

34. (a) The fundamental frequency of a string can be increased (for instance, going from A up to C) by shortening the length of the vibrating portion of the string. When the note C is played, the vibrating length is (using Eq. 17-53)

$$\frac{f'}{f} = \frac{nv/2L'}{nv/2L} \implies L = (30 \text{ cm}) \left(\frac{440 \text{ Hz}}{528 \text{ Hz}} \right) = 25 \text{ cm} .$$

Thus, one should place his finger a distance of $30 \text{ cm} - 25 \text{ cm} = 5 \text{ cm}$ from one end of the string.

- (b) Since $v = f\lambda$, the ratio of wavelengths is the reciprocal of the frequency ratio, so that $\lambda_A/\lambda_C = 528 \text{ Hz}/440 \text{ Hz} = 1.2$.
- (c) This has the same answer as part (b), due to the fact that the frequencies are the same on the string and the air (transmitting a signal from one medium to another does not generally change its frequency. Both wavelengths are larger (*much* larger) in the air than on the string, but their ratio (due to $v = f\lambda$) remains the same.