Digital Sound

Sine wave



Frequency = pitch



Amplitude = volume





Sampling



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SAMPLE	SAMPLE HEIGHT (DECIMAL)	SAMPLE HEIGHT (BINARY)
1	130	10000010
2	140	1000110
3	160	10100000
4	175	10101111

The height of each sample is converted into a binary number and stored. The height of sample 3 is 160 (decimal), so it is stored as its binary equivalent—10100000.













Edit View Transform Generate Analyze Favorites Options Window Help





Lots of data

- Higher sampling rate = better quality
- WAV file (compact disc quality)
- 44,100 samples per second
- 16 bits per sample
- Stereo (left and right channels)
- One second of sound = 1,411,200 bits
- One hour of sound = 5,080,320,000 bits

Compression

- Using math to decrease the number of bits
- Three steps:
 - Analyze wave form
 - Look for patterns
 - Replace large patterns with smaller ones
- MP3 offers up to 11:1 compression ratio
- Advanced Audio Coding (AAC)

YouTube, iPhone, iPad, iTunes, etc.

Personal digital recording



High-end personal digital recording



Digital recording studio



Professional recording

- 44,100 / 16-bit
- 48,000 / 16-bit
- 96,000 / 24-bit
- 192,000 / 32-bit / surround sound

• In other words...

LOTS OF DATA!

Signal Processing







-114 -111 -108 -105 -102 -99 -96 -93 -90 -87 -84 -81 -78 -75 -72 -69 -66 -63 -60 -57 -54 -51 -48 -45 -42 -39 -36 -33 -30 -27 -24 -21 -18 -15 -12 -9 -6



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Multi-track recording and editing

🐻 Weather - voice only.wav - Cool Edit Pro

File Edit View Transform Generate Analyze Favorites Options Window Help









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dB



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Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)



Small amount of data

- One "event" = 16 bits
- An event is:
 - Start of a musical note
 - End of a musical note
 - Special commands
 - Play loud
 - Play soft
 - Etc.

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MIDI events

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Combining formats



Audio editing software

- ProTools (Avid)
- Audition (Adobe)
- Garage Band (Apple)
- Logic (Apple)
- Nuendo (Steinberg)
- Audacity (open source)

Conclusion

- Digital sound
 - Lots of data
 - Can record any sound
- MIDI
 - Small amount of data
 - Can only record digital musical instruments

