

Human Body as a signal source

Signal processing

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# Human Body as signal source

Signals in medicine

Information content of signals

Signal detection - transducers

Explained through examples  
there are endless possibilities

## Signals in medicine

$$H = \sum p * \log_2 \frac{1}{p}$$

**Signal** is something which carries **Information**

Information content in Bits

**Human body as signal source:** everything which is a signal, and comes from the body

Here in the cartoon:

**Information** : Head or Tail?

**Signal:**

- Optical: we simply look at the coin, and see the image
- Digital: after **encoding**: 1/0



"I wish I could be as calm as JB when it comes to making decisions."

# Transmitting information – information coding

in general

Information **source**

encoding

Transmission **channel**

decoding

Information receiver  
**destination**



an example

Which side is up?

encoding



Sides : Head or Tail  
**into Numbers: 1,0**

Speech, waves in the air, sms

decoding

1,0 → head, tail



**Decide who wins**

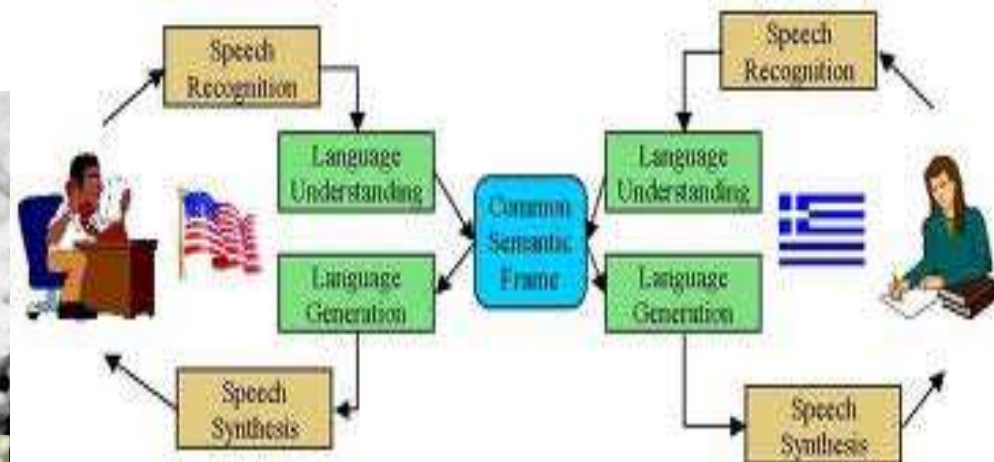
$$H = P_{tail} * \log_2 \frac{1}{P_{tail}} + P_{head} * \log_2 \frac{1}{P_{head}} = \frac{1}{2} * \log_2 \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} * \log_2 \frac{1}{2} = 1 \text{ [Bit]}$$

## Signals in medicine

Signal is something which carries Information



Eugene Debs 1918 Ohio



Here in speech:

Information : „what we say”

Signal:

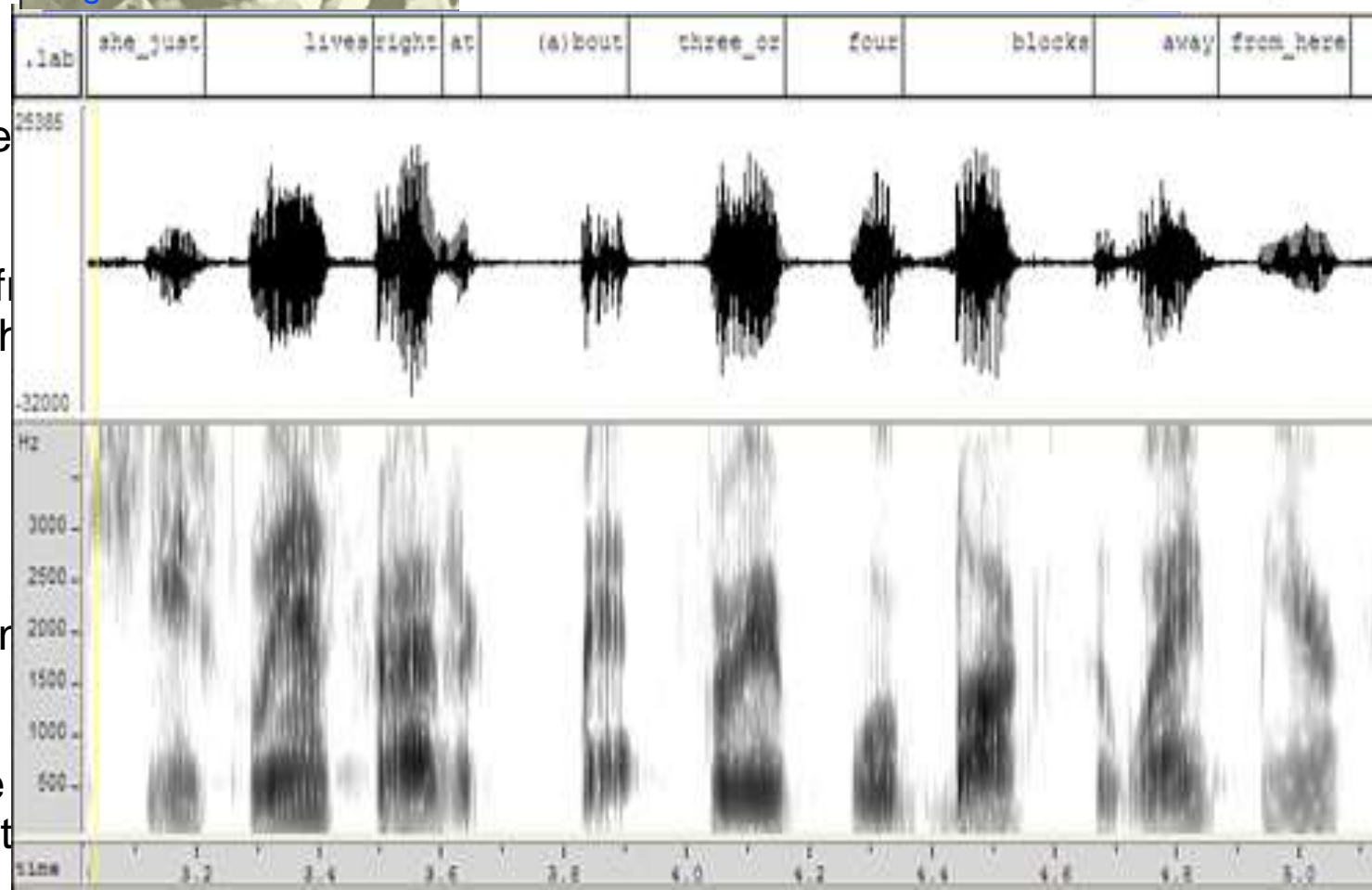
- Audio: pressure wave in the air

- encoding: electrical signal from Microphone

- encoding: formal grammar

- decoding: electrical to Mechanical (loudspeaker)

- decoding: natural language understanding



# Medical signal processing chain

Patient as  
information source



transducer

coding

amplifier

Electric  
signal

Any kind of signal  
from the human body  
(electric or not)

Analog side (obsolete now)

Coding

Signal  
selection

Display

A/D  
Conversion

computer

coding

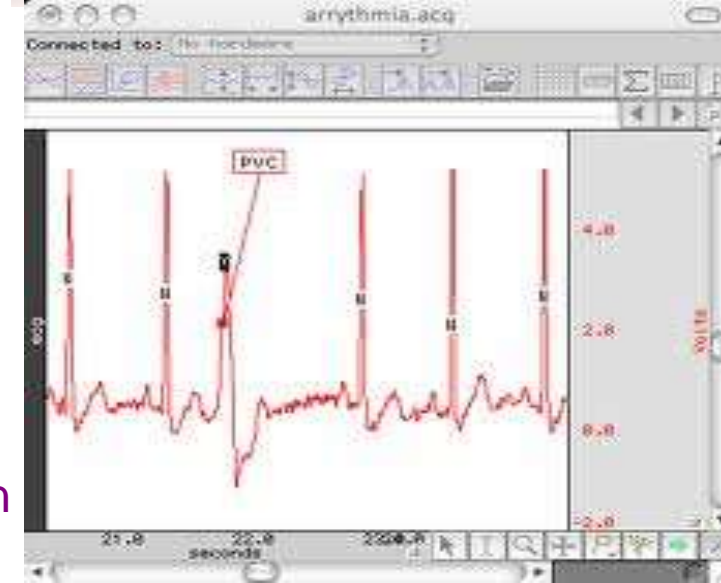
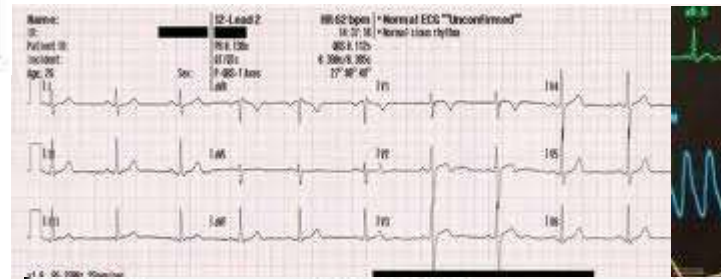
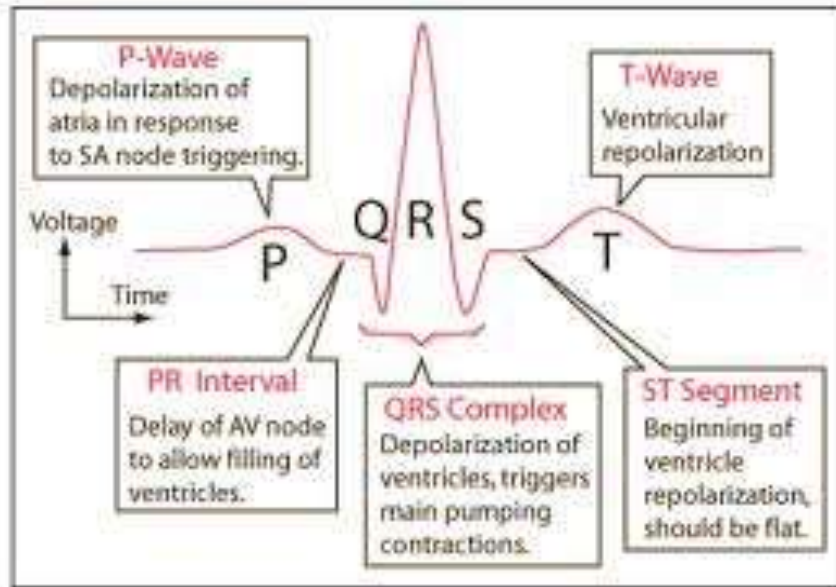
Digital chain



Decoding  
and Diagnosis



# Signals in medicine



Information: Heart cycle

ECG: Electro CardioGraphy

Signal:  
Original: voltage across points  
(eg. two arms)

Encoding: None,  
But Filtering required  
Removal of unwanted portion of the signal

## Signals in medicine

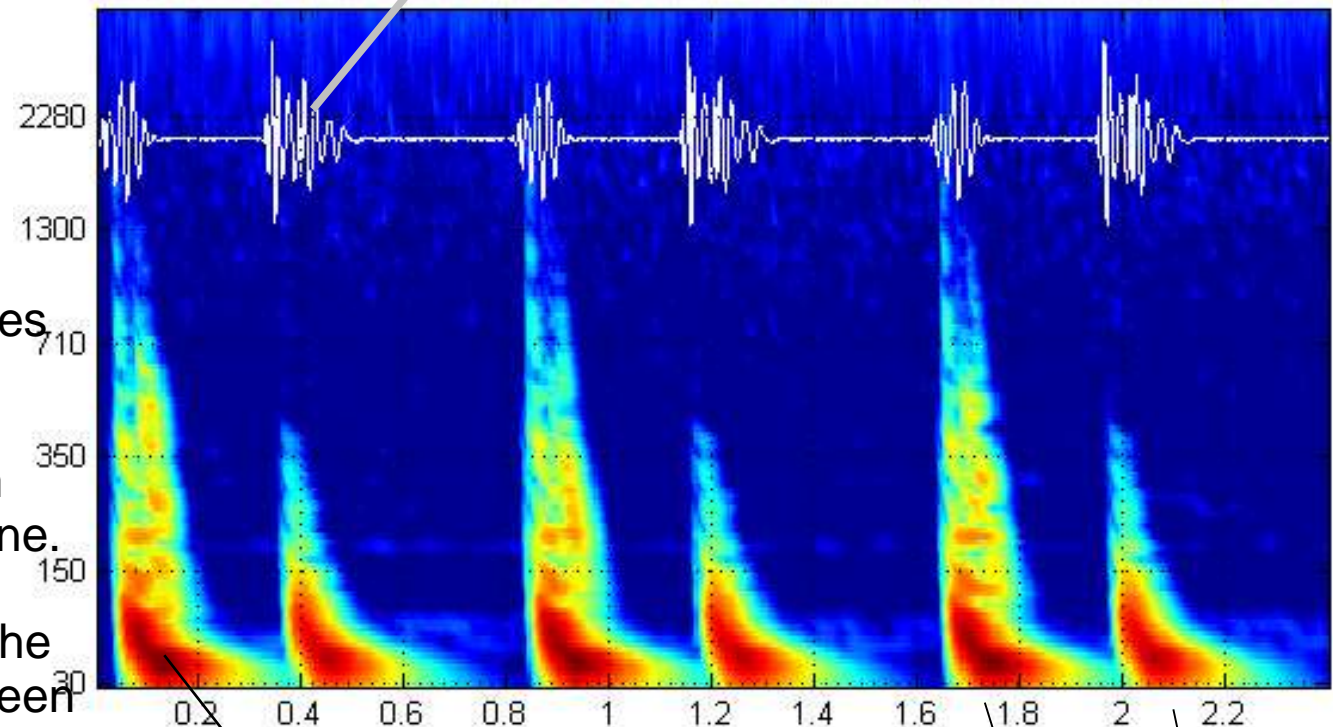
Heart beat

Signal:  
Original:

Encoded: electrical signal from  
the microphone.

Encoded: Coloured image on the  
computer screen  
(frequency spectrum)

Sound  
intensity vs.  
time



Frequency components  
(see Fourier later)

Systole Diastole

Information: Heart cycle parameters, anatomical and flow problems.



# Signals in medicine

PET: Positron Emission Tomography

Signal:

Original:

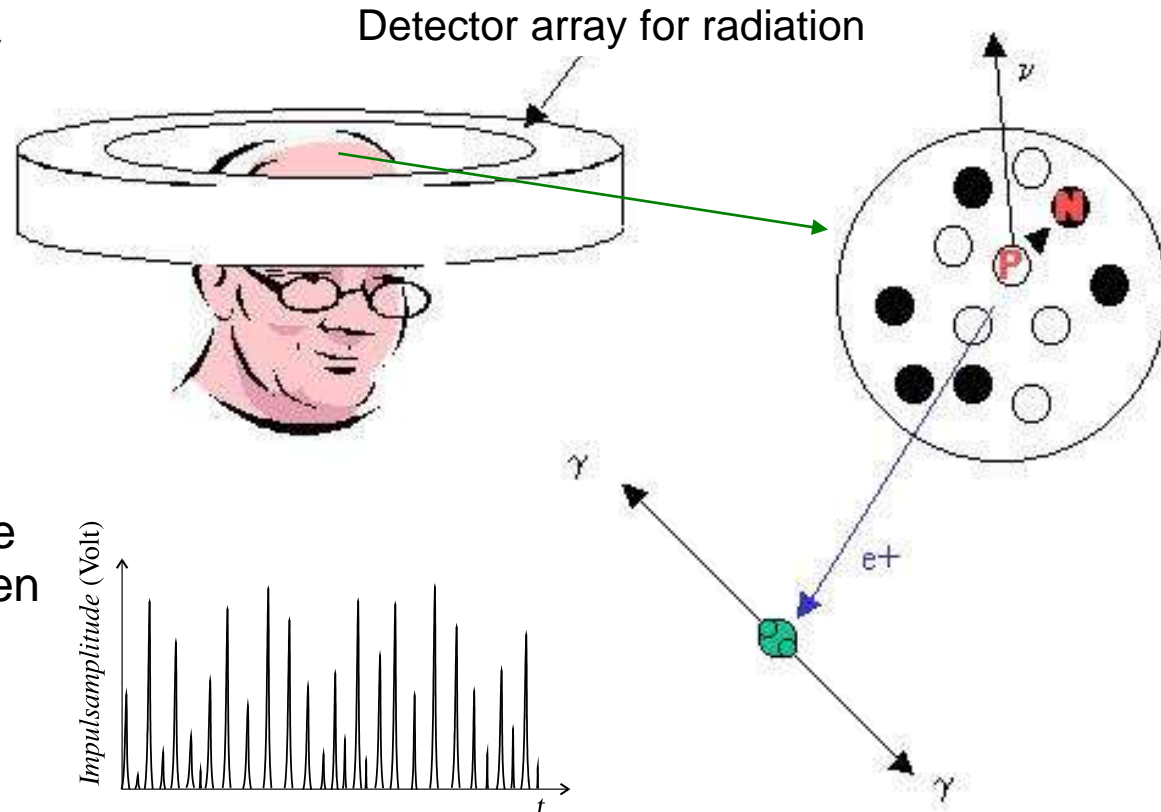
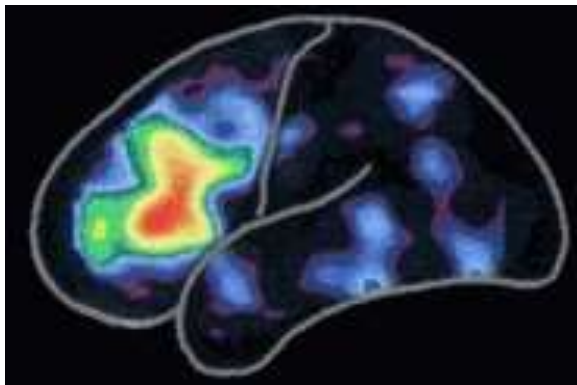
$\gamma$ -photons

Encoded:

electrical pulses from the detector.

Encoded:

Coloured image on the computer screen

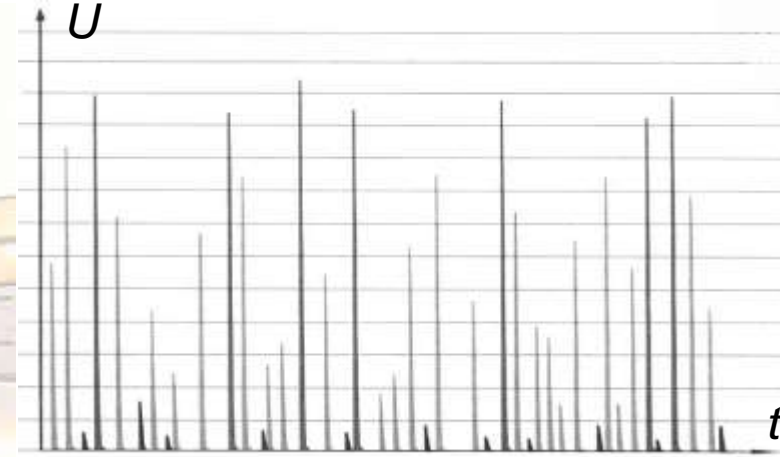


Information: Location of drug, labeling molecule, etc.

# Signals in medicine

SPET-CT:  
Single Photon Emission  
Computed Tomography

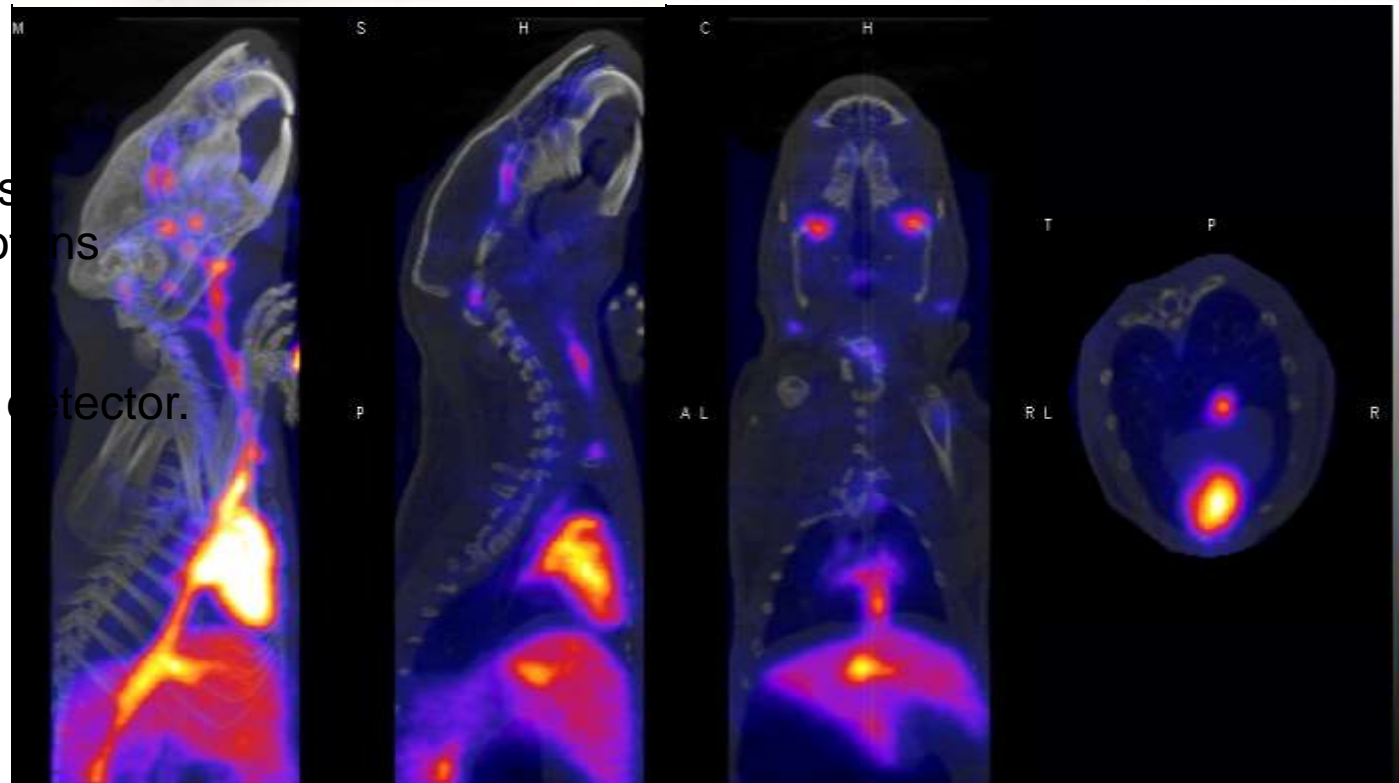
Computer Tomography



Signal:  
Original:  $\gamma$ -photons  
X-ray photons

Encoded: electrical pulses  
From the detector.

Encoded: Coloured image  
Information:  
Anatomy (X-ray)  
Label (disease, etc)



# Signals in medicine



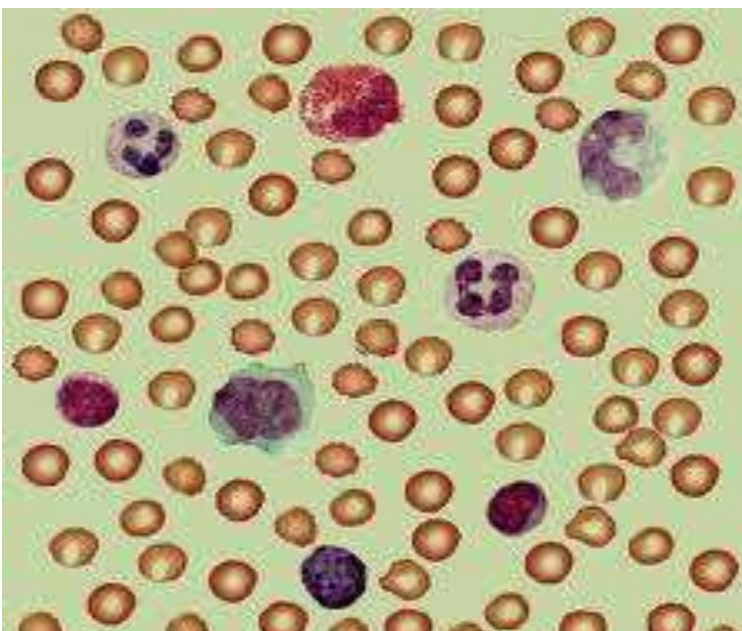
Heart beat

Signal:  
Original: Cell types and count in unit volume

Encoded: electrical signal from the cell sorter.

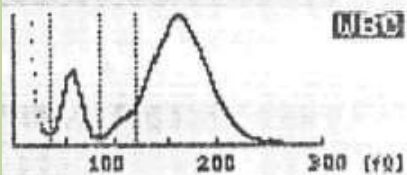
Encoded: Areas under the histogram

Information: Blood composition

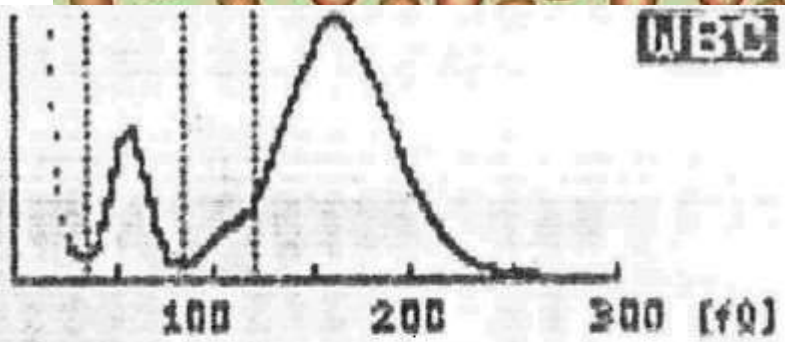


No. 3524  
DATE: 93/ 3/30 09:22  
MODE: WHOLE BLOOD

WBC	7.5x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl
RBC	3.64x10 <sup>6</sup> /μl
HGB	11.8 g/dl
HCT	33.1 %
MCV	90.9 fl
MCH	32.4 pg
MCHC	35.6 g/dl
PLT	158x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl



LYMPH%	16.2	%
MXD %	6.7	%
NEUT%	77.1	%
LYMPH#	1.2x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	
MXD #	0.5x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	
NEUT#	5.8x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	



LYMPH%	16.2	%
MXD %	6.7	%
NEUT%	77.1	%
LYMPH#	1.2x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	
MXD #	0.5x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	
NEUT#	5.8x10 <sup>3</sup> /μl	



RDW-SD	38.1	fl
PDW	14.0	fl
MPV	10.5	fl
P-LCR	31.1	%

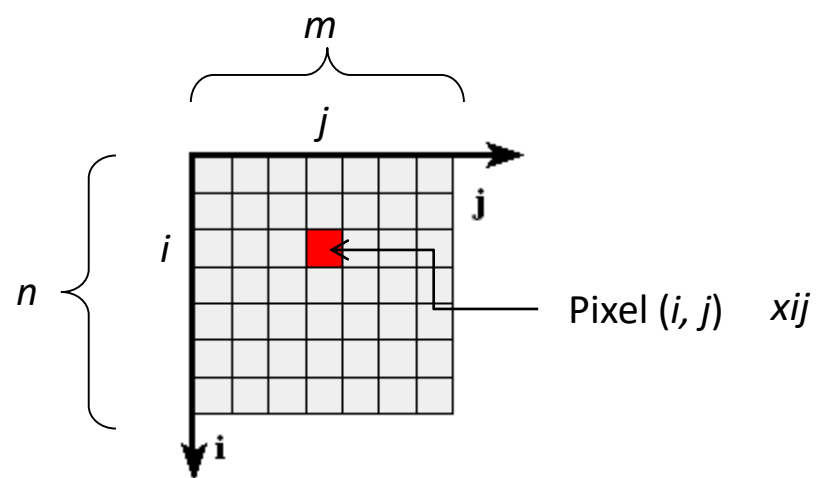
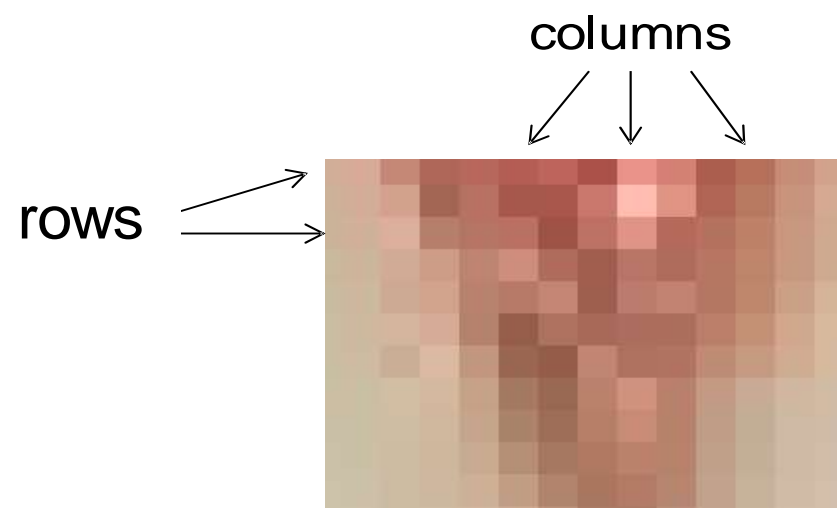
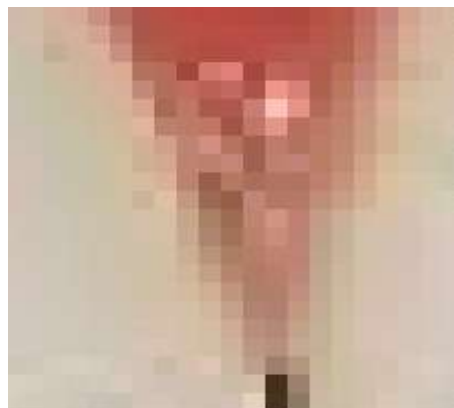
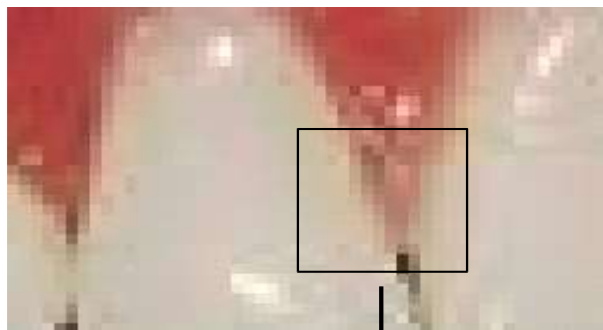
## Basics of medical imaging:

Pixel

Voxel

Image

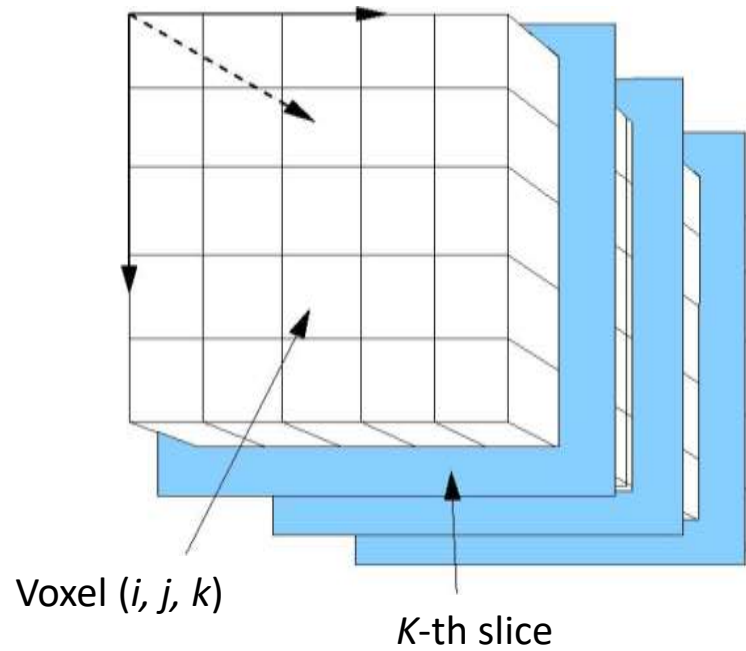
Tomogram

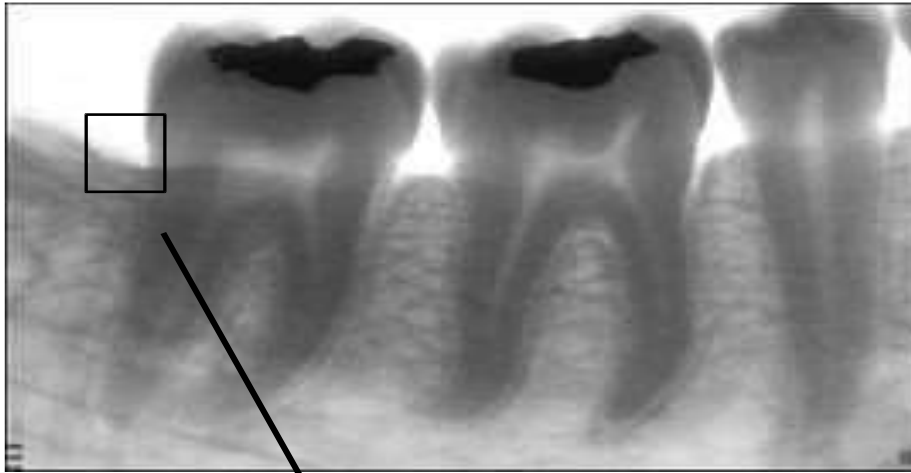




A 3D model can be made from  
Joining many 2D slices together.

The reconstruction volume is thus  
a box



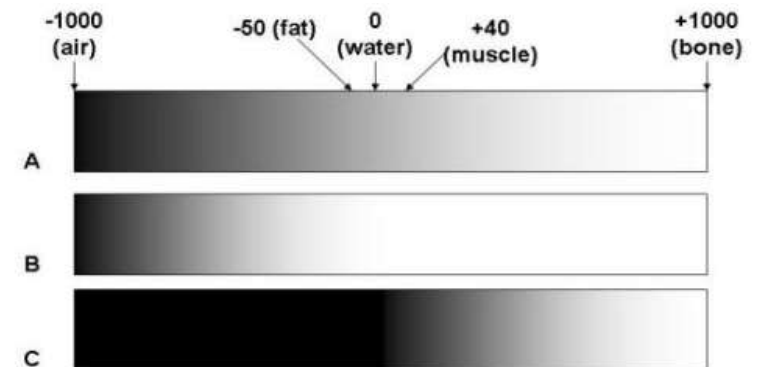


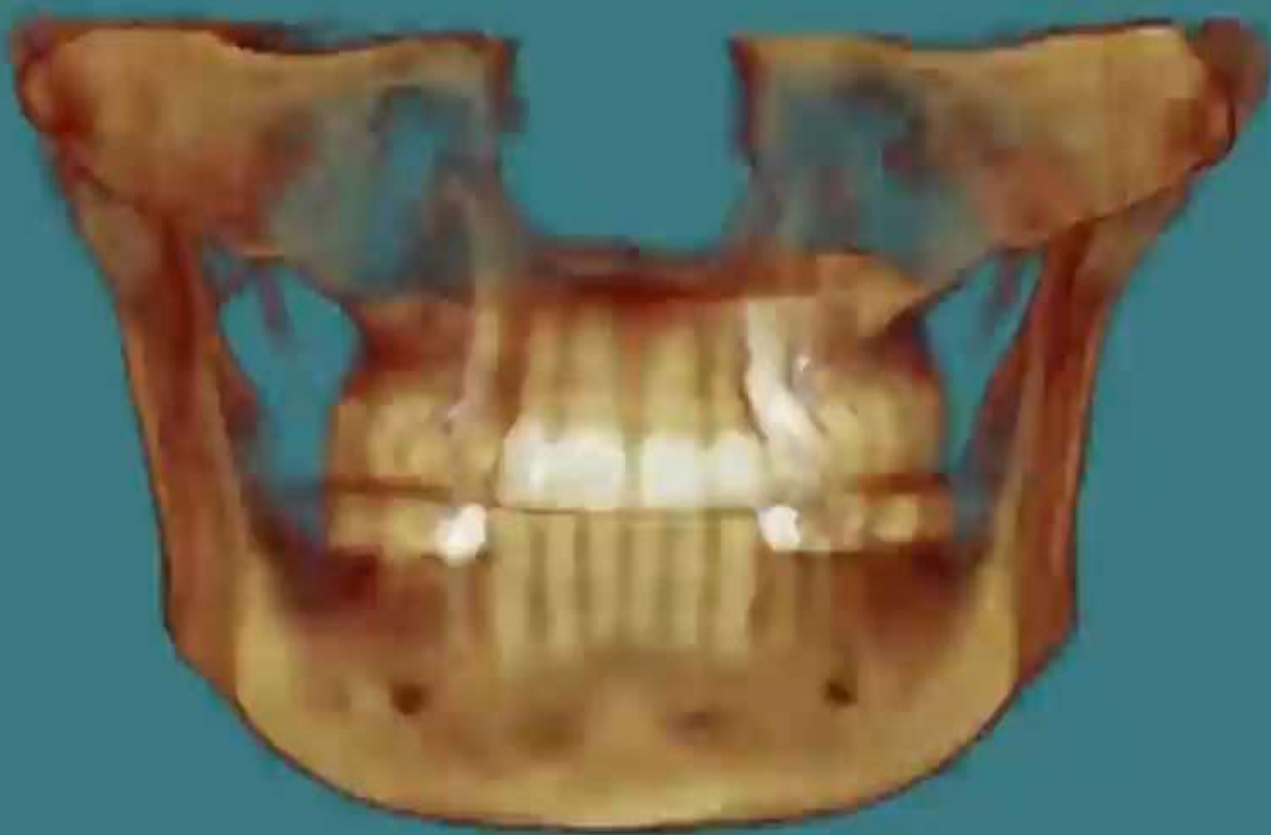
Windowing:

Only show a specific part of the full scale.

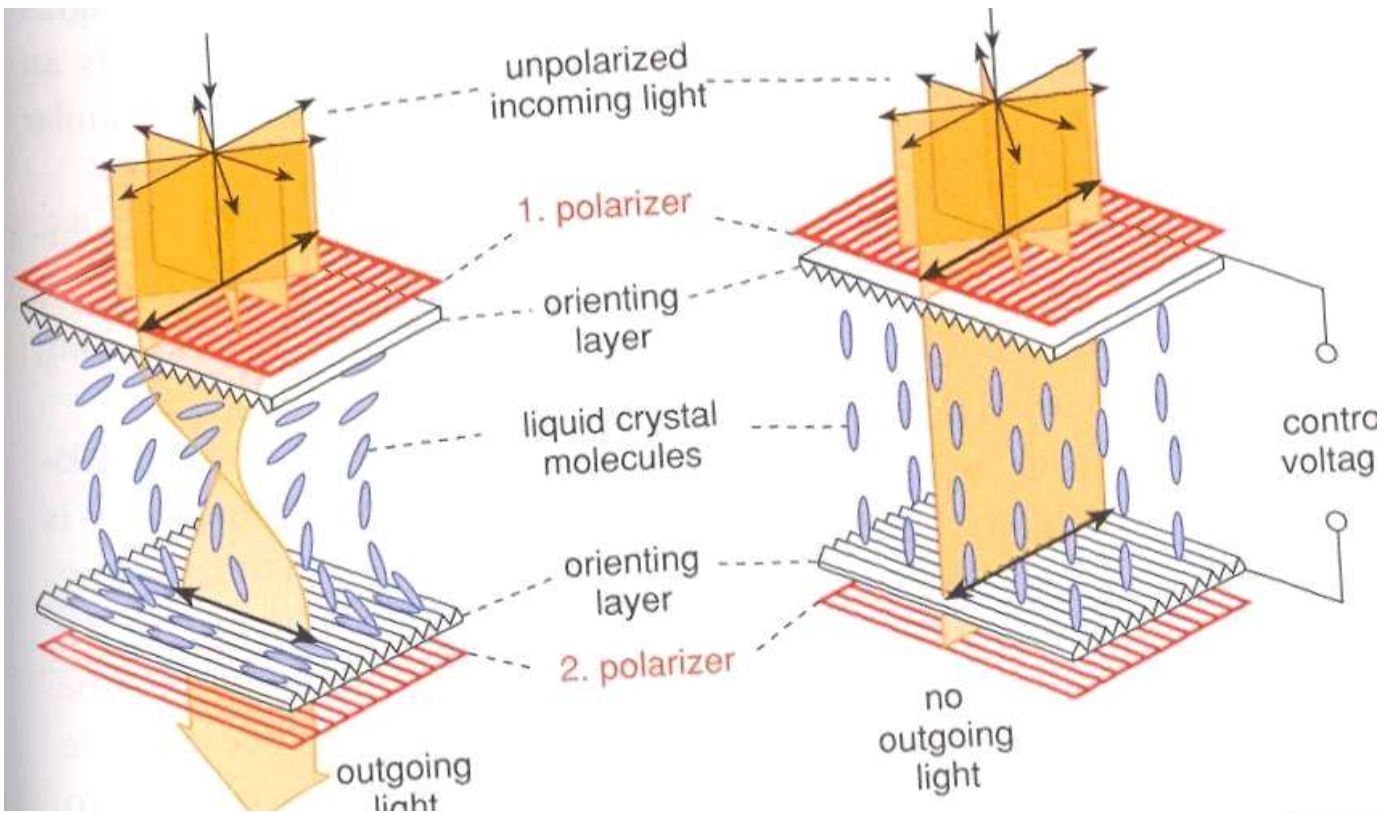
Reason: the human eye can not differentiate too many colors/brightness values

Gray scales of a CT image at different „windows”.



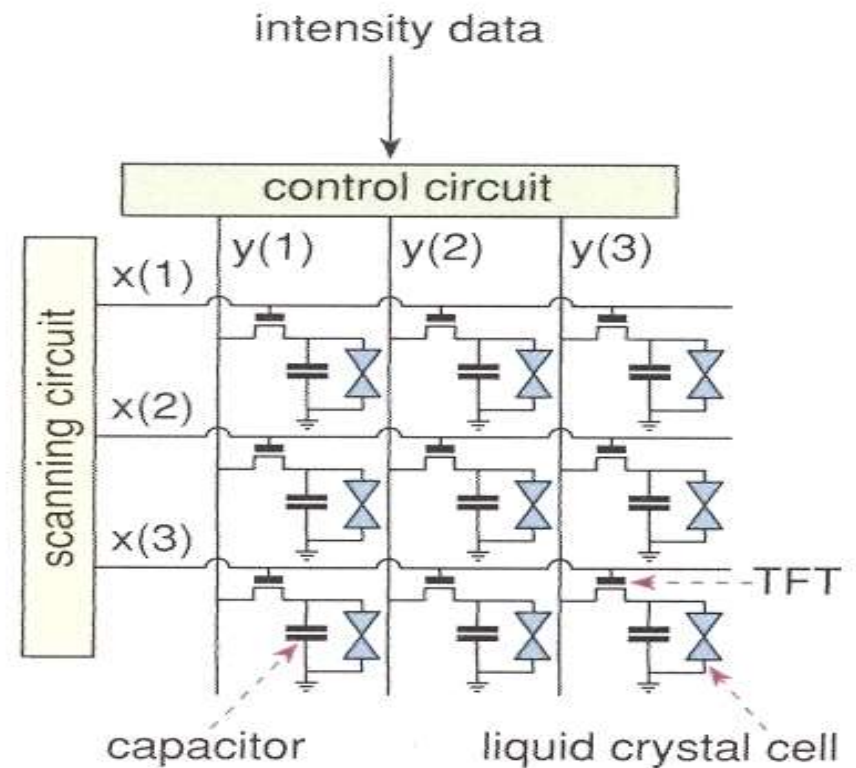


## Liquid Crystal Display

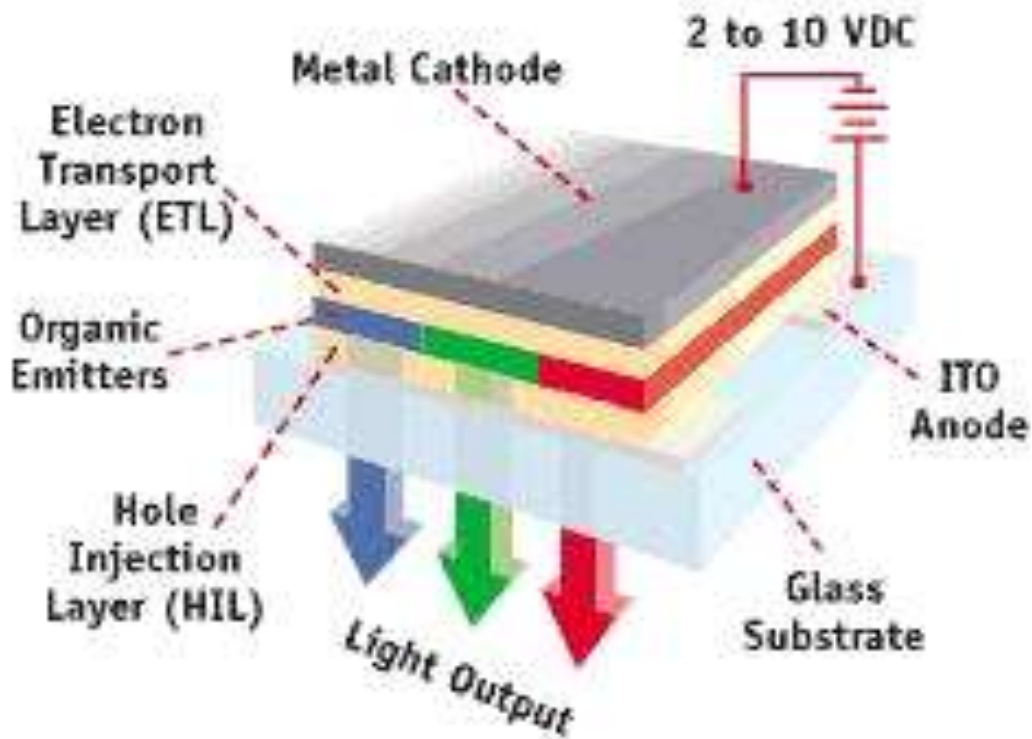


## Thin Film Transistor display

A very thin (transparent) transistor layer switches each pixel. This improves the speed.

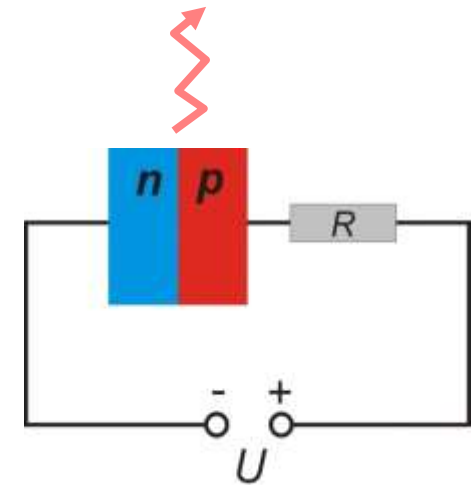


## OLED Structure

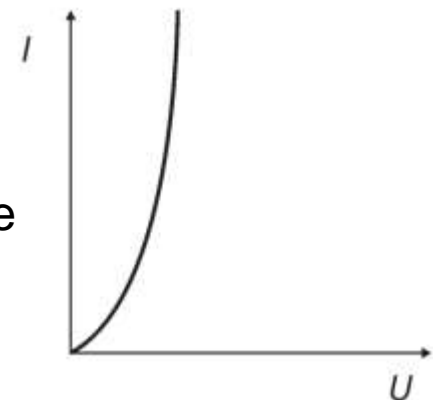


Structure of 1 pixel

# O(rganic)*LED displays*

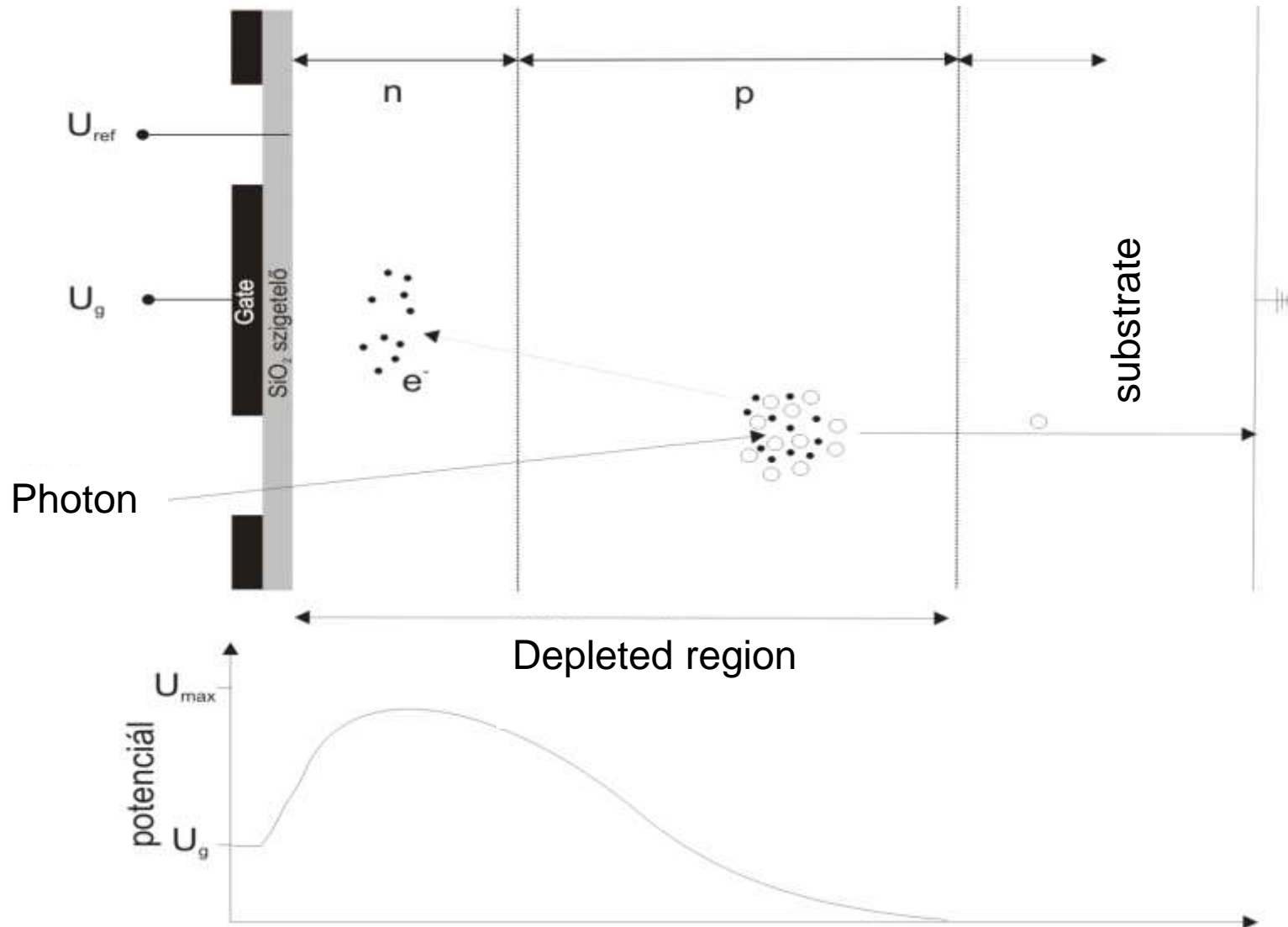


Light Emitting Diode





# Charge Coupled Device (CCD)



CCD-s are also used for X-ray imaging

# Signal processing

Types of signals

Electric signals – analog signal chain  
(amplifier, frequency response, Fourier theorem)

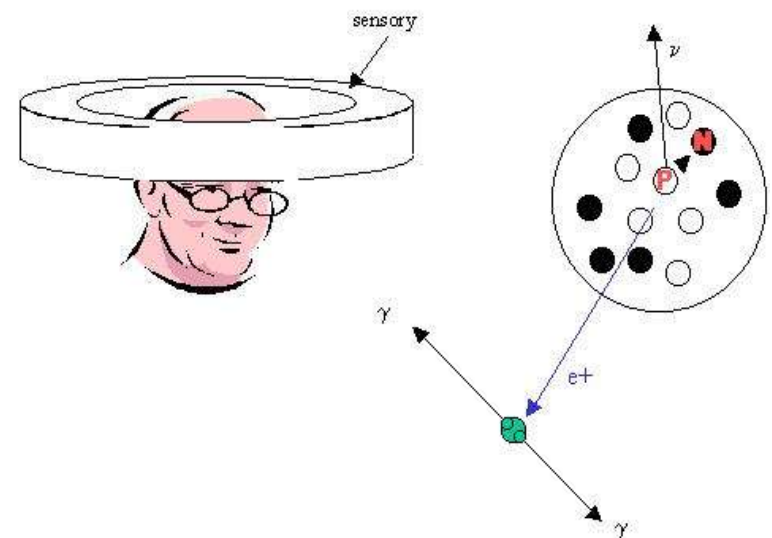
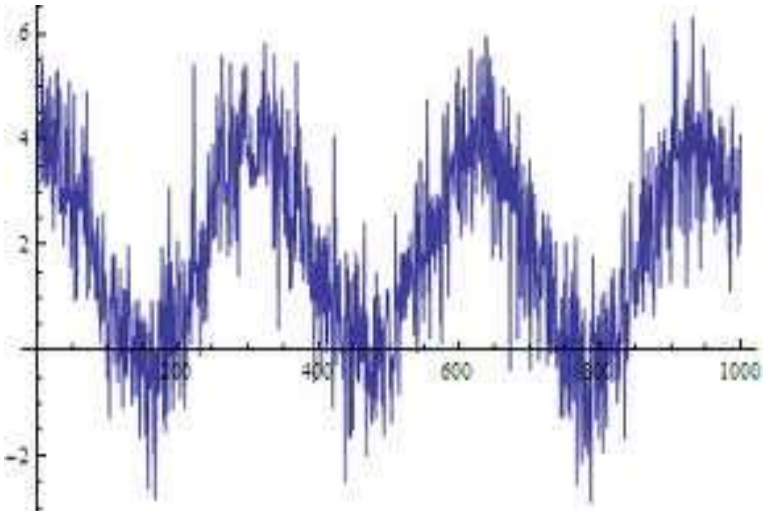
Digital signal processing (DSP)

## Types of signals

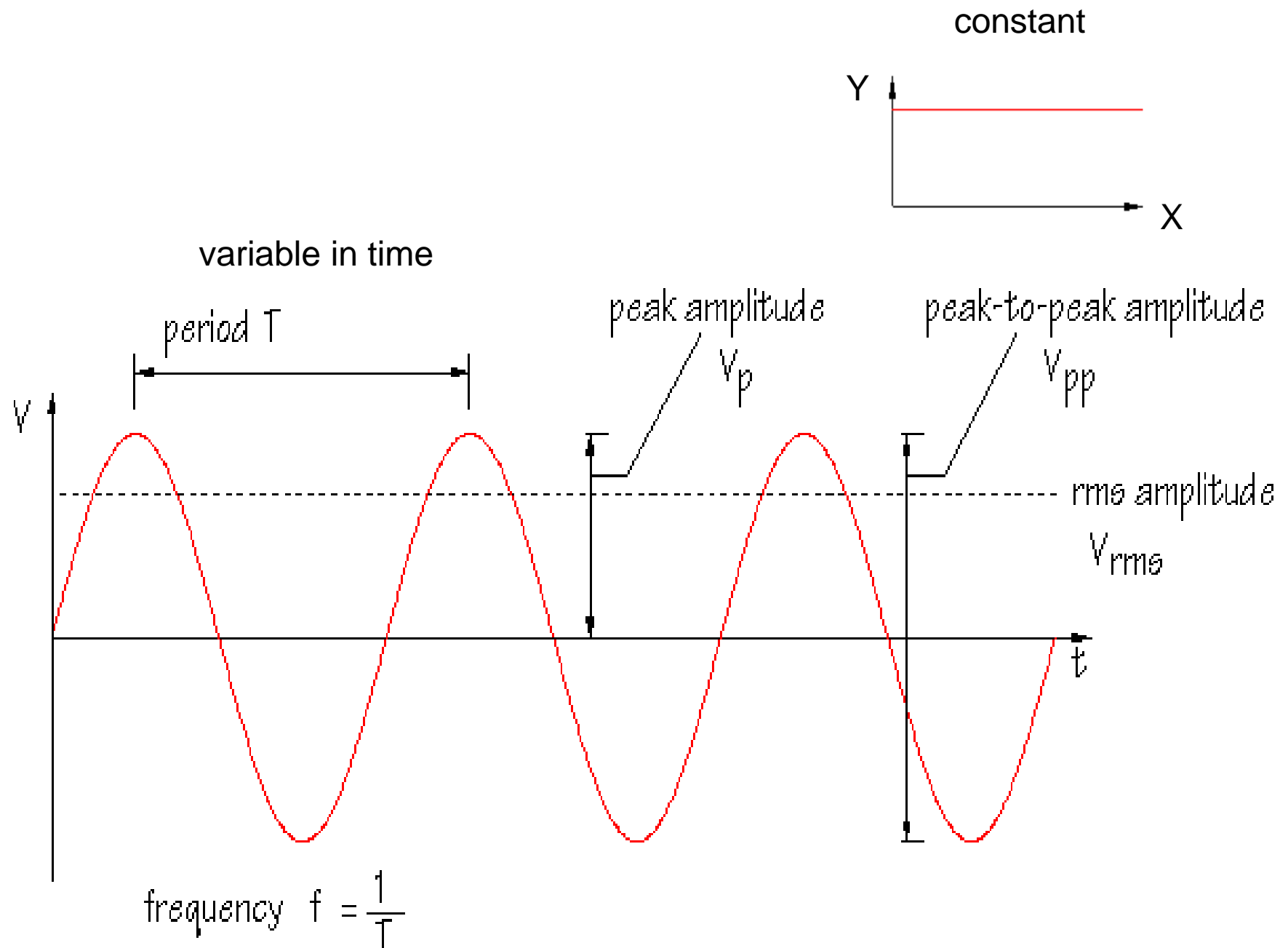
Electric



Not electric

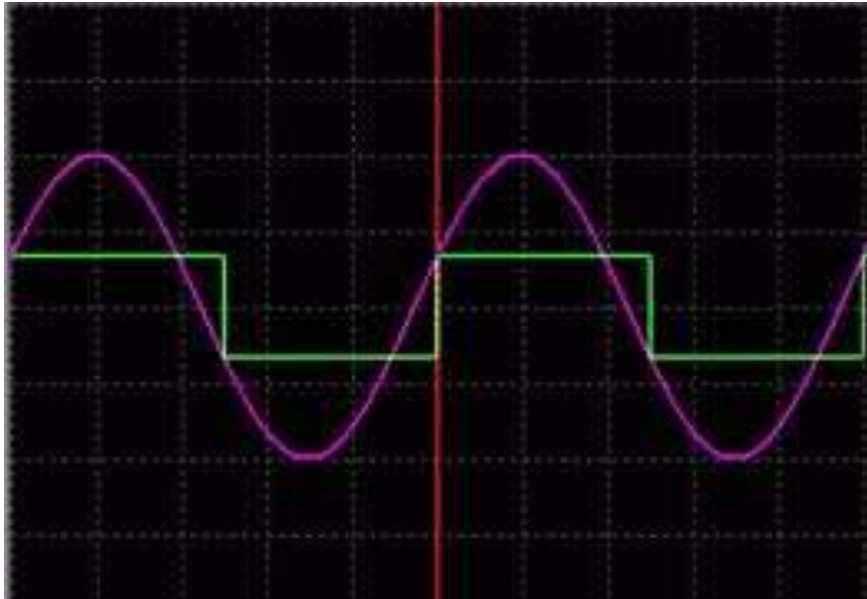


## Types of signals

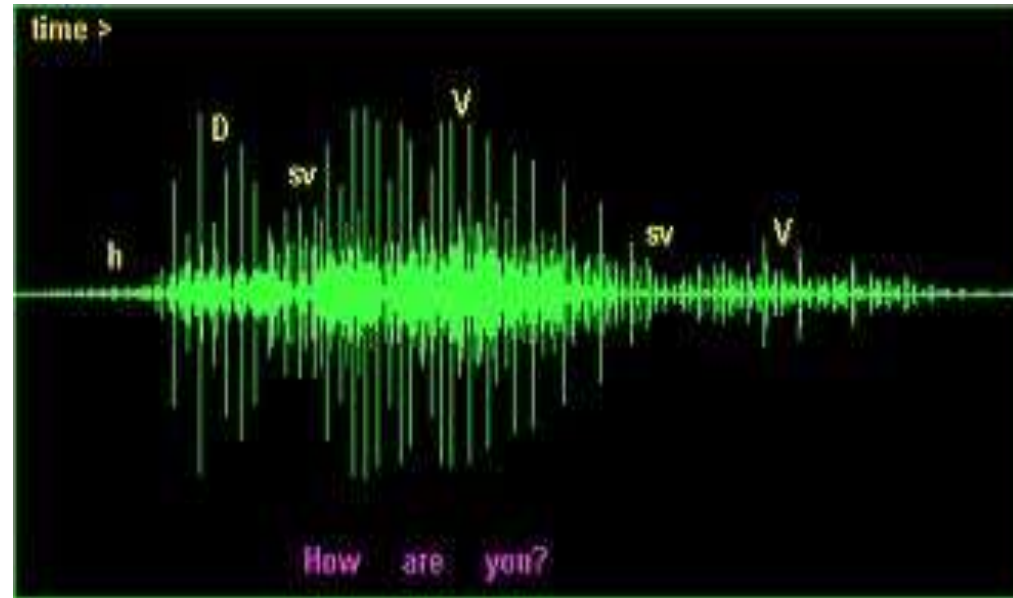


## Types of signals

Periodic



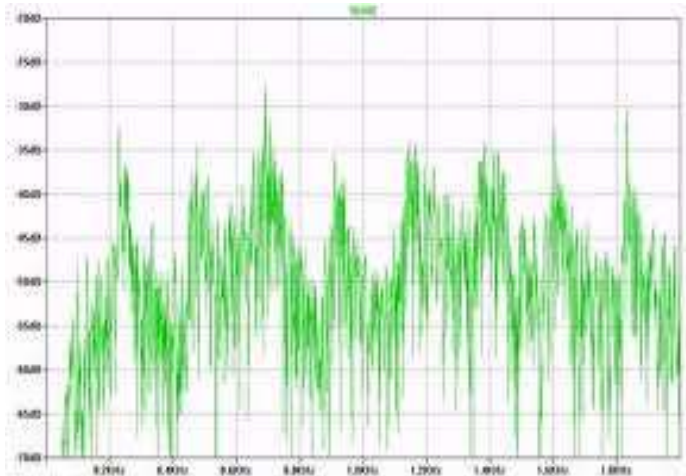
Not periodic



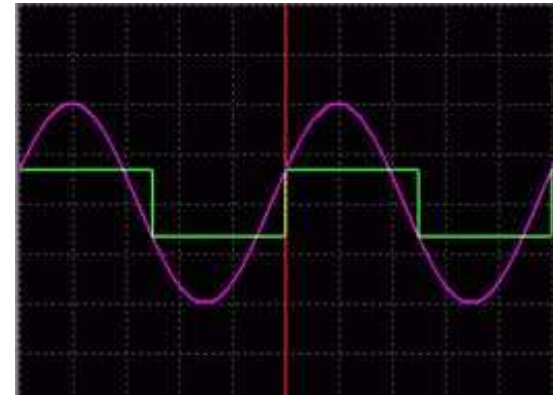


# Types of signals

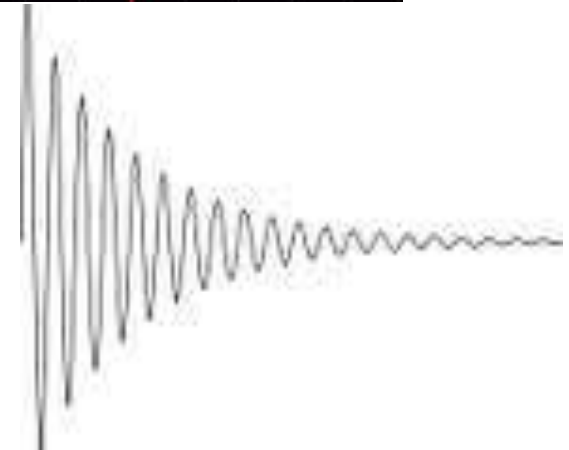
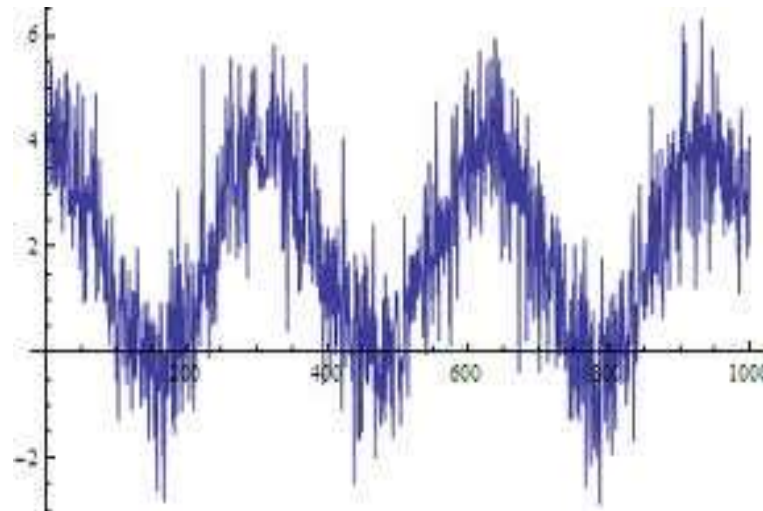
Random



Deterministic

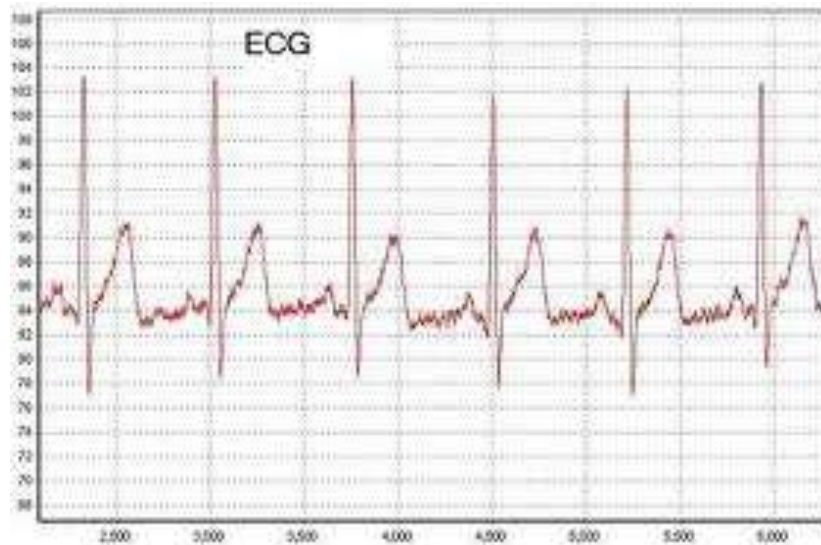
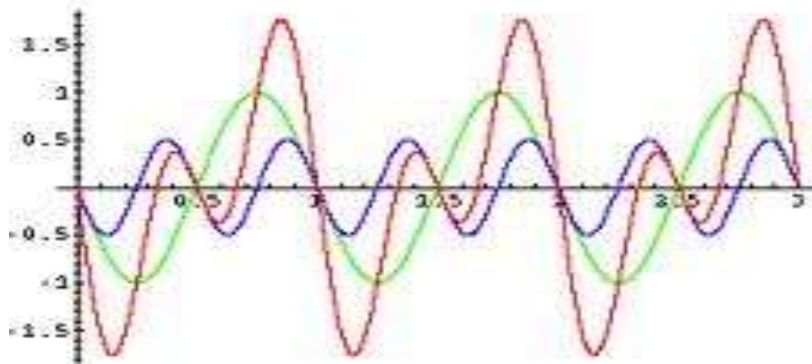


Mixed : most often!

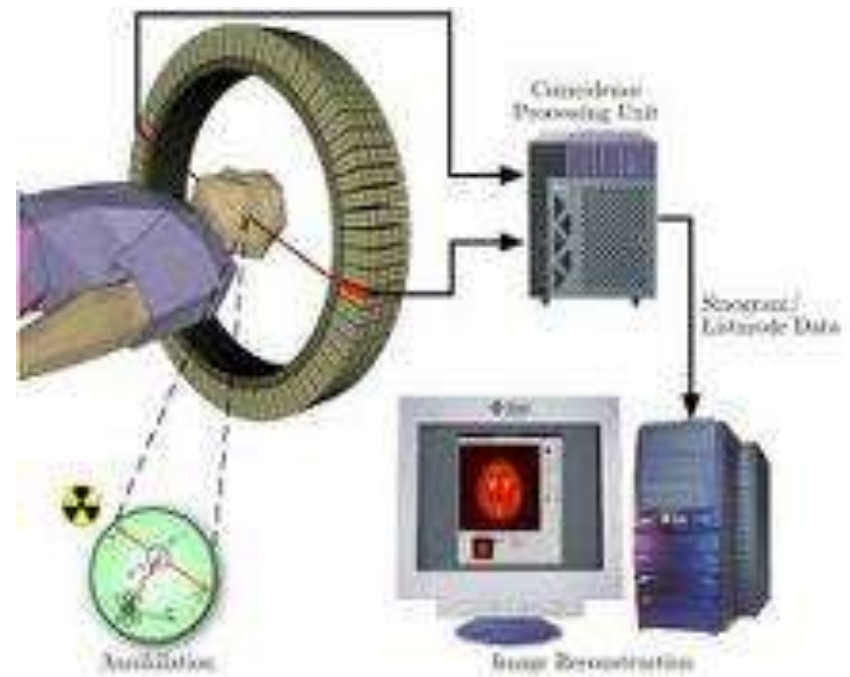
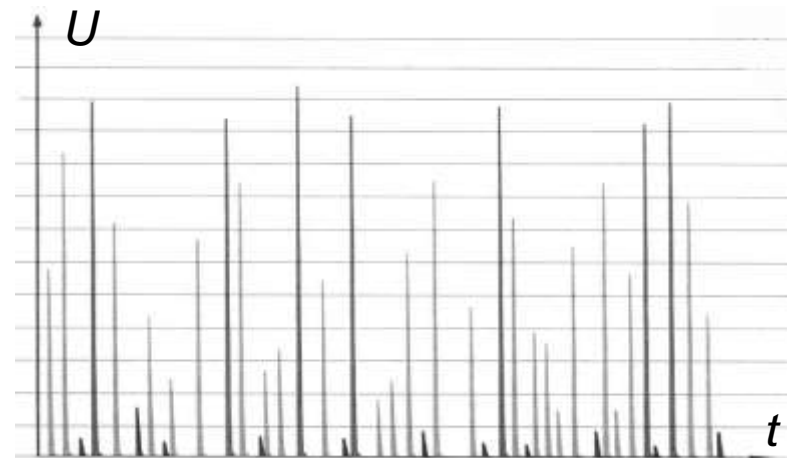


# Types of signals

Continuous

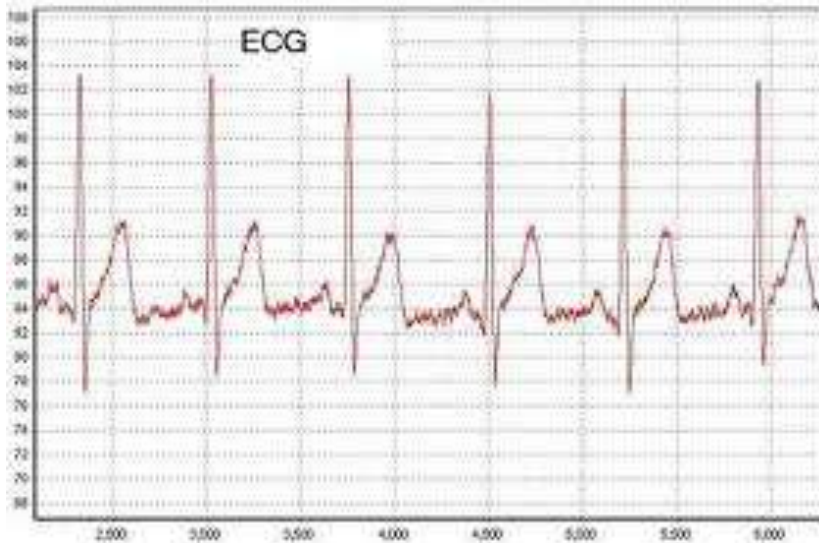


Pulses



# Types of signals

## Analog

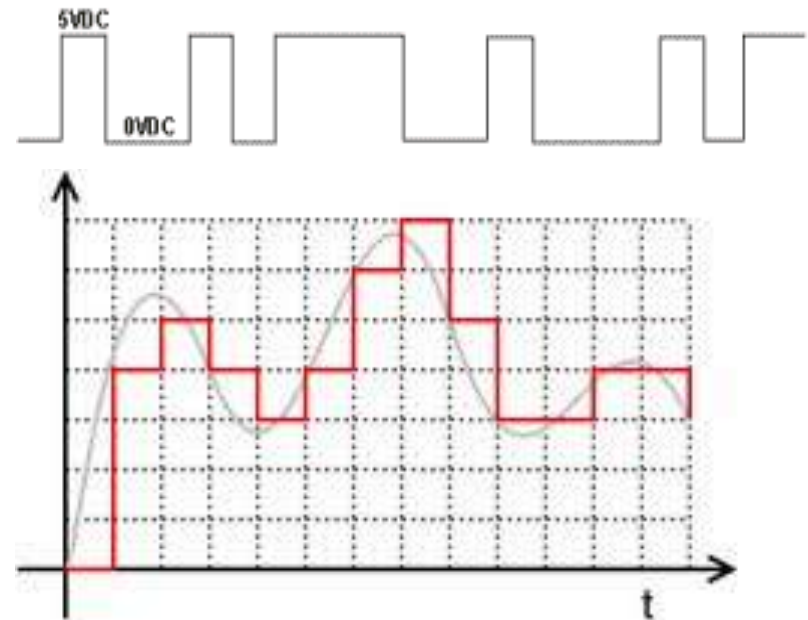


Theoretically unlimited resolution  
in time and magnitude  
(measurement system limit only)

## Digital

1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1

Unipolar Coding ("1" = +V , "0" = 0V )



Digital: represented with numbers

**Finite resolution**

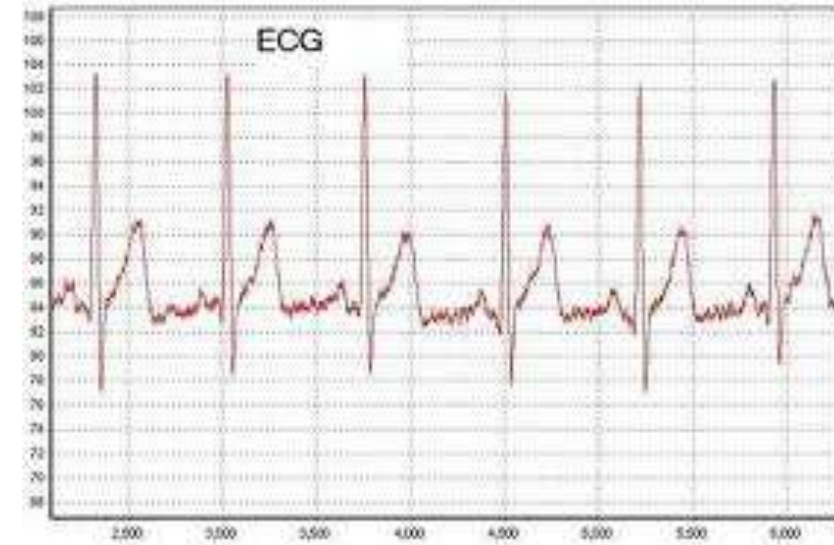
Digital signals are a form of  
**encoding** : digital to electrical  
electrical to d

## Information content of signals

Analog signals – infinite information content?

Do we really need **unlimited** resolution?

Do we even **have** unlimited resolution in real-life analog signals?



*Theoretically unlimited resolution*  
in time and magnitude  
(measurement system limit only)

No!

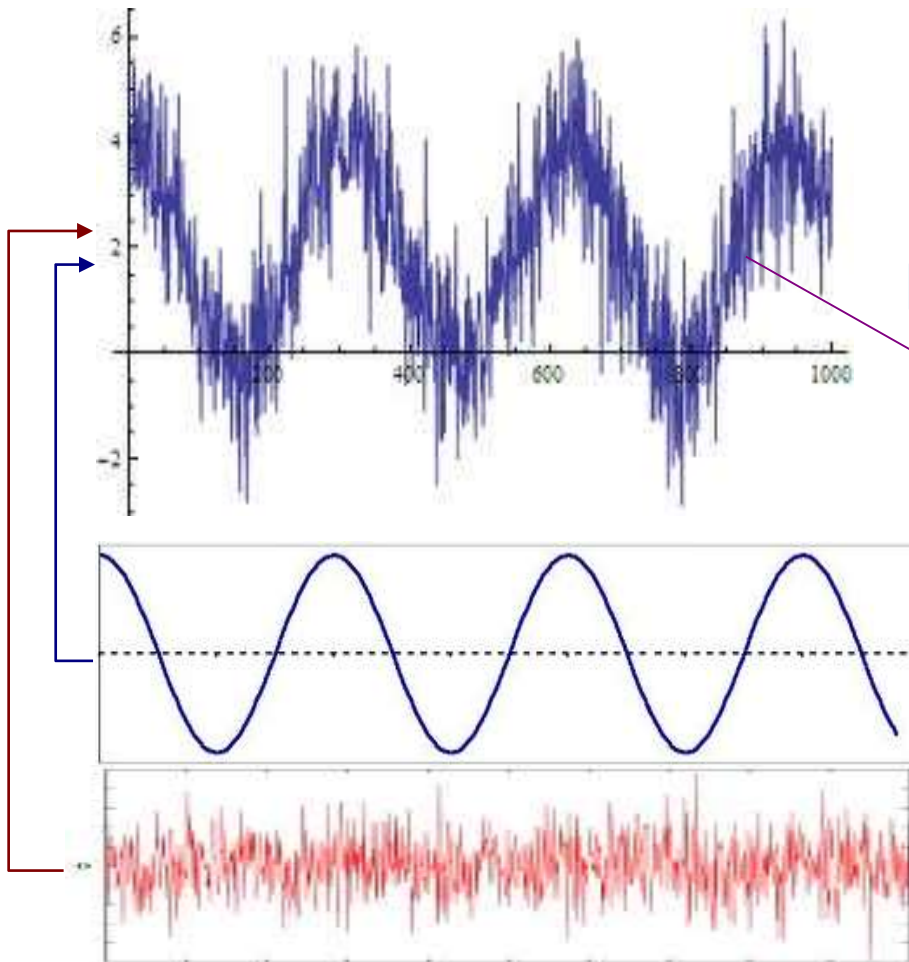
We always have a real signal as:

$$S = \text{Information} + \text{Noise}$$

Information

+

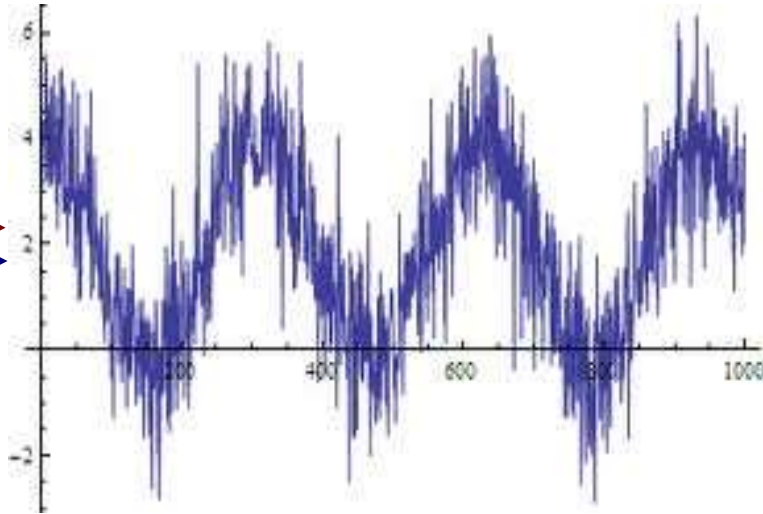
Noise





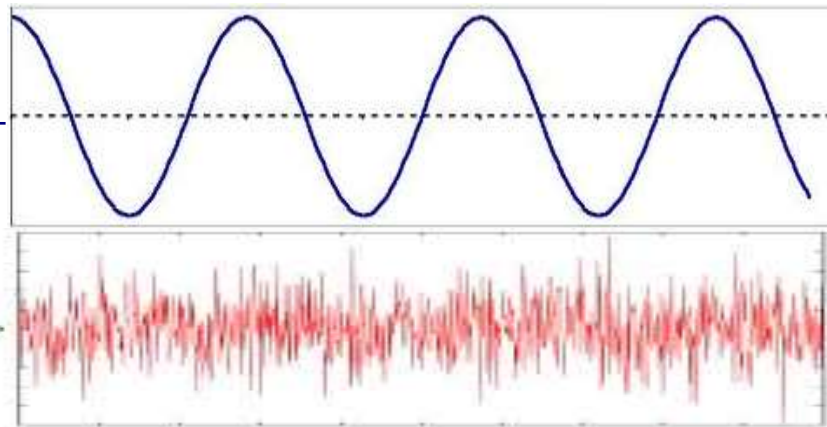
# Information content of signals

## Analog signals – infinite information content?



We have Information + Noise

Goal: **Preserve and transport information** without increasing the noise content.



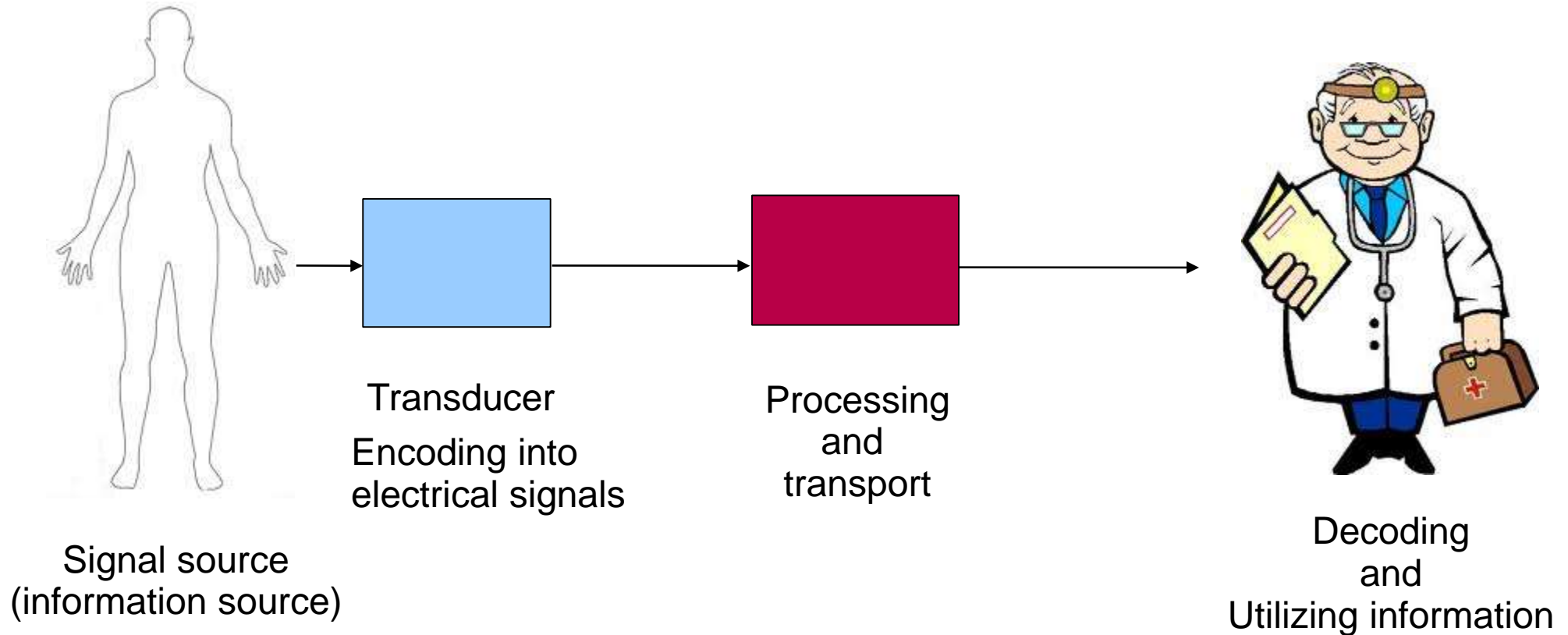
Information  $U = A_{\text{inf}} \cdot \cos(\omega t + \phi)$

+

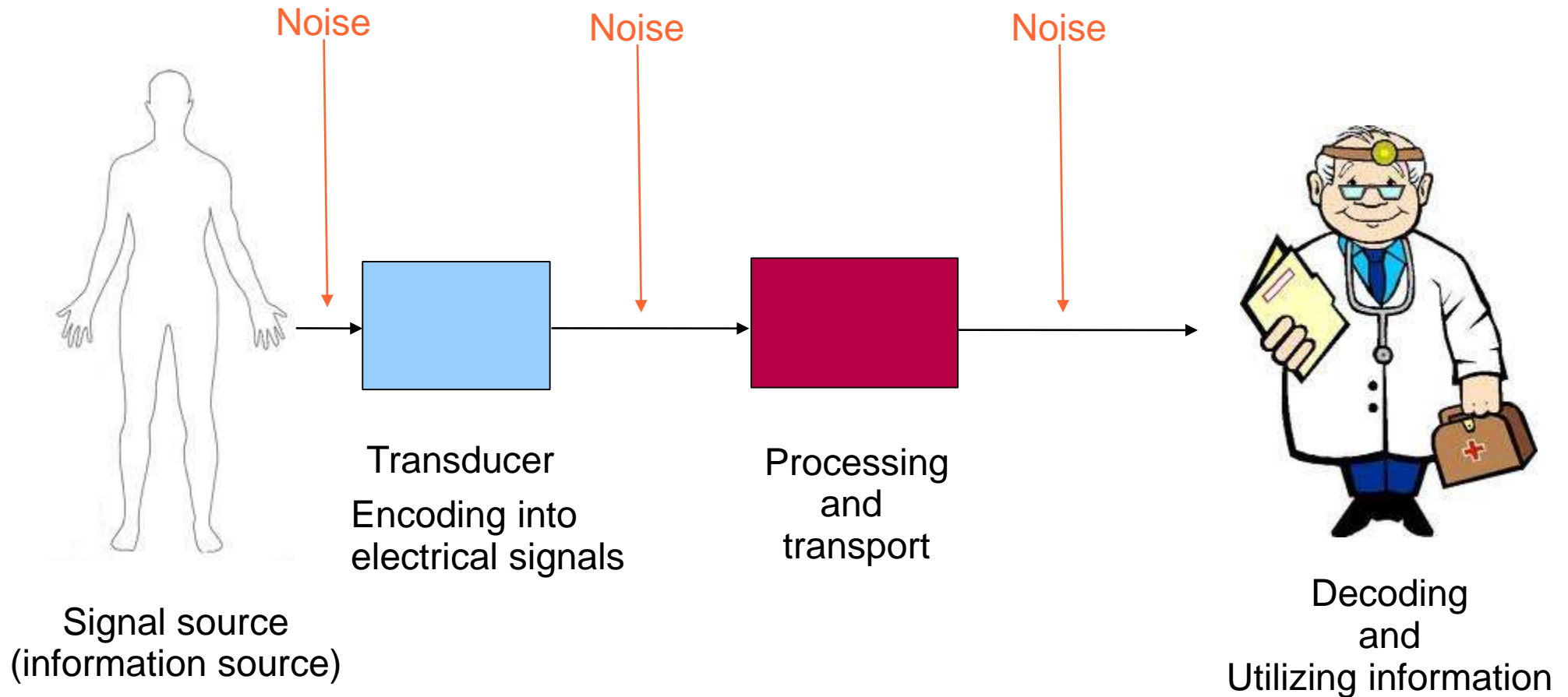
Noise  $\text{Noise}(t) = A_{\text{noise}} \cdot \text{Random}(t)$



## Transporting and processing signals

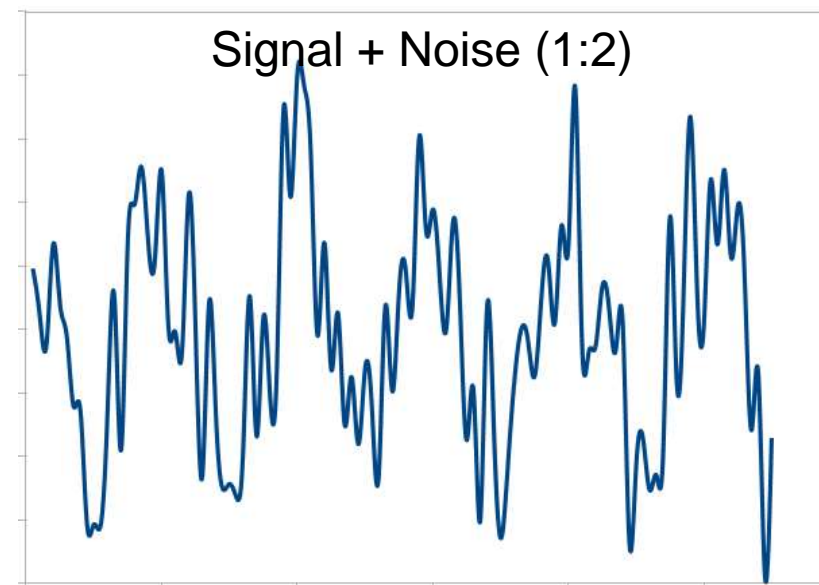
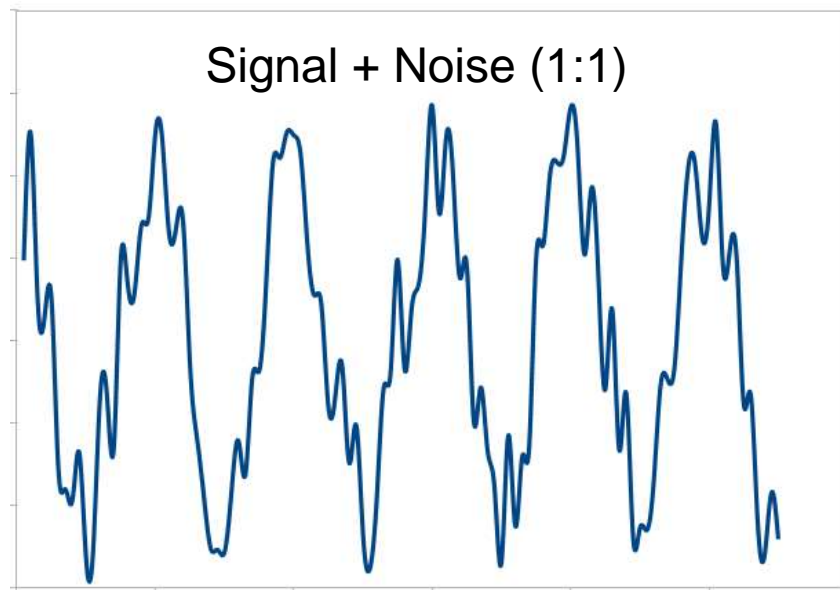
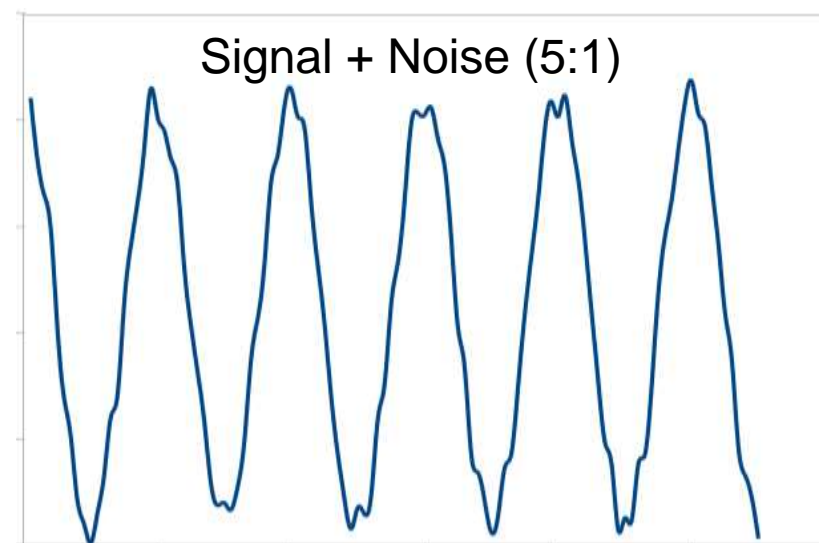
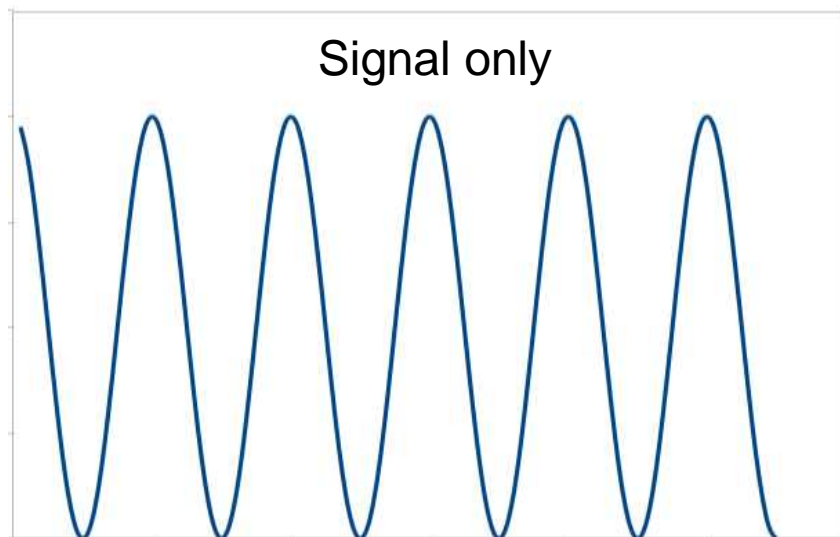


## Transporting and processing signals



**We need to separate  
information from noise!**

## Transporting and processing signals



# Transporting and processing signals

## Amplifiers

Task: amplify signal, without addition of noise  
(only transport information)

Combat noise in the chain: Amplify the signal at the beginning!

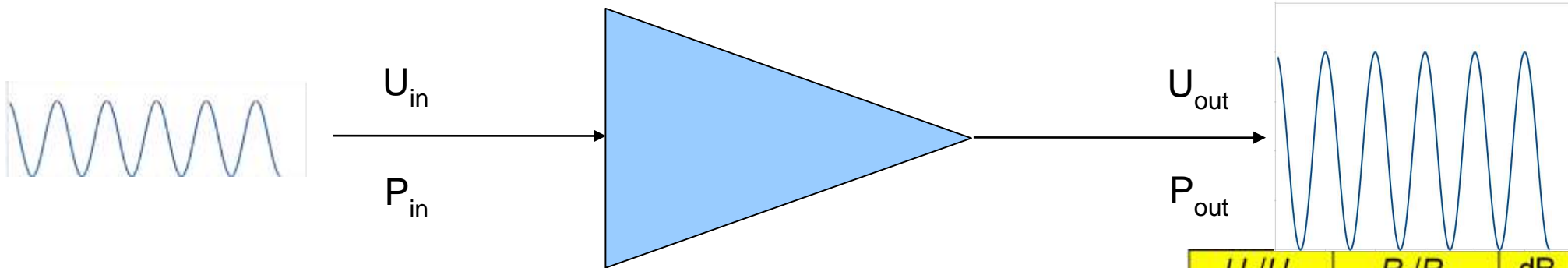
In real-life no amplifier is ideal, they always distort the signal

We need to characterize amplifiers, and other signal-transporting / processing elements of the signal chain.

# Analysis of amplifiers

The technique  
is applicable to  
*any* transport/coding!

Basic analysis: amplifier gain



$$P = U \cdot I = U^2 / R$$

$$n = 10 \log \frac{P_{output}}{P_{input}} \quad [dB]$$

$U_2/U_1$	$P_2/P_1$	dB
1,414	2	3
2	4	6
	8	9
3,16	10	10
	20	13
10	100	20
	1000=10 <sup>3</sup>	30
100=10 <sup>2</sup>	10000=10 <sup>4</sup>	40
1000=10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>	60

$$\frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log \frac{P_2}{P_1}$$

$$= 10 \log 10 = 10 \text{ dB}$$

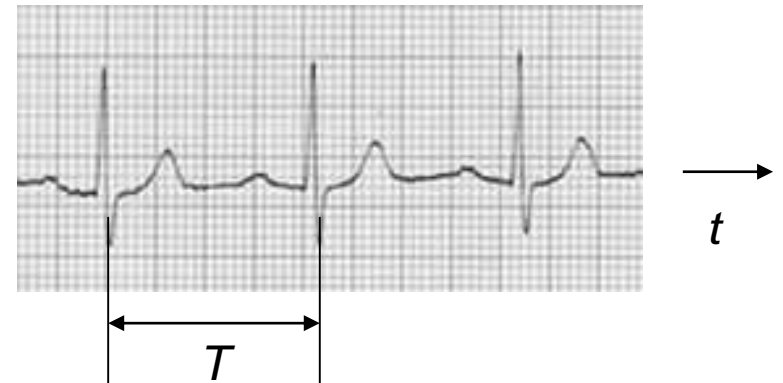
$$\frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log \frac{P_2}{P_1}$$

$$= 10 \log 1000 = 30 \text{ dB}$$

## Analysis of amplifiers - complex signals

**Fourier theorem:** Any arbitrary (periodic) signal can be split into sine/cosine functions with varying frequency and amplitude OR from a set of such functions it can be recovered

$$\text{Signal}(t) \longleftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$



Where in the case of periodic signals  $\omega_i = k \cdot f$ ,  $f = 1/T$  and  $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots$

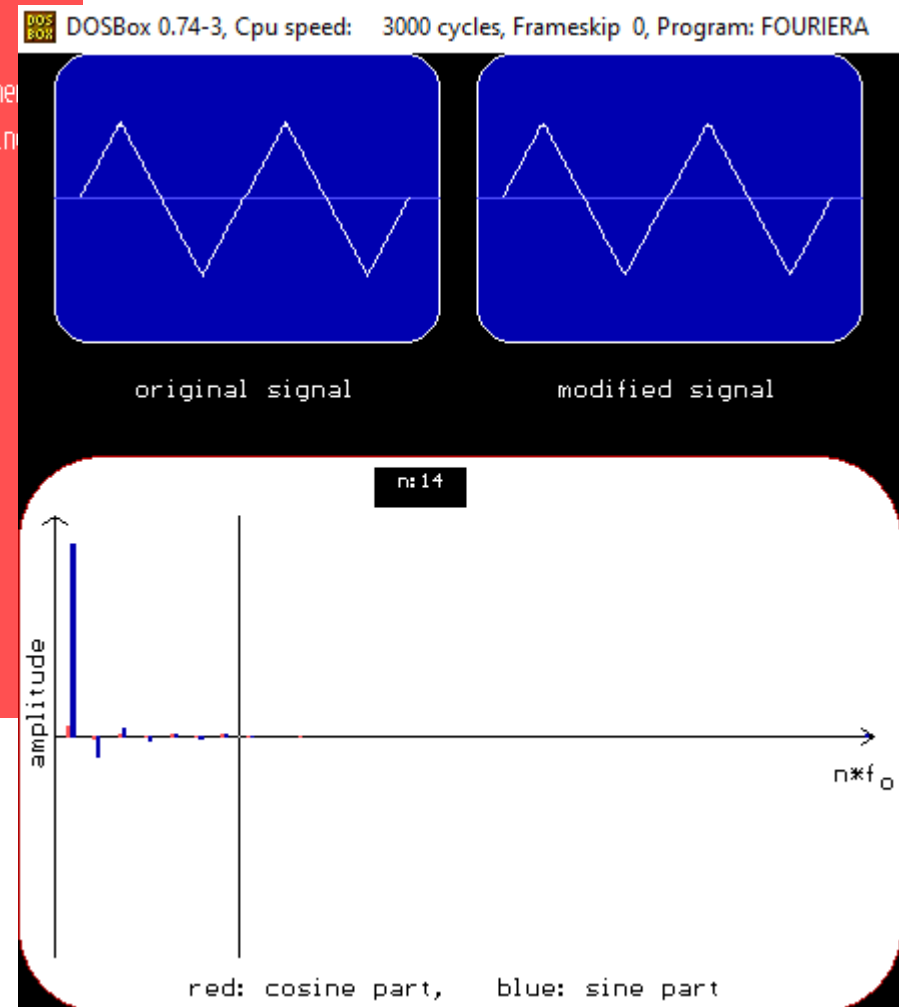
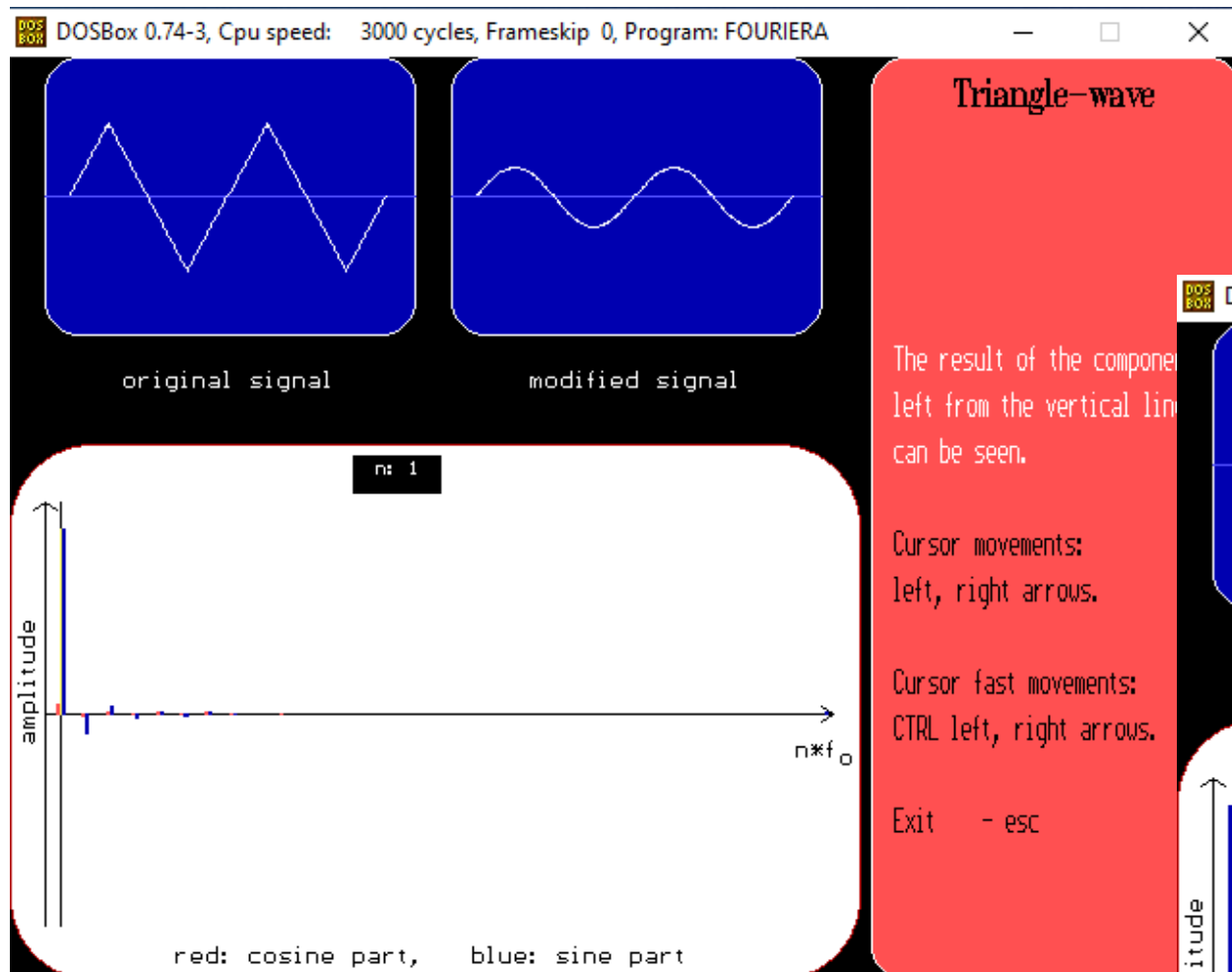
Base frequency

overtones



# Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

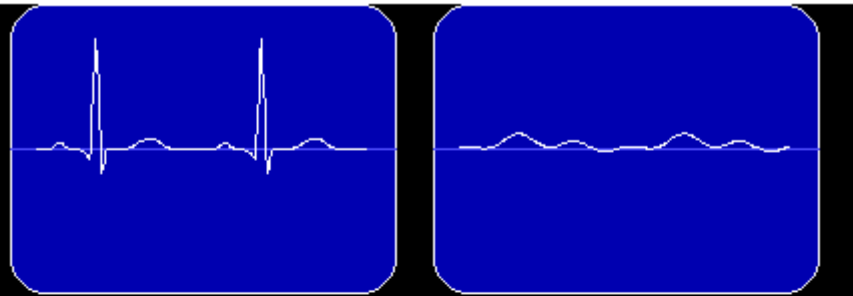
$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$



# Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$

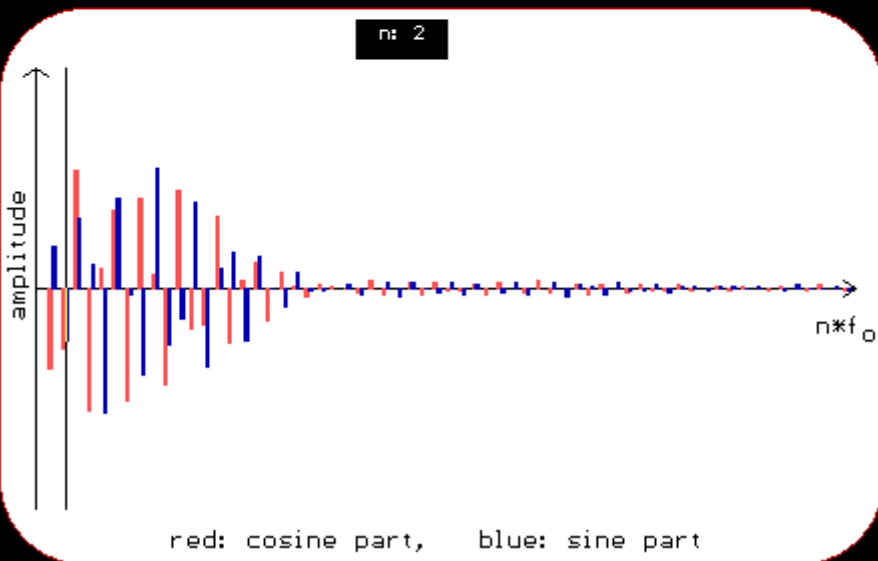
DOSBox 0.74-3, Cpu speed: 3000 cycles, Frameskip 0, Program: FOURIERA



original signal

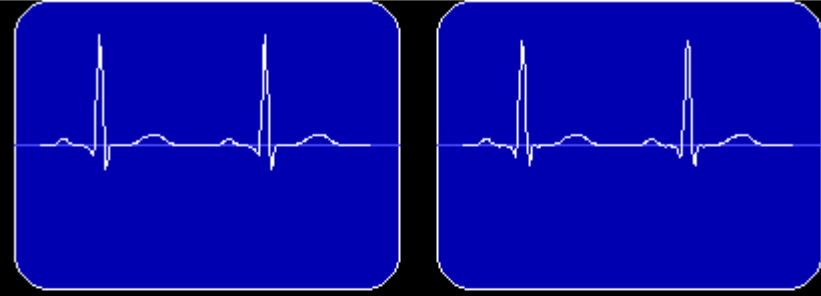
modified signal

n: 2



red: cosine part, blue: sine part

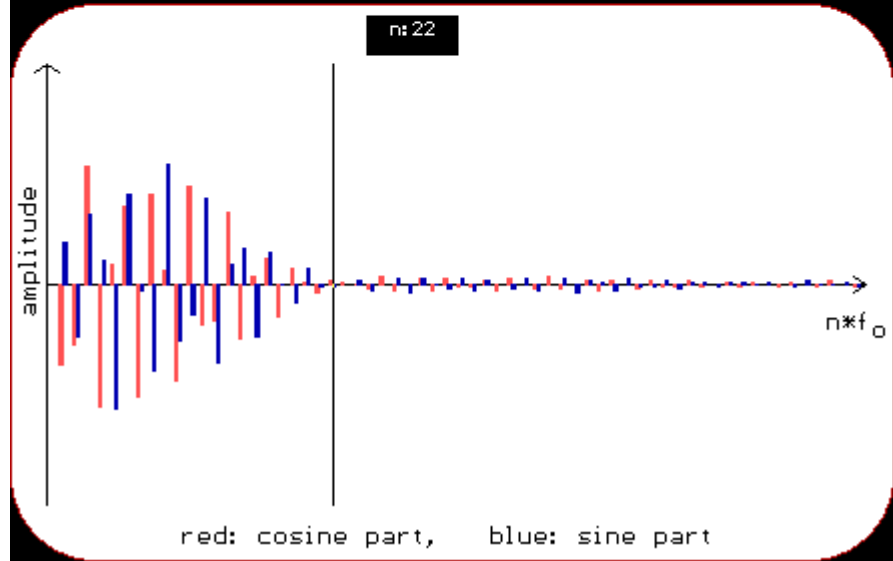
DOSBox 0.74-3, Cpu speed: 3000 cycles, Frameskip 0, Program: FOURIERA



original signal

modified signal

n: 22



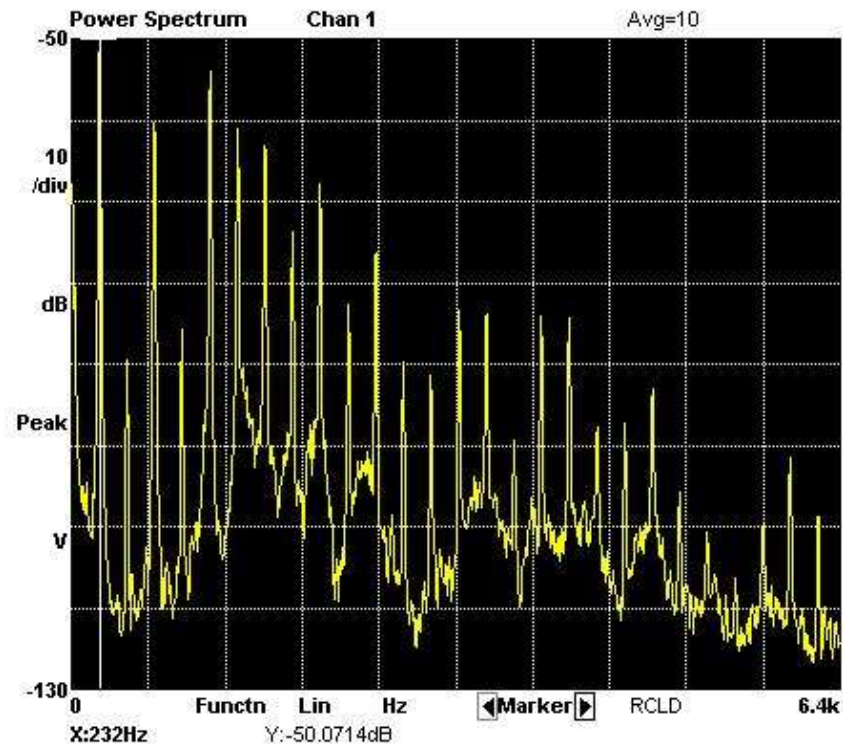
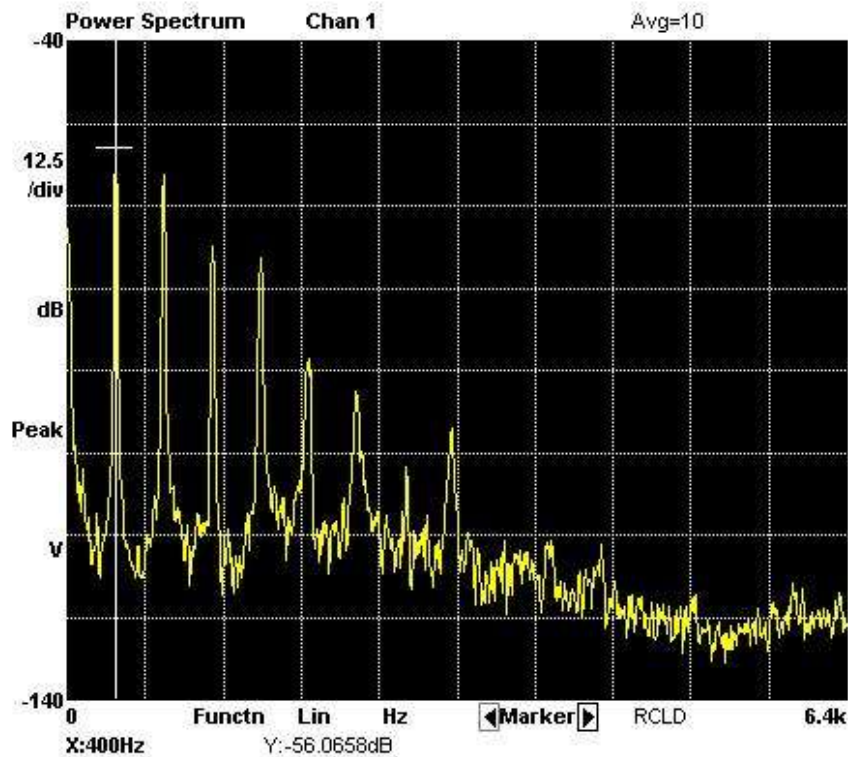
red: cosine part, blue: sine part

## Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$

Non-periodic signals: Fourier transform

$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$



# Spectrum analysis

6kHz

5kHz

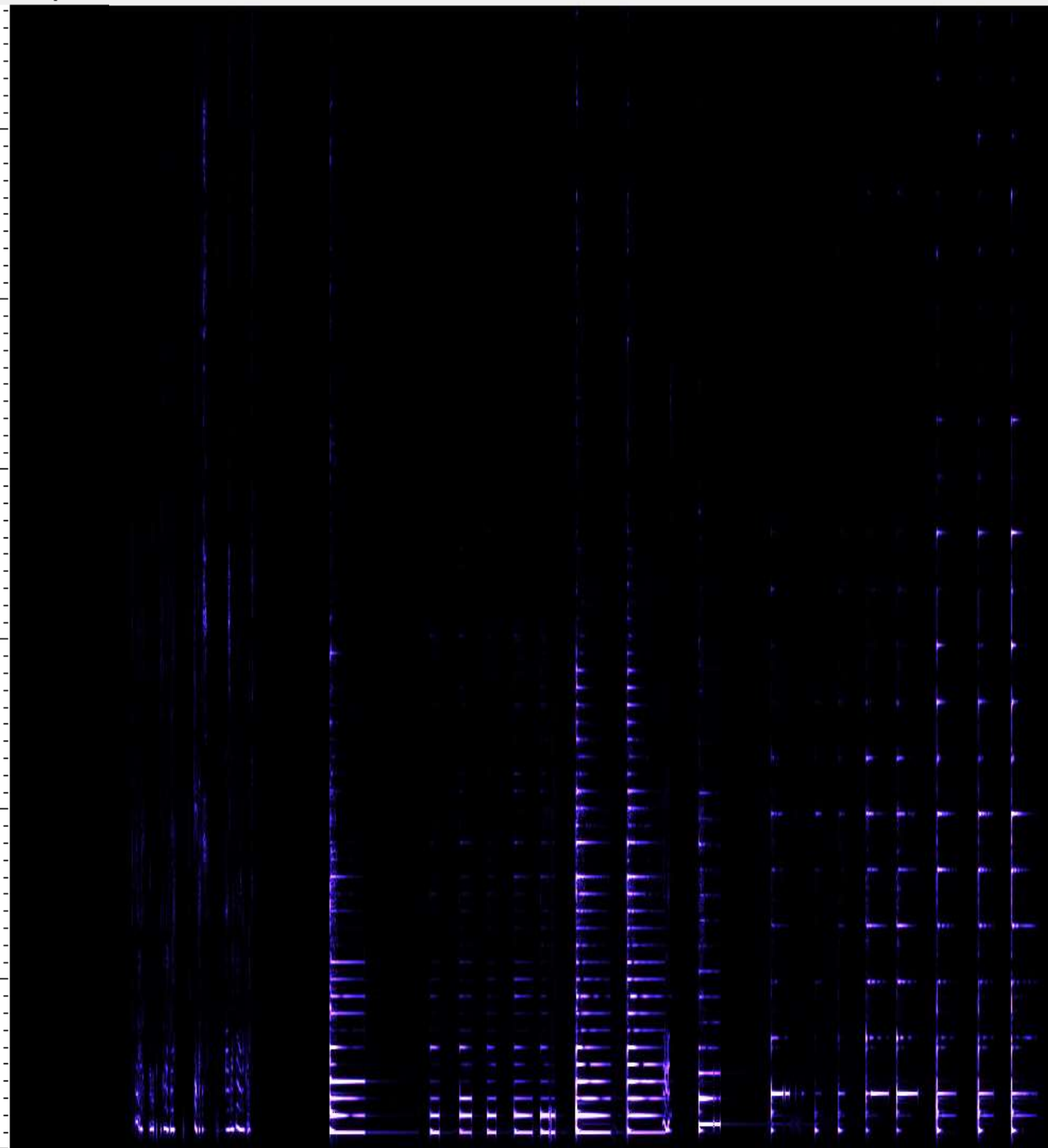
4kHz

3kHz

2kHz

1kHz

0kHz

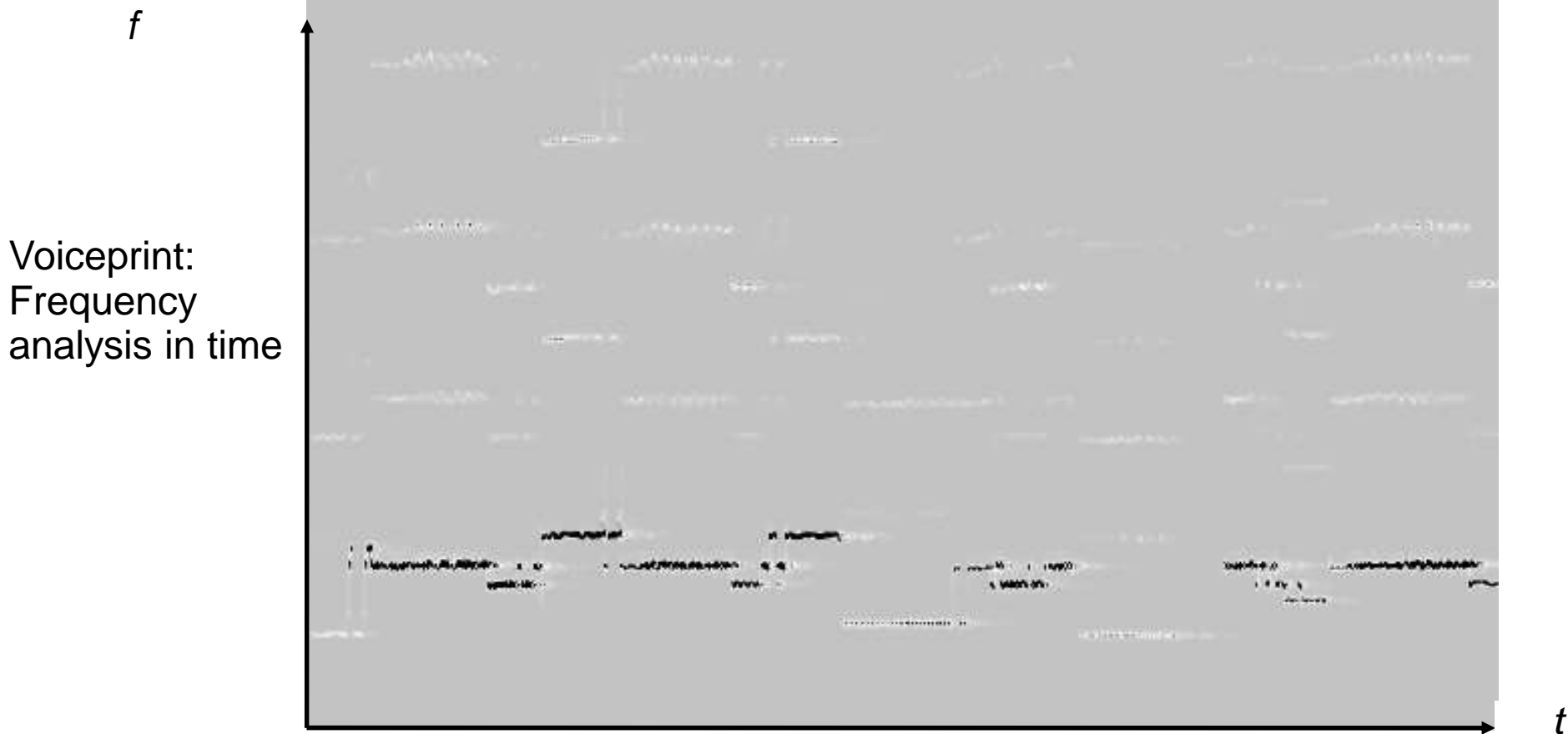
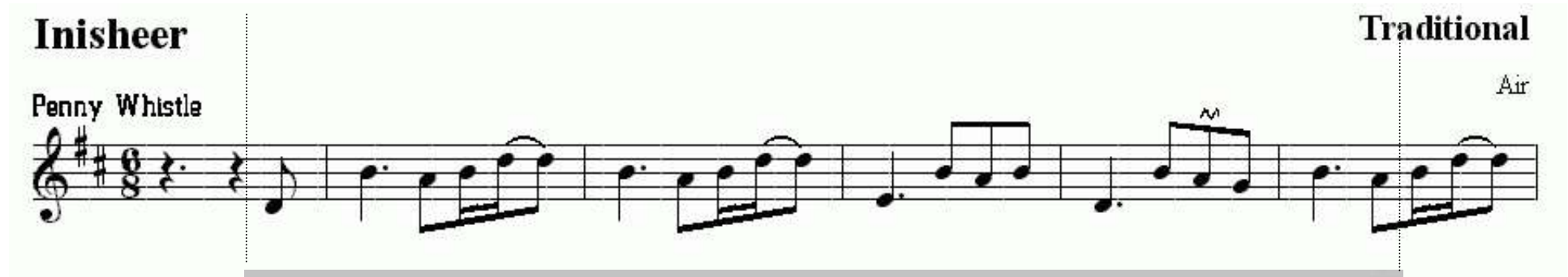


## Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$

Non-periodic signals: Fourier transform

$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$



Voiceprint:  
Frequency  
analysis in time

# Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

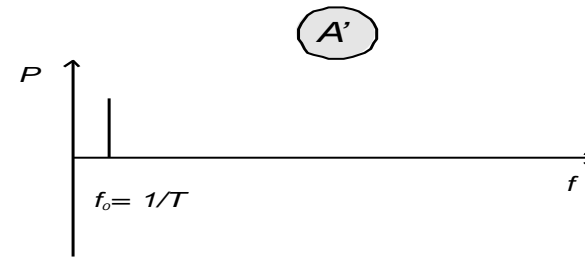
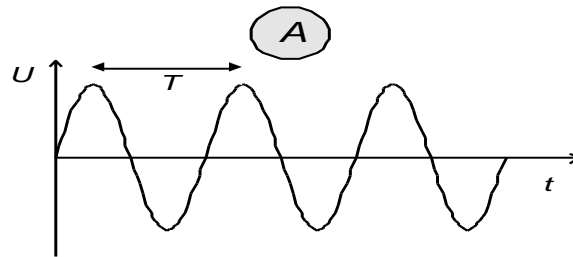
$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$

Non-periodic signals: Fourier transform

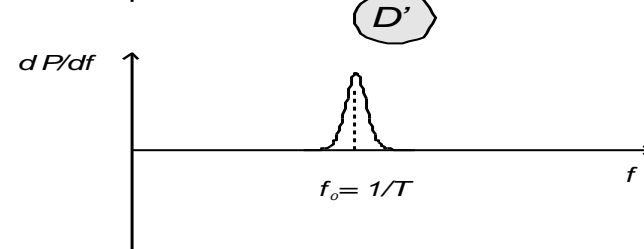
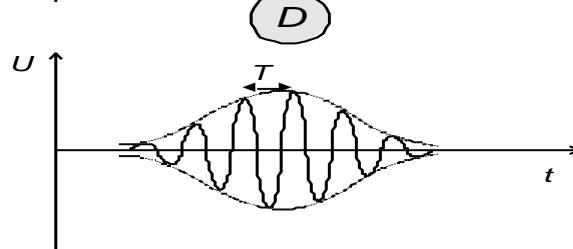
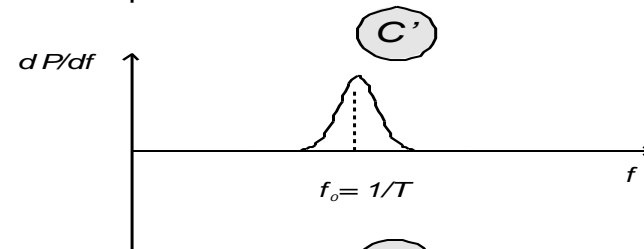
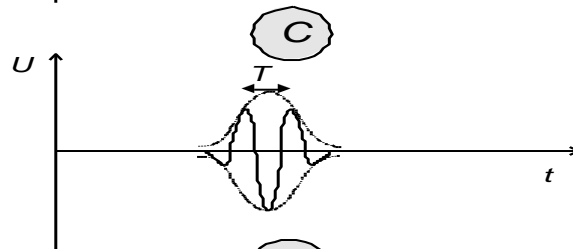
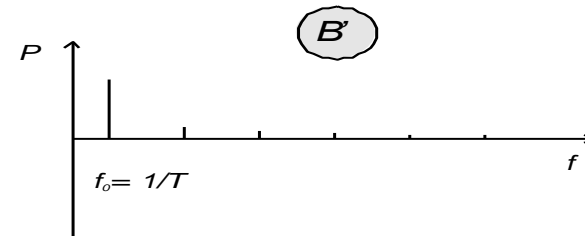
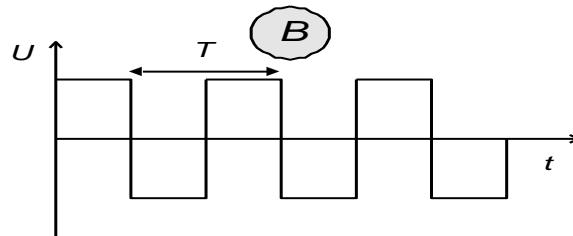
$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$

Signal in time

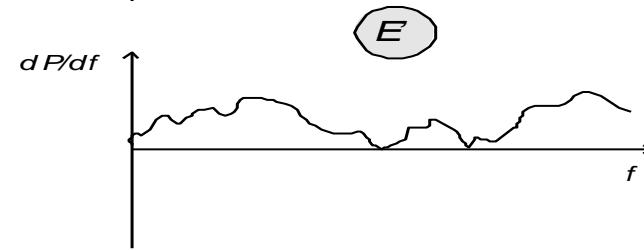
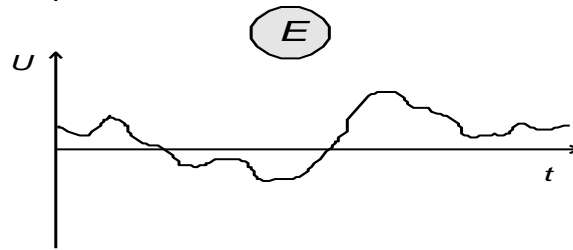
Signal in frequency



Infinite sine wave has a single line as spectrum



Longer sine-signal has narrower spectrum





## Analysis of amplifiers - Fourier theorem

$$\text{Signal}(t) \leftrightarrow \sum_i A_i \cdot \sin(\omega_i t) + B_i \cos(\omega_i t)$$

Non-periodic signals: Fourier transform

$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)}} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$

Any signal is just a representation of information

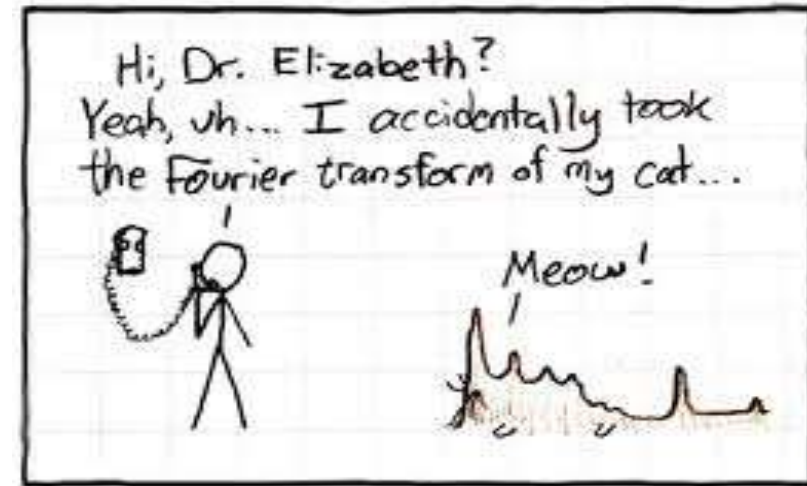
We can have many pictures of the same

Time-based (more conventional)

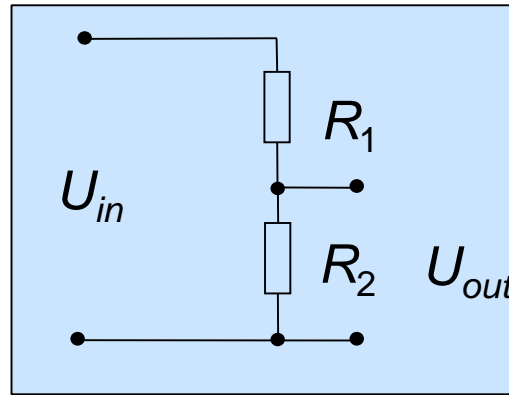
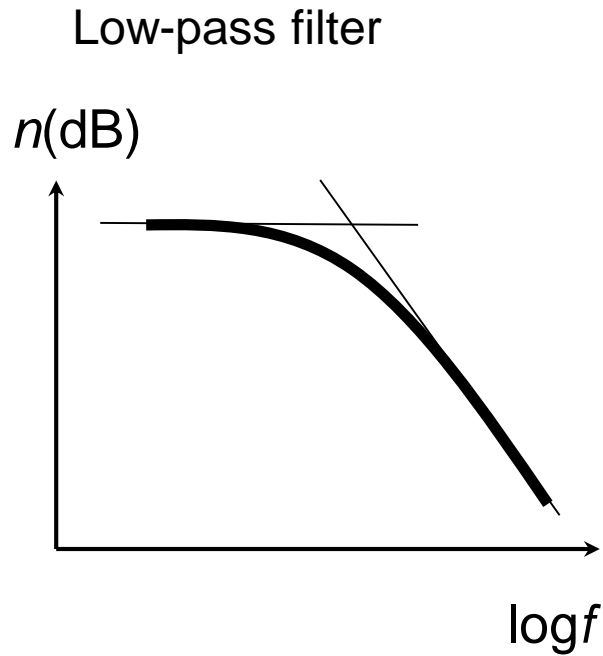
or

Frequency-based  
(useful, but a bit abstract)

Fourier-transform is the „art of engineering”  
(Picasso: La Crucifixion)

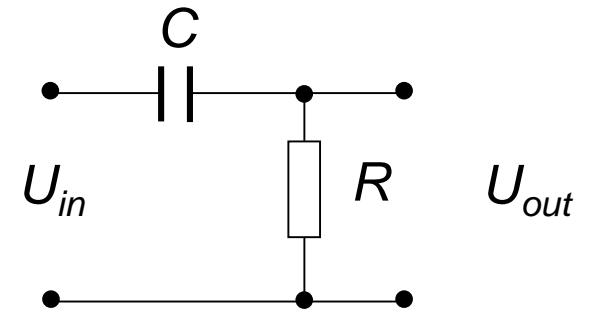
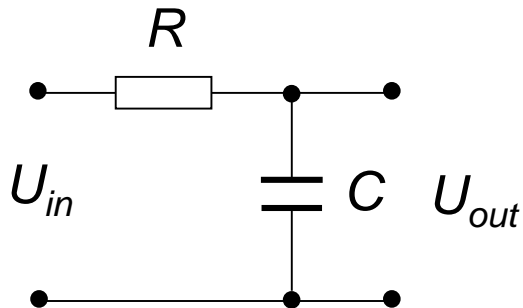
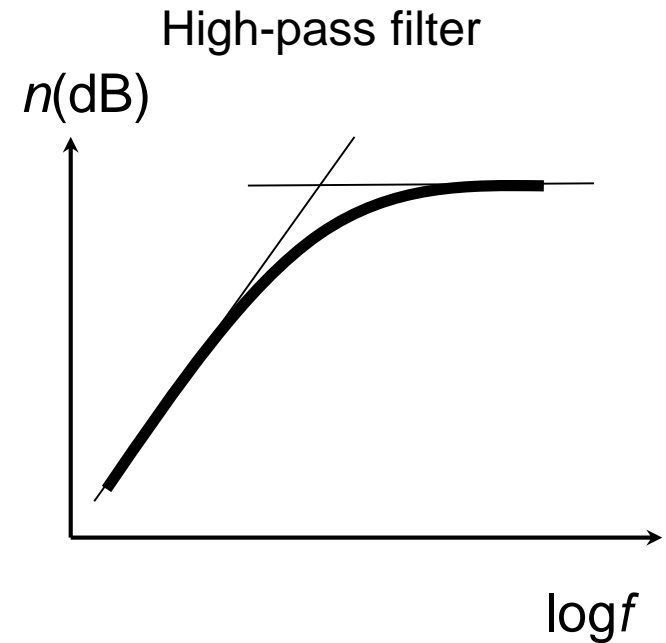


# Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of filters

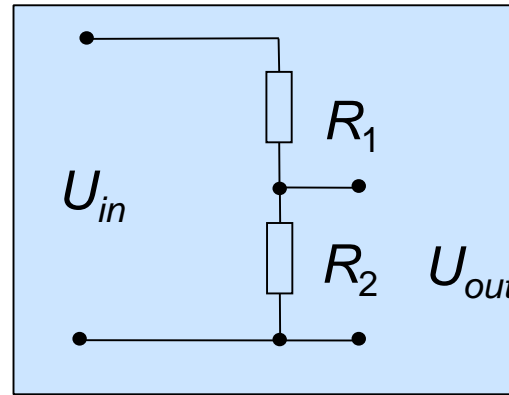


$$U_{output} = U_{input} \cdot \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

Substitute one R with C



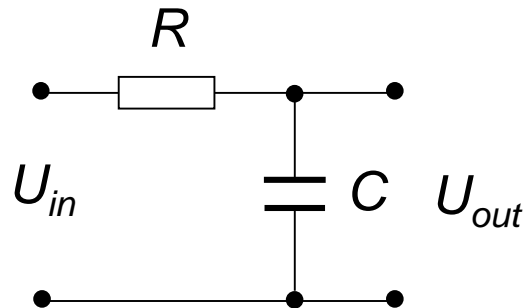
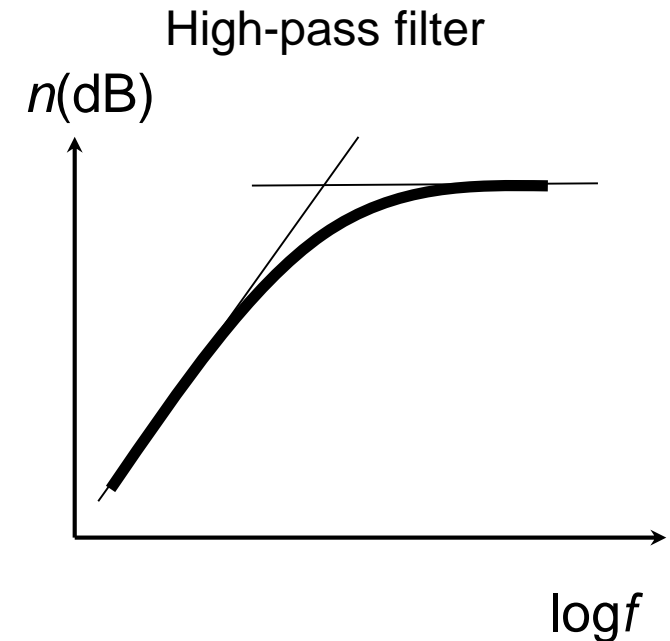
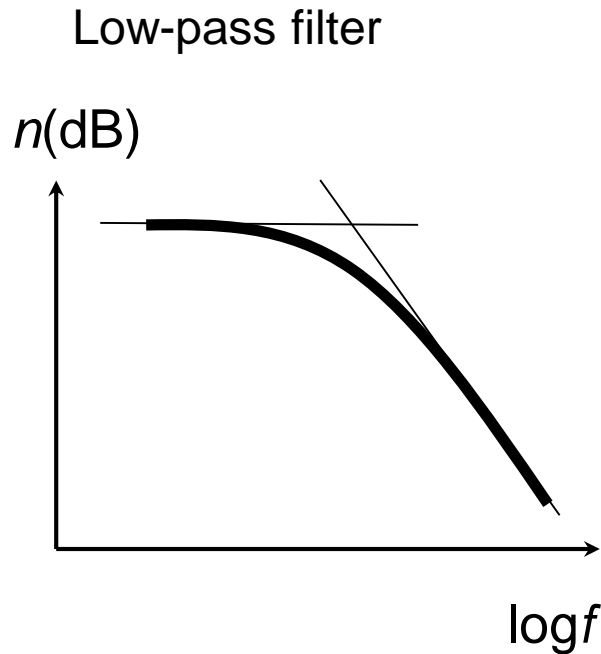
# Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of filters



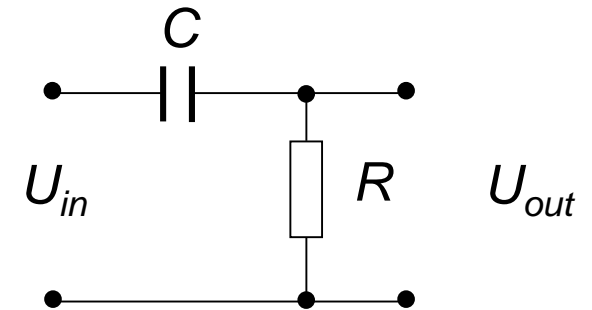
$$U_{output} = U_{input} \cdot \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

Substitute one R with C

$$R_C = \frac{1}{C\omega}$$

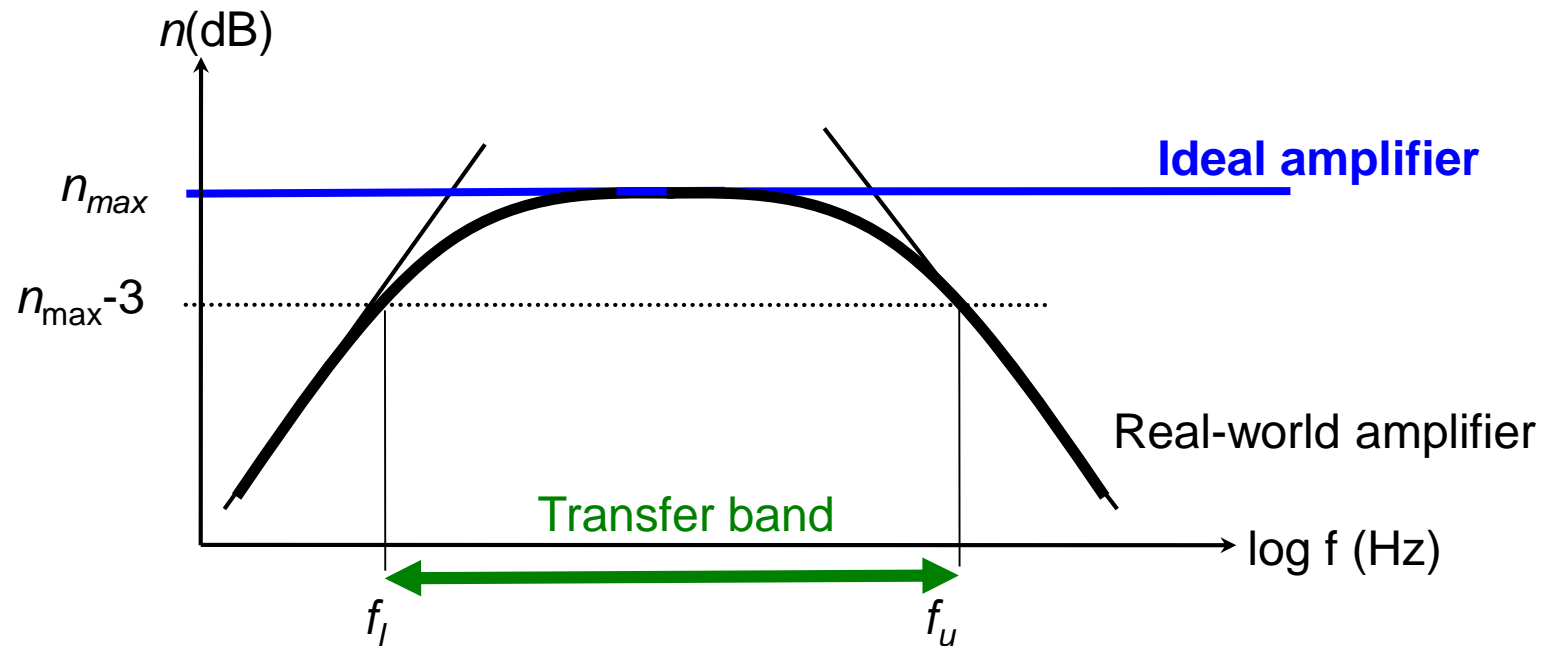
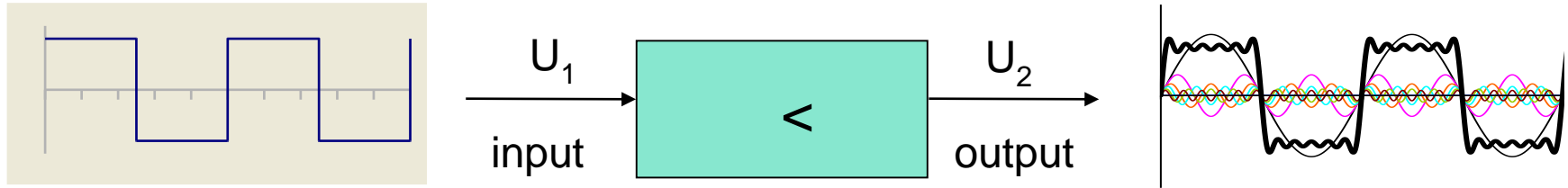


$$U_{out} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + R^2 C^2 \omega^2}} \cdot U_{input}$$



$$U_{out} = \frac{RC\omega}{\sqrt{1 + R^2 C^2 \omega^2}} \cdot U_{input}$$

## Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of amplifiers



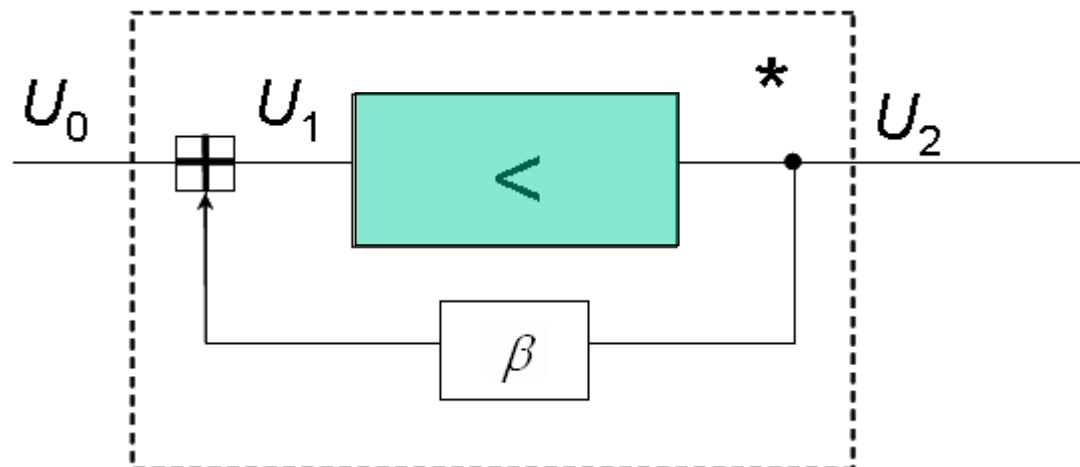
Amplifiers are not ideal, they have input and output capacitance, etc.

The output signal may *not* contain all frequency components!



Distortion, information loss / alteration

## Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of amplifiers



Feedback in amplifiers

Modification of **gain** and  
**Transfer function**

Summation point

~~$$U_0 = U_1 + U_2$$~~
~~$$U_1 = A U_2$$~~
~~$$U_2 = \beta U_1$$~~

$$U_0 = U_1 + \beta U_1 A$$

$$U_0 = U_1 (1 + \beta A)$$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_0} = \frac{A}{1 + \beta A}$$

Amplifier gain

Gain with feedback circuit

$\beta > 0$  : positive feedback

$\beta < 0$  : negative feedback

$A_u \beta = 1$  : oscillator (output without input signal: signal generator)

## Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of amplifiers

### Gain Bandwidth Product

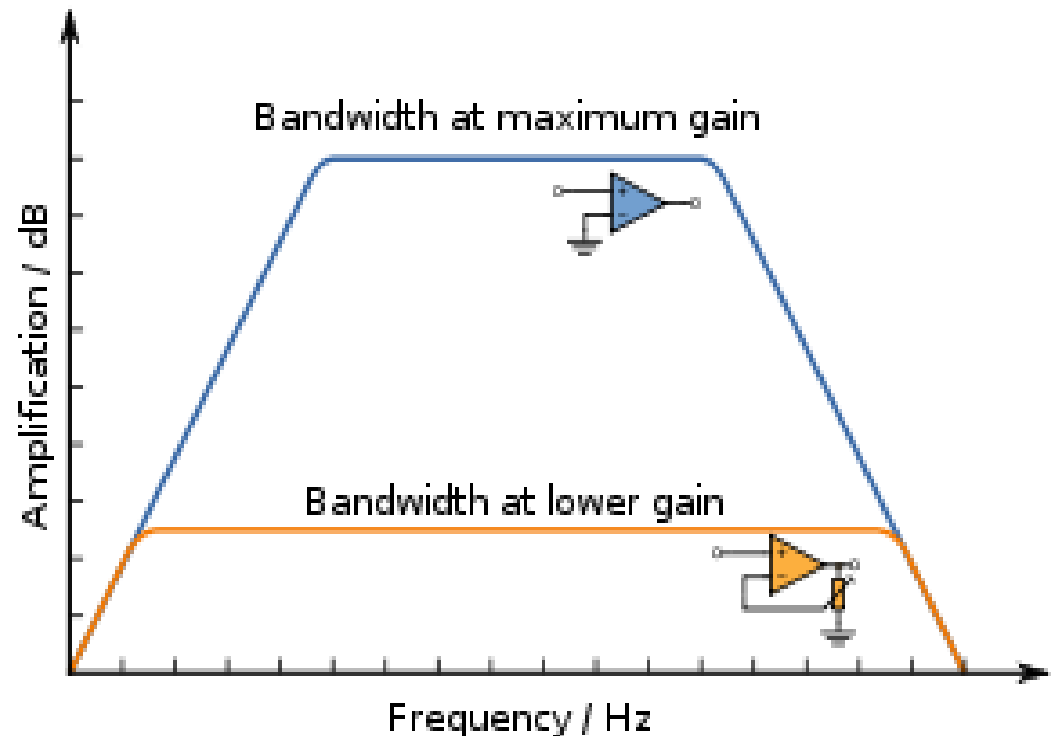
$$\text{Gain} \cdot \text{Bandwidth} = \text{constant}$$

The available power to the amplifier can either be put to use as:

high signal gain over a limited bandwidth

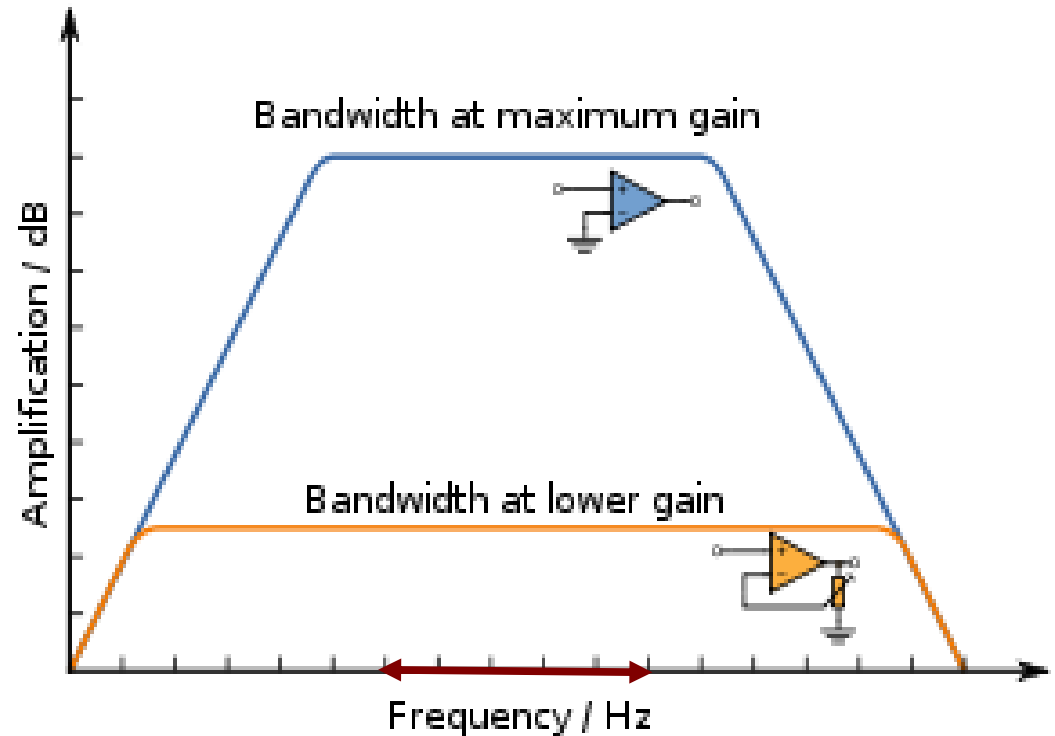
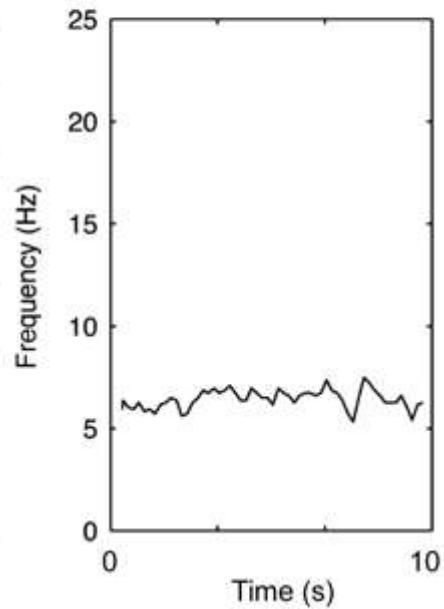
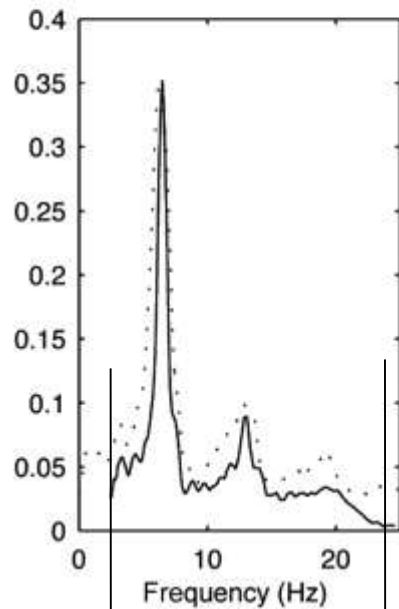
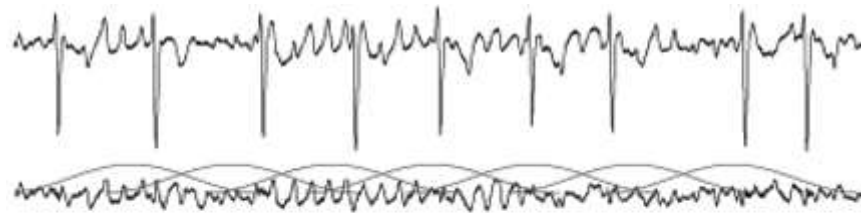
or

limited gain over a wide bandwidth.





## Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of amplifiers



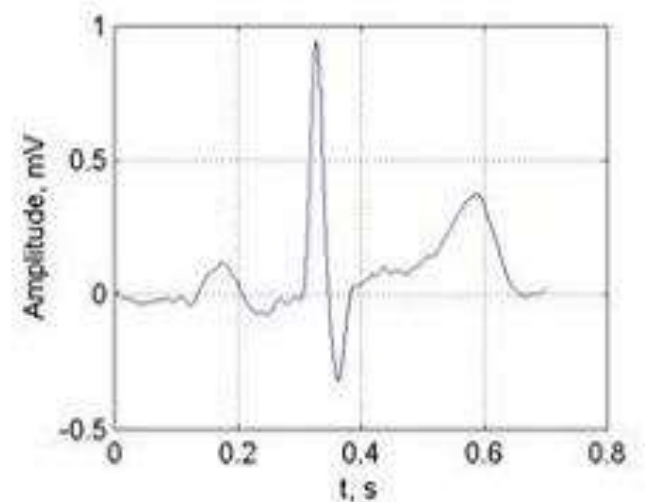
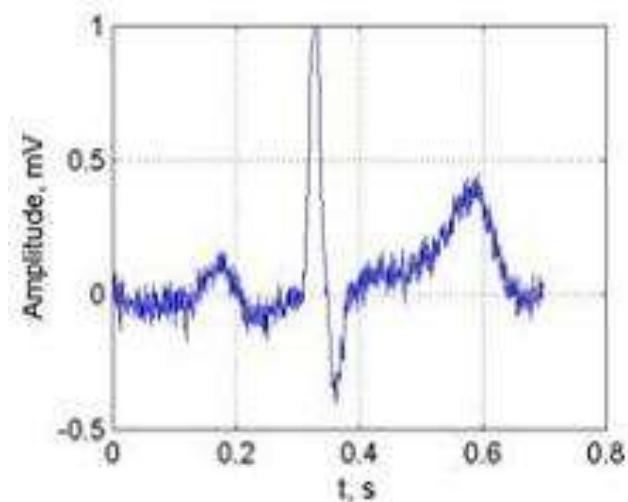
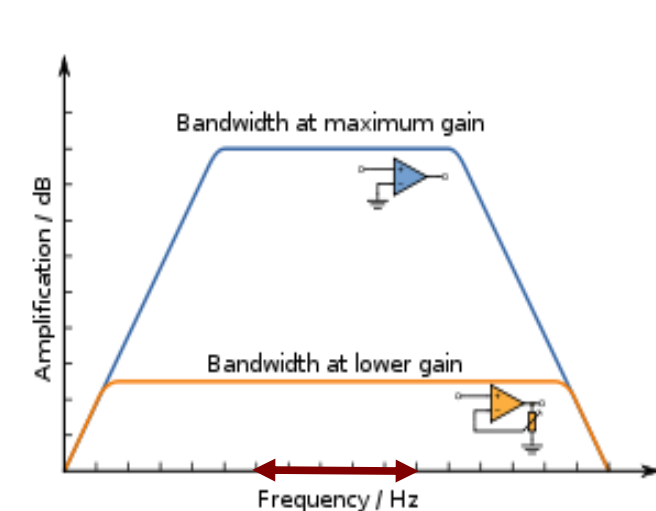
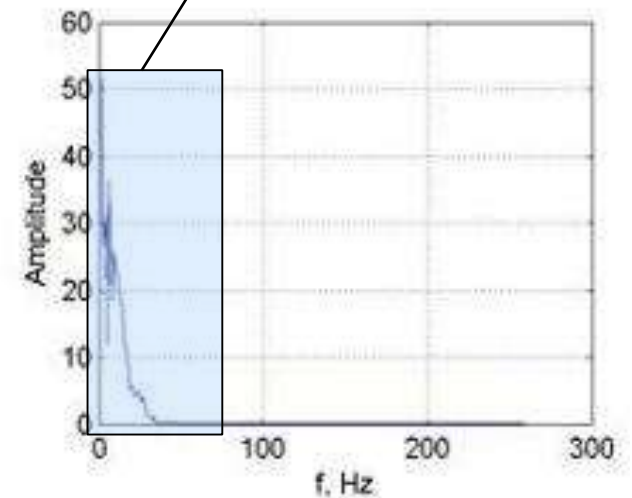
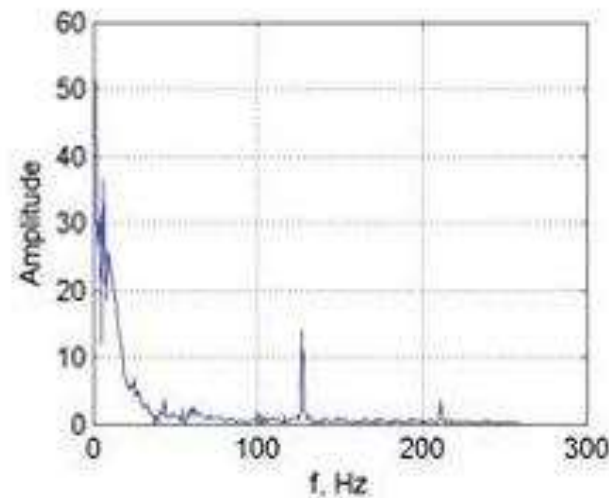
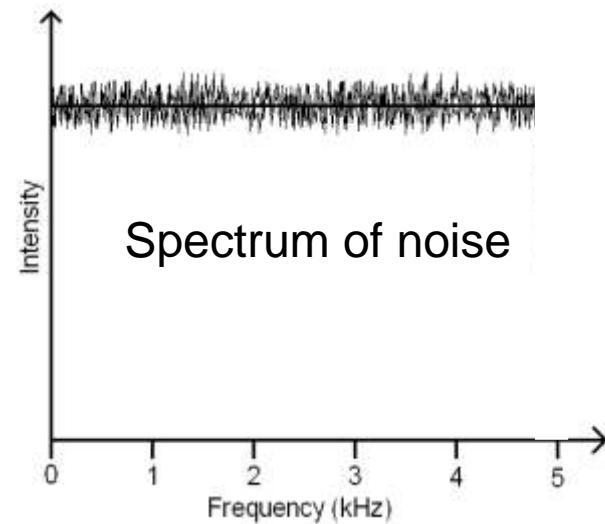
Frequency range of the signal must match the bandwidth!

**Information preservation = spectrum preservation**

# Analysis of amplifiers - Transfer function of amplifiers

During analog signal transport at every stage noise will be added! → degradation

Just transport that part of the spectrum which contains the information!



## Digital signals – A/D conversion (ADC)

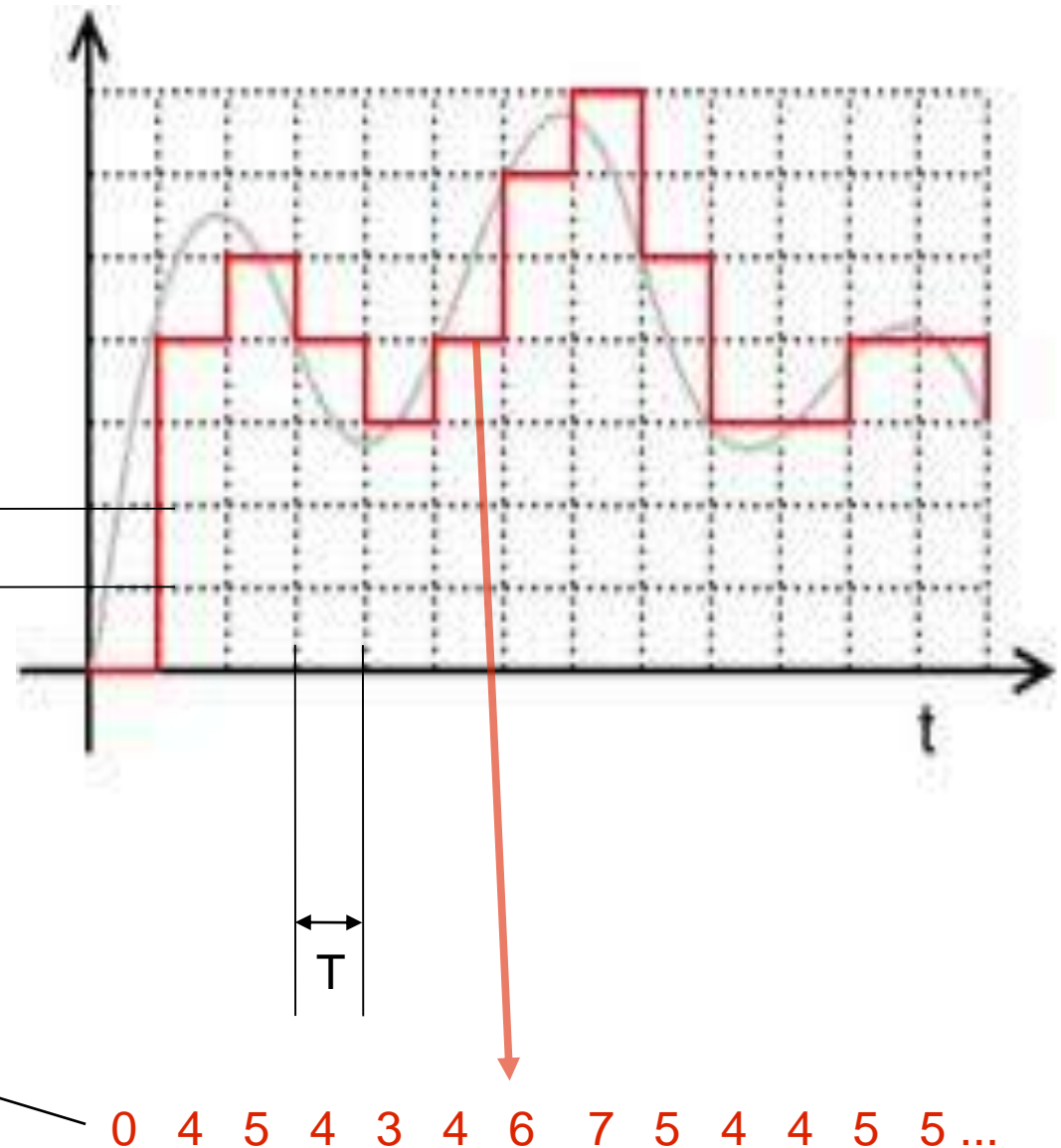
The analog signal can be represented by numbers:

We measure the signal every  $T$  seconds, and transmit the result only.

Measurement accuracy  
(how many bits)

Digital signals are discrete  
in time and in value

Numbers can be transported / stored  
or processed losslessly!

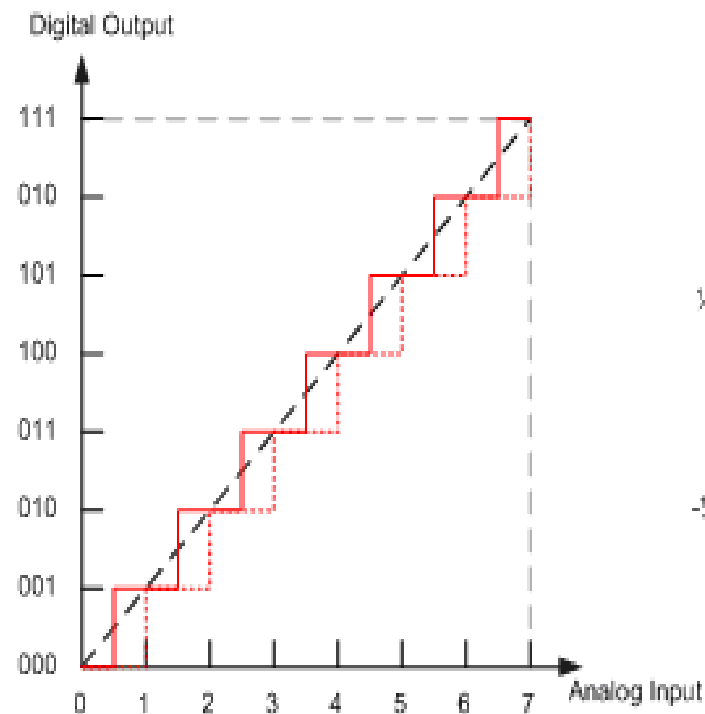


## Digital signals - Quantization

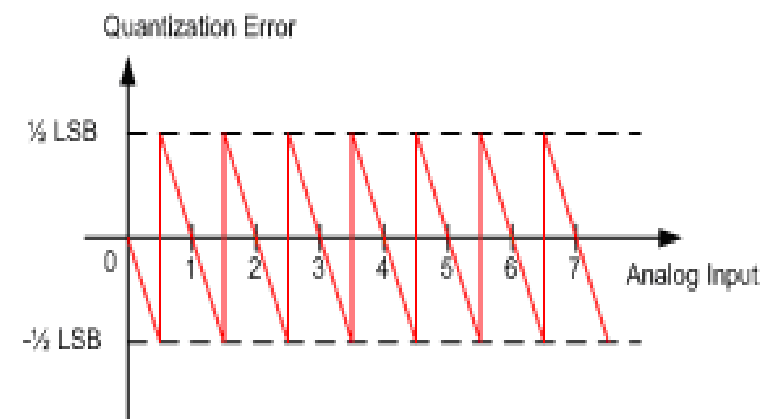
Digital signals are discrete  
in time and in value

What happens to the original parts between?

They get lost!



(a)



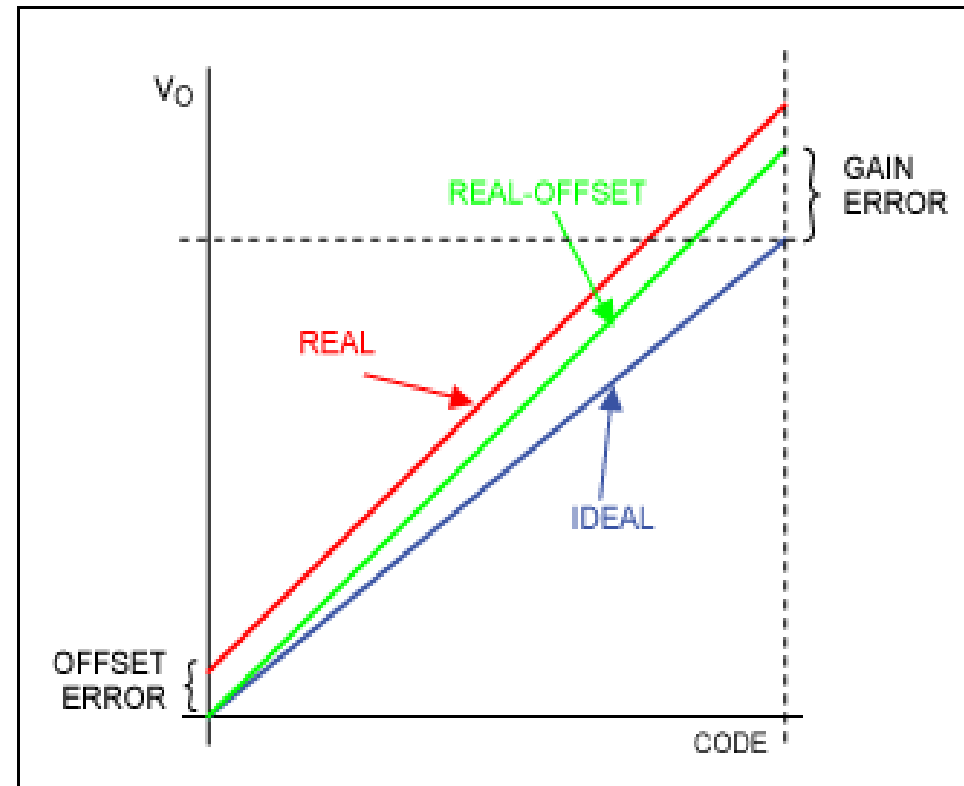
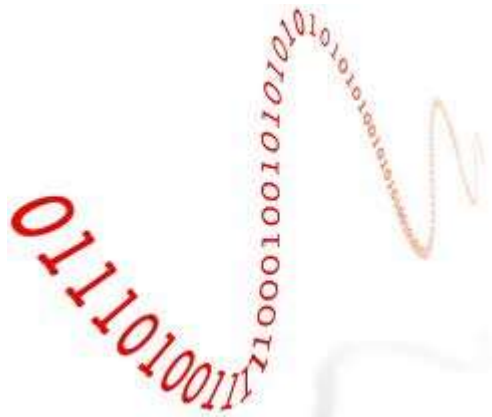
(b)

## Digital signals – Restoration (DAC)

Recovery of analog signals:

Digital to analog converter

This is easily realized to be near-ideal  
Many-bits, fast DAC-s are cheap



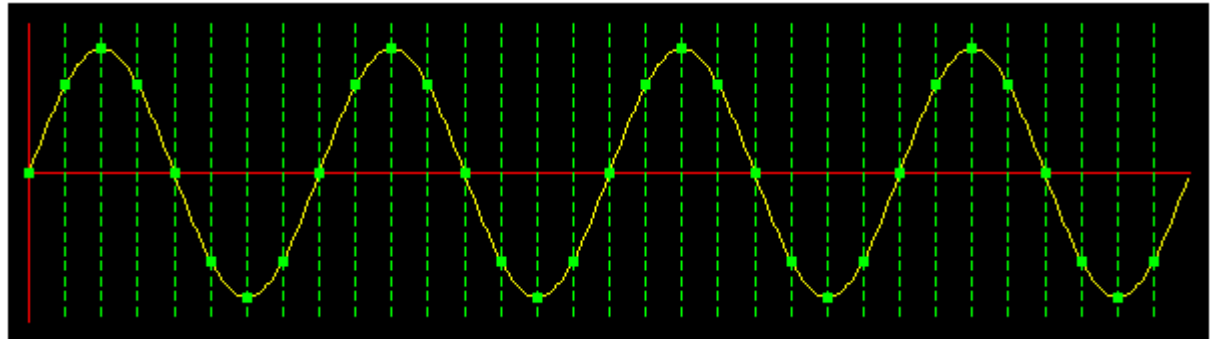
Pitfalls to avoid

## Digital signals – Sampling of sine waves

For non-sine signals: „first apply Fourier, then sample each sine”

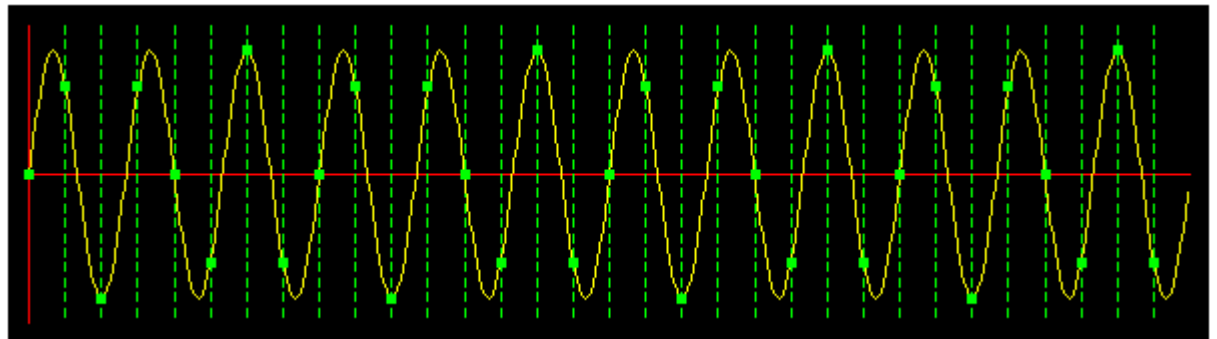
$f = 1000 \text{ Hz}$   
 $f_s = 8000 \text{ Hz}$

No problem



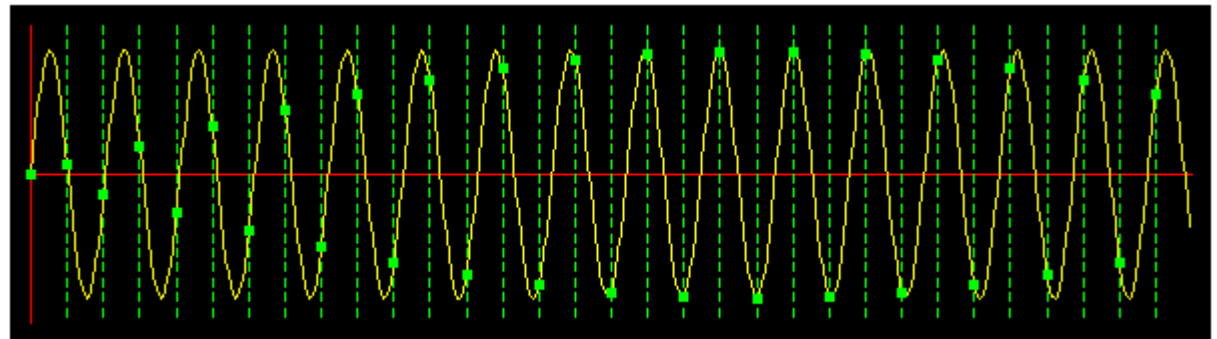
$f = 3000 \text{ Hz}$   
 $f_s = 8000 \text{ Hz}$

Still no problem



$f = 3900 \text{ Hz}$   
 $f_s = 8000 \text{ Hz}$

Still no problem





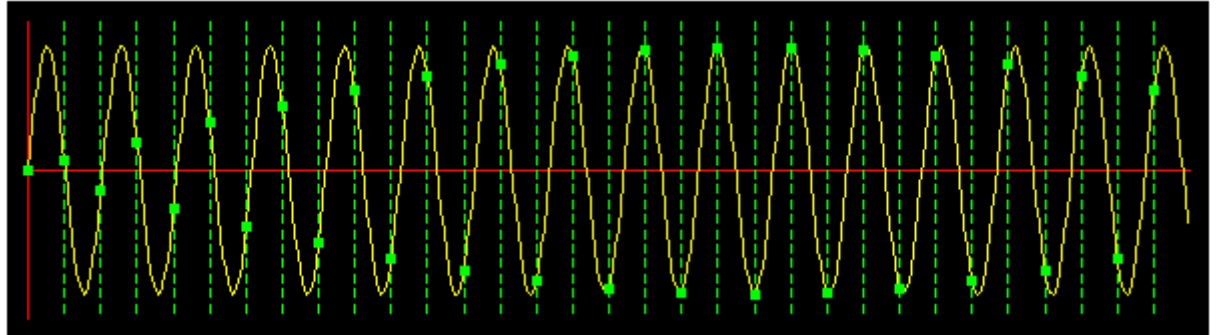
## Digital signals – Sampling of sine waves

For non-sine signals: „first apply Fourier, then sample each sine”

$f = 3900 \text{ Hz}$

$f_s = 8000 \text{ Hz}$

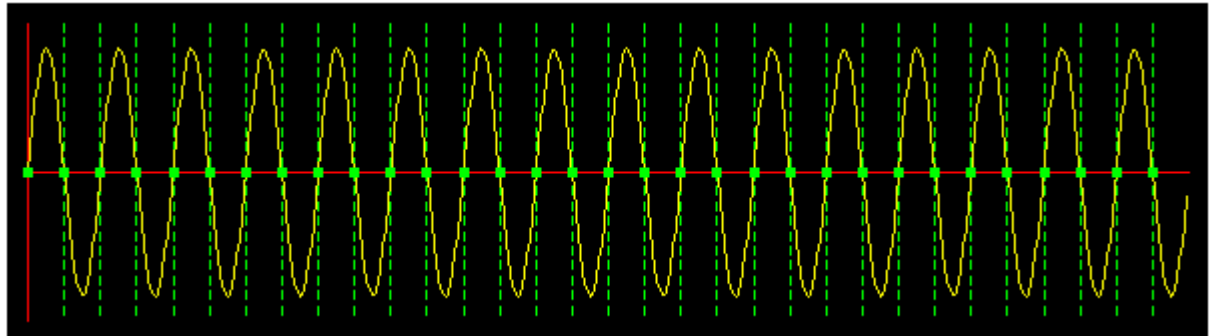
Still no problem



$f = 4000 \text{ Hz}$

$f_s = 8000 \text{ Hz}$

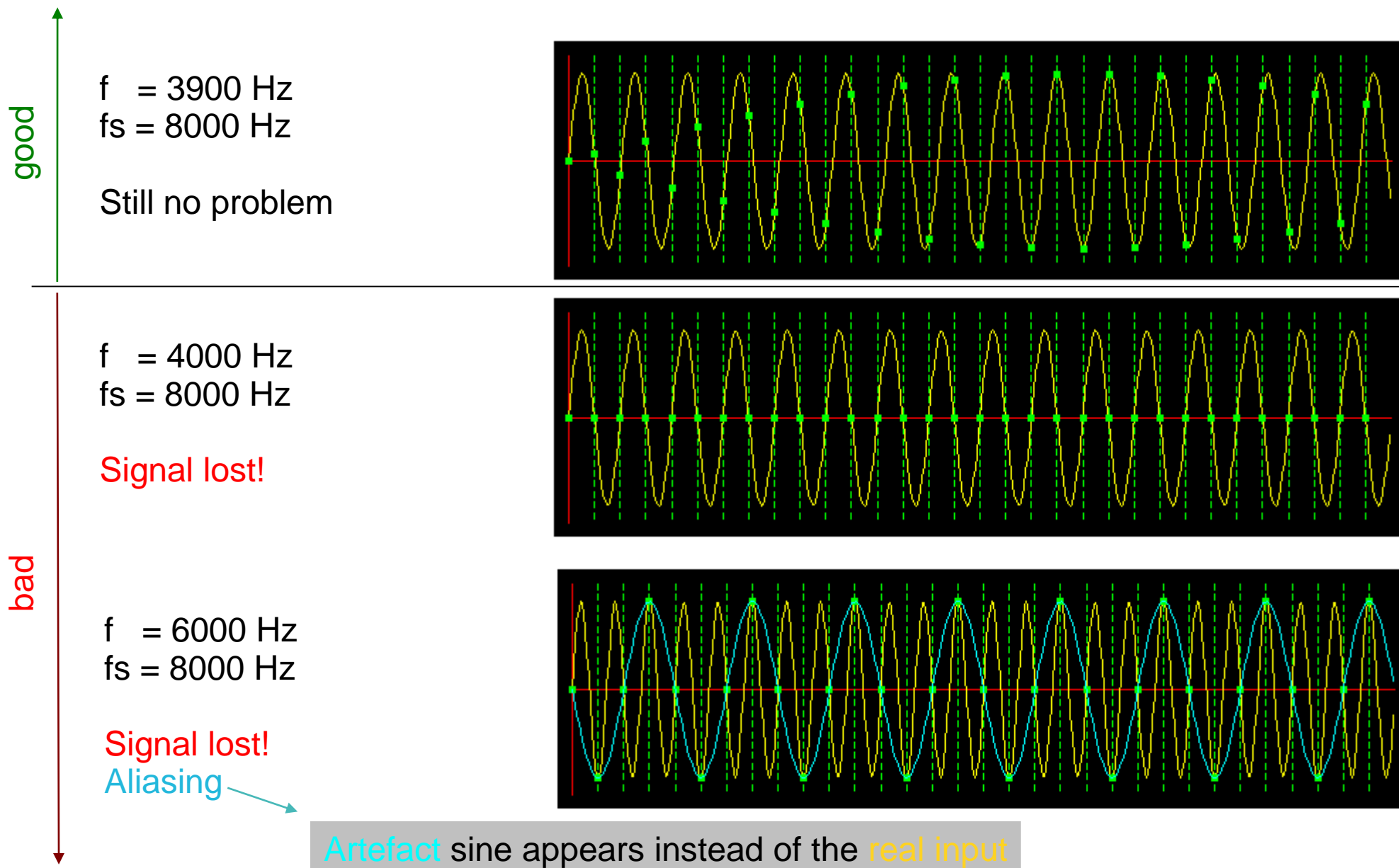
Signal lost!



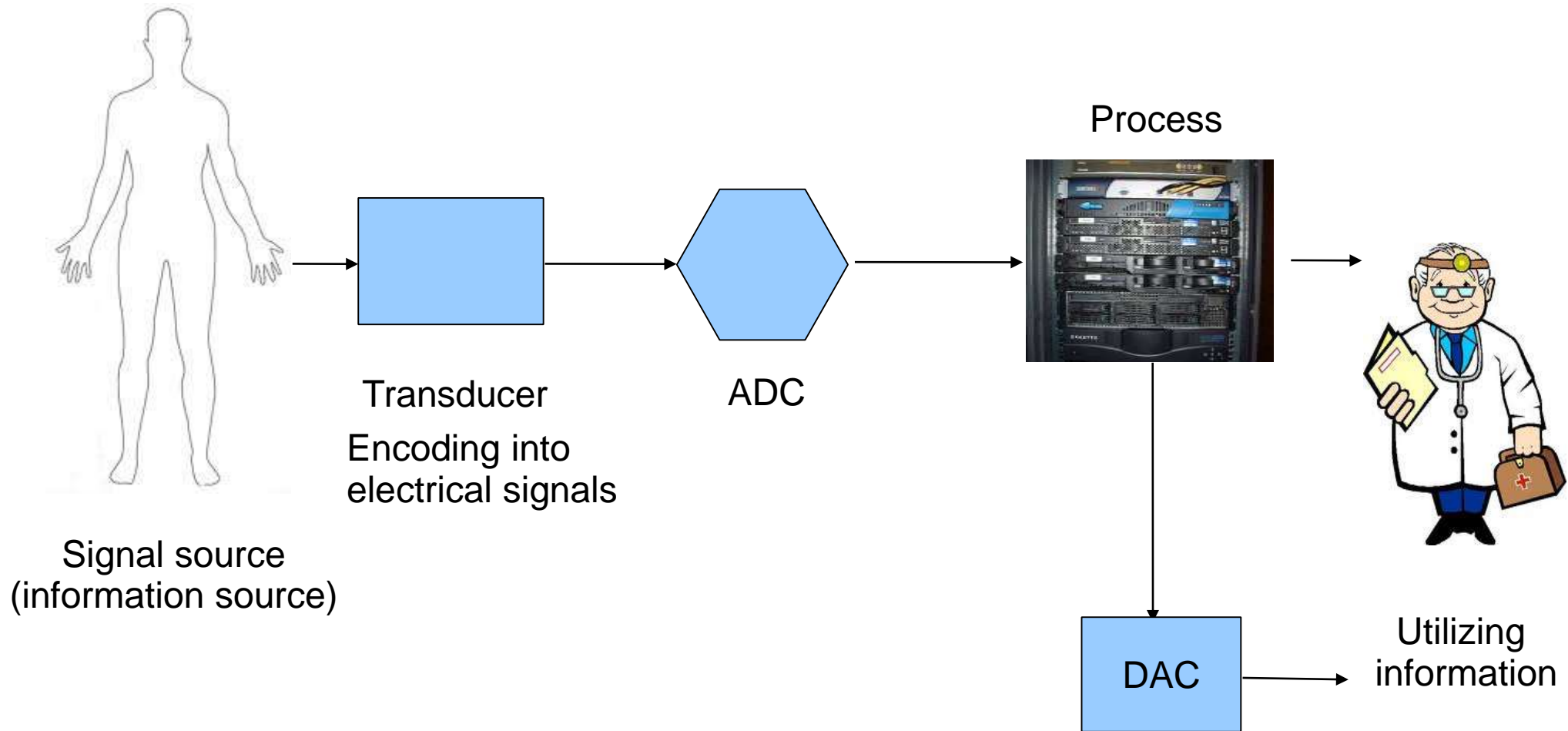
**Nyquist theorem:** sampling frequency must be at least 2x the frequency of the sine

## Digital signals – Nyquist

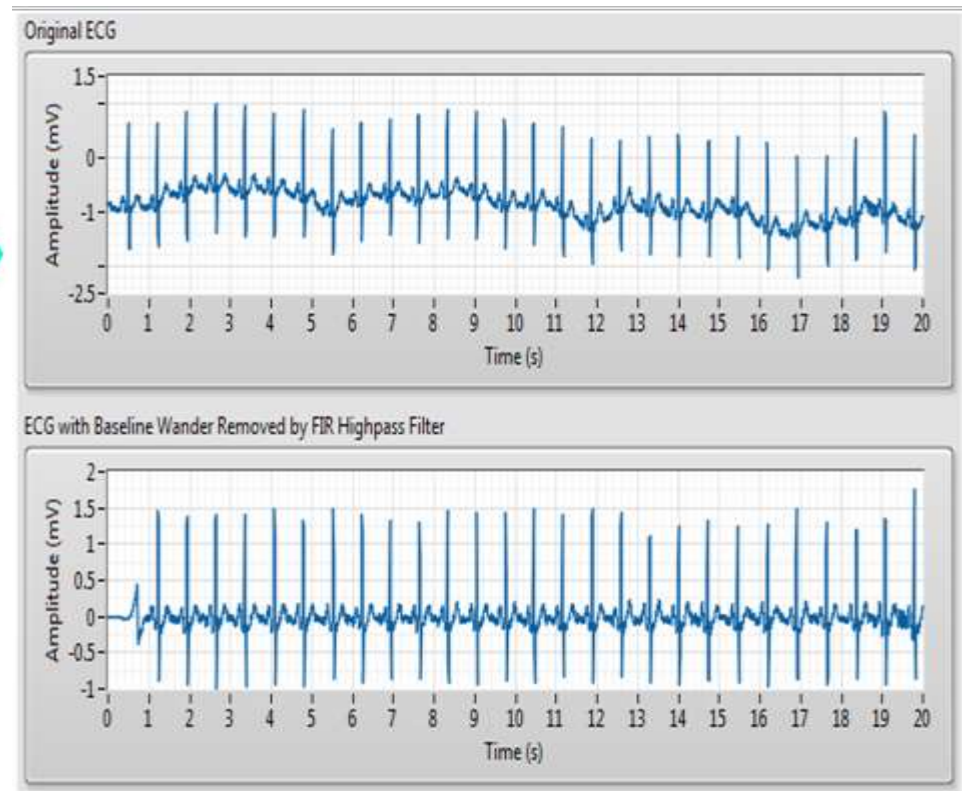
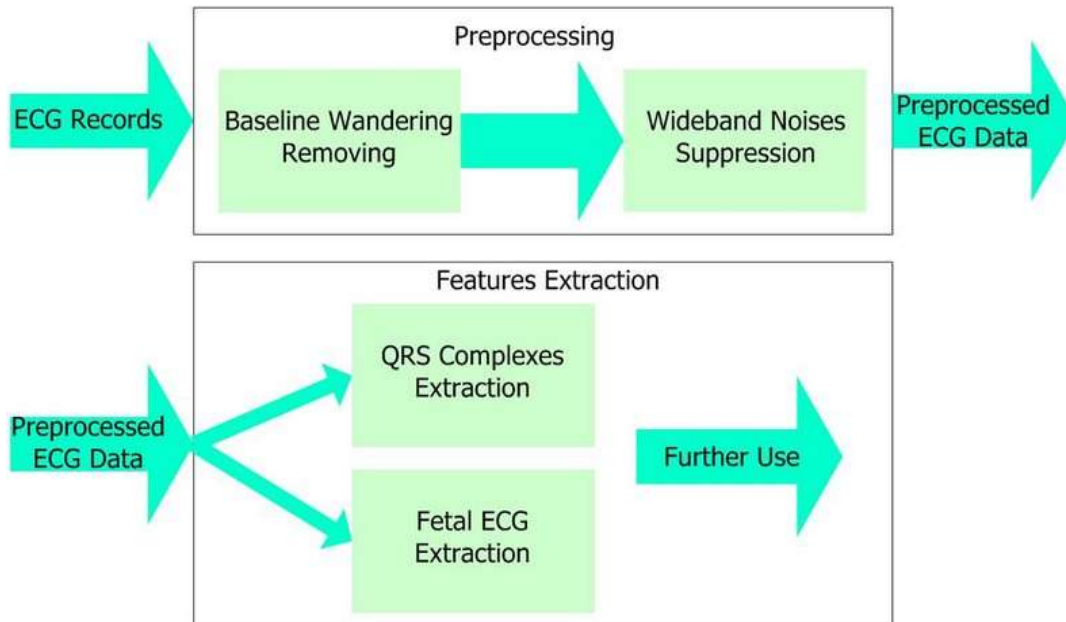
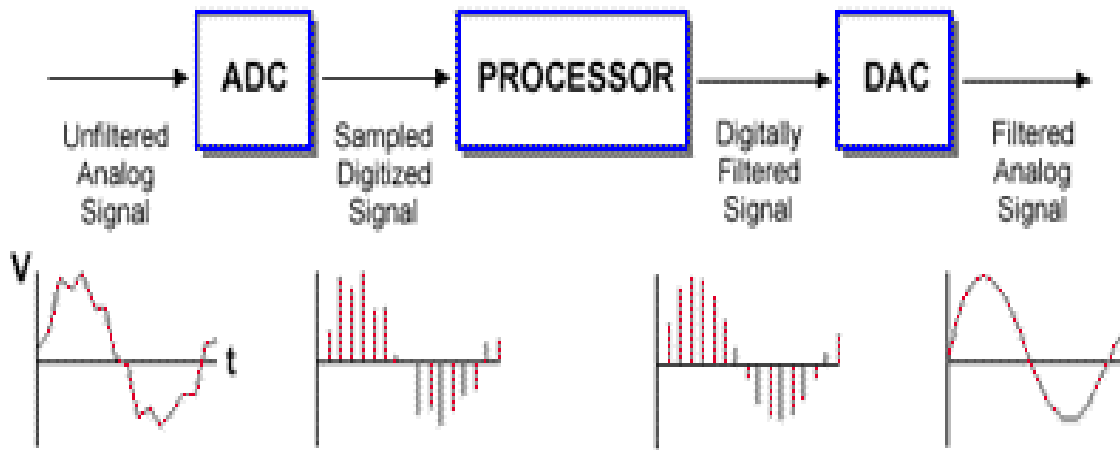
**Nyquist theorem:** sampling frequency must be at least 2x the frequency of the sine



## Digital signals – Digital Signal Processing



Signal processing with DSP units is everywhere around us.

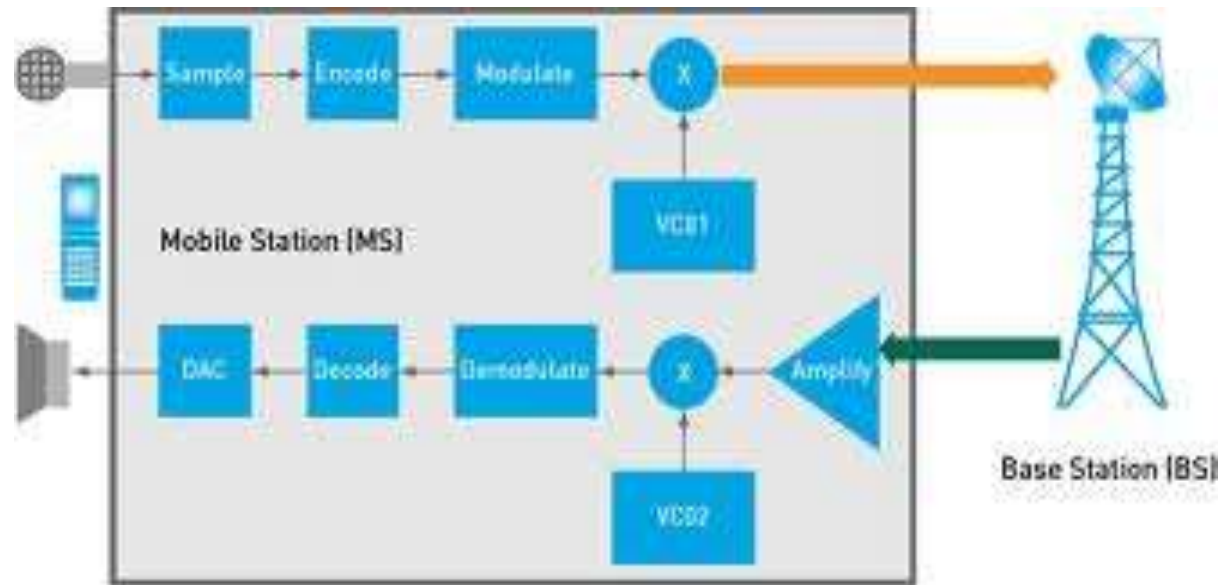


## DSP in everyday life

Digital data can be further manipulated : encoded/decoded/compressed,etc.

Cell phone

Sample, encode,transmit,decode,DAC



CD/DVD player

Light: digital 1010110...

DAC: from stream of numbers

Analog music / video

