

# ON THE PERIODICITY OF THE SUMS OF SINES

SV

**Problem 1.** Let  $c(x)$  be a function

$$c(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sin(\omega_i x) \text{ with } N \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

It's to be determined, if there exists a value  $T_0$ , such that  $c(x) = c(x + T_0)$ .

*Claim 2.* A function  $c(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sin(\omega_i x)$  is periodic in  $T_0$ , if there exists a value  $T_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $T_0 = \gcd(F)^{-1}$  with  $F = \{f_i | f_i = \frac{\omega_i}{2\pi}\}$  exists. Herein let  $\gcd$  be the function of the greatest common divider, so the function, that gives the biggest value  $\zeta$  of a set  $Z$ , such that  $\forall z \in Z \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : \frac{z}{\zeta} = k$  is satisfied.

*Proof.* Lets start with defining the set of all frequencies of the partial waves

$$F := \{f_i | f_i = \frac{\omega_i}{2\pi}\}$$

and define

$$\xi := \gcd(F).$$

Then:

$$\forall f \in F \exists k \in \mathbb{N} : f = k \cdot \xi$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \exists \xi \forall \frac{f}{k} : \xi = \frac{f}{k} \text{ and } f \in F, k \in \mathbb{N}$$

Combining this with  $c(x + T_0)$  yields

$$c(x + T_0) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sin(\omega_i x + \omega_i \frac{k_i}{f_i}),$$

what combined with the definition of  $F$  can be reduced to

$$c(x + T_0) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sin(\omega_i x + 2\pi k_i).$$

The rear inner term can be dropped because  $\sin(a + \phi) = \sin(a) \Leftrightarrow \phi \in \mathbb{Z}, k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ .

This proves that  $c(x + T_0) = c(x) \Leftarrow T_0 = \gcd(F)^{-1}$ . □