

Closed book. No calculators are to be used for this quiz.
Quiz duration: 10 minutes

Name:

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Signature:

A thin, 1 m wire has a mass of 20 g. One end is tied to a nail, and the other end is attached to a screw that can be adjusted to vary the tension in the wire. To what tension (in newtons) must you adjust the screw so that a transverse wave of wavelength 4 cm makes 500 vibrations per second?

$$L = 1 \text{ m} \quad m = 20 \text{ g} \quad \lambda = 4 \text{ cm} = 4 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ m}$$

$$f = 500 \text{ Hz}$$

$$F = \mu v^2 = \frac{m}{L} (\lambda f)^2 = \frac{20 \cdot 10^{-3}}{1} (500 \cdot 4 \cdot 10^{-2})^2 =$$

$$= 20 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot 400 = 8 \text{ N}$$

$$F = 8 \text{ N}$$

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A 1.5 m string of weight 1.5 N is tied to the ceiling at its upper end, and the lower end supports a weight W . When you disturb the string slightly, the waves traveling up the string obey the equation $y(x, t) = 8.5 \text{ mm} \cos(140 \text{ m}^{-1}x - 2800 \text{ s}^{-1}t)$. What is the weight W ? (Take $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$ and ignore the effect of the weight of the string on the tension)

$$L = 1,5 \text{ m} \quad W_s = 1,5 \text{ N}$$

$$y(x, t) = 8,5 \text{ mm} \cos(140 \text{ m}^{-1}x - 2800 \text{ s}^{-1}t)$$

$$W = F = \mu v^2 = \frac{W_s}{g L} \cdot \left(\frac{\omega}{k}\right)^2 = \frac{1,5}{10 \cdot 1,5} \cdot \left(\frac{2800}{140}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{10} \cdot 400 = 40 \text{ N}$$

$$W = 40 \text{ N}$$

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Transverse waves on a string have wave speed 8 m/s, amplitude 0.07 m, and wavelength 0.32 m. The waves travel in the $-x$ -direction, and at $t = 0$ the $x = 0$ end of the string has its maximum upward displacement. Write a wave equation describing the wave.

$$v = 8 \text{ m/s}$$

$$\lambda = 0,32 \text{ m}$$

$$t = 0, x = 0$$

$$y = A$$

$$A = 0,07 \text{ m}$$

Let's write general wave equation:
since wave travel at $-x$ direction

$$y(x, t) = A \cos(kx + \omega t)$$

Note that
 $y(0, 0) = A$

$$A = 0,07 \text{ m}, \quad k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{0,32}$$

$$\omega = 2\pi f = \frac{2\pi v}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi \cdot 8}{0,32} = \frac{2\pi}{0,04}$$

Thus:

$$y(x, t) = 0,07 \text{ m} \cos\left(2\pi\left(\frac{1}{0,32}x + \frac{1}{0,04}t\right)\right)$$

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Show by direct substitution that $y(x, t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$ satisfies the wave equation.

Let's substitute given expression to wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-Ak \sin(kx - \omega t)) = -Ak^2 \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

$$\frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (+A\omega \sin(kx - \omega t)) = \frac{1}{v^2} (-A\omega^2) \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

$$-Ak^2 \cos(kx - \omega t) = \frac{-A\omega^2}{v^2} \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

$$\boxed{k^2 = \frac{\omega^2}{v^2}}$$

→ This equation is correct

therefore wave equation is satisfied

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Does the function $y(x, t) = A(\sin(kx) + \cos(\omega t))$ describe a wave? Use the wave equation to find the answer.

Let's check whether it satisfies the wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (Ak \cos(kx)) = -Ak^2 \sin kx$$

$$\frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (-A\omega \sin \omega t) = \frac{-A}{v^2} \omega^2 \cos \omega t$$

But:

$$-Ak^2 \sin kx \neq \frac{-A}{v^2} \omega^2 \cos \omega t$$

(since $\sin kx \neq \cos \omega t$)

Therefore the wave equation is not satisfied.