

AMath390

Math & Music

Fall 2016

Assignment # 6 Due: noon Nov. 17 in dropbox 6 slot 3 (s.1) or slot 4 (s. 2)

Note: Give all answers to 3 significant digits.

1. Label the note with pitch 440 Hz as A . Find the frequency of the sixth note in the scale, (usually called F^\sharp) in Pythagorean, just intonation, and equal temperament.
2. In equal temperament, what factor do you multiply the root note (tonic) by to obtain the 7th note in the (major) scale?
3. (a) How much does a equally tempered fifth differ from a just fifth in cents?
(b) Repeat (a) for thirds.
4. Write on a staff the note that best approximates the frequency having the given interval ratio r from the given note. Use the standard equal temperament scale. Explain your calculations.

(a) $r = 5$

(b) $r = \frac{3}{5}$

5. Consider an equally tempered system with 19 notes.
 - (a) What note best approximates the ratio $\frac{3}{2}$? Give the error in cents.
 - (b) In the usual equally tempered system with 12 notes, which note best approximates the ratio $\frac{3}{2}$? Which system, 12-tet or 19-tet, yields a smaller error?