

Physics 1240: Sound and Music

Today (7/25/19): Vibrating Air Columns, Organs

Next time: Woodwinds, Brass Instruments



Student performance:
flute

Review

Types of Instruments (Hornbostel–Sachs classification)

- Chordophones: vibrating strings
- Aerophones: vibrating columns of air
- Idiophones: vibrating the whole instrument
- Membranophones: vibrating membrane/skin
- Electrophones: vibrating loudspeaker



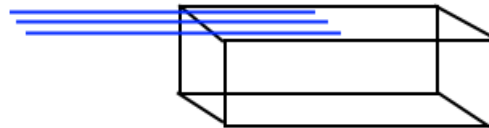
Review

Chordophones

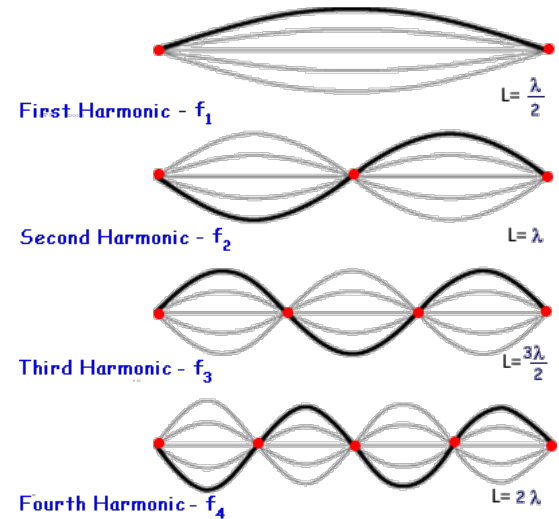
- Zithers



- Lutes

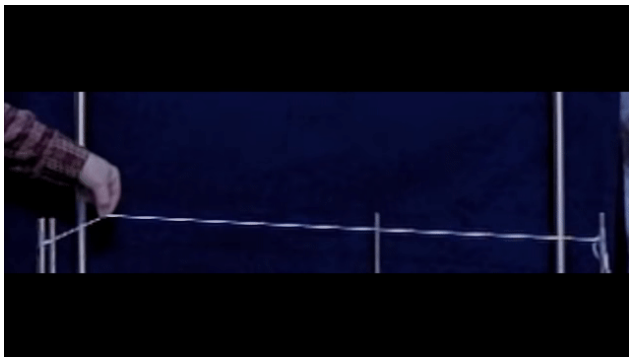


- Harps



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

- How to create waves: initial displacement, velocity, or both





BA

Clicker Question 12.1

If you pluck a string at its halfway point, which of the first five harmonics will be present?

- A) 1, 3, 4, 5
- B) 1, 3, 5
- C) 1
- D) 2, 4
- E) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

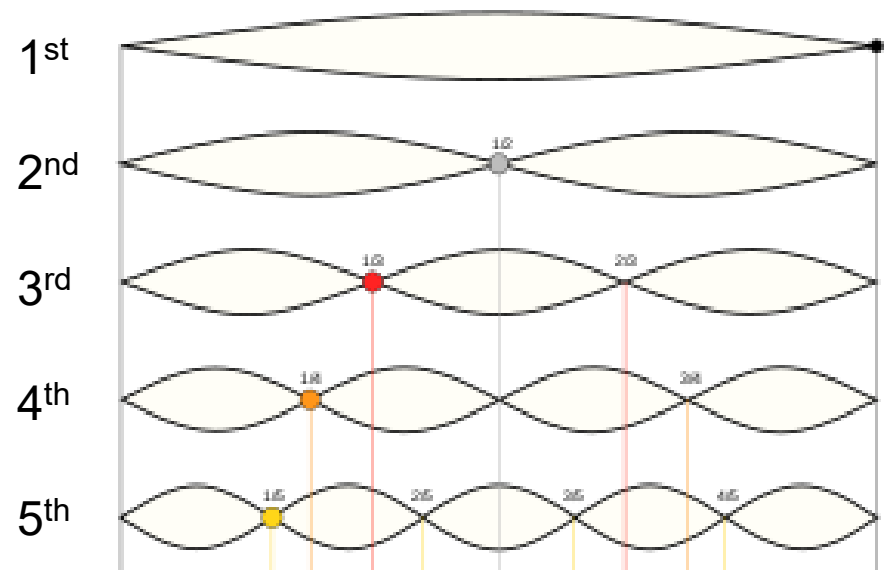


BA

Clicker Question 12.1

If you pluck a string at its halfway point, which of the first five harmonics will be present?

- A) 1, 3, 4, 5
- B) 1, 3, 5
- C) 1
- D) 2, 4
- E) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5





BA

Clicker Question 12.2

If the string on a grand piano for the note that plays middle C is 4 feet long, how long would the string for the lowest C (three octaves down) need to be if no changes are made to the string's tension or gauge?

- A) 0.5 ft
- B) 4 ft
- C) 8 ft
- D) 16 ft
- E) 32 ft





BA

Clicker Question 12.2

If the string on a grand piano for the note that plays middle C is 4 feet long, how long would the string for the lowest C (three octaves down) need to be if no changes are made to the string's tension or gauge?

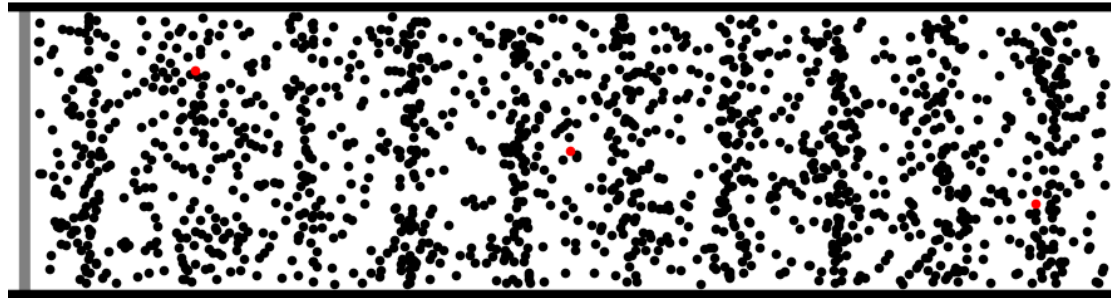
- A) 0.5 ft
- B) 4 ft
- C) 8 ft
- D) 16 ft
- E) 32 ft



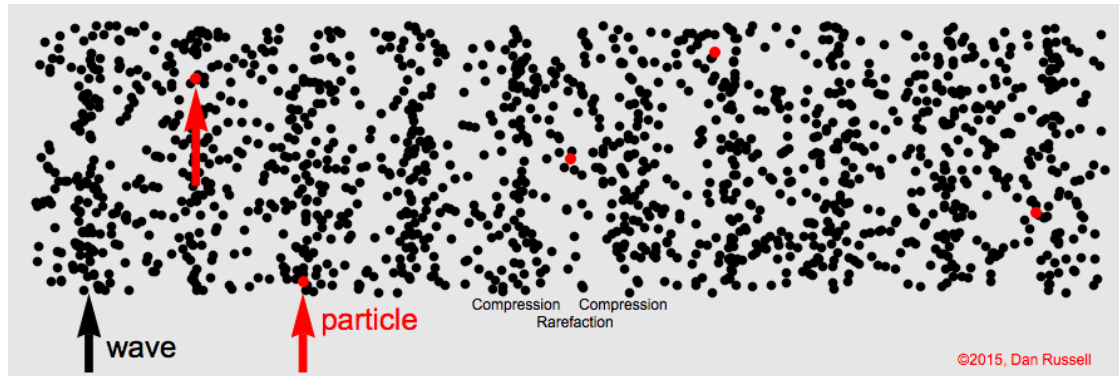
$$f_n = \frac{n}{2L} \sqrt{\frac{T}{m/L}}$$

If f goes down three octaves (*decreases* by a factor of $2^3=8$), L must *increase* by a factor of 8

Aerophones: vibrating columns of air



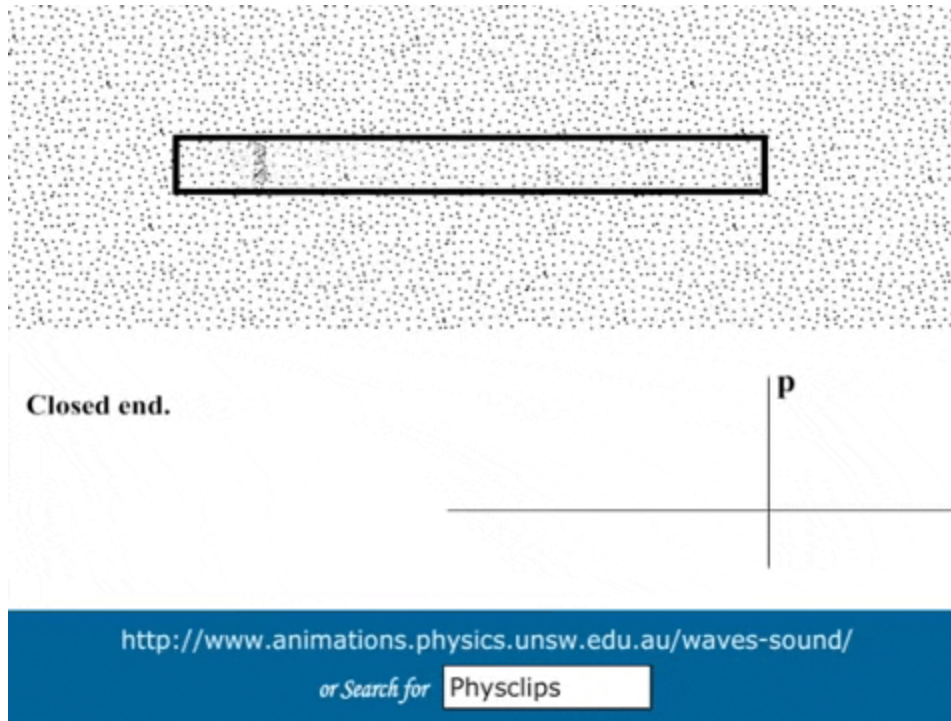
©2011, Dan Russell



What happens when air gets to the edge of a pipe?
(for a string, it reflects and becomes upside-down)

Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Closed end: wave pulse reflects in a normal way



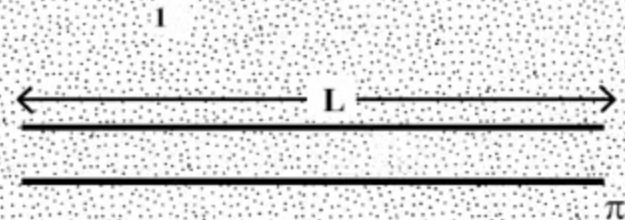
Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Open end: wave pulse reflects and inverts

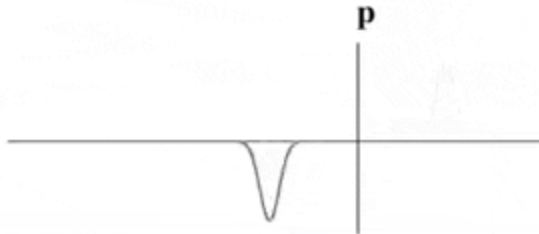
$$\lambda = 4L$$



$$\lambda = 2L$$



Open end.
air free to move,
pressure near atmospheric:



<http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/waves-sound/>

or Search for

<http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/waves-sound/>

or Search for

Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Standing waves:

What do we plot so we don't have to draw longitudinal waves with air molecules?

1st harmonic



2nd harmonic

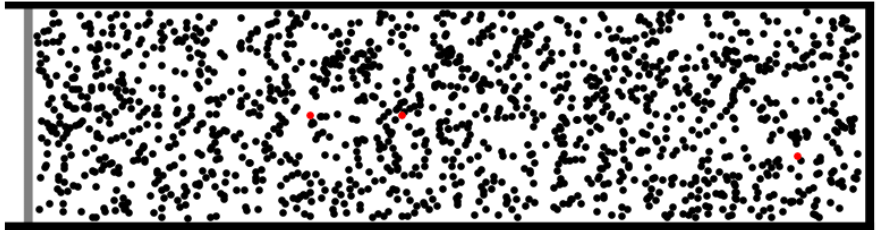


3rd harmonic

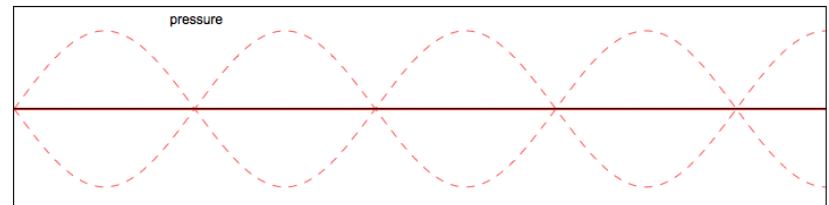
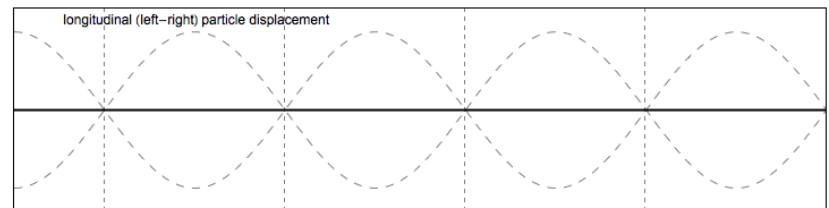


Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Standing waves:
- Two choices:
 1. Velocity/Displacement
 2. Pressure
- Closed end:
 - velocity node,
 - pressure antinode
- Open end:
 - velocity antinode,
 - pressure node



©2012, Dan Russell





BA

Clicker Question 12.3

For a pipe open at both ends, what quantity has a node at the open ends?

- A) Pressure
- B) Velocity
- C) None of the above

1st harmonic



2nd harmonic



3rd harmonic





BA

Clicker Question 12.3

For a pipe open at both ends, what quantity has a node at the open ends?

- A) Pressure
- B) Velocity
- C) None of the above

1st harmonic



2nd harmonic



3rd harmonic

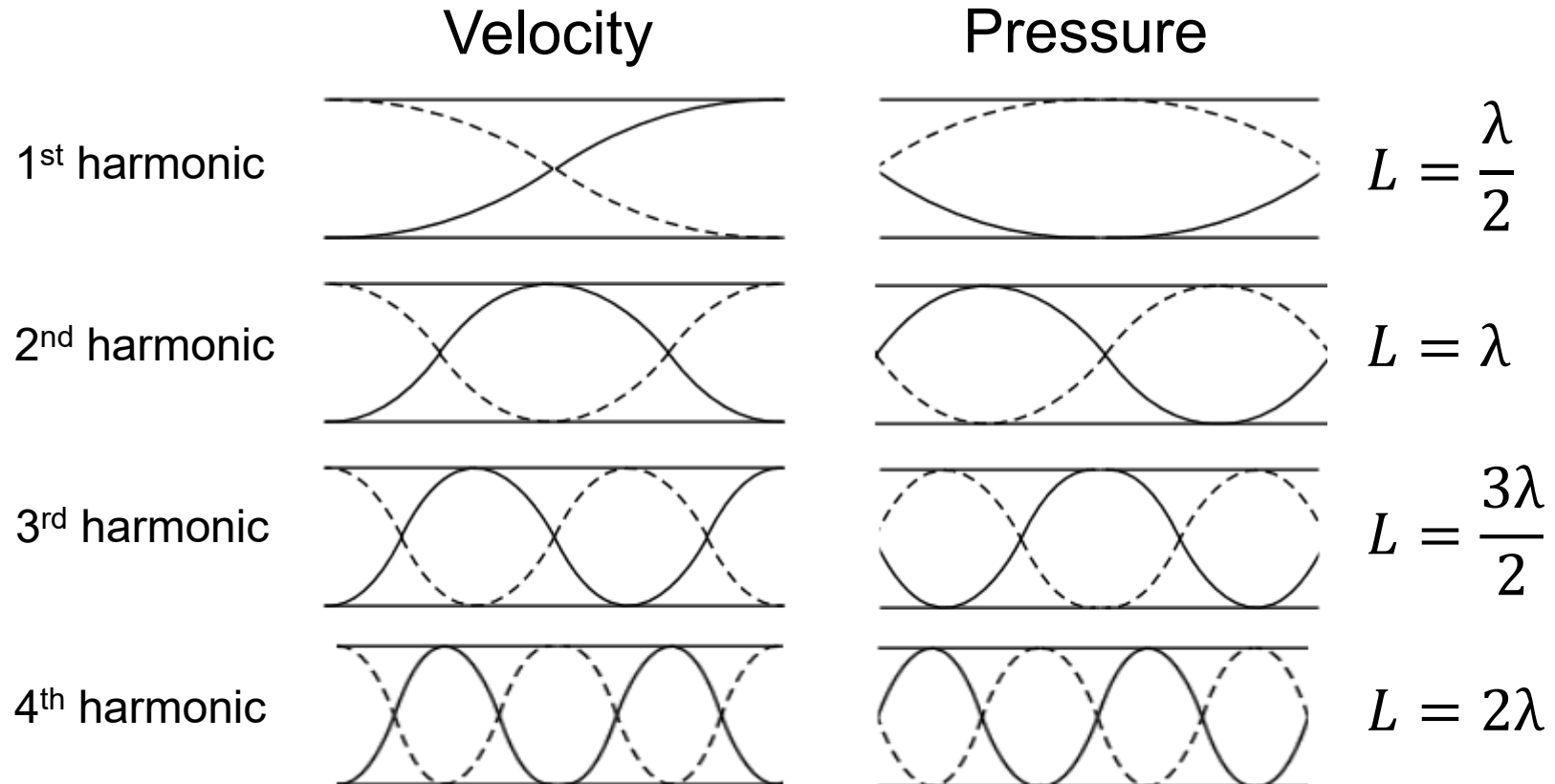


Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Open pipe:

$$f_n = n \frac{v}{2L}$$

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



Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- Closed pipe:

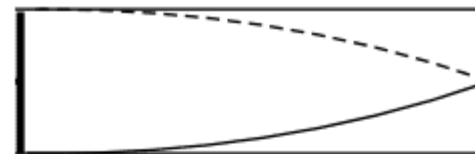
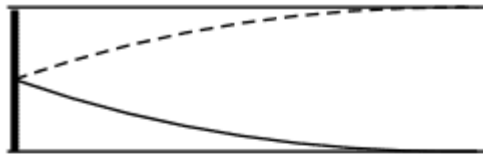
$$f_n = n \frac{v}{4L}$$

$$L = \frac{n\lambda}{4}$$

Velocity

Pressure

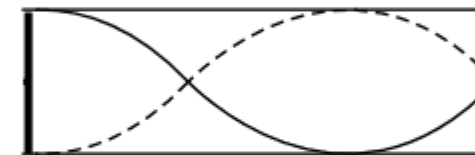
1st harmonic



$$L = \frac{\lambda}{4}$$

(no 2nd harmonic)

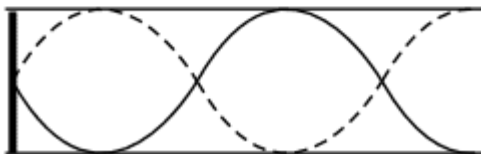
3rd harmonic



$$L = \frac{3\lambda}{4}$$

(no 4th harmonic)

5th harmonic



$$L = \frac{5\lambda}{4}$$



Clicker Question 12.4

What is the fundamental frequency of a pipe that is open at both ends and is 1.715 meters long?

- A) 200 Hz
- B) 0.8575 m
- C) 100 Hz
- D) 3.43 m
- E) 50 Hz



Clicker Question 12.4

What is the fundamental frequency of a pipe that is open at both ends and is 1.715 meters long?

- A) 200 Hz
- B) 0.8575 m
- C) 100 Hz
- D) 3.43 m
- E) 50 Hz

$$f_1 = \frac{v}{2L} = \frac{343 \text{ m/s}}{2(1.715 \text{ m})} = 100 \text{ Hz}$$



BA

Clicker Question 12.5

Assume a flute behaves as a pipe open at both ends. What is the frequency of the third natural mode of a flute with a length of 0.8575 meters?

- A) 100 Hz
- B) 200 Hz
- C) 300 Hz
- D) 600 Hz
- E) None of the above



Clicker Question 12.5

Assume a flute behaves as a pipe open at both ends. What is the frequency of the third natural mode of a flute with a length of 0.8575 meters?

- A) 100 Hz
- B) 200 Hz
- C) 300 Hz
- D) 600 Hz
- E) None of the above

$$f_3 = \frac{3v}{2L} = \frac{3(343 \text{ m/s})}{2(0.8575 \text{ m})} = 600 \text{ Hz}$$



Clicker Question 12.6

A clarinet can be closely approximated as a cylindrical pipe that is closed at one end. What might be the harmonics present for a clarinet (in Hz)?

- A) 121, 233, 251, ...
- B) 120, 240, 360, ...
- C) 120, 360, 600, ...
- D) None of the above



Clicker Question 12.6

A clarinet can be closely approximated as a cylindrical pipe that is closed at one end. What might be the harmonics present for a clarinet (in Hz)?

A) 121, 233, 251, ...

B) 120, 240, 360, ... (even harmonics absent)

C) 120, 360, 600, ...

D) Not enough information to determine

Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

Demo: Rubens' tube

Aerophones: vibrating columns of air

- How to change pitch?
- Sound speed (v)?
- Length (L)?
 - valves, tone holes
- Harmonic number (n)?
 - overblowing, embouchure

$$f_n = n \frac{v}{2L} \text{ (open)}$$

$$f_n = n \frac{v}{4L} \text{ (closed)}$$



Types of Aerophones

1. Free: does not contain the vibrating air (no standing waves)

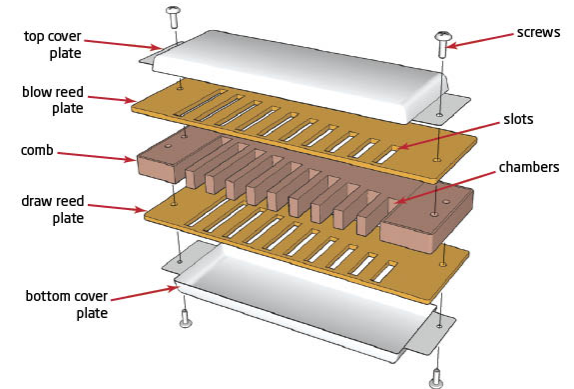
- Examples: siren, whip, harmonica, accordion, [bullroarer](#)

2. Flute-type: open-open tube; sound produced from edge tones

- Examples: flute, recorder, organ pipe

3. Reed/brass: open-closed tube (cylindrical, conical, or flared bell); sound produced from vibrating reed/lips

- Examples: clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, horn, didgeridoo



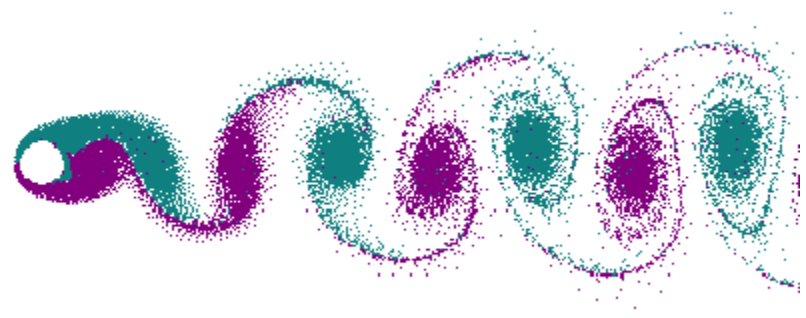
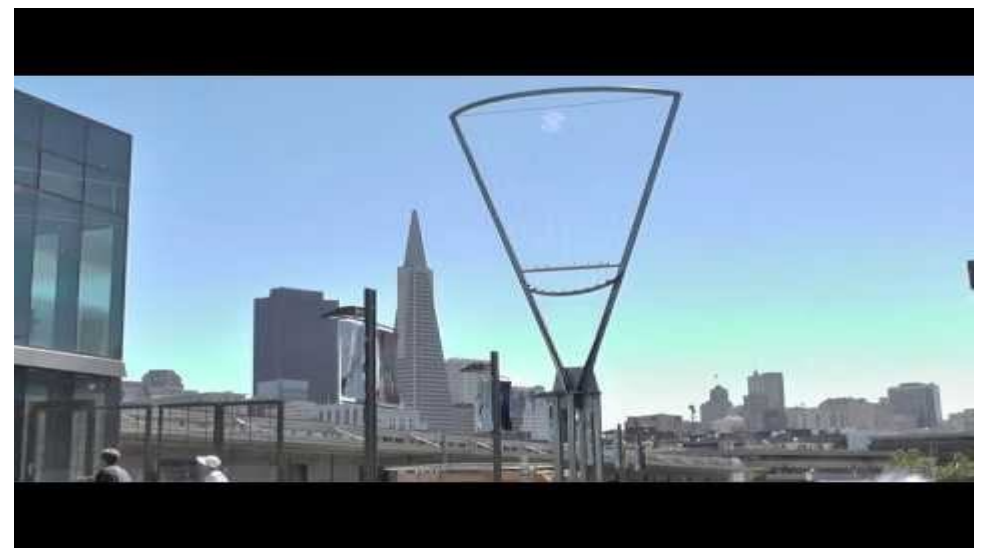
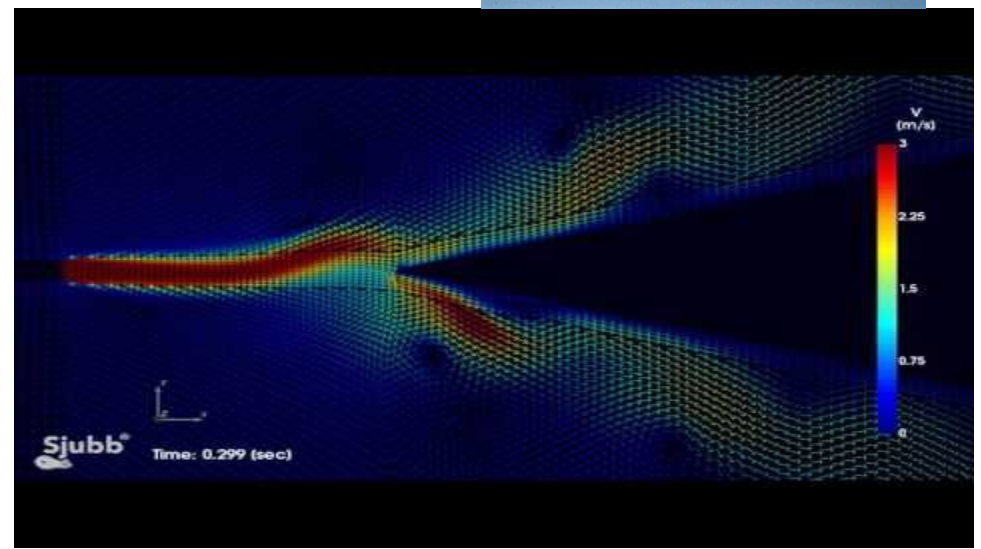
Aerophones

- How to create standing waves in pipes?
 1. Edge Tones
 2. Reeds

Edge Tones

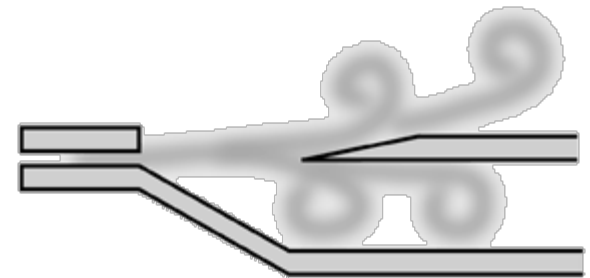
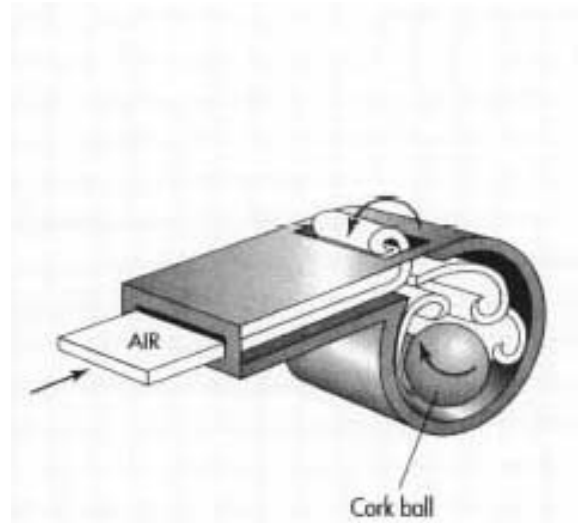


- Fluid-flow instabilities: “vortex shedding”
- Examples:
 - Flag fluttering in wind
 - Seatbelt in fast car
 - Aeolian harp
 - Blowing on bottle lip
 - Whistle



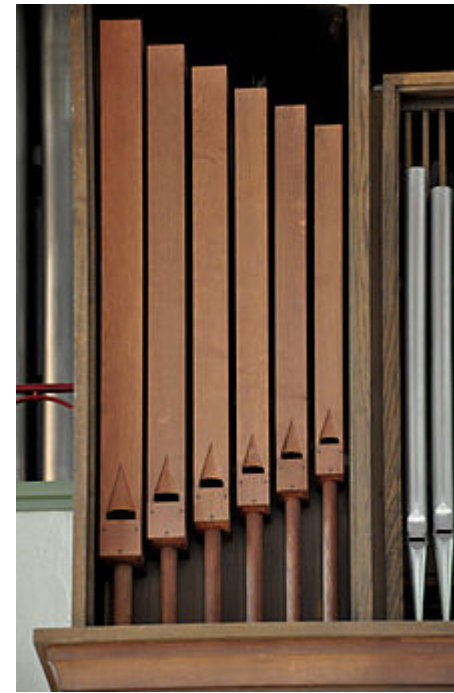
Edge Tones

- Ball whistle: vortex shedding on edge, plus turbulent feedback from redirected air
- Edge tones: frequency of oscillation increases with increasing wind speed



Organs

- Two types of pipes: flue pipes, reed pipes
- Console: keyboards, stops



Organs

- Stops: each one controls a different set (“rank”) of pipes
- Labelled by length of largest pipe (e.g. 8', 4', 1⁵/₃')



*Simplified Picture:
Key and stop action and pipes*

