## WAVES



 $\omega = 2\pi/T \qquad k = 2\pi/\lambda$ 

 $\omega/k = \lambda v = c$ 



If the ends of a string are held fixed, the only allowed **modes** of vibration are those with an <u>integer number of half-wavelengths</u> in L:  $L = n (\lambda_n/2)$  or

$$\lambda_n = 2L/n$$

## De Broglie's Hypothesis

Planck and (in 1905) Einstein had explained that waves (light) propagate as quanta ("photons") of energy  $\varepsilon = h v$  where v is the frequency of the wave's oscillation and  $h = 6.626 \cdot 10^{-34}$  J-s is Planck's constant. It was also well known that the energy of such a wave is equal to its momentum times its speed of propagation:  $\varepsilon = p c$ . For any wave,  $c = \lambda v$ , and so, for photons,  $p = h/\lambda$ .

Louis de Broglie simply postulated that if light acts like particles, maybe electrons (or any particles) also behave like waves, and in particular have wavelengths given by

$$\lambda = h/p.$$

## Bead on a Frictionless String

$$\lambda_n = 2L/n$$

 $\lambda = h/p$ 

$$p_n = h/\lambda_n = nh/2L$$

Nonrelativistically,  $p = m v = m 2L/\Delta t$  so  $\Delta t_n = 2Lm/p_n = 4L^2m/nh$ 

giving 
$$E_n = p_n^2 / 2m = n^2 h^2 / 8m L^2$$

and  $F_n = 2p_n / \Delta t = n^2 h^2 / 4m L^3$ 

## Relativistically...

Total Relativistic Energy:  $E_n^2 = p_n^2 c^2 + m^2 c^4$  (Always true!)

For  $E_n \gg mc^2$  ("ultrarelativistic") we have  $E_n \approx p_n c$  and if we take  $m_{eff} = E/c^2$  and n = 1, then  $m_{eff} \approx h/2Lc$ . An object in a circular orbit around a mass M has an orbital velocity

$$v_{
m orb} = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{R}}$$
. If  $v_{
m orb} = c$ , then even light can't escape beyond the  
Schwarzschild radius,  $R_S = \frac{GM}{c^2}$ . What does it take to get  $R_S = L$ ?  
 $L = \frac{Gm_{
m eff}}{c^2} = \frac{Gh}{2Lc^3}$  or  $L_{
m Planck} = \sqrt{\frac{Gh}{2c^3}}$ .

If even a photon is confined to this small a region, the effect of the confinement will raise its energy enough to make it a **black hole**!

(Numbers are off by small factors like 2 or  $\pi$ .)