L 21 – Vibration and Waves [2]

- Vibrations (oscillations)
  - resonance
  - pendulum
  - springs
  - harmonic motion
- Waves
  - mechanical waves
  - sound waves
  - musical instruments

1

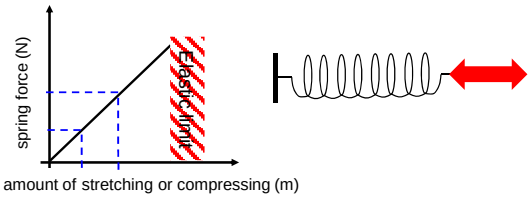
REVIEW: Vibrating systems

- Mass and spring on air track
- Mass hanging on spring
- Pendulum
- Torsional oscillator

All vibrating systems have one thing in common
➔ *restoring force*

2

Springs obey Hooke's Law



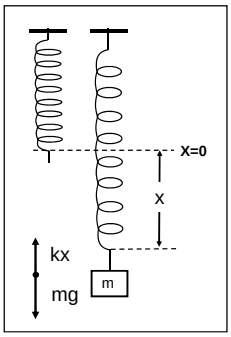
- the strength of a spring is measured by how much force it provides for a given amount of stretch
- we call this quantity **k, the spring constant in N/m**
- magnitude of spring force = **k × amount of stretch**

➔ $F_{spring} = k\,x$ ➔

3

example

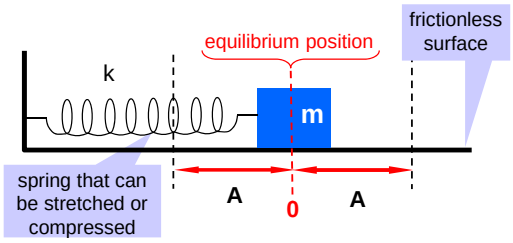
- *A mass of 2 kg is hung from a spring that has a spring constant k = 100 N/m. By how much will it stretch?*
- The downward weight of the mass is balanced by the upward force of the spring.
- $w = mg = k\,x$
  $= 2\text{ kg} \times 10\text{ m/s}^2$
  $= (100\text{ N/m}) \times x$
  $20\text{ N} = 100\text{ N/m} \times x$
  ➔ $x = 0.2\text{ m}$ or 20 cm



4

simple harmonic oscillator

mass and spring on a frictionless surface



k is the spring constant, which measures the *"stiffness"* of the spring in Newtons per meter

5

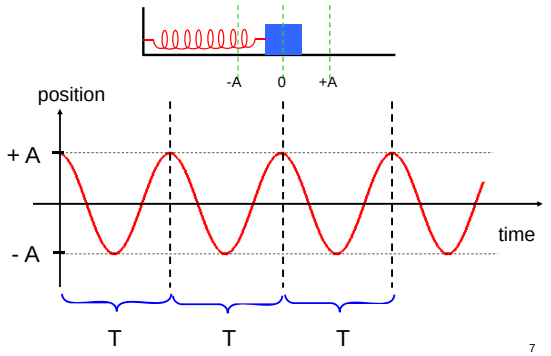
Terminology

- **AMPLITUDE A:** maximum displacement from equilibrium (starting position)
- **PERIOD T:** time for one complete cycle
- **FREQUENCY *f*:** number of complete cycles per unit time; one cycle per second = 1 Hertz (Hz)

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

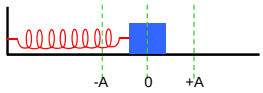
6

follow the mass – position vs. time



7

Period (T) and frequency (f) of the mass-spring system

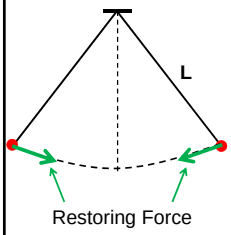


$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{2\pi}\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

8

Period and frequency of the pendulum



$$T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{L}{g}} \rightarrow f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{2\pi}\sqrt{\frac{g}{L}}$$

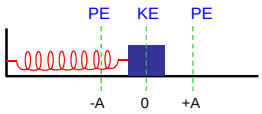
- The period depends on L and g
- The period does not depend on the mass, m

For L = 1 m, $T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{L}{g}} = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{1\ m}{10\ m/s^2}} = 2\pi(0.316) \cong 2\ s$

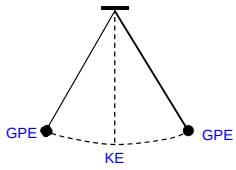
9

Energy in the simple harmonic oscillator

E_{total} = KE + PE = constant



A stretched or compressed spring has elastic potential energy



The pendulum has gravitational potential energy

10

Waves → vibrations that *move*

- What is a wave? A *disturbance* that moves (*propagates*) through a medium
- Due to the elastic nature of materials
- The *"people wave"* – you stand up and sit down, then the person next to you does the same, and so on, so the *"disturbance"* goes all around the stadium (World's record)
  - the standing and sitting is the disturbance
  - notice that the people move up and down but the disturbance goes sideways

11

Why are waves important?

- Waves are a means to transport energy from one place to another without transporting matter
- Electromagnetic waves (light, x-rays, UV rays, microwaves, thermal radiation) are disturbances that propagate through the electromagnetic field, even in *vacuum* (e.g. light from the Sun→ takes about 8 minutes to get to earth)

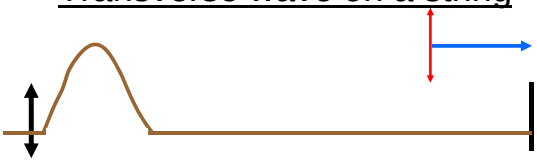
12

Wave Classification

- Classification based on the "medium"
  - Mechanical waves: a disturbance that propagates through a medium
    - waves on strings
    - waves in water (ocean waves, ripples on a lake)
    - sound waves – pressure waves in air
  - Electromagnetic waves → no medium required
- Classification based on how the medium moves
  - transverse
  - longitudinal
- Classification based on time history
  - single pulse (non-repetitive)
  - series of waves – harmonic wave (repetitive)

13

Transverse wave on a string

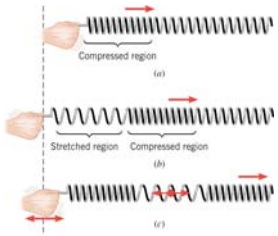


- jiggle the end of the string to create a disturbance
- the disturbance moves down the string
- as it passes, the string moves up and then down
- the string motion in vertical but the wave moves in the horizontal (perpendicular) direction → transverse wave
- this is a single pulse wave (non-repetitive)
- the "wave" in the football stadium is a **transverse wave**

14

Longitudinal waves

- instead of jiggling the spring up and down, you jiggle it in and out
- the coils of the spring move along the same direction (horizontal) as the wave
- This produces a *longitudinal wave*
- Sound waves are longitudinal waves



15

Speed of a wave on a string

- The speed of the wave moving to the right is not the same as the speed of the string moving up and down. (It could be, but that would be a coincidence!)
- The wave speed is determined by:
  - the tension in the string
    → more tension → higher speed
  - the *mass per unit length* of the string (whether it's a heavy rope or a light rope)
    → thicker rope → lower speed

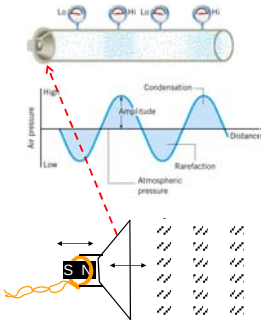
16

Harmonic waves – keep jiggling the end of the string up and down

→ produces a continuous *wavetrain*

17

SOUND WAVES

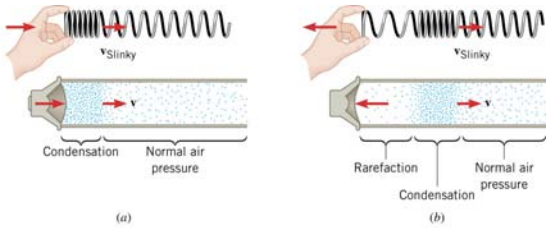


SPEAKER

- longitudinal pressure disturbances in a gas, (liquid, or solid)
- the air molecules jiggle back and forth in the same direction as the wave
- Sound waves cannot propagate in a vacuum → DEMO

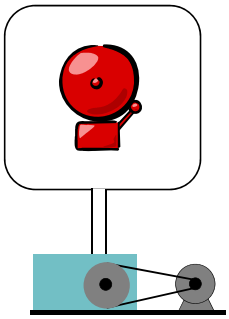
18

Sound – a longitudinal wave



19

I can't hear you!

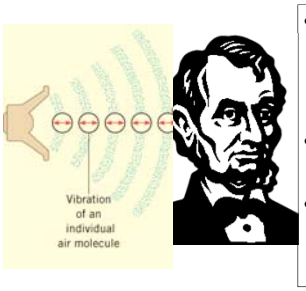


- Sound is a disturbance in a gas (air)
- In vacuum, there are no sound waves
- → there is no sound in outer space

vacuum pump

20

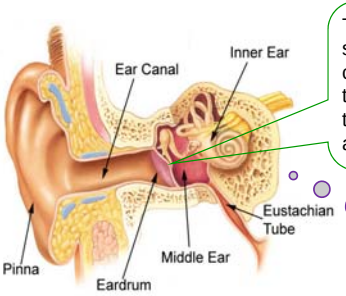
The pressure of the sound wave makes our eardrum vibrate



- Humans can hear sounds between about 30 Hz and 20,000 Hz
- Sound below 30 Hz is called infrasound
- Sound above 20,000 Hz is called ultrasound

21

The Human Ear



The eardrum is a very sensitive membrane capable of responding to displacements on the order of the size of an atom!

Our sense of hearing is much more sensitive than our sense of sight

22

The speed of sound

- Sound→ pressure waves in a solid, liquid or gas
- The speed of sound→ v_s
  - Air at 20 C: 343 m/s = 767 mph ≈ **1/5 mile/sec**
  - Water at 20 C: 1500 m/s
  - copper: 5000 m/s
- Depends on density and temperature

5 second rule for thunder and lightning

23

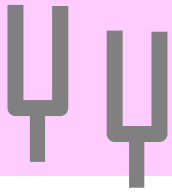
Why do I sound funny when I breath helium?

- The speed of sound depends on the mass of the molecules in the gas
- Sound travels twice as fast in helium, because Helium is lighter than air
- The higher sound speed results in sounds of higher pitch (frequency)

24

Acoustic resonance

tuning fork resonance



shattering the glass

25