

# 11.14-4

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**QUESTION:** Which of the following functions of time represent (a) simple harmonic, (b) periodic but not simple harmonic, and (c) non-periodic motion? Give period for each case of periodic motion ( $\omega$  is any positive constant):

1)  $\sin(\omega t) - \cos(\omega t)$

2)  $\sin^3(\omega t)$

3)  $3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - 2\omega t\right)$

4)  $\cos(\omega t) + \cos(3\omega t) + \cos(5\omega t)$

5)  $\exp(-\omega^2 t^2)$

6)  $1 + \omega t + \omega^2 t^2$

Answer:

Periodic function:

$$x(t + T) = x(t) \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

where min T is time period

SHM:

For a function to be in shm it must satisfy

$$d^2x(t)/dt^2 = -\alpha x$$

$x(t)$  is displacement

$\alpha$  is constant

$t$  is time

$\omega$  is angular frequency  $\omega = 2\pi f$

1)  $\sin(2\pi f t) - \cos(2\pi f t)$

The function can be rewritten as:

$$= \sin(2\pi f t) - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 2\pi f t\right) \quad (2)$$

$$= 2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \sin\left(2\pi f t - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \quad (3)$$

$$= \sqrt{2} \sin\left(2\pi f t - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \quad (4)$$

$$\therefore \text{SHM, } T = \frac{1}{f} \text{ and } \phi = \left(\frac{-\pi}{4}\right) \text{ or } \left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right)$$

(2)  $\sin^3(\omega t)$

This function can be rewritten as

$$= \frac{1}{4}(3 \sin(2\pi f t) - \sin(6\pi f t)) \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore \text{Periodic with period } T = \frac{1}{f}$$

(3)  $3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - 4\pi f t\right)$

This function can be rewritten as

$$= 3 \cos\left(4\pi f t - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \quad (6)$$

(7)

$$\text{SHM, } T = \frac{1}{2f} \text{ and } \phi = \left(\frac{-\pi}{4}\right) \text{ or } \left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right)$$

(4)  $\cos(2\pi f t) + \cos(6\pi f t) + \cos(10\pi f t)$

This function can be rewritten as

$$= \cos(2\pi f t) + \cos(10\pi f t) + \cos(6\pi f t) \quad (8)$$

$$= 2 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi f t + 10\pi f t}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{10\pi f t - 2\pi f t}{2}\right) + \cos(6\pi f t) \quad (9)$$

$$= 2 \cos(6\pi f t) \cos(2\pi f t) + \cos(6\pi f t) \quad (10)$$

$$= \cos(6\pi f t)(1 + 2 \cos(2\pi f t)) \quad (11)$$

Period of  $\cos(6\pi f t)$  is  $\frac{1}{3f}$

Period of  $1 + 2 \cos(2\pi f t)$  is  $\frac{1}{f}$

Lcm is  $\frac{1}{f}$

$$\therefore \text{SHM, } T = \frac{1}{f}$$

(5)  $\exp(-(2\pi f)^2 t^2)$

This function can be rewritten as

$$\text{As } T \rightarrow \infty \\ \exp(-(2\pi f)^2 t^2) \rightarrow \infty$$

$\therefore$  This never repeats and non periodic

$$(6) 1 + 2\pi ft + (2\pi f)^2 t^2$$

This function can be rewritten as

$$\text{As } T \rightarrow \infty \\ 1 + 2\pi ft + (2\pi f)^2 t^2 \rightarrow \infty$$

$\therefore$  This never repeats and non periodic

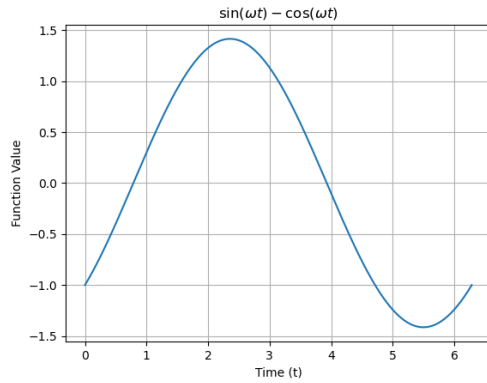


Fig. 1.  $\sin(2\pi ft) - \cos(2\pi ft)$

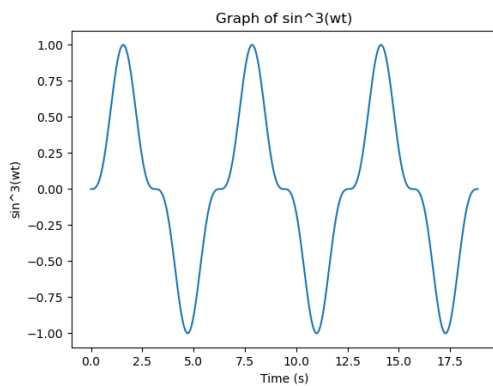


Fig. 1.  $\sin^3(2\pi ft)$

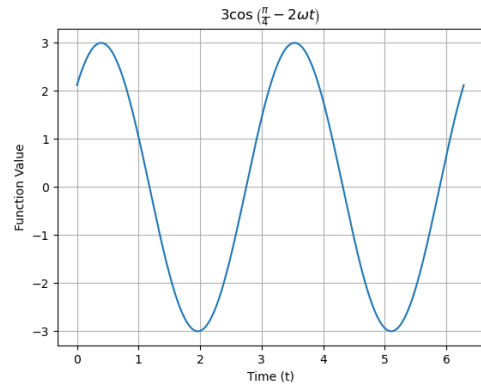


Fig. 1.  $3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - 4\pi ft\right)$

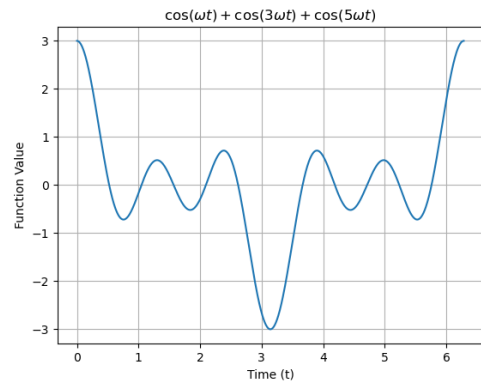


Fig. 1.  $\cos(2\pi ft) + \cos(6\pi ft) + \cos(10\pi ft)$

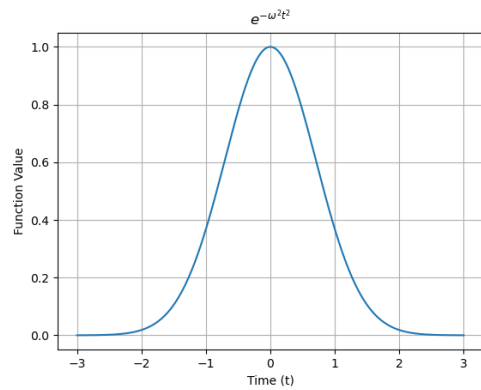


Fig. 1.  $\exp(-(2\pi ft)^2)$

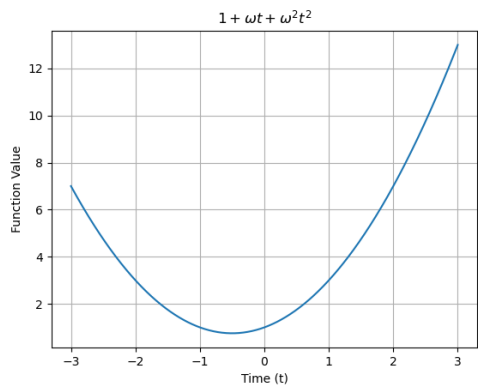


Fig. 1.  $1 + 2\pi ft + (2\pi ft)^2$

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TABLE 1  
SUMMARY

	Function	Periodic	Simple harmonic motion	Non Periodic	T	$\phi$
(a)	$\sin(2\pi ft) - \cos(2\pi ft)$	Yes	Yes	No	$\frac{1}{f}$	$\left(\frac{-\pi}{4}\right)$
(b)	$\sin^3(2\pi ft)$	Yes	No	No	$\frac{1}{f}$	—
(c)	$3\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4} - 4\pi ft\right)$	Yes	Yes	No	$\frac{1}{2f}$	$\left(\frac{-\pi}{4}\right)$
(d)	$\cos(2\pi ft) + \cos(6\pi ft) + \cos(10\pi ft)$	Yes	No	No	$\bar{f}$	—
(e)	$\exp\left(-(2\pi ft)^2\right)$	No	No	Yes	—	—
(f)	$1 + (2\pi f)t + (2\pi f)^2 t^2$	No	No	Yes	—	—