

**Supplement: Harmonic Motion Equations**

**Period vs. Frequency**

The **period** is how long it takes to complete one cycle.  
 The **frequency** is how many cycles occur per second.  
**Hertz (Hz)** means cycles per second.

Period (in secs) → $T = \frac{1}{f}$	OR	$f = \frac{1}{T}$ ← Period (in secs)
		Frequency (in hertz)

If you know frequency you can find period.

<i>Ex: A wave has a frequency of 10 Hz. Find its period.</i>	
$f = 10 \text{ Hz}$ $T = ?$	$T = 1/f$ $T = 1/10 \text{ Hz}$ $T = 0.1 \text{ sec}$

If you know period you can find frequency.

<i>Ex: A pendulum has a period of 0.5 seconds. Find its frequency.</i>	
$T = 0.5 \text{ sec}$ $f = ?$	$f = 1/T$ $f = 1/0.5 \text{ sec}$ $f = 2 \text{ Hz}$

**Harmonics**

$f_f$  – is the frequency of the **fundamental** (in Hz).  
 $f_{Hx}$  – is the frequency of the **harmonic** (in Hz).  
 $X$  – is the number of the harmonic (if  $H_3$ ,  $X = 3$ )

**Frequency of Harmonics**

Frequency of harmonic x (in Hz) → $f_{Hx} = f_f(X)$	← # of the Harmonic
	↑ Frequency of the fundamental (in Hz)

If you are given the fundamental you can find the frequencies of any of the harmonics.

<i>Ex. Find the frequency of the fourth harmonic (<math>H_4</math>) of a 6 Hz fundamental.</i>	
$f_f = 6 \text{ Hz}$ $X = 4$ (fourth) $f_{H4} = ?$	$f_{Hx} = f_f(X)$ $f_{H4} = (6 \text{ Hz}) \times (4)$ $f_{H4} = 24 \text{ Hz}$

If you are given the harmonic frequency and what harmonic it is you can find the frequency of the fundamental.

<i>Ex. If the eighth harmonic has a frequency of 80 Hz, find the fundamental frequency.</i>	
$f_{H8} = 80 \text{ Hz}$ $X = 8$ $f_f = ?$	$f_{Hx} = f_f(X)$ $f_f = f_{Hx}/X = 80 \text{ Hz}/8$ $f_f = 10 \text{ Hz}$

**Speed of a Wave**

$\lambda$  – is lambda (Greek); used for wavelength: the length of one wave cycle.  
 $v$  – is velocity, but here we use it for speed, too.

**The Speed (velocity) of a Wave**

velocity (m/sec) → $v = f\lambda$	← wavelength (m)
	← frequency (Hz)

You can find speed from frequency and wavelength.

<i>Ex. Find the speed of a 60 Hz wave if one cycle is 4 meters long.</i>	
$f = 60 \text{ Hz}$ $\lambda = 4 \text{ m}$ $v = ?$	$v = f\lambda$ $v = (60 \text{ Hz}) \times (4 \text{ m})$ $v = 240 \text{ m/s}$

You can find either wavelength or frequency if you know the wave's speed.

<i>Ex. What wavelength wave has a 200 m/s velocity and 50 Hz frequency?</i>	
$f = 50 \text{ Hz}$ $v = 200 \text{ m/s}$ $\lambda = ?$	$v = f\lambda$ SO $\lambda = v/f$ $\lambda = (200 \text{ m/s}) \div (50 \text{ Hz})$ $\lambda = 4 \text{ m}$

**Speed of Sound ( $v_s$ )**

The **Speed of Sound in air** is approximately **340 m/sec**.  
 Use this number anytime a problem refers to a sound wave, music, a noise, or someone hearing something.

**The Speed of a Sound Wave**

**340 m/sec =  $f\lambda$**

**Speed**

**$S = \frac{D}{T}$**

Because you know the speed of sound, if you know  $\lambda$  you can find  $f$  and vice versa.

<i>Ex. Find the wavelength of a 100 Hz sound.</i>	
$v_s = 340 \text{ m/s}$ $f = 100 \text{ Hz}$ $\lambda = ?$	$v = f\lambda$ so $\lambda = v/f$ $\lambda = (340 \text{ m/s}) \div (100 \text{ Hz})$ $\lambda = 3.4 \text{ m}$

If you know how long it takes a sound to reach you, you can find how far away the sound source is.

<i>Ex. If you hear a sound 2 seconds after you see the motion, how far away is it?</i>	
$v_s = 340 \text{ m/s}$ $T = 2 \text{ sec}$ $D = ?$	$v_s = D/T$ SO $D = v_s T$ $D = (340 \text{ m/s}) \times (2 \text{ sec})$ $D = 680 \text{ m}$

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

**Decibels (Loudness)**

*A + 10 dB change we hear as twice as loud.*

*A - 10 dB change we hear as half as loud.*

*Ex. How much louder is a 50 dB noise than a 40 dB noise?*

50 dB - 40 dB = +10 dB  
50 dB is twice as loud as 40

*Ex. How much softer is a 25 dB noise than a 35 dB noise?*

25 dB - 35 dB = -10 dB  
25 dB is half as loud as 35 dB.

**Amplitude**

2 ways: 1) **Amplitude** =  $\frac{1}{2}(\text{high} - \text{low})$  OR 2)  $\frac{1}{2}(\text{peak to peak})$ . (Distance from trough to crest divided by 2)

*Ex. Crest is at 3 cm; Trough is at -5 cm. Find amplitude.*

Way 1)  $A = \frac{1}{2}(3\text{cm} - (-5\text{cm})) = \frac{1}{2}(3\text{cm} + 5\text{cm}) = \frac{1}{2}(8) = 4\text{ cm.}$

Way 2) From -5 to 0 = 5cm 5 + 3 = 8.  
 $A = \frac{1}{2}(8) = 4\text{ cm}$

What is the period of a 4 Hz wave?

What is the speed of a 10 Hz wave that's wavelength is 25 m?

What is the frequency of a wave with a 2 second period?

How much louder is a 45 dB sound than a 35 dB sound?

If a noise drops from 80 dB to 70 dB, how do we hear the change?

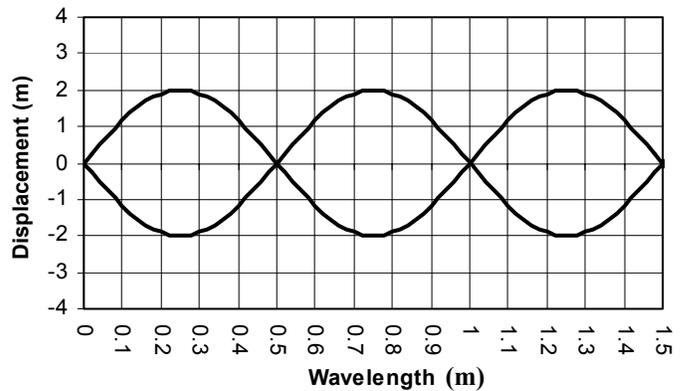
If a standing wave's fundamental is 12 Hz what is the frequency of harmonic 4? (And how many antinodes will harmonic 4 have?)

You hear a hammer 5 seconds after you see it move. How far away is the hammer?

A sound wave has a 10 m wavelength. Find its frequency.

If a noise has a frequency of 17 Hz, find its wavelength.

**Standing wave (Harmonic)**



*Use the above graph to answer the following questions:*

What harmonic is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Mark the nodes and antinodes: \_\_\_\_\_

If its frequency is 60 Hz find its period: \_\_\_\_\_

Could a human hear this frequency? \_\_\_\_\_

Find the fundamental frequency:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Find the 4th harmonic frequency:  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the amplitude of the wave? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the wavelength of the wave? \_\_\_\_\_

The total length of the standing wave is how many wavelengths?  
\_\_\_\_\_