

- * Travelling waves and wave propagation in a medium
 - + One-dimensional medium - bead-spring system
 - + One-dimensional transverse and longitudinal waves
 - + Wave propagation in two and three dimensions
- * One-dimensional standing waves
 - + Sum/superposition of two counter-propagating travelling waves
 - + Boundary conditions for standing waves
 - o Reflection, refraction, diffraction of travelling waves
 - o Interference effects
 - o Resonance effects
 - + Transverse standing waves, e.g. on a guitar/violin/piano string
 - + Longitudinal standing waves, e.g. in air - organ pipes/flutes
- * Standing waves in two and three dimensions
 - + Vibrating membranes/plates - drums, cymbals, musical saw, Chladni's law
- * Doppler effect - source/observer motional effects on sound waves in air.
- * Beats - interference between two frequencies
- * Distortion - non-linear response & generation of harmonics of fundamental
- * Intermodulation distortion - non-linear response with 2 or more frequencies.
- * The Human Ear/Human Hearing
 - + Structure of the outer & inner human ear, and its response to sound
 - + Why two ears? Phase sensitivity, source location determination.
Human hearing localization optimized for sound propagation in air...
 - + Sound Intensity, I (Watts/m²)
 - + Sound Intensity Level, L (decibels)
 - o Threshold of hearing, threshold of pain, noise levels/occupational exposure
 - + Sound Pressure Level, L_p (decibels)
 - + Loudness Level (phons)
 - + Loudness (sones)
- * Musical Tone Quality/Timbre
 - + Pure tones/simple tones - sine/cosine waves
 - o have well-defined frequencies/wavelengths, amplitudes & phases
 - + Partial tones (= partials) - assembly of pure tones
 - o = a mix of different frequencies & amplitudes
 - + Complex tone - superposition of simple tones - complex waveform
 - + Periodic complex waveform - has fundamental + harmonics/overtones
 - o harmonics/overtones = integer multiples of fundamental frequency
 - o phase sensitivity of human ear to complex tone/tone quality/timbre
 - o harmonic (Fourier) analysis of musical instrument tones
 - + Formants - resonances
 - + Sound Envelope - attack time/decay time
- * Sound Effects
 - + Vibrato, tremelo, chorus, phase shift/flanging, reverberation/echo, etc.
 - + Noise
 - + Subjective tones - (non-linear response/distortion in the ear)
 - + Auditory sensation "tricks"
- * Musical intervals, musical scales, tuning and temperament
 - + Consonance/dissonance
 - + Discrete frequencies = scale