

- Previous Lecture:
  - Review matrix, cell array, structure array
- Today's Lecture:
  - Working with sound files
  - Review vector, graphics, struct array, cell array
- Announcement:
  - P5 due 4/11 (tomorrow) at 3pm
  - Review session Sunday 1-2:30pm, location TBA
  - Prelim 3 Tuesday 7:30-9pm

### Reading and playing .wav files

```
[y,rate,nBits] = wavread('austin.wav')
sound(y,rate)
```

A wav file is for the computer to process— software is required to play the sound.

Computing with sound in Matlab requires that we first convert the wav format data into simple numeric data—the job of `wavread`.

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### Computing with sound requires digitization

- Sound is continuous; capture its essence by sampling
- Digitized sound is a vector of numbers

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### Sampling rate affects the quality

If sampling not frequent enough, then the discretized sound will not capture the essence of the continuous sound...

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### Sampling Rate

Given human perception, 20000 samples/second is pretty good (20000Hz or 20kHz)

8,000 Hz	required for speech over the telephone
44,100 Hz	required for audio CD
192,400 Hz	required for HD-DVD audio tracks

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### Resolution also affects the quality

Typically, each sampled value is encoded as an 8-bit integer in the .wav file.

Possible values: -128, -127, ..., -1, 0, 1, ..., 127

Loud: -120, 90, 122, etc.

Quiet: 3, 10, -5

**Magnitude**  
determines loudness

16-bit used when very high quality is required.

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**wavread** converts the 8-bit values to floating point values between -1 and 1

```
[y,rate,nBits]= wavread('austin.wav')
```

```

0.4609
0.3516
0.2734
0.2891
0.2500
0.1484 ← y(50000:50012)
0.1094
0.1641
0.1484
0.0000
-0.1641
-0.2734
-0.3281
    
```

**wavread**

```
[y,rate,nBits]= wavread('austin.wav');
n = length(y);
```

```

n =
    54453
rate =
    11025
nBits =
     8
    
```

**austin.wav**  
 encoded the sound with 54,453 8-bit numbers that were gathered over a span of about 54453/11025 secs

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**wavread**

```
[data,rate,nBits]= wavread('noCry.wav')
```

Name of the source file

The vector of sampled sound values is assigned to this variable

The sampling rate is assigned to this variable

The resolution is assigned to this variable

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Hearing and "seeing" the sound

```
[y,rate]= wavread('austin');
sound(y, rate)
plot(1:length(y), y)
```

Usually playback at a rate equal to the sampling rate

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movies.wav

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Example: playlist

Suppose we have a set of .wav files, e.g.,

```

austin.wav
sp_beam.wav
sp_oz6.wav
    
```

and wish to play them in succession.

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Possible solution

```

playList = {'austin',...
           'sp_beam',...
           'sp_oz6'};

for k=1:length(playList)
    [y,rate] = wavread(playList{k});
    sound(y,rate)
end
    
```

Problem: will start playing sp\_beam before austin finishes playing

Compute a pause!

```

for k=1:length(playList)
    [y,rate] = wavread(playList{k});
    sound(y,rate)

    % How long does it take
    % to play one file?

end
    
```

A: rate\*length(y)

B: rate/length(y)

C: length(y)/rate

Compute a pause!

```

for k=1:length(playList)
    [y,rate] = wavread(playList{k});
    sound(y,rate)

    p = length(y)/rate;
    pause(p+1)
end
    
```

Compute how long it'll take and add one second.

Example: store the data from wav files as a struct array for play back later

```

function SA = wavSegments(wnames)
% Build a struct array SA such that
% SA(k).data stores the data of wnames{k}
% SA(k).rate stores the sampling rate of
% wav file wnames{k}

for k= 1:length(wnames)
    [y,rate] = wavread(wnames{k});
    SA(k)= struct('data', y, 'rate', rate);
end
    
```

```

function playSegments(SA)
% Play sound data stored in struct array SA.
% SA(k).data stores the k-th segment of
% sound data (from wavread)
% SA(k).rate is sampling rate of k-th seg.

for k= 1:length(SA)
    theData= SA(k).data;
    theRate= SA(k).rate;
    sound(theData,theRate)
    pause(length(theData)/theRate + 1)
end
    
```

Example

- An interactive graphical environment to visualize sound data
  - Allows user to zoom in and out
  - Allows user to look forward and back

[lookAtSound.m](#)

- As an exercise, add sound to the environment!