

# Effects of boundaries on wave propagation

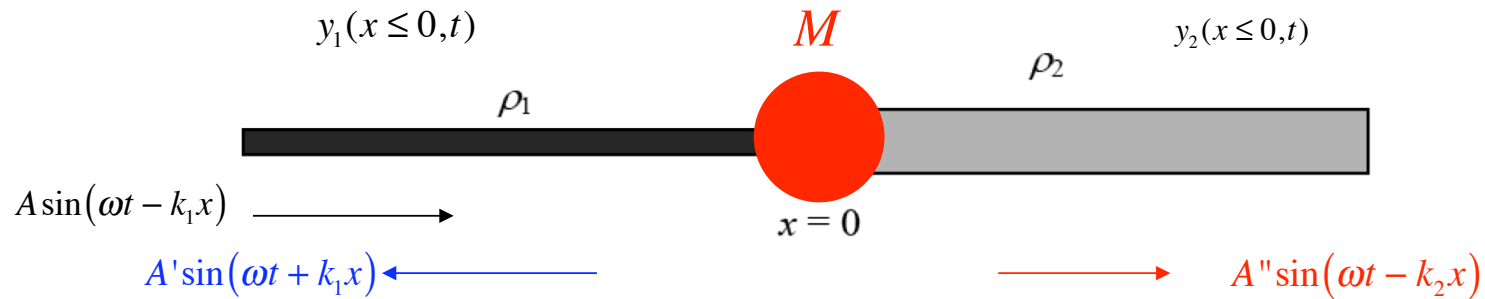
◇ Inhomogeneous string  
(see last lecture)

◇ Pointlike mass at the boundary

◇ Characteristic impedance

## Reflection from a mass at the boundary

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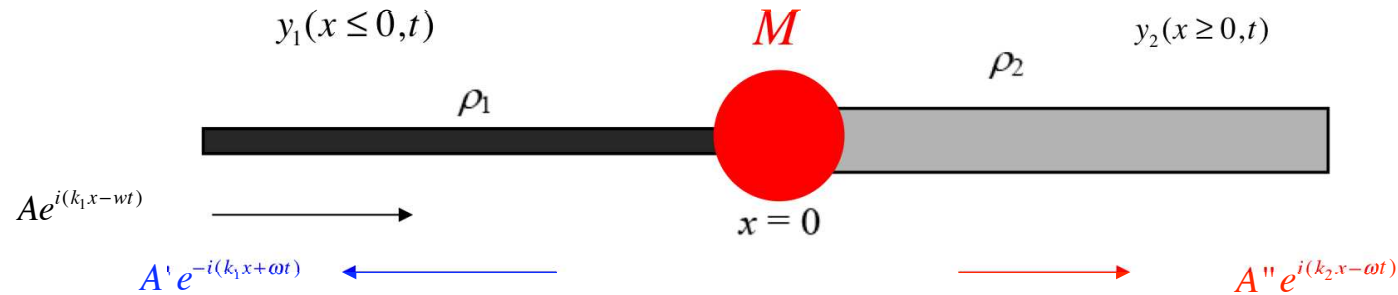


To keep track of phase changes easier to use complex exponentials

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} \quad y(x, t) = B e^{i(kx - \omega t)} \text{ is a solution}$$

$(y(x, t) = \text{Re}(B e^{i(kx - \omega t)}) \text{ or } \text{Im}(B e^{i(kx - \omega t)}) \text{ are also solutions})$

## Reflection from a mass at the boundary



$$y_1(x, t) = Ae^{i(k_1x - \omega t)} + A'e^{-i(k_1x + \omega t)}$$

$$y_2(x, t) = A''e^{i(k_2x - \omega t)}$$

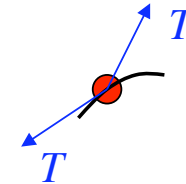
$$y_1(x = 0-, t) = y_2(x = 0+, t)$$

String continuous

$$A + A' = A''$$

$$-T \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} + T \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0}$$

Newton's 2nd law



$$-ik_1TA + ik_1TA' + ik_2TA'' = -\omega^2 M(A + A') = -\omega^2 MA'' \Rightarrow ik_1(A - A') = (ik_2 + \omega^2 M / T)A''$$

$$A + A' = A''$$

$$ik_1(A - A') = (ik_2 + \omega^2 M / T) A''$$

$$M = 0$$

$$r = \frac{A'}{A} = \frac{(k_1 - k_2)T + i\omega^2 M}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = \text{Re}^{i\theta}$$

$$\frac{A'}{A} = \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 + k_2}$$

$$t = \frac{A''}{A} = \frac{2k_1 T}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = S e^{i\phi}$$

$$\frac{A''}{A} = \frac{2k_1}{k_1 + k_2}$$

$$k_1 < k_2 \quad (\rho_1 < \rho_2 \dagger):$$

$$R = \left[ \frac{(k_1 - k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2}{(k_1 + k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2} \right]^{1/2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M}{k_1 - k_2} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M}{k_1 + k_2} \right)$$

$$\theta = \pi$$

$$S = \left[ \frac{4k_1^2 T^2}{(k_1 + k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2} \right]^{1/2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M}{k_1 + k_2} \right)$$

$$\phi = 0$$

$$\dagger \quad k = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{T}}$$

$$A + A' = A''$$

$$ik_1(A - A') = (ik_2 + \omega^2 M / T) A''$$

$$r = \frac{A'}{A} = \frac{(k_1 - k_2)T + i\omega^2 M}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = Re^{i\theta}$$

$$t = \frac{A''}{A} = \frac{2k_1 T}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = Se^{i\phi}$$

$$R = \left[ \frac{(k_1 - k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2}{(k_1 + k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2} \right], \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M / T}{k_1 - k_2} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M / T}{k_1 + k_2} \right)$$

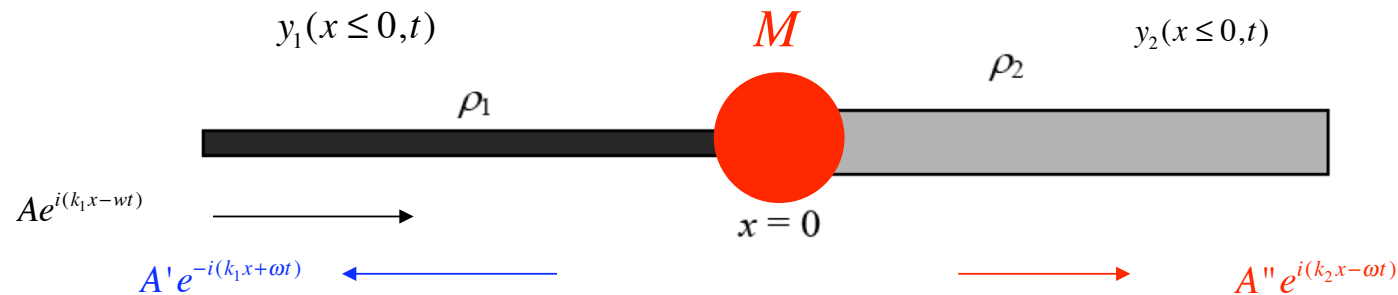
$$S = \left[ \frac{4k_1^2 T^2}{(k_1 + k_2)^2 T^2 + \omega^4 M^2} \right], \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega^2 M / T}{k_1 + k_2} \right)$$

$$P = \frac{1}{2} T \omega k A^2$$

Power flux

$$|r|^2 + \frac{k_2}{k_1} |t|^2 = R^2 + \frac{k_2}{k_1} S^2 = 1$$

Conservation of energy



$$y_1(x, t) = Ae^{i(k_1 x - \omega t)} + ARe^{-i(k_1 x + \omega t - \theta)}$$

$$\frac{A'}{A} = R e^{i\theta}, \quad \frac{A''}{A} = S e^{i\phi}$$

$$y_2(x, t) = AS e^{i(k_2 x - \omega t + \phi)}$$

Real solutions (take A real for simplicity)

$$\text{Re}(y_1) = A \cos(k_1 x - \omega t) + AR \cos(k_1 x + \omega t - \theta)$$

$$\text{Re}(y_2) = AS \cos(k_2 x - \omega t + \phi)$$

Phase shifts

$$|r|^2 + \frac{k_2}{k_1} |t|^2 = R^2 + \frac{k_2}{k_1} S^2 = 1$$

Conservation of energy

### REMARKS

- mass  $M$  at  $x = 0 \Rightarrow$  boundary condition  $\partial y_2 / \partial x - \partial y_1 / \partial x \neq 0$ :

$$\frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} = \frac{M}{T} \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} = \frac{M}{T} \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \quad \text{at } x = 0$$

- mass  $M$  at the boundary produces phase shifts  $\phi_r, \phi_t$  of the reflected and transmitted waves relative to the incident wave:

$$r = |r|e^{i\phi_r} \quad ; \quad t = |t|e^{i\phi_t}$$

- in the special case  $\rho_2 = 0$  (i.e., terminating mass  $M$ )

$$k_2 = 0, \text{ and } r \rightarrow 1 \text{ for } M \rightarrow 0$$

$$r \rightarrow -1 \text{ for } M \rightarrow \infty$$

# Impedance

**Electrical impedance** – a measure of opposition to a time varying electric current

$$Z = R + i\omega L + \frac{1}{i\omega C} \quad \left( \tilde{V} = \tilde{I}Z = \tilde{I}R + L \frac{\partial \tilde{I}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{C} \int \tilde{I} dt, \quad \tilde{I} \propto e^{i\omega t} \right)$$

**Mechanical impedance** – a measure of opposition to motion of a structure subject to a force

$$F(\omega) = Z(\omega) v(\omega)$$

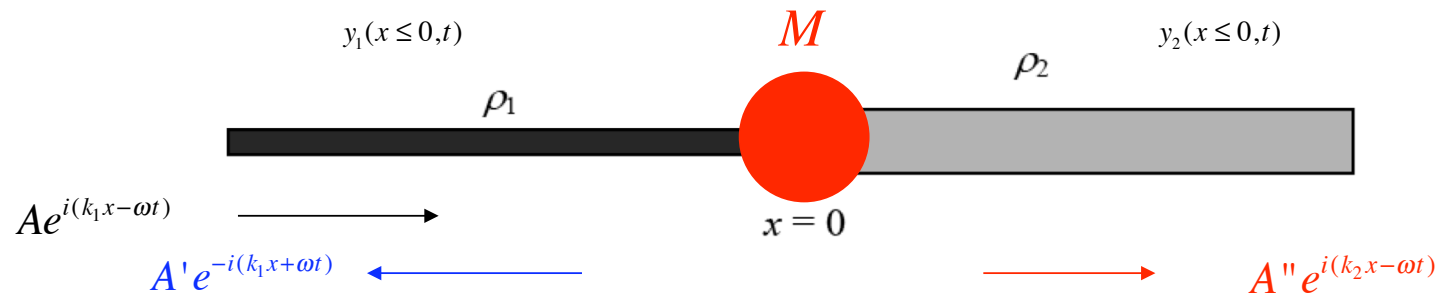
$$Z = \frac{F_y}{v_y} = -T \frac{\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}}{\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}}$$

$$y(x, t) = A \sin(kx \mp \omega t) \Rightarrow Z_{\pm} = \pm \frac{Tk}{\omega} = \pm \frac{T}{v}$$

**Electromagnetic impedance**

**Acoustic impedance**

# Impedance



$$-T \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} + T \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} \quad \text{Newton's 2nd law}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} - Z_{2-} \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$-T \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} Z_{\mp}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} v_1 - Z_{2-} v_2 = M \frac{\partial v_{i=1,2}}{\partial t} = Z_m v_1 = Z_m v_2$$

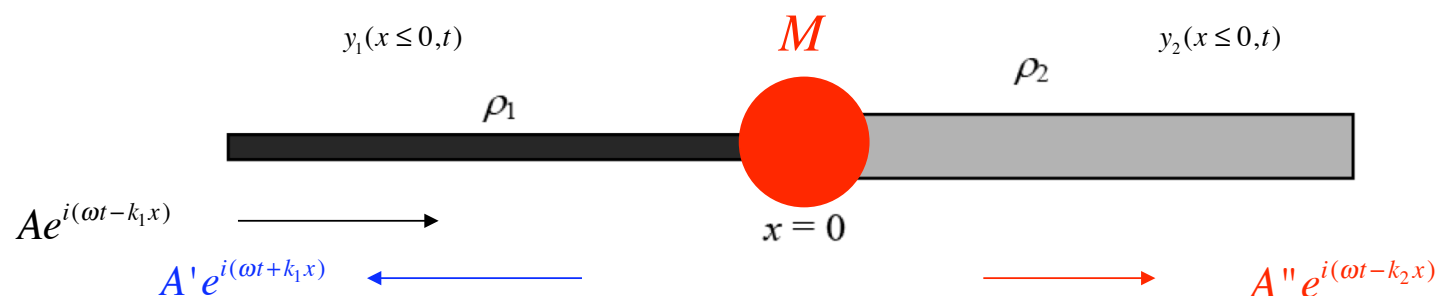
Impedance

$$Z = \frac{T}{c}, \quad v = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

$$Z_m = -i\omega M$$

Impedance of mass

# Impedance



$$-T \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} + T \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} \quad \text{Newton's 2nd law}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} - Z_{2-} \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$-T \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} Z_{\mp}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} v_1 - Z_{2-} v_2 = M \frac{\partial v_{i=1,2}}{\partial t} = Z_m v_1 = Z_m v_2$$

$$r = \frac{Z_1 - (Z_2 + Z_m)}{Z_1 + Z_2 + Z_m}$$

$$Z_{1-}(A - A') - Z_{2-} A'' = Z_m (A + A') = Z_m A''$$

$$t = \frac{2Z_1}{Z_1 + Z_2 + Z_m}$$

◇ The amount of reflection and transmission that occurs when a traveling wave encounters a boundary is specified entirely in terms of the **characteristic impedances** presented to the wave by the boundary.

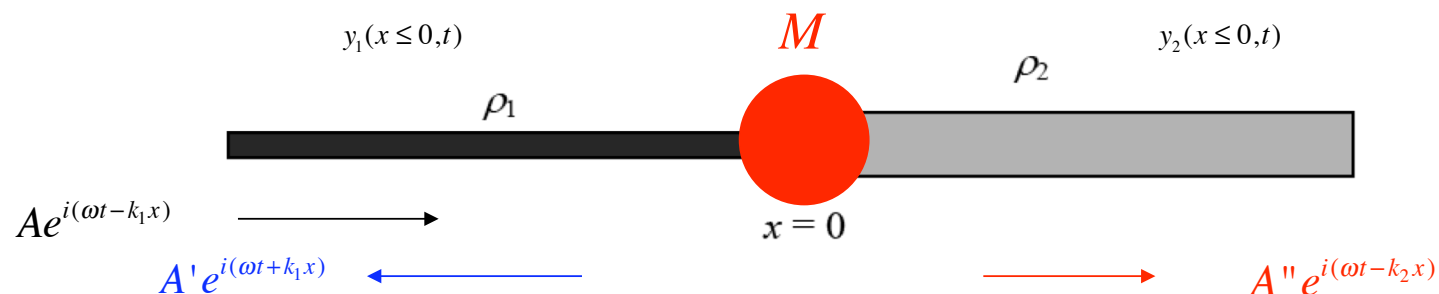
- purely “resistive” impedances

$$Z_1 = \frac{Tk_1}{\omega} \quad ; \quad Z_2 = \frac{Tk_2}{\omega}$$

- impedance of mass

$$Z_m = i\omega M$$

# Impedance



$$-T \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} + T \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} \quad \text{Newton's 2nd law}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} \frac{\partial y_1}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} - Z_{2-} \frac{\partial y_2}{\partial t} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_1}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0} = M \frac{\partial^2 y_2}{\partial t^2} \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$-T \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} Z_{\mp}$$

$$Z_{1\mp} v_1 - Z_{2-} v_2 = M \frac{\partial v_{i=1,2}}{\partial t} = Z_m v_1 = Z_m v_2$$

$$r = \frac{Z_1 - (Z_2 + Z_m)}{Z_1 + Z_2 + Z_m} = \frac{(k_1 - k_2)T + i\omega^2 M}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = \text{Re}^{i\theta}$$

$$Z_{1-}(A - A') - Z_{2-} A'' = Z_m (A + A') = Z_m A''$$

$$t = \frac{2Z_1}{Z_1 + Z_2 + Z_m} = \frac{2k_1 T}{(k_1 + k_2)T - i\omega^2 M} = S e^{i\phi}$$

## Summary

- Wave motion across a boundary or discontinuity can be analyzed in terms of reflected and transmitted waves.
- Nature of discontinuity  $\Rightarrow$  specific form of boundary conditions
  - Examples:
    - discontinuity in linear mass density
    - discontinuity due to pointlike mass
- Transport of energy across boundary describable by reflection and transmission coefficients
- Useful parameterisation of boundary effects via characteristic impedances

$$Z = \frac{\text{driving force}}{\text{velocity of displacement}}$$