

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS-XI PHYSICS

CHAPTER-15

WAVES

Q1. A 5 kg string is under 400 Newton of tension. The string is stretched to 40.0 m. If one end of the string is given a transverse jerk, find the amount of time taken by the disturbance to reach the other end?

Ans:

Given,

Mass of the string, $M = 5 \text{ kg}$

Tension in the string, $T = 400 \text{ N}$

Length of the string, $l = 40.0 \text{ m}$

Mass per unit length, $\mu = M/l = 5/40 = 0.125 \text{ kg/m}$

We know,

Velocity of the transverse wave, $v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{400}{0.125}} = 56.56 \text{ m/s}$$

Therefore, time taken by the transverse wave to reach the other side, $t = l/v = 40/56.56$

$$= 0.707 \text{ s}$$

Q2. A shoe is dropped into a lake from a bridge that is 150 m above it. Given that the speed of sound in air is 340 m/s, find the amount of time taken by the sound of the shoe splashing the water to reach the top of the bridge? ($g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$)

Ans:

Given,

Height of the bridge, $s = 150 \text{ m}$

Initial velocity of the shoe, $u = 0$

Acceleration, $a = g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

Speed of sound in air = 340 m/s

Let t be the time taken by the shoe to hit the water's surface

We know,

$$s = ut + \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$150 = 0 + \frac{1}{2} \times 9.8 \times t^2$$

$$\text{therefore, } t^2 = 300 / 9.8 = 5.53 \text{ s}$$

Time taken by the sound to reach the bridge, $t' = 150/340 = 0.44 \text{ s}$

Therefore from the moment the shoe is released from the bridge, the sound of it splashing the water is heard

$$\text{after} = t + t' = 5.53 + 0.44 = 5.97 \text{ s}$$

Q3. A steel wire of mass 2 kg and length 24 m, allows a transverse wave to move through it at a speed equal to the speed of sound in dry air at 20 °C i.e., 343 m/s. Calculate the tension in the wire.

Ans:

Given,

Length of the steel wire, $l = 24 \text{ m}$

Mass of the steel wire, $m = 2.0 \text{ kg}$

Velocity of the transverse wave, $v = 343 \text{ m/s}$

Mass per unit length, $\mu = M/l = 2/24 = 0.083 \text{ kg/m}$

We know,

Velocity of the transverse wave, $v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$

Therefore, $T = v^2 \mu$

$$= 343^2 \times 0.083 = 9764.87 \text{ N}$$

Q4. Using the formula $v = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}}$ explain why the speed of sound in air

(a) does not depend upon pressure.

(b) increases with temperature and humidity.

(c) increases with humidity.

Ans:

Given,

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}}$$

We know,

$$PV = nRT \quad (\text{for } n \text{ moles of ideal gas})$$

$$\Rightarrow PV = RT \quad (m/M)$$

Where, m is the total mass and M is molecular mass of the gas.

therefore, $P = \frac{m}{V} \left(\frac{RT}{M} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow P = \frac{\rho RT}{M}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P}{\rho} = \frac{RT}{M}$$

(a) For a gas at a constant temperature, $\frac{P}{\rho}$

= constant

Thus, as P increases ρ and vice versa. This means that P/ρ ratio always remains constant meaning

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}}$$

= constant i.e., velocity of sound does not depend upon the pressure of the gas.

(b) Since, $\frac{P}{\rho} = \frac{RT}{M}$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}} = v = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma RT}{M}}$$

We can see that $v \propto \sqrt{T}$ i.e., speed of sound increases with temperature.

(c) When humidity increases, effective density of the air decrease. This means $v \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}$, thus velocity increases.

Q5. We know that the function $y = f(x, t)$ represents a wave traveling in one direction, where x and t must appear in the combination $x + vt$ or $x - vt$ or i.e. $y = f(x \pm vt)$. Is the converse true?

Can the following functions for y possibly represent a travelling wave:

(i) $(x - vt)^2$

(ii) $\log[(x + vt)/x_0]$

(iii) $1/(x + vt)$

Ans:

No, the converse is not true, because it is necessary for a wave function representing a traveling wave to have a finite value for all values of x and t .

As none of the above functions satisfy the above condition, thus, none represent a traveling wave.

Q6. A flying-fox emitting ultrasonic sound at 1000 kHz is flying over a pond, when this sound meets the water surface, calculate the wavelength of (i) the reflected sound, (ii) the transmitted sound.

[Speed of sound in air is 340 m/s and in water 1486 m/s]

Ans:

Given,

Frequency of the ultrasonic sound, $\nu = 1000 \text{ kHz} = 10^6 \text{ Hz}$

Speed of sound in air, $v_A = 340 \text{ m/s}$

We know,

(i) The wavelength (λ_R) of the reflected sound is :

$$\lambda_R = v_A / \nu$$

$$= 340/10^6 = 3.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

(ii) Speed of sound in water, $v_W = 1486 \text{ m/s}$

Therefore, the wavelength (λ_T) of the transmitted sound is :

$$\lambda_T = 1486 / 10^6$$

$$= 1.49 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

Q7. An ultrasonic scanner operating at 4.2 MHz is used to locate tumors in tissues. If the speed of sound is 2 km/s in a certain tissue, calculate the wavelength of sound in this tissue?

Ans:

Given,

Speed of sound in the tissue, $v_T = 2 \text{ km/s} = 2 \times 10^3 \text{ m/s}$

Operating frequency of the scanner, $\nu = 4.2 \text{ MHz} = 4.2 \times 10^6 \text{ Hz}$

Therefore, the wavelength of sound:

$$\lambda = v_T / \nu$$

$$= (2 \times 10^3) / (4.2 \times 10^6)$$

$$= 4.76 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

Q8. A transverse harmonic wave on a wire is expressed as:

Q8. A transverse harmonic wave on a wire is expressed as.

$$y(x, t) = 3 \sin(36t + 0.018x + \pi/4)$$

(i) Is it a stationary wave or a travelling?

(ii) If it is a travelling wave, give the speed and direction of its propagation.

(iii) Find its frequency and amplitude.

(iv) Give the initial phase at the origin.

(v) Calculate the smallest distance between two adjacent crests in the wave?

[X and y are in cm and t in seconds. Assume the left to right direction as the positive direction of x]

Ans:

Given,

$$y(x, t) = 3 \sin(36t + 0.018x + \pi/4) \quad (1)$$

(i) We know, the equation of a progressive wave travelling from right to left is:

$$y(x, t) = a \sin(\omega t + kx + \Phi) \quad (2)$$

Comparing equation (1) to equation (2), we see that it represents a wave travelling from right to left and also we get:

$$a = 3 \text{ cm}, \omega = 36 \text{ rad/s}, k = 0.018 \text{ cm} \text{ and } \Phi = \pi/4$$

(ii) Therefore the speed of propagation, $v = \omega/k = 36/0.018 = 20 \text{ m/s}$

(iii) Amplitude of the wave, $a = 3 \text{ cm}$

Frequency of the wave $\nu = \omega / 2\pi$

$$= 36/2\pi = 5.7 \text{ hz}$$

(iv) Initial phase at the origin $= \pi/4$

(v) the smallest distance between two adjacent crests in the wave, $\lambda = 2\pi/k = 2\pi/0.018$

$$= 349 \text{ cm}$$

Q9. For the wave in the above question (Q8), plot the displacement (y) versus (t) graphs for $x = 0, 2$ and 4 cm . (i) Give the shapes of these plots.

(ii) With respect to which aspects (amplitude, frequency or phase) does the oscillatory motion in a travelling wave differ from one point to another?

Ans:

Given,

$$y(x, t) = 3 \sin(36t + 0.018x + \pi/4) \quad (1)$$

For $x = 0$, the equation becomes :

$$y(0, t) = 3 \sin(36t + 0 + \pi/4) \quad (2)$$

Also,

$$\omega = 2\pi/\tau = 36 \text{ rad/s}$$

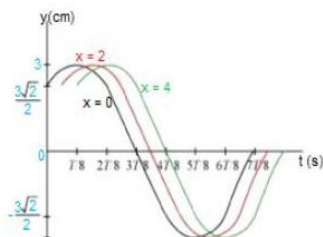
$$\Rightarrow \tau = \pi/18 \text{ secs.}$$

Plotting the displacement (y) vs. (t) graphs using different values of t listed below:

t	0	T/8	2T/8	3T/8	4T/8	5T/8	6T/8	7T/8	T
y	$\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$	3	$\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$	0	$-\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$	-3	$-\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$	0	$\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$

Similarly graphs are obtained for $x = 0, x = 2 \text{ cm}$, and $x = 4 \text{ cm}$. The oscillatory motion in the travelling wave is different from each other only in terms of phase. Amplitude and frequency are invariant for any change in x.

The y-t plots of the three waves are shown in the given figure:



Q10. A travelling harmonic wave is given as: $y(x, t) = 2.0 \cos 2\pi(10t - 0.0080x + 0.35)$.

What is the phase difference between the oscillatory motion of two points separated by a distance of:

(i) 8 m,

(ii) 1 m,

(iii) $\lambda/2$,

(iv) $6\lambda/4$

[X and y are in cm and t is in secs].

Ans:

Given

Given,

Equation for a travelling harmonic wave :

$$y(x, t) = 2.0 \cos 2\pi (10t - 0.0080x + 0.35)$$

$$= 2.0 \cos (20\pi t - 0.016\pi x + 0.70\pi)$$

Where,

Propagation constant, $k = 0.0160\pi$

Amplitude, $a = 2\text{ cm}$

Angular frequency, $\omega = 20\pi\text{ rad/s}$

We know,

$$\text{Phase difference } \Phi = kx = 2\pi/\lambda$$

(i) For $x = 8\text{ m} = 800\text{ cm}$

$$\Phi = 0.016\pi \times 800 = 12.8\pi\text{ rad}$$

(ii) For $x = 1\text{ m} = 100\text{ cm}$

$$\Phi = 0.016\pi \times 100 = 1.6\pi\text{ rad}$$

(iii) For $x = \lambda/2$

$$\Phi = (2\pi/\lambda) \times (\lambda/2)$$

$$= \pi\text{ rad}$$

(iv) For $x = \lambda/4$

$$\Phi = (2\pi/\lambda) \times (\lambda/4)$$

$$= \pi/2\text{ rad}$$

Q11. The transverse displacement of a wire (clamped at both its ends) is described as :

$$y(x, t) = 0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos(120\pi t)$$

The mass of the wire is $6 \times 10^{-2}\text{ kg}$ and its length is 3 m .

Provide answers to the following questions:

(i) Is the function describing a stationary wave or a travelling wave?

(ii) Interpret the wave as a superposition of two waves travelling in opposite directions. Find the speed, wavelength and frequency of each wave.

(iii) Calculate the wire's tension.

[X and y are in meters and t in secs]

Ans:

We know,

The standard equation of a stationary wave is described as:

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

Our given equation $y(x, t) = 0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos(120\pi t)$ is similar to the general equation .

(i) Thus, the given function describes a stationary wave.

(ii) We know, a wave travelling in the positive x – direction can be represented as :

$$y_1 = a \sin(\omega t - kx)$$

Also,

Wave travelling in the negative x – direction is represented as :

$$y_2 = a \sin(\omega t + kx)$$

Super- positioning these two waves gives us :

$$y = y_1 + y_2$$

$$= a \sin(\omega t - kx) + a \sin(\omega t + kx)$$

$$= a \sin(\omega t) \cos(kx) + a \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t) - a \sin(\omega t) \cos(kx) - a \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t)$$

$$= -2a \sin(kx) \cos(\omega t)$$

$$= -2a \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}x\right) \cos(2\pi \nu t) \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

The transverse displacement of the wires is described as :

$$0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos(120\pi t) \dots\dots\dots (2)$$

Comparing equations (1) and (2) , we get :

$$2\pi/\lambda = 2\pi/3$$

Therefore, wavelength $\lambda = 3\text{ m}$

$$\text{Also, } 2\pi \nu/\lambda = 120\pi$$

Therefore, speed $v = 180\text{ m/s}$

$$\text{And, Frequency } = \nu/\lambda = 180/3$$

$$= 60\text{ Hz}$$

(iii) Given,

Velocity of the transverse wave, $v = 180\text{ m/s}$

The string's mass, $m = 6 \times 10^{-2}\text{ kg}$

String length, $l = 3\text{ m}$

Mass per unit length of the string, $\mu = m/l = (6 \times 10^{-2})/3$

$$= 2 \times 10^{-2}\text{ kg/m}$$

Let the tension in the wire be T

Let the tension in the wire be T .

Therefore, $T = v^2 \mu$

$$= 180^2 \times 2 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$= 648 \text{ N.}$$

Q12. Considering the wave described in the above question (Q11) answer the following questions;

(a) Are all the points in the wire oscillating at the same values of (i) frequency, (ii) phase, (iii) amplitude? Justify your answers.

(b) Calculate the amplitude of a point 0.4 m away from one end?

Ans:

(a) As the wire is clamped at both its ends, the ends behave as nodes and the whole wire vibrates in one segment. Thus,

(i) Except at the ends which have zero frequency, all the particles in the wire oscillate with the same frequency.

(ii) All the particles in the wire lie in one segment, thus they all have the same phase. Except for the nodes.

(iii) Amplitude, however, is different for different points.

(b) Given equation,

$$y(x, t) = 0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos(120\pi t)$$

For $x = 0.4 \text{ m}$ and $t = 0$

$$\text{Amplitude} = \text{displacement} = 0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos 0$$

$$= 0.06 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi}{3} \times 0.4\right) 1$$

$$= 0.044 \text{ m}$$

Q13. Present below are functions of x and t to describe the displacement (longitudinal or transverse) of an elastic wave. Identify the ones describing (a) a stationary wave, (b) a traveling wave and (c) neither of the two :

(i) $y = 3 \sin(5x - 0.5t) + 4 \cos(5x - 0.5t)$

(ii) $y = \cos x \sin t + \cos 2x \sin 2t$

(iii) $y = 2 \cos(3x) \sin(10t)$

(iv) $y = 2\sqrt{x-vt}$

Ans:

(i) This equation describes a traveling wave as the harmonic terms ωt and kx are in the combination of $kx - \omega t$.

(ii) This equation describes a stationary wave because the harmonic terms ωt and kx appear separately in the equation. In fact, this equation describes the superposition of two stationary waves.

(iii) This equation describes a stationary wave because the harmonic terms ωt and kx appear separately.

(iv) This equation does not contain any harmonic term. Thus, it is neither a traveling wave nor a stationary wave.

Q14. A string clamped at both its ends is stretched out, it is then made to vibrate in its fundamental mode at a frequency of 45 Hz. The linear mass density of the string is $4.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg/m}$ and its mass is $2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg}$. Calculate:

(i) the velocity of a transverse wave on the string,

(ii) the tension in the string.

Ans:

Given,

$$\text{Mass of the string, } m = 2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Linear density of the string} = 4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ kg}$$

$$\text{Frequency, } \nu_f = 45 \text{ Hz}$$

We know, length of the wire = m/μ

$$= (2 \times 10^{-2}) / (4 \times 10^{-2}) = 0.5 \text{ m}$$

We know, $\lambda = 2l/n$

Where, n = number of nodes in the wire.

For fundamental node, $n = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = 2l$$

$$= 2 \times 0.5 = 1 \text{ m}$$

(i) Therefore speed of the transverse wave, $v = \lambda \nu_f$

$$= 1 \times 45 = 45 \text{ m/s}$$

(ii) Tension in the string = μv^2

$$= 4 \times 10^{-2} \times 45 = 81 \text{ N}$$

Q15. A 1m long pipe with a movable piston at one end and an opening at the other will be in resonance with a tuning fork vibrating at 340 Hz, if the length of the pipe is 79.3 cm or 25.5 cm. Calculate the speed of sound in air. Neglect the edge effects.

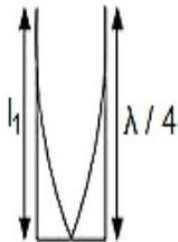
Ans:

Given,

Frequency of the tuning fork, $\nu_F = 340 \text{ Hz}$

Length of the pipe, $l_1 = 0.255 \text{ m}$

As the given pipe is has a piston at one end, it will behave as a pipe with one end closed and the other end open, as depicted in the figure below:



This kind of system creates odd harmonics. We know, fundamental note in a closed pipe is written as:

$$l_1 = \lambda / 4$$

$$0.255 \times 4 = \lambda = 1.02 \text{ m}$$

Therefore speed of sound, $v = \lambda \nu_F$

$$= 340 \times 1.02 = 346.8 \text{ m/s}$$

Q16. A steel bar of length 200 cm is nailed at its mid – point. The fundamental frequency of longitudinal vibrations of the rod is 2.53 kHz. At what speed will the sound be able to travel through steel?

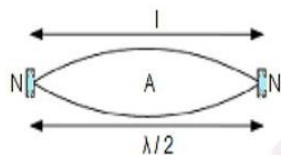
Ans:

Given,

Length, $l = 200 \text{ cm} = 2 \text{ m}$

Fundamental frequency of vibration, $\nu_F = 2.53 \text{ kHz} = 2.53 \times 10^3 \text{ Hz}$

The bar is then plucked at its mid – point, forming an antinode (A) at its center, and nodes (N) at its two edges, as depicted in the figure below :



The distance between two successive nodes is $\lambda / 2$

$$\Rightarrow l = \lambda / 2$$

$$\text{Or, } \lambda = 2 \times 2 = 4 \text{ m}$$

Thus, sound travels through steel at a speed of $v = v\lambda$

$$v = 4 \times 2.53 \times 10^3$$

$$= 10.12 \text{ km / s}$$

Q17. One end of A 20 cm long tube is closed. Find the harmonic mode of the tube that will be resonantly excited by a source of frequency 430 Hz. If both the ends are open, can the same source still produce resonance in the tube? (Sound travels in air at 340 m /s).

Ans:

Given,

Length of the pipe, $l = 20 \text{ cm} = 0.2 \text{ m}$

Frequency of the source = n^{th}

the normal mode of frequency, $\nu_N = 430 \text{ Hz}$

Speed of sound, $v = 340 \text{ ms}^{-1}$

We know, that in a closed pipe the n^{th} normal mode of frequency $\nu_N = (2n - 1) v / 4l$

where n is an integer = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4,

$$430 = (2n - 1) (340 / 4 \times 0.2)$$

$$2n = 2.01$$

$$n \approx 1$$

Thus, the given source resonantly excites the first mode of vibration frequency

Now, for a pipe open at both the ends, the n^{th} mode of vibration frequency:

$$v_R = nv/\lambda$$

$$n = v_R \lambda/v$$

$$n = (2 \times 0.2 \times 430)/340 = 0.5$$

As the mode of vibration (n) has to be an integer, this source is not in resonance with the tube.

Q18. Guitar strings X and Y striking the note 'Ga' are a little out of tune and give beats at 6 Hz. When the string X is slightly loosened and the beat frequency becomes 3 Hz. Given that the original frequency of X is 324 Hz, find the frequency of Y.

Ans:

Given,

Frequency of X, $f_X = 324$ Hz

Frequency of Y = f_Y

Beat's frequency, $n = 6$ Hz

Also,

$$n = |f_X - f_Y|$$

$$6 = 324 \pm f_Y$$

$$\Rightarrow f_Y = 330 \text{ Hz or } 318 \text{ Hz}$$

As frequency drops with decrease in tension in the string, thus f_Y cannot be 330 Hz

$$\Rightarrow f_Y = 318 \text{ Hz}$$

Q19. Explain how:

(i) A sound wave's pressure antinode is a displacement node and vice versa.

(ii) The Ganges river dolphin despite being blind, can maneuver and swim around obstacles and hunt down preys.

(iii) A guitar note and violin note are being played at the same frequency, however, we can still make out which instrument is producing which note

(iv) Both transverse and longitudinal wave can propagate through solids, but only longitudinal waves can move through gases.

(v) In a dispersive medium, the shape of a pulse propagating through it gets distorted.

Ans:

(i) An antinode is a point where pressure is the minimum and the amplitude of vibration is the maximum. On the other hand, a node is a point where pressure is the maximum and the amplitude of vibration is the minimum.

(ii) The Ganges river dolphin sends out click noises which return back as vibration informing the dolphin about the location and distances of objects in front of it. Thus, allowing it to maneuver and hunt down preys with minimum vision.

(iii) The guitar and the violin produce overtones of different strengths. Thus, one can differentiate between the notes coming from a guitar and a violin even if they are vibrating at the same frequencies.

(iv) Both solids and fluids have a bulk modulus of elasticity. Thus, they both allow longitudinal waves to propagate through them. However, unlike solids, gases do not have shear modulus. Thus, transverse waves cannot pass through gases.

(v) A pulse is a combination of waves of un-similar wavelengths. These waves move at different velocities in a dispersive medium. This causes the distortion in its shape.

Q20. A man standing at a certain distance from an observer blows a horn of frequency 200 Hz in still air. (a) Find the horn's frequency for the observer when the man (i) runs towards him at 20 m/s (ii) runs away from him at 20 m/s.

(b) Find the speed of sound in both the cases.

[Speed of sound in still air is 340 m/s]

Ans:

Given,

Frequency of the horn, $v_H = 200$ Hz

Velocity of the man, $v_T = 20$ m/s

Velocity of sound, $v = 340$ m/s

(a) We know,

(i) The apparent frequency of the horn as the man approaches the observer is:

$$v' = v_H [v/(v - v_T)]$$

$$= 200 [340/(340 - 20)]$$

$$= 212.5 \text{ Hz}$$

(ii) The apparent frequency of the horn as the man runs away from the observer is:

$$v'' = v_H [v/(v + v_T)]$$

$$= 200 [340/(340 + 20)]$$

$$= 188.88 \text{ Hz}$$

(b) The speed of sound is 340 m/s in both the cases. The apparent change in frequency is a result of the relative motions of the observer and the source.

Q21. A truck parked outside a petrol pump blows a horn of frequency 200 Hz in still air. The Wind then starts blowing towards the petrol pump at 20 m/s. Calculate the wavelength, speed, and frequency of the horn's sound for a man standing at the petrol pump. Is this situation completely identical to a situation when the observer moves towards the truck at 20 m/s and the air is still?

Ans:

For the standing observer:

Frequency, $\nu_H = 200$ Hz

Velocity of sound, $v = 340$ m/s

Speed of the wind, $v_W = 20$ m/s

The observer will hear the horn at 200 Hz itself because there is no relative motion between the observer and the truck.

Given that the wind blows in the observer's direction at 20 m/s.

Effective velocity of the sound, $v_E = 340 + 20 = 360$ m/s

The wavelength (λ) of the sound :

$$\lambda = v_E / \nu_H = 360/200$$

$$\lambda = 1.8 \text{ m}$$

For the observer running towards the train :

Speed of the observer, $v_o = 20$ m/s

We know,

The apparent frequency of the sound as the observers moves towards the truck is :

$$\nu' = \nu_H [(v + v_o)/v]$$

$$= 200[(20 + 340)/340] = 211.764 \text{ Hz}$$

As the air is still the effective velocity of sound is still 340 m/s.

As the truck is stationary the wavelength remains 1.8 m.

Thus, the two cases are not completely identical.

