

The orthogonality of sines and cosines at different frequencies.

Consider the sine and cosine functions

$\sin t$	angular freq = 1	$\sin 3t$ $\cos 3t$ etc
$\cos t$	freq = $1/2\pi$	
	Period = 2π	

$\sin 2t$	angular freq = 2	$\sin nt$ $\cos nt$ Period = $2\pi/n$
$\cos 2t$	freq = $1/\pi$	
	Period = π	

Q: Take the product of two such functions, and integrate over one fundamental period of length 2π

Consider two integers m, n

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mt \cos nt dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \pi & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mt \sin nt dt = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \pi & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin mt \cos nt dt = 0 \quad \text{for all } m \text{ and } n$$

We say that $\sin nt$ and $\cos nt$ form a family of orthogonal trigonometric functions with fundamental period 2π