

Frequency and Velocity of Waves

Monday, 16 June 2025

Answer the following questions:

1. State what is transferred by waves.

Energy is transferred by waves.

2. State the definition of a longitudinal wave.

A longitudinal wave is a wave where the oscillation is parallel to the direction of energy transfer

3. What is frequency?

The number of waves that pass a point each second. The unit is Hertz (Hz)

4. Arianna Grande can sing to a high pitch and have a loud volume. Describe what the sound waves would look like.

The sound wave would have a high amplitude and a high frequency

5. Calculate the frequency if 20 waves pass a point in 5 seconds

$$20/5 = 4\text{Hz}$$

Stretch: State the equation for velocity (hint - similar to speed)



to



Do Now

Frequency and Velocity of Waves

P3.3.4

Science
Mastery



P3.3.1 Prior Knowledge Review

P3.3.2 Types of Wave

P3.3.3 Properties of Waves

Maths in Science Lesson 20

➤ **P3.3.4 Frequency and Velocity of Waves**

P3.3.5 Reflection and Refraction

P3.3.6 Investigating Reflection and Refraction

P3.3.7 Investigating Waves

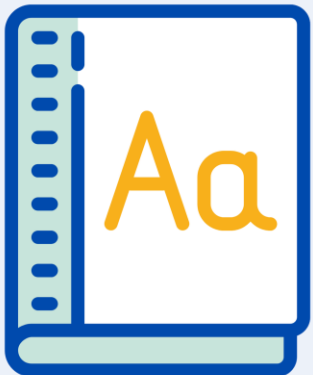
P3.3.8 Using Waves



Following this lesson, students will be able to:

- Calculate the frequency and time of a wave.
- State the equations that can be used to calculate velocity of a wave
- Calculate the velocity of different waves

Key Words:



velocity

frequency

wavelength

displacement

time period

Calculating Frequency

Sometimes you will not be told how many waves pass a point; therefore, we use this equation to calculate the frequency

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{\text{Time Period}}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

I DO: What is the frequency if it takes two seconds for a wave to pass a point?

Time Period = 2 seconds

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{\text{Time Period}}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Frequency = 0.5 Hz

Calculating Frequency

MWB: What is the frequency if it takes 8 seconds for a wave to pass a point?

Time Period = 8 seconds

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{\text{Time Period}}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = 0.125 \text{ Hz}$$

MWB: What is the frequency if it takes 30 milliseconds for a wave to pass a point?

Time Period = 30 milliseconds

Time period = 0.03 seconds

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{\text{Time Period}}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{0.03}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = 3.33 \text{ Hz}$$

Independent practice

Silent solo

5 minutes



Calculating frequency

1. A wave has a time period of 0.25 seconds

What is its frequency?

2. The time period of a sound wave is 0.005 seconds

Calculate the frequency of the wave.

3. If a wave completes one cycle in 2 milliseconds

What is its frequency in hertz (Hz)?

4. A wave takes 0.1 seconds to complete one oscillation.

Find the frequency of the wave.

Calculating time-period

1) A wave has a frequency of 40 Hz, what is the time period?

2) A wave has a frequency of 2Hz, what is the time period?

Answers

Calculating frequency

1. A wave has a time period of 0.25 seconds

What is its frequency? $\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{0.25}$

$$\text{Frequency} = 4 \text{ Hz}$$

2. The time period of a sound wave is 0.005 seconds

Calculate the frequency of the wave. $\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{0.005}$

$$\text{Frequency} = 200 \text{ Hz}$$

3. If a wave completes one cycle in 2 milliseconds

What is its frequency in hertz (Hz)?

Time Period = 2 milliseconds

Time period = 0.002 seconds

$$\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{0.002}$$

$$\text{Frequency} = 500 \text{ Hz}$$

4. A wave takes 0.1 seconds to complete one oscillation.

Find the frequency of the wave. $\text{Frequency} = \frac{1}{0.1}$

$$\text{Frequency} = 10 \text{ Hz}$$

Answers

Calculating time-period

1) A wave has a frequency of 40 Hz, what is the time period?

$$40\text{Hz} = \frac{1}{\text{Time period}} \quad 40\text{ Hz} \times \text{time period} = 1 \quad \text{Time period} = \frac{1}{40\text{ Hz}}$$

0.0025 seconds

2) A wave has a frequency of 2Hz, what is the time period?

$$2\text{Hz} = \frac{1}{\text{Time period}} \quad 2\text{ Hz} \times \text{time period} = 1 \quad \text{Time period} = \frac{1}{2\text{ Hz}}$$

0.5 seconds

3) A wave has a frequency of 67 Hz, what is the time period?

$$67\text{Hz} = \frac{1}{\text{Time period}} \quad 67\text{ Hz} \times \text{time period} = 1 \quad \text{Time period} = \frac{1}{67\text{ Hz}}$$

0.015 seconds

4) A wave has a frequency of 4.5Hz, what is the time period?

$$4.5\text{Hz} = \frac{1}{\text{Time period}} \quad 4.5\text{ Hz} \times \text{time period} = 1 \quad \text{Time period} = \frac{1}{4.5\text{ Hz}}$$

0.22 seconds

Calculating the velocity of a wave

Velocity is the speed of a wave in the direction it is travelling

Velocity of the wave (m/s) = $\frac{\text{displacement (m)}}{\text{time (s)}}$

Velocity of the wave (m/s) = frequency (Hz) x wavelength (m)

$$v = \frac{d}{t}$$

$$v = f \times \lambda$$

Calculating velocity of a wave

A wave has wavelength of 2 metres and a frequency of 1400 Hz.

Calculate the velocity of the wave.

Velocity = ?

Wavelength = 2 m

Frequency = 1400 Hz

$$v = f \times \lambda$$

$$v = 1400 \times 2$$

$$\text{Velocity} = 2800 \text{ m/s}$$

V: Values

E: Equation

S: Substitution

C: Calculation

U: Units

Calculating velocity of a wave

A wave has wavelength of 8 metres and a frequency of 200 Hz.

Calculate the velocity of the wave.

Velocity = ?

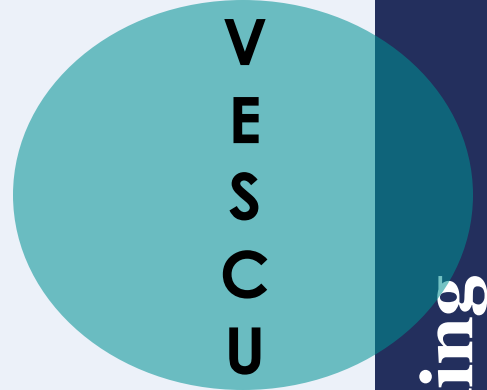
Wavelength = 8 m

Frequency = 200 Hz

$$v = f \times \lambda$$

$$v = 200 \times 8$$

$$\text{Velocity} = 1600 \text{ m/s}$$



V: Values

E: Equation

S: Substitution

C: Calculation

U: Units

Calculating velocity of a wave

A wave has wavelength of 0.75 meters and a frequency of 8000 Hz.

Calculate the velocity of the wave.

Velocity = ? Wavelength = 0.75 m Frequency = 8000 Hz

$$v = f \times \lambda$$

$$v = 0.75 \times 8000$$

$$\text{Velocity} = 6000 \text{ m/s}$$

V
E
S
C
U

V: Values

E: Equation

S: Substitution

C: Calculation

U: Units

Identify the incorrect steps in this calculation

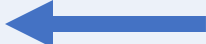
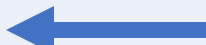
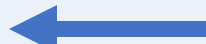
A wave has a frequency of 2.5 Hz and a wavelength of 0.02 km. Calculate the wave speed.

$$v = f \times \lambda$$

$$v = 2.5 \times 0.02$$

$$v = 0.05 \text{ Hz}$$

Choose the correct answer

1. What is the equation that links velocity, displacement and time?
 - A. Velocity of wave = displacement x time
 - B. Velocity of wave = displacement/time 
 - C. Velocity of wave = time/displacement
2. What is the equation that links velocity, frequency and wavelength?
 - A. Velocity of wave = frequency x wavelength 
 - B. Velocity of wave = frequency/wavelength
 - C. Velocity of wave = wavelength/ frequency
3. What is the equation that links time period and frequency?
 - A. Time period = frequency²
 - B. Time period = 1 x frequency
 - C. Time period = 1/frequency 

Complete the worksheet

V: Values

E: Equation

S: Substitution

C: Calculation

U: Units

Answer the questions in your book, showing your workings

Calculating Velocity of Waves

Use this equation to help the questions below:

$$\text{Velocity of the wave (m/s)} = \frac{\text{displacement (m)}}{\text{time (s)}}$$

1. A woman claps. It takes 0.02 s for her friend to hear the clap. Her friend is standing 7 m away. What is the speed of sound?
2. A dolphin makes a clicking noise. His dolphin friend is 60 m away and hears the noise 0.04 s later. What is the speed of sound in water?
3. A duck quacks and 1.2 seconds later an echo comes back. How far from the wall is the duck? The speed of sound in air is 340 m/s.
4. A dog barks near a wall. 0.7 seconds later she hears an echo. How far away from the wall is the dog?
5. A woman claps near a wall. She is standing 15 m away from the wall. How long will it be before she hears an echo? The speed of sound is 340 m/s
6. An iceberg is 3,000 metres from a submarine. The submarine emits ultrasound. How long until the submarine detects the iceberg?

Use this equation to answer the questions below:

$$\text{Calculate velocity of wave: Velocity of the wave (m/s)} = \text{frequency (Hz)} \times \text{wavelength (m)}$$

7. Calculate the speed of a sound wave in steel with a frequency of 500 Hz and a wavelength of 3.0 metres.

Answers

1. A woman claps. It takes 0.02 s for her friend to hear the clap. Her friend is standing 7 m away. What is the speed of sound?

$$s = ?$$

$$d = 7 \text{ m}$$

$$t = 0.02 \text{ s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$s = 7/0.02$$

$$s = 350 \text{ m/s}$$

2. A dolphin makes a clicking noise. His dolphin friend is 60 m away and hears the noise 0.04 s later. What is the speed of sound in water?

$$s = ?$$

$$d = 60 \text{ m}$$

$$t = 0.04 \text{ s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$s = 60/0.04$$

$$s = 1500 \text{ m/s}$$

Answers

3. A duck quacks and 1.2 seconds later an echo comes back. How far from the wall is the duck? The speed of sound in air is 340 m/s.

$$d = ?$$

$$t = 1.2 \text{ s}$$

$$s = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$340 = d/1.2$$

$$d = 340 \times 1.2\text{s}$$

$$d = 408 \text{ m}$$

$$408/2 = 204 \text{ m}$$

4. A dog barks near a wall. 0.7 seconds later she hears an echo. How far away from the wall is the dog? The speed of sound in air is 340 m/s.

$$d = ?$$

$$t = 0.7\text{s}$$

$$s = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$340 = d/0.7$$

$$d = 340 \times 0.7\text{s}$$

$$d = 238 \text{ m}$$

$$238/2 = 119 \text{ m}$$

Answers

5. A woman claps near a wall. She is standing 15 m away from the wall. How long will it be before she hears an echo? The speed of sound is 340 m/s

$$t = ?$$

$$d = 15 \times 2 = 30 \text{ m}$$

$$s = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$340 = 30/t$$

$$t = 30/340$$

$$t = 0.09 \text{ s}$$

6. An iceberg is 3,000 metres from a submarine. The submarine emits ultrasound. How long until the submarine detects the iceberg? The speed of ultrasound in water is 1500 m/s

$$t = ?$$

$$d = 3000 \times 2 = 6000 \text{ m}$$

$$s = 1500 \text{ m/s}$$

$$s = d/t$$

$$1500 = 6000/t$$

$$t = 6000/1500$$

$$t = 4 \text{ s}$$

Answers

7. Calculate the speed of a sound wave in steel with a frequency of 500 Hz and a wavelength of 3.0 metres.

$$v = ?$$

$$f = 500 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\lambda = 3 \text{ m}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$v = 500 \times 3$$

$$v = 1500 \text{ m/s}$$

8. Calculate the speed of a ripple on a pond with a frequency of 2 Hz and a wavelength of 0.4 metres.

$$v = ?$$

$$f = 2 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\lambda = 0.4 \text{ m}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$v = 2 \times 0.4$$

$$v = 0.8 \text{ m/s}$$

Answers

9. Calculate the wavelength of a wave on a slinky spring with a frequency of 2 Hz travelling at 3 m/s.

$$\lambda = ?$$

$$v = 3 \text{ m/s}$$

$$f = 2 \text{ Hz}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$3 = 2 \times \lambda$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\lambda = 1.5 \text{ m}$$

10. Calculate the wavelength of an ultrasound wave with a frequency 40,000 Hz travelling at 1450 m/s in fatty tissue.

$$\lambda = ?$$

$$v = 1450 \text{ m/s}$$

$$f = 40000 \text{ Hz}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$1450 = 40000 \times \lambda$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1450}{40000}$$

$$\lambda = 0.036 \text{ m}$$

Answers

11. Calculate the frequency of a sound wave of wavelength 10 metres travelling at 340 metres per second in air.

$$f = ?$$

$$v = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\lambda = 10 \text{ m}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$340 = f \times 10$$

$$f = \frac{340}{10}$$

$$f = 34 \text{ Hz}$$

12. Calculate the frequency of a transverse wave with a wavelength of 0.02 m travelling at 300000000 m/s

$$f = ?$$

$$v = 300000000 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\lambda = 0.02 \text{ m}$$

$$v = f \lambda$$

$$300000000 = f \times 0.02$$

$$f = \frac{300000000}{0.02}$$

$$f = 15000000000 \text{ Hz}$$

Answers

13. If the period of a wave is 2.5 s, what is the frequency?

$$T = 2.5 \text{ s}$$

$$f = 1/T$$

$$f = 1/2.5$$

$$f = 0.4 \text{ Hz}$$

14. If the frequency of a wave is 34 Hz, what is the period?

$$f = 34 \text{ Hz}$$

$$T = 1/f$$

$$T = 1/34$$

$$T = 0.03 \text{ s}$$

Answer the questions below.

1. What is the equation that links velocity of wave, frequency and wavelength?

- ☐ A. velocity = frequency/wavelength
- ☐ B. velocity = wavelength/frequency
- ☒ C. velocity = frequency x wavelength

2. What is the velocity of a wave with a frequency of 400 Hz and a wavelength of 0.2 m?

- ☐ A. 0.0005 m/s
- ☐ B. 2000 m/s
- ☒ C. 80 m/s

3. What is the frequency of a wave with velocity of 10 m/s and wavelength 0.1 m?

- ☒ A. 100 Hz
- ☐ B. 1 Hz
- ☐ C. 0.01 Hz