

# A Piece on Earth:

## Some Practice with Some Math that Underlies Some Physics

PHYSICS 204: DANIEL A. MARTENS YAVERBAUM

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, THE CUNY

### I. Derivatives.

Please solve the following:

a.

First, Assume:

$$x = A \cos(\omega t)$$

Then find:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ?$$

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = ?$$

is  $x = A \cos(\omega t)$  'a solution' to

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -(\omega^2) x?$$

*Why or why not?*

**Now assume:  $x = A \cos(5t)$**

**Is  $x = A \cos(5t)$  'a solution' to**

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -3x.$$

*Could there be conditions under which  $x = A \cos(\omega t)$  is 'a solution' to*

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -\left(\frac{K}{m}\right) x?$$

*What would these conditions be?*

$$x = e^{-wt}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ?$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = ?$$

Is  $x = e^{-\omega t}$  a 'solution' to  $\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -(\omega^2) x$ ?

*Why or why not?*

Assume that  $i \equiv \sqrt{-1}$ .

and Let  $x = e^{-i\omega t}$ .

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ?$$

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = ?$$

Is  $x = e^{-i\omega t}$  a 'solution' to  $\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -(\omega^2) x$ ?

*Why or why not?*