



**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGIES**  
**ALMUSTAQBAL UNIVERSITY**

**Digital Signal Processing (DSP)**  
**CTE 306**

**Lecture 8**

**- Periodic & Aperiodic Signals -**  
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# Classification of Signals

One of the most important classify of a signals are:

- Periodic signals.
- Non periodic signals.

- Real numbers are the numbers that we normally use and apply in real-world applications.
- Real Numbers include:
  - ❖ Whole Numbers (like 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, etc )
  - ❖ Rational Numbers (like  $\frac{3}{4}$ , 0.125, 0.333, 1.1, etc)
  - ❖ Irrational Numbers (like  $\pi$ ,  $\sqrt{2}$ , etc)
- Real Numbers can also be positive, negative or Zero.

- A continuous-time signal,  $x(t)$  is a periodic signal if  $x(t + nT) = x(t)$ , where  $T$  is the period of the signal and  $n$  is an integer.
- Sinusoidal, square and triangular waves are periodic signals.
- For  $x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t)$ , where  $x_1(t)$  and  $x_2(t)$  are two periodic signals with fundamental  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  respectively,  $x(t)$  is a periodic signal if  $T_1/T_2 =$  a rational number.
- The fundamental period,  $T$  for  $x(t)$  is the least common multiples (LCM) of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .

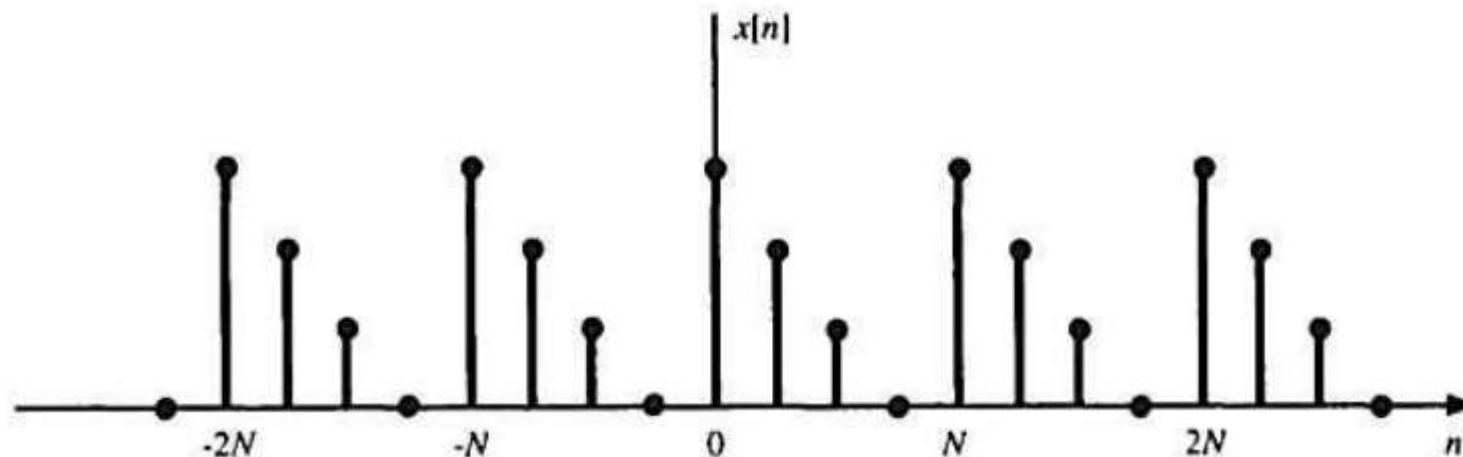
# Least Common Multiples (LCM)

- The smallest positive number that is a multiple of two or more numbers.
- The multiples of 4 are: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 44, ...
- The multiples of 5 are: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, ...
- So, the common multiples of 4 and 5 are: 20, 40, (and 60, 80, etc ..., too).
- The smallest of the common multiples is 20, so the least common multiple (LCM) of 4 and 5 is 20.

# Periodic Signals – Discrete time

A discrete-time signal may always be classified as either being periodic or aperiodic. A signal  $x(n)$  is said to be periodic if, for some positive real integer  $N$ ,

$$x(n) = x(n + N) \text{ for all } n.$$



This is equivalent to saying that the sequence repeats itself every  $N$  samples. If it is not satisfied for any integer  $N$ ,  $x(n)$  is said to be an aperiodic signal.

The sinusoidal signal of the form

$$x(n) = A \sin 2\pi f_0 n$$

Is periodic when  $f_0$  is a rational number, that is, if  $f_0$  can be expressed as

$$f_0 = \frac{k}{N}$$

Where  $k$  and  $N$  are integers

# Example

Determine whether each of the following signal is periodic. If a signal is periodic, determine its fundamental period.

$$x(t) = \cos (t + \pi/4)$$

Sol:

$x(t) = \cos (t + \pi/4)$  is in the form

$$A \cos (2 \pi f_0 t)$$

Where  $f_0$  is the fundamental frequency.

In this case,  $f_0 = 1/(2\pi)$ .

Therefore, the fundamental frequency,  $T_0 = 1/f_0 = 2\pi$



# Example

Determine whether or not the following signals are periodic. In case a signal is periodic, specify the fundamental frequency.

$$x(t) = 8 \sin (0.8 \pi t + \pi/4) + 5 \cos (0.6 \pi t + \pi/6)$$

$$W_1 = 0.8 \pi \Rightarrow T_1 = 2 \pi / W_1 \Rightarrow 2 \pi / 0.8 \pi \Rightarrow 5/2$$

$$W_2 = 0.6 \pi \Rightarrow T_2 = 2 \pi / W_2 \Rightarrow 2 \pi / 0.6 \pi \Rightarrow 10/3$$

$$T_1 / T_2 = 5/2 * 3/10 = 3/4 \Rightarrow \text{Rational Number} \Rightarrow \text{Periodic.}$$

$$3 T_2 = 4 T_1 = T$$

$$T = 3 T_2 \Rightarrow 3 * 10/3 \Rightarrow 10 \text{ Sec.}$$

$$T = 4 T_1 \Rightarrow 4 * 5/2 \Rightarrow 10 \text{ Sec.}$$

The fundamental frequency,  $T_0$  is the least common multiples (LCM) which is 10 seconds.

# Example

Determine whether or not the following signals are periodic. In case a signal is periodic, specify the fundamental frequency.

$$x(t) = \cos(\pi/3)t + \sin(\pi/4)t$$

Sol:

This is the sum of two functions that are both periodic.

Their fundamental periods are  $T_1 = 6$  seconds and  $T_2 = 8$  seconds respectively.

$T_1/T_2 = 6/8$  is a rational number.

Therefore  $x(t)$  is a periodic signal.

The fundamental frequency,  $T_0$  is the least common multiples (LCM) which is 24 seconds.

# Example

*Is  $x(n) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi n}{8}\right)$  periodic? If so, what is the period?*

Sol: The sequence can be expressed as

$$x(n) = \cos\left(2\pi \frac{1}{16} n\right)$$

So in this case,  $f_0 = 1/16$  is a rational number and the sinusoidal sequence is periodic with a period  $N = 16$ .

# Example

Determine whether or not each of the following signals is periodic. If a signal is periodic, determine its fundamental period.

$$x[n] = e^{j(\pi/4)n}$$

Sol:

$$x[n] = e^{j(\frac{\pi}{4})n} = e^{j2\pi f_0 n} \quad \rightarrow \quad 2\pi f_0 = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Since  $f_0 = 1/8$  is a rational number,  $x[n]$  is periodic, the fundamental period is  $N=8$

# Example

Determine whether or not each of the following signals is periodic. If a signal is periodic, determine its fundamental period.

$$x[n] = \cos \frac{\pi}{3}n + \sin \frac{\pi}{4}n$$

Sol:

$$x_1[n] = \cos \frac{\pi}{3}n \quad \rightarrow \quad 2\pi f_0 = \frac{\pi}{3}$$
$$x_2[n] = \sin \frac{\pi}{4}n \quad \rightarrow \quad 2\pi f_0 = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

Since  $f_1 = 1/6$  is a rational number,  $x_1[n]$  is periodic, the fundamental period is  $N_1=6$ , and Since  $f_2 = 1/8$  is a rational number,

# Example

$x[n]$  is periodic, the fundamental period is  $N=8$ . Thus,  $x[n]$  is periodic and its fundamental period is given by the least common multiple of 6 and 8, that is  $N=24$ .

Determine whether or not each of the following signals is periodic. If a signal is periodic, determine its fundamental period.

$$x[n] = \cos \frac{1}{4}n$$

Sol:

$$x[n] = \cos \frac{1}{4}n \quad \rightarrow \quad 2\pi f_0 = \frac{1}{4}$$

Since  $f_0 = 1/8\pi$  is not a rational number,  $x[n]$  is aperiodic.

