

7. (a) We write the expression for the displacement in the form  $y(x, t) = y_m \sin(kx - \omega t)$ . A negative sign is used before the  $\omega t$  term in the argument of the sine function because the wave is traveling in the positive  $x$  direction. The angular wave number  $k$  is  $k = 2\pi/\lambda = 2\pi/(0.10 \text{ m}) = 62.8 \text{ m}^{-1}$  and the angular frequency is  $\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi(400 \text{ Hz}) = 2510 \text{ rad/s}$ . Here  $\lambda$  is the wavelength and  $f$  is the frequency. The amplitude is  $y_m = 2.0 \text{ cm}$ . Thus

$$y(x, t) = (2.0 \text{ cm}) \sin \left( (62.8 \text{ m}^{-1}) x - (2510 \text{ s}^{-1}) t \right) .$$

- (b) The (transverse) speed of a point on the cord is given by taking the derivative of  $y$ :

$$u(x, t) = \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = -\omega y_m \cos(kx - \omega t)$$

which leads to a maximum speed of  $u_m = \omega y_m = (2510 \text{ rad/s})(0.020 \text{ m}) = 50 \text{ m/s}$ .

- (c) The speed of the wave is

$$v = \frac{\lambda}{T} = \frac{\omega}{k} = \frac{2510 \text{ rad/s}}{62.8 \text{ m}^{-1}} = 40 \text{ m/s} .$$