

# The Vocoder

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# Outline

- More Sinusoidal Modeling...
- Vocoder History
- Vocoder for Information Compression
- Vocoder Music Examples
- My Pd Vocoder

# Sinusoidal Modeling

- Characterizes sound as a set of harmonics with envelope modulation
- Cuts out “dead space” between harmonics  $\Rightarrow$  Compression
- Are there any good applications for this?
- Can we do this without Fourier analysis or DSP?

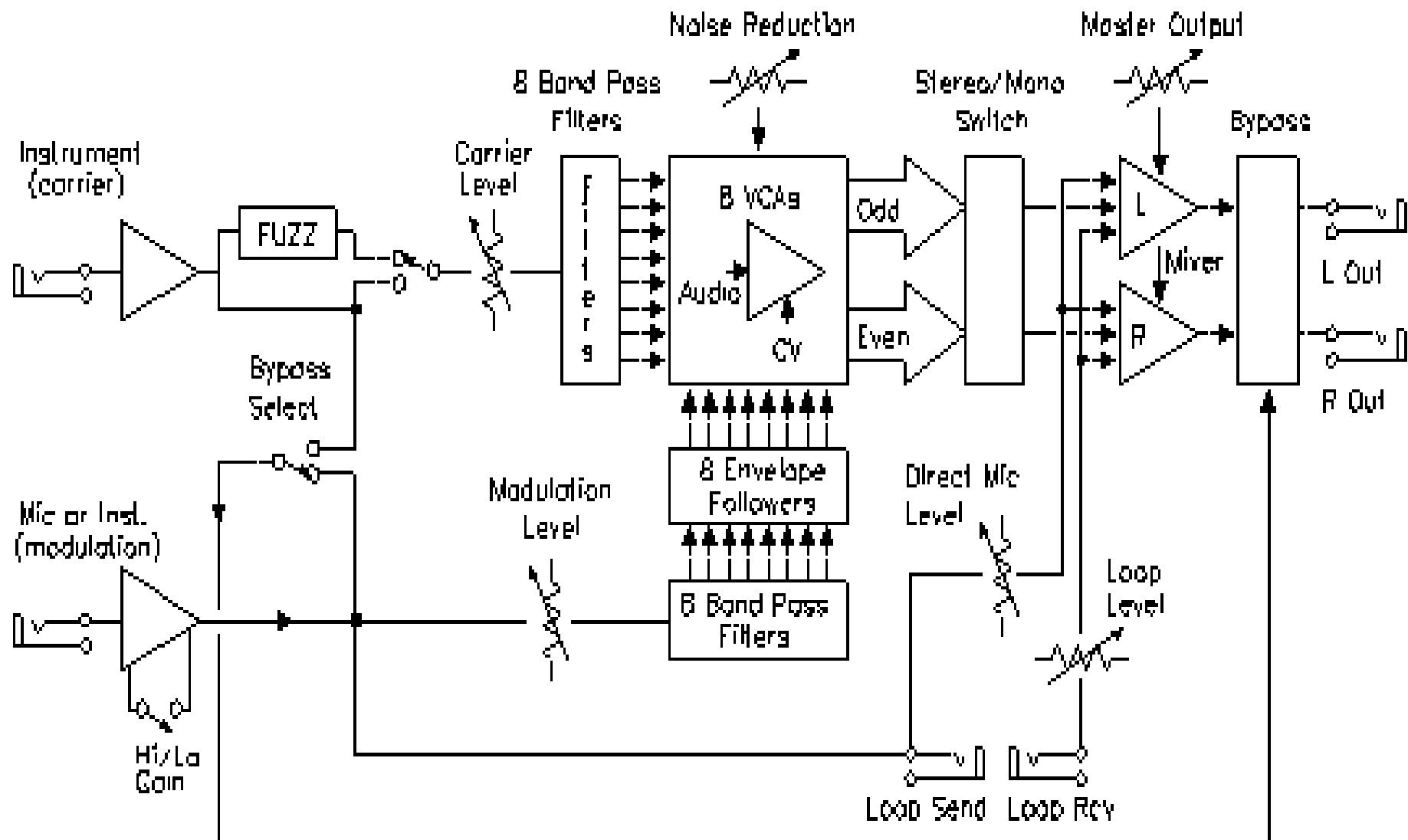
# The Vocoder

- Invented by Homer Dudley at Bell labs in 1930s for speech compression and synthesis ==> before DSP!
- Before 1970s to 1980s, vocoders were generally made from analog parts
- How does it work?

# The Vocoder

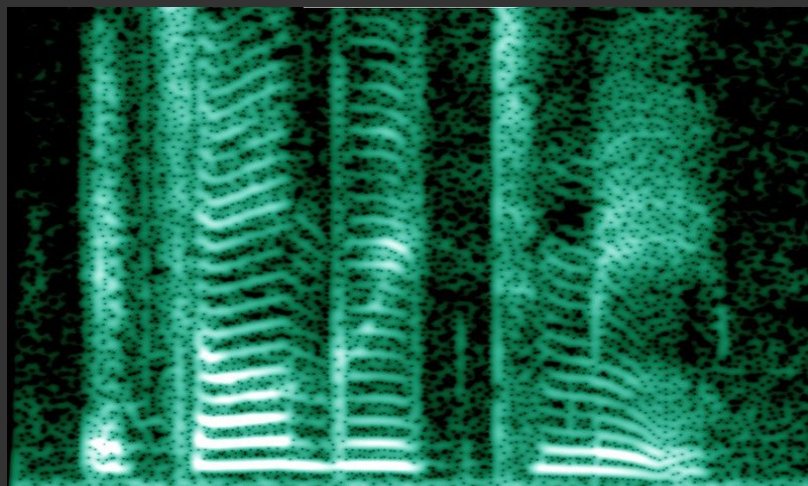
- Human speech occupies 4 kHz BW, but doesn't need this much to express information contained
- Vocoder - voice encoder  
encodes speech as a set of time-varying modulation envelopes  $\Rightarrow$  less BW

# Analog Vocoder

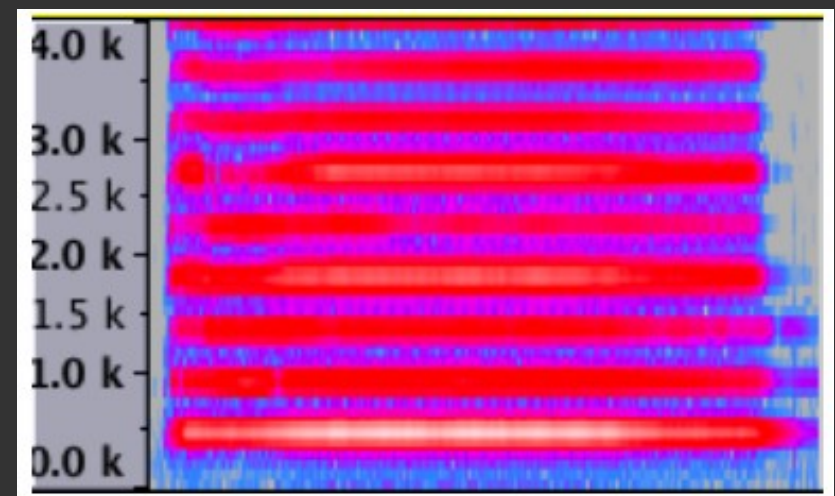


# Modern Uses

- Voice compression  $\Rightarrow$  CDMA cell phone standard includes variable bit-rate vocoder
- Cool Sounds =



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# Examples

- Wendy Carlos - A Clockwork Orange Theme
- Kraftwerk - Autobahn
- Yellow Magic Orchestra - Technopolis
- --More Modern Songs Not Heard--
- Air - Kelly Watch the Stars
- Freezepop - Manipulation



My Pd Vocoder

The End

Questions?