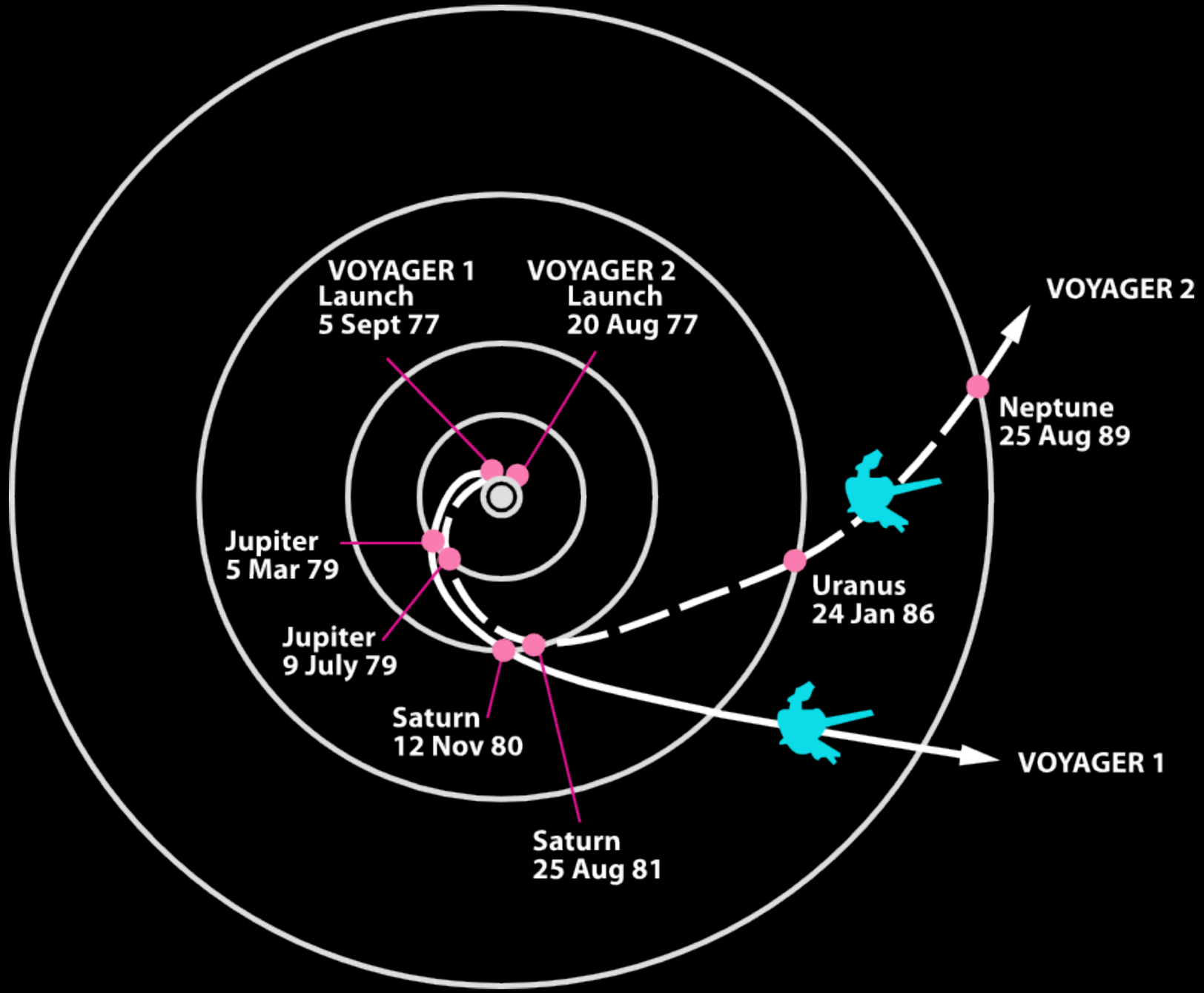
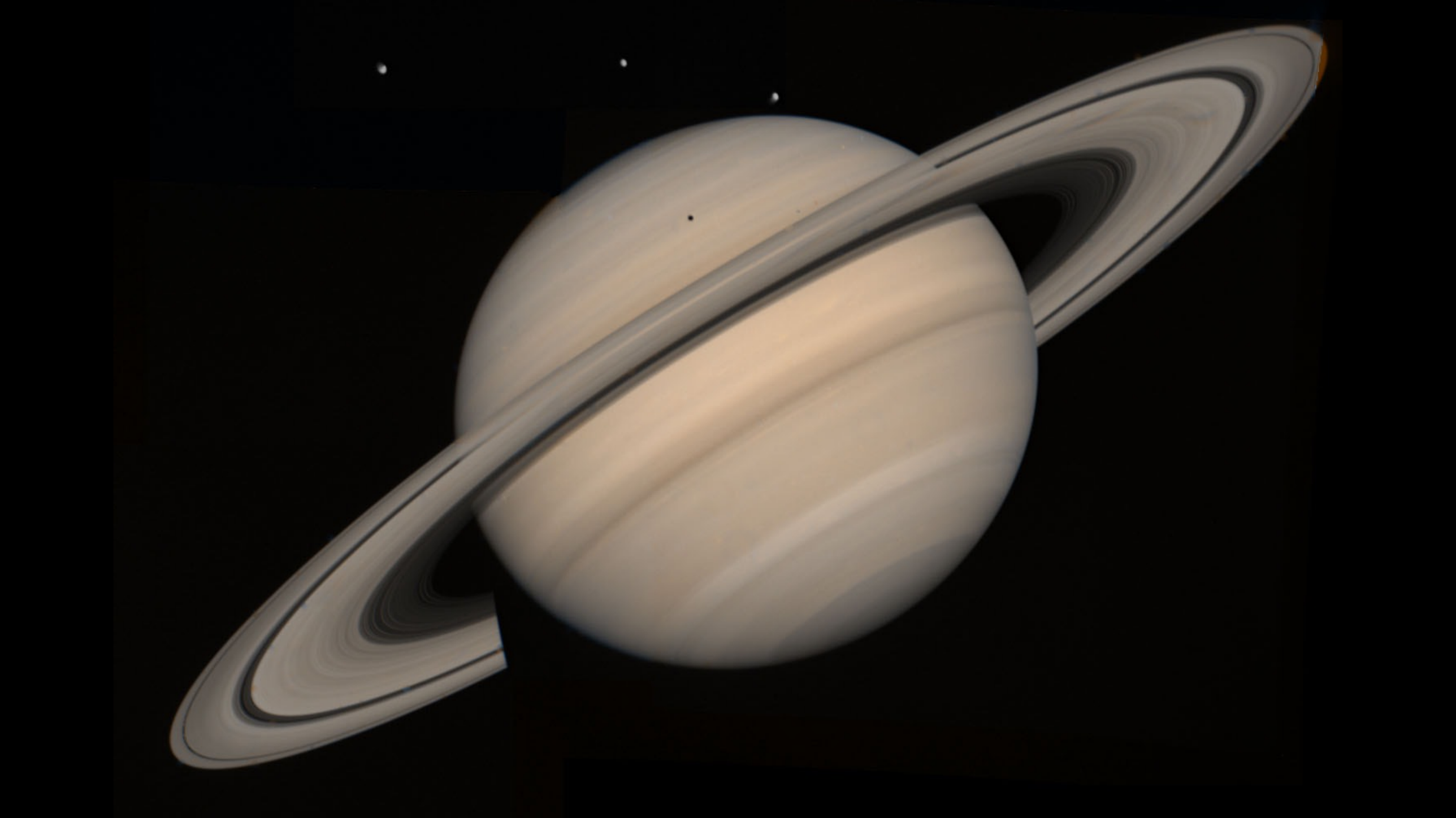
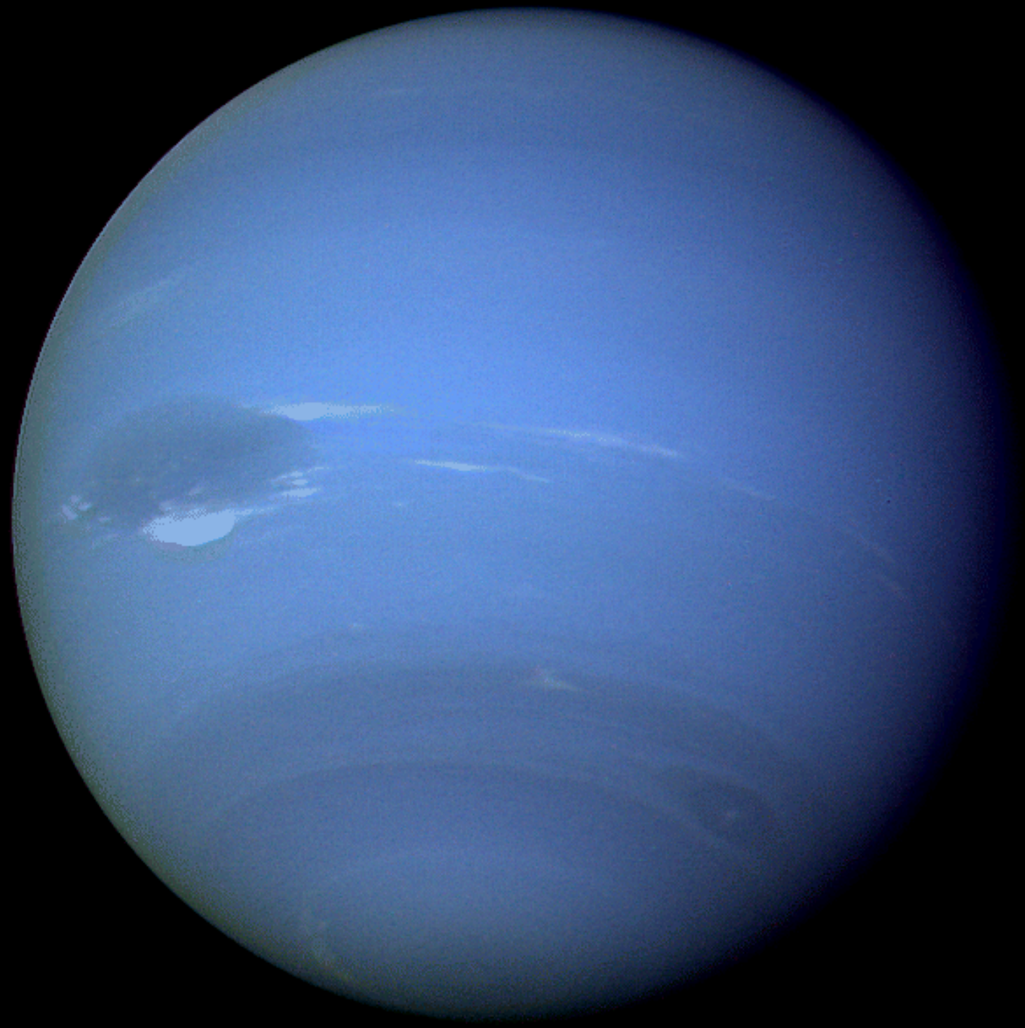
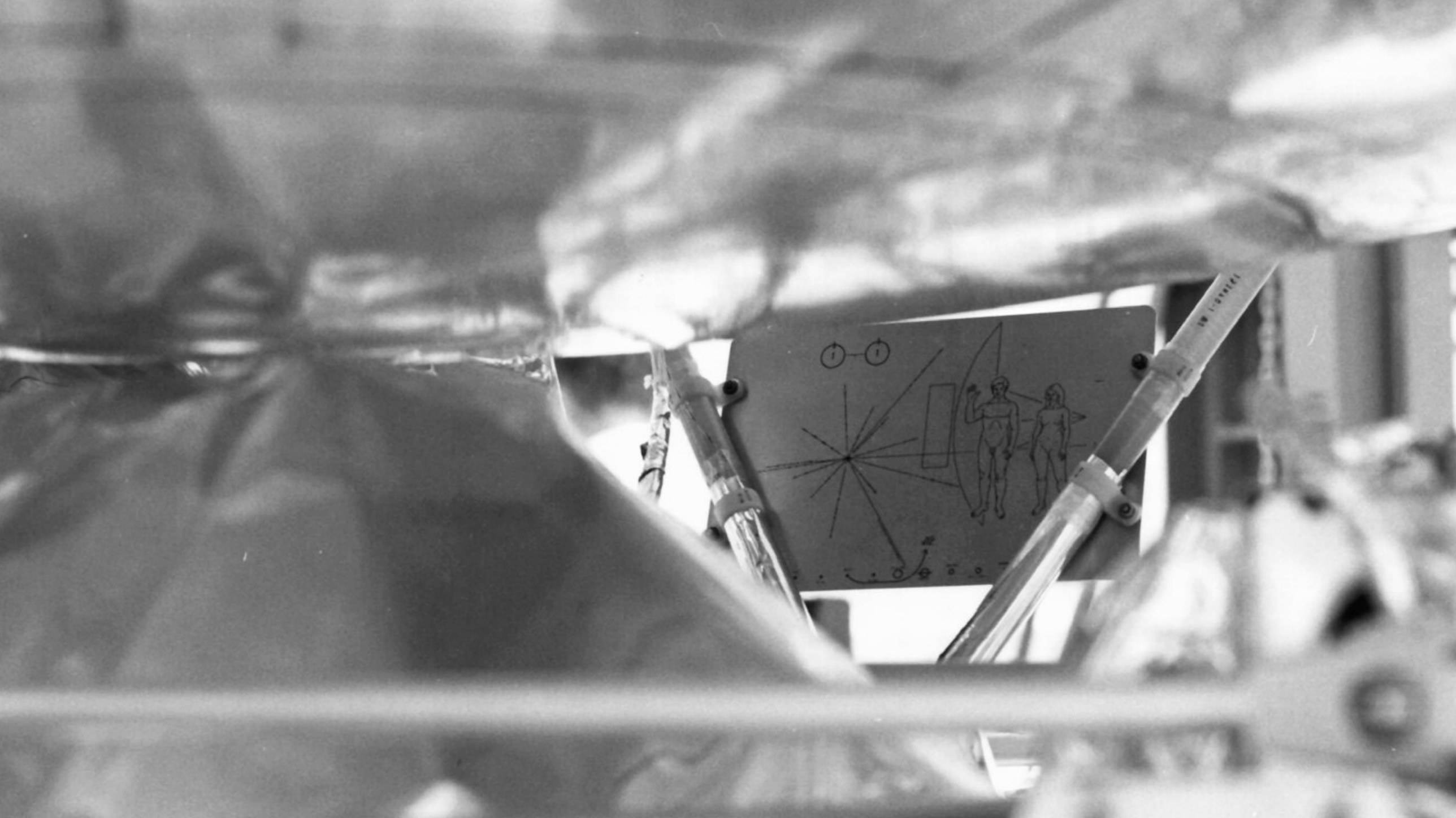

Rob Howard
A Message to the Stars
RUBYCONF AU 2020


VOYAGER 1
Launch
5 Sept 77
VOYAGER 2
Launch
20 Aug 77
VOYAGER 2
Neptune
25 Aug 89
Jupiter
5 Mar 79
Jupiter
9 July 79
Uranus
24 Jan 86
Saturn
12 Nov 80
VOYAGER 1
Saturn
25 Aug 81

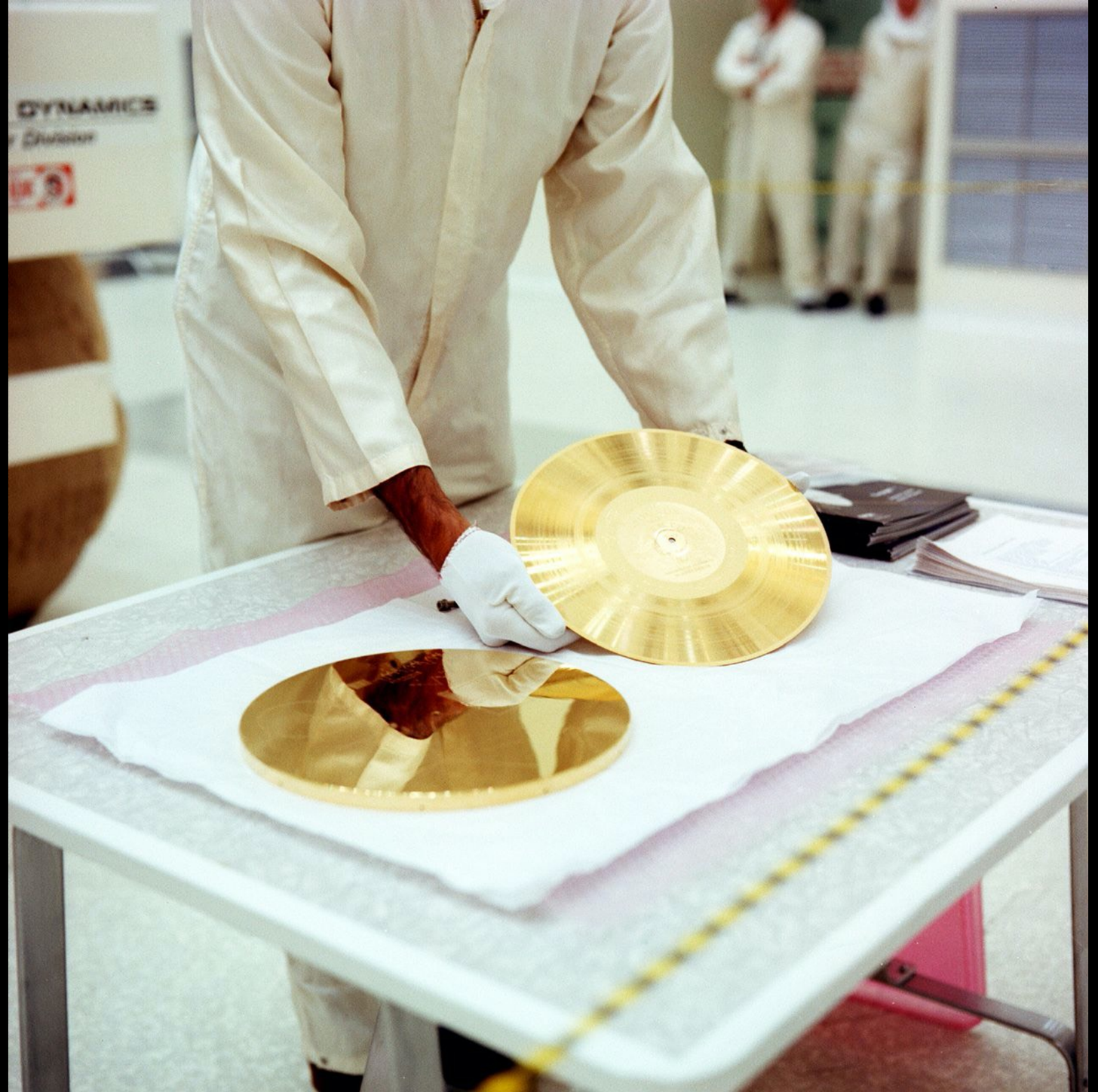







THE SOUNDS OF EARTH
Side 1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PLANET EARTH
TO THE MAKERS OF MUSIC - ALL WORLDS, ALL TIMES

INSPECTION OF THE CENTER ENGRAVING
ON THE NICKEL PLATED MOTHER RECORD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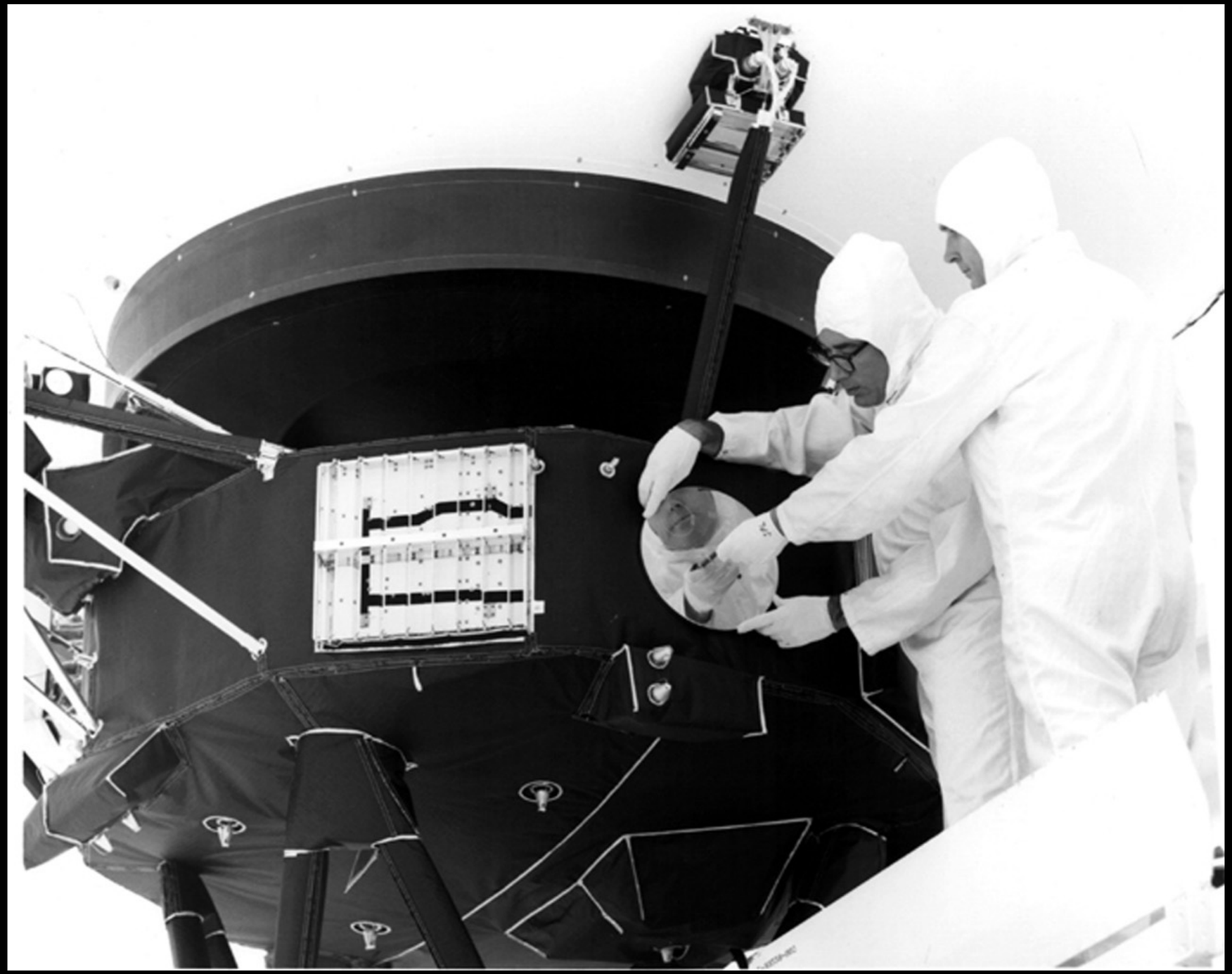
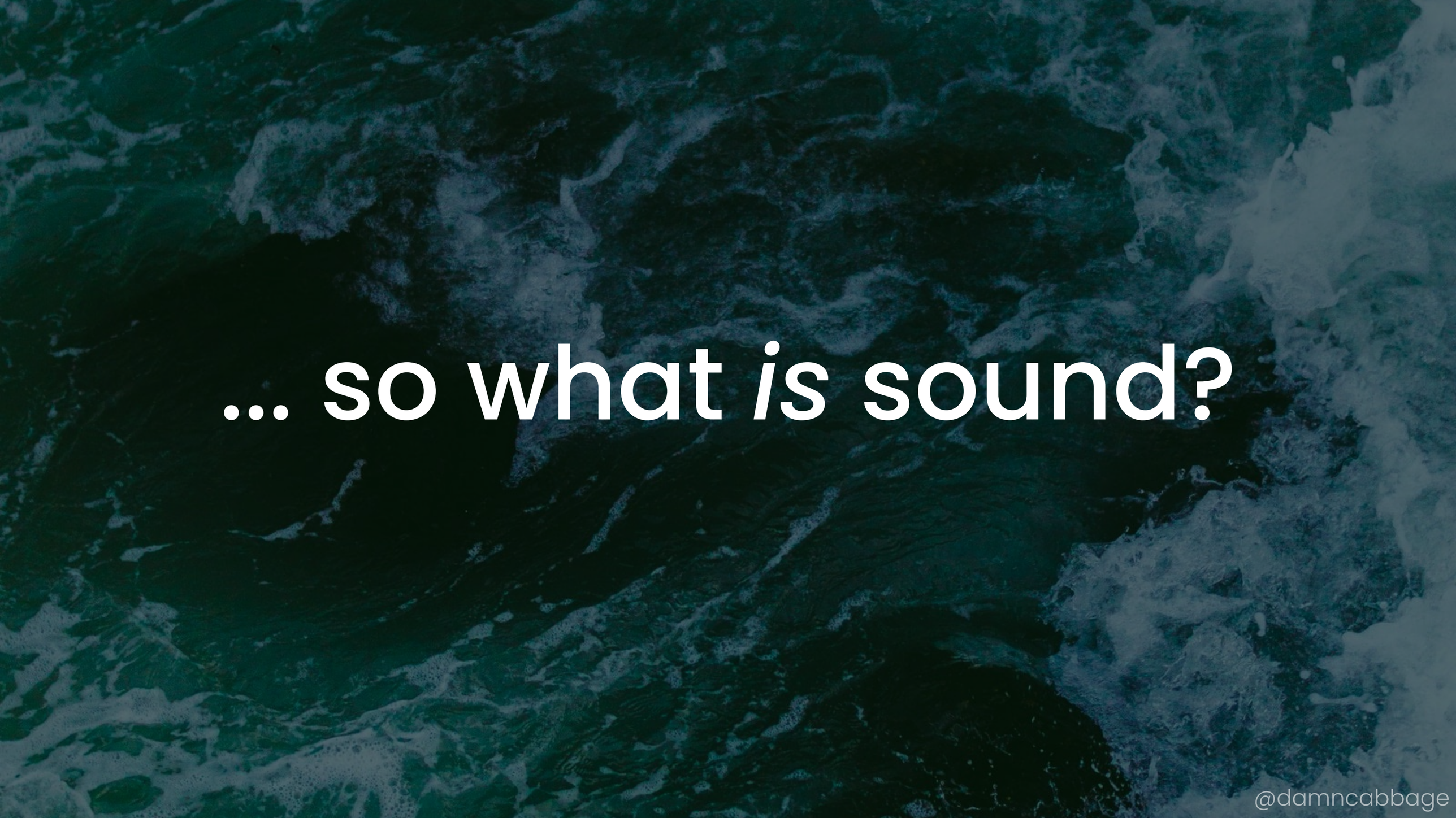
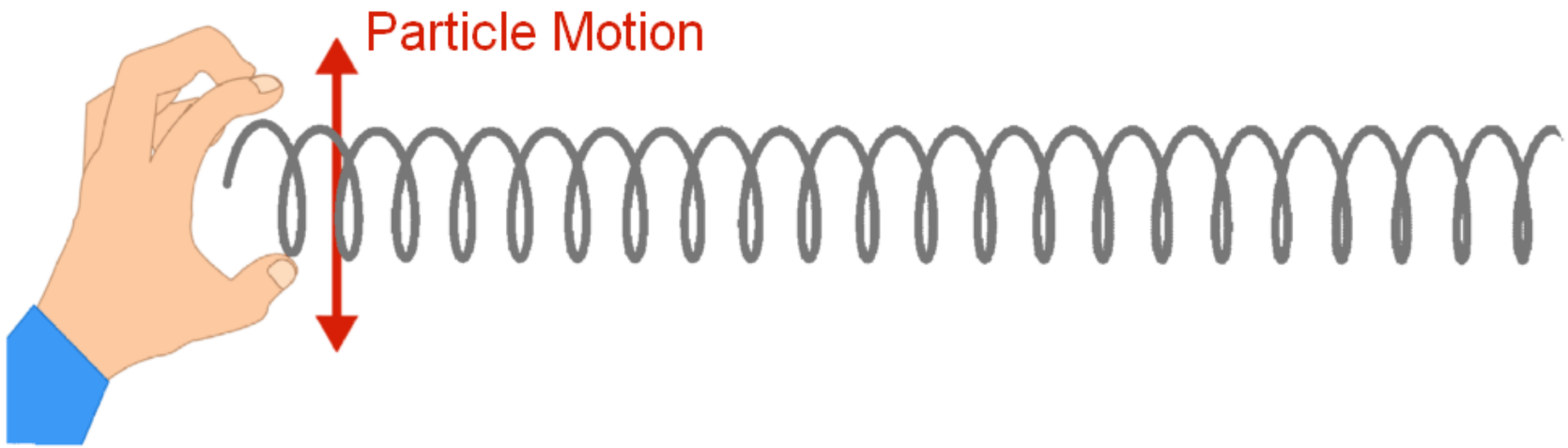
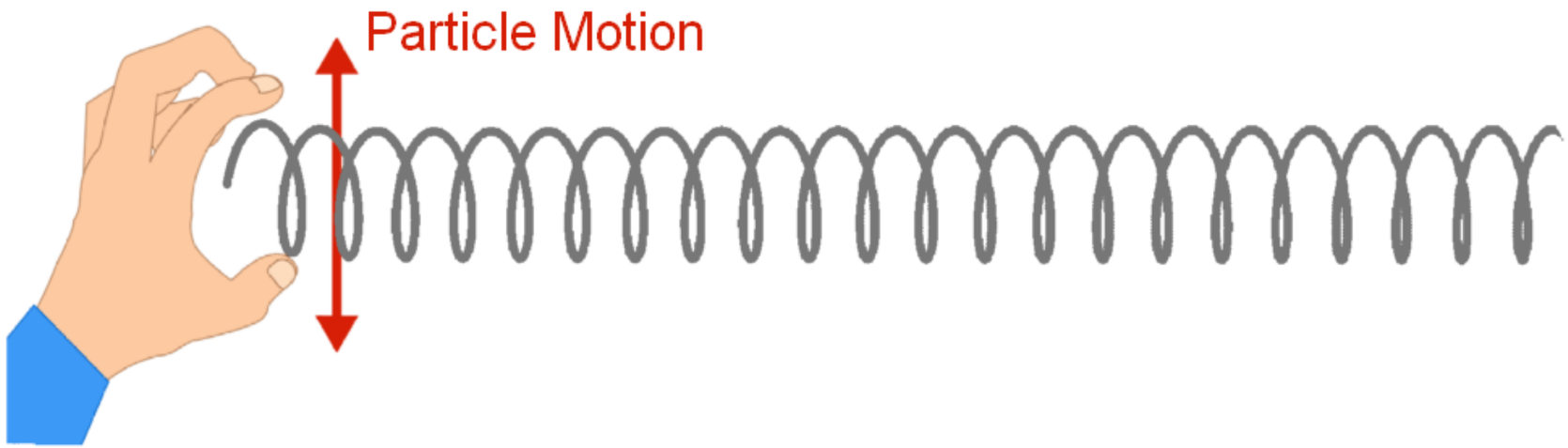


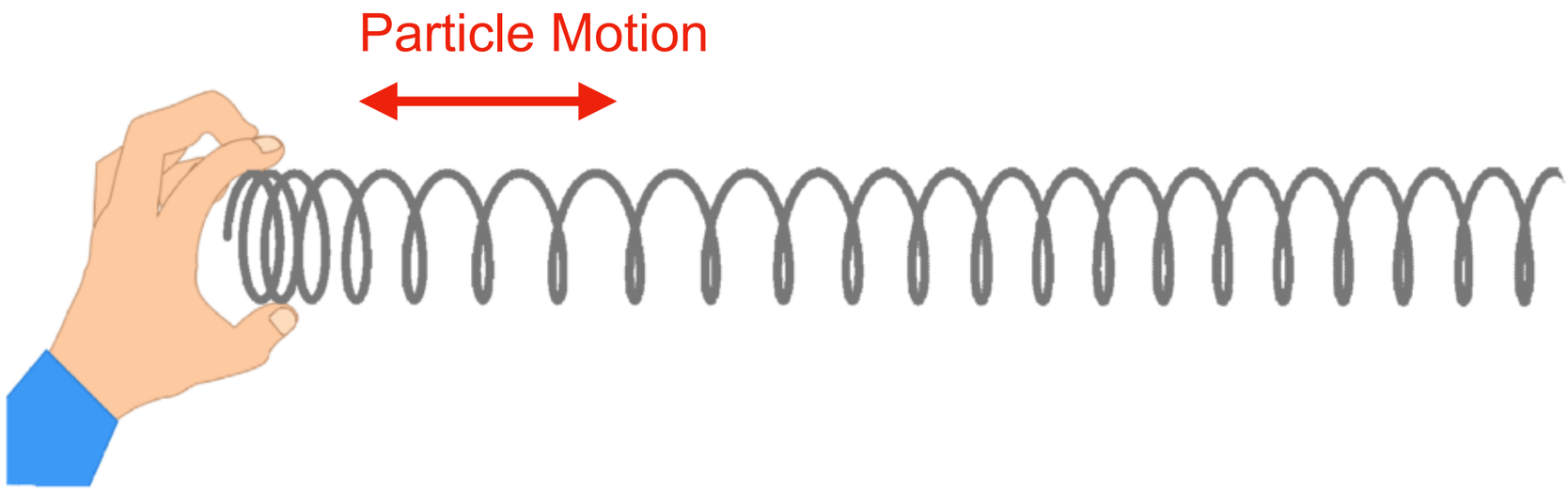

AUDIO

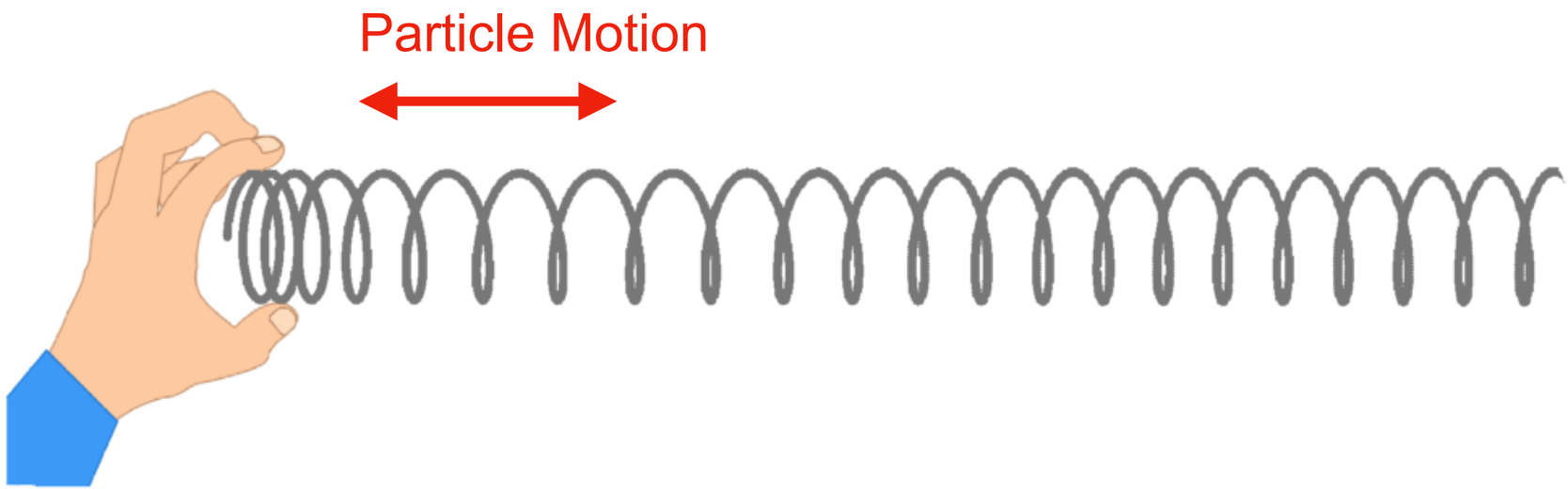

... so what *is* sound?
@damncabbage

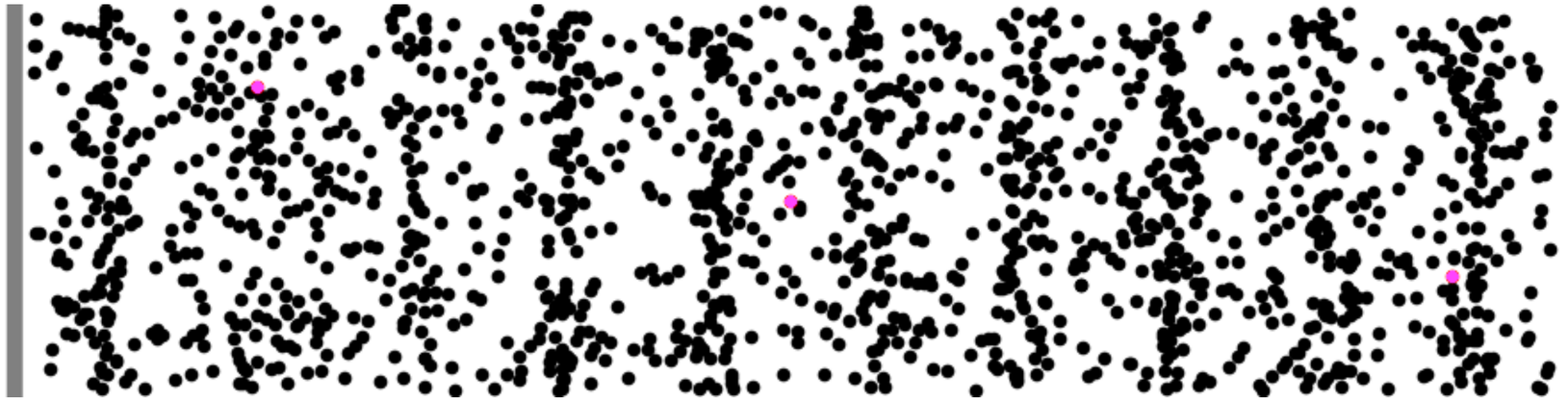

Let's talk about waves.
(but not that kind)
@damncabbage

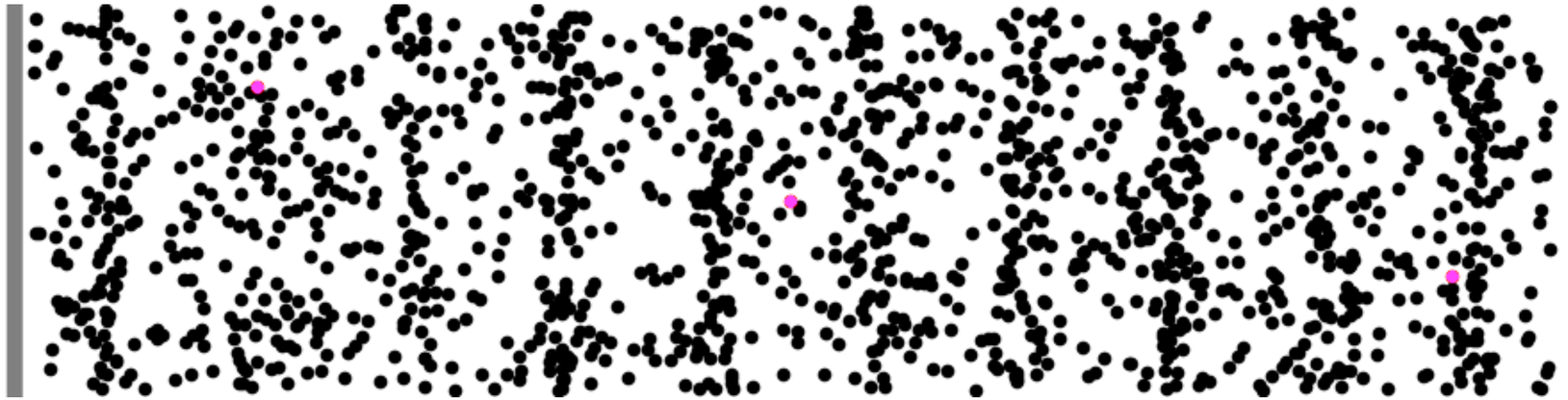


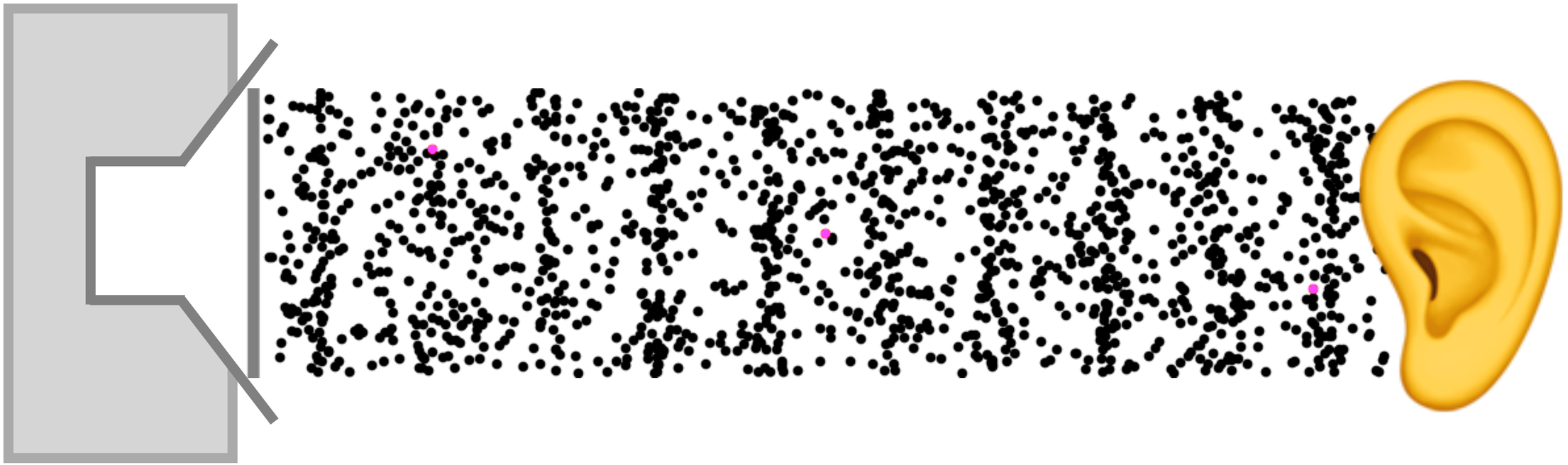


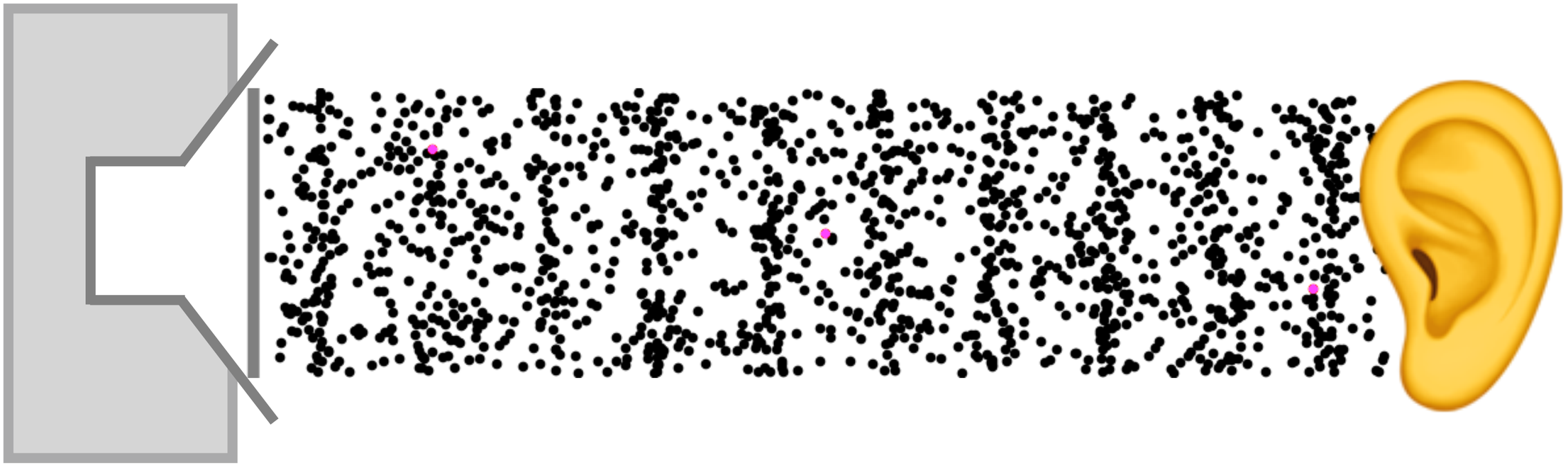


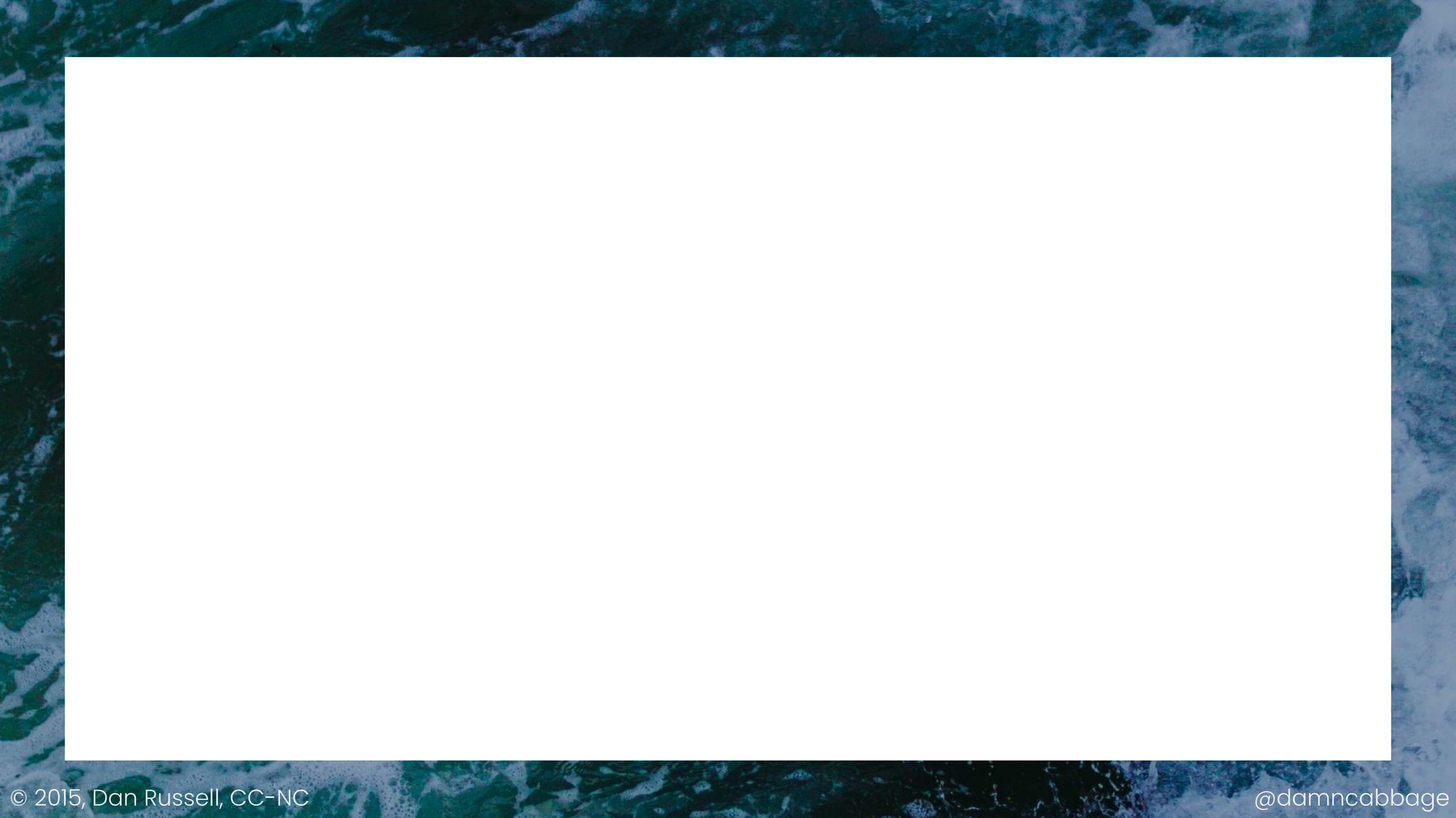


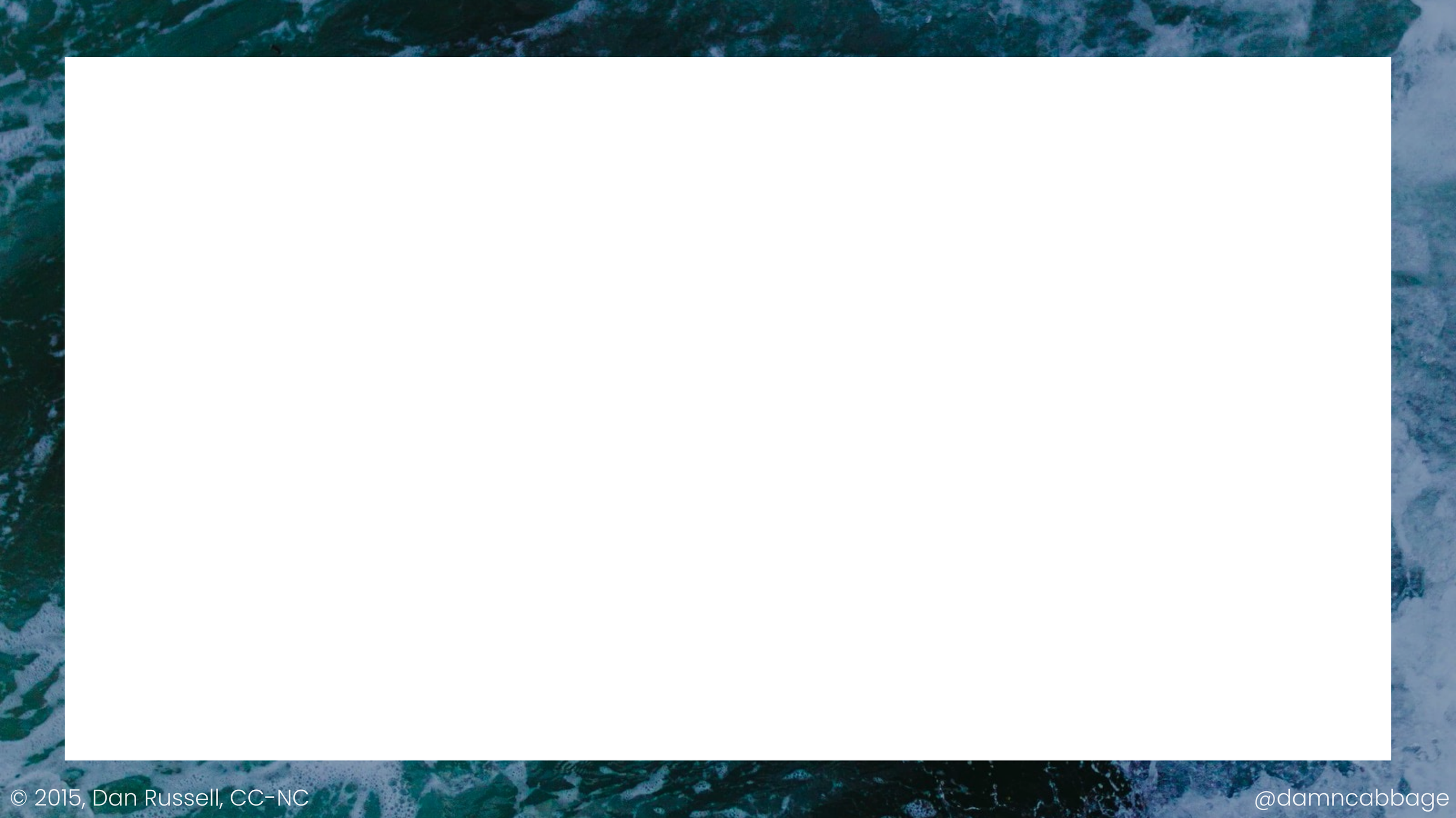


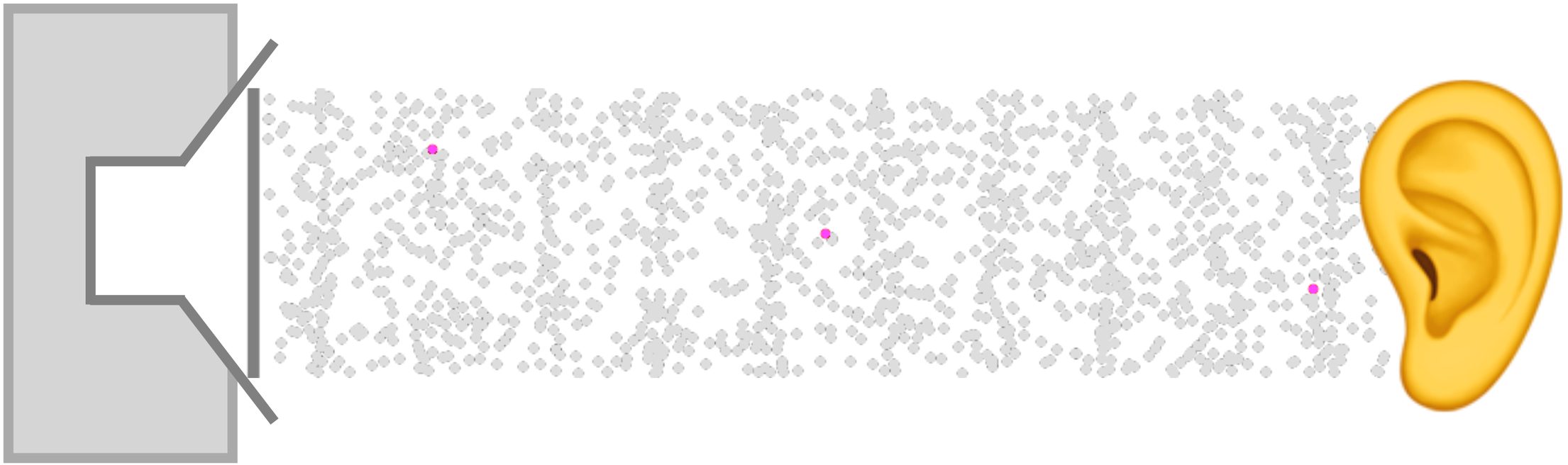




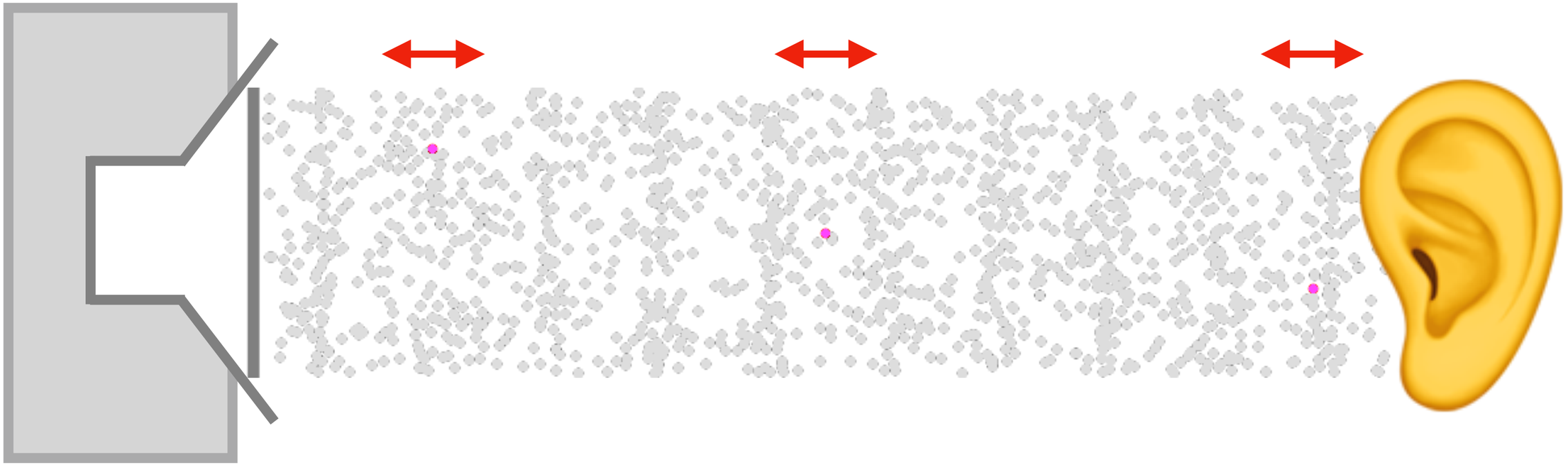


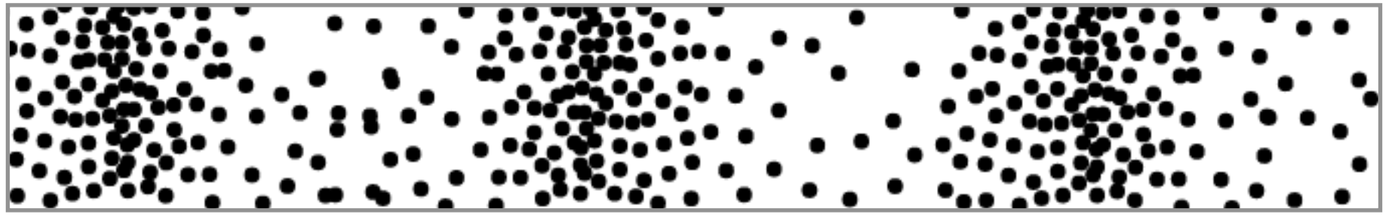


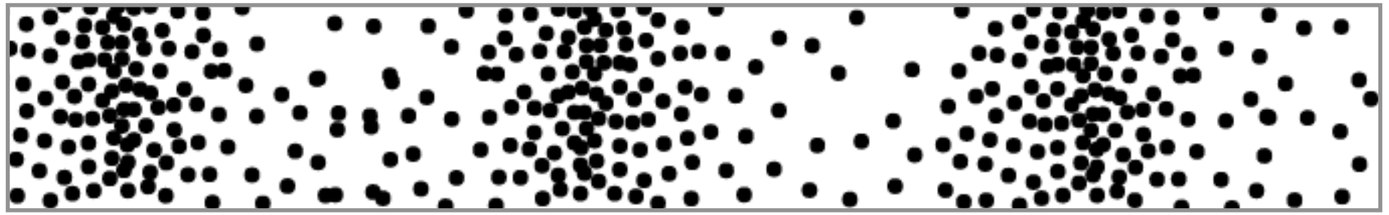


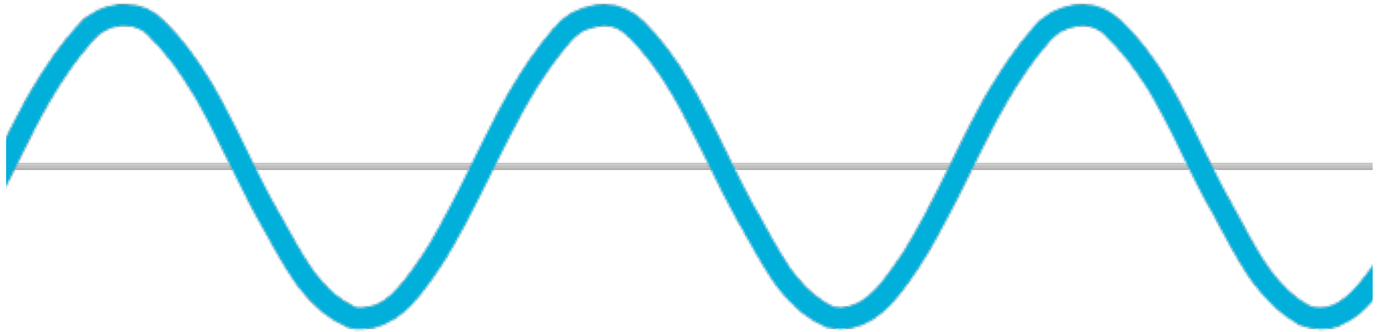


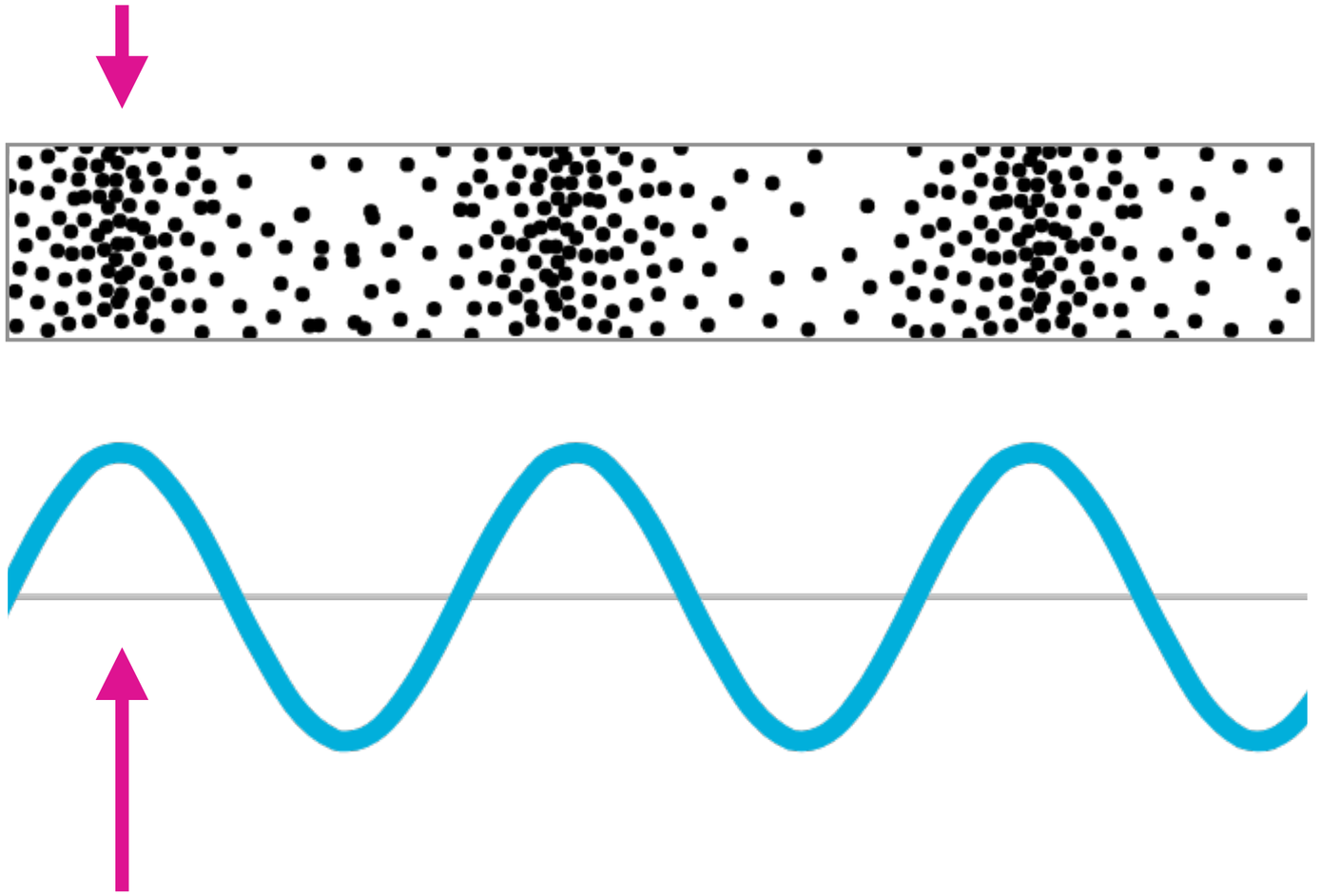
Particle Motion

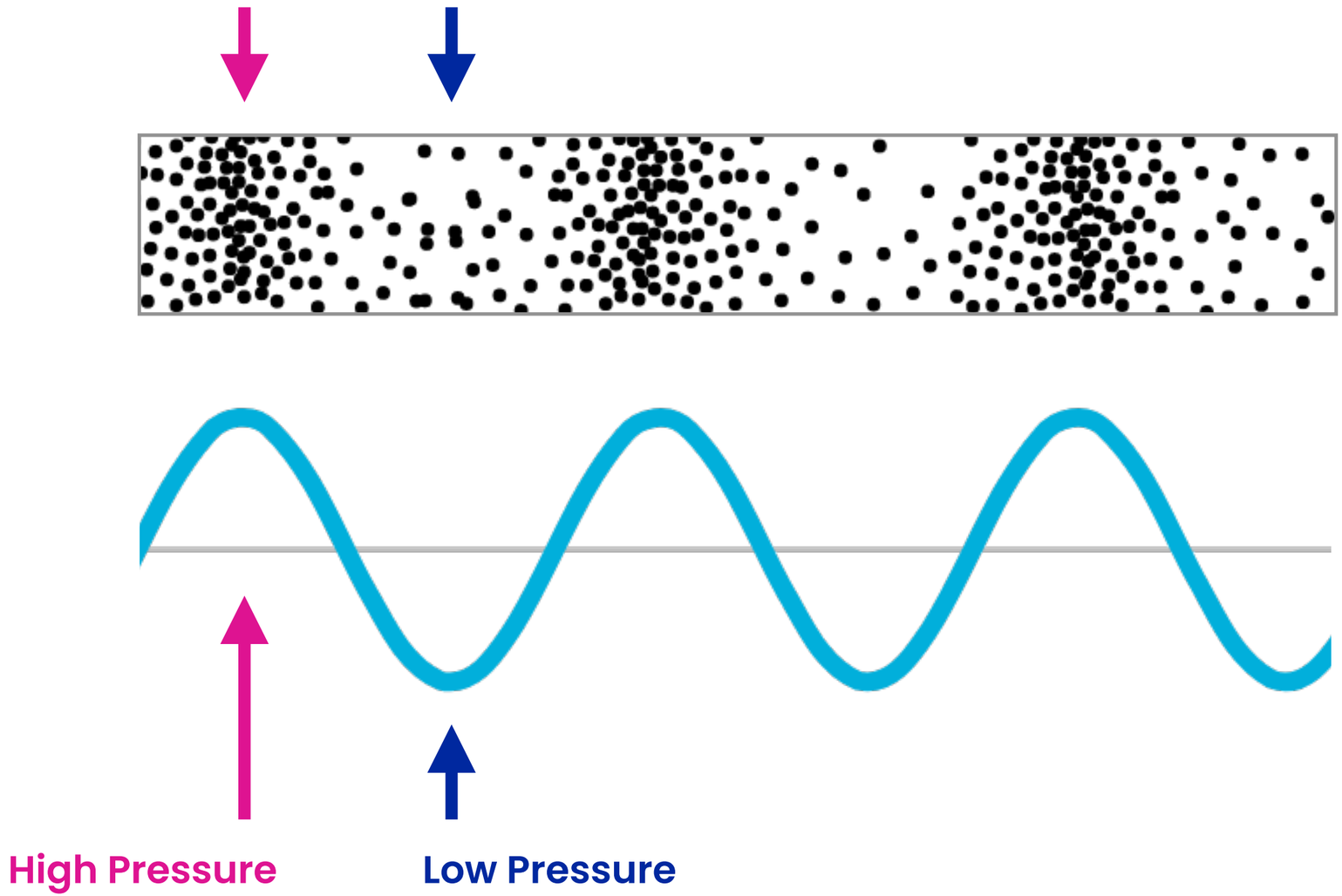


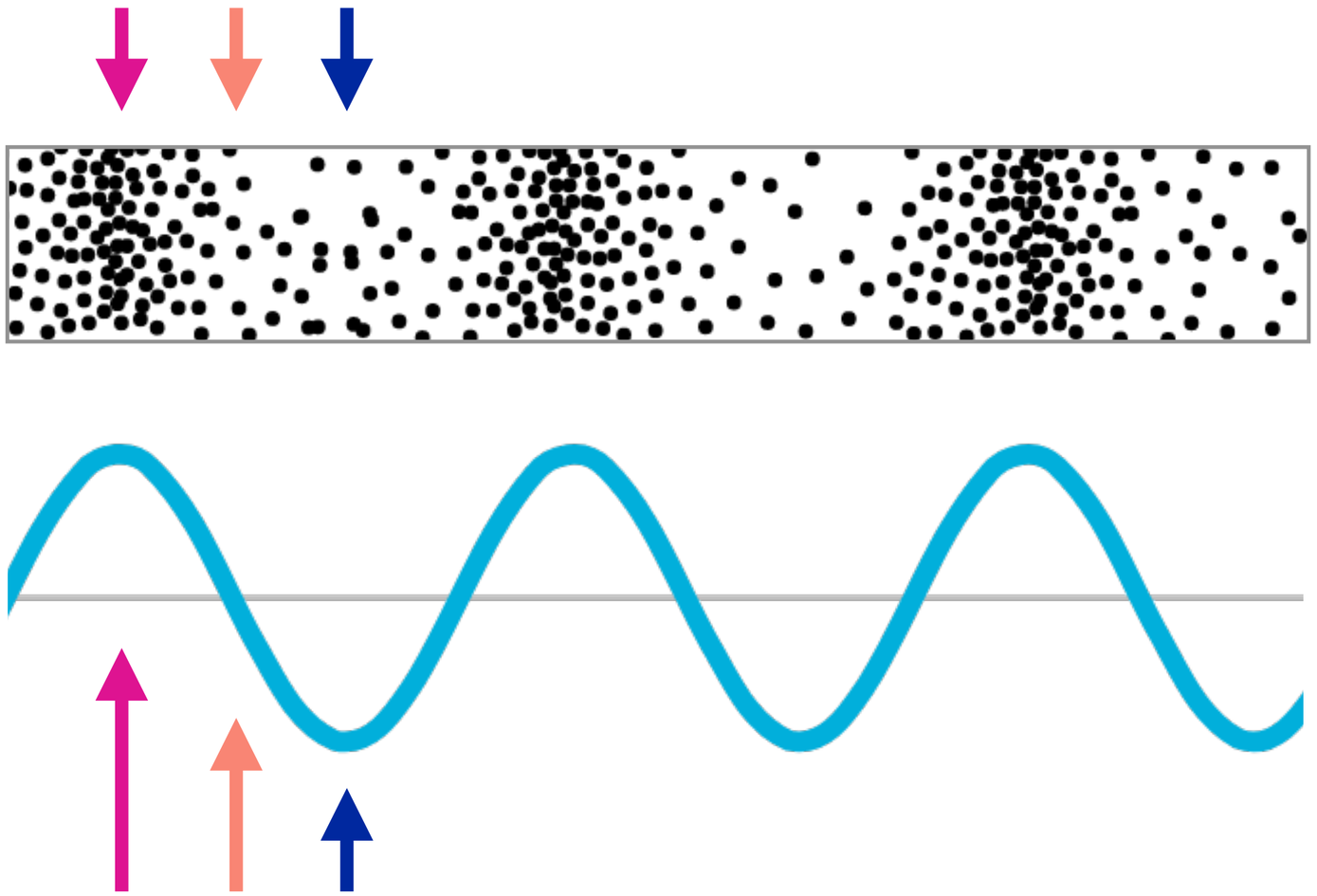


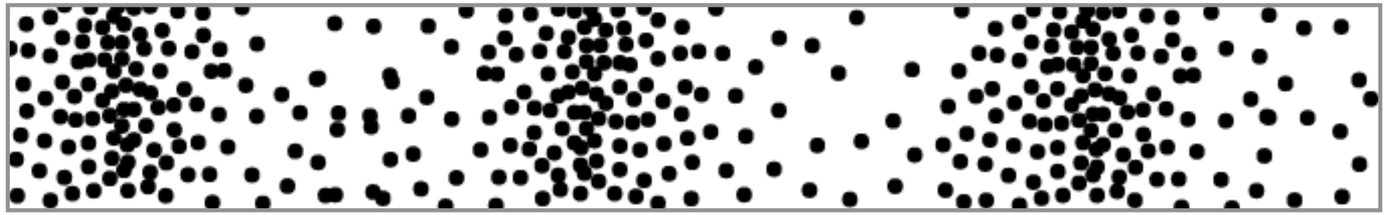


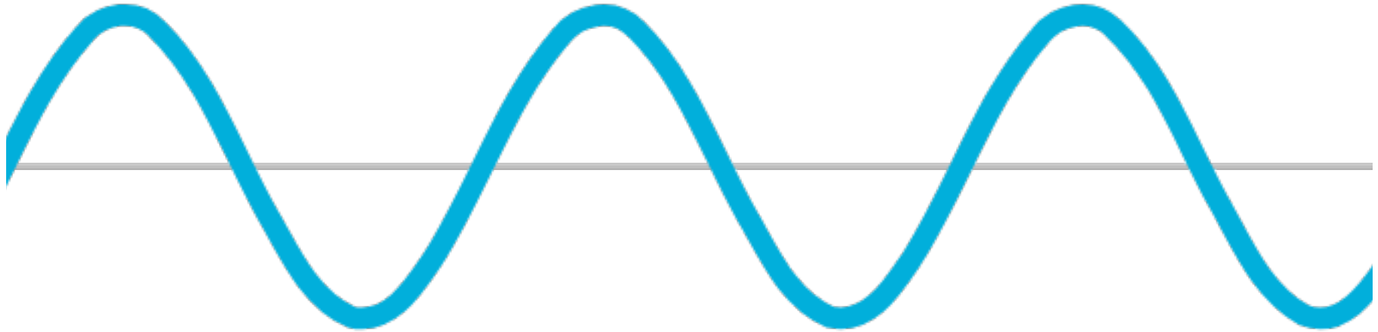


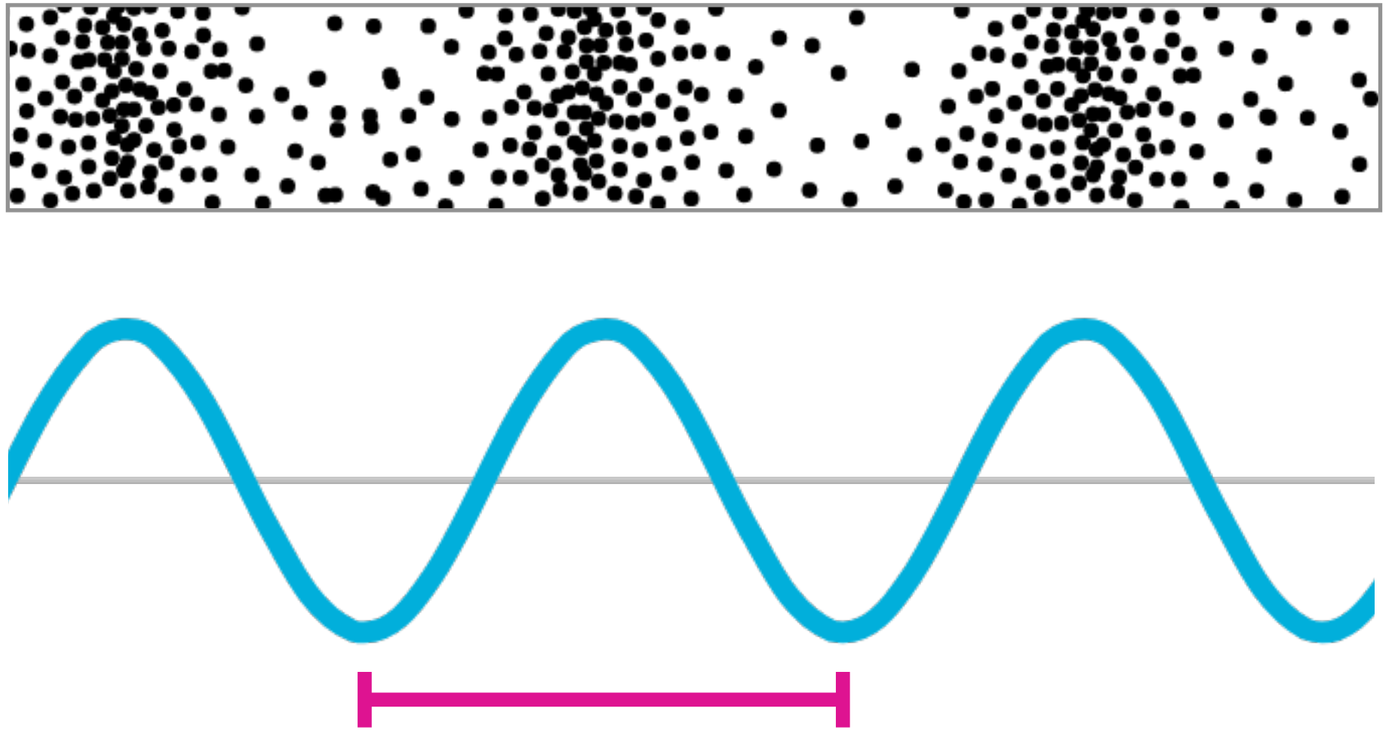


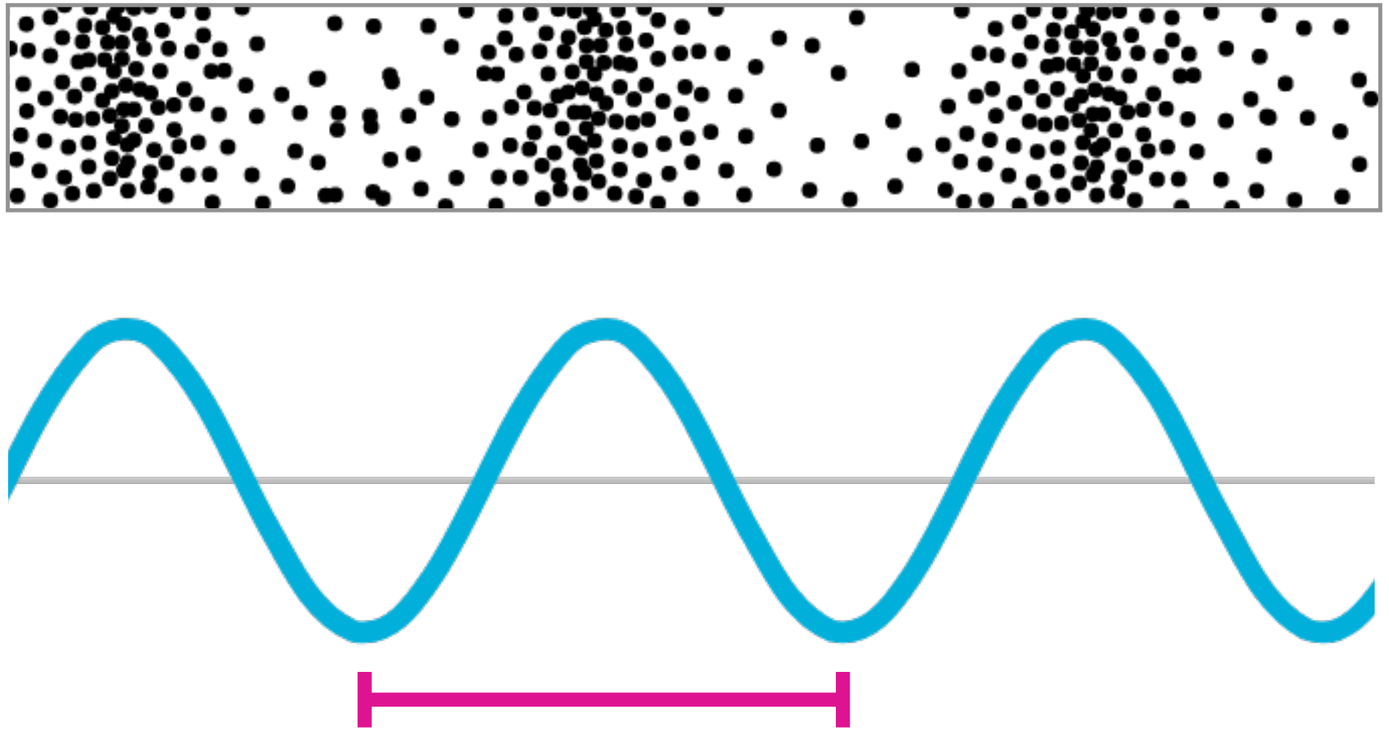


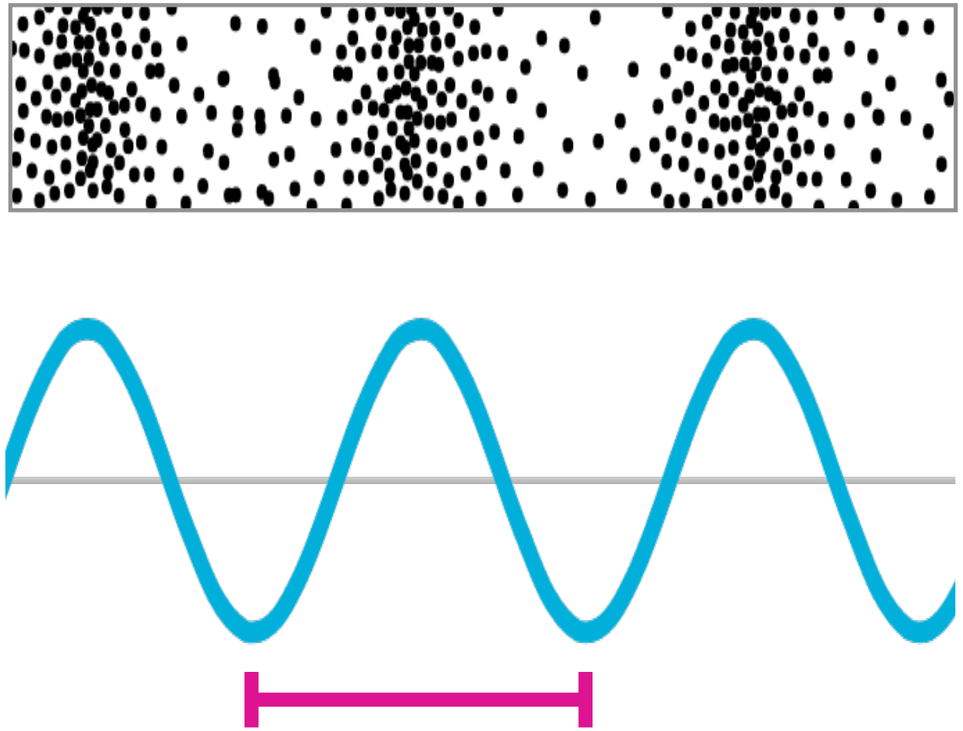


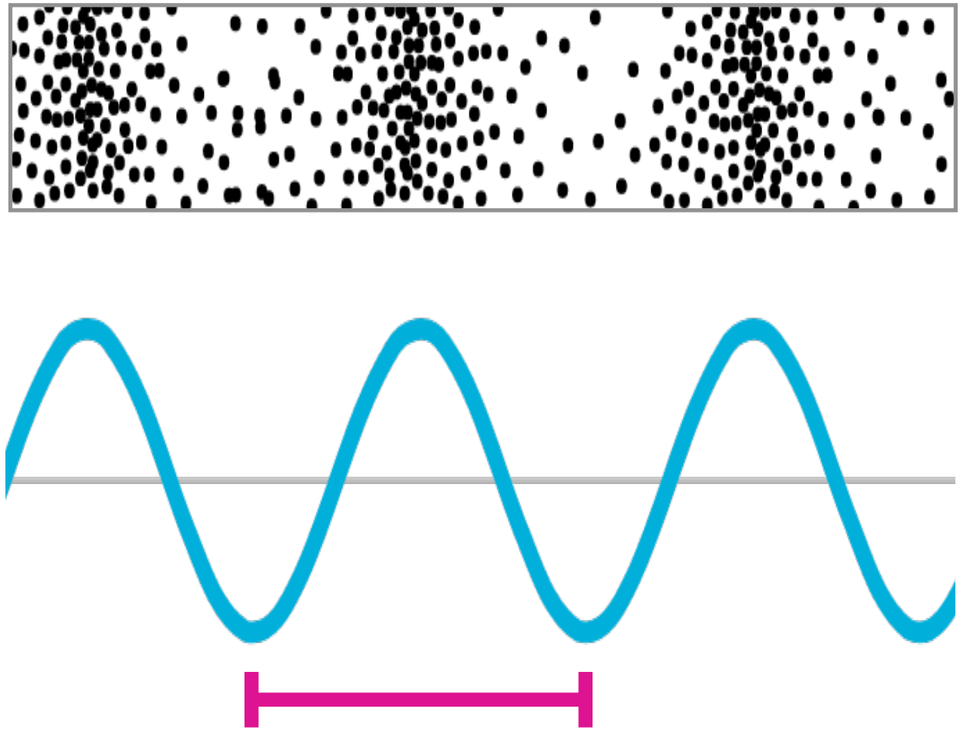


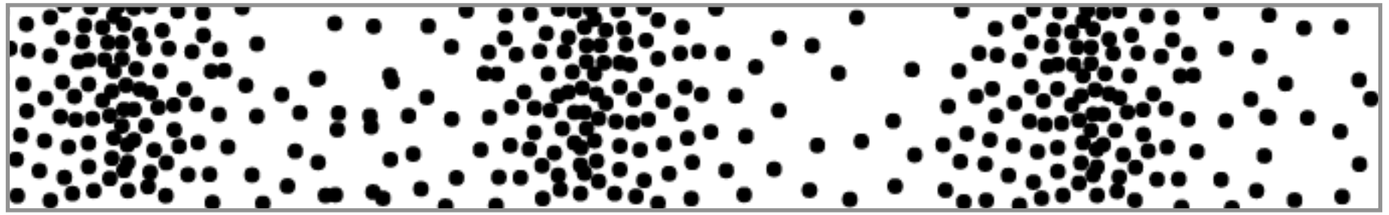


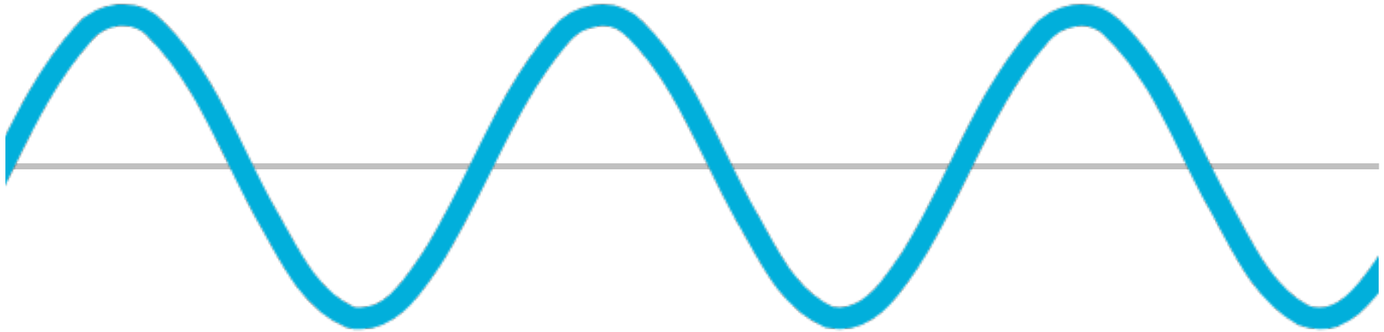


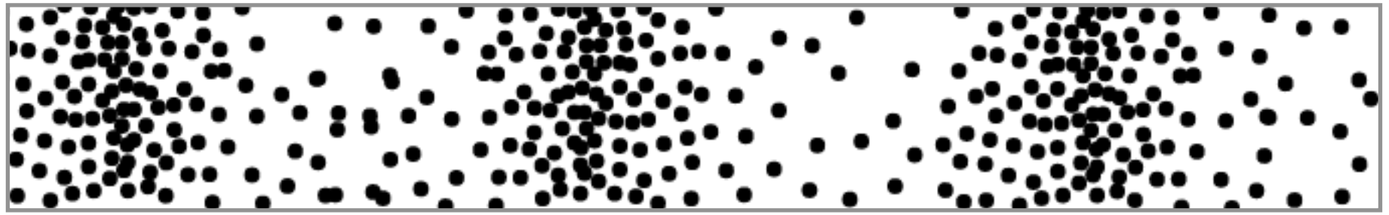


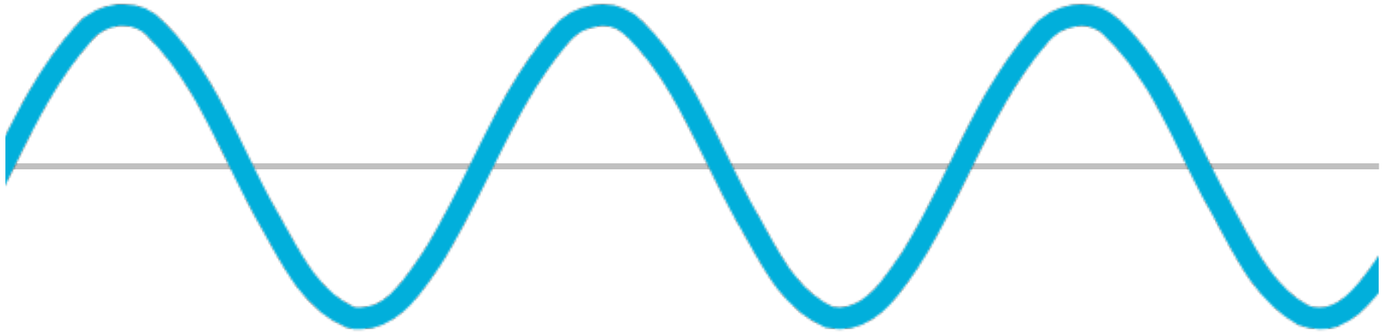


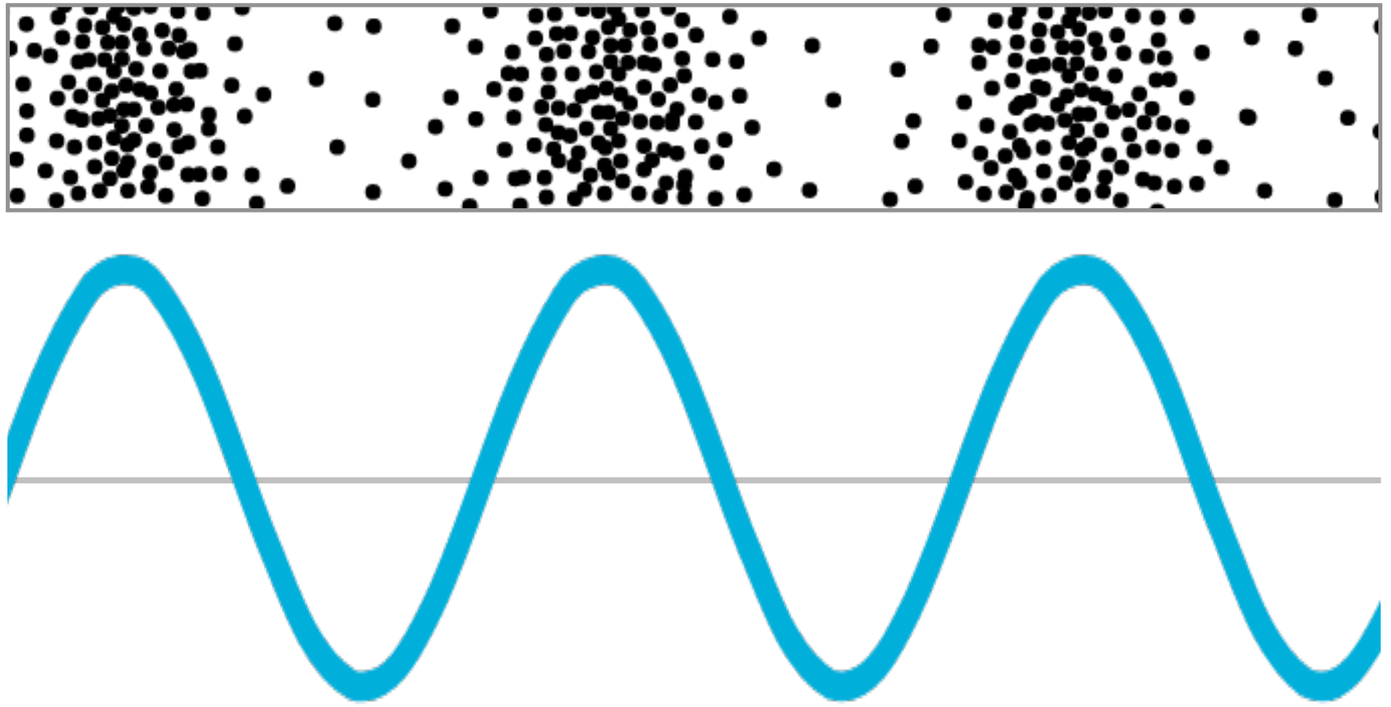


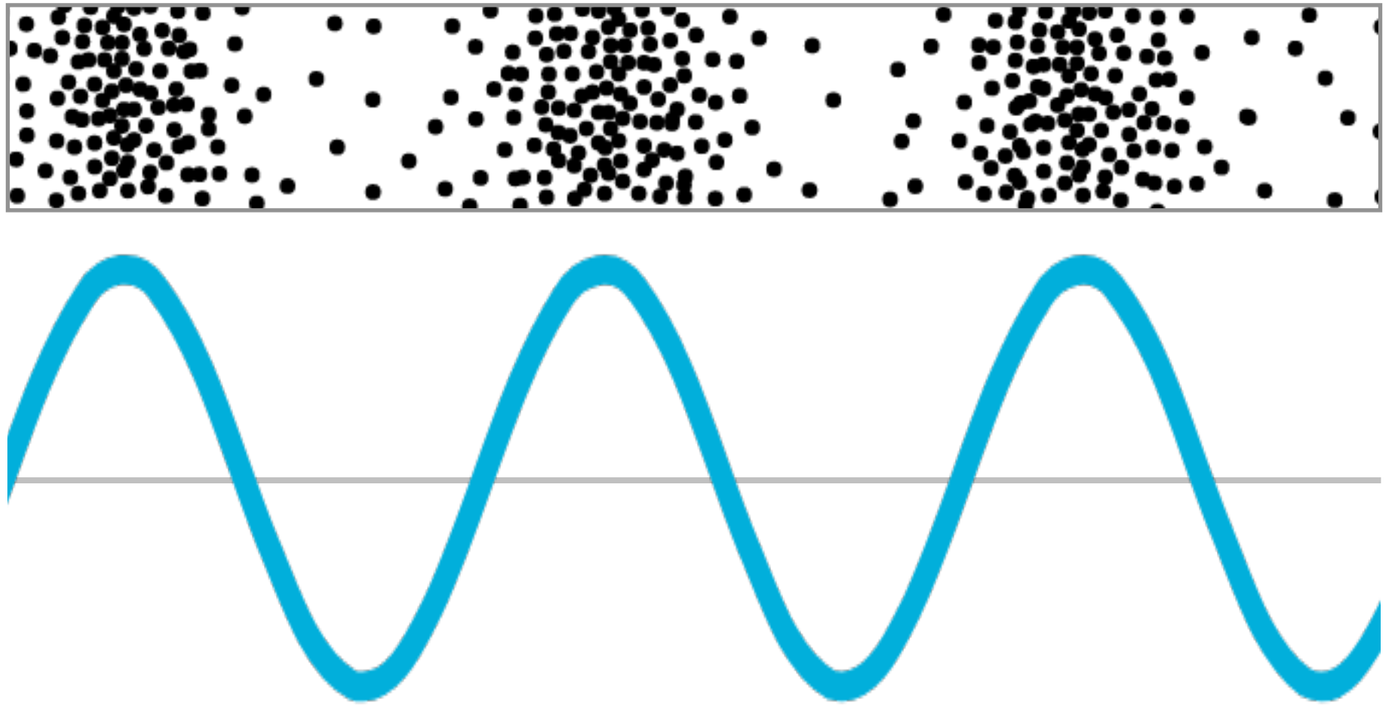


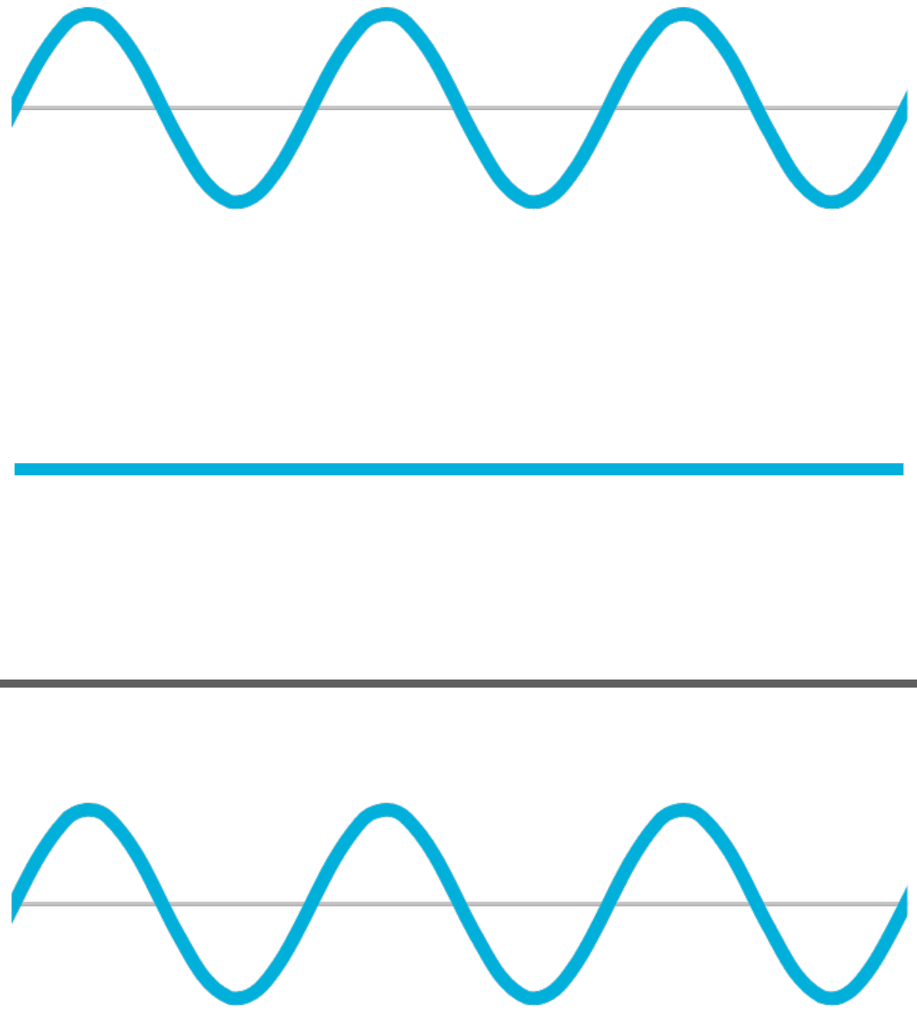


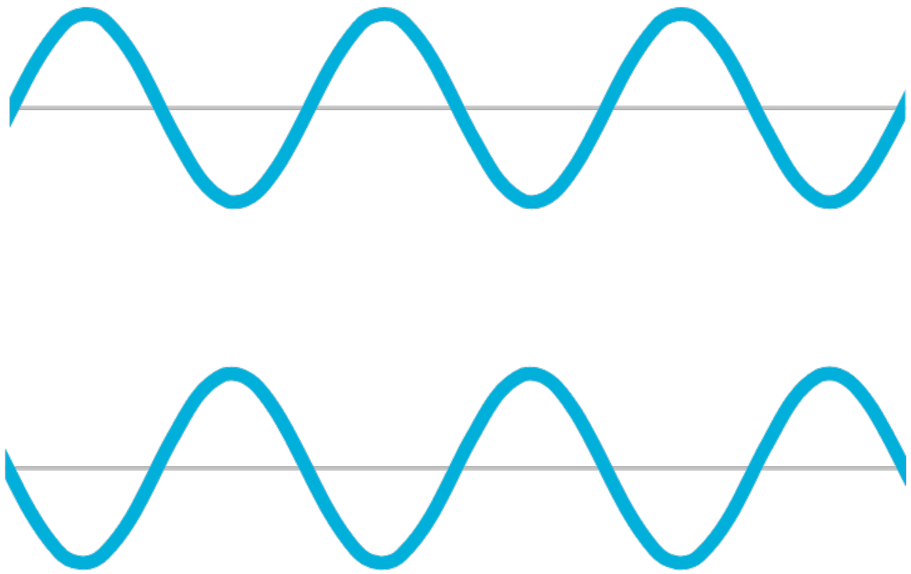


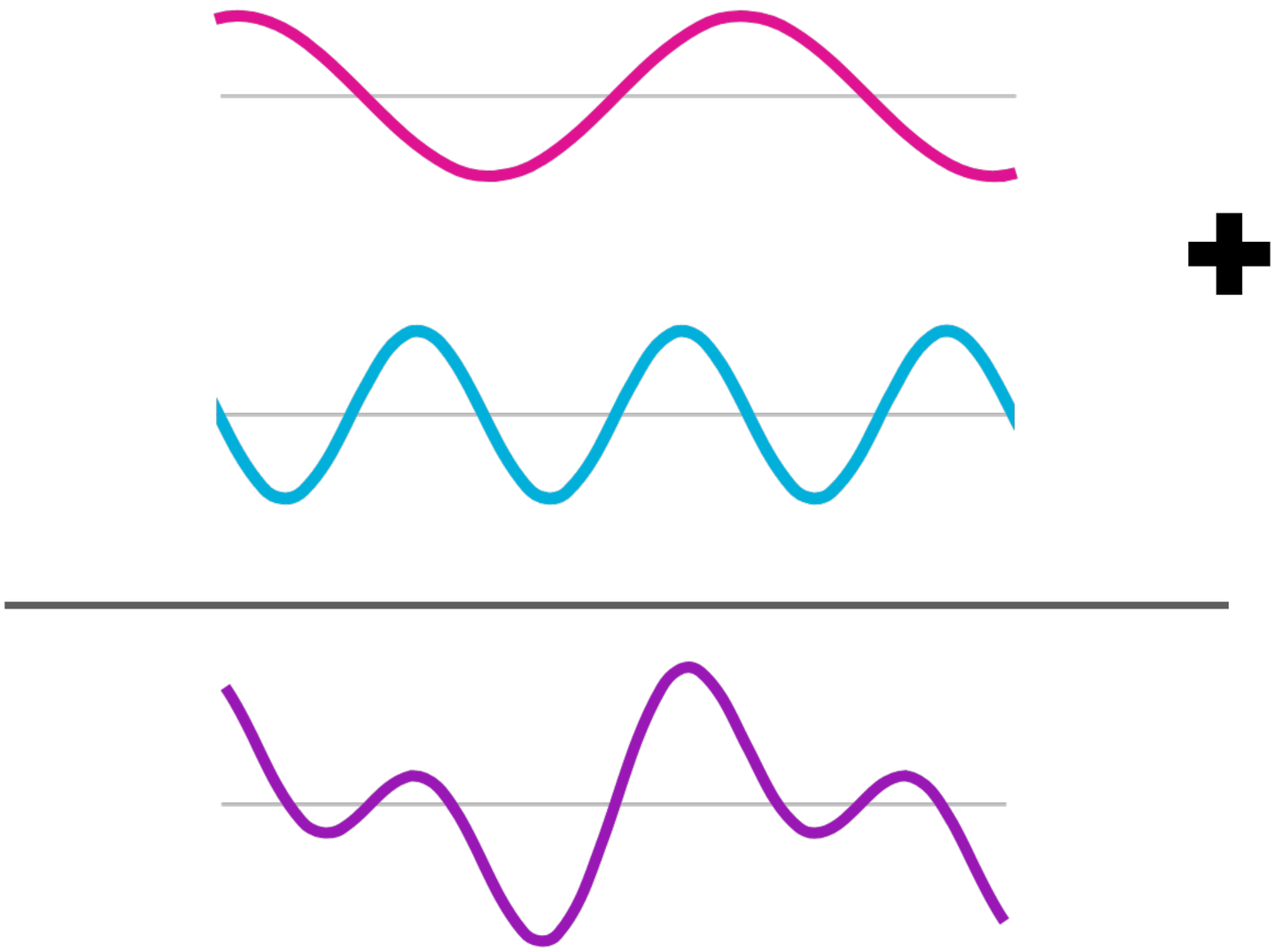


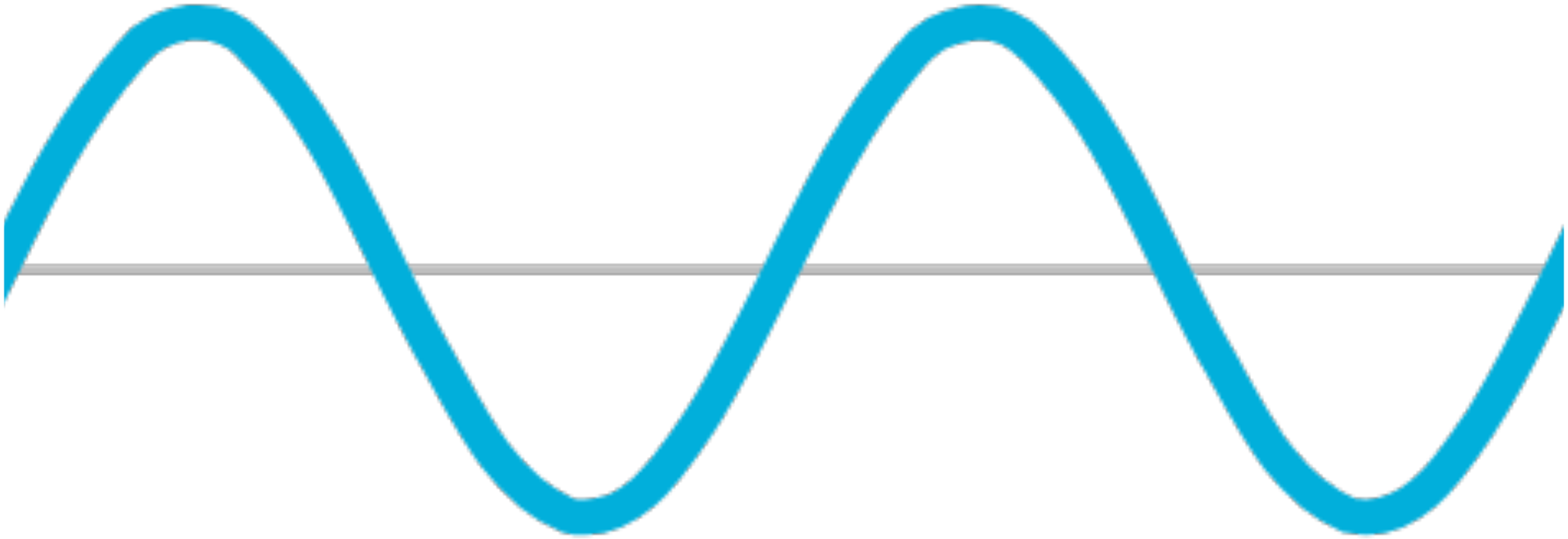


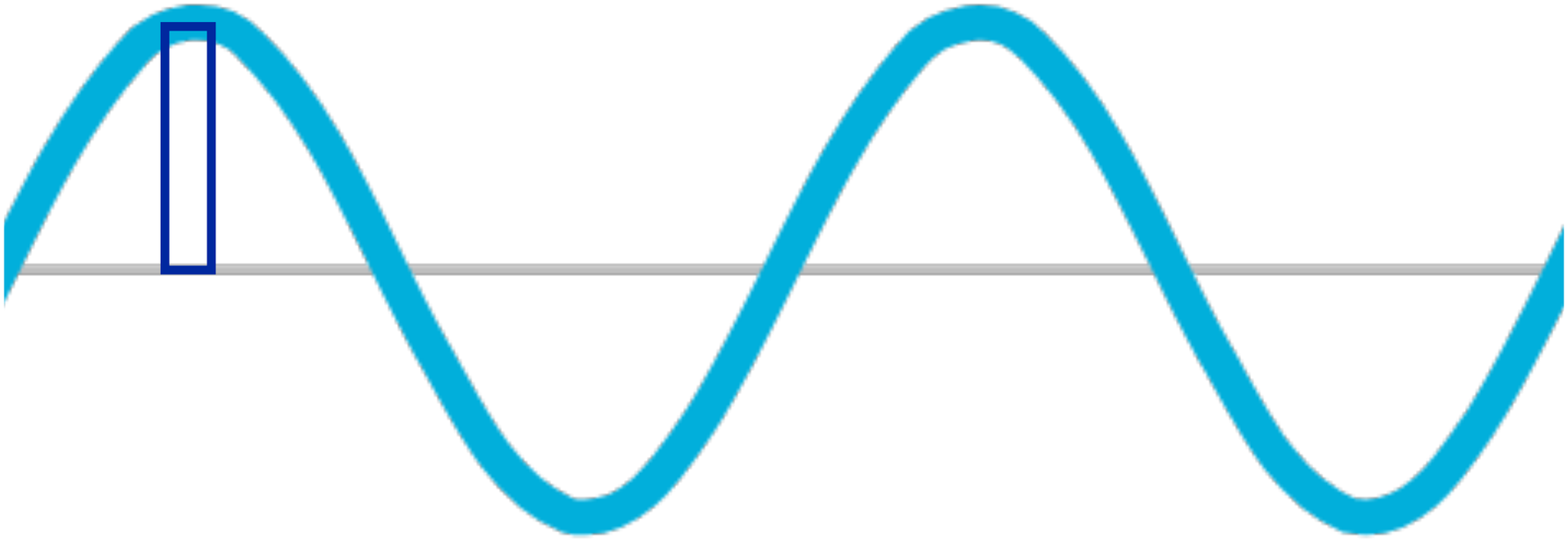


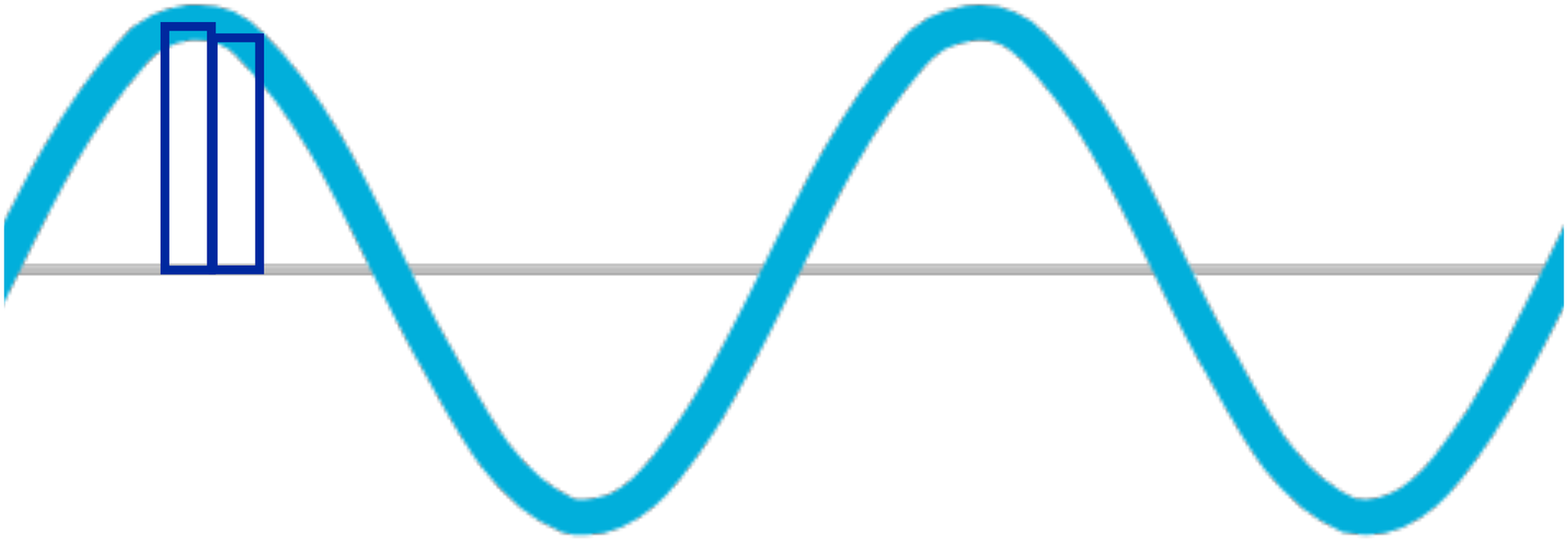


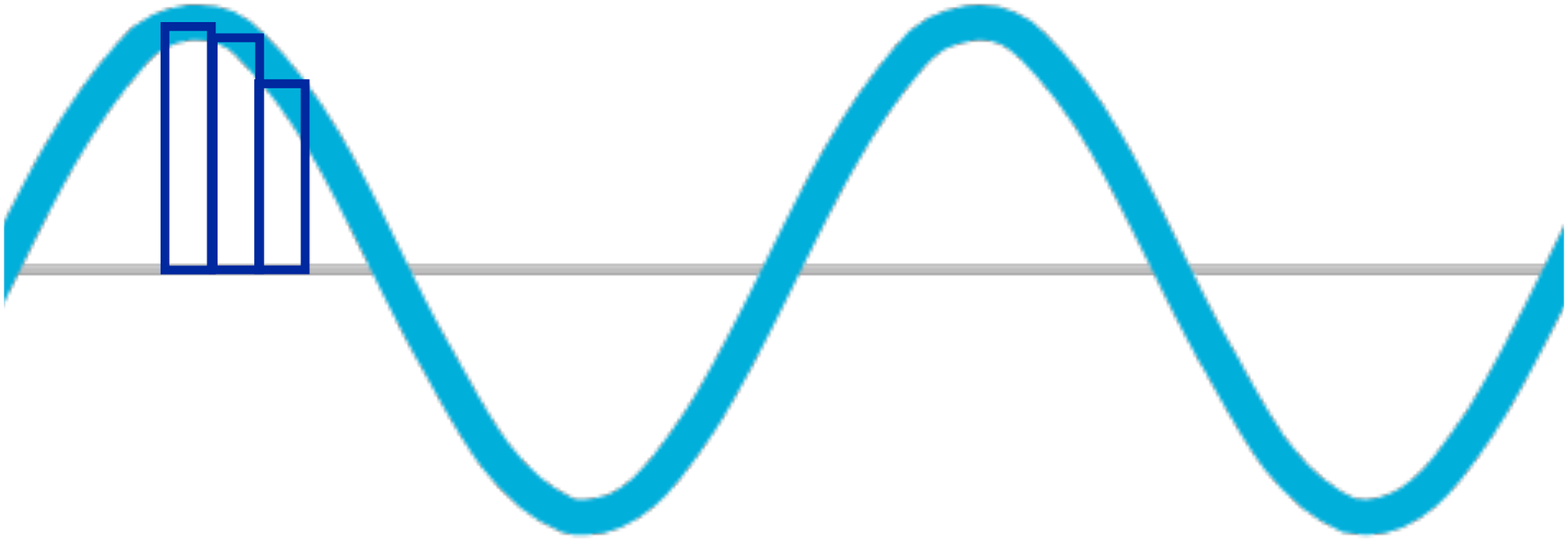


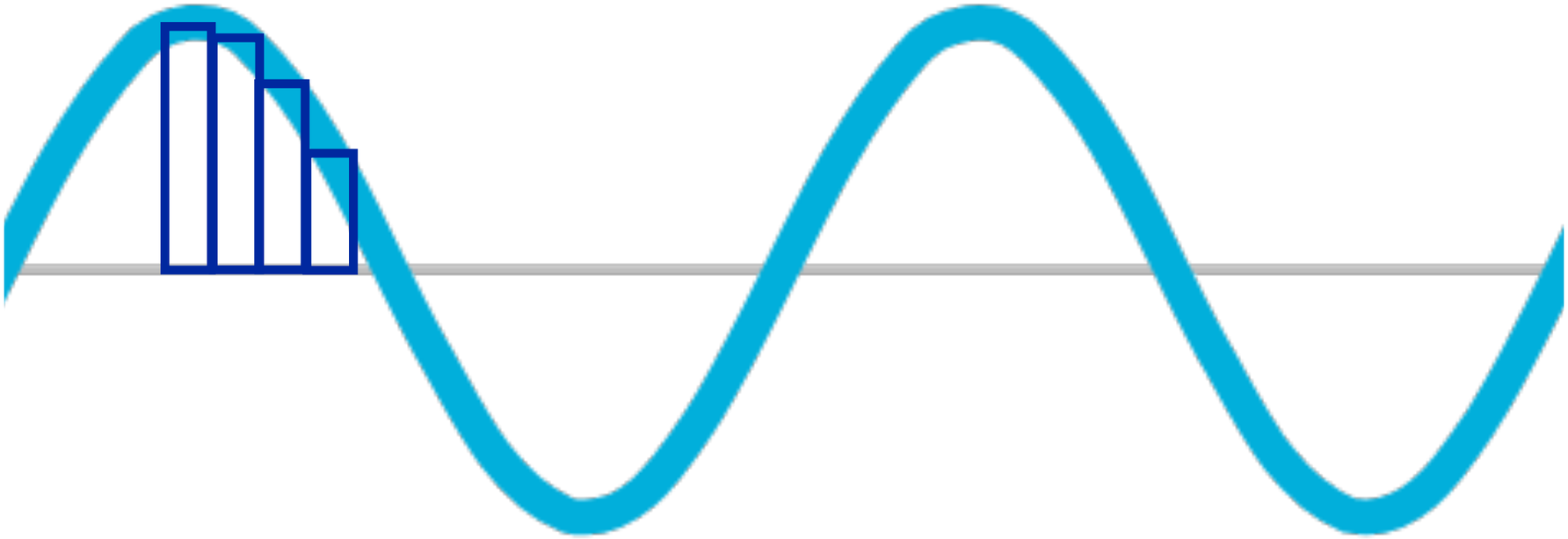


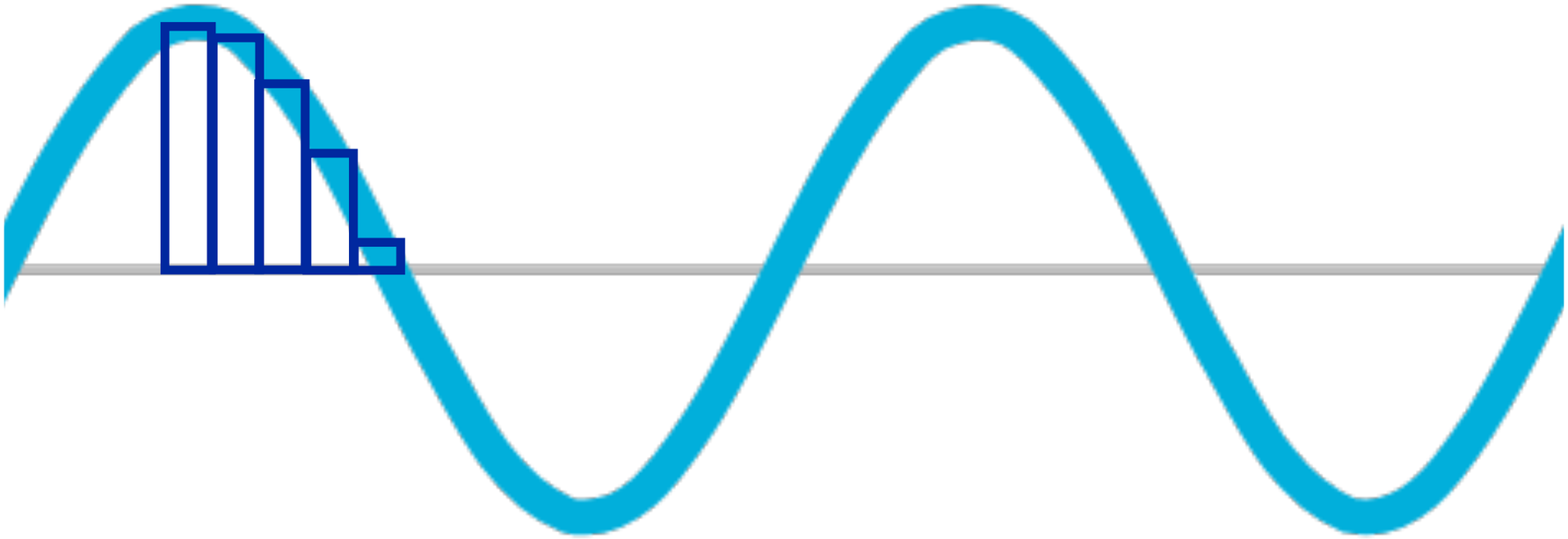


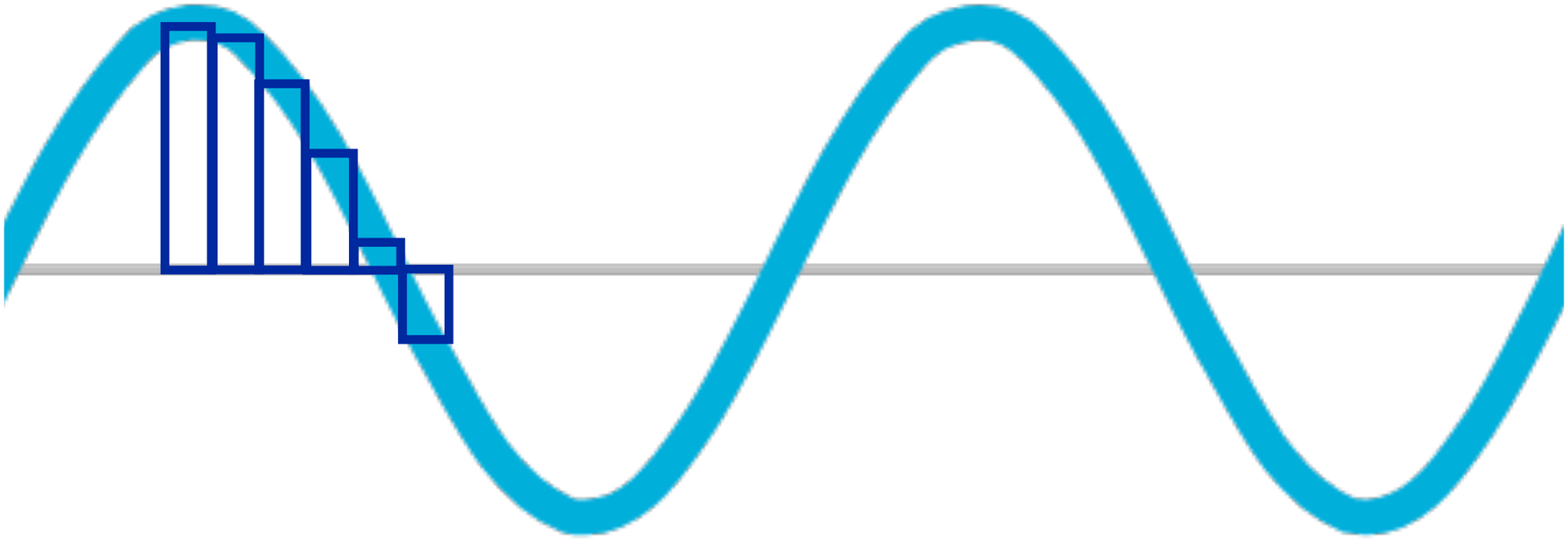


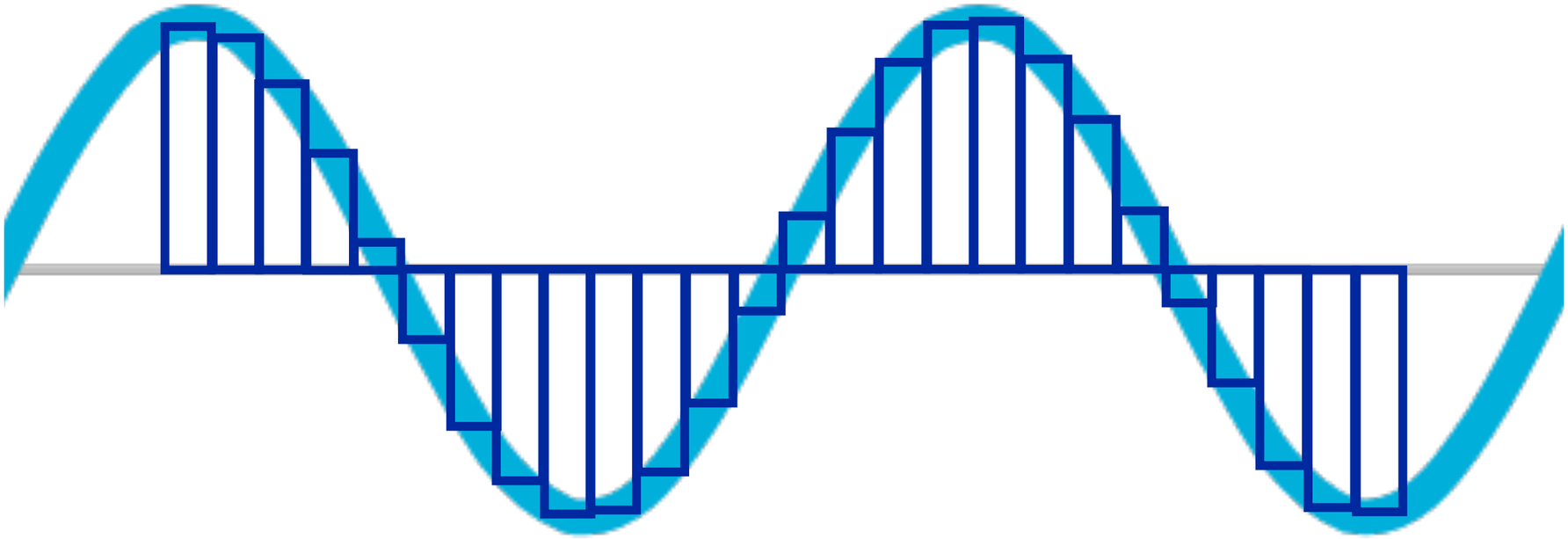


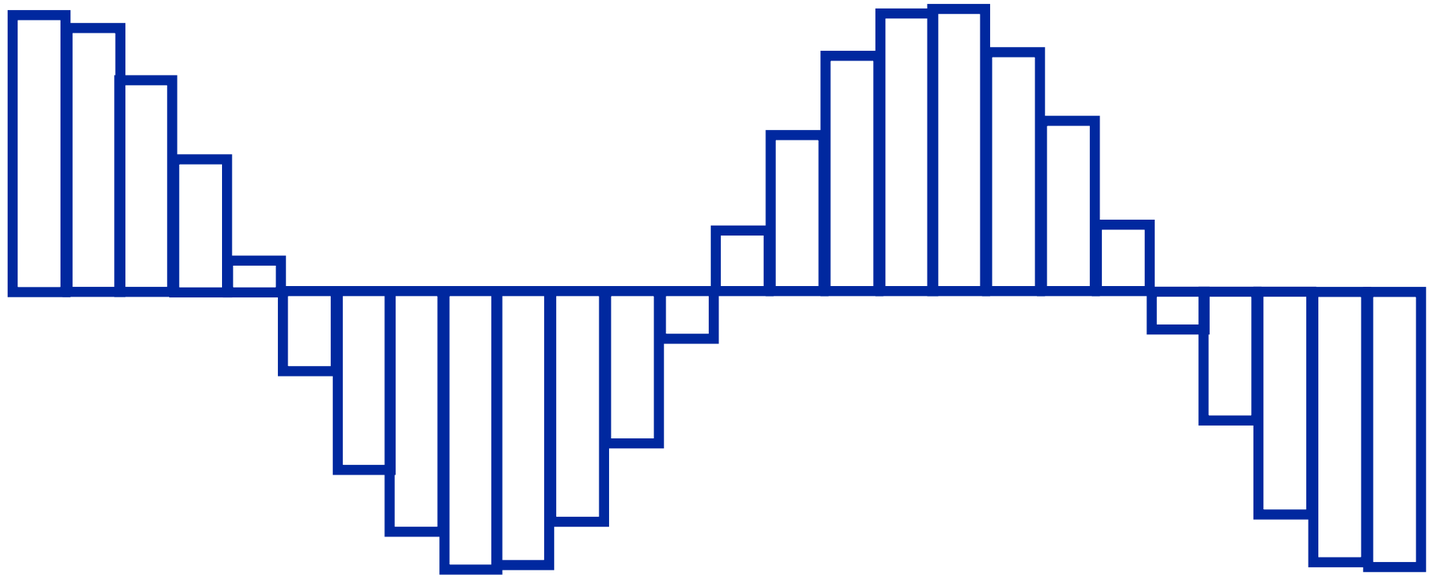


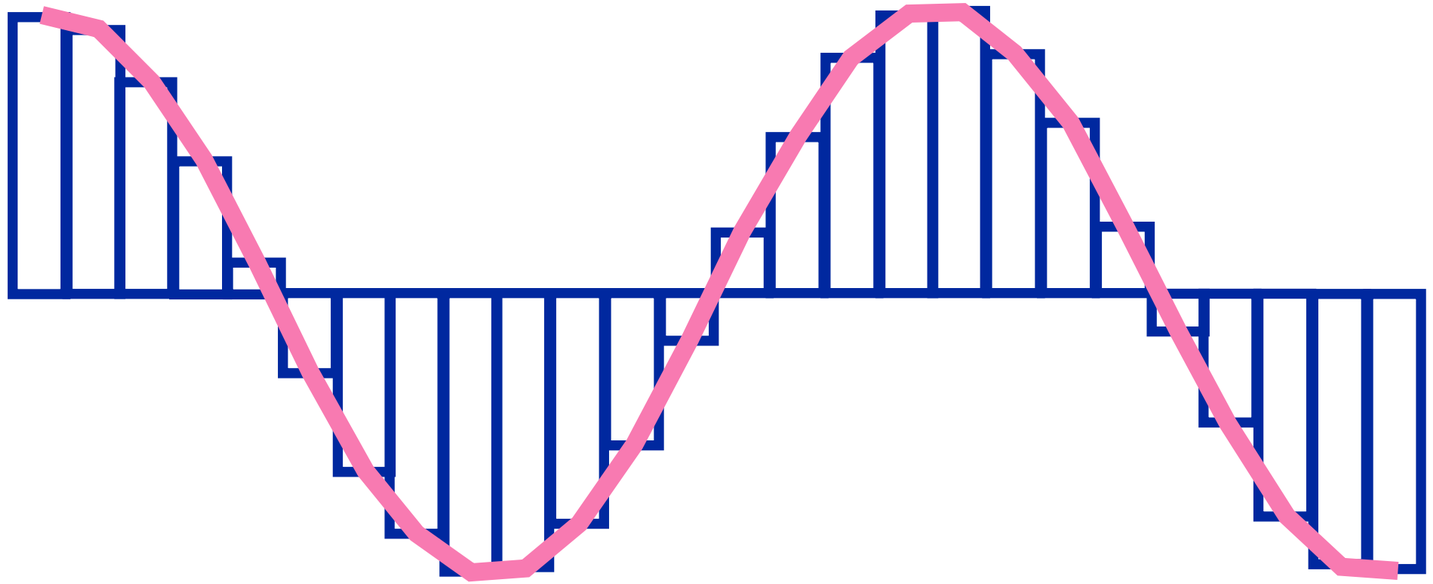


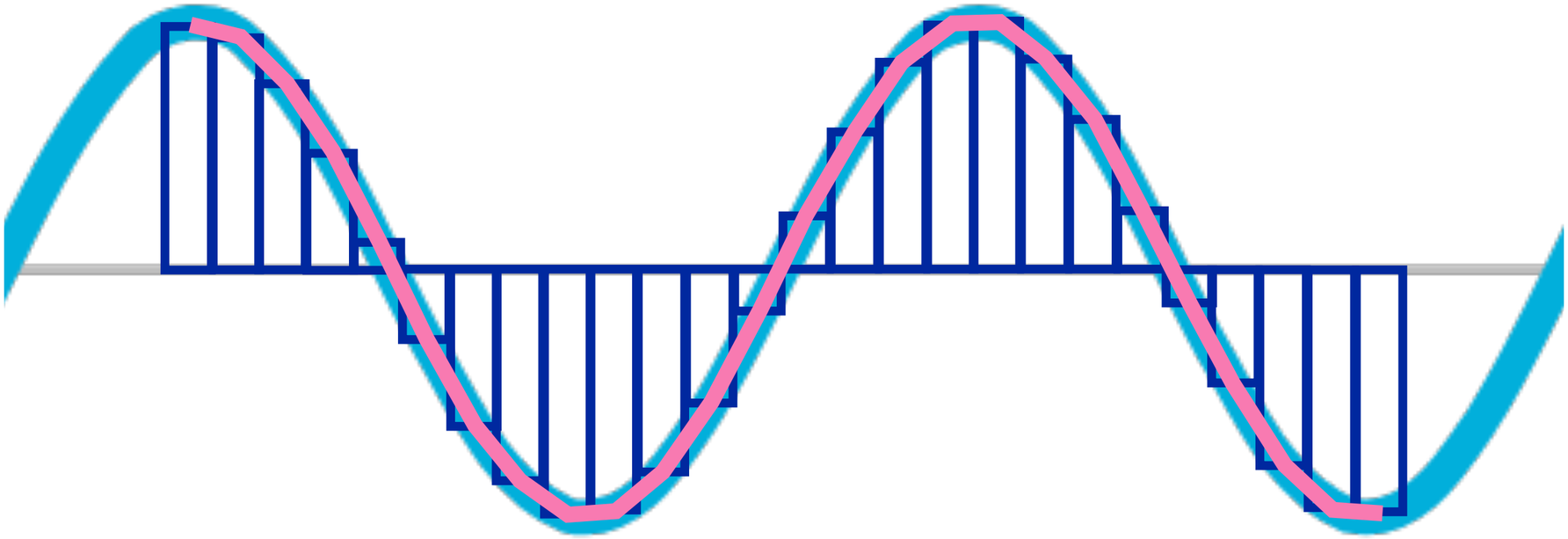


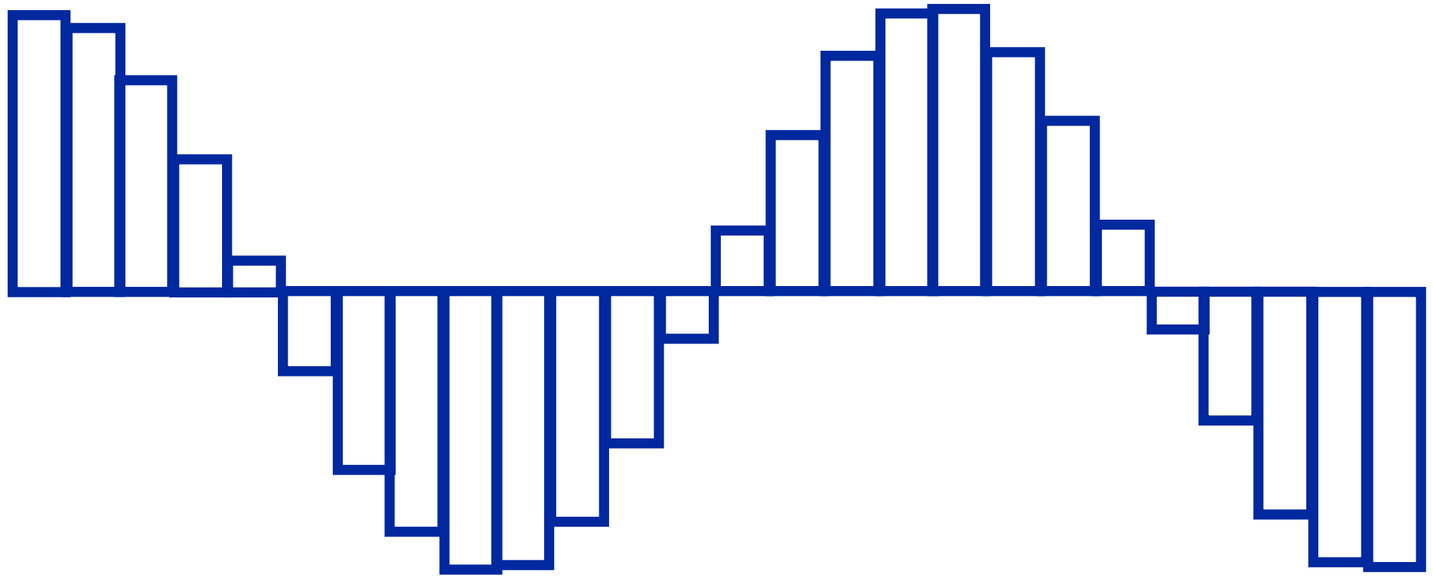


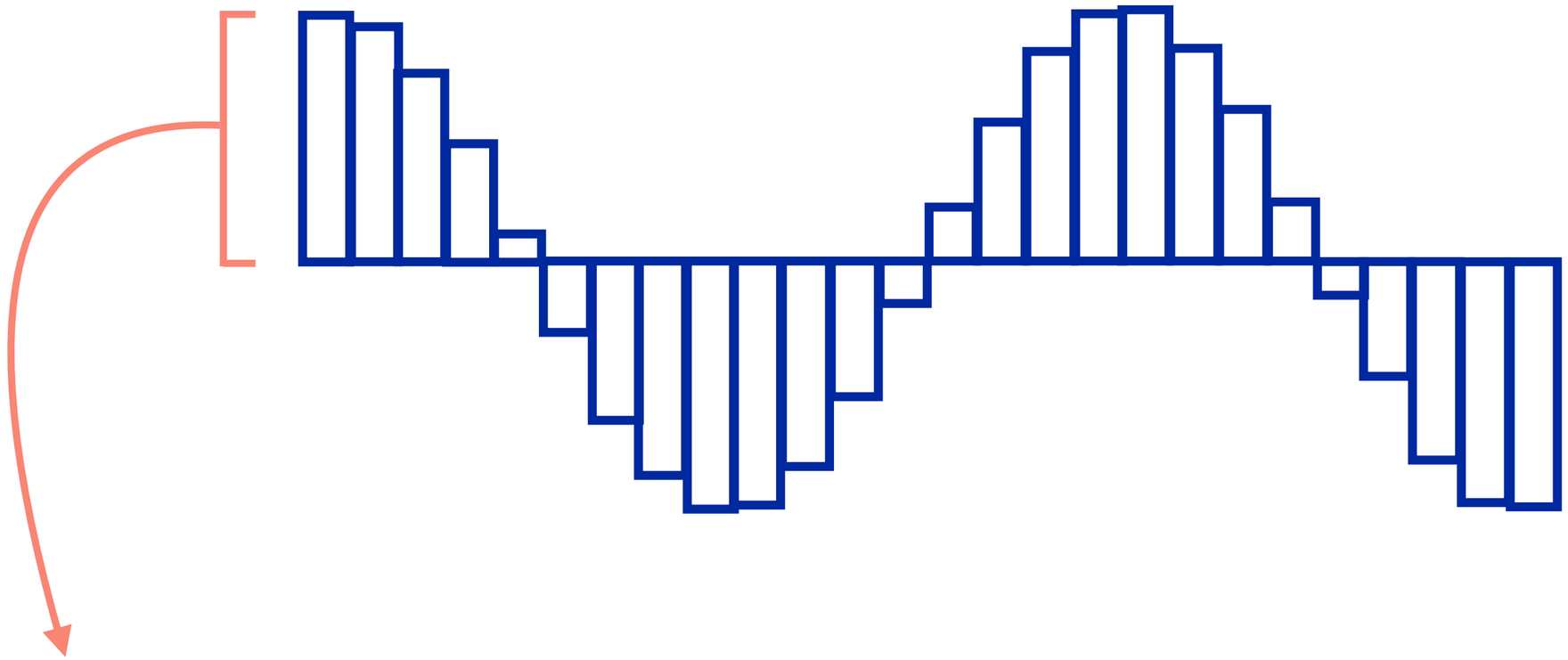


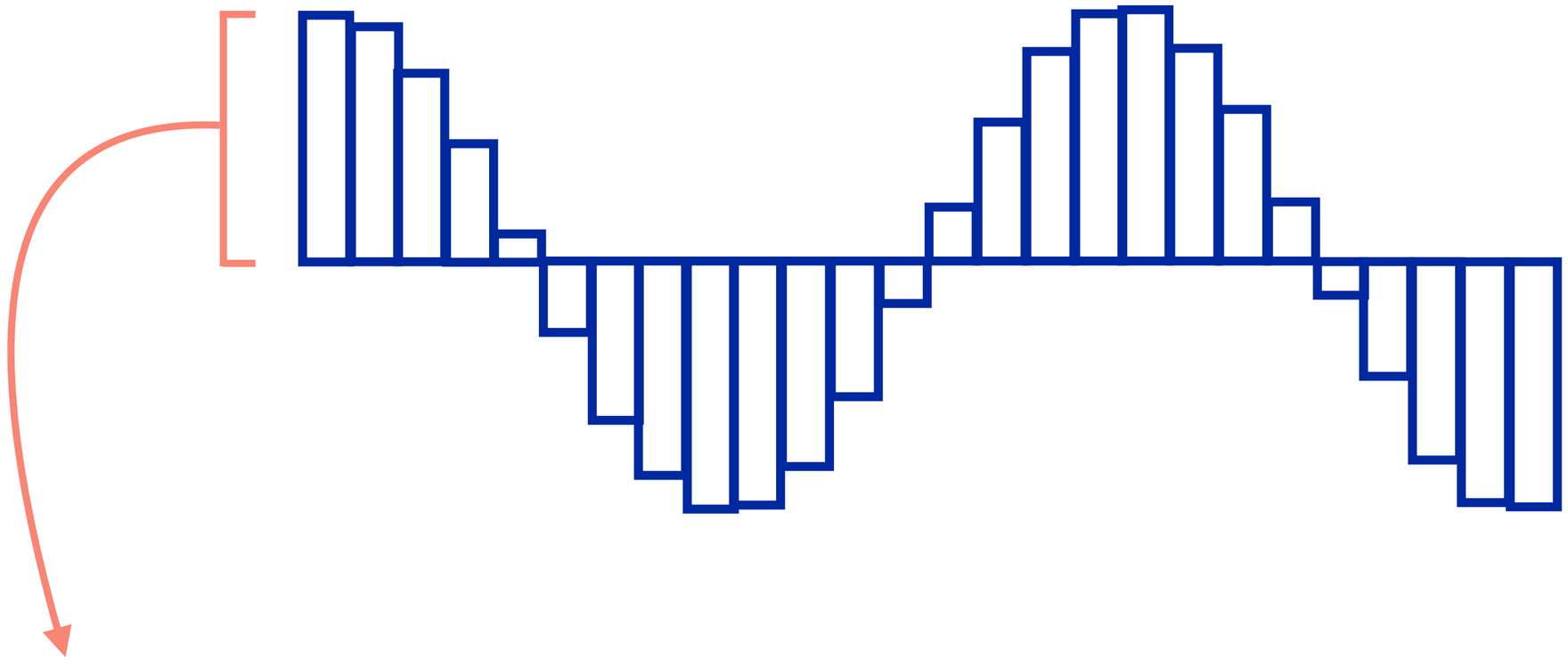












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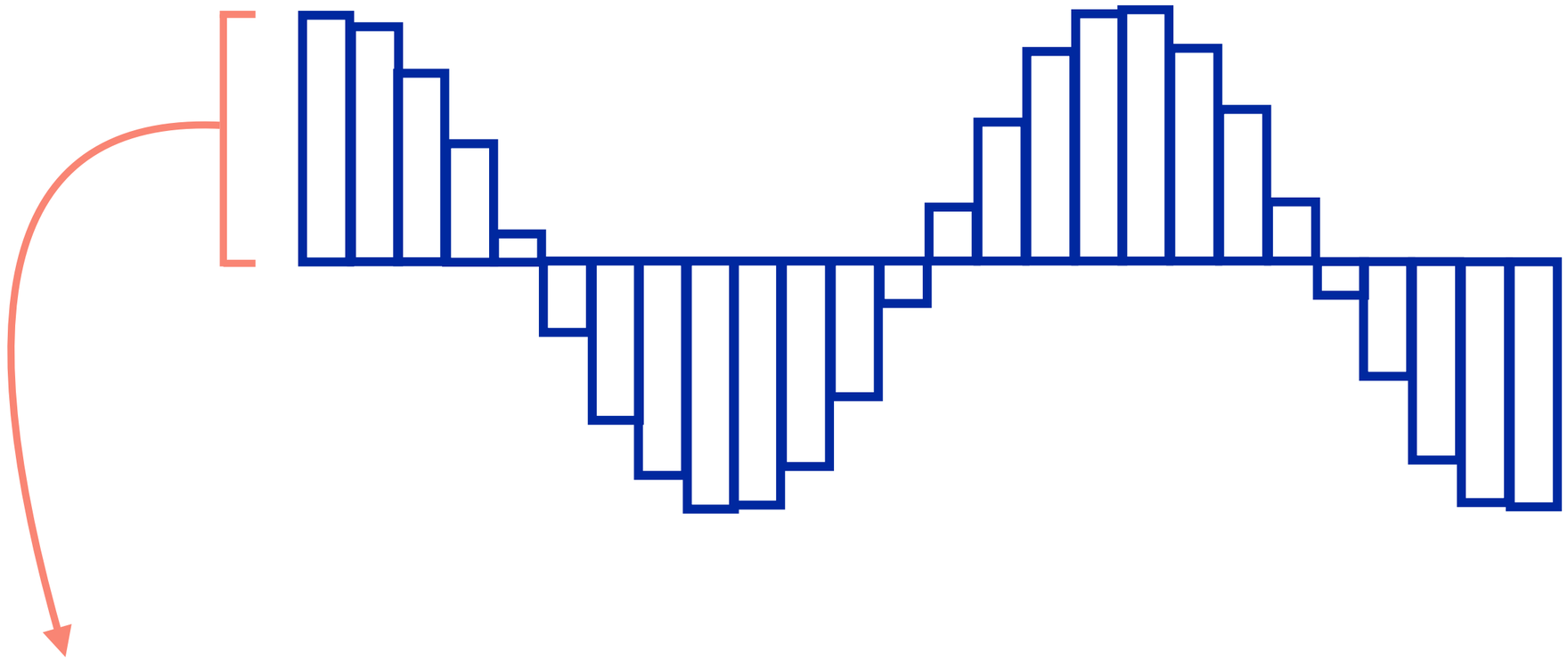

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1, 0.97,
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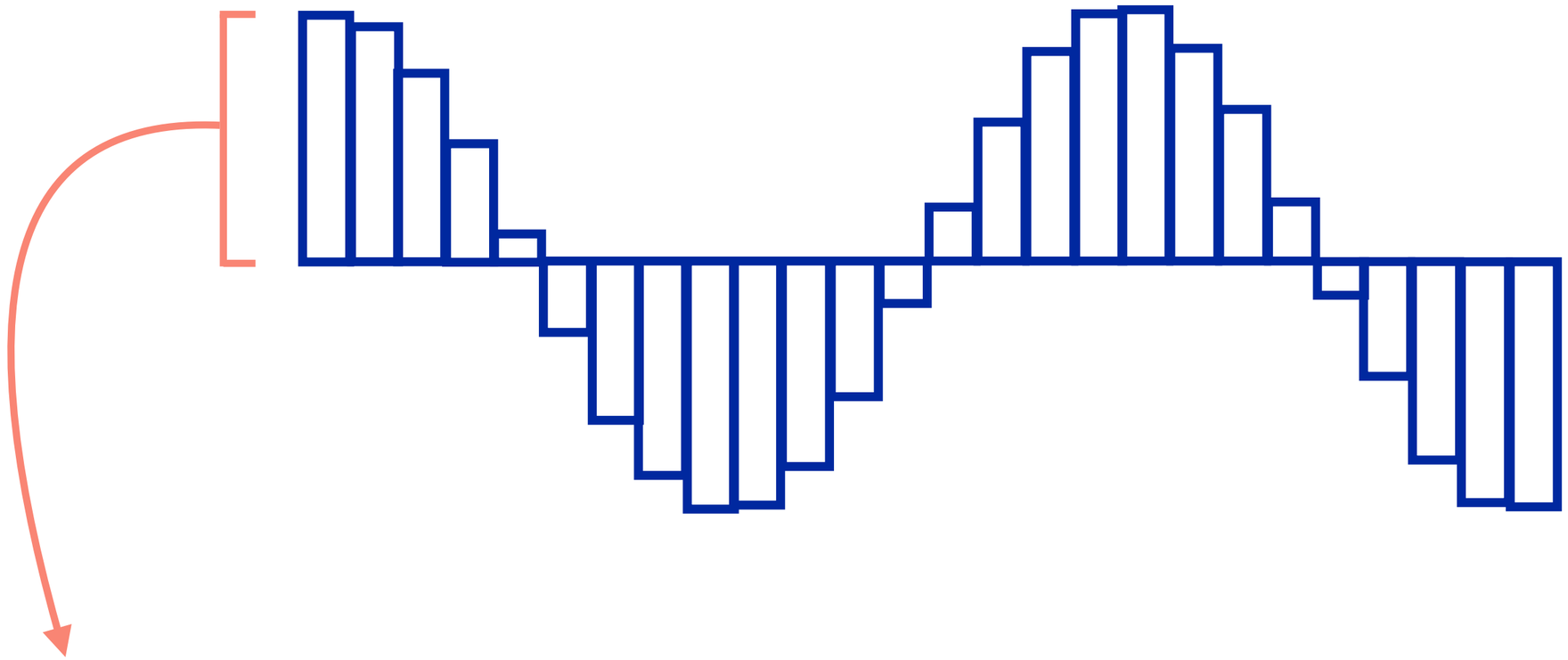
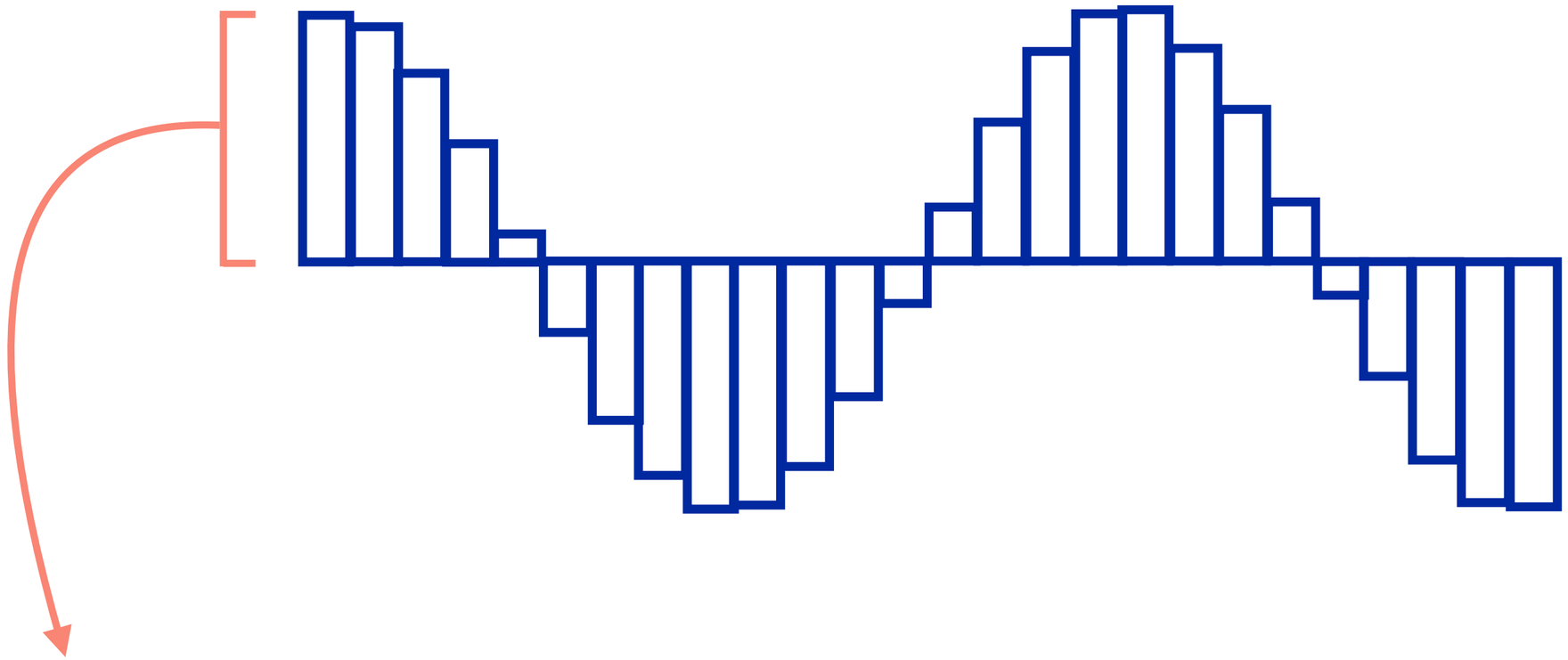
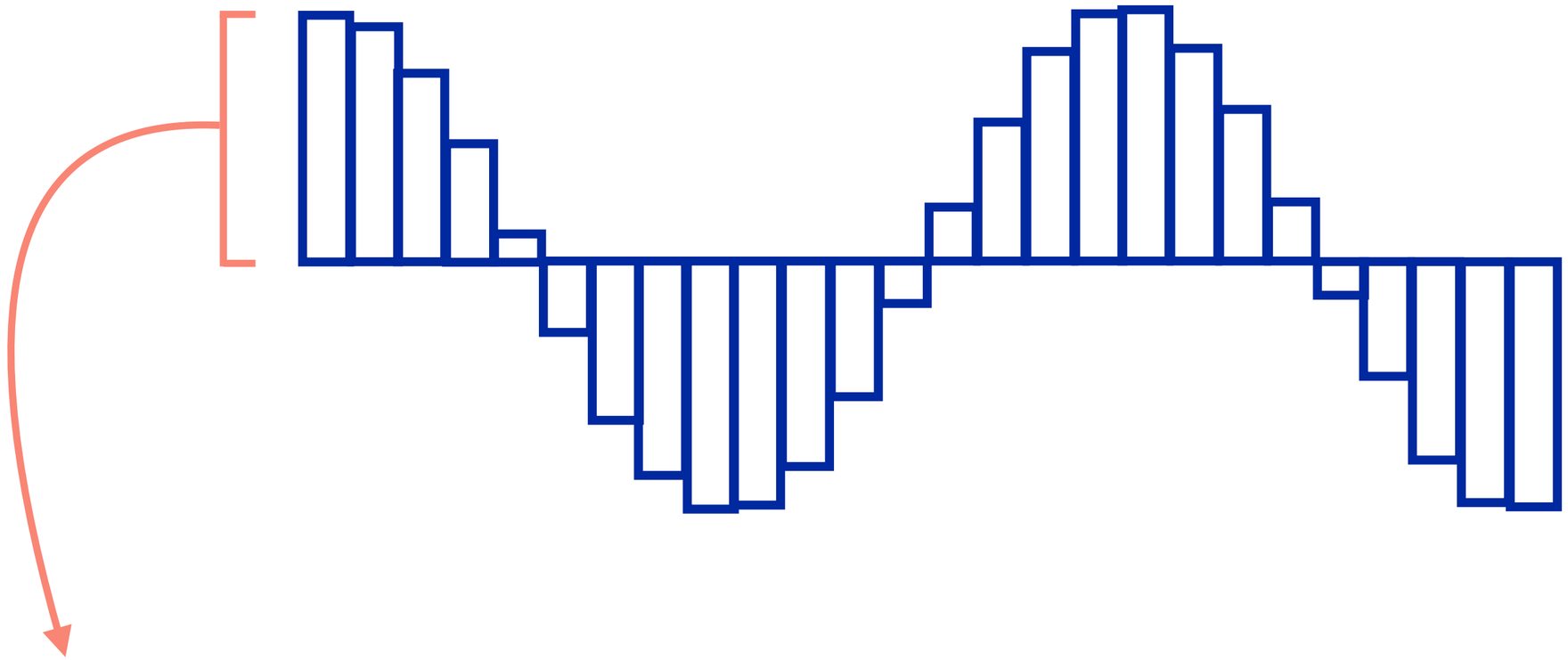


```
1, 0.97, 0.76,
```



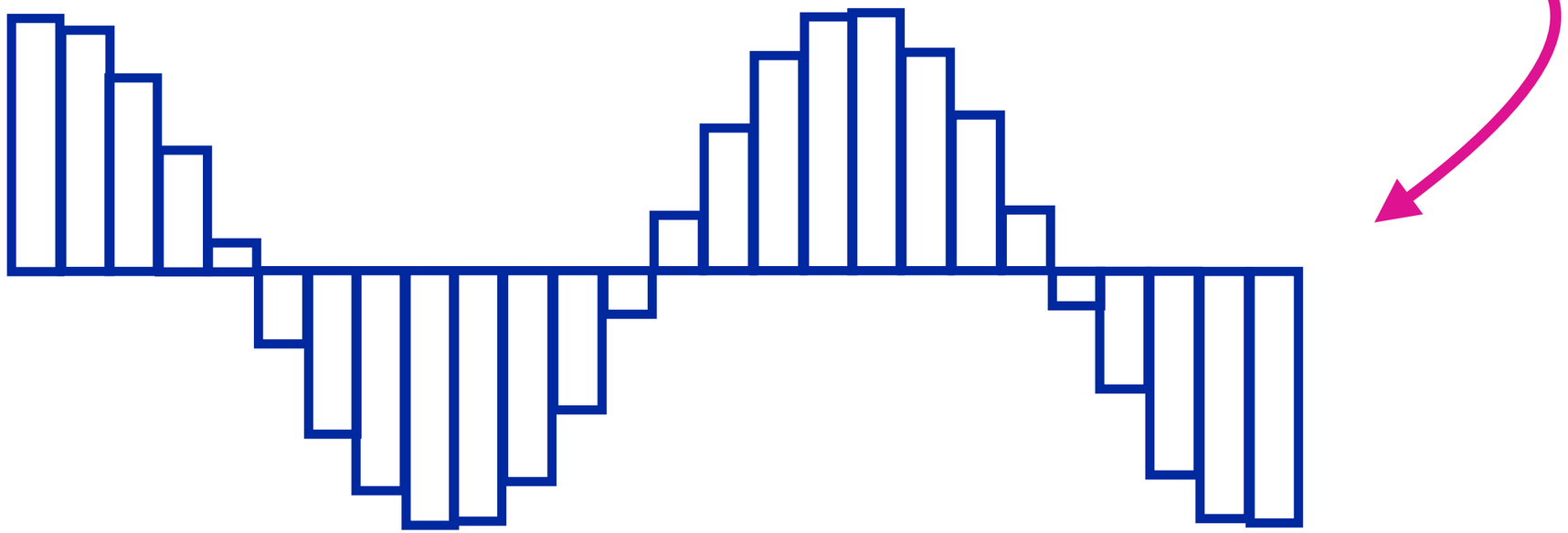
```
1, 0.97, 0.76, 0.5,
```



1, 0.97, 0.76, 0.5, 0.2, -0.3, -0.7, -0.85, -1, -0.99, ...

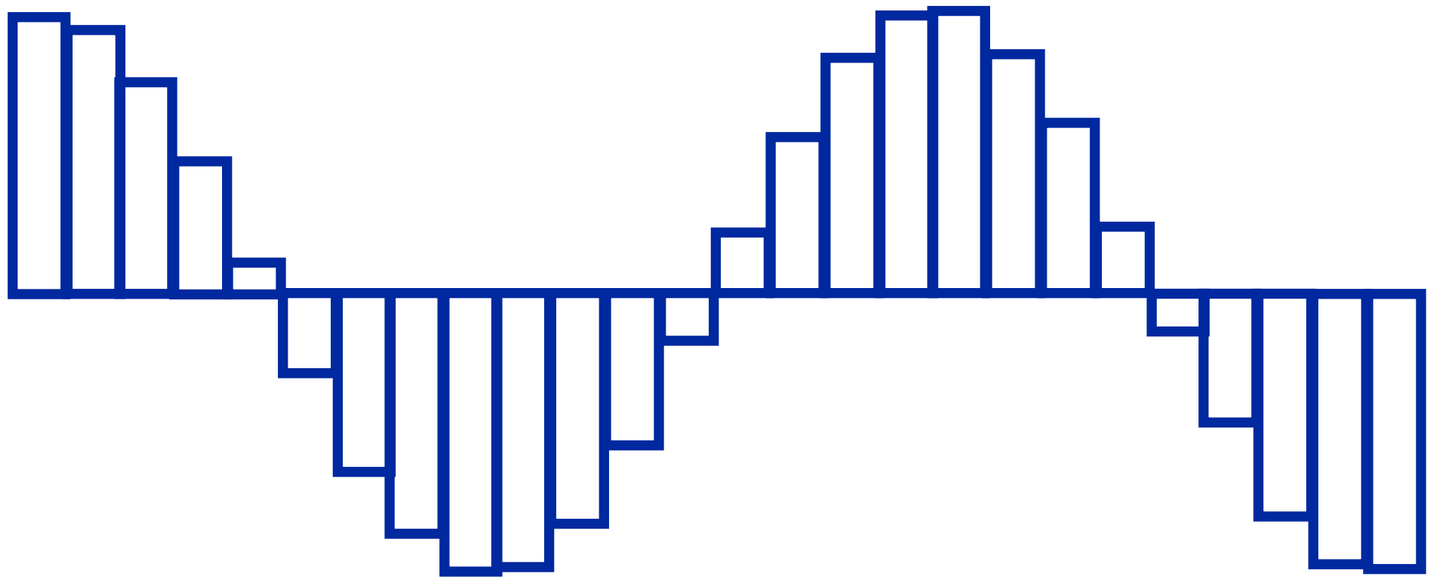
THAT'S NUMBER-WAV

Sample rate: the number of these slices per second



```
1, 0.97, 0.76, 0.5, 0.2, -0.3, -0.7, -0.85, -1, -0.99, ...
```

Sample rate: the number of these slices per second

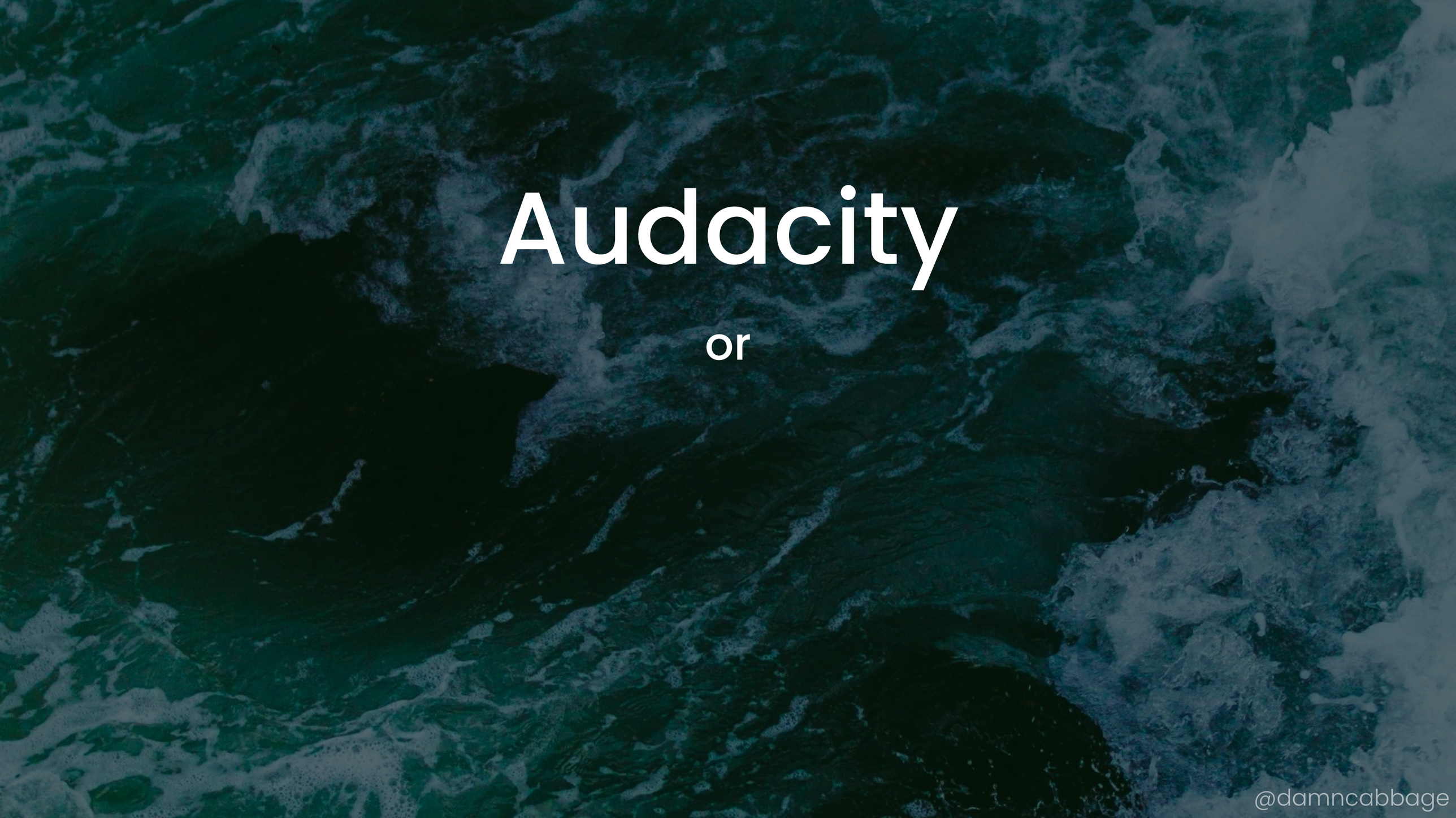


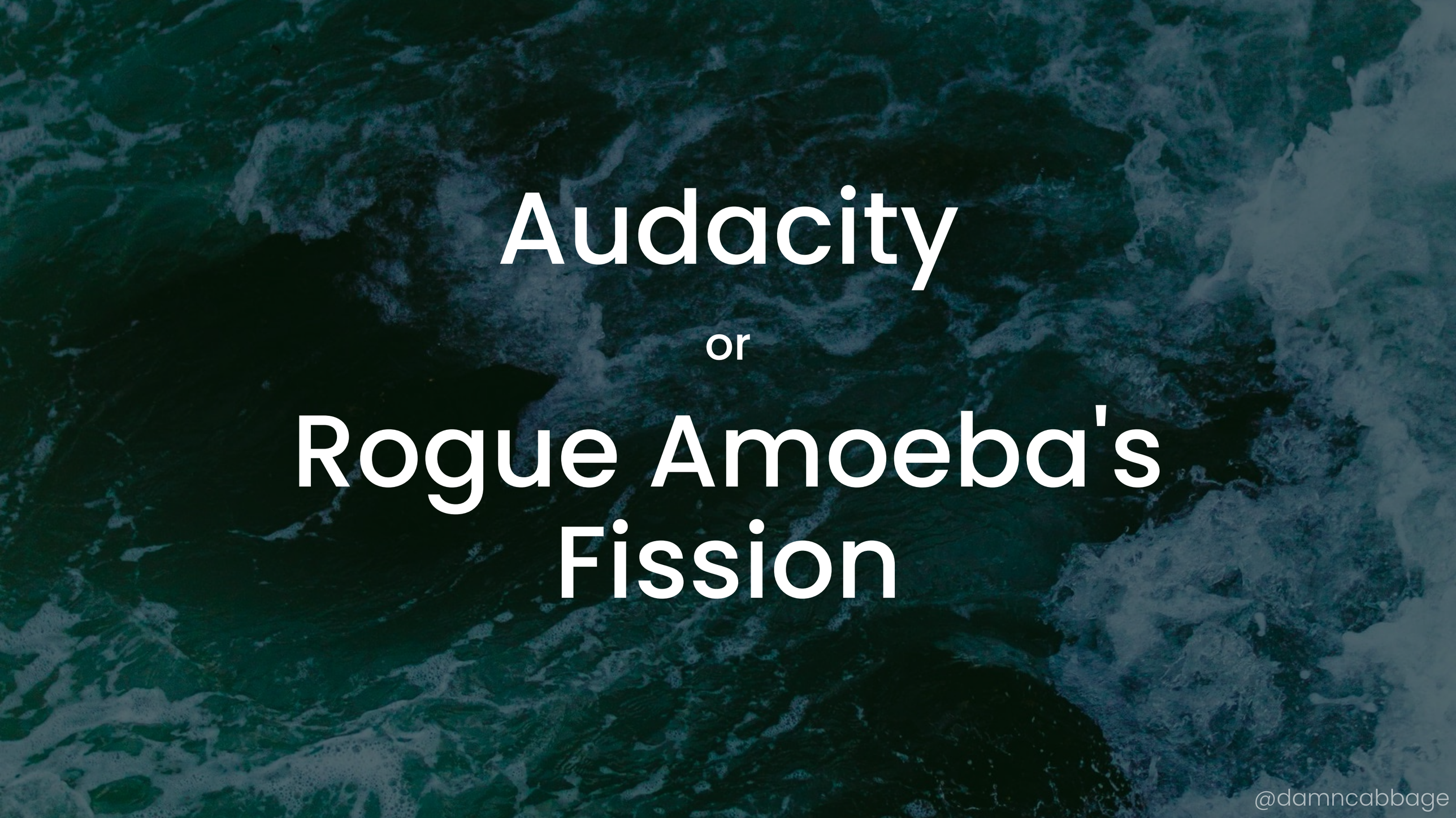
```
1, 0.97, 0.76, 0.5, 0.2, -0.3, -0.7, -0.85, -1, -0.99, ...
```

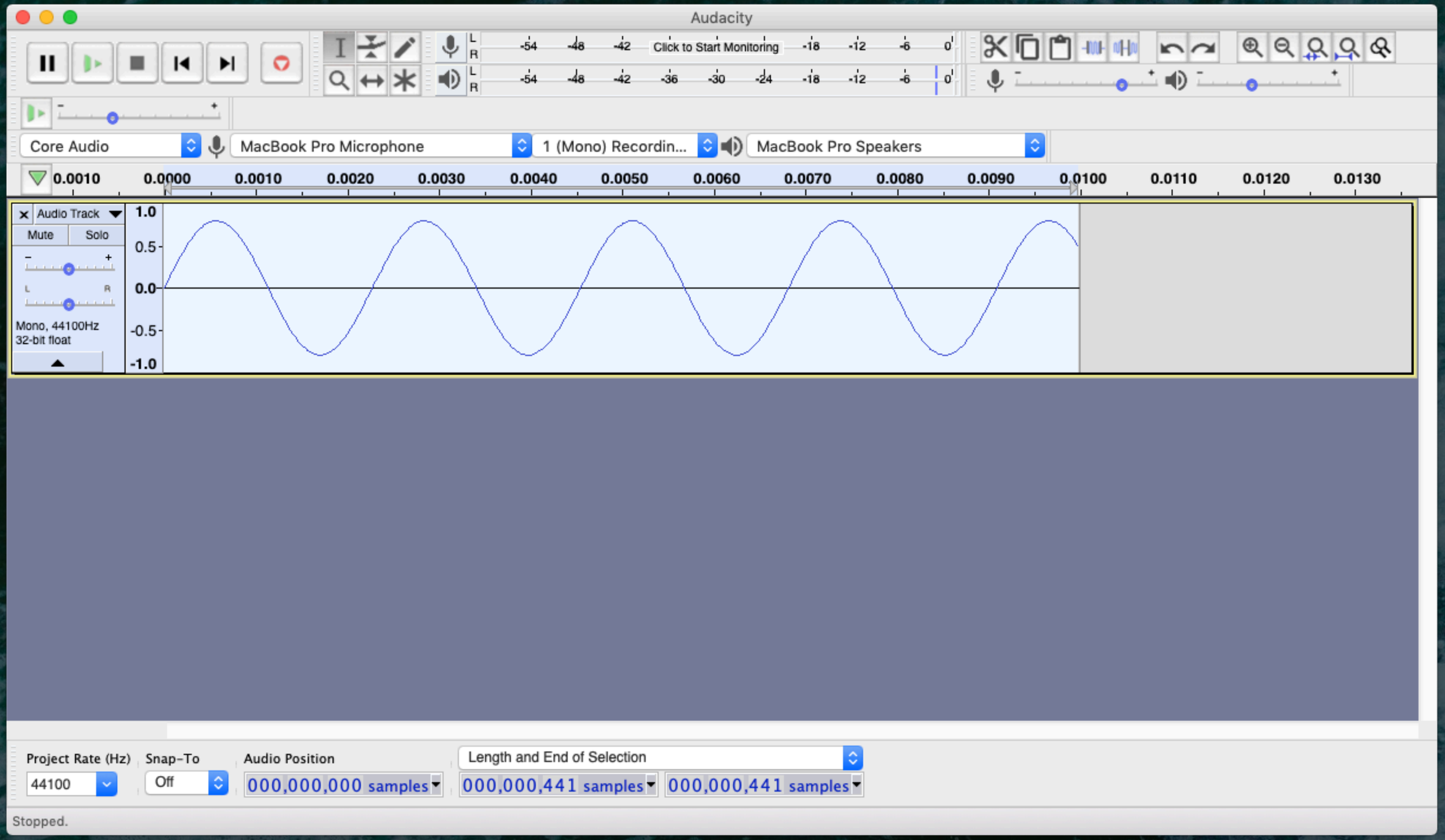
Bit depth: the potential range (resolution) of these numbers

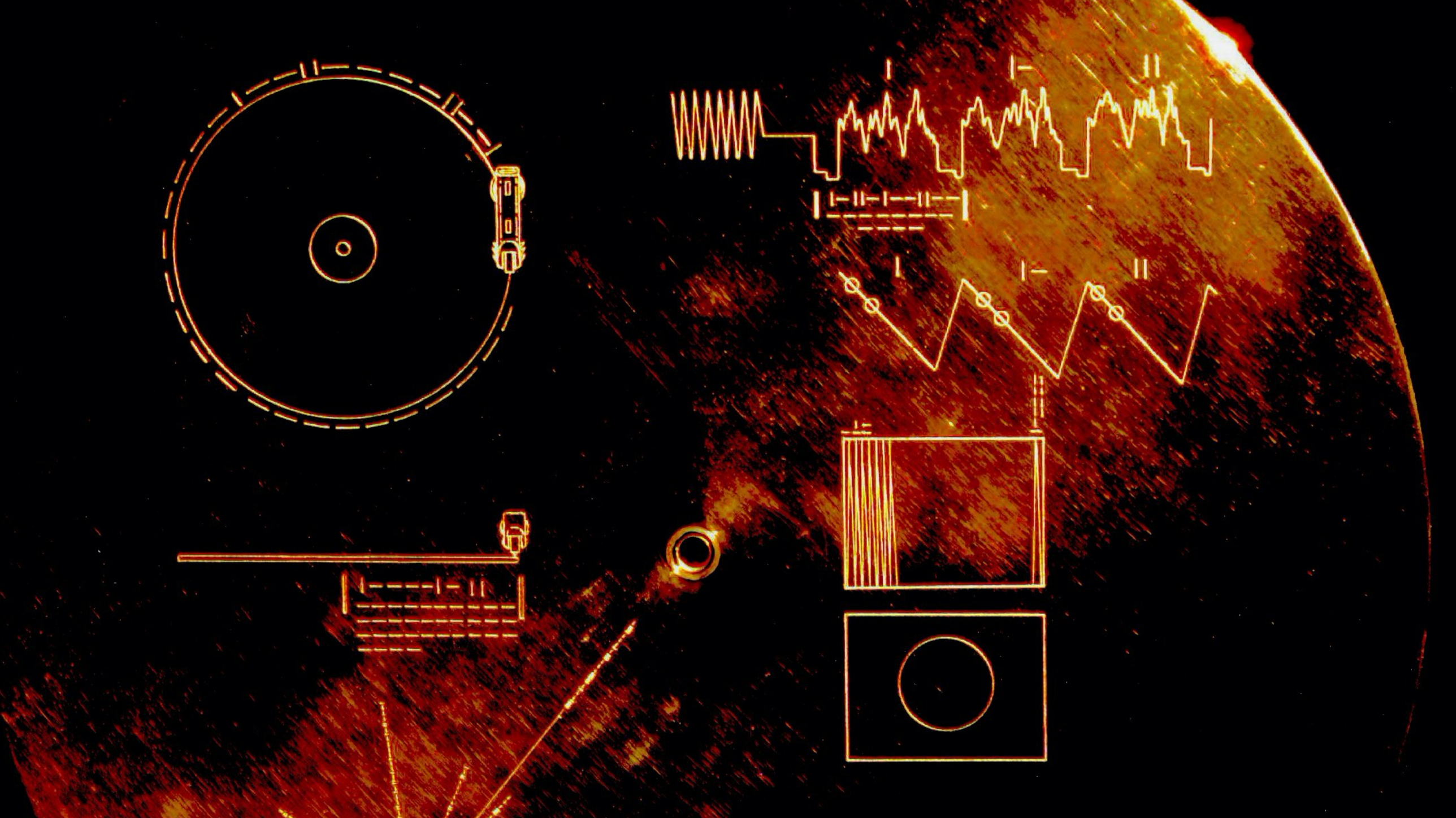

@damncabbage

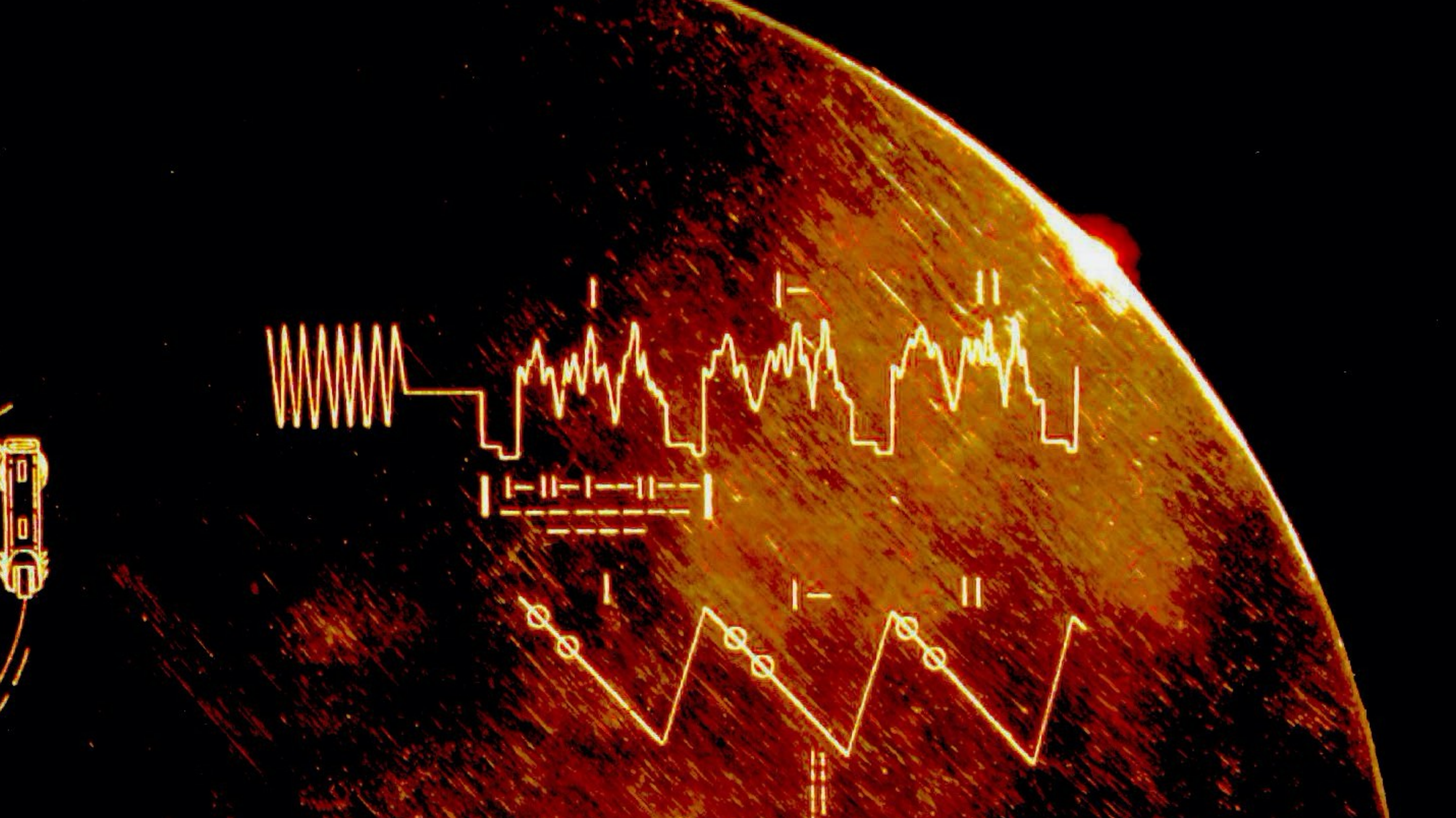

Audacity

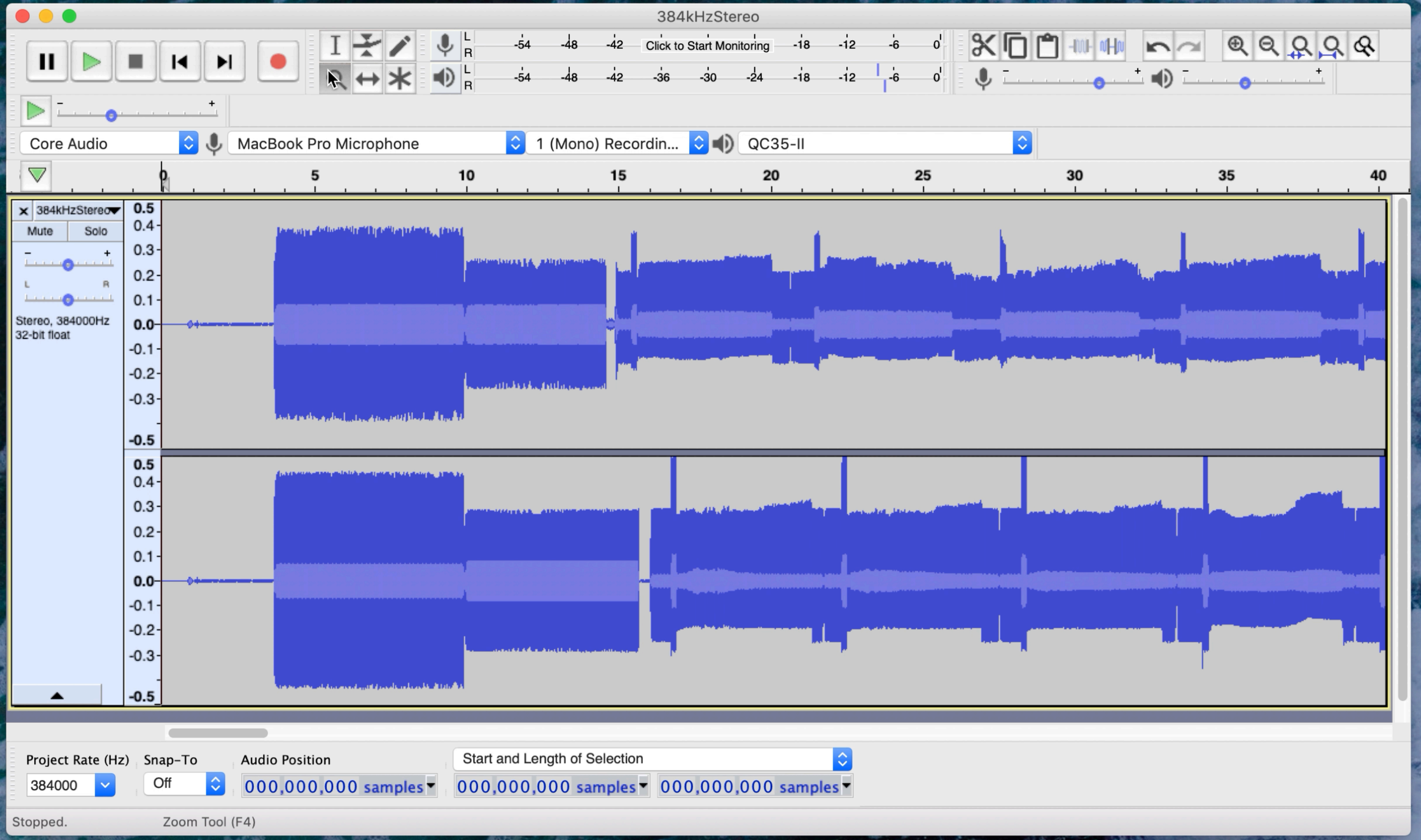

Audacity
or
@damncabbage

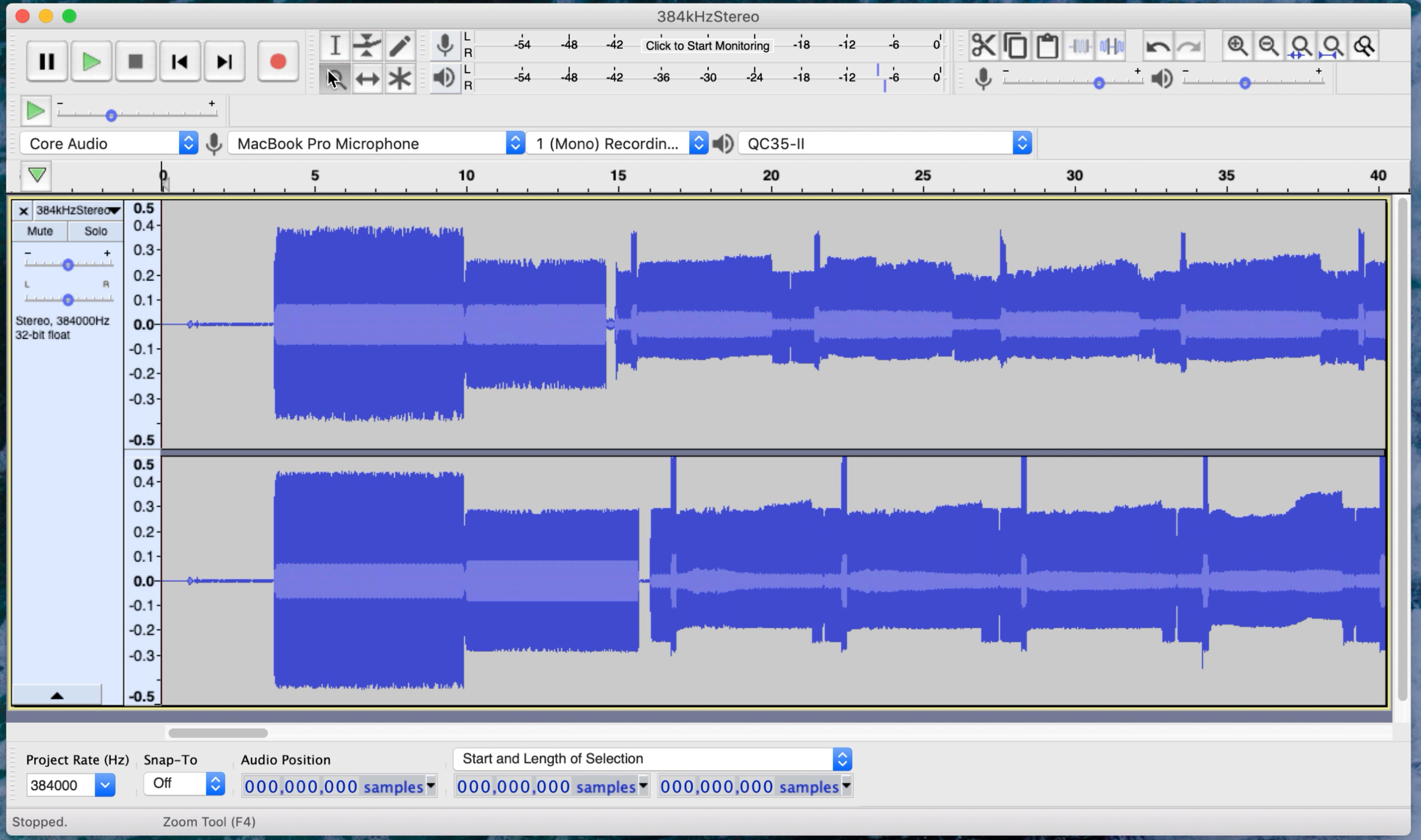

Audacity
or
Rogue Amoeba's
Fission
@damncabbage








384kHzStereo
Click to Start Monitoring
Core Audio
MacBook Pro Microphone
1 (Mono) Recordin...
QC35-II
384kHzStereo
Mute
Solo
Stereo, 384000Hz
32-bit float
Project Rate (Hz)
384000
Snap-To
Off
Audio Position
000,000,000 samples
Start and Length of Selection
000,000,000 samples
000,000,000 samples
Stopped.
Zoom Tool (F4)


384kHzStereo
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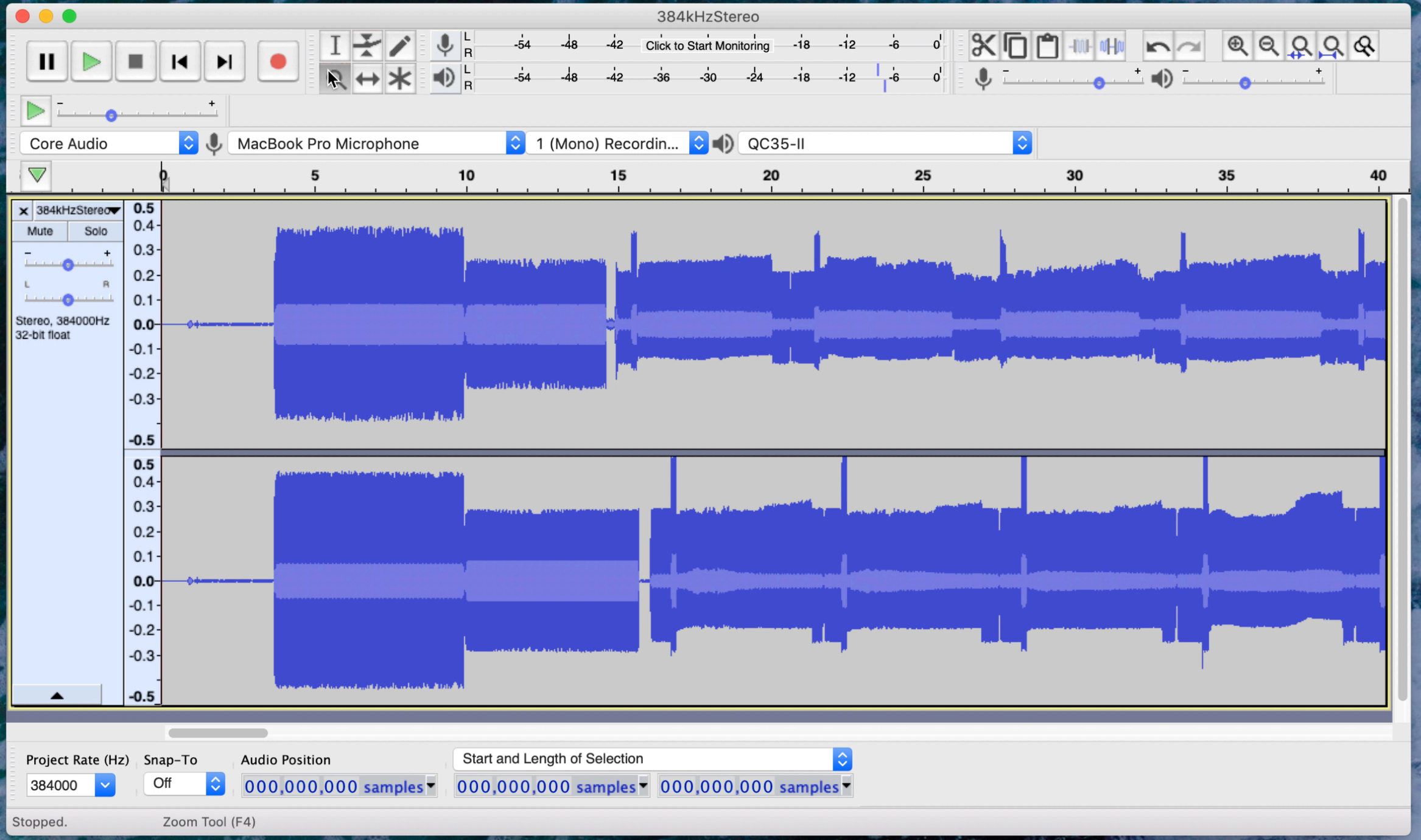
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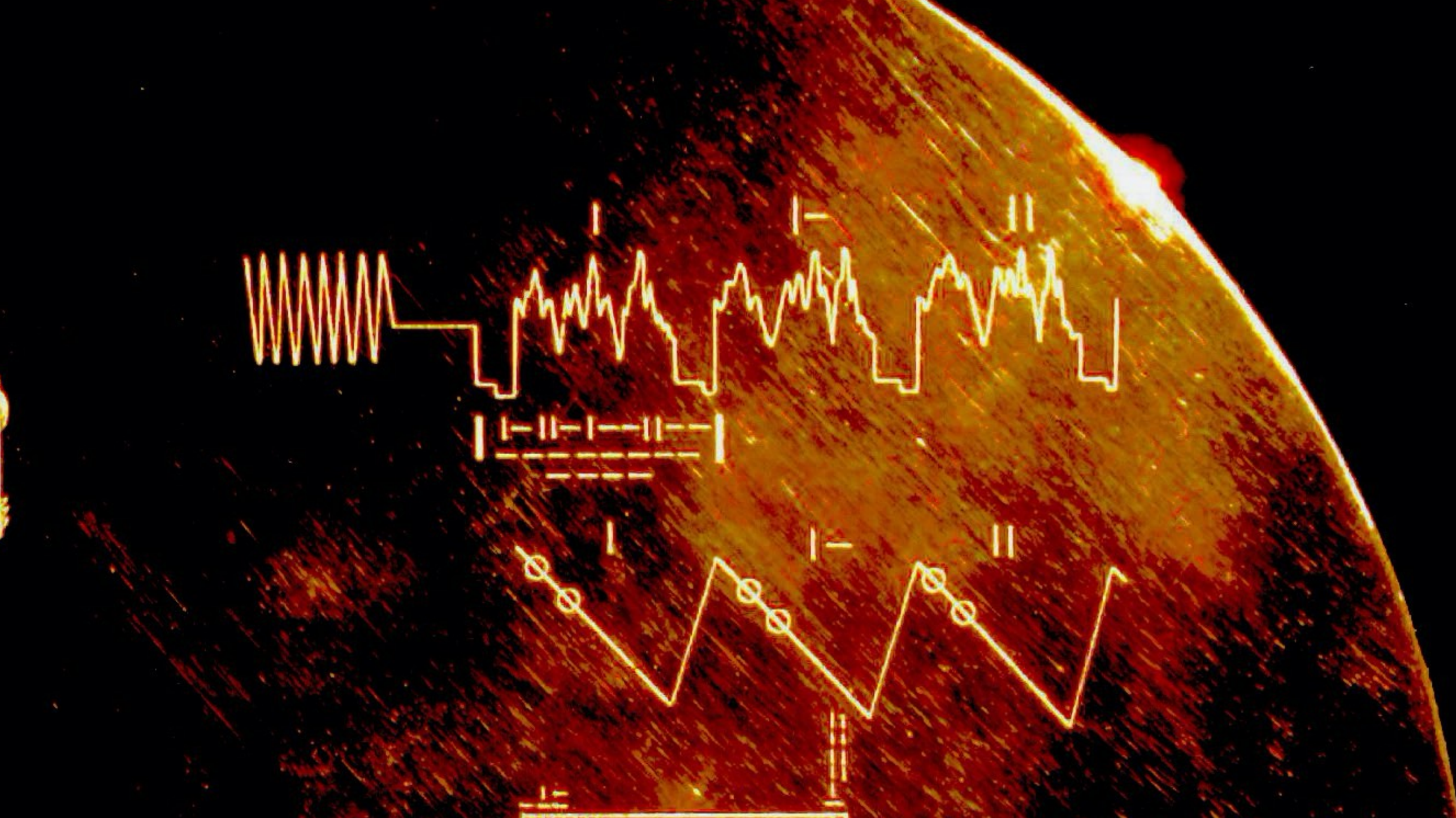
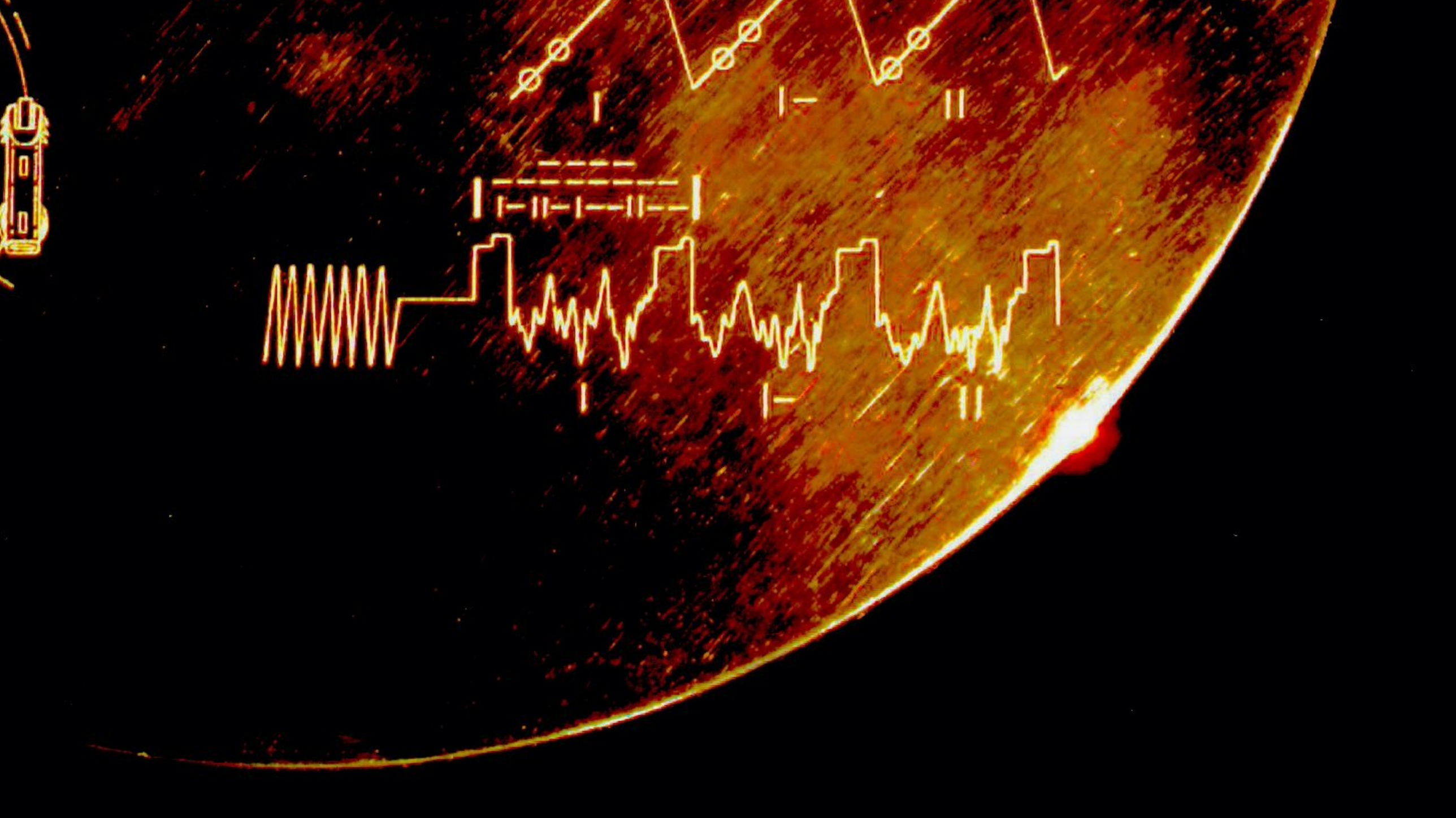
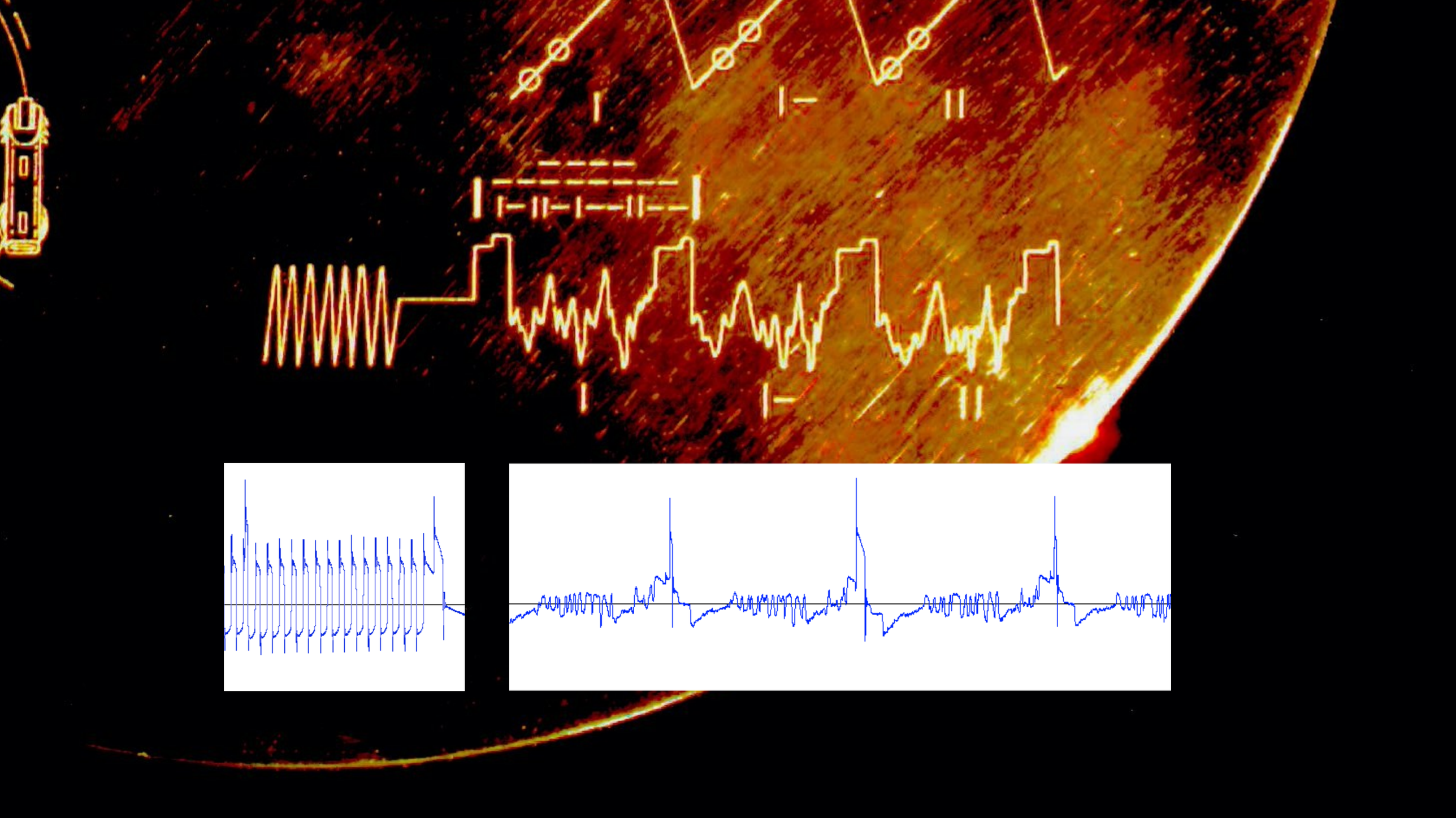
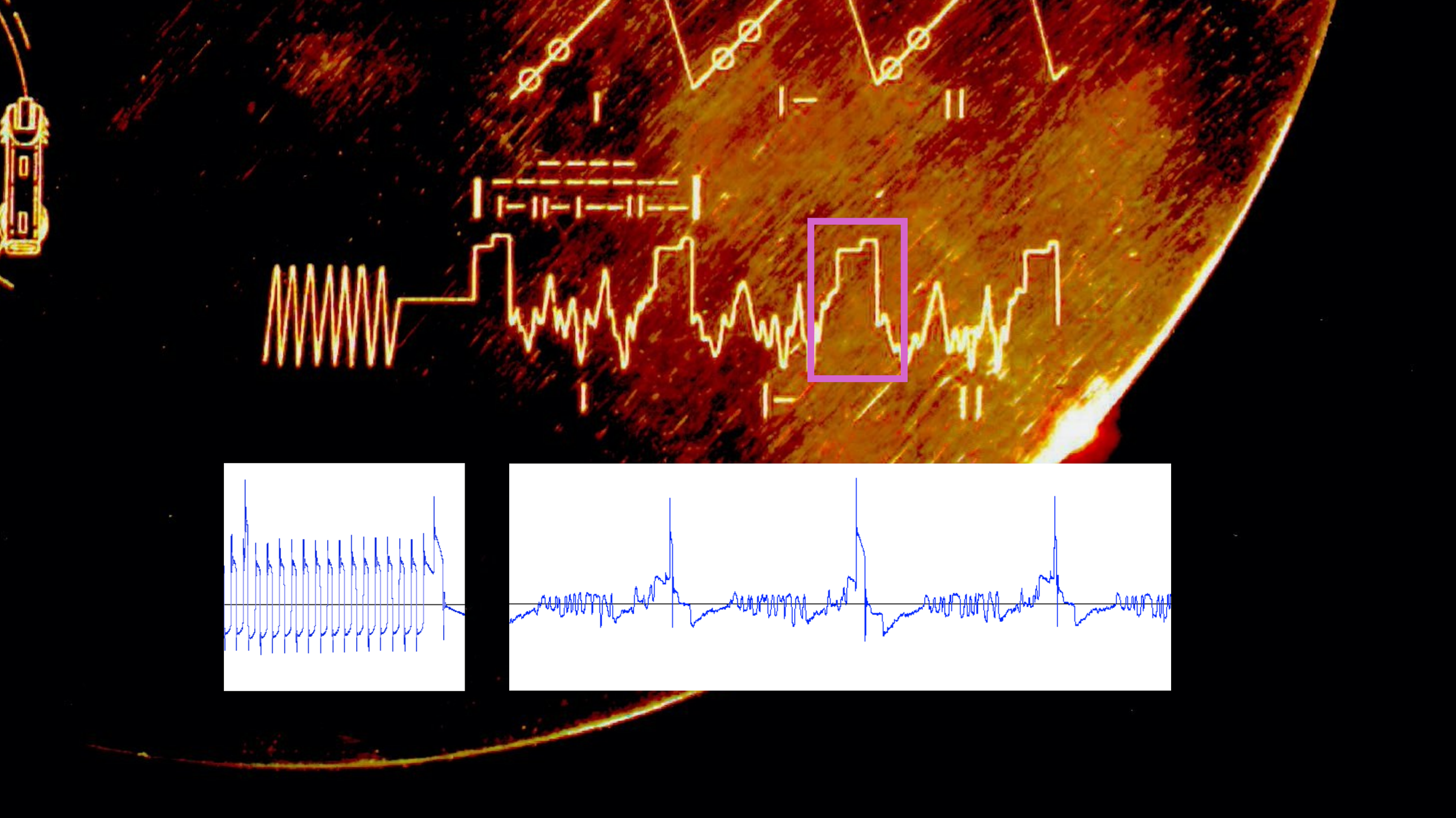
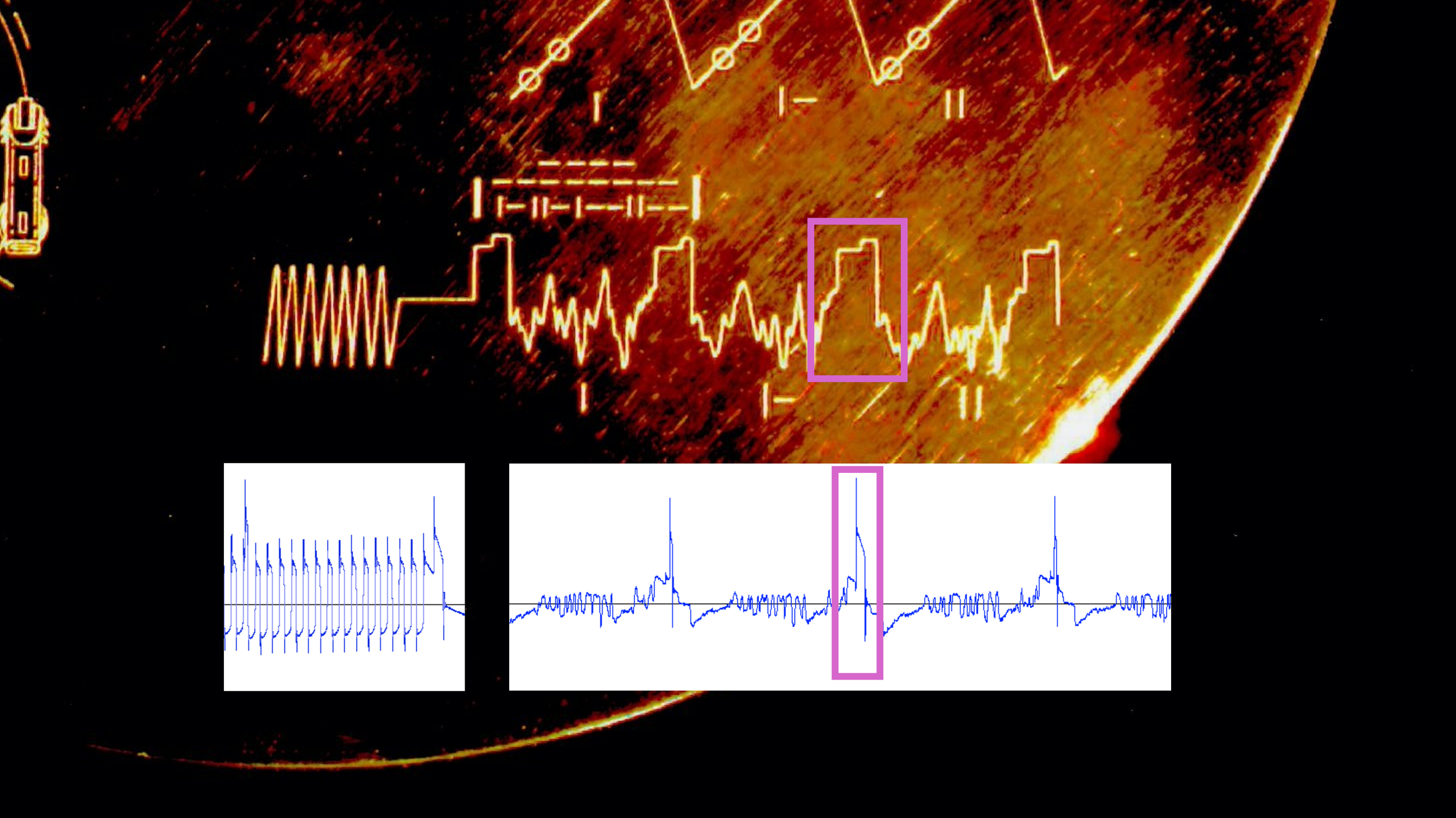
Audio Position
000,000,000 samples
Start and Length of Selection
000,000,000 samples
000,000,000 samples
Stopped.
Zoom Tool (F4)

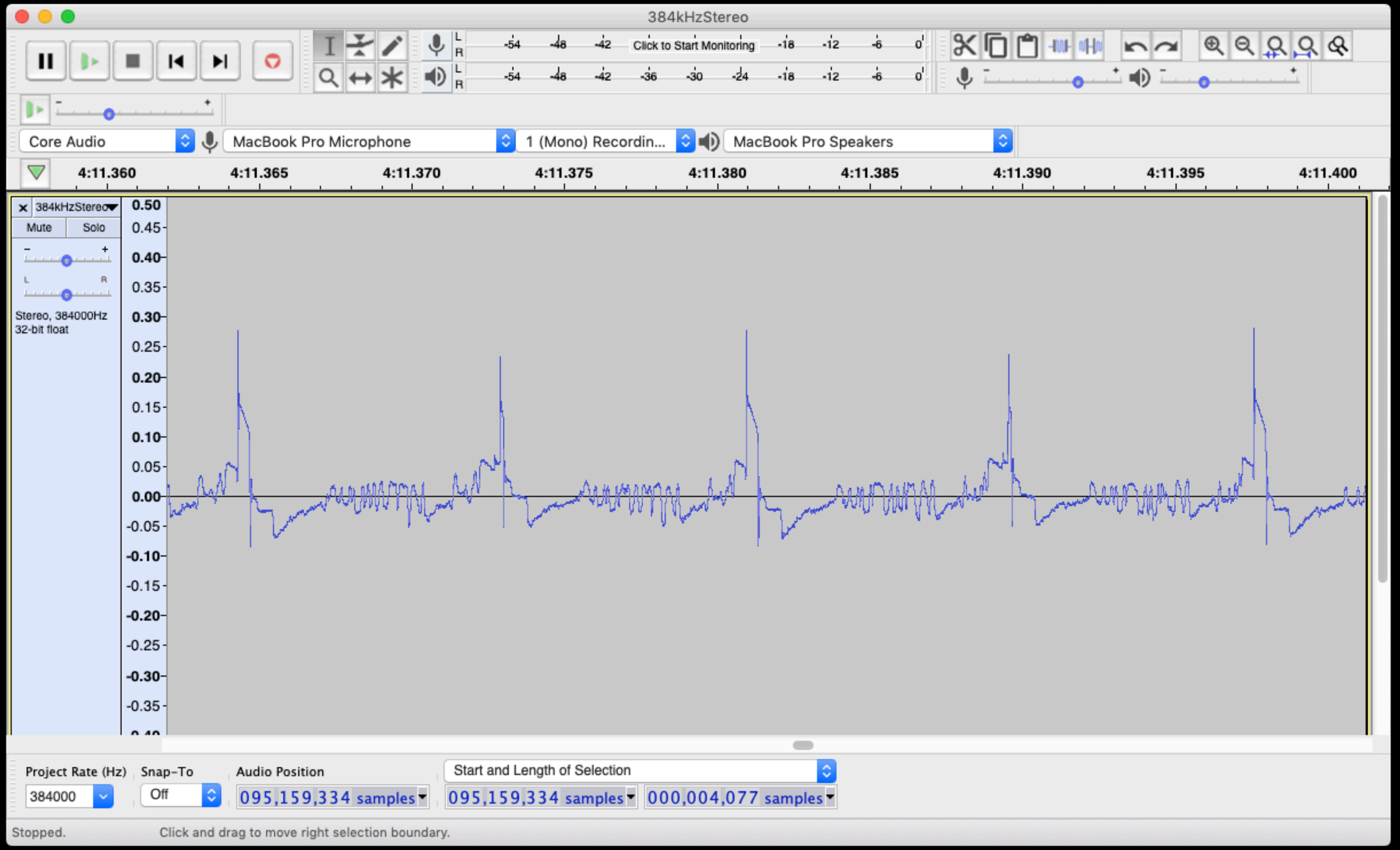


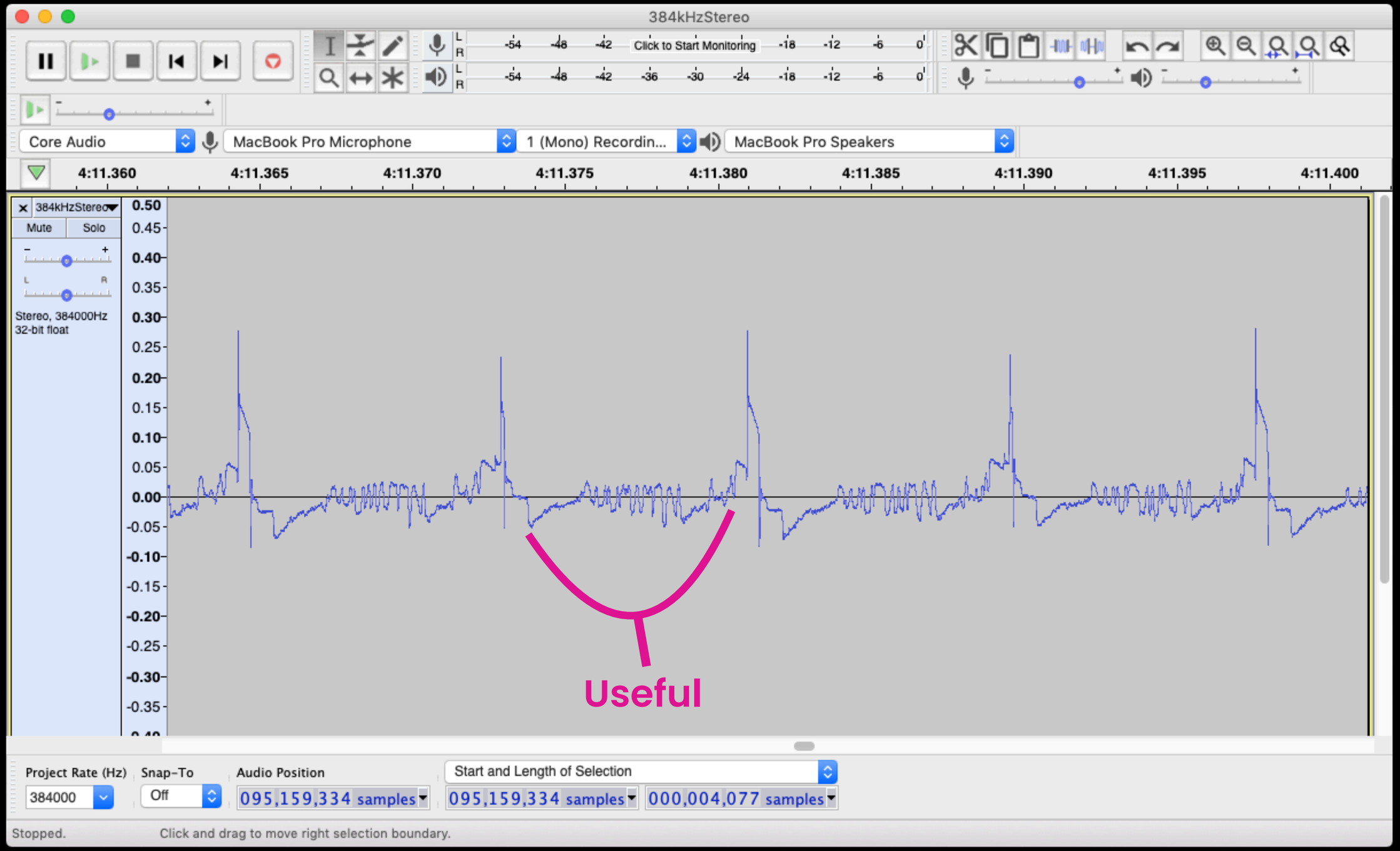



I
I–
II
I–II–I––II––
I
I–
II




I
I–
II
I–II–I–II–
I
I–
II


384kHzStereo
Click to Start Monitoring
Core Audio
MacBook Pro Microphone
1 (Mono) Recordin...
MacBook Pro Speakers
4:11.360
4:11.365
4:11.370
4:11.375
4:11.380
4:11.385
4:11.390
4:11.395
4:11.400
384kHzStereo
Mute
Solo
Stereo, 384000Hz
32-bit float
0.50
0.45
0.40
0.35
0.30
0.25
0.20
0.15
0.10
0.05
0.00
-0.05
-0.10
-0.15
-0.20
-0.25
-0.30
-0.35
Project Rate (Hz)
384000
Snap-To
Off
Audio Position
095,159,334 samples
Start and Length of Selection
095,159,334 samples
000,004,077 samples
Stopped.
Click and drag to move right selection boundary.


384kHzStereo
Click to Start Monitoring
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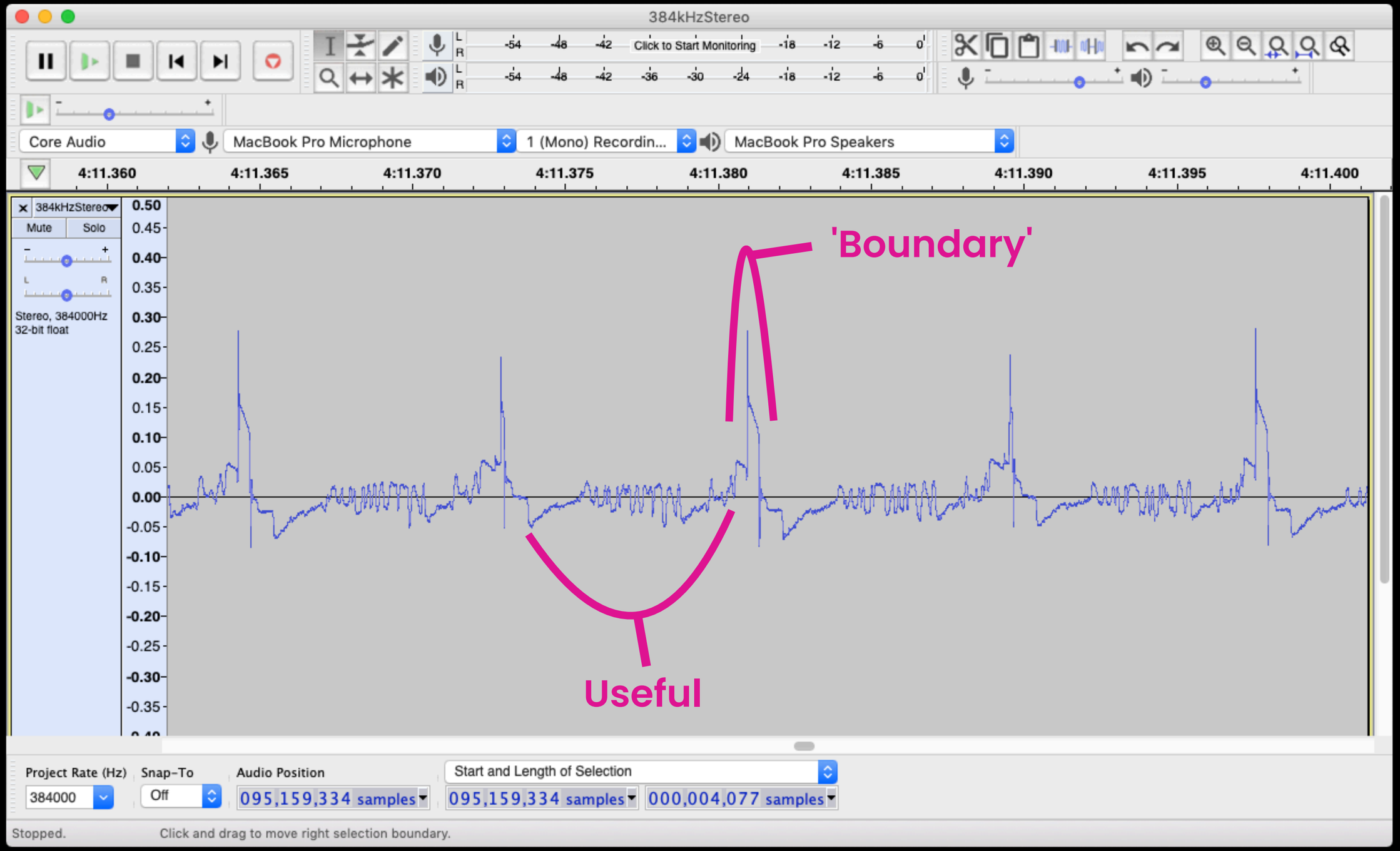
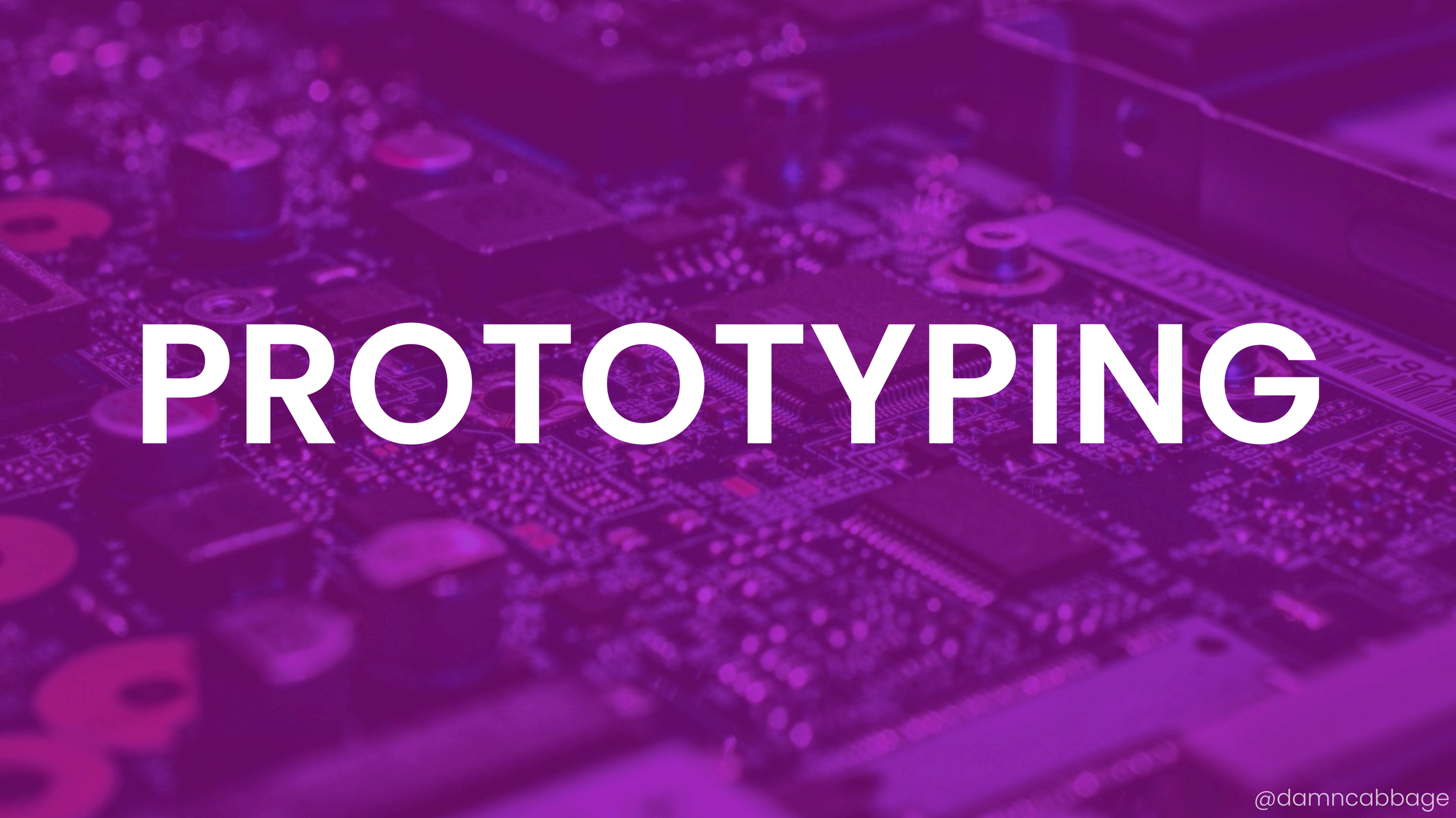
MacBook Pro Microphone
1 (Mono) Recordin...
MacBook Pro Speakers
4:11.360
4:11.365
4:11.370
4:11.375
4:11.380
4:11.385
4:11.390
4:11.395
4:11.400
Mute
Solo
Stereo, 384000Hz
32-bit float
Useful
Project Rate (Hz)
384000
Snap-To
Off
Audio Position
095,159,334 samples
Start and Length of Selection
095,159,334 samples
000,004,077 samples
Stopped.
Click and drag to move right selection boundary.


384kHzStereo
Click to Start Monitoring
Core Audio
MacBook Pro Microphone
1 (Mono) Recordin...
MacBook Pro Speakers
4:11.360
4:11.365
4:11.370
4:11.375
4:11.380
4:11.385
4:11.390
4:11.395
4:11.400
Mute
Solo
Stereo, 384000Hz
32-bit float
'Boundary'
Useful
Project Rate (Hz)
384000
Snap-To
Off
Audio Position
095,159,334 samples
Start and Length of Selection
095,159,334 samples
000,004,077 samples
Stopped.
Click and drag to move right selection boundary.


PROTOTYPING


JUST
DO
IT


JUST
DO
IT

Many small attempts!

example.rb — voyager_images

example.rb ● | Guardfile

bin > example.rb

```ruby
# Set up Bundler, letting us use our gems.
require 'bundler/setup'

# A library I added to my Gemfile
require 'unicode_plot'

def some_numbers
  [1, 2, 3, 2, -2, 4, 5]
end

puts "Hello! I made you a picture."

plot = UnicodePlot.lineplot(
  some_numbers,
  color: :green,
  labels: false
)
plot.render # Print a graph.
```

TERMINAL | 1: bash

```
$ bundle exec guard
```

0 ⚠ 0 | Live Share | damncabbage | Ln 18, Col 29 | Spaces: 2 | UTF-8 | LF | Ruby

example.rb — voyager_images

example.rb ● | Guardfile

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TERMINAL | 1: bash

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0 ⚠ 0 | Live Share | damncabbage | Ln 18, Col 29 | Spaces: 2 | UTF-8 | LF | Ruby

Copy+paste!

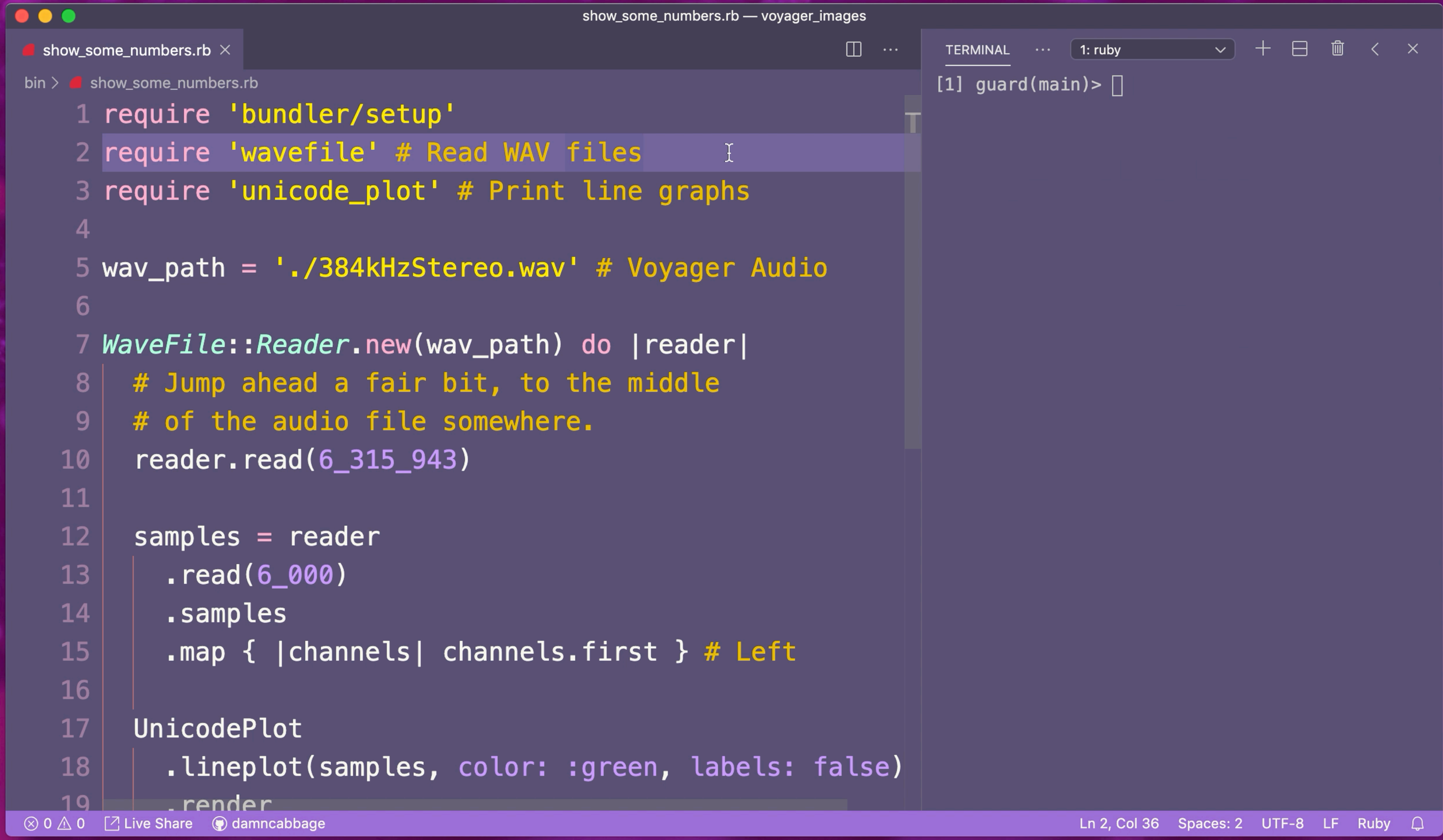
👍 Copy+paste!

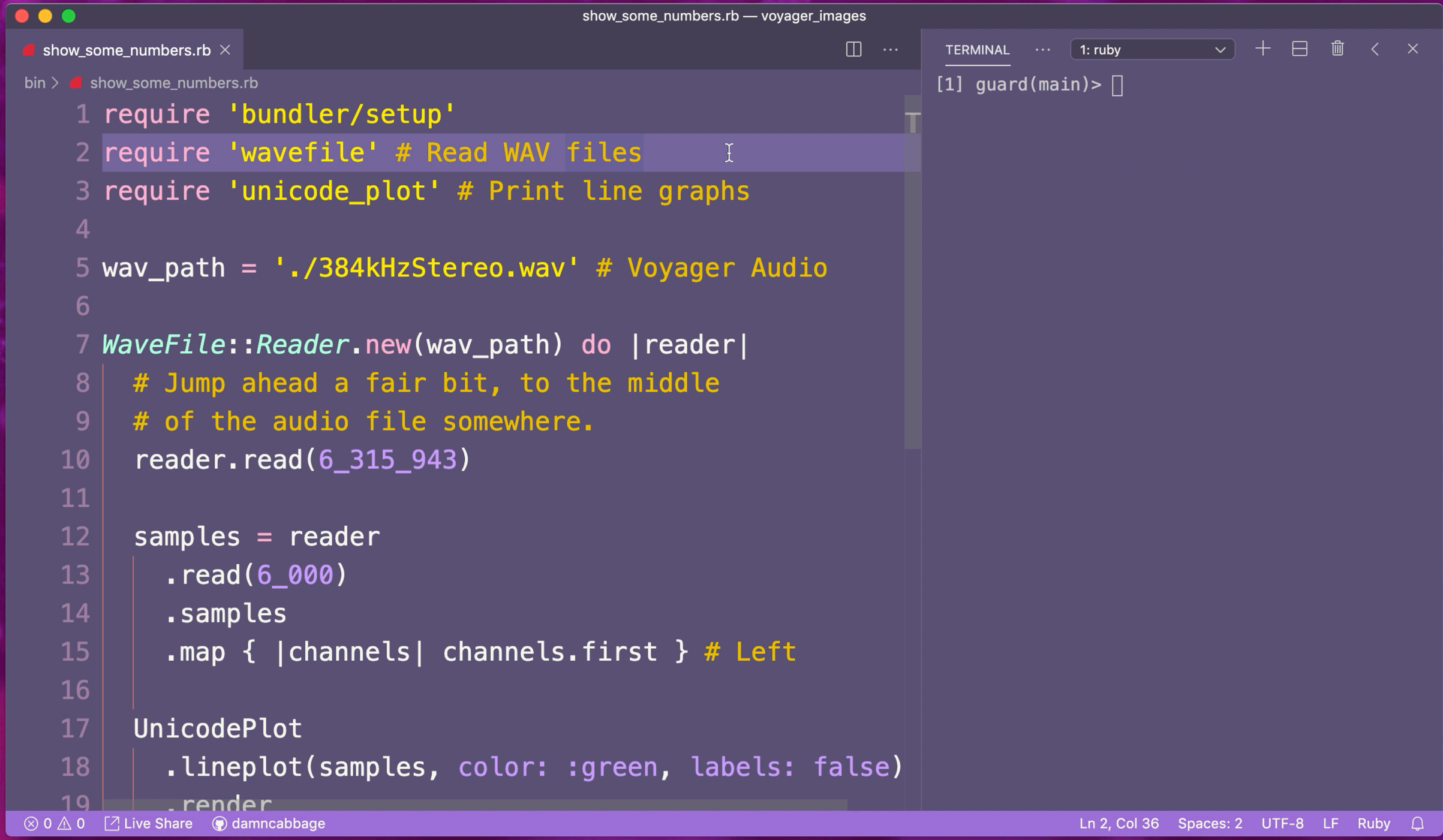
👍 One big file!


👍 Copy+paste!
👍 One big file!
👍 No tests!
@damncabbage


👍 Copy+paste!
👍 One big file!
👍 No tests!
👍 puts everywhere!
byebug if it helps!
@damncabbage


DO IT

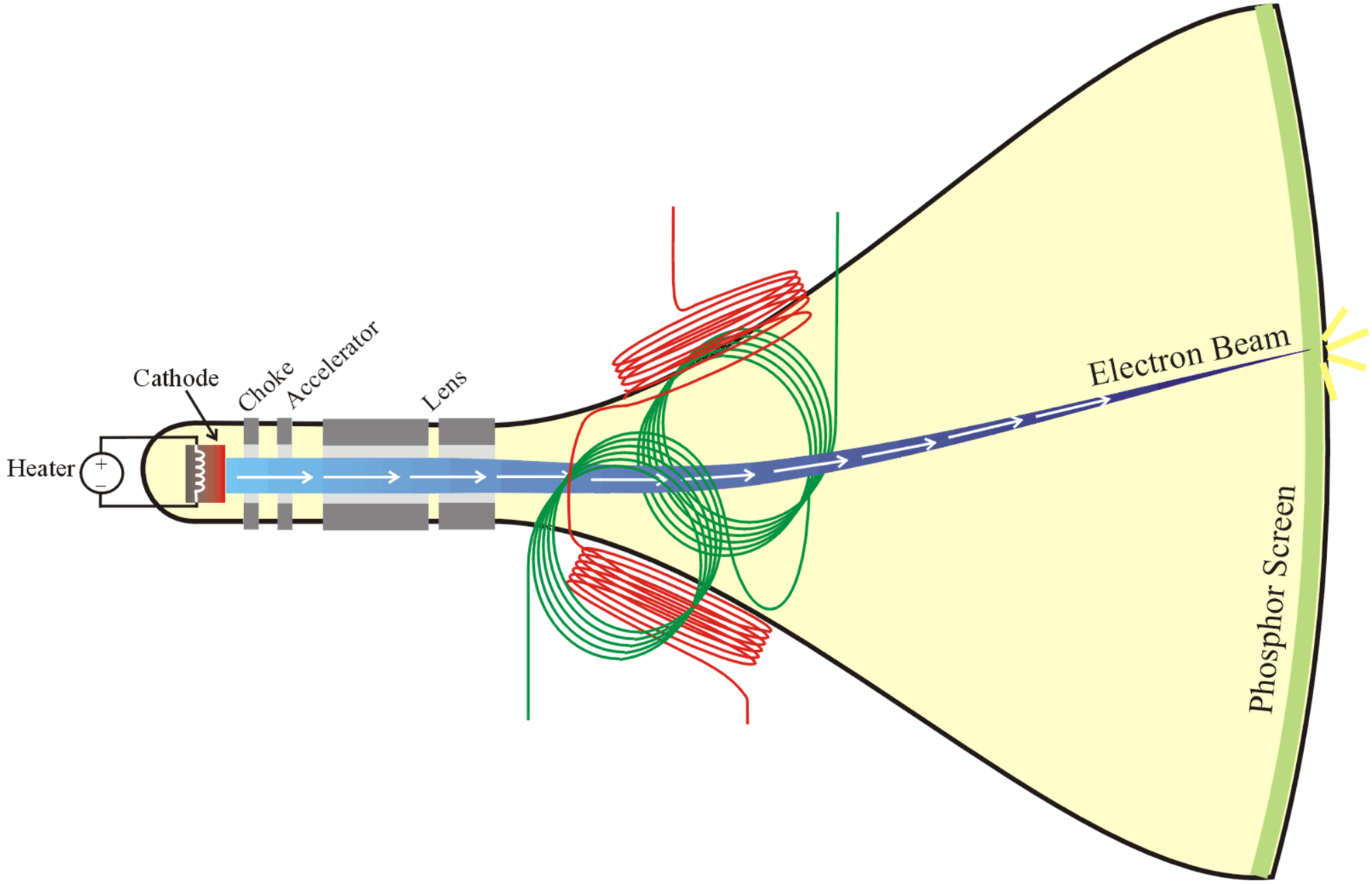

show_some_numbers.rb — voyager_images
show_some_numbers.rb
bin > show_some_numbers.rb
1 require 'bundler/setup'
2 require 'wavefile' # Read WAV files
3 require 'unicode_plot' # Print line graphs
4
5 wav_path = './384kHzStereo.wav' # Voyager Audio
6
7 WaveFile::Reader.new(wav_path) do |reader|
8 # Jump ahead a fair bit, to the middle
9 # of the audio file somewhere.
10 reader.read(6_315_943)
11
12 samples = reader
13 .read(6_000)
14 .samples
15 .map { |channels| channels.first } # Left
16
17 UnicodePlot
18 .lineplot(samples, color: :green, labels: false)
19 .render
TERMINAL
1: ruby
[1] guard(main)>
0 0
Live Share
damncabbage
Ln 2, Col 36
Spaces: 2
UTF-8
LF
Ruby

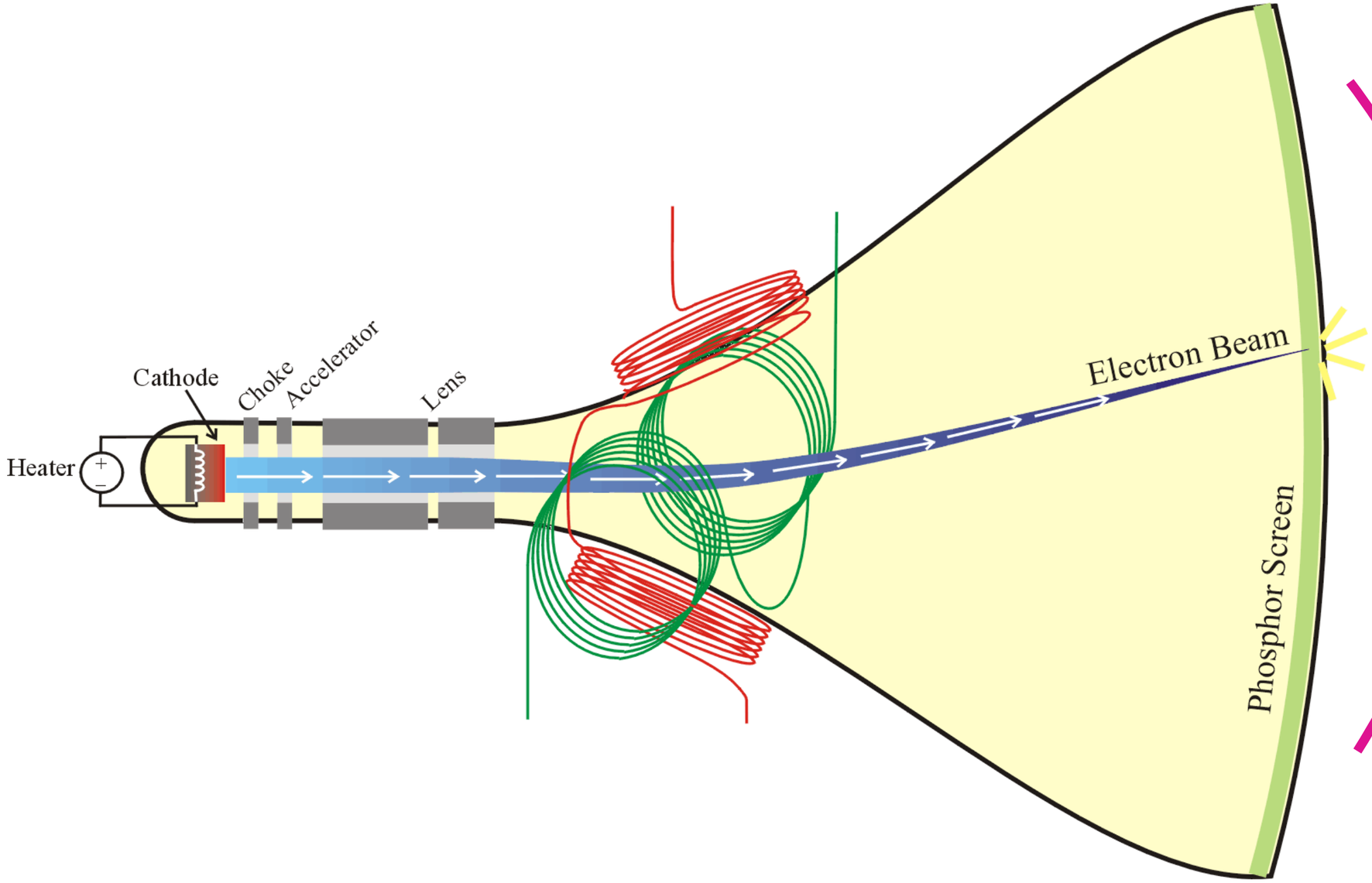

show_some_numbers.rb — voyager_images
show_some_numbers.rb
bin > show_some_numbers.rb
1 require 'bundler/setup'
2 require 'wavefile' # Read WAV files
3 require 'unicode_plot' # Print line graphs
4
5 wav_path = './384kHzStereo.wav' # Voyager Audio
6
7 WaveFile::Reader.new(wav_path) do |reader|
8 # Jump ahead a fair bit, to the middle
9 # of the audio file somewhere.
10 reader.read(6_315_943)
11
12 samples = reader
13 .read(6_000)
14 .samples
15 .map { |channels| channels.first } # Left
16
17 UnicodePlot
18 .lineplot(samples, color: :green, labels: false)
19 .render
TERMINAL
1: ruby
[1] guard(main)>
0 0
Live Share
damncabbage
Ln 2, Col 36
Spaces: 2
UTF-8
LF
Ruby

okay, great, we have some numbers.

now what?

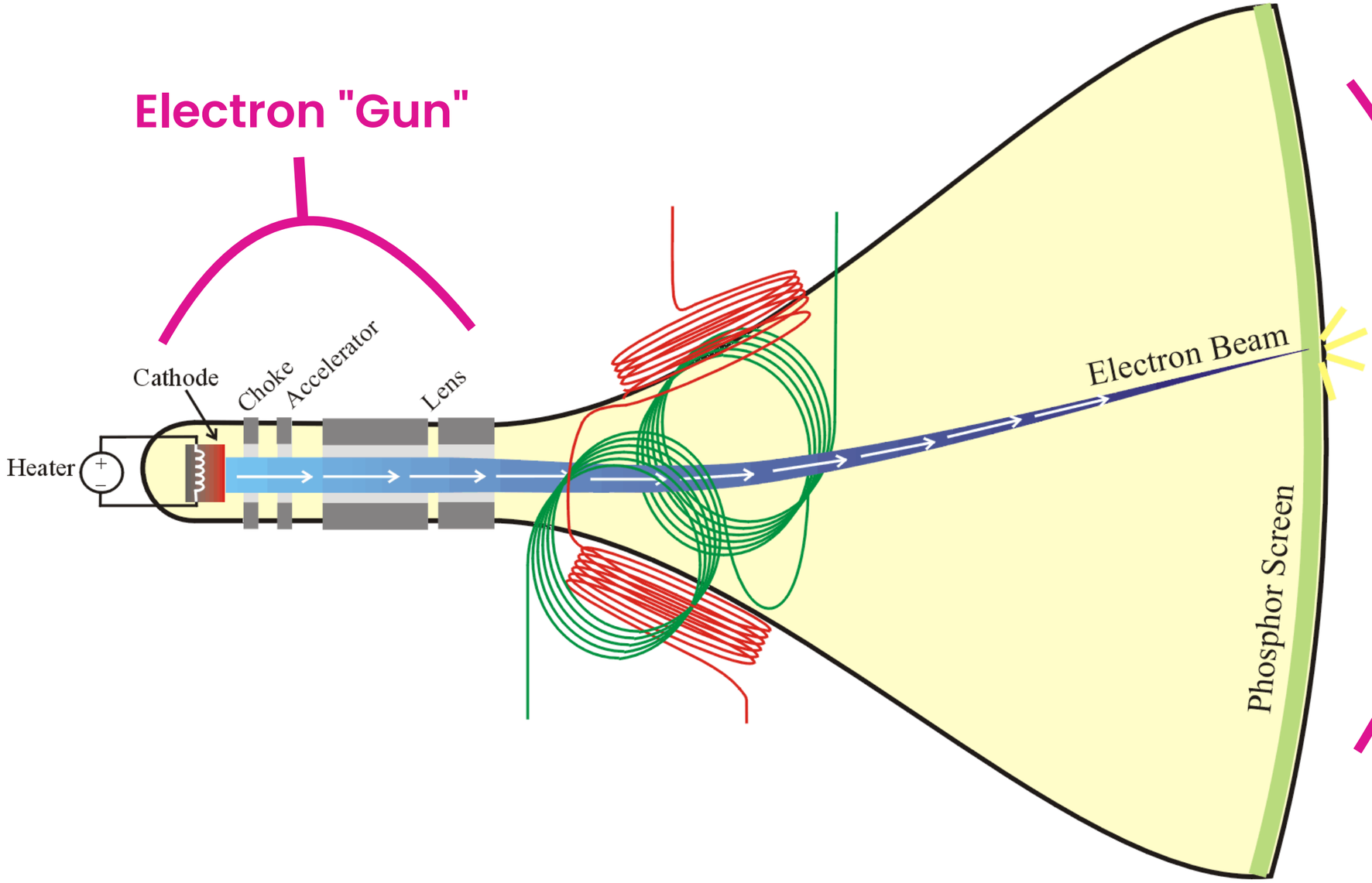

IMAGES
@damncabbage


Cathode
Choke
Accelerator
Lens
Heater
Electron Beam
Phosphor Screen



The TV bit you can actually see.

Electron "Gun"



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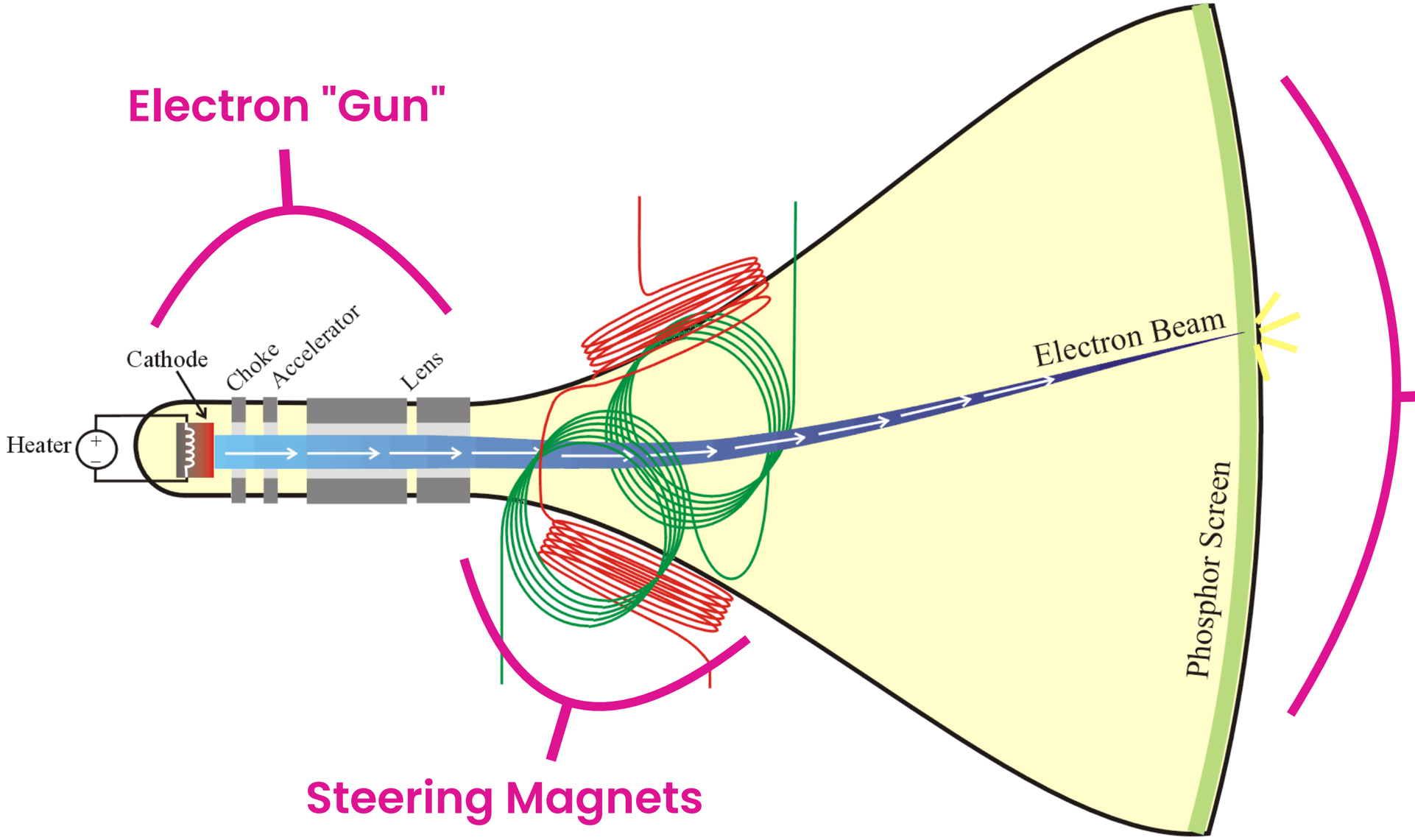
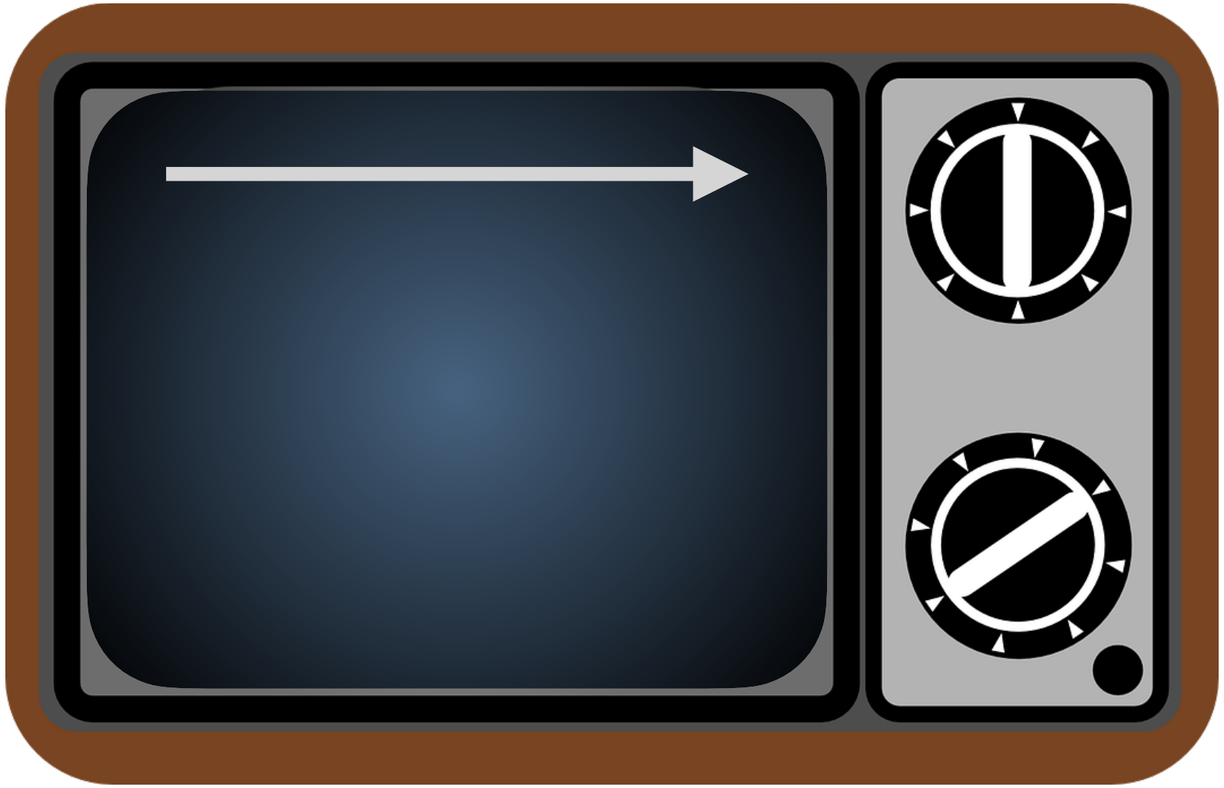
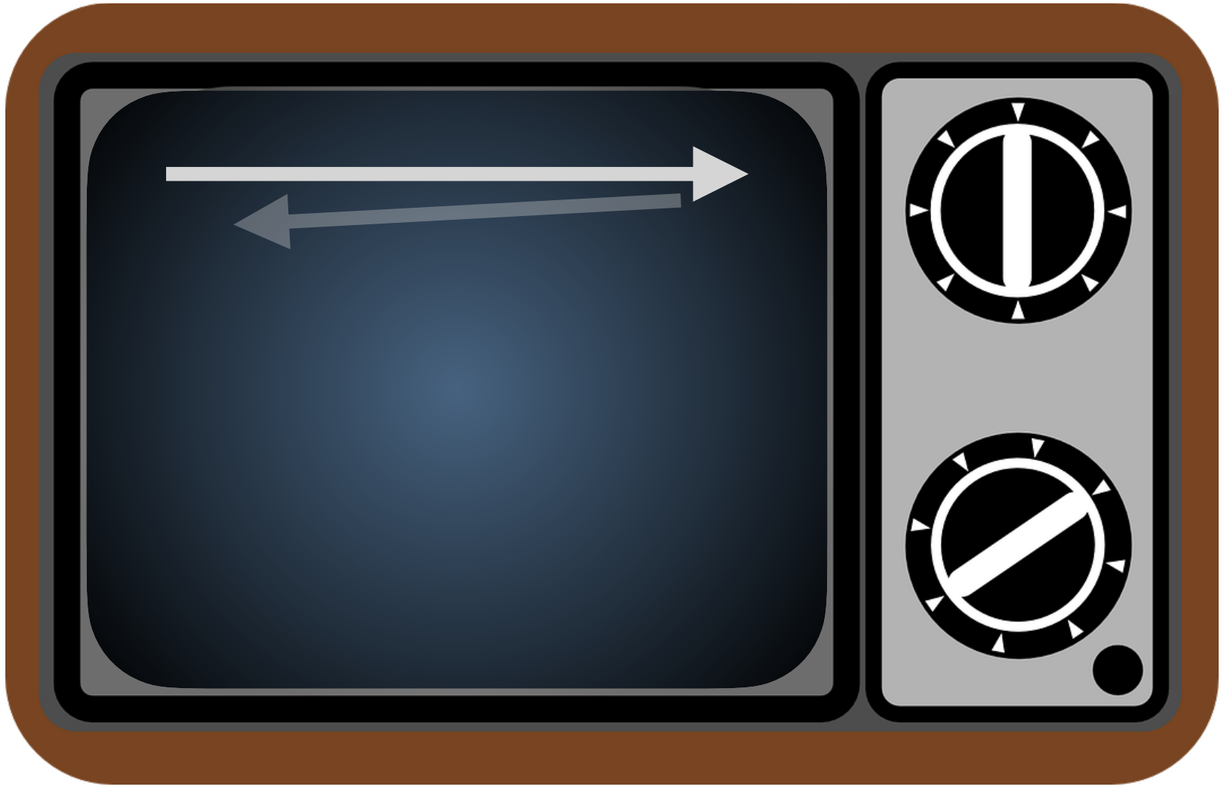
Electron "Gun"

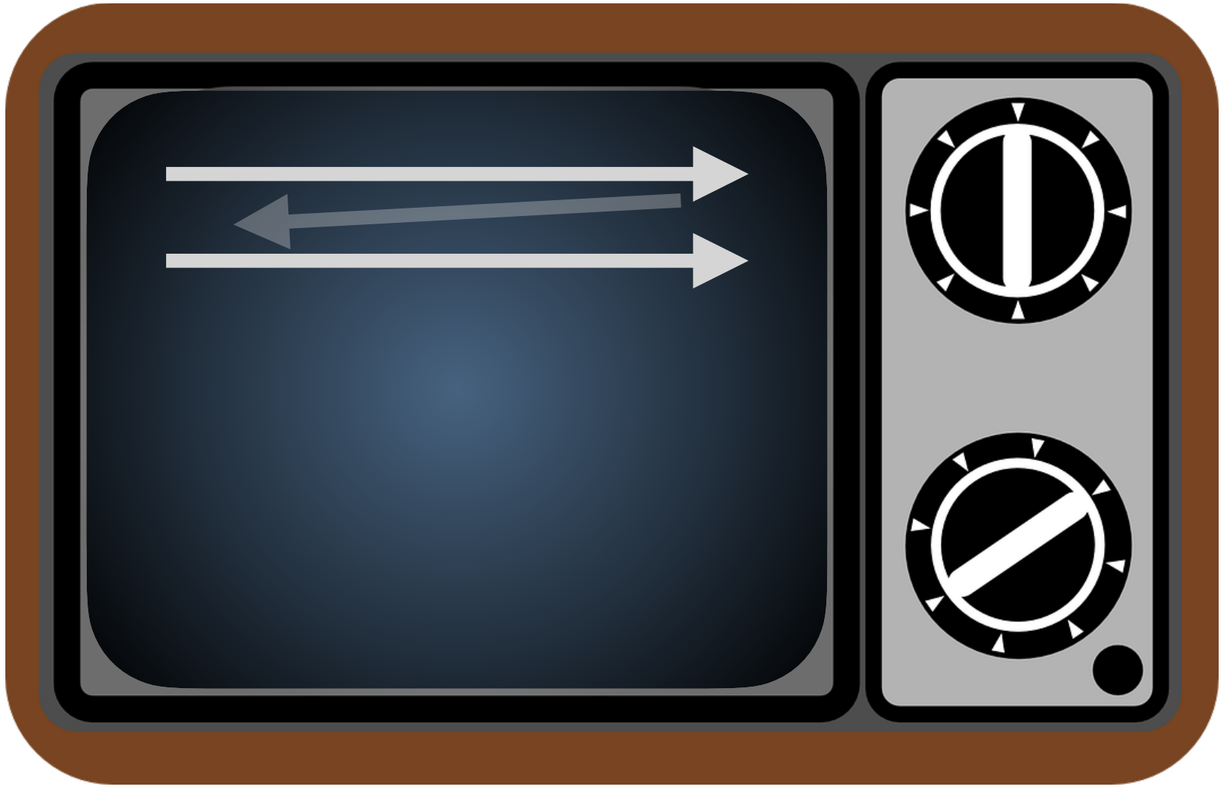


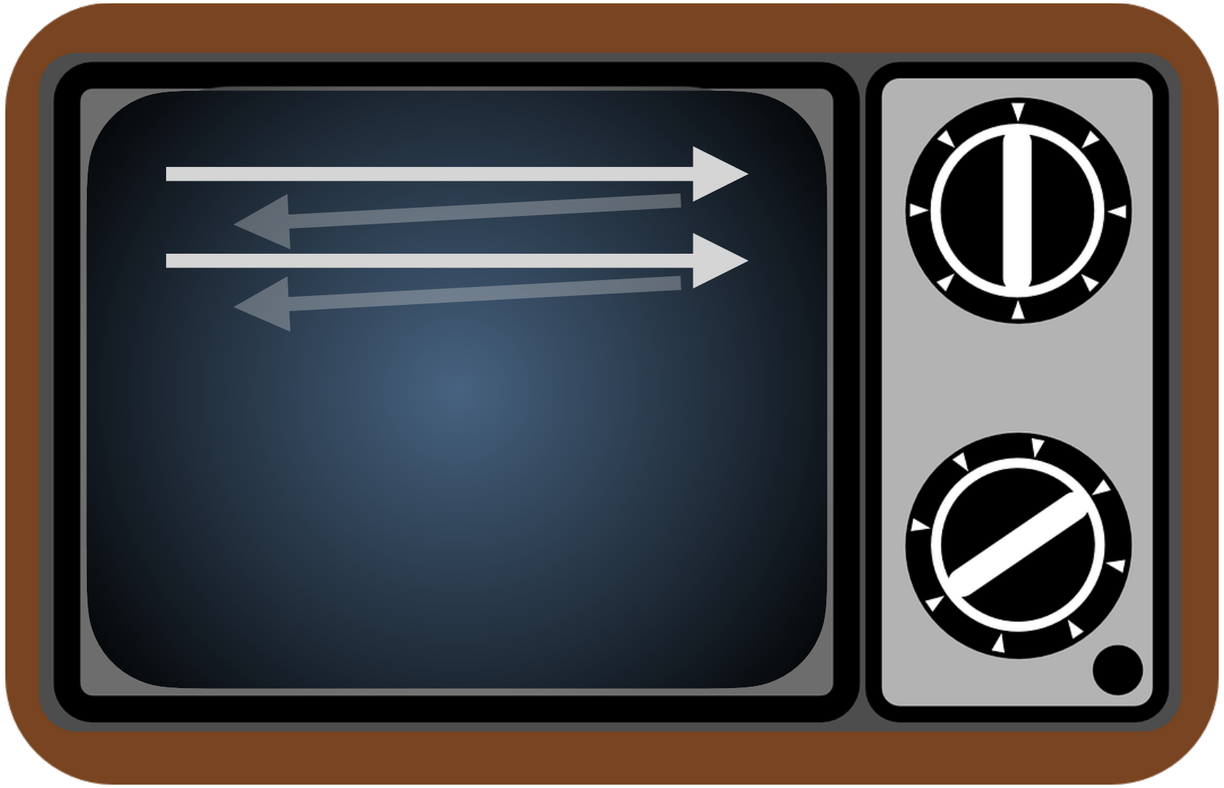
The TV bit you can actually see.

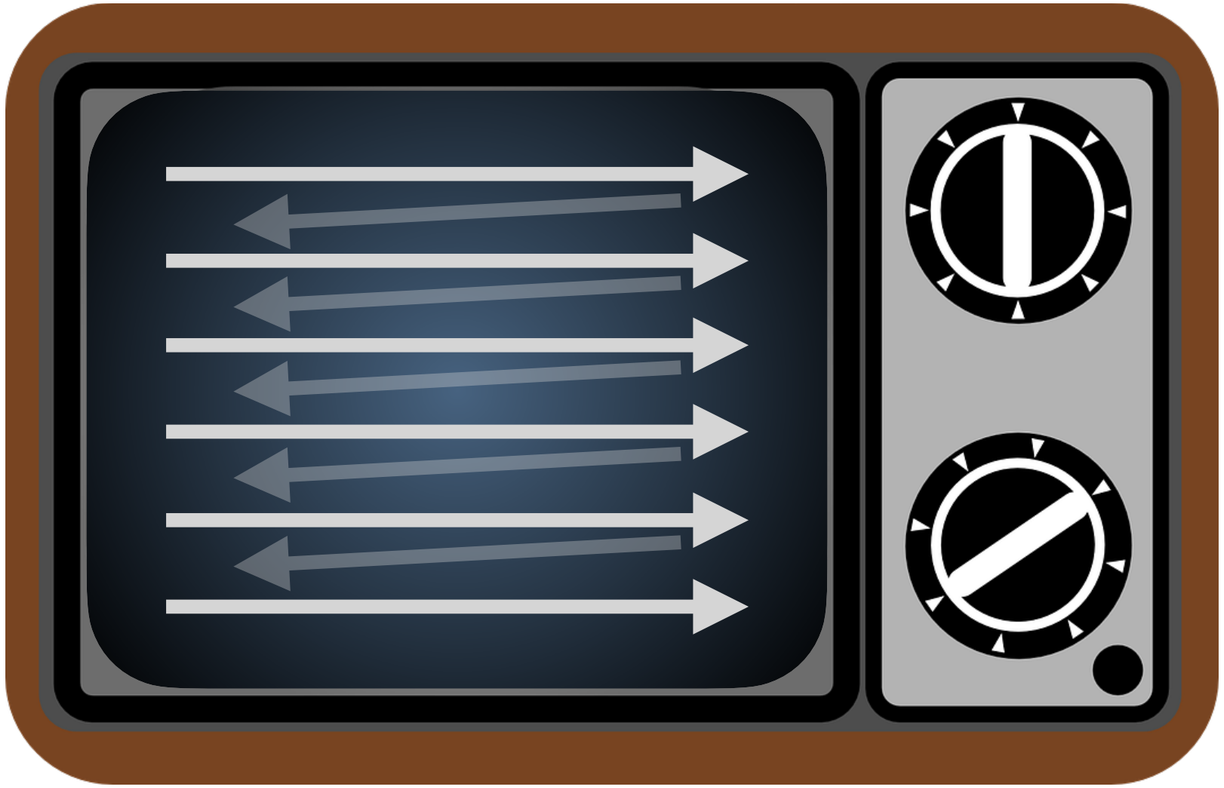
Steering Magnets

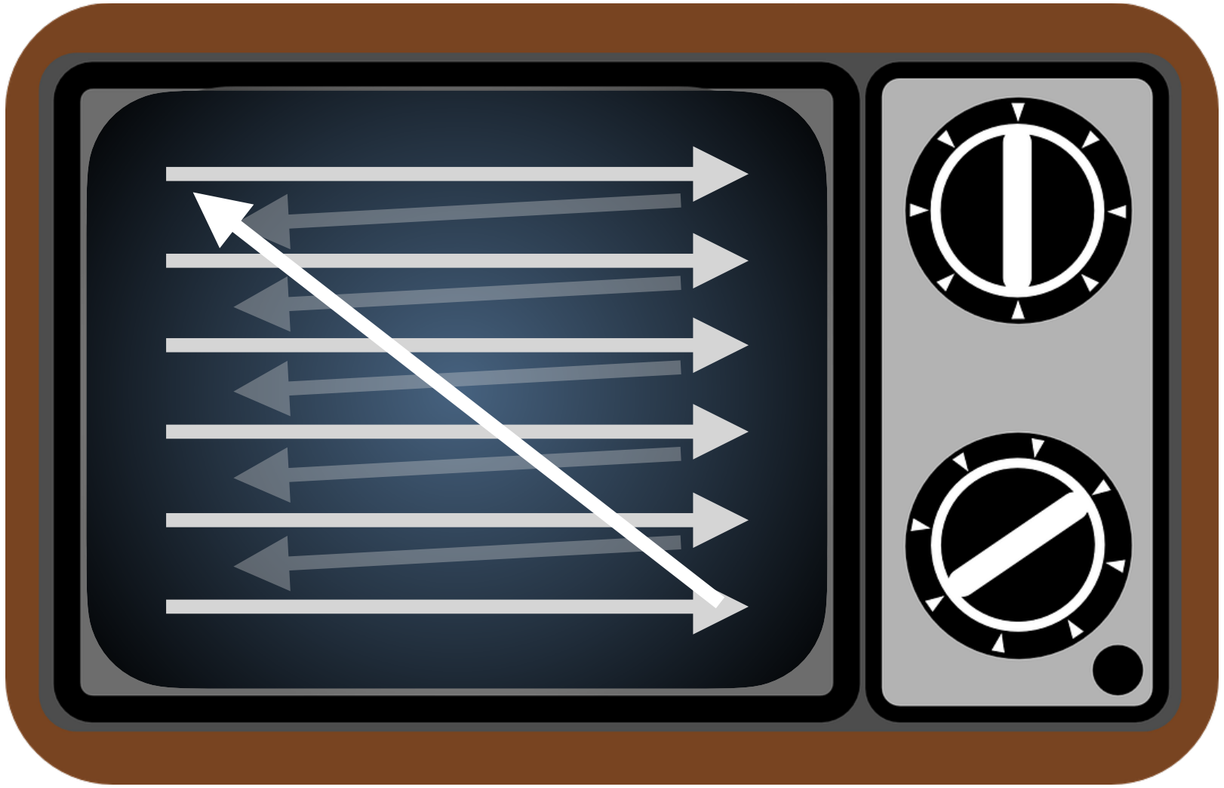


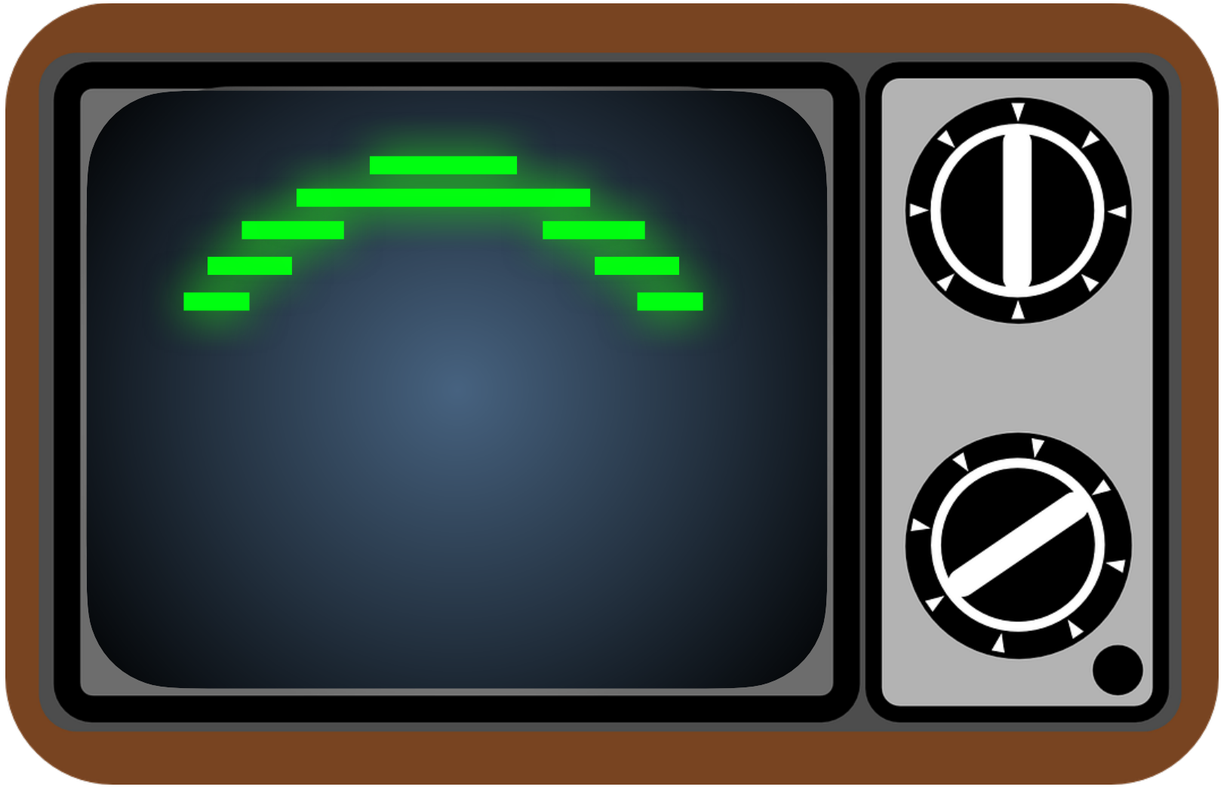


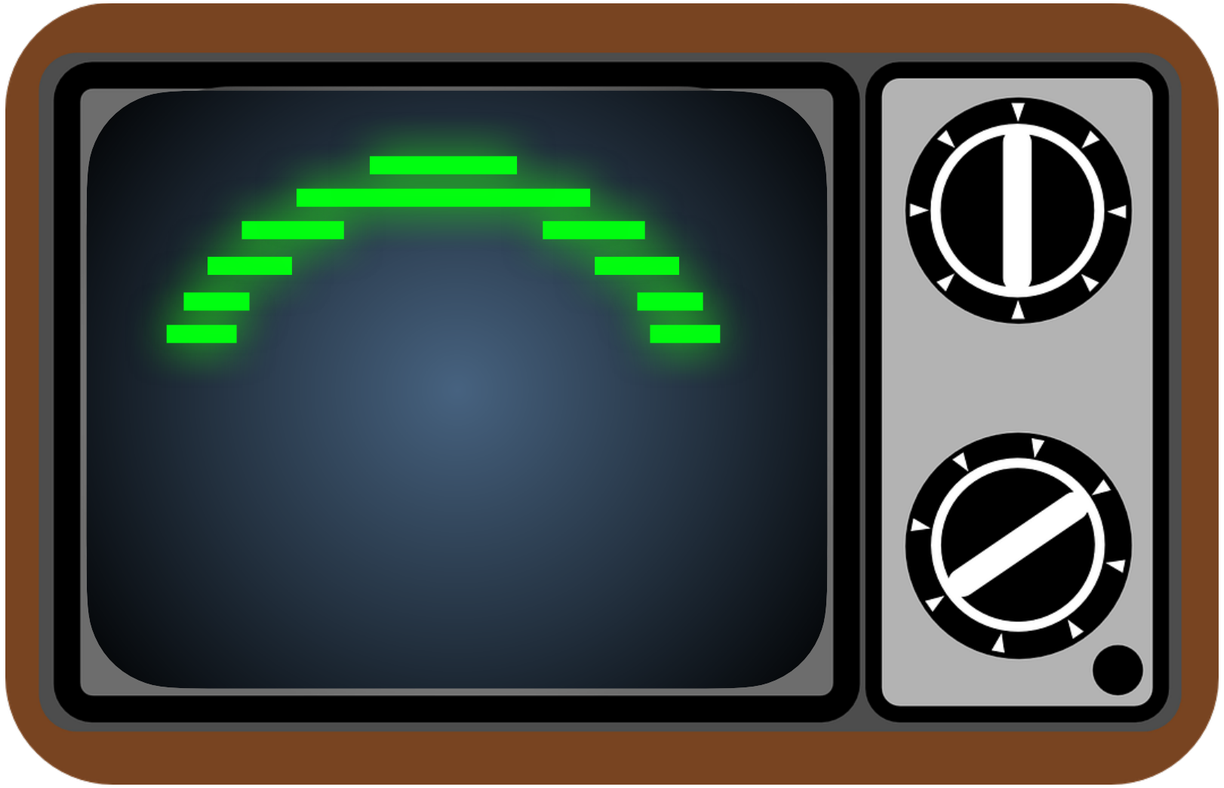


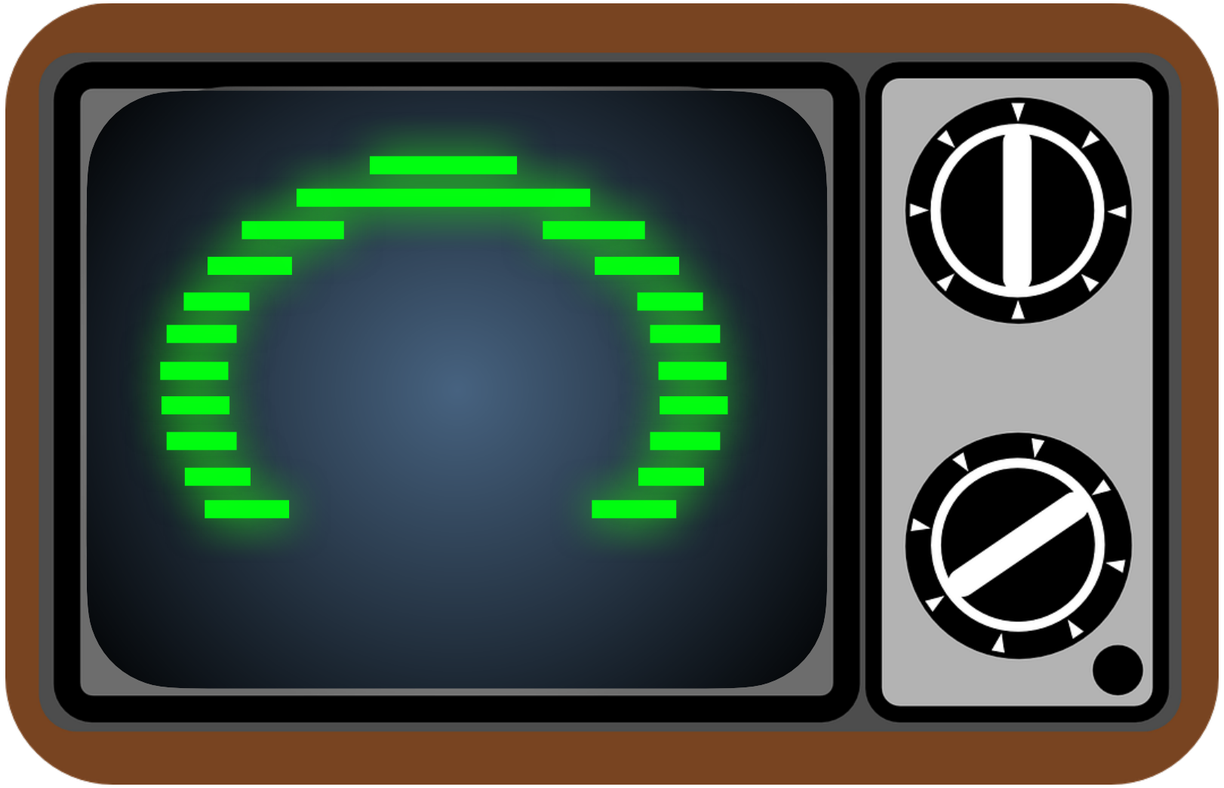


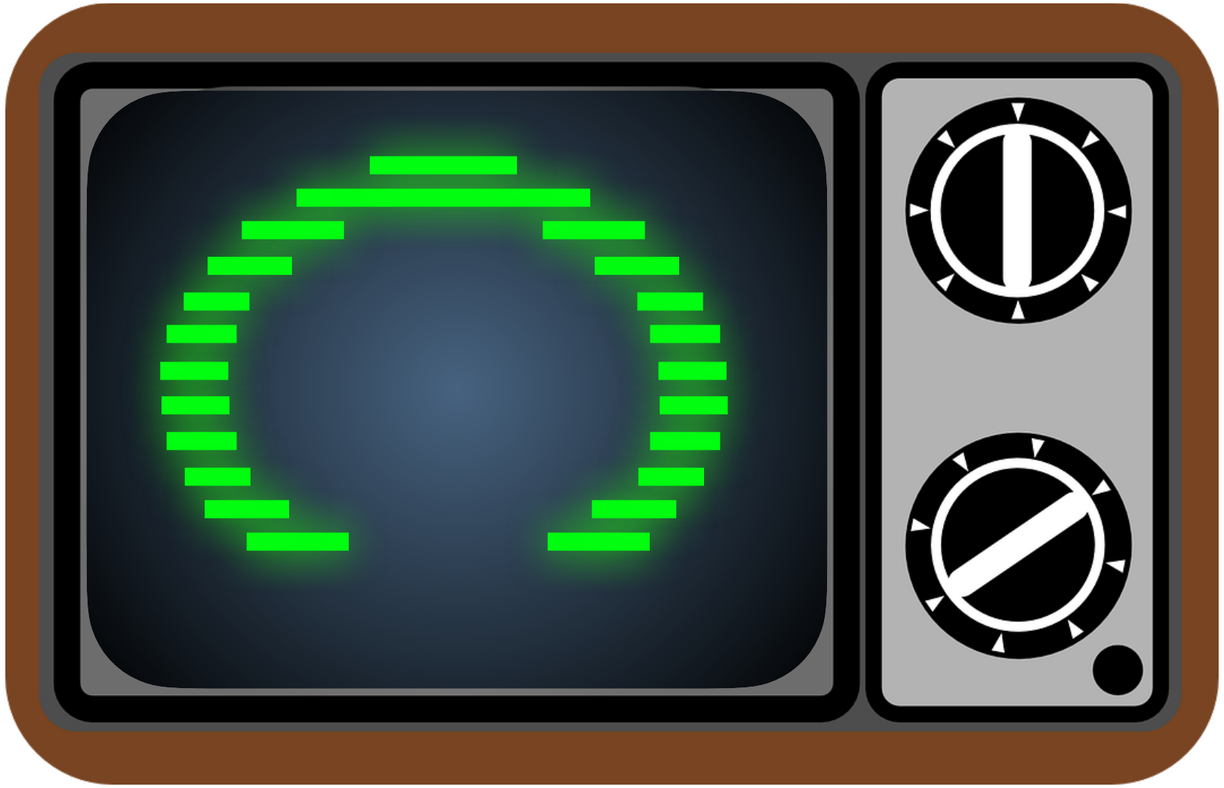


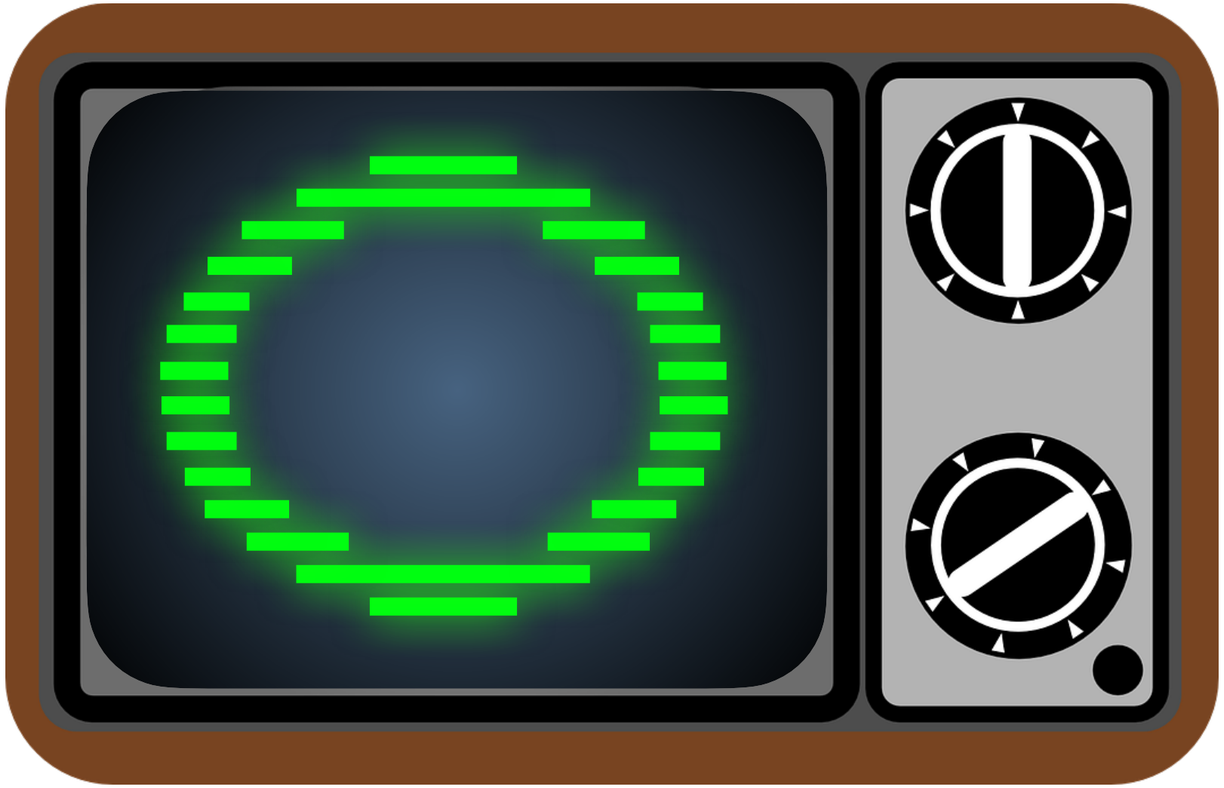


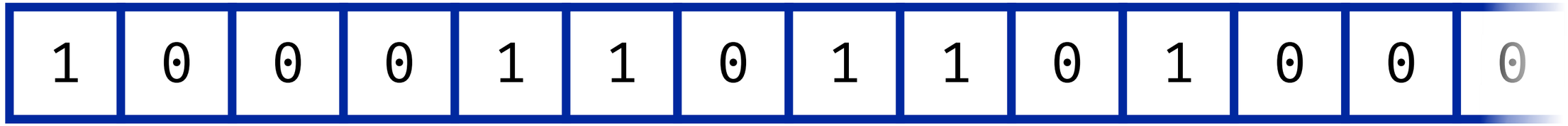


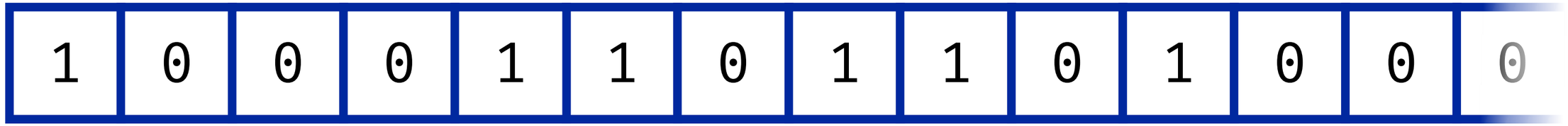


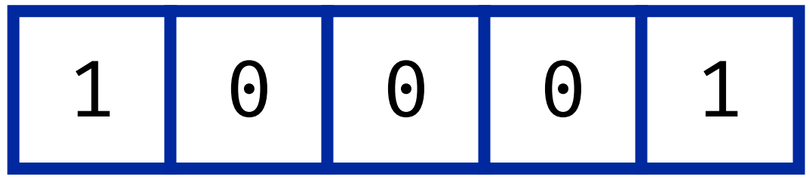








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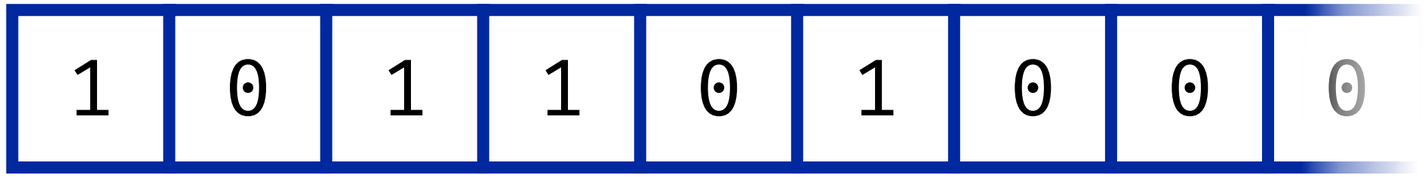
1 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0

1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	1	0

1	0	0	0

1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	1

1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	0	1

1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	1	0
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1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	0

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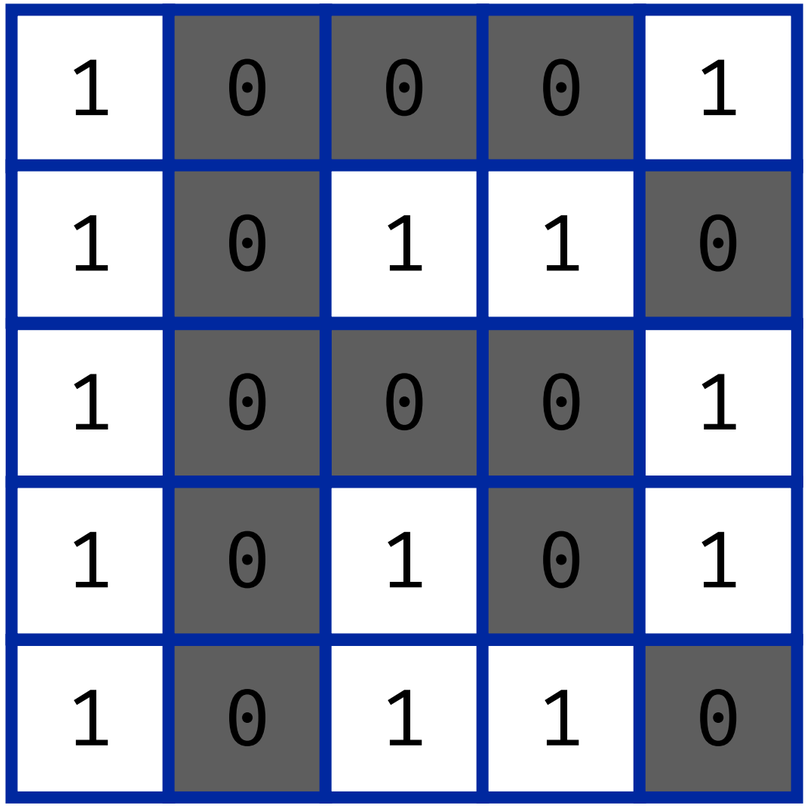
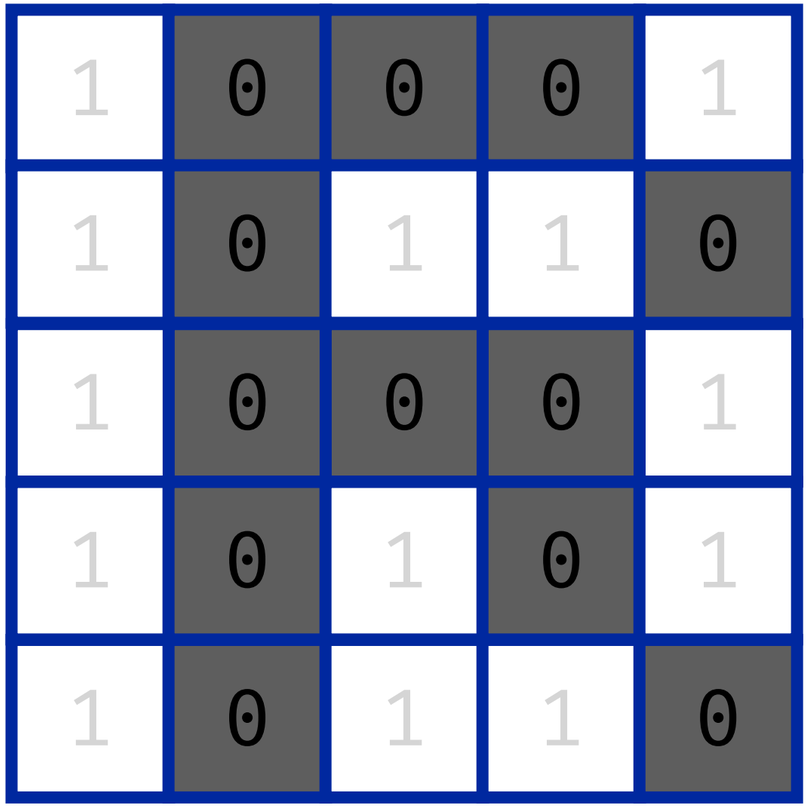
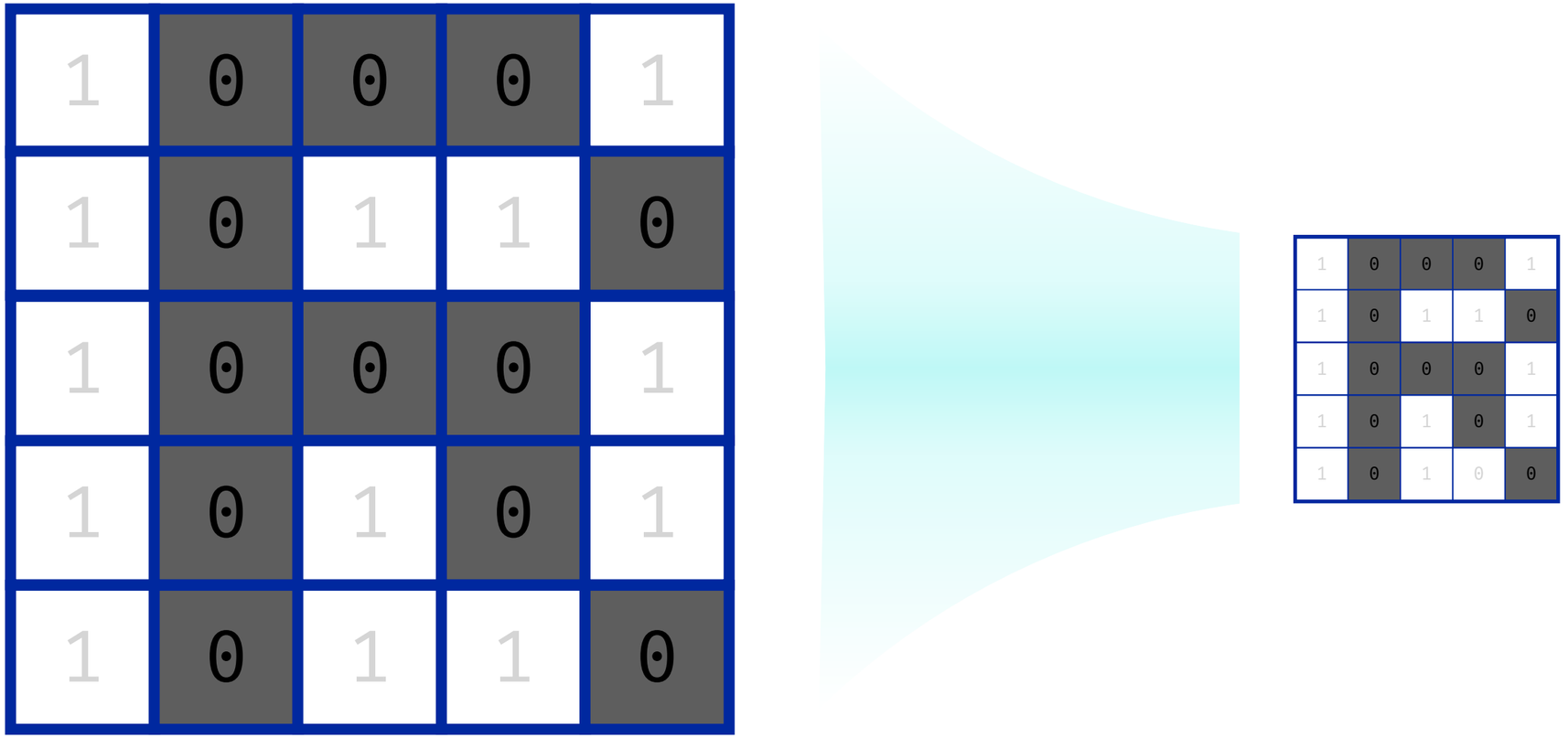
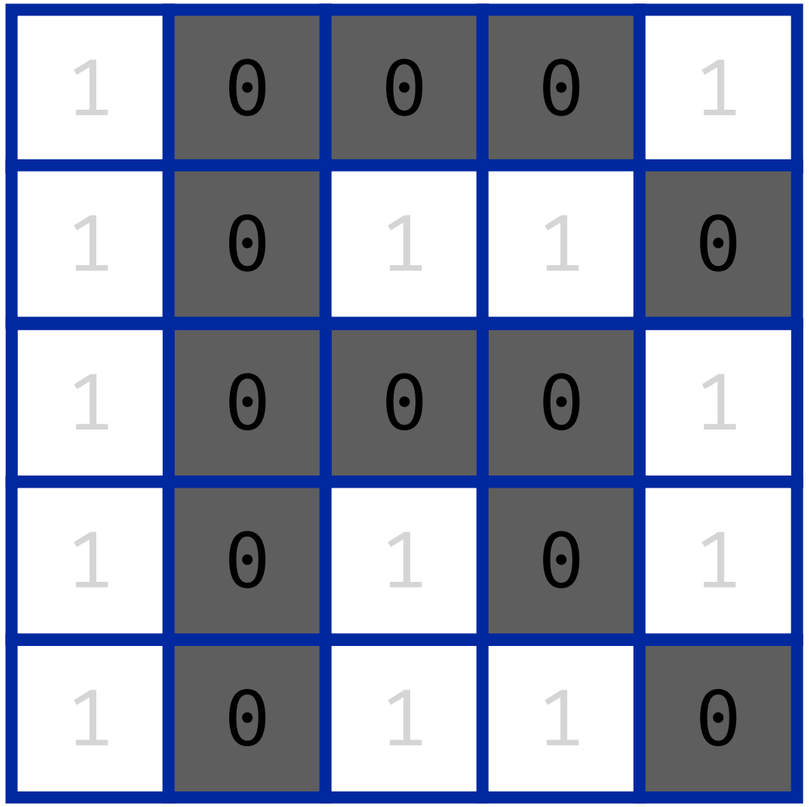
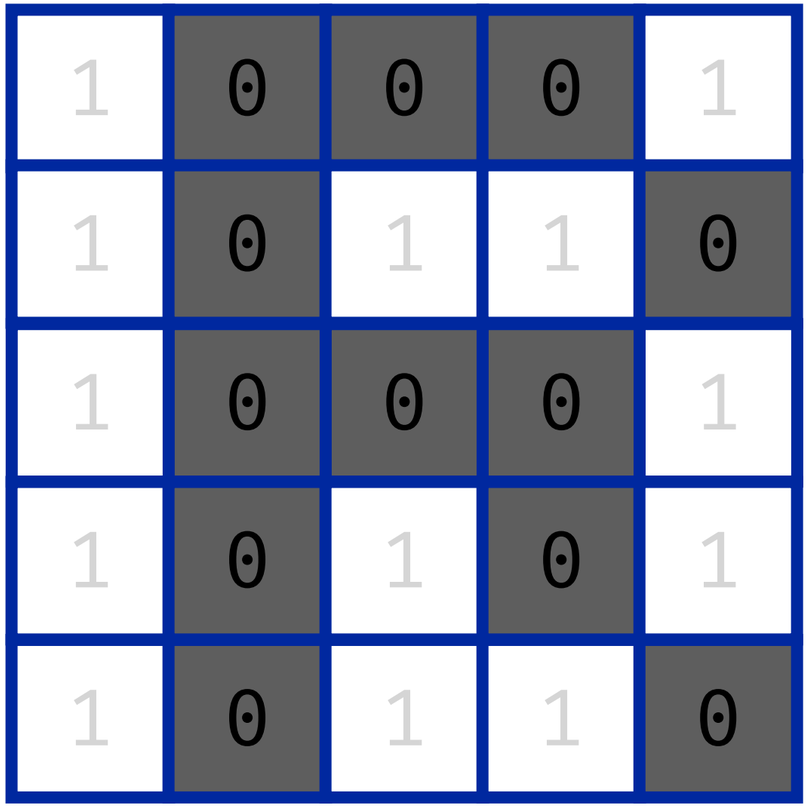


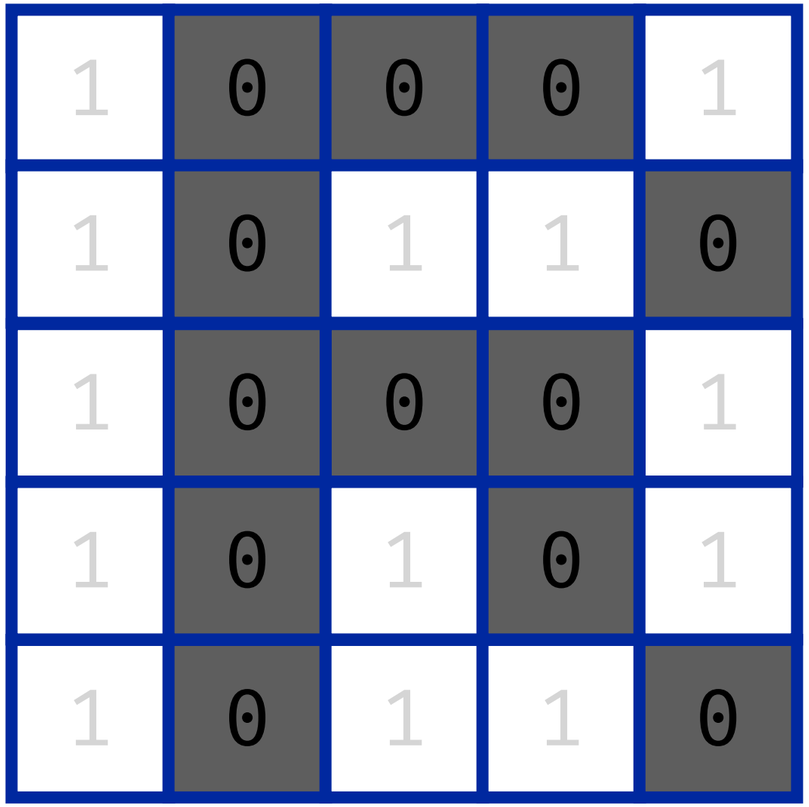




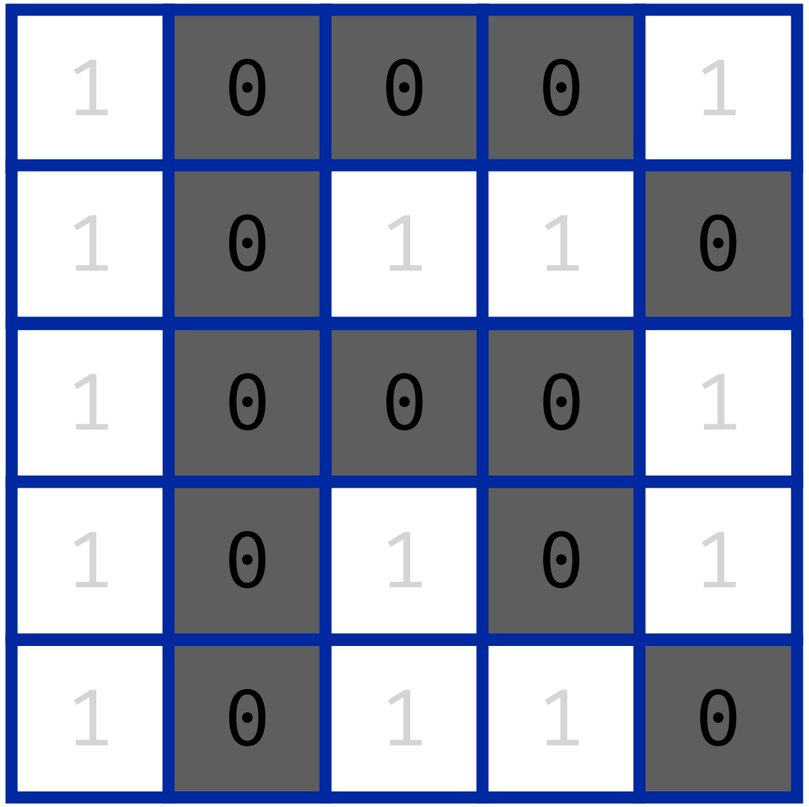




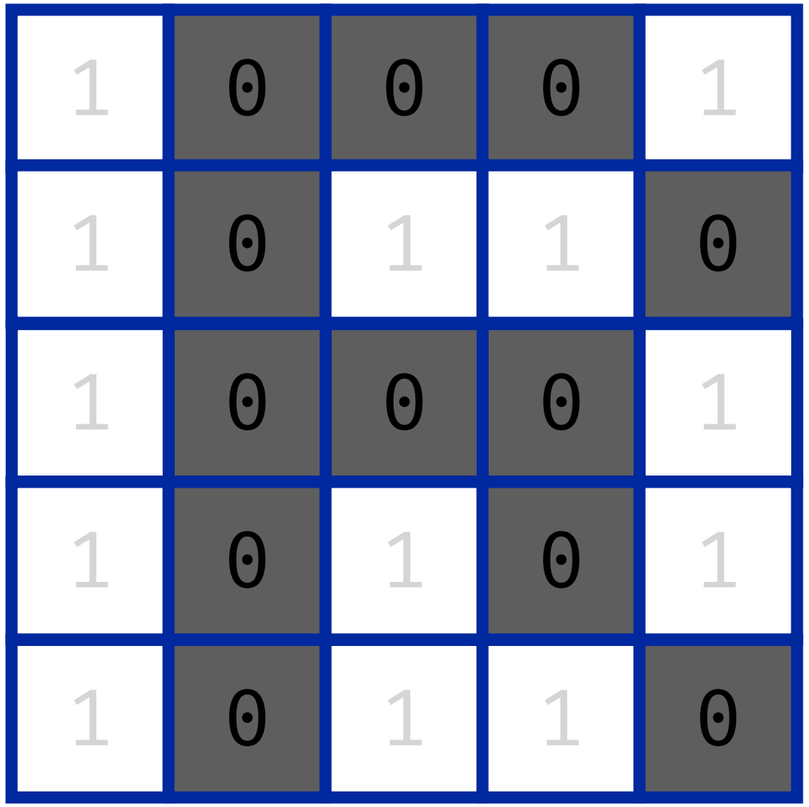
P2



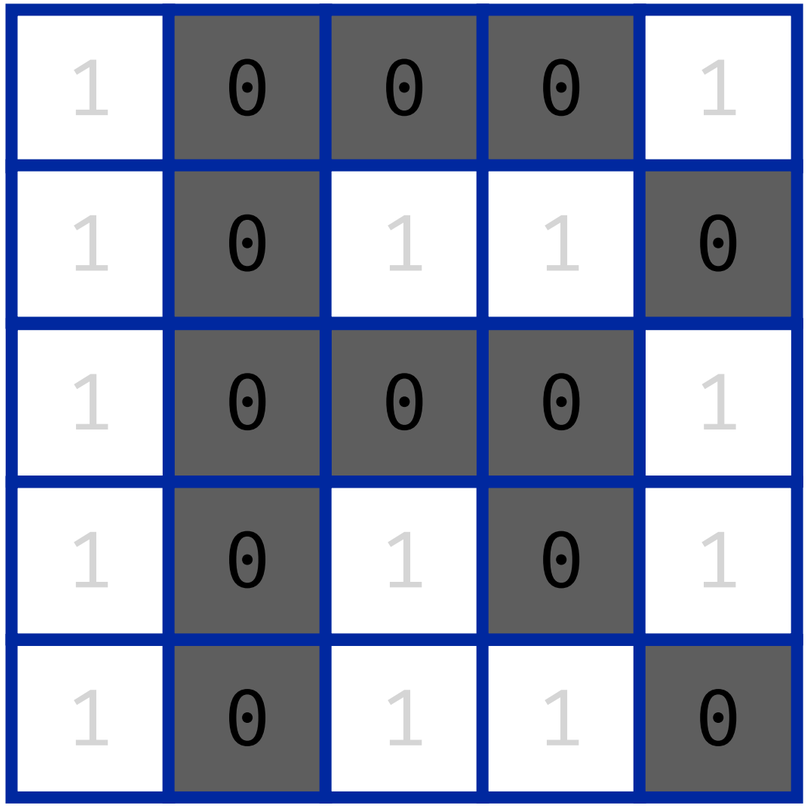

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
```



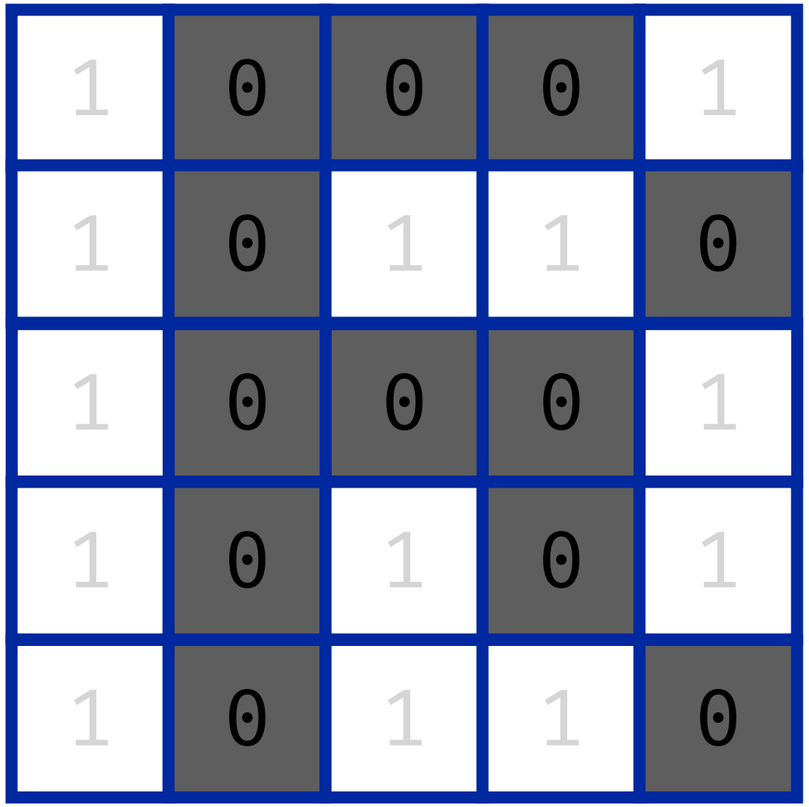

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
1 # Max pixel value
```



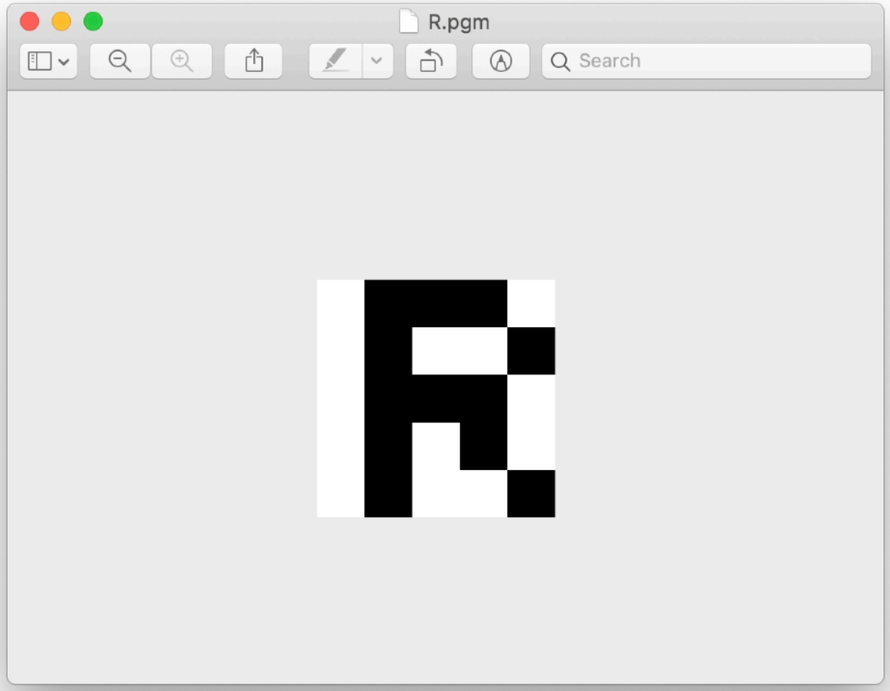

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
1 # Max pixel value

# Draw the picture:
```



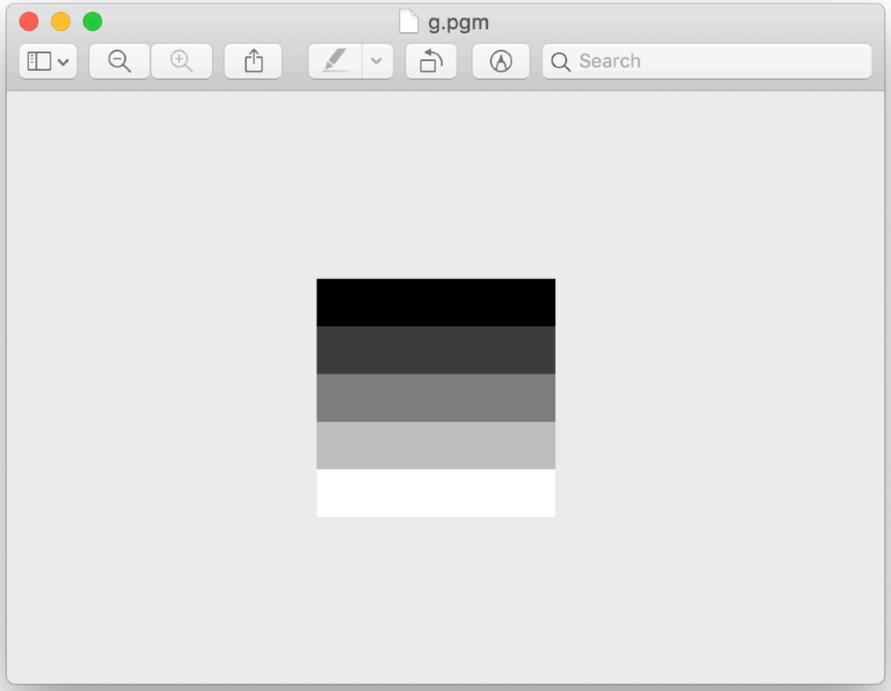

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
1 # Max pixel value

# Draw the picture:
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 1 0
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 0 1
1 0 1 1 0
```



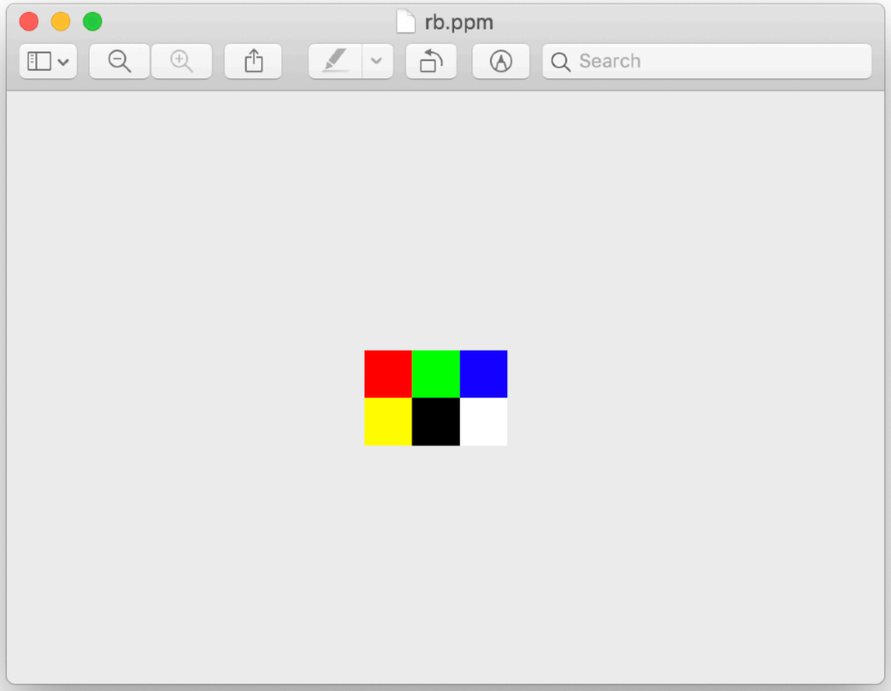

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
1 # Max pixel value

# Draw the picture:
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 1 0
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 0 1
1 0 1 1 0

# ... and save as 'R.pgm'
```



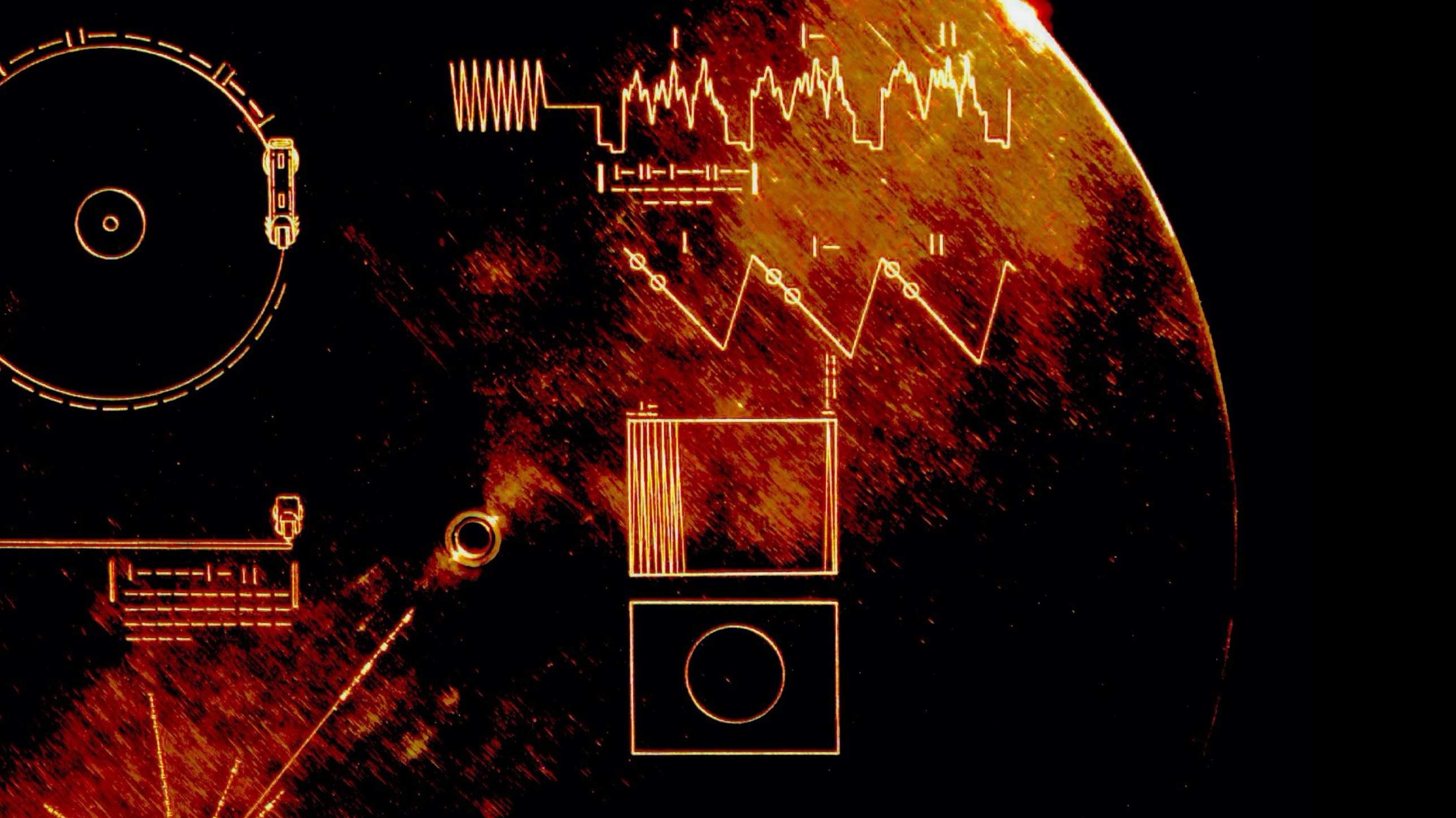

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
1 # Max pixel value

# Draw the picture:
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 1 0
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 1 0 1
1 0 1 1 0

# ... and save as 'R.pgm'
```

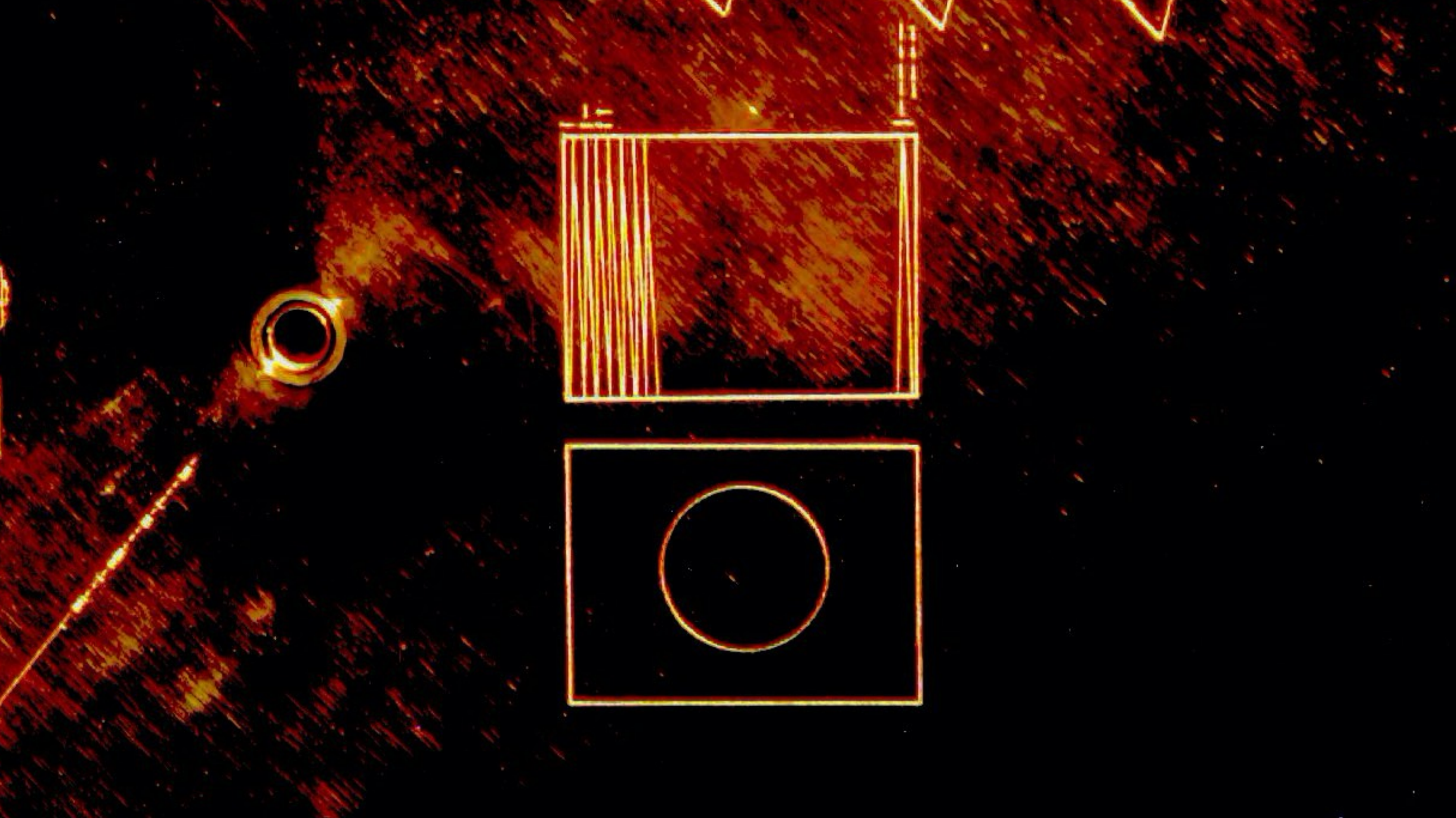


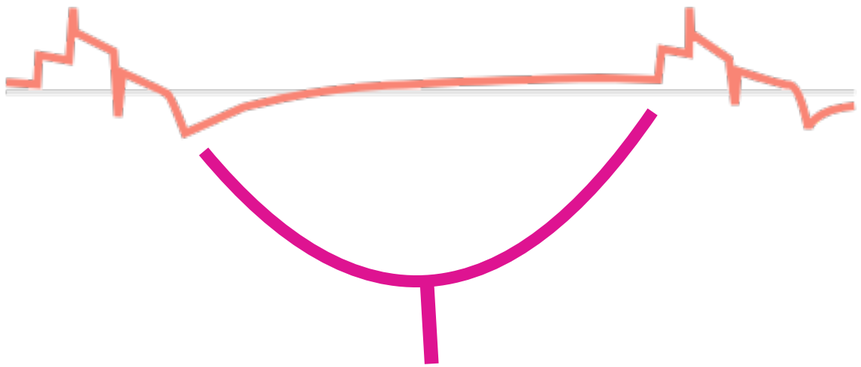

```
P2
5 5 # 5x5 grid
4 # Max pixel value

# Draw the picture:
0 0 0 0 0
1 1 1 1 1
2 2 2 2 2
3 3 3 3 3
4 4 4 4 4

# ... and save as 'g.pgm'
```



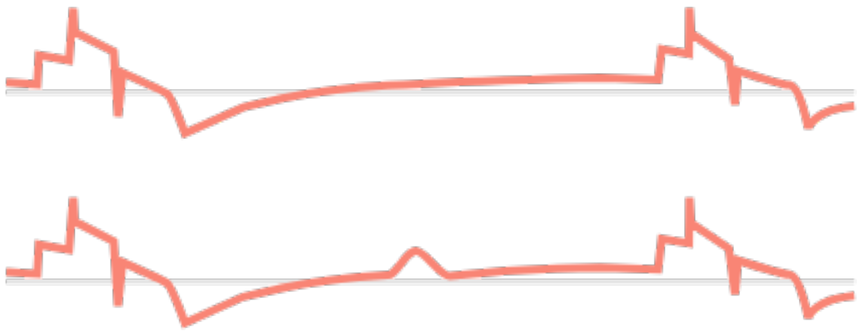

```
P3
3 2 # 3x2 grid
255 # Max pixel value for
    # each colour

# Draw the picture:
255   0   0  # red
  0 255   0  # green
  0   0 255  # blue
255 255   0  # yellow
  0   0   0  # black
255 255 255  # white
```

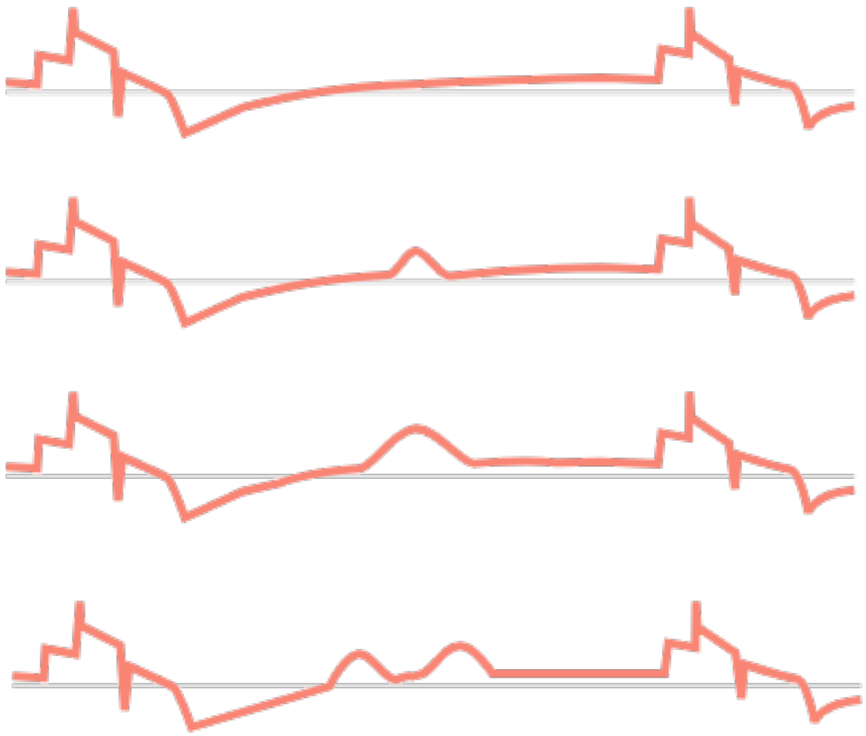


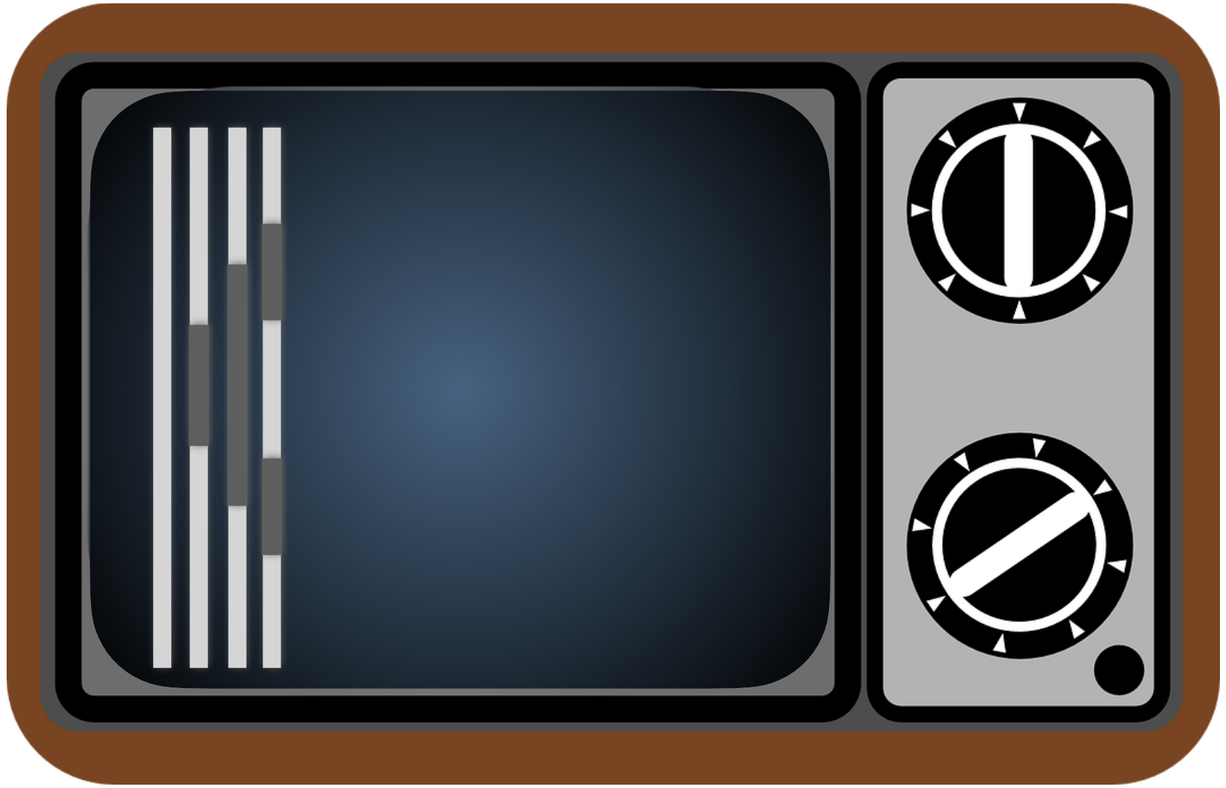


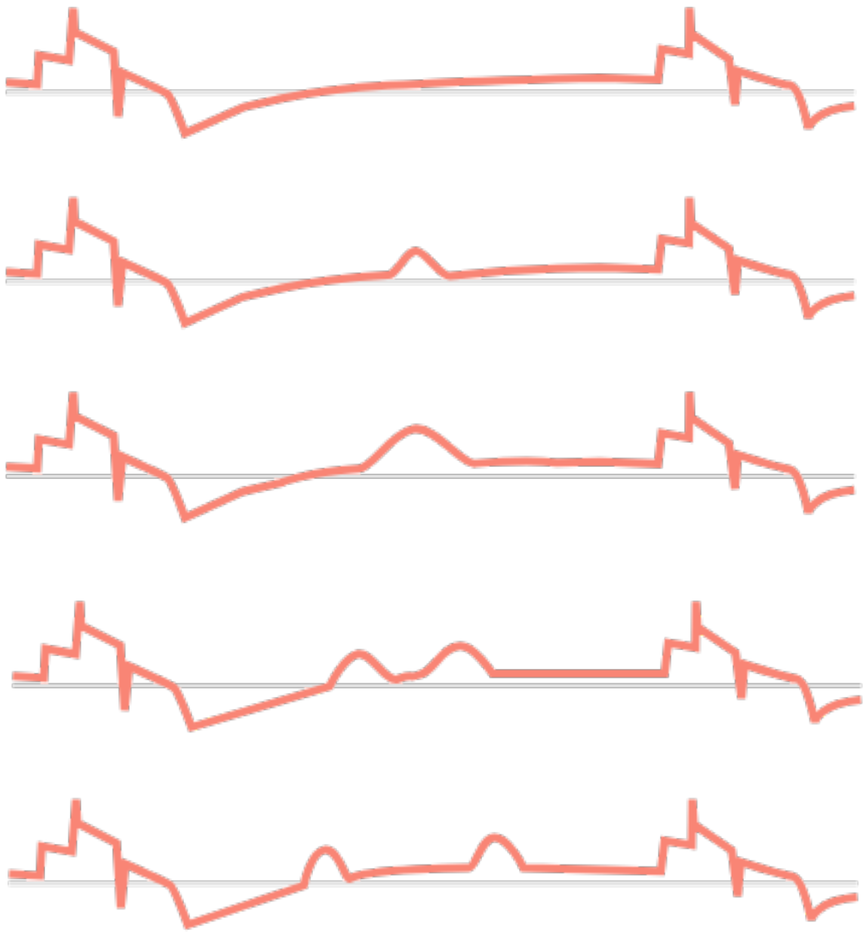


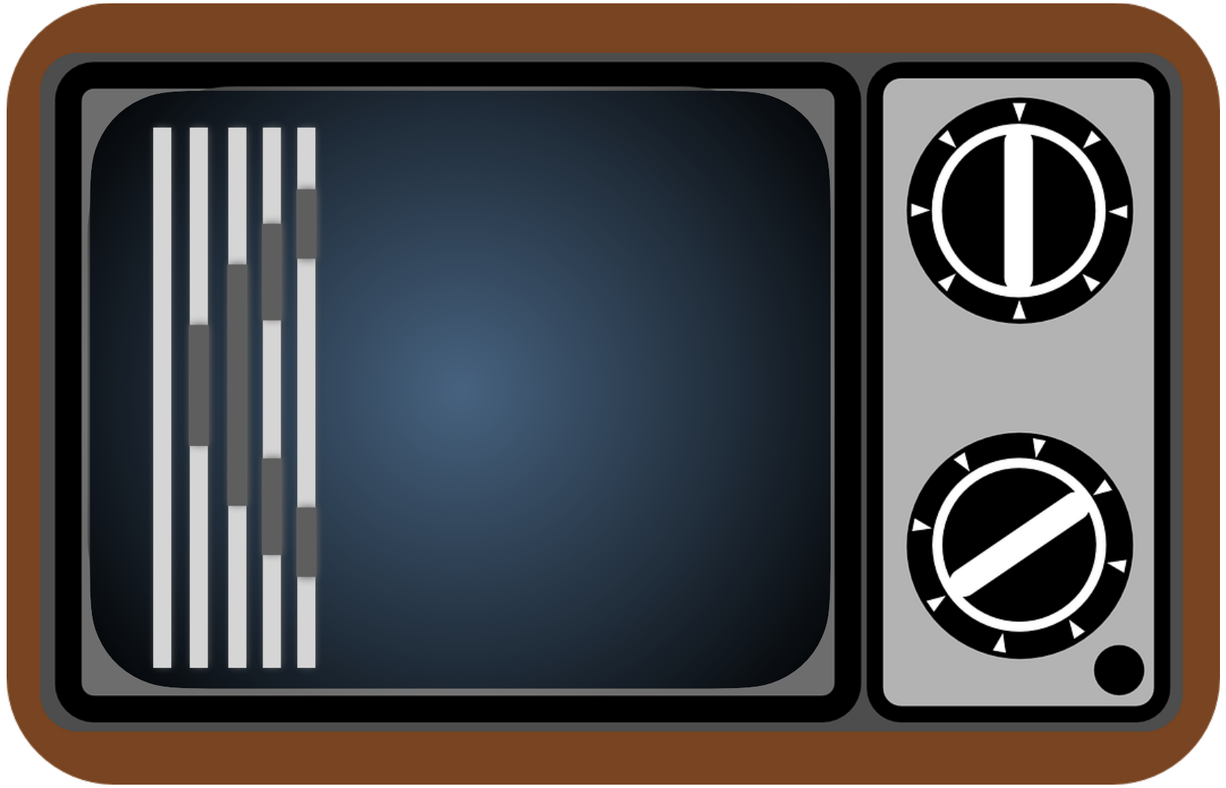
'Blank' line

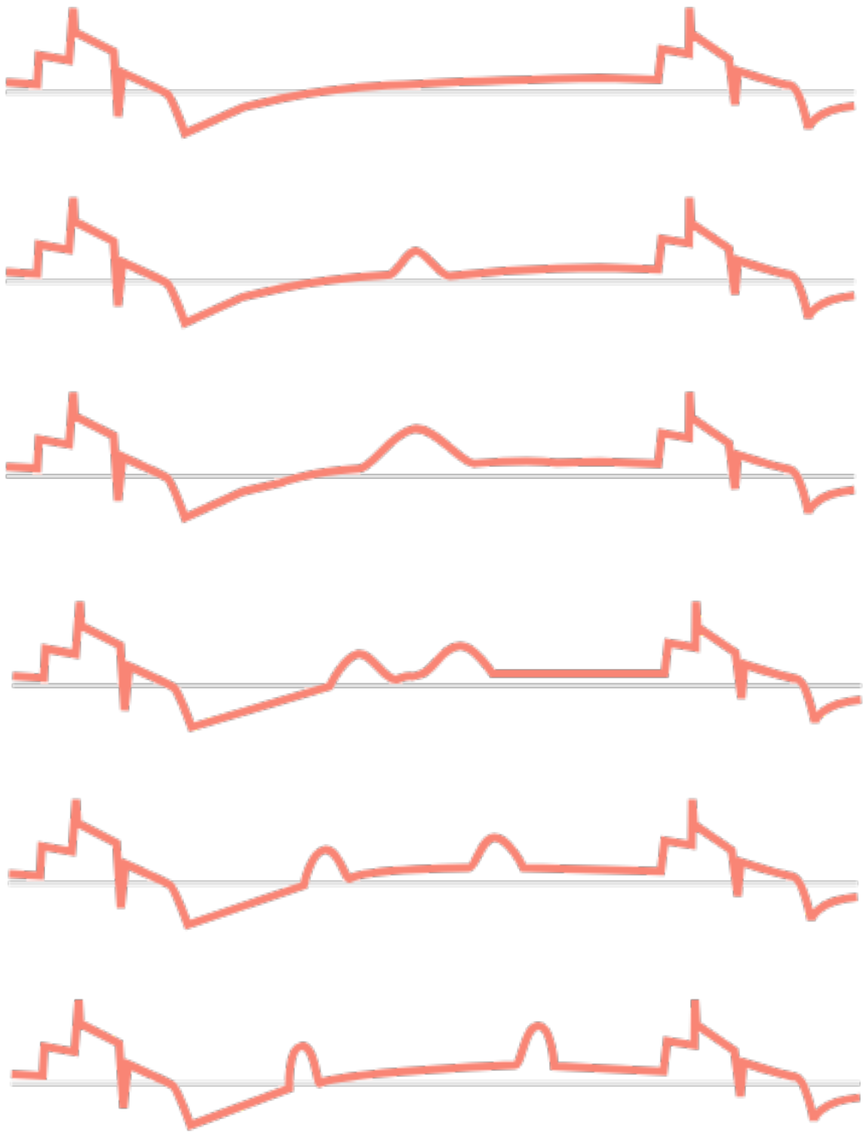


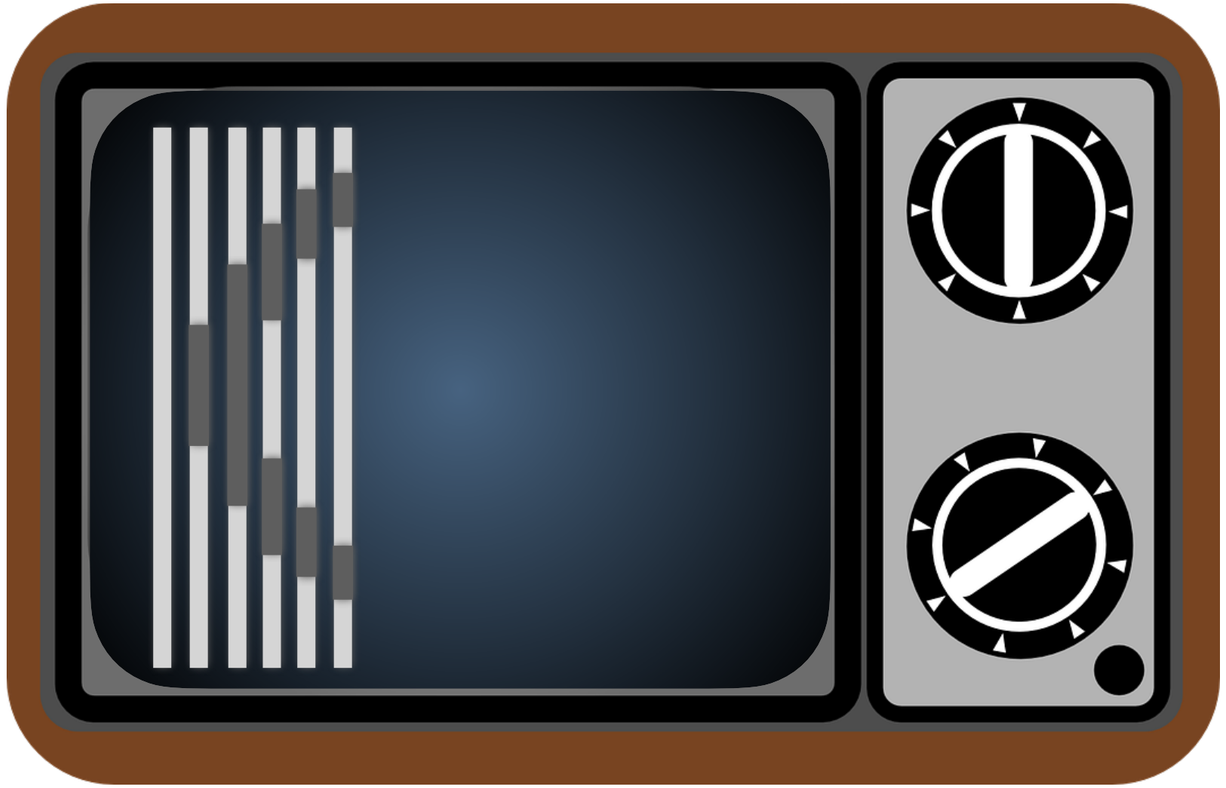


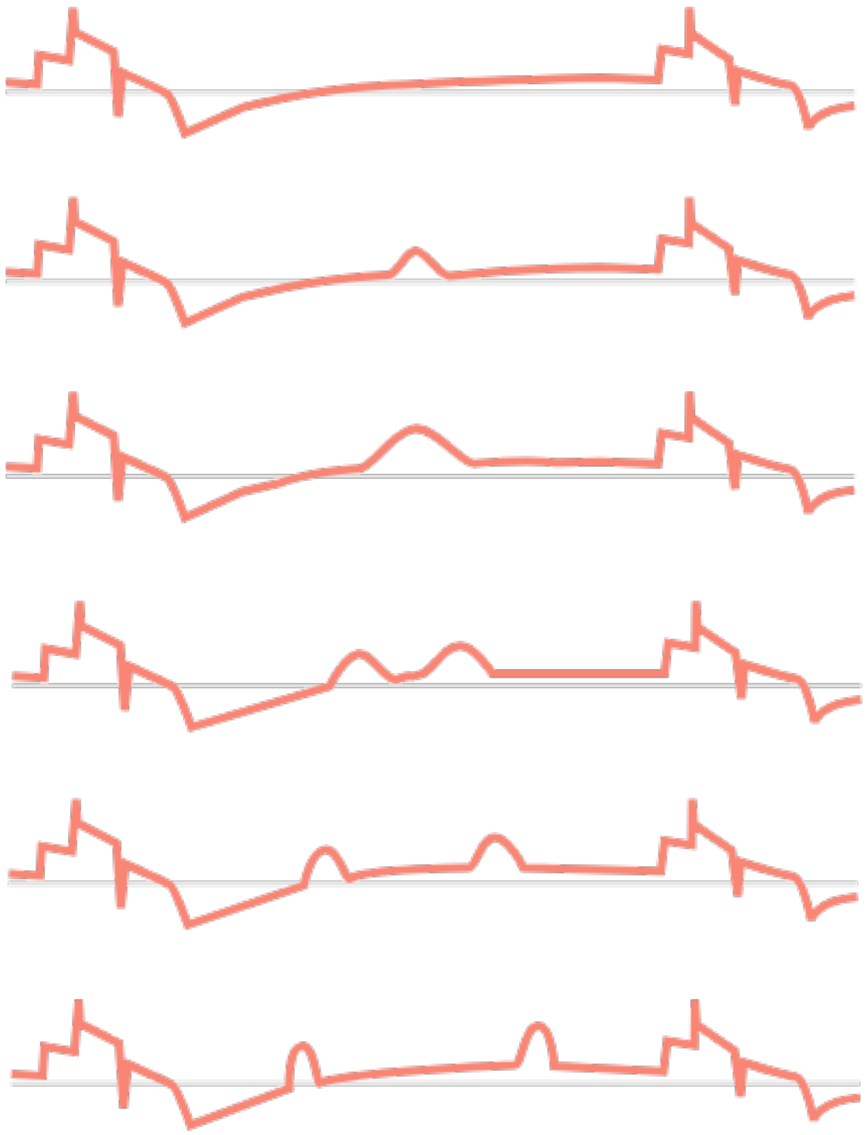


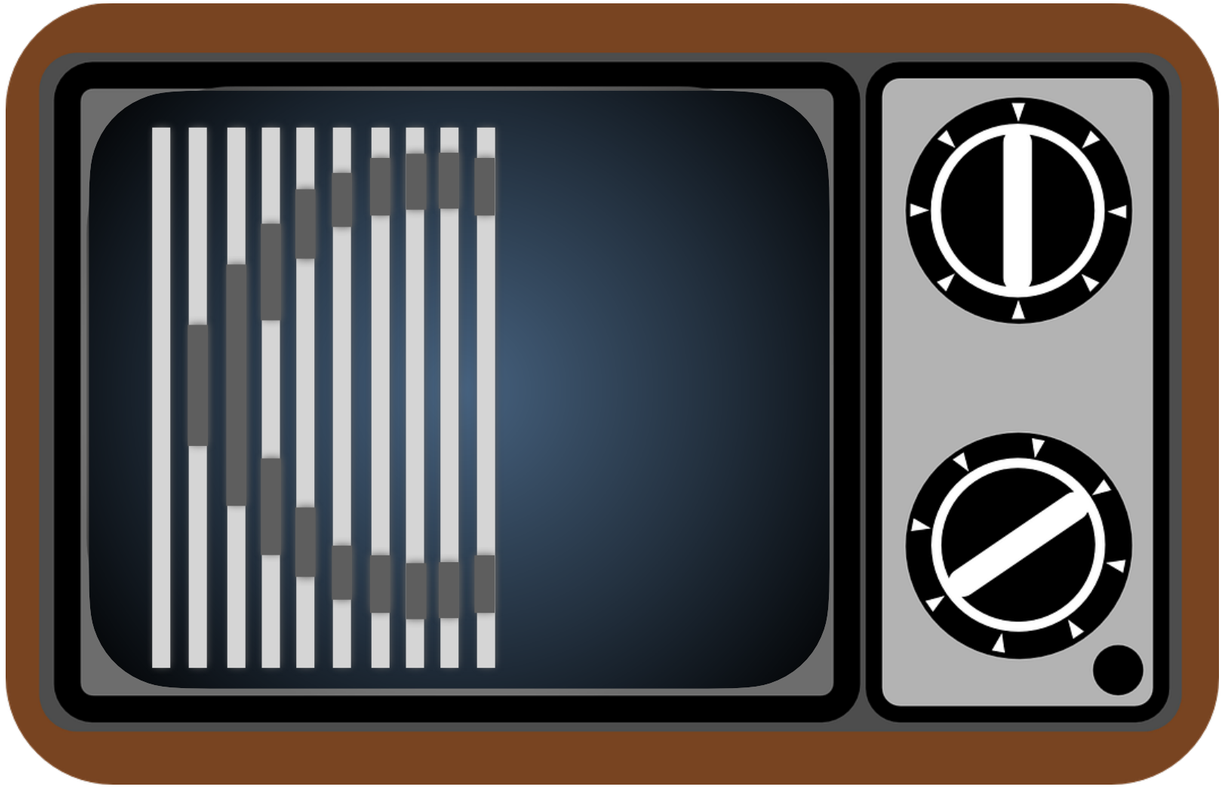












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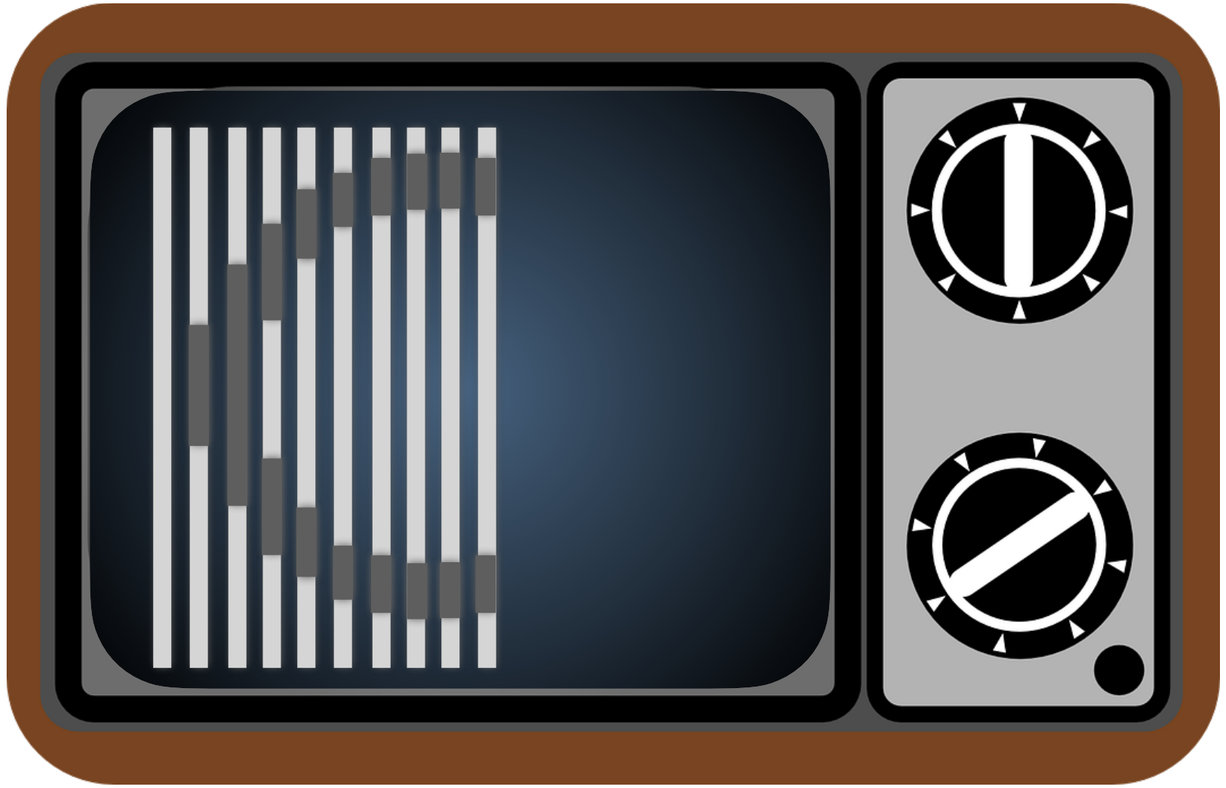
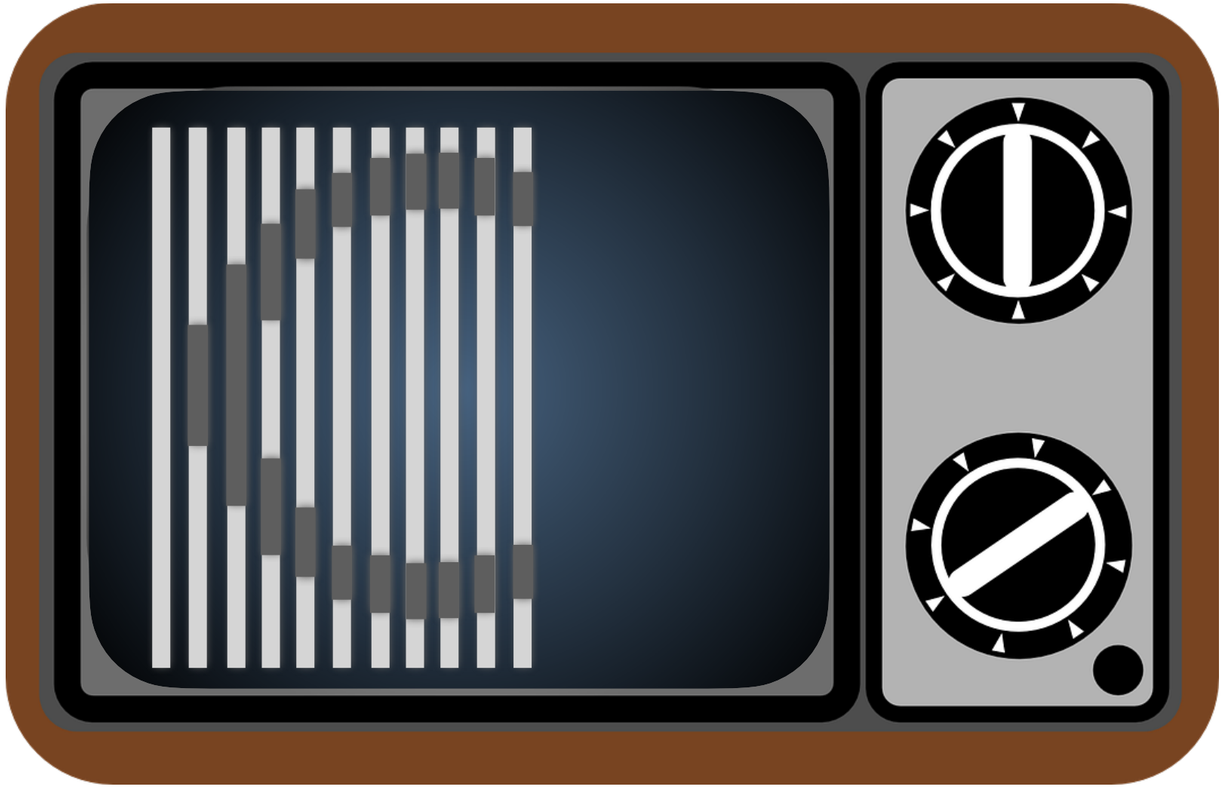
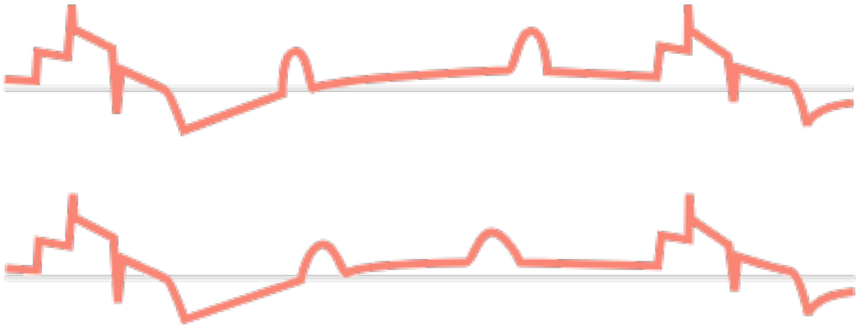
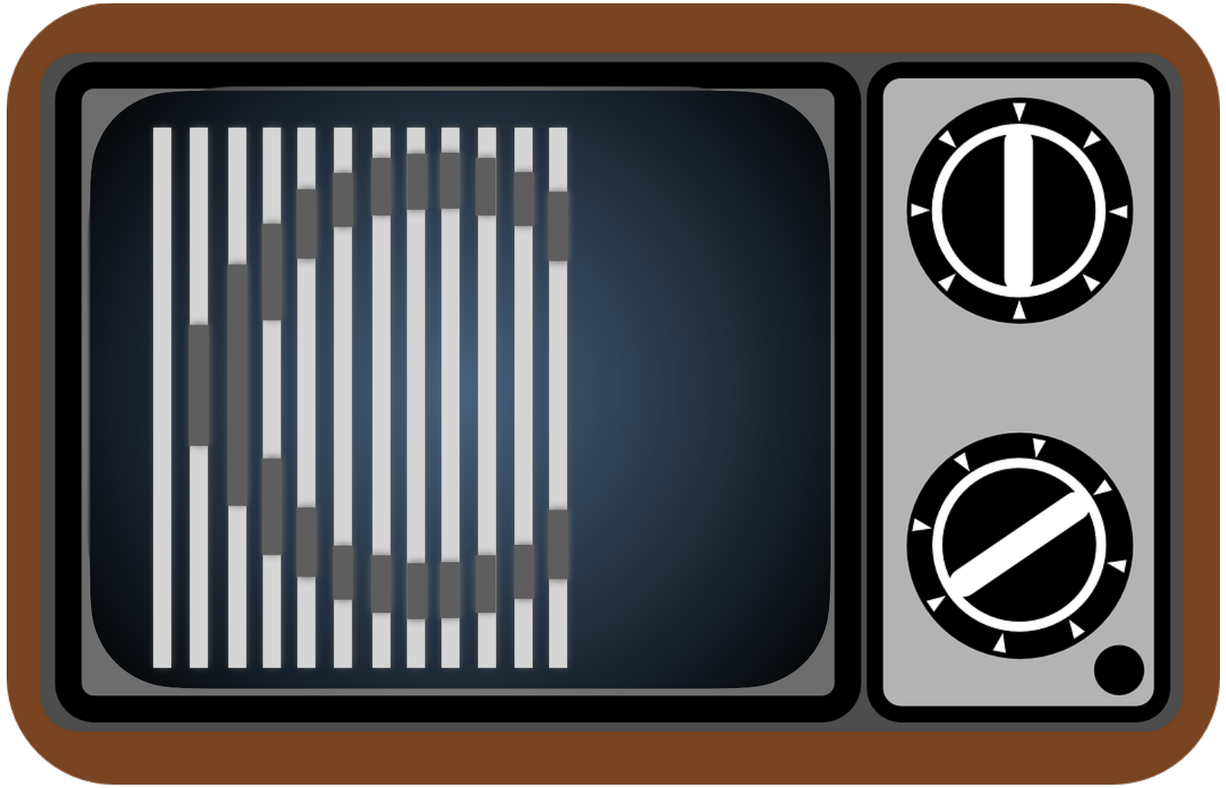
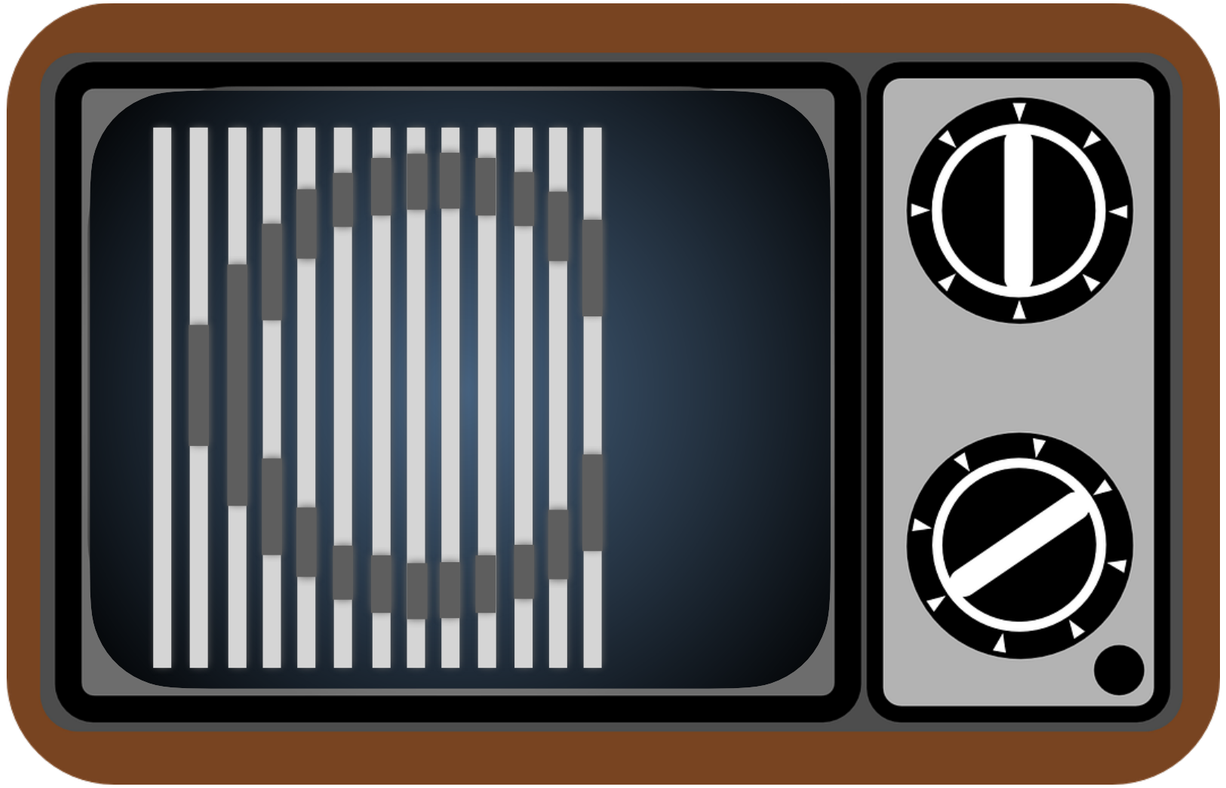
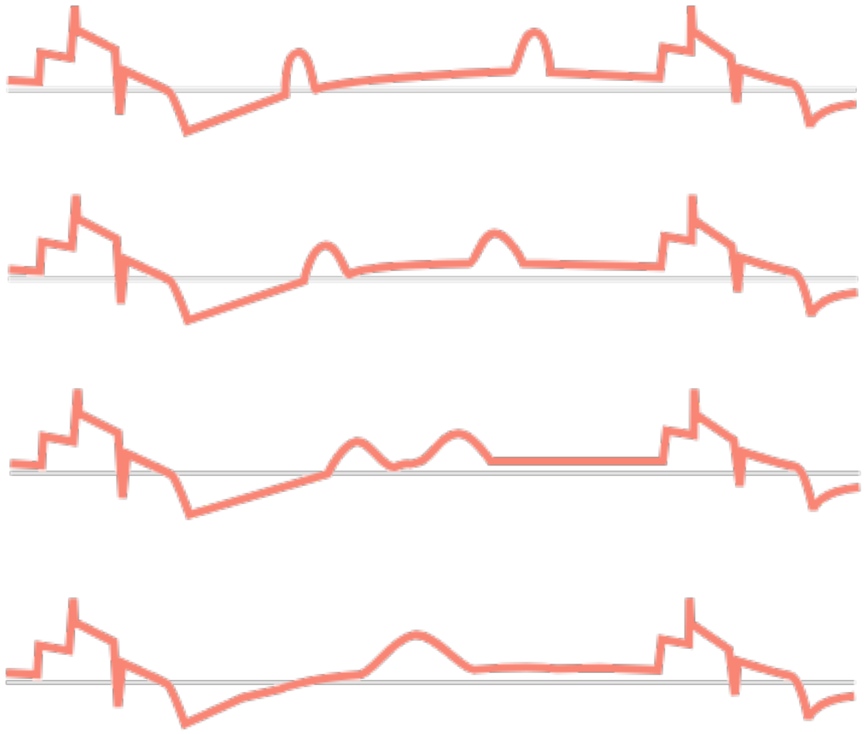


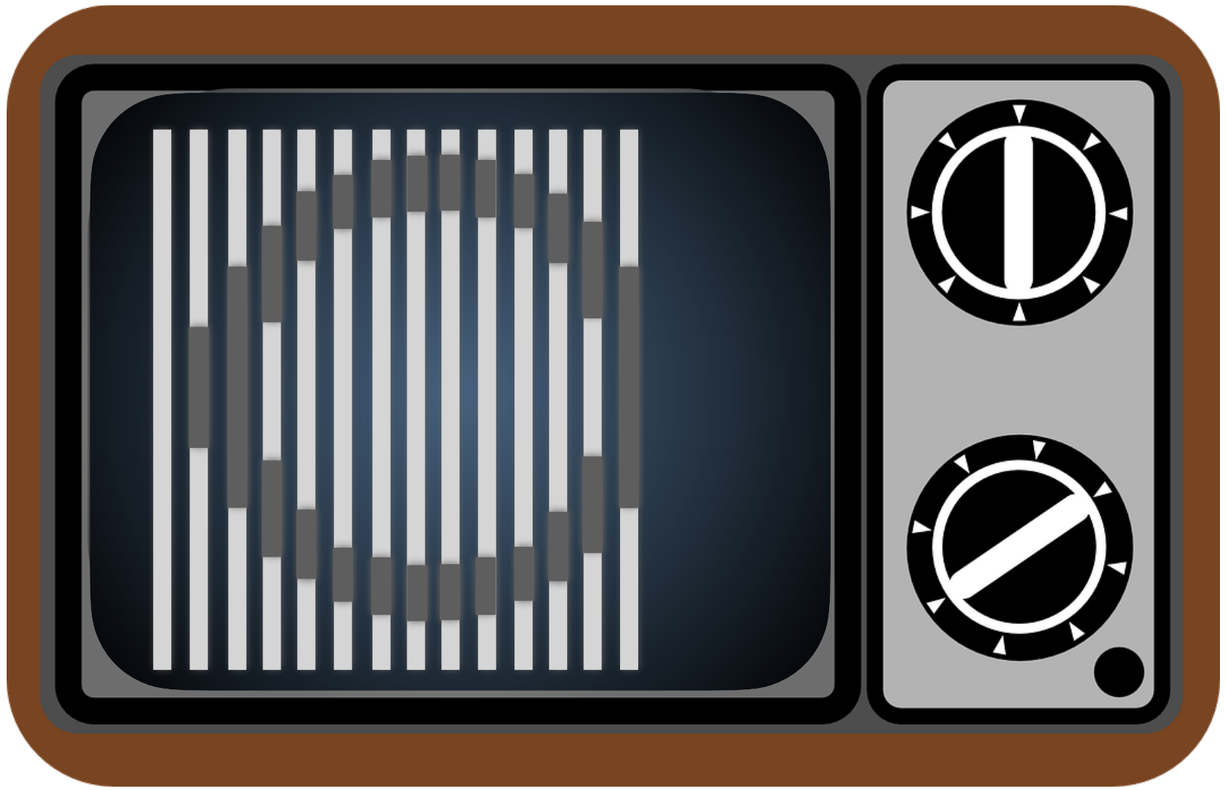


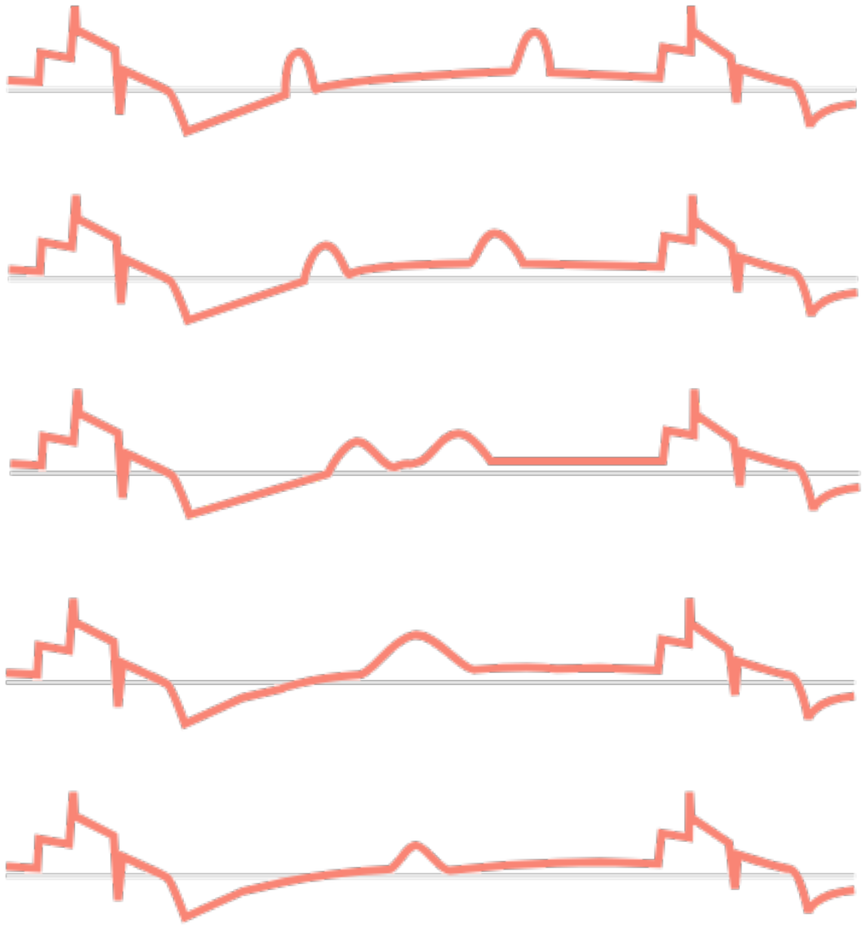


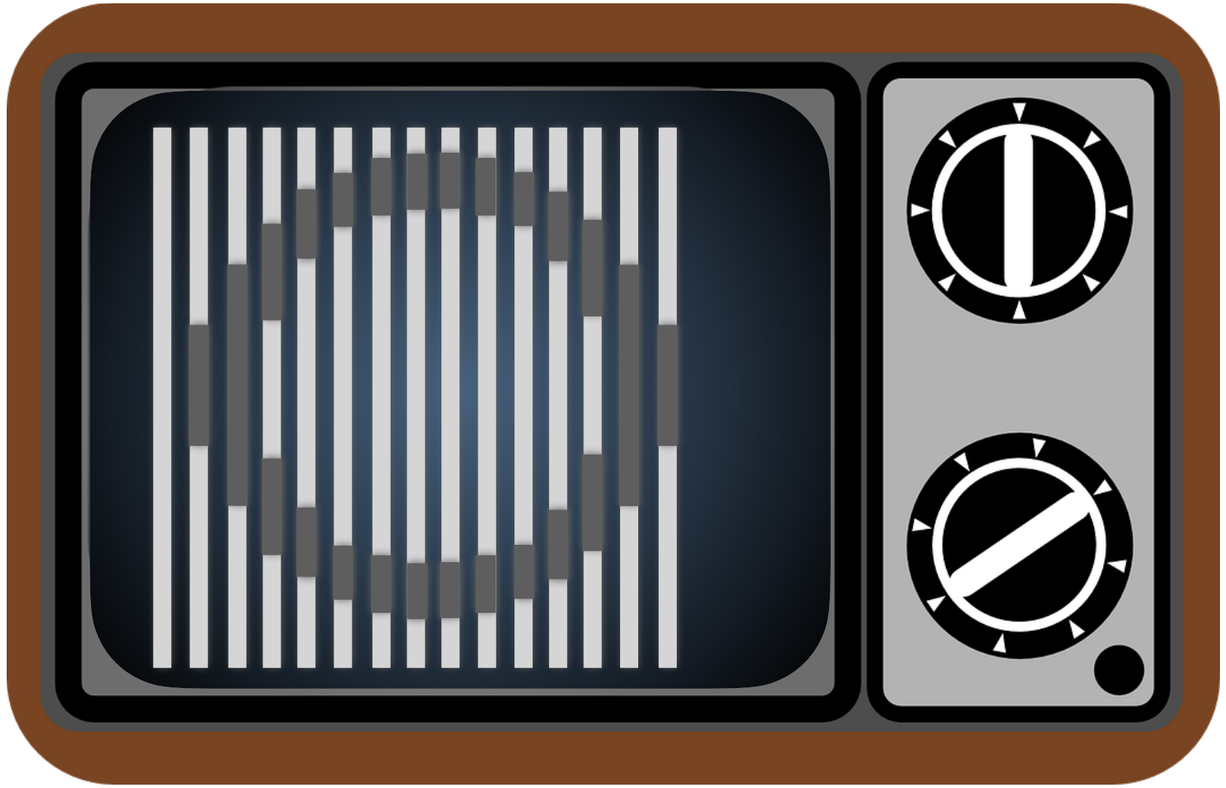


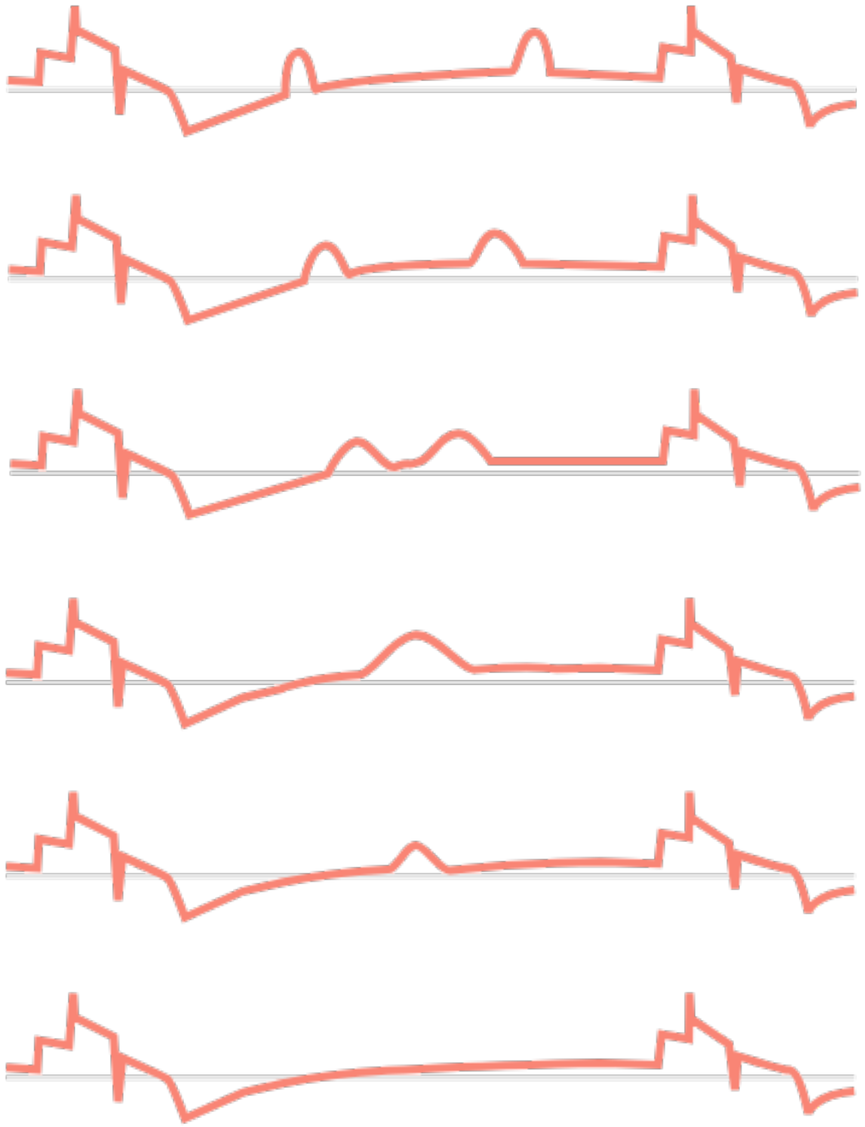


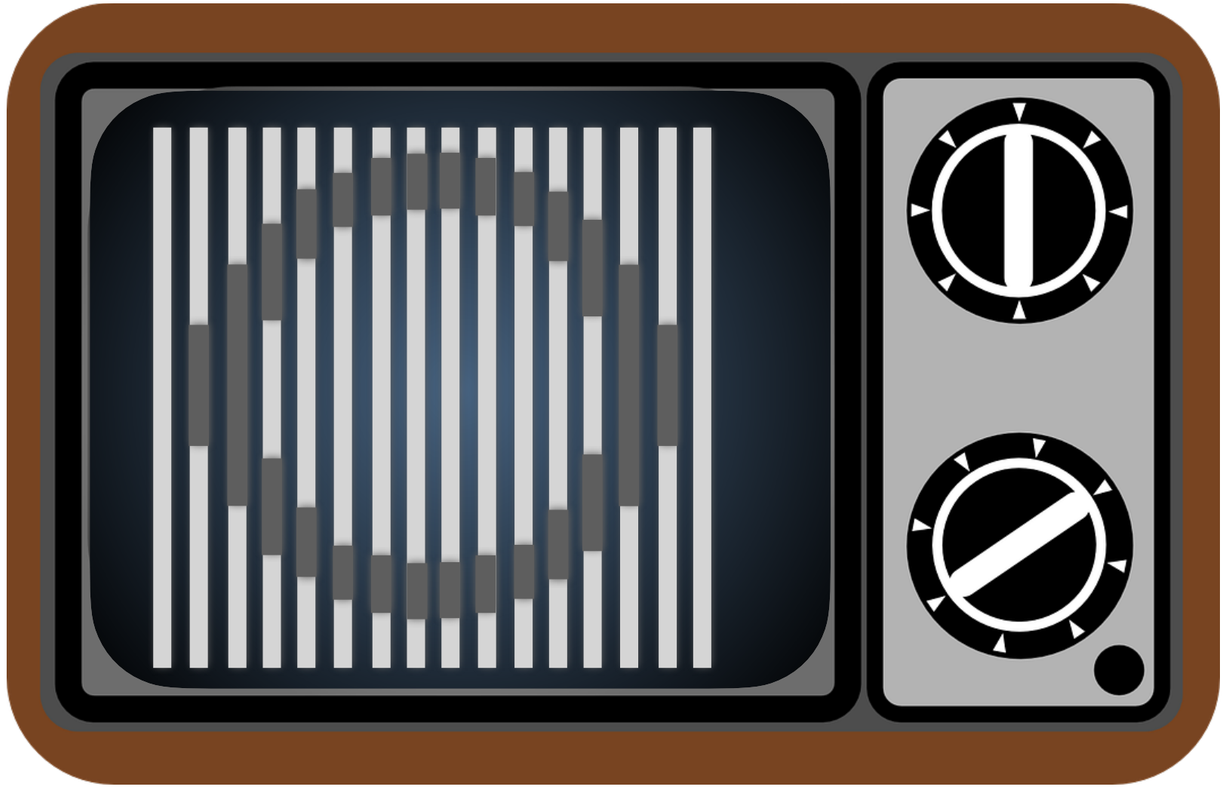


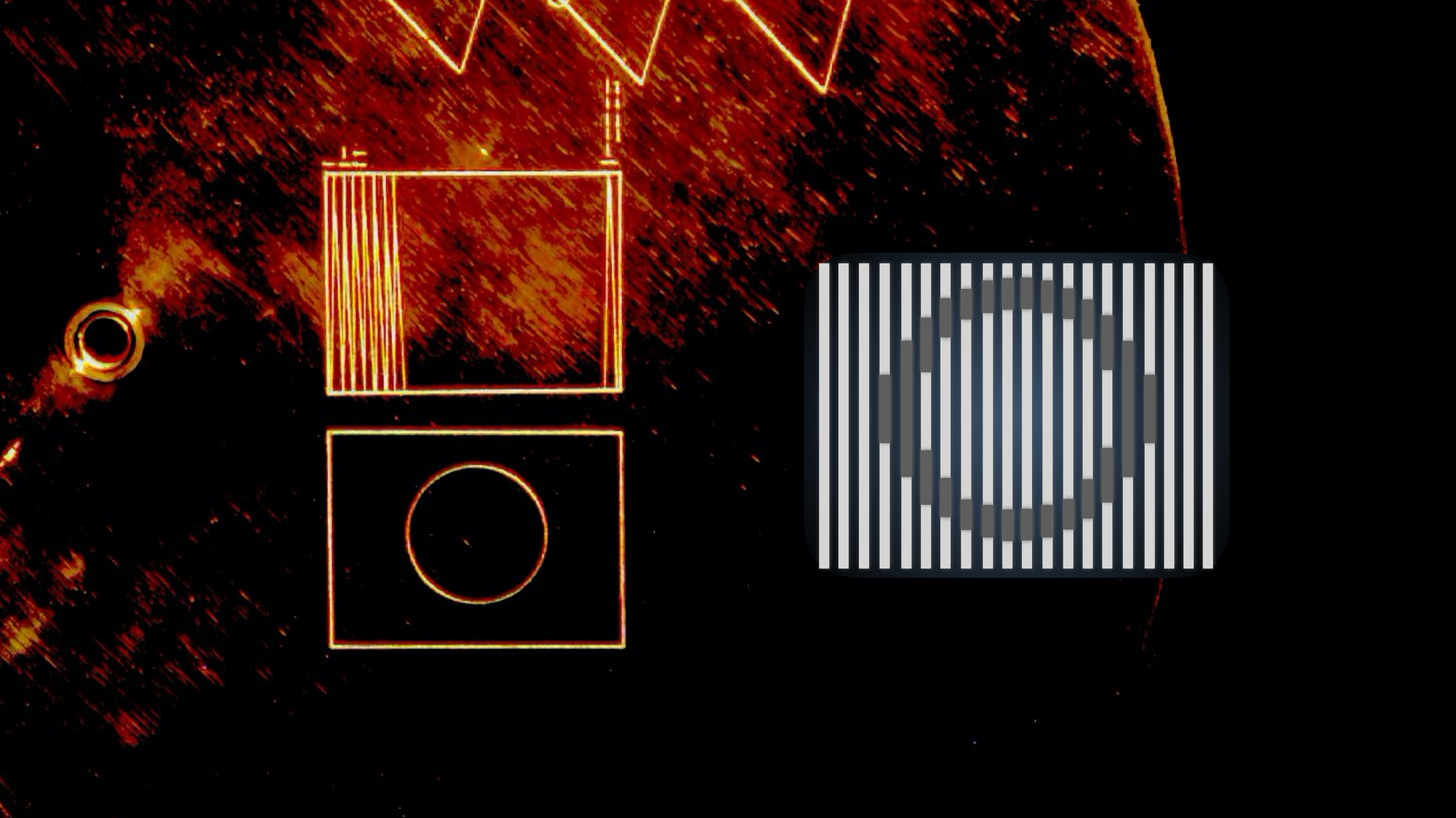






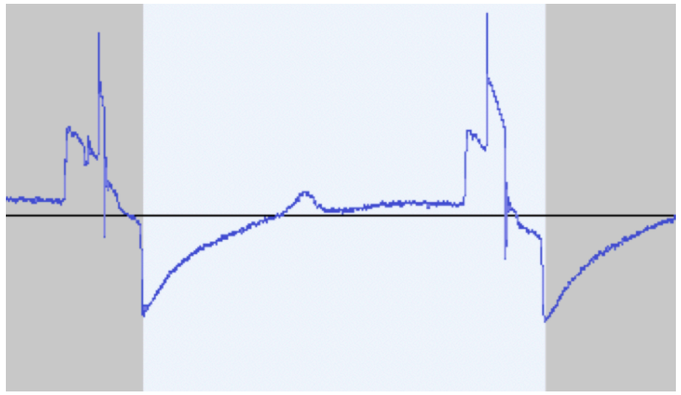




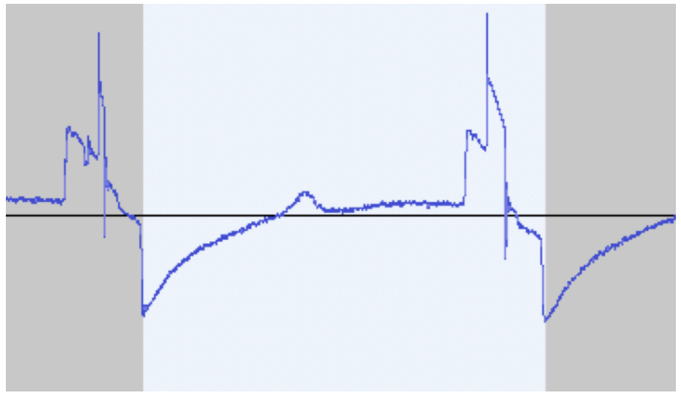


Read chunk of WAV as numbers

Read chunk of WAV as numbers

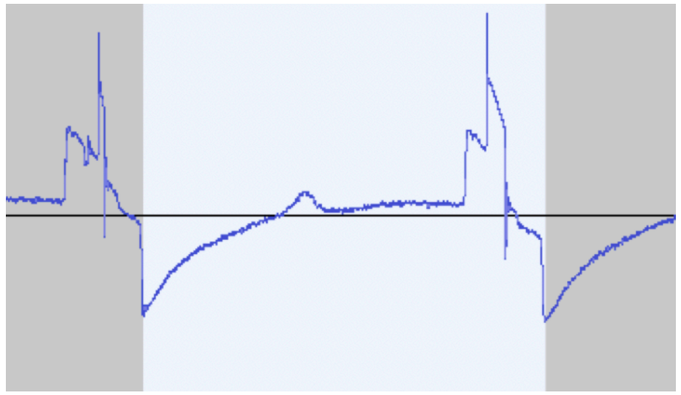


Read chunk of WAV as numbers



Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)

Read chunk of WAV as numbers



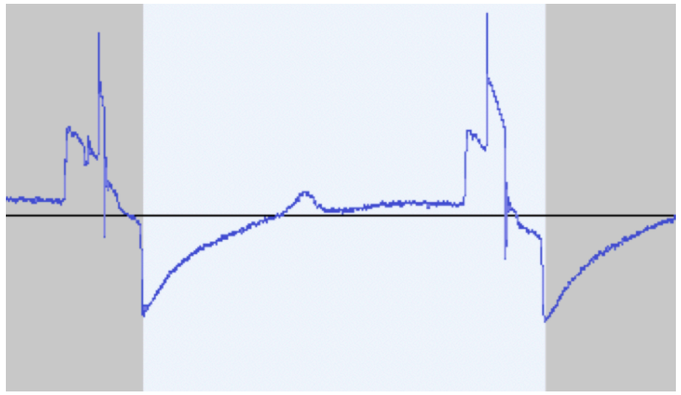
↓

Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)

↓

Add line to 'image' array

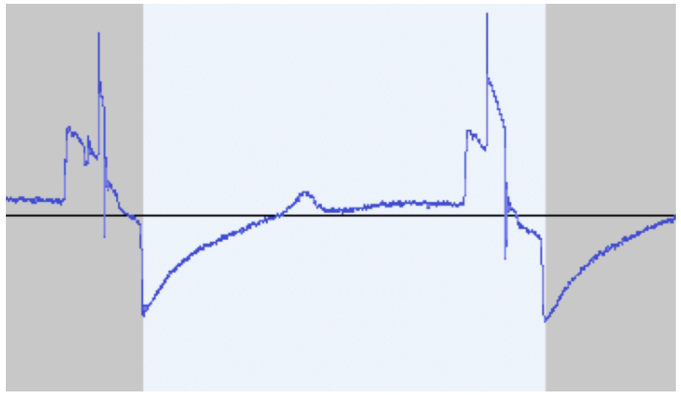
Read chunk of WAV as numbers



Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)

Add line to 'image' array

Read chunk of WAV as numbers

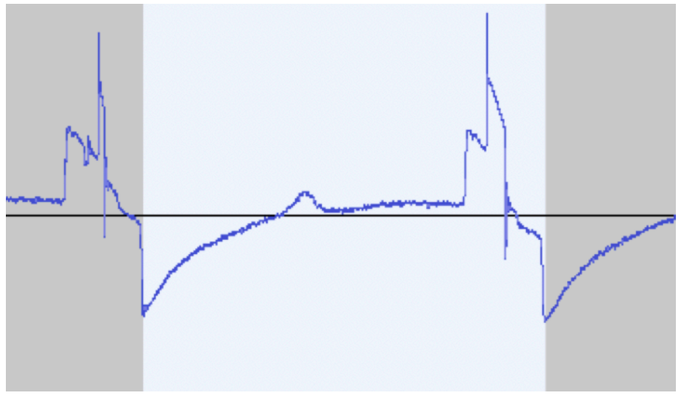


Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)

Add line to 'image' array

Write numbers as image

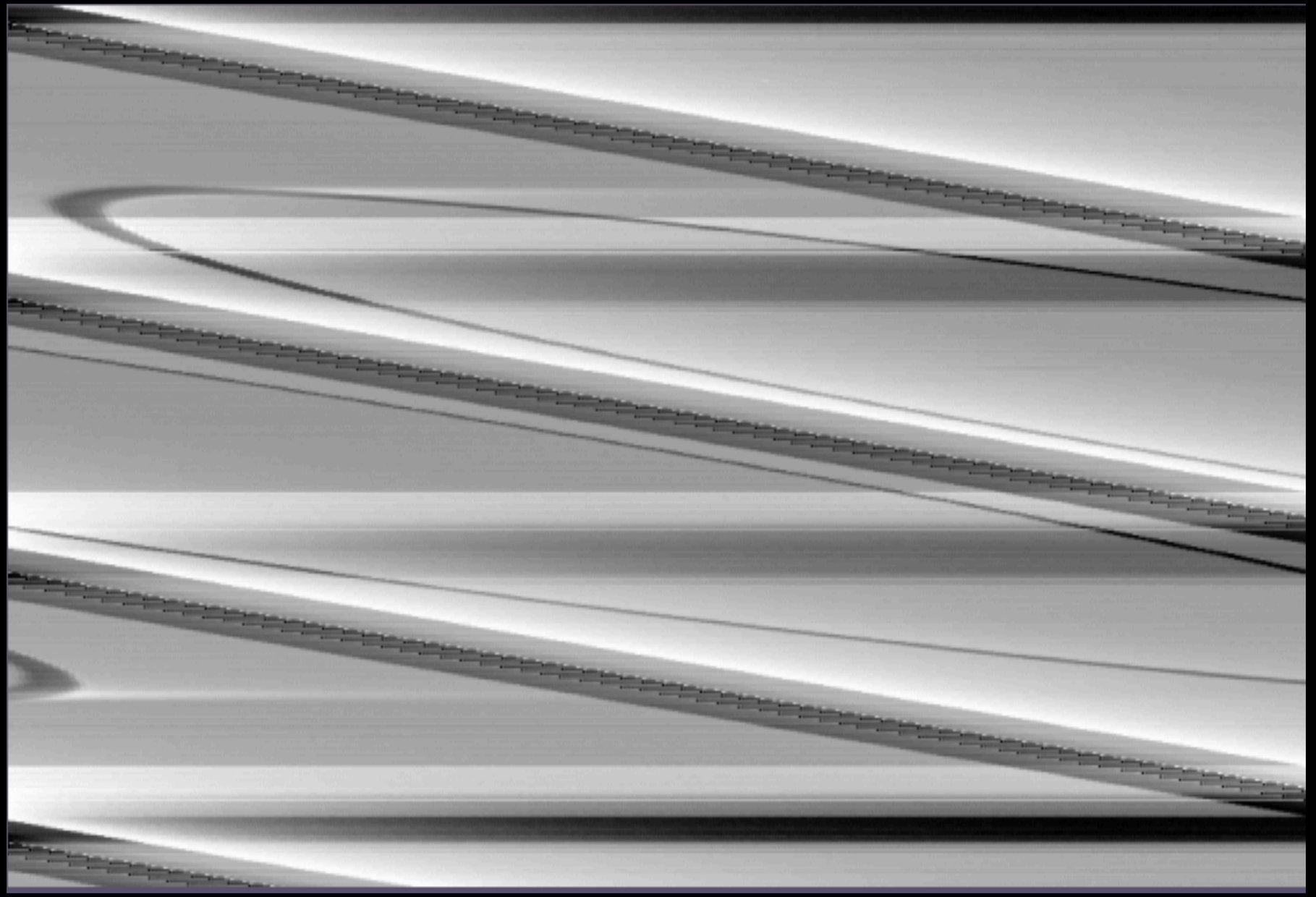
Read chunk of WAV as numbers

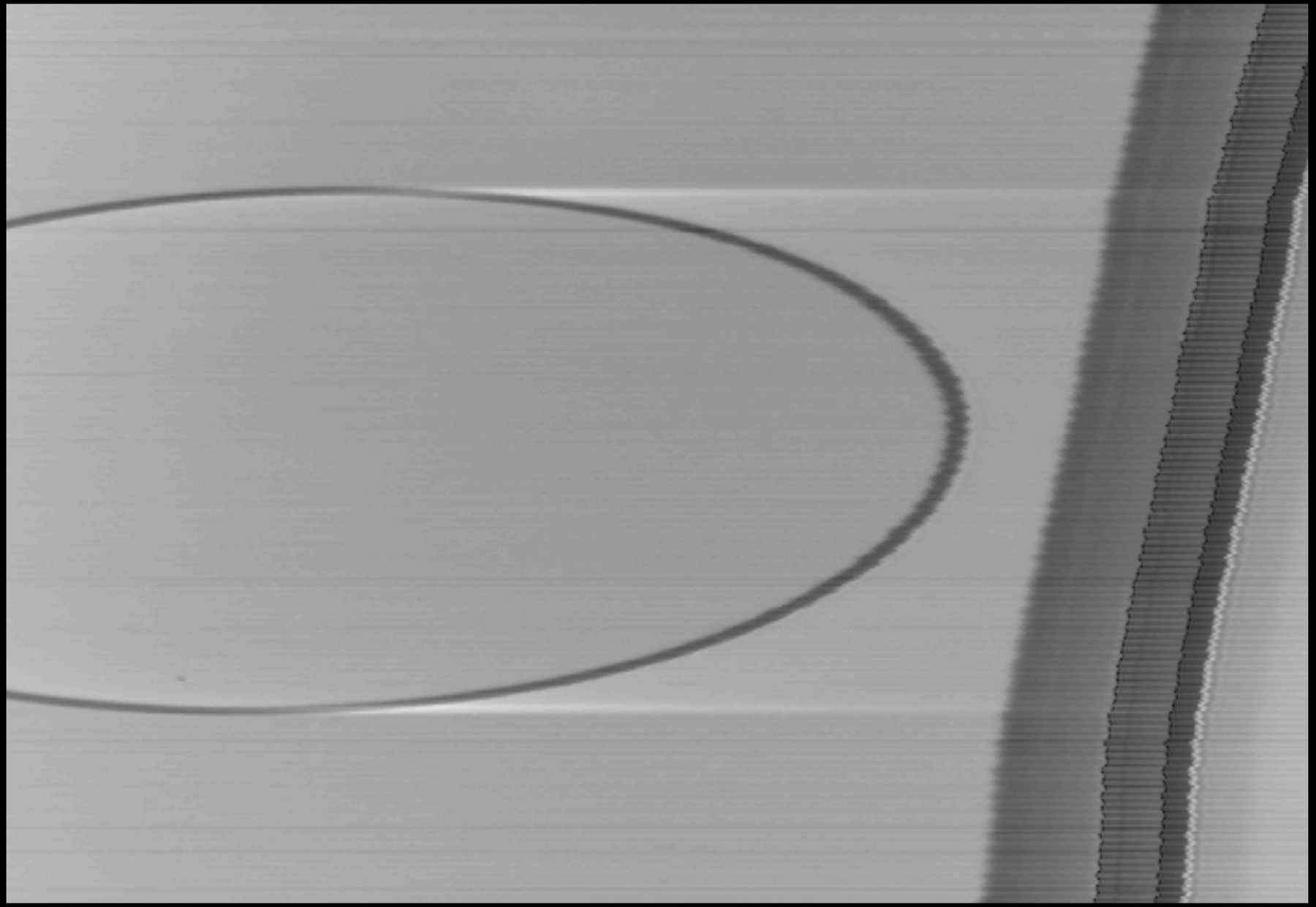


Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)

Add line to 'image' array

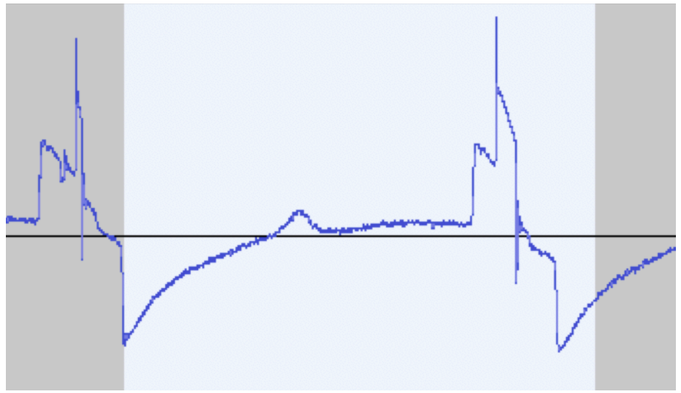
Write numbers as image





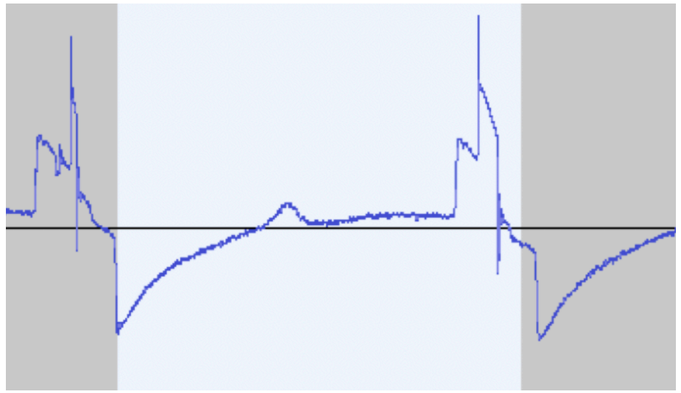
Read chunk of WAV as numbers

Read chunk of WAV as numbers



Read chunk of WAV as numbers

Assume that most of the chunk is fine.



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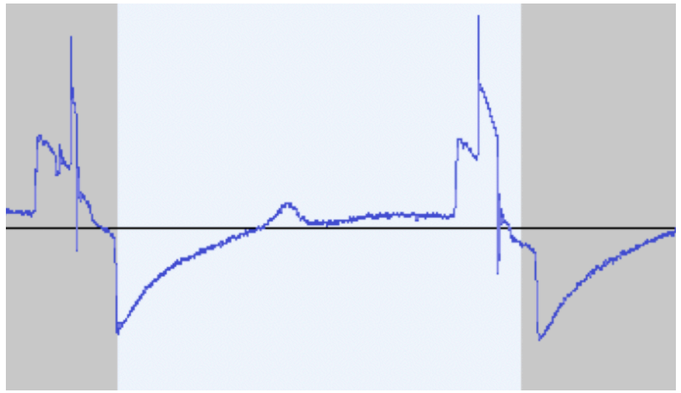


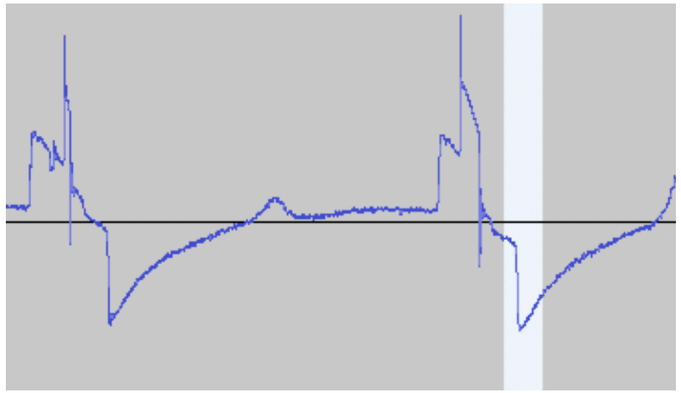
Read chunk of WAV as numbers

↓

Assume that most of the chunk is fine.

↓

Look for the lowest number in the rest;
that's our 'boundary'.



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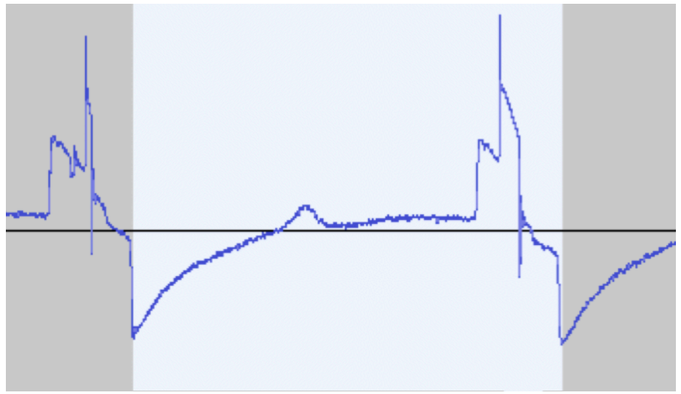

Read chunk of WAV as numbers

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Assume that most of the chunk is fine.

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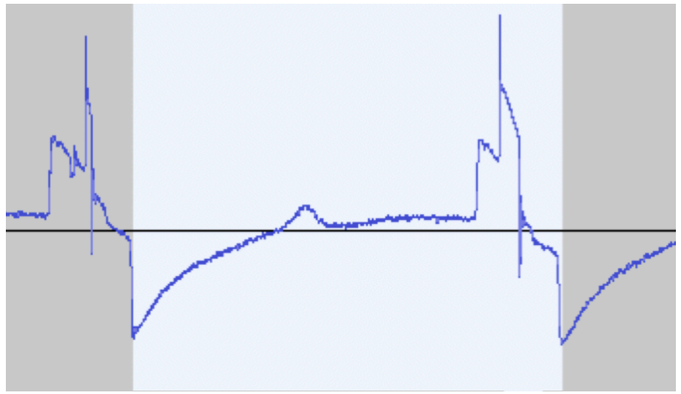
Look for the lowest number in the rest;
that's our 'boundary'.
Keep everything left over for next frame.



Read chunk of WAV as numbers

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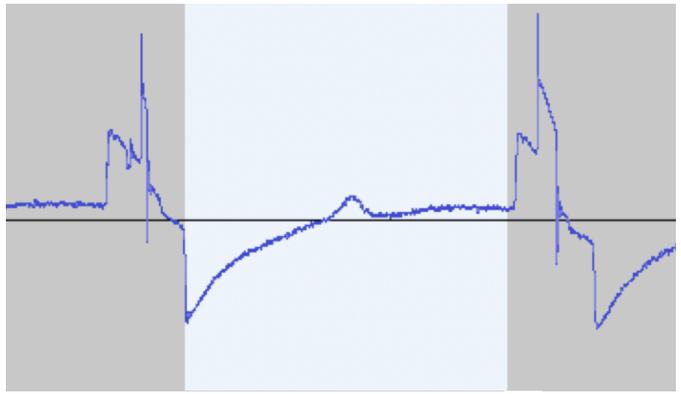
Keep everything left over for next frame.
Chop the garbage off.



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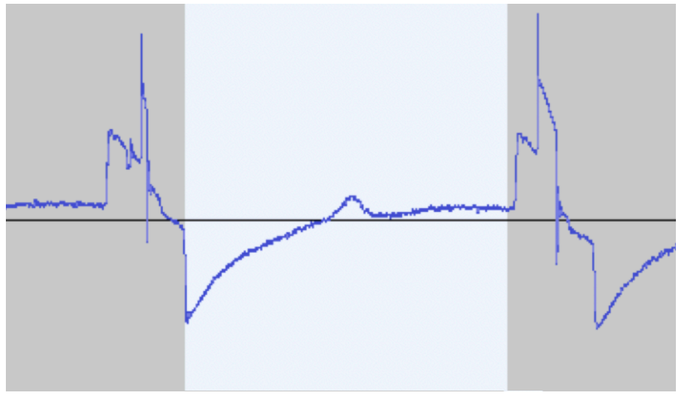
Chop the garbage off.

Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
to image numbers (0 to 255)



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Re-scale WAV numbers (-1 to 1)
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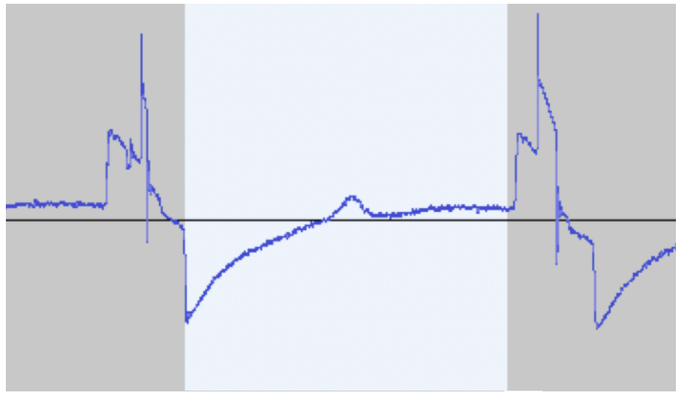
Add line to 'image' array



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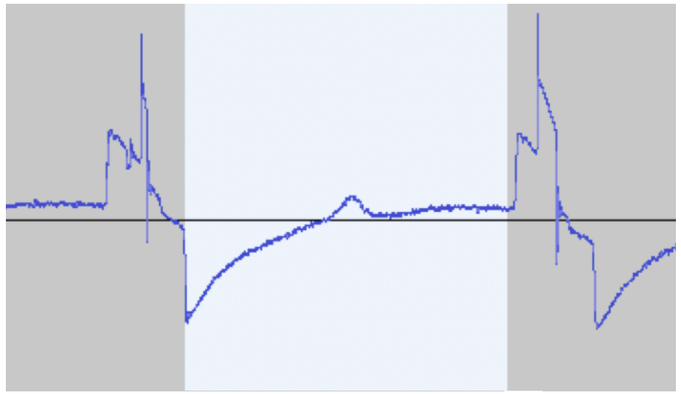

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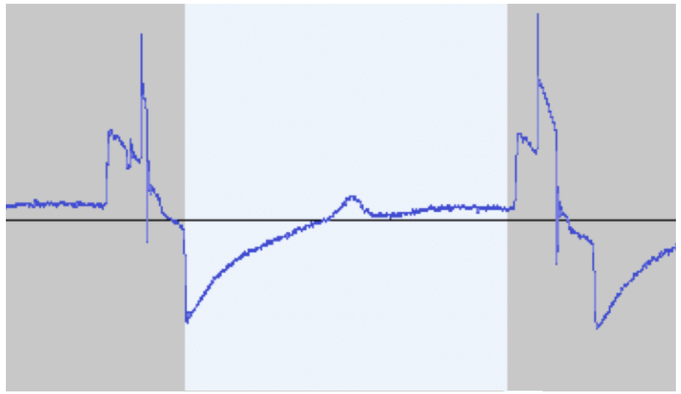
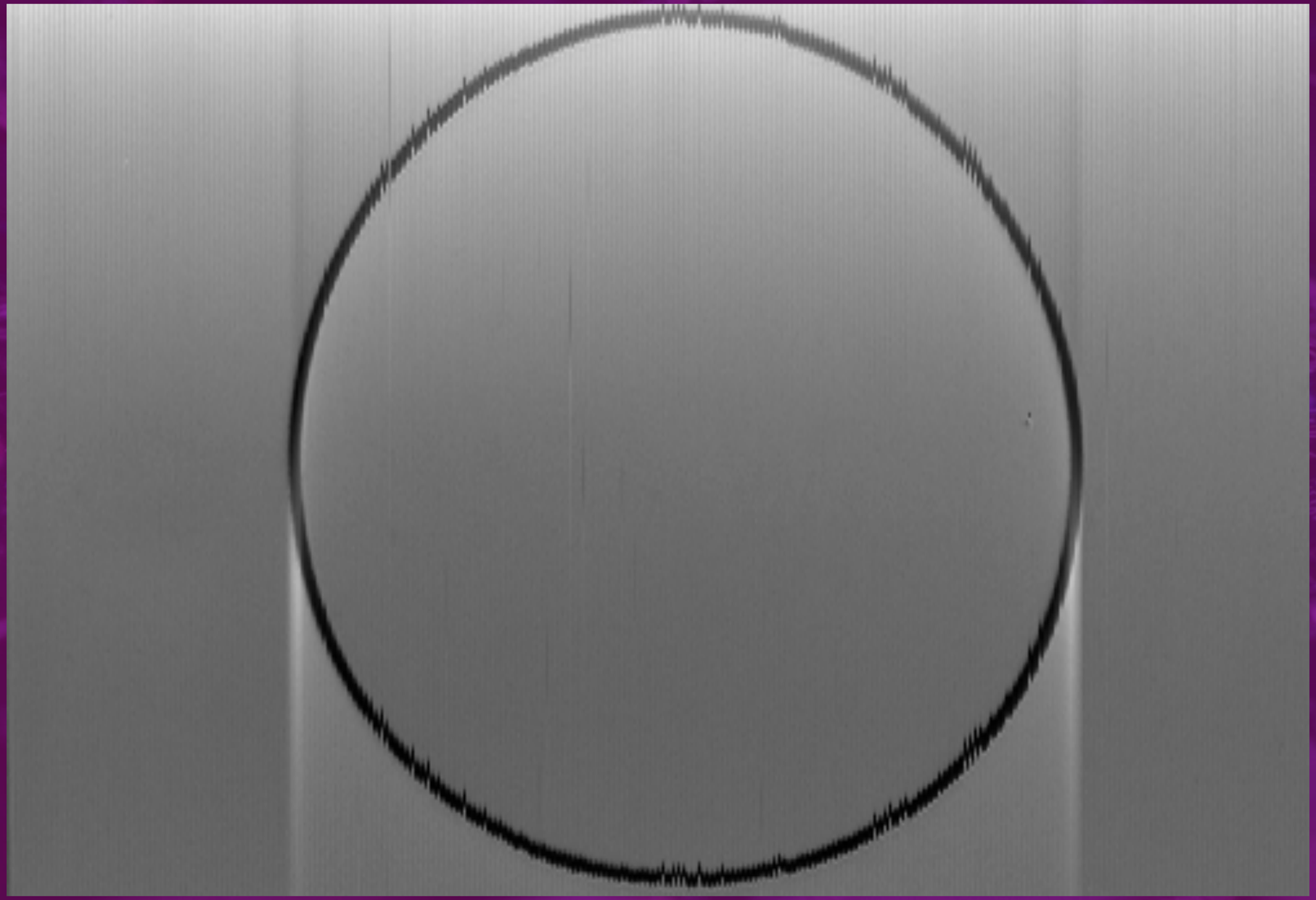
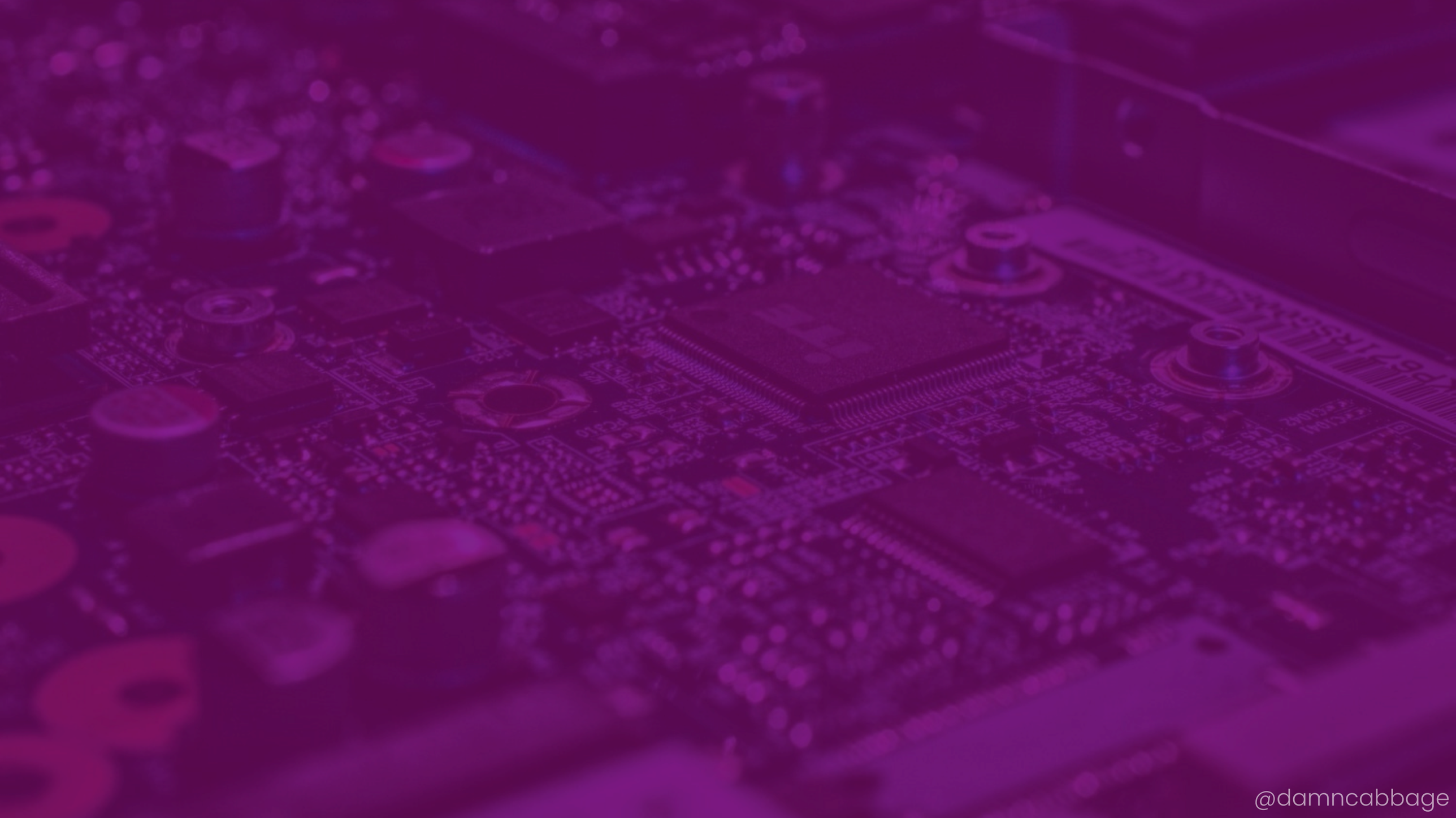
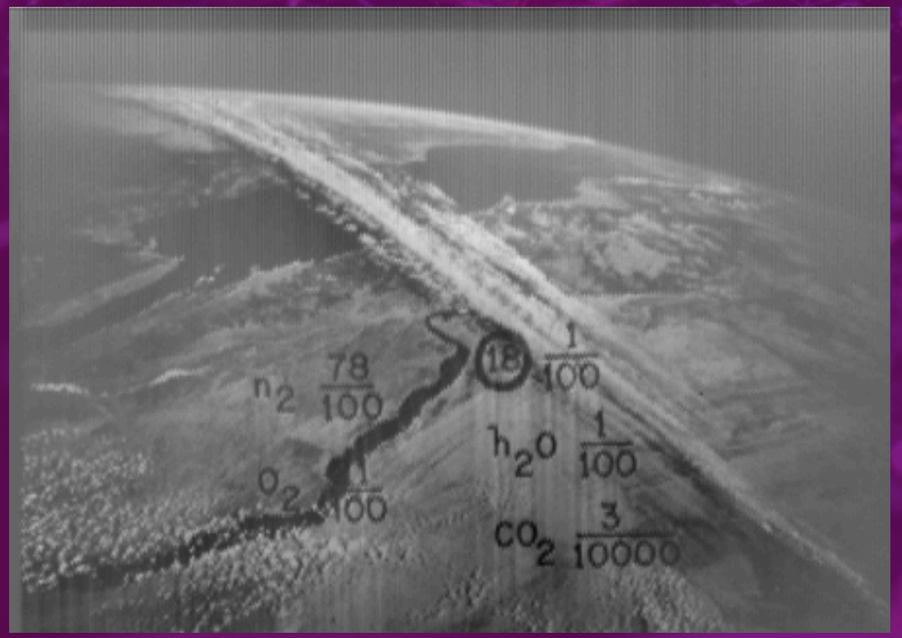
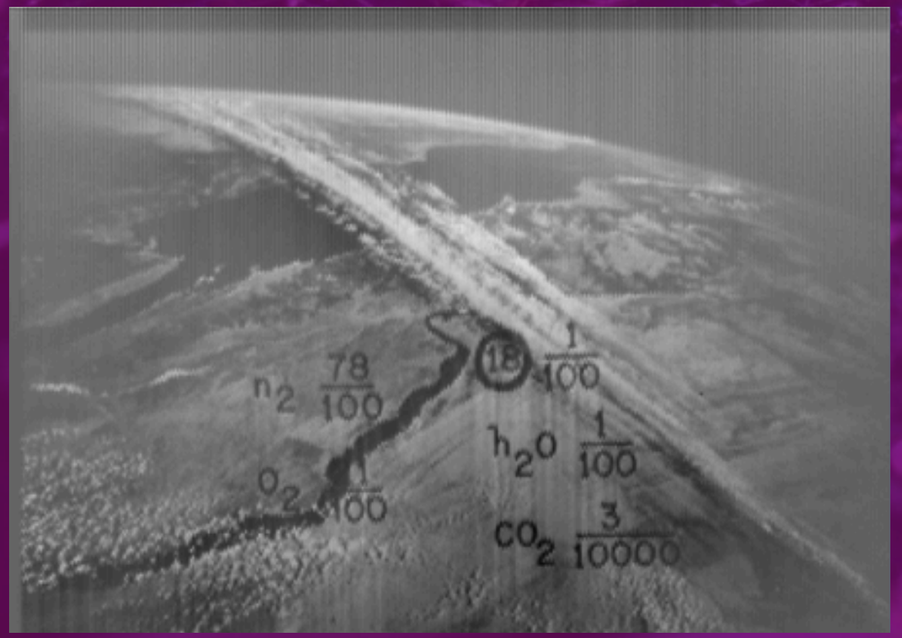


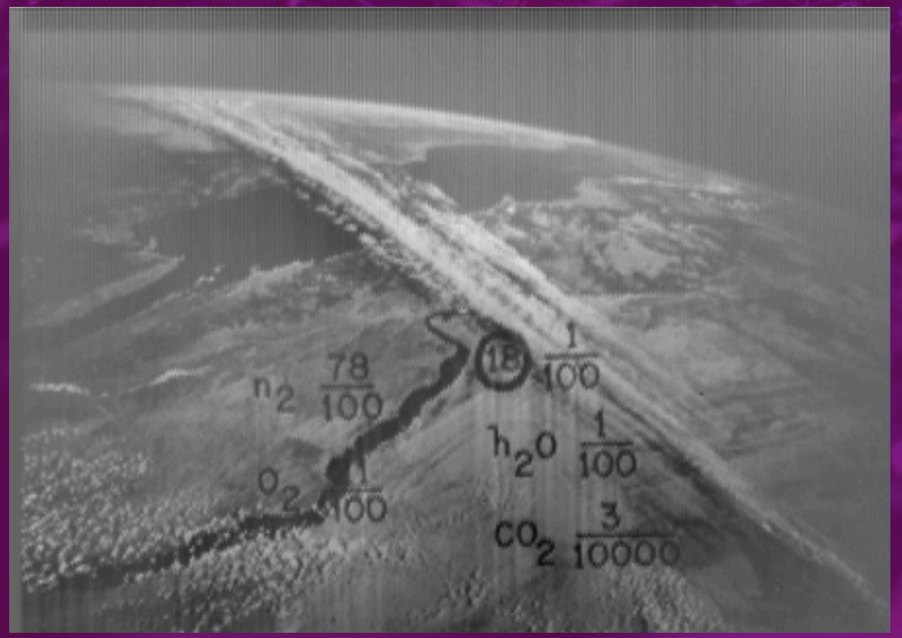


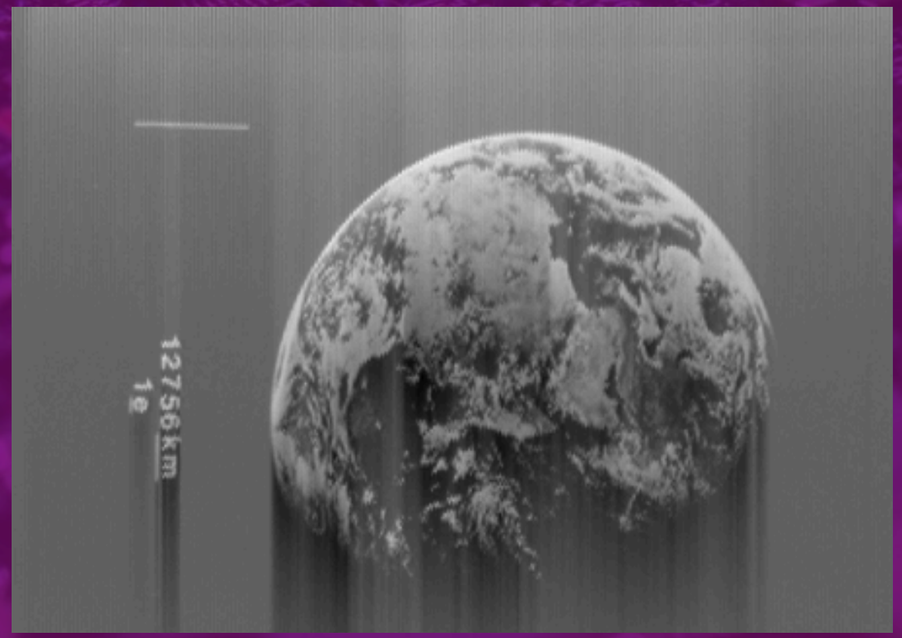


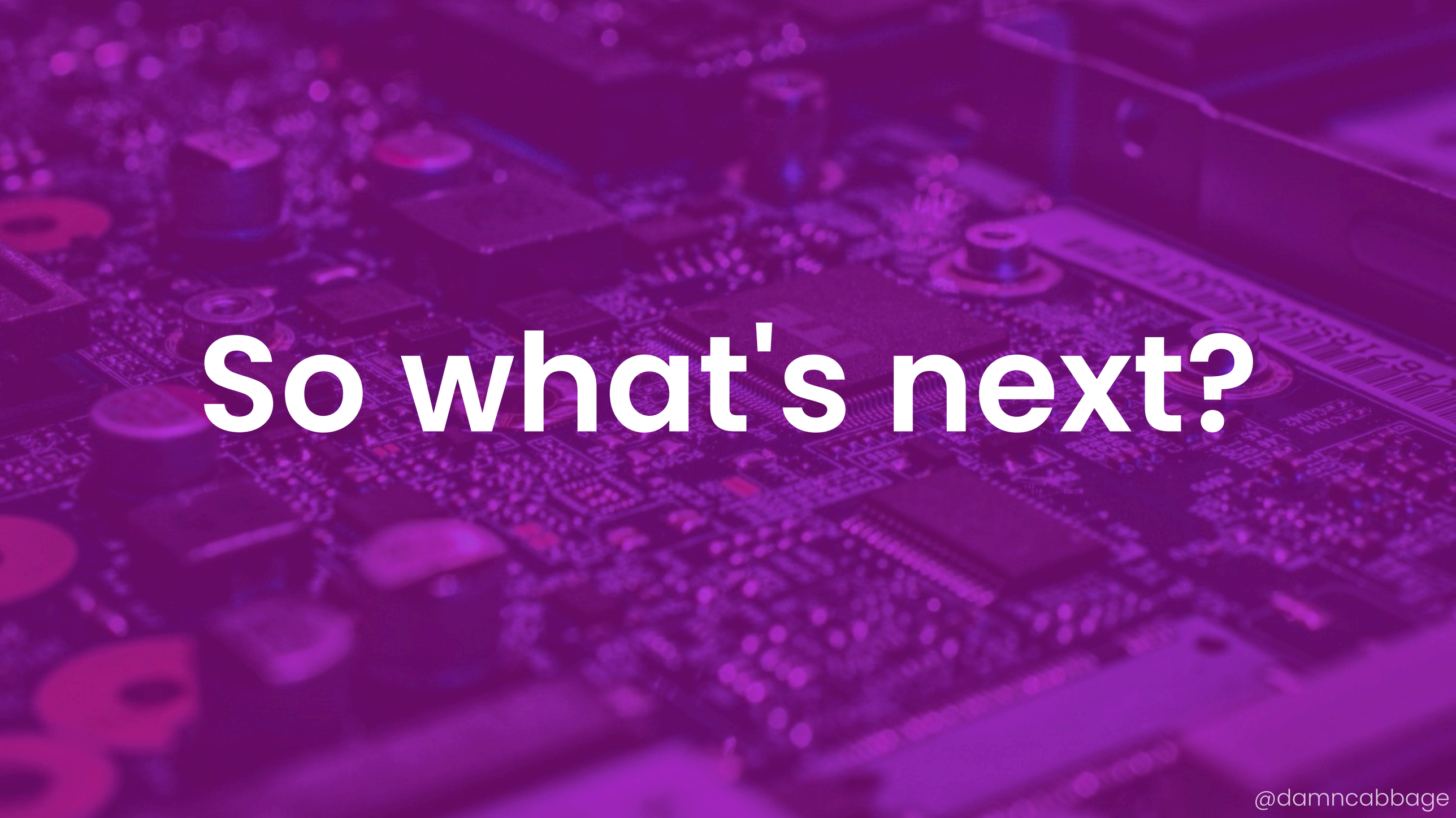
@damncabbage

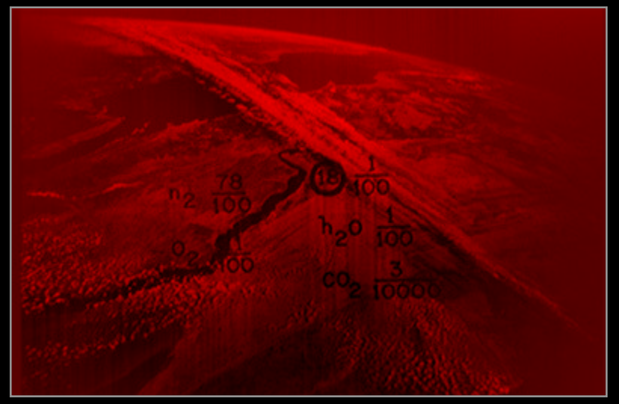


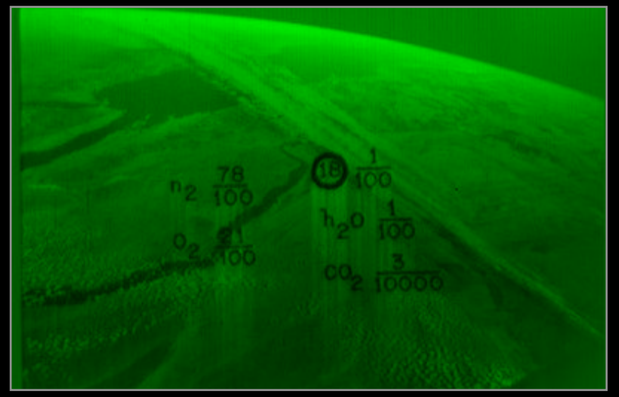


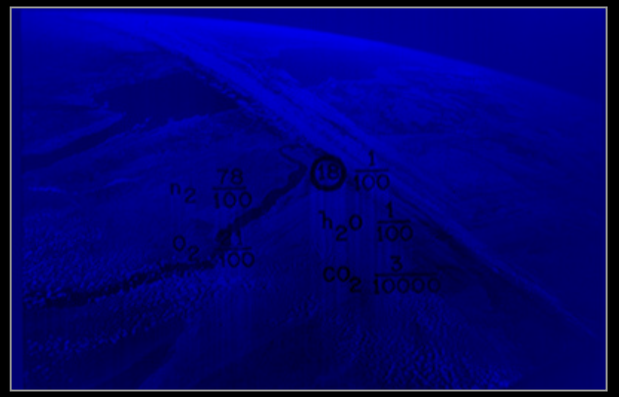


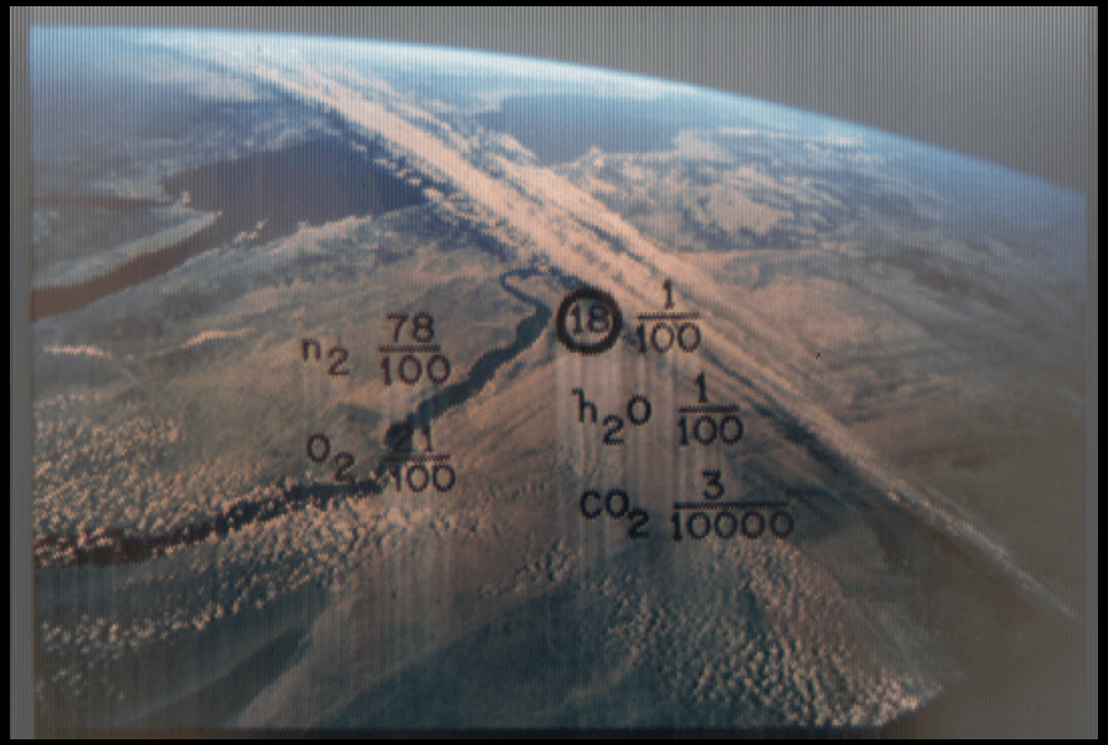



So what's next?



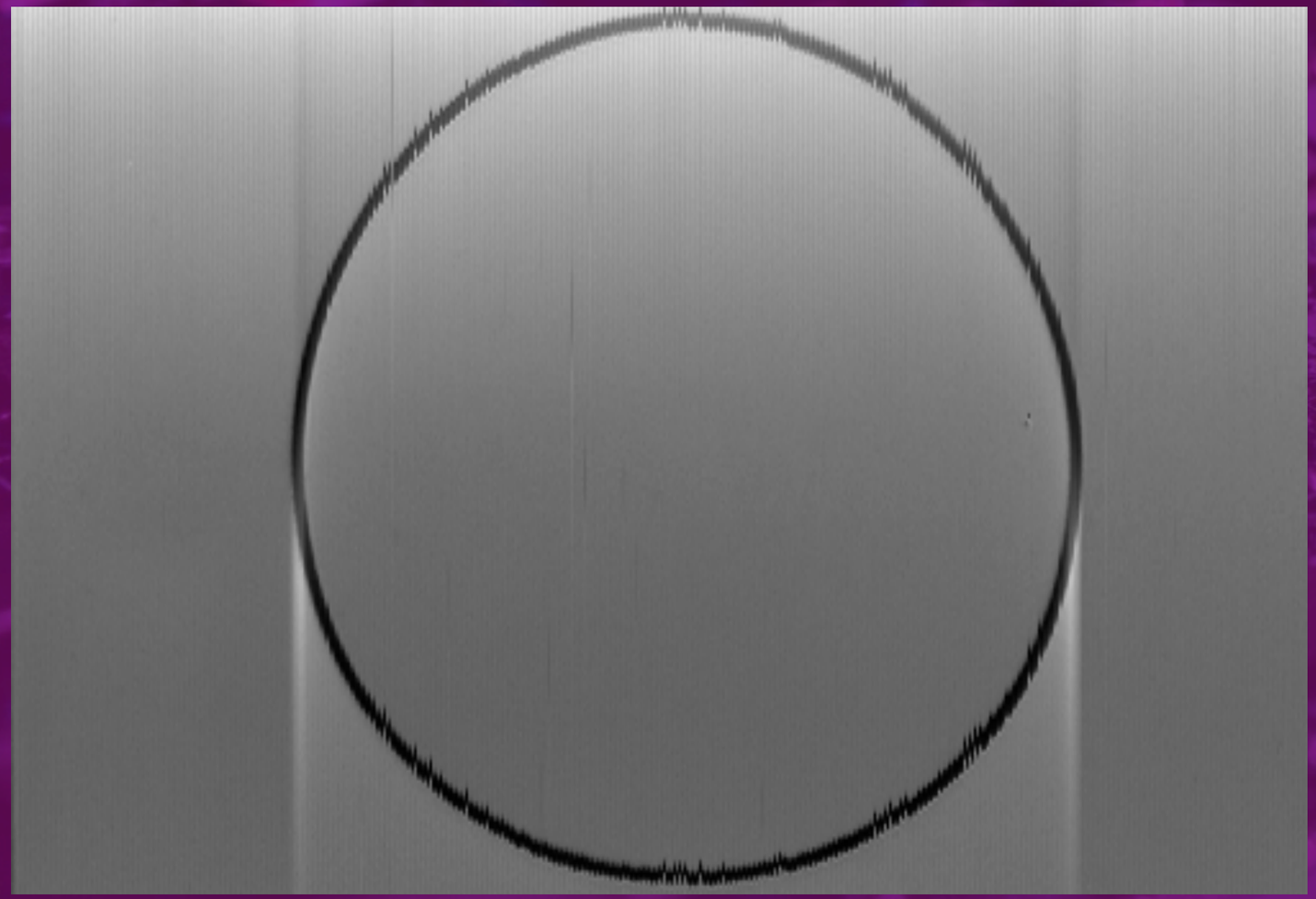




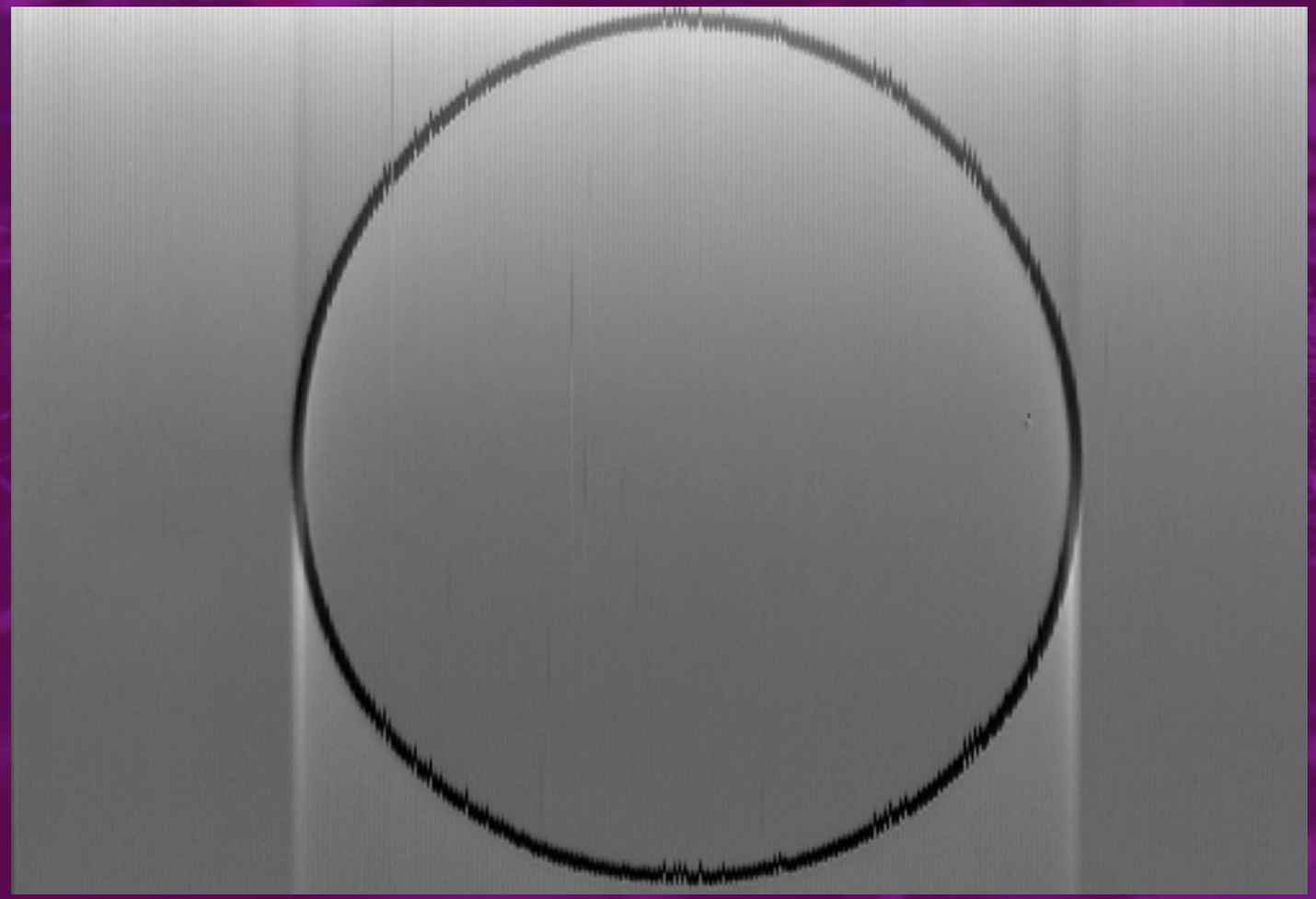


https://boingboing.net/2017/09/05/how-to-decode-the-images-on-th.html

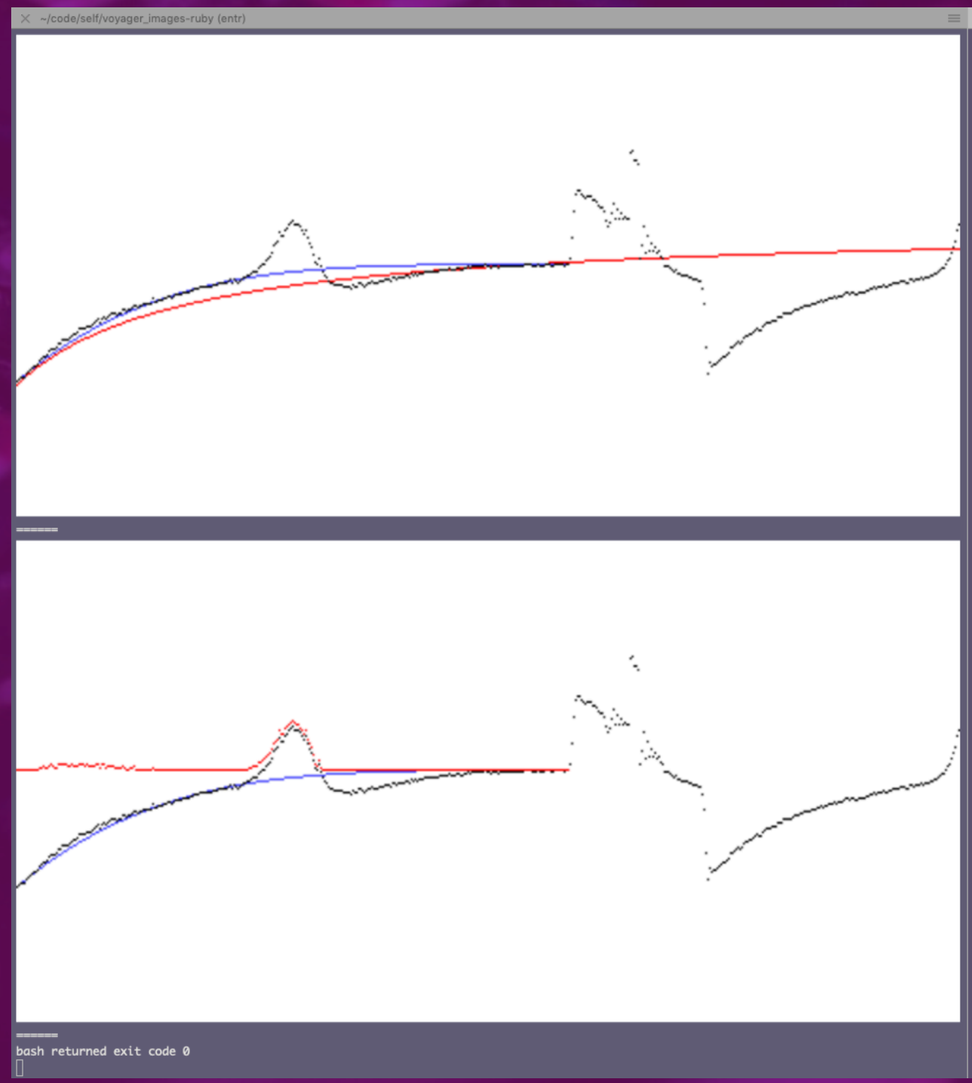
Fix the Weird Gradient

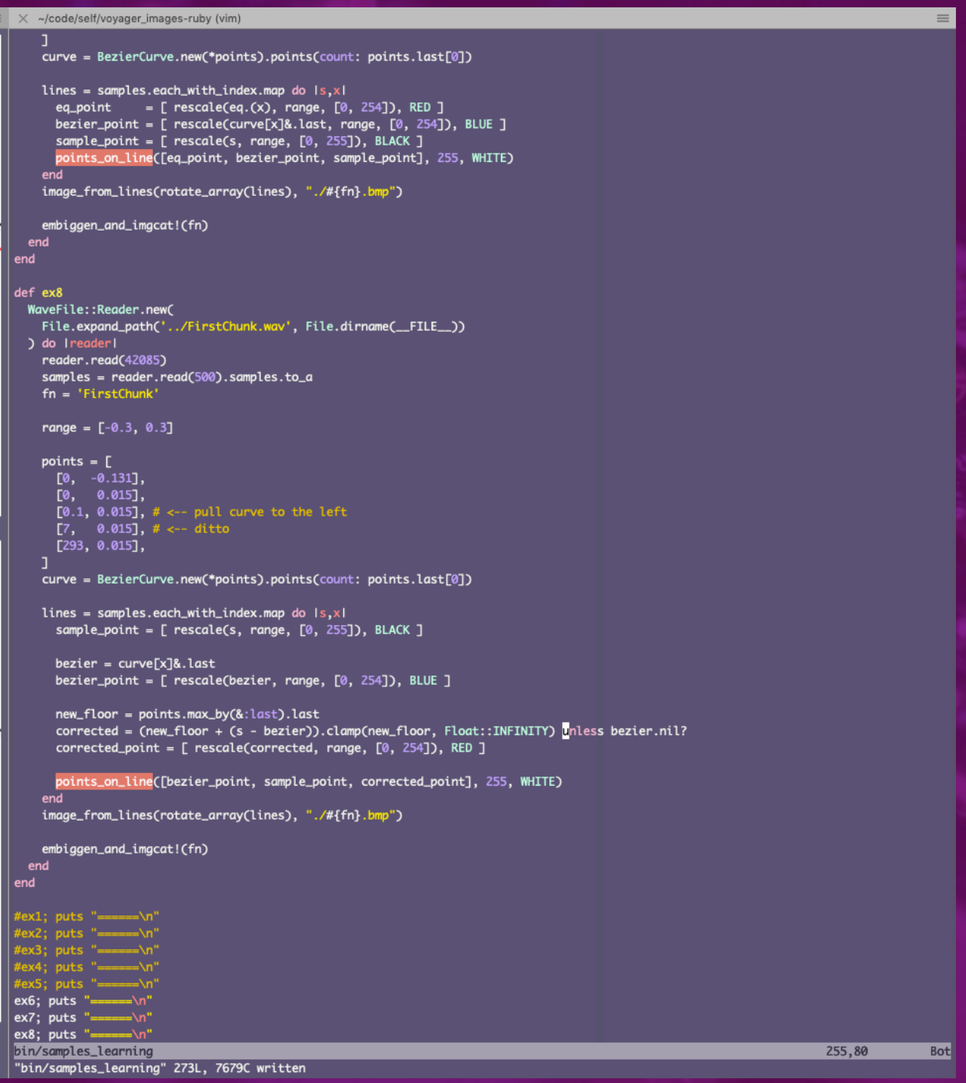


Fix the Weird Gradient

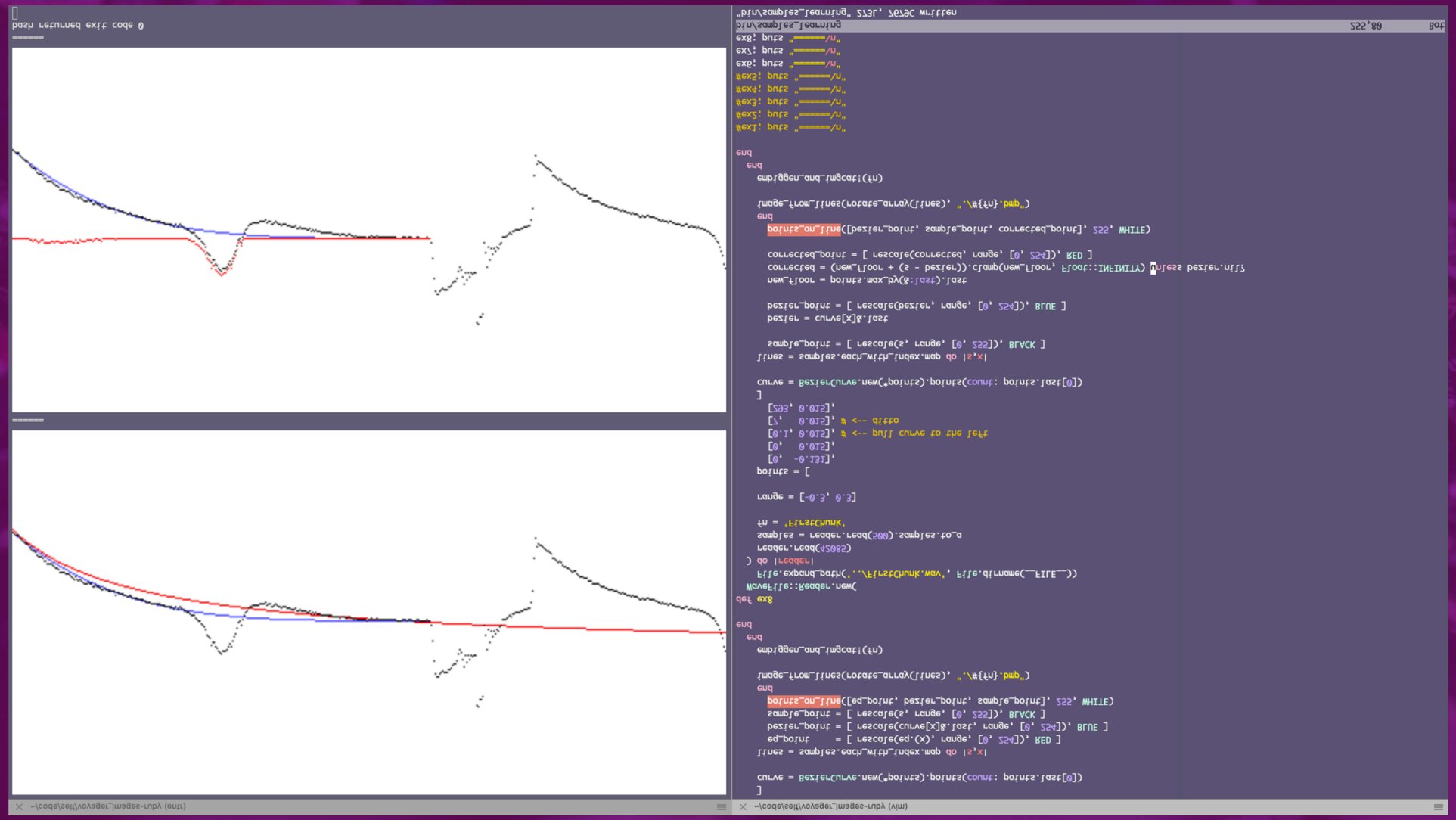


Fix the Weird Gradient





Fix the weird gradient



Fix the weird gradient

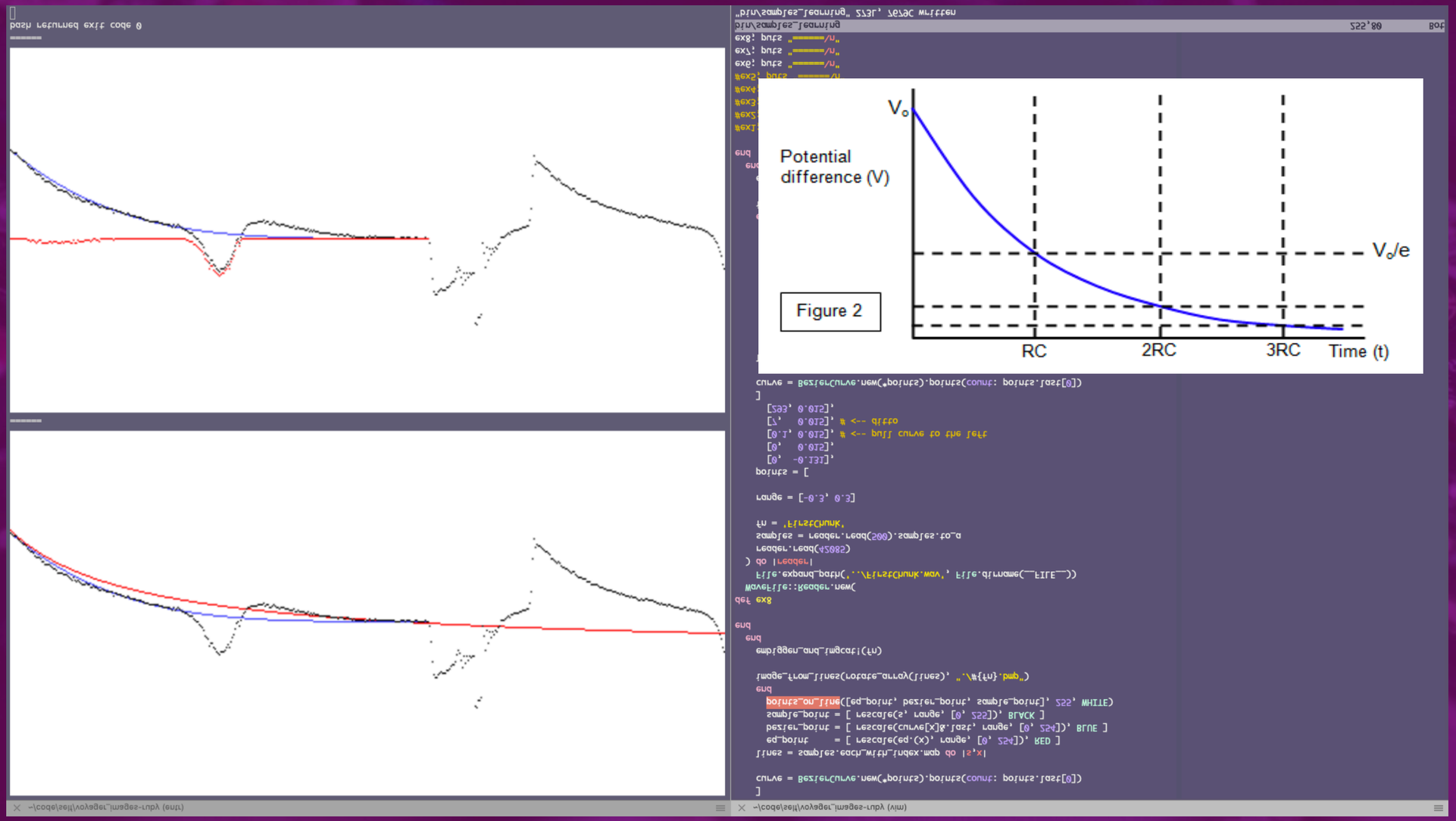
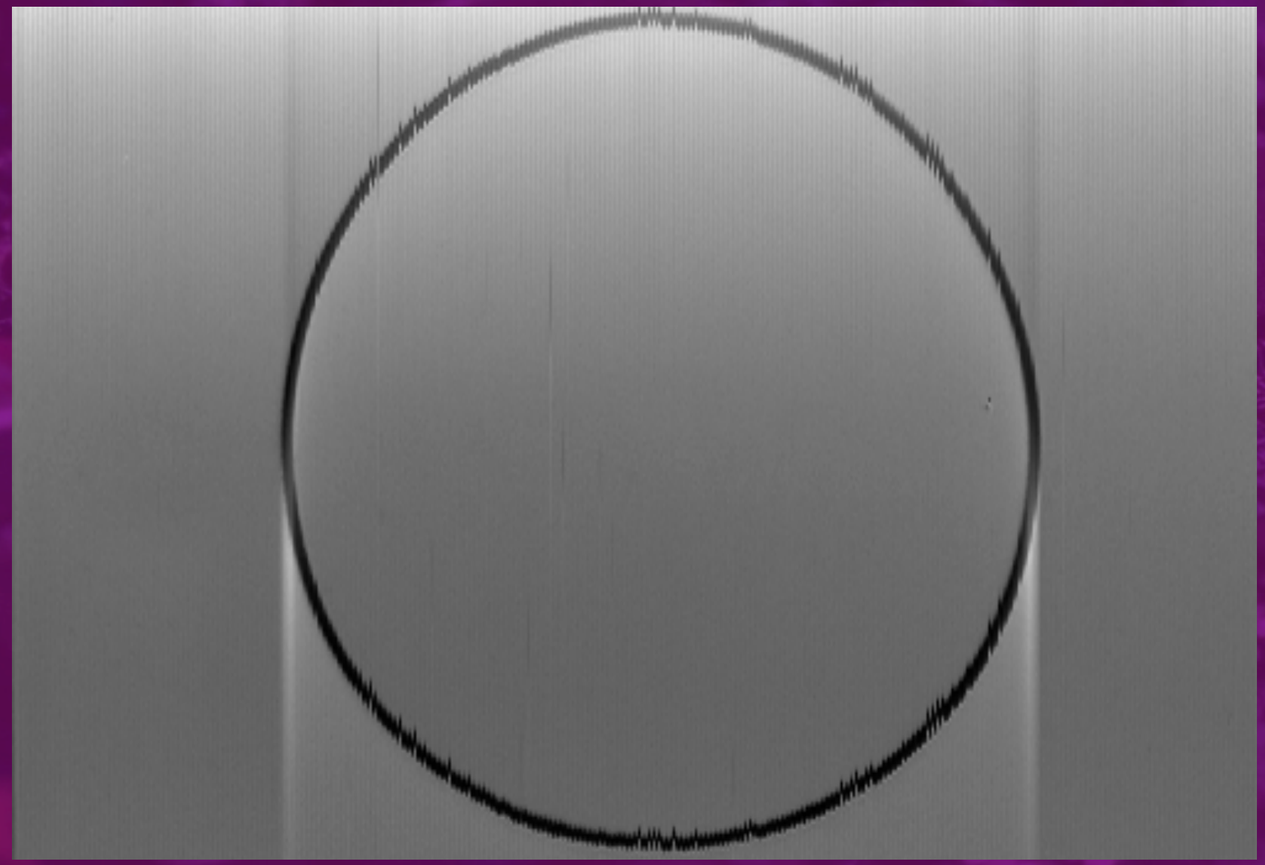
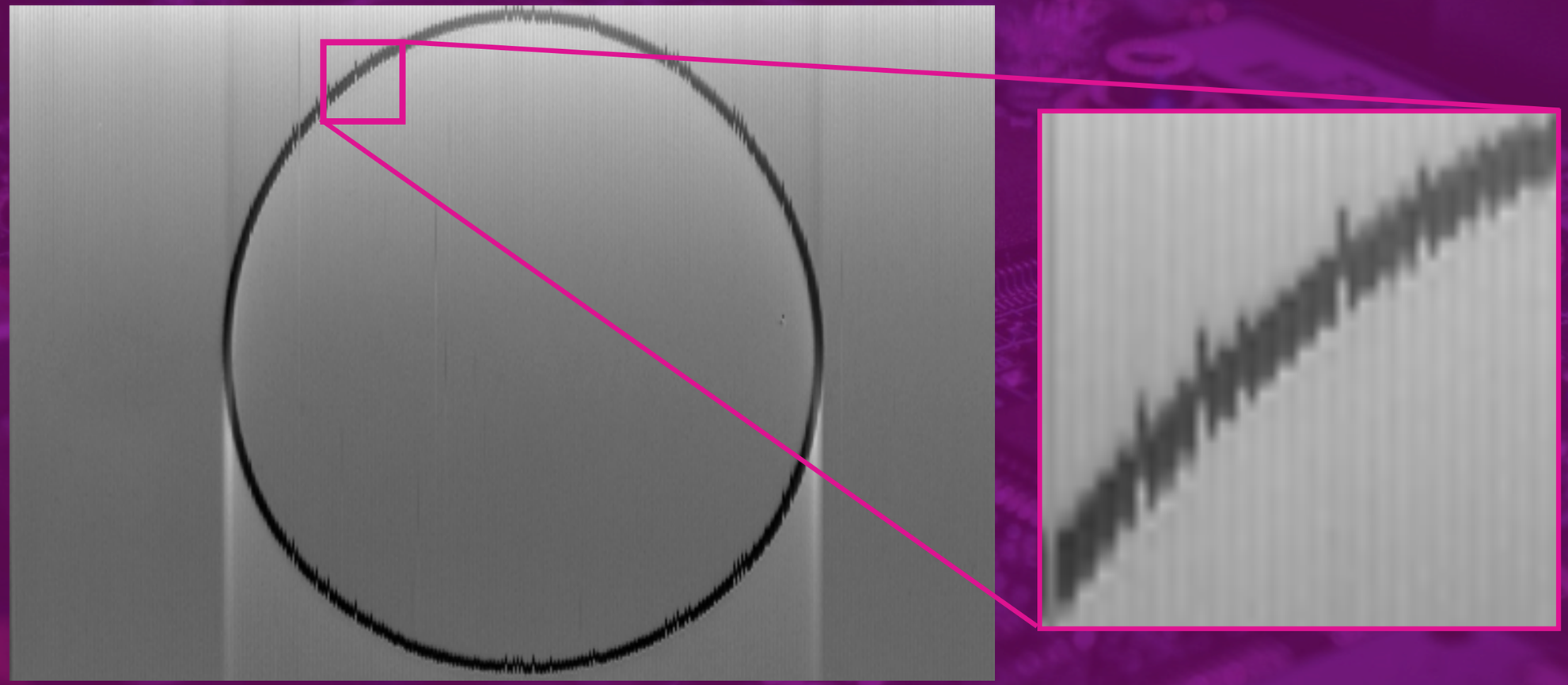


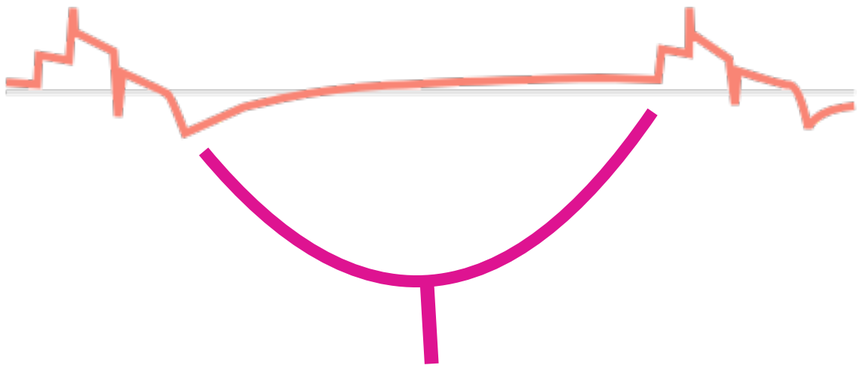
Figure 2

Fix the 'Jitter'

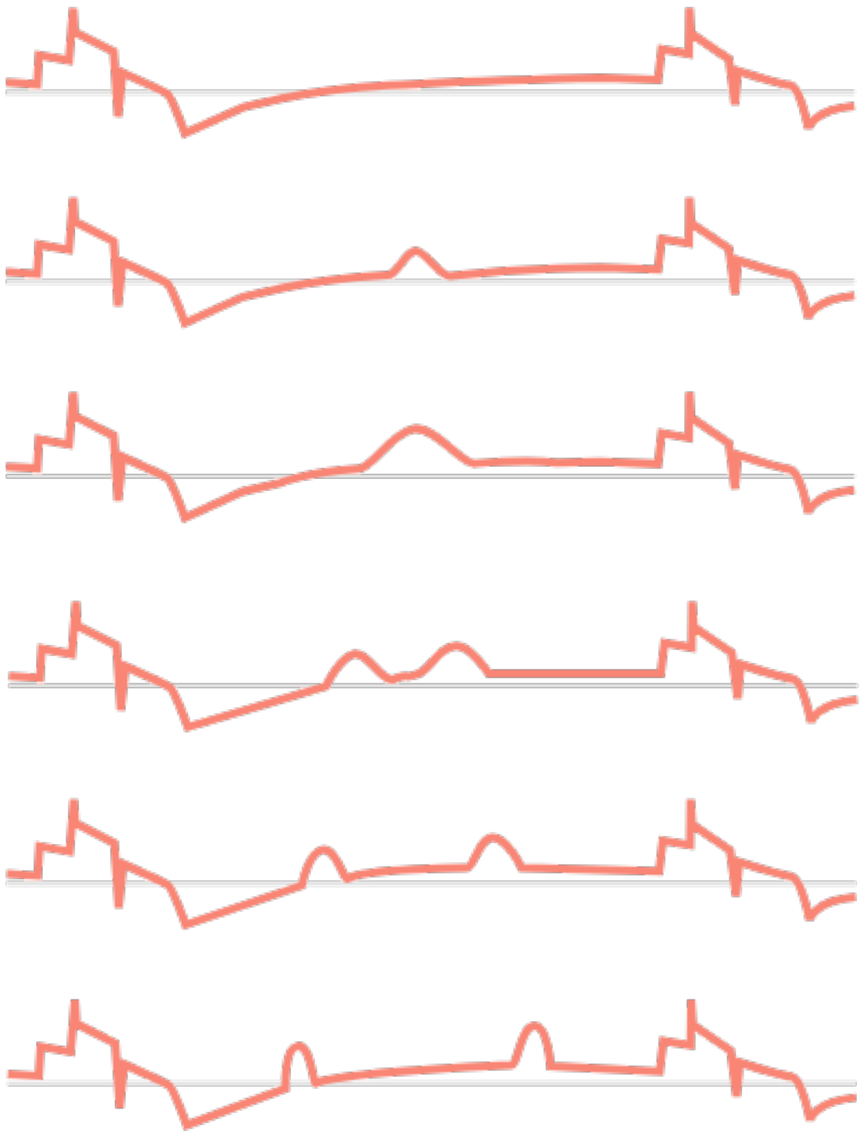


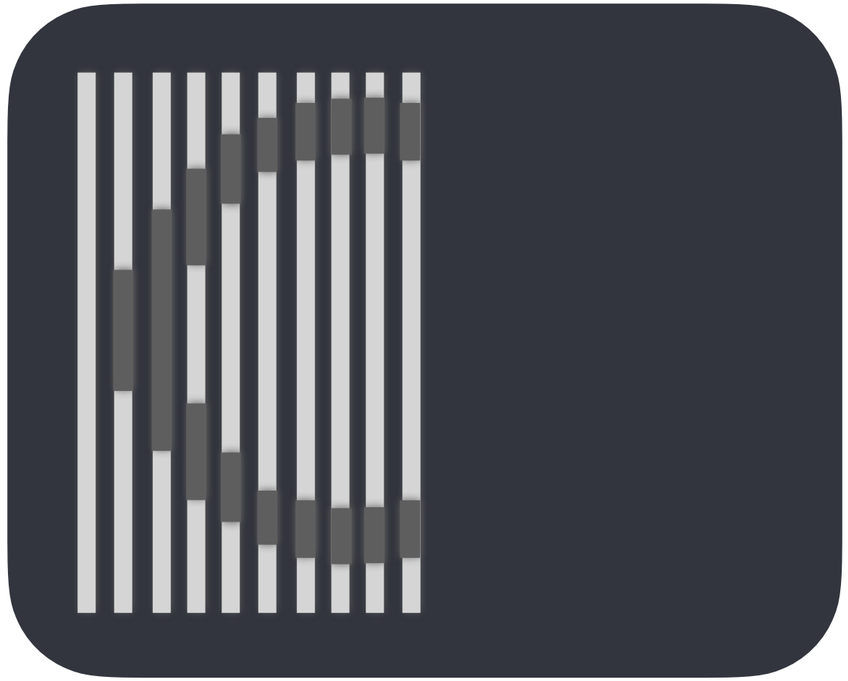
Fix the 'Jitter'

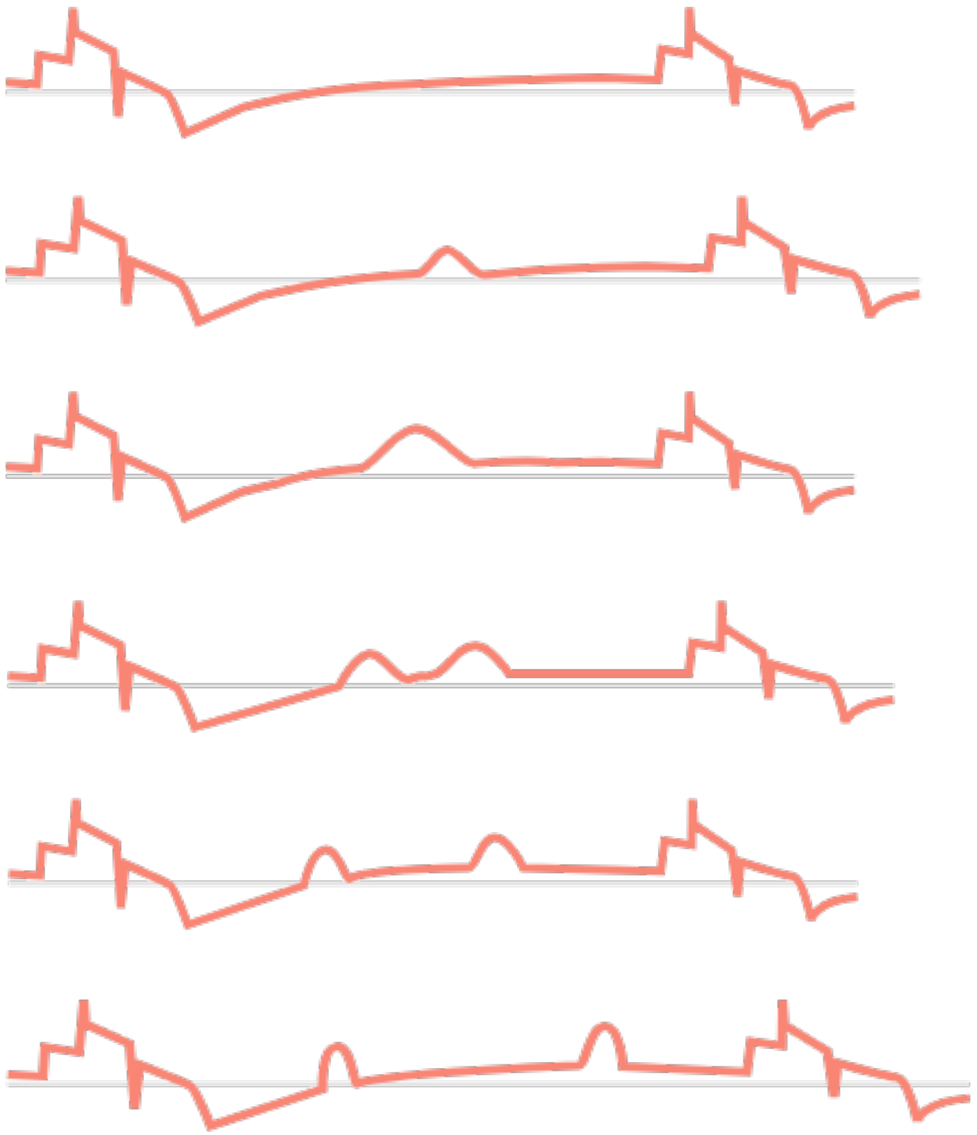


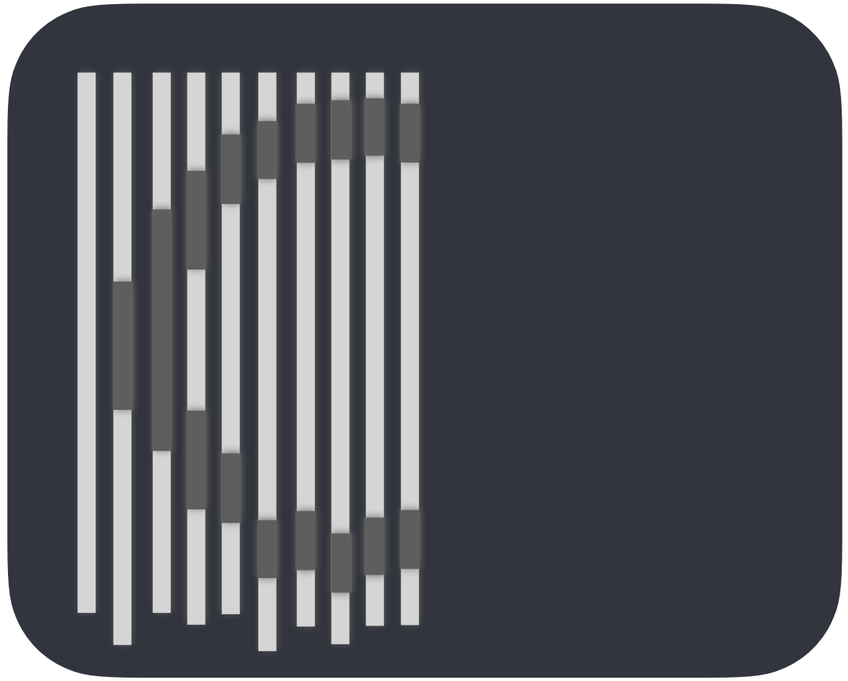


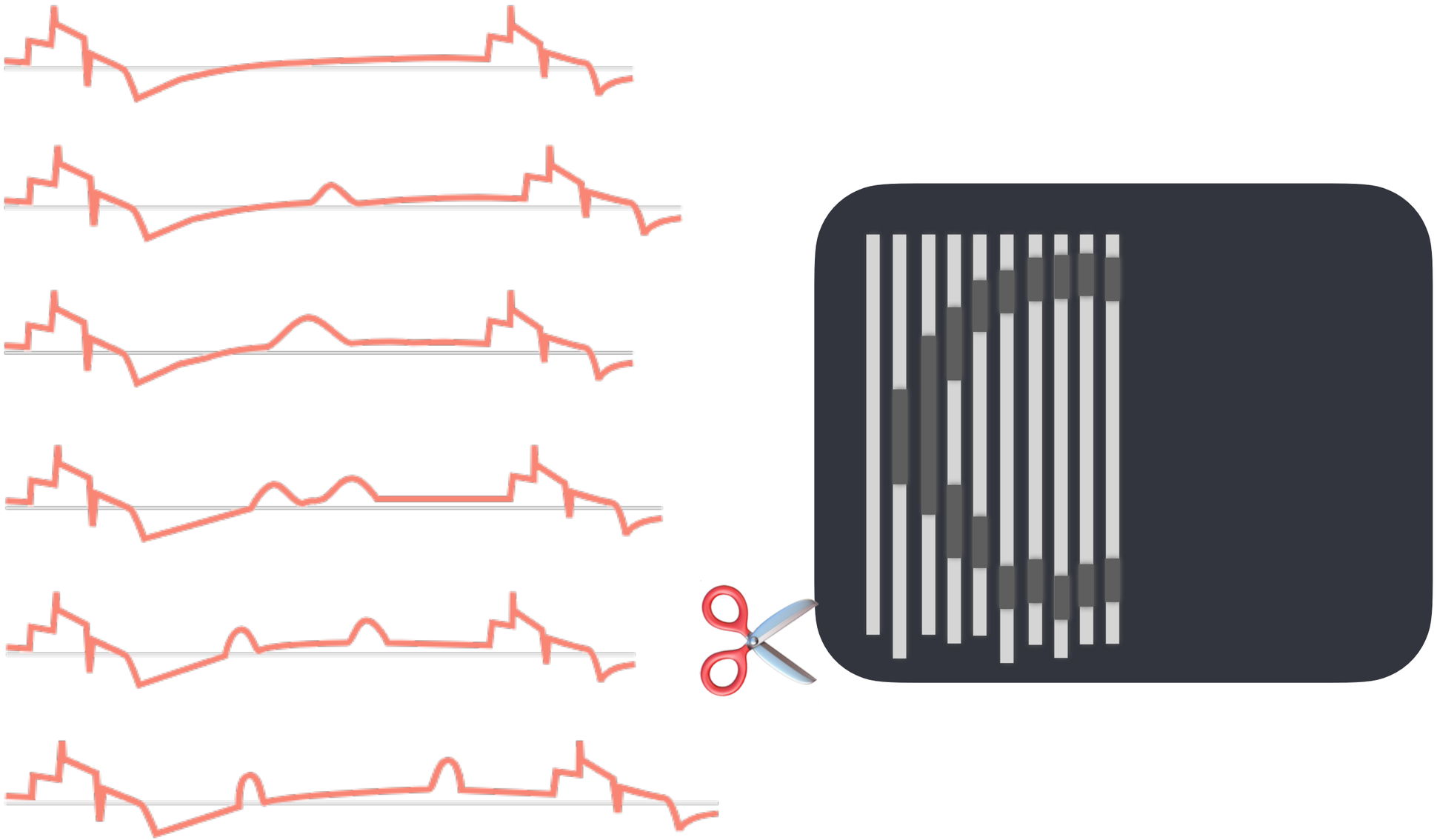
Useful bit

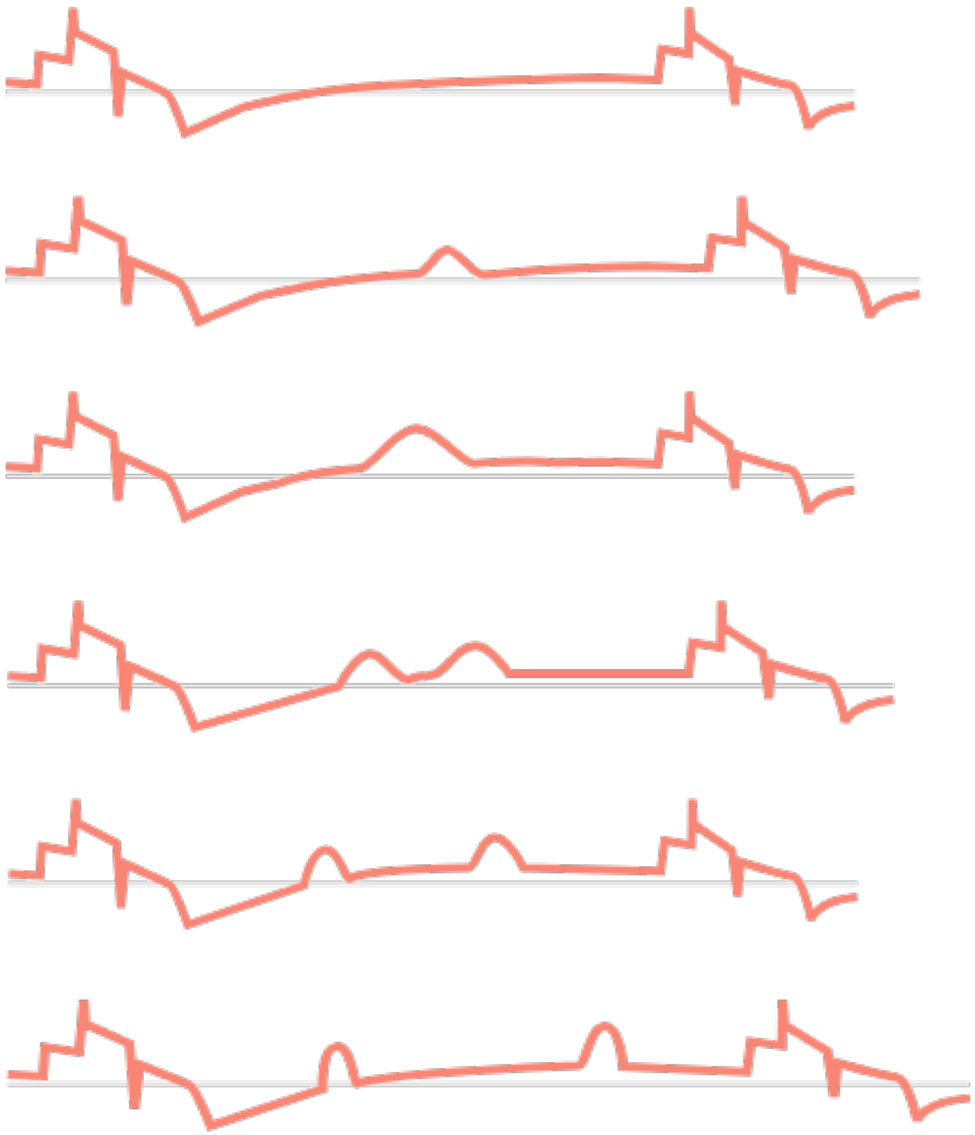


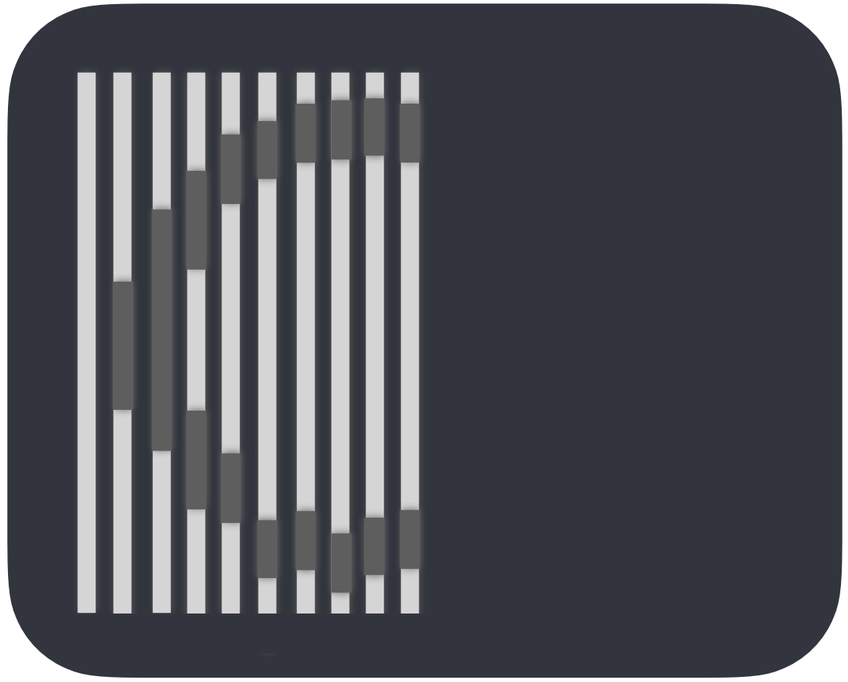












Wrapping Up

Sound is a bunch of pressure waves.

How close they are together, and how powerful they are, changes how it sounds.

We represent sound to computers by chopping it into tiny slices, and writing down a number for each slice.

Pictures are made on old TVs by sweeping an electron beam around really quickly in a grill-like pattern.

We can represent images to computers to making a big grid of numbers.

Each number is a 'brightness' value. Groups of numbers instead can mean colours and transparency.

In 1977, humans sent a message to outer space.

An optimistic message, showing all the brightness and colour of the world.