

# Gabor transform

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## Abstract

In this paper we will perform a time-frequency analysis using Gabor window filtering. In part one, we will explore three different filters and experiment with different widths and sampling rates. In part two, we will use Gabor window filtering to turn two audio files into music scores.

## Introduction and Overview

### Part One

In this part of the homework we will use time-frequency analysis to analyze a portion of Handels Messiah. More specifically, we will use various Gabor transformations to plot a spectrogram of this piece of art. Later, we will discuss how each parameter affects the quality of the spectrogram.

### Part Two

In this part of the homework we will apply our knowledge of the Gabor filtering to turn two different recordings of the "Mary had a little lamb", which were played on different instruments, into music scales.

## Theoretical Background

Since in this homework we want to learn more about frequency of the signal through the time, a Fast Fourier Transform will not help us, since in the process of moving data into Fourier domain all information about time gets lost. For that purpose we will use Gabor window filtering. This approach will allow us to have information about frequency of the signal throughout whole time period. The way Gabor transformation works is that we have to divide whole time length on  $n$  different time intervals. And then at each interval apply some sort of filter to get signal information only at that specific time interval. Then we will apply a Fast Fourier Transformation to that filtered part of the signal to move it to the Fourier domain. That will allow us to get all of the frequencies that one can find at that

specific time interval. We will use the following formula to move our filtered signal to the Fourier domain:

$$\hat{f}(k) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-ikx} dx$$

After doing so we will store this information in a data structure, and repeat the same step for all of the time intervals that we have created. One thing to mention, due to Heisenberg uncertainty principle we can not expect to have both good resolution in time domain and good resolution in frequency domain. For that reason, in Part One we will experiment with different widths of filters. We will approach Part Two with already great understanding of the time-frequency analysis. For this part we will come up with a specific parameters of our filter that will both encapsulate the important information and get the right amount of it. We will use the same Gabor window filtering method, which we already discussed above. However, in this part we find the maximum/central frequency at each time step. Those frequencies will be our note frequencies that we will use for recreating the note score.

## Algorithm Implementation and Development

### Part One

In this part of assignment we will use the following three filters:

1. Gaussian filter of the form  $\exp -a * (t - \tau)^2$ , where  $a$  is the width of the filter and  $\tau$  is current time position.
2. Ricker/Mexican filter of the form  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3a*\pi^{1/4}}} (1 - a(t - \tau)^2) (e^{-\frac{a}{2}(t-\tau)^2})$ , where  $a$  is the width of the filter and  $\tau$  is current time position.
3. Shannon filter of the form  $|t - \tau| \leq \frac{1}{a}$ , where  $a$  is the width of the filter and  $\tau$  is current time position. Note that this is just a step-function window.

Then we will perform Gabor window filtering for different filters, which were described above, different parameters of width -  $a$  and different parameters of sampling -  $t_{slide}$ . Each transform will follow the following logic:

For each time step in the time interval:

- Initialize a filter around that time step
- Filter our signal using created above filter
- Take the fast Fourier transform of the filtered data
- Shift the filtered data that is already in the Fourier space
- Store the absolute value of the shifted signal

### Part Two

In this part of assignment we will use the following filter:

1. Gaussian filter of the form  $\exp -a * (t - \tau)^2$ , where  $a$  is the width of the filter and  $\tau$  is current time position.

Then for each recording we will perform Gabor Gaussian window filtering and find the central frequency that we will later use to reconstruct our music sheet. The whole algorithm is described above:

For each time step in the time interval:

- Initialize a filter around that time step
- Filter our signal using created above filter
- Take the fast Fourier transform of the filtered data
- Shift the filtered data that is already in the Fourier space
- Find the value and the index of the maximum of the absolute value of data
- Find and transform corresponding wave number into Hz
- Store data in array

## Computational Results

### Part One

The following figure 1 shows how Gabor window filterings were performed using three different filters: Gaussian - red, Shannon - green, Mexican - blue. Next to it on figure 2, presented spectrograms produced by mentioned above windows.

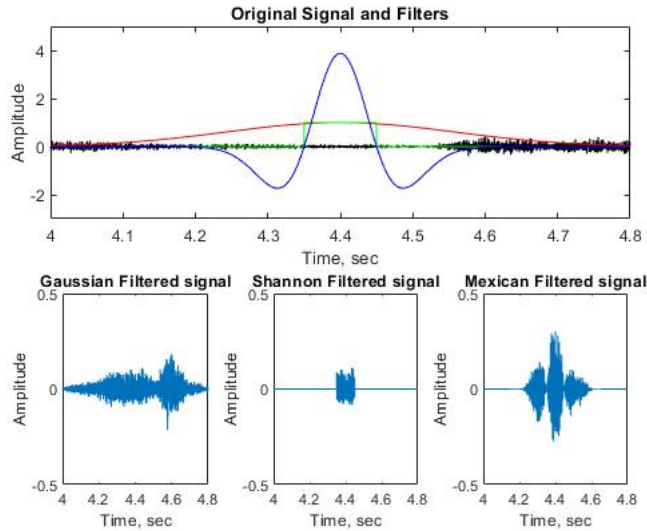


Figure 1: Process of filtering signals

Then we proceed to explore Shannon spectrogram. We started with changing its width -  $a$ , from 5 to 20 to 200. The following figure depicts our findings.

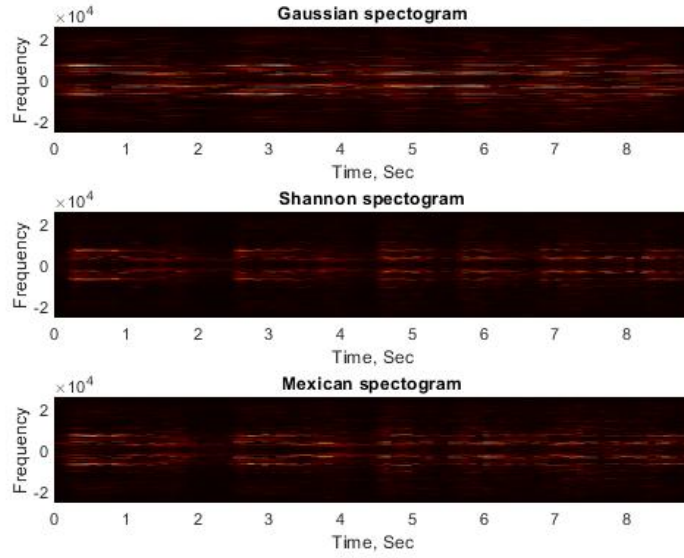


Figure 2: Spectrograms produced by different filtering windows.

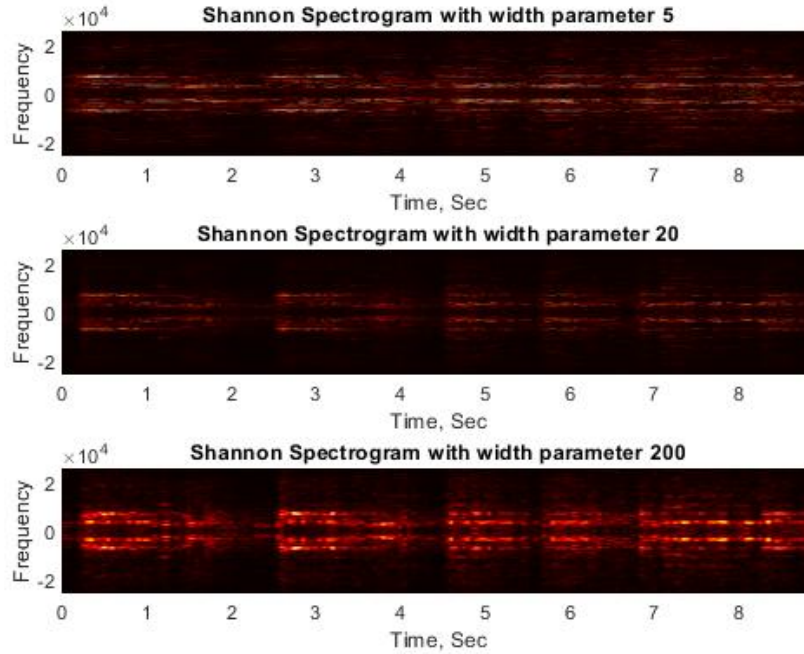


Figure 3: Variations of filtering with different window widths.

From the figure 3, we can see trade offs that occur between time and frequency resolutions. High detalization in frequency domain leads to uncertainty in time domain (top spectrogram). While high precision in time domain leads to poor/blurry detalization in frequency domain (bottom spectrogram).

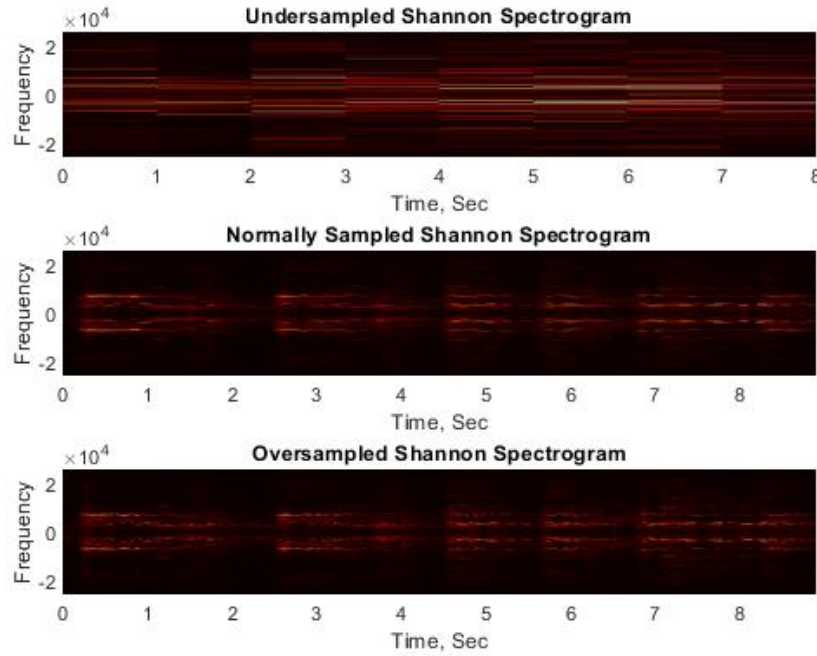


Figure 4: Variations of filtering with different sampling.

From the figure 4 we can see that different sampling rates lead to different quality of the spectrogram. Under sampling leads to the loss of important information. Over sampling, on the other hand, while presenting slightly better quality of the spectrogram, takes a lot of memory, since it stores more information.

Lastly looking at figure 1 we can see some differences between each window. Mexican window for instance "chops" signal into three sub-parts, which can potentially lead to the loss of information at those nodes. Shannon window is a step-function window, which means that potentially information can be lost on the boundaries. Lastly, since Gaussian window makes values bigger the closer they are to the center of the filter, potentially that can bring slight resolution imprecision.

## Part Two

After performing Gabor Gaussian window transformation using Gaussian filter with the widths  $a = 0.53$  for the piano and  $a = 0.44$  for the recording, the following figure 5 represents music scales of the piano and the recording:

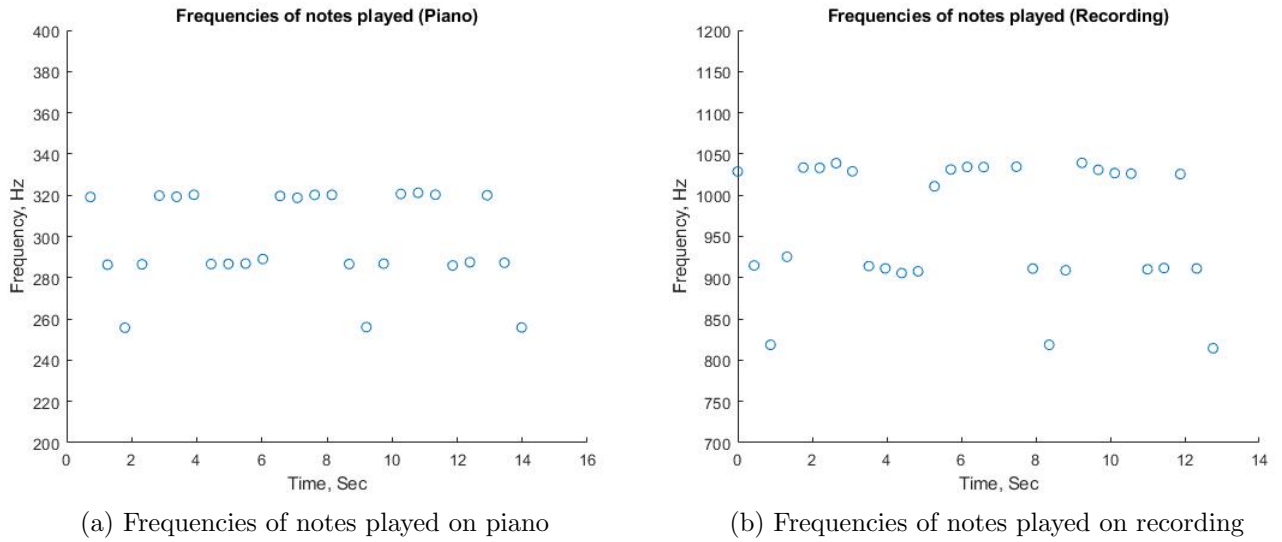


Figure 5: Frequencies of notes played on different instruments

Now, if we will translate those frequencies into notes we will get the following scales:

Piano :

[E4,D4,C4,D4,E4,E4,E4,D4,D4,D4,D4,E4,E4,E4,E4,D4,C4,D4,E4,E4,E4,D4,D4,E4,D4,C4]

Recording :

[C6,B5,A#5,B5,C6,C6,C6,C6,B5,B5,B5,B5,C6,C6,C6,C6,B5,A#5,B5,C6,C6,C6,C6,B5,B5,C6,B5,A#5,B5]

## Summary and Conclusions

### Part One

This portion of the homework gave us a chance to apply our knowledge of time-frequency analysis to analyze a portion of Handels Messiah. In particular, we used Gabor filtering to produce spectrograms of the given audio-file. While doing so we have experimented with the width of the filter, the speed at which it slid across the signal, and different variations of Gabor window. We have started with the Gaussian window, and then looked at the Mexican hat window and a step-function (Shannon) window. Then, we explored effects of different window width and different sampling rates on the quality of the spectrogram. Altogether, our work allowed us to gain a better understanding of the Gabor filtering wavelets.

### Part Two

This portion of the homework gave us a chance to apply our knowledge of time-frequency analysis to produce a music score of recordings using Gabor Gaussian window filtering. If we will compare the recorder frequencies with the piano frequencies, we can see that the first

ones are higher pitched than the other ones. Also, during construction of the note scores we noticed the presence of the overtones in the piano file and lack of those in the recorder file. That resulted in piano sound being more "full" and recording sound more "flat". The overtones, can be seen on the spectrogram, which due to a spacial constraint I was not able to attach.

# Appendices

## MATLAB commands

linspace() : Used to generate linearly spaced vector.  
ind2sub() : Used to find subscripts from linear index.  
fft() : Used to move data into Fourier space.  
fftshift() : Used to shift zero-frequency component to center of spectrum.  
ifftshift() : Used to zero-frequency shift.  
ifft(): Used to move data back from Fourier space.  
pcolor(): Used to create spectrograms.  
audioread(): Used to read input audio file and turn it into a vector.  
scatter(): Used to plot a music scale.

## MATLAB code

```

1 % HW1 – Gabor transforms
2 %-----%
3 % Part 1
4
5 clear all; close all; clc
6 load handel
7
8 v = y'/2;
9
10 n = length(v);
11 L = n/Fs;
12 vf = v(1:end - 1);
13 k=(2*pi/L)*[0:n/2-1 -n/2:-1]; ks=fftshift(k);
14
15 t2 = (1:length(v))/Fs;
16 t = t2(1:n-1);
17
18 width = [5, 20, 300];
19 tslide_one = 0:1:t(end);

```

```

20 tslide_two = 0:0.1:t(end);
21 tslide_three = 0:0.05:t(end);
22
23 Vst_spec_one = [];
24 Vst_spec_two = [];
25 Vst_spec_three = [];
26 tslide = tslide_three;
27 for j=1:length(tslide)
28     sOne = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(1)); % Shannon
29     sTwo = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(2)); % Shannon
30     sThree = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(3)); % Shannon
31     VsOne = sOne.*vf; VstOne = fft(VsOne);
32     VsTwo = sTwo.*vf; VstTwo = fft(VsTwo);
33     VsThree = sThree.*vf; VstThree = fft(VsThree);
34     Vst_spec_one = [Vst_spec_one; abs(fftshift(VstOne))];
35     Vst_spec_two = [Vst_spec_two; abs(fftshift(VstTwo))];
36     Vst_spec_three = [Vst_spec_three; abs(fftshift(VstThree))];
37 end
38
39 Vst_spec_two_slide_one = [];
40 tslide = tslide_one;
41 for j=1:length(tslide)
42     s = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(1)); % Shannon
43     Vs = s.*vf; Vst = fft(Vs);
44     Vst_spec_two_slide_one = [Vst_spec_two_slide_one; abs(fftshift
        (Vst))];
45 end
46
47 Vst_spec_two_slide_three = [];
48 tslide = tslide_three;
49 for j=1:length(tslide)
50     s = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(3)); % Shannon
51     Vs = s.*vf; Vgt = fft(Vs);
52     Vst_spec_two_slide_three = [Vst_spec_two_slide_three; abs(
        fftshift(Vst))];
53 end
54
55 tslide = tslide_two;
56 Vgt_spec_two = [];
57 Vst_spec_two_slide_two = [];
58 Vmt_spec_two = [];
59 for j=1:length(tslide)
60     g = exp(-width(2)*(t - tslide(j)).^2); % Gaussian
61     s = (abs(t - tslide(j)) <= 1/width(2)); % Shannon
62     m = 2.*(1 - ((t-tslide(j))/width(2)).^-1).^2 ...

```



```

63         .*exp(-((t-tparameter(j)).^2)/...
64         (2.*width(2).^2))/(sqrt(3.*width(2).^2)...
65         .*pi^(1/4)); % Ricker
66     Vg = g.*vf; Vgt = fft(Vg);
67     Vs = s.*vf; Vst = fft(Vs);
68     Vm = m.*vf; Vmt = fft(Vm);
69     if (j == length(tparameter)/2)
70         figure
71         subplot(2,3,1:3)
72         plot(t,vf,'k',t,g,'r',t,s,'g',t,m,'b')
73         axis([4 4.8 -3 5])
74         xlabel('Time, sec');
75         ylabel('Amplitude');
76         title('Original Signal and Filters');
77         subplot(2,3,4)
78         plot(t,Vg)
79         axis([4 4.8 -0.5 0.5])
80         xlabel('Time, sec');
81         ylabel('Amplitude');
82         title('Gaussian Filtered signal');
83         subplot(2,3,5)
84         plot(t,Vs)
85         axis([4 4.8 -0.5 0.5])
86         xlabel('Time, sec');
87         ylabel('Amplitude');
88         title('Shannon Filtered signal');
89         subplot(2,3,6)
90         plot(t,Vm)
91         axis([4 4.8 -0.5 0.5])
92         xlabel('Time, sec');
93         ylabel('Amplitude');
94         title('Mexican Filtered signal');
95     end
96     Vgt_spec_two = [Vgt_spec_two; abs(fftshift(Vgt))];
97     Vst_spec_two_slide_two = [Vst_spec_two_slide_two; abs(fftshift
98         (Vst))];
98     Vmt_spec_two = [Vmt_spec_two; abs(fftshift(Vmt))];
99 end
100 %%
101 close all;
102 figure
103 subplot(3,1,1)
104 pcolor(tparameter,ks,Vst_spec_one), ...
105     shading interp, colormap(hot)
106 str = sprintf('Shannon Spectrogram with width parameter 5');

```

```

107 title(str)
108 xlabel('Time, Sec')
109 ylabel('Frequency')
110
111 subplot(3,1,2)
112 pcolor(tslide_three,ks,Vst_spec_two. '), shading interp,...
113         colormap(hot)
114 str = sprintf('Shannon Spectrogram with width parameter 20');
115 title(str)
116 xlabel('Time, Sec')
117 ylabel('Frequency')
118
119 subplot(3,1,3)
120 pcolor(tslide_three,ks,Vst_spec_three. '), shading interp,...
121         colormap(hot)
122 str = sprintf('Shannon Spectrogram with width parameter 200');
123 title(str)
124 xlabel('Time, Sec')
125 ylabel('Frequency')
126
127 figure
128 subplot(3,1,1)
129 pcolor(tslide_one,ks,Vst_spec_two_slide_one. '), ...
130         shading interp, colormap(hot)
131 str = sprintf('Undersampled Shannon Spectrogram');
132 title(str)
133 xlabel('Time, Sec')
134 ylabel('Frequency')
135
136 subplot(3,1,2)
137 pcolor(tslide_two,ks,Vst_spec_two_slide_two. '), shading interp,...
138         colormap(hot)
139 str = sprintf('Normally Sampled Shannon Spectrogram');
140 title(str)
141 xlabel('Time, Sec')
142 ylabel('Frequency')
143
144 subplot(3,1,3)
145 pcolor(tslide_three,ks,Vst_spec_two. '), shading interp,...
146         colormap(hot)
147 str = sprintf('Oversampled Shannon Spectrogram');
148 title(str)
149 xlabel('Time, Sec')
150 ylabel('Frequency')
151

```

```

152 figure
153 subplot(3,1,1)
154 pcolor(tslide_two,ks,Vgt_spec_two. '), shading interp,...
155     colormap(hot)
156 str = sprintf('Gaussian spectrogram');
157 title(str)
158 xlabel('Time, Sec')
159 ylabel('Frequency')
160 subplot(3,1,2)
161 pcolor(tslide_two,ks,Vst_spec_two_slide_two. '), shading interp,...
162     colormap(hot)
163 str = sprintf('Shannon spectrogram');
164 title(str)
165 xlabel('Time, Sec')
166 ylabel('Frequency')
167 subplot(3,1,3)
168 pcolor(tslide_two,ks,Vmt_spec_two. '), shading interp,...
169     colormap(hot)
170 str = sprintf('Mexican spectrogram');
171 title(str)
172 xlabel('Time, Sec')
173 ylabel('Frequency')
174
175 %% Part 2
176
177 clear all; close all; clc
178
179 L=16; % record time in seconds
180 y=audioread('music1.wav');
181 Fs=length(y)/L;
182 v = y'/2;
183 t = (1:length(v))/Fs;
184 n=length(v);
185 k=(2*pi/L)*[0:n/2-1 -n/2:-1];
186 ks=fftshift(k);
187
188 width = [10000000];
189 tslide_one = 0.2:0.53:14;
190
191 for i = 1:length(width)
192     figure(2*i - 1)
193     title('Piano recording')
194
195     Sgt_spec = [];
196     frequencies = [];

```

```

197     for j=1:length(tslide_one)
198         g = exp(-width(i)*(t - tslide_one(j)).^10);
199         Sg = g.*v; %filtered with gaussian
200         Sgt = fft(Sg); %fft gaussian
201         [val, index] = max(abs(fftshift(Sgt)));
202         frequency = ks(index)/(2*pi);
203         frequencies = [frequencies, frequency];
204         Sgt_spec = [Sgt_spec; abs(fftshift(Sgt))];
205     end
206     frequencies = abs(frequencies);
207
208     figure
209     scatter(tslide_one(1:length(tslide_one)), frequencies(1:length(
        tslide_one)));
210     xlabel('Time, Sec');
211     ylabel('Frequency, Hz');
212     title('Frequencies of notes played (Piano)');
213     axis([0 L 200 400])
214     drawnow
215 end
216 %%
217 clear all; close all; clc
218
219 L=14; % record time in seconds
220 y=audioread('music2.wav');
221 Fs=length(y)/L;
222 v = y'/2;
223 t = (1:length(v))/Fs;
224 n=length(v);
225 k=(2*pi/L)*[0:n/2-1 -n/2:-1];
226 ks=fftshift(k);
227
228 width = [10000000];
229 tslide = 0:0.44:13;
230
231 for i = 1:length(width)
232     figure(2*i - 1)
233     title('Recording')
234
235     Sgt_spec = [];
236     frequencies = [];
237     for j=1:length(tslide)
238         g = exp(-width(i)*(t - tslide(j)).^10);
239         Sg = g.*v; %filtered with gaussian
240         Sgt = fft(Sg); %fft gaussian

```

```

241         [val, index] = max(abs(fftshift(Sgt)));
242         frequency = ks(index)/(2*pi);
243         frequencies = [frequencies, frequency];
244         Sgt_spec = [Sgt_spec; abs(fftshift(Sgt))];
245     end
246     frequencies = abs(frequencies);
247
248     figure
249     scatter(tslide(1:length(tslide)),frequencies(1:length(tslide))
250            );
251     xlabel('Time, Sec');
252     ylabel('Frequency, Hz');
253     title('Frequencies of notes played (Recording)');
254     axis([0 L 700 1200])
255     drawnow
256 end

```