

PHY250: Waves

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Digipen

Fall 2021

Wave Motion

- Energy transported by a wave
- Mathematical description of a Wave
- The Wave Equation

Superposition Principle

- Interference
- Reflection and transmission
- Standing waves

Introduction

So far we have studied the Simple Harmonic Motion of a single particle...



Introduction

What happens if the the particle that is oscillating is part of a medium?



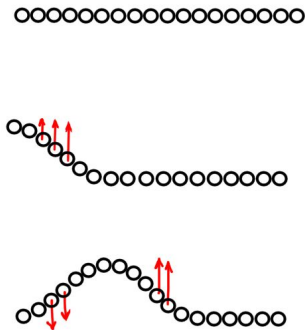
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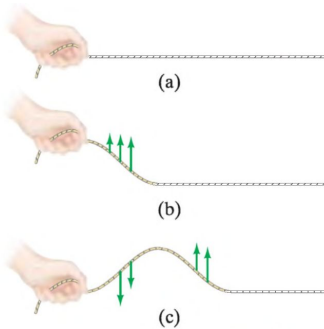
- ▶ The waves move with a recognizable velocity
- ▶ Each particle oscillates about an equilibrium position
- ▶ Waves can move over large distances, the medium has only a limited motion.
- ▶ Mechanical Waves carry Energy as oscillation of matter, they does not carry matter.

Mechanical Waves

Example: How a wave is formed in a cord?

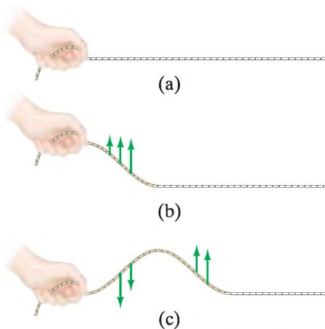
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Single pulse formation: The hand pulls up and down on one end of the cord, each section of the cord is pulled up and down by the tension made by the adjacent section. The source of the traveling wave pulse is a disturbance, and cohesive forces between adjacent section of the cord cause the pulse to travel.

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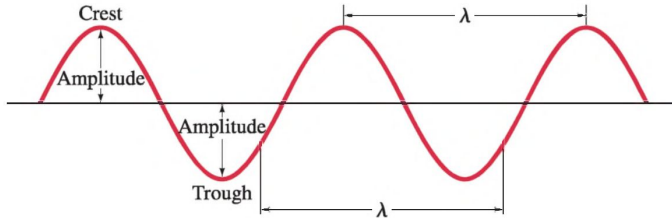
1. In space: If you take a picture of the wave at a given instant of time, the wave will have the shape of a sine or a cosine.
2. In time: the up-down motion of a small segment of the cord at a certain position will be Simple Harmonic Motion.

Periodic Sinusoidal Waves

Picture of the wave at a certain time:

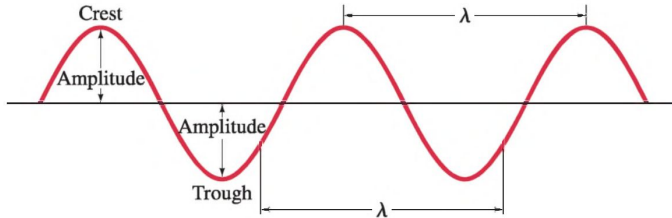
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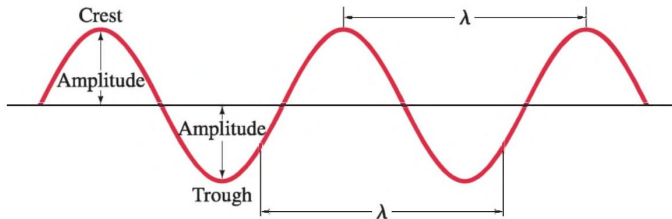
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$$v = \lambda / T = \lambda f \quad (1)$$

Types of waves

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- ▶ **Transverse waves** The vibration up-down of the particles of the medium are in a direction transverse to the motion of the wave itself.

Types of waves

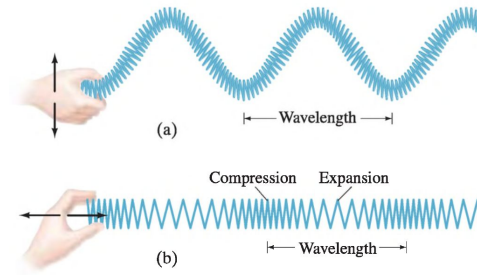
- ▶ **Transverse waves** The vibration up-down of the particles of the medium are in a direction transverse to the motion of the wave itself.
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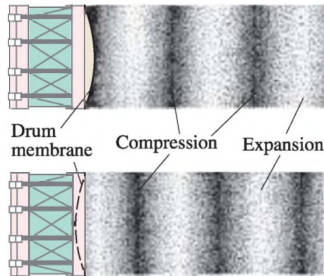
Sound waves: example of longitudinal waves.

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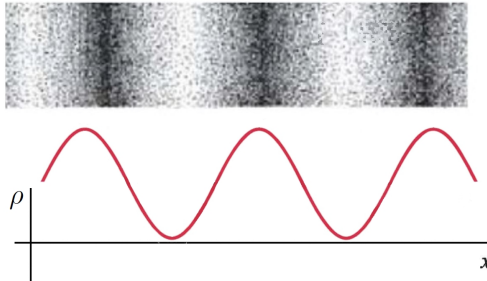


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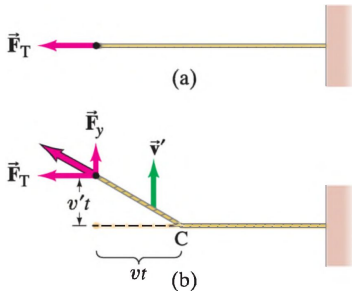
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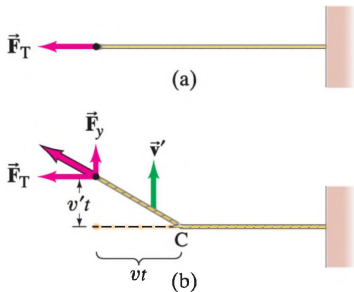
$$v = \sqrt{\frac{F_T}{\mu}} \quad (2)$$

where, F_T is the tension on the cord and μ is the longitudinal density.

Proof:

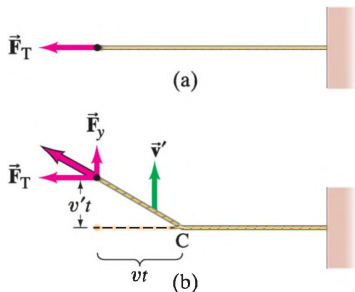


Proof:



Small vertical displacement ($v't \ll vt$)

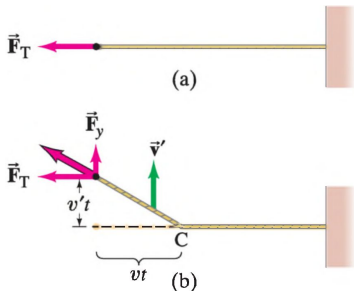
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$$\frac{F_y}{F_T} = \frac{v't}{vt} = \frac{v'}{v}$$

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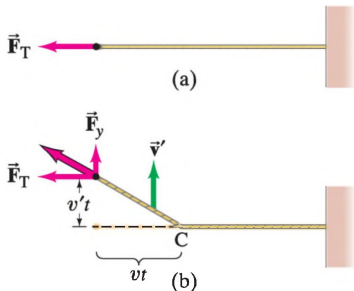
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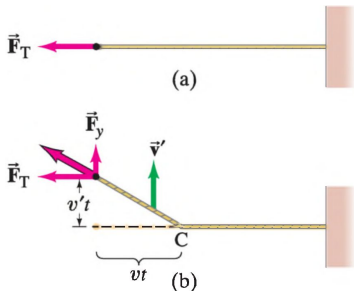
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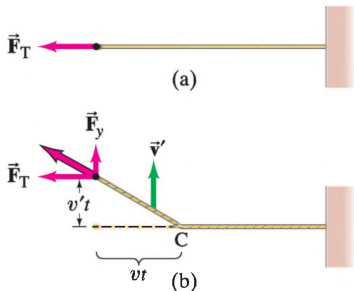
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Where, E and B are the elastic and bulk modulus, respectively.

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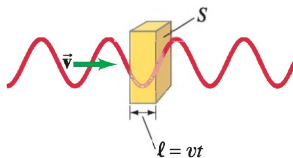
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$$\overline{P} = \frac{E}{t} \quad (6)$$

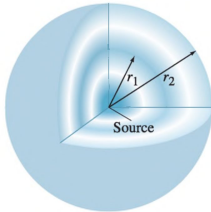
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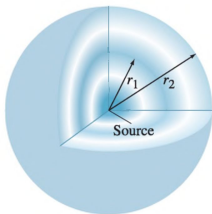
$$I = \frac{\overline{P}}{S} = \frac{E}{tS} = 2\pi^2 \rho v f^2 A^2 \quad (7)$$

Point source in an isotropic medium

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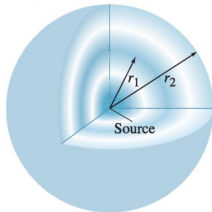


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If the medium is isotropic, the wave from a point source is a spherical wave, the intensity is,

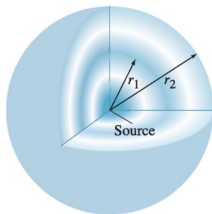
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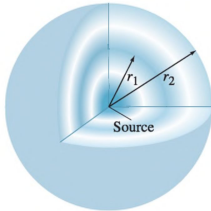
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If the power output P is constant $\rightarrow I \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$

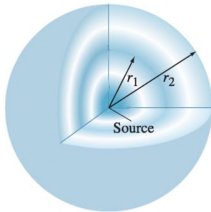
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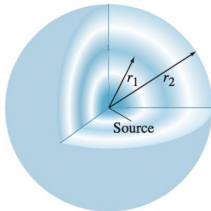
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wave is twice as far from the source
→ amplitude is half as large.

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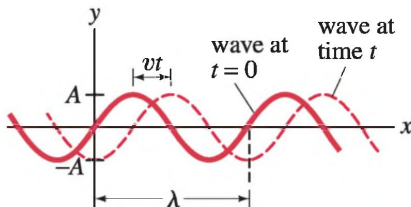
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$$\boxed{v = \frac{2\pi}{k} \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = \frac{\omega}{k}} \quad (14)$$

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$$D(x, t) = A \sin(kx + \omega t) \quad (15)$$

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The argument of the sine can also contain a phase ϕ determined by the value of D at $x = 0$, $t = 0$.

The Wave Equation

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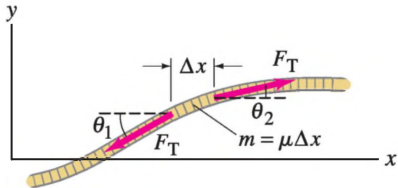
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Apply Newton to a segment of a string \rightarrow Obtain Wave equation

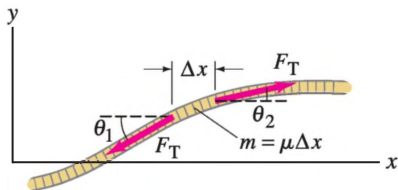
We assume:

- ▶ The amplitude of the wave is small compared to the wavelength.
- ▶ The tension in the string does not vary during a vibration.

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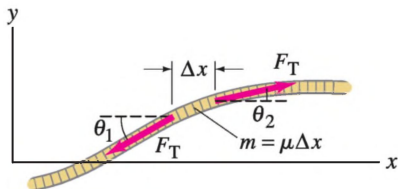


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$$\text{Newton} \rightarrow \sum F_y = ma_y$$

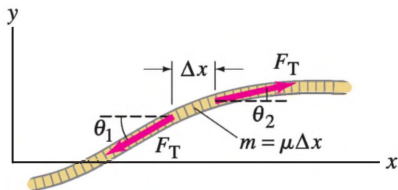
The Wave Equation



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$$F_T \sin \theta_2 - F_T \sin \theta_1 = ma$$

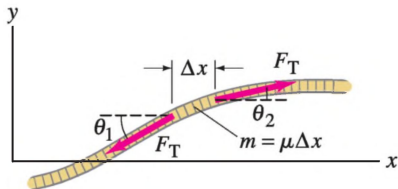
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$$\sin \theta \approx \tan \theta = \frac{\partial D}{\partial x} = S$$

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$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\mu}{F_T} \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial t^2} \quad (16)$$

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$$\rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{F_T}{\mu}}$$

The Wave Equation

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This is the **one-dimensional** wave equation, and it can describe not only small amplitude waves on a stretched string, but also small amplitude longitudinal waves in gases, liquids, and elastic solids.

Superposition Principle

If D_1 and D_2 are solutions of

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Then, $D_1 + D_2$ is a solution.

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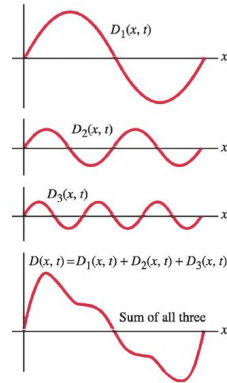
When two or more waves pass through the same region of space at the same time, the displacement is the vector sum of the separate displacements.

Superposition Principle

Sum of three sinusoidal Waves

Superposition Principle

Sum of three sinusoidal Waves
→ it is not sinusoidal.

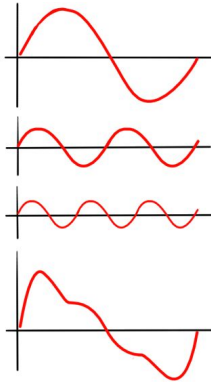


Superposition Principle

The shape changes if the velocity of the waves depends on the frequency.

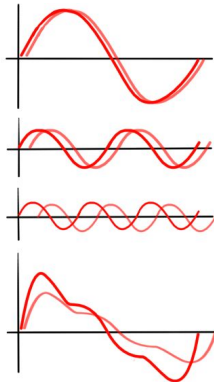
Superposition Principle

The shape changes if the velocity of the waves depends on the frequency. → Dispersion



Superposition Principle

Dispersion



Superposition Principle

Fourier's Theorem:

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Any complex periodic wave = sum of simple sinusoidal waves

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Any complex periodic wave = sum of simple sinusoidal waves

If the wave is not periodic, the sum becomes an integral (called a Fourier integral).

Superposition Principle

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{P}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{P}\right) \quad (18)$$

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where $f(x)$ integrable in the interval $(-P/2, P/2)$

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{P} \int_{-P/2}^{P/2} f(x) dx \quad (19)$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{P} \int_{-P/2}^{P/2} f(x) \cos\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{P}\right) dx \quad (20)$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{P} \int_{-P/2}^{P/2} f(x) \sin\left(\frac{2n\pi x}{P}\right) dx \quad (21)$$

Interference

Interference: two waves pass through the same region of space at the same time. .

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- ▶ **Destructive Interference** the two waves have opposite displacements and they add to zero.

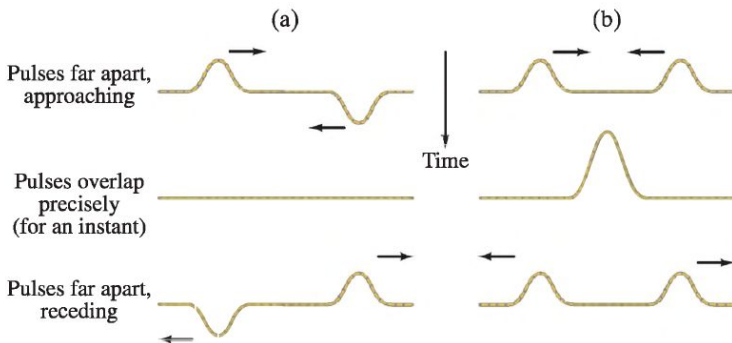
Interference

Interference: two waves pass through the same region of space at the same time. .

- ▶ **Destructive Interference** the two waves have opposite displacements and they add to zero.
- ▶ **Constructive Interference** they produce a resultant displacement that is greater than the displacement of either separate pulse,

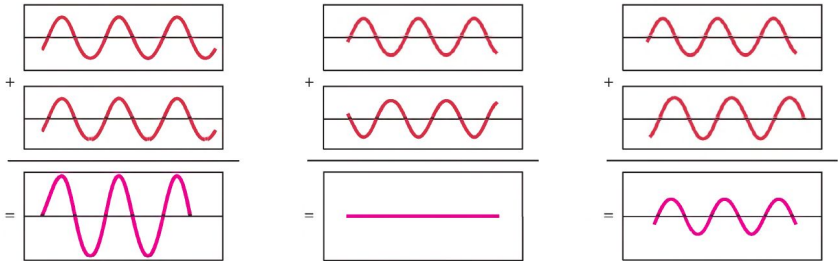
Interference

Example two pulses in a cord:



Interference

The interference pattern of two equal waves can be constructive (waves in phase, phase 0 degree), destructive (out of phase, phase 180 degree), partially destructive (other angles or different amplitudes).

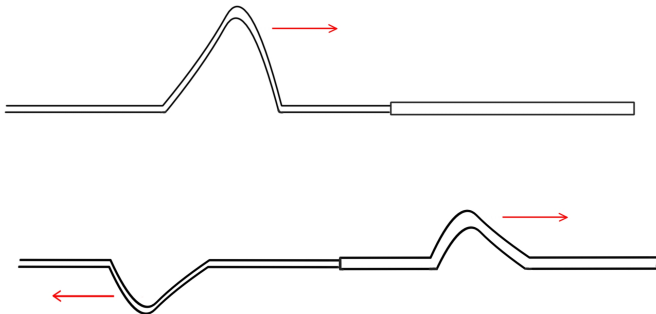


Reflection and transmission

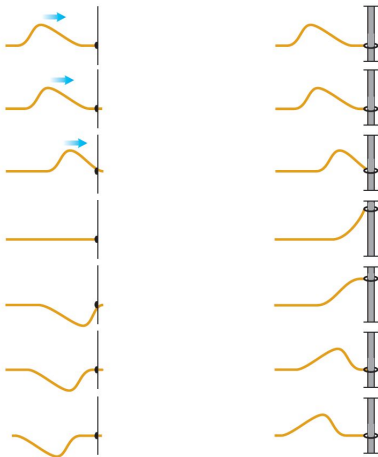
What happens when a wave strikes an obstacle, or comes to the end of the medium in which it is traveling?

Reflection and transmission

Change of medium



Reflection and transmission

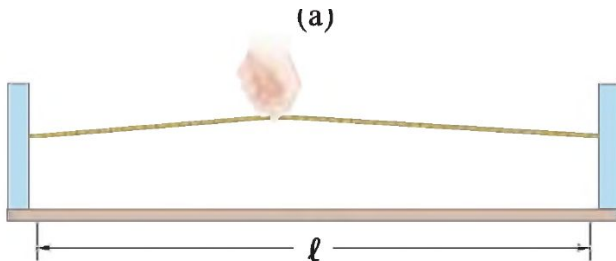


Resonance

String fixed at its two ends,

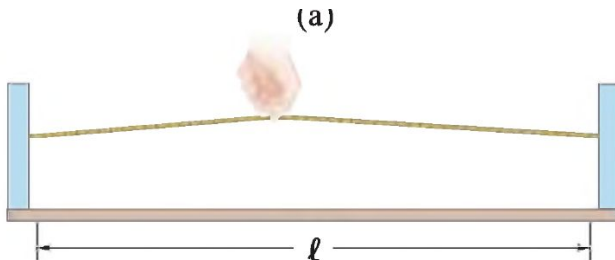
Resonance

String fixed at its two ends, What happens when the string is pocked?



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String fixed at its two ends, What happens when the string is pocked?



The initial pulse generates two traveling waves that are reflected in both extremes.

Resonance

$$D(x, t) = D_1(x, t) + D_2(x, t)$$

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$$D_1(x, t) = A \sin(kx - \omega t), \quad D_2(x, t) = A \sin(kx + \omega t)$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{D(x, t) = 2A \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t)}$$

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$$\rightarrow \boxed{D(x, t) = 2A \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t)} \quad \text{Standing Wave} \quad (22)$$

Resonance

If the string is fixed at its two ends,

$$D(x=0, t) = D(x=\ell, t) = 0$$

then,

$$k\ell = n\pi \rightarrow k = \frac{n\pi}{\ell} \quad (23)$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2\ell}{n}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (24)$$

Resonance

All particles of the string vibrate with the same frequency:

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Fundamental frequency: $n = 1 \rightarrow f_1$

Harmonics $\rightarrow f_n$

Resonance

The amplitude of the motion depends on x ,

$$\text{amplitude} = 2A \sin(kx)$$

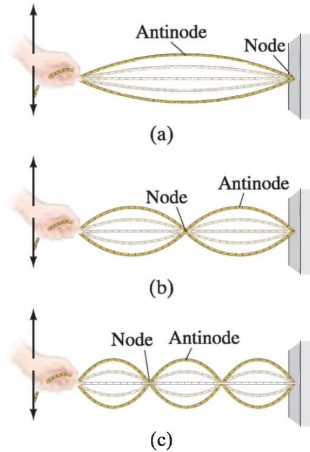
The amplitude has a maximum, equal to $2A$, when

$$kx = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2} \rightarrow x = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{k} \quad (27)$$

Resonance

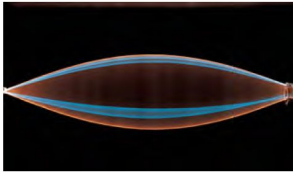
The frequencies at which standing waves are produced are the **natural frequencies** or **resonant frequencies** of the cord. When a string is pocked, only standing waves corresponding to resonant frequencies persist for long.

Resonance

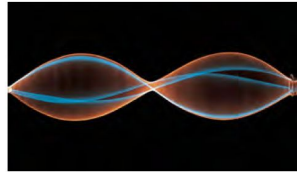


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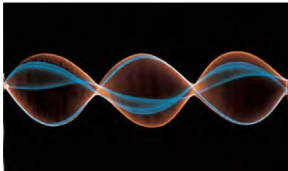
(a) String is one-half wavelength long.



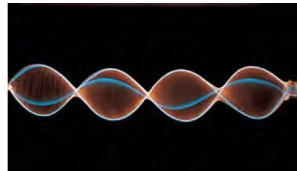
(b) String is one wavelength long.



(c) String is one and a half wavelengths long.



(d) String is two wavelengths long.



Resonance

- ▶ The term “standing” wave is also meaningful from the point of view of energy. Since the string is at rest at the nodes, no energy flows past these points. Hence the energy is not transmitted down the string but “stands” in place in the string.

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- ▶ Standing waves are produced not only on strings, but on any object that is struck, such as a drum membrane or an object made of metal or wood.

Questions

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2. Will any function of $(x - vt)$ represent a wave motion?
3. When a standing wave exists on a string, the vibrations of incident and reflected waves cancel at the nodes. Does this mean that energy was destroyed?
4. Can the amplitude of the standing waves be greater than the amplitude of the vibrations that cause them (up and down motion of the hand)?