

Wave Interference Notes

Wave Interference - occurs when two or more waves exist in the same medium.

Resultant wave - combined wave

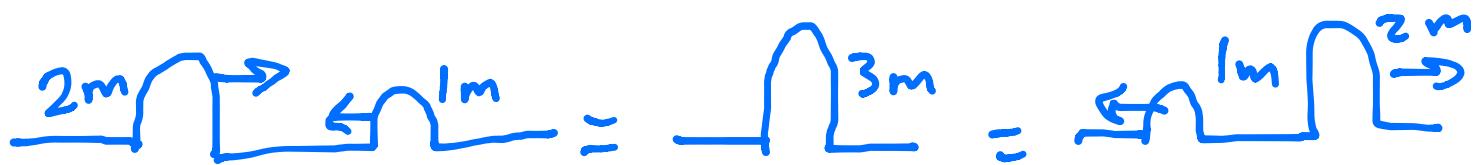
Principle of Superposition

- the amplitude of the resultant wave is equal to the sum of the original waves.

There's two types of Wave Int:

Constructive Int - increases the amplitude of the resultant wave

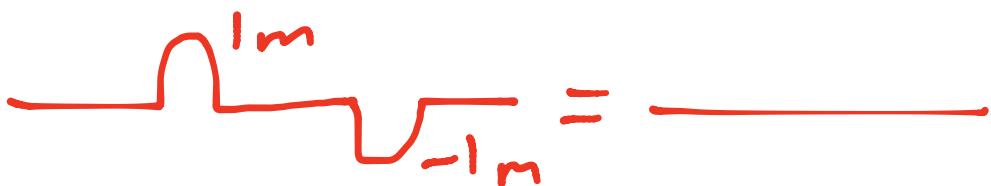
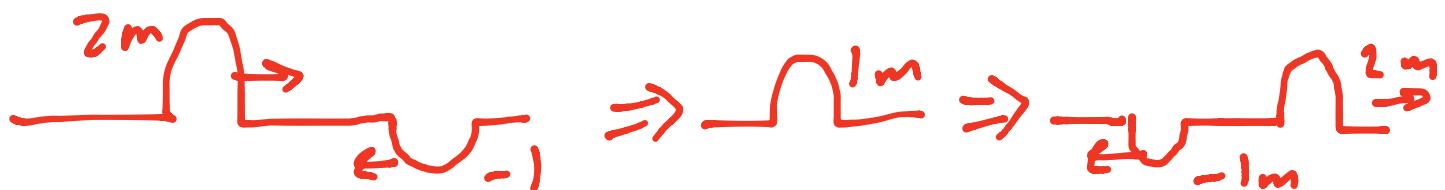
- two crests or two troughs



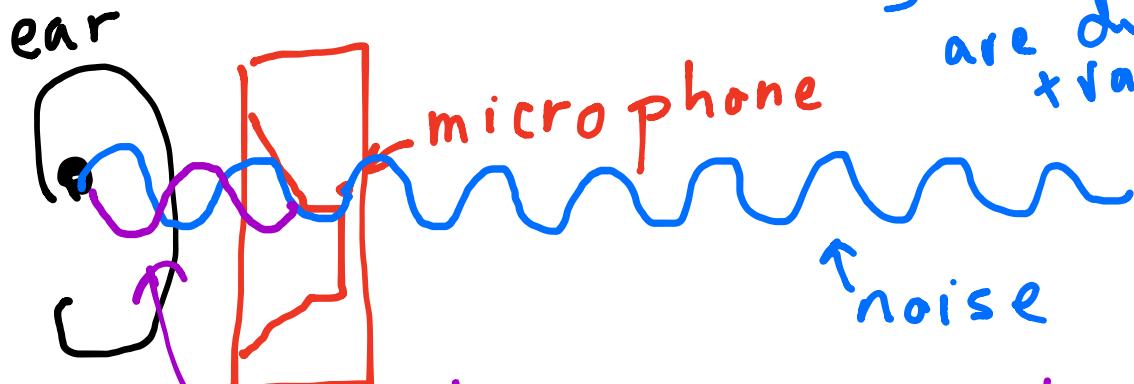
$$\overline{\text{--}1m \rightarrow a \leftarrow -1m} = \overline{\text{--}1m \rightarrow -2m}$$

Destructive Int. -

waves collide and create a resultant wave with a smaller amplitude.



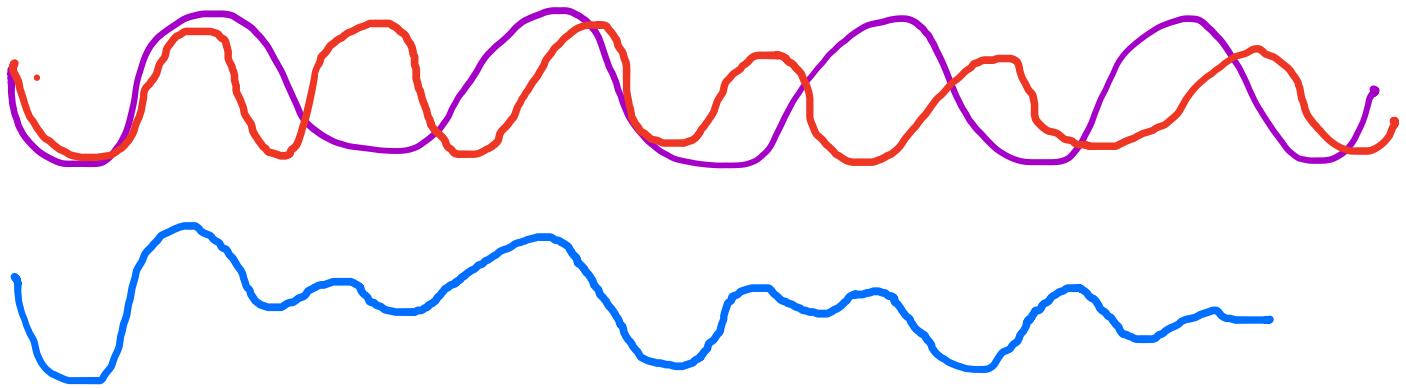
Here's how noise-cancelling headphones work:



Sound waves
are drawn
x-ray style
for clarity)

flipped wave - destructively
interferes w/noise

Beat - fluctuating sound
created when two waves
without the same f, interfere.



$$f_{BEAT} = f_{HI} - f_{LO}$$