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Subject: Holism and reductionism

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2003 19:26:15 GMT

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You never hear an instantaneous pressure. That's what is the result of any instantaneous voltage applied to a loudspeaker. Instead, you hear exactly what you described - a series of pressure changes. And I find (spkrman57) Ron's description is right on the money - that these waveforms all ride on top of each other. In fact, every signal can be reduced to a composite collection of sine waves. It can also be viewed as a holistic single wave shape. Both are accurate ways to describe a signal. But one is a "forest view" and the other is a "tree view." The "forest view" is the one that we "hear" - Maybe you could say it's the illusion we perceive. We don't hear the individual pressures or sines and only hear the whole, which requires time and space to develop within.

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