

Fourier Series and Fourier Transforms

Engr325

Instrumentation

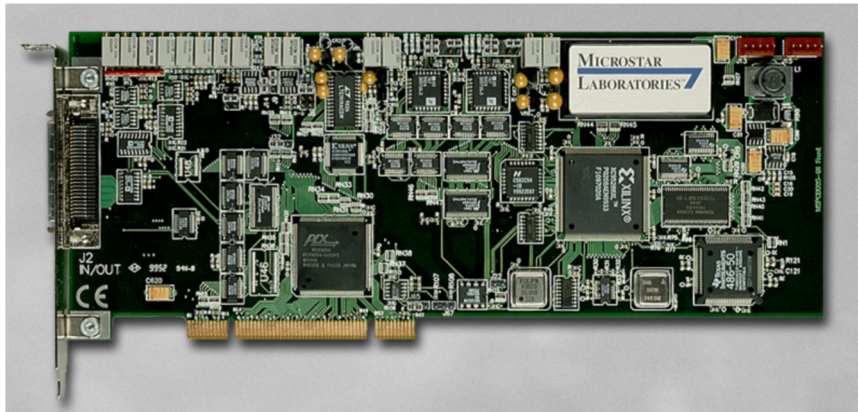
Dr Curtis Nelson

This Lecture

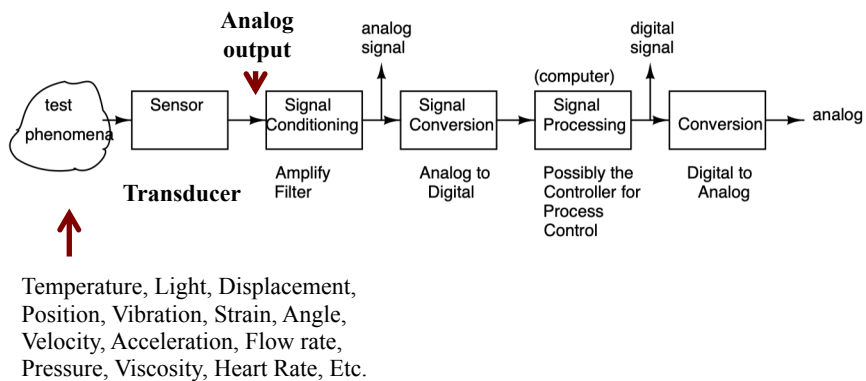
- Fourier series.
- Fourier transforms.

A/D Converter Board

<http://www.mstarlabs.com/dataacquisition/840/840spec.html>

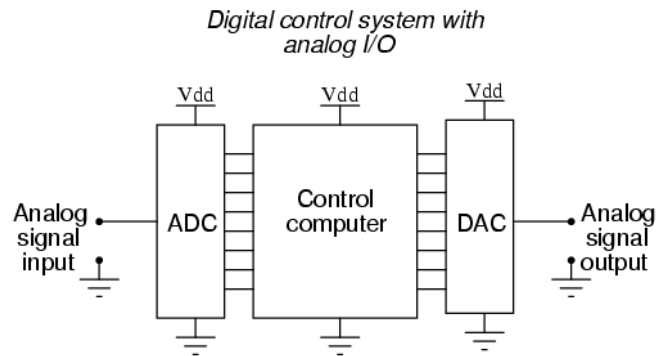


Instrumentation System



Digital Acquisition System

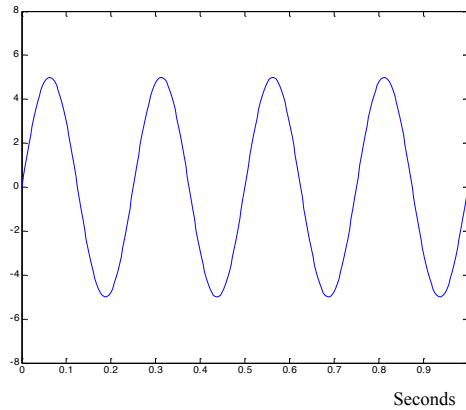
- Computers are nearly always in the middle of any instrumentation system to provide a complete interface with analog sensors and output devices.



Signal Processing

- The big question now is: “What information do we want to extract from the signal that we have acquired?”
 - Amplitude.
 - Frequency.
 - Timing.
 - Phase.
 - Etc.
- Let’s focus on **Frequency** today.

A Sine Wave

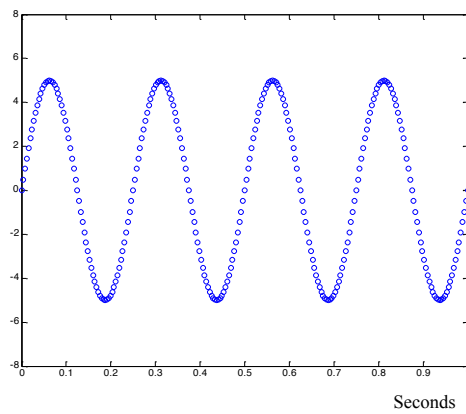


$$5 * \sin(2\pi 4t)$$

Amplitude = 5

Frequency = 4 Hz

A Sampled Sine Wave Signal



$$5 * \sin(2\pi 4t)$$

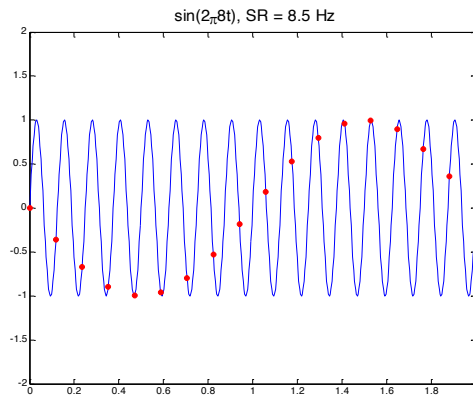
Amplitude = 5

Frequency = 4 Hz

Sampling rate = 256
samples/second

Sampling duration
= 1 second

An Undersampled Signal



The Nyquist Frequency

- The Nyquist frequency is equal to one-half of the sampling frequency.
- The Nyquist frequency is the highest frequency that can be measured in a signal.
- In other words – you **MUST** sample at least twice as fast as the fastest frequency in the signal you wish to capture.
- And, how do you determine what that maximum frequency is? Or more generally, how do you determine all of the frequencies comprising the signal you are capturing?
- We will answer the last question by going in reverse, i.e. we will learn how to create a signal composed of multiple frequencies.

Fourier Series

- **Fourier Series** (English pronunciation: [/'fɔəriət/](#)) is a way to represent a wave-like function as the sum of simple sine waves. More formally, it decomposes any *periodic function* or periodic signal into the sum of a (possibly infinite) set of sine and cosine functions.

$$\begin{aligned}A_0 &= \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} y(t) dt \\A_n &= \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} y(t) \cos n\omega t dt \\B_n &= \frac{2}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} y(t) \sin n\omega t dt\end{aligned}\tag{2.13}$$

where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$, and $T = 2\pi/\omega$ is the period of $y(t)$. The trigonometric series that results from these coefficients is a Fourier series and may be written as

$$y(t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \cos n\omega t + B_n \sin n\omega t)\tag{2.14}$$

Alternative Mathematical Representations

$$y(t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \cos n\omega t + B_n \sin n\omega t)$$

may be written as

$$y(t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \cos(n\omega t - \phi_n)$$

or

$$y(t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\omega t + \phi_n^*)$$

where

$$C_n = \sqrt{A_n^2 + B_n^2}$$

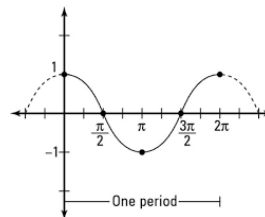
$$\tan \phi_n = \frac{B_n}{A_n} \quad \text{and} \quad \tan \phi_n^* = \frac{A_n}{B_n}$$

Fourier Series

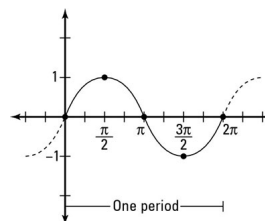
- Introduction
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UKHBWzoOKsY>
- Frequency filtering
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JndvN1ngSi4>
- Matlab demo

Fourier Series Symmetry

- If $f(t) = f(-t)$, then $f(t)$ is said to be an **even** function and all the b_n terms = 0. In other words, $f(t)$ is mirrored about the y-axis, like the cosine function.

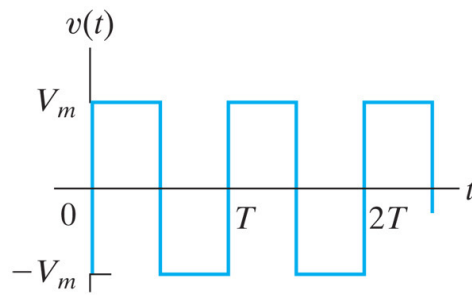


- If $f(t) = -f(-t)$, then $f(t)$ is said to be an **odd** function and all a_n terms (including the dc value) = 0. The sine function is an example.



Fourier Series Example

- Find the Fourier Series for the following waveform. Set $V_m = 1$ and $T = 2\pi$. See the Matlab file `fourier_series_square.m` on the course web page for implementation.



$$v(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{4}{n\pi} \sin(nt)$$

The Fourier Transform

- A transform takes one function (or signal) and turns it into another function (or signal).
- Continuous Fourier and Inverse Fourier Transforms:

$$H(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(t) e^{2\pi jft} dt$$

$$h(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H(f) e^{-2\pi jft} df$$

- Note that the transforms contain complex numbers.

The Discrete Fourier Transform

- Because we have computers in the mix and deal with discrete samples of information, mathematicians developed the **Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)**:

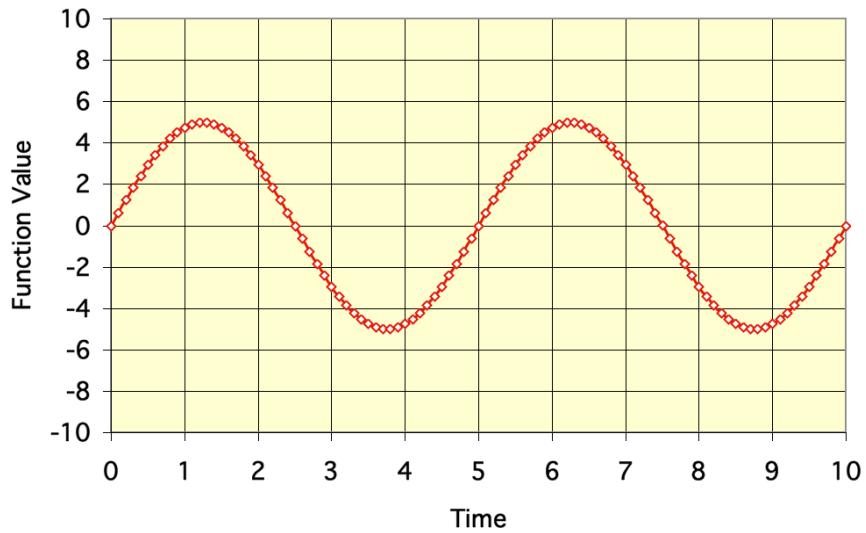
$$H_n = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} h_k e^{2\pi i k n / N}$$
$$h_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} H_n e^{-2\pi i k n / N}$$

- The *DFT* is also complex in nature.

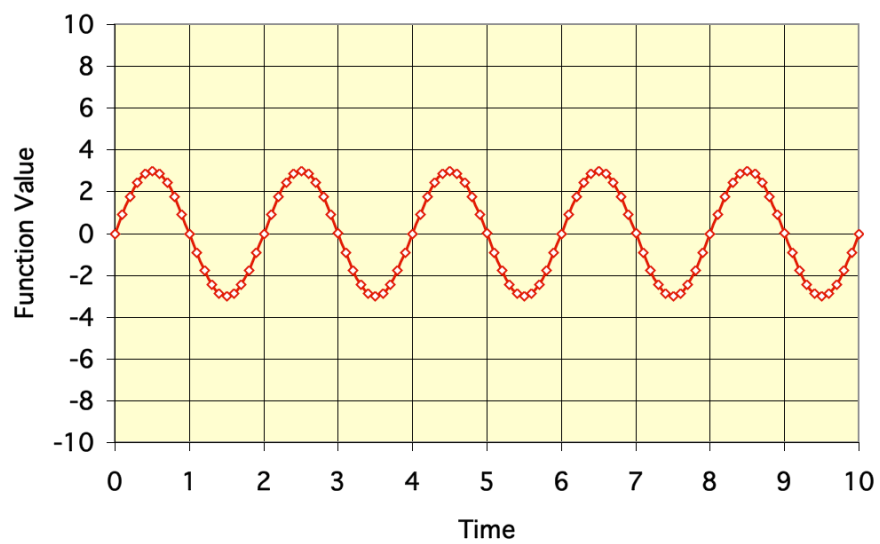
Fast Fourier Transform

- You have probably heard about the **The Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)**. The *FFT* is an efficient algorithm for performing a Discrete Fourier Transform.
- The FFT algorithm was first published by Cooley & Tukey in 1965.
- In 1969, the 2048 point analysis of a seismic data trace took over 13 hours. Using the FFT, the same task on the same machine took 2.4 seconds.
- The FFT is, by far, the most common frequency analysis algorithm used in programs such as Matlab.

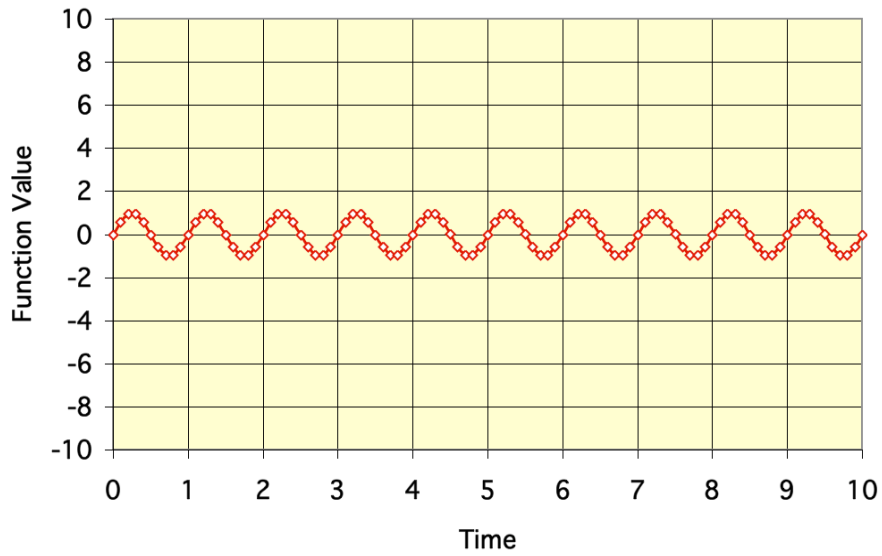
Example - Sample Waveform with $\tau = 5s$



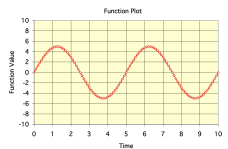
Example - Sample Waveform with $\tau = 2s$



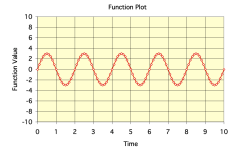
Example - Sample Waveform with $\tau = 1s$



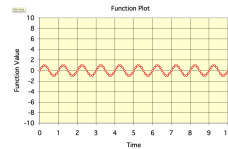
Composite Waveform



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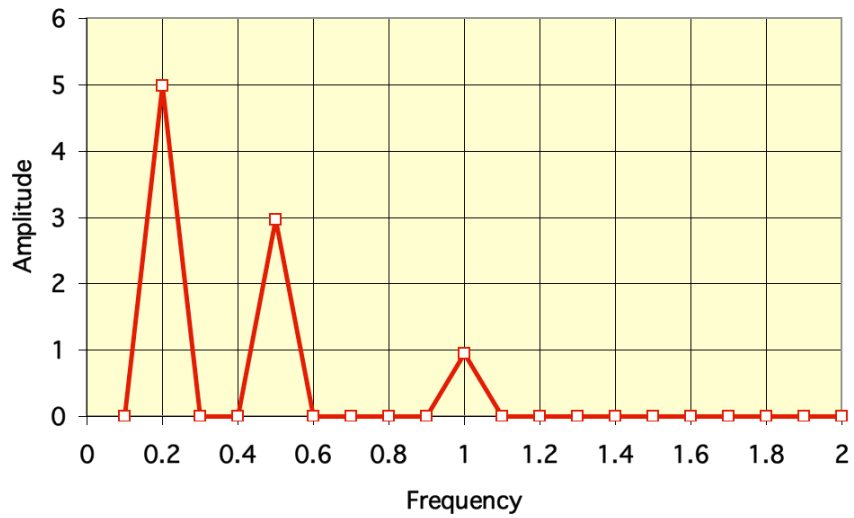


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Fourier Transform Information

Frequency Distribution



A Little Video Help

- [Graphical Depiction of Fourier Series \(watch first 10 minutes\)](#)
- [Introduction to Fourier Transform](#)

Notes on the Fourier Transform

- The FFT takes, as inputs, a vector of discrete points representing magnitudes in the time domain.
- The FFT returns a set of complex numbers containing magnitude and phase information in the frequency domain.
 - Note that the data is duplicated from the midpoint on, actually mirrored about the x-axis since it returns values for frequencies between $-\infty$ and $+\infty$.
- Sampling rate issues
 - Sampling too slow.
 - Sampling too fast
 - Possibility of not acquiring an entire period of the lowest frequencies.
- FFT illustration via Matlab.

Matlab Code

```
% FFT Example
% Revision 3.0 Curt Nelson 1/28/2020
% Creates functions of time and explores various fft implementations
clear all;
clear plot;

% Calculate the number of time samples (1000 in this case).
start_time = 0;
end_time = .01;           % 10 milli-seconds
delta_time = 1e-5;       % 10 micro-seconds
number_time_samples = (end_time - start_time)/delta_time; % 1000 points

% Create the time vector for x-axis (1000 data points)
time_vec = start_time:delta_time:end_time;
```

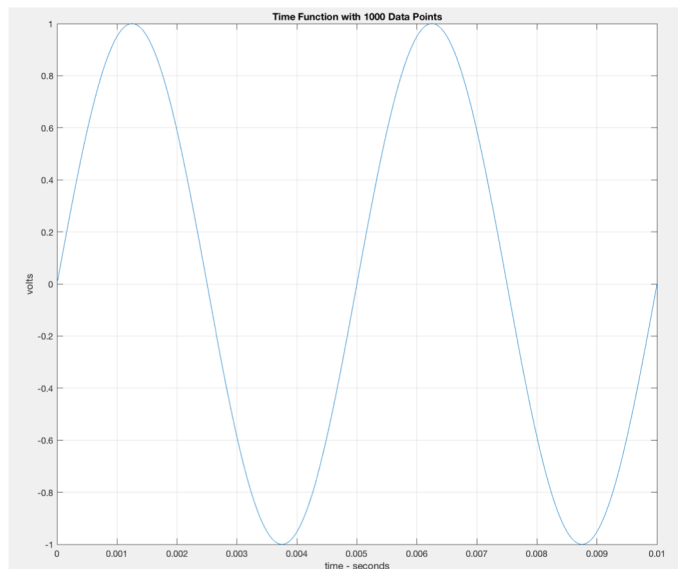
Matlab Code

```
% The sampling rate is 1/delta_time or 100,000 samples/second
sampling_rate = 1/delta_time;

% Next create the time domain function with a frequency of 200Hz, resulting
% in a period of 1/frequency or 5 milli-seconds.
freq = 200;
period = 1/freq;
time_function = sin(2*pi*freq*time_vec);

% Since we are sampling from 0 to 10ms, we should see 2 cycles
plot(time_vec,time_function);
title('Time Function with 1000 Data Points');
ylabel('volts');
xlabel('time - seconds');
grid on;
pause;
```

$$\text{time_function} = \sin(2\pi \cdot 200 \cdot x1t)$$



Matlab Code

```
% Now do an FFT on this time domain function
% fft_results contain a complex number pair for each sample
fft_results = fft(time_function);

% Create the x axis for frequencies starting at the DC value (0 Hz)
dc_value = 0;

% We only need to plot the first half of the frequencies because the fft returns
% the same data folded over on itself at maxfreq/2
% Frequency spacing is the sampling rate / by the number of samples and is
% the frequency resolution on the x axis.
freq_spacing = sampling_rate/number_time_samples;

% Maximum frequency for the fft is (sampling rate/2) – freq_spacing
freq_max = (sampling_rate/2) - freq_spacing;
```

FFT Matlab Code

```
% Next, create the x-axis points (0 - 49,900 in increments of 100Hz)
freq_plot_xaxis = dc_value:freq_spacing:freq_max;

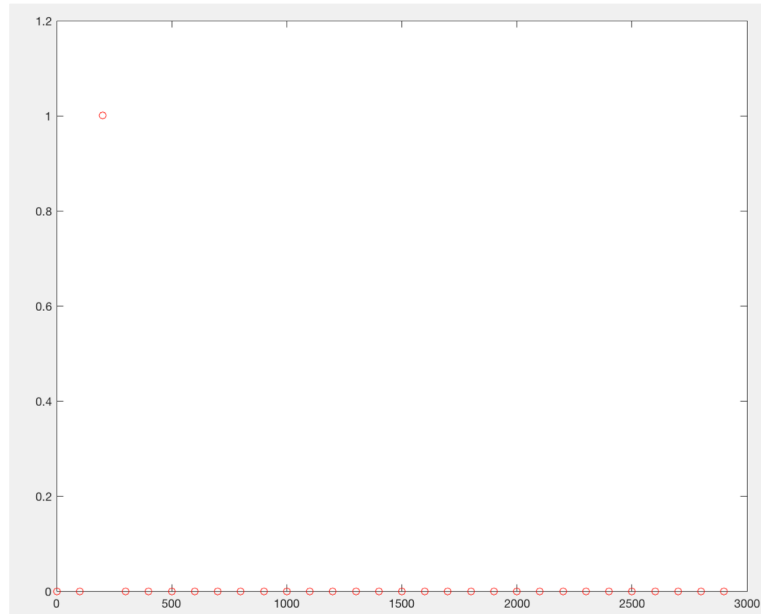
% This results in (number of time samples/2) or 500 frequencies
number_freq_samples = number_time_samples/2;

% The magnitude of the fft must be computed from the complex fft_results
magnitude = abs(fft_results);

% Normalize magnitude by dividing by the number of frequency samples
nor_magnitude = magnitude/number_freq_samples;

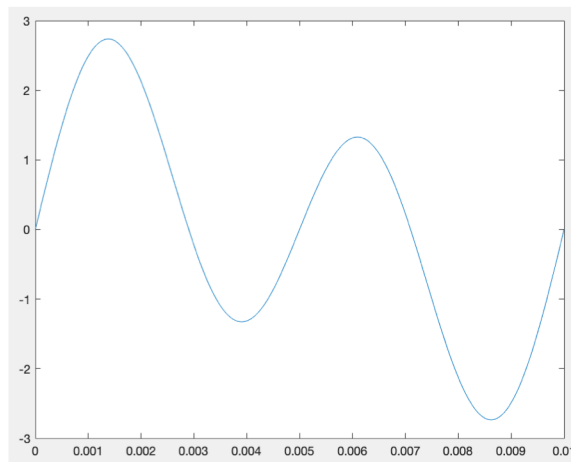
% Plot the first 30 frequencies using red circles
plot(freq_plot_xaxis(1:30),nor_magnitude(1:30),'ro');
pause;
```

FFT of $\sin(2\pi \cdot 200 \cdot t)$



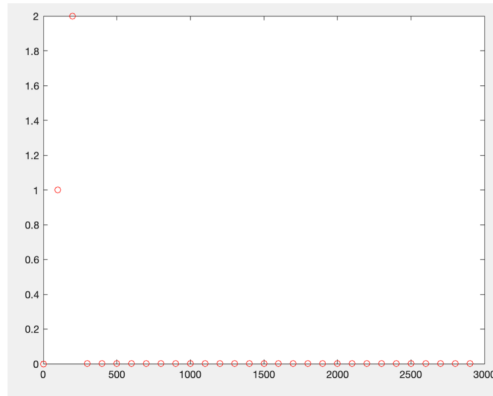
FFT Matlab Code

```
% Next, create a signal of two frequencies with different magnitudes  
new_sig = sin(2*pi*100*time_vec) + 2*sin(2*pi*200*time_vec);  
plot(time_vec,new_sig);  
pause;
```



FFT of $\sin(2\pi \cdot 100 \cdot \text{time_vec}) + 2 \cdot \sin(2\pi \cdot 200 \cdot \text{time_vec})$

```
% Perform the fft and plot
fft_results = fft(new_sig);
magnitude = abs(fft_results);
nor_magnitude = magnitude/number_freq_samples;
plot(freq_plot_xaxis(1:30),nor_magnitude(1:30),'ro');
pause;
```

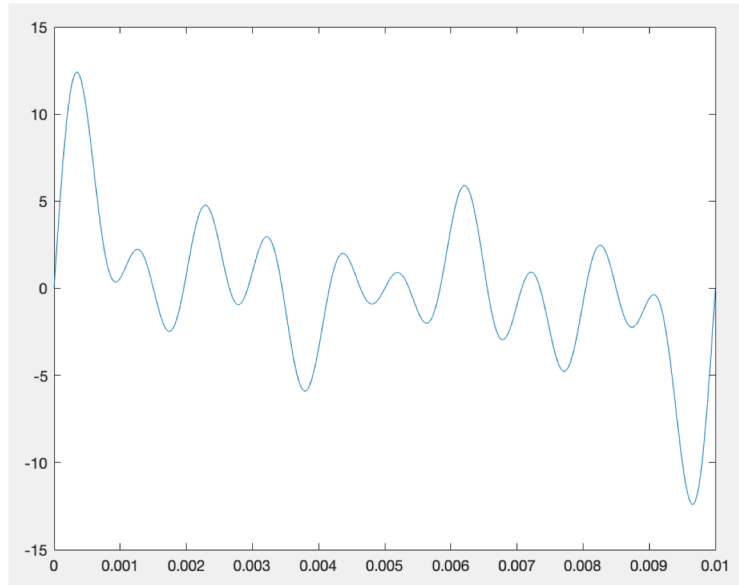


FFT Matlab Code

```
% Finally, lets add eight more frequencies with various magnitudes and plot
new_sig = new_sig + .5*sin(2*pi*300*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + 2*sin(2*pi*400*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + 3*sin(2*pi*500*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + sin(2*pi*600*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + 2*sin(2*pi*700*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + .5*sin(2*pi*800*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + sin(2*pi*900*time_vec);
new_sig = new_sig + 3*sin(2*pi*1000*time_vec);

plot(time_vec,new_sig);          % Plot the function
pause;
```

f(t) Composed of 10 Frequencies



Matlab Code

```
% Perform the fft and plot
fft_results = fft(new_sig);
magnitude = abs(fft_results);
nor_magnitude = magnitude/number_freq_samples;
plot(freq_plot_xaxis(1:30),nor_magnitude(1:30),'ro');
pause;
```

