

# Fourier and Wavelets

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- Why do we need a Transform?
  - Fourier Transform and the short term Fourier (STFT)
  - Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle
  - The continuous Wavelet Transform
  - Discrete Wavelet Transform
  - Wavelets Transforms in Two dimensions

# Based on...

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- <http://users.rowan.edu/~polikar/>
- [Making Wavelets](#), Robi Polikar's "The Wavelet Tutorial" featured by the Science Magazine's NetWatch Department, Science, vol. 300, no. 561, pp. 873, May 2003.

# I) Why do we need a Transform?

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- Transformations are applied to signals to obtain a further information from that signal that is not readily available in the raw signal
- Most of the signals in practice, are TIME-DOMAIN signals in their raw format
- In many cases, the most distinguished information is hidden in the frequency content of the signal

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- If something changes rapidly, we say that it is of high frequency
  - If this does not change rapidly, i.e., it changes smoothly, we say that it is of low frequency.

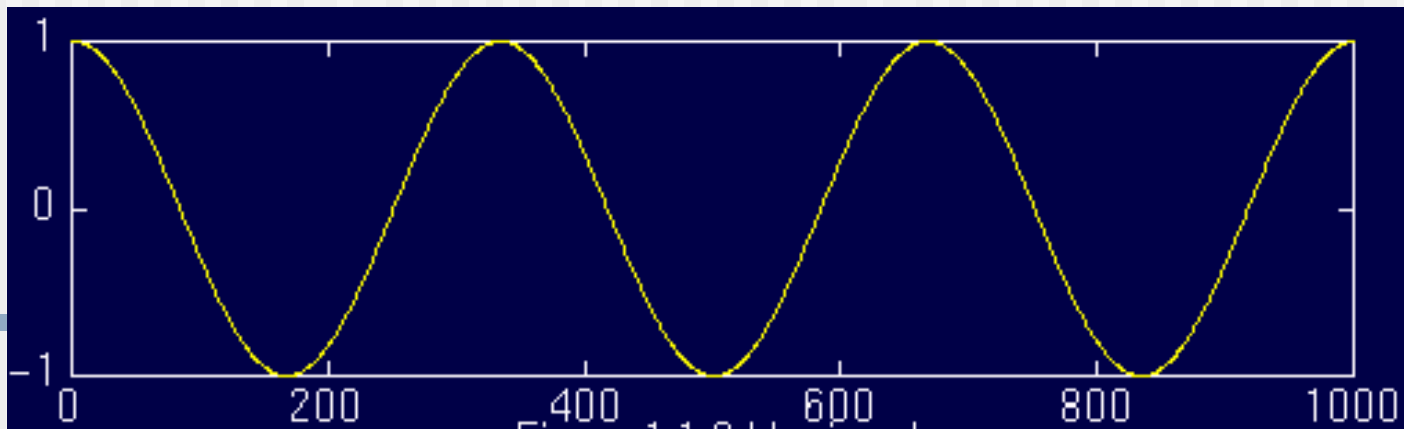


Figure 1.1 3 Hz signal

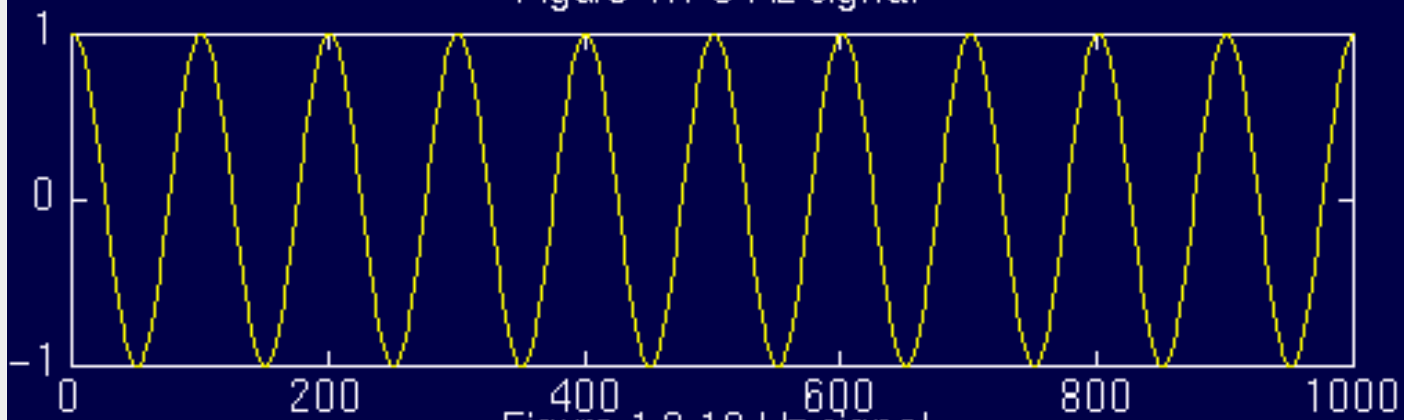


Figure 1.2 10 Hz signal

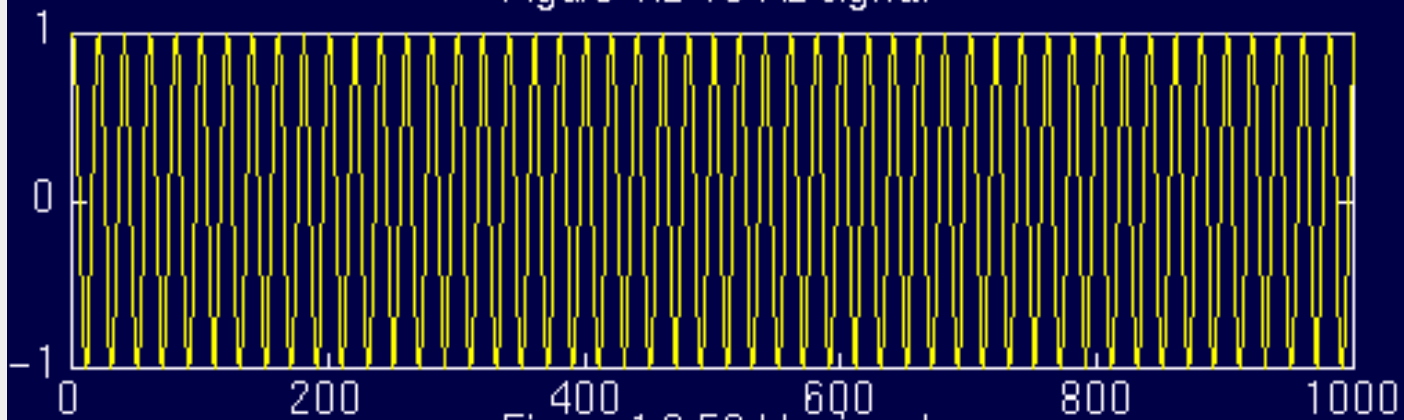
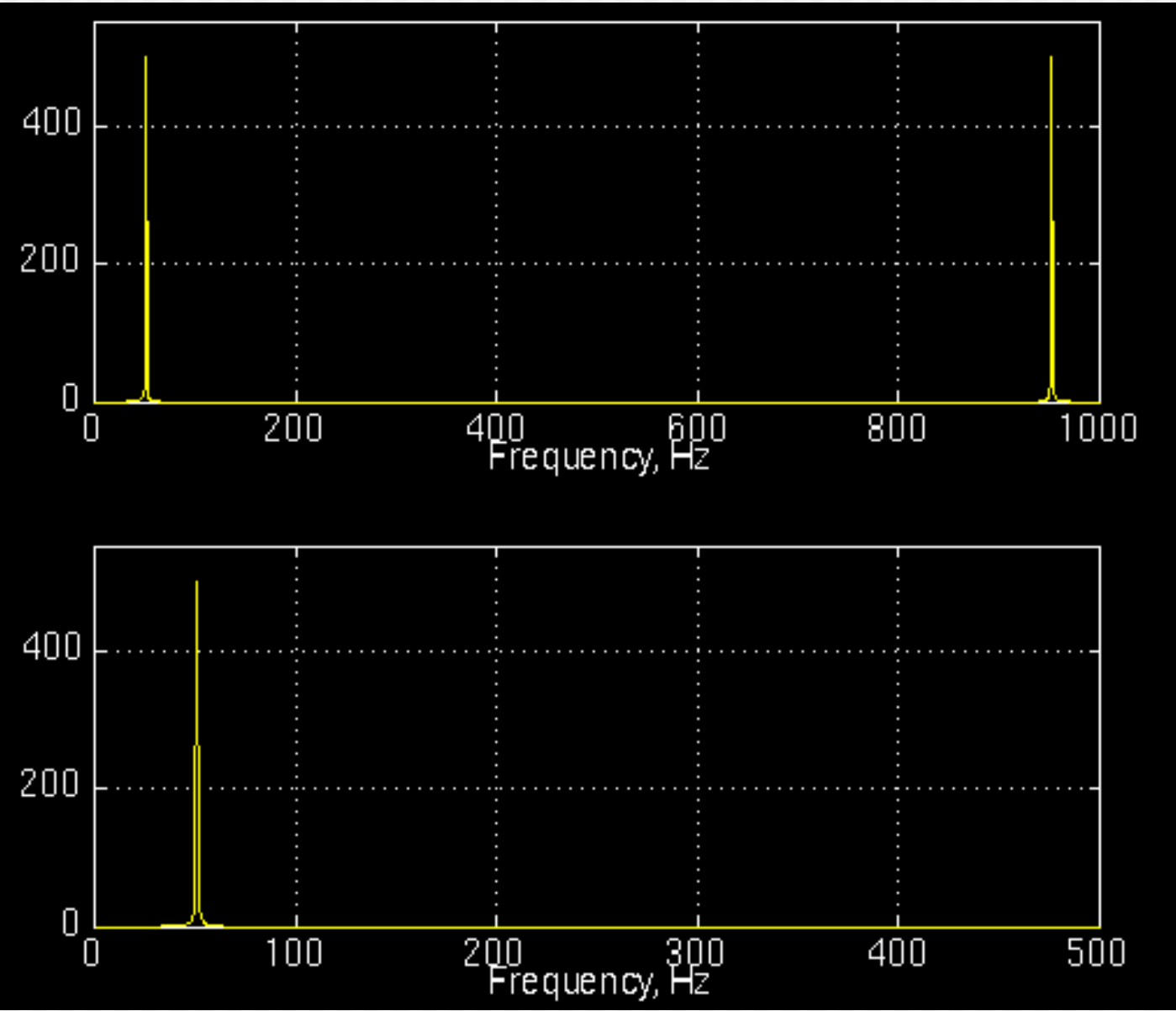


Figure 1.3 50 Hz signal

# FOURIER TRANSFORM

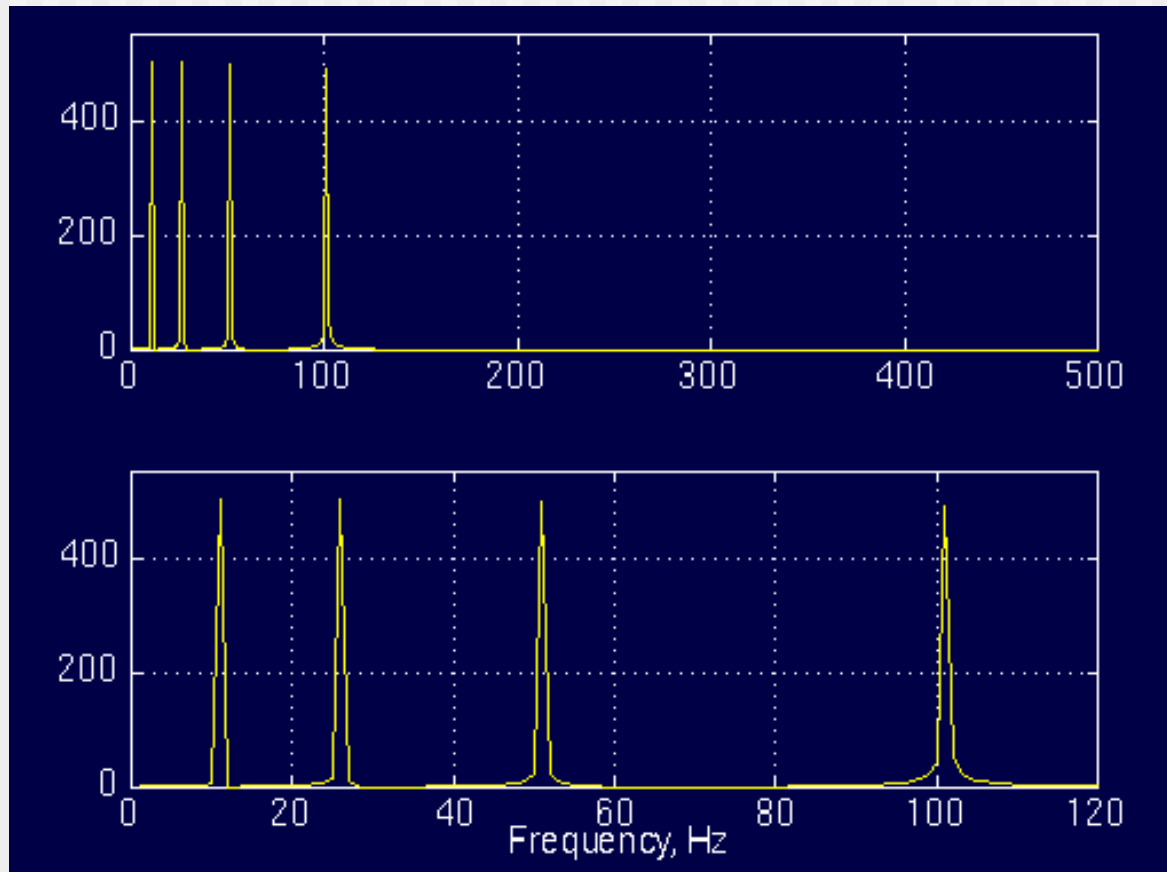
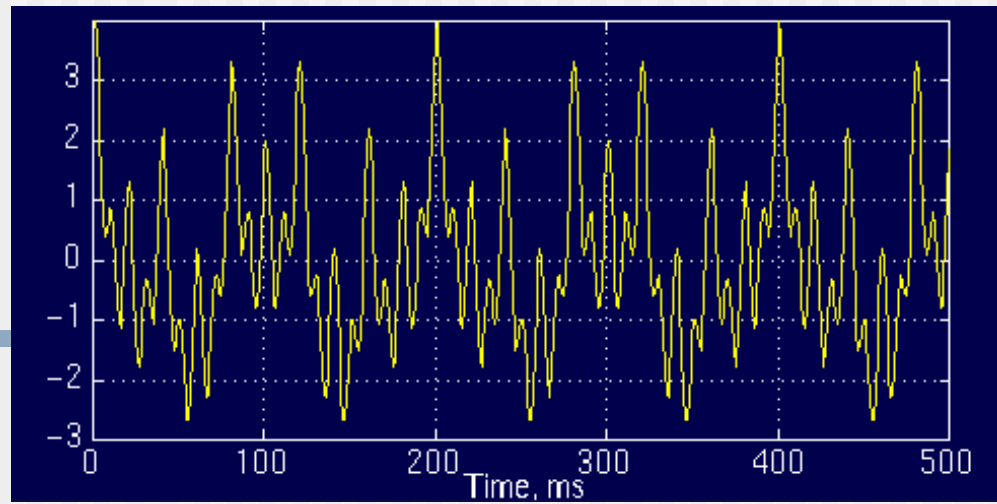
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- For example, if we take the FT of the electric current that we use in our houses,
- We will have one spike at 50 Hz
- Nothing elsewhere, since that signal has only 50 Hz frequency component





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- The frequency spectrum of a real valued signal is always symmetric. The top plot illustrates this point
  - However, since the symmetric part is exactly a mirror image of the first part
  - This symmetric second part is usually not shown



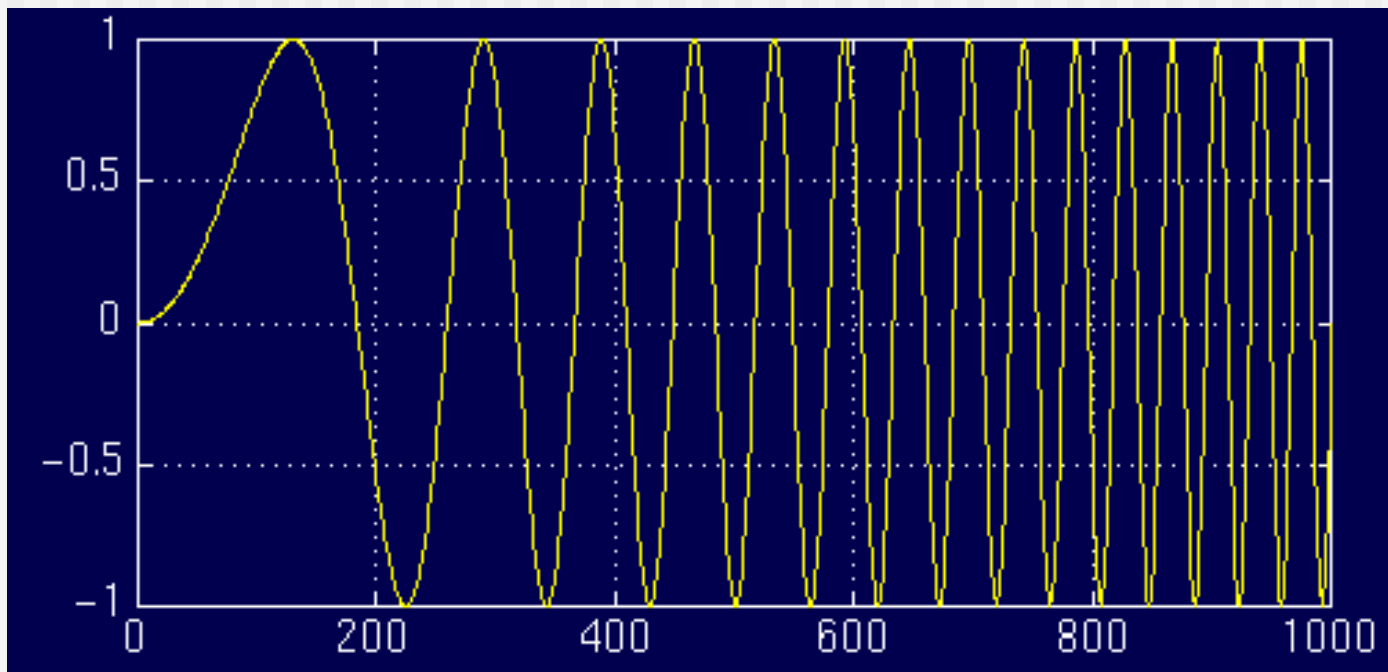
# Stationary Signal

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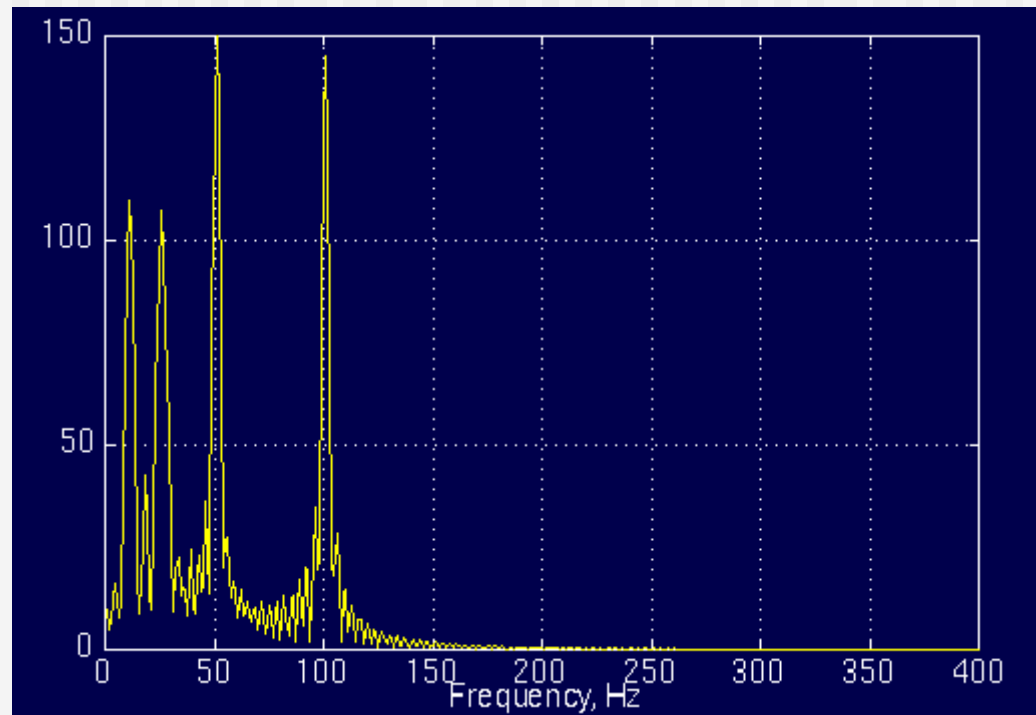
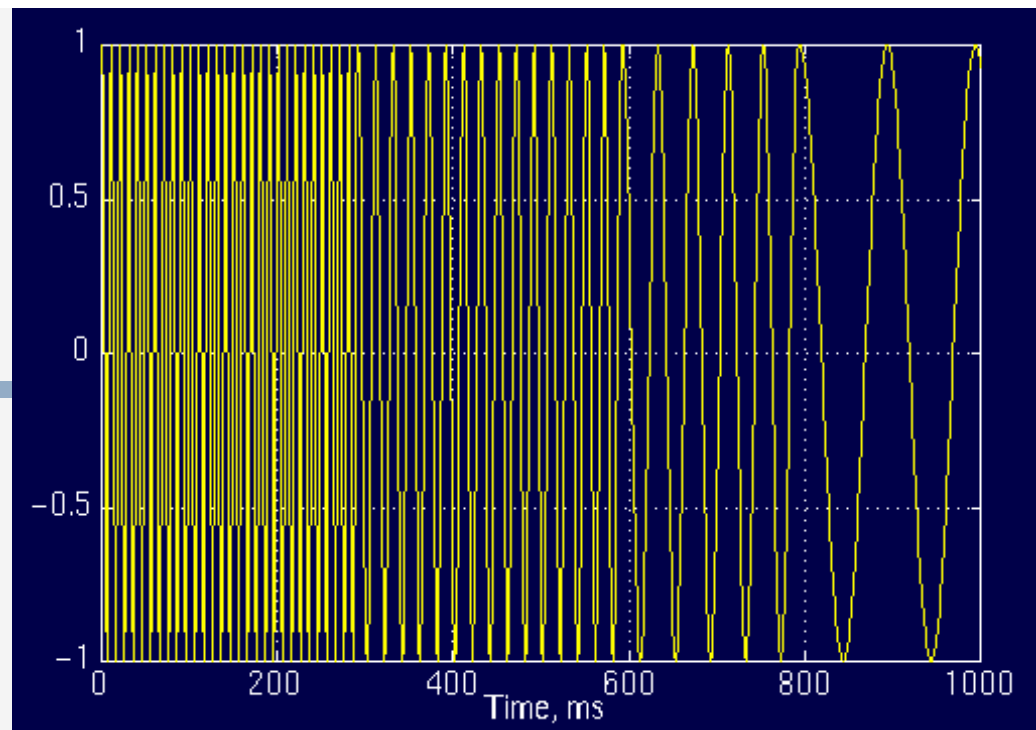
- Signals whose frequency content do not change in time are called stationary signals
- Non stationary signal, frequency content does change over time

# Non stationary signal

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- At what times (or time intervals), do these frequency components occur?
- FT gives the spectral content of the signal, but it gives no information regarding where in time those spectral components appear!



## II) FUNDAMENTALS:

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FOURIER TRANSFORM  
AND  
THE SHORT TERM FOURIER  
TRANSFORM

the Fourier transform of  $x(t)$

$$X(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) \cdot e^{-2\pi i t f} dt$$

the inverse Fourier transform of  $X(f)$

$$x(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} X(f) \cdot e^{2\pi i t f} df$$

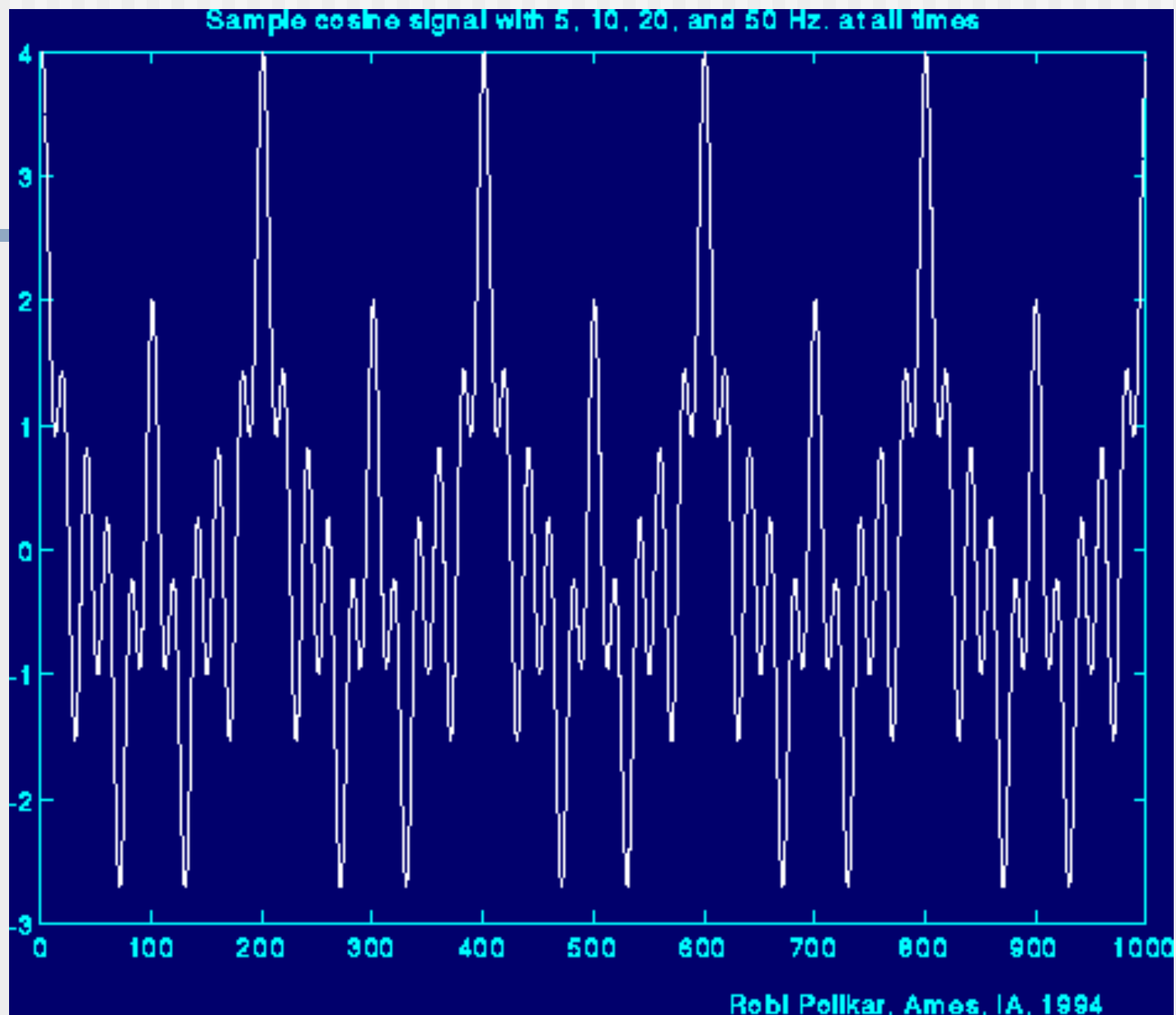
- $t$  stands for time,  $f$  stands for frequency, and  $x$  denotes the signal
- $x$  denotes the signal in time domain and the  $X$  denotes the signal in frequency domain
- The signal  $x(t)$ , is multiplied with an exponential term, at some certain frequency " $f$ ", and then integrated over **ALL TIMES** !

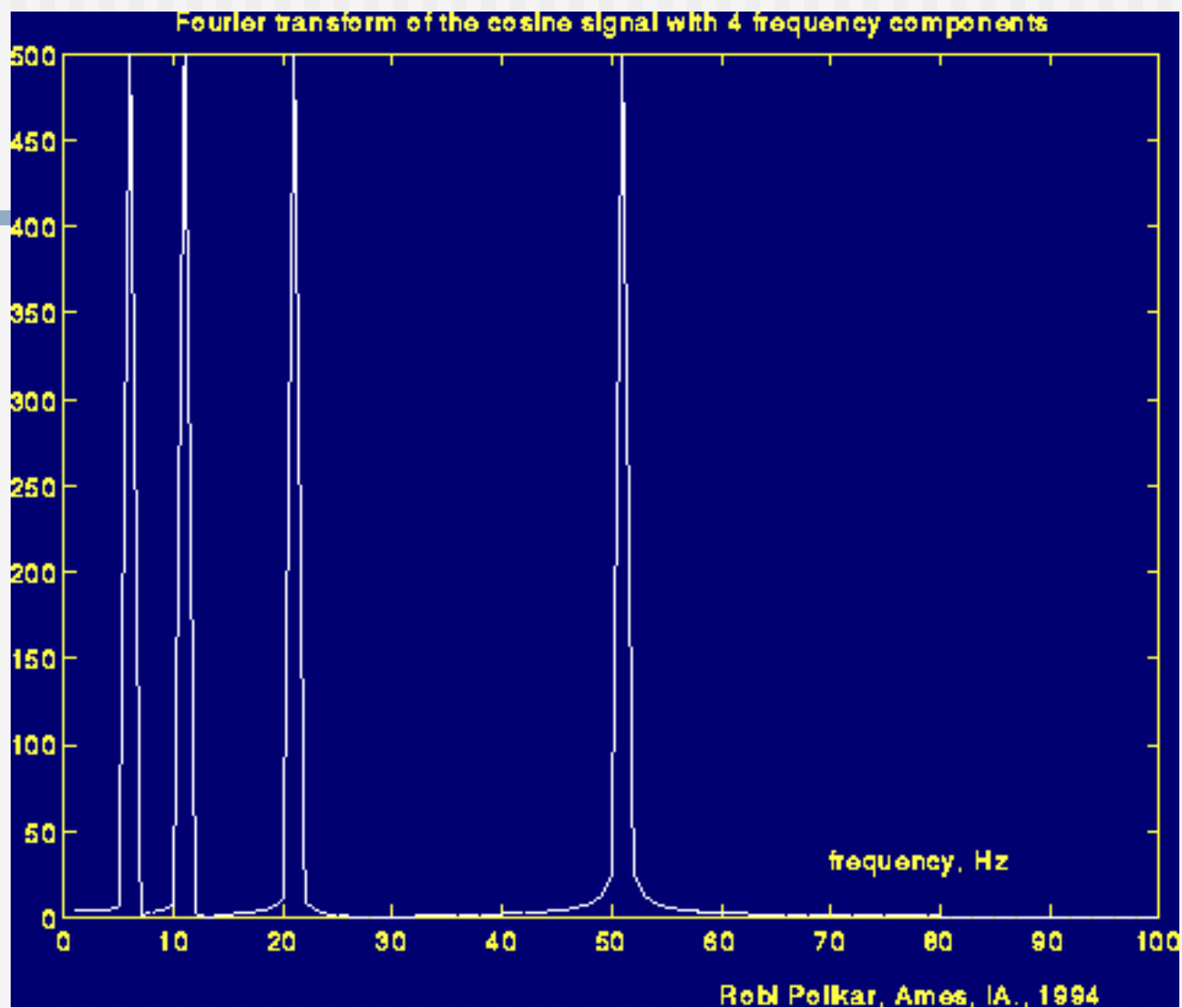
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$$X(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t) \cdot ((\cos(2 \cdot \pi \cdot f \cdot t) + i \cdot \sin(2 \cdot \pi \cdot f \cdot t))) dt$$

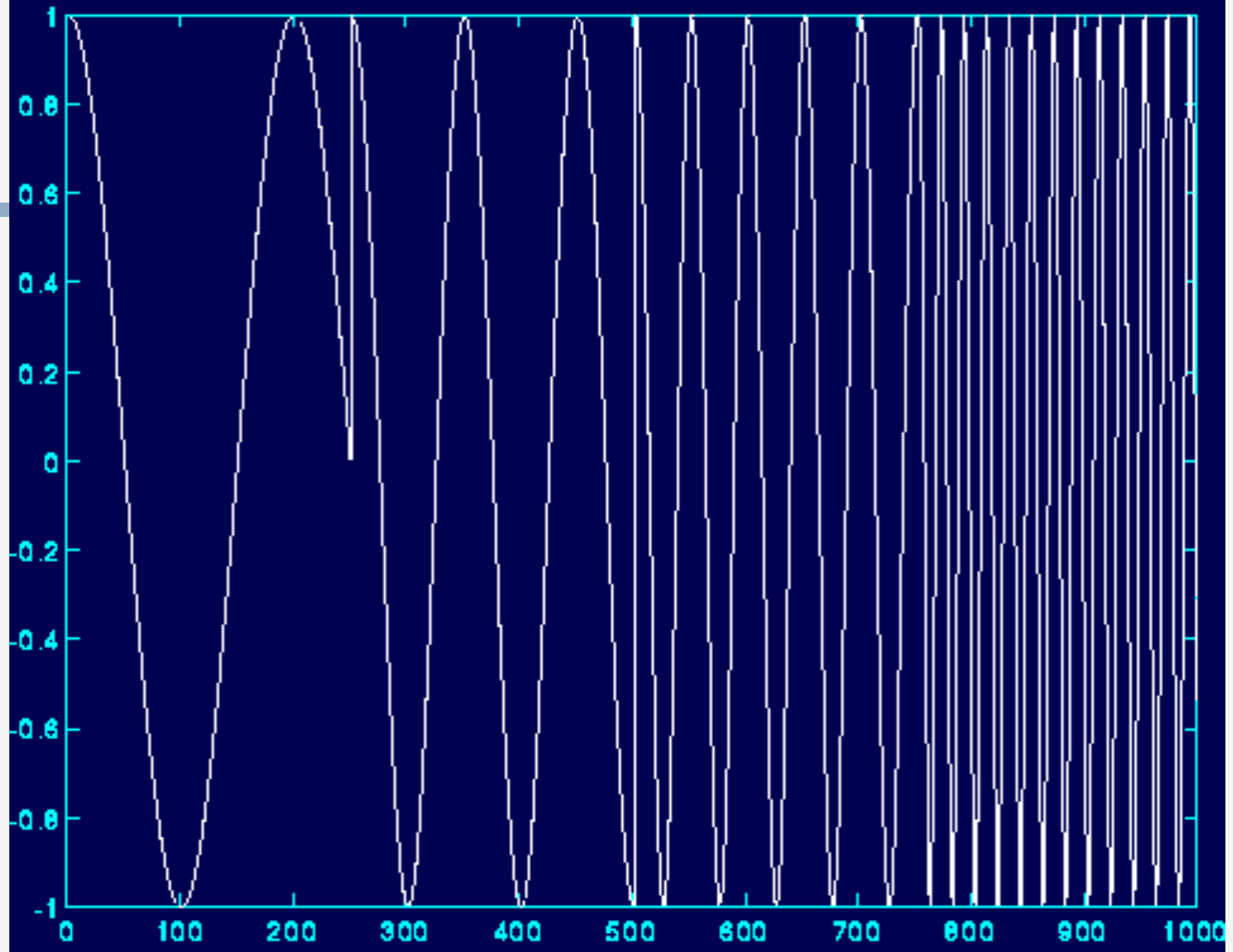
- Real part of cosine of frequency  $f$ , and an imaginary part of sine of frequency  $f$
- If the result of this integration is a large value, then we say that : the signal  $x(t)$ , has a dominant spectral component at frequency " $f$ "
- The information provided by the integral, corresponds to all time instances
- No matter where in time the component with frequency " $f$ " appears, it will affect the result of the integration equally as well
- Whether the frequency component " $f$ " appears at time  $t_1$  or  $t_2$  , it will have the same effect on the integration.





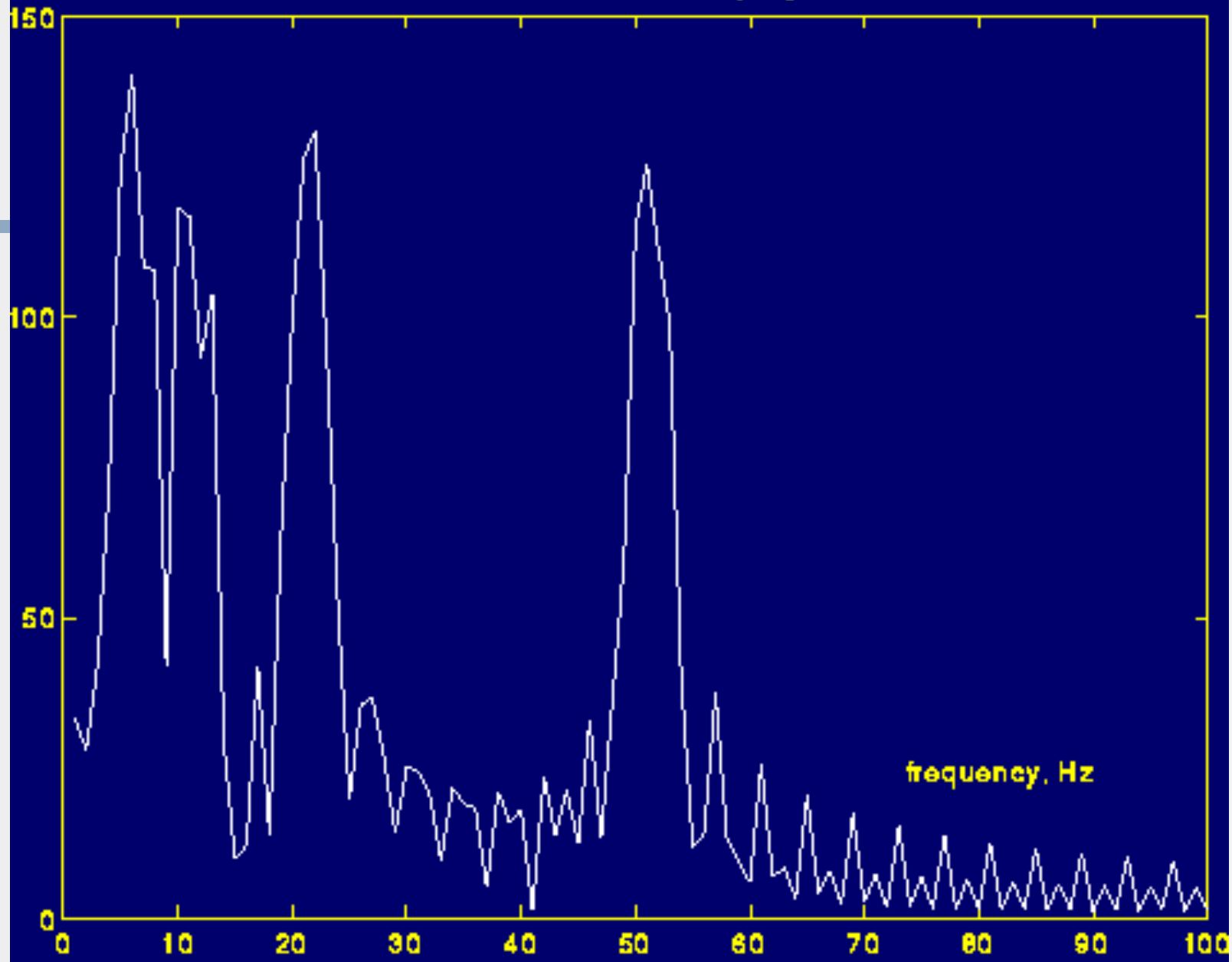


Same frequencies at different times



Robi Polkar, Ames, IA., 1994

FT of the non-stationary signal



frequency, Hz

Robi Polkar, Ames, IA., 1994

# THE SHORT TERM FOURIER TRANSFORM (STFT)

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- If this region where the signal can be assumed to be stationary small...
  - we look at that signal from narrow windows, narrow enough that the portion of the signal seen from these windows are indeed stationary
  - This approach of researchers ended up with a revised version of the Fourier transform, so-called : The Short Time Fourier Transform (STFT)

- 
- There is only a minor difference between STFT and FT
  - In STFT, the signal is divided into small enough segments, where these segments (portions) of the signal can be assumed to be stationary
  - For this purpose, a window function " $w$ " is chosen
  - The width of this window must be equal to the segment of the signal where its stationarity is valid...

# STFT

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$$STFT_x^w(t', f) = \int_t x(t) \cdot w^*(t - t') \cdot e^{-i2\pi ft} dt$$

- $x(t)$  is the signal itself,  $w(t)$  is the window function, and  $*$  is the complex conjugate
- STFT of the signal is nothing but the FT of the signal multiplied by a window function
  - complex conjugate of a complex number is given by changing the sign of the imaginary part
- For every  $t'$  and  $f$  a new STFT coefficient is computed

# Window function

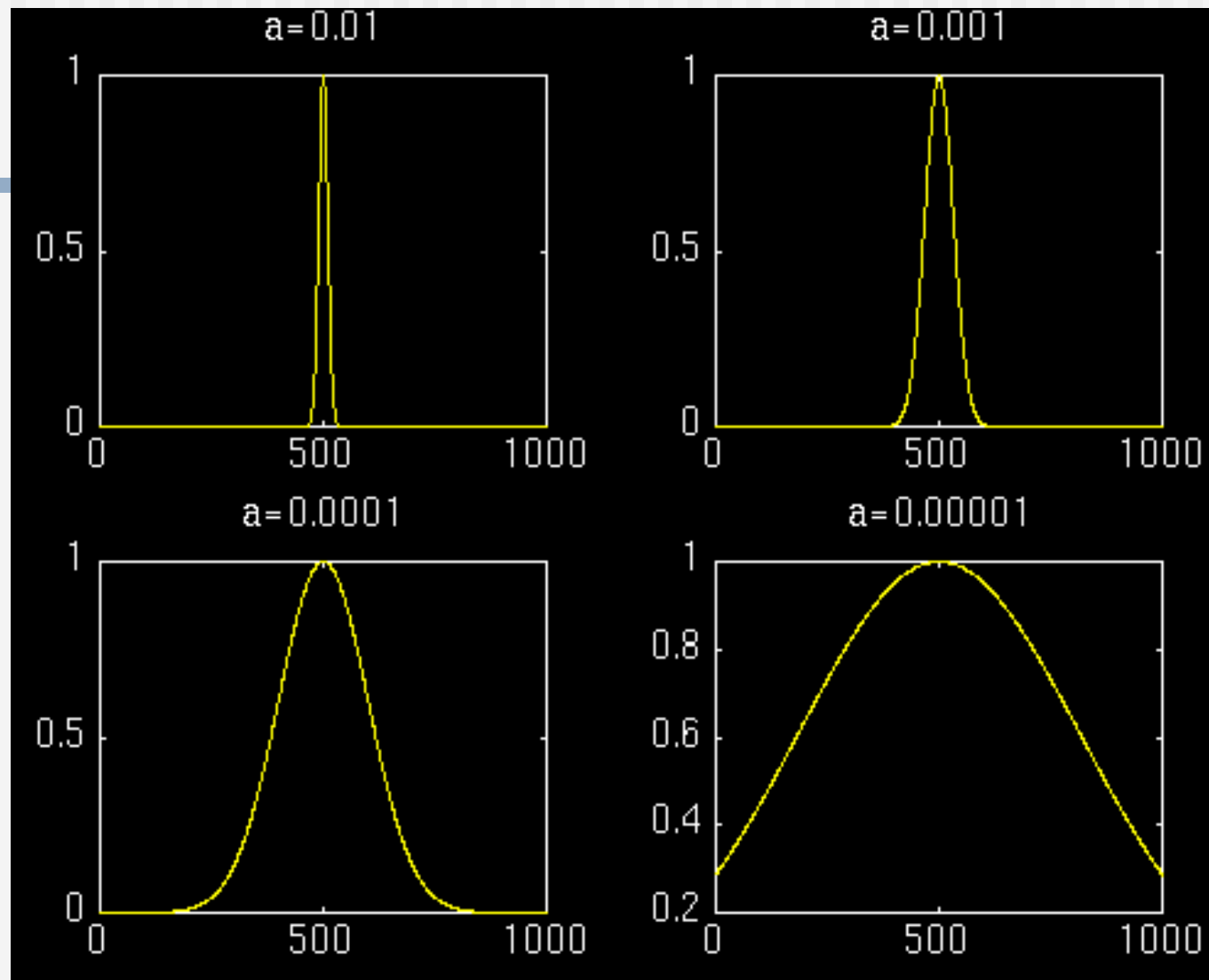
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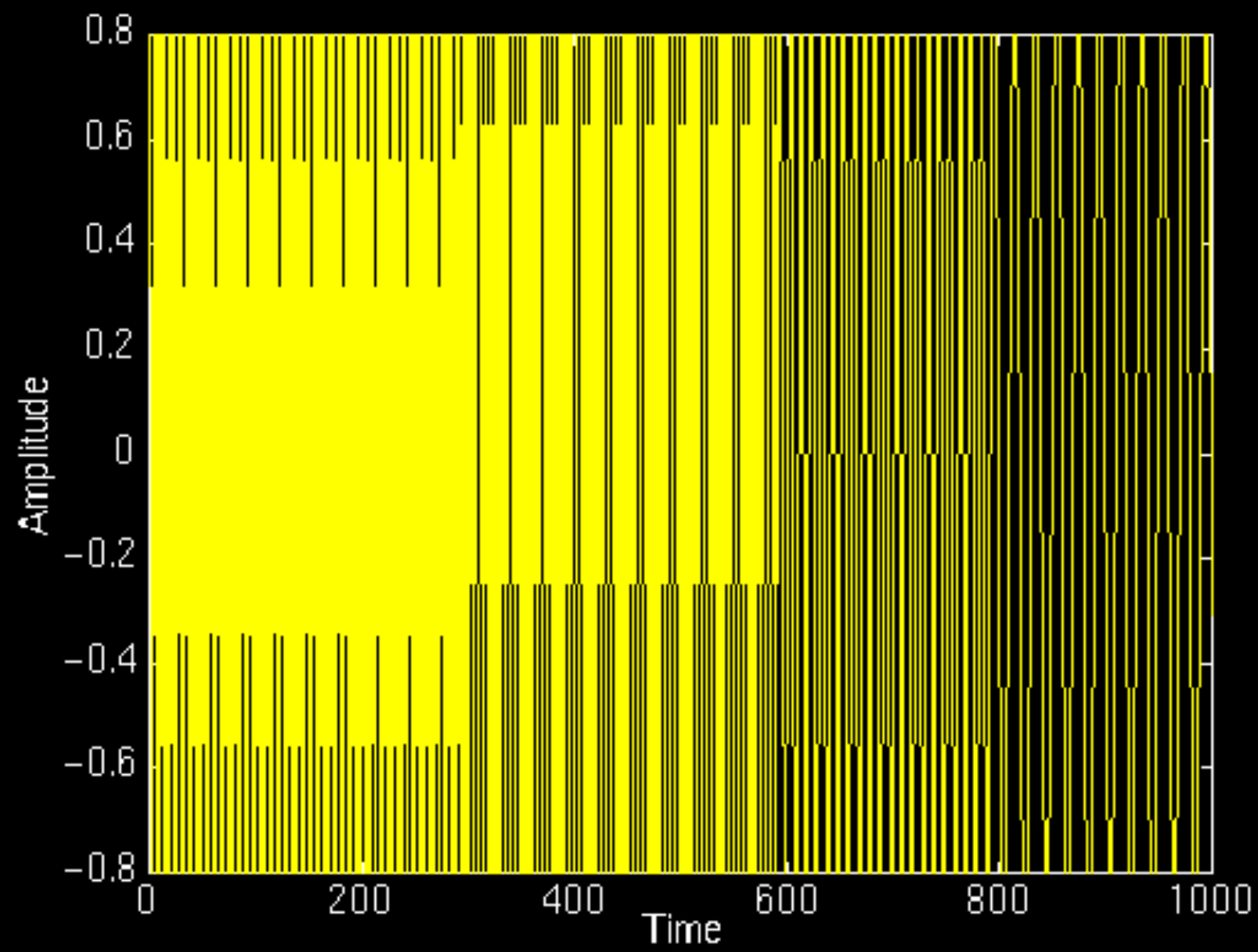
- Gaussian function:

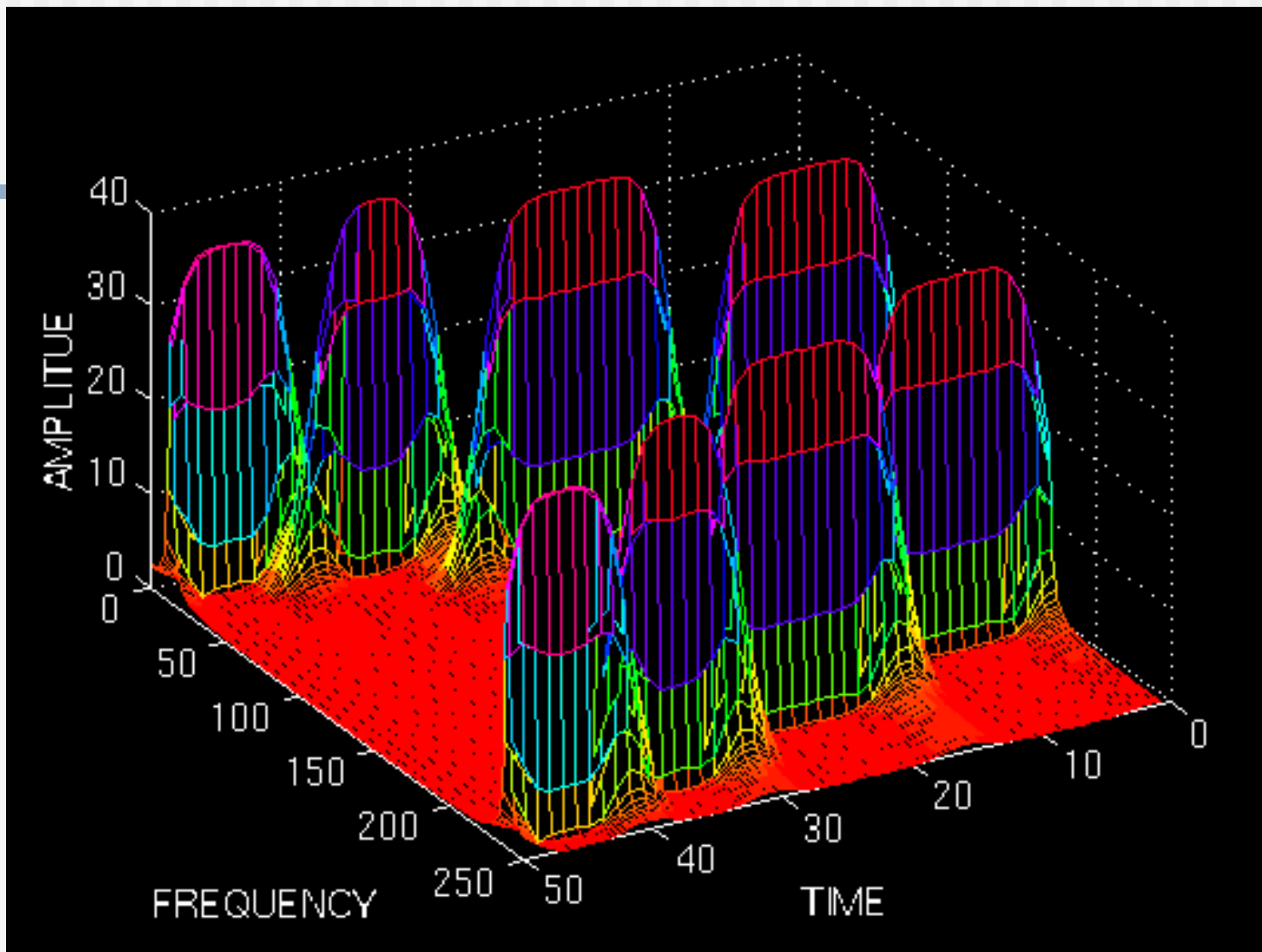
$$w(t) = e^{-a \cdot t^2 / 2}$$

- $a$  determines the length of the window, and  $t$  is the time









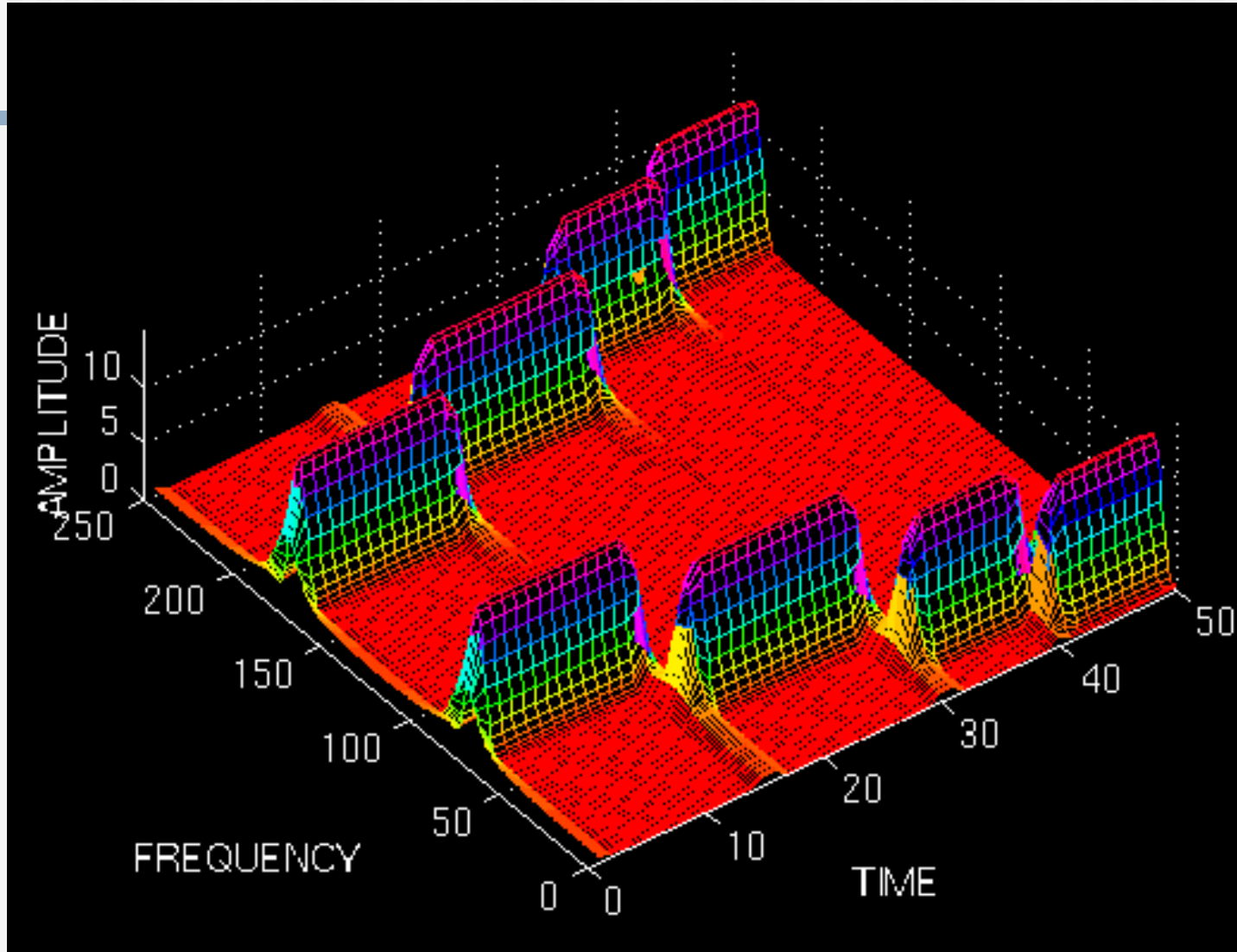
# Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle

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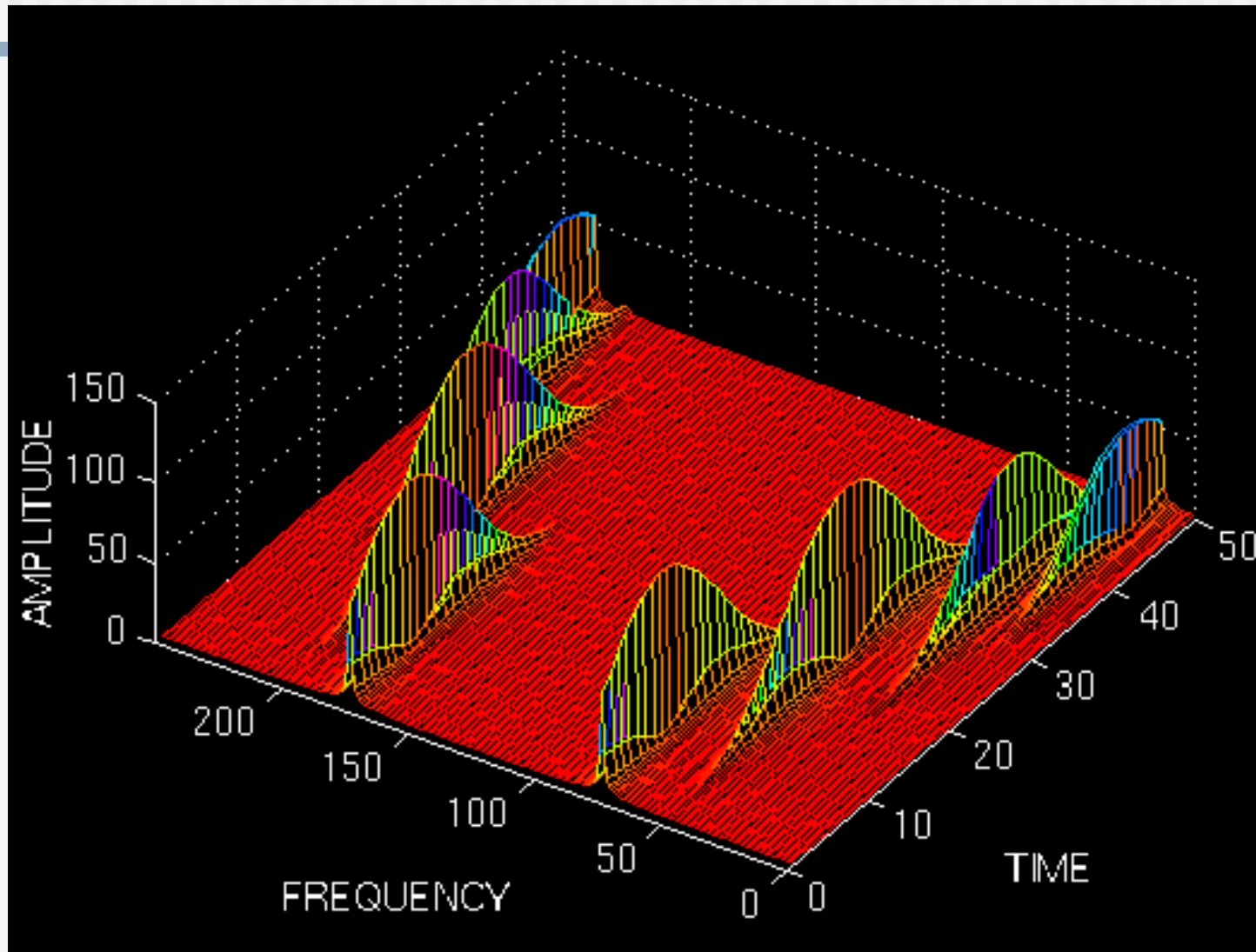
- This principle originally applied to the momentum and location of moving particles, can be applied to time-frequency information of a signal
- This principle states that one cannot know the exact time-frequency representation of a signal
  - One cannot know what spectral components exist at what instances of times
  - What one can know are the time intervals in which certain band of frequencies exist, which is a resolution problem

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- The problem with the STFT has to do with the width of the window function that is used
  - Narrow window → good time resolution, poor frequency resolution
  - Wide window → good frequency resolution, poor time resolution

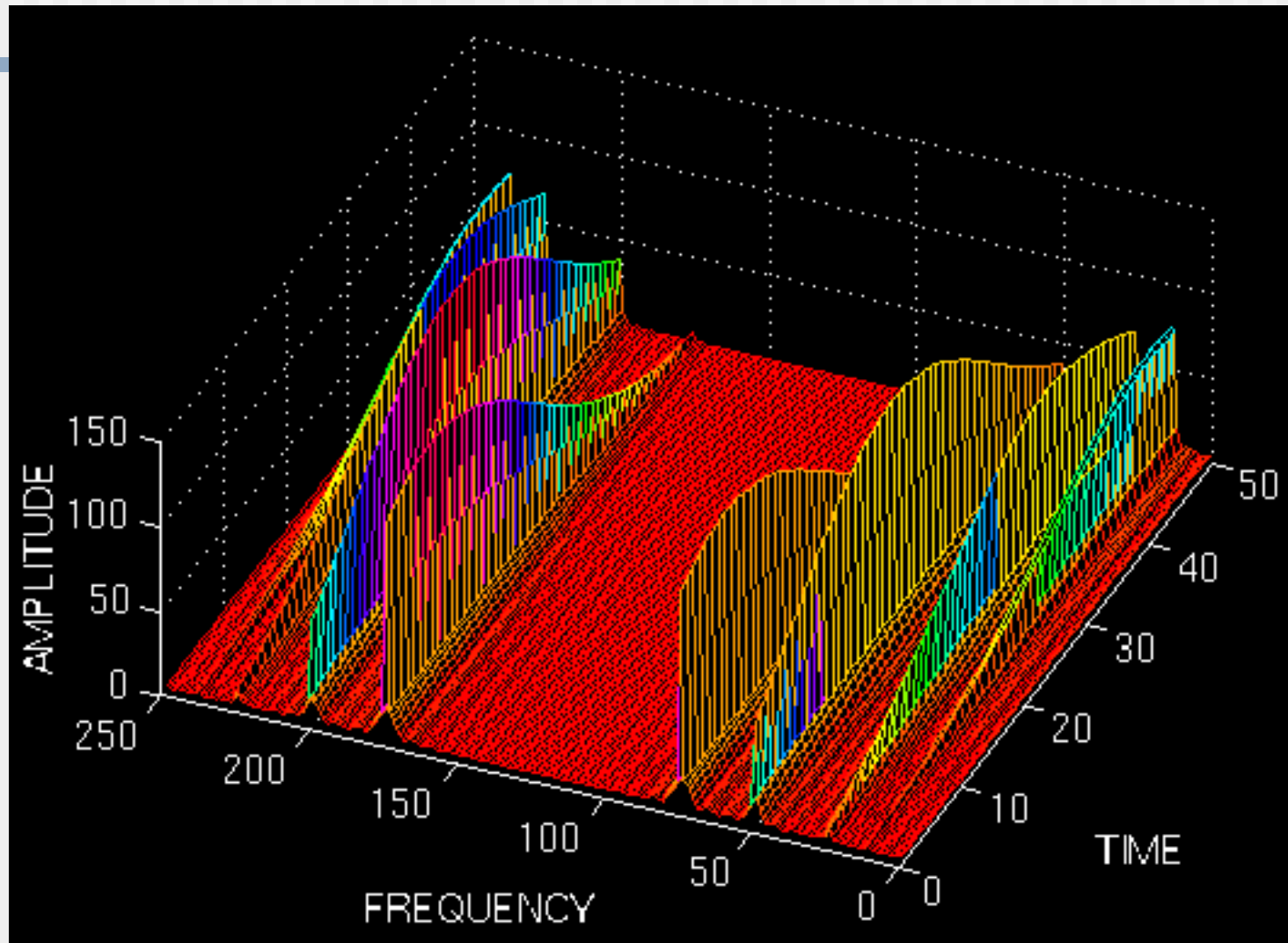
Narrow window good time resolution, poor frequency resolution



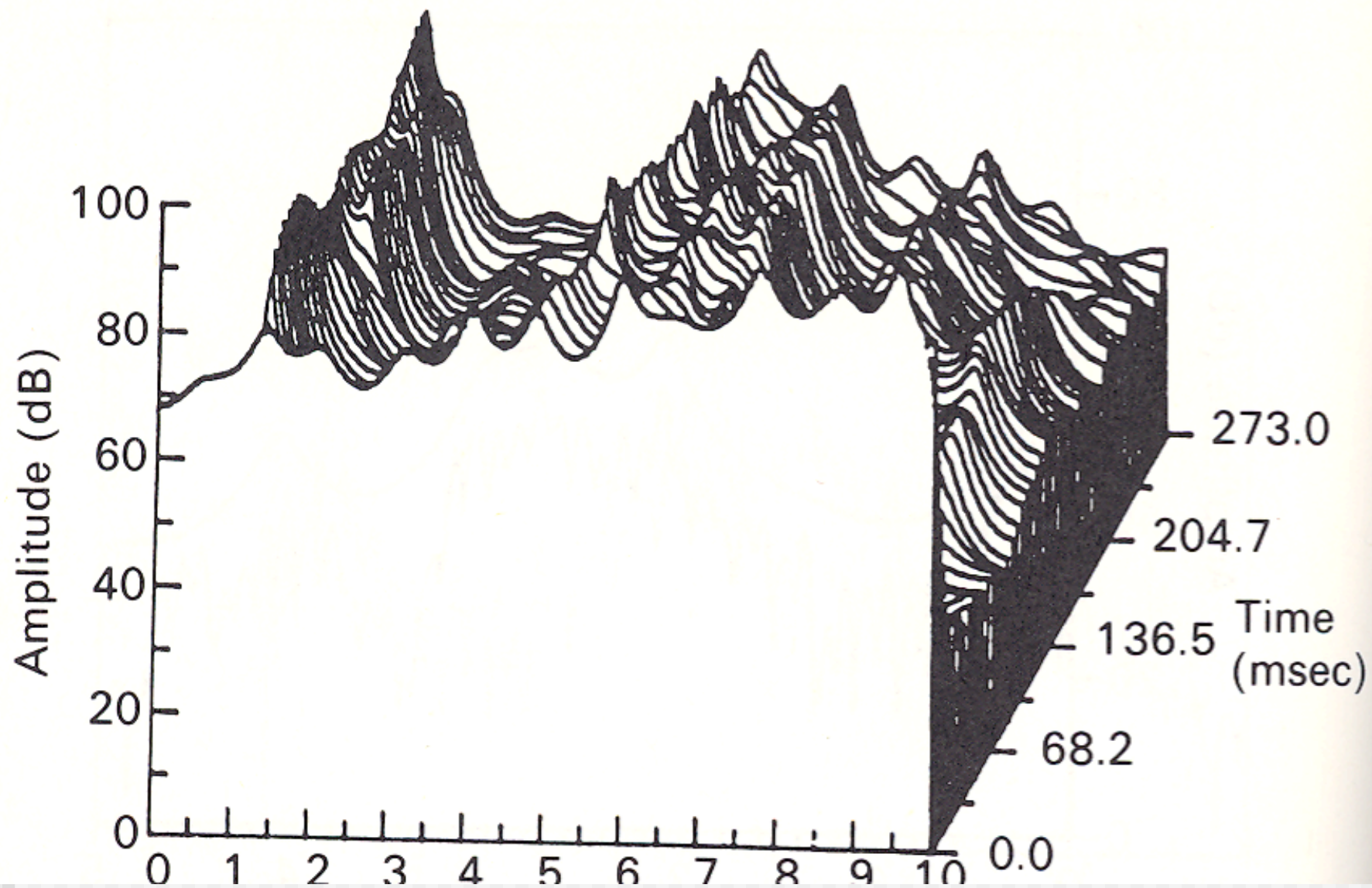
Width window good frequency resolution, poor time resolution



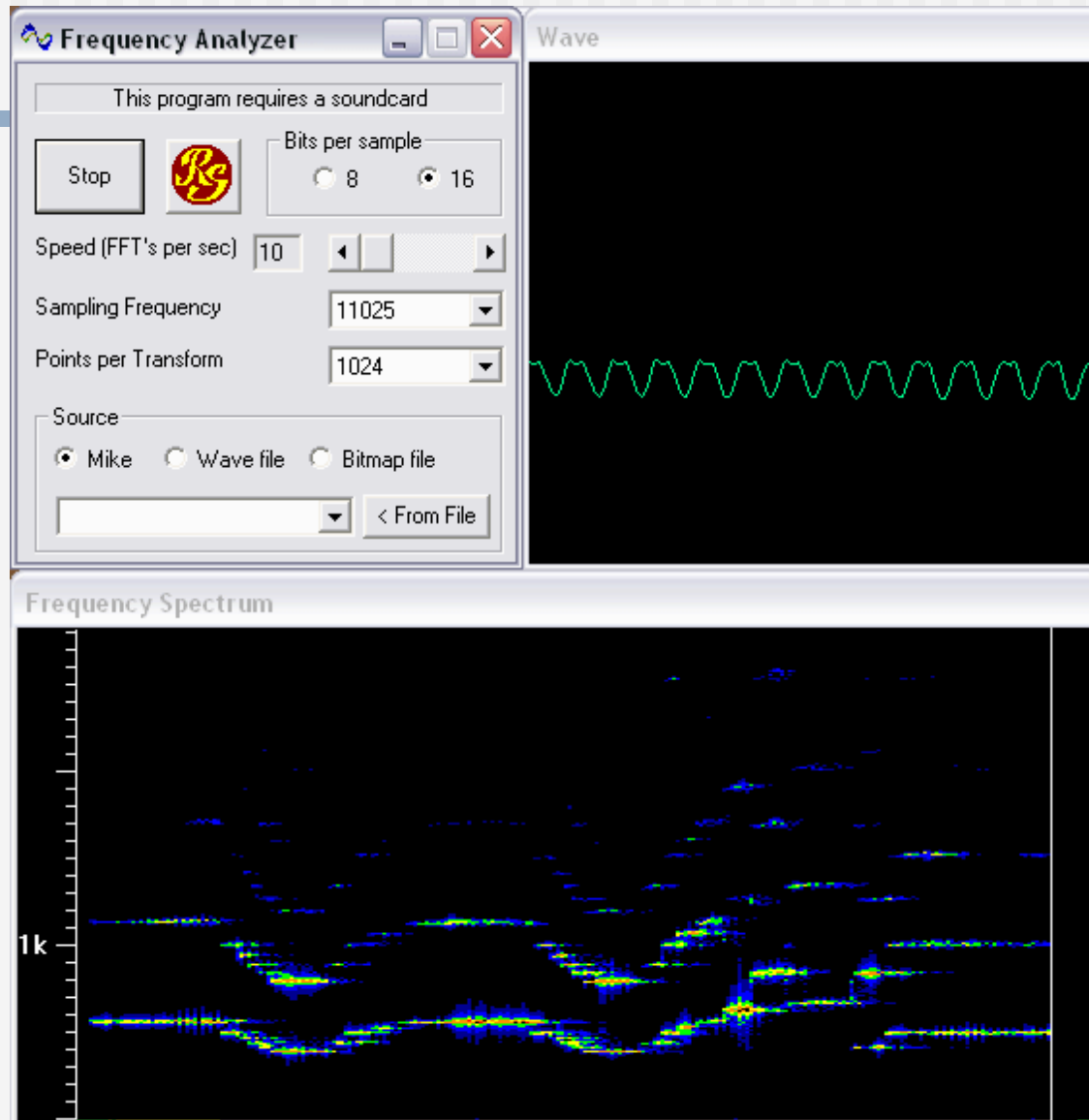
Very wide window, very bad time resolution

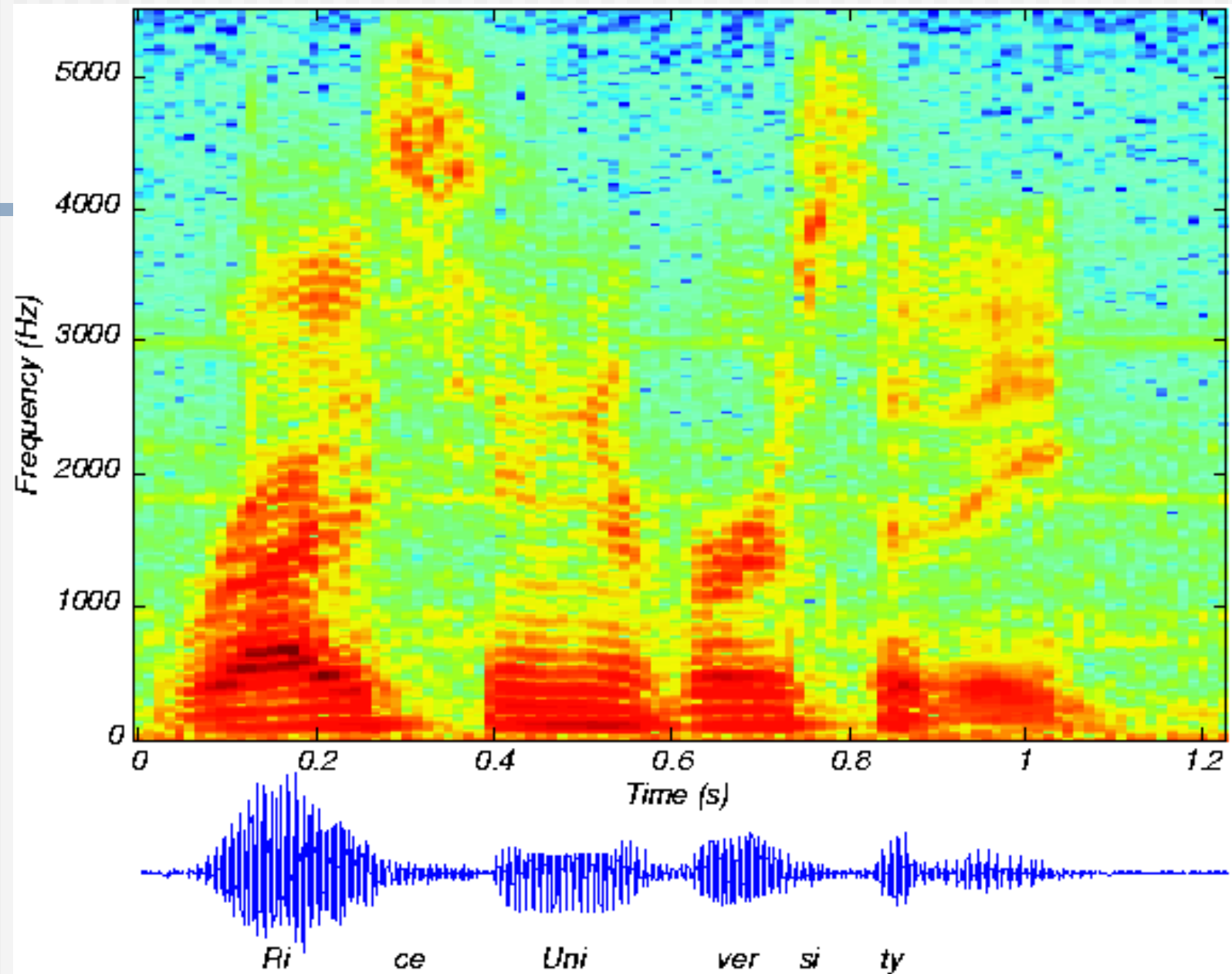






<http://www.relisoft.com/freeware/freq.html>





# MULTIRESOLUTION ANALYSIS

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- Time and frequency resolution problems are results of a physical phenomenon (the Heisenberg uncertainty principle) and exist regardless of the transform used
- Multiresolution analysis (MRA)
  - MRA, as implied by its name, analyzes the signal at different frequencies with different resolutions

# III THE CONTINUOUS WAVELET TRANSFORM

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$$CWT_x^\psi(\tau, s) = \Psi_x^\psi(\tau, s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|s|}} \int x(t) \psi^*\left(\frac{t-\tau}{s}\right) dt$$

- the transformed signal is a function of two variables,  $\tau$  and  $s$ , the translation and scale parameters, respectively
- $\psi(t)$  is the transforming function, and it is called the *mother wavelet*

- 
- The term wavelet means a small wave
    - The smallness refers to the condition that this (window) function is of finite length
    - The wave refers to the condition that this function is oscillatory
    - The term mother implies that the functions with different region of width (support) that are used in the transformation process are derived from the mother wavelet
    - The mother wavelet is a prototype for generating the other window functions

# Window versus Wavelet

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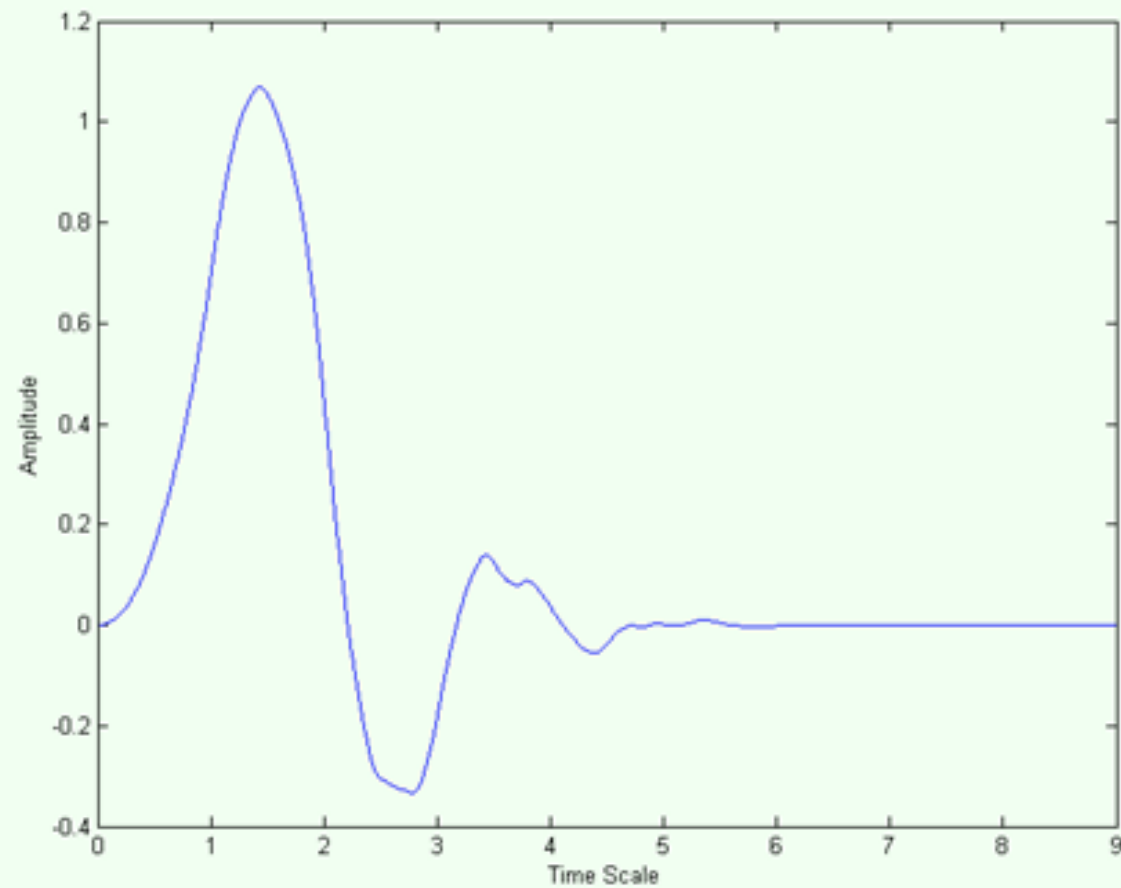
$$STFT_x^w(t, f) = \int_t x(t) \cdot w^*(t - t') \cdot e^{-i2\pi ft} dt$$

$$w^*(t - t')$$

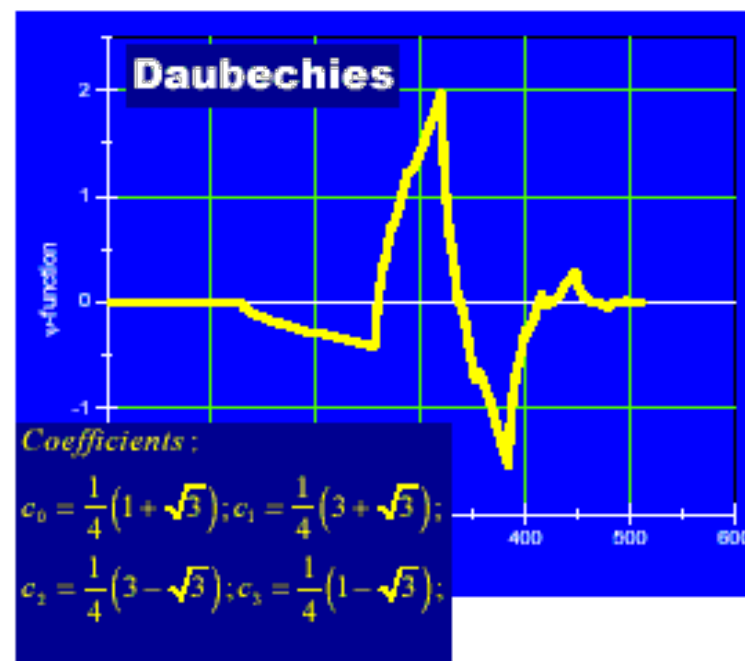
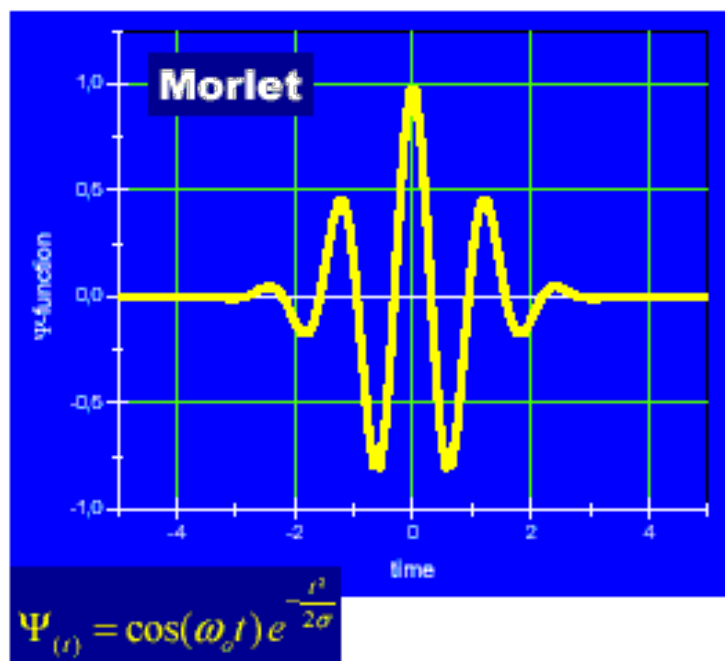
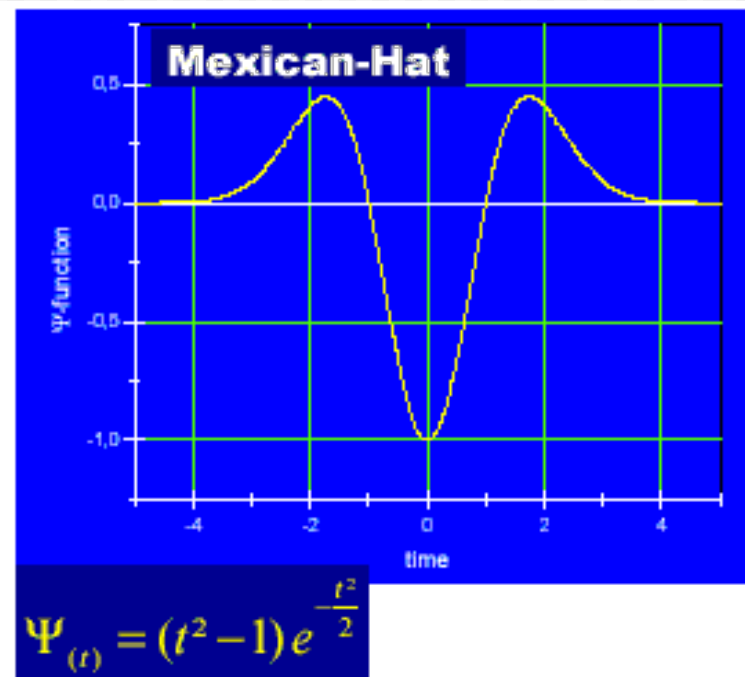
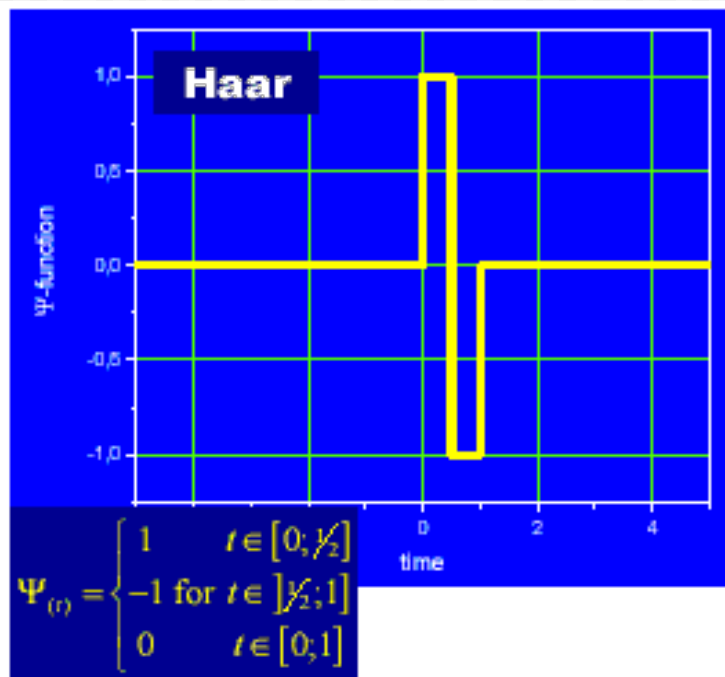
$$\psi^*\left(\frac{t - \tau}{s}\right)$$

$$CWT_x^\psi(\tau, s) = \Psi_x^\psi(\tau, s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|s|}} \int x(t) \psi^*\left(\frac{t - \tau}{s}\right) dt$$

# Daubechies No 5 Mother Wavelet





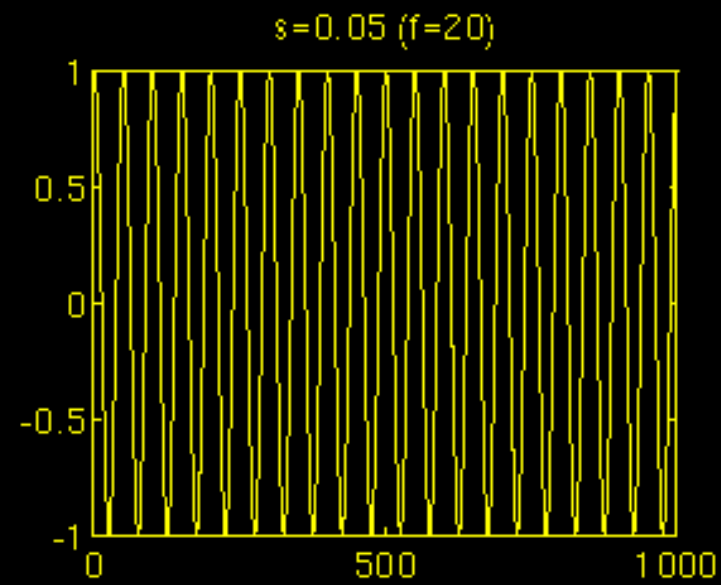
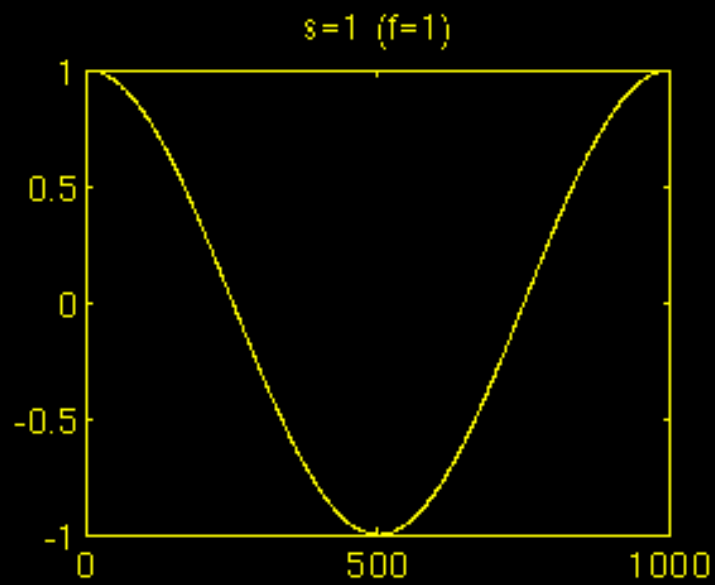
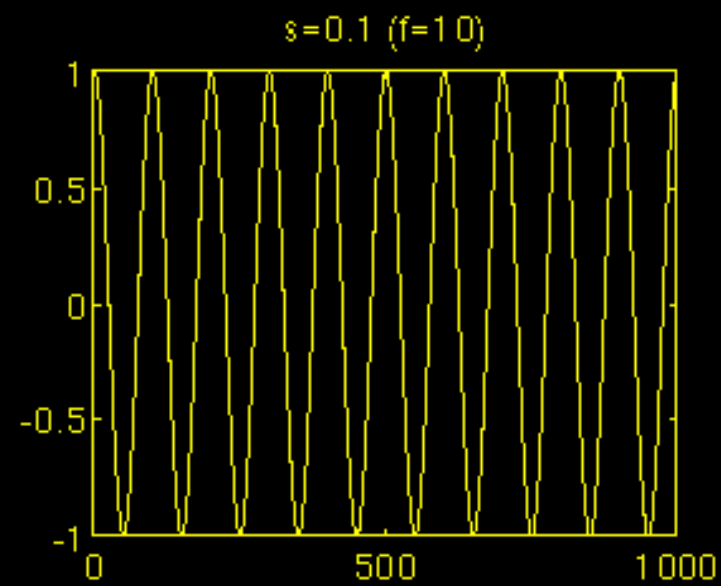
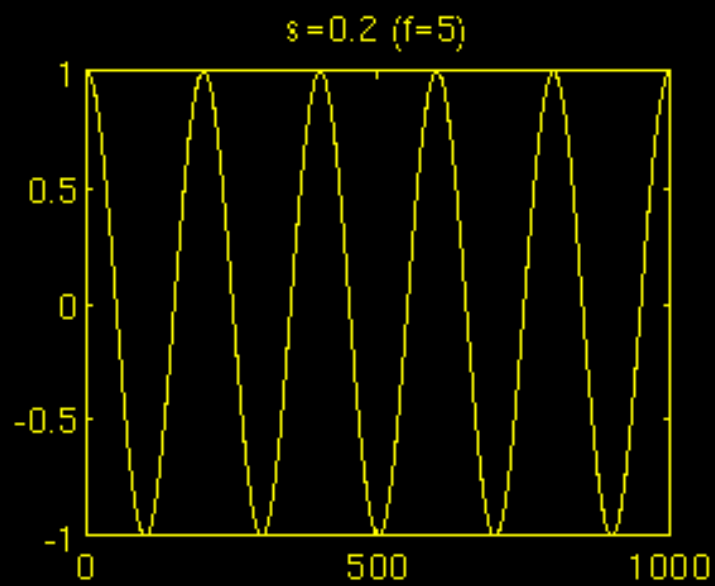


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- The term translation is used in the same sense as it was used in the STFT; it is related to the location of the window, as the window is shifted through the signal
    - This term, obviously, corresponds to time information in the transform domain.
  - However, we do not have a frequency parameter, as we had before for the STFT. Instead, we have scale parameter which is defined as *1/frequency*

# Scale

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- The parameter scale in the wavelet analysis is similar to the scale used in maps
  - high scales correspond to a non-detailed global view (of the signal)
  - low scales correspond to a detailed view
- Frequencies:
  - low frequencies (high scales) correspond to a global information of a signal (that usually spans the entire signal)
  - high frequencies (low scales) correspond to a detailed information of a hidden pattern in the signal (that usually lasts a relatively short time)

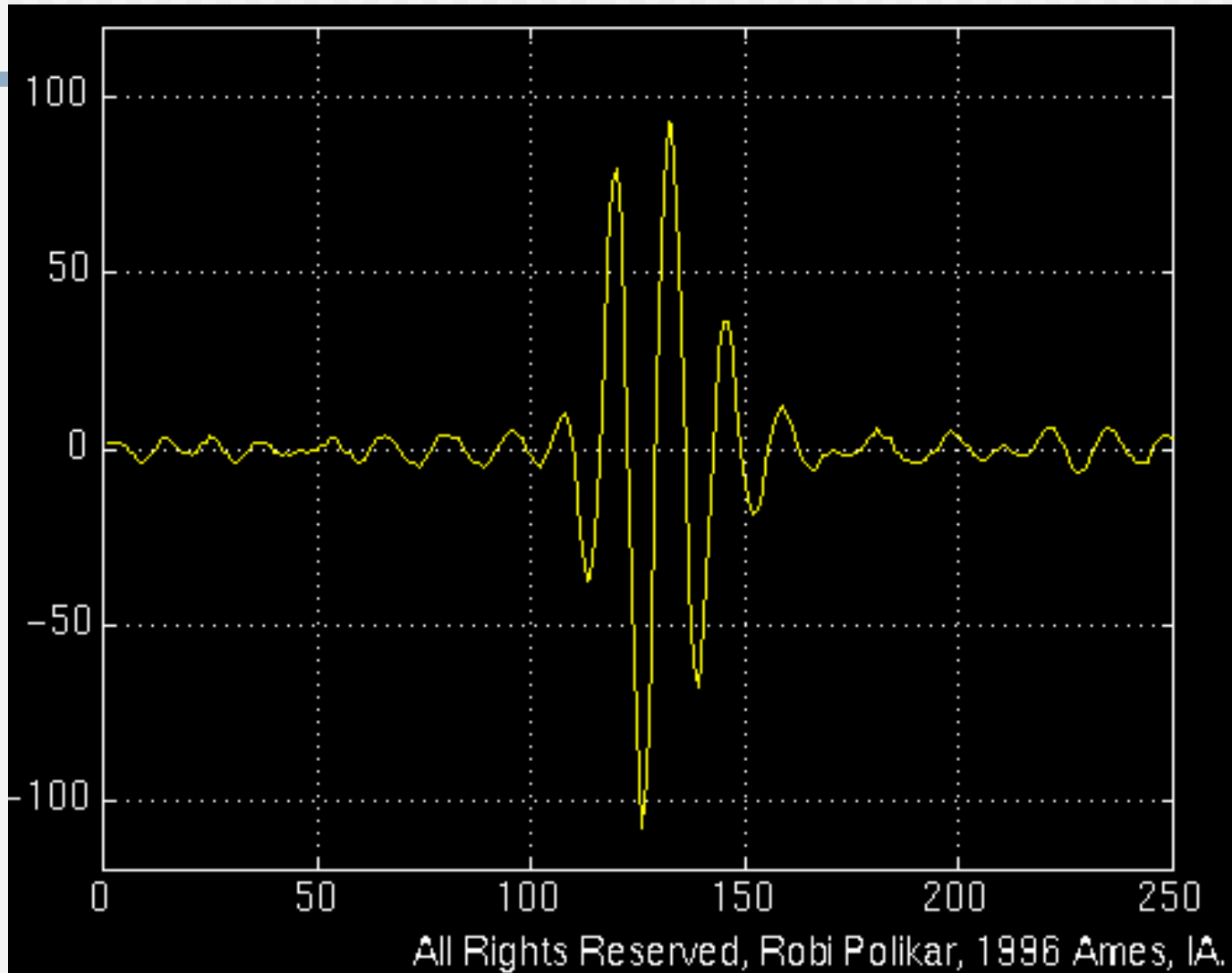


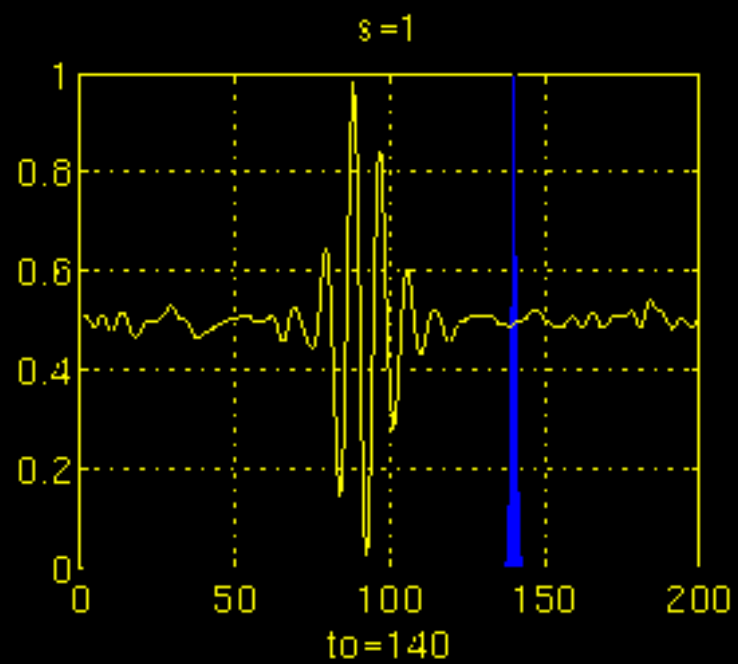
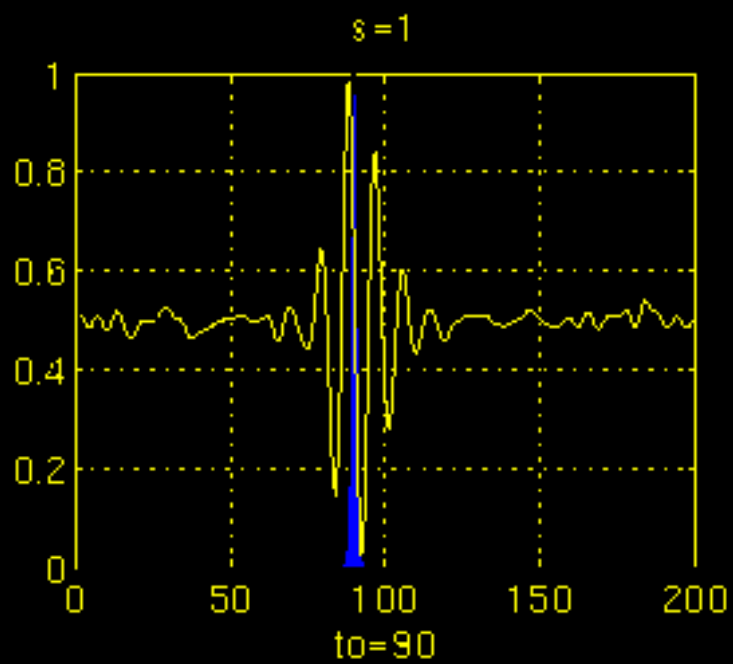
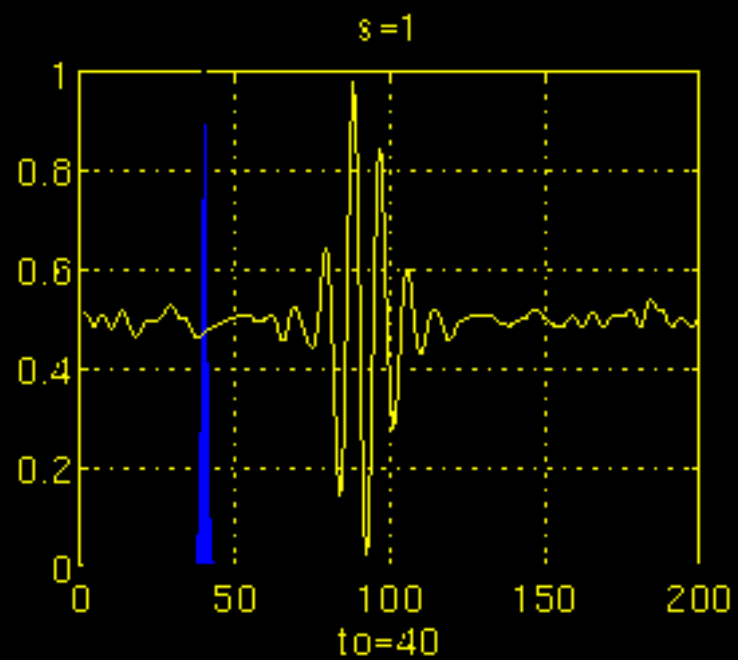
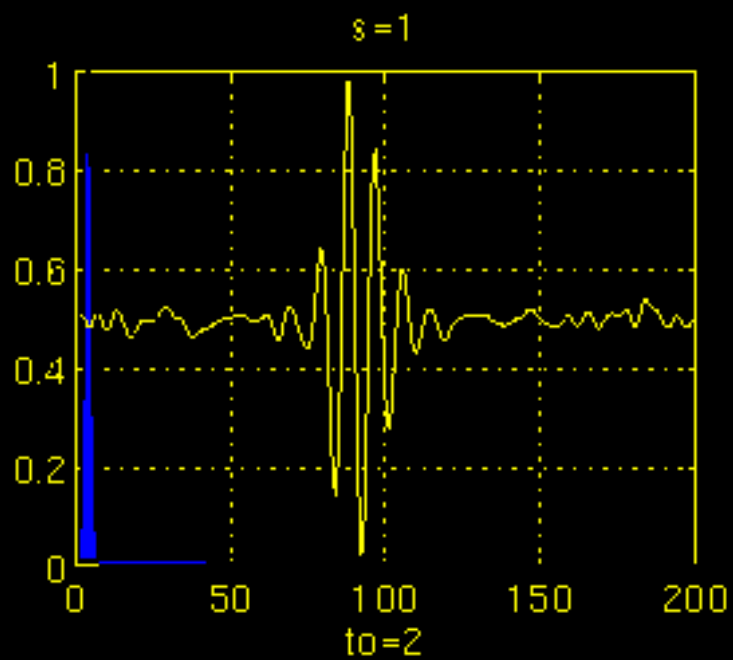
# Computation

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- The wavelet is placed at the beginning of the signal at the point which corresponds to time=0
- The wavelet function at scale "1" is multiplied by the signal and then integrated over all times
  - The result of the integration is then multiplied by the constant number  $1/\sqrt{s}$ 
    - For energy normalization purposes so that the transformed signal will have the same energy at every scale
- One row of points on the time-scale plane for the scale  $s=1$  is now completed

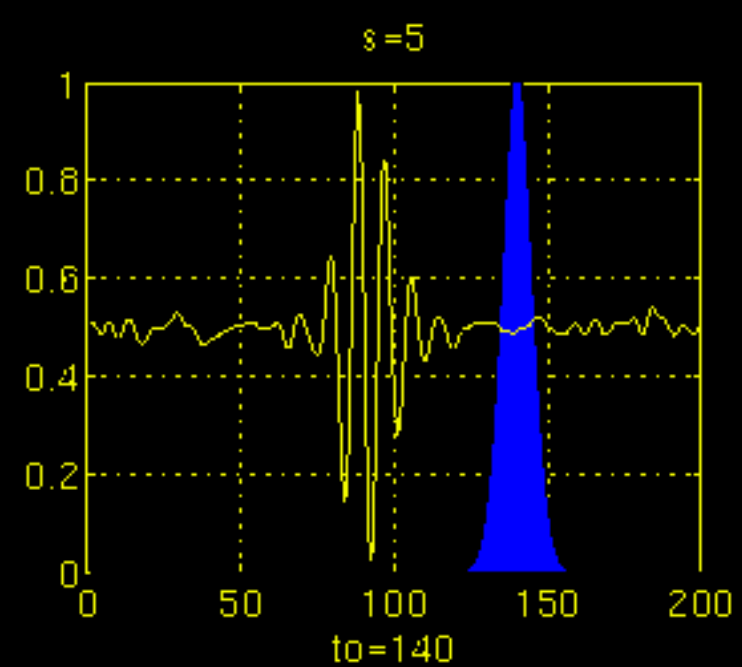
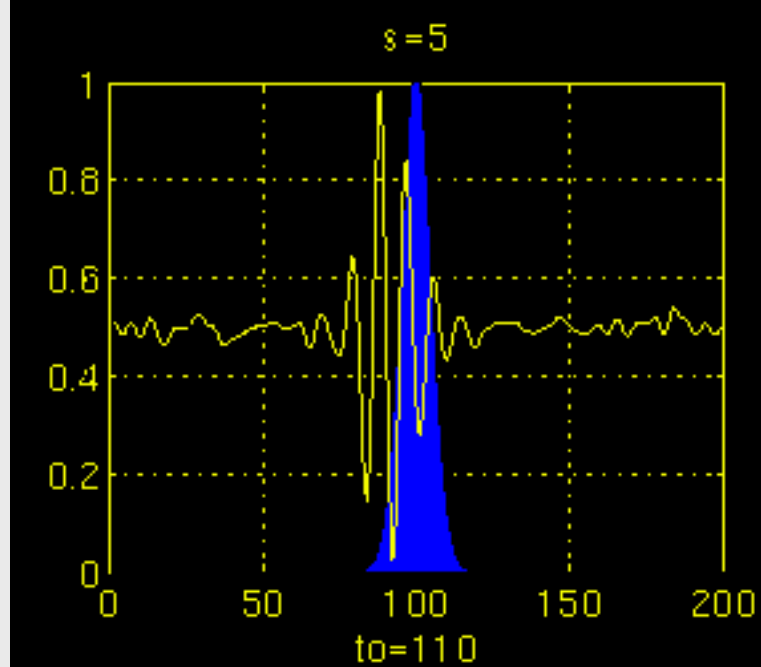
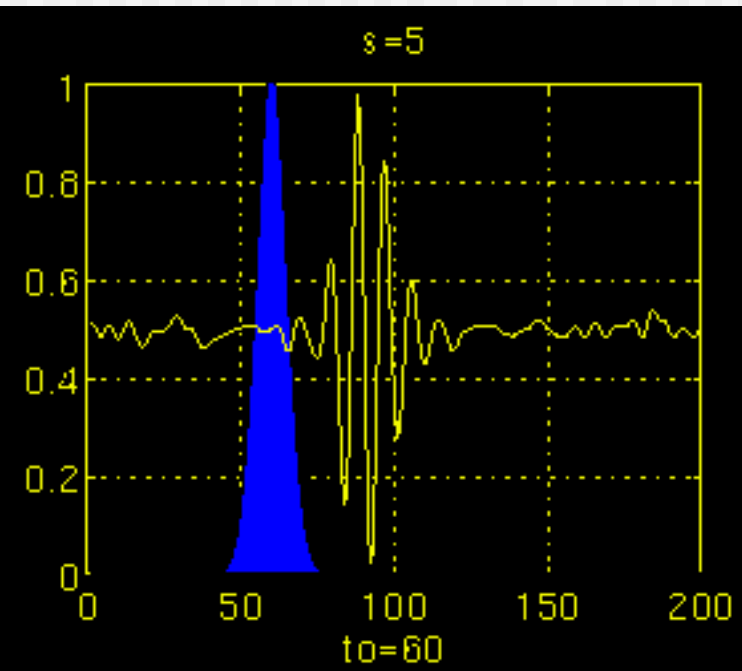
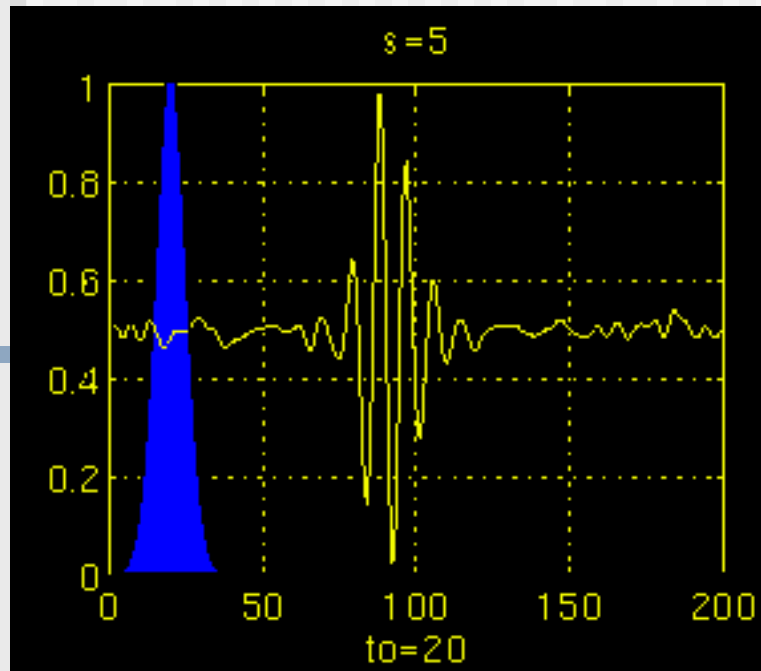
# Example

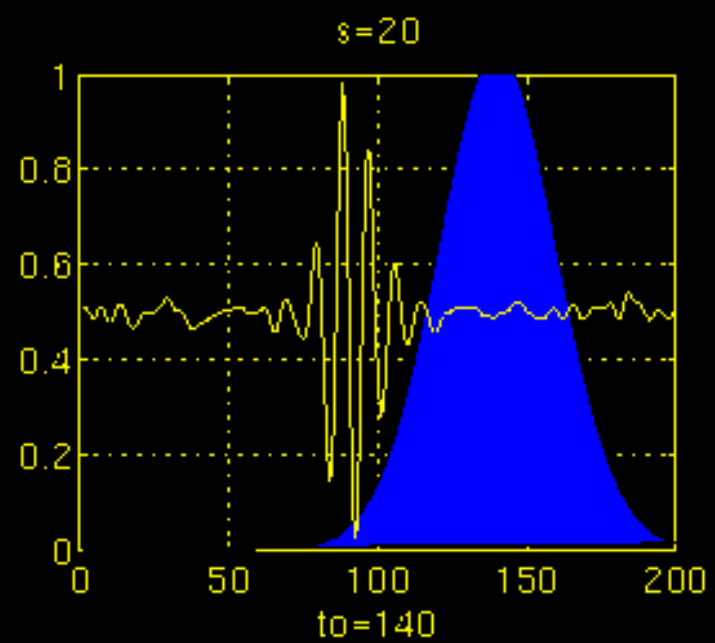
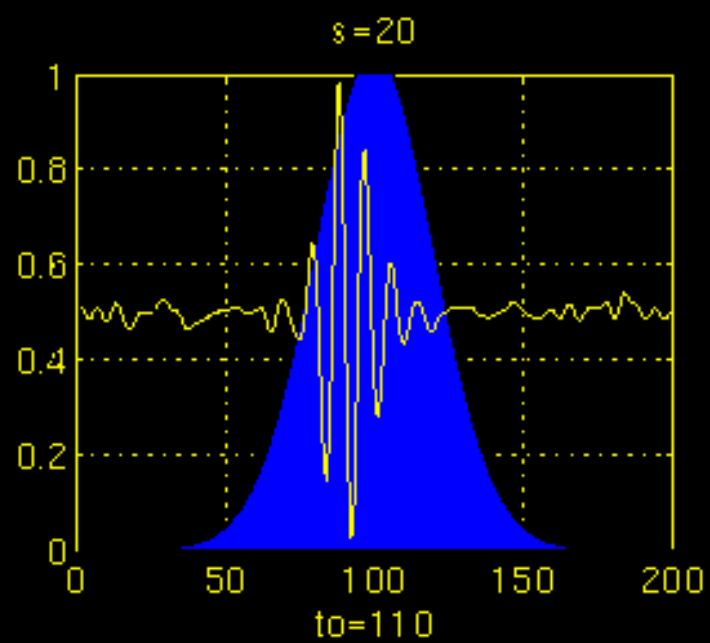
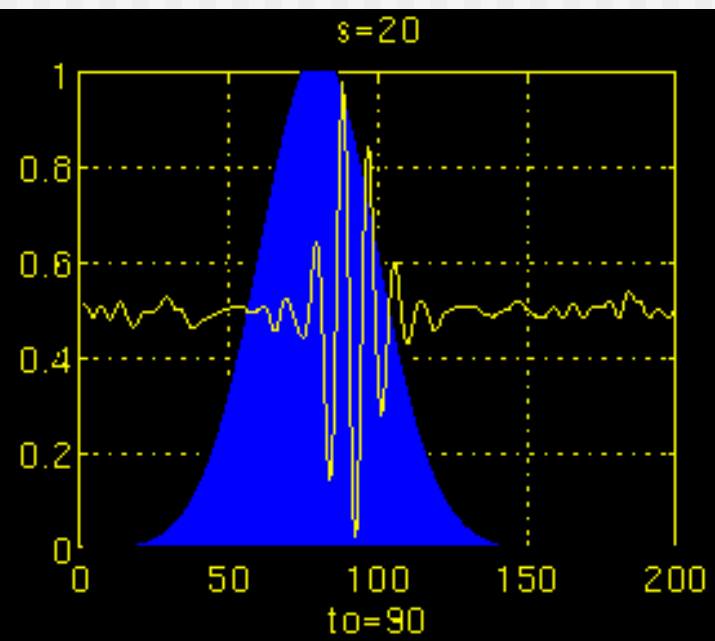
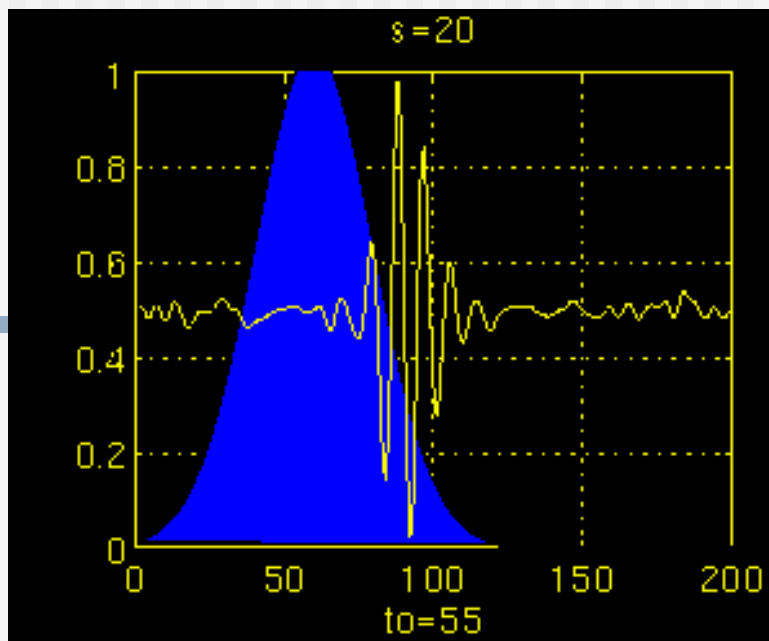




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- ... process for the scales  $s=5$  and  $s=20$ , respectively
  - The window width changes with increasing scale (decreasing frequency)
  - As the window width increases, the transform starts picking up the lower frequency components

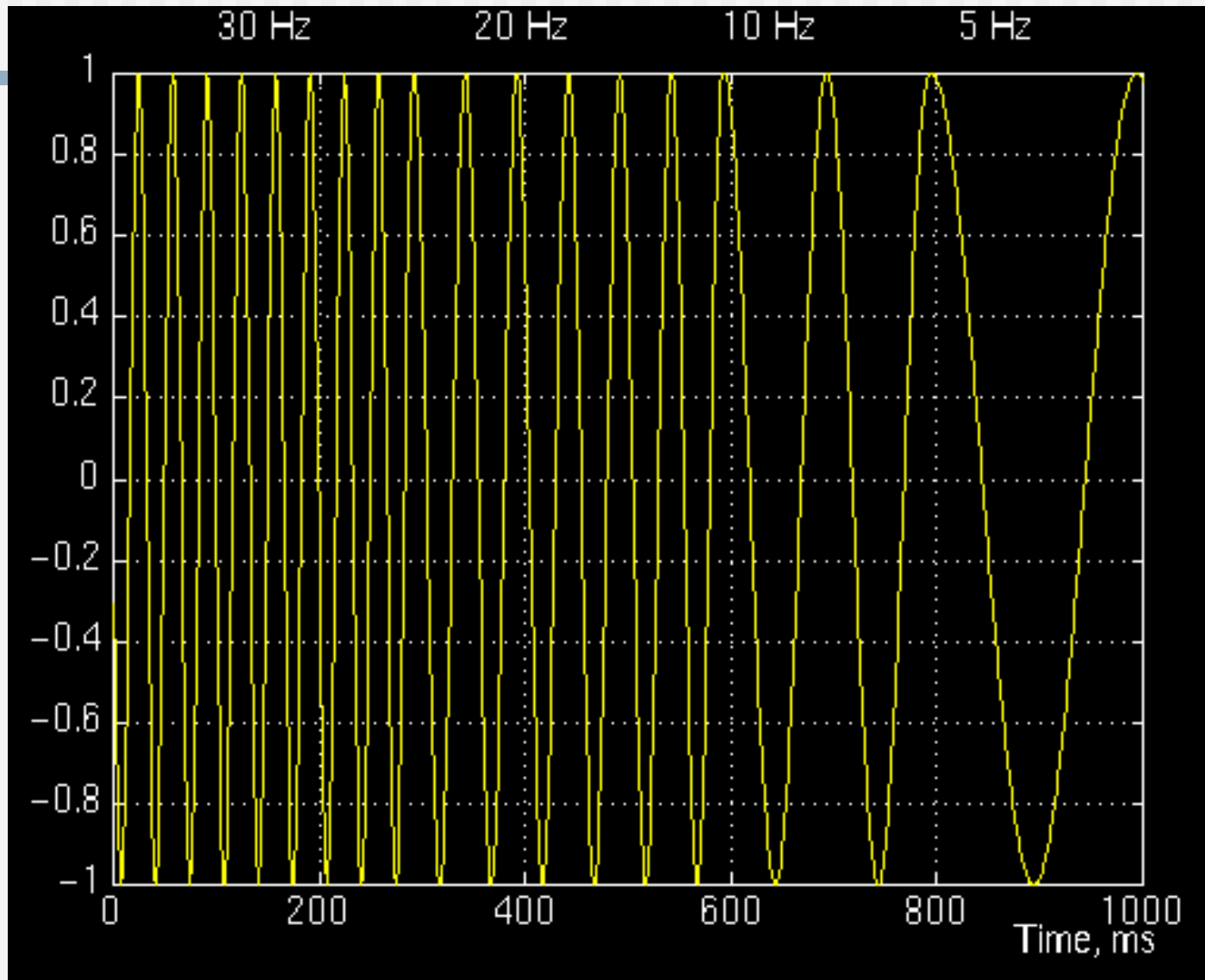




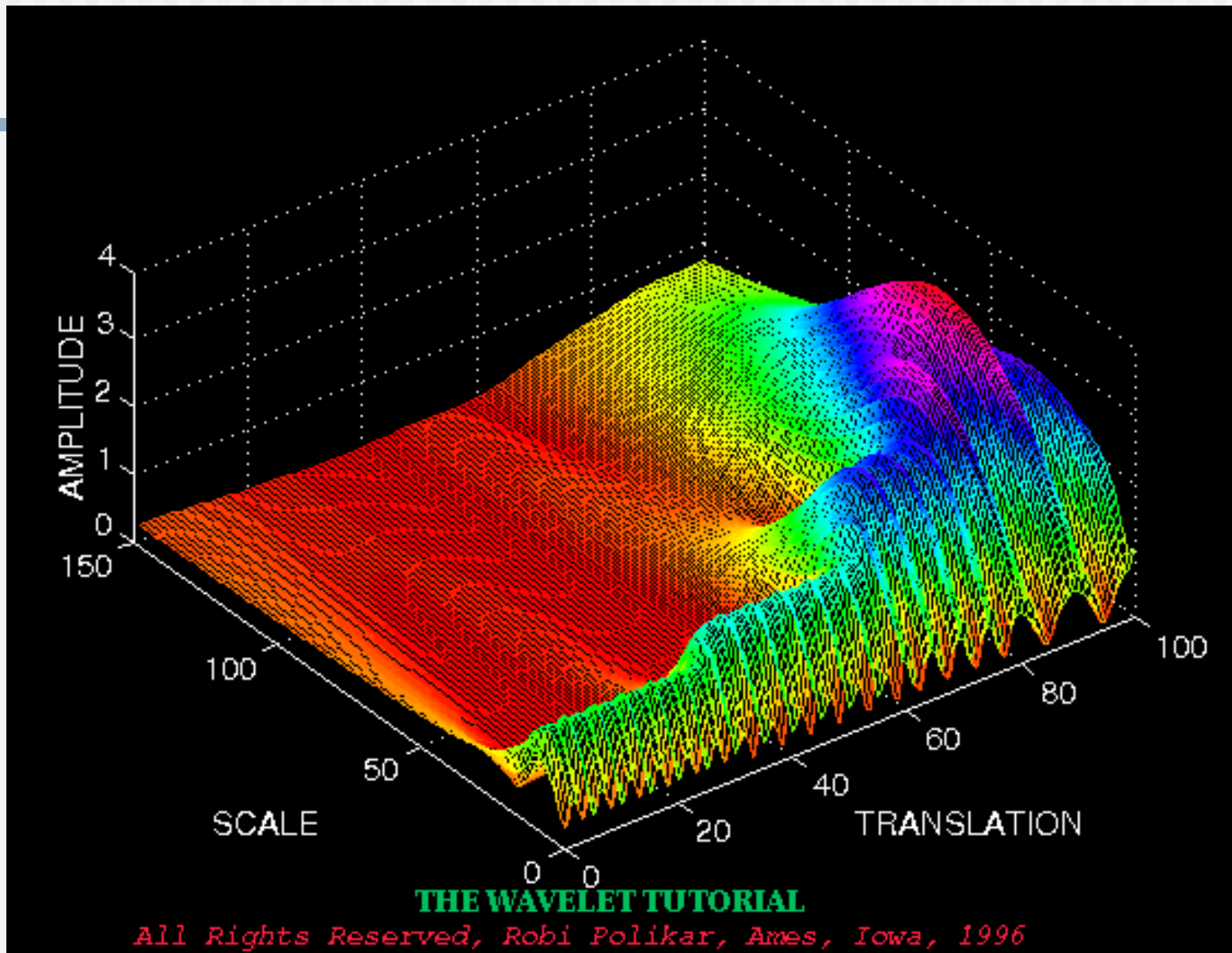


- 
- As a result, for every scale and for every time (interval), one point of the time-scale plane is computed
  - The computations at one scale construct the rows of the time-scale plane, and the computations at different scales construct the columns of the time-scale plane

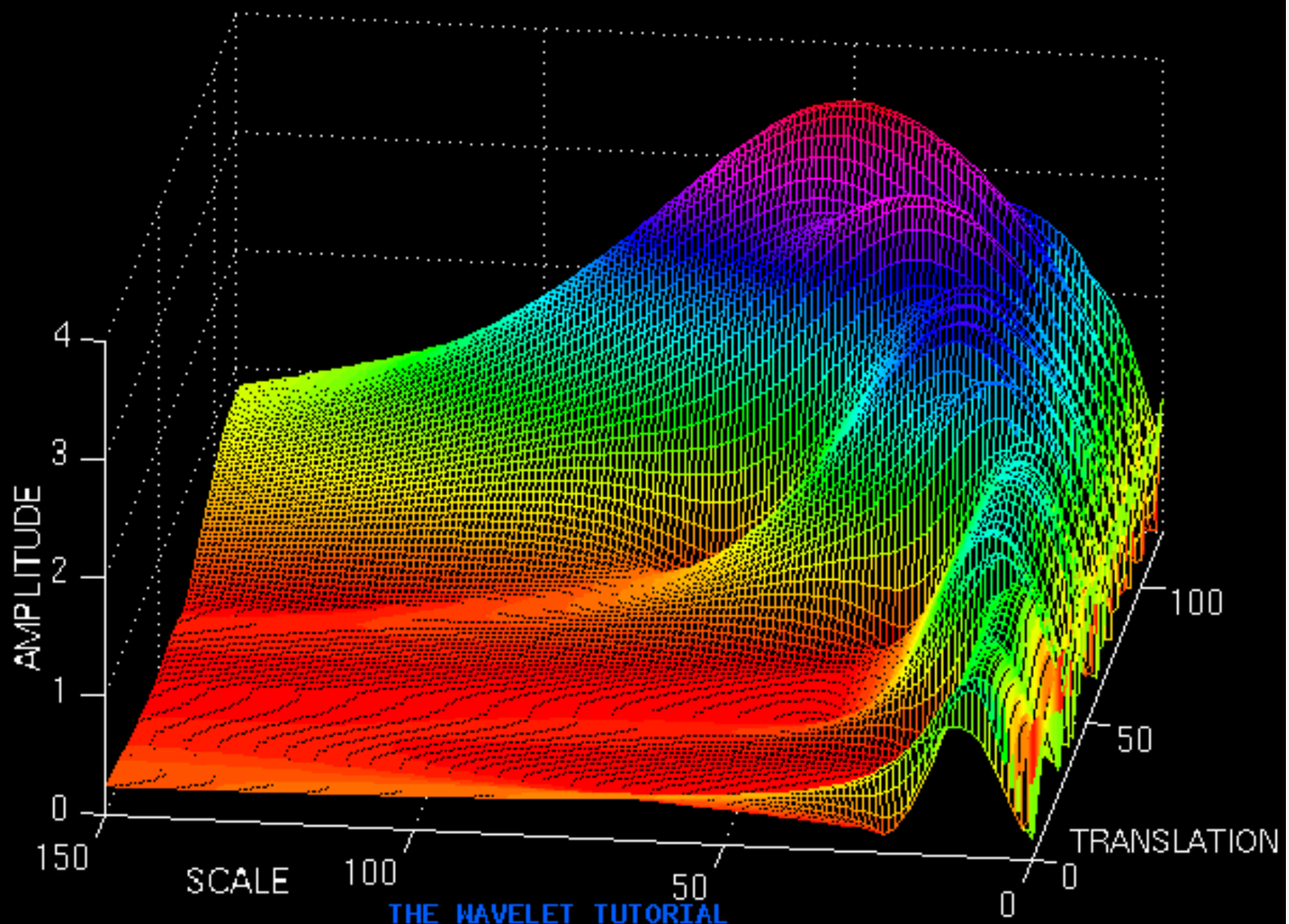
# Example 2



# CWT



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- Continuous wavelet transform (CWT) of signal
  - The axes are translation and scale, not time and frequency.
  - Translation is strictly related to time, since it indicates where the mother wavelet is located
  - The scale is actually inverse of frequency



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- 
- Good time and poor frequency resolution at high frequencies (lower scales)
  - Good frequency and poor time resolution at low frequencies (high scales)



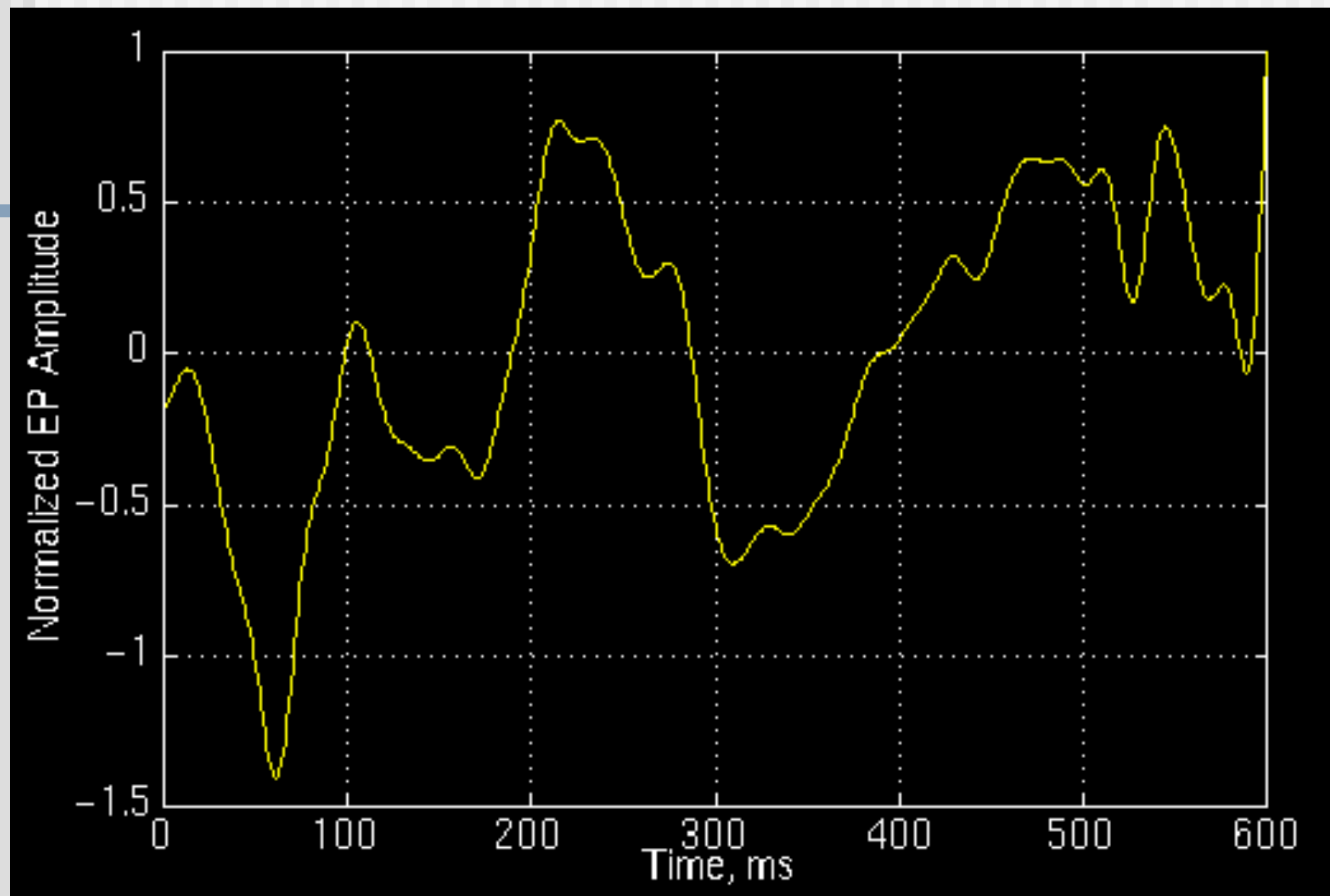
Frequency

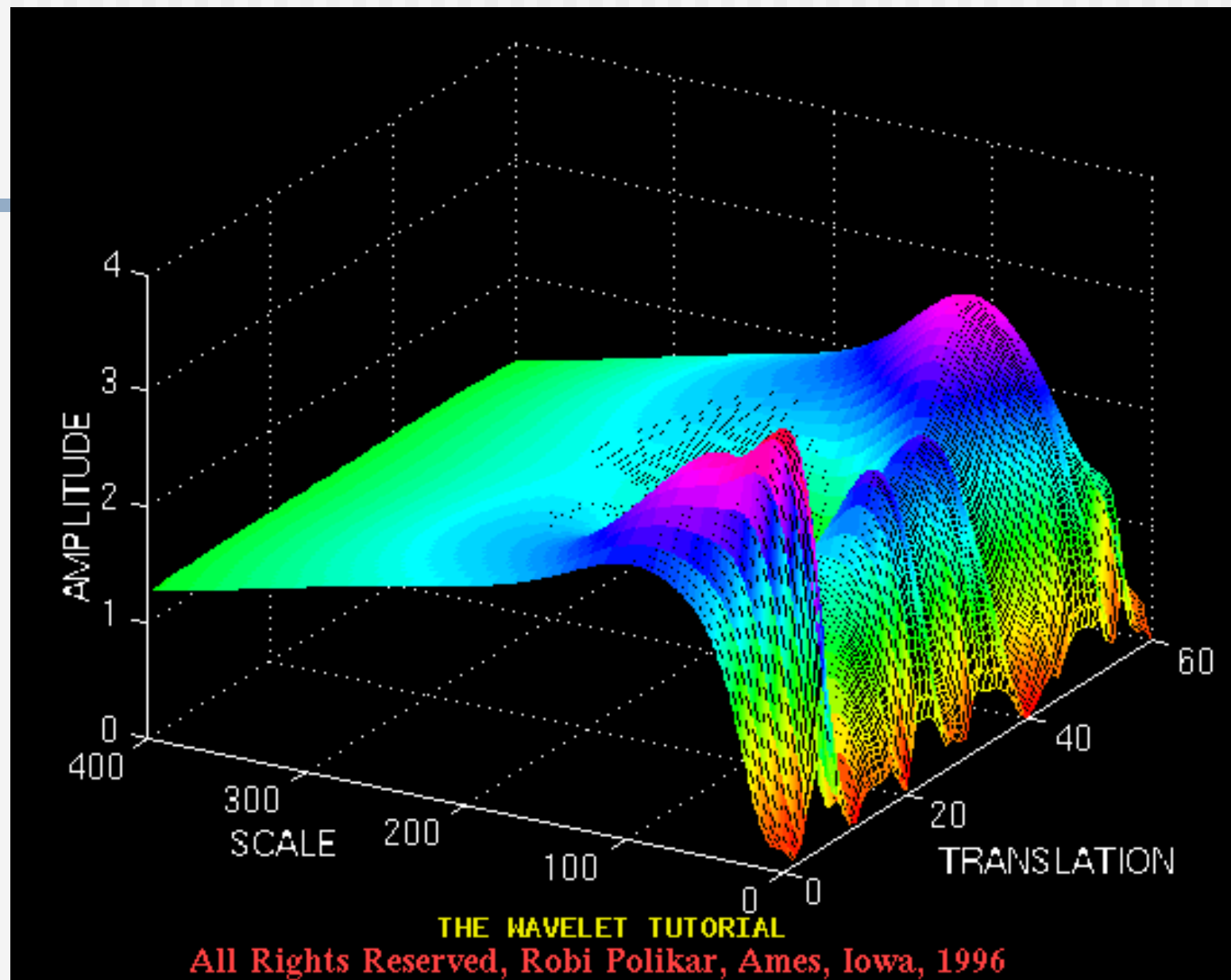

Time

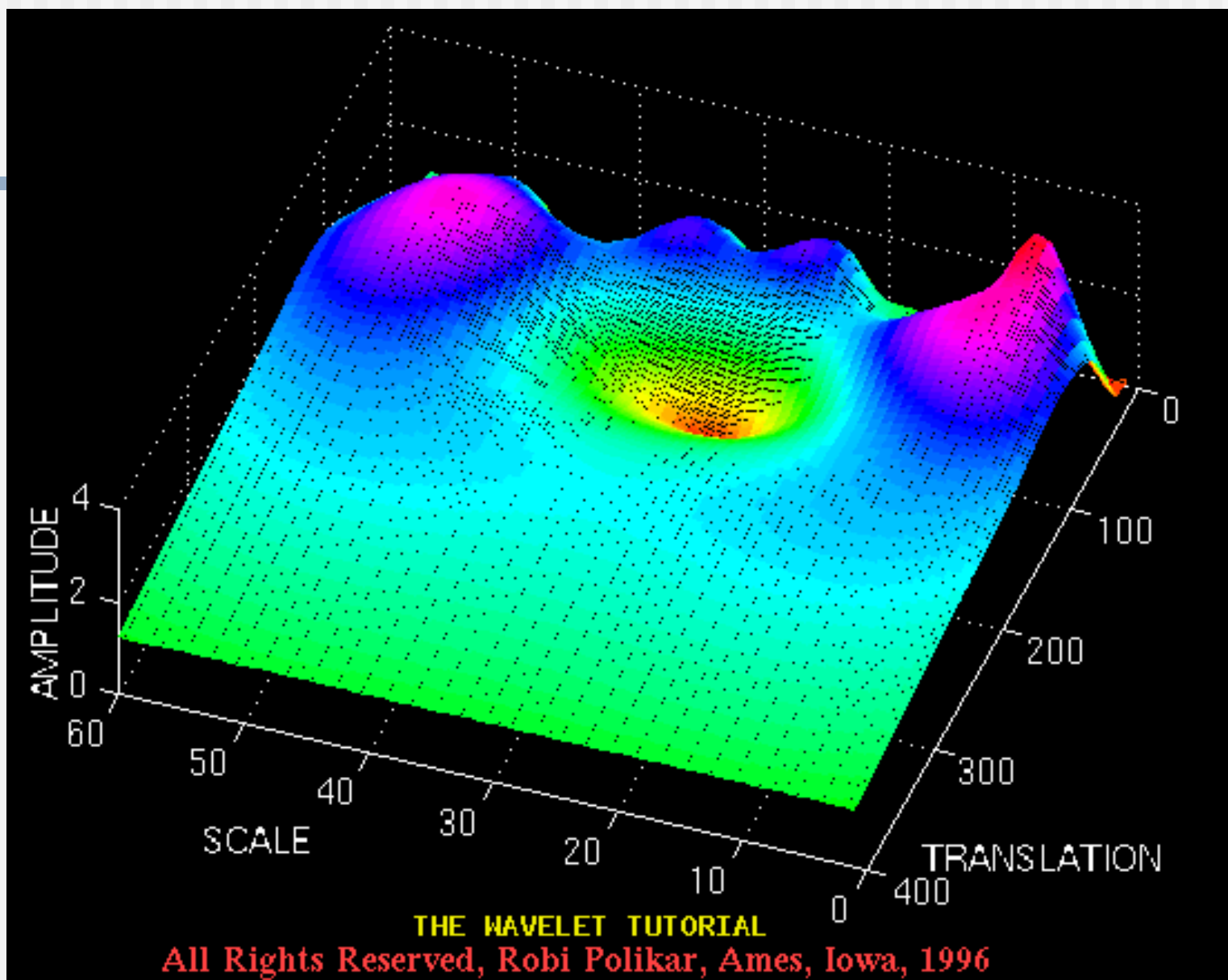
- 
- Every box corresponds to a value of the wavelet transform in the time-frequency plane
  - At low frequencies, the height of the boxes are shorter (which corresponds to better frequency resolutions), but their widths are longer (which correspond to poor time resolution)
  - At higher frequencies the width of the boxes decreases, i.e., the time resolution gets better, and the heights of the boxes increase, i.e., the frequency resolution gets poorer

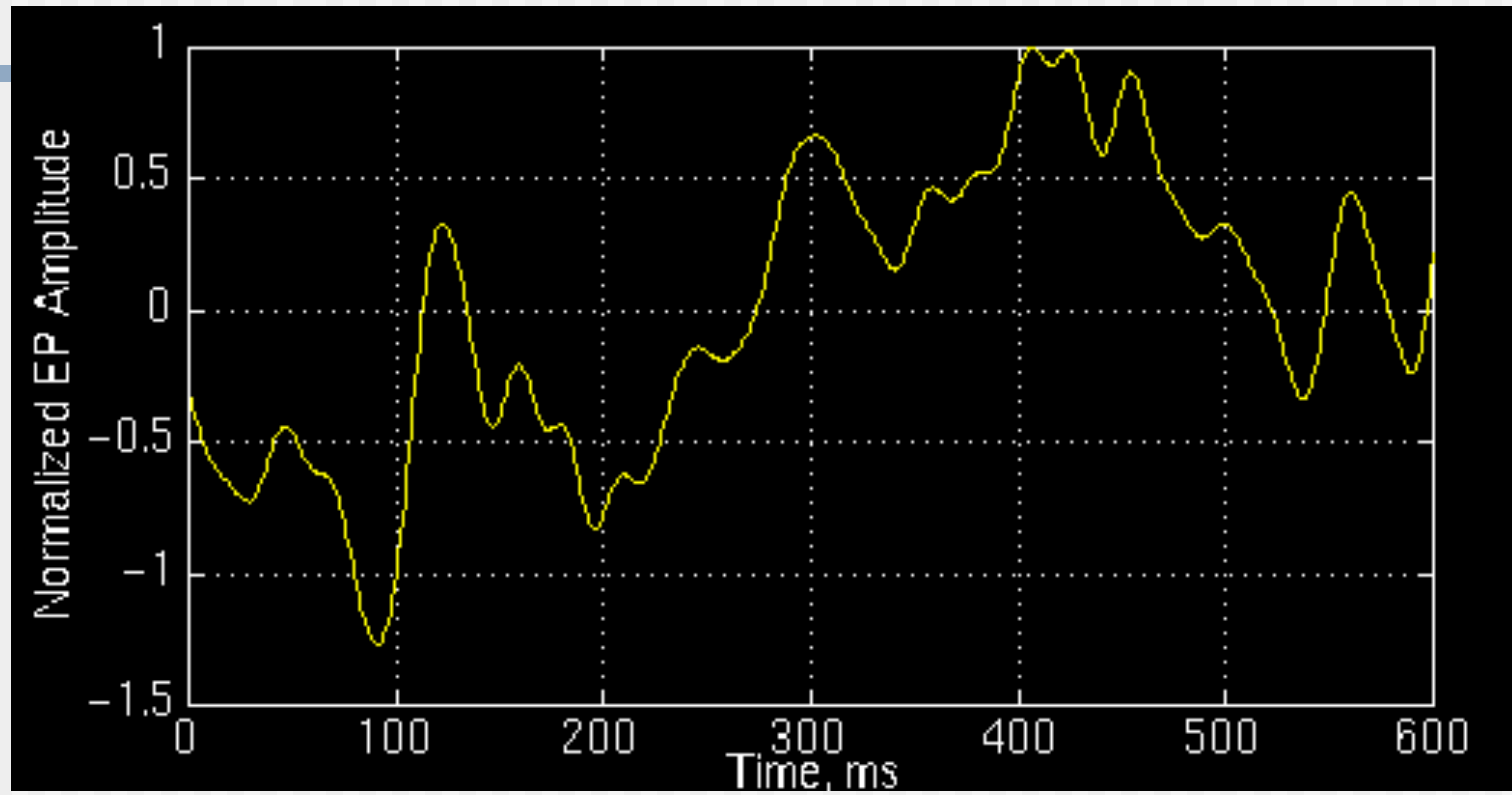
Frequency

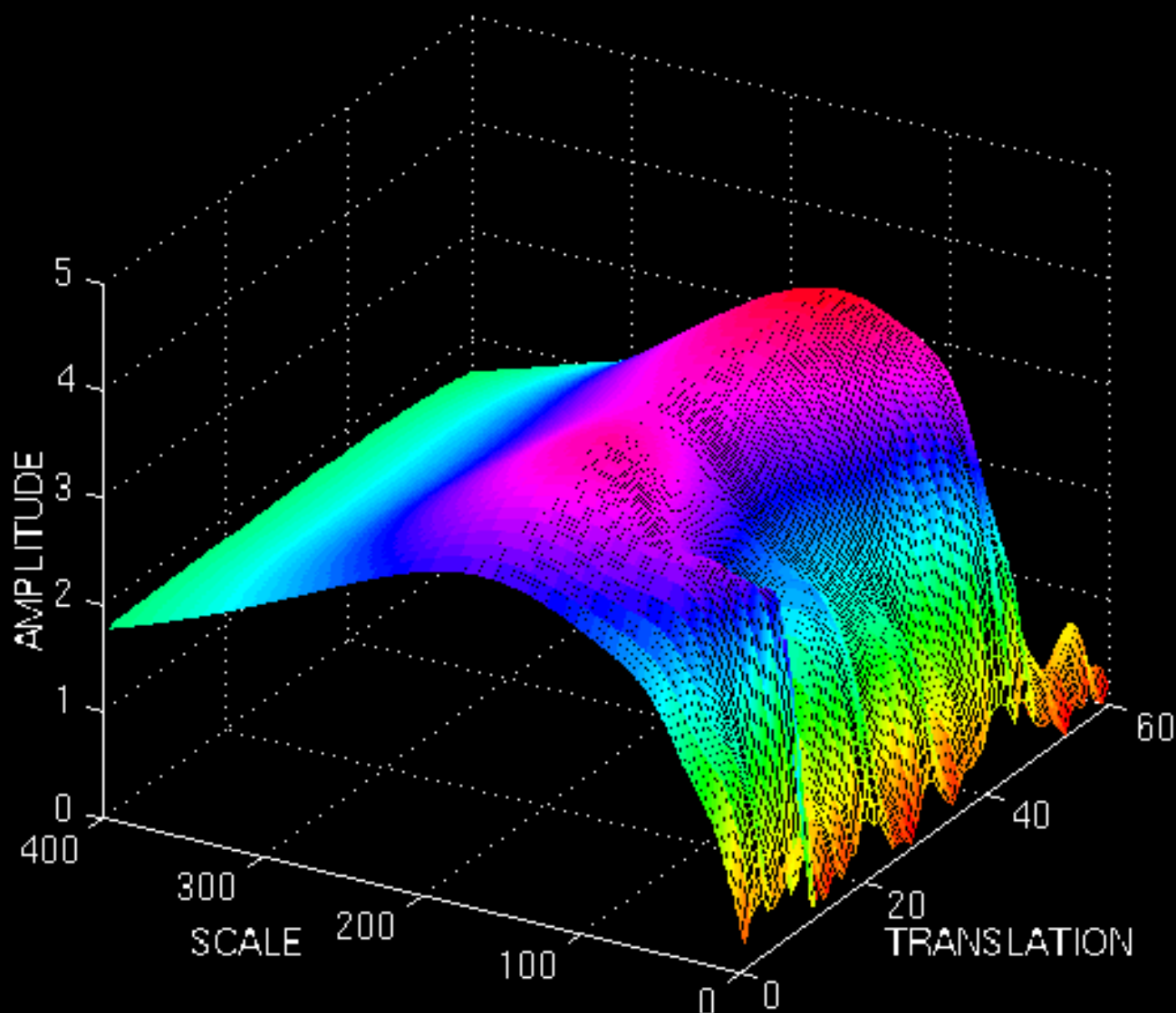

Time







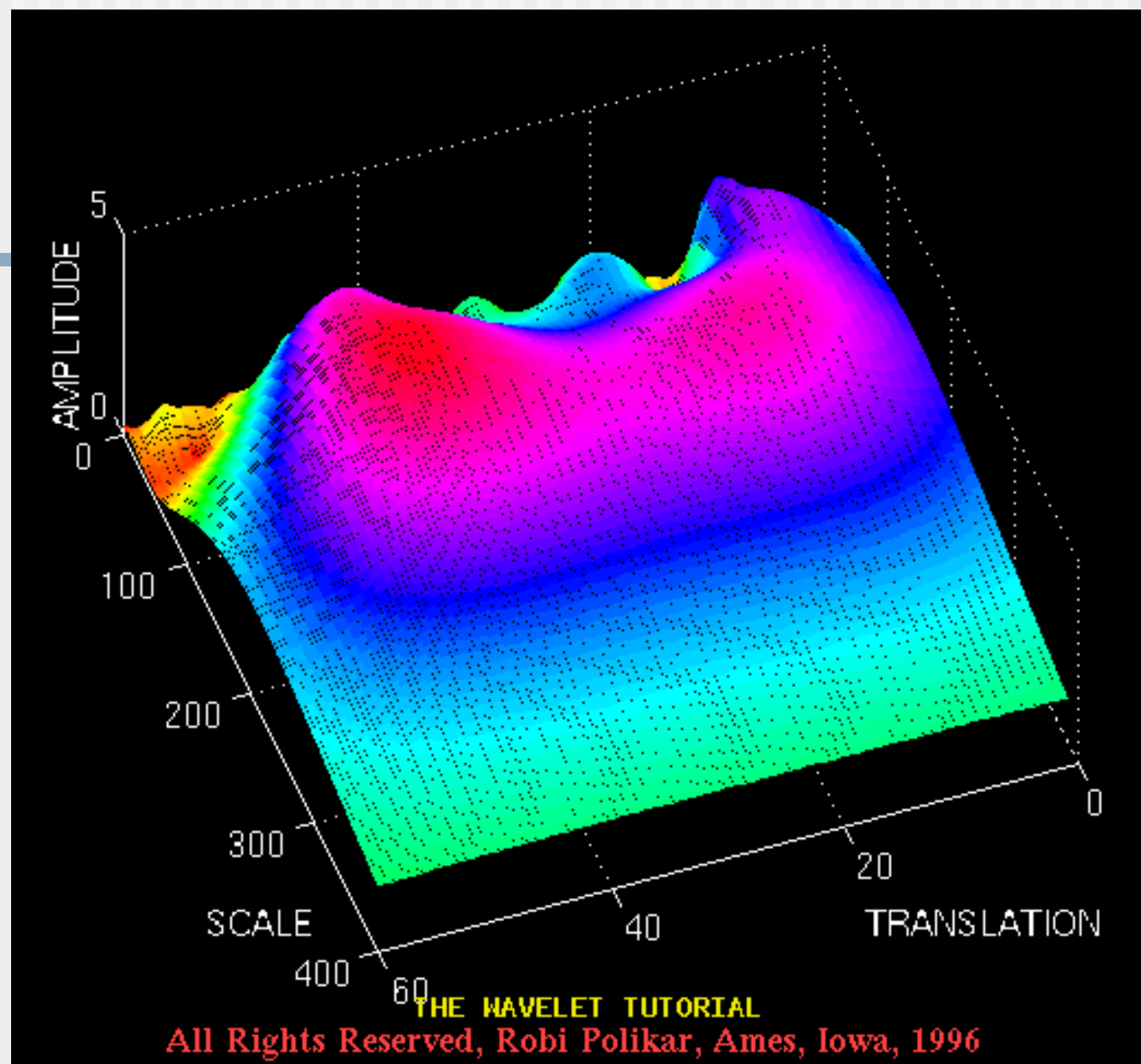




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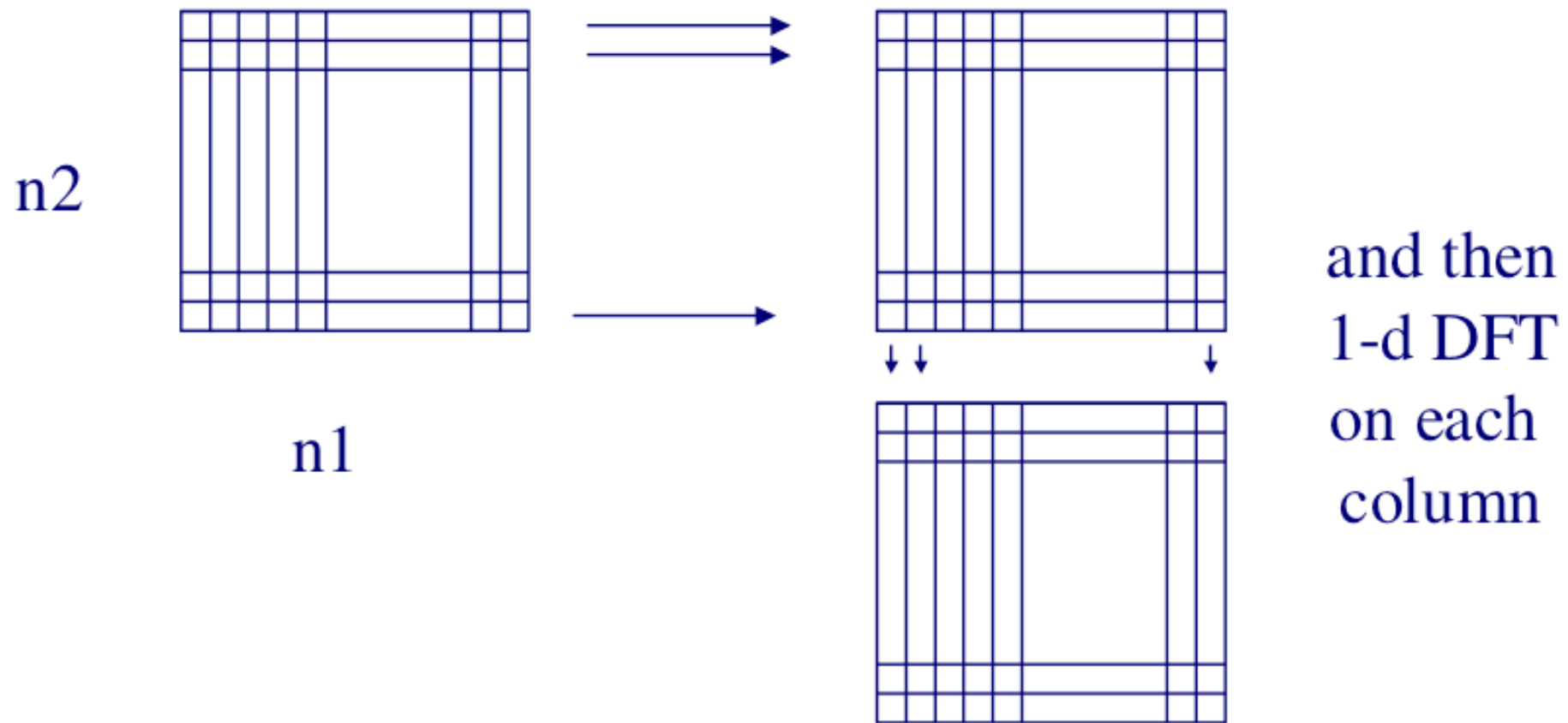
# Discrete Wavelet Transform

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- In the discrete case, filters of different cutoff frequencies are used to analyze the signal at different scales
  - The signal is passed through a series of high pass filters to analyze the high frequencies, and it is passed through a series of low pass filters to analyze the low frequencies
- The resolution of the signal is changed by the filtering operations, and the scale is changed by upsampling and downsampling (subsampling) operations.

- Intuition:

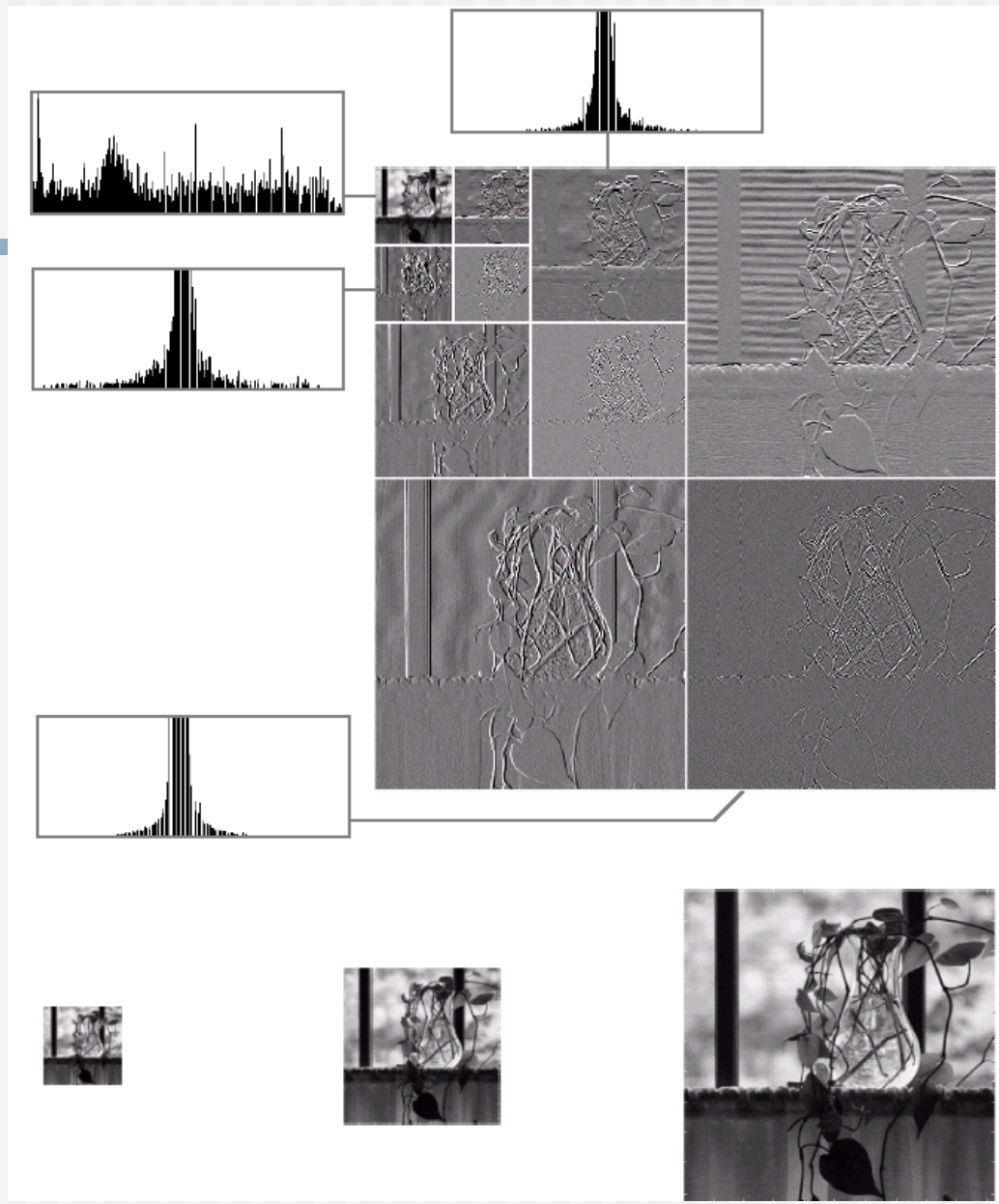
do 1-d DFT on each row



# Wavelets Transforms in Two dimensions

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- We have three directionally sensitive wavelets
  - Variations along columns
  - Variations along rows
  - Variation along diagonals

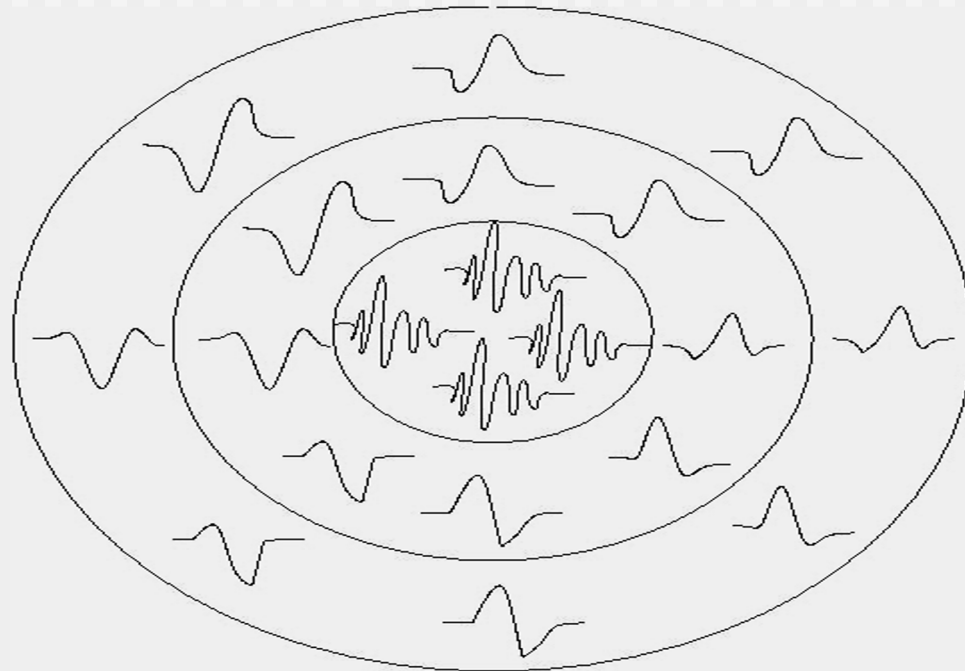


a  
b c d

**FIGURE 7.8** (a) A discrete wavelet transform using Haar basis functions. Its local histogram variations are also shown; (b)–(d) Several different approximations ( $64 \times 64$ ,  $128 \times 128$ , and  $256 \times 256$ ) that can be obtained from (a).

# Brain - Visual cells....

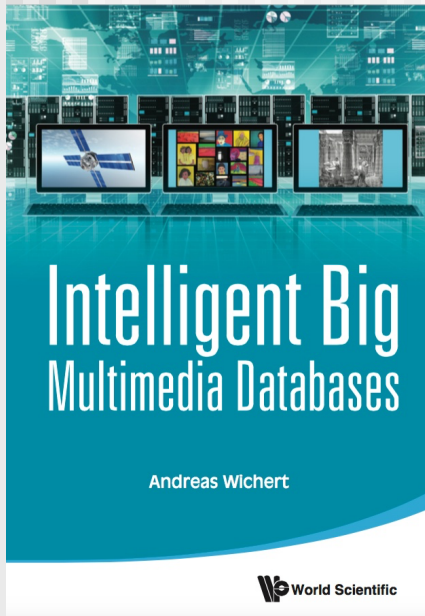
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- Why do we need a Transform?
  - Fourier Transform and the short term Fourier (STFT)
  - Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle
  - The continuous Wavelet Transform
  - Discrete Wavelet Transform
  - Wavelets Transforms in Two dimensions

# Literature

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- Intelligent Big Multimedia Databases, A. Wichert, World Scientific, 2015
  - *DFT, Wavelets etc*



