

# When does a sampled cosinuoid equal 0?

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For continuous time  $t$ , trivially:

$$y = \cos t = \pm 1, \quad t \in 0, \pm\pi, \pm 2\pi, \dots, \pi m, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Likewise for continous time, a cosinusoid with angular frequency  $\omega$  and time  $t$ :

$$y = \cos \omega t = \pm 1, \quad t \in 0, \frac{\pi}{\omega}, \frac{2\pi}{\omega}, \dots, \frac{\pi m}{\omega}, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

By inspection, for continuous time frequency  $f$ :

$$y = \cos 2\pi f t = \pm 1, \quad t \in 0, \frac{\pi}{2\pi f}, \frac{2\pi}{2\pi f}, \dots, \frac{\pi m}{2\pi f}, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

The same result is realized in discrete time with sampling period  $T_s$  at time samples  $n$ :

$$y = \cos 2\pi f t = \pm 1, \quad n = \text{round} \left[ \frac{\pi}{2\pi f T_s} \right] m, \quad m \in \mathbb{Z}$$

where  $\text{round}[\cdot]$  means round to the nearest integer. That is, the discrete time output  $y = \pm 1$  at the sample indices in the vector  $n$ . To account for a phase shift  $\phi$ , a similar argument leads to the final desired result:

$$n = \text{round} \left[ \frac{\pi}{2\pi f T_s} + \left| \frac{\phi}{2\pi f T_s} \right| \right] \quad (1)$$

In Matlab, (1) is implemented via the code:

```
sampinterval = pi./(2*pi*f*Ts);  
sampooffset = abs(phase./(2*pi*f*Ts)) + 1  
n = round(sampinterval:sampooffset:ns)
```

where the  $+1$  accounts for the one-based Matlab indexing, and  $\mathbf{ns}$  is the total number of samples.