

9/10 · period (sec):  $\frac{1}{f}$

· freq (Hz):  $\frac{1}{\text{period}}$

FUND FREQ: freq. of which harmonics are all int. multiples

ex: 880, 660  $\rightarrow$  220



· sawtooth wave: has every harmonic:  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}$



· square wave: odd n's where  $1, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{5}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}$  (even amplitudes = 0)  $[1, 0, \frac{1}{3}, 0]$



· triangle wave: odd n's where  $1, \frac{1}{3^2}, \frac{1}{5^2}, \dots, \frac{1}{n^2}$

· phantom fundamental: take low freq & odd harmonics to make it seem like the freq. (fund. doesn't have to be present for us to perceive the sound)

Ex:  $[1, 0, \frac{1}{3}, 0, \frac{1}{4}]$

↓  
1st harm . . .

→ in practice we don't generate a full freq b/c human hearing is 20-20k Hz

· octave: double the most recent freq 220, 440, 880, etc.

continuous energy {

· white noise: energy distributed evenly across freq. spectrum



· pink noise: less high-frequency energy, more low-freq

· impulse: instantaneously short sound distributed across freq. spectrum  
(plucking, striking)

· piano, guitar, string instruments doesn't have much surface area, so doesn't distribute much air.

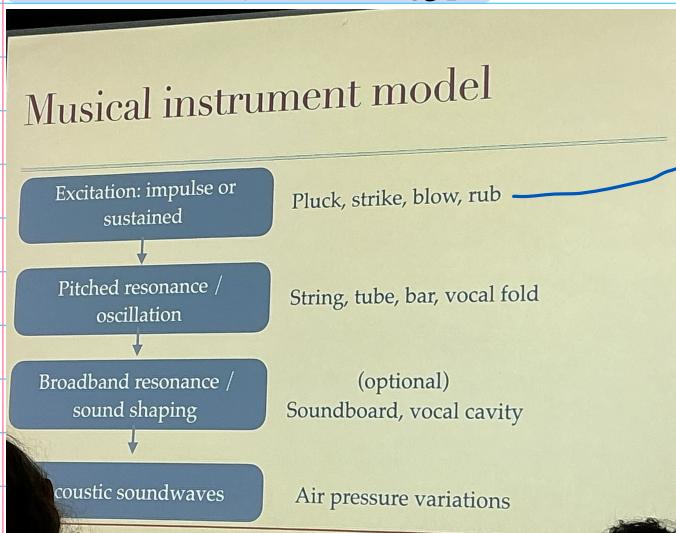
- energy of string is transferred to the soundboard.

· resonance: vibrate more freely (harmonics)

· freq. spectrum: what frequencies are present in a sound

· freq. response: which sounds will resonate (harmonics) vs. damped out  
· if you keep putting energy in @ resonant freq. faster than it can damp, can break things

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MODEL:

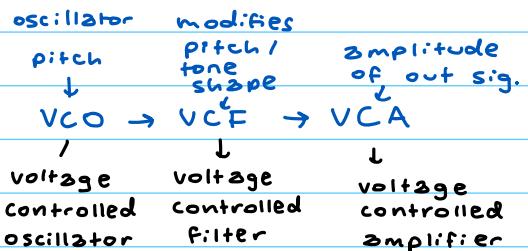
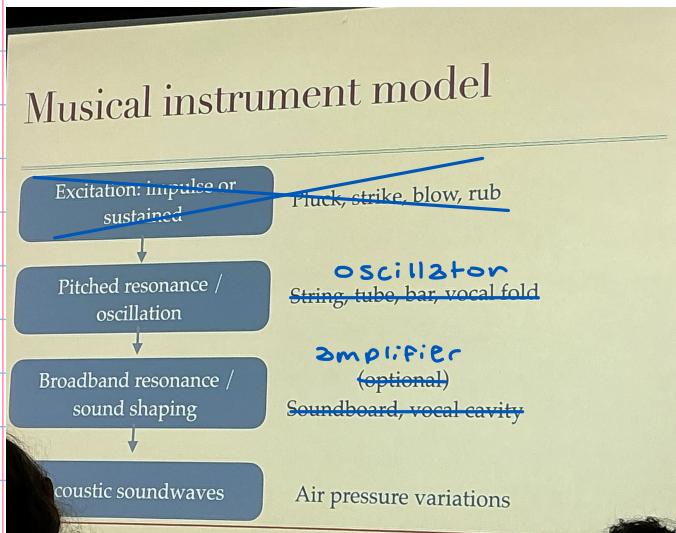


quality of impulse can affect output of sound

### 9/15: ADDITIVE SYNTHESIS

- creating sound by combining sine waves w/ different amplitudes/freq/phases
- complicated, hard to do irl (sine waves hard to generate)

### SUBTRACTIVE SYNTHESIS:



**VCO** [ Sawtooth: nasally ]

Square wave: deeper,

**VCF:** getting rid of higher frequency harmonics

- low pass filter (allows low freq. to pass & attenuates higher freqs)
- attenuate frequencies GRADUALLY

**RESONANCE:** makes frequency ring out

- high resonance makes higher freqs louder

FILTER TYPES: messes w/ attenuation & how fast sound dims

- cutoff freq = where attenuation begins

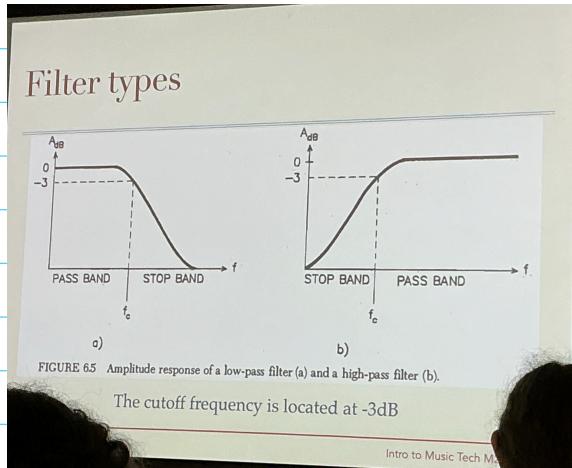


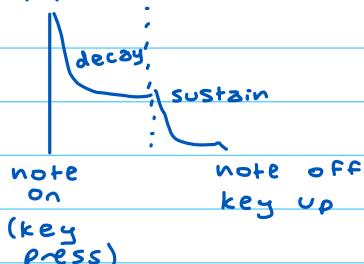
FIGURE 6.5 Amplitude response of a low-pass filter (a) and a high-pass filter (b).

The cutoff frequency is located at -3dB

Intro to Music Tech M21.050

- Analog to digital depends on filters

impulse



ADSR: attack, decay, sustain, release

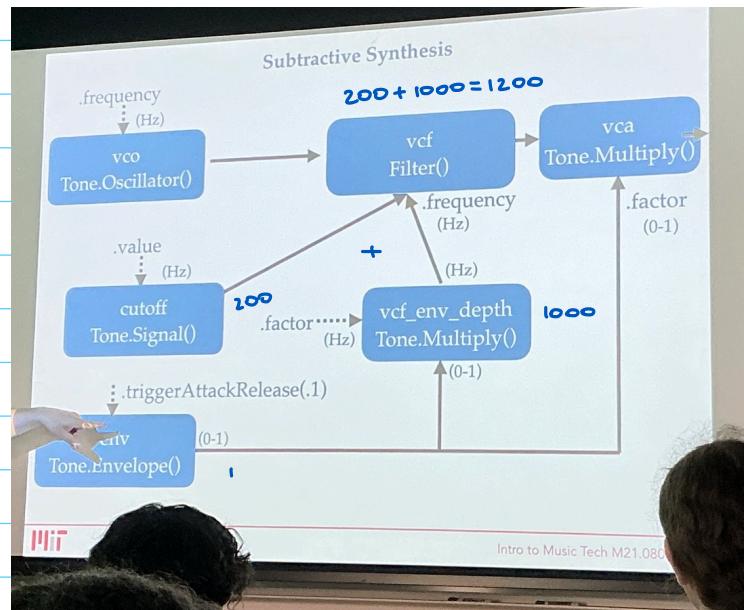
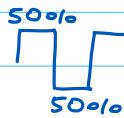
- Sometimes release not instant

- damping, sustain

DUTY CYCLE:

- pulse-width modulation:

- can speed up/slow



Intro to Music Tech M21.050

9/17

### harmonic series

2:1 octave

100 R  
200 8 (oct)

3:2 fifth

300 5th

400 8

4:3 fourth

500 3

600 5

5:4 third

700 7

800 8

6:5 minor third

900 2

1000 3

7:6 seventh

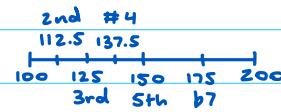
1100 #4

8:7

9:8 second

as you go up, intervals keep shrinking,

octaves get larger



### FOURIER TRANSFORM:

takes signal & breaks into frequency components within signal

$$\text{RMS (root mean square)} = \sqrt{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} S_n^2}$$

→ avg. amplitude of signal

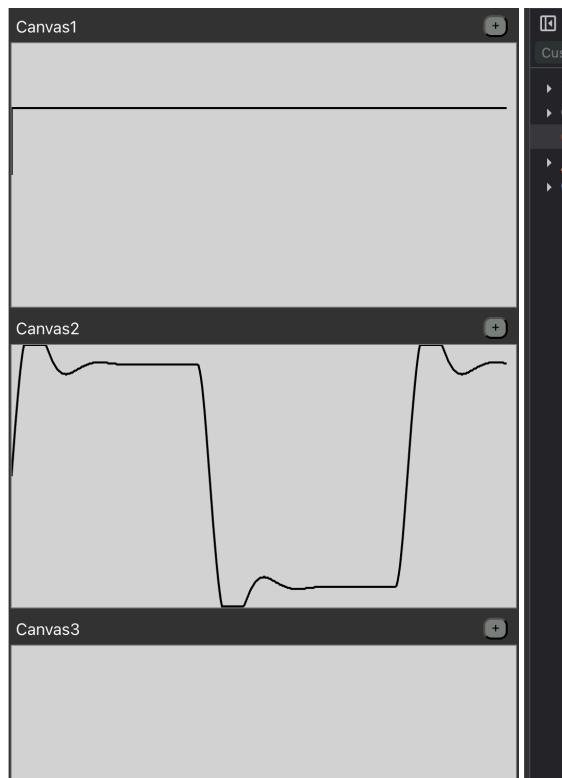


```

Run   Keyboard   Starter Code   Export Code + 
1 /* 
2 Alt(option)-Enter: Evaluate Line
3 Alt(option)-Shift-Enter: Evaluate Block
4 */
5 let vco = new Tone.Oscillator().start() //
6 let output = new Tone.Multiply(.1).toDestination()
7 let vcf = new Tone.Filter()
8 let vca = new Tone.Multiply()
9 let env = new Tone.Envelope()

10
11 vco.connect(vcf)
12 vcf.connect(vca)
13 vca.connect(output)
14 env.connect(vca.factor)
15
16 env.triggerAttackRelease(3)

17
18 env.attack = 1 // need this val for no pop
19 env.decay = 1
20 env.sustain = 0.1 // amplitude 0-1
21 env.release = 0.1
22
23 vco.frequency.value = 150
24 vco.type = 'square'
25 vcf.frequency.value = 1000
26
27 let scope1 = new Oscilloscope('Canvas1')
28 env.connect(scope1.input)
29 let scope2 = new Oscilloscope('Canvas2')
30 vcf.connect(scope2.input)
  
```

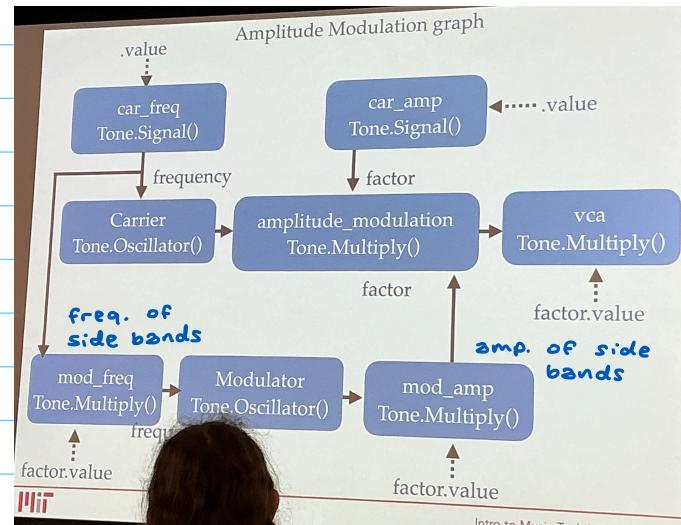
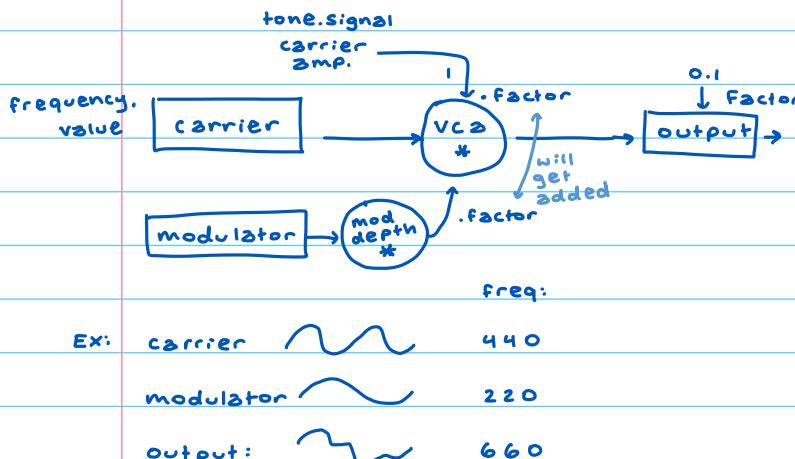


9/24 Moog MicroMoog

- produced by Moog Music in 1970s; cheaper than Mini Moog
- monophonic subtractive synthesizer (only 1 VCO)
- subtractive synth: starts w/ rich waveforms from VCO & uses filters/modulators
- additional sources: noise generator (white noise), external audio input
- octave, frequency, doubling, fine-tune frequency controls  
 ↓  
 32' to 2' transpose      up/down octaves      controls all octaves simultaneously
- cutoff control - sets cutoff frequency where attenuation begins
- modulation: changes params. of sound over time.
  - modulation wheel: controls degree of modulation
- Self-oscillation: can make a sine wave → "filter mode" switch to tone
- timbre: 24dB steep filter, higher cutoff = brighter
  - sub-octave generator: adding octaves

**ANALOG:**

- hard to have another oscillator & keep it in tune
- Sub-oscillator: play sound 1-2 octaves below main oscillator

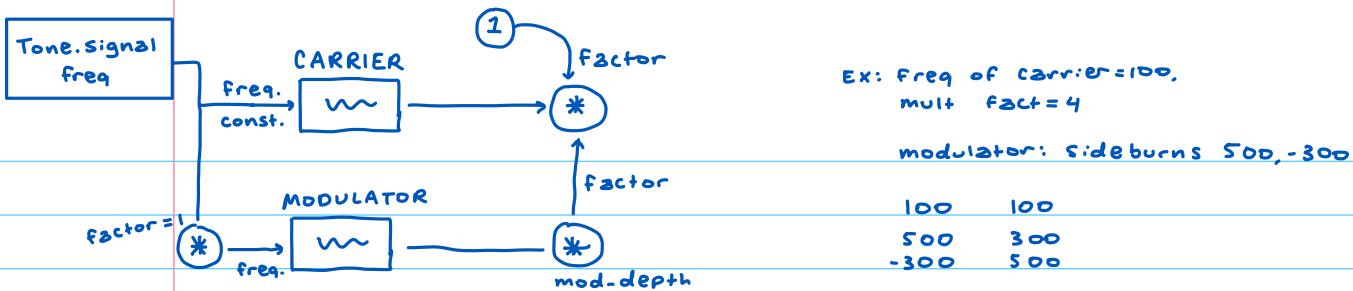


going negative: takes waveform & flips: ~ neg = ~

modulation depth: controls sidebands

↑ amplitude mod.  
AM & RING modulation:

- amount of mod. relates to amplitude of modulator
- ring modulation: carrier disappears, only sidebands stay



- what if carrier has many frequencies (sawtooth)?
- every frequency gets its own set of sidebands.



MIDI: musical instrument digital interface; 1980 tech.

- sharing info b/w hardware music devices
  - adopted for lighting / etc.
- keyboard press: frequency, amplitude
- middle C: midi note 60, 261.63 Hz
  - up an octave: +12 → 72

MIDI message format:

- each msg - multiple bits
- status bytes: always start w/ 1
- 1 sss nnnn | 0 xxx x x x x | 0 yy y y y y  
 Status byte      pitch data 1      velocity/amplitude data 2
- w/o top bit, goes from 256 → 128 values; ok b/c piano has < 128 notes, & this value is pretty good for speed.
  - criticisms that midi is only 128 resolution
- note on message (note, format) → depends when you press/release
- speed of pressing keys determines sound (velocity)
  - can specify note off by sending note on w/ velocity = 0
- can set synthesizers to different channels.
- wire: DIN-5 standard
- in, out, through msg (goes thru. to output)

CC (CONTINUOUS CONTROL) messages:

- status byte will be diff, Data 1 = value, Data 2 =
- pitch bend / modulation - types of CC
  - can change pitch w/ +/- octave - coarse on 128
  - 14 bits of res. - both data bits are for pitch bend

### GENERAL MIDI

- 1st way of writing song/sending music around.
- sending MIDI files than music lib.
- has many sound presets - 128 presets
- drums usually on MIDI channel 10.

### PROBLEMS w/ MIDI:

- low res (7 bit)
- not human readable
  - MIDI data is hex, not binary
- note on/off doesn't easily translate to continuous pitch/microtonal music
- limited support for lots of continuous data
- generally not that extensible

### MIDI UPDATES

#### MPE:

- every note has its own pitch bend
- 3 dedicated channels for 14-bit cc data
- continuous frequency sweep, not step bend
- move finger side to side for vibrato, up/down for pitch bends.

#### MIDI 2.0:

- 32 bit

#### OSC (open sound control):

- no data restriction
- sending packets - transparent, human readable
- EX: /synth/1/frequency 220.

### ROLAND - JUNO synth

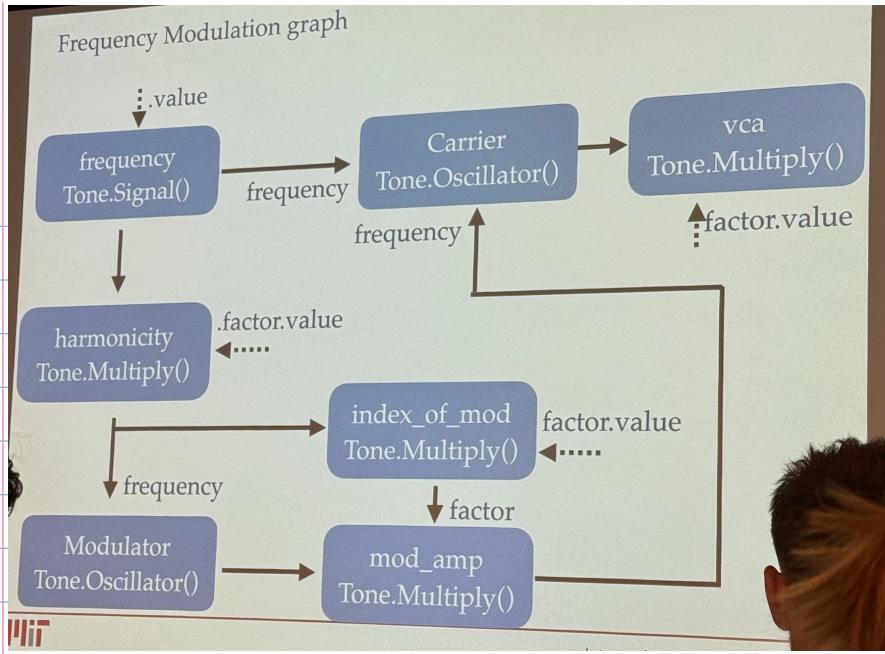
- released in 1982
- unique features: arpeggio, chorus, memory (patches),  
presets of them you can quickplay  
could go out of tune depending on environment
- uses DCO, not VCO. VCO charges/discharges capacitors. DCO uses digital clock, more accurate
- can mix multiple waveforms @ once, playing up to 6 notes @ same time
- change timbre: HPF/VCF, bender, LFO trigger,
- classic 80's sound
- easy to play

## 10/1: LINNDRUM SYNTH

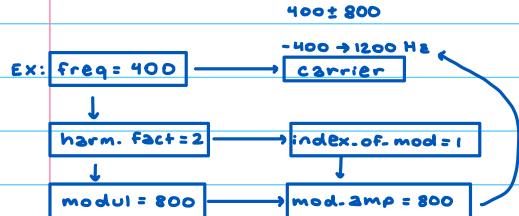
- need for drum machines
- 1st programmable drum machine to use digital samples of real drums
- focus on rhythm backbone
  - many buttons (pre-recorded sounds)
  - many diff. outputs
- not rly a synthesizer... plays digital samples stored on EPROMS
  - can swap out EPROMS to change sounds
  - variable sample rate
- every drum: can adjust balance / volume
- panning sound for LinnDrum → L/R
- used VCO to change speed of recording / tuning
- hi-hat decay → open/closed crip sound (long vs. short decay)
- multiplexing: have different sounds "take turns" using same DAC.
- Curtis Electromusic
- can use cassettes to save
- used by: Prince, Madonna, Paul McCartney, Michael Jackson, Queen

## 10/6 FM SYNTHESIS

- ADDITIVE SYNTHESIS: adding many sine waves together
  - AM SYNTHESIS: oscillators are called carriers & modulators
    - modulator affects carriers
  - FM: affects frequency
- FM:
- carrier = main central freq.
  - modulator comes in & modulates around that
  - Ex: freq val = 500, mod = 100, amp mod = 400 & 600, 300 & 700, 200 & 900, etc.
    - Fund. freq: 500
    - can make them harmonics
  - freq. range > mod range → must shift mod amp
  - amp mod: 1 pair of sidebands
  - freq mod: many sidebands
- make freq mod = 500 → everything is harmonics
- relationship b/t freq mod & mod-amp controlling # sidebands
- Ex: freq.val = 100, mod.freq.val = 1000, mod.amp.factor.val = 1500
- FM synthesis tends to sound metallic, bright, etc.



- harmonicity & index\_of\_mod multiplies carrier freq.
- mod\_amp is also factor
- harmonicity determines freq. of modulator
  - sidebands = carrier freq  $\pm$  mod\_amp



sidebands:  $400 \pm 800$ :

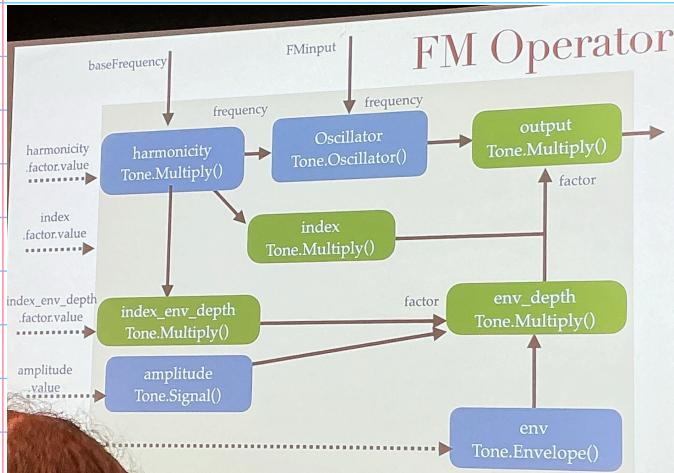
- high freq: fundamental freq. is almost lowest amp.
- timbre = bright, have ghost freq.

• can change wave types, but can get insane amt of sidebands b/c multiples will be generated

for each freq.

$$\frac{D}{F_m} \quad D = \text{amplitude of modulator}$$

Fm = freq. of modulator



YAMAHA DX7

- PPI still release synths based on it

### SAMPLING:

- sample and hold in ADCs
- single note recordings
- music performance
- DJ-esque (parts of songs)

### AUDIO BUFFERS:

- store audio recordings in computer memory
- play back @ original speed/freq.

### SAMPLERS:

- key mapping: mapping playback speed ratio
- multisampling: recording many different samples of same instrum.
- timbre of instruments change @ diff. amp. levels
  - velocity switching: record each note @ diff. dynamics
- keyswitching: using selected keys to switch articulations
- professional sample libraries are expensive
  - free: philharmonia.co.uk

### 10/15 DIGITAL AUDIO AMPLITUDE:

• env: 0 → 1



• voltage: -1 → 1



(waveform)  
• same harmonics, diff. amplitude

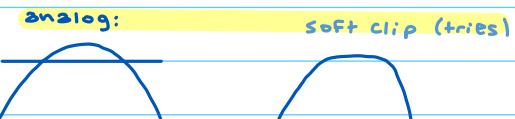
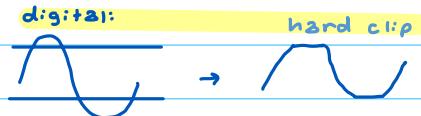
• if amplifying beyond limits, will chop off

AKA distortion

• ex: distortion amplified to max:



even when you play soft, will clip.



### DISTORTION: arbitrary alteration of a waveshape

- if sound has pitch, fundamental + harmonics is there
- harmonic distortion: adds harmonics (change shape of waveform)
- adds higher harmonics within limit

### WAVESHAPING:

- as soon as we hard clip, many harmonics are introduced
- soft clipping: tanh func
- can use many shapes (sine, triangle). sine a bit softer
- wave folder: 

### PHYSICAL MODELLING:

- model behavior of physical elts (plucking, etc)

### KARPLUS STRONG ALG:

- simulates pluck string
- delay line to model movement



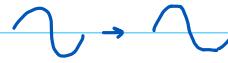
## 10/20 SOUND: DIGITAL PERSPECTIVE

- decibels: how we measure amplitude (dB) - logarithmic
  - 6dB:  $\sqrt{2}$  doubling of amplitude (measurable)  $\rightarrow$  for each 6dB there is doubling of amplitude
  - Ex: 12 dB  $\rightarrow$  quadrupled, 18 dB:  $2^3$ , 24 dB:  $2^4 = 16x$
- dB SPL (sound pressure level): compared to threshold of perception of 1 kHz soundwave
  - 0 dB SPL = quietest sound ppl heard in lab
  - our classroom  $\approx$  35 dB (soft whisper)
  - will always be + level
- dBu (professional standard)
- dBV (consumer standards)
- dBFS: negative. is below max noise

### CONTINUOUS VS. DISCRETE SIGNALS:

- digital systems manipulate discrete, quantized signals
- time-sampling
- SAMPLING THM: continuous time signal  $x(t)$  with frequencies no higher than  $f_{max}$ 
  - can be reconstructed exactly from its samples  $x[n] = x(nT_s)$
  - if sampling rate is at least  $2 \times$  highest freq. in signal.
  - have to band limit signal (don't exceed  $f_{max}$ )  $\rightarrow f_{max} \leq \frac{f_s}{2}$
  - not  $>$  Nyquist freq.

SAMPLING RATE: rate audio samples must be converted by ADC  $\rightarrow$  DAC w/ high precision

- jitter: variations in timing of ADC or DAC (distorts waveform)  
  
 $\hookrightarrow$  higher samp. r. = worse jitter
- everything nowadays has ADC & DAC in it
- if you can't process @ sample rate fast enough, dropouts will occur (pops/clicks)



(as soon as you go over)

**ALIASING (Foldover):** what happens when going over Nyquist freq.

- intro. of frequencies not present within source audio
- sampling rate of 40kHz, Nyquist of 20kHz  $\rightarrow$  21kHz generates aliased freq. of 19kHz
- 25kHz  $\rightarrow$  15kHz    35kHz  $\rightarrow$  5kHz

**FILTERING:**  $\frac{\text{dB}}{\text{octave}}$

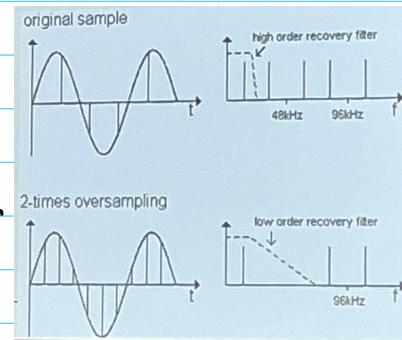
- steeper slope = steeper dropout - fast attenuation
- analog filtering easier  $\rightarrow$  do it before converting to digital



$1/16 \times$

**OVERSAMPLING:**

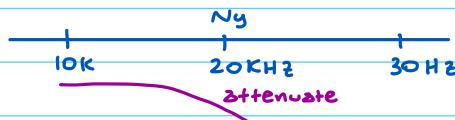
- steeper digital filters after conversion to bring sampling rate down
- most ADC / DACs use this



taken care  
of for us  
in the  
hardware  
stage

**AMPLITUDE QUANTIZATION:**

- converts continuous amplitude of sample into digital sample
- bit resolution = # bits used to store amplitude
- higher bit depth = better quality
- 16 bits  $\rightarrow$  65,536 possible representations
- max error =  $\frac{1}{2^{\text{bit depth}}}$
- low bit depths / amp. signals becomes square wave (a bit = on/off)
- less word size (bits)  $\rightarrow$  makes sounds more distorted



24 input, Ny = 20, out = 16

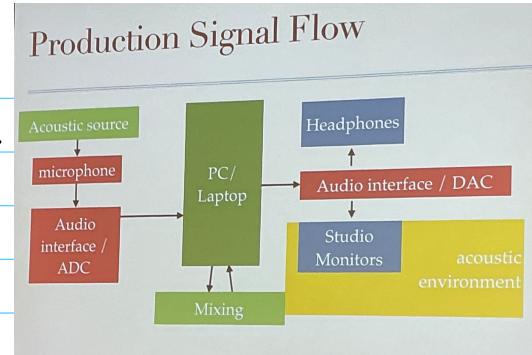
DAC  $\rightarrow$

- send chunks
- have a big buffer

10/22

### MUSIC PRODUCTION

- many goals directed by personal choices
  - simulate live music, no correct way
  - gear can be important
- maintain fidelity
- develop our ear!
- MONITORING: listening to results of actions/decisions
  - accurate monitoring is important!



### CRITICAL LISTENING:

- equidistant from speakers - aimed directly towards ears

10/27 MICROPHONES: dynamic

- transducer {
- diaphragm (body) → vibrations (air pressure variations) cause signal
    - thing that moves; super sensitive
  - coil of wire connected to mic induces current (E-field)
  - pretty robust, so a little less sensitive

\*performers generally louder

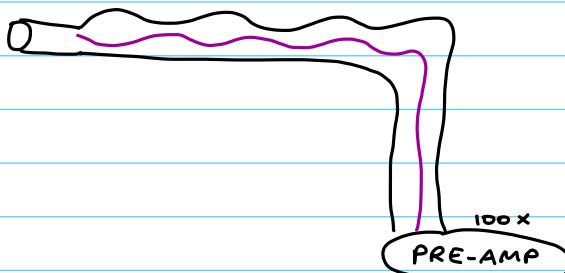
### CONDENSER mics:

during performance vs. soundcheck.

- condenser is british for capacitor
- capacitance changes based on distance (diaphragm)
- nothing connected to diaphragm
- preferred; crisper

### RODEO WRAP ("over-under")

- lies down flat
- better for wires (no tension)



### HIGHPASS FILTER:

- cutoff freq of 100 Hz
- attenuation of low freqs.

### AUX SEND:

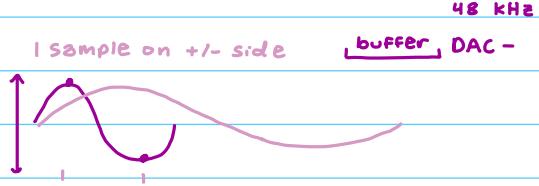
- has reverb setting
- effects on your voice
- reverb is historically expensive - each track can have reverb
- post fader send & pre-fader send
- common use: concert band doesn't need drums, but audience does

### RECORDING:

- 1) musicianship
- 2) good sounding instrument
- 3) good sounding room
- 4) mic positioning
- 5) mic choice
- 6) pre-amp gain

### 10/29 IN REAPER:

- 48 kHz sampling rate
- Nyquist freq of 24 kHz
- can't have a freq. > 24 kHz
- samples capture amplitudes
- 24 bit resolution
- WAV = uncompressed audio file



### MICROPHONE:

- GAIN: controls sensitivity (amplifies mic signal)
- TRANSDUCER: device changes energy from one form into another (mic)
  - diaphragm + transducer = capsule
  - mic: air pressure variations → electric signals
  - hydrophone: water pressure variations → electric signals



#### MIC POLARITY PATTERNS:

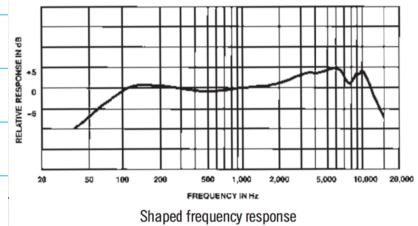
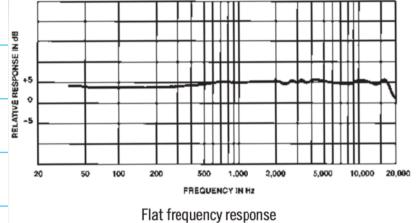
- **UNIDIRECTIONAL:** mostly sounds in front of mic (good for avoiding feedback, musician)
- **OMNIDIRECTIONAL:** pick up sound equally in all directions
- **BI-DIRECTIONAL:** sounds in front & back of mic
- **CARDIOID:** sounds in front of mic (unidirectional)

- **PROXIMITY EFFECT:** sound sources move close to cardioid & produce artificial low-end boost  
happens w/ unidirectional mics.

CHARACTERISTIC	OMNI-DIRECTIONAL	CARDIOID	SUPER-CARDIOID	HYPER-CARDIOID	BI-DIRECTIONAL
POLAR RESPONSE PATTERN					
COVERAGE ANGLE	360°	131°	115°	105°	90°
ANGLE OF MAXIMUM REJECTION (null angle)	—	180°	126°	110°	90°
REAR REJECTION (relative to front)	0	25 dB	12 dB	6 dB	0
AMBIENT SOUND SENSITIVITY (relative to omni)	100%	33%	27%	25%	33%
DISTANCE FACTOR (relative to omni)	1	1.7	1.9	2	1.7

#### FREQ. RESPONSE: mics will be more/less sensitive @ various frequencies

- ex: mics more sensitive b/t 2-8 kHz (consonants, high freqs) → called presence



#### DYNAMIC MIC: passive

- ex: Shure SM58
- voice coil w/ conductive material connected to diaphragm
- inexpensive, rugged
- often used as stage mics

#### CONDENSER MICS: needs charge (phantom power)

- ex: Neumann U87
- diaphragm electrically charged & mounted parallel to metallic backplate
- moving diaphragm changes dist. b/t disp. & backp. electric signal proportional to dist.
- condenser = old word for capacitor
- large diaphragm: highly colored, essential for vocals
- small diaphragm: "pencil mic", less colored (neutral), better for capturing multiple inst. (drum kit,..)

### PHANTOM POWER:

- typically 48V
- sound is AC signal, power is DC, can provide power & have sound riding on top.
- turn on @ pre-amp.

### PIEZo MICS

- structure of crystal generates V when deformed
- frequently used as contact mics (pick up vibrations travelling through solid objects)
- apply charge → deforms.
- Ex: guitar plugged into amp → piezo inside guitar pick up sound
- easy, but not good sound

### RIBBON MIC:

- one of earliest bidirectional mic designs
- moving conductiveelt = corrugated ribbon of metal (diaphragm)
- extremely thin

### Mic comparisons

	Dynamic	Condensor	Piezo	Ribbon
Price	Low	High	Very low	High
Sensitivity	Good	Excellent	Low	Varies
Durability	Excellent	Medium	???	Low*
Phantom power	No	Required	No	No
Tolerance to high SPL	Excellent	Med/Good	Variable	No

## Mic placement tips

- Your recording is only as good as the acoustic instrument
  - make sure it is in tune, sounds good, is played well
- Use a good acoustic environment: minimal background noise, HVAC
- match frequency response of mic to instrument
  - shaped sound for vocals and bright instruments
- Put on headphones and listen to the sound of the microphone as you move it around
  - acoustic instruments make many different sounds
  - different mic positions will emphasize certain characteristics
- Mic distance will have a big effect
  - close to improve signal level, also emphasize that sonic perspective
  - back off to get the interaction of instrument and room, potentially more natural



### 11/13 STEREO RECORDING:

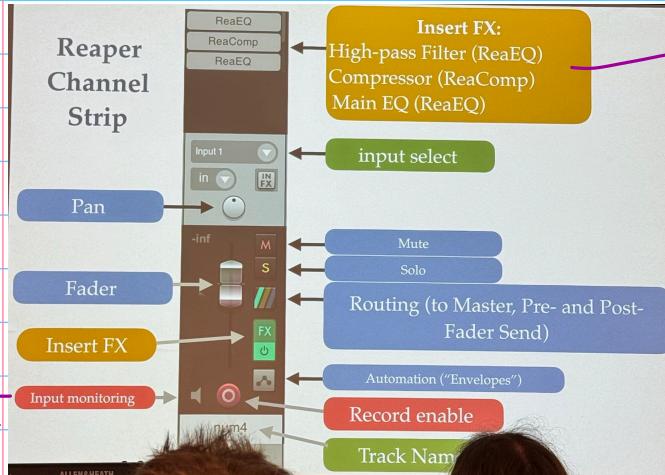
- XY technique
- mid-side recording: uses 2 mics - one directional for mid, and one figure-8 with audio src on side

### VOLUME UNITS:

- arbitrary unit to visualize loudness

DAW decibels: (full scale) for digital system, where 0 indicates max amplitude before clipping

### REAPER:



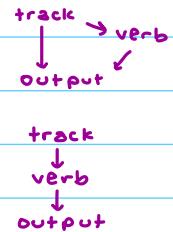
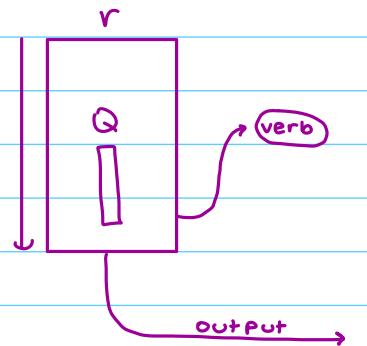
Insert FX:  
High-pass Filter (ReaEQ)  
Compressor (ReaComp)  
Main EQ (ReaEQ)

input select

Click Fx in REAPER

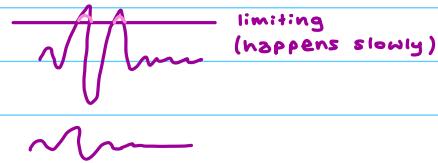
VST: ReaEq  
VST: ReaComp  
VST: ReaEq

in order



### REVERB: feels more natural

- dry signal: sound before adding reverb
- wet signal: sound after adding reverb

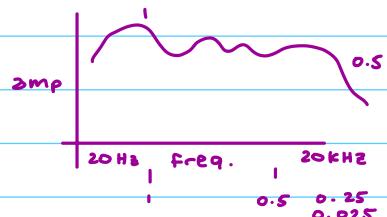


### 11/12 DELAY:

- short delay usually destructive
- delay-based reverb

### CONVOLUTION:

- impulse: brief strike of noise (theoretically  $\infty$  short imp. w/ energy = dist. throughout freq. spec.)
- impulse response: system's reaction to impulse (can also use sine sweep)
- useful when we want to cross synthesize
- often used in reverb, IR guitar pedal (impulse resp.)
- convolution is good way to model guitar amplifier
- modelling guitars, filtering, noise red.



11/17 **MASTERING:**

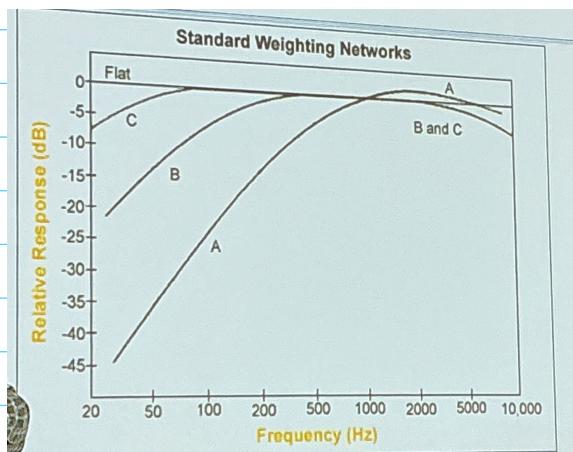
- prepping track to be distributed (optimize)
- classic problems w/ vinyl: too much bass → causes needle to skip.  
has weird freq. curve

**LOUDNESS WARS:**

- louder sounds have diff freq. resp.
- overcompressing music loses dynamic transients
- listener controls final volume, not producer

**LOUDNESS UNITS (LUFs)**

- make up for dB RMS weaknesses
  - monitors amp, freq. weighting, measurement techniques
- goal: objective measurement of how loud track is



\*most use A weighting (standard)

C is for measuring super loud things

**GOALS OF MASTERING:**

- make sure track sounds good on all systems
- matching commercial loudness levels
- sequencing & balancing an album
- last chance to sculpt sound of your track

**Critical Listening:**

- correct setup
- ~85 dB (not too loud, but overcoming loudness curve)

### MASTERING CHAIN

- compression (optional)
- EQ
- multiband compression (optional)
- limiter

LOSSLESS COMPRESSION: reduces file sizes while allowing for perfect reconstruction of

original size

- LOSSY: losing info (mp3/aac)

### 12/1 HEAD MASKING:

- higher freq: tends to get into head
- lower freq: tends to not reach ears

### 12/3: AI IN MARKOV CHAINS:

- MARKOV CHAIN: predicts what comes next based on what just happened

### USING AI / STYLES:

- timbre transfer
- vocaloid (Hatsune Miku)