

## From Last Time... Wave Properties

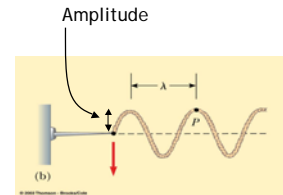
- **Amplitude** is the maximum displacement from the equilibrium position
- **Wavelength,  $\lambda$** , is the distance between two successive points that behave identically
- **Period:** time required to complete one cycle
- **Frequency =  $1/\text{Period}$**  = rate at which cycles are completed
- **Velocity = Wavelength/Period**,  
 $v = \lambda / T$ , or  $v = \lambda f$

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## Description of a Wave

- Amplitude is the maximum displacement of string above the equilibrium position
- Wavelength,  $\lambda$ , is the distance between two successive points that behave identically





- For instance, the distance between two crests

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## More types of waves

- Transverse 
  - Waves on a rope
- Longitudinal (compressional) 
  - Sound waves
- Other examples of waves
  - Water waves
  - Seismic waves

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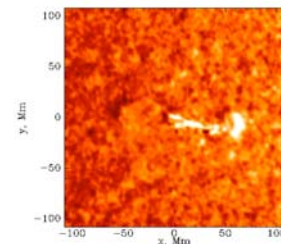
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## Water waves?

- Water waves occur on the surface. They are a kind of transverse wave.



On Earth



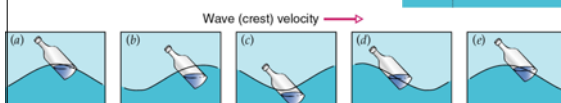
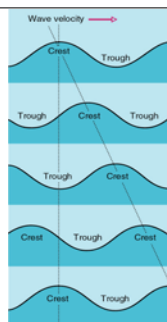
On the sun

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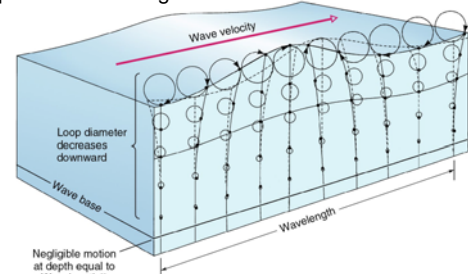
## Water's Motion I

The wave travels while the water circles!



## Water's Motion

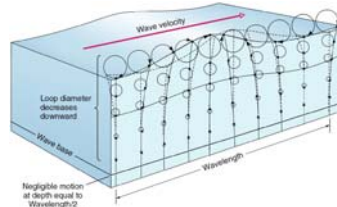
- Circling strongest at surface
- Weak  $\sim 1/2$  wavelength deep
- Depth and wavelength connected



## Wavelength of water wave

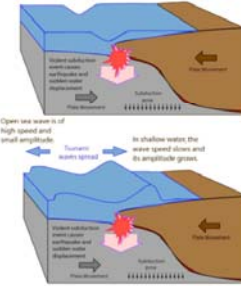
- The longer the wavelength of the wave
  - the deeper it goes
  - the more energy it contains for a given amplitude

Tsunamis are very long wavelength, very deep, very high energy waves



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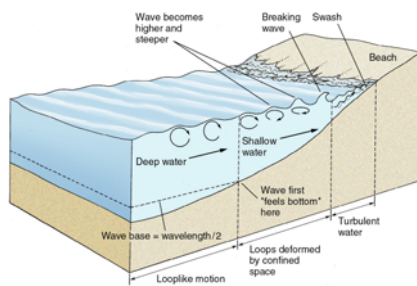
## Tsunamis



- Generate by some disturbance
  - Landslide
  - Undersea earthquake
- Generates long-wavelength propagating water wave

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As the wave approaches shallower water, the surface component becomes higher and steeper.

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## Tsunami is a wave

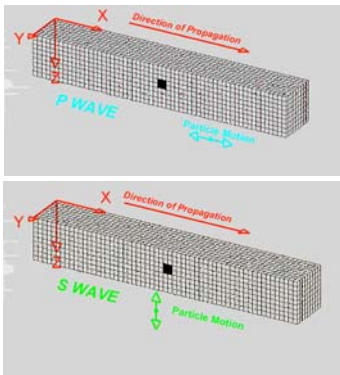
- December 26, 2004 tsunami was generated from the 9.0 Richter scale Sumatra earthquake
- Like all waves, tsunami transported energy but not mass.
  - The water that impacted the beaches in Sri Lanka, for example, did not "come from" Sumatra;
  - Just the energy "came from" Sumatra.
- Wavelength, period, and velocity:
  - $\text{velocity} = \text{wavelength} \times \text{frequency}$
- Frequency =  $1 / \text{period}$ :
  - period of 40 minutes gives frequency of about 0.0004Hz (cycles per second).
  - The wavelength of this tsunami in deep water is about 500km
  - From this we can compute the tsunami velocity to be about 200m/s or 450 miles an hour - about as fast as a jet airplane!

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## Seismic waves

Waves in the earth generated by earthquake



P (primary) wave: compressional  
 $v_p \sim 6 \text{ km/s}$

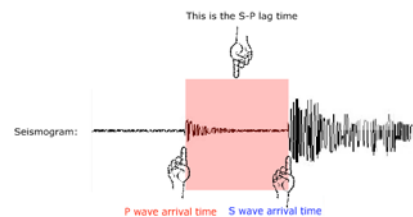
S (secondary) waves: transverse  
 $v_s \sim 3.5 \text{ km/s}$

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## Detecting with seismometer

- P (transverse) wave travels faster than S (compressional) wave. so it registers first on seismometer.



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## Locating an earthquake

Time difference between *P* arrival time and *S* arrival time due to difference in velocities.

*P* travel time = distance / *P*-velocity

*S* travel time = distance / *S*-velocity

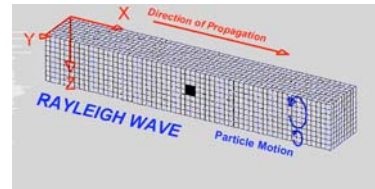
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Arrival time difference} &= (\text{P travel time}) - (\text{S travel time}) \\ &= \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{P velocity}} - \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{S velocity}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta t &= \frac{d}{v_s} - \frac{d}{v_p} = d \left( \frac{1}{v_s} - \frac{1}{v_p} \right) = d(0.119 \text{ s/km}) \\ d &= (8.4 \text{ km/s}) \Delta t \end{aligned}$$

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## Seismic Rayleigh wave (R-wave)



• Rayleigh wave: another wave from earthquakes

- Particle motion roughly circular.
- Amplitude decreases with depth.
- A 'surface wave'.

*This is same as a water wave!  
But counterclockwise*

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## Combining waves

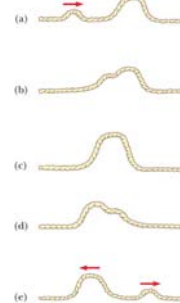
- Two traveling waves can meet and pass through each other without being destroyed or even altered
- Waves obey the *Superposition Principle*
  - If two or more traveling waves are moving through a medium, the resulting wave is found by adding together the displacements of the individual waves point by point
  - **Constructive interference:** waves reinforce
  - **Destructive interference:** waves tend to cancel

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## Constructive Interference in a String

- Two pulses are traveling in opposite directions
- The net displacement when they overlap is the sum of the displacements of the pulses
- Note that the pulses are unchanged after the interference

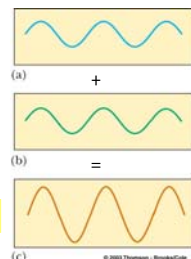


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## Constructive Interference

- Two waves, a and b, have the same frequency, amplitude, and start point
  - Are *in phase*
- The combined wave, c, has the same frequency and a greater amplitude



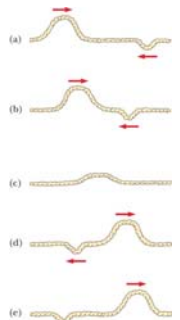
Combined wave

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## Destructive Interference in a String

- Two pulses are traveling in opposite directions
- The net displacement when they overlap the displacements of the pulses subtract
- Note that the pulses are unchanged after the interference

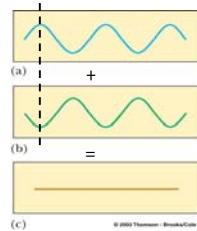


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## Destructive interference in a continuous wave

- Two waves, a and b, have the same amplitude and frequency
- They are  $1/2$  wavelength out of phase
- When they combine, the waveforms cancel

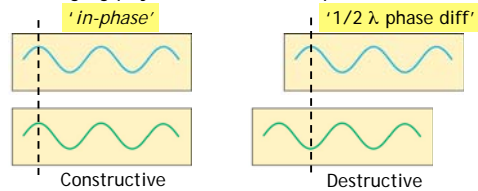


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## Interference of sound waves

- Interference arises when waves change their 'phase relationship'.
- Can vary phase relationship of two waves by changing physical location of speaker.



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## Example

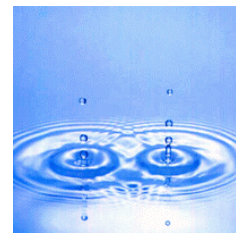
- Speed of sound  $\sim 340$  m/s
- So  $f=340$  Hz gives  $\lambda=v/f = 1$  meter
- Change of  $1/2$  wavelength is  $1/2$  meter.
- Or can change phase relationship by changing relative distance from source.

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## Interference

- Water drop is a source of circular waves (two-dimensions here)
- When the waves overlap, they superimpose.
- In some areas they cancel, in others they reinforce.
- This is called interference



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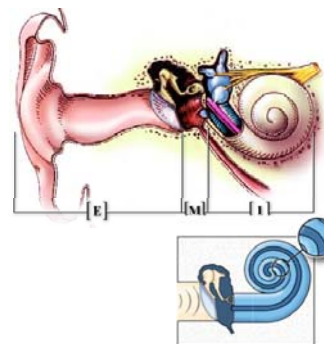
## Sound waves again

- Sound is a compressional wave
- The crest is a local compression of the air, the trough a local rarefaction.
- Can be produced by objects transferring their vibratory motion to the air
  - Tuning fork
  - Speaker
  - Musical instrument

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## Sensing sound



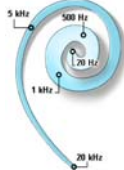
Middle ear transmits sound to cochlea, which discriminates loudness and pitch

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## Discriminating pitch

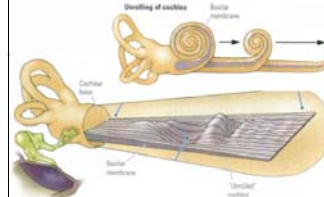
- Your ear detects sound
- A mechanosensitive hair bundle in the cochlea of the ear. Each hair bundle is made up of 30-300 stereocilia (tiny hairs).
- Different locations host bundles that send different pitch signals.



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## Vibrations of the basilar membrane



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## Pitch

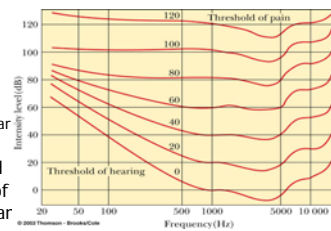
- Pitch is related mainly, although not completely, to the frequency of the sound
- Pitch is not a physical property of the sound
- Frequency is the stimulus and pitch is the response
  - It is a psychological reaction that allows humans to place the sound on a scale

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## Frequency Response Curves

- Bottom curve is the threshold of hearing
  - Threshold of hearing is strongly dependent on frequency
  - Easiest frequency to hear about 3000 Hz
- When the sound is loud (top curve, threshold of pain) all frequencies can be heard equally well



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## Timbre

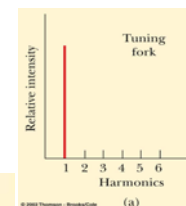
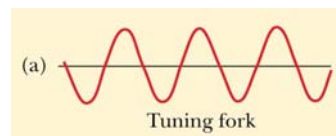
- In music, the characteristic sound of any instrument is referred to as the quality of sound, or the *timbre* of the sound
- Not all sound is a pure tone.
- The quality depends on the mixture of 'harmonics' in the sound.
- This is a mixture of other frequencies with the original.
- Can completely describe the sound by only including 'overtones'

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## Quality of Sound - Tuning Fork

- Tuning fork produces only the fundamental frequency

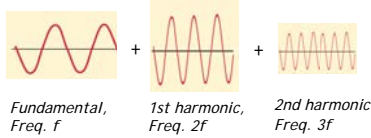
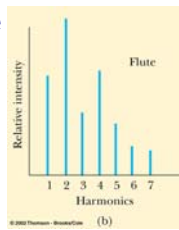
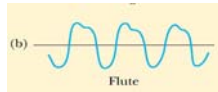


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## Quality of Sound - Flute

- The same note played on a flute sounds differently
- Not a pure tone

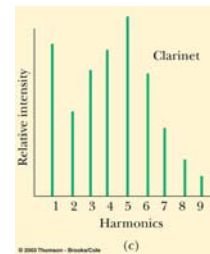
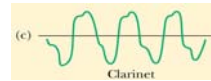


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## Quality of Sound - Clarinet

- The fifth harmonic is very strong
- The first and fourth harmonics are very similar, with the third being close to them



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