# Lecture I:

### Introduction

### What is Sound?

- The word **Sound** is used to describe two different physical phenomena:
  - Auditory sensation in one's ear(s) (one's brain?) what is this exactly?
  - Disturbance (= local energy over-density) in a physical medium (*e.g.* air, water a gas, liquid, or solid) which *propagates* in that medium, which in turn causes an auditory sensation in one's ears/brain.
  - Humans (and many other animal species) have developed ability to *hear* sounds, because sounds/sound waves *exist* in the natural environment. Two ears are the *minimum* requirement for ability to locate the *source* of a sound evolutionarily an extremely beneficial capability.
- The scientific study of the phenomenon of sound is known as Acoustics.
  - Broad interdisciplinary field physics, engineering, psychology, speech, music, physiology, neuroscience, architecture, etc.
  - Different branches of Acoustics:
    - Physical Acoustics
    - Musical Acoustics
    - Psycho-Acoustics
    - Physiological Acoustics
    - Architectural Acoustics
    - etc....
- Sound propagates in a physical medium (gas/liquid/solid) as a wave.
  - An acoustical disturbance (localized excess energy) propagates as a *collective* excitation (*i.e.* vibration) of a group of atoms and/or molecules that make up the physical medium.
    - Visualize a pulse traveling down a stretched rope, string or wire:



- This kind of wave is known as a **transverse** wave because the *displacement*, y(x) of the medium from its equilibrium position due to the disturbance is *transverse* (*i.e.* perpendicular) to the direction of propagation of the disturbance.
- Now visualize an acoustical pulse propagating in a gas, liquid or solid (*e.g.* air, water, or a metal steel or aluminum).

- This kind of wave is known as a **longitudinal** wave because atoms in these media are displaced *longitudinally* (*i.e.* parallel) to the direction of propagation of the disturbance, as the disturbance passes through a given region of the medium.
- Thus, sound waves that we can hear with our own ears are the result of physical vibrations of matter collective, vibrations of atoms/molecules.
- <u>Food for Thought:</u> Is it possible to "hear" the sound associated with *one* atom or one molecule vibrating? Answer: yes *e.g.* via use of various of today's nanoscale technologies! But atomic/molecular vibrations "heard" not as sound waves the frequencies associated with quantum-mechanical vibrations are usually *very* high (*e.g.* GHz {10<sup>9</sup> Hz} molecular or THz {10<sup>12</sup> Hz} atomic), compared to *e.g.* 20 KHz. The high frequencies would need to be scaled down (by a huge amount) in order for us to Hear/perceive them in the audio frequency range (20 Hz 20 KHz).
- Sound waves propagating in a physical medium propagate with a characteristic speed in that medium known as the **speed of sound**.
  - Speed of sound in (dry) air (at sea level) is v<sub>air</sub> ~ 345 meters/second (m/s)
  - A more accurate relation is:  $v_{air} \sim 331.4 + 0.6*T$  m/s where *T* is the temperature of the air (in Celsius degrees).
  - <u>Practical problem</u>: If lightning strikes the ground 1 mile away from you (= 5280 ft = 1609.3 *m*), how long after you see the lighting will you hear the thunder? Distance (m) = speed (m/s) \* time (s), *i.e.* d = vt, so therefore t = d/v. The answer is  $t \sim 4.7 s$ .
- Sound waves propagating in a physical medium also carry **energy**, *E* (Joules, *J*) in the wave and also carry **momentum**, *p* (*kg-m/s*) in the wave.
- Sound waves propagating in a physical medium exert a **force**, *F* (Newtons, *N*) on the atoms/molecules in the medium in the vicinity of the wave disturbance.
  - In a gas, such as air, these forces create local hi/lo variations in the density  $\rho$  and pressure *P* (via ideal gas law: PV = NRT).
  - True also for fluids not truly incompressible....
  - Solids are in fact <u>elastic</u> atoms bound together (via *EM* force!) making up the solid in some kind of 3-D lattice arrangement of atoms in the solid deforms/stretches as the acoustic disturbance passes through the solid material.

### What is Human Music?

- What *is* human music??? Answer(s) to this question are profound....
  - An aesthetically pleasing *sequence* of tones? *Why* are they aesthetically pleasing?
    - Anthropocentric humans (*n.b* we are <u>social</u> creatures!) are primarily most interested in the sounds that we humans make. Because of the way our 1-D vocal chords vibrate (obeys the 1-D wave equation), the human voice is <u>rich</u> in harmonic overtones, related by <u>integer</u> multiples of the frequency of the fundamental (lowest frequency):  $f_n = nf_1, n = \text{integer} = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5...$   $\leftarrow$  Has <u>profound</u> implications for human music...
    - **<u>Question</u>**: What was the <u>first</u> human musical instrument? <u>Answer</u>: The human voice!
    - It is <u>not</u> an accident/random coincidence that the musical instruments we humans have developed over the millennia artistically mimic/emulate the human voice (some to greater extent than others) thus our musical instruments <u>also</u> have overtone structures of f<sub>n</sub> = nf<sub>1</sub> as opposed to e.g. completely arbitrary or no relation.
       (n.b. percussion instruments & the beat/tempo/rhythms of music emulate the <u>internal</u> <u>rhythms</u> of humans e.g. our heart beat, & also play on our internal sense of the <u>rate</u> of passage of time...)
    - The musical scale(s), chords and chord progressions that we humans have developed for our music reflect our anthropocentric interest/enjoyment in hearing complex sounds that have human, voice-like  $f_n = nf_1$  harmonic structure.
  - *Why* is music pleasurable to humans?
    - Can trace music in human society back to stone age/paeleolithic era/prehistoric times (*i.e.* ~ 30,000-40,000 years ago). Does it go back even earlier???
       Homo sapiens as distinct primate species is ~ 200,000 years old.
    - Music *is* an intimate part of human culture, apparently from way back...
    - Music *is* of fundamental importance to humans *Why*?
      - Important in/for human evolution? To what degree? *Why*? *How*?
      - Have you ever met anyone who *hates* music? {Yes problems with their brain...}
  - Music has been shown to *stimulate* the human brain, in many ways...
    - Auditory signal processing center(s) in our brain also connected to emotional centers.
    - Participation/listening to music produces "feel-good" brain chemicals dopamine, serotonin, oxyocin, reduces stress hormones (*e.g.* cortisol), boosts immune system!
    - Choirs singing together *synchronizes* heartbeats (via vagus nerve excitation)!
    - Music *facilitates* brain development of young children and in *learning*. *Why*? *How*?
    - Memory of music is different from that of normal "everyday" memory very strong!!
      - Can recall/"play" entire songs/albums back in one's head. *How/why*?
      - If musical memory is so strong, ⇒ music <u>must</u> be important to us! Why/how? Written human language only ~ 6000-7000 years old (coincides with development of agrarian societies – recording "financial" transactions) worldly wisdom before that (hunter-gatherer societies) only passed down orally – spoken word – but perhaps also in songs?

- Music is important for other living creatures birds, whales, frogs, etc. <u>*Why*</u>? **How**?
  - Other living creatures don't <u>need/use</u> a formal musical scale, like we humans do!
  - Singing animals certainly don't know anything about formal musical scales.
  - Yet, the songs of many animals <u>are</u> quite musical-sounding! Why???
  - Use of a formal musical scale enables humans to more easily learn/play each others music; also to impose structure/form & rules for music genres.
- Human Development of Musical Instruments
  - Emulate/mimic the human voice (some instruments more so than others, and *n.b.* not all musical instruments!!!), with  $f_n = nf_1$  harmonic structure.
  - Sounds from musical instruments can evoke powerful emotional response(s) in humans happiness, joy, sadness, *etc.* because auditory signals are wired into various emotional centers of our brains!  $\Leftarrow$  *Why* is this? *How* did this happen?
    - Music is innate runs very deep in human psyche. *Why*? *How*?

#### **Basic/Foundations of Physics:** There exist three (3) fundamental physical quantities:

We use the Systeme International (SI)/metric system of units: kilograms - meters - seconds:

**Length:** — meter (m): 1m = 39.37 inches = 3.28 ft 1 ft = 0.3048 m

1 cm = 1/100 m (centi-meter) 1 mm = 1/1000 m (milli-meter) 1 μm = 1/1,000,000 m (micro-meter)

 $\underline{\text{Mass:}} - kilogram (kg)$   $1 \ kg = 1000 \ grams$   $1 \ gm = 1/1000 \ kg$ 

<u>Time</u>: — second (s) (or sec) 1 day = 24 hours = 24 \* 60 minutes = 1440 minutes= 24 \* 60 \* 60 seconds = 86,400 seconds

#### Additional physical quantities we will need in this course:

**<u>Position</u>**: = instantaneous location of a point in space. 3-D vector quantity (*SI* units: *m*):

$$\vec{r}(t) = x(t)\hat{x} + y(t)\hat{y} + z(t)\hat{z}$$

(Cartesian Coordinates)

<u>Velocity</u>: = instantaneous time <u>rate</u> of <u>change</u> of position  $\vec{r}(t)$ , <u>and</u> specifies the instantaneous <u>direction</u> in which the time rate of change of position is occurring. 3-D vector quantity:

$$\vec{v}\left(\vec{r},t\right) = v_x\left(\vec{r},t\right)\hat{x} + v_y\left(\vec{r},t\right)\hat{y} + v_z\left(\vec{r},t\right)\hat{z} = \partial\vec{r}\left(t\right)/\partial t \qquad \text{(SI units: } m/s)$$

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**Speed:** = instantaneous time rate of change of position = <u>magnitude</u> of velocity:

$$v(\vec{r},t) = \left| \vec{v}(\vec{r},t) \right| = \sqrt{v_x^2(\vec{r},t) + v_y^2(\vec{r},t) + v_z^2(\vec{r},t)} \quad \text{(Cartesian Coordinates)}$$

Thus, <u>Velocity</u> = instantaneous speed in a given <u>direction</u>, *e.g.* in east direction, or up, or down, *etc*.

From calculus, we know that the instantaneous velocity  $\vec{v}(\vec{r},t)$  is the partial derivative of the instantaneous position with respect to time (= instantaneous <u>slope</u> of  $\vec{r}(t)$  vs. t graph):

Velocity: 
$$\vec{v}(\vec{r},t) = \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial x(t)}{\partial t} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial y(t)}{\partial t} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial z(t)}{\partial t} \hat{z} = v_x(\vec{r},t) \hat{x} + v_y(\vec{r},t) \hat{y} + v_z(\vec{r},t) \hat{z}$$

**Acceleration:** = instantaneous time rate of change of velocity, and a direction (up, down, east, west, *etc.*) specifying the direction in which the time rate of change of velocity is occurring. 3-D vector quantity (*SI* units = meters per second squared, *i.e.*  $m/s^2$ )

#### Speed increasing with time —accelerating Speed <u>decreasing</u> with time —<u>decelerating</u>

#### Acceleration:

 $\vec{a}(\vec{r},t) = a_x(\vec{r},t)\hat{x} + a_y(\vec{r},t)\hat{y} + a_z(\vec{r},t)\hat{z} = \partial \vec{v}(\vec{r},t)/\partial t \quad \text{(Cartesian Coordinates)}$ 

Magnitude (size) of instantaneous acceleration:  $a(\vec{r},t) = |\vec{a}(\vec{r},t)| = \sqrt{a_x^2(\vec{r},t) + a_y^2(\vec{r},t) + a_z^2(\vec{r},t)}$ 

From calculus, we also know that the instantaneous acceleration is the partial derivative of the instantaneous velocity with respect to time (= instantaneous <u>slope</u> of  $\vec{v}(\vec{r},t)$  vs. *t* graph):

Acceleration: 
$$\vec{a}(\vec{r},t) = \frac{\partial \vec{v}(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial v_x(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial v_y(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial v_z(\vec{r},t)}{\partial t} \hat{z} = a_x(\vec{r},t) \hat{x} + a_y(\vec{r},t) \hat{y} + a_z(\vec{r},t) \hat{z}$$

Motion in 3-D is independent in *x*-*y*-*z* directions for a <u>free particle</u> (unless geometrically <u>constrained</u> somehow - e.g. bead on a helix or circular ring):

3-D Equations of motion of a free particle with constant acceleration:  $\vec{a}(\vec{r},t) = \vec{a}_{o}$ 

$\vec{v}\left(\vec{r},t\right) = \vec{v}_o + \vec{a}_o t$	$(v_o = 3$ -D vector velocity at time $t = 0)$
$\vec{r}\left(t\right) = \vec{r}_{o} + \vec{v}_{o}t + \frac{1}{2}\vec{a}_{o}t^{2}$	$(r_o = 3$ -D vector position at time $t = 0)$

Short-hand way to write out the separate *x*-*y*-*z* equations of motion (decouple for a free particle):

$v_x(\vec{r},t) = v_o$	$a_{x} + a_{ox}t$	$x(t) = x_o + v_{ox}t + \frac{1}{2}a_{ox}t^2$
$v_{y}\left(\vec{r},t\right) = v_{o}$	$_{y} + a_{oy}t$	$y(t) = y_o + v_{oy}t + \frac{1}{2}a_{oy}t^2$
$v_z(\vec{r},t) = v_a$	$a_z + a_{oz}t$	$z(t) = z_o + v_{oz}t + \frac{1}{2}a_{oz}t^2$

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**<u>Force</u>**: — (*SI* units = Newtons =  $kg \cdot m/s^2$ )

Newton's  $2^{nd}$  Law of motion: Instantaneous Force = (mass, *m*) \* (instantaneous acceleration, *a*)

$$\vec{F}(\vec{r},t) = m\vec{a}(\vec{r},t)$$

$$kg \quad m/sec^{2}$$

Force is a 3-D vector quantity.

l Newton of force = 
$$1 kg - m/(sec)^2$$

Weight,  $W = (mass, m) \times (gravitational acceleration, g)$ . *n.b.* Weight, *W* is a <u>force</u>!

Earth's gravitational acceleration: 
$$g = 9.81 \text{ m/sec}^2$$
 (at sea level)  $g = \frac{G_N * M_{earth}}{(R_{earth})^2}$   
 $W = mg$ 

**<u>Pressure</u>**: — Pressure = force F per unit area, A. n.b. Pressure, p is a <u>scalar</u> (not vector) quantity!

 $p = F/A \qquad (Newtons/(meter)^2)$ 

*SI* / metric units of pressure = Pascal, *Pa* 1 *Pa* =  $1N/m^2$ . 1 Atmosphere (14.7 *psi*) = 101,325 Pascals =  $1.01325 \times 10^5$  Pascals.

**Work & Energy:** — Work  $W = \int_C \vec{F}(\vec{r}) \cdot d\vec{\ell}(\vec{r})$ . If force is <u>constant</u>: Work W = Force,  $F \times$  Distance, d

For <u>constant</u> force: W = Fd = energy required to *e.g.* move an object of weight W = mg upwards a distance *d* on earth's surface ( = uniform gravitational field).

SI / metric units of work & energy = <u>Joules</u>

Energy is (always) conserved

Energy required to move an object can be electrical, gravitational, wind, chemical, etc.

**<u>Power</u>**: = instantaneous time rate of change of energy (*SI* units = *Watts*)

Power 
$$P(t) = \frac{\partial E(t)}{\partial t}$$
 Watts = Joules per second = Joules/sec  
1 kilo-Watt = 1000 Watts = 10<sup>3</sup> Watts  
1 mega-Watt = 1 million Watts = 10<sup>6</sup> Watts  
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