

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

Background reading and web activities:

- *AAP Ch 2, sec 2.1, second half (starting from p 27)*
- *"...Standing Wave Diagrams 1" (Zona Land)*
- *"Wave Interference 2" (Zona Land)*

0. Today's objectives

After today's class, you should be able to:

- Explain what is shown in a standing-wave diagram, using the terms *envelope*, *node*, *antinode*
- Define the term *resonance* and explain conceptually how it relates to a standing wave
- Identify the boundary conditions...
 - on a string
 - in a tube
- Calculate string or tube resonance wavelengths

0. Mindset

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

You can remember (or rederive) 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

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 - [“Violin string” demo](#), Zona Land (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 “fits” if it forms a **standing wave**: an oscillating pattern, stable in space over time
 - A wave that “fits” an object is called a **resonance**
- What does a standing wave look like?

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

Which is a standing wave?

 - Setting “Sinusoid 6”
 - Setting “Sinusoid 8”

1. Standing waves

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- What does a standing wave look like?

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

Which is a standing wave?

 - Setting “Sinusoid 6”: **creates a standing wave**
 - Setting “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**
(oscillates between **positive & negative** extreme values)
= location in space where a wave and its reflection *maximally reinforce each other*
- Where are the nodes and antinodes on “[Sinusoid 6](#)”?

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)
- Try it: Can you identify the **nodes** and **antinodes** on this 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**
 - This is because **multiple waves “fit” an object**

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

- A wave “fits” if it forms a _____, which is _____
 - A wave that “fits” an object is called a _____

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**, which is an oscillating pattern, stable in space over time
 - A wave that “fits” an object is called a **resonance**

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

(Next class:)

- Then (for air in a tube) we can **calculate the frequency** of each of the resonances

2. Resonances

- The resonances (“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)?

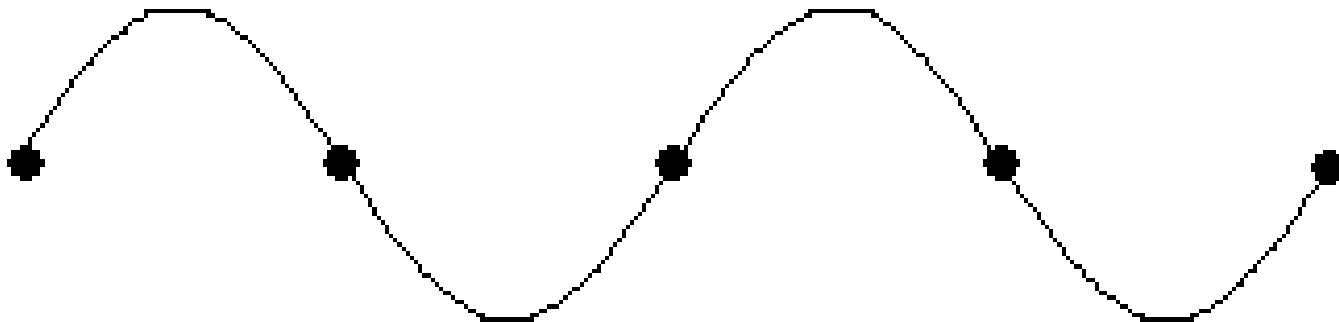
3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

- 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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- A **string**, fixed at both ends: **Node/node system**
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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):



How much of the wave “fits”?

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- 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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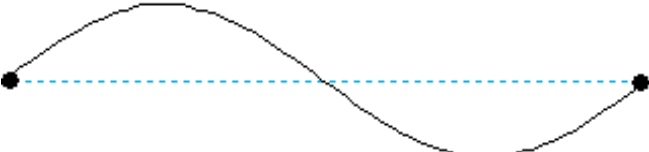


What are the rest?

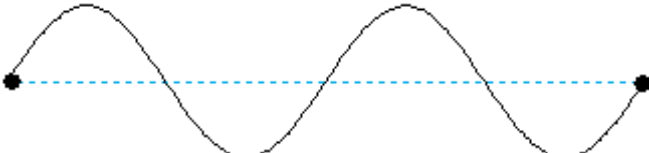
3. Boundary conditions (1): Node/node

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

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

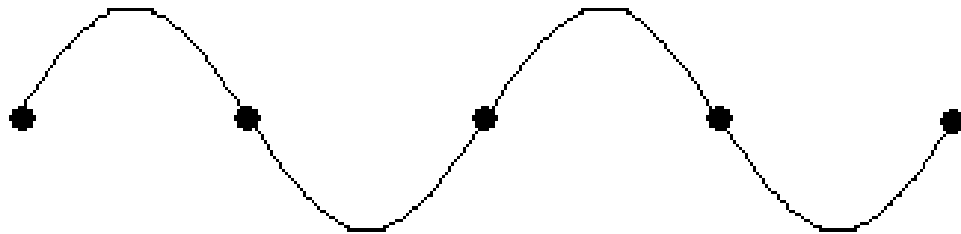
2nd  → 1 cycle of the wave "fits"

3rd  → $1\frac{1}{2}$ cycles of the wave "fit"

4th  → 2 cycles of the wave "fit"

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 can only be zero = node**
 - If **both ends** of the tube are **open**...
“How much wave” can fit in the tube?

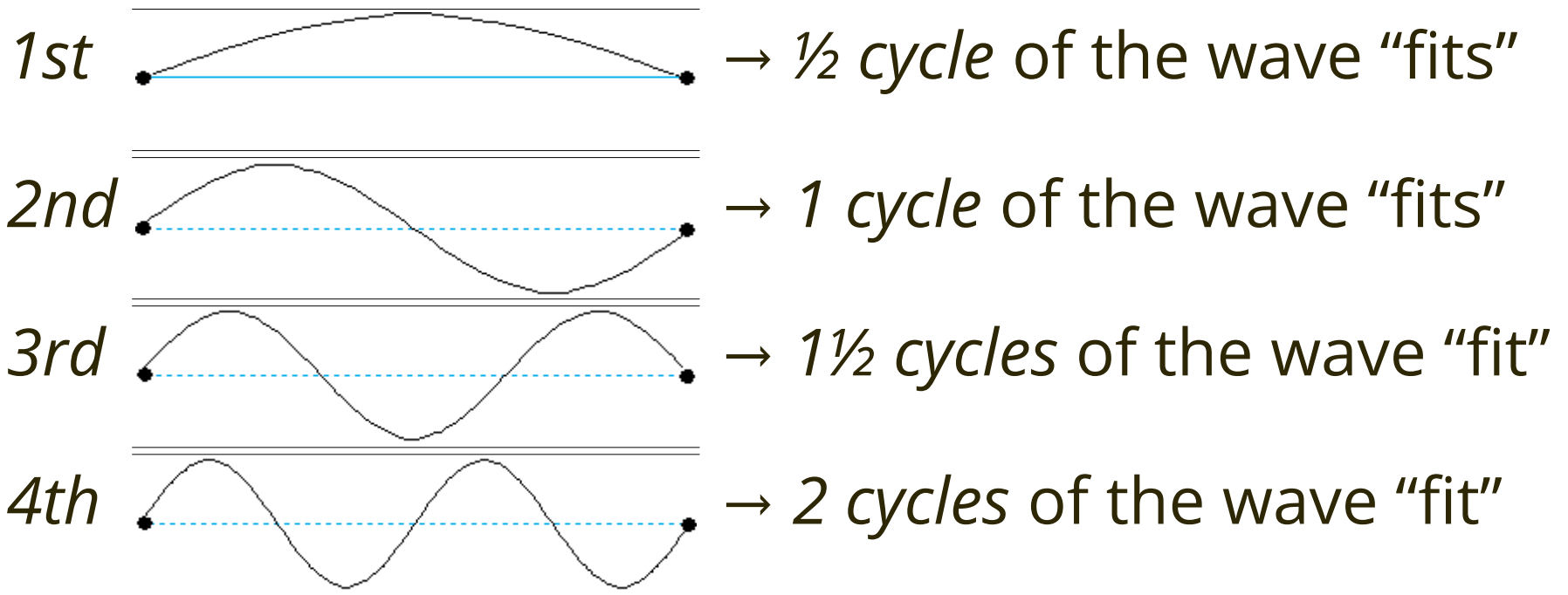


- See web demo [“Standing Sound Waves”](#) for more about pressure waves in a tube and standing-wave diagrams — the **red graph** in that demo shows the **pressure** wave

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**



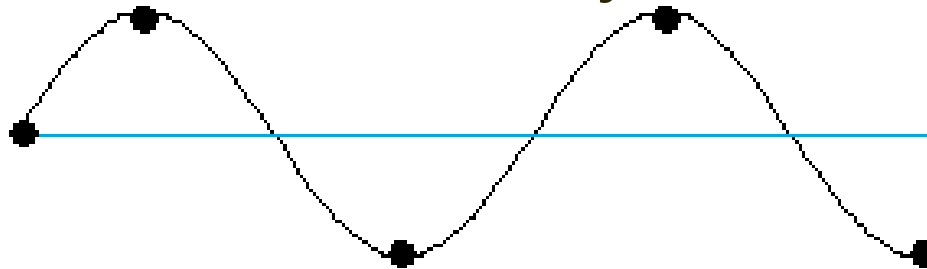
3. Boundary conditions (2): Node/antinode

- 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

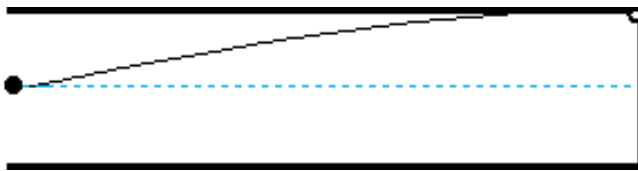
- A **tube**, open at one end and closed at the other:
Node/antinode system
 - **Open** end: A **pressure-wave node**
 - **Closed** end: A **pressure-wave antinode**

"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*):



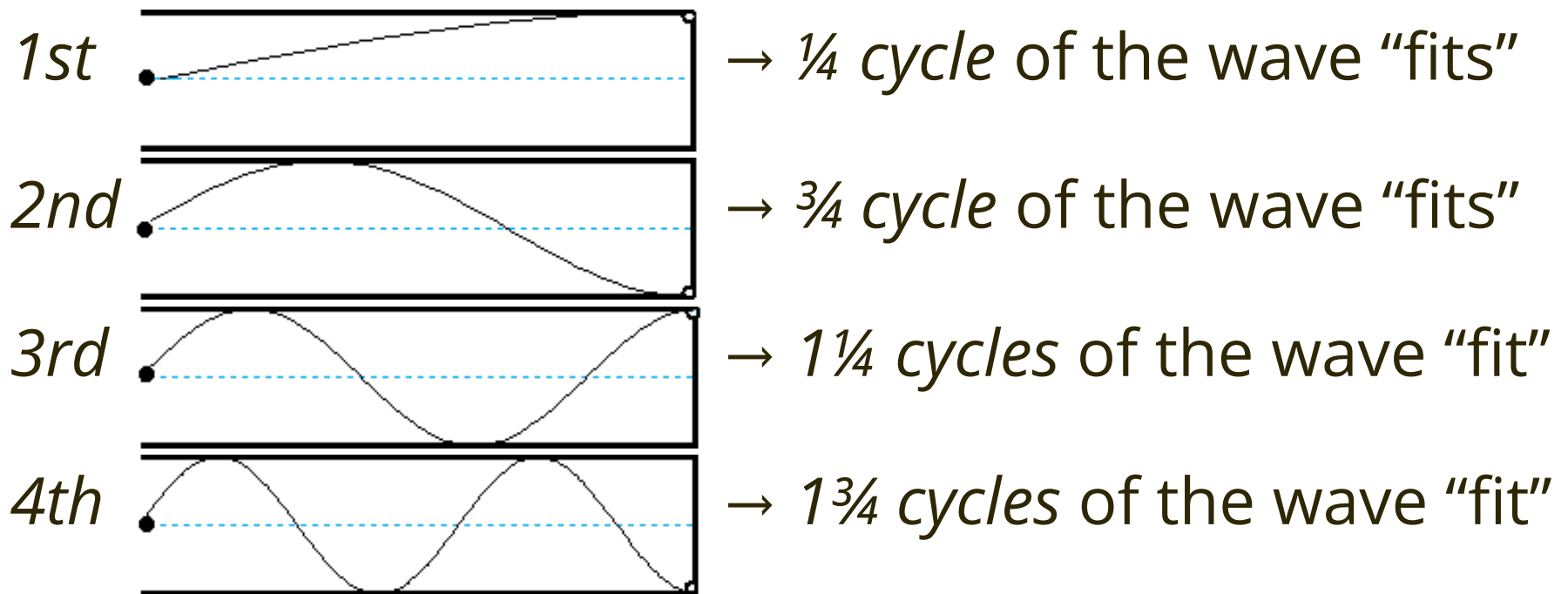
→ $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

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**

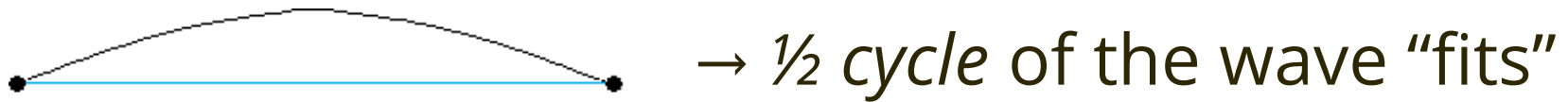


4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

- 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

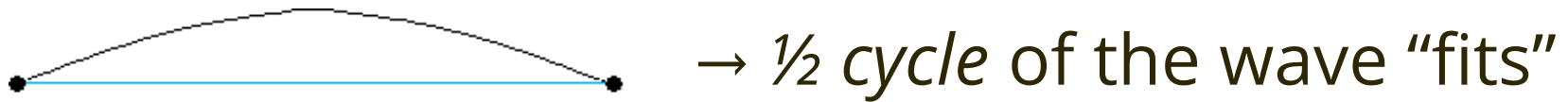
- Consider the **first resonance** of a **node/node** (half-wavelength) system



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

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

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

L fits half of the wave

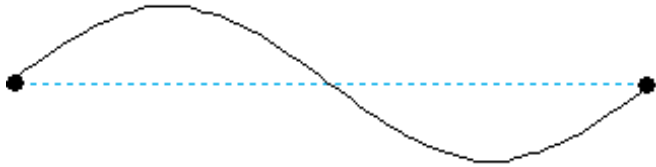
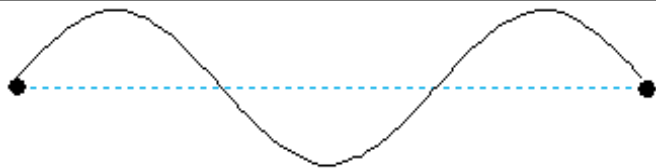
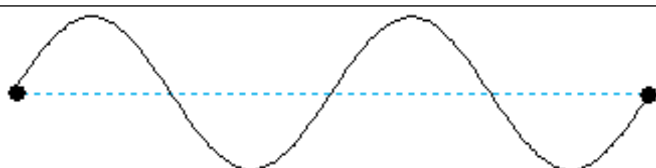
L is half as long as λ_1

$$L = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_1$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2L$$

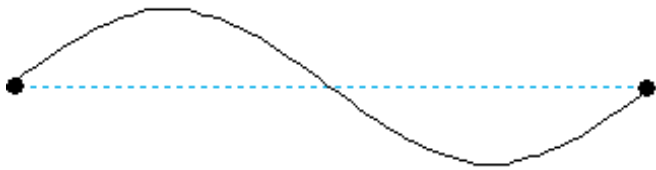
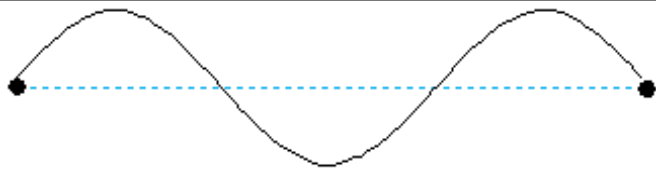
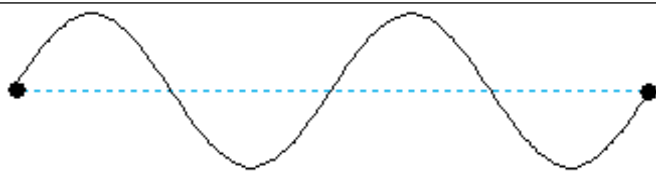
4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

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

	$L = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 2 L$	
	$L = \underline{\quad} \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 =$	
	$L = \underline{\quad} \cdot \lambda_3$	$\lambda_3 =$	
	$L = \underline{\quad} \cdot \lambda_4$	$\lambda_4 =$	

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

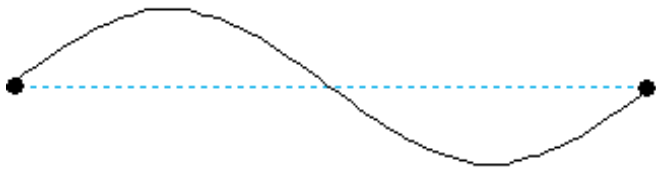
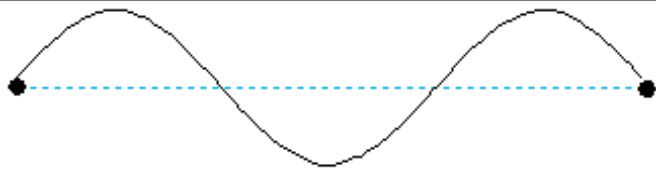
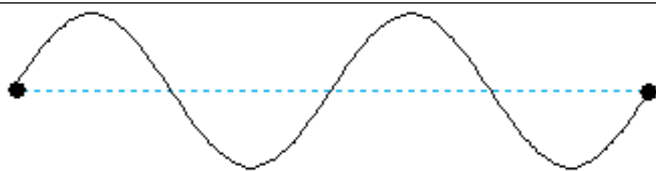
- **Node/node** (half-wavelength) system
Tube or string of length L

	$L = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 2 L$	
	$L = 1 \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 = L$	
	$L = 1\frac{1}{2} \cdot \lambda_3$	$\lambda_3 = \frac{2}{3} L$	
	$L = 2 \cdot \lambda_4$	$\lambda_4 = \frac{1}{2} L$	

- **General formula:** ??

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

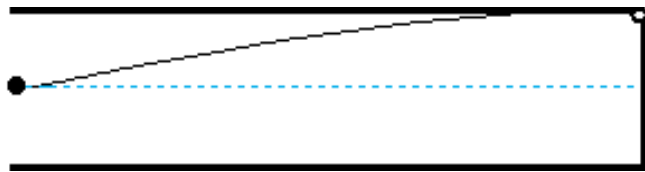
- **Node/node** (half-wavelength) system
Tube or string of length L

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

- **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

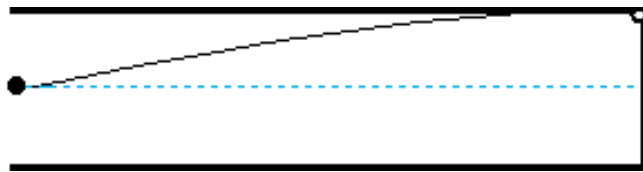


→ $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle of the wave "fits"

- 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

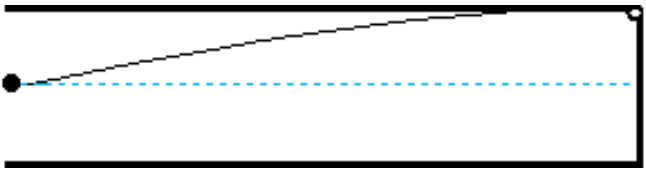
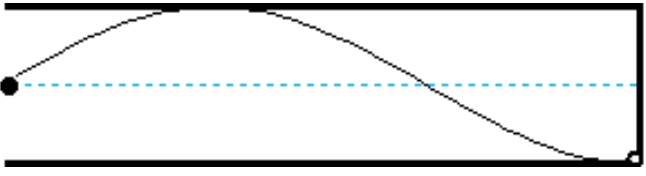
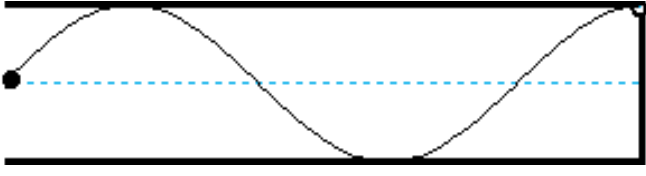
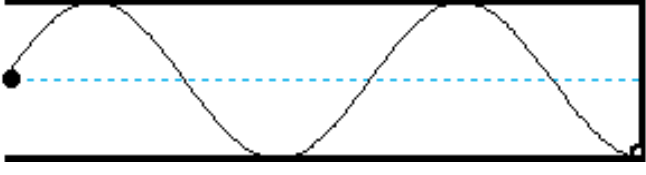
$$L = \frac{1}{4} \lambda_1$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4L$$

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

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

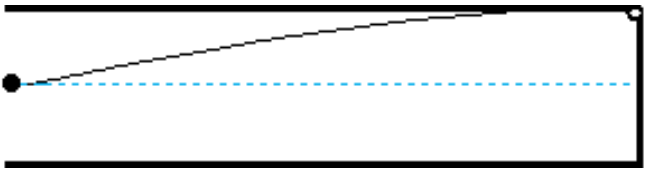
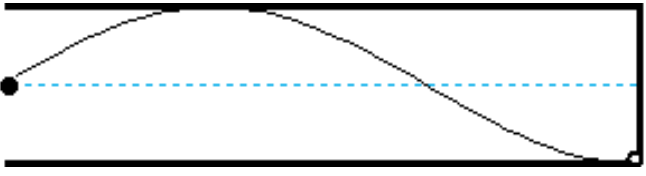
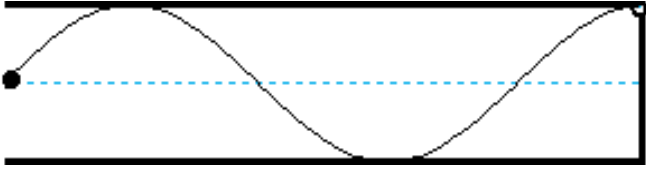
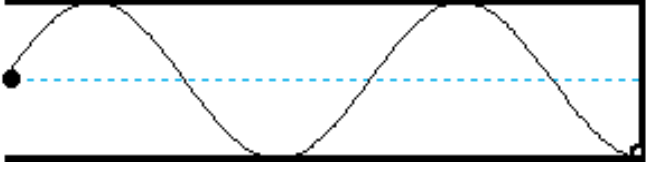
Tube of length L

	$L = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 4 L$	
	$L = _ \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 =$	
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4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

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

Tube of length L

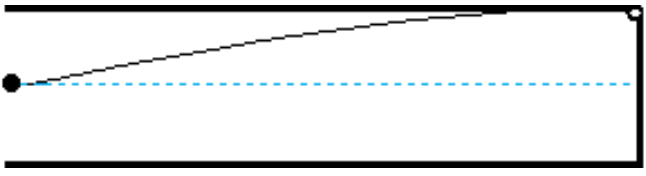
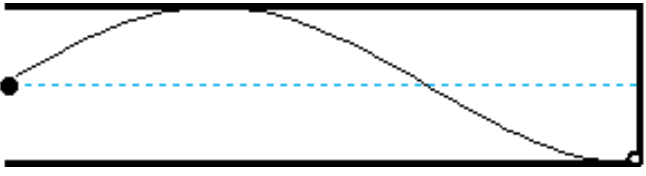
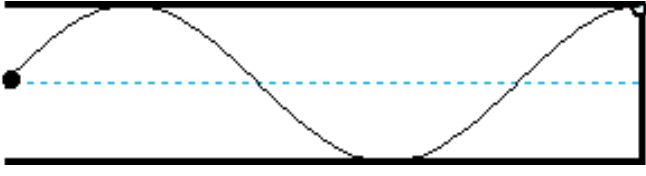
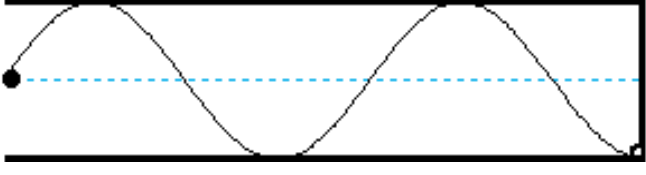
	$L = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \lambda_1$	$\lambda_1 = 4 L$	
	$L = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \lambda_2$	$\lambda_2 = \frac{4}{3} L$	
	$L = 1\frac{1}{4} \cdot \lambda_3$	$\lambda_3 = \frac{4}{5} L$	
	$L = 1\frac{3}{4} \cdot \lambda_4$	$\lambda_4 = \frac{4}{7} L$	

- **General formula:** ??

4. Calculating resonance wavelengths

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

Tube of length L

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

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

5. Next time

- There is one more step: 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**
- Next class, we will start by talking about how to convert from wavelength to frequency
- Then you will have a chance to apply these concepts in Lab #03