

REFLECTION, REFRACTION, AND DIFFRACTION (31)

I Main Topics

- A Huygen's Principal
- B Reflection
- C Refraction
- D Diffraction

II Huygen's Principal

III Reflection: "to bend (bounce) back"

- A Angle of incidence = angle of reflection
- B Waves reflect off vertical walls, not gently sloped beaches

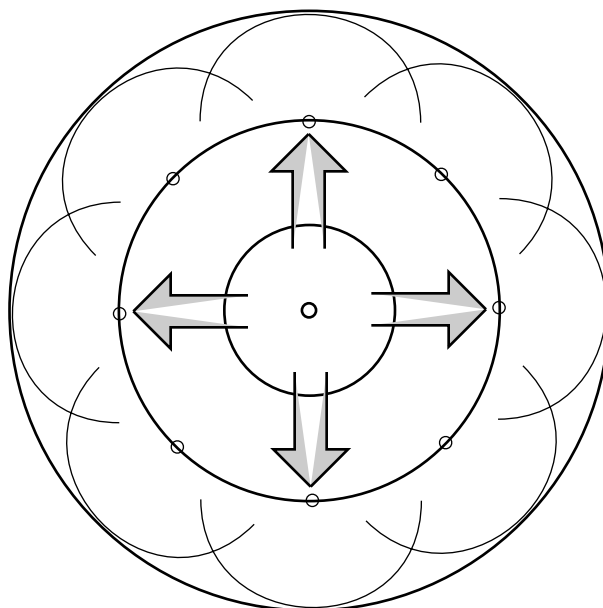
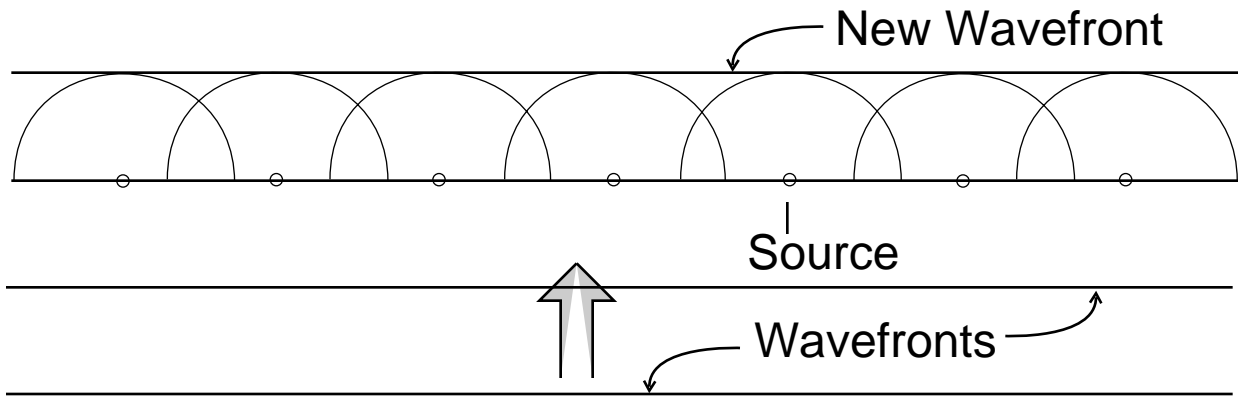
IV Refraction: bending of a wavefront due to changes in its speed

- A Snell's Law
- B Effect of water depth on wave speed
- C Effects of refraction at headlands and in bays
 - 1 Waves concentrate on headlands
 - 2 Waves diverge in bays
- D Ancient Polynesians exploited refraction in exploration!

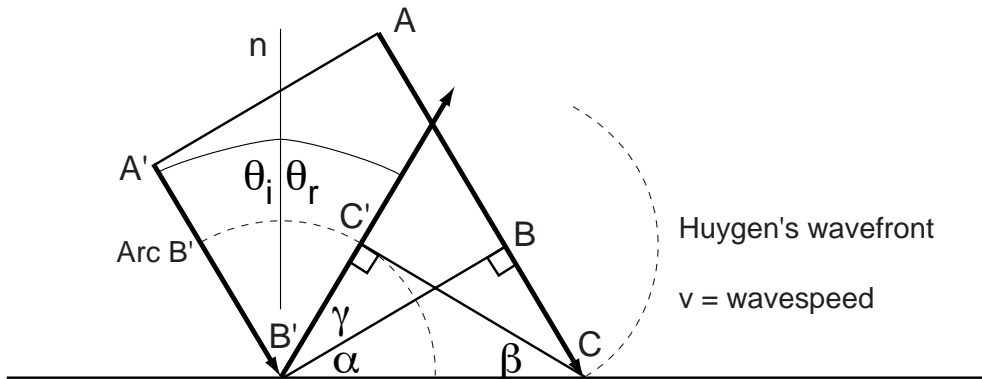
V Diffraction: deflection of waves around obstacles

- A A manifestation of Huygen's principal
- B Effects of diffraction at breakwaters

HUYGEN'S PRINCIPLE



Reflection of Waves



Consider wavefront AA' that advances to BB' and then to CC'
 Ray A'B' \perp to wavefront B'B because wavefronts are normal to rays
 Ray B'C' \perp to wavefront C'C because wavefronts are normal to rays
 (Ray B'C' \perp to wavefront C'C because CC' is tangent to Arc B')

$BC = B'C' = v\Delta t$; $B'C = CB'$; and both $\Delta B'BC$ and $\Delta CC'B'$ are right triangles, so

$\Delta BB'C \sim \Delta C'CB'$. So angle BB'C (i.e., α) = angle C'CB' (i.e., β).

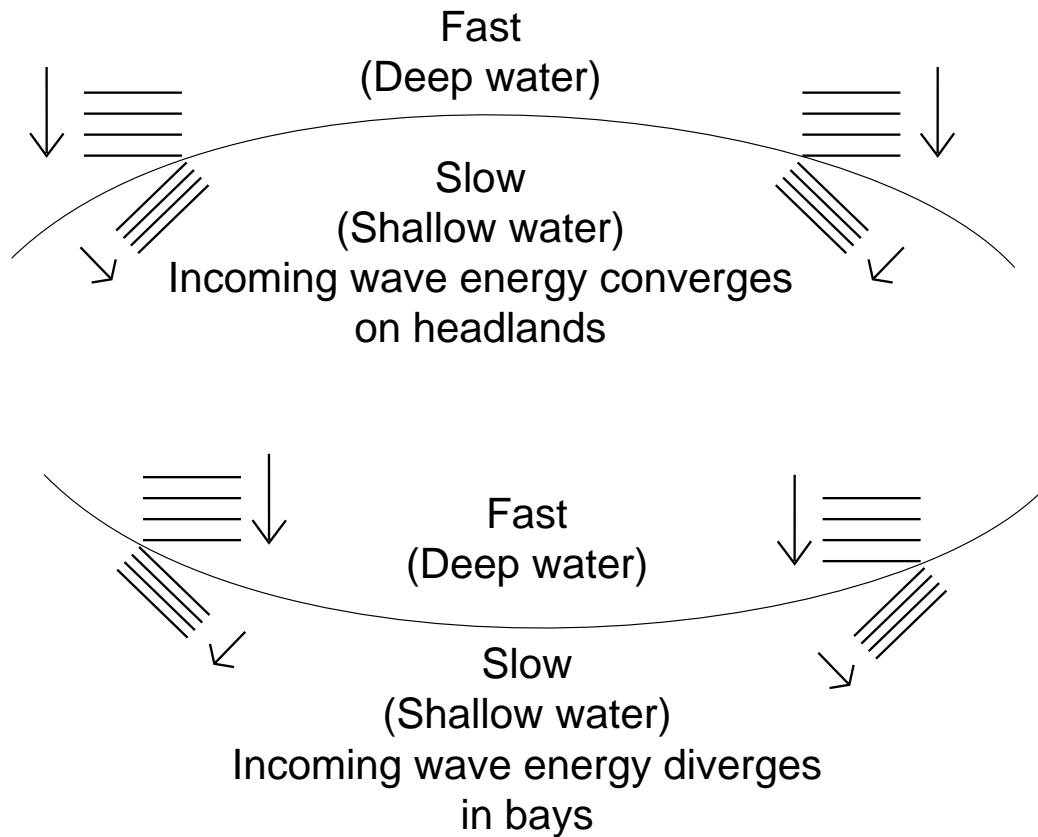
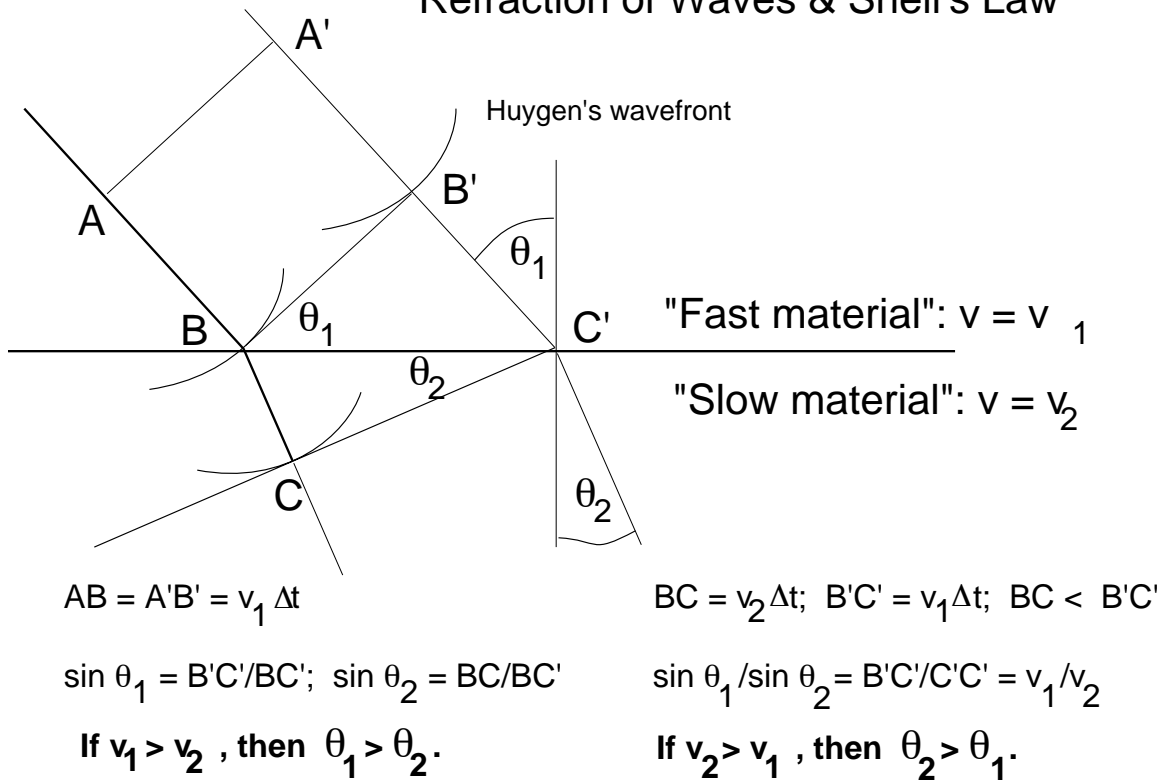
Now $A'B' \perp B'B$, and $nB' \perp B'C$, so $\theta_i = \alpha$.

Also, $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 90^\circ$, and $\alpha + \gamma + \theta_r = 90^\circ$, so $\theta_r = \beta$.

Whereas $\alpha = \beta$, $\theta_i = \theta_r$.

The angle of incidence = the angle of reflection.

Refraction of Waves & Snell's Law



DIFFRACTION & REFLECTION

