# WAVES

### Repeating pattern through which energy moves





# 2 Overall Types

 1. Mechanical---Must travel through a medium (water waves, sound waves, earthquake or seismic waves)



In 2. Electromagnetic – Can travel through empty space (all waves 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>-2</sup> 10-10 10<sup>-12</sup> 10-4 10-8 Ultra-Radio Micro-Gamma Infrared X-Rays on electromagnetic waves wave violet Ravs Visible Light spectrum)

# **2 Types of Mechanical Waves**

In 1. longitudinal (compression) – type of wave in which matter moves in the same direction as the energy moves (sound, tsunami)



The subsequent direction of motion of individual particles of a medium is the same as the direction of vibration of the source of the disturbance.

2. transverse – matter moves at right angles to the direction the energy moves (rubber band, string)



### Parts of a Wave

### <u>Crest</u> – top <u>Trough</u> – bottom <u>Amplitude</u> – one half wave height <u>Wave length</u> – distance from crest to crest or trough to trough





# **Characteristic of Waves**

Frequency – speed at which a wave travels or **High Frequency Wave** # of crests or Pressure troughs that +Period+ pass within a given amount Low Frequency Wave of time Pressure

Period

Time

Time

#### □ <u>Pitch</u> is frequency in a sound wave



### Hertz

Hertz is the unit for wave frequency
1 Hz = one cycle per second



#### Sound Waves

The greater the amplitude, the louder the sound

The greater the frequency, the higher the pitch



# **Predicting Wave Behavior**

#### Reflection – bouncing off objects



#### Refraction – traveling at different speeds through different media



#### Diffraction – bending around barriers



# Interaction of Waves with Each Other

#### Interference

1. <u>constructive interference</u> – 2 crests or 2 troughs collide (add amplitudes)

Example: Sound Amplifiers



 2. <u>destructive interference</u> – crest of 1 wave collides with trough of another wave (subtract amplitude of 1 wave from the other)

Example: Headphones for pilots



### Electromagnetic (EM) Spectrum

- Increase in frequency from left to right; the higher the frequency, the more harmful to living things
- I. Radio waves
- 2. Microwaves (radar, cell phones)
- 3. Infrared light
- 4. Visible light
- 5. Ultraviolet light
- 6. X-rays
- 7. Gamma rays





# Visible Light

#### Roy G Biv Red (longest wavelength) Orange ROY G. BV Yellow Green Blue Red Yellow Violet Orange Green Blue Indigo

Violet (shortest wavelength)

# Energy in Waves

 Mechanical – energy is proportional to <u>amplitude</u>



The amplitude of a wave is related to the energy which it transports.

#### <u>Electromagnetic</u> – energy is proportional to <u>frequency</u>

