A92: The Index of Refraction

Tutorial: https://youtu.be/V6Gpu7n8l1Q

Part I: Do Now (10:23 - 10:28 | Individual)

The index of refraction, n, is a property of a medium or a material. The higher it is, the slower light travels in that medium (since $n = \frac{c}{v}$). Air has n = 1, which means light travels pretty fast through air. But water has n = 1.33, meaning water is almost like a traffic jam for light, slowing it down, forcing it to *bend*! Not only that, but since the speed of light changes, so does the wavelength (since $v = f\lambda$) and amplitude! But the frequency stays constant (think about why.)



1. Calculate $\lambda_1 = _$ cm and $\lambda_2 = _$ cm

a. Hint: Use your ruler and measure crest-to-crest!

- 2. Calculate $\lambda_1 = _$ cm and $\lambda_2 = _$ cm (Use $\lambda_1 = \frac{distance}{cycle}$) a. Hint: Your answers for 1 & 2 should match!
- 3. Calculate $A_1 = _$ cm and $A_2 = _$ cm