

CONCEPT: SUPERPOSITION OF SINUSOIDAL WAVES

- Some problems give 2 wave functions and ask you to calculate the displacement or superposition of the **resultant** wave.
 - The Principle of Superposition says we can _____ the 2 wavefunctions:

$$y_{net} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

- This equation works regardless of whether y_1 and/or y_2 are **sine** or **cosine** functions!

EXAMPLE: Two transverse waves traveling on a string are described by the wave functions $y_1 = 0.3 \sin(4x - 1.6t)$ and $y_2 = 0.7 \cos(5x - 2t)$. What is the displacement of the particle on the string at $x=2\text{m}$ when $t=0.5\text{s}$?