

# Sound Waves

## CHAPTER

# 17



- 17.1 Pressure Variations in Sound Waves
- 17.2 Speed of Sound Waves
- 17.3 Intensity of Periodic Sound Waves
- 17.4 The Doppler Effect

Most of the waves we studied in Chapter 16 are constrained to move along a one-dimensional medium. For example, the wave in Figure 16.7 is a purely mathematical construct moving along the  $x$  axis. The wave in Figure 16.10 is constrained to move along the length of the string. We have also seen waves moving through a two-dimensional medium, such as the ripples on the water surface in the introduction to Part 2 on page 449 and the waves moving over the surface of the ocean in Figure 16.4. In this chapter, we investigate mechanical waves that move through three-dimensional bulk media. For example, seismic waves leaving the focus of an earthquake travel through the three-dimensional interior of the Earth.

We will focus our attention on **sound waves**, which travel through any material, but are most commonly experienced as the mechanical waves traveling through air that result in the human perception of hearing. As sound waves travel through air, elements of air are disturbed from their equilibrium positions. Accompanying these movements are changes in density and pressure of the air along the direction of wave motion. If the source of the sound waves vibrates sinusoidally, the density and pressure variations are also sinusoidal. The mathematical description of sinusoidal sound waves is very similar to that of sinusoidal waves on strings, as discussed in Chapter 16.

Sound waves are divided into three categories that cover different frequency ranges.

- (1) *Audible waves* lie within the range of sensitivity of the human ear. They can be generated in a variety of ways, such as by musical instruments, human voices, or loudspeakers.
- (2) *Infrasonic waves* have frequencies below the audible range. Elephants can use infrasonic waves to communicate with one another, even when separated by many kilometers.
- (3) *Ultrasonic waves* have frequencies above the audible range. You may have used a "silent" whistle to retrieve your dog. Dogs easily hear the ultrasonic sound this whistle emits, although humans cannot detect it at all. Ultrasonic waves are also used in medical imaging.

Three musicians play the alpenhorn in Valais, Switzerland. In this chapter, we explore the behavior of sound waves such as those coming from these large musical instruments.

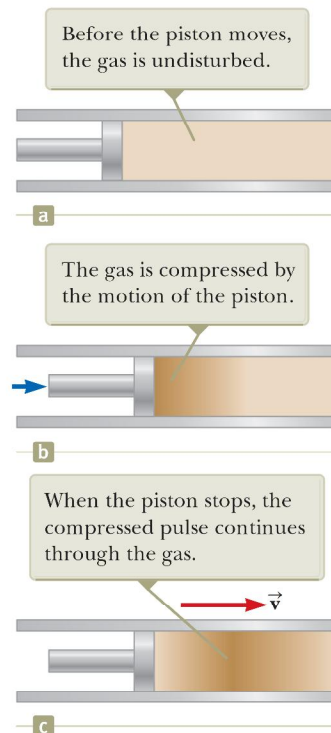
(Stefano Cellai/AGE fotostock)

This chapter begins with a discussion of the pressure variations in a sound wave, the speed of sound waves, and wave intensity, which is a function of wave amplitude. We then provide an alternative description of the intensity of sound waves that compresses the wide range of intensities to which the ear is sensitive into a smaller range for convenience. The effects of the motion of sources and listeners on the frequency of a sound are also investigated.

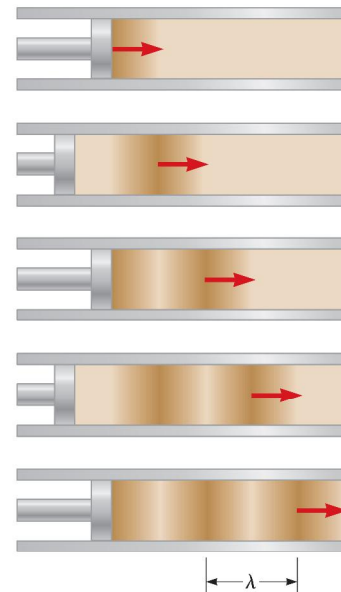
## 17.1 Pressure Variations in Sound Waves

In Chapter 16, we began our investigation of waves by imagining the creation of a single pulse that traveled down a string (Figure 16.1) or a spring (Figure 16.3). Let's do something similar for sound. We describe pictorially the motion of a one-dimensional longitudinal sound pulse moving through a long tube containing a compressible gas as shown in Figure 17.1. A piston at the left end can be quickly moved to the right to compress the gas and create the pulse. Before the piston is moved, the gas is undisturbed and of uniform density as represented by the uniformly shaded region in Figure 17.1a. When the piston is pushed to the right (Fig. 17.1b), the gas just in front of it is compressed (as represented by the more heavily shaded region); the pressure and density in this region are now higher than they were before the piston moved. When the piston comes to rest (Fig. 17.1c), the compressed region of the gas continues to move to the right, corresponding to a longitudinal pulse traveling through the tube with speed  $v$ .

One can produce a one-dimensional *periodic* sound wave in the tube of gas in Figure 17.1 by causing the piston to move in simple harmonic motion. The results are shown in Figure 17.2. The darker parts of the colored areas in this figure represent regions in which the gas is compressed and the density and pressure are above their equilibrium values. A compressed region is formed whenever the pis-



**Figure 17.1** Motion of a longitudinal pulse through a compressible gas. The compression (darker region) is produced by the moving piston.



**Figure 17.2** A longitudinal wave propagating through a gas-filled tube. The source of the wave is an oscillating piston at the left.

ton is pushed into the tube. This compressed region, called a **compression**, moves through the tube, continuously compressing the region just in front of itself. When the piston is pulled back, the gas in front of it expands and the pressure and density in this region fall below their equilibrium values (represented by the lighter parts of the colored areas in Fig. 17.2). These low-pressure regions, called **rarefactions**, also propagate along the tube, following the compressions. Both regions move at the speed of sound in the medium.

As the piston oscillates sinusoidally, regions of compression and rarefaction are continuously set up. The distance between two successive compressions (or two successive rarefactions) equals the wavelength  $\lambda$  of the sound wave. Because the sound wave is longitudinal, as the compressions and rarefactions travel through the tube, any small element of the gas moves with simple harmonic motion parallel to the direction of the wave. If  $s(x, t)$  is the position of a small element relative to its equilibrium position,<sup>1</sup> we can express this harmonic position function as

$$s(x, t) = s_{\max} \cos(kx - \omega t) \quad (17.1)$$

where  $s_{\max}$  is the maximum position of the element relative to equilibrium. This parameter is often called the **displacement amplitude** of the wave. The parameter  $k$  is the wave number, and  $\omega$  is the angular frequency of the wave. Notice that the displacement of the element is along  $x$ , in the direction of propagation of the sound wave.

The variation in the gas pressure  $\Delta P$  measured from the equilibrium value is also periodic with the same wave number and angular frequency as for the displacement in Equation 17.1. Therefore, we can write

$$\Delta P = \Delta P_{\max} \sin(kx - \omega t) \quad (17.2)$$

where **the pressure amplitude**  $\Delta P_{\max}$  is the maximum change in pressure from the equilibrium value.

Notice that we have expressed the displacement by means of a cosine function and the pressure by means of a sine function. We will justify this choice in the procedure that follows and relate the pressure amplitude  $P_{\max}$  to the displacement amplitude  $s_{\max}$ . Consider the piston–tube arrangement of Figure 17.1 once again. In Figure 17.3a, we focus our attention on a small cylindrical element of undisturbed gas of length  $\Delta x$  and area  $A$ . The volume of this element is  $V_i = A \Delta x$ .

Figure 17.3b shows this element of gas after a sound wave has moved it to a new position. The cylinder's two flat faces move through different distances  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ . The change in volume  $\Delta V$  of the element in the new position is equal to  $A \Delta s$ , where  $\Delta s = s_1 - s_2$ .

From the definition of bulk modulus (see Eq. 12.8), we express the pressure variation in the element of gas as a function of its change in volume:

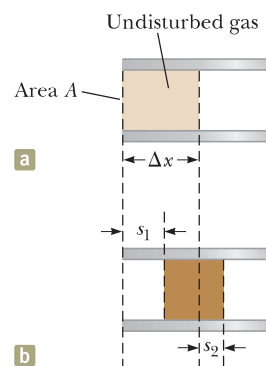
$$\Delta P = -B \frac{\Delta V}{V_i}$$

Let's substitute for the initial volume and the change in volume of the element:

$$\Delta P = -B \frac{A \Delta s}{A \Delta x}$$

Let the length  $\Delta x$  of the cylinder approach zero so that the ratio  $\Delta s/\Delta x$  becomes a partial derivative:

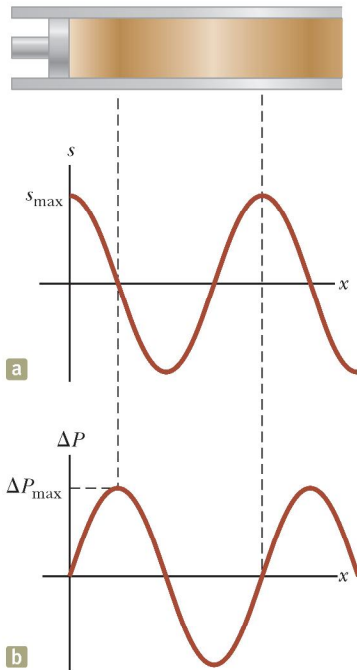
$$\Delta P = -B \frac{\partial s}{\partial x} \quad (17.3)$$



**Figure 17.3** (a) An undisturbed element of gas of length  $\Delta x$  in a tube of cross-sectional area  $A$ . (b) When a sound wave propagates through the gas, the element is moved to a new position and has a different length. The parameters  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  describe the displacements of the ends of the element from their equilibrium positions.

<sup>1</sup>We use  $s(x, t)$  here instead of  $y(x, t)$  because the displacement of elements of the medium is not perpendicular to the  $x$  direction.





**Figure 17.4** (a) Displacement amplitude and (b) pressure amplitude versus position for a sinusoidal longitudinal wave.

Substitute the position function given by Equation 17.1:

$$\Delta P = -B \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [s_{\max} \cos(kx - \omega t)] = Bs_{\max} k \sin(kx - \omega t)$$

From this result, we see that a displacement described by a cosine function leads to a pressure described by a sine function. We also see that the displacement and pressure amplitudes are related by

$$\Delta P_{\max} = Bs_{\max} k \quad (17.4)$$

This relationship depends on the bulk modulus of the gas, which is not as readily available as is the density of the gas. Once we determine the speed of sound in a gas in Section 17.2, we will be able to provide an expression that relates  $\Delta P_{\max}$  and  $s_{\max}$  in terms of the density of the gas.

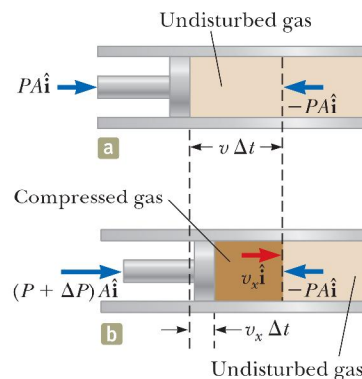
This discussion shows that a sound wave may be described equally well in terms of either pressure or displacement. A comparison of Equations 17.1 and 17.2 shows that the pressure wave is  $90^\circ$  out of phase with the displacement wave. Graphs of these functions are shown in Figure 17.4. The pressure variation is a maximum when the displacement from equilibrium is zero, and the displacement from equilibrium is a maximum when the pressure variation is zero.

**Quick Quiz 17.1** If you blow across the top of an empty soft-drink bottle, a pulse of sound travels down through the air in the bottle. At the moment the pulse reaches the bottom of the bottle, what is the correct description of the displacement of elements of air from their equilibrium positions and the pressure of the air at this point? **(a)** The displacement and pressure are both at a maximum. **(b)** The displacement and pressure are both at a minimum. **(c)** The displacement is zero, and the pressure is a maximum. **(d)** The displacement is zero, and the pressure is a minimum.

## 17.2 Speed of Sound Waves

We now extend the discussion begun in Section 17.1 to evaluate the speed of sound in a gas. In Figure 17.5a, consider the cylindrical element of gas between the piston and the dashed line. This element of gas is in equilibrium under the influence of forces of equal magnitude, from the piston on the left and from the rest of the gas on the right. The magnitude of these forces is  $PA$ , where  $P$  is the pressure in the gas and  $A$  is the cross-sectional area of the tube.

Figure 17.5b shows the situation after a time interval  $\Delta t$  during which the piston moves to the right at a constant speed  $v_x$  due to a force from the left on the piston that has increased in magnitude to  $(P + \Delta P)A$ . By the end of the time interval  $\Delta t$ ,



**Figure 17.5** (a) An undisturbed element of gas of length  $v \Delta t$  in a tube of cross-sectional area  $A$ . The element is in equilibrium between forces on either end. (b) When the piston moves inward at constant velocity  $v_x$  due to an increased force on the left, the element also moves with the same velocity.



every bit of gas in the element is moving with speed  $v_x$ . That will not be true in general for a macroscopic element of gas, but it will become true if we shrink the length of the element to an infinitesimal value.

The length of the undisturbed element of gas is chosen to be  $v \Delta t$ , where  $v$  is the speed of sound in the gas and  $\Delta t$  is the time interval between the configurations in Figures 17.5a and 17.5b. Therefore, at the end of the time interval  $\Delta t$ , the sound wave will just reach the right end of the cylindrical element of gas. The gas to the right of the element is undisturbed because the sound wave has not reached it yet.

The element of gas is modeled as a nonisolated system in terms of momentum. The force from the piston has provided an impulse to the element, which in turn exhibits a change in momentum. Therefore, we evaluate both sides of the impulse-momentum theorem:

$$\Delta \vec{p} = \vec{I} \quad (17.5)$$

On the right, the impulse is provided by the constant force due to the increased pressure on the piston:

$$\vec{I} = \sum \vec{F} \Delta t = (A \Delta P \Delta t) \hat{i}$$

The pressure change  $\Delta P$  can be related to the volume change and then to the speeds  $v$  and  $v_x$  through the bulk modulus:

$$\Delta P = -B \frac{\Delta V}{V_i} = -B \frac{(-v_x A \Delta t)}{v A \Delta t} = B \frac{v_x}{v}$$

Therefore, the impulse becomes

$$\vec{I} = \left( AB \frac{v_x}{v} \Delta t \right) \hat{i} \quad (17.6)$$

On the left-hand side of the impulse-momentum theorem, Equation 17.5, the change in momentum of the element of gas of mass  $m$  is as follows:

$$\Delta \vec{p} = m \Delta \vec{v} = (\rho V_i)(v_x \hat{i} - 0) = (\rho v v_x A \Delta t) \hat{i} \quad (17.7)$$

Substituting Equations 17.6 and 17.7 into Equation 17.5, we find

$$\rho v v_x A \Delta t = AB \frac{v_x}{v} \Delta t$$

which reduces to an expression for the speed of sound in a gas:

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}} \quad (17.8)$$

It is interesting to compare this expression with Equation 16.18 for the speed of transverse waves on a string,  $v = \sqrt{T/\mu}$ . In both cases, the wave speed depends on an elastic property of the medium (bulk modulus  $B$  or string tension  $T$ ) and on an inertial property of the medium (volume density  $\rho$  or linear density  $\mu$ ). In fact, the speed of all mechanical waves follows an expression of the general form

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{\text{elastic property}}{\text{inertial property}}}$$

For longitudinal sound waves in a solid rod of material, for example, the speed of sound depends on Young's modulus  $Y$  and the density  $\rho$ . Table 17.1 (page 512) provides the speed of sound in several different materials.

The speed of sound also depends on the temperature of the medium. For sound traveling through air, the relationship between wave speed and air temperature is

$$v = 331 \sqrt{1 + \frac{T_C}{273}} \quad (17.9)$$

**Table 17.1** Speed of Sound in Various Media

| Medium         | $v$ (m/s) | Medium                 | $v$ (m/s) | Medium                    | $v$ (m/s) |
|----------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Gases</b>   |           | <b>Liquids at 25°C</b> |           | <b>Solids<sup>a</sup></b> |           |
| Hydrogen (0°C) | 1 286     | Glycerol               | 1 904     | Pyrex glass               | 5 640     |
| Helium (0°C)   | 972       | Seawater               | 1 533     | Iron                      | 5 950     |
| Air (20°C)     | 343       | Water                  | 1 493     | Aluminum                  | 6 420     |
| Air (0°C)      | 331       | Mercury                | 1 450     | Brass                     | 4 700     |
| Oxygen (0°C)   | 317       | Kerosene               | 1 324     | Copper                    | 5 010     |
|                |           | Methyl alcohol         | 1 143     | Gold                      | 3 240     |
|                |           | Carbon tetrachloride   | 926       | Lucite                    | 2 680     |
|                |           |                        |           | Lead                      | 1 960     |
|                |           |                        |           | Rubber                    | 1 600     |

<sup>a</sup>Values given are for propagation of longitudinal waves in bulk media. Speeds for longitudinal waves in thin rods are smaller, and speeds of transverse waves in bulk are smaller yet.

where  $v$  is in meters/second, 331 m/s is the speed of sound in air at 0°C, and  $T_C$  is the air temperature in degrees Celsius. Using this equation, one finds that at 20°C, the speed of sound in air is approximately 343 m/s.

This information provides a convenient way to estimate the distance to a thunderstorm. First count the number of seconds between seeing the flash of lightning and hearing the thunder. Dividing this time interval by 3 gives the approximate distance to the lightning in kilometers because 343 m/s is approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  km/s. Dividing the time interval in seconds by 5 gives the approximate distance to the lightning in miles because the speed of sound is approximately  $\frac{1}{5}$  mi/s.

Having an expression (Eq. 17.8) for the speed of sound, we can now express the relationship between pressure amplitude and displacement amplitude for a sound wave (Eq. 17.4) as

$$\Delta P_{\max} = B s_{\max} k = (\rho v^2) s_{\max} \left( \frac{\omega}{v} \right) = \rho v \omega s_{\max} \quad (17.10)$$

This expression is a bit more useful than Equation 17.4 because the density of a gas is more readily available than is the bulk modulus.

### 17.3 Intensity of Periodic Sound Waves

In Chapter 16, we showed that a wave traveling on a taut string transports energy, consistent with the notion of energy transfer by mechanical waves in Equation 8.2. Naturally, we would expect sound waves to also represent a transfer of energy. Consider the element of gas acted on by the piston in Figure 17.5. Imagine that the piston is moving back and forth in simple harmonic motion at angular frequency  $\omega$ . Imagine also that the length of the element becomes very small so that the entire element moves with the same velocity as the piston. Then we can model the element as a particle on which the piston is doing work. The rate at which the piston is doing work on the element at any instant of time is given by Equation 8.19:

$$Power = \vec{\mathbf{F}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{v}}_x$$

where we have used *Power* rather than  $P$  so that we don't confuse power  $P$  with pressure  $P$ ! The force  $\vec{\mathbf{F}}$  on the element of gas is related to the pressure and the velocity  $\vec{\mathbf{v}}_x$  of the element is the derivative of the displacement function, so we find

$$\begin{aligned} Power &= [\Delta P(x, t)A] \hat{\mathbf{i}} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [s(x, t) \hat{\mathbf{i}}] \\ &= [\rho v \omega A s_{\max} \sin(kx - \omega t)] \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [s_{\max} \cos(kx - \omega t)] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \rho v \omega A s_{\max} \sin(kx - \omega t) [\omega s_{\max} \sin(kx - \omega t)] \\
 &= \rho v \omega^2 A s_{\max}^2 \sin^2(kx - \omega t)
 \end{aligned}$$

We now find the time average power over one period of the oscillation. For any given value of  $x$ , which we can choose to be  $x = 0$ , the average value of  $\sin^2(kx - \omega t)$  over one period  $T$  is

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \sin^2(\omega t) dt = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \sin^2 \omega t dt = \frac{1}{T} \left( \frac{t}{2} + \frac{\sin 2\omega t}{2\omega} \right) \Big|_0^T = \frac{1}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$(Power)_{\text{avg}} = \frac{1}{2} \rho v \omega^2 A s_{\max}^2$$

We define the **intensity**  $I$  of a wave, or the power per unit area, as the rate at which the energy transported by the wave transfers through a unit area  $A$  perpendicular to the direction of travel of the wave:

$$I \equiv \frac{(Power)_{\text{avg}}}{A} \quad (17.11)$$

◀ Intensity of a sound wave

In this case, the intensity is therefore

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \rho v (\omega s_{\max})^2$$

Hence, the intensity of a periodic sound wave is proportional to the square of the displacement amplitude and to the square of the angular frequency. This expression can also be written in terms of the pressure amplitude  $\Delta P_{\max}$ ; in this case, we use Equation 17.10 to obtain

$$I = \frac{(\Delta P_{\max})^2}{2\rho v} \quad (17.12)$$

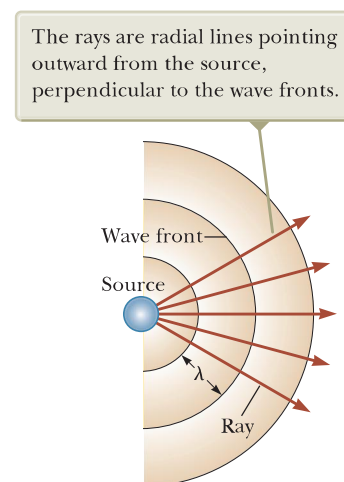
The string waves we studied in Chapter 16 are constrained to move along the one-dimensional string, as discussed in the introduction to this chapter. The sound waves we have studied with regard to Figures 17.1 through 17.3 and 17.5 are constrained to move in one dimension along the length of the tube. As we mentioned in the introduction, however, sound waves can move through three-dimensional bulk media, so let's place a sound source in the open air and study the results.

Consider the special case of a point source emitting sound waves equally in all directions. If the air around the source is perfectly uniform, the sound power radiated in all directions is the same, and the speed of sound in all directions is the same. The result in this situation is called a **spherical wave**. Figure 17.6 shows these spherical waves as a series of circular arcs concentric with the source. Each arc represents a surface over which the phase of the wave is constant. We call such a surface of constant phase a **wave front**. The radial distance between adjacent wave fronts that have the same phase is the wavelength  $\lambda$  of the wave. The radial lines pointing outward from the source, representing the direction of propagation of the waves, are called **rays**.

The average power emitted by the source must be distributed uniformly over each spherical wave front of area  $4\pi r^2$ . Hence, the wave intensity at a distance  $r$  from the source is

$$I = \frac{(Power)_{\text{avg}}}{A} = \frac{(Power)_{\text{avg}}}{4\pi r^2} \quad (17.13)$$

The intensity decreases as the square of the distance from the source. This inverse-square law is reminiscent of the behavior of gravity in Chapter 13.



**Figure 17.6** Spherical waves emitted by a point source. The circular arcs represent the spherical wave fronts that are concentric with the source.



- Quick Quiz 17.2** A vibrating guitar string makes very little sound if it is not mounted on the guitar body. Why does the sound have greater intensity if the string is attached to the guitar body? (a) The string vibrates with more energy. (b) The energy leaves the guitar at a greater rate. (c) The sound power is spread over a larger area at the listener's position. (d) The sound power is concentrated over a smaller area at the listener's position. (e) The speed of sound is higher in the material of the guitar body. (f) None of these answers is correct.

### Example 17.1 Hearing Limits

The faintest sounds the human ear can detect at a frequency of 1 000 Hz correspond to an intensity of about  $1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$ , which is called *threshold of hearing*. The loudest sounds the ear can tolerate at this frequency correspond to an intensity of about  $1.00 \text{ W/m}^2$ , the *threshold of pain*. Determine the pressure amplitude and displacement amplitude associated with these two limits.

#### SOLUTION

**Conceptualize** Think about the quietest environment you have ever experienced. It is likely that the intensity of sound in even this quietest environment is higher than the threshold of hearing.

**Categorize** Because we are given intensities and asked to calculate pressure and displacement amplitudes, this problem is an analysis problem requiring the concepts discussed in this section.

**Analyze** To find the amplitude of the pressure variation at the threshold of hearing, use Equation 17.12, taking the speed of sound waves in air to be  $v = 343 \text{ m/s}$  and the density of air to be  $\rho = 1.20 \text{ kg/m}^3$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta P_{\max} &= \sqrt{2\rho v I} \\ &= \sqrt{2(1.20 \text{ kg/m}^3)(343 \text{ m/s})(1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2)} \\ &= 2.87 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N/m}^2\end{aligned}$$

Calculate the corresponding displacement amplitude using Equation 17.10, recalling that  $\omega = 2\pi f$  (Eq. 16.9):

$$\begin{aligned}s_{\max} &= \frac{\Delta P_{\max}}{\rho v \omega} = \frac{2.87 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N/m}^2}{(1.20 \text{ kg/m}^3)(343 \text{ m/s})(2\pi \times 1000 \text{ Hz})} \\ &= 1.11 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

In a similar manner, one finds that the loudest sounds the human ear can tolerate (the threshold of pain) correspond to a pressure amplitude of  $28.7 \text{ N/m}^2$  and a displacement amplitude equal to  $1.11 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$ .

**Finalize** Because atmospheric pressure is about  $10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$ , the result for the pressure amplitude tells us that the ear is sensitive to pressure fluctuations as small as 3 parts in  $10^{10}$ ! The displacement amplitude is also a remarkably small number! If we compare this result for  $s_{\max}$  to the size of an atom (about  $10^{-10} \text{ m}$ ), we see that the ear is an extremely sensitive detector of sound waves.

### Example 17.2 Intensity Variations of a Point Source

A point source emits sound waves with an average power output of 80.0 W.

(A) Find the intensity 3.00 m from the source.

#### SOLUTION

**Conceptualize** Imagine a small loudspeaker sending sound out at an average rate of 80.0 W uniformly in all directions. You are standing 3.00 m away from the speakers. As the sound propagates, the energy of the sound waves is spread out over an ever-expanding sphere, so the intensity of the sound falls off with distance.

**Categorize** We evaluate the intensity from an equation generated in this section, so we categorize this example as a substitution problem.

## 17.2 continued

Because a point source emits energy in the form of spherical waves, use Equation 17.13 to find the intensity:

$$I = \frac{(Power)_{avg}}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{80.0 \text{ W}}{4\pi(3.00 \text{ m})^2} = 0.707 \text{ W/m}^2$$

This intensity is close to the threshold of pain.

**(B)** Find the distance at which the intensity of the sound is  $1.00 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2$ .

**SOLUTION**

Solve for  $r$  in Equation 17.13 and use the given value for  $I$ :

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \sqrt{\frac{(Power)_{avg}}{4\pi I}} = \sqrt{\frac{80.0 \text{ W}}{4\pi(1.00 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W/m}^2)}} \\ &= 2.52 \times 10^4 \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

**Sound Level in Decibels**

Example 17.1 illustrates the wide range of intensities the human ear can detect. Because this range is so wide, it is convenient to use a logarithmic scale, where the **sound level**  $\beta$  (Greek letter beta) is defined by the equation

$$\beta \equiv 10 \log \left( \frac{I}{I_0} \right) \quad (17.14)$$

The constant  $I_0$  is the *reference intensity*, taken to be at the threshold of hearing ( $I_0 = 1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$ ), and  $I$  is the intensity in watts per square meter to which the sound level  $\beta$  corresponds, where  $\beta$  is measured<sup>2</sup> in **decibels** (dB). On this scale, the threshold of pain ( $I = 1.00 \text{ W/m}^2$ ) corresponds to a sound level of  $\beta = 10 \log [(1 \text{ W/m}^2)/(10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2)] = 10 \log (10^{12}) = 120 \text{ dB}$ , and the threshold of hearing corresponds to  $\beta = 10 \log [(10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2)/(10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2)] = 0 \text{ dB}$ .

Prolonged exposure to high sound levels may seriously damage the human ear. Ear plugs are recommended whenever sound levels exceed 90 dB. Recent evidence suggests that “noise pollution” may be a contributing factor to high blood pressure, anxiety, and nervousness. Table 17.2 gives some typical sound levels.

**Table 17.2****Sound Levels**

| Source of Sound             | $\beta$ (dB) |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Nearby jet airplane         | 150          |
| Jackhammer;<br>machine gun  | 130          |
| Siren; rock concert         | 120          |
| Subway; power<br>lawn mower | 100          |
| Busy traffic                | 80           |
| Vacuum cleaner              | 70           |
| Normal conversation         | 60           |
| Mosquito buzzing            | 40           |
| Whisper                     | 30           |
| Rustling leaves             | 10           |
| Threshold of hearing        | 0            |

**Quick Quiz 17.3** Increasing the intensity of a sound by a factor of 100 causes the  
 • sound level to increase by what amount? (a) 100 dB (b) 20 dB (c) 10 dB (d) 2 dB

**Example 17.3 Sound Levels**

Two identical machines are positioned the same distance from a worker. The intensity of sound delivered by each operating machine at the worker’s location is  $2.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W/m}^2$ .

**(A)** Find the sound level heard by the worker when one machine is operating.

**SOLUTION**

**Conceptualize** Imagine a situation in which one source of sound is active and is then joined by a second identical source, such as one person speaking and then a second person speaking at the same time or one musical instrument playing and then being joined by a second instrument.

**Categorize** This example is a relatively simple analysis problem requiring Equation 17.14.

*continued*

<sup>2</sup>The unit *bel* is named after the inventor of the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell (1847–1922). The prefix *deci-* is the SI prefix that stands for  $10^{-1}$ .

## 17.3 continued

**Analyze** Use Equation 17.14 to calculate the sound level at the worker's location with one machine operating:

$$\beta_1 = 10 \log \left( \frac{2.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W/m}^2}{1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2} \right) = 10 \log (2.0 \times 10^5) = 53 \text{ dB}$$

**(B)** Find the sound level heard by the worker when two machines are operating.

**SOLUTION**

Use Equation 17.14 to calculate the sound level at the worker's location with double the intensity:

$$\beta_2 = 10 \log \left( \frac{4.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W/m}^2}{1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2} \right) = 10 \log (4.0 \times 10^5) = 56 \text{ dB}$$

**Finalize** These results show that when the intensity is doubled, the sound level increases by only 3 dB. This 3-dB increase is independent of the original sound level. (Prove this to yourself!)

**WHAT IF?** *Loudness* is a psychological response to a sound. It depends on both the intensity and the frequency of the sound. As a rule of thumb, a doubling in loudness is approximately associated with an increase in sound level of 10 dB. (This rule of thumb is relatively inaccurate at very low or very high frequencies.) If the loudness of the machines in this example is to be doubled, how many machines at the same distance from the worker must be running?

**Answer** Using the rule of thumb, a doubling of loudness corresponds to a sound level increase of 10 dB. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_2 - \beta_1 = 10 \text{ dB} &= 10 \log \left( \frac{I_2}{I_0} \right) - 10 \log \left( \frac{I_1}{I_0} \right) = 10 \log \left( \frac{I_2}{I_1} \right) \\ \log \left( \frac{I_2}{I_1} \right) &= 1 \rightarrow I_2 = 10I_1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, ten machines must be operating to double the loudness.

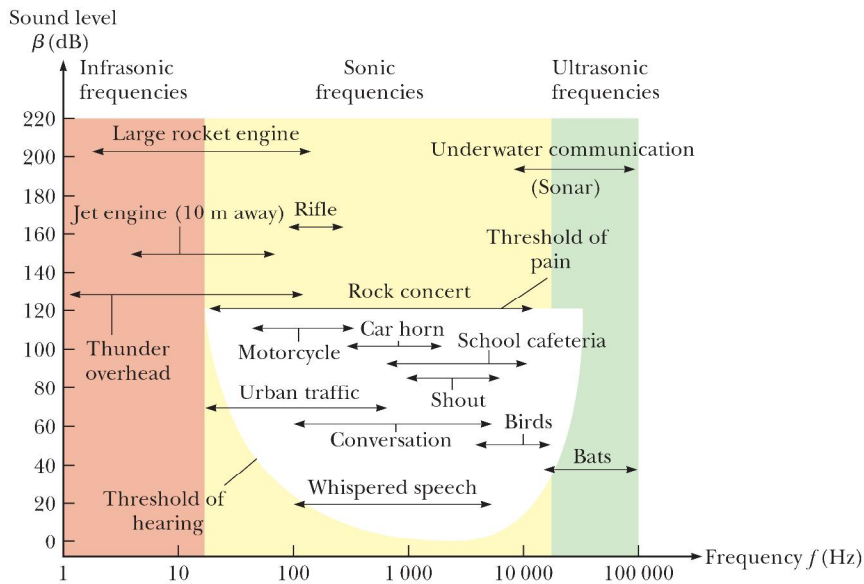
## Loudness and Frequency

The discussion of sound level in decibels relates to a *physical* measurement of the strength of a sound. Let us now extend our discussion from the What If? section of Example 17.3 concerning the *psychological* “measurement” of the strength of a sound.

Of course, we don't have instruments in our bodies that can display numerical values of our reactions to stimuli. We have to “calibrate” our reactions somehow by comparing different sounds to a reference sound, but that is not easy to accomplish. For example, earlier we mentioned that the threshold intensity is  $10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$ , corresponding to an intensity level of 0 dB. In reality, this value is the threshold only for a sound of frequency 1 000 Hz, which is a standard reference frequency in acoustics. If we perform an experiment to measure the threshold intensity at other frequencies, we find a distinct variation of this threshold as a function of frequency. For example, at 100 Hz, a barely audible sound must have an intensity level of about 30 dB! Unfortunately, there is no simple relationship between physical measurements and psychological “measurements.” The 100-Hz, 30-dB sound is psychologically “equal” in loudness to the 1 000-Hz, 0-dB sound (both are just barely audible), but they are not physically equal in sound level ( $30 \text{ dB} \neq 0 \text{ dB}$ ).

By using test subjects, the human response to sound has been studied, and the results are shown in the white area of Figure 17.7 along with the approximate frequency and sound-level ranges of other sound sources. The lower curve of the white area corresponds to the threshold of hearing. Its variation with frequency is clear from this diagram. Notice that humans are sensitive to frequencies ranging from about 20 Hz to about 20 000 Hz. The upper bound of the white area is the thresh-





**Figure 17.7** Approximate ranges of frequency and sound level of various sources and that of normal human hearing, shown by the white area. (From R. L. Reese, *University Physics*, Pacific Grove, Brooks/Cole, 2000.)

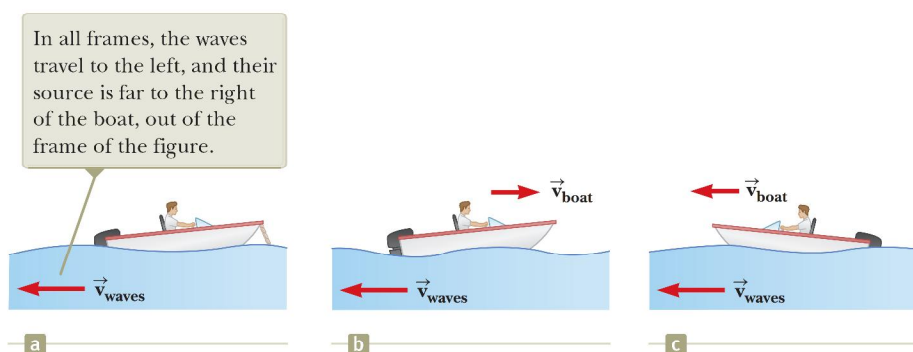
old of pain. Here the boundary of the white area appears straight because the psychological response is relatively independent of frequency at this high sound level.

The most dramatic change with frequency is in the lower left region of the white area, for low frequencies and low intensity levels. Our ears are particularly insensitive in this region. If you are listening to your home entertainment system and the bass (low frequencies) and treble (high frequencies) sound balanced at a high volume, try turning the volume down and listening again. You will probably notice that the bass seems weak, which is due to the insensitivity of the ear to low frequencies at low sound levels as shown in Figure 17.7.

## 17.4 The Doppler Effect

Perhaps you have noticed how the sound of a vehicle's horn changes as the vehicle moves past you. The frequency of the sound you hear as the vehicle approaches you is higher than the frequency you hear as it moves away from you. This experience is one example of the **Doppler effect**.<sup>3</sup>

To see what causes this apparent frequency change, imagine you are in a boat that is lying at anchor on a gentle sea where the waves have a period of  $T = 3.0$  s. Hence, every 3.0 s a crest hits your boat. Figure 17.8a shows this situation, with the water waves moving toward the left. If you set your watch to  $t = 0$  just as one crest hits, the watch reads 3.0 s when the next crest hits, 6.0 s when the third crest



**Figure 17.8** (a) Waves moving toward a stationary boat. (b) The boat moving toward the wave source. (c) The boat moving away from the wave source.

<sup>3</sup>Named after Austrian physicist Christian Johann Doppler (1803–1853), who in 1842 predicted the effect for both sound waves and light waves.

hits, and so on. From these observations, you conclude that the wave frequency is  $f = 1/T = 1/(3.0 \text{ s}) = 0.33 \text{ Hz}$ . Now suppose you start your motor and head directly into the oncoming waves as in Figure 17.8b. Again you set your watch to  $t = 0$  as a crest hits the front (the bow) of your boat. Now, however, because you are moving toward the next wave crest as it moves toward you, it hits you less than 3.0 s after the first hit. In other words, the period you observe is shorter than the 3.0-s period you observed when you were stationary. Because  $f = 1/T$ , you observe a higher wave frequency than when you were at rest.

If you turn around and move in the same direction as the waves (Fig. 17.8c), you observe the opposite effect. You set your watch to  $t = 0$  as a crest hits the back (the stern) of the boat. Because you are now moving away from the next crest, more than 3.0 s has elapsed on your watch by the time that crest catches you. Therefore, you observe a lower frequency than when you were at rest.

These effects occur because the *relative* speed between your boat and the waves depends on the direction of travel and on the speed of your boat. (See Section 4.6.) When you are moving toward the right in Figure 17.8b, this relative speed is higher than that of the wave speed, which leads to the observation of an increased frequency. When you turn around and move to the left, the relative speed is lower, as is the observed frequency of the water waves.

Let's now examine an analogous situation with sound waves in which the water waves become sound waves, the water becomes the air, and the person on the boat becomes an observer listening to the sound. In this case, an observer  $O$  is moving and a sound source  $S$  is stationary. For simplicity, we assume the air is also stationary and the observer moves directly toward the source (Fig. 17.9). The observer moves with a speed  $v_o$  toward a stationary point source ( $v_s = 0$ ), where *stationary* means at rest with respect to the medium, air.

If a point source emits sound waves and the medium is uniform, the waves move at the same speed in all directions radially away from the source; the result is a spherical wave as mentioned in Section 17.3. The distance between adjacent wave fronts equals the wavelength  $\lambda$ . In Figure 17.9, the circles are the intersections of these three-dimensional wave fronts with the two-dimensional paper.

We take the frequency of the source in Figure 17.9 to be  $f$ , the wavelength to be  $\lambda$ , and the speed of sound to be  $v$ . If the observer were also stationary, he would detect wave fronts at a frequency  $f$ . (That is, when  $v_o = 0$  and  $v_s = 0$ , the observed frequency equals the source frequency.) When the observer moves toward the source, the speed of the waves relative to the observer is  $v' = v + v_o$ , as in the case of the boat in Figure 17.8, but the wavelength  $\lambda$  is unchanged. Hence, using Equation 16.12,  $v = \lambda f$ , we can say that the frequency  $f'$  heard by the observer is *increased* and is given by

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

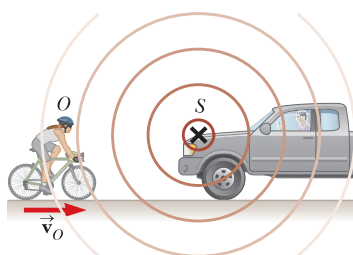
Because  $\lambda = v/f$ , we can express  $f'$  as

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v} \right) f \quad (\text{observer moving toward source}) \quad (17.15)$$

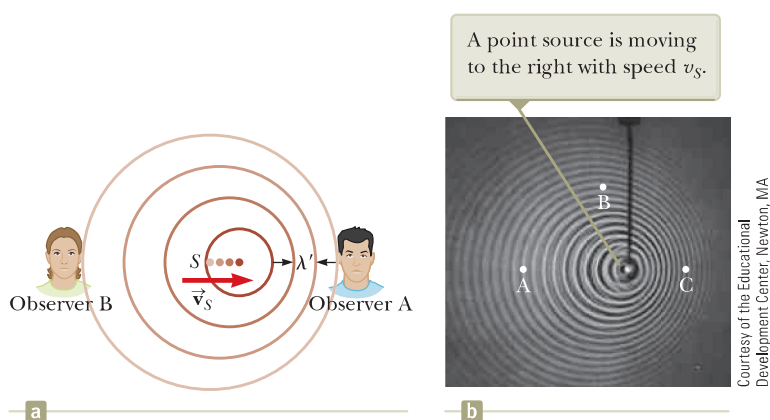
If the observer is moving away from the source, the speed of the wave relative to the observer is  $v' = v - v_o$ . The frequency heard by the observer in this case is *decreased* and is given by

$$f' = \left( \frac{v - v_o}{v} \right) f \quad (\text{observer moving away from source}) \quad (17.16)$$

These last two equations can be reduced to a single equation by adopting a sign convention. Whenever an observer moves with a speed  $v_o$  relative to a stationary source, the frequency heard by the observer is given by Equation 17.15, with  $v_o$  interpreted as follows: a positive value is substituted for  $v_o$  when the observer moves



**Figure 17.9** An observer  $O$  (the cyclist) moves with a speed  $v_o$  toward a stationary point source  $S$ , the horn of a parked truck. The observer hears a frequency  $f'$  that is greater than the source frequency.



**Figure 17.10** (a) A source  $S$  moving with a speed  $v_s$  toward a stationary observer A and away from a stationary observer B. Observer A hears an increased frequency, and observer B hears a decreased frequency. (b) The Doppler effect in water, observed in a ripple tank. Letters shown in the photo refer to Quick Quiz 17.4.

toward the source, and a negative value is substituted when the observer moves away from the source.

Now suppose the source is in motion and the observer is at rest. If the source moves directly toward observer A in Figure 17.10a, each new wave is emitted from a position to the right of the origin of the previous wave. As a result, the wave fronts heard by the observer are closer together than they would be if the source were not moving. (Fig. 17.10b shows this effect for waves moving on the surface of water.) As a result, the wavelength  $\lambda'$  measured by observer A is shorter than the wavelength  $\lambda$  of the source. During each vibration, which lasts for a time interval  $T$  (the period), the source moves a distance  $v_s T = v_s/f$  and the wavelength is *shortened* by this amount. Therefore, the observed wavelength  $\lambda'$  is

$$\lambda' = \lambda - \Delta\lambda = \lambda - \frac{v_s}{f}$$

Because  $\lambda = v/f$ , the frequency  $f'$  heard by observer A is

$$f' = \frac{v}{\lambda'} = \frac{v}{\lambda - (v_s/f)} = \frac{v}{(v/f) - (v_s/f)}$$

$$f' = \left( \frac{v}{v - v_s} \right) f \quad (\text{source moving toward observer}) \quad (17.17)$$

That is, the observed frequency is *increased* whenever the source is moving toward the observer.

When the source moves away from a stationary observer, as is the case for observer B in Figure 17.10a, the observer measures a wavelength  $\lambda'$  that is *greater* than  $\lambda$  and hears a *decreased* frequency:

$$f' = \left( \frac{v}{v + v_s} \right) f \quad (\text{source moving away from observer}) \quad (17.18)$$

We can express the general relationship for the observed frequency when a source is moving and an observer is at rest as Equation 17.17, with the same sign convention applied to  $v_s$  as was applied to  $v_o$ : a positive value is substituted for  $v_s$  when the source moves toward the observer, and a negative value is substituted when the source moves away from the observer.

Finally, combining Equations 17.15 and 17.17 gives the following general relationship for the observed frequency that includes all four conditions described by Equations 17.15 through 17.18:

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v - v_s} \right) f \quad (17.19)$$

#### Pitfall Prevention 17.1

**Doppler Effect Does Not Depend on Distance** Some people think that the Doppler effect depends on the distance between the source and the observer. Although the *intensity* of a sound varies as the distance changes, the apparent *frequency* depends only on the relative speed of source and observer. As you listen to an approaching source, you will detect increasing intensity but constant frequency. As the source passes, you will hear the frequency suddenly drop to a new constant value and the intensity begin to decrease.

◀ **General Doppler-shift expression**



In this expression, the signs for the values substituted for  $v_o$  and  $v_s$  depend on the direction of the velocity. A positive value is used for motion of the observer or the source *toward* the other (associated with an *increase* in observed frequency), and a negative value is used for motion of one *away from* the other (associated with a *decrease* in observed frequency).

Although the Doppler effect is most typically experienced with sound waves, it is a phenomenon common to all waves. For example, the relative motion of source and observer produces a frequency shift in light waves. The Doppler effect is used in police radar systems to measure the speeds of motor vehicles. Likewise, astronomers use the effect to determine the speeds of stars, galaxies, and other celestial objects relative to the Earth.

**Quick Quiz 17.4** Consider detectors of water waves at three locations A, B, and C in Figure 17.10b. Which of the following statements is true? **(a)** The wave speed is highest at location A. **(b)** The wave speed is highest at location C. **(c)** The detected wavelength is largest at location B. **(d)** The detected wavelength is largest at location C. **(e)** The detected frequency is highest at location C. **(f)** The detected frequency is highest at location A.

**Quick Quiz 17.5** You stand on a platform at a train station and listen to a train approaching the station at a constant velocity. While the train approaches, but before it arrives, what do you hear? **(a)** the intensity and the frequency of the sound both increasing **(b)** the intensity and the frequency of the sound both decreasing **(c)** the intensity increasing and the frequency decreasing **(d)** the intensity decreasing and the frequency increasing **(e)** the intensity increasing and the frequency remaining the same **(f)** the intensity decreasing and the frequency remaining the same

### Example 17.4 The Broken Clock Radio AM

Your clock radio awakens you with a steady and irritating sound of frequency 600 Hz. One morning, it malfunctions and cannot be turned off. In frustration, you drop the clock radio out of your fourth-story dorm window, 15.0 m from the ground. Assume the speed of sound is 343 m/s. As you listen to the falling clock radio, what frequency do you hear just before you hear it striking the ground?

#### SOLUTION

**Conceptualize** The speed of the clock radio increases as it falls. Therefore, it is a source of sound moving away from you with an increasing speed so the frequency you hear should be less than 600 Hz.

**Categorize** We categorize this problem as one in which we combine the *particle under constant acceleration* model for the falling radio with our understanding of the frequency shift of sound due to the Doppler effect.

**Analyze** Because the clock radio is modeled as a particle under constant acceleration due to gravity, use Equation 2.13 to express the speed of the source of sound:

$$(1) \quad v_s = v_{yi} + a_y t = 0 - gt = -gt$$

From Equation 2.16, find the time at which the clock radio strikes the ground:

$$y_f = y_i + v_{yi}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 = 0 + 0 - \frac{1}{2}gt^2 \rightarrow t = \sqrt{-\frac{2y_f}{g}}$$

Substitute into Equation (1):

$$v_s = (-g)\sqrt{-\frac{2y_f}{g}} = -\sqrt{-2gy_f}$$

Use Equation 17.19 to determine the Doppler-shifted frequency heard from the falling clock radio:

$$f' = \left[ \frac{v + 0}{v - (-\sqrt{-2gy_f})} \right] f = \left( \frac{v}{v + \sqrt{-2gy_f}} \right) f$$

## ▶ 17.4 continued

Substitute numerical values:

$$f' = \left[ \frac{343 \text{ m/s}}{343 \text{ m/s} + \sqrt{-2(9.80 \text{ m/s}^2)(-15.0 \text{ m})}} \right] (600 \text{ Hz})$$

$$= 571 \text{ Hz}$$

**Finalize** The frequency is lower than the actual frequency of 600 Hz because the clock radio is moving away from you. If it were to fall from a higher floor so that it passes below  $y = -15.0 \text{ m}$ , the clock radio would continue to accelerate and the frequency would continue to drop.

**Example 17.5** Doppler Submarines

A submarine (sub A) travels through water at a speed of 8.00 m/s, emitting a sonar wave at a frequency of 1 400 Hz. The speed of sound in the water is 1 533 m/s. A second submarine (sub B) is located such that both submarines are traveling directly toward each other. The second submarine is moving at 9.00 m/s.

**(A)** What frequency is detected by an observer riding on sub B as the subs approach each other?

**SOLUTION**

**Conceptualize** Even though the problem involves subs moving in water, there is a Doppler effect just like there is when you are in a moving car and listening to a sound moving through the air from another car.

**Categorize** Because both subs are moving, we categorize this problem as one involving the Doppler effect for both a moving source and a moving observer.

**Analyze** Use Equation 17.19 to find the Doppler-shifted frequency heard by the observer in sub B, being careful with the signs assigned to the source and observer speeds:

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v - v_s} \right) f$$

$$f' = \left[ \frac{1\,533 \text{ m/s} + (+9.00 \text{ m/s})}{1\,533 \text{ m/s} - (+8.00 \text{ m/s})} \right] (1\,400 \text{ Hz}) = 1\,416 \text{ Hz}$$

**(B)** The subs barely miss each other and pass. What frequency is detected by an observer riding on sub B as the subs recede from each other?

**SOLUTION**

Use Equation 17.19 to find the Doppler-shifted frequency heard by the observer in sub B, again being careful with the signs assigned to the source and observer speeds:

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v - v_s} \right) f$$

$$f' = \left[ \frac{1\,533 \text{ m/s} + (-9.00 \text{ m/s})}{1\,533 \text{ m/s} - (-8.00 \text{ m/s})} \right] (1\,400 \text{ Hz}) = 1\,385 \text{ Hz}$$

Notice that the frequency drops from 1 416 Hz to 1 385 Hz as the subs pass. This effect is similar to the drop in frequency you hear when a car passes by you while blowing its horn.

**(C)** While the subs are approaching each other, some of the sound from sub A reflects from sub B and returns to sub A. If this sound were to be detected by an observer on sub A, what is its frequency?

**SOLUTION**

The sound of apparent frequency 1 416 Hz found in part (A) is reflected from a moving source (sub B) and then detected by a moving observer (sub A). Find the frequency detected by sub A:

$$f'' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v - v_s} \right) f'$$

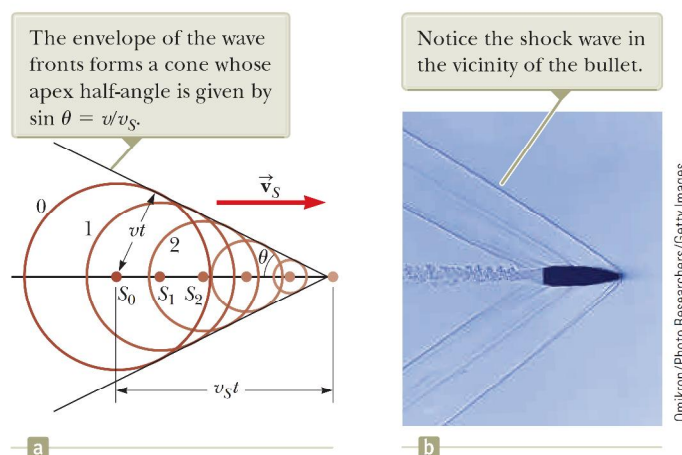
$$= \left[ \frac{1\,533 \text{ m/s} + (+8.00 \text{ m/s})}{1\,533 \text{ m/s} - (+9.00 \text{ m/s})} \right] (1\,416 \text{ Hz}) = 1\,432 \text{ Hz}$$

*continued*

## 17.5 continued

**Finalize** This technique is used by police officers to measure the speed of a moving car. Microwaves are emitted from the police car and reflected by the moving car. By detecting the Doppler-shifted frequency of the reflected microwaves, the police officer can determine the speed of the moving car.

**Figure 17.11** (a) A representation of a shock wave produced when a source moves from  $S_0$  to the right with a speed  $v_s$  that is greater than the wave speed  $v$  in the medium. (b) A stroboscopic photograph of a bullet moving at supersonic speed through the hot air above a candle.



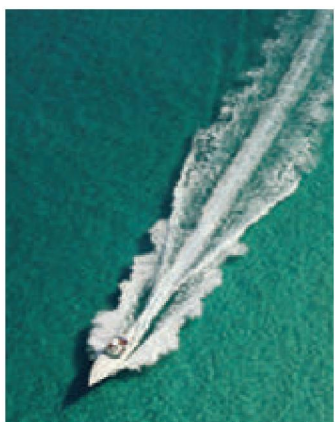
### Shock Waves

Now consider what happens when the speed  $v_s$  of a source *exceeds* the wave speed  $v$ . This situation is depicted graphically in Figure 17.11a. The circles represent spherical wave fronts emitted by the source at various times during its motion. At  $t = 0$ , the source is at  $S_0$  and moving toward the right. At later times, the source is at  $S_1$ , and then  $S_2$ , and so on. At the time  $t$ , the wave front centered at  $S_0$  reaches a radius of  $vt$ . In this same time interval, the source travels a distance  $v_s t$ . Notice in Figure 17.11a that a straight line can be drawn tangent to all the wave fronts generated at various times. Therefore, the envelope of these wave fronts is a cone whose apex half-angle  $\theta$  (the “Mach angle”) is given by

$$\sin \theta = \frac{vt}{v_s t} = \frac{v}{v_s}$$

The ratio  $v_s/v$  is referred to as the *Mach number*, and the conical wave front produced when  $v_s > v$  (supersonic speeds) is known as a *shock wave*. An interesting analogy to shock waves is the V-shaped wave fronts produced by a boat (the bow wave) when the boat’s speed exceeds the speed of the surface-water waves (Fig. 17.12).

Jet airplanes traveling at supersonic speeds produce shock waves, which are responsible for the loud “sonic boom” one hears. The shock wave carries a great deal of energy concentrated on the surface of the cone, with correspondingly great pressure variations. Such shock waves are unpleasant to hear and can cause damage to buildings when aircraft fly supersonically at low altitudes. In fact, an airplane flying at supersonic speeds produces a double boom because two shock waves are formed, one from the nose of the plane and one from the tail. People near the path of a space shuttle as it glides toward its landing point have reported hearing what sounds like two very closely spaced cracks of thunder.



**Figure 17.12** The V-shaped bow wave of a boat is formed because the boat speed is greater than the speed of the water waves it generates. A bow wave is analogous to a shock wave formed by an airplane traveling faster than sound.

- Quick Quiz 17.6** An airplane flying with a constant velocity moves from a cold air mass into a warm air mass. Does the Mach number (a) increase, (b) decrease, or (c) stay the same?

## Summary

### Definitions

The **intensity** of a periodic sound wave, which is the power per unit area, is

$$I \equiv \frac{(\text{Power})_{\text{avg}}}{A} = \frac{(\Delta P_{\text{max}})^2}{2\rho v} \quad (17.11, 17.12)$$

The **sound level** of a sound wave in decibels is

$$\beta \equiv 10 \log \left( \frac{I}{I_0} \right) \quad (17.14)$$

The constant  $I_0$  is a reference intensity, usually taken to be at the threshold of hearing ( $1.00 \times 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$ ), and  $I$  is the intensity of the sound wave in watts per square meter.

### Concepts and Principles

Sound waves are longitudinal and travel through a compressible medium with a speed that depends on the elastic and inertial properties of that medium. The speed of sound in a gas having a bulk modulus  $B$  and density  $\rho$  is

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}} \quad (17.8)$$

For sinusoidal sound waves, the variation in the position of an element of the medium is

$$s(x, t) = s_{\text{max}} \cos(kx - \omega t) \quad (17.1)$$

and the variation in pressure from the equilibrium value is

$$\Delta P = \Delta P_{\text{max}} \sin(kx - \omega t) \quad (17.2)$$

where  $\Delta P_{\text{max}}$  is the **pressure amplitude**. The pressure wave is  $90^\circ$  out of phase with the displacement wave. The relationship between  $s_{\text{max}}$  and  $\Delta P_{\text{max}}$  is

$$\Delta P_{\text{max}} = \rho v \omega s_{\text{max}} \quad (17.10)$$

The change in frequency heard by an observer whenever there is relative motion between a source of sound waves and the observer is called the **Doppler effect**. The observed frequency is

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o}{v - v_s} \right) f \quad (17.19)$$

In this expression, the signs for the values substituted for  $v_o$  and  $v_s$  depend on the direction of the velocity. A positive value for the speed of the observer or source is substituted if the velocity of one is toward the other, whereas a negative value represents a velocity of one away from the other.

### Objective Questions

1. denotes answer available in *Student Solutions Manual/Study Guide*

- Table 17.1 shows the speed of sound is typically an order of magnitude larger in solids than in gases. To what can this higher value be most directly attributed? (a) the difference in density between solids and gases (b) the difference in compressibility between solids and gases (c) the limited size of a solid object compared to a free gas (d) the impossibility of holding a gas under significant tension
- Two sirens A and B are sounding so that the frequency from A is twice the frequency from B. Compared with the speed of sound from A, is the speed of sound from B (a) twice as fast, (b) half as fast, (c) four times as fast, (d) one-fourth as fast, or (e) the same?
- As you travel down the highway in your car, an ambulance approaches you from the rear at a high speed

(Fig. OQ17.3) sounding its siren at a frequency of 500 Hz. Which statement is correct? (a) You hear a frequency less than 500 Hz. (b) You hear a frequency equal to 500 Hz. (c) You hear a frequency greater



Anthony Redpath/Corbis

Figure OQ17.3



- than 500 Hz. (d) You hear a frequency greater than 500 Hz, whereas the ambulance driver hears a frequency lower than 500 Hz. (e) You hear a frequency less than 500 Hz, whereas the ambulance driver hears a frequency of 500 Hz.
- What happens to a sound wave as it travels from air into water? (a) Its intensity increases. (b) Its wavelength decreases. (c) Its frequency increases. (d) Its frequency remains the same. (e) Its velocity decreases.
  - A church bell in a steeple rings once. At 300 m in front of the church, the maximum sound intensity is  $2 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ . At 950 m behind the church, the maximum intensity is  $0.2 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ . What is the main reason for the difference in the intensity? (a) Most of the sound is absorbed by the air before it gets far away from the source. (b) Most of the sound is absorbed by the ground as it travels away from the source. (c) The bell broadcasts the sound mostly toward the front. (d) At a larger distance, the power is spread over a larger area.
  - If a 1.00-kHz sound source moves at a speed of 50.0 m/s toward a listener who moves at a speed of 30.0 m/s in a direction away from the source, what is the apparent frequency heard by the listener? (a) 796 Hz (b) 949 Hz (c) 1 000 Hz (d) 1 068 Hz (e) 1 273 Hz
  - A sound wave can be characterized as (a) a transverse wave, (b) a longitudinal wave, (c) a transverse wave or a longitudinal wave, depending on the nature of its source, (d) one that carries no energy, or (e) a wave that does not require a medium to be transmitted from one place to the other.
  - Assume a change at the source of sound reduces the wavelength of a sound wave in air by a factor of 2. (i) What happens to its frequency? (a) It increases by a factor of 4. (b) It increases by a factor of 2. (c) It is unchanged. (d) It decreases by a factor of 2. (e) It changes by an unpredictable factor. (ii) What happens to its speed? Choose from the same possibilities as in part (i).
  - A point source broadcasts sound into a uniform medium. If the distance from the source is tripled, how does the intensity change? (a) It becomes one-ninth as large. (b) It becomes one-third as large. (c) It is unchanged. (d) It becomes three times larger. (e) It becomes nine times larger.
  - Suppose an observer and a source of sound are both at rest relative to the ground and a strong wind is blowing away from the source toward the observer. (i) What effect does the wind have on the observed frequency? (a) It causes an increase. (b) It causes a decrease. (c) It causes no change. (ii) What effect does the wind have on the observed wavelength? Choose from the same possibilities as in part (i). (iii) What effect does the wind have on the observed speed of the wave? Choose from the same possibilities as in part (i).
  - A source of sound vibrates with constant frequency. Rank the frequency of sound observed in the following cases from highest to the lowest. If two frequencies are equal, show their equality in your ranking. All the motions mentioned have the same speed, 25 m/s. (a) The source and observer are stationary. (b) The source is moving toward a stationary observer. (c) The source is moving away from a stationary observer. (d) The observer is moving toward a stationary source. (e) The observer is moving away from a stationary source.
  - With a sensitive sound-level meter, you measure the sound of a running spider as  $-10 \text{ dB}$ . What does the negative sign imply? (a) The spider is moving away from you. (b) The frequency of the sound is too low to be audible to humans. (c) The intensity of the sound is too faint to be audible to humans. (d) You have made a mistake; negative signs do not fit with logarithms.
  - Doubling the power output from a sound source emitting a single frequency will result in what increase in decibel level? (a) 0.50 dB (b) 2.0 dB (c) 3.0 dB (d) 4.0 dB (e) above 20 dB
  - Of the following sounds, which one is most likely to have a sound level of 60 dB? (a) a rock concert (b) the turning of a page in this textbook (c) dinner-table conversation (d) a cheering crowd at a football game

### Conceptual Questions

**1.** denotes answer available in *Student Solutions Manual/Study Guide*

- How can an object move with respect to an observer so that the sound from it is not shifted in frequency?
- Older auto-focus cameras sent out a pulse of sound and measured the time interval required for the pulse to reach an object, reflect off of it, and return to be detected. Can air temperature affect the camera's focus? New cameras use a more reliable infrared system.
- A friend sitting in her car far down the road waves to you and beeps her horn at the same moment. How far away must she be for you to calculate the speed of sound to two significant figures by measuring the time interval required for the sound to reach you?
- How can you determine that the speed of sound is the same for all frequencies by listening to a band or orchestra?
- Explain how the distance to a lightning bolt (Fig. CQ17.5) can be determined by counting the seconds between the flash and the sound of thunder.
- You are driving toward a cliff and honk your horn. Is there a Doppler shift of the sound when you hear the echo? If so, is it like a moving source or a moving observer? What if the reflection occurs not from a cliff, but from the forward edge of a huge alien spacecraft moving toward you as you drive?



Figure CQ17.5

- The radar systems used by police to detect speeders are sensitive to the Doppler shift of a pulse of microwaves. Discuss how this sensitivity can be used to measure the speed of a car.
- The Tunguska event.* On June 30, 1908, a meteor burned up and exploded in the atmosphere above the Tunguska River valley in Siberia. It knocked down trees over thousands of square kilometers and started a forest fire, but produced no crater and apparently caused no human casualties. A witness sitting on his doorstep outside the zone of falling trees recalled events in the following sequence. He saw a moving light in the sky, brighter than the Sun and descending

at a low angle to the horizon. He felt his face become warm. He felt the ground shake. An invisible agent picked him up and immediately dropped him about a meter from where he had been seated. He heard a very loud protracted rumbling. Suggest an explanation for these observations and for the order in which they happened.

- A sonic ranger is a device that determines the distance to an object by sending out an ultrasonic sound pulse and measuring the time interval required for the wave to return by reflection from the object. Typically, these devices cannot reliably detect an object that is less than half a meter from the sensor. Why is that?

## Problems

**ENHANCED WebAssign** The problems found in this chapter may be assigned online in Enhanced WebAssign

- straightforward; 2. intermediate; 3. challenging

- full solution available in the *Student Solutions Manual/Study Guide*

**AMT** Analysis Model tutorial available in Enhanced WebAssign

**GP** Guided Problem

**M** Master It tutorial available in Enhanced WebAssign

**W** Watch It video solution available in Enhanced WebAssign

*Note:* Throughout this chapter, pressure variations  $\Delta P$  are measured relative to atmospheric pressure,  $1.013 \times 10^5$  Pa.

### Section 17.1 Pressure Variations in Sound Waves

- A sinusoidal sound wave moves through a medium and **W** is described by the displacement wave function

$$s(x, t) = 2.00 \cos(15.7x - 858t)$$

where  $s$  is in micrometers,  $x$  is in meters, and  $t$  is in seconds. Find (a) the amplitude, (b) the wavelength, and (c) the speed of this wave. (d) Determine the instantaneous displacement from equilibrium of the elements of the medium at the position  $x = 0.050$  m at  $t = 3.00$  ms. (e) Determine the maximum speed of the element's oscillatory motion.

- As a certain sound wave travels through the air, it produces pressure variations (above and below atmospheric pressure) given by  $\Delta P = 1.27 \sin(\pi x - 340\pi t)$  in SI units. Find (a) the amplitude of the pressure variations, (b) the frequency, (c) the wavelength in air, and (d) the speed of the sound wave.
- Write an expression that describes the pressure variation as a function of position and time for a sinusoidal sound wave in air. Assume the speed of sound is 343 m/s,  $\lambda = 0.100$  m, and  $\Delta P_{\max} = 0.200$  Pa.

### Section 17.2 Speed of Sound Waves

Problem 85 in Chapter 2 can also be assigned with this section.

*Note:* In the rest of this chapter, unless otherwise specified, the equilibrium density of air is  $\rho = 1.20$  kg/m<sup>3</sup> and the speed of sound in air is  $v = 343$  m/s. Use Table 17.1 to find speeds of sound in other media.

- An experimenter wishes to generate in air a sound wave **M** that has a displacement amplitude of  $5.50 \times 10^{-6}$  m. The pressure amplitude is to be limited to 0.840 Pa. What is the minimum wavelength the sound wave can have?

- Calculate the pressure amplitude of a 2.00-kHz sound wave in air, assuming that the displacement amplitude is equal to  $2.00 \times 10^{-8}$  m.

- Earthquakes at fault lines in the Earth's crust create seismic waves, which are longitudinal (P waves) or transverse (S waves). The P waves have a speed of about 7 km/s. Estimate the average bulk modulus of the Earth's crust given that the density of rock is about 2500 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

- A dolphin (Fig. P17.7) in seawater at a temperature of 25°C emits a sound wave directed toward the ocean floor 150 m below. How much time passes before it hears an echo?

- A sound wave propagates in air at 27°C with frequency 4.00 kHz. It passes through a region where the temperature gradually changes and then moves through air at 0°C. Give numerical answers to the following questions to the extent possible and state your reasoning about what happens to the wave physically.

(a) What happens to the speed of the wave? (b) What happens to its frequency? (c) What happens to its wavelength?

- Ultrasound is used in medicine both for diagnostic imaging (Fig. P17.9, page 526) and for therapy. For



Stephen Frink/Photographer's Choice/Getty Images

Figure P17.7

diagnosis, short pulses of ultrasound are passed through the patient's body. An echo reflected from a structure of interest is recorded, and the distance to the structure can be determined from the time delay for the echo's return. To reveal detail, the wavelength of the reflected ultrasound must be small compared to the size of the object reflecting the wave. The speed of ultrasound in human tissue is about 1 500 m/s (nearly the same as the speed of sound in water). (a) What is the wavelength of ultrasound with a frequency of 2.40 MHz? (b) In the whole set of imaging techniques, frequencies in the range 1.00 MHz to 20.0 MHz are used. What is the range of wavelengths corresponding to this range of frequencies?



B. Benoit/Photo Researchers, Inc.

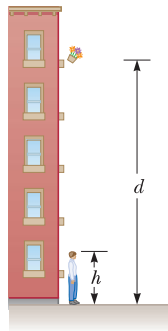
**Figure P17.9** A view of a fetus in the uterus made with ultrasound imaging.

**10.** A sound wave in air has a pressure amplitude equal to **W**  $4.00 \times 10^{-3}$  Pa. Calculate the displacement amplitude of the wave at a frequency of 10.0 kHz.

**11.** Suppose you hear a clap of thunder 16.2 s after seeing the associated lightning strike. The speed of light in air is  $3.00 \times 10^8$  m/s. (a) How far are you from the lightning strike? (b) Do you need to know the value of the speed of light to answer? Explain.

**12.** A rescue plane flies horizontally at a constant speed **W** searching for a disabled boat. When the plane is directly above the boat, the boat's crew blows a loud horn. By the time the plane's sound detector receives the horn's sound, the plane has traveled a distance equal to half its altitude above the ocean. Assuming it takes the sound 2.00 s to reach the plane, determine (a) the speed of the plane and (b) its altitude.

**13.** A flowerpot is knocked off a window ledge from a height  $d = 20.0$  m above the sidewalk as shown in Figure P17.13. It falls toward an unsuspecting man of height  $h = 1.75$  m who is standing below. Assume the man requires a time interval of  $\Delta t = 0.300$  s to respond to the warning. How close to the sidewalk can the flowerpot fall before it is too late for a warning shouted from the balcony to reach the man in time?



**Figure P17.13**  
Problems 13 and 14.

**14.** A flowerpot is knocked off a balcony from a height  $d$  above the sidewalk as shown in Figure P17.13. It falls toward an unsuspecting man of height  $h$  who is standing below. Assume the man requires a time interval of  $\Delta t$  to respond to the warning. How close to the sidewalk can the flowerpot fall before it is too late for a warning shouted from the balcony to reach the man in time? Use the symbol  $v$  for the speed of sound.

**15.** The speed of sound in air (in meters per second) depends on temperature according to the approximate expression

$$v = 331.5 + 0.607T_C$$

where  $T_C$  is the Celsius temperature. In dry air, the temperature decreases about  $1^\circ\text{C}$  for every 150-m rise in altitude. (a) Assume this change is constant up to an altitude of 9 000 m. What time interval is required for the sound from an airplane flying at 9 000 m to reach the ground on a day when the ground temperature is  $30^\circ\text{C}$ ? (b) **What If?** Compare your answer with the time interval required if the air were uniformly at  $30^\circ\text{C}$ . Which time interval is longer?

**16.** A sound wave moves down a cylinder as in Figure 17.2. Show that the pressure variation of the wave is described by  $\Delta P = \pm \rho v \omega \sqrt{s_{\text{max}}^2 - s^2}$ , where  $s = s(x, t)$  is given by Equation 17.1.

**17.** A hammer strikes one end of a thick iron rail of length 8.50 m. A microphone located at the opposite end of the rail detects two pulses of sound, one that travels through the air and a longitudinal wave that travels through the rail. (a) Which pulse reaches the microphone first? (b) Find the separation in time between the arrivals of the two pulses.

**18.** A cowboy stands on horizontal ground between two parallel, vertical cliffs. He is not midway between the cliffs. He fires a shot and hears its echoes. The second echo arrives 1.92 s after the first and 1.47 s before the third. Consider only the sound traveling parallel to the ground and reflecting from the cliffs. (a) What is the distance between the cliffs? (b) **What If?** If he can hear a fourth echo, how long after the third echo does it arrive?

### Section 17.3 Intensity of Periodic Sound Waves

**19.** Calculate the sound level (in decibels) of a sound wave that has an intensity of  $4.00 \mu\text{W}/\text{m}^2$ .

**20.** The area of a typical eardrum is about  $5.00 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$ . (a) Calculate the average sound power incident on an eardrum at the threshold of pain, which corresponds to an intensity of  $1.00 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2$ . (b) How much energy is transferred to the eardrum exposed to this sound for 1.00 min?

**21.** The intensity of a sound wave at a fixed distance from a speaker vibrating at 1.00 kHz is  $0.600 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2$ . (a) Determine the intensity that results if the frequency is increased to 2.50 kHz while a constant displacement amplitude is maintained. (b) Calculate the intensity if the frequency is reduced to 0.500 kHz and the displacement amplitude is doubled.



22. The intensity of a sound wave at a fixed distance from a speaker vibrating at a frequency  $f$  is  $I$ . (a) Determine the intensity that results if the frequency is increased to  $f'$  while a constant displacement amplitude is maintained. (b) Calculate the intensity if the frequency is reduced to  $f/2$  and the displacement amplitude is doubled.
23. A person wears a hearing aid that uniformly increases the sound level of all audible frequencies of sound by 30.0 dB. The hearing aid picks up sound having a frequency of 250 Hz at an intensity of  $3.0 \times 10^{-11} \text{ W/m}^2$ . What is the intensity delivered to the eardrum?
24. The sound intensity at a distance of 16 m from a noisy generator is measured to be  $0.25 \text{ W/m}^2$ . What is the sound intensity at a distance of 28 m from the generator?
25. The power output of a certain public-address speaker is 6.00 W. Suppose it broadcasts equally in all directions. (a) Within what distance from the speaker would the sound be painful to the ear? (b) At what distance from the speaker would the sound be barely audible?
26. A sound wave from a police siren has an intensity of  $100.0 \text{ W/m}^2$  at a certain point; a second sound wave from a nearby ambulance has an intensity level that is 10 dB greater than the police siren's sound wave at the same point. What is the sound level of the sound wave due to the ambulance?
27. A train sounds its horn as it approaches an intersection. The horn can just be heard at a level of 50 dB by an observer 10 km away. (a) What is the average power generated by the horn? (b) What intensity level of the horn's sound is observed by someone waiting at an intersection 50 m from the train? Treat the horn as a point source and neglect any absorption of sound by the air.
28. As the people sing in church, the sound level everywhere inside is 101 dB. No sound is transmitted through the massive walls, but all the windows and doors are open on a summer morning. Their total area is  $22.0 \text{ m}^2$ . (a) How much sound energy is radiated through the windows and doors in 20.0 min? (b) Suppose the ground is a good reflector and sound radiates from the church uniformly in all horizontal and upward directions. Find the sound level 1.00 km away.
29. The most soaring vocal melody is in Johann Sebastian Bach's Mass in B Minor. In one section, the basses, tenors, altos, and sopranos carry the melody from a low D to a high A. In concert pitch, these notes are now assigned frequencies of 146.8 Hz and 880.0 Hz. Find the wavelengths of (a) the initial note and (b) the final note. Assume the chorus sings the melody with a uniform sound level of 75.0 dB. Find the pressure amplitudes of (c) the initial note and (d) the final note. Find the displacement amplitudes of (e) the initial note and (f) the final note.
30. Show that the difference between decibel levels  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  of a sound is related to the ratio of the distances  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  from the sound source by

$$\beta_2 - \beta_1 = 20 \log \left( \frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)$$

31. A family ice show is held at an enclosed arena. The skaters perform to music with level 80.0 dB. This level is too loud for your baby, who yells at 75.0 dB. (a) What total sound intensity engulfs you? (b) What is the combined sound level?
32. Two small speakers emit sound waves of different frequencies equally in all directions. Speaker A has an output of 1.00 mW, and speaker B has an output of 1.50 mW. Determine the sound level (in decibels) at point C in Figure P17.32 assuming (a) only speaker A emits sound, (b) only speaker B emits sound, and (c) both speakers emit sound.

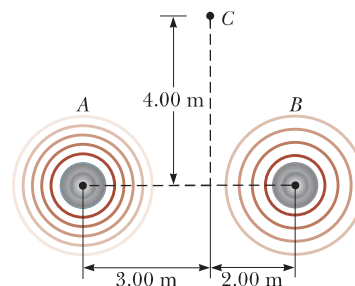


Figure P17.32

33. A firework charge is detonated many meters above the ground. At a distance of  $d_1 = 500 \text{ m}$  from the explosion, the acoustic pressure reaches a maximum of  $\Delta P_{\text{max}} = 10.0 \text{ Pa}$  (Fig. P17.33). Assume the speed of sound is constant at 343 m/s throughout the atmosphere over the region considered, the ground absorbs all the sound falling on it, and the air absorbs sound energy as described by the rate 7.00 dB/km. What is the sound level (in decibels) at a distance of  $d_2 = 4.00 \times 10^3 \text{ m}$  from the explosion?

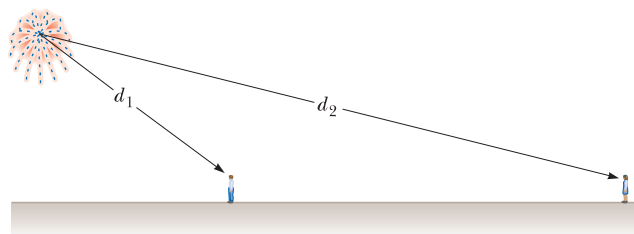


Figure P17.33

34. A fireworks rocket explodes at a height of 100 m above the ground. An observer on the ground directly under the explosion experiences an average sound intensity of  $7.00 \times 10^{-2} \text{ W/m}^2$  for 0.200 s. (a) What is the total amount of energy transferred away from the explosion by sound? (b) What is the sound level (in decibels) heard by the observer?
35. The sound level at a distance of 3.00 m from a source is 120 dB. At what distance is the sound level (a) 100 dB and (b) 10.0 dB?
36. Why is the following situation impossible? It is early on a Saturday morning, and much to your displeasure your next-door neighbor starts mowing his lawn. As you try to get back to sleep, your next-door neighbor on the other side of your house also begins to mow the lawn



with an identical mower the same distance away. This situation annoys you greatly because the total sound now has twice the loudness it had when only one neighbor was mowing.

### Section 17.4 The Doppler Effect

**37.** An ambulance moving at 42 m/s sounds its siren whose frequency is 450 Hz. A car is moving in the same direction as the ambulance at 25 m/s. What frequency does a person in the car hear (a) as the ambulance approaches the car? (b) After the ambulance passes the car?

**38.** When high-energy charged particles move through a transparent medium with a speed greater than the speed of light in that medium, a shock wave, or bow wave, of light is produced. This phenomenon is called the *Cerenkov effect*. When a nuclear reactor is shielded by a large pool of water, Cerenkov radiation can be seen as a blue glow in the vicinity of the reactor core due to high-speed electrons moving through the water (Fig. 17.38).

In a particular case, the Cerenkov radiation produces a wave front with an apex half-angle of  $53.0^\circ$ . Calculate the speed of the electrons in the water. The speed of light in water is  $2.25 \times 10^8$  m/s.

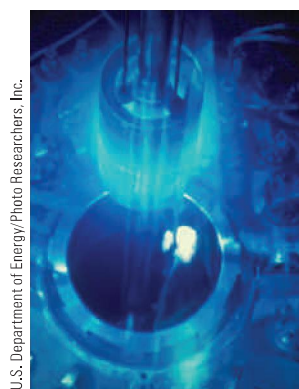


Figure P17.38

**39.** A driver travels northbound on a highway at a speed of 25.0 m/s. A police car, traveling southbound at a speed of 40.0 m/s, approaches with its siren producing sound at a frequency of 2 500 Hz. (a) What frequency does the driver observe as the police car approaches? (b) What frequency does the driver detect after the police car passes him? (c) Repeat parts (a) and (b) for the case when the police car is behind the driver and travels northbound.

**40.** **GP** Submarine A travels horizontally at 11.0 m/s through ocean water. It emits a sonar signal of frequency  $f = 5.27 \times 10^3$  Hz in the forward direction. Submarine B is in front of submarine A and traveling at 3.00 m/s relative to the water in the same direction as submarine A. A crewman in submarine B uses his equipment to detect the sound waves (“pings”) from submarine A. We wish to determine what is heard by the crewman in submarine B. (a) An observer on which submarine detects a frequency  $f'$  as described by Equation 17.19? (b) In Equation 17.19, should the sign of  $v_s$  be positive or negative? (c) In Equation 17.19, should the sign of  $v_o$  be positive or negative? (d) In Equation 17.19, what speed of sound should be used? (e) Find the frequency of the sound detected by the crewman on submarine B.

**41.** **AMT** **Review.** A block with a speaker bolted to it is connected to a spring having spring constant  $k = 20.0$  N/m and oscillates as shown in Figure P17.41. The total mass of the block and speaker is 5.00 kg, and the

amplitude of this unit’s motion is 0.500 m. The speaker emits sound waves of frequency 440 Hz. Determine (a) the highest and (b) the lowest frequencies heard by the person to the right of the speaker. (c) If the maximum sound level heard by the person is 60.0 dB when the speaker is at its closest distance  $d = 1.00$  m from him, what is the minimum sound level heard by the observer?

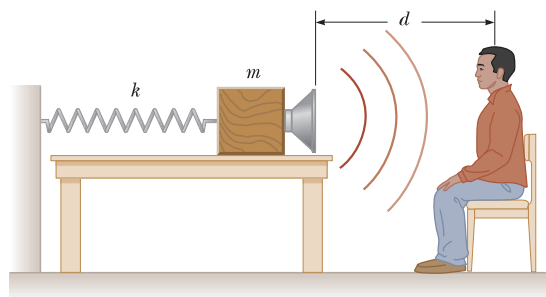


Figure P17.41 Problems 41 and 42.

**42.** **Review.** A block with a speaker bolted to it is connected to a spring having spring constant  $k$  and oscillates as shown in Figure P17.41. The total mass of the block and speaker is  $m$ , and the amplitude of this unit’s motion is  $A$ . The speaker emits sound waves of frequency  $f$ . Determine (a) the highest and (b) the lowest frequencies heard by the person to the right of the speaker. (c) If the maximum sound level heard by the person is  $\beta$  when the speaker is at its closest distance  $d$  from him, what is the minimum sound level heard by the observer?

**43.** Expectant parents are thrilled to hear their unborn baby’s heartbeat, revealed by an ultrasonic detector that produces beeps of audible sound in synchronization with the fetal heartbeat. Suppose the fetus’s ventricular wall moves in simple harmonic motion with an amplitude of 1.80 mm and a frequency of 115 beats per minute. (a) Find the maximum linear speed of the heart wall. Suppose a source mounted on the detector in contact with the mother’s abdomen produces sound at 2 000 000.0 Hz, which travels through tissue at 1.50 km/s. (b) Find the maximum change in frequency between the sound that arrives at the wall of the baby’s heart and the sound emitted by the source. (c) Find the maximum change in frequency between the reflected sound received by the detector and that emitted by the source.

**44.** *Why is the following situation impossible?* At the Summer Olympics, an athlete runs at a constant speed down a straight track while a spectator near the edge of the track blows a note on a horn with a fixed frequency. When the athlete passes the horn, she hears the frequency of the horn fall by the musical interval called a minor third. That is, the frequency she hears drops to five-sixths its original value.

**45.** **M** Standing at a crosswalk, you hear a frequency of 560 Hz from the siren of an approaching ambulance. After the ambulance passes, the observed frequency of

the siren is 480 Hz. Determine the ambulance's speed from these observations.

46. **Review.** A tuning fork vibrating at 512 Hz falls from rest and accelerates at  $9.80 \text{ m/s}^2$ . How far below the point of release is the tuning fork when waves of frequency 485 Hz reach the release point?

47. **AMT** **M** A supersonic jet traveling at Mach 3.00 at an altitude of  $h = 20\,000 \text{ m}$  is directly over a person at time  $t = 0$  as shown in Figure P17.47. Assume the average speed of sound in air is  $335 \text{ m/s}$  over the path of the sound. (a) At what time will the person encounter the shock wave due to the sound emitted at  $t = 0$ ? (b) Where will the plane be when this shock wave is heard?

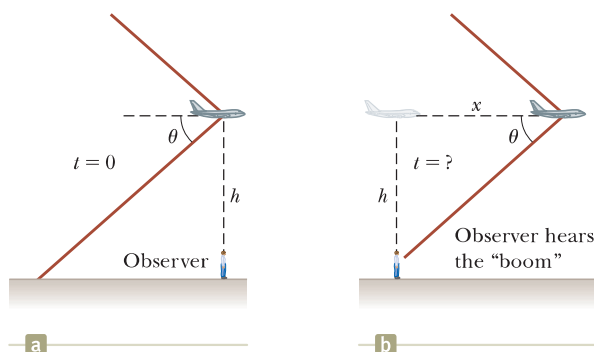


Figure P17.47

### Additional Problems

48. A bat (Fig. P17.48) can detect very small objects, such as an insect whose length is approximately equal to one wavelength of the sound the bat makes. If a bat emits chirps at a frequency of  $60.0 \text{ kHz}$  and the speed of sound in air is  $340 \text{ m/s}$ , what is the smallest insect the bat can detect?



Hugh Lansdown/Shutterstock.com

Figure P17.48 Problems 48 and 63.

49. Some studies suggest that the upper frequency limit of hearing is determined by the diameter of the eardrum. The diameter of the eardrum is approximately equal to half the wavelength of the sound wave at this upper limit. If the relationship holds exactly, what is the diameter of the eardrum of a person capable of hearing  $20\,000 \text{ Hz}$ ? (Assume a body temperature of  $37.0^\circ\text{C}$ .)
50. The highest note written for a singer in a published score was F-sharp above high C,  $1.480 \text{ kHz}$ , for Zerbietta in the original version of Richard Strauss's opera *Ariadne auf Naxos*. (a) Find the wavelength of this sound in air. (b) Suppose people in the fourth row of seats hear this note with level  $81.0 \text{ dB}$ . Find the displacement amplitude of the sound. (c) **What If?** In response

to complaints, Strauss later transposed the note down to F above high C,  $1.397 \text{ kHz}$ . By what increment did the wavelength change?

51. Trucks carrying garbage to the town dump form a nearly steady procession on a country road, all traveling at  $19.7 \text{ m/s}$  in the same direction. Two trucks arrive at the dump every 3 min. A bicyclist is also traveling toward the dump, at  $4.47 \text{ m/s}$ . (a) With what frequency do the trucks pass the cyclist? (b) **What If?** A hill does not slow down the trucks, but makes the out-of-shape cyclist's speed drop to  $1.56 \text{ m/s}$ . How often do the trucks whiz past the cyclist now?
52. If a salesman claims a loudspeaker is rated at  $150 \text{ W}$ , he is referring to the maximum electrical power input to the speaker. Assume a loudspeaker with an input power of  $150 \text{ W}$  broadcasts sound equally in all directions and produces sound with a level of  $103 \text{ dB}$  at a distance of  $1.60 \text{ m}$  from its center. (a) Find its sound power output. (b) Find the efficiency of the speaker, that is, the fraction of input power that is converted into useful output power.
53. An interstate highway has been built through a neighborhood in a city. In the afternoon, the sound level in an apartment in the neighborhood is  $80.0 \text{ dB}$  as 100 cars pass outside the window every minute. Late at night, the traffic flow is only five cars per minute. What is the average late-night sound level?
54. A train whistle ( $f = 400 \text{ Hz}$ ) sounds higher or lower in frequency depending on whether it approaches or recedes. (a) Prove that the difference in frequency between the approaching and receding train whistle is

$$\Delta f = \frac{2u/v}{1 - u^2/v^2} f$$

where  $u$  is the speed of the train and  $v$  is the speed of sound. (b) Calculate this difference for a train moving at a speed of  $130 \text{ km/h}$ . Take the speed of sound in air to be  $340 \text{ m/s}$ .

55. An ultrasonic tape measure uses frequencies above  $20 \text{ MHz}$  to determine dimensions of structures such as buildings. It does so by emitting a pulse of ultrasound into air and then measuring the time interval for an echo to return from a reflecting surface whose distance away is to be measured. The distance is displayed as a digital readout. For a tape measure that emits a pulse of ultrasound with a frequency of  $22.0 \text{ MHz}$ , (a) what is the distance to an object from which the echo pulse returns after  $24.0 \text{ ms}$  when the air temperature is  $26^\circ\text{C}$ ? (b) What should be the duration of the emitted pulse if it is to include ten cycles of the ultrasonic wave? (c) What is the spatial length of such a pulse?
56. The tensile stress in a thick copper bar is  $99.5\%$  of its elastic breaking point of  $13.0 \times 10^{10} \text{ N/m}^2$ . If a  $500\text{-Hz}$  sound wave is transmitted through the material, (a) what displacement amplitude will cause the bar to break? (b) What is the maximum speed of the elements of copper at this moment? (c) What is the sound intensity in the bar?

- 57. Review.** A 150-g glider moves at  $v_1 = 2.30$  m/s on an air track toward an originally stationary 200-g glider as shown in Figure P17.57. The gliders undergo a completely inelastic collision and latch together over a time interval of 7.00 ms. A student suggests roughly half the decrease in mechanical energy of the two-glider system is transferred to the environment by sound. Is this suggestion reasonable? To evaluate the idea, find the implied sound level at a position 0.800 m from the gliders. If the student's idea is unreasonable, suggest a better idea.

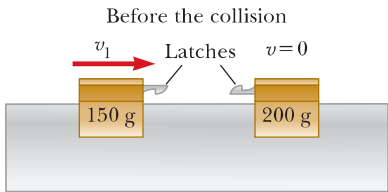


Figure P17.57

- 58.** Consider the following wave function in SI units:

$$\Delta P(r, t) = \left( \frac{25.0}{r} \right) \sin(1.36r - 2030t)$$

Explain how this wave function can apply to a wave radiating from a small source, with  $r$  being the radial distance from the center of the source to any point outside the source. Give the most detailed description of the wave that you can. Include answers to such questions as the following and give representative values for any quantities that can be evaluated. (a) Does the wave move more toward the right or the left? (b) As it moves away from the source, what happens to its amplitude? (c) Its speed? (d) Its frequency? (e) Its wavelength? (f) Its power? (g) Its intensity?

- 59. Review.** For a certain type of steel, stress is always proportional to strain with Young's modulus  $20 \times 10^{10}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>. The steel has density  $7.86 \times 10^3$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>. It will fail by bending permanently if subjected to compressive stress greater than its yield strength  $\sigma_y = 400$  MPa. A rod 80.0 cm long, made of this steel, is fired at 12.0 m/s straight at a very hard wall. (a) The speed of a one-dimensional compressional wave moving along the rod is given by  $v = \sqrt{Y/\rho}$ , where  $Y$  is Young's modulus for the rod and  $\rho$  is the density. Calculate this speed. (b) After the front end of the rod hits the wall and stops, the back end of the rod keeps moving as described by Newton's first law until it is stopped by excess pressure in a sound wave moving back through the rod. What time interval elapses before the back end of the rod receives the message that it should stop? (c) How far has the back end of the rod moved in this time interval? Find (d) the strain and (e) the stress in the rod. (f) If it is not to fail, what is the maximum impact speed a rod can have in terms of  $\sigma_y$ ,  $Y$ , and  $\rho$ ?
- 60.** A large set of unoccupied football bleachers has solid seats and risers. You stand on the field in front of the bleachers and sharply clap two wooden boards

together once. The sound pulse you produce has no definite frequency and no wavelength. The sound you hear reflected from the bleachers has an identifiable frequency and may remind you of a short toot on a trumpet, buzzer, or kazoo. (a) Explain what accounts for this sound. Compute order-of-magnitude estimates for (b) the frequency, (c) the wavelength, and (d) the duration of the sound on the basis of data you specify.

- 61. M** To measure her speed, a skydiver carries a buzzer emitting a steady tone at 1 800 Hz. A friend on the ground at the landing site directly below listens to the amplified sound he receives. Assume the air is calm and the speed of sound is independent of altitude. While the skydiver is falling at terminal speed, her friend on the ground receives waves of frequency 2 150 Hz. (a) What is the skydiver's speed of descent? (b) **What If?** Suppose the skydiver can hear the sound of the buzzer reflected from the ground. What frequency does she receive?

- 62.** Spherical waves of wavelength 45.0 cm propagate outward from a point source. (a) Explain how the intensity at a distance of 240 cm compares with the intensity at a distance of 60.0 cm. (b) Explain how the amplitude at a distance of 240 cm compares with the amplitude at a distance of 60.0 cm. (c) Explain how the phase of the wave at a distance of 240 cm compares with the phase at 60.0 cm at the same moment.
- 63.** A bat (Fig. P17.48), moving at 5.00 m/s, is chasing a flying insect. If the bat emits a 40.0-kHz chirp and receives back an echo at 40.4 kHz, (a) what is the speed of the insect? (b) Will the bat be able to catch the insect? Explain.

- 64.** Two ships are moving along a line due east (Fig. P17.64). The trailing vessel has a speed relative to a land-based observation point of  $v_1 = 64.0$  km/h, and the leading ship has a speed of  $v_2 = 45.0$  km/h relative to that point. The two ships are in a region of the ocean where the current is moving uniformly due west at  $v_{\text{current}} = 10.0$  km/h. The trailing ship transmits a sonar signal at a frequency of 1 200.0 Hz through the water. What frequency is monitored by the leading ship?

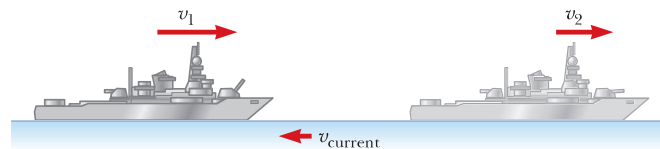


Figure P17.64

- 65.** A police car is traveling east at 40.0 m/s along a straight road, overtaking a car ahead of it moving east at 30.0 m/s. The police car has a malfunctioning siren that is stuck at 1 000 Hz. (a) What would be the wavelength in air of the siren sound if the police car were at rest? (b) What is the wavelength in front of the police car? (c) What is it behind the police car? (d) What is the frequency heard by the driver being chased?



66. The speed of a one-dimensional compressional wave traveling along a thin copper rod is 3.56 km/s. The rod is given a sharp hammer blow at one end. A listener at the far end of the rod hears the sound twice, transmitted through the metal and through air, with a time interval  $\Delta t$  between the two pulses. (a) Which sound arrives first? (b) Find the length of the rod as a function of  $\Delta t$ . (c) Find the length of the rod if  $\Delta t = 127$  ms. (d) Imagine that the copper rod is replaced by another material through which the speed of sound is  $v_r$ . What is the length of the rod in terms of  $t$  and  $v_r$ ? (e) Would the answer to part (d) go to a well-defined limit as the speed of sound in the rod goes to infinity? Explain your answer.

67. A large meteoroid enters the Earth's atmosphere at a speed of 20.0 km/s and is not significantly slowed before entering the ocean. (a) What is the Mach angle of the shock wave from the meteoroid in the lower atmosphere? (b) If we assume the meteoroid survives the impact with the ocean surface, what is the (initial) Mach angle of the shock wave the meteoroid produces in the water?

68. Three metal rods are located relative to each other as shown in Figure P17.68, where  $L_3 = L_1 + L_2$ . The speed of sound in a rod is given by  $v = \sqrt{Y/\rho}$ , where  $Y$

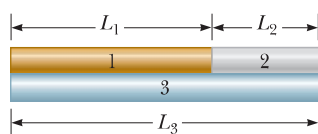


Figure P17.68

is Young's modulus for the rod and  $\rho$  is the density. Values of density and Young's modulus for the three materials are  $\rho_1 = 2.70 \times 10^3$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $Y_1 = 7.00 \times 10^{10}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>,  $\rho_2 = 11.3 \times 10^3$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $Y_2 = 1.60 \times 10^{10}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>,  $\rho_3 = 8.80 \times 10^3$  kg/m<sup>3</sup>,  $Y_3 = 11.0 \times 10^{10}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>. If  $L_3 = 1.50$  m, what must the ratio  $L_1/L_2$  be if a sound wave is to travel the length of rods 1 and 2 in the same time interval required for the wave to travel the length of rod 3?

69. With particular experimental methods, it is possible to produce and observe in a long, thin rod both a transverse wave whose speed depends primarily on tension in the rod and a longitudinal wave whose speed is determined by Young's modulus and the density of the material according to the expression  $v = \sqrt{Y/\rho}$ . The transverse wave can be modeled as a wave in a stretched string. A particular metal rod is 150 cm long and has a radius of 0.200 cm and a mass of 50.9 g. Young's modulus for the material is  $6.80 \times 10^{10}$  N/m<sup>2</sup>. What must the tension in the rod be if the ratio of the speed of longitudinal waves to the speed of transverse waves is 8.00?

70. A siren mounted on the roof of a firehouse emits sound at a frequency of 900 Hz. A steady wind is blowing with a speed of 15.0 m/s. Taking the speed of sound in calm air to be 343 m/s, find the wavelength of the sound (a) upwind of the siren and (b) downwind of the siren. Firefighters are approaching the siren from various directions at 15.0 m/s. What frequency does a firefighter hear (c) if she is approaching

from an upwind position so that she is moving in the direction in which the wind is blowing and (d) if she is approaching from a downwind position and moving against the wind?

### Challenge Problems

71. The Doppler equation presented in the text is valid when the motion between the observer and the source occurs on a straight line so that the source and observer are moving either directly toward or directly away from each other. If this restriction is relaxed, one must use the more general Doppler equation

$$f' = \left( \frac{v + v_o \cos \theta_o}{v - v_s \cos \theta_s} \right) f$$

where  $\theta_o$  and  $\theta_s$  are defined in Figure P17.71a. Use the preceding equation to solve the following problem. A train moves at a constant speed of  $v = 25.0$  m/s toward the intersection shown in Figure P17.71b. A car is stopped near the crossing, 30.0 m from the tracks. The train's horn emits a frequency of 500 Hz when the train is 40.0 m from the intersection. (a) What is the frequency heard by the passengers in the car? (b) If the train emits this sound continuously and the car is stationary at this position long before the train arrives until long after it leaves, what range of frequencies do passengers in the car hear? (c) Suppose the car is foolishly trying to beat the train to the intersection and is traveling at 40.0 m/s toward the tracks. When the car is 30.0 m from the tracks and the train is 40.0 m from the intersection, what is the frequency heard by the passengers in the car now?

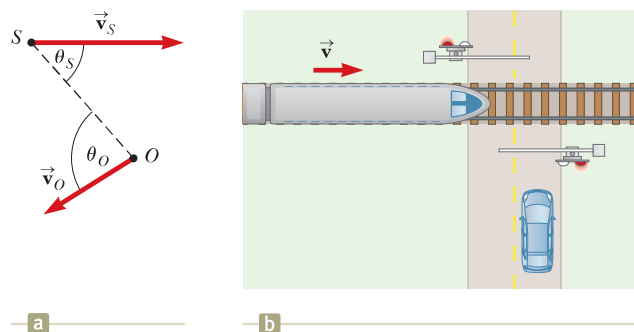


Figure P17.71

72. In Section 17.2, we derived the speed of sound in a gas using the impulse-momentum theorem applied to the cylinder of gas in Figure 17.5. Let us find the speed of sound in a gas using a different approach based on the element of gas in Figure 17.3. Proceed as follows. (a) Draw a force diagram for this element showing the forces exerted on the left and right surfaces due to the pressure of the gas on either side of the element. (b) By applying Newton's second law to the element, show that

$$-\frac{\partial(\Delta P)}{\partial x} A \Delta x = \rho A \Delta x \frac{\partial^2 s}{\partial t^2}$$



(c) By substituting  $\Delta P = -(B \partial s / \partial x)$  (Eq. 17.3), derive the following wave equation for sound:

$$\frac{B}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 s}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 s}{\partial t^2}$$

(d) To a mathematical physicist, this equation demonstrates the existence of sound waves and determines their speed. As a physics student, you must take another step or two. Substitute into the wave equation the trial solution  $s(x, t) = s_{\max} \cos(kx - \omega t)$ . Show that this function satisfies the wave equation, provided  $\omega/k = v = \sqrt{B/\rho}$ .

**73.** Equation 17.13 states that at distance  $r$  away from a point source with power  $(Power)_{\text{avg}}$ , the wave intensity is

$$I = \frac{(Power)_{\text{avg}}}{4\pi r^2}$$

Study Figure 17.10 and prove that at distance  $r$  straight in front of a point source with power  $(Power)_{\text{avg}}$  moving with constant speed  $v_s$  the wave intensity is

$$I = \frac{(Power)_{\text{avg}}}{4\pi r^2} \left( \frac{v - v_s}{v} \right)$$