DIGITAL RECORDING & SEQUENCING (c.1980 – Present day)

AoS 3: DIGITAL SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE

Digital Recording

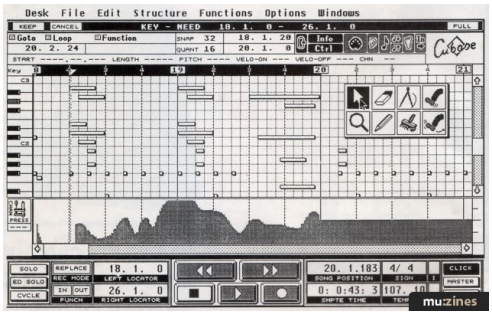
- Studios were beginning to include **digital technology** in their setups
- Digital tape machines **converted** incoming **audio signals** into **binary data (ADC)**
- As technology improved, recording units became much **smaller**

- Digital tape began to be used as opposed to analogue magnetic tape
- The binary information would be recorded onto the tape as it spun past the record head
- Moore's Law states that technology will either halve in size, halve in price or become twice as powerful every two years
    - Hard disk audio recorders were one of these smaller recording units

Sequencers & MIDI

- The introduction of **MIDI** allowed sequencers to send and receive messages **digitally**

- MIDI programming on early hardware devices was very **manual**
- Developments like the **Atari ST** allowed for the use of **computers** to **program MIDI**



- Pictured: Atari ST
- As opposed to analogue CVs
- Programming required a lot of time and skill
- Computer sequencers became a very popular method of controlling synthesisers
    - Many popular DAWs such as Logic and Cubase started out as MIDI sequencers on the Atari