Chapter 4.
Digital Audio Representation

CS 3570

Objectives

- Be able to apply the Nyquist theorem to understand digital audio aliasing.
- Understand how dithering and noise shaping are done.
- Understand the algorithm and mathematics for μ-law encoding.
- Understand the application and implementation of the Fourier transform for digital audio processing.
- Understand what MIDI is and the difference between MIDI and digital audio wave.

Introduction

- Sound is a mechanical wave that is an oscillation of pressure transmitted through a solid, liquid, or gas.
- The perception of sound in any organism is limited to a certain range of frequencies(20Hz~20000Hz for humans).
- How do we process “sound”?
  - The changing air pressure caused by sound is translated into changing voltages.
  - The fluctuating pressure can be modeled as continuously changing numbers—a function where time is the input variable and amplitude (of air pressure or voltage) is the output.

Pulse Code Modulation

- Pulse-code modulation (PCM) is a method used to digitally represent sampled analog signals, which was invented by Alec Reeves in 1937.
- A PCM stream is a digital representation of an analog signal, in which the magnitude of the analogue signal is sampled regularly at uniform intervals, with each sample being quantized to the nearest value within a range of digital steps.
- PCM files are files that are digitized but not compressed.
- DPCM (Differential Pulse Code Modulation)

Audio Digitization

- When you create a new audio file in a digital audio processing program, you are asked to choose
  - **Sampling rate**: The sampling rate, sample rate, or sampling frequency defines the number of samples per unit of time (usually seconds) taken from a continuous signal to make a discrete signal.
  - **Bit depth**: Bit depth describes the number of bits of information recorded for each sample.
- For CD quality, the sampling rate is 44.1kHz and the bit depth is 16, which you might be familiar with when you illegally download music for the Internet.

Nyquist Theorem

- Review
  - Let *f* be the frequency of a sine wave. Let *r* be the minimum sampling rate that can be used in the digitization process such that the resulting digitized wave is not aliased. Then *r=2f.*

Nyquist Theorem

- Nyquist frequency
  - Given a sampling rate, the ***Nyquist frequency*** is the highest actual frequency component that can be sampled without aliasing.
  - Ex:

    If we choose a sample rate of 8000Hz, the Nyquist frequency $f_{nf} = \frac{1}{2} f_{samp} = 4000\text{Hz}$

Nyquist Theorem

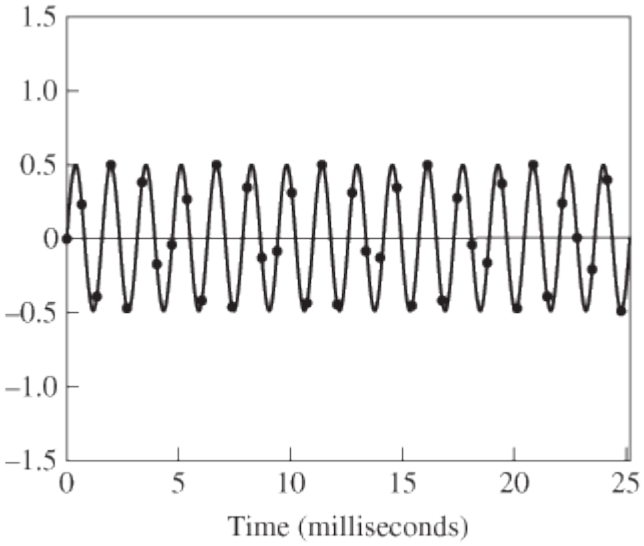
- Nyquist rate
  - Given an actual frequency to be sampled, the ***Nyquist rate*** is the lowest sampling rate that will permit accurate reconstruction of an analog digital signal.
  - Ex:

    If the highest frequency component is 10,000Hz,

    the Nyquist rate $f_{nr} = 2f_{max} = 20{,}000\text{Hz}$

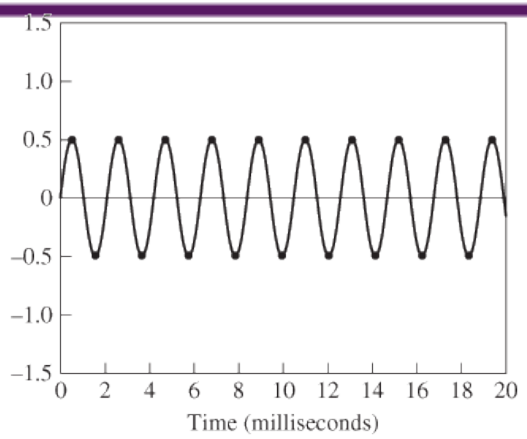
Sampling Rate and Aliasing

- In essence, the reason a too-low sampling rate results in aliasing is that there aren't enough sample points from which to accurately interpolate the sinusoidal form of the original wave.

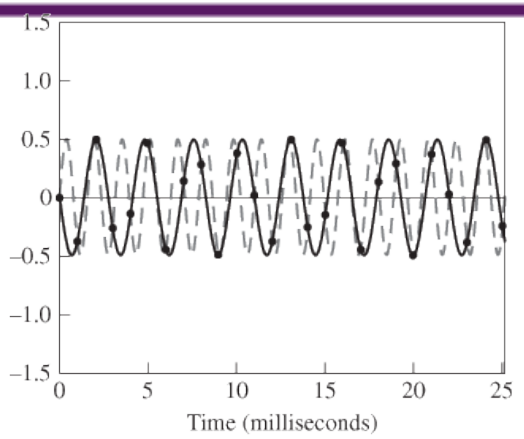


Samples taken more than twice per cycle will provide sufficient information to reproduced the wave with no aliasing

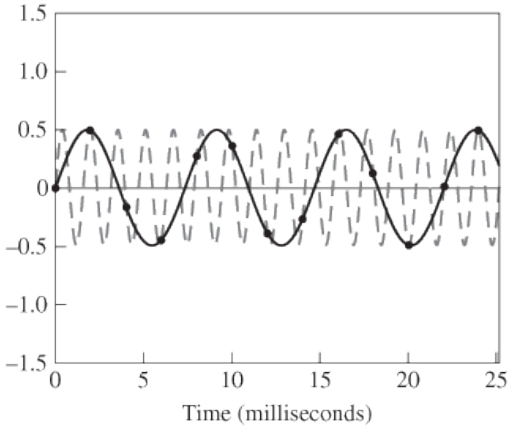
Sampling Rate and Aliasing



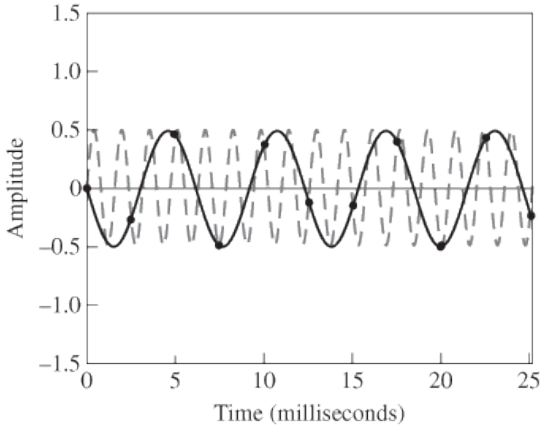
Samples taken exactly twice per cycle *can* be sufficient for digitizing the original with no aliasing



A 637 Hz wave sampled at 1000 Hz aliases to 363 Hz



A 637 Hz wave sampled at 500 Hz aliases to 137 Hz



A 637 Hz wave sampled at 400 Hz aliases to 163 Hz

Compute the Aliased Frequency

- Algorithm 4.1 shows how to compute the frequency of the aliased wave where aliasing occurs.

ALGORITHM 4.1

```
algorithm get_frequency
/*Input: Frequency of the analog audio wave (a single tone)
         to be sampled, f_act
         Sampling frequency, f_samp
Output: Frequency of the digitized audio wave, f_obs*/
{
 f_nf = 1/2 f_samp
            /*f_nf is the Nyquist frequency*/
/*CASE 1*/
   if (f_act ≤ f_nf) then
      f_obs = f_act
/*CASE 2*/
   else if (f_nf < f_act ≤ f_samp) then
     f_obs = f_samp - f_act
   else {
     INT = f_act/f_nf /* integer division */
     REM = f_act mod f_nf
/*CASE 3*/
     if (INT is even) then
       f_obs = REM
/*CASE 4*/
    else if (INT is odd) then
     f_obs = f_nf - REM
  }
}
```

Decibels

- Decibels(E_0, I_0: threshold of human hearing)
  - Decibels-sound-pressure-level (dB_SPL)

    $dB\_SPL = 20\log_{10}\left(\frac{E}{E_0}\right), E_0 = 2 \times 10^{-5} Pa$

  - Decibels-sound-intensity-level (dB_SIL)

    $dB\_SIL = 10\log_{10}\left(\frac{I}{I_0}\right), I_0 = 10^{-12} W/m^2$
- Decibels can be used to measure many things in physics, optics, electronics, and signal processing.
- A decibel is not an absolute unit of measurement.

Dynamic Range

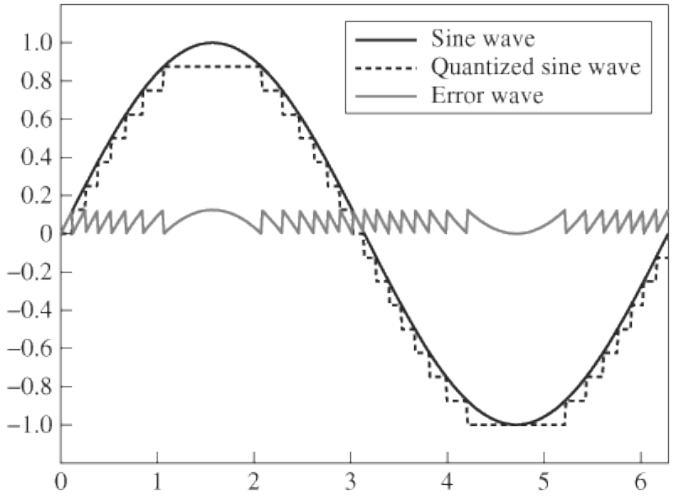
- Dynamic range is the ratio between the smallest nonzero value, which is 1, and the largest, which is 2^n. The *dynamic range of the audio file*, d, in decibels, is defined as

$$d = 20 \log_{10} 2^n = 20n \log_{10} 2 \approx 6n$$

- The definition is identical to the definition of SQNR, and this is why you see the terms SQNR and dynamic range sometimes used interchangeably.
- Be careful not to interpret this to mean that a 16-bit file allows louder amplitudes than an 8-bit file. Rather, dynamic range gives you a measure of the range of amplitudes that can be captured relative to the loss of fidelity compared to the original sound.

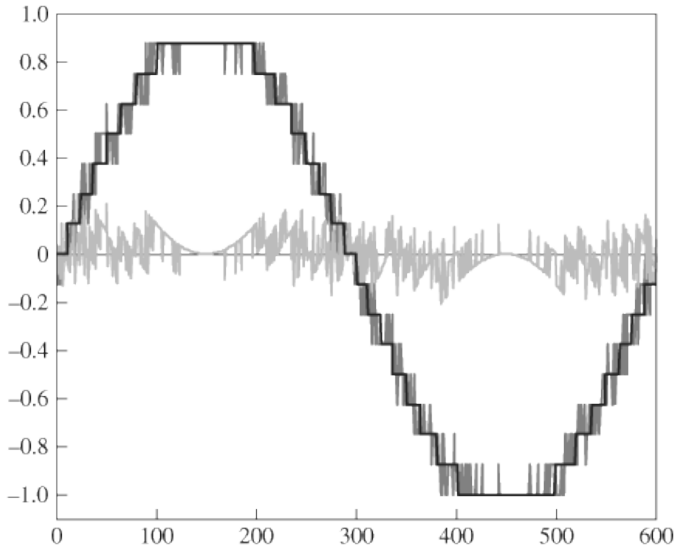
Audio Dithering

- ***Audio dithering*** is a way to compensate for quantization error.
- Quantized signals would sound 'granular' because of the stair-step effect. The quantized signals sound like the original signals plus the noise.
- The noise follows the same pattern as the original wave, human ear mistakes it as the original signal.



Audio Dithering

- Adding a random noise(dither) to the original wave eliminates the sharp stair-step effect in the quantized signal.
- The noise is still there, but has less effect on the original signal.(we can hear the smooth signal without stair-step effect)

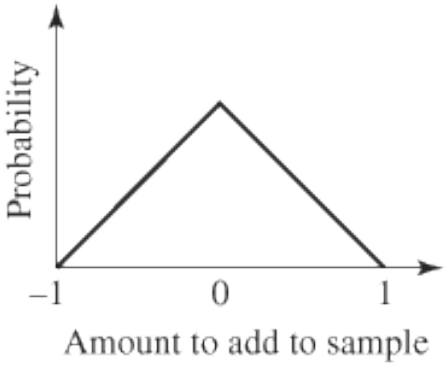


dithered
quantized wave

Audio Dithering

- Dithering function
  - Triangular probability density function (TPDF)

Triangular probability function

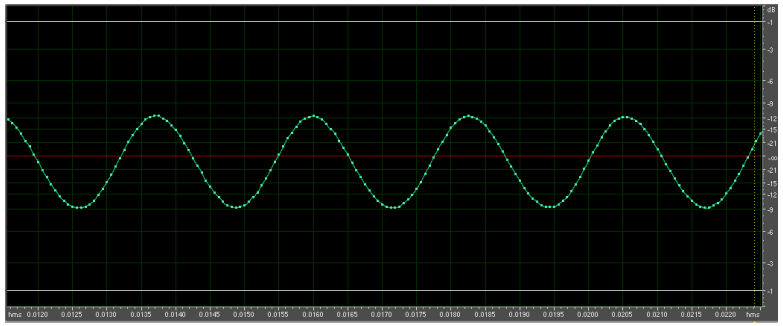


  - Rectangular probability density function (RPDF): All numbers in the selected range have the same probability
  - Gaussian PDF: The Gaussian PDF weights the probabilities according to a Gaussian
  - Colored dithering: Colored dithering produces noise that is not random and is primarily in higher frequencies.

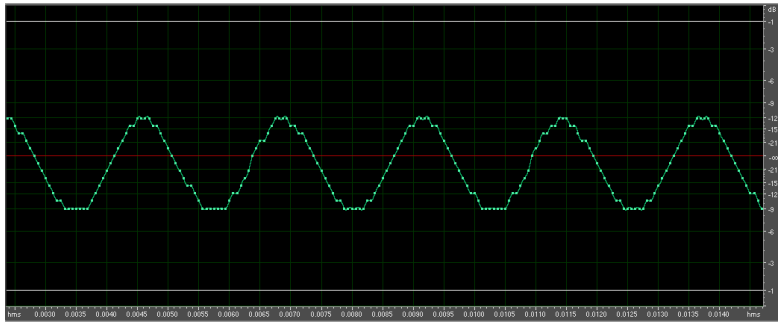
Audio Dithering

- Example1-simpe wave

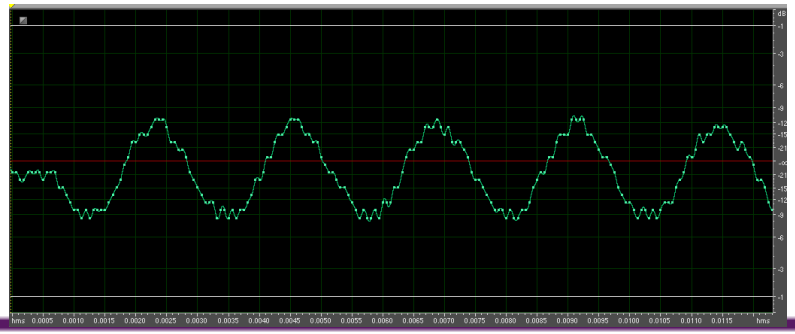
Original wave



After bit reduction



After dithering



Audio Dithering

- Example2 – complex wave

Original wave 

After bit reduction 

After dithering 

Noise Shaping

- ***Noise shaping*** is another way to compensate for the quantization error. Noise shaping is *not* dithering, but it is often used along with dithering.
- The idea behind noise shaping is to redistribute the quantization error so that the noise is concentrated in the higher frequencies, where human hearing is less sensitive, or we can use a low-pass filter to filter out the high frequency components.

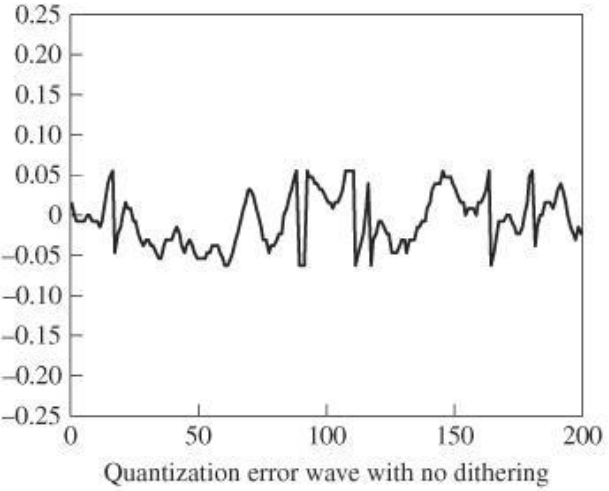
Noise Shaping

- First-order feedback loop for noise shaping
  - Let ***F_in*** be an array of N digital audio samples that are to be quantized, dithered, and noise shaped, yielding ***F_out***. For $0 \le i \le N - 1$, define the following: $\boldsymbol{F\_in}_i$ is the ith sample value, not yet quantized.
  - $\boldsymbol{D}_i$ is a random dithering value added to the ith sample.
  - The assignment statement $\boldsymbol{F\_in}_i = \boldsymbol{F\_in}_i + \boldsymbol{D}_i + c\boldsymbol{E}_{i-1}$ dithers and noise shapes the sample. Subsequently, $\boldsymbol{F\_out}_i = [\boldsymbol{F\_in}_i]$ quantizes the sample.
  - $\boldsymbol{E}_i$ is the error resulting from quantizing the ith sample after dithering and noise shaping.
  - For $i = -1$, $\boldsymbol{E}_i = 0$. Otherwise, $\boldsymbol{E}_i = \boldsymbol{F\_in}_i - \boldsymbol{F\_out}_i$.

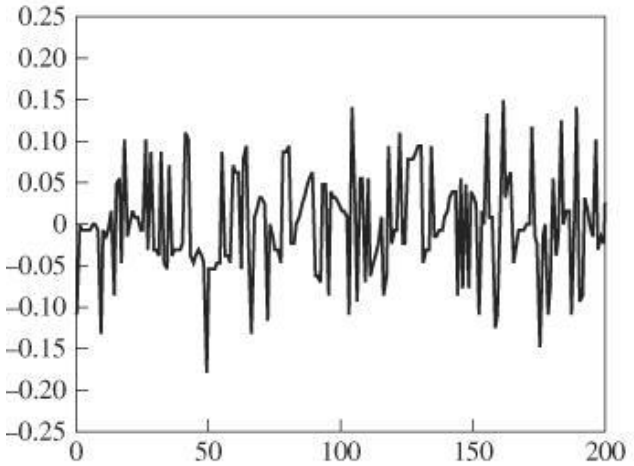
Noise Shaping

- What noise shaping does?
  - Move noise's frequency to above the Nyquist frequency, and filter it out. We are not losing anything we care about in the sound.
- The term *shaping* is used because you can manipulate the "shape" of the noise by manipulating the noise shaping equations
- The general statement for an *n*th order noise shaper noise shaping equation becomes $\boldsymbol{F\_out}_i = \boldsymbol{F\_in}_i + \boldsymbol{D}_i + c_{i-1}\boldsymbol{E}_{i-1} + c_{i-2}\boldsymbol{E}_{i-2} + \cdots + c_{i-n}\boldsymbol{E}_{i-n}$.

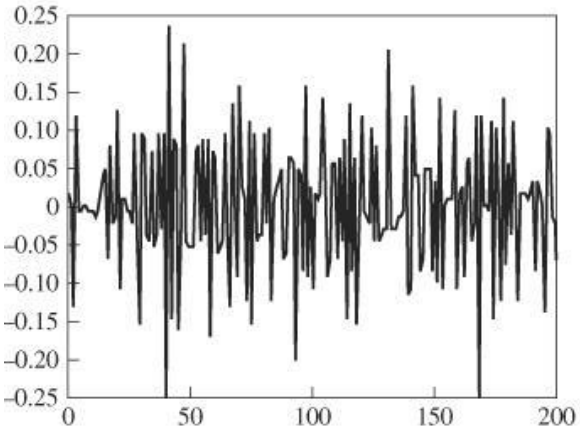
Noise Shaping



Quantization error wave with no dithering



Quantization error wave with dithering



Quantization error wave with dithering and noise shaping

Non-Linear Quantization

- ***Nonlinear encoding***, or ***companding,*** is an encoding method that arose from the need for compression of telephone signals across low bandwidth lines. Companding means compression and then expansion.
- How this works?
  - Take a digital signal with bit depth *n* and requantize it in *m* bits, $m < n$, using a nonlinear quantization method.
  - Transmit the signal.
  - Expand the signal to *n* bits at the receiving end.
- Why not just use linear quantization?

Non-Linear Quantization

- Reasons for non-linear quantization
  - Human auditory system is perceptually non-uniform. Humans can perceive small differences between quiet sounds, but not for louder sounds.
  - Quantization error generally has more impact on low amplitudes than on high ones, why?

    0.499 -> 0, err=(0.499-0)/0.499 = 100%

    126.499 -> 126, err=(126.499-126)/126.499 = 0.4%
- Use *more* quantization levels for low amplitude signals and *fewer* quantization levels for high amplitudes.

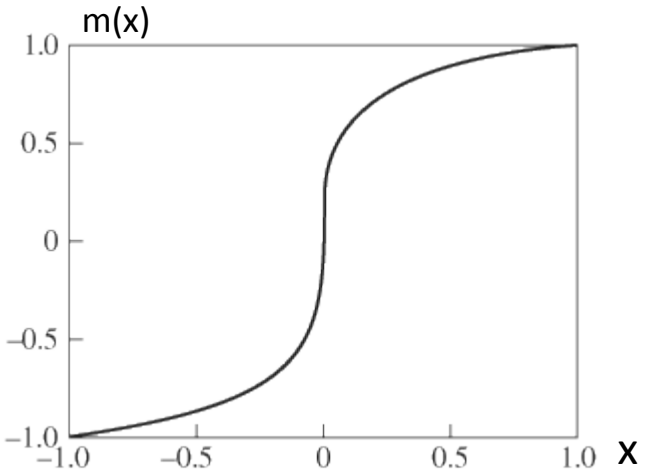
μ-law Function

- Let x be a sample value normalized so that $-1 \le x < 1$. Let $sign(x) = -1$ if x is negative and $sign(x) = 1$ otherwise. Then the ***μ-law function*** is defined by

$$m(x) = sign(x)\left(\frac{\ln(1+\mu|x|)}{\ln(1+\mu)}\right)$$

$$= sign(x)\left(\frac{\ln(1+255|x|)}{5.5452}\right), for\ \mu = 255$$

- The μ-law function has a logarithmic shape. Its effect is to provide finer-grained quantization levels at low amplitudes compared to high.



μ-law Function

- μ means the new quantization level, 255(8 bits) in the North American and Japanese standards.
- Then the ***inverse μ-law function*** is defined by

$$d(x) = sign(x)\left(\frac{(\mu+1)^{|x|}-1}{\mu}\right)$$

$$= sign(x)\left(\frac{256^{|x|}-1}{255}\right), for\ \mu = 255$$

- Let's see some examples

μ-law Function

- Assume the original signal is quantized with bit depth of 16.

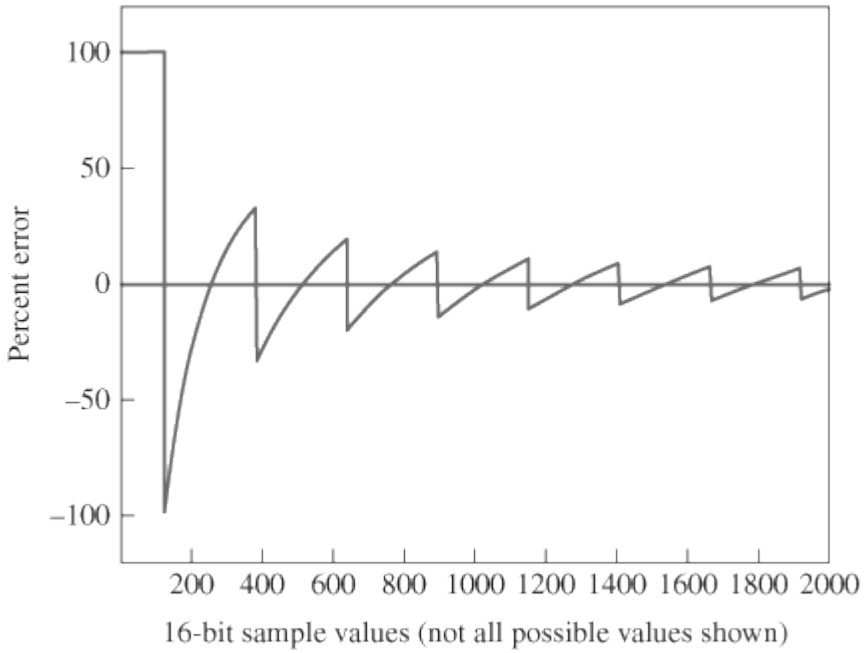
Sample value	Normalized value	m(x)	Scale to 8-bit value	d(x)	Scale back to 16-bit value
16	$\left(\frac{16}{32768}\right) = 0.000488$	≈0.02	$\lfloor 0.02 * 128 \rfloor = 2$	$d\left(\frac{2}{128}\right) = 0.00035$	$\lfloor 0.00035 * 32768 \rfloor = 11$
30037	$\left(\frac{30037}{32768}\right) = 0.9167$	≈0.9844	$\lfloor 0.9844 \times 128 \rfloor = 125$	$d\left(\frac{125}{128}\right) = 0.8776$	$\lfloor 0.8776 * 32768 \rfloor = 28758$

Linear vs. Non-Linear Requantization

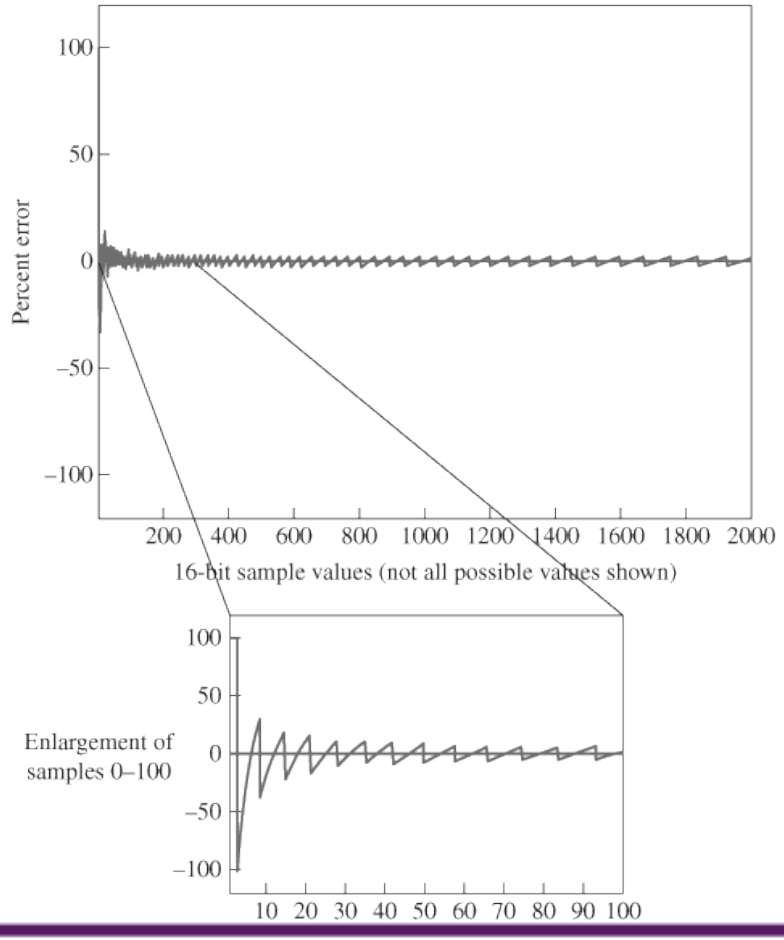
Linear Requantization				Nonlinear Companding		
Original 16-bit Sample	8-bit Sample After Compression	16-bit Sample After Decompression	Percent Error	8-bit Sample After Compression	16-bit Sample After Decompression	Percent Error
1–5	0	0	avg. 100%	0	0	avg. 100%
6–11	0	0	avg. 100%	1	6	avg. 26%
12–17	0	0	avg. 100%	2	12	avg. 16%
18–24	0	0	avg. 100%	3	18	avg. 13%
25–31	0	0	avg. 100%	4	25	avg. 10%
127	0	0	100%	15	118	7%
128	1	256	100%	25	118	7.8%
383	1	256	33%	31	364	4.9%
30,038	117	29,952	0.29%	126	30,038	0%
31,373	122	31,232	0.45%	126	30,038	4.2%

Linear vs. Non-Linear Requantization

- Error of linear requantization

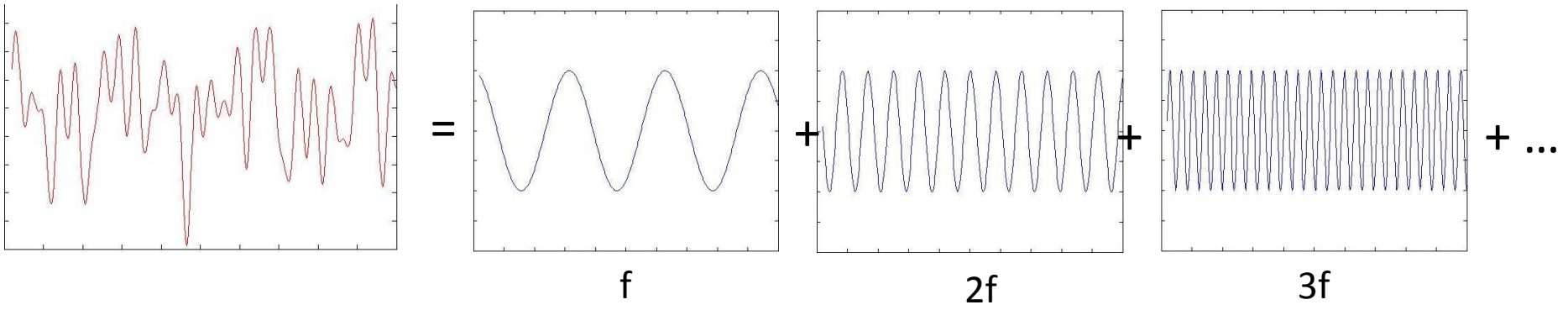


- Error of non-Linear requantization



Frequency Analysis

- Time domain
  - Input: time (x-axis)
  - Output: amplitude(y-axis)
- A complex waveform is equal to an infinite sum of simple sinusoidal waves, beginning with a ***fundamental frequency*** and going through frequencies that are integer multiples of the fundamental frequency – ***harmonic frequencies***.

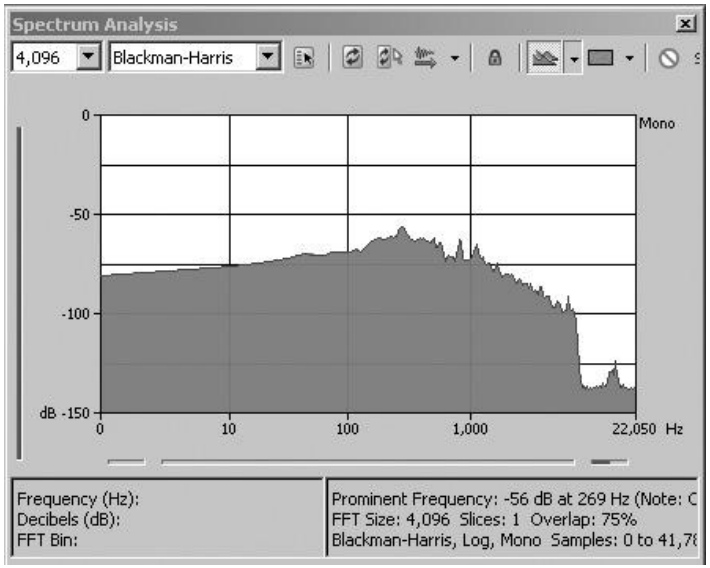


Frequency Analysis

- Two views for frequency analysis
  - Frequency analysis view(spectrum analysis view)- common

    x-axis: frequency

    y-axis: magnitude of the frequency component

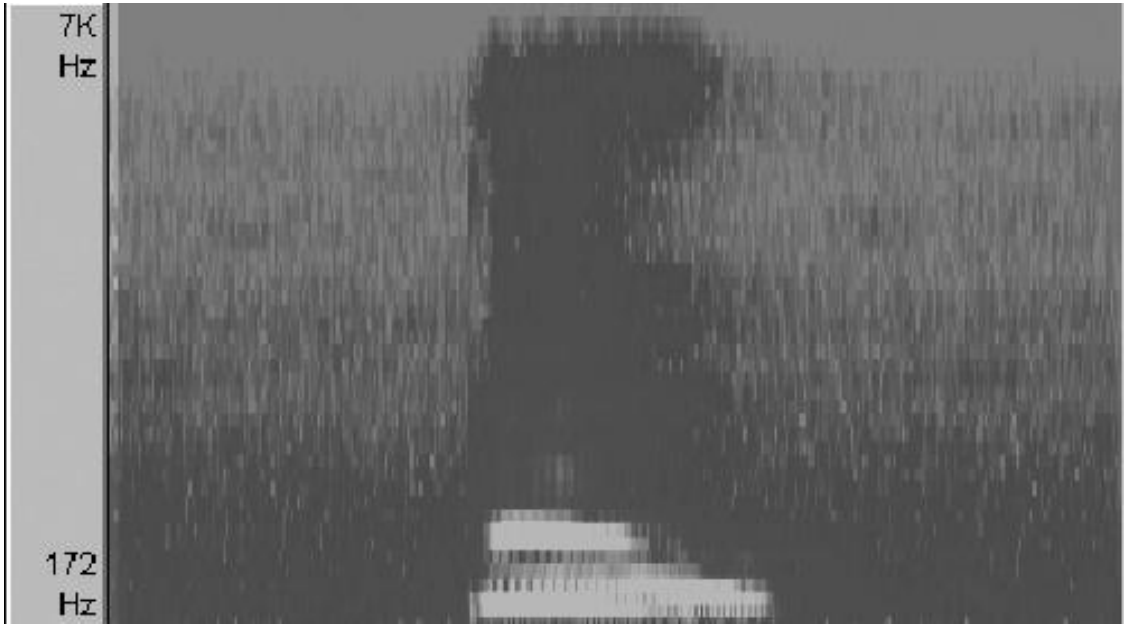


Frequency Analysis

- Spectral view

  x-axis: time, y-axis: frequency

  color: magnitude of the frequency component



The Fourier Series

- A ***Fourier series*** is a representation of a periodic function as an infinite sum of sinusoidals:

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} [\boldsymbol{a}_n \cos(n\omega t) + \boldsymbol{b}_n \sin(n\omega t)] \quad (4.2)$$

- $\omega = 2\pi f$: fundamental angular frequency

  f: fundamental frequency(f , $f(t)$ are different things)

  $\boldsymbol{a}_n$ and $\boldsymbol{b}_n$ tell how much each of these component frequencies contributes to $f(t)$.

The Fourier Series

- Rewrite (4.2) in a different form

$$f(t) = \boldsymbol{a}_0 + \sum_{n=-\infty}^{-1} [\boldsymbol{a}_n \cos(n\omega t) + \boldsymbol{b}_n \sin(n\omega t)] + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [\boldsymbol{a}_n \cos(n\omega t) + \boldsymbol{b}_n \sin(n\omega t)] \quad (4.3)$$

- $\boldsymbol{a}_0$ is the ***DC component,*** which gives the average amplitude value over one period.

$$\boldsymbol{a}_0 = \frac{1}{T} \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t)dt$$

The Fourier Series

- The other terms in (4.3) are called ***AC components.*** The coefficients of each of these frequency components are

$$\boldsymbol{a}_n = \frac{1}{T}\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t)cos(n\omega t)dt,\ \boldsymbol{b}_n = \frac{1}{T}\int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t)sin(n\omega t)dt$$

$$for\ -\infty \le n \le \infty$$

- Since cos(-x)=cos(x), sin(-x)=-sin(x), (4.3) becomes

$$f(t) = \boldsymbol{a}_0 + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}[\boldsymbol{a}_n \cos(n\omega t) + \boldsymbol{b}_n \sin(n\omega t)] \qquad (4.4)$$

The Fourier Series

- There's another, equivalent way of expressing the Fourier series.

$$f(t) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \boldsymbol{F}_n e^{in\omega t} \qquad (4.5)$$

$$\boldsymbol{F}_n = \boldsymbol{a}_n - i\boldsymbol{b}_n$$

$$e^{in\omega t} = \cos(n\omega t) + i\sin(n\omega t)$$ ----> Euler's formula

- Equation (4.2~4.5) give the same information (derivation on textbook p.219)

Discrete Fourier Series

- Fourier transform is important in signal processing. It decomposes the signal into different frequency components so that we can analyze it, and do some modification on some of them.
- Audio file is an array of discrete samples. How to convert the Fourier transform into discrete form?

  We consider the 1D case only.

Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform

- Let $\boldsymbol{f}_k$ be a discrete integer function representing a digitized audio signal in the time domain, and $\boldsymbol{F}_n$ be a discrete, complex number function representing a digital audio signal in the frequency domain. Then the ***inverse discrete Fourier transform*** is defined by

$$\boldsymbol{f}_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[\boldsymbol{a}_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right) + \boldsymbol{b}_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right) \right] \qquad (4.7)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} F_n e^{\frac{i2\pi nk}{N}}$$

- Subscript k: signal value at time k

  Subscript n: nth frequency component

Inverse Discrete Fourier Transform

- The DC component, $\boldsymbol{a}_0$, is defined by $\boldsymbol{a}_0 = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \boldsymbol{f}_k$, giving the average amplitude.
- The AC components are, for 1≤n≤N,

$$\boldsymbol{a}_n = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \boldsymbol{f}_k \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right)$$

$$\boldsymbol{b}_n = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \boldsymbol{f}_k sin\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right)$$

- Fundamental frequency $f = \frac{1}{N}$
- Fundamental angular frequency $\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi/N$

Discrete Fourier Transform

- The ***discrete Fourier transform*** (**DFT**) operates on an array of *N* audio samples, returning cosine and sine coefficients that represent the audio data in the frequency domain.

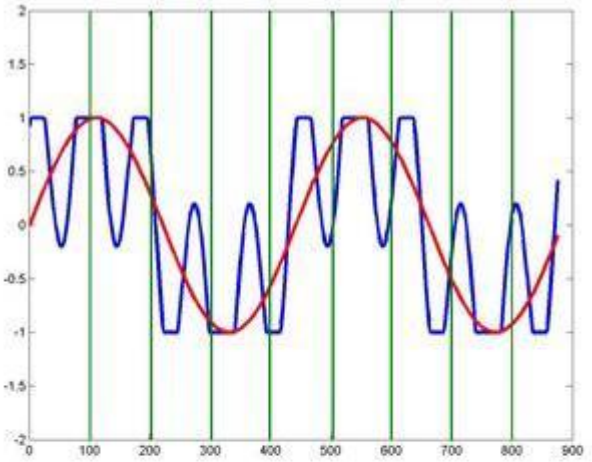
$$F_n = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_k \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right) - i f_k \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nk}{N}\right) \quad (4.8)$$

$$= \frac{1}{N}\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} f_k e^{\frac{-i2\pi nk}{N}}$$

$$F(u) = \sum_{r=0}^{M-1} \frac{\sqrt{2}C(u)}{\sqrt{M}} f(r)\cos\left(\frac{(2r+1)u\pi}{2M}\right)$$ DCT, Eq(2.2)

How does DFT Work?

- Suppose the blue wave represents the complex audio and the red one is a sinusoidal wave of a certain frequency n.
- Green line means the sample points, N=8.
- If the sinusoidal wave fits the signal well, then $\mathbf{F}_n$ is large, which means this frequency component takes a big ratio in the complex signal.



Comparison between DCT and DFT

- In chapter2, we learned Discrete Cosine Transformation, which, like DFT, is an important technique in signal processing.
- We get a number of frequency components if we perform DCT or DFT on a signal. But the information they contain is different.
  - Do they produce the same number of components?
  - Do both of them have “phase” information?

Comparison between DCT and DFT

- For an audio file of *N* samples, the DFT yields no more than *N*/2 valid frequency components.
- Let N=number of samples

  T=total sampling time

  s=N/T=sampling rate
- By the Nyquist theorem, if we sample at a frequency of *s*, then we can validly sample only frequencies up to *s*/2.
- The DFT yields N frequency components, but we would discard some of them.

Comparison between DCT and DFT

- By DFT, we get N frequency components, their frequency corresponding to k/T, 0≤k≤N-1.

  1/T is the fundamental frequency.

- For the highest valid frequency component,

$$\frac{k}{T} = \frac{s}{2} \Rightarrow k = \frac{Ts}{2} = \frac{T(N/T)}{2} = \frac{N}{2}.$$

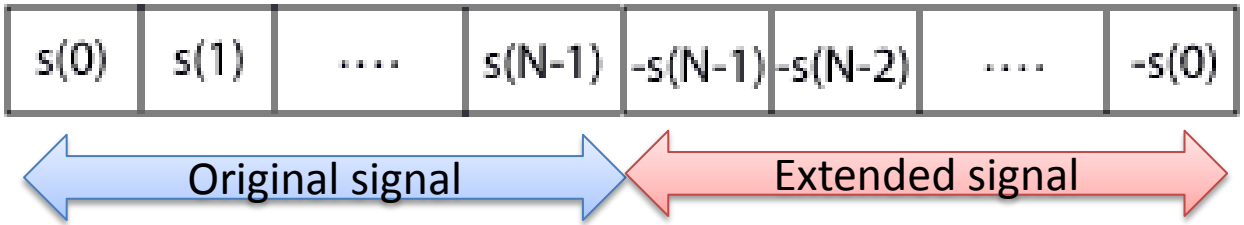
When we reach *N*/2, we have reached the limits of the usable frequency components from the output.

Comparison between DCT and DFT

- An example:
- Say that you have an audio clip that is a pure tone at 440 Hz. The sampling rate is 1000 Hz. You are going to perform a Fourier transform on 1024 samples. Thus T = 1024/1000 = 1.024 sec. The frequency components that are measured by the transform are separated by $1/T$ = 0.9765625 Hz. There are $N/2$ = 512 valid frequency components, the last one being 0.9765625 * 512 = 500 Hz. This is as it should be, since the sampling rate is 2 * 500 Hz = 1000 Hz, so we are not violating the Nyquist limit.

Comparison between DCT and DFT

- How about DCT's valid frequency components?
- The DCT can be thought of as the DFT performing on an extended signal, the extended part is negated.



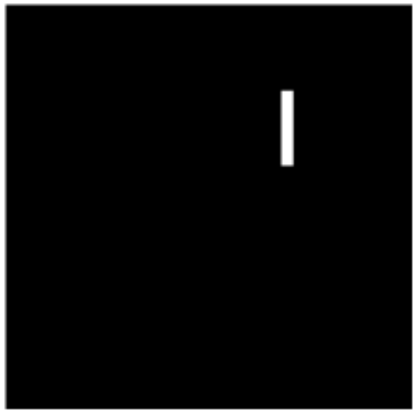
- Thus it implicitly has 2N samples, yielding N valid frequency components.

Comparison between DCT and DFT

- You may think now that the DCT is inherently superior to the DFT because it doesn't trouble you with complex numbers, and it yields twice the number of frequency components. But how about the phase information?
- The DFT contains both real part and imaginary part, and thus we can get the phase information. The DCT, however, cancels out the sine terms, together with the phase information.

Phase Information

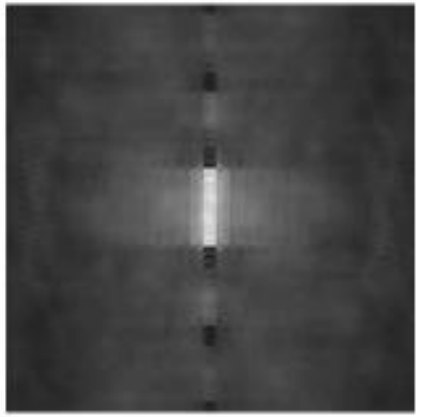
- Phase information in images – important!



(A)

(B)

(A's spectrum
B's phase angle)



(B's spectrum
A's phase angle)

Phase Information

- Phase information in audio
  - Audio is a wave that continuously comes into your ears, so actually we don't detect the phase difference.
  - However, if two waves of the same frequency, one is phase shifted, come to you at the same time, then you will hear the destructive interference.

Phase Information in DFT

- Let the equation for the inverse discrete Fourier transform be as given in (4.7). Then the ***magnitude of the n*th *frequency component***, $\boldsymbol{A}_n$, is given by

$$\boldsymbol{A}_n = \sqrt{\boldsymbol{a}_n^2 + \boldsymbol{b}_n^2} \ , \quad 0 \le n \le N-1$$

- The ***phase of the n*th *frequency component***, $\emptyset_n$, is given by $\emptyset_n = -tan^{-1}\left({}^{\boldsymbol{b}_n}/_{\boldsymbol{a}_n}\right), 0 \le n \le N-1$

- The ***magnitude/phase form of the inverse DFT*** is given by $\boldsymbol{f}_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \boldsymbol{A}_n \cos(2\pi nk + \emptyset_n)$

Fast Fourier Transform(FFT)

- The usefulness of the discrete Fourier transform was extended greatly when a fast version was invented by Cooley and Tukey in 1965. This implementation, called the ***fast Fourier transform*** **(*FFT*)**, reduces the computational complexity from $O(N^2)$ to $O(N \log_2(N))$. N is the number of samples.
- The FFT is efficient because redundant or unnecessary computations are eliminated. For example, there's no need to perform a multiplication with a term that contains sin(0) or cos(0).

FFT

- The FFT algorithm has to operate on blocks of samples where the number of samples is a power of 2.
- The size of the FFT window is significant here because adjusting its size is a tradeoff between frequency and time resolution. You have seen that for an FFT window of size *N*, *N*/2 frequency components are produced. Thus, **the larger the FFT size, the greater the frequency resolution**. However, **the larger the FFT size**, **the smaller the time resolution**. Why?

FFT

- What would happen if the window size doesn't fit an integer-multiple of the signal's period?
- For example, Assume that the FFT is operating on 1024 samples of a 440 Hz wave sampled at 8000 samples per second. Then the window contains (1024/8000)*440=56.32 cycles => the end of the window would break the wave in the middle of a cycle.
- Due to this phenomenon(called ***spectral leakage***), the FFT may assume the original signal looks like Fig.4.21.

  The signal becomes discontinuous.

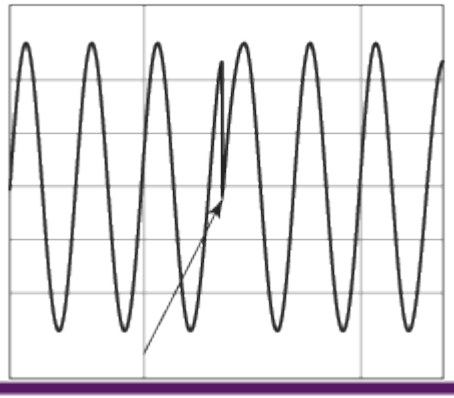
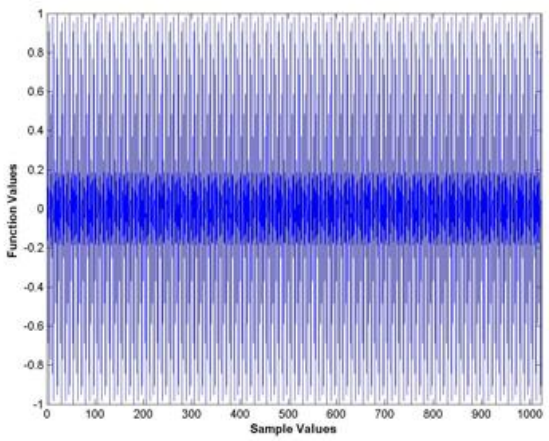
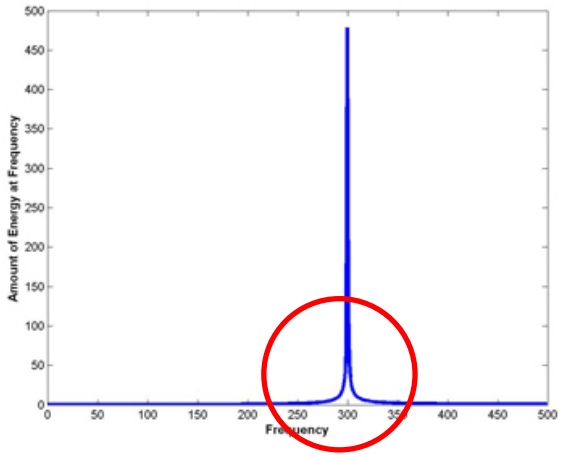


Fig.4.21

Spectral Leakage

- A simple sinusoidal wave of 300Hz
- After FFT, some frequencies other than 300Hz appear due to spectral leakage





Windowing Function

- **Window function** - to reduce the amplitude of the sound wave at the beginning and end of the FFT window. If the amplitude of the wave is smaller at the beginning and end of the window, then the spurious frequencies will be smaller in magnitude as well.

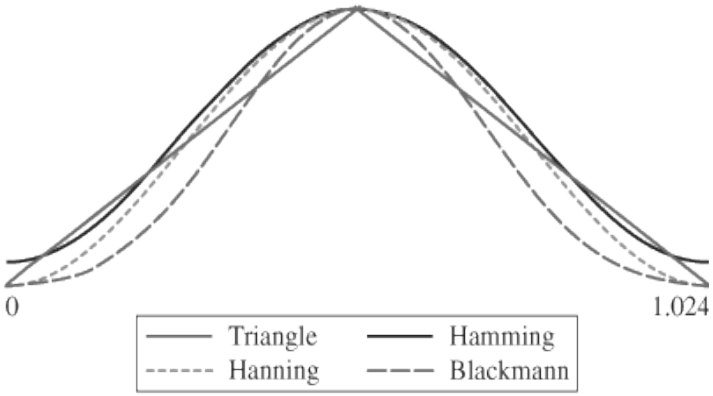
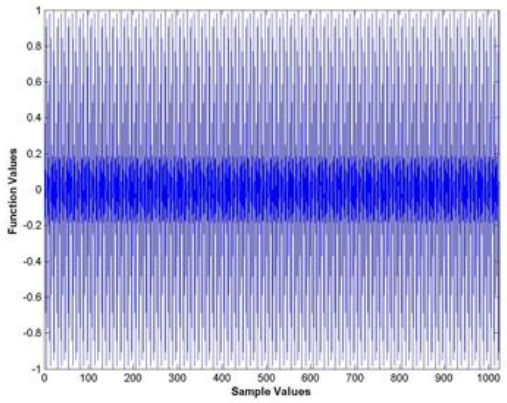


TABLE 4.4 Windowing Function for FFT

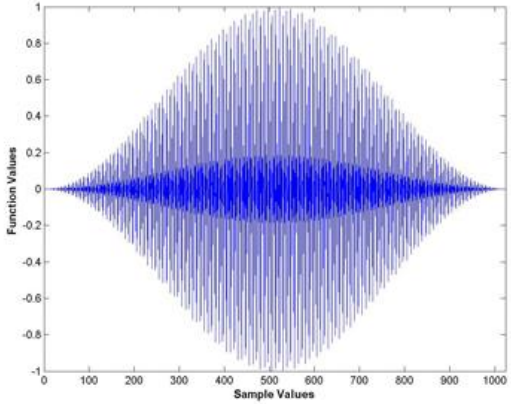
$u(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{2t}{T} & for \quad 0 \le t < \frac{T}{2} \\ 2 - \frac{2t}{T} & for \quad \frac{T}{2} \le t \le T \end{cases}$ Triangular windowing function	$u(t) = \frac{1}{2}\left[1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right)\right] \quad for \quad 0 \le t \le T$ Hanning windowing function
$u(t) = 0.54 - 0.46\cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) \quad for \quad 0 \le t \le T$ Hamming windowing function	$u(t) = 0.42 - 0.5\cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) + 0.08\cos\left(\frac{4\pi t}{T}\right)$ for $0 \le t \le T$ Blackman windowing function

Window Function

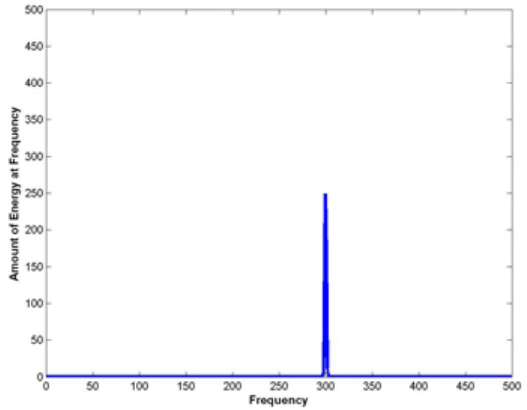
- The frequency components become more accurate, but the magnitudes also decrease. To counteract this, some other algorithms would be used.



Original wave



Applying window function



FFT result

MIDI

- What do you know about MIDI?
  - A kind of music file format like *.wav, *.mp3, *.midi?
  - A kind of music without human voices?
- MIDI is short for Musical Instrument Digital Interface
- Actually, MIDI is far from you can imagine. MIDI is a standard protocol defining how MIDI messages are constructed, transmitted, and stored. These messages communicates between musical instruments and computer softwares.

MIDI vs. Sampled Digital Audio

- A sampled digital audio file contains a vector of samples. These samples are reconstructed into an analog waveform when the audio is played.
- MIDI stores “sound events” or “human performances of sound” rather than sound itself.
- A MIDI file contains messages that indicate the notes, instruments, and duration of notes to be played. In MIDI terminology, each message describes an **event**(the change of note, key, tempo, etc.)
- MIDI messages are translated into sound by a **synthesizer.**

Advantages and Disadvantages

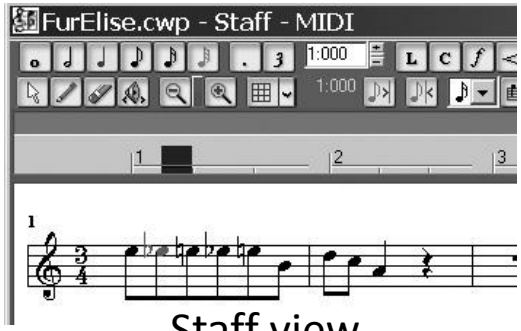
- Advantages
  - Requiring relatively few bytes to store a file compared with sampled audio file, why?
  - Easy to create and edit music
- Disadvantages
  - More artificial and mechanical(sampled audio can capture all the characteristics of the music)

How MIDI Files Are Created, Edited, and Played?

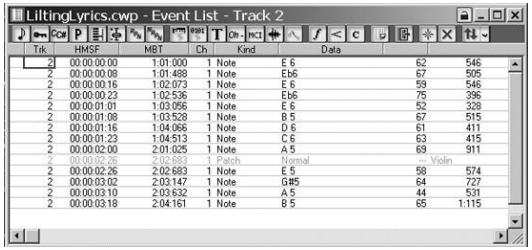
- MIDI controller
  - Hardware devices that **generate MIDI messages**.
  - Musical instrument like an electronic piano keyboard or a guitar can serve as a MIDI controller if it is *designed for MIDI.*
  - A controller(if not also a synthesizer)simply generate messages, not creating any audible sound.
- MIDI synthesizers(電子合成器、魔音琴)
  - Devices that read MIDI messages and turn them into audio signals that can be played through an output device
  - Pianos and guitars create sound by vibrating. Synthesizers construct/edit waves to create sound.
  - Some devices serve as both controllers and synthesizers.

How MIDI Files Are Created, Edited, and Played

- MIDI sequencer
  - A *hardware device* or *software application program* that allows you to receive, store, and edit MIDI data.
  - Many sequencers allow you to view your MIDI file in a variety of formats
  - It's easy to convert MIDI into sampled digital audio, but the inverse is very difficult.(you have to identify where a note begins, what instrument is playing , etc.)



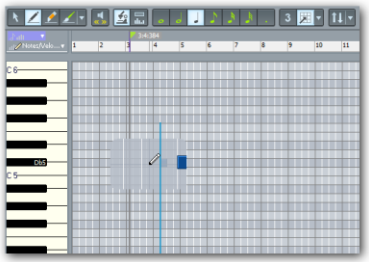
Staff view



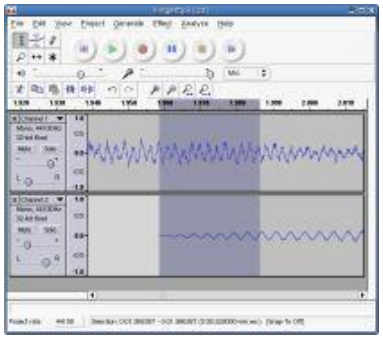
Event view

Some Softwares

- MIDI sequencers
  - Cakewalk Music Creator, Cubase



- Digital audio processing programs
  - Audition, Audacity, Sound Forge



Musical Acoustics and Notation

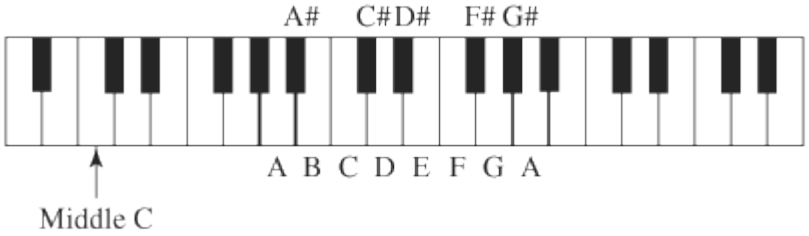
- The range of human hearing is from about 20 Hz to about 20,000 Hz. As you get older, you lose your ability to hear high frequency sounds.
  - Test if you can hear the frequency you should be able to hear at your age
  - http://www.ultrasonic-ringtones.com/
- If the frequency of one note is 2^n times of the frequency of another, where *n* is an integer, the two notes sound "the same" to the human ear, except that the first is higher-pitched than the second.

  (n=1 => 高八度)

Musical Acoustics and Notation

- Let *g* be the frequency of a musical note. Let *h* be the frequency of a musical tone *n* ***octaves*** higher than *g*.
  $\Rightarrow h = 2^n g$

- The word octave comes from the fact that there are eight whole notes(全音)between two notes that sound the same.
- There are 12 notes in an octave:



Musical Acoustics and Notation

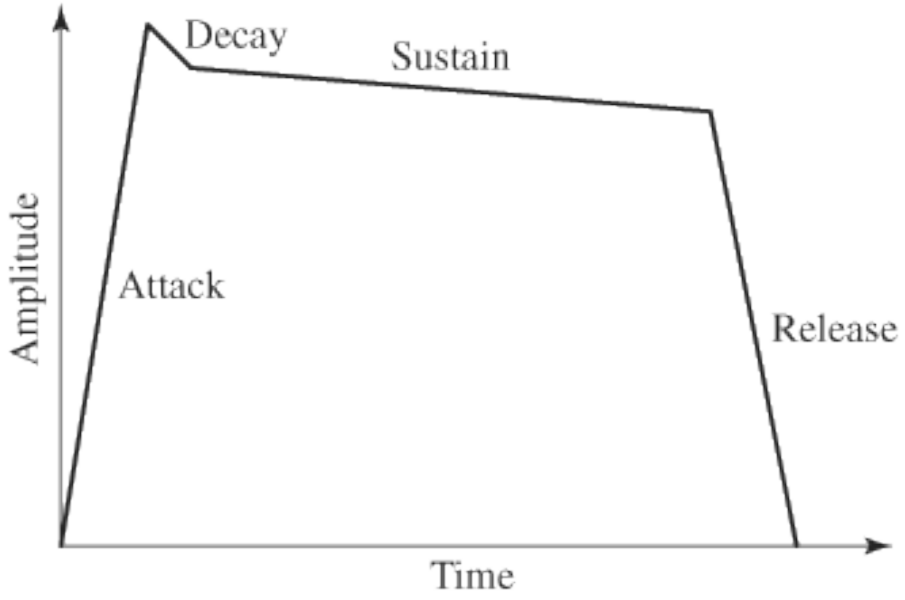
- If we know the frequency of a certain note, how to compute the others?

  $2f = f \cdot x^{12} \Rightarrow x \cong 1.059463$

- That is, if A has frequency 440Hz, then A# has frequency 440*1.059463=466.16Hz

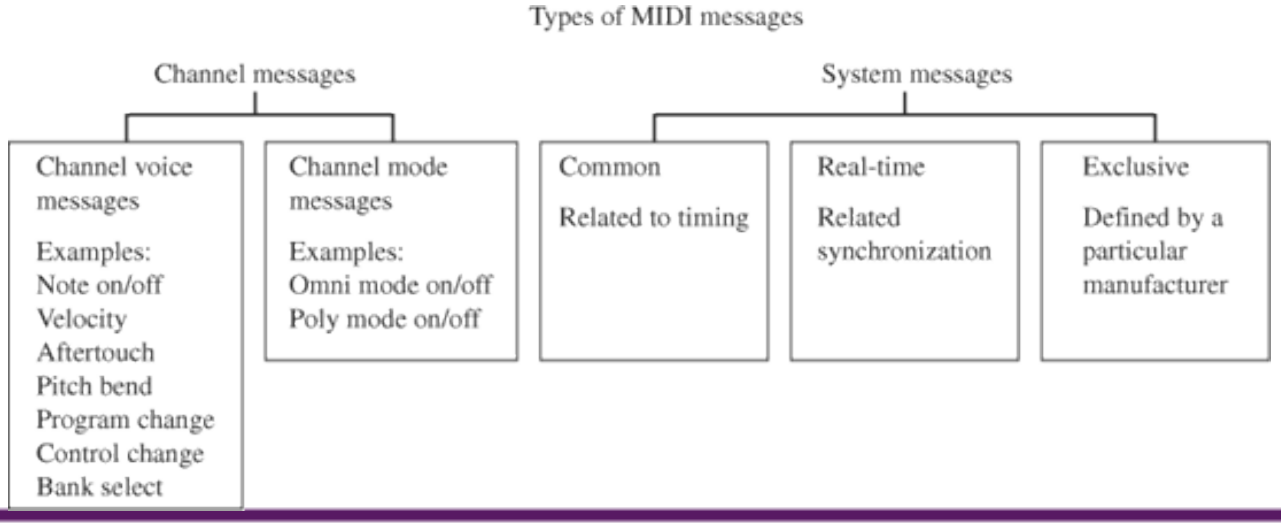
Amplitude Envelope

- The amplitude of the period covered by a single musical note is called the sound's ***amplitude envelope***.



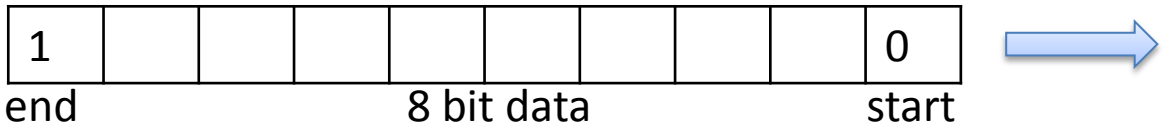
MIDI Message

- Channel message(specific to a particular channel)
  - Channel voice message: describe how a note performs
  - Channel mode message: tell a receiving device what channel to listen and how to interpret what it hears
- System message(not specific to any particular channel)
  - Timing, synchronization, setup information.



MIDI Message

- MIDI messages are transmitted in 10-bit bytes. Each byte begins with a start bit of 0 and ends with a stop bit of 1.



- For each message, one ***status byte*** and zero or more ***data bytes*** are sent.
  - Status byte: MSB=1, telling what kind of message is being communicated
  - Data byte: MSB=0
- We will look more closely at channel voice messages.

MIDI Message

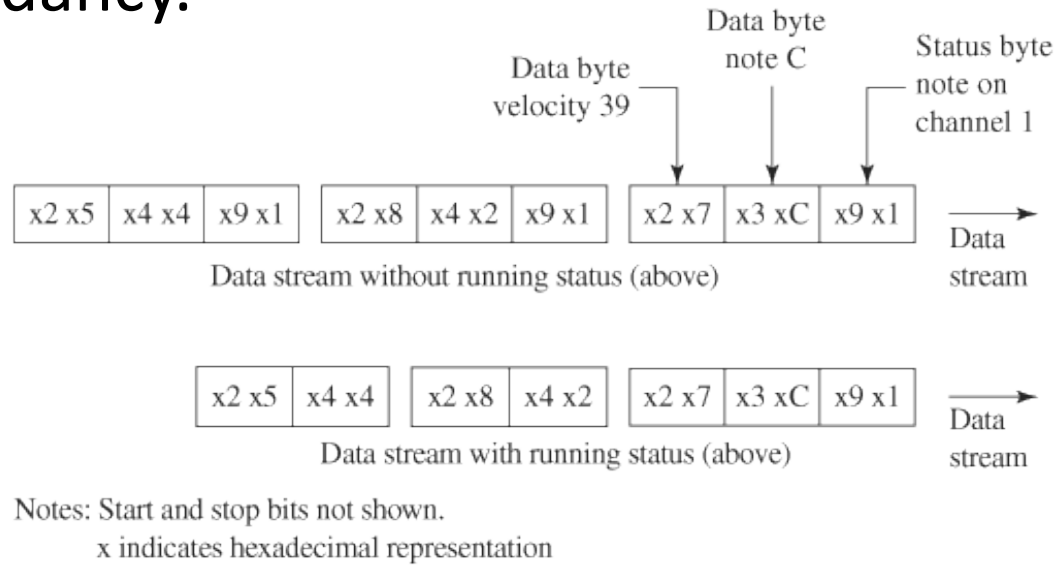
TABLE 4.7 Channel Voice Messages

Message	Status Byte in Hex (n is channel)	Status Byte in Binary	Information in Data Bytes
Note On	x9n	1001 ----	Note being played and velocity with which the key is struck (two bytes)
Note Off	x8n	1000 ----	Note being released and velocity with which key is released (two bytes)
Aftertouch for one key	xAn	1010 ----	Note, pressure (two bytes)
Aftertouch for entire channel	xDn	1101 ----	Pressure (one byte)
Program change	xCn	1100 ----	Patch number (one byte)
Control change	xBn	1011 ----	Type of control (*e.g.*, modulation, pan, etc.) and control change (two bytes)
Pitch bend	xEn	1110 ----	The range of frequencies through which the pitch is bent (two bytes)

- Consider a 3-byte message [x91 x3C x64], what does it mean?

Transmission of MIDI Messages

- MIDI messages are transmitted serially in 10-bit bytes at a rate of 31.25 kb/s.
- ***Running status*** is a technique for reducing the amount of MIDI data that needs to be sent by eliminating redundancy.



Summary

- Sampling rate and aliasing in digital audio
- Quantization and quantization error
- Frequency analysis
  - DFT, FFT
- MIDI