

Superposition and waves in string and air columns

Introduction

- When two waves of same frequency travelling with same velocity in the same direction this gives rise to the phenomenon of interference of waves.
- Two waves of identical frequency and amplitude travelling along same path with same velocity in opposite directions. This gives rise to the phenomenon of stationary waves.
- Two waves of slightly difference frequency moving with same velocity in same direction gives rise to the phenomenon of beats.

Principle of superposition

$$y = y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + \dots + y_n$$

$$\text{let, } y_1 = a_1 \sin(\omega t - kx)$$

and $y_2 = a_2 \sin(\omega t - kx + \delta)$ are superposed then the, resulting wave is given by

$$y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$y = A \sin(\omega t - kx + \beta)$$

where, A = amplitude of resulting wave

$$A = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + 2a_1 a_2 \cos \delta}$$

$$\text{and } \tan \beta = \frac{a_2 \sin \delta}{a_1 + a_2 \cos \delta}$$

δ = phase difference of two waves

\therefore intensity (I) $\propto a^2$

Resulting intensity is given b

$$I_R = I_1 + I_2 + 2\sqrt{I_1 I_2} \cos \delta$$

For constructive interference

$$\cos \delta = 1$$

$$\delta = 2n\pi$$

Path diff; $\Delta x = n\lambda$; $x = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

→ Resultant intensity is maximum

$$I_{\max} = (\sqrt{I_1} + \sqrt{I_2})^2$$

Resultant amplitude is maximum

$$A_{\max} = (a_1 + a_2)$$

For destructive interference

$$\cos \delta = -1$$

$$\delta = (2n - 1)\pi \text{ or } (2n + 1)\pi$$

Path difference $\Delta x = (2n - 1)\lambda/2 \text{ or } (2n + 1)\lambda/2$

→ Resulting intensity is minimum

$$I_{\min} = (\sqrt{I_1} - \sqrt{I_2})^2$$

→ Resulting amplitude is minimum

$$A_{\min} = |a_1 - a_2|$$

$$\frac{I_{\max}}{I_{\min}} = \left(\frac{\sqrt{I_1} + \sqrt{I_2}}{\sqrt{I_1} - \sqrt{I_2}} \right)^2 = \left(\frac{a_1 + a_2}{a_1 - a_2} \right)^2$$

Stationary wave:

$$y_1 = a \sin(\omega t - kx)$$

$$y_2 = a \sin(\omega t + kx)$$

$$y = y_1 + y_2$$

$y = 2a \cos kx \sin \omega t \Rightarrow$ represents eqⁿ. of stationary wave

$$y = A \sin \omega t$$

where, $A = 2a \cos kx$ = Amplitude of stationary waves

→ The points where amplitude of stationary wave is minimum is called NODE

→ The points where amplitude of stationary wave is maximum is called *ANTINODE*

NODE

The position of nodes

$$x = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{4} = \text{odd multiple of } \frac{\lambda}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{\lambda}{4}, 3\frac{\lambda}{4}, 5\frac{\lambda}{4}, \dots$$

i. Distance between two consecutive node is $\frac{\lambda}{2}$.

ii. Displacement and velocity are minimum.

iii. Strain is maximum

iv. pressure is maximum.

v. Density is maximum

Antinodes

The positions of antinodes

$$x = n\frac{\lambda}{2}$$

$$x = 0, \frac{\lambda}{2}, \lambda, 3\frac{\lambda}{2}, \dots$$

i. Distances between two consecutive antinode is $\frac{\lambda}{2}$

ii. Displacement and velocity are maximum

iii. Strain is minimum

iv. Pressure is minimum

v. Density is minimum

→ The distance between node and adjacent antinode is $\frac{\lambda}{4}$

→ Phase difference between two particles of a medium lying just opposite side of node is π .

→ In stationary wave/standing wave all particles on the string may cross their mean position simultaneously

→ All the particles oscillating between two consecutive node oscillate in same phase.

→ In interference pattern conservation of energy is not violated. Energy is redistributed according to phase difference. -

BEATS

$$\text{No. of beats/sec} = |f_1 - f_2|$$

$$\text{Beats period (T)} = \frac{1}{|f_1 - f_2|}$$

→ Time interval between two consecutive maximum and minimum is $\frac{1}{|f_1 - f_2|}$

→ Waxing means frequency increases (\uparrow)

→ Waning means frequency decreases (\downarrow)

→ When tuning fork is loaded, then $f \downarrow$ sec

→ When tuning fork is filed, then $f \uparrow$ sec

→ When prongs cut then $f \uparrow$ sec

→ When $f - m$, f , $f + m$, are sounded together then no. of beats = m

→ When N tuning forks are arranged in increasing order of frequency such that any two consecutive produce ' m ' beats, the frequency of last fork is ' x ' times the first then,

$$f_1 = \frac{(N - 1)m}{(x - 1)}$$

and $f_n = xf_1$

Vibration of string fixed at both ends

Equation of stationary wave string fixed at both ends is given by

$$y = 2a \sin kx \cdot \cos \omega t$$

→ At $x = 0$, and $x = L$ node is formed

No. of loops (n) = $2L / \lambda$

Frequency of vibration is given by

$$f = \frac{n}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

where,

T = tension in the string

μ = mass per unit length or linear mass density

$$\mu = m/L = \frac{\rho \times \pi r^2 L}{L} = \rho \pi r^2$$

$$f \propto \sqrt{T}$$

$$f \propto 1/r$$

$$f \propto 1/l$$

→ When spring is plucked at a position then antinodes is formed at that position

→ A string is fixed at one end and block of density ρ_b is hanging from string, when block is immersed in liquid of density ρ_l then ratio of frequency after and before.

$$\frac{f_2}{f_1} = \sqrt{\frac{\rho_b - \rho_l}{\rho_b}} \quad \therefore f \propto \sqrt{T}$$

Where, ρ_l = density of liquid

$$f = \frac{n}{2l} \sqrt{T/\mu}$$

If $n = 1$, $f = f_o$ = fundamental frequency = $\frac{1}{2l} \sqrt{T/\mu}$

If $n = 2$: $f = 2f_o = 2^{nd}$ Harmonics, 1^{st} overtone

If $n = 3$, $f = 3f_o = 3^{rd}$ Harmonics, 2^{nd} overtone

→ No. of Harmonics = Integral multiple of fundamental frequency

→ No. of overtones = No. of loops -1

$$f \times l = \text{constant}$$

$$f_1 l_1 = f_2 l_2$$

→ At fixed ends node is formed

No. of nodes = no. of loops + 1

No. of antinodes = no. of loops

Waves in pipe

Open organ pipe

→ Open at both ends

No. of loops (n) = $2l/\lambda$

$$\text{Frequency ; } f = n \times \frac{v}{2l}$$

Where, v = velocity of sound in air

l = length of open pipe

$$\text{Fundamental frequency } n = 1, f_o = \frac{v}{2l}$$

n = 2, f = 2f_o; 2nd Harmonic, 1st overtone

n = 3, f = 3f_o; 3rd Harmonic, 2nd overtone

→ At open ends antinodes are formed

No. of antinodes = No. of loops + 1

No. of nodes = No. of loops

Closed organ pipe

→ Closed at one end

$$\text{No. of loops (n)} = \frac{2l}{\lambda} + \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{ frequency , } f = (2n - 1) \times \frac{v}{4l}$$

If n = 1; f = f_o = fundamental frequency

$$\frac{v}{4l}$$

If n = 2; f = 3f_o = 3rd harmonics, 1st overtone

If n = 3; f = 5f_o = 5th harmonics, 2nd overtone

→ At closed end Node is formed

No. of nodes = No. of loops = No. of antinodes

Resonance tube and End Correction (e)

The length of nth resonance is given by

$$l_n + e = (2n - 1) \frac{\lambda}{4}$$

→ If l₁ and l₂ are the lengths of first and second resonating lengths then, end correction is given by

$$e = \left(\frac{l_2 - 3l_1}{2} \right)$$

→ Wavelength of wave, λ = 2(l₂ - l₁)

Velocity of sound: v = 2f (l₂ - l₁)

→ End correction in terms of radius of organs pipe

$$e = 0.6 r = 0.3 D$$

Where r = radius of tube,

Effective length of open organ pipe;

$$l_{eff} = l_o + 2e$$

Effective length of closed pipe l_{eff} = l_c + e

Melde's Law

$$n\sqrt{T} = \text{constant}$$

Where T = constant; n = no of loops

→ When a person standing between two parallel hills, fires a gun and hears the first echo and second echo after t_1 and t_2 , then the distance between the hills is

$$d = \frac{v}{2}(t_1 + t_2)$$

→ When a vehicle approaching a cliff with 'u' and blow horn at a distance 'd' from cliff and its echo is heard after time 't' then

$$d = \left(\frac{u + v}{2} \right) t$$

The distance of the point from where echo is heard

$$x = \left(\frac{u - v}{2} \right) t$$

Where v = velocity of sound.