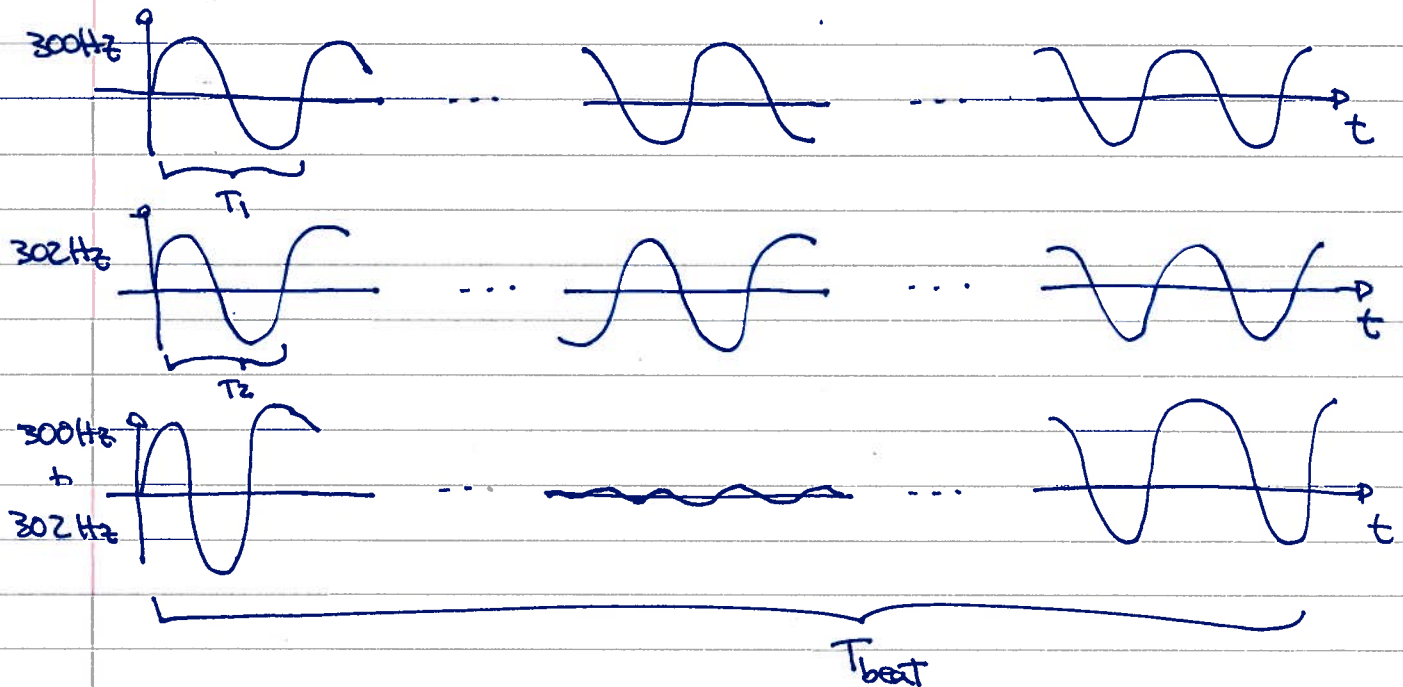


PHY 102 - homework 2  
SOLUTION

i) One way of thinking about this problem is to plot the two interfering waves and their sum (exhibiting the beats)



Let us call the time between two consecutive beats  $T_{beat}$ . In that time the 300 Hz wave will go through a number of periods given by  $N_1 = \frac{T_{beat}}{T_1} = T_{beat} \cdot 300 \text{ Hz}$ . Similarly, the number of periods the other sound will go through is  $N_2 = \frac{T_{beat}}{T_2} = T_{beat} \cdot 302 \text{ Hz}$ . But  $N_2 = N_1 + 1$ . Thus,

$$T_{beat} \cdot 302 \text{ Hz} = T_{beat} \cdot 300 \text{ Hz} + 1$$



$$T_{beat} (302 \text{ Hz} - 300 \text{ Hz}) = 1$$



$$T_{beat} = \frac{1}{2 \text{ Hz}} = 0.5 \text{ sec.}$$

The frequency of the beats is  $f_{beat} = \frac{1}{T_{beat}} = 2 \text{ Hz}$

For generic frequencies  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  we can repeat the argument:

$$T_{\text{beat } f_1} = T_{\text{beat } f_2 + 1}$$

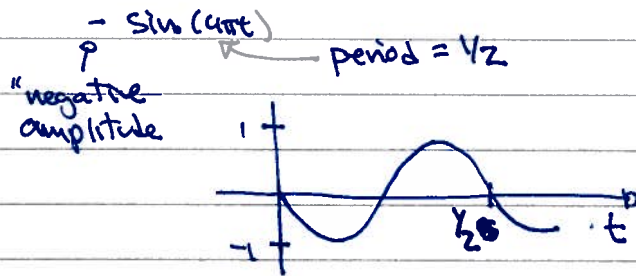
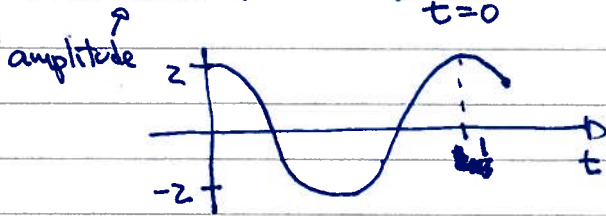
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$$T_{\text{beat}} (f_1 - f_2) = 1$$

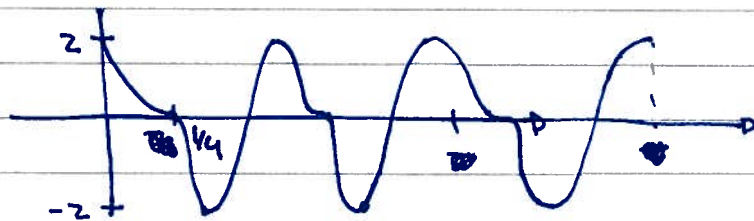
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$$f_{\text{beat}} = \frac{1}{T_{\text{beat}}} = f_1 - f_2$$

2)  $2 \sin(2\pi t + \pi/2) \xrightarrow{t=0} 2 \sin(\pi/2) = 2$



$$2 \sin(2\pi t + \pi/2) - \sin(4\pi t)$$



At  $t=0$  we have no interference since the amplitude of the second wave is zero (sorry for that!)

3) I'll make some reasonable assumptions here:

annual middle-class income is about \$100,000

4 members of the band  $\Rightarrow$  \$400,000 income/year

30 years income (not thinking about retirement!)  $\Rightarrow$   $\$400,000 \times 30 = \$12,000,000$

price per CD about \$20

cut the band keeps  $\$20 \times 20\% = \frac{\$20}{5} = \$4$

number of CD's =  $\frac{\$12,000,000}{\$4} = 3,000,000$  albums

This is probably a low-ball estimate as the cut of the artist was overestimated (as well as the price of the CD). The point of the exercise is not to discourage would-be recording artists; they make much more money on live performances.