



NOR HAMIZAH MISWAN

# **Audio Signal**

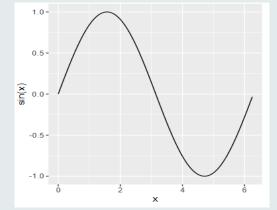
- Audio signals are the representation of sound, which is in the form of digital and analog signals.
- ❖ Sound frequencies range between 20 to 20,000 Hz, and this is the lower and upper limit of our ears.
- ❖ The human auditory system is most sensitive between 500Hz and 5000 Hz.
- However, sound under the frequency of 20Hz can also affect the ear even though we are unable to hear them.
- Especially dangerous is infrasound at the frequency of 7Hz, since this frequency is close to characteristics frequencies of the organs of our body, may disturb the heart or brain activity.
- Audio signal processing is a method where intensive algorithms, techniques are applied to audio signals.

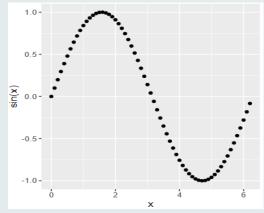
- ❖ Digital signal processing → concerned with the representation of signals by sequence of numbers or symb ols and the processing of these sequences.
- ❖ Signal → a function that conveys information, generally about state or behavior of a physical system.
- Mathematically, signals are represented as functions of one or more independent variables.

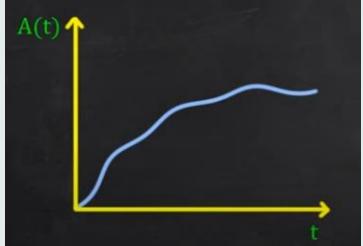


❖ Two main types of signals; continuous time signals and discrete time

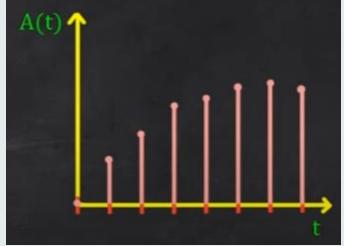
signals







Analog signals are those signals for which both time and amplitude are continuous

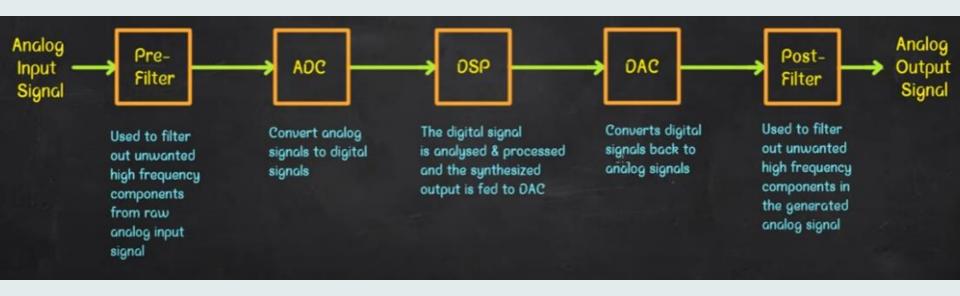


Discrete signals are those signals that are defined only at discrete units of time

- Signal processing involves analyzing, modifying & synthesizing signals to pull meaning out of it.
- Analog signal processing
  - Analog signal processing deals with transformation of analog signals.
  - Processing is done using electrical networks consisting of active and passive elements.
- Digital signal processing
  - Digital signal processing deals with the processing of discrete signals
  - Processing is done using general purpose computers, ASICs, FPGAs, DSP chips, etc.



Block diagram of a digital signal processing system



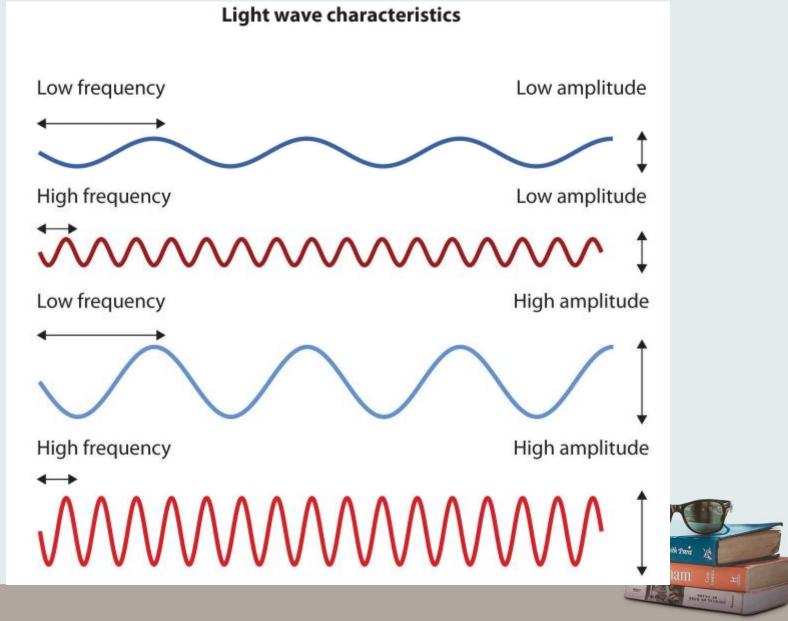


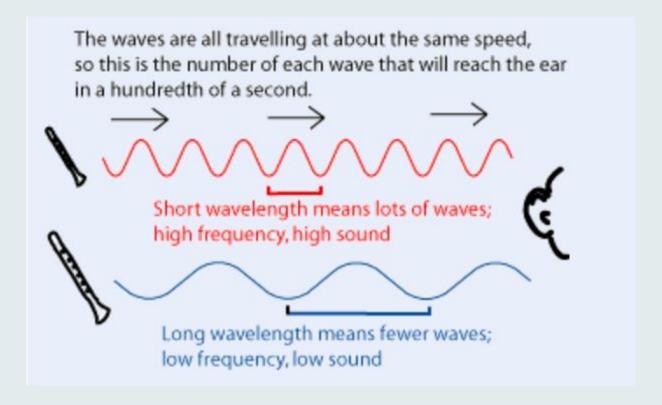
- Applications of digital signal processing systems
  - Speech and audio processing.
  - Image and video processing.
  - Military and telecommunication.
  - Healthcare and biomedical sector
  - Consumer electronics.
- Advantages of digital signal processing systems
  - > Flexibility.
  - Error detection and correction features.
  - Data storage is easier.
  - Low cost.
- Disadvantages of digital signal processing systems
  - Higher power consumption.
  - Higher learning curve is required for operation.



- Important concept in digital signal processing
  - Fourier Transforms: signal processing involves looking at the frequency representation of signals for both insight and computations.
  - ➤ **Noise**: any signal that is not desired. A huge part of signal processing is understanding how noise is affecting your data and how you can efficiently remove or manage it.
  - Filters: allow you to remove out specific portions of a signal at once, or allow you to remove noise from certain signals.

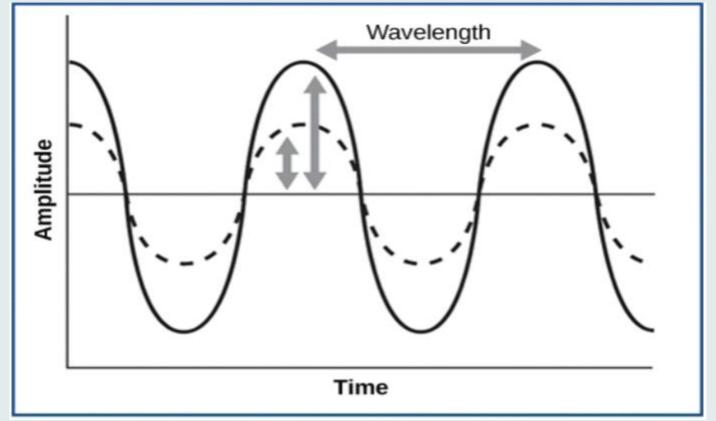






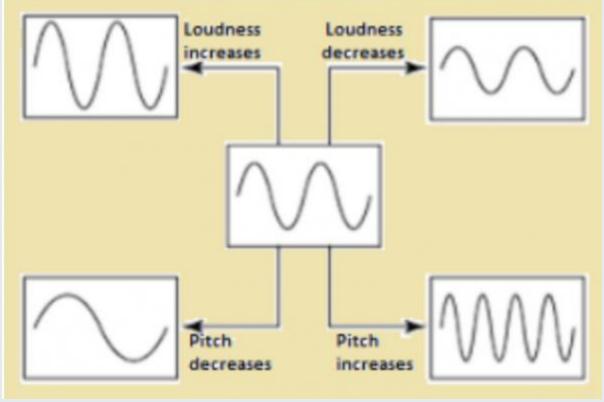
Since the sounds are travelling at about the same speed, the one with shorter wavelength will go by more frequently, it has a higher frequency, or pitch.

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For sound waves, wavelength corresponds to pitch. Amplitude of the wave corresponds to volume. The sound wave shown with a dashed line is softer in volume than the sound wave shown with a solid line

Difference between pitch and loudness



The pitch of a sound depends on the frequency while loudness of a sound depends on the amplitude of sound waves.

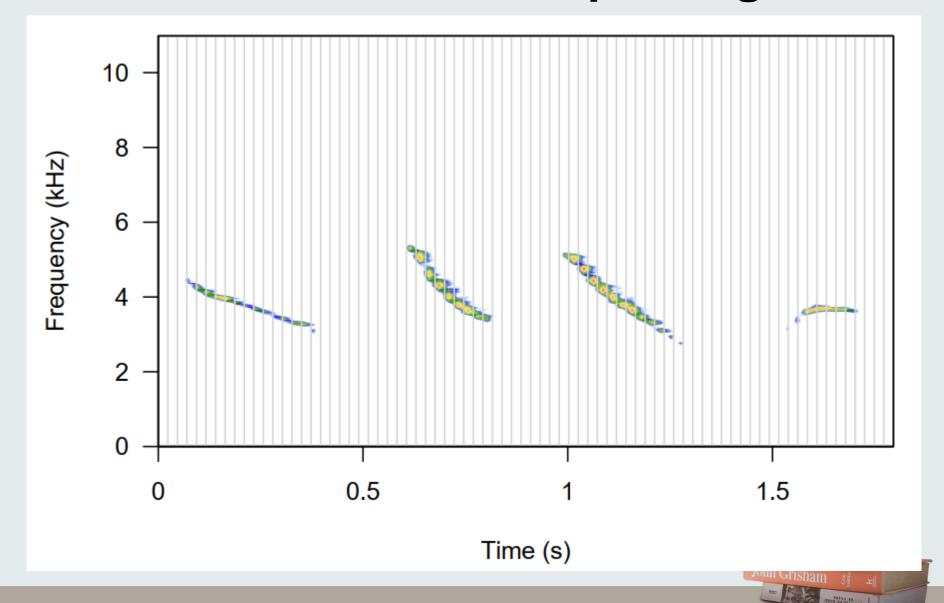
- The most popular way to explore signals in the frequency domain is to use Fourier Transforms.
- ❖ A Fourier Transform is a reversible mathematical transform developed by Joseph Fourier in the early 1800s.
- ❖ The transform breaks apart a time series into a sum of finite series of sine and cosine functions (any signal can be broken down into a series of sine and cosine curves).
- ❖ The Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) is a specific form of Fourier Transform applied to time wave.
- ❖ The DFT allows you to switch from working in the time domain to the frequency domain by using the amplitude and the frequency of the signal to build the frequency spectrum of the original time wave.

- To apply Fourier Transforms we use a window size. The length of the FT is controlled by the window length.
- Increasing the window size will increase frequency resolution, but this will also make the transform less accurate in terms of time as more signal will be selected for the transform.
- Computing a Fourier Transform on a whole sound or a single segment of the sound may not be enough information for what you desire.
- One great idea is to compute the DFT on successive sections along the entire sound signal.



- ❖ A window is "slided" along the signal and a DFT is computed at each of these slides.
- ❖ This process is called a Short-Time Fourier Transform (STFT). This method allows you to represent the signals in the frequency spectrum, while also maintaining most of the information from the time dimension.
- We can plot the results of an STFT in what is called a spectrogram.
- ❖ The spectogram is useful in bioacoustics, acoustics, and ecoacoustics (among others) because it allows you to represent three variables in a 2D plot, which avoids using a 3D representation that is genereally not appealing.





#### **Analyzing Audio Data in R**

- Within R, digitized sound can be stored in three categories of files:
  - uncompressed format (.wav): the full information is stored in a heavy file.
  - ▶ lossy compressed format (.mp3): the information is reduce d. Time, amplitude and frequency parameters can be impaired.
  - ➤ losslessly compressed format (.flac): the full information is stored in a reduced size file.
- ❖ All these formats generate binary files, sound being encoded into a succession of 0 and 1.



#### Other Resources

- ❖ Package library tuneR → <a href="https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/tuneR">https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/tuneR</a>
  /tuneR.pdf
- ❖ Package library seewave → <a href="https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/see">https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/see</a>
  wave/seewave.pdf
- ❖ Notes on seewave (part 1) → <a href="https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/s">https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/s</a>
  eewave/vignettes/seewave\_IO.pdf
- ❖ Notes on seewave (part 2) → <a href="https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/s">https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/s</a>
  <u>eewave/vignettes/seewave\_analysis.pdf</u>
- ❖ A gentle introduction: R in digital signal processing → <a href="https://rpubs.com/eR\_ic/dspr">https://rpubs.com/eR\_ic/dspr</a>
- ❖ R for sound analysis tutorial → <a href="https://www.denaclink.com/post/202203">https://www.denaclink.com/post/202203</a>
  17b-r-tutorial/
- ❖ Basics of Audio File Processing in R → <a href="https://medium.com/@taposhdr/basics-of-audio-file-processing-in-r-81c31a387e8e">https://medium.com/@taposhdr/basics-of-audio-file-processing-in-r-81c31a387e8e</a>

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