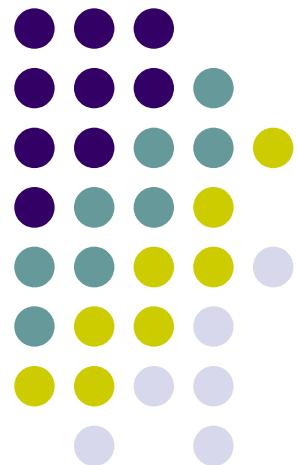


# Chapter 15

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Wave Motion





# PHYS 2321

# Week 13: Wave Motion / Sound

# Day 1 Outline



### Notes:

## Try Ch. 15 (wave motion) practice quiz

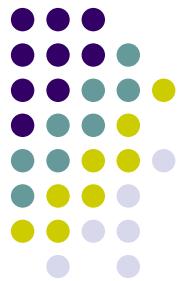


# PHYS 2321

## Week 13: Wave Motion / Sound

# Day 2 Outline

# Waves



**Wave: a travelling disturbance or variation in a medium or field which carries energy.**

**What do all types of waves have in common?**

**They transmit energy.**

**They can carry information.**

**They all have amplitudes, speeds, wavelengths and frequencies.**



# Types of Waves

## Mechanical waves

Some physical medium is being disturbed

A restorative force acts between neighboring elements of the medium

Examples: in air (sound), on strings, in Earth (seismic)

## Electromagnetic waves

No medium required!

Accelerating charge creates changing E and B fields

Examples: light, radio waves, x-rays, IR, gamma rays

## Gravitational waves (since 2016)

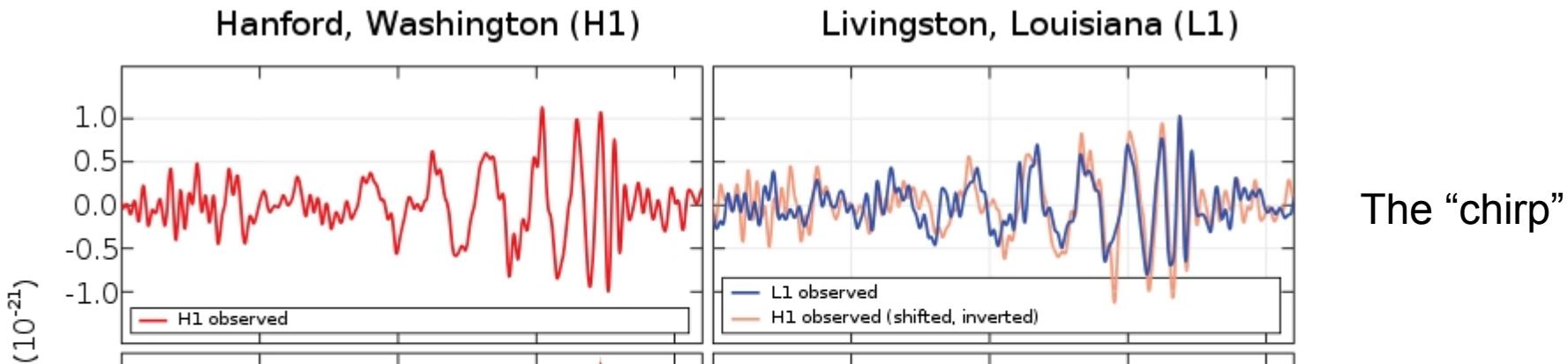
No medium required. Ex: inspiraling black holes!



# The first gravitational wave detection: by the LIGO consortium on Feb 11, 2016.

**Source:** inspiralling binary black holes. One  $29 M_{\odot}$  and one  $36 M_{\odot}$ .  $1.3 \times 10^9$  LY away. Produced one  $62 M_{\odot}$  BH.

**Power:** momentarily greater than all of the stars in the observable universe.  $3 M_{\odot}$  converted into gravitational wave energy in  $\sim 0.2$  seconds.



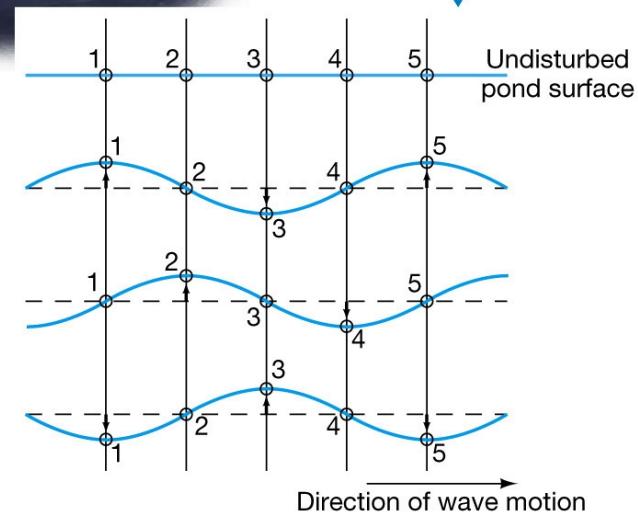
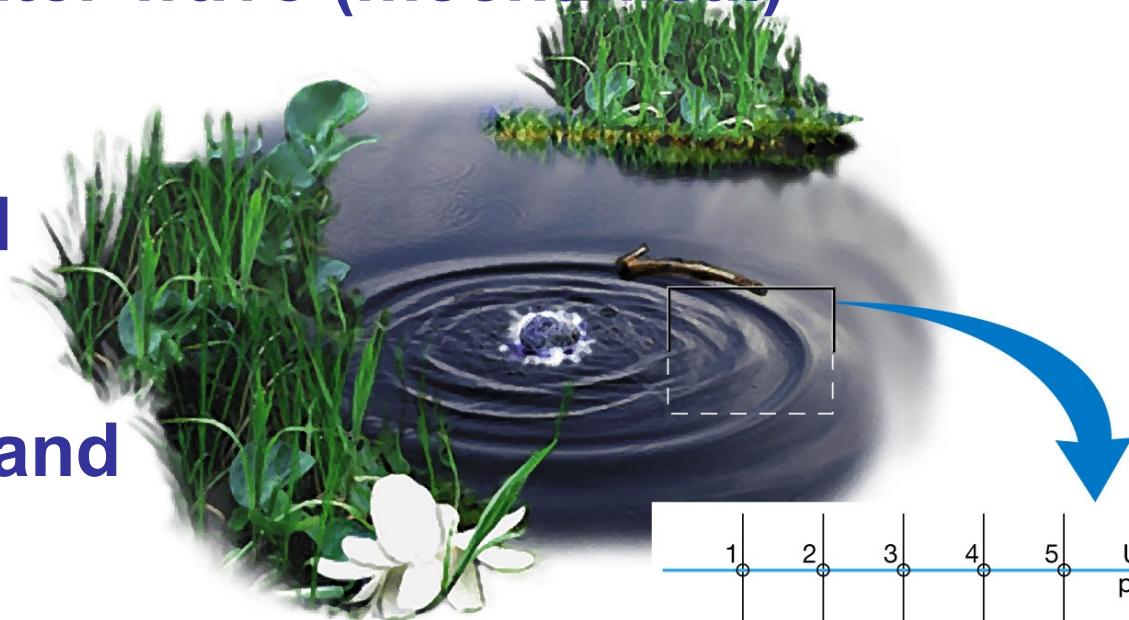


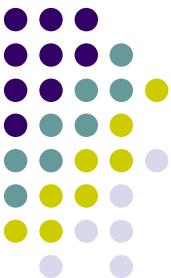
# Waves - terminology

**Example: water wave (mechanical)**

**Water just  
moves up and  
down**

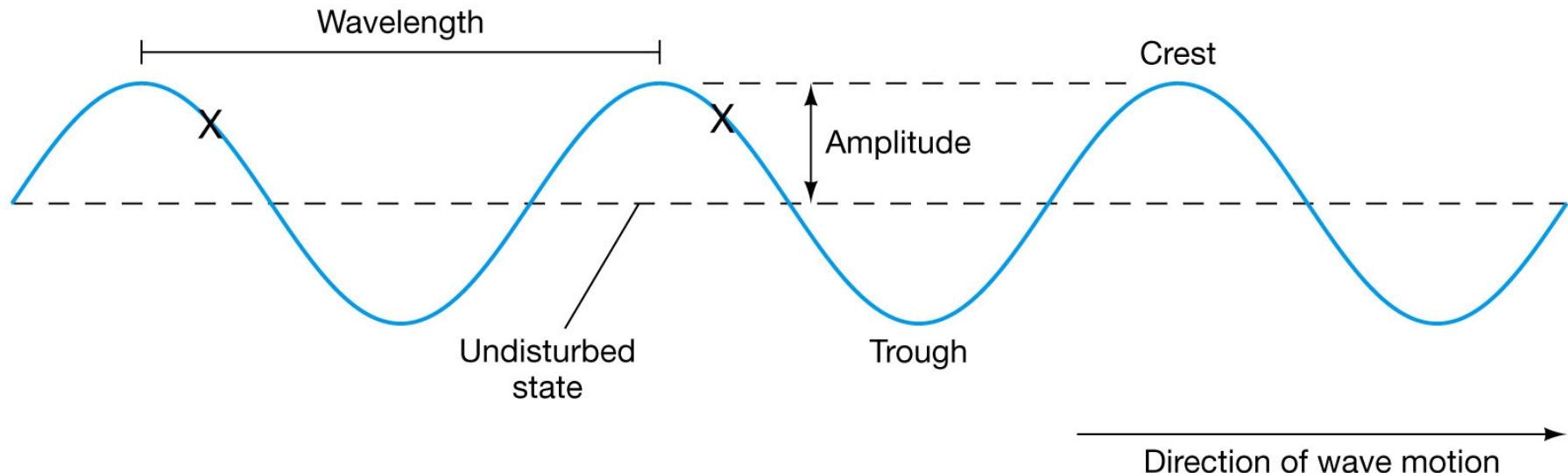
**Wave travels and  
can transmit  
energy**





# Waves - terminology

**Sine waves:** waves described by a sine or cosine function. Also called: “*sinusoidal*”



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This graph shows amplitude versus position, but amplitude versus time is ALSO a sinusoidal graph!

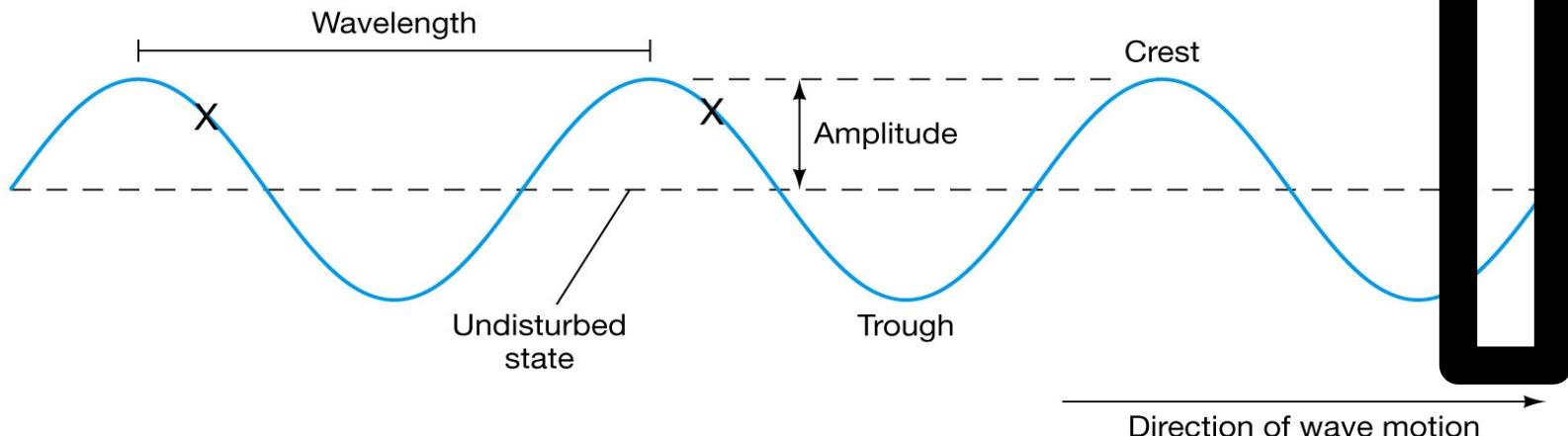


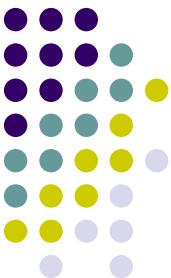
# Waves - terminology

**Frequency:** number of wave crests that pass a given point per second

**Period:** time between passage of successive crests

**Relationship:** Frequency = 1 / Period





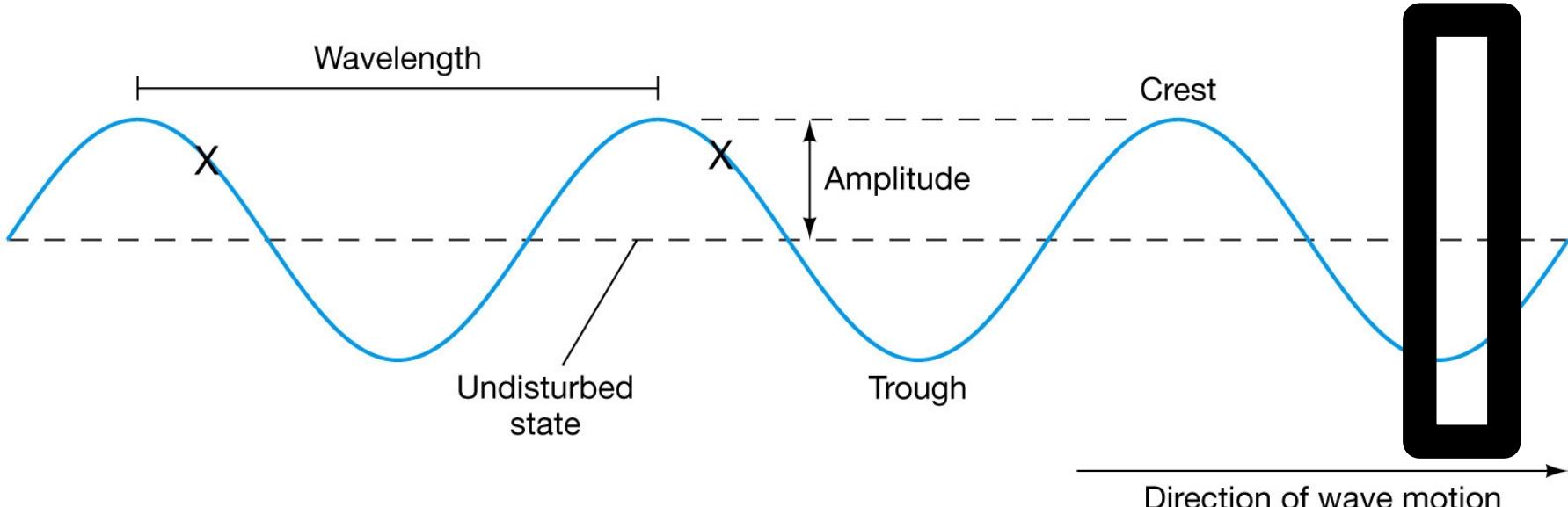
# Waves - terminology

**Wavelength:** distance between successive crests

**Velocity:** speed at which crests move

$$\text{Velocity} = \text{Wavelength}/\text{Period}$$

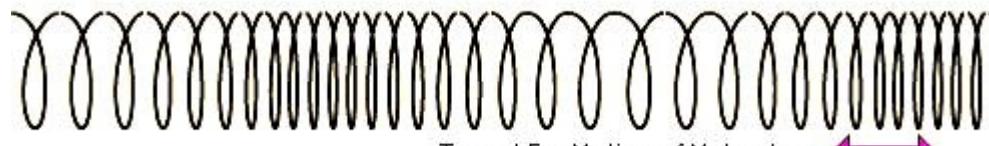
$$\text{Velocity} = \text{Wavelength} * \text{frequency}$$



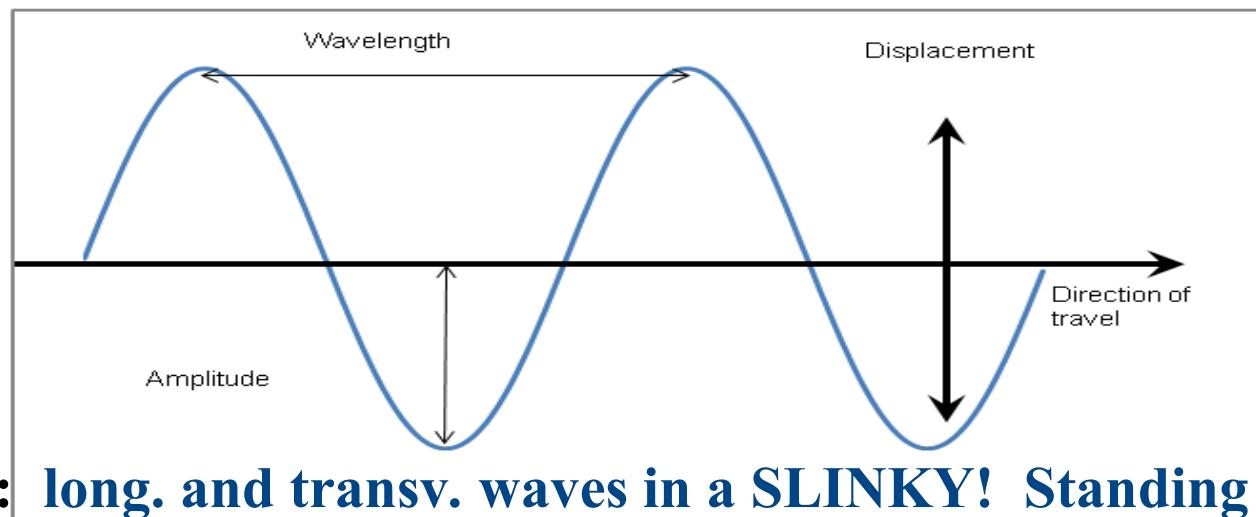


# Waves - terminology

**Longitudinal wave:** propagates in a direction parallel to the displacement of the medium



**Transverse wave:** propagates in a direction perpendicular (or transverse) to the displacement of the medium

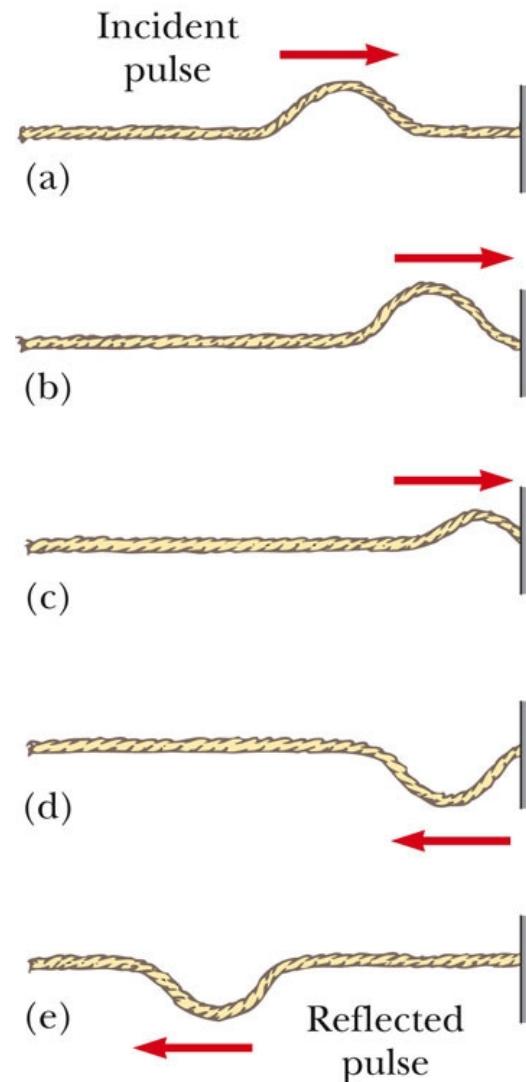


**DEMO:** long. and transv. waves in a SLINKY! Standing waves!

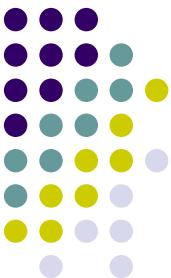
# Reflection of a Wave, Fixed End



- When the pulse reaches the support, the pulse moves back along the string in the opposite direction
- This is the **reflection** of the pulse
- The pulse is inverted

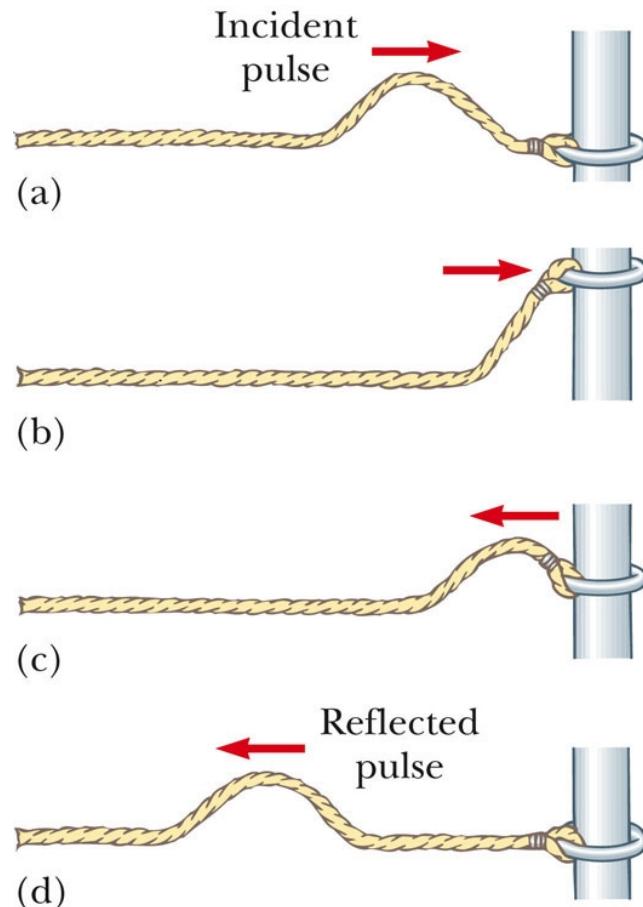


**DEMO:** Pulses on white elastic cord.  
Speed  $v \propto \sqrt{T/\mu}$

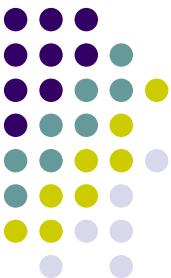


# Reflection of a Wave, Free End

- With a free end, the string is free to move vertically
- The pulse is reflected
- The pulse is not inverted
- The reflected pulse has the same amplitude as the initial pulse

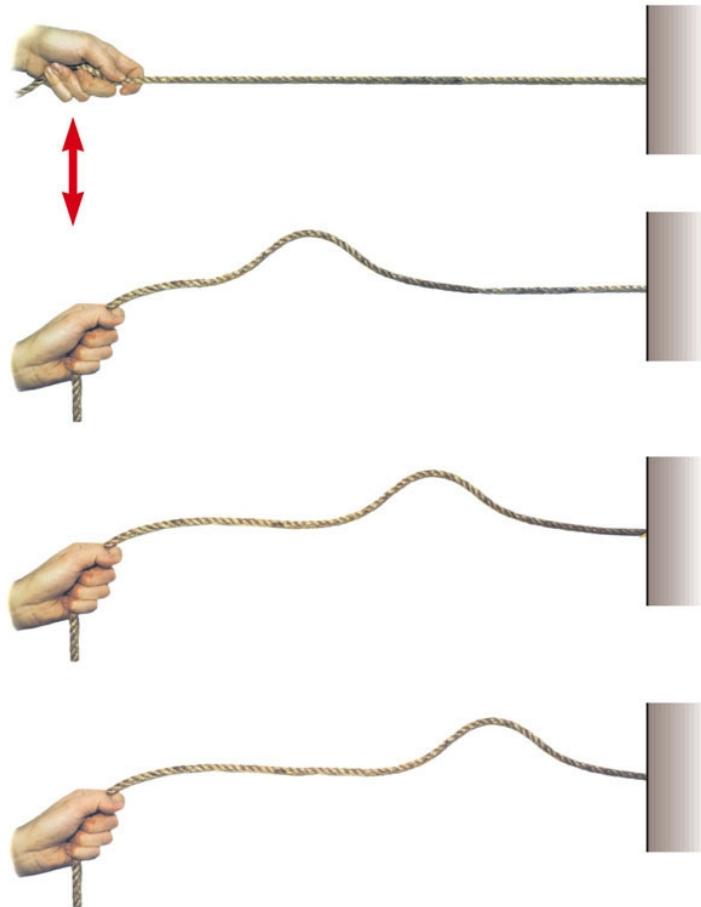


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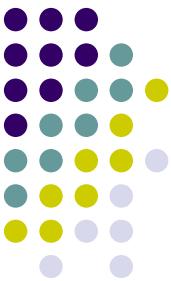


# Pulse on a String

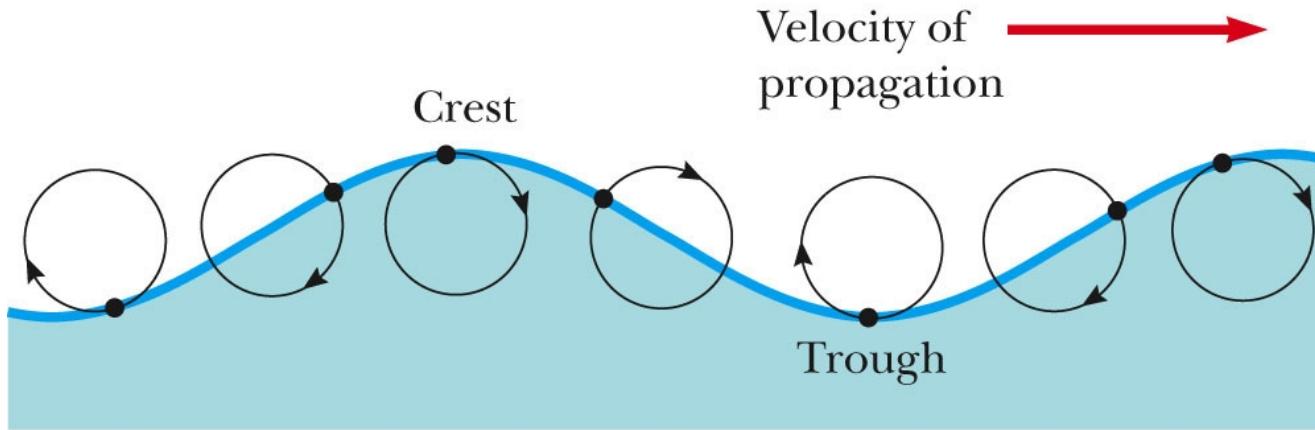
- The wave is generated by a flick on one end of the string
- The string is under tension
- A single bump is formed and travels along the string
  - The bump is called a **pulse**



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# Complex Waves



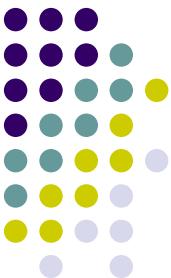
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- Some waves exhibit a combination of transverse and longitudinal waves
- Surface water waves are an example
- Use the active figure to observe the displacements



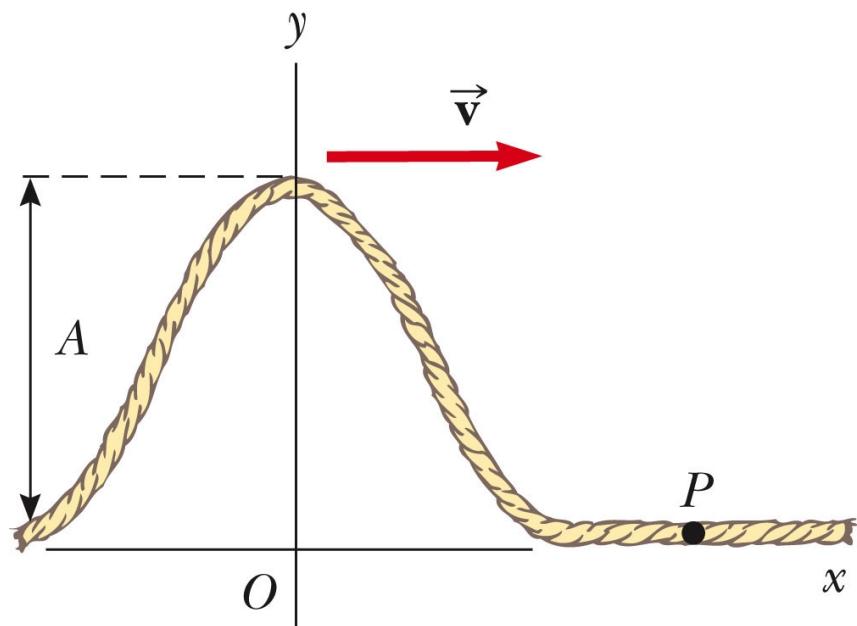
# Example: Earthquake Waves

- P waves
  - “P” stands for primary
  - Fastest, at 7 – 8 km / s
  - Longitudinal
- S waves
  - “S” stands for secondary
  - Slower, at 4 – 5 km/s
  - Transverse
- A seismograph records the waves and allows determination of information about the earthquake's place of origin



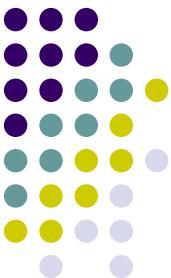
# Traveling Pulse

- The shape of the pulse at  $t = 0$  is shown
- The shape can be represented by  $y(x,0) = f(x)$ 
  - This describes the transverse position  $y$  of the element of the string located at each value of  $x$  at  $t = 0$



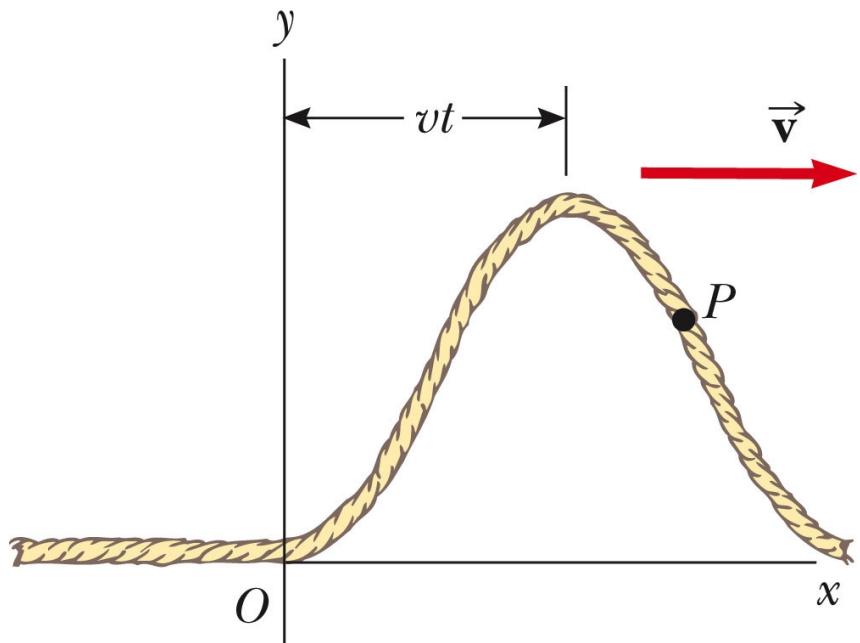
(a) Pulse at  $t = 0$

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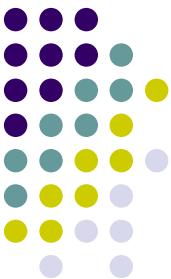


# Traveling Pulse, 2

- The speed of the pulse is  $v$
- At some time,  $t$ , the pulse has traveled a distance  $vt$
- The shape of the pulse does not change
- Its position is now  
 $y = f(x - vt)$

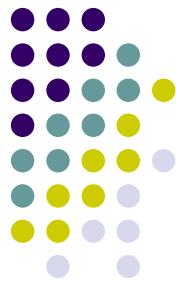


(b) Pulse at time  $t$



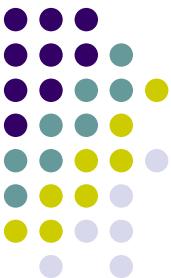
# Traveling Pulse, 3

- For a pulse traveling to the right
  - $y(x, t) = f(x - vt)$
- For a pulse traveling to the left
  - $y(x, t) = f(x + vt)$
- The function  $y$  is also called the **wave function**:  
 $y(x, t)$
- The wave function represents the  $y$  coordinate of any element located at position  $x$  at any time  $t$ 
  - The  $y$  coordinate is the transverse position



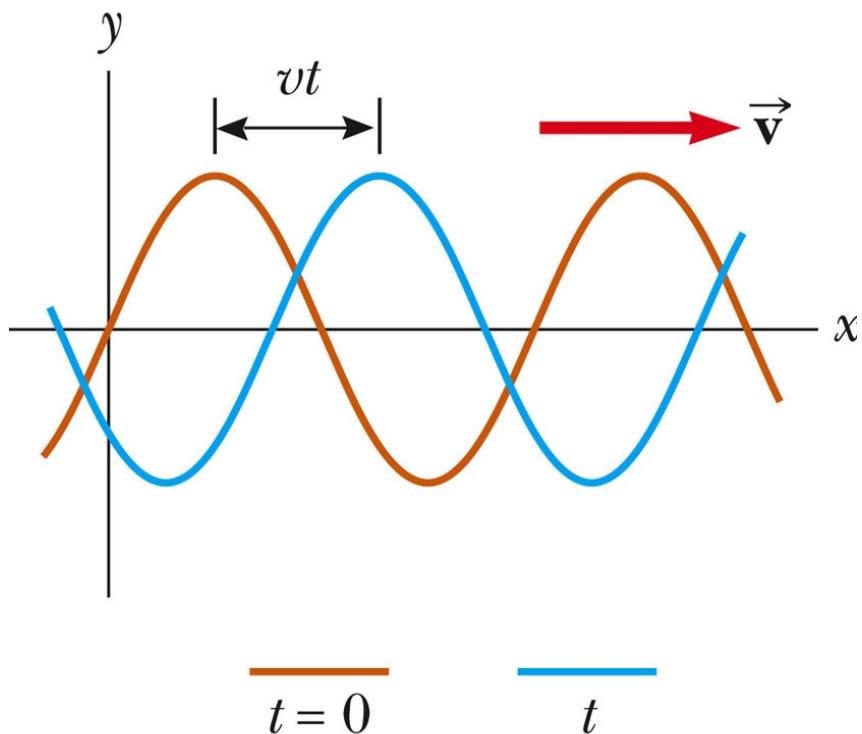
# Traveling Pulse, final

- If  $t$  is fixed then the wave function is called the **waveform**
  - It defines a curve representing the actual geometric shape of the pulse at that time



# Sinusoidal Waves

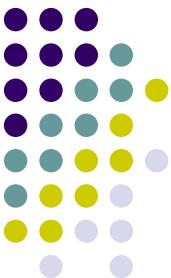
- The wave represented by the curve shown is a **sinusoidal wave**
- It is the same curve as  $\sin \theta$  plotted against  $\theta$
- This is the simplest example of a periodic continuous wave
  - It can be used to build more complex waves





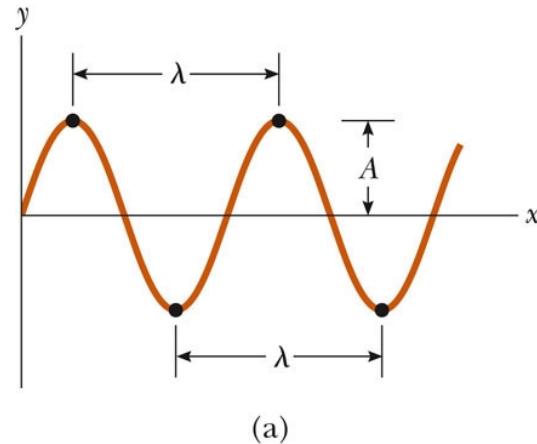
# Sinusoidal Waves, cont

- The wave moves toward the right
  - In the previous example, the brown wave represents the initial position
  - As the wave moves toward the right, it will eventually be at the position of the blue curve
- Each element moves up and down in simple harmonic motion
- It is important to distinguish between the motion of the wave and the motion of the particles of the medium

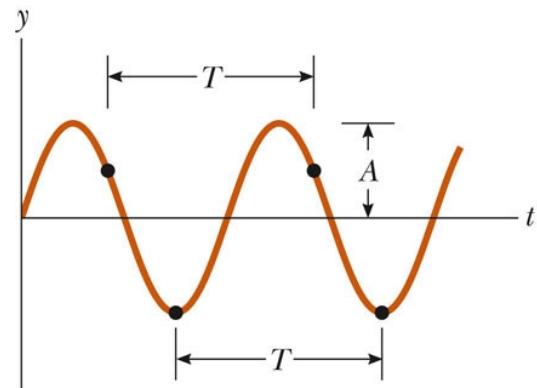


# Terminology: Amplitude and Wavelength

- The **crest** of the wave is the location of the maximum displacement of the element from its normal position
  - This distance is called the **amplitude**,  $A$
- The **wavelength**,  $\lambda$ , is the distance from one crest to the next

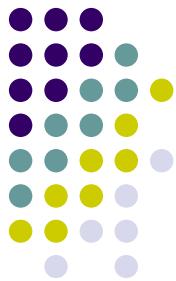


(a)

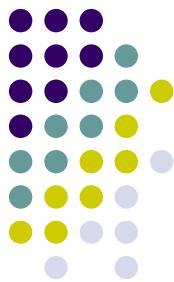


(b)

# Terminology: Wavelength and Period



- More generally, the wavelength is the minimum distance between any two identical points on adjacent waves
- The period,  $T$ , is the time interval required for two identical points of adjacent waves to pass by a point
  - The period of the wave is the same as the period of the simple harmonic oscillation of one element of the medium



# Terminology: Frequency

- The **frequency**,  $f$ , is the number of crests (or any point on the wave) that pass a given point in a unit time interval
  - The time interval is most commonly the second
  - The frequency of the wave is the same as the frequency of the simple harmonic motion of one element of the medium



# Terminology: Frequency, cont

- The frequency and the period are related

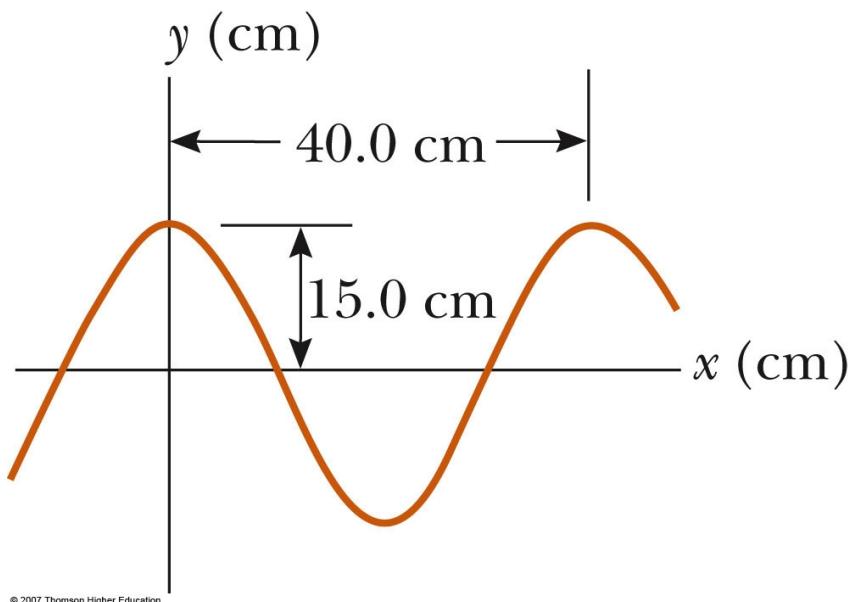
$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$

- When the time interval is the second, the units of frequency are  $s^{-1} = Hz$ 
  - Hz is a hertz

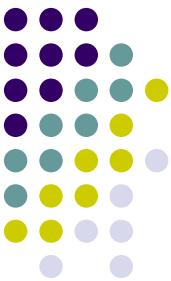


# Terminology, Example

- The wavelength,  $\lambda$ , is 40.0 cm
- The amplitude,  $A$ , is 15.0 cm
- The wave function can be written in the form  $y = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$



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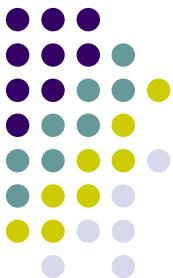


# Speed of Waves

- Waves travel with a specific speed
  - The speed depends on the properties of the medium being disturbed
- The wave function is given by

$$y(x,t) = A \sin \left[ \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} (x - vt) \right]$$

- This is for a wave moving to the right
- For a wave moving to the left, replace  $x - vt$  with  $x + vt$

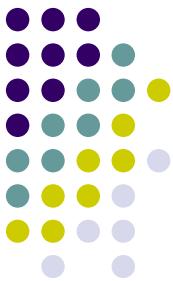


# Wave Function, Another Form

- Since speed is distance divided by time,  
 $v = \lambda / T$
- The wave function can then be expressed as

$$y(x,t) = A \sin 2\pi \left[ \frac{x}{\lambda} - \frac{t}{T} \right]$$

- This form shows the periodic nature of  $y$ 
  - $y$  can be used as shorthand notation for  $y(x, t)$



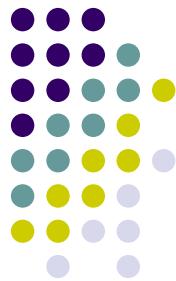
# Wave Equations

- We can also define the angular wave number (or just wave number),  $k$

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

- The angular frequency can also be defined

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T} = 2\pi f$$

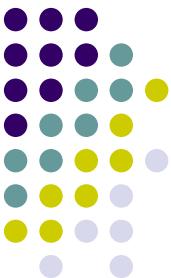


# Wave Equations, cont

- The wave function can be expressed as  
 $y = A \sin (k x - \omega t)$
- The speed of the wave becomes  $v = \lambda f$
- If  $y \neq 0$  at  $t = 0$  and  $x=0$ , the wave function can be generalized to

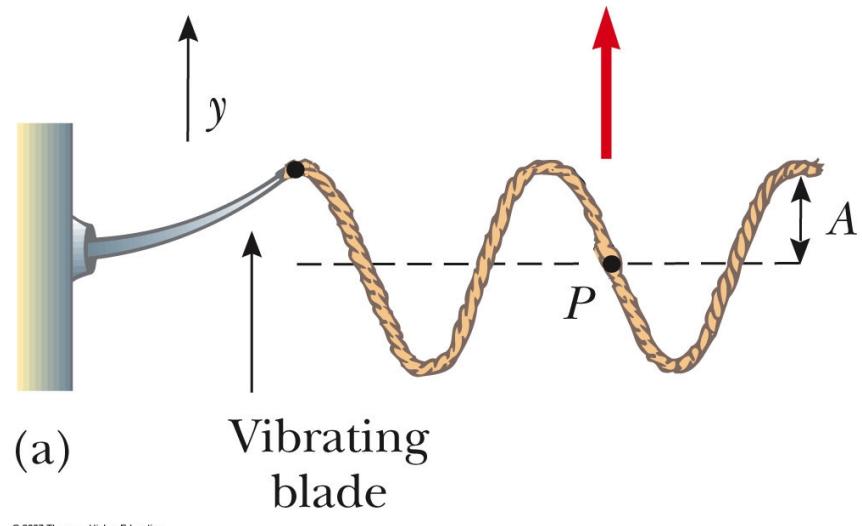
$$y = A \sin (k x - \omega t + \phi)$$

where  $\phi$  is called the phase constant



# Sinusoidal Wave on a String

- To create a series of pulses, the string can be attached to an oscillating blade
- The wave consists of a series of identical waveforms
- The relationships between speed, velocity, and period hold

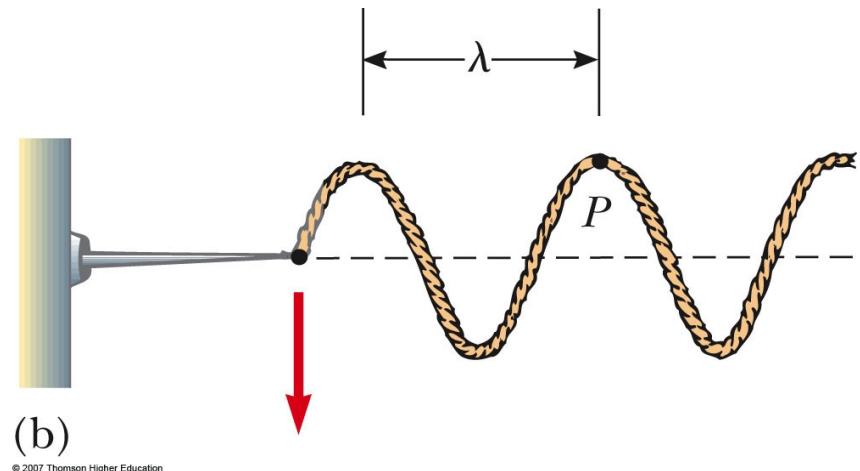


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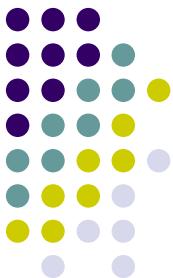


# Sinusoidal Wave on a String, 2

- Each element of the string oscillates vertically with simple harmonic motion
  - For example, point  $P$
- Every element of the string can be treated as a simple harmonic oscillator vibrating with a frequency equal to the frequency of the oscillation of the blade



(b)  
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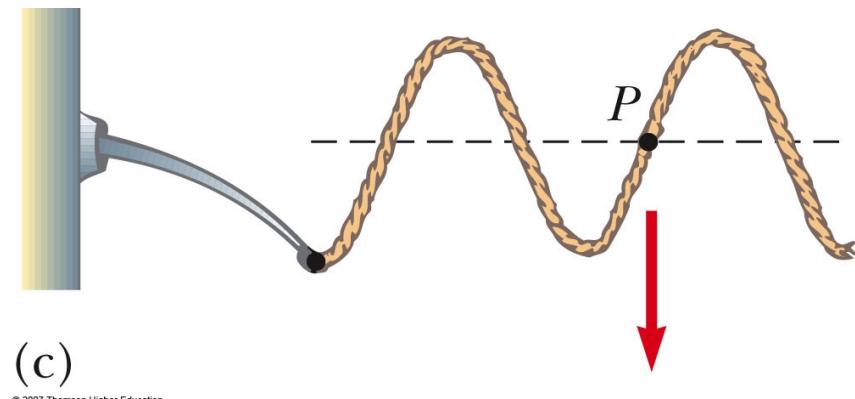


# Sinusoidal Wave on a String, 3

- The transverse speed of the element is

$$v_y = \frac{dy}{dt} \Big|_{x=\text{constant}}$$

- or  $v_y = -\omega A \cos(kx - \omega t)$
- This is different than the speed of the wave itself

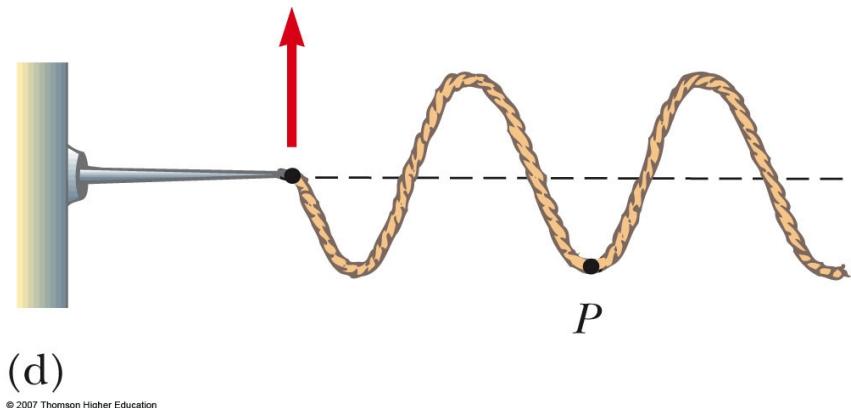




# Sinusoidal Wave on a String, 4

- The transverse acceleration of the element is

$$a_y = \frac{dv_y}{dt} \Big|_{x=\text{constant}}$$



- or  $a_y = -\omega^2 A \sin(kx - \omega t)$



# Sinusoidal Wave on a String, 5

- The maximum values of the transverse speed and transverse acceleration are
  - $v_y, \text{ max} = \omega A$
  - $a_y, \text{ max} = \omega^2 A$
- The transverse speed and acceleration do not reach their maximum values simultaneously
  - $v$  is a maximum at  $y = 0$
  - $a$  is a maximum at  $y = \pm A$



# Speed of a Wave on a String

- The speed of the wave depends on the physical characteristics of the string and the tension to which the string is subjected

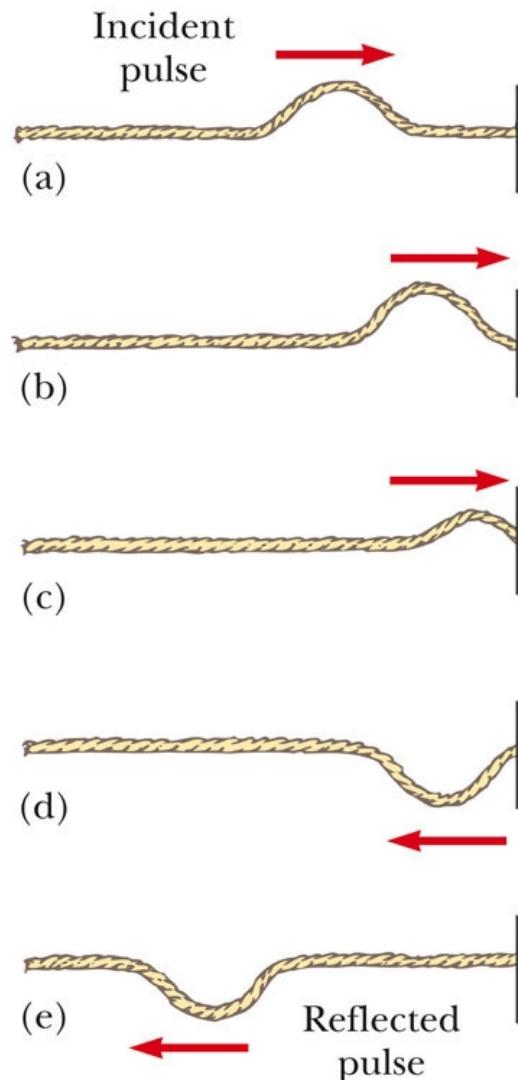
$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\text{tension}}{\text{mass/length}}} = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

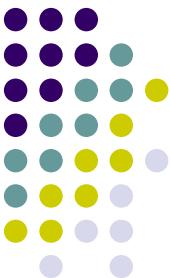
- This assumes that the tension is not affected by the pulse
- This does not assume any particular shape for the pulse

# Reflection of a Wave, Fixed End



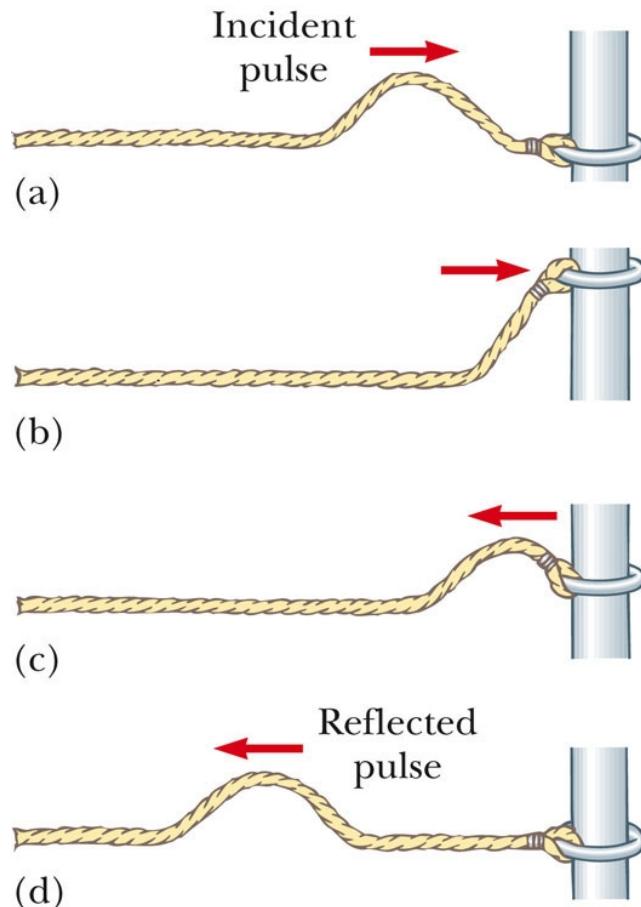
- When the pulse reaches the support, the pulse moves back along the string in the opposite direction
- This is the **reflection** of the pulse
- The pulse is inverted



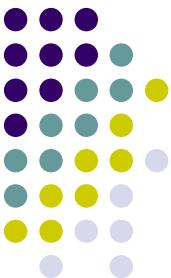


# Reflection of a Wave, Free End

- With a free end, the string is free to move vertically
- The pulse is reflected
- The pulse is not inverted
- The reflected pulse has the same amplitude as the initial pulse

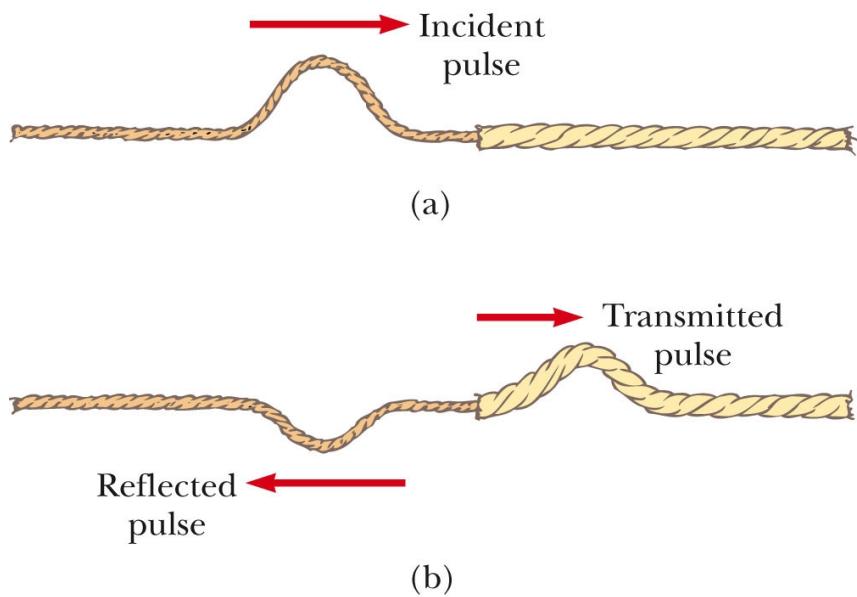


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# Transmission of a Wave

- When the boundary is intermediate between the last two extremes
  - Part of the energy in the incident pulse is reflected and part undergoes **transmission**
    - Some energy passes through the boundary

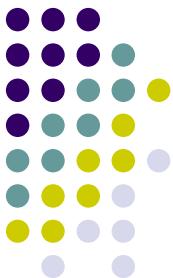


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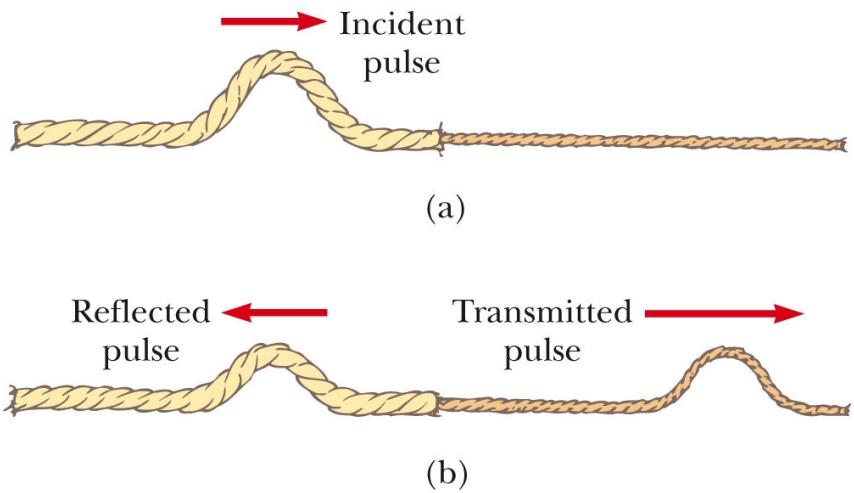
# Transmission of a Wave, 2

- Assume a light string is attached to a heavier string
- The pulse travels through the light string and reaches the boundary
- The part of the pulse that is reflected is inverted
- The reflected pulse has a smaller amplitude

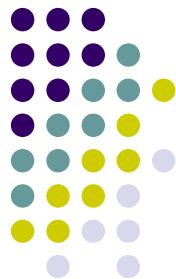


# Transmission of a Wave, 3

- Assume a heavier string is attached to a light string
- Part of the pulse is reflected and part is transmitted
- The reflected part is not inverted

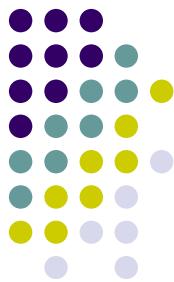


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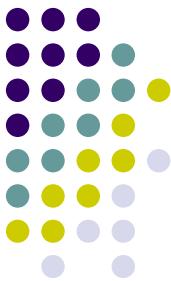
# Transmission of a Wave, 4

- Conservation of energy governs the pulse
  - When a pulse is broken up into reflected and transmitted parts at a boundary, the sum of the energies of the two pulses must equal the energy of the original pulse
- When a wave or pulse travels from medium A to medium B and  $v_A > v_B$ , it is inverted upon reflection
  - B is denser than A
- When a wave or pulse travels from medium A to medium B and  $v_A < v_B$ , it is not inverted upon reflection
  - A is denser than B



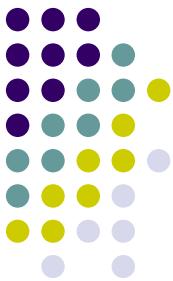
# Energy in Waves in a String

- Waves transport energy when they propagate through a medium
- We can model each element of a string as a simple harmonic oscillator
  - The oscillation will be in the  $y$ -direction
- Every element has the same total energy



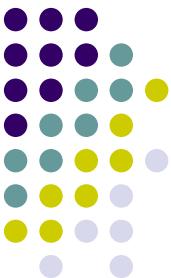
# Energy, cont.

- Each element can be considered to have a mass of  $dm$
- Its kinetic energy is  $dK = \frac{1}{2} (dm) v_y^2$
- The mass  $dm$  is also equal to  $\mu dx$
- The kinetic energy of an element of the string is  $dK = \frac{1}{2} (\mu dx) v_y^2$



# Energy, final

- Integrating over all the elements, the total kinetic energy in one wavelength is  $K_\lambda = \frac{1}{4}\mu\omega^2 A^2 \lambda$
- The total potential energy in one wavelength is  $U_\lambda = \frac{1}{4}\mu\omega^2 A^2 \lambda$
- This gives a total energy of
  - $E_\lambda = K_\lambda + U_\lambda = \frac{1}{2}\mu\omega^2 A^2 \lambda$



# Power Associated with a Wave

- The power is the rate at which the energy is being transferred:

$$P = \frac{\Delta E}{\Delta t} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} \mu \omega^2 A^2 \lambda}{T} = \frac{1}{2} \mu \omega^2 A^2 v$$

- The power transfer by a sinusoidal wave on a string is proportional to the
  - Frequency squared
  - Square of the amplitude
  - Wave speed