

# Interference due to Superposition

Constructive - total displacement of medium is larger than each separate wave.



Destructive - total displacement of medium is smaller than each separate wave.

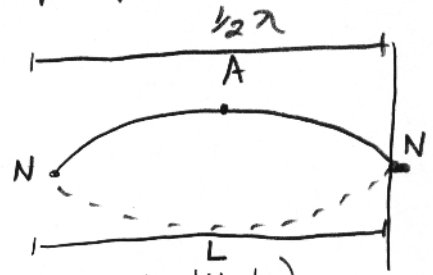


## Standing Waves

- Waves that form in between boundaries.
  - The wave no longer travels
  - remains in fixed position.

• Caused by superposition.

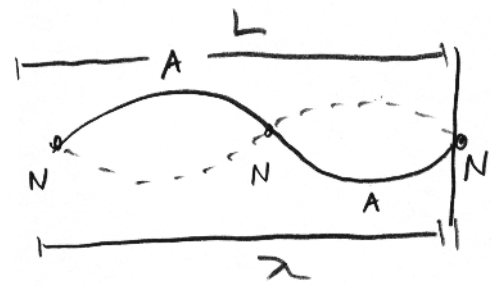
Strings



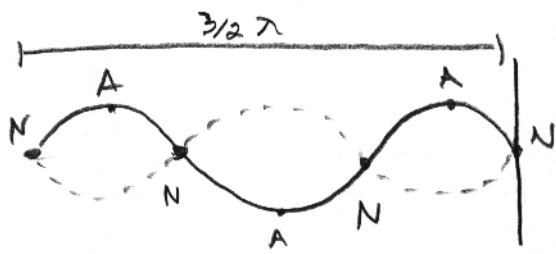
$$L = \frac{1}{2} \lambda$$

N = nodes (destructive, zero Amplitude)

A = antinode (constructive, max amplitude)



$$L = 2 \left( \frac{1}{2} \lambda \right)$$



$$L = 3 \left( \frac{1}{2} \lambda \right)$$

$$L = n \left( \frac{1}{2} \lambda \right)$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n}$$

$n$  = harmonic (resonant) numbers

$n$  for strings is any positive whole # 1, 2, 3, 4, ...

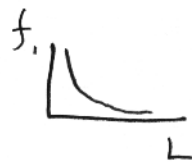
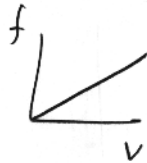
In terms of frequency.  $\lambda = \frac{v}{f}$   $\frac{v}{f} = \frac{2L}{n}$

$$f_n = \frac{nv}{2L}$$

← harmonic frequencies

When  $n=1$  this is called the fundamental frequency.  
"lowest possible"

$$f_1 = \frac{v}{2L}$$



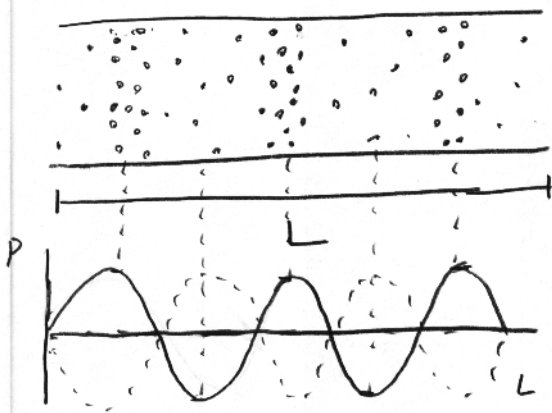
For stringed musical instruments

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

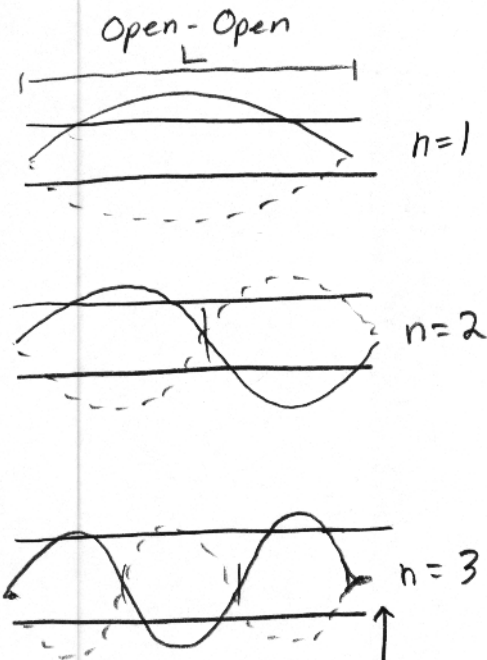
$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{\mu}}$$

# Standing Sound Waves

In a column of air.



← as standing wave forms the air molecules form compressions that are the Antinodes of the standing wave.

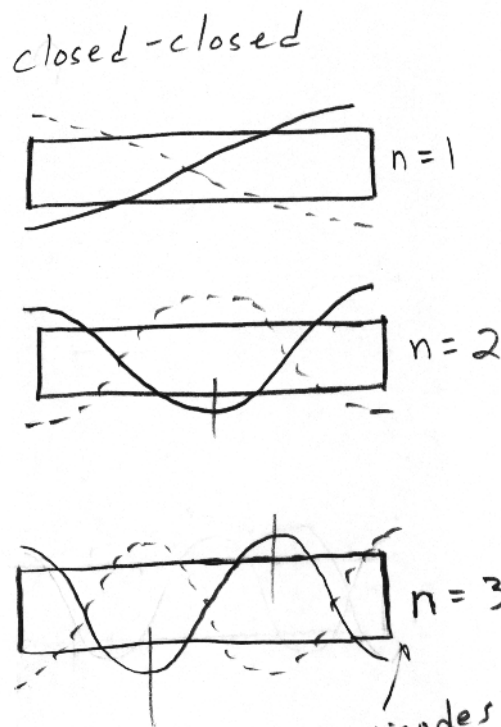


Nodes form at open ends

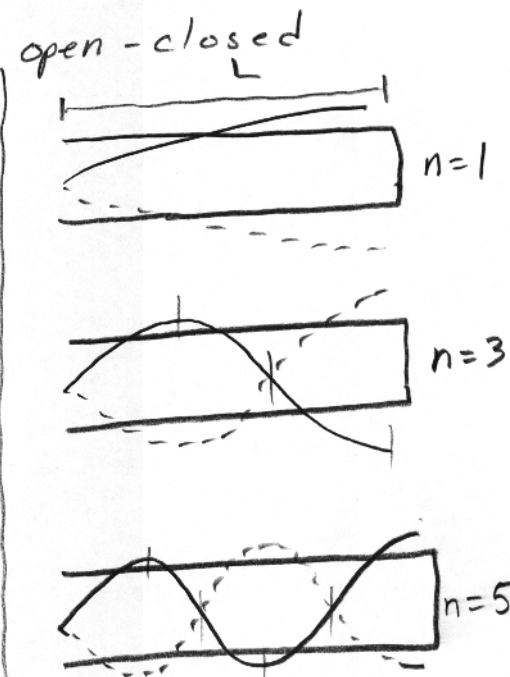
$$L = \left(\frac{1}{2}\lambda\right)n$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{2L}{n} \quad f_n = n\left(\frac{v}{2L}\right)$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$



antinodes form at closed ends



$$L = \left(\frac{1}{4}\lambda\right)n$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{4L}{n} \quad f_n = n\left(\frac{v}{4L}\right)$$

$$n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

