

Learning Intention

- Learn some of the vocabulary associated with waves.
- Learn some of the properties of waves and how to classify some types of waves.

Definitions and Formulas

1. A wave is a disturbance in a medium, transferring energy without transferring matter.

a. Waves are modelled mathematically using sinusoidal waveforms.

2. Label each part of the diagram of a wave:

a. peak/crest

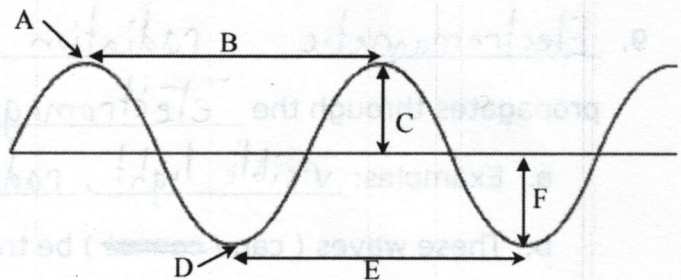
b. wavelength
↳ from peak-to-peak

c. amplitude

d. trough

e. wavelength - from trough to trough

f. amplitude



3. Frequency: How many waves pass by a point in a given amount of time. It is measured in s⁻¹, also known as Hertz (Hz).

4. Period: The amount of time it takes for a complete wave to pass by a point.

5. Frequency and period are related with the equation:

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

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

T: period (s)

f: frequency (Hz)

6. In a longitudinal wave, the waves oscillate parallel to the direction of travel.
7. In a transverse wave, the waves oscillate perpendicular to the direction of travel.
8. Mechanical wave: A wave which travels through a physical medium.
- a. Examples: surf waves and earthquake
- b. These waves (~~can~~ / cannot) be transmitted through the vacuum of space
9. Electromagnetic radiation (EMR) wave: A wave which propagates through the electromagnetic field.
- a. Examples: visible light, radio waves, and X-rays
- b. These waves (can / ~~cannot~~) be transmitted through the vacuum of space
10. Transmission occurs whenever a wave passes through a medium.
- a. In a given medium, the speed of a given type of wave is constant.
11. Reflection occurs when a wave reaches the boundary between two mediums, and bounces back to the original medium.
- a. In sound waves, this is known as an echo.
12. When passing from one medium to another, the frequency (~~does~~ / doesn't) change, and the wavelength (does / ~~doesn't~~) change.
13. Waves obey the Universal Wave Equation:

$$v = f\lambda$$

v: speed (m/s)

f: frequency (Hz)

λ : wavelength (m)

↑

lambda, Greek lowercase L

14. Waves also obey the principal of superposition.

- a. Constructive interference occurs when peaks of one wave are added to peaks of another wave, or troughs of one wave are added to troughs of another.



- b. Destructive interference occurs when peaks of one wave are added to troughs of another wave.



- c. Total destructive interference yields absolutely no resulting wave. This effect is partially achieved in noise-cancelling headphones.

15. Beats occur when two similar but different frequencies interfere, resulting in an oscillation of the Volume at a particular frequency.

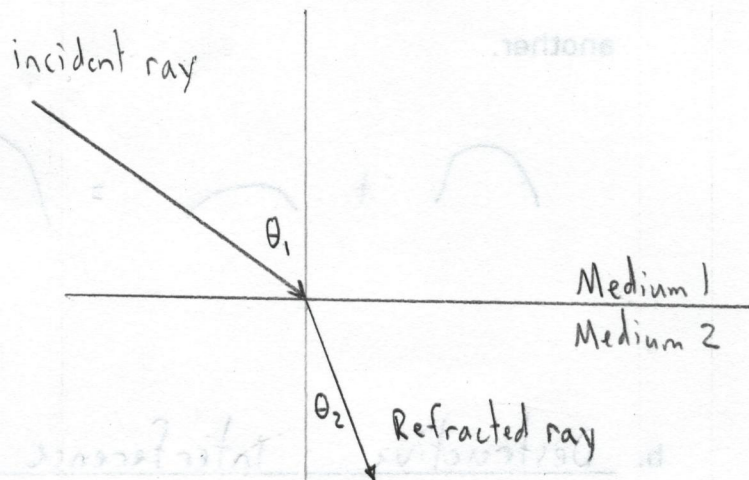
- a. The frequency is calculated as:

$$f_{\text{beat}} = |f_1 - f_2|$$

16. Refraction is the bending of a wave when it passes from one medium to another.

a. It is modeled mathematically using Snell's Law:

$$\frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} = \frac{n_1}{n_2}$$



b. The refractive index represents how fast light passes through a medium:

$$n = \frac{c}{v}$$

n : refractive index (unitless)

c : speed of light in a vacuum

$$3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

v : speed of light in the medium (m/s)

17. Diffraction is the bending of a wave as it passes beside an object, or through a slit. It is modeled as:

$$d \sin \theta_{\min} = n \lambda$$

d : size of slit (m)

θ_{\min} : the angle with minimum intensity (degrees)

n : an integer greater than 0

λ : wavelength (m)

18. The Doppler Effect is the apparent change in the frequency of waves when there is relative motion between the emitter and the receiver. When a mosquito flies towards your ear, this effect is responsible for the increase in the pitch of its wings flapping.

19. Linear polarization occurs when a circular transverse wave is confined to only vibrate in one plane. This effect is used for IMAX 3D movies.

Questions

1. An Intel Core i7-9700K processor can execute instructions at a frequency of up to 4.9 GHz. How quickly can it execute each instruction?
2. In 1992, the rapper Twista set a Guinness World Record for the fastest rapper, taking only 0.0893 seconds to pronounce each syllable. What was the frequency of him rapping a syllable?
3. Red light has a wavelength of 700 nm and a speed of 3.00×10^8 m/s in a vacuum. Red light can be slowed to a speed of 61 km/h.
 1. What is the frequency of red light in a vacuum?
 2. What is the frequency of red light at 61 km/h?
 3. What is the wavelength of red light at 61 km/h?
4. The velocity of a wave is 14 m/s in one medium, and 9.0 m/s in the second. If an incident ray has an angle of 75° , what is the angle of refraction?

5. Which will diffract more, sound or light? Why?
6. A blue light with a frequency of 750 terahertz passes by a 0.010 mm opening while moving through a vacuum.
 1. What is the wavelength of the light?
 2. What is the diffraction angle in degrees?

Answers

1. $T = 2.0 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s} = 0.20 \text{ ns}$
2. $f = 11.2 \text{ Hz}$
3.
 1. $f = 4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$
 2. $f = 4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$
 3. $\lambda = \cancel{5.1 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}} 4.0 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}$
4. $\theta = 38^\circ$
5. Sound, because it has a longer wavelength.
6.
 1. $\lambda = 4.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$
 2. $\theta = 2.3^\circ$

$$1. T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{1}{4.9 \times 10^9 \text{ Hz}} = 2.0 \times 10^{-10} \text{ s} = 0.20 \text{ ns}$$

$$2. f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{0.0893 \text{ s}} = 11.2 \text{ Hz}$$

$$3. 1. f = \frac{v}{\lambda} = \frac{3.00 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{700 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

2. Frequency does not change going from one medium to another

$$f = 4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}$$

$$3. \lambda = \frac{v}{f} = \frac{61 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}} \times \frac{1 \text{ m/s}}{3.6 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}}}}{4.3 \times 10^{14} \text{ Hz}} = 4.0 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}$$

$$4. \frac{\sin \theta_2}{\sin \theta_1} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} \Rightarrow \sin \theta_2 = \sin \theta_1 \times \frac{v_2}{v_1}$$

$$\theta_2 = \sin^{-1} \left(\sin \theta_1 \times \frac{v_2}{v_1} \right) = \sin^{-1} \left(\sin 75^\circ \times \frac{9}{14} \right) = 38.38^\circ$$

$$\theta_2 = 38^\circ$$

$$6. 1. \lambda = \frac{v}{f} = \frac{3.0 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}}{750 \times 10^{12} \text{ Hz}} = 4.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$$

$$2. \sin \theta_{\min_1} = \frac{n\lambda}{d}$$

$$\theta_{\min_1} = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n\lambda}{d} \right) = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{1 \times 4.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}}{0.010 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}} \right) = 2.3^\circ$$

$$3. \theta_{\min_2} = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{n\lambda}{d} \right) = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{2 \times 4.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}}{0.010 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}} \right) = 4.6^\circ$$