

INTRODUCTION TO BIOPHYSICS 2

BPH 112

PROBLEMS-A

PROBLEMS

Note:

The equilibrium density of air at 20°C is

$$\rho = 1.20 \text{ kg/m}^3.$$

The speed of sound in air is $v = 340 \text{ m/s}$.

Pressure variations

P are measured relative to atmospheric pressure, $1.013 \times 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2$.

1. Suppose that you hear a clap of thunder 25 s after seeing the associated lightning stroke. The speed of sound waves in air is 340 m/s. How far are you from the lightning stroke?

2. When a workman strikes a steel pipeline with a hammer, he generates both longitudinal and transverse waves. The two types of reflected waves return 2.4 s apart.

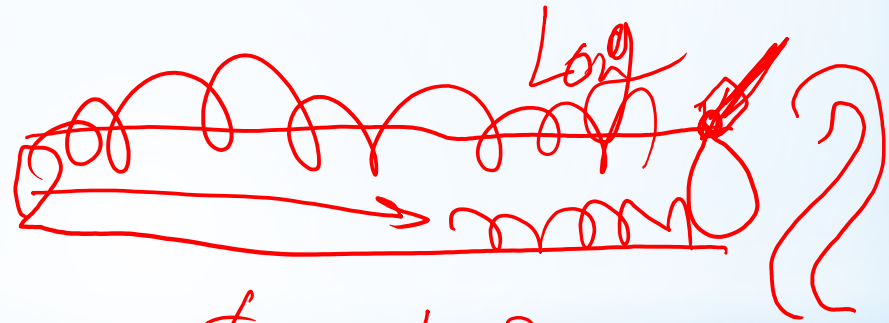
How far away is the reflection point?

[For steel, $v_l = 6.2 \text{ km/s}$, $v_t = 3.2 \text{ km/s}$]

$$x = vt$$

$$= 6.2 \times 10^3 \times 1.2 \quad t_1 = 1.2$$

$$= 7.44 \times 10^3 \text{ m} = 7.44 \text{ km}$$



3. A bat 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 kHz, and if the speed of sound in air is 340 m/s,

what is the smallest insect the bat can detect?

$$v = \lambda f$$

$$l = \lambda$$

$$f = 60 \times 10^3 \text{ Hz}$$
$$v_s = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

$$l = \lambda = \frac{v}{f} = \frac{340}{60 \times 10^3} = 5.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$
$$= 5.7 \text{ mm}$$

4. A sound wave in air has a pressure amplitude equal to $4.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N/m}^2$. Calculate the displacement amplitude of the wave at a frequency of 10.0 kHz.

Intensity W/m^2

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \rho v \gamma^2 \omega^2$$

$$I = \frac{P_0^2}{2Z}$$

Pressure $\frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}^2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^2 &= \frac{2I}{\rho v (\omega)^2} \\ &= \frac{2P_0^2}{2Z \rho v (\omega)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Example sound	Sound Intensity I (W/m²)	Intensity Ratio (I/I_o)	Intensity Level (dB)
Loud rock concert	1	10¹²	120
Underground train	10⁻²	10¹⁰	100
Shouting person	10⁻⁴	10⁸	80
Normal conversation	10⁻⁶	10⁶	60
Quiet room	10⁻⁸	10⁴	40
Rustling leaves	10⁻¹⁰	10²	20
Reference level (I_o)	10⁻¹²	1	0

4. A sound wave in air has a pressure amplitude equal to $4.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N/m}^2$. Calculate the displacement amplitude of the wave at a frequency of 10.0 kHz.

5. The area of a typical eardrum is about $5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$. Calculate the sound power incident on an eardrum at:

$$I = \text{Power}/A \quad (\text{W/m}^2)$$

- (a) the threshold of hearing (and
- (b) the threshold of pain.

$$\text{Sound intensity } (I) = \frac{1}{2} \rho v Y^2 (2\pi f)^2 = \frac{P_o^2}{2Z} \quad (\text{W/m}^2)$$

$$P_o \text{ is the maximum acoustic pressure} = Z Y \omega. \quad (\text{N/m}^2)$$

$$I_{\text{th}} (\text{hearing}) = 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$I_{\text{th}} (\text{pain}) = 1 \text{ W/m}^2$$

$$I = \text{Power}/A \quad (\text{W/m}^2) \quad \swarrow \quad 10^{-12} \times 5 \times 10^{-5} = 50 \times 10^{-18} \text{ W}$$

$$\text{Power} = I A = (\text{W}) \quad \searrow \quad 1 \times 5 \times 10^{-5} = 50 \times 10^{-6} \text{ W}$$

6. Calculate the sound level in decibels of a sound wave that has an intensity of 4.00 W/m^2 .

$$SL = 10 \log \frac{I}{I_0}$$

$$I_0 = 10^{-12} \text{ W/m}^2$$

I

7. A vacuum cleaner produces sound with a measured sound level of 70 dB.

(a) What is the intensity of this sound in W/m²?

(b) What is the pressure amplitude of the sound?

$$SL = 10 \log \frac{I}{I_0}$$
$$70 = 10 \log \frac{I}{10^{-12}}$$

$$\text{antilog } 7 = \frac{I}{10^{-12}} \Rightarrow I = 10^{-12} \text{ antilog } 7$$
$$= 10^{-12} \times 10^7$$
$$= 10^{-5} \text{ W/m}^2$$

8. The intensity of a sound wave at a fixed distance from a speaker vibrating at 1.00 kHz is 0.600 W/m².

(a) Determine the intensity if the frequency is increased to 2.50 kHz while a constant displacement amplitude is maintained. $\left(\frac{f_2}{f_1}\right)^2 = 6.25$

(b) Calculate the intensity if the frequency is reduced to half and the displacement amplitude is doubled. $\left(\frac{f_2}{f_1}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{Y_2}{Y_1}\right)^2 = 4$ (Result I unchanged)

(c) Calculate the intensity if the frequency is maintained constant and the displacement amplitude is reduced to half. $\left(\frac{Y_2}{Y_1}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}$

I Reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$

$$I = \frac{1}{2} \rho v \gamma^2 (2\pi f)^2$$

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{2} \rho v \gamma_1^2 (2\pi f_1)^2$$

$$I_2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho v \gamma_2^2 (2\pi f_2)^2$$

9. If sound waves fall from air to fat tissues, calculate the sound wave relative transmitted intensity ($Z_{\text{air}} = 430$, $Z_{\text{tissue}} = 1.33 \times 10^6 \text{ kg/m}^2\text{s}$).

$$\frac{P_r}{P_i} = \left(\frac{Z_2 - Z_1}{Z_2 + Z_1} \right)^2 \quad \& \quad \frac{P_t}{P_i} = \frac{2Z_2}{(Z_2 + Z_1)}$$

