

If needed: Answers to these interactive questions are at [www.MotionGenesis.com](http://www.MotionGenesis.com) ⇒ [Textbooks](#) ⇒ [Resources](#).

### Questions to consider with discrete data: How quickly and how long to sample?

Name	Symbol	Associated question
<b>Highest frequency</b>	$B$	Highest expected frequency? (Hz)
<b>Frequency resolution</b>	$\Delta\omega_H$	How fine a resolution in the frequency domain?
<b>Sampling rate</b>	$\Delta t < \frac{1}{2B}$	How often do you sample the function? ( <i>Nyquist criteria</i> )
<b>Total sampling time</b>	$t_{\text{final}} > \frac{1}{\Delta\omega_H}$	How long do you sample?

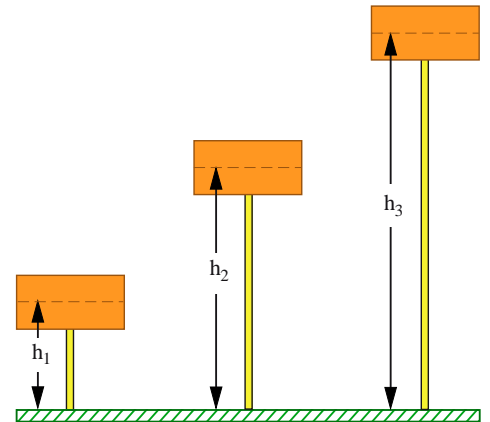
Note: If you want fine resolution in the frequency domain (e.g., resolve differences between 0.012 Hz and 0.013 Hz) you must sample for a long time. However, you do not necessarily have to take many samples.

**Ideal:** Sample quickly (small  $\Delta t$ ) to “hear” highest frequency. Sample for a long time (large  $t_{\text{final}}$ ) to get fine frequency resolution (small  $\Delta\omega_H$ ). The cost is a large **number of samples**  $N = \frac{t_{\text{final}}}{\Delta t}$  (collect data frequently and for a long time).

### Earthquakes and building shaking

Listed below are geometry and material for three “buildings”:

Description	Symbol	Value
Building heights	$h_1$	10 cm
	$h_2$	20 cm
	$h_3$	30 cm
Mass of block	$m$	50 g
Radius of wire	$r$	0.75 mm
Wire elastic modulus	$E$	$200 \times 10^9 \text{ N/m}^2$



The solid cylindrical wire’s bending area moment of inertia is

$$I = \frac{\pi r^4}{4} = 2.65 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}^4$$

Each building’s bending stiffness  $k_i$  is approximated using  $E$ ,  $I$ , and  $h_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) as follows.

Next, each building’s natural vibration frequency is approximated as (in Hz =  $\frac{\text{cycles}}{\text{sec}}$ )

$$k_1 = \frac{3EI}{h_1^3} = 159 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}}$$

$$k_2 = \frac{3EI}{h_2^3} = 20 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}}$$

$$k_3 = \frac{3EI}{h_3^3} = 6 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{m}}$$

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k_1}{m}} = 9.0 \text{ Hz}$$

$$f_2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k_2}{m}} = 3.2 \text{ Hz}$$

$$f_3 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k_3}{m}} = 1.7 \text{ Hz}$$

You are tasked with collecting 50 seconds of ground acceleration data. Approximately what sampling rate would you choose to ensure you see a range of frequencies relevant for concern about building shaking?

<sup>1</sup>Since **bandwidth**  $B \triangleq \omega_{\text{high}} - \omega_{\text{low}}$  and usually for Fourier transforms  $\omega_{\text{low}} = 0$ , hence  $B = \omega_{\text{high}}$ .

**Result:**

- Concerned about frequencies:  —  Hz
- Sample at a minimum of:  Hz

Consider the time-data (top-right) and its Discrete Fourier Transform (bottom-right).

Based on this information the building that probably shakes most is  cm high.

Note: This data was sampled at 100 Hz (much higher than needed).

