

Wave Propagation and Dispersion

```
Clear["Global`*"];
Off[General::spell1];
```

- Define a Gaussian wave packet of initial width σ_0 propagating in the +x direction with $v=1$. Assuming a dispersion relation of the form $\omega(k') \sim \omega_{\text{carrier}} + v_{\text{group}}(k') + d(k')^2$, the width has a time dependence given by $\sigma_0 \sqrt{1 + \epsilon t^2}$, where $\epsilon = 4 d^2 / \sigma_0^4$.

$$\sigma[t_] = \sigma_0 \sqrt{1 + \epsilon t^2};$$

$$\text{wave}[x_, t_] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma[t]} e^{-\frac{(x-vt)^2}{2\sigma[t]^2}};$$

```
val = {v → 1, σ0 → 1, ε → 0.01};
```

- Make a movie by plotting the wave function as a function of x for successive values of t

```
wplot[t_] := Plot[wave[x, t] /. val, {x, -5, 25},
  GridLines → Automatic, Frame → True, PlotRange → {{-5, 25}, {0, 0.5}},
  PlotStyle → {RGBColor[1, 0, 0]}, FrameLabel → {"x", "f"}, RotateLabel → False];
```

```
plotarray = Table[wplot[tp], {tp, 0, 20, 2}];
```

