962-C1-477 Garrett D Heath* (ag8424@usma.edu), Thayer Hall Room 220, West Point, NY 10996. *Using Applets in Teaching Mathematics*. Preliminary report.

Over the last several years the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the United States Military Academy has significantly increased the use of technology in the classroom. Students have and use the TI-89 calculator, and Mathcad 2000. These advances can increase a student's ability to learn objectives and concepts presented in the Discrete Dynamical Systems and Introduction to Calculus course. These tools, however, have an associated cost. Students must learn the hardware and/or software while trying to grasp material. To minimize the effect of this cost I have found it beneficial to use applets in classroom demonstrations, and allow cadets to use them in completing homework problems. These applets are dynamic and do not have the syntactical nor procedural stumbling blocks associated with most programs. Students can begin exploring and learning immediately. (Received September 14, 2000)