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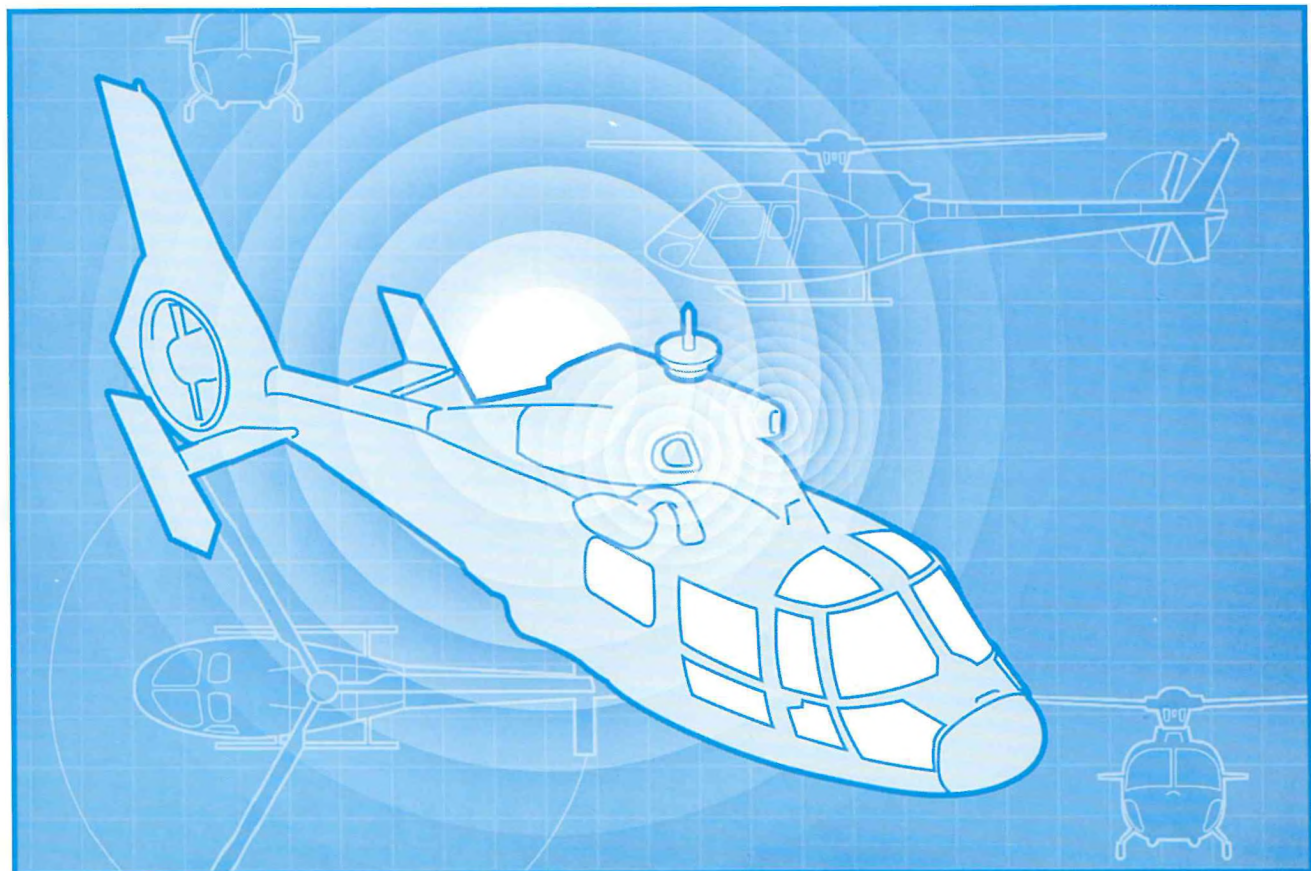
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Volume 26 — Numéro 4

EDITORIAL / ÉDITORIAL	1
TECHNICAL ARTICLES AND NOTES / ARTICLES ET NOTES TECHNIQUES	
Analytical formulation of the radiation of sound from a rectangular duct <i>Sid-Ali Meslioui</i>	3
Optimizing classroom acoustics using computer model studies Rebecca Reich and John Bradley	15
PROCEEDINGS OF ACOUSTICS WEEK IN CANADA 1998 / ACTES DE LA SEMAINE CANADIENNE D'ACOUSTIQUE 1998	
Field sound transmission loss in low rise construction	23
Speech recognition: current status and prospects	24
Recognizing disfluencies in spontaneous speech	26
OTHER FEATURES / AUTRES RUBRIQUES	
News / Informations	29
Minutes of CAA Directors' meeting / Compte rendu de la réunion des directeurs de l'ACA	32
Minutes of CAA Directors' meeting	34
1998 CAA Prize Winners / Récipiendaires de l'ACA 1998	38
1998 CAA membership directory / Annuaire des membres de l'ACA 1997	41

Jérémye Voix



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EDITORIAL / ÉDITORIAL

"*Uneasy Lies the Head that Wears a Crown*" King Henry IV, Part II

Let me hope that the Bard's pithy statement doesn't hold true in this instance and that *uneasiness* doesn't go with this position, now that I have the unenviable task of filling the shoes of my predecessor, Murray Hodgson. I'd like to begin by thanking Murray for steering the *Canadian Acoustics* on an even keel for all these years. Against all obstacles, Murray performed a yeoman's job and I believe Murray deserves collective kudos from all of us.

I am sure, now that a new captain has taken over, all of you must wonder about the journey the journal has embarked on and the directions the journal is expected to take. I am thankful that the old guard, Chantal Laroche, Chris Hugh and Francine Desharnais, have graciously agreed to continue to work with me. One of my colleagues at Aiolos Engineering, Dr. Sid-Ali Meslioui, has offered to assist me with French translations. So we begin with a strong team and the beginning portends well.

The journal will continue as it is for sometime. However, I am cognizant of the results of our President, John Bradley's, recent survey, that the membership expects the journal to have a strong presence within the Canadian Acoustical Association. I shall truly endeavour to make the journal evolve into something midway between a trade magazine such as *Sound and Vibration*, and an academic journal such as the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*. My main hope is to have the focus of *Canadian Acoustics* on the acoustical activities across Canada. I strongly believe that it is possible to have a journal that caters to a wide professional audience across Canada. Join me to make this happen!

"*Mensonges incommodes la tête qui porte une couronne*" le Roi Henry IV, partie II

Laissez-moi espérer que le rapport vigoureux de Bard ne juge pas vrai dans ce cas, et que l'inconfort n'est pas assortie à cette position, maintenant que j'ai la tâche détestable d'enfiler les pantoufles de mon prédécesseur, Murray Hodgson. Je voudrais commencer par remercier Murray pour avoir orienter l'*Acoustique Canadienne* sur une voie solide durant toutes ces années. Murray a exécuté son travail avec beaucoup de persévérance et de tenacité malgré tous les obstacles. Je crois donc que Murray mérite les plus vives félicitations de la part de chacun d'entre nous.

Je suis sûr, maintenant qu'un nouveau capitaine a succédé, vous tous devrez vous demandez sur quelle voie le journal s'est embarqué et dans quelles directions il sera orienter. Je suis reconnaissant que la vieille garde, Chantal Laroche, Chris Hugh et Francine Desharnais, aient gracieusement accepté de continuer à travailler avec moi. Un de mes collègues à Aiolos Engineering, Dr. Sid-Ali Meslioui, a offert de m'aider avec les traductions françaises. Ainsi nous commençons par une équipe forte et les débuts s'annoncent déjà très prometteurs.

Le journal va continuer comme il est pendant encore quelques temps. Cependant, je suis conscient des résultats du dernier sondage, de notre président John Bradley, que les membres s'attendent à ce que le journal ait une présence forte dans l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique. J'essayerai vraiment de transformer le journal en quelque chose à mi-chemin entre un magazine commercial tel que "Sound and Vibration", et un journal typiquement académique tel que "Journal of the Acoustical Society of America." Mon principal espoir est d'orienté l'*Acoustique Canadienne* envers toutes les activités d'acoustique à travers le Canada. Je crois sincèrement qu'il est possible d'avoir un journal qui répond non seulement aux besoins des membres de l'association mais aussi à celui des professionnels à travers le pays. Joignez-moi donc pour réaliser ceci.

WHAT ' S NEW ??

Promotions	Retirements
Deaths	Degrees awarded
New jobs	Distinctions
Moves	Other news

QUOI DE NEUF ??

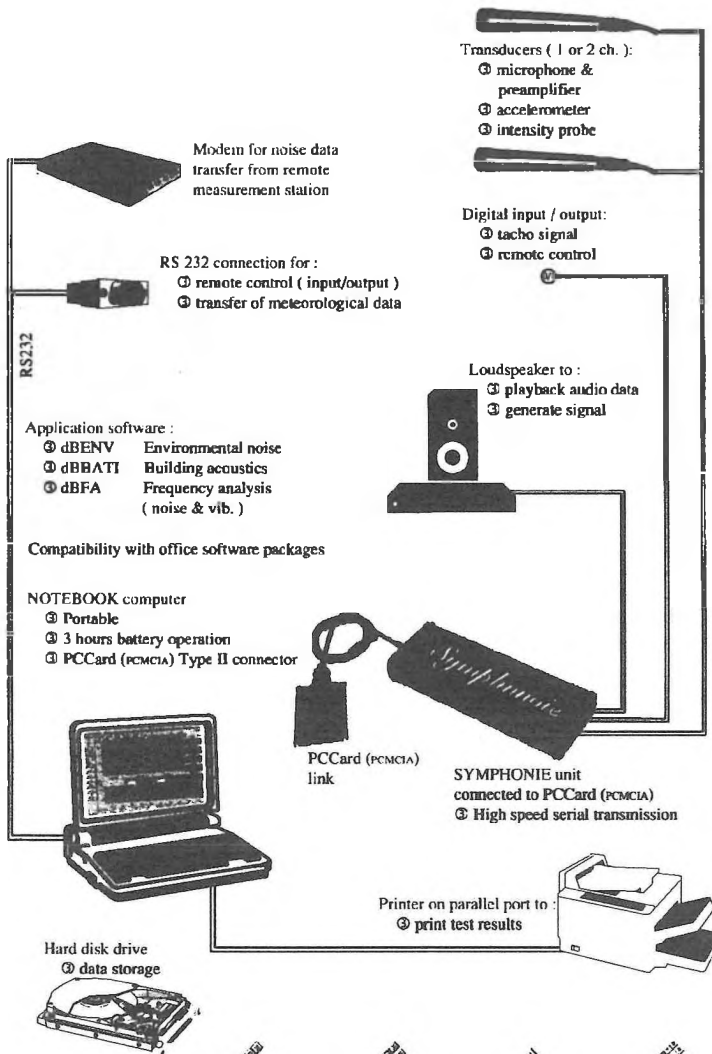
Promotions	Retraites
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Do you have any news that you would like to share with *Canadian Acoustics* readers? If so, send it to:

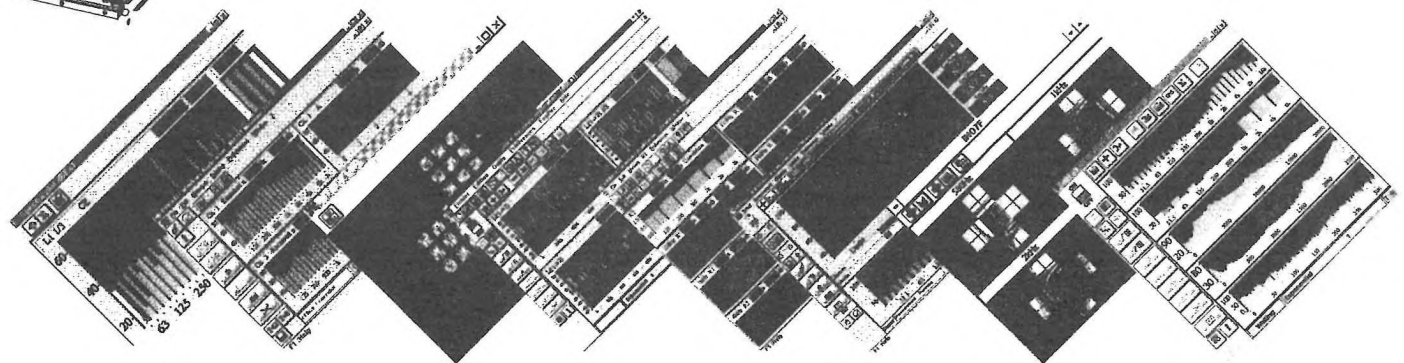
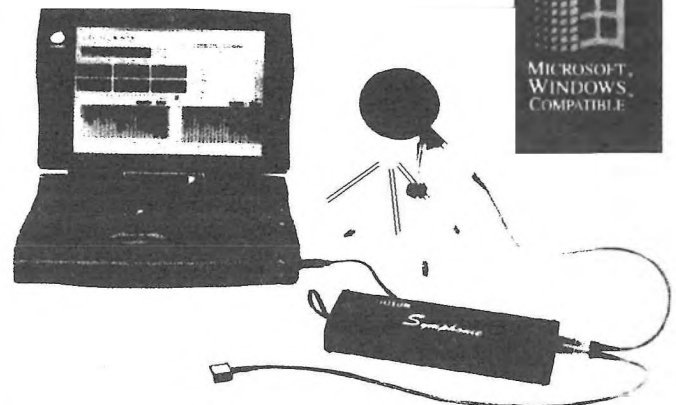
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ANALYTICAL FORMULATION OF THE RADIATION OF SOUND FROM A RECTANGULAR LINED DUCT

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SUMMARY

This paper deals with the radiation of sound from the open-end of a flanged rectangular lined duct. The duct model consists of a semi-infinite rectangular duct with a lined section of length L . The efficiency of the acoustic treatment for the radiated sound is evaluated by comparing the total power radiated from a duct with and without the lined section. This procedure also allows evaluation of the directivity patterns. The transmitted modal coefficients at the impedance discontinuity junction for a propagating mode (plane wave or higher order mode), incident from the rigid duct, are calculated. Simple analytical tools to predict the radiation of sound have been developed by using the "baffled membrane" approximation method. This model cannot handle reflections from the end, nor radiation to the back, nor an eventual outside flow. However, it is well adapted to the case of a lined duct treated with an arbitrary acoustic impedance, where an exact solution for even a two-dimensional duct is difficult. This method can be applied to turbofan noise and to HVAC systems for possible altering of the radiation pattern by either modifying the radiation field or the types of propagating modes.

SOMMAIRE

Nous présentons ici un modèle simplifié du rayonnement acoustique par l'extrémité d'un conduit droit à section rectangulaire dont seule la partie terminale est traitée par un revêtement absorbant sur une longueur donnée L . Lorsqu'une onde acoustique incidente, constituée d'un mode de propagation donné, arrive sur la portion traitée, il se forme une onde transmise et une onde réfléchi, toutes deux combinaisons de modes de propagation. Les modes de l'onde transmise sont atténués puisque les nombres d'ondes associés sont complexes. S'ils atteignent l'extrémité du conduit en conservant une amplitude suffisante, ils rayonnent à l'extérieur. Dans un premier temps, on calcule les coefficients modaux des modes transmis, puis le rayonnement acoustique par l'extrémité. Cependant, le modèle proposé ne prend en compte ni les réflexions, ni le rayonnement vers l'arrière, ni un éventuel écoulement du milieu extérieur. En revanche, il fournit des résultats simples à exploiter et se prête donc parfaitement à une étude paramétrique. De plus, il est parfaitement adapté au cas d'un conduit avec parois absorbantes, alors que la prise en compte d'une impédance de paroi induit des complications considérables dans la solution analytique exacte, même en configuration bidimensionnelle. Finalement, ce modèle a l'avantage de fournir un outil de calcul prévisionnel du rayonnement acoustique par l'extrémité d'un conduit bafflé.

1. INTRODUCTION

In general, a propagating acoustic mode in a duct (plane wave or higher order mode) suffers diffraction at the exit plane of the duct. This phenomena results in both reflected and incident waves in the duct, as well as the radiation of the sound to the outside. The description of the phenomena in the near field is quite complicated, and in general, greater interest is given to the radiated sound in the far field.

The initial studies on the radiation of sound from an infinite

rectangular flanged duct were conducted by Rayleigh [1]. The radiated sound was calculated from the known end section acoustic velocity by using the so-called "Rayleigh Integral." This approximation is also known as "baffled membrane method." Many later studies are based on this model.

The exact solution of the radiation problem, for the fundamental mode, from the end of a semi-infinite circular duct was developed by Levine and Schwinger [2], who applied the Wiener-Hopf technique [3] to solve the integral

equation. The study showed that the plane wave reflection coefficient tends to zero at high frequencies which means that an approximate solution can thus be obtained by neglecting the reflection from the end at high frequencies. Later, Tyler and Sofrin [4] proposed a similar solution for the case of a rectangular or an annular duct for any incident mode. They found out that, in the case of higher order modes, the reflection coefficients need to be considered only near the cut-off frequencies of the modes while it tends to zero quickly above these frequencies (Morfeý [5] and Homicz et al. [6]). The case of a lined duct with a known acoustic impedance was solved by Zorumski [7]. Later, Lansing et al. [8] studied the effect of the impedance of the duct walls on the transmission-reflection coefficients and on the radiation from the end of a baffled duct.

Koch [9] used the Wiener-Hopf technique to study the effect of a finite layer of an acoustic material, in a two dimensional semi-infinite duct, on the propagation and radiation of modes. He showed that the attenuation for a given mode is effective only around its cut-off frequency. However, the acoustic field has considerably changed because of the conversion of the modes due to the presence of the liner. Johnston and Ogimoto [10] also used the Wiener-Hopf technique to study the radiation of sound from the end of a finite cylinder containing uniform flow. Their method had to resort to many numerical approximations due to complicated analytical developments. Finally, Candel [11] developed analytical expression to calculate the radiation of acoustic modes from the end of a duct with uniform mean flow. He applied Fraunhofer approximation to the Kirchhoff formulation (formulation similar to that of the baffled membrane). The results were similar those obtained by Wiener-Hopf techniques.

The above studies mainly dealt with semi-infinite duct with simple geometry. The difficulties arise when the geometry or the shape of the duct is no longer straight, where only numerical methods (Finite Element or Boundary Element Methods) seem to be useful. These numerical methods, Kagawa et al. [12], and Wu and Lee [13], can be used to solve for ducts of arbitrary cross-sections and with finite length. However, these methods are frequency dependent and require a long computational time. Finally, Hamdi [14, 15] developed a method to predict the noise radiated from finite length ducts with arbitrary shape. The computation of the internal and external acoustic field is based upon a new variational formulation of the integral equations.

It is seen that the exact solution for the radiation of sound from an open duct of arbitrary shape or for a lined duct is not possible. This paper presents a simple method to predict the radiation of sound from a semi-infinite rectangular lined duct. The acoustic treatment is over length L , near the open end. This model, even though complicated due to the presence of the lined section, seems to provide more realistic results compared to the cases of fully lined and

unlined ducts to determine the attenuation provided by the liner. Furthermore, this model will be of great use because of its simple formulation in turbofan noise and HVAC systems design.

The efficiency of the acoustic treatment for the radiated sound is evaluated by comparing the total power radiated from a duct with and without the lined section. This procedure can also be used to study the directivity patterns. However, this model is not suitable to evaluate end reflections or ducts with mean flow.

The presence of a lined section induces a discontinuity problem which is solved in the first part. The modal coefficients of the transmitted modes are calculated from a matrix system which depends on the eigenvalues of the duct modes.

The second part deals with the radiation problem. A comparison between an exact solution obtained by using Wiener-Hopf techniques, Candel [11,18], and the approximate solution based on the baffled membrane method for the radiation of sound from a two semi-infinite parallel plates, is also discussed. This comparison provides a validation of the model elaborated in the last section. Furthermore, analytical expressions are also given to calculate the radiation of sound from the end of the duct.

2. SOUND PROPAGATION IN DUCT WITH DISCONTINUITY OF IMPEDANCE

Sound propagation in a flanged rectangular duct treated with acoustic lining over a length L near the flanged end is analyzed in this section. The duct and the coordinate system are shown in Figure 1. The first section of the duct (section I) has rigid walls; the second section (section II) has its all four walls treated with an acoustic liners with known normal acoustic impedance. Let us now consider an acoustic mode (m_0, n_0) incident from the rigid section I with an amplitude $A_{m_0 n_0}$. The acoustic mode, at the junction between the lined and unlined sections of the duct, is partly transmitted into the lined section as a series of modes with complex amplitudes \hat{A}_{qp} and partly reflected back into the rigid section I with complex modal amplitudes \hat{B}_{mm} . The acoustic energy in the incident mode is thus partially transmitted into the lined section and partially reflected back. The determination of the amplitudes of the transmitted modes is described in section 2.2.

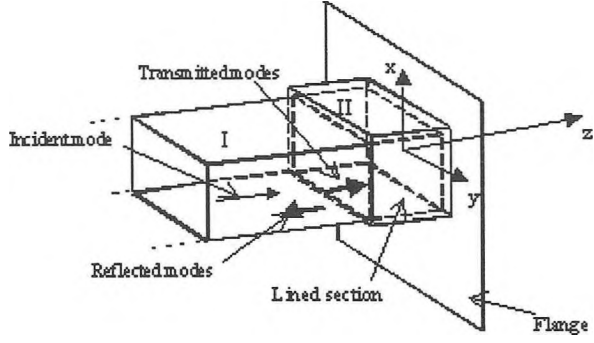


Figure 1-a: Flanged rectangular duct with an acoustically lined end section

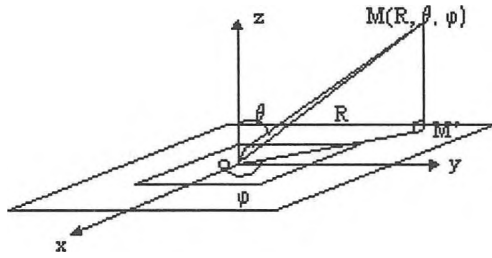


Figure 1-b: Radiation system coordinates

2.1 Basic Equations

The acoustic field inside the duct is determined by the Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta P + k^2 P = 0 \quad (1)$$

where P is the acoustic pressure, $k = \omega/c_0$ is the wave number, ω the angular frequency and ρ , c_0 are the ambient density and speed of sound respectively. The sidewall boundary conditions are

- In section I: $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{n}}} = 0$
at $x = \pm l_x/2$; $y = \pm l_y/2$ (2)

- In section II: $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{n}}} = ikAP$
at $x = \pm l_x/2$; $y = \pm l_y/2$ (3)

where A is the normalized wall admittance of a “locally reacting” boundary and $\tilde{\mathbf{n}}$ is the outward normal.

The general solution for the pressure field in section I of the duct is given by, (the term $e^{i\omega t}$ is implicit throughout the paper)

$$P_I(x, y, z) = A_{m_0 n_0} \Psi(K_{m_0} x) \Psi(K_{n_0} y) e^{-iK_{m_0 n_0} z} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{B}_{mn} \Psi(K_m x) \Psi(K_n y) e^{iK_{mn} z} \quad (4)$$

where,

$$\begin{cases} \Psi(K_m x) = \frac{\cos(K_m x)}{\sin(K_m x)} \\ \Psi(K_n y) = \frac{\cos(K_n y)}{\sin(K_n y)} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

are the eigenfunctions. A cosine function is used for the even modes and a sine function for the odd modes. The transverse wave numbers K_m and K_n are determined by the boundary condition (2) and are

$$\begin{cases} K_m = (m-1)\pi / l_x \\ K_n = (n-1)\pi / l_y \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where l_x and l_y are the cross-sectional dimensions of the duct in the x and y direction respectively. ‘ m ’ and ‘ n ’ are integers different from zero.

The axial wave number is given by the following dispersion equation

$$K_{mn}^2 = k^2 - (K_m^2 + K_n^2) \quad (7)$$

The propagation of the waves in the axial direction is possible as long as the axial wave number $K_{mn}^2 > 0$. According to equation (7), this is true for

$$\omega > c_0 \sqrt{K_m^2 + K_n^2} = \omega_{mn}^c \quad (8)$$

Below this “cut-off” frequency ω_{mn}^c , the axial wave number K_{mn} becomes a purely imaginary number, and the propagation factors in equation (4) turn into $e^{-|K_{mn}z|}$; which means the amplitudes of these modes decay exponentially with axial distance from the source: they are “cut-off”. Notice that the mode (m_0, n_0) is just one particular mode over all possible (m, n) modes.

Now, let us consider the case of a treated duct: the general solution for the pressure field in Section II of the duct is (assuming that reflections from the end of the duct are neglected)

$$P_{II}(x, y, z) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \hat{A}_{qp} \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_q x) \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_p y) e^{-i \hat{K}_{qp} z} \quad (9)$$

where,

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_q x) = \frac{\cos(\hat{K}_q x)}{\sin(\hat{K}_q x)} \\ \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_p y) = \frac{\cos(\hat{K}_p y)}{\sin(\hat{K}_p y)} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

are the complex eigenfunctions. The transverse wave numbers are determined by the boundary condition (3),

$$\begin{cases} \hat{K}_q = \hat{\mu}_q \pi / l_x \\ \hat{K}_p = \hat{\mu}_p \pi / l_y \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

and the axial wave number by the following dispersion equation

$$\hat{K}_{qp}^2 = k^2 - (\hat{K}_q^2 + \hat{K}_p^2) \quad (12)$$

where $\hat{\mu}_q$ and $\hat{\mu}_p$ are complex numbers. Note, in this case, the "cut-off notion" has no physical meaning. Assuming $\hat{K}_{qp} = (\alpha \pm i \beta) k$, α is the non-dimensional axial wave number and β is the damping factor of the mode. β should be positive for a mode propagating in $z > 0$ direction. This means that we should look for a solution to equation (12) that gives attenuation.

Solving equation (9) by the method of separation of variables and imposing the boundary conditions (3) leads to the following characteristic equations

$$\left(\hat{K}_e l_j / 2 \right) \tan \left(\hat{K}_e l_j / 2 \right) = \pm i k A l_j / 2 \quad (13)$$

where the term in tangent is used for even modes and the one with cotangent for odd modes. Indices 'e' and 'j' represent q or p and x or y respectively depending on the propagation direction.

The axial and transverse wave numbers were computed using a numerical scheme developed by Eversman [16, 17], where the characteristic equation is transformed into a first order non-linear differential equation. The differential equation is integrated by using a Runge-Kutta algorithm with appropriate initial values. The transverse wave numbers are then used to compute the axial wave number using equation (12).

2.2 Calculation of Transmitted Modal Coefficients

The pressure and acoustic velocity are related by the momentum equation

$$\nabla \bar{P} = -i k \rho c_0 \bar{V} \quad (14)$$

Using equations (4) and (9), the axial velocity in both sections (I and II) can be written as

$$\begin{cases} V_I(x, y, z) = (1/k \rho c_0) \left\{ A_{m_0 n_0} K_{m_0 n_0} e^{-i K_{m_0 n_0} z} \Psi(K_{m_0} x) \Psi(K_{n_0} y) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{B}_{mn} K_{mn} e^{i K_{mn} z} \Psi(K_m x) \Psi(K_n y) \right\} \\ V_{II}(x, y, z) = (1/k \rho c_0) \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \hat{A}_{qp} \hat{K}_{qp} \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_q x) \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_p y) e^{-i \hat{K}_{qp} z} \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

The unknown amplitudes \hat{A}_{qp} and \hat{B}_{mn} in equations (4), (9) and (15) are determined from a system of linear equations obtained by applying continuity conditions: the pressures and axial velocities in the two sections of the duct must be equal at the junction ($z = 0$) of the lined and unlined sections.

$$\begin{cases} P_I(x, y, 0) = P_{II}(x, y, 0) \\ V_I(x, y, 0) = V_{II}(x, y, 0) \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

Thus, by substituting equations (4), (9) and (15) into (16) and using the orthogonality properties of the eigenfunctions, the following system for the transmitted modal coefficients is obtained

$$\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \sum_{p=1}^{\infty} \hat{A}_{qp} \hat{I}_{m'q} \hat{J}_{n'p} (\hat{K}_{qp} + K_{m'n'}) = A_{m_0 n_0} \frac{(1+\delta_{m_0 1})(1+\delta_{n_0 1})}{2} \delta_{m_0 m'} \delta_{n_0 n'} (K_{m'n'} + K_{m_0 n_0}) \quad (17)$$

where δ is the Kronecker delta and

$$\hat{I}_{ij} = \frac{1}{l_x} \int_{-l_x/2}^{l_x/2} \Psi(K_i, x) \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_j, x) dx \quad (18)$$

$$\hat{J}_{ij} = \frac{1}{l_y} \int_{-l_y/2}^{l_y/2} \Psi(K_i, y) \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_j, y) dy \quad (19)$$

Equations (18) and (19) are solved analytically. The same process as described above leads to a system of equation, as in (17) for the reflected modal coefficients. The reflected modal coefficients are not discussed here, since the aim is to calculate the radiated sound field.

The system indices, m and n , vary from 1 to M_m and 1 to N_n respectively; while q, p vary from 1 to Q_q and 1 to P_p respectively after truncation. M_m and N_n are the total possible propagating modes along 'x' and 'y' in Section I. Therefore, we have $[Q_q * P_p]$ complex equations and $[Q_q * P_p]$ complex unknown which are the transmitted modal coefficients. The final linear system (17) could be re-written as,

$$[a] \cdot [X] = [b] \quad (20)$$

where,

$[a]$ complex vector which contains the modal transmitted coefficients to be determined,

$[X]$ complex matrix which depends on the modes (m, n) and on the eigenvalues of the system,

$[b]$ known vector which depends on the incident mode (m_0, n_0) and its amplitude $A_{m_0 n_0}$.

The final matrix $[X]$ is square and the dimension of the system is multiplied by 2 to account for the complex numbers, therefor the final matrix dimension are $[2 * Q_q * P_p, 2 * Q_q * P_p]$. Further, The truncation is performed at $Q_q = M_m + 2$ and $P_p = N_n + 2$, and has been checked when calculating all possible transmitted and reflected coefficients at the discontinuity junction for any incident mode (m_0, n_0) . It has been found that it's worthless and time consuming to consider a number of modes (generated in section II) greater than the limit chosen above. Finally, a numerical scheme, using LU decomposition algorithm with a matrix inversion, has been used to solve the final matrix system.

3. RADIATION FROM THE END OF THE DUCT

The radiated acoustic power from the duct is evaluated using

$$W = \int_{\varphi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi/2} \frac{|P(M)|^2}{2 \rho c_0} R^2 \sin \theta \, d\theta \, d\varphi \quad (21)$$

where $P(M)$ is the complex acoustic pressure at a location M in space expressed in spherical coordinates, $M = (R, \theta, \varphi)$.

The acoustic pressure in equation (21) can be written in terms of surface velocity using the Rayleigh integral,

$$P(M) = \frac{i\omega \rho}{2\pi} \int_S V(x_0, y_0) \Big|_{z=L} \frac{e^{-ikh}}{h} dS \quad (22)$$

where h is the distance between the source location $M_0(x_0, y_0)$ and the receiver location M . The acoustic far-field hypothesis leads to the following approximations

$$\frac{1}{h} \approx \frac{1}{R} \quad \text{for the amplitude, and}$$

$$kh \approx kR - D_x x_0 - D_y y_0 \quad \text{for the phase}$$

where,

$$D_x = k \sin \theta \cos \varphi \quad (23)$$

$$D_y = k \sin \theta \sin \varphi \quad (24)$$

3.1 Rigid Duct

Equation (22) can be calculated analytically for each incident mode of a rigid duct. For a given mode (m_0, n_0) the fluctuation of the pressure can be written as, for an even-even mode excluding the fundamental mode $(m, n) = (1, 1)$:

$$|P(M)| = \frac{1}{2\pi R} |A_{m_0 n_0}| |4 K_{m_0 n_0} | D_x | | D_y | \left| \frac{\sin(D_x l_x / 2)}{K_{m_0}^2 - D_x^2} \right| \left| \frac{\sin(D_y l_y / 2)}{K_{n_0}^2 - D_y^2} \right| \quad (25)$$

The term $\sin(D_x l_x/2)$ is replaced by $\cos(D_x l_x/2)$ in the case of an odd mode (same thing for the y direction). In the particular case of the fundamental mode $(m, n) = (1, 1)$, the expression (25) becomes:

$$|P(M)| = \frac{|A_{11}|}{2\pi R} k l_x l_y \left| \frac{\sin(D_x l_x/2)}{(D_x l_x/2)} \right| \left| \frac{\sin(D_y l_y/2)}{(D_y l_y/2)} \right| \quad (26)$$

3.2 Lined Duct

The axial velocity component in integral (22) is complex

$$|\hat{P}(M)| = \frac{1}{2\pi R} \sum_{q=1}^{Q_q} \sum_{p=1}^{P_p} |\hat{A}_{qp}| \operatorname{Re}\{\hat{K}_{qp}\} e^{-2\operatorname{Im}\{\hat{K}_{qp}\}L} \times \left| \frac{D_x \sin(D_x l_x/2) \cos(\hat{K}_q l_x/2) - \hat{K}_q \cos(D_x l_x/2) \sin(\hat{K}_q l_x/2)}{\hat{K}_q^2 - D_x^2} \right| \times \left| \frac{D_y \sin(D_y l_y/2) \cos(\hat{K}_p l_y/2) - \hat{K}_p \cos(D_y l_y/2) \sin(\hat{K}_p l_y/2)}{\hat{K}_p^2 - D_y^2} \right| \quad (28)$$

Similar expressions can be obtained for the other cases by replacing the term $D_x \sin(D_x l_x/2) \cos(\hat{K}_q l_x/2)$ with $D_x \cos(D_x l_x/2) \sin(\hat{K}_q l_x/2)$ of equation (28), and $\hat{K}_q \cos(D_x l_x/2) \sin(\hat{K}_q l_x/2)$ with $\hat{K}_q \sin(D_x l_x/2) \cos(\hat{K}_q l_x/2)$ in the case of an odd mode (same thing apply for the modes in the y direction).

4. RESULTS

In the existing literature, the possibility of changing the radiation pattern by modifying the aperture field has received a little attention. While, the attenuation properties of acoustical lining have been extensively studied, its effect on the radiation pattern has been overlooked.

The validity of the present formulation for the radiated field is first discussed. For this, we have compared the present approximate radiated field from a simple duct contained within two parallel semi-infinite rigid plates with the exact Wiener-Hopf solution of Candel [18].

with acoustic treatment and is given by,

$$V(x_0, y_0) = (1/k \rho c_0) \sum_{q=1}^{Q_q} \sum_{p=1}^{P_p} \hat{A}_{qp} \hat{K}_{qp} \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_q x_0) \hat{\Psi}(\hat{K}_p y_0) e^{-i \hat{K}_{qp} L} \quad (27)$$

By replacing (27) into (22) and calculating the integral analytically, we obtain the following expression for the fluctuating pressure:

4.1 Validation

Consider now the duct, shown in Figure 2, formed by two semi-infinite parallel plates. The acoustic pressure in the far-field is given by the Rayleigh Integral which is written as follows for the 2D case,

$$P(M) = i \omega \rho \int_l V(x_0) \Big|_{z=0} \frac{e^{-ikr}}{\sqrt{2\pi r}} dl \quad (29)$$

Following the same process as described above, the expressions of the acoustic pressure in the far field are given below

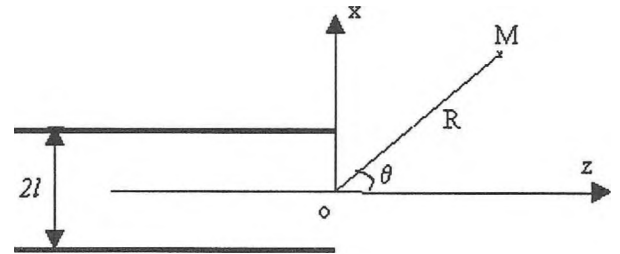


Figure 2. Geometry of the radiated problem for a duct formed by two semi-infinite rigid plates.

- Even modes (different from zero):

$$P(M) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi r}} |A_{m_0}| \sqrt{1 - (K_{m_0}/k)^2} \left| \frac{\sin \theta \sin(kl \sin \theta)}{(K_{m_0}/k)^2 - \sin^2 \theta} \right| \quad (30)$$

- Odd modes:

$$P(M) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi r}} |A_{m_0}| \sqrt{1 - (K_{m_0}/k)^2} \left| \frac{\sin \theta \cos(kl \sin \theta)}{(K_{m_0}/k)^2 - \sin^2 \theta} \right| \quad (31)$$

- Fundamental mode:

$$P(M) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi r}} |A_{m_0}| kl \left| \frac{\sin(kl \sin \theta)}{(kl \sin \theta)} \right| \quad (32)$$

where,

$|A_{m_0}|$ is the amplitude of the incident mode m_0 and K_{m_0} is its transverse wave number. The radiation field for multiple values of $k * l$ (reduced frequency) was calculated with the same mode number $m_0 = 2$ (incident mode) of Candel [18].

The radiation patterns for a duct formed by two semi-infinite parallel rigid plates are shown in Figure 3. The radiation pattern shows a larger number of lobes, a greater peak pressure, and angular distribution displaced towards the duct axis with increasing frequency. Most importantly, the approximate solution, represented on the right, agrees well with the exact solution, represented on the left, by the Wiener-Hopf technique. Even at high frequency, the agreement is good even though there is less radiation behind the duct aperture. Moreover, the direction of the main lobe remains unchanged in both cases and with the same sound pressure level.

4.2 Examples

The method described in section 3 leads to a simple relation to calculate the radiated far field from any rectangular duct. It also provides a useful tool for analytical study of the influence of lined duct wall on the radiation pattern.

The liners considered in this example are absorbers made of fibrous materials backed by a hard surface. The liners are assumed to be locally reacting. For a given flow resistivity σ , liner thickness d and frequency f , the impedance of the liner is determined by the empirical formulae given by Delany and Bazley [19]. The principal formula is:

$$Z = -i Z_c \cot(K_c d) \quad (33)$$

where,

$$Z_c = \rho c_0 \left[1 + 0.0571 X^{-.754} - i 0.087 X^{-.732} \right] \quad (34)$$

$$K_c = k \left[1 + 0.0978 X^{-.700} - i 0.189 X^{-.595} \right] \quad (35)$$

Z_c is the characteristic impedance of the material, K_c its wave number and $X = \rho f / \sigma$ a non-dimensional parameter. The admittance of the liner is $A = \rho c_0 / Z$

4.3 Discussion

Directivity patterns for lined ducts are shown in Figures 4 through 10, for liner thickness of 100 mm and fill density of 25 kg/m³. The treatment length, L , is 1 m and the acoustic far field pressure is calculated at a distance (R) of 10 m from the opening.

In Figures 4(a), 5(a), 6(a) and 7(a) the radiation patterns of the fundamental mode (1,1) are shown for the case of a rectangular rigid duct at different frequencies given in Table 1. The figures show one main lobe presenting a maximum along the duct axis which is a characteristic for that mode, and two or several side lobes depending on the frequency parameters. The same observation as described in section 4.1 can be made here about the lateral lobes: when the frequency increase, the radiation pattern shows a larger number of lobes, a greater peak pressure, and an angular distribution is displaced towards the duct axis.

Figures 4(b), 5(b), 6(b) and 7(b) show the effect of the liner on the directivity patterns in the case of a lined duct. It is seen that the radiation to the lateral sides is strongly reduced while the main lobe becomes more wider.

The results for a higher order incident mode (2,2), are shown in Figure 8 for $kl_x/2 \approx 5.5$; $kl_y/2 \approx 3.5$ and in Figure 9 for $kl_x/2 \approx 22$; $kl_y/2 \approx 14$. The rigid duct case is represented in Figures 8(a), 9(a) and the lined case in Figures 8(b), 9(b). In the rigid case, the sound pressure level at the duct axis is zero and the directivity is stronger in the lateral sides with 4 main lobes. The effects of the acoustic treatment on the radiation remain as described above with a weak radiation in the lateral sides.

Finally, the incident mode (4,3) is shown in Figures 10(a) and 10(b) for the rigid case and the lined case respectively at frequency ($kl_x/2 \approx 22$; $kl_y/2 \approx 14$). The same observations are evident.

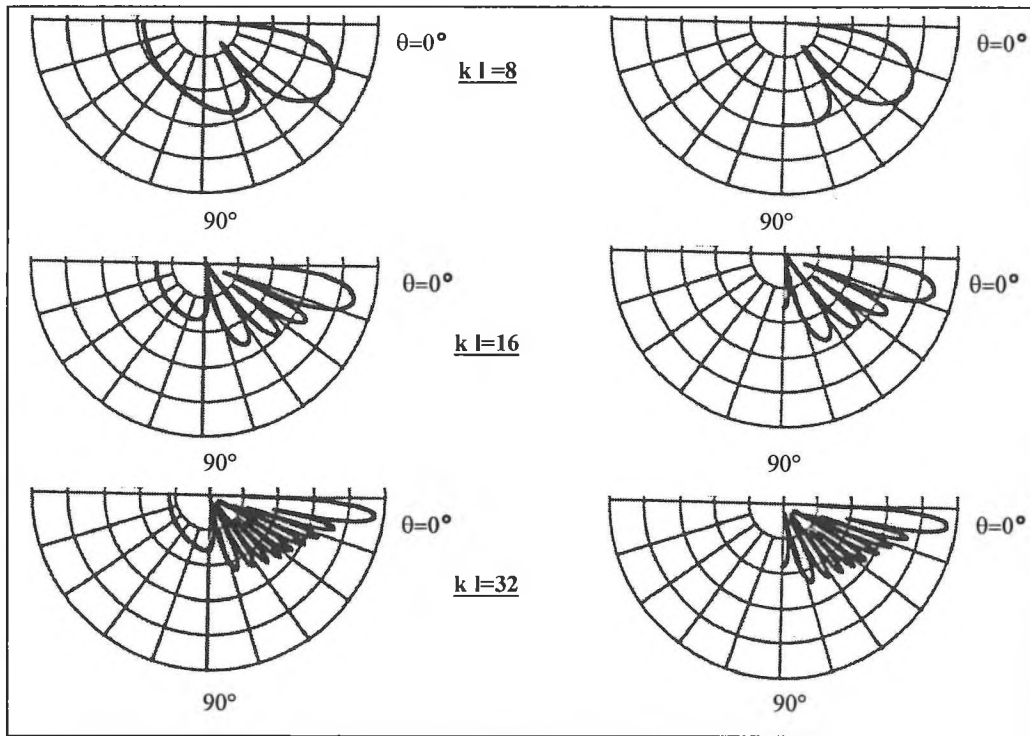


Figure 3. Radiation patterns for a duct formed by two semi-infinite parallel rigid plates. The exact Wiener-Hopf solution (by Candel [18]) is on the left; the approximate solution is on the right for different $k l$ and mode $m_0 = 2$ (scale: 10 dB per graduation).

Figure no.	Incident mode	Adimensional frequency parameter ($k l_x / 2; k l_y / 2$)	Normalized Admittance	Total possible modes	Possible modes in X direction	Possible modes in Y direction
4	(1,1)	(5.5; 3.5)	(1.15-i 0.53)	10	4	3
5	(1,1)	(11; 7)	(1.48-i 0.3)	31	7	5
6	(1,1)	(22; 14)	(1.1-i 0.25)	114	14	10
7	(1,1)	(55; 36)	(1.09-i 0.15)	668	35	24
8	(2,2)	(11; 7)	(1.48-i 0.3)	31	7	5
9	(2,2)	(22; 14)	(1.1-i 0.25)	114	14	10
10	(4,3)	(22; 14)	(1.1-i 0.25)	114	14	10

Table 1. Description of the parameters of Figures 4 to 10.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The radiation from a lined duct with finite length treatment was evaluated using analytical/numerical schemes. It was seen that the presence of an acoustic liner inside a duct significantly reduces the side radiation from the open end of the duct. The absorbing walls focus the acoustic energy towards the center axis of the duct. While, near the walls, the energy is absorbed and hence the pressure oscillations are small. The amplitude of the pressure field in the aperture is decreased towards the edges. Such a decrease is equivalent to a reduction of the aperture area and would

result in a broader main lobe in the radiation pattern and thus a lower directionality. However, the decreases in the amplitude of the pressure also produce a large reduction in the side lobe amplitudes. For the fundamental mode, the maximum of the radiated sound is reached at the duct axis as expected.

Finally, the analytical expressions developed here provide a useful tool to study the influence of a lined duct wall on the radiation pattern. It also allows the possibility of changing the radiation pattern by modifying the aperture field.

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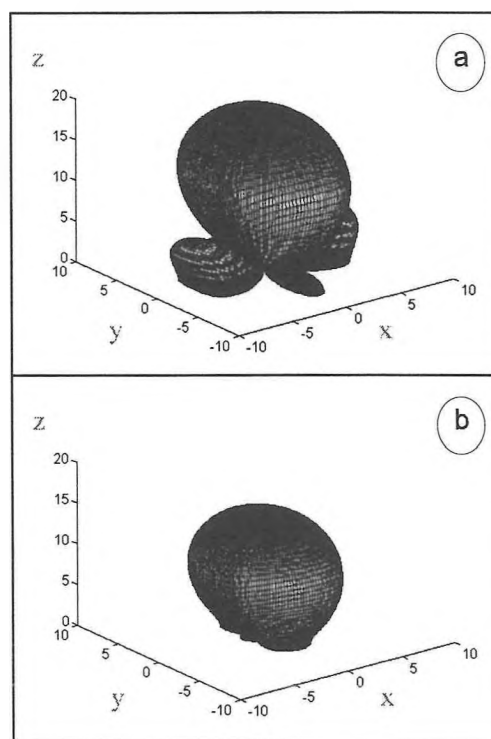


Figure 4. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (1,1), Adimensional frequency parameter ($k l_x/2$; $k l_y/2$)=(5.5; 3.5). (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance=(1.15 - i .53).

x axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \cos \varphi$; y axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \sin \varphi$
and z axis scale is $|P(M)| \cos \theta$

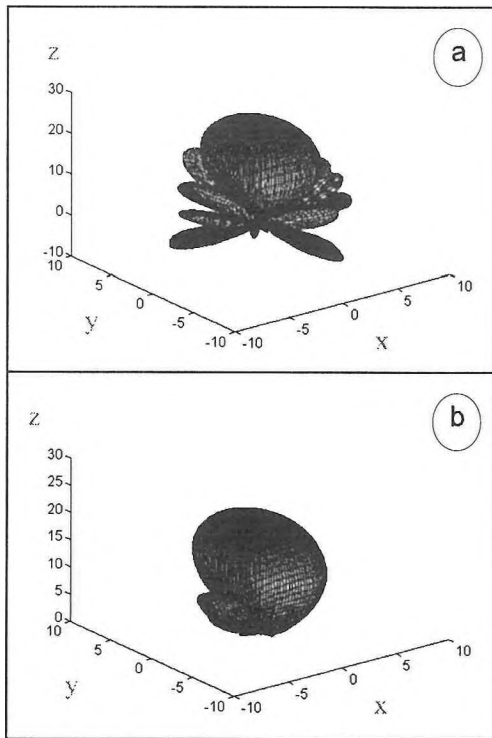


Figure 5. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (1,1), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(11; 7)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance= $(1.48 - i .3)$.

x axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \cos \varphi$; y axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \sin \varphi$
and z axis scale is $|P(M)| \cos \theta$

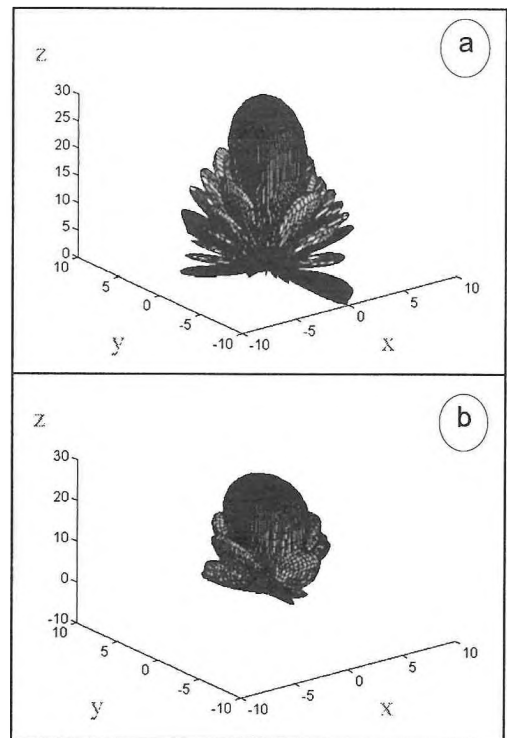


Figure 6. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (1,1), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(22; 14)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance= $(1.1 - i .25)$.

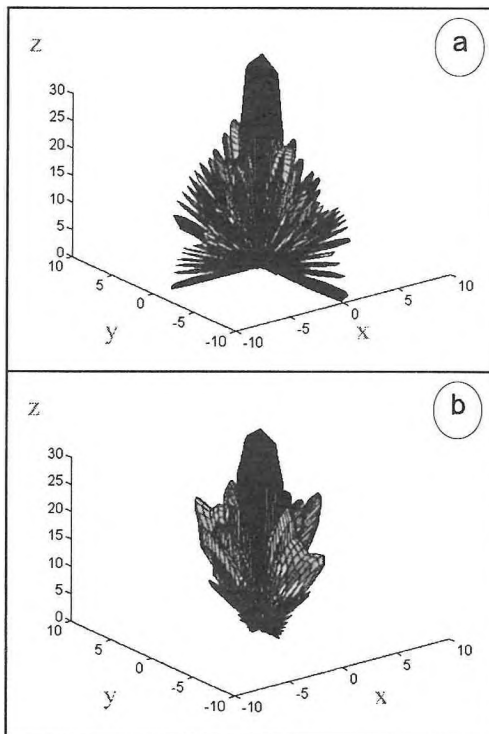


Figure 7. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (1,1), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(55; 36)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance= $(1.09 - i .15)$.

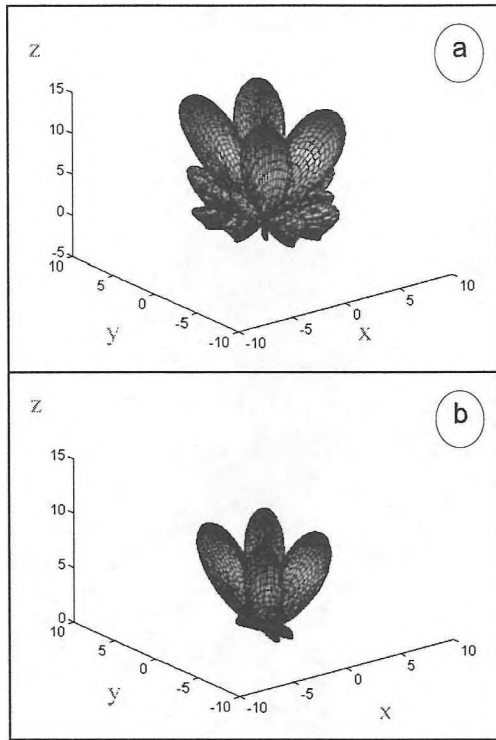


Figure 8. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (2,2), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(11; 7)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance $= (1.48 - i .3)$.

x axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \cos \varphi$; y axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \sin \varphi$
and z axis scale is $|P(M)| \cos \theta$

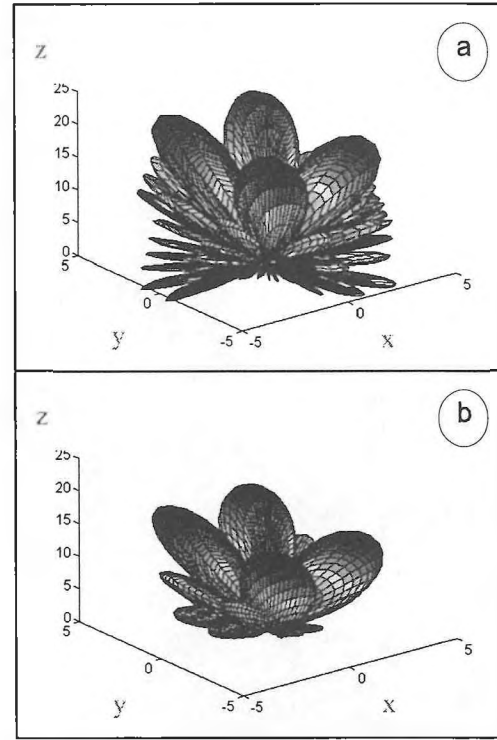


Figure 9. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (2,2), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(22; 14)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance $= (1.1 - i .25)$.

x axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \cos \varphi$; y axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \sin \varphi$
and z axis scale is $|P(M)| \cos \theta$

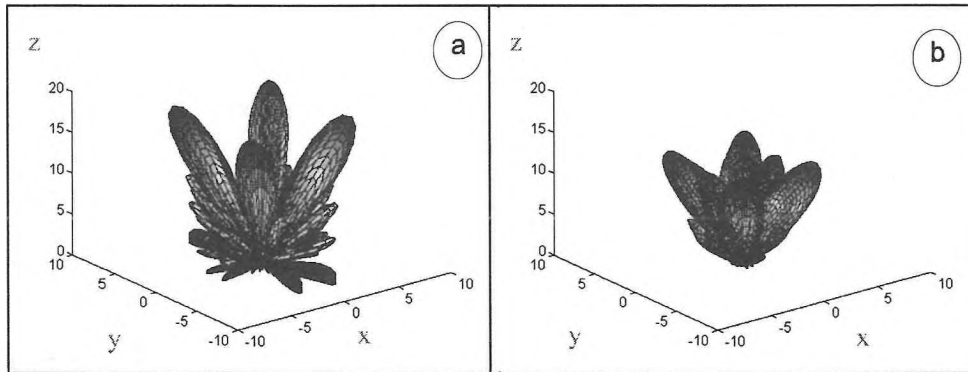


Figure 10. Directivity Patterns for mode incident (4,3), Adimensional frequency parameter $(k l_x/2; k l_y/2)=(22; 14)$. (a) rigid case, (b) treated case. Normalized acoustic admittance $= (1.1 - i .25)$.

x axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \cos \varphi$; y axis scale is $|P(M)| \sin \theta \sin \varphi$ and z axis scale is $|P(M)| \cos \theta$

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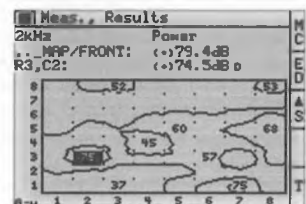
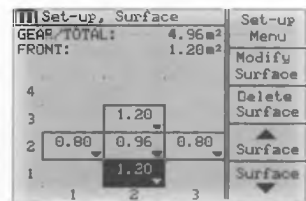
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Optimizing Classroom Acoustics Using Computer Model Studies

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Abstract

Speech intelligibility in rooms is determined by both room acoustics characteristics as well as speech-to-noise ratios. These two types of effects are combined in measures such as useful-to-detrimental sound ratios which are directly related to speech intelligibility. This paper reports investigations of optimum acoustical conditions for classrooms using the ODEON room acoustics computer model. By determining conditions that relate to maximum useful-to-detrimental sound ratios, optimum conditions for speech are determined. The results show that an optimum mid-frequency reverberation time for a classroom is approximately 0.5 s, but speech intelligibility is not very sensitive to small deviations from this optimum. Speech intelligibility is influenced more strongly by ambient noise levels. The optimum location of sound absorbing material was found to be on the upper parts of the walls.

Résumé

L'intelligibilité de la parole dans une chambre est déterminée par les caractéristiques acoustiques et aussi par les rapports parole-bruit. Ces deux types d'effets sont combinés dans des mesures comme des rapports son-utile/son-nuisible, qui sont reliés directement à l'intelligibilité de la parole. Cet article présente les investigations des conditions acoustiques optimums pour des classes en utilisant le modèle généré par le programme acoustique ODEON. En déterminant les conditions reliées aux rapports son-utile/son-nuisible maximums, il est possible de trouver des conditions optimums pour la parole. Les résultats montrent qu'un temps de réverbération mi-fréquence optimum pour une classe est environ 0.5 s, mais l'intelligibilité de la parole n'est pas très susceptible aux petites déviations de cet optimum. L'intelligibilité de la parole est influencée plus fortement par les niveaux de bruit ambiant. On trouve que la location optimum de matériel absorbant est sur la partie supérieure des murs.

1.0 Introduction

The intelligibility of speech in a classroom must be critical to the learning process. When the words of the teacher or of other students are not completely intelligible, students cannot learn efficiently. Speech intelligibility (SI) can be measured as the percentage of test words heard correctly by groups of listeners. Intelligibility can also be related to various acoustical quantities, which can then be used to assess conditions for speech in rooms without having to perform cumbersome speech intelligibility tests.

The intelligibility of speech in rooms is related to the levels of the speech sounds and ambient noises as well as to the room acoustics characteristics of the space. The higher the level of the speech sounds relative to the ambient noise, the greater the intelligibility of the speech. Thus, the effects of speech and noise levels are usually considered in terms of speech-to noise ratios (S/N), (i.e. a signal-to-noise ratio where the signal is the speech). Speech intelligibility increases with increasing speech-to-noise ratio until an S/N of approximately +15 dB is reached which typically corresponds to 100% SI [1,2].

Speech intelligibility is also influenced by room acoustics. This was originally assessed in terms of the reverberation

time (RT) of the room. Various optimum reverberation times have been recommended to maximize speech intelligibility in rooms and these optimum values usually increase with increasing room volume [3]. The effect of room acoustics on speech intelligibility is now thought to be better related to measures that more correctly assess the benefits of both the direct sound and reflections arriving within about 50 ms after the direct sound [1,4,5]. Because our hearing system effectively integrates these early reflections together with the direct sound, they contribute to increasing intelligibility. However, later arriving reflections degrade intelligibility by causing one word to blur into the next. Thus, early-to-late arriving sound ratios are now thought to be better indicators of the effect of room acoustics on speech intelligibility. For example, C_{50} is the ratio of the early-arriving speech energy in the first 50 ms after the direct sound to the later-arriving speech energy.

Three different acoustical measures are available that combine both the room acoustics and speech/noise aspects into a single quantity. The speech transmission index (*STI*) (or its simplification *RASTI*) is perhaps the best known [6]. It is derived from modulation transfer functions that are influenced by both ambient noise and room acoustics. The useful-to-detrimental sound ratio concept was first proposed

by Lochner and Burger [5] and a simplification was later evaluated by Bradley [1,4]. In this ratio, the useful energy is the early arriving speech sound. The detrimental energy is the sum of the late arriving speech energy and the ambient noise. The third measure, %Alcons, is derived from the direct sound level, the ambient noise level and the reverberation time [7]. All three measures have recently been compared and shown to be strongly correlated with each other [12].

The current paper reports on investigations to determine how to obtain optimum acoustical conditions in a typical classroom. The classroom was modeled using the ODEON room acoustics ray tracing program. Acoustical conditions were assessed in terms of both early-to-late arriving sound ratios (C_{50}) and useful-to-detrimental sound ratios (U_{50}). It was possible to determine optimum reverberation times for a typical classroom and also the optimum placement of sound absorbing material to maximize speech intelligibility.

2.0 The ODEON Model Classroom

The ODEON room acoustics ray-tracing program (version 2.6 for DOS) was used to model a typical classroom. The geometry of the classroom is illustrated in Figure 1. The room was 11 m long by 9 m wide and 3.4 m high with a volume of 336.6 m³. The students were simulated by an absorbing block 1.8 m from the rear wall 3 m from the front wall and centered between the side walls. As shown in Figure 1, one source position was used and 9 receiver positions. Four different sources were used alternatively at the same location. One source was omni-directional and the others had the directionality of a human talker. One of the 3 directional sources was directed down the centre line of the classroom towards the rear wall. The other two were directed at ± 45 degrees from this.

Material	α	δ
Concrete (floor)	0.02	0.1
Gypsum Board (walls)	0.04	0.5
Students	0.69	0.7
Ceiling tile	0.95	0.1
Ceiling tile (half absorption)	0.47	0.1

Table 1. Material properties, absorption coefficient α and diffusion coefficients δ .

For simplicity, in this paper only 1000 Hz results will be presented. The 1000 Hz absorption coefficients of the various surfaces are given in Table 1. The table also shows the diffusion coefficients for each surface used in the ODEON calculations. The floor was assumed to be a smooth hard concrete surface and the walls gypsum board. The block representing the people sitting on wooden chairs.

In the initial experiments the absorption of the ceiling was varied but in the final experiments absorption representative of highly absorbing ceiling tiles (shown in Table 1) was used.

3.0 Acoustical Measures

The ODEON program directly calculates values of the reverberation time (RT) and the early decay time (EDT). It also calculates expected sound pressure levels (SPL) based on the source having a sound power representative of speech. Although ODEON does not provide C_{50} values, it does provide values of Deutlikeit (D) which is usually referred to as 'definition' or 'distinctness' in English. Deutlikeit measures the ratio of early-arriving to total speech energy and can be related to C_{50} as follows,

$$C_{50}(\text{ODEON}) = 10 \log[D/(1-D)], \text{ dB} \quad (1)$$

Using this equation, C_{50} values were calculated from the ODEON output of D values.

For an ideal exponential decay, one can calculate C_{50} values from decay times. From the ratio of the integrals of the early (0 to 50 ms) and the late (50 ms to ∞) intervals of an ideal exponential decay one obtains,

$$C_{50}(RT) = 10 \log[e^{(13.815 \cdot 0.05/RT)} - 1], \text{ dB} \quad (2)$$

in terms of reverberation time (RT), or,

$$C_{50}(EDT) = 10 \log[e^{(13.815 \cdot 0.05/EDT)} - 1], \text{ dB} \quad (3)$$

in terms of the early decay time (EDT).

Equations (2) and (3) provide simple techniques for estimating C_{50} values when only the decay times are

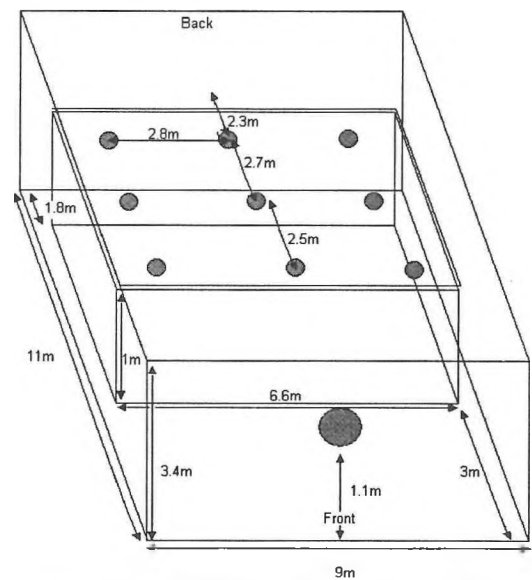


Figure 1. ODEON model of the classroom showing source position (large filled circle) and receiver positions (small filled circles).

known. Because they are based on the assumption of ideal exponential decays, they will give different C_{50} values than those calculated from the actual impulse responses but may be satisfactory approximations in small rooms.

Useful-to-detrimental ratios are the ratio of the early arriving speech energy to the sum of the late arriving speech energy and the ambient noise. They relate directly to speech intelligibility and can also be derived from C_{50} values combined with speech and noise levels as follows,

$$U_{50} = 10 \log \left\{ c_{50} / [1 + (c_{50} + 1) 10^{(Noise-SPL)/10}] \right\}, \text{ dB} \quad (4)$$

where c_{50} are the linear and not the logarithmic early-to-late ratios.

4.0 Comparisons with Predictions from Sabine and Eyring Equations

The ODEON calculations were first validated by comparing calculated RT values with those obtained from the Sabine and Eyring reverberation time equations. Because it is not obvious what values of diffusion coefficients should be assigned to each surface, these comparisons give a check that the results appear to be reasonable. In these tests the 1000 Hz absorption coefficient of the ceiling was varied from 0.1 to 0.9 in steps of 0.2. This gave a realistic range of acoustical conditions in the classroom for comparisons of the calculated reverberation times.

Figure 2 compares the resulting reverberation times from ODEON ray tracing results and from the Sabine and Eyring reverberation time equations. All 3 results show decreasing reverberation times with increased ceiling absorption as would be expected. The ODEON calculations of RT agree very closely with those obtained using the Sabine equation. RT values obtained using the Eyring equation are a little lower. The results suggest that the ODEON model is a reasonable representation of a typical classroom.

C_{50} values obtained from ODEON ray tracing results ($C_{50}(\text{ODEON})$) were compared to estimates using equations

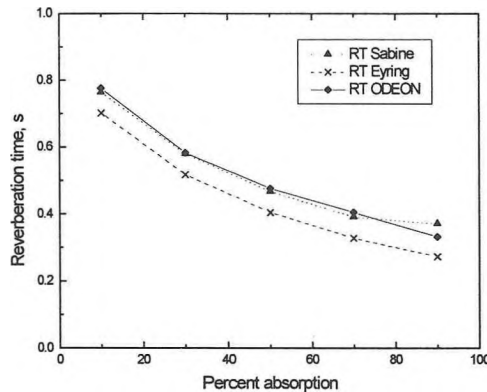


Figure 2. Reverberation time versus ceiling absorption for average of 9 receivers and OMNI source at 1000 Hz.

(2) and (3) above to test the accuracy of these approximate estimates of C_{50} values. These are compared in Figure 3 for the same variations of ceiling absorption. Increased ceiling absorption leads to less later arriving sound energy and to increased C_{50} values. For these cases, both estimates of C_{50} values agree reasonably well with the ODEON calculations. However, C_{50} values estimated from EDT values agree best with the C_{50} values calculated directly from ODEON impulse responses. EDT values are more influenced by the details of early reflections and hence can be used to better estimate C_{50} values. $C_{50}(\text{RT})$ values were least satisfactory for the $\alpha = 0.9$ case where the RT was most different to the EDT .

5.0 Estimating the Optimum Reverberation Time

For the results in the previous section, adding more absorption to the ceiling systematically decreased the reverberation time. At the same time C_{50} values increased, indicating better conditions for speech. However, the addition of absorption to the ceiling also caused a decrease of calculated speech sound levels in the classroom. For a particular ambient noise level, this would lead to decreased speech-to-noise ratios and hence decreased speech intelligibility. Thus, adding absorption has both beneficial and detrimental effects. Increased absorption leads to both increased C_{50} values and decreased speech-to-noise ratios. There must be some intermediate amount of absorption that would lead to an optimum compromise corresponding to the maximum speech intelligibility. This optimum amount of sound absorbing material will relate to a particular reverberation time, which will be the optimum reverberation time for maximum speech intelligibility in the classroom.

This optimum reverberation time can be determined from the condition that leads to the maximum useful-to-detrimental sound ratio (U_{50}). U_{50} is directly related to

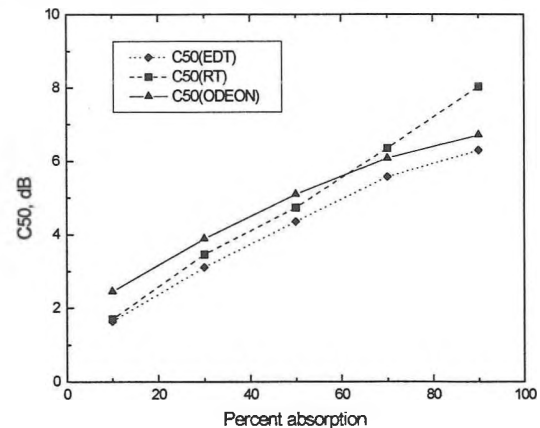


Figure 3. C_{50} versus ceiling absorption for average of 4 sources and 9 receivers, 1000 Hz.

speech intelligibility and combines both the influence of room acoustics (C_{50}) and speech-to-noise ratio. Thus, the condition that leads to the maximum U_{50} value will correspond to the maximum speech intelligibility and to the optimum combination of C_{50} and speech-to-noise ratio. The reverberation time corresponding to this optimum condition is the required optimum reverberation time for speech in the classroom.

The same 5 different absorption coefficients for the ceiling were used as in the previous section, varying from 0.1 to 0.9 in steps of 0.2. These led to 1000 Hz reverberation times of from approximately 0.3 to 0.8 s and the range of C_{50} values shown in Figure 3. Using the speech levels calculated by the ODEON program and background noise levels of 35, 40, 45, and 50 dBA, U_{50} values were calculated. This gave a wide but realistic range of both room acoustics and speech-to-noise conditions. The resulting U_{50} values are plotted in Figure 4. For the 'reasonably good' case of a 40 dBA ambient noise level, the maximum U_{50} value corresponds to a 0.48 s reverberation time. However, the optimum reverberation time varies somewhat with the ambient noise level. For noisier conditions more reverberant conditions help increase speech levels and hence improve speech-to-noise ratios. For quieter ambient noise situations, less reverberant conditions lead to maximum U_{50} values because they correspond to improved room acoustics conditions (i.e. increased C_{50}).

One can estimate speech intelligibility scores from U_{50} values [8] using the following equation,

$$SI = 98.24 + 0.861 (U_{50}) - 0.0863 (U_{50})^2, \% \quad (5)$$

This gives the expected intelligibility on a simple rhyme test where 97% or higher corresponds to excellent conditions for speech. For the 40 dBA ambient noise level case, speech intelligibility scores were estimated from the U_{50} values and are plotted in Figure 5. Although the optimum speech intelligibility corresponds to the case of

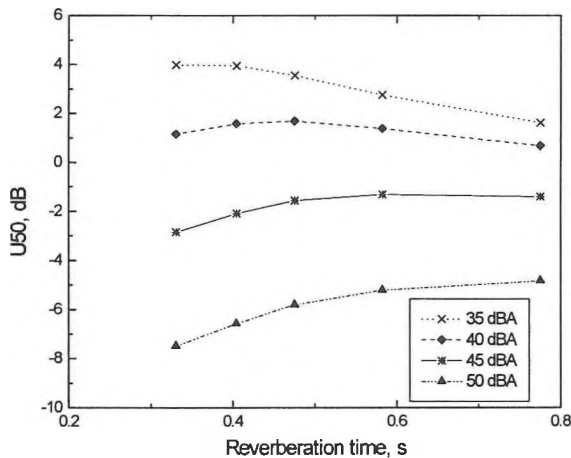


Figure 4. U_{50} versus ceiling absorption, OMNI source, 1000 Hz.

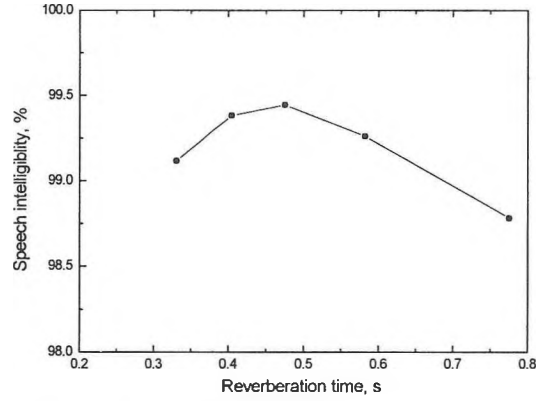


Figure 5. Variation of speech intelligibility with reverberation time for 40 dBA ambient noise.

approximately 0.5 s reverberation time, a wide range of reverberation times lead to speech intelligibility scores within 0.5% of the maximum. Thus, obtaining exactly the optimum reverberation time is not very critical to achieving near optimum conditions for speech. This is partly because intelligibility is directly related to C_{50} but only indirectly related to RT.

6.0 Optimum Placement of Sound Absorbing Material

Although the reverberation time is only influenced by the average sound absorption in the room, C_{50} values can be affected by the location of the absorbing material. Thus it may be possible to improve conditions for speech by more optimally locating the available sound absorbing material and without changing the reverberation time. Previous recommendations include: putting absorption on the ceiling and rear wall [9], and avoiding treating the centre of the ceiling with sound absorbing material [10]. In fact a German standard [11] recommends this latter approach for rooms such as classrooms.

While it is difficult to change the location of absorption in a real room, it can be done quite conveniently in a computer model such as ODEON. Nine different configurations of added sound absorbing material were tested. In all cases the total sound absorption was kept constant. A highly absorbing ceiling material was assumed to have an absorption coefficient of 0.95. The base case consisted of completely covering the ceiling with material having half this absorption coefficient (i.e. $\alpha=0.47$). (This is essentially the same as the optimum reverberation time case for which the ceiling was 50% absorptive). Other cases consisted of covering an area equal to half the area of the ceiling with material with an absorption coefficient of $\alpha=0.95$. The 9 absorption configurations are described in Table 3. The surface diffusion coefficients were as described in Table 1. All untreated areas of the walls and ceiling were gypsum board with properties described in Table 1.

#	Description
1	Full ceiling, $\alpha = 0.47$
2	Front half ceiling, $\alpha = 0.95$
3	Rear half ceiling, $\alpha = 0.95$
4	Rear part ceiling and back wall, $\alpha = 0.95$
5	Ring on ceiling and upper walls, $\alpha = 0.95$
6	Ring on ceiling, $\alpha = 0.95$
7	Ring on upper walls, $\alpha = 0.95$
8	Upper side and rear walls, $\alpha = 0.95$
9	Upper side walls, $\alpha = 0.95$

Table 3. Description of 9 absorption configurations.

The location of the absorbing material was expected to influence conditions for speech by changing C_{50} values. The C_{50} values obtained at the nine receiver positions illustrated in Figure 1 were averaged and these mean values are plotted for each of the nine absorption configurations in Figure 6. Mean C_{50} values are given for each of the 4 different sound sources described in section 2 above. The results in Figure 6 indicate small differences between the different sources but the same variations occur among the 9 absorption configurations for all sources. For example, the omni-directional source tends to produce C_{50} values that are a fraction of a decibel lower than the other sources but there are variations of up to 4 dB among the various absorption configurations.

The clarity in the room is maximum when there is an absorptive material on the upper parts of the side and rear walls (condition # 8), and results are almost identical when the absorptive treatment is continued to the upper part of the front wall. The most inferior treatment is when the absorption is limited to the front half of the ceiling (i.e. over

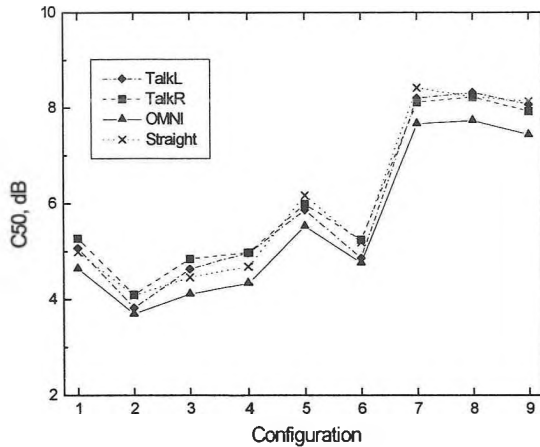


Figure 6. Mean C_{50} for each absorption configuration and source type, 1000 Hz.

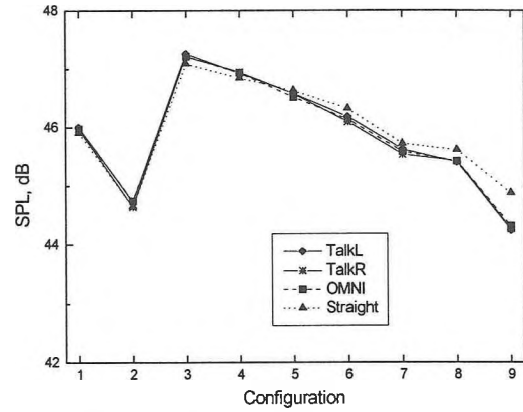


Figure 7. Mean speech sound pressure level (SPL) for each absorption configuration and source type, 1000 Hz.

the source). Treating the rear part of the ceiling and the rear wall (condition 4) was not optimum as recommended by one previous study [9].

Although conditions # 7 and # 8 lead to maximum C_{50} values, they did not optimise speech sound levels. The corresponding 1000 Hz mean speech sound levels are shown in Figure 7 for the 9 configurations and for all 4 sources. The source type has less effect on sound levels than the small effects on C_{50} values. Varying the location of the sound absorbing material has a maximum effect on speech sound levels of just under 3 dB. Treating only the rear half of the ceiling (condition # 3) leads to the maximum speech sound level. Conditions # 7 and # 8 that corresponded to maximum C_{50} values have sound levels about 1.5 dB lower than the maximum found for condition # 3. Thus, again there is a trade-off between increasing clarity (C_{50}) and increasing speech levels.

The condition that optimizes both C_{50} and speech-to-noise ratios can be determined by finding the configuration that corresponds to the maximum useful-to-detrimental ratio

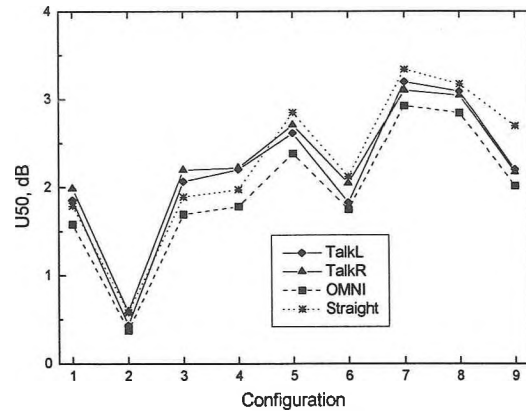


Figure 8. Mean U_{50} for each absorption configuration and source type, 40 dBA ambient noise level, 1000 Hz.

(U_{50}). Using an ambient noise level of 40 dBA, U_{50} values

were calculated for each configuration and for each source type. These U_{50} values are shown in Figure 8. Again source type has only a small effect but U_{50} values increase by about 1.3 dB from configuration # 1 (full ceiling treated) to configuration # 7 (upper part of walls treated).

7.0 Conclusions

By varying the absorption coefficient of the classroom ceiling, it was possible to derive an optimum reverberation time of approximately 0.5 s. This corresponds to the maximum useful-to-detrimental sound ratio (U_{50}) and hence to the maximum speech intelligibility. Although this corresponds to the maximum speech intelligibility, a range of reverberation times lead to almost the same speech intelligibility. Speech intelligibility is within 0.5% of maximum within the range from at least 0.3 to 0.6 s reverberation time. Thus it is not important to achieve exactly the optimum 0.5 s reverberation time. The results in Figure 4 show that ambient noise level is a much more important determinant of U_{50} values and hence speech intelligibility in a classroom. Further, the optimum reverberation time also depends on the ambient noise level and a little more reverberant conditions are helpful in higher noise levels.

The location of added sound absorbing material has different effects on speech clarity (C_{50}) and speech sound level. Maximum speech clarity (C_{50}) was obtained with the absorptive treatment on the upper parts of the side and rear walls. Conditions with improved speech clarity (C_{50}) tended to have reduced speech sound levels. However, when considering the combined effects in terms of useful-to-detrimental sound ratios (U_{50}), the configuration with the upper parts of the walls treated produced optimum results. Thus the most effective location of sound absorbing material is to add it to the upper parts of the walls and to add an amount sufficient to produce an occupied 1000 Hz reverberation time of approximately 0.5 s.

The determination of optimum reverberation time and the optimum location of the added sound absorbing material is also influenced by the ambient noise level. However, the location of the absorbing material on the upper parts of the walls would still be appropriate in noisier conditions and so can be more generally recommended. Because these treatments all involved the same total amount of sound absorbing material, there should be little difference in the cost of the various configurations. Thus, the optimum configuration represents an acoustical improvement with no extra cost.

This is an initial exploratory study that demonstrates that there are possible modest improvements to classroom acoustics. These would correspond to quite small improvements in speech intelligibility but their subjective importance is not known. Further work is required to assess the subjective importance of these changes and to

explore the effects of other parameters. Further studies should include the effects of other room shapes and other possible configurations of absorptive treatments. One could also consider different amounts of added sound absorbing material and include results for a range of frequencies. Future studies should also consider the effect of added absorption on ambient noise levels. The present studies are based on the useful-to-detrimental sound ratio concept and hence incorporate the trade-off between room acoustics and speech-to-noise ratios included in that measure. New studies could repeat this process in terms of speech transmission index (*STI*) values to verify that the same conditions are found to be optimum. Finally, the process should be validated by measurements in actual rooms with varied absorption configurations.

The use of computer models such as ODEON is seen to be a convenient method for determining the importance of parameters influencing speech intelligibility in rooms. The combination of such computer model studies and a limited number of validation measurements in real rooms is a cost-effective approach for developing better information for designing better classrooms. The resulting improvements in speech intelligibility could translate to more relaxed and accurate communication between students and teachers.

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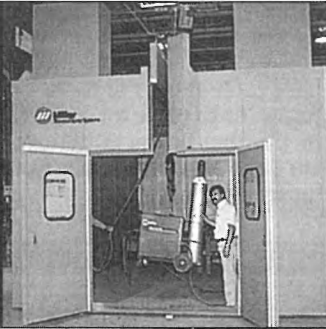
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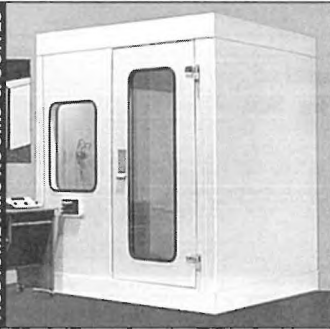
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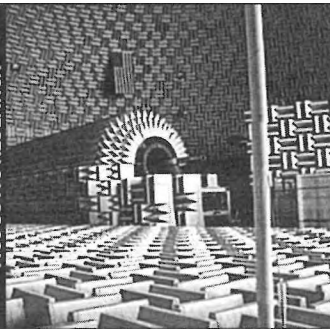


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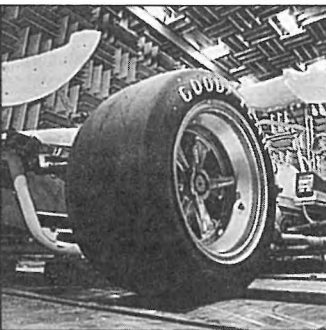
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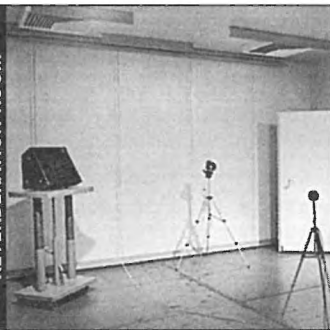
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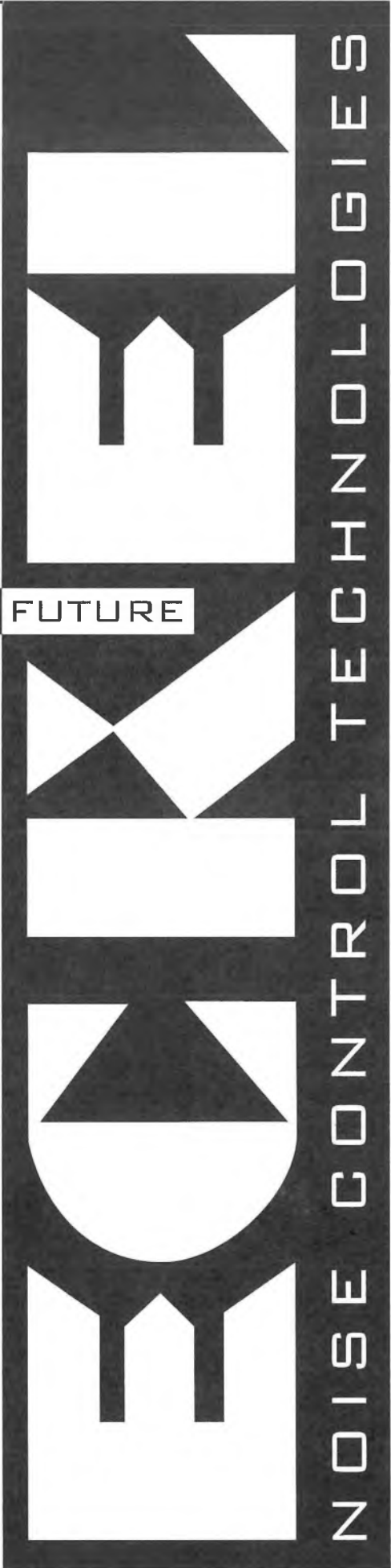


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FIELD SOUND TRANSMISSION LOSS TESTS IN LOW RISE CONSTRUCTION

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Introduction

Sound transmission loss tests following ASTM E336-84 procedures were conducted in a three storey multifamily residential dwelling prior to occupancy. Tests were conducted on two wall types - a block firewall and a double wood stud wall - separating equal sized small bedrooms on the third floor. The field test results were compared to lab tests for the same construction. Comments on flanking were made.

Wall Configuration

The building construction consisted of wood framing with exterior brick veneer and aluminum siding. A block firewall separated every two units. The firewall consisted of 190 mm normal weight hollow block covered on each side by 38 mm batt insulation and wood strapping with 16 mm gypsum board.

The wall between pairs of units was double wood stud construction from basement floor slab to underside of roof. In the ceiling space, double roof trusses formed the partition. The construction below the ceiling was two wythes of 16 mm gypsum board on 89 mm wood studs with mineral wool insulation separated by a 25 mm air space. A metal firestop was used at each floor.

The rooms had equal size and layout on each side of the common wall but the rooms for the wood stud wall had carpet while the rooms for the block wall did not.

Reverberation time was measured using decays of the pink noise. The STC value was automatically calculated by the LD 2800 Real Time Analyzer.

Block Wall Test Results

The measured Field Sound Transmission Class (FSTC) was FSTC 58. The laboratory results from NRC were STC 60. Figure 1 shows the comparison.

Wood Wall Results

The measured Field Sound Transmission Class (FSTC) was FSTC 52. The laboratory results from NRC were STC 57. Figure 2 shows the comparison. The poorer field performance is possibly due to the metal firestop used at the floor level. Other flanking paths may also be causing the loss of high frequency performance. The tests done by NRC in their flanking test facility showed less high frequency performance than in the reverberation room facility. This is consistent with what was found here.

FIGURE 1
BLOCK WALL

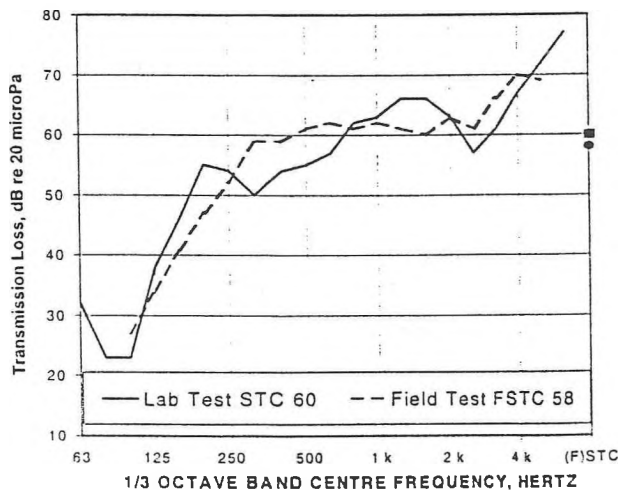
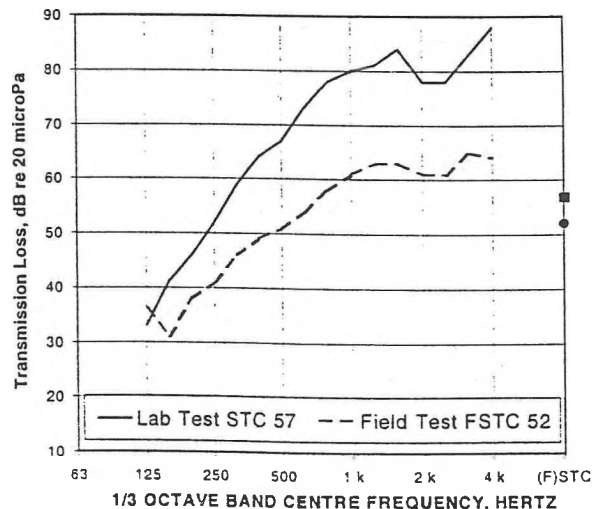


FIGURE 2
WOOD WALL



SPEECH RECOGNITION: CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS

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INTRODUCTION

Speech recognition technology has been significantly advanced over the past two decades. The advances can be attributed to the breakthrough use of a consistent statistical paradigm empowered by increasing quantities of speech data corpus, as well as by powerful algorithms developed for model learning from the data. Up until now, the technology has been primarily founded on the principle of statistical "ignorance" modeling, where generally unstructured speech models (mainly the hidden Markov model or HMM) learn their gigantic number of parameters from massive amounts of directly observable speech data.

In this plenary talk, I will first provide a critical review of the state-of-the-art automatic speech recognition technology. This review will include: 1) Analyzing the "Fundamental Equation" of statistical speech recognition; 2) Fundamental architecture of the modern speech recognition systems dissected into their common, basic phonetic and phonological components; and 3) Critical review of the backbone of modern speech recognition technology — HMMs. In this review, I will try to analyze why the current speech recognition technology is successful in certain areas of applications and not successful in other areas. Following such a review, I will address a number of key research issues which are aiming to overcome several fundamental deficiencies in the current speech recognition technology. A potentially fruitful approach will be outlined. This approach replaces the "bead-on-the-string" notion in the linear phonological model (uniformly used in the current speech recognition technology) by a version of nonlinear phonology in which the atomic speech units are constructed from multi-dimensional features overlapping in time. This approach further interfaces such units to phonetic models of speech dynamics, which has a statistical structure generalizing from the conventional HMM.

SPEECH RECOGNITION: FUNDAMENTAL EQN.

First, Let me give a brief description of the statistical framework that underlies much of modern speech recognition research and system development. Let $O = O_1, O_2, \dots, O_T$ be a sequence of observable acoustic data of speech, which can either be speech waveforms, or continuous-valued acoustic vectors (or any other type of general acoustic measurements), and let $W = w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ be the sequence of words intended by the speaker who produces the acoustic record O above. The goal of a speech recognizer is to "guess" the most likely word sequence \hat{W} given the acoustic data O . Bayesian decision theory provides a minimum Bayes-risk solution to the above "guessing game", and the minimum Bayes risk can be made equivalent to minimum probability of error if the risk is assigned values of one or zero for incorrect and correct guesses, respectively. According to Bayesian decision theory, speech recognition is formulated as a top-down search problem over the allowable word sequences W based on the posterior probability $P(W|O)$:

$$\hat{W} = \operatorname{argmax}_W P(W|O) = \operatorname{argmax}_W P(O|W)P(W), \quad (1)$$

where $P(W)$ is the prior probability that the speaker utters W , which is independent of the acoustic data and is determined by the language model, and $P(O|W)$ is the probability that the speaker produces (or the microphone of the speech recognizer receives) the acoustic data O if W is the intended word sequence by the speaker. Disregarding the issue of language modeling, the above formulation, or fundamental eqn. (1), of the speech recognition problem can be reduced to two issues: 1) speech generation or production from word sequence to acoustic streams — how to accurately compute the probability $P(O|W)$? and 2) a search for the word sequence W (the operation argmax_W in Eqn. 1) that provides the optimal value of the posterior probability.

CRITICAL REVIEW OF HMMs

There is no doubt that HMMs are currently the most successful technology in many (heavily) constrained speech recognition applications. This success is not so much due to the mathematical formulation of the HMM itself as due to its conformity to the probabilistic analysis-by-synthesis formulation epitomized in Eqn.(1). Implicit in Eqn.(1) are the need to efficiently compute a production probability $P(O|W)$ and the need to learn "production model" parameters so as to achieve high accuracy in evaluating $P(O|W)$. HMMs are amenable to efficient computation and parameter learning thanks to Baum's work, and thus would fit naturally into the probabilistic analysis-by-synthesis framework of Eqn.(1). This is entirely consistent with the qualification of an HMM as a speech generator or production model, because embedded in the HMM there is a mechanism for converting a word sequence W directly into acoustic data O .

The theoretical treatment of the HMM as a production model is one thing; how reasonably and effectively it behaves as a production model is another thing. To examine this latter issue, let us first examine the production probability $P(O|W)$ which appeared in Eqn.(1) into two factors:

$$P(O|W) = \sum_{\mathcal{P}} P(O|\mathcal{P})P(\mathcal{P}|W) \approx \max_{\mathcal{P}} P(O|\mathcal{P})P(\mathcal{P}|W), \quad (2)$$

where \mathcal{P} is a discrete-valued *phonological model* and specifies, according to probability $P(\mathcal{P}|W)$, how words and word sequences W can be expressed in terms of a particular organization of a small set of "atomic" phonological units; $P(O|\mathcal{P})$ is the probability that a particular organization \mathcal{P} of phonological units produces the acoustic data for the given word sequence W . We shall call this latter mapping device from phonological organization to speech acoustics *phonetic model*.

In view of the factorization in Eqn.(2), state-of-the-art speech recognizers using phone-based HMMs can be analyzed as follows. The phonological model \mathcal{P} is essentially a linearly-organized multiple-state phone sequence governed by a left-to-right Markov chain, and the phonetic model is simply a temporally independent random sampling from a set of (trainable) acoustic distributions associated with the states in the Markov chain. Both of these model components are highly simplistic descriptions of the true speech process, and such simplicity limits the success of the current technology in free-constrained speech recognition applications. Nevertheless, such simplicity permits efficient model learning (training) from data, which is responsible for its success in strongly-constrained speech recognition applications that contain only a sparse space of phonetic confusion.

FEATURE-BASED PHONOLOGICAL MODEL

One approach to revolutionizing the phonological model \mathcal{P} in speech recognition is to adopt speech units which are based on overlapping phonological features. The features are common across languages. They exploit relations and similarities of feature components across languages, thereby offering opportunities to share observation data across languages and to generalize the observations from a source language(s) to a different, target language. One key element in constructing the feature system for use in speech recognition is to appropriately represent the possible feature sequences with their temporal evolution or statistical feature-overlapping pattern responsible for producing the speech utterances corresponding to word sequences (for any arbitrary language). For American English, the rules are based on the syllabic structure as we have implemented them. The feature overlap pattern within consonant clusters pertaining to onset and coda are rather regular, as are the overlap patterns between onset and nucleus and those between nucleus

and coda. Our current rule set disallows spreads in Tongue features between onset and coda (i.e., cross nucleus) within a syllable. For Velum and Labial features, the cross-nucleus feature spread patterns are constrained to be from coda to onset only and not from onset to coda. Feature spreads are permitted, with constraints determined by the prosodic constituent boundaries, between adjacent syllables. Once a syllable is broken down into its constituents, the size of these constituents becomes countably small and hence they are easily enumerated.

The feature-overlapping pattern can be described computationally as a finite-state automaton, where each state in the automaton corresponds to a feature bundle with no precise timing information specified. Within this framework, the mathematical operations permitted in computational phonology can be successfully applied. In particular, if a sufficient amount of data is available with detailed annotation on such information as syntactic, prosodic, morphological, lexical-stress levels, syllabic, phonemic, allophonic, and articulatory events, then a probabilistic parsing strategy can be developed to automatically construct the feature-bundle based finite-state automaton. This strategy enables optimal use of a comprehensive set of linguistic constraints imposed at multiple levels of the general hierarchical structure of speech.

PHONETIC MODELS OF SPEECH DYNAMICS

The symbolic nature of the feature-based phonological model by itself does not permit an accurate description of the observed dynamic behavior in speech patterns. An integration mechanism between the discrete valued phonological model and continuous valued phonetic model must be developed. There is a general consensus that, in human speech production, the phonological component acts in a discrete fashion to control the running of the phonetic (physiological and physical) production "machinery" which, in turn, ensures correct implementation of the phonologically defined speech production goals. This phonetic machinery has a number of distinct components including motor controller (neuromotor command generator), articulatory system (smooth motion of several articulatory organs driven largely by separate neuromotor commands), vocal tract (VT) acoustic system (speech signal generator), and the auditory system (speech signal transformation). Needless to say, these components in human speech communication need to be drastically simplified at the current stage in any functional, computational model, but the key dynamic character of the process must be faithfully preserved and the dynamic model's parameters must be carefully and accurately learned from observable data in as much a physically meaningful way as possible.

Our research group at Univ. of Waterloo have been guided by this general principle during the past several years in pursuing research on various forms of the dynamic phonetic-interface model. The three main forms, differing with respect to the distinct levels at which the object of dynamic modeling is posited, have been developed. First, the acoustic-dynamic model based on trended HMM attempts to condition the properties of the dynamics directly on specific feature-coded speech production mechanisms. In that model, the underlying articulatory-feature based phonological units are used to determine either a dynamic or a static trajectory (via the differing orders of polynomial used as the trended function) that describes the acoustic correlates of the phonological units, and substantial phonetic recognition performance improvements have been demonstrated. Second, the articulatory-dynamic or stochastic target model aims at accounting for detailed movement behavior of biomechanical articulators guided by the multi-dimensional target distributions defined in the biomechanical articulator coordinate space. Third, the statistical task-dynamic model posits the object of dynamic modeling in the space of the "task" variable which is functionally significant for phonetic implementation of phonologically defined speech production goals.

The statistical task-dynamic model we have developed is based on the use of either VT constriction or VT resonance as the "hidden" dynamic variable. The dynamic process can be written as a second-order, target-directed state equation, with the continuous valued state providing the input to a static

nonlinear function that results in observation speech acoustics. This statistical nonlinear dynamic system model is employed to describe aspects of the physical process of spontaneous speech production, where a large amount of speech knowledge about the VT constriction or resonance dynamic behavior in speech production is naturally incorporated into the model design, training, and decoding/scoring. The statistical nature of model design allows the computation of the probability for acoustic observations of speech, in a more accurate fashion than the conventional HMM has provided. Such a model consists of two separate components which accommodate separate sources of speech variabilities. The first component is a smooth dynamic one, linear by nonstationary. The nonstationarity is described by left-to-right regimes corresponding to phonological units. This way of handling nonstationarity is very close to that by conventional HMMs, but for each state (discrete as in HMM), rather than having an i.i.d. process, we have a phonetic-goal-directed linear dynamic process with physical entity of the state variable (continuous). Equipped with the physical meaning of the state variable, variabilities due to phonetic contexts and to speaking styles are naturally represented in the model by varying model parameters. (This contrasts with the conventional HMM approach where the variabilities are handled by expanding the total number of model parameters.) The second component is static and nonlinear. This component handles other types of variabilities including VT anatomical differences across speakers and channel/microphone variations. The two components combined form a nonstationary, nonlinear dynamic system whose structure and properties are well understood in terms of the general process of human speech production. The learning algorithms include ones from system theory, neural-network theory, and statistical optimization theory. The VT-resonance version of the model has been successfully used by my student Jeff Ma and myself in the six-week 1998 summer workshop at Johns Hopkins University where we demonstrated the effectiveness of this model in reducing word error rate for unconstrained, spontaneous, telephone-line speech recognition task defined from the Switchboard corpora.

SUMMARY AND PROSPECTS

The current state of speech recognition technology based on HMMs can be characterized as being successful in highly constrained tasks while experiencing greater and greater hardship as the tasks are becoming less and less constrained. For example, for conversational speech recorded in telephone lines for which human listeners typically have no difficulty in comprehension, the best recognizers in the world still produce over one third errors in the recognized words. The new paradigm of speech recognition outlined in this paper aims to overcome some fundamental difficulties of the current speech recognition technology. This paradigm is founded on a statistical learning strategy driven by linguistic (phonological) and physical (phonetic) principles of speech-pattern formation, as well as by functional and computational modeling of such speech patterns. It stands in contrast to the prevailing technology characterized by blind, data-driven and "ignorance" modeling where phonetic and linguistic knowledge sources are used, at best, as external constraints, rather than as intrinsic elements of the model for speech patterning. The proposed stochastic model of speech contains a compactly parameterized structure which jointly represents contextual and speaking-style variations manifested in the speech acoustics, and it provides a natural mechanism for omni-lingual speech recognition.

The research program described here emphasizes the notion of structural learning of speech-data generation mechanisms for use in designing statistically based speech recognition systems. This notion breaks away from the blind, data-driven approach currently dominating the speech recognition technology. Our current research efforts are devoted to demonstrating the potential success of integrating structural knowledge from speech science with the statistical models used in speech technology. The research is pursued both at the theoretical and algorithmic development levels and at a practical level aiming at advancing core speech recognition technology.

RECOGNIZING DISFLUENCIES IN SPONTANEOUS SPEECH

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1. INTRODUCTION

Most previous acoustic analysis of speech has examined data from speakers who carefully pronounce their speech, usually by reading prepared texts. Natural spontaneous or conversational speech differs from that of careful or read speech in several ways, the most obvious difference concerning hesitation phenomena. In spontaneous speech, people often start talking and then think along the way. This causes spontaneous speech to have interruptions; the specific interruption phenomena studied in this paper are pauses and restarts. Pauses can be either unfilled (silence) or filled with a speech sound (usually "uhh" or "umm" in North American English). Restarts (or false starts) are interruptions in the flow of speech, where the speaker (usually after a brief pause) reiterates a portion of the speech immediately preceding, with or without a change. The repetition can range from a portion of a syllable up to several words. In the case of a change, the modification may be either a substitution of a new word (in the place of a fully- or partially-spoken previous word) or an insertion of a word in a word sequence (with the sequence containing the new word being uttered again).

This paper concerns the acoustic analysis of pauses and restarts in spontaneous speech, from the point of view of their automatic location via acoustical analysis. A large database of spontaneous speech was analyzed in terms of duration and fundamental frequency measurements, as well as spectral analysis. For recognition purposes, a simple spectral analyzer was used to identify repeated words.

The pauses and restarts are described acoustically, with a view toward automatic recognition, to ensure their proper elimination from consideration in speech recognition systems. A primary application of this study lies in improving the performance of automatic speech recognizers, for applications that must accept an input of spontaneous speech (e.g., verbal conversations with computer databases). For such purposes, we wish to eliminate filled pauses and one version of any repeated words (or parts of words), and in the case of changed words, we wish to suppress the original unwanted words, so that the recognizer will operate on only a sequence of desired words. Thus, we examine here the relationship of pauses and restarts to intonation, and do so in a fashion that should allow direct exploitation in automatic recognition systems accepting spontaneous, continuous speech.

Speech researchers have often expressed interest in exploiting the intonation of spoken utterances in automatic recognition algorithms, but have been deterred by the complex nature of how intonation relates to the text of an utterance. Various aspects of the intonation employed in a restart allow it to be identified as a restart, and furthermore allow suppression of the undesired words in many cases. Pauses are more simple to locate, but unfilled pauses can be confused with phonemic stop closures, and filled pauses can be confused with monosyllabic words.

Within-utterance hesitations can cause significant difficulties for automatic speech recognizers, which usually make no provision for pauses at random locations or for repeated words or parts of words. Automatically determining which words (or parts of words) are being replaced in a speech repair and locating filled pauses could help automatic recognizers avoid textual errors in the output. In virtually all current recognition systems, words repeated in a false start are either

simply fed as word hypotheses to the textual component of the recognizer or cause difficulties in having a proper interpretation in the language-model component (since the language model is invariably trained only on fluent text). Similarly filled pauses appear as actual words in the textual output.

2. PREVIOUS STUDIES

Acoustical analyses of disfluencies with a view toward speech recognizers are rare [2]. Previous work on restarts has dwelled almost exclusively on the length of the word-repeat sequences (and occasionally on the pause duration). Most of the work on restarts that has been reported in the literature has treated the phenomena in a general qualitative or overly simple quantitative fashion. As far as we know, no reports have previously linked the intonational cues of both F0 (fundamental frequency) and duration to restarts in a way that could be useful to automatic speech recognition. Indeed, very few recognition systems use intonational cues, especially F0, at all. In this paper, we examine how these latter parameters could be exploited directly.

Recently an attempt was made to automatically detect and correct restarts in spontaneous speech [2]. Looking at an enlarged version of our own database, the authors examined 10 000 utterances, of which 607 were found to have restarts. In utterances longer than nine words, a significantly high 10% had restarts. 59% of the restarts involved only one word (whose deletion would render the sentence fluent); 24% involved two words (or word fragments); 8% involved three words, etc. Of the one-word restarts, the majority (61%) involved a word fragment, 16% involved the repetition of a word, 7% involved inserted words, and 9% concerned replacement words. The majority of the two-word restarts were either a straight repeat of two words or a replacement of the second word, while 19% involved inserted words, and 10% involved a replacement of the first of the two words.

3. SPEECH DATABASE

In this paper, we examine disfluencies in a standard speech database (used by several speech recognition research groups in North America), ranging from pauses to simple restarts (involving only the repetition of 1-2 words) to complex restarts (where, instead of simply repeating words, one substitutes a new word for an unwanted one).

In the context of our investigation into voice dialog access to databases, we are currently examining an application involving a simulated travel agent. A naive user (the speaker) is given the task of arranging a trip involving air travel via commercial airlines, by verbally interacting with a "computer travel agent." Thus, the user formulates verbal questions and commands in a spontaneous fashion, as if in conversation with a travel agent. (The current system does not reply verbally, but rather outputs information from a database onto a computer screen.) The spoken data consists of 42 adult male and female speakers, each speaking about 30 different utterances, each ranging in length from a few words to several dozen words (median length of about 12 words).

In the approximately 1000 utterances examined (from many different speakers, each containing an average of about thirteen words), there were 60 occasions where the speaker simply repeated words or portions of words, 30 cases of inserted words, and 25 occurrences of new words substituted for prior spoken words (or word parts). Thus, approximately

10% of the utterances (a percentage consistent with the parallel study of [2]) had a restart.

4. ANALYSIS METHOD

Hardcopy displays were made of all utterances containing restarts (as determined by listening and transcribing each utterance), in sections of 3-5 seconds at a time. Each display contained a waveform (amplitude vs. time) and a narrow-band spectrogram (showing 0-2 kHz). Time resolution in these displays ranged from 44 to 78 mm/s; the frequency axis showed 39 mm/kHz. These displays were manually segmented into words and syllables, and F0 contours were obtained by tracing strong harmonics in the middle of the first or second formant.

5. ACOUSTICAL ANALYSIS RESULTS

Actual unfilled pauses (as distinct from silence in stop closures) were as short as 40 ms and as long as several seconds. The 149 unfilled pauses examined at syntactic boundaries averaged 760 ms (median = 490 ms), whereas the 92 pauses within major syntactic units averaged 490 ms (median = 270 ms).

Filled pauses resemble short words in continuous, spontaneous speech. Filled pauses at major syntactic boundaries had durations in the range of 200-500 ms; those within syntactic units were shorter on average (170-320 ms). The syntactic nature of the filled pause could be distinguished by analyzing the silence periods adjacent to the filled pause: for the ungrammatical filled pause, a preceding unfilled pause (if any) was very brief (less than 350 ms), as was any ensuing silence (less than 500 ms). Each grammatical filled pause was preceded by a silence exceeding 275 ms; a long prior silence (more than 700 ms) led to a relatively short filled pause (less than 300 ms), whereas a short prior silence correlated with a long filled pause (more than 300 ms).

The spectral pattern of a filled pause was a uniform vowel during its duration (e.g., a steady schwa), sometimes followed by the steady nasal /m/. Filled pauses all had falling (5-20 Hz) or flat F0 patterns, at relatively low F0 levels. Ones at syntactic boundaries tended to start higher in F0 and then fall, whereas filled pauses internal to a syntactic unit had lower F0 patterns. All had F0 ending in the bottom 15% of the speaker's F0 range.

As for false starts, when a word was simply repeated (as is) in a restart, it had virtually the same prosodics (i.e., same duration and pitch) in both its instances in most cases, but there were a number of times where the repeated word had less stress (i.e., shorter duration and lower pitch). When a word was changed (i.e., a substitution or insertion) in the restart, on the other hand, its second instance was virtually always more stressed (i.e., longer duration and higher pitch).

In the case of restarts where the speaker stopped in the middle of a word and simply "backed up" and resumed speaking with no changed or inserted words, the pause lasted 100-400 ms in 85% of the examples (with most of the remaining examples having a pause of about 1 second in duration). About three-fourths of the interrupted words did not have a completion of the vowel in the intended word's first syllable (e.g., the speaker usually stopped after uttering the first consonant). In virtually all examples, the speaker completed at least 100 ms of the word, however, before pausing for at least 100 ms. When the pause occurred at a word boundary, the words repeated after the pause were characterized by two situations: either a straight repetition with little prosodic change (this happened especially when a lengthy pause intervened), or a repetition where the repeated words shortened up to 50%.

In the case of a word being substituted or inserted into the word sequence in the restart, the substituted/inserted word received a large stress (relatively long duration and rise

in F0) in examples where the new word added significant semantic information, but did not in examples where the new word was redundant in terms of the prior context (e.g., if the new word was a synonym of an immediately previous word). As for the repeated words (after the pause) prior to the inserted word, function words showed little or no shortening, but usually had lower F0; on the other hand, content words here exhibited significant shortening and lower F0 (the shortening here was about 50% for short words less than 300 ms, and about 100-200 ms for longer words). Such prosodic change only applied to non-prepausal words, because words immediately prior to a pause were often subject to significant prepausal lengthening.

6. RECOGNIZING RESTARTS

Since pauses involved in restarts were generally shorter than other pauses [1], we could suggest a simple rule of "pause < 400 ms -> restart." For our database, such a rule will correctly identify 70% of restarts, but will give 35% false alarms (i.e., incorrectly claiming as restarts those grammatical pauses which are shorter than 400 ms). While this performance is well above chance, it is clear that pause duration alone is not a reliable cue to a simple restart. Also, restart pauses at the very start of utterances were quite variable in duration (the 400 ms rule is more reliable when applied to pauses found after 3 syllables of an utterance). Obviously, the spectral-time detail on either side of a pause must be examined to verify whether a restart is present.

Since most restarts are simple repetitions, looking for identical spectral-time patterns (of up to 3 syllables in length) on either side of a short pause will greatly increase the restart recognition accuracy. For simple repetitions, the scope of spectral analysis is very limited: one need only look at about 2-3 syllables before and after each candidate pause. Very few simple repetitions repeated more than three syllables (a significant portion of complex restarts, on the other hand, involve more than three syllables). If a close spectral match is found and the pause exceeds a low threshold (e.g., 120 ms - to avoid confusion with stop closures), we declare that the pause is a simple restart, and that one version (usually the first) of the matching syllables should be excluded from consideration in any ensuing recognition process. We were very successful in automatically recognizing such simple restarts.

Recognizing restarts with changed words appears to be much more difficult than identifying simple restarts. We look for a short pause (again < 400 ms), followed by a spectral-time pattern containing 1-2 syllables corresponding to a portion of the speech immediately prior to the pause. However, there are many possibilities here and many of them have spectral and prosodic patterns that resemble fluent speech (i.e., speech without repeated or substituted words, but having pauses). For example, after the pause in such a restart, the immediately ensuing word(s) may be the added/substituted ones, or there may be one or two repeated words (from before the pause). The added/substituted words may be as short as one or as long as six syllables.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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- [3] Shriberg, E., "Intonation of clause-internal filled pauses," Proc. ICSLP-92, pp. 991-994, Oct. 1992.

NEWS / INFORMATIONS

CONFERENCES

The following list of conferences was mainly provided by the Acoustical Society of America. If you have any news to share with us, send them by mail or fax to the News Editor (see address on the inside cover), or via electronic mail to deshamais@drea.dnd.ca

1998

9-11 December: National Symposium on Acoustics – 1998, Calcutta, India. Contact: Acoustical Society of India, c/o S.S. Agrawal, Central Electronics Engr. Res. Inst., CSIR Complex, Hillside Road, New Delhi-110 012, India; Fax: +91 33 471 4371.

15-16 December: Sonar Signal Processing, Loughborough, UK. Contact: Institute of Acoustics, Agriculture House, 5 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, Herts AL1 1EU, UK; Fax: +44 1727 850 533; Email: acoustics@clus1.ulcc.ac.uk

1999

15-19 March: Joint Meeting of Acoustical Society of America/European Acoustics Association, Berlin, Germany. Contact: ASA, 500 Sunnyside Blvd., Woodbury, NY 11797; Tel: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; Email: asa@aip.org; WWW: asa.aip.org

27-29 April: International Conference on Vibration, Noise and Structural Dynamics, Venice, Italy. Contact: D. Hill, Staffordshire University, P.O. Box 333, Beaconside, Stafford ST18 0DF, UK; Fax: +44 1785 353552.

10-14 May: 4th International Conference on Theoretical and Computational Acoustics, Trieste, Italy. Contact: A. Marchetto, ICTCA,99, Osservatorio Geofisico Sperimentale, P.O. Box 2011-Opicina, 34016 Trieste, Italy; Fax: +39 40 327040; Email: ictca99@ogs.trieste.it

17-20 May: Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) and Noise and Vibration Conference & Exposition meeting, Traverse City, MI. Contact: M.J. Asensio, SAE/Troy, 3001 W Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI, USA. Tel: 248-649-4920, ext. 3106.

24-26 May: 2nd International Conference on Emerging Technologies in NDT, Athens, Greece. Contact: A. Anastassopoulos, Envirocoustics S.A., Eleftheriou Venizelou 7 & Delfon, 14452 Athens, Greece; Fax: +30 1 28 46 805; Email: envac@acci.gr

27-30 June: ASME Mechanics and Materials Conference, Blacksburg, VA. Contact: Mrs. Norma Guynn, Dept. of Engineering Science and Mechanics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0219; Fax: 540-231-4574; Email: nguyenn@vt.edu; WWW: <http://www.esm.vt.edu/mmconf/>

28-30 June: 1st International Congress of the East European Acoustical Association, St. Petersburg, Russia. Contact: EEAA, Moskovskoe Shosse 44, St. Petersburg 196158, Russia; Fax: +7 812 127 9323; Email: krylspb@sovam.com

28 June - 1 July: Joint Conference of Ultrasonics International '99 and World Congress on Ultrasonics '99 (UI99/WCU99), Lyngby, Denmark. Contact: L. Bjorno, Department of Industrial Physics, Technical University, Building 425, 2800 Lyngby, Denmark; Fax: +45 45 93 01 90; E-mail: lb@ipt.dtu.dk; WWW: www.msc.cornell.edu/~ui99/

CONFÉRENCES

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1998

9-11 décembre: Symposium national d'acoustique – 1998, Calcutta, Inde. Info: Acoustical Society of India, c/o S.S. Agrawal, Central Electronics Engr. Res. Inst., CSIR Complex, Hillside Road, New Delhi-110 012, India; Fax: +91 33 471 4371.

15-16 décembre: Traitement de signal sonar, Loughborough, Royaume-Uni. Info: Institute of Acoustics, Agriculture House, 5 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, Herts AL1 1EU, UK; Fax: +44 1727 850 533; Email: acoustics@clus1.ulcc.ac.uk

1999

15-19 mars: Rencontre conjointe de l'Acoustical Society of America et de l'Association d'acoustique européenne, Berlin, Allemagne. Info: ASA, 500 Sunnyside Blvd., Woodbury, NY 11797; Tél: 516-576-2360; Fax: 516-576-2377; Email: asa@aip.org; WWW: asa.aip.org

27-29 avril: Conférence internationale sur les vibrations, le bruit, et la dynamique des structures, Venise, Italie. Info: D. Hill, Staffordshire University, P.O. Box 333, Beaconside, Stafford ST18 0DF, UK; Fax: +44 1785 353552.

10-14 mai: 4e conférence internationale sur l'acoustique théorique et informatisée, Trieste, Italie. Info: A. Marchetto, ICTCA,99, Osservatorio Geofisico Sperimentale, P.O. Box 2011-Opicina, 34016 Trieste, Italy; Fax: +39 40 327040; Email: ictca99@ogs.trieste.it

17-20 mai: Conférence et exposition de la Société des Ingénieurs d'autos (SAE) et conférence Bruit et Vibrations, Traverse City, MI. Info: M.J. Asensio, SAE/Troy, 3001 W Big Beaver Rd, Troy, MI, USA. Tél: 248-649-4920, poste 3106.

24-26 mai: 2e conférence internationale sur les nouvelles technologies de NDT, Athènes, Grèce. Info: A. Anastassopoulos, Envirocoustics S.A., Eleftheriou Venizelou 7 & Delfon, 14452 Athens, Greece; Fax: +30 1 28 46 805; Email: envac@acci.gr

27-30 juin: Conférence ASME sur la mécanique et les matériaux, Blacksburg, VA. Info: Mrs. Norma Guynn, Dept. of Engineering Science and Mechanics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0219; Fax: 540-231-4574; Email: nguyenn@vt.edu; WWW: <http://www.esm.vt.edu/mmconf/>

28-30 juin: 1er Congrès international de l'Association d'acoustique de l'Europe de l'Est, St. Petersburg, Russie. Info: EEAA, Moskovskoe Shosse 44, St. Petersburg 196158, Russia; Fax: +7 812 127 9323; Email: krylspb@sovam.com

28 juin - 1 juillet: Conférence conjointe de "Ultrason International '99" et "Congrès mondial '99 sur les ultrasons" (UI99/WCU99), Lyngby, Danemark. Info: L. Bjorno, Department of Industrial Physics, Technical University, Building 425, 2800 Lyngby, Denmark; Fax: +45 45 93 01 90; E-mail: lb@ipt.dtu.dk; WWW: www.msc.cornell.edu/~ui99/

4-9 July: 10th British Academic Conference in Otolaryngology, London, UK. Contact: BOA-HNS, The Royal College of Surgeons, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Field, London WC2A 3PN, UK; Fax: +44 171 404 4200.

5-8 July: 6th International Congress on Sound and Vibrations, Copenhagen, Denmark. Contact: F. Jacobsen, Department of Acoustic Technology, Building 352, Technical University of Denmark, 2800 Lyngby, Denmark; Fax: +45 45 880577; Email: fjac@dat.dtu.dk; Web: www.dat.dtu.dk

1-4 September: 15th International Symposium on Nonlinear Acoustics (ISNA-15), Göttingen, Germany. Contact: W. Lauterborn, Drittes Physikalisches Institut, Universität Göttingen, Bürgerstr. 42-44, 37073 Göttingen, Germany; Fax: +49 551 39 7720; Email: lb@physik3.gwdg.de

15-17 September: British Society of Audiology Annual Conference, Buxton, UK. Contact: BSA, 80 Brighton Road, Reading RG6 1PS, UK; Fax: +44 0118 935 1915; Email: bsa@b-s-a.demon.co.uk; Web: www.b-s-a.demon.co.uk

2000

20-24 March: Meeting of the German Acoustical Society (DAGA), Oldenburg, Germany. Contact: DEGA, FB Physik, Universität Oldenburg, 26111 Oldenburg, Germany; Fax: +49 441 798 3698; Email: dega@aku.physik.uni-oldenburg.de

3-5 October: WESPRAC VII, Kumamoto, Japan. Contact: Computer Science Dept., Kumamoto Univ., 2-39-1 Kurokami, Kumamoto, Japan 860-0862; Fax: +81 96 342 3630; Email: wesprac7@cogni.eecs.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

16-20 October: 6th International Conference on Spoken Language Processing, Beijing, China. Contact: ICSLP 2000 Secretariat, Institute of Acoustics, PO Box 2712, 17 Zhong Guan Cun Road, 100 080 Beijing, China; Fax: +86 10 6256 9079; Email: mchu@plum.ioa.ac.cn

4-9 juillet: 10e Conférence académique britannique sur l'otolaryngologie, Londres, Royaume-Uni. Info: BOA-HNS, The Royal College of Surgeons, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Field, London WC2A 3PN, UK; Fax: +44 171 404 4200.

5-8 juillet: 6e congrès international sur le son et les vibrations, Copenhague, Danemark. Info: F. Jacobsen, Department of Acoustic Technology, Building 352, Technical University of Denmark, 2800 Lyngby, Denmark; Fax: +45 45 880577; Email: fjac@dat.dtu.dk; Web: www.dat.dtu.dk

1-4 septembre: 15e Symposium international sur l'acoustique non-linéaire (ISNA-15), Göttingen, Allemagne. Info: W. Lauterborn, Drittes Physikalisches Institut, Universität Göttingen, Bürgerstr. 42-44, 37073 Göttingen, Germany; Fax: +49 551 39 7720; Email: lb@physik3.gwdg.de

15-17 septembre: Conférence annuelle de la Société britannique d'audiologie, Buxton, Royaume-Uni. Info: BSA, 80 Brighton Road, Reading RG6 1PS, UK; Fax: +44 0118 935 1915; Email: bsa@b-s-a.demon.co.uk; Web: www.b-s-a.demon.co.uk

2000

20-24 mars: Rencontre de la Société allemande d'acoustique (DAGA), Oldenburg, Allemagne. Info: DEGA, FB Physik, Universität Oldenburg, 26111 Oldenburg, Germany; Fax: +49 441 798 3698; Email: dega@aku.physik.uni-oldenburg.de

3-5 octobre: WESPRAC VII, Kumamoto, Japon. Info: Computer Science Dept., Kumamoto Univ., 2-39-1 Kurokami, Kumamoto, Japan 860-0862; Fax: +81 96 342 3630; Email: wesprac7@cogni.eecs.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

16-20 octobre: 6e conférence internationale sur le traitement de la langue parlée, Beijing, Chine. Info: ICSLP 2000 Secretariat, Institute of Acoustics, PO Box 2712, 17 Zhong Guan Cun Road, 100 080 Beijing, China; Fax: +86 10 6256 9079; Email: mchu@plum.ioa.ac.cn

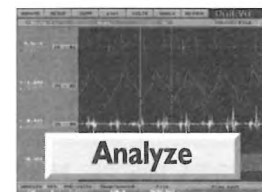
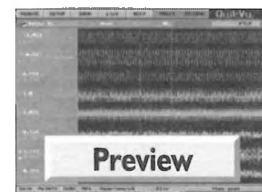
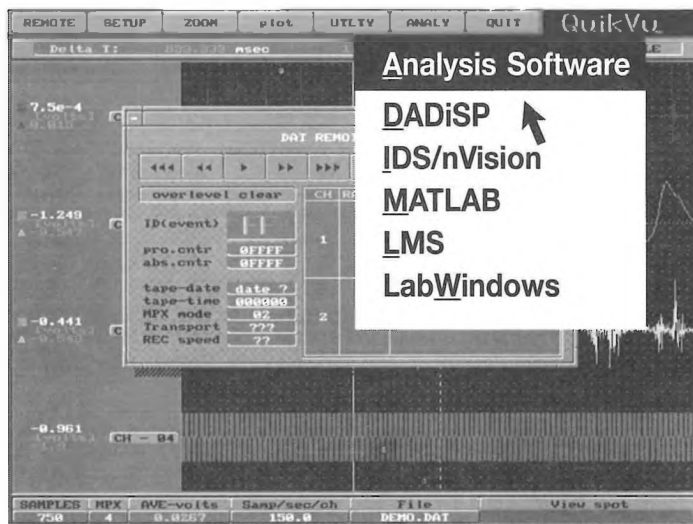
Ontario Student Wins the Science Fair Award

John Hayden of Coburg, Ontario wins the special award of the Canadian Acoustical Association at the Canada Wide Youth Science Fair.

The title of his project was, "Psychoacoustics – A Detailed Study of Human Perception."

Congratulations and Good Luck John Hayden.

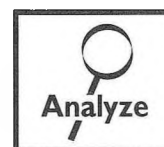
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Canadian Acoustical Association
l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique

Minutes of the CAA Board of Director's Meeting
27 October 1998, London, Ontario

<i>Present:</i>	John Bradley Ramani Ramakrishnan Annabel Cohen	John Hemingway Don Jamieson Dalila Giusti	Trevor Nightingale David Quirt
<i>Regrets:</i>	Jean Nicolas W. Sydenborgh	Li Cheng D. DeGagne	Stan Dosso

Meeting called to order at 7.35 p.m..

Minutes of the last Board of Director's meeting approved as written. (Moved by D. Quirt, seconded by D. Giusti, carried).

President's Report (John Bradley)

J. Bradley acted as interim editor for the September issue of the journal. Ramani Ramakrishnan will take over as the permanent editor beginning with the December 1998 issue. J. Bradley created an Operations Manual that combined several CAA documents. This would be discussed as a separate item later in the meeting.

Secretary's Report

The number of paid members, 339, remained constant relative to last year at this time, although the break-down by category changed somewhat. The number of student members was up by 12 over while the number of professional members was down. The membership is still down by about 10% relative to FY96/97. Final meeting report, accounting and cheque were received from the Windsor 97 conference. Secretarial operating costs for the period October 97 to October 98 were \$857.04, comparable to the same period last year. The Secretary's report was accepted. (Moved R. Ramakrishnan, seconded by D. Quirt, carried).

Treasurer's Report

The finances are stable with revenues (from membership fees, journal advertising, and conferences) exceeding expenses by approximately \$13k. This had led to a very large operating fund; minimum balance in 1998 was over \$39k. Low interest rates have reduced the yield from the Capital fund to under \$7k which would have been inadequate to support all the prizes. Due to some prizes having no applicants, a little over \$4k was spent on prizes this year. The Treasurer recommended transferring \$20k from the operations account to the capital account where it can earn more interest. (Moved by D. Giusti and seconded by R. Ramakrishnan, carried). The Treasurer's report was accepted. (Moved by A. Cohen, seconded by D. Quirt, carried).

Membership Chair Report

The CAA web page is continues to provide a source of information about the organization and the annual conference. Maintenance and updates are on going. Various ideas for attracting and retaining new members were discussed at some length. Ideas included making presentations at universities targeted at students, and for existing members to encourage new people. It was agreed that each member must take an active role in promoting the organization.

Editor's Report

R. Ramakrishnan reported that he has begun soliciting papers for future issues of the journal and has received numerous commitments. It is hoped that the scope of the journal can be broadened to include more than just research papers, thereby increasing the appeal. The effectiveness of the editorial board was discussed and it seemed that there was room for improvement.

Awards Coordinator

There were no applicants for the Eckel, Fesenden or the Shaw postdoctoral prize. The Bell Prize would be awarded to M. Begatto. A book prize in memory of Raymond Hetu will be added to the list of CAA prizes. The Board accepted the recommendations of M. Hodgson and his committee on how the prize should be administered with the exception of one point. It was suggested that each person named as an author on the winning report receive a book. (Moved by D. Giusti seconded by A. Cohen, carried). The Director's award in the student category will be awarded to Jeff Jones. In the category of professional over thirty there was a tie. The award and prize money will be shared by S. Abel and M. Cheesman. There were no candidates in the category of professional under thirty. It was suggested that the Director's Award (student category) and the Student Presentation Awards be made open to both graduate and undergraduate students. (Moved by D. Quirt, seconded by Don Jamieson, carried). D. Giusti agreed to take over as Director's award coordinator for D. Quirt whose term as director has ended.

Nomination Committee

The nomination committee prepared a slate of candidates to replace retiring directors; D. Quirt, and S. Dosso. With

regret, the resignation of Jean Nicolas was accepted. He felt that his increased responsibilities at U. Sherbrooke have kept him from devoting time as a BoD member. The Executive agreed to stand for reelection. The slate would be tabled at the Annual General Meeting for a vote by the membership.

CAA Conference Meetings

Windsor 1997: Final report issued and a \$2000 profit realized after all expenses.

London 1998: Conference Chair, Don Jamieson, thanked the organizing committee for their efforts. Early numbers indicated about 90 persons would attend. 11 exhibit tables were sold to eight companies.

Victoria 1999: Written report of S. Dosso was read to the board. It appears that the Victoria conference is proceeding well with the hotel selected and the conference dates set for October 18 and 19.

Sherbrooke 2000: Nouredine Atalla agreed to chair the conference.

There was considerable discussion regarding conference

announcements and schedules. D. Jamieson and A. Cohen agreed to provide a list of acoustics publications to which the Secretary can send CAA Conference announcements. Announcements in Canadian Acoustics should be automatic. It was also suggested that when a written summary paper is not available for publication in the September issue the 200 word abstract will be published.

CAA Operations Manual

The manual provides a listing of milestones, the by-laws, a brief description of the duties of the officers, organizational time lines for the annual CAA conference, recommendations compiled from past CAA conference chair reports, a listing of the CAA prizes and applications forms.

The manual evoked considerable discussion. Comments centered around the lack of a CAA mission statement, the number of directors required to achieve quorum, and the poor attendance of many of the Directors. It was suggested that each person review the document and make suggestions and forward them to J. Bradley well before the next board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m. (moved by J. Hemingway and seconded by R. Ramakrishnan, carried).

EDITORIAL BOARD / COMITÉ EDITORIAL

ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS: ACOUSTIQUE ARCHITECTURALE:	John O'Keefe	Aercoustics Engineering Inc.	(416) 249-3361
ENGINEERING ACOUSTICS / NOISE CONTROL: GÉNIE ACOUSTIQUE / CONTRÔLE DU BRUIT:	Hugh Williamson	Hugh Williamson Associates	(613) 747-0983
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MUSICAL ACOUSTICS / ELECTROACOUSTICS: ACOUSTIQUE MUSICALE / ELECTROACOUSTIQUE:	Marek R.-Mieszkowski	Digital Recordings	(902) 429-9622
PSYCHOLOGICAL ACOUSTICS: PSYCHO-ACOUSTIQUE:	Annabel Cohen	University of P. E. I.	(902) 628-4331
PHYSIOLOGICAL ACOUSTICS: PHYSIO-ACOUSTIQUE:	Robert Harrison	Hospital for Sick Children	(416) 813-6535
SHOCK / VIBRATION: CHOC / VIBRATIONS:	Li Cheng	Université de Laval	(418) 656-7920
HEARING SCIENCES: AUDITION:	Kathy Pichora-Fuller	University of British Columbia	(604) 822-4716
SPEECH SCIENCES: PAROLE:	Linda Polka	McGill University	(514) 398-4137
UNDERWATER ACOUSTICS: ACOUSTIQUE SOUS-MARINE:	Garry Heard	D. R. E. A.	(902) 426-3100
SIGNAL PROCESSING / NUMERICAL METHODS: TRAITEMENT DES SIGNAUX / MÉTHODES NUMÉRIQUES:	Ken Fyfe	University of Alberta	(403) 492-7031
CONSULTING: CONSULTATION:	Bill Gastmeier	HGC Engineering	(905) 826-4044
ADVISOR: MEMBRE CONSEILLER:	Sid-Ali Meslioui	Aiolos Engineering	(416) 674-3017

**Canadian Acoustical Association
l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique**

**Minutes of the CAA Annula General Meeting
30 October 1998, London, Ontario**

Present: 19 voting members

Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m.

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting approved as written. (Moved by C. Sherry, seconded by A. Warnock).

President's Report (John Bradley)

J. Bradley reported that he had acted as interim editor for the September issue of the Journal and that Ramani Ramakrishnan will take over as the permanent editor beginning with the December 1998 issue. J. Bradley also reported that he had created an Operations Manual that listed CAA milestones, the by-laws, brief description of the duties of the officers, organizational time lines for the annual CAA conference, recommendations compiled from past CAA conference chair reports, listing of the CAA prizes and applications forms.

Secretary's Report

T. Nightingale reported that the number of paid members, 339, remains constant although the number in each category has changed. The number of student members was up by 12 over while the number of professional members was down. Overall the membership is still down by about 10% relative to FY96/97. Secretarial operating costs for the period October 97 to October 98 were \$857.04, comparable to the same period last year. The Secretary's report was accepted. (Moved R. Ramakrishnan, seconded by J. O'Keefe, carried).

Treasurer's Report

J. Hemingway reported that the finances are stable with revenues exceeding expenses by approximately \$13k for this fiscal year. This surplus has lead to a very large operating fund; minimum balance in 1998 was over \$39k. The Treasurer reported that his recommendation to transfer \$20k from the operations account to the capital account (where is can earn more interest) had been approved by the Board. The Treasurer's report was accepted. (Moved by H. Williamson, seconded by A. Warnock, carried).

Membership Chair Report

D. Jamieson reported his efforts to maintain the CAA web page. There was considerable discussion about improving "links" to other sites to increase the number of "hits". It was recognized by the membership at the meeting that each individual must do his/her part in promoting the organization and attracting members.

Editor's Report

R. Ramakrishnan provided a report indicating his intention to broaden the scope and appeal of Canadian Acoustics. He reported a fair amount of success in soliciting papers for the coming year.

Awards Coordinator

A Cohen summarized each of the prizes: Shaw Postdoctoral: No applicants, Bell : M. Bagatto, Eckel: No applicants, Fesenden: No Applicants, Directors' Award Student Category: Jeff Jones, Professional Under Thirty: No Applicants, Professional Over Thirty: Tie, prize shared by S. Abel and M Cheesman. Recipients of the Student Presentation Award: S. Boucher, J. Scarsellone, B. Grover, and M. Lantz.

A book prize in memory of Raymond Hetu was announced. It will be awarded for the best undergraduate project in the area of acoustics.

Past President Nomination Report

J. Hemingway announced the Committee's slate of candidates to replace directors D. Quirt, and S. Dosso who retired and Jean Nicolas who resigned. Forwarded were Douglas Whicker, Tim Kelsall and Noureddine Atalla. Nominations from the floor were invited. Kathy Fuller was nominated by A. Cohen. A vote was held for all eight board positions. The complete slate was nine persons (five existing members that had not retired or resigned, three forwarded by the Nominations Committee, and one from the floor). The following were elected members of the Board for FY98/99: N. Atalla, A. Cohen, D. DeGagne, K. Fuller, D. Giusti, T. Kelsall, W. Sydenborgh, D. Whicker. Regrets were extended to L. Cheng who was not reelected.

J. Hemingway moved to destroy the ballots. Motion seconded by C. Sherry and carried.

CAA Conference Meetings

Windsor 1997: Final report issued and a \$2000 profit realized after all expenses.

London 1998: Conference Chair, Don Jamieson, thanked the organizing committee for their efforts. Early numbers indicated about 90 persons attended making it a very successful conference.

Victoria 1999: A written report from S. Dosso was read to the membership. Organization of the Victoria conference is well underway with the hotel selected and the conference dates set for October 18 and 19.

Sherbrooke 2000: It is reported that the conference in 2000 would be in Sherbrooke with Nouredine Atalla acting as conference chair.

Other Business

C. Sherry moved that the membership fees and subscription rates remain unchanged for FY98/99. The motion was seconded by H. Williamson and carried.

There was considerable discussion regarding posting consultant's names at the CAA web site. It was finally agreed to post all sustaining subscribers at the web site.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m. (Moved by R. Ramakrishnan seconded by A. Warnock).



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The Canadian Acoustical Association l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique

PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENT

A number of prizes, whose general objectives are described below, are offered by the Canadian Acoustical Association. As to the first four prizes, applicants must submit an application form and supporting documentation to the prize coordinator before the end of February of the year the award is to be made. Applications are reviewed by subcommittees named by the President and Board of Directors of the Association. Decisions are final and cannot be appealed. The Association reserves the right not to make the awards in any given year. Applicants must be members of the Canadian Acoustical Association. Preference will be given to citizens and permanent residents of Canada. Potential applicants can obtain full details, eligibility conditions and application forms from the appropriate prize coordinator.

EDGAR AND MILLICENT SHAW POSTDOCTORAL PRIZE IN ACOUSTICS

This prize is made to a highly qualified candidate holding a Ph.D. degree or the equivalent, who has completed all formal academic and research training and who wishes to acquire up to two years supervised research training in an established setting. The proposed research must be related to some area of acoustics, psychoacoustics, speech communication or noise. The research must be carried out in a setting other than the one in which the Ph.D. degree was earned. The prize is for \$3000 for full-time research for twelve months, and may be renewed for a second year. Coordinator: Sharon Abel, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5G 1X6. Past recipients are:

1990	Li Cheng	Université de Sherbrooke	1995	Jing-Fang Li	University of British Columbia
1993	Roland Woodcock	University of British Columbia	1996	Vijay Parsa	University of Western Ontario
1994	John Osler	Defense Research Estab. Atlantic			

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL GRADUATE STUDENT PRIZE IN SPEECH COMMUNICATION AND BEHAVIOURAL ACOUSTICS

The prize is made to a graduate student enrolled at a Canadian academic institution and conducting research in the field of speech communication or behavioural acoustics. It consists of an \$800 cash prize to be awarded annually. Coordinator: Don Jamieson, Department of Communicative Disorders, University of Western Ontario, London, ON N6G 1H1. Past recipients are:

1990	Bradley Frankland	Dalhousie University	1994	Michael Lantz	Queen's University
1991	Steven D. Turnbull	University of New Brunswick	1995	Kristina Greenwood	University of Western Ontario
	Fangxin Chen	University of Alberta	1996	Mark Pell	McGill University
	Leonard E. Cornelisse	University of Western Ontario	1997	Monica Rohlfis	University of Alberta
1993	Aloknath De	McGill University	1998	Marlene Bagatto	University of Western Ontario

FESSENDEN STUDENT PRIZE IN UNDERWATER ACOUSTICS

The prize is made to a graduate student enrolled at a Canadian university and conducting research in underwater acoustics or in a branch of science closely connected to underwater acoustics. It consists of \$500 cash prize to be awarded annually. Coordinator: David Chapman, DREA, PO Box 1012, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7.

1992	Daniela Dilorio	University of Victoria	1994	Craig L. McNeil	University of Victoria
1993	Douglas J. Wilson	Memorial University	1996	Dean Addison	University of Victoria

ECKEL STUDENT PRIZE IN NOISE CONTROL

The prize is made to a graduate student enrolled at a Canadian academic institution pursuing studies in any discipline of acoustics and conducting research related to the advancement of the practice of noise control. It consists of a \$500 cash prize to be awarded annually. The prize was inaugurated in 1991. Coordinator: Murray Hodgson, Occupational Hygiene Programme, University of British Columbia, 2206 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3.

1994	Todd Busch	University of British Columbia	1996	Nelson Heerema	University of British Columbia
1995	Raymond Panneton	Université de Sherbrooke	1997	Andrew Wareing	University of British Columbia

DIRECTORS' AWARDS

Three awards are made annually to the authors of the best papers published in *Canadian Acoustics*. All papers reporting new results as well as review and tutorial papers are eligible; technical notes are not. The first award, for \$500, is made to a graduate student author. The second and third awards, each for \$250, are made to professional authors under 30 years of age and 30 years of age or older, respectively. Coordinator: Delila Giusti, Jade Acoustics, Concord, ON L4K 4H1.

STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS

Three awards of \$500 each are made annually to the undergraduate or graduate students making the best presentations during the technical sessions of Acoustics Week in Canada. Application must be made at the time of submission of the abstract. Coordinator: Ramani Ramakrishnan, Aiolos Engineering, Toronto ON M9W 1K4, Tel: (416) 674-3017.

The Canadian Acoustical Association l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique

ANNONCE DE PRIX

Plusieurs prix, dont les objectifs généraux sont décrits ci-dessous, sont décernés par l'Association Canadienne d'Acoustique. Pour les quatre premiers prix, les candidats doivent soumettre un formulaire de demande ainsi que la documentation associée au coordonnateur de prix avant le dernier jour de février de l'année durant laquelle le prix sera décerné. Toutes les demandes seront analysées par des sous-comités nommés par le président et la chambre des directeurs de l'Association. Les décisions seront finales et sans appel. L'Association se réserve le droit de ne pas décerner les prix une année donnée. Les candidats doivent être membres de l'Association. La préférence sera donnée aux citoyens et aux résidents permanents du Canada. Les candidats potentiels peuvent se procurer de plus amples détails sur les prix, leurs conditions d'éligibilité, ainsi que des formulaires de demande auprès du coordonnateur de prix.

PRIX POST-DOCTORAL EDGAR ET MILLICENT SHAW EN ACOUSTIQUE

Ce prix est attribué à un(e) candidat(e) hautement qualifié(e) et détenteur(rice) d'un doctorat ou l'équivalent, qui a complété(e) ses études et sa formation de chercheur, et qui désire acquérir jusqu'à deux années de formation supervisée de recherche dans un établissement reconnu. Le thème de recherche proposée doit être relié à un domaine de l'acoustique, de la psycho-acoustique, de la communication verbale ou du bruit. La recherche doit être menée dans un autre milieu que celui où le candidat a obtenu son doctorat. Le prix est de \$3000 pour une recherche plein temps de 12 mois avec possibilité de renouvellement pour une deuxième année. Coordonnatrice: Sharon Abel, Mount Sinai Hospital, 600 University Avenue, Toronto, ON M5G 1X6. Les récipiendaires antérieur(e)s sont:

1990	<i>Li Cheng</i>	<i>Université de Sherbrooke</i>	1995	<i>Jing-Fang Li</i>	<i>University of British Columbia</i>
1993	<i>Roland Woodcock</i>	<i>University of British Columbia</i>	1996	<i>Vijay Parsa</i>	<i>University of Western Ontario</i>
1994	<i>John Osler</i>	<i>Defense Research Estab. Atlantic</i>			

PRIX ÉTUDIANT ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL EN COMMUNICATION VERBALE ET ACOUSTIQUE COMPORTEMENTALE

Ce prix sera décerné à un(e) étudiant(e) inscrit(e) dans une institution académique canadienne et menant un projet de recherche en communication verbale ou acoustique comportementale. Il consiste en un montant en argent de \$800 qui sera décerné annuellement. Coordonnateur: Don Jamieson, Department of Communicative Disorders, University of Western Ontario, London, ON N6G 1H1. Les récipiendaires antérieur(e)s sont:

1990	<i>Bradley Frankland</i>	<i>Dalhousie University</i>	1994	<i>Michael Lantz</i>	<i>Queen's University</i>
1991	<i>Steven D. Turnbull</i>	<i>University of New Brunswick</i>	1995	<i>Kristina Greenwood</i>	<i>University of Western Ontario</i>
	<i>Fangxin Chen</i>	<i>University of Alberta</i>	1996	<i>Mark Pell</i>	<i>McGill University</i>
	<i>Leonard E. Cornelisse</i>	<i>University of Western Ontario</i>	1997	<i>Monica Rohlfis</i>	<i>University of Alberta</i>
1993	<i>Aloknath De</i>	<i>McGill University</i>	1998	<i>Marlene Bagatto</i>	<i>University of Western Ontario</i>

PRIX ÉTUDIANT FESSENDEN EN ACOUSTIQUE SOUS-MARINE

Ce prix sera décerné à un(e) étudiant(e) inscrit(e) dans une institution académique canadienne et menant un projet de recherche en acoustique sous-marine ou dans une discipline scientifique reliée à l'acoustique sous-marine. Il consiste en un montant en argent de \$500 qui sera décerné annuellement. Coordonnateur: David Chapman, DREA, PO Box 1012, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7.

1992	<i>Daniela Dilorio</i>	<i>University of Victoria</i>	1994	<i>Craig L. McNeil</i>	<i>University of Victoria</i>
1993	<i>Douglas J. Wilson</i>	<i>Memorial University</i>	1996	<i>Dean Addison</i>	<i>University of Victoria</i>

PRIX ÉTUDIANT ECKEL EN CONTRÔLE DU BRUIT

Ce prix sera décerné à un(e) étudiant(e) inscrit(e) dans une institution académique canadienne dans n'importe quelle discipline de l'acoustique et menant un projet de recherche relié à l'avancement de la pratique en contrôle du bruit. Il consiste en un montant en argent de \$500 qui sera décerné annuellement. Ce prix a été inauguré en 1991. Coordonnateur: Murray Hodgson, Occupational Hygiene Programme, University of British Columbia, 2206 East Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3.

1994	<i>Todd Busch</i>	<i>University of British Columbia</i>	1996	<i>Nelson Heerema</i>	<i>University of British Columbia</i>
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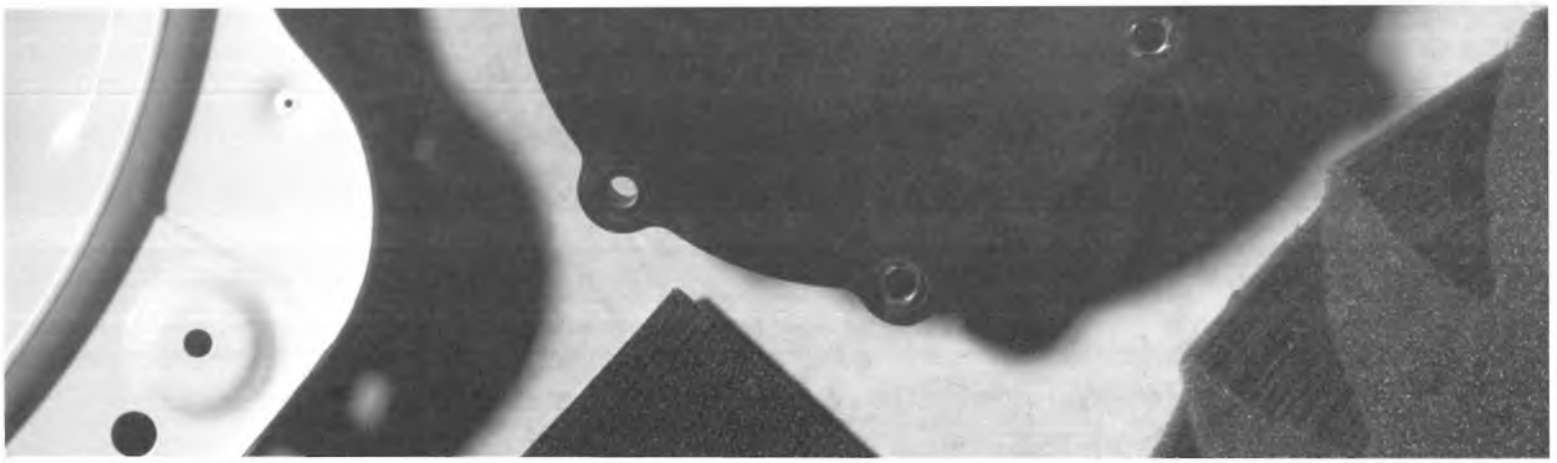


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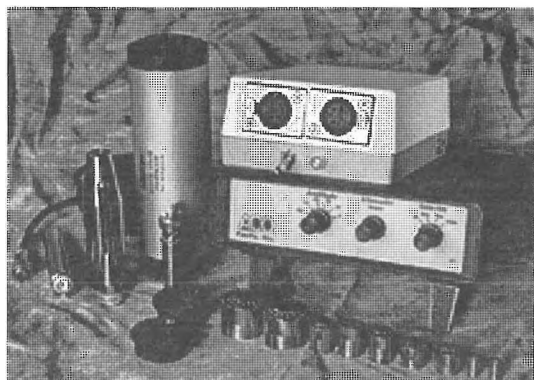
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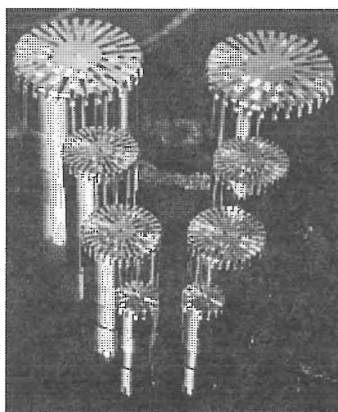
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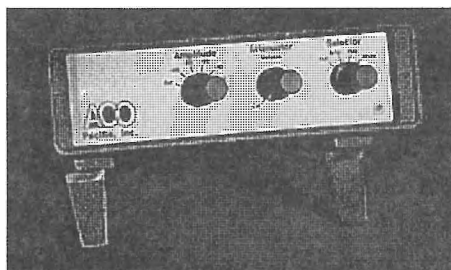
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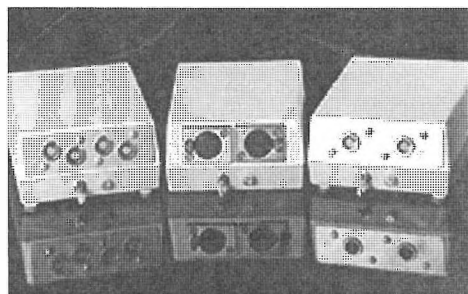
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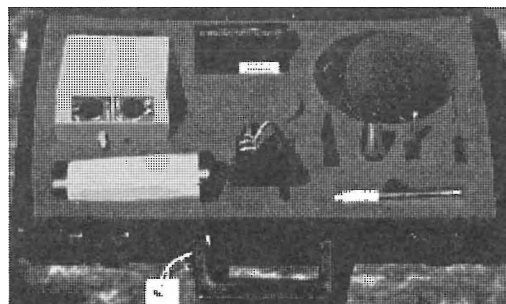
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Hydro-Quebec

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Industrial metal Fabricators (Chatham) Ltd.

Industrial Noise Control
Attn: Mr. Frank Van Oirschot
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Integral DX Engineering Ltd.

907 Admiral Ave.
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(613) 761-1565 FAX: (613) 729-4337

Jade Acoustics Inc.

545 North Rivermede Road, Suite 203
Concord, Ontario L4K 4H1
(905) 660-2444 FAX: (905) 660-4110

John Swallow Associates

Attn: John C. Swallow
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Larson Davis Laboratories

1681 West 820 North
Provo, Utah, USA 84601
(801) 375-0177

MJM Conseillers en Acoustique Inc.

Attn: M. Michel Morin
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Nelson Industries Inc.

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OZA Inspections Ltd.

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Peutz & Associes

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J. L. Richards & Assoc. Ltd.

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Scantek Inc.

916 Gist Ave.
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SNC/Lavalin Environment Inc.

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Spaarg Engineering Limited

Noise and Vibration Analysis
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State of the Art Acoustik Inc.

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Tacet Engineering Ltd.

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Valcoustics Canada Ltd.

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Wilrep Ltd.

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