

Tone Structure:

We can build up/construct a complex waveform by linear superposition/linear combination of the harmonics:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{tot}(t) &= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(n\omega_1 t) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\omega_1 t) \\ &= a_0 + (a_1 \cos \omega_1 t + a_2 \cos 2\omega_1 t + a_3 \cos 3\omega_1 t + a_4 \cos 4\omega_1 t + \dots) \\ &\quad + (b_1 \sin \omega_1 t + b_2 \sin 2\omega_1 t + b_3 \sin 3\omega_1 t + b_4 \sin 4\omega_1 t + \dots) \end{aligned}$$

⇒ See/try out the UIUC P406's **Fourisim.exe** and/or **Guitar.exe** computer demo programs to learn/see/hear more about complex waveforms...

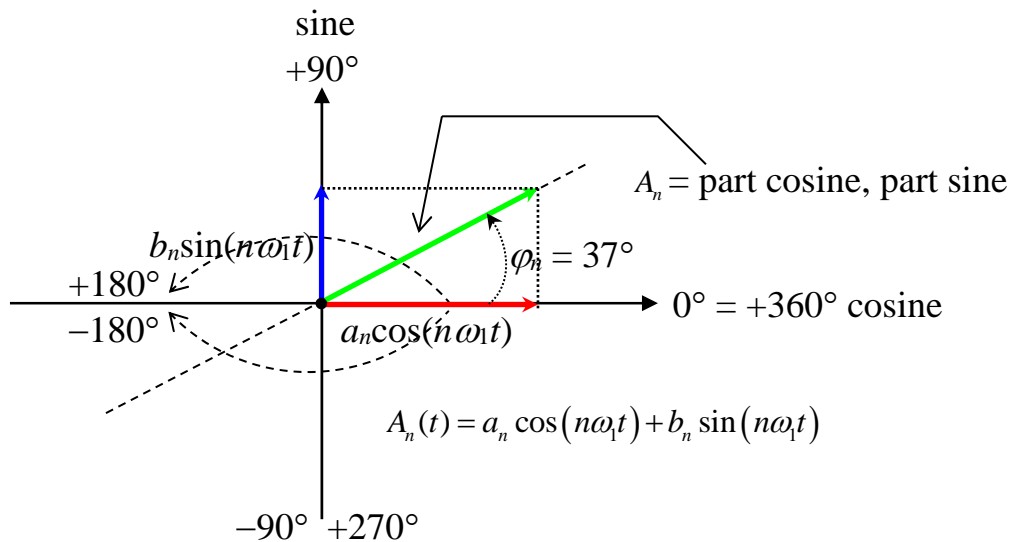
Harmonic Synthesis: Adding harmonics together to produce a complex waveform.

⇒ Please see & hear the Hammond Organ harmonic synthesis demo... ⇐

Harmonic Analysis: Decomposing a complex waveform into constituent harmonics.

Any complex periodic waveform can be analyzed into its constituent harmonics *i.e.* harmonic amplitudes and phases (*e.g.* relative to the fundamental).

Pure sine $\{b_n \sin(n\omega_1 t)\}$ and cosine $\{a_n \cos(n\omega_1 t)\}$ waves have a 90° phase relation with respect to each other, *e.g.* at a given time, t :



From the above phasor diagram, note that we can equivalently rewrite $A_n(t)$ as:

$$A_n(t) = a_n \cos(n\omega_1 t) + b_n \sin(n\omega_1 t) = A_n \cos(n\omega_1 t - \varphi_n)$$

From trigonometry, we see that: $a_n = A_n \cos \varphi_n$ and $b_n = A_n \sin \varphi_n$, and since: