

- **Standing waves**
- **Resonances**

Background reading and web activities:

- AAP Ch 2, sec 2.1, second half
- “...Standing Wave Diagrams 1” (Zona Land)
“Wave Interference 2” (Zona Land)

0. Today's plan

- Standing waves
- Resonances
- Boundary conditions
 - On a string
 - In a tube
- Calculating resonance wavelengths

0. Today's plan

In the discussion this week, we will **emphasize the concepts** before introducing the formulas.

You can remember (or reinvent) the formulas more easily if you understand the concepts!

Upcoming labs will give you a chance to practice **applying** the concepts (and the formulas).

1. Standing waves

- Why does a **real-world object** vibrate in a way that produces **complex waves**?
 - Objects have **multiple modes of vibration**
 - This is because multiple waves “fit” an object

1. Standing waves

- Why does a **real-world object** vibrate in a way that produces **complex waves**?
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- [“Violin string” demo](#), Zona Land (also seen last week)
 - String vibrates with “one loop”, “two loops”, etc.
 - Each vibration pattern → **one sine wave**
 - When **multiple** vibration patterns are present, their sine waves are **added together**
 - *What do we get when sine waves are added?*

1. Standing waves

- What “size” waves will “fit” a vibrating object?
 - A wave that “fits” a particular object is called a **resonance** of that object
 - A resonance forms a **standing wave**: an oscillating pattern, stable in space over time
- What does a standing wave look like?

See web demo [“Wave Interference 2”](#) (Zona Land)

 - Setting “Sinusoid 6” creates a standing wave
 - Compare “Sinusoid 8”: not a standing wave

1. Standing waves

- Standing waves arise because of **reflection** and **interference**
- We will not pursue this in detail; think of it this way:
 - When a “right-size wave” *reflects* from the edge of the object, the outgoing and returning waves *interfere* in a way that makes a standing wave (stable oscillation)
 - When a “wrong-size wave” *reflects* from the edge of the object, the outgoing and returning waves *interfere* in a way that is not a stable oscillation

1. Standing waves

- *Warning:* **Standing-wave diagrams** are graphs showing **amplitude** by distance
 - This is like the snapshot of the waves on the surface of a lake, showing water height at different physical locations
 - This is **not** like a typical waveform plot of a sound wave, which plots amplitude by time at a fixed location
- *This is useful!* The resonances of a tube of air (like the vocal tract!) depend on its **physical length**, which we can measure or calculate

1. Standing waves

- Some key terminology:
 - **node** — physical position on standing wave that **always has zero amplitude**
= location in space where a wave and its reflection always *cancel each other out*
 - **antinode** — physical position on standing wave with **maximum amplitude change from zero**
(includes both **positive and negative** extreme values)
= location in space where a wave and its reflection *maximally reinforce each other*

1. Standing waves

- **Standing-wave diagrams** typically show the **envelope** of the standing wave
 - This shows the *maximum* amplitude reached at each physical position along the wave
 - See web demo "[Understanding Standing Wave Diagrams 1](#)" (Zona Land)
- Can you identify the **nodes** and **antinodes** on a standing-wave diagram?



(from the demo linked above)

2. Resonances

So far, we've considered these ideas:

- Why does a **real-world object** vibrate in a way that produces **complex waves**?
 - Objects have **multiple modes of vibration**
 - **Why?**

2. Resonances

So far, we've considered these ideas:

- Why does a **real-world object** vibrate in a way that produces **complex waves**?
 - Objects have **multiple modes of vibration**
 - **This is because multiple waves “fit” an object**

What “size” waves will “fit” a vibrating object?

2. Resonances

So far, we've considered these ideas:

- Why does a **real-world object** vibrate in a way that produces **complex waves**?
 - Objects have **multiple modes of vibration**
 - This is because **multiple waves “fit” an object**

What “size” waves will “fit” a vibrating object?

- A wave “fits” if it forms a **standing wave**: an oscillating pattern, stable in space over time
 - Such a wave is called a **resonance** of that object

2. Resonances

- Next, we want to be able to **determine** what the **resonances** (“waves that fit”) **of a particular object** actually are
 - We will talk about **strings** first (easy to visualize)
 - But our main focus will be on **air in a tube**
- *Preview: **Speech-sound analyses** that depend on resonance frequencies of **air in a tube** will include:*
 - *Vowel formants (indicate height, backness, rounding)*
 - *Consonant place of articulation (affects vowel formants)*
 - *Fricative noise spectra / stop burst spectra*
 - *Acoustic signatures of nasals and laterals*

2. Resonances

- We can model the **multiple modes of vibration** of a **string**, or of **air in a tube**
 - To do this, we **determine the wavelength** of each of the **resonances** of the system, based on the physical size of the system
 - Then (for air in a tube) we can **calculate the frequency** of each of the resonances

2. Resonances

- The “compatible waves” (“waves that fit”) for a string or a tube are determined by
 - its **length**
 - its **boundary conditions**
- **Boundary conditions:** For each **end** of the string or tube, is it a **node** or an **antinode**?
 - String: Is the end ***fixed*** (**node**) or ***free*** (**antinode**)?
 - Tube: Is the end ***open*** (**node** of pressure wave) or ***closed*** (**antinode** of pressure wave)?

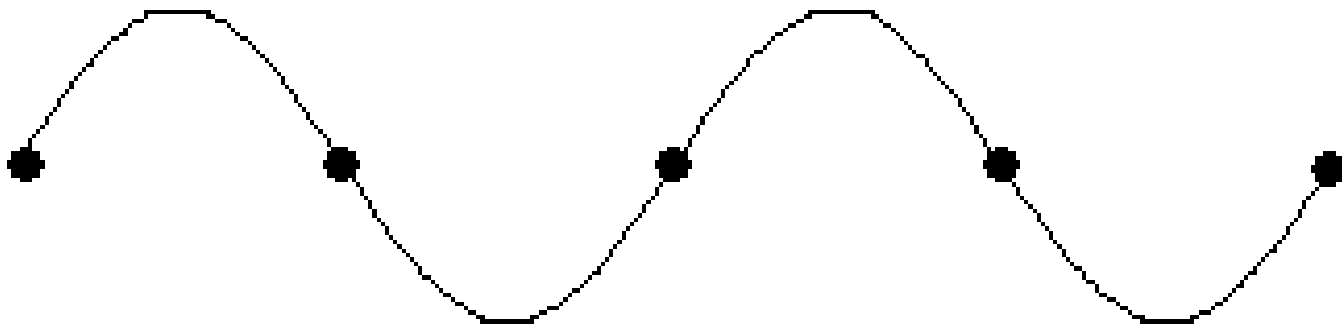
3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

- A **string**, fixed at both ends: **Node/node system**
 - At a point where a string is **fixed**, its displacement *can only be zero* = **node**
 - If **both ends** of the string are **fixed**, what are the “compatible waves” for this system?

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“How much wave” can fit on the string?



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 - If **both ends** of the string are **fixed**, what are the “compatible waves” for this system?
- Here is the **first** resonance (*longest wavelength*):

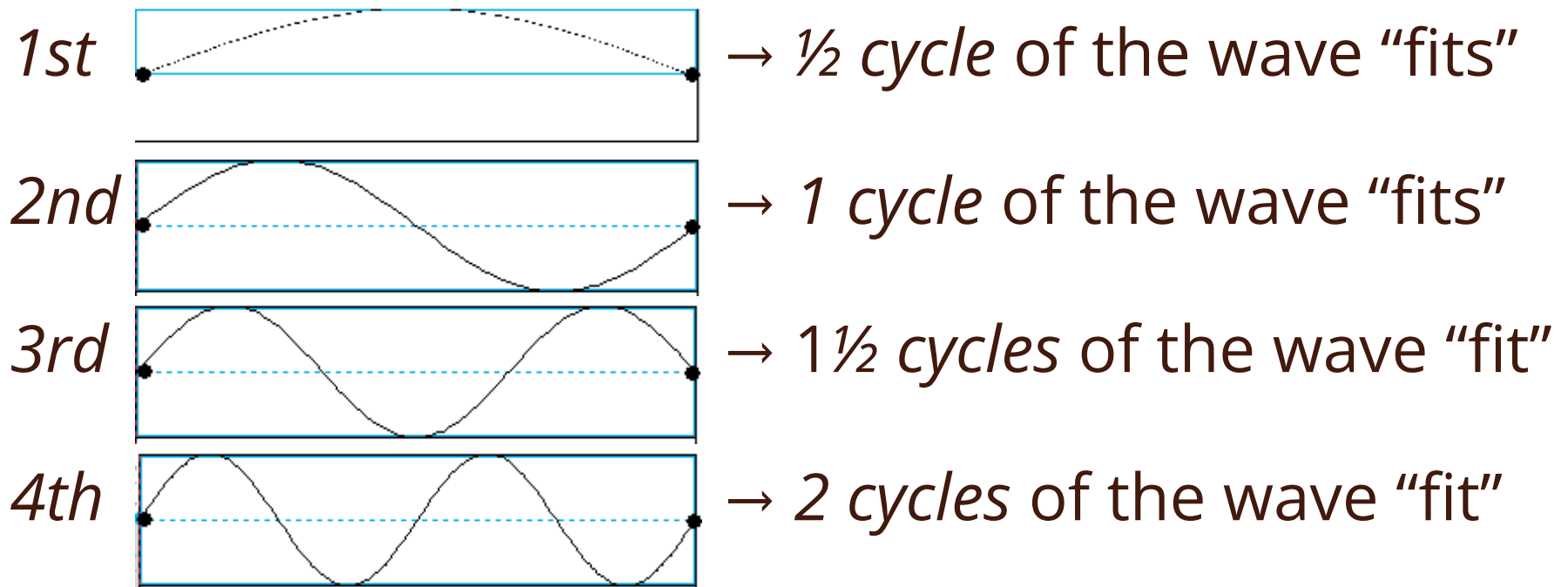


→ $\frac{1}{2}$ cycle of the wave “fits”

What are the rest?

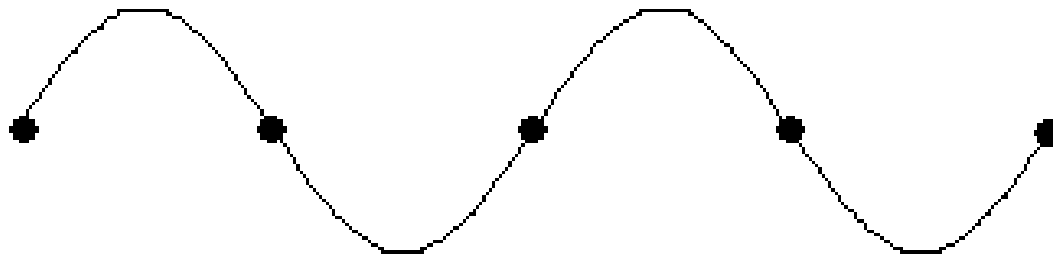
3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

- A **string**, fixed at both ends: **Node/node system**, also called a **half-wavelength system** (why?)
- Here are the first four **resonances**



3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

- A **tube**, open at both ends: **Node/node system**
 - At a point where a tube is **open**, the air pressure interfaces with the outside world, so the pressure displacement *can only be zero* = **node**
 - If **both ends** of the tube are **open**...
“How much wave” can fit in the tube?



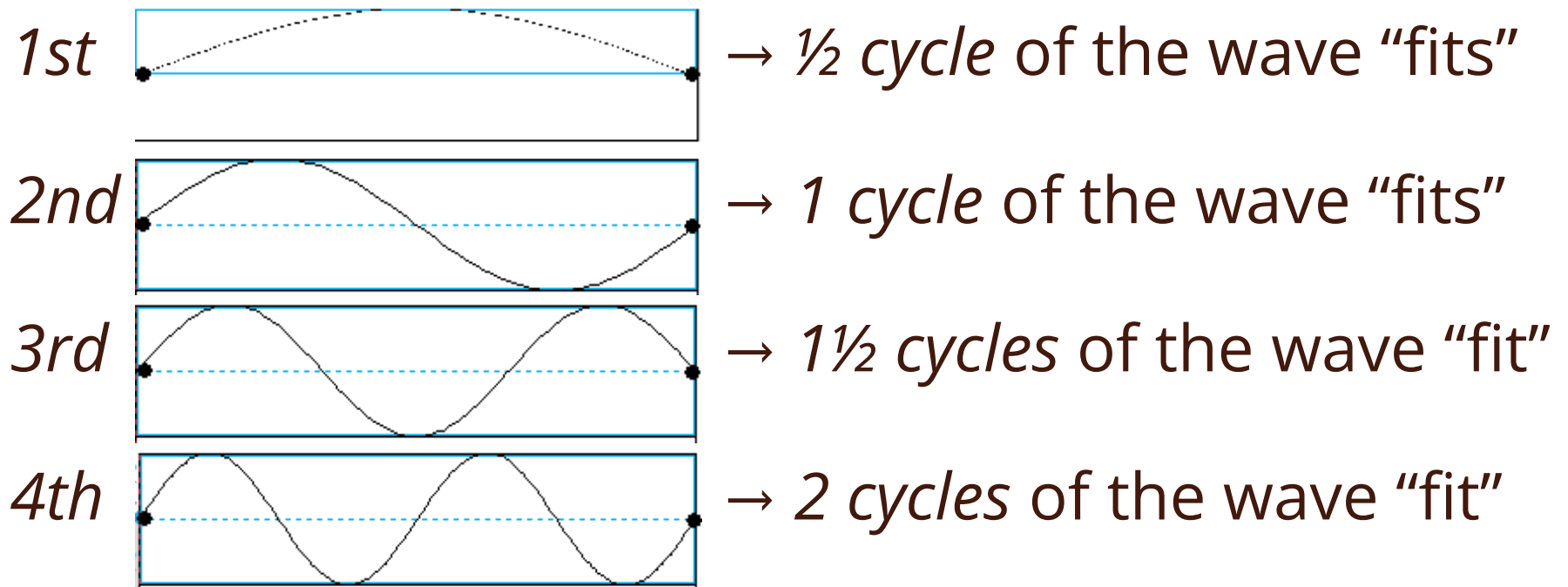
- See web demo [“Standing Sound Waves”](#) for more about pressure waves in a tube and standing-wave diagrams — the **red graph** in that demo shows the **pressure** wave

3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

- A **tube**, open at both ends: **Node/node system**, also called a **half-wavelength system**

- Exactly like the string case discussed above!

- Here are the first four **resonances**



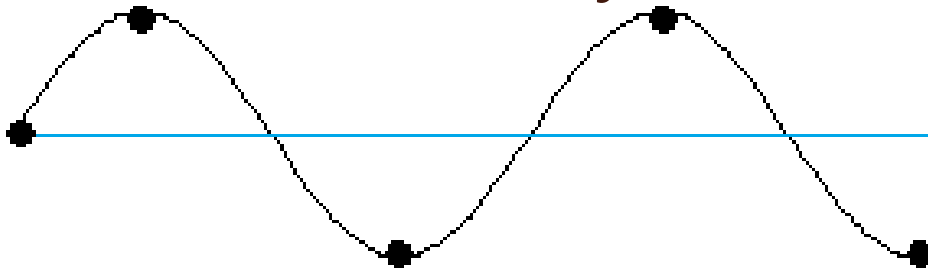
3. Boundary conditions (2): Node/antinode

- A **tube**, open at one end and closed at the other:
Node/antinode system
 - **Open** end: A pressure-wave **node** (see above)
 - **Closed** end: The reflecting waves will create a region of *maximum compression* alternating with *maximum rarefaction* → pressure-wave **antinode**
- *Optional:* For more about the reflection of pressure waves in tubes, see web demo "[Animations of sound waves in open and closed tubes](#)" (UNSW)
 - What happens at the edges when the wave reflects?

3. Boundary conditions (2): Node/antinode

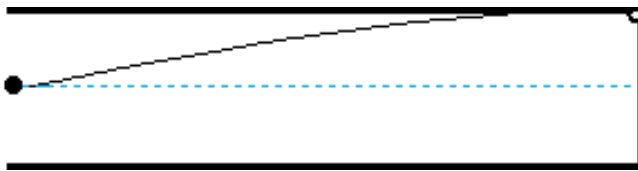
- A **tube**, open at one end and closed at the other:
Node/antinode system
 - **Open** end: A pressure-wave **node**
 - **Closed** end: A pressure-wave **antinode**

“How much wave” can fit in the tube?



3. Boundary conditions (2): Node/antinode

- A **tube**, open at one end and closed at the other:
Node/antinode system
 - **Open** end: A pressure-wave **node**
 - **Closed** end: A pressure-wave **antinode**
- Here is the **first** resonance (*longest wavelength*):

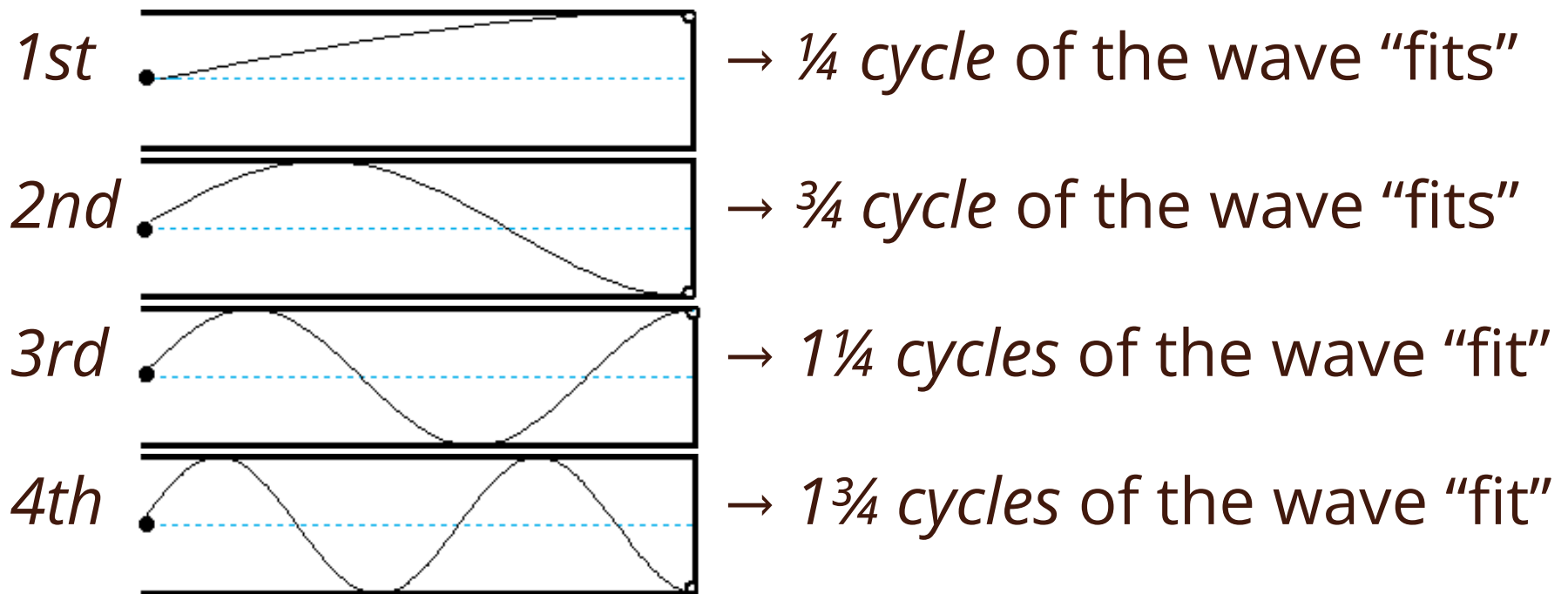


→ $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

What are the rest?

3. Boundary conditions (2): Node/antinode

- A **tube**, open at one end and closed at the other:
Node/antinode system,
also called a **quarter-wavelength system** (why?)
- Here are the first four **resonances**

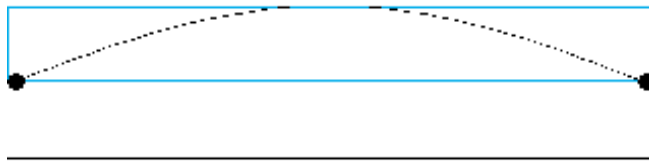


4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- If we know
 - the **length** of the string or tube (L)
 - “**how much wave**” fits on the string or tube for the **n th resonance**
- We can calculate the **wavelength λ_n** for the **n th resonance**

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- Consider the **first resonance** of a **node/node** (half-wavelength) system

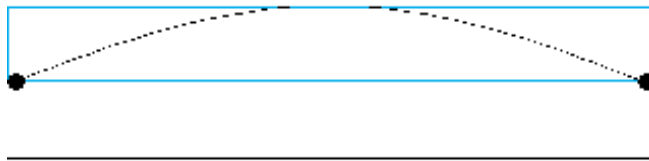


→ $\frac{1}{2}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

- If the string or tube is length L , what is the **wavelength** of the first resonance (λ_1)?

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- Consider the **first resonance** of a **node/node** (half-wavelength) system



→ $\frac{1}{2}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

- If the string or tube is length L , what is the **wavelength** of the first resonance (λ_1)?

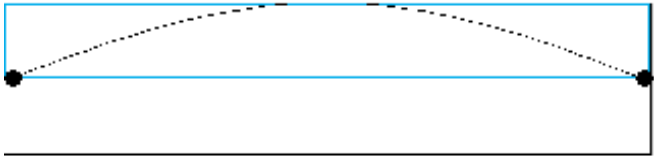
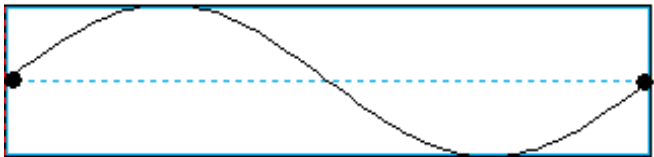
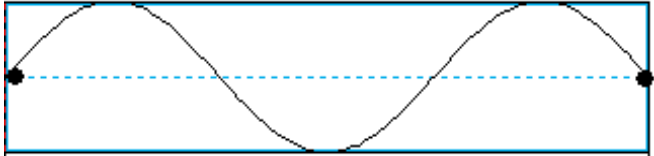
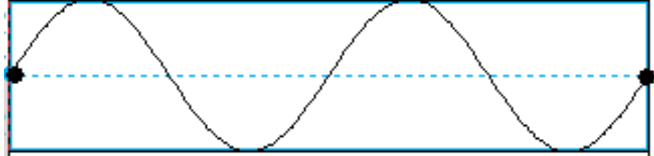
L fits half of the wave

L is half as long as λ_1

$$\lambda_1 = 2L$$

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

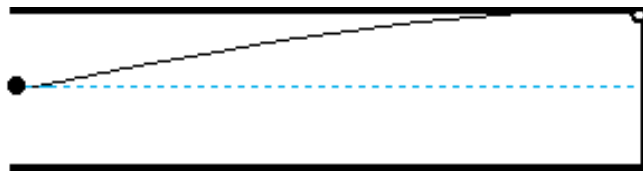
- **Node/node** (half-wavelength) system
Tube or string of length L

	$L = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 2L$	$\lambda_1 = (2/1) \cdot L$
	$L = 1 \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 = L$	$\lambda_2 = (2/2) \cdot L$
	$L = 1\frac{1}{2} \cdot \lambda_3$	$\lambda_3 = \frac{2}{3}L$	$\lambda_3 = (2/3) \cdot L$
	$L = 2 \cdot \lambda_4$	$\lambda_4 = \frac{1}{2}L$	$\lambda_4 = (2/4) \cdot L$

- **General formula:** $\lambda_n = (2/n) L$ or $\lambda_n = 2L/n$

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- Consider the **first resonance** of a **node/antinode** (quarter-wavelength) system

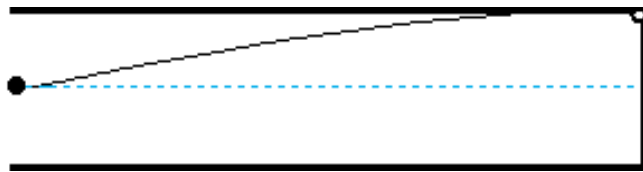


→ $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

- If the tube is length L , what is the **wavelength** of the first resonance (λ_1)?

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- Consider the **first resonance** of a **node/antinode** (quarter-wavelength) system



→ $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

- If the tube is length L , what is the **wavelength** of the first resonance (λ_1)?

L fits one quarter of the wave

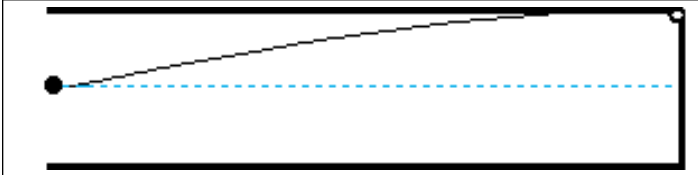
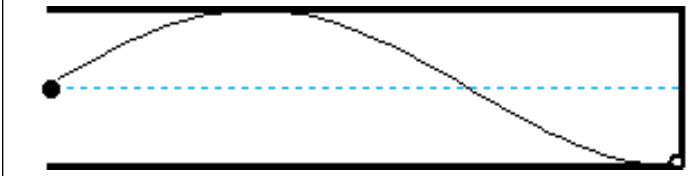
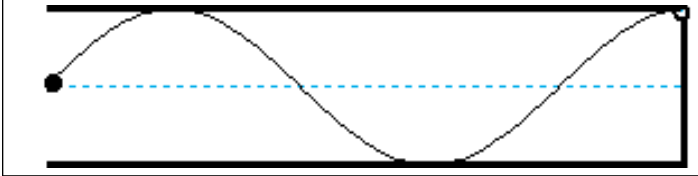
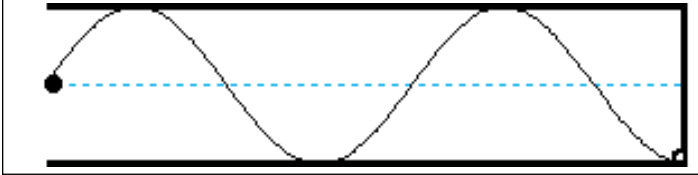
L is one quarter as long as λ_1

$$\lambda_1 = 4L$$

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- **Node/antinode** (quarter-wavelength) system

Tube of length L

	$L = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 4 L$	$\lambda_1 = (4/1) \cdot L$
	$L = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 = \frac{4}{3} L$	$\lambda_2 = (4/3) \cdot L$
	$L = 1\frac{1}{4} \cdot \lambda_3$	$\lambda_3 = \frac{4}{5} L$	$\lambda_3 = (4/5) \cdot L$
	$L = 1\frac{3}{4} \cdot \lambda_4$	$\lambda_4 = \frac{4}{7} L$	$\lambda_4 = (4/7) \cdot L$

- **General formula:** $\lambda_n = (4/(2n-1)) \cdot L$ or $\lambda_n = 4L / (2n-1)$

5. Calculating resonance frequencies

- Finally!—the **frequencies** of the resonances are what we really want to know
 - Knowing the resonance frequencies of a tube of air (in the vocal tract) helps us **model the acoustics of speech sounds**
- *Example:* Soon we will learn about the **source-filter model** of speech acoustics as applied to **vowels**
 - The **source** is the glottal-source wave
 - The **filter** is determined by the **resonance frequencies of the vocal tract**

5. Calculating resonance frequencies

- **Wavelength (λ)** and **frequency (f)** are related:

$$c = \lambda f$$

- where **c** is the speed of the wave (about **350 m/s** for sound in air, according to *AAP*)
- Wavelength and frequency are ***inversely*** related
 - **Long** wavelength means **low** frequency
 - **Short** wavelength means **high** frequency

Imagine traffic moving by at a steady 35 mph. Many VW bugs (short) would go by in 1 minute (higher frequency), but few buses (long) would go by in 1 minute (lower frequency).

5. Calculating resonance frequencies

- If we know wavelength, we can solve for frequency

$$c = \lambda f$$

$$f = c / \lambda$$

- Find the **frequency** of the ***n*th resonance (f_n)**:
 - Plug the wavelength λ_n into the formula
 - Solve for f_n

5. Calculating resonance frequencies

- For a **node/node** system with tube of length L

$$\lambda_n = 2L/n$$

| relates wavelength to tube length

$$f_n = c/\lambda_n$$

| relates frequency to wavelength

$$f_n = c / (2L/n)$$

| relates frequency to tube length

$$f_n = n \cdot c/2L$$

- **Shortcut!** Once you know the **1st resonance f_1** :

$$f_n = n \cdot f_1$$

→ The resonance frequencies in a **node/node** system are **whole-number multiples** of f_1

5. Calculating resonance frequencies

- For a **node/antinode** system with tube of length L

$$\lambda_n = 4L / (2n-1)$$

| relates wavelength to tube length

$$f_n = c / \lambda_n$$

| relates frequency to wavelength

$$f_n = c / (4L / (2n-1))$$

| relates frequency to tube length

$$f_n = (2n-1) \cdot c / 4L$$

- **Shortcut!** Once you know the **1st resonance f_1** :

$$f_n = (2n-1) \cdot f_1$$

→ The resonance frequencies in a **node/antinode** system are **odd-numbered multiples** of f_1