

Properties of water waves

- Surface water waves have their maximum displacement at the free surface
- Waves propagate, with little dissipation
 - ask a baby in a bath-tub
 - Snodgrass *et al* (1966)
- Approximately periodic: $0.1 \text{ s} < T < 25 \text{ s}$.
- Approximate maximum speed: $c = \sqrt{gh}$
- Water waves are “dispersive”:
Long waves travel faster than short waves
(for gravity-induced waves)