
Curtis Roads

with John Strawn, Curtis Abbott, John Gordon, and Philip Greenspun

The Computer Music Tutorial

Corrections and Revisions

The MIT Press
Cambridge, Massachusetts
London, England

Preface

Page xx, first full paragraph, third line of text, should read:
 “... **Philip** Greenspun of the MIT Department of Electrical Engineering . . .”

Chapter 1

Page 18, second line of text, should read:
 “... its third harmonic is **1320** Hz, . . .”

Page 18, “Phase” section, third line of text, should read:
 “If we displace the starting point **to π radians** . . .”

Page 27, “Aliasing (Foldover)” section, second paragraph, sixth line of text:
 Delete “This means that one cycle takes longer than the interval between samples.”

Author’s note: Actually it is shorter (11 cycles in 10 samples), but the explanation is clearer without mentioning it.

Chapter 3

Page 89, first full paragraph, starting with “Max Mathews . . .,” should read:
 “Max Mathews completed Music II in 1958; it was written in assembly language for the IBM **7090** computer, **an improved computer** along the lines of the IBM 704. The **7090** ran several times faster than the **older machine**. It was thus possible to implement more ambitious synthesis algorithms.

Page 112, caption of figure 3.12, first line of text, should read:
 “Numerical score example. **Two** lines of comments . . .”

Chapter 4

Page 119, first line of text, should read:
 “Composers of musique concrète work directly with sound objects, **as in *De Natura Sonorum* (1975) by Parmegiani** (Schaeffer 1977; Chion 1982).”

Page 143, “Sources of Control Data” section, third paragraph, second line of text:
 Delete “An example is John Chowning’s *Stria* (1977), realized with additive synthesis of inharmonic spectra.”

Chapter 5

Page 173, Figure 5.12 caption, first line of text, should read:

“**Detail of** Fourier grid dividing the time domain and the frequency domain . . .”

Page 175, “Quasi-synchronous” section, second paragraph, third line of text, should read:

“. . . because the grains follow **at a slightly varying time interval.**”

Page 184, “Assessment” section, first line of text, should read:

“Granular synthesis constitutes **a body of microsonic** techniques that **share the concept** of sonic grains.”

Page 197, second full paragraph, second line of text, should read:

“. . . composers such as Jean-Claude Risset in his composition ***Voilements*** (1987). Running software written . . .”

Chapter 6

Page 261, “Conclusion” section, fifth line of text, should read:

“. . . many sidebands, and partly due to the flexibility of the FM **parameters.**”

Chapter 7

Page 270, first full paragraph, starting with “Impedence effects . . .”:

Replace all “impedence” with “impedance.” There are six instances.

Page 282, fourth paragraph, first line of text, should read:

“The next four sections describe a waveguide model of **struck** strings, . . .”

Page 282, “Waveguide Model of Plucked Strings” section title, should read:

“Waveguide Model of **Struck** Strings”

Page 293, first paragraph, sixth line of text, should read:

“. . . basic KS synthesis are modest.

Author’s note: Delete parenthetical remark because this technique is not explained, and the text uses multiplications.

Chapter 8

Page 333, second line of text, should read:
 “Marino, Serra, and Raczinski **1993**; . . .”

Page 343, caption of figure 8.15, should read:

“The time and amplitude barriers (**P**, **N**, **T**) defining a mirror constrain the next vertex generated from the vertex marked by an asterisk. If the next vertex generated stochastically (**the initial projection I**) falls outside the barriers indicated by **the box, the barrier P overrides** this choice, reflecting the vertex back into the box (reflection **R**).”

Chapter 10

Page 424, “Relationship of Convolution” section, beginning with first line of text, should read:

“Convolution is directly related to filtering. Recall the equation of a general FIR filter:

$$y[n] = (a \times x[n]) \pm (b \times x[n - 1]) \pm \dots (j \times x[n - k])$$

We can think of the coefficients $a, b, \dots j$ as elements in an array $h(j)$, where each element in $h(j)$ is multiplied times the corresponding element in array $x[k]$.“

Author’s note: Change i to j, and change j to k.

Chapter 11

Page 463, last line of text on the page, should read:

“. . . namely *Doppler shift*, first described by the **physicist** C. Doppler (1842).”

Page 475, figure 11.17:

The horizontal axis is Time, not Frequency.

Page 487, third line of text, should read:

“**It has been speculated** that clouds in the atmosphere contribute a reverberation effect.”

Chapter 13

Page 575, fourth line of text, should read:

“This can be demonstrated by subtracting the **TPV spectrum** from the original **spectrum** to yield a *residual signal* (Strawn 1987a; Gish 1978, 1992; Serra 1989).”

Chapter 14

Page 649, caption of figure 14.11, second line of text, last word:

Should be “vary” instead of “varying.”

Chapter 17

Page 809, first line of text, should read:

“There are minor syntactic differences between Music 1000 and the Music **0** language previously described. Whereas Music **0** gives the signal to the left of the ← sign, . . .”

Chapter 20

Page 921, top of page, figure caption 20.4 should be:

Figure 20.4 Yamaha DX7II FD synthesizer.

Page 936, eighth line of text, should read:

“. . . for a sample within 1/50,000th of a second, or 20 **microseconds**, . . .”

Chapter 21 MIDI

Page 1007, “Bandwidth limitations” section, second line of text, should read:

“It takes 320 **usec** to transmit one word, or 960 **usec**. . .”

Page 1016:

Delete “MIDI Contacts” section.

Appendix

Page 1075, “Fourier Analysis” section, second line of text, should read:

“. . . Fourier (1768–1830), **presented a revised theory** . . .”

Page 1100, caption of figure A.17, last line of text, should read:

“. . . window indicates sidebands ranging from 22 To **4004 Hz**.”

References

Page 1135, “David, E., M. Mathews, and H. McDonald. 1958. ‘Description and results of experiments with speech using digital computer simulation.’ *Proceedings of the National Electronics Conference. Volume IV. Chicago: National Electronics Conference.* pp. 766–775.”

Page 1146:

Move “Bird, J. 1982. *Percy Grainger.*” to page 1122.

Page 1161, “Levitt, D., 1981” entry, should read:

“A melody description system for jazz improvisation.” M.S. Thesis. Cambridge, Massachusetts: **M.I.T.** Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.

Page 1164, “Marino, G., M.-H. Serra, and J.-M. Raczinski. 1993” entry, should read:

“Marino, G., M.-H. Serra, and J.-M. Raczinski. 1993. ‘The UPIC system, origins and innovations.’ *Perspectives of New Music* 31(1): 258–269.”

Page 1165, “Mathews, M., J. Miller, and E. David, Jr. 1961. ‘Pitch synchronous analysis of voiced sounds.’ *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* 33: 179–186.

Page 1166, “McAdams, S. 1982. ‘Spectral fusion and the creation of auditory images.’ In M. Clynes, ed. *Music, Mind, and Brain: The Neuropsychology of Music.* New York: Plenum.

Name Index

Page 1206, add:

“Englert, G., 685”

Page 1208, add:

“Parmegiani, B., 119”

Page 1209, “Strawn, J.” entry, add:

“131, 150”