

Penn Engineering **ESE**

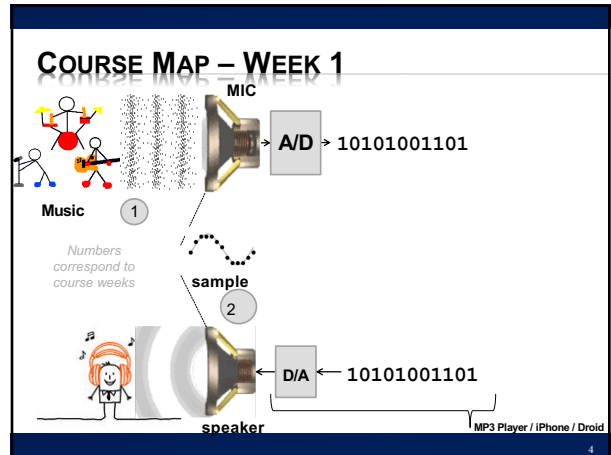
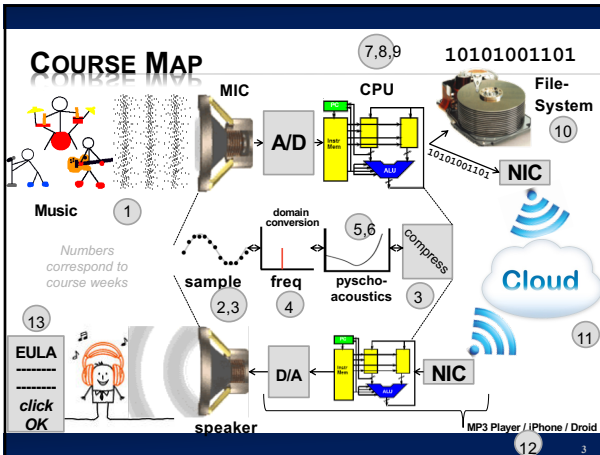
Lecture #2 – A2D

**ESE 150 – DIGITAL AUDIO BASICS**

Based on slides © 2009–2021 Koditschek & DeHon  
Additional Material © 2014–2017 Farmer

**LECTURE TOPICS**

- × Where are we on course map?
- × Part 1: Sound / Sound Pressure
  - ↳ Continuous, discrete, ADC, DAC
- × Part 2: Sampling & Quantization
  - ↳ Infinite, Continuous signals → Finite, Discrete data in bits



**SOUND WAVES**

**INTRODUCTION TO SOUND**

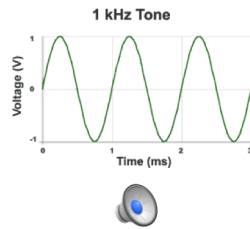
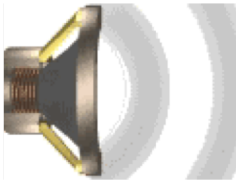
- × Sound is a pressure wave

<http://www.archive.org/details/SoundWavesAn>

## WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION TO SOUND WAVES

Cycle = 1 iteration of sine wave  
Hertz (Hz) = 1 cycle per second

1kHz = 1000 cycles/s

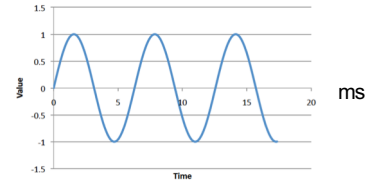


Source: <http://www.mediacollege.com/audio/01/sound-waves.html>

8

## PRECLASS 1 AND 2

× Frequency of sine wave?



× Relationship between period and frequency?

9

## WEEK 1: PRESSURE TO VOLTAGE

- × Microphones convert pressure to voltage
  - + (speakers/headphones voltage to pressure)
  - + Physical position to voltage

$$\Delta d \rightarrow \Delta C \rightarrow \Delta V$$

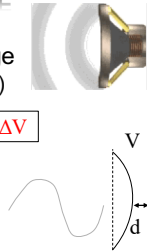
- × Reason as parallel plate capacitor
  - + ESE 112 or PHYS 151

$$C = \frac{\epsilon A}{d}$$

$$Q = CV$$

$$V = \frac{Q}{C}$$

Voltage is a function of distance (pressure)



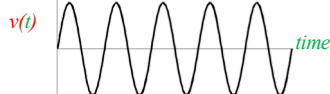
10

SIGNALS

11

## WE NEED TO DEFINE SOME TERMS

- × What is a signal?
  - + Something that carries information
  - + A description of how one parameter depends on another
  - × Common Engineering Example:
    - × Voltage that varies with time
      - E.g. Amplitude of voltage changes as time moves forward
    - × Time = **independent** variable (x-axis): time
      - Depends on nothing!
    - × Voltage = **dependent** variable (y-axis):  $v(t)$ 
      - Voltage's amplitude depends on time



12

## WE NEED TO DEFINE SOME TERMS

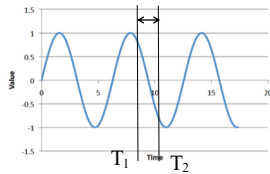
- × Most signals encountered in nature...
  - + ...are "**continuous**" / analog
    - × Continuous range of values (any real #)
    - × Examples: 1) Light intensity that changes with distance
    - × 2) Voltage that varies over time  $v(t)$ 
      - *We will see in lab this week: MUSIC signal represented with voltage*
    - × 3) Chemical reaction rate that depends on temperature
  - + as opposed to "**non-continuous**" / discrete signals
    - × Only a discrete range of values possible (limited subset of real #s)
    - × How a computer must represent signals
      - Fundamental unit of information: **bit**
      - Cannot represent all possible real #'s
      - Uses binary digit (bit) to represent #'s:
        - 1-bit, represents 2 things...2-bits, represents 4 things
        - What's the generalization? (n-bits → how many things?)

13

## BIG QUESTION

- × How represent and process *continuous* information on a digital computer with *finite* memory?

+ Note: continuous means signal may take on infinite number of values between any  $T_1$  and  $T_2$



14

## CONNECT THE DOTS

- × Intuition, with enough dots, not hard to “connect-the-dots” to reconstruct (understand) the continuous signal.

+ What is the continuous signal here? (preclass 3)

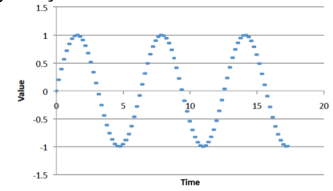
+ Assumes certain regularity conditions

+ What is enough?

+ Not unlike calculus

+ Limit as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$

+ Discrete sum approaches Integral



15

## DEFINITIONS

- × **Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion**

+ Process of converting *continuous* signal to *discrete* signal

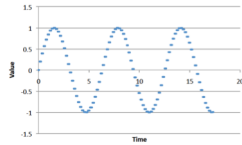
+ Going from analog to digital “domain”

+ Often called: digitization

+ Use a subset of real #'s to represent all real #'s

× Involves a lot of approximation (lots of room for error!)

- × ...collecting the dots



16

## DEFINITIONS

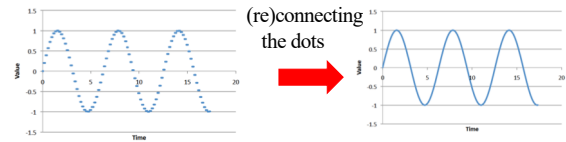
- × **Digital-to-Analog (DAC) Conversion**

+ Process of converting *discrete* signal to *continuous* signal

+ Going from digital to analog “domain”

+ Converting “bits” to a continuous waveform

× Our MP3/Music players do this all the time (will do in lab2)



17

## Part 2

## SAMPLING & QUANTIZATION

18

## ADC – SAMPLING & QUANTIZATION

- × **Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion**

+ Converting analog (continuous) signal to digital signal

+ Digitization process has two important aspects:

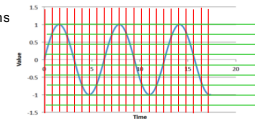
× 1) *Sampling*

× Converting *independent* variable of signal from continuous to discrete

× e.g.: breaking continuous *time* down into intervals

× Pick  $\Delta x$

× Look at value ever 1 ms



× 2) *Quantization*

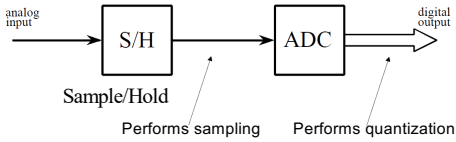
× Converting *dependent* variable of signal from continuous to discrete

× e.g.: breaking continuous *voltage* down into levels

× Round value to nearest 0.25 volts

19

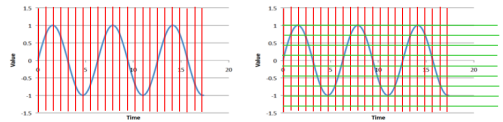
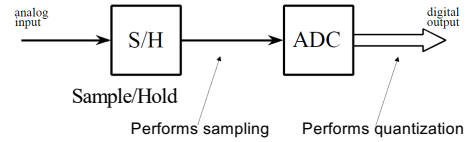
## ADC – BROKEN INTO TWO PARTS



Figures from reading: *The Scientist and Engineer's Guide to Digital Signal Processing*, By Steven W. Smith

20

## ADC – BROKEN INTO TWO PARTS

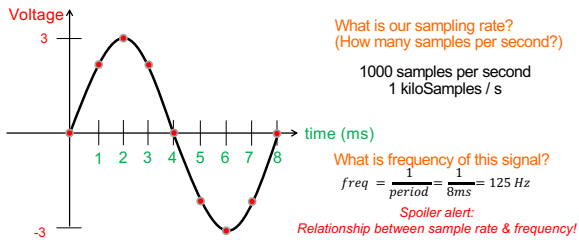


21

## ADC – SAMPLING

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- **Sampling:** breaking independent variable (time) into intervals
- Example: Let's sample our continuous signal @ 1 ms intervals:

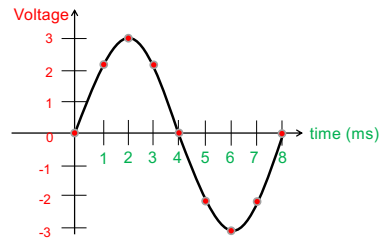


22

## ADC – QUANTIZATION

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- **Quantization:** breaking dependent variable (voltage) into levels
- Ex: Let's quantize our range of voltages into 7 levels (1 Volt each)

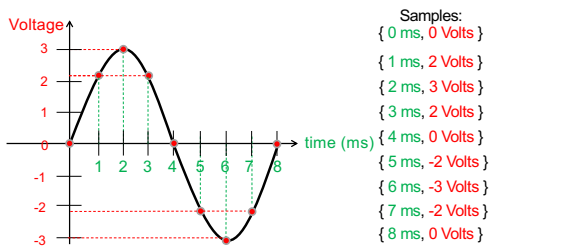


23

## ADC – SAMPLING & QUANTIZATION

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- Let's collect our samples at the quantized levels



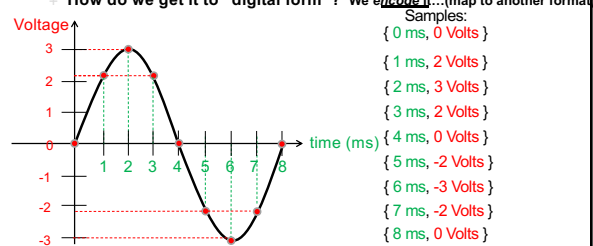
Notice, we are rounding! Error is inherent in this process

24

## ADC – DIGITAL CONVERSION / ENCODING

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- We've converted something continuous into discrete form
- How do we get it to "digital form"? We **encode** it... (map to another format)

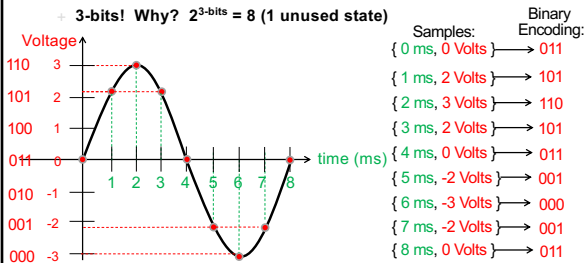


25

## ADC – DIGITAL CONVERSION / ENCODING

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- We have 7 discrete voltages, # of bits to represent 7 things?
- 3-bits! Why?  $2^3\text{-bits} = 8$  (1 unused state)



Encoding: mapping data from one form to another (not always conversion) 26

## ADC – STORING THE DATA

### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

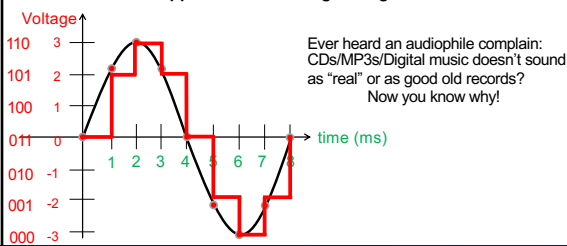
- What do we store? Just the encoded bits:
  - × Our digitized signal: {011, 101, 110, 101, 011, 001, 000, 001, 011}
  - × It is now discrete & in digital format, store bits in MP3 player!
- Why can we avoid storing the time?
  - × It's repetitive! Just store sampling rate: 1 kilo-samples/sec
  - × Later, if we wish to restore signal, each "sample" occurred at 1ms
- In this example:
  - × Sampling rate: 1 k-samples/sec
  - × Resolution: 3-bits
  - × Our digitized signal: {011, 101, 110, 101, 011, 001, 000, 001, 011}

27

## ADC – AN APPROXIMATION AT BEST

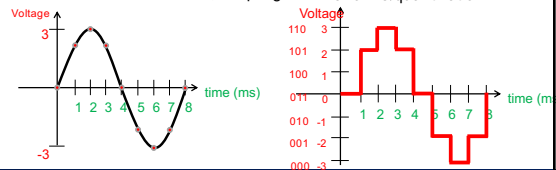
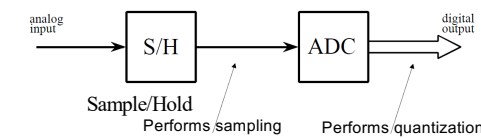
### × Analog-to-Digital (ADC) Conversion

- Continuous analog signal overlaid with discrete digital signal
- At best an approximation of original signal



28

## ADC – BROKEN INTO TWO PARTS

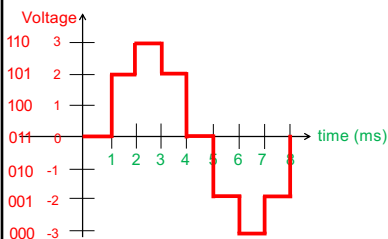


29

## ADC – AN APPROXIMATION AT BEST

### × Digital-to-Analog (DAC) Conversion

- Process of converting discrete signal to continuous signal
- How to get back to original signal from bits?

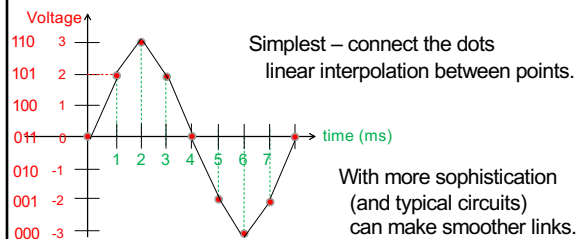


30

## ADC – AN APPROXIMATION AT BEST

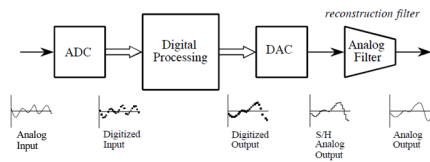
### × Digital-to-Analog (DAC) Conversion

- Process of converting discrete signal to continuous signal
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31

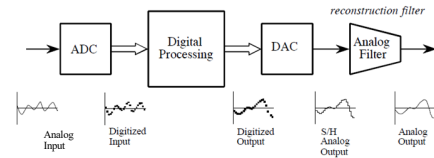
## ADC / DAC – THE FULL PICTURE



Figures from reading: *The Scientist and Engineer's Guide to Digital Signal Processing*, By Steven W. Smith

33

## ADC / DAC – THE FULL PICTURE

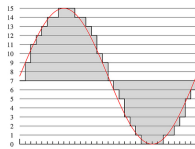


### × Formally:

- × Analog input signal that varies with time:  $s(t)$
- × Signal processing algorithm to digitize analog input signal:
  - ×  $f[i] = \text{Round}(s(i \cdot T) / \text{QUANTA}) \cdot \text{QUANTA}$
  - ×  $T$  is sample period
- × Digitized signal produced by  $f[i]$ :  $s_f(t)$

34

## PCM



### × Quantization & Sampling Technique described:

- + Called Pulse-Code-Modulation (PCM)
  - × Patented in 1943
  - × PCM process is the ADC process
  - × Developed for telecommunications

35

## NEXT STEPS

- × **Monday Lab:** sample sound waveforms
- × **Wednesday:** look more quantitatively at errors from quantization
- × **Friday:** Start looking at discrete sampling rates

36

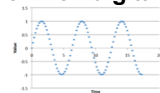
## LEARN MORE

- × **ESE215 – basic analog circuitry, RLC circuits, simple filters**
  - + Including why typical circuits give smoother (not linear) connection of dots
- × **ESE568 – Mixed Signal Integrated Circuits**
  - + Build A2D, D2A

37

## BIG IDEAS

- × **Approximate continuous waveform on digital media by**
  - + Discretize in all dimension
  - + For audio: in time and amplitude
    - × Sample in time; quantize voltage
- × **Allows us to store audio signal as sequence of bits**
- × **Reconstruct by “connecting-the-dots”**
  - + If our dots are frequent enough to represent the signal



38

## ADMIN

- × Reading for today, next Wednesday on syllabus
- × ~~In Lab (Detkin)~~ on Monday
  - + Lab posted
  - + Lab kit pickup M2-3pm (or today 11:30am-noon)
  - + Will post lab partners before Monday
  - + Read lab, work prelab (includes download software)
- × Remember feedback

39

## REFERENCES

- × S. Smith, "The Scientists and Engineer's Guide to Digital Signal Processing," 1997.
- × Wikipedia, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analog-to-digital\\_converter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analog-to-digital_converter)
- × Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulse-code\\_modulation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulse-code_modulation)

40