

Signal processing wrap-up session.

Mathematical Tools for ITS (11MAI)

Mathematical tools, 2021

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11MAI, lecture 5

Monday, October 18, 2021

version: 2021-10-19 09:33

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Spectrograms

Computer session 5.1: Chirp

Computer session 5.2: Harmonic chirp

Spectrograms and signal analysis

We said that DFT assumes **stationarity**. It cannot detect local frequency or phase changes.

To localize changes in the signal in time domain by DFT we need to look at shorter parts of the signal — **time windows**.

Q1: What is a **time window**?

Q2: Which two basic properties are of interest for time window functions?

In MATLAB the command

```
spectrogram(x,window,noverlap,nfft,fs,'yaxis')
```

performs short-time Fourier transform and plots a 2D frequency-time diagram, where

- **x** is the signal specified by vector **x**.
- if **window** is an integer, **x** is divided into segments of length equal to that integer value
- otherwise, **window** is a Hamming window of length **nfft**
- **noverlap** is the number of samples each segment of **x** overlaps

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performs short-time Fourier transform and plots a 2D frequency-time diagram, where

- **nfft** is the FFT length and is the maximum of 256 or the next power of 2 greater than the length of each segment of **x**
- **fs** is the sampling frequency, which defaults to normalized frequency
- using **'yaxis'** displays frequency on the y-axis and time on the x-axis

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In MATLAB the command

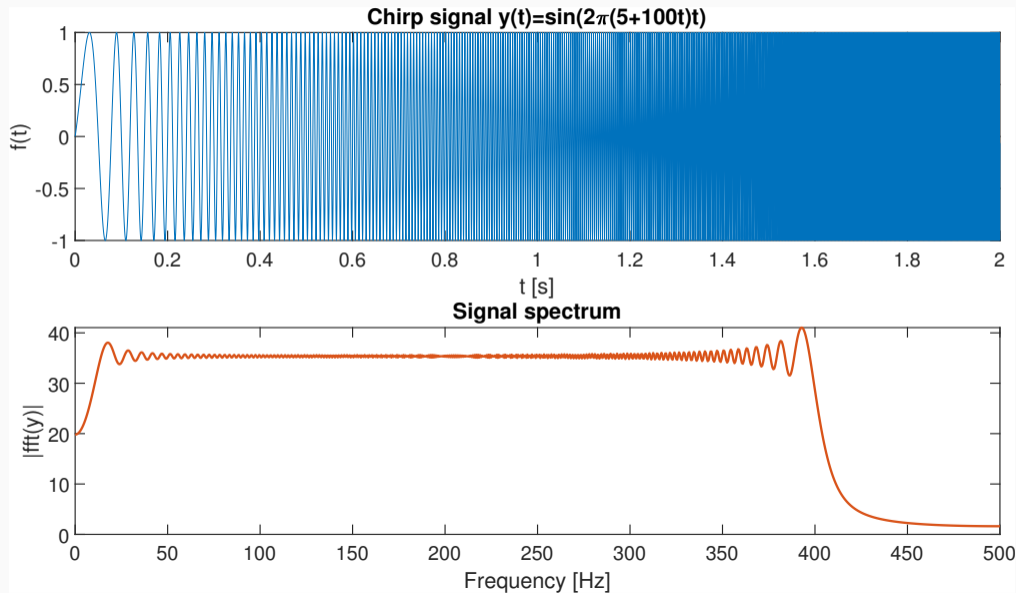
```
spectrogram(x,window,noverlap,nfft,fs,'yaxis')
```

performs short-time Fourier transform and plots a 2D frequency-time diagram.

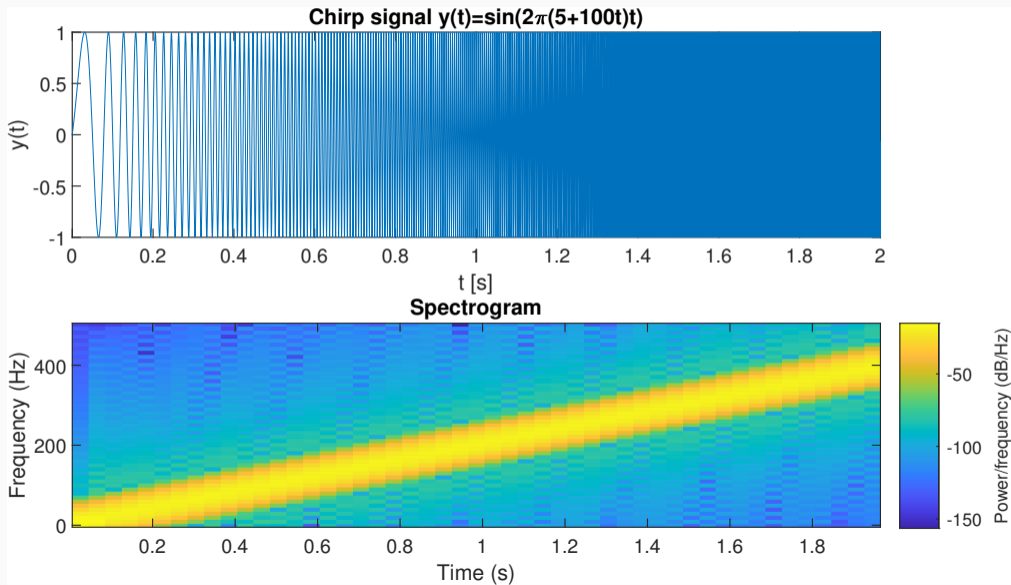
In current Matlab versions, the `colorbar` command is automatically issued to append a color scale to the current axes.

Matlab Session 5.1

DFT — Chirp signal analysis $\sin(2\pi(f_0 + \alpha t)t)$



STFT — Chirp signal analysis $\sin(2\pi(f_0 + \alpha t)t)$



Consider the chirp signal

$$y(t) = \sin(2\pi(f_0 + \alpha t)t)$$

for $f_0 = 5$ Hz and $\alpha = 100$ on the interval $t \in [0, 2)$. Sample this signal with $f_s = 1000$ Hz and obtain sample vector $\mathbf{y} = (y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{1999})$.

- Create a subplot which plots an “almost continuous” version of $y(t)$ and its spectrogram
- To create the spectrogram, use the Blackman window of length 50 samples, 100 DFT coefficients and overlap of 10 samples.

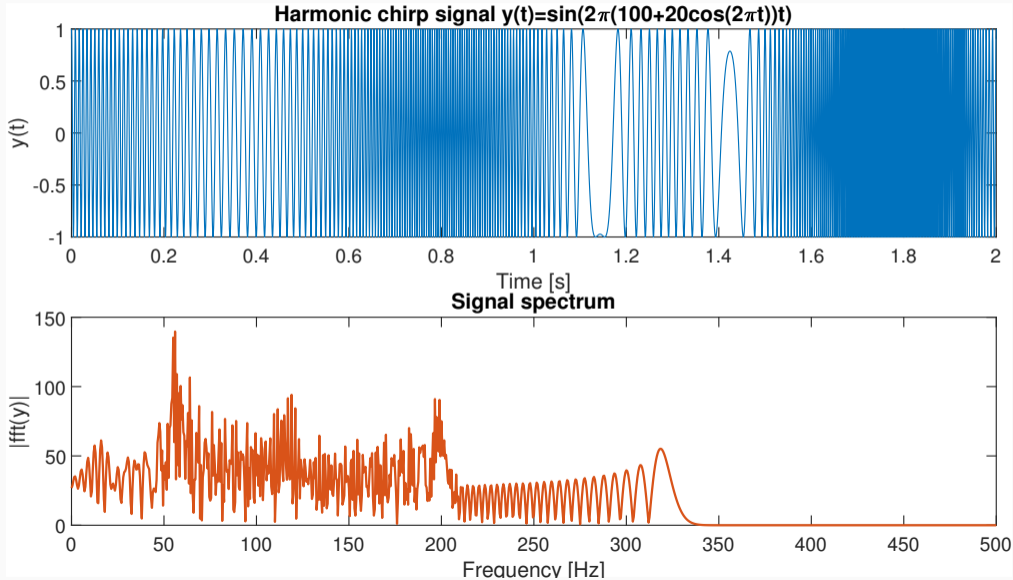
```
clear
fs = 1000; % Sampling frequency
tmax = 2; % End of the time interval
N = tmax*fs; % Number of samples
f0 = 5; % Lowest chirp frequency
alpha = 100; % Chirp rate
% The "continuous" original signal
tc = linspace(0,tmax,40*N+1);
tc(end) = []; % now we have 40*N time samples
yc = sin(2*pi*(f0 + alpha*tc).*tc); % 'tc' is a vector, hence '.*'
% The sampled signal
ts = linspace(0,tmax,N+1); % the last sample is at t=2
ts(end) = []; % now we have N time samples
ys = sin(2*pi*(f0 + alpha*ts).*ts); % 'ts' is a vector, hence '.*'
```



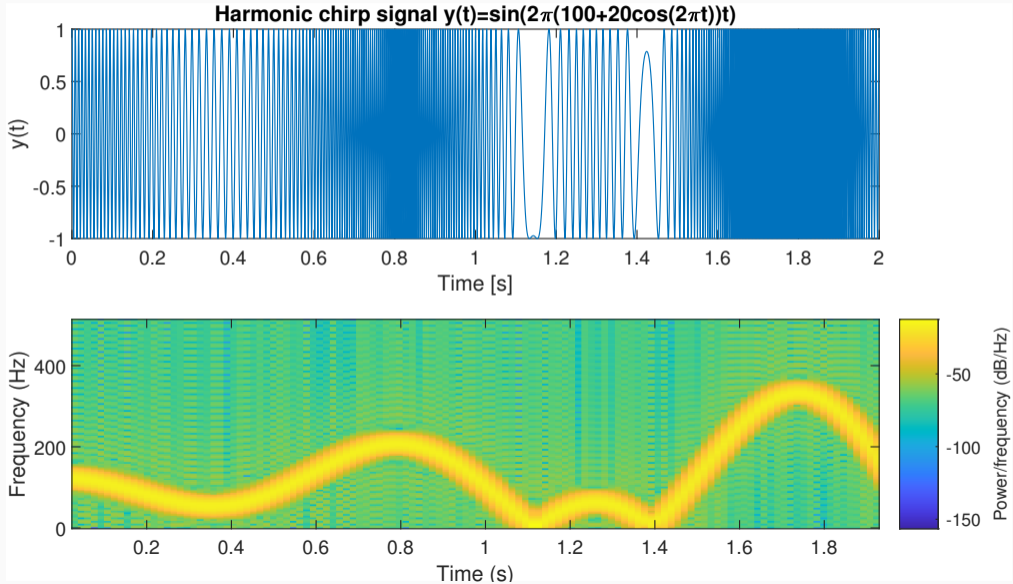
```
figure(1);  
cmap = colormap('lines');  
ax1 = subplot(2,1,1);  
plot(tc, yc, 'LineWidth', 0.1, 'Color', cmap(1,:));  
xlabel('t□[s]');  
ylabel('y(t)');  
title(chirp_title);  
ax2 = subplot(2,1,2);  
spectrogram(y,blackman(50),10,100,1000,'yaxis');  
colormap('parula');  
title('Spectrogram');
```

Matlab Session 5.2

DFT — Analysis of $\cos(2\pi(100 + 20 \cos 2\pi t)t)$



STFT — Analysis of $\cos(2\pi(100 + 20 \cos 2\pi t)t)$



Spectrograms

Spectrograms and signal analysis

Computer session 5.3: Musical instrument

Computer session 5.4: Steam whistle

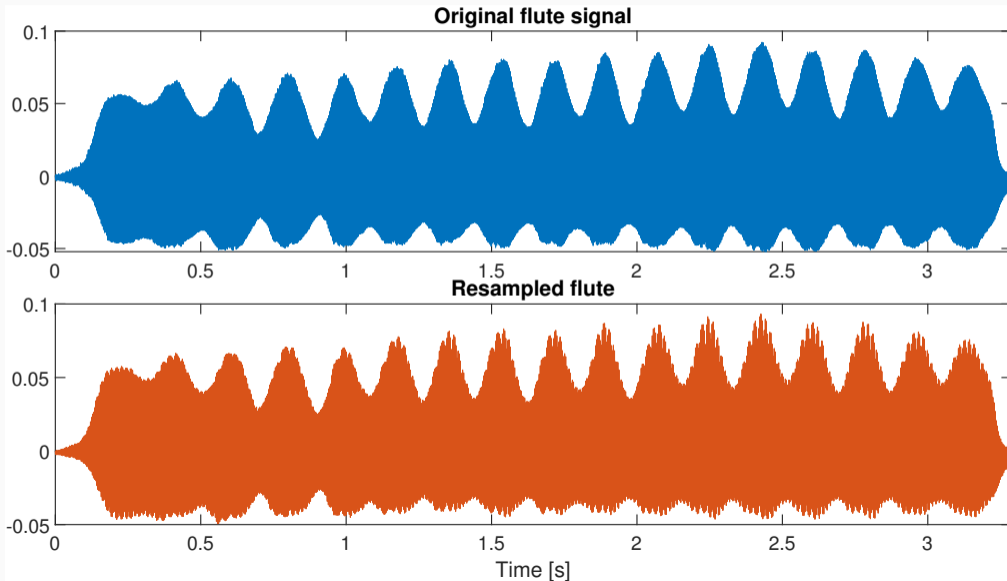
Matlab Session 5.3

- a) Download the soundfile `flute-C4.wav` from 11MAI website
- b) Start MATLAB. Load in the downloaded audio signal with commands

```
filename = 'flute-C4.wav';  
[x1 sr1] = audioread(filename);
```

- c) The sampling rate is 11 025 Hz, and the signal contains 36 250 samples.
Q: If we consider this signal as sampled on an interval $[0, T)$, what is the time duration of the flute sound ?
- d) Use command `soundsc(x1, sr1)` to obtain flute sound [click to play](#)
- e) Resample the audio signal by $f_r = 4000$ Hz and write the sound file to disk using

```
audiowrite('flute-resampled.wav', x2, sr2);
```



f) Compute the DFT of the signal with

```
X1 = fft(x1(1:1024));  
X2 = fft(x2(1:1024));
```

g) DFT of real-valued signals is always symmetric around $f_r/2$ so we only need to plot the first half. Display the magnitude of the Fourier transform using

```
plot(f1(1:end/2+1), abs(X1(1:end/2+1)));
```

h) Q: What is the approximate fundamental frequency of the flute note C4?

i) Compute the DFT of the signal with

```
X1 = fft(x1(1:1024));  
X2 = fft(x2(1:1024));
```

j) DFT of real-valued signals is always symmetric around $f_r/2$ so we only need to plot the first half. Display the magnitude of the Fourier transform using

```
plot(f1(1:end/2+1), abs(X1(1:end/2+1)));
```

k) **Q:** What is the approximate fundamental frequency of the flute note C4?

A: Find the bin corresponding to the first peak in the magnitude spectrum.

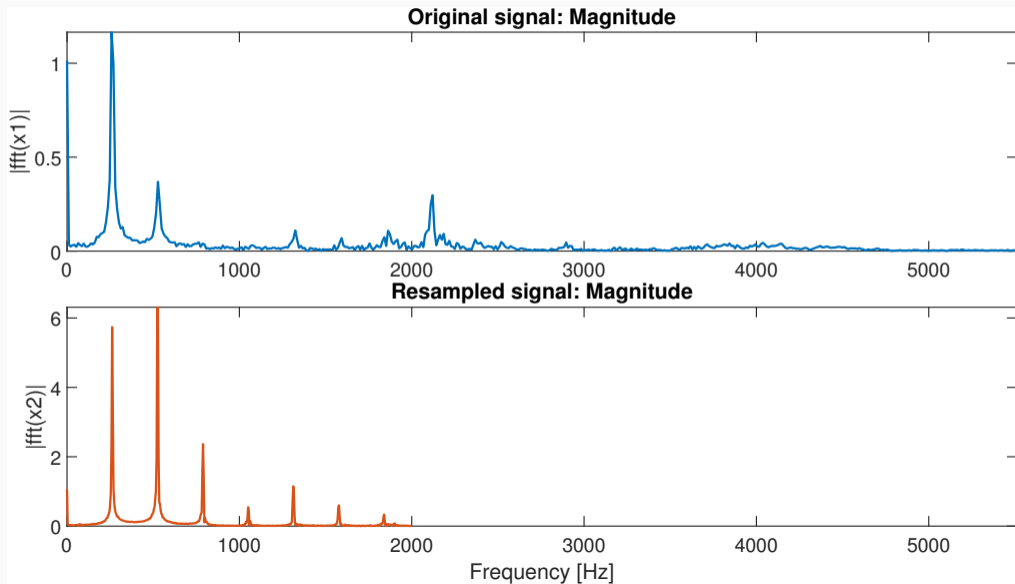
- l) You can use a systematic way to find the frequency of the peaks in spectrum `abs(X2)` using following commands:

```
% find local maxima  
mag = abs(X2);  
mag = mag(1:end/2+1);  
peaks = (mag(1:end-2) < mag(2:end-1)) & (mag(2:end-1) > mag(3:end));
```

- m) Then evaluate the peaks at corresponding frequencies above a threshold:

```
peaks = peaks & mag(2:end-1) > 0.5;  
fmax = f2(peaks)
```

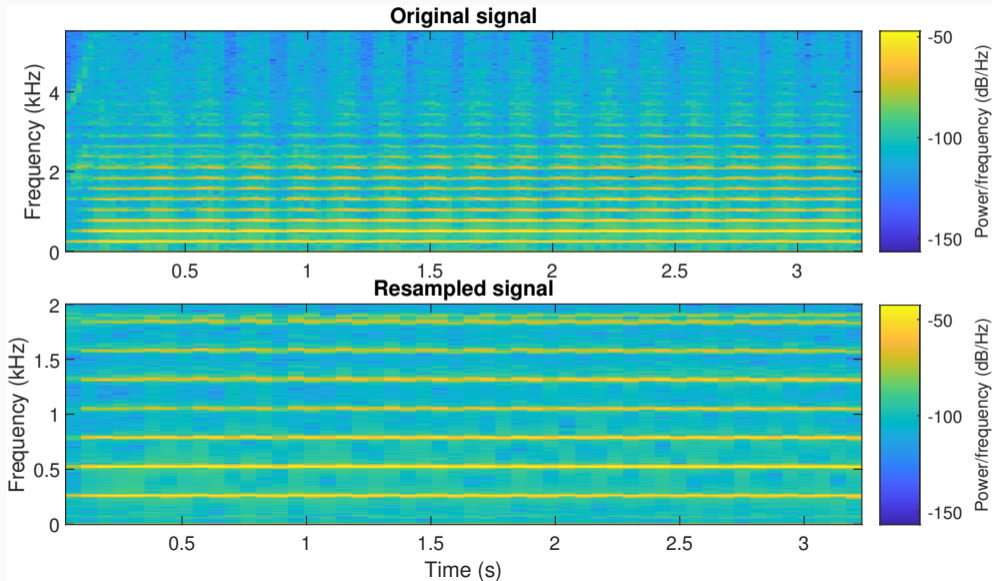
The same can be accomplished using `findpeaks()` function from Signal Processing Toolbox. Check its documentation using `doc findpeaks`.



n) Finally we will use Spectrogram with following specifications:

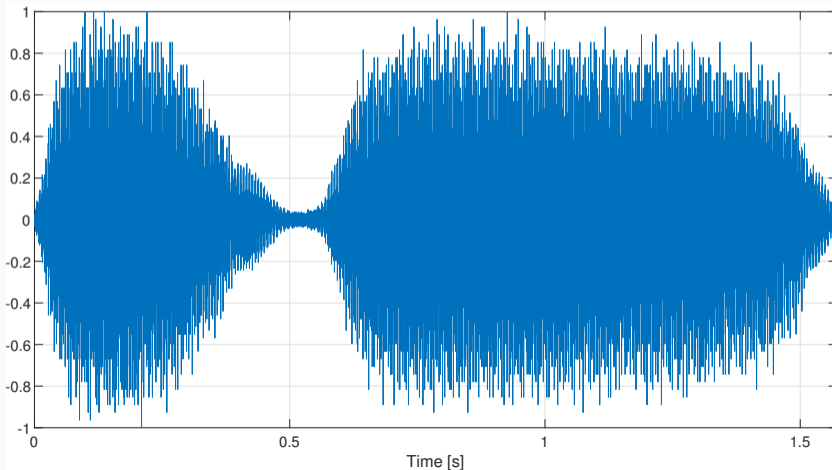
```
nwin = 512; % samples of a window
noverlap = 256; % samples of overlaps
nfft = 512; % samples of fast Fourier transform
f = figure(4);
subplot(211);
spectrogram(x1, nwin, noverlap, nfft, sr1, 'yaxis');
subplot(212);
spectrogram(x2, nwin, noverlap, nfft, sr2, 'yaxis');
```

o) Carefully study the options for the `spectrogram()` using `doc spectrogram!`



Matlab Session 5.4

- a) Start MATLAB. Load in the “train” signal with command `load('train')`. Note that the audio signal is loaded into a variable `y` and the sampling rate into `Fs`.



b) The sampling rate is 8192 Hz, and the signal contains 12 880 samples.

Q: What is the length of the sound in seconds?

c) Compute the DFT of the signal with `Y=fft(y)`. Display the magnitude of the Fourier transform with `plot(abs(Y))`

The DFT is of length 12 880 and symmetric about center.

d) Since MATLAB indexes from 1, the DFT coefficient Y_k is actually `Y(k+1)` in MATLAB!

e) You can plot only the first half of the DFT with `plot(abs(Y(1:6441)))`.

f) Compute the actual value of each significant frequency in Hertz. Use the data cursor on the plot window to pick out the frequency and amplitude of three largest components.

- b) The sampling rate is 8192 Hz, and the signal contains 12 880 samples. If we consider this signal as sampled on an interval $(0, T)$, then $T = 12880/8192 \approx 1.5723$ seconds.
- c) Compute the DFT of the signal with `Y=fft(y)`. Display the magnitude of the Fourier transform with `plot(abs(Y))`
The DFT is of length 12 880 and symmetric about center.
- d) Since MATLAB indexes from 1, the DFT coefficient Y_k is actually `Y(k+1)` in MATLAB!
- e) You can plot only the first half of the DFT with `plot(abs(Y(1:6441)))`.
- f) **Compute the actual value of each significant frequency in Hertz.** Use the data cursor on the plot window to pick out the frequency and amplitude of **three** largest components.

- g) Denote these frequencies f_1, f_2, f_3 , and let A_1, A_2, A_3 denote the corresponding amplitudes. Define these variables in MATLAB.
- h) Synthesize a new signal using only these frequencies, sampled at 8192 Hz on the interval $[0, 1.5)$ with

```
t = [0:1/8192:1.5];  
ys = (A1*sin(2*pi*f1*t)+A2*sin(2*pi*f2*t)+A3*sin(2*pi*f3*t))/(A1+A2+A3);
```

- i) Play the original train sound with `sound(y)` and the synthesized version `sound(ys)`. Compare the quality!
- j) Can you explore another frequency components? If it is so, follow the steps g)–i) and listen to the result.

We can now extend this observation and study a simple approach to lossy audio signal compression.

Proposition (Simple lossy audio signal compression)

*The idea is to transform the audio signal in the frequency domain with DFT and then to eliminate the insignificant frequencies by **thresholding**, i.e. by **zeroing out any Fourier coefficients below a given threshold**. This becomes a compressed version of the signal. To recover an approximation to the signal, we use inverse DFT to take the limited spectrum back to the time domain.*

- k) Thresholding: Compute the maximum value of Y_k with $m=\max(\text{abs}(Y))$. Choose a thresholding parameter $\in (0, 1)$, for example, `thresh=0.1`
- l) Zero out all frequencies in Y that fall below a value `thresh*m`. This can be done with **logical indexing** or e.g. with

```
Ythresh=(abs(Y)>m*thresh).*Y;
```

Plot the thresholded transform with `plot(abs(Ythresh))`.

- m) Compute the **compression ratio** as the fraction of DFT coefficients which survived the cut, `sum(abs(Ythresh)>0)/12880`.
- n) Recover the original time domain with inverse transform `yt=real(ifft(Ythresh))` and play the compressed audio with `sound(yt)`. The `real` command truncates imaginary round-off error in the `ifft` procedure.

- o) Compute the **distortion** (as a percentage) of the compressed signal using formula

$$\epsilon = \frac{\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}_t\|^2}{\|\mathbf{y}\|^2}$$

- Note:** The `norm(y)` command in MATLAB computes $\|\mathbf{y}\|$, the standard Euclidean norm of the vector \mathbf{y} .
- p) Repeat the computation for threshold values `thresh=0.5`, `thresh=0.05` and `thresh=0.005`. In each case compute the compression ratio, the distortion, and play the audio signal and rate its quality.