

## **Homework 9**

just Q1 (10 points)

due Mon Dec 5 in class

## **Homework 10**

due Tue Dec 13 at 11:59pm

(there will be no Homework 11)

download from Brightspace

**Psychopy.zip** (Python files)  
(some files have been modified)



# Homework 10

create an experiment using PsychoPy and other methods and techniques we have discussed in this class (including things we will cover this week)

make sure you carefully follow ALL the specifications

due during exam week (Tue Dec 13 at 11:59pm)

help sessions:

Mon Dec 5 @ 3:45pm (this room, after class)

Mon Dec 12 @ 3:45pm (Wilson 113, not this room)

# Homework 10



## the vision and memory lab

department of  
psychology, university  
of california, san diego

- People
- Research
- Publications
- Resources
- Recent Talks
- Join the Lab

© 2015

## Stimuli

Below are links to download the stimuli from the majority of our papers. These include thousands of categorized objects and scenes, objects matched into pairs that differ in subtle ways (e.g., color, state or pose changes, etc), as well as stimuli designed to be rotated in color space to allow psychophysical measures of memory precision.

Feel free to use these in academic settings. Of course we appreciate if you cite their source if you do use them.

Object stimuli from: Brady, T. F., Konkle, T., Alvarez, G. A. and Oliva, A. (2008). Visual long-term memory has a massive storage capacity for object details. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*, 105 (38), 14325-14329.

- 2400 Unique Objects



- 100 State Pairs



- 100 Exemplar Pairs



Object stimuli that are color-manipulable as in: Brady, T. F., Konkle, T.F., Gill, J., Oliva, A. and Alvarez, G.A. (2013). Visual long-term memory has the same limit on fidelity as visual working memory. *Psychological Science*, 24(6), 981-990.

<https://bradylab.ucsd.edu/stimuli.html>

# Homework 10

recognition memory experiment (**study**)

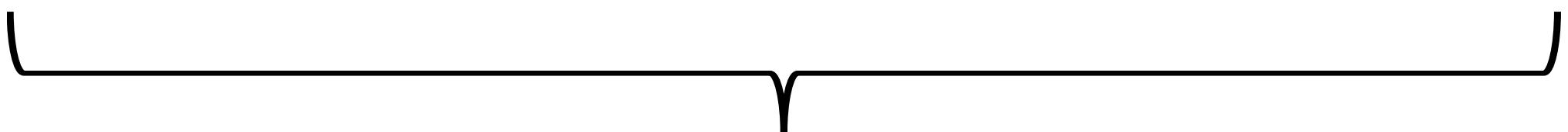
passive study (no response)



• • •



↔  
presentation  
time



number of  
study images

*random order*

# Homework 10

recognition memory experiment (**test**)

respond "old" vs. "new"



• • •



record response  
measure RT

1/2 old images  
1/2 new images

*random order*



# **Timing**

# relative vs. absolute timing

**relative timing**

(relative to previous event)

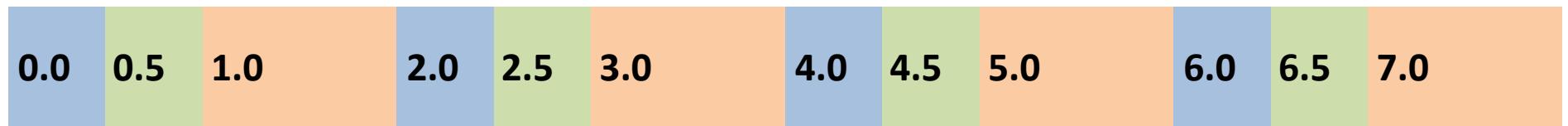
*likely to accumulate timing errors*



`test8.py`

**absolute timing**

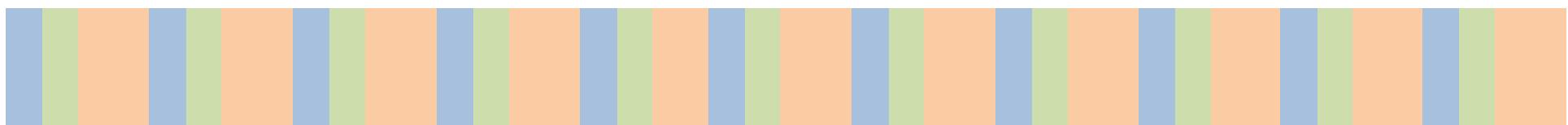
(from the start of the experiment)



`test9.py`

# timing for test8.py

**desired timing**

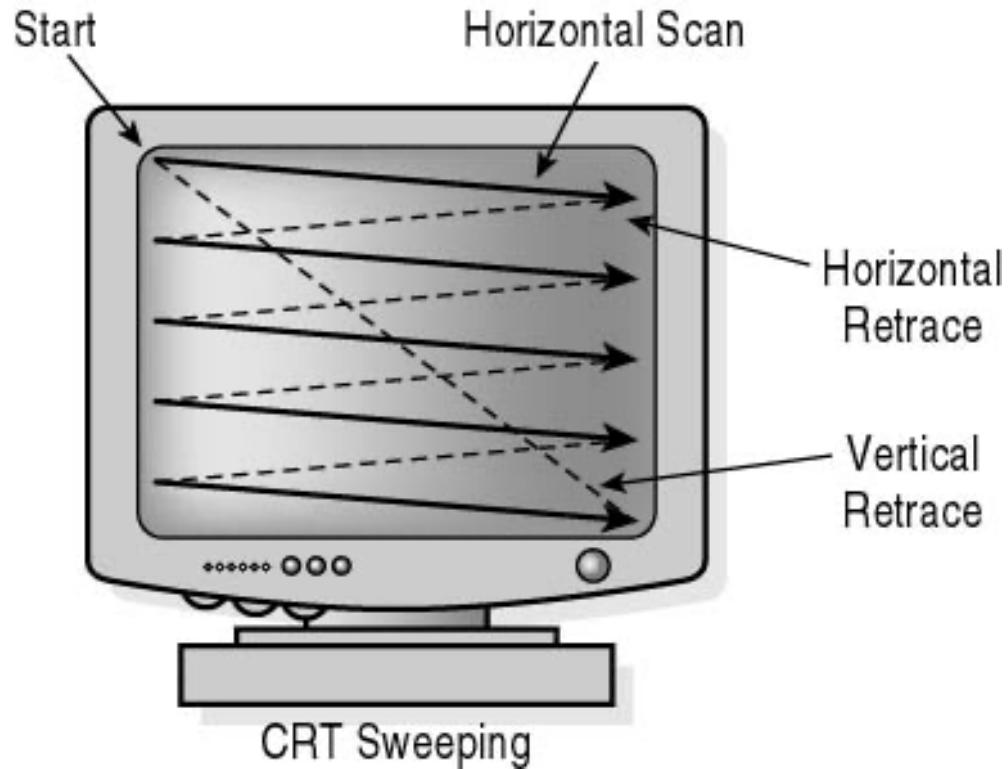


**actual timing**



for example, in an fMRI experiment,  
you either need to sync the experiment  
with when brain scans are done or make  
sure that the timing of the experiment  
lines up with the timing of the scans

# monitor refreshes



**Cathode Ray Tube (CRT)**  
literal sweep of electron beam  
(refreshed per second)



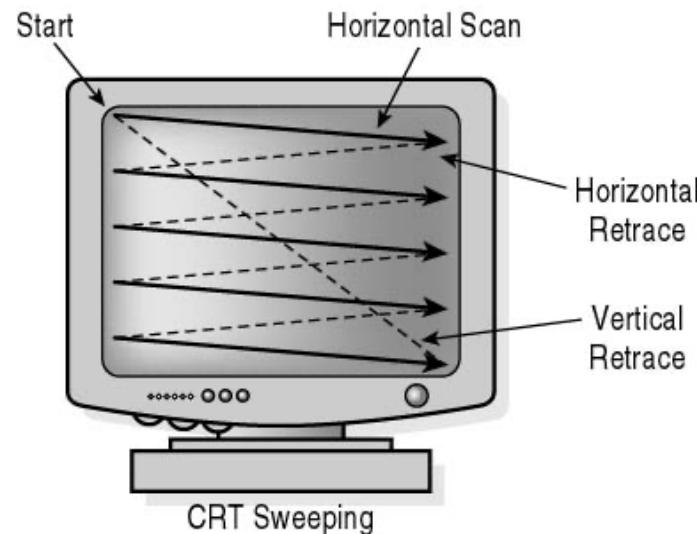
**LCD, LED, OLED**  
changes of pixel elements per second

# monitor refreshes

`win.flip()` can only occur when there is a refresh

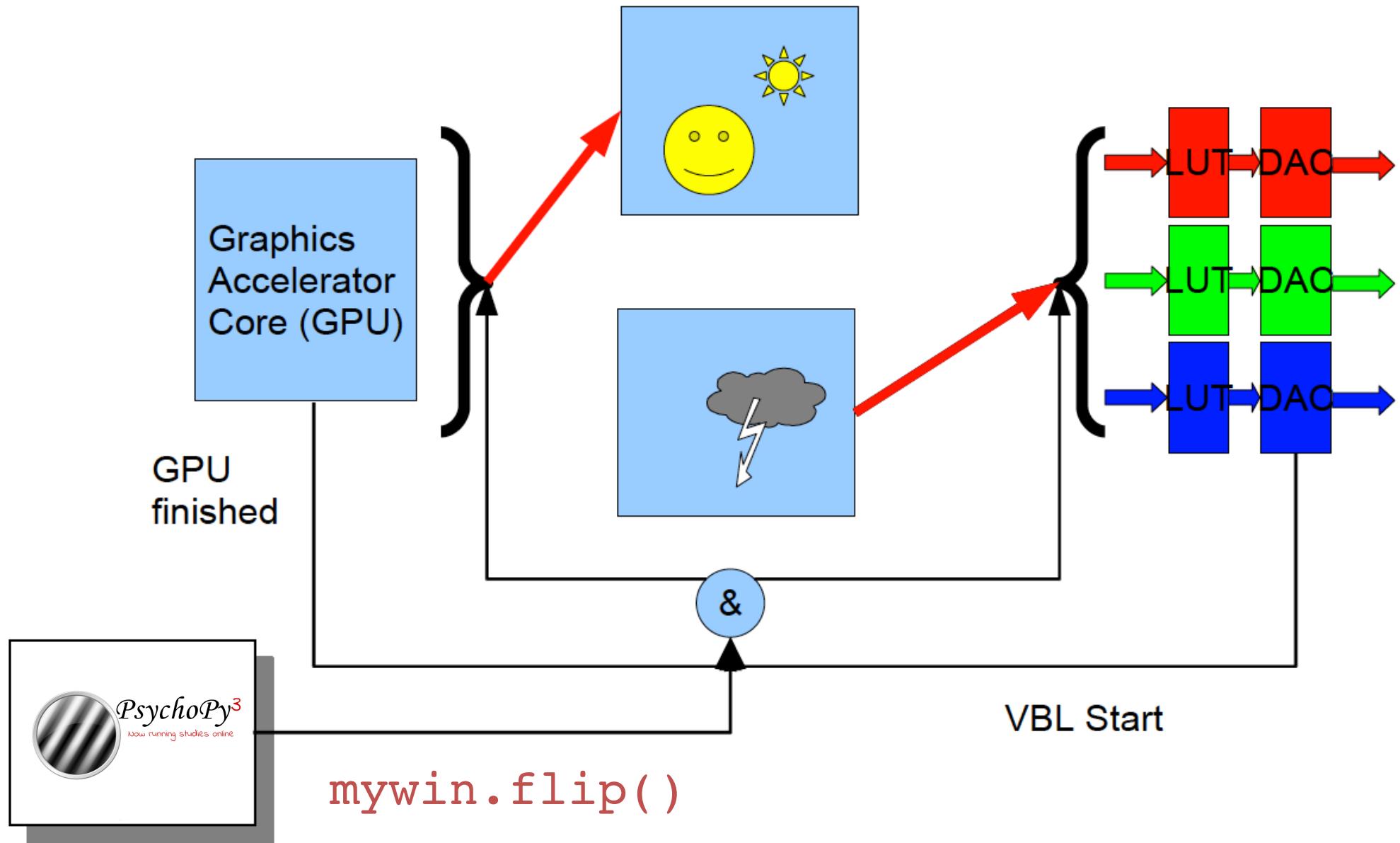
60Hz = 60 refreshes per second

$1/60$  second per refresh = 16.667ms per refresh



can only have timings that are integer multiples of the refresh times

# recall

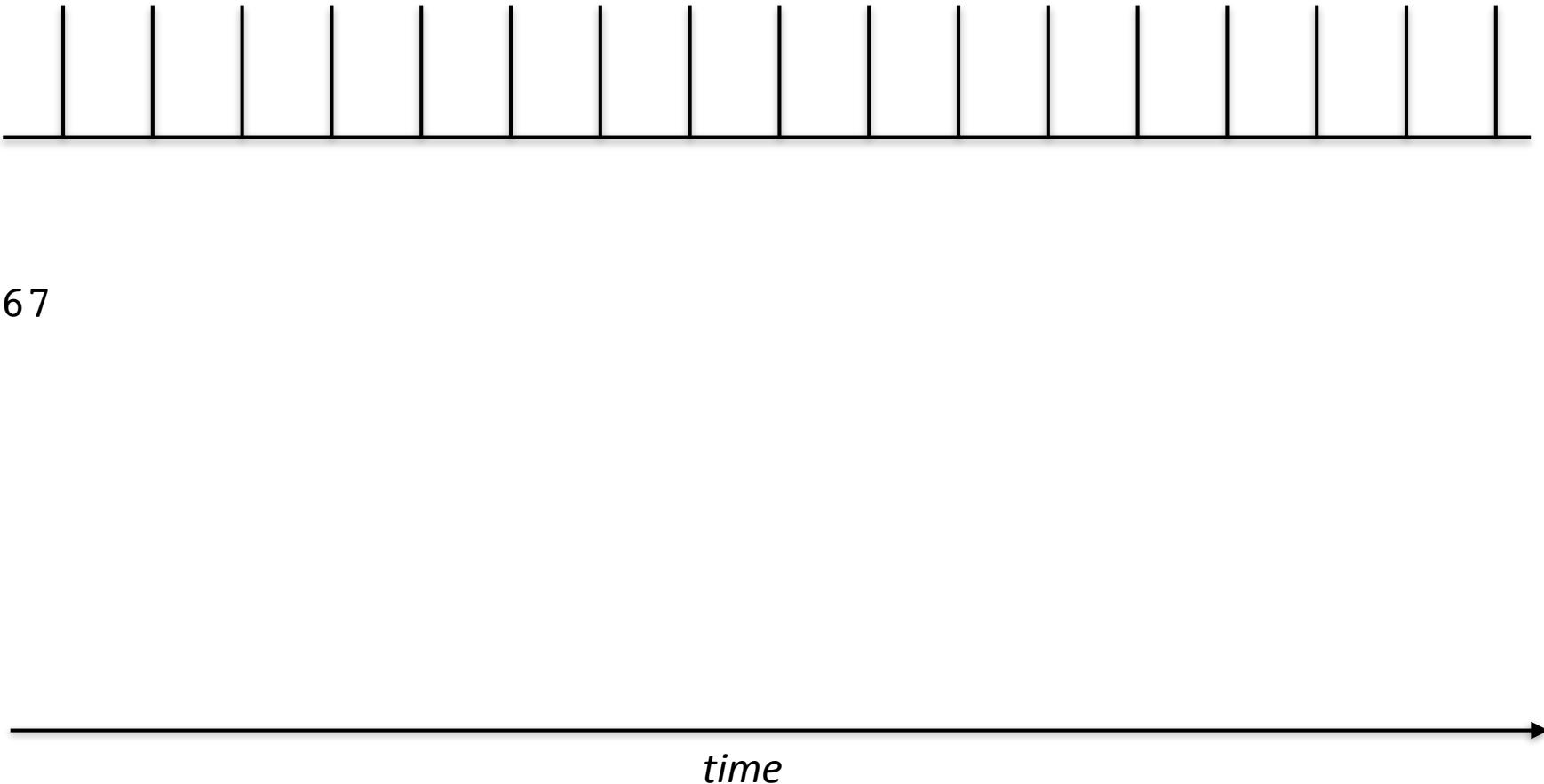


# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh

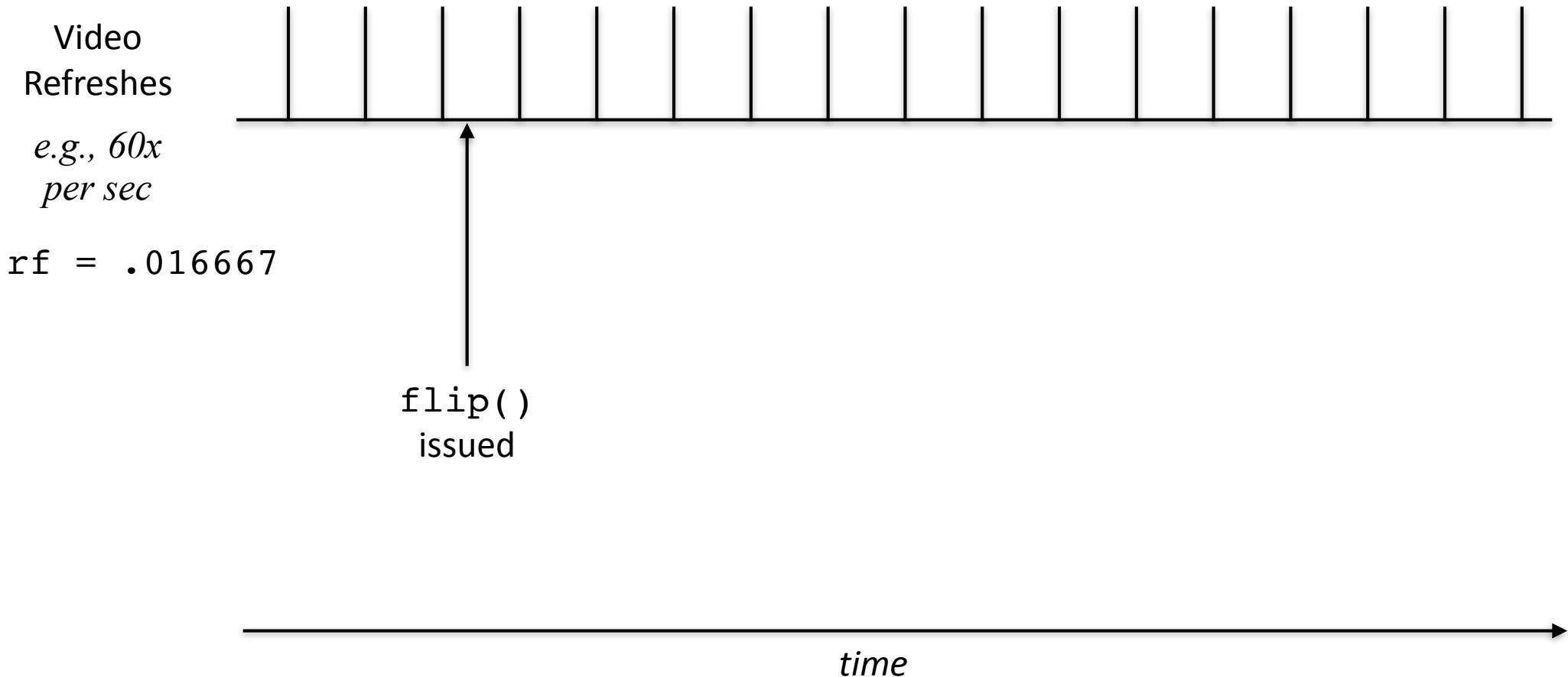
Video  
Refreshes

e.g., 60x  
*per sec*

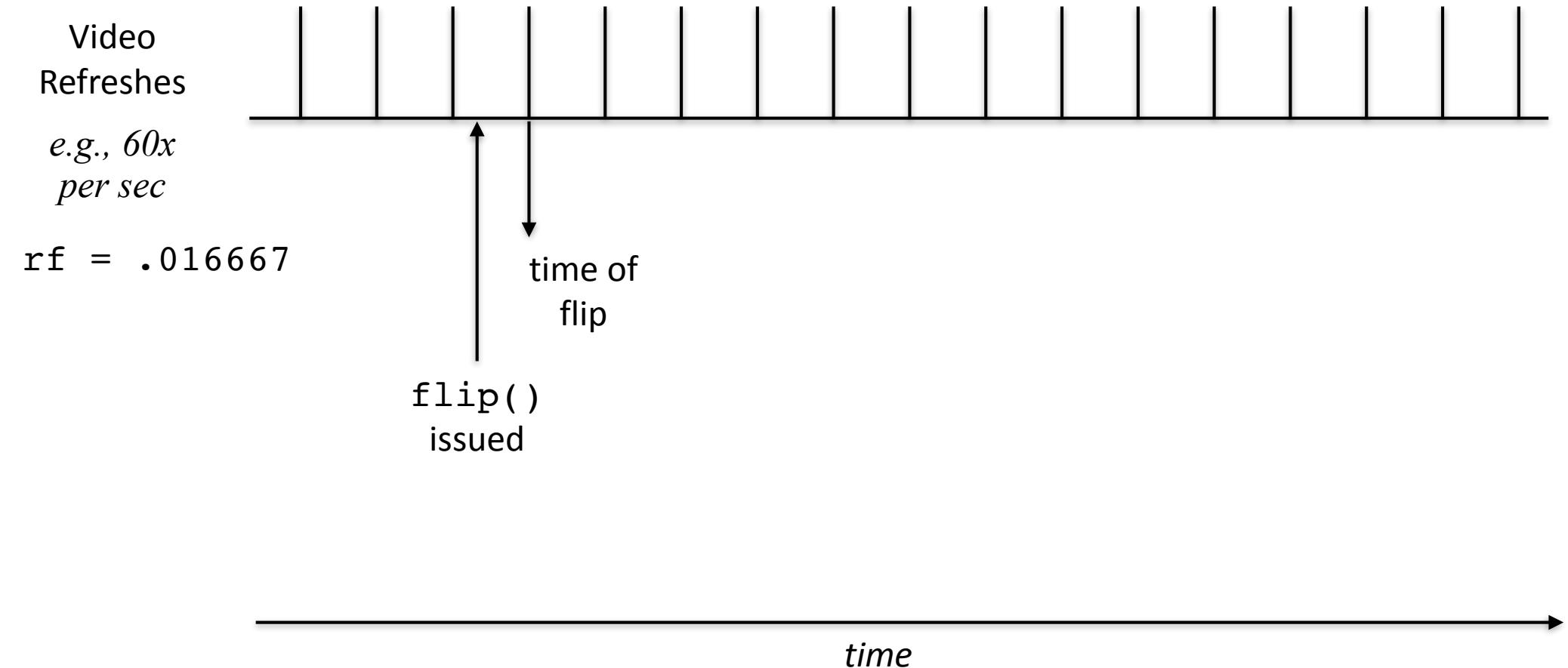
`rf = .016667`



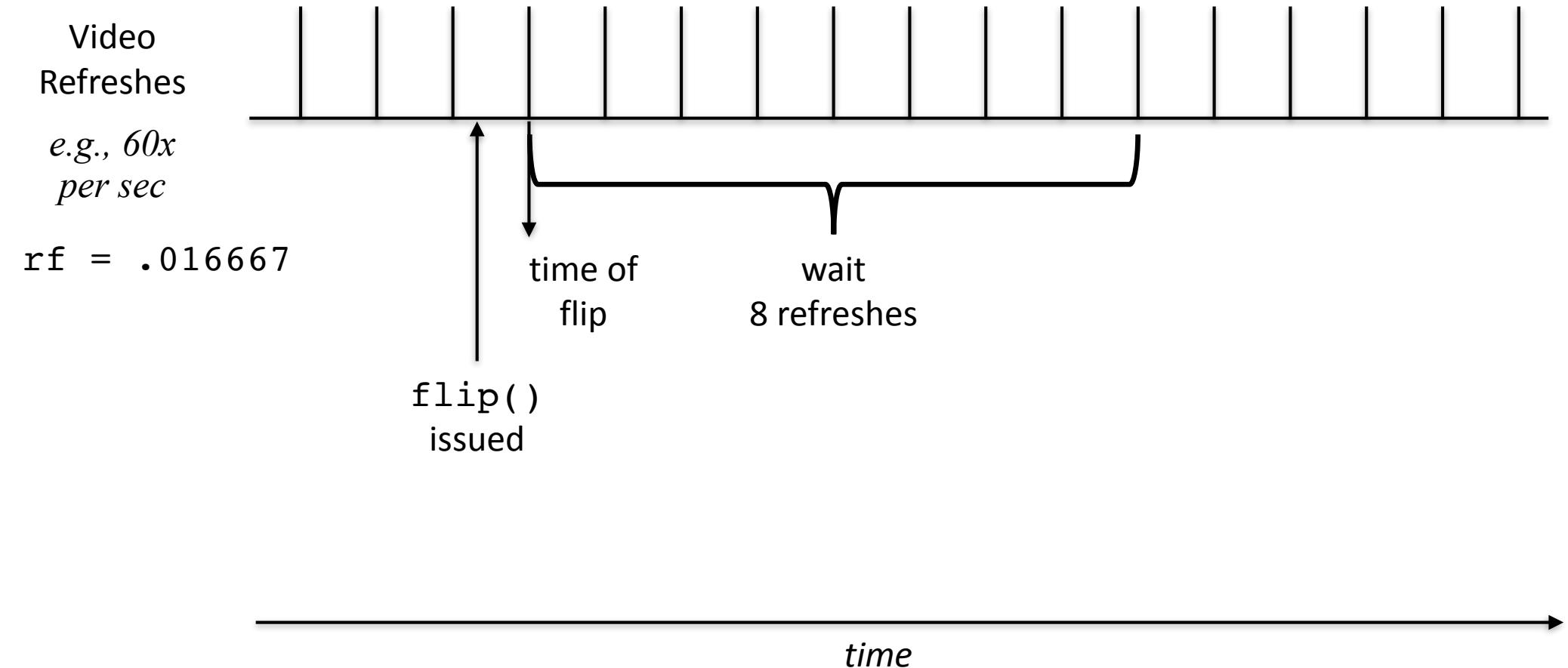
# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



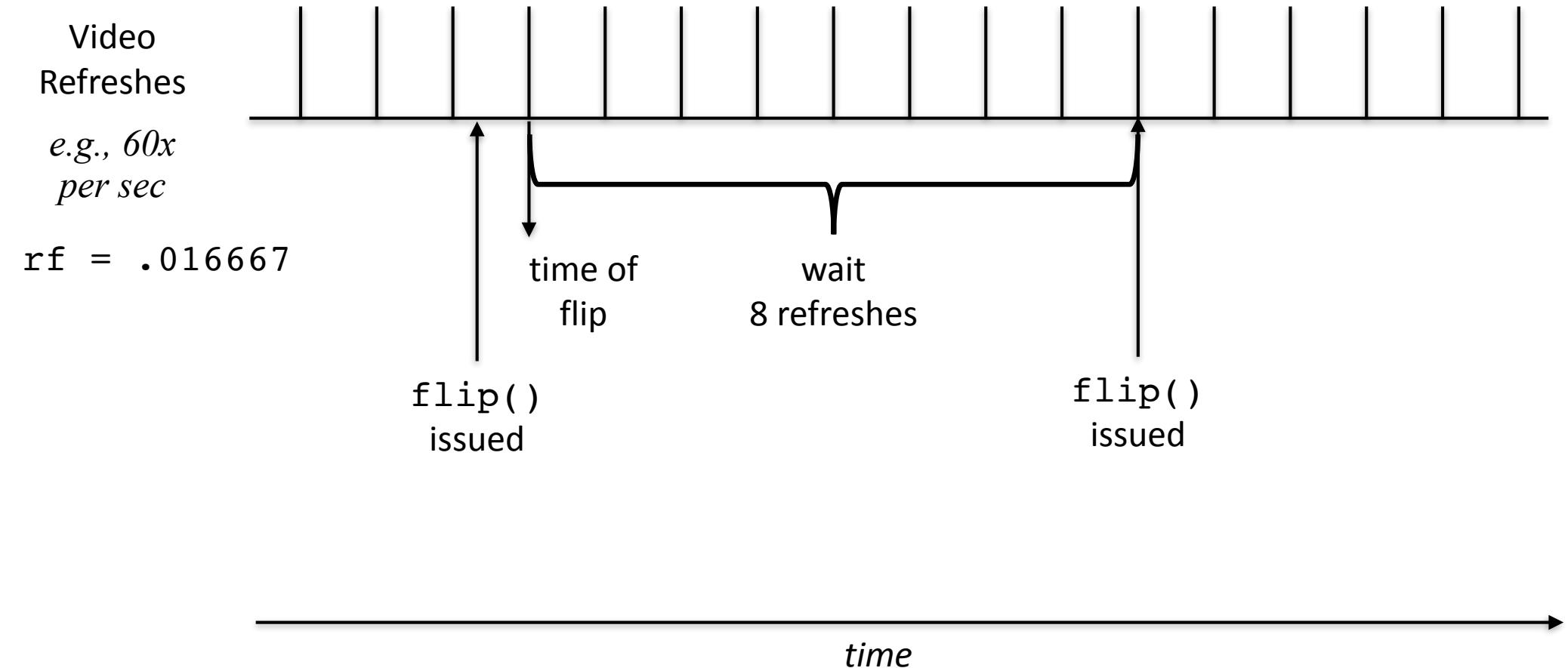
# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



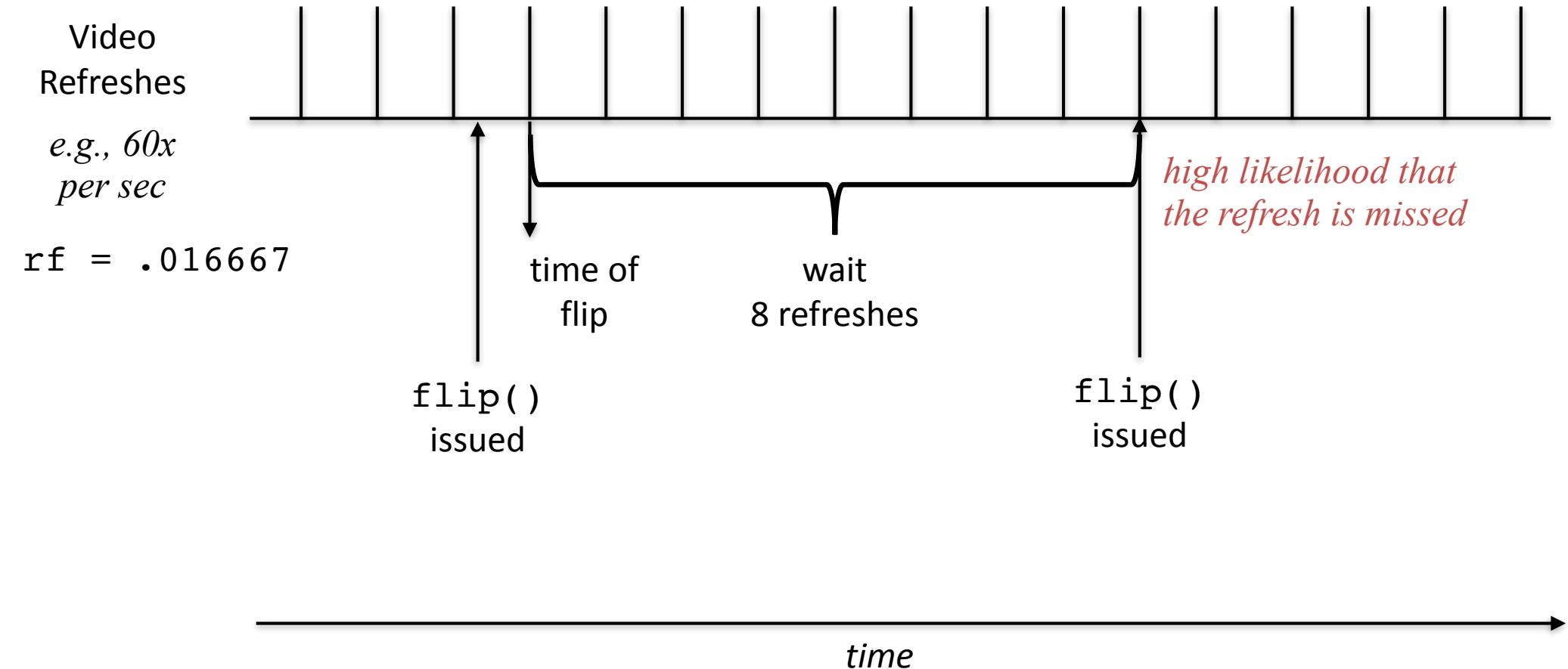
# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



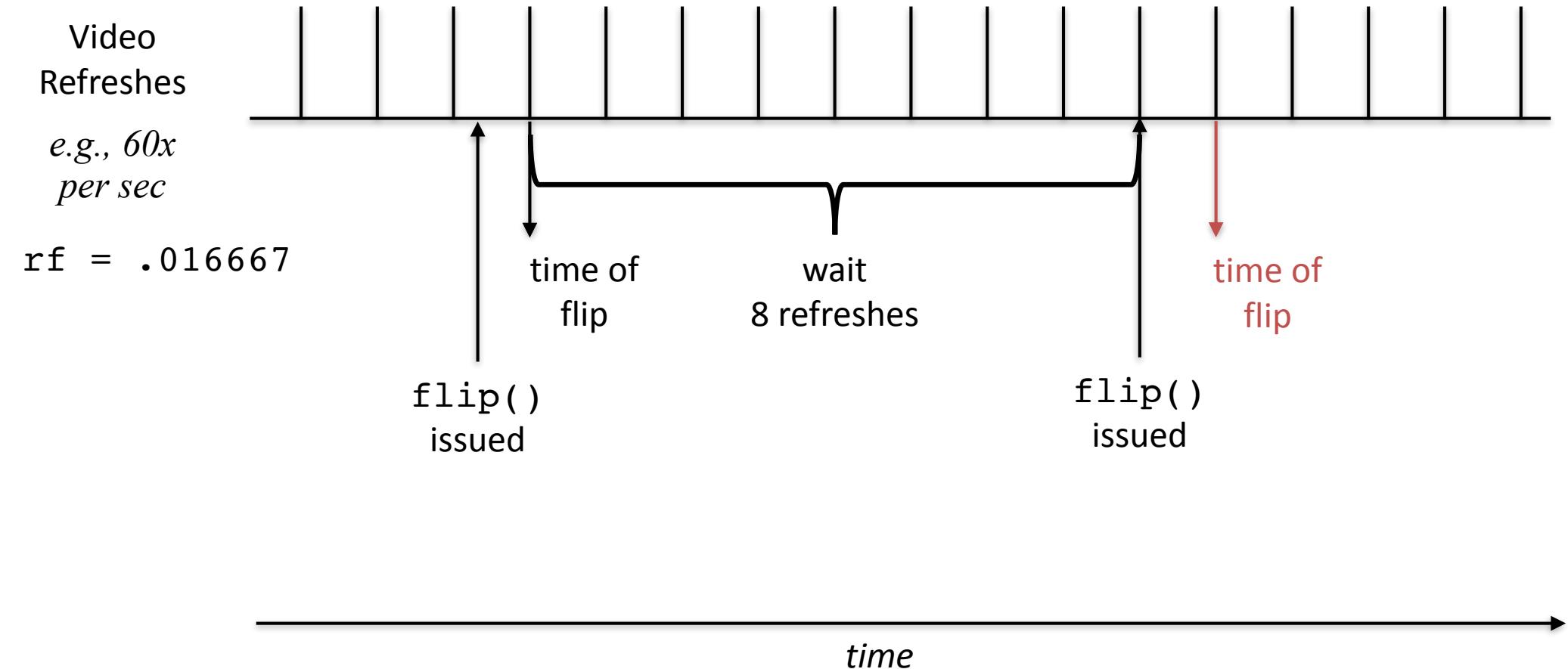
# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



# timing `win.flip()` with monitor refresh



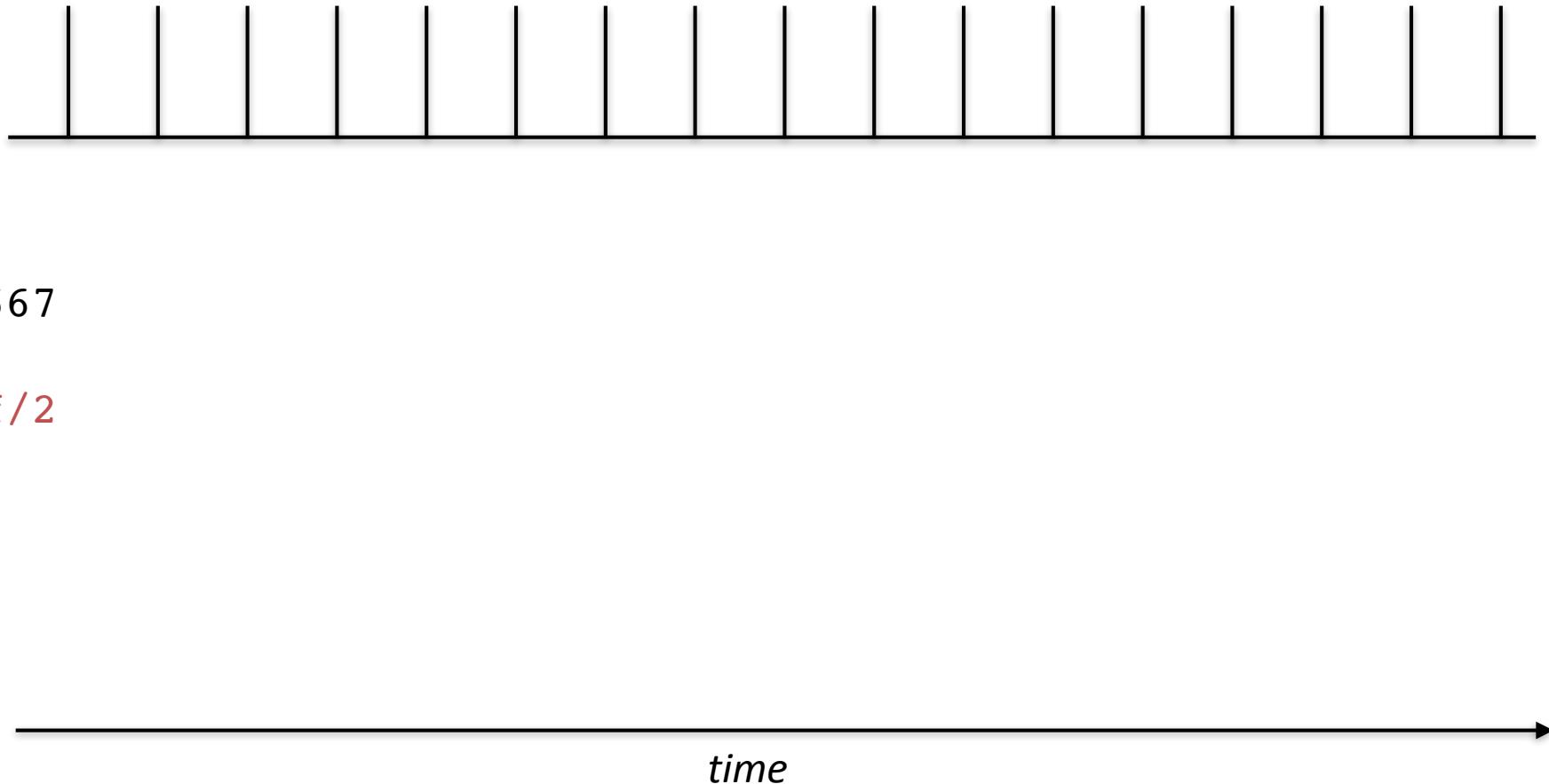
# timing `win.flip()` using "slack"

Video  
Refreshes

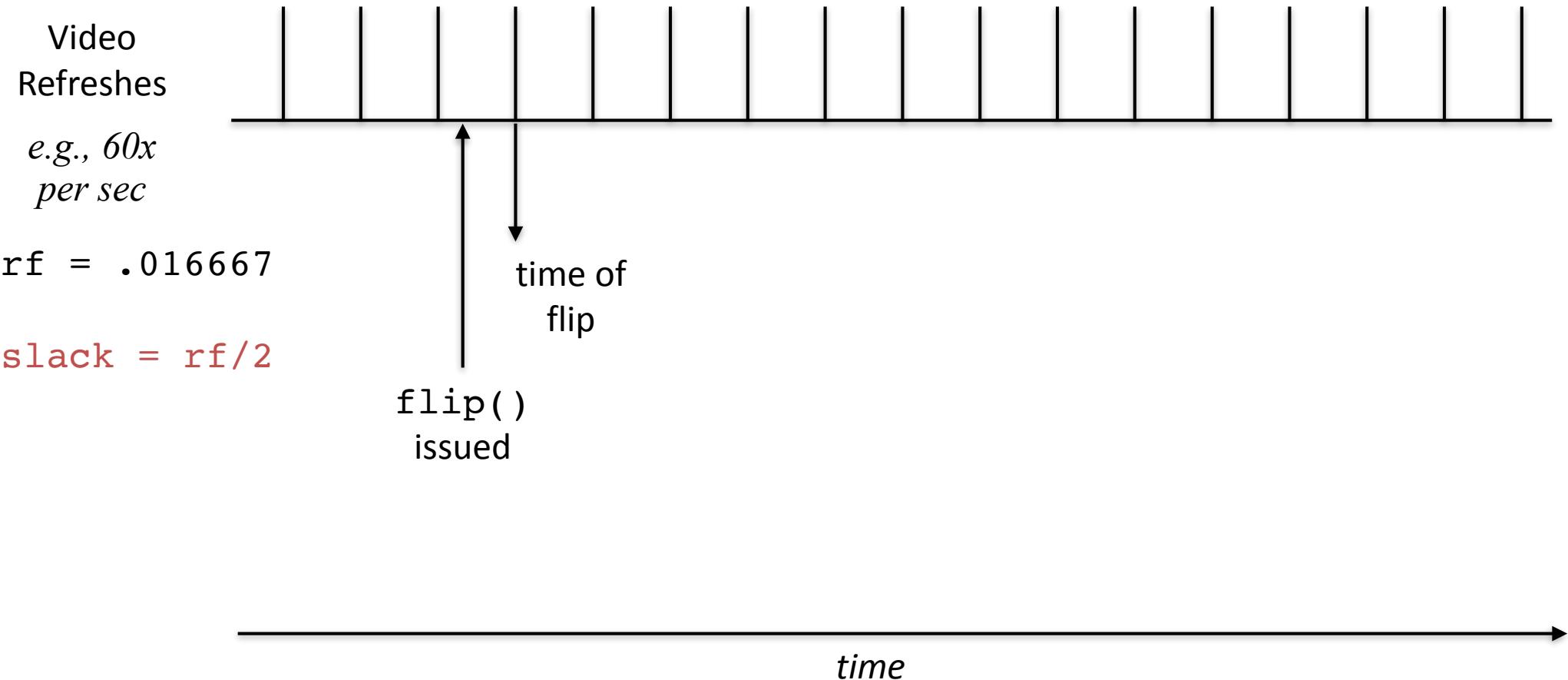
e.g.,  $60x$   
*per sec*

`rf = .016667`

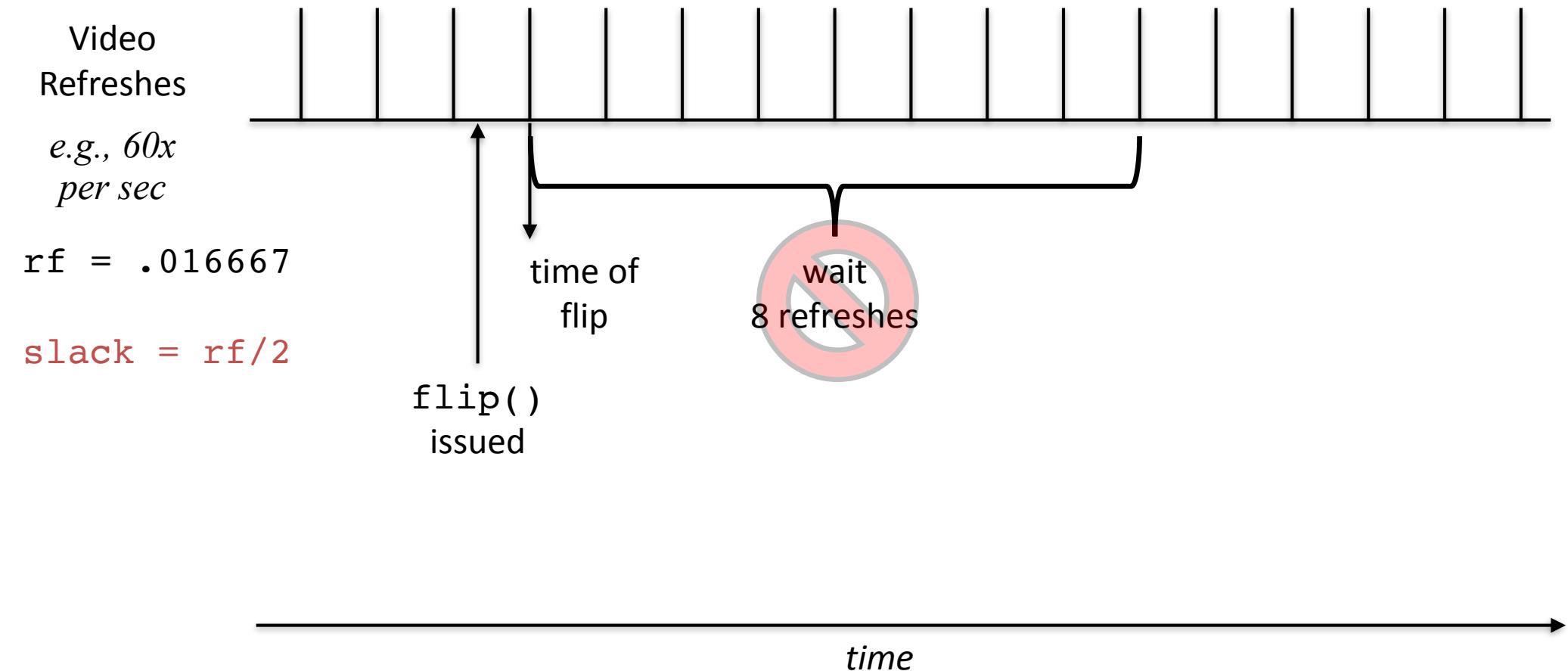
`slack = rf/2`

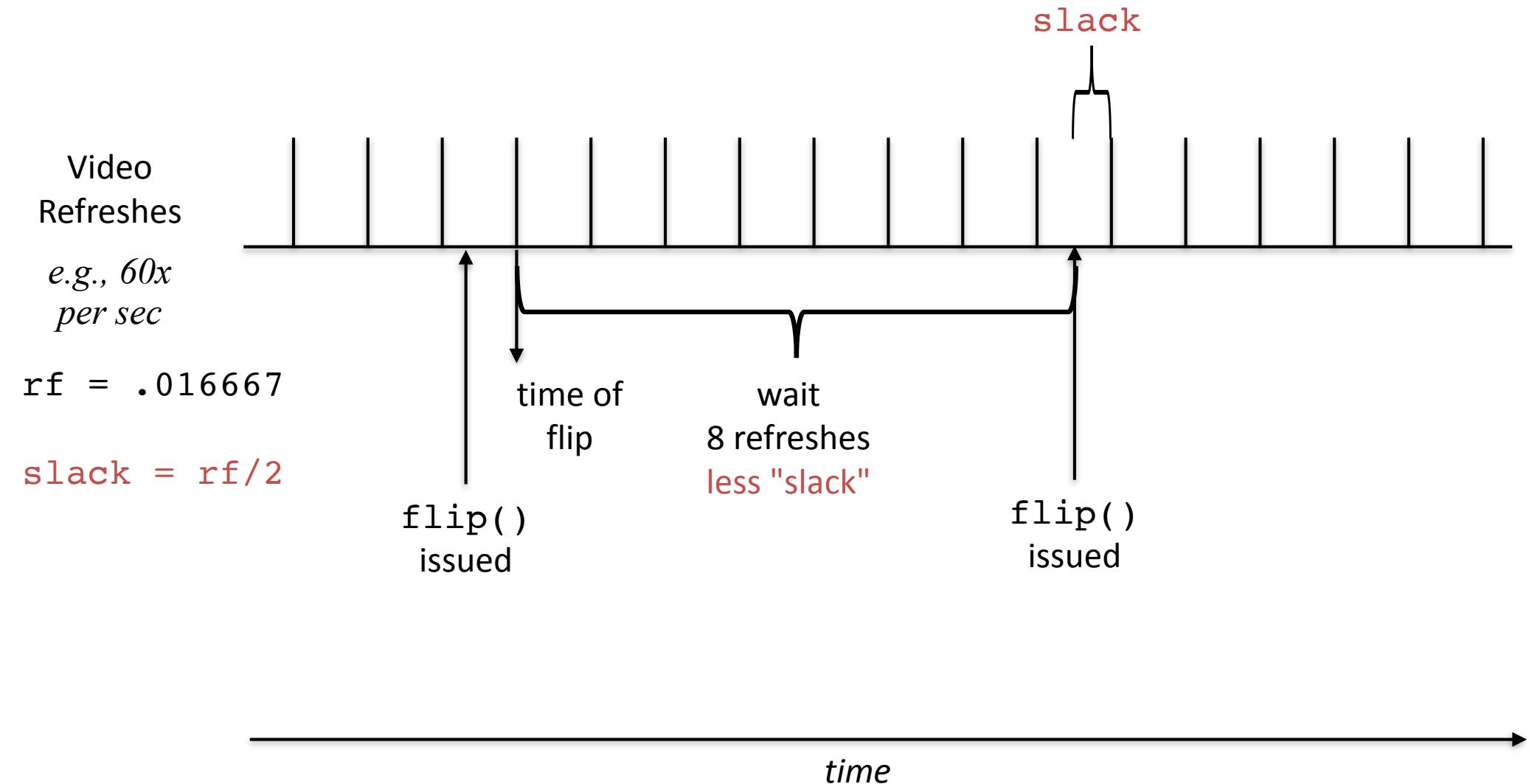


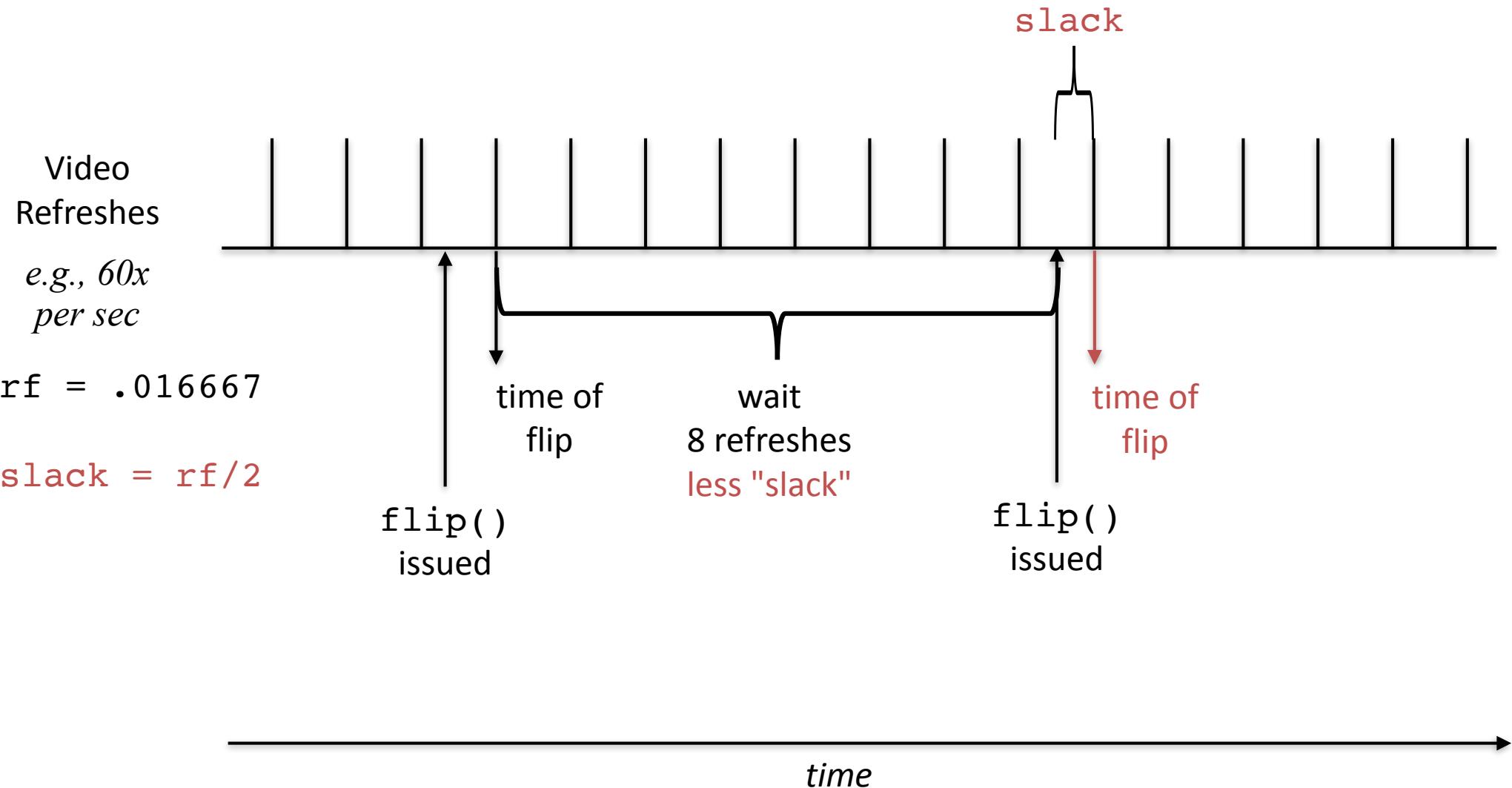
# timing `win.flip()` using "slack"



# timing `win.flip()` using "slack"



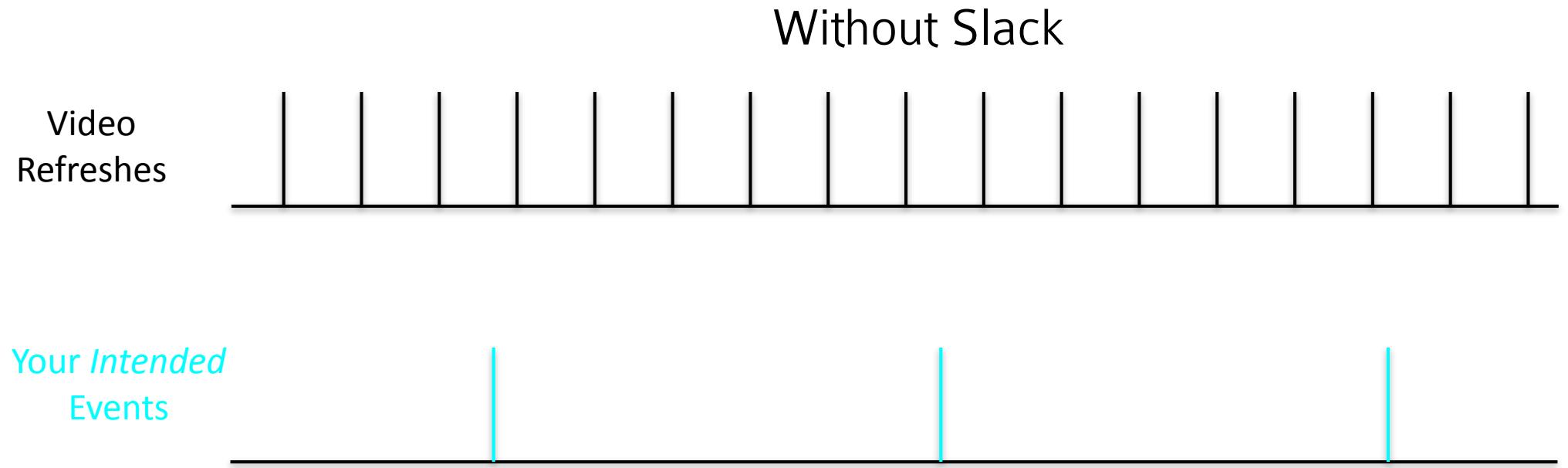




timing `win.flip()` using "slack"

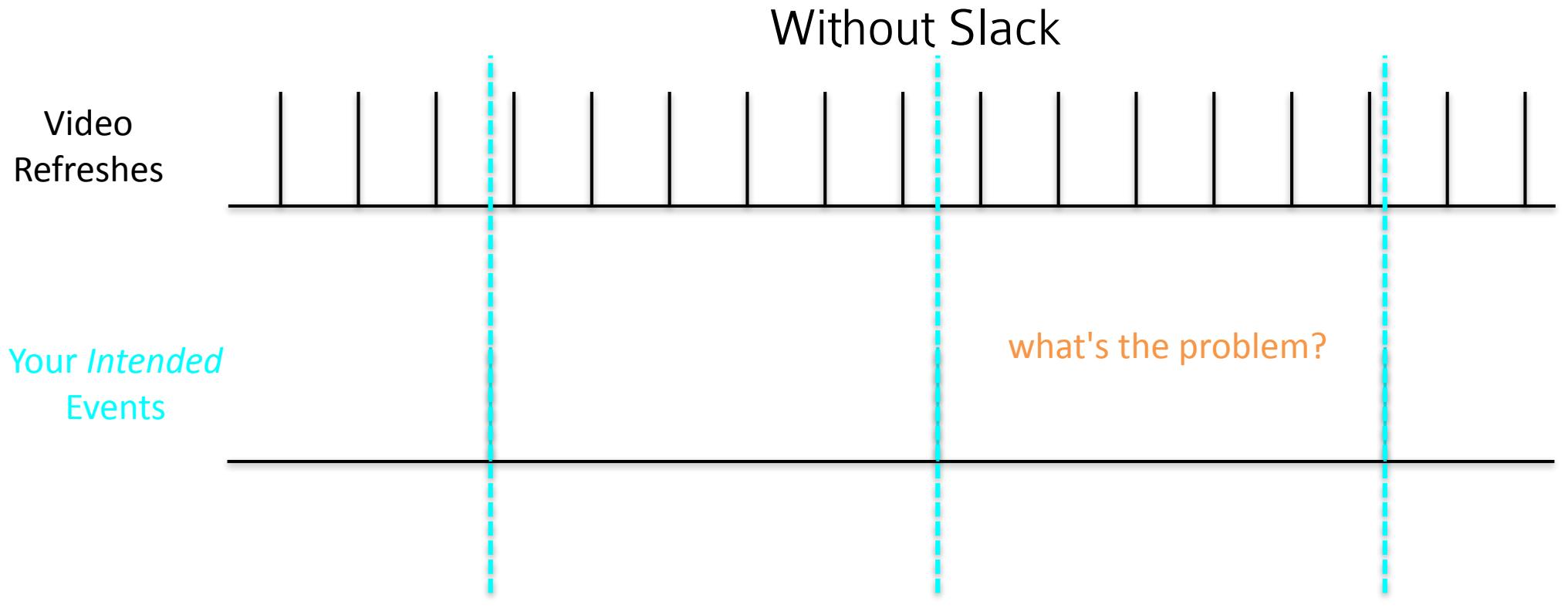
`test10.py`

# using "slack" in general



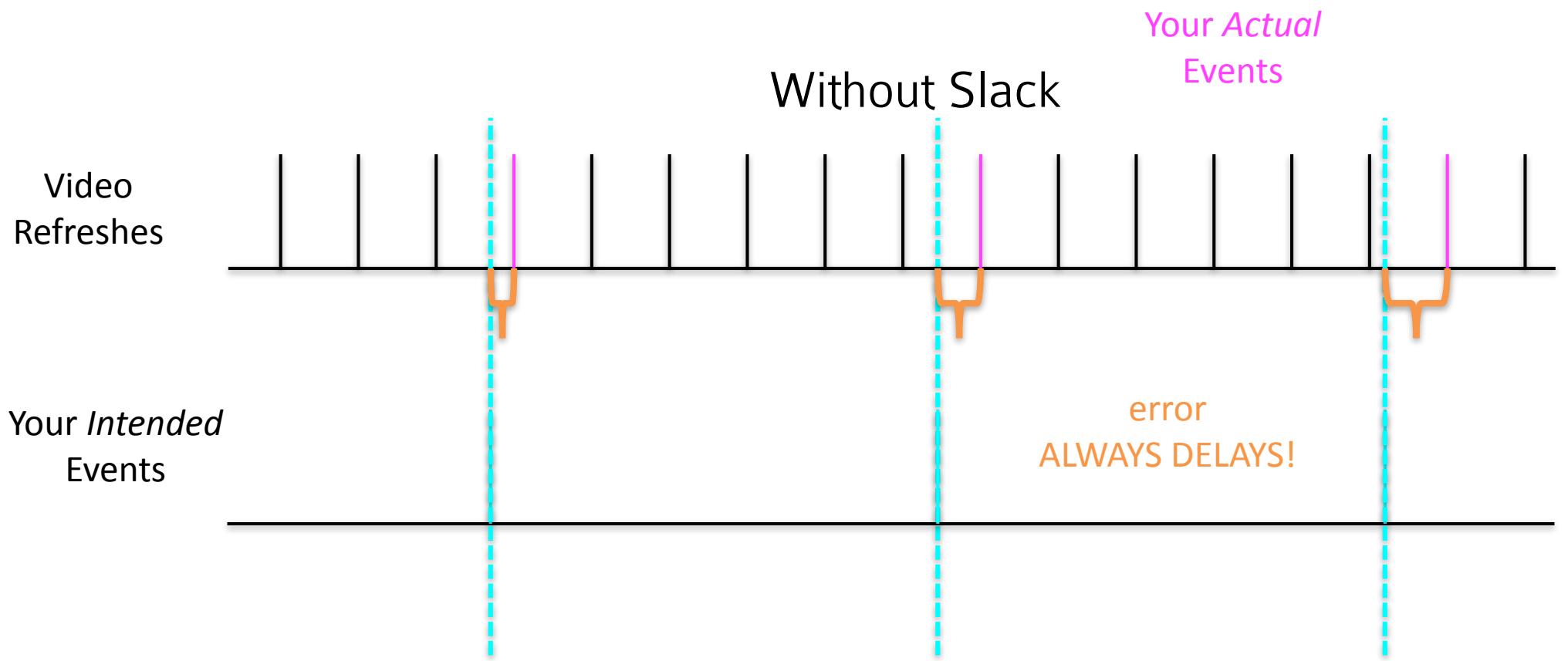
not necessarily trying to do precise stimulus timing

# using "slack" in general



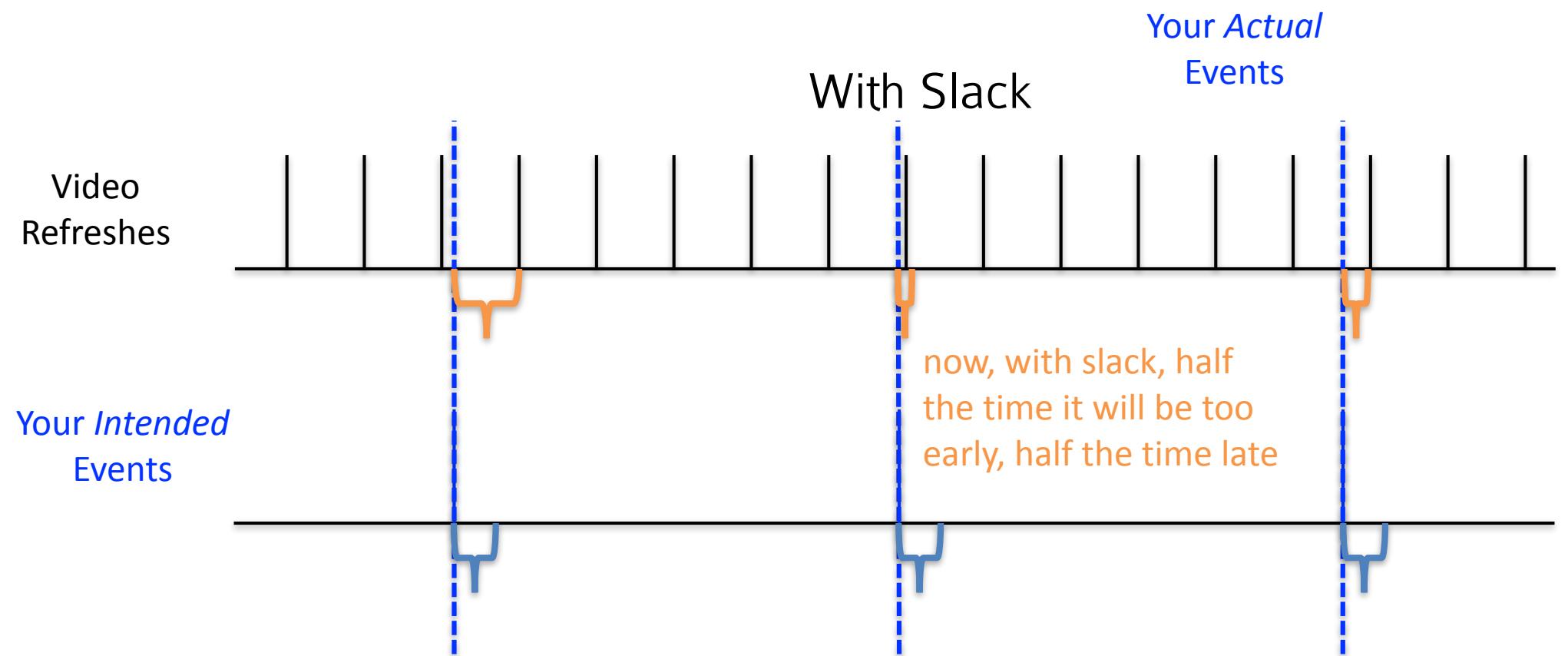
not necessarily trying to do precise stimulus timing

# using "slack" in general



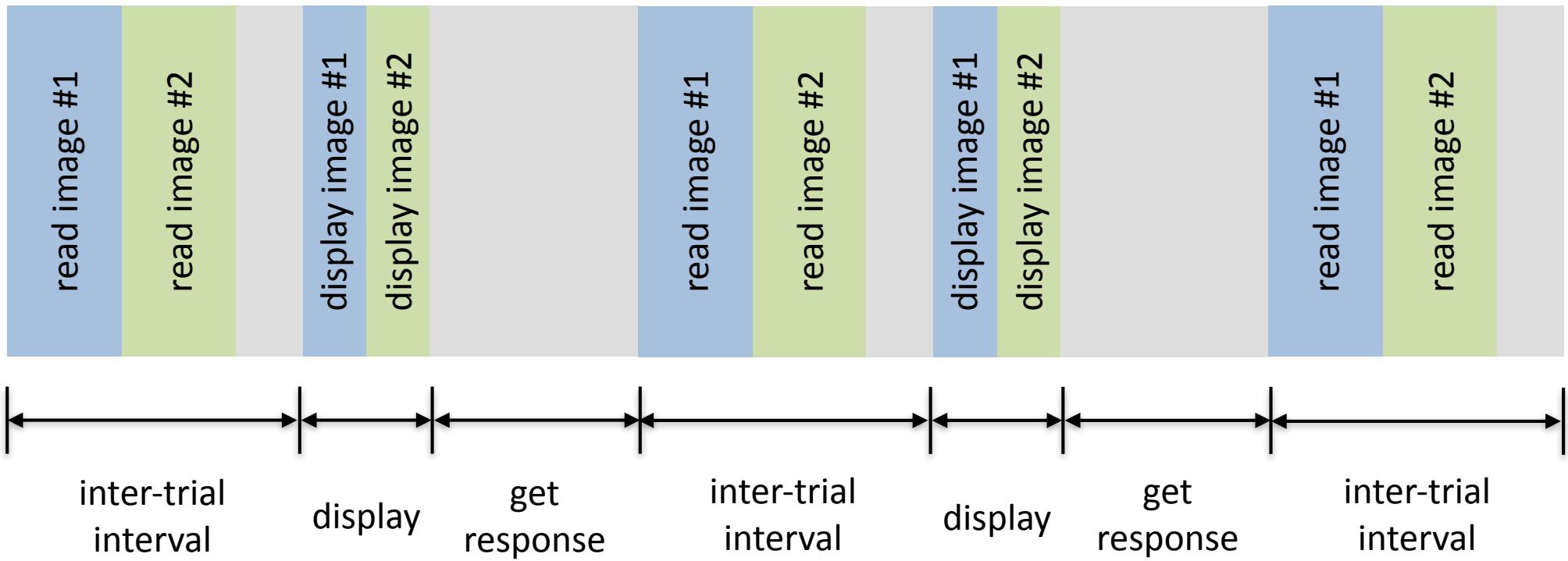
not necessarily trying to do precise stimulus timing

# using "slack" in general



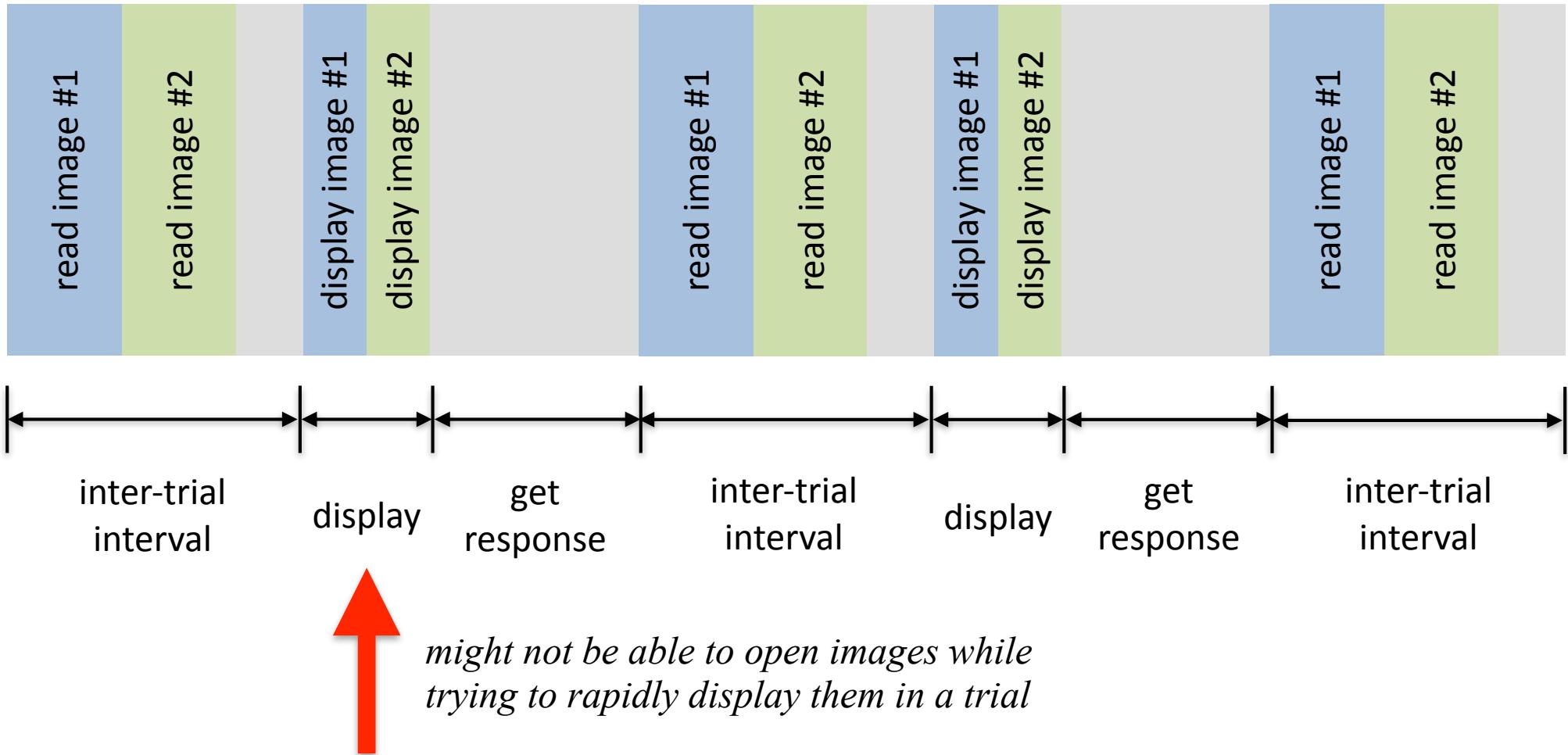
(and cannot be)  
what can be done during short intervals

imagine a same-different experiment with rapid image presentation times



(and cannot be)  
what can be done during short intervals

imagine a same-different experiment with rapid image presentation times



what can be done during short intervals

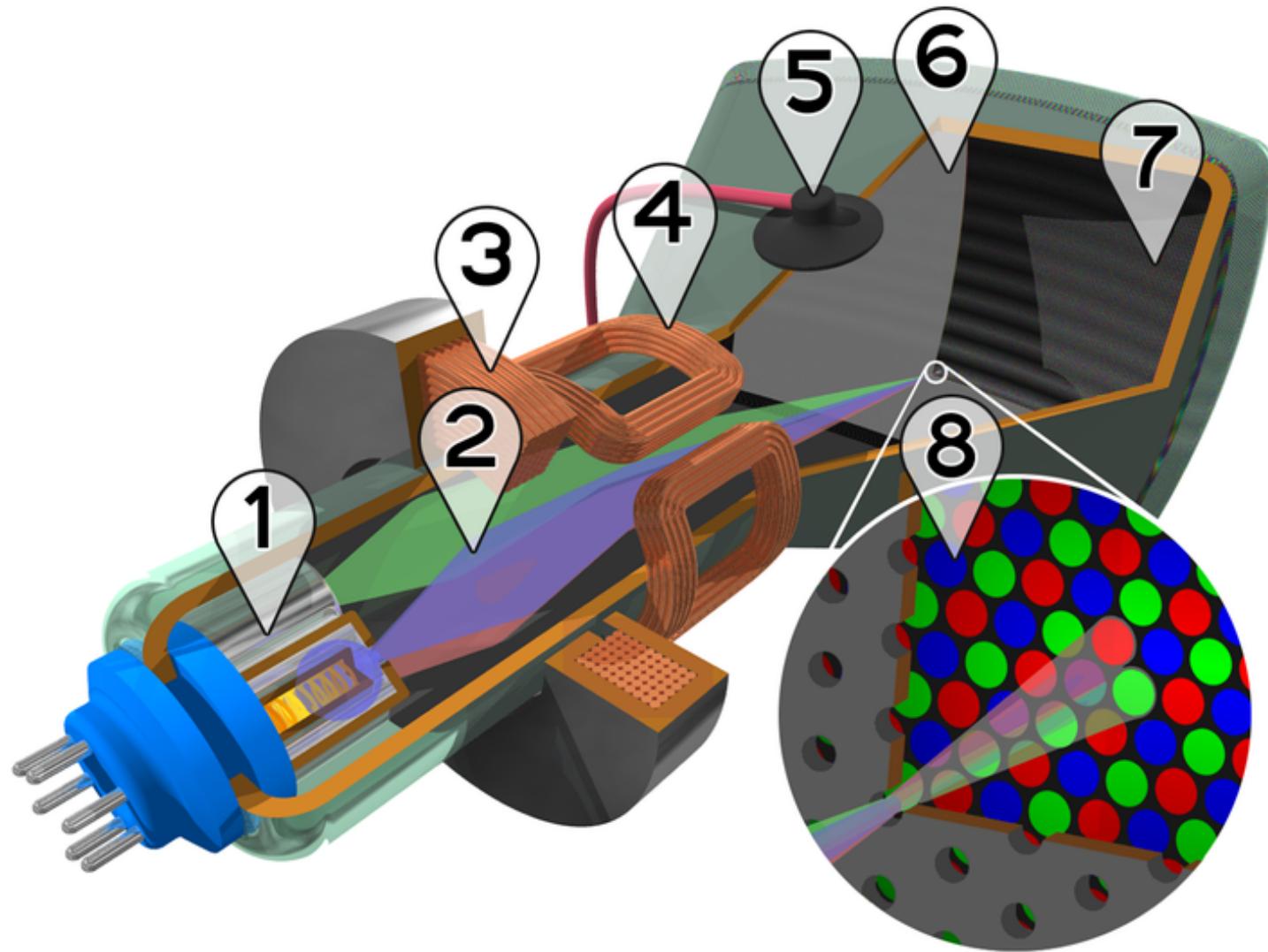
test11.py



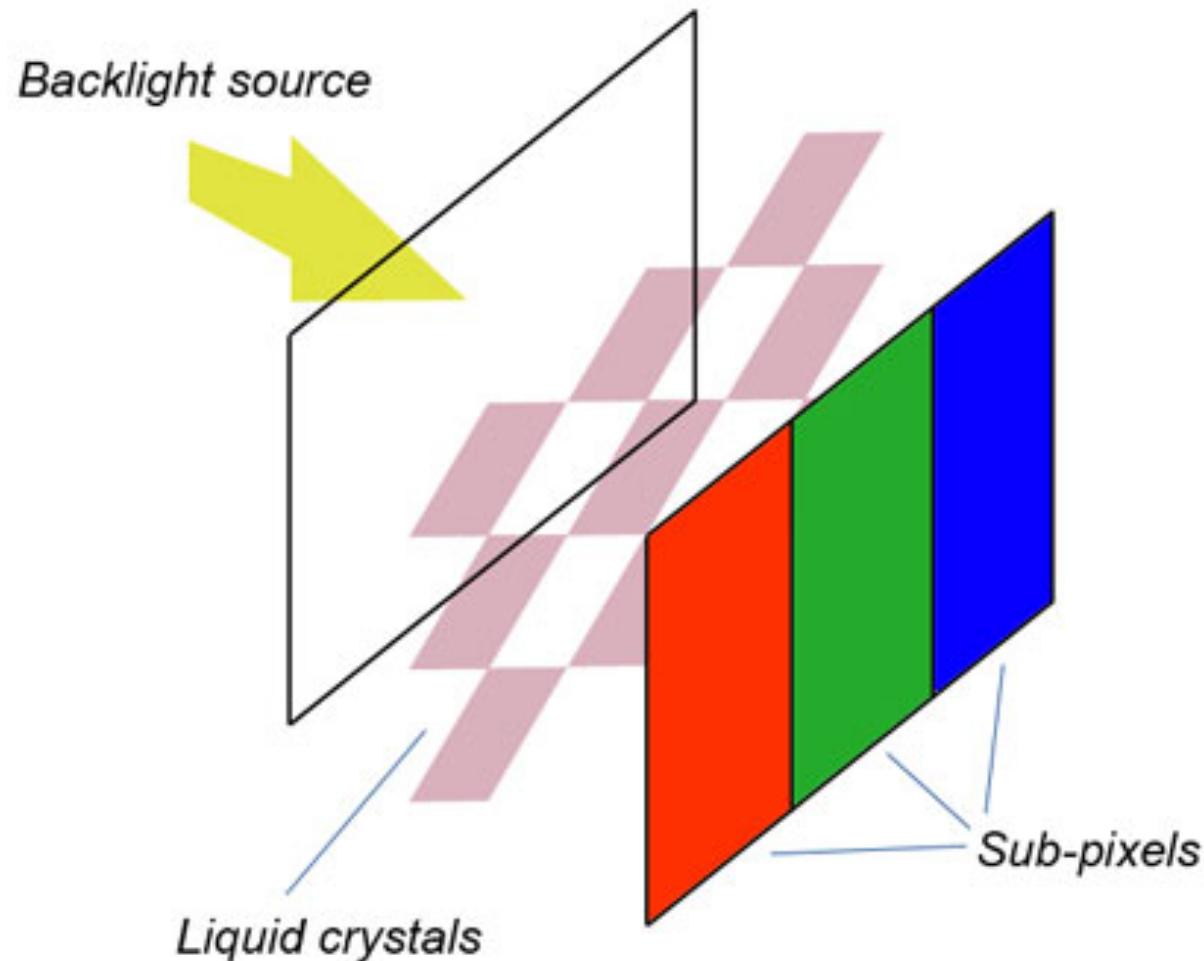
# CRT versus LCD monitors

Timing of visual stimuli is not simply limited by proper updating of data on the graphics card. The physical monitor imposes limits as well, and CRTs and LCDs are different.

# CRT monitor

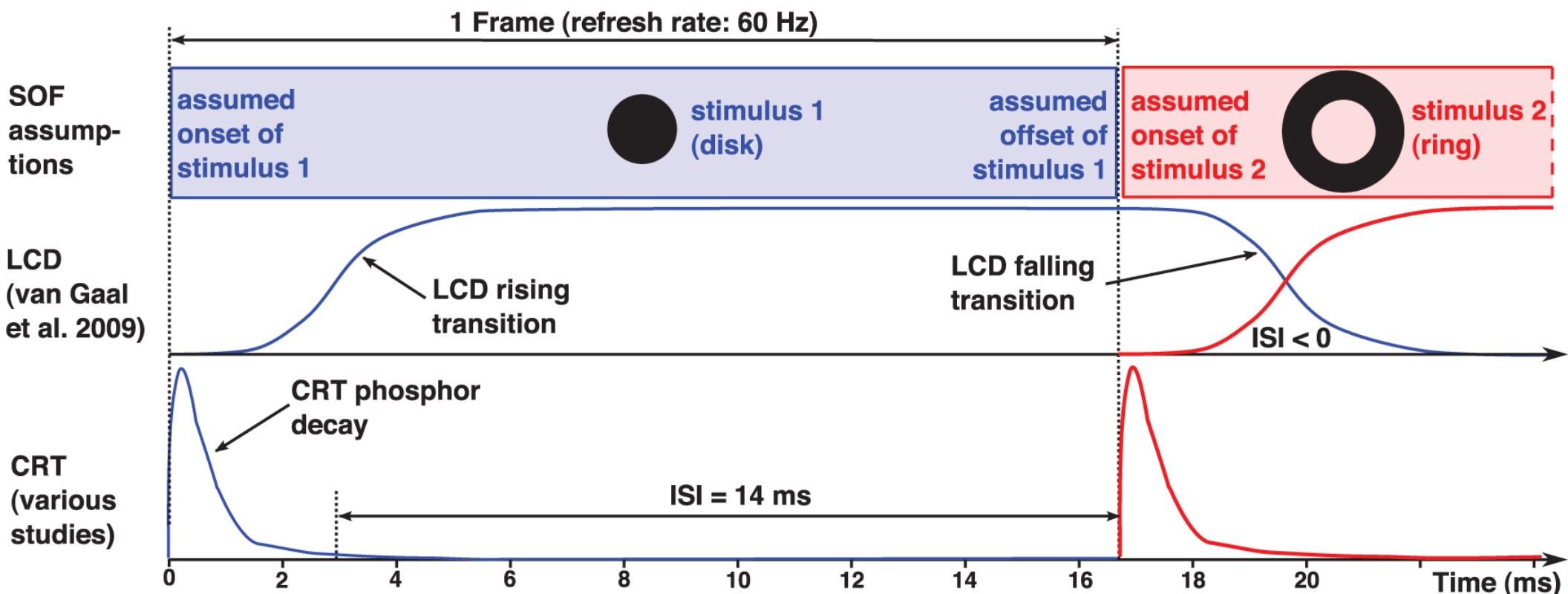


# LCD monitor



# CRT versus LCD monitors

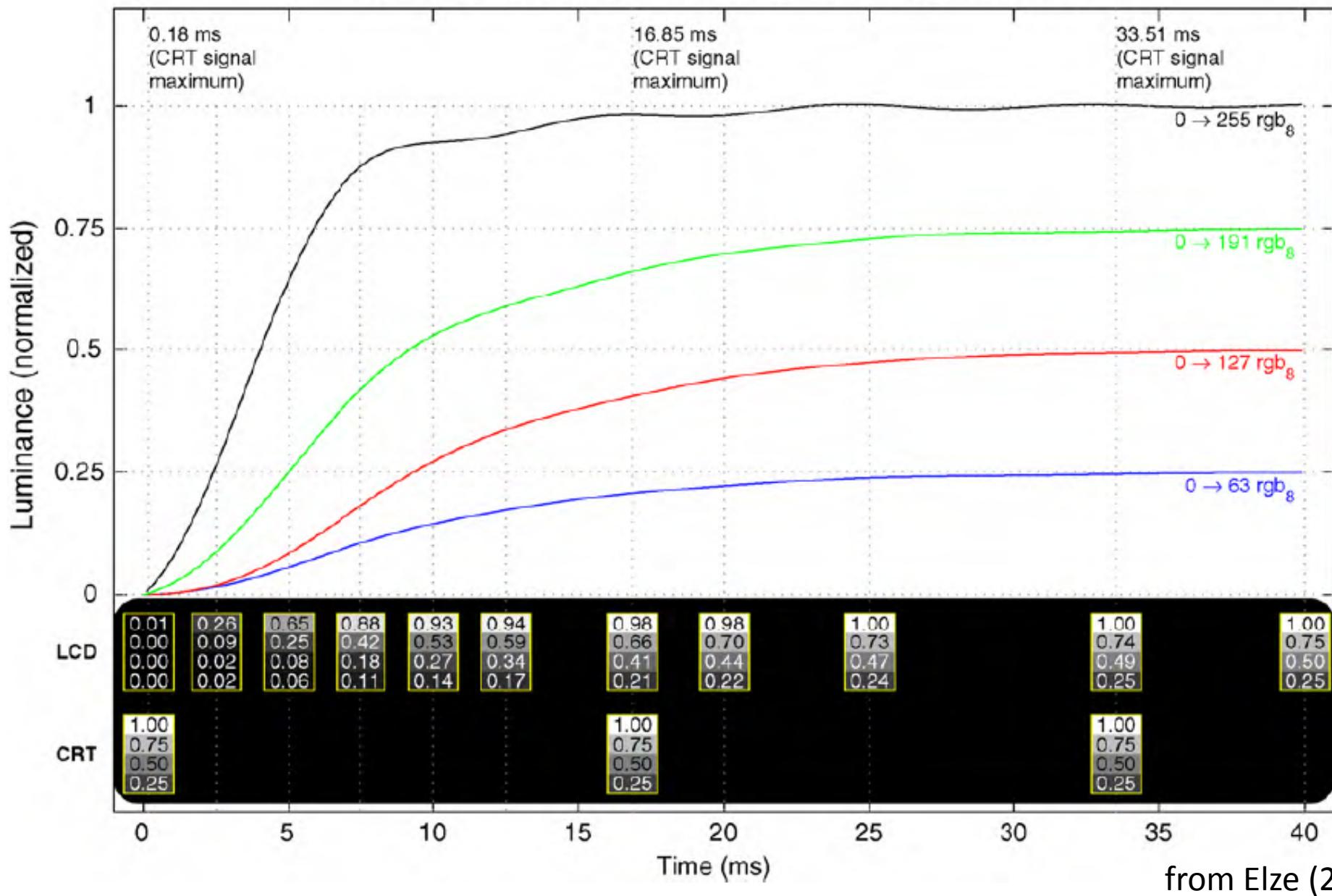
Make sure you understand the timing and how it differs between CRT and LCD monitors. Timing of stimulation is different from timing between events.



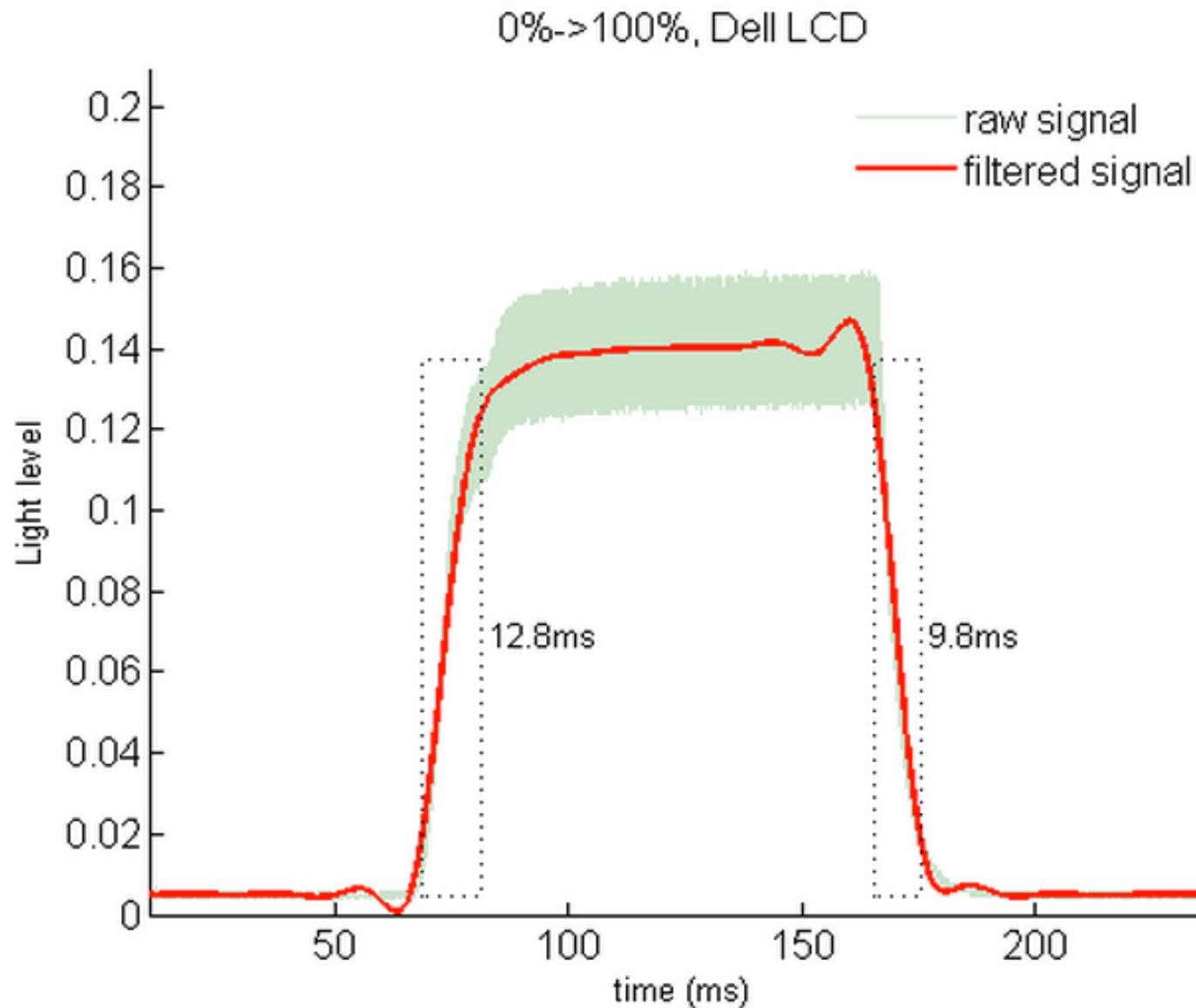
from Elze (2010)

# a bad LCD monitor

Onsets of different luminance levels (Dell 3007 WFP)



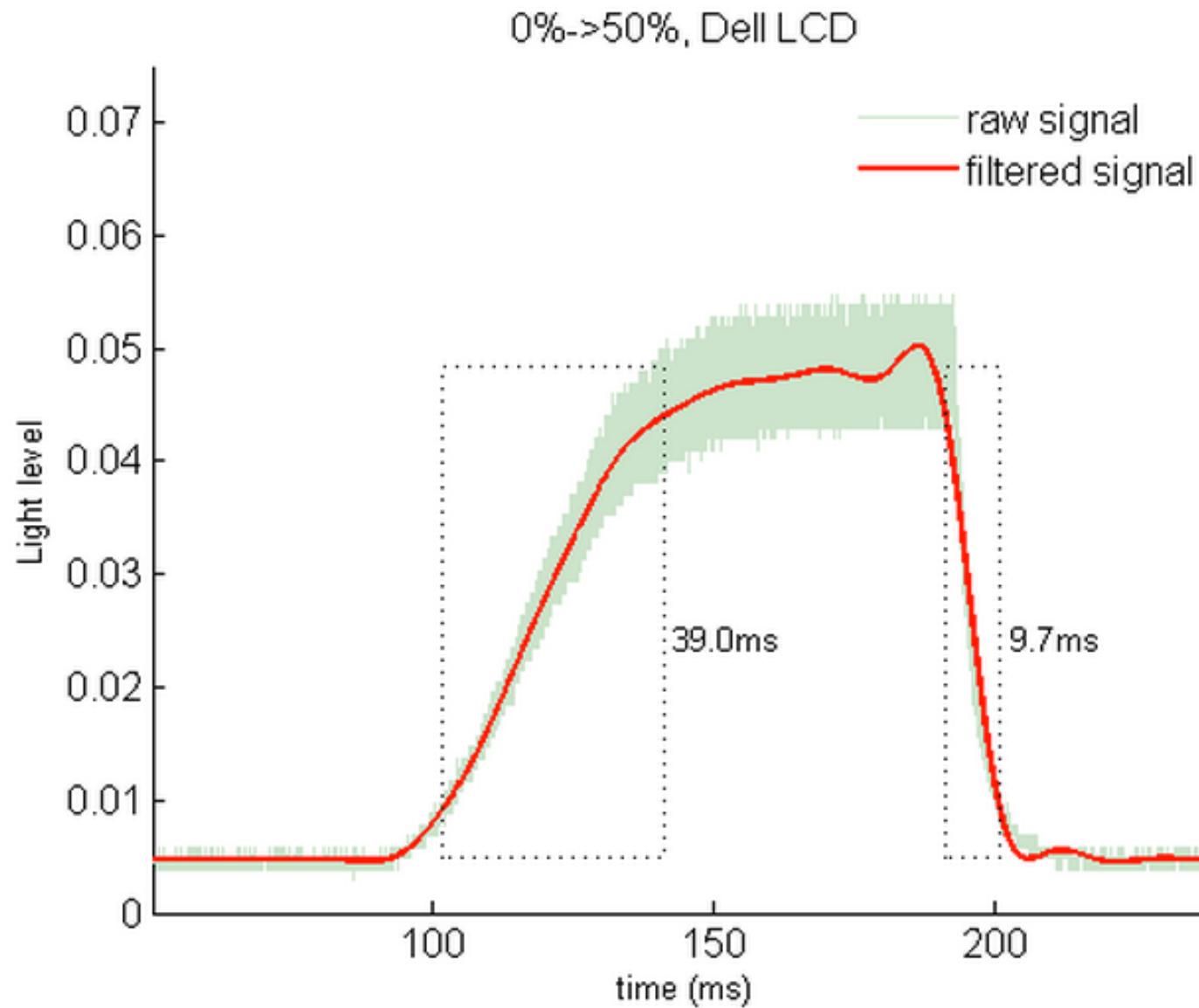
# LCD in my lab several years ago



For comparison: CRT 1ms rise, 1.1ms fall

courtesy of Mike Mack

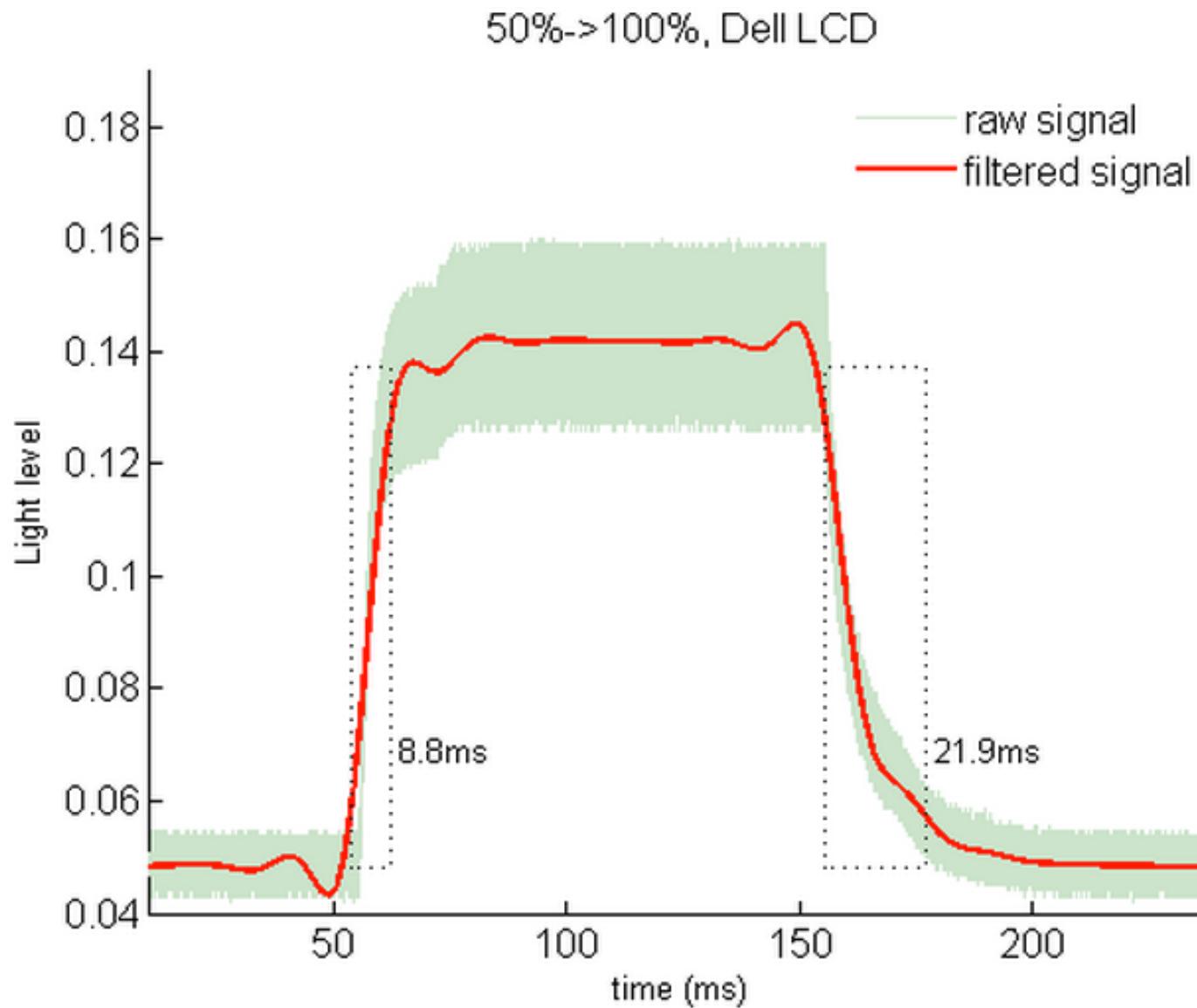
# LCD in my lab several years ago



For comparison: CRT 1ms rise, 1.1ms fall

courtesy of Mike Mack

# LCD in my lab several years ago



courtesy of Mike Mack

# good LCD monitors are available

You need to do measurements on your own monitors.



## An LCD monitor with sufficiently precise timing for research in vision

**Peng Wang<sup>1,2</sup> and Danko Nikolić<sup>1,2\*</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Neurophysiology, Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Frankfurt Institute for Advanced Studies, Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

**Edited by:**

Michael X. Cohen, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

**Reviewed by:**

Clifford D. Saron, University of California at Davis, USA

Tomas Knapen, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

**\*Correspondence:**

Danko Nikolić, Department of Neurophysiology, Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research, Deutschordenstr. 46, 60528 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

e-mail: danko.nikolic@gmail.com

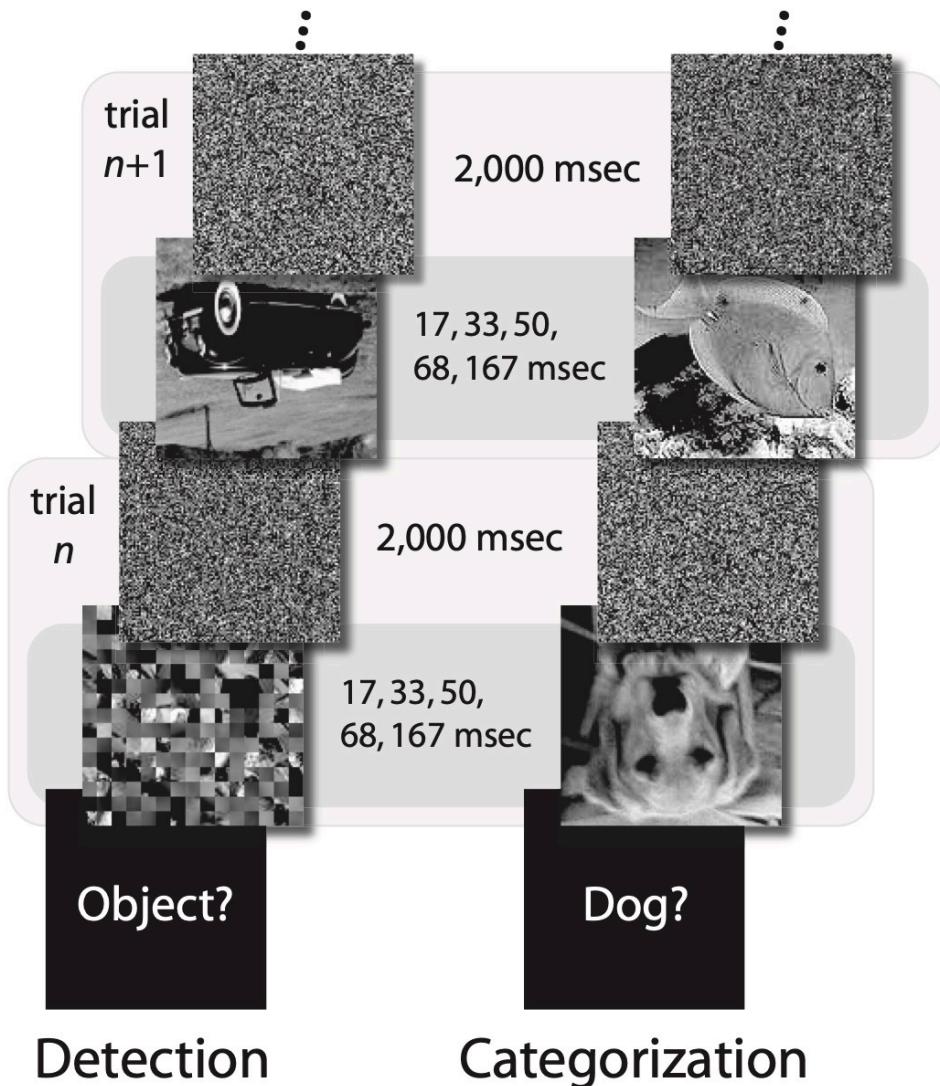
Until now, liquid crystal display (LCD) monitors have not been used widely for research in vision. Despite their main advantages of continuous illumination and low electromagnetic emission, these monitors had problems with timing and reliability. Here we report that there is at least one new inexpensive 120 Hz model, whose timing and stability is on a par with a benchmark cathode-ray tube monitor, or even better. The onset time was stable across repetitions, 95% confidence interval (the error) of which was <0.01 ms. Brightness was also delivered reliably across repeated presentations (<0.04% error) and across blocks with different durations (<3% error). The LCD monitor seems suitable for many applications in vision research, including the studies that require combined accuracy of timing and intensity of visual stimulation.

**Keywords:** visual stimulation, display, stimulus delivery, precise timing, LCD, CRT

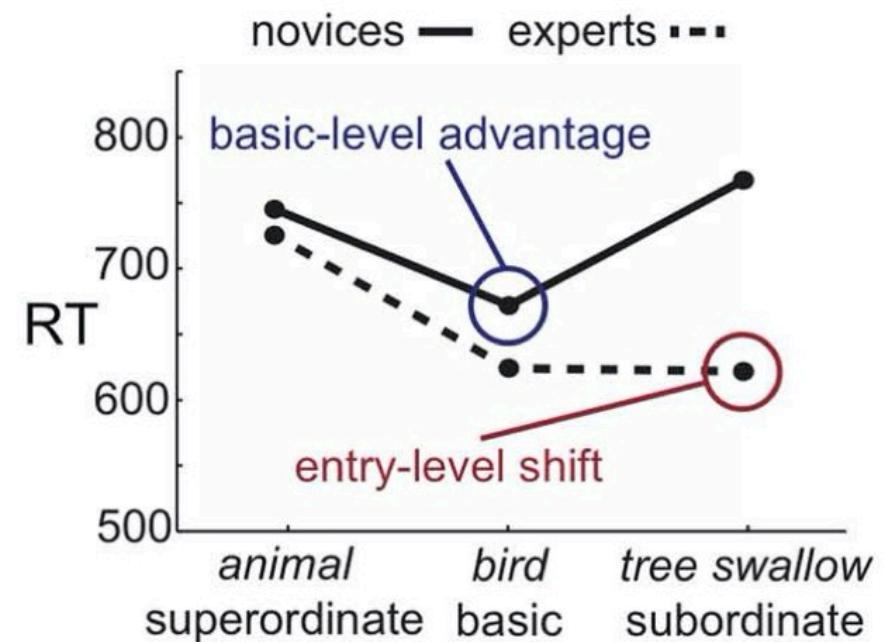


# examples

## 1) manipulating time

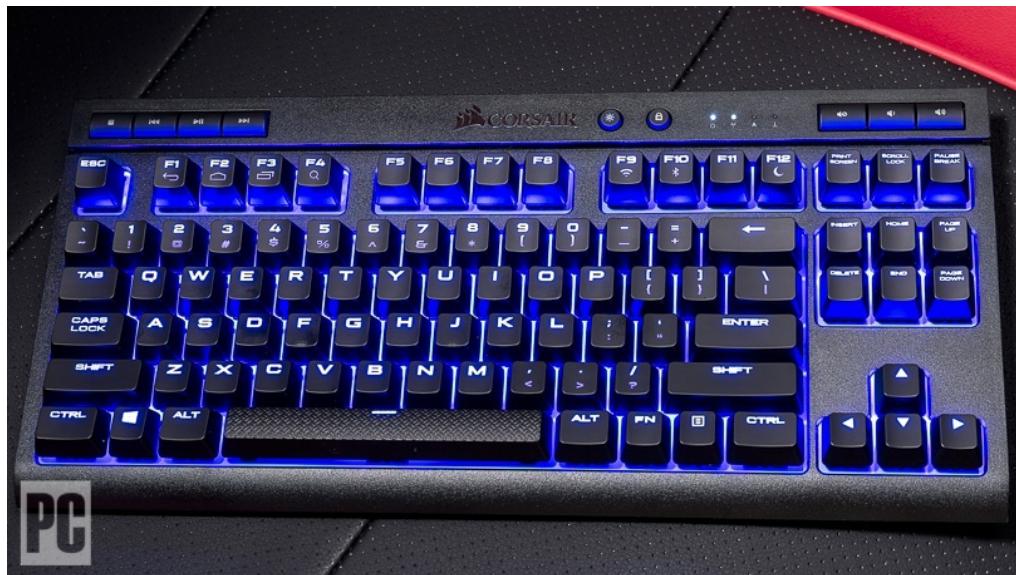


## 2) measuring time until response

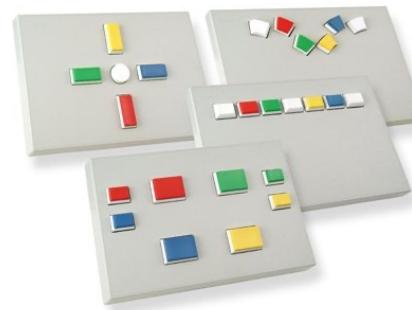


# measuring time in PsychoPy

keyboard responses



other response  
interfaces



# keyboard commands

test12.py

# keyboard commands

```
from psychopy import events
```

```
event.clearEvents()
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys()
```

vs

```
keys = event.getKeys()
```

# keyboard commands

```
from psychopy import events
```

```
event.clearEvents()    clear all mouse and keyboard events
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys()
```

vs

```
keys = event.getKeys()
```

# keyboard commands

```
from psychopy import events
```

```
event.clearEvents()
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys()
```

**returns a list of strings**

vs

```
keys = event.getKeys()
```

**returns a list of strings**

# keyboard commands

```
from psychopy import events
```

```
event.clearEvents()
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys()
```

**waits for a key press**

vs

```
keys = event.getKeys()
```

**checks for a key press,  
otherwise returns [ ]**

Note: in terms of how PsychoPy is coded, waitKeys() is just a wrapping of getKeys() within a while loop

# keyboard commands

returns key that is hit:

```
[ '1' ]  
[ 'lshift' ]  
[ 'f' ]  
[ 'quotelleft' ]  
[ 'rshift' ]  
[ 'lshift' ]  
[ 'escape' ]  
[ 'return' ]  
[ 'capslock' ]  
[ 'backspace' ]  
[ 'space' ]  
[ 'j' ]  
[ 'loption' ]
```



# keyboard commands

can return multiple keys hit:

```
[ 'd', 'f' ]  
[ 's' ]  
[ 'i', 'j' ]  
[ 'k', 'o' ]  
[ 'k' ]  
[ 'g', 'd', 'h', 'j' ]  
[ 's' ]  
[ 'n', '7', '8', '9', '0' ]  
[ 'd', 'h', 'g' ]  
[ 'k' ]  
[ 'j', 's' ]  
[ 'w', 'h' ]  
[ 'f', 'e' ]  
[ 'c', 'j', 'n', 's' ]  
[ 'q' ]
```



recording response time from key press

test13.py

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

• • •

`mywin.flip()`

`myClock.reset()`

# recording response time from key press

# create a clock early in the program

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

• • •

`mywin.flip()`

`myClock.reset()`

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

● ● ●

`mywin.flip()`      flip() that displays the stimulus

`myClock.reset()`

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

● ● ●

`mywin.flip()`

`myClock.reset()`

**reset the clock to measure RT**

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

• • •

`mywin.flip()`

`myClock.reset()`

**if you want to limit legal keys**

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
mywin.flip()
```

```
myClock.reset()
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                      timeStamped=myClock , maxWait=maxwait)  
what clock to use to measure RT
```

# recording response time from key press

```
myClock = core.Clock()
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
.
```

```
mywin.flip()
```

```
myClock.reset()
```

```
keys = event.waitKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                      timeStamped=myClock , maxWait=maxwait)  
when to stop waiting
```

recording response time while polling

test14.py

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()
myClock.reset()

loop = True
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,
                           timeStamped=myClock)

    if len(keys):
        loop = False

core.wait(0.0001)
```

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()  
myClock.reset()      start the clock
```

```
loop = True  
while loop:  
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:  
        mywin.flip()
```

```
keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                     timeStamped=myClock)
```

```
if len(keys):  
    loop = False  
  
core.wait(0.0001)
```

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()
```

```
myClock.reset()
```

```
loop = True
```

```
while loop:          polling loop
```

```
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
```

```
        mywin.flip()
```

```
keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                      timeStamped=myClock)
```

```
if len(keys):
```

```
    loop = False
```

```
core.wait(0.0001)
```

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()  
myClock.reset()
```

```
loop = True  
while loop:  
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:  
        mywin.flip()
```

**simple example of  
stimulus change while  
polling keyboard**

```
keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                      timeStamped=myClock)
```

```
if len(keys):  
    loop = False
```

```
core.wait(0.0001)
```

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()
myClock.reset()

loop = True
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ],
                         timeStamped=myClock)
    get key press and time stamp

    if len(keys):
        loop = False

    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# recording response time while polling

```
mywin.flip()
```

```
myClock.reset()
```

```
loop = True
```

```
while loop:
```

```
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
```

```
        mywin.flip()
```

```
keys = event.getKeys(keyList=[ 'space' , 'q' ] ,  
                      timeStamped=myClock)
```

```
if len(keys):
```

**stopping looping when valid key hit**

```
    loop = False
```

```
core.wait(0.0001)
```

better way to check keyboard presses

test15.py

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True

    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()
            allowing any key to be accepted
    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True
    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys: has a key been pressed
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True

    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:                                is it an acceptable keypress
        if keys[0][0] in ['d', 'k', 'q']:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True

    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False          stop looping and record
            choice = keys[0][0]   choice and response time
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True

    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True    note that a bad key initially pressed
    core.wait(0.0001)
```

# better way to check keyboard presses

```
mywin.flip(); myClock.reset()
loop = True; badkey = False
while loop:
    if myClock.getTime() > maxstim:
        mywin.flip()

    keys = event.getKeys(timeStamped=myClock)

    if keys:
        if keys[0][0] in [ 'd', 'k', 'q' ]:
            loop = False
            choice = keys[0][0]
            rt = keys[0][1]
        else:
            badkey = True
            could add a message that bad key pressed
    core.wait(0.0001)
```

more powerful keyboard routines, but may require a recompilation of PsychoPy

# PsychoPy keyboard module



PsychoPy<sup>3</sup>

Forum

Download

Documentation ▾

## Keyboard

To handle input from keyboard (supercedes event.getKeys)

The Keyboard class was new in PsychoPy 3.1 and replaces the older `event.getKeys()` calls.



### Psychtoolbox versus event.getKeys

On 64 bits Python3 installations it provides access to the `Psychtoolbox kbQueue` series of functions using the same compiled C code (available in python-psychtoolbox lib).

On 32 bit installations and Python2 it reverts to the older `psychopy.event.getKeys()` calls.

The new calls have several advantages:

- the polling is performed and timestamped asynchronously with the main thread so that times relate to when the key was pressed, not when the call was made
- the polling is direct to the USB HID library in C, which is faster than waiting for the operating system to poll and interpret those same packets
- we also detect the KeyUp events and therefore provide the option of returning keypress duration
- on Linux and Mac you can also distinguish between different keyboard devices (see `getKeyboards()` )

This library makes use, where possible of the same low-level asynchronous hardware polling as in `Psychtoolbox`

Example usage

*uses same routines  
developed for  
PsychToolbox*

```
from psychopy.hardware import keyboard
from psychopy import core

kb = keyboard.Keyboard()

# during your trial
kb.clock.reset() # when you want to start the timer from
keys = kb.getKeys(['right', 'left', 'quit'], waitRelease=True)
if 'quit' in keys:
    core.quit()
for key in keys:
    print(key.name, key.rt, key.duration)
```

<https://www.psychopy.org/api/hardware/keyboard.html>