

## PS4

### Synthesizing a Plucked String Sound (part B): *StringSound implementation and SFML audio output*

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Implement the Karplus-Strong guitar string simulation, and generate a stream of string samples for audio playback under keyboard control.

#### StringSound Implementation

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Write a class named `StringSound` that performs the Karplus-Strong string simulation described in Part A.

#### API

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```
class StringSound
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StringSound(double frequency)           // create a guitar string sound of the
                                        // given frequency using a sampling rate
                                        // of 44,100
StringSound(vector<sf::Int16> init)     // create a guitar string with
                                        // size and initial values are given by
                                        // the vector
void pluck()                           // pluck the guitar string by replacing
                                        // the buffer with random values,
                                        // representing white noise
void tic()                             // advance the simulation one time step
sf::Int16 sample()                     // return the current sample
int time()                             // return number of times tic was called
                                        // so far
```

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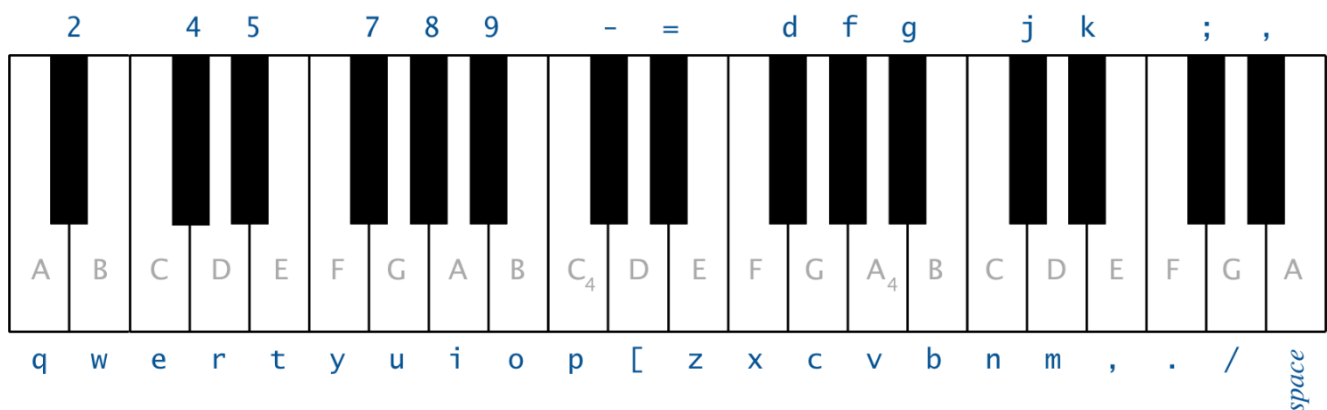
```
class StringSound {
public:
    explicit StringSound (double frequency);
    explicit StringSound (vector<sf::Int16> init);
    StringSound (const StringSound &obj) = delete;    // no copy const
    ~StringSound();
    void pluck();
    void tic();
    sf::Int16 sample();
    int time();
private:
    CircularBuffer * _cb;
    int _time;
};
```

Your program `KSGuitarSim` should support a total of 37 notes on the chromatic scale from 110Hz to 880Hz. Use the following 37 keys to represent the keyboard, from lowest note to highest note:

`"q2we4r5ty7u8i9op-[=zxdcfvgnbjmk,.;/' "`

This keyboard arrangement imitates a piano keyboard: The "white keys" are on the the `qwerty` and `zxcv` rows and the "black keys" on the `12345` and `asdf` rows of the keyboard (see Pic.1).

The  $i^{\text{th}}$  character of the string keyboard corresponds to a frequency of  $440 \times 2^{(i - 24) / 12}$ , so that the character 'q' is 110Hz, 'i' is 220Hz, 'v' is 440Hz, and ' ' is 880Hz. Don't even think of including 37 individual `StringSound` variables or a 37-way if statement!



Picture 1. Keyboard

- In the `StringSound` private member variables declarations, you must declare a pointer to a `CircularBuffer` rather than declaring a `CircularBuffer` object itself. Then in the `StringSound` constructor you must use the `new` operator.
  - This is because you can't allow the `CircularBuffer` to be instantiated until the `StringSound` constructor is called at run time (you don't know how big a `CircularBuffer` to make until given the frequency of the string).
  - See <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/12927169/how-can-i-initialize-c-object-member-variables-in-the-constructor> for an explanation.
  - Because the `CircularBuffer` contained in the guitar string class will be a pointer to a `CircularBuffer`, you'll need to use the dereference operator (`*`) to get at the `CircularBuffer` object itself.
  - Remember to explicitly `delete` the `CircularBuffer` object in the `StringSound`'s destructor.
- In the `StringSound(double frequency)` constructor, you must using the ceiling function when calculating the size of the `CircularBuffer`. See <http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/cmath/ceil/> for details.
- In the `pluck` method, you must fill the guitar string's `CircularBuffer` with random numbers over the `int16_t` range. `int16_t` is a short integer, which can hold values from `-32768` to `32767`.

- Also in `pluck`, the guitar string's circular buffer might already be full. So you should either empty it (by dequeuing values until it's empty), or by deleting it and making a new one which you'll then fill up.

Or, you could add a new method to your `CircularBuffer`, `empty()`, which would set the `_first` and `_last` index member variables to `0`, and the `_full` boolean to `false`. (This would be the most efficient solution.)

### Testing your StringSound implementation

Before you proceed to generate sound, test that your `StringSound` is implemented correctly!

Use C++ exceptions for error handling.

## SFML Audio Output

There are two parts of generating audio:

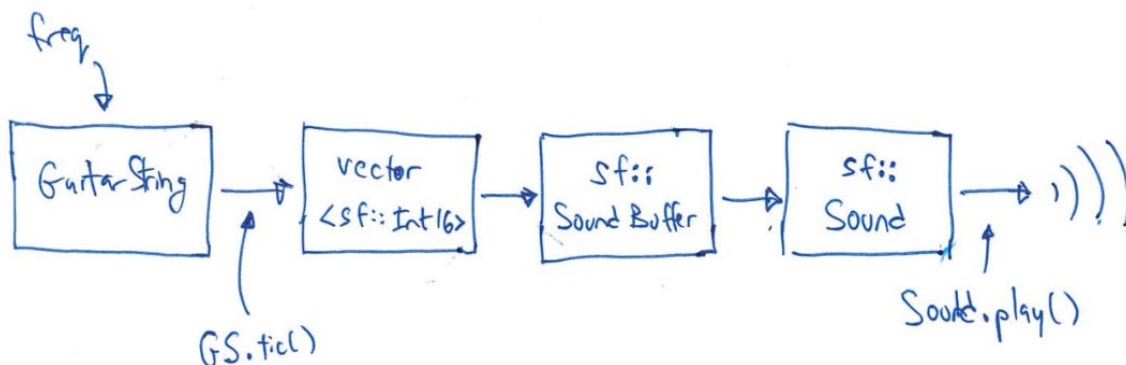
- (1) getting values out of the `StringSound` object and into SFML audio playback object, and
- (2) playing the audio objects when key press events occur.

### Getting samples out of StringSound and into SFML Sound

For SFML, we have to have an existing `sf::StringSound` that's created with a vector of sound samples. This `StringSound` is created from a vector of `sf::Int16s`.

Then we create an `sf::Sound` object from the `sf::SoundBuffer`. The `sf::Sound` object can then be played.

So the whole sequence is:



### Playing SFML Sounds when key presses occur

We'll use SFML to create an electronic keyboard:

- When the "a" key is pressed, a sound corresponding to concert A (440 Hz) should be played.
- When the "c" key is pressed, a C note should be played.

To handle the keypress events, we'll open an SFML window, and look for `sf::Event::KeyPressed` events.

When we get one, we'll see if its `event.key.code` is equal to `sf::Keyboard::A` or `sf::Keyboard::C`.

If so, we'll play the appropriate sound.

See the `SSLite.cpp` demo file for how to do this. `SSLite.cpp` is sample code that when given a correct implementation of `StringSound`, will play a 440 Hz A string when the “a” key is pressed, and the corresponding C note when the “c” key is pressed.

In the first half of the code, two `StringSound` objects are created (one for each frequency), and each is cranked to produce a stream of audio samples that are loaded into a `sf::Int16` vector. Those vectors are made into `sf::SoundBuffers`, and those are made into playable `sf::Sound` objects.

In the second half of the code, an `SFML` window and event loop is set up to play the sounds when the “a” or “c” keys are pressed.

## Implementation

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For our implementation, we actually need three parallel arrays (please use vectors):

- a vector of 37 `sf::Int16` vectors. Each individual `sf::Int16` vector holds the audio sample stream generated by one `StringSound`.
- a vector of 37 `sf::SoundBuffers`. Each `SoundBuffer` object contains a vector of audio samples.
- a vector of 37 `sf::Sounds`. Each `Sound` object contains a `SoundBuffer`. (It's the `Sound` object that can finally be played.)

You don't need a vector of `StringSounds`. Once you've plucked it and `ticked` it a bunch of times to get the sound samples out of it—and stored into the `Int16` vector—you can throw it away and make a new one for the next frequency.

### Extra credit

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For extra credit, make a version of the program that makes a different sound. Modify the algorithm to get a sound that resembles drum, chirp, piano, or anything other than the guitar.

This sound doesn't have to simulate a specific instrument. Here's a couple of ideas:

1. Make your algorithm vary the number of samples on the queue as the sound is being synthesized, producing a frequency chirp. For example, for each 100 times that `tick()` is called, remove 100 samples from the queue, but only re-insert 99 samples. This will produce an up-frequency chirp (make sure to stop removing samples when the queue is almost empty, so that `peek()` and `dequeue()` don't throw exceptions for empty queue.)
2. Change the low-pass filter so it leaves some of the noise in the buffer for longer, resulting in a "noisier" sound - this will sound more like a percussion instrument. One way to do this is to mix 90% of the last sample and 10% of the second-last sample (guitar sound uses 50%/50% mix.)

## Submit your work

You should be submitting at least five files:

- Your `CircularBuffer.cpp` and associated `CircularBuffer.h`
- Your `StringSound.cpp` and its `StringSound.h`
- Your `KSGuitarSim.cpp` file
- A `Makefile` that builds an executable named `KSGuitarSim`.
- A filled-in copy of the `ps4b-readme.txt`

Submit the archive on Blackboard.

## Grading rubric

Feature	Value	Comment
<code>StringSound</code> implementation	4	full & correct implementation = 4 pts with appropriate implementation of keys (no switch statement); nearly complete = 3pts; part way=2 pts; started=1 pt -1 point for using switch/if-else statement for keys
<code>StringSound</code> C++ exceptions tests	2	Should contain C++ exceptions
<code>KSGuitarSim</code> implementation	4	transforming the <code>SSLite</code> version into the full 37-note player per assignment
	1	Use of a <code>lambda</code> expression
	1	Use of <code>smart pointers</code>
	2	Your code should pass <code>cpplint</code>
readme	2	Readme should say something meaningful about what you accomplished 1 point for explaining how you tested your implementation by using exceptions
Makefile	1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	
extra credit	2	Make a version of the program that makes a different sound. Modify the algorithm to get drum, chirp, piano, or anything other than the guitar. Mention what you did in your readme.