

Since $v = \sqrt{T/\mu}$, the string tension T on the Hi-E string of the guitar is:

$$T = \mu v^2 = (3.242 \times 10^{-4} \text{ kg/m}) * (421.6 \text{ m/s})^2 = 57.6 \text{ kg-m/s}^2 = 57.6 \text{ N} \approx 12.95 \text{ lbs of force.}$$

1 N = 0.2248
lbs of force,
1 lb of force =
4.448 N

The typical string tension on a steel-stringed acoustic and/or electric guitar is $T \sim 50 - 60 \text{ N}$.

⇒ For steel 6 (12)-string guitar, total string tension is $\sim 300 - 360 (600 - 720) \text{ N} !!!$

PROPAGATION OF SOUND WAVES IN 2 & 3 DIMENSIONS
SOUNDWAVES EMANATING FROM A POINT SOURCE

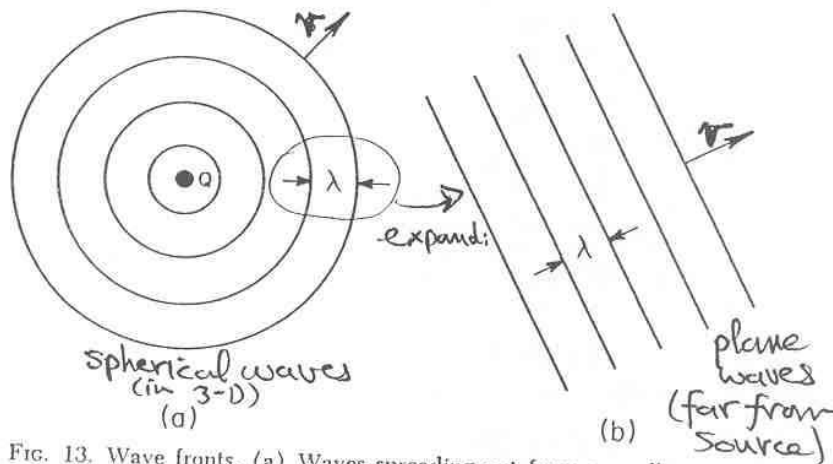


FIG. 13. Wave fronts. (a) Waves spreading out from a small source.
(b) Plane waves.

PROPAGATION OF SOUND WAVES IN A 3-D GAS (e.g. AIR)

A sound wave freely propagating in a gas is longitudinal compression/rarefaction of the gas.

Gives rise to a longitudinal displacement wave. If harmonic/sinusoidal in nature, far away from the sound source we have traveling plane waves, e.g. propagating in the + z-direction:

$$\xi_z(z, t) = \xi_o \cos(\omega t - kz) = \text{mean (or avg.) longitudinal (i.e. z-) displacement of air molecules}$$

and a corresponding over-pressure wave of the form: $p(z, t) = P(z, t) - P_{atm}$, where $P(z, t)$ is the instantaneous absolute pressure, and P_{atm} = atmospheric pressure = constant, typically $\sim 14.7 \text{ psi} \approx 1.03 \times 10^5 \text{ Pascals (Pa)}$ at NTP (i.e. sea level and temperature $T = 20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$).

For a harmonic traveling plane wave, the instantaneous over-pressure is: $p(z, t) = p_o \sin(\omega t - kz)$

Sound waves can propagate through elastic, compressible media as longitudinal waves.