

# Signal Analysis

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# Based on

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Signal Processing with Free Software : Practical Experiments  
F. Auger

# Octave Spectrogram Function

Function File: **specgram** (x)  
Function File: **specgram** (x, n)  
Function File: **specgram** (x, n, Fs)  
Function File: **specgram** (x, n, Fs, window)  
Function File: **specgram** (x, n, Fs, window, overlap)  
Function File: [S, f, t] = **specgram** (...)

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Input and Output Arguments

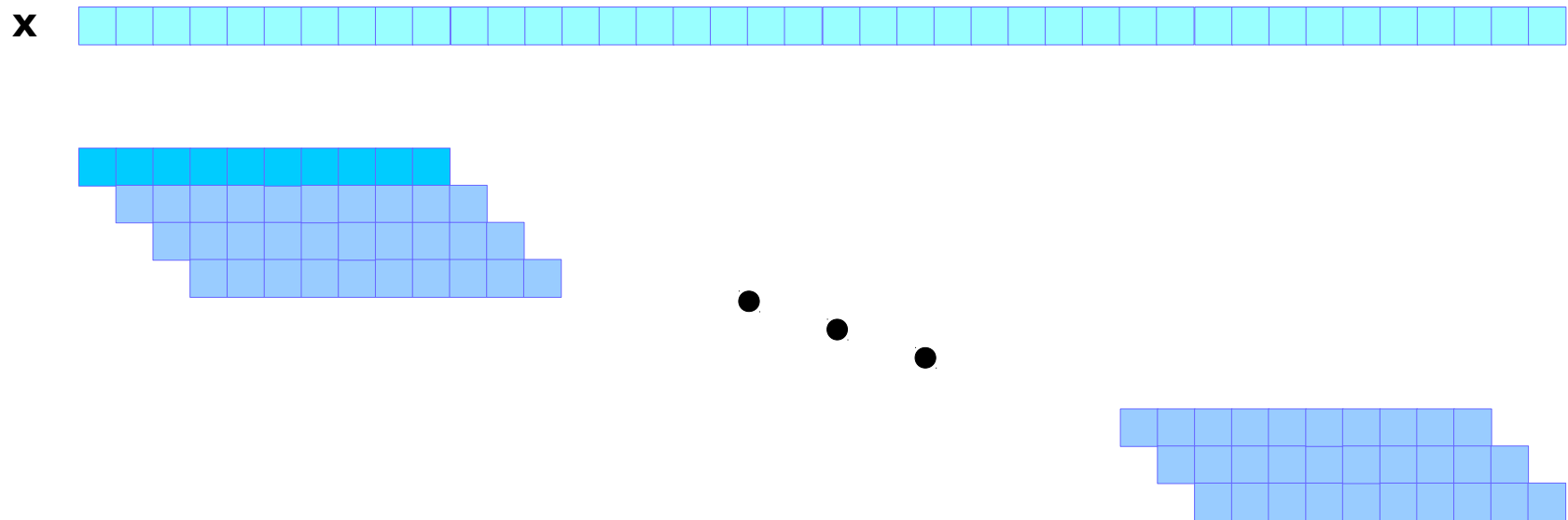
<b>x</b>	: the signal x.	
<b>n</b>	: the <u>size</u> of overlapping <u>segments</u>	(default: 256)
<b>fs</b>	: specifies the <u>sampling rate</u> of the input signal	
<b>window</b>	: specifies an alternate window	(default: hanning)
<b>overlap</b>	: specifies the <u>number</u> of <u>samples</u> overlap	(default: (window)/2)
<b>S</b>	: the complex output of the FFT, one row per slice	
<b>f</b>	: the frequency indices corresponding to the <u>rows</u> of S	
<b>t</b>	: the time indices corresponding to the <u>columns</u> of S.	

- if no output arguments are given, the spectrogram is displayed.
- otherwise, **[S, f, t]** will be returned

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

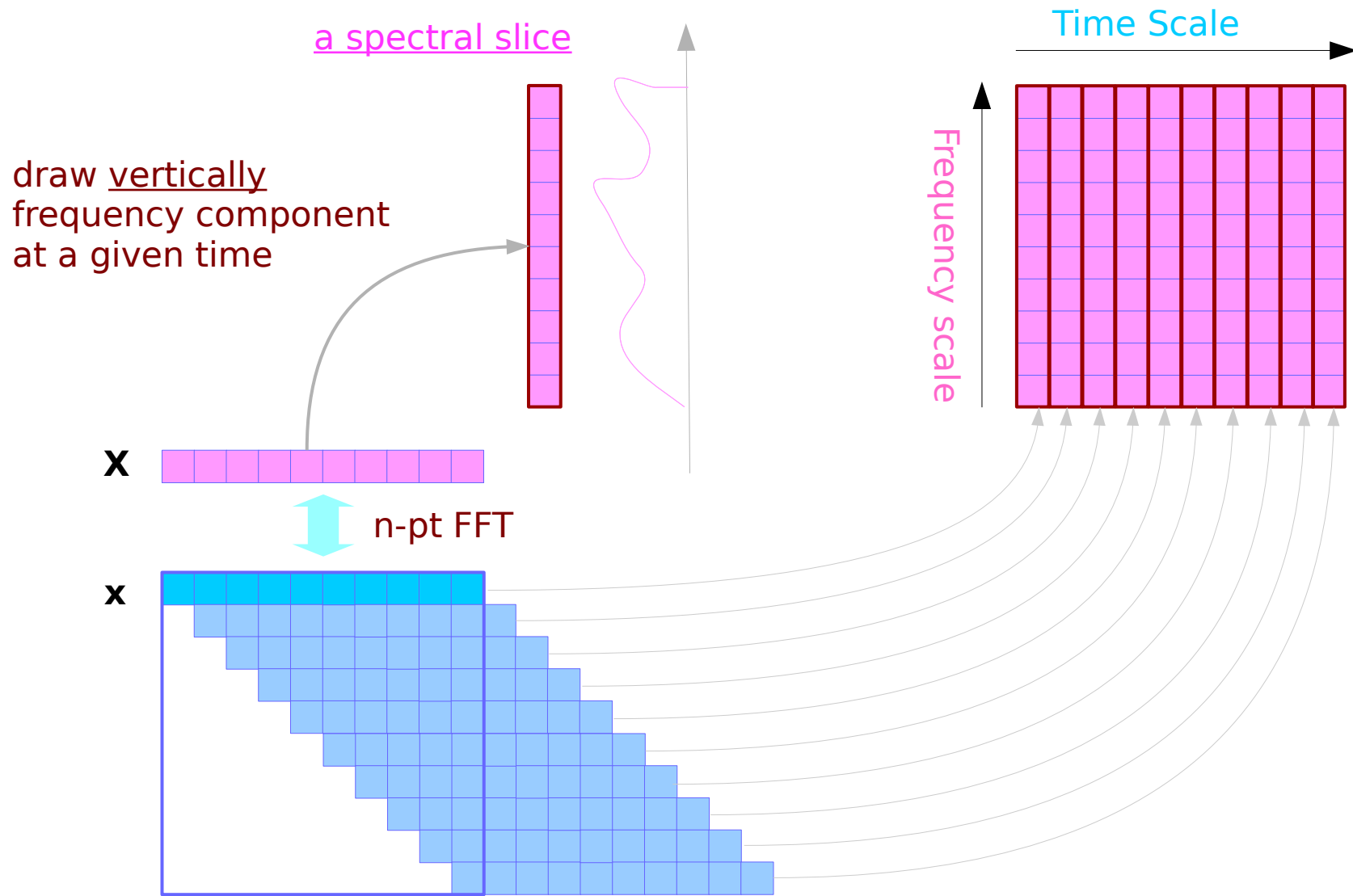
# Spectrogram Operations

- the signal is chopped into overlapping segments of length **n**
- each segment is **windowed** and transformed by using the **FFT**
- if **fs** is given, it specifies the sampling rate of the input signal
- an alternate window to apply rather than the default of **hanning (n)**
- **overlap**: the number of samples overlap between successive segments



<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

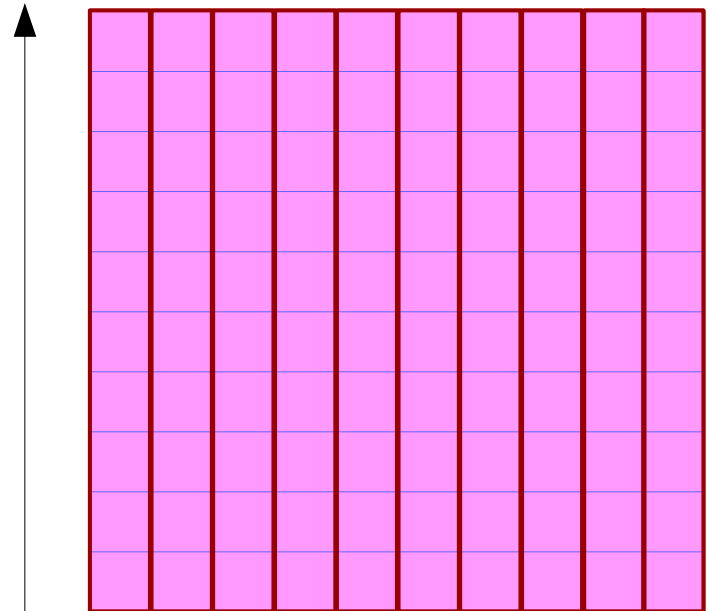
# 3D representation of spectrum over time-frequency domain



# Time and Frequency Resolutions

Frequency scale

$$\text{Frequency Resolution} = f_0 = f_s/n = 1/nT_s$$



Time Scale

Time Resolution = step

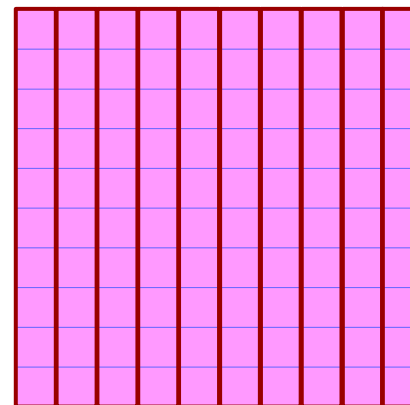
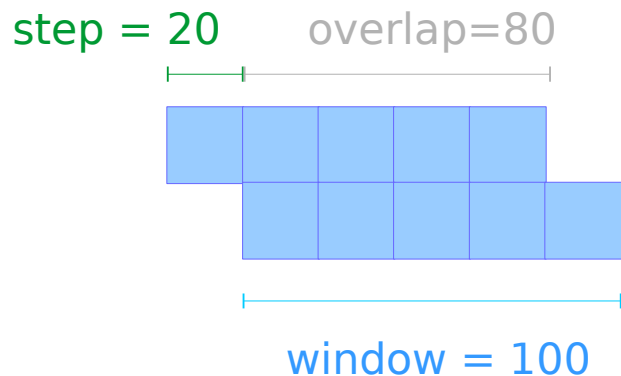


# Step Size

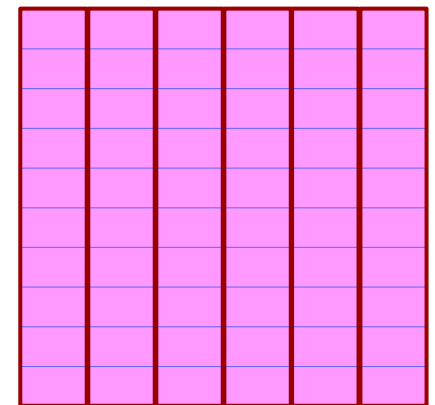
## Step size

- window length minus overlap length
- controls the horizontal (time) scale of the spectrogram.
- the range 1-5 msec is good for speech.

$$\text{window} - \text{overlap} = \text{step}$$



small step size



large step size

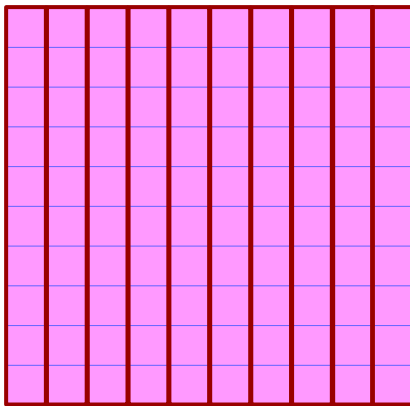
<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Step Size Effects

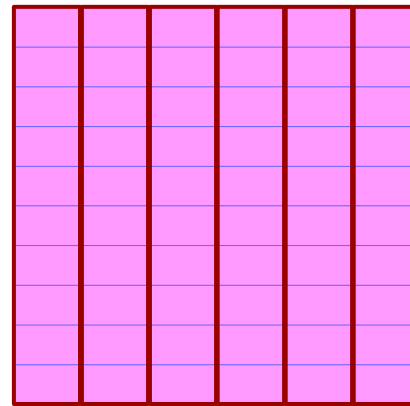
<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

## Step size

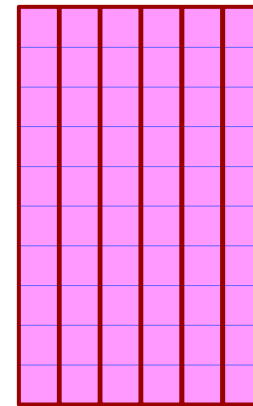
- *Increasing* step size to compress the spectrogram
- *Decreasing* step size to stretch the spectrogram
- *Increasing* step size will reduce time resolution,
- *Decreasing* it will not improve it much
  - beyond the limits imposed by the window size
  - gain a little bit, depending on the shape of your window
  - as the peak of the window slides over peaks in the signal energy



small step size  
stretched  
high resolution



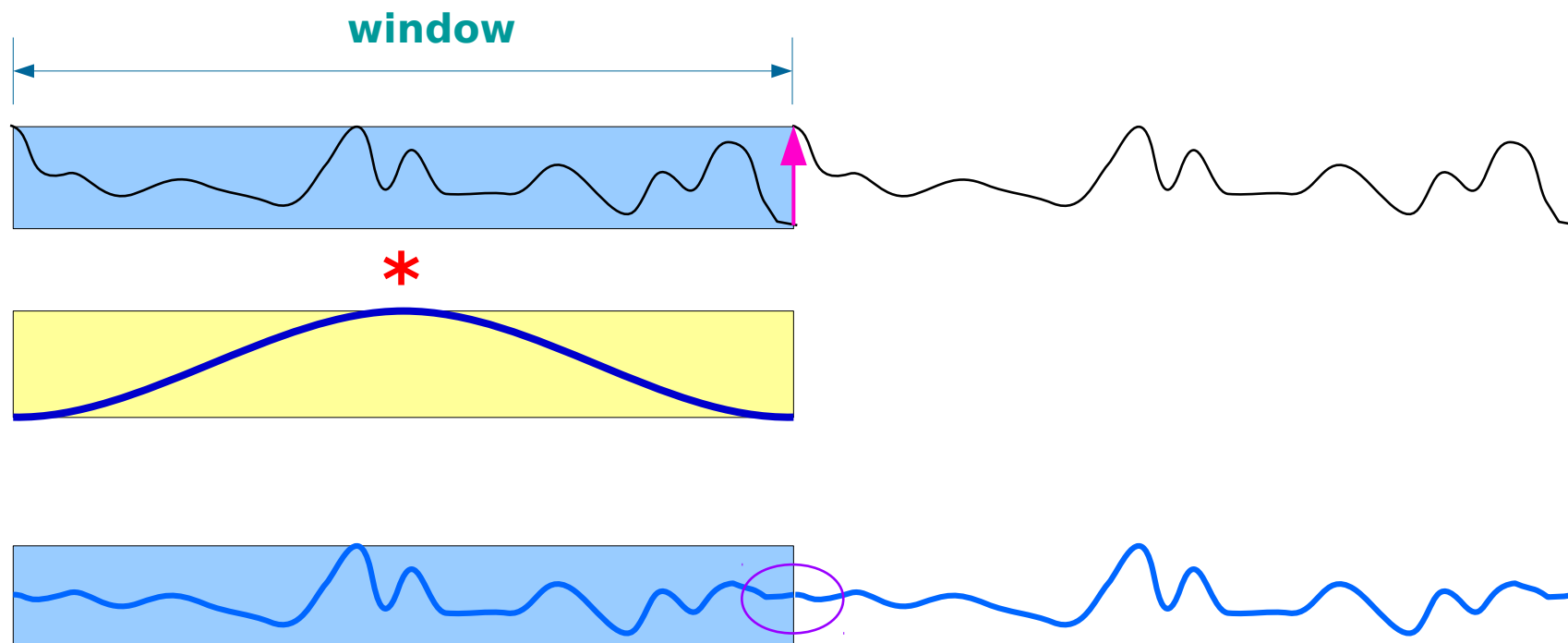
large step size



compressed  
small resolution

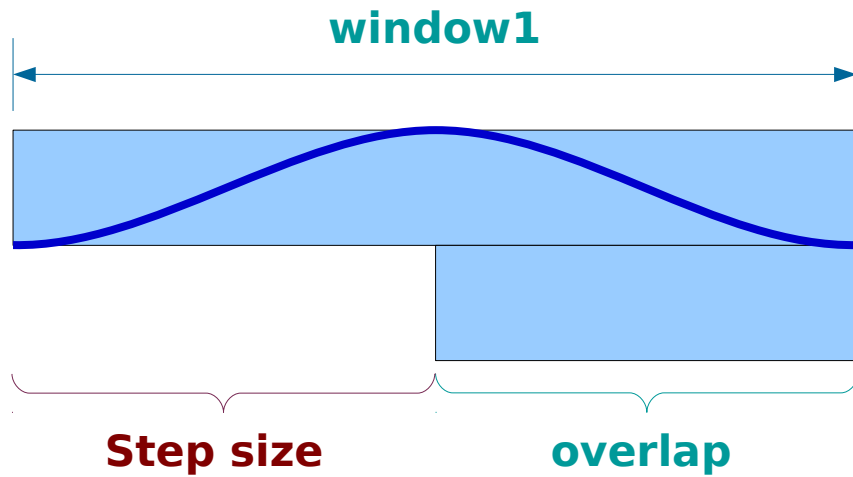
# Windowing

- the shape of the window is not so critical so long as it goes **gradually to zero** on the ends.

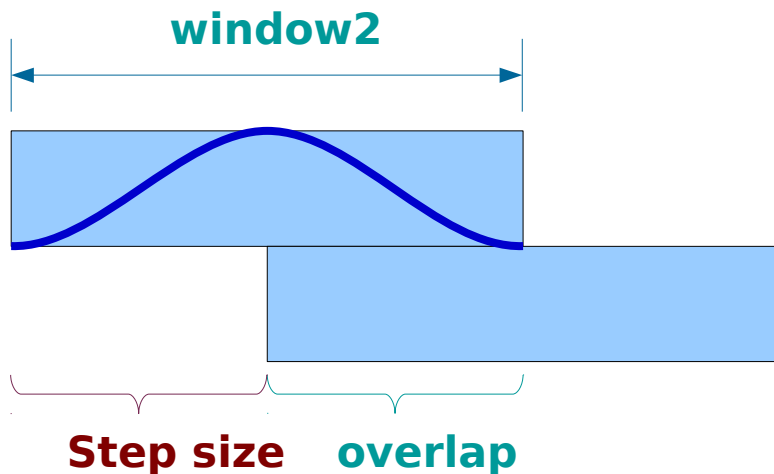


<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Window Size



- a wide window
- more harmonic detail



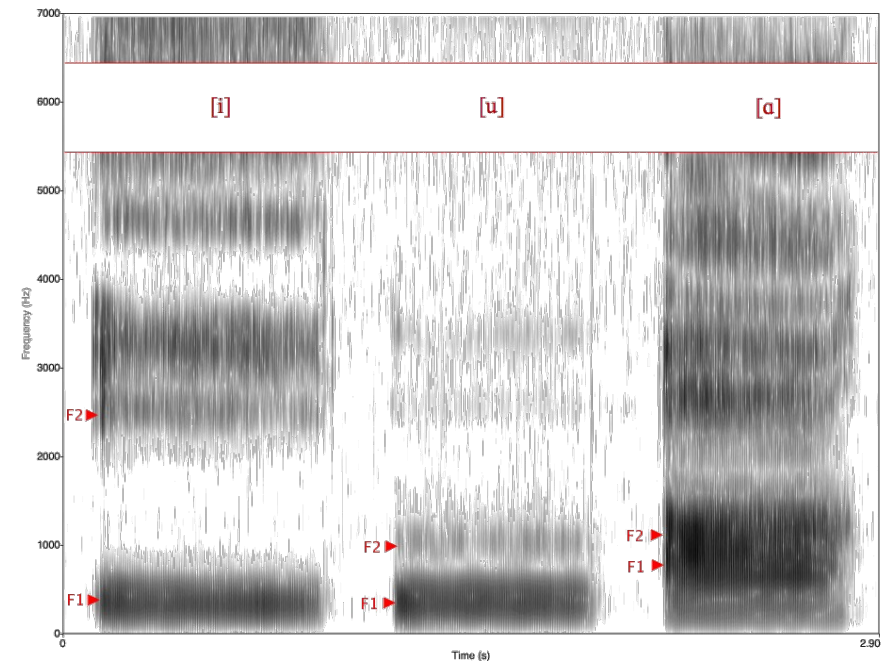
- a narrow window
- averages over the harmonic detail

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Formant Structure

The choice of window defines the time-frequency resolution.

- a wide window shows more harmonic detail
- a narrow window averages over the harmonic detail
- shows more formant structure
- "a range of frequencies in which there is an absolute or relative maximum in the sound spectrum"
- Spectrogram of American English vowels [i, u, a] showing the formants F1 and F2

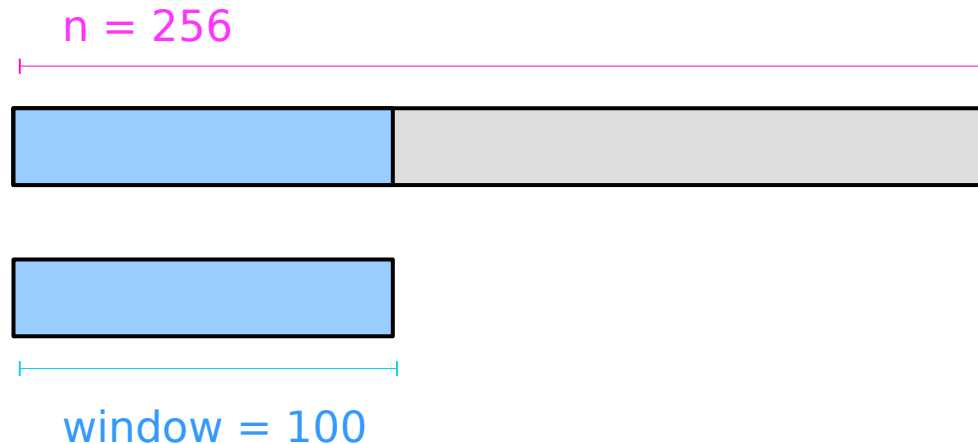
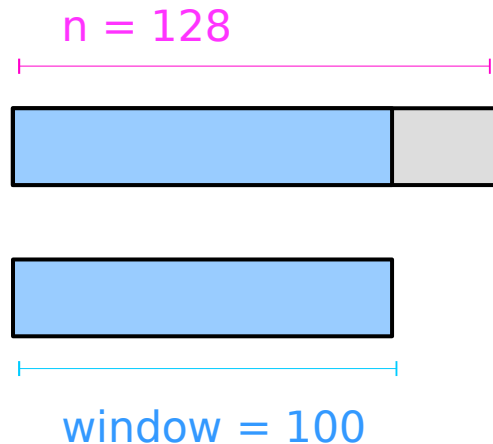


<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formant>

# FFT Length

**FFT length** controls the vertical scale.

Selecting an FFT length *greater* than the window length does not add any information to the spectrum  
a good way to **interpolate** between frequency points  
which can make for prettier spectrograms.



<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Normalization

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After you have generated the **spectral slices**

- the phase information is discarded
- the energy **normalized**:

```
S = abs(S);  
S = S/max(S(:));
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Dynamic Range

then the **dynamic range** of the signal is chosen.

eliminate any dynamic range at the bottom end

**max**(the magnitude,  $\text{minE}=-40\text{dB}$ )  
some minimum energy :  $\text{minE}=-40\text{dB}$ .  
if (the magnitude <  $\text{minE}$ ) then  $\text{minE}$

eliminate any dynamic range in the very top of the range

**min**(the magnitude,  $\text{maxE}=-3\text{dB}$ )  
some maximum energy :  $\text{maxE}=-3\text{dB}$ .  
if (the magnitude >  $\text{maxE}$ ) then  $\text{maxE}$

```
S = max(S, 10^(minE/10));  
S = min(S, 10^(maxE/10));
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>



# Frequency Range

the frequency range of the FFT is from  $[0, F_s/2]$

for band limited signal,  
no need to display the entire frequency range.

For the speech signal is below 4 kHz  
so there is no reason to display  
up to the Nyquist frequency of 10 kHz  
for a 20 kHz sampling rate.

$[0, 4000]$

$f_s/2 = 10$

$f_s = 20$

Only keep the first 40% of the rows  
of the returned  $S$  and  $f$ .

$[S, f, t]$

to display the frequency range  $[\text{minF}, \text{maxF}]$ ,

$\text{idx} = (f \geq \text{minF} \ \& \ f \leq \text{maxF});$

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Color Map

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A **brightness** varying colormap such as copper or bone gives good shape to the ridges and valleys.

A **hue** varying colormap such as jet or hsv gives an indication of the steepness of the slopes.

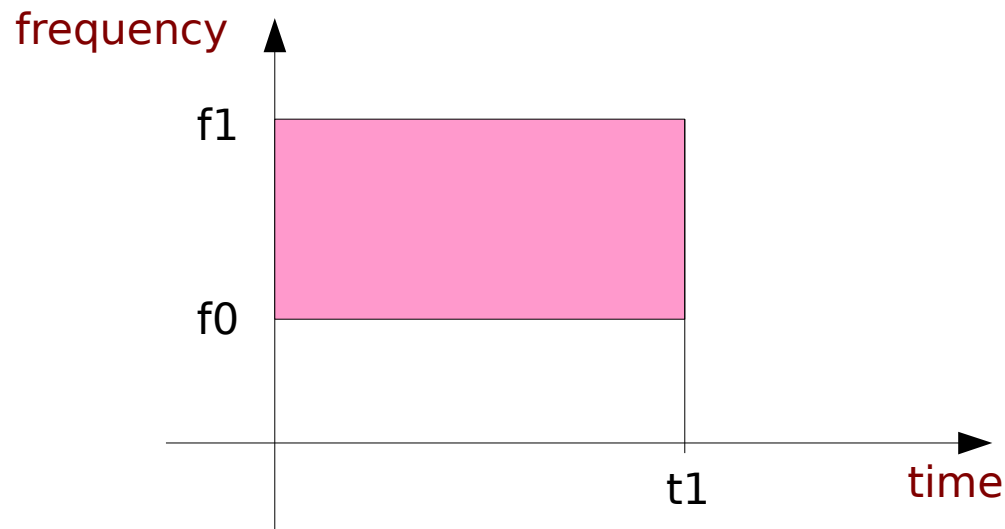
The final spectrogram is displayed in **log energy scale** and by convention has low frequencies on the bottom of the image:

```
imagesc(t, f, flipud(log(S(idx,:))));
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Chirp (1)

Function File: **chirp** (t)  
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0)  
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0, t1)  
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0, t1, f1)  
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0, t1, f1, form)  
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0, t1, f1, form, phase)



form

$$f(t) = (f_1 - f_0) \cdot \left(\frac{t}{t_1}\right) + f_0$$

$$f(t) = (f_1 - f_0) \cdot \left(\frac{t}{t_1}\right)^2 + f_0$$

$$f(t) = (f_1 - f_0) \left(\frac{t}{t_1}\right)^3 + f_0$$

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/chirp.html>

# Chirp (2)

Evaluate a chirp signal at time  $t$ .

A chirp signal is a frequency swept cosine wave.

<b>t</b>	vector of times to evaluate the chirp signal	
<b>f0</b>	frequency at time $t=0$	[ 0 Hz ]
<b>t1</b>	time $t1$	[ 1 sec ]
<b>f1</b>	frequency at time $t=t1$	[ 100 Hz ]
<b>form</b>	shape of frequency sweep	
	'linear' $f(t) = (f1-f0)*(t/t1) + f0$	
	'quadratic' $f(t) = (f1-f0)*(t/t1)^2 + f0$	
	'logarithmic' $f(t) = (f1-f0)^(t/t1) + f0$	
<b>phase</b>	phase shift at $t=0$	

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Chirp (3)

Example

```
specgram(chirp([0:0.001:5]));           # linear, 0-100Hz in 1 sec
```

```
specgram(chirp([-2:0.001:15], 400, 10, 100, 'quadratic'));
```

```
soundsc(chirp([0:1/8000:5], 200, 2, 500, "logarithmic"),8000);
```

If you want a different sweep shape  $f(t)$ , use the following:

$y = \cos(2\pi \int f(t) dt + 2\pi f_0 t + \text{phase})$ ;

```
x = chirp([0:0.001:2],0,2,500); # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Example 1 (1)

```
x = chirp([0:0.001:2],0,2,500); # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.  
Fs=1000; # sampled every 0.001 sec so rate is 1 kHz  
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000); # one spectral slice every 20 ms  
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000); # 100 ms data window  
specgram(x, 2^nextpow2(window), Fs, window, window-step);
```

$F_s = 1000 \text{ Hz} = 1 \text{ kHz}$

$T_s = 1/1000 \text{ sec} = 1 \text{ msec}$

step = 20 msec

window = 100 msec

x = x

n =  $2^{\text{nextpow2}(100)} = 2^7 = 128$

Fs = 1000

window = 100

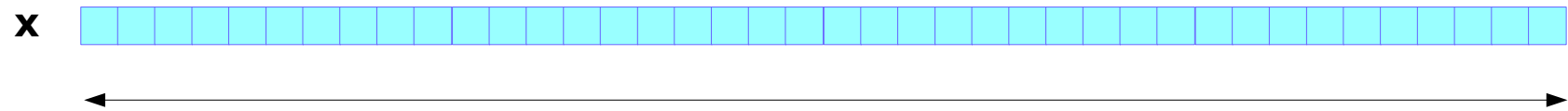
overlap =  $100 - 20 = 80$

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Example 1 (2)

$$F_s = 1000 \text{ Hz} = 1 \text{ kHz}$$
$$T_s = 1/1000 \text{ sec} = 1 \text{ msec}$$

$$\text{step} = 20 \text{ msec}$$
$$\text{window} = 100 \text{ msec}$$



2 sec

$$2 \text{ sec} * 1000 \text{ samples /sec} = 2000 \text{ samples}$$

$$20 \text{ msec} * 1 \text{ samples /msec} = 20 \text{ samples}$$

$$20 \text{ msec} * (F_s \text{ samples/sec}) / (1000 \text{ msec/sec})$$

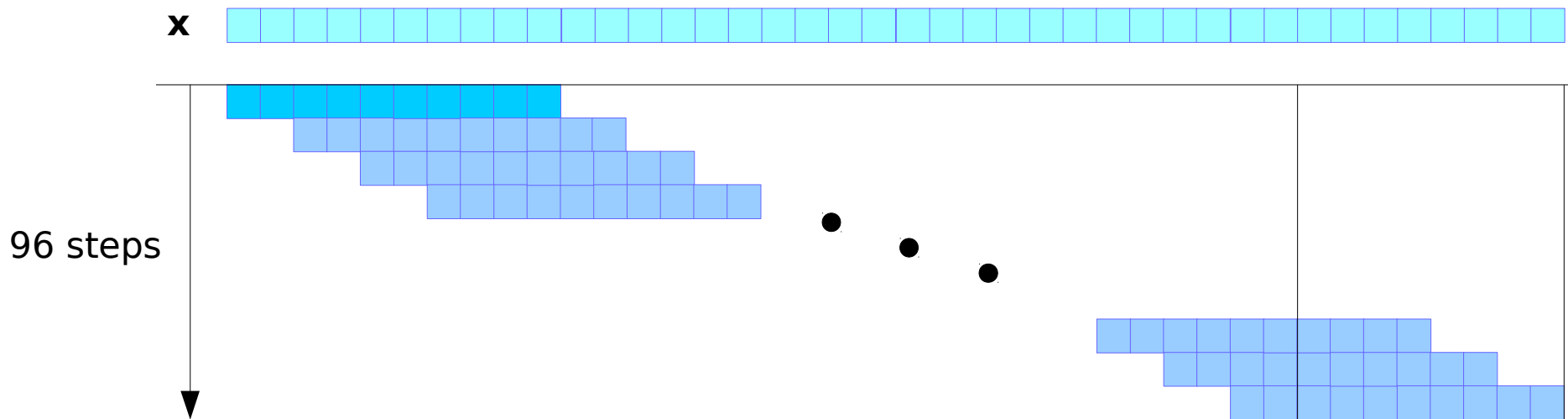
<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Example 1 (3)

$F_s = 1000 \text{ Hz} = 1 \text{ kHz}$   
 $T_s = 1/1000 \text{ sec} = 1 \text{ msec}$

step = 20 msec : 20 samples  
window = 100 msec : 100 samples

2000 samples = 96 steps \* 20 samples /step + 80 samples  
= (1920 + 80) samples



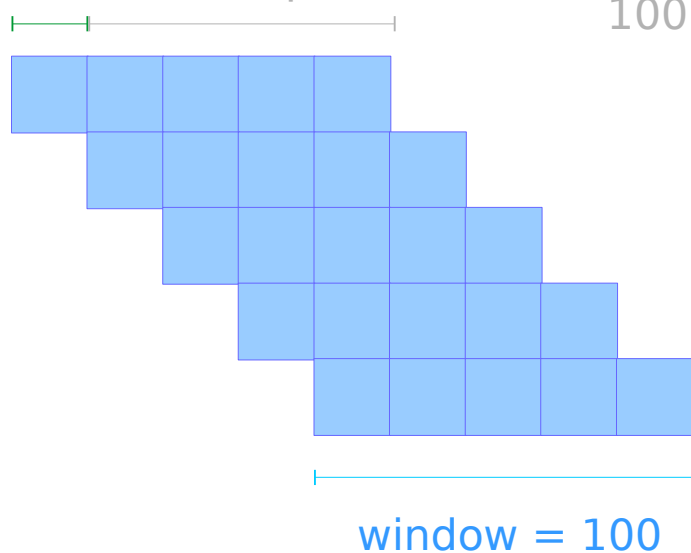
<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>



# Example 1 (4)

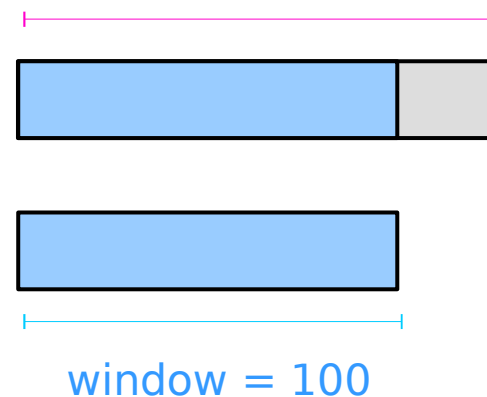
```
x = chirp([0:0.001:2],0,2,500); # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.  
Fs=1000; # sampled every 0.001 sec so rate is 1 kHz  
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000); # one spectral slice every 20 ms  
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000); # 100 ms data window  
specgram(x, 128, Fs, 100, 80);
```

step = 20      overlap=80



a sample : 0.001 sec = 1 msec  
20 samples : 20 msec  
100 samples : 100 msec

n = 128



<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

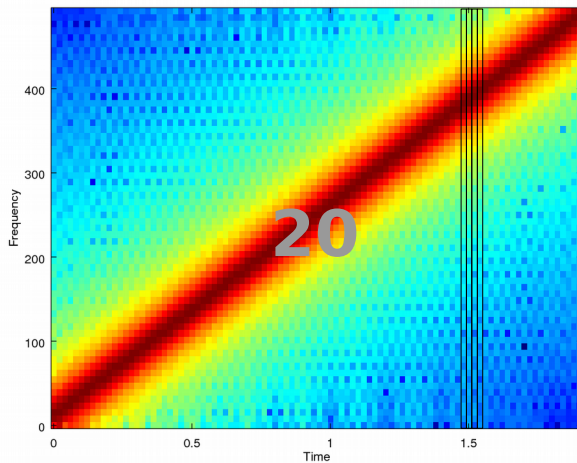
# Example 1 (5)

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

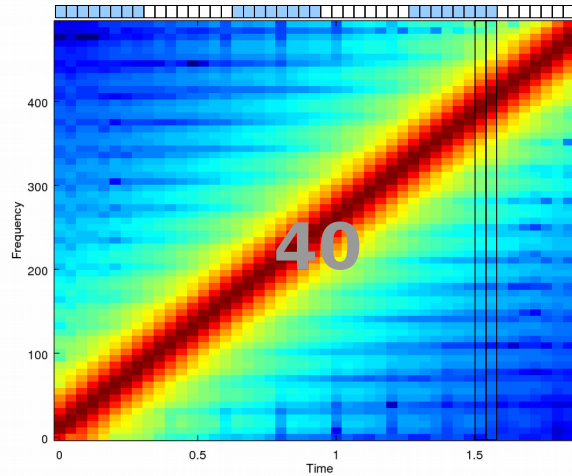
```
Fs=1000;  
x = chirp([0:1/Fs:2],0,2,500);  
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000);  
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000);
```

```
# freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.  
# one spectral slice every 20 ms  
# 100 ms data window
```

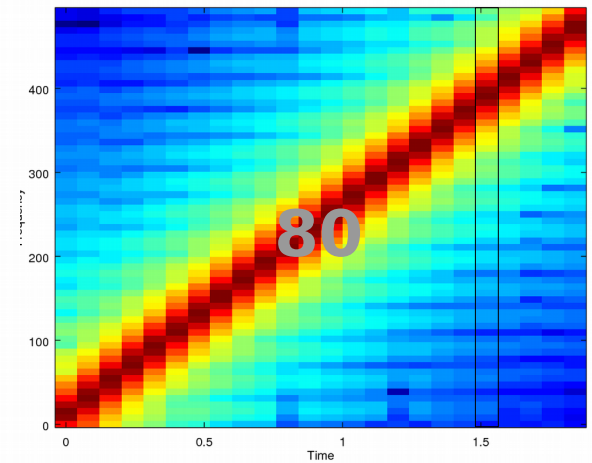
```
## test of automatic plot  
[S, f, t] = specgram(x);  
specgram(x, 2^nextpow2(window), Fs, window, window-step);
```



step=20msec  
96 steps



step=40msec  
48 step



step=80msec  
24 steps

## Example 2

```
Fs=1000;
x = chirp([0:1/Fs:2],0,2,500);           # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000);                  # one spectral slice every 20 ms
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000);               # 100 ms data window

## test of automatic plot
[S, f, t] = specgram(x);
specgram(x, 2^nextpow2(window), Fs, window, window-step);
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

## Example 2

```
x = chirp([0:0.001:2],0,2,500); # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.
Fs=1000; # sampled every 0.001 sec so rate is 1 kHz
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000); # one spectral slice every 20 ms
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000); # 100 ms data window
specgram(x, 2^nextpow2(window), Fs, window, window-step);

## Speech spectrogram
[x, Fs] = audioload(file_in_loadpath("sample.wav")); # audio file
step = fix(5*Fs/1000); # one spectral slice every 5 ms
window = fix(40*Fs/1000); # 40 ms data window
fftn = 2^nextpow2(window); # next highest power of 2
[S, f, t] = specgram(x, fftn, Fs, window, window-step);
S = abs(S(2:fftn*4000/Fs,:)); # magnitude in range 0<f<=4000 Hz.
S = S/max(S(:)); # normalize magnitude so that max is 0 dB.
S = max(S, 10^(-40/10)); # clip below -40 dB.
S = min(S, 10^(-3/10)); # clip above -3 dB.
imagesc (t, f, log(S)); # display in log scale
set (gca, "ydir", "normal"); # put the 'y' direction in the correct direction
```

<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

## References

- [1] F. Auger, Signal Processing with Free Software : Practical Experiments