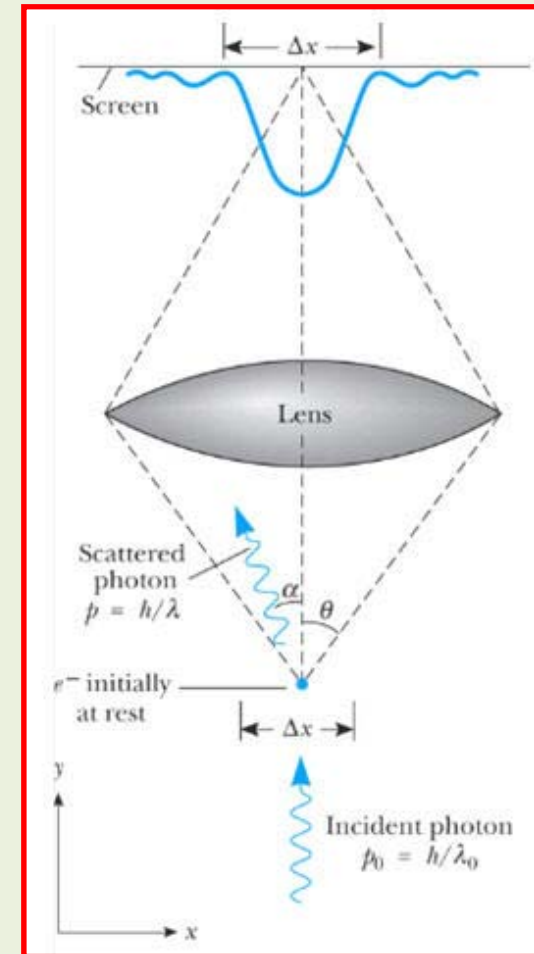
$$\Delta p_{electron} = \Delta p_{ph} = 2p_{ph} \sin \theta$$

$$p_{ph} = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

$$\Delta p_{electron} = 2p_{ph} \sin \theta = \frac{2h}{\lambda} \sin \theta$$

for small θ , $\sin \theta \approx \theta$

$$\Delta p_{electron} = \frac{2h}{\lambda} \theta$$



Trying to locate electron we
introduce the uncertainty of the
momentum

Heisenberg (Bohr) Microscope

$$\Delta p_{electron} = \frac{2h\theta}{\lambda}$$

- $\theta \sim (D/2)/L$, $L \sim D/2\theta$ θ is distance to lens
- Uncertainty in electron position for small θ is

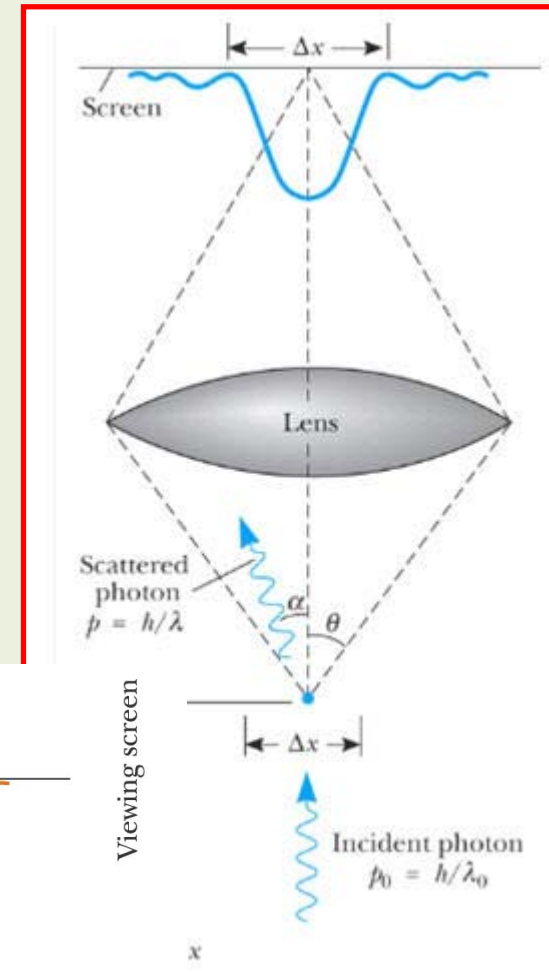
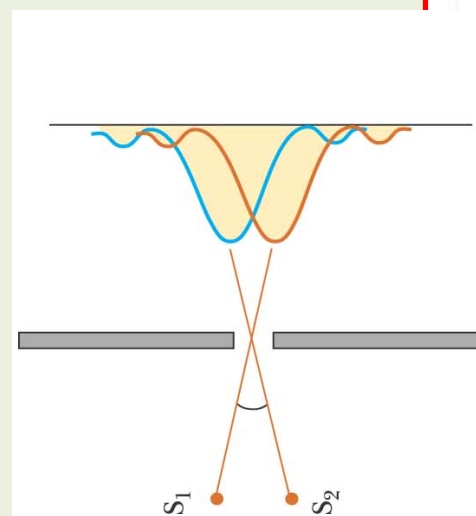
$$\Delta x_{electron} = L(2\theta) = (D/2\theta)(2\theta) = D$$

- To reduce uncertainty in the momentum, we can either increase the wavelength or reduce the angle
- But this leads to increased uncertainty in the position, since

$$\Delta x_{electron} = D$$

$$2\theta = 1.22 \frac{\lambda}{D}$$

$$\Delta x_{electron} = \frac{1.22\lambda}{2\theta}$$



Heisenberg (Bohr) Microscope

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Delta p_{electron} &= \frac{2h}{\lambda} \theta \\ \theta &= \frac{1.22\lambda}{2D} \\ \Delta x &= D \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \Delta p_{electron} = 1.22 \frac{h}{\Delta x}$$
$$(\Delta p_{electron})(\Delta x) = 1.22h$$

The Uncertainty Principle

Between energy and time

$$(\Delta E)(\Delta t) \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

CONCLUSIONS

Light and matter exhibit wave-particle duality

Relation between wave and particle properties given by the de Broglie relations

$$E = h\nu \quad p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

Evidence for particle properties of light
Photoelectric effect, Compton scattering

Evidence for wave properties of matter
Electron diffraction, interference of matter waves
(electrons, neutrons, He atoms, C60 molecules)

Heisenberg uncertainty principle limits
simultaneous knowledge of conjugate variables

$$\Delta x \Delta p_x \geq \hbar / 2$$

$$\Delta y \Delta p_y \geq \hbar / 2$$

$$\Delta z \Delta p_z \geq \hbar / 2$$

A SUMMARY OF DUALITY OF NATURE

Wave particle duality of physical objects

LIGHT



Wave nature -EM wave

Optical
microscope

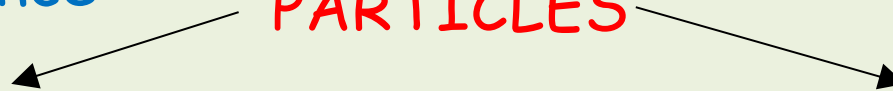
Interference

Particle nature -photons

Convert light to electric current

Photo-electric effect

PARTICLES



Wave nature

Matter waves
Electron microscope

Discrete (Quantum) states of confined systems, such as atoms.

Particle nature

Electric current
photon-electron collisions

- COMMON SENSE VIEW OF THE WORLD IS AN APPROXIMATION OF THE UNDERLYING BASIC QUANTUM DESCRIPTION OF OUR PHYSICAL WORLD!
- IN THE COPENHAGEN INTERPRETATION OF BOHR AND HEISENBERG IT IS IMPOSSIBLE IN PRINCIPLE FOR OUR WORLD TO BE DETERMINISTIC!
- EINSTEIN, A FOUNDER OF QM WAS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THIS INTERPRETATION

Bohr and Einstein in discussion 1933



It's never as bad as it seems....



"Actually I started out in quantum mechanics, but somewhere along the way I took a wrong turn."