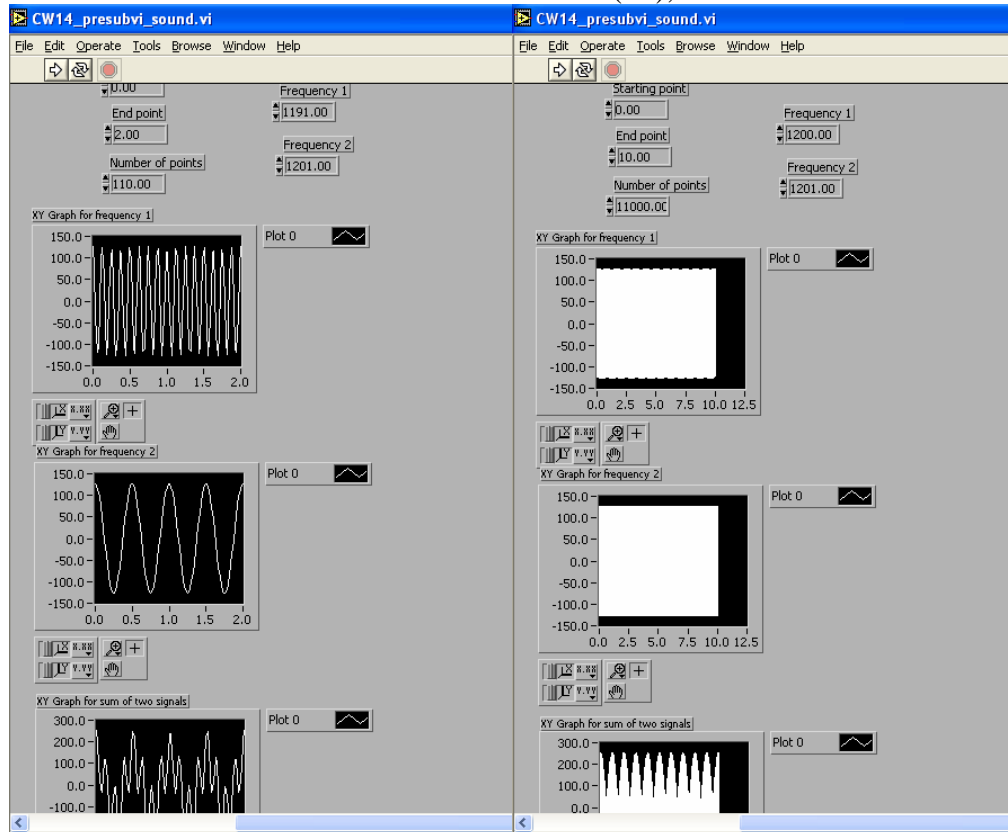


Engin 103  
Fall '06  
Meeting #2 –Sept 7, 2006

-Two students have been assigned to each computer with a password. Please use the computer only for course-related activities. Do not forget to logout before you leave at the end of the class. Please check the team list to see which day of the week (Tu=Tuesdays; Th=Thursdays) you will be the main user for that computer. This is to make sure everyone gets a fair access to the computer.

-Once again the correct course web page is  
[http://www.faculty.umb.edu/tomas\\_materdey/103f06](http://www.faculty.umb.edu/tomas_materdey/103f06)

-We discussed a LabVIEW Virtual Instrument (VI), the “Sound Generator”.



By working with the Front Panel we see the signal (shown in the lower graphs) resulting from adding two sinusoids of different frequencies carries both frequencies. When the frequencies of the two adding signals are slightly different, the resulting signal shows the “beat phenomenon” at the difference of frequencies which is much lower than the combining frequencies.

-Today’s topics:

-**Strategies for searching the Internet:** using Search Engines (more tips from the e-syllabus), for example:

-Generic Search Engine: google.com  
-Price-comparison Search Engines: nextag.com (you can get a good deal on the textbooks from here)

-Use multiple key words to narrow search results, if the keyword is not unique such as an ISBN (a number that identifies uniquely printed materials).

-If multiple keywords do not return expected results, such as for “kWh rate Boston, MA”, then use a top-to-bottom search starting from the electric company. For example: type in NSTAR in google.com, once on NSTAR, select “Rates and Tariffs”, select town, etc.

**-Teamwork:**

Team leader: 1) First a good team player (not an opportunity to impose your ideas or to get your way through).

2) A **brainstorming exercise** was performed (brainstorming is an idea generation process, filtered and scrutinized in progressing stages to get the best and the most relevant ideas for certain project). The class’ answers to the question: “What are the skills to develop to be a good leader?” are:

-Communication (for conveying ideas clearly, being able to listen to members, etc.)

-Organization (team credit depends on the leader when it comes to writing reports, setting priorities, ordering research materials, etc.)

-Respect

-Etc.

**-Suggested conclusions to record in the Engin 103 logbook:**

1) How to search for information on your assigned engineering field using the Internet? How to find the interesting information you were looking for? What strategies did you follow?

2) Fill in the “Etc.” under “skills to develop to be a good leader” discussed in class and indicated above. Include at least 3 new skills and explain why.

**Items due next class (Sept 12, 2006)**

-Coordinated research on the assigned engineering discipline according to Project 0 under the E-syllabus link. Work together via emails or meetings as coordinated by the team leader (listed in the link from the electronic Bulletin). Having a clear plan on what to include and how to proceed with the 5-minute presentation. Having at least a preliminary version of the PowerPoint slides to be used as visual aids during the presentation.

- Logbook entries as suggested above

-Getting textbooks from on-line providers