Commute by Dataveyes
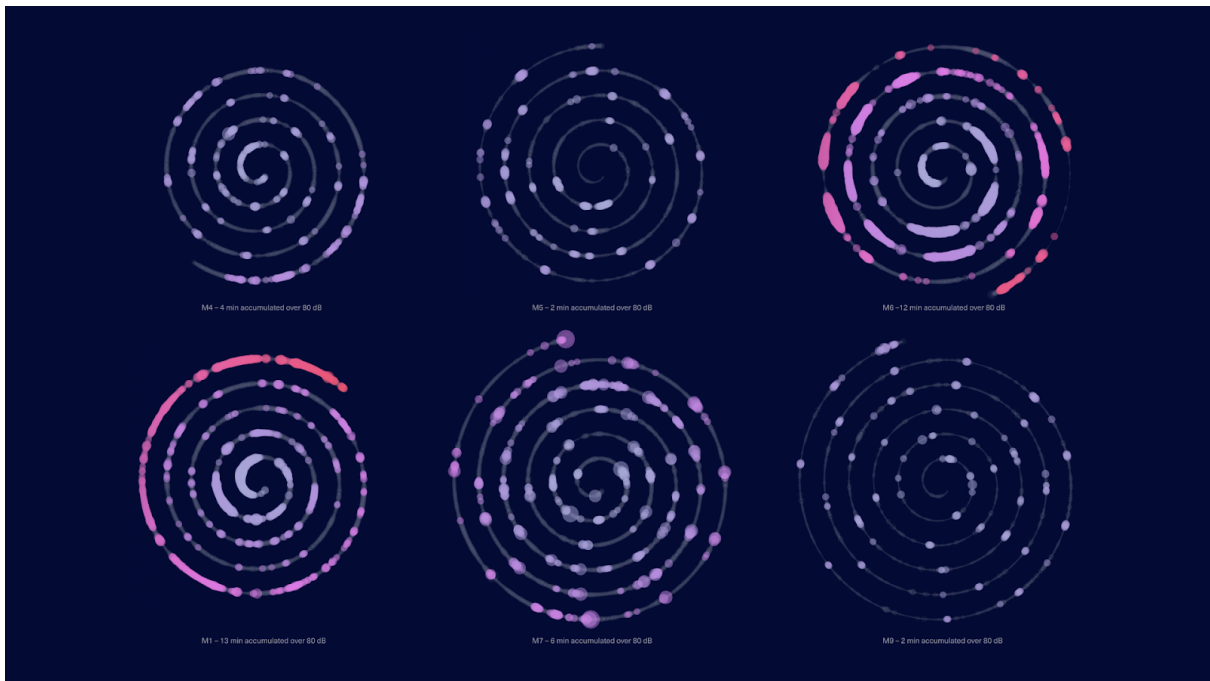
The *Commute* project from Dataveyes is an immersive experience, audible and interactive, to explore the soundprint of a public transport line.
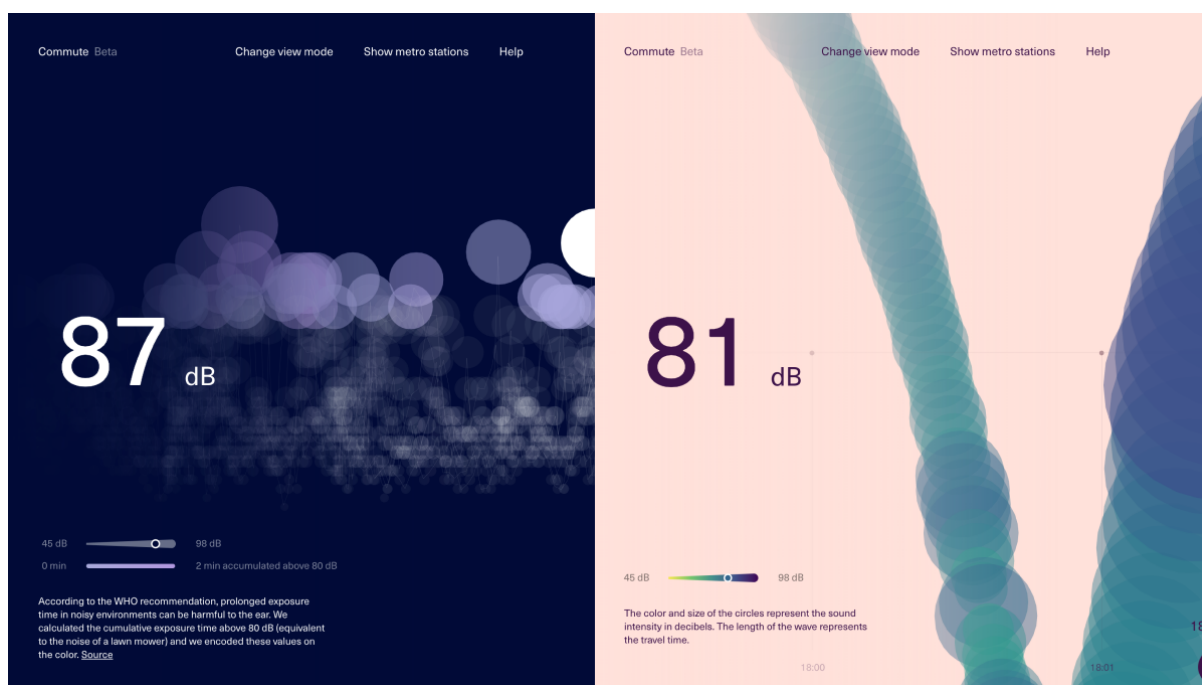
The experience makes you see and hear the noises that surround us in our daily commutes, and have an impact on our fatigue and our health. By combining visual and sound in a poetic way, *Commute* will perhaps awaken the consciousness on a rarely spoken topic: noise pollution in Cities[1].

The application matches the recorded noise with the frequencies and the intensity of the sound. It visualises and plays data from a daily commute. Thus, it makes tangible and poetic the noise that directly affect our fatigue, our health, etc.

With this project, Dataveyes, a company specialising in data visualisation, adds a string to its bow with the representation of data through sound, that is, data sonification. In *Commute*, the collected data generate a harmonious melody thanks to an algorithm matching gathered decibels and harmonic frequencies (pentatonic system). The noise is transformed into a data-driven melody.

Two different views: one to visualise the ambient noise during subway journeys, and one to compare the fatigue accumulated along the Paris subway lines.

Dataveyes is thinking of opening the project to the public so that everyone could upload[2] the noise pollution of their daily journey, and thus automatically generate the fingerprint (sound and visual) of public transport lines. A way to make the noise from different daily journeys in the world some unique melodies.

Through Commute, we are betting the immersive experience, the interactivity and the sound, can empower the inhabitants of big cities on their daily life. By making the noise of our journey visible, material and explorable, we make it possible to highlight the noise pollution, and so become aware of its importance. We provide citizens with tangible, measurable and visible arguments in order to bring the topic to Cities.

Link: https://commute.dataveyes.com/.
Images and video capture: link.

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[1] For more information on this subject, see this article in the New Yorker.

[2] Apple recently announced the release of the Noise application for this fall, turning the Apple Watch into a device capable of measuring noise around you (see this article from Wired).