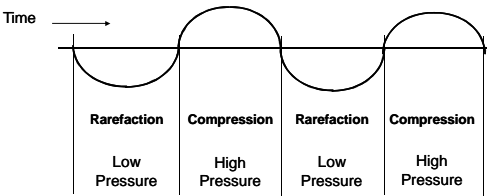


SOUND WAVES

Sound

- A source, like a speaker, compresses air molecules at regular intervals, creating differences in pressure over time.
- This creates a longitudinal wave



The diagram shows a longitudinal wave moving to the right, as indicated by the 'Time' arrow. The wave consists of alternating regions of rarefaction and compression. Below the wave, four vertical lines mark the boundaries of these regions. The first region is labeled 'Rarefaction' with 'Low Pressure' below it. The second is 'Compression' with 'High Pressure' below it. The third is 'Rarefaction' with 'Low Pressure' below it. The fourth is 'Compression' with 'High Pressure' below it.

Speed of Sound

- The speed of a sound wave depends on the medium. (Table 14-1, p472)
- Speed of sound in air = 331 m/s @ 0° C
- Speed increases 0.6 m/s for each 1°C increases in temperature
- Velocity at any temperature can be found using:
 $v = 331 + 0.6T_c$
- Follows all properties of waves including:
 $v = \lambda f$
- Wavelength, not frequency, changes when a wave changes speed

Intensity

- Rate at which the energy of the sound wave strikes a unit area

$$I = \frac{P}{4\pi R^2}$$

Where P is the power in watts and $4\pi R^2$ is the area in square meters.

Intensity Level or Loudness

- Depends on the amplitude of the wave
- Measured in decibels (dB)
- 0 dB is the lowest level sound that people can hear $0 \text{ dB} = 1 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$. (I_0)
- Loudness is the relative intensity to this level.

$$\beta = 10 \log \frac{I}{I_0}$$

Decibel Level, Intensity, and Loudness

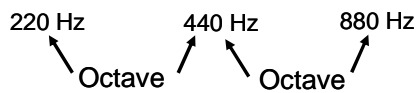
- Logarithmic relationship
- 10 Decibel increase - increases the intensity by 10 times, and the sound is approximately twice as loud
- 20 Decibel increase - increases the intensity by 100 times, and the sound is approximately 4 times as loud
- 30 Decibel increase - increases the intensity by 1000 times, and the sound is approximately 8 times as loud

Pitch

- How high or low the perceived sound is
- Frequency of sound
 - High frequency
 - Low frequency

Pitch - Octaves

- Pythagoras determined musical scales based on the length of string when plucked.
- Octaves
 - difference in pitch when the two notes' frequencies have a ratio of 2:1



Doppler Shift

- Effect observed when a sound source moves toward you.
- Occurs with all wave motion
- Frequency gradually increases as the source approaches, then suddenly drops to a lower pitch as the source passes and moves away.



Doppler Shift

- Determining the Doppler Effect Frequency

Source moving towards observer

$$f' = f_s \frac{v}{v - v_s}$$

Source moving away from observer

$$f' = f_s \frac{v}{v + v_s}$$

Observer moving towards source







$$f' = f_s \frac{v + v_o}{v}$$

Observer moving away source

$$f' = f_s \frac{v - v_o}{v}$$

Doppler Effect and Light

The Doppler Effect for Light

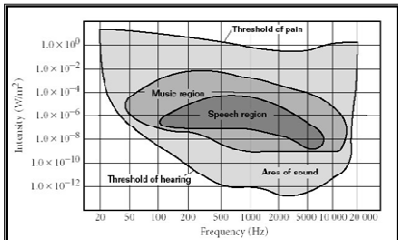
| | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Stationary source |  |  |
| Approaching source |  |  |
| Receding source |  |  |

Pitch – the sound spectrum

- Humans can hear frequencies between 20 Hz and 20,000 Hz. These are called the audible sound waves.
- Sounds below 20 Hz are called infrasonic.
- Sounds above 20,000 Hz are called ultrasonic.
 - Used for medical imaging and echolocation

Audible Range

- Whether we can hear a sound or not depends on the frequency and intensity of the sound.



Return to Honors Physics Notes
