

Read P³ §4 *Wave Equations* and skim §5 *Superposition of Waves*
Do the following problems: **SHOW YOUR WORK!**

1. Determine which of the following describe traveling waves. Where appropriate, draw the profile and find the speed and direction of motion.

(a) $\psi [y, t] = \exp[-(a^2y^2 + b^2t^2 - 2abty)]$

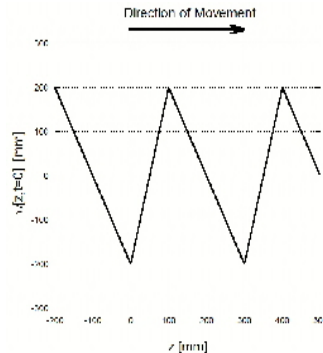
(b) $\psi [z, t] = A \sin [az^2 - bt^2]$

(c) $\psi [x, t] = A \sin \left[2\pi \left(\frac{x}{a} + \frac{t}{b} \right)^2 \right]$

(d) $\psi [x, t] = A \cos^2 [2\pi (t - x)]$

2. The figure shows the profile of a transverse wave on a string traveling in the positive z -direction at a speed of $1 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$.

- (a) Determine its wavelength.
(b) Notice that as the wave passes any fixed point on the z -axis, the string at that location oscillates in time. Draw a graph of $\psi [t]$ showing how a point on the rope at $z = 0$ oscillates.
(c) What is the temporal frequency of the wave?



3. A particle executing simple harmonic motion given by

$$y [t] = 4 \sin \left[2\pi \frac{t}{6} + \phi_0 \right]$$

is displaced by +1 unit when $t = 0$. Find:

- (a) the phase angle $\Phi [t = 0] \equiv \phi_0$
(b) the difference in phase between any two positions of the particle separated in time by 2 sec;
(c) the phase angle corresponding to a displacement of +2;
(d) the time necessary to reach a displacement of +3 units from the initial position.

4. A wave vibrates according to the equation

$$y [z, t] = \frac{1}{2} \sin \left[\frac{\pi z}{3} \right] \cdot \cos [40\pi t]$$

where y and z are expressed in mm and t in sec.

- (a) What are the amplitudes and the velocities of the component waves that give rise to this vibration?
 - (b) What is the distance between the nodes?
 - (c) What is the velocity of a particle at the position $z = 1.5$ mm when $t = \frac{9}{8}$ sec?
5. By finding appropriate relations for $\mathbf{k} \bullet \mathbf{r}$, write equations describing a sinusoidal plane wave in three directions in terms of wavelength and velocity for the three cases:
- (a) propagation along the x -axis;
 - (b) propagation along the line $x = y; z = 0$;
 - (c) propagation perpendicular to the planes $x + y + z = k$ where k is a constant.
6. Two waves of the same amplitude, speed, and frequency travel together in the same region of space. The resultant wave may be written as a sum of two individual waves: **(NOTE CORRECTION)**

$$\psi [z, t] = A_0 \sin [k_0 z + \omega_0 t] + A_0 \sin [k_0 z - \omega_0 t + \pi]$$

With the help of complex exponentials, show that:

$$\psi [z, t] = 2A_0 \cos [k_0 z] \cdot \sin [\omega_0 t]$$