DOPPLER BUZZER

Oscillations and Waves

Wave Motion

Concept:

The audience will hear the buzzer's stationary frequency shifted up as the buzzer moves toward them, and down as the buzzer moves away.

They will thus hear a "wobbling" pitch as the buzzer is swung in a circular motion.

Procedure:

- 1. Turn on Doppler Buzzer by flipping switch on side of cardboard tube.
- 2. Hold string at the red marked knot (1 meter from buzzer sound source).
- 3. Make sure no one is within 1 meter of you.
- 4. Swing the buzzer overhead in a circle with a constant speed while trying to keep your hand in one place.
- 5. For a more quantitative approach, have a student use the stopwatch to time how long it takes the buzzer to complete 10 revolutions. Refer to **Notes and Extras** for a quantitative calculation.

Notes and Extras:

• Video Link

The shifted frequency is given by: $f' = \frac{v_s}{v_s \pm v} f$ where $v = \frac{2\pi r}{T}$

- $v_s = 343 \text{ m/s}$
- r = 1 meter
- T = the period of revolution = period for 10 revolutions /10
- f = 2.7 kHz
- + (-) means source moves away from (toward) the observer

Note that for T = 0.5 s, the shifted frequency is about 4 % less or greater than the unshifted.



Equipment:

- Doppler Buzzer
- Stopwatch (for quantitative measurement)