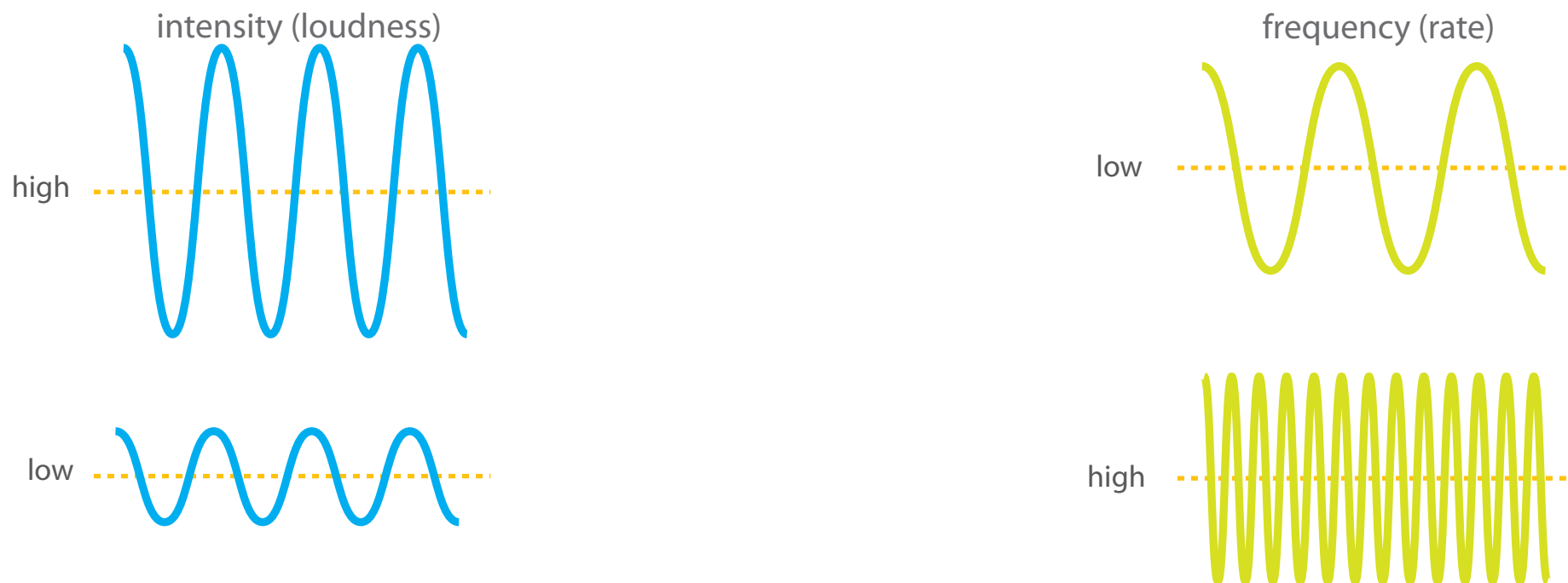


Understanding Sound

Sound is a form of energy similar to electricity and light. It is produced when air molecules vibrate in patterns called sound waves. Sound waves have their own specific physical structures which are influenced by both loudness (intensity) and rate (frequency).

sound wave physicality



measuring sound

Sound intensity is measured in decibels or *dB*, while sound frequency is measured in Hz.

human audible range for frequency

20 Hz 20,000 Hz

human audible range for intensity

0 dB SPL 120 - 140 dB SPL
(auditory threshold) (pain threshold)