

# Eng. 100: Music Signal Processing

## DSP Lecture 4

### Lab 3: Signal Spectra

#### Curiosity

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtR63-ecUNo> (Oscilloscope art)
- <http://musicmachinery.com/2010/05/21/the-swinger> (musical style modulation)

#### Announcements:

- Lab2 due Friday
- HW1 due Friday
- HW2 due next Friday
- Finish Project1 in Lab this week (at latest)
- Project 1 presentations in discussion sections next week.
- Start reading Lab 3 for next week — it is longer!

## Part 0: Lab 2 summary

## Lab 2 summary

What you learned (hopefully)

- Frequencies of musical tones in “The Victors”:  
392, 440, 494, 523, 587, 659 Hz (rounded to nearest integer)
- Semi-log plot revealed missing frequencies:  
415, 466, 554, 622, 698, 740 Hz (mostly accidentals).
- 12 frequencies with common ratio about 1.06

The exact ratio is  $2^{1/12} \approx 1.059463094359295$

Twelve such “half steps” in an “octave” leads to a frequency ratio of 2, *i.e.*, the frequency doubles each octave. More later...

Q0.1 What model relates piano key number to frequency?

A: exponential

B: power

C: None of these

??

# Outline

- What: The spectrum of a signal (first class)
  - Part 1. Why we need spectra
  - Part 2. Periodic signals  $x(t) = c_0 + \sum_{k=1}^K c_k \cos(2\pi \frac{k}{T}t - \theta_k)$
  - Part 3. Band-limited signals,  $K = \lfloor BT \rfloor$
- How: Methods for computing spectra (second class)
  - Part 4. Sampling rate  $S > 2B$
  - Part 5. By hand by solving systems of equations
  - Part 6. Using general Fourier series solution
  - Part 7. Using fast Fourier transform (FFT), e.g., in Julia
- Why: Using a signal's spectrum (third class)
  - to determine note frequencies:  $f = \frac{k}{N}S$
  - to remove unwanted noise
  - to visualize frequency content (spectrogram)
  - Lab 3

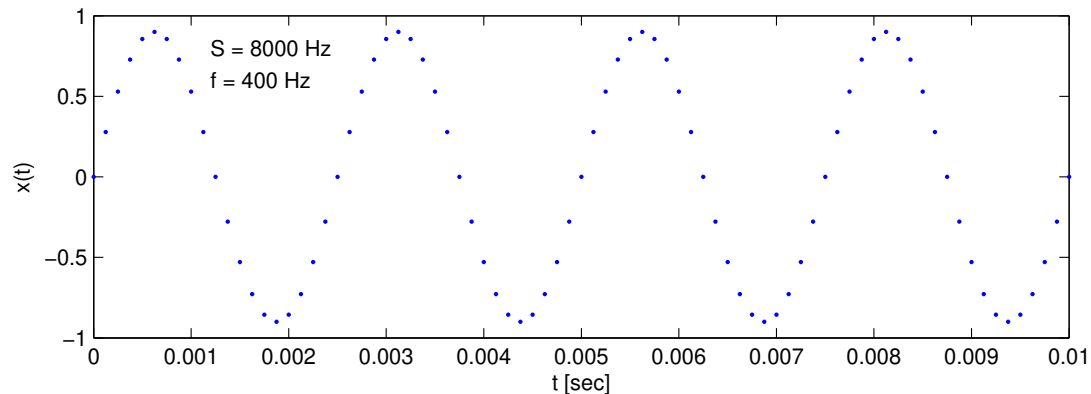
## Learning objectives

- Understand concepts of spectra and Fourier series for periodic signals
- Convert between spectra plot and equation form
- Understand band limited signal spectra
- Determine band limit given spectra plot or Fourier series equation
- Understand Nyquist-Shannon sampling requirement  $S > 2B$

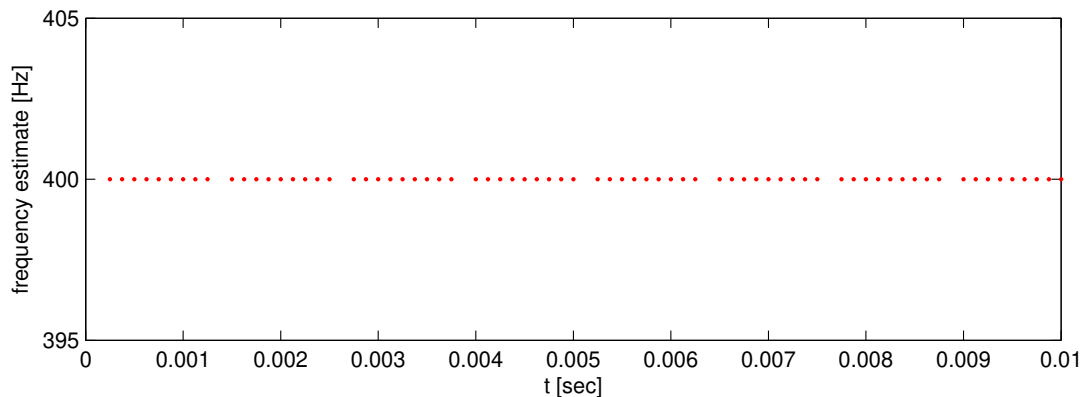
## Part 1. Why we need spectra

# Project 1 Transcriber for ideal sinusoid (works!)

Sinusoidal signal:



play



Method:

$$f = \frac{S}{2\pi} \arccos \left( \frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

## Project 1: Transcriber limitations

What are limitations of transcribers implemented in Project 1?

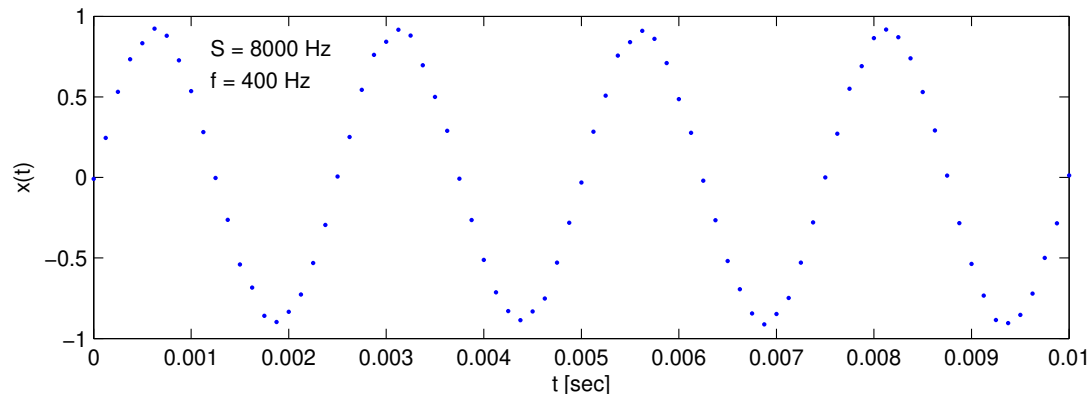
??

We need more sophisticated method(s)  
for finding the (**fundamental**) frequency of a music signal.

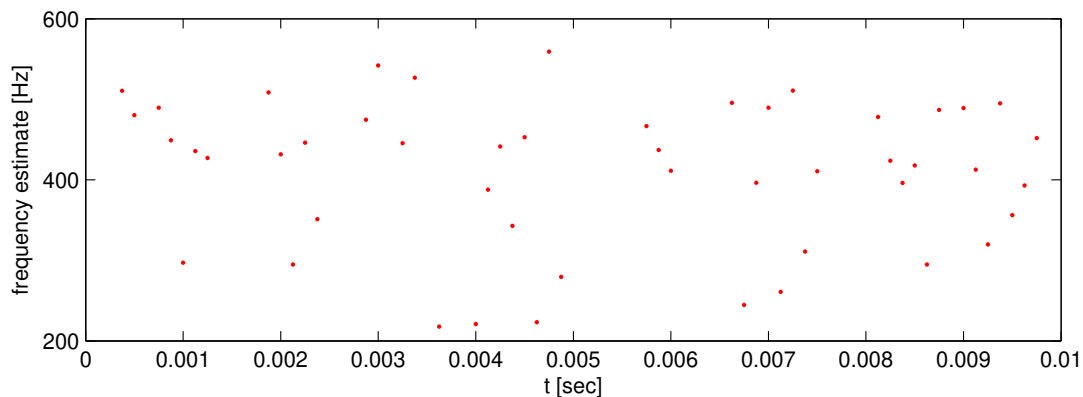


# Project 1 Transcriber for noisy sinusoid (stinks!)

Sinusoidal signal with **noise** (e.g., in any audio recording):



play



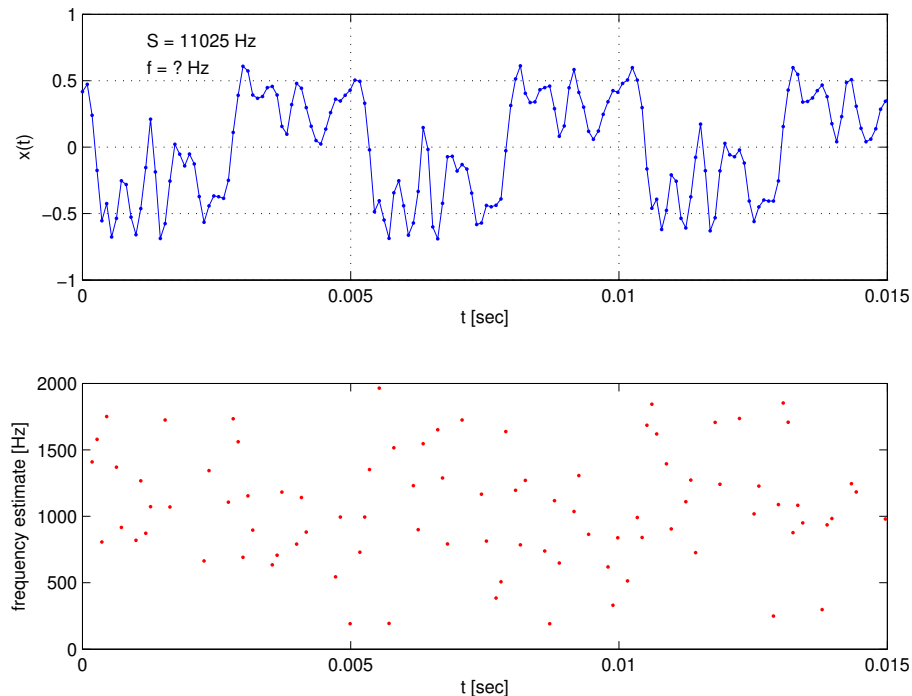
Method:

$$f = \frac{S}{2\pi} \arccos \left( \frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

# Project 1 Transcriber for clarinet (stinks!)

Clarinet signal (roughly G below middle C):

play



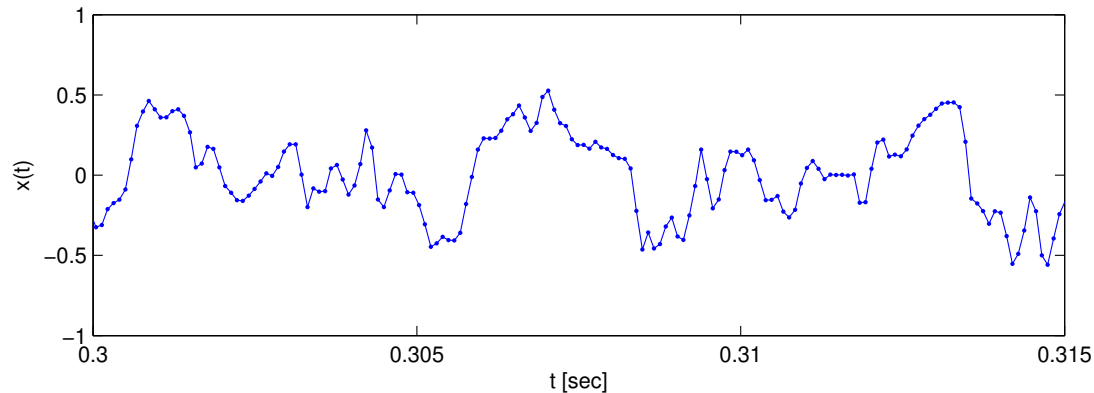
Method:

$$f = \frac{S}{2\pi} \arccos \left( \frac{x[n+1] + x[n-1]}{2x[n]} \right).$$

# Project 1 Transcriber for polyphony (stinks!)

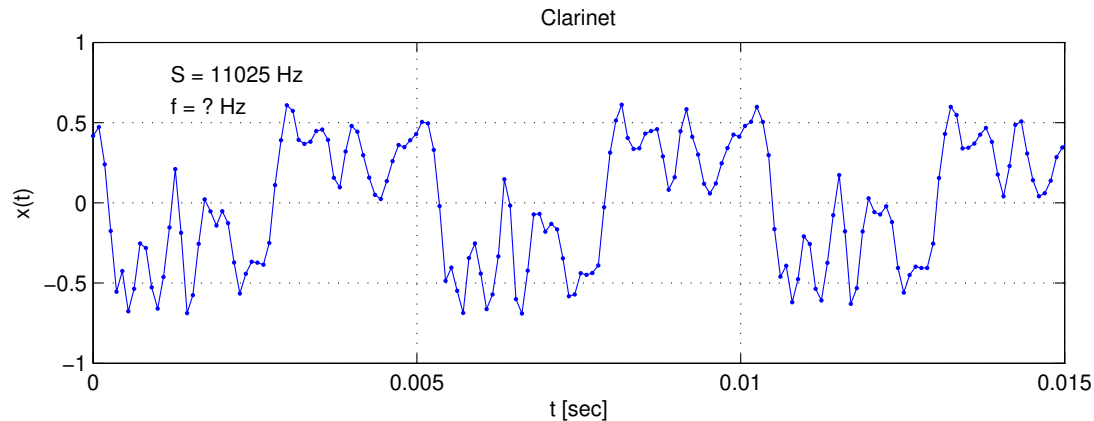
Clarinet and guitar duet (even more challenging case):

play



- Methods that use the “time domain” are very unlikely to work when two instruments play simultaneously.
- We need to use the “frequency domain” aka the **spectrum** of a signal. (Human ears work this way!)
- The concept of **spectra** is used widely in engineering.

# Engineering strategy: Divide and conquer



This signal  $x(t)$  looks complicated.

(Bamboo reed vibrations are approximately a **square wave**.)

Engineering strategy:

- Make complicated things by combining simpler things.
- Use tools from mathematics (and physics) as needed.

Mathematics provides us with a perfect tool in this case:

**Fourier series.**

## Part 2. Spectra of periodic signals

# Joseph Fourier laid the foundation for DSP

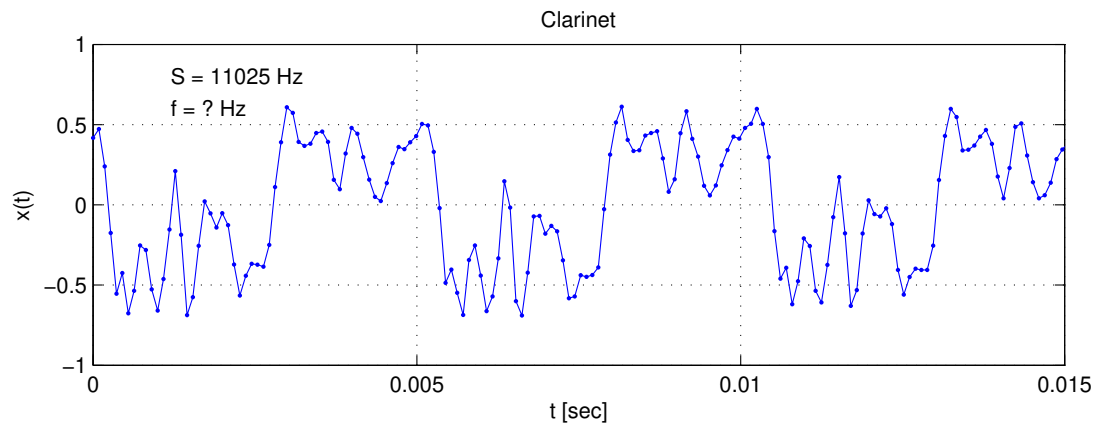


Joseph Fourier, 1768-1830

He died after falling down the stairs at his home.

- Fourier series theory developed circa 1807  
(Modern compared to our trigonometry method.)
- Motivating application: heat propagation in metal plates.

# Periodic signals are the key to music DSP



Key property of musical signals (over short time intervals):  
**periodicity.**

A **periodic signal** (aka repeating signal) with **period**  $= T$  satisfies

$$x(t) = x(t + T) = x(t + 2T) = \dots \text{ for all } t.$$

Example:  $x(t) = \cos(2\pi 9t)$  is periodic with period  $T = 1/9$  sec.  
It is also periodic with period  $T = 1/3$  sec.

The smallest period ( $T = 1/9$  sec here) is the **fundamental period**.

## Exercise

Q0.2 What is the (approximate) period of the clarinet signal shown on the previous slide (in sec)?

A: 0.001

B: 0.005

C: 0.010

D: 0.015

E: 0.5

??



## Fourier series of periodic signals

Amazing fact #1 (discovered by Joseph Fourier 200+ years ago):

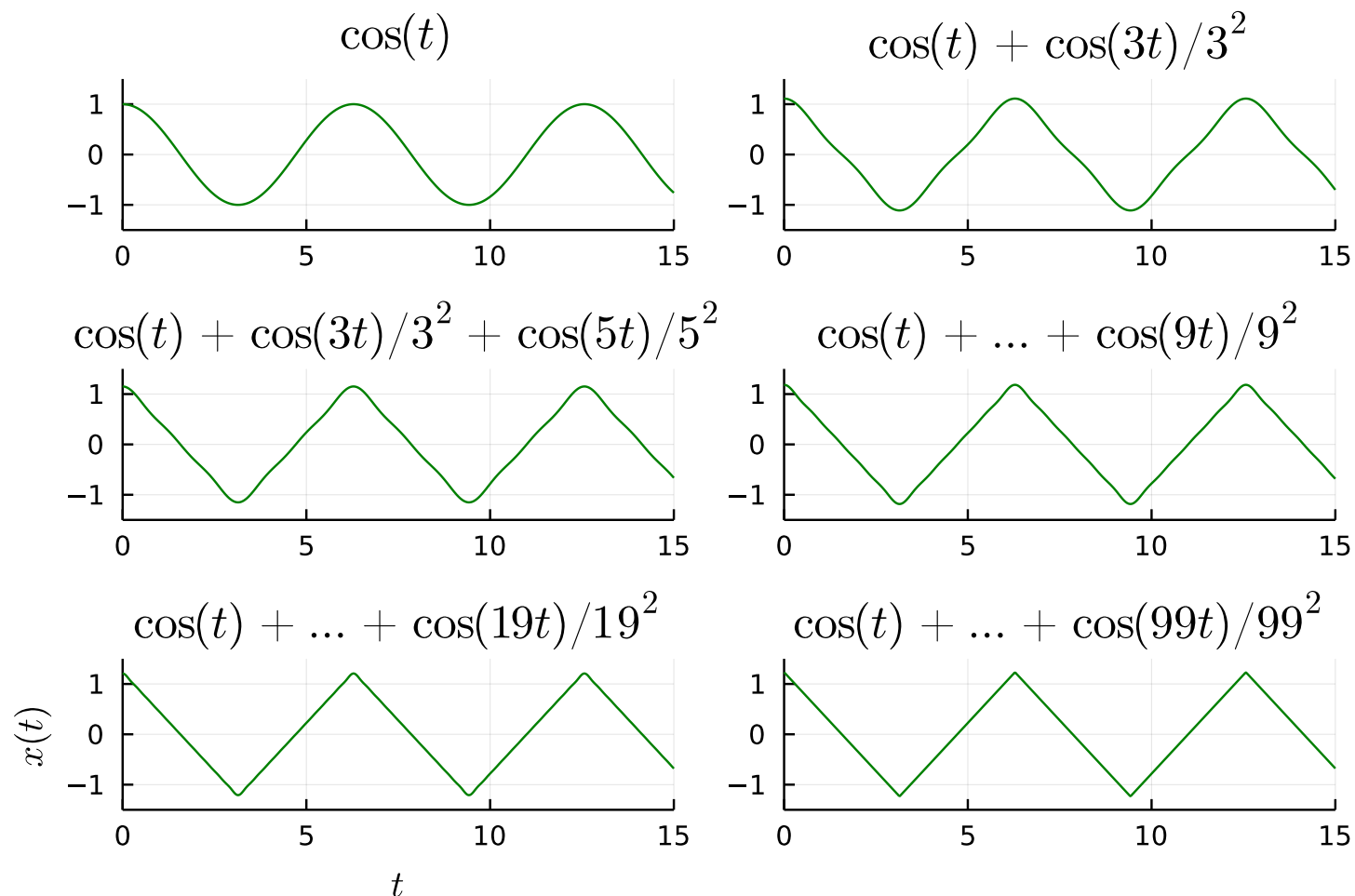
Any real-world periodic signal with period =  $T$  can be **expanded** (i.e., expressed mathematically as a sum) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(t) &= c_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \cos\left(2\pi\frac{k}{T}t - \theta_k\right) \\
 &= \underbrace{c_0}_{\substack{\text{DC term} \\ \text{DC value} \\ \text{DC constant}}} + \underbrace{c_1 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t - \theta_1\right)}_{\substack{\text{fundamental} \\ \text{period} = T \\ \text{frequency} = 1/T}} + \underbrace{c_2 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t - \theta_2\right)}_{\substack{\text{(first) harmonic} \\ \text{period} = T/2 \\ \text{frequency} = 2/T}} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\{c_k\}$  called **amplitudes**
- $\{k/T\}$  called **frequencies**
- $\{\theta_k\}$  called **phases**

We can write even a “complicated” clarinet or guitar signal using such a “simple” sum of sinusoidal signals.

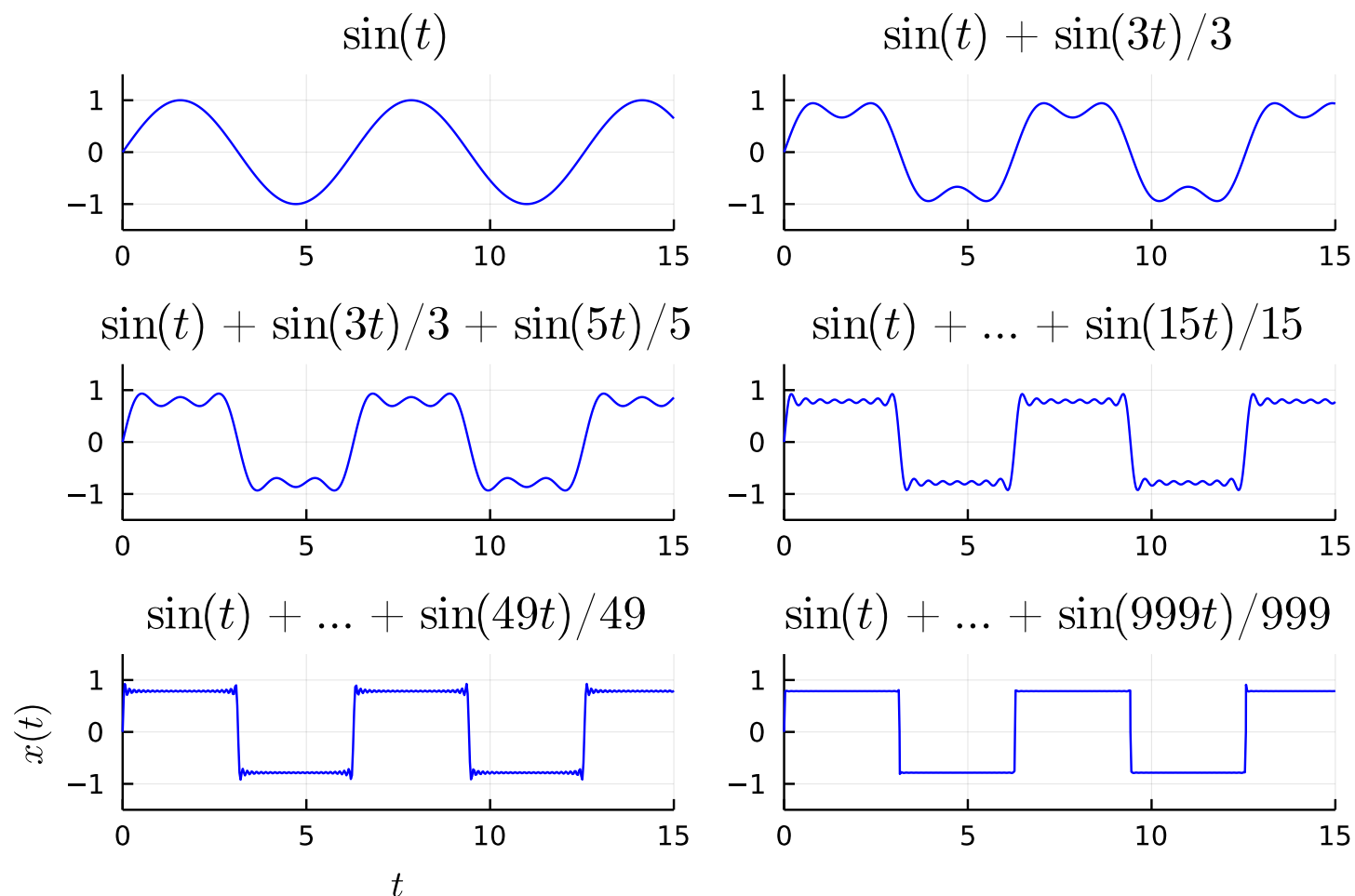
## Example: Triangle wave



More terms in sum  $\implies$  closer approximation to **triangle wave**.

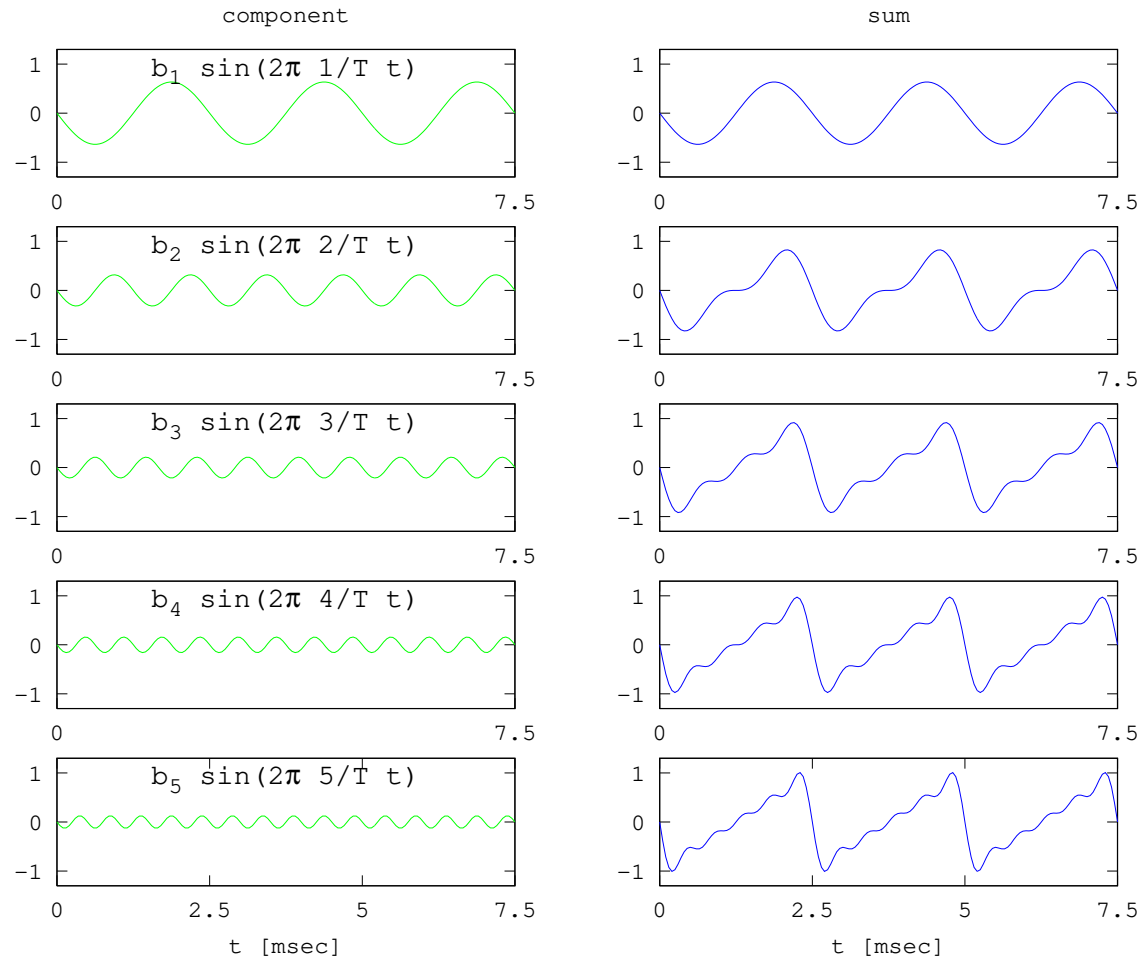
(Nice audio demo on wikipedia.)

## Example: Square wave



Sums of sinusoids can make “interesting” signals, like a square wave. What is  $T$  in this example?

# Example: Sawtooth wave



play

play

play

play

play

As we build this **sawtooth wave**, does the sound **pitch** sound change?

Fundamental frequency (in Hz)?

## The spectrum of a periodic signal

Every periodic signal can be written in the same form!

$$x(t) = c_0 + c_1 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t - \theta_1\right) + c_2 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t - \theta_2\right) + \dots$$



So how do electric guitar and clarinet signals differ?

??

## The spectrum of a periodic signal

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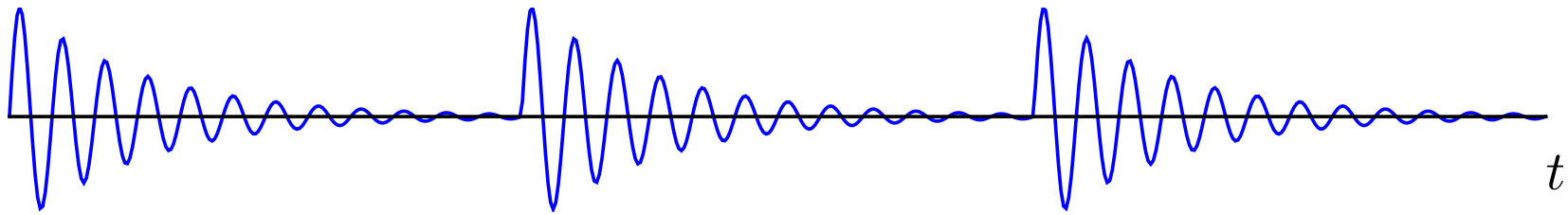
Definition. The **spectrum** of a signal  $x(t)$  is just a stem plot of the amplitudes  $\{c_k\}$  versus the frequencies  $\{k/T\}$  in Hertz.

- The phases  $\theta_k$  are unimportant for monophonic music.
- The DC term  $c_0$  cannot be produced or heard either.
- Coefficients  $\{c_k\}$  define **timbre** (TAM-ber) of sound aka “tone color”

## Spectra of periodic signals

In ENGR 100, we define spectra only of periodic signals. Why?

- Musical instruments produce approximately periodic signals.
- Definition and computation are much easier.
- Real-world non-periodic signals can be viewed as part of a periodic signal with a very long period.



## Example: AM Radio Signal

Two Michigan AM Radio stations are:

- WSDS, 1480 kHz, 3800W, Salem Township
- WABJ, 1490 kHz, 1000W, Adrian, MI

If WSDS broadcasts a 3000 Hz sinusoidal test tone and WABJ broadcasts a 2000 Hz sinusoidal test tone, then (you can learn in EECS 216) that an antenna in Saline that can pick up both stations would receive this signal:

$$x(t) = 40 \cos(2\pi 1480000t) + 20 \cos(2\pi 1483000t) + 20 \cos(2\pi 1477000t) \\ + 10 \cos(2\pi 1490000t) + 5 \cos(2\pi 1492000t) + 5 \cos(2\pi 1488000t).$$

What is the **spectrum** of this signal?

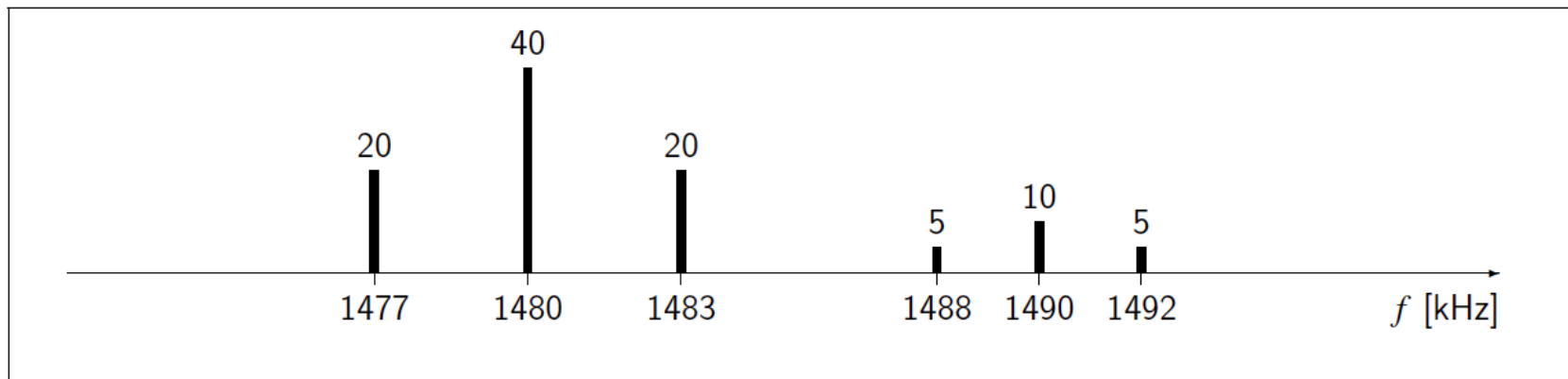


## Example: AM Radio Signal Spectrum

AM radio signal (expressed as mathematical formula):

$$x(t) = 40 \cos(2\pi 1480000t) + 20 \cos(2\pi 1483000t) + 20 \cos(2\pi 1477000t) \\ + 10 \cos(2\pi 1490000t) + 5 \cos(2\pi 1492000t) + 5 \cos(2\pi 1488000t).$$

Spectrum of this signal  $x(t)$ :



So the **spectrum** of a signal is a *graphical* representation.

Graphical representations are often beneficial.

Converting between these representations is a learning objective.

## Exercise

Find a *formula* for the signal that has the following spectrum.



Could an audio signal (music) have this spectrum?

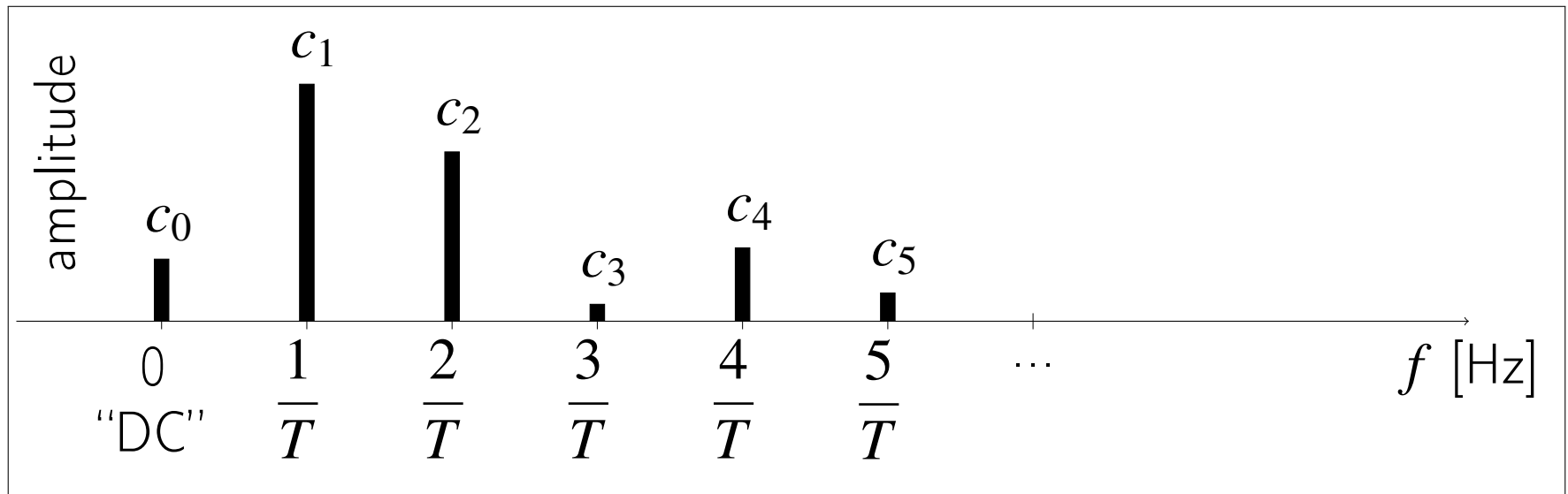
play

??

(Working forwards and backwards...)

## Spectrum of a general periodic signal

A periodic signal with period  $T$  has a spectrum that looks like:

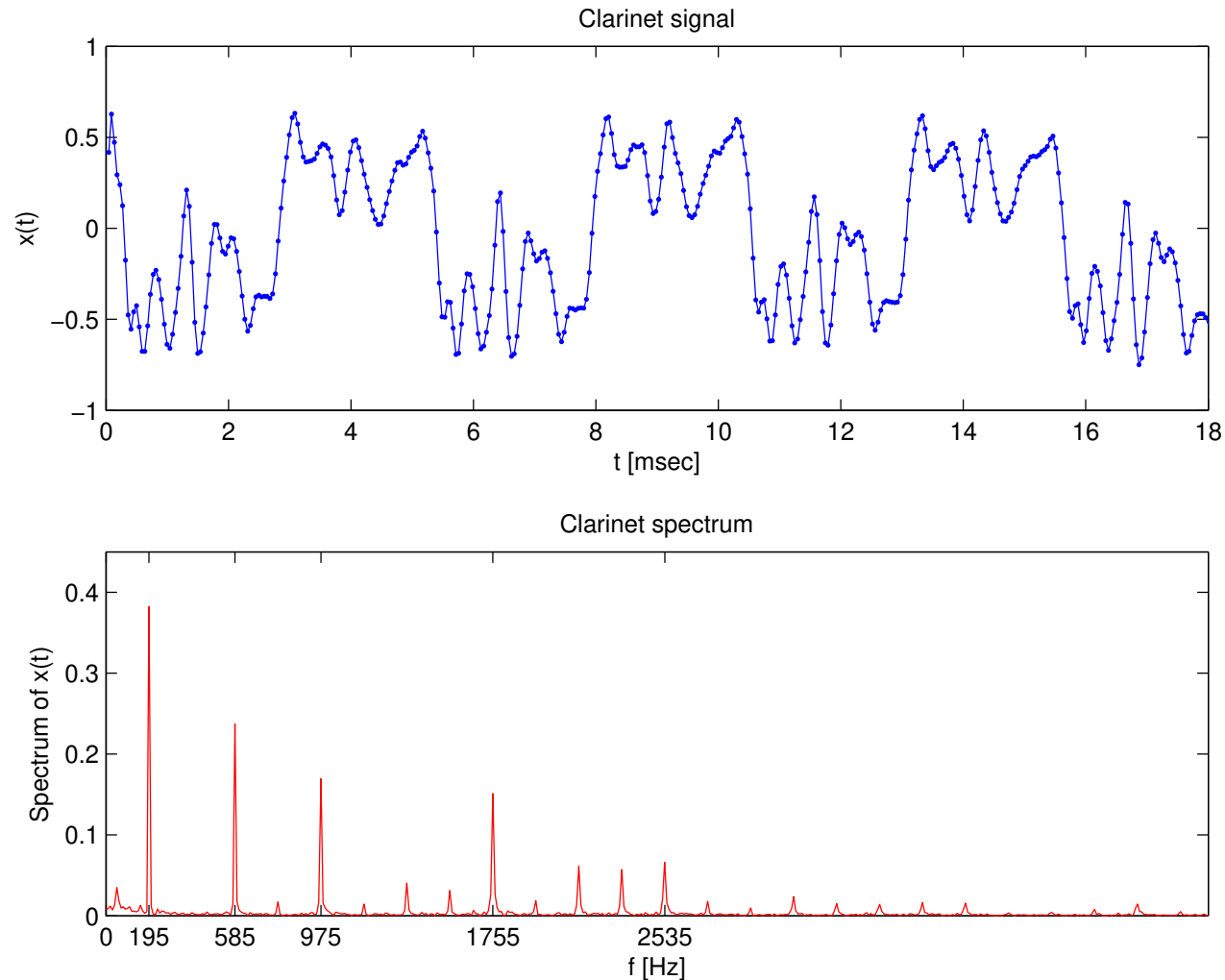


- The frequency components are  $0, 1/T, 2/T, \dots$
- The height of each line in the spectrum is an amplitude  $c_k$

Ignoring phase:  $x(t) = c_0 + c_1 \cos(2\pi \frac{1}{T} t) + c_2 \cos(2\pi \frac{2}{T} t) + \dots$

What units are along the horizontal axis for a spectrum? ??

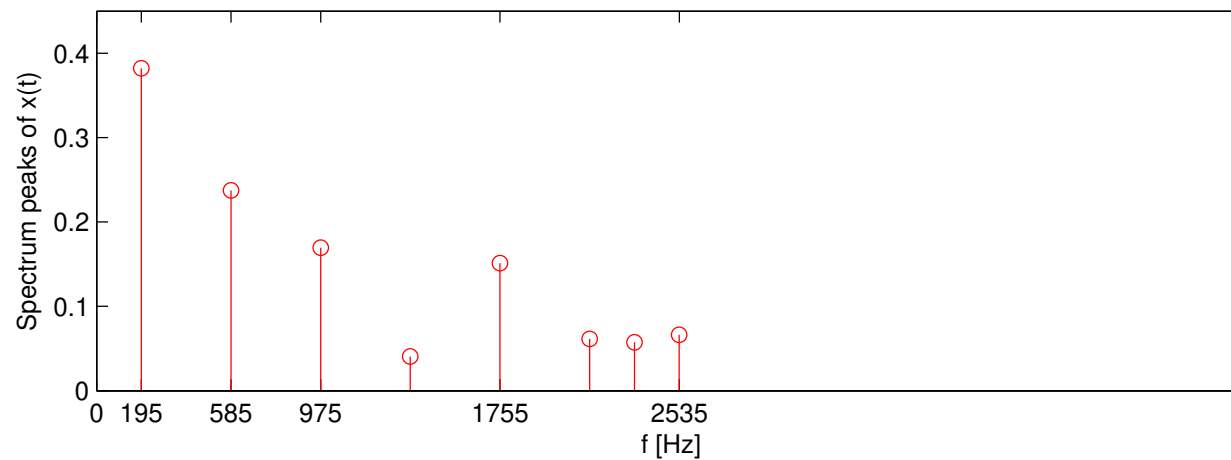
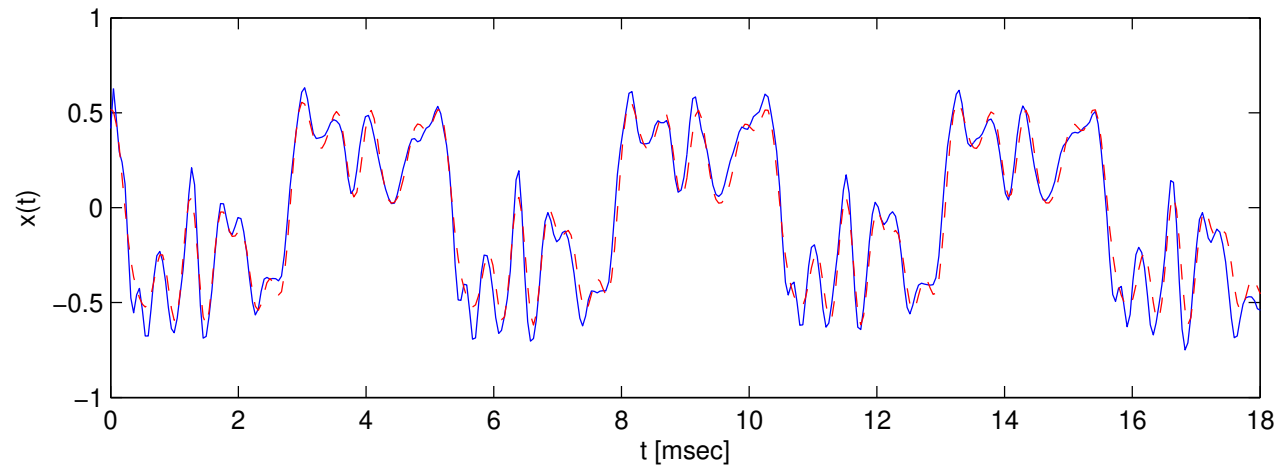
# Example: Clarinet spectrum



First significant peak: fundamental frequency =  $1/T \approx 195$  Hz  
(Perfectly) periodic signals have (perfect) **line spectra**.

play

## Example: Clarinet synthesized



play

Synthesized using 8 largest peaks in spectrum.

Sounds more interesting than Project 1 synthesizer? Why?

## Example: Clarinet Fourier series

Expressing a complicated signal in terms of simple signals:

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) \approx & 0.382 \cos(2\pi 195.0t + 1.35) + 0.237 \cos(2\pi 584.9t + 0.48) + \\ & 0.169 \cos(2\pi 974.8t + 0.30) + 0.151 \cos(2\pi 1754.6t - 1.35) + \\ & 0.066 \cos(2\pi 2534.5t - 1.41) + 0.061 \cos(2\pi 2144.6t + 2.40) + \\ & 0.057 \cos(2\pi 2339.5t + 0.40) + 0.041 \cos(2\pi 1364.7t + 1.32)\end{aligned}$$

- Guitar signal would have different amplitudes and phases, even if playing the same note.
- MP3 audio coding exploits the “line” nature of music spectra.
  
- How did I make the spectrum plot on previous slide?
- How did I get all the numbers above?

## Part 3: Band-limited signals: towards computing a signal's spectrum

## Fourier Series: Trigonometric form

Fourier Series: **Sinusoidal form:**

$$x(t) = c_0 + c_1 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t - \theta_1\right) + c_2 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t - \theta_2\right) + \dots$$

Fourier Series: **Trigonometric form:**

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) = & a_0 + a_1 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t\right) + a_2 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t\right) + \dots \\ & + b_1 \sin\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t\right) + b_2 \sin\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t\right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Coefficients in these two forms are related by:

$$a_0 = c_0$$

$$a_k = c_k \cos \theta_k$$

$$b_k = c_k \sin \theta_k$$

$$c_k = \sqrt{a_k^2 + b_k^2} \quad (\text{need this to plot spectra})$$

$$\tan \theta_k = b_k / a_k$$

because (Lab 1):  $\cos(t - \theta) = \cos(\theta) \cos(t) + \sin(\theta) \sin(t)$

We will focus on finding the  $a_k$  and  $b_k$  values for music signals.



## About those dots: ...

Example.

If  $x(t)$  has period =  $T = 0.01$  seconds then  $x(t)$  has **expansion**:

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 x(t) = & a_0 & + a_1 \cos(2\pi 100t) & + a_2 \cos(2\pi 200t) + a_3 \cos(2\pi 300t) + \dots \\
 & & + b_1 \sin(2\pi 100t) & + b_2 \sin(2\pi 200t) + b_3 \sin(2\pi 300t) + \dots \\
 & & \text{fundamental = 1st harmonic} & \text{2nd harmonic} \quad \text{3rd harmonic} \\
 & \text{(DC)} & \text{(100 Hz)} & \text{(200 Hz)} \quad \text{(300 Hz)}
 \end{array}$$

- Mathematical perspective: What does “...” mean?

??

- Engineering perspective:

Practical signals are, or can be made to be, **band limited**.

- Physical limits
- Perception limits
- Anti-alias filters in A/D converters

## Band-limited signals have a maximum frequency

Definition. A signal is **band limited** to  $B$  Hz if it has no frequency components *higher* than  $B$  Hz.

Example.

If  $x(t)$  has period =  $T = 0.01$  seconds *and* is band-limited to 800 Hz then  $x(t)$  has (finite!) Fourier series expansion:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 x(t) = & a_0 & + & a_1 \cos(2\pi 100t) & & + & a_2 \cos(2\pi 200t) & + \cdots & + & a_8 \cos(2\pi 800t) \\
 & & & + & b_1 \sin(2\pi 100t) & & + & b_2 \sin(2\pi 200t) & + \cdots & + & b_8 \sin(2\pi 800t) \\
 & & & \text{fundamental} = & \text{1st harmonic} & & \text{2nd harmonic} & & & & \text{highest harmonic} \\
 & \text{(DC)} & & \text{(100 Hz)} & & & \text{(200 Hz)} & & & & \text{(800 Hz)}
 \end{array}$$

Finite sum: 
$$x(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^8 (a_k \cos(2\pi 100kt) + b_k \sin(2\pi 100kt))$$

This periodic, band-limited signal is “characterized completely” by the frequency (100 Hz) and just 17 other numbers:

$$\{a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6, a_7, a_8, b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5, b_6, b_7, b_8\}.$$

How do we find those values, called **coefficients**?

## Exercise

A periodic signal  $x(t)$  has period  $T = 0.02$  seconds and is known to be band-limited to 200 Hz.

How many (possibly nonzero) Fourier series coefficients does it have (in trigonometric form), including the DC coefficient?

??

Recall:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) = & a_0 + a_1 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t\right) + a_2 \cos\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t\right) + \dots \\ & + b_1 \sin\left(2\pi\frac{1}{T}t\right) + b_2 \sin\left(2\pi\frac{2}{T}t\right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

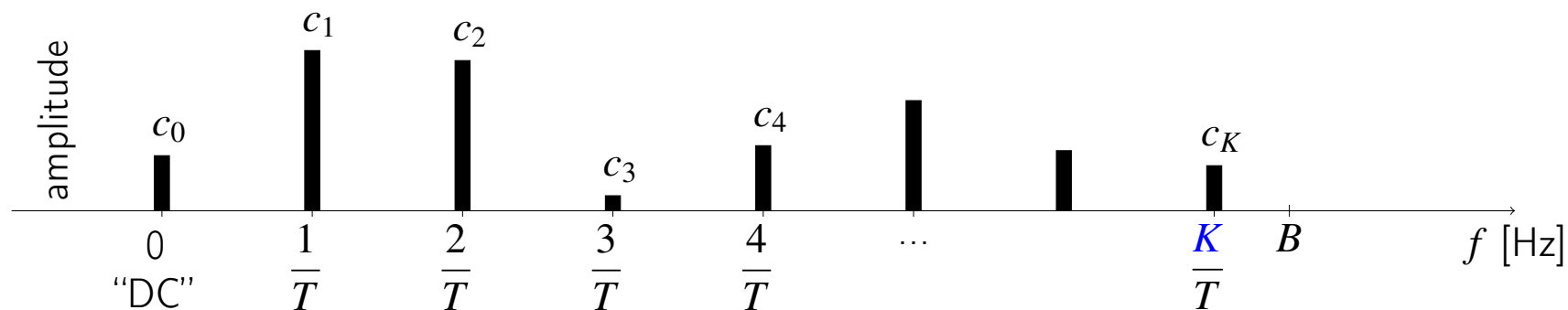
## How many coefficients?

In general, if a signal has period  $T$  and is band-limited to  $B$  Hz, *how many* Fourier series coefficients  $\{a_0, a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2, \dots\}$  are needed?

??

## Spectrum of a band-limited periodic signal

A periodic signal with period  $T$ , that is band-limited to  $B$  Hz, has a spectrum that looks like:

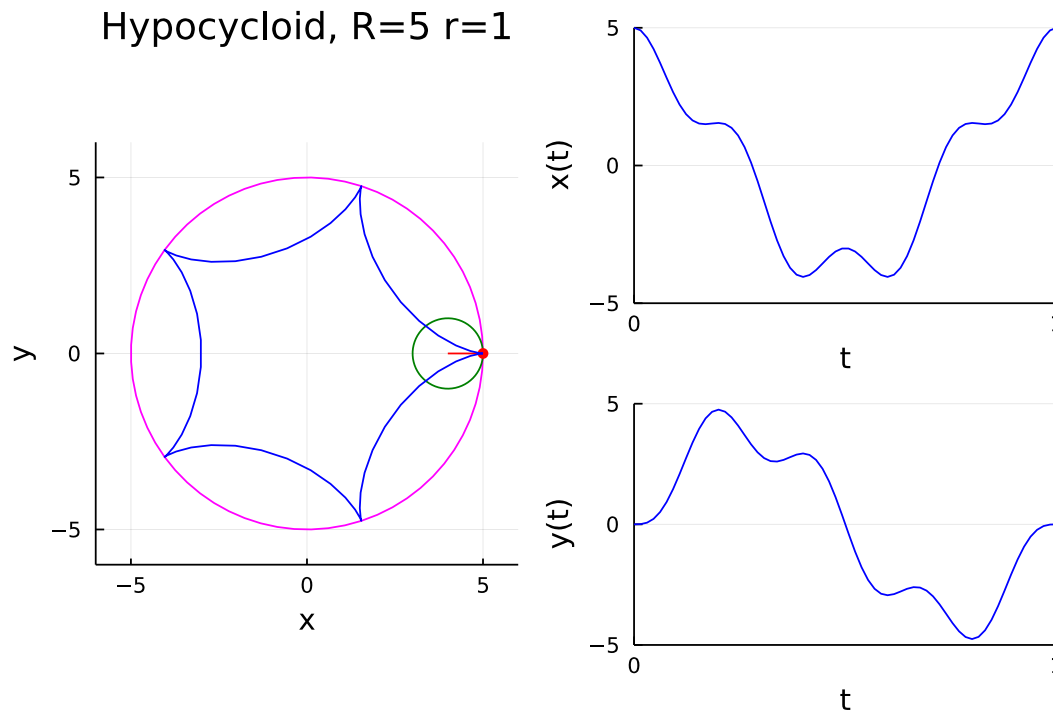


- No frequency components above  $B$  Hz
- No lines in spectrum past  $B$  Hz
- $K = BT$  if it is an integer (# of sinusoids) (units of  $BT$ ?)
- $K = \lfloor BT \rfloor$  more generally,  $\lfloor x \rfloor =$  largest integer that is  $\leq x$   
 $\lfloor x \rfloor$  called floor function (below)
- Example:  $T = 0.01$  s and  $B = 360$  Hz  $\implies K = \lfloor 3.6 \rfloor = 3$

# Spectrum review: A non-music example

The following figure / demo illustrates a **hypocycloid** that is one special case of a **spirograph**.

demo: `fig_spirograph1.jl`



Formula:

$$x(t) = (R - r) \cos(2\pi t) + r \cos\left(2\pi \frac{R-r}{r} t\right)$$

$$y(t) = (R - r) \sin(2\pi t) - r \sin\left(2\pi \frac{R-r}{r} t\right)$$

Here,  $R = 5$  (outer circle)  
and  $r = 1$  (inner circle).

Recall: a signal is any time-varying quantity...

Exercise.

Sketch spectrum of  $x(t)$  (or  $y(t)$ ).

Is  $x(t)$  band-limited?

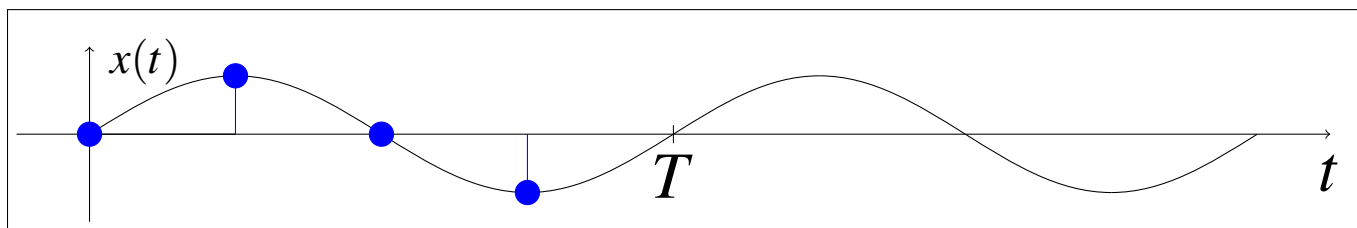
What is the band-limit  $B$ ?

## Computing a signal's spectrum

## Signal sampling

Idea. To determine  $2BT + 1$  Fourier coefficients of a signal with period  $T$  that is band-limited to  $B$  Hz, we try taking at least  $N \geq 2BT + 1$  **samples** of the signal over one period, e.g., the interval  $[0, T)$ .

In other words, take  $N > 2BT$  samples:  $x[0], x[1], \dots, x[N - 1]$ .



What will be the sampling interval?  $\Delta = \frac{T}{N} < \frac{T}{2BT} = \frac{1}{2B}$ .

The sampling rate is:  $S = \frac{\# \text{ of samples}}{\text{time interval}} = \frac{N}{T} > \frac{2BT}{T} = 2B$ .

Sample *faster* than twice the maximum frequency:  $S > 2B$ .



## 2B or not 2B

The formula  $S > 2B$  is one of the most important in DSP!  
It is the foundation for all digital audio and video and more.  
CD players use a sampling rate of 44.1 kHz. Why?  $??$

Where did  $T$  go?

The period  $T$  need not affect the sampling rate!

We can choose  $T$  arbitrarily large.

Amazing fact #2 (discovered by Claude Shannon 60+ years ago):

**Nyquist-Shannon sampling theorem:**

If we sample a band-limited signal  $x(t)$  at a rate  $S > 2B$ , then  
we can recover the signal from its samples  $x[n] = x(n/S)$ . (EECS 216)

Conversely:

sampling too slowly can cause bad effects called **aliasing**.

Example: wagon wheels in Western movies.

# Claude Shannon: Father of information theory

1916-2001

Born in Petosky, raised in Gaylord, MI.

UM EE Class of 1936.

Claude Shannon's statue is outside EECS.



<http://www.computerhistory.org/collections/accession/102665758> circa 1980

*cf.* finite element models used by, e.g., mechanical and aero engineers