

Physics 5B: Sound Waves and Decibel

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- Sound Waves are longitudinal pressure waves. Sound waves travel through a medium, like air or water, etc.

In air, the speed of sound $343 \frac{m}{s}$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}} \quad B: \Delta P = B \frac{\Delta V}{V_0}$$

For an Ideal gas:

$$PV = NKT \quad P = \frac{NKT}{V}$$

$$dP = \frac{-NKT}{v^2} dv = \frac{\rho}{m} \frac{dv}{v} \Rightarrow B = \frac{\rho}{m} KT$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}} = \sqrt{\frac{KT}{m}}$$

- Sound: Pitch is frequency: $f=20\text{-}20,000$ Hz
- Loudness: Intensity wave. energy hitting ear drum

$$\lambda = \frac{v}{f} = \frac{343m/s}{262/s} = 1.31m$$

During a thunder storm, you can calculate how far away lightning is using $\lambda = vt$

$$B = \frac{P}{\Delta v / v_0}$$

- $D(x,t)$: longitudinal displace of gas:

$$D(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t) \Rightarrow A \sin(k(x - vt))$$

$$v = \omega k^{-1} \quad \Delta P = -B \frac{s \Delta D}{s \Delta x}$$

$$\Delta P = -B \frac{dD}{dx} \quad \Delta P = -BAk \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

$$m = \frac{d^2 D}{dt^2}$$

Wave Equation:

$$\frac{d^2 f}{dt^2} - v^2 \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 0$$

- $P = 4\pi I x r^2$
- $I_0 = 10^{-12} W / n^2$
 $B = 10 \log_{10}(I / I_0)$