

# 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

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

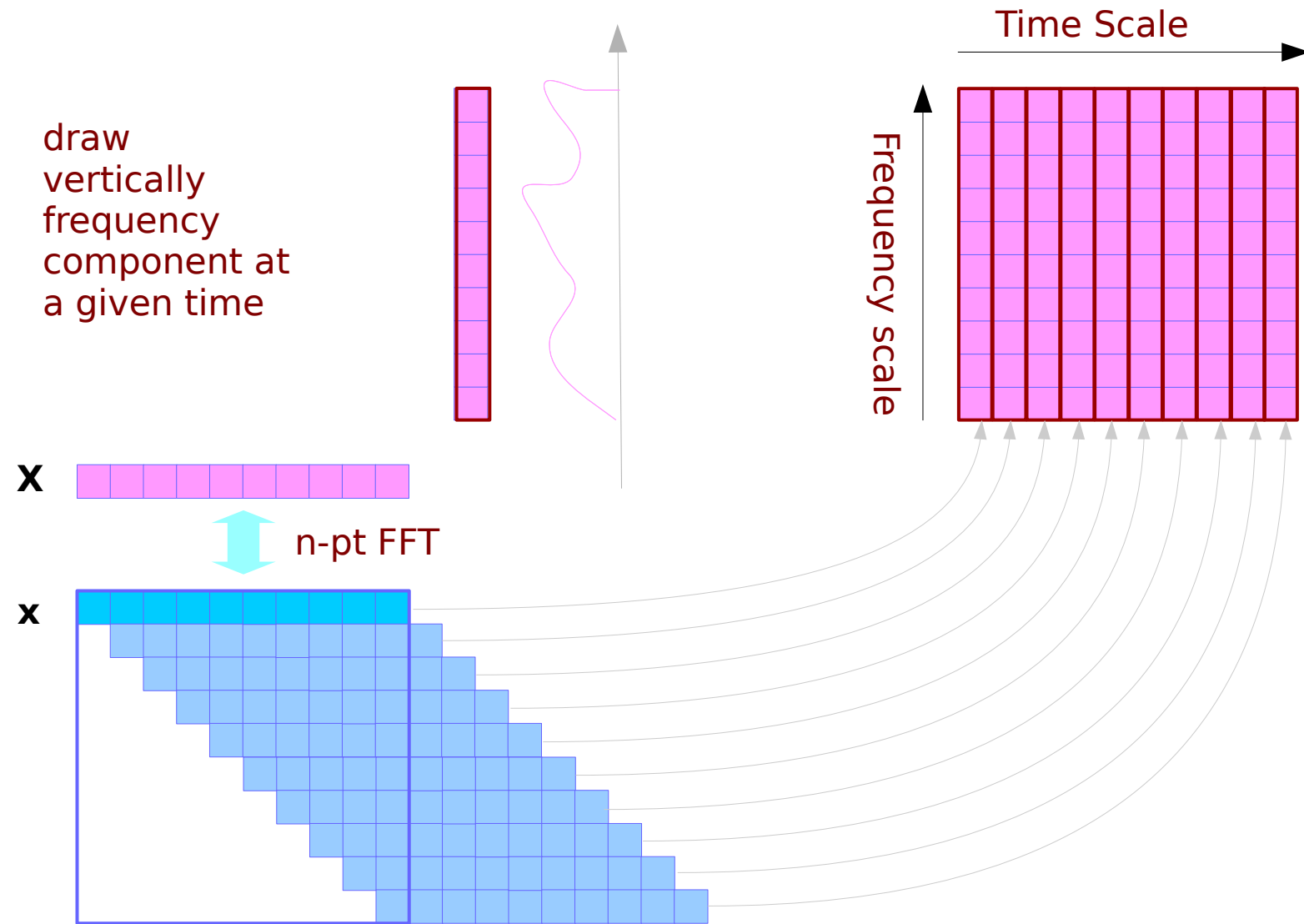
<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# 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)**
- the number of samples overlap between successive segments
  
- 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>

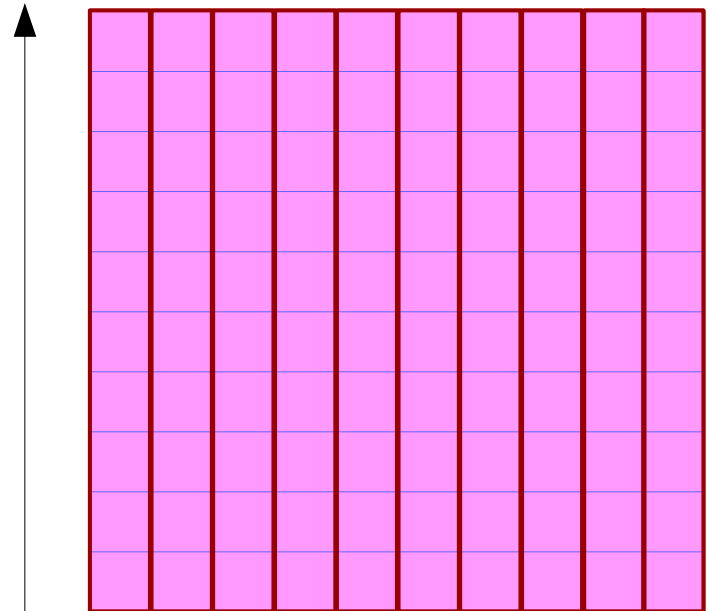
# 3D representation over Time Frequency Domain



# Time and Frequency Resolutions

Frequency scale

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



Time Scale

Time Resolution = step

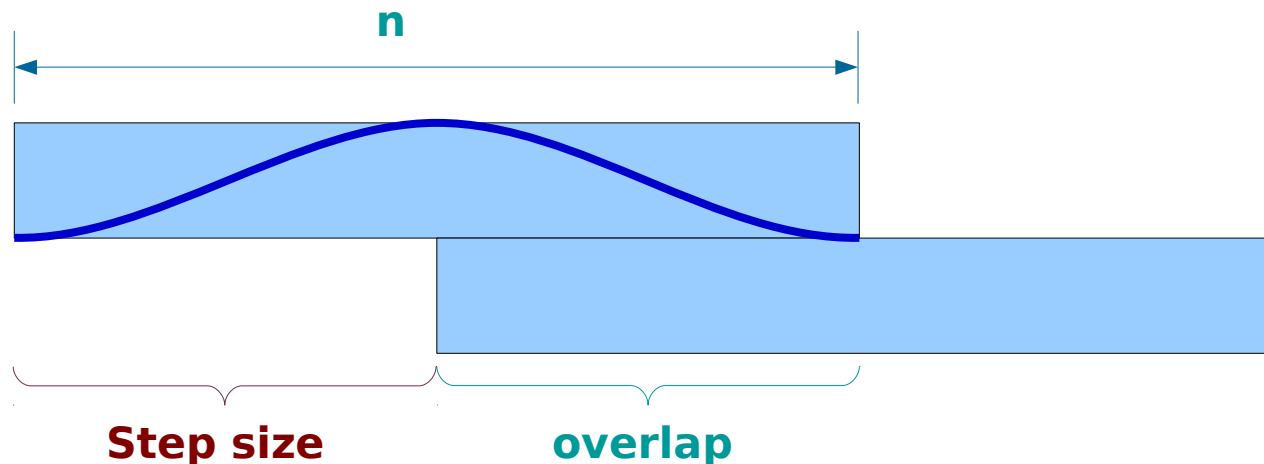


# Window Size

The choice of window defines the time-frequency resolution.

In speech for example,

- a wide window shows more harmonic detail
- a narrow window averages over the harmonic detail
  - shows more formant structure
- the shape of the window is not so critical
  - so long as it goes **gradually to zero** on the ends.

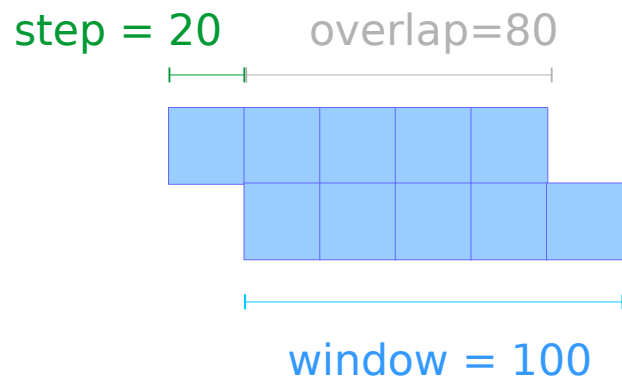


<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Step Size

## Step size

- window length minus overlap
- controls the horizontal scale of the spectrogram.
- gain a little bit, depending on the shape of your window
- as the peak of the window slides over peaks in the signal energy
- the range 1-5 msec is good for speech.

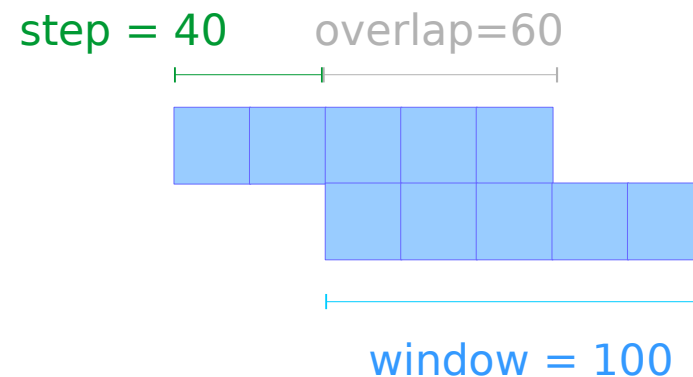
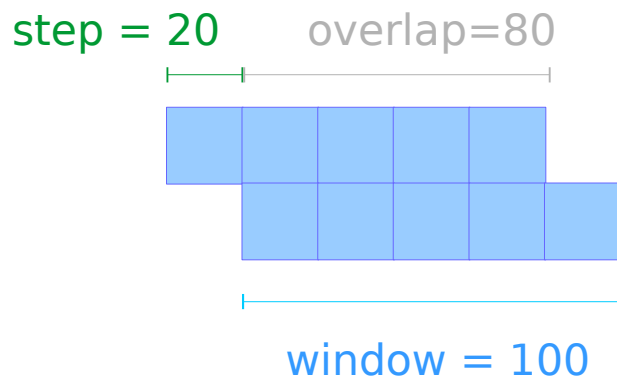


<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# Step Size

## Step size

- step size increase to compress.
- step size increase decrease to stretch
- 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

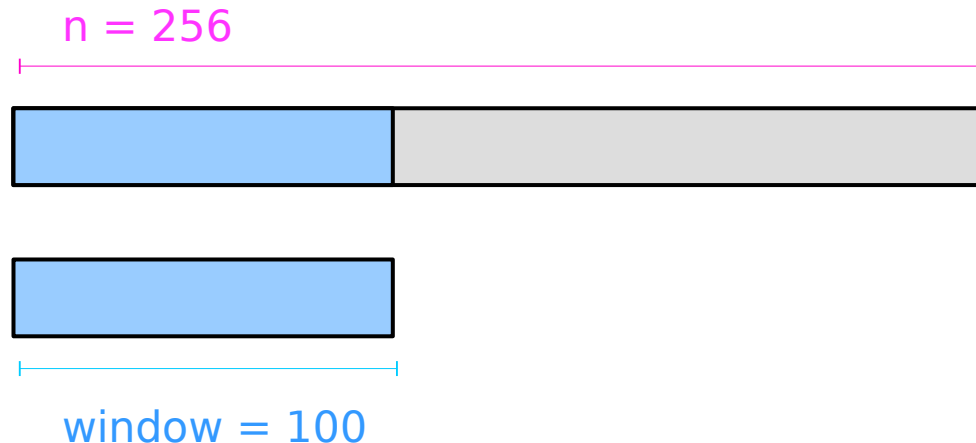
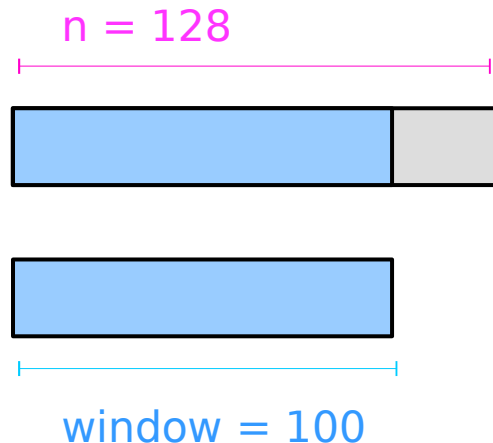


<https://octave.sourceforge.io/signal/function/specgram.html>

# 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>

# Dynamic Range

After you have generated the **spectral slices** there are a number of decisions for displaying them.

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

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

then the dynamic range of the signal is chosen.

Since information in speech is well above the noise floor, it makes sense to eliminate any dynamic range at the bottom end. taking the max of the magnitude and some minimum energy such as **minE=-40dB**.

Similarly, there is not much information in the very top of the range, so clipping to a maximum energy such as **maxE=-3dB** makes sense:

```
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 to the Nyquist frequency of one half the sampling rate. ( $F_s/2$ )

If the signal of interest is band limited, you do not need to display the entire frequency range.

In speech for example, most of the 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.

In this case you will want to keep only the first 40% of the rows of the returned  $S$  and  $f$ .

More generally, to display the frequency range [ $\text{minF}$ ,  $\text{maxF}$ ], you could use the following row index:

```
idx = (f >= minF & f <= maxF);
```

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

# Color Map

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then there is the choice of colormap.

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>

# Example 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);

## 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>



# Chirp (1)

Function File: **chirp** (t)

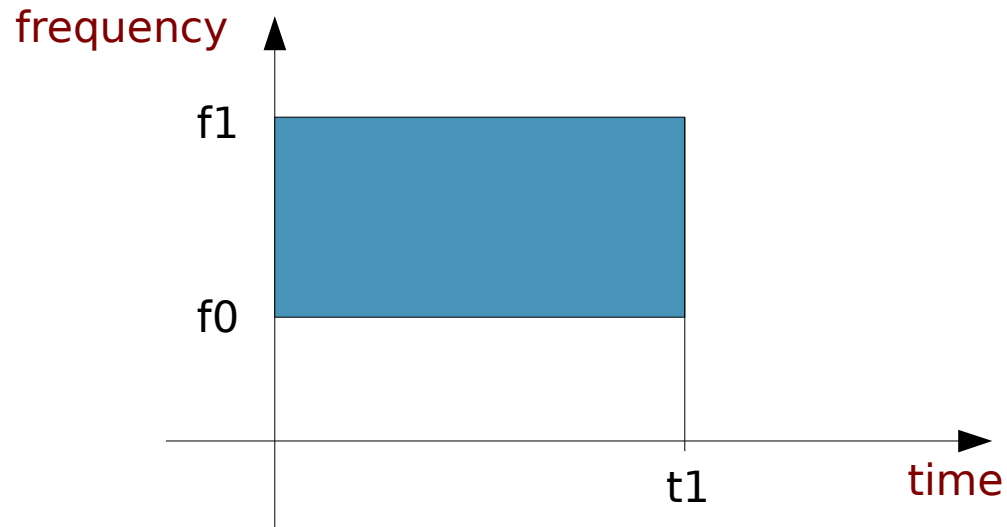
Function File: **chirp** (t, f0)

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)



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

# Chirp (2)

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)

Evaluate a chirp signal at time t.  
A chirp signal is a frequency swept cosine wave.

**t** vector of times to evaluate the chirp signal  
**f0** frequency at time t=0 [ 0 Hz ]  
**t1** time t1 [ 1 sec ]  
**f1** frequency at time t=t1 [ 100 Hz ]  
**form** shape of frequency sweep  
'linear'  $f(t) = (f_1 - f_0) \cdot (t/t_1) + f_0$   
'quadratic'  $f(t) = (f_1 - f_0) \cdot (t/t_1)^2 + f_0$   
'logarithmic'  $f(t) = (f_1 - f_0)^{(t/t_1)} + f_0$   
**phase** phase shift at t=0

$$f(t) = \frac{(f_1 - f_0)}{(t_1 - 0)} \cdot t + f_0$$

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

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

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

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

# Chirp (3)

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)

**t** a time vector  
**f0** frequency at time t=0  
**t1** time t1  
**f1** frequency at time t=t1  
**form** shape of frequency sweep  
**phase** phase shift at t=0

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:

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

```
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

```
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 =  $2^{\text{nextpow2}(100)} = 2^{128}$   
Fs = 1000  
window = 100  
overlap =  $100 - 20 = 80$

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



# Example 1

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

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

$$2000 \text{ samples} = 96 \text{ steps} * 20 \text{ samples /step} + 80 \text{ samples}$$
$$= (1920 + 80) \text{ samples}$$



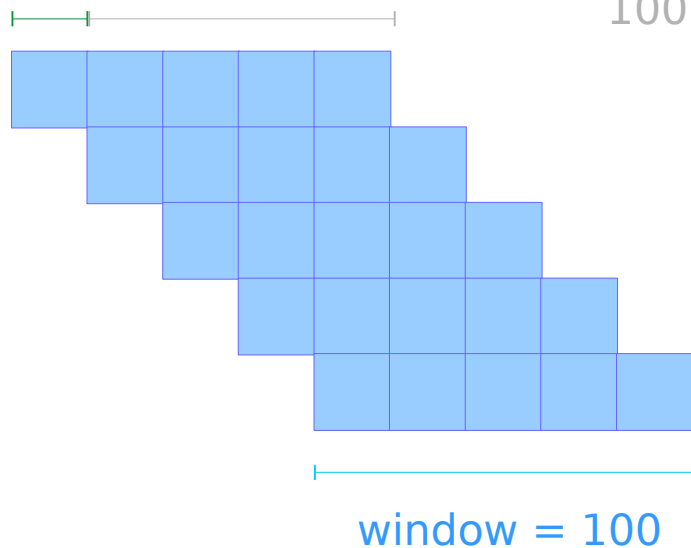
$$2 \text{ sec} \quad 2000 \text{ samples} = 96 \text{ steps} + 80 \text{ samples}$$
$$20 \text{ msec} * 1 \text{ samples /msec} = 20 \text{ samples}$$
$$20 \text{ msec} * F_s \text{ samples/sec} / (1000 \text{ msec/sec})$$

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

# Example 1

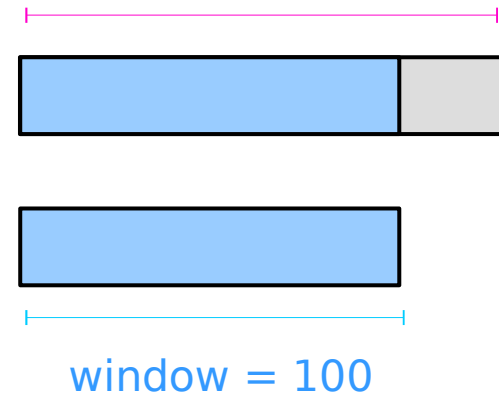
```
x = chirp([0:0.001:2],0,2,500); # freq. sweep from 0-500 over 2 sec.  
Fs=1000; # sampled every 0.001 sec so rate is 1 kHz  
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000); # one spectral slice every 20 ms  
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000); # 100 ms data window  
specgram(x, 128, Fs, 100, 80);
```

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 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>



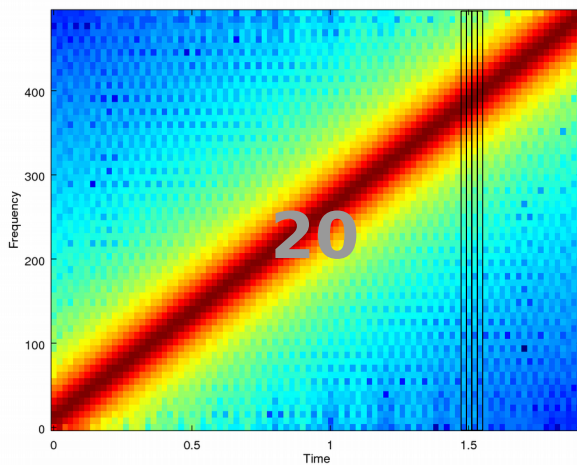
# Example 2

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

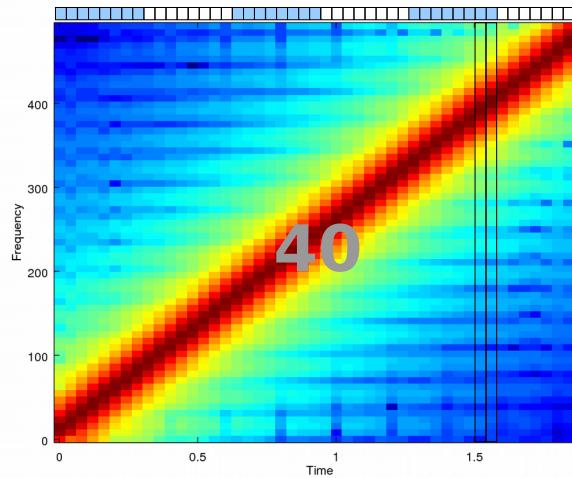
```
Fs=1000;  
x = chirp([0:1/Fs:2],0,2,500);  
step=ceil(20*Fs/1000);  
window=ceil(100*Fs/1000);
```

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

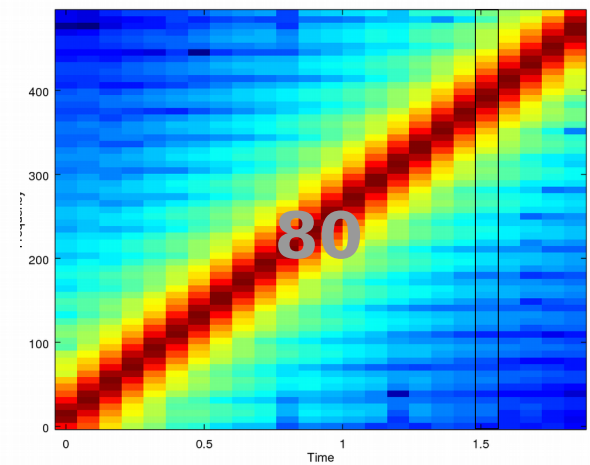
```
## test of automatic plot  
[S, f, t] = specgram(x);  
specgram(x, 2^nextpow2(window), Fs, window, window-step);
```



step=20msec  
96 steps



step=40msec  
48 step



step=80msec  
24 steps

## References

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