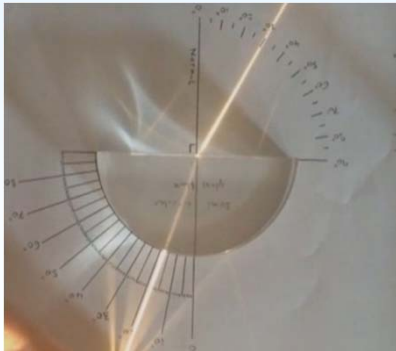
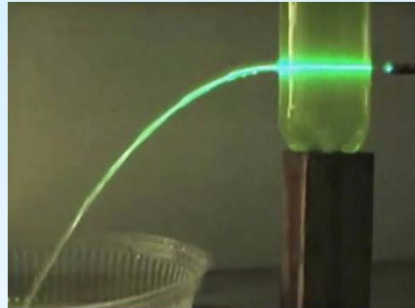
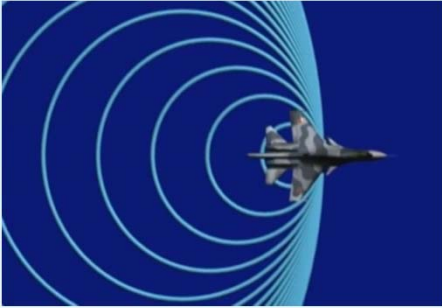




# Wavemechanics and optics



## Chapter 15 - Mechanical waves





## Transverse waves





# Mechanical waves: Transverse waves



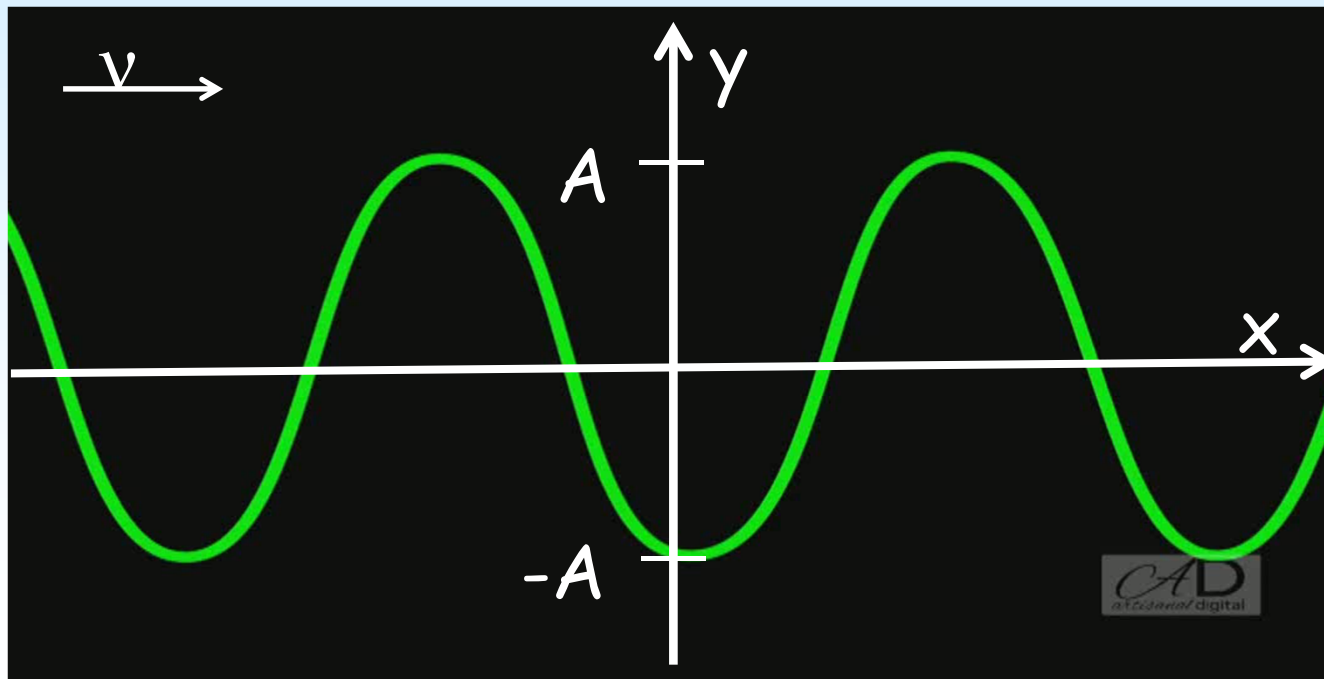
**Transverse wave:** The medium moves transverse to the wave direction.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FUBGrH-PbsU>



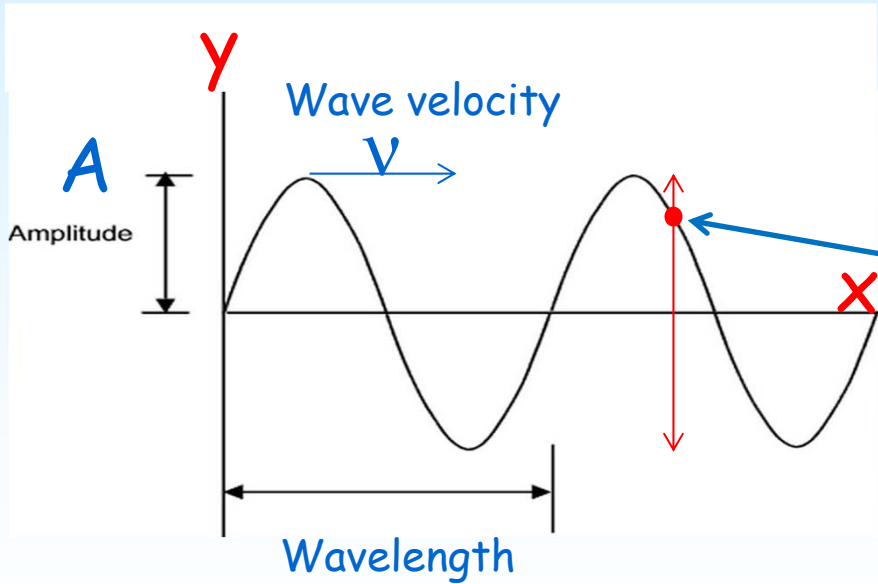
A special transverse wave is **the sinusoidal wave**:



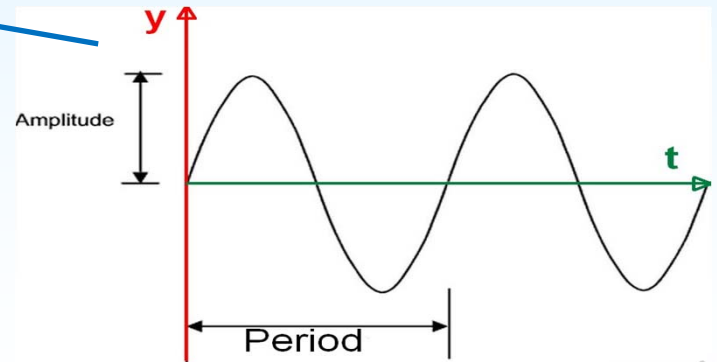


# Mechanical waves: Transverse waves

## Transverse sinusoidal waves



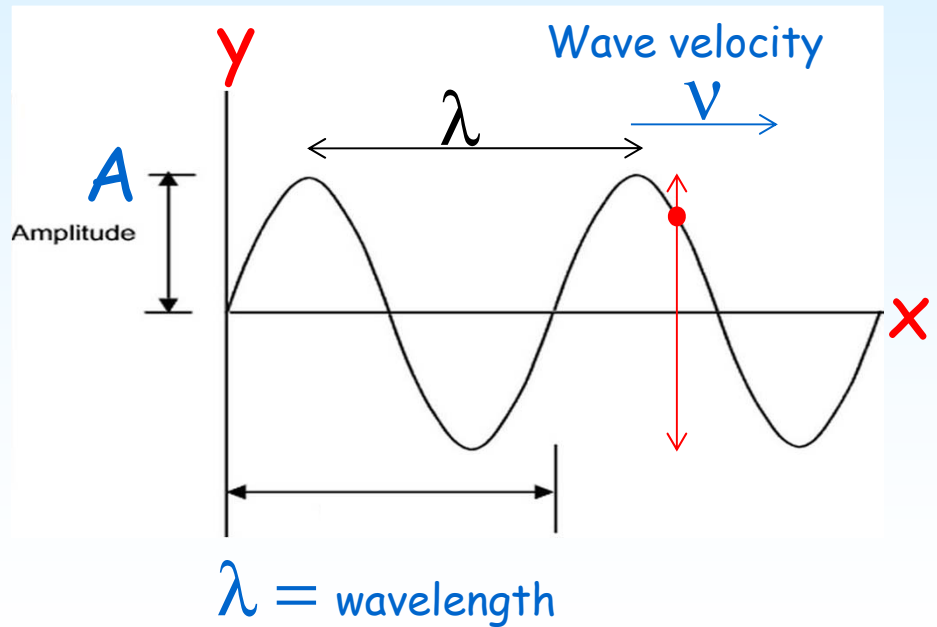
Every point on the wave moves up and down like an harmonic oscillator with the period  $T$ .





# Mechanical waves: Transverse waves

## Definitions:



A: Amplitude (m)

T: Period (s)

λ: Wavelength (m)

v: Wave speed (m/s) =  $\lambda / T$

f: Frequency (Hz) =  $1 / T$

ω: Angular frequency (radians/s) =  $2 \pi f$

k: Wave number (radians/m) =  $2 \pi / \lambda$





# Mechanical waves: Longitudinal waves

## Longitudinal waves



Japanese earthquake



Simulation of Japanese earthquake





# Mechanical waves: Longitudinal waves



## Longitudinal waves:

The medium moves in the wave direction.

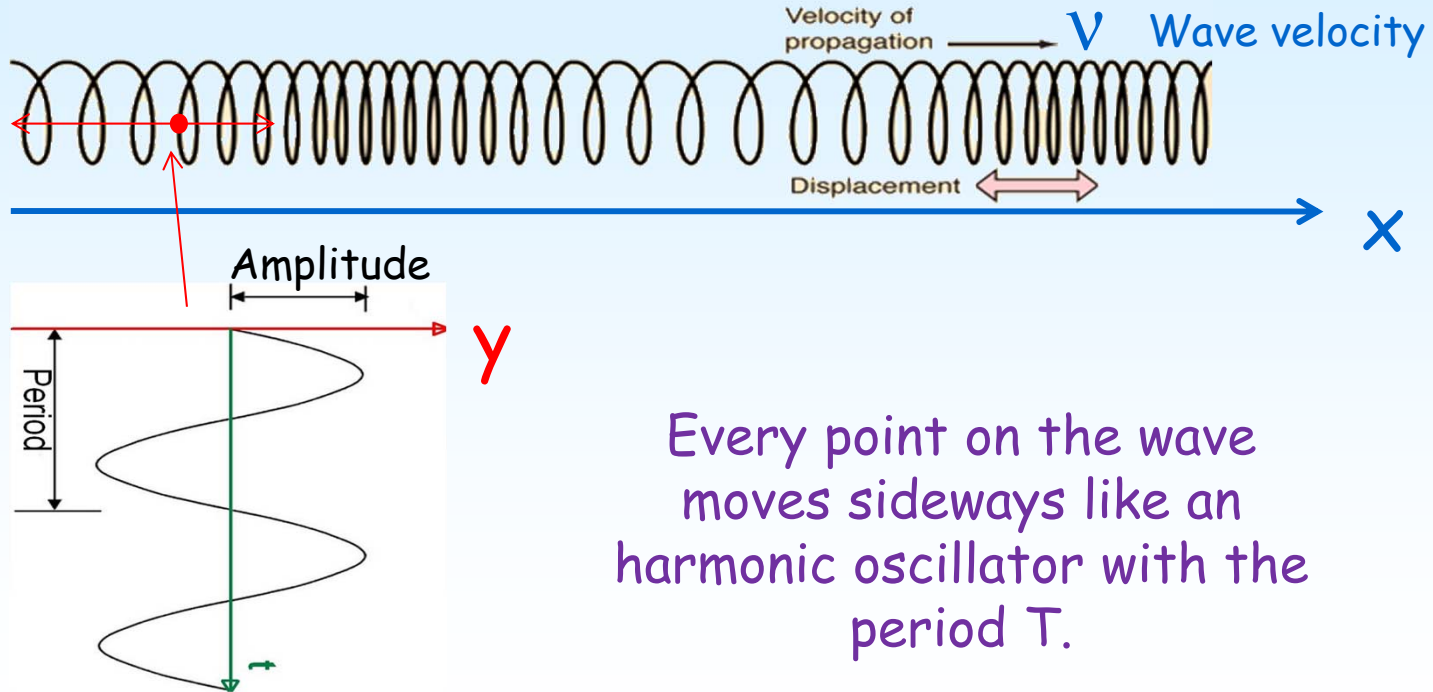






# Mechanical waves: Longitudinal waves

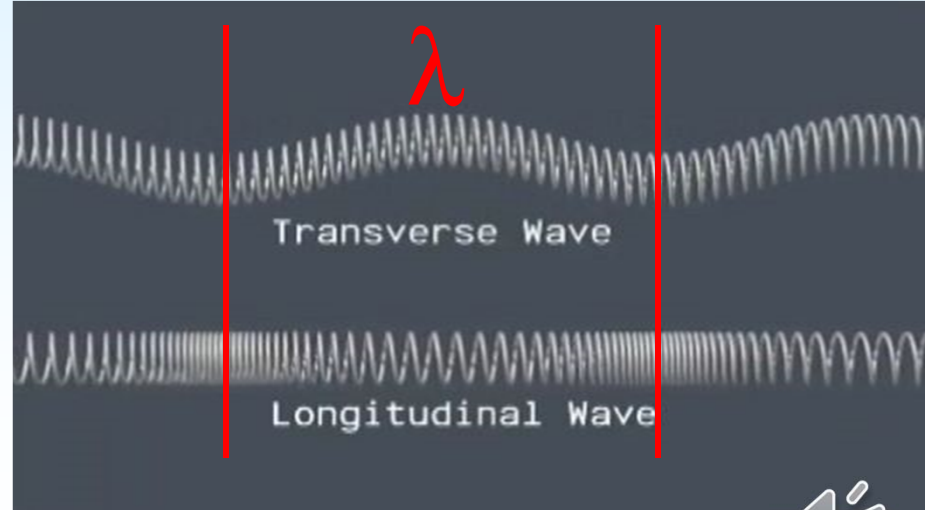
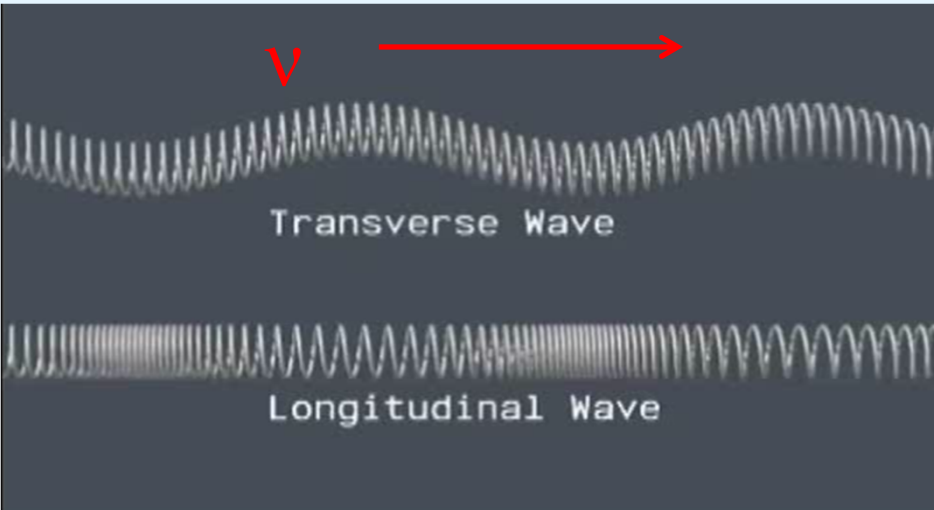
## Longitudinal sinusoidal waves



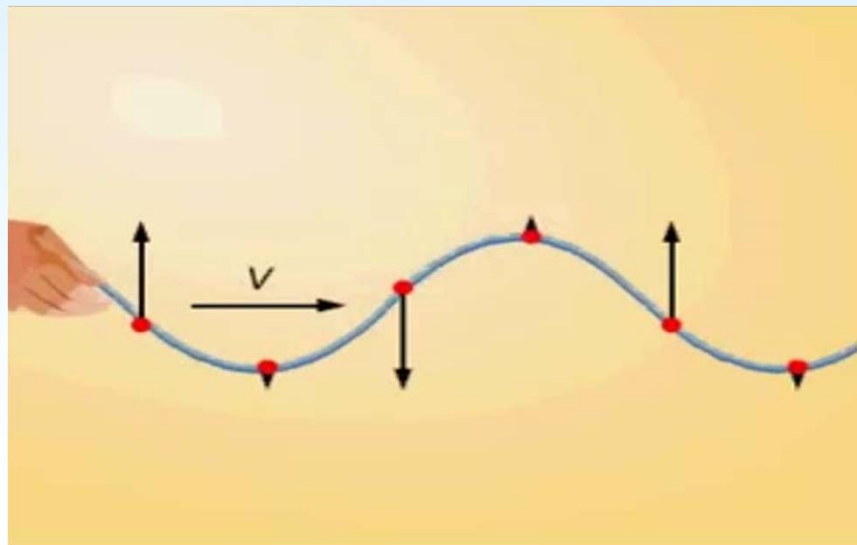
# Mechanical waves: Longitudinal waves

What is the wavelength ( $\lambda$ ) for a sinusoidal wave?  
What is the wave velocity ( $v$ )?

$$v = \lambda / T = \lambda f$$



## The wavefunction



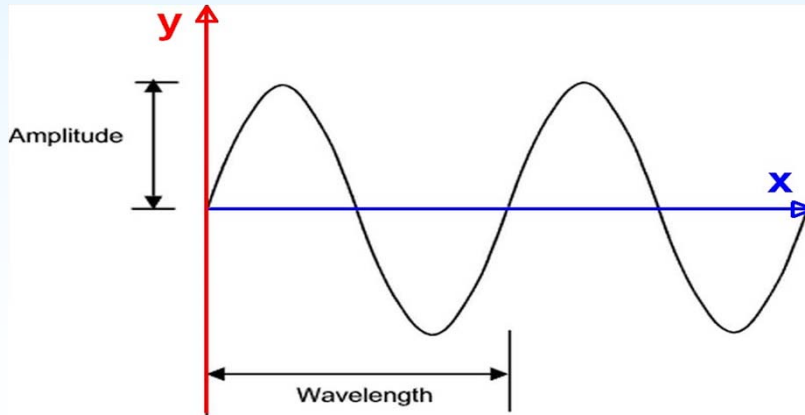


# Mechanical waves: The wavefunction

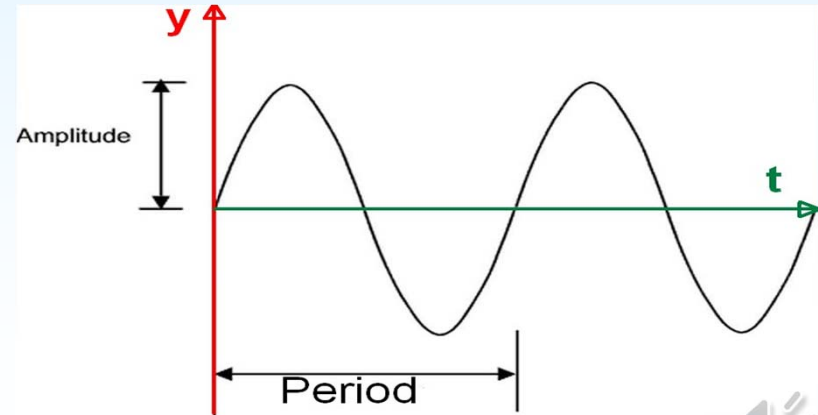


The wavefunction  $y(x,t)$ : The wave function describes the height of the wave as a function of both distance and time.

The height of the wave as a function of distance  $x$ :

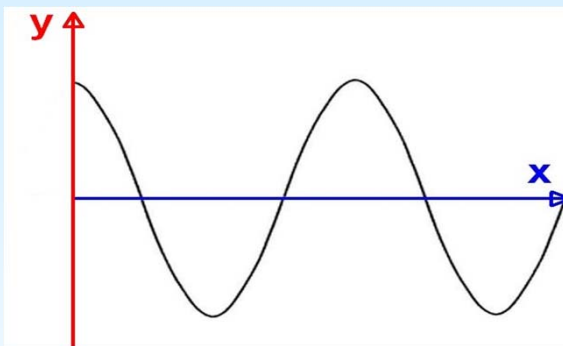


The height of the wave as a function of time  $t$ :

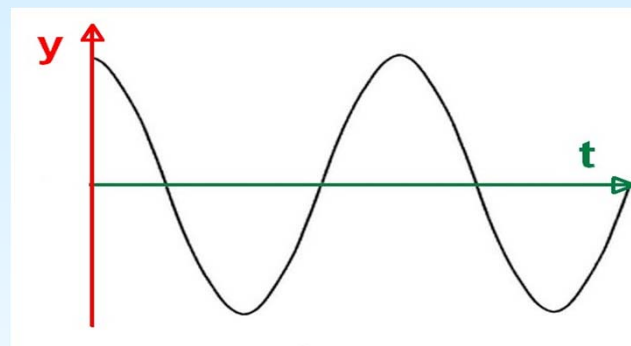




# Mechanical waves: The wavefunction



$$y(x, t = 0) = A \cos kx$$



$$y(x = 0, t) = A \cos \omega t$$

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

(sinusoidal wave moving in +x-direction)

+ if moving in the negative x direction





# Mechanical waves: The wavefunction



$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

(sinusoidal wave moving in +x-direction)

Amplitude:  $A$

Wavenumber:

$$k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$v = \lambda / T$$

$$f = 1 / T$$

Angular frequency:

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T}$$

$$v = \lambda / T = (2\pi/k) / (2\pi/\omega) = \omega / k$$





# Mechanical waves: The wavefunction



The wavefunction:

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

The velocity:

$$v_y(x, t) = \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t} = \omega A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

The acceleration:

$$a_y(x, t) = \frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = -\omega^2 A \cos(kx - \omega t) = -\omega^2 y(x, t)$$

The wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial t^2}$$

Wave velocity:

$$v = \lambda / T = \omega / k$$



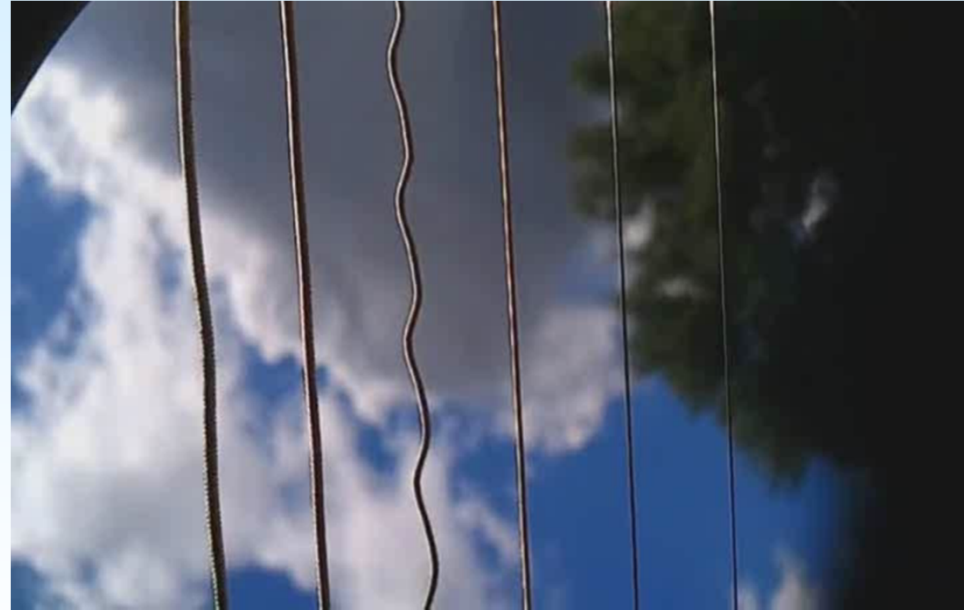




# Mechanical waves: Wave speed



Wave speed  
and string  
properties



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttgLyWFINJI>





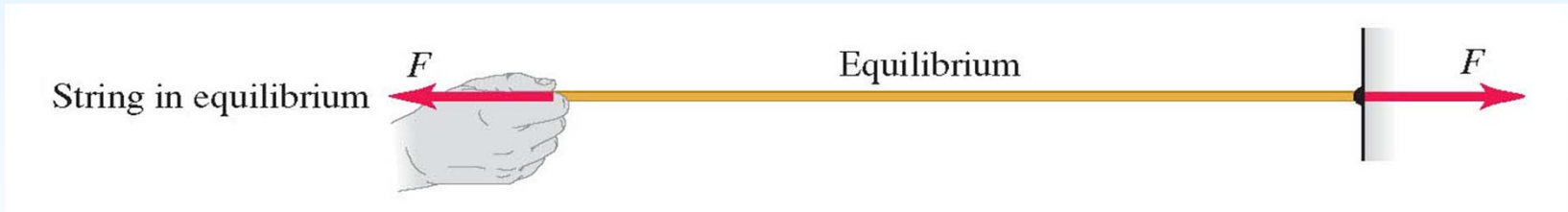
# Mechanical waves: Wave speed

The wave speed on a string depends on two things:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}}$$

The string tension

The mass of the string per unit length



More generally:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\text{Restoring force returning the system to equilibrium}}{\text{Inertia resisting the return to equilibrium}}}$$





# Mechanical waves: Power



## Power

How much work is done every second?





# Mechanical waves: Power



**Wave power (P):** The instantaneous rate at which energy is transferred along the wave. (P = energy per unit time)

Units: W or J/s

The power in general :

$$P = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$$

(instantaneous rate at which force  $\vec{F}$  does work on a particle)

Power along the wave (P):

$$P(x, t) = F_y(x, t)v_y(x, t)$$

because y is the only direction where the speed of the string is not zero



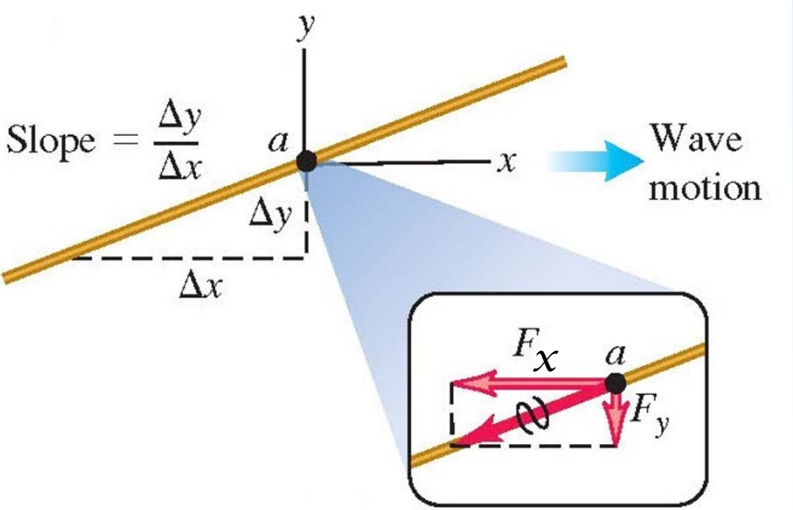


# Mechanical waves: Power



## Wave on a string

The ratio of the force in the y-direction to the force in the x-direction is given by the slope of the string which can be calculated by derivation:



$$\text{Slope} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{F_y}{F_x} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$F_y(x, t) = -F_x \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial x}$$

$F_y$  is in negative y-direction

$F_x = F$  is the string tension



$$P = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$$

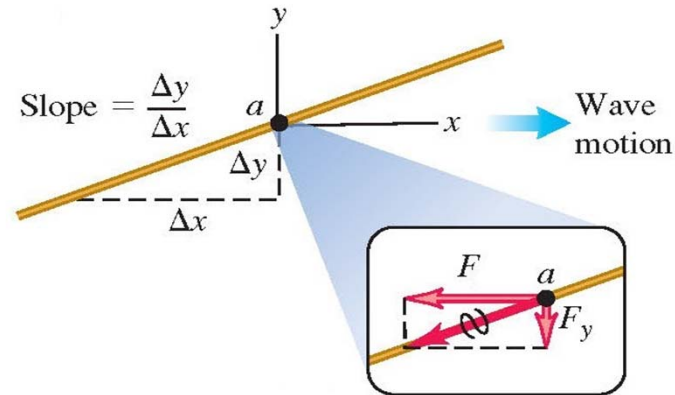
$$P(x, t) = F_y(x, t)v_y(x, t)$$

$$F_y(x, t) = -F \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial x}$$

$$P(x, t) = F_y(x, t)v_y(x, t) = -F \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial x} \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t}$$

The power of the wave:

$$P(x, t) = Fk\omega A^2 \sin^2(kx - \omega t)$$



$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

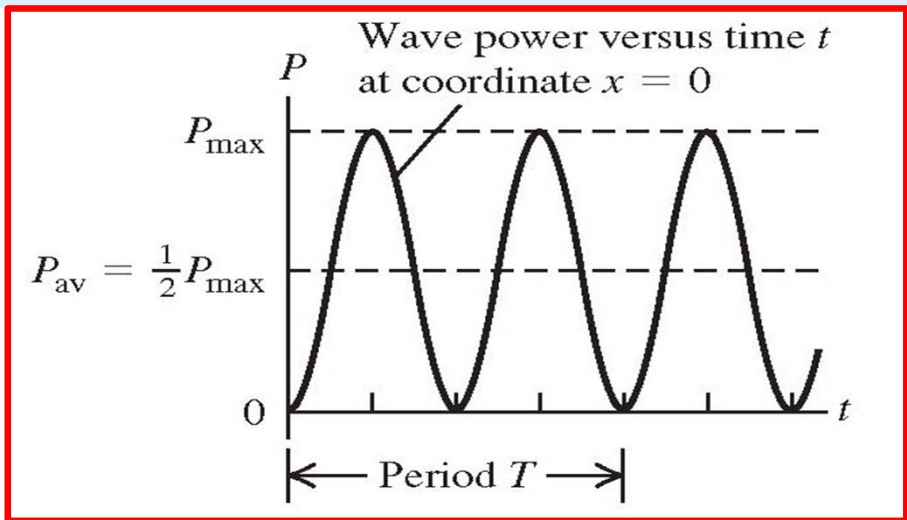
$$\frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial x} = -kA \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

$$\frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t} = \omega A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$





# Mechanical waves: Power



The wave power:

$$P(x, t) = Fk\omega A^2 \sin^2(kx - \omega t)$$

$$P_{max} = Fk\omega A^2 = \sqrt{\mu F} \omega^2 A^2$$

&

$$P_{av} = \frac{1}{2} Fk\omega A^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\mu F} \omega^2 A^2$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}}$$

$$v = \frac{\omega}{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{F/\mu}}$$







# Mechanical waves: Reflections



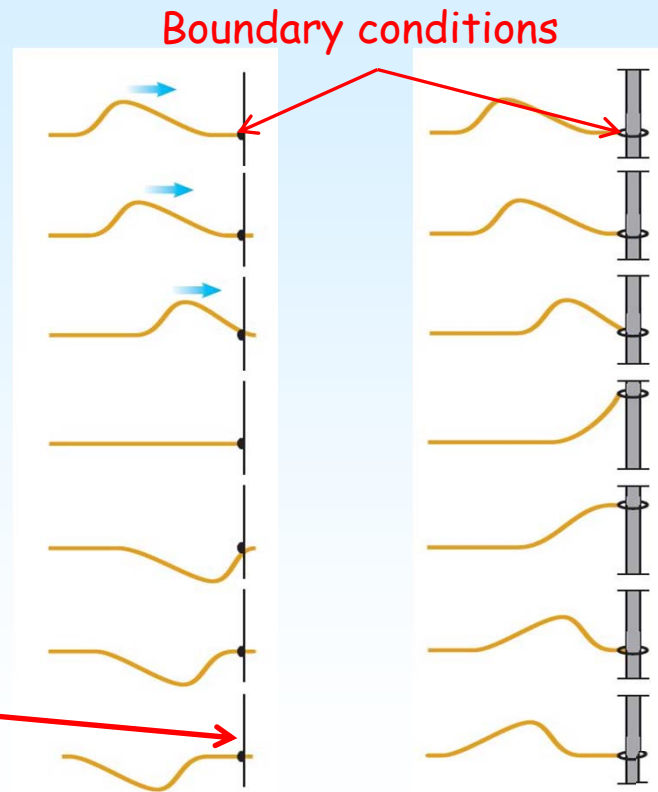
## Reflection of waves



## Reflections of a wave



The support provides an opposite force which produces an inverted wave.





# Mechanical waves: Reflections



The wavefunction of two waves is typically the sum of the individual wavefunctions.

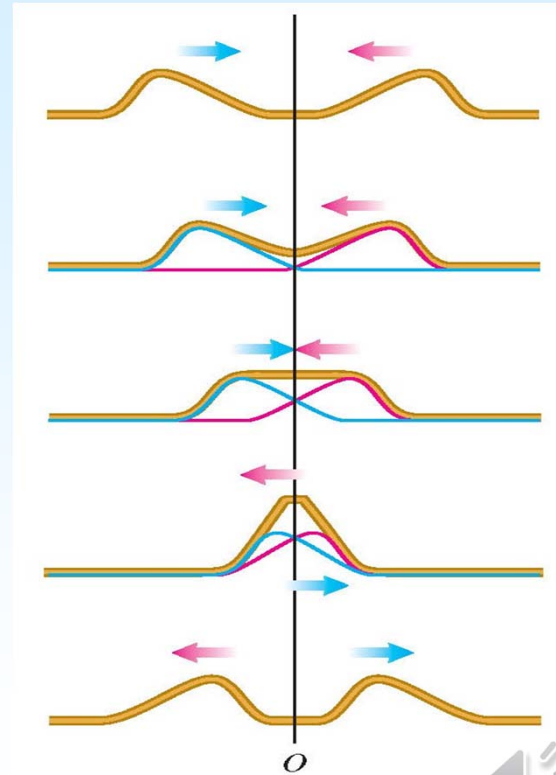
$$y(x, t) = y_1(x, t) + y_2(x, t)$$

This is called the principle of superposition.

This is true **if the wave equations** for the waves **are linear** (they contain the function  $y(x,t)$  only to the first power).

For example can sinusoidal waves be superimposed like this because their wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial t^2}$$





# Mechanical waves: Standing waves

## Standing waves



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NpEevfOU4Z8>





# Mechanical waves: Standing waves



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-gr7KmTOrx0>

Vincent Hedberg - Lunds Universitet

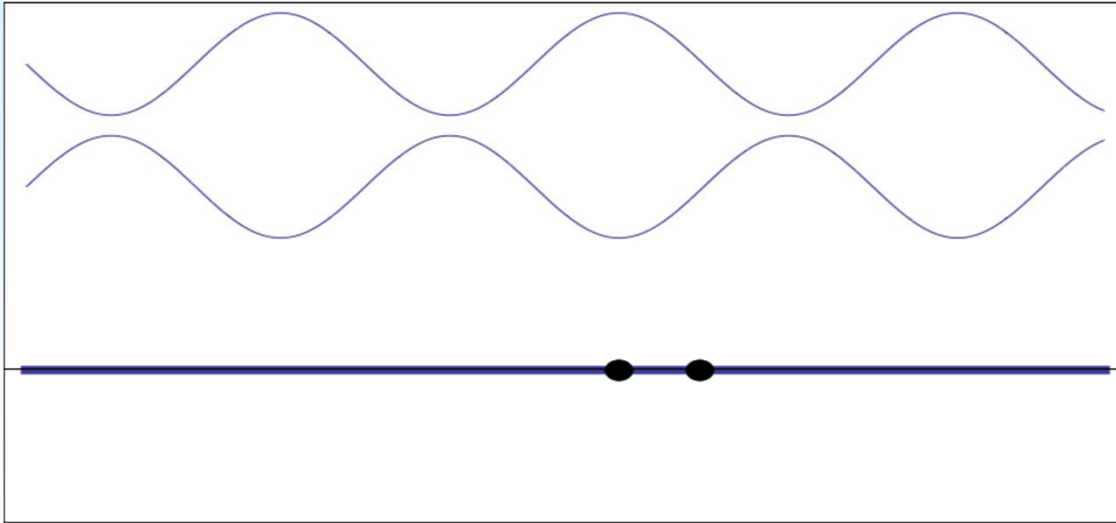




# Mechanical waves: Standing waves

Two waves with the same frequency and wavelength pass each other:

<http://www.acs.psu.edu/drussell/Demos/superposition/superposition.html>



$$y_2(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

$$y_1(x, t) = -A \cos(kx + \omega t)$$

$$y(x, t) = y_1(x, t) + y_2(x, t) = A[-\cos(kx + \omega t) + \cos(kx - \omega t)]$$





# Mechanical waves: Standing waves

Superposition of two waves:

$$y(x, t) = y_1(x, t) + y_2(x, t) = A[-\cos(kx + \omega t) + \cos(kx - \omega t)]$$

+

Trigonometry:  $\cos(a \mp b) = \cos a \cos b \pm \sin a \sin b$

=

$$Y(x, t) = A[-\cancel{\cos(kx)}\cos(\omega t) + \cancel{\sin(kx)}\sin(\omega t) + \cancel{\cos(kx)}\cos(\omega t) + \cancel{\sin(kx)}\sin(\omega t)]$$

=

The wavefunction for a standing wave:

$$y(x, t) = y_1(x, t) + y_2(x, t) = 2A \sin kx \sin \omega t$$





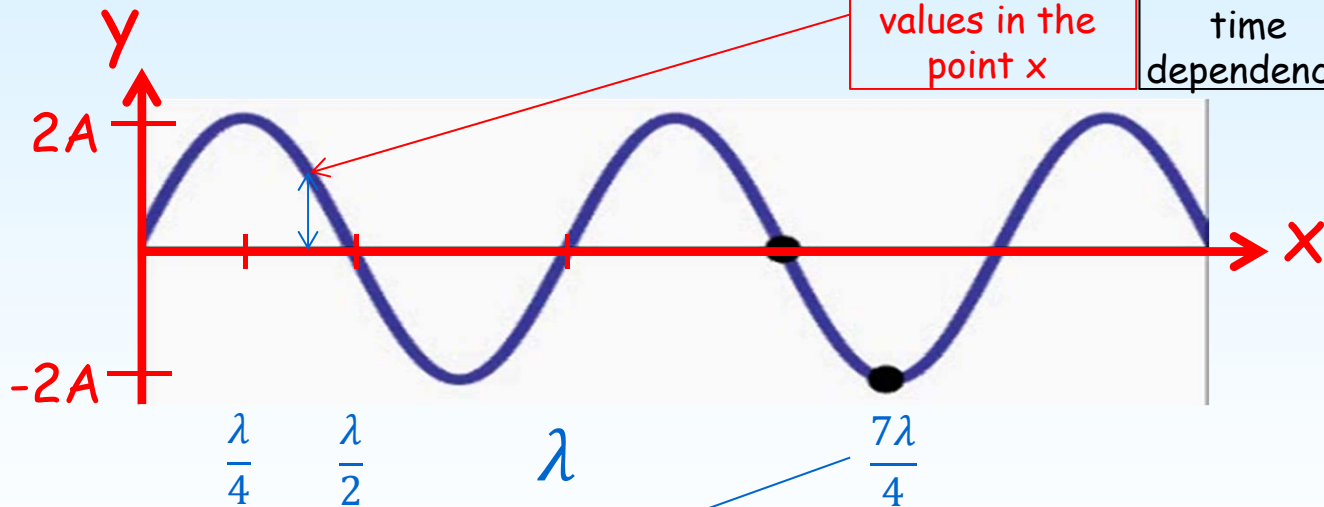


# Mechanical waves: Standing waves

$$y(x, t) = 2A \sin(kx) \sin(\omega t) = 2A \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} x\right) \sin(\omega t)$$

Gives max-min values in the point x

Gives the time dependence



$$y\left(\frac{7\lambda}{4}, t\right) = 2A \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \frac{7\lambda}{4}\right) \sin(\omega t) = 2A \sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{2}\right) \sin(\omega t) = -2A \sin(\omega t)$$





# Mechanical waves: Standing waves



**Nodes:**

$$y(x, t) = y_1(x, t) + y_2(x, t) = 2A \sin kx \sin \omega t$$

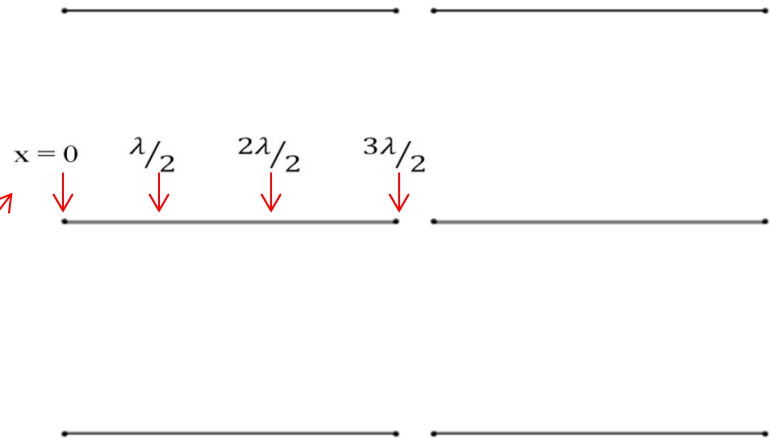
The nodes are given by  **$\sin(kx) = 0$**

$$kx = 0, \pi, 2\pi, 3\pi, 4\pi,$$

$$x = 0, \frac{\pi}{k}, \frac{2\pi}{k}, \frac{3\pi}{k}, \frac{4\pi}{k},$$

$$x = 0, \frac{\lambda}{2}, \frac{2\lambda}{2}, \frac{3\lambda}{2}, \frac{4\lambda}{2}, \quad \text{since } k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$$

$$x = 0, \frac{v}{2f}, \frac{2v}{2f}, \frac{3v}{2f}, \frac{4v}{2f}, \quad \text{since } \lambda = \frac{v}{f}$$





# Mechanical waves: Standing waves

What is the velocity and accelerationen ?

Displacement:

$$y(x,t) = 2A \sin(kx) \sin(\omega t)$$

Wavefunction

Velocity:

$$v_y(x,t) = \frac{\partial y(x,t)}{\partial t} \longrightarrow v_y(x,t) = 2A\omega \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t)$$

Acceleration:

$$a_y(x,t) = \frac{\partial v_y(x,t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 y(x,t)}{\partial t^2} \longrightarrow a_y(x,t) = -2A\omega^2 \sin(kx) \sin(\omega t)$$





## String instruments

Octobasse  
violin



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12X-i9YHzmE>

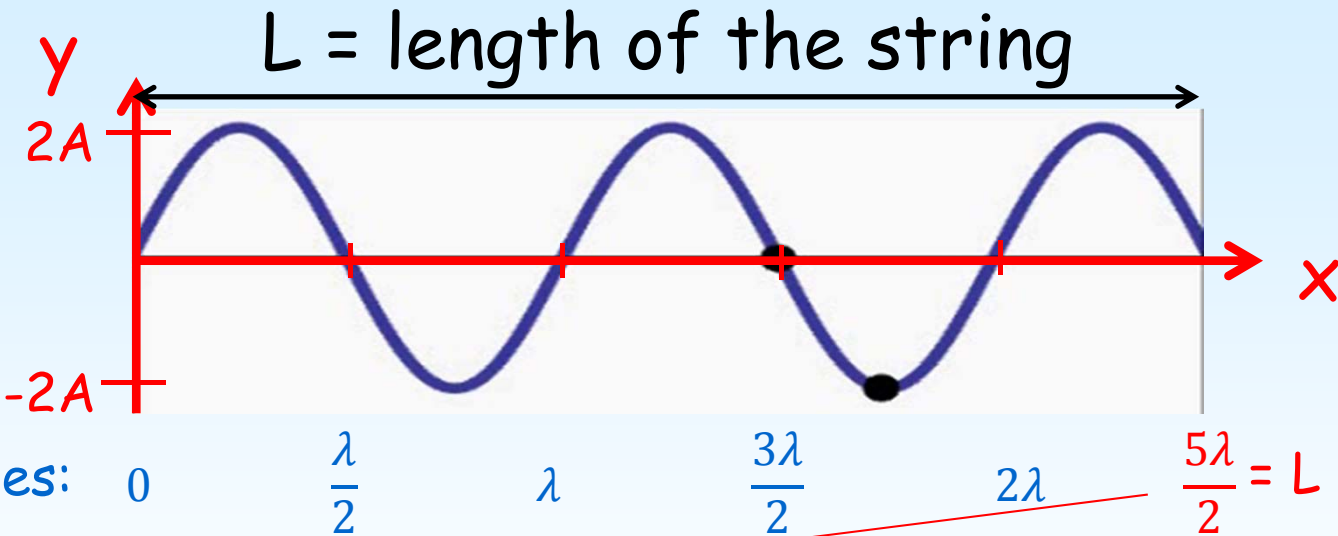




# Mechanical waves: String instruments



Example of a standing wave on a string:



$$\lambda = \frac{2L}{5}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{v}{f}$$

$$f = \frac{5v}{2L}$$

The speed of the waves that build up the standing wave.





# Mechanical waves: String instruments



Strings of length  $L$  having nodes at both ends:

Nodes when  $\sin(kx) = 0$   
 $x = 0, \frac{\pi}{k}, \frac{2\pi}{k}, \frac{3\pi}{k}, \dots$   
 $= 0, \frac{\lambda}{2}, \frac{2\lambda}{2}, \frac{3\lambda}{2}, \dots$

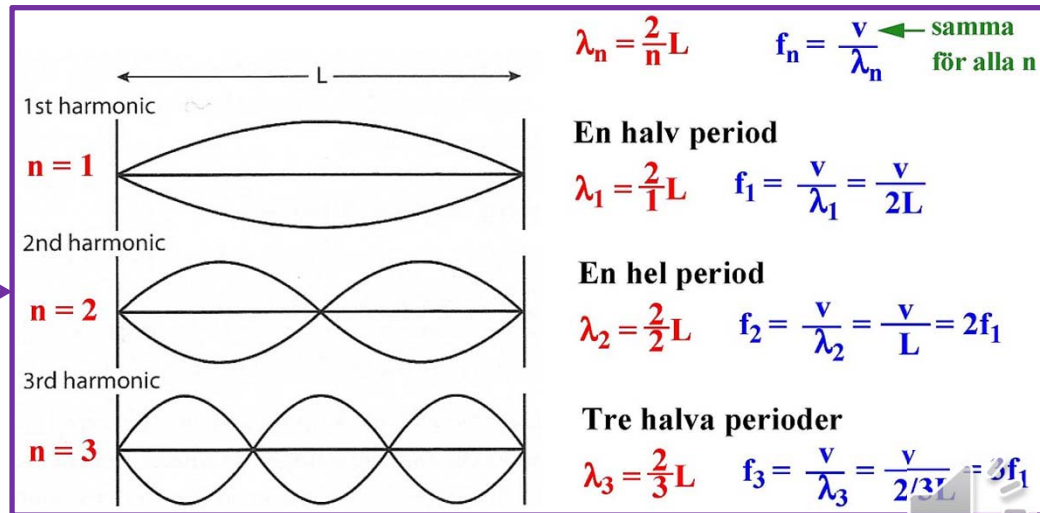
$$L = n \frac{\lambda}{2} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

$$\lambda = 2L / n = v / f$$

$$f_n = n \frac{v}{2L} = n f_1 \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

$f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots$  Harmonic frequencies  
 $f_1$ : Fundamental frequency  
 $f_2, f_3, f_4, \dots$  Overtones



$$f_1 = v/2L$$

$$v = \sqrt{F/\mu}$$

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}}$$

Long string:  
Thick string:  
Large tension:

Low frequency  
Low frequency  
High frequency







# Mechanical waves: Summary



# SUMMARY

## Mechanical waves





# Mechanical waves: Summary



The sinusoidal oscillations on a string are described by the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial t^2}$$

which has the wavefunction as a solution

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

Velocity and acceleration are obtained by derivation

$$v_y(x, t) = \frac{\partial y(x, t)}{\partial t} = \omega A \sin(kx - \omega t)$$
$$a_y(x, t) = \frac{\partial^2 y(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = -\omega^2 A \cos(kx - \omega t) = -\omega^2 y(x, t)$$

Wave velocity

$$v = \lambda/T = \omega/k \qquad v = \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}}$$





# Mechanical waves: Summary



Average power



$$P_{av} = \frac{1}{2} \mu (\omega A)^2 v = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\mu F} (\omega A)^2$$

The power function



$$P(x,t) = 2P_{av} \sin^2(kx - \omega t)$$

Wavefunction for a standing wave



$$y(x,t) = 2A \sin(kx) \sin(\omega t)$$

Fundamental frequency



$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}}$$

$$f_n = n f_1 \quad n = 2, 3, 4 \dots$$

